The Mexican-American War and the Media, 1845-1848

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JUNE 1845
Message, To the Senate and House of Representatives

I transmit herewith copies of dispatches received from our Minister at Mexico, since the commencement of your present session, which claim, from their importance, and I doubt not will receive, your calm and deliberate consideration. The extraordinary and highly offensive language which the Mexican Government has thought proper to employ in reply to the remonstrance of the executive, through Mr. Shannon, against the renewal of the war with Texas, while the question of annexation was pending before Congress and the People, and also, the purposed manner of conducting that war, will not fail to arrest your attention.

Such remonstrance, urged in no unfriendly spirit to Mexico, was called for by considerations of an imperative character, having relation as well to the peace of this country and honor of this Government as to the cause of humanity and civilization. Texas had entered into the treaty of Annexation upon the invitations of the Executive; and when for that act she was threatened with a renewal of the was on the part of Mexico, she naturally looked to this Government to interpose its efforts toward off the threatened blow. But one course was left the Executive, acting within the limits of its constitutional competency, and that was to protest in respectful, but at the same time strong and decided terms against it. The war thus threatened to be renewed, was promulgated by edicts and decrees, which ordered, on the part of the Mexican military, the desolation of whole tracts of country and the destruction, without discrimination, of all ages, sexes, and conditions of existence. Over the manner of conducting war, Mexico possesses no exclusive control. She has no right to violate at pleasure the principles which an enlightened civilization has laid down for the conduct of nations at war and thereby retrograde to a period of barbarism which, happily for the world, has long since passed away. All nations are interested in enforcing an observance of those principles, and the United States the oldest of the American Republics, and the nearest of the civilized powers to the theatre on which these enormities were proposed to be enacted, could not quietly content themselves to witness such a state of things. They had, though the Executive, on another occasion, and as was believed with the approbation of the whole country, remonstrated against outrages similar, but even less inhuman, than those which by her new edicts and decrees she has threatened to perpetrate, and of which the late inhuman massacre at Tobasco was but the precursor.

The bloody and inhuman murder of Fennin and his companions, equaled only in savage barbarity by the usages of the untutored Indian Tribes, proved how little confidence could be placed on the most solemn stipulations of her Generals, while the fate others who became her captives in war, many of whom, no longer able to sustain the fatigues and privations of long journeys, were shot down by the way side, while their companions who survived were subjected to sufferings even more painful than death--had left an indelible stain on the page of civilization. The Executive, with the evidence of an intention on the part of Mexico to renew scenes so revolting to humanity, could do no less than renew remonstrances formerly urged. For fulfilling duties so imperative, Mexico has thought proper, through her accredited organs, because she has had represented to her the inhumanity of such proceedings, to indulge in language unknown to the courtesy of diplomatic intercourse, and offensive in the highest degree to this Government and People. Nor has she offended in this only. She has not only violated existing conventions between the two countries, by arbitrary and unjust decrees against our trade and intercourse, but withholds instalments of debt, due to our citizens, which she solemnly pledged herself to pay, under circumstances which are fully explained by the accompanying letter from Mr. Green, our Secretary of Lexington. And when our Minister has invited the attention of her Government to wrong committed by her local authorities not only on the property but on the persons of our fellow-citizens, engaged in prosecuting fair and honest pursuits, she has added insult to injury, by not even designing, for months together, to return an answer to his representations. Still further to manifest her unfriendly feelings towards the United States, she has issued decrees expelling from some of her provinces American citizens engaged in the peaceful pursuits of life, and now denies to those of our citizens prosecuting the Whale fishery on the Northwest coast of the Pacific, the privilege...
The subject of Annexation addresses itself most fortunately to every portion of the Union. The Executive would have been unmindful of its highest obligations, if it could have adopted a course of policy dictated by sectional, but made its appeal to the interests of the whole Union, and of every State in the Union, that the negotiations and finally the Treaty of Annexation was entered into; and it has afforded me no ordinary pleasure to perceive that so far as demonstrations have been made upon it by the People, they have proceeded from all portions of the Union. Mexico may seek to excite division amongst us, by uttering unjust denunciations against particular States, but when she comes to know that the invitations addressed to our fellow citizens by Spain, and afterwards by herself, to settle Texas, were accepted by emigrants from all the States; and when in addition to this, she refreshed her recollection with the fact, that the first effort which was made to acquire Texas was during the administration of a distinguished citizen from an Eastern State, which was afterwards renewed under the suspires of a President from the Southwest, she will awake to a knowledge of the futility of her present purpose of sewing dissensions among, or producing distraction in our Councils by attacks either on particular States or on persons who are now in the retirement of private life. Considering the appeal which she now makes to eminent citizens by name, can she hope to escape censure for having ascribed to them as well as to others, in design, as she pretends now, for the first time revealed, of having originated negotiations to despoil her, by duplicity and falsehood, of a portion of her territory?--The opinion then, as now, prevailed with Executive, that the Annexation of Texas to the Union was a matter of vast importance.

In order to acquire that territory before it had assumed a position among the independent powers of the earth, propositions were made to Mexico for a cession of it to the United States. Mexico saw in these proceedings, at the time, no cause of complaint. She is now, when simply reminded of them, awakened to a knowledge of the fact, which she, through her Secretary of State, promulgates to the whole world as true, that those negotiations were founded in deception and falsehood, and superinduced [sic] by unjust and iniquitous motives. While Texas was a dependency of Mexico, the United States opened negotiations with the latter power for the cession of her then acknowledged territory: and now that Texas is independent of Mexico, and has maintained a separate existence for nine years, - during which time she has been received into the family of nations, and is represented by accredited embassadors [sic] at many of the principal Courts of Europe--when it has become obvious to the whole world that she is forever lost to Mexico, the United States is charged with deception and falsehood in all relating to the past, and condemnatory accusations are made against States which have had no special agency in the matter, because the Executive of the whole Union has negotiated with free and independent Texas upon a matter vitally important to the interests of both countries. And after nine years of unavailing war, Mexico now announces her intention, through her Secretary of Foreign Affairs, never to consent to the Independence of Texas, or to abandon the effort to re-conquer that Republic. --She thus announces a perpetual claim; which at the end of a century will furnish her as plausible a ground for discontent against any nation, which at the end of that time may enter into a treaty with Texas, as she possesses at this moment against the United States. The lapse of time can add nothing to her title to independence.

A course of conduct such as has been described on the part of Mexico, [...] violation of all friendly feeling; and of the courtesy, which should characterize the intercourse between the Nations of the Earth, might well justify the united States in a resort to any measure to vindicate their national honor; but, actuated by a sincere desire to preserve the general peace, and in view of the present condition of Mexico, the Executive, resting upon its integrity, and not fearing but that the judgment of the world will duly appreciate its motive, abstains from recommending to Congress a resort to measures of redress, and content itself with re-urging upon that body prompt and immediate action on the subject of Annexation. By adopting that measure, the United States will be in the exercise regarding that forbearance, shall aggravate the injustice of her conduct by a declaration of war against them, upon her head will rest all the responsibility.

JOHN TYLER.

[AMB]
the end of Annexation, and the possibility is from the signs of the times, that some measure or other may be adopted before the end of the present session of Congress for that purpose. This may be done, [. . . ] accompany the present Administration into retirement amidst the scoffs and jeers of the Whigs at their folly and dishonesty, and with the deep and bitter curses of the Bentonian wing of the Democracy on their heads. Amidst this din of curses, the new President, Mr. Polk, will rise to take the Oath of Allegiance to the Constitution - which sacred instrument will lie spread open before him with the ruthless and bloody foot-prints of the "Progressive Democracy" freshly imprinted upon it. He must take some stand or other upon this question for under his administration grave and important issues must arise in connection with the annexation of the Texan territory to ours, which must and will shake the discordant elements of the Democracy to its centre, and perhaps the happy union of these States to its dissolution. Party excitement has in measure cooled down - there is no inducement upon the part of the Whigs (even if they would resort to such means) to misrepresent any matter in relation to this Texas scheme. They are in a measure powerless for good or evil as far as the influence of Government goes, and therefore we think we are enabled to look upon the movements of the Annexationists as calm observers, and more readily see the dangers to which we are being hurried, than those whose minds are fevered and excited with the ambition of carrying forward a favorite scheme, and whose judgments are clouded by the prejudice of self-pride and self-interest.

We hesitate not to say, that if Texas be admitted into this Union by either or any of the schemes now before the House of Representatives, it will be done in direct, open, and palpable violation of the Constitution of the United States - in open disregard of National faith and honor, and in opposition to the will of a large majority of the States and People of the Union. The Democracy, in whose name, and under whose suspires this disreputable deed is to be done, have ever prided themselves upon being "strict constructionists of the Constitution" - it has been the chief feather in their cap - the polar star by which they have always professed to guide the ship of the State. But where is the loyal crew now? - have they lost their chart and compass - or have they matinied [sic] in the fog of noncommittalism, and determined to scuttle the good old vessel on the reefs of Progressiveness, or not? Certainly they cannot think it the same unpardonable sin now that they did in former times to depart from a strict construction of the Constitution, when they are clamoring for the "annexation of Texas" by a joint resolution of Congress. Our readers are all aware that at last session of Congress the present Administration attempted to have a Treaty formed between our Government and the Government of Texas for the annexation of the latter to this Government ratified by the other branch of the treaty-making power under our laws - the Senate of the United States - and that it was rejected. This rejection met the approbation of the People - sanctioned by every Whig State of this Union - and the Treaty was openly reprobated and disowned by several of the States which cast their votes for Mr. Polk; and b[. . . ] for such disavowal by such Polk leaders as Silas Wright, of New York, he would have been left in a very large minority of the States of the Union. The same Senate which guarded the purity of the Constitution and the honor of the Country at the last session of Congress, are still there to hold the arm of preservation over them, and consequently the disgraceful "Tyler Treaty" will not again be submitted to their dishonorable plot, they are now endeavoring to avoid and dodge them by a joint resolution. Now let us see how these strict constructionists are going to work, for the joint resolution seems to be the Democratic measure par excellence, and of their proceedings we choose to let the Hon. Albert Gallatin, one of the fathers of the Constitution and the honor of the Country. Here it is - read its sober truths, and ponder well the settings and doings of these open violators of the Constitution. Mr. Gallatin says:

That now at issue is simply this: In whom is the power of making treaties vested by the Constitution?

The United States have recognized the independence of Texas; and every compact between independent nations is a treaty.

The Constitution of the United States declares that "the President shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two-thirds of the Senate concur." This power is not given to Congress by any clause of the Constitution.

The intended joint resolution proposes that the treaty of annexation between the United States of America and the Republic of Texas, signed on the 12th day of April, 1844, (which treaty is recited verbatim in the resolution,) shall, by the Senate and House of Representatives in Congress assembled, be declared the fundamental law of Union between the said United States and Texas, as soon as the supreme authority of the said Republic of Texas shall agree to the same.

The Senate had refused to give its consent to the said treaty, and the resolution declares, that it shall nevertheless be made by Congress a fundamental law binding the United States. It transfers to a majority of both House of Congress, with the approbation, the power of making treaties, which by the Constitution was expressly and exclusively vested in the President, with the consent of the two thirds of the Senate. It substitutes for a written Constitution, which distributes and defines powers, the supremacy, or, as it is called, the omnipotence of a British Parliament. The resolution is evidently a direct, and in its present shape an undisguised usurpation of power and violation of the Constitution.

It would not be difficult to show that it is not less at war with the spirit [sic] than with the letter of that sacred instrument; and that the provision which requires the consent of two thirds of the Senate was intended as a guaranty of the States' rights, and to protect the weaker against the abuse of the treaty-making power, if vested in a bare majority. But the case appears to me so clear, that I would fear to obscure that which is self evident, by adding any argument to the simple recital of the constitutional provision and of the proposed resolution.
Thursday, January 9, 1845 MG45i45p1c3 121 words

**House of Representatives**

Mr. Tibbatts, of Kentucky, wished to introduce by general consent, a proposition for the annexation of Texas.

Mr. Barnard objected, and Mr. Tibbatts gave notice that he would introduce his proposition on a subsequent day. --The Reporter could not, in the confusion, learn whether it is a bill or a resolution.

Mr. Belser gave notice that at some subsequent period he would introduce a series of resolutions for annexing Texas to the United States.

Mr. Huston offered a resolution to terminate all debate in Committee of the Whole on the bill 10 graduate and reduce the price of Public Lands--Ayes 49, nays 74.

Mr. Pratt reported a joint resolution in favor of a national monument to the memory of Washington.

**Thursday, January 9, 1845 MG45i45p1c3 734 words**

**Friday January 3, 1845, House of Representatives**

Mr. Phoenix, of New York, presented a memorial of the respectable society of Friends, in the State of New York, in opposition to the annexation of Texas, which, on his motion, the Clerk commenced reading. A part of the memorial was devoted to the subject of Slavery, and contained strong Abolition sentiments. --When the Clerk arrived at that part of it, Mr. Campbell, of South Carolina, rose and objected to the further reading of the paper.

He said that by the courtesy of the House, Mr. Phoenix had been permitted to offer the memorial when the rules would have forbid it. This was done under the supposition that there was nothing offensive in them, which now turned out to be a most violent Abolition petition.

Mr. McClernard then moved to lay the memorial on the table, and on that motion the ayes and nays were ordered.

The vote on laying on the table stood years 87, nays 87--a tie.

The speaker then voted in the affirmative, and the memorial was therefore laid on the table.

Mr. Bailey, of Virginia, moved to suspend the rule for the purpose of going into Committee of the Whole, on which motion ninety-seven gentlemen voted in the affirmative--the noes were not counted.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole and Mr. Hopkins of Virginia took the Chair.

The proposition to annex Texas was taken up, and Mr. Bailey being entitled to the floor, said he would yield it to any gentleman in the opposition who desire to address the Committee.

No one showing a disposition to speak, loud calls of “question, question, question,” were heard from the Whig side of the Hall.

The reading of the amendment to the main was then called for, and it was read.

Mr. Douglass then rose and stated that as no one appeared to be desirous of debating the question at the present time, he would move that the Committee rise.

Loud calls were again made for the question, when the reading of Mr. Douglass’ amendment to the amendment was called for, and it was read.
Mr. Rhett rose and requested Mr. Douglass to withdraw the preamble to his revolution and put his first resolution to the vote. That resolution embraced the simple preposition to annex Texas to the United States unconnected with any details. That course would bring the House to a test vote at once and would determine whether a majority were in favor of annexation in the abstract. He wished this point to be decided in the outset, and the details could easily be settled afterwards.

Mr. Douglass agreed to the suggestion of Mr. Rhett and withdrew the preamble to his resolution. The vote was then about to be put on the adoption of the first resolution, when;

Mr. J. R. Ingersoll, rose and stated that he was unwilling that the House should come to a decision on this question without a word being said in opposition.

This movement of Mr. J. R. Ingersoll disappointed the Whig members very much, who were anxious that the question should be put. It was, on the other hand a relief to the dominant party, who were evidently much embarrassed by the position in which they were placed and would have come up to a vote unprepared and with the greatest reluctance.

Mr. J. R. Ingersoll then proceeded to address the Committee in opposition to the measure. He was at so remote a point from the reporter as to prevent his remarks as to prevent his remarks from being distinctly heard. It is impossible therefore to give a synopsis of his remarks.

Mr. Payne succeeded Mr. Ingersoll, and contended for the general policy of annexing Texas to the Union. The leading argument advanced by him was that Texas was necessary to us for the purpose of preserving the integrity of the Union, and for its safety of defense in time of war. He advanced other positions and strenuously urged the expediency by the opponents of this measure, that it was a slave question and was to be resisted on that account. He became boisterous on this point, and before he got through his hour expired.

Mr. Winthrop, of Mass. , then got the floor and as here seemed to be a disposition to adjourn he moved that the Committee rise.

The motion was carried, and at 3 o’clock the House adjourned. [AMB]

Thursday, January 9, 1845 MG45i45p1c2 222 words

**Twenty-Seventh Congress, Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot, Washington**

Washington, Dec. 30, 1844

SENATE.

Among the memorials presented in the Senate this morning, were the following:

By Mr. Sturgeon, one from the western part of Pennsylvania, asking that the Pension laws may be extended so as to embrace the soldiers who fought under Harmer, St. Clair and Wayne.

By Mr. Buchanan, one from Pennsylvania, which embraces the subject of the Tariff, Texas, and the Naturalization Laws. The Tariff of ’42 is upheld, Texas to be annexed, and the Naturalization Laws to remain intact.

Thursday, Dec. 31, 1844

SENATE

Mr. Choate presented a memorial from the inhabitants of Northborough, Massachusetts, remonstrating against the Annexation of Texas.

Mr. Tappen presented a memorial from citizens of Cincinnati, Ohio, asking a reduction of Postage and to abolish the Franking privilege.

Mr. Buchanan presented a memorial from the Society of Friends in Pensylvania [sic], protecting against the Annexation of Texas.

Mr. Haywood gave notice that on Monday next he would ask leave to move to take up the bill to provide for the annexation of Texas the United States.

House of Representatives

[See above: Thursday, January 9, 1845 MG45i45p1c3, House of Representatives]

Thursday, Jan’y. 2, 1845. SENATE.
Mr. Bates presented a remonstrance from Mendon, Massachusetts, against the Annexation of Texas.

Mr. Archer presented a petition from citizens of Vicksburg, Mississippi, asking a reform in the Naturalization Laws.

Letter to the Editor--Alex. Gaz.

The *New York Evening Post*, the organ of Van Burenism at the North, and the ablest Loco Foco paper in that quarter, is not at all disposed, to knuckle under, on the Texas question, or to suffer Gen. Jackson to force Annexation down the throats of the faithful. "Phely keep pestering Gen. Jackson," says the *Post*, "still on the Texas question, and, with the flame of life yet flickering in its socket, the brave and honest old man writes letters in favor of the annexation scheme. " And the *Post* goes on to say, "We yield to no man in admiration of the character of General Jackson, but we used to tell him in the palmist days of his popularity that he had his infirmities and committed his mistakes; and one of the saddest of his infirmities is the hurry he is in to add Texas to our Confederacy. We can easily imagine how Gen. Jackson is besieged--intrusion and importunity are too much the habit of our dear countrymen--besieged in the chamber to which ill health and the debility of old age have confined him; and we suggest to their sense of humanity that he has been worried enough about this affair, and should be allowed to pass his last moments in peace. " And in this strain this "Democratic" organ goes on to deplorently advise the Members of Congress to take time to pass the appropriation bills and go quickly home on the 4th of March, and allow the whole interval between March and December to pass over without the least apprehension that Texas will run away. If it be so important, as many pretend, for the welfare and prosperity of the two countries, that they should be under the same Federal Government, a little delay will not alter their interests or their inclinations. - *Aix. Gaz.*

Late and Important from Mexico--Santa Anna Defeated and Taken Prisoner

The *Baltimore American* of yesterday brings an extract from the *New Orleans Tropic* in relation to the intestine war in Mexico. The substance of the news is, that Santa Anna, after losing more than two thousand of his army by desertion, was met on the plains of Affan by Generals Bravo and Parades, with three thousand men under their command, and after a desperate battle the army of Santa Anna was totally routed, and himself captured while trying to make his escape. Five hundred men were reported to be killed in the battle.

Annexation of Texas

The joint resolutions for the annexation of Texas, according to a population submitted by Milton Brown, of Tenn, have passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 120 to 98. Their fate in the Senate is doubtful, and if they should succeed there, it is yet doubtful whether Texas would accede to the proposed terms.

We subjoin a copy of the resolutions, that our readers may see their provisions:

Joint Resolution

[Note: the full text of House Resolution No. 46 is available online via the Library of Congress, American Memory, Law Making Home, Bills and Resolutions at http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ammlaw/lwhbsb.html. To view the resolution click on "Browse House Bills and Resolutions" then 29th Congress, Page Turner, and enter 46 in the search box. ]

Declaring the terms on which Congress will admit Texas into the Union as a State:

Resolved, &c. That Congress doth consent that the territory properly included within and rightfully belonging to the republic of Texas, may be erected into a new State, to be called the State of Texas, with a republican form of government to be adopted by the people of said republic by deputies in convention
assembled, with the consent of the existing government, in order that the same may be admitted as one of the States of this Union.

Sec. 2. and be it further resolved, that the foregoing consent of Congress is given upon the following conditions, and with the following guarantees to wit:

First. Said State to be formed, subject to the adjustment by this government of all questions of boundary that may arise with other Governments; and the constitution thereof, with the proper evidence of its adoption by the people of the said Republic of Texas, shall be transmitted to the President of the United States, to be laid before Congress for its final action, on or before the first day of January, 1840.

Second. Said State, when admitted into the Union, after ceding to the United States all mines, salt lakes and springs, and also all public edifiers, fortifications, barracks, ports and harbours, navy and navy-yards, docks, magazines, arms, armaments, and all other property and means pertaining to the public defense belonging to said republic of Texas, shall retain all the public funds, debts, taxes, and dues of every kind which may belong to, or be due and owing said republic; and shall also retain all the vacant and unappropriated lands lying within its limits, to be applied to the payment of the debts and liabilities, to be disposed of as said State may direct; but in no event are said debts and liabilities to become a charge upon the Government of the United States.

Third. New States, of convenient size, and having sufficient population, may hereafter, by the consent of said State, be formed out of the territory thereof, which shall be entitled to admission under the provisions of the federal constitution. --And such States as may be formed out of that portion of said territory lying south of thirty-six degrees thirty minutes north latitude, commonly known as the Missouri compromise line, shall be admitted into the union, with or without slavery, as the people of each state asking admission may desire.

And in such State or States, as shall be formed out of said territory, north of said Missouri Compromise Line, Slavery or involuntary servitude, except for crime, shall be prohibited.

[AMB]

Thursday, January 30, 1845 MG45i47p3c1 847 words

Legislative Correspondence, Richmond, January 27, 1845, To the Editor of the Gazette:

The proceedings, in relation to the Senatorial Election you will find annexed. The brief narrative is this: On the 16th, a Resolution was adopted in the House designating Wednesday the 22nd for the Election. At that time there were absent or sick several members of the Whig Party, some of whom, it was expected, would be in their seats at the appointed time. Hence it was supposed that, on that day, the House would be as full as could reasonably be anticipated during the remainder of the Session. Some of the other Party were also absent, who, it was presumed, would return by the 22nd.

The Senate declined to act upon the Joint Resolution until the morning of Wednesday the 22nd, when, having met at the unusual hour of 10, it was adopted.

It is well understood, here, and the fact of the delay, on the part of the Senate, justifie the conclusion, that the Resolution was agreed to because the Loco-Foco Party found itself, on the 22nd, in an accidental majority, on joint ballot.

Two Whig Members were sick--Mr. Campbell of the Senate, who has since died, and Mr. Rob bins of the House--and another, Mr. Helm, was absent, in consequence of severe illness in his family. On the other hand, but one Member of the opposite Party, Mr. Street, was absent.

In this condition of things, the House refused to proceed to an election, which would not have resulted in the selection of a man, who was the choice of the majority of the Legislature.

An attempt will, doubtless, be made to turn the action of the House to some account in favor of our opponents, if the Senate shall, hereafter, refuse to proceed to the Election. Indeed, already, capital has been sought to be made of it.

The position of the Whigs of the Legislature is this--They desire as full a vote, as possible, of both Parties. When the Election shall take place, provided it be at this Session and the object of a fair vote be accomplished, is a subordinate question. If either Party, however, shall not be ready during the Session, whether Whig or Loco-Foco, and whether a Whig or a Loco-Foco Senator shall be elected, the Whig Party of the Legislature of Virginia will insist upon the discharge of the high Constitutional obligation, that binds them and their opponents to elect a Senator before the Body shall
A Wilt of Election, I presume, will issue to supply the place of Senator Campbell, dec’d.

The terms of the arrangement for the purchase, by the B. & O.R.R. Company, of the Winchester Road, are as follows: the debts of the Company, assumed not to exceed $81,000, exclusive of that due to the State, to be provided for—an amount of 16,000 to be paid [. . . ]; Company secured ($11,140 of that amount) by mortgage upon the Road and the other property included in the mortgage at present held by the State—the amount of interest on the floating debt above of $81,000 (about $4,861) to be deducted from the said annuity leaving $11,140—a sum equal to an annual interest of 2½ per cent on the stock held by the State and individuals and on the principal and interest of the loan of the State to the Company—The Baltimore Company to have authority to change the location of the Road, as to leave the present line at a point about half a mile west of Halltown and intersect the Baltimore Road, at or near Cabin Run, or in some other manner at their option, so as not to increase the distance between Harper’s Ferry and Winchester by the present line. The arrangement not to be binding, until sanctioned by Virginia and Maryland, and upon the State of Virginia granting the Baltimore Company the Right of Way to a point on the Ohio River not lower than the mouth of the Little Kanawha, according to the original charter in 1827.

The Committee of Finance recommend a reduction of Taxes—20 per cent on the lands, lots, slaves and horses—50 per cent on clocks—five dollars on the lowest grade of merchants, &c. The subject is undergoing discussion, now, in the House. They estimate the probable balance in the Treasury, on the first of October, 1846, if no reduction should be made in the taxes now, at $203,447 84. It is insisted by many, that the taxes should not be reduced, but that the taxes should be thrown into the sinking fund, under provisions of the Act of March 1835, for the purpose of gradually extinguishing the public debt. The following is a summary of the public debt—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aggregate</th>
<th>$7,360,932.24</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Of which there is stock under the Control of</td>
<td>$1,392,884.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the Legislature, (a nominal debt)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Actual outstanding debt,</td>
<td>$5968,047.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities,</td>
<td>$1,400,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total debt and liabilities,</td>
<td>$7,368,047.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds and resources of every character,</td>
<td>$11,288,953.65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Of which the funds, productive, but not, at</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>once, available to an amount sufficient to</td>
<td>$6,301,415.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pay the actual outstanding debt, are not down at</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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February

MG45v45n49p2c1 February 6, 1845: Canada and Texas

A light breeze sprung up in the Senate yesterday upon the presentation, by one of the Senators from Michigan, of a petition for the annexation of the Canadas to the United States. The debate was of sufficient interest to be fully reported; and, not having room for it to-day, we shall aim at its publication in our next. – Nat. Int. February 4. [LA]

MG45v45n49p2c1 February 6, 1845: Oregon

The bill, which occupied several days of the sittings of the House of Representatives last week, for the establishment of a Territorial Government in Oregon, yesterday pass the House of Representatives by a large majority; after being amended, however, so as to require due notice to be given to Great Britain of the termination of the joint occupation, and the bill should not take effect until the expiration of the year after that notice, in any way to conflict with our treaty engagements in reference to this subject. –Nat. Int. Feb. 4. [LA]

MG45v45n49p2c2 February 6, 1845: Summary of Legislative Intelligence, House of Delegates
Texas Resolutions have been amended in the House. While they assert the expediency of immediate annexation, our Senators are expressly, left at liberty to vote against the joint Resolutions now before the Senate, if they shall think that mode of annexation unconstitutional. This was all we could accomplish – there being a decided leaning to Texas in the House. The Whigs voted for the amendment and the Loco Focos against it. [LA]

Mr. Bowden moved to take up the resolution from the Senate, for the speedy annexation of Texas. [LA]

A petition was yesterday presented in the House of Representatives by Mr. Severance, from a number of respectable citizens of the State of Maine, praying for the "re-annexation" of the province of New Brunswick to the United States. – Nat. Int. February 4. [LA]

It is stated that Dr. Anson Jones, the recently elected President of Texas, is a native of Berkshire, Mass. [LA]

A letter from a distinguished source in Washington says: “Texas, I think, is dead for this session.” – Balt Pat. [LA]

The resolution from the Senate for the speedy annexation of Texas came up as the order to the day. Mr. Broadus, of Caroline, proposed to amend the resolution as follows:

That the annexation of Texas to the U. States ought to be effected at the earliest period that may be practicable consistent with the obligations of the Constitution, the internal peace and tranquility of the country and the faith and honor of the nation.

Mr. Daniel, of R.C. moved the following substitute:

Resolved, By the General Assembly that it is expedient to re-acquire by treaty the country west of the Sabine ceded by the United States to Spain by the treaty of 22d Feb’y 1819, when it can be done upon just and reasonable terms, and consistently with the good faith and honor of the nation.

Mr. Toler offered the following amendment:

Resolved, by the General Assembly of Virginia, That the annexation of Texas to the U. States be effected at the earliest period that may be possible consistent with the permanent welfare Virginia, the obligations of the Constitution, the preservation of the internal peace of the union, and the faith and honor of the country; and that the General Assembly, reposing active confidence in the abilities and patriotism of the Senators of Virginia rely upon them faithfully to discharge all of their obligations to the State and to the Union upon this question.

Mr. Wallace would decline voting on these resolutions, not believing that this Assembly has any business whatever with the subject. We had Federal agents – whose duty is was to act upon this subject; and to them he would leave it.

Mr. Daniel, with the consent of the House, withdrew his proposition, and again offered it as an independent proposition.

Mr. Edmunds of H. spoke at large in favor of annexation and was replied to by Mr. Taylor if N.B.
The Texas debate is going on in the Senate with considerable spirit, and some of the first intellects in the Senate of both parties are engaged in it. – Gov. Morehead of Kentucky lead off in opposition to the "Joint Resolution," passed by the House of Representatives, in a speech of distinguished ability which elicited the encomiums of friends and foes. He opposed the annexation of Texas on constitutional grounds, but declared that he could not consent to annexation upon any terms unless the consent of Mexico was given. He also opposed the annexing of foreign territory to the Union by a bare majority. He thought this step was taken to perpetuate Slavery, which he denied the power in Congress to do. He also urged another objection to the Resolution of the House – that it robbed Texas of all her resources, and left her to hopeless repudiation. The Hon. James Buchanan, of Pennsylvania, followed Mr. Morehead in favor of the "Joint Resolution" of the House. He was in favor of annexing Texas first, and then settling all the difficulties connected with annexation. Texas, he said, had asked in 1837, and in 1844, and now in 1845, to come into the Union. The Bill before the Senate for her admission was, in his view, the very best that could be adopted. He thought the Bill would meet the objection urged against the Tyler Treaty, that it did not have the concurrence of Congress. Mr. B. relied solely upon the power to admit new States, and regarded that as entirely sufficient. He was opposed to Slavery, but supported it because the Constitution tolerated it. – He denounced the Abolitionists in unmeasured terms as the enemies of the Slave and mankind. Annexation was, in his view, beneficial to the Country, to its trade, to its commerce, to a proper watchfulness of England, &c. He complimented Mr. Morehead very highly for his able speech delivered the day before. Our distinguished Senator, the Hon. Wm. C. Rives, followed Mr. Buchanan – he regarded the "Joint Resolution" of the House as in substance a treaty. He could not therefore support the immediate Bill before the Senate – he denied the power in Congress to do. He warmly protested against the power now assumed by the two Houses of Congress – as violative of the law and Constitution of the Union. We might get Texas (he said) but it would loosen some of the strongest cords of Union that now hold the States together. It was impious to ask Heaven to sanction and bless a country that had been enlarged by a violation of the laws and Constitution of the land. Heaven might be invoked to bless what was right and just, but never what was wrong. If Congress could annex Texas to the Union, it could strike Texas from the Union, and already there were cries of a repeal of the Union if the act should be attempted. He warned the Slave-holding States to be careful how they admitted the right of Congress to legislate upon one of their institutions which the bill before the Senate did. The Hon. Mr. Woodbury followed Mr. Rives in an excited and able speech in favour of the bill, going over the grounds pretty much which had been traveled by Mr. Buchanan. So far, the debate has been very able on both sides, and promises to continue in interest. – Mr. Choate of Massachusetts has the
Mr. Witcher, on the part of the Select Committee to whom the resolutions in relation to the annexation of Texas were referred, reported that the Committee had been unable to come to any agreement, and asked that they be discharged from the further consideration of the subject, which was agreed to.

Mr. Edmunds of H., moved to take up and consider the resolutions in relation to the annexation of Texas.

The Senate’s resolution reads:

Resolved, by the General Assembly of Virginia, That the annexation of Texas to the United States should be effected with no further delay than may be necessary for the accomplishment of that object, by the constituted authorities of the two countries.

Mr. Bowers understood that Mr. Witcher intended to move an amendment, and he wished to await it, before he offered his.

Mr. Witcher said that his offering an amendment would depend on circumstances. At present he should not.

Mr. Preston hoped the Whigs would make no amendments to the Senate's resolutions. They could consistently support that resolution. It referred them to the "constituted authorities of the two countries."

Mr. Goodson manifested some oppugnation to the Senate’s resolution, without declaring his opposition.

Mr. Witcher re-urged the recommendations of Mr. Preston: - that the Whigs should offer no amendments to the Senate’s resolution. Let the Whigs stand still – if the other side make any charge, we would be prepared to meet it.

Mr. Stovall thought it must be manifest that the Senate’s resolution ought to be modified. Since its passage, the joint resolution had passed the House of Representatives, and it was proper to express our opinions on that.

Mr. Edmunds of H., believed that he could acquiesce in the Senate’s resolution; and leave our Senators to put the proper construction upon it. (“Agreed,” by Mr. Witcher.)

Mr. Lanier gave his views against the constitutionality of annexation by joint resolution of the two Houses of Congress.

Mr. Cootes called for the ayes and noes.

Mr. Jackson said as he could not vote (being tied off) he hoped the vote would now be taken, and he called the previous question. He would have voted with great pleasure in the negative. The 1st resolution was adopted as follows: - Ayes 89, Noes 32.

The 2d resolution of the Senate, requiring the 1st resolution to be communicated to our Senators, &c. then came up.

Mr. Gordon moved a substitute for the 2d resolution of the Senate, as follows:

That the admission of Texas on the conditions and guarantee set forth in the joint resolution passed by the House of Representatives on the 25th Jan’y ’45, and sent to the Senate for its concurrence, in the opinion of the General Assembly are [is] just and proper, and will be approved by the people.

Mr. Taylor of N. B. called for the reading of the joint resolution passed by the House of Representatives.

Mr. Witcher knew that the gentlemen on the other side were not content with their own proposition, and this further amendment did not surprise him. M. W. said that the proposition, endorsing the resolution of the House of Representatives, raised a novel question in this State. Its object is to act upon our Senators – to require them to perjure themselves or surrender their seats. Mr. W. wished to know of his political friends, if they were prepared for this – if those who sent them here expected them to take any such ground. He believed that a majority of the people of Virginia were in favor of annexation; but they wished it to be effected without any violation of the Constitution – such as would be accomplished by this mode of action. Mr. Witcher declared that for himself he was opposed to the acquisition of Texas, on account of the mode by which it was proposed, and the motives through which it had been urged. Some of his objections have been modified recently in some degree by the compromise of the slavery question, in the joint resolution of the House of Representatives. But still he was not prepared for it; he apprehended great danger and disquiet to the confederacy form it. Mr. W. again adverted to the motive of this movement: It was a hit at our Senators, and he appealed to the Whigs to know, whether they would aid their adversaries in such an object. But
even if this amendment were carried by a small majority here, would it receive and ought it to receive any respect at Washington? He thought it ought not. The proposition involved in the joint resolution was novel to the people – it had never been discussed before them, and they had made up no opinion on it – and a small vote here undertaking to give the popular voice would be entitled to no weight. Mr. W. concluded by offering a substitute for Mr. Gordon’s which left out of view the constitutional question – leaving that to our Senators.

Resolved, by the General Assembly of Virginia, That it is their deliberate opinion that a large majority of the people of Virginia desire the Immediate Annexation of Texas to the U. States by any lawful and constitutional mode. And that the conditions and guarantees set forth in the joint resolution passed by the House of Representatives, and sent to the Senate of the U.S. for its concurrence, in the opinion of this General Assembly, are just and proper and will be approved by the people. This General Assembly however forbearing to express any opinion as to the constitutionality of Annexation by the mode of a joint resolution of the two houses of Congress.

Messrs. Gordon and Bowden opposed, and Messrs. Cocke, Broadus, of Car. , and Taylor, of N. B. , supported Mr. Witcher’s substitute.

Mr. Marshall, of F. , moved the indefinite postponement of the whole. He was impelled by a high sense of duty to make this motion. This was a great National question, the decision of which properly belonged to our National representatives. For this reason, he would dismiss the subject. For another reason he was in favor of it. The session was very far advanced, and it was high time that the business of the State was attended to. – Mr. Marshall called the ayes and noes.

Mr. Gordon spoke farther in support of his amendment.

Mr. Lanier replied – and when he concluded the vote was taken upon the adoption of Mr. Witcher’s substitute; wich resulted, ayes 59, noes 58. [LA]

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**MG45v45n51p3c1 February 20, 1845 Mexico. Confirmation of the Capture of Santa Anna**

The schr. Water Witch, which sailed from Tampico on the 26th ult. , arrived last evening with papers up to the 22d ult. , from Vera Cruz. The Minister of Exterior Relations announced to Congress on the 17th January, the capture of Santa Anna.

(Official Note.)

Head Quarters of Constitutional Militia.
At Jico, half past 9 o’clock

His Excellency Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna has just been brought in by four of our men, and is now in our power. I am in too much haste to write the particulars before tomorrow.

Pedro Llera

To His Excellency the Minister of Exterior Relations.
Jalapa, 16th January

The Minister further informs the Government that Santa Anna would be conducted to the fortress of Perote to await the decision of the Government.

It appears that Santa Anna committed the most outrageous barbarities on the inhabitants of Puebla, killing, pillaging and burning until he was met by the Constitutional army, which had defeated him. His army, before he committed depredations amounting to 12,000 men, being disgusted at his conduct, abandoned their ranks and joined the Constitutional troops.

The conflict, however, was not without bloodshed, and several hundred were reported as killed on both sides.

When Santa Anna was taken he had scarcely a friend to accompany him.

Gen. Ampudia, governor of Tobasco, was superseded by Martinez and ordered to Vera Cruz. He exonerates himself of having done any thing illegal or of resisting the popular will, and throws all the blame on Santa Anna’s orders.

Government had ordered all the properties of Santa to be seized and confiscated.

The general belief was that Santa Anna would be condemned by the Government and executed.

Public tranquility was re-established throughout Mexico, and public festivals had been ordered throughout the Republic to celebrate the glorious event of the downfall of the tyrant Santa Anna.
Government has issued orders for the disbandment of the army, and invites the absent to return and resume their occupations.

A passenger who came in the Water Witch reports that Santa Anna left Perote, under a strong escort for the City of Mexico, on the 20th ult. – Balt. Amer. [LA]

The Texas debate at our last dates was still progressing with great spirit. The most able Senators on both sides have participated in the debate and the Senate Chamber has been daily crowded to overflowing by attentive and excited listeners. We understand the vote was to have been taken yesterday (Wednesday) on the “Joint Resolution” of the House of Representatives, and the result considered exceedingly doubtful. The friends of Annexation seem to be sanguine of success as they are now certain of the vote of three Whig Senators – Henderson of Mississippi, Merrick of Maryland, and Johnson of Louisiana. The Richmond Enquirer, and other leading Texas Journals, are bespattering Mr. Merrick with as much praise for his “able and eloquent speech”(!) as they are belaboring Mr. Rives for his “weak and wishawashy argument” against annexation. It is a great crime in the eyes of the friends of annexation, for Mr. Rives to speak and vote against the measure, because Virginia has declared in favor of it – but a virtue in Mr. Merrick to speak and vote in favor of it, when Maryland has declared against it in equally as emphatic a manner. We yet hope the law and Constitution of our blessed Union will find safety in that august body of wisdom and statesmanship, and that the “Joint Resolution” of the House will be defeated. [LA]

In the Texas debate in the Assembly a few days ago, Gen. Fonda, of Montgomery county, avowed himself in favor of “immediate annexation,” and expressed an entire confidence that his constituents agreed with him in this opinion. On Monday last the town elections in Montgomery county were held, and for the first time, in we know not how many years, the Whigs have obtained a majority in the Board of Supervisors, carrying seven towns out of ten! The People will speak out on this question, even thought the Legislature should continue to be dumb. –Albany Evening Journal. [LA]

THE ANNEXATION OF TEXAS TO THE UNITED STATES

This triumph was announced and, welcomed by the firing of one hundred guns from Capitol Hill. The spirit of Progressive Democracy now aims at universal empire, and the Anglo Saxon is proclaimed by them Emperor of the world. Where is this lust after territory now to cease?--the “area of freedom” will soon begin to ask for more elbow-room, and then Canada, Mexico, Cuba and California must be ours. The same power which annexed Texas has the right to take possession of all the others. That cursed spirit of idleness which is so prevalent now-a-days, and which refuses to sustain its lazy body by honest industry, is constantly in hot pursuit of office, and the legions are annually increasing, and hence the patriotic desire (!) to “extend the area of freedom,” that a wider range may be made for the establishment of new offices, and more incumbents.

That mighty and fearful arm which threatens to destroy the liberties of the people of this republic is daily becoming more strong--the Executive power of the Government now adays with almost unlimited power--the independence of the Legislature is surrendered into its hands, and the powers of our National Judiciary prostrated at its feet. Where is that spirit of State’s Rights Republicanism which resisted the attempted encroachments of Jackson? Ah! what a shaking there ought to be among the “marrowless shin bones” of the chivalry of the South,--those peculiar baters of consolidation and advocates of a strict construction of the Constitution. The principles of ’98--we wonder who is to preach the funeral sermon over them--the Virginia Democracy certainly ought to be the chief mourners, and the land jobbers and Texas scrip holders the grave diggers and pall bearers.

We think Texas will not refuse to accept the proffered Annexation, and after the arrangements are all concluded the President of the United States will order and command Congress to confirm the negotiations by a “Joint Resolution. “ Will the people submit quietly to this open violation of their Constitution?--we doubt it. Will the Texans accept annexation upon such terms, when the same power which annexed her to the Union by a bare majority of two votes, may strike her again from the Union at their pleasure?--she ought not. But that our readers may see the “joint Resolution” of Congress and the addition of Mr. Benton’s Bill as an amendment, we annex them below. We shall take occasion to refer again to this subject. The vote in the Senate stood Ayes 27 Noes 25: in the House of Representatives, Ayes 132, Noes 76. [MLD]
JOINT RESOLUTION FOR ANNEXING TEXAS TO THE U. STATES

"Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, That Congress doth consent the territory properly included within, and rightfully belonging to the Republic of Texas, may be erected into a new State, to be called the State of Texas, with a republican form of government, to be adopted by the people of said republic, by deputies in convention assembled, with the consent of the existing government, in order that the same may be admitted as one of the States of this Union.

Sec. 2. And be it further resolved, That the foregoing consent of Congress is given upon the following conditions, and with the following guarantees, to wit:

First, Said State to be formed, subject to the adjustment by this government of all questions of boundary that may arise with other governments; and the constitution thereof, with the proper evidence of its adoption by the people of said Republic of Texas, shall be transmitted to the President of the United States, to be laid before Congress for its final action, on or before the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six.

Second, Said State, when admitted into the Union, after ceding to the United States, all public edifices, fortifications, barracks, ports and harbors, navy and navy-yards, docks, magazines, arms, armaments, and all other property and means pertaining to the public defense belonging to the said Republic of Texas, shall retain all the public funds, debts, taxes, and dues of every kind, which may belong to or be due and owning to said Republic of Texas; and shall also retain all the vacant and unappropriated lands lying within its limits, to be applied to the payment of the debts and liabilities of said Republic of Texas, and the residue of said lands, after discharging said debts and liabilities, to be disposed of as State may direct; but in no event are said debts and liabilities to become a charge upon the Government of the United States.

Third, New States, of convenient size, not exceeding four in number, in addition to said State of Texas, and having sufficient population, may hereafter, by the consent of the said State, be formed out of the territory thereof, which shall be entitled to admission under the provisions of the federal constitution. And as such States as may be formed out of that portion of said territory lying south of thirty-six degrees thirty minutes north latitude, commonly known as the Missouri compromise line, shall be admitted to the Union with or without slavery, as the people of each State asking permission may desire."

In the Senate, on Thursday night, Mr. Walker moved to amend the joint resolution by adding thereto the following:

And be it further resolved, That if the President of the United States shall in his judgment and discretion deem it most advisable, instead of proceeding to submit the foregoing resolution of the Republic of Texas, as an overture on the part of the United States for admission, to negotiate with the Republic; then,

"Be it Resolved, That a State, to be formed out of the present Republic of Texas, with suitable extent and boundaries, and with two representatives in Congress, until the next appointment of representation, shall be admitted into the Union, by virtue of this act, on an equal footing with the existing States as soon as the terms and conditions of such admission, and the cession of the remaining Texan territory to the United States be agreed upon by the Governments of Texas and the United States.

"Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the sum of one hundred thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated to defray the expenses of missions and negotiations, to agree upon the terms of said admission and cession, either by treaty to be submitted to the Senate, or by articles to be submitted to the two houses of Congress, as the President may direct. " [MLD]

THE MEANING

We clip the following extract from the editorial comments of the last Richmond Enquirer on the Inaugural Address of President Polk. The Richmond Junto,” that is the “Old Hunker” division of them, are surely graveled at the defeat of Mr. Ritchie's pet, Mr. Andrew Stephenson, for the Premiership, and if possible they will pick a quarrel with Mr. Polk about it, is some shape or other. --Mr. Ritchie says:--

"There is one other subject of peculiar importance, which the president touches in his excellent Address. He is right in supposing, that one great difficulty in the practical Administration of the Government would arise in the adjustment of the Tariff. It will indeed constitute the great battle ground between the two parties of the country.

The Address lays down very clearly the general principles which may be expected to regulate his course on this important question. But there is one part of it, upon which we are altogether prepared to express at this moment a decided opinion. It is that in which he speaks of the discrimination which he may desire to be made within the range of
the Revenue principle.

If the president means that, to the whole amount of the revenue to be raised, a discrimination may be made with an eye to the protection of home industry, then we might be compelled to dissent from the proposition. If on the contrary, he only means that the interests of the country and its industry indiscriminately are to derive all the incidental protection, which the required amount of duties would afford upon the principles of the Compromise Act, discriminating with an eye to revenue, then we concur with the Inaugural Address, and think that it will be backed by the great body of the President’s warm Southern friends. Our opinions on this subject have been too often and too strongly disclosed, to render it necessary to repeat them here. ” [MLD]

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**Thursday, March 20, 1845 MG45i3p2c7 72 words**

**FROM MEXICO**

Mexican papers to the 12th February state that SANTA ANNA was to be tried on the 24th of that month by the Congress, sitting as a jury; and if he did not prefer to be present before the jury, but sent a written defense, the trial was to take place sooner. He was still in prison at Perote, and appeared to have full liberty to communicate by letter with whomsoever he pleased. [MLD]

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**Thursday, March 27, 1845 MG45i4p1c4 1082 words**

**A SKETCH OF SANTA ANA**

**HIS FORTUNES WITHIN A FEW YEARS**

The recent revolution in Mexico, together with the overwhelming changes in the fortunes of Santa Ana, have imparted fresh interest to the life of a man, whose career has been so extraordinary; and who but the other day--"the observed of all observers"--with the destinies of a nation in his hands, is now, it may be presumed, little better than a fugitive and an outlaw. The more immediate events in his history, have been full of stirring excitement. His capture by the Texians, his release, his return to Mexico in an American National vessel, his overthrow by Gen. Almonte, his re-election as President, his loss of a leg, in defense of Vera Cruz, his new movements for the re-conquest of Texas, the death of his wife, his speedy marriage to another, the late popular outbreak, his tyrannical conduct towards the Mexican Congress, the fidelity to him of a large body of followers, the pertinacity, of his resistance, his repeated attacks on Puebla, and finally, if the last accounts be true, his negotiation for surrender.

The conduct of his countrymen in relation to his amputated leg, must be pronounced brutal and disgraceful, and will long be remembered as a cowardly manifestation of popular fury. Brantz Mayer, in his interesting work on Mexico, gives an account of the burial of this leg. He arrived at the city gates just after sunrise, as they commenced firing in honor of the day, which was to be celebrated by an entombment of the remains of the shattered limb. The principal streets were covered with an awning; the military were out in their finery; the officers of government mingled in the procession; and the limb of the President, cut off in 1838, afterwards burned at Vera Cruz, was disinterred and bought to the capital in 1842, laid in a crystal vase, borne to the cemetery of Santa Paula, where it was deposited in the monument erected to receive it, by the command of the General of the Mexican Army. A solemn eulogium on the President was then pronounced by a distinguished Mexican, and the ceremonies in honor of the precious relic were concluded.

What a contrast have recent events presented! The leg has been torn from its place of repose, and kicked about the streets! A statue of Santa Ana, which had been placed on a beautiful column, has been thrown down and trampled upon.

A writer in the *New Orleans Tropic*, who was a witness to the Revolution in the city of Mexico, speaks of the Assembly of people in front of the Piazza.--"Shouts of vivas" (he says) from twice ten thousand voices rent the air, clenched and uplifted hands and gesticulations of the most determined character indicated the deep seated enthusiasm of the vast multitude. It was indeed a tremendous spectacle. I witnessed many men so impressed and affected at the sight that the tears were streaming down their faces. --It was a motley scene. The Mexican gentleman, the merchant, the lepero, in his many colored clothing, the officer in his gorgeous regimentals, soldiery, crowds of young men, women, and boys all combined to furnish a spectacle which those who witnessed it and the intense enthusiasm which appeared to burn in every one, I will never forget.

But a few months before, Santa Ana visited the theatre in his splendid state carriage, encompassed by other carriages, and followed by about seventy lancers. --Two rows of grenadiers were stationed the whole length of the entrance to the theatre, making a lane for the General-in-chief to pass. There were hardly any under six feet--fine looking men.

The theatre outside was brilliantly illuminated; splendid transparencies with the inscriptions "patron of this edifice," "Hero of Tampico," "Hero of Vera Cruz," "Siempre Vencedor"--always a Conqueror--these and similar brilliancies formed a dazzling spectacle. But the transparency that towered above the rest, was a full length portrait of Santa Ana...
crowned by laurel by the genius of Victory, who was seen hovering over his head.

This was recently torn down by the mob, and converted into a kind of broom with which the streets are swept.

Mr. Mayer, in his work already quoted from, describes Santa Ana as about six feet high, well made and of graceful bearing, and stamping along on an old fashioned wooden peg, having rejected as uncomfortable, all the mock legs with patent springs, that had been presented to him. His dress on all public occasions was that of a high officer of the army, and his breast was covered with richly gemmed decorations. “His brow,” (we here quote form Mr. Mayer’s description, written in 1842) “shaded with black hair somewhat sprinkled with gray, is by no means lofty, but narrow and smooth. His head, although rather small, and too long for its breadth has a marked and boldly defined outline, indicating talent and resolution. His nose is straight and well shaped, and brows knit in a line over close and brilliant eyes, which are said to lash with life, when reused to passion. His complexion is dark and sallow and his temperament evidently bilious. His mouth is the most remarkable feature. Its prominent expression, when at rest, is that of mingled pain and anxiety. In perfect repose, you would think him looking on a dying friend, with whose sufferings he was deeply but helplessly sympathizing. There is no vindictiveness, ferocity or ill temper in his expression. ”

In another part of his work Mr. Mayer says:--“As we passed the front of the National Palace, from out of its main portal dashed fifty gaily caparisoned hussars, followed by a coach richly decked with crimsoned velvet and gold, drawn by four white horses, and driven by a Yankee coachman. Behind these dashed fifty more hussars; while at the side of the coach, six aids reined in their spirited charges. There is but one person in the vehicle. His dress is that of a General of Division, with red facings and gold embroideries. He wears a number of decorations around his neck, while a medal blazing with diamonds, voted to him by the nation, rests on his bosom. His sword handle is studded with diamonds, and his hand rests on a diamond headed cane. --He is uncovered, and as he passes bows gracefully to your salutation, you recognize the President of the Republic. “--Such was Santa Ana only a year or two ago. --Phil. Inq. [MLD]

**Thursday, March 27, 1845 MG45i4p1c7**

**WHIG ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE OF VIRGINIA**

**WHIG LEGISLATIVE MEETING**

At a meeting of the Whig members of the General Assembly, held on Monday evening, Feb. 17th, 1845, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

“Resolved, That the resolution adopted by the Democratic Legislative convention, a few days since, in which it is asserted without qualification, that the conduct of the Whig party in the House of Delegates of Virginia, in reference to the annexation of Texas to the Union, was dictated by a COVERT DESTEN TO DEFEAT THE MEASURE,’ considering the relation of its authors to those whom they have thus assailed, is highly indelicate, and the imputation is indignantly repelled as a wanton Calumny. ”

A committee, consisting of Messrs. Robert C. Standard, Wm. Ballard Preston, Richard H. Toler, Allen T. Caperton, E. P. Bitts, and John S. Gallaher, was appointed to prepare a brief statement setting forth the position and action of the Whig party, during the session, on the Texas question, on the Senatorial election, on the election of Councillor, and in relation to the reception of the Land Money--to report to an adjourned meeting to be held on Wednesday evening the 19th instant.

V.W. SOUTHALL, Chm.

R.H.Toler, J.S. Gallaher, Sec.

At an adjourned meeting of the Whig members, held on Wednesday evening, the 19th instant, the Committee appointed to report statement in reference to the action of the Whig party, on the several matters referred to it, made a report, which, being adopted, was ordered to be published, in connection with the foregoing resolution.

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

Connected with the action of the General Assembly, during its late Session, on several Questions, addressed to the People of Virginia.

The Whig members of the Legislature of Virginia, on the eve of separating, and of returning to their constituents, deem it due alike to themselves and to those whom they have had the honor to represent to lay before them a brief but circumstantial statement of facts, connected with the action of that body, during its recent session, upon the several topics hereafter adverted to. [MLD]
THE TEXAS QUESTION

About the middle of January, the following resolution, adopted by a majority of the Senate, was communicated to the House of Delegates.

"Resolved by the General Assembly of Virginia, That the annexation of Texas to the United States should be affected with no further delay than may be necessary for the accomplishment of that object by the constituted authorities of the two countries.

This resolution was made the order of the day in the House of Delegates on the 29th of January, when Mr. Toler offered the following as a substituted therefore:

"Resolved by the General Assembly of Virginia, That the annexation of Texas to the United States ought to be affected at the earliest period that may be practicable consistently with the permanent welfare of Virginia, the obligations of the constitution, the preservation of the internal peace of the Union and the faith and honour of the country; and that this General Assembly, reposing entire confidence in the ability and patriotism of the Senators of Virginia, rely upon them faithfully to discharge all their obligations to the State and to the Union upon this question.

And M. Bowden submitted the following amendment:

"All of which in the opinion of this General Assembly can be properly accomplished by the Senate of the United States passing the joint resolution which has passed the House of Representatives.

The Senate’s resolutions with the pending amendments, were again taken up on the 31st of January, in the House of Delegates; whereupon, a motion was made by Mr. Witcher to refer them to a Select Committee, which was agreed to; and committee was accordingly constituted, consisting of an equal number of both political parties.

In asking for this committee, the avowed object of the moyer and of those who supported the proposition was a compromise, if possible, between the conflicting views of the two parties, and the suggestion, of a resolution which might receive a vote approaching as nearly as possible to unanimity, and which, it was argued, would for that reason carry with it greater moral weight, and exert a more powerful influence upon public sentiment, as well as upon our Senators, upon whom it was designed more directly to operate, than could possibly attach to a resolution adopted, if adopted at all, by a strictly party vote, and by a bare majority--Does a proposition of thin conciliatory character, proceeding from such a motive, wear the semblance of a design, either open or 'covert,' to defeat the annexation of Texas to the United States, by a mode deemed to be constitutional, and upon terms regarded as just and proper? But our purpose is to narrate facts rather than to comment upon them, satisfied as we are, that that narration will carry a lucid and irresistible commentary on its face.

The committee assembled forthwith, and discussed the proposition submitted to its consideration, in several successive committee proposed as the basis of action, a resolution, in substance the same as that which was ultimately adopted by the House. To that proposition the only objection urged was that, while approving of the terms and conditions of the joint resolution providing for the admission of Texas into the Union, which had received the sanction of the House of Representatives, pretermitted, us it was intended to do, the constitutionality of that resolution--it being obvious that unless the constitutional question should be thus pretermitted, this avowed purpose for which the committee had been appointed to wit: the procurement of something like unanimity in the action of the Legislature, would be frustrated. But out opponents would be content with nothing less than the adoption of a resolution which would cover this debatable ground, either in express terms or by inevitable inference. The committee, therefore, dissolved, without concurring in say proposition, and reported that act to the House.

The consideration of the Senate’s resolution with the amendments thereto proposed by Messrs. Toler and Bowden, was thereupon resumed; but, before any vote was taken, these gentlemen asked and obtained leave each to withdraw his amendment; and the question then recurred upon the Senate’s resolution as above quoted, which was adopted by the decisive vote of 89 to 31. Of the 89 affirmative votes 34 were Whigs who thus indicated their willingness to place the subject on the precise footing which their political opponents in the Senate had originally desired. In the interval however, between the adoption of the resolution by the Senate and action upon it by the House of Delegates, information had been received from Washington city, which induced the authors of the resolution to take a n advances step. The Joint resolution of Milton Brown, which had been some time pending in the House of Representatives, and which it is well known was NOT the favorite scheme of the "Democratic" party, had passed that House. Hence, Mr. Gordon offered the following resolution, to be appended to that which had received the sanction of both branches of the Legislature.

"Resolved, That the admission of Texas on the condition and guarantees set forth in the joint resolution passed by the House of Representatives on the 25th day of January 1845, and sent to the senate for its concurrence, in the opinion of General Assembly, is just and proper and will be approved by the people.

And Mr. Witcher proposed the following:

"Resolved by the General Assembly of Virginia. That it is their deliberate opinion that a large majority of the people of Virginia desire the immediate annexation of Texas to the United States by any lawful and constitutional mode. And that
the conditions and guarantees set forth in the joint resolution passed by the House of Representatives and sent to the Senate of the United States for its concurrence, in the opinion of this General Assembly are just and proper, and will be approved by the people. This General Assembly, however, forbearing to express any opinion as to the constitutionality of annexation by the mode of a joint resolution of the two houses of Congress.

The substitute was adopted by the House, by a vote of 66 to 61--the Whigs with two exceptions, voting for it--their opponents voting unanimously against it. Why was this resolution unpleasant to our opponents? It is manifest that their hostility to it grew exclusively out of the fact that the question of constitutional power was expressly waived by it. This was the point of difference, as will be seen, from the first to the last; and an unyielding adherence by our opponents to their own peculiar views on this point, closed effectually the door to compromise and unanimity of action.

At this stage of the proceeding, Mr. Edmunds, of Halifax, proposed the following additional resolution:

"Resolved, That our senators be instructed to vote for the joint resolution which passed the House of Representatives on the 25th day of January, 1845, and seat to the Senate for its concurrence, providing for the admission of Texas as a State into this Union."

The resolution involving the same principle with that just rejected, though more objectionable in its terms, was rejected by nearly a party vote--ayes 60, noes 66. --And the resolutions, as amended by the House, were then returned to the Senate for the section of that body.

On the 3rd of February, the Senate amended the second resolution of the House in two important features--first by striking there from the latter clause, in the following words, to wit. "The General Assembly, however, forbearing to express any opinion as to the constitutionality of annexation by the mode of a joint resolution of the two Houses of Congress"--and secondly by striking out the words, "And that the 'conditions' and 'guarantees' set forth in the joint resolution passed by the House of Representatives, and sent to the Senate of the United States for its concurrence, in the opinion of the General Assembly, are just and proper, and will be approved by the people,"--and inserting, in lieu thereof, the following:

"And that the joint Resolution passed by the House of Representatives, on the 25th day of January, 1845, and seat to the Senate of the United States for its concurrence, providing for the admission of Texas as one of the States of this Union, is a lawful and constitutional mode of annexation;--and that the conditions and guarantees set forth therein, in the opinion of this General Assembly are just and proper, and will be approved by the people."

Thus amended the resolutions were returned to the House of Delegates. --That body, however, refused to concur in the Senate's amendments. The Senate "insisted," and then the House "adhered." In this stage of proceedings, a Committee of free conference was asked by the Senate, and the request was promptly responded to by the House, with a sincere desire on the part of the majority of the latter body, but with only a faint hope, in view of what had already transpired, that it might resolve in the harmonies cooperation of the two bodies in a proposition, which might command nearly. If not quite an unanimous vote in both.--The Committee met in conference; but it was very soon apparent that no agreement could be effected. The Senate Committee met in conference; but it was very soon apparent that no agreement could be effected. The Senate Committee mad the following proposition as the ground of compromise:

"The committee of conference on the part of the Senate propose to the committee of conference on the part of the House of Delegates, that the Senate will recede from the amendment to the amendment of the House, which is the following words and figures, namely:--Strike out form the word 'mode' in the sixth lieu, to the word 'people' inclusive, in the 13th line of the amendment of the House of Delegates; and insert--and that the Joint Resolution passed by the House of Representatives on the 25th day of January, 1845, and sent to the Senate of the United States for its concurrence, providing for the admission of Texas as one of the States of this Union, is a lawful and constitutional mode of annexation, and that the conditions and guarantees set forth therein, in the opinion of this General Assembly, are just and proper, and will be approved by the people. '--and that the House of Delegates shall recede from its adherence to its disagreement to the second amendment of the Senate to the amendment of the House of Delegates, the following words--"This General Assembly, however, forbearing to express any opinion as to the constitutionality of annexation by the mode of a Joint Resolution of the two Houses of Congress."--And that the amendment of the House of Delegates, by striking out the last member of said amendment as last above recited, shall then be adopted by the senate and House of Delegates.

Had this proposition been assented to, the second resolution would have been left in the shape in which it originally passed the House of Delegates, except that the latter clause of that resolution would have been omitted. And, as that clause was inserted in the resolution, only "out of abundant caution," and for the express purpose of "excluding the conclusion," which the Whig members of the Legislature would not even by remote inference that so expression of opinion as to the CONSTITUTIONALITY of the Joint Resolution was thereby intended, the House committee had no objection to his proposition of the Senate committee, provided that that essential fact should be expressly stated in the report of the proceedings of the committees to their respective Houses. They therefore responded to the Senate's committee as follows:

"The Committee of conference on the part of the House of Delegates, agree to the proposition of the committee on the part of the Senate, with this distinct understanding; that although the words 'This General Assembly, however, forbearing to express any opinion as to the constitutionality of annexation by the mode of a Joint Resolution of the two Houses of Congress,' be stricken out, the General Assembly do, nevertheless, forbear either to affirm or to disaffirm
the constitutionality of the admission of Texas into the Union in the mode proposed in the Joint Resolution which passed the House of Representatives on the 25th of January last, and that the amendment of the House of Delegates to the Senate’s Resolution, which, by the proposition of the Senate’s committee of conference, is proposed to be adopted, does not in terms, and is not intended to affirm or disaffirm the constitutionality of annexation by the mode of Joint Resolution which assest the House of Representatives on the 25th day of January last. And that this paper shall be communicated to the Senate and House of Delegates as the basis of the report and recommendation which they propose for the adoption of the two Houses."

The committee of the senate declined acceding to the terms of this explanatory report; and each House adhering to its own resolutions, they fell by that disagreement.

Upon this plain and unvarnished statement of facts, showing the origin, progress, and termination of this subject before the two Houses, the Whig members of the Legislature are satisfied to go before the People of Virginia. It demonstrates, in the first place, their willingness to express the opinion that a majority of the People of Virginia are in favor of the annexation of Texas in a legal and constitutional manner, and their probation of the “conditions” and “guarantees” of the Joint Resolution which passed the House of Representatives; while, on the other hand, they insisted that the question of constitutionality, involved in that resolution, should, be pretermitted--because in that shape alone could any resolution command the vote of a large majority of both branches of the Legislature. This concession our opponents refused to make, even to secure that unanimity, which they professed so much to desire--preferring, rather, the defeat of all the resolutions, INCLUDING EVEN THAT WHICH THEY AHD THEMSELVE ADOPTED< AND WITH WHICH THEY OUGHT, OF COURSE, TO HAVE BEEN WELL SATISFIED, and which by the co-operation of more than half of the Whigs of the House of Delegate, had received the sanction of a large majority in both branches of the Legislature. It is for the People to decide, upon this statement of facts, whether the annexation of Texas, or the desire to make PARTY CAPITAL out of that measure was the leading motive by which our opponents were influenced.

The point of difference between the majorities in the two Houses, we repeat was this: SHALL THE QUESITON OF CONSTITUTIONALITY BE PRETERMITTED IN THE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED? IF the Senate’s committee, by proposing to receive form a portion of their proposed amendment to the resolution of the House, intended so to waive an expression of opinion upon the constitutional question,--neither affirming nor denying the power of Congress to annex a foreign territory to the Union by a joint resolution, which as understood by the Whigs, did preterm the constitutional question, while, according to their constitution, that resolution affirmed, by fair and legitimate construction, the constitutionality of the joint resolution of the House of Representatives, it would have been, in our estimation, a piece of solemn trifling--nay, worse, of deliberate deception--to accept, under THE PRETEXT OF A COMPROMISE, a proposition which according to their own showing, was of equivocal import, and which, upon their understanding of this meaning, CONCEDED NOTHING. The Whig members of the Legislature would have well merited the rebuke of their constituents, had they yielded their assent to a resolution which was confessedly of doubtful construction, and which would have subjected them to the reproach of consenting to do by indirect, what they refused to do openly and in the light of day. They insisted that the action of the Legislature, on this important question, whatever that action might be, should be clear and explicit, and not left open to different and opposite interpretations. The public judgment, they do not doubt, will sustain them in this course; for they cannot so far discredit the intelligence of the people of Virginia, or question their love of frank and fair dealing, as to suppose, that they would approve, or even tolerate, a deliberate attempt to "palter with them in a double sense," by assenting to a resolution, with entire unanimity as to its words, while all parties thus assenting to it knew that it was susceptible, and was really intended to admit, of conflicting constructions. [MLD]

Thursday, March 27, 1845 MG45i4p2c7 85 words

NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTION

It turns out after all, that the Texas party is defeated in New Hampshire in their efforts to proscribe J.P. Hale for his vote in Congress against Texas. According to return in the Boston Post, of Monday, Woodbury, who the Locofocos set up for Congress in opposition to Hale, is defeated of an election. He falls some two thousand votes behind the other Locofoco candidates, and wants nearly a thousand votes of an election.

Steele (L.F.) is re-elected Governor by a meager majority. --Balt. Pal. [MLD]

Thursday, March 27, 1845 MG45i4p4c1 132 words

FROM TEXAS

The New Orleans papers have received papers from Galveston to the 8th inst. , and from Washington (the capital) to the 1st inst. by the steamship New York. It appears that some of the Texans are not at all pleased with the terms of annexation contained in the resolutions just passed. We notice, says the Picayune, that some of the leading journals hold language opposed to annexation, or at least unfriendly to the measure.

The Galveston Weekly News of the 1st inst. , says: "We have already furnished incontestable evidence that British policy has so far prevailed in Texas, that Her Britannic Majesty’s Charge has obtained a pledge form ex-President
Houston to use his utmost endeavors against annexation. " The same paper hints at the opposition of the present administration in Texas to the measure. [MLD]

April
May

Thursday, May 1, 1845 MG45v46i9p1c3 933 words

PROSPECTUS OF THE RICHMOND TIMES.

The undersigned have united themselves for the purpose of erecting the TIMES AND COMPILER into a journal of a more active political character, with the hope of enlarging its circulation, and extending the influence, and thereby contributing to propagate more widely and settle more firmly the great principles of the Whig party. In the month of August, 1844, the Editors of the Times and Compiler abandoned the neutrality which they had preserved, and avowed themselves the open and zealous advocates of the measures of the WHIG PARTY, and the election of HENRY CLAY. Since that time, they have steadily adhered to the great WHIG CAUSE, which they believed to be the cause of the Country, and have opposed the measures and principles of the Democratic Party. They have been encouraged to go on in their undertaking: they have received the support and cordial good wishes of many influential friends; and now, with additional editorial strength, the appeal before the public under a different name, with more extended views, and with a more determined resolution to deserve the confidence of the Whig party.

The limits of a prospectus will allow only a short statement of the principles by which we shall be guided. We propose to conduct the RICHMOND TIMES in a firm and manly, yet courteous and conciliatory spirit. Whilst it will be a paper thoroughly Whig in its course, it will not use the liberty of the press to drive from the party those who many differ with in on individual or unimportant questions. Where such differences unhappily exist, it will seek to compose rather than to widen them.

We love the UNION OF THESE STATES, and feel that they are all our common country. Our object, therefore, will be, to discourage all sectional differences, which may be designed or may tend, to diminish the veneration in which that Union ought every where to be held. Still, we shall, as citizens of a Southern State, watch, with jealous solitude, the course of public events, in reference to the protection of our peculiar domestic institutions, and resist every attempt to subvert or weaken them.

With regard to the prominent questions of the day, we are thoroughly Whig.

We shall warmly advocated such a Tariff as Mr. Clay is in favor of, a Tariff for revenue, with incidental protection to domestic manufactures. Such a Tariff we believe the Tariff of 1842 to be. If it be found, after a fair trial, to produce more revenue than is needed, we shall wish to see it reduced but still retaining the principle for protection.

When the establishment of a NATIONAL BANK may be before the people for discussion, we shall be found its steady supporters.

We shall earnestly urge the policy of DISTRIBUTION.

With regard to the subject of TEXAS, since a majority of the people have decided, through Congress, upon the expediency of annexation, and the legality of annexing by joint resolution, we shall patiently wait to hear the decision of Texas. If it accede to the proposition of Congress, we shall consider the faith of the country pledged, the question settled: and shall deprecate all further agitation of the subject, and oppose any effort to repeal the joint resolution passed by the Congress. If the question be kept open by the refusal of Texas to accede to the terms of the joint resolution, and by a new proposal to treat with our Government, we shall approve of such a treaty as we may believe will be beneficial to the country, and just to the South.

It will be one of our chief objects to encourage the improvement and steady support of all the Institutions of Learning in the State, from the Common Schools to the Colleges and Universities.

We shall advocate such schemes of Improvement in the State, as may be safely and judiciously undertaken, and, particularly, the extension and completions of the James River and Kanawha Canal.

The interests of the City of Richmond will receive, from us, the attention which has always distinguished the paper.

In the Commercial and News departments of the Times, every effort will be made, not only to maintain the reputation of the Compiler, but to improve upon it. The most assiduous attention will be paid to all those occurrences in the commercial world, which will be of interest or importance to the commercial class of the community, which had extended such a liberal support to the paper heretofore.

We shall devote a portion of our paper to subjects of General Literature, and endeavor thus to make it acceptable to the reader of taste.
We shall take no part in religious discussions, but we shall not exclude the religious news of the day; and we wish our paper to preserve a character [crease]

In conclusion, we are utterly opposed to the doctrines, but still more the practices, of the Democratic party. We shall, constantly, endeavor to show that the chief danger to our Government is to be found in the tendency of the leaders of that party to prostrate every principle of order to the madness of popular excitements; whilst it has been the glory of the Whigs, that they have ever been the supporters of the laws, and have acknowledged the validity of the obligations of the States.

With these views, we present ourselves to the public. With what ability we shall sustain them, it is not our party to say; but we can affirm, that we shall do it with firmness and honesty.

WM. C. CARRINGTON,
J. A. COWARDIN,
WM. H. DAVIS.
Richmond, April 3, 1845.

Thursday, May 1, 1845 MG45v46i9p2c2 1,239 words.

THE UNITED STATES AND GREAT BRITAIN.

We present to our readers, in another column, the highly important news brought out from Great Britain by the steamer Caledonia. This intelligence is of a character well calculated to arouse an excited feeling throughout this Country – but prudence and wisdom out at once to suggest the propriety of calm and considerate reason, instead of impulse and feeling. There is something a little more authoritative and official in the proposition of John Bull this time, than we are accustomed to see in his bullying towards the United States – and hence the necessity of our people giving to that position its due weight and consideration. We feel apprehensive that a rupture must sooner of later take place between these two great Nations, and indeed we do not see how matters as they now stand are likely to keep the apart, as the issue is joined, and the only effectual means of trying it is by a resort in the end to arms, though the day may be prolonged by the forms of negotiation and diplomacy.

We perceive the Press of the United States has got fairly to work upon this subject, and as might have been expected, a great variety of opinion is expressed. But upon one point we think there is great unanimity of opinion – and that is, that "our right to Oregon is clear and indisputable" – and such seems to be equally the settled opinion of the British Ministry and people as to their right. The only contrariety of opinion among our people, is as to time – and the bungling manner of negotiation in which the matter has been conducted. This matter is yet a subject of negotiations, between the constituted authorities of the two Countries, and while in this condition it was perhaps improper and indelicate in Mr. Polk to announce in his Inaugural Address to the "clear and indisputable right" of the United States to this territory. It was out of place, and perhaps M. Polk might have thought so himself, but as "Polk, Dallas, Texas and Oregon" were the Democratic Principles par excellence in the late Presidential contest, e thought himself bound to say something about it, and if anything, what else could he have said that would have been satisfactory to his party? But be that as it may, the American Executive has so declared our title, and we would not if we could wish him to retract one word of syllable of what he has said.

Mr. Polk is not the Government in this Country yet, thank God, notwithstanding the efforts of the strict constructionists of our Constitution and the infallible Democracy to place the power of the Government in the hands and at the direction of the President of the United States. The intelligent statesmen of Great Britain out to have understood our position better, and to have saved some of their extra heat and bullyism until the action of the co-ordinate branches of our Government. Perhaps they have read something definite enough in the action of the late Congress, where the bill to occupy Oregon almost became a law – and was rejected more upon points of etiquette, than nay doubt about the "clear and indisputable right and title" of our Country to the Oregon. The sentiments of this Country are well known, and doubtless upon the meeting of the next Congress, the subject will be again introduced and a bill passed – provided no adjustment on the controversy takes place in the recess, which is not likely to be done. Negotiation and arbitration are talked of, but for the life of us we cannot see what good negotiation will do, or how it is possible to arrange the difficulty but arbitration. Both Countries declare their title clear and indisputable, and there seems to be such unequivocal and fixed determination in the declarations that we cannot see how the arbitration is to be arranged. How is the agreement to abide the decision or award of the arbitration to be settled on before hand, and who is to do it? Who would act as umpire, and what King, Prince or Potentate is capable of deciding a controversy of the description with satisfaction and fairness to the contending parties? It is in this view, then, that we consider the disputants after the late declarations in the British Parliament. Negotiations and arbitration, in our poor judgment, are out of the question, and a war in all probability must be sooner or later the inevitable result. We trust in God such may not be the case, as of all evils war is the greatest, save and except National disgrace and dishonor. We have our National honor preserved at any cost of treasure or blood.

It will be noted the concern about Texas Annexation has almost died away in England, and neither the Government of the people seem to care a pinch of snuff one way or the other about it – notwithstanding she has been held up in this Country by the Annexationists constantly as the great "raw-head and bloody bones," which was seeking to wrest Texas
from our grasp. The Oregon is a different matter for Bull’s contemplation; and it is not so much the “broad acres” the
he cares about, even there as it is the monopoly of the manufacturing trade which he is seeking to secure in India.
Great Britain fears the position which the occupation of Oregon would give to our trade, commerce and manufactures,
opening up as it would a direct passage to us through the Pacific to that great and growing market. That is what the
sagacious statesman, the Earl of Aberdeen, meant when he said that “war is a great evil, but the overthrow of our
["Great Britain’s"] monopoly of the manufacturing system would be infinitely more dreadful – and towards this
consummation the growth of American industry is rapidly tending.” The well known and proverbial selfishness of
England, and her far-reaching avarice which encompasses the globe, and mourns over its pent up boundaries, may well
awaken our consideration, and afford to use a Key wherewith we may open the sealed recessed of Great Britain’s
determinations and calculate with some certainty the chances of war. We have already spun out these remarks to a
much greater length than we calculated upon doing when we commenced, but still we cannot conclude this article
without inviting the especial attention of our readers to the annexed remarks of the Baltimore American, which are
forcible and worthy of consideration.

We might speak of the matter in which the matter has been precipitated to its present position. There is cause for
regret that it was not managed differently. But since the past cannot be helped it will be more to the purpose to look
outwards possible results, and see how we are prepared for them.

Let us suppose that Congress meets and passes a bill for the occupation of the Oregon – such a bill as that which
almost passed at the last session. The year’s notice specified in the bill would not postpone a collision with England
for twelve months. Not at all. For, that notice was merely to signify that after a given time the Government of the
United States would occupy the Oregon; it was a notice to quit – of which the British subjects in Oregon might have the
benefit. Such a bill, if passed, would bring on hostilities at once – unless England should conclude. [MLD]

Thursday, May 1, 1845 MG45v46i9p2c6 2057 words

ARRIVAL OF THE CALEDONIA – SEVEN DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

From the Baltimore American, April 24.

The British Mail Steamer Caledonia, Capt. Lott, arrived at Boston on Monday evening, bringing Liverpool papers to the
5th instant and London files to the evening of the previous day.

From the New York papers of yesterday morning, and Willmer & Smith’s European Times, furnished us by Mesars,
Adams & Co. , we make up the following summary:

The Caledonia left Liverpool on the 5th having been detained one day beyond her stated time of departure for the
purpose of bringing out the result of the debate in the House of Commons on the Oregon question. That subject had
become the theme of exciting interest, and was promptly brought before the House by Lord John Russell, immediately
upon the reassembling of Parliament after Easter recess.

This business seems to have assumed a decided, not to say a startling – earnestness on both sides of the British House
of commons. The premier confirms the statement put forth by Mr. Tyler in his annual message as to the admirable
mode in which the Oregon question had been discussed between our Secretary of State and the British Minister at
Washington, Mr. Packenham, but almost directly contradicts the assertion of the American Executive, of a favorable
prospect of the result of the negotiation. So far from anticipating so desirable a result, Sir Robert Peel seems to see
but little chance for an amicable termination of the controversy, while the United States Government continue to
maintain the ground assumed by Mr. Polk in his inaugural address – It is not to be concealed, therefore, that the
remarks of Sir Robert Peel afford grounds for grave apprehensions of serious difficulty. He as sternly and
uncompromisingly maintains the British right to the disputed territory, as our Government and we may add a great
majority of our people assert out own undoubted claim to that territory.

The subject of the Annexation of Texas as had ceased to be the cause of much excitement, and appeared to be looked
upon with indifference in England, the matter being absorbed in the more serious question of Oregon. Mr. O’Connell
had uttered his malediction in the Repeal Association in Ireland, but on the whole “Annexation” occupied but little of
the public attention.

In the House of Lords, Lord Ashburton had made an elaborate defence oh his late boundary treaty with this country,
against an attack made upon it in the House of Commons by Lord Palmeraton, and Lord John Russell.

The Cotton market remained without much change from the pervious advices by the Great Western, though the news
at Liverpool that the Caledonia was to be detained a day, to bring out the result of the Oregon debate, worse so
startling a face that the market immediately became firmer, and 8000 bales were disposed of at the highest
quotations. The price had exhibited a tendency to recede during the early part of the week.

There had been no arrival of American packet ships in England, after the sailing of the Great Western.

The Queen’s visit to Ireland was definitely fixed to take place in July, and it was said that Parliament would be
prorogued at an early day, to enable Her Majesty’s Ministers to accompany her.

The domestic news of England exhibited no noticeable feature since our last advices.

In France, nothing very new or interesting had occurred. The Chambers were engaged in the wise project of endeavoring to regulate the concerns and management of the railroad companies, a project about as feasible as [...] that sometimes show themselves in this country. Legislation will hardly reach the gambling transactions in shares, to prevent which the attempt is made.

There was no additional intelligence of importance from Switzerland. The country still remained in a state of feverish agitation.

Gen Thomas Thumb was in Paris, and making a tremendous swell daily through the Champs Elyse(?)cs, in his manikin carriage, and on one occasion was escorted by a detachment of the Municipal Horse Quarls.

The Overland Mail from China had arrived, but brings no news of interest to the American reader.

THE OREGON QUESTION.

Correspondence of the New York Courier. London, April 5.

House of Commons, April 5.

On the order of the day being called, for going into Committee of Supply, Lord John Russell, being called upon, rose pursuant to notice, and stated his desire to call the attention of the house and of the Government, to certain observations in the inaugural address of the new President of the United States. Whatever might be his opinions on the general territorial question at issue, he had felt it his duty, and considered it to be the duty of every public man to abstain from publicly advancing those opinions, while their subject formed the basis of negotiations between the Governments of the two countries. But this Oregon question had been, in a manner, taken out of the sphere of the diplomatic negotiation, by a method at once new and objectionable and which threatened to overbear, by an appeal to popular feeling, the ordinary methods of preceding between nations.

The speech also alluded, he said, (though he introduced this matter parenthetically,) to an increase of the territory of the Union – a very large increase – an increase whose limits and extent were by no means defined for Texas was annexed without any specified boundaries, and the territory thus acquires might be found to extend even to the Pacific. Mr. Webster had expressed an opinion that the duty as well as the policy of the Union was against an increase of territory, and that her proper aim was the improvement and development of her vast existing resources. But this policy had been openly departed from, and the accession of territory almost declared to form part of the policy of the United States.

His Lordship then returned to the avowed subject of his remarks, and read a passage from Mr. Polk’s address, in which that gentleman asserts that “our title to the Oregon is clear and indisputable,” and recommends the American people to carry out that right by “populating it with their wives and children,” etc.

He felt himself compelled to call attention to that state of the question, and to inquire how far Mr. Polk was justified, under existing circumstances, and while negotiations were in progress, in asserting the right of the United States to be “clear and indisputable,” and in declaring his intentions respecting the assertion of that right without reference to treaties. He then enumerated the usual methods of acquiring a claim to territory: first, by ancient discovery and actual occupation; and inquired by which of these methods the United States had acquired a title to the territory now in dispute.

His Lordship then proceeded to review and compare the English and American claims, which he did in a very fait tone and spirit, though, of course, with an undisguised persuasion of the justice of the English claim and the comparative groundlessness of the American, and summed up thus: On the first ground of Right – Ancient Discovery – the English title was the best of the two: on the second basis of the title, Treaty the United States had no ground to rest upon, except for the right of Joint occupancy: and thirdly, as the Modern Discovery and Settlement, the English title, acquired by the discovery of Vancouver, and perfected by the extensive settlements of the Hudson’s Bay Company, was far superior to any similar title which the United States could allege.

He then referred to the negotiations between Mesars, Rusts and Huskisson, and to the fact that they never were brought to any satisfactory result. The two countries had never gone farther than to agree upon joint occupancy without any rights of exclusive sovereignty.

But now a new circumstance had occurred; a new and most important event had been brought to bear upon the question. President Polk had made a peremptory claim to the whole territory, and in an unusual and unwarrantable manner called upon the American people to establish their claim by occupying it with their families. After this event it was impossible that the British Government should fail to ask a speedy solution of the whole question; impossible that this unsettled state of things should be allowed to continue. the carrying out of Mr. Polk’s suggestions must produce hostile collision between English and Americans in the territory itself; and the consequences of such collision needed no prophetic comment.
He was not prepared to say how much the English Government should concede for the sake of peace. He was not prepared to say that they ought to yield anything. (He was here interrupted by vehement cheering.) He thinks no proposal more favorable than the one made by Mr. Canning can possibly be made. Some persons think it does not much matter which way a question is decided, affecting only a certain extent of barren territory - but it does matter - it was not to be thought of, that a territory to which England conscientiously asserted a claim should be yielded to what he must term a mere blustering assertion of the right (Loud cheers) - not to be permitted that the tone and character of English diplomacy should be lowered by unworthy concessions.

He repeated that he should have abstained from allusion to this question had it been allowed to remain one of diplomacy; but after the removal of it from that sphere in the manner described, he felt it to be his duty to bring it under consideration. He (Lord John Russell) could do in the matter, as an unofficial person, what ministers could not, unless they departed from the course prescribed by custom and courtesy, while the subject was still under negotiation. He could state exactly what the rights of England are, and upon what those rights are based. - But having done so, he should leave matters in the hands of Her Majesty's advisers, with the most entire confidence that they would protect fully the honor and interests of the country.

Lord J. Russell sat down amid much cheering from all parts of the house, and Sir Robert Peel rose to reply.

Sir Robert had experience neither surprise or regret at the speech of the noble lord. He concurred in the noble lord's views and statements. His lordship had justly defined the limits of introducing matters of negotiation into a popular assembly. While negotiations were pending, it was certainly a duty to abstain from such a course. Popular feeling was so easily excited, and the matter of negotiation so easily pre-judged that in all such cases the negotiations should be allowed to discharge their duties without interference. The position of the noble lord was widely different from his own. As an unofficial person, Lord John Russell was not responsible for the consequences of his speech, but Ministers of the Crown must be guarded in their speeches on such a subject. He agreed with his lordship as to the virtual removal of this subject, by Mr. President Polk, from the sphere of negotiation, and its reference to other authorities. He could not discuss the merits of the question, but he could state the condition of the negotiations.

Sir Robert accordingly gave a summary of the past negotiations in reference to the Oregon, and expressed the hope that they might be brought to a speedy and amicable termination. He referred to Mr. Tyler's message of Dec. 3, 1844, in which a similar hope was expressed and to his refusal, on the 19th of Feb. in the present year, to lay the correspondence on the subject before Congress, lest it should interfere with pending negotiations - in which "considerable progress" had been already made. All this was in the most friendly tone and spirit. Sir Robert gladly recognized this friendly spirit, but could not admit the fact of "progress" - He was sorry to say, very little progress had been made. He then proceeded to contrast Mr. Tyler's tone, with that adopted, only a fortnight afterward, by his successor; - since which he had received no communication from Mr. Packenham - Probably the negotiations previously in progress, were continued with the new administration. He expected daily to receive information on that point, and did not despair of a favorable issue; but in case of a contrary result, he would not object to lay the whole correspondence. [MLD]
We present below the latest intelligence received at New Orleans from Texas. It is brought up to the 24th ult., by the Steamer John S. McKim, which left Galveston on the 21st. We presume that intelligence may be considered convulsive from Galveston, whence she sailed on the 21st ult. by a British vessel. So says the Houston Star of 19th ult.

The Texan government has answered these communications, and the despatches for this purpose were sent back to Vera Cruz by the Eurydice. It is rumored also that the Christa and Bexar, conveying assurances that the new government of Mexico is disposed to treat with Texas upon the basis of Independence. Similar despatches were received from Vera Cruz by the Eurydice. It is rumored also that the Texan government has answered these communications, and the despatches for this purpose were sent back to Vera Cruz by a British vessel. So says the Houston Star of 19th ult.

The President had issued his proclamation convening Congress on Monday, the 16th day of June next. We learn from the proclamation that the Government of the United States has selected the first and second sections of the resolutions (Mr. Milton Brown's) as the basis for consummating the proposed union. The resolutions were unanimously adopted. Gen. M. Hunt, Dr. J. C. Chalmers, Judge Ewing, R. W. Williamson, J. B. Wilkins, and other prominent gentlemen participated in the proceedings. The President issued his proclamation on the following day.

Even at this hour, a vigorous application of our national energies, in the work of defence, by adding strength to our Navy, material to our army, garrisons and forts along our frontier, efficient armaments upon our Lakes, and powerful defences to our ports and harbors, may tend to alter the belligerent tone of England, and reduce it to the milder key of peace, reason, and justice. It is far better and wiser, therefore, to believe in the probability of a war, than to give indirect aid to the enemy, by chanting the song peace, either from party prejudice, or a supposed party interest. In relations that now subsist between Great Britain and this Country, not a particle of party poison ought to be infused, which will tend to encourage her in the hope, that our people were so distracted by factious hate, that she could gain more in a war, by our own feuds, than by her own arms and prowess. This suicidal deportment, in any portion of the American people, who may boast themselves as the Peace Party, is more likely to produce War, than all other causes combined. In our present relations aggression cannot proceed from us. It is for England to make demonstrations of hostility. Our position is one of quietude, peace, and self-defence. – Nor will those relations change, but by an aggressive act by our opponent. It is incumbent on us, as a people, then, to be united, to act in harmony, remain firm, and present an unbroken front of National feeling to all who threaten us with war, whether from the Briton clad in steel, to the Mexican, clothed in the tatters of a beggar. Even England will recede from her warlike attitude when she beholds us united – but if we are to have a Peace Party at this early state of the dispute, we shall undoubtedly have a War, and that War will be the offspring of the Peace Party. [MLD]

Thursday, May 8, 1845, MG45v46i10p2c4 533 words

LATEST FROM TEXAS

The President had issued his proclamation convening Congress on Monday, the 16th day of June next. We learn from the proclamation that the Government of the United States has selected the first and second sections of the resolutions (Mr. Milton Brown's) as the basis for consummating the proposed union.

At a meeting held in Washington county strong resolutions were passed in favor of immediate annexation, “without reference to the wishes or concurrence of any foreign or European power;” and calling on the President to convene Congress immediately. The meeting also recommended to the citizens of the Republic, in case the President did not convene Congress, to meet as soon as possible in Convention to ratify the Joint Resolutions and form a State Constitution. Mr. E. Allen, Attorney General, who was present, objected to the tone of the resolutions.

Mr. Scurry, in reply, intimated that the citizens of the Republic might yet become still more impatient of the delay of the President in convening Congress, and adopt measures much more violent than those recommended in the resolutions. – The resolutions were unanimously adopted. Gen. M. Hunt, Dr. J. C. Chalmers, Judge Ewing, R. W. Williamson, J. B. Wilkins, and other prominent gentlemen participated in the proceedings. The President issued his proclamation on the following day.

It was rumored at the seat of government that communications had been received from Gen. Arista, by way of Corpus Christa and Bexar, conveying assurances that the new government of Mexico is disposed to treat with Texas upon the basis of Independence. Similar despatches were received from Vera Cruz by the Eurydice. It is rumored also that the Texan government has answered these communications, and the despatches for this purpose were sent back to Vera Cruz by a British vessel. So says the Houston Star of 19th ult.

The Hon. ASHBEL SMITH, whose departure for England has been before mentioned, has been re-appointed Charge d’Affairs of the Republic of Texas in France and England, and has proceeded to assume the duties of his office. The office of Secretary of State, made vacant by this appointment, will be taken by the Hon. EBENEZER ALLEN, now Attorney General. [MLD]
The New York Sun and Bennett’s Herald contain the following very important intelligence, which is one day later than the published accounts brought by the Hibernia. The Baltimore Patriot at first doubted the authenticity of the intelligence, but now says there is no doubt of its correctness. Our readers will judge for themselves, and we therefore submit the annexed intelligence without further comment:

ONE DAY LATER FROM EUROPE – Very Important – Another War Speech from the British Premier – Passage of the Maynooth Grant Bill.

By the attention of our newspaper agents in Liverpool, Messrs, Wilmer & Smith, we have London papers on the 19th ult. , expressed through on our account in time for the steamer, and which came to hand last night from Boston.

The great debate in the Maynooth Grant terminated in the British Parliament on the morning of the 19th, with an exciting speech from Sir Robert Peel, the mere abstract of which, occupies three columns and a half in the Morning Chronicle.

It would seem that Ministers had some doubts as to the passage of the bill, when the Premier, summoning all his energies commenced a powerful appeal to the House in favor of the measure, in which he defended the policy of Ministers, showed the necessity of conciliating Ireland, and alluded to a probable war with the Unites States as one of the reasons why Great Britain should “concentrate all her energies to maintain unimpaired the power and dignity of the United Kingdom. ”

If war should come, he desired that “Ireland should stand ranked with England, and the energies of a united people would insure a glorious triumph in a just cause. ”

He denied that ministers had consulted with any of the political leaders or clergy of Ireland, nor had ministers ever entered into any negotiations with the Pope, relative to this grant, neither was the grant any part of a general system for the endowment of the Catholic Church, although he [Sir Robert] would not fetter ministers by a pledge not to propose the endowment of the Roman Catholic clergy – he would make no such declaration, but he wished Hon. gentlemen to draw no unfair inference from his refusal to commit himself by such pledge. He considered the permanent endowment of Maynooth College, just to the Roman Catholics of Ireland. It would produce a kindly feeling in Ireland, among the people – it would produce great good. I know not what the consequences may be in respect to the kindly intentions between Ireland and this country. I do not rest the measure on any question of mere compact.

I say, without hesitation, you must break up that formidable confederacy which exists in that country against the British connection. And I believe it is essential you should break it up, in order that you may carry on the work of good government in Ireland [cheers] and that you may strengthen the connection between the two countries, and maintain unimpaired, the power and dignity of the United Kingdom, [renewed cheers. ] On the horizon of the west there is a cloud [here, hear] – a cloud small, but threatening future darkness, [hear, hear. ] While we were most anxious for an adjustment of the impending differences – while we would leave nothing undone to effect the amicable settlement [of the Oregon question] – yet I did feel it to be part of my duty – of the duty of the first minister of the crown- to state that, if our rights were invaded, we were determined and prepared to maintain them, [loud cheers. ] I aver that when I was called upon to make that declaration, I did recollect with satisfaction and consolation, that the day before I had sent a message of peace to Ireland. [Loud cheers. ] The Hon. gentleman, member from Canterbury, thought it not impossible that the time would come when this country would be compelled to summon all her energies for action. I heard that speech with great satisfaction. [Cheers] Now may God avert so great an evil as war. – [Loud cheers. ] May God forbid that this time of general peace should be so awfully disturbed. [Hear, hear!] But if it is to be so, if war is to come, I doubt much, considering what is now before me [alluding to the opposition to ministers on this question,] whether the vindication of our honor and our interests will not be confined to other hands. [Hear, hear. ] – But to whomsoever they may be committed, I shall take my place besides them, encouraging them by any support I can give an honorable cause, (loud cheers. ) And if that calamity should befal us, it is my earnest hope that when it shall occur, it shall find the people of this empire united in loyalty to the throne, and in determination to support the common interest (tremendous cheering)... That Ireland shall stand ranked with us... And the energies of an united people will ensure a glorious triumph in a just cause.

[The premier resume his seat about three o'clock in the morning, amid thunders of applause which lasted several minutes. ]

After this exciting speech, the House divided, and there appeared for the Maynooth Grant Bill, 323, against it 176 – majority for it 147. The ministers, were of course overjoyed at the result. It is probably the first time on record, that a religious grant had been carried by appealing to the belligerent propensities of the English Commons. The Premier has evidently accepted O’Connell’s offer at Ireland’s services to fight America for Oregon and Texas. It remains to be see how the bargain will be carried out. The New York Herald give the following as the closing remarks of Sir Robert Peel:

As a minister responsible for the public peace, he said that is was necessary to break up that formidable combination...
which at present existed in Ireland against the British government. He did not think that that combination could be 
broken up by force, but he did think that it might be subdued by kindness, forbearance, and generosity; and it was 
essential that it should be subdued if we wished to cement the union between the two countries, and to increase the 
strength of this united empire. When he first thought of proposing this measure to Parliament, he had no anticipation of 
y any interruption of the relations of amity between this country and any other. But on a recent occasion, Lord John 
Russell had considered it to be a duty to raise the veil which concealed the distant future. It then become his duty to 
state publicly that though he was anxious for an amicable arrangement of our difference with the United States, we 
were resolved and prepared to defend our unquestionable rights if were invaded.

He owned that, when he was called upon to make that declaration, he recollected with pleasure that he had sent the 
every day before a message of peace to Ireland. Mr. Smythe had said in his very eloquent speech on a former 
evening, that the time might come, when all the energies of the country might be wanted in its defence. God forbid 
that peace should be broken; but if it were broke, through he might not be a member of the Government called upon 
to vindicated the honor of the country, he would be found by the side of the Minister, whoever he might be, supporting 
him in the prosecution of a just and honorable war. Whenever that war should occur, he trusted that it would find 
Parliament and the country united in loyalty to the throne, and in determination to support the common interest of the 
empire. Then, confiding in our good cause, and in the valor, perseverance, and fortitude of every component part of 
these united kingdoms, he should view the result with composure, being convinced that the energy of an united people 
must insure the safety of the empire.

The House then divided, when there appeared –

For the motion: 323

Against it: 176

Majority: 147

[MLD]

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From the Baltimore American

Important news from Texas

The steamship New York arrived at New Orleans on the 17th instant from Galveston, which place she left on the 15th instant. President Jones has issued another Proclamation, announcing the result of the negotiations that have been commenced by Captain Elliott, the British Charge d'Affaires, with the Mexican Government.

We annex the following abstract of it from the New Orleans Bee:

"The Galveston News Extra, publishes a third Proclamation of President JONES, preceded by a prolix preamble, in which that worthy attempts to gloss over his conduct with the tinsel of a spurious patriotism. He begins thus:

"The executive is now enabled to declare to the people of Texas the actual state of their affairs with respect to Mexico, to the end that they may direct and dispose of them as they shall judge best for the honor and permanent interest of the Republic.

"He then goes on to say that last summer he learned from creditable sources that the Government of Mexico was disposed to acknowledge the Independence of Texas, upon the understanding that Texas would maintain her separate existence; that in March last the representatives of Great Britain and France jointly renewed the offer of their intermediation with Mexico for this purpose; that as they were unaccompanied by any entangling conditions, he could not consent to reject them, and therefore placed in the hands of their representatives a statement of conditions preliminary to a treaty of peace. These conditions having been accepted by the Government of Mexico, through the friendly interposition of England and France, he deems it his duty to issue the following proclamation:-

"WHEREAS, Authentic proof has recently been laid before me, to the effect that the Congress of Mexico has authorized the Government to open negotiations and conclude a treaty with Texas, subject to the examination and approbation of that body, and further that the Government of Mexico has accepted the conditions prescribed on the part of Texas as preliminary to a final and definite peace.

"Therefore, I, ANSON JONES, President of the Republic of Texas, and Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy and Militia thereof, do hereby make known these circumstances to the citizens of this Republic, till the same can be more fully communicated to the Honorable Congress and Convention of the People, for their lawful action, at the period of their assembling on the 12th June and 4th July next, and presenting the said action by virtue of the authority in me vested, I do hereby declare and proclaim a cessation of hostilities by land and by sea, against the Republic of Mexico, or against the citizens and trade thereof.

"In testimony whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the Republic to be thereunto affixed.

"[L.S.]-Done at Washington, this fourth day of June, in the year of our Lord, one thousand, eight hundred and forty-five, and of the independence of the Republic the tenth.

"ANSON JONES."

By the President:

"EBEN'R ALLEN, Attorney General, and Acting Secretary of State."

Most of the papers are excessively indignant at these developments, and even the most moderate, such as the Houston Telegraph, express and emphatic belief that the proposals of Mexico will be promptly rejected by Congress. [DJR]

Latest from Texas.

Annexation Ratified – Death of Vice President K.L. Anderson – Incursions and Depredations of the Indians.

From the Baltimore American.

The brig Hope Howes, Capt. Howes, arrived at New Orleans on the 19th inst. In 40 hours from Galveston. The most important news by this arrival is that the question of Annexation has been finally settled by the Convention which
The people of Texas assembled in Convention at Austin on the 4th inst. At one o'clock of that great day, assent to the resolutions of Annexation, passed by the United States Congress, was declared by the delegates. There was but one dissenting voice – Major Bache of Galveston. He afterwards signed the ordinance.

A resolution was passed on the 7th, requesting, in the name of the people of Texas, the President of the United States to send troops forthwith upon the frontier of Texas.

The Convention is composed of men of of[sic] more than ordinary talent – but few of them believe in “coquetry” in national matters. Committees have had their work apportioned; perfect harmony prevails, and a sound constitution will be formed.

Gen. Rusk was unanimously chosen President – he presides with dignity.

Hon. K.L. Anderson, Vice President of Texas died at Fanthrops, in Montgomery co., on his way from Washington to his residence.

The British brig Persian had arrived at Galveston from Vera Cruz. She brought despatches for the Government, and was to return as soon as she heard from Washington. It was rumored in Galveston that she was there for the purpose of learning the fact of the Mexican propositions to President Jones, and, if they were rejected, that the fleet of Mexico would be down on Galveston without delay. [DJR]

14 August 1845; MGv46n24p3

MOVEMENT OF TROOPS.

The second regiment of U.S. Dragoons, under the command of Col. TWIGGS, took up the line of march for Texas from Nachitoches on the 25th ult. The Chronicle says that they are to be stationed at San Antonio de Bexar.

The U.S. Light Artillery under the command of Major RINGGOLD, at Fort McHenry, have received orders from the Secretary of War to hold themselves in readiness to embark for Texas at a moment's warning. Similar orders, have been given to the troops at other military stations. The Washington “Union” remarks upon these facts:-

"Our troops will probably not take an aggressive attitude in regard to Mexico. If (as some suppose and some indeed say) her troops are on the advance to the frontier, the danger of collision approaches. In all probability, if they undertake the invasion of Texas, they will attempt to drive our troops from the ground they occupy. In such case, our right of defence will authorize us to cripple and destroy their army in any way we please. Then, the game is up. We drive every man of them across the Rio Grande; and all who shall set limits to the storm!” [DJR]

14 August 1845; MGv46n24p3

POSTSCRIPT

RUMORS OF WAR.

Just as we were going to press, the Baltimore mail brought us highly important news from Mexico. We can do no more, at this late hour, than merely announce the rumors afloat in relation to a Declaration of War by Mexico against the United States - Closing of the Mexican Ports – and the Expulsion of American Citizens from the Country.

The New Orleans papers of the 5th inst., say that the Mexican schr. Relampago had arrived from Vera Cruz with dates to the 23rd ult. Bringing as passengers Senor Arrangoiz, brother of the Mexican Consul at New Orleans, and Mr. Mackey, an American. The latter brought despatches for the Hon. Mr. Buchanan, from Me. Diamond, U.S. Consul at Vera Cruz, which were sent to Washington by mail. It is said that the Relampago came over to carry home the Mexican Consul at New Orleans, in proof of which the Bee of Tuesday says an importing house applied to him to clear a vessel for a Mexican port on Thursday, and that he replied that after Wednesday he would be unable to attend to any such business. The Jeffersonian quotes a letter from Vera Cruz, dated on the 22d ult. Received by a Mexican Gentleman in New Orleans, which says:

"I have to conclude this letter in a hurry, as the news is just in town that war has been declared against the Americans, and the vessels are going off immediately, to prevent being seized. “

The Courier, after noticing the rumors afloat and the above extract, says:
"We have seen letters from Mexico, of July 22d, which say war is inevitable. The Senate of Mexico had assembled in order to discuss the question of peace or war, and the issue depended on their deliberations. Until the result was known the Mexican ports would continue open as usual to American trade."

The Bee says in a postscript:

"We hear from a person who has it from an authentic source that the Mexican government has closed its ports to American commerce."

"From such information as we can obtain says the Bulletin, we think it probable that if any belligerent step has been taken, it is that which the Bee states it is creditably informed has been ordered – an embargo upon American commerce." [DJR]

21 August 1845; MGv46n25p2

WAR WITH MEXICO.

We are yet unable to determine, from the "lights before us," what course Mexico means to adopt towards the United States, though appearances of a Declaration of War seem more than probable. The Baltimore American of Monday, says:-

The intelligence from Mexico, though not decisive as to a declaration of War, seems to give greater probability to such a result than has attached to any previous rumors. It appears, however, that the warlike manifesto of the Minister of War and Marine bears date July 16th, while we have advices from Mexico as late as the 19th which say nothing of any declaration of war, although the minister announced that it would be submitted to the Congress on the next day, the seventeenth. Something may have occurred to prevent the literal fulfilment of this announcement, or possibly the whole thing may be a mere demonstration of Mexican bluster.

We think the above opinion probably correct, as we cannot imagine what inducement Mexico, in her helpless, distracted and impoverished condition, could expect or hope for in a war with the United States. The present Administration in Mexico stands in a precarious position, and is closely watched by the different factions which so unhappily divide and distract that country. We believe the "thoughts of the Mexican Minister are turned on peace," but he knows he must bluster a little to feed the peculiar appetite and taste of his people.

The aspect of affairs, however, is of sufficient moment to cause the President of the United States to open his eyes, and to think seriously of calling an Extra Session of Congress. We give below such intelligence as we have, together with the comments and speculations of several prominent journals, and leave our readers to draw their own conclusions. The New Orleans Tropic of the 9th inst., says:-

DEPARTURE OF THE MEXICAN CONSUL.

-The Mexican Consul will leave this city to day, on the Relampago, for Vera Cruz. Through the courtesy of our friends of the Bee, which paper contain this morning his address to the Mexicans in this country, we are enabled to state, that, although Senor Arrangoiz has closed his business here, and leaves in obedience to instructions from his government, the period of his departure was left wholly to his own discretion. The instructions to him were predicated, not upon a declaration of war; but upon the unsettled relations between the two countries. We understand that he leaves at this time in order to avoid the gales that usually occur in September. He takes his official papers with him.

The following is the Address referred to in the above:

MEXICAN CONSULATE,

New Orleans August 8th, 1845.

By order of His Excellency the President of the Republic, I inform the Mexican citizens residing in the U. States that His Excellency has determined that this Consulate be closed, and that I return to Mexico, taking with me its archives, in consequence of the state of our relations with the United States. In compliance with this order, I will this day close my office, and will sail to-morrow for Vera Cruz, on board the Mexican schr. Relampago.

F. DE ARRANGOIZ, Consul.

The New Orleans Bulletin of the 9th inst., says:-

The Mexican vessel Relampago, refused yesterday to take the mail we had prepared to send to Mexico and the Sandwich Islands. We learn that the other papers in the city have been treated in the same way. We are at a great
loss to understand the proceeding. Can it be sulkiness – or is there really an embargo or declaration of war, made known by the Mexican Consul to the commander of the vessel, which prohibits him from the carriage of American mails? As straws show which way the wind blows, perhaps here may be found a true index to our international relations.

The Washington Union of Saturday evening says that there are no decisive indications of the course which Mexico intends to pursue, and then adds –

The proclamation of Senor Conde, minister of war, on the 16th, thunders war in our ears. He talks loudly of the supreme government intending to communicate to Congress on the next day, the declaration of war; and declares that the government is covering the different points on the frontiers, and collecting the necessary means, &c. &c. , to carry it on.

The Mexican consul has also left New Orleans. We have rumors, also of several corps of Mexican troops advancing to the frontiers! One would think that these are pretty conclusive signs of the design of the government of Mexico to change her relations from peace to war. It would be clearly so, with almost any other people than with her.

The Washington Union, of later date, speaking of the last advices from Mexico says:

As far as we are advised, the despatches to our government are not more decisive than our private accounts. War may come. The next arrival may bring the declaration; and yet no man counts upon it with any certainty. Still, it is beat to prepare for the worst; and, acting upon this safe and prudent maxim, we have no doubt that the Executive is taking early precautions to meet the blow, and making every preparation to repel it. Our troops are actually on the frontiers; arms are already at Galveston. The Texans may probably be invited, if necessary, to cooperate with our troops; and rations will be furnished, if they require it. Our squadrons in the gulf will be on the alert. The first blow that shall be struck by Mexico, will become the signal of efficient and vigorous hostilities on the part of the United States.

The New Orleans Bulletin of the 9th inst. says:

As war with Mexico is by many deemed a probable event, some information relative to the strength and resources of our adversary might not at the present crisis be uninteresting. The entire population of the Mexican States, twenty-two in number, is estimated at about seven millions. From this amount a deduction must be made for the Indians, half-breeds and negroes, who constitute about six-sevenths of the census. These are all mere slaves, and a class too ignorant and degraded to be enumerated among the military statistics of the country. In physical vigor and intellectual capability, they are said to be much inferior to the negroes of the South, and are certainly kept under a bondage much more galling and enervating both to mind and body.

Throwing this part of the population out of the account, there remains only about a million of Mexicans who can be said to be pure Spanish or European descent, upon whom any reliance can be placed for the defence of the country. Even this small fraction of the populace is greatly degenerated, and, compared with the Spaniards of the days of Cortez or the Anglo-Saxons of the present era, may be called an effeminate race.

AN EXTRA SESSION. - The Philadelphia Inquirer of Monday says:

We hear it rumored on pretty good authority, that should Mexico declare war against the United States, the President will immediately call an extra session of Congress.

It is said that a number of the officers of the Brigade commanded by Gen. A.L. Roumfort, of Philadelphia, have volunteered their services, and that Gen. R. has tendered his own and their services to the General Government, in case of war with Mexico.

Letters of Marque and Reprisal. -We heard it stated on Saturday last, by an intelligent officer of the United States Government, that Mr. Polk was determined, in case of a war with Mexico, to make a terrible example of any foreigner or foreigners, not belonging to Mexico, or parties to the war who may attempt aggressions upon American commerce under color of letters of marque from the Mexican Government. He will give orders to the Naval commanders to treat all such adventurers as pirates, as in reality they will be. -Phila. Ledger.

The ship Kalamazoo sailed for New York on Friday last for Texas, with United States Government troops on board. [DJR]

28 August 1845; MGv46n26p2

MEXICO AND THE U. STATES.

The schooner Walter Witch, at New Orleans, from Vera Cruz, brings the latest intelligence from Mexico. From the New Orleans Tropic of the 14th, we learn that there has been as yet no declaration of war – and there is not much
probability that there will be. The election of a new President commenced on the 1st inst. There are four Candidates, but the most prominent are Gen. Herrera, the President ad interim, and Gen. Almonte, the late Mexican Minister near our Government. All the bluster and gasconading of the Mexican Ministers may be set down to electioneering tricks to aid the promotion of General Herrera to office. We expect it will be found in the end, that Mexico is in no hurry to declare war against the United States. If she can raise “the needful,” she may attempt to re-conquer Texas, without any declaration of war.

The Ministry has presented an Act to the two Chambers for their deliberation, 1st. To declare war against the United States; 2d. Authorising them to make a Foreign or National loan to the amount of $15,000,000, which they consider to be requisite to carry on a war and re-conquer Texas. These proposals are now under discussion in the Chambers.

It is reported that 10,000 MEXICAN TROOPS are on their march to Texas, but the New Orleans Picayune regards the story as purely a rumor.

In the mean time, our Government seems to be wide awake, and making every necessary preparation for an outbreak of hostilities. Our troops seem to be on the march from all sections of the Union, bound for Texas. A gentleman on board of the U.S. Ship St. Mary’s, at Galveston, writes under date of August 7th, that he has learned “that the Mexicans have an army of quite 20,000 men. No doubt our people think that fifteen hundred men are sufficient to eat up Mexico, castles and all, but it will be found that the drilled Mexican soldiers are anything but contemptible foes. - The greatest source of apprehension to our army, however, is from the Camanche Indians, a fierce and warlike tribe in the very heart of Texas; and excited against us, they would prove a most distressing enemy. We expect to be in Pensacola in a few weeks. All well on board this ship. “

We believe the above constitutes the most important portion of the intelligence brought from the South.

-Since the above was prepared, we3 have received later intelligence from New Orleans.

The Bee of the 16th, says:- Gen. Gaines, now in our city, having received authentic information to the effect that 10,000 Mexican troops were within eight days’ march of Gen. Taylor, stationed at St. Joseph’s Island, immediately despatched a message to the governor of Louisiana, claiming a requisition of two regiments of volunteers, (of ten companies each) to consist of Infantry, Riflemen and Artillerists [sic]. The requisition was immediately granted. The New Orleans Bulletin of the 18th, says:-

We look upon the requisition, and the other military movements as measures of precaution, and do not think that the Government or any of its officers are in possession of more definite information in relation to the affairs of Mexico, or the movements of the troops, than has been published in the newspapers. [DJR]

04 September 1845; MGv46n27p2

FROM THE BALTIMORE AMERICAN, SEPT. 1.

MEXICO AND TEXAS.

"The Washington Union of Saturday evening says:-

"We are not advised that the Executive has received any despatches by the Ann Louisa – arrived at New York with Vera Cruz dates of the 3d inst. , and from the capital of the 30th ult. – later than they had previously received. We announced in last Monday’s ‘Union,’ accounts from the capital as late as the 30th July. “

The N.O. papers of the 23d ult, state that a letter had been received in that city from an officer with the army under General Taylor, dated Corpus Christi, August 15. The troops had left St. Joseph’s Island and were encamped on the main land – all in good health and fine spirits – no enemy near – none expected. A courier had been despatched to Matamoras and returned, who reports only 400 men at or near that place. Should this prove true, the reports hitherto received have strangely exaggerated their number.

The camp of Gen. Taylor was very pleasant, with a delightful breeze constantly prevailing.

The subjoined extract of a letter from an officer of the U.S. Dragoons, dated at Nacogdoches, on the 31st July, we copy from the N.O. Courier of the 22d ult:

“'The seven companies of Dragoons arrived here to-day, after a very warm march of six days from Fort Jesup.

"We shall leave here on the 1st of August for the Trinity, and thence for the San Antonio, where you will again hear from me. The command stood the march very well, and hope to do a good service when we reach the disputed boundary. ”
MORE VOLUNTEERS. - We understand that Capt. H.S. Harper, of Gainsville, Miss., will arrive in this city by the steamer J. Dupre, on to-morrow, with a company of 156 volunteers, destined for the Mexican frontier. They style themselves the Mississippi Riflemen. They are well furnished with all the necessary appointments for the campaign, and will hold themselves in readiness to be mustered in the service of the United States at a moment’s warning. It is their intention, we understand, to join the Regiment of Louisiana Volunteers, under the command of Col. Dakin. [DJR]

11 September 1845; MGv46n28p2

TEXAS AND MEXICO.

We learn from the New Orleans Picayune, extra, of August 30, that the Steamship Alabama from Aransas Bay, brings intelligence from Corpus Christi up to the 27th ult. One of the Editors of the Picayune came passenger in the Alabama, and brings the latest news. There seems to be no foundation for the probability of an engagement between our troops under Genl. Taylor and the Mexicans. So far there is no prospect of a fight. Genl. Taylor, himself, does not anticipate such an event. - Genl. Arista is at Matamoras with about 2,000 men, entrenching himself, and knows of Genl. Taylor’s position. It is believed that if Arista had marched at once upon Genl. Taylor, when he first landed, he might easily have overcome him, but it is now too late. Our army at Corpus Christi now numbers about 2,000 strong, and is in condition to resist four or five times that many Mexicans. The country between Corpus Christi and the Rio Grande, it is said, cannot now support an army in an attack – one of the principal impediments being a scarcity of water, of which there is little or none at all. Our troops are arriving and joining the main army almost every day. The Americans stand the climate very well. We believe the above constitutes the principal items of news brought by the Alabama.

LATEST FROM MEXICO.

Just as our paper was going to press, letters were put into our hands from Pensacola, of the 1st September, and containing despatches from Vera Cruz of the 18th and 31st August. We have only time, this evening to state the substance of the information they convey. An opinion very generally prevailing at Vera Cruz, according to the last accounts, that Mexico would not formally declare war against the United States; and that the government would be able to realize but a very small portion of the loan, if any, which had been authorised – so low was the rate of interest.

It was said that, in lieu of a declaration, Mexico would carry on hostilities vigorously against Texas; and they talked of making a rush upon her with 25,000 men; but this was generally considered as a sheer fable.

The mail of the 18th had brought news from the city of Mexico of the election of Ge3neral Herrera to the Presidency, and the formation of a new cabinet, consisting of Manuel Pena y Pena, (Minister of Foreign Relations,) Pedro Areaya, (Minister of War,) and Fernandez del Castillo, (Minister of the Treasury.)

On the 16th August, Captain Shubrick, commander of the United States ship Saratoga, exchanged salutes with the batteries of Vera Cruz. - Wash. Union Sept. 8. [DJR]

18 September 1845; MGv46n29p3

ENDED IN SMOKE.

"Beat the sheep-skin – blow the fife,
And march in training order;
Our way is through the wilderness
And all along the border."

A friend has given us a peep at the "Washington Union," and though we are just ready to go to press, we must stop to let our readers hear a crow or two from General Ritchie over Mexico. The Union gives the substance of the despatches received by our Government from Mexico to which we have alluded in our article under the head of "News from the South." These despatches represent the new Mexican Cabinet opposed to the war; and even if otherwise disposed, they are without the means to carry on a war; it is with difficulty they can raise means to defray the daily expenses of Government. The war excitement has subsided among the people. General Paredes absolutely refuses to march against Texas, and has repaired to Mexico, and others have followed his example. The Mexicans are represented as powerless, without money, without credit, torn to pieces by internal feuds and on the eve of revolution, which will overthrow the present government. Paredes, it is said, is aiming to become dictator, and is backed in his plans by Tornel and Valencia. This is a true picture of the poor miserable, poverty-stricken, half-savage Mexican people, and if the reader will only imagine General Ritchie dressed up in a soldier’s coat – with a chapeau and plumes set kimbo on
his head – a big wooden sword in his hand – his mouth and heart chock full of glory marching up and down his EditorSanctum, he can well appreciate the following grandiloquent burst of glory with which he concludes the important information. Listen, Oh! He progressives, and Whigs give ear, for this great Union – the States of Texas and Austin included – stands in an elevated position, by the side of Mexico!!! The General says:- “Thus pass off the gasconades and blusters of Mexico! In what an elevated position does our country stand in comparison with her; and our bold and prompt Administration with its wise precautionary measures, compared with the hesitating, discouraged, dispirited, disorganized, and revolutionary army and officers of Mexico.” Truly a fly has been bullied, and the “bold Administration,” with General Ritchie included, look out with pride and satisfaction upon the bloodless fields of their renown. This is “glory enough for one day.” [DJR]

02 October 1845; MGv46n31p2

FROM TEXAS AND MEXICO.

The U.S. troops assembled at Corpus Christi, Texas, on the 16th instant, were as follow:- 7 companies 2d dragoons; 7 companies 7th infantry; 5 companies 5th infantry; 1 company; [sic] 3d artillery; 10 companies 3d infantry; 10 companies 4th infantry; 2 companies of volunteer artillery – numbering about 2,200 effective men. There were expected daily 5 companies 5th infantry; 15 companies of artillery, and 3 companies of 7th infantry.

A letter from an officer of the U.S. Army, written on the 16th instant, says- “Our army is in fine condition for active service. We hear of no war, or advance of Mexicans, although they may be forming their army some distance in the interior, behind the Rio Grande, without our knowing it.

Despatches have been received by the War Department from Gen. TAYLOR up to the 14th instant, but they contain no important information. Arista, the Mexican General, had been at Mier, but not accompanied with a military force; nor was there any indication of the concentration of a Mexican force on the Rio Grande. [DJR]

30 October 1845; MGv46n35p2

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE.

CORPUS CHRISTI, Sept. 20, 1845.

My Dear Sir: I write to you from the seat of War – or rather of Peace – for here there is neither war, nor the rumor of war. I have concerned myself with more than twenty Mexicans during the last thirty days that I have been on the frontier, from this point 150 miles inland – Mexicans direct from the other side of the Rio Grande – and all concur in saying that there is no movement, on that side, that there has been none, and will be none, rumors to the contrary notwithstanding. The Mexican provinces bordering on the Rio Grande desire peace, and would with extreme reluctance, join any military expedition. There will be no war, unless our troops are ordered to pass the Rio Grande! The Army, under Gen. Taylor, makes a noble appearance – quiet, orderly, well disciplined. I have now finished my travels in Texas, and only wait an opportunity to embark from this place to Galveston, and I shall embrace the first opportunity to return to the North. I have seen nearly every portion of this country: frontier settlements, Camanche Indians, and all else worth seeing.

[DJR]

November

MG45v46n38p1c7 November 20, 1845: Late from Texas. From the New Orleans Picayune, Oct. 25th

The steamship Cincinnati arrived at this port yesterday from Galveston. She brings us copious flies of Texas papers, those from Galveston coming down to Saturday the 18th inst.

Ira Munson, Esq., came passenger in the Cincinnati, with dispatches from the Government to the Texas Legation at Washington.

The U.S. steamer Col. Long arrived at Galveston o the 15th inst. from this port, and left on the 17th for Corpus Christi.

The German brig Herschel arrived at Galveston on the 10th inst. from Bremen, with 138 emigrants, and the following day the brig Aminius, from the same port, with 125 emigrants. They are all destined for the colony of Fisher & Miller. -- The News says that among the emigrants there was a number whose appearance gave evidence of superior standing and character.
The election took place in Texas on Monday, the 13th inst. So strong was the conviction that the opposition to Annexation would be fruitless, that there was not a heavy vote polled. We annex such returns as have reached us, reminding the reader that the vote was taken upon three distinct questions, Annexation, Adoption of the Constitution and the Ordinance. -- [The ordinance the reader will recollect, relates to Colonization Contracts:]

City of Galveston

For Annexation 270 Against Annexation 121
" Constitution 284 " Constitution 83
" Ordinance 269 " Ordinance 65

The highest vote here polled upon Annexation, was but 391, but little over half the legal vote of the city.

City of Houston

For Annexation 241 Against Annexation 44
" Constitution 223 " Constitution 58
" Ordinance 195 " Ordinance 60

Here again the total vote, 285, is very small, no interest being excited.

From one of our exchanges we learn that Mr. McGloin, the former Empresario of San Patricio, has moved with his family from San Antonio to the former place, in company with several other families. Confidence appears to be again restored to the long deserted West.

The Houston Telegraph gives 11,359 bales as the amount of cotton shipped form Houston for the twelve months preceding the 31st of August last. The Telegraph says it is the opinion of Mr. Davis, the proprietor of the cotton warehouse, that there will be nearly double the quantity shipped form Houston this year.

The Galveston Civilian ridicule the “speculative demand” which sprung up in this market a fortnight since for Texas money. The Civilian coolly remarks:

Texas has at present no mode of paying either principal or interest of this species of paper credit. It is not even receivable for public lands. If the U.S. Government hereafter chooses to redeem this paper at par, and take out lands, Texas will probably offer no objection, but if Texas is to make payment, she will possibly have some regard for the law of equivalents, and may refuse or be unable to pay ten or fifteen millions of dollars in specie, for that which neither realized to her nor cost the holders one-third of that sum!

The Civilian adds, that the prospect of redemption of Texas money at par is “neither immediate nor clear. ”

The papers mention an affray which not long since took place in Nacogdoches county, between a Mr. Selman and a Mr. Banks, in which the former was stabbed through the heart.

The old story has been revived, on what is deemed “the best authority,” that a plan had been matured in Tamaulipas, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Sonora and California, for the annexation of those provinces to the Republic of Texas, in case she had determined to remain separate and independent. According to this story, several leading men in the central part of Mexico expressed their determination, in this event, to remove to the above named provinces, in order to enjoy the blessings of a peaceful and stable Government.

The Houston Telegraph mentions that the Lipans and Tonkawas are preparing to abandon their late encampments on the tributaries of the Guadalupe and San Antonio, and intend removing high up on the Colorado, to occupy a portion of the country lately granted them by the Camanches. Many of the warriors of these tribes have intermarried with the Camanches.

The same paper indulges in some reflections upon the Camanches, and the late efforts of the Texas Government to conclude a treaty with them at Torry’s trading-house. This was the fifth attempt of the Government, and the Indians appeared as timid and suspicious as ever. They, however, pledged themselves to maintain a permanent peace for the settlers. It is presumed that they craved more liberal presents of the Texans, and will now apply for such to the Mexicans. It matters little, according to the Telegraph, which regards their military power as utterly broken. [LA]
The steamship *New York*, Philips master, sailed from Galveston on the 23d inst. and arrived here last evening. She bring us no news whatever. --*N. O. Pic*, 26th.

The barque *Ann W. Stevens*, J. M. Stevens, master, from Bremen and Bremenhaven, (a port some five miles below Bremen, on the river Weiser,) arrived here a few days ago, with one hundred and thirty-nine German emigrants, most of who were bound for Texas. One hundred and five of the above number started for Red River on the Rob Roy, on Friday last. These go to form a colony near the line bordering between our young sister State and Louisiana. The are well supplied and all the utensils necessary for a border life, and from their appearance seem to be persons qualified in every particular to the successful in their undertaking. Prosperity and happiness to them, say, we, with all our heart. --*N. O. Delta*, Oct. 26

The *New Orleans Delta* condenses the views of the state of the crops in Texas as follows:

**Corn Crop.**--The crop in the Red River and Northern counties has been greatly injured by the drouth. The editor of the Northern Standard mentions that the neighborhood of Clarksville is the only section of the Red River counties where there will be much corn for sale. He states also the corn in the Choctaw Nation is burned up. Fortunately for the people of that section the crop of potatoes will be very abundant.

**Cotton Crop.**--The severe drouth that prevailed during nearly the whole of the months of July and August, throughout the western and middle counties of Texas, has materially injured the cotton crop. --Along the whole line of the Colorado, from Columbia to Austin, it is estimated, says the *Houston Telegraph*, that the crop will fall short nearly one-half. On the Brazos above San Felipe, the planters will scarcely make more than two-thirds of an average crop; and on the Trinity the crop is as light as on the Colorado. In the eastern counties, the crop is said to be better than it is in any of the counties west of the Trinity. It is probable that the while crop of Texas will scarcely exceed ninety thousand bales. Last year it was estimated at over one hundred thousand bales.

There were shipped from Houston, from September 1st, 1844, to August 31st, 1845, eleven thousand, three hundred and fifty-nine bales of cotton. [LA]

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**December**

11 December 1845; MGv46n41, EXTRA

MESSAGE

OF THE

President of the United States.

[02] DECEMBER, 1845.

**Fellow Citizens of the Senate**

*And House of Representatives:*

[The entirety of this address can be found at: http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/site/docset/sou/polk1.htm

Included here is a brief excerpt that treats U. S. -Mexican relations. ]

I regret to inform you that our relations with Mexico, since your last session, have not been of the amicable character which it is our desire to cultivate with all foreign nations. On the 6th day of March last, the Mexican envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the United States made a formal protest, in the name of his government, against the joint resolution passed by Congress, "for the annexation of Texas to the United States," which he chose to regard as a violation of the rights of Mexico, and, in consequence of it, he demanded his passports. He was informed that the government of the United States did not consider this joint resolution as a violation of any of the rights of...
REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

The following is a brief sketch of the contents of this document, which we take from the Washington Union:

It exhibits, in the first instance, the organization, strength, and constitution of the regular army. The rank and file – embracing every arm of the service – does not exceed 6,500 men. At this time, there is stationed but a single regiment on the northern frontier, from Maine to Lake Superior – an extent of two thousand miles; and on the whole line from the Falls of St. Anthony to New Orleans, (fifteen hundred miles,) only one regiment of dragoons and two of infantry. The artillery regiments – reduced by detachments of four companies from each – now garrison the fortification of the seaboard, from Newport to New Orleans. The remaining and larger proportion of the army is now stationed in Texas. The report gives an interesting account of the political reasons which have induced the government to give them this destination. The Secretary does not think it prudent to remove the troops from this position until our relations with Mexico have assumed a more amicable character. In the event of there being any necessity to increase the army, he proposes to build upon the basis of the regiments, by adding to the rank and file of each company, instead of creating new regiments. This necessity may be found in the course of Mexico, or in the conduct of the Camanches, or of the Indians that are found in Oregon or that may interrupt the increasing current of emigration to the Rocky mountains. By the proposed arrangement of filling up the infantry companies to sixty-eight men, and the dragoons to sixty, the privates are increased, without a corresponding augmentation of the officers.

The report suggests that, besides this increase of the number of privates in the two existing regiments of dragoons, another regiment of dragoons, or mounted riflemen may be necessary, in the event of extending our posts to the Rocky mountains.

It states that, thought the concentration of so large a proportion of the army on the frontier of Texas may have, in some measure, enlarged the expenditures,) certainly in the article of transportation,) yet it has in some degree, been compensated by the improvement which has taken place in the discipline of troops. It renews the recommendation of establishing a corps of sappers, miners, and pontoniers, to assist among other things, in constructing bridges, in consequence of the military occupation of Texas. One hundred men will be sufficient for the purpose.

The report gives a rapid but interesting account of Colonel Kearney’s expedition during the last summer, to the South Pass of the Rocky mountains; the impression it produced among the Indians; the number of emigrants whom it met on their way to Oregon, to the number of 2,325 men, women, and children, with 7,000 head of cattle, 400 horses and mules, and 460 wagons. This report of Colonel Kearney accompanies the communication of the commanding general, and will furnish, no doubt, an interesting store of extracts, at a season of greater leisure. It also refers to the adventures of another detachment of the dragoons, under the command of Captain Sumner nearly to the northern line of the United States, between Lake Superior and the Lake of the Woods. Among the Indians whom they met with on their route, and upon whom they made a due impression with their military array, was a numerous band of the half-breeds of the Red river of the North, who had come from the region of the Hudson Bay Company into our lines, to hunt buffalo. They had even solicited permission to reside in the United States.

The Secretary refers to the considerations which had prompted General Gaines to despatch the volunteers of Louisiana to the camp of General Taylor. Ample justice is done to their gallantry, and Congress is invited to make appropriations for their compensation. General Taylor had also accepted the services of four Texan companies of mounted men for three months.

The estimates for the ensuing year do not greatly vary from those of former years. The item for arming the fortifications is increased $100,000. The attention of Congress is directed to the state of the fortifications – to the armories of Springfield and Harper’s Ferry – to the establishment of a national foundry for cannon – to the preservation of the gunpowder belonging to the government – to the condition of the mineral lands in the Northwest, which the Secretary proposes to transfer from the management of the ordnance department to some other, (the President’s message suggests to the land office.)

It calls the attention of Congress to the forty-eight forts in process of construction; and to the propriety of erecting new forts at other points. Among these, as suggested by the reports of the engineers, are fortifications of the narrows at Staten Island and at Sandy Hook, and the condition of the long-suspended fortress at the Pea Patch; an additional work at Sollers Point, for the protection of Baltimore; and projected fortifications on the Florida reefs.

25 December 1845; MGv46n43p1
The Secretary speaks with great consideration of the schools at West Point, and proposes some improvements. He calls special attention to the report of the chief of the corps of topographical engineers – to the improvement of the harbors on the lakes, which are so well calculated to furnish accommodations to steamers that, in a state of war, may be turned to the most effective purposes, and to furnish facilities to a commerce that is now estimated at one hundred millions of dollars annually.

The Secretary speaks with enthusiasm of the expeditions under Captain Fremont, and his valuable services. He refers to the reports of the pension office, which has now registered upon its books 28,921 pensioners – 2,371 added during the last year, and 1,436 known to have died. He devotes a considerable space to the Indian agency and the Indians – the Potawatomies, the Choctaws, and particularly the Cherokees. He lays before the President some highly interesting communications from our Indian sub-agent in the territory of Oregon.

He dedicates the conclusion of his comprehensive and very interesting report to a subject which is of so profound importance in a free government, [illegible] the organization of the militia. He suggests various alterations; and among the rest, submits the question whether it might not be advisable to reduce the period of service from 18 years of age to 21, upon the ground that although citizens of eighteen years of age are not too young to bear arms, they are not generally in a situation to equip themselves with arms as the law requires. [DJR]
The Mexican-American War and the Media, 1845-1848

Martinsburg Gazette
January-June 1846

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Senate debates and votes on resolutions

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May 21, 1846, v47n12p2c1 Words: 2525
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A much longer account of the House of Representatives approval of declaration of war, including a complete reproduction of the war bill. Several Whig objections to the war in Mexico.

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May 21, 1846, v47n12p2c1 Words: 111
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May 28, 1846, v47n12 p2c1 Words: 1302
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May 28, 1846, v47n12 p2c1 Words: 205
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May 28, 1846, v47n12 p2c1 Words: 16
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May 28, 1846, v47n12 p2c1 Words: 1106
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May 28, 1846, v47n12 p2c1 Words: 1419
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May 28, 1846, v47n12 p2c1 Words: 685
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A short biography of the elderly general, highlighting his victories during the War of 1812, in preparation for the General’s preparation to lead forces into Mexico.

June 4, 1846, v47n14p2c1 Words: 2224
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An editorial claiming that the Mexican war is unjust, but since it has begun the honor of the nation demands that the United States be victorious in this war.

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Report of General Taylor’s arrival at camp with supplies from Point Isabel. Also a list of officers wounded and killed in the previous battles.

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An interview the aid of Mexican General Arista, claiming that the Mexican army lost 800 men, also an examination of General Arista’s personal papers, including his campaign plan.

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A statement from the governor of Virginia authorizing the creation of volunteer units for the Mexican war.

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June 4, 1846, v47n14p2 Column 5, Words: 2980
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A letter from an officer that gives an in depth account of the battles on the 8th and 9th of May. Included are the deaths of many officers, and an overestimation of the number of troops in the Mexican army.

June 4, 1846, v47n14p3c1, Words: 2021
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A letter from a second officer describing the attack on Fort Brown (Taylor’s fort opposite Matamoras), including the death of Major Brown.

June 4, 1846, v47n14p3c3 Words: 954
THE FLYING ARTILLERY—RINGGOLD—RIDGELY, &c.
Another account of the battles of the 8th and 9th of May. This account focuses on the death (in the case of Major Ringgold) and the bravery (in the case of Major Ridgely) during the battle.

June 11, 1846, v47n15p1c4-6. Words: 2237
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A letter from an officer to his family describing the American army’s march from Corpus Christi, the staging area, to the area on the bank of the Rio Grande opposite Matamoras.

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CAPT. SAMUEL H. WALKER.
A biography of an officer in Taylor’s army. The biography highlights Walker’s character as a gentleman and soldier.

June 11, 1846. v47n15p1c6, Words: 593
THE LATE MAJOR RINGGOLD
Another biography of the famous Major, highlighting his career in the army and his death.

June 11, 1846. v47n15p1c6, Words: 690
CAPTAIN MAY
A biography of Major May. His recent capture of a Mexican cannon, and its commander General Vega is the highlight.
June 11, 1846. v47n15p1c6, Words: 212
"IF I GO TO WAR I WILL BE SHOT."
[General Observation]
An advertisement from an astrologer, offering to read people’s fortune, and then tell his clients whether they should go to war or stay home.

June 11, 1846. v47n15p2c1 Words: 242
MILITARY SPIRIT OF BERKELEY
Praises the military spirit of the Berkley volunteers leaving for the war in Mexico.

June 11, 1846. v47n15p2c2 Words: 231
GENERAL SCOTT
An editorial that accuses the President of using politics to rob General Scott of his glory as a military commander.

June 11, 1846. v47n15p2c4 Words: 1518
LATE FROM THE SEAT OF WAR
A report that the town of Matamoros had been taken, as well as rumors about the position and strength of the Mexican army.

June 11, 1846. v47n15, Page2c4, Words: 752
LATEST
The naval blockade of Vera Cruz.

June 11, 1846. v47n15p2c4, Words: 120
OPINIONS OF SANTA ANNA ON THE WAR
Santa Anna is portrayed as believing in the righteousness of the American cause.

June 11, 1846. v47n15p2c4, Words: 21
No title
General Almonte’s states that General Alvarez’s revolution will be hard to defeat.

June 11, 1846. v47n15p2c4, Words: 133
BOUNDARY OF TEXAS
The 1836 declaration of the Republic of Texas stating that the border of Texas is the Rio Grande.

June 11, 1846. v47n15p3c2 Words: 46
ATTENTION CAVALRY!
A notice that a volunteer unit of cavalry will be electing officers soon.

June 11, 1846. v47n15p3c2, Words: 54
MILITARY NOTICE
A unit of volunteer infantry will be electing officers soon.

June 25, 1846. v47n17p2c6 Words: 730
STATE OF THE FINANCES MESSAGE
President Polk’s estimates the cost to wage a war with Mexico, and how it would be possible to raise the money.

June 25, 1846. v47n17 Page 3c3 and 4 Words: 1508
LATE FROM MEXICO.
FROM GALVESTON AND RIO GRANDE—FIRST MOVEMENT OF INVASION OF MEXICO.
This article reports on the retreat of General Arista and General Taylor’s treaty with the local Indians.

June 25, 1846. v47n17p3c4. Words: 540
IMPORTANT RUMOR FROM THE ARMY.
An article stating that General Arista had moved to Monterrey, and General Taylor’s preparations to pursue. The article also reports that the Oregon Treaty has been ratified.

08 January 1846; MGv46n45p1

CALIFORNIA.- It is stated that there are ten females to one male in California, and many of them possess large landed properties all improved. These ladies are described as being beautiful, quite youthful, and exceeding virtuous, but anxious for good, kind and considerate husbands. We anticipate, after these facts are generally known, that California will be taken. [DJR]
22 January 1846; MGv46n47p1

IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

By the United States ship St. Marys, which arrived at Pensacola on the d instant, in ten days from Vera Cruz, we learn (through the Pensacola Gazette) of the refusal of the Mexican Government to receive Mr. SLIDELL as Minister from the United States. Mr. S., however, has not returned in the St. Marys, nor does the Gazette vouch for the correctness of the news; but says that it is “disposed to credit it on account of our critical relations with Great Britain, a circumstance of which Mexico would not hesitate to take advantage.” On the other hand, the Pensacola Democrat, which says that Mr. SLIDELL “was not well received,” ascribes the conduct of the Mexican Government to the impending revolutions by which it is embarrassed.

A private letter, dated at Pensacola on the 3d instant, which we find in the Mobile Journal, throws but little additional light on the subject. It says:

"The St. Marys, which vessel you will remember carried our Minister to Vera Cruz, arrived here yesterday evening after a voyage of ten days, and anchored off the Navy Yard. Up to the time I write no one has boarded her, but several came ashore from her. She is understood to bring large despatches for our Government. Those who came from her report (and the report is credited) that our Minister was badly received by the Mexican Government, and was in fact insulted. Another version of the story is, that he was not received and recognized as such at all. Both reports, however, resolve themselves pretty much into the same thing. This statement has created no little excitement here, and, if true, as I have but little doubt one or the other is, it is presumed that the entire Gulf squadron will shortly appear before Vera Cruz."

In a day or two we shall, no doubt, receive further information on the subject.

-Nat. Int. [DJR]

29 January 1846; MGv46n48p2

MEXICO.

The few extracts which we give below will give the reader some idea of the present deplorable of the Mexican Republic. It seems to us that this unhappy and wretched Republic must soon be numbered among "the things that were." The people are incapable of self government.

The Vox del Puebla [sic], a leading Mexican Paper, gives a sad picture of the condition of that Republic. Of the administration of the departments, it says:-

"The pen of Jeremiah could not adequately describe the fearful ravages recently committed by the wild savages on our frontier settlements. We have received papers from Satillo [sic], Monterey, Durango, and Zacatacas. In those departments the knife and the firebrand turn entire villages into rivers of blood and heaps of ashes. There are constantly enacted those frightful tragedies so often noticed, so often lamented; there are felt the awful effects of that guilty neglect, that deadly apathy, that lethargic slumber of our government – a living shame to civilization, to religion, to humanity – there the wretched inhabitants pray with imposing looks, but alas! in vain, for a protecting arm to save their wives and daughters from pollution and murder.- Year follows year and brings no relief, no respite to the dreadful sacrifice of thousands of human victims. The press of the departments is filled with supplications to put a stop to such atrocities – but they fall on deaf ears; meanwhile, tributes, monopolies and custom houses are kept in full force."

The annexation of Texas is referred to as a thing beyond recall [sic]. "Texas is gone," says the Mexican paper, "gone forever and beyond redemption to our natural enemies, the Anglo-Americans, who know but too well how to estimate us at our true value." In view of the future destiny of Texas as a part of the great American Republic, a confession is extorted from the Mexican Journal, which it says is a bitter one indeed, and adds:-

"That Department, wrested from us by an act of usurpation and perfidy never before equalled, will at once start on a new career of improvement and prosperity – safe from savage inroads, arbitrary exactions, unjust prohibitions and monopolies, a fertile soil will plentifully reward the honest labor of the husbandman, the mechanic arts will flourish, each citizen will be free to arm himself for his own and his country's defence, and each will have the right to practice, unmolested, the religion which his conscience dictates. Texas, by renouncing her separate sovereignty, will cease to be, as heretofore, a country of outlaws, and become a part of a powerful nation, whose growing prosperity will shed its beneficial influence over the new territory. Such is the destiny of that Department, severed from us and now forming part of the American Union. The tendency of an example so pernicious is clear to all."

The last Washington Union contains the following important intelligence:-

LATEST FROM MEXICO.
By the arrival, on the 14th instant, of the United States brig Porpoise, at Pensacola, (twelve days from Vera Cruz,) the intelligence of a revolution in Mexico has been confirmed.

It appears that on the morning of the 30th, the troops relied upon by the government to defend it against Paredes pronounced in his favor; and the government entered into terms of capitulation with General Paredes. He entered and took possession of the city on that day without opposition.

The rumor was, that General Paredes manifested less opposition to the reception of Mr. Slidell than the late President, Herrera. [DJR]

26 March 1846; vol 47, no4p3

FRANCE AND MEXICO.

The idea broached by the London Times of the re-establishment of monarchy in Mexico has been received upon the whole, with favor by the Parisian press. Even the republican National does not denounce it, if it be the pleasure of the Mexicans, but insists upon the full liberty of action being allowed them.- It also advises that in any measures the French government may be induced to join in, care be taken that it not be made the dupe of England. [DJR]

Thursday April 30, 1846, Volume 47, Number 9, Page 2, Column 4 Words: 80

LATE FROM GENERAL TAYLOR

From the New Orleans Correspondence of the Baltimore American dated April 20th, we take the following extract—

He maintained his ground opposite the town, and was in possession of the two ferries. On the 28th ult. GEN Ampudia had reached Matamoras with a body of 3,000 troops under his command and the Mexican force then in the town was upwards of 4,000 men. The general impression was that the dispute between the Governments would be, or had been, amicably adjusted.

Thursday, May 14, 1846, Volume 47, Number 11, Page 2, Column 1 Words: 1725

WAR WITH MEXICO—PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE &C.

We refer the reader's attention to the important news from our "Army of Occupation." It will be found in another column. It will be seen that "the war" has commenced—there is no telling yet what will be the end of it. Great excitement prevails everywhere in the country where the news has reached.-- Large meetings have been held in NEW ORLEANS, MOBILE, &C., and our people are responding with great alacrity to the calls of their country. We have no comment this week, and content ourselves by detailing the facts as they exist.

The President on Monday sent in a message to the House of Congress upon the subject of "the existing war" between the Republic of Mexico and the United States, in which he refers to his statements made in his Annual Message respecting the relations existing between the two countries, and "the causes which led to the suspension of diplomatic intercourse between the two countries in March, 1845, and the long continued and unredressed wrongs and injuries committed by the Mexican Government on citizens of the U. States in their persons and property." He then refers to the strong desire upon the part of our government "to establish peace with Mexico on liberal and honorable terms, and our readiness to adjust and regulate our boundary and other differences with that power on such fair and equitable principles as would lead to permanent relations of the most friendly nature, which induced him in September last to seek the reopening of the diplomatic relations between the two countries. In futherance of this object the Hon. JOHN SLIDELL of La., was, on the 10th of November 1845, commissioned as envoy extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to Mexico with full powers to adjust both the questions of the Texas boundary and the indemnification to our citizens. Mr. SLIDELL repaired to Mexico and presented himself as minister Plenipotentiary of the United States, and, notwithstanding he was there by agreement between the two governments, the Mexican government refused to receive him of listen to his propositions. His mission proving unavailing he returned home, and the Mexicans have at last invaded our territory and murdered our citizens on our own soil. The Message then enters into full detail on the origin, progress and failure of Mr. SLIDELL's mission, and concludes with this language.

Thus the government of Mexico, though solemnly pledged by official acts in October last to receive and accredit an American envoy, violated their pledged faith, and refused the offer of a peaceful adjustment of our difficulties. Not only was the offer rejected, but the indignity of its rejection was enhanced by the manifest breach of faith in refusing to admit the envoy, who came because they had bound themselves to receive him. Nor can it be said that the offer was fruitless for want of opportunity to discuss it: our envoy was present on their own soil. Nor can it be ascribed to a want of sufficient powers: our envoy had full powers to adjust every question of difference. Nor was there room for complaint that our propositions for settlement were unreasonable: permission was not given our envoy to make any proposition whatever. Nor can it be objected that we, on our part, would not listen to any reasonable terms of their
suggestion: the Mexican government refused all negotiation, and have made no proposition of any kind.

The Message then explains at length the operations and movements of our "Army of Occupation" and the authority under they act &c. --and concludes thus—

The army moved from Corpus Christi on the 11th of March and on the 29th of the month on the left bank of the Del Norte, opposite to Matamoras where it encamped on a commanding position, which has since been strengthened by the erection of field works.—A depot has also been established at Point Isabel, near the Brazos Santiago, thirty miles rear of the encampment. The selection of his position was necessarily confined to the judgement of the general in command.

The Mexican forces at Matamoras assumed a belligerent attitude, and on the 12th of April, General AMPUDIA, then in command, notified General TAYLOR to break his camp within twenty—four hours, and to retire beyond the Nueces river, and in the event of failure to comply with these demands, announced that arms and arms alone must decide the question. But no open act of hostility until the twenty fourth of April. On that day, General ARISTA, who had succeeded to the command of the Mexican forces communicated to General TAYLOR that "he considered hostilities commenced and should prosecute them." A party of dragoons of sixty-three men and officers were on the same day dispatched from the American camp up Rio Del Norte, on its left bank, to ascertain whether the Mexican troops had crossed, or were preparing to cross the river, "became engaged with a large body of their troops, and after a short affair, in which some sixteen were killed and wounded, appear to have been surrounded and compelled to surrender."

The grievous wrongs perpetuated by Mexico upon our citizens throughout a long period of years remain undressed; and solemn treaties pledging her public faith for this redress have been disregarded. A government either unable or unwilling to enforce the execution of such treaties fails to perform one of its plainest duties.

Our commerce with Mexico has been almost annihilated. It was formerly highly beneficial to both nations; but our merchants have been deterred from prosecuting it by the system of – and – which the Mexican authorities have pursued against them, whilst their appeals through their own government for indemnity have been made in vain. Our forbearance has gone to such an extreme as to be mistaken in its character. Had we acted with vigor in repelling the insults and redressing the injuries inflicted by Mexico at the commencement, we should doubtless have escaped all the difficulties in which we are now involved.

Instead of this, however, we have been exerting our best efforts to propitiate her good will. Upon the pretext that Texas, a nation as independent as herself thought proper to unite its destinies with our own, she has effectually believed that we have severed our rightful territory and in official proclamations and manifestoes, has repeatedly threatened to make war on us for the purpose of reconquering Texas. In the mean time, we have tried every effort at reconciliation. The cup of forbearance has been exhausted, even before the recent information from the frontier of the Del Norte. But now, after reiterated menaces, Mexico has passed the boundary of the United States, has invaded our territory, and shed American blood upon the American soil.-- She has proclaimed that hostilities have commenced, and that the two nations are now at war.

As war exists, notwithstanding all our efforts to avoid it, exists by the act of Mexico herself, we are called upon by every consideration of duty and patriotism, to vindicate with decision the honor, the rights, and the interests of our country.

Anticipating the possibility of a crisis like that which has arrived, instructions were given in August last, "as a precautionary measure, "against invasion, or threatened invasion, authorizing General TAYLOR, if the emergency required, to accept volunteers, not from Texas only, but from the states of Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee, and Kentucky; and corresponding letter were addressed to the respective governors of those states.

These instructions were repeated; and in January last, soon after the incorporation of "Texas into the Union of the States," Gen TAYLOR was further "authorized by the president to make a requisition upon the executive of the State for such of its militia force as may be needed to repel the invasion or to secure the country against apprehended invasion." On the 2d day of March he was again reminded, "in the event of the approach of any considerable Mexican force, promptly and efficiently to use the authority with which he was clothed to call to him such auxiliary force as he may need."

In further vindication of our rights and defence of our territory, I invoke the prompt action of congress to recognize the existence of the war, and to place at the disposition of the Executive the means of prosecuting the war with vigor, and thus hasten the restoration of peace. To this end I recommend that authority should be given to call into the public service a large body of volunteers to for not less than six or twelve months, unless sooner discharged. A volunteer force is, beyond question, more efficient than any other description of citizen soldiers; and it is not to be doubted that a number far beyond that required would readily rush to the field upon the call of their country. I further recommend that a liberal provision be made for sustaining our entire military force, and furnishing it with the supplies and munitions for war.

The most energetic and prompt measures, and the immediate appearance in arms of a large and over powering force, are recommended to congress as the most certain and efficient means of bringing the existing collision with Mexico to a speedy and successful conclusion.
In making these recommendations, I deem it proper to declare the it is my anxious desire not only to terminate hostilities speedily, but to bring all matters in dispute between this Government and Mexico to an early and amicable adjustment; and in this view I shall be prepared to renew negotiations, whenever Mexico shall be ready to receive propositions or to make propositions of her own.

I transmit herewith a copy of the correspondence between one Envoy to Mexico and the Mexican Minister for foreign affairs; and so much of the correspondence between that Envoy and the Secretary of State, and between the Secretary of War and the General in command on the Del Norte, as are necessary to a full understanding of the subject.

JAMES K. POLK

Thursday, May 14, 1846, Volume 47, Number 11, Page 2, Column 1, Words: 218

Washington, May 11, 1846.

It will be seen from the annexed proceedings which we clip from the Congressional report of the Baltimore Sun of the 12th inst. that the House of Representatives have responded with great promptness to the Message—and the Senate will doubtless concur in the action of the House.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

As the cars left the bill containing Mr. Boyd’s amendment was read a third time and passed by a vote of yeas 174, nays 14.

The bill recognizes the existence of war appropriates 10,000,000 and authorizes the President to accept the services of 50,000 volunteers.

In addition to the present military and naval force the President is authorized to complete all the public armed vessels, and to purchase such merchant vessels and steamboats as can be easily converted into armed vessels.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read as act to provide for the prosecution of the existence of war between the United States and the Republic of Mexico.

The amendments of the senate to the bill providing for the increase of the rank and file of the army, were taken up and concurred in. They increase the number of men in each company from 40 to 100, and extend the term of service from three to five years. The House then adjourned.

[HCH]

Thursday, May 14, 1846, Volume 47, Number 11, Page 2, Columns 5 and 6  Words: 903

FROM TEXAS AND MEXICO

COL. CROSS MURDERED!!!!—HIS BODY FOUND

From the New Orleans Picayune of May 1

The brig Apalachicola Capt. Smith, arrived at New Orleans yesterday, from whence she sailed on the 24th ult. And reports that on the 22nd she left point Isabel where Major Thomas, the acting quartermaster informed Capt. Smith that the body of Col. Cross had been found about four miles from Gen. Taylor’s camp on the Rio Grande. From the wounds upon the body it seems evident that he was killed by a lance.

It was further reported that a person in Matamoras had acknowledged that he was the murderer, and he had the watch and clothing of Col. Cross in his possession.

Gen. TAYLOR, it is reported, had made a formal demand for the murderer.

Capt Smith confirms the statement regarding the death of Lieut. PORTER.

All open communications were admitted to pass by the Commandant at Point Isabel between that post and Matamorats.
The Mexican schooner Juanita, from this port for Matamoras, was taken into Brazos Bay on the 22nd ultimo, by the pilots—no doubt by permission of the blockading force.

LATER—IMPORTANT MOVEMENTS

The schr. Cornelia, Capt. Stark, arrived last evening from Brazos Santiago, whence she sailed on the evening on the 24th inst. She reports that about three hours before she sailed an express had arrived from Gen. Taylor, stating that the commander of the Mexican forces had made a formal declaration to Gen. Taylor that if he did not move his army from the position he then occupied, within thirty-six hours, that the Mexican batteries would be opened upon them.

The same express also stated that at that time a body of 2,000 Mexicans had crossed the Rio Grande, near Boretta—a small town about eight miles below Matamoras, on the west bank of the river—and taken up a position between Point Isabel and General Taylor’s camp. The design of this movement is evidently to cut off American troops from their supplies. A private letter was also received last evening from an officer in General Taylor’s camp, confirming in part, the above report of the Mexicans crossing the river, but stating the number at 1,000 only.

There had previously been so many rumors to the same effect in the camp, that little reliance was placed upon this one, which was first communicated by a Mexican who was prudently detained by order of Gen. Taylor.

The accounts by the Cornelia confirm the melancholy news news given above as to the fate of Col. Cross. He was found entirely stripped and wounded before as stated.

We have a letter from an officer in the camp, dated the 221st ult., the postscript to which states, shat we had no doubt of, that the Americans “had not retired one foot from the bank of the river nor does the General mean to do anything that can look like it.” “Our flag waves over the waters of the Rio Grande, and we have a fixed battery of 18 pounders that can ‘spot’ anything in Matamoras.”

The Picayune adds—

While upon the subject of the army, we may state that the steamer Col. Harney, which left here on Wednesday for Brazos Santiago, took with her a battery of ten long 12 pounders, and a quantity of munitions of was, and she was to in more at Galveston for the same destination. The New York, which sailed yesterday for the same point, had a detachment of 180 men on board for the army, under the command of Lieut McPhail. Four companies of infantry are expected here in two or three days, who will be dispatched immediately for the same destination.

The schooner Gen. Worth, twelve hours later from Brazos Santiago, and bringing, it is said one day later intelligence from Gen. Taylor’s camp, was in the river late last night, eight or ten miles below the city, waiting for a tow. It is said a bearer of dispatches from Gen. Taylor was on board. Colonel Hunt immediately dispatched a boat to bring her up.

LATER

The New Orleans Commercial Times of the 1st instant has the following intelligence, which is the latest that had reached New Orleans before the mail left for the North:

We are informed by Capt. Atwell, of the schooner Gen. Worth, who left Brazos St. Jago on the 25th, that the day before (the 24th) the Mexican schooner Juanita, was taken by the U.S. schooner Flirt, and sent into that port as a prize.

We learn also from the same gentlemen, that the two thousand Mexican troops above the Rio Grande, had captured several wagons, belonging to settlers, loaded with provisions for the American camp. The object of the enemy seems to be, to intercept supplies destined for the U.S. troop. It is more than probable that an engagement has taken place before this.

The American Consul and Merchants, resident in Matamoras had been ordered by Gen. Ampudia to leave for Victoria, Tampaulipas—twenty four hours after having been allowed them time to adjust their affairs. This is a violation of the terms and treaties existing between the U. States and Mexico, it having been agreed on, that in the event of war, the citizens of the two countries, respectively, should not be molested in their affairs, but six months be allowed to those living in seaports and twelve months to those in the interior, to arrange for their departure.

Our army is in good health and spirits, only 135 being on the sick list.

[HCH]
BLOCKADE OF THE RIO GRANDE.

We learn last evening that formal protests had been made before the British Consul by the English houses which had shipped cargoes on board the schooners Equity and Floridian which were turned back by the United States brig Lawrence, off the mouth of the Rio Grande.

The Picayune has also the following correction:

THE ARMY--Misapprehension Corrected—General Worth—Our readers cannot fail to have been struck by the number of officers reported by the city press to have arrived here in the New York on her last trip from Galveston. Enough were reported to have officered several regiments. This was entirely the result of misapprehension. We learn that but three gentlemen connected with the Army did in fact arrive: These were Gen. Worth, Maj. Van Nass and Lieut. Smith. Gen. Worth, it is known, has transmitted his resignation to Washington; the other gentlemen named came here on important business connected with the service.

[HCH]

Thursday, May 14, 1846, Volume 47, Number 11, Page 2, Columns 5 and 6 Words: 405

IMPORTANT FROM THE ARMY

A Battle—Fifteen Americans killed, forty-six taken prisoner, and Gen. Taylor's supplies cut off.

On Thursday the 23d of April, 2,000 Mexican troops crossed over. Capt. Hardin and Capt. Thorton were sent with two companies of Cavalry, 63 men in all to reconnoitre. On Friday morning they fell into an ambush of the enemy, when Lieut Kane and 15 men were killed—Capt. Thorton missing and Capt. Harding and 46 men are prisoners.

After the fight the Mexicans on the American side of the river were largely reinforced, and had surrounded Gen. Taylor's camp, cutting off all communications with Fort Isabel, at which is the train and all the stores belonging to the army. Gen. Taylor has only 10 days provisions on hand. There are at Port Isabel 90 artillery men, 20 dragoons, about 25 teamsters, and 150 citizens and laborers—the entrenchment not quite finished. The steamer Monmouth landed Mr. Catlett on the night of the 29th of April at Port Tobacco, with despatches from Gen. Taylor, calling on Gen. Henderson for 40 companies of Riflemen of 60 men each, twenty of them to be mounted men to rendezvous at Corpus Christi. Gen. Taylor has called on the Governor of Mississippi for 8000 troops for immediate relief.

Should the relief not be sent to Port Isabel it would most probably fall into the power of the enemy with all the army stores and the destruction of the whole army would follow.

The Louisiana Legislature have voted $100,000 to raise recruits to send immediately to the seat of action. Gen. Taylor's fortress in front of Matamoras, would be completed on the morning of the 28th of April, at which time it was expected fire would be opened up upon the city.

On the 22d April, Gen. Taylor received from Gen. Ampudia, by means of a flag of truce, a communication, in very offensive terms, complaining of having blockaded the Rio Grande, to which he replies that he (Gen. Ampudia) had been the cause of the blockade, he having expressly declared that unless Gen. T. had commenced his retreat beyond the Nueces in 24 hours after his display of his flags upon the Rio Grande, he would consider was as having been declared, and would act accordingly. Gen. Taylor furthermore stated that he would receive no further communication from Ampudia, unless they were couched in language respectful to the U. States.

[HCH]

Thursday, May 14, 1846, Volume 47, Number 11, Page 3, Column 3 Words: 111

WAR! WAR!!

CRITICAL POSITION OF THE ARMY

The Baltimore American of the 11th says: We refer to the Postscript head in another column for later and very important intelligence from our army in Texas. It will be seen that open hostilities have commenced between the American and Mexican forces—that a detachment of seventy Dragoons fell into an ambuscade—that Capt. Thorton, Lieuts. KANE and MASON, and twenty-six of the men, it was supposed, were killed—Capt. Hardee and the rest of the command were taken prisoners; and that the Mexicans had crossed over the River in such force as to invest Gen Taylor's Camp and all communication with Isabel, where were his train, army stores, &c.
In the New Orleans Picayune of the 3d, we find the following letter from the Camp:

**CMP OPPOSITE MATAMORAS**

April 26, 1846,

Gentlemen—Knowing that in the present excited state of the public, as regards our Mexican affairs, and the welfare of our little Army, as most exaggerated reports creep into the public prints; whereby carrying with them sorrow and anxiety into the bosoms of the friends and relatives of many officers, I feel it my duty to give you a hasty but correct account of the capture of Capt. Thornton a squadron of second Dragoons by a force of Mexicans under the command of Gen. Torrejon. Gen. Taylor, on the 24th had received a report that the enemy were crossing the River above the camp. Capt. Thornton, with his command, was sent out on the evening of the 24th to examine the country above and see whether there was any truth in the report. His command was composed of Capt. Hardee, Lieuts. Kane, Mason, Five sergeants, four corporals, one bugler, and 49 privates. His Mexican guide returned this morning stating that he had been attacked at eight o'clock on the morning of the 25th by a large number of the enemy, and that the whole command was captured or destroyed. The guide warned him that was in the vicinity of the enemy, and refused to proceed. He waited until night, and none of the party coming in, he returned. About eleven o'clock this morning a private was brought in a cart, wounded in two places. The man who brought him was the bearer of a note from Gen. Torrejon to Gen. Taylor, the amount of which was that on the score of humanity he claimed the privilege of sending him two dragoons who were wounded in an engagement brought by a charge from an American cavalry officer against his command of 200 men, as he had no flying hospital. He then spoke of the rest being prisoners, and said they would be treated with consideration due prisoners of war, agreeable to the custom of civilized nations.

From the wounded Dragoons we obtained the following facts: That the charge was made in open ground; that when the command "charge" was given but a few of the enemy were seen; but, as they dashed over the hill the whole command presented themselves. They were fired upon and immediately taken prisoners. He does not know what became of Capt. Thornton. Capt. Hardee and Lieut. Mason are prisoners, and are well. He reports Lieut. Kane as shot, and it is feared he is dead. Ten men were killed. Before the cart left one of the two men mentioned in the note died. From the note Gen. Torrejon it seems that he accuses Capt. Thornton charged upon him. One can hardly can conceive of such madness as charging 200 men with 63, and it is fair to presume that he was surrounded and charged to cut his way through. Time will clear it all up. The capture of Capt. Thornton party, and the sad death of Col. Cross are rather melancholy commencements of the war. I say, war; war; for there no doubt of its existence, and that unless an armistice is signed in ten days we must have some hard fighting. The enemy are collecting in some considerable numbers, and I think their force may be estimated with safety and five thousand. Gen. Taylor is rapidly pushing forward his field works, and I understand has sent for 4,000 volunteers—two thousand from Louisiana and two thousand from Texas. If they will give us a fair fight we do not doubt our ability to whip them; but if they are going to give us a second edition of the Florida War it will be a very annoying affair. Yours, very truly, W.S. HENRY Lieut. U.S.A.

The New Orleans Bulletin of May 4 says—

"No later information has been received from the army on the Rio Bravo the was published in our second edition of Saturday morning. We have seen, however, a number private letters, which give us a clearer insight into the state of affairs. From the best information we can get, we do not anticipate any serious disaster to the main body of the American army. The Camp of Gen. TAYLOR is so well situated and entrenched that letters from himself and other officers of the army evince no apprehension whatever."

A general Town Meeting was to be held at New Orleans on the evening of the 4th instant to adopt measures to the action of the Governor and Legislature of Louisiana.

A Company of more the one hundred volunteers left Mobile for New Orleans on the 4th instant. Gen. Gaines has made a requisition upon Commodore LATIMER, at Pensacola, for the steamship Mississippi and a battalion of men, to be despatched forthwith to Point Isabel.

According to the New Orleans Delta a highly respectable gentleman received a letter from Gen. TAYLOR on the 2nd instant, in which he (Gen. T.) expresses great confidence that he can hold his position against any force the Mexicans can bring against him, until he receives reinforcements. He expresses no uneasiness at the result.
DESERTERS—In reply to the resolution of Congress, in relation to deserters from the Army in Texas, a message was sent to Congress on Friday by the President. All the information on the subject is contained in this extract from Gen. TAYLOR’S despatch of the 6th ult. to the War department:

"Efforts are continually making to entice our men to desert, and, I regret to say have met considerable success. Four, however, have been drowned in swimming the river, and two have been killed by our pickets while attempting to desert, which has operated to check the practice. A majority of those who have deserted are old offenders."

[HCH]

FROM WASHINGTON

By the President of the U. States of America

A PROCLAMATION

Whereas, the Congress of the United States, by virtue of the constitutional authority vested in them, have declared by their act, hearing date this day, that, "by act of the republic of Mexico, a state of war exists between that Government and the United States.

Now, therefore, I, JAMES K. POLK, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the same to all whom it may concern; and do join specially enjoin all persons holding offices, civil or military, under the authority of the United States, that they be vigilant and zealous in discharging the duties respectfully and incident thereto: and I do moreover exhort all the good people of the U. States as they love their country, as they feel the wrongs that have been forced upon them the last resort of injured nations, and as they consult the best means, under the blessing of Divine Providence of abridging its calamities, that they exert themselves in preserving order, in promoting concord, in maintaining the authority and efficiency of the laws and in supporting and invigorating all the measures which may be adopted by the constituted authorities for obtaining a speedy, a just, and an honorable peace.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents. Done at the city of Washington the thirtieth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, and of the independence of the United States the seventieth.

JAMES K. POLK

By the President:

JAMES BUCHANAN Secretary of State

[HCH]

THE WAR BILL OF CONGRESS

The following is a correct copy of the important Bill which passed the House of Representatives on the 11th inst., by a vote of 174 to 14:

"An act providing for the prosecution of the existing war between the United States and the Republic of Mexico."

Whereas, by the act of the Republic of Mexico, a state of war exists between that Government and the United States: Therefore—

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, for the purpose of enabling the Government of the U. States to prosecute said war to a speedy and successful termination, the President be and is hereby authorized to employ the militia, naval and military forces of the United States and to call for and except the services of any number of volunteers, not exceeding fifty thousand, who may offer their services, as cavalry, artillery, infantry, or riflemen, to serve six months after they have arrived at the place of rendezvous, or at the end of the war unless sooner discharged. That the sum of ten millions dollars and is hereby
appropriated out of any money in the Treasury or to come into the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the
purpose of carrying the provisions of this act into effect.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the militia, when called into service of the United States by virtue of this act, or
any other act, may, if in the opinion of the President of the United States the public interest requires it, be compelled to
serve for a term not exceeding six months after their arrival at the place of rendezvous, in any one year, unless sooner
discharged.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the said volunteers shall furnish their own clothes, and, if cavalry, their own
horses; and, when mustered into service, shall be armed and equipped at the expense of the United States.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That said volunteers, when called into actual service, and while remaining therein,
shall be subject to the rules and articles of war, and shall be, in all respects, except as to clothing and pay, placed on
the same footing with similar corps of the United States army; and, in lieu of clothing, every noncommissioned officer
and private in any company who may thus offer himself, shall be entitled when called into actual service, to receive in
money a sum equal to the cost of clothing of a noncommissioned officer or private (as the case may be) in regular
troops of the United States.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That the said volunteers so offering their services shall be accepted by the President
in companies, battalions, squadrons, and regiments, whose officers shall be appointed in a manner prescribed by the
law in the several States and Territories to which such companies, battalions, squadrons, and regiments shall
respectively belong.

Sec. 6. And be it further enacted, That the President of the United States be and is hereby authorised to organize
companies so tendering their services into battalions and brigades, brigades into divisions, as soon as the numbers of
volunteers shall render such organization, in his judgement, expedient; and shall, by and with the advise of the
Senate, appoint the generals of brigade and divisions; as well as the general staff, as now authorised by law: Provided
however, That major generals and brigadier generals shall have the appointment of their aide-de-camp, and the
President shall, if necessary, apportion the staff, field, and general officers among the respective states and Territories
from which the volunteers shall tender their services, as he may deem proper.

Sec. 7. And be it further enacted, That the volunteers who may be received into the service of the United States by
virtue of the provisions of this act, who may be wounded or otherwise disabled in service, shall be entitled to all
benefits which may be conferred on persons wounded in the service of the United States.

Sec. 8. And be it further enacted, That the President of the United States be and is hereby authorised forthwith to
complete all the public armed vessels now authorised by law, and to purchase or charter, arm, equip, and man such
merchants and steamboats as upon examination may be found fit or easily converted into armed vessels, fit for the
public service, and in such number as he may deem necessary for the protection of the sea board lake coast, and the
general defense of the country.

Sec. 9. And be it further enacted, That whenever the militia or volunteers are called and received into the service of the
U. States, under the provisions of this act, they shall have the organization of the army of the U. States, and shall have
the same pay and allowances, except as follows, to wit: Privates of infantry, artillery, and riflemen, shall receive ten
dollars per month and privates of volunteers mounted corps twenty dollars per month for their services and the use
and risk of their horses.

The following incident, which occurred during the consideration of the Bill, are properly published as part of the history
connected with its passage:

At that stage of the proceedings of the House when this Bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading—

Mr. GARRETT DAVIS rose and said: Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to Excuse me from voting on the passage of this bill,
and I will assign very briefly my reasons.

This is a measure, directly and indirectly, of very great importance, and yet no opportunity, not a single moment, has
been allowed any Whig of this House to say one word upon it. So far as I can operate upon the fate of the gallant
General and his little army upon the Del Norte, there is no need for such unparalleled in urging a measure of its
character through this body. He is on a frontier three thousand miles distant. In the exercise of discretionary power
vest him by the Executive, he has made requisitions on the Governors of the neighboring state for ten thousand
troops. At this moment, the destiny of General Taylor and his gallant band is sealed, and I doubt not that ere now the
prompt succour which he has received from the states contiguous to the theatre of his operation has given him such
force that he has beaten back the enemy, and that his victorious standard at this moment floats over Matamoras.
Whatever it is, his fate is now sealed, and any thing we now do will be too late to influence it. There could then be no
valid objection to give a day to the consideration of this bill, and no persons would desire more. But the haughty and
dominating majority will bit allow now this much.

But Mr. Speaker, I have an objection to the preamble of the bill. It recites that war exists between the United States
and Mexico, and that this war was begun by Mexico. That informal war exists between the two countries is undeniable;
but that Mexico commenced it is utterly untrue, and I object to the preamble because it sets forth so bold a falsehood.
I am decidedly strongly in favor of the appropriation of the money, and the raising of the forces for which the bill
Mexican commander treats all these as acts of war; and, and the 25th of April, Gen. Taylor is informed by messenger, the port of Matamoras, orders off English and American vessels, and directs the capture of a Spanish schooner. The yards of it. Bearing upon its public square, and from hence he could, in a few hours, batter it down. He then blockades Matamoras; strongly fortifies a position overlooking the city, and mounts a battery of cannon within three hundred yards of it. Bearing upon its public square, and from hence he could, in a few hours, batter it down. He then blockades the port of Matamoras, orders off English and American vessels, and directs the capture of a Spanish schooner. The Mexican commander treats all these as acts of war; and, and the 25th of April, Gen. Taylor is informed by messenger, from the Mexican camp, that hostilities exist, and that the Mexicans will prosecute them according to the usages of civilized nations. That night a detachment of the Mexican army crosses the Rio Grande, Gen. Taylor sends out a scouting party to reconnoitre, which attacks the Mexicans, and thus war is waging in bloody earnestness.

It is our President who began this war. He has been carrying it on for months in a series of acts. Congress, which is vested exclusively by the Constitution with the war-making power, has not deigned to consult, much less ask for its authority. Now forsooth, when it has unexpectedly broke forth in bloody reverses, a position must be taken by the friends of the President in Congress to protect him by charging Mexico with being the author of the war; and he, in cold blood, teaches others to sacrifice a brave and veteran officer, whenever it may become necessary to cover his mistakes and incompetency.

I have yet another objection to this bill. All that is proposed to be voted by this bill is to be trusted to him. He is to conduct this war. He is our commander-in-chief, our Generalissimo of army and navy. He knows, or ought to know, how much money and how many men the present exigency requires; and yet he has not named a sum or any number of troops, as has been invariably the usage in such cases by all former Presidents. He leaves us to act upon our information and judgement in the premises. Are we to understand that he abandons the responsibilities and duties as President and Commander-in-chief in the conduct of this war? Does he intend to be understood by Congress as saying to them, (what must be now apparent to the whole nation) "I am unequal to the high position I occupy. I know not how to advise you as to the amount of money and number of men you must raise to rescue the military renown of the country from the passing cloud which now covers it. In this important matter you must assume my duties and my responsibilities, and adopt the necessary measures to vindicate the suffering honor of the nation?" If this be the position of the President, he has exhibited more good sense in assuming it than all the acts of his administration besides; if it be not, he exhibits his usual reprehensive secretiveness.

But Mr. Speaker, the essence of this measure is the supplies. They will all be required before the nation gets out of this difficulty. I will vote for the supplies of the bill with hearty alacrity, at the same time protesting against its falsehoods. Since the play has begun, I am for fighting Mexico on our own soil, on hers, everywhere, until we drive her across the Rio Grande, and retrieve our ancient renown. I am then for withdrawing our army to east side of the Nueces, and then settling by treaty all our points of dispute with that weak and distracted country upon the liberal terms.

[Mr. Davis was frequently interrupted by calls to order, and finally declared, when taking his seat, that he withdrew his request for leave to be excused from voting, and he said he should vote for the bill.]

Those members who voted against the Bill were—


When the final vote was taken the following members severally assigned reasons, viz:

When Mr BAYLY's name was called he rose and said: Mr. Speaker, I ask to be excused from voting. I cannot vote in silence without placing my self in a false position. I consider this bill virtually a declaration of war, made without Executive recommendation; for I do not understand the Executive as recommending a declaration of war, And made too when we do not know that the invasion of our territory and aggressive acts are sanctioned by the Government of Mexico. They may yet be disavowed, and reparation made. I am, therefore, unwilling to vote this declaration of war. I do not consider such a declaration necessary to meet such an emergency. On the other hand I am anxious to vote such supplies of men and means as will afford succour to our army and repel the invasion. I must, as I am now placed, decline to do this or vote for the bill before the House. If I am not excused, I shall vote for the bill, as I
amendment, and thereby to say that if war existed, it existed by our own fault, and not by the aggression of Mexico.

if the advance of Gen. ARISTA had been made by the order of the Mexican Government He could not consent to the bravery and want of caution. Could he say that war did not exist? Certainly it did; and it existed by the act of Mexico, supplies were cut off; and ere this it was possible that the whole command had fallen victims to their own reckless

had been made; our army was in a state of danger; Gen. TAYLOR was surrounded by three times his own number; his

He confessed that, had the responsibility been his, he should have acted otherwise; but the act was done, the advance had been made; our army was in a state of danger; Gen. TAYLOR was surrounded by three times his own number; his supplies were cut off; and ere this it was possible that the whole command had fallen victims to their own reckless bravery and want of caution. Could he say that war did not exist? Certainly it did; and it existed by the act of Mexico, if the advance of Gen. ARISTA had been made by the order of the Mexican Government He could not consent to the amendment, and thereby to say that if war existed, it existed by our own fault, and not by the aggression of Mexico.
Mr. MOREHEAD said that the Senator from Maryland must be mistaken on the question of boundary. The subject of boundary was expressly referred to in the discussion on the annexation resolution itself. The second section of that resolution says:

Sec. 2. And be it further resolved, That the foregoing consent of Congress is given upon the following conditions, and with the following guaranties, to wit: First. Said state to be formed, subject to the adjustment by this Government on all questions of boundary that may arise with other Governments.

The question which we are now called upon to determine, he understood to be, was whether the war declared to exist has been caused by Mexico. Whether it is waged by the authority of Mexico may depend on circumstances. We have not had an opportunity to investigate the subject. The question may hereafter present itself in a different light from that which we now see it; and yet under these circumstances, we are called to declare that this is a war authorized by Mexico.

Mr. HUNTINGON thought his friend from Maryland was laboring under a mistaken idea with respect to the purport of his amendment. If we erase the preamble, we do not thereby deny that war exists; nor do we assert that Mexico has not authored these hostile acts. We only declare, by striking out the preamble, that we wished to investigate; that we do not know; that we have not evidence whether war does exist authorized by Mexico.

Mr. JOHNSON, of Maryland, said that Mexico claims the whole of Texas. We cannot go to Mexico therefore, to ask about our boundaries. She denies the existence of such a state as Texas. We go to Texas to inquire about the boundary.

Mr. BERRIEN said that in the debates on the annexation of Texas the question of the true boundary was one of much doubt and difficulty. It was difficult to understand whether the Nueces or the Rio Grande was the boundary between Texas and Mexico, and the section referred to was added by the Senate for this very reason. It was to settle this disputed boundary that the amendment referred to was made.

In the U.S. Senate, on the 11th inst., when the motion to print 20,000 copies of the President’s Message and accompanying papers one the subject of our Mexican relations was under discussion, Mr. CRITTENDEN of Ky. Made the following remarks:

Mr. CRITTENDEN after making some inquiries as to the documents communicated with the President’s message, and after the order of General Taylor to advance to the Rio del Norte had been read, proceeded to remark, in substance, that he deeply regretted the intelligence communicated by the message of hostilities with Mexico. That it was our true policy to cultivate peace with her. That such had been our policy in relation to Mexico and all the South American Republics. That we had haid their first struggles for liberty and their establishment of Republican Governments, and looked upon them a forming a system of republics opposed to monarchial system of Europe. As the head of the Republican system, it has been our feeling, as it was our true policy, to cherish the kindliest relations and sympathies toward them all. And such had been our course till our late unfortunate difficulties with Mexico, which resulted, as we are now informed in actual hostilities. Mr. C. feared that all had not been done our Executive that might have been done to avoid that result. He hoped the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. SEVIER) might be able to justify, in every particular, the conduct of the President; nut at present he could see no good reason for advancing through disputed territory to the banks of the Rio del Norte, and pointing our cannon at the town of Matamoras. Such a course could hardly fail to be regarded as an insult, and to provoke hostility. As to Gen. Taylor, he knew him well; he was a brave and prudent officer, worthy of all confidence, and he felt assured that he was warranted by his orders in all that he had done.

He said the time would come hereafter for inquiring into the circumstances and causes of the present hostilities; and the scrutiny, he trusted, would be strict, and such as the importance of the event demands. Whoever should be found to have caused the hostility, if it has been caused upon our part, ought to be held to the highest responsibility. Congress alone can constitutionally declare war, and the people of the United States are not to be involved in war by any other authority than that of their own representatives.

There would come a time, however, for that scrutiny. For the present we must provide instantly for the defence of the country. That was our first duty, however hostilities may have been occasioned; and he was prepared to grant at once whatever of men or money was necessary for that purpose. Our country is not at fault, though her servants or agents may be, and it is our duty to stand by her.

But I trust that while we adopt all the warlike measures that the occasion may require we shall be equally unanimous in adopting all the most prompt and efficient means of restoring, if we can, friendly relations with Mexico. We can have no motive in pressing too far on a weak or fallen for. The feeling of Mexico, under all recent occurrences, must naturally be excited and wounded.

Policy and magnanimity require that we should be as forbearing towards her as we can. Our superiority is such as to relieve us from the responsibility of our forbearance or generosity being construed into fear, or ascribed to any improper or unworthy motives. No statesman could render a greater service to his country than by restoring our peace or friendship with Mexico. And so important do I regard it, the if it was in my power, I would, as soon as circumstances would possibly permit, send her a high and honorary embassy of peace—I would appoint Clay, Van Buren, Calhoun, and Benton—any one, two, three, or all of them. Mexico would feel honored by such a mission, and such embassadors would give peace, cordial peace, to the two countries.
THE WAR WITH MEXICO, &C

We devote the greater portion of our columns this week to the subject of the war with Mexico and the important proceedings of our government induced by it. We have endeavored, as far as our limited space would permit, to place before our readers an intelligent view of the whole subject, and hope every one will deliberate upon it with that candor and consideration so justly due to its importance. We have not the space this week to enter into any discussion of the point of whether war existed or hostilities existed—to all practical views they are the same in their consequences, especially as they are demonstrated in the actions of the parties now engaged in the "hottest of the work." We care not now who began the war, or what kind of Statesmanship brought it to the point, the important news which we present in our columns from "the seat or war" shows very plainly that severe engagement a portion of our gallant army, under Major RINGGOLD, has sustained itself manfully and covered our arms with a glorious victory.

The Proclamation of the President of the United States declares that war now exists between the U. States and Mexico—that is enough for us, as it has been done in obedience to the law passed by the Constitutional War-making power of our Government. That question ought now to be shut and every American Citizen feel it his duty to stand by his country "in heart and soul; in mind and strength." We feel assured that the sentiment of the whole people is now with their country, and whatever some may think of the folly of "precipitating the war," now that it exists, they are for carrying it on vigorously and efficiently. The President has ordered 43,000 men to be enrolled and made ready to be called into service at any moment. The response of the country to the call is prompt, and we have no doubt at all that men enough and more than enough will be found ready and anxious to lend themselves to their country.

The plain duty of the people of the United States now is, to be as one man, and from all that we can see among the "rank and file" but one sentiment prevails, and that is "our country right or wrong." We cannot pass from this subject without expressing our contempt at the long and windy attempts of "Father RITCHIE" daily blown out in the columns of the "Union" against the Whigs, charging them with want of patriotism, and factiously opposing the Administration in its efforts to vindicate the rights and honor of our country against the invasion of a foreign enemy. The "Union" knows these charges to be false in every particular—the Whigs in Congress voted freely men and money to meet the present condition of affairs—while Mr. CALHOUN and some others of the "Democracy" held back and hurled bitter and withering anathemas at the "Statesmanship" that brought on the war. Where are the thunders of the "Union" against its own party? Is the Editor of the "Union" afraid to attack Mr. CALHOUN openly, or is he whipping him over the shoulders of the Whigs? We despise a sneaking opponent—and particularly one of these sneaks who talks so boldly and valiantly when no foe is near. As for the Loco Focos making Capital out of this war and appropriating its glory (if victory crowns our arms, of which we have no doubt) to themselves is ridiculous in the extreme. It is not he who talks the most loudly of his patriotism, his courage, and his devotion to the country, that is the most ready to stand up to "the scratch" when "the tug of war" comes. As to the Whigs of the United States their American spirit is of "the right stripe"—all of their efforts and measures show that. In their domestic policy they are true friends of their own country—in the field of battle they will be found at their posts—we venture to say, that they will not be found "shot in the back"—and that the result will show that "the hottest of the fight" found them in it. We doubt not the courage and patriotism of our political opponents, and we make these remarks not to cast imputations upon them, but to repel unworthy aspersions on our own party and to express our contempt at the untimely lugging into such an emergency as now engages the attention of the country—party politics. We should like Mr. RITCHIE to answer one question—are the Democrats of the country willing single handed to undertake the war and fight it through? We think not.

GENERAL MUSTER.

We have been repeatedly asked during the past week why the "REGIMENTAL PARADE" was not published as usual—and when the General Muster was to take place? To the first we replied that we did not know;—to the second query we replied that an Orderly Serjeant told us, that a Second Lieutenant told him, that a First Lieutenant told him, that a Captain told him, that a Major told him, that the Colonel told him that the General Muster was to take place on Saturday the 23d inst. We wonder if the "bold 67th" is disposed to reinforce Gen. TAYLOR? Here is a chance for covering your "Cornstalks" with glory!
FROM THE ARMY.

Conflict between Texan Rangers and the Mexican Troops—General Taylor surrounded—Later from Mexico.

Correspondence [unreadable] Baltimore [unreadable] The mail boat is just in, and it brings an Extra from the N. O. Bulletin, May 9.

FROM THE SEAT OF WAR

By the arrival of the schr. Ellen & Clara, Captain Griffin, from the Brazos St. Jago, accounts from Point Isabel to the morning of the 29th ult., have be received.

The fact, however, that communication had not been had for three days between Point Isabel and the camp of Gen. TAYLOR is alone sufficient to keep anxiety on tip toe.

We learn from Capt. G. and Dr. Briggs, a passenger, who has been several months with the army, and Capt. Walker, formerly of the Texan revenue service, who has been stationed between Point Isabel and Gen. TAYLOR's camp with a company of twenty-four Texas Rangers, found several of the teams which had started from the Point for the camp were returning and reported that the Mexicans were on the road.

He started from his camp on the 28th with his whole force to reconnoitre; and if possible open a communication with Gen. TAYLOR—He had proceeded as far as about mid-day between Point Isabel and the camp, when an overwhelming Mexican force appeared very suddenly. A portion of his troops were raw recruits. He instructed them to keep on his right, and gave orders to the whole to retire under the cover of a chapperal in view. But his raw troops, panic stricken scattered in confusion.

The Mexicans advancing with overwhelming numbers, he was compelled to retire.—He was followed until a mile of Point Isabel, where he arrived with only two of his men.—Six others subsequently came on.

Capt. W. estimated the number of Mexicans he encountered at 1500, and he supposes that at least thirty fell during the 15 minutes he engaged them.

This force is supposed to be a portion of that which had at last accounts crossed the Rio Grande some 20 or 25 miles above the Matamoras, and which is estimated at 3000 men. It is believed that they had taken a circuitous route on the eastern side of Gen. TAYLOR's camp.

From the Picayune of the 9th inst.

The greatest apprehension now felt for the American position is that the Mexicans may erect fortifications which command Brassos Santiago. The natural formation of the ground is mostly favorable for such a purpose. The men would be effectually protected from any naval force by the natural embankments, and the position could only be carried by actual storming of the works.

The brig Josephine, Capt. Robinson arrived yesterday at Vera Cruz; had sailed thens on the 26th, three days later than pervious advices. The slood of war John Adams, the only vessel of the United States lying off Sacraficios when the Josephine left; the squadron not then having returned to its anchorage.

The Royal Mail steamer Tweed arrived at Vera Cruz from Tampico on the 24th ult., but the papers say not a word as to the state of things in the latter city.

The latest advices received at Vera Cruz from Matamoras, were to the 15th ult., immediately after the arrival of Gen. AMPUDIA.

His notice to Gen. TAYLOR to retire behind the Neuces was known, and the Vera Cruz people expected to hear of hostilities. We have heard it reported that the British Consul saw the letter from AMPUDIA to Gen. TAYLOR before it was sent, and approved of the same.

[HCH]
Important from the Rio Grande—General Taylor at Point Isabel—Attack on his Camp—Repulse of the Mexicans—Destruction of Matamoras—A general Blockade of the Mexican Ports Ordered!

The steamship New York, Capt. WINDLE, arrived in port on Sunday evening, having left Brazos Santiago the afternoon of Wednesday, the 6th inst. Her news is important, and of the most gratifying description.

Our last previous accounts came down to Wednesday the 29th ult. Capt. WALKER, of the Texas Rangers, having come into Point Isabel on the evening of the 28th ult. From his desperate encounter with the Mexicans, had volunteered to carry despatches to General TAYLOR. We now learn by the New York that in the desperate attempt—so desperate as to be thought fool hardy—he fully succeeded. Gen. TAYLOR learned from him the critical situation in which Point Isabel was placed, and the imminent danger of its being carried by an overpowering force of the Mexicans. He promptly determined upon a movement which should protect Point Isabel and re-establish his communication with his supplies. Accordingly the evening of Friday, the 1st instant, he left his camp opposite Matamoras, with the main body of his forces, determined to cut his way through, leaving behind him for the defence of the works opposite Matamoras between 700 and 800 troops.

This movement of Gen. TAYLOR upon Point Isabel was effected without encountering a single Mexican. In place of molesting him they concentrated their troops about the camp he had just left.

On the morning of the 3d Gen. TAYLOR despatched Capt. WALKER, back to the Camp for intelligence. The gallant Ranger, executed his commission with success, returning to Point Isabel the afternoon of the 5th. He reported that the Mexicans, taking advantage of the supposed weakness of the camp, commenced an attack upon it in front the morning of Sunday, the 3d, with all their batteries from the opposite side of the river, and simultaneously with a detachment of their forces on this side of the Rio Grande, in the rear. The Americans hotly returned the fire. The attack in the rear was immediately repulsed, and in less than thirty minutes the Mexican batteries were silenced, and the city of Matamoras battered down. The loss of the Mexicans in the action is variously set down. While no account makes it less than 200, the latest report in regard to it, which we find in the Galveston news, carries it as high as 700. The Americans lost but a single man, it is said who was killed by a shell. None were wounded—so admirable was the state of works before Gen. TAYLOR left them. The town of Matamoras is a complete ruin; there are scarcely houses enough left standing to serve as hospitals for the wounded.

The New Orleans Tropic says:—

"We understand that Major RINGGOLD of the Artillery, commanded in the American camp opposite Matamoras during the engagement with the Mexicans."

The only written information we have had from the seat of war, comes from Capt. SYMPTON, late of the Revenue service of Texas—now in the employ of Gen. TAYLOR. It is dated May 4. Capt. S. says:

"The news was brought to Point Isabel by our friend WALKER, of Major HAY's command. The Mexicans made the attack on our [unreadable]. The United States batteries knocked down Matamoras, killing two or three hundred Mexicans—they killing only one of our men, by the explosion of a shell. The works were so completed the Mexican shot could not injure them."

This attack and repulse, however, is considered but the opening of the campaign.—Cannonading was distinctly heard at times, down to the hour of the departure of the New York. Gen. TAYLOR set forth on the 6th inst. to return to his camp with ample supplies—The Galveston News states that when he left Point Isabel, there was not the slightest doubt entertained that he would have to cut his way to the entrenchments through vastly superior numbers of the enemy, who were known to be posted in large forces among the almost impassable thickets of chaparral on the road, with a determination to cut him off, if possible, in his attempt to regain his other forces. The number of Mexicans is entirely vague and uncertain, though all the statements agree in estimating them at not less than ten thousand, while many accounts put their numbers at 15 or 20 thousand. All accounts agree also in stating that the Mexican forces were rapidly flocking in from all quarters.

How many crossed the river could not be told, though the News think it would be reasonable to presume that a large part of their forces would be brought into requisition to dispute the march of Gen. TAYLOR. They could not but see the importance of cutting him off, and would doubtless employ all their advantages of local knowledge, skill in horsemanship and all their acknowledged resources in stratagem to accomplish their object. Gen. TAYLOR anticipated a formidable and desperate opposition to his march, but determined to accomplish it or perish.

Thus reasons the Galveston News; and accordingly anticipates intelligence of a decisive general action. We are greatly inclined to doubt whether the Mexicans would venture to attack Gen. TAYLOR's whole force, although they so outnumbered him; but should they do so, we are confident that we shall have a glorious victory to recount. One account before us states, however, that Gen. TAYLOR had not left Point Isabel, and probably would not leave there before the arrival of further re-inforcements—he having full confidence in the ability of the troops left in camp to maintain their position against any odds.
In the skirmishes which Captain WALKER had with the Mexicans, previous to the departure of the Ellen Clara, it is now known that not even the remainder have returned into camp safe.

The bodies of five of them have been found, but owing to the shocking manner in which the Mexicans had mutilated them, Captain WALKER recognised but two, McCLISTER and RADCLIFF.

The U. S. schooner Flirt was to leave the Brazos in a day or two with despatches for New Orleans. The U. S. brig Lawrence was still at the mouth of the Rio Grande, enforcing the blockade. All well on both vessels. Steamer Monmouth left on the 5th, bound for Aranzas, for the purpose of bringing every man capable of doing military duty, to the camp at St. Ingo.

The arrival of the New York at Point Isabel was most opportune. It will be recollected that she had nearly 200 regular troops on board under Lieut. McPHAIL, as well as several field pieces. These were all safely landed.—Even without the arrival of further reinforcements, the post at Point Isabel must have been so strengthened as to place its safety beyond reasonable doubt. Martial law has been proclaimed there and at Santiago, and every man pressed into service. But ere this, further support has reached Point Isabel from this city and Pensacola.

The accounts from Texas in regard to volunteers are by no means satisfactory. The greatest apathy seems to prevail throughout the country.

Col. HAYS, of the Rangers, with his force of almost 100 men stationed in the San Antonio country, determined to march at once for Gen. TAYLOR’s camp, as soon as he learned that it was in a critical situation, not would it surprise us to hear that Col. HARNEY, with his dragoons, had done the same thing.

While Gen. TAYLOR was at Point Isabel he despatched a schooner, to Vera Cruz, with intelligence of the proceedings upon the Rio Grande. We will at once port on the Gulf.

With great pleasure we see it mentioned in the Bulletin that the commander of the U. S. schooner flirt having observed a small encampment of Mexicans on the island at the mouth of the Brazos Santiago, and knowing the great danger of the point at the entrance of the harbor being in possession of the Mexicans, landed with his men and dispersed the camp. The reader will recollect that the utmost fear was felt that the Mexicans might fortify a position here which would command the approach to Point Isabel.

The New York Sun contains the following description of Mexico, from Matamoras to the Halls of the Montezumas, which cannot but prove interesting at the present time:

"The U. S. army is posted on the left bank of the Rio Grande, opposite Matamoras, at a distance of 90 miles from the coast by the circuitous channel of the river, but only 30 or 40 miles by the route to Point Isabel, a harbor on the coast of Texas, about ten miles north of the Rio Grande. The latter river is the boundary between Texas and Mexico, as claimed by the United States. Mexico contends that the river Nueces is the boundary, and that river was the boundary of the former State of Texas before the Texas Revolution. But Texas claimed to the Rio Grande, as the people of that district joined her in defending the Mexican Constitution of 1842, and in the war of independence which they waged so successfully against the despotism of Mexico. From Matamoras to the city of Mexico there is a good road, with five or ten military posts along the route.

"An American army of fifty thousand men, crossing the Rio Grande at Matamoras, could readily march through the country to the city of Mexico. Yucatan, on the south, is already in arms against military despots governing at the Capitol; and the people of Vera Cruz and other States of Central Mexico, are clamorous for the re-call of Santa Anna, (who is now in Cuba,) and the restoration of the Republic. The facilities for intercourse with our army, and with the Mexican people, are favorable to the rapid execution of military operations. From Galveston to Point Isabel is 320 miles by water. New Orleans to Point Isabel is 802 miles. New Orleans to Vera Cruz 1500 miles. Yucatan to the city of Mexico 900 miles.—The population of the city of Mexico is about 180,000. High mountains rise in the distance on all sides of the city, but the location, although under the Tropic of Cancer is remarkable for its salubrity, and in summer the extreme heat is less severe than in New York or Philadelphia.

The city is approached by excellent roads which branch out in every direction, and on which are transported the silver ores and bullion from an hundred of the richest mines in the world. The magnificence of the principal edifices—some being furnished with gold and silver ornaments valued at many millions, and containing rich treasures hid away by the avaricious—has excited the admiration of all travellers. Yet, with all her riches, Mexico is poor. Her people are kept in ignorance by the tyranny of a few, and their wealth is carried off to other lands, to swell the gains of trade and commerce, which they are not to enjoy. The poor Mexican crawls listlessly over neglected silver mines, lost in the
contemplation of his own abject condition. The iron hand of despotism is upon him!

[CHC]

Thursday, May 21, 1846, Volume 47, Number 12, Page 3, Column 2 Words: 275

WHY ARE WE AT WAR?

A Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Herald speaks, right out in meetin', as follows:

"Why, or [unreadable], were the troops of Gen. Taylor pushed forward to the Eastern branch of the Rio del Norte, is a question frequently asked, but rarely answered satisfactorily. I will now give you the true solution of the question. By the terms of Annexation with Texas, that State held in its own hands its public hands, in order to cover its floating debt. On investigation, it was found that in Texas proper, the whole public domain had been squandered away by the Government of the Republic, and consequently the holders of the amount of Texas scrip, lost all hope of being paid from that source.

It then became necessary to plunder Mexico of a large portion of the three States of New Mexico, Coahuilla and Chihuahua, and all of New Mexico which lies between the Bravo del Norte and the river Nueces, West of which stream the Republic of Texas never had either civil or military jurisdiction, nor even the shadow of a claim other than that arising from an act of its Legislature, which declared the Bravo to be the Western boundary of the republic; yet, if at the cost of so much blood, treasure and national honor, the United States will plunder Mexico of the vast territory lying between the Nueces and Bravo, the State of Texas will claim the whole territory, and then be able to pay her national debt. Who can tell what amount of Texas scrip is held by the members of the present party, who have projected this species of plunder and robbery?"

[CHC]

Thursday, May 28, 1846, Page 2, Column 1, Volume 47, Number 12 Words: 201

BERKLEY VOLUNTEERS.

We understand that the "Berkley Volunteers for Mexico" at present under the temporary command of Capt. JOSEPH BURNS, will hold a meeting for the election of Officers on Saturday evening next, the 30th inst.

The proceedings of Congress do not present at this moment many details of general interest. Mr. BENTON has not yet concluded his speech upon the Oregon question; his speech is very highly spoken of. The correspondent of the Balt. American says "the research and information and hard study embodied in the speech is almost beyond belief.—The position is strongly demonstrated, that as a matter of right we are bound to compromise the Oregon question upon the line of 49. England having no reasonable claim to the Valley of the Columbia river, and the United States not the shadow of a claim to the country watered by Frazier's river."

Mr. BRINKERHOFF of Ohio has proposed a "Joint Resolution" thanking Gen. TAYLOR and his Army for their gallant defence of the Country in the recent engagement with the Mexican forces, and also allowing to each officer, non commissioned officers and private, one month's extra pay. The matter was laid over until official despatches were received from Gen. TAYLOR.

[CHC]

Thursday, May 28, 1846, Page 2, Column 1, Volume 47, Number 12, Page 2, Columns 2 and 3 Words: 1725

VOLUNTEERS FOR MEXICO—REGIMENTAL PARADE—CHAS. J. FAULKNER'S SPEECH—VISIT OF POTOMAC DRAGOONS.

The exciting intelligence from "the Seat of War" which we spread in detail before our readers this week, will prevent us from taking as extended a notice of the proceedings of Saturday the last in this place, as we had originally designed to have done. But we cannot pass them by without such a notice as their importance and interest deserve. "Old Berkeley" ever true to the calls of patriotism, has been aroused by the trump of war, and the exciting intelligence almost every day pouring in upon us from "the Seat of War," and being eager to bear her share in the honor of defending the soil of our country from the invasion of an insulting faithless and ungrateful foe, has set about organizing a "Volunteer Company" composed of gallant young men who intend offering themselves to the Government for service in the war now existing between this Country and the Republic of Mexico. We are delighted to see this demonstration of the patriotism of our young Countrymen, and should their services be required in the field of battle we venture to
He spoke with approval of the law passed by Congress on the 13th of the present month—explained its provisions and annoyances.

that we should compel her to resume her friendly relations with us, or to disarm her of the means of future aggression. Our National Safety and National Honor both require a blow upon our Southern frontier, whenever our difficulties with European powers should be such as to justify her in which she has exhibited for the last twelve months; husbanding her resources and concentrating her energies to strike

never be tolerated that a neighboring nation like Mexico should occupy towards us the hostile and menacing attitude without delay, the terms of an honorable peace, and to require full indemnity for the expenses of the war. It could formidably and well appointed army placed under immediate orders to march to the city of Mexico and there to dictate, war with energy and vigor and to bring it to a triumphant close at the earliest day possible. He wished to see a

had been invaded and the blood of our citizens shed upon our own soil. But he hoped we should not continue to conduct of the Mexican Government. Upon our part it had been so far wholly defensive, notwithstanding our territory that we should not continue to occupy a defensive attitude any longer. He held it to be the imperious duty of the Government now to prosecute the war with energy and vigor and to bring it to a triumphant close at the earliest day possible. He wished to see a formidable and well appointed army placed under immediate orders to march to the city of Mexico and there to dictate, without delay, the terms of an honorable peace, and to require full indemnity for the expenses of the war. It could never be tolerated that a neighboring nation like Mexico should occupy towards us the hostile and menacing attitude which she has exhibited for the last twelve months; husbanding her resources and concentrating her energies to strike a blow upon our Southern frontier, whenever our difficulties with European powers should be such as to justify her in the expectation that she could strike such a blow with impunity. Our National Safety and National Honor both require that we should compel her to resume her friendly relations with us, or to disarm her of the means of future aggression and annoyance.

He spoke with approval of the law passed by Congress on the 13th of the present month—explained its provisions and hoped the call for Volunteers would be properly responded to by the country. He appealed to the young men of the County of Berkeley, who were free from embarrassment of family ties, and who were possessed of stout hearts and vigorous bodies to seize the occasion to carve out for themselves a glorious destiny in life. How many (he asked) of that description were there in our little community, now without profitable occupation or employment, who were at this moment ignorant of the elements of greatness in them, and who would continue to remain so until the stirring incidents of a soldier's life should develop them. He pointed them to the examples of Captains WALKER and THORNTON—young men a few years ago unknown—who were everywhere at this time the theme of honor's tongue—acquiring distinction and renown and in a rapid career of advancement to the first honors of their country.

He then spoke of the Country of Berkeley, and said she had always been prompt in every emergency to contribute her full quota to the defence of the Country. In almost every important engagement during the war of the Revolution, the valor of her sons was conspicuous. Their patriotism was exhibited on the plains of Boston; on the fields of Brandywine; on the banks of the Ohio, and at the decisive and crowning victory at Yorktown. It was equally displayed in the late war on the Canada frontier, and on the sands of Norfolk. He wished to hear her fame now re-echoed from the Savannahs of the Rio Grande and the Halls of the Montezumas.

He felt so lively an interest in the success of the movement now contemplated—the organization of a Volunteer Corps from this County for the Mexican War—that he would take the liberty of adding to the provision made by law for Volunteers under the late Act of Congress, a promise on his own part to give to each and every Volunteer from the County of BERKELEY, who would continue in service for a period of twelve months and receive an honorable discharge, or to their heirs, if killed, one hundred and fifty acres of land in the State of Texas; and it was his purpose, so soon as the Company was organised, to deposit such obligation with their commanding officer.
He concluded with an earnest and eloquent appeal to the patriotism of the gallant young men of Berkeley to come forward at once and enroll themselves for the war, which appeal was promptly responded to by the addition of several gallant and efficient men to the list, among whom was our contemporary, Mr. EPHRAIM G. ALBURTIS, Editor of the "Virginia Republican."

The interest of the day was much enhanced by a visit from the POTOMAC DRAGOONS, from Sharpsburg, Maryland, under command of the Major Commanding THOS. G. HARRIS. The Dragoons excited the universal attention and admiration of every beholder, and their visit will long be remembered with pride by the people of Berkeley. We have never witnessed a troop of Cavalry under better drill; they understand their profession, and should they be called into the service of their country they will honor themselves and add another unfading wreath of glory to the fame of "the Maryland Line." After the Regiment returned from the review, the Officers in company, with our distinguished visitors, at the invitation of Mr. FAULKNER, marched to his residence, where they were entertained by him in his usual agreeable and handsom style. Our Maryland friends were also handsomely entertained by the Officers of our Regiment at Mr. ODEN's Hotel. They went through a number of beautiful evolutions in the Square, and after a short and appropriate address of thanks from Col. E. P. HUNTER, on behalf of his Regiment, and a reply by Maj. HARRIS, they took up their line of march for their homes, and, as will be seen by the annexed Card, were highly pleased with their visit.

WE are much pleased to learn that Gov. PRATT, of Maryland, has offered the post of Colonel to Maj. HARRIS, under the late requisition of the President upon Maryland for her quota of Volunteers for the Mexican war, and that he has accepted the honor.

[HCH]

Thursday, May 28, 1846, Page 2, Column 1, Volume 47, Number 12 Words: 532

THE WAR NEWS

The news which we publish this week from "the Seat of War," is well calculated to produce a most powerful sensation throughout the country. It is true, victory—glorious victory crowns our arms, yet some of the best blood has been shed by the foe. This blood must be atoned for—we hope to see 50,000 volunteers at once called into service—and our Navy sent to bombard every Mexican sea port within reach of our gins. The work has begun—let it not stop short of the "halls of the Montezumas." The faithless and ungrateful conduct of Mexico deserves the "rod of chastisement"—she has insulted our flag—robbed and murdered our people, and although in pity for her weakness we have forborne—"forbearance has now ceased to be a virtue." If she cannot understand forbearance and magnanimity upon the part of a Sister Republics she should be made to understand the force of just retribution at the point of the bayonet. We commend the annexed sensible extract from an article from an article in the "New Orleans Courier" to every reader. In our judgement it points out the true road to a short and victorious campaign. March at once to the City of Mexico.

"When the reinforcements which left this place last night and this morning, join Gen. TAYLOR, the troops under his command, including those at Point Isabel and opposite Matamorcas will amount to about 8000. This force will be sufficient to repel any attack upon his works at both places, and to keep open the communications between the two. But to occupy a position on the western side bank of the river, and penetrate into the interior of Mexico, a much larger force will be necessary. It would be an ill-advised and unfortunate measure to relax in the slightest degree the exertions to raise more troops. All the able bodied men that can be procured should be received, and valid inducements should be held out to volunteers. This war with Mexico will not be finished by one battle, the capture of two or three towns, the bombardment of the sea ports and the blockade of the coast. The Mexicans are a proud and ignorant, and therefore an obstinate race. They will hold out, passively, until their capital is occupied by an American army, and the greater part of their country overrun. To attain these objects, fifty thousand troops will be necessary—although they could be accomplished with less—but in military operations the safest plan is to have your means in full proportion to the end in view, and to leave as little as possible to chance.

"The government of the United States can raise fifty thousand troops with as much ease as they could raise five thousand for the Mexican War—and we doubt not they will begin with a force equally adequate to the purpose of chastising the enemy, and giving him to understand the power of this country.

It is useless to speculate at this time to speculate upon the plan of conducting the war, which our government will adopt. The Mexican ports on the Pacific are at the mercy of the squadron

[HCH]
From the Seat of War

The American Army Triumphant!

THE MEXICANS TWICE ROUTED AND 1000 KILLED!

THE ENEMY GUNS CARRIED AT THE POINT OF THE BAYONET!

THE BRAVE AND GALLANT MAJOR RINGGOLD KILLED IN DEFENCE OF HIS COUNTRY

GEN. VEJA TAKEN PRISONER

FROM THE BALTIMORE SUN, MAY 25.

We issued on Saturday night, in an extra, in full confidence of its being literally correct, a telegraphic account of the news from the Seat of War, entertaining the hope that the portion which related to the death of Major RINGGOLD might prove unfounded.

We have since received confirmatory accounts from our N. Orleans contemporaries, which we annex. Though glorious news accompanying it will prove very cheering to every American heart, the melancholy death of Major RINGGOLD, and the other distinguished officers, as well as of the brave hearts who fought under them, cannot but cause a pang of sorrow and regret.

The Washington Union introduces these details, with the annexed remarks:

"It may well be that the reports from camp are considerably exaggerated; but there can be little doubt, we think, that some conflict of importance has taken place between the two armies. That part of the account which represents a large portion of Commodore CONNER's squadron as being concentrated near the mouth of the Del Norte, strikes us as very improbable.

"We have, however, had no opportunity since the arrival of the mail to make particular inquiries upon the subject. The account given in the correspondence of the Tropic appears to be exaggerated in its tone, and we notice some confusion in the dates of the different accounts. The details may, however, turn out to be substantially correct; and if so, they reflect the highest honor upon our gallant army."

[HCH]

Thursday, May 28, 1846, Page 2, Column 1, Volume 47, Number 12 Words 1133

Confirmatory Accounts.

TWENTY THOUSAND MEXICANS MARCHING TO MATAMORAS!

From the Mobile Daily Advertiser, Extra.

Monday, May 18, 10 A,M.

FROM THE SEAT OF WAR—GLORIOUS INTELLIGENCE!—TRIUMPH OF THE AMERICAN ARMS!—GENL. TAYLOR AGAIN VICTORIOUS! ROUTE OF THE MEXICAN ARMY!!

[PER STEAMER COL. HARNEY AT N. ORLEANS]

Correspondence of the Tropic


Since my last (not received) we have had two arrivals, the New York and brig Millaudon. The last brought the news that six steamboats with four thousand volunteers were about starting when she left. This news made us most cheerful, as we could not have then expected the result that has since taken place with our troops.

Despatches had been sent to Vera Cruz by Gen. T., contents to us subs unknown; but rumor would have it that the
Gen. T. left Point Isabel with little over 400 men to defend it. Maj. MUNROE, commanding here, sent a requisition to Commodore CONNER for as many men as he could spare, as we heard firing about 2 P.M. of the 8th, which continued with but little intermission until dark. Com. C. sent ashore 250 men, and on the 9th 400 or 500 more, which makes this place strong enough to withstand an attack against 20,000 men.

Com. C., therefore thought very wisely that his presence here would do some good in the way of reinforcements. Gladly was he welcomed, Gen. TAYLOR had marched out evening previous to meet and conquer the enemy, taking with him, twenty-two hundred men, teamsters included, with two hundred and fifty teams loaded with ammunitions, provisions, &c., which the Mexicans were no doubt appraised of, as the teams had been loaded ever since Monday last, awaiting the orders for a march at a moments warning.

Believe me when I say there was the greatest excitement here the afternoon of the 8th, as we could plainly hear the cannonading from the field of battle.

On the evening of the 8th, Mr. MURRAY and Mr. BASON volunteered to go and find out the result.

On the morning of the 9th, a black boy came into camp, gave a history of the fight, which was about time, but as he had run away and left his team, he was not believed.

At 3 p.m. of the 9th, Messrs M. and B. returned and stated as follows:

They got to Gen. TAYLOR’s present camp, sixteen miles from here at 3 p.m. there learned that the army marched until about thirteen miles from here, when they saw the Mexicans drawn up in battle array across his road. He immediately gave his orders for the teams halt until the 2d brigade had passed. The Mexicans were on the prairie near the edge of the chapparel. When Gen. TAYLOR got within about three quarters of a mile, they opened upon him with their flying artillery. Gen. TAYLOR arrived with Capt. DUNCAN and Maj. RINGGOLD’s companies and at it they went until about sunset, when the Mexicans retreated to the edge of the chaparel, and ceased firing.

After which Gen. TAYLOR fired ten or fifteen guns at them, and set to work throwing up two breast-works. At daylight the Mexicans were in the edge of the chapparel. A council of war was held by Gen. TAYLOR, and it was agreed that one brigade should advance up to the chapparel, in hopes to draw the Mexicans into a renewal of the fight, but the more the troops advanced upon them, the more they weren’t there—the Mexicans having retreated leaving three pieces of artillery, any quantity of ammunition, from FOUR TO SIX HUNDRED DEAD upon the field, and God only knows how many wounded that they took away. One Mexican who was stationed at one of their batteries, says every body but himself at the batteries was killed—says the guns beat anything they ever dreamed of they were so quick. One of the Mexican officers, in trying to rally his men, found he could not, and commenced to cut them with his sword, when his troops shot him dead. We had eleven killed, and about ten mortally wounded.

Capt. PAGE, of the 3rd, had all the lower parts of his face shot off with a cannonball—it is thought he will recover, though horribly mutilated. Major RINGGOLD had the fleshy part of both legs shot through, and horse killed—one of his bones were broken, which is wonderful. Our informant says the field of battle was strewed with the dead, and they could hear the groans of the Mexican wounded all night at Gen. T.’s camp. The Mexicans were commanded by Gen. Mejia. There is no doubt they have retreated across the river. When the volunteers arrive you may depend you will hear of them “revelling in the halls of the Montezumas,” or peace and good will be whipped into those bombastic Mexicans. It is a matter of surprise that so few were lost on our side.

The monotony of this place has been relieved by the drilling of “Uncle Samuel’s” “web feet,” or “barnacle backs” that came here from the squadron. You would be surprised to see with what dexterity and precision they go through their evolutions with muskets, and no one could resist a laugh to hear some of their sayings. One old salt said this morning “Damn and blast my eyes! Here is a ship ashore, and poor Jack on his beam ends.” This speech was addressed to himself when looking on the tent that had been pitched, and was of sufficient dimensions to hold about fifty-two.

One third of the whole number of the men from the squadron are marines, the balance tars. I should picture to myself a soldier riding horse back, or a cow, as soon as that I should see four or five hundred sailors going into war with muskets on their shoulders; but you could not restrain than from going against the Mexicans with only a knife and a fork; if you would only show them a chance, for they are all “eager for the fray.”

Yours, &c.

In the decisive battle Gen. TAYLOR lost about sixty killed and wounded, among whom three were officers, viz: Lieut. INGES, of the dragoons, Lieut COCHRAN, of the 8th infantry. Among the wounded are Col. MACINTOSH, of the 5th infantry; Lieut Col. PAYNE, 4th artillery; and Capt. HOOK, 5th infantry—most of them slightly, and none supposed mortally.

Maj. RINGGOLD, well known as the commander of the flying artillery, also died on the 11th from wounds received in
action on the 8th.

Capt. PAGE, who was wounded in the same engagement, we are happy to state, is rapidly recovering. Lieut. LUTHER, also slightly wounded is convalescent.

[HCH]

Thursday, May 28, 1846, Page 2, Column 1, Volume 47, Number 12 Words: 1302

[From the N.O. Tropic—Third Edition, 1 p.m.]

STILL LATER FROM THE ARMY.

THE GALVESTON ARRIVED—The Galveston is just in, having left Brazos Santiago on the evening of the 13th inst. We hasten to lay the news by her before our readers.

[From the Galveston Civilian of the 15th]

On the morning of the 13th, Gen. TAYLOR and his staff, with the guard that had brought down the train, &c., started for his camp. He was met by an express a few miles from Point Isabel, informing him that 8,000 fresh troops had crossed the Matamoras, 2,000 of which had crossed over, 1,100 had crossed the Rio Grande at Barrita, near the Bocachica, not more than 8 miles from Point Isabel. Gen. Taylor returned to Point Isabel at once, and made preparations to leave the next day, with such forces as were arriving.

The steamship Galveston landed 450 infantry, (regulars and volunteers;) the Augusta landed about 250; Capt PRICE arrived via Padre island from Corpus Christi, with his 70 mounted rangers. They all reached the point on the 13th. The Telegraph and JAN L. DAY will doubtless land their troops, amounting to upwards of 800, at Point Isabel on the 14th. Great credit is due to Capt. JEREMIAH of the steamship Cincinnati, and Capt R. McBKKER of the Monmouth, for the skill, energy, and promptness shown in management of their boats in transporting troops and supplies across the bay at Brazos Santiago.

Gen. PARADES is at the head of 15,000 troops on his way to Matamoras. It may be possibly be that the fresh troops arrived at Matamaras is the advance division of his army. No doubt the enemy were fully advised that Gen. TAYLOR had left for Point Isabel, and their plan is to try and capture him on his return, whilst a strong force crossing the river is to come down upon his army. Gen TAYLOR appeared highly pleased with the intelligence; for since the war has opened, and no mistake, the excitement and activity attending the operation, opens a new era to his vigorous achievements, and all have marked how much better he looks than when confined to the “masterly inactivity” of the Corpus Christi campaign.

THE FORT

The Mexicans have continued their firing into the fort opposite Matamoras, nearly ever since Gen. TAYLOR left the works.

The brave and gallant Maj. BROWN died on--, from a wound received in his thigh by the explosion of one of the enemy’s shells. His wound was not considered dangerous, but he was placed in one of the bomb-proof burrows, mortification ensued, from the want of fresh air. His death is deeply deplored by the army, his intrepid conduct in foiling every attempt of the enemy to reduce the fort prepared them in a measure to anticipate the result of these conflicts with our brave army.

The strength of the fort and skill which it is defended is incomprehensible to the Mexicans, and indeed, well might be, for they have thrown upwards of 1,400 shot and shell into the works, and every morning the present the same appearance; our loss has only been two or three in the fort The constant practice the enemy have had in firing at it, has taught them the proper bearing to give their guns, and almost every shot falls within the works. The fort is never idle, and the ramparts and dwellings of Matamoras exhibit ruins as plainly as those of a hundred centuries when gaping forth their lamentation of lo! And behold what desolation is here?

The sloop-of-war St.Mary’s arrived from Pensacola on the 10th; the steamer Mississippi on the 12th, from Vera Cruz. The Bainbride is off the Rio Grande, enforcing the blockade. The schooner Flirt sailed for New Orleans on the 7th.

It is stated that an expedition is to be sent by boats of the squadron to take the town of Barita, 16 miles from the mouth of the river, where there is a military force.

Gen. VEGA is the Col. VEGA that was captured by the Texas forces at the slaughter of San Jacinto, and is a brave and accomplished officer.
Correspondence from the New Orleans Tropic

Brazos Santiago, May 13.

At the receipt of the news of the first battle, I wrote you a short account; the result of the second is now on hand, and is most decisive. It now appears that the Mexicans had only 5,000 men in the field at the first battle, and four thousand stowed away in the chapparel near the battle ground. It was their intention to have made but a slight attack the first day, but being so closely pressed they were obliged to fight or make good their retreat to where the four thousand were in the chapparel. In the first fight a general officer had his head shot off; it is not yet ascertained who he was, as his body was recognized by his dress as he lay upon the field.

Gen. Taylor advanced the morning of the first battle into the chapparel, then sent 800 picked men under the charge of Capt. McCALL to reconnoitre; he advanced unmolested until near 3 P.M., (the army following at a distance) when Capt. McCALL sent word to Gen. Taylor that he had received a charge of grape from the enemy, and lost two men.

The army was then deployed, and Capt. May, 2nd dragoons ordered to charge the battery that had thrown the grape, and to take it if he lost every man; he obeyed orders, took the battery of four guns, and lost but one man. The battery was commanded by Gen. De La Vega, who was taken prisoner.

Our little army then rent the air with their huzzas, and rushing shouting upon the enemy, committed the most dreadful havoc among them, taking eight pieces of artillery, 155,000 rounds of cartridge, and 500 packed mules. Gen. Arista's camp bedsteads contained all his private and public baggage paper, which the latter will be of great value, as we now not only have the key of the whole campaign, which will enable Gen. Taylor to form his plans so as to entirely defeat their designs.

We took all and every thing they had, four hundred prisoners and the army baggage. The enemy had between 8,000 and 9,000 troops in the two battles, but we with 1,800 troops completely routed them.

We exchanged prisoners, got Capt. Thornton, Hardee and his little band. Our officers while prisoner were well treated having lived with Ampudia ever since they were taken. Gen. Taylor would not exchange for Lieut. Deas as a prisoner of war, as it would be sanctioning his crossing the river, which he did not, having reprobated his crossing in the severest manner.

In this second and glorious battle, we lost about the same number of men as in the first, but had more officers wounded. Capt. Walker with his heroic band of rangers was the last that fired at the Mexicans. The army left him and his comrades on the bank of the river, shooting them as they attempted to cross.

To-morrow Gen. Taylor leaves here to make an attack on Matamoras, in connection with Con. Conner, who has sent a boat expedition up the river.

I forgot to mention that Gen. Taylor arrived here yesterday, with all our wounded, between 50 and 60, with Gen. Romules De La Vega, one Mexican captain and two Lieutenants who go with this letter to Col. Harney.

The Augusta, from New Orleans, arrived last evening. The mules from Matamoras, some 500, were sent in to day, as well as the Mexicans wounded.

I should not forget to mention that all the shell, ball, and grape shot of the Mexicans are made of brass and copper. This letter I must close, with details of glory enough for one day.

[HCH]

Thursday, May 28, 1846, Page 2, Column 1, Volume 47, Number 12 Words: 205

FURTHER ITEMS OF WAR NEWS

The Mexicans outnumbered Gen. Taylor in the proportion of four to one; they had their choice of position, and selected one extremely advantageous; they were driven from it with great loss, and forced across the Rio Grande—and the victory has been stained by not act of cruelty on our part.

In the casualties which were reported in our postscript of the morning, we have some corrections to make. By the official report of the action, it appears that Col. McIntosh is not killed, but desperately wounded. Maj. Brown—not Col., as we stated—was killed in command of Fort Taylor by the explosion of a shell. The following is as complete a list of the officers killed and wounded on our side, in both actions as, we have been able to obtain:

Killed—Maj. Brown, 7th infantry—Wounded in Fort Taylor—died on the 10th; Major Riggold, 3rd artillery—wounded on the 8th and died on the 10th; Lieut. Inges, 2d Dragoons; Lieut. Cochrane, 4th Infantry; Lieut. Chadburne, 8th
Infantry.

Wounded—Lieut. Col. McINTOSH, 5th Infantry; Lieut Col. PAYNE, 4th Artillery; Capts. PAGE (in the action of the 8th) Hook, MONTEGOMERY; Lieuts. LUTHER (in the action of the 8th) GATES, SELDON, McClURE, BURBANK, JORDAN, FOWLER.

[HCH]

Thursday, May 28, 1846, Page 2, Column 1, Volume 47, Number 12 Words: 272

We make room for the following letter:

CAMP VICTORY, NEAR MATAMORAS,

May 11th, 1846.

Gents: I presume some gentlemen having more leisure than myself will transmit you a detailed account of one of the hardest fought battles which has occurred in any country since the war of the Revolution. I will only say then, that about two thousand men of our much abused little army met on the 8th instant, with six thousand chosen Mexican troops under Gen. ARISTA, the latter having chosen their position, the former being upon their march from Point Isabel to this place—encumbered moreover with a train of near three hundred wagons.

You observe the advantage which they had not only in numbers, but in every thing else. We have beaten them shamefully and driven them across the Rio Grande—have captured their whole park of artillery, and almost every thing they had with them. We have buried hundreds of their dead, and I understand will send over to them one hundred of their wounded. We have had three engagements with them. Their killed, and wounded and missing has not yet been ascertained. Gen. TAYLOR sent over yesterday permission to Gen. ARISTA to send over Doctors to assist in taking care of his wounded—they came over last night, and reported forty-eight of Mexican officers missing while we lost but three.

This morning those gallant dragoons captured from us some weeks since, are to be brought over and exchanged—we might give ten for one.

You will receive a full account soon of this glorious battle, the last (I think) that we shall have with the Mexicans. Our loss has been comparatively light. Our wounded all doing well.

Yours.

OLD FRIEND

[HCH]

Thursday, May 28, 1846, Page 2, Column 1, Volume 47, Number 12 Words: 16

Gen. TAYLOR left Point Isabel on the 13th, instead of the 11th, as we inadvertently stated.

[HCH]

Thursday, May 28, 1846, Page 2, Column 1, Volume 47, Number 12 Words: 1106

FURTHER ITEMS OF INTELLIGENCE

An extra from the New Orleans Bee, dated at 1 o’clock, P.M., contains the following items:

In this second engagement 45 Americans were reported to be killed. In the Mexican side the loss was very considerable, but we were unable to count their number. We conversed with several Mexican prisoners on board the Harney, who stated that the Mexican forces did not amount to more than 3000 or 4000, and were under the command of ARISTA.

We have the following verbal intelligence from one of the Dragoons of the U.S. Army: those men which were under his orders, so others having yet arrived.
He states that Gen. TAYLOR came in sight of the enemy, their number appeared so large he exclaimed: "Friends, we must vanquish or die;" saying which he ordered the Dragoons to charge on the Mexican Artillery. They immediately, obeyed their Commander’s order, and made such an onslaught on them that they were compelled to abandon nine field pieces and seek their safety in flight. The pieces captured were brought to the camp.

Our information further states that the Mexicans retreated in confusion to the other side of the Rio Grande, and that he was among those who pursued them up to the river. Several Mexicans were drowned in attempting to cross. He is not positive whether the whole or part only of the Mexican army attempted to recross the Rio Grande.

The Mexicans, he adds, stood their ground pretty well at the commencement of the action, and that throughout it was well contested. He estimates probable loss on the American side at about 100 or 130, and on the part of the Mexicans at about 700 or 1,000.

Here are names of the Mexican prisoners arrived per steamer Col. Harney—Gen. Don ROMILIO DIAS DE LA VEGA and Lieuts Don ALIEJANDRO PRADA and SILVERIO VELEZ.

An extra from the office of the N.O. Troppic also contains the following additional items of intelligence:

As soon as Gen. ARISTA arrived at Matamoras, he sent at once a flag to exchange such prisoners as he had at Matamoras. He showed great anxiety to get back Gen. VEJA, offering to exchange two or three officers for him; but Gen. TAYLOR had sufficient to make the exchange without giving up Gen. VEJA. It has been said that Gen. TAYLOR offered the latter his parole of honor, which he declined accepting, on the ground that if he returned he would be forced to bear arms again by his Government.

The redoubtable Gen. Ampudia, commanded the 2d division of the Mexican army. It is said he was the first man to make good his escape to Matamoras, where he reported that ARISTA had betrayed the army. Capt AMOS came up as an especial express with despatches from Com. CONNER.

Gen. ARISTA Commanded the Mexican army and was present at the battle.

Seventeen hundred Mexican troops, who had crossed the Rio Grande at Bareta, below Matamoras, upon hearing of the defeat of their main army by Gen. Taylor The Galveston brought up three of the field pieces captured by Gen. Taylor.

From the Austin Democrat of the 6th inst. we learn that Gov. HENDERSON, under instructions from Gen. TAYLOR, has made a requisition upon the militia of the State for several companies of mounted men into the field to operate against Mexico. These troops constituting a regiment, are to be stationed as follows:

Five companies in the vicinity of San Antonio; one at the city of Austin, one at or near New Bauntele.

The last Austin Democrat states that news has reached Austin, from good authority, the Camanches refuse to treat or meet the U.S. Commissioners, and the inference of the Indians has been tampered with by the Mexican emissaries. The Governor, under, at the request of the Legislature, was to appoint Commissioners to ascertain the situation and disposition of the Indians; while further steps were to be taken to protect the frontier settlements from their depredations, should they be disposed to acts of hostility.

The New Orleans Bee states that the knapsacks of those killed were examined and found to contain nothing but corn and alt.

While the battle was being fought, two companies of Mexican artillery came down to Cross Bocha Chica, and marched up the beach to take possession of our vessels with stores, which were obliged to anchor very near the Point. Our flag ship Cumberland got under way and ran down towards them—seeing which they wheeled and returned back.

A correspondent of the New Orleans Bulletin, writing from Point Isabel on the evening of the 12th inst., remarks—

"Many instances occurred of our men handing their canteens to the wounded Mexicans, and turning from them to fire upon others. There was not a single occurrence of cruelty toward the enemy. The morale of the army is at its highest—it can now accomplish anything, and they would die for a commander who does not ask them to go where he is not willing to lead, and in whose judgement they fully confide.

The following particulars of the capture of Gen. VEGA by Capt. MAY is copied from a letter in the Picayune:

"The battle commenced by heavy cannonading on both sides. Gen. TAYLOR, in passing his lines, accosted Capt. MAY of the 2d dragoons, and told him—'Your regiment has never done anything yet—you must take that battery.' He said nothing, but turned to his command and said—'We must take that battery—follow!' He made a charge with three companies—at least the remainder of three companies—supported by the 5th and 8th regiments of Infantry. They cleared the breastworks, rode over the battery, wheeled and came through the enemy’s lines, whilst the fire of the Infantry was so deadly in its effect as to carry all before it. Capt. MAY made a cut at an officer as he charged through. On his return he found him standing between cannon wheels—fighting like a hero. He ordered him to surrender. He was asked if he was an officer? Capt. MAY answered him in the affirmative, when he presented his sword remarking,
The nations interested in preventing the disturbance of the peace which has lasted so many years, and whose
resources, and peculiar position have given her ever since she raised herself to be an independent nation, but she
considers itself mistress of the American continent, not only would she lose the importance which her population,
and property of all nations. If Mexico should indolently suffer these reiterated advances of a power, which already
been consumed by the insult of sending us a minister, to be accredited near our government in the character of a
residing minister, as if the relations between the two republics had not suffered any disturbance by the definite act of
the annexation of Texas. At the very time when Mr. SIDELL appeared, the troops of the U. States were occupying our
territory, their squadrons were threatening our ports, and preparations were made to occupy the peninsula of the
Californias, to which the Oregon question with England is only is a only a preliminary; and I did not receive Mr. SIDELL
because the dignity of the nation repelled this new insult.

In the meantime, the army of the United States fixed its encampment at Corpus Christi, and occupied the island of
Padre Vaym; it then marched to Point Isabel, and the flag of stars floated on the right bank of the Rio Bravo del Norte,
in front of the city of Matamoras, the American vessels of war having previously seized upon the navigation of the
river. The town of Laredo was surprised by , and one of our pickets there stationed was disarmed. Hostilities
therefore, have been begun by the United States under taking new conquests in the territories included in the
departments of Tamapulipas and New Leon, whilst the troops of the same States threaten Monterey on Upper
California. There can be no doubt to which of the two belongs the responsibility of a war, which might have been
prevented by a feeling of equity and justice, and of that respect which civilization has been introduced, for the rights
and property of all nations. If Mexico should indolently suffer these reiterated advances of a power, which already
considers itself mistress of the American continent, not only would she lose the importance which her population,
resources, and peculiar position have given her ever since she raised herself to be an independent nation, but she
would fall into shame and contempt should she, when challenged to fight for them, allow herself to be stripped of the
integrand parts of her territory one by one. Outrages so many and so heavy, can no longer be borne and I have sent
orders to the general-in-chief of the division of our northern frontier, to act in hostility against the against the army
which is in hostility against us to oppose was to the enemy, which wars upon us; invoking the God of battles to
preserve, by the valor of our troops, the unquestionable right to our territory, and the honor of our arms, which are no
longer to be deployed only in the defence of justice. Our general, acting according to established usages, and the
decided instructions given by my government, summoned the general-in-chief of the American forces to retire beyond
the river Nueces, the ancient boundary of Texas, and the summons has been disregarded.

The nations interested in preventing the disturbance of the peace which has lasted so many years, and whose
The time has therefore come which the government of the Mexican nation have endeavored fruitlessly to put off, by debating the clearest and most just titles; and these, having been contemned we enter into a necessary contest, which will secure us the sympathies of all nations and governments, which condemn the usurpations of the powerful. We shall ourselves become strong from the holiness of our cause; and when everything is endangered, our strength will correspond with the exigencies of our condition. Meanwhile the Mexican nation will resolve to hazard all in order to save all; and it will give a sublime example of sacred determination to exhibit that glorious devotion which has so often been displayed at all times by nations and their liberties.

I rejoice with pride that Providence should have destined me to be the organ for the announcing the energetic will of the Mexican republic. Let us prove in battle that the sons of the heroes and martyrs of independence are animated by the recollections of their pure glory; that valor has not degenerated in their breasts, and that they are disposed to sacrifice themselves on the altars of their country.

Mexicans! I raise on this memorable day the standard of independence, on which you see inscribed the illustrious names of Hidalgo and Iturbide. Rally under this sacred ensign, leaving all internal questions and differences for a period of less peril. I have assured you that the glory which I seek as the reward of my painful career, is not that of the ambitious man who regards power as the spoils of rapine, I have sworn to maintain the republic, in all its just rights during the short period of my government; and now, while I urge you to the struggle, and warn you that you must make great sacrifices, I also promise you that I shall not spare my own blood when it shall be necessary.

Mexicans! Your valiant soldiers are about to fight, and they will fight, with the valor of heroes; keep your blessings for them, and prepare yourselves to crown their noble foreheads, or their tombs, if they should fall, when destiny calls you to take their places in the ranks. Mexico will conquer or no longer exist!

National Palace of Mexico, April 23, 1846.

MARIANA PAREDES Y ARRILLAGA

Thursday, May 28, 1846, Page 2, Column 1, Volume 47, Number 12 Words: 685

GENERAL SCOTT

It is understood that this distinguished officer will take command of the forces to be raised under the late act of Congress for the Mexican war; it is further understood that an invasion of Mexico is contemplated. We gather these two facts from the intimations of the official paper.

The Life of Gen. SCOTT, recently published, brings freshly to mind the high qualities of bravery and generalship displayed by that officer during the last war. The brilliant action at Chippewa, in which the British regulars were charged and broken at the point of a bayonet, in the open field, stands on record as a token of gallantry and spirit not likely soon to be forgotten. The prestige of the British bayonet, in the hands of their well drilled regulars, was as commanding as that which gave the charm of invincibility to her battle ships at sea. Until both were destroyed by American valour.

It was not alone by courage in the field that General SCOTT achieved his triumphs in his various conflicts with the enemy during the war of 1812. After the close of the campaign of 1813, which ended in disaster and disgrace, the efforts of SCOTT were directed to preparations for the next springs business. As General of Brigade he formed a camp of instruction at buffalo, and there laboured unceasingly to give his troops that indispensable element of efficiency—discipline. The success of these efforts was signalized nobly on the subsequent achievements of his troops, it is important, at this particular juncture, to dwell upon the item of experience in the last war. If the hostilities now begun are to continue for any length of time, the lessons of the past might teach us to beware of short enlistments--might teach us the importance of organizing an army for the war, be it long or short, so that discipline might begin at once and be perfected before the hardest struggle of strife would come. With such materials for soldiers as we possess in our bold daring and intrpied people, nothing but discipline is wanting to make our armies a sufficient match to the best that ever trod the field.

The biographer of Gen. SCOTT gives a very graphic account of the battle of Chippewa, which was fought in an open plain with out advantage on either side. The following portion of the narrativeis spirited.
“The action soon became general. Major JESSUP now in the wood and out of view, engaged and held in check the enemy’s right wing. The plain widened on that flank, and the enemy’s main line continued to advance. JESSUP having the held incheck one battalion in the wood, the engagement then gave the enemy a new right flank upon the plains. Gen. SCOTT who had continued alternatively to advance halt and fire was now not more than eighty paces from the enemy. The enemy, having a new flank, SCOTT took advantage of the enlarged interval between LEAVENWORTH and McNEIL to throw the left flank of McNEIL’s battalion forward of its right, so that it stood obliquely to the enemy’s charge and flanking him little on his right. At this moment SCOTT called allowed to McNEIL’s battalion, which had not a recruit in it, “The enemy say that we good at long shot, but cannot stand the cold iron. I call upon the Eleventh instantly to give the lie to that slander!” This movement was executed with decisive effect. A corresponding charge was also made by LEAVENWORTH, who held an oblique position on our right. These charges were sustained by the flank fire of Towsan’s artillery on the right, and quickly put the enemy to route. The British army broke and fled in confusion.”

With the spirit of youth inspired in him, Gen. SCOTT now returns to the active duties of the field with the benefits of more than thirty years experience. The young soldier, the untaught volunteer, may look to him with confidence as to a wise and provident teacher, an accomplished man, mingling the courtesies of chivalry with the rough duties of war.—Balt. Amer.

HCH

Thursday, June 4, 1846, Volume 47, Number 14, Page 2, Column 1 Words: 2224

THE MEXICAN WAR—GEN. SCOTT—PRESIDENT MAKING

We devote a considerable portion of our columns this week, to interesting details and accounts of the two splendid battles of the 8th and 9th of May, on the Rio Grande, between our gallant little Army and the forces of Mexico. Some of these accounts thrill through every vein and fibre of the heart; and while every one rejoices over the glorious victory which has crowned our arms—yet they cannot but be awed into silence and amazement when they look upon the scene of battle and follow the gallant TAYLOR and his devoted band to the charge. One blunder—one mistake—a single minute of procrastination and all would have been lost—our men, many of them must have been killed—our wounded and prisoners have fallen into the hands of the enemy; and the past history of Mexican warfare, tells us what there fate would have been; no act of barbarity that could have been practiced upon them would have been left untried by the merciless foe. But the God of Battles decided the day in our favor; and while in the discharge of our duty, our own troops cut down the their enemies with terrible loss—they did not forget, even in the heat and hour of battle, they were a christian people: and gave the dying water to drink—generously treated all prisoners, and buried the dead.

All who know us, know that we were violently opposed to the annexation of Texas to this union, and most especially to the manner in which it was accomplished—by a most palpable and bare-faced violation of the Constitution of the United States. But it was done by the constituted authorities of our country, acquiesced and sanctioned by all the forms necessary to making her a member of this Union—and when this was done, the question was shut with us—she became a part and parcel of our common country, and from the moment of her annexation, entitled to all the protection, care and consideration of our Government and the People that Virginia or Maryland or New York or any other member of this Confederacy is entitled to. If the annexation of Texas to this Union were a question now before us, we should extend to the measure the same opposition as we did in 1844—but that question, as we have before said is done with, and it is not now with the foreign Republic of Texas that we are to deal, but the State of Texas, one of the members of the U. States. When we annexed her to this Union, we did not believe, nor do we believe now, that there was an honest man in the country that did not believe that we were taking her, and her debt, and her war with her. Yes we contracted with her for Texas—that Republic which she called and declared by her act of Independence—her subsequent act of Congress, and, we may add, by the prowess of her arms, to be Texas; and those acts, if we can judge at all from “the lights before us,” carried her to the Rio Grande—the battle fields where now sleep many of our gallant dead,—and whose plains are drenched with the blood of an invading enemy. In this light we look upon the question before us; and we consider every gun fired on the banks of the Rio Grande fired in defence of the rights of our country. The conduct of our troops must stand approved in the eyes of the enlightened world; and if Mexico has been rash enough to encounter us, she must now put up with the bitter fruits of her folly, and prepare herself to render justice—full and ample justice, to our country for the many wrongs committed against us; or to sue at last for peace in the very gates of her Capitol, with a large addition to the loss of her Army and population. The war has now commenced, and the voice of our country demands that it be prosecuted with vigor and energy, with a view, and we trust and believe with a view alone, to the establishment and creation of a lasting peace between the two Republics.

We believe this to be the desire and wish of our own government, and the anxious desire of the people of Mexico, who are goaded and forced into this war by the Military aspirants and tyrants who literally throng and infest that unhappy republic. We trust there is not a man—certainly not a high souled and chivalrous man—who does not mourn over the necessity which compels us to war against our feeble, distracted, and impoverished neighbors. We feel, deeply feel, for the people of Mexico, and only wish we could visit merited punishment upon the tyrants and demagogues, instead of the “rank and File.”

We know, now, that the blow is struck, the urgent and important necessity of following it up until a permanent peace can be established—a peace which will bring with it a settlement of all disputes, and an atonement—as far as such atonement can be made—for the precious blood of RINGGOLD, BROWN, and their brave compatriots who now sleep in their cold grave far from their “kindred and home.”
Since the Press of both parties have spoken out, in terms of general approbation of the selection of Gen. SCOTT to lead the army into Mexico, a considerable action has taken place, in the mind of the President and his constitutional advisers, who are nothing more or less than the slavish automata of his wishes, as to the policy of his selection. When the first embarrassments occurred on the frontier, Mr. POLK manifested the utmost eagerness to have Gen. SCOTT assume the command held by Gen. TAYLOR. The Hero of Niagara, like a true soldier, remonstrated against this disparagement of a gallant and faithful officer; and stated to the President that he was fully competent to discharge every duty that had been assigned to him. Some days afterwards, the President signified his purpose to appoint him to the general command of the Army, to be recruited by an act of Congress. Gen. SCOTT consented at once; observing that it was due to his rank, and would not be regarded as any reflection upon Gen. TAYLOR. Accordingly, he was taken into the Presidents council; and they together, laid out the distributions of the requisitions upon the States, and other details. Meantime the intelligence that SCOTT was to head the troops had gone abroad, and returned to the capitol, as I have stated. It was anything but the union which Mr. POLK desired. He, at once argued that the result of a victory might place him in the Presidential chair; and he as soon concluded, with the natural selfishness of his heart, to revoke his action, or to place it in a position to be most unacceptable to SCOTT. He again urged upon him the propriety of superseding TAYLOR. This was followed up by similar suggestions from the Secretary of War, and other members of the Cabinet, doubtless at the instigation of the Executive. To one and all he replied in the same strain. No man could do more than TAYLOR had accomplished; and no one so well deserved to conclude a campaign which he had so valiantly opened. Gen. SCOTT expressed the most unlimited confidence that he would route the enemy in any regular engagement, even with double forces opposed. How well founded was this prediction, we have now seen.

About this period, only eight days ago, it was necessary to prepare a Bill, organizing the details of the army, which Congress had ordered to be raised. Gen. SCOTT drew it with his own hand—and it was fully approved by the War Department. From which it was transmitted to the Military Committee. On Monday of Tuesday last, that Committee met, and Mr. MARCY appeared before them bearing a new section to be added to the proposed Bill, which was reported to the Senate of Tuesday. It provides for adding two Major Generals and four Brigadier Generals to the military establishment. It is well known that there is no manner of necessity for these officers. The States are allowed top choose there own, and there will be three Brigadier Generals of the United States in the field, exclusive of the Commanding General. What, then, was the purpose of this extraordinary movement? It was to confer upon Mr. POLK the power to appoint two Major Generals, and then to choose one of them to place over the head of Gen. SCOTT and GAINES altogether, for when this war is over, the army must be reduced, and but two major Generals returned to the service. Can any one doubt, who knows Mr. JAMES K. POLK that the successful leader of the Mexican War, as must be any General who undertakes it prove to be, will be preferred to as the hero of Chippewa and Niagara! This whole scheme, I repeat, is designed to oust Gen. SCOTT from the army, and to prevent him from reaping any of the honors, such as they may be, of this war upon unfortunate Mexico.

Seeing the game that was playing—that no orders were issued to him, and that an evident coolness had suddenly grown up in his intercourse with the Executive—Gen. SCOTT addressed a letter to the Secretary of War, a few days ago, setting forth his objections to superseding Gen. TAYLOR, and expressing some doubts as to the propriety of taking the general command, in asmuch as it appeared that he had lost the confidence of the President. He concluded, however, by saying that the first duty of a soldier was "to obey orders" and he was ready to receive any the department might make. Since then no reply has been received; and it is much to be doubted if he will be sent to the South.

[CHC]
LATEST FROM THE ARMY

CROSSING THE RIO GRANDE BY THE AMERICAN ARMY AND PROBABLE SURRENDER OF MATAMORAS

The steamer Alabama arrived at New Orleans on the 21st ult., bringing intelligence from Point Isabel to the 19th ult.

A courier had arrived from Barita a few hours previous to the departure of the Alabama, with intelligence that that place had been taken possession of on the 18th by the volunteers and regulars under Col. WILSON, without opposition, or without any Mexicans having made their appearance.

Gen. TAYLOR had arrived safe at the camp with the 250 wagon loads of supplies, with which he left Point Isabel of the 14th. He was to have crossed the Rio Grande on the 17th ult., at 1 o’clock at some point within three or four miles of the camp, and take possession of Matamoras, in doing which it was supposed the enemy did not oppose him, as no firing had been heard up to the time the Alabama left, and two thousand Mexicans had been seen to move out of the town and take up their march for the interior—literally, as other accounts say, in a state of starvation.

It has been ascertained, with certainty, that the number of killed and wounded of the enemy during the battles of the 8th and 9th, exceeded a thousand—while the killed and wounded of our army numbered but 156. The wounded officers were doing well. Two privates died of their wounds since the James L. Day left.

The steamer Sea having arrived on the morning of the 19th from New Orleans, two complete regiments of Louisiana Volunteers, those of Cols. MARKS and WALTON, were ashore. They were encamped on the Brazos Island, and were to march with Gen. SMITH at their head, on the evening of the day the Alabama left, or on the next morning, to join Col. WILSON’s detachment at Barita. They were in good health and spirits.

Capt. AULICK commands the 500 marines and sailors landing from the U.S. squadron, which had proceeded up the Rio Grande, and acted in conjunction with the army in the capture of Barita.

The frigate Raritan, and the steam frigate Mississippi had left the mouth of the Rio Grande, the former, it was supposed, for Vera Cruz.

A small vessel had arrived from Galveston with 60 Texan volunteers.

Passengers in the Alabama:--Capt. TAYLOR, U.S.A., Wm. II. DUNBAR, L.C. HORNSBY, MR. BARRY, F. FISCHER.

Governor HENDERSON will take the command of the forces raised in Texas, to reinforce the Army of Occupation, by a resolution of the Legislature of that State.

Correspondence of the N. O. Delta

Point Isabel, 19th May, 1846.

We have quite a hospital of wounded men, comprising 43 privates, three Mexican prisoners—one of whom has lost both legs—and the following officers of the U.S. army:

Col. McINTOSH, 5th Infantry; was pierced through the mouth with a bayonet, and shot in three places.

Col. PAYNE, Insp’r Gen.; shot in the hip.

Capt. PAGE, 4th infantry; lower jaw, part of the tongue and upper teeth entirely shot away. He is suffering dreadfully.

Capt. HOE, 8th infantry; right arm broken, and shot in left hand.

Lieut. JORDAN, 8th infantry; shot and bayonetted in several places.

Lieut LUTHER, 2d Artillery; lower hip shot off.

It is expected that all the above will recover, but most of them will require great care.

News has just arrived that a body of marines from the fleet anticipated the arrival of Col. WILSON at Barita, by marching upon the Mexicans, who immediately vacated the post. The inhabitants of the town then hailed the marines, and forthwith sent them fresh beef and other provisions.

[CHCH]
MEXICAN STATEMENT OF THEIR OWN LOSS—PLAN OF CAMPAIGN.—Among the papers found in the captured effects of ARISTA, was the morning return of the Mexican force on the day of the battle, which shows the strength of the enemy to have exceeded 8,000; though it is not absolutely certain that the whole of that force was on the United States bank of the Rio Grande.

Gen. ARISTA’s Aid, while making arrangements with a distinguished officer of our army for the exchange of prisoners and the care of the wounded, stated that the Mexican’s loss, in killed on the field of battle and drowned, was 800. Among the latter was one of the priests in the train of the Mexican army who perished in his flight in the waters of the Rio Grande. In this number, the wounded and the prisoners are not included. Fifteen hundred muskets (all King’s arms) had been collected by our troops.

The plan of the campaign as developed by ARISTA’s papers was for that General, after demolishing the small force under the command of Gen. TAYLOR, to overrun Texas; and, having effected “the conquest of that revolted province,” if it should be necessary to secure the fruits of victory, it was arranged that Gen. PAREDES himself should march an army of occupation into the conquered country. N.Y. Journal of Commerce.

BY THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA

A PROCLAMATION

The Congress of the U. States having, by an act approved on the 13th of May 1846, declared that a state of war exists between the Republic of Mexico and that of the United States; and the President of the United States being by said act authorized “to call for and accept the services of any number of volunteers, not exceeding 50,000, for the purpose of enabling the Government of the United States to prosecute said war to a speedy and successful termination,” and having called upon the Executive of the State, under the date of the 19th instant, “to cause to be enrolled and held in readiness for muster into the service of the United States three Regiments of Infantry,” to be composed of volunteer corps—Now, therefore, I, WILLIAM SMITH Governor of Virginia, by virtue of the authority with which I am invested, do announce to my fellow citizens my readiness to receive, for the purpose aforesaid, a tender of the services of thirty companies of volunteers, to be formed into regiments when mustered into the service of the U. States. These companies must have the organization of the Army of the United States, and in their rank and file consist of 64 men, not over 45, nor under 18 years of age, and full of “physical strength and vigor.” Existing volunteer companies tendering their services, will be permitted to retain their existing uniform; but all new companies must strictly conform, in their uniform, to that prescribed by the general order of March, 1834.

No other officer of militia, no matter what his grade, will forfeit his commission by entering into the proposed volunteer service.

For the information of the public, the uniform before referred to, as well as the company organization of the Army of the United States, will be found in the subjoined general order.

The call to arms has, upon the generous and brave, a magical effect. To the Virginian it has never been made in vain. Other States are rushing to fields of danger and glory; and the sons of the Cavaliers will not be outstripped in this noble race of patriotism and duty.

Given under my hand, as Governor, and under the lesser seal of the Commonwealth, at Richmond, this 23d day of May, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and forty-six, and of the Commonwealth the seventieth.

W.M. SMITH.

GENERAL ORDERS
The following organization of Volunteer Corps for the service under the requisition of the President of the United States will be observed:

A company of Infantry will consist of

1 Captain,
1 First Lieutenant,
1 Second Lieutenant,
4 Sergeants,
4 Corporals,
64 Privates,

Thirty companies are required to constitute when called into service, three Regiments of Infantry—Each regiment to consist of

1 Captain,
1 Lieutenant Colonel,
1 Major,
1 Adjutant, (a Lieutenant of one of the Companies, but not in addition.)
1 Sergeant Major,
1 Quarter—Master Serjeant
2 Principal Musicians, and

10 Companies, according to the organization above.

Volunteer Corps now in commission tendering their services, and all new corps which may be raised for this service, will send to this department, with tender of service, a written engagement, signed by all the members to serve twelve months after they shall have arrived at the place of rendezvous, or to the end of the war, unless sooner discharged—according to their discretion.

Old corps will retain the uniform now worn by them: new corps will uniform according to the pattern described.

Commandants of regiments within which volunteers corps for this service shall be raised, will superintend the enrollment, the election of officers, inspect the company, and certify the whole to this department. Commissions for this for this special service will then be issued to the officers of all corps. Existing corps will be inspected in like manner and sign the enrolment.

WM. II. RICHARDSON, Adj’t Gen.

FORM OF ENROLLMENT.

We, the undersigned, do hereby engage to serve in a volunteer company of infantry to constitute a portion of the three regiments required for the service of the United States, according to the terms of an act of Congress "providing for the prosecution of the existing war between the United States and the Republic of Mexico," approved the 13th May, 1846—and to hold ourselves in readiness for muster into the service of the United States, when called upon by the Governor of Virginia.
UNIFORM OF THE INFANTRY

Coat—Dark blue cloth, single breasted, three rows of buttons on the breast, ten in each row, at equal distances; the distance between the outer rows and the centre row to be four inches at top and two at bottom, measuring from the centre or eyes of the button; blind button holes of black twist or narrow black braid, from the centre buttons to the corresponding buttons in the outer row; stand-up collar, to meet in front with hooks and eyes, and rise no higher than to permit the free turning of the chin over it; to be edged all around with gold lace, three quarters of an inch in width, with two straps of the same lace, four and a half inches in length on each side, running back from the front, terminated by a button. Cuff, three inches deep, with four blind button holes, of black twist or narrow braid, extending from four buttons, placed across to each, and two small buttons at the fastening. Skirts to reach to the bend of the knee, with blue turn backs, or turn-backs marked with a cord; the bottom of the skirts not less than three and a half, or more than five inches broad, with a star of silver at the connecting point of the turn-backs on each skirt; two hip buttons range with the lower buttons on the breast, two buttons at the opening of the pocket of each skirt; collar and cuffs of blue cloth, plain or embroidered at pleasure.

Buttons—Silver or plated—convex—with the arms of Virginia on them.

Sword and Scabbard—Straight Sword, silver hilt and white gripe; scabbard, steel or plated; sword knot, silver cord and tassel; sword belt, black leather, to be worn over coat.

Sash—Scarlet silk net, with bullion fringe ends; sash to go twice around the waist, and to tie on the left hip; to be worn under the belt.

Epaulets—Silver.

Hat—Cocked, without binding; fan of back part eleven inches; the front or cock nine inches; black ribbons on the two sides. Loop and cockade—Navy blue silk cockade, six inches in diameter; loop, silver, eleven inches long, ornamented, with the arms of Virginia in silver.

Plume—white cock feathers, falling from an upright stem, eight inches long, in a silver socket.

Tassels—Silver with worked hangars. Cravat or Stock Black.

Trowsers—From the 1st of October to 30th April, dark blue cloth or cassimere; from 1st May to 30th September, white linen or cotton.

Boots worn under trowsers.

Spurs—Silver or plated.

Gloves—White.

FOR COMPANY OFFICERS AND PRIVATES.

Coat—Dark blue cloth, single breasted, three rows of buttons on the breast, ten in each row, at equal distances; the distance between the outer rows and the centre row to be four inches at top and two at bottom, measuring from the centre or eyes of the button; blind button holes of black twist or narrow black braid, from the centre buttons to the corresponding buttons in the outer row; stand-up collar, to meet in front with hooks and eyes, and rise no higher than to permit the free use of the turning of the chin over it. For officers, this to be edged all around with silver lace, three quarters of an inch wide, with two straps of the same lace, four and a half inches in length on each side, running back from the front, terminated by a button. Non commissioned officers and privates to wear to wear white worsted lace instead of silver. Cuff three inches deep with four blind button holes of black twist, or narrow thread extending from four buttons, placed across each, with two small buttons at the fastening. Skirts to reach no lower then the middle of the thigh, with four blind button holes of black twist, or narrow braid, on the pocket flaps, to correspond with the buttons.

Trowsers—From the 1st of October to the 30th April, dark blue cloth or cassimere; from 1st May to 30th September, white linen or cotton.

Cap—Black leather, round, with bell crown, plated or sliver scales and eagle.

Pompons—White, in sliver or plated socket.

Buttons—silver or plated, convex, seven-eighths of an inch in diameter, the arms of Virginia.

Wings—Silver scales and bullion for officers. For non commissioned officers the same as for officers, except the bullion. For privates, white metal scales. Non commissioned offices to wear white worsted lace instead of silver.

[HCH]
The following minute and graphic account of the two battles of the 8th and 9th of May, in which our gallant army won for themselves imperishable renown, will be read with deep and thrilling interest. It is from the pen of a noble officer who heroically bore his full share of the duties and dangers of the trying occasion:

CAMP OPPOSITE MATAMORAS, May 13th 1846.

On the 1st of May the Army under General TAYLOR took up its line of march at 3 o’clock P.M. for Point Isabel, thirty miles distant, in order to force up from that point provisions which were necessary to the maintenance of our Fort here. To defend in our absence Gen. TAYLOR left the 7th Regiment of Infantry. BRAGG’s artillery of four six-pounders, Capt. LOWD’s battery of four eighteen pounders and some convalescents as a garrison—the whole under the command of Maj. BROWN under the Army. We had heard of six or seven thousand of the enemy to oppose our march to our depot, and expected to fight them on the way down—but did not meet with them. On the 2nd instant, in the afternoon, we reached Point Isabel, and on the 3rd heard the bombardment of our Fort at this place. This bombardment continued at intervals for several days. In the meantime, Gen. TAYLOR, having learned from express from Maj. BROWN that he could hold the fort, put his whole command at work in the entrenchments at Point Isabel, the basis of our operations, and having made it sufficiently strong and loaded about three hundred wagons with provisions and ammunition, he determined to proceed at once to the relief of our gallant little band in this Fort, and give battle to the enemy if necessary. He commenced his march at 2 o’clock P.M. on the 7th instant in the following order:—A squadron of Dragoons, commanded by Capt. MAY, in front; the third Brigade, composed of the 3rd and 4th Regiments of Infantry and RINGOLD’s light artillery; the 5th infantry not Brigaded, and the 1st Brigade, composed of the Artillery Battalion serving as Infantry; DUNCAN’s light Artillery and the 8th Infantry—to which must be added two eighteen pounders drawn by oxen and Capt. KERR’s squadron of Dragoons protecting the rear—the wagons on the march being a great degree interspersed between the two Brigades for greater security.

On the night of the 7th we encamped about 12 miles from Point Isabel, without seeing the enemy. On the 12th we had advanced about 5 miles, when we descried the enemy about two miles distant, drawn up in great force in the open prairie, and occupying the gentle slope with their back to the thick bushes, called in this country “ch apparal.”

We immediately formed line to the front, and advanced calmly and quietly to the attack. Our brave and considerate old General, finding that the enemy waited to receive us, and that we were passing near a lake of water, the day being hot and the men thirsty, halted in full view of the adversary and directed the men to fill their canteens with water. We had now little leisure to examine the force of the enemy and its composition. The horizon in our front and to the right appeared lined with cavalry (Lancers and Dragoons). The woods in their rear were giving up column after column of Infantry, which were maneuvered with great regularity, and batteries of Artillery were observed taking their designated places in our front and on our flanks. The lowest estimate at the time of the enemy’s force was 5,000 of all arms—our own being under 2,000 fighting men. We have since learned that on this occasion, the enemy had over 6,000 fighting men. But the greatest difficulty under which we labored was the absolute necessity of protecting in an open prairie, from the enemy’s numerous cavalry, our enormous train of provisions and ammunition, without which, even if we gained a victory we could not relieve our garrison opposite Matamoros, or maintain our position there. Besides we were miserably deficient as to the number of our cavalry, having only 200 Dragoons while the enemy could not have had less than 1,000 or 2,000. The men being refreshed our General rode to each Brigade, and told the men to keep cool, when the enemy charged not to fire a shot until they were repulsed with the bayonet, and had turned their backs in flight.

Our advance then re-commenced, slowly, but firmly, wagons and all; and when we arrived in artillery range, their batteries opened upon us; some of their balls bouncing along the open plain and passing us in “ricochet” other flying over our heads, and falling in the rear, showing us in a few moments that their pieces were served with skill and precision. A movement was now observed among the enemy cavalry as if about to charge, and the Regiments nearest them were thrown into the square, or formation preparatory to the square and so disposed to protect our own artillery whenever it was ordered to fire. During this time, some fifteen minutes, the enemy’s fire was received in perfect silence by us, and at length, Capt. DUNCAN having been ordered to open upon them, advanced in the most gallant manner, and placing himself in a position to be protected by the infantry, assault the enemy’s cavalry, and one that would enable him at the same time to gall their cavalry and masses of infantry, sent a withering fire among them, which created some confusion, and which was answered by one of our squares of infantry by one long simultaneous shout, which showed how anxious they were to be led to the charge at once—but this could not be. They were destined to give the strongest evidence of courage that a soldier can exhibit—to stand in squares for hours under the fire of the enemy’s artillery, so as to protect from the enemy’s cavalry our own artillery, whilst the latter was mowing down the enemy’s ranks. As soon as DUNCAN opened, Maj. RINGGOLD’s thunder was heard on the right, Lieut. CHURCHILL’s from the eighteen pounders in the centre, and all the enemy batteries opening at the same time, a tremendous cannonading ensued, which on this plain of boundless extent, presented a spectacle of great magnificence. The battle commenced at ten minutes past 2 P.M. It had lasted about an hour, when a large body of the enemy’s Red Lancers charged the 5th Infantry, with a view of cutting of our wagon train. They were met with the most perfect tranquility, and a discharge of musquetry from the 5th (General BROOK’s) Regiment told us their fate. They fled precipitately, leaving men, horses, and guidons on the field. In the meantime the whole order of battle had been changed to conform to the maneuvers of the enemy, and our Brigade, the 1st, which was on the left, now found itself in advance on the right—the Artillery Battalion being on the extreme right and, most in advance. It must be
The battle had lasted from about 10 minutes past 2 P.M. until about 7 P.M. At this moment the enemy was discovered coming down with his left flank with great force with cavalry and infantry on the Artillery Battalion and the 18 pounders which that battalion supported. The 18 pounders were served by thirty men, and the artillery battalion was about 360 strong. Both the Battery and the Battalion were in such a position that they could not be supported by the other portion of the army, and at the same time the charge commenced the Battalion had deployed into line. However, it was thrown into square by a prompt manœuvre, and waited steadily the Mexican charge. On they came “horse, foot and Dragoons,” shouting and yelling, when a single horseman rode into the square and said, “Men, I place myself in your square.” The General was immediately recognized by his men, who gave him three cheers as evidence of his confidence. At this moment Lieut. CHURCHILL discharged one of his 13 pounders, loaded with grape into the advancing ranks, creating great havoc, but not checking entirely their onward movement. They marched forward to within good musket range, some 150 yards of us, halted and delivered their fire, which our men received quietly and at a shoulder. Finding that they would come no nearer, Col. CHILDS, commanding this Battalion, ordered the volley, which was given as if in parade, when the enemy immediately retired, and the action ended for the night. Our army slept on their arms precisely as night found them, and occupied the position in which the enemy commenced the battle. The two armies slept quietly almost in presence of each other. The night was serene and beautiful, the moon casting the softest light on everything around us, but for the groans of the wounded and the screams of those who were suffering under the knife of the surgeons, no one could have imagined the scenes which had occurred but a few hours previously.

On our side we had fifty-five killed and wounded. The gallant Major RINGGOLD was mortally wounded, and his noble steed killed by the same shot, as he was giving his last fire for the night, and after having distinguished himself by the coolness, precision, and effect which he managed his battery. Capt. JOHN PAGE of the 4th Infantry was horribly wounded supposed to be mortally. Many officers had horses shot under them—Captain BLISS, Lieut. DANIELLS, Capt. MONTUOMERT, and several others.

Many Dragoons horses were killed and the escapes were almost incredible. MAGRUDER’s company two men, whilst at an order, had the bayonets of their muskets cut off by cannon balls, passing over their shoulders and between their heads. He had also a man killed of his immediate right and left. Some of the balls fell into the centre of the squares and recoiled out again, without touching anyone. Others fell just on the outside and bounced over. To stand patiently and coolly, in square, under such fire, for five hours, without firing a shot, is the best evidence of discipline and invincible courage that troops can give. But more: the effect of this courage which none but regulars could have shown, must be considered. The next morning the enemy retreated, leaving the field strewn with their dead, and having lost, by their own confession, five hundred in killed and wounded; but we have found out since his loss is much greater. The enemy’s artillery was numerous and served with great rapidity and precision; while we had little cavalry and they had an immense proportion of that arm. Hence our shell and grape shot told briskly among them. In short, we gained on that day a great victory. When we consider the enemy’s numbers, his numerous and effective regular cavalry, his well-drilled infantry and artillery and above all that he had chosen his own ground, that upon which he is the most accustomed to fight—the plain—and compare all this with our inferiority in all arms, and that we were incumbered by a train we could not afford to lose we can only account for the result by the impression made on the enemy by our firm and unshaken advance; by the steadiness with which we repulsed their cavalry and by the unrivalled skill of our artillery officers and men—to which must be added a perfect knowledge on the part of both men and officers that if we lost the battle the Fort at Matamoras would fall, the Army, be destroyed, and our depot, Point Isabel, be taken to the eternal disgrace of the American Army and the ruin of the interest of our Government, for some time at least, in this part of the world. We could not afford to be driven back a single inch, and all were prepared for any thing but retreat.

On the morning of the 9th the Mexican enemy left the field at early dawn, and after arranging our train, we commenced the march toward our Fort at this place. At 2 o’clock P.M. we found the enemy drawn up in great force occupying a ravine which our road crossed, with thick “chappareel” or thorny bushes on either side, where it crossed the ravine, constituting a complete defile. They were 7,000 strong, we 54 weaker than the previous day. The General ordered an immediate attack, by all troops except the First Brigade which was kept in reserve, and soon the rattling fire of musketry, mingled with the heavy sound of artillery, announced the commencement of the action. The enemy had chosen his position, which he had considered impregnable—was vastly superior to us in numbers, and had ten pieces of artillery planted in the road in front of us, which swept the road with grape, and which it was absolutely necessary for us to take before he could be beaten. These pieces were flanked on either side by a Regiment of brave troops, from Tampico, and we were obliged to stand an awful shower of grape and bullet before a charge could reach them. The battle had lasted for some two hours with great fury on both sides, with many heroic deeds had been done, with no impression made, when Gen. TAYLOR sent for Capt. MAY of the 2d Dragoons and told him that he must take that battery with his Squadron of Dragoons, if he lost every man. MAY instantly placed himself at the head of his men, and setting off at full speed, with three cheers and shouts, dashed into the defile, where he was greeted with an overwhelming discharge of grape and bullets, which nearly annihilated his first and second platoons, but he was seen unhurt darting like lightning, through this murderous hail storm, and in a second he and his men drove away or cut to pieces the artillerists.

The speed of his horse was so great, however, that they passed through the battery, and were halted in its rear. There turning, he charged back, and was just in time to rescue a Mexican General officer who would not leave his guns, and who was warring the strokes of one of his men. He handed his sword to MAY and announced himself as Gen. VEGA,
and gave his parole. MAY turned him over to an officer, and galloping back to Gen. TAYLOR, reported that he had captured the enemy’s battery, and the valiant Gen. VEGA, bravely defending it, whose sword he had the honor to present to his commanding officer. The General was extremely gratified, and felt no doubt that a blow had been given, from which it would be difficult for the enemy to recover—and so it proved, for a portion of the 5th Infantry, finding that the enemy had reoccupied and commenced serving their pieces, gallantly charged and brought off several, when the 8th, which had just come up, marched to the attack by its gallant commander, Col. BELKNAP, seconded nobly by Capt. MONTGOMERY, and took off the remaining pieces. Col. BELKNAP, leading his Regiment into the thickest of the fight, seized a Mexican standard, and waving it over his head, dashed in front of his men, until his horse stumbled over his dead bodies and threw him. Being a heavy man, he was helped on his horse by a soldier who in the act received a shot through his lungs, and at the same moment a shot carried away the Mexican flag, leaving but the handle with the Colonel. He dashed ahead with that, however, and his regiment carried everything before it. At this moment the Mexicans gave way entirely, and throwing down their arms, fled in every direction, leaving all their stores, munitions of war, arms, standards, &C. The killed, wounded, and prisoners, including among those killed those drowned in the Rio Grande, do not fall short of 1500—so that the enemy’s loss in two days amounts to not less than 2,000 men, something more than the number we had in our army.

When Lieut. MAGRUDER introduced Gen. VEGA to Gen. TAYLOR the latter expressed his deep regret that such a misfortune should happen to an officer whose character he so highly esteemed, and returned to him his sword which he had won so bravely. It is said also the General gave the captive officer an order on his private banker for his use when he arrived in the United States.

Immediately after the victory, a regiment marched into this fort, and was received with cheers and open arms. All had done their duty—those who were left behind to defend our fort—those who had marched ahead to its relief. I had nearly forgot to mention that no officer in the battle of the 9th was more distinguished than Lieut. RANDOLPH RIDGELY. His conduct drew praise from the lips of every officer. But I shall never finish if I record every act of personal valor which occurred in this battle, where officers and men fought hand to hand for hours with the Mexicans. I shall therefore conclude with the hope that in a few days we shall be in Matamoros.

[HCH]

Thursday, June 4, 1846, Volume 47, Number 14, Page 3, Column 1, Words: 2021

BOMBARDMENT OF FORT BROWN

We have nowhere else (says the N.O. Picayune) so circumstantial and interested an account of the bombardment of the camp opposite Matamoras as is contained in the following letter. It is due to state that it was written exclusively for the gratification of “a select few” of his friends—not for the public eye. The reader will on this account excuse the air of levity with which serious matters are discussed. Under all this exuberance of fun and humor, we do not assure the reader that the writer bears a heart that beats with every generous and manly impulse, and he is fully cognizant of all the sober realities of the service of which he is engaged:

CAMP OPPOSITE MATAMORAS,
MAY 13, 1846.

Since the evening of the 9th noting has transpired here. You may know, ere this, that we gave the Mexicans “jesse” on the 8th and 9th. Gen. TAYLOR, after establishing his little sand fort here, opposite the town, left the 7th infantry and two Artillery companies in it, with instructions to defend it to the death, he then left with the remainder of his forces for Brazos Santiago for supplies, and in the hope that the two mortars (which he had ordered two months ago) had arrived from Washington, and also to bring up ammunition enough for our 18 pounders to batter down Matamoras. Gen. T. and command left on the 1st of this month. On the morning of the 3d, at daylight, the Mexicans opened their batteries on our fort, or rather our grand entrenchments; from that moment it was right hot work until 12 o’clock, when both parties had to cease so their guns would cool. Were you ever shot at in front with a 12 pounder, in the flank with a 6 pounder, and a shell directed to burst over your head? If not try it, just to properly enjoy a brandy toddy after the gun cooling begins. Well, after the refreshments the ball continued, varied only by “vindictive looseness” and wild colt, comet like flying of shells. It was only 25 minutes after we commenced our fire before one of our 18 pound shot struck one of their 12 pound cannon directly in the muzzle, and knocked it, head, back, and muzzle twenty feet into the air and it was accompanied by about twenty legs, heads, arms. Seven Mexican officers were wounded and eight privates, who were around their piece, were killed. We have not heard from their 12 pounders since, so hot was their fort in which it had been placed, that they were compelled to abandon it. When the first fire came I rushed into my tent and jerked up my rifle, and as I stepped out a 9 pound shot struck my tent at the head of my bed, ranged the whole length of my bed, cut out the back upright pole, passed out the back part through two other tents, then buried itself in the parapet. I’m glad I was not “caught napping.”

In the first hour a sergeant of Captain Lee’s company was killed; he was carried over to the hospital tent, (full of sick,) and directly after he was laid on a bed, a bomb shell was thrown through the top of the tent, hit near the bed, and blew the dead man’s head off without injuring any one else. On Wednesday, the 6th, May, and the 3rd day of bombardment, Major BROWN was struck in the leg by a bomb shell, and the leg had to be amputated—he died on the 9th. These are the only two we have lost during the whole bombardment, which commenced on Sunday the 3d, and lasted, with little intermission, day and night until the following Saturday at dark. During this time the enemy had thrown about 3500 shots—solid and shells—amongst us. It is incredible that the damage is so slight. Finding we could
not dismount their mortars—they being sunk in the ground, with thick embankments in front—and having only about
400 rounds of ammunition to our cannon, we went to work throwing up a temporary bomb-proof shelter, by taking our
barrels of pork, laying sticks across them, and throwing six feet of earth upon that. These were built at points in the
fort where they would be convenient for the men; and when we saw the smoke from their guns, we would fall into the
parapet and “hole.” The Mexicans thought they had killed nearly all of us, as they were under the impression that all
who fell were shot.

It was very disgusting to stand and be fired at all round and not be able to return it “in full force and virtue;” but,
knowing our ammunition was scarce, we reserved it till the death struggle should come on. We were in hopes that,
after a reasonable time of bombarding, the enemy would attempt to storm us. Two or three feints were made, but
they could not be brought to scratch. Five mortars were playing on us at once, from every point of their works. Gen.
TAYLOR’s orders to us were to maintain this post, and not pretend to make any sally or risk in the least his position
here; but in case we were surrounded after he left, signal guns were to be fired at certain intervals, which would notify
him of the fact. This notice was given to the General, as they heard all our guns at Point Isabel. On the 8th, the
General commenced his march with the train of provisions, and when about twelve miles from here, he saw the enemy
in position. He immediately “walked into their affections.” We heard the firing of cannons on both sides, and distinctly
the volley of musketry. We knew well that it was the General poking it into there short ribs. We had stopped to
“licker,” but at the first gun we sprung to our parapets, and for one hour we had the prettiest little cannon fight that
ever a man beheld. They gave us gun for gun, while we slung at them “the best the shop contained.”

But wait, I forgot one thing: On the first Wednesday, after the bombardment had lasted three days, the enemy
“sounded a parley.” Maj. SEAWELL and Lieut. BRITTON were ordered to go out and see what they wanted. They did
so, and the Mexicans demanded the surrender of the fort “for humanity’s sake.” They gave us one hour to surrender,
or they would put us all to the sword. They brought us a letter from Gen. ARISTA to our commanding officer, Capt.
HAWKINS (BROWN had been shot just before,) had a council of war called, and said he presumed we were unanimous
on such points, but that he would put the matter to vote as to their feelings. The vote of youngest member was taken
first, and so on throughout. This was the unanimous vote:—“Defend the place to the death.” Gen. ARISTA was in
thirty minutes replied to as follows: That we had received his humane communication, but not understanding perfectly
the Spanish language, we were doubtful if we understood his meaning; but, from all we could understand, he proposed
that we give him possession of the place, or we would all be put to the sword in one hour; if this was the proper
understanding, we would respectfully decline the proposition, and “took this opportunity to assure his Excellency of our
distinguished consideration.” After the reception of this by his “Excellency,” it just rained balls. The different mortars
kept two pair of “saddle-bags” in the air at all time, varied only by their 4 and 6 pounders. But in the midst of all the
storm the Spangled Banner still floated on our breast works, at the point where they directed their strongest
efforts; and we took out our two regimental colors and planted them on different parts of the wall. This fire was kept
up all night, while their musketry played us [illegible] the rear, at the distance of five hundred yards. We ordered our
men not to fire a shot till they came within eighty yards—but they did not approach. Their object was to exhaust in
ammunition. They knew from deserters that it was scarce. They are fond of fighting at long distances, but they can’t
stand the cold steel.

Now for where I left off the night of the 8th. Gen. TAYLOR and the Mexican army were 12 miles from here—between
this and Brazos. The batteries at Matamoras and around us, and in our fort, kept up a constant firing and dark, when
all ceased. We had no communications from the General, but that he had to lick’em, or die! The sound of arms had not
retrograded, but advanced; besides, there was no ringing of the bells in the city, or signs of rejoicing, therefore we
judged they had not the first cause for jolification. That night was the first sound napping that had been done in the
fort for six nights. The next morning at daylight the enemy’s batteries opened on us as usual, we laying low, as our
cannon ammunition was nearly exhausted, giving them a “crowder” now and then to let them know “the degenerate
sons of Washington: were not all dead yet. At 1 o’clock we heard Gen. TAYLOR open again, and from that till 4 o’clock
the battle raged with fury, coming closer almost every shot. The General was them before him in the chapporal at the
point of a bayonet. At half mile in our rear we saw their cavalry retreating for the ferry, to recross the river at
Matamoras and they were in utter confusion; we turned one of our eighteen pounders on to bear on the mass, and
driving them across the river. This fired the Mexicans to the quick. They fainted and they could not be brought to
scratch. Five mortars were playing on us at once, from every point of their works. Gen. TAYLOR immediately
“walked into their affections.” We heard the firing of cannons on both sides, and distinctly the volley of musketry. We
knew well that it was the General poking it into there short ribs. We had stopped to
“licker,” but at the first gun we sprung to our parapets, and for one hour we had the prettiest little cannon fight that
ever a man beheld. They gave us gun for gun, while we slung at them “the best the shop contained.”

Then you should have heard the loud huzzas that went up from this little spot. I sprung upon the wall near our
regimental flag and requested silence. Every thing was still as death. Says I, “three cheers for the star spangled
banner.” It was given in full blast; Matamoras heard the shout; and then, and not till then, every gun from the enemy
came to a cease.

The enemy say they had 6,000 in the fight, but from the returns of the regiments which we have found on the field
there must have been 7,153 of them. We had 1,500 engaged in the battle, about 500 forming the reserve. All Gen.
ARISTA’s paper’s and baggage had been taken, silver in abundance. The loss [taken, wounded, missing] of the enemy
amounts to about 2,000; among the prisoners were Gen. LA VEGA and 17 officers. Nine pieces of cannon were taken,—
7 out of the 9 were loaded; this shows you how tight it was. Gen. T captured more muskets from the enemy than we
had in the fight against them—the biggest pile of ammunition you ever saw; 400 splendid mules, and baggage of all
kinds enough to load the steamer “Harney.” We have lost about 150 killed and wounded—4 officers killed, 9 wounded.
Gen. T, left the day before yesterday for Brazos to bring up his mortars, which we understand have arrived. He will
also organize the volunteers expected. We look for him to-night and as soon as he arrives we shall commence
operations against Matamoras, and will have it or faint in our traces. It is my opinion that we have crippled them so by
the loss of their cannon, muskets and ammunition that they will be forced to retreat to Carmego [60 miles from here,]
or Monterey [108,] but from indications they are fortifying the city and preparing to give us a street fight; let it be so—
we are prepared for any event. The Anglo-Saxon never can acknowledge the corn to the cross of Negro and Indian.
Some of us will get our pates cracked, but it is our profession. Nevertheless, mark what I say—unless everything we
demand is granted our banner will in a few days wave from the walls of Matamoras.
Thursday, June 4, 1846, Volume 47, Number 14, Page 3, column 3 Words: 954

THE FLYING ARTILLERY—RINGGOLD—RIDGELY, &c.

We have before us a letter, dated "may11, Camp opposite Matamoras," from an officer that participated in the two engagements which terminated so gloriously to our arms. The Palo Alto and La Resaco de la Palma. While, as citizens of the united States, we fell proud of the courage, judgement, and military skill, displayed by th eCommander-in-chief of our gallant little army, the heroic conduct of those more immediately represented our own State, cannot fail deeply to interest us as citizens of Maryland. It is to our purpose, in the present article, particularly to allude to the fine corps of Flying Artillery, which lately left our city, under the command of Maj. RINGGOLD. This corps, from its long station here, and from the intimacy of its officers and men with our citizens, has become so identified with the city of Baltimore as to be to it an object of particular regard. Its chief officer, the gallant RINGGOLD, had during a long residence, enshrined him in our the hearts and confidence of our citizens; and the attention paid by him to the corps under his command had anticipated for it honor in the time of action. Maj. RINGGOLD was mortally wounded in the battle of Palo Alto, and to the last retained the same consciousness and coolness which had characterized him at the head of his company.

Lieut. RANDOPH RIDGELY, likewise a Marylander, succeeded to the command of the Flying Artillery. Lieut. Ridgely distinguished himself in the Florida Wars. We have seen Col. BANKHEAD's report of the battle of Locha Hatchee, in the 23th January, 1838,in which particular mentio is made of his gallantry.

During the engagement of the 8th, in which Major RINGGOLD was wounded, he had his horse shot under him. The following is an extract from the letter before us: "The fourth shot of the enemy struck the horse of Lieut. RIDGELY, in the head, killing the man to whom he was about to hand the bridle. Shortly after, Lieut. R. was detached with two pieces to another part of the field where he had hot work."

The loss suffered by the Flying Artillery on this day was that of its major and this one man. The letter goes on to say; "The next day we took up our march. After proceeding about five miles, an express came back, ordering Lieut. RIDGELY to the front of his battery. He advanced and reported to the General who told him that the enemy occupied the road about half a mile ahead, with six or eight pieces of artillery, and in great force, on each side covered by the thick chapparel. Lieut. RIDGELY moved forward cautiously about twenty yards ahead of his pieces, when he perceived a few on the road about 400 yards in front. Instantly they opened their batteries upon him; he ordered a trot and went up rapidly until within 300 yards, and then returned their fire. This continued with great rapidity for some time—they having likewise infantry firing with them. We discovered they were falling back—limbered up and slashed ahead 150 yards, when we again saw them. We drove them back half a mile, when Capt. MAY rode up and enquired of Lieut. RIDGELY as to their position, stating that he was about to charge. Lieut. R. told him to wait until we gave them one round from all our pieces. He did so, and then rushed forward at the head of his cavalry—we following with our battery at full gallop. MAY succeeded in taking prisoner Gen. LA VEGA—the 2d in command—and drove them from their pieces, but suffered terribly from their musketry. We reached the edge of the ravine as he turned and saw two regiments about 60 yards off—at once halted, and as we were unlimbering our guns, their musketry and three pieces with grape, opened upon us. They knocked over eight horses and five men. We returned their fire with double vigor, and with the infantry, after about twenty minutes of the most terrible slaughter, put them to the route. We followed but had not oursued over 200 yards, when we came on their entire camp, took everything they had: all their ammunition, 9 pieces of artillery, 300 pack mules, personal baggage and private communications of their Commander General, ARISTA; his silver plate, etc. etc. Our force was about 1800, their about 6,000. Gen. LA VEGA says he has been in battles since his boyhood but never saw men rush up to the cannons mouth as our troops did; and could not think it possible for artillery to move as our batteries did. Lieut. RIDGELY was introduced to him as the officer who commanded the leading battery of whose effectiveness he particularly spoke. We lost in our company, 1 killed, 5 wounded, with 13 horses."

We understand that in a letter to his family, Lieut. RIDGELY speaks in the highest terms of the gallantry and coolness with which he was supported by Lieuts SHOVER, FREMONT, and FRENCH—and of the promptness and intrepidity of the men. This was indeed a bravely fought battle and glorious victory, and while with sincere grief we lament the fate of those who fell, it is with pride that we contemplate the gallant behaviour of the survivors. This blended feeling recalls to our minds the famous reply of the English King when told of the death of PERCY in "Chevy Case."

Now, God be with him said our King.

'Sith twill no better be,

I trust I have within my realm,

Five hundred good as he.

We hope that the "five hundred" will be sought out by our government, and not suffered to go unrewarded—Balt. Pat.

[HCH]
U. States & Mexico.

MORE ABOUT THE WAR.

MARCH FROM CORPUS CHRISTI.

The following highly interesting letter from an officer in the American army, to his family in Germantown, Pa., giving the particulars of the march of the army from Corpus Christi to its present position opposite Matamoras, is copied from the Germantown Telegraph.

CAMP NEAR MATAMORAS, April 5, 1846.

I have the pleasure to inform you that my health is perfectly restored; for some time before leaving Corpus Christi I had been sick in the hospital with the diarrhea, and when we got the order to march to this place I was so weak and feeble, that I had to purchase a horse to carry me; but by the time we arrived at the Colorado, change of air, diet and water, produced a perfect cure, and I have been doing duty ever since. As our march to this place may be interesting to you, and having kept a journal on the route, I herewith send you a few extracts. We have lain encamped for eight months at Corpus Christi, exposed to all kinds of weather, from the burning rays of an almost vertical sun to the terrific "northers" which prevail in that part of Texas, bordering on the Gulf, during the fall and winter months; suffering sometimes in one day the extremes of burning heat and chilling cold.

On our arrival in Corpus Christi Bay, about fourteen low, shabby shanties contained the inhabitants of the so-called town. What a change! Three weeks had not elapsed before fifty grog shops had reared their hydra heads, and stood with open doors to invite the too easily-duped soldiers; gaming tables, ten-pin alleys, hot whiskey punch, tom and jerry—every thing that could afford the least attraction to the novelty-seeking soldier, were spread out before him, and many, alas! Too many, borne to their graves, the victims of intoxication and diseases of every kind arising from excess. But a ray of joy sprung up in every heart when the orders for marching were received. We marched in four divisions. First, the Dragoons and Flying Artillery on the 8th March, the first Brigade on the 9th, the 2d on the 10th, and the 3d on the 11th. Our camp was now all bustle. The women were, with one or two exceptions, to be left behind to take passage by water to Brassos Santiago. Packing up was the order of the day. Here and there might be seen groups of Mexicans bargaining with our men for wearing apparel, and giving cash for what they might have had for nothing in a few days, for we could not carry half our "plunder."

The head of the column was again put in motion; the morning of the 11th shone most brightly and gave token of a beautiful day; all hands were in fine spirits for the march, and our former busy camp looked gloomy, as we cast our eyes along the line and marked the now desolate space so lately occupied by the other three divisions of the army. We were about to leave a place where had been filled to the brim the cup of bitterness—still a sort of regretful feeling hung over us—many a spot on the shore of shells had become endeared to us. At eight o'clock, precisely, we commenced our march, our music playing, "Our colors floating in the breeze." Our last adieu were half muttered, half cursed, as we threw back a glance at Corpus Christi. We had raised the bill and were just out of sight of the town, when the drum struck up "the girl I left behind me." It certainly is a very pretty air, and very appropriate sometimes, when troops are marching; but my heart sent forth an amen as our commander rode up and hastily shouted, "Stop that, who told you to play that air?" After a march of twelve miles, through musquit timber and prairie grass, we halted on the banks of the Neuceces, a most delightful stream, in fact the best water I had tasted in Texas.

Next day we marched over a splendid prairie through millions of flowers, the blooming cactus among the number; and halted early. We had halted but a moment when a troop of horse came rushing towards us about a mile distant, and seemed at first as if intending to take us by storm, when they suddenly wheeled and started in another direction. Our brigade commander knew not what to make of this expedition, and naturally concluded it was a party of Mexicans observing our movements, especially as the state of the atmosphere at the time loomed up the distant objects so as to give them the appearance of a mounted party.

An express was instantly sent out and returned in a few minutes, having ascertained them to be a drove of wild horses or Mustangs; from this circumstance the camp was called "Camp Mustang."

Our short march of the previous day had revived all bands, and we started cheerfully on the morning of the 13th; we marched this day 11 miles over a rolling prairie covered with flowers of every hue. The odor was delightful; and the whole surface of the earth seemed covered with a beautiful carpet. The edge of the horizon in every direction was covered with wild animals, on one side thousands of wild horses were corveting about—on another herds of deer might be seen standing for a moment filled with wonder at sight of us, then bounding away as if a thousand devils chased them. Here rushed along the antelope with speed almost incredible, and in the distance might be seen countless numbers of them at play. Now and then we caught a sight of the Peccany or wild hog, looking much like a shingle navigating on four legs. The manoeuvring of the wild horses was decidedly wonderful, they would form into line of battle, and march accurately abreast toward us until a signal from one of them, they would break into platoons or sections, and be in a moment almost out of sight, but the charge was sublime! I cannot describe it, and will not attempt. But only imagine a thousand wild steeds, with eyes flashing and limbs as unrestrained and free as the wind—whose manes the hand of man never touched—suppose them rushing in one line across the plain, with head erect,
We this night encamped on the "Los Pintos." We left on the 11th at daybreak and marched 14 miles through precisely the same description of country as the day before. The entire march was spent in exclamations of surprise and delight as each new object would present itself. Heads of antelopes, deer and wild horses would rush close past us. We encamped at "Santa Gertrudes." On the 15th we started at day break, marched over the same description country as the preceding day, and encamped in the evening among the "Santa Clara Mottes," as the small groves of trees are called which are here and there seated over the prairie. Here the water was very bad, and scarce had fuel enough to cook with. On the 16th we reached early in the afternoon "Camp El Pista," and on the 17th started at quarter past 5 o'clock; this day we crossed a salt lake, and marched through deep loose sand, not a vestige of vegetation. The teams have great difficulty to get along. The men were much fatigued this day, having marched 20 miles.

On the 18th we were detained till about 9 o'clock by the issue of rations. Our march this day was a scene of the most acute suffering ever felt. We marched through a sandy prairie—at every step we sank ankle deep in the burning white sand, with a piercing sun beamimg down upon us, and not a breathe of air to relieve our misery. To add to our discomfort there was not a drop of fresh water for seventeen miles, while to aggravate our miseries we frequently came upon salt ponds; we at length arrived at a fresh water pond—the rush to it was tremendous; with what delight did I drink cup after cup of the dirty swamp water. Sick and sore with the privations of the preceding day we left "Camp Marcy," (so called after the Secretary of War,) and now advanced into a perfect heaven upon earth. I wish I could describe this part of the country. If the garden of Eden was equal to it, what a treasure our first parents must have lost; here are the notes of ten thousand birds to charm the ear—hear are silver lakes, upon whose margin the dwarf honey-bean stands and casts just shade enough to give a celestial appearance to the whole; while from beds of flowers, on which imagination pictures millions of tiny fairy queens to be dancing, arises a perfume so grateful to the senses, that we were lost in wonder that such scenes should possibly exist and we not know it before.

We encamped this night at "Catecita," 119 miles from Corpus Christi; and the next day (the 20th) passed through the same description of country. We saw in the afternoon and evening several large wild bulls, advancing at no great distance from us. On the 21st, we started very early, and at about 10 o'clock reached the Rio Colorado, a deep broad stream with high bluff banks. It was at the crossing of this river that Gen. TAYLOR expected to be attacked; the cavalry and 1st and 2d brigades reached the Colorado on the 20th; Col. CANALES with 5 or 6000 Mexicans were encamped on the opposite banks of the river; he told Gen. TAYLOR it was useless to attempt to cross—that the first man who put his foot into the water would be shot down—that he was only performing his duty, the neglect of which would certainly cost him his property, perhaps his life—that his feelings must give place for duty, &c. Gen. TAYLOR replied that the crossing was indespensable—was sorry for the Colonel's feelings, &c., but positively he would cross, while Gen. WORTH, riding forward, exclaimed, "Come on boys, if there's any shooting to be done I'll have a hand in it—1st brigade! Forward!" and dashed into the stream followed by his command, (covered by the artillery, who were posted on the bank ready to return the first fire of the Mexicans.) They no doubt though that discretion was the better part of valor, so retreatted without firing a shot.

On the 21st our Brigade came up with the main body of the army and encamped four miles from the Colorado. On the morning of the 23d the whole army moved for the Rio Grande. We marched 12 miles through a prairie of very high grass teeming with rattle snakes larger than I had ever seen before; a man of the 4th Infantry was bitten by one, but by the timely and skilful attention of the Surgeon, who scarified the wound until it bled freely, and then applied ammonia, he recovered. Not so with a mule bitten by a snake, he, poor devil, lay down in agonies and died in half an hour afterward. On the morning of the 24th, we debouched upon a prairie, and in a few minutes arrived at the forks of the road leading to Matamoras and Point Isabel. Gen. TAYLOR hearing that a number of houses at Point Isabel had been burnt down by order of Gen. MEJIA, started with the 2d Dragoons for that place, leaving the command of the army with Gen. WORTH. He moved us about 3 miles nearer Matamoras in consequence of our then position being a bad one, and a rumor that the force from Matamoras were on their march to give us battle. This night we slept, as the saying is, like a trooper's horse—fully accoutred, our arms loaded and ready at a moment's warning, but the morning came without even an alarm, to form a subject for a camp fire yarn. We remained at this camp until the morning of the 28th, Gen. TAYLOR having arrived from Point Isabel, finding the report untrue.

At half past six o'clock we marched toward Matamoras; the arms were closely inspected at reveille—the old priming thrown out and new substituted, as it was confidently expected we should be attacked in the course of our march. As we neared the city, we noticed Mexicans. To the brief question, "Matamoras," they replied in very good English "one miles." A moment after we saw the city; our bands struck up "Yankee Doodle." The colors of each Regiment flung to the breeze and we marched opposite the city. We soon planted a flag staff and the stars and stripes were seen proudly waving under the guns of the citadel.

C. M.

[HCH]
CAPT. SAMUEL H. WALKER.

This officer is one of those rare spirits which a state of war will bring out from our citizen soldiers. His late unequalled conflict with the Mexicans, in which he lost nearly every man under his command, and his daring heroism in cutting his way to Gen. TAYLOR's camp, have excited in the public mind a strong desire to know more of him. He is the same gentleman so frequently and honorably spoken of in Gen. GREEN's journal of the Mier expedition. He is a native of Washington city, from whence he went into the Florida war, where in several campaigns he distinguished himself by his intrepid bravery. In 1842 he went to Texas, and during the invasion of that republic by Gen. WOLL, he was marked for his bold and daring conduct. After the Mexican general had retreated from San Antonio, and when he lay upon the Rio Hondo, WALKER and Capt. MCCULLOUGH crawled through his camp one night and spied out his position, and the next day, with the gallant HAYS, led the attack upon his rear guard. He then joined the celebrated expedition against Mier, and on the morning of that sanguinary battle, he, with three others—being the advance scout of the Texans—was taken prisoner and carried with his hands tied behind him to the headquarters of Gen. AMPUDIA. The Mexican general questioned him as to the Texan forces, and when WALKER informed him that the Texans had only three hundred men, AMPUDIA pompously replied: "Does that audacious handful of men presume to follow me into this strong place and attack me?" "Yes," says WALKER, "make yourself content upon that subject, General, they will follow you into hell, and attack you there." He was, with his comrades, then marched a prisoner to the city of Mexico.

At Salado, with the lamented Capt. CAMERON and Dr. BRENKEN, he led the attack upon the guards, overpowered them, and marched for Texas, when, after eating up all their horses and mules, and living for days upon their own urine, surrendered to the Mexican Generals. He was again marched to Salado, where, with his comrades, he was made to draw in the celebrated black bean lottery, and every tenth man shot. Those that remained of the Texans were marched to the castle of Perote and the city of Mexico.—Here, while working on the streets in that city, he was struck by a Mexican corporal for not working faster, when with his spade he knocked down the corporal, which caused the guards to beat him nearly to death. His life was a long time despaired of, and upon his recovery, he, with two companions, scaled the walls of his prison after nightfall, and made his way to Texas, over a distance of more than a thousand miles. Before, however, they got out of the country, they were twice more imprisoned, and each time effected their escape. When he reached Texas again he joined Capt. HAYS, who, with fifteen others, armed with Colt's repeating pistols, fought 96 Cummanches, and defeated them, leaving 36 killed upon the ground. Here WALKER was run through the body with a Cumanche spear, and his life again despaired of. We now hear of him with 70 Texans, attacking 1,500 Mexicans, and all perishing in battle but himself and six others; and then, to crown, his wonderful life of daring, he cut his way, single handed, into Gen. TAYLOR's camp from Point Isabel.

To such men Texas is indebted for her emancipation from Mexico. Few as they are, they have won her liberty, and have miraculously maintained it for ten years against all the boasted power of Mexico.—N. Y. Globe.

[HCH]

Thursday, June 11, 1846. Volume 47, Number 15, Page 1, Column 6, Words: 593

THE LATE MAJOR RINGGOLD

The deceased was the son of the late Gen. SAM RINGGOLD, of Washington county, Maryland. His mother was a daughter of Gen. JOHN CADWALADER, of Philadelphia; a distinguished citizen, in the days of the Revolution.

He entered the army, as a Lieut. In artillery on July 1818, having graduated, at West Point with much honor, being one of the five whose names were recorded as the most distinguished of the class. He was at once selected by Gen. SCOTT as one of his aids; and served in that capacity for several years, and ever enjoyed, to a very eminent degree, the confidence and friendship of that distinguished soldier. Pending the disturbances in South Carolina, in the year 1832. The deceased was there on duty, and he has repeatedly expressed his heartfelt gratification at the peaceful termination of the unhappy difficulties between the gallant peoples of that State and the General Government. When the Indian War occurred in Florida, the deceased, then a Captain of the Flying Artillery, was there on duty, actively employed, in various services, until the wasting effects of the climate had so impaired his health that he was prostrated by disease. For "meritorious service" in that campaign; he was awarded the rank of Brevet Major. He was afterwards selected by the Major General Commander-in-Chief to organize a corps of Flying Artillery, and he paid every possible attention to instruction and discipline of this arm of the service. How faithfully he preformed his duty, in this respect, the wonderful performances of his admirable Corps at Fort McHenry, and other places and on the field of PALO ALTO—fully attest.

He never recovered from the effects of his exposure during the Florida campaign; and when ordered from Fort McHenry to join the Army in Texas, the experienced surgeons at this post strongly insisted upon his physical inability to go through with the campaign. But he strengthened himself for duty, and as far as was known here, he was never, for an hour, unfit for service since he left this fort. He fell in the fierce battle of the 8th ult. the same hall killing his horse under him, and wounded him mortally.

The deceased was an accomplished gentleman, beloved by his friends, and truly respected by all who knew him. He was devoted to his profession, and justly appreciated the high responsibilities of an officer in command. He rigidly enforced discipline, at all times, in all things, and yet, probably no officer had more entirely the respect, the confidence, and the affectionate regard of all his officers and men, the gallant soldier of whom this brief sketch is given.
The deceased, in a letter to his immediate friends, written just as the army was about to march for Camp Isabel, (but which letter was only received only since the sad intelligence of his fall) spoke of the extreme probability of a serious rencontre with the enemy, and expressed sure confidence in the triumph of our gallant little Army. But with characteristics coolness he also adverted the great probability of his own fall in battle; and, in anticipation of that event, he made a brief will, which was enclosed on that letter.

His patriotic words to a friendly officer who came to his assistance ought not to be forgotten: Don't stay with me; you have work to do: go ahead."

Such was the tale of the late Major RINGGOLD; and such brave and gallant men make our army, small as it is, an invincible host.—Balt. Paper

CAPTAIN MAY

This gallant officer has immortalized himself. A friend who has watched his equestrian movements at the camp describes him as a most singular being. With a beard extending to his breast, and hair to his hip bone, which, as he cuts through the wind on his charger, streams out in all directions, he presents a most imposing appearance. His gait on foot is awkward, and that of his horse (an immense one) is the rack of a Canadian pony. We are glad to quote the annexed paragraph from the last evenings Courier:--"We have seen a letter from this gallant officer to his brother, in this city, dated Point Isabel, May 13. It was received last Sunday by the Col. HARNEY: The Captain tells his brother that the squadron at the head of which he charged the enemy's battery, contained 82 men; and of these he lost one officer and 10 privates killed, and 13 wounded,—28 horses killed and 10 wounded—that is nearly one-third of his men and almost half his horses hors du combat. The Captain himself was not touched, which fortunate circumstances owing to his being about ten yards in advance of his squadron in the charge.

The Captain was born in the city of Washington, where his father, Dr. MAY, who died a few years ago, was highly respected by his fellow citizens of all classes; he left six or seven sons; all fine looking men, not one of them under six feet in height. The Captain, who has so highly distinguished himself in the late operations along the Rio Grande, some years ago, when he was a youth, attracted the attention of Gen. JACKSON by his fine horsemanship, and the old chief appointed him a cornet in one of the regiments of the Dragoons, then organising. The General was a good judge of men, and in the instance of young MAY, his presentment has been fully verified."—N.O. Tropic, May 10.

"MEN WE MUST TAKE THAT BATTERY!"

These were the words of Capt. MAY to his soldiers when he made his brilliant charge at the "Battle Resaca de le Palma," on the 9th of May. [That of the 8th is called the "Battle of Palo Alto," and it was in this Major RINGGOLD was killed]. The Washington Union says it has seen a letter from the Point (Isabel), written on the 13th of May, which furnishes a few interesting additional items of news connected with Gen. TAYLOR's action of the 10th. With the permission of the gentlemen to whom it was addressed, we here present our readers with a condensed synopsis of its contents:

"Capt. MAY's squadron, ordered by the General at all risk to silence the battery threatening to snatch the victory from us, consisted of some seventy dragoons. Of these, in this charge, one officer and nine men were killed, and ten were wounded. Eighty two of the horses were also killed, and eleven were wounded. The loss sustained in this gallant affair is alone proof of the daring intrepidity of the squadron engaged, whose leader (MAY,) by-the-by, cleared the enemy's breast-work ten yards in advance of his troop. He was mounted on his favorite old charger, Tom (wounded in this affair) known to many officer of this army as having borne him successfully through numerous fights and skirmishes in the Florida campaign. This I believe, was the horse on which he led the charge on the camp of Phillip, the head chief of the Seminoles, on which occasion it will be recollected that Capt. (then Lieut) MAY knocked down and then secured the chief in the act of raising his rifle to shoot him.

"Gen. VEGA, who in this affair became a prisoner to Capt. MAY, is said to be one of the bravest and most accomplished officers of the Mexican army."

Well did this young and ardent officer carry out the laconic officer order of Gen. TAYLOR to which he made the reply so characteristic of the soldier. "Sir," said the general, "you must take that battery." "Men," said the captain in reply, "we must take that battery! Follow!"
"IF I GO TO WAR I WILL BE SHOT."

[General Observation]

The astrologer’s answer to the above depends on the aspects of the heavenly bodies as the birth of an individual. For instance if born under the sun and that planet in conjunction with Mars, unassisted by fortunate stars, the native so born would die on the battle field, or on the seas, as the case may be. Persons born in the moon in conjunction with Mars, should avoid the frontier; but those born when the luminaries were in good aspect with Jupiter, Venus, Saturn, and Mars, may venture into the stormiest part of the battle with safety, like NAPOLEAN when he crossed the bridge Lodi. WINFIELD SCOTT will never die on the battle-field; nor would Commodore STUART on the rolling seas; neither would R.M. JOHNSON, should he venture once more. Gen. CADWALLADER may venture out freely; so Gen. PATTERTSON as well as Col. JAMES PAGE. Such persons have an anxious desire to avenge their country’s honor, may write the astrologer, at Washington, after Monday, May 18, and they will be correctly instructed as to the strength and dignity of Mars at their birth or nativity. In all cases one dollar enclosed, and postage paid, will receive immediate answer. THOS. HAGUE; Astrologer.

[HCH]

Thursday, June 11, 1846. Volume 47, Number 15, Page 2, Column 1 Words: 242

MILITARY SPIRIT OF BERKELEY

We are truly delighted to see that the Military spirit of “Old Berkeley” is reviving. We could at one time number several well drilled Volunteer Companies in the County, but of late years we have had none. Things, however, are about to take a change. We learn from the “Republican” that on Saturday last, pursuant to the orders of the Commandant of the Regiment, the new LIGHT INFANTRY Company met and elected the following gentlemen, Officers—

EPHRAIM G.A. ALEURTIS, Captain:
WILLIAM T.R. SAFFELL 1st Lieutenant;
PHILIP S. CUMMINGHAM, 2d Lieut.
EVERHART RAENAELL, 3d Lieut.
J.Q.A. NADENBOUSCH 4th Lieut.

This company expect to be in full uniform by the 4th of July next.

We also learn from the Republican that a Company is being formed at Gerardstown and that they will meet on Saturday next, the 13th inst., for the election of Officers.

A reference to our advertising columns will also show that "the Company of Cavalry" will meet at the "Martinsburg House" on Saturday next, the 13th, for the election of Officers—and that on the succeeding Saturday, the 29th inst., there will be another meeting held at the "United States Hotel" for the formation of another Infantry or Rifle Corps and the election of Officers. There is abundant material for the formation of all these Companies, and we hope to see a generous rivalry among them as to which shall be the most energetic and best drilled Corps in the County.

[HCH]

Thursday, June 11, 1846. Volume 47, Number 15, Page 2, Column 2 Words: 231

GENERAL SCOTT

The House of Representatives on Thursday last adopted a resolution limiting the number of Major Generals, at the close of the Mexican War, to one, and giving the President the privilege of selecting the one to be retained. We do not wish “to kick before we are spurred,” but it does not seem to us that this is a blow aimed at Gen. SCOTT. The Senate has not yet acted on the resolution of the House, and we think the majority of that body will not pass it. Yes, we look to the Senate with confidence, to kill in the bud all such disgraceful attempts to tarnish the fame of one of the most gallant generals belonging to the history of the United States. We can tell our opponents one thing, that, when they succeed in driving the glories of Chippewa, and the splendors of Lundy’s Lane from the minds and hearts of the American people, then they can strike down their gallant hero—but not until then. As well might they attempt to destroy the glories of Lexington, and Bunker Hill, and Trenton, and the fame of Washington. Away with such unworthy
Thursday, June 11, 1846. Volume 47, Number 15, Page 2, column 4 Words: 1518

LATE FROM THE SEAT OF WAR

FROM THE NEW ORLEANS DELTA OF MAY 28.

Matamoras taken without opposition—Mexican Soldiers deserting in great numbers—Additional particulars of the action of the 8th and 9th of May.

The steamship telegraph is just in. By the following synopsis of the latest news from the seat of war, it will be seen that the Rubieon, or the Rio Grande, is crossed by the advanced division of our gallant little Army, and that the enemy fled before them, leaving their towns and forts, and permitting them to fall in possession of our gallant army without a defensive shot. The glorious and well fought battles of the 8th and 9th have struck terror into the enemy, and decided, it would appear, the fate of the campaign.

From the Galveston News, Extra, May 21.

MATAMORAS TAKEN!

The steamship Telegraph had just arrived from Point Isabel. Through the politeness of her obliging clerk we have been furnished with the following information:

He reports that in the 17th inst., a detachment of 300 regulars and 250 volunteers proceeded to Barita and took possession of it and established a military depot.

On the night of the 19th an express arrived from Gen. TAYLOR, stating that he had crossed the Rio Grande and had taken the city of Matamoras without opposition—the Mexicans having fled from the city.

The Mexicans, from the last accounts were deserting their ranks in battalions. Two American regiments, with the exception of about 350 men, having marched a few days previous, were stationed at the Brazos Point, awaiting the orders of Gen. TAYLOR as it was thought they would leave on the 20th for Matamoras, via the old Barita road.

Col. McINTOSH, Capt. PAGE and all the others that were wounded in the actions of the 8th and 9th are at Point Isabel and are recovering. The Telegraph is 26 hours from Point Isabel. Capt. AULD of the Telegraph who has had opportunities for obtaining the correct information, has given us some interesting particulars in relation to our army operations. We have now scarcely time to allude to them.

The escape of Capt. THORNTON, at the time his company was so badly cut up, is most incredible. After carrying him safely over a high bridge enclosure into which he had been decoyed, his horse carried him safely over several very high fences and very deep ravines, swimming the Rio Grande above Matamoras, then passing down below the town on the opposite side. In attempting to leap a broad ditch, he missed footing when both horse and rider were thrown. By the fall Capt. T. was so stunned that he was soon after taken up by the Mexicans perfectly unconscious of what had happened.

After the battle of the 9th, he was exchanged and restored to our army. Capt. AULD thinks the whole number of our killed and wounded must amount to more than 300, besides the wounded taken to St. Joseph.

There are now 40 at Point Isabel, to badly wounded to be removed. All but three it is thought will recover. There are three Mexican prisoners having but one leg among them all.

After being shot in the arm, Col. McINTOSH received a bayonet wound in the mouth, which passed through one side of his head. There are hopes of his recovery.

The condition of the brave and esteemed Capt. PAGE is melancholy indeed. The whole of his lower jaw, with part of his tongue and his pallet are shot away by grape shot. He however, survives, although entirely deprived of speech.

He communicates his thoughts by writing on a slate and receives nourishment for the support of life with much difficulty. He does not desire to live, but converses with cheerfulness and exultation on the subject of the army.

All our accounts represent the Mexicans as having fought on the 9th with courage and desperation that would have reflected credit upon the troops of any nation.

They were nearly in a state of starvation and had been promised the ample supplies of the American camp in case they
would secure the victory.

They met the charges of our troops manfully, and stood the destructive fire that was poring in upon them, without giving way until their works were encumbered with the dead and wounded.

From the Galveston News, May 22.

The sloop Orange, Branch Capt. UNDERHILL, arrived yesterday, 21 hours from Indian Point, near Port Lavaca.

Capt. U. says that a report reached Victoria last Friday, that one hundred Germans, escorting one hundred wagons from New Braunfels to the new settlement on the San Salsa, seventy miles above, were suddenly attacked by a large body of Comanches, supposed to number several thousand, whereupon the emigrants abandoned their wagons, seeking security, leaving their property in the hands of the savages. There appears to be some uncertainty as to the numbers, etc., but the main facts are substantially correct.

Capt. U. also informs us that a report came overland to Port Lavaca last Sunday, to the effect that a large body of Indians, consisting of warriors of several tribes comprising the warriors of the Comanche nation, were hovering about the entrenchments opposite Matamoras, with a view doubtless to join the victorious party, and share in the plunder of the defeated.

On the 19th it was reported that three thousand men had crossed the river, and none of the volunteers had yet gone over. Nothing further had been heard of the reinforcements that were reported to be on their way to the relief of AMPUDIA.

Col. SOMPTON found a Mexican three days hence in a thicket. As soon as he was discovered he threw away his arms, saying that he had been fighting a month with nothing but bread and water provisions, that he now wished to surrender to the American forces, as he would fight no longer under the Mexican Government, and that two thirds of the whole Mexican force wished to do the same.

LATER.

Arrival at New Orleans of the steamer Galveston and James L. Day—Confirmation of the capture of Matamoras. An armistice asked by ARISTA, American terms declined—U.S. squadron ordered to Pensacola, to prepare for attack on Vera Cruz.

FROM THE N.O. TROPIC

The Galveston, Capt. WRIGHT, has just arrived, having left Point Isabel on Wednesday, 27th inst.

The news brought by her is confirmatory of the capture of Matamoras. The Mexicans were encamped about twenty miles up the river. Both the Americans and the Mexicans were waiting for reinforcements, when another battle was expected. The Mexican army left a large amount of ammunition at Matamoras, which is a valuable acquisition to Gen. TAYLOR’s supplies.

The Mexicans having previously destroyed large quantities by filling up the wells in the city, and throwing some into the river, Gen. TAYLOR, like true hearted American officer, gave orders to his army not to take the slightest article without paying for its full value.

The citizens of Matamoras were permitted to transact business as usual, with the exception of selling liquors. Com. CONNER, with most of the squadron had gone to Pensacola to refit and reinforce before making an attack on Vera Cruz. Capts PLATT and ELLMORE’s companies of Alabama volunteers were safely landed at Point Isabel, on the 26th inst. The James L. Day, Capt. GRIFFIN, has arrived, but brings nothing later. A part of Col. TWIGGS Regiment of Dragoons under command of Capt. MAY, ARNOLD, and KERR arrived at Point Isabel on the 25th inst. to recruit their horses.

From the New Orleans Bulletin

The Mexican army had retreated to Camargo. A passenger aboard the Galveston has furnished us with some interesting details connected with intelligence received by previous accounts. On the 17th inst. a large portion of Gen. TAYLOR’s army moved up the river for the purpose of crossing.

Gen. TAYLOR remained at the fortifications with about 300 men, as the army were seen by the Mexicans on the opposite side of the river to leave the encampment and approach the Fort.

ARISTA sent a flag of truce to Gen. TAYLOR, requesting an armistice of six weeks, giving as a reason for his request, he desired to communicate with his government. Gen. TAYLOR said he would give him until 8 o’clock tomorrow morning to evacuate the city of Matamoras, and would permit him to take the public property under his charge.

The flag then returned. On the next day, 18th, the army crossed on blats of their own construction and bodies of
wagon caulked. The passage was made about four miles above Fort Brown.

On arriving at the city, it was discovered that ARISTA had departed with his forces, leaving only the mounted battery, all the mortars, and all of the military apparatus as could not be removed in their haste to escape, were thrown into the wells.

The party from our army went out to reconnoitre immediately after the entrance into Matamoras, and overtook a portion of the Mexicans, who were retreating, 22 of whom were made prisoners. It is understood that Gen ARISTA’s headquarters are at San Fernadino, about 90 miles from Matamoras.

The wounded of the American Army are understood to be doing well.

[HCH]

Thursday, June 11, 1846. Volume 47, Number 15, Page2, Column 4, Words: 752

LATEST

The port of Vera Cruz blockaded—The powers of American consuls unveiled—Americans ordered to the interior of the country—Efforts of the government to maintain the War, &c.

FROM THE BALT. AMERICAN

The barque Thaetus, Capt. MERRIL, from Vera Cruz arrived at new Orleans on the 30th ult. Brings dates from the city of Mexico on the 15th and from Vera Cruz to the 20th Ult. From the Picayune and the Delta of the 31st Ult. we make up the following interesting summary of news:

We learn that the U.S. steamship Mississippi arrived off Vera Cruz on the 18th, bringing the intelligence of the glorious battles of the 8th and 9th inst. but very wisely the news was only communicated to a few Americans in the city. The port was immediately blockaded by the Mississippi and the Falmouth.

The T. was boarded by the U.S. ship Falmouth and took a letter bag from her. The brig St. Petersburg sailed on the 19th for New York.

Orders had been received by the American citizens, from the city of Mexico, directing them to leave Vera Cruz by the 24th, inst. or move into the interior. It was expected that our consul would go on board one of our vessels. On the 18th inst. an American vessel approached the port and was immediately boarded by our officers and forbidden to enter the port. In the night, however, she succeeded in slipping into the port. There were two American vessels in port when T. left—the bark Louisiana, and the brig Helen McLeod—which partially discharged their cargoes but under order from the minister General of War and Marine, they would probably be seized. From all we can gather the Government is making the greatest exertions straining every nerve to carry on the war with the utmost vigor, and by the most arbitrary measures had replenished the treasury.

The call for volunteers from Missouri was so promptly met that seven companies from the interior of the State which had gone had gone to St. Louis were not received, and had returned home. The St. Louis Era says on this subject:

“"A call for more troops than is necessary or wanted has a bad effect on the alacrity for which Western Volunteers are celebrated in flying to arms, and in the future they are not likely to be so prompt, but will wait to see whether there is a certainty of their being employed before they put themselves to any trouble or inconvenience in starting. There are still four companies remaining, the greater portion of which will start for their houses today or tomorrow. Finer looking or braver men we never saw, and we regret that they will not be permitted to distinguish themselves and the state whence they came in the battle field."

It would appear from the following article that the War Department at Washington does not conduct its affairs with the precision should mark its movement at a time like the present:

Volunteers for Santa Fe—Considerable dissatisfaction was manifested yesterday at the orders, from Jefferson City, in relation to the raising of four hundred mounted volunteers, a part of the one thousand required by the U. States. To be placed under the command of Col. KEARNBY. There are hundreds here who are anxious to fo but the vague and indefinite character of the order make it uncertain how they are to go, in many important particulars; so much so that many are unwilling to enroll themselves.

"It is understood that the companies are to consist of one hundred and fourteen man—an unusual number, and not in accordance with the requirements of the recent act of congress or the instruction of the War Department. Again it is understood that although they and their horses will be inspected by col. CAMPBELL, here, yet they will not be mustered into the service until they reach Fort Leavenworth where they may be accepted or rejected as Col. KEARNEY may choose. There is no specification of how the regiment is to be constituted; whether the companies will compose one or
two regiments; who is to have the command, or how the field officers are to be chosen.

"These and other objections, whether well or ill founded, have had a great effect upon the zeal of the volunteers for this service, so much so, that we are told, already raised could be made ready for service in a few days, will probably decline tendering their services."

[HCH]

Thursday, June 11, 1846. Volume 47, Number 15, Page 2, Column 4, Words: 120

OPINIONS OF SANTA ANNA ON THE WAR

The New Orleans Picayune of the 9th ult., says "The latest news received in Havana from Vera Cruz was to the 1st instant; not so late as our own advises threat. A gentlemen who recently arrived here from Havana talked freely with General Santa Anna upon Mexican Affairs. He depreciated the war with the united States, as sure to be disastrous with Mexico. He spoke of the monarchical projects in Mexico as destined to certain failure, he believing that a majority of the people would prefer even annexation to the United States to the rule of a Spanish Prince. SANTA ANNA had, it is said, no intention of returning to Mexico at present, and has recently rented a new house.

[HCH]

Thursday, June 11, 1846. Volume 47, Number 15, Page 2, Column 4, Words: 21

General ALMONTE regards the insurrectionary attempt of Gen. ALVAREZ as one of great moment, and very difficult to be but down.

Thursday, June 11, 1846. Volume 47, Number 15, Page 2, Column 4, Words: 133

BOUNDARY OF TEXAS—The first Congress that assembled in the Republic Texas after the adoption of the Constitution, adopted the following "Act to define the boundaries of Texas."

Be it enacted, &c., That from and after the passage of this act, the civil and political jurisdiction of the Republic, be, ad is hereby declared, to extend to the following boundaries to wit: the beginning of the mouth of the Sabine river, running west along the Gulf of Mexico three leagues from the land to the mouth of the Rio Grande, then up the principle of said river to its source, then due north to the 42nd degree of north latitude, thence along the boundary line as defined in the treaty between the United States and Spain to the beginning.

SAM HOUSTON, Pres't.
Approved, Dec. 19, 1836.

[HCH]

Thursday, June 11, 1846. Volume 47, Number 15, Page 3, Column 2 Words: 46

ATTENTION CAVALRY!

THE Company of Cavalry now established within the bounds of the 67th Regiment will meet at the "Martinsburg House," in the town of Martinsburg, on Saturday the 13th of June, at 3 o'clock, P.M. for the election of officers.

EDMUND P. HUNTER,
Col. 67th reg. V.M.
MILITARY NOTICE

THERE will be a meeting of those dispossessed to form a new Infantry or Rifle Corpse within the bounds of the 67th Regiment, held at the U.S. Hotel, in the town of Martinsburg, on Saturday the 20th inst., at 3 o'clock, P.M. for the election of officers.

EDMUND P. HUNTER,
Col. 67th reg. V.M.

STATE OF THE FINANCES MESSAGE

Of the President of the United States, in answer to the resolution of the Senate of June 3, 1846, calling for information relative to the finances, &c.

To the Senate of the United States:

In answer to the resolution of the senate of the 3rd inst., I communicate herewith esimates prepared by the War and the Navy Departments, of the probable expenses of conducting the existing war with Mexico during the remainder of the present and the whole of the next fiscal year. I communicate also, a report of the Secretary of the Treasury, based upon these estimates, containing recommendations of measures for raising the additional means required. It is probable that the actual expenses incurred during the period specified will fall considerably below the estimates submitted, which are for a larger number of troops than have been called to the field. As a precautionary measure, however, against any possible deficiency, the estimates have been made at the largest amount which any state of service will require.

It will be perceived from the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, that a considerable portion of the additional amount required may be raised by a modification of the rates of duty imposed by the existing tariff laws. The high duties at present levied on many articles totally exclude them from importation, whilst the quantity and amount of others which are imported are greatly diminished. By reducing these duties to a revenue standard, it is not doubted that a large amount of articles on which they are imposed would be imported, and a corresponding amount of revenue be received at the treasury from this source. By imposing revenues on many items now permitted to be imported free of duty, and by regulating the rates within the revenue standard upon others, a large amount of additional revenue will be collected. Independently of the high considerations, which induced me, in my annual message, to recommend a modification and reduction of the rates of duty, imposed by the acts of 1842, as being not only proper in a reference to a state of peace, but just to all the great interests of the country, the necessity of such modification and reduction as a war measure must now be manifest. The country requires additional revenue for the prosecution of the war. It may be obtained, to a great extent, by reducing the prohibitory and highly protective duties imposed by the existing laws to revenue rates; by imposing revenue duties on the free list; and by modifying the rates of duty on other articles.

The modification recommended by the Secretary of the Treasury in his annual report of December last, were adapted to a state of peace, and the additional duties now suggested by him, are with a view strictly to raise revenue as a war measure. At the conclusion of the war these duties may and should be abolished, and reduced to lower rates.

It is not apprehended that the existing war with Mexico will materially affect our trade and commerce with the rest of the world. On the contrary, the reductions proposed would increase that trade, and augment the revenue derived from it.

When the country is in a state of war, no contingency should be permitted to occur in which their would be a deficiency in the treasury, for the vigorous prosecution of the war; and to guard against such an event it is recommended that contingent authority be given issue treasury notes, or to contract a loan for a limited amount, reimbursable at an early day. Should no occasion arise to exercise the power, still it may be important that the authority should exist there be a necessity for it.

It is not deemed necessary to resort to direct taxes or excises—the measures recommended being deemed preferable as a means of increasing the revenue. It is hoped that the war with Mexico, if vigorously prosecuted, as is contemplated, may be of short duration. I shall at all times be ready to conclude an honorable peace, whenever the Mexican government shall manifest a like disposition. The existing war has been rendered necessary by the acts of Mexico; and whenever that power shall be ready to do us justice, we shall be prepared to sheath the sword, and tender to her the olive branch of peace.
LATE FROM MEXICO.

FROM GALVESTON AND RIO GRANDE—FIRST MOVEMENT OF INVASION OF MEXICO.

From the New Orleans Picayune, June 14.

The steamship Galveston, Capt. WRIGHT, was towed up to town at an early hour yesterday morning by the towboat Star. By here we have received Galveston papers to the 10th inst., and our correspondence from the army. They bring up the news from the Rio Grande to the latest dates, and will be found interesting.

Among the passengers brought by the Galveston were Gov. P. M. BUTLER, of South Carolina, Maj. MCCREA, U. S. Quarter Master, Maj. BELL; Capt. HAWKINS; Capt. HOOE; Dr. MOORE, of the Army; Com. MOORE, of Texas; Lieut. HOOK, of the Navy, and a number of officers of the army on the recruiting service.

We regret to say that Gov. BUTLER reached here in a very low state of health, but we are in hopes that a few days of quiet and repose will bring him up speedily.

On Saturday the 7th inst., Lieut. Col. WILSON left Matamoras for Rienoso, making the first movement towards the invasion of Mexico by the American Army. Col. WILSON has comman of five hundred strong, composed as follows:

"The four companies of the first Regiment of Infantry, Brevet Maj. ABERCROMBIE, Company K; Capt. MILLER, Company C; Capt. BACKUS, Company G.; Capt. LA MOTTE, Company C, and Capt. PRICE's Company of Texas Rangers, with a section of Lieut. BRAGG's Battery, under Lieuts. THOMAS and JOHNSTONE."

This movement is highly interesting, because it opens the ball of carrying the war into the enemy's country. Reinoso is a small town on the Rio Grande, sixty miles from Matamoras, and containing about one thousand inhabitants. It is presumed that Col. WILSON and the brave soldiers under him, will take it without a blow,—at least the soldiers fear such will be the case.

The volunteers are in good health and spirits—very few cases of sickness.

Volunteers have at last begun to pour into Galveston freely. From the news of the 9th inst., we copy the following:

"A fully company, under Capt. ARNOLD, arrived by the steamer SAMUEL M. WILLIAMS on the 5th inst. They are from Nacogdoches, and carry a standard with the words "Old Nacagdoches" on it. They are fine looking men, and have had a most fatiguing march on foot, of several hundred miles. They have been mustered into service and received their arms, which can hardly fall into better hands to do good service.

"A company from Jasper and Jefferson counties arrived from Sabine, by water, last Saturday the 6th, commanded by Capt. CHESHIRE, who was in the battle of San Jacinto. These have also been received, and left for Point Isabel on the schooner Vesta, Capt. FISK, this morning.

"A company of mounted men, under Capt. L. S. BALLOO, left Brazoria for the seat of war on the 27th ult. About 20 persons had left that county previously with the same destination.

"By this arrival we have received the first two numbers of the "Republic of the Rio Grande and Friend of the people." The first number is dated June 1st , and the second June 8th. The motto of the paper is 'Fear not—the brave and generous soldier is only to be feared in the field of battle.' The paper is edited by H. MCCLEOD. The leading articles are printed both in English and Spanish.—The purpose is to convince the people of Tamaulipas, Coahuila, New Leon, and Chihuahua of the futility of resisting American arms, and to throw upon the Administration of Paredes the responsibility of the war. A separation of the Departments named above from the central government of Mexico is the distinct aim of this new paper.

"We find in the News the prospectus of the Rio Grande Herald, a paper which Messrs. Bangs & Lewis propose to publish at Matamoras, or some convenient point near the main army."

The "Republic of the Rio Grande and Friend of the People," of the 8th instant, has the following—
Movements of the Enemy.—A traveler from Tampico met a Government carrier between that place and Victoria, about ten days ago, hunting for the Mexican army, for whom he bore orders, he said, to retreat upon Tampico. This would seem to indicate that the Government considered the day as definitely lost in this quarter, or were unable to reinforce their army sufficiently to enable it to stand another battle, and were collecting its fragments for the defence of Vera Cruz.

The port of Tampico was not blockaded, he states, as vessels were entering and departing, though an American sloop of war—the St. Mary’s—was in sight. Mr. SCHATZELL and the other Americans, who were so rudely driven from Matamoras by AMPUDIA, had reached Tampico in safety, though shaken in health by their forced journey of three hundred miles.—They took shipping on the 23d ult. for this place, where they may be hourly expected.

ARISTA’s retreat will doubtless continue to the mountains. After losing the day with five to one at Palo Alto and Raseca de la Palma, it is not likely that he will make another stand on the plains. Gen. TAYLOR takes the field with so overwhelming a force, and so admirably equipped in that terrible arm, the light artillery, that it would be madness in the enemy to fight again, where defeat would be certain and retreat impossible. Monterey is the first position of any natural strength and it also commands the entrance of the mountain pass of Saltillo. It is there, in all probability, that ARISTA will make his great effort, which the importance of the object, his wounded pride, and the advantages of the ground, will all conspire to make a brilliant but a bloody day in the history of this war.

We understand that CANALES is at Olmitas Ranco, five leagues on this side of Reynosa, levying contribution upon the people, and plundering them of all their mules and other moveable property. He has closed the road and intercepts all communication from this direction, treating all those who are suspected of coming from this place with the greatest harshness.

From the New Orleans Delta, June 14.

The particulars of the recent Indian Treaty, is the most important news which we find in the papers received by the Galveston. Eleven tribes were fully represented, and all the chiefs signed the treaty, and declared their determination to assist in punishing all who might violate it. One of the objects of the delegation of Indians who have accompanied Gov. BUTLER to Washington City, is to fix upon a line of boundary, within which to restrict the occupation of the Indians. The points settled by the treaty are thus enumerated:

The Indians acknowledge themselves under the protection of the United States, and recognize no other authority, pledging themselves to perpetual amity and friendship with the people of the United States, and all friendly Indians.

They agree not to form alliances with the enemies of the country, and to give notice of any contemplated invasion or impending danger.

Each tribe is to give notice of any violation of the treaty on the part of the other.

They are to give up all prisoners; and aid the authorities of the U. S. in obtaining them.

They pledge themselves to desist from all murder and depredation, and to surrender all offenders to be tried by the laws of the U. S.

The U. S. have the right to establish agencies and trading houses among them, and to establish military post, &c.

They concede to the U. S. the right of control over all trade and intercourse, and will in no instance seek personal redress for injuries, either to person or property, but will in such cases apply to the U. S. agent.

They concede the right to introduce among them ministers of the gospel and school teachers.

They agree to prohibit the introduction of spirituous liquors among them, and to give notice of the violation of this provision.

The U. S., in consideration of these stipulations on the part of the several Indian tribes represented at the treaty, agree to make peace for them with all their enemies, to give them presents every fall, &c., as usual in similar treaties.

The E-se-qua-i-as and Mescaleros, numbering together about 5000 souls, who are branches of the Lipans and allies of the Camanches, and came recently from the Mexican prairies, are included among the tribes represented by the treaty. The Camanches are anxious to conciliate them.

One white child and four Mexican boys were ransomed from the Camanches. The two Parker children were seen, and arrangements have been made to procure them by frost.

A party of eleven of the Tonkaway Indians recently visited the new Dutch Colony of Castroville, and stole three horses. The owners of the horses immediately pursued, overtook, and killed three of the Indians, and recovered the horses.
Col. HARNEY, of the U. S. Dragoons, has recently made a requisition upon the Governor of Texas for seven companies of men, to assist in the defence of the frontier.

LATEST.

We have New Orleans papers of the 15th instant, from which we extract the following items:

From the Tropic.

IMPORTANT RUMOR FROM THE ARMY.

A letter was received in town yesterday, which stated that Gen. ARISTA had sent proposals to Gen. TAYLOR for an armistice, and that he had established his head quarters at Monterey with 15,000 men. Gen. TAYLOR is said to have sent back an answer that “he would meet Gen. ARISTA at Monterey.” We have no doubt of the truth of this rumor.

THE OREGON TREATY.

The ratification of the treaty of limits between the U. States and G. Britain, says the Balt. American, relative to the territory beyond the Rocky Mountains, took place in the Senate on Thursday by a vote of 41 yeas and 14 nays.—This decisive act removes a cause of difficulties which has greatly disturbed the relations of the two countries, and gives an assured prospect, we may hope, of long continued peace between the respective parties to this new bond of amity.

The achievement of this peaceful and honorable settlement of a complicated question, pregnant with the elements of war, is to be regarded as a signal triumph of the wisdom and conservative virtue of the country over the rash, reckless and impetuous spirit of the day—over the machinations of such political aspirants as sought to rise on the tide of the martial enthusiasm of the people, kindled into an artificial excitement by sophisticated appeals to that patriotism which is the instinct of every American. The sacredness of the latter feeling, its wide spread strength, its deep and enduring strength—when we consider these and the dangers of its perversion and the aptitude of demagogues to strive to pervert it for their own purposes, we shall find abundant cause for congratulation at the peaceful result now so happily reached.

“When I read the speeches of Mr. WEBSTER, Mr. CALHOUN and Mr. BENTON”—we quote from LORD ABERDEEN in the House of Lords—“I feel anxious to forget all the idle declamation which has been wafted from the other side of the Atlantic.” Thus it is that statesmanship vindicates itself; the calm voice is heard most distinctly even in the midst of tumultuous uproar. When the British went on to express the hope that an adjustment of limits would be had in Oregon and that the treaty for the settlement of that boundary might be a prelude to a more intimate connection between England and the United States, “that vast commonwealth of free people”—he expressed a hope which will find a reciprocity of feeling on this side of the Atlantic. Against British arrogance and British ambition, should either be exhibited in our international intercourse, there would be in the minds of our people a sentiment of strong repugnance and resistance; but for intimations of amity, of courtesy, of friendly association, given in a frank and cordial spirit, there can be no other return on our part but one of equal frankness and cordiality. Let us hope that the good understanding now established may long continue, that it may strengthen by its continuance and give rise to increased intercourse, to the benefit and welfare of both parties and of the world.
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<td>THE ARMY OF OCCUPATION. This article recounts General Taylor’s many complaints about how the American government is prosecuting the war against Mexico.</td>
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<td>FROM THE RIO GRANDE. A letter from a volunteer criticizing how the War Department wages the war against Mexico. According to the article,</td>
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the War Department was not providing the army with the supplies needed to fight the war.

*July 30, 1846, MGv47n22p2c6 Words: 1303*

FROM MEXICO.
Rumors learned from various sources concerning the movements of volunteer reinforcements for General Taylor’s army in Northern Mexico.

*July 30, 1846, MGv47n22p2c6 and 7 Words: 371*

ONE DAY LATER FROM THE ARMY.
A steamship arrived with several wounded and sick officers.

*July 30, 1846, MGv47n22p2c7 Words: 951*

A PROCLAMATION
BY THE GENERAL COMMANDING THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
A letter from General Taylor to the Mexican people encouraging Mexicans to rebel.

**August 1846**

*August 6, 1846 MGv47i23p2c1 Two Days Later from Mexico*
Information on events occurring on the front lines.

*August 13, 1846 MGv47i24p1c4 Dentists*
Information on medical attention to U.S. soldiers in Mexico

*August 13, 1846 MGv47i24p1c7 Expenses of the Mexican War*
Article pertaining to the costs incurred by the United States

*August 13, 1846 MGv47i24p2c4 From Mexico*
Latest news from Mexico

*August 13, 1846 MGv47i24p2c6 Capt. Mays own description of his charge*
Article paraphrasing Captain Mays and his charge of Mexican forces

*August 13, 1846 MGv47i24p4c1 Latest News*
Information on the current political conversations on Oregon

*August 20, 1846 MGv47i25p2c3 From Mexico*
Article pertaining to new events being reported from the Mexican front

*August 27, 1846 MGv47i26p1c6 The Two Million Bill*
Article explaining the cost of the Mexican war

*August 27, 1846 MGv47i26p2c4 From Mexico*
News of military and political developments in Mexico

*August 27, 1846 MGv47i26p2c4 Important from Vera Cruz, via Havana*
Latest news out of Vera Cruz and Taylor’s campaign

*August 27, 1846 MGv47i26p2c5 Later Still*
More information from Mexico

**September 1846**

*MGv47i27p1c5 September 3 1846: Gen. Gaines*
The president has approved the decision of the Court of Inquiry to look into Gen. Gaines conduct

*MGv47i27p1c5, September 3, 1846: Gen. Gaines' Defence*
Gen. Gaines’ defence to the Military Court of Inquiry for his actions has been made known to the public; quote from his defence

*MGv47i27p1c5, September 3, 1846: The California Soldiers*
Soldiers have deserted after they have found out how things are going on Governor's Island; Isaac Primorse has been sentenced to be confined in irons; Moretons should also be confined to the irons

*MGv47i27p1c7, September 3, 1846: The Wife of Paredes*
Comments about the wife of Paredes, the Mexican president-she is good in danger, and is devoted to Paredes, she accompanies the army and dresses her husband's wounds.
Mr. Haywoods Manifesto
Haywood cites the Mexican war as a reason for the tariff of 1846

Peace
The peace society has addressed a circular to the president urging him to accept England's mediation in the conflict with Mexico.

From Mexico
Arrival of the British man of war; overthrow and imprisonment of Paredes; the country in favor of Santa Anna; Santa Anna arrives at Vera Cruz; annexation of California to the US

From the Army
Arrival of the McKim; capture of China by Capt. McCulloh; arrival of Gen. Taylor at Camargo; advance of Capt. Duncan

Capt. Windle reports that Gen. Worth has left Camargo and headed to Monterey; Mexicans intend to make a bold stand at Monterey; Capt. Duncan returned from reconnaissance of the country on the other side of the San Juan; comments on the number of troops at Monterey

Important if Authentic
Rumored of an advance of 15,000 Mexicans upon Gen. Taylor

Highly Important from the Pacific
Com. Sloat taken possession of California; extension of the revenue law of the US over California

Very Late from Santa Fe
Mr. N Coleburn left Santa Fe; soldiers waiting in Santa Fe to hear from Kearney; met up with Capt. Worcester, T. Caldwell and Chris Bent and sent by them to Kearney all the news he had; Indians in Santa Fe offering their services to Gen. Armijo if he allowed them to take spoils of war

"Old Rough & Ready"
Song lyrics about Taylor sung to the tune of Old Dan Tucker

The Army
Comments about how Taylor demanded that there be no liquor and all the shops and coffee houses complied; Co. Hay's Regiment is said to have marched into San Fernando to the tune of Yankee Doodle

Old Rough and Ready
Anecdote about Gen. Taylor's character; comments about how he did not allow the establishment of drinking and gambling in Camargo

Letter from Gen. Taylor
Taylor thanking Geo. Folsom for a the passing of a resolution that add more men to the Army

Movements of Gen. Taylor
Comments on what Taylor has sent to Monterey; troops advancing but have not met the enemy; main army is at Camargo; Taylor still at Camargo but suppose to be leaving in a few days; Gen. Worth continues his march to Monterey

Reported Capture of Monterey
Letter from Monterey asserts that a body of American who came down from New Mexico, combined with some forces from Texas, have entered Monterey without any opposition; Col. Harney at the head of the movement

Riot among the Volunteers
Riot has occurred among the Georgia volunteers at Burita on the Rio Grande - a feud had existed between some of the companies that were there, which caused the riot

From Vera Cruz and the Gulf Squadron
Loss of he US brig of war Truxton; Truxton crew taken prisoners; arrival of Santa Anna in Vera Cruz; possession of California by US navy

Letter about the reporting of Gen. Taylor in Europe
More popular there than at home
Washington Union stated that if an offer of peace has been made by the US to Mexico then Mexico has rejected it

MGv47i30p2c1, September 24, 1846: U. States and Mexico-Mediation of England
Comments about the war between Mexico and the US and prospects for peace; Great Britain has offered her mediation skills to the conflict

MGv47i30p2c4, September 24, 1846: From Mexico, proclamation of Santa Anna
Full speech made by Santa Anna about the war; internal Mexican politics; no compromise

MGv47i30p2c6, September 24, 1846: Later from the Army
Prospects of another battle, movement of the army towards Monterey; latest from the central division of the army; great Mexican victory; conduct of the Mexicans; Col. Harney's whereabouts

MGv47i30p2c7, September 24, 1846: Important from the Gulf Squadron
Arrival of the steamer Princeton; Mexico declined proposals for peace; important despatches to government; tidings from the crew of the Truxton

October

1 Oct 1846 MGv47n31p1 Matamoras, Fort Brown attack
1 Oct 1846 MGv47n31p2 The Two Million Bill, Baltimore American
1 Oct 1846 MGv47n31p2 Negotiations with Mexico
1 Oct 1846 MGv47n31p2 Latest Army news, Advance of General Taylor, etc.
1 Oct 1846 MGv47n31p3 Reported Capture of Santa Fe
1 Oct 1846 MGv47n31p3 First Battalion, Second Infantry, Riley, en route for Point Isabel
1 Oct 1846 MGv47n31p3 A heroic act in battle, Third Infantry
8 Oct 1846 MGv47n32p1 The burning of the Truxton
8 Oct 1846 MGv47n32p1 Battle anecdote, New Orleans Picayune
8 Oct 1846 MGv47n32p2 Commodore Sloat taking California, New Orleans Times
8 Oct 1846 MGv47n32p2 General Kearney takes Santa Fe, proclamation
15 Oct 1846 MGv47n33p1 Critical of the war, Richmond Compiler
15 Oct 1846 MGv47n33p2 Battle of Monterey Despatches of General Taylor
15 Oct 1846 MGv47n33p2 Monterey Terms of Capitulation
15 Oct 1846 MGv47n33p2 Bravery of General Worth, Baltimore Sun
22 Oct 1846 MGv47n34p1 Poetical, Love and war poem
22 Oct 1846 MGv47n34p2 Wilmot reelected to Congress
22 Oct 1846 MGv47n34p2 Battle of Monterey, National Intelligencer
22 Oct 1846 MGv47n34p2 Prosecution of the War, National Intelligencer
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22 Oct 1846 MGv47n34p2 Prosecution of the War, Baltimore American
22 Oct 1846 MGv47n34p2 Colonel Watson’s Death, New Orleans Delta
22 Oct 1846 MGv47n34p3 Monterey and Santa Fe, Baltimore Sun
29 Oct 1846 MGv47n35p1 Military technology advances, New York Sun
29 Oct 1846 MGv47n35p2 Santa Anna leaves Mexico City for seat of war

November

MG46v47n36p1c3 Thursday, November 5, 1846, News, Politics, &c., from the Baltimore American, The Monterey Capitulation

MG46v47n36p1c3 November 5, 1846, The United States Loan - the Treasury Notes Made a Currency

MG46v47n36p2c1 November 5, 1846, The Last Words of Colonel Watson

MG46v47n36p3c4 November 5, 1846, The Mexican War – Santa Anna

MG46v47n36p4c4 November 5, 1846, From Mexico, Latest from the Rio Grande, Arrival of the Streamer Galveston

MG46v47n36p3c5 November 5, 1846, Accounts from the Army of General Butler

MG46v47n36p5c1 November 5, 1846, Santa Anna’s Passport – Alex. Gax.

MGi46v47n36p5c1 November 5, 1846, To the Editor

MG46v47n37p1 12 Nov 1846 A novel plan to take Vera Cruz castle, an airship

MG46v47n37p1 12 Nov 1846 California Blockade, New York Journal of Commerce

MG46v47n37p1 12 Nov 1846 Distance from Monterey to Mexico City

MG46v47n37p2c6 12 Nov 1846 From Mexico, 5 Days Later from Monterey, From the Baltimore Sun, Nov. 9

MGv47n37p2-3 12 Nov 1846 Monterey, General Ampudia, Santa Anna leaving Mexico City, Baltimore Sun

MG46v47n37p3c41212 Nov 1846 Nov 1846 Letter to the Editor

MG46v47n37p4c1, 12 November 1846, Letter to the Editor, Vera Cruz, October 1, 1846

MG46v47n37p4c2, 12 November 1846, Letter to the Editor, Washington, Nov. 4, 1846

MG46v47n38p1c2, 19 November 1846, Description of Monterey, Correspondence of the Cincinnati Advertiser, Monterey, September 29, 1846.

MG46v47n38p1c3, 19 November 1846, Tennessee Volunteers – The Killed and Wounded

MG46v47n38p1c3, 19 November 1846, Santa Anna’s Leg

MG46v47n38p1c6, 19 November 1846, Jack Hays and His Men

MG46v47n38p1c7, 19 November 1846, Dress of Mexican Women

MG46v47n38p1c7, 19 November 1846, Mr. Polk’s Faux Pas

MG46v47n38p2c2, 19 November 1846, A Call for Troops

MG46v47n38p2c3, 19 November 1846, From Mexico, Very Late and Important from Mexico

MG46v47n38p2c6, 19 November 1846, From the Gulf Squadron, Second Abortive Attack on Alvarando---Vessels Grounded on the Bar—Expedition against Tobasco—Capture of Several Prizes

MG46v47n38p2c7, 19 November 1846, Further Particulars, Coolness of Con.-Conner- Effects of the Mississippi’s shells – Expedition against Tobasco

MG46v47n38p3c1, 19 November 1846, From the St. Louis Republican, Important and Very Late from Santa Fe
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 MG46v47n39p1c3, 26 November 1846, Letter to the Editor, Camp near Monterey
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OFFICIAL DESPATCHES FROM THE ARMY.

We have been permitted to lay before our readers the following extracts from the last official despatches of General Taylor, which have been received at the War Department:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,

Matamoras, May 30, 1846.

[Extract.]

I enclose an original draught, found in Gen. Arista's papers, of an invitation to our solders to desert. A similar call was previously made by Ampudia, and has already found its way into the public prints. The department may seem from these documents what arms were used against us.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Z. TAYLOR.
Lt. Brig'r. Gen'l. U. S. A., Com'g.

The ADJ'T. GEN'L. of the army,
Washington, D. C.

The following is the extraordinary and insidious address of General Arista, referred to in the preceding extract: [What irresistible inducements does he offer for desertion—to exchange the honorable and proud character of American citizens for the miserable and degraded lot of "peaceful Mexican citizens!"]

General Arista's advice to the soldiers of the United States army.

HEADQUARTERS AT MATAMORAS,

April 20, 1846.
Soldiers! You have enlisted in time of peace to serve in that army for a specific term; but your obligation never implied that you were bound to violate the laws of God, and the most sacred rights of friends! The United States government, contrary to the wishes of a majority of all honest and honorable Americans, has ordered you to take forcible possession of the territory of a friendly neighbor, who has never given her consent to such occupation. In other words, while the treaty of peace and commerce between Mexico and the United States is in full force, the United States, presuming on her strength and prosperity, and on our supposed imbecility and cowardice, attempts to make you the blind instruments of her unholy and mad ambition, and forces you to appear as the hateful robbers of our dear homes, and the unprovoked violators of our dearest feelings as men and patriots. Such villainy and outrage, I know, is perfectly repugnant to the noble sentiments of any gentleman, and it is base and foul to rush you on to certain death, in order to aggrandize a few lawless individuals, in defiance of the laws of God and man! It is to no purpose if they tell you that the law for the annexation of Texas justifies your occupation of the Rio Bravo del Norte; for by this act they rob us of a great part of Tamaulipas, Coahuila, Chihuahua, and New Mexico; and it is barbarous to send a handful of men on such an errand against a powerful and warlike nation. Besides, the most of you are Europeans, and we are the declared friends of a majority of the nations of Europe. The North Americans are ambitious, overbearing and insolent as a nation, and they will only make use of you as vile tools to carry out their abominable plans of pillage and rapine.

I warn you in the name of justice, honor, and your own interests and self-respect, to abandon their desperate and unholy cause, and become peaceful Mexican citizens. I guarantee you, in such case, a half section of land, or 320 acres, to settle upon, gratis. Be wise, then, and just, and honorable, and take no part in murdering us who have no unkind feelings for you. Lands shall be given to officers, sergeants, and corporals according to rank, privates receiving 320 acres, as stated.

If in time of action you wish to espouse our cause, throw away your arms and run to us, and we will embrace you as true friends and Christians. It is not decent nor prudent to say more. But should any of you render any important service to Mexico you shall be accordingly considered and preferred.

M. ARISTA,
Commander-in-chief of the Mexican army.

Thursday, July 2, 1846, Volume 47, Number 18, Page 3, Column 3 Words: 1090

LATEST NEWS.

FROM MEXICO AND YUCATAN.

For the following extracts of news, we are indebted to the Baltimore American of the 29th ult.

The annexed articles from the N. Orleans Picayune reached us through the Charleston News of Thursday and the Washington Union of Saturday evening:

From the New Orleans Picayune, June 20.

REYNOSA TAKEN!—RETURN OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATURE, &c. &c.

We had the pleasure of meeting one of the gentlemen forming the Committee of the Legislature who repaired to the Army of Occupation under instructions of the House of Representatives to convey to Gen. TAYLOR the resolutions passed by the Legislature expressive of the thanks of the people of Louisiana for the gallantry of himself, and the army under his command, in achieving the splendid victories of the 8th and 9th of May, and defending Fort Brown during a bombardment of a week's duration.

The committee were received by the brave old soldier with every mark of courtesy and kindness, and the officers in hospitals to a delegation of a Legislature which had met a crisis of peril with swift and efficient measures, and had borne prompt testimony to the chivalry that won two successive fields against great and alarming odds.

The army was in good spirits, and the committee heard nothing of the complaints of the officers which find their way to the press of the States. Gen. TAYLOR was encamped on the west side of the Rio Grande. The Washington Regiments and the Fifth Regulars, with others, occupied the American camp opposite Matamoras. The American flag was displayed in Fort Paredes, and the army appeared as well contented as could be expected, considering the pause of active hostilities.

Just before the committee left Matamoras, Major OGDEN arrived from above, with the information that the detachment of regulars and volunteers under Col. WILSON had taken the town of Reynosa without meeting any opposition. It was thought that the navigation of the Rio Grande was practicable to Camargo—if so, that town would be the next in the order of conquest. From this point, Camargo, preparations would be made for penetrating the interior.
Before the committee left the Rio Grande, intelligence of the death of Gen. TORREJON reached Matamoras. It is said he died of a fever. After the battles of the 8th and 9th of May, it was thought he was killed in one or the other of those actions. He was the commander of the Mexican division that captured Capt. THORNTON's command.

There was no certain knowledge in the American camp as to the position of the Mexican army, but it was generally supposed to be at Monterey. It was also confidently asserted that Generals ARISTA and AMPUDIA had both left the army for the capital, the latter charging ARISTA with having betrayed the army, and ARISTA charging AMPUDIA with cowardice.

The U. S. sloop of war John Adams, brig Lawrence and cutter Woodbury were blockading the mouth of the Rio Grande.

FURTHER.—Since writing the above, the bark WILLIAM IVY, Capt. HOFFMAN, has arrived from Brazos Santiago, having sailed thence upon the 12th inst.

Capt. KER, of the 5d Dragoons, and Lieut. SCOTT, of the 7th Infantry, came passengers in the barque.

Capt. HOFFMAN reports that the brig Archelaus arrived at Brazos Santiago on the 12th inst., from Tampico, with Mr. SCHATZELL, the former American Consul at Matamoras, and several other Americans on board. They had previously been ordered from Matamoras by Gen. AMPUDIA.

A passenger reports that an express arrived at Matamoras on the 6th instant, with intelligence that a re-inforcement of 5000 Mexicans had arrived at Monterey, as he says, under ARISTA. We give the rumor as we hear it.

Correspondence of the Picayune.

FORT POLK, POINT ISABEL,

2 o'clock, p. m., June 18, 1846.

EDITORS OF THE PICAYUNE: GENTLEMAN: News reached here a few moments since, or rather I should say a rumor, though it came through a channel that is deserving of confidence—viz: Matamoras, that ALVAREZ had declared in favor of HERRERA; that Gen. GARCIA died a short time since of wounds, received I know not when, and that Gen. TORREJON (who commanded the two thousand crack troops, who took Capt. THORNTON and HARDY, with sixty-three men) is in a condition which allows no hope of his recovery. He was wounded in some of the engagements with our troops in this vicinity.

ARISTA's army is in a sad condition, a severe fever prevailing among his men, which is rapidly reducing their numbers. Gov. HENDERSON, commander of the Texan volunteers, has this moment arrived at this post, and is now receiving a salute of cannon. The Governor, a tall, soldier-like gentleman, of middle age, appears to be in fine spirits. He is accompanied by a small body of fine-looking Texan rangers. A detachment of his troops are now encamped about six miles from this post, on the road to Matamoras. It is understood that they will immediately march some distance on the road to Monterey, and Mr. KENDALL, of your “family,” will accompany them. I go to Matamoras to night, from which place I shall be able to tell you more about the movements of the light corps of the army.

In hast,

H.

We learn that Gen. FEATHERSTON's regiment arrived at Brazos Santiago in good season. There are seventy men out of the regiment sick, although not dangerously. Col. BAILIE PEYTON, we regret to learn, is sick at Barita, but not seriously.

FROM YUCATAN.

The Prus. Brig Delfido arrived at New Orleans on the 19th inst. from Campeachy, whence she sailed on the 6th inst. A letter written at the latter place to a commercial house in New Orleans, dated on the day of the Delfino's sailing, states that the Yucatan Congress was still in session, but expected to adjourn on the 20th inst.

They were discussing the propriety of a separation from Mexico with the greatest earnestness, and the general impression was that before they adjourned, Yucatan would be declared independent.

The Delfino reported that the U. S. brig Somers arrived on the 4th inst. All well on board.

The Picayune remarks:--

The object of the visit of the Somers to that coast, it will be recollected, was to ascertain the feeling of Yucatan with reference to the war; and there can be no doubt that, if the Congress before hesitated about accepting the terms of Mexico, the knowledge that they may receive assistance will at once determine them to throw off the yoke, and seek
4 DAYS LATER FROM YUCATAN.

YUCATAN DECLARED INDEPENDENT.

The Yucatan schr. Jonquina, Capt. MARTINEZ, arrived at New Orleans on the 20th inst. The Delta of the 21st says—

We learn through letter received by a commercial house in this city, that the legislature at Merida had declared the independence of Yucatan and its disseverance from the Mexican Republic. It is intended now to appoint SENOR BARBACHANO, the acting governor of Yucatan, President of the "three stars."—Some of the most influential citizens of Yucatan have not hesitated to express the hope that in two or three years from the present time, if not before, they would see those three stars added to the fast increasing number that are now crowding the banner of the stars and striped.

The Jonquina left Campeachy on the 12th inst. The U. S. brig Somers was the only vessel of war off the port. Everything was quiet. There are several Yucatan vessels at Campeachy up for this port, and some two or three on their way hither. The Jonquina came into port under the Yucatan flag.

LATER FROM MEXICO.

ARISTA RELIEVED FROM COMMAND—GEN. MEJIA APPOINTED TO SUCCEED HIM IN THE COMMAND OF THE ARMY OF THE NORTH.

The French brig Princess Maria arrived at New Orleans on the 21st inst. from Tampico, bringing dates from that place to the 6th inst. From the New Orleans correspondent of the Charleston Evening News we take the following items:

We learn from one of the passengers, that the authorities at Tampico were divided into two parties. One of the parties with the military, has Gen. ANASTISIO at its head, was in the favor of Federation and SANTA ANNA. The other party was for arming the people in favor of Federation without SANTA ANNA. A third party was about rising up, when our informant left; but none of the parties had come to an understanding yet. There were at Tampico 11 vessels of different nations at the time of the blockade, three British, three French, two Spanish, two American, and one Bremen.

The authorities were about prohibiting the American vessels from taking in their cargoes; but at last Capt. SAUNDERS, of the sloop of war St. Mary, hearing of this, sent a dispatch to the authorities, that if there were any detention of American property no property at all should leave the place. This caused the withdrawal of the order.

The fort at Tampico (a mud affair) had been washed away by a freshet a few days previous to the 6th.

The three gun boats lately built at New York for the Mexican service were lying in the river above Tampico.

Official despatches had arrived at Tampico that Gen. ARISTA had been removed from the command of the Northern Division of the Army and Gen. MEJIA had superceded him.

There were 300 troops only at Tampico on the 6th. Seventy nine of these were runaway Negroes and mulattoes from New Orleans and Havana. These constitute the whole amount of the Mexican force from Tampico to the Rio Grande.

STILL LATER FROM MEXICO.

ARRIVAL AT HAVANA OF THE BRITISH MAIL STEAMER FROM VERA CRUZ.

We make up the annexed summary of Mexican news from the Picayune of the 21st inst.

The correspondence of Diario de la Marina, of Havana writes from the city of Mexico on the 29th that not a sufficient number of members of Congress assembled to form a quorum; nevertheless a preparatory session was held, and the writer adds that Sr. BESTAMANTE, the ex-President, may be considered as the President of Congress and that there is
every probability that Sr. PAREDES will be elected President of the Republic, the Congress, appearing to be devoted to
him. It is added that should PAREDES take the field in the present campaign, Gen. BRAVO, now in command of the
troops at Vera Cruz, will be elected Vice President.

It is believed very generally that Congress, such as it is, will at once invest PAREDES with dictatorial powers for a
limited period, and then suspend its sessions. Many deputies had openly declared in favor of this course, and the
country appeared to have reached such a crisis, that the concentration of all power in a single hand appeared to be
called for.

There had been another dissolution of the Ministry. The Secretaries of War and the Treasury—TORNEL and ITURBE—
are known to have resigned. The former, it was though, would be succeeded by Gen. D. IGNACTO DE MORA Y
VALLAMIL, and the latter by D. ANTONIA, GARAY, a merchant.

The great topic of conversation at the capital was the proposed departure of PAREDES to take command of the Army of
the North. He himself was bent upon doing so, although dissuaded by many considerations of policy and by the advice
of his friends. Should he take the field, it is said he would have under his command an army of sixteen thousand men,
including in these the army of reserve and the troops of ARISTA.

Reports were in circulation in the city that Gen. ARISTA was to be called to the capital to answer charges preferred
against him, but the correspondent of the Diario thinks this not at all probable.

The writer whose views we have been giving thinks, as do the Mexican papers we find quoted, that the danger to the
country is not from a foreign foe, but their internal divisions. They indulge the hope, however, that the fact that their
country has been invaded by the enemy, citizens will forget their dissentions, and thus the Government actually derive
strength from the magnitude of the danger which threatens from abroad.

The Monitor Republican of the 21st ult., announces that 46 of the 100 Deputies to the Congress had then reached the
capital, and that the Government was urging the attendance of others in order to form a quorum.

P. S.—Since the above was written; the brig Empressario, Capt. COLLINS, has arrived from Havana, bringing us dates
one day later. We see little to add to what we have given above in regard to Mexican news. The Mexicans set down
their loss in the two battles at 262 killed, 355 wounded and 135 prisoners.

The Spanish frigate Cristina arrived at Vera Cruz on the 22d ult. and supplied the Spanish vessel-of-war lying at
Sacrificios with three months’ provisions, and left orders that she should remain there.

ARISTA assigns as his reason for withdrawing from Matamoras its destitution of provisions, and the want of means to
defend it if vigorously attacked.

El Indicador of Vera Cruz of the 30th ult. Says positively, that PAREDES will march to the frontier with the army of
Reserve, so that there are laurels yet to be won by our army and the brave volunteers.

Two Mexican Generals, names not given are reported to have died of the wounds received in the actions of the 8th and
9th.

The port of Acapulco had been declared closed to foreign commerce while it remains in possession of Gen. ALVAREZ.

The blockade of Tampico was commenced by the sloop-of-war St. Mary’s on the 20th ult., with the same notice to
foreign Consuls, &c., as were given at Vera Cruz.

[FCH]
Resolved, That it is not at all surprising that the vile pandors to party should have as little relish for Gen. SCOTT’s "soup" as the British had for Gen. JACKSON’s hot "coffee."

Resolved, That, instead of cowering before the false and anti-American charges which a base jealously of his glory has prompted, it is the duty of the friends of Gen. SCOTT to guard his fame as that of their country, to rally around him, and to vindicate his claims to the highest meed of his country’s favor.

GEN. TAYLOR.—The question as to which County in Virginia has the honor of giving birth to Gen. TAYLOR, is settled in favor of Orange. He was born on the red lands, so fruitful in Presidents. His father was an officer in the Continental Army, removed at an early day to Kentucky, and died about 10 years ago. He was elector in that district for JEFFERSON, MADISON, MONROE, and CLAY, the first time he was a candidate. The General has a daughter now in Washington, the wife of Mr. DAVIS, member of Congress, from Mississippi. He has a brother, attached to the army in a civil capacity, now on his way to Matamoras. Gen. TAYLOR is in easy circumstances, and has a noble farm nearly opposite Cincinnati. He has been in the field, almost constantly for the last seven years. He will be 62 on the 24th of November next.

A letter from a Naval officer in the Gulf Squadron to a member of Congress thus describes “Old Rough and Ready:"

"Gen. TAYLOR is an extraordinary man, and has less of the military in his appearance than any man I have ever seen who wore a sword. He came into our camp on the 11th dressed and looking like a very plain good-natured, honest, well-to-do-in-the-world farmer, in search of a market for his crop, with not so much as a single uniform button to be seen about him. We received him with three hearty cheers. But our sailors, who like such fun, would not stop until they had given him nine. Notwithstanding his farmer like appearance, the field of battle is said to be his very element. There he is cool and perfectly self possessed; his only fault as a general is, that he is too apt to be found in that part of the field where the balls fly thickest."

A similar description of the Hero of the Rio Grande is given by a N. Orleans correspondent of a Philadelphia paper, who adds: "The South and West are on fire for TAYLOR as a candidate for the Presidency, though those who know him doubt whether he would accept it. The 50,000 volunteers, on their return from Mexico, will spread their own enthusiasm throughout the whole land. The Kentucky troops, (a splendid set of men, by the way,) have already raised the cry, and are singing Taylor Songs. ” We fear the Locos will be disgusted with the music. The have a great abhorrence of political song-books, particularly if they have "yaler kivers."

Arisi and Taylor.

One of the editors of New Orleans Tropic, who has just returned from a visit to the Rio Grande, presents the following graphic pictures of the Mexican and American Commanding Generals as they were successively seen in camp at Matamoras. The sketches are true to the life, and the contrast which they present both is strong and striking:

The contrast of the two commanding Generals, TAYLOR and ARISTA, in the pomp and circumstances of war was characteristic of the different institution under which they lived. There was a semi-barbaric splendor associated with ARISTA’s according with the despotism of the Mexican government. A simplicity about that of TAYLOR’s equally significant of pure Republican institutions.

The marquee of the commanding General of the Mexican forces was bell-shaped, and of no great size. The material of which it was composed, was ornamented by parti colored stripes giving it a holyday appearance.—Around it were stationed gaily dressed officers who glistened in the sun, and were ready to pay the most abject respect to their chief. Led horses richly caparisoned slowly paced in sight. Protecting its rear, like continued labyrinthian walls, were arranged the equipage of the camp. Pack saddles for five hundred mules were tastefully placed for display, and their loads hear by, heaped up on prodigal confusion. To the poor Mexican soldier bivouacked in the open air, this wealth seemed a vision of a fairy land, and its conventional possessor, rich beyond their imagination, and powerful beyond comparison.

Bands of rude music almost constantly rent the air with their noisy labor. The furniture of the marquee was rich; the costly figured chests of the camp were the ornamental furniture; upon their tops reposed in ostentation, the heavy silver service of the table, or the elegantly finished "maps of the campaign." In this array sat the commanding General, surrounded by his numerous staff—his clothes of gray colors and laced to vulgar profusion.—Visits of ceremony or business were conducted with pomp and needless delays; long times officials stared and leered, and were impudent or cringing, as suited their purposes best. Music rolled, sabres and muskets rattled, and the buzz of inflated greatness and hollow pretence, was triumphant.

About a mile above the city of Matamoras, a little distance from the banks of the Rio Grande, is to be seen (June 1st.) some stunted and ill-shaped trees, which bend their gnarled and almost leafless limbs over a group of three or four small tents, only different from those of the common soldier in the rear, in this, that they are heterogeneously disposed of for shade, instead of being in a line, regardless of all else than military precision. The plain about is dotted over...
with thousand of tents, before many of which were artillery, and groups of men and soldiers; and over some waved in triumphant folds our national flag, giving promise of more importance and pomp, than the little knot to which we have particularly attended.—We wended our way on towards the dwarfish trees that were distinguished, from being a few feet higher than the surrounding brush, and for the little group of tents that rested beneath them, for they were pointed out as making the head-quarters, of the commanding General of a triumphant American army.

Not the slightest token was visible, to mark one tent in the group from another; there were no sentinels or any military parade present; a chubby sunburnt child, "belonging to the camp," was playing near by in the grass, temporarily arrested in its wandering by some insect of unusual size that was delving in the dust.

We presented ourself at the opening of one the tents, before which was standing a dragoon’s horse, much used by hard service. Upon a camp stool at our left, sat General ------, in busy conversation with a hearty looking old gentleman, sitting on a box, cushioned with an Arkansas blanket, dressed in Attakapas pantaloons and a linen roundabout, remarkable for a bright flashing eye, a high forehead, a farmer look, and "rough and ready" appearance. It is hardly necessary for us to say that this personage was Gen. TAYLOR, the commanding hero of two of the most remarkable battle on record, and the man who, by his firmness and decision of character, has shed lustre upon the American arms.

There was no pomp about his tent; a couple of rough blue chests served for his table, on which were strown in masterly confusion a variety of official-looking documents; a quiet-looking citizen-dressed personage made his appearance upon hearing the significant call of "Ben," bearing on a tin salver, a couple of black bottles and shining tumblers, arranged around an earthern pitcher of Rio Grande water. These refreshments were deposited upon a stool, and "we helped ourselves," by invitation. We bore to the General a complimentary gift from some of his fellow-citizens of New Orleans, which he declined receiving for the present, giving at the same time a short but "hard sense" lecture on the impropriety of naming children and places after men before they were dead, or of his receiving a present for his services "before the campaign, so far as he was concerned, was finished."

With the highest possible admiration of the republican simplicity of the manners and character of Gen. TAYLOR, we bade him good day with a high appreciation of our native land, for possessing such a man as a citizen, and of its institutions for moulding such a character.

Thursday, July 9, 1846, Volume 47, Number 19, Page 3, Column 2 Words: 927

LATE FROM THE ARMY.

FROM TAMPICO.

The following letter from the Norfolk Herald of Thursday, was received by a gentleman in that city via New Orleans, we presume, as a letter bag from St. Mary's was received there on the 23d ult:

U. S. SHIP ST. MARY'S, }

OFF TAMPICO, June 13, 1846.

The war grows apace. On the 8th inst., we discovered the enemy erecting another fort on the North side of the entrance to the river, and at one o'clock, P. M., we got the ship under weigh under topsails, stood in, and when within a mile of the forts and gunboats, the latter, three in number, and tonning about one hundred, opened a fire upon us. Being on a lee shore and in shoal water, we were not able to fire more than eight shots, before it became necessary to claw off, which we did; but at three o'clock returned and continued the firing until we had fired 70 shells, and 29 round solid shot. In the last recontre, the enemy returned our fire, with about ten shots from 18 pound guns, four of which passed near us, two fell directly under our "fore foot," one passed between the fore and main-top-mast, and one over the foot; the others fell at a distance.

The first shell which burst over the fort ejected every soldier from the neighbourhood, the whole of them taking immediately to the woods. One of our shells passed between one of the schooner's masts, and exploded beyond her, a fragment having struck the bowsbrit and bulwarks, tearing both considerably, as we have learned since the fight. One corner of the custom house was knocked down. A house on the north side of the river was fired by the explosion of a shell; and a soldier at the Fort on guard, by the bursting of another shell, exchanged his musket for vacancy, it having been shattered, without, I believe, injuring his valuable person. Having driven the party, from the embryo fort, we returned to our anchorage at half past three.

We were not satisfied, however, with this engagement, for yesterday we projected a plan for cutting out the gunboats, and accordingly at dusk hoisted out all boats, arrived there, the launch bearing a nine pounder in the bows, and at 10 o'clock P. M. got under weigh and brought the ship nearer the shore, about one and a half miles off—It takes a longer time to describe the minutia of this affair than I can devote to it now. We had desired to make the attack before the moon rose, but could not. At 11 o'clock she was lifting her head above the horizon when our five boats left the ship, every thing having been previously arranged by our gallant Captain. Mind you, we not only had the difficulty of
We pulled into the shore with muffled oars, actually feeling our way, for at one time we would be quite in the breakers, and then too far seaward, with a strong tide beneath and a bright moon above us, every thing seeming to conspire against our daring expedition. In seeking our way to the mouth of the river we were obliged to pass near the shore for a distance of 200 yards, and the noise consequent upon the difficulty of finding our way through a passage of which we knew nothing, betrayed us to the sentinels along the shore, who rapidly communicated with the encampment, and it conveyed intelligence to the gunboats, so that unknown to us, our foe was watching our every movement. However, at about 1 A. M. we had discovered the narrow entrance to the mouth of the river, and were pulling in, when, within two hundred yards of the Fort, near which we had to pass, much to our surprise, as you can imagine, bang! went dozen muskets, and the balls whizzed about our ears. We laid on our oars, and in five minutes after the firing of muskets commenced, the gun in the launch was trained and "let drive." A gun rather heavier from one of the gunboats succeeded to this; the shot passed clear of us, and the gun in the launch was loaded and fired again, when the firing ashore ceased.—There were also fired from the launch a few carbines.

At this time we had not passed the point, and after getting inside we should have been obliged to pull at least 300 yards before reaching the object of the expedition. The enemy being already on the alert and with superior force, it would have been almost madness to proceed, and the object would not have compensated for the sacrifice we should have made. Besides, the passage through which we had to pass was not wide enough to admit the boats except in single file, so that the gunboats would have raked us fore and aft before we could have come along side of them. If we had passed the Fort I believe we should have carried the boats to a certainty. We had with us 85 men and marines; the 1st and 2d Lieutenants, Master, and all the Mids, except two. We returned to the ship at 2 A. M., much fatigued and disappointed. I will write-------by this conveyance, and tell him of the next day's fight.

Yours &c.

[HCH]
should be, and that upon a summing up of accounts, we shall be called to witness the Government plundered, cheated, and robbed by contractors of thousands of dollar—as it was in the Florida war. The people will ask for, and demand a strict accountability for every thing. But we forbear further comments, until we can see "the facts and figures in detail."

After the above was in type, we receive d the "Union," which contains the following statement, which we annex without comment.—The public can judge of it for themselves:--

TRANSPORTATION OF TROOPS.—Some complaints have been made about the tardiness of our military arrangements. We undertake to say, that there is no just foundation for them. On the contrary, the utmost energy has been displayed in making the necessary preparations. No appropriations were made by Congress for carrying on the war until about the middle of May—and then it was impossible for the War Department to foresee the whole extent and character of the arrangements, which might be necessary for “carrying the war into Africa.” As soon, however, as the great events on the Rio Grande began to develop the plan of operations, the quartermaster’s department devoted all its energies to the procuring of transportation for the troops.

We have called the quartermaster's office to-day to obtain information, and Gen. JESUP was polite enough to lay open his arrangements before us. We are satisfied from his specifications that he has spared no pains in obtaining the necessary boats from all directions. We shall not enumerate all the various sources of supply to which he has addressed himself. We will confine ourselves to the following details:

Among the letters which he has received is one from Col. THOMAS E. HUNT, from New Orleans, July 4. He "reports that he had purchased Steamers Undine, for $13,000; Troy, $6,000; J. E. Roberts, $9,000, the 13th June; the Brownville, for $9,000, the 15th June; steam schooner James Cage, for $18,000, on the 19th; Hatchee Eagle, the 1st July, for $5,000. All have been despatched to the Rio Grande except that last—she detained for repairs deemed necessary. Undine and James Cage have been coppered, and otherwise repaired. The Cage is a good seaboat, and suited for lightering vessels at sea, &c. The Undine sent temporarily to La Buca. Has character steamers Big Hatchee, the Warren, the Exchange, and the W. A. Mercer, which have also departed for Brazos Santiago."

Extract of a letter from Capt. John Saunders, the officer appointed by General Taylor to purchase or charter boats, dated July 2, 1846, at Pittsburg:

"Advises he had purchased five light draught steamers for the Rio Grande, as follows: Whiteville, the Corvette, Rough-and-Ready, Colonel cross, and the Major Brown—total cost of $60,000. These are all splendid boats of their class."

[HCH]

Thursday, July 30, 1846, Volume 47, Number 22, Page 1, Columns 5 and 6. Words:1993

Miscellany.

FROM THE RIO GRANDE.

We give below, from the National Intelligencer, the principal portions of a letter received by a member of Congress from the Seat of War. It contains much that is interesting in the present state of affairs.

POINT ISABEL, June 29, 1846.

SIR: Being here among that (too many) unfortunate class called Volunteers, and having not much else to do but to protect myself from the effects of a hot sun and almost daily rains for the last two weeks, I have concluded to make a few notes for the information of those who keep an eye on the acts and management of the persons charged with the prosecution of the war with Mexico. My position enables me to see and hear much of what is going on; but I do not, like some others pretend to know every thing; therefore you must not discredit what I state because I do not tell all you may wish to know or all that occurs.

The President, in his message of the 11th of May, says "American blood has been shed on American soil," alluding to the affair that took place on the 24th April between the dragoons, under the command of Capts. THORNTON and HARDEE, in which some were killed at the others taken prisoners by the Mexicans.—There is much to be said upon the question whether it is rightfully American soil where this affair took place; but certain is it that as soon as Capt THORNTON was given up by the Mexicans, on the 10th or 11th of May, he was put under arrest by Gen. TAYLOR for disobeying his orders whilst on that expedition, and bringing on that fight contrary to his wishes. He is now here under arrest—a circumstance I have not seen mentioned in a public manner. I may at some future time send you a statement of some facts bearing on the assertions of the President and the circumstances relied on to prove that the bank of the Rio Grande was American soil. It may be so considered now.

As soon as the alarm of war was run thro’ the country, Volunteers hastened here from various quarters, until there is now on this frontier some eight or ten thousand, and many more on the way. Many of these men have left comfortable homes, and have come expecting to see active service. Instead of that, they are scattered over the country, in different encampments, exposed to the heat of the sun in latitude twenty-six, and the soaking rains of the Summer solstice, inactive, and many indulging in dissipation to kill time and chase away ennui. I will explain why this is so.—
The great object seems to have been to hasten men on here, without any particular object.—If it be for purposes of defence, Gen. TAYLOR has proved he did not want many to assist him—certainly no more than he called for.—If the object be invasion, the men come poorly provided. They come with arms in their hands, and there are provisions enough, easily obtained, but there is not a sufficiency of transportation for an army of five thousand men.—If some attention had been paid to the necessary means of transporting supplies for an army, it would have been much better than sending masses of men to suffer in this climate. An army cannot move without provisions, and if we penetrate far into the country it will require a great number of wagons. There are about three hundred wagons and teams here, but not drivers enough for them; when I say here, understand with the army. We are told the Government has three hundred wagons in or about Philadelphia; when they will be here no one can tell; mules have to be purchased, and no chance of getting them, except from the Mexicans; they are perfectly wild, and must be tamed and taught to work; this will take a long time after the wagons arrive. The Mexican officers are having the mules driven off as fast as they can into the interior, and forbid any sales to us; still a good many are brought to Matamoras and are purchased. A month ago an officer was sent to New Orleans to purchase several steamboats suitable to navigate the Rio Grande. None of them are here yet, and, from what we have been informed, when they do arrive, it is not probable they will answer the purpose. In the meantime the mouth of the river has been closed by a bar; the steamers Sea and Cincinnati, chartered at high rates, were caught inside, and are of little or no use to us, drawing too much water.—The Col. Harney steamer, belonging to the Government, was during last week, in open daylight, run on the bar, off this harbor, and has gone to pieces—a great piece of negligence. The utter neglect to supply the Army with sufficient transportation for ammunition and supplies now paralizes everything and prevents the army moving on. If we had had one month ago three hundred additional wagons and two or three small steamers in the Rio Grande, we should be now far on our way to Monterey, in a high, healthy country, the men contented and well, and no time given the enemy to recruit their forces or recover from the consequences of their defeat. Instead of this, I do not believe the Army will leave the banks of the Rio Grande before the middle of August or the commencement of September. Until then the men must be paid and supported—at what cost you will see when you can get hold of the accounts.

The staff department of the Army, particularly the Quartermaster’s branch, is most inefficient and extravagant. The only persons qualified for the station of quartermaster are real business men—men of system and order, well acquainted with accounts. These officers require no military skill or education, but thorough mercantile habits and capacity. The consequence of the quartermasters not being such men, will be developed when the accounts are exhibited and the expenses come to be added up. Their acquaintance with business, the state of the markets, &c. subjects them to the grossest impositions in making contracts and purchases; and there are those who say favoritism goes a long way; but of that I know nothing.

When the expenses of this war are paid and the accounts exhibited, the Florida expenditures will appear small. The most enormous rats are paid for many things, particularly the use of ships and other vessels engaged in transporting troops and stores; from twenty-five to fifty per cent. more than a commercial man would pay for similar vessels for his own use. Let me give you a few instances. The steamship Alabama is chartered at the rate of $16,500 per month. She was here about the end of May with volunteers, and returned to New Orleans on the 1st inst. She reached the bar at this port several days ago, and was soon after blown off without landing the men on her, and has not yet got back. The steamers Augusta and Cincinnati have long been in service under high charters. The former has been fast aground at this port several days ago, and was soon after blown off without landing the men on her, and has not yet got back. She was here about the end of May with volunteers, and returned to New Orleans on the 1st inst. She reached the bar about the end of May with volunteers, and returned to New Orleans on the 1st inst. She reached the bar at this port several days ago, and was soon after blown off without landing the men on her, and has not yet got back. The steamers Augusta and Cincinnati have long been in service under high charters. The former has been fast aground at this port several days ago, and was soon after blown off without landing the men on her, and has not yet got back.

Soon after her arrival she was dismantled, the rigging sold or otherwise disposed of, the hull alone hired by the quartermaster at $30 per day, $10,950 per annum: a good interest on $1,500. Other cases as remarkable could be mentioned. A new Quartermaster General is on his way here, it is said, and things may be better managed perhaps. At some proper time it might be well to have an exhibit of the amount paid to each steamer and sailing vessel engaged in transporting troops and supplies for this place for the army, their tonnage, value &c. and the obtaining from practical business men what such vessels could have been employed for by individuals for their own use. The most enormous rates were also paid last year for transporting to Corpus Christi and St. Joseph’s Island. Sometimes as much was paid for a vessel from New Orleans as she could have made on a voyage to Liverpool, and the rates have not abated. At an early period it will be well to look into these expenditures, and know who has made them or sanctioned them.

No one can tell when the army will make a forward movement. My belief is it will be a considerable time, and soley for the want of transportation. In the mean time the volunteers are much exposed. For two weeks or more it has rained almost every day, and the appearances are strongly in favor of a continuance of it. When it does not rain the sun is hot enough. The tents furnished are of an indifferent kind, and there are a number of companies, particularly among the Texans, that have none at all. Yet the men so far continue tolerably healthy. How long it will last no one can tell.

Whether the Mexicans will risk another battle of a general kind is a question that cannot be decided now. If they could have been pursued soon after the battles in May, their force must have been dispersed, killed, or captured. As it is, they have ample time to raise reinforcements and recruit their spirits, and may make another stand in the hilly country. If they do, I have no doubt they will be defeated, and the war may be terminated soon; but if they do not conclude to make another general fight, the war will be of a partisan character, and no one can tell when it will terminate. We may overrun the country, but will not subdue. As long as private property is restricted, and the lives and rights of those not found in arms secured, the Mexicans do not care about our traveling through their country and paying the highest price for what they have to sell. It is a species of warfare better for many of them than the state of peace they have heretofore enjoyed. The men are frequently employed here by the Quartermaster, and are much better paid that they ever were before. Yet these people, as a mass, have the bitterest feelings against us. Their priests and demagogues have, for their own purposes, fostered their prejudices and animosities, and the idea of “extending the area of freedom” so as to include them seems to me ridiculous and absurd.
The rumor is (and I think it worthy of credit) that the Mexicans are fortifying the town of Monterey. It is a place of considerable importance in a civil and military point of view, and it is possible the enemy may fight for it.—If they do not, they will make no general fight, that is certain, and the war will then be of the guerilla kind, and be waged in a most sanguinary spirit. Our people, particularly the Texans, feel very hostile and much exasperated against the Mexicans, and if ever the army is broken up into detachments and small parties they will not be spared by them. As long as we are embodied, under the control of high officers, a proper restraint will be exercised; but as soon as the small chiefs have sway then will bloodshed and rapine spread over the country.

FROM MEXICO.

From the Baltimore American, July 27.

LATE FROM THE ARMY.

The steamship James L. Day, Capt. GRIFFIN, arrived at New Orleans on the evening of the 18th inst., from Brazos Santiago, having sailed thence on Wednesday the 15th instant. The news is four days later, and of some interest; especially so is the announcement that a deputation from the British Navy arrived at Fort Polk, upon business with Gen. TAYLOR, calculated to excite curiosity and speculation.

"The troops were being sent forward as fast as the means of transportation and the high waters would allow. The Louisiana Volunteers were being concentrated above Matamoras. The Washington and Col DAKIN’s Regiments were a short distance above that place. The Andrew Jackson Regiment left for Reynosa on the 9th, and Col. DAVIS moved up the river on the 10th instant. The Tenessee Regiment relieved DAVIS’ command at Burita.

"Majors DIMMICK and MORRIS, Captain BURKE, and Lieuts. FREMONT and MAGRUDER, of the U. S. Army, came passengers in the Day.

"An article in the American Flag, of the 10th instant, informs us that broils occasionally break out amongst the Volunteers and Mexicans, resulting in death. That paper states that Gen. TAYLOR uses every exertion to prevent persons attached to the army from disturbing the citizens of Matamoras. The Mexican authorities are urged more attention in keeping their citizens in order and dispersing them when engaged in riotous proceedings.—Some of CANALES’ men are supposed to be lurking about Matamoras for purposes of rapine and murder.

"Considering the leniency shown by Gen. TAYLOR towards the captive city, in permitting the people to pursue their wonted avocations, and the courts of law to administer justice, it behooves the civil police to be diligent in suppressing disorders and sending away dangerous persons. A young American soldier was found near the office of the American Flag, on the 6th inst., with his throat dreadfully cut and his heart pierced with several dagger wounds. The murderer has not been discovered.

"The Rio Grande was yet rising on the 10th. In several places about Matamoras it had overflowed its banks.

A correspondent of the Picayune writing from Fort Polk, under date of July 14, says:--

"No news or material changes since my last. The rain, if any thing, has risen, completely cutting off transportation by land between this and Matamoras—particularly at the several ravines the other side of Palo Alto, which appears to be the old bed of the river, and through which the water flows with quite a rapid current and of considerable depth.

"The high water has been of incredible injury to the crops on the Rio Grande, some asserting that even three-fourths of the cotton and corn in the bottoms have been destroyed. It will not only go hard with these ‘from hand to mouth’ people, whose only thought is of the day, but I am fearful that it may occasion difficulty in giving Gen. TAYLOR the means of subsisting his troops to the extent he anticipated from the appearance of the corps a short while since. Three weeks ago, when I went down on the Aid to Matamoras, there never was as good a promise of an abundant harvest, and all were cheerful; now the poor Mexicans are stalking about waist deep in the corn fields, the families have been driven off to the high ground, and every face shrouded in gloom. The war has been of service, real service to the inhabitants on the Rio Grande, but the freshet has ruined them.

"The last report is that the water is at a stand, perhaps falling, having caused the removal of all camps save one.

"Troops continue to arrive almost daily, and soon afterwards move up and take position upon the river near Burita. The 7th Regiment of Infantry has gone to Reynosa or Camargo.

"The weather, together with the inactivity of the troops, has caused considerable sickness among them. I learn there are several hundred in hospital at Matamoras, and the measles has broken out in one of the camps.
“Curiosity runs high to know the object of a visit of two British naval officers to Gen. Taylor, who arrived here in a vessel of war from Tampico. Communication being cut off, they sent their despatches by mail to their Consul at Matamoras, to be laid by him before the Consul General. Nous verrons.

“Appearances indicate a move of the army into the interior as soon as the waters subside.

“Report says Gen. Paredes has sent a proclamation to the people of Matamoras, calling upon the to treat our regulars with every kindness and consideration, because of the unparalleled kindness and attention to his wounded, as well as prisoners and citizens. He takes occasion to score the Texans, &c. If this be true, it argues more favorably than otherwise.”

The New Orleans papers of the 19th contain advices from Mexico, received via Havanna, of the same date as those already received by an arrival at New York. Some additional items of interest are given, which we subjoin. We take them from the Picayune:

"Shortly after the meeting of the Mexican Congress, that body proceeded to organize the Executive power, by a decree that it should be deposited provisionally in a magistrate elected by a plurality of the votes of Congress, and that a Vice President should be elected at the same time to act in the absence of the President. This decree was passed on the 10th of June, and on the 12th the election was held. Gen. Paredes was elected President, receiving 58 out of 83 votes. Gen. Bravo received 13 votes, and Gen. Herrera 7 votes. Gen. Bravo was then elected Vice President, receiving 48 out of 82 votes. The highest opposing candidate was D. Luis G. Cuevas, who received 17 votes.

"Gen. Paredes took the oaths of office on the 13th as Provisional President, and at the same time pronounced another discourse, in the most noble passage of which he expresses his confidence that Congress will grant all the supplies and make every effort necessary to defend the national cause. He reviews at length the wrongs which Mexico has endured at the hands of the United States, and concludes with desiring permission to assume the command of the army in the field. In the absence of Senor Bustamente, who was ill, Dr. D. Louis Gonzaga presided over Congress. He replied to the President in substance, that every question of domestic policy shrunk into insignificance compared with the invasion of the country on the Rio Bravo; that the Mexican who should think of aught else than the injustice and treachery with which their soil was trampled, and the necessity of avenging their outraged honor, had no right to claim a share in their patriotic devotion.

"On the 18th permission was granted to Paredes to place himself at the head of troops and proceed to join the army of the North.—Gonzalez Arevalo was to leave the capital on the 19th, in command of the advance of the forces of Paredes. Gen. Mejia was in the actual command of the army of the North, Arista having been ordered to Mexico, and Ampudia to remain at San Luis Potosi. [A paper of the 27th ult. says that Gen. Arevalo, instead of proceeding to the frontier, had marched for Guadalajara to put down the insurrection.]

"Gen. Bravo left Vera Cruz for the city of Mexico on the 24th, to discharge the functions of President in the absence of Paredes.

"The committees of Congress upon Foreign Relations and upon War made a joint report the 16th upon that part of the message of Paredes relating to the United States. The report recommends the passage of a bill declaring Mexico to be in a war with the U. States. We do not find that the bill had actually been passed.

[Note]

Thursday, July 30, 1846, Volume 47, Number 22, Page 2, Columns 6 and 7 Words: 371

ONE DAY LATER FROM THE ARMY.

From the New Orleans Times, July 20.

Steamship Alabama.—This vessel arrived here yesterday evening from Brazos Santiago, with advices one day later than those brought by the James L. Day. We learn that the court martial on Capt. Thornton terminated on the 15th ult.; and the general impression is, that he had been acquitted. The proceedings, however, will not be made public until they have been approved and confirmed by the President at Washington. One passage of his reported defence has been commented on with admiration by all in the camp at Matamoras. He said, that, in performance of the act for which he was tried—rashness or precipitancy, we believe—he "did not see the numbers of the enemy; all he saw was the Mexican flag waving over American soil, and he was willing to risk his own life in an attempt to cut it down!"

Dr. Daniel McPhail, Surgeon of the Tennessee Regiment, a native of Franklin, Tennessee, died on the evening of the 13th inst., and was buried with military honors the next day. He had been for some time in ill health.

It is said that there are some emissaries about Matamoras, endeavoring to induce such of the Mexican soldiers, who were wounded on the 8th and 9th May, and are recovered, to rejoin their regiments at Monterey.
The troops are in fine health, and eager for the campaign now opening. The river is falling rapidly from Reynosa downward. The 7th Infantry were supposed to be at Camargo on the 15th inst., and no doubt is expressed at the Col. HAY's command from San Antonio, had joined them there.

There have been no accounts from MCCULLOUGH's Rangers since they passed Reynosa (the 7th instant.) It is imagined, from the well known daring character of that officer, that he has penetrated as far as Monterey; either reconnoitering, or acting on the offensive, if he find the occasion tempting, or the disparity not too great in the force to which he may find himself opposed.

We are glad to hear of the rapid subsidence of the river; our army will now move with celerity.

The Alabama brought with her some soldiers in ill health, sent hither for a change of air, to accelerate their recovery. [HCH]

Thursday, July 30, 1846, Volume 47, Number 22, Page 2, Column 7 Words: 951

The following Proclamation has been issued by Gen. TAYLOR, and is published in both the English and Spanish languages, in the Matamoras papers:

APROCLAMATION

BY THE GENERAL COMMANDING THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

To the People of Mexico—After many years of patient endurance, the United States are at length constrained to acknowledge that a war exists between our Government and the Government of Mexico. For many years our citizens have been subjected to repeated insults and injuries, our vessels and cargoes have been seized and confiscated, our merchants have been plundered, maimed, imprisoned, without cause, and without reparation.

At length your Government acknowledged the justice of our claims, and agreed by treaty to make satisfaction, by payment of several millions of dollars; but this treaty has been violated by your rulers, and the stipulated payments have been withheld. Our late effort to terminate all difficulties by peaceful negotiation, has been rejected by the Dictator PAREDES, and our Minister of peace, whom your rulers have agreed to receive, has been refused a hearing. He has been treated with indignity and insult, and PAREDES has announced that war exists between us. This war, thus first proclaimed by him, has been acknowledged, as an existing fact by our President and congress, with perfect unanimity, and will be prosecuted with vigor and energy against your army and rulers; but those of the Mexican people who remain neutral will not be molested.

Your government is in the hands of tyrants and usurpers. They have abolished your State Governments, they have overthrown your federal constitution, they have deprived you of the right of suffrage, destroyed the liberty of the press, despoiled you of your arms, and reduced you to a state of absolute dependence upon the power of a military Dictator. Your army and rulers extort from the people by grievous taxation, by forced loans, and military seizures, the very money which sustains the usurpers in power. Being disarmed, you were left defenceless an easy prey to the savage Camanches, who not only destroy your lives and property, but drive you into captivity, more horrible than death itself, your wives and children.

It is your military rulers who have reduced you to this deplorable condition. It is the tyrants, and their corrupt and cruel satellites, gorged with the peoples treasure, by which you are thus oppressed and impoverished, some of whom have boldly advocated a monarchical government, and would place a European Prince upon the throne of Mexico.—We come to overthrow the tyrants who have destroyed your liberties, but we come to make no war upon the people of Mexico, nor upon any form of free government they may choose to select for themselves. It is our wish to see you liberated from despots, to drive back the savage Camanches, to prevent the renewal of their assaults, and to compel them to restore you from captivity, your long lost wives and children.

Your religion, your altars and churches, the property of your churches and citizens, the emblems of your faith and its ministers shall be protected, and remain inviolate. Hundreds of our army, and hundreds of thousands of our people, are members of the Catholic Church. In every State, and in nearly every city and village of our Union, Catholic Churches exist, and the Priests perform their holy functions, in peace and security, under the sacred guarantee of our Constitution. We come among the people as friends and republican brethren, and all who receive us as such, shall be protected, whilst all who are seduced into the army of your Dictator, shall be treated as enemies. We shall want form you nothing but food for our army, and for this you shall always be paid in cash the full value.

It is the settled policy of your tyrants to deceive you in regard to the policy and character of our Government and people. These tyrants fear the example of our free institutions, and constantly endeavor to misrepresent our purposes, and inspire you with hatred for your republican brethren of the American Union. Give us but the opportunity to undeceive you, and you will soon learn that all the representations of PAREDES were false, and were only made to induce you to consent at the establishment of a despotic Government.
In your struggle for liberty, with the Spanish Monarchy, thousands of our countrymen risked their lives and shed their blood in your defence. Our own Commodore, the gallant PORTER, maintained in triumph your flag upon the ocean, and our Government was the first to acknowledge your independence. With pride and pleasure we enrolled your name on the list of independent Republics, and sincerely desired that you might in peace and prosperity enjoy all the blessings of free government.

Success on the part of your tyrants against the army of the Union is impossible, but if they could succeed, it would only be to enable them to fill your towns with their soldiers, eating out your substance, and harassing you with still more grievous taxation. Already they have abolished the liberty of the Press, as the first step towards the introduction of that Monarchy, which it is their real purpose to proclaim and establish.

Mexicans, we must treat as enemies and overthrow the tyrants, who whilst they have wronged and insulted us, have deprived you of your liberty, but the Mexican people who remain neutral during the contest shall be protected against the military despots by the Republican Army of the Union.

Z. TAYLOR.

August 6, 1846 MGv47i23p2c1 Two Days Later from Mexico

Correspondence of the Mobile Tribune. Pensacola, July 25, 1846. The U.S. Frigate Raritan, Com. Gregory, arrived here yesterday from Vera Cruz, which place she left on the 17th inst, bringing two days later dates than received by the Princeton. The Vera Cruz papers of the 15th and 16th, publish the news of the Oregon Treaty under the head of “Very Important News.” The papers state that in consequence of the Treaty, the Mexican people are called on to make increased efforts to save the country from the rapacity of the robbers on the “del Norte.” They remind the Mexicans of the manner in which the French were driven out of Spain, after Madrid and the cities of the country were in possession of the enemy. This was done by a guerrilla warfare, in which small parties of the enemy were murdered wherever they were found. Paredes has not left the city of Mexico. It was found impossible to raise a body of even 5000 to follow him. It is the opinion of all well informed persons that there is nothing to prevent Gen. Taylor’s marching directly to the city of Mexico. There are no troops to oppose him. Gen. Scott’s ideas of the rainy season have caused much mirth among those reading in the neighborhood of the city of Mexico and Vera Cruz. There is no finer climate in the world than that of the highlands of Mexico which are reached near Monterey. Gen. Mora, the new commander of the Castle and city of Vera Cruz, who has succeeded the Vice President Bravo, has entered upon his duties. He has a body of several hundred men at work every morning. On the low sand beach, adjoining the castle, where he threw up additional breast works. About all the soldiers are expected at target firing. The guns are mostly of large caliber, and the shot to a great distance. The American squadron is anchored under Green Island. The pinion daily game that the Castle can only be taken by escalade or boarding as Jack calls it. This the sailors of the squadron are eager to undertake. The British steamer arrived Vera Cruz on the 11th, without Santa Ana, and the best informed now say there in no probability of his coming there at all. The yellow fever is making great havoc among the troops both in the Castle and in the city. The soldiers bring mostly from the interior are not accustomed to the climate of the city, and suffer in health. Vera Cruz could easily be taken with two or three thousand men, who could land either north or south of it. At present the city nearly deserted. Excellent health prevails throughout the squadron, the Raritan excepted, on board who is the scurvy prevails to a great extent. This is caused by the great length of time which this vessel has been at sea. She has been two years and six months on commission, and all that time has been passed between the tropic and under a vertical sun.

August 13, 1846 MGv47i24p1c4 Dentists

A letter written from Matamoras suggest that Dentists visit the fields of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, for the very fine teeth of the Mexican dead. Who but a Yankee would have ever thought of such a speculation?

August 13, 1846 MGv47i24p1c7 Expenses of the Mexican War

When the present war with Mexico commenced, we believe that there were in reality but comparatively few people, who “counted cost.” It was all “glory,” and very little attention paid to anything else. The result will prove a useful lesson. A letter from New Orleans published in the National Intelligencer says, that “the expense with which this war is carried on is truly enormous. Before the summer is over, there will probably have been from one or two millions of dollars paid for the purchase to employment of services. A customary charter for a steamboat to run down from N.
August 13, 1846 MGv47i24p2c4 From Mexico

Latest from the Army. The steamship New York, Captain Phillips, arrived at New Orleans on the 1st inst., from Brazos Santiago and Galveston, having left the former place on the on the 29th and the latter on the 30th ultimo. We learn that Mr. Lumedra and his party reached Point Isabel on the 24th ult. and the next day proceeded to Matamoras. The American Flag of the 24th, has the following paragraphs; A gentleman arrived in town yesterday, from Monclova, direct, and in a remarkably short time, passing through Candala, Tiascala, Wills Altama, Sabinas, Mier, Camargo and Reynosa, and states that ever thing was perfectly quiet on the route, and that the people are expecting the approach of the troops. Sever fine artillery companies had arrived from the seaboard before the departure of the troops will be committed to the charge of Major Clark; his command as Military Governor will be sustained by four companies of artillery, with a sufficiency of volunteers to maintain his position. We understand that the command of Featherston's Regiments are not recognized by the Department as being in the service at all. When the Empressario arrived at the New Orleans Barracks on the 1st inst., seven days from Brazos Santiago, with Capt. (Gen.) Dosha's company of Alabama volunteers, who have been ordered to New Orleans to be mustered out of the service according to instructions from the War Department. Six other companies from Alabama, all the Louisiana Volunteers and the St. Louis Legion, six months men, are to be mustered out of service by the same authority.Cols. Peyton's and Featherston's Regiments are not recognized by the Department as being in the service at all. When the Empressario left, most of the regular troops had gone to Camargo, where it is probably all are by this time. Unless General Taylor has been detained, on account of the withdrawal of so many volunteers from the army, to make new arrangements regarding the disposition of the remaining ones, he has joined the regular army ere this at Camargo. The Texan troops were about taking up their march for Mier. Sever fine artillery companies had arrived from the seaboard before the Empressario left. The following paragraphs are from the N.O. Courier of 2d inst. Governor Henderson was lying dangerously ill at Matamoras at the latest dates very little hope was, if any, entertained of his recover. We are indebted to a gentleman direct from Camargo for the following information. He informs us that the Rancheros are all back or getting to their homes as fast as possible and going to work on their ranches again, having abandoned the idea of conquering the U. States, and subjecting it to their own will. If such is the case Canales and Cerrabajal must have but few troops under their command--report says they have none, as their forces were made up entirely of rancheros. Rumor says there are not at this time at Monterey more than one thousand or fifteen hundred men, but that they are fortifying it as fast as possible. It is understood that it is the intention of the Commanding General to remove his quarter, together with 3d and 4th regiments to Camargo, by the first opportunity. We understand that the command of Matamoras, after the departure of the troops will be committed to the charge of Major Clark; his command as Military Governor will be sustained by four companies of artillery, with a sufficiency of volunteers to maintain his position.

[MSM]

August 13, 1846 MGv47i24p2c6 Capt. Mays own description of his charge

Having had the pleasure of a long conversation with Capt. May, we finally asked him to give us a description of his charge, that the might get at the exact particulars. The gallant Captain, twisted about his long beard, evidently somewhat confused, and after considerable hesitation said: “Why you see the fact is, any of the boys, would have given their lives to have had the chance to have charged the batteries, only I was the lucky one in getting the order. After the old man gave the order, I rode down the road, my men following of course, where we met Ridgely, he blazed away, and let me pass, and we just rode over the guns, and that is all about it.” N.O. Tropic.

[MSM]
Amicable Adjustment of the Oregon Question. The subscriber appears before the public, his friends and customer, not to dispute the "right of tile to the whole of Oregon," but show his entire willingness to arbitrate and amicably adjust the great question. Having perfect confidence in the good judgment of the Public, he, for one, is anxious that they come forward and make such disposition of this all absorbing matter as they think best, whether it be on the parallel of 49, or 54 degrees 49 minutes.

[MSM]

August 20, 1846 MGv47i25p2c3 From Mexico

The Southern mail has brought New Orleans papers to the 6th and 7th instant, (says the Baltimore Patriot of the 10th inst.) which contains later accounts from the army, by the steamer Alabama from the Brazos, whence she sailed on the 2d. The following extracts of letter are published in the Washington Union of last night:

"Camargo, (Mexico) July 23.

"We are furnishing transportation for army and securing supplies of forage on the route to Monterey. We have contracted for 1,000 to 2,000 miles," (another letter fixes it positively at 1,500) "with the parking equipments complete; and these, with the 500 wagons expected here, will be ample for the marching columns. A large portion of the 19,000 men of the corps d'arme will be left at the different depots and entrepots, from Brazos Santiago to Chias, about 60 miles from this place on the route to Monterey.

"The troops are now fast arriving here in our steamboats; and the General will, in all probability, move forward from here about the middle of next month, (August). Now comes the commencement of those operations which will require all the capacity, skill, and energy of our General to accomplish. The great difficulties of invading Mexico begin here. So far, every thing has favored Gen. Taylor, and he has not only a most enviable reputation, but his good fortune has become a proverb. I hope, of course, for his further success; but, in order to secure it, the most careful combinations of every kind, preparatory to the march, are absolutely necessary. Too much haste may prove as great an evil as a faulty tardiness. It takes time for the requisite arrangements for the transportation required for so many men, suddenly collected here. Meanwhile the General is impatient of the least delay, and the , and the officers of our department are incessantly occupied in preparations.

"Our news from the interior leave us in doubt whether Paredes, at the head of the army, will succeed or not in assembling a force sufficient to oppose us. He is said to have called out the male population en masse and has strong positions to defend; but it is doubtful whether we shall have another battle in Mexico."

[MSM]

August 27, 1846 MGv47i26p1c6 The Two Million Bill

The application of the President to Congress for two millions of dollars to be used in negotiations with Mexico was made under circumstances too remarkable to escape expected comment. It is not stated that any proposal to negotiate has come from Mexico, it does not appear that Mexico is at all disposed to sue for peace; we are not told that any event has happened recently to change the aspect of our relations with Mexico. The president, however, introduces his Message by inviting the attention of Congress to the propriety of making an appropriation to provide for any expenditure which it may be necessary to make in advance for the purpose of settling all our differences with the Mexican Republic. "I has generally been supposed that the appropriations already made to thee amount of twenty millions of more for the prosecution of the war beyond the Ro Grand, the levying of twenty or thirty thousand men armaments and munitions of war sent to the South West, the marching of our troops towards Monterey, and the presence of our squadrions in the Gulf and Pacific were all intended for no other purpose than that of "settling all our difficulties with the Mexican Republic." But the two millions specially asked for were to be used in connection with another system of operations. The appropriation is not required as an addition item for carrying on the military movements of our forces. The President wants it for purposes of a negotiation which he himself is to open, since Mexico will not; he looks to a prospective treaty which is to secure to its certain portions of territory. "It might be inconvenient," says the Message, "for the Mexican Government to wait for the whole sum, the payment of which may be stipulated by this treaty, until it can be ratified by our Senate, or an application to carry it in to effect made by Congress. Indeed, the necessity for this delay may defeat the object altogether." The sum of the whole matter seems to be that if we cannot "conquer a peace" with Mexico we are to but one. In the event that this shall fail to accomplish a successful war, gold is to be tried. The Message indeed says that this money is not be used as secret service money, but to be accounted for like other expenditures; yet if that were really so, what need of cash? A stipulation on behalf of the Government to pay any sum agreed upon would surely be sufficiently to satisfy the Mexican Government, if that Government was disposed to treat at all in the manner indicated by the Message. The Union is not yet bankrupt; its credit is not wholly gone, nor in so critical a condition that Mexico need distrust it. Why would it be "inconvenient for the Mexican Government to wait for the whole sum" which might be agreed to be paid by any treaty likely to be negotiated between the parties? Congress, will be in session again in less than four months. A strange notion indeed! The President assumes that we are to pay money to Mexico on the conclusion of treaty with her, and that she cannot wait until the next meeting of Congress for the whole of it. He therefore wants some ready money in hand as earnest of the balance--a sort of pledge or security in advance that we are able to pay and may be trusted. This money is asked for while open war is raging between the two countries. Our fleets are blockading the ports of Mexico, our armies
are marching towards her capital. The Mexicans are preparing for defence, and have not initiated the slightest
disposition to yield to our demands or to solicit peace. All these facts and circumstances mark the Message as an
extraordinary one. The appropriation was not granted. The modest assurance with which the President asked the
confidence of the two Houses was not warranted by his previous course. We are inclined to the belief that he does not
possess the confidence of a majority in either House.-Balt. Amer.

August 27, 1846 MGv47i26p2c4 From Mexico

From the N. Orleans papers of the 24th, inst. The steamers New York, Of New Orleans, left Boston on the 31st inst.
Gen. Taylor, quietly left Matamoras for Camargo early on the morning of the 5th, in the steamer Whiteville,
accompanied by about one half of the Texan Regiment of Infantry, and a few regulars. An order had been issued from
Headquarters, prohibiting the further introduction of spirituous liquors into Matamoras, and specifying that the vending
of the same should cease on the 15th inst. A skirmish had taken place near Camargo between a party of about 600
Indians and some 75 or 80 Rangers, on account of depredations committed by the former, in which the Indians lost
some twenty men, and the Rangers two, the latter party re-capturing 150 horses. According to recent private advices
from Mexican citizens living at Monterey, to their friends in Matamoras, there are in that vicinity about 4,000 soldiers,
who can be concentrated on very short notice at Monterey. This comprises all the Mexican forces this side of the Sierra
Madre. Gen. Taylor’s advices, which are not, however, of quite so recent a date, state that there are only about 200
workers working on the fortifications at the city in question. Editorial Correspondence of the Picayune. Matamoras,
August 4th, 1846. Gen. Taylor and staff leave here to day for Camargo, and all the troops are to leave by about the
10th inst. Gen. Twiggs is left to superintend the movement of the troops now here, and those that are to arrive, for a
while at least. He is in excellent health, and was never looking better. Col. Clarke, of the 8th Infantry will be left at this
place in command, after all the troops have been forwarded, and will have two companies of artillery and one regiment
of volunteers under him. Gen. Twiggs, with Capt. May’s four companies of dragoons, and Capt. Ridgely’s battery of
artillery, will bring up the rear as the army moves forward. Col. Hay’s regiment of mounted volunteers and Col.
Johnson’s regiment of foot--Texans--are to march tomorrow. The “Gaines Rangers” have joined Col. Hay’s regiment,
and will leave with it. All the regular troops now remaining here, except Capt. May’s and Ridgely’s commands, are also
ordered to march tomorrow. It is expected that the army will not move from Camargo before the 25th inst. The brig
Orleans, of and for New Orleans, struck on the bar in coming out, with a pilot on board, unshipped her rudder and went
ashore on the north breaker. She had on board sixty Louisiana volunteers, who were all saved. The vessel went to
pieces the next night. The bark Condor, hence, arrived on the 6th and sailed on the 7th from New York with 201
recruits, infantry and dragoons. Ship Sophia Walker arrived on the 7th; bark L. Welch, hence, arrived same day; both
had Illinois volunteers. Brigs Tasso, Apalachicola, schrs. M.L. McCrendy and Heroine, sailed on the 5th, 6th, and 7th for
this port, with volunteers on board.

August 27, 1846 MGv47i26p2c4 Important from Vera Cruz, via Havana

A letter from Mier (Mexico) to the N.O. Picayune, dated July 31st, 1846, states that Capt. Vinton’s command entered
that place without the least show of opposition from the Mexicans. The town contains a population of about 6,000--
Capt. V. had but 93 men. The Washington Union publishes dispatches from Com. Conner of as late a date as July 30.
The crews of the different ships of the Squadron continue well. He speaks of the internal revolution in Mexico, and
mentions several Departments in the Country who have declared against Paredes and in favor of Santa Anna. He thinks
a change of rulers will be favorable to a restoration of peace between Mexico and this Country, and that proposals of
that character will be offered. Many of the most influential men in Mexico are in favor of it. Gen. Bravo on his arrival at
Mexico declined acting as President, but Congress returned his resignation and he has accepted the appointment.

August 27, 1846 MGv47i26p2c5 Later Still

The ship Alclaide, Adams, sailed from Havana on the 9th August, and arrived at New York on Thursday. A special
messenger from Vera Cruz cam passenger in the steam packet to Havana, with letters to Santa Ana, informing him
that the citizens and military of Vera Cruz had declared for him. Santa Ana, Almonte and Rejon, immediately took
passage in the British steamer Arab, and proceeded.

September

October
The extracts which we publish in this morning’s American from a letter of an Artillery Officer of our Army in Mexico to a gentleman in this city, state distinctly that when Gen. TAYLOR entered into the eight week’s armistice with AMPUDIA he had the positive assurance of the latter, not only that Santa Fe was captured and California possessed by the Americans, but also that Commissioners of the United States were then in Mexico to arrange the terms of a treaty. Mexican insincerity and craft will be better understood by and by. Reliance hereafter on SANTA ANNA’s protestations will hardly dupe even Mr. POLK again; nor will the representations of Mexican commanders be henceforth taken by our Generals without many gains of allowance.

Nevertheless the justification of the Monterey capitulation does not rest upon the belief which Gen. TAYLOR may have entertained of AMPUDIA’s declaration; it is complete without supposing such belief. With six thousand men at the commencement of the attack on Monterey, Gen. Taylor found himself at the end of the third day weakened by a loss of one tenth of his number – possibly more. If he had determined to continue the battle no doubt he would have taken the town, of which one half was already in his possession. But it would have been by a succession of street fights obstinate and bloody, the Mexicans defending house after house, street after street. – Gen. TAYLOR could not afford to lose any more men. With his force diminished by such loss as the renewal of the fight at Monterey would involve; with the necessity of leaving behind him a strong garrison in that place; it would have been impossible for him to advance upon Saltillo. He could not advance in any event without reinforcements. The capitulation gave him time to wait for reinforcements from the Rio Grande and by the junction of Gen. WOOL’s division. If negotiations were really going on for peace between our Government and that of Mexico, consequent upon the restoration of Santa Anna, - a thing which he might reasonably infer not only from [...] given by his own Government, - the armistice concluded with the Mexicans would be favorable to such negotiations.

Some of the details of the letter in our columns, already referred to, present another point worthy of attention. RIDGELY’s pieces of Flying Artillery were too light to make any impression upon the fortified works at Monterey. The way in which that officer is in the habit of serving his pieces gives a certain assurance that if they could have been made effective against the Mexican works he would have made them so. But every body knows that light artillery of that sort is not intended for attacks upon fortifications. The attempt was made at Monterey mainly to see whether the enemy’s works were really as strong as they appeared to be. The fact that the attempt was made at all, proves the more serious fact, that Gen. TAYLOR has not been furnished with artillery adapted to the attack of such fortified places as Monterey.

And the Union officially explains that the New York banks have declined to buy the treasury notes at less than six per cent., but that several propositions for loans on terms less than six and approaching nearer to five and two-fifths per cent., have been made by individuals, and declined by the Secretary, it is now, we presume, seeing he could do no better, determined upon retailing the notes, and to fix the interest on them at 52.5 per cent. As an inducement for purchasers, it is announced that the notes, both in the land office and custom-house, as well before as after maturity,
and must be regarded in the light, for many uses, of specie bearing an interest; and at the rate now proposed, we cannot doubt, (adds the Union,) that there will be a large demand for these notes. “

Here we have it at last – a government paper currency, irredeemable in specie, but receivable in paying debts to the government. The notes are to pass from hand to hand – all the restrictions which the Secretary heretofore put upon their transfer, and their payment are abolished – the endorsement of the party buying them being all that is required to change their ownership.

We cannot say whether the sale of these notes will be as large as Mr. Walker expects; but we rather suspect that the peddling them out in the manner he proposes, will not give them a character in the market much above that of other irredeemable shinplasters, and that the sales will not be quite as active, as that of “wet goods” saved from some wreck, and announced to “be sold at ruinous prices. “

And this is the work of the Sub. Treasury, hard-money, paper hating administration! – When Mr. Polk came into office we were promised that we should have nothing but specie. We get nothing but rags – not banks rags – redeemable in coin – but shinplasters, intended for circulation, and of a character similar o those issued by individuals in the times of the Van Buren experiments on the currency, which where “receivable in the undersigned. ” – Balt. Pat
(Baltimore Patriot)

Thursday, November 5, 1846 MG46i47n36p2c1 238 words

The Last Words of Colonel Watson

A member of the Baltimore Battalion, writing from Monterey to his parents in Baltimore in speaking of the death of the gallant Watson, says: -

In a desperate charge against one of the Mexican Forts he fell mortally wounded. He handed his sword to Lieut. Bowie, and died with a smile on his face, that indicted more than a tongue can tell. He died a brave man and a gallant soldier. The last words which he uttered were: - “MEN YOUR GENERAL LEADS YOU – WHO WOULD NOT FOLLOW?” These were uttered, seeing an officer pass who, it is presumed, he, in the agonies of death, took for Gen’l Taylor.

I deeply regret that Col. Watson was not spared to enjoy the victory with us. Poor fellow, he is gone, and I hope his country will take care of his wife and children. It will be a great loss to them. So hot was the battle, that we were unable to take the body of our lamented Colonel from the street, until nearly 48 hours had elapsed. We buried him in a brick house within 400 yards of where he first made a charge with the Battalion. A very singular circumstance occurred while the man was in the act of preparing the grave: a ball came and took his head off; and instead of burying one, we had to have another dirge for the poor soldier. Such is war.

Thursday, November 5, 1846 MG46i47n36p3c4 1,038 words

The Mexican War – Santa Anna

The public anxiety at this time is intense throughout the country, respecting the future operations and fate of our gallant army in Mexico. The most implicit confidence is everywhere felt in the gallantry, prudence, and eminent generalship of Gen. TAYLOR, but at the same time all know that he cannot overcome impossibilities. The accounts which we have from Monterey, show the most unbounded confidence in Gen. TAYLOR, by the army under his command; indeed the feeling of attachment amounts almost to idolatry – But these accounts do not present the same confidence of our soldiers in their Government – they are on the contrary, bitterly denunciatory of it, and charge the Administration at Washington with an utter disregard of their comfort in every respect. It is by no means an agreeable task for us to record these statements, but an act of justice to the gallant and patriotic army periling so much in the cause of their Country, demands that the people of their own Country should know their condition. We do not know what orders the Government has sent on to Gen. TAYLOR respecting the Armistice, or whether he has orders to take up immediately his line of march against Saltillo, before he is strongly reinforced or not. We have reports that SANTA ANNA has arrived at Saltillo with a strong force, where he is joined with the force of , and that they are fortifying the town with great industry. If this statement be true, Gen. TAYLOR will have a most formidable foe to encounter, us the city and neighborhood is thickly inhabited, and which of course will take up arms with the regular forces. We most devoutly trust that if Gen. TAYLOR should meet the foe, that his arm will be so strengthened, that the blow which he gives shall tell, and be it possible, a termination to the war. It is useless now to be trifling with this war – our Government should act vigorously, instead of talking so much. The cost of this war will be tremendous, if continued much longer – at the rate it has been progressing, it will take in all probability two hundred and fifty or three hundred millions of dollars to conclude it. – But now is not the time to pause and count dollars and cents – the war must be ended, and the Government should bring into the Mexican field all of their disposable regular force, and the whole of the volunteer force authorized by the Act of Congress. This is the only way in which the war can now be concluded. It
It is well known that Gen. SANTA ANNA is shrewd, calculating, cunning man, and that the state of political parties in his Country, is the main reason why he is now at the head of the Army. His last [...] declining the proffered dictatorship, and declaring that he aspired to no higher honor, than to lead the Armies of the Republic against “the daring and perfidious foe,” and drive him from the soil of his Country, is all talk and a hollow show of affection and patriotism. His whole soul is bent upon a restoration to power, and a triumph over those who drove him from the head of Government, sent him into exile in a foreign Country, from which he was enabled to return through the machinations of our Government, under the guise of a friend to the restoration of peace. SANTA ANNA is now at the head of the Army, and his great rival and deadly foe, Gen. PAREDES, an escaped refugee in a foreign country. He calculates now that successful or defeated, it will be the means of once more placing him at the helm of the Government.

The question has been frequently asked, but those who ought and do know all about it have not seen proper to enlighten the country upon the subject: - By whose permission .icus Santa Anna allowed to pass into Mexico, spite of the blockading Squadron? The fact is known that the Steamer carrying him in was boarded by an officer of our Navy, who saw and conversed privately with him, and satisfactorily of course, as the Steamer was permitted to pass on her way, and now we find the Mexican Army furnished with a powerful and popular leader, who at the head of thirty thousand men, is marching against Gen. TAYLOR. Our Government most undoubtedly, from all the circumstances, have had some negotiations going on with SANTA ANNA, in which the Mexican Chief must have promised his influence to put an end to the war spirit in Mexico, provided our government would facilitate his safe return home. He was also to have had two millions of dollars, which it will be remembered Mr. Polk asked for near the close of Congress, which he in all probability would have got, had not "Honest John Davis" of Massachusetts spoken the Bill to death. The "Union" and the Democratic papers generally throughout the country at the time, most unmercifully belabored Mr. D., charging him with a want of patriotism, &c. &c. But now we hear not a word from them upon that point; in fact but for "Honest John's" speech. "SANTA ANNA" would have had our two millions of money, to have sustained in part the Army which he is now leading against us. It is said that this step was taken by Mr. Polk through the advice of Gen. HOUSTON of Texas, which seems odd enough (if true) after his experience in the treachery of SANTA ANNA in all his dealings with Texas. But Congress will meet in a few weeks and, doubtless, their first inquires will be, How came SANTA ANNA at the head of the Mexican forces, when the coast was blockaded by an American Squadron in which he was, was boarded by [...] Other from that Squadron? The Administration may have trouble with this matter. – New Verrons

[AMB]

Thursday, November 5, 1846 MG46i47n36p4c4 4,345 words

From Mexico, Latest from the Rio Grande, Arrival of the Streamer Galveston

We cut the following interesting particulars from the New Orleans Commerical [sic] Times, the Delta and the Bee of the 21st ult:

The steamship Galveston, Capt. Wright, arrived here yesterday, from Brasos Santiago the 14th, and Galveston on the 18th ult. By her we have received abundance of details in our own correspondence, the Matamoras Flag, and the Galveston papers, of the movements of our troops under Gen. Taylor, their condition, casualties, etc., etc., since the capitulation of Monterey, which we proceed to lay before our readers. The following is the order of the day issued by Gen. Taylor, after the capitulation of Monterey:

Head Quarters, army of Occupation,
Camp near Monterey, Sept. 27, 1846.

The commanding general has the satisfaction to congratulate the army under his command upon another signal triumph over the Mexican forces. Superior to us in numbers, strongly fortified, and with an immense preponderance of artillery, they have yet been driven from point to point until forced to sue for terms of capitulation. Such terms have been granted as were considered due to the gallant [sic] defence of the town and to the liberal policy of our government.

The General begs to return his thanks of his commanders, and to all his officers and men, both of the regular and volunteer forces, for the skill, the courage and perseverance with which they have overcome manifold difficulties, and finally achieved a victory shedding luster upon the American arms.

A great result has been obtained, but not without the loss of many gallant and accomplished officers and brave men. – The army and the country will deeply sympathise [sic] with the families and friends of those who have thus sealed their devotion with their lives. By order of Major Gen. TAYLOR.

[Signed] W. W. S. Bliss, As't. Adj. General,

The Capitulation, &c. – It is said it was the destructive effects of the mortar that first determined Ampudia to capitulate. – It was towards evening on the 23rd, when the mortar, with much labor, had been planted in the cemetery, near the cathedral, and within reach of the Plaza. The first shell, which was discharged about 7 P. M., fell close to the entrance of the cathedral, where the priest was performing mass, and its explosion spread such destruction around, that Ampudia, being entreated by the priest and others, immediately wrote a letter to Gen. Taylor, asking terms. This letter was dated 9 o’clock, P. M., on the 23rd, but Col. Moiano, the bearer, did not reach Gen. Taylor, till the next morning near 9 o’clock. He soon returned with Gen. Taylor’s demand for an unconditional surrender before 12 o’clock; to which, it seems, Ampudia would have assented; but being dissuaded by his officers, he requested a conference, which was granted. It is stated that Gen. Worth privately expressed his opinion to Gen. T., that the terms demanded were too severe and humiliating, and thought that Gen. T. could afford to be more liberal. At the conference, however, Gen. Taylor still insisted upon his terms with some pertinacity, but finally agreed to leave everything with three commissioners on either side.

The Relative Forces, Losses, &c. – We are assured that Ampudia had from 14000 to 16000 troops – the former is the lowest number given by any one. They had about 50 pieces of artillery worked with a degree of skill and precision unsurpassed by any nation. They were also in a strongly fortified town. The streets leading into the town, to the Plaza, were all either closed up with heavy and strong walls of solid masonry, requiring great labor, and executed in the most workman-like manner, or these streets were protected with batteries of heavy ordnance, planted so as to effectually cover their entrance.

The American army did not exceed 5000, and 700 of these were reserved as a camp guard, to protect the camp from forces of Mexican cavalry, so that we had but 4300 men in the engagement. Nearly all our most effective ordnance had been left behind. There was only the Flying Artillery, which in order to do much execution, had to be exposed to a most destructive fire from the enemy’s heavy batteries. Add two 24 pound howitzers and our whole force is given. This shows a disparity of more than three to one, and vast advantages against our army in position, fully equal to the inequality in numbers.

The loss of our army is 561 in killed and wounded, 41 of whom were officers. – Major Lear, 3d Infantry, who was reported severely wounded, is fast recovering.

Killed and Wounded. – The Picayune says:

"Capt. Owen (formerly Lieutenant) of the Baltimore Battalion, left Monterey on the 6th instant and we are indebted to him for many interesting details. He informs us that the American loss in the three actions is set down at 561, killed and wounded. Our correspondent, writing on the 20th ult., makes the loss a little less, but it had not been ascertained to him for many interesting details. He informs us that the American loss in the three actions is set down at 561, killed and wounded. Our correspondent, writing on the 20th ult., makes the loss a little less, but it had not been ascertained to him for many interesting details. He informs us that the American loss in the three actions is set down at 561, killed and wounded. Our correspondent, writing on the 20th ult., makes the loss a little less, but it had not been ascertained to him for many interesting details. He informs us that the American loss in the three actions is set down at 561, killed and wounded. Our correspondent, writing on the 20th ult., makes the loss a little less, but it had not been ascertained to him for many interesting details. He informs us that the American loss in the three actions is set down at 561, killed and wounded. Our correspondent, writing on the 20th ult., makes the loss a little less, but it had not been ascertained to him for many interesting details. He informs us that the American loss in the three actions is set down at 561, killed and wounded. Our correspondent, writing on the 20th ult., makes the loss a little less, but it had not been ascertained to him for many interesting details. He informs us that the American loss in the three actions is set down at 561, killed and wounded. Our correspondent, writing on the 20th ult., makes the loss a little less, but it had not been ascertained to him for many interesting details. He informs us that the American loss in the three actions is set down at 561, killed and wounded.

The following is an extract from an interesting letter of Mr. Kendall, dated Monterey, Sept. 29.

Speaking of wounded comrades reminds me of poor Thomas. He was one of the most daring spirits in McCullock’s company, and had his horse wounded in the charge the enemy’s lancers made upon us on the morning of the 21st. On the following morning, while storming the battery on the height overlooking the Bishop’s Palace, he was mortally wounded, and after suffering incredibly died on the morning of the 24th. A musket ball shattered his hip joint, at the same time that the brave Capt. Gillispie was shot through, and the two are now quietly resting side by side on the height where they received their death wounds – Mount Gillispie as it has been appropriately named by Gen. Worth.

Of the thousands of Mexican soldiers that occupied this Gibraltar of a town a few days since, not as many hundreds now remain. At one time so confident were Ampudia and his generals of success, they sent Romana with fifteen hundred or two thousand cavalry in rear of General Taylor, to cut off his retreat. The ‘redeeming’ game of the Texans and regulars on the afternoon of the 23rd – digging through and under houses, taking inch by inch, but never giving one – and then the close proximity of the 24-pound mortar so successfully worked by Major Monroe and Lieut. Lovell – all combined to intimidate the Mexicans to a degree that induced them to sue for terms. Shells from the mortar fell and exploded all around the great Cathedral; bad one entered that establishment, filled as it was with ammunition, every house on the main Plaza would have been riven to fragments, and the loss of life would have been fearful. To spare the shedding of so much blood, and so terrible an injury of property, were some of the main causes that induced Gen. Taylor to offer the Mexican commander the terms he did.

I saw Ampudia as he left town for Saltillo on the morning of the 26th – rode along in his escort for a mile or two. The base and lying wretch – for every page in his black history proves him such – looked crest-fallen, nervous, and timid to a degree. He was fearful lest some of the Texan rangers, many of whom had deep wrongs still to avenge, might shoot him from the way side; and as he rode through the encampment, situated directly on his route, he could not conceal his fears. – They allowed him to pass, however, without even a cry or shout of exultation.

Opinions are various in camp as to whether the Mexicans will now offer peace, or make a stout resistance at Saltillo, a larger portion. I believe in clinging to the latter opinion. A Mexican who arrived from that place yesterday reports that they have already commenced fortifying it on an extensive scale; but this should be taken merely as a rumor or story of a Mexican – the most unreliable information conceivable. Again, a great many are discontented at the terms given the Mexicans, and think they will certainly fight again after being let off so easily. Had the battle continued on the 24th three hours longer the Mexicans would undoubtedly have been on their knees crying and begging for their
lives. A terrible carnage would have ensued had not Ampudia sent in proposals for a surrender of the town, for his forces were huddled, if I can use such a term; and all this General Taylor well knew. To carry out the known conciliatory policy of our Government, however, appears to have been accordance with his instructions, his object – and this should relieve him from all censure in the matter. For myself, having some knowledge of Mexican character, I believe the whole policy of our Government is, and had been wrong for years. – Shower any quantity of magnanimity upon this people and it is entirely thrown away – they neither feel nor appreciate it. An inherent pride, which grows upon them every step in a downward and disgraceful career, causes them to look with a pretended scorn upon every offer of generous forbearance in their adversity, and as well might Van Amburg attempt to conciliate his tigers and hyenas by choice bits of meat and love pats on the head as these people by acts of kindness. The policy has been tried all summer, and the effects of its working has been shown by rascally extortions on the part of those of whom our Government has attempted to purchase provisions, and by every exertion on the part of the military to cut our Army in pieces when it beleaguered this place about. But enough of this for the present – a word to two of news, such a I have to offer.

The two Texas regiments, under Cols. Hays and Woods, will probably return home in the course of a week, and should hostilities recommence fresh regiments, mounted on the best horses that can be procured, will at once be raised.

An express has come in, stating, that, Gen. Wool, with 3500 men, was to leave San Antonio yesterday for Chihuahua. - What in the name of all that is reasonable so large a force is going that direction for, is more than I can make out. That whole section is now in the hands of the Camanches [sic], as it were, and the difficulty of moving so large a number of men, when one quarter of the force is more than is necessary to subjugate any army now there or that can be sent, looks to me as almost insurmountable [sic]. With not double the number, Gen. Taylor has marched upon one of the strong holes of the country and driven off an army complete in all it appointments – If Gen. Wool goes to Chihuahua with the number stated, it seems to me that he will have no other enemies to contend with than the worst of all – hunger and suffering. I hope that he will march this way, where his services may really be needed.

Gen. Taylor is still encamped at the old ground, three miles from here – Gens. Worth and Smith are in town. The main part of the wounded officers are doing well. Gen. Butler is recovering, while Cols. McClung and Mitchell are also in a fair way.

Monterey Sept. 29, 5 o’clock, P. M.

An express rider has this moment arrived from Salinas, which place he left this morning. It is only a days ride this side of Saltillo, and he states on the authority of a Mexican, that Santa Anna arrived at that city yesterday morning or the evening previous, and at once commenced fortifying the place with vigor. He had no less than 13,000 men with him, which, added to those which left here under Ampudia, will swell his army to over 20,000 men. Report further has it, that he is to erect works and batteries close by the Riconada – the limits of our lines by the sixty day’s truce. If all this should prove true, the army may have bloodier work to do than ever. One thing is certain – Santa Anna was hourly expected here when Gen. Taylor arrived, and many think that Ampudia’s reason for wishing to retire was the fact that he found himself to a degree surrounded after the success of the second division, and was anxious to form a junction with his master on the best terms he could make.

Monterey, Sept. 25, 1846.

My Dear Sir – After a most obstinate and sanguinary conflict, which was continued from day to day for five days, Gen. Ampudia capitulated this city on the 24th inst. Our loss in killed and wounded, has been extremely severe, not less than 500, amongst whom are some of the most valuable officers of the regular army, as well as volunteers.

The 1st Regiment of Tennessee volunteers, commanded by Col. Campbell, suffered more severely, perhaps, than any other which was engaged during the siege, having had twenty-seven killed on the field, and seventy-seven wounded, some of them mortally, and many of them seriously, and this out of a force of only 378 men. Notwithstanding this tremendous loss, the regiment charged under the lead of its gallant colonel and other officers, and was the first regiment which stormed the fort, around the breastworks, and unfurled the stars and stripes upon its walls, amidst a perfect hail storm of balls which was pouring upon it.

These Mexican towns and fortresses are incredibly strong, and few men fight better from house tops, and behind stone walls or are more adroit in the use of stationary artillery than the Mexicans. In these actions Gen. Taylor had, all told, about 5000 men, while Gen. Ampudia’s force consisted of 10,500 infantry and cavalry, besides militia, rancheros, &c. Gen. Taylor had eighteen pieces, while Gen. Ampudia had forty-four pieces, thirty eight of which, with two standards of colors, are now in our possession.

Our Army arrived before Monterey the morning Saturday, the 19th inst. And about half at 8 o’clock, while reconnoitering the out works of the city, a ball discharged from a 12-punder struck Gen. Taylor and staff, and bounded with terrible velocity over his head, at which the old hero did not change a muscle or even bat his eye. This day, the 19th, was spent in making reconnaissances of the place and its various outposts, amidst a good deal of firing on the part of the Mexicans, from cannon and a short gun called an escopette, which carries a large ball to the distance of 500 or
On Sunday, the 20th, Gen. Worth was detached by Gen. Taylor, in command of the 2d division of the regular army (about 1500 strong) and Col. Hay's regiment of Texas Rangers, (consisting of 400 men,) with a view of turning the city and occupying the Saltillo road, for the purpose of cutting off the enemy's supplies and reinforcements, which were daily expected under Gen. Santa Anna. The division performed the march – making a road, filing ditches, &c. – a distance of about six or seven miles, and reached the vicinity of the enemy in the evening, about 5 o'clock, when the General, with an escort from Col. Hay's rangers, was fired on by the batteries placed on the heights, and also by a corps of the enemy's light troops, who were sent through a corn field to cut off his party.

From this time until the appearance of the white flag, on the evening of the 24th, the division of the Army commanded by Gen. Worth was incessantly engaged, and was ever successful – never for the moment hesitating or faltering – putting to rout the enemy's cavalry on the plains, driving his infantry through the chaparral and from the house-tops, scaling immense heights, capturing guns, and storming fortresses, which were not only deemed impregnable but which seemed to be almost inaccessible. And, best of all, these brilliant exploits were performed with the loss of fourteen killed and fifty-six wounded; and during the four days' contest there occurred not the slightest error or mistake on the part of the commanding General, nor was there at any time the least faltering or hesitancy on the part of the officers and men – regulars and volunteers – in executing his orders. Indeed, it is difficult to determine which is most worthy of admiration, the wisdom and energy displayed by the able and accomplished commander or the gallantry and ardor with which he was sustained by those under his command.

When the difficulties and apparently insuperable obstacles are considered, I venture the assertion that the series of successes obtained by the division under Gen. Worth's command, in the recent operations against Monterey, will bear a favorable comparison with the proudest achievements of the American arms. He was opposed by a greatly superior force, which was well served with artillery and posted upon the highest peaks of the Sierra Madre. He stormed heights, took three pieces of artillery, turned them on the enemy, and with these and the aid of one of his own pieces – which he contrived to place upon the summit which commands the famous Bishop's Palace eight hundred feet above the base of the mountain – united with the inestimable services rendered by the dauntless and invincible spirits who stormed these heights, he reduced the strong hold of the enemy and drove him into the city, upon which he turned the guns he had captured. He bivouacked his force for the night on the bleak mountain, and the next day, after bombarding the town, he conducted his forces into the streets amidst a shower of balls discharged at his person. He was seen everywhere, directing everything, driving the enemy from his batteries, forcing him from the street to street and house to house, until night ended the conflict. He maintained his position in the city, placed a ten-inch mortar in one of the strongly fortified squares, to direct which he placed that gallant and skillful officer, Maj. Monroe, with instructions to fire a shell (weighing ninety pounds) every half hour during the night. This duty was performed with terrible effect, almost every shell falling in the plaza, where the enemies' forces were collected to the number of 7000 or 8000 men. He had made every necessary preparation for pursuing his advantages the next day, even to placing some of his artillery on the tops of high buildings, which would command and sweep the house tops from which the enemy fought.

Such was the state of preparation when Gen. Ampudia capitulated the city, reflecting equal honor upon the military skill of the head which conceived, and the indomitable energy of the gallant spirits who executed the plan of operations.

Our most serious loss occurred on the 21st, when Gen. Taylor only intended to make a diversion in favor of Gen. Worth, who was engaged in the attack on the other side of the town, but owing to the ardor and impetuosity of the troops, they very soon became involved in a general engagement, which Gen. Taylor felt bound to sustain. This excess of courage involved melancholy consequences, but it is surely a most excusable weakness, if it be a weakness, to display an excess of ardor in the field of battle.

The volunteers from the different States behaved in the most handsome manner. They have won for the citizen soldier the admiration and applause of the officers and soldiers of the regular Army, who speak of their conduct in the highest terms of approbation and eulogy. Amongst the volunteers none have shown more conspicuously than the 1st Regiment of Texas mounted riflemen, commanded by that Chevalier Bavard, Col. J. C. Hays, better known as Jack Hays. This corps, from the Colonel to the private has fully sustained its former reputation. In the first affairs in which Gen. Worth's division was engaged on the morning of the 21st, Col. Hays, with several companies of his mounted riflemen, were thrown forward to open the ball, which he did most beautifully, encountering and shooting in the presence of the General the Colonel of dragoons who commanded the enemy's forces. In sealing heights, storming batteries, and clambering over walls and house-tops, the voice of the gallant Colonel and the reports of the unerring rifle of the Ranger, were ever heard in the van. The courage and constancy, and subordination of this corps, is the theme of admiration in the Army.

But my object is narrative and not eulogy. It is not necessary for me to go into detail in relation to the terms accorded to the Mexican Army in the capitulation, as you will have seen the articles or the substance thereof, published in the newspapers ere this reaches you. If any one not acquainted with the facts of the case should object that our commanding General had granted terms too favorable to the retiring Army, let it be remembered that our invincible little Army had already suffered severely in bearing the bosoms of our best citizens, and bravest officers, and soldiers, to the batteries of an unseen foe; that the city was still immensely strong in its defenses; that the Mexican Army was double that of our own; this Army was in possession of the strongest part of the city, each house of which is a fortress within itself; that each remaining street was barricaded and most of them defended by cannon; and that when driven from the city the Mexican Army possessed a fortress called the Citadel, of immense capacity, and great strength, to which the whole Army could have retired.
We have been exceedingly pained to observe the papers generally of the country teeming with accounts from the Army, derogatory to the military character, skill and bravery of Maj. Genl. BUTLER. We have never for a single moment believed that there was one word of truth in any of them, and as to angry words, &c., passing between him and Gen. TAYLOR, we are almost positively certain that no such occurrence ever took place. It is true the division under Gen. Worth, who were near his person, saw what occurred, and know that which I have stated to be substantially correct. You are not infer that I mean to intimate that the main army, under the command of Gen. Taylor, did not perform feats superior to any, and equally worthy of the applause and admiration of the country. Others well informed as to facts, and much better qualified for the duty, will no doubt give a detailed account of the operations of this portion of the army. Take the army altogether, I doubt whether a superior body of men ever rallied under the flag of our country.

 accounts from the Army of General Butler

The papers from the South and Eastern cities are filled with letters from Monterey, giving more minute and detailed accounts of the splendid victory of our troops. It is impossible for us to think of spreading the one-tenth part of these letters before our readers, in our columns, circumscribed as they are. Indeed if our columns were large and ample enough for them all, we should not publish many of them, as they are in many instances disgusting, and bearing upon their face unblushing falsehoods, and enough of self laudation and glorification to nauseate the stomach of the most gullible of mankind. But as public journalists, we are compelled to read them all, as great an infliction of punishment as the task may be, in order to find out what should be laid before our readers. We take great pleasure, however, in directing the attention of the reader to the letter of Col. Bailie Peyton, dated Sept. 25th 1846 – this letter will be read with great interest.

Accounts from the Army of General Butler

 accounts from the Army of General Butler

To have taken this work without a siege train, as we were, by assault, would have cost us very dearly. Independently of these considerations, our provisions were growing short and our ammunitions were quite limited. We were far removed from our supplies and reinforcements, while the enemy might have been reinforced at any moment. And lastly, the policy avowed by our Government does not inculcate the idea that this is to be a vindictive or exterminating was against the people of Mexico, but on the contrary to conquer a peace, or in other words to whip Mexico to her own satisfaction, obtain our just rights, and conclude a pence upon terms such as would be becoming in a great and magnanimous nation towards a weak and distracted Government. All this has in my opinion been accomplished, in as full, complete and ample a manner by the course pursued in the capitulation, as if we had stormed the citadel and put the whole army to the sword. This is, in my judgment, the last battle which will be fought in the Mexican war. Gen. Ampudia, in urging as pacific course on Gen. Taylor, stated repeatedly that he knew that Gen. Taylor, stated repeatedly that he knew that Gen. Santa Anna was disposed to peace; that he was well assured that the course adopted would lead to peace between the two countries; that his object was to save the effusion of blood and the honor of his Government.

But if the war is to be prosecuted, we are in the possession of one of the strongest, most healthy and beautiful places in Mexico; from which, when our reinforcements and supplies arrive, our Army cannot be expelled by any force which Mexico will be able to send against it. We have taken arms and ammunition with which we can act offensively or defensively, according to the course of events and the policy of the Government. If it be the policy of our Government to extend our boundary beyond the Rio Grande, then the line of the Rinconada, agreed upon as that beyond which the Mexican troops are to retire, is the most eligible which can be indicated by the geographical features of the country.

Gen. Ampudia and his army left this morning for Saltillo. He was treated with courtesy and respect, by Gen. Worth, whose quarters are in the city, and who accompanied him to the limits of the town. In fact, all of our troops displayed that forbearance which always marks the conduct of brave and magnanimous men towards those whom the torture of war has placed in their power. You will observe that in my narration of the events of the battles. I have confined myself to the operations of that division of the army which was commanded by Gen. Worth. I have done so because I was with this command, near his person, saw what occurred, and know that which I have stated to be substantially correct. You are not infer that I mean to intimate that the main army, under the command of Gen. Taylor, did not perform feats equally worthy of the applause and admiration of the country. Others well informed as to facts, and much better qualified for the duty, will no doubt give a detailed account of the operations of this portion of the army. Take the army altogether, I doubt whether a superior body of men ever rallied under the flag of our country.

Very truly, yours, &c.,
BALIE PEYTON.

J. Ad. ROZIER, Esq.

[AMB]

Thursday, November 5, 1846 MG46v47n36p3c5 879 words

Accounts from the Army of General Butler
countrymen, that is enough for us. We know that Maj. Gen. BUTLER is a prominent Democrat, and very strenuous in his opinions and course – but what of that? – is he not our countryman? – and engaged now in the defense of our common Country? Surely, most surely, then is he entitled to the regard and affection of his countrymen, until he does something to forfeit that regard. Were Gen. B. now a candidate for political office or prefferment in this country, we should vote against him, because we know the doctrines of his political creed, and we do not believe in their truth or adaptation to the glory and prosperity of our Country. But as a man, we like him – as a soldier, we honor him; amid the page of history bears honorable testimony to his gallantry in the last War, and now at Monterey he has again sealed his bravery and his devotion to his Country with his blood. We are glad to learn that the gallant old soldier is recovering from his wounds, and hope he may live to do signal service to his Country, and brand the lie upon his revilers. We annex to the following slip from the *Baltimore Patriot* of Saturday last which doubtless is to be fully relied on:

**Gen. TAYLOR and Gen. BUTLER – A writer in the Washington Union**

Union in some remarks upon the report about Gen. BUTLER says: -

A gallant regular officer who has just returned from Monterey, in the capture of which he bore his part, in relation to the charges against Gen. BUTLER, says explicitly, "that if there was any complaint against Gen. BUTLER, on any account, in the army, he had never heard of no angry words or difficulty of any kind between Gen. TAYLOR and BUTLER; nor did he believe that there had been any. The officers of the regular army had the greatest respect for Gen. BUTLER as well as for Gen. TAYLOR, and had all been to visit the former after he had received his wound. " He also says that "the kindest feelings exist in the army between the regulars and volunteers, and that the former considered the latter as having shown extraordinary steadiness and efficiency for raw troops."

[AMB]

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**Thursday, November 5, 1846 MG46v47n36p5c1 53 words**

Santa Anna’s Passport – Alex. Gaz.

The Havana correspondent of the *New Orleans Picayune*, writing on the 1st of Oct., says that he has been informed that General Santa Anna did not have a passport from the Government of the United States, but a letter of recommendation from President POLK to the Commodore of the blockading squadron. *Alex. Gaz.*

[AMB]

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**Thursday, November 5, 1846 MGi46v47n36p5c1 102 words**

To the Editor

On the importance of Monterey as an acquisition to us there is a great difference of opinion. That it must prove a very serious loss to the Mexicans, may be inferred from the fact that it was the place where the foundries for the casting of copper balls – cannon and musket – are erected. In its vicinity are the copper mines which excel any other in productiveness, and from these the foundries are supplied with metal for their castings. The City of Mexico contains the powder mills; not the loss of the manufactories of shot and ball must be severely felt. *Balt. Pat.*

[AMB]

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**Thursday, November 12, 1846 MG46v47n37p2c6 1,231 words**

From Mexico, 5 Days Later from Monterey, From the *Baltimore Sun*, Nov. 9


The steamship Palmetto, Lewis, arrived at New Orleans on the 29th ultimo, in 36 hours from Galveston. Among the passengers, were Dr. Conrad and Lieut. Nichols, U.S.A. ; Lieut. Dorfendorf, Price, (reported dead,) Smith and Smleds, of the Mississippi volunteers, and Lieut. Read, of the Texas Rangers, with 41 volunteers. Among the vessels left at Galveston were the steamship McKim, and steam schooner Florida, both for N. Orleans. The McKim, was from Brazos Santiago, and was to leave Galveston from New Orleans on the 28th. The steamshooner [sic] Florida was eleven days from Brazos Santiago, with 300 discharged volunteers. She put into Galveston on the 25th, short for provisions and water, and was to leave again for this port on the 28th inst.

[Correspondence of the *Baltimore Sun*. ]
Monterey, Mexico, Oct. 10, 1846.

Gentlemen: - I find I have to correct my last letter to you. In it I stated that the killed of the Baltimore battalion was eight, I am happy now to say that there were but five slain; the other three missing, were made prisoners, but escaped, and day before yesterday returned safe and sound. They report that Wm. Alexander, private of Capt. Stewart's company, died in the Mexican camp after the amputation of his limb by a Mexican surgeon. He was buried with the honors of war by the Mexicans.

I forgot to say in the list I gave you of our killed, that Sergeant Truscott, of Washington, was in that number. The entire part of his head above his mouth was shot off. Of the rest of the wounded, privates Files and Caples (both of Stewart's company,) will die. They were both shot through the body. - Lee's case is very doubtful; I fear he will die.

Color bearer Hart lost his right arm while defending the Banner which was presented to us by the ladies of Baltimore. He fell, and Capt. Stewart rushed up his aid, saved him and the flag, redeeming the pledge he made when he received it, that he "would defend it or die."

If you added these to those I mentioned in my letter per Lieut. Worthington, you will find the total of the killed and wounded in our battalion.

We will have another "tall fight" at Saltillo, and our situation is now becoming perilous. - The Mexicans are said to number 23,000 men here, and their fortifications are said to be better than at Monterey. Gen. Taylor has only 6,950 men to oppose these. The Government ought to send us at least 10,000 more men.

Lee is still living, but very low - he will die.

Yours, &c.,

J.M.

From the New Orleans Tropic we make the following extracts: -

Lieut. Price, whose death has been announced in Mississippi papers and our own, is, thank God, alive, and now at the St. Charles Hotel, in this city. From some of the officers of the U.S. Army, who came passengers on the Palmetto, and who left Monterey on the 11th ult., we learn that the first Government Express, ordering Gen. Taylor to carry on the war with renewed energy, in consequence of the refusal of Mexico to negotiate, was within a few miles of Monterey, and would reach that point the next day.

The health of the troops at Monterey was much better than it had been on the Rio Grande.

The fortifications in the city were garrisoned by the regular troops.

Gen. Taylor's camp was about three miles this side of Monterey.

The last accounts from Gen. Ampudia and his army left them beyond Saltillo, on their march toward San Luis Potosi, at which point it was rumored that Santa Anna had arrived at the head of thirteen thousand, and daily expecting reinforcements.

The Georgia Regiments was the only reinforcement which had reached Monterey at the time our informants left. Orders had been received, it was understood, by the other Regiments stationed on the Rio Grande, to move towards Headquarters. The Kentucky and Tennessee mounted Regiments had not yet reached Matamoras.

The people of Monterey who had left about the time of the siege, were gradually returning. They had begun to exhibit friendly feelings towards the Americans, interchanges of visits not being rare among both parties.

There had been affrays between the citizens of Monterey and the Texan Rangers, which resulted, first, in the assassination of a Texan Volunteer, and then, by way of revenge, in the killing of eleven Mexicans by the comrades of the slain. General Taylor, to prevent similar recurrences, had ordered an efficient guard to be distributed through the city.

Lieut. Col. McClung was rapidly recovering from the effects of his wounds. One of the officers of his Regiment informs us that the gallant Colonel was the first man that showed himself on the first fort stormed by General Taylor's Division, and that he received his wounds whilst waving his sword aloft and cheering on his men, shouting "Victory!" - The musket ball struck him on his left hand whilst holding his scabbard to his ship, and cut off two of his fingers, glancing from the scabbard and entering his abdomen, fracturing in its course, the bone above the hip joint.

We feel bound to state further, from the evidence furnished us, that Gen. Taylor's coolness and sound judgment throughout the terrible three days was remarked by every one engaged, and that his intrepidity was such, he being in the thickness of the fight, and always where the balls fell fastest, that his escape was deemed miraculous. He still
preserves the same noble feelings, and stands ready to go where his government may order him, or the services of his
country may call him, whether at the head of five, or twenty thousand men.

We are gratified to be able to state that the duels, which were on the tapis at Camargo, between Col. Balie PEYTON
and Gen. MARSHALL, and also between Capt. MUISON, of this city, and Capt. CHEIVES, of the Texas Volunteers, have all
been amicably arranged.

Col. Balie PEYTON, Gen. A. S. JOHNSON, and Mr. KENDALL, of the Picayune, were at Galveston on the 28th; intending
to leave in the McKim for this city.

Col. Wm. S. FISHER, Commander of the "ill-fated Mier expedition," and Capt. Frank S. EARLY, of the Washington
Texas Volunteers and a hero of Monterey, died in Galveston on the 26th instant.

Gen. has issued another proclamation since his retreat from Monterey, calling upon the Mexicans to flock to his
standard to repel the invaders of their soil. His excuse, in the proclamation for defeat at Monterey, and the surrender of
that city to our troops is a want of ammunition!! The utter falsity of this statement was well known, for a quantity of
ammunition was found at Monterey after the capitulation.

The New Orleans Delta of the 29th ult. says:

There are various reports floating about the camp at Monterey respecting the movements of the Mexican army, but
nothing authentic or definite.

The following is the disposition of the army at Monterey: Gen. WORTH’s division, with which is Blanchard’s company
of Louisiana Volunteers, attached to the 7th Regiment, garrisons the city. The 1st, 3d and 4th Regiments, and the
brigade of Artillery, with Gen. TAYLOR’s staff, are encamped about four miles north of the city. The Kentucky,
Tennessee and Georgia Volunteers are encamped a mile still further north of the city.

Letter to the Editor, Vera Cruz, October 1, 1846

Dear Sirs: There is very little news worth reporting. The present Government is trying to render itself popular by a
series of rather liberal measures, and appears willing to recommence the campaign more rigorously. Gen. Santa Anna
is about to leave Mexico in order to assume the generalship in chief of the troops concentrated in San Luis Potosi; but
we confess to have the very worst opinion of the Mexican Army, and do not believe they will make any vigorous resistance to the American troops. The main difficulty will be, moreover, the entire want of money, as in the coffers of the treasury there is not even enough wherewith to pay the most necessary and urgent exigencies, and the credit of the Government is very much shaken indeed. It is true that the clergy will guarantie a loan of some millions of dollars, but we do not believe that this amount will be procured, and even if it were, undoubtedly the largest part will consist in Government paper, which is very difficult to realize in this moment.

[AMB]

Thursday, November 12, 1846 MG46v47n37p4c2 92 words

Letter to the Editor, Washington, Nov. 4, 1846

There is, from some cause or other, a prevalent opinion here that we shall have peace with Mexico by the 1st of February, and that there is no necessity for any more expenditure of blood and treasure.

There is an equally prevalent opinion that our Government will not demand California, nor even the boundary of the Sierra Madre, but be content to take the Rio Grande for a boundary and release Mexico from the obligations of her treaties, and assume to pay the indemnities due to our citizens. – Cor. Of Jour. Com.

[AMB]

Thursday, November 19, 1846 MG46i47n38p1c2 796 words

Description of Monterey, Correspondence of the Cincinnati Advertiser, Monterey, September 29, 1846.

The army is now quietly quartered in and about the grounds so recently strewn with the dead and dying. The blood strained pavements at this moment mark the spot of desperate conflict. While on the march from camp upon the first day's battle, I heard Gen. BUTLER remark to Col. JOHNSON, of Texas, then acting as his aid, "that the post of danger was the post of honor. " That is no doubt true, and, if so, then the wreath of honor should not be withheld from the graves of the dead and the brows of the living of those who participated in the storming of Monterey. After a careful examination of the ground occupied by the enemy at the point of attack, their means of defense, and the number of troops, one is astonished, not that so many were killed, but that any should be left to tell the story of the action.

Strange and lamentable that the homage of mankind should be profoundly bestowed on those only who conduct the carnage of the battlefield! A homage purchased by the living, at the expense of blood of those who die. These things, however, have been, are, and will be so.

The town is situated at the mountain pass which separate the plain extending to the Gulf of Mexico from the mountainous region, which continues until you have ascended the tableland upon which the capital is situated. – These mountains arise with great abruptness from the plain, unlike the Alleghanies, which are approached only through a country rough and broken, long before you are at the base. – Their aspect is bleak and dreary in the extreme. The ascent presents an angle apparently of sixty or seventy degrees, and their crest exhibits a sharp ridge – of nearly uniform height, except where broken through, as though pieces had broken through, as though pieces had broken out, leaving apertures of seven hundred feet with perpendicular sides, through which no other range is discernible. Detached hills seem to rise occasionally, like an excrescence from the plain, and many of them of great height. On one of these stands the Bishop’s Castle, commanding the town and plain for miles. It is accessible, it is true, from the east, with gentle ascent, but as you look west from the heights immediately beyond it, the head grows dizzy; and one accustomed to high places as I am shrinks involuntarily back from the precipice, and instinctively seeks a surer footing and a firmer grasp upon the thorny chaparral surrounding him. This castle, you know, was taken by Gen. WORTH. How it was done I cannot comprehend, although the modius perandi has been explained to me half a dozen times by those who participated in the battle. One would think it an effectual resistance, properly measured against one body as well as another, totally regardless of numbers or courage. In fact, no one doubts that the troops who have taken the town could defend it against a myriad of men. Gen. TAYLOR, in conversation with me, said he had no hesitation in pronouncing it the strongest position on the continent, except Quebec. By the by, a word about the capitulation. The bearer of the flag of truce proposed a surrender of the town, allowing them to remove all the public property: Gen: TAYLOR asked an unconditional surrender of every thing: quite a difference. They had from 8 to 12 o’clock to answer. At 12 they sent for Gen. TAYLOR. After exhausting his patience with diplomacy, and Gen. had declared he was no way straitened to submission, Gen. TAYLOR said [..] "Sir, I hold your town, yourself, and your army in the hollow of my hand, and you know it; the conference is closed. In thirty minutes you shall hear from my batteries. “ – He took his hat to leave the room; called him back and submitted. This was told me in person by Gen. Taylor, and is strictly true, of course.

Much has been deservedly said of Gen. TAYLOR’s personal bravery; it is the theme of admiration and adulation of those at home, but it is no peculiarity of his. He is surrounded by men equally so - by young men, who, in subordinate positions are capitals of any thing and every thing brave and great; and although obscured from the eye of the country, are in fact its pride and ornament. I will take occasion hereafter of napping some of those whom we regard as dandies of West Point, and show you how they live and what they undergo in the service; how, their spirit du corps
prompts them to duty, their devotion, &c. Certainly the testimony of volunteers will hereafter disabuse the public mind to its appreciation of the young officers of the army.

[AMB]

Thursday, 19 November 1846 MG46i47n38p1c3 223 words

Tennessee Volunteers – The Killed and Wounded

The Nashville Whig of the 24th ultimo publishes a letter from Col. Wm. B. Campbell, giving an account of the battle of Monterey, and containing a list of the killed, wounded, and missing in his regiment. The list occupies near a column of the Nashville Whig. It is the most melancholy column we ever saw in a newspaper. Similar records must appear in the Journals of other States. What tears will fall, what hearts will break over the gloomy developments of the results of war – of these victims, who lie crushed beneath the chariot of victory, their eyes blind to the incense with which the world’s applause tempers the red glare of the battle-field; their pulseless hearts no longer sensible to the patriot’s pride, the heroes impulses, and the soldier’s duty!

The letter of Col. CAMPBELL, announcing the details of the battle, while it breathes a natural spirit of exultation, over the remarkable success of the American arms, seems to us pervaded by a tome of subdued sadness such as these deplorable results might well call forth. It is like the blended strains of a chant of triumph and a dirge of wo. There is no unseemly boasting, but it is the language of one who feels that the laurels of conquest are steeped in the blood of kinsmen and friends. – Richmond Republican.

[AMB]

Thursday, November 19, 1846 MG46i47n38p1c3 69 words

Santa Anna’s Leg

Santa Anna’s leg, the leg which he lost by the French, which was buried with honors, but subsequently was exhumed and kicked about in dension, it appears by a letter in the New York Commerical, has been recovered from a young man, who had obtained possession of it, in the hope that some day he might make good speculations of it, and was respectfully buried by the new authorities.

[AMB]

Thursday, November 19, 1846 MG46i47n38p1c6 1,577 words

"Jack Hays and His Men."

Since the opening of the campaign, the regiment of Texas Rangers, under the command of Col. J. C. HAYS, of San Antonio de Bexar, Texas, have been gradually earning a high place not only in the estimation of Gen. TAYLOR’s army, as appears from numerous letters from the camp, but in the hearts of the people of the United States, until their exploits at the battle of Monterey have created a perfect enthusiasm in the popular mind to know who and what this famous “Jack Hays and his men” really are. In reply to our inquires, a friend from Western Texas presents us with the following sketch. – Union.

John C. Hays, a native of Middle Tennessee, came to Texas early in the year 1839, I believe, and, settling at San Antonio, commenced business as a land locator and surveyor. – This calling was then exceedingly dangerous, for it was rare indeed that a surveying party went beyond the settlements without a rencontre [sic] with either Mexicans, Camanches [sic], Beodies, Wacoes, Towackanies, Keechies, or straggling bands of some other hostile tribe infesting the western frontier of Texas. In these encounters, HAYS, though hardly a man in age, soon obtained a reputation for coolness, judgment, courage, energy, and a knowledge of frontier life, and Indian and Mexican character, which induced the Government of Texas to tender to him the command of its first company of rangers, which was organized in the winter of 1840 and ’41. Some time afterwards, when it was found necessary to raise two more ranging companies, Capt. HAYS was invested with the command of the battalion, with the rank of Major, and he and “his men” continued to serve as rangers until the annexation. – He is not more that thirty years of age, (if so old,) and weighs from 130 to 140 pounds. I need say nothing to you concerning his remarkable soldierly qualities, for the pens and voices of such men as BAlIE PEEyTON and GEN. WORTH have already told the world that it holds few such warriors as JACK HAYS.

In western Texas, where from habit all men are good Indian and Mexican fighters modestly is his most remarkable trait; for it is no uncommon thing to hear an over-modest man characterized as being almost as bashful as JACK HAYS. Indeed, I question whether there is a man in TAYLOR’s army who has as poor an opinion of his merits and services of H. as he himself. He thinks much and speaks little, and that little always to the purpose. – There never lived a commander more idolized by his men, his word is their law. Now, as they are regular frontier men, and, of course, notoriously
His men, who, in the estimation of Gen. Worth, are the best light troops in the world, are just the men to be led by such an officer. Out of the four hundred and fifty are farmers and stock raisers in a small way on the Colorado, Navidad, Lavaca, Gaudaloupe, and San Antonio rivers in western Texas.

From the time of the battle of San Jacinto up to forty-one, when formed into regular ranging companies, they defended the frontier on their own hook, without pay, emolument, provision, or even ammunition at the expense of the Government. Whenever Indians of Mexicans approached the settlements, runners were dispatched up and down the rivers I have before named to sound the alarm, and on such notice those now composing Hays's “first regiment of Texas Rangers” rarely required more than six hours to prepare for a campaign of three months; for, after all, catching their horses, running fifty bullets, and parching a half bushel of corn for cold flour, or panoli, as the Mexicans term it, were the only preparations necessary. Hot or Cold, wet or dry, they carried no tents, and required no other provisions than fresh beef, which was usually driven with them. Once in a while a green horn, on his first campaign, would pack a little sugar, coffee, and salt; but he would soon learn that boys who had to fight for nothing and find their own horse flesh and ammunition, could do it about as “carní” solus. In fact, after a little experience with such a life, few at least of those men would be troubled with the care of any other provision than beef, or any other equipment than shooting irons, bowie knife, a pair of blankets, a Mexican saddle-tree, and a good horse; which, with leather breeches, indomitable perseverance, an extra shirt, a light heart, great capacity for endurance, and sworn hatred to Mexicans and Indians, make up the Texan ranger.

When the Government of Texas organized these men into regular companies, they first began to receive pay, and perhaps half of those now with Hays gave up their farms and took to soldiering for a livelihood.

Capt. Ben. McCulloch, who commands the first company of this regiment, (to which Kendall, of Picayune, is attached;) G. T. Howard, who was lately dispatched to Santa Fe by the President, and has since joined Wool's force, to which he will soon be what McCulloch is to the main army; poor Gillespie, who was killed in the late battle, and Hancock Chevallie, originally of Richmond, Virginia, were Hays's right hand men in the frontier campaigns of Texas. McCulloch is a native of Tennessee, near the Alabama line, and came to Texas from the latter State, settling in Gonzales County as a surveyor. He served one of the two field pieces in the battle of San Jacinto, "the twin sisters," as the Texans dubbed them, and there, for the first time, distinguished himself. He is the hero of what is known as the Plum creek fight with the Indians who burnt Linnville [sic]. Howard is a native of this city, and commanded in the famous court-house fight in the town of San Antonio, when he found it necessary to close the door, and, with nineteen men, to fight thirty-seven Camanches [sic], both parties being completely armed. In this melee, he himself received four wounds, and lost nine men killed, all the rest of the command being more or less wounded. But seven of the Indians got out of the room alive; and of these, six were subsequently killed in the street. Gillespie is either a native of Virginia or Tennessee; and being lieutenant of the first company of rangers, was chosen its captain when Hays was promoted to the command of the original battalion. Indeed, all these gentlemen are distinguished frontier officers, having long since won their way to fame in Texas, in, I may almost write, a hundred well-fought battles. S. H. Walker, the Captain Walker of the beginning of this campaign, who, by-the-by, is from this city also, is now the lieutenant colonel of the events of the month prior to the battles of the 8th and 9th of May last. Ever since the organization of the ranging corps he has been one of their number; though, heretofore, I do not know what he was distinguished beyond his comrades generally. Before the annexation of Texas an election for a lieutenant of the 1st company (Gillespie's) took place, and Edward Ratcliff, a brother of Daniel Ratcliff, Esq. of this city chosen, Walker being his competitor. Ratcliff, poor fellow, was killed in the little fight between nine men under Walker, and a party of Mexicans, which took place a few days prior to the battle of the 8th of May.

But when I think of these men facts crowd so fast on my memory that I might write you about them until day break. A personal knowledge of at least three-fourths of the men of the regiment teachers me that Col. Ballie Peyton has not praised them beyond their true deserts in saying that “amongst the volunteers none have shone more conspicuous than the 1st Regiment of Texas mounted riflemen, commanded that Chevalier Bayard, Col. J. C. Hays, better known as Jack Hays. This corps, from the Colonel to the private, has fully sustained its former reputation. In the first affair in which Gen. Worth’s division was engaged on the morning of the 21st, Col. Hays, with several companies of his mounted riflemen, were thrown forward to open the balt [sic], which he did most beautifully, encountering and shooting in the presence of the General the Colonel of dragoons who commanded the enemy’s forces. In sealing heights, storming batteries, and clambering over walls and house tops, the voice of the gallant Colonel and the reports of the unerring rifle of the Ranger were ever heard in the van. The courage and constancy and subordination of this corps is the theme of admiration in the army.”
Gowns are not known. A chemise with short sleeves and a short petticoat, with the Ribose for the head and sometimes folded over the bosom, is the entire outfit. It startles one frequently to the hear the noble Castillian rolling from lips whence appearance would teach you to expect nothing but the harsh gutturals of the aboriginates [sic]. Many of them are darker than our Indians, and the African blood is plainly marked.

Thursday, November 19, 1846 MG46i47n38p1c7 495 words

Mr. Polk’s Faux Pas

The extraordinary blunder of President Polk, says the Richmond Times, in permitting SANTA ANNA and ALMONTE to return from Havana to Mexico, is becoming the subject of general and very severe animadversion. A more unfortunate and ridiculous mistake was never committed by any government. In consequence of it, we are at this moment farther from a termination of the war than we were on the ninth of May. For, had not unanimity of purpose been attained in Mexico, by the arrival and accession of SANTA ANNA, AMPUDIA would never have been able to rally a force of 10,000 men at Monterey, or, at least the capitulation of that town would have been the end of the war.

The Alexandria Gazette, in the following article, sows what is thought in Europe of the unexampled policy of our Cabinet:

OPINION ABROAD – We learned, a day or two since, in conversation with a gentlemen recently returned from Europe, that the greatest surprise was manifested in private circles in England, by the most intelligent and well informed people, at the very extraordinary movement of our government in countenancing and permitting the return of SANTA ANNA and his officers to Mexico, "You Americans" was the common remark, "are certainly the strongest people on the face of the earth. You certainly display the most indomitable heroism and perseverance – you overcome obstacles that would seem almost insurmountable – and yet you display the utmost lack of wisdom, may, even of common sense, in the conduct of your war with Mexico. You permit SANTA ANNA, a skilful general, a man of notoriously bad faith, without one single honorable trait in his character, crafty, cunning, deceitful, and your bitter enemy, to regain his country; unite a divided people, and lead an army, devoted to his interests, against you. This movement which no other nation upon earth would have thought of, for a single moment. You permit ALMONTE, too, who from his long residence in your country, is probably the best informed of all his countrymen, of your condition and resources, as well as the disposition of your people, to return with SANTA ANNA, and, in all probability, assume the direction of the war department. Besides all this, you offer encouragement to your enemies to prolong the war, by paying them, and paying them liberally too, for all the supplies you take from them for the sustenance of your troops. This may and doubtless does spring from honorable motives, but it is against the universal practice of nations engaged in war, and is certainly the worst policy that you could have adopted. Respect private property as far as is consistent, repress indiscriminate pillage, but above all, make your enemies feed your army!"

These opinions of our atlantic [sic] friends, are such as we have frequently expressed, and just such as we should suppose every man of common sense would entertain. The course pursued by the Administration is as inexplicable to us as it is to them.

[AMB]

Thursday, November 19, 1846 MG46i47n38p2c2 158 words

A Call for Troops

We observe in the last "Union," that requisitions have been sent out from the War Department, calling into the service of United States, nine additional Regiments of Volunteers, to serve during the War with Mexico, unless, to serve during the War with Mexico, unless sooner discharged. They are asked for from the following States: -

One regiment of infantry from Massachusetts;
One regiment of infantry from the State of New York;
One regiment of infantry from Pennsylvania;
One regiment of infantry from Virginia;
One regiment of infantry from North Carolina;
One regiment of infantry from South Carolina;
One regiment of infantry from Louisiana;
One regiment of infantry from Mississippi; and
One regiment of mounted men from Texas.

The Berkeley boys, whose souls beat so high with military ardor last Spring, after the battles of Palo Alto and Resaen de la Palma, will now have a chance to do service in the cause of their country. What say they?

[AMB]
From Mexico, Very Late and Important from Mexico

The *New Orleans Picayune* of the 8th inst. Contains advices from Vera Cruz as late as 22nd October, received through the same channel by which they received the accounts of the unsuccessful attack by our Squadron on Alvarado. The intelligence is interesting and important. From an extended account in the Picayune we make up the following summary of news:

In the first place we may say in general terms that in no paper which we have opened do we find any token of submission on the part of the Mexicans in their conflict with this country. Every paragraph breathes threats of vengeance. Their losses are enumerated in detail, to found thereupon more urgent appeals to the patriotism of their citizens to give up every thing for the support of the war. It is not too much to say that there is the warmest enthusiasm apparent in all that we read – whether in editorial remarks or the military addresses with which the papers are crowded. The spirit of all is, "War to the knife."

But this shows the surface of affairs only. We shall have occasion to note incidents, says the Baltimore American, which lead us to suspect the country is by no means so united as the crisis in her affairs would seem to demand.

The news of SANTA ANNA’s arrival at San Luis Potosi, which we gave the other day, was at least premature. He did not reach there till the 8th of October. As every thing in regard to his movement is sought after, we annex his letter announcing his arrival:

LIBERATING ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
Headquarters, San Luis, Oct. 10, 1846.

Most Excellent Sirs: - On the evening of the 8th inst. I arrived at this capital, accompanied by my staff, and established therein the Headquarters of the Army of Operations [sic], destined to repel the unjust invasion made upon the Republic by the Army of the United States of the North.

I have the pleasure of saying to your Excellency that the congratulations of a magnanimous people who have not ceased to bestow upon me profused [sic] marks of consideration, and the same mark will apply to the authorities and public functionaries of all classes.

Oblige me by communicating these facts to his Excellency, the General charged with the supreme executive power, and accept assurances of my consideration and esteem. God and Liberty.

[AMB]

From the Gulf Squadron, Second Abortive Attack on Alvarando---Vessels Grounded on the Bar—Expedition against Tobasco—Capture of Several Prizes

The *New Orleans Picayune* (extra) of the 7th inst. Contains the following important letters from their correspondent in the Gulf Squadron:

Off Anton Lizardo, Oct. 13, 1846.

Gentlemen: We are one the eve of another attack on Alvarado. At 5 o’clock this afternoon, Com. CONNER issued orders for the sailing of the squadron, frigates *Cumberland* and *Raritan* excepted, for the mouth of the Alvarado river.

The Com. Takes command of the expedition in person, making use of the steamer *Vixen* as his flag ship for the occasion. One o’clock tomorrow morning is the hour fixed, and already the streamers *Mississippi*, *Vixen* and *McLaine*, are firing up. Besides these vessels the force consists of the Revenue Cutter Forward, schooners *Monata*. This latter vessel was recently captured from the Mexicans, and was formerly the American schooner *Belle*, out of your port. She now mounts four forty-two pound cannonades.

For the last month we have been drilling our men as Infantry, upon a small island, and Jack is so anxious for a
At the month of the river the Mexicans have a ten gun battery, we know of a brig of war and two gun boats being merchantmen have taken refuge in the harbour, and there must be a small sprinkling of prize money in store for us.

Oct. 16th. – Our sailing orders for the morning of the 14th were countermanded in consequence of its blowing too fresh for operation occasioning a delay of the expedition for 24 hours. We sailed, however, at 1 A. M., yesterday, but I regret to state that we are all at anchor again to-day, and Alvarado yet in possession of the Mexicans.

You were pleased to call the former attack on Alvarado an abortion, and I suppose you will not be sparing of hard names for the present failure, but I trust when you examine the facts of the case you will understand that it is owing to the inefficiency of the means at the disposal of Com. CONNER, and to the natural defences [sic] of the place itself, that we have not been successful, rather than to any want of skill or courage on his part, or lack of spirit and support by the officers and men under his command. We were within ten miles of the mouth of the river at daylight, and stoo slowly into shore, it being dead calm, the Vixen and McLane towing the schooners.

The Mississippi anchored at long shot distance and commenced her fire. Up to this time every thing appeared highly favorable for the success of the expedition. There being a heavy swell on the bar, the pilots declined taking the vessels over. The Commodore leading in the Vixen with the rest of the force following, passed by the front, each vessel firing her broadside as she ranged ahead, with but little effect, however, owing to the distance. A long 18 inch the Forward sent a shot directly into the Fort.

This movement was repeated with better success; the distance being lessened. The Forward made a most beautiful shot. In the meanwhile, the Mississippi had closed and exploded her Paixhan about the heads of the Mexicans, in the way that must have made some of them see more stars than the Lord ever made. One shot from her dismounted a heavy gun of theirs from a stockade. This they soon remedied, but thus far their shot had fallen short.

During the morning several of our boats sounded with half a mile of the Fort, receiving the fire of the enemy with as much impunity as indifference. The swell over the bar having somewhat subsided at 1 P. M., the line was formed as follows: - Steamer Vixen, flag ship towing gun-boats Reever and Bonita; steamer MacLane towing the Bonita, cutter Forward, and gun-boat Petrel; then 2 launches, 3 cutters, and a barge containing a force destined for boarding. The vessels of war brought up the rear.

Further Particulars, Coolness of Con. - Conner- Effects of the Mississippi’s shells – Expedition against Tobasco

The Picayune has also the following additional information from the Gulf, from private letters: -

Don THOS. MARIN, one of the most accomplished officers in the Mexican Navy, commanded the fortifications of Alvarado. The papers containing his report of the attack has been accidentally mislaid or we would give the whole of it; but it is in the usual style of Mexican reports. He declares that he is ready for us again at any moment, and this probably is true. The Commodore, from his position is advance on the Vixen, discovered another Mexican work half a mile further up the river, or lagoon, as it may more properly be called, where three guns were mounted in battery, and supported by a gun-brio and two gunboats, serving as water-batteries. Perhaps it was the discovery of these additional means of defence [sic] which influenced the Commodore not to persist in his attack without the support of more of his forces. In the report of Senor MARIN the loss of the Mexicans is not mentioned, but he speaks of the loss of one Mexican officer who was not on duty, but in the streets of the town, half a mile back of the fort. He was captain in the army, and was struck by a shell from the Mississippi, and, we need not say, was almost annihilated. Another shell from the Mississippi set the Mexican colors on fire in the fort, but they were speedily replaced.

In this attack the same pilot who was on board the Truxton when she got ashore piloted the McLane. His name is JOHN McNIEL and he is a Scotchmen. He discharged his duty under the impressive belief that upon the first accident he would be shot. We believe it is not pretended that he played us false. The pilot gave warning of the danger in person, and he vessel went ashore in going about.
The attack was subject of remark among the officers of the foreign vessels on that station. So far as is known, they look upon the issue as unfortunate, but as in no way disgraceful to our arms. They fully appreciated the difficulties which we had to encounter and were not surprised at the result.

We have reason to presume that Com. Conner would at once have proceeded to organize the plan of another attack upon Alverado had not he deemed it proper to despatch [sic] the expedition against Tobasco on the day after his repulse, by which movement he has given another opportunity to his officers, chaffed and mortified, to wipe out the remembrance of their recent misfortune, at the same time being generous enough to allow his second in command (Com. Perry) to achieve something upon a field where it was not a point of honor with himself to take command in person. Upon the Tobasco expedition, Com. Perry has taken with him about 400 officers and men from the Cumberland and Raritan as auxiliaries. With this expedition have gone, too, almost all the marines in his squadron. The commodore has done every thing to insure its success.

We are sorry for our friend Howard, of the McLane. His vessel is quite too slow for him, and is not worth the powder it would take to blow her to pieces. In going down to Tobasco, the Mississippi, with three schooners in tow, had to lay to enable the McLane to come up, and finally the Mississippi took the McLane herself in tow. But despite his slow boat Capt. Howard had opportunity to show his stomach for a fight, and retired with unspeakable reluctance agreeable to orders. [AMB]

Thursday, November 19, 1846 MG46i47n38p3c1 798 words

From the St. Louis Republican, Nov. 7, Important and Very Late from Santa Fe

By the arrival at Fort Leavenworth, on the 30th October, of Lieut. Col. Ruff, of the Missouri Volunteers, we learn that Gen. Kearney left for California on the 25th of September, taking with him companies B, C, G, K and I, 1st United States Dragoons — in all about 400 men, mounted on mules. The route of this small command was considered by many of the ablest and most experienced mountaineers [...] as one of the greatest hardships and suffering, if not absolutely impracticable — being down the Rio Grande to Socorro, (an old Spanish town, formerly of much importance from the large garrison stationed there;) about 200 miles South of Santa Fe; thence West to the "Gila," (pronounced Heela;) thence down the Gila to within 150 or 200 miles of the head of the Gulf of California, into which the Gila empties itself; thence down the Gila to within 150 or 200 miles of the head of the Gulf of California, into which the Gila empties itself; thence Northwest to Monterey, on the Pacific. This route is called and known as the Copper Mine route.

This command is accompanied by the following officers: Gen. Kearney, commanding; Capt. Turner, 1st Dragoons, aid-de-camp; Capt. Johnson, 1st Dragoons, Adjutant General of the "Army of the West;" Major Thomas Swords, Quarter Master U.S.A.; Assistant Surgeons John S. Griffin and R. Simpson, of the medical staff of the army; Maj. Summer, commanding Dragoons; Capts. Cook, Moore, Burgwin and Grier, 1st U.S. Dragoons, and Lieuts. Love, Hammond, Noble, Davidson and M’Ilvaine, of the same regiment.

The scientific part of the expedition if under the command of that meritorious officer. 1st Lieut. W. H. Emory, of the corps of Topographical Engineers, so well and favorably known for his laborious an accurate surveys on the North-Eastern Boundary; and consists of 1st Lieut. Warner, of the Engineer Corps; Mr. Bester, of the District of Columbia, and Mr. Stanley, employed at Santa Fe as the artist of the expedition. The command is also accompanied by Mr. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Robidoux, and a guide from Taos, who takes with him for his own riding five mules, so difficult is the route in his estimation and experience.

The General started with wagons, and with one wagon load of pack saddles for mules, intended to pack when the wagons break down. Permission had been granted (on his application) to Capt. Thos. R. Hudson, of St. Louis Volunteers, to organize a company of volunteers then present, to go with the Mormon battalion, as a mounted company, to California. Capt. Hudson had beat up for volunteers and succeeded in raising his company in one day, more than double the requisite or proper number having presented themselves as volunteers.

The Colonel reports that every thing was tranquil at Santa Fe when he left (September 27th.) though a very current rumor existed that the Armijo family would endeavor to incite the population to open resistance as soon as Gen. Kearney and the regular troops of the United States had left that part of the country. This report was not believed, however, or, if true, would have caused no uneasiness.

Gen. Kearney, by printed proclamation dated September 22, 1846, announces that, being duly authorized by the President of the United States, he appoints the following named persons the executive and administrative officers of the law and government of the territory of New Mexico:

Governor — Charles Bent.

Secretary of the territory — Don Aduciano Vigh.

Thursday, November 19, 1846 MG46i47n38p3c1 52 words

Pronunciation of Mexican Names

Chihuahua is pronounced Che-waw-waw, equal accent on the last two syllables. Monterey, Mont-te-ray, accent on the last syllable. Saltillo, Saul-teel-yo, accent on the second syllable. San Luis Potosi, Saun Luis Po-to-see, accent on the second syllable of Potosi. Guanaxuato, Gwan-a-wat-o, half accent on the first, and full accent on the third syllable.

[AMB]

Thursday, November 19, 1846 MG46i47n38p3c1 53 words

Report

The report that the Mexican Government had agreed to exchange Capt. CARPENTER and the crew of the Truxton for Gen. LAVEGA and his fellow prisoners, is confined by information received at the War Department – Orders have been issued by Major Gen. SCOTT for the release of Gen. LA VEGA and his officers.

[AMB]

Thursday, November 26, 1846 MG46i47n39p1c3 330 words

Letter to the Editor, Camp near Monterey, (Mexico) October 1, 1846

The excitement occasioned by the three days’ bloody struggle has, in some measure, passed off, but the mind of the soldier recurs now to the contemplation of bygone days, and inquiries for the friend with whom so much pleasure was enjoyed but a few days before. The inquiry brings to it the sad and melancholy fact that they are gone to their long homes. This at first acts like a dream to the mind, and we are at a loss how to believe it. Has any one seen the interment? No response is made, but one rises in the midst of the ruinous fort where we were, assembled, in full view of the enemies ramparts, buckles on his sword, and with an eye like an eagle and the boldness of a lion, asks who will go in pursuit of the body of our gallant Col. Wm. H. WATSON? Three men offer their services, THOS. SIMPSON and WILLIAM S. HIDE and the other a stranger. The young Lieut. Proceeds with a firm step secures the remains of the brave and beloved WATSON under the heavy fire of the enemy, conveys it back to the fort, and whilst in the solemn act of burying the dead the head of one of the brave men was taken off by a cannon ball. The young Lieutenant stands unshaken, and commands the interment of the soldier at the foot of Col. WATSON, whose remains lie deposited in the lower Fort on the bank of the St. John’s River, about half a mile below the city of Monterey, Mexico. Lieut. MARCELLUS.
K. Taylor, of company B, commanded by Captain Piper, of Baltimore, is the young man, referred to, and he has now in his possession a lock of hair taken from the lamented Watson and will if spared, convey it to his bereaved and sorrowful wife and children. May Heaven bless them and him.

Rob’t Bronaugh.
Captain Com’g Company C. Baltimore, Md. and Washington, D.C., Volunteers.

Thursday, November 26, 1846

Sword for Gen. Taylor

The State of Louisiana after the great battles of the 8th and 9th of May, voted to present a sword to General Taylor. It has been made in New York, and the description of it is given in the New York Tribune:

The scabbard is made of the finest metal, with richly engraved and wrought ornaments. On two divisions of the front side are scenes of the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. The shield presents the following inscription:

"Presented by the State of Louisiana to Gen. Z. Taylor, in testimony of the high opinion held by the people of this State of the skill, conduct and judgment shown by him during his military life, but particularly during the battles of Palo Alto on the 8th and Ravina de la Palma on the 9th of May, 1846."

Surmounting the battle scenes appears the coat of arms of Louisiana, and in the centre of the scabbard the American eagle richly regraved [sic]. The grasp is compassed of alternate mother of pearl and gold facets, richly engraved and studded, and protected by a massive gold chain. The head represents a revolutionary cap and plume, surmounted by a precious miringhorm stone.

Thursday, November 26, 1846

From the Camp at Monterey

Last evening the War Department received dispatches from General Taylor. They were written on the 6th, 11th, 12th, and 13th October. But the detailed official letters on the operations before Monterey did not accompany them – much delay having occurred in making out complete returns from the various subordinate commanders of the army. The despatches [sic] which were received last evening are brief and combatively unimportant in their character.

In his letter of the 6th of October, Gen. Taylor states that had mustered out of service the entire force of mounted Texas volunteers, which has rendered excellent service in the campaign, was then, on its march to Camargo, there to be mustered out of service.

The General states, that a small force is to be stationed at Laredo on the east bank of the Rio Grande, for the purpose of protecting that frontier of country from Indian depredations, and enabling the government of Texas to extend its jurisdiction with more facility to the river. – With the advice of Gov. Henderson, he has authorized General Lamar, ex-President of Texas, to raise a mounted company of eighty men for this service, for twelve months. – As a very small force is now in service from the state of Texas, he trusts that this step will be approved of by the department.

The 2d infantry with some of the artillery companies left in the rear, and an additional volunteer force, had been ordered forward to Monterey, together with a heavy battery train.

No credible intelligence had been received from the interior at the date of his letter. Gen. Ampudia, at the last advice, was at Saltillo, probably with the whole or greater part of his army. [But subsequent accounts, in private letters, report that Ampudia had retreated from Saltillo, and would make San Luis de Potosi his rallying point. He was expected to make a stand there, and perhaps to be joined by Santa Anna, in case Gen. Taylor should extend his advance in that direction.]

The General states, that he had been unable as yet to prepare his detailed official report of the operations before Monterey – the last report from his subordinate commanders having been at that moment received. Our loss in killed, wounded and missing, will vary very little from 500 – 400 of which was sustained in the attack on the lower part of the city on the 21st.
In his letter of the 13th October, Gen. T. encloses a statement of a recent atrocious murder, which had been perpetrated on the 5th, in the streets of Monterey, upon a Mexican lancer, by one EITZSIMONS. Captain HAYS of the Texan rangers was present, soon after at the scene, and had doubt of the guilt of the man. He is now in confinement. Some difficulty had occurred as to the proper disposition of the accused, as there seems to be no American tribunal competent to meet the case. – The Mexican governor had complained of the act and desired that the man might be brought to merited punishment. The General replied that the case should be submitted to his government before any action would be taken there.

In his last letter, General TAYLOR deeply regrets the necessity of reporting the death of the brave ROBERT H. GRAHAM, 1st lieut. of 4th infantry, who died on the previous night of the wound which he had received in the engagement of the 21st September.

[AMB]

Thursday, November 26, 1846 MG46i47n39p2c5 556 words

The Proclamation of the Governor, &c.

We call the attention of the people of Berkeley County to the Proclamation of Governor Smith, for the organization of a Regiment of Infantry for immediate service, and to be continued therein during the war with Mexico, unless sooner discharged. " The details of the organization of companies and the Regiment will be found under the Adjutant General's Orders. The place of rendezvous for the Virginia Regiment, is GUYANDOTTE on the Ohio River.

We have no doubt that this call upon the gallantry and patriotism of Virginia will be promptly answered, and already we see offers going up to the Governor from the different sections of the State. We rejoice that Berkeley is making an effort to join the gallant band, and we will not suffer ourselves to doubt for a single moment, that enough of her brave and hardy sons will be found at once to fill up a company and report themselves ready. As soon as the requisition upon Virginia was known, our cotemporary, the Editor of the Republican, Capt. EPHRAIM G. ALBURTIS, made application to the Governor for the acceptance of the services of his Company, the "Independent Blues. " We have seen the reply of the Governor to Capt. A. and he has ordered the Blues to fill up their ranks and report themselves to the Government. Several gallant young men have already volunteered, and we hear of several more who intend doing so. But in case a sufficient number cannot be obtained in Berkley to form a Company, other Counties no doubt will join her. What says gallant little Morgan – are there not many there who will join with their neighbors of Berkley, and go heart and soul to the field of battle in the prosecution of the existing war between their own Country and a foreign foe? There will be no delay in this movement; as soon as the Regiment is formed it will be concentrated at the rendezvous at Guyandotte – and as soon as possible, thereafter, moved on to join the standard of the gallant TAYLOR, whose honored name and heroic deeds are now the themes of every tongue throughout the length and breadth of the land. We know that there is no section of Virginia more famed for the valor and patriotism of her sons, than the Valley – history of the Revolution and of the last was bear ample testimony to their patriotic devotion – let it not be said now, that she is found wanting when our Eastern and Trans-Allegany friends are rushing to the standard of their Country. Let it not be said that the Tenth Congressional District is without a company. We shall not attempt to set forth the many advantages which the Volunteer may gain by going to Mexico; it is enough that the emergency of our common Country demands the services of her sons, and hose who can conveniently leave home, will not, we are sure, need a more powerful and potent reason, than patriotic devotion to their Country.

We direct attention to the call for a Meeting of the People of Berkeley, at the Court-House, on Friday evening next, the 27th inst. Let the Meeting be fully attended, and especially let all who feel disposed to respond to the call come forward at once, and without delay, as there is no time to be lost.

[AMB]

Thursday, November 26, 1846 MG46i47n39p3c2 385 words

Official Despatches

The "Union" of Saturday evening last contains the Official Despatches [sic] of Gen. TAYLOR and his Officers, giving detailed accounts of the battle of Monterey. We cannot find room for them in our columns this week, but will endeavor to publish them at another time, more as a matter of of [sic] historical record than anything else, as they in reality do not contain any material facts which are not already in the hands of the public. These dispatches, however, contain a full and noble vindication of the conduct of the gallant BUTLER, and ought at once to silence the tongue of slander, and put to shame the vile fabricators of falsehood who have attempted to rob the character and fame of as gallant, true and patriotic a soldier as ever went to battle under the glorious "stars and stripes" of our Country. We have only room for one extract – it is enough for our present purposes. Gen TAYLOR says:

Our loss is twelve officers and one hundred and eight men killed; thirty- one officers and three hundred and thirty-
The nomination of James K. Polk to the Presidency was a perfect surprise to the Country. This unexpected event seems to have put the Democratic Administration (11) wonderfully in love with the surprise idea, as every thing they do seems to take the Country a little "unnear." The Organ is always grinding away; but before the tune is through, it is sure to strike up "Jump Jim Crow." And away goes the whole Democratic family in a new dance. For instance, the River and Harbor Bill was passed, and the whole Democratic delegation in Congress from the West wrote home in ecstasy – but the Tariff of ’42 was not yet knocked in the head – the Western vote was wanted and obtained – and then to their great surprise came a veto upon their bill. Fifty four forty or fight was also flames forth and then to the surprise of Achilles & Co., a back-out soon followed. Then came the Mexican War – and the Country was resounding with the glories of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, and to the surprise of the whole Nation and the enlightened world, the President is found furnishing the enemy with the most skillful and experienced leader belonging to his nation – then another battle takes place and an armistice is agreed upon – the County is informed that the General in command is ordered to terminate it at once and push on; and then we are surprised to find him standing still with leave to do as he pleases – the difficulties of the campaign thicken and the Secretary of War informs the country that no more Volunteers are wanted, and that the General has enough and more than enough men for his purposes; and then in a few days afterwards the whole Country is surprised by a call for Nine Regiments of Volunteers for immediate service in the War against Mexico. Well we suppose there may be some truth in the charge that this surprisingly incompetent Administration for the conduct of a War, were hard up had kept dark until they got the loan of the five millions, and then [...] out for more troops. The 16th of November was the very day upon which the loan was secured, and that is the very date of the call for the Volunteers. Another account is that the call was induced from information received through a letter from Col. Ballie Peyton, lately arrived at New Orleans from Monterey, and addresses to the Hon. John Y. Mason, Secretary of the Navy. Col. P., it will be remembered, was with General Worth’s Division at Monterey, and was upon most intimate terms with him and General Taylor. It is said he deems a very strong reinforcement of Gen. Taylor absolutely necessary to meet the enemy under Santa Anna. What will be the next surprise, no one can – tell – we hope it will be an agreeable surprise. The way to do the work is to get men and money enough if they are to be had, and prosecute the War to a speedy termination. We are in for it now – and let us come out of it, as soon as possible. The people we are sure do not want this War hanging like an incubus upon, the prosperity of the Country for five years yet to come.

The Surprise Administration

Thursday, November 26, 1846 MG46i47n39p3c3 555 words

A Plum for the Official Organ

There is a paper in Indiana, calling itself the Indiana Democrat, which aspires, and we admit with success, to place itself at the very head of the purely Polk Press. In a recent number the following paragraph [sic] appears:

"The President planned the brilliant battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma and Monterey, and is entitled to as much or more credit for the successful result of them then General Taylor is. The wisdom, efficiency, and promptness of the present Administration are seen and appreciated by all sensible men, who are not willfully blinded, and time will only make it more apparent."

We must have this in the official organ. – It will not do to let the court journal be outdone as a courtier. How gratified Mr. Polk will be hear that he did so much, nay more than Gen. Taylor, at the brilliant battles of the 8th and 9th of May on the Rio Grande! It is true that Mr. Polk did not know the battles were to be fought till they were over, and he heard of them and the success of the American arms at the same time. But what of that? – Baltimore Patriot.

[AMB]
From Mexico, Latest from Monterey

Confirmation of the Death of Capt. Ridgely -- Santa Anna with 12,000 Men and 37 Generals

From the Baltimore Sun, Nov. 23.

The steamship Virginia, Capt. Tucker, arrived at New Orleans on the 13th inst. from Brazos Santiago, bringing later dates from the Army. We regret to say that the report touching an accident to Capt. Randolph Ridgely was well founded. That gallant officer is no more. A whole nation will lament his loss. - Mr. Haile, the special correspondent of the Picayune writes as follows: -

"Maj. Deshields, U. S. Paymaster, who left Monterey two days after us, and overtook us at Camargo, brought intelligence that has cast a gloom over every heart. He states that on the 25th ult., the day after we left, as Capt. Ridgely was riding into town to dine with Lt. Mackall, his horse slipped on the smooth pavement, and he was thrown with such violence against a rock as to cause severe fracture of the skull! He lay senseless when Maj. Deshields left, on the following day, and no hope of his recovery was entertained by the surgeons. In parting with this splendid young officer, I little thought that before I reached home it would become my duty to chronicle so painful an event concerning him.

"The world never produced a braver man or better soldier then Randolph Ridgely. A nobler spirit was never encased in the human form -- a kinder heart never beat. I cannot bring myself to feel that the gallant Ridgely has died thus; the thought is too cruel to be entertained. I can well imagine the heart-rending emotions of the comrades who surrounded him. They have seen him emerge unscathed from several battles, where he behaved with almost unparalleled heroism. They all loved him, for he was kind, frank and generous to every one.

'Hold on Charley, and let me draw theft fire!'

"Poor Ridgely! - how many a brave comrade would have drawn upon himself the shaft of death to have averted it from thee."

With regard to the death of Capt. Ridgely, a letter to the Picayune, dated Monterey, Oct. 30, announces his death and burial on the 29th, lamented by the whole army. A gentlemen who arrived in the Virginia, states that Gen. Taylor was greatly afflicted by this sad casualty, and expressed himself in relation to it in the most feeling matter. He declared in the presence of several, that Capt. R. was an invaluable officer, and that his place could not be filled.

A letter to the Picayune, dated Oct. 29, says: Poor Ridgely is dead! He was buried yesterday, and is mourned by the entire army. Major Lear will not live twenty-four hours longer. We have late news from San Luis de Potosi, to the effect that Santa Anna was there with 12,000 men and no less than thirty-seven Generals. He was recruiting daily, but his intentions were not known. It is rumored that Bustamente has gone north, in the direction of Chihuahua, to meet Gen. Wool; and farther, it is positively asserted that the Indians are killing and laying waste all before them in the latter state.

The New Orleans Delta, of the 14th instant, has intelligence from Monterey, through one of the officers of the army, of which it gives the following summary:

Major Eaton, the bearer of despatches [sic] to Gen. Taylor, who had left Washington before the government has been informed of the battle of Monterey and its results, had reached camp some days previously to the departure of Mr. Salomon. The purport of these despatches [sic] were believed, or known to be, instructions or advice from the War Department to march on to Tampico, if, after a full survey of his position, he felt himself justified in doing so. The battle of Monterey, of course, in a great measure, rendered these orders null and the General's movements will, necessarily, be guided by the despatches [sic] of which Major Graham was the bearer, for they were written with a full knowledge of what has transpired.

Postscript! Latest from Mexico! Bombardment of Tobasco! Lieut. Morris Killed! Mexican Letters of Marque!

We stop our press to give a short synopsis of the news by the Mail of yesterday evening from Mexico. Com. Perry, with a detachment of vessels under his command, undertook an expedition against the City of Tobasco, which was successfully bombarded and made to surrender. The people were in favor of yielding at once, but the Governor and Army opposed it. Thereupon the women and children were ordered to get out of harm's way, but the Governor would
not permit them, so that it is feared that most of those killed during the bombardment were not soldiers.

Lieut. C. M. MORRIS was wounded in the neck by a musket ball while attempting to carry orders to Lieut. PARKER, who was engaged on shore in a spirited fight with the Mexican soldiers. Lieut. M. stood up in his boat and cheered the men most gallantly until he fell in the arms of Midshipman CHEEVER, who was with him. The inhabitants sought refuge in the cellars during the cannonading, and thus escaped destruction. Com. PERRY has abandoned Tobasco – his force not being sufficient to keep possession of it. There is a Mexican force of six to eight thousand at Alvarado. They have placed across the mouth of the river three strong chain cables, and sunk vessels on the bar. It will be useless almost to undertake the place again by a Naval force. -- Letters of Marque and Naturalization papers have been issued by the Mexican Government, conferring the rights and privileges of Mexican citizens upon all who would sail under them.

We have also some more news from SANTA ANNA; he is at San Luis Potosi with 20,000 men, and is daily being reinforced. He writes to the Government that as soon as his plans were finished, he intended to march at the head of his army to meet Gen. TAYLOR, whom he expects to crush. He wants to concentrate his whole force at one point, so that he can direct a large force in any direction that they may be needed.

All of the Volunteers and Malitia [sic] are ordered to rendezvous at Potosi. Gen. VALENCIA has been appointed by SANTA ANNA second in command. A ditch to surround the whole city has been commenced. At Vera Cruz an attack was expected on the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa. The garrison of the city consisted of about 1500 men, and about 2000 more were expected from the surrounding country.

The Republicano of the 22nd ult., states that the English have offered to mediate between us and Mexico, and the British fleet at Lisbon had been ordered to proceed to Vera Cruz. Gen. WOOL finding the route to Chihuahua impracticable, had abandoned it, and was on his road to join Gen. TAYLOR. The gallant Maj. LEAR who was wounded at the battle of Monterey, has since died.

[AMB]

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Thursday, November 26, 1846 MG46i47n39p4c2 24 words

Army in the West

The latest intelligence from the West show that Lient. Col. FREMONT was acting governor of California. There is nothing very interesting from Santa Fe.

[AMB]

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Thursday, November 26, 1846 MG46i47n39p4c5 124 words

Volunteers for Mexico

A meeting of all persons disposed to respond to the Proclamation of the Governor of Virginia, is requested at the Court House on Friday evening next, 27th inst. at 7 o’clock.

Men of Virginia! Citizens of Berkeley County! Let it not be said that you have exhibited backwardness when the voice of your Country is ringing in your ears, demanding your aid in the prosecution of a just and righteous war. The Federal Government has called upon Virginia for one Regiment. The Chief Magistrate of the State has issued his Proclamation calling upon the noble spirits of the Commonwealth to enroll themselves in that Regiment. Can it be that Berkeley will prove recreant to such a call?

Several Speeches may be expected.

Nov. 25.

[AMB]

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December

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This article was a description of General Taylor's censure from the Administration, and a criticism of that censure.

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This was another article supporting General Taylor's criticisms of President Polk.

No Title
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GEN. TAYLOR AND THE VOLUNTEERS
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LETTERS FROM OFFICERS
This was an editorial defending the rights of newspapers to print letters of officers, even if the letter is not intended for publication.

MEXICAN PLAN OF THE WAR
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This article reported on an idea from a New York man that war bonds could help the United States win the war.

THE "UNION" AND THE LIBERTY OF THE PRESS.
This was a lengthy editorial defending the rights of newspapers to print letters from officers in the army.

DEPARTURE OF THE VOLUNTEERS.
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An article, reprinted from another paper, criticizes that Wilmot Proviso.

SWORDS FOR THE VOLUNTEER OFFICERS.
A gift of several swords was made to a unit of volunteers leaving for the front.

LATEST NEWS FROM THE ARMY.
A short skirmish between American and Mexican forces in northern Mexico resulted in an American victory.

LIST OF ACTS
A series of bills passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate, which dealt with the war and the families of fallen soldiers, mainly officers.

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SLAVERY IN MEXICO.
This article accused Mexico of having slavery in all but name because of the harsh treatment of the peons.

No Title
A transcription of a toast given supporting American troops; the event calling for the toast is not mentioned.

THE VIRGINIA VOLUNTEERS.
This was a letter from an officer describing the journey to Point Isabel and the surrounding territory.

IMPORTANT CORRESPONDENCE.
This article was an account of the resignation of General Butler.

LATEST NEWS!
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IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.
The Mexican Catholic Church succeeded in keeping Santa Anna from taking their land in order to fund the war with the United States.

THE THREE MILLION BILL
An editorial that questioned how the Mexican people would view the leader that accepted the three million dollars from the Americans at the end of the war.

THE ISLAND OF LOBOS
A letter from an officer was printed describing the Island of Lobos, which was the likely staging point for an American attack on Vera Cruz.

List of deaths among the Volunteers at Old Point.
This report listed the death of several volunteer officers in service to General Taylor's army.

MR. RIVES' LETTER.
A letter from an officer that described the movements of General Twigg as he prepared to march to Vera Cruz.

No Title
An editorial that criticized President Polk's motives and handling of the war against Mexico.

List of deaths among the Volunteers at Old Point.
WHICH CANDIDATE FOR CONGRESS.
This was an article that focused on what candidates were nominated to run for congress by the Whig party. An important consideration for these candidates was their view of the war in Mexico.

Thursday, March 25, 1847, MG47v48n4p2c3 Words: 697
ANTHONY KENNEDY, ESQ.
A correction about concerned with Anthony Kennedy's views on the war in Mexico. Kennedy was portrayed as being in favor of the war when he was not.

Thursday, March 25, 1847, MG47v48n4p3c1-2 Words: 1661
LATEST NEWS! LATE FROM MEXICO. Most important from Mexico.
LATE FROM THE ARMY. BATTLE BETWEEN GENLS. TAYLOR AND SANTA ANNA.
A large battle near Saltillo was the focus of this article. General Taylor with 5,000 American defeated 20,000 Mexicans under the command of Santa Anna.

Thursday, March 25, 1847, MG47v48n4p3c2 Words: 777
IMPORTANT FROM TAMPICO.
American troops departed for an assault on Vera Cruz, which the newspaper stated would be soon.

Thursday, March 25, 1847, MG47v48n4p3c3 Words: 103
HIGHLY IMPORTANT!
A letter from a volunteer officer to the governor of Louisiana requesting 10,000 men.

Thursday, March 25, 1847, MG47v48n4p3c3 Words: 153
From an Officer of the Virginia Volunteers.
A letter from an officer stated that several rumors had been circulated that General Taylor had fought at Saltillo.

MGv48i5p1c5, April 1, 1847: Headquarters Army of Occupation
From Taylor-announcing the arrival of Gen. Wool; everything is quiet around Saltillo; urging the movement of supplies forward; no very recent intelligence from the interior; report that he including a list of killed, wounded and missing

MGv48i5p1c5, April 1, 1847: Gen. Taylor's Latest Letters
Change of headquarters to Agua Nueva; information on troops coming and joining; even though he was advised by Scott to leave Agua Nueva he won't for various reasons-water supply, moral, occupying the pass is important; Santa Anna could establish himself strongly here; no intelligence from the interior

MGv48i5p2c2, April 1, 1847: In Congress
A bill in the Congress to allow the President to accept the services of volunteers-information on the bill and the ratification of it

MGv48i5p2c2, April 1, 1847: Who Speaks by the Card
Quote from Mr. Bendiger about the war-not in favor of it, sees it a conquest

MGv48i5p2c3, April 1, 1847: Gen. Scott and Gen. Taylor
Letter from Gen. Scott which show his friendly feelings towards Taylor; report on Scott taking troops from Taylor-letter informing Taylor of this

MGv48i5p2c6, April 1, 1847
Report of Indians and half-breeds killing US troops in Mexico

MGv48i5p2c6, April 1, 1847
Quote from the New York Courier about the movements of Santa Anna

MGv48i5p2c6, April 1, 1847
Report that Santa Anna cannot enter Saltillo

MGv48i5p2c7, April 1, 1847: Victory! Victory!
Repulse of Santa Anna; information on the attack of Gen. Taylor by Santa Anna at Agua Nueva; -details on the attack

MGv48i5p2c7, April 1, 1847: Later from Havana
Information of the arrival of ships; mentioning of the Indian massacre of Americans in California

MGv48i5p2c7, April 1, 1847: Important Rumor
Rumor of the surrender of the castle of San Juan

MGv48i6p1c5, April 8, 1847: Treasury Tariff for Mexico
Secretary of the Treasury has prepared a tariff of duties to be raised on all imports into Mexican ports which the US no have under their control
MGv48i6p2c2, April 8, 1847: Mr. Kennedy-his address
Information on comments given by Mr. Kennedy with regards to his position on the war

MGv48i6p2c, April 8, 1847: Rough and Ready
Taylor’s officers proposed to fall back at Buena Vista but he said no

MGv48i6p1c4, April 8, 1847: Col. Cushing
Arrival of Col. Cushing on his way to Mexico-quote about his ability and talents

MGv48i6p1c2, April 8, 1847: Adventure of three midshipmen in Mexico
Extract from a private log-book; narrative about the events that happen to three midshipmen-includes details about run in with the enemy

MGv48i6p1c3, April 8, 1847: Battle of Buena Vista
Comments on the coming details about the Battle of Buena Vista; speaks of the heroism of Gen. Taylor and his men; Santa Anna after this loss once he receives his reinforcements will have to attack again

MGv48i6p2c3, April 8, 1847: Latest from Mexico
Rumors that Santa Anna was on his way to attack Taylor; Santa Anna sent Taylor a message to surrender but Taylor said no; details about the battle

MGv48i6p2c4, April 8, 1847: Official Despatches From General Taylor’s Camp
Information on troop activities; copy of the surrender letter sent by Santa Anna; copy of Taylor’s reply to Santa Anna; information on troop positions after the battle-US holding, Mexicans not yet at Agua Nueva; information on condition of the Mexican troops after the battle

MGv48i6p2c5, April 8, 1847: Important from Vera Cruz!
Description of the successful landing of US forces; water and supplies cut off from the city; Alburtis killed

MGv48i6p2c6, April 8, 1847: Scott’s Official Despatches
Report from after the fall of Vera Cruz; information of the successful taking of the city-more details of the taking of the city; information on troop movement; report of the consuls inside the city-US agrees to safeguard them

MGv48i6p2c7, April 8, 1847: Reported Capture of Vera Cruz
Report of where the information of the report of capture came from

MGv48i5p3c1, April 8, 1847: Gen. Taylor Victorious!
News of the victory at Buena Vista received-number of killed and wounded, Santa Anna’s army destroyed, and loss of Col. Yell, M’Kee, Hardin and Henry Clay Jr.

MGv48i7p1c2, April 15, 1847: On the Events of War
Column on what the purpose of the war is-so many deaths and for what? What is gained?-comments on a few of those who died

MGv48i7p2c4, April 15, 1847: Capitulation of the Caste of San Juan!
Surrender of the city of Vera Cruz to the Americans under the command of Gen. Scott; garrisons have surrendered to the Americans including officers; total American losses-list of officers killed and wounded

MGv48i7p2c4, April 15, 1847: Further from Vera Cruz
 Arrival of Com. Perry; violent norther and vessels lost; rumor of Santa Anna moving closer to the capital

MGv48i7p2c4, April 15, 1847: Another Great Battle in New Mexico
Details of the battle won by the Americans in New Mexico

MGv48i7p2c5, April 15, 1847: Later from the Brazos
Arrival of a transport schooner; Gen. Taylor arrived with the Mississippi Regiment and Kentucky riflemen; Taylor hunting for Urrera; Kentucky cavalry are here; information on other regiments that are present; correspondence of the Picayune-news of Taylor looking for Urrera and Canales; Train of wagons left Matamoras for Camargo; train of teams leaving for the Rio Grande; account of an officer who visited Vera Cruz and the castle after its surrender

MGv48i7p2c5, April 15, 1847: General Taylor-Colonel Clay
Letter to Colonel Clay about the death of his son by Taylor

MGv48i7p2c6, April 15, 1847: The Administration and General Taylor
Comments on Gen. Taylor’s decision to remain and not fall back to Monterey

MGv48i7p2c1, April 15, 1847: Vera Cruz and the Castle of San Juan
News of the surrender of Vera Cruz and the castle haven given rise to praises of Gen. Scott
MGv48i7p2c1, April 15, 1847: More Aid and Comfort!
Quote from the Rockingham Reg. and comments about it—quote speaking of anti-American and against the war

MGv48i7p2c2, April 15, 1847: Polk and Santa Anna
Santa Anna paid first part of debt owed to the U.S.

MGv48i7p2c2, April 15, 1847: Prospect of Peace
Santa Anna put down the revolution in the capital; Santa Anna might be able to make peace or continue the war, which ever best suits him

MGv48i8p1c1, April 22, 1847: Official Despatches
Official despatches of Scott dealing with the battle last week—details on the fighting and troop movement

MGv48i8p1c2, April 22, 1847: Headquarters of the Army
Information on the movement of troops around the city of Vera Cruz; weather report and how the norther effected the siege; praises of the conduct of the army; terms of capitulation of the city of Vera Cruz and the castle of San Juan d'Ulloa

MGv48i8p1c3, April 22, 1847
Death of the son of ex-Gov. Lincoln of Massachusetts, Clay has left New Orleans after the news of his son's death

MGv48i8p1c4, April 22, 1847: The War of 1812 and 1846
Comments on the recent comparisons of the Whigs of 1846 with the Federalists of 1812; states the differences between the two

MGv48i8p1c4, April 22, 1847: Printers in the Army
Scott ordered the printers in his army to step forward—he had wanted some orders printed but had been told by the Tampico Sentinel that there wasn't enough workers on hand to do it

MGv48i8p2c1, April 22, 1847: Gen. Taylor and the Union
Comments on the response by many to the nomination of Taylor for President; praises of Taylor for his success

MGv48i8p2c2, April 22, 1847: Gen'l Taylor for the Presidency
Report of Taylor being nominated for President by the Richmond Republican;

MGv48i8p2c2, April 22, 1847: The Presidency
Report that the Administration has not entirely destroyed the credit of the country—comments on the debt gained by the administration

MGv48i8p2c3, April 22, 1847: From Vera Cruz to Mexico
Article on the distance from Vera Cruz to Mexico

MGv48i8p2c3, April 22, 1847: President Polk—Gen. Taylor
Popularity of Taylor has caused Polk to adopt policies that are unfair towards the General—trying to undermined his popularity

MGv48i8p2c5, April 22, 1847: Lieutenant Gen. Benton's Plan
Benton's plans are still in the work; Benton disapproves of the actions taken by Taylor and Scott for their victories

MGv48i8p2c5, April 22, 1847: The Presidency
Report on how General Taylor has been brought forward as the candidate for President by a large number of Whig papers; his wins have shown a good omen in his presidential nomination

MGv48i8p2c6, April 22, 1847: Late from Mexico
General Taylor has returned to Saltillo; impression is that he will push to San Luis

MGv48i8p2c6, April 22, 1847: Late from Vera Cruz
Announcement of arrival and departure of ships; an expedition has left Vera Cruz headed by Gen. Quitman; Gen. Worth engaged in establishing a government at Vera Cruz; list of passengers that came by the Alabama; list of vessels of war left at Vera Cruz

MGv48i8p2c6, April 22, 1847: Later from Vera Cruz
Capt. Hillard arrived at N. Orleans from Vera Cruz; report from the capital state that the revolution has not ended; paper published the terms offered by the U.S for peace

MGv48i8p2c6, April 22, 1847: Later from Mexico
Santa Anna's address to his army, his arrival in the City of Mexico, his inauguration and inaugural address and policy of the new administration
MGv48i8p2c6, April 22, 1847: Capture of Chihuahua
US forces have taken Chihuahua-did not fall until after a battle-details of the battle and events leading up to it

MGv48i8p2c7, April 22, 1847: From New Mexico
Report on the massacre of Taos; US troops proceeded towards the valley of Puebla; Capt. Burguin received a fatal wound; took houses in the valley and a church causing the Mexicans to flee; list of numbers dead on both sides

MGv48i8p2c7, April 22, 1847: Reported Battle Between Gen. Taylor and Urrea
Information on an encounter between Taylor and Urrea; Taylor followed him and made great havoc with the Mexicans; rumors circulating around the Rio Grande

MGv48i8p3c1, April 22, 1847: Latest from the Brazos
Rumors that Taylor met up with Urrea are not true; train was to leave Camargo under the escort of the Virginia Regiment; 8 companies of Massachusetts regiments were stationed at Camargo; Gen. Lamar going on to Sabinas and from there to Monclova

MGv48i8p3c1, April 22, 1847: Latest from Vera Cruz
Group of Americans while on excursion were killed by Rancheros outside the city

MGv48i8p3c1, April 22, 1847: More Volunteers
President has called for 6,000 more volunteer to go to Mexico

MGv48i8p3c1, April 22, 1847
Aide to Taylor passing through Cincinnati horrified to find that several reports on the battle have not told the story right-wrong with regards to the actions of Taylor during the fighting

MGv48i9p1c2, April 29, 1847: Later from Vera Cruz
Report that Alvarado was taken without a fight; army to move to Jalapa; two other cities have fallen without fights; post office been established at Vera Cruz; Correspondence of the Picayune-Cols. Kinney and Banks with Capt. Merrill's company returned from a scout, country full of cattle, Santa Anna as far as Puebla and he was coming to Jalapa; the former Mexican consul has arrived and has received passage to the capital

MGv48i9p1c2, April 29, 1847: The Capture of Alvarado
Capture of Alvarado by Lieut. Hunter; details of the taking of the city; Gen. Quitman arrived with troops and Com. Perry with small vessels; Lt. Hunter has been placed under arrest for disobedience of orders in entering the port of Alvarado

MGv48i9p1c3, April 29, 1847: Our Navy
Comments on the comments of others about the delay by the government in furnishing vessels to the navy; gives praises to the navy for their accomplishments in the war with Mexico-especially the siege of Vera Cruz

MGv48i9p1c4, April 29, 1847: Illinois Troops-Affecting Incident
Information on the Illinois troops-some volunteers-gives information on those killed

MGv48i9p2c5, April 29, 1847
War Department has called on the Governor of Missouri for another regiment of volunteers for the war

MGv48i9p3c1, April 29, 1847: American Arms Victorious
Report on battles in California by Com. Stockton-details

MGv48i9p3c1, April 29, 1847: Later from Mexico
Address issued by Santa Anna to his countrymen-information on assembling troops; encouraging men to fight

MGv48i9p2c4, April 29, 1847: Private Letter from General Taylor
Letter from Gen. Taylor to Gen. Butler-paragraph relating to Taylor's nomination for President, information on the battle of Buena Vista

MGv48i9p2c5, April 29, 1847: Lieutenant Colonel Clay
Report that Clay's last words before he died were about his father

MGv48i9p2c6, April 29, 1847: General Taylor and the Administration
Until the battle of Buena Vista, Taylor was not treated nicely by the War Department-information was sent to Scott not to him, comments on the appointment of Scott in relation to Taylor

MGv48i9p2c6, April 29, 1847: What is Gen. Taylor?
Report that Taylor has not voted in several years; does not want to be called a Whig; would have voted for Henry Clay-extracts from several papers that say these things

MG47v48n10p1c1, Thursday, May 6, 1847. POETICAL Rough and Ready The soldier's story
At locofoco meeting recently held in Columbus, Mississippi

The Trophies of War are thus described in a letter from Vera Cruz, to the Auburn Advertiser. The writer presents truly, and without exaggeration, one of those scenes in the progress of War which Gen Taylor says is "enough to fill the whole land with mourning:"

Henry Clay and Zac Taylor

The Volunteers in Mexico.

LATE FROM MEXICO. IMPORTANT INTELLIGENCE ANOTHER GLORIOUS VICTORY!!! Battle of Cerro Gordo.

FURTHER PARTICULARS.

ANOTHER VICTORY!! CAPTURE OF TUSPAN! A TRIUMPH FOR THE NAVY!

From the N.O. Delta, Extra, May 3, 10 a.m.

THE GAZETTE. CERRO GORDO.

Battle of Cerro Gordo.

INCIDENTS OF THE BATTLE OF CERRO GORDO.

A [ . . . ] LETTER

HORRORS OF WAR.

LATE FROM MEXICO. CAPTURE OF JALAPA AND PEROTE.

Advance of the Army toward the City of Mexico. From the Baltimore American, Day 14

Interesting News.

Later from General Scott’s Army. POSITION OF SANTA ANNA. Proposed surrender of the city of Mexico, Probable Cessation of Hostilities.


Important from the two Armies.

FROM GEN. TAYLOR’S ARMY BUENA VISTA, MEXICO, APRIL 12.

GEN. LA VEGA. The Courrier des Etats Units contains a paragraph in relation to this distinguished Mexican General, which seems to
verify the opinion

MG47v48n13p1c3, Thursday, May 27, 1847. From the New Jersey Fredonian.

MG47v48n13p1c4, Thursday, May 27, 1847. From the Baltimore American, May 19. CASE OF LIEUT. HUNTER.

MG47v48n13p2c2, Thursday, May 27, 1847. SEQUESTRATION OF CHURCH PROPERTY.

MG47v48n13p2c2, Thursday, May 27, 1847. SANTA ANNA’S PASSPORT

MG47v48n13 p2c3, Thursday May 27, 1847. Mejia and Vega

MG47v48n13p2c4, May 27, 1847. THE SANTA ANNA TREASON, ITS CHARACTER AND DESIGNS.


MG47v48n13p2c5, May 27, 1847. GUERRILLA WAR ON THE RIO GRANDE.
From the New Orleans Picayune, May 14.

MG47v48n13p2c5, May 27, 1847. FRONTIER BRIGADE OF CAVALRY, CAMP IN SAN AUGUSTIN, April 4, 1847.

MG47v48n13p2c6, May 27, 1847. An offer of a Swiss Regiment.

MG47v48n13p2c3, May 27, 1847. LATE FROM MEXICO
From the St. Louis Republican, May 17.
LATEST FROM SANTA FE AND CALIFORNIA.

MG47v48n13p2c7, May 27, 1847. From the city of Mexico. PROSPECT OF MORE FIGHTING.
Guerrilla Warfare Commenced. From the Baltimore Sun.

MG47v48n13p4c1 May 271847. THE PRESS IN MEXICO

MG47v48n14p1c1, June 3, 1847. From Prescott’s a "Conquest of Mexico”. THE ANCIENT MEXICANS, OR AZTECS Humans Sacrifices and Cannibals.

V48n14p2c1, June 3, 1847. THE GAZETTE

MG47v48n14p2c2, June 3, 1847. AMERICAN PRISONERS IN MEXICO.

MG47v48n14p2c3, June 3, 1847. THE PRESIDENT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WAR

MG47v48n14p2c4, June 3, 1847. From the Richmond Republican.

MG47v48n14p2c5, June 3, 1847. LATE FROM MEXICO.

MG47v48n14p2c4, June 3, 1847. LATE FROM THE BRAZOS.

MG47v48n14p2c6, June 3, 1847. LATEST FROM THE BRAZOS
From the New Orleans Picayune, May 23.

MG47v48n14p3c1, June 3, 1847. RETURN OF VOLUNTEERS.

MG47v48n14p3c2, June 3, 1847. Latest from Gen. Scott.

MG47v48n15p2c6, June 10, 1847. TAYLORING.

MG47v48n15p2c6, June 10, 1847. LATE FROM MEXICO. IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

MG47v48n15p2c7, June 10, 1847. FROM GEN. TAYLOR’S ARMY.
January 7, 1847, MG47v47n45p1c3 Words: 992

LATE FROM THE RIO GRANDE.

Correspondence of the N. O. Picayune.

BRAZOS SANTIAGO, Dec. 6, 1846

Here I am once more in Texas. Now for what little army new I have been able to gather. It was my good fortune to meet this morning an old friend in a gentleman direct from Monterey, who gave me the data for what follows. My informant left Monterey on the 27th of November. Gen. TAYLOR had returned from Saltillo, and expressed himself pleased with the appearance of the city, which was in quiet possession of the troops under Gen. WORTH. Saltillo is about sixty-five miles from Monterey, and has an elevation of some 2,000 feet above the latter place. The cold, in consequence, is frequently quite intense.—Gen. TAYLOR saw ice while he was there. The most delicious fruits are said to abound in Saltillo. No demonstration against Gen. WORTH had been made by the enemy, although only at the distance of twenty miles from him. His scouts had discovered about 3,000 Mexican cavalry, said to have been sent from San Luis Potosi for the purpose of grazing their horses.

Gen. WOOL had been ordered by Gen. TAYLOR to occupy forthwith the town of Parrus, a small but beautiful place seventy miles northeast of Saltillo. Gen. WOOL would have no opposition at Parras, as the inhabitants were prepared to receive him peaceable. His troops are represented to be in the finest health and discipline.

The ultimate plans of Gen. TAYLOR had not, of course, been fully developed, but sufficient was known to render it quite certain that something like the following outline was to be adhered to. He had received intelligence from the government of the call for additional troops. He would therefore occupy all the posts, towns, &c., either immediately or remotely, on the line of operations to Tampico. Lt. Col. RILEY now occupies Mount Morales with the 2d regiment of U. S. infantry. Gen. TAYLOR would himself take up his line of march for Victoria, where, rumor has it, SANTA ANNA has 10,000 choice troops. This city is indispensably necessary to Gen. TAYLOR, in order that he may secure his lines of communication in an attack upon San Luis Potosi. SANTA ANNA knows its importance, and will no doubt resist its possession by our troops. But I shall not speculate. Gen. TAYLOR intended to march as soon as provisions could be hastened up—which would probably be by the 10th of December—with the 3d, 4th, and 7th infantry, the dragoons under Col. HARNEY, who had arrived at Monterey, BRAGG’s battery, and two regiments of volunteers, which latter had not been designated.—It would seem that Gen. TAYLOR himself attached some importance to the rumor of SANTA ANNA’s 10,000 troops, as he heads in person the expedition against Victoria. After taking this point which he most assuredly will do, it is thought he will make no further demonstration until desired reinforcements reach him from Tampico.

Should Gen. BUTUER’s health admit of it, he will be left at Monterey in command; otherwise Col SMITH, of the Riflers
will be detained for that purpose. Gen. BUTLER’s wound was not improving; indeed it is said to be getting worse. The air of Monterey is considered unfavorable to wounded invalids, and the surgeons have advised that all such leave the country if practicable.

It is said, and on good authority, that SANTA ANNA, fearing the Congress about to assemble at Mexico would not carry out his measures, or fully sustain him, under the pretence of putting down another outbreak of the populace, being well aware that Gen. TAYLOR cannot attack him in his strongholds at San Luis for two months or more. SANTA ANNA, it is no news to say, is a most wily foe, and in respect to knowing the position of affairs, has the advantage, from natural causes, of Gen. TAYLOR, and is determined to resist. It is now conceded by the officers of our army generally that the Mexicans will fight. San Luis Potosi is in strong state of defense, and is daily being strengthened still more; and it may be that the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca, and those of Monterey, were but specimens of what may occur before San Luis. Officers believe that a harder fight than any one yet is before San Luis Potosi is one of the richest cities in all Mexico, being directly in the mining districts; and you may depend upon it the Mexicans will make the big stand there. One thing, however is certain: old “Rough and Ready” is not going to be caught again deficient in anything—either in men, munitions or besieging cannon. Nor will he be again caught by “white flags” or treacherous parleys. You may deceive him once, but twice, never! But more of this hereafter. My letter is already too long, and I fear has but little to interest you.

In closing I will add that Maj. Gen. PATTERSON had left Camargo with the Alabama and Illinois regiments, and was conveying these troops down to the mouth of the Rio Grande, intending to go to Tampico by water. Having duly reported his intensions to the commanding general, an express was dispatched, and arrived in time, ordering Gen. PATTERSON to go to Tampico by land. Gen. P. and staff have arrived at Matamoras.

Dec. 10.—Gen. SHIELDS, who is ordered to take command at Tampico, is here, waiting an opportunity to embark. Some four hundred of the Alabama troops will leave here for Tampico by water; the remainder of the regiment will go by land.

Gen. PILLOW goes back from this place to take command in Gen. PATTERSON’s column, which marches for Victoria. Gen. PILLOW was on his way home, as I informed you in a previous letter; but owing to letters received from above, developing something of the future operations of the Army, as well as letters from home rendering it unnecessary for his return, he goes back to his command. His health, too, is greatly improved.

Yours, &c.,
F. A. L.

[HCH]

January 7, 1847, MG47v47n45p1c3-4 Words: 1305

Later and important from Mexico.

By Steamer to Havana.

The packet-ship Norma, Capt. ELLIS, arrived at New York on Wednesday, with Mexican dates several days later than heretofore received, via: Vera Cruz Dec 2; Mexico Nov. 27; Tampico Nov. 25; and Chihuahua Oct. 20.

The following is furnished by the New York Sun:

The war engrosses public attention, and in recording the efforts making to strengthen SANTA ANNA’s army, the editors and newspaper correspondents generally agree that the last struggle is to be made at San Luis Potosi. No effort is apparent to prepare the public mind for negotiations, except such as casual allusions to the approaching session of Congress and the deliberations of that body upon the melancholy condition of the Republic. The new government works satisfactorily. Arrangements for restoring the State Governments to their former positions under the Constitution of 1824, have been completed in all the late Departments, with great satisfaction to the people.

The Legislature of Yucatan, hitherto the last to hold out against revolutions, met and promptly ratified the reannexation, and the restoration of the Constitution of 1824. next in importance to the meeting of Congress was the election of President. SANTA ANNA positively declines the office, although some of the States have petitioned Government in favor of giving him dictatorial powers. All he asks, or professes to ask, is the title “benefactor of his country.”

Another change has occurred in the Cabinet, owing to the conflicting views of the men in power: Don ANTONIO HARO Y TAMARIZ, Secretary of State, has been superseded by Don JUAN N. ALMONTE. The popular candidate for President is ALMONTE. He unites the masses in his favor. Gen. CANALLIZO is reported to have arrived at Vera Cruz in the steamer from England. Great enthusiasm is said to exist among the people in favor of the army and the war.

The Church has been pressed into the service of the country, government having exacted contributions upon the property of “the secular and regular clergy of both sexes,” to the amount of two millions of dollars, for which drafts
have been issued as follows: on the Archbishop $1,000,000; on the Bishop of Puebla $100,000; on the Bishop of Guadalaxara $200,000; on the Bishop of Michoacan $170,000; on the Bishop of Oaxaca $100,000; on the Bishop of Durango $80,000. Popular opinion was in favor of this exaction, as the Church had recently shown itself too officious in the cause of the monarchists.

While these contributions are being levied throughout the county, large amounts of specie are being exported. The steamer Clyde alone took $1,000,000 in specie to England, on the 2d inst. from Vera Cruz. Dispatches from SANTA ANNA were received at the Capital on the 23d ult., dated at San Luis Potosi. He presses the government for more resources.

Accounts from San Luis praise the discipline and valor of the army. There were twenty-five thousand men, with fifty-two pieces of artillery. Five thousand additional troops were expected daily. The magazines of powder and the stores of balls and other missiles are said to exceed belief. Every piece of iron that can be found is converted into pikes or other deadly weapons. In one storehouse alone are two hundred mechanics working day and night, mounting guns and manufacturing munitions of war. There are five hundred in the fortifications, which are being strengthened in every possible manner. One thousand women, filled with enthusiasm in the national cause, had come down to the camp from San Diego and Tlascala, to aid in making articles for the soldiers.

Santa Anna had a grand review of the whole army on the 13th of November. It is described as a magnificent pageant. So overwhelmed was he by the boundless enthusiasm which greeted him as he passed along the lines that his feelings overcame him, and the tears rolled down swarthy cheeks amid the prolonged huzzas of the various regiments, and cries of "Victory or Death!" "God and Liberty" "Long live Santa Anna!" "We will beat the Yankees this time!" &e., &e.

Provisions were pouring into camp in immense quantities. Language is said to fail in attempting a description of the formidable preparations making at San Luis. There, was to be the last great struggle. There, say the newspapers, will the fate of Mexico be decided, and further resistance, it is said, will be useless. Fears were entertained, however, that even there the fortunes of war would be against them, and accordingly we find preparations going on to defend the road to the capital. Forts were being erected at various points and the passes were being strengthened; but these works do not seem to progress very rapidly.

Santa Anna’s evacuation of Tampico is defended on the ground of his inability to resist the vessels of war; and that port being one in which the yellow fever rages fiercely eight months in the year, the editors predict that it will become a grave for thousands of Americans, as it is every year for the invading Spaniards. The burning of the American steamer at Tampico, the wreck of so many United States vessels on the coast, and the loss of prizes taken at Tabasco, are matters which the Mexican editors record with joyous exclamations. The United States frigate Potomac was in a sinking condition at Anton Lizardo.

Four sailors were taken prisoners from an American vessel wrecked at Sotto Vento. Various accounts are given of the burning of the Mexican vessels of war Creole, under the walls of San Juan d’Ulloa. The battlement of the San Miguel saw the United States boat approach the fort, but mistook it for a boat from the British steamer, and made no alarm. Others allege that an alarm was given, but the officers of the fort would not fire for fear of killing their own people. Other versions are given of the affair. The fort begins to be an object of suspicion among the Vera Cruzanos, who seem to think it less formidable to the Americans than they did formerly.

Accounts from Chihuahua to the 20th of October, confirm the arrest of the American traders, six in all, whose property was confiscated. James McGoffin, Henry Connelly and Mr. Francisco were the principal victims and loose large fortunes. Mr. Conolly had been an old resident. Several caravans of Mexicans traders came down about the same time from New Mexico, who reported Gen. Kearney’s departure for California, and Col. Doniphan’s movement upon Chihuahua. Five hundred men were equipped to resist the latter at El Passo del Norte where there is a fort, which they were to occupy.

Indian depredations continue in the central and northwestern department. The "Yankees" were charged with being in league with the savages. Gen. Armijo had been defeated by the Indians, loosing thirty men before he retreated. Porto Paz, in Lower California, was blockaded in October by an U.S. corvette, which made prizes of two Mexican schooners, the Romano and Julia. She then proceeded to Guayamas[Guayaymas?], and ordered the commander to deliver two gun boats which was refused, and on the 7th October the U.S.commander bombed the city.

We find no farther accounts of the rumored insurrection at the City of Angels, in which 150 Americans were said to have been massacred. We have various rumors of Santa Anna’s movements, apparently intended to conceal his real designs. One announces his retreat to Querataro, another puts him on the road to Mexico, a third sends him to Saltillo, &e &e. Two large forts are going up to defend the road to the capital, one at Tlascala and the other at Santiago.

Our advisers by this arrival lead to only one conclusion—a desperate battle is to fought at or near San Luis Potosi. Mexico will have thirty thousand of her best troops in that conflict, and the United States will probably have at least half that number.

[HCH]

January 7, 1847, MG47v47n45p2c2 Words: 693
Interesting News from the South

We compile from the Southern mail the following interesting items of news from Mexico, the Army, &c, not being able, to give, for want of room, the full details. The N.O. Picayune has dates to the 9th ult. from Campeachy, from which they infer that the outbreaks there indicate determination to sunder all ties with the Government of Mexico. A pronunciamento has also been put forth by the garrison at Tabasco, complaining bitterly against the Government for its neglect of that city while it was contributing liberally to the Treasury. It farther determines that Tabasco will, thus neglected, provide for her own defense, and regulate her internal administration upon a basis more liberal and adequate to the existing War. A union between Yucatan and Tabasco, to throw off allegiance to Mexico, is talked of. Tabasco has placed Senor Tracosis at the head of their movement, “in consideration of his gallant defense of the place against the American squadron.”

Another correspondence has taken place between Santa Anna and Gen. Taylor, but the only item of importance which we find in it, is the following sentence from Santa Anna’s letter—the italics in which are in the Mexican copy:

I believe that I do not deceive myself in assuring you, that neither the Congress, nor any Mexican, will ever be able to listen to overtures of peace unless the national territory be first evacuated by the forces of the United States, and the hostile attitude of their vessels of war be withdrawn. This must be without doubt the preliminary of whatever negotiation may be opened; and it may be permitted to me to declare to you, that the nation, moved by a sentiment of patriotism, and determined to defend at every hazard and inch by inch its territory, will never cease to qualify as it deserves, and as the world has already qualified it, the conduct of the United States; and it will do whatever it can and ought honorably to deserve the title which it bears, of independent and free.

Tampico Attacked—Repulse of the Mexicans—The N.O. Mercury has news from Tampico to the 16th ult. A body of Mexican Cavalry, amounting to about 1,000, had appeared in the vicinity of that place, and coming within range of the artillery, were fired upon and driven off. The garrison at Tampico had been reinforced by the Alabama Volunteers. Gen. Patterson was marshing that way with a considerable force and would supersede Gen Shields in command on his arrival. Gen. Woer, with his forces were at Parras, 115 miles West of Saltillo, where he would take up his winter quarters. His column is in fine health, and in a good state of discipline. The Indiana Volunteers are ordered from Camargo to his lines—when they arrive, he will have about 2,500 men. Gen. Worth is at Saltillo with 1,700 men. Scouting parties are out watching the movement of Santa Anna in the direction of San Luis Potosi. Gen. Butler is in command at Monterey with 2,000 men. Gen. McLung is fast recovering from his wound.

Gen. Taylor left Monterey on the 15th, with an escort of cavalry, for Victoria. Gen. Twides and Col. P.F. Smith with their respective commands, were at Victoria, and previous to the departure of Gen. Taylor from Monterey, Gen. Quitman with his brigade had left for that point. Gen. Taylor, in a conversation with Capt. Yeatman, expressed the opinion that it would be impossible to march upon San Luis Potosi from the northern extremity of his lines until the rainy season sets in to June next.

Capt. Stone with a detachment of seventy men, lately captured a party of two hundred Mexicans in a ranch about thirty-seven miles up the San Juan, together with Capt. Cantova, by whom they had been recruited, and he and the men were taken as prisoners to Camargo. Fifty stand of arms, ammunitions, etc., were taken at the same time.

On the evening of the 16th a Mexican was taken by a guard at Camargo attempting to enter the powder magazine, with a design, it is supposed, to blow it up.

[HCH]

January 7, 1847, MG47v47n45p2c6 Words: 255

The War—We cannot find room to pursue farther the poor excuses with which the President plaits the war of his own making; nor can it be necessary. There is very little of it with which the public is not already familiar. That Mexico had wronged our citizens and been tardy in making reparations, is most true; true also that we had grievously wronged her, by fitting out military expeditions in open day in our South Western cities to foment rebellion in her provinces and rob her of her territory. Our very Army was moved into Texas in 1836, notoriously to awe her troops and encourage her adversaries. She has her tale of grievances, as least as real and as formidable as ours. Have we not shed blood enough? How many more women and children must we rend and mangle. before the fell spirit of Carnage can be satisfied? Why does not Mr. Polk state plainly on what terms he is ready to make Peace? Why does he not offer to arbitrate, to accept impartial Mediation? Why does he talk of compelling Mexico to pay the enormous expenses of his War when he knows she cannot do it, except by tearing reluctant Departments from her sides/ and making herself a second Poland? Why, O why is he Polk and not a man? ______ Years of National misery and probable bankruptcy, a People debauched by slaughtered and demoniac "glory", a Republic corrupt by conquest and gold won by the red hand, shall sadly answer these questions!

[HCH]

January 7, 1847, MG47v47n45p3c2 Words: 274
Mr. Preston King of N.Y., has revived the Bill of last session for procuring a peace with Mexico—it asks for an appropriation of $30,000 to be in readiness for any proposed resumption of negotiations between the two Governments—prohibits Slavery or involuntary servitude in any territory secured to the United States from Mexico—and asks an appropriation of $2,000,000 towards the settlement of boundaries, &c., and securing any territory which may result from the negotiation between the two Governments. You may rest assured that if this Bill gets fairly before the House, the Northern and Southern allies of Democracy will have a regular pitched battle on the second provision of it, touching the slavery question.

The President sent in a Message to Congress today, recommending the passage of a law for increasing the regular force of the Army by raising an additional ten Regiments, and to correct all defects in the present organization of the army. He also recommends an increase of Officers of the highest grades—and especially the appointment of a General Officer of the highest grades—and especially the appointment of a General Officer to take command of all our Military force in the field. The office to be dispensed with at the close of war.

The House were in Committee of the Whole upon the bill for an increase of the army, and some warm debating took place, but as it is now past the witching hour of night, I must close. I will notice it further when I announce the fate of the Bill to you. The Senate has been doing nothing of much general importance.

Yours, &e., Summers

[HCH]

January 14, 1847, MG47v47n46p1c4 Words: 168

Americans sometimes wear Mexican Blankets!

We state this for the information of the worthies who forcibly take blankets from the shoulders of the Mexicans of a night, and to prevent them from shooting or robbing Americans by mistake. We don a horongo ourself, and it came near costing us our life on Thursday evening, the 19th ult. About 9 o'clock we were walking up Commercial street to our office, and were met just above the Public store house by a rufiaely looking countryman of ours, who presented a pistol to our head and asked ”how are you?” Surprised at the question and the manner in which it was put, we answered —”pretty well, I thank you , if it concerns you particularly.” ”It is well you spoke English or I should have shot you,” said our interrogator, turning off. He wanted our blanket. We speak English and ”nothin’ else;” so don’t shoot us or steal our blanket, for it is our bed and all our bedding.—Matamoras Flag.

[HCH]

January 14, 1847, MG47v47n46p2c1 Words: 339

News from Mexico

We direct the attention of the reader to the news which We publish in another column from Mexico. This intelligence has created a good deal of anxiety in the public mind of the country, but we are happy to learn from the Washington Union of the 12th inst. that the War Department has a letter from Gen. Jessup, dated Brazos San Jago, Dec. 25, 1816 in which he says—”We have a report that Santa Anna is advancing on Gen. Worth, and that he is falling back; but I do not credit it. Santa Anna would hardly follow Gen. Wool on his flank. I consider the story as mere gossip.

Extract from a letter to the Editor of the Gazette, dated

Richmond, Va., Jan, 1847

The last Battalion of Virginia Volunteers, consisting of companies commanded by Capts. Carrington, Corse, Scorr, H. H. Archer, and Bankhead, left Richmond on yesterday morning for Old Point Comfort.

They will embark, as soon as transports can be procured, for Point Isabel.

There are three companies now in the city, and those requisite to fill the Regiment will soon be at the rendezvous.

Since the arrival of Col. Hamtranck, his time has been monopolized in making arrangements to hasten the march of the Volunteers to Mexico.

All agree on the opinion, that no one better qualified in every respect, than he, could have been called to the important post which he occupies, and no one doubts but that when he is upon the field of battle, he will show that there is still in the old Dominion “the spirit that breathed in her dead.”
The rumor that Col. Gadsden of South Carolina, has been appointed to take command of the Brigade to which the Virginia Volunteers will be attached, is incorrect. The appointment of Brigadier General will probably be conferred upon Major Gwin of Richmond.

Virginia is entitled to this selection, and the appointment of Maj. Gwin would give universal to North and South Carolina ???????, as in this state.

[From Mexico]

Arrival of the Virginia and Empresario—Later from Tampico—Important from Gen. Worth—Concentration of Troops at Monterey—Saltillo threatened by Santa Anna

The N. Orleans Picayune of Jan. 2 says:--The steamer Virginia, and Cap. Smith, arrived last evening from Tampico, via Brazos Santiago, having left the Brazos on the 27th ult.—The brig Empresario, Capt. Collins, which sailed from Tampico on the 26th, also arrived last night. By these vessels we have received letters from Mr. Lunsden, at Tampico.

We have conversed with a gentleman who came passenger in the Virginia from Brazos, and who is direct from Monterey. He has kindly furnished us with the following information, which is highly important, if there be no error in the accounts. They were fully credited at the Brazos, and are confirmed by Capt. Brower, of the schooner Robert Mills, who arrived last evening from that port.

An express from Gen. Worth, at Saltillo, arrived at Monterey on the 16th of December. It brought the news that Gen. Worth had learned through his spies that Santa Anna was within three days march of Saltillo, at the head of twenty or thirty thousand men.—The express bore they called upon Gen. Taylor for reinforcements. Gen. Taylor and his staff had left Monterey on the 15th ult—the day before the express arrived—for Victoria, to join his command, which was two days march in advance of him.

Gen. Butler, in command at Monterey, immediately sent off dispatches to Gen. Marshall, at Camargo, and to Gen. Patterson, at Matamores, to send forward without delay all the troops they could spare from their commands.

Gen. Patterson had left Matamoras only the day before the news reached that place.—It was at once forwarded to him, and upon learning its prutport, our informant states that he immediately started on his return with the view to proceed to Monterey.

It was reported at Tampico on the 25th, that a portion of Gen. Patterson’s command had entered Victoria, but it is not mentioned that the General himself had arrived, so that we cannot judge how far the news from the two sources may conflict.

The express reported at Matamoras that the road from Monterey to Camargo was lined with troops.—regulars and volunteers—on their march to Monterey, having been previously ordered up. Our informant says there were four regiments upon the road.

The route from Monterey is infested with predatory bands of rancheros, by which the traveling is rendered insecure. One train had been attached a few days before our informant passed over the road, as had also several small parties, and some few men had been killed and wounded.

We need not say that this news possesses the highest interest. As we write we have verbal reports in regard to it, but hope to receive this morning our correspondence from the army. There is no intrinsic improbability in the news of Santa Anna’s movements, and if he possesses the energy and skill claimed for him, nothing appears more likely that that he should fall like a thunder bolt upon some point in our extended line and hope to crush us. But we have every confidence in the vigilance of Gen. Worth, and his ability to hold the enemy in check until Gen. Wool and Gen. Taylor arrive to his support. We await further intelligence with the utmost interest.

Important Report from Mexico

The New Orleans Mercury of the 31st ult., says: We have received, through the politeness of a commercial house the subjoined extract a letter, written by an intelligent

Gentleman at Tampico:
TAMPICO, Dec. 17th.

"Advises via Vera Cruz were received last evening of the action of the Mexican Congress. They decreed that they will not think on treaty of peace until every hostile foot has cleared Mexican soil, and every vessel that lines her coast is withdrawn. I consider the war now commenced in real earnest, and I prophesy that Tampico will become an American town".

From Santa Fe--The Saint Louis Republican of the 31st ult. says--

At a late hour last night we received a budget of letters from several correspondents in New Mexico. Those from Santa Fe bear date as late as the 15th of November, and give us in detail all of the events of interest which had transpired in that quarter for several weeks previous.

In no part of our correspondence have we been able to find in allusion to the reported defeat of the sixty dragoons, mentioned of which was made in our paper of yesterday.

A letter from Moro, dated on the 21st of November, announces the arrival there of Mr. N. Colburn, in advance of the wagons belonging to the last company of the traders which left Independence. On the 17th they experienced a severe storm of snow, which killed many of the oxen, but they were able to supply themselves at Moro and would get safely into Santa Fe. The United States trains could not, it is said, move a wagon on account of snow and the loss of animals, and they were then buying oxen to get the wagons along.

A wealthy Mexican citizen, seeing the embarrassments of the government’s agent for the want of money, had generously proffered to loan Major Walker, paymaster, one hundred thousand dollars at an interest of only three percent, a month.

General Scott----It having been ungenerously rumored that the late appointment of Gen. Scott to the command of the army in Mexico was objectionable to Gen. Taylor, the New York Tribune makes the following statement;

"We learned from unquestionable sources that as early as August last, letters were received at Washington from confidential friends of Gen. Taylor, some of them indeed in his staff, stating the presence of Gen. Scott would be highly acceptable to him; and this fact we believe was known to the war department before Gen. Scott was assigned to the command.

"We hope, therefore, that no attempt will be made to create unpleasant feelings among the friends the friends of two brave soldiers, who have long been, and still are, on terms of intimate friendship, and are ready to cooperate with each other in the faithful discharge of their respective duties."

January 14, 1847, MG47v47n46p3c2 Words: 236

UNITED STATES ARMY

Recruiting Service-----Wanted, for the United States Army, able bodied men between the ages of 18 and 35 years, being above 5feet 3 inches high, of good character, and of respectable standing among their fellow citizens-----None need apply to enter the service but those who are determined to serve the period of their enlistment honestly and faithfully “during the war” with Mexico.

Beside the monthly pay, one ration per day is allowed every soldier, which is amply sufficient for his subsistence: also, a large supply of comfortable and genteel clothing. Good quarters and fuel are at all times furnished; and every attention will be paid to making those men who may enlist, and are determined to serve their country in good faith, comfortable and contented with their situation. The best medical attendants is always provided for the sick soldier; and no deduction of pay is made during the period he is unable to perform his duty. Should the soldier be disabled in the line of his duty, the laws provide a pension for him.

The sum of two dollars will be paid to any citizen who shall bring to the rendezvous and able bodied recruit, and who shall be regularly enlisted. The citizen should present his recruit to the Lieutenant or Capital, and not to the Recruiting Sargent.

P. H. Galt
Capt. U. S. Artillery
Recruiting Officer

Martinsburg, Va.
Recruiting Rendezvous
Jan. 14, 1847—
The New York Courier, in the course of an article on the war, says that the whole disposable effective force under Gen. Taylor is reduced to 7,000; and that the volunteers now assembling can increase it to only 15,000; a number with which the Administration hope to march into the heart of Mexico, in presence of Santa Anna’s army of 30 or 35,000 men, and the natural obstacles of the country! Surely such an attempt must be madness. The Courier then goes on to remark: "The season for active operations is rapidly passing away; and yet if the Executive and Congress would act with energy, sufficient time remains to assemble an army of from 40 to 50,000 men at Vera Cruz by the first of April, who could pass into the interior and away from the sea coast, before the sickly season commences. To accomplish this, let the volunteer system be abandoned, as exceedingly expensive and very ineffective; and in lieu thereof, let Congress at once authorize the raising of 30,000 regular troops.------Let them offer a bounty of $100 each, and pay each soldier $12 per month and 160 acres of land at the termination of the war.------and the whole number could and would be raised in less than 30 days; certainly in less time than the same number of Volunteers could be raised under existing inducements.”

The Courier states further that the war has already cost double the sum which it would have cost, had we resorted at once to regular troops; that the loss of life in this war has probably exceeded the loss of life in the War of 1812; and that there can be no doubt but we have lost twice the number by disease and private broils! To demonstrate our relative loss in action, now and in the War of 1812, the Courier gives a table of the number of men killed and wounded in the different actions during the last war. In summary more men have already died in this war.

Proceedings in Congress

The aspect of public affairs says the Baltimore American, just now, is calculated to fix the public attention with peculiar interest upon the doings of Congress. A point has apparently been reached at which all parties seem disposed to pause and to seek the shelter of inaction for a while, lest any further step might lead to unknown consequences.

In the absence of a controlling mind at the head of government, the elements of the political sphere are tending toward confusion. There is uncertainty everywhere. The definite purposes of the war policy are not known; the prosecution of the war itself is marked by irresolution and inefficiency; the President, by his reserve, by his want of frank and open dealing with Congress, has lost the confidence of that body; and along with all these causes of embarrassment there are certain grave issues of a domestic nature beginning to assume an imposing prominence in the political affairs of the country. We quote two passages from the proceeding of Congress on Thursday------------------the first extract being the remarks of a Wig Senator; the other from a speech of a friend of administration in the house. The two quotations relate to two of the main subjects of perplexity which now involve the deliberations of Congress. We copy from the National Intelligence’s report of the debate in the Senate on Mr. Benton’s proposition:

"Mr. Crittenden continued. If it were purposed, he said, to carry on this war for any length of time, he though it would be far better to increase the army by enlistments than to make sudden and frequent calls for volunteers. He thought that the necessity of the case required that they should carry on the war vigorously. His sentiments in relation to the war itself were well known and need not be repeated. He regretted the war, he deplored it, and wanted to see it ended, and he should vote for such manners as seemed best calculated to effect this object than to prosecute the war with vigor.------And so long as he remains of this opinion he should be ready to vote for the supply of adequate means for its vigorous prosecution. He has heard other modes suggested, one of which was that our army should fall back and take a position on such a boundary as his government intended to adhere to, and leave the Mexicans to act on the offensive and to prosecute the war against us or not, at their option. He wished he could believe that this mode was the one which was the most likely to bring the war to a speedy and honorable conclusion. And, in his opinion, according to the best view that he could take of the subject, there were no means better calculated to effect this object than to prosecute the war with vigor.------And so long as he remains of this opinion he should be ready to vote for the supply of adequate means for its vigorous prosecution. He has heard other modes suggested, one of which was that our army should fall back and take a position on such a boundary as his government intended to adhere to, and leave the Mexicans to act on the offensive and to prosecute the war against us or not, at their option. He wished he could believe that this mode was the one which was the most likely to bring the war to a speedy and satisfactory conclusion. But if they adopt this course he feared that they would be totally at a loss to know when the war was ended. It was the sword only that could put an end to it; if they were to cease from active operations they would be obliged to stand with arms in their hands, ready at all times to meet any attack which the enemy chose to make; and it seemed to him that a war carried on in this lingering sort of way would lead to the worst results, as regards considerations of humanity, or any other. He would be obliged to any gentleman who would convince him that there was any other mode more humane, more economical of expenditures, of bringing it to a close, but until convinced that there was such a mode, and believing that their only alternative was to bring it to an end by a vigorous prosecution of the war, however deplorable the consequences, he was ready to vote for such measures as tended to promote a vigorous prosecution of the war."

The next extract is from a speech of Mr. Grover, of New York, who belongs to the party of the Administration in the House of Representatives. In reference to the proviso that Slavery should not be admitted in any territory that might be obtained from Mexico, he said:
"There was another reason why the proviso should have been introduced at that time. It had been published through all the North that the result of this Mexican War would be the extension of the area of slavery. The charge had been iterated and reiterated through all that region, that this was a war of the Administration, got up by the South for the very purpose of extending slavery: that conquests in Mexico would be pushed with a view to plant that institution where it did not then exist. Mr. G did not believe this; he could not, he would not believe it. He could not bring himself to believe that there was a single representative on the floor who could for one moment cherish the purpose of using the power of this Confederacy to convert territory, til then free, into slave territory. But he wanted some public legislative declaration in order to satisfy the Northern mind.

"The people of the North felt in doubt whether they should support the war; for though they thought it just in itself, yet they were not willing to engage even in a just war, if it was to be made the instrument for extending the institution of slavery. The Northern mind required, he thought, to be disabused. He therefore said to his friends, give us a declaratory resolution that you have no such design or object in view and that it shall not be done.--------And what had been the result? The Capital South to make such a declaration was giving aid to the enemy, and embarrassing the war. But he appealed to the great Northern heart--------that heart that throbbed in the breast of all the people of that portion of the Union, to say whether such a charge was just. They were willing to bear their arm in the cause of their country; they were ready to furnish both men and means to fight her battles; but they could not engage cordially, if they could not go into the contest with all their soul, if consequences were to attach to victory which they most deplored. Mr. G. sought the proviso in order that he might get a more thorough support for the war. His colleague had been willing to give the two millions asked for to get a peace, but he wanted to satisfy the North that there was no design in its application to extend the limits of slavery.

"Mr. Boyd, of Kentucky, here rose, and asked permission to put to the gentleman from New York an interrogatory.

"Mr. Grover assenting----

"Mr. Boyd wished to know whether that gentleman meant to say, and to act out the declaration, that he would not give men and means for this war unless the restriction should be adopted prohibiting slavery in the new territory?

"Mr. Grover replied that he had never said so, nor did he design to say so. He would give his views very frankly on that question. It was to him immaterial what the South might do, the North were prepared to support, and they would support this war, even without the adoption of that restriction. He thought it inappropriate to make it the condition of a bill to raise troops; but in a bill of the character of that which had been introduced defer of the South, and "her peculiar institutions"--------Mr. Perry of In. followed and made a much more able speech upon this subject than I thought he was capable of--------Mr. Hemline, of Me., supported him, and laid down emphatically to the South what the North meant to do, and stand by, and declared that the North had no disposition to interfere with the existing institutions of the South, but they were unalterably determined that not another inch of territory should be added to the Union in which slavery should exist. Mr. Leake, of Va., and Mr. Bowden of Ala. made warm Southern speeches. Several other speakers participated, mainly however, of the Loco Foco party --------showing most conclusively the love and harmony existing between the wings of the party. Mr. Preston King is daily trying to get his Two Million Bill with the Wihnot proviso before the house, and if he succeeds, you may expect the most excited debate that has occurred for years in Congress. The fact is, I look forward with most fearful forbodings to the agitation of this slave question in Congress, I fear if the union of these states is ever dashed to pieces, it will be against this rock. Such is the evil effect of extension of territory. Here now is the opening of the drama of annexing Texas to this union. It shows the thirst for more, when we have more than enough.

If the object of the Administration be conquest, the curses of the country will be upon them. For my part, I think Mexico has done my country wrong, and I am for making her suffer for it. The war exists, and I am forgiving the government men and money in any necessary amount to prosecute it vigorously and bring it to a close-------but I am opposed to annexing Mexican Territory to this Union or, taking it in permanent satisfaction of our claims against Mexican or the expenses of the war. The moment she is willing to do us justice, and give us security for her faithful discharge of duty, I would recall our troops from her borders and restore her possessions.

Our boundaries are wide enough, let us return to the paths of peace and be content with what we have, and not lascattering our already sparse population – concentrate then upon our own soil – fill up our own States and Territories and spread the various branches of enlightened and improved industry throughout the land – in that way, the United States will become prosperous and great, and take a higher stand among the nations of the Earth, than if she were enabled to clutch the whole territory of Mexico within her grasp.

Let the Union stand as it is – and all parties will be willing to stand upon the compromises upon which it rests – otherwise, and a dark, deep and bloody day perhaps will come upon us. Mr. Thurman started to rue a new point in his speech – it is worthy of discussion, and I will look into it. It is that a State which has been admitted into the Union by Congress with a provision in her Constitution prohibiting Slavery or involuntary servitude, can, after her admission, if she chooses, alter her Constitution and turn herself into a Slave State.
VERY LATE FROM THE GULF OF MEXICO

From the National Intelligencer

The U.S. ?? frigate Mississippi, H. A. Adams, commander, arrived at Norfolk Wednesday morning, having on board Com. M. C. Perry. She left Anton Lizzrdo on the 25th December, and touched at Havana for coal and water.

Comd. Perry arrived in the city yesterday, accompanied by Lieut. Contre, also of the Mississippi, for whom we are indebted for the following information, and for Havana papers:

"On the 20th December, Com. Perry, with the Mississippi, Vixen, Bonita, and Petrel, took possession of Laguna and destroyed the guns and munitions of war found in the forts and town. Commander Sands, with the Vixen and Petrel, was left in charge of the place, and the Bonita was left to assist in holding Frontera and the mouth of the Tobasco river, - Off Alvarado, the Mississippi captured a Mexican schooner, the Amalio, and sent her to New Orleans for adjudication.

"The Mississippi came home for some necessary repairs to her machinery. As soon as she can be completed, she will return to the Gulf of Mexico, ready to assist in any operation contemplated against the enemy.

"Purser A. D. Crossly, of the Mississippi, was killed by falling from aloft on board the Vixen, which vessel he was assisting to pilot over the bar at Laguna, on the occasion of the attack on that place."

From Havana papers of the 7th of this month we learned that on the 3rd of December was published at Mexico a decree of the constituent Congress declaring the election of Capgen. Antino Lopez ded Santa Anna to be provisional President of the Republic, and of Valentin Gomaz Farias to be provisional Vice President of the Republic. In consequence of the absence of the President, and in accordance with the decree of the Congress, the Vice President had assumed the duties of acting President, and taken the oath of office.

The government had recognized as capital agent of Great Britain at San Luis de Potosi during the war with the United States, Senior Juan Davies. Don Valentin Camalieo had been appointed Minister of War and Marine of Mexico.

The subjoined paragraph the only one of any consequence besides those which state the above facts, would seem to authorize an apprehension that the reported advance of Santa Anna upon Saltillo was in reality a movement towards Tampico, were it not that we have ourselves received letters from Tampico of as late date as the 23rd of December, when everything was quiet; which could have hardly been the case had the movement of the body of 5,000 men been in the direction stated in the following paragraph:

From the Vera Cruz Locomotor of the 14th

"We learned by the express of last night tht a division consisting of 5,000 men of all arms moved from San Luis in the direction of Tula with a view to intercept a passage of the enemy who will march their forces by this route in order to place themselves in communication with Tampico."

[HCH]

January 21, 1847, MG47v47n47p2c6 Words: 1020

Latest from Monterey, &c

Report of Santa Anna’s Advance Contradicted

Return of General Taylor toward Victoria

Junction of Forces under Generals Worth and Wool, &c. &c.

The U.S. Steamer Alabama arrived at New Orleans, on the 6th instant, from Brasos Santiago, which place she left on the 3rd. Among her passengers are General Jesup and Staff and thirty others in the cabin, and two hundred and forty sick and discharged soldiers.

The most important item of intelligence by this arrival is, that all idea of an immediate engagement has passed over--------the report of the advance of Santa Anna upon Saltillo being unfounded. The New Orleans Times has the following explanation of the origin of the report, and the movements consequent upon it: General Worth on the 16th ultimo received information from two scouts that the Mexican General and Chief had left San Luis de Potosi, at the head of a body of 15,000 cavalry, with the intention to fall on the American Division at Saltillo, which he imagined he could easily crush. After this, he proposed attacking Gen. Wool, and, if similar success attended him to repair to Monterey and capture or destroy the magazines in public stores which lay there. General Worth, without attaching more importance to the report than it seemed to merit, for with dispatched expresses to General Taylor, Wool, and
Butler, acquainting them with what he had heard, leaving it entirely to them to act in the premises. The express over took General Taylor a short distance from Monterey on the route to Victoria. He immediately returned to his old encamping ground near Monterey, with the whole of this division, and then waited further advices. After remaining three days, during which he received information of the improbability of the report of Santa Anna’s advance, he again took up the line of march and proceeded (on the 23rd) onward to Victoria. Meanwhile, Gen. Wool, who had been informed of the rumor current at Saltillo, called in all of his detached commands, and at the head of his division, 3,000 strong, quitted Parras on the 18th ultimo, and, by arrangements previously made, was to enter Saltillo on the 23rd of Furthest, pushing forward with all practical speed. General Butler had previously reached Saltillo from Monterey. During this time the intelligence of the reported advance of Santa Anna had reached other more distant points of the line of occupation, and troops, already under orders to march toward Monterey, hastened their progress onward. It appears that Generals Taylor and Worth, on mature reflection, readily discovered the improbability of the report of Santa Anna’s advance on and near proximity to Saltillo, from the following facts: 1st. The distance between San Luis de Potosi and Saltillo was too great to admit of the possibility of the march of so large a body as 15,000 men, without timely notice to the American General to preoare for his reception. 2dly. The ground between the two cities is exceedingly bare of vetrude, or other means of sustenance for man or beast---------ninety miles of which as is well known, being an arid desert, divert of fountain, running stream, or any other source of water, besides affording not the least chance of getting food or fodder being almost uninhabited throughout its wide extent. The report of the Mexican scouts, however is said to have been corroborated by information received at Saltillo, in a letter from an English merchant at San Luis de Potosi, who stated that Santa Anna had positively at the head of a numerous body of cavalry. Even now in those parts of Mexico occupied by our troops it is admitted that Santa Anna is out with a considerable mounted force, but with objects far different from those attributed to him by the scouts.

For much of the above information we are indebted to Major Butler, Paymaster U.S. Army, attached to the division of General Wool, who visits the city on business. Major B. left Parras on the 17th ultimo, where General Wool’s division lay. He states that he troops were in excellent health and spirits, no casualty of moment having occurred for sometime. The inhabitants of the country which the troops has traversed from San Antonio, had manifested the greatest good feeling towards the Americans not a symptom of that hostility which the population of the valley of the Rio Grande had so frequently exhibited, had been observed.

We have been favored with the following extract of a letter, from an officer in the Army dated Brazos Island, January 3, 1847: "The news from Saltillo has dispelled the anxiety created by the reports from that vicinity in reference to the approach of Santa Anna in force.

"General Taylor received General Worth’s express on his route South, retracted his steps, and had advanced with a portion of his troops toward Saltillo, when he was notified by General Worth that General Santa Anna who was still at San Luis de Potosi, and that he (Worth) had been deceived by small parties of the enemy. General Taylor there upon promptly resumed his march for Victoria.

"General Scott and staff are at Camargo. It is not probable will go beyond that depot, but will return to this place and proceed to Tampico. There is no mystery in the General’s bearing and movements, but much discretion."

The subjoined paragraph we copy from the New Orleans Tropic: Remains of the valiant dead.---------Lieut. Mills brought over in the Alabama the remains of the lamented officers whose names are given below:

Col. Watson, Capt. Ridgely, Lieut. R.H. Graham, late of the 4th Regiment of Infantry; Herman Thomas, of the Texan Rangers; and George W. Pearson of the Washington and Baltimore Lattison. The remains of Capt. Holmes, of Georgia, and Capt. Gillespie, of the Texan Rangers, were also brought up in the Alabama. Sudden death.---------Lieut. Botle, of the Washington Volunteers, were found dead in his berth on board the Alabama yesterday morning. His berth was in the same stateroom in which Lieut. Mills slept, but the later knew nothing of the sickness of his roommate. He was found dead in the morning, and is supposed to have died of apoplexy. From Tampico the dates are of the 30th ultimo, at which time all remained quiet there.

[CHC]

January 21, 1847, MG47v47n47p3c1 Words: 118

Gen. Taylor enjoys the glory of having conquered the Northern Indians at Fort Harrison. He enjoys the glory of having conquered the Southern Indians on the Withlucooche. He enjoys the glory of having conquered the Mexicans on the immortal fields of Palo Alto Resaca de la Palma and Monterey. He enjoys the glory of exhibiting a moderation, a majesty, and a magnanimity in the hour of victory equal to his transcendant coolness and skill and courage in the hour of conflict. But alas for the unfortunate old hero, he does not enjoy the honor of an approving mention in James K. Polk’s message to Congress!!!------Wanting this glory, what are all his other blended glories worth.------Louisville Journal

[CHC]

January 28, 1847, MG47v47n48p1c6 Words: 135
The War Balloon

Mr. Wise, the aeronaut, has published another communication relative to the balloon which is to be the means of battering down the walls of San Juan de' Bloa, and of utterly demolishing the city of Mexico. He proposes to construct a balloon one hundred feet in diameter capable of containing 32,715 pounds which he thinks will leave a net power of 20,842 pounds for the missels, bombs, &c. The car is to be in the shape of a cone, and a maneuvering rope is to be supported by Bury Balloons which Mr. Wise says would answer the purpose for sentry stations. The shape of the car would cause the shot that might hit it to glance off, but how the balloon is to be made shot proof, it is not clearly explained.

No Whiskers Under General Worth

A correspondent from the Delta writes from Monterey: Gen. Worth has issued an order in Saltillo, that all soldiers under his command must appear at the next dress parade without whiskers. Many a face that has not come in contact with a razor for months, must now come to the scratch. ------The barbers of Saltillo, no doubt think it a very judicious order. Captain Blanchard, being a volunteer, and cher aini of Worth's, was at first excused from the general shearing but was like to raise a mutiny, and, with tears in his eyes sat down to the operation.

Victory or Death------- A story is told of a worthy lad from "old Edgefield, " Mass., who was recently doubting whether or not he should volunteer for Mexico. One of the flags waving in his eyes somewhat discouraged him. "Victory is a good thing," said he, "but why put Victory or Death. Put it Victory or Cripple," said he, "and I'll go that!"

Will there be a peace?

There seems to be a general desire pervading our country to bring about a speedy peace with Mexico, but how to get about the matter seems to be a more difficult point. It will be seen that Mr. Cilly of New Hampshire has introduced a resolution into the Senate of the United States requesting the President of the United States "to order the Army of the United States now in Mexico to someplace in the United States near he frontiers of the two countries." We do not know at this moment what will be the fate of this resolution, but we cannot imagine for one instant that it will be adopted. It is thought were this course adopted, a Mexican Government would at once consent to treat for a peace, but they will no consider honorable any offer of peace which is not accompanied by the withdrawal of our troops from their territory. The "Journal of Commerce" of New York has been furnished with copious extracts of letters from "a distinguished source" in Mexico to a gentleman of that city, which clearly make the withdrawal of our troops the "sine qua non" of any negotiation upon the subject. Gen. Almonty, well known as the Minister near this government during the Texas Annexation schemes, and who demanded his passports and went home upon its consummation, is supposed to be the author of these letters, and their spirit are not all favorable to peace.------He is beyond all comparison the first Statesman in Mexico, and is very bitter against the United States-------not more so however than are the great majority of his countryman. He regards his country as the injured and aggrieved party, and if his letters are truly indicative of the determination, than indeed is a long and bloody war in Prosect before us-----

For we can hardly think our government or people now would ever consent to the withdrawal of our Army upon the mere promise of Mexico to treat for peace after that event. Such a step that would be giving the enemy more "aid and comfort" than has already been afforded her by the supply of Leaders and Generals given to er by the free passport of Mr. Polk. It has been rumored for some weeks past that Mr. Calhoun intended to introduce a proposition similar to the one brought forward by the Senator from New Hampshire. The "New York Courier" commenting upon this rumor holds the following language, which will be found quite interesting and, we therefore commend its views to the attention of our readers:------

It is stated in various quarters, and apparently with confidence, that Mr. Calhoun intends to purpose that the American Army be withdrawn to the Rio Grande, and the American Squadron removed from the Mexican port; and that in that attitude we await the action of the Mexican Government. We can conceive no good result which can possibly follow such a course. We have no evidence that Mexico would be any more willing to make peace then, than she is now. And we should certainly throw the means of enforcing her, and any degree, to come to a pacific decision. At present the war threatens o destroy her existence as an independent nation, or at any rate to break up the union by which her separate States are held together. The American Army holds possession of several of these departments, and is almost
certain to seize more. With every new step in the progress of the war, our Army gains a new hold upon Mexico and renders it still more necessary for her to bring about a peace. But if all those advantages were to be surrendered, peace would cease to be desirable, or at least essential, to her. If we were to withdraw all of our forces from her soil, and simply await her attack, she would lose all inducements to restore peace.

We cannot believe that such a policy could be for a moment entertained. It would be to put ourselves completely in her power, and to commit the whole matter of war and peace entirely to her discretion. The only ground, as far as we know, on which this course is urged in any quarter is that it would make the war on our part a defensive war, and thus relieve us from the imputation of aggression.-----But this, it seems to us, betrays a gross misconception of the nature of a defensive war. The character of war, in that respect, depends entirely upon its origin. If it was at the outset waged for aggressive purposes, then it is an aggressive war, no matter on whose soil it may be fought.

But if it was begun by Mexico, for the reconquest of Texas, or to drive our troops from territory claimed by the United States, then it is on our part a defensive war, and would be so, even were it carried to the gates of the Mexican capital. Most assuredly our war with England was not an aggressive war, on our part;-----yet we carried it into Canada: we sought to wage it on English soil. Napoleon carried his armies into every part of Europe and the allies dictated a peace in Paris, but were both these contending parties waging a war of aggression? That point is never to be determined by the method of carrying on the war, but solely by its origin-----or by the spirit which, during its progress, may become predominant.

The fact, therefore that we waged the war in Mexico, does not make it an aggressive war, unless we prosecute it for the purpose of conquering her territory, and not of redressing our wrongs, repelling her attacks, and rendering her unable to renew them. Our purpose is now to end the war. We have offered to do it by negotiation, but Mexico refuses. We must end it then by force. We must acquire a still stronger control over her than we now possess. We must again defeat her armies; seize upon more of her possessions; cripple still more of her ability to maintain the controversy. It may be that even in this way, we shall not succeed at once; but certainly, we cannot succeed at all in any other. It is the only way left open to us.

It is stated that Mr. Calhoun’s intended proposition will be supported by the Southern section of the Locofocos. This, we think, quite possible. We have no doubt they deprecate any further accession of territory, like that which is likely to accrue, as almost certain to weaken slavery, not as a domestic Southern institution, but as a political power, seeking supremacy in the National Council. Whatever may be the action of Congress up on the question, no one supposes that California can ever become a slave state. Its climate, soil, and general physical character will forever render this impossible. And the same fact hold true of other large portions of territory which may, at some future day, seek annexation to the American Union. And besides this, a strong disposition has been manifested in Congress, to prohibit by positive enactment, the extension of slavery to any future acquisition. It may be that Mr. Calhoun and his friends forsee the adoption of this measure; that way seek to avert the possible consequences, the accession of new free states, by preventing the accession of any. We hope the desir will not succeed; for we certainly regard the acquisition of California as a measure of the highest importance and necessary to the United States. Our commercial interest, our position and influence as the sovereign nation upon this continent and our prospective relation to the other nations of the earth, seem to us to clearly indicate the expediency of acquiring, by some equitable arrangement, possession of California.

The Wigs in Congress, we are confident, will not aid any such schemes as that suggested. Its promise of restoring peace is hollow and delusive; it would effectively deprive us of the power to enforce a peace; and its sole effort would be to protract endlessly a feeble relations and dishonorable war. The only way to end this war, is to fight it out. The message of the Mexican President in the doings of Congress which we published this morning, show conclusively that they will not make peace until forced to do so. The only thing then, that remains, is to force them there to as soon as possible. Let the War be vigorously and effectively waged. Let men enough, and money enough, be raised to destroy the very heart of the Mexican force;-----to cripple her strength and prostrate her hostility. It seems clear to us that in no other way can peace be restored.

[HCH]

January 28,1847, MG47v47n48p2c5 Words: 301

Latest from Mexico

The latest dates from New Orleans are from the 18th inst., from which we learn that Genl. Scott was at Brazos Santiago, and had sent an express to Genl. Taylor, that he would meet him in a few days at Tampico or Victoria. A report was in circulation that Gen. Quitman, with 2,000 volunteers had a battle with 13,000 Mexicans, under Gen. Urrea, two leagues North of Victoria. The report however does not gain credit. Our troops are said to be yet suffering with chills and fevers at every post. The Matamoros Flag says that Mr. Gillespie, one of the Texan Rangers who was taken prisoner at China is September last, and has been kept at San Luis Posi, has been released and returned to the American lines. He reports the Mexican force of that place at 27,000, with an additional force in the vicinity at 10,000. This large force was under constant drill, and many foreign officers engaged in the service. The troops were enthusiastic, healthy, and in a fine state of subordination. The above items we have culled from the Southern Mail; and by the Eastern Mail we have the annexed, which shows that the Mexicans are pretty hard up "for the sinews of war"-----Money--------.
Later dates from Mexico via Havana, have been received by the New York Sun and Express. They contain a communication from Santa Anna to the Mexican Congress demanding 8 millions of dollars for the purpose of carrying on the War, and he tells Congress unless the money is raised the country is lost.

Congress was in secret session, and it is said that a confiscation of church property was in contemplation. To this measure the clergy were, of course, violently opposed, threatening to excommunicate Congress, Santa Anna, Government, the Army, &c.

February

Thursday, February 4, 1847, MG47v47n49p1c5 Words: 136

FOUND OUT AT LAST.

"BRUTUS, " the Washington Correspondent of the Richmond Whig, suggests the following effectual plan of terminating the Mexican War and who doubts it?—for surely "BRUTUS" is an honorable man." He says:—

It is to send Mr. ROBERT J. WALKER to manage the Mexican Finances. If he manages their financial affairs and badly as he managed ours; if he enacts the Sub Treasury, and gets an Ad Valorem Tariff Bill passed, similar to that of 1846, it is supposed he would bring the Mexicans to terms in less than thirty days. I believe one of the Locofoco Senators has recommended this to Mr. POLK, as the best of way of crippling the Mexicans. Since Mr. POLK has furnished the Mexicans with a Commanding General, he might as well furnish them with a Secretary of the Sub Treasury.

Thursday, February 4, 1847, MG47v47n49p1c6 Words: 111

JERSEY GIRLS IN MEXICO. —When Gen. WOOL's command was approaching Saltillo, and were about three miles distant from the city, four young women habited in American dress, were seen standing by the road side.—Curiosity ran high to know who they were, and they received many a gallant salute as the troops passed them. At last an officer rode up to see who they were. They informed him that they were from New Jersey, and engaged in superintending the female operatives in a cotton and woolen factory hard by, and expressed, in the course of their conversation, a desire to hear again the old National Air of Yankee Doodle.—Newark Advertiser.

Thursday, February 4, 1847, MG47v47n49p2c2 Words: 629

Having failed to receive our Washington Correspondence this week, we avail ourselves of a letter to the Baltimore Sun, which gives the results of the long discussions which have been going on in the Houses of Congress upon the Army Bill, &c. &c., during the past week.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1st, 1847.

The military bill has at last passed the Senate with CORWIN'S and SIMMONS' amendments in regard to h[illegible]nty land scrips or United States 6 per cent stock for $100.

The consideration of the three million appropriation bill has been postponed in the House for the purpose of giving the Senate the initiative, and Mr. CALHOUN an opportunity of defining his position. He will undoubtedly seize that opportunity on making his great speech of the session, and proposing his plan for conquering a speedy peace.

Simultaneously with this movement a new paper is about to make its appearance on Monday next. It will advocate conservative principles—and form a sort of [illegible] milieu, of Doctrinaire party, between the extreme left and right side of the House. The moderate whigs ad conservative democrats will be its principle supporters. Gen. [illegible] GREEN, the editor in chief. Prospectus will be out in a day or two. The paper will, of course, hold a middleground between the Intelligencer and the Union; or rather be in opposition to both of them. From the know ability of [illegible] GREEN, little doubt can exist but that it will prove an efficient in the advocacy of moderate principles. He will be anti-abolition, anti-war, moderate tariff and moderation and measure in everything.

The rumors that the Mexican Congress has sent a message to Gen TAYLOR, that they will receive a minister from the United States, and that a distinct proposition for peace has been made seems to be correct, but I doubt whether in the present state of affairs it will lead to anything. At all events the friends of the administration treat the rumored proposal with great disdain, and the partizans of the Lieut. General have a perfect contempt for it. They believe that nothing but action can secure peace, and that the Mexican government only seeks to gain time, now they perceive that
earnest preparations are making for investing Vera Cruz.

The resolutions of praise and censure on Gen. TAYLOR, introduced in the House on Saturday last, passed the House today, but were, in the Senate, laid on the table. They will never pass that body in the shape in which they came from the House. The way to carry out the views of the House would be to [illegible] a Gold medal for Gen. TAYLOR, bearing on one side the inscription, “This is for Monterey,” and on the back of it, “This is not for Monterey.” The General would then have the option of looking on whichever side he pleased, and so would the country. I see no other way of settling the difficulty.

[The Lieutenant General [unreadable] certainly not given up by the President, and still less by the Lieutenant General himself. The [unreadable] in the House on the resolution to regard to Gen. TAYLOR is a clear index to the same; and it is pretty generally believed that a bill for the creation of the office will now pass the House by a respectable majority. It depends now solely on Mr. CALHOUN and his friends in the Senate whether we shall yet see Col. BENTON in the field. All concede to him freely great [unreadable] of character [unreadable] and will—three [unreadable] for a great General. It remains to be seen whether twenty-seven years’ hard work in the Senate of the United States have at all impaired his military qualities.

In the House [unreadable] was talking on Nativism with no one listening. X.

Thursday, February 4, 1847, MG47v47n49p2c2 Words: 156

GEN. TAYLOR’S LETTER.

We refer our reader’s attention to Gen. TAYLOR’s letter which will be found in our columns this week. It will speak for itself. There is much speculation afloat, as to the [illegible] to whom this letter was addressed, and by which publication was caused. Gen GAINES is supposed to be the person who has brought this letter to light, but we can see nothing in any of the articles which have come under our eyes which makes it “a fixed fact” that he is the responsible individual. It matters not, however, as far as the public is concerned, who had it published, --it is now done, and must be judged of according to its merits. Respectfully vindicates Gen. TAYLOR very triumphantly from any of the blunders of the Mexican War. He certainly has the confidence of the country, and any attacks made up on him in Congress will only recoil with redoubled force upon their authors.

[HCH]

Thursday, February 4, 1847, MG47v47n49p2c4 Words: 375

THE EXECUTIVE AND THE ARMY.—The National Intelligencer, of the 30th ult., says: We are among those who have been slow to believe, though it has been frequently charged, that animosity was cherished by the administration towards General TAYLOR, because we could not conceive any motives even of party policy, for such hostility against a citizen who has unquestionably rendered distinguished service to his country, and entrenched himself thereby safely in the public esteem. But it cannot be doubted, considering the recency of the publication of the Letter of Gen. TAYLOR, that the “General Order” publishe in our columns to day [see it below] has direct reference to that officer.

How many hundreds of unofficial letters from officers of the Army, of every grade, up to that of Gen. TAYLOR, have been published all over the country within the last year, without calling forth any rebuke from the Executive! So far from it, have not many of such letters been published, without a lisp of disapproval, in the newspaper in this city which is the recognised organ of the Government; published not only without any expression of dissatisfaction, but, on the contrary, with high commendations? As late as in that paper of yesterday morning we find precisely such a letter from “an officer of Gen. WOOL’s command.” We do not say that the Regulation which has been thus waked up from a sleep of more than twenty years—which has been in fact disused so long as to become obsolete—may not be in itself as a general rule a proper one. But we do say that as it has not been heretofore considered as an order to be strictly observed; in proof of which many instances can be remembered in which it has not been regarded, nor has the departure from from it been visited with any reproof, much less with such a public rebuke as that conveyed in the revival and republication, obviously with that intent, of the Regulation of 1825.

The effect, besides, of the promulgation of the order at the present particular moment, is that of ex post facto legislation; a proceeding directly against the spirit of liberty, and so recognised by the organic law of the Republic.

[HCH]

Thursday, February 4, 1847, MG47v47n49p2c4 Words: 268

ARMY GENERAL ORDER.
The following regulations have been received from the War Department:

WAR DEPARTMENT.

WASHINGTON, January 27, 1847.

The President of the United States directs that paragraph 650 of the General Regulations for the Army, established on the 1st of March, 1825, and not included among those published January 25, 1841, be now republished, and that its observance as a part of the General Regulations be strictly enjoined upon the Army. By order of the President,

W. L. MARCY, Sect. Of War.

The following is the paragraph of the General Regulations for the Army established on the 1st of March, 1825, referred to above:

"650. Private letters or reports relative to military marches and operations are frequently mischievous in design, and always disgraceful to the army. They are therefore strictly forbidden; and any officer found guilty of making such report for publication, without special permission, or of placing the writing beyond his control, so that it finds its way to the press within one month after the termination of the campaign to which it relates, shall be dismissed from the service."

By order

W. G. FREEMAN,

Assistant Adjutant General.

The following announcement is made in the Washington Fountain of Jan. 29th:

To the Editor of the Washington Fountain:

SIR—We respectfully submit to the consideration of the Whig National Nominating Convention, and of the American People, without respect to party, the illustrious name of

MAJOR GENERAL

ZACHARY TAYLOR,

OF LOUISIANA

THE HERO OF THE RIO GRANDE,

AS A CANDIDATE FOR THE NEXT

PRESIDENCY OF THE UNITED STATES.

MANY MEMBERS

of the Senate and House of Representatives.

Washington, Jan. 28, 1847.

[CH]

Thursday, February 4, 1847, MG47v47n49p2c4 Words: 226

THE "POOR MAN'S SHIRT."—Many crocodile tears were shed by the Locofocos over the exorbitant sum which the poor man was compelled to pay for his shirt, under the 400 per cent tariff of 1842. Well, the tariff of 1846 reduces the duty on coarse cottons—and what do we hear? The Boston Post, a Locofoco paper, says:

"It is stated that cotton goods have risen very much in price recently. Amoskeag sheetings, which a few weeks since were sold by the agents at 8 cents, are now up to 8 ½; last year at this time the same quality stood at 7 cents. Within a short time tickings and denims have advanced ½ to 1 cent per yard.—Prints, such as have lately been bought from 4 to 4 ½ cents, are selling by the case for 5 ½.—Colored cambries have advanced ½ to 1 cent. Wollen, linen and rubber goods are advancing."
What will sympathizers with the "poor man" and his "shirt" say to this? What becomes of the axiom that low duties make low prices? How will Secretary WALKER maintain his assertion, that the duty is as much a part of the price as the cost of production?—In one word, how can the Free Trade theory be vindicated, in the teeth of an unvarying current of facts like these?—Rich. Whig.

[HCH]

Thursday, February 4, 1847, MG47v47n49p2c4 Words: 114

SENATOR CORWIN.—The Louisville Journal, referring to the slanderers of "Old Rough and Ready" in the House of Representatives, speaks as follows of Senator CORWIN:

We almost wish that CORWIN occupied a seat in the House instead of the Senate at the present time, that he might overwhelm such detractors of Gen. TAYLOR's [illegible] FICKLIN of Ill., and THOMPSON of Miss., as he did the Michigan [illegible]. One speech from him would most effectually dam up the current of Loco Foco slander now directed at Gen. TAYLOR, and would cause the slanderers to wash themselves in the hands of Mexicans or savages rather than in those of the gallant and gifted member from Ohio.

[HCH]

Thursday, February 4, 1847, MG47v47n49p2c5-6 Words: 2302

"ROUGH AND READY."

LETTER FROM GENERAL TAYLOR.

We lay before our readers the following letter, which tells its own story too well to need any comment. It is not just, however, to its heroic writer, whose courage and judgment are equaled only by his honesty and modesty, to state that it was written to a near friend and relative, now resident in this city, endeared to him by very many years of personal intimacy, to whom he [illegible] all his purposes, opinions and feelings, without the least reserve.—This friend would not have taken the liberty of making public a communication of this nature, did not the recent manifestations of the envious malignity of the Administration and its servants and friends towards the man who alone has saved them and the country from the consequences of their rashness, ignorance and incapacity, make it necessary and just that the object of their base detraction should, at this critical moment, be heard in his own defence, by the whole people, in his own simple and honest language.

We have more of this sort to communicate, and shall soon be able to show that, in his defence against his own secret personal enemies and selfish detractors, as well as against the armed enemies of his country, the old hero of the Rio Grande is ever "ROUGH AND READY."

--N. Y. Express.

Hd. Qrs. Army of Occupation, or Invasion
Monterey, Mexico, Nov. 9, 1846

My dear * * * * * *

Your very kind and acceptable letter of the 31st of August, * * * * * * reached me only a short time since, for which I beg leave to tender to you my sincere thanks. [A few confidential remarks on certain public transactions are here omitted.]

After considerable apparent delay on the part of the Qr. Master's Department, in getting steamboats into the Rio Grande adapted to its navigation, I succeeded, towards the latter part of August, in throwing forward to Camargo, (a town situated on the San Juan river, three miles from its junction with the Rio Grande, on the west side, nearly 500 from Brazos Island by water and 200 by land, and 140 from this place,) a considerable depot of provisions, ordinance, ammunition and forage, and then, having brought together an important portion of my command, I determined on moving on this place. Accordingly, after collecting 1700 pack-mules, with their attendants and conductors in the enemy's country, (the principal means of transportation for our provisions, baggage, &c.,) I left on the 5th of September, to join my advance, which had preceded me a few days to Serralvo, a small village 75 miles on the route, which I did on the 9th, and, after waiting there a few days for some of the corps to get up, moved on and reached here on the 19th, with 6250 men, --2700 regulars and the balance volunteers. For what took place afterwards, I must refer you to my several reports, --particularly to my detailed one of the 9th ult. I do not believe the authorities at Washington are at all satisfied with my conduct in regard to the terms of capitulation entered into with the Mexican commander, which you no doubt have seen, as they have been made public through the official organ, and copied into various other newspapers. I have this moment received an answer (to my despatch announcing the surrender of Monterey, and the circumstances attending the same,) from the Secretary of War, stating that "it was regretted by the President that it was not deemed advisable to insist on the terms I had proposed in my first communication to the
The proposition on the part of Gen. AMPUDIA, which had much to do in determining my course in the matter, was based on the ground that our Government had proposed to his to settle the existing difficulties by negotiation, (which I knew was the case, without knowing the result,) which was then under consideration by the proper authorities, and which he (Gen. AMPUDIA,) had no doubt would result favorably, as the whole of his people were in favor of peace. If so, I considered the further effusion of blood not only unnecessary, but improper. Their force was also considerably larger than ours; and from the size and position of the place, we could not completely invest it; so that the greater portion of their troops, if not the whole, had they been disposed to do so, any night, have abandoned the city, at once entered the mountain passes, and effected their retreat, --do what we could! Had we been put to the alternative of taking the place by storm, (which there is no doubt we would have succeeded in doing,) we should, in all probability, have lost fifty or one hundred men in killed, besides the wounded, --which I wished to avoid, as there appeared to be a prospect of peace, even if a distant one. I also wished to avoid the destruction of women and children, which must have been very great, had the storming process been resorted to. Besides, they had a very large and strong fortification, a short distance from the city, which, if carried with the bayonet, must have been taken at great sacrifice of life; and, with our limited train of heavy or battering artillery, it would have required twenty or twenty-five days to take it by regular approaches.

That they should have surrendered a place nearly as strong as Quebec, well fortified under the direction of skilful engineers, --their works garnished with forty-two pieces of artillery, abundantly supplied with ammunition, garrisoned by 7000 regular and 2000 irregular troops, in addition to some thousand citizens capable of, (an no doubt actually) bearing arms, and aiding in its defence, --to an opposing force of half their number, scantily supplied with provisions, and with a light train of artillery, --is among the uncountable occurrences of the times.

I am decidedly opposed to carrying the war beyond Saltillo in this direction, which place has been entirely abandoned by the Mexican forces, all of whom have been concentrated at San Luis Potosi; and I shall lose no time in taking possession of the former, as soon as the cessation of hostilities referred to expires, --which I have notified the Mexican authorities will be the case on the 18 inst., by direction of the President of the United States.

If we are (in the language of Mr. POLK and Gen. SCOTT) under the necessity of "conquering a peace, " and that by taking the capital of the country, --we must go to Vera Cruz, take that place, and then march on the city of Mexico. To do so in any other direction, I consider out of the question. But admitting that we conquer a peace by doing so, --say, at the end of the next twelve months—will the amount of blood and treasure, which must be expended in doing so, be compensated by the same?  I think not, --especially, if the country we subdue is to be given up; and I imagine there are but few individuals in our country who think of annexing Mexico to the United States.

I do not intend to carry on my operations (as previously stated) beyond Saltillo, --deeming it next to impracticable to do so. It then becomes a question as to what is best to be done. It seems to me, the most judicious course to be pursued on our part, would be to take possession at once, of the line we would accept by negotiation, extending from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific, and occupy the same, or keep what we already have possession of; and that with Tampico, (which I hope to take in the course of the next month, or as soon as I can get the means of transportation) will give us all on this side of the Sierra Madre, and as soon as I occupy Saltillo, will include six or seven States or Provinces, thus holding Tampico, Victoria, Monterey, Saltillo, Monclova, Chihuahua, (which I presume Gen. WOOL has possession of by this time) Santa Fe and the California, and say to Mexico, "Drive us from the country!"—throwing on her the responsibility and expense of carrying on offensive war—at the same time closely blockading all her ports on the Pacific and the Gulf. A course of this kind, if persevered in for a short time, would soon bring her to her proper senses, and compel her to sue for peace—provided there is a Government in the country sufficiently stable for us to treat with, which I fear will hardly be the case for many years to come. Without large reinforcements of volunteers from the United States—say ten or fifteen thousand, (those previously sent out having already been greatly reduced by sickness and other casualties) I do not believe it would be advisable to march beyond Saltillo, which is more than 200 miles beyond our depots on the Rio Grande—a very long line on which to keep up supplies (over a land route in a country like this) for a large force, and certain to be attended with an expense which it will be frightful to contemplate, when closely looked into.

From Saltillo to San Louis Potosi, the next place of importance on the road to the city of Mexico, is three hundred miles—one hundred and forty badly watered, where no supplies of any kind could be produced for men or horses. I have informed the War Department that 20,000 efficient men would be necessary to insure success if we move on that place—(a city containing a population of 60,000, where the enemy could bring together and sustain besides the citizens, an army of 50,000) a force which I apprehend will hardly be collected by us with the train necessary to lead it as well as to transport various other supplies, particularly ordnance and munitions of war.

In regard to the armistice, which would have expired by limitation in a few days, we lost nothing by it, as we could not move even now, had the enemy continued to occupy Saltillo; for, strange to say, the first wagon which has reached me since the declaration of war was on the 2d inst., the same day on which I received from Washington an acknowledgement of my despatch announcing the taking of Monterey; and then I received only 125, so that I have been, since May last, completely crippled, and am still so, for want of transportation. After raking and scraping the country for miles around Camargo, collecting every pack-mule and other means of transportation, I could bring here but 80,000 rations, (fifteen day’s supply,) with a moderate supply of ordnance, ammunition, &c., to do which, all he corps had to leave behind a portion of their camp equipage necessary for their comfort, and, in some instances, among
the volunteers, their personal baggage. I moved in such a way, and with such limited means, that, had I not succeeded, I should no doubt have been severely reprimanded, if nothing worse. I did so to sustain the Administration.

Of the two regiments of mounted men from Tennessee and Kentucky, who left their respective States to join me in June, the latter has just reached Camargo; the former had not got to Matamoras at the latest dates from there. Admitting that they will be as long in returning as in getting here, (to say nothing of the time necessary to recruit their horses) and were to be discharged in time to reach their homes, they could serve in Mexico but a very short time. The foregoing remarks are not made with the view of finding fault with any one, but to point out the difficulties with which I have had to contend.

Monterey, the capital of New Leon, is situated on the San Juan River, where it comes out of the mountains, --the city (which contains a population of about twelve thousand) being in part surrounded by them, at the head of a large and beautiful valley. The houses are of stone, in the Moorish style, with flat roofs, which, with their strongly inclosed yards and gardens, in high stone walls all looped for musketry, make them each a fortress within itself. It is the most important place in Northern Mexico (or on the east side of the Sierra Madre,) commanding the only pass or road for carriages from this side, between it and the Gulf of Mexico, to the table lands of the Sierra, by or through which, the city of Mexico can be reached.

I much fear I shall have exhausted your patience before you get half through this long and uninteresting letter. If so, you can only commit it to the flames and think no more about it, as I write in great haste, besides being interrupted every five minutes; so that you must bake great allowances for blots, interlineations and blunders, as well as want of connection in many parts of the same.

Be so good as to present me most kindly to your excellent lady, and accept my sincere wishes for your continued health, prosperity and fame.

I remain, truly and sincerely,
Your friend,
Z. TAYLOR

[Manuscript]

Thursday, February 4, 1847, MG47v47n49p2c6 Words: 384

THE WAR—Extract of a letter from an officer, dated—

SALTILLO, (Mexico,) 28th Dec., 1846.

You have seen what is the present situation of things with us here now. SANTA ANNA is said to be at the head of so large a force somewhere between San Luis Potosi and this place, that we are kept on the qui vive, expecting that at any time he might dash over upon us and give us battle. Small as our force is, however, we feel confident of success should a battle be fought—and knowing how decisive would be a victory now, of the pending question of peace or war, we are anxious that the contest should come off at once and the matter be settled. We are in daily communication now with Gen. WOOL's column, which is encamped some 18 miles from us, so that a full cooperation is practicable on any point. Gen. TAYLOR has gone to Victoria, and perhaps to Tula, where he hopes to meet Gen. URREA, who is said to have 8 or 9000 troops with him.

Rumors reached us to-day that Gen. SCOTT is ordered out, to command the Tampico forces. I hope so—and that by a grand demonstration in that direction, we may take Vera Cruz at once, and then Jalapa, which is the key to that part of Mexico, as Monterey is to this. Holding these two points, the Capital is fairly cut off from the Coast and from Northern Mexico. With such positions, well established, we may dictate a peace as well I think as if we were in possession of the metropolis itself. I hope the expedition will be amply provided in all respects, and success the most brilliant may then attend it.

We understand (says the Richmond Enquirer) that the Governor and Council have dated the commissions of the Officers of the different Volunteer Companies as follows.—Of course they rank according to the date of their commissions

ROBT. G. SCOTT, Jr. December 20th, 1846.
JAS. F. PRESTON, " 21st, "
KENTON HARPER, " 22d, "
JNO. W. ROWAN, " 23d, "
FELTCHER H. ARCHER, " 24th, "
JNO. P. YOUNG, " 25th, "

[Manuscript]
Thursday, February 4, 1847, MG47v47n49p2c7 and p3c1 Words: 1700

LATEST NEWS!

LATE FROM MEXICO.

Important from the Army.

ENGAGEMENT OF COL. MAY WITH THE MEXICANS.

Important Rumors from Tampico—Arrival of Col. Kinney at that place—Later news from Gen. Taylor—Disposition of the American Forces along the Line of Operations, &c. &c.

The brig Georgiana, Capt. CRISPIN, arrived at N. Orleans on the 22d. ult, having left Tampico on the 14th. The verbal news she brought was alarming, it being to the effect that SANTA ANNA had placed himself between Gen. TAYLOR and Gen. WORTH, with 35,000 men, and that a general action was immediately expected. All this is no exaggeration. We believe, says the Picayune, the authentic facts to be as follows:

Col. KINNEY arrived at Tampico on the 12th of January direct from Victoria. He entered that town with Gen. QUITMAN on the evening of the 9th. Gen QUITMAN drove the enemy before him for the last thirty or forty miles before getting to Victoria. The Mexicans were reluctant to give up the place. As Gen. QUITMAN entered the town the Mexicans were going out on the other side. Gen. Q. had no cavalry and could not pursue them. Col. K. speaks in the warmest [illegible] of the prompt and soldiery conduct of this officer.

Col. KINNEY parted from Gen. TAYLOR at Monte Morales and pushed on with Gen. QUITMAN to Victoria. From these he made his way, almost alone, to Tampico, taking Soto la marina in his route, accomplishing a distance of nearly 250 miles in three days, and narrowly escaping from the advanced parties of the Mexicans on several occasions He spent a part of a night at the old rancho of Croix, where SANCHEZ was stationed with twenty dragoons; yet in the morning he contrived to give him the slip. He also succeeded in evading ROMANO FALCON, the man who is reported to have killed Col. CROSS.

At Soto la Marina he found a company of sixty rancheros. He rode at once to the alcade, boldly told him that Gen. TAYLOR had sent him on a few hours in advance to prepare supplies, and by this ruse made out to come off safely—the rancheros at once dispersing. The services this officer has rendered since the Mexican war broke out have been invaluable. He has ridden thousands and thousands of miles through the country almost alone; his favorite servant CATALINO has been killed he has himself been beset and attacked time and again; yet by his superior riding, by his knowledge of the Spanish language, by his promptness and courage, he has so far succeeded in escaping. Such services as he has rendered the country surely will not be allowed to go unrewarded—but to the news brought by this arrival.

We have no reason to believe that Generals BUTLER and WORTH have moved from Saltillo, as was reported. We believe them, together with Gen. WOOL, to have been still there or in the vicinity as late as the 1st inst., with at least 6000 troops, and we farther believe that a division of the Mexican army was not far off, watching our movements and ready to take any advantage of any favorable opportunity which circumstances may afford. It may be, and this opinion is entertained by others of the army, high in rank, that the Mexican soldiers seen in the neighborhood of Saltillo are advanced parties of a force of some 1500 or 2000 men, kept in a position on this side of the desert, between Saltillo and San Luis, to destroy the water tanks in case the American army should move in force in the direction of the latter city. The view of the case precludes the idea of a serious attack upon Gen. WORTH or Gen. WOOL, the object of the Mexicans only being to keep a watch upon the American forces, to retreat before any advance and cut off the supplies of water as far south as the operations of our army may make it advisable to do so.—That the troops spoken of as threatening Saltillo are scouting parties of this corps of observation is confidently believed by officers of experience and discretion—though others, whose opinions are perhaps equally entitled to respected, regard the movement of the enemy in a more serious light.

The report brought by Col. KINNEY to Tampico, to the effect that 15,000 Mexicans were to attack Saltillo on the 27th.
ult., is but the same rumor which has already reached here by way of Matamoras. Col. K. heard the rumor at Monte Morales, probably, and had no opportunity to learn the sequel of the anticipated attack.

There is little doubt, as we learn from private letters, that there was a large Mexican force—probably mostly cavalry—at Tula at last dates, all under command of Gen. VALENCIA. Gens. URREA, ROMERO, FERNANDEZ, and others are also reported to be in the vicinity. It may be recollected that our last accounts from the city of Mexico represented VALENCIA as on his march to Tula.

From a correspondent at Tampico we learn that on the 1st of January, Gen. TAYLOR sent forward to Col. MAY, of the dragoons, to examine the mountain pass between Monte Morales and Labradores. On his return from Labradores he took another pass leading to [unreadable] and was attacked by a larger body of the enemy and his rear guard cut off. This was effected by rolling stones into the pass, which was scarcely wide enough for a single horseman. MAY managed to get through with the main body and reached a spot where he was enabled to dismount and return to the succor of the rear guard, but it was too late, as the enemy had retreated with their prize.

At one time during the passage of the gorge the dragoons would have been almost at the mercy of the enemy, had the latter discharged their pieces with any accuracy; for the position they occupied was directly over the heads of our troops. We cannot ascertain Col MAY's loss, or whether he had any men killed or not.

At the present time, there can be no doubt, Gens. TAYLOR, TWIGGS, PATTERSON and PILLOS, are at Victoria and with a large force.—Had Gen. TAYLOR but a party of five hundred Texan rangers with him, their services, with the enemy's cavalry hanging around him in almost every direction, would be invaluable.

The N. Orleans Picayune, contains a number of letters from Tampico, from which we make the following extraxts:--

TAMPICO, Jan. 11, 1847

I wrote you yesterday that an expedition would leave that day for Tuspan, but I was very confidentially misled. The rumor for the last few weeks was allowed to spread, that the force was destined for that place, and the Mexicans despatched couriers carrying the intelligence. Reinforcements were called in from the surrounding country, and we hear now there are 2000 men there on the qui vive for an attack.

The Government steamers commenced fitting up yesterday at noon, and every preparation appeared to be making to cross over to Puebla Viejo, en route to Tuspan, when the commanding officer at the lines received orders to march his men to Altamira. It was a perfect surprise to every one, and whether any good results from it or not, Gen. SHIELDS deserves credit for the ruse.

I am assured from head quarters that the object is to open a communication with Gen. TAYLOR at Victoria, and it is deemed expedient to send the present force to meet this advance.—From 2000 to 3000 Mexican troops are known to be between here and there, and very possibly Gen. SHIELDS will have an opportunity to cope with them.

The number of men is about 650, which reduced the force remaining here to about 930, but no attack is to be expected on this place, except via the very route Gen. SHIELDS has no taken; so that, although reduced in numbers we are not weakened in strength.

TAMPICO, Jan. 12, 1847.—Afternoon

"Gentlemen—Orders and counterorders—Col. KINNEY, of the Corpus Christi, arrived this morning with despatches from Gen. TAYLOR—he left Victoria on the evening of the 9th inst., having ridden over 200 miles in three days.

It was attended a portion of the way by four dragoons, and came through with only two attendants. Gen. SHIELDS received orders from Gen. TAYLOR to suspend operations for the present.

The news from both armies, brought by Col. K., is of great interest. He says that the Mexican force at San Luis Potosi amounts to 30,000 men—he estimates their entire force in the field at 50,000.

The capture of Tampico, according to Col. K. has created the greatest excitement throughout the country. Gen. BUTLER, with Genls. WORTH and WOOL and 8000 men—considered the flower of the army—were at Saltillo.—A Mexican force of 15,000 was reported on its position outside in anticipation, as the town was incapable of fortification. The engagement should have taken place on the 27th ult., and Col. KINNEY speaks confidently of our success. The war seems to be commencing in earnest. You may rely upon the accuracy of Col. K.'s opinion of the strength of the enemy.

Gens. TAYLOR and PATTERSON are at Victoria with 6000 men awaiting orders from Gen. SCOTT. It is not supposed that any movement will be made against San Luis Potosi. It is pronounced the strongest fortified post in all Mexico, and SANTA ANNA has said that the man that takes it is welcome to the capital. I believe that a change of warfare will take place on Gen. SCOTT's assuming the command. The mountains will be retained and Vera Cruz subjected by a land attack—then no! for Mexico!

The N. O. Delta gives a much more detailed account of Capt. MAY's perilous undertaking than the above from the
Picayune, which we regret we have not room for this week. His command consisted of some 70 or 80 men, and he reports a loss of 11 men and their horses, and 7 pack mules. A Lieutenant and 12 men acted as the rear guard, and 11 of the 13 are missing—whether they have been killed, or only taken prisoners, is not known. The Regular soldiers of the Mexican Army, it is supposed, had no hand in this capture—they were Rancheros and robbers, and hence the strong probability that our men have been murdered.

[HCH]

Thursday, February 4, 1847, MG47v47n49p3c1 Words: 554

REPORTED MILITARY MOVEMENT.—The Charleston Courier has the following letter from its correspondent in New Orleans:

Gentlemen—Colonel TOTTEN, Chief Engineer of the United States, arrived here to-day from Washington. The Rocket and double Howitzer Brigade is expected daily. The regiments of Louisiana, Pennsylvania and Mississippi, are about being embarked, and will take 90 days rations with them. These troops are supposed to be destined for Tusman, where they will be joined by the Massachusetts, North and South Carolina, Virginia, Illinois, and 2d Pennsylvania regiments.—Their future destination is unknown, as every avenue to information is carefully guarded; but it is now guessed at that a march will be made direct on Mexico from Tusman, by Guanelinago, Papanda Apan, and Tezino, along the route over which the Indian runners passed in 24 hours, from the Gulf to Mexico, in the times of MONTEZUMA.

The distance is only 250 miles, and the road is said to present no serious obstacles to the march of troops. General SCOTT will advance at once on San Luis Potosi, simultaneously with the Tusman movement. It is supposed that SANTA ANNA will not fight at Potosi when he finds 9,000 men advancing from Tusman, but will fall back on Queretaro, and from there to Tulaezingo, in order to oppose our advance from Tusman. At this point he can make a strong stand. But here this double Howitzer Brigade will not with great efficiency. In order to understand how, it is necessary to describe the pass of Tulaezingo. It is formed by a chasm in the mountain; the rocks rise almost perpendicularly to a height of 150 feet. The road between, will admit of no more than 4 mules abreast. The pass is only one quarter of a mile in length. Over this chasm, there is a natural bridge of rock, which is accessible by a steep and deviulous ascent, by which mules can ascend.

The double mountain Howitzer will be placed on mules and carried to the natural bridge, when the road to the west of the pass will be completely commanded to the distance of 1200 yards, so that the enemy's forces must retire on the approach of our columns to that distance. Our troops will thus be enabled to move through the pass and debouch into an open tableau of land, of some mules in extent, without hindrance of the Mexican artillery.—Our army will then make a flank movement on Apan, which will compel the Mexicans to move on to Tezano, 50 miles from Mexico, in the mean time Gen. SCOTT will move rapidly on Maconi, and Chico and the Real del Monte, and thence to Pachuela and Otumba. The road from Otumba to Tezano is exceedingly difficult, and perhaps it may not be necessary to follow it in order to form a junction with our columns at Tezano; if so Gen. SCOTT will by a right flank movement reach Istalmaca, 15 miles from Mexico.

I have thus briefly stated what is whispered amongst military men here. Through Vera Cruz is believed to be the point of attack, I think myself it is designed only as a feint.—The arrival of Col. TOTTEN, who is considered one of the most skilful engineers in the world, has created no small sensation in military circles. His mouth is closed.

Thursday, February 4, 1847, MG47v47n49p3c1 Words: 312

ARMY INTELLIGENCE— Gen'l Wool's Division.

--Extract from an officer of General Wool’s command.

"CAMP AT AGUA NUEVA, (Mexico.)

Dec. 27th, 1846.

SIR: Since my hasty note to you from Parras, we have all been in the midst of tumult and excitement, caused by intelligence from Gen. WORTH that SANTA ANNA was on the march to attack him with an over-whelming force. This caused our division to move by forced marches—our infantry marching in one day nearly forty miles to this place—when the rumor was found to be premature. It is believed, however, that the enemy meditated an attack upon our forces in detail, but was deterred from striking the blow by the rapid concentration of our troops—Gen. BUTLER having, in the mean time, moved up for Monterey, making our army full four thousand strong at this point and its vicinity.

"When our column left Parras I was absent on a reconnaissance towards San Luis, Zacatecas, and Durango, with an escort of thirty-eight men, and came very near being cut off by six hundred Mexican cavalry. The enemy is making immense preparations on our whole front, from San Luis and Durango to St. Rosolo. By the next mail I will write you more in detail. * * * * *
"My whole party has been so constantly and laboriously occupied since we left Monclava, that while we have collected a good deal of data, we cannot, as yet, give you any additional results. This, however, we shall proceed to do as fast as possible, when we are settled for a short time. I see that our column is to remain in camp, which will enable us to work to great disadvantage.

"Gen. WOOL is an able officer. His command is in excellent order, and well provided; which last was a great convenience to our friends when we joined them.

[CH]

Thursday, February 11, 1847, MG47v47n50p1c5 Words: 626

Miscellany.

GENERAL TAYLOR’S LETTER.—The value which the brave and humane General TAYLOR sets upon the lives of his soldiers, as manifested in his unwillingness to throw away fifty or a hundred of them, unnecessarily, in storming Monterey, has suggested to a friend a characteristic anecdote of General JACKSON, strongly evincing the same trait in that stern, valiant and unquestionably sagacious commander, to whose memory the circumstance does such honor that we are happy to be able to present it to the public, on the high authority of the person to whom JACKSON made the statement.—N. Y. Jour. Com.

Our informant arrived at New Orleans on the fourth of February, 1815, (about four weeks after the crowning victory over the British,) and being an intimate personal friend of JACKSON, proceeded to the General’s head quarters, and passed nearly the whole night in conversation with him, upon the incidents of the recent great battle. After narrating many of the circumstances of the conflict, Gen. JACKSON said—"I suppose you have wondered why I permitted the British army to retire from the field and make good their retreat, without attempting to hinder or molest them, after they had been so thoroughly crippled in their attack on our lines." His friend replied—"No, General, I did not; because I knew you would not have taken the course you did without good reasons." "Yes," said JACKSON, "I had good reasons for my conduct. I knew that my brave volunteers were invincible, in their patriotism, and that, behind those breast works they could defend themselves against the best troops in the world. But I knew that in an open field their want of military experience and discipline would expose them to terrible loss from the fire of the well drilled veterans of the British army, still capable of opposing several complete battalions to me. It is true, I could have routed them and cut off their retreat, and destroyed or captured their whole force; but it would have been at the sacrifice of hundreds of my best volunteers—an unnecessary sacrifice, because my success was complete without it. I had done all that was to be desired. And then—to think of throwing away the lives of my brave volunteers”—said the old General, indignant at the idea of such a wanton sacrifice—"My brave Tennessee volunteers! Many of whom, mere boys of 18 and 20, were brought to me, at Nashville, from the country by their parents, in some instances by their widowed mothers, who said to me, ‘Here General, is our only son’—or, as sometimes, when one parent brought three or four boys to me, ‘Here are our sons! Take them, and make them fight for their country! Make good soldiers of them! But don’t expose them unnecessarily! Take good care of them General!’ Why" continued JACKSON, "by the---------I wouldn’t give the lives of twenty of my brave Tennessee volunteers for the whole British Army."

A powerful expression of that generous humanity which so well becomes true courage, and a just appreciation of the value of the life of an American citizen. And, much as we regret to repeat, the characteristic profanity which accompanied it, we are reminded, by its associations, of that oath of which STERNE says, "The ascending spirit who flew up to Heaven’s chancery with it, blushed as he gave it in; and the recording angel as he wrote it down, dropped a tear on the word, and blotted it out FOREVER!"

We rejoice to know that TAYLOR, with all of JACKSON’s successful courage, has in no particular less than JACKSON’s humane horror of the waste of his gallant soldiers’ lives, for the empty glory of the extermination of a conquered and retreating foe.

[CH]

Thursday, February 11, 1847, MG47v47n50p1c5 Words: 15

The Washington Union says “the Aministration cannot approve of the late letter of Gen. TAYLOR.”

[CH]

Thursday, February 11, 1847, MG47v47n50p1c7 Words: 178

A CROOKED SUBJECT.—A Matamoras correspondent of an Indiana paper gives the following description of the Rio Grande river:

Imagine four of the crookedest things in the world, then imagine four more twice as crooked, and then fancy to
yourself a large river three times as crooked as all these put together, and you have a faint idea of the crooked disposition of this almighty crooked river. There is no drift in it, from the fact that it is so crooked that timber can't find its way far enough down to lodge two sticks together—but few snakes, because it is not straight enough to swim in, and the fish are all in the whirlpools in the bends, because they can't find their way out. Birds frequently attempt to fly across the river, and light on the same side they start from, being deceived by the different crooks! Indeed, you may be deceived when you think you see across it, and some of the b'hoys say it is so darned twisted there isn't but one side to it.

Thursday, February 11, 1847, MG47v47n50p2c1-2, Words: 331

CENSURE OF GEN. TAYLOR

We present two articles to our readers this week, from the Richmond Times—"Gen. Taylor and the Mannikins," and "Justice to Gen. Taylor"—which put the ungenerous conduct of the House of Representatives towards the good and gallant Old General, in a clear and forcible light before the country. The Senate, it will be seen, administered a severe and just rebuke to the majority of the House. The Country will receive their action with enthusiasm, and respond with a hearty Amen to their course. Gen. TAYLOR has (we were about to say) wrought miracles in his conduct of the Mexican war, and has secured not only the admiration and love of the people of his own Country for his courage and humanity, but has attracted the eyes of the enlightened world to him. It seems as though the majority of the present House of Representatives alone can find a hook to hang censure upon. The People will demand from them "the evidence of the faith that is in them." We regret to see the name of the Representative, the Hon. HENRY BEDINGER, the second on the list of Ayes censuring Gen. TAYLOR. He will find, on his return home, that the nineteen-twentieths of his constituents, without regard to party, entertain the highest esteem for the General, and that they believe the war annals of the world will not present a Soldier who has fought more courageously in the hour of battle, or demeaned himself more meekly and humanely in the hour of victory and triumph than he has done. Of him it may be said, as Mr. MADISON said in his Message to Congress during the last war with Great Britain, when referring to Gen. HARRISON's Official Despatches of his battles, "he does justice to every one except himself." It matters not what the politicians may say or do—his countrymen will take care to vindicate his name and fame while he is absent in a foreign land fighting their battles.

Thursday, February 11, 1847, MG47v47n50p2c2 Words: 900

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS

We are again unfortunate with our Washington correspondence, not having received any letter or papers from Washington by the mail of Tuesday, our usual time of receiving them. We observe, however, that a most interesting debate is going on in the Senate upon the Three Million Bill, in which several of the leading Senators upon both sides have participated. Mr. SEVIER of Arkansas, explained that the object of the three Million Bill was to enable the President to conclude a peace with Mexico. The President was of opinion, from information that he had received from Mexico, that peace would be made, and he was willing to assent to it, provided Mexico would cede to us New Mexico and Upper California. Mr. MILLER of N. J., spoke in opposition to the Bill in a powerful speech, and declared that conquest and spoliation were now the objects of this war.

Mr. BERRIEN, of Ga., next obtained the floor and gave his views at great length. He said he could only find an excuse for the extraordinary proposition submitted, in the fact that this money might really be asked for SANTA ANNA, and that distinguished military chieftain could and would make peace with this country on the receipt of three millions of dollars. This, too, might be a clue given to the Executive order for the embarkation of SANTA ANNA from Havana for Mexico. SANTA ANNA was now at the head of a large army, and it might be that he would consent to make peace by being furnished with the means for paying his army and others. But Mr. B. suggested that it would be well to secure the treaty of peace, if there was to be a treaty, before there was any payment of the money.

To such a treaty there could be no more objection than there was at the last session of Congress. But it was said as a basis of this treaty that the minimum of this peace must be the acquisition of California and New Mexico. From that weak and distracted country was to be taken the best part of her territory. Nothing less than California and New Mexico.

Mr. BERRIEN nodded assent to this.

Mr. BERRIEN.—And was it necessary for us to do this in vindication of our national honor? He objected to any such idea. We were the first among the nations of the earth; made so by the gallantry of our fathers and our own fidelity to the Constitution of the country. What was Mexico, from whom we exacted all this?—a weak and powerless nation, with distracted counsels and impoverished. We had a population of twenty millions, and she not one half this number of people.
And what were we to do with this country when it comes among us? How were we to govern this people, this country, if we had both incorporated into the Union? And supposing we had this territory annexed to our dominion, what then? Did it not more than any other question endanger the peace of the Union? Was it not connected with the institution of slavery? Would any proposition tolerating slavery in this new territory be assented to by this body? Would the South consent that its own people should be excluded from the new territory, and with it the property guaranteed to them by the constitution of the U. States?

He put the question to the Southern men, for to them it was a momentous one. He put it to the American Senators also, for it was a question affecting the whole Union.

Mr. B. did not believe in demanding the payment of Mexican Bonds in Mexican blood. He would continue the war until Mexico yielded justice to us.

Mr. BERRIEN closed with an eloquent appeal that this Government should be more merciful than revengeful—more kind than stern towards a sister Republic.

The speech occupied two hours and a half, and was listened to with profound attention through the whole of it.

Mr. JOHNSON of Md., and Mr. MOREHEAD of Ky., have followed on the same side with powerful speeches. Mr. CALHOUN at last dates had the floor, and doubtless made a strong speech, and perhaps "defined his position."

The House of Representatives are also in Committee of the whole on the Three Million Bill and the Wilmot proviso, prohibiting the introduction of slavery into the newly acquired territory, has been moved, and an animated debated has sprung up, and there is no telling where or in what it will end. Long JOHN WENTWORTH of Ill., has been hitting his party some hard licks in the House, for which independence, he has brought down upon his head the maledictions of the strenuous party men in the House, and also those of the Official Organ. He replied to the strictures of the Union a few days since in the House, and was very severe upon its Editor—Father RITCHIE replies Editorially in his paper of Saturday evening, and is now on his dignity to JOHN!! The Union's reporters has given a caricature report of JOHN's speech, interspersed with a variety of indignities to him, for which Mr. DOUGLASS of Ill., moved their expulsion from the House. The matter is referred to a Committee with power to send "for persons and papers." We hope we shall get a graphic account of all these things from Summers.

[HCH]

Thursday, February 11, 1847, MG47v47n50p2c3-4 Words: 1063

GEN. TAYLOR AND THE MANNIKINS.

We have seldom seen a parallel so tersely and yet so faithfully drawn, as in the following extract from the National Intelligencer.—The difference in moral stature between Gen. TAYLOR and his Executive accusers; the miserable jealousy which his renown has stimulated in their bosoms; and the pretext upon which they have at last resolved to malign his reputation, his declining to exterminate the Mexican army at Monterey, are all so aptly represented by the history of Quinbusflestrin, that the comparison goes far to refute the famous maxim of Lord [unreadable]:

"In all history, one is at a loss to find a parallel for such a return of services as this. It is in Fable only—now fabulous no longer—that one meets any thing equal. The Emperor of Lilliput and his diminutive courtiers and council are, in their exhibition of gratitude for the military services of Capt. GULLIVER, the only case ever seen at all approaching this present effort to dishonor, after having lately attempted to supersede, Gen. TAYLOR.

"Our readers, who have not been so accustomed as we are to refer to the annals of Lilliput as constantly elucidating the manners, habits, and morals of politics and politicians, will allow us to suppose that they have not read, or have forgotten how, when Capt. LEMUEL had lived some time among the manikins, the Emperor of diminutives wanted help in a very foolish and wicked war that he had got into with another pigmian State. So he gave LEMUEL the commission of Generalissimo and sent him to lead an 'Army of Occupation' into Blefuscu, the country of his enemy.—We need hardly say what was the event:--Quinbusflestrin, (the man-mountain,) by a single masterly stroke, utterly discomfited Blefuscu, and reduced that republic to sue for a peace on any terms. Great was the joy through Lilliput; mightily did the puny monarch and his small grandees swell at the success of their invincible arms. Quite civil were they, for a full week, to Quinbusflestrin; they actually brevetted him and gave him an additional ration. Presently, however, they bethought them of the natural enmity of low against high, of an inch against a foot; they reflected that the people might be struck with the advantages of possibly having a man six feet high to reign over them; and so they got up articles of attaintment against him, alleging that he had not sufficient respect for the Emperor; that he ought, in the late battle, to have exterminated Blefuscu; that the services he had rendered made it clear he was dangerous to the Court; all which considered, these wise, brave, and grateful little statesmen voted, unanimously, that he, Quinbusflestrin, was a public enemy; should be shot all over with poisoned arrows; should have his eyes put out, in order to revive his patriotism; and should finally be starved to death as a warning to all future men of stature who might be foolishly disposed to render signal services to the country."

The course of the administration and its party towards Gen. TAYLOR is none the less ungenerous and unjustifiable, because it is double-dealing. The majority of the House of Representatives have spoken to him, as Indian eloquence admirably expresses it, "with a forked tongue." They have chosen, in an insincere resolution of thanks for his conduct,
at Monterey, solemnly to declare that they disapprove of that conduct; thus not only destroying the whole force of the compliment, but proving that it was only assented to through fear of the consequences of withholding it.

The following are the resolutions, as they passed the House of Representatives, the parts between brackets having been inserted by the vote of the Democratic members:

"Resolved unanimously, by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, That the thanks of congress are due, and are hereby presented to Major General ZACHARY TAYLOR, and through him to the brave officers and soldiers, both of the regular army and of the volunteers under his command, for their courage, skill, fortitude and good conduct in storming the city of Monterey, defended as it was by a force more than double their number, and protected by the strongest fortifications, which resulted in a most brilliant victory to our army, and reflected imperishable honor upon our arms—[engaged as it was and still is in a war commenced upon us by Mexico, and continued by us in defence of the honor and vindication of the just rights of the United States, assailed as both had been by repeated and flagrant acts on the part of Mexico, of insult, outrages, and finally of invasion of one of the States of this Union. Provided, That nothing herein contained shall be construed into an approbation of the terms of capitulation of Monterey.]

"Resolved, That the President be requested to cause to be struck a gold medal, with devices emblematical of this splendid achievement, and presented to General TAYLOR, as a testimony of the high sense entertained by Congress for his judicious and distinguishable conduct on that memorable occasion.

"Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to cause the foregoing resolutions to be communicated to General TAYLOR, and through him to the army under his command.”

The proviso to the first resolution is a direct disapproval of the terms of the capitulation of Monterey. It was so understood by the House, because when Mr. LEAKE of Virginia, proposed, by inserting the words "or disapprobation,” to make the House avoid the expression of an opinion on either side, the majority refused to receive his amendment—So determined were they to make the rebuke as impressive as possible, that they even persisted against the suggestion of one who does not often waver in assuming the most extreme position with his party—Mr. DROMGOOLE—in retaining the word "unanimously,” thus declaring what their own journal demonstrated to be untrue, as 62 members voted against the resolutions. And this is scarcely less ridiculous than the inconsistency with disapproving of the terms of the capitulation, and, in the same breath, proclaiming the General’s "conduct, on that memorable occasion,” which of course embraces as well his mode of ending the battle as his mode of fighting it, to be "judicious and distinguished."

It is generally supposed that the Senate will refuse to pass the resolutions.—Rich. Times.

[HCH]
"Yea—Messrs. Archer, Badger, Berrien, Butler, Calhoun, Cilley, Thomas Clayton, John M. Clayton, Corwin, Crittenden, Davis, Dayton, Evans, Green, Huntington, Jarnagin, Johnson of Maryland, Johnson of Louisiana, Mangum, Miller, Morehead, Pearce, Simmons, Upham, Webster, and Woodbridge—26.


"No further amendment being offered, the joint resolution was reported to the Senate, and the amendments having been [unreadable] in, it was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, and was read a third time by unanimous consent.

"The question being on the passage of the bill, the yeas and nays were ordered, and it was unanimously passed—yeas 43, nays none.

"The title of the resolution was then amended, so as to read as follows:

"Resolution giving the thanks of Congress to Major General TAYLOR, and the officers and men under his command in the late military operations at Monterey."

It will be observed that the Senators who voted against Mr. WEBSTER’s resolution, as an amendment to that of the House, after the proviso was excluded, are those who may be suspected of the greatest readiness to sustain the administration. This may be explained by the fact that although the proviso disapproving of the capitulation of Monterey was struck out, there remained the clause, which was inserted in the resolution by the majority in the "imperishable honor" ascribed to the army, by adding:

"Engaged as it was and still is, in a war commenced and forced upon us by Mexico, and continued by us in defence of the honor and vindication of the just rights of the United States, assailed as both had been by repeated and flagrant acts on the part of Mexico, of insult, outrages, and finally of invasion of one of the States of this Union."

It was a masterly stroke of legislation in Mr. WEBSTER, to obtain from a Democratic Senate an unrestricted vote of thanks to Gen. TAYLOR, after the dominant party in the House had insisted on making it offensive to the Whigs by attaching to it assertions to which they could not honestly subscribe.

It is worthy of remark, too, that although the final vote for Mr. WEBSTER’s resolution appears to be unanimous, six Democratic Senators, who voted against it as an amendment, either declined to vote at all, or absented themselves to avoid voting upon its passage. They were Messrs. ASHLEY, ATCHISON, BAGBY, BREESE, BRIGHTY, and TURNLEY.

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Thursday, February 11, 1847, MG47v47n50p2c7 Words: 163

LATEST NEWS!

LATE FROM MEXICO.

Highly Important!

RUMOR OF THE

DEATH OF SANTA ANNA!

An extra from the New Orleans Picayune, dated Tuesday, Feb 2, 1 o’clock, P. M., received last night, brings news from Anton Lizardo up to the 20th ult.

One letter states that Congress, on the 9th ult., after a stormy session, approved the first section of a bill authorising the Government of Mexico to raise fifteen millions of dollars by the hypothecation or sale of certain properties of the Church.

SANTA ANNA opposed the bill, and it is rumored that his opposition so exasperated the soldiers, that they had shot him. This report needs confirmation, but many circumstances render it not improbable. Such has been the fate of many. SANTA ANNA’s army was in great distress.

The passage of the law above referred to has caused the greatest excitement in Mexico. The churches are closed, and every indication of mourning and resistance has been evinced by those who support religious establishments. The Mexican Congress and the Mexican press is every where thoroughly roused.

[HCH]
ATTENTION, BLUES!

YOU are requested to meet at the Drill-Room

This (Thursday) Evening,

at half-past 6 o'clock, as business of importance will be brought before the meeting.

By order of the Captain,

JAS. H. CHAMBERS,

O. S.

Feb. 11, 1847—It

[HC]

Deferred Articles.

DEBATES IN CONGRESS.—The elements composing the political majority in Congress are falling into great confusion. The President can hardly know who are the supporters of his Administration; and this uncertainty has followed, in part, from his not seeming to know himself the definite purposes of his own policy.

In the debate on the Civil Appropriation Bill some days ago, in the House of Representatives, a motion was made by Mr. WENTWORTH, of Illinois, to strike out the clause appropriating the annual compensation of the President of the United States. A motion so unusual was calculated to excite some sensation; and coming from a member of the President's party it was the more remarkable. Mr. WENTWORTH's speech on the proposed amendment was not of a conciliatory kind—as may be supposed. We quote from the Intelligencer's report:

"Mr. W. denied that his course was actuated by resentment for the Executive veto of the River and Harbour bill. He had been accused by some Democrats of going over to the Whigs because he could not go for the tea and coffee tax. But when he lost one of the points of the Democratic creed, he did but cling the more closely to those which were left. Those who made the charge knew it to be false.—Let him that was without spot in opposing Democratic measures cast the first stone.—How many had gone for 54° 40' supposing it to be democratic; yet they found that the true Democracy was 49°. [Roars from the Whigs.] Let them hold their peace. Let the whole delegation from Pennsylvania be quiet, for they had all gone against the Tariff of 1846. Let those who had voted for the French spoliation bill hold their peace in like manner—so must all who voted against the lieutenant general—all who voted for volunteers in preference to regulars. Let those men show they were without spot before they assumed to read him out of the Democratic party.—That house and the people whom it represented had as good a right and better to dictate what should be the Democratic creed than the President or the Senate, for the people made the President."

Another topic was started in the course of the debate—a topic which cannot be discussed in Congress without excitement. The Wilmot proviso is the topic referred to. From the report of a speech by Mr. DELANO, of New York, we believe, the following is taken as a specimen of the excited language which this subject calls forth:

"He next proceeded to discuss the object of the war, which he argued to be the acquisition of Mexican territory, under which the head of his speech he examined the orders of Com. STOOKTON, &c.; and thence he passed to the consequences of the war, its evil example to succeeding Presidents, its effect in cultivating a national thirst for territory; and lastly, its dividing the Union on the character and condition of the conquered territory, when admitted into the Union. Here Mr. D. became much excited on the topic of the proviso; threatened graves, already dug at home, and out of which there would be no resurrection, to the Northern men who should vote against it. He greatly feared there was no honest purpose to carry it.

"He lauded the consistency and resolution of Southern representatives, and called on those from the North to imitate the example. Yet, however the present representatives of the North might be induced to act, their constituents at home were fixed as the immovable mountains. He dared Southern men to add this territory; if they did, the North would surround them by a cordon of free States, and light the fires of liberty all around them till the chains which bound their slaves should melt and fall asunder. [Great sensation on the Democratic side of the House.]"

"Mr. ATKINSON called on Mr. DELANO to repeat his words."
"Mr. DELANO did so more strongly, but expressed his sorrow that such a firebrand should be introduced to threaten all we both held dear. He loved this Union, but he would see it shattered into ten thousand pieces before slavery should be extended one foot by his instrumentality, &c. He concluded by maintaining that, although this was continued professedly for glory, there was no glory in it. Be it his glory to do all he could to arrest its progress, and prevent the plains of Mexico from being strewed with the bones of our best citizens.—If for this his patriotism must be doubted he could not help it."

The Wilmot proviso was attached as an amendment to the bill of the last session appropriating two millions of dollars to the President's use for the purpose of negotiation with Mexico. The bill of the present session, appropriating three millions for the same purpose, will afford an occasion for the renewal of the amendment, of which there have been frequent intimations. There are expectations in some quarters that a majority will be found in the House sufficient to determine all questions relative to the Mexican war and the territory to be acquired without the embarrassment of any conditions relative to free or slave States. The brief period which remains to this Congress, which is rapidly approaching the end of its session, renders it important that dispatch, at any rate, should be used towards questions of such magnitude—either to decline them or to ascertain that they cannot be yet decided.—Balt. Amer.

GENERAL TAYLOR'S LETTER.—From the New York Express, in which the letter of Gen. TAYLOR, so much commented on, first appeared, we make the following extract:

"The few Whig presses which have spoken of the publication of the only letter of Gen. TAYLOR now likely to see the light, as indiscreet, little know of the machinations and intrigues which have been going on in Washington. The letter drew their fire, and was, therefore, a necessary publication—just as RIDGELY found it necessary to draw the fire of Gen. LA VEGA's artillery, before the gallant MAY dashed in upon it with his troop of cavalry. These intrigues were crippling, not only Gen. TAYLOR, but all the army operations upon the Rio Grande. The war, got up especially and solely to give glory to Mr. POLK & Co., was all resounding to the glory of Gen. TAYLOR—'a Whig General,' as Mr. FICKLIN called him—and to his brave army. To get rid of him, and of this, as we have before stated, Gen. SCOTT was sent to supersede Gen. TAYLOR, by Lieutenant General BENTON, while a fire in the rear of Gen. TAYLOR was to be kept up by all partizans of the administration. The carpet knights in Washington were lavish of their abuse, in all the social circles, of Gen. TAYLOR, the main charges being, that (without magazines, without artillery, without authority from his Government,) he did not, on the instant, cross the Rio Grande, and that subsequently he let the force of Gen. AMPUDIA escape at Monterey. The reasons why he did not cross the Rio Grande, he unfolds in letters which the gag law suppresses."

The President afforded "aid and comfort to the enemy" by giving them a General; and now his friends are increasing that "comfort," by denouncing the General of the American forces! As the President gave SANTA ANNA his freedom, we should not be surprised to find him trying to balance the account by imprisoning Gen. TAYLOR.—Albany Journal.

GEN. TAYLOR AND THE VOLUNTEERS.—The correspondent of the New Orleans Delta, writing from Victoria, describes the following scene as having occurred shortly after Gen. TAYLOR's arrival at that place:

"Gen. TAYLOR visited the Illinois Volunteers yesterday, and the way the boys crowded around him threatened immediate suffocation. By way of salutation, I verily believe the old General pulled at his cap five thousand times, and I was looking every minutes to see him pull the front piece off. The General was mounted on a large and gentle mule, whilst his Orderly rode a splendid dragoon horse, and was himself dressed in a clean and handsome uniform whilst the General had on that same old black frock coat, and a big Mexican straw hat. Mr. FANNIN, the orderly, got about six salutes to TAYLOR's one, the "Suckers" taking him for the General, they inferred, from his plain appearance, that it would be nothing amiss to offer him a hand to shake and they went at it with such good will that, by the time the two regiments finished squeezing it, there could have been little feeling left in it. As he rode off, there were many who wondered whether that was the animal on which he charged the Mexicans."

THE ON-MAN POWER—In further evidence of the rapid strides which the one-man power is making over the barriers and fences set up against it in the Constitution, we quote the following from the organ of the Progressive Democracy in the city of Baltimore:
"THE EXECUTIVE AND CONGRESS.—It belongs to the Executive to manage the war with Mexico. The supreme legislative power declared war to exist, and henceforward it was the duty of the Executive to wage the war with all such means as the Constitution and Congress placed at his disposal. When, then, he found these measures inadequate, and applied to Congress for other measures, HIS WILL should have been immediately complied with, unless it was plainly in contravention of the Constitution."

Most truly did Mr. MADISON say, in one of his ablest works, "War is in fact the true nurse of Executive aggrandizement."—Nat. Int.

THE "LONE STAR."—Mr. WINTHROP of Boston, in a recent speech upon Texas annexation and its results, said the "lone star" reminded him of the star described in the vision of the Apostle on the Isle of Patmos:

"And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the foundations of waters;

"And the name of the star is called Wormwood; and the third part of the waters became wormwood, and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter.”

LETTERS FROM OFFICERS.—The question is asked, says the Norfolk Herald, (we need not say from what quarter) in a tone of censure of Gen. TAYLOR’s letter, just published, "whether Gen. WASHINGTON ever sent such letters to his friends, from the army?” We are almost authorised to use the popular phrase of the day and reply, "He did nothing else!” His letters (which may be seen by any one in Spark’s collection) sent not only to his friends but to Congress, are full of complaints of the short-comings of Congress in their provision for the exigencies of the war. Yet those letters were not considered offensive by that august body; on the contrary they were treated with deference and respect. Is the majesty of JAMES K. POLK more sensitive than the plan dignity of JOHN HANCOCK? Is the democracy of this day more dignified than the patriotism of seventy-six?

MEXICAN PLAN OF THE WAR.—The Spanish journal La Patria, at New Orleans, publishes a letter from Mexico, written apparently by a Mexican, and giving what the writer says he has learned to be SANTA ANNA’s plan of the campaign. It amounts to little more or less that what has often been suggested by papers in this country as feasible and probable. SANTA ANNA to keep his force well in hand, avoiding any general engagement, and distracting the enemy by various movements, until the sickly season; then to bear down with crushing force upon the main body of the enemy, destroy that, and afterward cut up the others in detail. Attempts of the enemy to retreat to be worried by small parties of guerillas, &c. &c. We make the following extract from the letter:--Com. Adv.

"Every necessary precaution has been taken, and all means are daily used, to collect at San Luis Potosi all possible provisions and munitions of war. It is believed that the North Americans are determined to leave Saltillo and Tampico; they will come towards San Luis, and there fight the great decisive battle as SANTA ANNA will not leave that city, and will keep there constantly about 25,000 men.

"There are at present, in a distance of about 150 miles or less, nearly 45,000, of all arms, and it is expected to raise, during the month of January, about 8000 more of infantry and cavalry. A considerable number of troops are stationed at proper points to cut off the North Americans on their retreat, in case they should come as far as San Luis, where they will not be able to sustain the resistance of the Mexicans."

EXCUSABLE.—Whilst a regiment of volunteers were marching through Camargo a Captain (a strict disciplinarian) observing that one of the drums did not beat, ordered a lieutenant to enquire the reason. The fellow, on being interrogated, whispered to the lieutenant. "I have two ducks and a turkey in my drum, and the turkey is for the captain.” This being whispered to the captain he exclaimed, “Why didn't the drummer say he was lame? I do not want men to do their duty when they are not able.”

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS, &C.
We have full reports of the proceedings of Congress and the Legislature from our correspondents, but such is the demand upon our columns by advertisements and the Communications of our friends at home, upon local matters of exciting interest, that we reluctantly are obliged to lay them aside, and confine ourselves to a brief notice of them. The Editors of the Union, the Administration Organ at Washington, have been expelled from the Floor of the Senate, by a vote of Yeas 27, Nays 21, for having issued and published in that paper of the 9th inst., a libel upon that body. There were six Senators absent, four Democrats and two Whigs—those who voted were—


It will be seen that four Democrats, marked above in italics, voted in the affirmative. The offence of “Father RITCHIE, ” was endorsing a communication signed “Vindicator, ,” in his paper of the 9th, in which the writer characterized the temporary loss of the Army Bill in the Senate as “a Mexican Victory, “ and calling certain Senators “the friends and Brothers of SANTA ANNA and AMPUDIA.” It is supposed that “Vindicator” is an inhabitant of the “White House,” and that the vote to expel the Union’s Editors, is more a rebuke of the Administration than Mr. RITCHIE. A fierce debate sprung up among some of the Senators of the opposition. Mr. TURNEY of Tenn. was very abusive of Mr. CALHOUN, and doubtless spoke ex cathedra . Mr. CALHOUN made a noble reply—worthy of the better days of the Republic. TURNERY is a little-souled creature whom the Whigs helped into power over a better man, the regular nominee of the Democratic party in the Legislature, and now he is an out and outer —doubtless, when he was elected, he was “a Conservative!!!”

The Three Million Bill has passed the House with “the Wilmot or Anti-Slavery proviso, “ Ayes 115, Nays 106. Thus have the Northerners triumphed. The same bill is yet under discussion in the Senate. The debate has been very able. "SUMMERS" thus speaks of the speech of Mr. CORWIN of Ohio:—

"Mr. CORWIN’s speech, of which you have doubtless read a sketch, was a great speech and is so acknowledged by men of all parties. It has stamped him as an orator of the first class—it does honor to his head, but what is of far more importance in my view, it does honor to his heart. No full report of it has yet appeared, but I understand it will be published in a few days in pamphlet form, and many thousands of copies have already been subscribed for.”

"He took the bold ground that the war was unjust—that the soil upon which the first battle was fought was Mexican soil—that we were the invaders—that it was the duty of every one, who believed as he did, to oppose the war, as so help him God, as long as he had a vote, he would with God’s assistance, never consent to vote a man or dollar to carry it on, until it could be shown to him that he was mistaken in his opinions. The Washington Union acknowledges that the speech was replete with eloquence.”

The venerable JOHN QUINCY ADAMS is again in his seat, though yet very feeble.—His return to the House was very affecting, indeed—the members flocked around him and congratulated him upon the restoration of his health, &c. It was a spontaneous offering of the American heart, to one who has served his country through a long series of year with distinguished ability.

The President has sent a message to Congress in relation to the prosecution of the war—the proper organization of the military forces recently authorised—measures for re-enlisting volunteers whose terms shall expire, before the closing of the war—again recommending a tax on tea and coffee as a means of revenue during the existence of the war, &c. &c. &c. 

[HCH]
GEN. TAYLOR A TEETOTALLER.— The Norfolk Courier says—"It will be gratifying to the friends of 'Old Rough and Ready,' to know that he is a 'staunch teetotaler,' and has not drank a glass of 'the ardent' for twenty years past. This we state upon authority that we believe to be unquestionable, and comes from an old friend of Gen. TAYLOR, one who has recently seen and conversed with him.

Capitulation of Monterey.

FROM THE WASHINGTON UNION OF FEB 10

Victoria, Tamapilas, Mexico,

January 6, 1847.

Dear Sir: After much speculation and no little misrepresentation about the capitulation of Monterey, I perceive by our recent newspapers, that a discussion has arisen as to who is responsible for that transaction. As one of the commissioners who were entrusted by Gen. TAYLOR with the arrangements of the terms upon which the city of Monterey and its fortifications should be delivered to our forces, I have had frequent occasion to recur to the course then adopted, and the considerations which led to it. My judgment after the fact has fully sustained my decisions at the date of the occurrence; and feeling myself responsible for the instrument as we prepared and presented it to our commanding General. I have the satisfaction, after all subsequent events, to believe that the terms we offered were expedient and honorable, and wise. A distinguished gentleman with whom I acted on that commission, Gov. HENDERSON, says, in a recently published letter, "I did not at the time, nor do I still like the terms, but acted as one of the commissioners, together with Gen. WORTH and Col DAVIS, to carry out Gen. TAYLOR's instructions. We ought and could have made them surrender at discretion," &c. &c.

From each position taken in the above paragraph I dissent. The instructions given by Gen. TAYLOR only presented his object, and fixed a limit to the powers of his commissioners; hence, when points were raised which exceeded our discretion, they were referred to the commander; but minor points were acted on, and finally submitted as part of our negotiation. We fixed the time within which the Mexican forces should retire from Monterey. We agreed upon the time we would wait for the decision of the respective governments, which I recollect was less by thirty-four days than the Mexican commissioners asked—the period adopted being that which, according to our estimate, was required to bring up the rear of our army with the ordinance and supplies necessary for further operations.

I did not then, nor do I now, believe we could have made the enemy surrender at discretion. Had I entertained the opinion it would have been given to the commission, and to the commanding General, and would have precluded me from signing an agreement which permitted the garrison to retire with the honors of war. It is demonstrable from the position and known prowess of the two armies, that we could have driven the enemy from the town; but the town was untenable whilst the main fort (called the new citadel) remained in the hands of the enemy. Being without siege artillery or entrenching tools, we could only hope to carry this fort by storm, after a heavy loss from our army; which, isolated in a hostile country, now numbered less than half the forces of the enemy. When all this had been achieved, what more would we have gained than by the capitulation?

Gen. TAYLOR's force was too small to invest the town. It was, therefore, always in the power of the enemy to retreat, bearing his light arms. Our army—poorly provided, and with very insufficient transportation—could not have overtaken, if they had pursued the flying enemy. Hence the conclusion that, as it was not in our power to capture the main body of the Mexican army, it is unreasonable to suppose their General would have surrendered at discretion. The moral effect of retiring under the capitulation was certainly greater than if the enemy had retreated without our consent. By this course we secured the large supply of ammunition he had collected in Monterey—which, had the assault been continued, must have been exploded by our shells, as it was principally stored in the "Cathedral," which being supposed to be filled with troops, was the especial aim of our pieces. The destruction which this explosion would have provided must have involved the advance of both divisions of our troops; and I commend this to the contemplation of those whose arguments the commissioners closed their negotiations. With these introductory remarks, I send a copy of a manuscript in my possession, which was prepared to meet such necessity as now exists for an explanation of the views which governed the commissioners in arranging the terms of capitulation to justify the commanding General, should misrepresentation and calumny attempt to tarnish his well-earned reputation, and, for all time to come, to fix the truth of the transaction. Please publish this in your paper, and believe me your friend, &c.
Memoranda of the transactions in connexion with the capitulation of Monterey, capital of Nueva Leon, Mexico.

By invitation of Gen. AMPUDIA, commanding the Mexican army, Gen. TAYLOR, accompanied by a number of his officers, proceeded on the 24th September, 1846, to a house designated as the place at which General AMPUDIA requested an interview. The parties being convened, General AMPUDIA announced, as official information, that Commissioners from the United States had been received by the Government of Mexico; and that the orders under which he had prepared to defend the city of Monterey, had lost their force by the subsequent change of his own Government, therefore he asked the conference. A brief conversation between the commanding Generals, showed their views to be so opposite, as to leave little reason to expect an amicable arrangement between them.

Gen. TAYLOR said he would not delay to receive such propositions as Gen. AMPUDIA indicated. One of Gen. AMPUDIA’s party, I think, the Governor of the city, suggested the appointment of a mixed commission; this was acceded to, and Gen. W. G. WORTH, of the United States army, Gen. J. PINCKNEY HENDERSON, of the Texan volunteers, and Col. JEFFERSON DAVIS, of the Mississippi riflemen, on the part of Gen. TAYLOR; and Gen. J. MA. ORTEGA, Gen. P. REQUENA, and Senor the Governor M. MA. LLANO on the part of Gen AMPUDIA, were appointed.

Gen. TAYLOR gave instructions to his commissioners which, as understood, for they were brief and verbal, will be best shown by the copy of the demand which the United States commissioners prepared in the conference room here incorporated:

Copy of the demand by U. States Commissioners.

"I. As the legitimate result of the operations before this place, and the present position of the contending armies, we demand the surrender of the town, the arms and munitions of war, and all other public property within the place.

"II. That the Mexican armed force retire beyond the Rinconada, Linares, and San Fernando, on the coast.

"III. The commanding General of the army of the United States agrees that the Mexican officers reserve their side arms and private baggage; and the troops be allowed to retire under their officers without parole, a reasonable time being allowed to withdraw the forces.

"IV. The immediate delivery of the main work, now occupied, to the army of the United States.

"V. To avoid collisions, and for mutual convenience, that the troops of the United States shall not occupy the town until the Mexican forces have been withdrawn, except for hospital purposes, storehouses, &c.

"VI. The commanding General of the United States agrees not to advance beyond the line specified in the second section before the expiration of eight weeks, or until the respective Governments can be heard from."

The terms of the demand were refused by the Mexican commissioners, who drew up a counter proposition, of which I only recollect that it contained a permission to the Mexican forces to retire with their arms. This was urged as a matter of soldierly pride, and as an ordinary courtesy. We had reached the limit of our instructions, and the commission rose to report the disagreement.

Upon returning to the reception room, after the fact had been announced that the commissioners could not agree upon terms, Gen. AMPUDIA entered at length upon the question, treating the point of disagreement as one which involved the honor of his country, spoke of his desire for a settlement without further bloodshed, and said he did not care about the pieces of artillery which he had at the place. Gen. TAYLOR responded to the wish to avoid unnecessary bloodshed. It was agreed the commission should reassemble, and we were instructed to concede the small arms; and I supposed there would be no question about the artillery. The Mexican commissioners now urged that, as all other arms had been recognised, it would be discreditable to the artillery if required to march out without anything to represent their arm, and stated, in answer to an inquiry, that they had a battery of light artillery, manoeuvred and equipped as such. The commission again rose, and reported the disagreement on the point of artillery.

Gen. TAYLOR hearing that more was demanded than the middle ground, upon which, in a spirit of generosity, he had agreed to place the capitulation, announced the conference at an end; and rose in a manner which showed his determination to talk no more. As he crossed the room to leave it, one of the Mexican commissioners addressed him, and some conversation, which I did not hear, ensued.—Gen. WORTH asked permission of Gen. TAYLOR, and addressed
some remarks to Gen. AMPUDIA, the spirit of which was that which he manifested throughout the negotiation, viz: generosity and leniency, and a desire to spare the further elusion of blood. The commission re-assembled, and the points of capitulation were agreed upon. After a short recess we again repaired to the room in which we had parted from the Mexican commissioners; they were tardy in joining us, and slow in executing the instrument of capitulation. The 7th, 8th, and 9th articles were added during this session. At a late hour, the English original was handed to Gen. TAYLOR for his examination; the Spanish original having been sent to Gen. AMPUDIA. Gen. TAYLOR signed and delivered to me the instrument as it was submitted to him, and I returned to receive the Spanish copy with the signature of Gen. AMPUDIA, and send that having Gen. TAYLOR’s signature, that each General might countersign the original to be retained by the other. Gen. AMPUDIA did not sign the instrument as was expected, but came himself to meet the commissioners. He raised many points which had been settled, and evinced a disposition to make the Spanish differ in essential points from the English instrument. Gen. WORTH was absent. Finally he was required to sign the instrument prepared for his own commissioners, and the English original was left with him that he might have it translated, (which he promised to do that night,) and be ready the next morning with a Spanish duplicate of the English instrument left with him. By this means the two instruments would be made to correspond, and he be compelled to admit his knowledge of the contents of the English original before he signed it.

The next morning the commission again met, again the attempt was made, as had been often done before by solicitation, to gain some grant in addition to the compact. Thus we had at their request, adopted the word capitulation in lieu of surrender; they now wished to substitute stipulation for capitulation. It finally became necessary to make a peremptory demand for the immediate signing of the English instrument by Gen. AMPUDIA, and the literal translation (now perfected) by the commissioners and their General. The Spanish instrument first signed by Gen. AMPUDIA was destroyed in the presence of his commissioners; the translation of our own instrument was countersigned by Gen. TAYLOR, and delivered. The agreement was complete, and it only remained to execute the terms.

Much has been said about the construction of article 2 of the capitulation, a copy of which is hereto appended. Whatever ambiguity there may be in the language used, there was a perfect understanding by the commissioners upon both sides, as to the intent of both of the parties. The distinction we made between light artillery equipped and maneuvered as such, designed for and used in the field, and pieces being the armament of a fort, was clearly stated on our side; and that it was comprehended on their’s appeared in the fact, that repeatedly they asserted their possession of light artillery, and said they had one battery of light pieces. Such conformity of opinion existed among our commissioners upon every measure which was finally adopted, that I consider them, in this sphere, jointly and severally responsible for each and every article of the capitulation. If, as originally viewed by Gen. WORTH, our conduct has been in accordance with the peaceful policy of our Government, and shall in any degree lead to consummate that policy, we may congratulate ourselves upon the part we have taken. If otherwise, it will remain to me as a deliberate opinion, that the terms of the capitulation gave all which could have followed, of desirable result, from a further assault. It was in the power of the enemy, to retreat, and to bear with him his small arms, and such a battery as was contemplated in the capitulation.—The toher grants were such as it was honorable in a conquering army to bestow, and which cost magnanimity nothing to give.

The above recollections are submitted to Genls. HENDERSON and WORTH for correction and addition that the misrepresentation of this transaction may be presented by a statement made whilst the events are recent and the memory fresh.

JEFFERSON DAVIS,
Colonel Mississippi Riflemen.

CAMP NEAR MONTEREY,
October 8th, 1846.

The above is a correct statement of the leading facts connected with the transactions referred to, according to my recollection. It is, however, proper, that I should further state, that my first impression was, that no better terms than those first proposed, on the part of Gen. TAYLOR, ought to have been given, and I so said to Gen. TAYLOR when I found him disposed to yield to the request of Gen. AMPUDIA; and, at the same time gave it as my opinion that they would be accepted by him before we left the town. Gen. TAYLOR replied, that he would run no risk where it could be avoided—that he wished to avoid the further shedding of blood, and that he was satisfied that our Government would be pleased with the terms given by the capitulation; and being myself persuaded of that fact, I yielded my individual views and wishes; and, under that conviction, I shall ever be ready to defend the terms of the capitulation.

J. PINCKNEY HENDERSON

I not only counseled and advised, the opportunity being offered the general-in-chief, the first proposition; but cordially assented and approved the decision taken by Gen. TAYLOR in respect to the latter, as did every member of the commission, and for good and sufficient military and national reasons—and stand ready, at all times and proper places, to defend and sustain the action of the commanding General, and participation of the commissioners. Knowing that malignants, the tremor being off, are at work to discredit and misrepresent the case, (as I had anticipated,) I feel obliged to Col. DAVIS for having thrown together the material and facts.

W. J. WORTH,
Brig. Gen. commanding 2d division.
MONTEREY, OCT. 12th, 1846.

Terms of the capitulation of the city of Monterey, the capital of Nueva Leon, agreed to upon by the undersigned commissioners—to wit.—General WORTH, of the United States army; General HENDERSON, of the Texan volunteers; and Col. DAVIS, of the Mississippi riflemen, on the part of Major General TAYLOR, commanding-in-chief the United States forces; and General REQUENA and General ORTEGO, of the army of Mexico, and Senor MANUEL, M. LLANO, Governor of Nueva Leon, on the part of Senor General Don PEDRO AMPUDIA, commanding-in-chief the army of the north of Mexico.

ARTICLE 1. As the legitimate result of the operations before this place, and the present position of the contending armies, it is agreed that the city, the fortifications, cannon, the munitions of war, and all other public property, with the undermentioned exceptions, be surrendered to the commanding General of the United States forces, now at Monterey.

ARTICLE 2. That the Mexican forces be allowed to retain the following arms—to wit: The commissioned officers, their side-arms; the infantry, their arms and accoutrements; the cavalry, their arms and accoutrements; the artillery, one field battery, not to exceed six pieces, with twenty-one rounds of ammunition.

ARTICLE 3. That the Mexican armed forces retire within seven days from this date beyond the line formed by the pass of the Riconda, the city of Linares, and San Fernando de Pusos.

ARTICLE 4. That the citadel of Monterey be evacuated by the Mexican, and occupied by the American forces, tomorrow morning, at 10 o’clock.

ARTICLE 5. To avoid collisions, and for mutual convenience, that the troops of the United States will not occupy the city until the Mexican forces have withdrawn, except for hospital and storage purposes.

ARTICLE 6. That the forces of the United States will not advance beyond the liens specified in the 3d article, before the expiration of eight weeks, or until the orders of the respective Governments can be received.

ARTICLE 7. That the public property to be delivered, shall be turned over and received by officers appointed by the commanding Generals of the two armies.

ARTICLE 8. That all doubts, as to the meaning of any of the preceding articles, shall be solved by an equitable construction, and on principles of liberality to the retiring army.

ARTICLE 9. That the Mexican flag, when struck at the citadel, may be saluted by its own battery.

W. J. WORTH, Brig. Gen. U. S. A.
JEFFERSON DAVIS, Col. Mississippi Riflemen.
J. M. ORTEGA,
T. REQUENA,
MANUEL M. LLANO,

Approved: PEDRO AMPUDIA

Done at Monterey, Sep. 24, 1846.

NEW MODE TO CLOSE THE WAR.—A petition has been presented to the New York Assembly, from Col. A. JONES, of Rochester, to let out the Mexican war on contract, the petitioner agreeing to give bonds to close it for two millions of dollars.

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THE "UNION" AND THE LIBERTY OF THE PRESS.

The "Union" is thundering forth in anathemas by wholesale against the Senate for its late action in relation to its Editor, Mr. RITCHIE, ever ready with the pen, is writing columns of editorial upon the subject of his expulsion, and correspondents from "Dan to Betsheba" in the Democratic Kingdom are sending in their contributions to swell the tide which is to sweep the authors of the outrage (!!!) into the fathomless depths of an indignant public displeasure. The Democracy of Richmond are in mourning because the elections for U. S. Senators are over, and they cannot make Father RITCHIE Senator, of course in Mr. HUNTER's place, as the Chivalry party in the Senate moved the proceedings against him. Others talk of making him Vice President in 1848, but Mr. RITCHIE blushes at the very thought, and declines the proffered distinction with as many "Oh! don'ts—behave now—oh! quit yourself!" as a little school-girl would use to a rough-beared man who wanted to kiss her. Now all this fanfaronade, and hubbub about martyrdom, violation and restriction of the freedom of the Press, will not do—it won't go down anyhow you can fix it—it don't come from the right quarter—for everybody knows how furiously this very proscribed and persecuted "Union"! has been denouncing the Whig press of the country for daring to oppose the will and edicts of "the throne" upon the subject of the Mexican war. Orders were issued and counsel given from "Head Quarters," to denounce them as the Mexican Whig-press—Blue Light Federalists, &c. &c.—they were to be visited with the opprobrium of rendering "aid and comfort" to the enemy, unless they endorsed the infallibility of Mr. POLK—they were to be muzzled and not allowed to express an opinion. Congress, too, was to be gagged upon the same principle, and now, too, the Army is to be placed under the same ban, for we can regard the revival and re-publication of the Army Order of 1825 immediately upon the appearance of Gen. TAYLOR's letter in the public and free press of the country, in no other light.

And if we remember rightly, when the Reporters of the New York Tribune were expelled from the House last Spring, because one of its Washington correspondents, "Persimmon," told the story about Mr. SAWYER of Ohio, eating "sassingers" behind the Speaker's chair, the "Union" approved and justified the act—certainly it thundered no denunciations against the restriction of the freedom of the Press then.

Where is the difference in these cases, and especially and pointedly in the last one we have mentioned. If there be any difference, "Persimmon" has it, for his letter was a piece of good-natured fun, and the "Union"s a piece of strong, embittered, insulting denunciation, which can find no shelter under the freedom of the Press.

The truth is, the President's Message libels his countrymen by charging a portion of them with "rendering aid and comfort to the enemy"—which expression, by the way, was a quotation from one of the "Union"s editorials—and the "Union" has been following up the effort, during the whole Winter, to restrict the freedom of Speech and the Press, and should not now utter one syllable of complaint when it finds "the poisoned chalice returned to its own lips." It is a trite saying, but a true one, "that people who live in glass houses should not throw stones." The venerable Editor will have to try again—his martyrdom is not yet tragic enough for the new edition of Fox.

[CH]

Thursday, February 25, 1847 MG47v47n52p2c5 Words: 171

DEPARTURE OF THE VOLUNTEERS.

We have been favored with the perusal of a letter from one of the most worthy young men belonging to the Volunteers from this County. It is decidedly one of the best written and most satisfactory letters that we have seen from Capt. ALBURSTIS' Company since they left Martinsburg. There is a good deal of sickness among the Volunteers—seven deaths have occurred among them. The Jefferson Company have lost three of their men, the Portsmouth Company two, and the Montgomery two. Six of Capt. ALBURSTIS' Company have been discharged on account of sickness, and inability to travel on account of it—JACOB SHANKS, of Morgan County, SOCRADES PRATHER, of Hampshire, BENJAMIN BLONDEL, of Berkeley, OTHO KISINGER, of Berkeley, and two young men from Philadelphia. The Jefferson, Berkeley, and Petersburg Companies were all on board the Bark Exact, and were to sail on Friday morning last, the 19th inst. There were still three Companies at Fortress Monroe, but as Transports had arrived for them, they are probably off before this time.

[CH]

Thursday, February 25, 1847 MG47v47n52p2c5 Words: 161

BIRTH-DAY CELEBRATION.

The "Independent Blues" under command of Capt. THOMAS B. HOOPER celebrated the Birth Day Anniversary of the immortal WASHINGTON—Monday last, the 22d inst., in a very appropriate manner. The day was very stormy and inclement, yet notwithstanding the turn out of the Company was quite full.—They marched to the Presbyterian Church, where the "Farewell Address" of WASHINGTON to his Countrymen was read by NORMAL MILLER, Esq., prefaced by a few appropriate remarks; at the conclusion of which, Dr. F. D. DELLINGER rose and pronounced a short but eloquent eulogy upon the life and character of the illustrious Father of our Country.—We congratulate the young and eloquent Orator upon his highly creditable effort. His audience testified their approbation and delight by the most rapturous applause at different stages of the delivery, but especially at the conclusion of his Address. The Company dined at
Capt. BOAK’s Hotel, where, as we learn every thing was prepared for them in first-rate style.

**Thursday, February 25, 1847, MG47v47n52p2c6 Words: 98**

NEXT PRESIDENCY AND VICE-PRESIDENCY,

“MONTEREY,” a correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot, nominates THOMAS RITCHIE, Esq., the Expelled of the Senate, for President in 1848, and R. RICHILIEU, Esq., the Author of the Sassage story in the N. Y. Tribune and the Expelled of the House of Representatives, as Vice President. "Monterey" is not posted up—it was not RICHILIEU, the regular correspondent of the Tribune, who describe "the Ohio animal" feeding behind the Speaker’s chair on "sassages,” but "Persimmon,” an occasional correspondent. Will "Monterey” make the correction?—if so, we go his ticket and then "the longest pole knocks down the Persimmon.”

**Thursday, February 25, 1847, MG47v47n52p2c6 Words: 74**

TWEEDLEDUM AND TWEEDLEDEE.

The Union denounces most bitterly the action of the House of Representatives upon the Wimot proviso, but takes care not to touch the names of any of its own party. Messrs. DAVIS, YOUNG, MCHENRY, GRIDER, and TRUMBO of Ky., all Whigs, who voted for the proviso, are denounced in unmeasured terms.—What is the difference “’twixt tweedledum and tweedledee?” A few experiments upon the liberty of the press!!! has given the organ some experience.

**Thursday, February 25, 1847, MG47v47n52p3c1-2, Words: 187**

SWORDS FOR THE VOLUNTEER OFFICERS.

The handsome substantial swords ordered by the City Council, for the officers of the Volunteer Companies of Richmond, for Mexico, have been received and are now at the store of Messrs. MITCHELL and TYLER.

These swords were made by AMES, of Mass., and bear the following inscriptions on their blades.

"Presented by the city of Richmond, Va., to Captain ROBERT G. SCOTT, Jr., of the Richmond Grays.—January, 1847.”

1st Lieutenant,             THOMAS P. AUGUST.
2nd “                  JOHN J. FRY.
2nd “                  ROBERT C. DONNAN.

"Presented by the city of Richmond, Va., to Captain EDWARD C. CARRINGTON of the Richmond Rangers.—January, 1847.”

1st Lieutenant,             G. A. PORTERFIELD.
2nd “                  CARLTON R. MUNFORD.
2nd “                  H. A. WILLIAMSON.

The patriotic spirit by which these gallant young officers have been actuated in offering their services in time of need, prove them to be worthy recipients of so distinguished a compliment from the Metropolis of their native State. We feel too, that if an occasion presents itself, they will show by their valor on the battle-field that these swords have not been placed in improper hands.— Richmond Rep. Feb. 16.
Thursday, March 4, 1847, MG47v48n1, Pages 1 and 2 missing—nothing on pages 3 or 4

Thursday, March 11, 1847, MG47v48n2p2c6, Words: 558

LATEST NEWS FROM THE ARMY.

From the West we learn that Col. DONNIPHAN with 600 men, encountered a body of Mexicans, about 1200 in number, about 50 miles of Paso del Norte and a battle ensued.—The Mexicans stood but one fire, broke ranks and fled, leaving 30 men dead on the field.—None of the Americans were killed—only seven wounded. Col. DONNIPHAN's destination is Chihuahua where he expects to find Gen. WOOL and join his column. He will be disappointed, and may run perhaps into the arms of an over-powering force.

An insurrection had been planned at Santa Fe, headed by the Priests, but it was discover in time to prevent it. Twenty of the ringleaders—nearly all Priests—had been arrested. It was thought they would be executed.

The dates from Tampico are to the 20th of February—Gen. SCOTT had arrived the day before. The General immediately issued his General Orders—announcing his Staff, Officers, &c., and also a general order for the purpose of restraining licentiousness in and about the camps and posts of the invading army; by which all such camps, &c., are declared to be under martial law, and assassination, murder, malicious stabbing, maiming, theft, the wanton destruction of Churches or other property, are declared to be offences which will be punished by military commissions duly appointed for the purpose, and that the sentence shall be carried into execution, in conformity with the punishments inflicted for like crimes in the United States.

It is reported that SANTA ANNA has ordered his troops to evacuate Vera Cruz and retire into the interior. (Doubtful, we should think.) A letter from Tampico, Feb. 18, states that SANTA ANNA was to march on Saltillo preparatory to attacking Monterey; and that Gen. URREA, with 5,000 troops, was to march upon and attack Matamoras. The Mexicans count strongly upon the success of both expeditions. It is thought, however, by the N. Orleans Bulletin that these intimations are given out by SANTA ANNA to mask his real movements toward Vera Cruz, and that he has actually marched to that point. He had 30,000 men, 7,000 cavalry, at San Luis, and may reach Vera Cruz as soon as Gen. SCOTT. A severe fight will perhaps take place.

Gen. TAYLOR is now at Saltillo, with about 8000 men and a full supply of provisions, &c., for his army for ten months. It is reported in in a letter from the Brazos Santiago, of date Feb. 22, that the whole Mexican force in and about Saltillo have gone South to Vera Cruz. Gen. BUTLER has been obliged to return to the U. States—he is still suffering so much from his wounds received at Monterey as to be disabled for service.

The portion of the Virginia Troops under Lt. Col. RANDOLPH, had arrived at Brazos Santiago. They are to land at the mouth of the Rio Grande, and proceed immediately to Saltillo. The Virginians will be under “Old Rough and Ready.”

THE NEW MAJOR GENERAL.

Col. [unreadable] BENTON, of Mo., and Col. CUMMINGS of Augusta, Ga., are the two new Maj. Generals under the late law of Congress authorising the appointment of additional officers of that grade.—Every person knows Gen. BENTON, but of CUMMINGS we know nothing, only that he fought the famous duel a number of years since with Gen. MCDUFFIE of S. C.

[HCH]

Thursday, March 18, 1847, MG47v48n2p1c3-5, Words: 2155

LIST OF ACTS

Which have passed at the last Session of Congress that has just closed.

BILL WHICH ORIGINATED IN THE SENATE.

An act to establish a land office in the Northern part of Michigan, and to provide for the sale of mineral lands in the State of Michigan.

An act granting a pension to Joseph Morrison.

An act declaring the assent of Congress to certain States to impose a tax upon the lands hereafter sold by the United States therein from and after the day of such sales.
An act for the relief of Thomas Boronell.

An act for the relief of John Stockton, late a lieutenant in the army of the United States.

An act for the relief of Win. B. Keene.

An act to extend the time for selling the land granted to they Kentucky asylum for teaching the deaf and dumb.

An act for the relief of George Gordon.

An act for the relief of Peter Frost.

An act for the relief of Elijah White and others.

An act to encourage enlistments in the regular army.

An act for the relief of Thomas Blanchard.

An act for the relief of Hobson Johns.

An act for the relief of George Roush.

An act giving the assent of Congress to an act of the General Assembly of Virginia, authorizing the levy of tolls on the James river.

An act to authorize the issuing of a new register for the American barque "Pons, “ of Philadelphia, by the name of the “Cordelia.”

An act to regulate the exercise of the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of the United States in certain cases, and for other purposes.

An act for the relief of Andrew Moore.

An act for the relief of the heirs of Louis de la Houssaye, deceased.

An act to authorize the issuing of a register to the brigantine "Ocean Queen.”

An act confirming the claim of the heirs and legal representatives of Pierre Dufresne to a tract of land.

An act to establish a court at Key West, in the State of Florida, and for other purposes.

An act for the relief of James S. Conway.

An act to change the time of holding one of the terms of the circuit court of the U. States for the district of North Carolina.

An act to grant a right of pre-emption to Philip F. Dering and Rob’t H. Champoin to a tract of mineral land.

An act in addition to an act to establish a court at Key West, in the State of Florida.

An act to amend the act entitled "An act to regulate the carriage of passengers in merchant vessels, “ and to determine the time when said act shall take effect.

An act to provide for the punishment of piracy in certain cases.

An act for the relief of Francis Sommerauer.

An act making further appropriation to bring the existing war with Mexico to a speedy and honorable conclusion.

An act relinquishing to the city of Madison, in the State of Indiana, all the right and title of the U. States to a certain strip of unsurveyed land lying within the limits of said city, and bordering on the Ohio river.

An act providing for the building and equipment of four naval steamships.

An act making provision for an additional number of general officers, and for other purposes.
An act to amend an act entitled “an act to raise for a limited time an additional military force, and for other purposes.”

A joint resolution for lighting with gas the Capitol and Capitol grounds.

A joint resolution authorizing the employment of the U. States ships Macedonian and Jamestown in transporting provisions for the famishing poor in Ireland and Scotland.

Resolution concerning the purchase of additional lands for the use of the U. States armories at Harper’s Ferry and Springfield.

Resolution to refund money to the States which have supplied volunteers and furnished transportation during the present war, before being mustered and received into the service of the United States.

A joint resolution to correct an error in the act of June 17, 1844, for the relief of Mary Ann Linton.

A joint resolution representing the maps and charts of the surveys of the boundary lines of the United States of America and foreign states.

BILLS WHICH ORIGINATED IN THE HOUSE.

An act for the admission of the State of Wisconsin into the Union.

An act authorizing the issue of Treasury notes, a loan, and for other purposes.

An act to establish certain post routes, and for other purposes.

An act to amend "An act entitled an act to amend an act to carry into effect, to the States of Alabama and Mississippi, the existing compacts with those States with regard to the five per cent. fund and the school reservations.

An act to amend an act entitled "An act to reduce the rates of postage, to limit the use and correct the abuse of the franking privilege, and for the prevention of frauds on the revenues of the Post Office Department, ” passed March 3, 1845.

An act further to extend the charter of the Union Bank of Georgetown, in the District of Columbia.

An act to amend an act entitled "An act to provide for the payment of horses and other property lost and destroyed in the military service of the U. States, ” approved the 18th day of January, 1837.

An act providing for the payment of any interest falling due on the public debt.

An act for the relief of the Bank of the Metropolis.

An act making appropriations for the support of the army and of volunteers for the year ending the 30th June, 1848, and for other purposes.

An act making appropriations for the support of the Military Academy for the year ending on the 30th June, 1848.

An act for the increase of the marine corps of the United States.

An act making appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department for the year ending on the 30th June, 1848.

An act making appropriations for the payment of Revolutionary and other pensions of the United States for the year ending on the 30th June, 1848.

An act authorizing the erection of certain lighthouses, and for other purposes.

An act for the admission of the State of Iowa into the Union.

An to raise for a limited time an additional military force, and for other purposes.

An act to provide for the establishment of additional post routes in the State of Texas.

An act to regulate the carriage of passengers in merchant vessels.

An act making appropriations for the current and contingent expenses of the Indian Department, and for fulfilling treaty stipulations with the various Indian tribes for the year ending June 30, 1848.
An act making appropriations for the naval service for the year ending June 30th, 1848.

An act to authorize the constituted authorities of the city of Du Buque, in the State of Iowa, to enter certain islands between the landings of said city and the main channel of the Mississippi river.

An act to create an additional land district in the Territory of Wisconsin, and for other purposes.

An act creating a collection district in Maine, and constituting Bangor, in said district, a port of entry and delivery.

An act making appropriations for the payment of navy pensions for the year ending 30th June, 1848.

An act for the relief of Ray Tompkins and others, the children and heirs at law of the late Dan'l D. Tompkins.

An act granting a pension to Patrick Kelly.

An act for the relief of Joshua Shaw.

An act for the relief of Julius Eldred, Elisha Eldred, and Francis El. Eldred, for expenses and services in removing the copper rock from Lake Superior.

An act for the relief of Joseph Warren Newcomb.

An act for the relief of the citizens of Beetown, in the territory of Wisconsin.

An act for the relief of W. P. S. Sanger and George de la Roche.

An act for the relief of Dr. Clarke Lillybridge.

An act for the relief of Frederick Hopkins, and of the county of Chenango, in the State of New York.

An act for the relief of the heirs of Sergeant Major John Champe.

An act for the relief of James Jones, of the city of Brooklyn.

An act for the relief of the late legal representatives of Thos. Shields, deceased.

An act for the relief of Susan Brum.

An act for the relief of Elizabeth Adams.

An act for the relief of Henry La Reintree.

An act for the relief of Jas. H. Conley.

An act for the relief of Wm. N. Walthall.

An act for the relief of the widow and heirs of John B. Chaudonia.

An act for the relief of Jacob L. Vance.

An act for the relief of Josiah Haskell.

An act for the relief of Jas. Williams.

An act granting a pension to Silas Chatfield.

An act for the relief of the assignees of the late Bank of Alexandria.

An act for the relief of Harvey Reynolds.

An act for the relief of Catharine Stephenson.

An act for the relief of Ann Clayton.
An act for the relief of Elizabeth Fitch.

An act for the relief of Thankful Reynolds.

An act for the relief of Elizabeth Calkins, the widow of Silas Winans.

An act for the relief of Jonathan Hoyt.

An act to increase the pension of Roswell Hale.

An act for the relief of Edith Ramey.

An act to provide for the final settlement of the accounts of John Spencer, late receiver of the public moneys at Fort Wayne, Indiana.

An act for the relief of John C. Stewart and others.

An act for the relief of the estates of Benjamin Metoyer and Francois Gaiennie, deceased.

An act for the relief of Isaac Guess.

An act for the relief of the heirs of Hyacinth Lasselle.

An act for the relief of James Green, of the county of Fauquier, State of Virginia.

An act for the relief of Wilfred Knott.

An act for the relief of Bernard O’Neill.

An act for the relief of John Pickett and others.

An act for the relief of Harrison Whitson.

An act for the relief of Job Hawkins.

An act for the relief of John Speakmen.

An act for the relief of the legal representatives of John Lanson, deceased.

An act to grant a pre-emption right the heirs and legal representatives of John T. Smith.

An act for the relief of Capt. Jas. Pennoyer.

An act for the relief of the heirs and legal representatives of William Bunce.

An act for the relief of William Causey.

An act for the relief of John Van Slyck.

An act for the relief of the administrators of Joseph [unreadable]dson, deceased, late marshal of the district of Vermont.

An act for the relief of Joseph Gideon.

An act for the relief of Lewis C. Sartori.


An act for the relief of Geo. B. Russell and others.

An act for the relief of the legal representatives of Simon Spalding, deceased.

An act for the relief of the legal representatives of Jas. H. Clark.

An act to amend an act entitled "An act to provide for the better organization of the Department of Indian Affairs, and an act entitled 'An act to regulate the trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and to preserve peace on the
An act for the relief of Mary Segar, and for the relief of Elisha Dennison, administrator of Phenix Carpenter Ellis.

An act for the reduction of the costs and expenses of proceedings in admiralty against ships and vessels.

An act for the relief of Zachariah Simmons, of the State of Tennessee.

An act for the relief of the heirs of John Paul Jones.

An act to give consent of Congress to the sale of certain salt spring lands heretofore granted to the States of Michigan, Illinois, and Arkansas.

An act to establish a port of entry at Salura, in the State of Texas.

Join resolution to prohibit the sale at private entry of certain lands in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Joint resolution for the relief of William B. Stokes, surviving partner of John N. C. Stockton & Co.

Joint resolution for the relief of Stephen Johnson, deceased.

Joint resolution relative to the preparation and presentation of medals to certain French, British, and Spanish officers.

Join resolution for the relief of M. A. Price and E. A. White.

Joint resolution authorising and directing the examination and settlement of the claims of Alexander M. Cumming.

Joint resolution for the settlement of the accounts of Purser G. R. Barry.

Joint resolution for the relief of John and Charles Bruce.

Joint resolution of thanks to Major General Zachary Taylor, the officers and soldiers under his command, for their conduct in the storming of the city of Monterey.

INTERESTING FROM OREGON & CALIFORNIA.


The New York Tribune has received a letter from Panama, communicating the following interesting intelligence from Oregon and California.

The British surveying vessels, the Herald and Pandora, arrived in the bay of Panama—the former on the 13th, and the latter on the 16th of Jan., 1847. Their business here is to complete the survey of the bay and the neighboring coast.—The Officers gave different accounts of the value of this Island—some saying it is very valuable; others that it is worthless.—The naturalist is of the former opinion.

They left the Straights on the 9th of September last, and arrived at San Francisco bay, in Upper California, on the 26th of the same month, where they found the American flag flying from th effort, and from some twenty-five whalers, which had run in there through fear of Mexican privateers. The Portsmouth was also there. At Yerba Buena, were many Mormons living in tents, while they were building their houses. An advance guard of these people, about 5000 in number, had already arrived in the country.—There was much quarreling among them.

On the 26th of the same month, they hove to in the bay of Monterey, and communicated with Com. Stockton, who was then under sail in the Cyane, for the Southern ports. The Commodore was in good health, and represented the country in a pretty quiet state.

On the 4th of October last, they lay off the bay of San Diego and communicated with an armed whaler, which ahd, as was reported, been sent down by the Commodore for the protection of the coast.—They learned that the Californians had risen on the American garrison at Pueblos de los Angeles, killed the commander Capt. Galespy, and most of his command, and raised again the Mexican flag. They afterward heard a vague report that Gallespy had escaped. The Americans and other foreigners who had escaped the massacre had taken refuge on board the whaler. The natives
were leaving California. On the 20th of October, these vessels arrived at Mazatlan, where they learned that the American squadron had literally leveled the town of Guaymas, in Senora, to the earth. It was not known that the land forces under General Kearney had arrived in that country.

Two American ships of war were cruising on Mazatlan, the names of which were forgotten. It would appear that the difference between American and British sailors is not clearly defined; for the commander of the surveying vessels (running his vessels into the ahrbor without hoisting his flag) was seized together with several other officers and men and thrown into prison as Americans in disguise.—It required about one week to convince Don Juan Carraho to the contrary.

They touched at San Blan and Acapulco, and took a running survey of the whole coast. It was an utterly defenceless state.

Since writing the above, one of these British officers informs me that the American sloop-of-war Shark was ashore on the bar of the Columbia river in September last. It was not known at San Francisco whether she was got off, or not. Some said she was got off, but went ashore again and was lost.

There is still a great turmoil on this coast about the Expedition of Flores. In this place it is hardly possible to sleep for drumming, fifing, and the blowing of those villainous Spanish American trumpets.—The government of New Grenada has concentrated here a force of some 2000 men, i.e. little Negro and Indian soldiers and the militia, under the command of Gen. Lopez, in order to dispute Flores’ passage across the Isthmus, should he attempt to come this way. But is it supposed that they will join that very able and popular general with a hearty zeal, should he choose to present himself among them.

The Government of New Grenada, Equador, &c. have entered into a league for mutual defence, so that the general should enter Equador by any other route than this, the troops stationed here will proceed thither and form a junction with their allies. Perhaps Flores would do better to fight his enemies in detail—and to do that he should come cross the Isthmus, landing at Porto Bello, and marching to Panama, whence he can proceed to the port of Guayaquil, in Equador—fight the Equadorans before Peruanos, &c. arrive, and so along. However, I suppose that these opinions of mine on military matters will be of little use to your readers or Flores.

VIATOR.

Thursday, March 18, 1847, MG47v48n2p1c6-7, Words: 665

SLAVERY IN MEXICO.

It has been asserted that slavery did not exist in Mexico. It is true under the name it does not, but under the names of peonage it does and it its worse form confined to no color, but as perpetual bondage and punishment for debt. Many large proprietors control in this way hundreds of peons, both men and women. The debt is perpetual—it generally increases instead of diminishing—and is rarely ever paid. The peon being charged with interest as well as with clothing, subsistence, medicine &c. In this way it is believed that more than a million of peons are held as slaves, and may be seized as fugitives if they dare to leave the employ of their master; and the fruits of their labor to go to their master not to the peon. In the speech of the Hon. Mr. Roberts of Mississippi, by whom public attention has been called to this subject, these laws are given as follows:

PEON LAWS OF MEXICO.

ART. 1. The masters are responsible for the conduct of their servants, and for the same reason, the law gives them, over those servants, the authority of fathers over their sons, that they may particularly correct and chastise them. The same authority is given over the family of the servant that lives with the master.

ART. 2. In consequence of the foregoing provision, the master should provide for the education of the children of the servants dependant upon them.

ART. 3. Should the faults of the servant be many or aggravated, whether because he frequently fails in his service, or whether for want of respect to the master, he shall be chastised by the justice (alcade) with six months in irons, if a man, or with the (la cevena) clog, if a woman, in the house of the master, the latter having the power to diminish this penalty at his pleasure. If the servant should be guilty of overt acts against the master, he shall be punished in conformity to the existing laws.

ART. 4. He who being once convicted, according to the foregoing articles shall repeat the same offence, shall be criminally prosecuted and condemned to serve one year on the public works in irons; and if a woman shall be so convicted, she shall be condemned to one year of seclusion with the clog.
ART. 5. In no case shall the master lose the debt of the servant; and the term of punishment being concluded, the servant shall return to the service of his master if he can do it; but if he enters the service of another, this shall pay the debt.

ART. 6. The law which prohibits trading with servants, and the penalties which those laws establish as to those who contracted them, are declared to be in force.

ART. 7. The master who abuses the power given him by the law shall be tried and punished in conformity to the law, according to the abuse he may commit; but in no case not even in that of application of a fine in favor of the aggrieved, shall the master lose the debt.

ART. 8. Payments shall be made in money or goods, if the servants ask them, at the current prices. For settlements, and on plantations, where there are no stores, and the good are brought from other parts, they shall be charged with the extra costs. The master who may give his goods with the higher charges then the foregoing regulation requires, shall be fined equivalent to triple the excess which he charges upon the servant.

ART. 9. As the master cannot turn away the servant without just cause, so neither can the servant leave the service of his master without the same just cause. The servant who shall do so, shall be positively returned to the service of his master, chastised by the justice in the house of the master, with two months in irons, or with the clog, if a woman.

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Thursday, March 18, 1847, MG47v48n2p1c7, Words: 109

A Capital Toast.—At late festival of the citizens of St. Louis, given on the 15th of February, for the purpose of celebrating the landing of Laclede and the founding of that city, we find the following among the regular toasts drunk on the occasion:

Our Army—The Volunteers and Regulars: With Shields for defence; a Butler for supplies, a Pillow for repose; and a Marshall for parade, may they not lack Wool for comfort, Worth in battle, or a Garland for victory; never crying Quitman to the foe, but laying their Twiggs on the enemy's back, pay promptly their Scott, or charge as the Taylor always knows how.

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Thursday, March 18, 1847, MG47v48n2p2c5, Words: 402

THE VIRGINIA VOLUNTEERS.

By private letters we have news of the arrival of the Victory, at Point Isabel, with the companies under the command of Captains CARRINGTON and CORSE, of the Virginia Regiment, on board. They arrived two days after the Mayflower. No mention is made of the Victory in the news given in the New Orleans papers. We erroneously stated a day or two since that Capt. CORSE's company was on board the Mayflower. The companies on board that vessel were those under the command of Captains SCOTT, HARPER, F. H. ARCHER, and BANKHEAD. The whole six companies were ordered to join Gen. TAYLOR with all possible dispatch. We have been favored with the following letter from Capt. CARRINGTON:—

Richmond Times.

POINT ISABEL, Feb. 21st, 1847.

Dear Mother: I have only about five minutes to write. It happened that Col RANDOLPH's detachment and ours reached land within two days of each other. Capt. CORSE and myself came ashore from our vessel to wait upon the commanding officer of the post (Gen. WORTH as it happened to be) and receive orders. When we reached the Hotel, the first man we met was Col. RANDOLPH, with one of his officers on the same duty.

Our orders are, to take the first boat for Matamoras, and thence, to march immediately to Monterey, about three hundred miles, where we are to join old Zack, who expects a brush very soon, and is anxious for reinforcements. Gen. WORTH seemed delighted to see us; and said that Gen. TAYLOR would be greatly relieved by our arrival. The arrangement seems to be to concentrate the regular forces at Vera Cruz and the volunteers at Monterey. One would easily infer from this that warmer work was expected at the former. To be frank, I must confess that we are somewhat disappointed; for we hoped to share in the struggle at Vera Cruz.

I have met with a good many Mexicans of the lower class here. They appear from their action to be very sluggish and indolent; yet they are fully as large and muscular, it seems to me, as our men.

We all arrived safely—no sickness, expect mumps and sea sickness. FAYETTE FITZHUGH was dreadfully sea-sick; from the time he went aboard until he landed. Strange to say, I suffered less than any of them, except Lieut. C. MUNFORD, who was not sick at all.
Thursday, March 18, 1847, MG47v48n2p2c6, Words: 1005

IMPORTANT CORRESPONDENCE.

Senator Benton’s resignation of his Major Generalship.—We find in the Washington Union and Intelligencer the following correspondence, published at the request of Senator Benton, which fully explains itself:--

Washington City, March 10, 1847.

Sir:—Please to receive as a mark of my respect, a copy of the following letters, which explain the circumstances under which I decline to accept the appointment of major general in the army. Respectfully, sir, your obedient servant.

THOMAS H. BENTON.

To the Hon. Mr. -----, of the United States Senate.

Washington City, March 6, 1847.

SIR: Without waiting for the formality of being presented with the commission of major general to the Army of the United States, I think it right to inform you at once that my acceptance, or refusal, of that high appointment, will depend entirely upon public and national considerations, of which you, yourself, will be the judge. Personally, I can have no wish for this office, but if you believe that I can be of service to the country, I am willing to forgo all private considerations—separate myself from my family, under painful circumstances; resign my place in the Senate, which is so dear to me—and proceed immediately to the theatre of war. My only stipulation would be for the powers which I deem necessary to success; and these would be both military and diplomatic—the command of the army, and an authority to sign preliminaries of peace, based upon terms previously approved by you.

I beg you to believe, sir, that nothing selfish, or personal dictates this proposed stipulation. There is no such thing in it. It proceeds from a thorough conviction that, with a subordinate command, I could do no good in the army; on the contrary that my presence there would be improper and mischievous: for I am known from my public speeches, to disapprove the plans both of the late, and of the present commander—(the defensive policy of one, and the San Juan of Ulua attack of the other)—and this being known, my presence would operate as an implied censure on the two generals, and might make me, in spite of myself, the nucleus of discontent and insubordination. The command of the army, therefore, is the only position which I could hold in it.

Authority to conclude a peace or at least to sign the preliminaries of peace, I deem highly essential to success, as it would enable the commander-in-chief to take instant advantage of all passing events, military or political, to close the war.

Furnished with these powers, I am willing to make the sacrifices, and to incur the responsibilities of this high command; but I leave it to you, sir, for your free and final decision; considering it as a national question, and a new one on which there is no commitment, on either side, in any thing that has passed.

Whatever may be the decision, my thanks and gratitude will not be less to you for your unsolicited nomination of me to this high appointment, nor to the Senate for its instant and unanimous confirmation of it, nor the House of Representatives for its three times virtual election of me to the commander-in-chief of the army in Mexico.

Respectfully, sir, your friend and fellow citizen,

THOS. H. BENTON.

To the President.

Washington City, March 9, 1847.

SIR: I have given to your letter of the 6th instant, the consideration its importance demands. In tendering to you the appointment of major general in the army, I earnestly desired that the country should have the advantage of your conceded ability and military knowledge, your intimate acquaintance with the Mexican character, and your familiarity with their language and political condition.
Immediately after your nomination as major general had been unanimously confirmed by the Senate, I carefully examined the question, whether I possessed the power to designate you—a junior major general to the chief command of the army in the field. The result of this examination is, I am constrained to say, a settled conviction on my mind, that such power has not been conferred upon me by the existing laws.

I am fully aware of the exalted patriotism which could alone have induced you to make the personal sacrifices to which you would be subjected, in assuming even the chief command of the Army in Mexico; and I duly appreciate the reasons you have assigned, and which may, I fear, prevent you from accepting your appointment as major general. If, on further reflection, such should be your decision, I shall learn it with deep regret.

I am, sir, with high consideration, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES K. POLK.


Washington City, Tuesday Evening, March 9, 1847

SIR:—Your letter of this day’s date is just received; and seeing no reason for further reflection, and wishing to avoid all delay in officering the army, I have written a note to the adjutant general, to be delivered at his office in the morning, declining to accept the appointment of major general in the army, so kindly offered to me by you, and so honorably confirmed by the Senate. I have the honor to be, sir, with great respect, your friend and fellow-citizen,

THOS. H. BENTON.

To the President.

Washington City, Tuesday Evening, March 9, 1847.

SIR:—I had the honor to receive your note of the 6th instant, with the commission of major general in the army, and delayed the answer of acceptance or non-acceptance, until I should receive an answer from the President to a note which I addressed to him the morning of that day. The answer is now received, and enables me to answer your note, and to say that the commission is not accepted.

Please accept, sir, my thanks for the kind terms of your note, and for the thousand courtesies which you have extended to me in the course of our long and friendly acquaintance.

THOS H. BENTON.

To Adjutant General Jones.

Thursday, March 18, 1847, MG47v48n2p2c7, Words: 1244

LATEST NEWS!

LATE FROM MEXICO.

IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

A week later from the Capital—Triumph of the Church—Repeal of the Confiscation Law—Santa Anna desponding—The Army levying supplies for itself—Prospects of a Speedy Peace—Doings at Vera Cruz—Inefficiency of the Blockade—Rumored Protectorate.

The New York Sun has received Spanish papers with advices from Havana to the 26th ult., Vera Cruz to the 8th; and from the city of Mexico to the 5th, being a week later from the capital. The church had effectually resisted the seizure of its property, SANTA ANNA had yielded to the demands of the hierarchy, and the clergy propose a loan of $150,000 per month to the government. Such is a brief summary of the news.
We now give the details in the order of their occurrence since the latest date of our previous advices. The church continued its zealous resistance to the law of confiscation; the protest of the Archbishop's chapter was followed by protests from the various States, concluding with an energetic and denunciatory remonstrance from the Bishop of Michoacan. Many of these were forwarded to SANTA ANNA, who returned them to Congress with a letter of considerable length. He says that these protests have convinced him that the confiscation law had produced universal discontent; he regrets that the people should give him the repute of being the author of that law on the authority of a private and confidential letter to a friend, which had been printed, but which did not warrant the construction put upon it; no one can say that his suggestions were adopted in the law; and if there are other plans of obtaining resources—if, upon seeing the objects or policy of those who have endeavored to make themselves his inexcusable enemies and who wish to overthrow the measure because they believe it to be one which had not his approbation, --he entreats Congress, if not wholly convinced of the unity of the law, to modify it or substitute for it some other revenue law more to the purpose.

Upon the reading of this letter a bill was submitted to repeal the law and to authorize the Government to receive a loan of $450,000 per month from the clergy, which it was understood they were prepared to advance until peace has been secured. This bill was expected to receive the approbation of Congress and SANTA ANNA.

The distresses of the army were still prominent topics of discussion. SANTA ANNA had to seize 98 bars of silver belonging to Spanish merchants at San Luis, for which he gave his "personal guarantee." Unfortunately for the citizens, he was also compelled to seize provisions and money wherever he could find them, and which he had begun to collect throughout the country, without giving his "personal guarantee." In other words, the army is levying supplies for itself.

The minister of war sent $35,000 to SANTA ANNA at the close of January. The latter has forwarded a desponding letter to the government. He replies to the charge of [unreadable] made against him, paints the horrible destruction of his forces, his and their protestations of valor and patriotism, and declares his readiness to retire to private life, or to go again into foreign exile, if Congress think best. If they wish him to remain at the head of the army, they know his firm resolution, which is, to meet the enemy and to win imperishable glory for his country by death or victory. He adds that his is about to meet the enemy. The capture of the American detachments had [unreadable] some enthusiasm. The letter was dated 26th January. His proclamation announces his departure from San Luis for Saltillo, dated 27th, has already been published, and it is worthy of note that it was forwarded to Tampico without that of the 26th.

Active preparations for defence were [unreadable] at Vera Cruz as late as he 7th. The national bridge at Point Chiquihuite are receiving formidable additions to their strength. An act had passed the State legislature conferring all necessary power upon the governor in fortifying the city. We remark, however, that the rumored evacuation of Vera Cruz, announced at Tampico, may have been founded upon orders issued since the 7th ult. JUSTO SANTA ANNA has entered upon his duties as temporary Governor of Tabasco. Gen REJON, the new Secretary of foreign affairs, is favorably spoken of. He is to be the principal manager of negotiations with the United States.

There were at Anton Lizardo, one U. S. frigate, 3 brigs, 2 small steamers, 5 pilot boats, 1 steam frigate, and one French frigates, 2 French brigs, and one English brig.

The Spanish brig Seraphine, at Havana, and the blockade at Vera Cruz both in and out, being accompanied out by two other vessels which also escaped from the U. S. squadron. The blockade is violated daily. The English schooner Lee, arrived at Havana 27th Feb, [unreadable] days from Balize, Honduras, with $21,000 in specie.

News of the loss of the British mail steamer Tweed, had reached Havana.

We have a rumor from Havana that SANTA ANNA, during hostilities, was to be declared "Protector of Mexican Liberty," with full power to bring the war to a speedy termination—but it is only a rumor.

PEACE MOVEMENTS IN MEXICO.

The "Courier des Etats Unis" says it has received, by way of Havana, private advices relative to the affairs of Mexico, which contains several important revelations with regard to the reaction now going on secretly in the capital. It seems, says the Courier, that the clergy, whose property has been menaced by the war party, is disposed to make its own cause that of the Republic, and permit the projects of peace to triumph. Its plan is to replace the Federal Congress, from whose action it has nothing to hope for, by an absolute power strong enough to force Mexico to agree to a peace. Such, continues the Courier, is the double road leading to this end, and it is SANTA ANNA upon whom they are also reported to have cast their eyes. That General would then be sure of arriving once more to the dictatorship, supported by the clergy, and on the express condition of respecting its property and promptly concluding a treaty of peace. There is nothing in this combination, the Courier adds, which is at all improbable, due regard being had to the actual condition of Mexico, and besides, the person who communicates this intelligence is in a position which gives to it weight.

END OF THE EXCITING LIBEL CASE AT WASHINGTON.—By telegraph we received yesterday afternoon the following despatch, says the Baltimore American, March 9, announcing the termination of the exciting case of Ex-Gov. THOMAS, who was prosecuted for a libel upon his former wife:
WASHINGTON, March 8, 5, P. M.

Gen. JONES has just announced to the Circuit Court, as Senior counsel for Gov. THOMAS, the end of this deplorable controversy, and has read a paper which the Court has [unreadable], signed by the counsel for the defence, Messrs. JONES, MAULSHY, and SCOTT, defeating their belief of the unfounded character of the offences imputed by Gov. T. to his late wife, and also stating the conviction of the learned counsel that their client, however sound his mind on other subjects, in relation to the subject matter of this deplorable controversy, labored under an unhappy and morbid delusion.

PAY MASTER AT HARPER’S FERRY.—Col. EDWARD LUCAS has received the appointment of Pay Master at the U. S. Armory at Harper’s Ferry, vice RICHARD PARKES, Esq. resigned.

[CH] Thursday, March 18, 1847, MG47v48n2p3c1, Words: 680

THE THREE MILLION BILL, without the qualifications of the Wilmot proviso, passed the ordeal of the two Houses and is now a law. The ball itself has a thin cover of plausibility on the face of it; but to understand it aright it must be considered in connection with the remarks of the Committee on Foreign Relations, who, in open Senate, declared its real nature and purposes.

Our readers have not forgotten Mr. SEVIER’s avowal—that the object of this extraordinary appropriation was to furnish the leader of the Mexican army with the means of paying his troops, in order that they might be made tractable in his hands as he promised to be in ours.

Let us suppose that this declaration goes to Mexico, as it must, in advance of the appropriation. What then? The people of Mexico will behold in their leader a pensionary of the United States—an unmasked traitor, who receives money from the enemy to subserve the enemy’s purposes. Is it not so? And if it be so, how can SANTA ANNA retain the confidence of his counymen? Let us reverse the case, and suppose that in a war between the United States and England for example, the commander-in-chief of our armies in the field held at the same time the Presidency, and was a man of controlling influence with a powerful party; that he was willing to conclude a disgraceful peace, but feared to avow himself so lest his popularity and influence might be endangered; and that, finally, to strengthen his hands and to give him the means of procuring subservient instruments to accomplish his design, the British Government, in open Parliament, appropriated a large sum for his use. If such a man should not fall at once from his high position, overwhelmed by the indignation of his counymen, it would be because all sentiments of honor and patriotism have become extinct amongst us, and the faculty had become lost of recognizing the worst characteristics of treason.

There is one point of view in which we can understand how the Mexicans might permit this juggle to go on. They may know very well that the whole project is only a scheme on the part of SANTA ANNA to get money, and they may wink at the stratagem by which this Government allows itself to be coerced. It may remain that in the recollection of the Mexicans that SANTA ANNA has duped Mr. POLK once already, and that the manner in which the exiled chief was brought home and restored to the head of the army, did not in the slightest degree affect his devotion to Mexico, or impair his efficiency as a commander.—Why not suffer this accomplished master of duplicity to carry on his game? Money is very desirable to the Mexicans—very; they could fight us to much better advantage with a few millions in their coffers; and lo, here comes a simple pigeon ready to be plucked. The chance is too good to be lost; the game is irresistibly attractive to the prince of Mexican sharpers. It is a much better way of raising money than to lay taxes which can rarely be collected, or to seize upon church property from which nothing can be realized except unpopularity.
—Balt. Amer.

GEN. TAYLOR AND THE PRESIDENCY.—Politicians are not likely to make much by speculating on Gen. TAYLOR for the Presidency. In conversing with a gentleman recently, who told him he had been named for that office, he replied. “I am sorry to see it. I have always thought and still think a civilian and none other should hold that office. I have no other ambition than to bring this wary to an honorable close. I then go to my farm and there in the bosom of my family live and die. I am no politician. I have had no chance to vote for a number of years.”—Could he have voted at the last election, he says, he would have supported HENRY CLAY. He was opposed to the annexation of Texas.

[CH] Thursday, March 25, 1847, MG47v48n4p1c3 Words: 416

THE ISLAND OF LOBOS.—The Island of Lobos having become a place of some interest to many of our citizens as the place of rendezvous of that portion of our army which is destined for the attack on Vera Cruz, we extract the following brief account of it from the correspondence of the Philadelphia North American:

"ISLAND OF LOBOS, GULF OF MEXICO,

"February 7, 1847.
"This letter is written upon the most delightful tropical island ever trodden by adventurers from any clime.

"The Island of Lobos is a lovely little spot, formed entirely of coral, about two miles in circumference, twelve miles from the Mexican shore, about sixty miles from Tampico, and about 130 miles from Vera Cruz. It is covered (or was before we landed) with a variety of trees and shrubs, the highest of the former perhaps twenty five feet high, and these are so thickly covered with vines that one can hardly get through them. There is hardly a tree, or shrub, or growing plant here I have ever before seen. Banyan trees spreading over large spaces of ground, their limbs forming props as they pierce into the earth and take root, while the tops, thickly thatched with evergreen vines, form the most beautiful arbors. Lemon, lime, fig, palm, cane, and a hundred other species of wood are growing with all the freshness and beauty of the Indies. There is plenty of water to be had by digging four to six feet. It is brackish and sweet, but we are getting used to it, and like it nearly as well as ship water. Fish and sea fowl we have in profusion. With these we have a delightful sea air, that fourteen hours out of twenty-four makes the place delightfully pleasant.

"It will be difficult, I imagine, to convince you, who will read this scrawl beside great coal fires, that we are literally roasting during a portion of the day. The sun is so hot that our faces and arms are blistered if exposed but a few minutes. To-day, by Fareheit, in the shade, I scored 92 deg. The universal remark among the volunteers is, 'If this is winter, what will summer be?'

"Gen. SCOTT is daily expected here, and we shall soon be joined by seven thousand troops from Tampico, &c. There are six companies of Louisiana and four companies of South Carolina troops already here. They arrived on the 3d. instant. They are all in fine health, and are encamped beside us.'

Thursday, March 25, 1847, MG47v48n4p1c7 Words: 1026

MR. RIVES’ LETTER.

We take pleasure in laying before our readers the subjoined eloquent letter from ex Senator RIVES:

CASTLE HILL, 24th Feb. 1847.

GENTLEMEN:--I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 17th instant, inviting me to attend a meeting of the
citizens of our county proposed to be held at Charlottesville on the 27th inst., for the purpose of aiding in the great national charity of sending relief to the starving population of Ireland. Every feeling of my heart responds to the noble and generous object of the proposed meeting; and if the state of my health and the weather should permit me to overcome the distance, I will endeavor to be with you, to claim the privilege of a personal participation in this good work.

Nothing in my day has occurred to make me feel a juster pride in the character of my countrymen than the universal, and spontaneous movement with which, upon the first intelligence of the frightful distresses of our fellow beings in Ireland, though separated by a wide ocean and a difference of nationality, they have rushed forward, from one end of our continent to the other, to pour out the means with which a kind of Providence has blessed them, (in many instances the hard earning of daily toil,) all that could be spared from their own necessities for the support of kindred and suffering humanity in a distant quarter of the Globe. The problem has been thus gloriously solved that neither ocean nor "mountains interposed" present an impediment to the telegraphic sympathies and communications of the human heart. In the awful calamity of our Irish brethren, all have felt that mankind is but one family. No longer can it be said, in the language of the great moral poet of England—

This is no flesh in man’s obdurate heart;

It does not feel for man!“———

How much more congenial to the wants and infirmities of our common nature and the instincts of a noble philanthropy, is the great work of a national charity in which the people of America are now engaged, than scenes of war, violence and bloodshed, which fill so large a space in the annals of mankind; and it should be esteemed a glorious privilege for all of us, that, while called upon as citizens to sustain the government of our country in a conflict of arms with a foreign power, we can vindicate our humanity as men, by "deeds of peace," in feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and visiting the forsaken on another and distant land.

That the good people of Albemarle will claim their full share in this errand of mercy; I know them too well to doubt; and lest the state of my health, which has been somewhat deranged for a few days past, or some other cause should prevent my being personally present, I herewith enclose you my "mites."

I remain, gentlemen, with the highest respect, very truly your friend.

W. C. RIVES.

To Messrs. G. W. CARR, R. K. MEADE, and A. B. MAGRUDER, Committee, &c.

INTERESTING FROM TAMPIOCO.

Tampico, Feb. 20 1847.

The vessel by which I wrote on the 18th and 19th is still here and sails this day, so I give you another hasty scrawl, informing you as far as I farther know, of movements in this quarter.

Gen. Twigg’s division is first under marching orders, and leaves to-day.—Who is to go next I do not know, nor do I know what force is to be left to garrison this post. It should not be less, however, than 1500 men. All is bustle, and very soon we shall not have more troops here than are barely sufficient to take care of the town. I think my mind is pretty well made up to go along and see the Vera Cruz fandango. I was unlucky to miss the sport at Monterey, and do not feel willing to be absent when the "ball" opens at Vera Cruz.

To give you some idea of what is expected to be done, I will show you a portion of what is going down in the shape of munitions: First there are some 100,000 rounds of heavy ammunition; rockets, shells and an enormous supply of all sorts of combustibles, with 40 mortars and columbaria—some of them ten inches calibre; from ten to twenty 24-pounders; three field batteries, consisting of 6 and 12-pounders, and 12 and 24 pound howitzers.—With all these go the sappers and miners in the pontoon train. If we don’t knock ‘em into fits with these and get up a nice “tea party” I am very much mistaken.

P. S.—Feb. 23d.—The vessel by which I intended to send the above sailed before I could place it on board. I have not much to add-in fact it is almost impossible to gather anything here in the way of what is called army news—so secret is every thing kept. There is not a Mexican in our whole country that does not know that our troops are going to Vera Cruz, while in the United States and even here our own people are in the dark.—Santa Anna manages to keep himself well advised of our movements. I almost venture to say that he now knows as much of our plans and intentions, and of our strength and numbers in the field, as any of those who are at headquarters, in Washington city. Despatches of the greatest moment are sent through the enemy’s country, almost totally unguarded, and like week and struggling foraging parties, and mules and wagons, without good and strong escorts, they fall into the hands of our foes.

General Scott sailed with his staff from this place day before yesterday. The troops are preparing to follow him, and officers are momentarily expecting marching orders. All the forces now here, except the Louisiana Volunteers, the Baltimore battalion and one company of artillery, will be on the way to Vera Cruz in a short time. Those that I have named will be left here under the command of Col. Gates, to garrison the city.
To the Patrons of the Gazette.

You have already been made acquainted with the fact of my having undertaken the editorial conduct of this paper, and I assure you I am far from insensitive to the responsibilities incident to my position; for while I have not the vanity to suppose for a moment, that even within the sphere of its ordinary circulation, the direct influence of the Gazette could be potently exerted for good or evil—yet it is manifest that the village newspaper enjoys means of usefulness, and possesses capacities for mischief sufficient to render it an object of interest in the vicinity of its location. To many it is the only channel through which they become acquainted with the events of the great world around them; it is welcomed in their homes as a familiar friend and fireside companion—affording the means of amusement and recreation, and furnishing food for reflection amid the ordinary labors and cares of life; thus whilst it is invaluable as a dispenser of useful knowledge, its assertions are but too often received without caution—its conclusions adopted without examination, and prejudices are instilled and principles inculcated into the minds of its readers, whose benefit effects are felt in every portion of the community.

To guard against these evils, should be the anxious desire of every conductor of a press, and I pledge myself at the outset to exercise the most watchful care that nothing shall appear in the columns of the Gazette calculated to prejudice the cause of virtue and sound morality, no matter how brilliant and attractive may be the style, how popular the subject or how great the genius or fame of its author. With a fixed and steady purpose to express no opinion which is not the deliberate and candid conviction of my own mind, and to give currency to no statement upon any subject which I do not honestly and sincerely believe to be true, I hope whatever may be my shortcomings in other regards, to retain your confidence and respect.

A Virginian by birth and education, and devotedly attached to my native soil, I shall zealously endeavor to aid in promoting all those measures which promise to amuse the slumbering energies of her people, and to place her in the proud position she is entitled to occupy with her sister States—among which I recognise a liberal yet judicious system of Internal Improvements and a plan of Common School Education, which will place the means of acquiring useful knowledge within the reach of all.

With regard to Federal politics, I can only say, that "according to the most straitest sect" of our political profession—I am a Whig. I am a Whig, not only because I consider the great measures of the 27th Congress eminently calculated to promote the prosperity of the whole country, but because I regard the great body of the Whig party as being diametrically opposed to those radical and destructive principles, so alarmingly prevalent in some of the States of our confederacy, and which threaten, at no distant day, to destroy the fabric of our Union. There can be no doubt, that the time has come, when many of those, who, in 1844, were found in the ranks of our opponents, look upon the defeat of HENRY CLAY, as a great national calamity. They have seen the offices of the country distributed as spoils to the most abandoned and unprincipled of the votaries of the Administration.—They have seen the oft-rejected Sub-Treasury bill again forced upon the country, in defiance of the will of the people. They have seen the President of their choice, after recklessly declaring our right to the whole of Oregon to be "clear and unquestionable," and insisting that the national honor was pledged to maintain that right, compelled by friends and partizans to retract the ridiculous bravado which degraded the national character in the eyes of the world. They have seen the country plunged into a war of conquest, under the shallow pretense of "conquering a peace," with a nation notoriously destitute of the means of aggressive warfare. They have seen this war declared without the authority of Congress, and therefore in direct violation of the Constitution.—They have witnessed the blundering incapacity which has more than once placed our brave army in situations of extreme peril, from which nothing but the almost unexampled skill of our gallant Whig Generals and the intrepidity of their forces could have extricated them. They have witnessed the workings of that jealousy which prompted the President and his advisers to endeavor to pluck the laurels from the brow of the gallant TAYLOR, and lastly they see that in the event of the successful termination of the war, the annexation of this conquered territory threatens to raise a question which will sever in twain our glorious confederacy.

For these reasons we cannot permit our selves to doubt, that at the first opportunity offered by the Constitution, the reckless and incompetent party which now holds possession of the Government, will be hurled from power by an indignant and injured people, and our national affairs committed to faithful hands. For this communication so "devoutly to be wished," it becomes every Whig to devote all the energies of his mind and strength, and for this purpose I invoke the "aid and comfort" of my political friends and brethren—at the same time pledging all the energies in the compass of my humble ability to the good work.

C. H. LEWIS.

[HCH]
WHICH CANDIDATE FOR CONGRESS.

We have the pleasure this morning of laying before our readers the proceedings of the Whig Congressional Convention which met at Winchester on the 19th inst. It will be seen that their deliberations resulted in the nomination of ANTHONY KENNEDY, Esq., of Jefferson County, and who it will be seen by reference to the correspondence published in another column, has accepted the nomination. It is well known that Mr. FAULKNER was a decided favorite with the Whigs of "Old Berkeley," and we should have been much pleased ourselves to have seen him the nominee of the Convention. But it would seem, from the remarks of Col. HUNTER, addressed to the Convention, that Mr. F. took a high and magnanimous stand in relations to the nomination—such a one precisely as might have been expected from him, by any one knowing him well. The remarks of Col. HUNTER will attract the attention, and be read with admiration by all of Mr. FAULKNER's friends, throughout this Congressional District, and indeed throughout the State. The writer of this article (the late Editor of the Gazette) has been intimately associated with Mr. F. in all of the political contests of the past few years, and has known well his views in relation to the Congressional nomination just made, and can therefore bear witness to the faithful representation of his views and feelings by Col. HUNTER. In this last act he has done, as he has ever done before, since his first entrance upon public life—acted upon high and honorable considerations.

We cannot pass by this opportunity of saying a word upon the course of that sterling and meritorious Whig, JOHN. S. GALLAHER, Esq., whose name was intimately connected with the nomination for Congress from this District. He had many warm and sincere friends in all parts of the District, who were urging his claims with great earnestness. But he preferred "not to be the means of heart-burnings or strife among friends of the same political faith," and therefore, in a spirit of magnanimity, cheerfully stepped forward and withdrew his name from the list of nominees. Mr. GALLAHER is a native of this County, and we can assure him the people of his "native land" have a warm heart for him, and have witnessed his onward career in life with pride and pleasure. Whenever an opportunity is offered to them, they will give him a strong manifestation of their regard.

But we must not occupy too much space this week, and therefore must come up to the point at once. The Convention in their wisdom have selected ANTHONY KENNEDY, Esq., as the standard bearer of the Whig cause in this Congressional District. Berkeley County responds cheerfully, cordially and enthusiastically to the nomination, and from all sections of it, as far as we have yet heard, the Whigs will use every exertion to give him a triumphant majority. That is all right. He is a gentleman in every respect worthy of the warmest support. His character, talents, business qualifications, and practical experience in life, render him peculiarly fit for a good Representative. The Whigs of the District could not have entrusted their cause into better and safer hands. He has been for a large portion of his life occupied in business—and in branches of business which has made him intimately acquainted with the working of that great system upon which the prosperity and greatness of this rapidly growing country so much depends—the Protective System. He is a master of the subject—and that portion of our people in the Southern end of the County will not soon forget his noble defence of it made at Gerardstown during the Presidential Canvas of 1844. However, it is useless for us to dilate upon the subject, as no doubt Mr. K. will take an opportunity before the close of the canvass to give his views to the people of Berkeley upon his, the Mexican War, and all other great issues now occupying the public mind. He met Mr. BEDINGER at Charlestown on the 15th inst., and sustained himself and his cause in a most triumphant manner, as we learn from many of those who were present.

Our candidate is well known to the people of the District, having served for several sessions in the House of Delegates of Virginia, as one of the Representatives of Jefferson County. He was regarded very highly by the members generally, as a most useful representative—the highest compliment we think that can be paid to any gentleman. It is the character that has made the name of ELISHA WHITTLESEY, of Ohio, illustrious throughout the country. It is the character of a man who is ready in debate, and speaks only when he has something to say, and knows how to work and be useful to his constituents and his country. Such, Whigs of Berkeley, is the character of the candidate before you—he is the kind of Representative you want, and we think we may safely assure the District "that you will give a good account of yourselves on election day." Let us take "a long pull, a strong pull and a pull altogether," and victory may crown our efforts. We are assured from all parts of the District that "the skies are bright," then let every man discharge his duty and his whole duty. Our candidate has an arduous field before him, and our opponents are marching a large force against him. They seem to place their confidence of success in their "Old numbers"—perhaps they will find many on "the sick list" when they come to feel the pulse. They laugh now and summons us as confidently as SANTA ANNA did Gen. TAYLOR at Agua Nueva to surrender; but let us tell them as "Old Zack" did "TO COME AND TAKE US." [HCH]

Thursday, March 25, 1847, MG47v48n4p2c3 Words: 697

ANTHONY KENNEDY, ESQ.

In the last week's "Spirit of Jefferson," great injustice was done Mr. KENNEDY in quoting his remarks about the War. Mr. BEDINGER asked in his speech if any one would dare to denounce the War in that assembly; in reply, Mr. K., when noticing Mr. POLK's course on the War, referred to his inconsistency, and then stated that if the War was commenced for mere conquest, as asserted by Mr. Bedinger in his Speech in Congress, (the declaration of the President to the contrary notwithstanding,) he then pronounced it unjust and unholy for a strong people to dismember and overcome a weak and distracted Nation.

THE FAIR.
We have been requested to call the attention of our readers to the annexed notice of the Ladies of Shepherdstown. We do so with great pleasure, and hope the laudable object in which they are engaged may be crowned with abundant success. We know that a Church is much needed, and as the Ladies offer more than a "quid pro quo" for every dollar expended at "the Fair," we hope they will find plenty of customers. They offer a good cause, plenty of nice eatables and drinkables, and we doubt not, for the benefit of the young gentlemen, plenty of bright eyes and smiling faces. The Democrats all being in favor of a tax upon tea and coffee for the purpose of raising revenue, will of course be there, and we hope the Whigs will lay aside "party" in this instance and vote with them:--

THE FAIR.

The Ladies of the Old School Presbyterian Church of Shepherdstown, will hold a Fair in the "Odd Fellows" hall, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 7th and 8th of April next. On each day a dinner and supper will be set, and refreshments may be had at any hour, for the purpose of raising money to aid in building a Church. All person interested or disposed to contribute in this way are respectfully invited to attend.

Shepherdstown, March 18, 1847.

Our thanks are due to our friends, Capt. PEYTON and Mr. VENABLE, for the handsome list of subscribers sent us from "old Augusta." We shall refer to this subject again.

The Legislature of Virginia is still in session. It has been engaged for the past few days, in arranging the items of the Tax Bill, and the passage of sundry local Internal Improvement Bills. We cannot say how soon it will adjourn.

Genl. JAMES IRVIN who some day since received the Whig nomination for Governor of Pennsylvania, is represented to be the most able and influential man in the State, and will doubtless be elected. Success to him.

THE CONVENTION.

It will be observed that Col. E. P. HUNTER, of Berkeley withdrew the name of CHAS. JAS. FAULKNER from before the Whig Congressional Convention, soon after he had been placed in nomination by Mr. SHERRARD. The friends of this gentleman have exhibited a degree of magnanimity worthy of the highest commendation, and their prompt action has secured for Mr. FAULKNER many additional friends.

The name of JOHN S. GALLAHER, Esq. was not presented to the Convention, because of his positive declination through the medium of public prints, and by private letters to his friends.

The Convention was a perfect unit in the way of harmony—every delegate seemed to be impressed with the necessity of a united front—and not a remark was made, or a vote taken, but which aimed at the general good and prosperity of the noble Whig cause, which every man had espoused, and came prepared to support.

With the nominee, ANTHONY KENNEDY, Esq., of Jefferson, we are willing to trust the issue. He met Mr. BEDINGER on Monday last in Charlestown, and on that occasion acquitted himself handsomely—promising, that if allowed, he, Mr. K., would again meet Mr. B., "at Philippi."

And now, "booted and spurred, " Mr. KENNEDY appears in the field, as the chosen champion of Whig principles, and will "loom" away as fast as the "weaver's shuttle," and will "weave" up the speeches of Mr. B. so perfectly, that the people may see for themselves, that is indeed true that they lack the "fillin."—Winchester Rep.

[HCH]

Thursday, March 25, 1847, MG47v48n4p3c1-2 Words: 1661

LATEST NEWS!

LATE FROM MEXICO.

Most important from Mexico.

LATE FROM THE ARMY.

BATTLE BETWEEN GENLS. TAYLOR AND SANTA ANNA.

5,000 Americans Opposed to 20,000 Mexicans!!

2,000 Americans and 4,000 Mexicans Slain!

FROM THE BALTIMORE SUN, EXTRA, MARCH 20.
A Great Battle at Saltillo—Santa Anna commanding in person—Four thousand five hundred of the Enemy, and two thousand Americans reported to have fallen—Gen. Taylor falling back on Monterey—Advance of Gen. Marshall to his Relief—Impression at Camargo of Santa Anna’s defeat—Capture by the Mexicans of large Escorts of Provisions, Munitions of War, &c.—Approach of Gen. Urea with four thousand men, to Matamoras, &c.

The schooner James & Samuel, Capt. SOMERS, arrived at New Orleans on the 12th inst. from Brazos Santiago, having brought but a single letter, says the Picayune, and the gentleman who received that assures us that it contained no news whatsoever—was a mere letter of business. The schooners Napoleon, Exit and Cinderella were to sail the same day, and the Napoleon has the mail on board.

Capt. SOMERS reports that an express arrived at Brazos on the evening of the 4th inst., with news that a Mexican force had passed Matamoras on the opposite side of the river on the 4th. Although he conversed with the express rider he was unable to learn the number of Mexicans, or who commanded them.

The Picayune says that since the above was received the schooner Cinderella (or Cinderella G. Scull, as she is called) has arrived, and by her we have a multiplicity of most alarming rumors, and in a shape more definite than any before received. If we were to believe half that is said, the Mexicans have fought Gen. TAYLOR at Agua Nueva, and drove him back through Saltillo and to the pass of the Rinconada. But there is no authority given for such statements; they are founded confessedly upon contradictory flying reports. But even these reports are favorable to the prowess of Gen. TAYLOR and his troops. Rumor says he lost 2,000 men, but that the Mexicans lost more than 4,000 men, and the action is claimed as a victory for the American arms. But in this there must be gross exaggeration.

Communications between Monterey and Camargo has been completely cut off—so all the rumors say—and can only be opened again by a considerable force. Both Americans and Mexicans on the Rio Grande are in a state of great excitement and even alarm. The interruption of communications and the consequent uncertainty of intelligence, left all in a state of uncertainty the most painful. All hands were at work at Camargo and Brazos strengthening the works and throwing up new defences.

Just as the Cinderella was leaving the Brazos our informant learned that two Mexican spies had been taken there, but what disposition had been made he does not know.

To this gentleman we are indebted for a copy of the Matamoras Flag on the 3d. inst., that paper having been revived after a brief suspension. The Flag says the report of an action is fully credited in Matamoras, but our informant assures us that many officers of the army are yet totally incredulous in regard to it. Even the Flag is at a loss how far to believe in the generally accredited accounts. We deem it best to lay the Flag’s whole article before our readers that they may form their own judgment, but we cannot do so without expressing the hope and belief that the rumors in circulation are greatly exaggerated.

[From the Matamoras Flag, March 3d.]

Our town has been thrown into the most intense excitement by the reports constantly reaching here relative to the perilous situation of Gen. TAYLOR’s division of the army. They are so vague and confused that we hardly know how to commence an abstract even.—That a battle has been fought, no one here can doubt for a moment, but how it has resulted, or what dangers impend on the line of the Rio Grande, is enveloped in the most perplexing uncertainty. We give, however, what seems to be the best authenticated statement received here from the seat of hostilities.

Gen. TAYLOR, while at Agua Nueva, 22 miles from Saltillo, with 5000 men, was attacked, on the 22d ult., by a Mexican force of 15,000. Finding that he could not maintain his position, he made good his retreat to Saltillo, covering his wagon train. Here a severe engagement took place in the streets, in which the Mexicans suffered a heavy loss. After destroying what of the public stores he could not transport, he continued his retrograde movement on Monterey until he reached the Rinconada pass, where he was again attacked, but successfully defended himself. Here all the rumors, reports and letters leave him. Once in Monterey, and he would be safe, but his ability to accomplish this much was altogether problematical, as the Mexicans were swarming in every direction.

A merchant in Camargo, under the date of 25th ult., writes to his friend in this place: “Three expresses to-day from Monterey; fighting in Saltillo; Marin in Mexican possession; large train of wagons, 126, and 180 private mules taken; MCCULLOCH’s company taken; 8000 cavalry this side the mountains, and things in general turned upside down.” From another source we learn that Col. MORGAN had abandoned Cerralvo, destroyed all property he could not take with him, that a courier from Monterey reported at Camargo, 1500 Mexicans between the two places, and 8000 more were in the neighborhood of Victoria.

This much we culled from the mass of reports before us, without vouching for its correctness. The destination of several boats have been changed within the last few days on reaching this place, and one (the Troy) held in reserve at
Camargo to convey despatches. All the wagon trains for other places have been stopped here and every one is on the qui vive.

We have strong confidence in Old Zach, and believe it almost impossible to whip him; but should harm befall his division of the army, the consequences to those who have left him with such slender resources will be terrible. We will suffer all the tortures of doubtful suspense until we hear something from our little army that can be relied upon.

The steamship New Orleans sailed from the Brazos on the 4ths inst. for her destination. —We presume that Mr. KENDALL must have written us ere his departure on the New Orleans, but if so his letters have not yet come to hand. There was a mail brought over on the Cinderella, but it was not sent to the Post Office for distribution last night. The Postmaster, Mr. PENN, was on the alert and used all his efforts to obtain a delivery of the mail, but without success.

We hear no more by this arrival of the Mexicans crossing the Rio Grande near Matamoras. It occurred, if at all, the day after the Flag was published.

Capt. HENRIE, who recently effected his escape in so gallant a manner from the Mexicans, has arrive at Matamoras, on his way to his home in Texas.

The 22d day of February was celebrated with great éclat at Matamoras. Salutes were fired from both sides of the river, balls were given, speeches made, and other national demonstrations of rejoicing took place.

Six companies of the Virginia Regiment have passed through Matamoras and gone up to Camargo. They will see service sooner than they desire. Col. HAMTRAMCK leaves this city to-day on the Telegraph, to join this battalion of his command. The other six companies of his regiment are now at [unreadable] on their way to the seat of war.

Many outrages and murders continue to be perpetrated in the vicinity of Matamoras. The body of a man, name unknown, apparently an American, was found a short distance below Fort Brown. The fragment of a lasso was around his neck, and he had nine knife wounds in his body.

On the 22d ult.—we derive the particulars from the Flag—Mr. GEO. CURRY, a discharged soldier, formerly belonging to the 8th Infantry, was shot at a rancho a mile and a half above Fort Brown, by a man named KNOWLTON, who immediately fled. A reward of $50 has been offered by Col. DRAKE for apprehension of KNOWLTON, who is a carpenter by trade, and was, or had been, in the employ of the quartermaster. CURRY was a worthy man; he was wounded in the Florida campaign, fought at the battles of the 8th and 9th of May, and at Monterey, where he was again wounded. A large concourse followed him to the grave.

The last of the cases alluded to occurred on the 28th ult.; in the public market place. The name of the man stabbed is CHAS. PICKENS, teamster in the quartermaster’s service. His murderer was promptly arrested and thrown into prison.

A young Mexican was arrested on the 2d inst. supposed to have been a spy. He endeavored to make his escape from his captors, was fired upon and killed. As he had previously borne a good character, the Flag fears he was unjustly suspected.

The New Orleans Delta says that they are informed that the Mexicans had no artillery.—TAYLOR had eighteen pieces of light artillery. Gen. TAYLOR lost, it is said, about 2,000 men, and the Mexicans about 4,000. TAYLOR had taken position at a mill pond, about three miles from Saltillo. Gen. MARSHALL had left Monterey with provisions and two 18-pounders, guarded by a strong escort, to join Gen. TAYLOR. The Mexicans about Camargo think SANTA ANNA has been badly whipped. Col. MORGAN, of the Ohio Volunteers, stationed at Cerralvo with a strong force, has been attacked and his force cut up all along the line of observation as far as Mier. Another report is, that MORGAN was slightly wounded and has retreated. Several of our trains and many mules with sutler’s goods, have been captured by the Mexicans URREA is on his way to Matamoras, with 4,000 cavalry.

[CH]

Thursday, March 25, 1847, MG47v48n4p3c2 Words: 777

IMPORTANT FROM TAMPICO.

Embarkation of Troops against Vera Cruz—Sixty sail of Vessels with Troops—The grand attack to take place on the 10th inst.

By the Pioneer, Capt. S. BROWN, which arrived at New Orleans on the 12th inst., in seven days from Lobos Island, via Tampico, have interesting and important news as to the embarkation of our troops for the demonstration that is to be made on the city and castle of Vera Cruz. On the 29th ult., between 50 and 60 sail of vessels left Tampico and Lobos Island with troops and munitions of war of every description for the bombardment of Vera Cruz. Every vessel in the harbor—ships, barges, schooners and steamboats—in fact every vessel that could possibly carry men or arms, was enlisted into the service, and departed as soon as they could possibly be loaded. It was with great difficulty that the Pioneer got away, so anxious were the military authorities to impress her into the same service. Gen. SCOTT
himself is reported to have said that the demonstration would be commenced on the 10th inst., and this report was so generally believed at Tampico, when the Pioneer left, that it was not regarded as a mere rumor, but as a “fixed fact.” We may therefore expect every day to hear news of the bombardment of that far-famed Mexican tower of strength, the Castle of San Juan de Ulua.

An extract of the Picayune furnishes the following additional intelligence from Tampico and the Island of Lobos:

All the troops which were at Lobos had gone on board ship, with the exception mentioned below. There were nearly eighty sail of vessels of all descriptions lying there, but they were to sail for Anton Lizardo on the 2d. inst.

The only troops left at Lobos were the companies on board the ship on which the small pox had appeared.

Gen. WORTH arrived at Lobos, on the Edith, on the 1st inst., from Brazos. Gen. TWIGGS, arrived there two or three days previous.

Gen. PATTERSON was still at Tampico on the 3d inst. The steamship New Orleans arrived there on the morning of that day with Gen. JESSUP on board,

The Mississippi volunteers who were at Lobos (part of 2d Regiment) had sailed for Brazos. They are ordered to Monterey. Our informant thinks they sailed on the ship Ocean. They have suffered terribly from sickness, and are said to look miserable. The Louisiana Regiment, too, is said to have suffered much from sickness. On the other hand, the Pennsylvania and New York Regiments are said to be as fine looking a body of men as ever were seen.

The general depot established at Lobos is broken up. Nothing is to be left there but the few companies before alluded to.

Correspondence of the National Intelligencer.

NEW ORLEANS, March 15, 1847.

Messrs. Gales & Seaton:

I have but a few minutes for the way-mail. The city is full of rumors, said to be brought by vessels below, and one, which is generally credited, that Matamoras has been actually taken. I have ascertained, to my entire satisfaction, that such is not the case; at least, that no such advice now in the city, as I have seen a gentleman who left there on the 7th, and there is nothing, and can be nothing later. He tells me it will be rather a difficult task to take it. He, however, further informs me that a letter was received there on the 4th from Camargo, which states that pretty certain advices had been received of the capture of Col. MORGAN’s command, and that Gen. URREA was between Monterey and the pass of Rinconada with 6,000 cavalry, who had cut off gen. TAYLOR from retreating on Monterey. That there was no doubt there had been a severe battle, and the belief was that Gen. T. had abandoned Saltillo and fallen back on the pass. Nothing, as you will see, positive; but the prospects are by no means brighter for the gallant TAYLOR.

The public property and stores on the Rio Grande, at the Brasos, Matamoros, and Camargo, it is said, amount to six or seven millions of dollars, besides immense quantities of private merchandise; and for the protection of this line there probably from fifteen to eighteen hundred men, scattered in detachments, the strongest of which does not exceed 700! I have no time for comments.

The Senate of this State have just unanimously passed a resolution authorising the Governor to raise any number of volunteers that may be called for. The House will no doubt concur.

I have just seen Capt. HENRIE, who left Saltillo (he thinks) on the 23d, and he expresses the opinion that Gen. TAYLOR is almost beyond a doubt cut off. We hope for better things.

[HCH]

Thursday, March 25, 1847, MG47v48n4p3c2-3 Words: 103

From the New Orleans Bulletin of the 15th.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT!

His excellency ISAAC JOHNSON, Governor of Louisiana, received yesterday a letter from Col. SAMUEL R. CURTIS, of the Ohio Volunteers, commanding at Camargo, making a requisition upon this State for ten thousand men. The object of securing these troops is to garrison the posts at Brazos, point Isabel, Matamoros, and Camargo, and reinforce Gen. TAYLOR, who at the last dates was in an extremely critical condition. The Governor expresses his readiness, with his accustomed patriotic fervor, “to pull off his coat and go to work to raise volunteers, and he hopes all good citizens will aid him.” This hope he will assuredly realize.
From an Officer of the Virginia Volunteers.

A friend has furnished us with the following extract from a letter (says the Richmond Times, from an officer in Capt. CARRINGTON’s company—dated "steamer Hatchie Eagle, " on the Rio Grande, Feb. 27, 1847:

"We have met several steamers from Camargo, with important news. Gen. TAYLOR has been fighting at Saltillo for several days, and was still in action when the last express came in. Camargo is expected daily to be attacked. It may be before we get there. The whole force of the enemy about Saltillo and Camargo is 25,000. Gen. TAYLOR had twice driven them back, but he was in imminent danger. We are within one day’s sail of Camargo, lying for the night on the Texan side of the Rio Grande. It is thought they will give us a brush before we get up the river.—We are not well prepared for them; but will do the best we can."

MG47v48n10p1c1, Thursday, May 6, 1847.

POETICAL

Rough and Ready

The soldier’s story
in the trench at Vera Cruz,
A group of soldiers lay,
Weary and worn with working
At the guns the live long day,
Their faces were begrimed with sand
And soot from shot and shell
Exploding in the crumbling earth
For last the missiles fell.

Yet cheerily they chatted,
For their hearts with hope beat high,
And they knew the hour of victory
Was surely drawing nigh.-
There came a war worn soldier,
To mingle with the rest-
They bade him welcome to their cheer
And gave him of the best.

He’d served with Gen. Taylor
And they asked him of the man
Who first and last had led the way
To victory in the van;
On the winding Rio Grande
On the 8th and 9th of May
Through Buena Vista earnage
And the storm of Monterey.

"I knew him first, “ the soldier said,
"Among the Everglades,
when we gave the savage red skins
our bayonets and our blades.
I think I hear his cheerful voice:
"On! Column! Steady! Steady!“
So hardy and so prompt was he
We called him Rough and Ready.

"He rode upon an old white horse,
And wore a brown surtout-
But oftener, when the ground was deep,
He trudged with us, on foot
The man from whose canteen he drank,
We envied and thought lucky;
He had the brave and kind good heart
That honored old Kentucky

"By wounds outworn, I felt the field;
But when a new campaign
Against another foe commenced,
I joined the ranks again.
fan alive, boys once again
To hear the sabre’s clank.
To see old Rough and Ready ride
His white horse on our flank.

"At Palo Alto, comrades, there
Have gave us work to do,
And o’er La Palma’s sulphury smoke
His flag triumphant flew.
When from the fire his aid-de-camp
Would have the chief retire,
Old Rough and Ready merely said,
‘We’ll ride a little nigher.’

"You should have seen the brave old by
In the streets of Monterey-
When the cannon swept the plaza,
How he sternly stood at bay.
When shell, and grape, and cannon hall
On their deadly errand went:-
The General seemed a man of steel,
And tire his element.

"And if a wounded soldier
In the streets of Monterey,
Or friend or foe looked up to him
Imploring, whence he lay,
He stooped to wipe the drops of pain,
That dimmed from his own canteen
A drink – I see him now.

At red Buena Vista
My part I could not bear –
But they tell me that the brown surt out
And old white horse were there.
And well do I believe it,
For the foe stood four to one,
And without old Rough and Ready
How had the fight been won!

"I’ve worn the sargent’s chevron
And I may wear it yet-
But old Rough and Ready tells me
I shall wear the epaulette-
But in the ranks or out of them,
To him I’ll prove a steady
And as long as I’ve a tongue to talk
Speak out for Rough and Ready!”

So spake the war worn soldier
To his comrades as they lay
Beneath the breastwork, where they’d served
The guns the livelong day.
And their sleepiness and weariness
It fairly chased away
When the Rio Grande’s hero
Spoke the man from Monterey.

[MUL]
LETTER FROM WADDY THOMPSON, ESQ.

Greenville, April 8, 1847.

GENTLEMEN: In the articles which were published in your paper I only designed to point out some of the difficulties which would be presented in a further prosecution of a war of invasion, and in the conclusion very briefly suggested what I regarded as the only plan of conducting the war with any hope of favorable results—the occupation by a line of military posts of such portions of the Mexican territory as it is our purpose to retain. I then thought and still think, that every consideration of policy, of honor, and of honesty would restrict this line to the Rio Grande. I do not believe that out of our country an impartial tribunal could be organized in the world which would not instantly reject our claim of title to the country between the Nueces and the Rio Grande, and therefore, I would not even take that, but certainly no road of land beyond it. There are other considerations which would induce me to reject any further acquisition of territory, even if it was tendered to us; and that is, that slavery will never exist in any States beyond it. There are other considerations which would induce me to reject any further acquisition of territory, even if it was tendered to us; and that is, that slavery will never exist in any States beyond the Rio Grande, whether restricted or not by Congressional enactments. Slavery is forever prohibited there by laws more fixed and unchangeable than legislative enactments, for they may be repealed; slavery there will be worse than unprofitable.

I have never suggested, and do not approve of, the expedition to Vera Cruz, with the view of collection duties there after it is our possession. The cost of the expedition and of keeping up a sufficient garrison will be twenty times as much as the amount received from duties; to say nothing of the enormous waste of human life. When I learned that the collection of duties at Vera Cruz was a favorite plan of the Administration, I suggested to you, and more than one member of the Cabinet, other modes of accomplishing the same object, which I thought were preferable.

First, that by which Gen. Jackson checkmate South Carolina nullifications by the establishment of a floating custom house. Two men of war in front of Vera Cruz would be all sufficient for this purpose. If we have the right to blockade, we have the right to relax the blockade, provided the conditions enforced operate equally on all nations. Such a measure would not be objected to by any nation, for would be favorable to the commerce of all.

Secondly, by the establishment of custom houses at Tampico and Matamoras, and the blockade of the other ports on the Gulf. The distance of the other ports on the Gulf. The distance from Tampico to Mexico is the same as from Vera Cruz by blockade will throw its commerce into Tampico, as damming up one branch of a creek throws all the water into the channel. We had possession of Tampico, and it is a much more healthy and eligible position.

I do not think that any considerable amount will be realized by this measure. One thing is altogether certain, that merchandise landed at Vera Cruz will not pass into the interior to any considerable extent, without the connivance of the Government of Mexico. There is but one road from Vera Cruz to the city of Mexico, and, for much the larger part of the route, no other practicable pasaway. There is but one road from Vera Cruz to the city of Mexico, and, for much the larger part of the route, no other practicable pasaway. The road is cut through and over lofty and rugged mountains. The rough and often precipitous ground on both sides, covered with the countless varieties of the prickly pear, is literally impassable. There are military stations all along the route, and two large cities and many small towns to pass through. One of these, Faeba, where it may almost be said that all the manufactories of Mexico are concentrated. Is it to be expected that merchandise can be transported on this route without being seized and forfeited? If this be true, how ridiculously absurd is the idea which has been suggested, of imposing duties on the sixty articles the importation of which has always been prohibited by the Mexican tariff, to suppose that they will relax their prohibitory system for us, when no exiguity of their own has ever induced them to do it? If the Government of Mexico sanctions the reception of goods upon which we have received duties, it should admonish us to hesitate to adopt a measure so agreeable to them. Mexico would only do this from pressing and absolute necessity. If such necessity should exist, we should certainly derive more benefit from it in coercing a peace than the small amount received for duties would be worth to us. The comparatively low rate of duties which it is proposed to charge would leave foreign merchants subject to another Mexican tariff of an equal or even greater amount, and the aggregate of the two would be still a lower tariff than the Mexicans are accustomed to. They would derive as much money from the measure as we should, and one dollar is worth more to them than ten is to us. I have little doubt that this will turn out another one of those blunders of which the Administration has made so many—resulting as I believe, from want of accurate information as to the character of the Mexican people, the situation and circumstances of the country, and a reliance for this information upon persons in every way unworthy of confidence. My object in writing to you was principally to correct the misapprehension that I had advised this expedition to Vera Cruz. Allow me to say a word on another branch of the subject.

Every Body is tired of this war and anxious for peace; not so much for treaty of peace as for actual peace: not a treaty of peace as for actual war, but actual peace, with or without a treaty. The plan which I have therefore suggested (and I only claim the credit of being the first to indicate it) will, beyond a doubt, give us this peace. What are the evils of war? Carnage, expenditure of money, and the deprivation of Mexican commerce. With a line of post garrisoned with fifteen or twenty thousand men (and our regular army numbers twenty five thousand,) does any one man alive suppose that Mexico will ever assail that line? The last rally has been a spasmodic effort, produced by the invasion of their country—the character of the Mexican people, the situation and circumstances of the country, and a reliance for this information upon persons in every way unworthy of confidence. My object in writing to you was principally to correct the misapprehension that I had advised this expedition to Vera Cruz. Allow me to say a word on another branch of the subject.
It is thus in our power at one to put an end to this most unnecessary and deplorable war, and every consideration which should have influence upon honorable men demands that we should do so. The national honor never required the war. The honor of this country require a war with Mexico! No view of national interest justifies its further prosecution upon a feeble, vanquished, but gallant enemy. Glorious as has been and always will be the achievements of our arms, the shout of victory is unaccompanied with the sobbings of grief and the agony of many a stricken and broken heart. Who that has a heart that does not feel it beat in deep sympathy with the illustrious patriotic of Ashland for the loss of his gallant and heroic son!

Terrible is the responsibility of those who have it in their power to stop the effusion of blood and who do it not. I will not say that solemnly declare that, in like circumstances myself, I should feel that I did.

Very truly, your friend, &c.

WADDY THOMPSON.

MR. CLAY'S BEREAVEMENT.

Mr. Clay left the city of New Orleans about the time it was understood here that a collision would certainly take place between SANTA ANNA and Gen. TAYLOR. He was convinced in his own mind that the meeting would be a sanguinary one, and the exulting anticipations of a triumph which as a patriot he predicted for the American arms were qualified by the solicitude of a father who realized the probability that a victory had cost him a son. His spirits were evidently depressed by foreboding which the sequel but too mournfully justified and when speaking of the confidence he had in the skill and courage of Gen. Taylor, and deducing there form results of pregnant glory, the shadow of "coming events" would flit across his brow in token of a presage of evil to himself, which has sunk deep into his heart and wretched there with the hope which promises such great things for his country.

It was but natural that, approaching home and mingling with the associates of his early years, he should shake off for a time the weight that pressed heavily upon him; that amid the greetings of the friends and the welcome of a whole city, he should not betray the prophetic dread which haunted his breast. Had those who speak of his "fine spirits" but scanned the noble aspect of the time worn statesman with closer scrutiny, they would have seen that a fixed sorrow lurked like a rebel in his secret soul. It was so here, and whithersoever he might go there went along with him a presentiment of calamity.

He remained in Louisville but a few hours; this was not his wont. He felt too surely that the angel of death had been dealing with his household; he felt the winnowing of his sable wings upon his head and hastened straightway to get his house in order. Fast upon his heels sped the mournful tidings; scarcely would have leave a city before the people would shout over the crowning victory of the war. Rejoicing multitudes were no companions for him; he went his way where an aged matron, cheered by the prattle of little children, busied herself with the great toil of household affairs.

This was the partner of his bosom, and these the children of his children. They were orphans (some of them) in happy ignorance of what had befallen them. It was fit that amid this circle he should realize his fears. –Nor should the fatal news smile that venerable matron and he not there. Together they met the herald of woe; and whilst every object that met their eyes reminded them of their loss –though a vacant chair recalled the memory of one gone forever, and trifles of little worth teemed with traditions that filled high the cup of bitterness –yet the confidence of years of mutual reliance of love confronted the messenger at the door-way, who entered the house of prayer and resignation as he crossed the portal of the house of mourning.

The people of Lexington in their rejoicings over the victory of Buena Vista did not forget that hardly there was a hearth made desolate in achieving it. The courts adjourned in silence; and grief mingle in the applause of the populace, as gilded drops of rain are shed from skies all radiant with the summer's sun.

The son was worthy of his sire. He was a man of lofty impulses, of a noble nature, a pure generosity and manly accomplishments. His last words were of him. When he was shot down a second time he drew a brack of pistols from his belt, handed them to Capt. Cutter and requested him to deliver them to his father, with his message "Say to him that he gave them to me and that I have done all that I can with them and now return them to him.” Here the enemy came thick around him, and these were the last words he was heard to utter. Ha has gone to swell the list of immortality. The purchase of glory is the blood of the brave. –N. Orleans Picayune.

[END]
A writer in the Enquirer warns the young men to be careful how they unite the Whig party in condemning the war with Mexico, and points to the fate of the men who in 1812 opposed the war in order to alarm them. He must suppose those whom he addressed to be very verdant as well as very young, if he expects to succeed, by such a ruse, in detaching them from the Whig ranks. We have many illustrious examples now before our eyes, that even opposition to the JUST and NECESSARY WAR of 1812, constitute no impediment to the attainment of the highest political honors and distinction. James Buchanan was an opponent of the war of 1812, and a bitter reviler of the Republican Administration of the virtuous Chief Magistrate in pursuance of whose recommendation it was constitutionally declared by Congress – and he is Mr. Polk’s Secretary of State! Roger B. Taney opposed that war; and he is now Chief Justice of the United States, by the appointment of the founder of the Modern Democratic school! Louis Mc Lane opposed the war and he has just returned from an embassy to Great Britain, to which Geo. Bancroft, another of its opponents, has been sent as his successor; while Richard Rush, also an opponent of the war, has been appointed Minister to France! Henry Hubbard, of New Hampshire, was not only an opponent of the war, but one of the chief instigators of the HARTFORD CONVENTION – and he his now Mr. Polk’s Sub Treasurer in the city of Boston – an office bestowed upon him doubtless in consideration of the fact that he was the “fortunate man, “ who, in the Baltimore Convention of 1844, nominated the aforesaid Mr. Polk for he Presidency! This list might be extended; but let these examples suffice; to show that even so flagrant a sin as opposition to a just and righteous and constitutionally declared war, may be forgiven, and even rewarded, for after services!

MG47v48n10p1c4, Thursday May 6, 1847.

Negotiations for peace.

Intimations, in letters from Washington, are very frequent and apparently not without authenticity, that the new proposal of peace has been forwarded, by our Government to Mexico. The chief clerk of the State Department, Mr. Trist, is supposed to be the bearer of the overture.

The terms of this proposal, as indicated by report, are so exacting as to render their acceptance by Mexico rather doubtful. For example, it is given out that our line of boundary is to run as far south as Parras, including all of New York and upper California, all of Chihuahua, all of Sonora, and parts of Tamaulipas, Coahuila, Durango and lower California. Why not go to the Sierra Madre at once?

The line of the Rio Grande as gar as the Passo del Norte, and thence to some point on the Pacific which would give us the harbor of San Francisco, would be a line which Mexico might be disposed to conclude an adjustment a protraction of the war is likely enough.

The idea of annexing an inhabited territory, occupied and cultivated by a foreign people – foreign language and race, in habits, usages and associations – is as repugnant to the wishes of our people, we believe, as it certainly adverse to the spirit of our institutions. A hostile population incorporated into our political system against their will – the thing upon the very face of it is at war with all the principles upon which our Union and its institutions of republican self-government are founded.

To extend annexation, then, across the Rio Grande, at this time, would, evidently, be premature. The country beyond would have to be governed by military occupation, by force; we should have send to Chihuahua, and other places, Governors with pro-consular authority – a beautiful illustration of freedom!

In speaking on this subject of annexation one should look at the tendencies of things, and without insisting on the preferences must regard the inevitable. To many the whole business of annexation is displeasing. But if we cannot have things as we would wish, we must take them as they are, and be prepare for what is to come.

In expressing the belief, then, that annexation beyond the Rio Grande would be premature at this time, the intimation is undoubtedly implied that it would not be unseasonable at some period hereafter. Will that be our meaning. And the reason is that the northern States of Mexico, lying between the Rio Grande and the Sierra Madre, must in due course of time become so Americanized that annexation will come of their own motion; they will seek it – insist on it – and will it not be affected?

The conclusion of the present war will leave many elements of Anglo Saxonism in that part of Mexico. Matamoros and Camargo, Monterey, Saltillo and Chihuahua, occupied by our troops, will retain not only the effects of the occupancy in an increased activity and enterprise, infused by our contact and example, but they will have also many American residents who will settle permanently there. – When peace is established there will be immigration to those salubrious regions, where a delightful climate prevails throughout the year. Thus will the ties of affiliation grow up and strengthen between that portion of Mexico and our Union; and thus annexation may naturally follow.

The unity of the valley of the Rio Grande, in a geographical point of view, would require in the end, the conjunction of that part which extends to the Sierra Madre. Beyond that bold and rugged chain of mountains new geological configurations extend, having their own affinities. The compact portion of Mexico, with its special individuality as a nation, is found beyond the Sierra Madre. The Northern departments have every hung loosely as appendages of the body politic rather than as part and parcel of it. The central government has always found itself unable to defend them from the hostile savages.
Viewing annexation as a progress, which, having once started, must go on until some terminus is reached where its progressive impulse may be exhausted, or where it will meet with reactive barriers that must stop its further advance, we confess a solicitude to avoid all occasion for additional war and violence in the course of the inevitable tendency.

Let us allow Time to work for us, instead of the sword. The war spirit is now satiated, sick. The nation applauds the achievements of its brave soldiers, and is filled with admiration at their heroism, while a shudder of repugnance is felt at the necessity which causes the slaughter of miserable Mexicans, defending their soil from invasion and their homes from the intrusion of a foe. –Baltimore American. April 26.

THANKS TO GEN. TAYLOR BY MASSACHUSETTS.

The Legislature of the state of Massachusetts brought its annual session to a close on Monday last.

On the Saturday preceding a series of resolutions were passed deprecating the existing war with Mexico, and condemning the manner in which the country became involved in it.

MR. HAYDEN, of Boston, then asked and obtained leave to introduce the following resolutions:

Rosolves tendering the thanks of the Legislature of Massachusetts to Gen Taylor, his Officers and Mex.

A SEVERE HIT. –At locofoco meeting recently held in Columbus, Mississippi, the following was among the resolutions adopted:

"Resolved, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress have faithfully done their duty, and we hereby tender them our cordial approbation and congratulation: Provided that nothing herein contained shall be construed as an approval of the course pursued by Hon. Jacob Thompson on the resolutions of thanks by Congress to Gen. Zachary Taylor."

This is a sever but just retort upon the "distinguished" member for Mississippi, who undertook to pronounce judgment, ex cathedra, during the last session of Congress, upon the military skill of Gen. Taylor, and who, when resolutions of thanks to that distinguished officer was pending, threw in that famous proviso, declaring that the said resolution of thanks was not to be construed as an expression of approval of the capitulation and armistice at Monterey! Mr. Thompson and his co-laborer in the work of defamation, Mr. Ficklin of Illinois, have been silenced by subsequent events. Indeed, all the defamers of the old Hero have been converted into his eulogists –and we imagine that even the correspondent of the Washington Union, who so boldly pronounced the capitulation and armistice "THE GREAT BLUNDER OD THE CAMPAIGN," "wishes that he had never seen so imprudent as to "draw pen from standish." –Everybody huzzas for Old Zach now! –Whig.

Trophies of War

The Trophies of War are thus described in a letter from Vera Cruz, to the Auburn Advertiser. The writer presents truly, and without exaggeration, one of those scenes in the progress of War which Gen Taylor says is "enough to fill the whole land with mourning:"

Never had beheld such a destruction of property. Scarcely a house did I pass that did not show some great rent made by the bursting of our bomb shells. At most every house did I pass that did not show some great rent made by the bursting of our bomb shells. At almost every house at which I passed to examine the destruction occasioned by these dreadful messengers of death, some one of the family (if the house did not happened to be deserted) would come to the door and, inviting me to enter, point out her property destroyed, and, with pitiful sigh exclaim "La bomba! La bomba!" My heart ached for the poor creatures.

During my peregrinations, I came to a lofty and noble mansion in which a terrible bomb had exploded, and laid the whole front of the house in ruins. While I was examining the awful havoc created, a beautiful girl of some seventeen
Methuselah. But he himself, uninfluenced by any selfish ambition, desires the triumph of the cause above that of any
to see Henry Clay the Whig standard bearer from now till the day of his death, even should he live to the age of
In truth, if personal attachment could dictate our courage in regard to a candidate for the Presidency, we would be glad
to see Henry Clay the Whig standard bearer from now till the day of his death, even should he live to the age of Methuselah. But he himself, uninfluenced by any selfish ambition, desires the triumph of the cause above that of any
individual. If, therefore, the people indicate their wish to establish his principles in the person of one whose illustrious
claims upon public gratitude have been requisite with indifference and insult by the government, none will yield more
readily to their decision than Henry Clay, even supposing we do not believe that he would consent upon any terms to
uncork the vials of their wrath upon the head of the Hero of the Rio Grande. They may find him a more dangerous
customer than Gen. Harrison. –The old charges of cowardice and granyism cannot be even pretended against him. The
petticoat banner must be suffered to sleep in its inglorious grave. As a candidate, he will be invulnerable. As a
President, his sagacity and firmness will laugh to scorn the frowns or the seductions of political intriguers. And deeply
as we may regret the loss of Henry Clay from the councils of his country, we may, in the election of General Taylor,
adopt the language of a great Irish orator, and declare that the loss of Clay "would have been irreparable, but that, like
the alternate luster of the twin constellations, when he sank beneath the horizon, he left a brother luminary to irradiate
the hemisphere. –Richmond Republican.

MG47v48n11p2c3, Thursday May 13, 1847. The Volunteers in Mexico.

–From all that we can learn the Washington "Union" will be grievously disappointed in respect to the renewal of their
engagements by many of the volunteers. Whose term of service is about to expire. It is not supposed here that a single
regiment can be formed out of all the twelve months’ men now in Mexico. The volunteers who won the glorious battle
of Buena Vista are their way home. One of the Kentucky regiments is already at the Brazos. Col. Jefferson Davis’s
regiment will soon be there and the Illinois and Indiana troops will soon follow. We learn from officers and men that
there is no disposition to re enlist. The accounts from Gen. Scott’s column are no more satisfactory. The determination
to return home, as soon as their enlistments expire is universal. The officers are as little desirous as the men of
remaining the service; so that Gen. Taylor’s Buena Vista army, with the exception of a few regulars, and a large
portion of Gen. Scott’s will shortly leave the field.

The reason for this universal desire to quit the service has been explained to us. The men of Monterey and Buena Vista
assert, and with good reason, that the laurels that have been won by them garnered by the Government to decorate
other brows. They say, and with truth, that no valor, no sacrifice, no victories of theirs, can ensure their promotion or
protect them against being over sloughed by inexperienced officers, and subjected to the command of political
appointees. They point to the miserable remnants of regiments which they led to the army with well-filled ranks and
swelling aspirations, in token of the hardships they have suffered and the perils they have encountered, and then refer
to the army register to see how such services are rewarded. –They feel that the qualities which they have exhibited in
front of blazing batteries are not the ones which ensure rank, and they retire to possess them.

The second Kentucky regiment will return without its Colonel or Lieutenant-Colonel; the first Mississippi will bring home
its Colonel and Lieutenant Colonel upon litters; the Illinois troop leave the gallant Hardin where he fell; and col. Yell
comes back no more at the head of the men from Arkansas. These noble regiments have melted away under the
severities of a campaign in which, if they have not won the lasting gratitude of their country men, they have won
nothing. –N. O. Pic. April 27.

MG47v48n11p2c4, Thursday May 13, 1847.

LATE FROM MEXICO.
IMPORTANT INTELLIGENCE
ANOHER GLORIOUS VICTORY!!!
Battle of Cerro Gordo.

Santa Anna again Defeated in a Pitched Battle by Gen. Scott –Six Thousand Mexicans taken Prisoners. –Five Hundred
Americans Killed and Wounded –Gen. La Vega again a Prisoner.

PLAN DEL RIO, April 17 –11 A. M.

The division of Gen. Twiggs started two hours since, and a heavy cannonade has already commenced upon his line
from the farthest of the Mexican works. At intervals, too, the rattling of small arms can be heard distinctly from the
Drago camp where I am writing this. I am going out, with Cols. Duncan and Bohlan and Capt Pemberton, to the seat of
action, and will return here tonight, to report progress of the fight. It was not intended, I believe that Gen. Twiggs
should open the fight today, at least to bring on a general action, and it is therefore presumable the Mexicans have
commenced upon him. I write in great haste. G.W.L.

5 P.M. –I have just returned from the scene of conflict, and a bloody one it has been considering the number engaged.
A hill this side of the farthest Mexican work, and on which there was no one seen last evening, was found occupied
by the enemy’s light troops this morning, and to force it was at once deemed indispensable. For this purpose the Rifles
under Major Summer, besides detachments of artillery and infantry, were ordered to charge up the rugged ascent. This
they did in gallant style, driving the Mexicans, after a resistance which may be put down almost obstinate. Great
numbers of the enemy were killed, while on our side the loss was also very severe. Major Sumner was shot in the head
by a musket ball –severely but not mortally: Lieut. Moury and Gibbs, of the Rifles, were also wounded, but not as severely as was also Lieut. Jarvis of the 2d Infantry. I could not learn that any of our side, in killed and wounded, is estimated at about one hundred; but from the nature of the ground –broken, covered with brush and thick chaparal, and extremely uneven – it is impossible to tell with accuracy. Nor can I, at this time give even the names of the officers who were immediately engaged.

About 3 o’clock the enemy made a demonstration from the fork on the neighboring height to the one our men had captured, as if with the intention of retaking it; but it all ended in marching down the hill, blowing a most terrific charge on their trumpets, firing a few shots, and then retiring. Their appearance, as they came down the slope, was certainly most imposing. The cannon on the height meanwhile kept up a continuous fire upon Gen. Twigg’s lines, yet doing but little execution other than cutting down the trees and brush. As we returned to camp, the fierce still continued – the enemy had evidently ascertained the position of the road, which had just been cut, with accuracy, but their balls principally went over.

Gen. Shields, at 3 o’clock, was ordered out to support Gen. Twiggs, with three regiments of volunteers –two from Illinois under Cols. Baker and Barnett. They will have warm work tomorrow, if Mexicans stand up as they did today.

There has been not a little skirmishing today between the forage and beef parties sent out in the rear, and the rancheros. One Illinois man was killed, and one of the same regiments and a Tennessean wounded. I could not learn their names.

Tomorrow the grand attack, both upon the front and rear of the enemy, is to be made. – Gen. Worth is to move at sunrise, and little peace will the Mexicans have for the twenty-fours at least.

If possible I shall report and send off the progress of the conflict, although one has little time or convenience in the chapparel for writing. G. W. K.

CAMP AT PLAN DEL RIO.

April 19, 1847 – forenoon

G. W. K.

Plan del Rio, April 17, 1847.

The enemy’s whole line of entrenchments and batteries will be attacked in front, and at the same time turned, early in the day tomorrow – probably before 10 o’clock, A. M.

The second (Twigg’s) division of regulars is already advanced within easy turning distance towards the enemy’s left. That division has instructions to move forward before daylight tomorrow and take up position across the National Road in the enemy’s rear so as to cut off a retreat towards Xalapa.

It may be reinforced today, if unexpectedly attacked in force, by regiments – one or two taken from Shield’s brigade of volunteers. If not, the two volunteer regiments will march for that purpose at daylight tomorrow morning, under Brig. Gen. Shields, who will report or the general in chief, if be in advance.

The remaining regiment of that volunteer brigade will receive instructions in the course of this day.

The first division of regulars (Worth’s) will follow the movement against the enemy’s left at sunrise tomorrow morning.

As already arranged, Brig. Gen. Pillow’s brigade will march at 6 o’clock tomorrow morning along the route he has carefully reconnoitered, and stand ready as soon as he hears the report of arms on our right, or sooner if circumstances should favor him – to pierce the enemy’s line of braveries at such point – the nearer the river the better – so he may select. Once in the rear of that line, he will turn to the right of left, of both, and attack the batteries in reverse, of if abandoned, he will pursue the enemy with vigor until further orders.

H. L. SCOTT, A. A. A. GENERAL.

José Ma. Jarero, brigadier general.
Romulo de la Vega, brigadier general.
P Ruiz y Baranda, captain of Mexican Navy, commanding artillery.
Vicente Arguelles, captain artillery.
José Ma Mata, captain.
Jose Ma. Gallegos, commanding Granadiers
Mariano Camacho, 1st.lieut. artillery.
**FURTHER PARTICULARS.**

The New Orleans papers of the 2d inst. were regularly received last night. They are filled with details of the recent victory of Gen. Scott, intelligence from Mexico, and matters connected with the war. When the mail reached Washington yesterday afternoon, our correspondent in that city forwarded to us the following dispatches, which contains all the news of any importance:

WASHINGTON, May 9, 5 o'clock, P. M.

The Southern mail is in and brings further items of the battle. The enemy's loss killed and wounded is equal to our own. Some of the Mexican officers attribute the defeat to the cowardice of Santa Anna - he had 8,000 men in line, and 6,000 outside that entrenchments. Some of the brave Mexicans that fought at Buena Vista were also in the fight at Cerro Gordo, and several officers released by Gen. Scott at Vera Cruz, without parole, were found among the killed and wounded after the fight.

Advices from the city of Mexico state that Gomez Farias has been removed from power, a bill having passed Congress suppressing the vice presidency of the Republic previous to Santa Anna's leaving the Capitol. On the day of his departure Pedro Anaya was chosen substitute on the 2d of April, and on the 3d he held a consultation with various military officers and distinguished men on the propriety of fortifying the Capitol. The opinion was generally expressed that the works should be commenced immediately and the principal engineer was ordered to prepare, in two days, a plan for the fortifications. The Inaugural of Amayo and addresses of Santa Anna to constituents and Congress are given, disclosing his views relative to the war which exclude all idea of peace. A guerilla war on the posts is advised by leading members of Congress.

The Squadron under Perry has not yet returned to Vera Cruz. Brazos dates to the 24th ult. No news from Taylor's Army. - Balt. Amer. May 10.

**ANOTHER VICTORY!!**

**CAPTURE OF TUSPAN!**

**A TRIUMPH FOR THE NAVY!**

From the N. O. Delta, Extra, May 3, 10 a.m.

"The U. S. transport schooner Gen. Patterson, Capt. Jackson, arrived this morning from Vera Cruz, whence she left on the 24th ult. - By this conveyance we have the gratifying intelligence of the capture of Tuspan, by the gallant Com. Perry and the equally gallant squadron under his command - thus showing that our Navy wants but the opportunities which have been presented to the Army, to be like them every triumphant.

"The Gen. Patterson fell in with Com. Perry and his squadron, on their return from the Tuspan Expedition, on the 24th ult., 25 miles north of Vera Cruz. She was boarded by an officer from the U. S. steamer Scorpion, who put letters on board, and who reported to Capt. Jackson, that on the 19th Tuspan had been taken after a fierce and determined resistance by the Mexican troops.

"We lost four men killed and some fourteen wounded, among whom were four officers - Capt. Tatnall, (slightly) Lieut. Parker (severely) Lieut. Hartstein and Passed Midshipman Lowns, (slightly)."
"The Mexicans, finding further resistance unavailing, spiked their guns; raged the defenses of the place, and then abandoned [... ] Further particulars tomorrow."

All the others accounts give a different version of the last paragraph. That say –"The guns of the Mexicans at Tuspan were all spiked and the place rendered defenseless. It was then abandoned."

A letter in the New Orleans Picayune, dated Vera Cruz, April 23d, says-

"We are now four days without a word concerning the movements above, and are beginning to think it possible that an express might have been cut off —particularly as the last express which came through received a volley of about 60 muskets. It only wounded one of the five dragoons (the sergeant) a musket ball having passed through his hand. An express left here with a mail on the 21st, and after proceeding 25 miles overtook our provision train under a strong escort, the commander of which deemed it prudent to take charge of the mail himself —feeling confident that nothing but a strong body of well armed men would be at all safe in trying to make their way through to Jalapa."

CERRO GORDO.

The news of another conflict has been borne to our ears. Gen. Scott, true to his past history, has fulfilled the high expectations of the Republic, and has gathered fresh laurels upon the heights of the Cerro. Strong in the confidence of his men and relying upon their well proved courage, the idea of disaster and defeat seem never to have entered his mind. "The enemy's whole line of entrenchments and batteries will be attacked in front, and at the same time turned." The word "fail" seems unknown to him, and the heroic spirit which dictated the order just quoted, was most nobly seconded by his men, who executed their high purpose with unshrinking hearts and unfaltering steps, exposed to the fury of a storm of "Leaden rain and iron hail"

Green be the laurel upon the victor's brow, and brighter be the glory of his name, that he has sought to smooth the "wrinkled front" of "grim visag'd war" with the angel touch of mercy.

Yet while our hearts swell with proud emotion as the notes of victory swell upon the southern breeze, a sad and harrowing reflection chills the warmth of our feelings. Cerro Gordo to many a cheerful fireside has brought but sorrow and desolation. Many an aged pair, now in the twilight of their days, have bowed their hoary heads for, mayhap, an only son, whose form now lies moldering upon its craggy heights. The heart of many a widowed mother is wrung with bitter anguish, as the hope of her declining years has been nipped in the bud, chilled by the damps of an untimely and bloody grave. Heavy has the blow fallen upon all classes. —To widows, and orphans, to mourning parents and sorrowing friends, the trumpet tones of triumph seem but hideous mockery —the banner waving in the breeze but the pall of the death —the roar of the victory-speaking gun, but the knell of ruined hopes and desolate hearts.

Such is war! Joy and misery —triumph and despair are ever grouped in horrid contrast.

Battle of Cerro Gordo.

In the New Orleans Delta of the 2nd ints. We find the following general description of the battle, founded on information furnished by Capt. HUGHES, of the Topographical Corps:

On the arrival of the other division of the army at the encampment of Gen. Twiggs, on the 16th of April, Gen. Scott, after taking a reconnaissance of the enemy's works, determined to storm them. The position occupied by the enemy seemed impregnable, and truly to any other than American soldiers it must have appeared an insurmountable and impracticable undertaking to carry it by storm or take it by strategy.

The road from Vera Cruz, as it passes the Plan del Río, which is a wide rocky bed of a once large stream, is commanded by a series of high cliffs, rising one above the other, and extending several miles, and all well fortified. The road then debouches to the right, and, curving round the ridge, passes over a high cliff, which is completely enfiladed by forts and batteries. This ridge is the commencement of the Tierra Templada —the uppet or mountainous country. The high and rocky ravine of the river protected the right flank of the position, and a series of most abrupt and apparently impassable mountains and ridges covered their left. Between these points, running a distance of two or three miles, a succession of strongly fortified forts bristled at every turn, and seemed to defy all bravery and skill. The Cerro Gordo commanded the road on a gentle declination, like a glacis, for nearly a mile. An approach in that direction was impossible. A front attack must have terminated in the almost entire annihilation of our army. But the enemy expected such an attack, confiding in the desperate valor of our men, and believing that it was impossible to turn their
On the next day, the 18th, Gen. Twiggs was ordered from the position he had already captured against the fort which commanded the Cerro. Simultaneously an attack on the enemy’s left was to be made by Gen. Shields’s and Worth’s divisions, who moved in separate columns, whilst Gen. Pillow advanced against the strong forts and difficult ascents on the right of the enemy’s position.

The enemy, fully acquainted with Gen. Scott’s intended movement, had thrown large bodies of men into the various positions to be attacked. The most serious enterprise was that of Twiggs, who advanced against the main for that commanded the Cerro. Nothing can be conceived more difficult than this undertaking. The steep and rough character of the ground, the constant fire of the enemy in front, and the cross fire of the forts and batteries which enfiladed our lines, made the duty assigned to Gen. Twiggs one of surpassing difficulty. Nothing prevented our men from being utterly destroyed but the steepness of the ascent under which they could shelter. But they sought no shelter. But they sought no shelter, and onward rushed against a hailstorm of balls and musket shot, led by the gallant Harney, whose noble bearing elicited the applause of the whole army. His conspicuous and stalwart frame at the head of his brigade, his long arm waving his men on to the charge, his sturdy voice ringing above the clash of arms and the din of conflict, attracted the attention and admiration alike of the enemy and of our own army. On, on, he led the columns, whose front lines melted before the enemy’s fire like snow flakes in a torrent, and staid not their course until, leaping over the rocky barriers and bayoneting their gunners, they drove the enemy pell mell from the fort, delivering a deadly fire into their ranks, from their own guns, as they hastily retired. This was truly a gallant deed, worthy the Chevalier Bayard of our army, as the intrepid Harney is well styled. Gen. Scott, between whom and Col Harney there had exited some coolness, rode up to the Colonel after this achievement, and remarked to him, “Col. Harney, I cannot now adequately express my admiration of your gallant achievement, but at the proper time I shall take great pleasure in thanking you in proper terms.” Harney, with the modesty of true valor, claimed the praise as due to his officers and men. Thus did the division of the gallant veteran Twiggs carry the main position of the enemy, and occupy the fort which commanded the road. It was here the enemy received their heaviest loss, and their Gen. Vasquez was killed.

A little after, Gen. Worth having, by great exertions, passed the steep and craggy heights on the enemy’s left, summoned a strong fort in the rear of the Cerro to surrender. This fort was manned by a large force under Gen. Pinzon, a mulatto officer of considerable ability and courage, who, seeing the Cerro carried, thought prudent to surrender, which he did, with all his force. Gen Shields was not so fortunate in the battery which he attacked, and which was commanded by Gen. La Vega – A heavy fire was opened on him, under which the fort was carried with some loss by the gallant Illinoisians, under Baker and Bennett. Among those who fell under his fire was the gallant General. Who received a grape shot through his lungs, by which he was completely paralysed and, at the last accounts, was in a lingering state. On the enemy’s right, Gen. Pillow commenced the attack against the strong forts near the river. The Tennesseans, under Haskell, led the column and the other volunteer regiments followed. This column unexpectedly encountered a heavy fire from a masked battery, by which Haskell’s regiment was nearly cut to pieces, and the other volunteer regiments were severely handled. Gen. Pillow withdrew his men, and was preparing for another points having proved successful, the enemy concluded to surrender. Thus the victory was complete, and four generals, and about 5,000 men were taken prisoner by our army. One of their principals generals, and a large number of other officers, killed.

The Mexican force on this occasion certainly exceeded our own. The Mexican officers admitted that Santa Anna had 8,000 men in the lines, and 6,000, including 2,000 lancers, outside the entrenchments. Gen. Scott’s force was about 8,000, Gen. Quitman’s brigade not having arrived in time to take part in the engagement. Gen. Ampudia was second in command of the Mexicans, and superintended the operations of the enemy. When the Cerro was carried he was seen retreating on a fine white charger, his hat falling off as he galloped away. Many of the Mexicans escaped by a by path which runs off from the Cerro and the fort carried by Gen. Worth. As to Santa Anna and Canalizo, they retreated in time to escape by the main road. Their conduct was regarded as most cowardly. Some of the Mexican officers who were taken prisoners do not hesitate to attribute their defeat to the cowardice or corruption of Santa Anna. The Infantry that fought so well at Buena Vista, all the regular artillerist of the Republic, including several able naval officers were present. Some of the officers whom Gen. Scott released at the capitulation of Vera Cruz, without exploring the parole on account of their gallantry, were found among the killed men Halzinger, a German, who exhorted the admiration, of our army in the bombardment of Vera Cruz, by seizing a flag which was cut down by our balls and holding it up in his hands until a staff could be prepared, had been released by Gen. Scott without a parole. He was found among the desperately wounded at Cerro Gordo.

The enemy’s loss in killed and wounded, was about as large as our own, but in addition to this 6,000 prisoners and some of their best officers. Our army captured about thirty pieces of beautiful brass cannon, of a large calibre, and mostly manufactured at the Royal Foundry at Seville.

A large quantity of fixed ammunitions of very superior quantity, was also taken. The private baggage and money of Santa Anna, containing $20,000, was also captured. The latter was delivered over to the Pay Department. The volunteers who were employed in carrying the specie into camp cracked many a joke over the prospect of being soon paid of in Mexican command free of expense to Uncle Sam.
When our forces had carried the various positions of the enemy, and the road was cleared, Gen. Twiggs started in hot pursuit of the fugitive Santa Anna, and pressed close upon his heels. A strong position, five miles west of Cerro Gordo, fortified and defended by a fine battery of long base guns, was abandoned by the enemy and occupied by our troops. Gen. Twiggs bivouacked within three miles of the lovely town of Jalapa.

In concluding our imperfect sketch of this brilliant achievement, we cannot sufficiently express our admiration of the extraordinary deeds of our gallant army and able General —Scarcely a month has elapsed since our troops under Scott, landed on the enemy’s shores. —In that time a strong walled city has been captured, together with an impregnable fortress; a pitched battle has been fought under the most unfavorable circumstances, and against the most formidable natural defenses; twelve thousand prisoners have been taken, including some half a dozen general officers; five hundred splendid cannon, and an immense amount of munitions of war, have been added to the national trophies. Truly, such results are glorious testimonials of the valor of our soldiers, and of the skill, gallantry, and perseverance of the accomplished General who led them.

The New Orleans Delta has gathered various incidents connected with the Battle of Cerro Gordo. Speaking of the wounded, it says.

There was a great contrast, which illustrates the superior fortitude of the American character and constitution, between the bearing and conduct of the Mexican wounded and our own. The Mexican seemed to be utterly prostrated by the slightest wounds, and evinced their despair and weakness by loud lamentations, by crossing their breasts and weeping like children. The Americans, on the other hand, bore their suffering with manly fortitude, and with scarcely any demonstration of pain or sorrow; they submitted to the most painful surgical operations without complaining; and, indeed, appeared to feel pride in the consciousness of having given proof of their devotion to the honor and flag of the Republic. Capt. Hughes relates that as he was approaching our Hospital, he met three privates the Mounted Riflemen, who laid just had their right arms amputated, and were quietly walking along whistling and chattering as if nothing has happened. Capt. Mason, a gallant Virginian, the son of the lamented Gen. Mason who fell in duel some years ago, has his leg carried of by a cannon ball. Shortly after undergoing amputation this brave officer received his friends with great cheerfulness, and indulged in many a lively jest over his mishap.

MAJOR SUMNER. —Major Sumner, who led the Rifles in the attack of the 17th on the enemy’s advanced position, made a very narrow escape. In the charge, he was struck on the head by a musket ball. The bullet was flattened to the thinness of a dime, and retained on its surface a part of the Major’s hair, and yet, strange to say, except to the severance of an artery, sustained no serious injury. The artery was taken up, and the last accounts the Major was doing well. This excellent officer —accounted one of the best tacticians and disciplinarians in the army —may certainly felicitate himself on the strength of his craniological defenses. He will never find any difficulty in getting a liberal policy in our life insurance offices.

CAPTAIN JOHNSON. —This valuable officer, lately appointed Lieut. Colonel of one of the new ten regiments, was badly wounded in a reconnaissance made by order of Gen. Twiggs, two or three days before the battle. He received two musket balls, one through the thigh, cutting the femoral artery, and another through the shoulder. His robust constitution and great endurance will, it is believed, triumph over his severe wounds, and he is now pronounced by his surgeons to out of danger.

MEXICAN PRISONERS. —Seventeen Mexican officers were brought to Vera Cruz under a strong escort. The Mexicans on the road had not heard of the battle or of its results, and when they saw the escort approaching, they ran out of their houses to see what it meant. As soon as the well know faces of their own officers, under an American guard, came within view, they seemed to be stuck dumb with astonishment and alarm. Gradually these feelings gave way to sorrow, and their lamentations over the misfortunes and disgrace of their country were loud and affecting.

AN INCIDENT AT INCARNACION. —A volunteer in the Illinois regiment, under General Taylor, describes his visit to Incarnacion after the retreat of Santa Anna. He says:

"On the 1st and 2nd instant, I accompanied an expedition under the command of Cols. Belknap and Bissel, to Incarnacion, where we found a wretched spectacle —several hundred of Mexicans wounded, attended by gaunt, lean, hunger stricken soldiers and women. —On the road we say many dead and many at the point of death from hunger, thirst, and cold. There is no water between Agua Nueva and Incarnacion, and the horrors of Santa Anna’s retreat over his arid desert of forty miles must have been indescribably terrific. We picked up a man, and a woman with a child at her breast, of whom first had no tasted food of water in seven days. He died a few miles this side of Incarnacion.

"We took another into the town or rancho. There we found many suffering for want to food. We relieved their wants like good Samaritans. The Mexicans wounded officers, of whom many are superior men, seemed to be deeply affected by our kindness. I was much interested in Lieut. Francisco Contreras, fifteen years old, from the city of Mexico. He was severely wounded, and bore his pains with a stoic’s fortitude and a smile of most touching sweetness. His features were classically beautiful, and his head such as Spurzheim would have contemplated with rapture. Many of us left him to his destiny with a pang of regret that such a vision of beauty and heroism should be so transitory to our senses. The
The conduct of our men and officers to the enemy’s wounded and to prisoners, both on the field of battle and after the conflict, was such as to make me proud of my countrymen.”

A LETTER

The New York journal contains a letter from the Gen. Bernard O’Reilly, one of the Roman Catholic Chaplains in the Army, and who is now in Matamoros, a portion of which we give below. We invite the attention of our to it, as presenting a plain, common sense view of the inducements for peace, which we think the advocates of a protracted war will find it hard to answer.

Destructive to our army as has been the sickness on the Rio Grande, “which has cut down more of our men, than the Mexicans have lost on the battle field,” it is as nothing compared with the appalling havoc which we must witness in Vera Cruz: Alex Guz.

The war how being waged in far, more disastrous to us, than is generally supposed in the United States. We are always victorious, and lose much less men in action than the Mexicans, but then the climate comes to their aid, and cuts down more of our men, than their loss on the battle field. Were the number of our men forever disabled by the service, with the details in very form, which have thinned our, ranks, since the commencement of the campaign accurately presented, our loss, considering the smallness of our army, would appear great without a parallel.

“There in now, it appears to me, no end to be gained by the further prolongation of the war. A victorious and powerful nation will not escape imputation of folly and great error in action, if to punish a weak, and harassed enemy, it inflicts, infinitely greater injury on itself. I we entered it for the purpose of compelling the payment of indebtedness long withheld, we are, if we still continue it, in a fair way of compelling Mexico, long since bankrupt, to the benefit of the insolvent act. –If for the recognition of the Rio Grande as our boundary, we have but to recross that noble river, my word for it, Mexico, will never dispute our title to that contemptible strip of territory. If the war is to be continued until Mexico indemnifies for actual expenses, which is not, I would hope, the national resolve, we would be acting somewhat the part, but with greater inhumanity of the creditor who insists on the incarceration of an insolvent debtor until he liquidates the debt, and also the expense of the incarceration. If the appropriation of the Mexican territory be intended the result will justify the policy or the wisdom of the act. –This climate and country is suited to the Mexicans, but so little to us, that the part taken will ultimate be a burthen rather than a benefit.

“We are victorious over this poor, harassed and badly governed people, honor and glory, and a succession of triumphs are emblazoned on our national escutcheon; we can well afford to be generous towards them. –Mexican gasconade has been kicked and walked on from Palo Alto to Buena Vista, and will continue to be so, to the occupation of their Capitol, if we will it. Supposing that Mexico in her infatuation and weakness, still persists in her refusal to make peace on our terms, would it be sound policy in us to continue the war? If still waged, it must be carried on for the reasons given above, at an immense sacrifice of human life and treasure, and without reaching an end not already attained. –All our citizens here, none surpass them for patriotism are to a man for peace. There option is worth something.

The soldiers and officers of the volunteer and regular army, victorious against fearful odds in so many hard fought battles, are with out an exception, advocates of peace. They are still willing, if their country so directs, to march again and again to the charge, till Mexico he brought to terms, but they see no object to be reached that is not now attained, whilst they can scarcely consider honor or glory to accrue to them in future from a victory over the Mexican army. Peace with Mexico is the ardent wish of the great and good men who in this war have done honor to their country –of the majority of our own free land, of the good of the world. Let there then be peace. If those in our national or State legislatures, who advocate the further prosecution of the war, could by some mysterious process be transported to ‘Brazos,’ or ‘Labos’ island, there to fare as our brave men fare, this war fever would soon evaporate, and they would become the strenuous advocates of peace.”
some instance, after the vital spark had fled, in the overflowing of demoniac vengeance, the carbine ball dashed out the brains of its clayey victim.

"Death in all this horrors, I have seen and been familiar with from my boyhood, and I could not feel the dread reality before me until Co. B. and myself rode down the ‘arroyo’, to, where, from the curling smoke, we supposed the women and children of these poor creatures were secreted. We rode up. Fear and anxiety were depicted upon every countenance –the women a crowded around us for protection –and, not with standing they were not more than half a mile from the scene of this murderous butchery, they were wholly ignorant of what had been going on. An old female, who looked as though she might be the grandmother of the whole, advanced to us, and, in the most imploring manner, asked us to send back her husband and sons from the camp, where they supposed they feared their men had been killed. They soon comprehended my fears, and the old woman asked us to lead to the dead bodies; and accompanied by two little boys of about 10 years of age each, we set out for the scene of murder.

"The first body we approached, the old woman exclaimed a ‘caratero’ –a donde estan los otros, madre de Dios, adonde iremos? –Where are the others? –Mother of God! Where shall we go? We then led them to another body –that of a man about 30 years of age, who lay as tranquil as though he was in the sweetest sleep. The little boy, impelled by that instinct which seems to lead us into trouble and difficulty eye it is ready for us, outstripped his companions and was the first to reach the body. He advanced steadily to its side; gazed upon the countenance which was half concreted beneath the broad-brimmed sombrero; folded his hands upon his breast, and looked with dreaming earnestness upon the bloody victim of ill-timed vengeance. The heaving of his manly little chest, and the silent tears stealing from his dark eyes and rolling their scorching way down his cheeks, told too eloquently that the little fellow had lost a friend. I said to him, in the most soothing tone I could command: ‘Do you know that man?’ To which he replied: ‘Es mi padre caballero. (He is my father, sir) –walked round the body, examined the bullet hole in the side, turned away from us, drew his sleeve across his eyes, and, without an audible sob or murmur returned to the glen where his mother, brothers and sisters were to hear the tale of their desolation.”

This act was most severely censured by Gen. Taylor in his general orders.

If is said in this section of country, so far, there has been frost every month this year. –Alex. Gaz. [MUL]

MG47v48n12p2c6, May 20, 1847.

LATE FROM MEXICO.

CAPTURE OF JALAPA AND PEROTE.

Advance of the Army toward the City of Mexico.

From the Baltimore American, Day 14

The news briefly referred to in yesterday’s American, of the capture of the cities of Jalapa and Perote by our army, without firing a gun, and also of the continued advance of the American Army toward the City of Mexico –is fully confirmed. Our neighbors of the Sun received the New Orleans Detroit of 6th instant by Wednesday night’s Southern mail, being one day in participation, containing the particulars; in the mail regularly due last night we have the same accounts.

The dates from Vera Cruz are 29th ult. The capture of the town of Jalapa took place on the 19th April, when Gen. Twiggs with the division of the Army under his command entered and took possession, without any resistance. It appears that in his flight from Cerro Gordo, Santa Anna did not pass through Jalapa, but in company with Ampudia and Torrejon, turned [ . . . ] to the left at his hacienda, and halted for the night of 18th at the nine mile pass, “ which was being fortified, but which, on second consideration, it was deemed prudent to evacuate. This evacuation took place on the 20th, and in the evening Col. Harvey’s dragoons took possession of the Pass –Gen. Worth followed in their footsteps.

Gen. Worth with his division entered the town of Perote at noon on the 22d April. He found it completely evacuated by the soldiers of the enemy, and a Col. Vasquez left behind to surrendered it with decency. An immense number of small arms, and ammunition were taken possession off.

Gen. Ampudia, with about 3,000 cavalry, in a wretched condition, was near the town when our troops entered it, but soon retreated.

Santa Anna had not been in Perote since his defeat of Cerro Gordo, and was supposed to be somewhere in the mountains.

Perote is thirty six miles beyond Jalapa, one hundred and eight from Vera Cruz, and one hundred and seventy-one from the city of Mexico.
From the Vera Cruz Eagle of the 28th April.

We understood yesterday that information had been received at Jalapa, that Gen. Worth had thrown his outposts towards Puebla, and would march immediately in that direction himself. We are somewhat doubtful as to its truth, however, not being able to trace it to any positive source. The latest information received from Perote, which might be relied on, is that issued by us in an extra on Monday last, and republished in this day's paper. Genls. Scott, Patterson, Twiggs, Pillow and Quitman were in Jalapa. Gen'l Shields is still in a very doubtful state in an hospital on the battle-field of Cerro Gordo. Rumor says that Puebla will yield without discharging a gun; if so, they will show more wisdom than has been evidenced by several other Mexican cities, with hardly a hope of success against us.

It is now certain that Santa Anna is at Orizaba, a little town at the lost of the mountain of that name, with about 1,000 troops around his standard. He was seen at that place on Sunday morning last, and was heard to express his desire of remaining there until he could insure a sufficient force to make another stand. In regard to the sincerity of his assertion much doubt is entertained, as it is supposed that he is exceedingly desirous to leave the country, but fears to attempt a movement of this kind openly, lest he should be assassinated immediately, which will no doubt be his fate ultimately, however long he may prolong it. –He will not dare return to the city of Mexico, is the universal opinion, until some success should crown his efforts to redeem his thousand promises to the deluded people and the clergy, the latter being now his only backers.

COMMAND OF THE MEXICAN ARMY –It is generally reported that the Mexican government have removed Gen. Santa Anna from the chief command of the army, and appointed Gen. Valentine Canalizo as his successor. –Vera Cruz Chronicle of the 28th ult.

By a person just arrived from Orizaba, we know that Gen Santa Anna arrived there with about 200 dragoons, and immediately commenced recruiting, having under his command about 6,000 men of the fugitives from Cerro Gordo. He also assures us that a correspondence had been seized by the authorities at Mexico, addressed by a great personage to Senor Rejon, offering a certain sum of he would bring about an early peace, and to place all the requisite means at his disposal.

In Puebla Gen. Inclan is commanding –They are fortifying the town for resistance. –Ibid.

Interesting News.

The steamer New Orleans from Vera Cruz, April 29, brought four Mexican officers (one Lieutenants-Colonel, one Captain and two Lieutenants) as prisoners.


The following interesting letters are from the New Orleans Picayune:

JALAPA, MEXICO, April 25, 1847.

The mexicans here, one and all, denounce Santa Anna as a coward, a traitor, and every thing else that is bad; and I verily believe that a majority of them would rejoice exceedingly had Gen. Scott captured him the other day and hung him upon the first limb strong enough to bear his weight. That he is playing them false you cannot beat out of their heads –that he has sold the battles of Buena Vista and Cerro Gordo for a consideration they are equally confident, and in proof they are eternally talking about the $3,000,000.

They do not understand why it was that President Polk allowed him to pass freely into Vera Cruz from Havana, unless there was bribery and corruption at the bottom.

Gen Worth still remains at Perote, where he has near 2500 men. Col. Martin Scott, with the 5th Infantry arrived last evening from Vera Cruz, and will proceed to join General Worth.

It is still uncertain when the main movement of the army is to be made. The want of transportation is severely felt, for with his present means Gen. Scott finds the greatest difficulty in extending his line of operations. In the meantime, small parties of ladrones and rancheros are committing depredations in the rear, and such is the nature of the country that they can only be punished with the greatest difficulty.

P. S. Important! 10 o’clock, A. M. –The diligencia or stage coach is just in from the city of Mexico, from whence they
have received papers up to the 22d. inst. The news of the terrible defeat at Cerro Gordo had reached the capital, and which astonished and over whelmed all classes; the tone of the papers, of the public men, and of the Congress itself, would also shoe that it had served to inflame the people still more against the United States.

Anaya has been appointed provisional President. I believe, and has been gifted with full powers on every point except that in relation to making peace with the United States—this no one thinks of Congress in extraordinary session, has even declared any one a traitor who talks of peace. The editor of El Republicano says that we may take Puebla, that we may even capture the city of Mexico, but there must be no peace.

An intelligent man with whom I have conversed, says that the Mexicans neither will of can make any opposition at Puebla. The population is one the worst in Mexico, and the most inimical to strangers; yet the dreadful defeat at Cerro Gordo has completely paralized them.

At the city of Mexico, a few light breast-works have been thrown up not only as you enter the place by the Vera Cruz road, but on the road leading to the Convent of our Lady of Guadalupe, but nothing like a regular system of defense has been as yet undertake. Not only the Government but the citizens appear, with all their vaunting, to have come stupid at the succession of defeats which have be taken their country, and know not which way to turn nor what to do.

JALAPA, MEXICO, April 26, 1847.

We have intelligence this morning in the affect that Gen. Worth has advanced one of his brigades, with a battery and a troop of dragoons to a place called Tepe Aguinal, twelve leagues beyond Perote, to enlarge his circuit of supplies. You may hear that a party of dragoons, has been cut off by the enemy at the other side of Perote, but there is no truth in the rumor.

Col. Martin Scott went on this morning with the 5th Infantry, to join the division of Gen. Scott, unable to keep up his communications through the tierra caliente, for want of horses and transportation, will cut himself loose from Vera Cruz, push on towards the city of Mexico, and to a certain extent depend upon the natural resources of the country.

Jalapa, Mexico, April 28, 1847.

The diligencia came this morning from Perote but from no pint on the other side, as the Governor of Puebla has ordered it to cease running this way. Passengers came through however, bringing papers and verbal news and in as concise a form as possible I will give you the amount of the intelligence.

Among other rumors brought by passengers is one to the effect that Mr. Bankhead, the British Minister, has renewed his offers of meditation between Mexico and the United States, and that when the last diligencia left the city of Mexico the Congress was acting upon his propositions, whatever they may have been. Not withstanding the fixed and denunciatory tones of the public press, there is certainly a peace party in Mexico, and there may be something in this report of English intervention in the distracted affairs of Mexico.

Col Garland’s brigade left the Castle of Perote yesterday morning at daylight for Tepe Aguaca, and will reach that place tonight. Major Smith’s light battalion, a troop of dragoons, and Colonel Duncan’s battery accompanied Col. G. We learn here that General Worth has been very successful in collecting supplies.

An intelligent man with whom I have conversed, says that the Mexicans neither will of can make any opposition at Puebla. The population is one the worst in Mexico, and the most inimical to strangers; yet the dreadful defeat at Cerro Gordo has completely paralized them.

At the city of Mexico, a few light breast-works have been thrown up not only as you enter the place by the Vera Cruz road, but on the road leading to the Convent of our Lady of Guadalupe, but nothing like a regular system of defense has been as yet undertake. Not only the Government but the citizens appear, with all their vaunting, to have come stupid at the succession of defeats which have be taken their country, and know not which way to turn nor what to do.

VERA CRUZ, April 29, 1847.

Gentlemen—An express arrived last evening from Lieut. Dixon in command of 102 convalescent soldiers from the hospitals in this city on their road to join their respective regiments at and near Jalapa, stating that the party has been attacked by about 300 Mexican.

The express rider met, two miles this side of where he left Lieut. D., a train of about forty wagons, in charge of Capt. Greghawker. Some fears are entertained for a train that was some five or six hours ahead of them.
In fact, the Mexicans had great rejoicing amongst themselves last evening in consequence of the capture of one of our wagon trains by the enemy. Their accounts had it that our men (the guard) has been literally cut in peaces; but we have little faith in any thing that comes from such sources.

The Mexicans have a fine chance now to work upon our trains if they could only raise courage enough to do it. Col. Wilson’s force at this place it too week to spore many from it, and if the enemy should, go to work with determination they might trap a handsome reward almost without opposition.

The scarcity of cavalry is severely felt. –The New Orleans on her last trip from Tampico found it necessary to throw overboard about thirty of the best horses belonging to the Tennessee cavalry during a sever northern. A few cases of vomito are said to have occurred, but is a very mild form.

Later from General Scott’s Army.

POSITION OF SANTA ANNA.

Proposed surrender of the city of Mexico,

Probable Cessation of Hostilities.

GUERRILLA WARFARE.

Gen. Scott plan of the Campaing.


Our “ponies” have again performed their task of distancing stages, railroads, steamboats, and magnetic telegraphs, bringing us our “overland express” package in six days from New Orleans.

The position of Mexico is every day becoming more intricate and unfathomable, and the probability is that on arriving at the capital, Gen. Scott will find himself rather in the position of a protector than an enemy of its inhabitants – standing between them and the rapacious hordes of their own countrymen, who are robbing and collecting forced loans from the peaceable and industrious citizens.

Gen. Scott’s rapid and onward movements are, however, threatened to be checked by the general desire prevailing among the volunteers, whose period of enlistment are expiring, to return to their homes, but we rather think that when they come to the point of going forward or turning their backs on the "Halls of the Montezumas," the entering of which will be crowing glory of the war, that a goodly number will be found ready to rally for the onward march.

The rumors are, however, of a conflicting character, so far as regards the prospect of peace. The government appears to be for war to the hill, whilst me people –those who do the fighting –are beginning to yearn for peace, with its accompanying blessings.

The probability of the recovery of the gallant Gen. Shields will be received with great pleasure by his country man, or His wound was of the mortal character, the bill [ . . . ] through his longs [ . . . ] but a good constitutions [ . . . ] rear to triumph over what was considered certain death.

But without further remark, we annex the contents of the Picayune extra, which contains matters of general interest from Gen. Scott section of the army.

The steams ship James L. Day arrived at the Levee at New Orleans early inon the morning of the 10th inst., from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the 5th inst. By this vessel we have received, says the Picayune, our regular correspondence and files of Vera Cruz and Jalapa papers. Apart from the intelligence contained in our letters, we learn verbally that an express reached Vera Cruz a moment before the sailing of the James L. Day, with information that a deputation had come down from the city of Mexico to request Gen. Scott to take the capital under his protection. This news is almost incredible; but when it is remembered that the system of guerrilla warfare has been adopted by Mexico, and that the banditti who engage in this service are as danger ours to their own country men as to the enemy, the report gains some probability.

The impression was gaining ground in the army that there would be no more fighting. –It was not expected that there would be any opposition this side of or at Puebla; and it was even doubted if the Mexicans would defend their capital.
Expectations of this nature have proved deceitful so often that we indulge them with much misgiving.

The Mexican papers continue their declamatory structures upon the mission of Atocha. –It would appear that the sending of this miserable fellow on any important mission to Mexicans given greater umbrage that all else that has been done by the United States. They regard him in the light of an official pimp, a treasonable [ . . . ] perfidious miscreant, and indeed the concentration of baseness. They think that he was sent there by the American cabinet in mockery and scorn.

We have already copied the article of “El Republicano” upon Atocha. That paper –the very best in all Mexico –the highest in tone and the sturdiest defender of republican institutions when the monarchical party was ii the ascendant – after noticing the arrival of Atocha on a mission from this country, and recounting his past history in Mexico, exclaims:

“O, God! This is the greatest sign that thou has forgotten us. Send upon us bombs, rifles, grape shot, and every class of projectile, and misfortune; burn us, reduced us to ashes, destroy us—annihilate, but do not dishonor us. –Send the entire North to subjugate and rule over us, but led not Atocha be the broker of a contract of peace, because that, devolving upon us the greatest scorn and the greatest humiliation, would be (Oh God) thy greatest punishment.”

This are assured, is a true reflex of the feelings of the better order of Mexicans in regard to the unfortunate appointment.

The whereabouts of Santa Anna is some what problematical. The last authentic intelligence located him at Orizaba with a miscellaneous command of 3,000. Subsequent rumors report him as having gone South to recruit his ranks in Oaxaca. It is certain that he has not shown himself at the capital since his defeat. There is a report that he desires to leave the country; but Mr. Kendall thinks that he may make a dash upon detached parties in the rear of the army, or upon wagon trains, with a view to reinstating himself in the good opinion of the nation.

It was the intention of Gen. Scott, upon the arrival of the wagon train that was to start from Vera Cruz, about the 6th inst., to cut off a connection with the sea cost, rely upon the country for sustenance and push forward for the city. This general order dated at Jalapa, 30th April, [ . . . ] as much. But Mr. Kendall’s letter of the 4th –the very lattes news – throws some doubt upon the speedy assumption of this plan, in consequence of the determination of the twelve months volunteers, in a body, not to re-enlists’. This may retard the advance of the army, unless indeed the reported readiness of the city to surrender unconfirmed. If the rumor prove true, the guerrilla troops are mire marauders—a band of pirates, and should be treated accordingly.

Gen Worth was gathering up all the grain he could, and has all the bakeries at work, as [ . . . ] anticipation of breaking off communication with Vera Cruz.

It will be gratifying to all to learn that Gen Shields was thought be in [ . . . ] fair way to [ . . . ]. We have always regarded him as [ . . . ] the best appointment from civil the yet made by the President.


Lieut. Col. Anderson, of the first Tennessee regiment, come over in the Day also. He has seen much service, both under Gen. Taylor and Gen. Scott, at Monterrey and Cerro Gordo, and now returns on accounts of ill heath. –Balt. Sun, May 17.

MG47v48n12p3c1, May 20, 1847.

Important from the two Armies.

We have before up the New Orleans Delta [ . . . ], both of watch [ . . . ] interesting and important news of an unusually interesting character. We [ . . . ] our extracts with the following information of the news received by our express yesterday, brought by the streamer James L. Day, which we find in the Delta:

Immediately before the James L. Day started from Vera Cruz, Major Leonard who is stationed there, sent an officer on board to inform Gen. Pillow and an express has just arrived from Gen. Scott, with a dispatch in which it was started that deputation of Mexican citizens from the Capital, had arrived at the General’s headquarters, inviting him to advance, assuring him that it would surrender to him without opposition, and asking his protection of their person and property. To such favorable terms Gen. Scott assented. –He is, therefore, on his way to, if not already on the walls of the Montexumas.”

Whatever be the fears of the Mexicans, their feeling are any thing but admirable towards the Americans. The road along from Jalapa to Vera Cruz is doued with the mangled and the wondered bodies of our countrymen, who were caught straggling away from the parties with which they happened to be marching.

Gen la Vega and his associate prisoners, are now in Vera Cruz.
Col. Childs is military governor of Jalapa as such he has called on the inhabitant to deliver all concealed arms in the city.

Gen. Scott has issued orders from Jalapa congratulating the troops on the late victories, gaded by Gen. Kearney, in California.

VERACRUZ, May 2d.

Thursday Morning, 20 May, 1847.

Eds. Delta, I send you the first number of the American Star” published in Jalapa.

In the ‘Eagle’, of the 1st whiell I send you, you will learn that Don Pedro Anaya has been declared Dictator. The Sweedish Consul, who arrived yesterday from Mexico, tells me that it is true that Anaya has been elected Dictator; Canalizo spoke of as Commander in Chief of the army, and that preparations are being made for the removal of the Government to Celaya, in case our arms marches to the city. The Sweedish Consul tells me that he visited Santa Anna at Orizaba and obtained from him a passport to come town. He had but a thousand men with him, bally equipped, and he looking haggard and very much dejected. His day was passed –Both soldiers and officers and officers have lost all confidence in him –and I have no doubt, that were he come to Vera Cruz during the present state of feeling of the Mexican population he would be murdered.

When the Sweedish consul left, they were busily fortifying Mexico. No stand will be made at Puebla, unless we delay marching on it for some time. –Gen Worth is still at Perote –Scott at Jalapa. A report has reached here that Old Zach had taken possession of San Luis Potosi, but I doubt this very much –he could not have reached there in this time.

The diligencia runs regularly now to Mexico.

In Vera Cruz every thin is going on smoothy. The business of the city is increasing in a wonderful degree. The waters are covered with Merchant vessels. Yankee hotels, Yankee auction houses, Yankee circus companies and Yankee ice houses are starting up here at the turn of the corner.

Gen. Shields has been pronounced out of danger.

Latest News from the city of Mexico. –Santa Anna within 40 miles of Vera Cruz, threading the City –War approaching to a close.

VERA CRUZ, May 5th, 1847.

Eds. Delta –As the steamer has been detained until today by bad weather, I give you the latest news that has reached us since I closed my letter of the 3d, there is not much of it, but what there is, of some interest and importance. The British Consul at this place has just received a communication from the British minister, Mr. Bankhead saying that the Mexican government has solicited the friendly mediation of his government to settle the difficulties between Mexico and the United States. I learned this morning that such a letter had been received from Mr. Bankhead, and at once called on the English Consul, who tells me that such is a lact. You may therefore rely on the accuracy of this statement.

Santa Anna is about forty miles from here with 2,000 men, threatening to march in and sack Vera Cruz. This information comes from a Spanish merchant of this place, who came in yesterday from Mexico –he states that he say Santa Anna, who advised him to take his things out of the City, as he should destroy every thing in it. This, of course, we consider as mere Mexican bravo, as it si not likely he would make his plans public, did he intend executing our men (infantry) at the artillery, so as not be taken by surprise.

We learn by a letter from the city of Mexico, that they have stopped throwing un entrenchments around the city, and do not intend standing a siege or bombardment. For the first time since I have been in Mexico, I begin to think that the war is about drawing to a close. Yours respectfully. J. D. J.

The celebrated courier for the English merchants, Rafael Beraza, has arrived from Mexico with letters for the British packet at Vera Cruz. He says but little, yet it has leaked out that they were organizing guerrillas rapidly both in Mexico and Puebla. All the robbers in the latter city, and their names is legion, have received regular licenses to rob and murder on the road. The beauty of the city has already manifested itself, for it is said they have already commenced plundering their own people on the roads. In haste G. W. K.

FROM GEN. TAYLOR’S ARMY

BUENA VISTA, MEXICO, APRIL 12.
Eds, Delta –We are doubtful as to whether the rainy season has commenced or not, but for a week or two back it has rained every night.

Yesterday one of our foraging parties reported that they came in sight of a small body of lancers. The Mexicans in the city assure us that we will have another fight here with their troops, but little expectation is entertained of again seeing their lines of swarthy faces darken this fateful field. Our line of pickets only extends to Agua Nueva, some fifteen miles from here. Nothing has been reported by the pickets stationed there, and it may be fairly presumed that no hostile body is near us.

Washington’s battery and two companies of U. S. dragoons are far up in the direction of Agua Nueva; the two Indiana regiments and the Kentucky infantry lower down; the two Illinois and the two Ohio regiments –these are two miles from the battle ground; while two companies of Mississippianians occupy the pass, the six companies of Arkansas cavalry being stationed above them, on the San Luis road. Three companies are in the city, two immediately in the town, and one in the fort at the edge.

A subtler, who was taken prisoner by Gen. Orrea, escaped from the guard by bribing the alcade. He reports that he was one of sixty six prisoners taken by the Mexicans, at different times, on the road between Monterey and Camargo. The prisoners are kindly treated, sent forward to San Luis Potosi, escorted by a detachment of lancers.

The Picayune gives the following additional from Gen. Taylor’s army, showing the disadvantages of his position:

We have conversed with an intelligent officer –one who has been with Gen. Taylor from Palo Alto to Buena Vista –who left Monterey on the 20th April, who informs us that Gen. Taylor’s army was melting away by reason of the expiration of the terms of service of the volunteers under his command. He has neither men nor transportations with which to advance into the enemy’s country. Indeed the whole line of communications from the Brazos to Saltillo, will presently be in a very exposed situation. For very lack of the material of war the general must keep his encampment per force.

To replace the regiments about returning to the United States, a portion of the 3d Mississippi regiment had arrived at Monterey; but the small pox had broken out amongst them and disabled many of them. The Virginia regiment was in that neighborhood and part of the North Carolina troops. These were employed in escorting trains from Camargo to the mountains. From all appearance this column of the army will be stationary for a time. Every thing was quiet for once. – Balt. Sun.

MG47v48n12p3c2, May 20, 1847.

GEN. LA VEGA. –The Courier des Etats Units contains a paragraph in relation to this distinguished Mexican General, which seem to verify the opinion of the

"Ancient philosopher,

Who had read Alexander Ross over
And swore the worlds as he could move,

Was [. . . ] of fighting and of love."

For according to this authority, it would appear that the gallant Mexican, at the very time he was fighting out countrymen in Mexico, was himself subdued by one of our equal irresistible country women.

Says the Courrier, speaking of the captured Mexican Generals, "Among them was Gen. La Vega, who, doubtless calling to mind his previous captivity, appeared delighted to return to the United States, and chatted quited gaily with Gen. Scott the very evening of the battle."

"If a certain chronicle is to be believed, which we have reason to think is predicted on good information, Gen. La Vega; goes to New Orleans to recommence a pleasant, sweet romance, which his release and return to Mexico had interrupted, and the denouncement of which seemed postponed to the conclusion of the war. This is the explanation of the resignation with which be meets his new captivity."

Gen. La Vega perhaps, may settle down in New Orleans, and after having served a sufficiently los apprenticeship as a citizen of the U. States, represent Louisiana in Congress. Why not, as well as Gen. Houston in Texas? –N. Y. Tribune.

The HARPERS, we understand, have in press the "Diplomatic and Official Papers of MR. WEBSTER while Secretary of State, –which they will publish in two handsome octavo columns during the present season. –This will form, we need not say, a work of the highest value and interest, especially to public and professional union. I will include the
correspondence upon the North Eastern Boundary, the Inviolability of Territory, our relations with Mexico, &c. Mr. Webster’s labors while Secretary of State were scarcely less remarkable for their great extent, that for the extraordinary ability for which they were preeminent. –N. Y. Courier.

From the new Jersey "Fredonian."

CONSEQUENCES OF WAR. –One of the most oppressive reflections connected with the present war is this, that even when peace is once more restored, as we hope may soon be the case, the evil influences of war cannot be arrested for a long time, but must flow on a deep, full, overflowing stream, corrupting the future, generation of young men and poisoning the future literature of our country.

The soldier and the soldier’s bloody trade must long be the themes of conversation and glorification. The prowess and sufferings on the field of battle of military chieftains will continue to be held up for the admiration of the country. History and poetry, painting and sculpture, oratory and the drama, will all lend their witchery and their charms to the exaltation of military men and military achievements. The gratitude of the country will be expected to distribute the offices of honor and trust among the heroes of the war. Claims for losses incurred and for services rendered will flow in for half century, and pensions must be paid to the families of those who perished in battle and to individuals who were wounded in the public service. The victories of Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterey, Buena Vista and Vera Cruz, will be celebrated in a song and in fourth of July stations, ; and in various ways these sanguinary events will be commemorated and magnified through several generations.

Thus war, instead of being held as the most awful of barbarities, as a colossal curse, and enormity too dreadful to he thought of except with shuddering; instead of this, we said, it will be regarded as a prime source of national glory; as a grand means of exciting a people and placing them foremost in the march to a resplendent destiny. The whole course and current of popular thought and feeling will thus be turned from the pursuit and glories of public peace to the devouring and gory specter of desolation and war.

For all these future and lasting consequences of the present war, the authors of it must be held responsible now and hereafter, at the bar of conscience and the bar of God.

CASE OF LIEUT. HUNTER.

This young officer has been dismissed from the Squadron in the Gulf of Mexico for doing his duty too well. From the proceedings of the Court Martial in this case, it appears that he was tried for treating with contempt his superior, and for disobedience the orders. The specifications charge that he arrogated to himself the authority of Commander in Chief by entering into stipulations for the surrender of Alvarado; that he proceeded without orders from Alvarado to Flacota-lpan, and received the capitulation of that place also, without waiting for the presence of the Commander in Chief, although aware of his approach; that having captured four schooners he set one on fire and abandoned another –”Thus substituting his own will for the discretion of his Commander in chief, who was within a few hours reach of communication.” The specifications for disobedience of orders allege that Lieut. HUNTER, in command of the steamer Scourge, being ordered to blockade the port of Alvarado, did, in disregard of orders, enter the harbor, and take possession of that place, and further, that being ordered to report himself to the commander in chief on a certain day, he failed to do so.

For these offences the gallant officer was sentenced to be dismissed from the Home squadron and to he reprimanded by the commander in chief –the reprimand to be read on the quarter deck of every vessel in the Squadron in the presence of the officers and crew.

We believe that the facts of the case show this to be an undeserved sentence. The duty of obeying orders is of course an essential principle in military and naval affairs; but then it is to be remembered that orders are to be obeyed according to their spirit and in view of the objects contemplated by them. Upon the very face or it the matter vindicates itself. Lieut. HUNTER is sent to blockade a town; he fins on arriving there that he can take it, and he does so. Now the purpose of blockading the town was that it might be taken eventually, and is it not strange that an officer should be punished for accomplishing fully the objects he was sent to further? ”my orders were, ” says the Lieutenant in his defense, ”to report to Captain BRESEE, and to assist in the blockading Alvarado. I did not consider them (can they be fairly considered?) as forbidding me to annoy the enemy in every way in my power, as modifying in the slightest degree the general duty of every office having a military command in time of war, the molest and cripple the enemy in every possible way.”
A fair and generous interpretation would certainly sanction his view. We quote some passages from Lieut. Hunter’s defense:

"On the evening of the 30th March, being sufficiently near, I opened upon the fort at Alvarado with shot and shells. Apprehensive of a northern, I stood off and on during the night, with a strong breeze and a rough sea. Towards affording, it having moderated, I stood close in the bar, and again opened on the forts. Shortly afterwards I discovered two horsemen upon the beach holding a white flag, and a boat crossing the bar at the same time. This boat brought me an offer on the part of the authorities to surrender the city. —Permit me here, to observe, Mr. President, that as there are two sides to every question, so there may be two results to every affair of this kind. Alvarado is now in our possession but let us suppose that it was not that we had been foiled a third time in our efforts to take it. What would have been my position, I say, if I having refused the offer of the town when the authorities "were ready to yield it —the American forces had been a third time baffled in their efforts to capture it. Mr. President, the worst that can befall me, is a trifle to the infamy and disgrace which would have remained attached to my name, perhaps long after I was in the grave.

"If you, Mr. President (or any member of this honorable Court,) will tansy yourself in my place when the offer of capitulation reached me, I think you must perceive that it placed me in a difficult, a most embarrassing position —one that might have got a much more experienced officer than myself into trouble I had to decide upon the disobeying of my orders on one hand, and the possible consequences which my refusal to take such a responsibility might lead on the other. I had to decide between two courses —the one leading to present personal safety, and the possibility of a future infamy; the other to same personal risk, perhaps, but by which the honor of the navy, and my honor, at least were safe. I have stated thus the view which I took of my position, and the motives on which my actions were founded. I will not say, Mr. President, that under similar circumstances you would have a similar view of your position; but I think I may say without the danger of dissent here or elsewhere, that taking the same view I did —that you or any other member of this honorable court, would have done just, what I did."

The capture of Flaco-Talpan and of the enemy’s vessels followed because Lieut. Hunter learned, on taking Alvarado, that the vessels followed because Lieut. Hunter. Hunter learned, on taking Alvarado, that the vessels containing government property and munitions of war had proceeded up the river to the former place, and he thought it his duty to pursue immediately. One of the captured vessels he burnt, because it got aground and might have fallen into the enemy’s hands; another being worthless, was abandoned; two laden with stores, were brought to Alvarado.

The Lieutenant defense, throughout; is manly and simple, and we must say that in point of good taste it appears to advantage by the side of Com. Penny’s somewhat petulant reprimand. Of the two we should prefer to be the officer reprimanded rather than that the officer reprimanding. Discipline and subordination must he preserved in the daring spirit of doubledly, and so must the daring spirit of enterprise and gallantry. After reading the passage we have quoted and the following one from the Lieutenant’s defense, who will not think that the chivalrous young officer has been harshly dealt with?

I regret my error, apart from the trouble it has brought upon me. I regret it, because it has given offence to the commander-in-chief —(I speak from rumor only —I have no certain knowledge of the fact) as I have heard there was an understanding between the commander in chief and the commanding general ashore, that there was to be a combined command-in-chief —(I speak from rumor only —I have no certain knowledge of the fact) as I have heard there was an understanding between the commander in chief and the commanding general ashore, that there was to be a combined command-in-chief —(I speak from rumor only —I have no certain knowledge of the fact) as I have heard there was an understanding between the commander in chief and the commanding general ashore, that there was to be a combined command-in-chief. In regard to the first my error was one of simple ignorance. I knew that it had obtained possession of these places and the meant of course to hand them over to the first senior officer that might approach; but I had no the remotest intention of exercising any of the powers of commander in chief. I knew, or perhaps I should rather way had reason to believe, that the commander in Chief would arrive in a short time; but I did not know precisely when, still less did I know that he was nearer than Vera Cruz."

We subjoin the official reprimand of Commodore Perry. It is a production that will not, we are confident, find approval in the public sentiment;

Reprimand of Commodore Perry.

UNITED STATES FLAG SHIP MISSISSIPPI.
Anton Lizardo, April 9, 1847.

Sir —I enclose herewith the findings and sentence of the Court Martial, convened on the 7th inst., for your trial, which opposes upon me the task of expressing, in the form of reprimand, my opinion of your conduct as proven before the Court Martial.

However lenient the sentence in you case may seem to be, I have approved it, as I conceived of no punishment more severe than a dismissal in time of war form a squadron, with men whose patent endurance of the most trying duties, and whose character for courage obedience and subordination, have won my highest approbation.
How different has been your course. –Scarcely a day on the station, and you disobey orders, arrogate to yourself the duties belonging to a commander in chief, talk of opening upon the town, and ordering the troops to advance when you had but one gun, and not a solitary soldier, and "all for the purpose, “ as you say of securing an unmolested entrance of the squadron into the river.

It would be difficult, of no impossible, to point to another instances of similar folly; and the most charitable construction that can be given to it is –that in the elevation of a first command, you had truly imagined yourself actually in command of the naval and military detachments then approaching and within a short distance of the scene of your exploits.

With due respect,

(SIGNED) M.C. PERRY
Commander in Chief of Home Squadron.

To Lieut. CHARLES G. HUNTER.
United States Navy.

MG47v48n13p2c2, May 27, 1847.

SEQUESTRATION OF CHURCH PROPERTY.

The Union denies that its suggestions in regard to the spoliation of the Mexican Church, were made with the knowledge and consent of Mr. Polk, any one of his Cabinet. It is sincerely to be wished that Mr. Richie would find some of enabling the public to distinguish between the official tones of the organ and the voluntaries of the editor; in other words, whether the Administration has determined on a particular measure, or is only "feeling the public pulse.” The following, which we clip from the Richmond Times, throws some light upon the subject:

THE MATTER OF THE CHURCH PROPERTY

-The correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot hints that the proposition of the Union to sequester the church property in Mexico, was favored by at least one member of the Cabinet, and the article was written by an associate editor, a clerk in the State Department, to meet the views of the President and Mr. Buchanan, as he understood them.

"A Catholic of Washington, “ writing in the Intelligencer, has also discovered a curious evidence that the proposition was not without sanction in high quarters. The article appeared in the Union of the night of May 11th, and on that day, the Washington correspondent of the Journal of Commerce wrote as follows:

"You will see that it is now contemplated, or rather suggested, to sequester the property of the Mexican church during the war. I have no doubt it is to be done, as the church influence is now the main support of the war.”

The "Catholic” asks, with much force, where did the writer get his information? It was not from the Union because the paper was not printed; nor was it probably from the editor, who would not talk about unpublished editorials.

"Is not evident, (proceeds the writer,) that the Editorial and the Letter had a common origin? If the suggestion was not made "by authority” and thrown out to feel the popular pulse, why was it suffered to run eight full days without retraction or denial? This is a question I should like to see satisfactorily answer. Unit it is so answered I shall continue to believe, and the public will continue to believe, that the "suggestion” was the result of a Cabinet Conference, and that but for the prompt manifestation of the public indignation, the design of plundering and spoliation would have been put in execution. I would here say something of the Union’s "soft sawder" about the "intelligence, patriotism and social virtues, “ and all that of their “Catholic brethren, “ whilst thrusting a dagger "under their fifth rib, “ but no doubt you are tired of the subject.”

MG47v48n13p2c2, May 27, 1847.

SANTA ANNA’S PASSPORT

The article from the Philadelphia North American in relation to this subject, we commend to the attentive perusal of the reader.

[MUL]
MG47v48n13p2c3, May 27, 1847.

Lt. Mejia, the aid-the-cam of Gen. La Vega, now prisoner on parole in New Orleans, has written a letter to the Editors of the Picayune, in which he plainly asserts that Gen. La Vega did try, but unsuccessfully, to secure the release of Midshipman Rodgers. He was not commandant, but only third in command at Vera Cruz, when Mr. Rogers was removed to Perote. The explanation bears the stamp of sincerity and truth, and we are glad that the charges against the brave Mexican are not true.

MG47v48n13p2c4, May 27, 1847.

THE SANTA ANNA TREASON, ITS CHARACTER AND DESIGNS.

We find the following in the Ledger of Saturday, and are constrained to invite our citizens to a thoughtful consideration of its developments. We extract it from the regular Washington correspondence of that journal:

"Victory round us every side and not a drop of comfort. Peace is apparently as far off as ever. We shall, for want of power to treat with, be obliged to keep possession of a goodly portions of the conquered territory, and to fortify and, hold all the strong places in our hands.

"With the defeat of Santa Anna, any hope of peace is considerably diminished, for however strongly the opposition press may have railed against what it was pleased to call "the passport granted to that chief," certain it is that our best hopes of peace rested on him, and that nothing but the impossibility of sustaining himself in Mexico, has thus far baffled his efforts to make the Congress agree to the proposition of our government to send commissioners.

"The tone of his warlike despatches was from the commencement forced upon by the circumstances in which he was placed, and perfectly understood here by the President and his Cabinet. Santa Anna only hope of success consisted in first satisfying the national vanity of his countrymen, or availing himself of some lucky accident, so turn, for a moment, the fortunes of war, and improve that moment for concluding a peace. He came very near such a chance at Buena Vista, but the battle of Cerro Gordo has put an end to his prospects, and with them, to our calculation of peace from that quarter."

It is our first duty to inquire the source of these terrible developments of a most fearful and disgraceful treason; for unless this be the mere hallucinations of lunacy, or the idle slanders of a print wholly out of the pale of credit, there is that in it which demands attention. –We assert that it is of a source worthy of grave consideration, one immediately connected with this administration. The correspondent of the Ledger is known to be a property of this administration –an ultra Locofoco. It is known that he is in the confidence of the Government, especially of the State Department, and that he has repeatedly been made, in advance of the press, the organ of its divulgements to the public. We cannot, therefore, and we do not doubt, that in the above communication he has given faithfully the views of the administration.

And this belief is rendered the more confident by knowledge, that the President, in his annual message admitted the existence of an intrigue with Santa Anna. He did this–enough of itself to cover the government and the county with shame and to rouse every honest heart in our confines to mutiny and rage; but he did more –he recognized a still continued connexion, and promise, even then, that Santa Anna would yet procure us a peace. Let this be remember in conjunction with the other facts.

To effect this purpose, it was necessary that Santa Anna should be upheld in Mexico. –The alliance demanded that the two Presidents should sustain each other. To give eclat to the Mexican miscreant, and to enable him to carry out Polk’s designs, a victory was necessary. Read the above letter, and say what were Polk’s purposes:

"The tone of his” –Santa Anna’s –“war like despatches was, from the first, forced him by the circumstances in which he was placed, AND PERFECTLY UNDERSTOOD HERE BY THE PRESIDENT AND HIS CABINET.” “AND CERTAIN IT IS THAT OUR BEST HOPES OF PEACE RESTED UPON HIM.” “He came very near such a chance at Buena Vista, but the battle of Cerro Gordo has put an end to his prospects, and, WITH THEM, TO OUR CALCULATION of peace from that quarter.”

Such is the language of the administration. We will not pause to characterize a policy so dark, so treasonable; but will proceed to prove, by facts, that the plan of the administration was, as he indicated, to give a victory to Santa Anna, in order that he might, to use the words of the writer and improve that moment for concluding a peace.”

At time when it was known, when it was communicated by Gen. Taylor to the administration, that Santa Anna was gathering a large force, at San Luis Potosi, of from 30 to 40,000 men, the government withdrew from him, without notice or explanation, the main part of his force, including nearly all his regulars and his best officers. He was left in a state of apparent helplessness; and that, too, in the face of an army four times his number. What was the objects of this? An attack up on Vera Cruz. But why was not Santa Anna at Vera Cruz? Why did he leave the door of Mexico open, and prefer to attack a detached force in an extreme section of the republic? And when so unexpectedly repelled –("he
came very near such a chance at Buena Vista, “ says the administration writer quoted above) –why did he make what his countrymen believe to have been but a feint at Cerro Gordo?

Whether of not, authority, this letter singularly chords with the facts. It explains the withdrawal of Gen. Taylor’s force, the orders given to him to retire and afford Santa Anna a triumph over every post this side of Monterey; bathing the country in the blood of the gallant American volunteers who occupied it. It acknowledges, in the most distinct manner, that the intrigue with Santa Anna has been continued to the present time. It expresses with a horrible frankness, a regret that Taylor and his little host were not sacrificed at Buena Vista.

The charge of a treasonable conspiracy between the Presidents of the two countries, is recognized in both. The Mexicans believe that Santa Anna is a traitor in the parto of both the contracting parties. It is a crime which the country can never, by a false clemency, pardon. He who stamps a brand upon the brow or the Republic, by such a crime, is a worse felon that any In her dungeons.

“Our best hopes of peace rested on him, “ Santa Anna. There was then no trust in the patriotism of the country, in the valor of our army, or in the firmness of our government. –“Nothing but the impossibility of sustaining himself in Mexico has thus far baffled the efforts to make the Congress agree to the proposition of our government.” The whole war has then been a game played between two dark political gamblers, who, understanding their mutual policy, have played into each other’s hands. And what of the thousands who have perished in this terrible game? –What of them, indeed!

The lamentations of this writer over the victory of Buena Vista, his expressed desire that Santa Anna should have prevailed, and our patriots have been massacred (for such must have been the result,) presents in picture of political depravity too horrible for contemplation. This is not treason merely –though it is treason of the blackest kind –but it is the most in sane form of sanguinary malice. Over the graves of McKee and Hardin and Clay and their compatriots, the writer laments that Taylor and Wool and all who battled by their side, were not laid in the same tomb. And these, be it remembered, are the views and sentiments of the Administration. All should have been offered as a sacrifice to Santa Anna “to satisfy the national vanity of his county men, “ and enable him “to turn the fortunes of war and to improve that moment for concluding peace.” –Phila. North American.

Col. DAVID TOD, the newly appointed Minister to Brazil, in place of Mr. Wise, who has permission to come home, took leave of his friends and left with his Secretary of Legation, Mr. Morgan, (who has been for sometime past the Law Clerk in the office of the Solicitor of the Treasury) yesterday morning, for New York.

Col. Tod, family and Secretary, will sail in the U. S. ship Ohio, now do her passage home from Vera Cruz, about the middle of June. The new minister as a dark skinned, swarthy, thick-set, middle-aged, good-looking man, with some pretension to talents as an Ohio lawyer and politician, but none to refinement of toasty or manners. He is a good stump-campaigner, and had the honor of being beaten at the last Gubernatorial election in Ohio by Governor Bess, the present Whig Chief Magistrate of that State. Being a martyr in the cause of modern “democracy,” he has been deemed by the Administration a fit subject to be pensioned on the nation at a salary of nine thousand dollars per annum, and a bonus of nine thousand more in the shape of an outfit!

In statesmanship, Col. Tod may be a little ahead of poor JEWETT, who is said to have declared that Mr. Polk had not appointed him Charge des Affaires to Peru, but to Lima (and who has been recalled) though many there are who seriously believe he is not.

Mr. Morgan, the secretary of Legation, will be the Minister at the Brazilian Court –and will prove to be a very good one, no doubt. He is a good lawyer, a gentleman of fine sense and popular manners, and will be very apt to get soon familiarized with the duties of the Legation, and with the Portuguese language, spoken by the Brazilians, Mr. Morgan is an elder brother of Col. Morgan, at the head of one of the Ohio Regiments in Mexico, attached to Gen. Taylor’s command. The Mongans are nephews or the Hon. Wm. J. Duane, late Secretary of the Treasury, and are men of energy and character.

Following in the footsteps of Mr. Wise it is understood that another tyler man, Dr. CRUMP, Charge des Affairs to Chili, has permission to come home, in order to make room for the Hon. Seth Baron, now Solicitor of the Treasury, who, tired of the muddy law books in the Treasury Department, aspires to the appointment of the Chilian Charge des Affairship, with its outfit of four thousand five hundred dollars, and its salary of the like amount, and has absolutely made several attempts to take lessons in the Spanish language, preparatory to his entrance upon the duties of the mission!

The transfer and promotion of Mr. BARTON, will leave the office of Solicitor of the Treasure free for Mr. Gillet, the present Register, to enter, it being just now found out by himself and the Administration that he is better at unraveling
the quicks in the laws than at ciphering up the vulgar fractions in the loans receipts and disbursements of the Treasury Department!

Mr. Gillet is a peculiar man –shrewd, sharp useful in under-current political moves, and wonderfully close fisted, and knows how to take care of the pence.

Mr. Gillet's present place being thus conveniently vacated, an excellent opportunity will be presented for Mr. Polk to reward that old and useful friend of his, Daniel Graham, of Nashville, Tennessee, who was on here last autumn in company with Gov. Aaron V. Brown. Mr. Graham for a number of years was the Comptroller of the State of Tennessee – an able and correct officer. He is a man after Mr. Polk’s own heart: smooth as oil, very plausible, and in the work of proscription will so adroitly manage the matter as to please himself and Mr. Polk while the proscribed will never know who hurt them! The chief wonder is that Mr. Polk has delayed rewarding Mr. Graham for so long time!

The Richmond Enquirer, received this evening, says that the official returns in the two Congressional Districts in Virginia, about which there had been some doubt, give the election to Bocock and Droomgoole, the former by four votes over Irving –the majority of the other not named. It is presumable that the double given to Bocock was not cast out by the Sheriffs. If they were not, Irving will doubtless contest the seat and obtain it. –I understand the law does not allow to Sheriffs to cast out votes that have been received and regularly recorded, although the proof may be clear that sundry persons have voted more that once, each, at different voting places, for the same candidate. But the House of Representatives may correct the error. POTOMAC.

MG47v48n13p2c5, May 27, 1847.

GUERRILLA WAR ON THE RIO GRANDE.

From the New Orleans Picayune, May 14.

An attentive correspondent at Camargo has enclosed to us the following order, issued by Canales. It was found upon the Alcade of Guerra, who was at the time in company with one of Canale’s captains, and in conjunction with him, as was supposed taking measures to carry it into effect. Lieut. Bee, of Capt. Lamar’s company of Rangers, happened to come upon them, arrested them both and brought them into Camago.

From this order it is manifest that the guerrilla mode of warfare is to be enforced all along the valley of the Rio Grande. It is mortifying to reflect that a few disorderly men, such as have fled from the field of battle at Buena Vista and hid themselves in the quarries before Monterey, have by their murderous conduct, given color to the charges with which Canales commences and lauds his order; nevertheless, it is almost certain that the system would have been put in practice upon the Rio Grande, as it has been in the Central States, had not these outrages happened.

We have had full measure of the glories of war, but should the guerrilla plan continues any length of time its butcheries will be appalling. The perpetrators of acts of violence have herefore sought to palliate their guilt by pleading the assassination of their comrades as an excuse for retaliation. There has been too much of this already. But what will be the scenes of havoc and blood when a “war without pity” is the recognized gauge of battle on both sides!

The order of Canales is peremptory. It commands his followers to spare neither age nor condition. Every American found within the territory of Mexico, whether armed or unarmed, must be put to the word. This is more savage even then the guerilla proclamation of Salas.

The defence of the Rio Grande should be, under the circumstances, an object of primary consideration. That more troops are needed there is apparent, without taking into consideration the necessities of other divisions of the invasion.

MG47v48n13p2c5, May 27, 1847.

FRONTIER BRIGADE OF CAVALRY,

CAMP IN SAN AUGUSTIN, April 4, 1847.

I this day send to the Adjutant Inspector of the National Guards the following instructions:

I learn, with the greatest indignation, that the Americans have committed a most horrible massacre at the rancho of the Guadalupe. They made prisoners, in their own houses, and by the side of their families, of twenty five peaceable men, and immediately shot them. To repel this class of warefare, which is not war, but atrocity in all its fury, there is no another course left us that retaliation; and, in order to pursue this method, rendered imperative by the fatal circumstances above mentioned, you will immediately declare martial law, with the understanding that eight days after
the Swiss school. –Balt. Pat.

would be a fitness in his leading a regiment of Swiss soldiers –he has so long acted with the politicians who belong to Mr. Polk, if he cannot get Mr. Benton or Mr. Marcy so lead them to the fight, should take the command himself. There indifferent on which side they fight, so they are paid. If they are accepted, as we see no reason shy they should not be, nor the homicide of this country or of another country. Let the eight hundred Swiss be engaged, -the business of killing the trigger which sent the ball, of held the sword, that let his life's blood out. Death will not be stripped of its terrors, almost every account from that disordered country? It makes no manner of difference to the poor Mexican who pulled But it is said Mr. Polk will not accept the offer. Why not? Does it make any difference to us what manner of men they are who kill the Mexicans –who storm their towns –who commit the murders of the unoffending, of which we hear by almost every account from that disordered country? It makes no manner of difference to the poor Mexican who pulled the trigger which sent the ball, of held the sword, that let his life's blood out. Death will not be stripped of its terrors, nor the homicide of this country or of another country. Let the eight hundred Swiss be engaged, -the business of killing is a work of their liking –for there is a proverb which says they are indifferent on which side they fight, so they are indifferent on which side they fight, so they are paid. If they are accepted, as we see no reason shy they should not be, Mr. Polk, if he cannot get Mr. Benton or Mr. Marcy so lead them to the fight, should take the command himself. There would be a fitness in his leading a regiment of Swiss soldiers –he has so long acted with the politicians who belong to the Swiss school. –Balt. Pat.
LATE FROM MEXICO

FROM THE St. Louis Republican, May 17.

LATEST FORM SANTA FE AND CALIFORNIA.

Yesterday evening several gentlemen arrived on board the Johns J. Harding, direct from Santa Fe and California, from whom we have gathered the following information:

"Lieut. Wm. G. Peck, of the Topographical corps left Santa Fe in company with Messrs. Wood and Sandford, and their party. At the time he left Santa Fe, Col. Price was still there, and all was quiet, but it was believed to be that sullen and stubborn quiet which superior force alone compels. Although the insurrection, which we have heretofore noticed, had been put down, it was the general opinion that they only need the aid of a competent leader to rise again. The civil government was going on trying the insurgents Judge Beaubien presiding.

After Lieut. Peck was out some days from Santa Fe, he was joined by Mr. McKnight, from Chihuahua; Lieut. Theodore Talbot, who went out with Col. Fremont; Lieut. E. Beal, of the United States Nacy Toplin, United states Army; Cristopher Carson, Robert E. Russell and others, from California. From these gentlemen we learn, that the Court at Taos had condemned a number of the insurgents to he hung, and that eleven had been executed, and a large number whipped. Six were hung on the day that last Lieut. Talbot passed through Taos.

"These executions excited the Mexicans very much, and when Mr. McKnight passed through Vagas they were endeavoring to raise volunteers for another insurrection. The Alcalde and other influential men were opposing the effort, but with what success remain to be seen.

When Lieut. Peck and his party were about nine miles this side of the Cache on the Arkansas they were attacked by about ninety Camanche Indians, who succeeded in stealing ten of their horses and mules. The party with Lieut. Peck fell back and waited two days, hoping to be joined by other parties coming in. On the second day, the Camanches again attacked them, and succeeded in carrying off all their horses and mules –thirty nine in number. In the second attack, they had a fight of some duration, in which one man, harmed Williams was severely, but not mortally wounded, by a spear of lance, in the body. Several others had their clothing cut by the balls fired by the Indians. A musket ball struck the pistol of Lieut. Peck, on the lock, and took the impression of the manufacturer's name, as plain as it could have been made upon it. They believe they had killed one of the Indians, and probably wounded more, but they were all carried off: They killed some of the Indian's horses. That night they were joined by the gentleman above mentioned and supplied with fresh animals.

"At the bend of the Arkansas, a party of Pawnee Indians made an attack upon their camp, and attempted to excite a stampede among the horses, but did not succeed. They, however, stole two horses. They short a good many arrows into the camp, but without effect. They appeared to have but one gun among them. These gentlemen report that it is the intention of the Indians to attack every party which they think they are strong enough to contend with. And are very hostile to us. –This being the case, it behooves the general government immediately to send out a force and whip them into better behavior.

"Lieut. Talbot, Beal, and the other gentlemen from California, left San Diego on the 25th of February last. At the time of their departure, Lieut. Col. Fremont was at Ciudad de Angeles, acting as Governor of the Territory under an appointment from Commodore Stockton. The Commodore had returned on board his ship, and had left that part of the coast. Col. Wm. H. Russell, of Calloway country, in this State, was acting as Secretary of the Territory.

"Gen. Kearney was joined about the 9th of January, at San Diego, by Lieut. Col. Cooke, with the battalion of Mormons under his command. Great praise is bestowed on Col. Cooke, for the condition in which he brought his command in. It is said that all his men were in fine health, with their arms as bright as when they set out on the march –in excellent discipline, and without any serious loss.

"Soon after being joined by Col. Cooke, Gen Kearney, with the Mormons and dragoons, proceeded to Monterey, where he was when our informant left. There he had been joined by the two artillery companies from Baltimore. We cannot learn from our informants that any portion of Col. Stevenson’s command, from New York, had arrived. –Com. Shubrick had joined Gen. Kearney at Monterey: but we are unable to learn what their operations would be. The question of the right to act as Governor of the territory, was still in dispute between Gen. Kearney and Com. Stockton. It was understood, that Gen. Kearny intended setting out on his return about the 1st of July, but the state of affairs, it was supposed, might delay his departure.

Some of the gentlemen named, we understand, are bearers of despatches to Washington."
A correspondent of the St. Louis Republican, writing from Santa Fe under date of the 7th of April, says-

"All is apparently quiet here, but every observing man knows that we are walking daily over a volcano which is ready to burst upon us if an opportunity offers. As I said in a former letter, in peace or war, this country cannot be retained but by military force. We hear that Col. Doniphan intends to return to Missouri, through Texas. If he does so before other troops arrive to relieve him, Chihuahua will fall again into the hands of the Mexicans. For my part, I cannot think he will do so unwise a thing."

A letter in the Republican, dated City of Angels, Mexico, January 29, speaking of the arrival of Col. FREMONT'S force at that place says-

"I cannot, in a short letter, give you the details of our march from Monterey to this city of Angels, but I was replete with incidents, and throughout furnishes me continued evidence of the gallantry, skilful maneuvering and noble bearing of our youthful commander, COL. FREMONT. He is a scholar, and officer and a gentleman.

"We found Gen. Kearny here with instructions from the Secretary of War to conquer the country, and institute a civil government; but Com. Stockton, who was also here, amintained that the conquest, had been made by him and Col. Fremont, and as an incident belonged to him; and that Gen. Kearny's orders were now obsolete, because the business for which he had come, had been anticipated by others."

PROSPECT OF MORE FIGHTING.

Guerilla Warfare Commenced.

From the Baltimore Sun.


Our ponies also bring us a printed slip from the office of the Mobile Herald, dated on the 18th inst., which was kindly furnished our agents, containing the following summary of news from the city of Mexico.-

The Picayune has papers (brought by the way of Tampico,) from the city of Mexico to the 28th of April, five days later than the previously received. We copy below from it:

We look first for the news from Santa Anna and we find him engaged, with the number diligence, at Orizaba, raising troops. He shows, as the letter will say, incredible [ . . . ] in repairing the losses he has unstained, and there is no doubt at the head of an army very considerably in number, however inferior in discipline. He is moreover, according to the papers, granting persist to guerrilla bands. Being straitened for funds, he is said to have imposed upon Orizaba a loan or a 16,000. we give a translation of the first letter we have seen of Santa Anna since his defeat at Cerro Gordo. It was written on the 22d of April from Orizaba.

Below we copy a portion of this letter:

It appears that the enemy, improving his triumph, and the astonishment in which he finds the people, design to march upon the capital; but I am taking measures to organize here a respectable force, in addition to that at present under the command of Gen. D. Antonio Leon, and I can assure the President Substitute, that with some aid from the neighboring States or the Supreme Government itself, I shall be able to harass the rear guard of the enemy with effect until his destruction is achieved. I have already dispatched orders to Ben. Canalizo that the protect with his cavalry the fortress of Perote, and to Gen. Gaona that he place it in the best state of defense until I can relieve him.

I cannot omit to express to your Excellency my astonishment at the apathy and selfishness of our citizens in the present critical circumstances, and I now deem it necessary, to save the country, that the Supreme Powers of the nation should dictate severe and effective measures to enforce compliance on the part of every one with those duties which society and the laws impose upon hi. If this is not done –if the nation does not rise en masse to defend its most sacred rights, unjustly and barbarously trampled upon, infamy and scorn with the loss of our nationality, will be the result. For my part I shall spare no sacrifice in behalf of the country; my life, my blood, my repose and my fortune are entirely consecrated to it.

For the present I have established my head quarters here, where I shall received the orders which the Supreme Government may have occasion to transmit. Accept assurance &c.

God and Liberty!

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.
A short Letter which Santa Anna wrote the same day to President Anaya, is hardly worth publishing. He begs him not to despair, not to make a treaty with the enemy, and to defend the Capital. He begs most piteously for some money.

The same number of El Republicano which contains the first letter, defends the National Guard from the reproach in cast upon it of the loss of Cerro Gordo. Santa Anna’s ipse dixit has already lost much of its power. But notwithstanding the evident dissatisfaction felt with him by his countrymen, the Supreme Government has confirmed him in the command of the army by express orders. –The necessity of such an order indicates that his authority had been severely shaken.

Some of the papers were calling for a court martial on Canalizo for his dastardly conduct at Cerro Gordo.

Each step in the march of General Scott was chronicled in the papers of the Capital; and the excesses of his troops were greatly magnified and denounced.

The press is loud in its denunciation of the proprietors of the haciendas who are selling grain to Gen. Scott, from which we infer that he does not lack supplies.

Congress having conferred very ample powers upon the President Substitute to provide for the existing emergency in the affairs of the country, was occupying itself with the discussion of constitutional questions. The President shows a great deal more apathy that is acceptable to the editors of El Republicano. They appeal to him to arouse himself and call forth the energies of the nation to meet the crisis. They denounce as cowardly and infamous any course other than war and a long war. Those are suspected of more peaceable views are denounced in no measured terms.

A “Yankee” was arrested on the 26th, having presented himself to the President to confer with him upon the property of peace, but in no authorized capacity. No clue is given as to who the man is. he is negotiating on his own hook.”

A general and absolute decree of amnesty for all political offences is announced in the papers of the 27th.

In Toluca the casting of cannon was immediately to he commenced, the prelates of San Francisco and La Mercede having offered the bell necessary for the construction of cannon.

The Mexicans speak of the conspiracy which was entered into among their countrymen in Tampico to obtain possession of that town, as having failed principally for want of funds; but they indulge the hope that another attempt will be more successful.

D. Miguel Orbe, the curate of Huachinango, is raising a company of guerrillas; and upon the following terms:

HUACHINANGO, April 23, 1847.

He who subscribes this, pledges himself the five following articles:

1st. To die defending an avenging Our Lady of Guadalupe, and the Catholic, Apostolic, Roman religion which he professes.

2d. To defend the integrity and independence of the nation.

3d. To pursue with death the Anglo-Americans, their followers, defenders or allies, whoever it may be.

4th. To abjure and detest the personal party of whoever have destroyed their country.

5th. To respect all legitimate authority, whatever it may be, in everything not repugnant to the preceding articles.

These five articles shall be the fundamental rule or their guerrilla, and shall be denominated: La Insurgente Gudalupana.

(Signed) MIGUEL ORBE.

The owners of the mine La Luz have presented or loaned the government of Mexico 55,000 for the expenses of the war.

Letters had been received in the capital from San Luis Potosi, announcing that the Government of the State had promulgated a decree that every citizen should take up arms, and that the enthusiasm to defend themselves was very great. There were about four thousand troops of the army of the North then in the city. Gen. Taylor they supposed, was to move upon them form Saltillo about the 1st of May.

[MUL]
THE PRESS IN MEXICO. –The press keeps pace with our army. We shall soon hear of some American or Flag or Eagle at Perote of Puebla. This last arrival from Vera Cruz brings a copy of the Mexican Chronicle—printed in English and Spanish—and the "American Star," issued in Jalapa! Mr. Kendall in his letter from Jalapa, dated the 25th, says: "The first number of the American Star is out today, and is completely running over with news and information. The proprietors deserve all success for their public spirit and I am glad to see that their edition of this morning is going off rapidly." Rich. Times.

Santa Anna’s dispatch to the Minister at War.
Your Excellence, we've won the day,
My "heroes" fought staid the fray,
And whipped the Yankee without pay.
And then—we ran away.

The Petersburg Intelligencer hazards a pun upon the capture of Santa Anna's leg. It says that the prediction about "conquering a peace," is verified, in as much as Gen. Scott has conquered a piece of Santa Anna—his leg.

THE ANCIENT MEXICANS, OR AZTECS
Humans Sacrifices and Cannibals.

Human sacrifices were adopted by the Aztecs early in the 14th century, about 200 years before the Conquest. Rare at first, they became more frequent with the wider extent of their empire; till at length almost every festival was closed with this cruel abomination. These religious ceremonies were generally arranged in such a manner as to afford a type of the most prominent circumstances in the character or history of the deity who was the object of them. A slight example will suffice.

One of the Most important festivals was that in honor of the god Tozcatlipoca, whose rank was inferior to that of the Supreme Being. He was called the "soul of the world" and supposed to have been its creator. He was depicted as a handsome man, endowed with perpetual youth. A year before the intended sacrifice, a captive, a distinguished for his personal beauty, and without a blemish on his body, was selected to represent this deity. Certain tutors took charge of him and instructed him how to perform his new part with becoming grace and dignity. He was arrayed in splendid dress, regaled with incense and with a profusion of sweet-scented flowers, of which the ancient mexicans were as fond as their descendents of the present day. When he went abroad, he was attended by a train of royal pages, and as he halted in the street to play some favorite melody, the crowd prostrated themselves before him, and did him homage as the representative of their good deity. In this way, he led an easy, luxuriant life, till within a month of his sacrifice.

Four beautiful girls, bearing the names of the four principal goddesses, were then selected to share the honors of his bed: and with them he continued to have [. . .], feasted at the banquets of the principal nobles, who paid all the honors of deity.

At length the fatal day of sacrifice arrived. The term of his short live glories was at an end. He was stripped of his gandy apparel and bid adieu to the fair patterns of his revelries. One of the royal barges transported him across the lake to a temple which rose on its margin, about a league from the city. Hither the inhabitants of the capital flocked to witness the consummation of the ceremony. As the sad procession wound up the sides of the pyramid, the unhappy victim threw away his gay chaplets of flowers, and broke in pieces the musical instruments with which he had solaced the hours of captivity. On the summit he was received by six priests, whose long and matted locks flowed disorderly over their sable robes, covered with hieroglyphics scrolls of mystic import. They led him to the sacrificial stone, a huge block of jasper, with its upper surface somewhat convex. On this the prisoner was stretched. Five priests secured his head and limbs, while the sixth clad in a scarlet mantle, emblematical of his bloody office, dexterously opened the breast of the wretched victim with a sharp razor of ixtli, a volcanic substance as hard as flint, and inserting his hand in the wound, tore out the palpitating heart! The minister of death, first holding this toward the sun, an object of worship throughout Anahuac, cast it at the feet of the deity to whom the temple was devoted, while the multitudes below prostrated themselves in adoration. The tragic story of this prisoner was expounded by the priests as the type of human destiny, brilliant in its commencement, too often closed in sorrow and disaster.

Such was the form of human sacrifice unusually practiced by the Aztecs. It was the same that often wet the indignant eyes of the Europeans in their progress through the country, and from the dreadful doom from which they themselves are not exempted. There were, indeed some occasions when preliminary tortures, of the most exquisite kind—with which it is unnecessary to shock the reader—were inflicted, but they always terminated with the bloody ceremony before described. It should be remarked, however, that such tortures were not spontaneous suggestions of cruelty, as with the North American Indians; but were all rigorously prescribed in the Aztec ritual, and doubtless were often inflicted with the same compunctious visiting which a devout familiar of the Holy Office might at times experience in...
executing its stern decrees. - Women, as well as the other sex, were sometimes reserved for sacrifice. On some occasions, particularly in seasons of drought, at the festival of the insatiable Tlaloc, the god of rain, children, for the most part infants, were offered up. As they were borne along in open litters dressed in the festal robes, and decked with the fresh blossoms of spring, they moved the hardest heart to pity, though their cries were drowned in the wild chant of the priests, who read in their tears a favorable augury for their petition. These innocent victims were generally bought by the priests, of parents who were poor, but who stifled the voice of nature, probably less at the suggestions of poverty than of a wretched superstition.

The most loathsome part of the story –the manner in which the body of the sacrificed captive was disposed of– remains yet to be told. It was delivered to the warrior who had taken him in battle, and by him, after being dressed, was served up in an entertainment to his friends! This was not the coarse repast of famished cannibals, but a banquet teeming with the delicious beverages and delicate viands prepared with art and attended by both sexes, who, as we shall see hereafter, conducted themselves with all decorum of civilized life. Surely, never were refinement and the extreme of barbarism brought so closely in contact with each other.

Human sacrifices have been practiced by many nations, not excepting the most polished nations of antiquity; but never by any on a scale to be compared with those of Anahuac. The amount of victims immolated on its accursed altars would stagger the faith of the least scrupulous believer. Scarcely any author pretends to estimate the yearly sacrifices throughout the empire at less than twenty thousand, and some carry the numbers as high as fifty thousand.

On great occasions, as the coronation of a king or the consecration of a temple, the number becomes still more appalling. At the dedication of the great temple of Huitzilopochtli, in 1486, the prisoners, who for some years had been reserved for the purpose were drawn from all quarters to the capital. They were ranged in files forming a procession nearly two miles long. The ceremony consumed several days, and seventy thousand captives are said to have perished at the shrine of this terrible deity. But who can believe that so numerous a body would have suffered themselves to be leg unresisting like sheep to the slaughter? Or how could their remain, too great for consumption in the ordinary way, be disposed of, without breeding a pestilence in the capital? Yet the event is of recent date, and are unequivocally attested by the best informed historians. One fact may be considered certain it was customary to preserve the sculls of the sacrificed in buildings appropriated to the purpose. The companions of Cortez counted one hundred and sixty six thousand in one of the edifices! –Without attempting a precise calculation, therefore, it is safe to conclude that thousand were yearly offered up, in the different cities of Anahuac, on the bloody altars of Mexican divinities.

[The Gazette]

MG47v48n14p2c1, June 3, 1847.

We do not belong to that class of croaking philosophers, who, whenever a cloud gathers upon the political horizon, are wont to "despair of the Republic." We are not of those, who seek to cast the horoscope of the future, only that ruin and desolation and the destruction of our fairest hopes, may pass before the eye, in gloomy array. Yet we are too well aware, that it is no part of wisdom to shut out the shadows cast by coming events. It becomes the patriot to seek to prepare for every danger that menaces his country –that meeting it boldly, and girding himself for the struggle, he may act as one in whose heart, the noble principles of patriotism and devotion to his fellow men, rise far superior to mere individual and selfish impulses.

It is, we hope, in this spirit that we have asked ourselves, what will be the ultimate effect of the Mexican war upon us, as a nation? Will it place our boasted institutions upon a firmer and more stable foundation? Will it foster that peaceful policy which has elevated us to the height we now occupy in the scale of nations? Will it strengthen that holy spirit of compromise upon which the Union rests, [ . . . ] firmest base? In a word, will we be benefited or injured? Will we emerge from the trial, as gold from the fire, purer and better, or will we gather that alloy, which in the end will prove, like a plague spot, all corrupting, all destroying?

Whatever answer, whether of truth or sophistry, may be given to these inquiries, two inevitable results of the war –not because it is against Mexico, but because it is war –may well awaken the most anxious consideration.

The spirit of peace has proved to be the principal element of our natural progress. It has spread the wings of our commerce upon the bosom of every sea –it has poured a resistless tide of energy and enterprise throughout the land, until the wilderness has blossomed like the rose. Through the magic of its power. Nature has bowed its head to Art, and the seal of improvement has been stamped upon every work of man. It has ever shone, the star of that destiny, which has urged us upward and onward.

When our legions return from the bloody dyed plains of Mexico, will they bring back that love of peace, that fondness for the quiet pursuits of civil life, that energy of character, which is the distinguishing mark of the people, from whose midst they wont forth? Or will they not, imbued with the horrible romance of war, and intoxicated with the glory of military life, bear into the quiet of their homes, the fierce feelings which are too often characteristic of the soldier?

But this danger sinks into nothing compared with another which menaces the safety of the Union itself. We have no desire to dwell upon this –but when it is admitted in al quarters, that upon whatever terms peace is negotiated with Mexico, new territory will come into our hands, we cannot but fear that it will prove an apple of discord, and mayhap,
the grave of the Republic. How shall it be appropriated? How divided? Such are the stern questions which will be presented. The subject of Slavery, which has so often sent a pang of anxious fear to the stoutest heart, will prove itself a fearful element of the danger. The storm which has been gathering for years will burst upon our heads. The hour and the day for compromise will have passed forever. The voice of peace will be hushed, and party strife, and envy and sectional jealousy, will raise their demoniac revels in the very temple of Patriotism and Reason.

With no trumpet tongue to rise in eloquent appeal above the fierce howlings of the storm –no saving hand to pur oil upon the troubled waters –the cloud of despair will gather over the vision of the patriot’s hope –never, perhaps, to be rolled back.

We ask must particular attention to the following extract from an article in the Intelligencer of Saturday last. Will any one –can any one credit it, that Senator Bento, the Atlas of Mr. Polk’s Administration, his fondly dreamed of Lieutenant General –ever gave utterance to sentiments like these? Is there no “aid and comfort” in this? No treading up on friendly toes? Truly, men know not, and especially of men, Mr. Benton, what the future will bring forth, or he would never have thus fixed upon himself the chance of gross inconsistency:

It was in debate upon the treaty of Annexation that Senator Benton offered the following resolution and assumed the positions which follow it:

"Resolved, That the incorporation of the left bank of the Rio del Norte into the American Union, of virtue of a treaty with Texas, comprehending, as the said corporation would do, a put of the Mexican Departments of New Mexico, Chihuahua, Coahuila, and Tamaulipas, would be AN ACT OF DIRECT AGRESSION UPON MEXICO, for all the consequences of which the United States would stand responsible.”

Having shown the effect of the treaty on the Rio Grande frontier, Mr. B took up the treaty itself, under all its aspects and [ . . . ] whole extent, and assumed four positions in relation it, namely:

1. That the ratification of the treaty would be itself war between the United States and Mexico.

2. That it would be unjust war.

3. That it would be war unconstitutionally made.

4. That it would be war upon a weak and groundless pretext.

The left bank of the Rio del Norte was, therefore, not "within the American Union” when our army encamped upon it in battle array by the order of the present Administration.

THE TROOP OF HORSE. --The day for meeting of the Troops of Horse, was erroneously fixed for last Saturday in our paper of last week. It will be seen that it is now fixed for Saturday, the 12th of June. It is hope that all who have joined as well as others interested will be present.

[ MUL ]

AMERICAN PRISONERS IN MEXICO.

The following remonstrance was addressed to Santa Anna, on his return to the City of Mexico immediately after the battle of Buena Vista. No regard has been paid to it up to the 2nd of April. This is an outrageous return for the treatment received by La Vega and others taken prisoners by us.

CASTLE ST. JAGO, (City of Mexico, March 24, 1847)

To his Excellency, Gen. Santa Anna:

SIR –The undersigned officers of the Army of the United States of America, respectfully state to your Excellency, that they, together with their respective commands, consisting of seventy-one persons in all, became prisoners of war to the Mexican Republic, at the Hacienda Encarnation, on the 22d of January last. On that morning before day light, we found ourselves entirely surrounded by a large force –say three thousand men –and about sunrise a white flag approached us on one side and a considerable force on another; we required that the troops should retire, precedent to our receiving the flag, which being complied with, the flag approached, and a surrender demanded. We took one hour to determine whether we would entertain a proposition of the kind or not; at the expiration of the hour, the flag returned, and was answered that we would hear a proposition, and ere told that general Minon would send a major to our camp, while one of our number of equal rank, should repair to his headquarters, and hear his offer. This being done, Major Borland entertained the officer sent in; whilst Maj. Gaines rode out to the General, had a conference of about one hour with him, returned to the hacienda, and in the presence of an interpreter, on each side, stated the terms eleven and twelve o'clock we surrendered as prisoners of war.
The terms were, that the General himself should receive the swore of our commander; that the public property should he surrendered and private property should be respected; and that the best treatment, in every particular, known amongst civilized nations to prisoners of war, should be ours.

The General, when asked to reduce these terms to writing, gave us the most positive assurance that his word of honor was worth more that three of four signatures, and that unless his agreement was fully carried out he would abandon the service of his country. On our journey to this city, we had the gratification to meet your Excellency, and, after stating to you the terms of capitulation received the pleasing assurance that they should be complied with.

The object of this note, is to complain to the Head of the Mexican Republic, that, so far from the terms of our capitulation being complied with, we have been frequently subjected to the most grievous deprivations, and that we have refrained from making our protest hitherto, in consequence of the unhappy dissensions said to exist in the capital—which being now fortunately adjusted, as we are informed, we most respectfully call your attention to our condition.

We forbear at this time, from entering into the particulars of our complaints, and beg leave to refer your excellency to Gen. Vega, who has lately been prisoner of war in the United States, (but who has not honored us with any notice whatever,) for the manner in which prisoners or war are treated in our country.

This is, however, one complaint, which we owe to ourselves to call you immediate attention to. We are informed that Gen. Minon in reporting our capture to his government, alleges that we surrendered at discretion, and that we owe our lives to the magnanimity of the Mexican Republic. Against such a statement we enter our solemn protest; and declare that, the terms of our surrender being accurately stated in the foregoing part of this note, anything inconsistent there with is unfolded in fact.

Hoping that a peace between the two Republics shall speedily be made, upon terms equally honorable to both, we subscribe ourselves your obedient servants,

J. P. GAINES, Maj. Ky. Reg’t of Cavalry U. S. A.
S. BORLAND, " Ark. " " 
C. M. CLAY, Capt. Ky. " "
C.C. DANLEY " " "
G. R. DAVIDSON, 2d. Lt. Ky. " "

GEN TAYLOR –The New York Tribune has a letter from a New Orleans correspondent under date of the 18th instant, which runs thus:

The Volunteers who were with Taylor are returning, full of the warmest admiration of his character as a soldier, and a humane and good man, but overflowing with wrath against the Administration that they believe did its best sacrifice them. They cannot be convinced of the contrary. I am informed of this by and officer who is among them in the Rio Grande. The people of this country will be astonished and indignant when they know fully the manner in which the concern at Washington has treated Gen. Taylor. I knows, from unquestionable authority, that for five months not a single dispatch of his has been answered, (unless within the last few weeks) and nothing sent him except an insulting letter enclosing the letter written by him to Gen. Gaines, and demanding to know whether he wrote it. I am glad to say that Gen. Taylor's reply was in every way worthy the spirit of a high-toned, free American citizen, who has never learned to fawn that thrift may follow. He replied that he did write it, and as he did not intend it for publication, had not before examined it very carefully; but now, on a re-examination, he found not a word or expression that he wished to alter. –He asked no favors –they might make the most of it. They took away all his regulars save a handful, and left him none but raw volunteers. Had he retreated on Monterey, as directed by the War Department, the whole country from Saltillo to Matamoros, in the opinion of all military men there, would have been lost. There is much more yet to be told on this subject at another time. Thank God, he has survived and broken down the base conspiracy it is considered here by all good judges, military men and others.

Of Gen. Taylor himself, I wish space would allow me to say all that we know. He unites so many excellencies of character, that, opposed as I am to Military Presidents, and detesting war and every thing pertaining to it, to a look upon Taylor as one providentially raised up to generate and re-establish the respectability of its Government. I go for him not because he is a successful General, but in spite of it. A good Whig on every point –able and honest –opposed to the Annexation of Texas, and unsparing –what more can any honest man, North or South, require? I think even the State of Ohio, notwithstanding the assertion of your Abolition friend in Ashtabula, will be satisfied with this.

Col. Pierce M Butler, commanding the regiment of South Carolina Volunteers in Mexico, writes to the Governor of that State as follows:

"The contest is unequal, and the service an inglorious one. The universal voice of the Army, Navy, and Volunteers is for terminating this contest, and peace would be to them most welcome news."

The Milledgeville Recorder says that these views of the gallant South Recorder says that these views of the gallant South Carolinian, as to the feeling of the army, correspond with those expressed by the heroic Col. Hardin, in a letter received at Washington just previous to his lamented fall.

[MUL]
THE PRESIDENT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WAR

That Mr. Polk is responsible for bringing on the war with Mexico, is the belief not merely of the men opposed his election to the Presidency, but is insisted upon by many of those who supported him for that high office. We do not see, indeed, how it can be doubted. The opinion of Mr. Calhoun was declared upon the point at the last session of Congress, and the reasons given for that opinion left no doubt on the mind of any one that it was correct. It was in the power of Mr. Polk to have prevented the war. We need not say that, as the head of a great nation, whose mission is peace and whose policy is opposed to hostile strifes, it was his duty to have prevented it. –He failed in his duty –he invited attack by the show of bravado –he precipitated a contest by ordering our army to the Rio Grande, where the Mexican troops were reduced to the alternative of retreating or fighting –and thus having brought on hostilities, which he must have foreseen would follow from his orders, and having placed our gallant little army under overwhelmed by a superior force, and having obtained from Congress a declaration that “war existed by the act of Mexico,” it become necessary that we should fight it out. This show of bravado in the array of troops, this movement of the army from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande, this involving of Gen. Taylor and his little army in imminent danger, this of being overwhelmed by a superior force, and having obtained from Congress a declaration that “war existed by the act of Mexico” –all these were the work of Mr. Polk and his cabinet; and all these things he could have controlled and prevented; all these it was his duty, he allowed them to go on, to bring on the war, and to make it necessary to continue it when it was brought on. The responsibility of it, therefore, is on Mr. Polk, and the people will hold him to it. All the evils of which it may be the consequences rest upon him. The wrong of his own; the evidences of valor, of patriotism and of skilful generalship, of which have so much excited the admiration of the world, all these belong to the American soldiers who achieved or performed them.

And it is gratifying to see that the people make the clear distinction between the war itself and the “deeds of noble daring” of which it has been the occasion. Hence the promptness with which with which supplies were voted by Congress to succor and sustain our armies –hence the alacrity with which the citizens volunteered to take part in upholding the flag of the Union on the field of battle –hence the rejoicing which is everywhere seen at the success of our arms –and hence the almost universal condemnation with which Mr. Polk is visited whenever the causes of war are brought into notice. The efforts which have been made to exalt Mr. Polk and his administration, for the victories that our armies have achieved in Mexico, have therefore failed. The great deeds which Gen. Taylor and Gen. Scott and their soldiers have accomplished, have made every man of us rejoice in his country and in his countrymen who have not done these things; but they have not made any one forget that Mr. Polk unnecessarily produced this war; or made any one indifferent to the evils which it has brought or our own country, as well as that of unhappy, distracted Mexico; or less anxious for the restoration of peace.

We have expressed these views before. –We have thought that it was not unbecoming a great nation, like this, to lament over the war; and that it was not unmanly in us to grieve that so many of our gallant citizens had been killed in its prosecution. We have not hesitated to say that we desired peace, and we have insisted that a word from Mr. Polk counseling peace, would have prevented the war –that a word from him, asking peace, would end it. We hold to that belief. If Henry Clay were now President, instead of James K. Polk, who is there that doubts that the war would at once stop? If he had been President at the time the was commenced, who believes it would not have been avoided, honorably avoided? What Mr. Clay would do were he now our Chief Magistrate –would that he were! –Mr. Polk may do. We have shipped Mexico, if that is what he desires, to our fullest satisfaction. We have driven her soldiers from the sea shore and from the mountains. We have taken her forts, her cities, and her castles. We have driven them form every field where they have opposed our march, no matter how superior her numbers were to ours, and she is prostrate at our feet. We may overrun the whole country –there is nothing now wanting but men and money, and we can take and hold all her cities. The was, so far as a successful defense can be made by Mexico, may be said to be at an end. It is for us –for Mr. Polk as the Chief Magistrate –but to say there shall be no more fighting, and there will be no more fighting. –what he wants form Mexico, he may take. –If he wants to rob her churches, he may do it. If he wants to take her capital, he may do it. If he wants a strip of her land as an indemnification for the expenses of the war and the claims of our citizens, he may take it. He has but to do what Gen. Taylor advised so long ago as last November, and of which Mr. Calhoun so warmly approved in the Senate last winter, and the war is at end. He may declare in what terms peace shall exist, what lines shall be the boundary, what privileges we may exercise, for Mexico, is in no situation to dispute, much less to interfere with our claim. This done, Mr. Polk stops the war and gives us virtual peace –and this is what we mean when we say that he has but to ask for peace and the war is at and end. And he will have to come to this yet, if all the signs be not misunderstood, though for saying so we have incurred the censure of the official organ, and given to the Philadelphia Pennsylvanian an opportunity of showing that it has so much confidence in its own views, that it cannot regard with patient respect those entertained by others who differ from it. –Baltimore Pat. [MUL]
It gives us much pleasure to publish the subjoined very high testimonial from the chief engineer of the U. S. Revenue Marine, in behalf of the Virginia coal for the use of steam vessels. We trust that this imposing evidence of its superiority will attract the attention of our government, and have its proper influence in inducing its general ultimate adoption in the naval service. The peculiar qualities of our coal, that make it superior to other kinds, are briefly and clearly mentioned in the letter of Mr. Dougherty, which was addressed to this shipping clerk of the Black Heath Coal Mining Company. –Times and Compiler.

The Enquirer, in publishing the same letter remarks:

"We have recently heard some facts, which we deem it just to our colliers to lay before the public. We learn that on the last trip the steamer Mississippi, to the Gulf of Mexico, she used some to the Richmond coal, which was thought to be superior to the Cumberland and Pittsburgh.

"We hope soon to see the Virginia coal properly estimated by the Government. In many of the Northern cities, it is now consumed in large quantities, in preference to Northern and British coal."

U.S. REVENUE STEAMER "LEGARE."

Washington, April 23, 1847.

SIR. –You having requested of me when in Richmond, Va., to furnish you with a report of the quality of the Black-Heath Coal, received from your yard on board of this vessel, I cheerfully comply –and have no hesitation in saying that it is the best quality Bituminous Coal that I have ever used. It burns freely –makes steam very fast –easy to fire with –leaves no clinker –but few ashes, and its consumption, compared with other bituminous coals that I have used, is much smaller; -and I have no hesitation in recommending it in the highest terms as an article for use in steam vessels.

You are at liberty to use this in any way that you may deem best to advance the reputation of the Black-Heath coal of Virginia.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN DOUGHERTY.

Chief Engineers U. S. Rev. Marine.

[MGv48n14p2c5, June 3, 1847. LATE FROM MEXICO.]

From the New Orleans Bulletin, May 42.

A LETTER FROM GENERAL TAYLOR.

A valued friend, an who is a distinguished citizen of this State, has forwarded to us the following communication, which is the present moment, will, no doubt, by [ . . . ] with general interest.

The letter from General Taylor, is written with the name modesty and delicacy, of feeling, which have so eminently characterized every thing we have seen form his pen.

It is sufficient, our hope, to set us rest all the doubts as to his acceptance of the nomination for the Presidency, which have been expressed by those in whom "the which was farther to the thought."

West Baton Rover, La,

15th May, 1847.

Wm. L. Hodge, Esq.

Dear Sir: I send you, annexed, an extract of a letter, which I have recently received from Gen. Taylor, and as it shadows forth the feelings and views of the General, on the subject of the next Presidency, in a manner which can do no violence to the feelings of any one, I have determined to have published that portion of it, which relates to a subject in which his name has been very generally associated throughout the country for some time past. I do so with the more readiness, because it is eminently calculated to give a proper insight into the real character of this eminent man. Please let it have a place in your columns. Your very sincerely and respectfully.

"In regard to the Presidency, I will not say that I would not serve, it the good people of the country were to require me
to do so, however much it is supposed to my wishes, for I am free to say, that I have no aspiration for the situation. My greatest, perhaps, only wish, has been to bring, or aid in bringing this war to a speedy and honorable close.

It has ever been, and still is, my anxious wish, that some one of the most experience, talented, and virtuous statesmen of the country, should be chosen so that high place at the next election. I am satisfied that, if our friends will do their duty, such a citizen may be elected.

I must however, be allowed to say, that I have not the vanity to consider myself qualified for so high and responsible a station, and whilst we have far more eminent and deserving names before de the country, I should prefer to stand aside, if one of them could be raised to the first office, in the gift of a free people.

I go for the country, the whole country —and it is my ardent and sincere wish, to see the individual place at the head of the nation who, by a strict observance of the constitution (be he whom he may) can make us most prosperous at home, as well as most respected abroad.”

MG47v48n14p2c4, June 3, 1847.

LATE FROM THE BRAZOS.

There was an arrival at New Orleans on the 19th instant from Brazos Santiago, with advices from that place up to the 11th inst., and from Matamoros up to the 9th inst.

An express passed through Matamoros on the 6th instant from General Scott to General Taylor.

Col. Belknap, Adjutant and Inspector General, has been making a tour of inspection of all the posts from Monterey to the Brazos.

Fourteen hundred troops and upwards are encamped near the field of Palo Alto. It is called a camp of instructions.

The Matamoros Flag has late papers from Zacatecas. So far from meditating a withdrawal from the Mexican confederacy, the Flag represents “the people of that State as more embittered against this country that ever. Even the clergy seem disposed to aid the Government effectually with their means.”

From the New Orleans Picayune, May 20.

LATER FROM GEN. SCOTT’S ARMY.

It was not until yesterday mourning that we were placed in the possession of the following letter received here on Tuesday by the Mary Kingsland. It will be seen that Mr. Kendall’s letter is later that any thing hitherto received from Jalapa.

The most interesting passage in Mr. Kendall’s letter is that announcing that Majors Borland and Gaines, Capt. Clay and the other officers taken in the North, together with Passed Midshipman Rogers, are at liberty in the city of Mexico.

Mr. Kendall’s remarks upon a peace party in Mexico will attract attention. He has facilities for forming an opinion on the subject which the newspapers do not afford us. Were we to rely upon the later alone we should form a judgment very different from our associate, but we do not doubt at all that he has access to sources of information far better that our own.

Jalapa, Mexico, May 11, 1847.

6 o’clockpM.

Since the diligencia went out at noon today for Vera Cruz, another diligencia has come in from the city of Mexico full of passengers, and bringing news of not a little importance.

All the passengers confirm what I wrote you this mourning. They say that at the capital there was no Government, no order, no responsibility —all was anarchy, Anaya was still President pro term, but had neither influence nor authority.

It is stated that the propositions made by England some months since, to offer her intervention in selling the difficulties between Mexico and the United States, have recently been taken up by the Mexican Congress, and, after a warm discussion, in which one of the members said that the whole affair was but an another attempt of the monarchists upon the sacred liberties of the Mexican Republic, the motion even to consider them was lost by a vote of 44 to 33. from this it would seem that the present Congress is determined to shut every door against all proposals of an honorable peace.
The States North of Mexico –Guadalajara, Guanajuata, Queretora, Zacatecas, Durango, San Luis, and others –talk openly of separating from Mexico, and letting her take care of herself. Not a dollar in the way of supplies are they sending on for the relief of the General Government in its emergency.

They were still doing a little in the way of fortifying the city of Mexico, but a Spaniard informs me that all the obstructions they have erected so far could be kicked over with the foot. The city had been placed under martial law, and the direst excesses were anticipated.

The citizens had all been called upon to take up arms in the common defense, but unfortunately nine-tenth of them had no arms to take up. No were there any cannon at the capital other than a few small and indifferent pieces.

There is certainly a party, and an influential one, in Mexico, which begins t talk of peace, and where four weeks since they did not dare breathe their sentiments, they now come out openly and avow themselves. Still the measure is far from popular. The peace party is composed of the more honest and intelligent property holders, the merchant, and perhaps the clergy –to these are added the military who have all disgraced themselves, and all the demagogues among the lawyers. Is the priests could be made certain that they would continue to hold their rich benefices secure, they would probably be all in favor of peace.

Majors Borland and Gaines, Capt. C. M. Clay, and all the officers taken in the North, were at liberty in the city of Mexico, as was also Midshipman Rodgers. They are all said to be well and respectfully treated now, although the latter was infamously abused on the way up to Mexico from Perote.

Gen. Canalizo was at San Andres, a place north of Orizaba, at las accounts. The force with him is not stated, but it is undoubtedly small. He is an old friend of Santa Anna, and is probably working at present for his master.

The New Orleans Picayune says.

The destination of one half of the 34. Regiment of Dragons, who was ordered to join Gen. Taylor, ha been changed. Five companies have been ordered to join Gen. Scott –Three of this companies to wit: -Capt. Daperuis, of Louisiana, Capt. Gather's of Kentucky, and Capt. Ford's of Indiana, leave this evening in the Fashion for Vera Cruz, under Lieut. Col. T. P. Moore. Capt. Mc-Reynold's company, from Michigan, will probably leave tomorrow on the steamship Mary Kingsland for the same destination.


LATER FROM THE BRAZOS--An arrival at New Orleans on the 20th instant from, Brazos Santiago, brings advices from that place to the 14th inst. and from Matamoras to the 12th. The Picayune says.

Gen. Cushing was doing very well. It was his right leg which was broken, not his left. This Matamoros Flag thinks he will shortly be able to attend to his various duties.

Reports were in circulation at Matamoras that some influential Mexicans at Victoria are engaged in a project to proclaim the State of Tamaulipas independent to the Mexican confederacy.

The Flag says that considerable parties of Indians have been seen at different times without the last few days, only a few males from Matamoras.

The Rio Grande is so low that boats of the lightest draught cannot get to Camargo. No vessels have lately been above the new dept, and but two or three so high up. Reynosa is about as far as boats can ascend with any success.

FROM TABASCO.

The U. S. revenue cutter, Ewing Capt. Moore, arrived at St. West Pass of the Mississippi on the 18th instant from Vera Cruz, via Tabasco, leaving the latter port out the 12th inst. The E. left at anchor outside the bar at Tabasco the frigate Raritan, the sloop of war Albany and Spanish brig-of-war. The U. S. revenue cutter Mc Lane was in the river, and a brig, name unknown. Com. Perry was daily expected with the steamers at Tabasco. There were no news when the Ewing sailed.
Advices has been received at New Orleans from Havana to the 8th inst.

The Spanish was steamers Congreso and Bazan entered the port of Santiago de Cuba on the 23d April. The French steamer Tonnerre arrived at the same port on the 22d, from St. Thomas. On the 24th the royal steamer Clyde arrived there a week after her time. She went to see again within an hour.

The English corvette Nova Scotia, which sailed from Cienfuegos on the 18th April for Newfoundan, was wrecked on the 20th on Los Jardines, southwest of the Isle of Pines. The captain and crew saved nothing from the ship but took to the boats. They arrived on the 26th at Cape San Antoni, an there taking a pilot they reached Havana on the 4th inst.

CALIFORNIA. –The New Orleans Picayune says-

Last evening we had the pleasure of conversation with Mr. Stoizel, a German Gentleman. Who left Mazatlan on the morning of the 6th of April, much the latest dates we have had from the quarter. When he left the Americas were in quiet possession of all the conquered territory, and the coast was closely blockaded.

MG47v48n14p2c6, June 3, 1847.

From the New Orleans Picayune, May 23.

LASTEST FORM THE BRAZOS.


The U. S. steamship Trumbull, Capt. Stonesbury, arrived last evening from the Brazos, whence she sailed on the 19th inst. The following passengers came over on the Trumbull: Capt. A. B. Lansing, Assistant Quartermaster, U. S. A.; Capt. E. Webster and servant, and Capt. Claiborne, of the U.S. steamer Colonel Cross; Lieut. Frost of the Voltigeurs: Father McElry, Chaplain U. S. Army; Mr. Coolidge, Mass Volunteers; Mr. Field, Mrs. Reed, and 39 deck passengers mostly discharged volunteers. Capts. Lansing, Webster and Crowninshield return to the United states for a short time for the benefit of their health.

Quite the most important intelligence by this arrival concerns the safety of Col. Doniphan’s command. According to the letter of our correspondent, dated the 3d instant, from Monterey, the most grate apprehensions were entertained in regard to that command. The rumor was, as will be seen by that letter, to which we refer, that Col. D. had been defeated by the Mexicans and lost all his artillery. We are greatly in hopes that this will prove to be a mere Mexican rumor, and we are encouraged in this hope by the fact that the Picket Guard, published at Saltillo on the 3d, makes no mention of the rumor, and anticipates the speedy arrival of Col. Doniphan and his command at that place.

By this arrival we learn that Brig. Gen. Cowalader is forthwith to proceed with his command (excepting the dragoons) now encamped in Palo Alto, to Vera Cruz to reinforce Gen. Scott. The transports were being prepared at the Brazos when the Trumbull left.

Major Cross, 3d Dragoons, had arrived at the Brazos and proceeded to take command of the three companies of his regiment stationed for the present near Palo Alto.

At the Brazos, Capt. Lansing had been relieve in his duties as assistant quartermaster by Capt. Churchill. A. Q. M. Capt. Hill was expected to leave daily for Washington.

Under the able administration of Major Eastland, public business was despatched in great order and with perfect system at the extensive depot at Brazos Island.

Col. Humphrey Marshall’s regiment of Kentucky cavalry, in which one of the parties fell. The rumor was false. There has been a serious misunderstanding between the two gentlemen, but a reconciliation was brought about without a hostile meeting.

We have copies of the Matamoros Flag of the 15th inst. of the American Pioneer (published at Monterey) of the 2d, and of the Picket Guard (published at Saltillo) of the 3d inst., from which we extract copiously.

The 3d. Ohio Regiment, under Col. Cutis was expected at Monterey during the second week in May, on its way home, and the 1st Ohio Regiment long mentioned at Monterey, would leave about the same time.

The Mexican authority the endeavoring to rebuild the market and prison at Monterey, which were destroyed by are not many weeks since.
The Picayune reports as damage perpetrated upon Mexican [ . . . ] or that place, by the Mexican ruffians. They escaped with their lives, although scarcely wounded.

At last accounts the most intense curiosity was felt at Monterey and Saltillo to learn news of Gen. Scott’s movements. They had not then heard of the victory of Cerro Gordo, but had innumerable false rumors of operations on the Vera Cruz road to Mexico.

The Picket Guard contains the result of a Court Martial in the cases of Gen. Lane and Col Bowles. Is the case of Gen. Lane the opinion of the Court was as follows: -The court are of the opinions that during the whole period of the 22d. and 23d of February, 1847, Brig. Gen. Lane conducted himself as a brave and gallant officer, and that no censure can be attached to him for the retreat of the 2d Regiment of Indians Volunteers.

The following is the opinion of the court in the case of Col. Bowles:

With reference to the first charge, the court is of the opinion that Col. Bowles is ignorant of the duties of colonel; but the court would remark that ill health, and absence on account of ill health, have in some degree, prevented him from fitting himself for the duties of that office.

The court is the opinion that at the time Co. Bowles have the order “retreat”, he was retreated, when in fact the battery had gone to an advanced position under the orders of Gen. Lane, which orders had not been communicated to Col. Bowles.

And conclusion the court find that throughout the engagement, and through the whole day, Col. Bowles evinced no want of personal courage or bravery, but that he did manifest a want of capacity and judgment as a commander.

The Guard says that several English gentleman who arrived at Saltillo on the 3d inst., from Durango, report Col Doniphan to have started from Chihuahua on the 1st of April for Saltillo, by way of San Jose del Parral. This agrees with the report we had in the papers of the city of Mexico, but the latter allege that the force returned to Chihuahua after having proceeded twenty odd leagues south. We had great hopes this is true, and that the report already alluded to of Col. Doniphan’s defeat may have grown out of this retrograde movement. The Guard thinks the whole command must he within a few day’s march of Saltillo; but it had not probably heard of the return to Chihuahua, or hearing of it did not credit it.

The same English gentlemen from Durango makes the following report which we copy from the Guard:

On the route they saw Gen. Garcia Conde on his way to Durango, with 150 men, having as a prisoner, Gen. Herredia, who commanded at the battle of Sacramento. He is accused of treason and of being too fond of American gold. All the rest of the troops had dispersed for their homes. Durango was in a great state of alarm, dreading the arrival of Gen. Wool, who was expected by them daily. Mr. James Megoffin was a prisoner, with the city for his prison limits, but well treated by the Mexicans.

Every thing was quiet in California, the whole country in possession of the Americans and a very great influx of families and settlers from Oregon.

The Monterey Pioneer thinks that an advanced upon San Luis is designated by General Taylor, as unusual activity prevails in all the departments, and four trains loaded with subsistence stores, have recently arrived at that place.

Lieut. Waters, of the Alexandria company, Virginia Regiment, died a short time since, at the town of China.

A man named John Doss, confined in Jail at Matamoros. Flag says that General Urrera has issued a proclamation to the citizens of Cadareyte, very similar upon the town for a contributions towards supporting the war, and also orders under arms all able-bodied males between the ages of 15 and 45. Immediately after having issued this proclamation he set off for the city of Mexico.

The following interesting items are all from the Flag:

Gen. Cadwalader and staff, are at the camp of instruction, Palo Alto, fourteen miles below this place. Also Col. Ramsay, Pennsylvania Regiment; Lieut. Col. Fay, 10th Regiment; Maj. Morgan, 11th Regiment.- Two companies of dragoons, Capts. Butler and Merrick. Five companies of volunteers, Capts. Bernard, Bibble, Howard, Edwards and Churchill. Two companies of the 16th Regiment, Capts. Hendricks and Brenan –three companies of the 10th and Capt. Pitnam’s company of the 9th. These troops will remain at Palo Alto under strict discipline, and from thence, it is rumored, be transferred to Vera Cruz.

Romano Paz, a notorious Mexican robber and murdered, was captured in the vicinity of Old Reynosa, by Capt. Reid of the steamer Corvette, and brought down to this city on Wednesday last, where he is now imprisoned. It appears that he holds the rank of captain under Canales, and visited of inducing the rancheros to join his standard. The people were not disposed to join him and sought and opportunity to place him in the hands of the Americans. This was effected by informing Capt. Reid of his whereabouts and designs, who collected a force from the boat and made him prisoner at rancho where he had been captured for several days.
It is stated in the Monterey Pioneer, upon good authority of a gentleman from San Luis Potosi; that but a few hundred effective troops were in that city, and that the hospitals were filled with the sick and wounded, who are dying for want of attention. A report reached there that Gen. Taylor was within three days march of the city, which caused hundreds of the inhabitants to vamos with their property.

[Special Correspondence of the Picayune.]

CAMP WALNUT SPRINGS (near Monterey,)

May 3, 1847;

Two companies of the 2d Mississippi Regiment, a company of regular recruits (sent on here by mistake, and who have been serving in the Flying Artillery) and a small detachment of U. S. Dragoons will compose the escort of the train to Camargo. The regulars will be sent to Gen. Scott.

The health of the army at this port is very good, and the sick list is quite small. The weather has been very warm, except today, for the last ten days; but to day we had a cold drizzly rain pretty much all the time, and there is a prospect of continuing on a day or two. I am told that in this region May is one of the driest months in the year; but it today is to be taken as a sample of what is to follow, it will not be so very as it might be.

There is a report here, derived from pretty good authority, from Co. Doniphan’s force, and of a very unwelcome character. It is derived from an attache of the army of Silenas, a small town within about forty miles of this place, and he obtained the information from Mexicans who had just arrived. It is to the effect that Co. Doniphan’s force had been attacked at a pass called Sierra Gordon, about half away between Saltillo and Chihuahua, by a Mexican force from Durango under General Reiz –of whom I never recollect hearing before –and that Col. D. had been defeated with severe loss and all his artillery captured. There may be some truth in this report, as the Col. Was en routé to join. Gen. Wool’s command at Saltillo. All that we can do is to hope that the report is unfounded and a wait authentic information. The train will be off in a few moments, and I have not time to write more.

Latest from Vera Cruz.

The schr. Whig Capt. Rayner, arrived yesterday form Vera Cruz, having left there on the evening of Saturday, the 15th instant. Lieut. A. J. Brock and thirty three private being company of the Tennessee cavalry, came passengers on the Whig. She brought no mail, that having been put aboard the schooner Allen Stevens, which has not yet arrived.

Verbally we learn that there had been no later arrival from the army of Gen. Scott. –We have a copy of the American Eagle of the 15th inst. which has not a word of later news from above.

From the Eagle we learn that the sloop-of war German Town, Capt. F. Buchanan, arrived off the castle on the 13th instant but sailed immediately for Anton Lizardo, to wait the orders of the commodore. The U. S. steamer Spitfire, Lieut. Com’g. Lee, was lying at Vera Cruz a waiting despatches daily expected from the interior.

The Eagle is of opinion that Gen. Scott will remain at Puebla until the beginning of autumn, without marching upon the capital.

The Eagle complains in good set terms of the dullness of Vera Cruz and the excessive heat, which threatens to become yet more intense. Nothing is said of the health of the city. From the report of the proceedings of the city council we perceive that our country men have brought a good deal of American energy to the task of cleansing the city, providing a police, supporting schools and the like. Before we are done with Vera Cruz we hope it may become quite and attractive an healthy city.

[CUR]

MG47v48n14p3c1, June 3, 1847.

RETURN OF VOLUNTEERS.

Company G. 1st. Regiment Tennessee Cavalry, commanded by Capt. Snead, has arrived at New Orleans, from Vera Cruz on the Pilot boat Selim. The Selint was chartered by expense to bring them to that city.

The ship Charlotte Reed also arrived at New Orleans on the 22d from Vera Cruz, Commanders J. Tatnall and V. M. Randolph, two of the officers who were in command of the Mosquito Fleet which distinguished itself in bombarding Vera Cruz AND San Juan; Col Bohlen, bearer of despatches from Gen. Scott for the Government, and Capt. N. Adams, U. S. A. came passengers on the Charlotte Reed.

The ship Pharsalia, with 300 men of the 1st Regiment Tennessee Cavalry, who arrived on the 22d from Vera Cruz, with the following officers of the regiment: Col. J. E. Thomas; Maj. R. Waterhouse; Capts. Caswell, Halness, Cooper and
The brig R. Russett, from Vera Cruz has arrived, bringing 130 rank and file of the 3d Regiment Illinois Volunteers, under command of Lieut. Col. Wiley.

MG47v48n15p2c6, June 10, 1847

TAYLORING.

Confirmed at Last! –The Washington Union denies that the copy of the Paso of Santa Anna, published by a few weeks since in a correct copy. It says that Mr. Polk furnished no [ . . . ] at all, but admits that on order to let Santa Anna into Mexico was issued by Mr. Marcy to the Squadron in the Gulf! So it seems after a year's wriggling and twisting, and every endeavor to creep out of the matter, that Mr. Polk is endeavoring to place that disgraceful and disreputable transaction upon the shoulders of Mr. Marcy! But did not Mr. Marcy act by the authority of the President? However, it makes no difference who issued the Order or Pass, it is now admitted by the Official Organ of the President, that Santa Anna was permitted by our government to pass the Squadron in the Gulf of Mexico, return to his own country, place
himself at the head of a powerful army, and march against our own citizens and butcher them! A similar diabolical act was never before committed by any country in any age. –It has remained for the President of the United States to furnish an enemy, then at war with his country, with a powerful General to lead its forces against his own fellow citizens! What has he not to answer for!

We heard a gentleman, fresh from the theater of war, relate an anecdote of Gen. Taylor. One of the Illinois regiments was thrown into rather close proximity with a Mexican battery, and the balls were flying tolerably thick, and rather close –so close at least as to induce the b'hoys to dodge occasionally: Old Rough was sitting astride of his old grey, and being in a position to see the dodging cried out. "Gentlemen, no dodging –it ill becomes a soldier a dodge." Old Rough’s grey horse presented a fair mark, and as the enemy had learned his whereabouts because of his old charger, a very brisk fire was opened upon the grey horse. It is said the balls passed around Old Rough promiscuously, and the thing was becoming quite too hot even for him. At last a bal passed so near the old man’s cheek as to cause him to throw his head in an opposite direction with a celerity not at all characteristic of Old Rough’s plodding habits; it was thought the old fellow was dodging –the movement of his head was noticed by some of the Illinoians, and a hearty laugh broke out from the b'hoys. Old Rough straitened himself up in his stirrups, and said -“Dodge the balls, gentlemen, but no running.” -Miss Adv.

SPLENDID WARDOBE. –If the papers continue to give such evidences of Gen. Taylor’s plainness as the following, we shall soon expect to see the mushroom aristocrats, who sneered at Harrison’s “Log Cabin and Hard Cider” venting their agonizing wit upon Old Zach’s rough attire: -Rich. Rep.

"Old Rough and Ready, “ says a contemporary, “is remarkable for the extreme plainness of his attire. When leaving New Orleans for Corpus Christi, some of his brother officers playfully instituted an appraisement of the suit of clothes worn by him at that time. The result was, that the whole suit including round jacket, vest, throwers, hat, and unmentionables, was worth about Seven dollars and a half."

A LOUD CALL FOR THE LETTER –The Louisville Journal has the following:

THAT LETTER.- We doubt whether the Administration will be able to withhold much longer the letter addressed by Gen. Taylor to the War Department on the day before the battle of Buena Vista. The public is clamoring for the publication of the letter and the we guess it will have to come.

Yesterday we received a letter from an officer of high rank in the army, from which we make this extract: -“Call upon Mr. Marcy to give up the letter of Gen. Taylor to him in answer to a communication from Marcy talking him to task for writing the Gaines letter. In a conversation I had with Gen. Taylor, on the 23d of last month, he gave me the contents of this letter, and the Secretary of War and the Administration are thoroughly used up in it."

OPINION OF GENERAL TAYLOR ABROAD. –A letter from Paris, written by the Editor of the N. Y. Herald, who is now in that city says:

"Among military men Gen. Taylor is considered one of the greatest Generals of the age. It is asserted without hesitation, that he has performed as much with the means at his command, as ever Napoleon or Wellington did. –It was informed this morning by a gentleman formerly a distinguished diplomatist in Europe, that Marshall Soult on reading the news, and particularly Gen. Taylor’s despatches, declared in emphatic language, ‘voila un saldat’ as much as to say a great General –a very great General.”

The veteran Taylor has passed some of the best years of his life in the battle field, in which, however, the immortality of fame he has won, will compensate for his hardships and sufferings. I the late letter to the Department of War, soon after his splendid victory over the Indians in Florida, he used the following language:

"I write without a candle –a blazing pine knot serving instead, in the middle of a vast prairie, in what they call a cabbage tree copse, upon a dirty sheet of paper, the only one in the camp."

In a late letter to a friend in Louisiana occurs the following parallel passage:

"Since I left New Orleans for Corpus Christi, I have not slept under the protection of a roof, and not always under the thin covering of a soldier’s tent."

A volunteer who has returned from the Mexican war, says –“I have seen the elephant, trunk, tusk, and all, and am more than satisfied. I went out a Polk soldier, and return a Taylor Whig.”

The Louisville Journal says: "We have before us a map of the battle grounds upon which Gen. Taylor won his four great victories in Mexico. We have also before us a map of the battle ground upon which he will win his great battle of 1848 – that is to say, a map of the U. States."

It is said that a young lady, who is a great admirer of Gen. Taylor’s epistolary style, received a letter the other day from a sweetheart, enquiring if she would have him. She immediately sent in reply, Gen. Taylor’s answer to Santa Anna, -“Come and take me.” Boston Atlas.

Father said a little boy to his Loco Parent, is Gen. Taylor a Whig? Yes, my son. –Were Clay and Hardin and Lincoln
Whigs? They were. Is Gen. Scott a Whig? Yes –why do you ask? Because you call the Whigs Mexicans. Pshaw! You are too young to understand politics. But did Polk give Santa Anna a pass to return to Mexico? Don’t talk to me my son, I’m in a hurry. –Buffalo Com.

PROSPECT VERIFIED. –"War.” Said Mr. CLAY, in his Raleigh letter, "will be the consequences of the annexation of Texas at this time in the manner proposed.”

“This way,” says Mr. Benton, “is the annexation of Texas, at the time and in the manner I which it was done.”

A NEW NOMINATION. –The Vicksburg Whig, observing that the Democrats have suddenly discovered the most extraordinary virtues in Mr. Clay. When they were lately so fond of abusing, and that they express the highest admiration for Gen. Taylor, whilst they object to the selection of a military man as president, proposes to satisfy, at once, all their wishes and scruples, by offering them the following ticket: "Hon. HENRY CLAY, for President and General ZACHARY TAYLOR for Vice President.”

MG47v48n15p2c6, June 10, 1847

LATE FROM MEXICO.

IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

Gen. Worth at Puebla – [ . . . ]

At the nearly hour on the morning of the 27th, the steamship Pametto arrived at New Orleans from Vera Cruz, bringing dates from that city to the 22d, and from Jalapa to the 21st.

We have received slips (says the Baltimore Patriot) from the New Orleans Picayune and Times, and also accounts of the news in the Delta.

The correspondent of the Delta writes from Jalapa, under date of the 21st ult. –"We have positive information of the arrival of General Worth’s command at Puebla. On the approach of our army to the city Gen. Santa Anna, who was there at the time supplying his troops with some necessaries, sent a detachment to engage Gen. Worth until he could procure his supplies, but the encounter was soon over, and Santa Anna and his army compelled to fly. In the skirmish there were four Mexicans killed –our loss none. He has retreated towards the city of Mexico. One report says he is at Santa Martin, a town about 28 miles from Puebla, but it is generally conceded, that his main force, upwards of 12,000 men, have gone to Rio Frio, where he is preparing for another engagement. The latter place is said to be a naturally strong point, and can be made to offer strong resistance, but if Cerro Gordo could not resist the brigade of Gen. Twiggs, what can position avail the Mexican chieftain.

"The train looked for the past few days has arrived, together with Capts. Walker and Ruff, with their commands. The army here will move four miles on the Perote road tomorrow evening, and on Sunday take up its line of march. No stop will be made at Perote. If we should not halt at Puebla, so hear the result of some more propositions of peace from the American government, you may soon expect to receive my letters dated at the capital of the Republic.”

Jalapa, 11 o’clock, A. M.,

May 21, 1847.

Eds. Delta: -The "diligence” is about departure. The Mexicans have a report here which is credited by the Americans generally that Herrera is elected President of Mexico, and that he is disposed to treat for peace. -The "diligence” from Puebla is looked for momentarily, which will give us the correct position of the affairs at the Capital. If it should arrive in time to overtake the line towards Vera Cruz. I will send an express to overhaul it. The reason assigned by the Mexicans for Herrera being willing to make a peace with us, is that he desires to prevent our taking possession of the Capital of the Republic, which he says will be the inevitable result if the Mexicans do not come to terms.

The army is under marching orders for tomorrow evening at 3 o’clock. Gen Twiggs’s column will move at that hour, if no unforeseen circumstances intervene. Nothing farther from Gens. Worth and Quitman, except that they were resting, from the fatigues of the march in Puebla.

Gen. Shields had an attack of the pleurisy two nights ago, but is recovering from the effects of it, and also his wound. He expects to be able to leave for the United States about the 10th of next month.

Capt. Walker is encamped with his recruits close to the town. It was generally supposed he would be arrested for the course he pursued in reference to a guerrilla party he came in contact with. But I understand his course is approved of. The Alcalde of Santa Fe who had been harboring the banditti, and in whose possession the property of the murdered Dragoons were found, he had to share the same fate as those who committed the murder. Served him right. MUSTANG.
JALAPA, May 21, 12 o'clock.

Eds. Delta: -The Diligence has arrived form Puebla, but nothing official had arrived from the capital previous to its departure. –The passengers state that it was current in that place that Herrera has been elected President. I received at letter from Puebla, of which the following is an extract:

"We entered this place on the 15ths inst. –The natives, although quite yet, have stabbed several of the men, and have killed two. We were attacked in Amasoca by Santa Anna, with about 1500 cavalry –he lost 3 killed and 7 wounded. The old codger took a fit of leaving for Mexico, where he is fortifying the Penol and Ayotla."

I have seen another letter from an intelligent source, to a gentleman to this place, which says that Santa Anna retreated from Puebla to San Martin, and subsequently left for the city of Mexico; also that we are to be met on the road, somewhere, with 10,000 men, under one General, whose name I do not recollect, and 4000 under Minon. So more it be –the more the better. No doubt by the time we meet them, their force will be augmented to double the number. We also learn that murders and robberies are being committed on the road daily, both by horsemen and footmen. The source of information can be relied on. MUSTANG.

"One hundred and twenty Quartermaster's mules, loaded with flour and pork, on their road to rendezvous a: Santa Fe, were attacked late last evening, three miles from here. The muleteers were fired upon, but cannot learn whether any were killed. Most of the muleteers have just returned, and report that the entire train was captured. This is no rumor. I have the facts from the Quartermaster here."

FROM GEN. TAYLOR'S ARMY.

The schooner Sea arrived at New Orleans on the 27th ult. from Brazos Santiago, which place she left on the 20th instant. The Picayune of the 28th ult. Says-

Though no later from that port, she brought a mail through from Gen. Taylor's headquarters at Monterey. Among her passengers were Capt. J. M. Hill, of the Quartermaster's Department, and Dr. J. W. Russell, U.S.A.

There is almost no news from that quarter. There has been no confirmation received of the rumored defeat of Col. Doniphan; we are therefore more than every persuaded that there was no good foundations for the original report. When he learns at Chihuahua that the insurrection in New Mexico has been effectually put down, and the guilt concerned in it expiated on the gallows, he will probably resume his original purpose of joining Gen. Wool, near Saltillo. This is but a conjecture.

A letter in the New Orleans Picayune of the 28th ult, dated Monterey, May 7, says –The health of the army here continues good with the exception of the 2d Mississippi Regiment, which is still suffering from the ravages of the small pox, and losing a good many men. I neglected to mention in my last that Gen. Taylor had been ill for a day or two but had recovered. Col. Hamtramck, who has been dangerously ill ever since the Virginia Regiment arrived at Monterey, has now recovered and came out to camp for the first time yesterday. I have not an item of news to furnish you.

Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot.

WASHINGTON, May 30, 1847.

The Administration has made a new move in justification of its conduct in getting the country into a war with Mexico! Through Gen. Scott's pronunciamento to the Mexicans, issued at Jalapa, on the 11th ult., and in the columns of the official organ, it is now contended that the PARADES, the late President of Mexico, was a Monarchist, and was aiming or intriguing to destroy the Republican form of Government of the Mexicans, and bring his country into colonial bondage to the Monarchies of England and France!

To prevent this movement, so disastrous to the cause of North and south American Republicanism, it is contended that the United States were compelled to enter into this war with Mexico, which bids fair to annihilate that sister Republic of ours altogether, and to damage us not a little.

Te pronunciamento of Gen. Scott, breathing this doctrine, is followed up in last evening's "Union" with a long and
labored editorial, showing the wisdom and forecast of the Administration in frustrating the plans of the Monarchical Cabinets of England and France has designs of this diabolical and anti-republican nature, extracts from an English and can nature, extracts from an English and French court journal are given—which extracts simply show the speculations of the editors of those journals!

But, admitting that she extracts aforesaid reflect the true feelings of the English and French Cabinets in regard to this matter, and that it appears clear that those Cabinets are intriguing to convert Mexico into a Monarchy, which should cause the United States to interfere and act up to the sentiment of President MONRON in 1823, adopted by Mr. Polk and quoted by the "Union," "THAT THE AMERICAN CONTINENTS ARE NOT TO BE CONSIDERED AS SUBJECTS FOR COLONIZATION BY ANY EUROPEAN POWER," what, pray, in that case, ought to be our course of action? Who ought we got to war with? Mexico? Or England and France?

If England and France are talking of the weakness of our sister Republic, or if the division which rend and distract her, internally, and are attempting to convert her into a Monarchy, which would be an insult and injury to the United States, in the name of common sense, what sort of logic is that would teach us to go to war and destroy as fast as practicable, not the Monarchies of England and France that are striving to put down and bring into disgrace all republican forms of government, but our sister Republic and nearest neighbor in the great family of American Republics, weak and distracted Mexico! --And yet the Administration now flaunts this logic to the breeze and essays to boast of what it has done!

The peculiar tone and style of Gen. SCOTT’S pronunciamiento to the Mexicants, call forth much speculation. Some say the General wrote from Jalapa, is the Government in Mexico; others, that no single mind could have put together such curious paper! All, however, agree, I believe, that the Administration either sent the document, cut and dried, to General SCOTT, or full instruction in the premises! In giving the production to its readers the "Union" asks the indulgence of the republic on account of the two translations which the document has undergone, from the English to the Spanish, and then back into the English again! It is the opinion of some persons that two or three more translations will be necessary before the pompous, turgid, labored, stilted epistle (which reads nearly as well, so far as the English is concerned, backwards as forwards) can be rendered into such a straight-forward, modest and brief proclamation as the occasion may have called for!

POTOMAC.

MG47v48n16p2c 1, June 17, 1847.

GENERAL TAYLOR

The Lately published letter from Gen. Taylor to a distinguished gentleman in Louisiana, in which, although intimating his willingness to obey the call of his countrymen, with characteristic distrust of his own qualifications for the Chief Magistracy, he expressed a desire that some one of our distinguished Statesmen should be elevated to that high office, has elicited from the Washington Union the following paragraph, in almost every line of which, even when the writer effects to the most complimentary, hostility to the old Hero, who has thus far Providentially survived as he defies the efforts of the Administration and its friends to destroy him, is (perhaps unconsciously) betrayed, The Union thus prefaced the letter:

"The following letter bears marks of the modesty' which the New Orleans Bulletin attributes to Gen. Taylor. But we hazard the remark that might have been equally, if not more modest, if casting away all ambition, " he had stood aside for the present, and firmly passed over the honors of an election to one of the "eminent and deserving" citizens, whom he considers better "qualified for so high and responsible a station." Whilst the gallant and distinguished General, however, removes all the doubts (as the Bulletin supposes) as to his acceptance of the nomination for the Presidency, " we are free to state, with all respect, that this is not going far enough. The people ought to know --and a free people will never be satisfied without knowing --how far his principles suit them. Is he a Democrat, or is he a Whig? He goes for a strict observance of the constitution." What does the General mean by a strict observance? Is he of the school of Jefferson, or of Webster and Clay? Does he go for a national bank --for a national system of internal improvements --a protective or a revenue tariff --the law of 1842, or of 1846? We have no idea that the old soldier affects any mystery upon these questions. --He will scarcely pursue the advice of his "committee of secrecy" at Philadelphia. But let some friend call upon him for another letter, and let the old General come out. This is what the country has a right to ask, ; and nothing short of this requisition ought to satisfy an enlightened people, who value "principles more than men."

"We have no doubt the Union would have been highly gratified, had Gen. Taylor peremptorily refused to permit the use of his name as a candidate for the Presidency. But not so understand his duty --and that, we venture to say, he will perform, fearless alike of open and secret, official and unofficial assailants, should be called upon, from a quarter entitled to such a response, to exchange the military for the civil service of his country. --Acting upon the maxim of the patriotic Lowndes, while he does not seek the high position to which so large a portion of his countrymen have evinced a determination to elevate him, he will not decline it should it be conferred upon him.

Nor need the slightest apprehension be entertained, should he become hereafter a candidate for the Presidency, that he will fail to five a clear and candid exposition of his views upon all questions of public interest, upon which, in the
event of his election, he may be required to act. Reared in the camp, he has all the frankness of the soldier, and none of the arts of those who have been trained in courts, and learned in that corrupted atmosphere, to act, like Mr. Polk for example, upon the famous maxim of Talleyrand, that language is intended to conceal ideas- of which maxim there is not to be found, even in Talleyrand’s serpentine career, a more striking illustration than that furnished by Mr. Polk’s letter to James K. Kane on the Protective policy. But “there is time for all things”; and neither Gen. Taylor’s friends nor his enemies have a right, before he shall be a candidate, as be certainly is not now, to call upon him for a declaration of his opinions, which we take it for granted he will not make, if he should be so called upon, until, having become avowedly a candidate, the people will have a right to know, and he will feel bound to make them acquainted with his sentiments in regard to the past and future policy of the Government he may be called upon to administer. He will not (to use one of the favorite phrases of the editor of the Union) “wrap up his opinions in a doublet.” When it shall become the people’s right to know them, and his duty to make them know. He leaves that course for such men as Mr. Polk, who, after having written the equivocal Kane letter, stubbornly refused, when apprized more that once of the diametrically opposite constructions given to it in a different latitudes, to say whether his cabalistic terms meant, or were intended to mean, this or that –whether they pledged him to Free Trade, as was boldly asserted in the South, or to the perpetuation of the Protective policy, as was affirmed with equal confidence in Pennsylvania and other Tariff States. If he cannot be elected without resorting to such a fraudulent device, he will never reach the Presidency. Even that high honor he will never purchase by such disreputable means.

In its devotion to a literal interpretation of the constitution, which has been certainly signalized in a remarkable manner since it became the organ of the Executive author of the Mexican war, the Union seem not to be satisfied with the declaration of Gen. Taylor that he is in favor of “a strict observance” of the provisions of that instrument. The suspiciousness of the Union is not at all strange –since it has seen how little Gen. Jackson, Mr. Van Buren and Mr. Polk, all of whom went into office pledge to a “strict construction” of the constitution, according to the strait laced definition of the powers of the General Government, set forth in the Resolutions and Report of “98-99”, have been restrained by their pledge, whenever they had an object, to accomplish by its violation. The Union, therefore, asks, “what does the General mean by a strict observance?” we cannot, of course, tell that paper, in detail, what he does mean.; but we may venture to say what he does not mean. He does not mean, we are very sure, that the Executive has the power, either to make war, or to render it inevitable, by invading, in time of peace a foreign territory, for the purpose of setting by force a question of boundary, which Congress had expressly declare was left open for future negotiation! He does not mean that the Executive has a right to annex conquest territory to the Union, by the proclamation of military and naval commanders, to form territorial governments there in, to appoint officers to administer them, and to punish Mexican citizens, from whom an oath of allegiance to the United States has been exacted at the point of the bayonet, as traitors, for acts of fidelity to their own Government, and defending their own soil! He does not mean that the Executive has a right to usurp the essentially Legislative function of enacting laws for the collection of duties upon imports in Mexican any mean, that, while the constitution prohibits the General Government from improving our own rivers and harbors, (according to the doctrine had down in Polks veto message, or to build ship canals in any portion of the Union as it exists, it has a right way” and to construct afterwards, either by a direct appropriations, or through the agency of incorporated capital, such a canal through the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, in order to connect the Atlantic with the Pacific! He may, for aught we know, believe with Madison, the father of the Constitution and the author of the Resolutions and Reports of ‘98-‘99, in the constitutionality of a National Bank, and with the Republican party of 1816, he may be in favor of the incorporation of such an institution, as he does certainly, we imagine, believe, with every President, from Washington to Harison in the constitutionality and expediency of a Protective Tariff. But he does not belong we are confident, to that school of pretenders and purists, who, shrinking with well feigned horror from these measures, have no scruple in tendering the constitution a dead letter in its most essential and vital parts. He does not strain at a gnat, after having swallowed a camel. When he speaks of a “strict observance of constitutions, ” he means, doubtless, to give it that interpretation, in regard to questions of domestic policy, which has the sanction of the founders of the Republican church –not that infinitely more latitudinous mode of construction by which the acts of the MODERN DEMOCRATIC Administrations, beginning with Jackson, and to end, we hope, with Polk, has been uniformly characterized –a mode of construction the uniform tendency of which has been to consolidate all the powers of the Federal Government, wrongfully or rightfully claimed and exercised, in the hands of THE EXECUTIVE –converting Congress into a mere registrar of the edicts of ONE MAN, who, by the unity of his will and the judicious use of his patronage, has, to all intents and purposes, become “THE GOVERNMENT” –Rich. Whig.

[ML]

MG47v48n16p2c 2, June 17, 1847.

LETTER FROM SANTA ANNA.

The subjoined official letter from Santa Anna to the Minister of War and Marine, is translated for the Mobile Tribune from the El Republican of the 16th May:

"HEAD QUARTERS, PUEBLA, May 13.

"ARMY OF OPERATIONS –Excellent Sir –The commandant of the flying revenue guard of tobacco of Orizaba, the Col. D. Juan N. Caraveo, whom I let with his command near the National road, between Perote and Nopalucan, to observe the movements of the enemy and to harass him when the opportunity might offer, has remitted to me the accompanying documents which left Jalapa for Colonel Worth’s camp.

"Among them you will find Gen. Scott’s proclamation to the Mexican nation, which from its style appears to have been written originally in Spanish and not translated from the English."
"This proclamation of Scott’s is written with the most refined hypocrisy and with the most infamous perfidy. It is the greatest insult yet offered to the Mexican people, whom it has attempted to lull, (a quien pretende adormecer,) to make the victim of the ambition of that nation which is the enemy of our race, when in another place it feels no embarrassment in proclaiming, by the press and in official documents, that it carries on against us a war of conquest, and that this war must be made at the cost of the blood and treasure of this unfortunate country.

"Your Excellency will note in one of the accompany intercepted letters, that Scott, the Inspector General of the United States Army, considers the above proclamation well adapted to aid the views of the invaders.

"You will not observe, that this letter harmonizes with others which with have been lately published in this capitol, and which with reason have been regarded by all well disposed Mexicans as more prejudicial for the venom (ponzona) which they conceal than the loss of a battle.

"But in the midst of the malevolence (encona) which Gen. Scott show he against me, he does me too much honor when he says that they had been deceived as to my real intention, and that on account of this mistake his Government permitted me to pass to my country. Indeed, most Excellent Sir, the United States did deceive when they dreamed that I was capable of betraying my country. Before this should happen, I would prefer to be consumed by fire, and that my ashes should be scattered that not a single atom be left.

"Would to God the Mexicans would open their eyes to discover the poison in the golden chalice that the perfidious Scott proffers to the, and that the reply to his proclamation may be one shout of universal indignation against the invaders of our soil. Let a war be made against them without period, that when we may no longer be able, because Providence may have decreed the subjugation of this unfortunate country, there may remain to our children or grandchildren, when the wrath of the Omnipotent shall have passed, the noble work of revenging the outrages committed by the Republic of the United States on Mexico.

"God and Liberty!
"Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna."

"To his Excellency the Minister of War and Marine."

The perusal of his letter will not, we should suppose, be very gratifying to Mr. Polk. It will be seen that Santa Anna resents, with great indignation, the presumption, under the influence of which Mr. Polk permitted him to return to Mexico, (where he has been ever since “giving aid and comfort to the enemy” in the most efficient manner,) that he was capable of betraying his country! To act upon such an improbable belief, was, indeed, a most remarkable blunder, to say the least of it—though it is evident that Mr. Polk continued to labor under this “strong delusion,” even so late as the close of last session of Congress, up to which period he continued to urge the passage or the “three million bill,” which, inconsequence, we presume, of the treachery of Santa Anna, not to his country, but to Mr. Polk, whom he so successfully wheedled, remains to this day, so far as we are informed, a dead letter! The immediate object of the writer, however, seems to be less to exculpate himself than to neutralize as far as practicable Gen. Scott’s proclamation upon the minds of the Mexicans, which he seems to apprehend may not be altogether harmless in its effects. To what extent the Mexicans may be [ ... ] to listen to terms of peace by the language of that proclamation, we have no means of knowing; but it is very clear, from the manner in which it is met by Santa Anna, that so long as he lives and can exert a controlling influence upon public sentiment in that country, the restoration of peace is impossible. –Rich. Whig.

[ MUL ]

MG47v48n16p2c 3, June 17, 1847.

THE GAZETTE

RETURN HOME

Mr. JACOB HELFERSTAY, who was one of the Volunteers who went from this town in charged trough the advice of the Surgeon of the Regiment, on account of his health and returned home. He was with the first battalion of the Regiment stationed at the Wainut Springs near Monterey, and formed a part of Old Rough and Ready’s” family. He speaks of “old Taylor” in very warm terms, and says there is not a soldier in the army who is not devoted to him. He describes him as “A plain Virginia farmer” which doubtless is a very expressive likeness of him, judging from all that we have heard and read of him. We regret that our young townsman was obliged to leave the Regiment without seeing the Elephant—he says” he lay his track” very plainly in the city of Monterey, at Palo Alto, &c. Had his health permitted him to remain no soldier in the Virginia Regiment would have rendered a better account of himself, had they met the enemy. He reports the men of the Virginia Regiment in fine health. Col. Hamtramck had been quite unwell, but when he left was rapidly recovering.

The workings of the Sub-treasury, let Mr. Polk thank his stars and the want and misery of the old world, have not exhibited themselves to the people generally, but the miserable policy of such a financial scheme, will appear most sensibly, if we but look at its operations in the transfer of funds for the purposes of the War. If specie is wanted in New Orleans, and the Government has it locked up in its, Sub-treasury chests at New York, it must be transported as mere
freight at great cost and with no inconsiderable risk. If however, they resort to drafts, the burden is but shifted from
the broad shoulders of Uncle Sam to those of his dutiful children. We refer the following article as exhibiting the whole
operation of the thing in its true light:

"The New York Journal of Commerce illustrates in a brief but striking manner the convenience and costliness of the
Subtreasury scheme. The Government, it says, has large sums to pay in New York. The disbursing officers, therefore,
give drafts are sold in large sums at one percent discount. "This;" says the Journal, "is so much injustice on the part of
the Government, and all from the operation of that miserable abortion of political financiering, the Subtreasury. If the
old safe and cheap system had been continued, the money would have been paid any where and every where, just as
the convenience of Government might have required. Now we have got an expensive and dangerous machine just to
do mischief." –Richmond Whig.

We call attention to the National Whig, a paper lately established in the City of Washington, the advertisement of which
will be found in another column. In these days of Executive usurpation, we welcome every additional sentinel at the
gates of Power, that its encroachments may be watched with the most sleepless scrutiny, and promptly proclaimed to
the people.

The Whig supports Gen. Taylor for the Presidency subject to the decision of a national Convention.

MG47v48n16p2c4, June 17, 1847.

THE ORGAN AND ITS TUNE.

It strikes us, that as we have reached a point in the progress of things, where the government needs an official organ,
to speak as to its acts and views by authority, that the characteristics of the paper occupying that position, should be
calmness, dignity and high toned courtesy. Nothing like childish pettishness, nor the morose pettishness of age, should
mark its editorials, for who knows that they are not all by authority?

The exact position of such a paper however, is very well understood among our own people, but when we remember
that in London and Paris, its characteristics are regarded as those of the government and the nation, we easily perceive
the importance of their being worthy of the spirit of our institutions.

We have been lately struck by a singular peculiarity of the "Union" not generally observed by our readers. If a
suggestion is offered in reference to the prosecution of the war, not tallying with Executive policy, it is frowned down
by the Union –as "Federalism." If a doubt is expressed whether the admission of new territory will not prove the source
of internal trouble, the question is gravely met by the cry of "Federal croaking." If it is hinted that Mr. Polk exhibited no
very magnificent diplomacy in passing Santa Anna into Mexico, it is styled by the logical organ grinded as "Federal
aspersion!" Strange crotchet, of the official brain, that all of logic, all of fair argument, and of editorial courtesy has
been swallowed up by this dragon of Federalism!

But the crowning point of the Union’s imprudence and folly is noticed in the following article, which we clip from the
Intelligencer of Tuesday.

"The Union call General Santa Anna the ally of the Whigs; but the Union must not expect to pass of its damage goods
on its adversaries. The Executive of the United States sent Santa Anna to Mexico to head her armies, and with the
intention that he should do so. If that stroke of policy has turned out a bad speculation, the Government must not hope
to evade its responsibility by so transparent a trick as the organ attempts to play off. What the Executive could promise
itself in aiding Santa Anna to get back to fighting her battles, we have never been able to conceive: it is a riddle which
we suspect it cannot solve. Whatever the motive, the friends of the Administration admit that it was a blunder –a well
meant one, they say, yet still a blunder. But they go no further; they do not say what was hoped or expected from it.
Now, we do not choose to bear the responsibility of the blunders of the Administration and its worthy organ must fain
keep General Santa Anna to themselves.

We have always considered “Progressive Democracy, ” as it is called, such a mere absurdity in theory, so harmless
from its very radicalism, and so evidently containing within itself, its own antidote, from the very extravagance of the
positions to which it is driven, that is has appeared to us but an amusing eccentricity of Locofocoism. Any doubt,
however, in regard to its true nature, and the meaning of the mystic word "Progressive, ” has been fully dispelled by
the proceedings of our Army in New Mexico acting under the instructions of the Government.

Our readers will remember that Gen. Kearney with both sword and pen, and the ceremony of a proclamation, has
annexed the territory of New Mexico, and established a territorial government there. His first proceeding was to issue
what he styles the organic law of the territory, from which we extract the following:

"Article 1 –Sec. 1. The country bare to fore known as New Mexico shall be know and here after designated at the
Territory of New Mexico, in the United States of America; and the temporary Government of Said Territory shall be
organized and administered in the manner hereinafter prescribed."
Thereupon Courts are established, Judges and District Attorneys appointed, oaths of allegiance forced down Mexican throats, indictments for high crimes and misdemeanors, trials, and as a crowning evidence of the establishment of this territorial government, Twelve Mexicans are executed.

This, however, may be justified on the score of necessity—but let us quote another part of the "organic law."

"All free male citizens of the Territory of New Mexico, who then are on for three months next preceding the election shall have been, residents of the country or district in which they shall appear to vote shall be entitle to vote for a Delegate to the Congress of the United States, "&c.

This election is fixed for August next, and if it take place as the "organic law" requires, will the Delegate elect take his seat in Congress? Will he, elected from a territory never in our possession, and governed by laws which Congress never dreamed of, be recognized as a Delegate from a territory of the United States, chosen as he must be, by a mongrel crowd of Mexicans, Indians and Half breeds! Well for the Country is it, that the next House of Representatives will be Whig.

To us the whole proceeding in New Mexico seems to like some stupendous farce, but it is in truth a matter of grave import to the nation. If the Constitution be already a dead letter, if the President contain within himself the Legislative as well as the Executive power, if thousands of semi-barbarians are brought into the bosom of the confederacy by a ceremony, no more protracted, that the dash of a pen and the hoisting of a flag, where are we stop? What is illegal? What unconstitutional?—Are the iron days of the one man power to be received in matters as grave and important as these? "I will take the responsibility" seemed bad enough principle, in the removal of the deposits, but when the annexation of an immense territory (of but little value, by the way) and the wholesale naturalization of thousands of people of every hue and color, ignorant of our laws, our institutions and our characteristics, are all explained and reconciled by the same King-like principle, we must drop the scales from our eyes. For, where will it end? Who is to say to fast encroaching and all assuming Executive Power, "thus far shall thou go and no farther? Is the Senate to be a mere passive tool? Are the Representatives of the People, to be stigmatized as 'aiders and comforters an enemy because they dare to question the constitutional right of a President thus to act? Is a venal press to re-echo the cry, and proclaim to the world that they are traitors, and yet pass unrebuked?

In the brilliant successes of our arms in Mexico, we seem to have lost sight of these grave questions, but the day will come, when they must be answered. The next Congress will have much to do, if it but act worthy of the Republic, and obey the high behests of duty, and we are free to say, that the nation will sustain it.

[MUL]

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LATER FROM MEXICO.

The steamship New Orleans arrived at New Orleans on the 7th instant from Vera Cruz, which place she left on the 1st instant. She touched at Brazos Santiago on the 4th instant. We are indebted to the New Orleans Times and Picayune for slips containing the news by this arrival. The Picayune says:

Gen. Shields is doing well, we are most happy to hear, and was shortly expected at Vera Cruz.

Gen. Scott left Jalapa on the 23d ult., for Puebla, at the head of nearly 6000 troops. —Mr. Kendall’s letters have not yet come to hand. We have however, the following brief note from him:

PUEBLA, MEXICO, May 29, 1847.

The division of Gen. Twiggs entered this city today—all well. There were rumors in the morning that Gen’s. Bustamante and Leon were advancing to attack Gen. Scott with an immense force, but so far we have heard nothing confirming the reports. Almost everyone thinks that the Americans are to have another grand battle, but where no one can divine.

The diligencia does not run between this and the city of Mexico, and so far I found it impossible to lay hands upon any papers.

No one as yet knows what Gen. Scott’s intentions are as regards his future movements, yet small as his force is many think he will advance upon the capital. We shall know in a day or two.

The news from the city of Mexico by this arrival is most important. Our intelligent correspondent from Vera Cruz has furnished us with the annexed extracts from the letters us with the annexed extracts from letters written at Mexico, and from the best sources of information. The resignation of Santa Anna is an important event in the history of the war.

Extract from a letter dated—

CITY OF MEXICO, May 29, 1847.
From here I have nothing worthy of notice to communicate except that Santa Anna yesterday resigned the presidency, but it is not known yet whether Congress will admit of it. He was induced to take that course from the opposition he meets in his views of carrying on the defense of the city, and from same defamatory writings which appeared in the public papers against his past conduct.

It is generally expected that the Americans will be here about the 15th of next month; and considering the state of things in the capital, I may say that they will meet with but slight resistance on the part of this Government.

Though the same channel we have received the following brief extract from another letter of the same date:

Late week Santa Anna commenced fortifying Gaodaloupe, Perion and Mijicatzingo, near the suburbs of the city; but unusual disapprobation was the result, and hence his reason for offering his resignation. It is supposed it will be accepted, and that Herrera will receive the nomination. There are only about 3000 troops in the city.

We have an exciting rumor from Puebla, mentioned in letters from Vera Cruz, that the citizens of Puebla, had risen upon Gen. Worth, and cut off six or seven hundred of his men. The rumor was in every man's mouth at Vera Cruz and much credence giving to it. We are happy to say that our correspondent in Vera Cruz puts little faith in the rumors.

A Vera Cruz letter in the Picayune, dated May 23, says-

A gentleman from the city of Mexico, who was one of the American prisoners, captured by Urrea between Camargo and Monterey, came down with the train, having been liberated by the English Minister, he having claimed British protection. He reports all the American officers that were prisoners on parole.

Maj. R. Hammond Paymaster U. S. Army, died on board the New Orleans at sea on the 2d. ins., on his passage from Vera Cruz.

A Vera Cruz letter in the New Orleans Times, written on the 31st of May, says—

A report by way of Orizaba, tells us that Santa Anna is still in the Presidential chair; that Valencia is Commander-in-Chief of the army, and old Nicolas Bravo Governor of the State of Mexico. Juan Alvarez, whom you may remember as the Sonora robber, and friend of Santa Anna, is said to be rapidly approaching with ten thousand of his Indian retainers, in arms, and is expected to extricate the Yankees, utterly.

The yellow fever, el vomito, as it should be called, is now getting really serious amongst us. Thirteen cases terminated fatally yesterday, and today already I have heard of the death of three individuals whom I personally knew. Two of these are from New Orleans, Mr. Cohen; of the firm of Simousfield & Cohen; and a Mr. Michael, more recently from Tampico. Col. Kearney, the government contractor is now lying in a very dangerous state.

8 P. M.—The British courier is in from Mexico, but seems to know very little of matters is not President, but contradicts none of the other rumors of the past few days, except as far as regards Santa Anna, who, he seems to think, is still the Chief Magistrate.

A postscript to this letter dated June 1st says

Well our reports of Herrera's election prove to have been premature, to say the least of it. Santa Anna is at the capital, in much less discredit than we have been led to believe, and in the full exercise of the functions of his office. Upon his arrival he proposed to resign his seat, but contrive matters so as to have his proposition rejected.

An election will take place on the 13th instant, when it is hoped that Herrera will be chosen; but Santa Anna creatures are too numerous, and his position now too favorable for the control of the required interest, to permit me to indulge in such hope, in any degree confidently.

He expresses an intention to fortify the town, at least with a large ditch and embankment, and to place a force in the city capable of keeping off the Americans. For these purposes he demands four hundred thousand dollars, and has impressed all the horses and mules that can be reached.

A letter from a well informed German merchant of the capital, to his brother in this city says, that Santa Anna has within his control a force of near ten thousand men, besides those on their way under Alvarez, and that he will soon have an army around him capable of annoying, if not of seriously opposing Gen. Scott. Valencia and Bravo are said to have resigned their respective commands. —The Government I to be established at Morelia.

No disturbance whatever has taken place at Puebla; on the contrary the people both of the city and the country seem to be much please with their conquerors, and trade is quite brisk. Communication with the sea coast seems only to require to bring all right again. Generals Scotts and Worth were both in Puebla when the courier passed through that city.

[MUL]
POLITICAL CASUISTRY.

If it be giving aid and comfort to the public enemy, and therefore moral treason, for the people of this country, who are the real masters of its government, to scrutinize and condemn the acts of their own. Executive agents, what is it for the President himself to give to Mexico the moral and physical aid and comfort of a head to her Government and a leader to her armies? As citizens, the Whigs of this country have examined and pronounced opinions against the acts of Executive. In fallibility and Passive Obedience themselves. The Whigs have condemned the Administration of President Polk, and for this they are denounced as traitors; but President Polk has given back Santa to the Mexicans, to conduct their government and to butcher (as he did at Buena Vista and Cerro Gordo) more that a thousand of our people, and for this, according to the dogmas of Executive infallibility, Polk committed neither a stupendous blunder nor an act of rank treason. So then it comes to this, upon the premises of our new teachers in moral and political science. That the nature and quality of an act depends on who commits it whether he be a dispenser of patronage or an independent citizen in private station. "The King can do wrong" –the President is infallible. Passive obedience on the part of the people is an erremissable duty; and all limitation or even scrutiny of Executive powers and acts is treacherous and impious. Examination is allowed to those who may approve the acts of the Executive approval of those acts in patriotism; condemnation is treason! So that the freedom of opinion in this boasted Republic is narrowed down to the privilege of prassing the President, while the correlative right of condemning him is destroyed.

Such is a fair and logical construction of the grounds assumed by the President and his organs in denouncing those who disapproved his acts as “giving aid and comfort to the enemy.” Cinn. Gazzett.

MG47v48n17p2c4, June 24, 1847.

From the National Intelligence.

From the Matamoras Flag of the 7th inst we learn that Col. Doniphan, with a portion of his command, passed down the Rio Grande on the 5th instant. The Flag thus speaks of them:

"The unshorn beards and goat and deer skin clothes of many of them reminded us of descriptions we have read of the inhabitants of some of the countries of the Russian empire. They stopped in town a couple of hours. –Col Doniphan is a stout, rough-featured, good-natured looking sort of a man. He brought along with him Clark’s battery, and ten pieces of cannon captured at Sacramento. The sick, &c., forty of fifty wagons with several hundred mules, were turned over to the quartermaster."

The volunteers are returning from Gen. Taylor with great rapidity. He is left without any of the volunteers who fought under him at Buena Vista. The letter we give below from our special correspondent contains the latest information as the probable movements of Gen. Taylor.

Brig. Gen Hopping has arrived in Matamoros, and occupies Gen. Cushing’s former quarters.

SALTILO, MEXICO, May 21, 1847.

There is no doubt that we shall march upon San Luis at a very early period –as soon as a sufficient number of troops arrive from below –and from San Luis to the city of Mexico. A communication received from Gen. Scott by Gen. Taylor a few days ago, giving a brief account of the battle near Jalapa, directs Gen. T. to move once, or as early as possible from San Luis, where he expected the letter would reach him, to the city of Mexico. So that Gen. Taylor will not probably remain any time at San Luis, unless he receives orders there, but, leaving a garrison for the place, will proceed with the residue of his command to the city of Mexico. The command will probably never retrace its steps this way, as there will be no occasion for it. I have, therefore, a fair prospect of “reveling in the halls of the Montezumas” as well as some other people, and if I live through the campaign and return via Vera Cruz, I shall have seen quite as much of the country as I care about.

Col. DONIPHAN with the residue of his command arrived at camp this morning, and reported to Gen. WOOL. It is thought that the artillery companies under Capt. WEIGHTMAN, attached to this command, will consent to remain during the war, but I hardly think such will be the case. The regiment is under orders to march on Sunday, the 23d, for the Brazos, there to be discharged. The two illinois regiments will march from here on the 30th or 31st instant, and the Arkansas cavalry on the 1st June. The two Indiana regiments, 2d and 3d, will proceed on Monday. The troops then, of the old stock will all be gone, except Ben McCulloch’s company of Texan Rangers.

[MUL]
From the City of Mexico

From the N. O. Picayune of June 14

We have received by Tampico, our files from the capital as late as the 29th of May. This is a week later than the papers received last week by the Oregon.

Santa Anna’s letter of resignation is published in the papers of the 29th ultimo, but we know nothing of the action taken by Congress on the subject.

In the city of Mexico every thing is manifestly in a state of confusion and almost unlicensed anarchy. Gen. Bravo has resigned not only his command of General in chief, but also his commission of General of Division. –Gen. Rincon is said to have done the same thing. More of the causes in our next.

It is true that Gen. Almonte is under arrest, though the causes of his imprisonment are not avowed.

Gen. Ampudia has been directed to await further orders at Cuernavaca. What suspicious thing he has done or contemplated we are not informed.

Gen. Valencia and Gen. Salas were ordered to leave the city of Mexico on the 24th ultimo, for the city of San Luis Potosi, to make command of the army of the North.

The accounts we find in the Mexican papers of the disaffection in Zacatecas confirm those we published a few days since. The representations against Santa Anna and in favor of the Americans –Gen- Scott’s manifesto among the latter. The late document is also given in all the papers of the capital.

Gen. Arista has refused to re-assume his military functions until his conduct should be investigated by a military tribunal. He demands that his trial may take place at once in order that he may take part in the defense of the country.

THE DUEL.

In order to obviate incorrect reports, (says the Richmond Republican) we have taken the liberty to publish the subjoined letter, the afflicted relatives having already had the painful news broken to them:

HEADQUARTERS,
2D. Bat. Va.
Reg’t, China, Mexico, May 21, 1847.
O. P. Baldwin, Esq.

DEAR SIR: At the request of the officers concerned, and in accordance with the dictates of prudence, but having myself no personal knowledge of the affair, I consider it important that you should be informed in advance of a most unfortunate and greatly to be deplored event, which occurred at this post on yesterday.

Same difficulty having taken place between Lieut. Munford, Company G, (Carrington’s) and Lieut. Mahan, of Company C, (Bankhead’s) a hostile meeting took place between them about 5 o’clockp M. with muskets and both firing at the same moment, both, I am fearful are mortally wounded –Munford receiving seven buck shot, and Mahan three. Both yet survive, yet it is "hoping against hopes” that either will live.

The cause, manner and issued of the melancholy meeting (deeply regretted by all the officers here) will be forwarded, under the signatures of the officer who were present and know all about the matter.

This goes by an express, which sets out for Camargo to-night , and there is no time to prepare the statement, which will be sent forward the first opportunity.

Your Friend, R. H. KINNEY.


(Directed on the envelope to O. P. BALDWIN Esq., or Gen. CARRINGTON) [MUL]
Gen. Taylor's Acknowledgment.

Our readers will peruse with interest (says the Richmond Enquirer) Gen. Taylor’s simple and graceful reply to Gov. Smith’s letter, enclosing to him the resolutions of thanks to himself and his brave army in Mexico, adopted by the Last Legislature of Virginia:

HEADQUARTES ARMY OF OCCUPATION,

Camp near Monterey, Mexico, May 10th, 1847.

SIR: Your communication of February 22d, transmitting a copy of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of Virginia on the ninth of that month, was delivered to me by Col. Hamtramck.

It is with deep sensibility that I received this evidence of an approbation from a State to which I am attached by many ties, and I beg leave to return to the General Assembly, for myself and in behalf of the troops of my command, our heartfelt thanks.

Allow me, Sir, to express to you, personally, my acknowledgements for the flattering terms in which you have communicated the resolutions of the General Assembly.

I have the honor to be,

Sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Z. TAYLOR.


Hon. WILLIAM SMITH, Governor of Virginia, Richmond, Va.

From General Taylor's Army.

We learn from Capt. Wilson, of the 1st regiment Indiana volunteers, who comes direct from Gen. Taylor’s camp, that all the troops are in good health. Gen. Taylor’s force consists of five regiment of volunteers, viz: the 2d Mississippi, 1st Massachusetts, the Carolina and Virginia regiments of infantry Texas cavalry, the 10th and 16th regiments of infantry, a detachment of the 2d and 3d regiments of dragoons, with Bragg’s, Washington’s and O’bien’s batteries. The health of the 2d regiment Mississippi volunteers had greatly improved. There had been no recent cases of smallpox reported. –N. O. National.

The Washington correspondent of New York Herald understands that if the business of the people will allow, the President proposes taking up the line of march to the Northward early this week. The same correspondent adds:

As Mr. Webster’s journey to the Southward appears to have softened his Northern political notions very perceptibly, - we admonish Co. Polk in this proposed Northern expedition no to be beguiled into any high tariff notions by the enterprise, and go-ahead activeness of the universal Yankee notion, because, with or without a sub treasury, or a bank, or land distribution, or Texas, or Oregon, or Mexico, and war or no war, these people of Yankee Doodledom are bent on going ahead, and “nothing on earth” can begin to stop’em. Do as we please they can take care of themselves.

Indiana Volunteers!

The new regiment of volunteers from this State is now being mustered into service at old Fort Clark, opposite Louisville, Kentucky, and will be as route for the army in Mexico in a few days. The state Sentinel says “several other companies are partially made-up each enough, probably, to constitute another regiment, should they be wanted.” – Union.

[MUL]
FROM SANTA FE.

Dates from Santa Fe have been received as late as May 13th. Every thing was quiet there. In the Indian country there was an unusual demonstration of hostility, and it was apprehended that expeditions would be more than ever in danger. At Poinil the Mexicans and Indians combined, has succeeded in driving off two-thirds of the cattle and horses belonging to the U. States. Brent, St. Vrains & Co's and Thrapp's wagons were attacked at Walnut Creek, on the 28th May, by the Arappahoes Indians, it is believe, who killed Mr. Tharp, and took off 60 mules and horses, and the same number of cattle. Five Mexicans came into Taos about the 15th May, and reported that an express was on the way from Gen. Kearney, and that they left it at Green River.
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MG19p1c6, July 8, 1847

THE GUERRILLA CHIEF JARAUTA

[...]

MG47v48n19p2c2, July 8, 1847

Rupture Between Gen. Scott and the State Department.

The Washington correspondent of the Journal of Commerce, prepares us, in the following letter, for a rupture between Gen Scott and the State Department:

WASHINGTON, July 1st, 1847

I have learned today, from a high and entirely authentic source, which I am not at liberty to mention, that Gen Scott, as the commanding officer of the army, and charged of peace, has determined not to allow any interference with his authority, from Mr. Trist or any other person, whatever may be their instructions from the State Department. Acting as commander-in-chief, he has responsibilities which he could not sustain under any divided authority. In time of actual war and invasion, and in the presence of a foe, a commander must necessarily use his own discretion in all intercourse with the enemy, for all regular diplomatic intercourse is necessarily at an end. The commander becomes, ex necessitate, the only diplomatist and negotiator. It is for him to hold such intercourse with the enemy’s government as the usages of war, in civilized countries allow. To control his action by any civil agent, would be to deprive him of the authority belonging exclusively to his station, and to retard and embarrass all his operations.

It may be considered as certain that Gen. Scott will sustain all the right belonging to his station and peculiar situation.

From another source, particularly partial to Mr. Trist, I have information also direct and authentic, corroborative of the above statement.

While I state these as undeniable and authentic facts, I must add that I do not see in them any thing detrimental to much talked of negotiations for peace with Mexico. On the contrary, it is evident that Gen. Scott, if left alone, can exert in Mexico an influence potent for peace, while his prudence, capacity, and fortune render him irresistible in war.

[MUL]

MG47v48n19p2c2, July 8, 1847

A National Sham Battle.

A correspondent of the New Orleans Picayune, writing from Vera Cruz, communicates the following amusing and warlike intelligence:

“A singular piece of amusement was started out side one of the city gates yesterday morning by a party of about one hundred and twenty Mexican boys, from twelve to eighteen years old. They divided themselves into two equal parties – one to represent the American and other the Mexican army, and at it they went, with their captains in advance, one with the American and the other with the Mexican flag. Stones, bricks, dirt and sticks flew for about fifteen minutes in every direction, when both parties drew off, sent in commissioners, and arranged the matter, all making friends with the exception of the American captain, who had received a severe wound with a brickbat, and begged to be permitted to try adversary single-handed, saying be could lick the d-----d Mexicans in two minutes!”
WHO IS JAMES K. POLK:

This was the question propounded by the Whigs to the Loco Focos in 1844, after the nomination as a Candidate for the Presidency of the individual, whose name stands at the head of this article, and which was as exultingly answered by the latter after the election as being the “President of the United States!”

Now this reply of the Loco Focos had some truth in it, and was very well made at the time; but the writer of this still entertained doubts whether or not they really had *found out* who James K. Polk was. He was still impressed with the belief that James K. Polk was *something else* than merely “President of the United states”, but hoped that he might be disappointed in his anticipations. –But, alas! The day has arrived when he really (not to his surprise, but as he feared,) witnesses even more that he expected from the elevation to the Presidency of James K. Polk. And he does not suppose, but feels confident in the assertion, that the majority of the Loco Foco party have now *found out* what they *thought* they had along since!

They thought that they had *found out* who James K. Polk was, when he was elected “President of the United States;” but they now see he is *even more* than that. They have *found out* that he is the weakest-minded and most incompetent man who was ever attained the Presidency or this enlightened nation. And they have furthermore *found out*, among a thousand other things, that he has involved his Country in a most disgraceful, unholy and unjust war, which will not only result in burdening it with an immense debt, but will cost us the loss of many valuable lives.

The aged father and mother have *found out* who James K. Polk is, by being bowed down with grief through his instrumentality, for the loss of a dear son, whose life has been sacrificed on the battles-fields of Mexico. The son and daughter, and brother and sister, have *found out* who James K. Polk is, by being bathed in tears and caused to mourn, through his official acts, for the loss of a kind and affectionate father, or loving brother, whose life has been uselessly sacrificed fighting for his Country on the battle-fields of Mexico.

Yea, the WHOLE PEOPLE have *found out* who James K. Polk is, by being made to witness through his mal administration, an immense sacrifice of blood and treasure in an uncalled-for war, in a foreign land, waged against a weak and distracted people!

And who knows what is yet to be the end of the elevation to the Presidency of the United States of a man who was almost wholly unknown to the People? Who can divine the best or the worst? Before James K. Polk was elected President, it would have been considered madness and folly, by many of those very persons who have suffers the loss of many near and dear friends and relations, for any one to have predicted this result.

I said it would have been considered madness and folly, for any one to have predicted this result before the election of James K. Polk to the Presidency. –I should have said it *was considered* madness and folly, &c., as this result was *predicted* in the event of James K. Polk’s election, if he carried out the principles and rules laid down for him in the Baltimore Nominating Convention.

What did HENRY CLAY tell us before the election of James K. Polk? In reference to the *Texas question* –the rallying cry of the immaculate Democracy he said “war will be the consequence of the annexation of Texas at this time in the manner proposed.” And how does this prophecy agree with what Thomas H. Benton said “this war is the consequence of the annexation of Texas, at the time and in the manner in which it was done.”

It is melancholy, indeed, to contemplate the eventual *finding out* of such a man as James K. Polk, if thus far is only to be considered *an introduction*; but it is greatly to be feared, that before his “race is run”, he will be *found out* to the sorrow of many of those who have “ears to hear and would not hear”, and “eyes to see and would not see”.

BERKELEY.

[ MUL ]

TRIBUTES OF RESPECT

We have been polite favored with copies of the proceeding of the officers of the 2nd Battalion of Virginia Volunteers,
and of the men of Capt. Carrington's Company, in reference to the untimely death of their gallant fellow soldier, Lieut. Murford. The sympathy so generally felt by his companions in arms, has been most feelingly and appropriately expressed – and the communication of it in such kind terms, must touch deeply the hearts of relatives and friends. – Rich. Rep.

At a meeting of the officers of the 2nd Battalion of the Virginia Regiment, stationed at China, in the Province of New Leon, Mexico, convened on the 23d May, 1847, for the purpose of expressing their deep regret for the death of their brother officer and companion in arms, Lieut. CARLTON R. MUNFORD, -

Va. Reg't, Sect'y.

At a meeting of the members of Company G, second Battalion and first Regiment of Virginia Volunteers, held at their quarters in China, Mexico, on the 23d May, 1847:

Sergeant Lewellen having, in a few feeling and pertinent remarks, explained the object of the meeting, on his motion, private Samuel S. Pleasants was called to the Chari, and Andrew J. Didlake appointed Secretary. The Chairmen then, on motion, appointed a Comitee of three, composed of Sergeant Lewellen, and privates Ward and Hudnall, to prepare suitable resolutions, expressive of the sense of the Company, who having retired in a short time returned and submitted the following preamble and resolutions on which, motion, were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, in an unfortunate affair of honor, which took place at China, on the 20th inst., and which resulted in the death of Lieut CARLTON R. MUNFORD, we, the members of Company G, have assembled this morning to give some expression to our deep and heartfelt sorrow: Therefore,

Resolved, That in the death of Lieutenant MUNFORD we have each lost a sincere friend, and whose bravely, chivalry and firmness, we had the most implicit confidence, and to have followed whom to the field of battle and glory, would have been our greatest pride.

Resolved, That to have known Lieutenant was to love him, for in him is personified all that was generous, liberal, honorable and high-toned, which ennobles human character.

Resolved, That his memory will ever live fresh in our hearts, and while we believe that the grief, distress, anguish and loss to his family and numerous friends at home, will be inexpressibly and inconceivably great, we beg to mingle our feelings with theirs, and to offer our most sincere sympathies and condolence.

Resolved, That a copy of these proceedings be forwarded to the family to the deceased.

Resolved, also, That the proceedings of this meeting be forwarded to the Editors ot the Richmond Whig, Republican and Enquirer, with the request that they publish the same, and that they be copied by the papers trough out the State.

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

SAM'L PLEASEANTS, Ch'n.
AND J. DIDLAKE, Sec'y.

Bathing in Mexico.

The following is an extract from a letter from the camp of the Massachusetts volunteers, published in the Boston Transcript:

"You would be charmed with our encampment on account of the bathing, if nothing else. All the Matamoras females, high and low, bathe at least one each day - generally in the evening, soon after sunset, and as the current is too strong for their delicate limbs to contend against in the river, they resort to the lakes in the vicinity of the city -our lake being specially favored by them. Some of them are splendid swimmers, and I have seen one of them out swim at least eight of our officers.

"The Mexican men and women bathe promiscuously and it is laughable to see women take a lovesick swain and duck him till he is nearly to dead. I should consider that a perfect cure for the most obstinate case imaginable."

One scarcely wonders that the writer of the letter was "charmed with their encampment." It must have been a rare thing to see eight officers of the Massachusetts volunteers swimming after one Mexican woman. We wonder if it was in
one of these swimming matches that Col. Cushing broke his leg? –N. O. Picayune.

FROM THE STAUNTON SPECTATOR.

A LETTER FROM CAPT. K. HARPER.

BUENA VISTA, (Mexico,) June 2, 1847

Dear: I have already apprised you that the Augusta Volunteers left China on the 23d, in advance of the Battalion stationed at that place, to carry through dispatches to Gen. Taylor, and that we arrived at Monterey the 20th. On the same day, I received orders to proceed to this place with three other companies –Capt. Fairfax's (Va.,) and two North Carolina companies, Capt. Henry's and Capt. Blalock's. We took up the line of march about an hour before sun-set, and arrived here at 1 o'clock yesterday. As you may well suppose, we are all pretty well jaded, particularly the Augusta boys, who have a continuous march of ten days. The distance from China to this place is but about 145 miles, though the marches each day are of necessity very regular, on account of water. One day we had to go twenty-four miles, twenty of which were very great, but I do not see that any of them have sustained material injury. Most of the miserable catch-penny tin canteens which were issued to us have given out –may of them indeed leaked from the first, and I tried at Monterey to get others, but none were to be had, nor could I even get kegs to haul water.

The five other companies of the 2nd Battalion which we left at China, I presume are by this time on their way to join us. The 1st Battalion, now garrisoning Monterey, will also be up in a few days, being about to be relieved by the Massachusetts regiment. There are not many troops here at present, and there is considered to be a necessity for them.

The scenery about this place is quite picturesque, though I do not exactly recognize its claims on the name it bears, unless it be on account of the more extended view which it affords of the mountains. More sublime and elevated peaks are met with at many points along the road. The mountains in this part of Mexico are of a singular character. They seem to be of solid rock, rising hundreds of feet in sharp cones, without a particle of vegetation, unless it may be a scraggy bush, or patch of moss. There is nothing like timber on any of them that I have seen, and at this place, although there is a considerable stretch of plain intersected with a deep ravines, between the mountains, we have to send some fifteen miles for fuel for cooking purposes. The water though is excellent, the best I have met in Mexico, and the temperature moderate. There is generally a fine breeze in the day, and at night, it is cool enough sometimes for overcoats and blankets. The probability is that we shall remain here for some time, and the Mexicans have opened quite a market at our camp. We had green peas, salad, onions, apricots, and other things mornings. I ate green corn the day I was in Monterey.

I have not yet gone over the battle field. It lies just before our camp, and looking over it, it seems pretty much like a plain, though it is cut up with deep hollows, and somewhat undulated by spurs of the mountain running into it. Whether the Mexicans will try the fortune of war on the same theatre again, remains to be seen. It is said that communications have been made from Saltillo to them of the great reduction which has taken place in our force, but I hope by the time they are ready we shall be so also.

The country which we traversed on the march from China to this place is pretty much of the same character that I have heretofore described –dry, sterile, and uninviting, with here and there a bottom of a few thousand acres that are rendered fertile by irrigation. –Sereno's hacienda, 15 miles east of Cadareita, is a splendid place. I dined with that gentleman, and he had in store the best of wines and liquors. The most inviting sport, however, that I have met in Mexico, is the town of Cadareita. It is truly a beautiful place, and every thing about it is indicative of place, and every thing about it is indicative of cleanliness and taste. The houses are neat and comfortable, and the gardens filled with the fruits of the country –oranges, lemons, limes, figs, pomgranates, &c. I could but wonder, however, at the spirit of a people who could suffer a single company to march through their great plazas as enemies, in all the pomp and circumstance of war. We encamped just outside the town, on the bank of the river, and made a requisition on the Alcado for wood, which he promptly complied with. I afterwards called upon him, and found him to be very affable and gentlemanly in his manners. I enquired of him the population of the town, and he told me, that with in the district over which he presided, there were ten thousand inhabitants.

In the march from Monterey to this place there were few objects worthy of special note. Our first encampment was at the Mills, six miles this side. I was not in them, having arrived in the night, and leaving at day-light. I saw enough externally, however, to impress me very favorably with the works. The race or aqueduct is a splendid piece of masonry faced inside with a clear hard cement, as hard seemingly as the rock itself. There is also a beautiful basin or reservoir just beside the mill, about 120 feet square and three or four feet deep, constructed of stone, and plastered with the same cement at the sides and bottom. –what special use it was intended to serve, I did not learn. There was no water it at the time.

The Rinconada Pass was our nest encampment. Here, or rather just below the pass, there are several houses, mostly unoccupied, and the remains of a splendid garden filled with fruits, and flowers. There I saw apples, peaches, some of the largest fit trees I had met with loaded with fruit, and pomegranates, &c. Unfortunately none of the fruits were ripe, however, the flowers were the bunch and velvet roses, white lilies, and several other kinds that I was not acquainted
with, though, none of them very handsome. The garden was irrigated throughout. As I walked along its broad avenues, I could not but think of the gay and happy scenes no doubt often enjoyed by the youthful within its pleasant, bowers, and perhaps even now anxiously longed for, but to which war had put at least a temporary stop. It is probably the summer retreat of some wealthy family, I grieved to see here and there, the smooth trunk of some beautiful fig tree made the mark of some heedless riflemen.

The Rinconada Pass is one of the strongest and most easily defended against approach from the East that could well be conceived, and Gen. Taylor showed his wisdom in securing it to himself in the capitulation of Monterey. Against approach from this side, it would be of little value. Buena Vista is much better in that respect. This, I presume, is the reason why Gen. Taylor made his stand here, instead of falling back upon the pass, as many, who did not know the nature of the ground, thought he ought to have done.

The health of the company has suffered very little since I last wrote. We lost one in a bad way at China, (Preston Brown) though he was somewhat on the mend. We had to leave four at Monterey, two, (Merritt and Taylor,) with some legs, and two others with injuries (Clarke and Noon). We have three or four sick with us, but in this healthy location they must soon get well.

We are now at the very out post (we may say) of operations in this quarter, and the chance of communicating with us, I fear, will become more rare than they have been. –Whether we are to push farther or not, we are wholly unadvised. I shall try, however, always to have a letter ready, so that I may avail myself of any opportunity to forward it.

MG47v48n 20p 2c 2, July 15, 1847

Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot

WASHINGTON, July 8, 1847.

After the mail from the South had arrived here this evening, a rumor spread through the city that Gen. Scott had entered the capital of Mexico, after a dreadful battle, in which he lost eleven hundred men.

I took some pains to trace the rumor out but could find nothing connected with it bearing the impress of authenticity. In a few hours it was generally believed to be without foundation.

A member of the Administration informed me that the Government Express, which is run now at the same time and over the same ground that the Pony Express is, (so he informed me,) came through, but of course he did not give me the purport of the dispatches received.

That Gen. Scott has had or will have a severe battle, almost everyone now believes. This battle would have been avoided, no doubt, if the imbecile Administration had properly and suitable reinforces Generals Taylor and Scott.

Among other things they have aided in exasperation SANTA ANNA, no doubt the merited abuse of him by Gen. Scott, in his Proclamation, has contributed not a little. He has Scott now in the densest of the Mexican population. He knows, from the intercepted dispatches, that there will be no immediate junction of Taylor’s forces with those of Scott. He knows that Scott has less than 10,000 troops, and that he can raise 50,000 to oppose them. And he further knows that now or never is the time to strike, if he would redeem himself in the estimation of his countrymen, who seen just on the eve of comprehending the critical condition they and their nation are in.

Knowing these things, Santa Anna no doubt has struck or will strike a heavy blow at Gen. Scott. It is his last chance, and desperation is upon him! He may kill a long list of our brave men –but ultimately the treacherous tyrant must go down!

With greater anxiety than ever, everybody will now look for the nest news from the seat of war.

Mr. Polk and Mr. Buchanan, who started on their popularity hunting tour, in the belief, as I learn, that in a few days the treaty of peace they sent by Mr. Trist to Mexico would come back here properly signed and sealed, have got back to their stations and find no peace!

Tired, to surfeiting, of the war and its horrors and tremendous expenses, they would now, for a peace, most willingly take the back track, to a greater extent than they did on the Oregon question –but their pet and friend, Santa Anna, whom Mr. Polk, who might have honorably avoided the war, no doubt, but obstinately would not, can foresee!

The vacancy created in the Indian Agency by the death of Major William Armstrong, will likely enough be filled by the appointment of their a son of the late Major Armstrong, who is a young lawyer at St. Louis, of fine talents and character and of estimable worth, thought he is but twenty-three years of age, and therefore may be deemed to be too young –or of Major Arnold Harris, the son-in-law of General Robert Armstrong, who has been in the Indian country a great deal with the late Major Armstrong, and who, perhaps, is better acquainted and more familiar with his system of
Indian management than any man living.

Major Harris is now in his city, but I understand is willing and anxious to waive any claims he may posses, in favor of young Mr. Armstrong, to whom he thinks the station ought to be given, out of respect to his father, William, and his uncle Francis W. Armstrong, both of whom died Indian Agents, devoting their best energies to the welfare of our brethren, the aborigines!

If the appointment should no: be given to young Armstrong, on account of his youth, then Major Harris will probably receive it. He is eminently worthy of the high station, and would fill it with honor to the Government, satisfaction to the Indians who know him and like him, and credit to himself.

POTOMAC.

MG47v48n20p2c3, July 15, 1847.

GENERAL SCOTT.

A change, sudden as it is amusing, has come over the spirit of the dreams of our locofoco contemporaries, in regard to this illustrious individual. He, who but a few short months ago, was the devoted subject of the unmitigated censure and ridicule of these consistent gentlemen, (many of whom even went so far to laud the military sagacity evinced by the President in withholding from him the command of the army,) is now in their estimation "the great captain of the age;" his proclamation, though manifestly put forth in pursuance of the instructions of the administration is quoted as good democratic authority; and to one wholly ignorant of the practices of "the party", the chances in favor of "Soup Scott" for a nomination for the Presidency at the hands of a Baltimore Convention would seem to be any thing but inconsiderable. Could we, for a single moment, be induced to believe that there was an iota of sincerity in their loud professions of repentance, or that the recent displays of admiration and gratitude we have witnessed were prompted by aught else than a desire to use the "hero of Cerro Gordo" as a foil to the increasing popularity of the hero of Buena Vista, we could forgive the past, and have more faith in promises of good behavior for the future. Fortunately for the country however, the real friends of Gen. Scott are not such gudgeons as to be caught by these professions, even were it within the bounds of probability, that he could for a moment so far forget the principles to which he has ever exhibited the most devoted attachment, as to allow himself to be made the catspaw of Locofocoisin. "Surely the net is spread in vain in the sight of any bird," and it would be hard to convince Gen. Scott or his immediate friends, that his victories in Mexico have wrongly any decided change in the sentiments and feelings towards him, of the men who were so very oblivious of the gallantry and the patriotism which bared his breast to the murderous fire of the British columns at Niagara, as to make him the subject of their disgusting ribaldry and vituperation.

MG47v48n 20p 2c 5, July 15, 1847

LATER FROM MEXICO

FROM VERA CRUZ.

The National of the 5th says:

The barque Patheon, Capt. Williston, arrived here yesterday from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the morning of the 26th ult.

Capt. W. reports the steamship Galveston, Capt. Windle, as going into port as the Patheon was coming out. On the 27th ult. 150 miles to the N.E. of Vera Cruz, say the steamship Galveston, hence for that port.

The same paper has the following paragraph:

IMPORTANT, IF TRUE. –Just as our paper was going to press, we were informed by a gentleman in whom we have every confidence that a report from the city of Mexico, last night, that a dysentery of a malignant character had broken out among our troops at Puebla, and that it is believed the Mexican vendors of milk, pulque, liquors, etc., poisoned those articles with a certain poisonous vegetable, which grows in the neighborhood.

We believed the rumor entitle to credit, and hope Gen. Scott will hear of it in time to prevent an extension of the diabolical plot.

[MUL]
LATER NEWS FROM SANTA FE.

An extra from the office of the St. Louis Republican of the 6th inst. Contains the following intelligence from Santa Fe:

Another Battle with Mexicans and Indians – Two American’s killed and three wounded. – Loss of Government Cattle
Arrival of Col. Russell from California.

We conversed this morning with Mr. Murphy, as intelligent gentleman, just from Santa Fe. He left on the 29th of May, and furnishes us with details of very interesting occurrences in New Mexico.

On the 27th of May an engagement took place at the Red River canon, 150 miles south east of Santa Fe, between a detachment of about 175 men, under Major Edmondson, and a band of Mexicans and Apache Indians, supposed to number 400 men. These men were combined together for the purpose of committing depredations on American property, and a few days previous bad succeeded in stealing 150 horses from traders and others.

Major Edmondson had been ordered out for the purpose of routing them. At the place indicated he came upon the enemy rather suddenly, and not very advantageously. He has crossing a slough at the mouth of the canon, was very miry, and many of his horses being in a weak condition, he was forced to abandon them. The engagement commenced on foot and lasted some two hours.

It is not known how many of the enemy were killed; two Americans were killed, and a third was wounded and reluctantly left on the ground when the retreat was ordered. – Lt. Elliott, in command of 27 men, principally Laclede Rangers, rendered very efficient service at this juncture. He occupied a point of rocks, and kept the enemy from advancing upon the retreating forces, until they had got out of a difficult position. He had two men wounded, M. Wash and J. Eldridge but not dangerously. All the horses were shot down or captured.

On the 2d of June, Lt. Col. Willock, with 115 men, was met on his march from Taos, in pursuit of the Mexican and Indian forces. He had got upon their trail, and was resolved upon an engagement with them.

We are sorry to heat that a garrison of only fifteen soldiers were left at Taos, all of whom were on the sick list. Col. Price was at Santa Fe, with portions of several companies of volunteers. Of this movements and plan we know nothing.

Mr. Murphy met Mr. Wethered, some other traders and two Government trains of wagons at the crossing of the Pawnee Fork. They had been detained there fort three or four days by a freshet in the river, which prevented them from fording it. At this point the Indians annoyed them very much, and succeeded in killing a hundred and fifty head of cattle belonging to the Government train (under charge of Capt. Belt, wagon master) and Mr. Goodrich, of this city, also lost 27 animals in the same way.

The cattle were all speared and their tails cut off close, to be used as trophies of victory. A Mr. Smith of Platte County, who was on guard at the time received seven spear wounds, one of which struck him in the throat, but it was the opinion of the physician who was along, that he would recover.

About this time, or shortly after, this party, who were traveling the River road, heard the discharge of cannon on the Ridge road, and as a train of Government wagons, having a piece of artillery with them, were on that route, it is supposed that an attack had been made upon them by the Indians.

Lieut. Love’s command of dragoons, with the money for the pay of the troops at Santa Fe, was met a few hours travel from the Pawnee Fork, going on well.

Col. Wm. H. Russell, Secretary of the Territory of California, came in with Mr. Murphy, and is the bearer of dispatches from Col. Fremont for the Government at Washington.

Col. R., we learn, stopped at his residence in Calloway county, to see his family. He may be looked for in this city in a day or two, and we then expect a full account of the operations in California.

Mr. Murphy heard nothing of the news brought to Westport by the "Delaware Indian," some days ago, of the attack upon a train of Government wagons, and the killing of some fifty teamsters and others, near Walnut Creek. It is, therefore, presumed to be totally unfounded.

INDEPENDENCE, July 2, 1847

This morning Col. Russell, Secretary of the Territory of California, arrived at this place with a party of eighteen men. He states that the Indians are growing worse upon the plains, and he had three lights with them during his march.

It is expected that the companies and wagon trains, now going out will be attacked, as the Indians are said to be
collecting together for the purpose of committing depredations on the trains.
[MUL]

MG47v48n21p2c1, July 22, 1847.

FROM VERA CRUZ AND MEXICO.

Attack on Tabasco – The Guerrillas –Santa Anna raising Forced Loans—Preparations for Defending the City of Mexico, &c., &c.

The U. S. steamship Alabama, Capt. Windle, arrived at New Orleans on the morning of the 7th inst. From Vera Cruz, having sail on the 4th. The New Orleans Times (extra) of the 7th inst, has received full files of Vera Cruz papers to the 1st inst., together with several letters from their correspondant, Indicator, which are subjoined.

Our latest dates from the city of Mexico, by this arrival, are the 19th ult. Which reached Vera Cruz on the 30th, by a Merchant’s express. The news, however, is very meager, Santa Anna, it is said, has demanded a forced loan of one million of dollars, and is raising the money at the point of the bayonet. A letter states that the work of fortifying the approaches to the capital is proceeding vigorously, but the writer adds that a great lack of judgment is displayed in the selection of positions for defense.

We learn verbally that the British Courier reached Vera Cruz on the night of the 1st inst. but as the Alabama sailed at daylight, on the following morning; no news; if any, was received through that medium, had inspired. The Courier probably left the city of Mexico, on the 26th or 27th ultimo.

Singular as it may seem, it appears that no later intelligence has been received at Vera Cruz from the army. At all events, our correspondent makes no allusion to the advance of Gen. Scott, who, it is presumed, is still at Puebla, waiting for the reinforcements.

We make the following extracts from the correspondence of the Times:

VERA CRUZ, June 28, 1847. –I hear nothing of the project of changing the government depot from this city to Tuspan, and hope the notion, if it were entertained has fallen through.

Jalapa I believe, has been entirely abandoned by our troops; and, indeed we this evening have intelligence that the guerrillas have taken possession of that city. Whether this is true or not, the virtual abandonment which has taken place, evinces a strange indifference in General Scott as to the safety of his communications. I thought a general always secured his rear when advancing into a country even at great sacrifices of force in his main division –but I here find a very different policy to govern. Vera Cruz has less than three hundred men in her garrison. The National Badge, Encerro and Cerro Gordo certainly, and Jalapa probably, are not at all guarded, and the country is flooded with the native enemy.

Lieut. ---- Merrifield, of Capt. Ford’s company of Indiana Dragoons, this morning blow his brains out with a pistol, at the camp near the [. . . ]. No one can tell what impelled him to the foolish dead.

The health of the city has suffered little change for the past week or two, and all circumstances considered, may be pronounced good. The mortality has averaged lee than ten daily within the time mentioned.

The work of fortifying the approaches to the city is proceeding vigorously, but one of the letters state, thus great want of judgments is shown in the selections of propositions for defense. The writer says, that the strongest fortifications are placed exactly where the Yankees are sure not to pass, whilst the most important points are left nearly open. The letters are very cautiously written, except the one which gives us this intelligence; and these are about all the remarks which it contains on the subject of general interest. The dates are up to the 18th only. The British Courier will bring news as late as the 26th, and I hope will be in this evening. His letters will probably be unsealed, and I am afraid destitute of political interest, and it is possible to learn anything from him personally.

Commodore Perry and his squadron arrived at Anton Lizardo last evening, from his expedition against Tabasco. Upon his arrival at the entrance of the river, he found that a short distance up, chevaux de frise had been sunk so as to render the passage of his vessels impracticable. He consequently landed his men and his lighter guns, and commenced his march to the town. This was a most tedious business, but the managed to get ahead at the rate of one knot per hour until he reached the neighborhood of the town, where he found the enemy of tars into a very respectable column ready to receive him. Drawing up his army of tars into a very respectable column, he advanced within musket range, when he received the enemy’s fire, and instantly opened upon them his artillery, charged with grape and canister. The Mexicans did not fire again –Perry’s single volley scattered them to the winds. Horses with the stampede could not get over the ground as they did. –Some three or four of our men were wounded, but I believe none were killed. Lieut. May lost an arm, and I believe one other officer only was badly wounded.

None of the officers of the squadron have yet been in town, and I have these particulars at second-band, although
We learn that Padre Jarauta an the authorities of the State are at war, they having quarreled about a division of the spoils taken in the attack upon Col. McIntosh’s train. –Jarauta sent the money seized (some $6000) to Soto, the Governor of Huatusco, who declined to return more than some $600 for distribution among the guerrillas. This lead to a grand row in which I believe Santa Anna has interfered, and will perhaps settle the matter by taking the whole amount for himself.

July 1st. –I am favored by a gentleman here with the perusal of a letter which he had received from a very intelligent American resident of Puebla, and from which I take the liberty to make some extracts, which I conceive to possess much interest.

The writer says: “I do not know whose plan or direction our Generals are following, and as it is not my business, and beyond my means of remedy, I do not enquire, but limit myself to the remark that those who direct the war know nothing of the state of the country or of the people upon whom they are making war, nor do I believe they wish to know, or they could look upon the subject from the only true point of view.

It is well known all over the world that this country has been growing more insignificant ever since its independence, and that when the war commenced, it could not properly be called a nation, nor could not properly be called a nation, nor could that shadow in the city of Mexico be called a government. Yer foreing nations, and the United States in particular, talk of the Mexican nation, an the Mexican government, as if such a thing existed.

They then talk of destroying the commerce and industry of the country, as if these people ever possessed the one of the other. The Spaniards are the only people who ever rendered the wealth of the country at all available, and when they were driven out of it with their money, the original natives and Creoles never thought for supporting themselves by labor and industry of any kind, except the industry or robbing, &c.

There! My letter is gone. The Alabama is getting up steam and, the owner send it to headquarters. Well, perhaps the Union will have a proper effect. The writer says he has no hopes of peace, and refers to the war of the Mexican independence for an example of the bull-dog tenacity with which the people hold on to the war while they have it. He thinks the only course left for the Americans is, to occupy the country with a large army, and use it; that the people generally are not against the Americans, but it will no answer to express their feeling on the subject.

An express is just in from the interior, with the most interesting and rather unexpected intelligence, that Gen. Scott with the army under his command, is in the city of Mexico. I am sorry to say, however, that the courier who brings the news left Puebla on the 12th inst… while we have letters from the city of Mexico up to the 19th. There is, of curse, no truth in the report, that is, no news has arrived from the army or capitol later than we had before.

Yours, very respectfully
INDICATOR.

THAT SAME OLD COON

A paper, favorable to the election of General Taylor, is to make its appearance in New York.

Yours &c.
THAT SAME OLD COON
Persons favoring us with their advertisement, will please hand them in, on or before Tuesday morning at 10 o’clock.

"Why don’t they take him down? Rockingham Register.

This is the passionate exclamation of more than one despairing votary of the spoils party, in relation to the editors who persist in retaining the name of General Taylor at the head of their columns, as the Whig candidate for the Presidency. The frantic earnestness with which this question is reiterated on all sides by the Locofoco press, affords the most cheering evidence of the popularity of the hero of Buena Vista with the people. The zeal with which the Enquirer and other Democratic Journals set about the task of convincing the Whigs that Gen. Taylor is not the man to suit us, -that “the election of Old Zach will prove another Tyler victory,” and that the Signal letter was intended by its author to repel the advances of the Whig party.

MARYLAND BATTALION

The Washington Union says – We learn that the battalion of volunteers under the command of Lieut. Co. Hughes, raised mainly from the District of Columbia and State of Maryland, are under orders for immediate transportation so the active seat of war. It is intended that Col. H. Skall open the road from Vera Cruz to Jalapa, and to occupy that important town for the purpose of securing Gen. Scott’s line of operation. With this view, the battalion will be greatly increased. At least one company will be taken from Carlisle, Pennsylvania; and other (if its organization should be speedily completed) from Wilmington, Delaware; besides a battery of field artillery from Baltimore. Other independent companies may, perhaps, be added to it as fast as they are ready. The addition of a squadron of mounted men would be very desirable –thus forming, in fact, a copse of what is called in European armies, “eclaireurs” admirably adapted to a guerrilla warfare; but we understand that there is some practical difficulty apprehended in the transportation of horses at this season of the year, for so long a voyage, which may prevent such an organization. At it is, it will form a beautiful and we doubt not, a most efficient command, well calculated to do good service. In the organization of this force, the President has, from the beginning, taken a deep and almost paternal interest, and has evinced a disposition to render it as useful as possible; and now shows his continued interest and confidence in the battalion, by assigning to it a most distinguished and honored duty.

We understand that, of the six companies now at Fort McHenry, four will be shipped for Vera Cruz on the 22d instant, and the others as soon thereafter as possible.

MG47v48n 21p2c1, July 22, 1847.

Anecdote of Gen. Taylor

The remains of Col. Hardin and Lieut. B. R. Houghton reached St. Louis on the 7th instant; in charge of the returning Illinois volunteers. These brave men were feelingly addressed by John M. Eager, Esq., who was replied to in an appropriate manner by Major Richardson, of the volunteers. The coffins containing the ashes of the gallant dead were borne in procession to the Court House, and placed in the Rotunda on a catafalque, covered with black, relieved at the borders and edges by white black relieved at the borders and edges by white lace, and surmounted at the summit with a row of cannon. The Rotunda was darkened and lamps lighted, producing a very solemn effect and giving a highly impressive character to the ceremonies. The assembly were addressed here by the Rev. Mr. Van Court and Mr. Benton, in a brief but very appropriate manner. The procession was then re-formed, and moved to the river bank, where the remains were committed to the steamboat Defiance, to be carried to Meredosia, and thence to their last resting place, in Jacksonville, Illinois.

We state this fact upon the authority of a gentleman who had it from the Mississippi volunteers. Such conduct adds a new luster to the old hero’s radiant fame, brighter than any which the most brilliant deeds of arms could impart.

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The American Marines at Havana.

"A most sad and painful spectacle," says the Memphis Eagle of 27th ult.) was the public funeral in this city, on Saturday
evening, of Lieut. Gill and his father, at one and the same time. Young Gill was a lieutenant in the first company of volunteers from Memphis, and fell with many others while gallantly advancing to the charge at Cerro Gordo. His father, Mr. Lyman Gall, grieved at his son's death, repaired to Mexico to bring hither his remains, and bury them among his kindred, in his own country. In returning home he sickened and died.

The following toast was drank at Sumterville, S.C. on the 4th of July:

General Taylor, "Old Rough and Ready." "Well done thou good and faithful servant! We one put thee over few things – we will now make thee Ruler over many."

MG47v48n22p2c3, July 29, 1847.

The Gazette

GEN'L. TAYLOR AND THE WHIGS.

An absurd story has been going the rounds of the locofoco press, - in fact some of the have derived so much consolation from it that they have published it more that once, -the substance or which is, that Gen. Taylor on being shown a Whig paper containing his nomination for the Presidency, flew into a violent passion, and swore that such persons were no friends of his, and that the editor who expressed the opinion that the war might have been avoided with honor to the country, "was worse than a Mexican," &c. No responsible name was ever connected with the statements, and the only answer vouchsafed to the earnest demand for the author, was, that the story first appeared in the columns of "a highly respectable Democratic paper in Pennsylvania." The miserable shifts to which locofocoism is driven was exemplified by the fact that this bald humbug was actually twice paraded in the columns of the Richmond Enquirer; to be sure, the editors would not say in express terms that they believe it if he could. We won have it in our power to present our readers with a refutation of the calumny upon no less authority that that of Gen. Taylor himself. We commend to the serious attention of the reader the italics in the first resolution, and the reply of the General.

At a Whig meeting held at Trenton, the following resolution was passed:

"Resolved, That the character of Gen. Taylor for plain spoken honesty, assures us that he will never disappoint the expectations nor betray the confidence of his countrymen; that soundness of his principles; and that it authorizes us to confide in his fidelity to the protective system, and his opposition to the acquisition of new territories, wherewith to destroy the balance of the Union."

And the nest and last resolution declared that therefore, the meeting nominated him for President:

In reply to these resolutions Gen. Taylor thus writes:

"I have the honor to acknowledge, with sentiments of high gratification, the receipt of a copy of the resolutions recently adopted at a meeting of the Democratic Whigs of the county of Mercer nJ.

"My thanks are specially due to my friens of the State of New Jersey for their flattering expression of approval and esteem, and which I can assure them is as truly reciprocated.

"I embrace this occasion to remark that if the people of the country desire to place me in the high office of the Chief Magistry, I do not fell myself at liberty to refuse; but on the contrary, in that position, as wall as one more humble, it will ever be my pride as constant endeavor to serve the country with a ll the ability I posses."

Upon a previous occasion General Taylor gave a favorable response to resolutions at a meeting held in the same city.

The acceptance (says the Richmond Times) of a nomination, avowedly based upon assurances derived from Gen. Taylor's past political course, which consisted only in belonging to the Whig party, and (more specially still) upon confidence "in his fidelity to the protective system, and his opposition to the acquisition of the new territories," seem to be a step too unequivocal to have been inconsiderately or unintelligibly taken. Until some respectable contradiction of the inference is made, the public must believe from a comparison of this letter with the New Jersey resolution, that Gen. Taylor is willing to be a Whig candidate, committed to the protective policy, and against the appropriation of Mexican territory.

[FOR THE GAZETTE.]
$ 2,000,000 vs. $3,000,000.

As there has been considerable enquiry as to what purpose James K. Polk intended applying the $2,000,000, asked for and obtained at the last session of Congress, I think that if particular attention be paid to the following facts, perhaps a little of the "why and where fore" may be "found out."

It was thought somewhat singular that Mr. Polk should ask Congress for $2,000,000. for the immediate use of Mexico, specially when contrasted with the loud denunciatory language which had so lately declares our purpose of war, invasion and conquest against that same Republic. He informed Congress that he has proposed negotiations to Mexico, and as it would be nothing but right to pay any connections of territory which the Mexican Government might make, he desired to have $2,000,000 in hand –suggesting that "it might not be convenient for the Government to wait for the whole sum until the treaty could be ratified by the Senate and the appropriations made by Congress."

Now it has been very strongly hinted that these $2,000,000 have been safely transmitted to SANTA ANNA for his own use –and if SANTA ANNA'S past life is to be taken as a criterion and Mr. Polks weakness as evidence, I do not think it at all improbable but that SANTA ANNA has the $2,000,000 snug enough.

As Mr. Polk perhaps would be considered the only person in the United States who could ever have originated such an idea as that of attempting to bridge such a man as SANTA ANNA –a man who has always been hostile towards the United States –the following incident may probably bring to light something that many persons were not aware of: In speaking of the Texas war, in 1836, in which Genls. HOUSTON AND SANTA ANNA were opposing commanders, the Louisville City Gazette (of that year-'36) says that "these opposing commanders are OLD FRIENDS" and that when SANTA ANNA was in exile, they were engaged in attempting to negotiate a loan of three millions, for the purpose of conquering Texas and Mexico.

So we see that Genls. HOUSTON and SANTA ANNA are friends –but we do not know exactly where to place SANTA ANNA. Would it be "folly" to suppose that perhaps HOUSTON and SANTA ANNA are friends again? If so, why should not POLK and SANTA ANNA be good friends, when HOUSTON and POLK are friends? Probably HOUSTON has been the mediator, and that at his suggestion POLK has been induced to attempt to bride SANTA ANNA with the $2,000,000. When we look at the principal actors in the premises, things wear a suspicious aspect.

We first see Houston and SANTA ANNA endeavoring to obtain a loan from this Government for the purpose of conquering Texas and Mexico. We than see SANTA ANNA recalled at the head of the Mexican Government. We then see Texas declare herself independent of Mexico. We then see the "old friends", HOUSTON and SANTA ANNA the opposing commanders in the war originating from this declaration of independence by Texas. We see HOUSTON triumphant and SANTA ANNA a prisoner of war. We afterwards find SANTA ANNA back in Mexico in private life –then in power and finally see Mr. POLK give SANTA ANNA a free pass to Mexico, where he now is at the hearth of the Mexican army fighting our Country.

[Mel]
The Republicano remarks upon this information: "We believe that Americans have compromised their situate on beyond measure; and even in the event, certainly very difficult, that they win triumphs upon triumphs, their very victories will cause their ruin.

The council above spoken of was held on the 24th. It is not alluded to in the Star of Puebla of the 26th, nor in Mr. Kendall’s letters which come down to the 80th. Yet the facts are said to be derived from a responsible source and they look plausible –General Worth’s opinions particularly so. The Republicano of the 29th says nothing about the subject, but in that paper of the 30th is another postscript to which is prefixed in large letters “Very Important”. This postscript mentions the receipt of letters announcing the debarkation of 1800 men at Vera Cruz from Tampico, who had marched immediately for Puebla. (This is probably Gen. Cadwallader’s detachment.) The letters further said that Gen. Scott had already ordered the march of the first brigade, consisting of fifteen hundred troops with ten guns and a mortar, towards the city of Mexico, when he learned that the train was detained at Nopalucan (forty-two miles this side of Puebla, and fifty-one beyond Perote;) that he therefore countermanded the march upon Mexico, and dispatched a force to the assistance of the train up. The letters then speak of the review of the troops which took place on the 26th. The number of troops is again set down at 9500 men without including those who occupy the fortifications of San Juan, Loreto, &c. But the most important paragraph is that Gen. Scott would probably postpone his march on the city until the 10th July, to allow these reinforcements to come up. We will these various pieces of news as we find them, but the reader will constantly bear in mind that our advices from Puebla are later than these by the city of Mexico.

The Republicano, in this same postscript, thinks it very probable that Gen. Taylor will abandon Saltillo, Matamoros and other towns in the North of Mexico, and shortly proceed to Vera Cruz to assist in the taking on the capital, which is now, it adds, the object of the aspirations of the Americans. It is very anxious that the Government should direct Gena. Valencia and Salas, now at San Luis, that they harass the retreat of Gen. Taylor.

Our readers may recollect that some time since our correspondent at Saltillo informed us of a great excitement occasioned there by the arrival of two Mexican officers from San Luis with dispatches from Gen. Taylor –They were supposed to be propositions of peace, but turned out to be solemn inquiries whether it was the General’s intention “to conduct the war according to the manner adopted by the Comanches.” The wrath of Gen. Taylor at this preposterous insolence of the Mexicans was descried as ludicrous, but we have never seen his reply till now. In the Mexican papers lately received the whole correspondence is given in Spanish. The letter to Gen. Taylor was from Gen. Mora y Villamil, and dated the 10th May. The letter is long and we have no idea of translating it, and the impudence of it was not a whit exaggerated by our correspondent.

The New Orleans Times of the 15th inst., has the following intelligence. We do not see it mentioned in any other paper.

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MG47v48n22p2c7, July 29, 1847.

MOST IMPORTANT.

Again a Rejection of the Olive Branch.

MEXICO DECLINES TREATING

At the moment when the Galveston was leaving Vera Cruz, a courier, with the mail from the capital, entered the city, bringing dates to the 5th instant. The principal item of intelligence brought from the city of Mexico, is of a momentous character, viz: The Mexican Congress, with some difficulty, had been brought together, and Mr. Buchanan’s communication, containing the President’s overtures for peace, was laid before them.

Their decision was immediate, and to the effect that Mexico would listen to no terms to peace. Gen Scott left Puebla, at the head of his army, for the capital, on the 30th ult. –We received this news to believe that it is authentic.

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MG47v48n22p2c7, July 29, 1847.

STILL LATER NEWS FROM MEXICO.

The New Orleans Times of the 19th instant, received last night, has the following paragraph:

As some of our contemporaries affect to doubt the correctness of the news from Mexico, in reference to the rejection of propositions for peace, which we laid before our readers exclusively on Thursday last, we have merely to reiterate that the account is reliably authentic and that we have in our possession later dates from the capital than those of the 30th.
June, alluded to on the arrival of the Galveston. A morning paper will discover by and by that the news is not “all in my eye.”

The editors of the New Orleans Times have been favored with the following extract of a letter dated.

TABASCO, June 30, 1847

We have been far from tranquil ever since the departure of Commodore Perry; small parties of men having entered to town at night and fired upon the sentries.

This has led to the burning, the day before yesterday, of about two hundred houses, at the back and south end of the city, by order of our government and military commander. Yesterday reinforcements of about 110 marines and sailors were sent up by Com. Perry from the bar, and this morning about 250 men have gone out to try and meet some of the Mexican forces that are in this neighborhood, and drive them away.

The city remains deserted, and no business at all doing, and all our single shop in the place being opened, and all our usual supplies from the neighborhood suspended. We understand Com. Perry has declared his intention to retain possession of this city, unless we received orders to the contrary from the Government in Washington.

July 1. –The results of the expedition yesterday appears to have been in favor of the Americans, but with a loss of two men killed in ambush, and four wounded. The Mexican force waited for them in ambush at Tamulite, but after about twenty minutes’ firing retired it is not yet known with what loss.

MG47v48n22p3c3, July 29, 1847. FROM THE N. Orleans Delta, July 16.

LATE FROM BUENA VISTA, SALTILLO, MONTEREY, &c.

We had the pleasure of a conversation with Dr. Johnson, of Gen. Wool’s staff, who arrived in the Palmetto evening before last, direct from Gens. Wool and Taylor’s camp, having left Saltillo on the 27th June. Dr. Johnson acted as an Aid of Gen. Lane at Buena Vista, and was severely wounded –having been lanced and sacred, and otherwise so injured as to make his recovery almost a miracle.

Dr. Johnson reports that Gen. Wool was encamped on the classic field of Buena Vista, with a force of 2700 men, consisting of the Virginia, Mississippi and North Carolina volunteers, and Sherman’s Washington’s and Prentiss’s batteries.

Gen Taylor is still at his favorite old camping ground, the Walnut Springs, quietly waiting until the Government furnishes him with men and means to advance on San Luis. Gen. Taylor has with him the 19th regiment, Bragg’s battery, and two squadrons of dragoons.

At Camargo, Gen Hopkins has about 2000 troops of the new levies. About the 13th June, Gen. Wool received notice that a force of about 1000 cavalry, under Gens. Alvarez and Minon, had left Matehuala, and advanced within sixty miles of Buena Vista. This party constituted the advance of a strong division which, it is reported by the Mexicans, was about to advance from San Luis Potosi under Gens. Valencia and Salas. By the last accounts from San Luis, there were but four or five thousand troops there, but Valencia expected to be joined by a strong force from Zacatecas.

The citizens are generally returning to the towns occupied by our troops. In Saltillo and Monterey nearly all the respectable families have returned, and everything goes on very smoothly and quietly. The people generally are warmly desirous of a peace, and begin to prefer the American Government to their own. Especially in the town of Zacatecas does the anti-war feeling prevail to a great extent. At a public dinner in that town some time ago, Gen. Taylor and the American army were toasted with great applause.

[MUL]

MG47v48n22p3c7, July 29, 1847, A SKIRMISH WITH THE INDIANS.

Correspondence of the Cour. and Enquirer.

Camp on the Banks of the Arkansas River.

320 miles from Fort Leavenworth, June 27, 1847.

I have only time to inform you now, by express, that our party was attacked by the Comanche Indians at daylight yesterday morning, and that in a charge made by twenty-five of the company of Dragoons ten were killed and
wounded, viz, five killed, three severely and two slightly wounded, the Indians numbering about three hundred: and it
required a greater part of the company to protect the camp, else the whole would have made the charge. One hundred
and thirty five yoke of cattle belonging to a Government train, which joined our party a few days since, were driven off
and killed by the Indians. What loss was sustained but the Indians it was impossible to ascertain, as they carried off
the killed and wounded. It is said that there are some Northern Mexicans with these Comanches. –Be this as it may, it
is evident that their whole object is to cut off trains and destroy United States property. This is no doubt a part of the
guerrillas warfare. The amount of public property which we have heard of destroyed on this road, in the last eight days,
will amount to very nearly $10,000.

J.K.D.

[MG47v48n22p2c7, July 29, 1847]

Gen. Taylor and the Whigs.

The "Democratic Advocate," a Locofoco paper published at Baton Rouge, the residence of Gen. Taylor, states
unequivocally that Gen. Taylor was “opposed to the annexation of Texas on constitutional grounds”, and that “he thinks
the war with Mexico could and ought to have been avoided.” In this opinion he concurs with the Whig party. –Raleigh
Register.

[MG47v48n22p3c1, July 29, 1847, VOLUNTEER FARE]

Every patriotic young man, who has been to Mexico in search of glory, and "to see the elephant," complains of the
miserable fare which the commissaries gave them. These inhospitable caterers are so anxious to make the profits as
large as possible, that their treatment of the volunteers reminds me of the old anecdote: "John, don't give Cousin
Simmon's horses too many oats you know they have hay," "Yeth thur," said John moving towards the barn. "And, hark
ye, John, don't give them too much hay –you know they have oats."

[MG47v48n23c1, Thursday, August 5, 1847]

Important from Mexico

General Scott still at Fuestal. Rumored appointment of Peace Commissioners by the Mexican government.

[JM]

Thursday, August 5, 1847 MG47v48n23c1 14 words

Important from Vera Cruz

{From the N.O. Picayune}

Arrival of the Steamship New Orleans.


The steamship New Orleans, Capt. Auld, arrived at an early hour on the 22d ult., from Vera Cruz via Tampico and the
Brazos. Her latest dates from Vera Cruz are on the 17th inst. Her news is very important. First of all we give Capt.
Auld's report, by which it will be seen that he left Vera Cruz for this port as early as the 14th and the returned thither,
going no further than Tampico:

Report of the U.S. Steamship New Orleans, Edward Auld, commander, from Vera Cruz, via Tampico and the Brazos:

On her departure from Vera Cruz on the morning of the 14th inst, General Pierce, with his command of detachments
from the 3d Dragoons, 4th Artillery, 3d Infantry and the 7th, 8th, 9th, and 14th infantry, a detachment of voltiguers and
a large detachment of marines, amounting to 2500 men and 150 wagons, had taken up their lines of march towards
Puebla.
We arrived in Tampico on the morning of the 15th inst. At 8 o'clock. Col. Gates informed us the two hundred American prisoners who had been released from the city of Mexico had been ordered down to Tampico and recaptured by Gen. Garay at or near Huejile, about ninety or one hundred miles up the river, and Col. DeRussy with detachments of Louisianna volunteers, parts of Capt. Wyne's company . . . [rest of article illegible].

Thursday, August 5, 1847 MG47v48n23c4 397 words

Printers in Mexico

The Lynchburg Virginian gives the following extracts of a letter who was lately an apprentice in the Virginian Office, and who is now a Volunteer in Capt. Carrington's Company:

Buena Vista, June 17th, '47

We are now in Saltillo, at least beyond there, encamped on the ground of Buena Vista, and I can assure you it is one of the greatest fields on which was ever battle fought.-It is a beautiful plain, bounded on the east by Cordilleras, on the west by the same, on the north by Saltillo, and the south, about six miles from the ground, by the Dead Man's Pass, which could be defended with 500 men against 50,000. In the center of the encampment is a large live oak tree, from the foot of which flows a limpid brook large enough to turn a mill which the Americans have erected upon its waters, and which is the only one I have seen in Mexico. In fact, the Mexicans have no use for a mill; they mash, or pound, all of their corn, which labor devolves upon the Senorittas, the men being of very lazy disposition. We have a fine market here now, at which you may purchase nearly all the delicacies and necessaries of life. We have here all the tropical fruits, and some of the largest water melons in the world. I have no hardships to undergo now as I had a month or two ago, as I have been appointed Company Commissary Sergeant, and am excused from drill and standing . . . [illegible] . . . and all I have to do now is to make off requisitions, draw and issue provisions, which occupies only about half my time. There was quite a remarkable circumstance connected with a permit I had a few days ago, which I enclose to you, and which shows the strength of the craft in our battalion. The permit was written for myself, a printer, by D.A. Stofer, Sergeant Major, who is a printer; signed by Lt. J. Richard Lewellwn, who is a printer; countersigned by Capt. Harper, who is a printer; and the two men who accompanied me for the meat were printers; the whole being undersigned, and not noticed till the day after. I am very tired of playing soldier, for it seems that the Virginia regiment is doomed to go home without a brush, and I am heartily tired of it.

Thursday, August 12, 1847, MG47v48n24ip1c4 1,116 words

The Fourth in the army

The correspondent of the New Orleans Picayune, writing from Monterey, says the natal day of American Independence was celebrated at that place, without accident, and every thing went off pleasantly and agreeably to all concerned. The morning of the 5th was cloudy and portended rain, but the bright sun soon dispelled the heavy mist that clung to the mountain's side, and ere noon the heavens were as clear and bright as a lovely women's smile. Early in the forenoon the American ensign was displayed from the Governor's quarters and the Spanish flag from the residence of the Spanish consul nearly opposite. The five companies of Massachusetts volunteers were assembled all but the guard, with the colors of the regiment presented them by the Governor of their State, and a little after 9 o'clock they formed and marched out towards Camp Taylor. An American flag borne by a citizen was carried near the regimental colors. Col. Wright and the members of the regimental staff, and others preceded the regiment, and on the road received the marching salute.- At Camp Taylor all was ready; under the wide-spread awning in front of Gen. Taylor's tent were the brave old hero and the members of his staff and the officers attached to the forces stationed at camp. On the right of the awning the soldiers of Major Bragg's Light Artillery were drawn up in line, on the left the 2d Dragoons, and in front the Massachusetts regiment. As soon as the latter had formed into line, Gen. Cushing made his appearance and Gen. Taylor and his officers all rose.

We omit the bulk of the speech of Gen. Cushing which is not remarkable for anything but its fulsome laudation of the present administration, copying only his closing remarks which called forth Gen. Taylor's reply:

Once more, General, in the name and as the humble instrument of your fellow soldiers and fellow citizens, whom you see before you, I tender to you their felicitations on the occasion of this auspicious anniversary, with sentiments of admiration for the high achievements which have marked your life, of deep respect, for you personally, and of the sincerest aspirations for your future happiness and honor in whatever else of danger or duty you may hereafter be called to by the providence of an all-wise God.

Gen. Tayor, who had listened with great attention to the remarks of Gen. C., and evidently powerfully affected by the mention of his name, briefly, but feelingly, responded as follows:
General- In reply to your eloquent and complimentary allusions to the services of the army under my command, I can only briefly express my thanks and those of the brave men of my command, to whose exertions and gallantry alone our successes are due. For myself I can claim no merit beyond that of sharing and encountering danger with them. You have traced up and depicted in most faithful colors the rapid progress of our country from the commencement to its present condition of greatness and prosperity—occupying the front rank in the nations of the world. The existing war may show the world that in great national enterprises and interests we are firm and united—and that the flower of our country, without distinction of party, is ready to . . . [illegible].

. . . ... to the exertions of Capt. Glover, a merchant residing here for some years, one of the committee of arrangements, whose peculiar province was to see that nothing should be wanting. He performed his duty to perfections.

When the substantials had been discussed and removed, Gen. Cushing, who presided at the hear of the table, with Gen. Taylor on his right, arose, and after some remarks complimentary to the committee of arrangements, proceeded to announce the following regular toast:

*The Memory of Washington*—Brightening with time, all nations will at least behold and admire its lustre.

*The Army and the Volunteers of the United States*—They have conquered all but peace.

*The Navy of the United States*—With amphibious facility, finding no enemy on the waters, it has constantly sought and successfully encountered him on the land.

*The Constitution*—May it ever be administered in the spirit which controlled its first formation.

*The surviving Heroes of the Revolution*—Length of days has been vouchsafed to them that they might behold the marvelous results of their youthful toil—all honor to their venerable names.

*Our Brethren in Arms at the South*—They have lighted their paths with a blaze of victories.

*Mexico*—Blessed with a genial clime and the physical elements of greatness and power, she is a prey to civil strife and bad government, may the influence of wise rulers and free institutions restore her to her proper rank among the nations of the earth.

*The Spirit of ’76*—It burns as brightly among the mountains of Mexico as of old at Trenton: “Skies, not souls, they change who cross the sea.”

*The Mexican War*—Waged to secure an honorable and a lasting peace, may such be its early consummation.

*The Illustrious Dead*—From Palo Alto to Cerro Gordo every field is consecrated by the sacrifice of gallant spirits; a sympathizing country yields spontaneous and grateful homage to their memory.

*The American Fair*—Worthy descendants of the women of the Revolution, their hearts and prayers are with those who uphold their country’s cause in a foreign land.

Volunteer toasts being called for, Lieut. Crowningshield of the Massachusetts Regiment gave:

*Andrew Jackson*—Sacred be his memory.—(Drank standing in silence.)

Lieut. Fuller, of the Massachusetts Volunteers, gave:

*Gen. Taylor*—We hail him as the next President; may his civil be as brilliant as his military career. (This sentiment was drunk with three times three.)

Mr. President and Gentleman: I have never had the vanity to aspire to or look for that elevated situation, which has just been alluded to, but if my fellow countrymen think proper to elevate me to so distinguished and honorable a position, I certainly shall do my best to discharge the duties to that responsible position faithfully. But if any other candidate is preferred and offered who may be more competent than myself, I need not say that I shall acquiesce most cheerfully in their decision, and shall rejoice that there is one more worthy to represent them in the highest office in their gift.

He then gave as a toast:

*The State of Massachusetts and the City of Boston*—The place where our liberties were cradled: whose sons have borne so conspicuous a part in the establishment and maintenance of the principles of our independence and the constitution, and have gallantly maintained the same by sea and land.
Col. Wright responded to the compliment, and concluded by offering the following:

The past and Present - Palo Alto, Resaca, Monterey and Buena Vista, the Bunker Hill, Princeton and Yorktown of the present century.

By Capt. Montgomery, U.S.A.- The orator of the day, scholar, statesman and soldier . . . [illegible] . . .

Thursday, August 12, 1847, MG47v48n24 words456

Capt. Kenton Harper

We have the pleasure of laying before our readers three more letters from this gallant officer, to the Staunton Spectator. A part from the intrinsic merit of the admirable letters of Capt. Harper, there is much in the history of his connexion with the war in Mexico, calculated to render everything from his pen a subject of deep interest to his numerous friends in Virginia. The editor of one of the most popular and influential journals in the State- enjoying in no ordinary degree the confidence and esteem of his acquaintances of all parties- surrounded by the comforts and endearments of a happy home- exhibiting in his daily walk and conversation, those peculiar traits of character which fitted him to adorn the social circle, and rendered him an especial favorite with the society in which he lived, - He has exchanged the blessings of such a position for the hardships and dangers of a camp in a foreign land; to add, it may be, another to the number of the noble victims of a policy, of which he was ever the uncompromising and consistent opponent.

Capt. Harper had been for many years the popular commandant of the Staunton Light Infantry, a command he resigned some three or four years ago. A number of those who served under him while acting in this capacity, having volunteered for the war in Mexico, the command of the New Company, was, by the unanimous voice of its members tendered to him, with the assurance that the company would not be filled if he declined it. Conceiving that the Honor of "Old Augusta: was concerned in the effort to raise the company- a firm believer in the sentiment of Decatur "Our Country right or wrong," and convinced that his presence amongst them was important to the welfare of the brave fellows who had so often honored him with evidence of their preference and attachment, he hesitated not a moment, but surrendered himself at once to their appeal. Nothing but a sense of duty to his old companions induced him to accept the commission he now holds, and fortunate it is for them that he consented to share their dangers and their privations. "Old Augusta" is the mother of many a gallant son, but of the many who have contributed to render illustrious her venerable name, she numbers no more gallant spirit than Kenton Harper; and in all the chivalric host that has gone forth to sustain the flag of our country upon the plains of Mexico, there is not one from whom a more honorable and conscientious discharge of all and every duty committed to his trust, whether in battle or in bivouac, may be more confidently expected.

Thursday, August 12, 1847, MG47v48n24 words1, 411

Saltillo, Mexico, June 30, 1847.

Dear ______ : I have written so frequently of late that I have but little news to communicate. Since the deaths of the lamented Grove, Brown and Simes, the health of the company has been rather improving. The sick are for the most part getting better; and we have had two new cases, both of which yielded readily to treatment. I was ths Physician, as indeed I have sometimes been compelled to be for the whole company, for days together, in the sickness or absence of our regular Surgeon. You may judge then, of the value of the box of medicines you sent me.- In fact the public supply at China was very meager, and the slender stock of Lieut. Harman and myself was subject to frequent drafts for the use of the Hospital. But to return to the company, I am now in hopes that with proper care and attention to diet the health of the men may be preserved. The climate here is certainly a delightful one- atmosphere pure and dry and moderately warm- and I do not see why it should not be healthy.

I have no news at present. Every thing remains quiet in the city.- The Mexican inhabitants, I think, are becoming more reconciled to our domination. The most perfect order prevails. Not the slightest disturbance of the public peace, by drunkenness or otherwise, is allowed in the streets by our guard; and the city, in this respect, is as orderly as the best regulated in our own country. The police duty has been devolved for some days past upon the two volunteer companies, alone- Capt. Hennings and my own- but another company has now been sent in from camp to our relief- the 3d Richmond, under the command of Lieut. Shoemaker.

I suppose you have heard that a number of our Virginia Officers have gone home on sick furloughs, namely- Capt. Archer of the 3d Richmond, Lieut. Allen, do.- Lieut. Pegram of 1st Petersburg, and Lieut. Washington of the Jefferson company.- I regret to hear that the probability is that scarcely one of them will return.

Since we arrived here I have had my company uniformed anew. - I have got the sky blue of the U.S. Infantry, and it looks very well. The other companies of the Regiment will no doubt follow the example. Several of them, indeed, have
In looking over the face of the country around Saltillo, one who does not know something of Mexican habits would be at a loss to conceive whence it is the population derive their subsistence. Although the valley stretches out beautifully for miles, there are scarcely any signs of cultivation, and all looks waste and desolate. Here and there over the extensive plain the eye may be relieved by the sight of a small homestead, and a scanty clump of trees, but nothing more. Even the mountain sides are almost naked, yielding nothing but a short moss or grass, interspersed with scattering patches of dwarfish brushwood, and the fuel which is necessary for cooking purposes is brought from a great distance- somewhere beyond the mountains- packed on mules.- It is strange that a city as large as Saltillo should have grown up under such circumstances; but the Mexicans do not generally live in towns so much for the conveniences and advantages of trade as for safety, and the farms which they cultivate, and upon which they rely for subsistence are often located at great distances, and are worked by peones. Our troops here are subsisted chiefly on Mexican Flour and Mexican Beef. The former is but little better than our Rye Flour, being dark and heavy, and the Beef is only tolerable, though it is improving with the pasture.

There has been considerable mortality among the natives of Saltillo since we have been here, particularly among the children and funerals have taken place daily. The explosion of rockets may be heard at almost any hour, which as I stated in a former letter, is part of the funeral rites. I saw the funeral of two adults. The corpses were carried on flat boards, dressed up in the most fantastic manner imaginable. The decorations about the head were particularly singular and gaudy, rising to the height of about two feet in the form of a fan or sun-shade, and set off with tinsel and gold. The Mexicans use no coffins.

We know nothing certainly in regard to the time of our proposed onward movement.- We learn, however, that there are three or four Regiments below, and a heavy Siege Train coming up. If we do start, the hope is that we shall not be stopped short of the city of Mexico. The distance to San Luis is 300 miles- not quite half way. Col. Harutratnck, I am glad to learn, is about getting up a brass band for our Regiment.

I have heretofore mentioned; I trust with a just pride, the humane conduct of our Regiment towards the non-combatant Mexicans.- Not an outrage, and hardly an offence of any kind, has been committed against them, so far as I have heard, by the humblest private in the ranks. – As a proof of this, I need only state that at China, where our battalion was stationed for nearly two months, many of the inhabitants expressed their regret when they heard of our intended departure from amongst them. They felt themselves to be safer with us than they would be with their own troops; under Canales and Urrea- this, too, while the population has the credit of being among the most rascally in Mexico! The fact is that Mexico, with all its boast of Republicanism and free Government, is yet a stranger to their most essential principles. In the first place, an established Religion is incompatible with them- so also the undue authority which is given to or exercised by the Military over the Civil Power, and her system of converting freemen into slaves for debt. I have heard of numerous instances, in our marches, of Mexican troops most cruelly plundering their own people. Some of the sufferers indeed, told us, by way of apology for the little they had to sell us, that hey had been robbed but recently by their own soldiers. And it has not been many months ago that an Alcade (who is the civil magistrate or governor of a town) was taken out, yoked with an ox, and driven through the streets, by command of a Mexican General, because he could not or did not fill a requisition which the General had made upon him for beef, on a notice of two or three hours! Where such contempt can be shown with impunity for the civil law and its officers, and for private rights, surely there can be no liberty that is worthy of the name.

Yet more, while on this subject,- I see that Santa Anna and all the leading Mexicans in their leading proclamations and addresses, speak of the war which we are waging as against their Nationality and their Holy Religion. And this too, while they have been trying to wrest from the Churches their property by all means in their power- by forced loans, by taxes, and even by actual violence. The magnificent Church in this place, which I have heretofore spoken of, bears the marks of two cannon balls, fired against it by order of Gen. Ampedia on his retreat to Monterey, to enforce a demand upon it for money! Nevertheless, in the face of facts like these, the unprincipled men who ... [illegible] The truth is that no country on the face of the earth scarcely, is worse governed than Mexico.-Large districts through which we have passed have been allowed by the Government to be preyed upon by the Capanche Indians at their mercy, and robber bands have prowled through the country almost unheeded by that civil poser. There is not a public road that I have been upon that is not lined, some of them every few steps, with wooden crosses, to mark the graves of murdered travelers! No wonder, then, if the clouds should withold their rain, and every shrub and every tree be clothed with thorns, and the land become desolate- for the curse of God is surely upon it. Yours, truly.

[JM]

Thursday, August 12, 1847, MG47v48n24 words275

Satillo, Mexico, July 2, 1847.

Dear _______ : Nothing of interest has transpired since I last wrote you.- There is still some doubt as to our future movements. It seems that General Taylor is not to get as many of the new troops as was expected; and I ... [illegible]

... American, brings to recollection a song I heard sung at China by men of our Regiment, upon our own loved Virginia. Who the author is, I know not; but I thought it so very beautiful, that I procured a copy of it to sen you, which strangely enough, I have omitted to do. But here it is. No doubt some of our sweet voiced maidens can find a suitable tune for it.
Virginia! Virginia! My home o'er the sea,
My heart, as I wander, turns fondly to thee:
For bright rests the sun o'er thy clear winding streams,
And soft o'er thy meadows the moon pours her beams,
Virginia! Virginia! My home o'er the sea,
The wander's heart turns in fondness to thee!
Thy breezes are healthful, and pure are thy rills,
Thy harvest waves proudly, and rich are thy hills,
Thy maidens are fair, and thy yeomen are strong,
And blithe run thy rivers the valleys among.

Virginia! Virginia! My home o'er the sea,
My heart, as I wander, turns fondly to thee.
There's a house in Virginia where loved ones of mine
'Are thinking of me, and the days of lang syne!
And blest be the hour when, our pilgrimage o'er,
I shall sit by its hearth stone and leave it no more,
Virginia! Virginia! I love none like thee.

Yours, truly.

[JM]

Thursday, August 12, 1847, MG47v48n24 words541

Saltillo, Mexico, July 5, 1845.

Dear ____ : I write to inform you that another report has reached us that the Mexicans are certainly advancing upon us, and I learn from a gentleman who has just come in from camp that the report is believed by Gen. Wool.- We have now a pretty respectable force, however- some 2,700 and about 30 pieces of artillery- and it is hardly probably that the enemy can muster sufficient strength to drive us from our position, unless they should concentrate their whole energies in this quarter. But I must confess I have little faith in these reports.- We have been so often stampeded, (as we call it,) that such reports do not much affect us. Still there may be some truth in this one.

The health of the company has not been so good for the last two days. I am now the only commissioned officer reported for duty, with two Sergeants, three Corporals, and thirty-seven privates. None of the new cases, however, I hope are serious. There are several of those who have been ailing for some time in the company that I would like to have discharged, because they are really a burden to me, but such have been the flagrant impositions practiced by some of the volunteers already discharged, that the Surgeons have become chary about granting certificates, and there is a growing repugnance to discharging by the commanding officer, whose approval is necessary.- This is to be regretted, because I know that in may cases it operates, hardly, if not unjustly, upon the really afflicted and disabled soldier.

A report has reached us within a few days, whether true or not I suppose you are better informed, that the Administration at ... [illegible]

The war, I understand, is operating with peculiar benefit, in favor of the peones. Most of the marketing in our camps and garrisons is carried on through them, and they are reaping quite a harvest from it. Many of them, by their sly gains, have been enabled to pay off the debts held by their masters against them, and thus release themselves from servitude.- I have already, in a former letter, described this system of Mexican slavery. It has some features, however, I find, which I was not then apprised of.- A debtor may not merely be compelled to render personal service to his creditor, but he may be set up and sold for the debt at the creditor's whim or convenience. I learn also that it is not unfrequently the case that very young persons (minors) are thus auctioned off, whether for their own debts or the debts of their parents, I am not informed. It was but a few weeks since that a girl of about fourteen or fifteen years of age, and a boy of about the same age, were publicly sold in the streets of Monterey. The girl brought forty-five dollars, and the boy seventy dollars.- They were bought by American officers, and set at liberty- the girl unconditionally, and the boy upon a promise to refund the purchase money, which I am told he has since done, by the profits of some small traffic which they assisted him to engage in. ... [illegible]

[JM]

Thursday, August 12, 1847, MG47v48n24 words217

The Tariff and the Prices

The ecstacies into which the administration prints were thrown by the sudden advance of breadstuffs, consequent upon the late scarcity in Europe, has been effectually checked by the as sudden depression in the markets, which followed
the announcement of the prospect of a plentiful harvest in that quarter.

Those of our cotemporaries, who were most active in the endeavor to gull the faithful into the belief that the sole credit of the advance was due to the Tariff of ‘46, are now sorely puzzled to account satisfactorily and consistently for the decline. As the venerable editor of the official organ displayed so much ingenuity in the effort to cast upon the Whigs the whole blame of the tedious prolongation of the Mexican war, could he not do something to relieve himself and friends from the horns of this new dilemma, by attributing the fall in the markets to the contumacy and disloyalty of that party, in opposing the financial policy of Sir Robert Walker?

We trust that the American people are now more than ever convinced of the folly of trusting the chances of a failure of the crops in the old world, and of the imperious necessity of providing for a home market, by the encouragement and protection of home manufactures.

[JM]

Thursday, August 12, 1847, MG47v48n24 words871

Important Rumor

A good deal of excitement was created in the city yesternoon, between 2 and 3 o'clock, by the issue from the office of that National, of an extra announcing Gen. Scott’s entrance into the city of Mexico. We will not forestall the opinions of our readers, but give the National’s extra in full.

There is news in the city from the city of Mexico as late as July 17th. It came through by a Mexican courier, who came by the way of Orizaba and Alvarado to Vera Cruz. Gen. Scott entered Mexico on the 17th of July.- He met with no opposition on his way from Puebla until he arrived at Penon, about eight miles from the city. Here a slight skirmish ensued between his advance and the Mexicans, when the latter fell back. The civil... [illegible] Stipulations were entered into by which the persons and property of the citizens of Mexico were to be respected; this accomplished, our army marched quietly into the city of the Montezumas.

This important news reached here in the Massachusetts, but has been withheld for purposes that we do not understand. The authority upon which we publish it seems to us undoubted. The courier that brought this news could come from the city of Mexico via Orizaba to Vera Cruz in five days, if the... [illegible] It will be perceived that this allows seven days for the news to reach Vera Cruz by the route we have stated.

We know, upon the highest authority, that there is a letter in this city of the 17 July, from the city of Mexico. The gentleman who gave... [illegible] about leaving form the approach of the Yankees.

Santa Anna and Canalizo had quarreled about the defence of this city. Canalizo did... [illegible] of successful resistance. He preferred to meet our troops on the plain and there decide the contest. Santa Anna would not agree to this, so no opposition was made.

The entrance of Gen. Scott into Mexico is a rumor. From the letter of the 15th, we know positively of the preparations of families in the city to move on the approach of Gen. Scott, and of the quarrel between Santa Anna and Canalizo as to the defence of the city, and we know that there is a letter in the city of the 17th from Mexico.

The courier that brought through the letter of the 17th brought news of Gen. Scott’s entering the city. We have no doubt of the truth of the report.

The New Orleans Delta of the 1st instant says-

It seems strange that this news should come by the steamer Massachusetts, which arrived here on Thursday last, and that up to this time those in official correspondence with Gen. Scott should not be apprised of it. Extraordinary, however, as it may appear, we have every reason to believe, from information confidentially communicated to ourselves, that it is substantially true- that the main fact of Gen. Scott’s entrance into the city of Mexico is a fixed fact. A few days, and the statement will be either confirmed or authoritatively contradicted, till which time our readers must bide with what patience they best may.

Later, the New Orleans National of the second instant has the following:

Arrival of the Washington, Confirmation of Gen. Scott’s entrance into the City of Mexico! Express from San Fernando is Matamoros.

The steamship Washington, Capt. Pratt, arrived yesterday, (since the above was in type) from Vera Cruz, via Tampico and Brazos. By her we have received the Sun of Anahuac of the 22d ult, the Tampico Sentinel of the 25th, and the Matamoros Flag of the 24th. These papers contain nothing of particular interest. But the following letter, received by a gentleman of this city, furnished as for publication, is of exciting interest, and fully confirms the news we gave in our extra on Saturday, that Gen Scott had entered the city of Mexico.
Sir: I hasten to inform you that Mr. Fischer has just arrived here from matamoros and was informed that the Colonel Commanding had read on parade last evening, that Gen. Scott had entered the city of Mexico, with a loss of 300 men. The news was brought by express to Matamoros, from San Fernando, by a Mexican to the Alcade, and was generally believed to be true.

There is no doubt as to the information having been imparted to the troops at Matamoros. I would have given you more particulars, but Mr. Fischer has gone back two miles, in hopes to get his baggage here in time for the Washington. I cannot give you more, as the boat goes, and eh has not returned in time to go to New Orleans in her.

The New Orleans Bee, speaking of the rumor and the subsequent receipt of the same report by the Washington, says—

The news was publicly read to the troops at Matamoros, and although it savors somewhat of improbability, may, nevertheless, be wholly true; for our readers will bear in mind that of all the battles fought and victories won on the fields of Mexico, our first news of them was received from the Mexican authority, and afterwards confirmed through American . . . [illegible].

[JM]

Thursday, August 19, 1847, MG47v48n25p2c2 52 words

Good Pun

At the Fourth of July dinner in Vera Cruz, the following witty toast was given;

"The war debt, How will the American people be enabled to pay their Scott and their Taylor’s bill?"

Another toast at the same dinner was-

"General Taylor: It don’t take nine such tailors to make a man."

[JM]

Thursday, August 19, 1847  MG47v48n25p3c1 15 words

From the Army

Important from Mexico, General Urrea in the field with Four thousand men, calls for re-inforcements.

[JM]

Thursday, August 19, 1847, MG47v48n25p3c1 415 words

Still Later.

Accounts from General Scott-report of the occupation of the City unfounded-meeting of the Mexican Congress-No Commissioners appointed to Negotiate for Peace-Another Great Battle likely to be fought.

Richmond, August 14, 1847.

The Southern mail brings papers from New Orleans of the 7th.

The Steamer Fashion, whose arrival was expected at our previous accounts, reached New Orleans on the 6th, having left Vera Cruz on the 2d, and bringing accounts from that city to that date, and from General Scott to the 30th of July.

The report that Gen. Scott had left Puebla on the 15th ult., and the he had entered the city of Mexico, turns out to be entirely erroneous. He was still at Puebla on the 30th ult., but it was said he intended immediately to take up his line of march for the city of Mexico.

Gen. Pierce, whose departure from Vera Cruz with reinforcements, has been noted, had arrived at Perote. He had had an encounter with a band of guerrillas, whom he succeeded in driving off. The action is said to have been quite a severe one, and to have been sustained with great gallantry by the American troops. The encounter took place at National Bridge, where the guerrillas had taken up a wonderfully strong natural position. Gen. Pierce and his force
made their way through charging them with calvary as they retreated, and killing, it is believed, about one hundred.

A brigade under Gen. Smith, had been dispatched from Puebla to meet Gen. Pierce at Perote.

Lieut. Whipple, of whose capture by a band of guerrillas we have had an account, is not dead, as we feared. He was retained as a prisoner, was well, and will be exchanged. Lieut. Sturgeon, of the Pennsylania, and Lieut. Upton, of the Indiana regiment are dead. The intelligence from the city of Mexico is up to a late day in July.

A letter in the Picayune, from Mr. Kendall, dated at Puebla, July 30, holds out unfavorable hopes of peace. Gen. Scott considered the attempts to open negotiations as having failed, and would move immediately towards the capital.

Gen. Valencia, with a force of 4000 troops, had arrived at the city of Mexico, and these, with the force already collected, would give, as was estimated, Santa Anna 29,000 troops.

The Army under Gen. Scott was in numbers larger than any we have had yet concentrated under one command in Mexico and must be invisible against any power that Mexico may oppose to it.

[JM]

Thursday, August 19, 1847, MG47v48n25p3c2 590 words

Manifest Destiny

To the Editors of the National Intelligence

Gentlemen: Every one has heard of the thief who, on trail for crimes begged the judge to remit his punishment because it was his "manifest destiny" to be a thief. "It may be so," said the Judge, "but doest thou not see that it is also the manifest destiny to be hanged for stealing?"

In my opinion, gentlemen, honor, justice, humanity, morality, and the prudence are much safer guidelines than "manifest destiny". And if we neglect the former to pursue the latter, we may find ourselves involved in the most serious difficulties.

It was the "manifest destiny" of Bonaparte to conquer half of Europe; but it was also his "manifest destiny" to die in miserable exile on the rock of St.Helens.

It was the "manifest destiny" of the Romans to conquer and plunder half the world; but it was also their "manifest destiny" to be harassed by the incessant civil wars, oppressed by ferocious despots and finally, conquered and plundered by innumerable bordes of pitiless savages.

...unreadable... most assuredly not. In a country so prodigiously extensive as this would then be impossible to frame laws equally acceptable to all parts of our population; sad, unless they were acceptable, they could not be enforced.

Let us remember that the most ancient Republic in the world is the smallest. The Republic of San Marino, in the mountains of Italy, with a territory of only thirty square miles, has existed for nearly fourteen cneteries. A deputation of her citizens waited upon Bonaparte, when he commanded the French armies in Italy, and were received with marked respect. He offered them some cannon and an increase in territory. The cannon they accepted, the territory they wisely declined, not wishing probably to be engaged in the miserable folly of attempting to govern people without their consent.

But we are told that this war is doing much good to both countries. Those who give us this information are bound to... what this good consists. Is it doing good to Mexico to murder her people, destroy their property, batter down their cities, break up their civil institutions, sad and expose the peaceable portion of her population to the insults of unprincipled men, from this country, and murderous guerrillas at home? Or is it doing good to the United States to entice a way our valuable citizens to die or be killed in a foreign land, to create an enormous national debt, to exasperate the feelings of all Mexico against us, and to neglect all improvement at home in order that we may have money to spend in murdering our neighbors abroad?

If wars do good, then Tamerlane, who laid waste half Asia with his horde of barbarians, murdered five millions of people, and raised a pyramid of seventy thousand human skulls on the plains of Samarcand, was a philanthropist, a benefactor of his race; and William Penn, the friend of peace and humanity, who founded the noble state of Pennsylvania on the strictest principles of justice and benevolence, was a fool and a visionary.

But peace is emphatically the mission of those United States, and if we elect men to office who, instead of encouraging the pursuits of peace, shall, in their insane folly, make it their business to excite wars between us and foreign nations, we shall show but little more wisdom than the fabled trees of Jotham, which, in choosing their king, neglected all the useful trees of the forest, and "put their trust in the shadow of the bramble."
Col. M'Pherson of Page

Whatever may be said of the vacillation displayed by his Excellency, the President, upon the Oregon question, or however just may be the charges of insincerity and double dealing in regard to the distribution of the spoils, which are occasionally preferred against him by such distinguished members of the party as Capt. Ryndes and Parson McCalla,—there is one class of his followers who are never called upon to mourn over a diminution of his right royal favor.

Although one distinguished Senator may be forced to confess that he has been “deceived” and his constituents “betrayed” whilst another is thwarted in his cherished ambition to be a Lieut. General, and huffed by Secretary Marcy to boot, no boon is too great, no exhibition of favor too striking, to express in adequate terms the gratitude of the President to those who have had the wit to discover, and the boldness to uphold the military genius displayed by James K. Polk in the manage of the war with Mexico.

We take for granted, that no one of our readers has forgotten the famous resolution introduced by Col. McPherson in the House of Delegates of Virginia last winter, by which the military reputation of the President was violated by the endorsement of that body and the attempts of the Whigs to transfer the...so dearly won by Mr. Polk, to the browns of Gen. Taylor,” successfully... (unreadable) ...

Letter From Mexico

We were on yesterday, shewn a letter from an old friend who is now in Mexico, with the Augusta Volunteers. We take the liberty of making the subjoined extracts:

"Saltillo, July 15, 1847.

Well, we are now in for it, and I suppose we will have to ‘grim and bear it.' Clarke is now at home, and nine others-five are dead of corps, Alex Grove, James Brown, John Bowles, Jacob Long, and Miles Sims, and in all probability more will soon follow them. More than a third of what are left of us are unfit for duty. I am now as I always have been, in fine health, weighing about 155 pounds.

Give my respects to Maj. Lewis and tell him if he has any idea of contending for the territory of Mexico, that he had better come and look at it before he enters the meanest he ever saw. I would not live upon it, if I could get another place for the whole of it.”

Thank you friend, we have no desire to speculate upon anything just now even the probability of a speedy termination of the war.”

Landing of Paredes

The Washington Union’s explanation of the landing of Paredes at Vera Cruz, remarks—

If any one, after reading this article from the Union, doubts that the administration at Washington connived at the passage of Paredes through Vera Cruz, as it did Santa Anna, by Commodore Conner’s squadron, he must be stupid in the extreme.

The Alexandria Gazette puts the following questions:

The enquiry is made—and with great show of reason—if it was so heinous an offence to permit Paredes to come back to Mexico, why was it not equally as wrong to connive at and even authorize the return of Santa Anna, come read us this
Thursday, August 26, 1847 MG47v4n26p4c3 68 words

Patriotic Devotion

Some of the Polk papers are making a great hurrah about a brother of Polk going to Mexico. One of his friends heads it "Patriotic Devotion." Polk’s brother is doing no more than the sons and brothers of many of the Whigs have done. Instead of honoring them with the compliment of “Patriotic Devotion” the only thanks they receive is the charge of "Moral Treason." - Rich Rep.

Thursday, August 26, 1847 MG47v4n26p4c3 107 words

From Indian Country

A correspondent of the St. Louis Reveille, writing from the Osage nation, says that the Camanche Indians now in council with Osages told the latter that the Spaniards, (meaning Mexicans, we presume) had advanced them large sum of money, and made many presents of mules, as payment for murdering the Americans who traveled along the road, and destroying their property. In order to stimulate them to this work, large rewards were literally paid for every scalp and oxtail which the Camanches brought in. It was therefore their intention to take their old stands on both sides of the Arkansas river early in the spring.

Thursday, August 26, 1847, MG47v4n26 words784

Later from Vera Cruz and Tampico

The steamship New Orleans, Capt. Auld, arrived yesterday afternoon, having sailed from Vera Cruz the evening of the 7th inst., and from Tampico the evening of the 10th.

Dr. Hawkins, of Baltimore, died of yellow fever at Tampico on the 7th inst. [His corpse was brought to New Orleans on board the New Orleans.]

The New Orleans brings mails from Vera Cruz and Tampico. We regret to learn that the Tampico mail was stolen at an early hour yesterday morning and rifled of a portion of its contents. Some of the letters were subsequently recovered, though the rogue supposed he had disposed of them by casting them into a water closet. In the mail was a letter addressed to William Swift, Esq., from the contents of which it would appear that three U.S. treasury notes, numbered 321, 322 and 323 for $500 each, have been abstracted. - They were dated Oct. 31, 1846. It is supposed that the other valuable letters have been stolen.

Capt. White’s company of the 3d Louisiana battalion received orders at Vera Cruz to embark on board the New Orleans and proceed to Tampico. They did so at once, and reached their destination on the 4th isn’t. The Tampico Sentinel says they mustered one hundred men rank and file.

A train left the evening of the 6th inst., for the army above under the command of Col. Wilson, of the 12th Infantry. The train was escorted by about 1000 men. Some accounts set down the number of troops in this train at from 1500 to 2000; our own correspondent says one thousand. Verbal reports say that Col. Wilson was taken suddenly ill and could not proceed, and that the command devolved upon another officer whose name is not recollected. Our letters say nothing of this.

Nothing later has been received by this arrival from the army at Puebla. Various rumors had reached Vera Cruz, purporting to be from Mexico. One of these is to the effect that Commissioners had actually been appointed by Santa Anna to meet Mr. Trist. - Our correspondent at Vera Cruz, writing on the 7th inst., attaches importance to this rumor. We may recur to it.

A courier from Jalapa arrived at Vera Cruz on the 7th instant, and by this we have received the Bullet in (a Mexican paper published at Jalapa) of the 1st and 3d of August. The letters received by this mail give no later news from Mexico or Puebla, but some further details.

We have received by this arrival a copy of the Tampico Sentinel of the 8th inst. That paper sums up the state of affairs
in that city thus:

We have not been attacked, we are not all ... [illegible] nor is the yellow fever carrying death and destruction into the dwelling place of our inhabitants; but on the contrary, we are in the enjoyment of a reasonable share of . . . [illegible]

We have received no letters from Tampico by this arrival.

The New Orleans Bulletin of the 14th inst., says:

A postscript to a letter received from an officer of the army at Vera Cruz, says: "We have indirect news from Gen. Scorr- the aspect is pacific." No further details or explanation as to the channel by which it was received, or the exact tenor of the news.

Various reports were in circulation in Vera Cruz, but little credence attached to any of them.

One of the reports, to which some faith was given, was that the enemy had blown up the West end of the National Bridge.

A Vera Cruz letter in the New Orleans Times, written on the evening of the 7th instant, says-

The steamer Mississippi will sail for Pensacola in a few days, and probably from that place for the North. There is much sickness on board, and many cases of Yellow Fever.

The vomito in this city seems to have taken a lull, very few cases having occurred for the past seven days. During the fifteen days previous to the 1st instant 81 Americans died, about half with the vomito. I think the first half of this month will give a smaller number, but the first rain will probably make up the amount to an average.

An officer has just come in from the train Maj. Leley, and reports the greater part of the wagons broke down, the end of the train only one mile from camp.

The receipts at the Custom House at Tampico, for the months of May and June, were $70,000, the cost of collection being only a few hundred dollars.

We find the following letter in the New Orleans Delta, dated- Tampico, Aug. 9, 1847.

[JM]

September 1847

MG47v48n27p2c1, September 2, 1847, IMPORTANT NEWS

Gen. Scott’s Advance on the Capital of Mexico -- Skirmish with the Guerillas-Severe loss of Life -- Escape of Major Gaines and Midshipman Rogers ------- Sickness in the Squadron, and at Tampico and Vera Cruz.

ARRIVAL OF THE GALVESTON.

SEVEN DAYS LATER FROM PUEBLA!

By the arrival of the steamship Galveston, Capt. Haviland, from Vera Cruz, via Tampico, Brazos and Galveston, the New Orleans Picayune has dates from Vera Cruz to the 12th inst., And from Puebla to the 6th inst.—just one week later than we had before received.

Gen. Scott was still at Puebla on the 6th inst., but the array was to take up the line of march the next day for the city of Mexico-- Gen. Twigg's division leaving on the 7th, Gen. Quitman's on the 8th, Gen. Worth's on the 9th, and gen. Pillow's on the 10th. Col Childs remains in command at Puebla, with an efficient garrison. Gen. Scott himself would probably accompany Gen. Quitman's division
Gen. Pierce arrived at Puebla on the 6th inst. He lost not a single man on his march, not withstanding “another severe battle with guerillas.”

The train which left Vera Cruz on the evening of the 6th inst., was attacked on the 10th inst., at Paso Oneja, about 33 miles from Vera Cruz. Attacks were made simultaneously in front, in rear, and upon the centre of the train; but the guerillas were repulsed at all points, and the train advanced and encamped about a mile beyond. In this encampment Capt. Jas. H. Caldwell, of the Voltiguer, and Capt. Authurc Cummings, of the 11th Infantry, were severely wounded, but hopes were entertained of their recovery. The commanding officer had sent to Vera Cruz for a detachment of horse, to escort ambulances to take back the wounded, the numbers of which it was thought might be augmented by the time the train reached the National Bridge. Ten non-commissioned officers and privates were wounded in the engagement just referred to; one of them has since died. The escort of the train was 1060 strong, and was under the command of Maj. Lally, of the 9th infantry, Col. Wilson being down with the yellow fever. Governor Wilson had ordered up reinforcements. The National Bridge is the point where a decisive action was expected. There was a report in Vera Cruz that the guerillas had destroyed a part of the bridge and erected defenses works there. They were said to be 4000 strong.

Mr. Kendall recognizes the death of Lieut. Hill, of the Second Dragoons, and Dr. Hammer of the South Carolina Regiment. Lieut. Guiot, Adjutant of the Louisiana battalion, died in Vera Cruz on the 9th inst., after three days illness.

The reports as to the health of Vera Cruz are more favorable. Col. Wilson was convalescent and considered out of danger.

The Spanish Minister resident in Mexico, was expected in Vera Cruz about the 25th inst., on his way to Spain. He would be escorted by a body of Mexican lancers.

Midshipman Rogers escaped from the city of Mexico, and reached Puebla on the 3d inst., in safety. He was not on parole at the time, but at large in the capital under a bond with a money penalty, not to break his bounds, and he came off with the knowledge and by permission of his surety. He reports that Santa Anna, has not more than 15,000 men, who are well armed and organized. Perhaps he was not aware that Valencia had arrived with reinforcements from San Luis.

Major Gaines also made his escape, and arrived safely at Puebla on the 4th, late at night. It seems that all the American officers who were prisoners in the city had been ordered to the headquarters of Gen. Lombardini, and were there told that they must prepare, in twelve hours, to go to Toluca. All of them, save Major Gaines and Borland and Capt. Danley, gave their paroles that they would proceed to that place, and started in the stage the next day. Major Gaines made his escape the same night, and after being once in the hands of the guerillas, and running many other narrow risks, succeeded in getting through. Major Gaines thinks Santa Anna has about 15,000 tolerably well uniformed and drilled men, to which must be added rabble of undisciplined recruits, caught and picked up every way, and giving little strength to the army.

The main defense of the Mexicans—that upon which they most rely—is at the Penon and at this point they have planted some of their best cannon. Santa Anna himself is described as being in a greater dilemma than ever. The jealousy and obstinacy of his enemies prevent his openly avowing himself in favor of peace, and he is shrewd enough to know that the next battle will result against him. Thus his own downfall is staring him in the face, turn which way he will, and he is now awaiting some revolution of Fortune’s wheel to extricate himself. He is so fruitful in expedients that he may yet rise triumphantly from the whirlpool of difficulties by which he is surrounded.

Mr. Kendall complains bitterly of the conduct of the government in not providing funds for the army, and the Quartermasters and Commissaries had been obliged to pay as high as fifteen per cent. For money to defray the expenses of the march from Pueble to Mexico. Gen. Pierce's train, contrary to expectation, did not take army money. Neither did it take any clothing, nor any of the necessaries for the well being of the army, to say nothing of the comfort, and hence all have to purchase at rates which amount to ruinous extortion.

Lieut. C. W. Chauncey. Commanding the U.S. Steamer Spitfire, died on the 9th inst., at Anton Lizardo The Decatur left on the 7th. on a cruise, the fever having broken out aboard. A few cases of fever have made their appearance at Tampico, but the Sentinel says there is no epidemic.

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MG47v48n27p2c1, September 2, 1847, IMPORTANT FROM THE YUCATAN

From the New Orleans Bee, Aug. 22, 1847.

IMPORTANT FROM THE YUCATAN

Insurrection of Indians in the Yucatan—Horrible slaughter of the White Inhabitants.—Appeal to the Inhabitants of Guatemala to arrest the Mexicans.
Through the politeness of the editors of La Patria. [Spanish paper published in New Orleans,] we have been favored with a proof sheet of the interesting items which they have received by the schooner Primera Campechana, arrived yesterday afternoon from Campeachy.

It appear that an insurrection had broken out among the Indians at Yucatan, the object of which was to slaughter all the white inhabitants of that country. But the plot was fortunately discovered in time, although a number of inhabitants have been massacred in several villages.

All the white and mulatto men, together with the women and children of Tepich, were murdered by the Indians. On of their Chiefs, Antonio Ay, was taken prisoner and executed. They declared that the plot had been organized for about 17 years.

The part question which had existed between the Yucatecos was set aside, and they all united in order to resist insurgents.

El Siglio XIX, a paper published in Yucatan, publishes two proclamations—-one from the President of the State of Honduras—the other two generals, in which they call the attention of the centro Americans to the fate of the Mexican republic, and solicit their assistance in favor of their unfortunate neighbors. The editors of La Patria intend to publish in their next paper those documents.

From the New Orleans Times, Aug 29

MORE NEWS FROM VERA CRUZ

Particulars of the attack on Maj. Lally’s Train

--Reported Defeat of our Troops by Guerillas.

We are also indebted to the Patria for some particulars regarding Maj. Lally’s train, published in the extra of that paper yesterday. A correspondent from Vera Cruz, who signs himself El Jarecho, under date 15th inst., says Padre Jarauta had returned to that vicinity at the head of 400 guerrillas, and, having effected a junction with two other bands, commanded by Munoz and Alberto, attacked Maj. Lally’s train a Tolome.

After killing and wounding a few of our troops, and capturing some wagons, they had taken post at a spot called Puente Chica, near the Puente Nacional. Maj. Lally, having divided his command in six columns, attacked the position occupied by the guerrillas, with his whole force, but after a sanguinary fight, he was driven back, leaving the ground covered with his killed and wounded.

The guerrillas, through want of ammunition, were obliged to abandon their position, which was then occupied by the Americans on the morning of the 13th. This is the key to the truth in this strange story, which is, we believe, nothing but Mexican gasconade; for if our troops still advanced, the account of their defeat cannot be true.

The Patria’s correspondent adds that, on the same day, negotiations were opened with the chiefs of the guerrillas for a capitulation of the whole conoyo. The number of wagons lost is said to be very great, and the killed and wounded of our men exceeds 250 men, reducing the whole command to 400 and off effective troops. The guerrillas were in great force on this occasion; and it is said that, as they are persuaded that there is a large amount of specie with the train, it will be attacked throughout the whole of its long route, as long as the enemy can bring an effective man into the field.

El Jarocho, at the close of his letter, says information has just arrived that “the Yankees have capitulated.” The whole tale is grossly exaggerated, we have no doubt, though we believe that Maj. Lally’s train has had to fight its way onward, against disadvantages with which other preceding trains have not had to contend—-such as vastly increased numbers on the party of the assailants, &c. The necessity of forwarding reinforcements from Vera Cruz, sufficiently proves the fact of the commands having been vigorously attacked.

From THE RIO GRANDE

An arrival at New Orleans brings advices from Brazos to the 17th instant.
It appears that the roads between Monterey and Camargo are becoming more and more infested with irregular cavalry and guerrilla bands, and several trails have been attacked.

*La Patria* published at New Orleans, contains a letter from Havana, which states that four British officers accompanied Paredes, but it does not appear whether they had landed at Vera Cruz.

**MG47v48n27p2c3, September 2, 1847, GEN SAM HOUSTON**

This personage is out in one of the Nashville papers in reply to Mr. Tyler's late letter upon the subject of the annexation of Texas. The object of this communication, seems to be, to prove that in the annexation intrigues, the general was, as the Yankee's say, a "little too cute," for his accidency, who proved himself upon this as on most other occasions of his public career, to be "very small potatoes."

**MG47v48n27p2c3, September 2, 1847, ANOTHER CALL FOR TROOPS**

We learn from the union that the War Department has just called for five new regiments, exclusive of the regiment from Ohio, which is already reported to be raised, and is now in progress of being mustered into the public service, and will in a few days be en route for Vera Cruz.

The five regiment now called for are to be drawn as follows: Two regiment from Kentucky, two from Tennessee, and one from Indiana.

These five regiments, says the Union, are expected to be rapidly raised, and promptly placed in the public service. Offers have already been made which induced the Executive to designate these States, and to make the necessary arrangements from embodying these troops without delay.—*Free Press*

**MG47v48n27p2c3, September 2, 1847, MR. BENTON IN A NEW POSITION**

The *Louisville Journal* of the 17th, alluding to a report that Col. Benton had written to Washington demanding a Court Martial for the vindication of his son-in-law, Col. Fremont, and the punishment of his adversaries in the late troubles in California, adds:

"It is certain that Col. Benton is preparing himself for a terrific attack upon the Administration next winter in the Senate chamber.----At town in the interior of Kentucky, a few days ago, he got into a conversation upon the subject of the Mexican war and became immensely excited, perfectly infuriated. He said that an opportunity had been passed by of making an advantageous and honorable peace, and that he could show the fact and would show it. As for the whole management of the war, he averred that it had been utterly disgraceful. He stated that he should go to Washington and make one speech upon subject, only one, and that it would be the greatest speech of his life, and he was willing that it should be the last. In speaking of the Administration, his language barely, if at all, fell short of downright cursing. His wrathful declaration lasted a full hour."

**MG47v48n28p1c7, September 9, 1847, A LETTER FROM MEXICO**

We copy from the *Lewisburg Chronicle* the following excellent letter, from one of the Augusta Volunteers to that paper. It is one of the most interesting letters we have seen among many which have been written from the Seat of War.

SALITLLIO, Mexico, July 20th, 1847.

*Messrs Editors*—As a favorable opportunity presents itself, to forward a letter, I embrace it with a view of saying something to you of my present whereabouts, the city itself, the inhabitants, and some of their many peculiarities, as a people, and nation.

Saltillo, as I have before stated, is a town numbering (as I am informed) 40,000 inhabitants—situated about midway, on a hill side between two mountains (the names of which I do not know, nor can I find them upon the map.) the city is nearly square, running North and South; the houses are all white, mostly one story, though these are as high as two story buildings in the States. The squares are one soled building and the tops being flat, form a good fort in time of an
The mode of burial here, is novel indeed.——Though there have been a great many deaths here among the children and others, I have witnessed but three of their burials, to-wit: one *umbra* and two *muchachas*——(one man and two children.) The coffin after being decorated with flowers, and crossed in about one hundred places, was preceded by about twenty-five of men, each with a lighted candle, to the church, where his body remained for a short time during which time all the bells of the different churches, (about fifty in number) were claimed; and then taken to the graveyard and intered.—No mourners follow the corpse.

The other two- the *muchacha*’s, were buried as follows: these were carried upon a bier, which was splendidly decorated with flowers, and silk, with a wreath extending about two feet and a half above the head, the body lying *uncoffined* upon the bier; as soon as the corpse, was ready for removal from the house of its parents, some of the subaltern of the churches, whose duty it was, commenced sending up, *sky rockets*, and preceded the corpse, about 30 feet to the church, all the time sending up rockets. Immediately behind these two, were two lads, about 15 years of age, dressed in red flannel, and white aprons, bare-headed, one with a shield upon his arm, the other with a bludgeon in his hand. Behind these were six musicians, two with clarionets, and four with violins, playing — the followed the corpse, the priest, and now a man with the coffin upon his shoulder. A few paces in the rear followed a crowd of men and children, without any respect to order——all went to the church, and here the body, I resume, was put into the coffin, for I could not enter to see, such a crowd of volunteers had assembled around the door; the priest upon his knees, made some kind of noise, which lie called singing, no doubt, and was responded to by one of the musicians, after which about twenty rockets were put off at one time, and the corpse shouldered and removed towards the burial ground; what took place then, I do no know, for I went no farther.

The cause of all this ceremony, I understand is, that they believe that all infants are saints, and that it would be sacrilege, if this parade was not made of them. The same ceremony takes place, whenever, an idiot or insane person dies, from the same belief.

The people here, are the most indolent creatures I ever saw, all the labor being preformed by the females.

Though there are here, many, very many, excellent houses, none have furniture. The natives in the main cook on the ground, eat, and sit on the ground and sleep on the ground. The females, while sitting, assume the position of a tailor, on the board.

In this city, there are a number of wealth and intelligent citizens. These are all friendly to our form of government and institutions, whole on the other hand, the other class are most disaffected people towards us in the whole of Mexico. Scarcely a night passes here that some injury is not inflicted by the Mexicans, upon the American citizens. In the last week two have been badly wounded and two killed. We never think of leaving our rendezvous, alone, and when we do go out, we are generally armed from head to foot.

How long we are to remain here with nothing to do, time will determine. One day we hear news that peace is near at hand, the next that a large army is advancing, and close upon us. To remain here, suffering under the monotony of the times, is misery. The opportunity to go home, or get in an engagement, would either be cheerfully embraced.

For the last three days, we have been anticipating an attack, and there is no doubt I presume, but there is a body of armed Mexicans, between 7 and 8,000 within sixty miles of us; but really I don’t know whether to say, that I believe that they will advance upon the city, or that they will not. I have not seen Capt. Erskine for several days; when I seen him last, however he was well, though he has been quite unfortunate since he has been in Mexico——having lost his servant, fine horse and golf watch. Crist. Cole and myself are enjoying unusual good health. Respectfully yours,

D. A. STOFER

[BRM]

MG47v48n28p2c4, September 9, 1847, COL. BENTON

The *St. Louis Republican* says:
"Col. Benton wished to obtain from us the name of the author of a communication which appeared in our paper, written by an eye-witness of the transaction in California. After trying several means to induce a disclosure of the writer's name, he resolved on preferring charges, demanding a court-martial, and thus bring the writer out as a witness. Col. Benton bases his charges against Col. Fremont on the communication in the Republican, and also on articles which appeared in the Louisville Journal and the New Orleans Picayune—and for the authorship of the two latter, refers to Lieut. Emory of the U. States Army. We cannot believe that "the chief of the War Department will refuse this imperious request."

Whether this Court martial has been demanded by the direction of Col. Fremont, and in his name, or whether Old Bullion, "solitary and alone has set this ball in motion," the Republican does not say. He seems, however, to have taken his son-in-law under his especial guardianship, and is especially loth to allow him to slip his leading strings. The position in which he places Fremont by the system of dry nursing, appears to us a little ludicrous, and we should doubt whether it is likely to prove altogether grateful to the vanity of that gentleman.

By the way, we see it announce that Col. B. has ready for the press certain notes observations upon public men and public affairs for the last thirty years! We feel much curiosity to see them, and cannot conjecture what manner of book they will make. We are disposed to think, however, that the author will likewise be the principal hero, and that it will be made abundantly evident that, but for him, the world would have censed to roll upon its axis many a long year ago. The monomania of the Colonel seems to consist in desire to monopolize all the glory of the day, and he will be more generous than we suspect him of being, if he leaves a ray for the use of any contemporary. This trait will only render the book the more amusing, as it throws an infinitely ludicrous air over all he says or does, even in the most serious manner, and upon the most solemn occasions.——Rich. Whig

[BRM]

MG47v48n28p2c5, September 9, 1847, LANDING OF PAREDES

The Boston Courier publishing the Washington Union's explanation of the lading of Paredes at Vera Cruz, remarks--

If any one, after reading this article from the Union, doubts that the administration at Washington connived at the passage of Paredes through Vera Cruz, as it did Santa Anna, by Commodore Conner's squadron, he must be stupid in the extreme.

The Alexandria Gazette puts the following questions:

The enquiry is made---- and with great show of reason----If it was so heinous an offence to permit Paredes to come back to Mexico, why was it not equally as wrong to connive at and even authorize the return of Santa Anna?—"Come, read us the riddle.
[BRM]

MG47v48n28p2c5, September 9, 1847, DIVERSION OF TROOPS

The Union copies from the Picayune without contradiction, a paragraph which states that Gen. Hopping's command is to be taken from Gen. Taylor; as well as several general officers, and sent to Vera Cruz. The same paper states that the advance upon San Luis Potosi is definitely abandoned. Such being the fact, and their being no long any work for the General Tailor to do, he ought to be permitted to come home. The people will probably find some employment before long.---Rich. Rep.
[BRM]

MG47v48n28p2c6, September 9, 1847, GEN. TAYLOR AND THE PRESIDENCY

The "Democrats" have been again boring Gen. Taylor; but as great as in their skill in the boring art, they can't make nothing out of the Old Hero. The anxious inquirer after the General's opinions in the present case; are certain patent Democrats who met in the little town of Clarksville, Tennesse: They held a meeting, passed sundry resolutions, and ordered them to be sent to ken. Taylor, accompanied by a letter for a committee of the said Democrats, in convention assembled, requesting him to be so kind, so very obliging, as to say what were his opinions on those resolutions, which so frankly expressed their own, and which with so much consideration had sent to him. But the General, though acknowledging the compliment, declines returning it. He sends off these Democratic gentlemen, who have so much solicitude for him and his opinions, just as he did Deloney----Dr. Deloney---with precious little satisfaction.

The interesting resolutions communicated by these kind Democrats, were against a National Bank---in favor of the Independent Treasury---approved of Annexation---approved of the present Administration---declared that the Democratic party cannot support any man whose principles are not well defined.
This last letter of Gen. Taylor settles a question between the *Enquirer* and ourselves.---The *Enquirer* inferred from the letter to Deloney that the General had no opinions on the Bank and Tariff questions, because he said he could not answer the interrogatories relating to them without more time than he could spare to consider those subjects. We contended that the fair interpretation was the General Taylor meant that he had not time to give that consideration to those subjects necessary to a clear and proper expressions of his opinions.---The letter from Gen. Taylor, we not publish, takes this very ground. If he were disposed to answer, he says, "I cannot spare the time from my official duties to devote to the investigation of those subjects, which their importance seems to require, to enable me to reply to them in a way, that would be satisfactory to myself."---*Richmond Compiler.*

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**MG47v48n28p2c7, September 9, 1847, WHO IS SANTA ANNA**

History tells us that he first distinguished himself in public life, in 1821, as the supporter of Iturbide; then in arms against him, and chiefly instrumental in his fall and in procuring the adoption of the Federal Constitution; about a year afterwards, attempting and failing to obtain the title and power of Protector of the Republic; then four or five years living in retirement, out of public employ; re-appearing, in 1828, on the news of Pedraza's election to the Presidency, raising the standard in favor of his opponent, Guerrero; then defeated, driven to the mountains, and outlawed; re-called almost immediately, and placed at the head of the Army sent out to oppose him then in 1829, made Secretary of War and Commander-in-Chief of the Army, in that capacity repelling and conquering the ill-digested Spanish invasion under Barradas; soon after, driven from office with the President, Guerrero; again in arms, driving Bustamente from power; then succeeding to the Presidency of the Republic and, whilst President, in the midst of a successful military career, beaten, captured, and held prisoner by the Texans; released by them, repaired to Washington, and sent home in a public vessel of the United States; there coldly and repulsively received; retiring to his farm for two years; called from it to head an army to resist the invasion of the Mexican Territory by the forces of France; in a gallant sally, losing his leg and almost his life by another sudden revolution of things, again President, and in effect Dictator of the Mexican Republic; in 1842, retires from the Presidency to regain his health, having become very much enfeebled; in 1844-45, by another revolution, he was defeated, taken prisoner, and banished; and is now, in 1847, again the President of the Republic of Mexico.

Such is the nut shell history of the man whom James K. Polk, in his wisdom attempted to bribe! Would Henry Clay have far forgotten his station, were he President of the United States, as to let himself down to *traffick* with such a man as this? Oh my country--my country! DAN.

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**MG47v48n29p2c1, September 16, 1847, GLORIOUS VICTORY: TWO MORE BATTLES**

From the New Orleans Picayune, September 3.

The steamship *Fashion*, Capt. O'Brady, arrived yesterday Evening from Vera Cruz, by way of Tampico. She left Vera Cruz on the 27th of August, and Tampico on the 29th.
The news arrival is the most important we have received in many months from Mexico. Our army has not only advanced to the city of Mexico, but has had two engagements with the enemy, close under the walls of the city, and defeated them. The Mexicans have been brought to supplicate a suspension of arms, and Gen. Scott has granted it. The Mexican Congress has been convoked to take into consideration Mr. Trist’s propositions.

The news was received in Vera Cruz on the evening of the 26th ult., by an express courier from Orizaba, who brought down the following letter to Mr. Dimond, the collector at Vera Cruz, to whose courtesy we are indebted for the use of the letter, which we proceed to give:

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ORIZABA, Aug. 25th, 1847

My dear Friend—— The Mexican mail, which has just come in, brings the following intelligence, which I copy from the Diario Oficial Gobierno. Being of so great importance, I send you this express courier, who will be with you to-morrow about 12 o’clock.

On the 20th two brigades commanded by Gen. Valencia and Santa Anna, went out to attack the Americans near San Angel*. Valencia’s division has been completely defeated and Santa Anna, after the first rencontre, fell back also in disorder of the city.

The immediately after this asked for a suspension of hostilities, and offered to hear the propositions of peace from Mr. Trist.

The next day the Minister of Foreign Relations invited the Congress, through the news papers, to meet for that purpose.

These are the great facts, which no doubt will bring after them peace.

Yours Truly,
F.M. Dimond, Esq.
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*Another letter says Los Llanos de San Angel.

Another express arrived in Vera Cruz on the 20th, with letters containing the same news in substance, and the following translation of the announcement of it in the Diario Official del Gobierno:

Translated from the Diario Official del Gobierno.

On the 20th of August, Scott’s troops, who intended on marching on Penon, turned it and arrived near Tacubaya. As soon as the news was known at Mexico, Valencia’s division went out to attack the Amricans and Lost Llanos de San Angel, and was completely routed. Next came Santa Anna, with another division, which shared the same fate after some fighting. The Mexicans retreated to the capital in great disorder, and such was the panic created by their defeat that the Minister of Foreign Relations immediately convoked the Congress to take into consideration Mr. Trist’s proposition. A suspension of amrs was demanded by the Mexicans and granted. The Americans are around Mexico, but had not entered the city on the 21st.

Such are the meager details which we have of the important events. No couriers from Gen. Scott’s army direct have been able to get through, so far as we can learn. But from the foregoing statements it is manifest that Gen. Scott holds the city of Mexico at his command. That Gen. Scoot did not choose to enter the city is manifest. He was doubtless deterred from entering it by a desire to save the pride of the Mexicans when upon the eve of important negotiations. It is now supposed that the extraordinary courier which left Vera Cruz from Mexico on the 12th ult., a day in advance of the regular English courier was the bearer of instructions to the British Minister to offer again his mediation and we think it safely to suppose that Gen. Scott was influenced by a knowledge of this mediation to trust once again to the efforts of Mr. Trist to negotiate a peace, and so spared the Mexicans the humiliation of the armed occupation of their capital. His characteristic humanity may also be presumed to have strongly influenced him to save Mexico from the violence of a hostile occupation. We may recur to this point and to the prospects of peace which some may not entertain.

We have given none of the rumors current in Vera Cruz as to the fall of Mexico. They are evidently founded on imperfect rumors of the real state of facts. The rumors circulated here that Santa Anna and Valencia were taken prisoners we believe are totally unfounded.

In regard to the train under Major Lally the intelligence is favorable. We are informed from a ver responsible source that he is known to have passed Perote and bees on his was safely to Puébla. He made some delay in Jalapa. Our
readers may be interested in what is said of the movements of the train prior to its leaving Jalapa in the Sun of Anabuac:

The Boletin of Jalapa says that the train, after having been attacked at Cerro Gordo, retired to the Plan, at the same time the guerrillas also retired. On the following day the train commence marching for Jalapa, and on Thursday evening had not yet entered that place. On the 19th it was reported at Jalapa that the guerrillas would attack our troops, and the citizens succeeded in reaching their homes without receiving any injury.

The guerrillas are said to have numbered 350. The fire commenced at half past 5 O'clock and lasted but a short time. At night tranquility prevailed in the city, and a party of mounted men from the train, entered the city and passed through the principal street; at the same time the guerrillas were seen near by. The Boletin says that the loss on the side of the guerrillas was small.

At 11 o'clock on the 19th, Major Lally enquired of the alcalde whether the citizens of Jalapa would commit hostilities against the Americans or not. To which the alcalde answered that the population was unarmed; but that a number of guerrillas being in the neighborhood he could not take the responsibility of their actions. On the morning of the 20th, the train of wagons and the troops entered the city. The Boletin says that the wagons are filled with sick and wounded.

Yesterday [the 24th ult.] it was rumored in Vera Cruz that Father Jarauta had attacked the train a short distance the other side of Jalapa, but that he had been driven back by our troops, with loss on both sides.

In addition to the foregoing, we have been favored with two notes following, the first of which is a translation from the Spanish:

JALAPA, Aug. 20th, 1847:

The American army, after much suffering on the road, have been again attacked at Don Rios by 700 guerrillas, and badly enough treated. Even before entrance into Jalapa there was some firing. Last night at 9 o'clock the Americans entered the city firing, and retreated on minus. He was lassoed by one of the guerrillas. This morning was sent a flag of truce to the Ayunta Miento, (city council) to ascertain whether they should enter as foes or friends, but without awaiting an answer they began to enter, and continued to 1pM., when all got in. There were 76 wagons and 895 men, among 317 were wounded and sick———Major Lally is sick——the horses are worn out——for which reason it is supposed they will remain here for some time. It is said that Father Jarauta will attack them nightley but nothing positive.

JARUTA, Aug 23, 1847.

Major Lally with his command is still here, and will probably remain her some time.—The guerrillas have all disappeared from this neighborhood, but where they have gone I am unable to say. Abourto, the guerrillas chief, died at Jalapa a few days since, some say of the wound in received in one of his attacks on Maj. Lally’s command, and other by fever.

We do not entertain any doubt that the train, as mentioned, above had passed Perote and gone in safety to Puebla.

Intelligence reached Col. Wilson on the morning of the 27th ult. That Lieut. David Henderson, of Capt. Fairchild’s company of Dragoons, and his party who were sent by Capt. Wells on the 15th of August to apprize Major Lally of the approach of reinforcements, were all shot by the guerrillas. There is little or no doubt of the correctness of this sad intelligence. Lieut. Henderson was a resident of New Orleans, and but recently embarked as a volunteer in his country’s service. He was a printer by profession, a man of courage and enterprise, and his fate will be sincerely lamented by his numerous friends.

[CORRESPONDENCE OF THE PICAYUNE]

VERA CRUZ, Aug 27, 1847.

An express arrived here on Tuesday from Alvardo to Commodore Perry, with information that the guerrillas had attacked that place the night before and killed a surgeon and two marines in the town. The steamers Petrita and Scorpion were immediately dispatched to reinforce those in possession of the place. [BRM]
From the New Orleans Times

LATER FROM BRAZOS

New Destination of Gen Taylor’s Force—Advance on San Luis Potosi Countermanded—Gen. Lane and Gen Cushing’s Brigades with Colonel Hays’ Rangers, ordered to proceed forthwith to Vera Cruz, &c., &c.

By the arrival here yesterday of the steamship Telegraph, Capt. Wilson, from Brazos, the 1st inst., we have received important news from Gen. Taylor’s headquarters, and the several military posts on the line of the Rio Grande.

Change of the Plan of the Campaign.----It appears that the plan of the campaign has been entirely changed from what was understood to be the arrangement here, some weeks ago, viz: the simultaneous advance of Generals Scott and Taylor’s divisions on the cities of Mexico and San Luis, respectively. No advance is to be made by Gen. Taylor, and not greater force will be kept in the valley of the Rio Grande, and thence to Saltillo, that is necessary to keep open communication.

We take the following summary of military news from the Flag of the 28th ult

Since our surmise in Wednesday’s paper in regard to the movements of troops, we have obtained additional information, and have full confidence that we can now state correctly what troops from this line are to proceed to Gen. Scott, and what distribution is to be made of those remaining with Gen. Taylor.

The In Diana regiment, Col. Gorman, and the Ohio, Col. Brough, under Brig. Gen. Lane—the Massachusetts regiment, Col. Wright and the 13th infantry, Col. Echols, together with Capt. Deas’s battery, under Brig. Gen. Cushing—will proceed immediately to Vera Cruz.

Col. Hay’s Texas regiment is also ordered to Vera Cruz. It has not yet made its appearance on the Rio Grande, but it is looked for daily, and will probably arrive at the Brazos before the other troops have embarked.

Gen. Wool’s command, to remain at Saltillo, will consist of the Virginia, North Carolina, and 2d Mississippi regiments of Volunteers, and Major Chevallie’s three companies of Texas rangers.

To remain at Gen. Taylor’s camp (Walnut Springs) only Lieut. Col. Fontleroy’s squadron of Maj. Bragg’s battery.


The 10th regiment, Col. Temple will garrison Matamoras, Reynosa and Camargo—Col. Temple at this place, Capt. Waldrodt at Reynosa, and Lieut. Col. Fay at Camargo.

Capt. Hunt’s artillery and Capt. Reed’s Texas cavalry are to be stationed at Camargo.

There yet remain, destination unassigned in this list, Col Butler’s squadron of 3d Dragoons, and two companies of Volunteer Cavalry, on from Alabama and the other from Illinois. Rumor says that the Dragoons are to proceed to Vera Cruz also, but we are informed that Col. Bulter has received no orders to that effect.

General Lane and Staff came down from Mier yesterday, and proceeded to the Brazos. His troops are on the way down and a portion will probably be her to-day.—Flag 28th ult.

Capt. Baylor and his party, who were supposed to have been cut off by the enemy, had safely arrived at Cerralvo.

Gen. Taylor will probable leave Monterey on a visit to his family in Louisiana, before the 1st October next, unless the War Department should send despatches, in the meantime, rendering it impossible for him to absent himself from the army.

[BRM]
The cheering news from the Seat of War, warrants the hope, that Mexico has at length abandoned all idea of prolonging a hopeless controversy with this country, and that for the present, no more of the brave and chivalric spirits of our land are to be offered up as bleeding sacrifices to the lust of democracy for “extending the area of freedom.”

At first, the charge that this war was undertaken for conquest, was indignantly denied by a large majority of the supporters of the administration; now that question how much of conquered Mexico is to be embraced in the extended limits of our Union, and with it comes the agitation of that fearful subject which erst came “like the sound of a fire bell at night” to appal the hearts of the then surviving patriots of the revolution, and which had like to have kindled a conflagration which would have laid in ashes the “beautiful Temple which our fathers builded.” The Principles of the “Missouri Compromise” would have kept this fearful subject at rest forever, had our rulers been content to keep that which was our own, without coveting the domain of our neighbors, and thus calling down upon our heads the wrath of the Almighty had denounced upon those “who covet and desire other men’s goods.” That the North will insist upon restrictions in the admission of this new Territory into the Union, to which the South cannot agree without great and manifest danger to her existing institutions, is but too plainly evidenced by the tone of the public press of both parties in the non-slaveholding States. It is, therefore useless to attempt to close our eyes to the fact, that we are converging upon a contest which would prove the severest trial our institutions have ever experienced. May God in his mercy turn aside the dark cloud that hangs upon our political horizon, is the fervent prayer that rises from the depths of every patriot heart, whilst we are not without strong hopes that there is wisdom and patriotism enough in our legislative councils to avert the impending danger.

Of on thing we are well assured, that whilst the conservatives of the Slaveholding States are willing to unite with their Northern brethren in opposing the enlargement of the boundaries of the Union, they are united as one man in opposition to any interference with the principle of the Missouri Compromise, whether in reference to States formed from old or new territory.

SALLTILLO, Mexico, July 27, 1847

Dear———; As I cannot entertain you with any moving incidents of military enterprise and adventure, I shall try to gather something from the still life and customs o the strange people I am among, that may serve to amuse you.

In my last, I mentioned 'the singular spectacle exhibited in the streets on Sunday evening, of a Chicken Cock, decorated like one of our own military heroes, carried in procession, and followed by a band of music. That bird, I have since learned from a gentleman who attended the sports of the evening, belonged to one of the Priests of the city, and was fought by him in person upon a wager of fifty dollars, which he lost—the chicken being killed. He had others, however, with which he proved more fortunate, and came off winner, in the end, some two hundred and fifty dollars. I am told he heals all his chickens himself, and has the reputation of being the most skilful cock fighter in Saltillo. The gentleman who gives me this information attended Church in the morning, and saw the same Priest administer the Sacrament of the Lord's Super to his deluded and misguided people.

About the same time that these sports of pit were going on, I witnessed one of the most pompous funerals I have yet seen. It was the funeral, I am informed, of an infant. The corpse was carried on a bier, and was completely hid under the mass of artificial flowers with which it was decorated. At the head of the corpse something like and arch was formed, rising to the height of about three feet, weathed with flowers, and enclosing in the centre a small image, I suppose of the Virgin Mary.—Immediately in advance of the corpse where the Priest and two attendants, the latter accoutred in red flannel frocks and pointed brimless caps, and near by at their side two miserably ragged and filthy looking beings, the one with a burning brand and the other a bundle of rockets, which were set off by the former almost as fast as the latter could hand them to him. The crowd that followed was very motly, consisting of mean
looking men and women and ragged boys, and had more the appearance of a mod than a procession. Here and there, however, I could see some of the genteel exterior, and among them several women carrying vases of flowers. The funerals, I presume, are quite expensive, and I have no doubt are made a source of handsome profit to the priesthood. I did not follow the procession into the Church, and consequently can give no account of the ceremonies there. A marriage in high life was to have taken place in the principal Church of the city a few mornings since two o’clock, and I had determined to attend it, but for some reason it did not come off as expected. The Priests here, I understand, as a fee of a hundred dollars to marry a couple properly, so as to “secure a prosperous and happy marriage.” The price is certainly moderate enough, if the security to be obtained by it is worth anything. But there, I should say, is the rub. Still there is a little question that many put full confidence in it; so that where faith may not operate, fashion, or a desire, as we say in Virginia, to be married “like white folks,” will be sure in the general to make such items of service fat jobs to the priesthood.

There are a number of schools, I find, in Saltillo, and considerable attention is paid to education by the wealthier portion of the population. I have seen a few Mexican young men who were well educated, and some of the ladies of the same class are said to be highly accomplished. The harp, the guitar and the piano may sometimes be heard in passing along the streets. Still the masses are miserably degraded and ignorant—-but little, if any better, I should say, in appearance, color, conduct, morals, or intelligence, than our free negroes. It is a mistake, however to call them effeminate. They are generally of good size, and have the best developed chests I ever saw. They partake, too, rather more of the character of the Indian than the negro.

The municipal affairs are manage by the Alcade, who seems to have complete and absolute jurisdiction in all cases, whether civil or criminal. The only check upon him, indeed, seems to be that the office is elective, and the length of term, which, I believe, is but one or two years. The police are certainly very vigilant and quite efficient in their own way, so far as they undertake the correct public disorders. I witnessed a scene the other day in market which amused me very much. Tow stout boys were engaged in a furious fight, but unluckily for them a police-man happened to be near, who, instead of proceeding in the quiet, methodical way of one of our officers, immediately fell upon them, with his long rod, caring not which of them, or where he struck, and the infuriated combatants at once broke their holds and ran off. Thus the whole matter was settled in a second, which might have take up a day in our Corporation Court, his long rod, caring not which of them, or where he struck, and the infuriated combatants at once broke their holds and ran off. Thus the whole matter was settled in a second, which might have take up a day in our Corporation Court, consuming the valuable time of three or four Justices, and twelve honest jurors, to say nothing of the half dozen and ran off. Thus the whole matter was settled in a second, which might have take up a day in our Corporation Court, consuming the valuable time of three or four Justices, and twelve honest jurors, to say nothing of the half dozen gentlemen of the green-bag that are usually involved in such petty annoyances.

In their houses they have but little furniture, even among the better classes. A table, a few chairs, and probably a mirror, for the most part, make up the whole stock. Many, indeed, have neither tables, chairs, nor beds.—The family eat their meals seated round the dishes on the floor, and take their repose upon dried hides.

The chief amusements of the population here are cock-fighting and dancing, in both which the women participate. The costume of the women is pretty much like that of our own, the bustle not excepted, though they wear shawls over their heads drawn close under their chin, instead of bonnets.—- they have a slovenly mode too of wearing their dresses stripped down upon their haunches or waist, leaving their bosoms bare, when the shawl is thrown aside or only slightly protected by their under garment.

There is a light increase on our sick list to-day. We report 16 sick.

Your, &c.

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SALITLLO, Mexico, Aug. 2, 1847.

Dear—-: We are still without any definite news here as to the prospects of peace or war. The reports which reach us are of the most contradictory character, and it is impossibly to make any thing out of them. One day we hear that the terms of a treaty have been nearly arranged, and the next, that the Mexicans are in active preparation for a more vigorous prosecution of the way, and are actually investing Gen. Scott, cutting off his communication with Vera Cruz. In this state of things, I must ask you, therefore, to look elsewhere for information as regards the true condition of affairs. Here, all is in activity and deep repose, and likely to remain so, from every thing I can learn or the amount of force which is to be thrown upon the line; although a general order, I understand, was read on parade Camp, a few evenings ago, announcing the probability of an early forward movement. It may be, however, and I think it more than probable that it was only intended by the Commanding Officer to stimulate the troops, and keep them up more strictly to their duty, which the very listlessness of our lives is rather unfitting for. No one, who has not experienced it, can form any just idea of the irksomeness of mere camp or garrison duty. It is to the soldier what the dead calm at sea is to the sailor—-and any change, even the storm of battle, as in the case of the latter convulsion of the elements, is considered preferable.

I believe I have not mentioned heretofore that we have our revenue system of internal duties in full operation here; and it is producing a handsome income. Often two hundred and sometimes as much as five hundred dollars, are taken in, I am told, in a day. In a former letter, I think I intimated my difficulty in accounting for the rise of such a city as Saltillo in locality which presents to the observation apparently so few advantages. It seemed to me, indeed, like a city in a desert—-for, comparatively speaking, it is such, when we contrast the size and population of the place with the poverty or neglected condition of the lands for many miles in all directions around it. That mystery, however, is now solved. I understand that Saltillo has been from its earliest foundation, the seat of an extensive contraband or smuggling trade, and that to this it is indebted for all its importance.
The Mexicans are now celebrating High Mass in their Churches, and it is said that the services are to continue for nine days. In the principal Church here, they have a number of banners displayed, and a fine band of Martial Music. What all this means, if any thing, I d no pretend even to conjecture. It may be that these warlike exhibitions are merely in accordance with their common custom, for there is co-operation and mutual dependence, no doubt, between the Priesthood and the Military, in the management of the poor oppressed people of the country, for their own advantage.

There has been no material change in the health of the Company within the last few days. We now report twelve on the sick list. On more has been discharged, (Preston Brown,) and another would be, (Lewis Terrill,) if he were able to travel. A Board of Surgeons has been appointed to examine all cases for discharge, so that the probability is that prompt relief will be afforded in the future to those who deserve it, while the service will be more effectually guarded against impositions.

Our Regiment at Camp, I am glad to hear has become much more healthy. Some sanitary regulations have been adopted to keep out the trashy fruits from the Camp, and no doubt the improvement is principally owing to this measure. The North Carolina troops, however, still suffer greatly. They have had as many as four funerals in a day. It must be owing to the way the cook their food.

It may be gratifying to our friends at home to know that our Colonel (Hamtramck) still maintains his former reputation as a drill officer. He is regarded as among the very best (regular or volunteer,) in the service. His health has greatly improved.

Yours truly,

[BRM]

MG47v48n29p2c5, September 16, 1847, BRILLIANT VICTORIES- FROM GENERAL SCOTTS ARMY

POSTSCRIPT

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BRILLIANT VICTORIES!

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FROM GENERAL SCOTT'S ARMY.

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BATTLES OF COUTRERAS AND CHURUBUSCO

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Two American Victories.

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Thirteen Mexican Generals and three Ex-Presidents Killed.

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Eleven Hundred Americans Killed and Wounded

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Three thousand Mexicans captured

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GEN. SCOTT WOUNDED

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Mexican Loss nearly Three Thousand
We stop the Press to lay before our readers the following interesting news, which we find in the *Baltimore Sun* of yesterday:

Our unprecedented stud of ponies, comprising sixty blooded horses so admirably arranged between Baltimore and New Orleans, came through last night, in advance of everything on the route, bringing us the highly important news from Gen. Scott’s Army, which we haste to lay before our readers without comment, being most interesting yet received from Mexico. Our courier brought us the *Picayune* of the 8th instant, from which we copy.

The U. States steamship *Mary Kingland*, Capt. John Davis, arrived at an early hour this morning. By her we have received our letters from Mr. Kendall from the 22nd to the 28th of August, all dated from Tacubaya. A courier dispatched by him on the 29th with the first account of the battle fought on that day, was cut off.

From a map and plan of the battle fields before us, we note that they are called the battles of Contreras and Churubusco—so called from field works of the enemy of those names. The victories were decisive, but as far as we can judge from a hasty perusal of a portion of our letters, the proposition for an armistice was made by Gen. Scott—probably at the suggestion of the British Embassy. The report we have hitherto given that the city of Mexico was at our mercy, appears to have been unfounded.

"Should peace not follow form the negotiations now pending, another battle must ensue, the enemy having a force of from fifteen to twenty thousand men yet left. But the road appears to be completely open to us, and the city is only two and a miles form our encampment."

"Our victories have been purchased at a vast loss of valuable life, as will be seen by the following list. We see names of men at the loss of whom we weep; but all have their friends, and we make no distinctions."


"*South Carolina Regiment*—Lt. Col. Dickenson, severely; Capt. James D. Blandig, slightly; Adj. Cantev, severely; Lt.

Our entire loss in killed and wounded is short of eleven hundred; that of the enemy is not well known. His loss in killed alone is believed to be fully equal to our entire loss, and it is estimated that at least 3,000 prisoners were taken. The number of his wounded was not ascertained, but is supposed to be very large. Gen. Scott himself received a wound in the leg below the knee, but from the manner in which Mr. Kendall speaks of it, we are led to hope the injury a slight one.

From the National Intelligencer from yesterday.

The government received last night letters from Mr. Trist and from officers of the army at Mexico to the 28th ult. These letters were brought by the English courier to Vera Cruz, and from New Orleans were forwarded by express to Montgomery, Alabama, and thence came by the regular mail. They confirm the previous advices of events up to Gen. Scott’s arrival before the walls of Mexico, the suspension of hostilities, &c.; but are full of interest from the accounts which they give of the battles which we have fought.

We learn, generally, that the last battle (indeed the only one of consequence after Gen. Scott left Puebla) was the hardest fought and the bloodiest which has taken place in all this sanguinary war. It commenced on the 19th; continued till night; and was resumed in the morning. Valencia’s division was finally vanquished in the morning, with the loss of all his artillery, seven hundred killed and wounded, and three thousand prisoners. The division under Santa Anna, consisting of between twenty and thirty thousand men, of his own troops and levy on masse of the City of Mexico, was engaged by five thousand men under the brave Gen. Worth, who, after an obstinate battle of long duration, a large part of it bayonet to bayonet, finally achieved a complete victory over the immense Mexican host, which broke and fled, some into the city, and large bodies elsewhere. The Mexican loss in this desperate afternoon battle was five thousand killed and wounded; and our loss was, we grieve to say, nearly a thousand men.

There is no dispatch from Gen. Scott, and, strange to say, neither the letters of Mr. Trist nor of the officers who wrote mention a single name of those who fell on our side.

The Mexican army was well supplied with artillery and strongly posted, but it was all captured. Neither their artillery, their numbers, nor their desperate resistance could withstand the valor of our troops, directed by the able and skillful dispositions of the brave and veteran Scott, whose name is associated with so many well-fought fields in the annals of our country.

After the Mexican commanders had taken refuge in the city, the aued for a suspension of hostilities, as heretofore stated, and proposed negotiation. Gen. Scott acceded to the proposition, and appointed Genls. Quitman, Persifer Smith and Pierce Commissioners to conduct the negotiations on our part. The Mexican Generals also appointed a Commission, with Ex-President Herrera at its head, and the Commissioners were to meet on the 30th to open the important business confided to them.

Gen. Scott remained encamped outside of the city.

[BRM]

MG47v48n30p2c1, September 23, 1847 THE ARMISTICE

“THE ARMISTICE. The undersigned appointed respectively-the three first by Maj. General Winfield Scott, commander-in-chief of the armies of the United States; and the two last by his excellency D. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, president of the Mexican republic and commander-in-chief of its armies, met with full powers, which were duly verified in the village of Tacubaya, on the 22nd day of August, 1847, to enter into an armistice, for the purpose of giving the Mexican government an opportunity to receiving propositions for peace from the commissioners appointed by the president of the United States, and now with the American army; when the following articles were agreed upon:

ART. 1. Hostilities shall instantly and absolutely cease between the armies of the United States of America and the United Mexican States, within 30 leagues of the capital of the latter states, to allow time to the commissioners appointed by the Mexican republic, to negotiate.

2. This armistice shall continue as long as the commissioners of the two governments may be engaged on negotiations, or until the commander of either of the said armies shall give formal notice to the other of the cessation of the armistice, and for 48 hours after such notice.

3. In the mean time, neither army shall, within thirty leagues of the city of Mexico, commence any new fortification, or military work of offence or defence, or do anything to enlarge or strengthen any existing work or fortification of that character, within the said limits.
4. Neither army shall be reinforced within the same. Any reinforcements in troops or munitions of war, other than subsistence now approaching either army, shall be stopped at the distance of twenty-eight leagues from the city of Mexico.

5. Neither army, nor any detachment from it, shall advance beyond the line it at present occupies.

6. Neither army, nor any detachment or individual of either, shall pass the neutral limits established by the last article, except under flags of truce bearing the correspondence between the two armies, or on the business authorized by the next article; and individuals of either army who may chance to straggle within the neutral limits, shall by the opposite party be kindly warned off or sent back to their own armies under flags of truce.

7. The American army shall not by violence obstruct the passage form the open country into the city of Mexico, of the ordinary supplies of food necessary to the consumption of its inhabitants, or the Mexican army within the city; nor shall the Mexican authorities, civil or military, do any act to obstruct the passage of supplies from the city, or the country needed by the American army.

8. All American prisoners of war remaining in the hands of the Mexican army, and not to heretofore exchanged, shall immediately, or as soon as practicable, be restored to the American army against a like number, having regard to rank, of Mexican prisoners captured by the American army.

9. All American citizens who were established in the city of Mexico prior to the existing war, and who have since been expelled from that city, shall be allowed to return to their respective business or families therein, without delay or molestation.

10. The better to enable the belligerent armies to execute these articles, and to favor the great object of peace, it is further agreed between the parties that any courier with dispatches that either army shall desire to send along the line from the city of Mexico or its vicinity, to and from Vera Cruz, shall receive a safe conduct from the commander of the opposing army.

11. The administration of justice between Mexicans, according to the general and state constitutions and laws, by the local authorities of the towns and places occupied by the American forces, shall not be obstructed in any manner.

12. Persons and property shall be respected in the towns and places occupied by the American forces. No person shall be molested in the exercise of his profession; nor the services of any one be required without his consent. In all cases where services are voluntarily rendered, a just price shall be paid, and trade remain unmolested.

13. Those wounded prisoners who may desire to remove to some more convenient place for the purpose of being cured of their wounds shall be allowed to do so without molestation, they still remaining prisoners.

14. Those Mexican medical officers who may wish to attend the wounded shall have the privilege of doing so, if their services be required.

15. For the more perfect execution of this agreement two commissioners shall be appointed, one by each party; who in case of disagreement shall appoint a third.

16. This is convention shall have no force or effect unless approved by their excellencies the commanders respectively of the two armies within 24 hours, reckoning from the sixth hour of the 23rd day of August, 1847.

A. Quitman,
Major Gen. U.S.A.

Persifer E. Smith,

Franklin Pearce,
Brigadier Gen. U.S.A.

IGNACIO DE MORA Y VILLAMIL,
BENITO QUJANO

A true copy of the original.

G.W. Lay, U.S.A.
Mil. Sec. to the General in chief
[BRM]
The New Orleans Bulletin, by some means, has become possessed of the suppressed position of the communication of Leonidas. We give a specimen:

“He evinced on this, as he has done on other occasions, that masterly military genius and profound knowledge of the science of war, which has astonished so much the mere martinets of the profession. His plan was very similar to that by which Napoleon effected the reduction of the Fortress of Ulm, and Gen. Scott was so perfectly well pleased with it that he could not interfere with any part of it, but left it to the gallant projector to carry it into glorious and successful execution.”

Napoleon, whose most splendid achievement, consisting in shutting an Austrian army of 80,000 men, and forcing it to surrender, by a succession of petty actions, without having fought a single pitched battle, was, before he performed it, the most experienced general in Europe. He had already commanded in five campaigns, and gained thirty pitched battles, among them Mentenotte, Lodri Castiglione, Arcola, La Favorita, Rivoli, and Merango. He had destroyed seven armies, and made two hundred thousand prisoners. He had twice conquered Italy, overrun Egypt, shook the Sultan on his throne, and made England tremble for her East India possessions. How incomparably superior must be the genius of Pillow, which can set at naught all that experience alone can gain for inferior minds, and at once rival the most profound combinations of might Coriscan! But this is an age of progress Pillow has gotten out of Blackstone, what Bonaparte found in Vauhan. Illustrious name! With what ease does he heap over such “mere martinets,” as Scott and Worth!

But it seems that he is not merely the rival of Napoleon. He puts in also a claim to share the laurel with Achilles. Only listen!

“I must relate an interesting and exciting incident that occurred during the rage of battle.---A Mexican officer being seen by one of the General Pillow’s aids to leave the enemy’s lines, and to advance several yards nearer our position, the general, as soon as he head of the impudent rashness of the Mexican, put spurs to his charger and galloped at full speed towards him. As soon as he got near to the Mexican, the general called out in Spanish, Saque su sable pura defenderes—let to the honor and process of our respective countries be determined by the issue of combat. Straightway the Mexican drew his sword with on hand and balanced his lance in the other, and rushed towards our General, who, with a revolver in one hand and his sabre in the other, waited the onset of the Mexican.---The Mexican was a large, muscular man, and handled his arms with great vigor and skill; but our general with his lance, which the latter evaded with great promptitude and avidity, using his sword, tossed the weapon of the Mexican high into the air, and then quietly blew his brains out with his revolver. Both the American and the Mexican armies witnessed this splendid effort.”

Oh, rare Gideon! On unrivalled Pillow!---- worthy to be recorded by the sublime bard, who sang

“Oh rumpsey dumpsey,
Col. Johnson killed Tecumseh!”

When shall the world ever behold thy like again, The immortal Pop Emmons, being no longer among the living, where shall we find a bard who genius is equal to the lustre of thy most illustrious achievement?---Achilles was most fortunate in finding a Homer; but who shall be the Homer of this greater than Achilles? The old Greek (so runs the fable) prayed at the tomb of his hero, that he would arise clad in all his panoply, and thus give him an opportunity to describe him as he deserved! The hero appeared, but the effulgence of his glory was greater than mortal eyesight could sustain, and the bard was from that moment blind. Warned by this great example, what mortal having least consideration for his peepers, will venture to contemplate Pillow in all his glory?---Who could tune his harp to so lofty a strain? Who hope to give posterity even a faint idea of his own overwhelming subject? There has been nothing like him since the days of the immortal Tom Thumb; unless, perhaps, history and song could press into their service the exploits of that renowned hero, known to every nursery maid in Christendom as “Jack the Giant Killer.” Well might the Delta suppress such a prosaic description of such a sublime scene! Well might it refuse its columns to every attempt to describe it, not made in the legitimate language of Heroes, the genuine Hexameter verse! The English language, it has been said “sunk beneath Milton” when he composed his immortal Epic! So must it sink beneath any man who attempts to sing of Pillow. Yet we should see the attempt. Oh! That Pop had lived to see this day!----Richmond Whig.

BRM

The New Orleans National publishes a letter dated Brazos Santiago, Sept. 3, in which it is stated that there is not a vessel at that place adopted to the transportation of the troops ordered from Gen. Taylor’s army to Vera Cruz. The writer adds----

Of course nobody is to blame for sending troops into camp on a barren desert of burning sand, where there is neither wood nor water; the stormy season at hand, and no even adhesiveness enough in the drifting and parching sands to hold a tent pin or give permanency to a tent pole. The consequence will be alternate parchings and drenchings whilst awaiting transports, which will admirably prepare the troops for the graveyards of Vera Cruz.
We commend to the particular attention of those friends of the Administration whose longing for Mexican territory is most ravenous the following evidence of public sentiment in the West on the subject:

From the Louisville Journal Sept. 17.

The Government Editor may as well permit the Western Whigs, and indeed the Whigs of all sections, to speak for themselves, as he will hardly receive many thanks form them for putting sentiments into their mouths which they spit out with scorn. His insinuation in the “Union” of last Saturday night, that the Western Whigs are in favor of stealing and annexing Mexican territory, is a calumny on their honesty, their love of country, and their reverence for the Constitution. The Western Whigs were firm and united in opposing the annexation of Texas, and now present a solid front against further appropriations of Mexican territory. They devotedly love our national Union, and sincerely believe that the disposition that now prevails to an alarming extent to wrest territory from weak neighbors is hostile to its perpetuity. They therefore oppose with all their might the further carrying of our national boundary stones into Mexican territory. They are satisfied with the Union as it is, and do not wish to see it placed in peril to gratify an unhallowed lust for what does not and ought not belong to us.

October 1847

Thursday, October 7, 1847, MG47v48n32p1c7, Old Zach a “Double F” words: 44

As Gen. Taylor is from Virginia I suppose he belongs to the double F’s, remarked a gentleman the other day half sneeringly. “Yes sir ee,” replied a volunteer standing by, “he belongs to the ‘double F’s’ sure, for he is of a fighting family.”

Thursday, October 7, 1847, MG47v48n32p2c1, The War News words:

We lay before our readers today such news from the Seat of War, as we have received during the past week, consisting as it does of vague, and in some instances contradictory accounts, which must be as unsatisfactory to the reader as they have been perplexing to us.

All that is clearly ascertained is, that the armistice has been broken- that a bloody conflict has taken place in the streets of Mexico- that another awful sacrifice of human life has been made- and that the prospect of Peace is no brighter that it was on the day when hostile cannon “placed so as to command the principle streets” of Mexico City, first provoked that wretched people to war. We are free to say, that we do not share the fears, expressed by many, that the veteran Scott and his gallant little army, are in danger of either annihilation or capture. Their ranks may be fearfully thinned by the murderous fire of the infuriated Mexicans, but we have an abiding confidence in the military skill of their leader, who has never yet been placed in a situation from which he was not able to extricate himself with honor.

But, whilst the patriot’s heart swells proudly at the recital of the brilliant triumphs of our country’s arms, the oppressive though will obtrude itself upon the mind- where is all this to end? What real and substantial benefits are to be secured to our country by this war, to compensate us for the vast expenditure of blood and treasure? Surely this new Territory which Mr. Polk and his adherents seem determined to annex to our Union, no matter at what cost of human anguish, should be called Aceldama- the field of blood! There is a legend of one of the mighty conquerors of old, which runs somewhat in this wise. The King proposed to erect a monument which should transmit to succeeding generations, a faithful record of his greatness and his glory. With this view he committed a sage who had been one of the cherished counselors of his father, as to the form and material of his proposed structure. “Shall it be,” said the majesty, “a stately pyramid or a magnificent Temple?” “Let it be a pyramid sire,” replied the philosopher. “But not of brass or marble. Make it of the skulls of your victims, and let the triumphs of your reign be inscribed upon it in characters of blood!”

Could a monstrous pyramid be made of the blackened corpses of the victims of this war, are surrounded by a moat which would be a vast receptacle of the blood and tears which it has shed, Surely the wildest votary of “manifest destiny would turn from the appalling spectacle and exclaim, “We have paid too dearly for our glory!” We are confident that if the voice of the nation could be heard, it would say to the President, “what thou doest do quickly!” If nothing less than the subjugation of Mexico is necessary to conquer a Peace,” in mercy’s name send an army into that country which will be sufficient to conclude the drama at once. We are at war, no matter who is to blame, and the desire of every patriot should be, to see it brought to a successful and speedy termination.
Plan of Union between Great Britain and the United States - We observe in a recent number of one of the London Monthly Journals, a lengthy letter from Robert Sears, Esq., of New York, headed - "Alliance of Perpetual Friendship between England and America." We take the following extracts from the letter. The sentiments will meet with the approval and concurrence of the good men of both countries.

"Never, in my humble opinion, were there two nations so prepared for a perfect truce, and combined action; never was the opportunity for arranging it so bright and promising: and never was the call, both within and without, at home and abroad, so urgent and so plain."

"It has often occurred to me, as one of the noble enterprises that could be effected in this world, if your country and ours could be indeed to enter into a solemn agreement: First, that all disputes which may arise between us shall be settled by arbitration, and never by an appeal to arms; Secondly, that we shall combine in every way which shall commend itself to the united judgments of both nations to engage in a mission of benevolence towards the entire human race."

"It is said, ‘England and America AGAINST the World!’ Let us say, ‘England and America for the World!’ How mighty would such a confederation be for the interests of peace, of freedom, of commerce, and Christianity!"

The subject is truly of great importance, and one in which Mr. Sears has been, and is now deeply engaged in bringing before the people of England and America, through the influence of that mighty instrument- the Press. A leading article on the subject, from the pen of the same gentleman, appeared but a few weeks since in one of the leading and most influential papers in the Union.

The military correspondent of the Journal of Commerce, from whose letter we made some extracts yesterday, after describing the battle of Churubusco, thus alludes to the thrilling scene of the reception of Gen. Scott by the troops, which has been before described in our paper: Richmond Times.

When it was over, the General in Chief (Scott) rode in among the troops. It would have done your heart good to hear the shout with which they made the welkin ring. Several old soldiers seized the General's hand with expressions of enthusiastic delight. Suddenly at a motion of his hand, silence ensued, when in the fullness of his heart he poured forth a few most eloquent and patriotic words, in commendation of their gallant conduct. When he ceased, there arose another sound that might have been heard in the grand plaza of Mexico.

During the thrilling scene, I looked up to a balcony of the church that had been so bravely defended. It was filled with Mexican prisoners. Among them Gen. Rincon, a venerable old soldier, was leaning forward, his countenance glowing, and his eyes sparkling with every manifestation of delight. I verily believe that the old veteran, with the spirit of a true soldier, upon beholding a victorious General so greeted by the brave men he had just led to victory, forgot, for the moment, his own position, - that he was defeated and a prisoner, - and saw and thought only of the enthusiasm by which he was surrounded.

Another Great Victory


The New Orleans Picayune of the 26th of September, received last night, contains the following very important intelligence from General Scott's army:

The steamship James L. Day, Capt. O'Grady, arrived yesterday from Vera Cruz, which place she left on the evening of the 21rst inst., bringing intelligence of the greatest importance.
As we anticipated in our paper of yesterday the negotiations resulted in nothing. The last letter from Mr. Kendall is dated the 5th inst. and our file of the Diario del Gobierno does not come down later than the 4th, but the Arco Iris of Vera Cruz has a letter from the city of Mexico dated the 10th inst., together with extracts from the Diario del Gobierno and Boletin of Allisco, to the 12th, which, together with the letter we publish. The manner in which the armistice was terminated will be learned from the extract we copy. Mr. Kendall’s letters show that a feeling of hostility was growing with the people of the capital as early as the 30th of last month, and the Congress of the State of Mexico in session at Toluca had declared against peace. Notwithstanding repeated belligerent demonstrations by the enemy, and a positive violation of the armistice in our wagons not being permitted by the mob to enter the city for provisions, negotiations were still pending to as late a date as the 6th. The Arco Iris received letters from Mexico under date of the 9th, stating that on the 7th of Mexican commissioners declared that the propositions made by Mr. Triste was inadmissible, in consequence of which Gen. Santa Anna convoked a council of Generals, who decided that notice should be given immediately to Gen. Scott that the armistice was at an end, and appointed the 9th for the recommencement of hostilities.

On the 6th Gen. Scott addressed from Tacubaya the following note to Santa Anna:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY U. STATES,
September 6, 1817

To his Excellency the President of General in Chief of the Republic of Mexico:

The 7th and 12th articles of the armistice or military convention which I had the honor of ratifying exchanging with your Excellency on the 24th ultimo, stipulate that the army under my command shall have the privilege of obtaining supplies from the city of Mexico. There were repeated violations of these articles soon after the armistice was signed, and I have now good reasons for believing that within the last twenty-four hours, if not before, the 3rd article of the same convention was also violated by the same parties. These direct breaches of good faith give to this army the full right to commence hostilities against Mexico without giving any notice. However, I will give the necessary time for any explanation, satisfaction, or reparation. If these are not given, I hereby formally notify you that if I do not receive the most complete satisfaction on all these points before 12 o’clock tomorrow, I shall consider the armistice as terminated from that hour.

I have the honor to be your Excellency’s obedient servant,
WINFIELD SCOTT

To this Santa Anna made the following reply:

HEADQ’S ARMY OF MEXICAN REPUBLIC
September 6, 1847

To his Excellency Gen. Winfield Scott, Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the United States.

Sir,- By the note of your Excellency under this date I learn, with surprise, that you consider that the civil and military authorities of Mexico have violated articles 7, 12, and 13, of the armistice which I concluded with your Excellency on the 24th of last month.

The civil and military authorities of Mexico have not obstructed the passage of provisions for the American Army; and if at times their transmission has been retarded, it has been owing to the impudence of the American agents, who, without having a previous understanding with the proper authorities, gave occasion for popular outbreaks, which it has cost the Mexican Government much trouble to repress. Last night and the night before the escorts for the provision train were ready to start, and were only detained because Mr. Hargous, the agent, desired it.

The orders given to suspend the intercourse between the two armies were addressed to private individuals, and not to the agents of the army of the United States, and were intended purposely to expedite the transmission of provisions to the army, and to confine the intercourse to that object exclusively. In return for this conduct your Excellency has prevented the owners or managers the grain mills in the vicinity of the city from furnishing flour to the city, which is a true breach of the good faith your Excellency had pledged me.

It is false that any new work or fortification has been undertaken, because one or two repairs have only served to place them in the same condition they were in on the day the armistice was entered into, accident or the convenience of the moment having caused the destruction of the then existing works. You have had early notice of the establishment of the battens covered with mud walls of the house of Garry in the city, and did not remonstrate, because the peace of the two great Republics could not be made to depend upon things grave in themselves, but of little value compared to the result in which all the friends of humanity and of the prosperity of the American continent take so great an interest.

[There is some obscurity in this sentence, which, it is probably, is owning to typographical errors.- Eds. Pic.]

It is not without grief and even indignation that I have received communications from the cities and villages occupied by the army of your Excellency, in relation to the violation of the temples consecrated to the worship of God: to the plunder of the sacred vases, and to the profanation of the images venerated by the Mexican people. Profoundly have I been afflicted by the complaints of fathers and husbands, of the violence offered to their daughters and wives; and these same cities and villages have been sacked not only in violation of the armistice, but of the sacred principles...
At half past 5 in the morning, (the 8th) the first commenced on the two flanks of Chapultepec. The left was resting on

officers refused on account of the ground being too uneven and broken for cavalry, as if it were not the same for the

being obliged to state officially or through his adjutant that he did not make the charge, because his subordinate

they did not take the position to which they were ordered, much less make the charge, as commanded, Gen. Alvarez

above all, they had made the charge which was ordered at the moment that the enemy attacked the mill del Rey,

death, that they must never forget they were Pueblanos, and to fight valiantly to the death.

We have to lament the loss of Gen. Leon, since dead; that of Col. Balderas, of the valiant Cols. Huerta and Gelati, and

retiring to Chapultepec. The enemy, according to the confession of an Irishman who came over to us in the evening,

side. Ours does not amount to 100 killed and 250 wounded. There are few missing—nearly all not killed or wounded

It is believed that Generals Twiggs and Pierce directed the attack, and they put in motion about 8,000 men.

occupied, and blowing up the house of Malta, although some say it was set on fire by a bomb fired from Chapultepec.

movement, and by 2 in the afternoon he withdrew all his forces to Tacabaya, abandoning the two points he had

loss they had suffered. The result was, that at 9 o’clock in the morning the fire of small arms had nearly ceased, and

Gen. Perez sustained the fire very well for about half an hour, when for causes at present unknown, he retired with his

forces, although he had not lost ten men. The retreat must have been fatal to Mexico, if fortunately, Gen. Leon and his

command was the battalion of Mina, whose colonel was the patriotic Balderas, and the battalions Union and La Patria,

of Oaxaca, in one of which were included the companies of Puebla, also a body from Queretaro and some others— all

composing the National Guard. The right flank rested on the house of Mata, at a distance of a quarter of a league from

Chapultepec, and occupied by 1500 of the regular army, commanded by Gen. Perez. The enemy, in two columns, with

his usual daring, attacked these points— first with artillery, and at a quarter to 6 with a rapid fire of musketry.

In spite of these two advantages which they had gained in their endeavors to attack Chapultepec, they could not affect

a farther advance, which may be owing to the resistance of our forces and the considerable

loss they had suffered. The result was, that at 9 o’clock in the morning the fire of small arms had nearly ceased, and

they were seen employed collecting their killed and wounded. At 11 o’clock, the enemy announced a retrograde

move, and by 2 in the afternoon he withdrew all his forces to Tacabaya, abandoning the two points he had

occupied, and blowing up the house of Malta, although some say it was set on fire by a bomb fired from Chapultepec.

It is believed that Generals Twiggs and Pierce directed the attack, and they put in motion about 8,000 men.

It is certain that the fire was more intense and brisk than at Churubusco. It is impossible to ascertain the loss on either

side. Ours does not amount to 100 killed and 250 wounded. There are few missing—nearly all not killed or wounded

retiring to Chapultepec. The enemy, according to the confession of an Irishman who came over to us in the evening,

carried off 400 dead and 600 to 700 wounded.

We have to lament the loss of Gen. Leon, since dead; that of Col. Balderas, of the valiant Cols. Huerta and Gelati, and

of the determined Capt. Mateos, of Puebla, who conducted himself like a hero, telling his soldiers, on the point of

defath, that they must never forget they were Pueblanos, and to fight valiantly to the death.

If the cavalry had taken the position assigned to them at 4 o’clock in the morning, by order of Gen. Santa Anna, and if,

above all, they had made the charge which was ordered at the moment that the enemy attacked the mill del Rey,

instead of flying precipitately, the action would have terminated early and the triumph would have been complete. But

they did not take the position to which they were ordered, much less make the charge, as commanded, Gen. Alvarez

being obliged to state officially or through his adjutant that he did not make the charge, because his subordinate

officers refused on account of the ground being too uneven and broken for cavalry, as if it were not the same for the
cavalry of the enemy.
It is believed that the enemy will renew the attack tomorrow by another route—either by that of La Pieded, or by that of San Antonio. May God protect our cause on this occasion.

One of the enemy’s guerillas who came with Scott, was made a prisoner and shot on the spot.

The next accounts we have from the capital come in a letter to the Arco Iris, dated the 10th instant. We subjoin a translation of it:

Mexico, Sept. 10, 1846

My Esteemed Fried: The whole day has passed without an attack. At 2 in the afternoon an alarm was created by the appearance of two columns and two guerilla parties which were seen on the causeway of Pleded. A few shots were exchanged and the enemy withdrew. According to all appearance we shall be attacked tomorrow at three points, as the enemy, during the night has been reconnoitering the country, by means of Camp lanterns (farot de Campana.) The government has taken $300,000 which were being sent by a commercial house to the camp of the enemy.

Gen. Smith has expired, and by the enclosed slip you will see that the Americans mutilated, and cruelly assassinated the unfortunate Irish, who were taken at the battle of Churubusco.

Sept 11- It is 7 o’clock in the morning and thus far nothing has transpired.

In addition, we find the subjoined extract from the Boletin de Atlisco, containing intelligence from the capital, under the date of the 11th and 12th instant, which give a continued narrative of the operations of the two armies:

Mexico, Sept. 12, 1847

My Esteemed Friend, under cover of what I sent you last night I stated nothing new, at which we were surprised, as it did not rain, and we expected to be attacked. Thus we passed the morning until 3 o’clock in the evening, when the alarm bell was rung, and it was ascertained that there was firing of artillery at Chapultepec and San Antonio Abad. In the first point it was caused by the approach of a force of the enemy’s cavalry, which took position on the hills of Tacubaya; moving from that village towards Morales, and there a skirmish with a party of our cavalry took place, in which a captain and several of our soldiers were killed and some twenty of the enemy wounded with the lance.

In San Antonio Abad the fire upon the battery, of the enemy, which is in a little hermitage half in ruins and situated at the end of the Causeway del Nino Perdido or La Piedad, which leads to San Angel, the enemy fired from six to eight bombs, of which but one fell without exploding. The others we saw burst in the air. We then gave them several shots, well directed, one of which fell within the very hermitage, raising a great dust; in consequence of which the enemy did not fire more that three of four shots up to 6 o’clock. A strong norther, which was blowing, prevented us from hearing them, and we only saw the smoke.

It is said that tomorrow they will open with forty pieces on the batteries of “garitas.” [At the moment we cannot hit upon an English word which will convey the meaning of this. Garitas are the places in the immediate vicinity of cities, at which the revenue is collected- Eds Pic.] Or, perhaps, bombard the city from these points situated in the neighborhood of the village of Piedad, which I have no doubt they will do after taking any one of the garitas, particularly the one of San Antonio Abad, which is the most advanced, being in a straight line with Palacio, which is nearly on a parallel with the batteries of the enemy and takes them in flank.

It appears that the enemy is convinced of the impossibility of reducing the capital by any other means because there is no doubt that he has lost 900 to 1000 men who were placed hors de combat by the action of the 8th, and among them 37 officers and 3 colonels killed and 1 colonel wounded. It appears that the death of Gen. Pillow is uncertain.

In compensation for his loss, or whatever you like, they hung yesterday at San Angel all the prisoners of the Legion of St. Patrick they took at Churubusco, when all the world thought they would have been spared capital punishment. They have expelled from their houses all the inhabitants of the village of Mizcoac, in order to establish there their hospitals and head quarters.

Last night a parcel of men started to work at the fortification at the call of the justices of the peace, animated by the most lively feeling. Besides the Penon and Chapultepec, where the natural advantages, there were strong defenses, and where they are first, second, and third lines of defense, all the “garitas” are strongly fortified, having besides between La Piedad and San Antonio Abad three batteries and one trench which transverses diagonally the grazing grounds and united the two “garitas.”

Sept. 12- At 5 o’clock in the morning the bells awoke us by the announcement of an alarm. The batteries of San Antonio Abad and the corresponding battery of the enemy opened a fire upon each other. We have seen discharged by the enemy a multitude of bombs the greater number of which burst in the air, and long before they reach our trenches. At the same hour a firing commenced at Chapultepec, on the right side of which and in the mountains, whence came the attack, at a short distance from the enemy are stationed our forces of cavalry and infantry, who are watching the enemy.
We opened, at half after 6, from the battery of the "garita" of Behen, or it may be from that starting from the end of Pasco Noeva, which is situated in the angle formed by the gateway leading to the villages of La Piedad and Tacubaya. But where the enemy directed all his efforts appears to be the "garita" of San Antonio Abad. The servant is at the door; I must close- the alarm bell still continues to ring.

This brings us to the 12th, but at what hour of the day the letter was closed we are not informed. Of the denouement we have only a brief account, but sufficient: to assure us that our arms have achieved a brilliant triumph, and that our army is "reveling in the Halls of Montezumas." The only reliable account we have of the last struggle before the Capital is in a letter addressed to Mr. Dimond, our collector at Vera Cruz, from Orizaba, which will be found below. Our correspondent of Vera Cruz vouches for its accuracy, and we have reason to believe it is from the same source as was the letter giving the first and a correct account of the battles of Contreras and Churubusco.

Thursday, October 7, 1847, MG47v48n32p2c7, Latest News  words: 437

Gen. Scott in Full Possession of the City of Mexico

Since the above was in type, we have received the Baltimore Sun, which copies from the N.Y. Sun, a letter from a Spanish Mexican to a mercantile firm in New York, which gives intelligence up to the 19th-- three days later than the accounts by the James L. Day.

The letter states that on the 13th the Americans made a demonstration on the Mill of El Rey and Chapultepec, a hill between Tacubaya and the city, "overlooking a vast range of country, and commanding the road between Tacubaya and the city." The letter goes on to state, that the American troops were twice repulsed, but on the third onset succeeded in taking the fortress on the hill, "he (General Scott) then turned his batteries on the Mill, which the Mexicans were forced to abandon." "The enemy," says the Mexican, "fought like devils, whom it was impossible to defeat without annihilating." The Mexican loss was, as the writer states, not over 300, whilst that of the assailants was over 400, (Mexican authority, remember.) Santa Anna caused a number of ditches to be cut, which retarded the progress of Gen. Scott so, that he did not reach the gates till late in the evening, "here he halted and attempted to bombard the city, which he did during the balance of the evening, and the next day, doing immense damage. In some instances, whole blocks were destroyed and a great number of men, women and children killed. The picture was awful."

Gen. Scott then changed his plan and determined to take the city by storm. "Before he passed the gates, a storm of balls and stones rained from the houses of his troops," he nevertheless made his way towards the plaza, and took the convent San Isador, and at once set his Sappers to work to cut a way through the houses. "In some instances, whole houses were blown up, and this he made his way to the plaza, which he entered with great loss. Here he opened a heavy fire on the Cathedral and Palace. Seeing further resistance useless our troops retired, and on the 15th of September, the enemy was in possession of the Mexican capital." The writer confesses a loss on their side of over 4000, and sets down our loss at 1000. Santa Anna has retired, severely wounded, to Guadalupe. "Thousands," says the writer, "are gathered on the hills, determined to cut off all supplies from the enemy! We shall yet have vengeance. Many of the killed and wounded of the Mexicans were women and children.

Thursday, October 7, 1847, MG47v48n32p2c7, Tennessee Volunteers  words: 261

Upon the call of the War Department for five companies of Volunteers, fifteen have responded, and lost cast for a selection. The five successful companies are about to be mustered into service. They are by this time in Memphis.

The ten unsuccessful companies in the ballot have offered their services to the President, if another requisition should be needed.

Here is an example for Virginia! Will it be lost upon the valiant supporters of the war, who are so prompt to resent Whig opposition? By why need we ask this? Have we not ready sufficient proof, that no matter how loud the professions from the mouth, the hearts of the Democracy of Virginia are not in the contest. They feel, that while something of the soldier’s fame may be won in it, there is nothing in a War of Invasion upon which the soldier’s conscience can repose in the hours of calm reflection.

Who can doubt that some such influence is operating in Virginia, when it is found that even two companies cannot be raised in five months? We will not believe that the courage and chivalry of the Old Dominion have departed- and therefore we are bound to give the most reasonable construction to the lethargy which now prevails. But we may venture to ask, has the “pride of other days” faded, or has “glory’s thrill” lost its heart-warming potency in the bosoms of our young men? We think it not improbable that some of the greyheads will yet have to rally to the standard of the State – Rich. Republican.

[JKM]
Gen. Santa Anna attributes his ill success in the battles of Contreras and Churubusco to the disobedience of one of his Generals- \textit{Valencia}- whom his had ordered on the morning of the 18th to quit San Angel and fall back on the village Coyocan. Valencia disregarding this order, thereby destroyed the whole plan of his operations, and made himself responsible for the defeat of the Mexican arms. This is the best excuse Santa Anna has yet given the Mexican people for the loss of a battle, and he has been obliged to give a good many.

\[\text{JKM}\]

From the \textit{Raleigh Register}

We have the pleasure of laying before our readers today a letter from Gen. Taylor, responding to the meeting held in his favor, in this city, on the 3rd of July last. Like everything proceeding from his pen, it is characterized by a modesty and simplicity, always indicative of true greatness. It is very evident, however, on its face, that the General while he does no seek will not decline the nominations of the people all over the Union:

\begin{flushright}
Correspondence  
Raleigh, July 5, 1847
\end{flushright}

To Maj. Gen. Z. Taylor

Sir- In obedience to a Resolution passed at a very large and respectable meeting held in this City on the 3rd. inst., respecting the next occupancy of the Executive Chair of our Republic, I have the pleasure of enclosing a copy of the proceedings of that assemblage of the people, and sincerely hope their perusal will afford you as much pleasure, as their passage, without a dissenting voice, did your numerous friends on that occasion. We will cordially esteem your many virtues, and great abilities, and well-tried patriotism, and desire, with your approbation, to manifest our sincerity, by voting for you to fill the highest office in the gift of a FREE PEOPLE. We hold in grateful remembrance your services to our common country, and are enthusiastic in your cause; because we believe the true interest of our country will be promoted by your election to the Presidency.

With sentiments of high esteem and respect, I am your obedient servant.

GEO. W. HAYWOOD

Headquarters Army of Occupation  
Camp near Monterey, Aug. 2, 1847

Sir- The copy of the Resolutions recently passed in the City of Raleigh, N.C., on the 3rd of July, and which you were charged with communicating to me, has been with your letter duly received.

Be pleased to convey to the voters of that District of North Carolina, my deep appreciation of the high honor they have conferred upon me in their nomination. While I am willing to yield to the popular will, and serve the country in any capacity to which I may be freely and unanimously called, I may be permitted to say, that I have not the assurance to believe that my abilities are suited to the discharge of such responsible duties as rest upon the office of Chief Magistracy. My best efforts, however, will always be exercised in the cause of the country, in whatever position it may be my fortune to be placed.

Accept for yourself, sir, my best acknowledgements for the very courteous and flattering manner in which you were pleased to communicate these resolutions, and my wishes for your continued prosperity and health.

\begin{flushright}
I am sir, with high respect  
Your most obedient servant  
Z. TAYLOR  
Maj. Gen. U.S.A.
\end{flushright}

Geo. W. Haywood, Esp., Chairman late public meeting, Raleigh, N.C.

\[\text{JKM}\]
The New Orleans Delta has at length states unequivocally that the paragraphs inserted in the famous letter of "Leondias" (the camp Bosweil in Gen. Pillow,) are not genuine, and that they have no sort of similarity to those portions of the letter of "Leondias," which, for very good reasons doubtless, the Delta thought it advisable to suppress. Let it be admitted, then, that the Bulletin and the Picayune were hoaxed, and that we were caught in the same trap. What must be the public estimate of an individual in regard to whom such a hoax could be successful attempted? The extracts were believed to be genuine, because they were characteristic. If such stories had been told of Gen. Taylor or Gen. P.F. Smith, or indeed of any one but Gen. Pillow, there is not a man so dull as not to have pronounced them silly fables at once. And again: The Delta has not told us why it suppressed those portions of the letter of "Leondias," which, by the admission of its editors, are so "exceedingly rich," nor can it be prevailed upon to let its readers see them. Why so chary? After claiming for Gen. Pillow all the credit of planning the battles and achieving the victories of the 19th and 20th of August, what must have been the character of that part of the narrative which even the "organ of Gen. Pillow" would not print? It may be, we repeat that the paragraphs published by the Bulletin and the Picayune are not the "suppressed" portions of Leonidas's letter- but it yet remains to be seen that the latter are not quite as "rich" that is to say, as ridiculous- as the former.

P.S. Since the foregoing was in type, we have received the Picayune of the 21rst, in which it is admitted, on the authority of a gentleman what has seen the original letter of Leonidas, that the passages heretofore published are spurious- but it adds, on the same authority, that those actually in the letter, are suppressed by the Delta, were scarcely inferior to the imaginative ones in "richness." – in their fulsome laudation of Gen. Pillow's military prowess "So far as we are at present informed (adds the Picayune,) the infamy of the transaction rests either with Mr. Joseph Grant of Camp street, or Judge Alexander Walker of the Delta, or with both of them." Mr. Grant furnished the passages to the Bulletin and Picayune, and told the Editors that he had those passages in the handwriting of Judge Walker himself!


[JKM]

Thursday, October 7, 1847 MG47v48n32p3c2, Gen. Taylor’s Position words: 179

It must be confessed that, if peace do not follow Mr. Trist's negotiations at the capital, the position of Gen. Taylor will be one of imminent peril. Santa Anna may succeed in removing a part of his force from the capital, or whether he do or not, there are Paredes, Valencia, who is said to have escaped from the city, and a dozen more Generals who can raise a large force at any time, and make a decent upon Saltillo, where there are not more than three thousand troops at this time. Gen. Taylor is himself three miles from Monterey, with three hundred dragoons at the outside and Bragg's Battery. In Monterey itself there are but about five hundred men. The guerillas are increasing in numbers, and if our enemy were any other than Mexicans, we should expect daily to hear of their pouncing down upon the Old Chief at his present encampment. We see no provision made for reinforcing Gen. Taylor, should the war be protracted, and we have no proof that hostilities will soon close.- Rich. Rep.

[JKM]

Thursday, October 7, 1847 MG47v48n32p3c2, General Paredes words: 202

A New Orleans paper of the 21rst mentions that one of the Mexican prisoners in that place had received a letter from Mexico, dated in the afternoon of the 28th of August, in which it is stated that Gen. Paredes had entrusted the city of Mexico with a large force, arrested Santa Anna, and imprisoned him. The Picayune of the next day says:

"We do not believe a word in the Mexican letter report. After the experience of the past few months, it is enough for that the intelligence comes through a Mexican prisoner. We have not been badly bitten by these gentry, but we have "heard tell "of those who have. But furthermore, we have published letter from Mexico and Tacubaya of the 28th of August, and we have seen many more of the same date. They are from all sources- American, Mexican, Spanish, and English- and none of them have made any mention of this movement of Paredes. We all expect much from him, but that he had so far succeeded as to have his great rival in prison on the 28th ult., we do no credit at all. There is quite too much of the Mexican about this story."

[JKM]

Thursday, October 14, 1847, MG47v48n33p1c6, Letters of John P. Kennedy words: 4,971

No.2

To the citizens of the 4th Congressional District, and particularly to the Mechanics and Workingmen of the District of both Political Parties.

My subject is now the Mexican war. I mean to devote this and one or two other letters to that subject, for two reasons: First, that, intrinsically, it is a very important topic to the people of the United States just now; and Second, because there has been a great deal of studied and perverse misrepresentation spread abroad in regard to it, with a view to
bring the Whigs into disesteem, and to cover up and conceal a very awkward political blunder made by Mr. Polk. The outcry, however, has not yet hurt the Whigs in the opinion of any judicious men, nor has it been very successful in hiding Mr. Polk's delinquencies from the public. Some men seem to think that to slander the Whigs is the best way to screen the President. Mr. Polk himself has set the example in his last annual message, in which he intimates that any man who will not adopt his opinion about the origin of the war, is a traitor. A traitor for not believing what he, the President, announces to be a fact! Some of "the organs" repeat this miserable slang. One of them says, for instance, "the treason of Benedict Arnold is nothing" compared to this refusal of the Whigs to believe Mr. Polk- for this is the amount of it. When men write and publish such driveling nonsense as this, it only shows what a contemptuous opinion they have for those whom they expect to believe them.

I intend to give a history of the origin of the present war, which I shall take, as much as possible, from the official records of the country, and from the recorded opinions and proceedings of the most distinguished leaders of the Democratic Party. These I shall endeavor to lay before you in the simplest and clearest narrative I can give. You will then be able to judge for yourselves, whether the Whigs are right or wrong in what they have said and done about this war.

It is proper, therefore, before I begin the narrative, that I should explain to you what have been and are the opinions the resolves of the Whigs in regard to the war. I will do this in a few words:

1. First: The Whig party believe that whatever wrongs or injuries Mexico may have done to this country- and we do not deny they were many- still the President had no right to make war upon Mexico, without the consent of Congress, to whom the war making power exclusively belongs.

2. Second: That the present war did not begin by the act of Mexico, as Mr. Polk declared, but by the act of Mr. Polk himself, in ordering an army to march into territory under the jurisdiction of Mexico, for the acquisition of which our government had proposed to open negotiations with Mexico, in the hope of being able to purchase it from the nation.

3. Third: The Whigs have held, and still hold, the opinion- notwithstanding the manner this war was commenced,- that, being commenced, their duty was to give the administration all the supplies of men and money which it might ask for, to prosecute the war to a successful termination; and accordance with this opinion they have voted for everything asked for that purpose by the government- and will continue so to vote, if the war is to be continued.

The Whigs, in common with the whole country, feel a grateful pride in the gallantry of our soldiers, and in the glorious success of their arms. In proof of their willingness to encounter the perils and sacrifices of the war, they have furnished their share,- and more than their share- of the bravest officers and men, to the army. Without, therefore, boasting to be more patriotic that their opponents, they treat with a becoming scorn all attempts to represent them as wanting in love of country, or in any just appreciation of its true glory.

These are the views and sentiments of the Whigs, everywhere announced and acted upon.

I now proceed to show upon what foundation their opinions have been formed in regard to Mr. Polk's conduct in the origin of the war.

This will require that I should recall a few facts connected with the annexation of Texas. The treaty for the annexation was made at Washington on the 12th of April, 1844. This treaty was rejected by the Senate on the 8th of June following, by the vote of 35 to 16- Messrs. Benton and Wright both voting against it.

I have given these two names because they may be considered undisputed leaders of the Democratic Party.

What were their objections to this treaty? I shall presently quote their own words to show what their objections were; but before I do so it was necessary to say a word as to the geographical division of Mexico.

It has never been denied by any one that the river Nueces was the boundary which divided the province of Texas from the province of Tamaulipas, through which latter province the Rio Grande runs, into the Gulf- Matamoras being its capital. This was the old boundary. And when Mexico, in 1824, formed her confederation of nineteen States, Tamaulipas became one State and Texas another, with the same boundary, to wit, the Nueces, separating one from the other, as the Potomac separates Virginia from Maryland. In 1835 the confederation was broken up by Santa Anna. Tamaulipas and the other States joined the new Government, but Texas refused; revolted against the Government, and declared her independence as a separate State. That independence she secured by the battle of San Jacinto, in 1836.

A few months after the battle of San Jacinto, the Congress of Texas determined the enlarge the boundaries, and accordingly passed a law by which they declared their boundary, on the west, to be the Rio Grande from the mouth to its source; thence due north to the 42nd degree of latitude; and from that point along the boundary of the United States to the Gulf of Mexico. This boundary, as you will see by looking at the map, - which I hope you will do.- extends far beyond the limits of the State of Texas as it was known to the Mexican Confederation, and takes in a large part of four Mexican provinces which have never revolted against the Government, nor ever been conquered by Texas. These four provinces are Tamaulipas, Coahuila, Chihuahua and New Mexico.

What right Texas had to extend her boundary over her neighbors has never been explained. I find that she even had it
in contemplation to take the whole of California into her empire: - She only did not do this because it was not convenient. My authority for this fact is a matter of public record. In August, 1836, Gen. Jackson sent Mr. Henry M. Morfit to Texas, as an agent on the part of this Government, to inquire what was doing, and particularly to look after the subject of annexation. This gentleman wrote several dispatches to the Government, which have been published by Congress. In one of these he writes- "The political limits of Texas proper, previous to the last revolution, were the Nueces river on the West; along the Red river on the North; the Sabine on the East, and the Gulf of Mexico on the South."

Then on the 27th of August, in the same year, he writes further - "It was the intention of this Government, immediately after the battle of San Jacinto, to have claimed from the Rio Grande along the river to the 30th degree of latitude, and thence due West to the Pacific. It was found, however, that this would not strike a convenient point in California; that it would be difficult to control a wondering population so distant, and that the territory now determined upon would be sufficient for a young Republic."

These letters may be found in the documents of the House of Representatives No. 35, 2nd session of the 24th Congress.

So, it appears, from the gentleman's researches, that the only reason why Texas was not made to embrace California was a mere matter of convenience, and that she had determined what she was about to take from the four provinces I have mentioned above, was quite sufficient for a young Republic!

I shall continue this narrative in the next letter.

J.P. Kennedy

No.3

In my last number, I showed you what Mr. Morfit, the agent of our Government in Texas, reported to the department at Washington, in regard to the question of the boundary of the new Republic. Texas was at the moment, in the flush of extravagant exultation for the victory of San Jacinto, which was won only a short time before Mr. Morfit arrived, and she manifestly thought she could assume what boundary she pleased. In point of right, her dominion could only extend over the territory belonging to the old State of Texas. Tamaulipas had not revolted, neither had Cahuila, nor Chihuahua nor New Mexico- nor had any portion of these states been conquered by Texas in the war. The extension of her boundary, therefore, over any part of the territory belonging to these States, was a mere nullity,- just as much so, as if Maryland were to pass an act in her Legislature extending the limits of this State to the James River. And if Texas had chosen to include California, as Mr. Morfit tells us she thought of doing, her right to that region would have not been a whit less substantial than it was to the Rio Grande.

We may now come back to the treaty of annexation, and we shall be able to understand why Mr. Benton and Mr. Wright voted against it. The language of the 1st article of that treaty, so far as relates to the session, is as follows: The Republic of Texas, action in conformity with the wishes of the people and every department of its government, cedes to the United States all its territories to be held by them in full property and sovereignty.

Now, when this treaty came into discussion in the Senate, Mr. Benton took a leasing part and made a speech, which was very carefully studied, and which may be justly said to be distinguished for its ability. In that speech he uses the following language:

"In a poor letter which I lately published on the subject of Texas, and in answer to a letter from the members of the Texas Congress, a copy of which was published without my knowledge, while the original has not yet come to hand: in this poor letter, I took occasion to discriminate between the old province of Texas, and the new Republic of Texas, and to show that the latter includes what was never any part of Texas, but a part of the present and former province of New Mexico, and parts of other departments of the Mexican Republic. To discriminate between these Texasas, and to show to my fellow citizens that I took the trouble to look at the Texas question before I decided it, and subjected my mind to the process of considering what I was about before I spoke. I wrote as follows:

"With respect to Texas, her destiny is fixed. Of course, I, who consider what I am about, always speak of Texas as constituted at the time of the treaty of 1819, and not as constituted by the Republic of Texas comprehending the capital and forty towns and villages of New Mexico! Now and always as fully under the dominion of the Republic of Mexico, as Quebec and all the towns and villages of Canada are under the dominion of Great Britain! It is of the Texas- the old Spanish Texas- of which I always speak; and of her, I say, her destiny is fixed! Whatever may be the fate of the present movement, her destination is to return to her natural position- that of a part of the American Union."

"I adhere to this discrimination between the two Texases, and not propose to see which of the two we are asked by the President of the United States to incorporate into the American Union."

He then read the first article of the treaty, which I have quoted above; and after some further remarks, to show that the Texas proposed to be annexed was the described in the act of the Texan Congress, he proceeded to say;

"From all this it results that the treaty before us, besides the incorporation of Texas proper, also incorporates into our Union the left bank of the Rio Grande, in its whole extent from its head spring, near the South Pass in the Rocky Mountains, to its mouth in the Gulf of Mexico, four degrees south of New Orleans, in latitude 26. It is a 'grand and
Mr. Benton then went on to show what provinces this line includes, their population, their towns, cities, etc.

"These- he says- "in addition to the old Texas- these parts of four States- these towns and villages- these people and territory- these flocks and herds- this slice of the Republic of Mexico, two thousand miles long and some hundred broad- all this our President has cut off from its mother empire, and presents to us and declares it is our’s until the Senate rejects it! He calls it Texas! And the cutting off he calls re-annexation! Humbolt call it New Mexico, Chihuahua, Coahuila and Nuevo Santander, (now Tamaulipas,) and the civilized world may quality this re-annexation by the application of some odious and terrible epithet.”

In the course of his speech, he goes further and says:

"The treaty in all that relates to the boundary of the Rio Grande, is an act of unparallel outrage on Mexico.”

These extracts are made from a copy of Mr. Benton’s speech delivered in the Senate of the United States on the 16th, 18th and 20th of May, 1844, as revised by himself and published in the Congressional Globe.

Mr. Calhoun, the Secretary of State attempted to repel these charges brought against his treaty, by referring to his dispatches both to Mr. Shannon and to Mr. Green, who were the agents of our government, at that time, in Mexico- to show that we never meant to claim the territory embraced in the act of the Congress of Texas, but that, on the contrary, we were very desirous to open a friendly negotiation with Mexico for the purchase of such a boundary as would be most convenient. To express this purpose to the Mexican Government, Mr. Calhoun wrote to Mr. Green on the 10th of April, 1844-

"You are enjoined by the President, to assure the Mexican Government, that it is his desire to settle all questions between the two countries which may grow out of this treaty, or any other cause, on the most liberal and satisfactory terms, INCLUDING THAT OF BOUNDARY.”

This declaration, however, did not satisfy the Senate. They were not willing to give any sanction to such a claim as the words of the treaty covered. Mr. Walker endeavored to persuade them, and so did Mr. Woodbury, that the treaty could only convey what actually belonged to Texas, and, therefore, that it would be void as regarded the territory to which Texas had no right. But both of these gentlemen made arguments in favor of the claim to the Rio Grande, this foreshadowing what Mexico might expect if the treaty should be ratified: and so the Senate rejected the treaty by the decisive vote I have mentioned.

In the course of these proceedings upon the question of annexation, Mr. Benton still more explicitly expressed his views of the character of the act by offering the following resolution:-

"That the incorporation of the left bank of the Rio del Norte into the American Union, virtue of a treaty with Texas, comprehending as the said incorporation would do, a part of the Mexican department of New Mexico, Chihuahua, Coahuila and Tamaulipas, would be an act of direct aggression upon Mexico, for all the consequences of which the United States would stand responsible.”

Mr. Wright took no part in the debate upon this question in the Senate. He voted with Mr. Benton against the treaty, and upon his return to New York after the close of the session, he made a speech at Watertown, in which he states his reasons for his vote:

"I felt it my duty”- he remarked in that speech- "to vote against the ratification of the treaty for the annexation. I believe that the treaty, from the boundaries that must be implied from it, - embraced a country to which Texas had no claim, over which she had never asserted jurisdiction, and which she had no right to cede.” "It appeared to me then” – he continued- "if Mexico should tell us, ‘We don’t know you, we have no treaty to make with you,’ – and we were left to take possession by force, we must take the country as Texas had ceded it to us, and in doing that, we must do injustice to Mexico, and take a large portion of New Mexico, the people of which have never been under the jurisdiction of Texas. This to me was an insurmountable barrier- I could not place the country in that position.”

This is the language of eminent democrats upon the question of the Texan boundary. I purposefully abstain from collating the opinions of eminent Whigs to the same point, because I desire to confront Mr. Polk, not with his adversaries, but with his political friends.
I think you will no be satisfied, from the speeches and documents I have quoted, that Messrs. Benton, Wright and Calhoun, all three, have distinctly avowed their conviction that Texas had no right to cede to us the territory which borders upon the Rio Grande, and that consequently by no cession from Texas could we obtain any just claim to that territory.

In the next letter I will show you upon what grounds Texas was finally admitted into the Union.

J.P. Kennedy

No.4

In the last two letters I have shown you the objections taken by certain prominent leaders of the Democratic Party, against the treaty of annexation, and that these objections referred exclusively to the extent of territory claimed by Texas.

You will see, from what I am now about to lay before you, that before Texas could be annexed, the administration and its friends were compelled virtually to disavow any purpose of taking more territory than was included in the old boundaries of Texas- unless by the consent of Mexico herself- in other words that Congress would not agree to annex Texas with her boundary on the Rio Grande.

The treaty was rejected, as I have said, on the 8th of June, 1844. On the 11th of June the President sent a message to the House of Representatives, informing them of the fact of the rejection by the Senate, and, in effect, asking them to take up the subject in the way of ordinary legislation. This message was referred to the Committee of Foreign Affairs, and nothing was done during the remainder of that session. In this message the President refers to the boundary question, and says of it, that it was- "purposely left open for negotiation with Mexico, as affording the best opportunity for the most friendly and pacific arrangements."

At the next session of Congress in December 1844, the question of annexation was immediately resumed . . .

[Note: Microfilm too light to read several later- JKM]

In accordance with these views of the respective rights of Mexico and the United States in this matter of boundary, Mr. Benton's bill proposed, as you have seen, that we should negotiate for a boundary in the desert which lies immediately west of the Nueces. Of course he was satisfied, before he made this proposition, that Texas had no actual rights beyond the Nueces. A vast desert lies between that river and the Rio del Norte, which Mr. Benton thought a good national boundary, and worth negotiating for with Mexico.

At the same time, or the next day after Mr. Benton offered this proposition in the Senate, the Committee of Foreign Relations in the House, by Mr. Charles J. Ingersoll, their Chairman, reported Joint Resolutions for the annexation. These were followed by the number of propositions for the same purpose, which were offered almost daily for several days, by different members. A long debate took place, in the course of which Mr. Charles J. Ingersoll, speaking on this subject of the boundary, - which I have shown your produced so much objection to this treaty, - took occasion to explain the views of the Committee of Foreign Relations of the Executive on that point. He said "the territorial limits are marked in the configuration of this continent by an Almighty hand. The Platte, the Arkansas, the Red, and the Mississippi rivers- are naturally our waters with their estuaries in the Bay of Mexico. The stupendous deserts between the Nueces and the Rio Bravo, (the Rio Grande) are the natural boundaries between the Anglo Saxon and the Mauritanian races. There ends the valley of the West. There Mexico begins." In the same speech, he apprises the House that he has authority for saying that there will be no difficulty with Mexico- that we should be able to buy her consent to the cession we desired.

"I am happy"- is his language- "to be authorized to assure this House that those beat acquainted with the true state of things apprehend little of no danger of war. The main sinew of war, Money, will head the break and end the controversy amicably."

This quotation from the speech of the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, will enable you to understand precisely what Mr. Calhoun meant when on the 10th of September previous, he wrote this language to Mr. Shannon, our Minister in Mexico- "You are instructed to renew the declaration made to the Mexican Secretary by our Charge d'Affaires, in announcing the conclusion of the treaty, that the measure was adopted in no spirit of hostility to Mexico, and that, if annexation should be consummated, the united States will be prepared to adjust all questions growing out of it, including that of boundary, on the most liberal terms."

Can anyone doubt, after reviewing these facts that our Government had pledged itself to abstain from claiming any boundary that would be offensive to Mexico- and particular to make no claim bounded on the limits set forth in the Texan act of Congress? Can anyone doubt that Congress was unwilling to insist upon the Rio Grande (or Del Norte) as the rightful boundary?

We shall see the determination of Congress in reference to this question, more fully developed in what eventually took place.

Of the several propositions for annexation which were offered in the House of Representatives, that of Mr. Brown of...
Tennessee, was finally adopted on the 13th of January, 1845. Mr. Brown offered his resolutions as a substitute for those of the Committee. They began this way-

Resolved. “That Congress doth consent that the territory properly included within and rightfully belonging to the Republic of Texas may be created into a new State,” etc; and “that the foregoing consent is given on the following condition” to wit:

“Said State shall be formed subject to the adjustment by this Government of all questions of boundary that may arise with other Governments,”

On the 25th of January these resolutions were passed in the House of Representatives, by a vote of 119 to 96, and on the next day passed the Senate without alteration in any material point.

Now I pause here in my narrative to ask you to remark the very guarded phraseology of these joint resolutions by which it was agreed to annex Texas. They say, “the territory included within, and rightfully belonging to, the Republic of Texas.” Why was this language inserted? Several of the resolutions proposed by others in the House do not contain it. Congress would not agree to those other resolutions, but adopted those only which contained this language. Why did Congress insist upon a condition that the State of Texas should be formed “subject to the adjustment by this Government of all questions of boundary that might arise with other Governments”? What other Government was there? None but Mexico with whom we could have any difficulty. What was that difficulty?- The pretension set up by Texas to extend her boundary to the Rio Grande. If Texas had a right to that boundary, what had we to adjust with Mexico? Nothing. If Texas had this right, what do those resolutions mean by laying such stress upon the words “territory properly included within and rightfully belonged to, the Republic of Texas. Manifestly they mean that the Republic of Texas had made pretensions to territory not “properly included within,” nor “rightfully belonging to” it.

But, as if the Congress of the United States was determined to express the most unequivocal dissent from the pretensions of Texas- as made known in her act of Congress of 1836- and to repudiate the notion that Texas, by that act, had any claim to the boundary of the Rio Grande, they passed a law, at the very same session, in which they agreed to annex Texas, of which the title was, “An act allowing a drawback upon foreign merchandize exported in the original packages to Chihuahua and Santa Fe in Mexico.” This bill was passed in the House of Representatives on the 21st of February nearly a month after the passage of the resolutions for annexation; and was amended with a view to include another foreign country by adding the words, “and the British North American provinces, adjoining to the United States.”

Now, the object of this bill was to entitle any merchant who should import goods into the United States, to have refunded to him if he exported them in the original packages to Santa Fe in Mexico- thereby recognizing Santa Fe to be a foreign country, as it undoubtedly was. Yet Congress had, just a month before they passed this bill, agreed to annex Texas to this Union, and Texas had, by her act of Congress of 1836, extended her limits to the Rio Grande, by which she included Santa Fe. It is clear, therefore, from this fact alone- if it were not still more clear from the whole history of the case which I have given you- that Congress had no idea of recognizing the claim of Texas to the Rio Grande, but, on the contrary, directly and unequivocally repelled that claim and refused in any way to allow it.

This is all that I have to bring before you touching the history of the annexation. What I have submitted to you shows clearly, and beyond all dispute-

1st. That Texas proper- and by that I mean the Texas which revolted against Mexico and secured her independence-did not extend to the Rio Grande.

2nd. That the treaty for annexation was rejected because it was supposed to give color to a claim to extend Texas to the Rio Grande.

3rd. That the Government disavowed any purpose to assent to a claim to the Rio Grande, but, on the contrary, desired to open a negotiation with Mexico for the purchase of that boundary.

4th. That the Joint Resolution upon which finally Texas was annexed, carefully provided against taking any territory that did not rightfully belong to Texas.

5th and lastly. That Congress, by the most explicit act of legislation, in relation to the drawback, announced that the country included within the new limits of Texas, and beyond the old limits, was a foreign country belonging to Mexico, and that consequently the territory on the Rio Grande did not “rightfully belong” to the Republic of Texas.

I am now prepared to speak of the manner in which this Mexican war began, and to examine the question how far Mr. Polk acted in accordance with his powers and duties under the Constitution in reference to that manner.

This will be the subject of my next.

J.P. Kennedy
The New Orleans Picayune make the following judicious and seasonable suggestion:

"The positions of our two commanding generals- Taylor reduced to the feeblest defensive strength, and Scott sat down we know not to what extent, in an enemy’s city of two hundred thousand population- are such as to demand the immediate attention of the Government. Santa Anna is doubtless still strong enough to menace the valley of the Rio Grande, and there should be no delay in reinforcing Gen. Taylor. With Gen. Scott the demand for more troops must be equally pressing. He is not only in a city containing a hostile population of two hundred thousand, but has Santa Anna in his immediate vicinity, and we have had too many proofs of the celerity with which he can raise armies to trust to his inactivity. Prompt and energetic action is required of our Government, or much of the work that has been done may have to be done over again. The Mexicans are learning to fight from us, as did the Russians under Peter the Great from Charles the Twelfth, and we cannot be too well or too soon prepared for some new demonstration on their part.”

In order to weaken as much as possible the effect of Mr. Kennedy’s letters to the people of Baltimore, some of the Democratic presses of Maryland furnished their readers with the gratuitous information, that the hostile demonstrations on the banks of the Rio Grande were advised by Gen. Taylor. The fact is, that Gen. Taylor never advised any such thing. What he did advise will be found in the extract from his communication to the War Department, quoted by Mr. Kennedy. The intelligent reader will judge for himself.

The Southern mail did not reach this city last night. The following interesting information; transmitted by Magnetic Telegraph from Washington, furnishes the substance of the news brought by it:

The steamship Alabama arrived at New Orleans on the 4th inst., having left Vera Cruz on the 26th and Tampico on the 30th ult. The Picayune published an extra on the arrival of the Alabama, from which it appears that the following information was received by the editors of that paper from a source entitled to great respect.

The battles of the 8th and 13th September, the Americans lost twenty-seven officers killed and forty-five wounded. No confirmation has been received from any quarter of the death of the American general officers. There was no later news direct from Gen. Scott’s army. Letters received by commercial houses in Tampico from their correspondents in the city of Mexico confirm entirely the Picayune’s former reports of the battles of Mill del Rey and Chapultepec heights of the 8th and 13th, which places were carried by Gen. Scott at the point of the bayonet.

A circular was published on the 14th dated from Guadaloupe and addressed to the Commandants of the general departments. In it is set forth that “Santa Anna evacuated the capital, that other means might be pursued for the purpose of harassing the enemy. That a heroic resistance had been made for the space of six days, but that the enemy at length established himself in positions and places from which his missiles could reach the peaceful thousands of the city. The Supreme government perceiving that State affairs warranted the departure of the officers of government, determined to change their abode, the location of which would be announced as soon as the site should be agreed upon. It further states that the American army charged at daybreak on the 13th, with all its force on Chapultepec, which yielded after a spirited defense of six hours. The Americans immediately marched upon another strong fortification, but the first advance was checked by troops led by Santa Anna, who disputed the ground inch by inch, till finally the Mexicans were routed from the citadel, after nine hours hard fighting.”

The capital being in this situation, Santa Anna, anxious to avoid bombardment, determined to evacuate it. Verbal reports are that he reties to Guadaloupe with ten thousand troops and twenty-five pieces of Artillery. No mention is made of the reported bombardment of the 14th and 15th.

A letter from Vera Cruz states that after the Americans had carried the citadel, they tuned the guns of that fortification upon the city, whereupon the Mexican army retreated to Guadaloupe. The minister of Foreign Affairs addressed the Governor direction him to arrange matters as well as he could until he received official information where the government was established. There is no confirmation of the report that Santa Anna had been wounded.

It was reported that Gen. Quitman was on his way down with dispatches and 4000 men. Col. Wilson, Governor of Vera Cruz, was seriously ill. Gen. Patterson was to take command of the forces in the City and State of Vera Cruz, or
Gen. Lane had been compelled to send back to Vera Cruz for a further supply of ammunition. He had arrived at the National Bridge without serious opposition—though the guerillas made their appearance on several occasions. A requisition for ten thousand rounds was complied with.

Letters from Vera Cruz, dated on the 25th states that a proclamation had been issued by Santa Anna announcing his resignation as President of the Republic, and that Senor Pena y Pena had been initiated in his place. The Picayune doubts the truth of the rumor, however.

It was reported that the yellow fever had made its appearance in Gen. Lane’s command; that there was some scarcity of provisions, and that the Guerillas had fortified Cerro Gordo.

A letter from Maj. Lally, dated Jalapa, 23rd, Sept. says that all was quiet there. The wound that he received in the neck came near killing him, but he was then doing well.

Thursday, October 14, 1847, MG47v48n33p2c6, Letter from Gen. Taylor  words: 669

The National Intelligencer of Tuesday last publishes the following very interesting letter recently received by Dr. Bronson from Gen. Taylor. It is more explicit in reference to the political predictions of the General, that anything which has yet appeared from his pen, and will be read with pleasure by the Whigs throughout the Union—by those who, like ourselves, have deemed it "premature" to commit themselves to his support for the next presidency, as well as by those, more ardent and more sagacious, who have long since hoisted his flag:

Headquarters Army of Occupation
Camp near Monterey, Aug. 10, 1847

Sir: Your letter of the 17th ult., requesting of me an exposition of my views on the question of national policy now at issue between the political parties of the United States, has duly reached me.

I must take occasion to say that many of my letters, addressed to gentlemen in the United States in answer to similar inquiries, have already been made public, and I had greatly hoped that all persons interested had, by this time, obtained from them a sufficiently accurate knowledge of my views and desires in relation to this subject. As it appears, however, that such is not the case, I deem it proper, in reply to your letter, distinctly to repeat that I am not before the People of the United States as a candidate for the next Presidency. It is my great desire to return at the close of this war to the discharge of those professional duties and to the enjoyment of those domestic pursuits from which I was called at its commencement, and for which my tastes and education best fit me.

I have thus given you the circumstances under which only I can be induced to accept the high and responsible office of President of the United States. I need hardly add that I cannot in any case permit myself to be brought before the people exclusively by any of the political parties that now so unfortunately divide our country, as the candidate for this office.

It affords my great pleasure, in conclusion, fully to concur with you in your high and just estimate of the virtues, both of head and heart of the distinguished citizens [Messrs. Clay, Webster, Adams, McDuffie and Calhoun] mentioned in your letter. I have never yet exercised the privilege of voting; but had I been called upon as the last Presidential election to do so, I should most certainly have cast my vote for Mr. Clay.

I am, sir, very respectfully

Your obedient servant

Z. Taylor
Maj. General U.S. Army

F.S. Bronson, M.D., Charleston, S.C.

The emphatic approbation expressed by General Taylor of "the administrative policy of our early Presidents," in which the Whigs find ample authority for all their leading principles and measures, taken in connection with his frank declaration that he should have certainly voted for Mr. Clay in 1844, had he voted at all, can leave no doubt of his entire concurrence with the Whig party in sentiment. While on this point we have never been ourselves in doubt, we
are nevertheless gratified that the General has been sufficiently explicit to satisfy others, who, not content with the positive declarations of third parties, have insisted upon waiting for the “best evidence”- that of General Taylor himself.- *Rich. Whig*

[JKM]

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**Thursday, October 14, 1847, MG47v48n33p2c6, From Gen. Taylor’s Army**  words: 190

The following extract from a letter to the editor contains the latest intelligence from Gen. Taylor’s division. We are also informed by the same letter, that Col. Hamtramck has been appointed to command the Brigade of which the Virginia Regiment form a part, in the place of Gen. Cushing. Capt. Harper acts as Assistant Inspector General, to Col. Hamtramck, and Lieut. Porterfield, late of this place, Adjutant of the Virginia Regiment, and is Asst. Adjt. General.

“You will have heard before this reaches you, that the advance of this portion of the army has been checked by the withdrawal of troops from Gen. Taylor’s column. General Lane’s and Gen. Cushing’s Brigades have been ordered to Vera Cruz.

Col. Hamtramck now fills the place vacated by Gen. Cushing, as commandant of the Brigade to which the Virginia Regiment is attached. The idea of remaining here inactive during the approaching fall and winter is disheartening; but those more competent than I to express an opinion, predict that the battle of Buena Vista will be fought again.

But this I think doubtful. We are daily expecting to hear Scott’s entrance into the city.”

[JKM]

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**Thursday, October 14, 1847, MG47v48n33p2c6, Capital Hit**  words: 131

The following from the Richmond *Republican* is a “telling shot.”

Mexico would never have offered terms so preposterous, if she had not been encouraged by the “no territory party,” by the Nueces party and the Mexican party at home, by the party which has denounced this war as aggressive, unholy, and unjust on our part.- Union.

This is a very unkind his at Mr. Polk. He was of the “no territory party,” at the commencement of the war- else his message of December, 1846, did not speak truly. In that document, he expressly declared that “the war had not bee waged with a view to conquest.” It was only for “indemnity” and the payment of “pecuniary demands.” But hit him again, good organ. Mr. Polk has been too modest by half.

[JKM]

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**Thursday October 14, 1847, MG47v48n33p2c7, The Virginia Regiment**  words: 328

We have a letter from an officer of this Regiment, dated at Buena Vista on the 6th of September, from which we gather some items of information which it may be agreeable to our readers to be acquainted with.

The writer says: “Again has the cup been dashed from our lips- again has joy been banished from our camp. Four of Taylor’s regiments have been taken from him to join Gen. Scott, just as we were on the eve of our march upon San Luis Potosi. The Massachusetts, Ohio, Indiana, and the 10th Regiments, have been taken from us, and now again we are compelled to be idle, while upon each monthly report we find that deaths and discharges reduce our numbers.

“We were to have advanced in the early part of this month, and the Virginia Regiment was to have been the advance guard of the Army. Ours is considered the best Regiment in Mexico, and it is the last Gen. Taylor would part with. This Regiment and the Mississippi have been formed into a Brigade, and Col. Hamtramck has been assigned to its command. Col. H. accordingly appointed Lieut. Porterfield of the Virginia Regiment his Asst. Adjt. General, Lieut. Henry of the Mississippi Regiment his Aid, and Capt. Kenton Harper his Assistant Inspector General. Col. Randolph is therefore in command of the Virginia Regiment.

“Gen. Cushing was in command of the Brigade, but having been ordered to report to Gen. Scott, Col. Hamtramck has succeeded him in the command.” [And we may be permitted to add, by way of parenthesis, that Mr. Polk would do good service by making the appointment a permanent one.]

We understand from the same source, that diarrhea and dysentery have been the prevailing complaints among our men. Col. Hamtramck is in robust health since his recovery from his sever attack, and we are happy to hear he is in fine plight for service honorable to Virginia and the Country.- *Rich. Rep.*

[JKM]
I have laid before you the evidence, derived entirely from the public records and from the declarations of leaders of the Democratic party, which demonstrates the fact that in the annexation of Texas, our Government restricted the annexation to the old Texas of the Mexican Confederation, with the Nueces for its boundary, and pledged itself to Mexico and the world, not to assert the claim to the Rio Grande or to occupy to that limit without the consent of Mexico. I think all this is clearly inferred in the history which I have laid before you.

I come now to consider what followed the passage of the joint resolutions for annexation.

The Government changed hands immediately upon the adjournment of Congress. Mr. Polk was inaugurated on the 4th of March, 1845. You will now perceive that the moment this affair of the annexation came into his hands, he gave it an essentially new direction. He determined to pay no regard to the consideration upon which Texas was admitted to the Union, and to recognize no pledge which the proceedings of the last administration and of Congress had given to Mexico upon the subject of the boundary.

Before the annexation was agreed upon, it is true, Mexico has said she would consider it as an act of war upon her; and Mr. Polk I freely admit, was bound to be prepared for such an event. I think it was, in the highest sense, his duty to be well prepared for a war, if Mexico should act upon her threat.

A Convention was to meet in Texas on the 4th of July, 1845, to consider our propositions for annexation. The Convention did meet and ratified the proceeding. Previous, however, to the meeting of this Convention, that is to say, on the 28th of May, the President ordered Gen. Taylor to move with his little army towards Texas.

There seems now to have been some private understanding between Mr. Polk and the Government of Texas, that, without regarding what may be considered as the plighted faith of the nation on the question of the boundary.

On the 15th of June, Mr. Bancroft, acting as Secretary of War, informs Gen. Taylor: “the point of your ultimate destination is the western frontier of Texas, here you will select and occupy in or near the Rio Grande del Norte, such a site as will be best adapted to repel invasion, and to protect what, in the event of annexation, will be our Western border!”

Here is the first bold and open avowal of a purpose on the part of the new administration, to disregard what may be considered as the plighted faith of the nation on the question of the boundary.

The private understanding to which I have alluded, I think will be seen in the correspondence between Mr. Allen, the Secretary of the State of Texas, and Mr. Donelson, our agent there. Mr. Allen, in a letter of the 26th of June, eleven days later than Mr. Bancroft’s order, suggests to Mr. Donelson “the propriety and necessity of an immediate march of the troops, and that they proceed at once to occupy positions on the Rio Grande.”

Mr. Donelson gives no countenance to this proposition, and apprises Mr. Allen what instructions he had been hitherto directed to communicate to Gen. Taylor. Amongst these instructions are the following.

“"The occupation of the country between the Nueces and the Rio Grande, you are aware, is a disputed question. Texas holds Corpus Christi, Mexico hold the Brazos de St. Jago, near the mouth of the Rio Grande.” "You can safely hold possession of Corpus Christi, and all other points up the Nueces, and if Mexico attempts to dislodge you, drive her beyond the Rio Grande.”

Notwithstanding this, that Mr. Donelson was directed to say to Gen. Taylor in an early stage of this movement, that the boundary to the Rio Grande was “a disputed question” - Mr. Bancroft’s instructions to the General, you perceive, are to take possession to the Rio Grande, as that, “in the event of annexation will be our Western border.”

This is clearly a very summary prejudgment of the “disputed question!” At this point the violation of the terms of the annexation seems to have become the settled purpose of the Cabinet. We were henceforth to effect our claim to the border of the Rio Grande, and maintain it by force.

The subsequent orders which Gen. Taylor received, establish that determination. Let us look to a few of them, and the events with which they were connected.

“"The Government was conscious that the only ground upon which there could be made the slightest justification of this attempt to seize the disputed territory- as they chose to call it, although it had not the benefit even of a plausible dispute- was that the territory beyond the Nueces was in the actual occupation of the people of Texas. So far as
regarded as few settlements on the west bank of the Nueces this was true, and those settlers might be said to be under the protection of Texas. This was the case of Corpus Christi, immediately at the mouth of the Nueces and on the Western margin. But beyond the actual border of the river, there were no settlers. Whilst over towards the Rio Grande and on its banks, there dwelt a considerable number of Mexican citizens, who had long resided in this section of Tamaulipas. The country between the two rivers, embracing a width of about one hundred and thirty miles, was chiefly as desert. Brazos Santiago and Point Isabel were Mexican settlements, and no Americans dwelt in that region.

With these facts before him Mr. Marcy written to General Taylor, on the 30th of July. “You are expected to occupy, protect, and defend the territory of Texas to the extent it has been occupied by the people of Texas”—which, in point of fact, as Mr. Donelson had written to the Department, was no where further west that Corpus Christi, and the west bank of the Nueces. But Mr. Marcy’s letter goes on to say: “The Rio Grande is claimed to be the boundary between the two countries, and up to this boundary you are to extend your protection, only excepting any posts on the eastern side thereof which are in the actual occupancy of Mexican forces, or Mexican settlement over which the Republic of Texas did not exercise jurisdiction at the period of annexation, or shortly before that event.”

[Note: Microfilm copy too light to read - JKM]

The letter of Mr. Marcy- 30th July, 1845- above referred to, in important in this narrative as establishing one fact—namely, that the Government knew, at the time they were issuing these orders, that the country on the Rio Grande, and between that and the Nueces was—as far as it was capable of occupation—in the actual occupancy of Mexican forces, and Mexican inhabitants or settlers, and that it was not pretended that these settlers were under the jurisdiction of Texas, or ever had been under it. They were inhabitants who belonged to the State of Tamaulipas, and exclusively under the jurisdiction of Mexico. This was known to our government.

Gen. Taylor remained at Corpus Christi all through the autumn of 1845, and the winter of 1846. There was no invasion attempted by Mexico, and a general prevailed that we should soon have a settlement of all difficulties between the two countries. Our government had made application to Mexico to know if she would open negotiations for the settlement of the disputed questions. She answered favorably to the proposition.

Mr. Slidell was appointed minister plenipotentiary to go to Mexico. Mexico objected to receiving a minister, on the ground that the question of Texas and the boundary must be settled before she could acknowledge the existence of full relations of amity with us; she offered therefore to receive a commissioner, to treat specially on those questions and no others. Our government would not consent to indulge her in this demand, although it has since that time, sent a commissioner for pretty much that same purpose, in the person of Mr. Trist. I do not excuse Mexico for this refusal to receive our Minister. It was very frivolous piece of false pride, but very much in character with all her other follies connected with this quarrel. But certainly this refusal to receive a minister was not war.

On the 13th of January, 1846, whilst this question of the reception of the minister was yet pending, and before it was known whether Mexico would receive him or not, and at a time where there was no expectation of an invasion from Mexico— and, more to be noted that anything else— at a time when the Congress of the United States was in session, the President, privately, without communicating one syllable to Congress, or giving any hint of the event to either branch of the national legislature, to whom alone the Constitution has confined the great and momentous power of making war— in these circumstances, and on this day, Mr. Polk authorized Mr. Marcy to write to Gen. Taylor— “I am directed by the President to instruct you to advance and occupy, with the troops under your command, positions on or near the east bank of the Rio del Norte, as soon as it can conveniently be done, with reference to the season and routes by which your movements must be made. From the views heretofore presented to this department, it is presumed Point Isabel will be considered by you an eligible position; this point, or some one near it, and points opposite Matamoras, and Mier, and in the vicinity of Loredo, are suggested to your consideration.”

Can any friend of Mr. Polk’s answer the question, why Congress was not consulted when the decisive step was taken? Here was a clear, unequivocal repudiation of all our previous pledges in regard to the question of the boundary to the Rio del Norte. Here was an order to occupy a country which it was admitted was under the jurisdiction of Mexico, and in which a Mexican town, on the left or eastern bank of the Rio del Norte—the town of Loredo, containing fifteen hundred inhabitants— was specially designated as one of the positions for the army; here was, in short, an invasion of Mexico—just such an invasion as every civilized nation would regard as an act of war. Suppose the case reversed, and Mexico had directed her troops to advance to the Nueces, and to occupy a position which should command one of the villages of Texas— what would this country have thought of it? Need I ask? The declaration would have been universal, that Mexico had began the war, by an act of flagrant aggression. And yet certainly Mexico had quite as much right to seize upon the disputed territory as we had— if Mr. Benton’s opinion is worth anything— a much better right.

On the 10th of March, 1846, Gen. Taylor in obedience to these orders, commenced his march from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande. He arrived at that river on the 28th, and encamped opposite Matamoras. What he did when he arrived there, you will read in his official dispatches. On the 6th of April the General writes— “On our side a battery for four eighteen pounders will be completed; and the guns places in the battery today. These guns bear directly upon the public square of Matamoras, and within good range for demolishing the town. Their object cannot be mistaken by the enemy!” Remember that when that letter was written there had been no collision— not a shot had been fired, not a man made prisoner.

And yet we are told that this act was not an act of war! – that this marching of an army into what we are pleased to call “disputed territory,” but which confessedly was, and always had been, in the actual occupation of the people of Mexico and under the jurisdiction of that country; - this marching of an army there; - this pointing of cannon into the very homesteads of the inhabitants of Matamoras, the capital of Tamaulipas; - was not an act of war!! Collisions
Here I drop the subject of the origin of the war. I shall have a few words to say upon the resolutions of the House of

That it is to be hoped another Congress like it will not meet a gain very soon."

It took the President at his word. The late Congress had some able members, and it adopted some judicious measures;

President, as free from blame. It ought to have seen and corrected the Executive mistake. Yet it is not surprising that

This writer goes on further to say: - "We are far from regarding Congress in echoing the false statement of the

"It is with no pleasure that we speak thus of the chief magistrate of the Union, for whose elevation to his high and

Course the President should have pursued is plain and obvious. On learning the state of things on the frontier, the

"No sophistry can make her act war – certainly not without conceding that our act in taking military possession of that

"Unhappily, this course did not occur to the President, or was too plain and simple to meet his approbation. As if

"By declaring that the war already existed, and by the act of Mexico herself, the President relieved Congress of the

"It is with no pleasure that we speak thus of the chief magistrate of the Union, for whose elevation to his high and

This writer goes on further to say: - "We are far from regarding Congress in echoing the false statement of the

Here I drop the subject of the origin of the war. I shall have a few words to say upon the resolutions of the House of
Delegates in me next.

J.P. Kennedy

Thursday, October 21, 1847, MG47v48n34p2c3, Untitled words: 518

The New York Tribune publishes an extract from a private letter, "written," it says, "by an eminent Southerner statesman to friend at the North on the subject of the slavery extension." We quote the following passages:

"If California or any other Mexican Department were ceded to us, the people (having already municipal laws) would there by change their allegiance; their relation to their ancient sovereign would be dissolved; but their relations to each other and their Rights of Property would remain undisturbed; and, as their laws do not now recognize slaves as property, but forbid the relation of Master and Slave, how could it be introduced without a law of Congress creating it? Would not mere silence exclude it as effectually as any other mode? If so, "the South" will have to demand of Congress a law to propagate Slavery by creating it de novo? If they do this, what becomes of our old doctrine of non-interference? If Congress has not power to abolish, how do we find a power to create it?

Congress never yet created Slavery in any State or Territory. No State of the Union ever created Slavery. In all former acquisitions, the Territory was ceded with Slavery- the relation of Master and Slave already existed therein; and all that has been done at any time was to abstain from abolishing those rights of property as the existed at the period of our purchase.

The Wilmot Proviso principle, therefore, is not an old question. So far as it is identical with former contests in this respect, the argument is against Slave Extension; for if Congress adhere to the old rule, of taking Territory as we find it, the new purchase must be accepted as it is, with Slavery forbidden by the existing law,

The Wilmot Proviso is nothing more than a friendly notice that this policy will be adhered to. So it strikes me. And it here occurs to me that Mr. Calhoun's abstract resolutions are exactly what will leave the newly acquired territory free of Slavery if they are fairly carried into practice.

If the argument here presented is sound the enactment of the Wilmot Proviso would be merely declaratory of a principle already existing, as embodied in the laws of Mexico, in the territories to which the Proviso, had reference. The rejection of such a declaratory enactment might be put upon the ground that it is unnecessary; for, if it should not be adopted, the municipal laws of Mexico in the territories in question, unless changed by act of Congress, would constitute in themselves a proviso substantially the same as that proposed by Mr. Wilmot, of Pennsylvania, in the House of Representatives.

The subject is full of difficulties. The attempts which have been made, and which the Administration party in New York and Pennsylvania are now making, to evade the issue which the question presents, will scarcely succeed. In one shape or another it seems inevitable that the responsibility of the issue, grave and momentous as it is, must be met, whenever the annexation of any portion of new territory shall take place.

JKM

Thursday, October 21, 1847, MG47v48n34p2c4, Mr. Faulkner and the War words: 634

We, yesterday morning, received a communication from a "Democratic Subscriber," asking us to publish a speech of Mr. Faulkner on the subject of the Mexican War, made at the Regimental parade of 1846 in this place. The communication was received too late to enable us to comply with the request this week. Mr. Faulkner is from home too, and we deem it advisable to afford him an opportunity, should he deem the matter worthy of his attention, to report his own views upon that subject. The remarks as reported, were made under the excitement of the moment, and as the speaker did not present to go into any argument of the question, the republication of his speech could have no other effect that to convey the impression made upon the mind of the reported, of the views of Mr. Faulkner at that time. It will be remembered too, that the ground assumed by Mr. Polk was then a very different one from that occupied by the party now. Besides, Mr. Faulkner, like every other man in the country, has had time to review his first impressions upon the subject, while it must be confessed, that light has been shed upon this question since that time which was not then within his reach. We know that Mr. Faulkner felt and expressed a most anxious desire to see the Hon. John P. Kennedy returned as a member of the next Congress- a desire he would hardly have manifested had he considered the views of Mr. Kennedy traitorous or dangerous to the country. We hazard nothing in the absence of Mr. F., in denying that he entertains the views now avowed by the Administration party in relation to the acquisition of Mexican Territory, and that there will be no necessity for us, even did we assume the right to do so, to "read Mr. Faulkner out of the Whig Church." But we can assure our worthy friend and correspondent that we do not arrogate to ourselves the prerogative of ostracizing the members of the Whig party. Every member of that party has a right to his views upon any subject, and the columns of the Gazette are open to him for the discussion of all questions affecting the interests of the country. We cordially extend this invitation to our correspondent, and all members of his party, and
shall cheerfully lay before our readers any arguments he or they may think pertinent not only to this, but any other question which divides political opinion, provided they are respectfully urged. Our earnest desire is that the people may have a fair opportunity of deciding upon these subjects, and if we shall be proved to have been in the wrong, we pledge ourselves to retract opinions with all the candor in which we have avowed them. We therefore not only express our willingness to publish Mr. Faulkner's remarks, but here pledge ourselves to renounce our political connection with that gentleman, so soon as the same office is performed by the leading Locofocos for Messrs. Benton, Bronson, Calhoun, and Van Buren, all of whom dissent from the opinions of the body of their party in relation to annexation and the war, far more strongly than did ever Mr. Faulkner from any views of his Whig brethren.

We repeat our conviction that the opinions of Mr. Faulkner on this subject do not materially differ from those entertained by the mass of the Whig party. In conclusion we assure our correspondent that we are not quite soft enough to be caught in the trap of his allies. We cannot be brought to denounce a political and personal friend for an honest difference of opinion, should that difference exist, which in this instance, as he will in due time discover, is not the case.

Thursday, October 21, 1847, MG47v48n34p2c5, The Annexation of Mexico words: 593

The Baltimore Sun, a paper which, although professedly independent, has been so successful of late in foreshadowing the measures of the administration, that it has come to be generally regarded as a sort of semi-official organ, expresses that opinion that the Government will, in order to effect an honorable termination of the war, be forced to subjugate the whole Mexican Republic, and annex it to this country. Under ordinary circumstances, and coming from a different source, a suggestion of this sort might be regarded as the mere idle speculation of a reckless paragraphist; but the Sun has established a reputation as an exponent of the views of the administration and its adherents, which it would be loath to hazard lightly. We may, therefore, safely assume that whether openly avowed by the Cabinet or not, the opinion of the Sun has not inconsiderable number of “backers” in the ranks of the Progressives.

At the commencement of this bloody drama, the annunciation of the most remote probability of such a termination of the war as the annexation of a whole Republic, double the size of Great Britain, and containing many millions of people ignorant of our language, and imbued with the most implacable hatred against our country, would only have been suggested in ridicule of our annexing propensities; or if seriously proposed would have been regarded as an emanation from the brain of a madman. But alas! Like the king of Pontus who partook of poison, increasing the potion at every succeeding dose until it became his daily food, so the votaries of modern democracy have been gradually drugged with the corrupt and disorganizing doctrines of the times, until today, they drain with eagerness, the cup from which a few months ago, they would have turned with loathing and horror. We are confident that this state of things proceeds from now want of patriotism on the part of the great majority of those who lend their support to the Administration; it is sheerly the result of an indisposition to undergo the labor of examining minutely the subjects of complaint against their rulers, especially when the candid prosecution of such an investigation might have the effect of sundering party ties to which they have been long wedded, and withdrawing their confidence from leader it has become a sort of second nature to trust.

We only hope that they may be brought seriously to reflect upon the subject before it be too late to repair the effects of past errors and follies, and to avoid those which are looming upon our future prospects. For now, nothing seems too daring for the Administration to propose, or too monstrous to be applauded and recommended by the bloated recipients of the spoils.

With regard to the proposal to subjugate and annex to our Republic the whole of Mexico, it may or may not be a cherished design of the Administration. The idea of erecting subjugated territory into free and independent States, would have been strange to the ears of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Mr. Jefferson would have certainly regarded a prophecy of such an event, as Mr. Ritchie did the first nomination of Gen. Jackson for the Presidency- a rich joke. But modern democrats have read that Rome annexed foreign territory and they are unwilling that the progressive democracy of Republican America should be behind that of Republican Rome. Manifest Destiny is the God that rules the hour, and we have no means of divining what new schemes of folly and madness are yet to be revealed.

[JKM]

Thursday, October 21, 1847, MG47v48n34p2c6, Untitled words: 191

[Poetry of Mrs. Lydia Jane Preston]

"It may not be! Forbid it God!
    Forbid it, all that patriots prize:
That land has tasted freeman's blood;
    Their dust within its bosom lies.
"Twere madness to resign the soil
    On which our conquering feet have trod;
Battling our way with glorious toil;
It may not be- forbid it, God!
No, never! This is holy ground,
Bought and baptized with patriot blood;
See? With her fetters half unbound,
She lifts her hands to Freedom's God!
By Freedom's God, she shall be free!
Huzza! Brave hearts press boldly on
Strike home, nor pause till victory
Shall put her olive garland on
'Till o'er that land to utmost parts
Our Eagle's sheltering wings are spread;
And Taylor throned on Freedmen's hearts
Enjoys his laurels in their shade.

We are constrained to omit a great deal of hard swearing, utterly unworthy of a lady of distinguished Christian piety, and to dismiss the subject with the remark, that if the fact of having lost brave and patriotic sons upon its soil, confers an unquestionable right to any country, then England is entitled to at least two-thirds of the habitable globe, including these United States.

[JKM]

Thursday, October 21, 1847, MG47v48n34p2c6, Mutilation of Document  words: 330

We copied from the Union, several days since, an "official" letter addressed by Major Lally, then in command at Jalapa, to his superior, Col. Wilson, at Vera Cruz, giving an account of his march from the latter to the former place. A correspondent of the Alexandria Gazette states, on the authority of a gentleman, who had seen the original, that the following paragraph of Major Lally's letter was suppressed in the publication. We are not surprised at the solicitude of the Government to conceal from the eyes of the world facts so discreditable to the national character, but we doubt the sobriety of so doing. There is a certain sort of fascination in the "pomp and circumstance of glorious war," not only for the vulgar, but even for minds of a higher stamp. It is well occasionally to throw aside the tinsel drapery of Mars, that we may catch a glimpse of his mutilated limbs and his ensanguined visage. There is always a reverse side to the brightest pictures- and the suppressed extract furnishes it in this instance. Robbery and sacrilege, and oft times blacker crimes, are unfortunately too often the immediate fruits of victory: - Whig.

Jalapa, Sept. 11, 1847

"You speak of rumors in relation to ----, I have no doubt that are true. It appears Col. Wynkoop heard I was in great danger, and three days after my arrival at this place he came down with three hundred men, ___'s company included. The men were drunk when they came to town, and remained so until they went out. Several robberies were committed here, but the most reprehensible act was in going to Cauthepec, where they met with no resistance, but robbed almost every house, and, to cap the climax, robbed the Church, and destroyed, what to them was useless, but to the church valuable. The same thing was done at San Miguel. I have promised to pay the Church for its losses, under General Scott's proclamation."

[JKM]

Thursday, October 21, 1847 MG47v48n34p2c6, Arrest of Colonel Gilpin  words: 177

The Weston (Missouri) Herald, of the 2nd instant says: " A difficulty has arisen between Cols. Wharton and Gilpin which resulted in placing the latter under arrest. Col. G., on his arrival at the Fort, waited on Col. W. for the purpose of ascertaining his orders, and of making arrangements preliminary to assuming the command of his battalion. A difference of opinion occurred regarding the objects of the expedition. Both became excited.

Col. W. states that the battalion was to be stationed on the Santa Fe route for the purpose of protection the trains, and was not to depart therefrom. Col. G. replied: "By God, sir, I will pursue the Indians even to the mountains but that I will overtake them." Col. W., after informing him that he was the commanding officer of that post, and could not allow such language to be used, told him that he must retract or he would put him under arrest. This Gilpin refused to do, and, accordingly, he is now under arrest. Col. W. has forwarded his charges to Washington.

[JKM]

Thursday, October 21, 1847 MG47v48n34p2c2, Mexican Whigism  words: 218

The Locofoco organs seem of late not to know any name for the Whigs but "Mexican Whigs." Let us mention a few facts for the benefit of these callers of hard names. Two Kentucky regiments destined for Mexico are now encamped near this city, and we are assured by a gentleman of the highest respectability, who professes to know the fact, that a large majority of the rank and file of both regiments are Whigs. Leander Coxe, Esq., who was the late Whig candidate for
Congress against Judge French, and who was lampooned as a Mexican Whig by all the Locofoco papers of the State, is Captain of one of the very finest companies at the encampment, and by far the larger portion of his company are Whigs. There is a company upon the ground from the strong Locofoco counties of Henry, Oldham, and Trimble, and seventy men of this company, or more that seven-tenths of it, are Whigs. The regiments are made up of men from nine of the ten Congressional districts of Kentucky, but Lynn Boyd’s district, the only Locofoco district in the State, is not represented by a solitary volunteer in either regiment! Let the Locofoco scamps, whose tongues are so familiar with the phrase "Mexican Whigs," digest these facts as they may.- *Louisville Journal.*

[JKM]

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We are indebted to our friend, John W. Tibbatts, Col. 16th Infantry, who is now Civil and Military Governor of Monterey, for a copy of the proclamation issued by him upon his assuming the duties of that office, on the 1rst September, 1847. The proclamation declares that the Governor found the city “virtually without law or order, and infested with robbers, murderers, gamblers, vagrants, and other evil disposed persons- the worst of criminals going free, unscathed of justice; even rapine and murder stalking abroad in open day without fear of punishment, insomuch that the peaceable inhabitants thereof have no protection, either of person or property.” The Colonel gives a very dark picture of the morals of his “province,” but if there is any virtue in stringent laws and avowals of a determination to enforce them, he will soon have a respectable city of it. He makes a clean sweep of the gamblers, hells, drinking shops, and rowdies, and invites the Mexican citizens who have been compelled to flee from their homes through fear or other cause to return, with the assurance that they will be protected in all their honest avocations._Frankfort (Ky.) Commonwealth [JKM]

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We have seen it stated that one of the companies from Mississippi, at Buena Vista, was commanded by a Methodist minister. Just before the battle commences, and whilst the troops were forming, it is said he delivered the following pithy prayer, at the head of his company:

"Be with us this day in the conflict, O Lord! We are few, and the enemy are many. Be with us as thou wast with Joshua when he went down from Gilgal to Bethhoron and Ajalo, to smite the Amorites. We do not ask thee for the sun and moon to stand still, but grant us plenty of powder, plenty of daylight, and no cowards. Take old Rough and Ready under thy special charge. Amen! - M-A-R-C-H."

His company performed prodigies on the field that day.- *N.O. Nat.*

[JKM]

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The steamer Fashion, Capt. Ivy, arrived last evening from Vera Cruz via Tampico, having left the former city on the 7th and the latter and the 9th. From the 3rd to the 7th outward bound vessels were detained at Vera Cruz by a heavy norther, and little communication was had with the shore. The Fashion has experienced very rough weather.

By this arrival we have our correspondence from Mr. Kendall and others up to the 28th of September from the city of Mexico. The news in glorious, ever glorious from the American arms; at the same time our losses are severe, and the details of the killed and wounded heart sickening. Thank God! None of our generals have been killed, but Maj. Gen. Pillow and Brig. Gen. Sheilbs were both wounded severely, but were doing well at last accounts. We are not about to repeat the list of killed here; it will be found in Mr. Kendall’s letters. We may mention, however, that Col. McIntosh and Col. Ranson, Lieut. Col. Martin Scott, Lieut. Col. Graham, of the 11th Infantry, Lieut. Col. Baxter, of the New York regiment, and Lieut. Col. Dickinson of the South Carolina regiment, are dead. For the rest of the deplorable list we refer to Mr. Kendall’s letters.

In the battle of the King’s Mill on the 8th, Gen. Worth’s division lost about 600 men in killed and wounded. In the battles of the 13th- the storming of Chapultepec, and the attack on the citadel- Quitman’s division lost 300, Twigg’s 268, Pillow’s 142, and Worth’s 188- 848 in all. Worth had scarcely a thousand men in this action. Our entire loss since leaving Puebla in killed, wounded and missing Mr. Kendall sets down at 3000; another authority given below makes it 4000. And yet Gen. Scott entered the valley of Mexico with an army only a little exceeding 10,000 men. What wonders have not the “ten thousand” achieved! The Mexican loss is not definitely ascertained, but was enormous.

Gen. Bravo was not killed, but was taken a prisoner. We do not see that Santa Anna was wounded. It is true that he has resigned the Presidency. We have the act before us, but have not room for it today. Since his resignation he has made and address to his countrymen, which we will give tomorrow.
We annex her Gen. Scott’s order after his victorious occupation of the city.

General Orders – No. 286

National Palace of Mexico, Sept. 16, 1847

The general in chief calls upon his brethren in arms to return both in public and private worship, thanks and gratitude to God for the signal triumphs which they have recently achieved for their country.

Beginning with the 19th of August and ending the 14th instants, this army has gallantly fought its way through the fields and forts of Contreras, San Antonio, Churubusco, Molino del Rey, Chapultepec and the gates of San Cosmo and Tacubaya, into the capital of Mexico.

When the very limited numbers who have performed these brilliant deeds shall have become known, the world will be astonished and our own countrymen filled with joy and admiration.

But all is not yet done. The enemy, through scattered and dismayed, has still many fragments of his late army hovering about us, and, aided by an exasperated population, he may again reunite in treble our numbers and fall upon us to advantage if we rest inactive on the security of past victories.

Compactness, vigilance and discipline are, therefore, our only securities. Let every good officer and man look to those cautions and enjoin them upon all others.

By command of Maj. Gen. Scott
H.L. Scott, A A A G.

[JKM]

Thursday, October 28, 1847 MG47v48n35p2c4 Affairs in Vera Cruz and on the Road words: 692

Our papers and letters by the Fashion contain much interesting and important information in relation to the state of the road from Vera Cruz to the capital. We proceed to give such items as are of immediate interest.

The report that Gen. Rea was at Puebla is fully confirmed, and that Genius of Liberty, of the 27th ult., says our troops under Col. Childs were bombarding the city from the surrounding heights. The same paper, of the 2nd inst., has the following.

"Gen. Santa Anna never so badly discomfited, was by the very latest accounts at Publa. His force, after its junction with that of Gen. Rea, amounted in infantry and cavalry to 3000 men, and it was quartered in the convent of St. Carmen. The Americans under the command of Col. Childs, were strongly fortified in a massive built and very capacious convent of the same city, conscious of the strength of their position, and its impregnability, were awaiting the arrival of reinforcements, in the utmost security and tranquility. At intervals bombs were thrown into the city, which, however, we are happy to say did not receive much injury from their explosion previous to the date of our accounts."

From the tenor of our Vera Cruz correspondent’s letters, we have no doubt that Col. Childs would soon be reinforced by the arrival of Gen. Lane with his brigade at Puebla. He reached Jalapa on the 30th ult., and was to leave the next day for Puebla. Maj. Lally’s command accompanied him. Our correspondent says, writing on the 29th ult:

"Capt. Biscoe’s command returned yesterday from the National Bridge, whence it had been to escort ammunition for Gen. Lane’s command, which had already started, the General having left orders for the ammunition train to move on and join him. From pretty good information received at the Bridge Capt. Biscoe was confident there was not a guerrilla at Cerro Gordo, and that the whole command would arrive safe at Jalapa, where it would obtain a supply of provisions.

"Another small train of provisions left the city last night, a part of which was for Col. Collin’s and a part for Col. Hugee’s command. The fact that Capt. Biscoe’s company was not attacked either in going to or returning from the National Bridge, is evidence that the guerrillas have abandoned that road for the present, but I have no doubt they will return when least expected."

Our correspondent, writing from Vera Cruz on the 4th inst., says that a gentleman who arrived from Mexico a few days previous, and who went to from Puebla to Mexico on the 15th September, says that he met fully 2000 Mexican soldiers (deserters) on their way to Puebla and other southern places south of Mexico.

Capt. Fairchild’s command returned to Vera Cruz on the 8th inst. from the Bridge, having escorted provisions to Col. Hughes’s and Col. Collins’s command. On the way back they were fired into, and Lieut. Morales, of Capt. F’s company, was severely wounded in the left hand, which will no doubt have to be amputated.
Gen. Alvarez has been appointed commandant of the State of Puebla, and is represented to be unceasing in his efforts to organize and equip another force for the purpose of cutting off Gen. Scott's communication with Vera Cruz, and of preventing any new accession of men and supplies.

The following is from the Genius of Liberty of the 30th ult:

"Our city looks quite brisk and lively this morning, owing to the arrival of the steamers New Orleans, Telegraph, and Ohio; our harbor, notwithstanding the violence of the wind, is literally covered with boats running backwards and forwards, landing horses, mules, and government stores; and the loud peal of the cannon is occasionally heard from Fort Conception, giving a healthy welcome to our gallant officers and brave soldiers.

"Gen. Patterson and staff, Major Polk, brother of the President; Capt. Stapp, Lieuts. Lampire, Palmer and Mitchell, Vols.; Capt. Livingston, Lieuts. Stewart, Scott and Holmes, Florida Vols.; Lieut. Jenkins, regular army, arrived by the steamer New Orleans, from N. Orleans, and Gen. Cushing and staff, by the steamer Ohio, from Brazos."

[JKM]

Thursday, October 28, 1847   MG47v48n35p2c5   Untitled   words: 90

Our correspondent, writing on the 4th inst. says Gen. Patterson expected to be able to start for the interior in about a week with 2000 or more men.

The U.S. Schooner Flirt had been out eleven days on a cruise in search of a suspicious vessel, supposed to be a privateer, but returned without getting a glimpse of her.

The Genius of the 29th ult. says a report was circulating in Vera Cruz that a bearer of dispatches from Gen. Scott was killed at the city of Cordova- M.O. Picayune [JKM]

Thursday, October 28, 1847   MG47v48n35p2c5   What we asked and what Mexico was willing to give words: 236

The demands of Mr. Polk, made through Mr. Trist, would have given to the United States, had they been acceded to by the Mexican Government, an additional territory of 696,000 square miles, or nearly one half of all the territory which Mexico possesses or claims, short of Texas proper – a territory larger in extent than all France, Great Britain, Austria and Prussia taken together. It is true that Mr. Trist afterwards withdrew the claim for the Peninsula of California. This would reduce the President's demand to about 636,000 square miles, leaving an expanse of territory sufficient to make nine States as large as Virginia, and eighty as large as Massachusetts.

Such being the moderate demands of President Polk, let us state what the Mexicans were willing to yield.

The Mexicans proposed to surrender to us a strip of continent extending, in its greatest length, over 25 degrees of longitude, and, in it greatest breadth, 5 degrees of latitude. It would have given us east of the Rio Grande in round numbers, 32,000 square miles, sliced from New Mexico, and west of the Rio Grande, 291,000 square miles of California, containing the bays of Monterey and San Francisco- in all, 323,000 square miles, embracing upwards of one-fifth the entire Mexican territory.

But this was not sufficient. The first declaration in relation to Oregon seems to be the order of the day: "The whole or none!"- *Cumberland Civilian*

[JKM]

Thursday, October 28, 1847   MG47v48n35p2c5   Let Justice be Done words: 141

The desertion of a number of men from the American Army, and their capture and execution near the city of Mexico, have given rise to many remarks calculated to reflect on the patriotism of certain adopted civilians of this country. It has been thought, and we confess that this was the impression left on our mind, that the Battalion alluded to were mostly from the Emerald Isle. The N.Y. Police register contains the names and places of nativity of that infamous set of scamps, from which we are sorry to learn that a large portion were Americans. They are classed as follows- Americans 64; Irishmen 34; Germans 16; Nova Scotia, France and Poland. We publish this account that unjust reproach may be taken from the shoulders of those who do not merit the censure. Let all bear their part. – *Rich. Whig.*

[JKM]

Thursday, October 28, 1847   MG47v48n35p2c7   The Administration and the "Democracy" Words: 171
We find in so leading a paper as the New York Evening Post an article from a central paper of the same politics (the Albany Atlas) denouncing, with calmness but with a fixed determination, the attempts of the Administration in this city to dragoon the party into its projects for overrunning and subjugating all Mexico, if its demands for the surrender of Mexican territory be not complied with. As a sample of this article, we copy a few lines from the concluding paragraph, as follows.

Mark its grave import!

"We say to Mr. Ritchie, and those who concur with him, Go your Ways! You were warned in time against the agitation and the distracting issues that your course in relation to the annexation of Texas would produce. You were implored to take Texas without war; you chose to take it with war; and if now, at this day, you expect the Democracy of the North to bear the responsibility of your measure, they must at least by permitted to protest," &c.

[JKM]

Thursday, October 28, 1847 MG47v48n35p3c1   Mr. Polk’s friend Santa Anna  words: 343

The American Public have cause to admire the foresight and sagacity which induced Mr. Polk to permit Santa Anna to return to Mexico. To be sure, it would have occurred to ordinary minds, that a man who would bargain for a return to his own country, in order that he might be able to betray it was not much to be trusted. But Mr. Polk’s is not an “ordinary mind,” and the result of his negotiation with Santa Anna, proves beyond a peradventure that it was the most extraordinary piece of diplomatic tact, that the world has ever been called on to admire. Look at Santa Anna’s last proclamation. Defeated in a series of bloody engagements, and driven from the capital, observe what mild and peaceful sentiments he breathes- admire how exactly all Mr. Polk’s anticipations have been realized, and see the policy of permitting Santa Anna’s return amply vindicated.

Take the following sentence as evidence of Santa Anna’s friendship for this country and desire for peace:

"Mexicans! You will find me, as ever, leading in your defense, striving to free you from a heavy yoke, and to preserve your altars, from infamous violation, and your daughters and your wives from the extremity of insult. The enemy raises the sword to would your noble fronts; do you draw it likewise to chastise the rancorous pride of the invader."

How Mr. Polk’s eyes must be riveted on these, peaceful sentiments thus gently expressed, and how he must chuckle in his inmost soul when he reflects that Santa owes his power, to hold this language, to his prudence, to his sagacity and his foresight.

Our readers will observe in reading the extract published in our last paper, from the Diario del Gobierno, that there is considerable change in the tone of the Mexicans. But does that change bode us any better prospect for peace than we had eighteen months since? We think not. Dropping their arrogance and gasconade, they talk like me who have sternly and solemnly resolved to perish rather than yield .- Pet. Int.

[JKM]
The Mexican-American War and the Media, 1845-1848

Martinsburg Gazette
January-June 1848

Missing: January 13, 20, 27 (from microfilm); March (from microfilm), April, May,

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MGv48n49p1c6-7p2c1-4 February 3, 1848 Mr. Thompson Speech in the House of Representatives, 27 January 1848
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MG48v48i51p1c6-7 February 17, 1848 MR. STEPHENS' SPEECH
Mr. Stephens discusses the boundary of Texas to the House.
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Representative Thompson speaks to the House about the war. Online in the Congressional Globe: http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=llcg&fileName=020/llcg020.db&recNum=272

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MGv49i18p2c3, June 29, 1848: Taylor Clubs
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Comments made by Taylor on his nomination for President

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Information about those who have died in the war and how will be given out to those who have an interest

January

February

MG48v48n49p2c4, 3 February 1848 THE WHIGS AND THE WAR

"Keep it before the People," says the Augusta Democrat, "That the Whigs in the last Congress voted, that war exists by the act of Mexico."

Yes, and keep it before the People, that the declaration that "War exists by the act of Mexico," was by a most disingenuous trick of the Locofoco majority, appended to the Bill for raising the means of supporting our army in the enemies country—that the Whigs in a body voted against the amendment—and that most of them voted for the bill after the obnoxious amendment had been carried rather than refuse supplies to our brave soldiers in the field, and under protest, declaring at the time that they were forced by the act of opposite party to vote a lie! Our humble opinion was, and is, that they voted wrong, but it requires a very small degree of charity to make due allowances for men placed in such a position.
[SDW]
MG48v48n50p2c6 10 February 1848 Army Intelligence

The steamer *Edith* arrived at New Orleans on the 28th, from Vera Cruz, which port she left on the 20th ult. bringing six days later intelligence.

The most important of the intelligence by the *Edith*, in a rumor which was generally credited at the city of Mexico, that the commissioners of Mexico had agreed with Mr. Trist on a proposition to the American Government for peace, based upon the terms originally offered by Mr. Trist at Tacubaya, on the 26th of August, which propositions were at that time rejected by the Mexican Government, and the reduction and capture of the city followed.

There had been an attempt at insurrection among the Mexican inhabitants at Vera Cruz, which had been discovered, however, by the authorities, and promptly checked.

Col. Withers’ command, which was reported by the last arrival to have been cut to pieces, had arrived safely at Real del Monte, without molestation.

Col. Wynkoop, with a detachment, whilst in pursuit of Father Jarauta and Col. Rea, came upon and captured Gen. Valencia, with his Aid, and Gen. Arista, on the 1st ult. Genls. Valencia and Arista had been paroled.

Cols. Torrejon and Minon, and guard, were captured at Amastica, by Col. Domiguez’s spy company.

General Cadwallader’s command left the city of Mexico for the city of Toluca, the troops were in fine spirits, and had reached Serma uninterrupted.

Major Taliferro, from Real del Monte, has arrived at Mexico in charge of $150,000 worth of silver bars, being part of the assessment levied by General Scott on the State and Federal District of Mexico.

General Butler’s regiment ws suffering much from sickness.

The “World” of Guadalaxara, of the 17th ultimo, says that news had reached there from Mazathan, announcing that 500 California rangers had attacked the American possessions at Lapane and San Jose, and defeated the Americans, burning both places. Three American vessels had left Mazatlan to render assistance.

There had been designs of insurrection, among the Mexicans, both at the City of Mexico and Puebla, but they were detected and suppressed.

[SDW]

MG48v48n50p2c6 10 February 1848 From the Rio Grande

The Picayune of the 30th ult., learns of Lieut. Hamilton, who left Gen. Wool’s quarters on the 13th, that just before he left an express was received from Saltillo from Col. Hamtramck, in command of the forces there, stating that a report had reached him from a source entitled to credit, that a force of Mexicans, 10,000 strong, under command of Gen. Bustamente, were marching down upon Saltillo. The report even particularize the points from whence the troops had been raised, but so frequent are the stampedes upon that line, very little credit was attached to the report. Our forces there were in good condition, and perfectly willing to be attacked whenever the enemy thought best to make the experiment.

Upon the receipt of this news General Wool had apprised the merchants at Monterey, Camargo, Matamoras, and other posts, that he could afford them no protection in the way of escorts. From another source we learn that Col. Carasco, a Mexican officer who has rendered himself rather conspicuous, is at Monterey, proposing to enter into negotiations with Gen. Wool for a pronunciamento against the existing Government of Mexico and in favor of the United States, on the part of the States of Tamaulipas, Nueva Leon, and Coahuila. He also proposes to bring in Gen. Canales, that cowardly chief of guerillas, who has given us so much trouble upon the Rio Grande. Col. Carasco has been for a long time residing in Matamoras with his family, and appears friendly to the Americans. We know not what degree of credit to attach to this report.

[SDW]
A body of men have met at Santa Fe who style themselves the Legislature of New Mexico. They propose to annex the province of New Mexico to the United States. It is not known under what authority they propose to act. A territorial government has been organized by Congress for the government of the province, although the President has recommended it. What is most singular about the matter is, that Texas claims New Mexico as belonging to her, and at this very time, proposes to cede it to the United States for a portion of the Mexican territory south of the Rio Grande! [SDW]

U.S. SENATE

WASHINGTON, February 9, 1848.

Mr. Vice President Dallas, who had been absent from the Senate for several days, returned today, and took his seat as presiding officer.

A number of petitions were presented, among them one by Mr. Benton, from M. Vattemare, for a notional interchange of books.

Mr. Dix presented the resolutions, which passed the Legislature of New York, in favor of the Wilmot Proviso. Ordered to be printed.

The bill from the House, fixing the boundary between Missouri and Arkansas, was passed.

The Ten Regiment bill was then take up, and Mr. Niles took the floor, and commenced a speech on the war.

He is opposed to the bill, and depicted, in strong terms, the evils arising from the war. He has declared himself opposed to the policy of the Administration, as calculated to entangle us with Mexico, beyond our power of being able to extricate ourselves.

Mr. N., in conclusion, declared himself in favor of withdrawing our forces from the heart of the Mexican territory, retaining possession of New Mexico and California. For this object, and for this object alone, would he vote for an increase of the army, and then only to such an extent as would be necessary to accomplish that end.

Mr. Underwood, of Kentucky, announced his intention of speaking next upon the question, when the Senate, on motion, adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Several reports were made from Standing Committees.

Mr. Botts, Chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill for filling up vacancies in the present regiments; proposing to give additional bounties and providing for the transportation home of the sick soldiers in Mexico. Read twice and referred to the committee of the Whole.

Many other unimportant bills were reported and appropriately referred.

The House then went into Committee, (Mr. Botts in the chair) and took up the loan bill.

Mr. Fisher, of Ohio, addressed the committee upon the question, stating his opposition to the war and manner of its prosecution by the Administration.

Mr. Thomas, of Tennessee, obtained the floor, and read from copious notes previously prepared, a set speech in defense of the Executive and his measures.
Mr. Marsh of Vt., having obtained the floor, the committee rose and the House adjourned.

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IN SENATE.
February 10, 1848.

Mr. Hannegan offered a joint resolution, returning the thanks of Congress to Col. Doniphan for his services in the Army in New Mexico, &c.

Mr. Cass offered a joint resolution, authorizing medals and certificates to be presented to the officers and soldiers who have distinguished themselves in the army in Mexico.

The bill to increase the medical staff of the army passed.

The bill for the relief of Jones & Boker was passed.

The Senate then took up the Ten Regiment bill.

Mr. Underwood, of Kentucky, took the floor and commenced a speech on the bill.

He stated his doubts as to the propriety or necessity of the line of policy indicated by the course of the administration, and declared himself opposed to any further acquisition of territory, than would suffice for indemnity due our citizens on account of the war.

Mr. Turney next obtained the floor, when the Senate adjourned.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

A message was received from the Senate communicating several bills, which had passed that body, which were appropriately referred.

Mr. King, of Mass. Presented a petition signed by nine thousand members of the Society of Friends, in favor of peace. He moved to refer it to the Committee on Foreign Relations, and that it be printed.

Mr. Cobb moved to lay the resolution on the table.

Mr. King called for the yeas and nays.

Upon the motion to refer and print, a debate took place, in which Messrs. King, Cobb, Henley, and Palfrey took part.

Mr. Haskell called for the previous question.

His call was sustained.

The yeas and nays were then taken upon Mr. Cobb's motion, which was rejected by a vote of 81 to 95.

Mr. King's motion was then taken up and passed by 98 yeas to 83 nays.

The House, on motion, then went into Committee (Mr. Botts in the chair,) and Mr. Marsh addressed it upon the Loan bill.

He opposed the war and denounced the part the administration had acted in its commencement, and during its continuance. He spoke with fervor and ability, displaying much acumen in taking grounds which had not been before gone over.

Mr. Brown, of Mississippi, followed upon the opposite side of the question supporting the Executive and the policy advocated in his message.

After he had finished the Committee rose and the House adjourned.

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A message was received from the President in answer to resolutions calling for information relative to duties imposed on goods exported to Mexico, which, on motion of Mr. Miller, was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Clayton presented a petition from Midshipman Rogers, praying compensations for the services and sufferings he underwent whilst confined as a prisoner in Mexico.

Mr. Clayton spoke in favor of the petition, and it was then appropriately referred.

The joint resolution returning thanks to General Scott, was read a third time.

Mr. Hale, of N.H., spoke in opposition to it for “consistency’s sake.”

After Mr. H. had closed, the Ten Regiment Bill was taken up.

Mr. Turney spoke in favor of the bill and in defense of the Administration.

Mr. Breese, of Illinois, having next secured the floor on the question, the Senate, on motion, adjourned until Monday.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

A message was received from the President in answer to the resolution asking whether he had any information relating to a treaty having been concluded or agreed upon, between Mr. Trist and the Mexican Congress. He says there has none been made, of which he has information.

The House then, on motion of Mr. Rockwell, went into committee of the whole (Mr. Pollock in the chair,) and took up the loan bill.

Mr. Duer then commenced a speech on the bill.

The House, after rising from Committee of the whole, without transacting further business, adjourned over to Monday.

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February 12, 1848.

Neither House of Congress was in session today.

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IN SENATE.

February 14, 1848.

A number of memorials were presented and appropriately referred.

M. Berrien presented the credentials of Mr. H.B. Johnson, who was appointed a Senator in the place of Mr. Colquitt, resigned, and Mr. J. was sworn in and took his seat.

Mr. Yulee moved to take up the resolution offered by Mr. Dickenson some time ago, relative to the annexation of conquered territory.

Mr. Y. had offered an amendment to these resolutions, which he now advocated in a speech.

Mr. Upham, of Vermont, having secured the floor upon the question, the Senate went into Executive session, after which it adjourned.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The States were called, in order, for resolutions, and a number were offered.

Mr. James Thompson offered a resolution for expunging the amendment of Mr. Ashmun, heretofore adopted, declaring the war with Mexico to have been “unnecessarily and unconstitutionally commenced by Mr. Polk.”
Much confusion took place upon the offering of this expunging resolution, and the Speaker had difficulty in procuring order.

Mr. Ashmun moved to lay the resolution of Mr. Thomson, on the table. Lost-ayes 95, nays 105.

The regular business of the day being concluded, the House went into Committee on the Loan bill.

Mr. Duer, of New York, then rose and spoke in opposition to the administration.-His manner is easy and fluent, which give addition weight to what he says, and causes him to be listened to with attention.

Mr. Sims, of South Carolina, replied, and entered into the subject with an ability which showed that he had devoted his whole energies to a thorough preparation for this effort.

He stated it to be his conviction that his political opponents labored under a mistake, and therein exposed himself to the retort that the mistake, if any, lay on the other side.

Mr. Cocke, of Tennessee, having obtained the floor, the House adjourned.

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IN SENATE
February 15, 1848.

There were several petitions and memorials presented, and appropriately referred.

Mr. Badger moved to reconsider the vote passing the bill to increase the Medical Staff of the Army, which was carried.

Mr. Badger then moved to postpone the bill indefinitely—which motion prevailed—and the bill was thus defeated.

Mr. Felch reported a bill relative to the Judicial districts of the Courts of Michigan, which was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Yulee moved to take up Mr. Dickinson’s resolution. Agreed to.

Mr. Dickenson then addressed the Senate briefly upon the subject, when

Mr. Yulee resumed his remarks commenced yesterday. He contended that in any territory acquired, the people had a right to take their slaves there, and that Congress could not rightfully or constitutionally prevent it.

When he concluded, the Ten Regiment bill was taken up.

Mr. Upham addressed the Senate in opposition to the bill and the conduct of the administration in regard to the War.

Mr. Rusk, of Texas, having secured the floor the Senate on motion adjourned.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Kaufman, of Texas, offered a resolution to close the debate on the Loan bill tomorrow, at two o’clock.

Mr. Root moved to lay the resolution on the table, which motion was rejected.

The resolution was then passed by a vote of 109 to 90.

The House having resolved itself into committee on the Loan Bill, Mr. Crozier, of Tennessee, made an eloquent speech against the course of the administration on the War.

After he had concluded, the House adjourned.

[SDW]
be amiss here to state, is substantially corroborated by direct information which we have ourselves received upon the
subject:

"I held a Texan commission under Capt. R. Ross, in a troop of Horse Rangers, for the protection of the frontier
counties. Out beats were defined by the Adjutant General, with instructions not to cross the Nueces. On my return from
the frontier, I applied to Judge Lipscombe, of Galveston, for my certificate of head-right, at the same time inquiring if it
were possible for me to locate my land west of the Nueces, as nearly all on the east band had been located by others.
His answer to me was, that the territory of Texas did not extend beyond the Nueces. This was in the Fall of 1839."

[SDW]

MG48v48n51p2c6 17 February 1848 Letter from General Taylor, Agua Nueva, 3 March 1847

The following is the letter of General Taylor to the Secretary of War, communicated to the House of Representatives, in
compliance with a resolution of that body. It will be recollected that Mr. Marcy, Secretary of War, had written to Gen.
Taylor in strong deprecatory language, soon after the appearance of the letter from Gen. T. to Gen. Gaines, the reply
to which has never before been published, and would not now, we suppose, had not Congress made the demand. It is
a bold and manly letter, and bears "Buena Vista characteristics" on its face:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,
Agua Nueva, March 3, 1847.

Sir:-I have had the honor to receive your communication of January 28th, enclosing a newspaper slip, and expressing
the regret of the Department that the letter copied in that slip, and which was addressed by myself to the Major Gen.
Gaines, should have been published.

Although your letter does not convert the direct censure of the Department or of the President, yet, when it is taken in
connection with the revival of a paragraph in the regulations of 1825, touching the publication of private letters
concerning operations in the field, I am not permitted to doubt that I have become the subject of Executive
disappropriation. To any expression of it, coming with the authority of the President, I am bound by my duty and by my
respect for his high office, patiently to submit; but, lest my silence should be construed into a tacit admission of the
grounds and conclusions set forth in your communication, I deem it a duty which I owe to myself to submit a few
remarks in reply. I shall be pardoned for speaking plainly.

In the first place, the published letter bears upon its face the most conclusive evidence that it was intended only for
private perusal, and not at all for publication. It was published without my knowledge, and contrary to my wishes.
Surely, I need not say that I am not in the habit of writing for the newspapers? The letter was a familiar one, written to
an old military friend, with whom I have for many years interchange opinions on professional subjects. That he should
think proper, under any circumstances, to publish it, could not have been foreseen by me.

In the absence of proof that the publication was made with my authority or knowledge, I may be permitted to say, that
the quotation in your letter of the six hundred and fiftieth paragraph of the superceded regulations of 1825, in which
the terms "mischievous" and "disgraceful" are employed to characterize certain letters or reports, conveys, though not
openly, a measure of rebuke, which, to say the least, is rather harsh, and which many may think not warranted by the
premises. – Again: I have carefully examined the letter in question, and I do not admit that it is obnoxious to the
objections urged in your communication. I see nothing in it which, under the same circumstances I would not write
again. To suppose that it will give the enemy valuable information, is to know very little of the Mexican sources of
information, or of their extraordinary sagacity and facilities in keeping constantly apprized of our movements.

As to my particular views in regard to the general policy to be pursued towards Mexico, I perceive by the public
journals that they are shared by many distinguished statesmen, and also in part by a conspicuous officer of the navy,
the publication of whose opinions is not perhaps obstructed by any regulations of his Department. – It is difficult, then,
to imagine that the diffusion of mine can render any peculiar aid to the enemy, or specially disincline him "to enter into
negotiations for peace."

In conclusion, I would say, that it has given me great pain to be brought into the position in which I now find myself
with regard . . .

March

April

May
The Cincinnati Enquirer tells of a shipment of forty nests of coffins—five in a nest—just made, from that city, on the steamer Belle of the West, bound for New Orleans. The owner was with them, and thinks the demand will be so good that he will make a fine "spec".

The Oregon Spectator announces the official returns of the election for Governor as follows:--George Abernethy, 536: A. L. Lovejoy, 520, scattering 18. Abernethy's plurality 16. Rather a close run, that.

Change of Time of Training. An act changing the time of training of the officers and of the regimental and battalion musters. Prescribes that the training of the officers and the said musters of the regiments west of the Alleghany mountains, shall be in the months of September or October. Makes it the duty of the commander of companies in said regiments within twenty days after their April musters, to deliver to the adjutants of their regiments, returns of the strength and condition of their companies, and the adjutants are required to transmit in the month of May the returns now required of them, to the brigadier general. Authorizes the regimental courts of enquiry of any regiment in the State to change the time of the training of the officers and of the regimental or battalion musters of their regiments in conformity with the provisions of the law relative to the counties west of the Alleghany.

It gives us some satisfaction to state, as a fixed fact, that Santa Anna has embarked for Jamaica.—Washington Union. Nearly two years ago it gave you great satisfaction to state "a fixed fact" that Santa Anna had gone into Mexico, and now it gives you "some satisfaction to state, as "a fixed fact" that he has gone out of it. Mr. Polk "fixed" the former fact, and Gen. Scott "fixed the latter.—Louisville Jour.

Our readers will recollect (says the Lynchburg Patriot) that the leaders of the Democratic party deny most positively, that the object of the present war was or is the acquisition of territory. The truth of these repeated denials may be ascertained by reference to the last number of the Democratic Review, in which the policy of the absorption of the whole of Mexico, is unblushingly advocated in the contingency by no means improbable, of the non-ratification of the Trist Treaty. Connect this development with the late message of the President, recommending the military occupation of Yucatan, and they afford a startling commentary upon the designs of the present wild and reckless administration. The object of Mr. Polk in springing these exciting issues upon the country, at the incipiency of the Presidential canvass is not very difficult to divine. He seeks by this means, to divert scrutiny from the minor corruptions and meaner profligacies which have marked his Executive career.—He is destined, however, to a sore disappointment.—The people will, by their votes next fall, rebuke his wicked and perilous ambition, and at the same time affix a lasting seal of condemnation upon the ruthless prescription and unmanly passions which constitute the only distinguishing or marked attributes of the POLK regime.

Massacre of the Male Inhabitants of Valladolid by the Indians—Great Panic!—Vessel despatched to Jamaica for assistance. The N.Y. Journal of Commerce has received the "Central American Times" of April 27, published at Belize, and also the following letter from a correspondent: BELIZE, HONDURAS, April 28, 1848. "From all that can be learned here it is supposed that nearly the whole of Yucatan is now in possession of the Indians. The taking of Bacalar by them has filled Belize with refugees, and indeed fears are entertained that they will attack this place in fulfilment of their threats. In the attack upon Bacalar only five of the inhabitants were killed but at Valladolid every male inhabitant was massacred.
"The public meeting of this place assembled yesterday, by call of the honorable Superintendent, and voted $15,000 for the defence of the place. The militia will be called out, the old fort at the harbor is repaired, and a cordon of posts established for the security of the town. If the Indians should venture an attack they may certainly expect a warm reception. They are represented as being in force to the number of eight to twelve thousand.

"The Government despatched a schooner to Jamaica, this morning, with despatches—supposed to be for troops. From personal information received at Yzabel, the transmission of mails through to Central America was exceedingly difficult in consequence of the unsettled state of the country."

The Times is mainly filled with accounts of late events in Europe, but supplies also the following from Yucatan—not so late as we have via New Orleans, but giving fuller accounts of matters previously reported: No little alarm has been excited at Belize by the continued arrivals of large numbers of refugees from Bacalar, to which place the Maya Indians have extended their incursions, and reduced it with the exception of a fort and a few houses. The affrighted inhabitants, reduced to the greatest straits, and deserting the miserable remains of what was a few months back a thriving town, and flocking, some to Havana (to which vessels sent by the Governor General of Cuba,) and many to this place.

No fewer than eight hundred, principally females, are reported to have landed within the last two days, and fresh arrivals are hourly expected. The Indians have, it is reported, been guilty of horrible atrocities, but we do not yield implicit credit to all these reports, though there is no doubt their minds are dreadfully excited, and it is quite certain they have determined to retain possession of the country, which they claim as their own. The following is reported by an eye-witness:—"At day light on the morning of the 18th of April, the town of Bacalar was closely invested and set on fire in different directions by the Indians, who occupied an extent of about five thousand yards, and kept up an incessant fire, which was returned by the inhabitants.

This exchange of fire continued for the space of three days. On the afternoon of the third day, on a signal given by two bugles and a drum, the Indians in a body left the bush in which they had been concealed, and assaulted the intrenchments, which they carried, the Spaniards having only time to give one volley, and they being overpowered by numbers were disarmed. Those who were unable to escape took refuge in the fort, and the Indians, intoxicated with their success, inundated this beautiful town. Their number, by the confession of a deserter, amounted to twelve thousand men."

Since writing the above, the fort has been surrendered to the Indians, who have dismissed the men in it after shaving their heads. Fresh refugees are still arriving, and we understand that His Excellency H. M. Superintendent, in consideration of the alarm manifested by the inhabitants, has chartered a vessel to send to Jamaica for reinforcements.

[MBP]

MG48v49i13p2c5, May 25, 1848: MAJOR GENERAL SCOTT.

FROM THE LETTERS OF "MUSTANG." MEXICA, April 21. * * * * * He is gone, and he left the army as no man ever left it before; not with the formal parade and military display, with the thunder-toned artillery announcing his departure, and the long array of bright muskets saluting him as he passed; but with the unrestrained sympathy and warm regards of brave and honest men, wishing him long life and happiness, praying most fervently that the remainder of his life may be as calm and cloudless as the past has been bright, chequered, and glorious. Let us look back to the time he first entered this country, and follow him through the trying and exciting scenes. The strong Castle of Jan Juan de Ulua, supported by the well fortified city of Vera Cruz, fell at his command, after a desperate resistance; the heights of Cerro Gordo yielded to his science, supported by the bravery and confidence of his troops; then follow him to this valley, and view him descending the mountain from Rio Frio, at the head of his invincible legions, with all eyes and ears turned towards him with the most implicit confidence and firm reliance, each and all believing that as long as Winfield Scott lived there was "no such word as fail;" and then look back and recall to your recollection the sanguine reliance with which his gallant army followed him through the perilous times and bloody battles, until he entered the Grand Plaza of the ancient Aztecs, amidst the victorious shouts of the most noble army the world has ever known. But all this time, while he has been overthrowing the enemies of his country in front, exalting our national character, redressing our national injuries and adorning our national history, his "enemies in the rear" have been working to tarnish his fair fame and destroy his just claims to the gratitude and admiration of his countrymen. In the very face of the enemy he had routed and defeated, and in the capital he has conquered, he has been placed in the humiliating attitude of one scrambling for justice with his inferiors—inferiors in rank, in talent, and in the high traits of character and education which make the great and successful warrior, the statesman, and the logician.—And now, this day he leaves the capital of the enemies of his country, not with his victorious divisions following him to his native land, exulting in his unparalleled triumphs, but escorted by a single company of dragoons, disarmed, but not dishonored!

[MBP]

MG48v49i13p2c5, May 25, 1848: SWORD FOR GEN. SCOTT.

The sword ordered to be prepared for presentation to Gen. Scott, by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana, has been completed by Messrs Hyde & Goodrich, of New Orleans. It is surmounted by a spread eagle in gold, grasping an open
scroll on which is inscribed the words "Mexica Capta." The grip is octagon shaped, the alternate sides of which are gold and pearl, elegantly engraved and gold studded. The guard is formed by a heavy gold chain. The shield and cross-piece, made of gold, are in a style altogether new and unique. In the centre appears the eagle of Mexico, biting a serpent, surmounted by a brilliant cairngorm stone. The scabbard is made of gilt or silver metal, ornamented with solid gold mountings and richly chased designs. In the centre is engraved those words: "Presented by the people of the State of Louisiana to Winfield Scott for his gallantry and generalship, exhibited at the seige of Vera Cruz, in the battles of Cerro Gordo, Contreras, Churubusco, Molino del Ray, Chapultepec, and to his final entry into the city of Mexico."

[BWP]
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MGv49i21p2c3, July 20, 1848: The Virginia Regiment
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Report that a resolution was adopted recommending the nomination of Taylor and Fillmore

Report of the final evacuation of the city of Chihuahua by American troops

Comments made by a friend of Taylor about Taylor

Report that Gov. Woods of Texas has laid claim to the best lands of New Mexico; how New Mexicans reacted

Report of the acts of Mr. Leake as a soldier in Mexico and that he was not commissioned by Polk

WM. Thompson is prepared to procure the settlement of the claims of soldiers who enlisted during the Mexican war

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Full speech made by Col. Colston—mentions Texas and Oregon; comments on the Baltimore Convention of '44 and how that affected the Texas and Oregon debates

Comments made about the Secretary of War and speculation of land; comments about Congress fighting and coming to an agreement to censor Taylor

Comments made about Captain Bragg and his performance during the Mexican war

According to estimates for the Mexican Treaty America will have to pay two hundred and fifty million dollars

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Report on Taylor's feelings about politics and his nomination for President

Comments about Taylor's actions on the night before the battle; comments on the position of the army and what they might or might not

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MGv49i31p1c5, September 28, 1848: True Modesty
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MGv49i31p2c3, September 28, 1848: The Great Taylor Meeting at Old For Harrison
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MGv49i31p2c2, September 28, 1848: Bright for Taylor!
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MGv49i31p2c3, September 28, 1848: Berkley Whig Club
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MGv49i31p2c4, September 28, 1848: Later from Mexico
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MGv49i31p2c4, September 28, 1848: Gold Medal to Gen. Taylor
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MGv49i31p2c5, September 28, 1848: General Santa Anna
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MGv49i31p2c6, September 28, 1848: Prospects of an Indian War on the Texas Frontier
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MGv49i31p2c5, September 28, 1848: Effect of Gen. Taylor's Last Letter
Exalts the Old Hero; gives reasons for his silence while in Mexico

MGv49i31p4c4, September 28, 1848: Soldier's Claims
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MGv49i32p1c2, October 5, 1848: An Incident of Buena Vista
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MGv49i32p1c5, October 5, 1848: "The Whole of Oregon"
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MGv49i32p1c4, October 5, 1848: Important Correspondence
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MGv49i32p2c4, October 5, 1848: Mexico as it is
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MGv49i32p2c4, October 5, 1848: From Texas
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A copy of a report from the Harpers written by Capt. Carleton who helped Gen. Wool; gives details about the battle

MGv49i33p1c3, October 12, 1848
Mr. James Blair Gilmer who had voted for Polk is going to vote for Taylor because of his stance at Buena Vista and his character

MGv49i33p1c3, October 12, 1848: General Taylor and the Dying Soldier
Report of a dying volunteer who fought under Taylor; says his dying wish is to have Taylor be President

MGv49i33p1c3, October 12, 1848: Mexican Treachery
Report of an act of treachery being committed upon American officers by a Mexican force on the 27th of August at Laguna; the Americans had accepted an invitation to a ball and after the ball men were beaten in the streets by some Mexicans

MGv49i33p1c5, October 12,1848: General Taylor
Anecdote about Taylor; comments about seeing both the face of a Whig and a Democrat in Taylor

MGv49i33p2c1, October 12, 1848: The Discussion
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MGv49i33p2c4, October 12, 1848: From California
Mr. B. Chouteau arrived in Santa Fe; he reports that American troops are stationed at Fort Paz have been attacked before he left by a group Sonorians

MGv49i33p2c4, October 12, 1848: The Whigs of Virginia
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MGv49i33p2c4, October 12, 1848: War Upon Gen. Taylor
Democratic Review trying to ruin Taylor's military reputation

MGv49i33p2c5, October 12, 1848: Facts About General Taylor
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MGv49i33p2c6, October 12, 1848
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Report that Taylor and Fillmore support the Wilmot Proviso

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MGv49i34p1c4, October 19, 1848: Tit for Tat
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MGv49i34p1c5, October 19, 1848: Printer's Taylor Song
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MGv49i34p1c6, October 19, 1848: Something Ominous
Riot on the night of elections in Baltimore; attack on a Taylor book store

MGv49i34p1c6, October 19, 1848: South Carolina Election
Seems Taylor has won South Carolina

MGv49u34p1c6, October 19, 1848
Report that since the war American soldiers seem to have gained a remarkable repute in Mexico; they are looked upon to defend the government

MGv49i34p2c1, October 19, 1848: The Crisis
More comments about Taylor winning the election

MGv49i34p2c3, October 19, 1848: Election Returns
More comments about Taylor winning; who is voting for him and who is not

MGv49i34p2c5, October 19,1848: Gen. Taylor's Pay
More comments made about how much Taylor is paid; his pay is within the regulations of the War Department

MGv49i34p4c4, October 19, 1848: Soldier's Claims
Ad that WM Thompson is ready to begin making claims for the soldiers who fought in the Mexican War

MGv49i35p1c2, October 26, 1848: The Crisis
More comments about Taylor; how would he perform in certain situations?; comments about the Mexican War-the Texas line and annexation and how Polk handled it; comments about Oregon and how Polk handled that situation

MGv49i35p1c5, October 26, 1848: friends of Taylor!
Call to vote

MGv49i35p1c6, October 26, 1848: General Taylor
Comments by Gen. Davis about Taylor; comments about how he stood strong in the war, his character etc.

MGv9i35p2c1, October 26, 1848: Infamous Attempt at Imposition
Report that a pamphlet was printed stating that Taylor received extra pay/allowance

MG9i35p2c2, October 26, 1848
Report that the sketch of the Battle of Buena Vista from the New York Courier and Enquirer are worth a look at

MG9i35p2c2, October 26, 1848: A Word in Season!
Comments on how the President of the US should be and if one agrees then one should vote for Taylor

MG9i35p2c2, October 26, 1848: Gross Frauds
Tickets in circulation that list Butler and Taylor; votes for Butler will go to Taylor

MG9i35p2c4, October 26, 1848: The Battle of Buena Vista
Details about the battle

MG9i36p1c3, November 2, 1848: "Old Zach's Coming"
Comments about the Battle of Buena Vista
November 2, 1848: A Word of Caution
Lies will be circulated about Taylor before the election; be ready for them

November 2, 1848: A Good Whig Motto
Comments about words Taylor has said and when he said them (during battle)

November 2, 1848: A Democrat’s Testimony
More comments about Taylor; his character and military exploits

November 2, 1848: General Taylor
More comments about Taylor; his character and military exploits

November 2, 1848: “Old Zack” in Michigan
Report on the number of votes Taylor has won in Michigan

November 9, 1848: Berkeley County
Report on number of votes won by Taylor and Cass

November 9, 1848: Death of Gen. Kearney
Kearny died in on November 1st

November 9, 1848: Pennsylvania
Report on the number of votes Taylor won

November 9, 1848: New Jersey
Report on the number of votes Taylor won

November 9, 1848: Connecticut
Report on the number of votes Taylor won

November 9, 1848: Massachusetts
Report on the number of votes Taylor won

November 9, 1848: New York
Report on the number of votes Taylor won

November 9, 1848: Delaware
Report of the number of votes Taylor won

November 9, 1848: Virginia
Report of the number of votes Taylor won

November 9, 1848: Maryland
Report of the number of votes Taylor won

November 9, 1848: Maine
Report on the number of votes Taylor won

November 9, 1848: New Hampshire
Report on the number of votes Taylor won

November 9, 1848: Vermont
Report on the number of votes Taylor won

November 9, 1848: Ohio
Report on the number of votes Taylor won

November 9, 1848: Michigan
Report that Taylor won Detroit

November 9, 1848: Indiana
Report on the number of votes Taylor won

November 9, 1848: Kentucky
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November 9, 1848: Illinois
Report on the number of vote Taylor won
MGv49i37p2c3, November 9, 1848: North Carolina
Report on the number of votes Taylor won

MGv49i37p3c4, November 9, 1848: Soldier's Claims
Ad stating that WM. Thompson is ready to make claims on behalf of soldiers who fought in the war

MGv49i38p1c1, November 16, 1848: To the Volunteers and their Friends
Ad stating that a list of dead soldiers and how they died has been gained; information will be given to those who want it

MGv49i38p2c2, November 16, 1848: Morgan County
Report on the number of votes Taylor has received

MGv49i38p2c2, November 16, 1848: The Vote for Virginia
Report on the number of votes Taylor has won

MGv49i38p2c2, November 16, 1848: Presidential Election
Report on the number of votes Taylor won

MGv49i38p2c3, November 16, 1848: General Orders
Report that Taylor has been promoted from Major General to President

MGv49i38p4c2, November 16, 1848: Soldier's Claims
Ad stating that WM Thompson is ready to proceed with claims on behalf of soldiers who fought in the Mexican war

MGv49i41p2c3, December 7, 1848: Mr. Fauikenr's Letter
Comments about how happy he is that Taylor won

MGv49i41GAZETTE EXTRA December 7, 1848: President's Address
President Polk's annual address to Congress (full address)

MGv49i41p4c5, December 7, 1848: Soldier's Claims
WM. Thompson is prepared to proceed with claims on behalf of soldiers who fought in the Mexican war

MGv49i41p5c1, December 7, 1848: Soldier's Claims
WM. Thompson is prepared to proceed with claims on behalf of soldiers who fought in the Mexican war

MGv49i42p1c1, December 14, 1848: To Volunteers and their Friends
A list of soldiers killed in Mexico and how they died has been received; those who want information may request it

MGv49i42p1c3, December 14, 1848: The Yankee
Comments about the Yankee and how he is different from those in the south including Mexicans

MGv49i42p2c2, December 14, 1848: Resignation of Gen. Taylor
Taylor sent his resignation of Major General

MGv49i42p2c1, December 14, 1848: Taylor Republican Associates
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MGv49i42p2c1, December 14, 1848: The President's Message
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MGv49i42p2c2, December 14, 1848: Mr. Polk's Valedictory
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MGv49i42p2c4, December 14, 1848: California's Gold Region
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MGv49i42p3c4, December 14, 1848: Soldier's Claims
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MGv49i42p4c2, December 14, 1848: Soldier's Claims
WM. Thompson is prepared to proceed with claims on behalf of soldiers who fought in the Mexican War (advertisement)

MGv49i43p1c2, December 21, 1848: To Volunteers and their Friends
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NR 69.304 Jan 1846 relations with Mexico take an unfavorable turn, remarks

NR 69.304 Jan 1846 Mexico, departments assaulted by Indians

NR 69.305 Jan 1846 gloomy reports from Mexico about the reception of John Slidell and the possibility of a movement by Gen. Mariano Paredes y Arillaga against the government of Jose Joaquin Herrera on the basis of declaring war against the US over the annexation of Texas

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July 1844
66.305 13Jul1844: two war steamers in the US

While President Tyler was concentrating a squadron in the Gulf of Mexico, with orders to cruise off Vera Cruz, and intercept any naval movement from thence towards Texas, -- the Mexican war steamers, the Montezuma, and Guadaloupe, arrived at Charleston, S.C. on their way to N. York, having touched there for fuel. They are now at New York refitting. [BAH]

NR 66.307 13Jul1844: steam frigates refitting at New York

The Mexican war steamers, now at New York, are to undergo a thorough repair at the Sectional Dry Sock company's yard. One of them, the Guadaloupe, is built of iron. [BAH]

August 1844
66.353 03Aug1844: list of ships

The Mexican Navy at present consists of, the steamer Guadaloupe, 4 guns - cost 225,069; the steamer Montezuma, 8 guns, [costs] 414,602.

Those two steamers were built and fitted in England for the Mexicans, and are now refitting for them at New York.

The remaining part of the navy consists of the following vessels:
Steamer Regenerador  7 guns
Brig Gen. Santa Anna  9 "
Brig Mexico  15 "
Brig Tempoalteca  7 "
Schooner Aguila  7 "
Schooner Libertad  4 "
Pilot boat Morales  2 "

In all 63 guns.

The government has contracted for some floating batteries, in the United States, which are to be used for the defense of the castle of Ulloa.  [BAH]

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**September 1844**

**NR 67.002  07Sept1844:  Army units and loan for invasion of Texas**

The contingent of thirty thousand men for the invasion of Texas is appointed among the different departments of Mexico as follows:-- Mexico 8,200; Jalisco 4,000; Puebla 3,800; Guanajuato 3,000; St. Luis Potosi 1,800; Zacatecas 1,600; Queretaro 600; Oajaca 2,000; Mechoacan 1,580; Sinaloa 580; Aguascalientes 280. Total,-- 30,000 men.

Two gentlemen who arrived at New Orleans on the 26th ult. From Mexico, informed the editors of the Bee, that from 16,000 to 18,000 Mexican troops had assembled at San Louis de Potosi, and were on their way to begin the contemplated invasion of Texas. They were well provided with artilllery and cavalry.

Mexican dates to the 3d ult. Have been received. The vote of four millions of dollars for the invasion of Texas had been granted, but up to that date the plan for levying the money was still under discussion in the chambers. The Galveston *Civilian*, of the 17th August, says; "by last accounts over land, from Rio Grande, there was no indication of preparations t invade our territory. If Mexico really intends to make war, upon which point we are skeptical, she can have make but little progress as yet in getting ready."  [BAH]

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**NR 67.018  14Sept1844:  Mexican steam frigates repairing at New York, difficulties encountered by officers**

Outrageous. It appears by a card from the Mexican consul general in New York, (Mr. Granja) that the officers of the two Mexican frigates have been harassed by lawsuits, and subject to much vexation in prosecuting their duties, from the prejudices excited among the people with whom they have to deal, by the Texas question. The sailors have been tempted to desert, and then to institute suits against officers on frivolous pretences, and condition of the crews. The courtesy of the U.S. officers, however, is gratefully acknowledged.  [BAH]

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**NR 67.208  30 November, 1944:  steamers sail from New York**

Naval. The U.S. sloop of war Saratoga, commander Tutnall, reached Hampton Roads on the 23d, in 21 days from Prot Praya, coast of Africa - All well. - The S. left at Prot Praya the U.S. frigate Macedonian, com. Perry.

The U.S. ship Decatur was daily expected at Port Prava. She had been absent four months.

The U.S. war steamer Princeton left New York for Norfolk where she will remain ten days. She will proceed thence to Liverpool, and be absent about four months.
The Mexican war steamers Montezuma and Guadeloupe and brig-of-war Santa Anna left New York on the 24th - destination unknown, but supposed to be Vera Cruz.

Commodore Kearney, U.S. navy, and Capt. Talcott, of the U.S. engineer corps reached Norfolk on the 24th en route to Pensacola, to join the commissioners associated with them to select a site for a dry dock at the naval station. [BAH]

December 1844

NR 67.210   07Dec1844: steamer Montezuma arrives at Norfolk

The U.S. frigate Raritan: A letter dated on board, Oct. 12th says: "We leave in a few days with Mr. Brent, our charge on board, for Buenos Ayres, and expect to be gone about two months. We shall then return to this port.

The congress, Boston and Brainbridge are now at the river. Since my arrival on the coast I have made but one short cruise to St. Salvador and back. It is quite tedious lying so long in port, and injurious to the discipline of a new ship.

When we went to sea in August last, the congress was in company, for the purpose of comparing speed, and so was the United States. This ship was out of trim, being just filled up with her stores and provisions. The United States was light, and she left us before we got in trim.

The first day we beat the Congress by the wind, and Captain Voorhees acknowledged it, attributing the circumstance to his trim. Having put his ship in trim, he beat us two days, the winds being light; although this vessel having been put in trim also, we beat the Congress handsomely in a good breeze. All our sailing was by the wind.

Com. Turner has written home requesting to return which he desires to do in the Congress."

The U.S. ship Falmouth, Com'r. Sands, sailed from Pensacola on the 18th ult.

The U.S. ship Lexington, commodore F.B. Ellison, leaves N. York in a few days for Fort Mahon.


It is stated that commodore Kearney is to succeed commodore Jones, as commander of the New York station.

The Mexican war steamer Montezuma arrived at Norfolk on Saturday from New York. [BAH]

NR 67.225   14Dec1844: steamers sail from Norfolk

The U.S. steamer Princeton, Captain Stockton, was docked at Gosport Navy Yard Last week on the 8th instant, she left Norfolk for Philadelphia, where she now is.

The U.S. frigate Potomac, Com. Conner, went to sea from Norfolk last Sunday on a cruise.

The Mexican steamer Guadaloupe, Com. Espins, left Norfolk on Saturday for Vera Cruz via Havana.

The U.S. frigate Cumberland arrived at Port Mahon, on the 25th October, rom Malta.

The Plymouth, Com. Henry, was daily expected at Mahon from Marseilles.

The U.S. brig Oregon, Lieut A. Sinclair, commander, put into Kingston, Jam on the 17th ult. for provisions. All well. She was to have sailed on the 19th ult. For Carthagena, to await the arrival of Mr. Blackford, our minister at Bogotá, who is to return in the Oregon to the United States.

A letter from an officer on board the United States ship Decantur, dated Benguila, Africa, September 25th,1844. Our Ship arrived here to day from a cruise. Off. Loango spoke H.B.M. Star, on a cruise, having within a few days captured two Spanish brigs full of slaves and a large amount of specie, and sent them to Ascension,
which is the English admiral's rendezvous. We are all well and now bound to Windward.

The U.S. Erie sailed from Brooklyn on the 9th for the coast of Africa.

The U.S. schooner Shark, from Guayaquil, was at Callao on the 21st of August.

The U.S. frigate Savannah sailed from Callao on the 13th of August for the Sandwich Islands.

The U.S. store ship Relief sailed on the 16th, from the same port for Valparaiso.

The U.S. ship Saratoga towed into Norfolk navy yard on the 6th instant, to be fitted for sea.  [BAH]

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February 1845

NR 67.337  01Feb1845: veto of a bill to return the capital to Austin on grounds of a possible Mexican invasion

Texas. Galveston dates to the 18th January are received. Their congress expected to adjourn the last of January. Their tariff was under discussion in both houses. The financial committees of each house had reported against the "free trade" measures, and in favor of some very slight alterations in the tariff. The bill to prevent further issues of exchequer bills had not become a law. A bill to extend further time to A. Fisher to introduce emigrants had passed the house, and a bill was reported for changing the constitution in regard to naturalization. President Jones had vetoed the bill for the return of the seat of government to Austin, and assigns amongst his reasons, that it would be in danger there from Mexican invasions, the government of Mexico having just undergone a revolution, Santa Anna having been displaced mainly for the same reason he had assumed for displacing Bustamente, -- that is, "for not having pursued with sufficient vigor the war against Texas."

By proclamation dated 31December, President Jones revokes the exequatur previously granted to Duff Green as consul of the United States for Galveston. Three dars afterwards Mr. Green published a card in the Houston Telegraph, insinuating against "the combined [sic]"  [BAH]

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March 1845

NR 68.032-68.034  22March,1845: Mexican indemnity

Mexican Indemnity. Among the appropriations make by the late congress, was that of $275,000 to pay claimants under the treaty of indemnity, which it would appear that the Mexican government had paid to our agent for receiving it at the city of Mexico, and held his receipt therefore. What has become of the money?  Some enquirers were made in congress, but among the explanations we have seen is the following, when we extract from the Richmond Enquirer -

"Here are the circumstances of the case, as they were told me today, by a gentleman upon whom I can rely. The firm of Hanzous & Co., in Vera Cruz and New York, and Voss & Co., in Mexico are agents of our government for receiving the money already stipulated to be paid by Mexico to the United States. Trigueros, Santa Anna's late secretary of the treasury, is a principal partner of these firms with one hand, as Santa Anna's fiscal agent, he paid the last installment ($275,00) into the other, with which he wrote the receipt as agent of the United States government. The money found its way into his own pocket, and he has absquatulated along with the rest of his master's ministers, whose heads are not safe on their own shoulders if caught within the republic of Mexico. Santa Anna's robberies of the treasure of his own government, furnished him with an illustrious precedent for this robbery of ours. - Our treasury suffers by this financial "operation;" for you will remember he was sufficiently patriotic to give his own government a receipt of the money as United States agent. Thus congress will be forced to appropriate the sum stolen, the United States being responsible for it to the claimants."

The Buffalo Advertiser, after quoting the above, says:

"The explanation has a very suspicious look. If the facts are as stated, why have they not been communicated to the country through the proper channels, instead of finding their way to the public through the medium of an anonymous letter in a newspaper? The suspicious of falsity, which this statement is calculated to excite, are confirmed by the following from the Journal of Commerce, a paper very likely to be correctly informed. It says:

"Trigueros, we are assured, has no connection with the house of Hargous & Co., and never did have. No part of the money ever came into the hands of that firm."

Now, is it not true that the money was paid as is alleged by the Mexican minister, and then embezzled - we
Relations with Texas. The Richmond Enquirer publishes the following letter, written nearly a year ago by the British envoy to Mr. Jones, then secretary of state, now president of Texas, and lately communicated by him along with other documents to the congress of that republic, with his annual message. The Enquirer introduces the article with a column of editorial, which we omit, because it appears to us that nothing is developed in this letter of Mr. Elliott, but what the whole country was aware of long since. That the English government would prefer that Texas should remain independent of the United States, no one we presume ever doubted. That President Houston, and Mr., now President Jones, when Mr. Tyler make the application to the Texian government to relinquish sovereignty and seek a subordinate station, were at first averse to the proposition, we also all knew. That there would be a corresponding understanding between those parties, who could doubt? The relative weight of influence which England and the United States have with the Texians is too manifest to give us any uneasiness.

Mr. Elliott, British Envoy, to Mr. Jones, Secretary of states. Galveston, March 22d,1844.

The undersigned, her Britannic majesty’s charge d’affaires to the republic of Texas, has lately had the honor to acquaint Mr. Jones, that her Majesty’s government was engaged in continued efforts to induce the government of Mexico to acknowledge the independence of Texas; and he has now the gratification to add that renewed communications have taken place between the government of her majesty and that of the king of the French, and that his majesty has expressed his concurrence in the purposes of the French minister in Mexico, to join his continued friendly assistance to that of her majesty’s representative.

But adverting to the proposals of the government of the United States, respecting annexation, to the recent mission of distinguished citizens to Texas to Washington on the Potomac, and to the impression as general in Texas, that negotiations having that object in view, are either in progress or in contemplation, the undersigned finds it his duty to express the hope, that the government of Texas will furnish him with explanations on the subject, for transmission to her majesty’s government. He is sure that they will be made in that spirit of frank and friendly unreserved which has always characterized the intercourse of the two governments.

It must be unnecessary to say, that the undersigned is perfectly aware of the president’s personal opinions on the subject, and he has not failed, agreeably to the president’s wish, to communicate to her majesty’s government his excellency’s determination to sustain the independence of the republic, and his excellency’s confident hope that the people will uphold him in that course. Indeed, referring to the conference, which the undersigned had the honor to have with the president and Mr. Jones at Galveston, during last autumn, he can suppose that the mission to Washington of the gentlemen in question, has been dictated by a wise desire to avoid any cause of offence or irritation to the government of the United States, and to explain with frankness, that the government of Texas could not entertain the subject at all, even if all other obstacles were removed, after the former rejection of such an arrangement by the government of the United States, and wholly with our reason, to know that the senate of the United States will ratify if now, or in future.

The congress of Texas, however, has met and separated since the date of the communication to her majesty’s government, to which the undersigned has referred, and the president will feel with force, that it is just and necessary, in the present appearance of circumstances, that there should be no room for the least uncertainty on the part of the governments engaged on the behalf of Texas at Mexico; for, it is not to be supposed that they could continue to press the government of Mexico to settle upon one basis, whilst there was nay reason to surmise that negotiations were either in actual existence, or in contemplation, proposing a cohabitation or a totally different and prosperity of Texas.

The undersigned takes this occasion to renew to Mr. Jones, the expression to the sentiments of regard and distinguished consideration with which he has the honor to remains, His faithful and most obedient servant,

Charles Elliott. [BAH]

We learn from the Houston Star that when the news of the Annexation resolutions reached that city, it was
hailed with a burst of enthusiasm by the citizen that has never been exceeded. The news of the victorious battle of San Jacinto scarcely excited such general hand enthusiastic rejoicing. The sound of the drum and other musical instruments, the roar of cannon, the loud shouts of the multitude, resounding long after midnight, indicated the ardent longing of the people to retune once more under the glorious Egis of the American Union.

Amid the sounds of joy, there are heard the mutterings of discounted - not so loud, but sufficiently distinct to lead us to infer that there will be considerable opposition to he measure. We do not, however, apprehend the defeat of annexation from the other side of the Sabine.

In respect to the disposition of President Jones upon the question, it is thought a favorable indication that he should have appointed the Hon. David S. Kaufman, an ardent friend of annexation as Charged'Affaires to the United States. The Houston Telegraph, in speaking to this point, says:

"we find that an impression is gaining ground that President Jones is opposed to annexation, and the Washington Register is regarded as uttering his sentiments upon this subject. We, however, have reason to believe that the articles in the Register are published entirely independent of him and without his assent or dissent, as he troubles himself very little about the affairs of either of the editors at Washington. We have "information on which we can rely" that he is a warm friend of annexation, disposed to make any honorable sacrifices to obtain it.

The news of the abolition of duties upon cotton imported in England, will take away the main prop of the anti-annexationists, as it was the hope of obtaining an advantage over the united States in this particular that furnished the staple argument of the opposition.

Aside from this matter of annexation, we find little that is interesting to our readers in our Texas files. The citizens of Milam and Montgomery counties have evinced a spirit of insubordination in the way of resisting the tax collector.

President Jones has vetoed the act of congress reducing eh duties on imported goods.

The Galveston News says that Gen. Arista has sent dispatches to the Texas government by way of Corpus Christi. The purport of these dispatches is said to be an invitation to the Texan government to join the Mexican General in an expedition against the Comanche Indians that have become the pest of the Rio Grande settlements.

The Galveston Civilian says;

The revenue cutter Alert, Capt. Sympton, arrive on Monday from Corpus Christi. We learn that they party of Indians, of whose passage down the country e have before had intelligence, are encamped within fifteen or twenty miles of Corpus Christi, and are pronounced to be a body of Comanches, men, women, and children, and numbering in all perhaps 2000 or 2500. Capt. Hays, with his company was at the ranch when the cutter sailed, the whole force numbering about one hundred and seventy men. Monday last was the day set to go out to give the Indians battle. Should our people receive no material reinforcement, a hard fight may be expected, as there are probably some four hundred warriors among the Indians, while he squaws and young ones are not backward in lending a nod in an emergency.

The Texans were armed with Colt's repeaters, and were expected to give a good account of themselves.

Three Wacoes were recently killed near Bastrop. They are supposed to have belonged to a large party that recently make a foray upon that section of the country.

Corn was selling in Houston on the 12th inst., at $1 per bushel.

The whooping cough was prevalent in many part of the country.

Just before the New York left Galveston, a British man of war entered that port, bearing dispatches of Capt. Elliott, British Envoy, from this government. - It was said that this vessel had a vast amount of money on board, and that the dispatches contained instructions to Capt. Elliott to offer to guaranty they national independence of Texas, provided the annexation resolutions are rejected. It was further reported that the French government had also offered the same guarantee on the same conditions. Private advices assure us that when these propositions were made know in Galveston, the people snapped their fingers, saying "the foreigners were too late."

Capt. Elliott set out for the capital immediately after receiving his dispatches - M. Saligny, the French Charge, was already there.  [BAH]
that they need succor from the government, instead of being compelled to contribute to its support.

The celebrated criminal Uruera, condemned to the galleys or 10 years, escaped from the prison at Mazatlan on the 16th ult. His evasion is ascribed to the neglect of the authorities.

Gen. Woll of the army of the North arrived at Mexico on the 23d ult. having resigned the command of his troops to Gen. Arista.  [BAH]

April 1845

NR 68.112 26Apr1845: rumor that Mexico has agreed to acknowledge independence of Texas if Texas rejects annexation by the US

Mexico. El Siglo, (of the city of Mexico), of the 29th ultimo contains a letter from the minister of foreign affairs, (Cuevas) to Mr. Shannon, United States minister at Mexico, informing him that the government was in possession of the knowledge of the passage of the annexation resolutions, and that diplomatic relations between the two countries were suspended on that account. The same day a note was addressed by the Mexican cabinet to the ministers of Spain, France, and England, protesting against the proceedings of the United States in relation to Texas. National Intelligencer April 22.

A correspondent of the New Orleans Jeffersonian, writing from Vera Cruz, says:

"The news of the final action of the senate on the Texas resolution was received here three days since, and caused much surprise among foreigners and excitement among natives. An express was immediately sent by the commandant general of this place to Mexico, communication this intelligence to government, and consequently considerable anxiety is felt here to know what course will be adopted by congress in the matter. The more I reflect upon the subject, the less able do I find myself to give an opinion as to what will be the course pursued by Mexico in this case. One thing is most certain, that she finds herself I the most awkward position that can be imagined. She is not in a situation to keep her head above water in time of peace, and where she to get funds from to support a war? The actual government, by not declaring war against the United States, would be placing a terrible engine in the hands of the recently fallen party, to be used against itself in such a manner as to jeopardize greatly its existence. It is impossible to say what will be done; but I think government must declare war to save itself. In a very few days we shall know something certain, and perhaps even before the sailing of this vessel."  [BAH]

NR 68.112 26April 1845: proposals before Mexican Congress to abrogate treaty, close Mexican ports to US vessels, denounce annexation of Texas

"Vera Cruz March 29,1845

Congress has been in session on the subject of the Texan resolutions ever since the news of their passage by the U. States congress was received. A great many propositions have been discussed, such as war, non-intercourse, expulsion of Americans, confiscation of American property and vessels. But nothing of the kind has even decreed yet; and, when the first impression is over, they will no doubt go mildly to work, as what can they expect with high-handed measures against their powerful neighbors?"  [BAH]

NR 68.116 26April 1845: Luis G. Cuevas, minister of foreign affairs, addresses a note to Wilson Shannon closing diplomatic relations, and to other foreign ministers protesting against the annexation of Texas, war spirit, consideration of measures to be taken

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The following is an extract of a letter received by a gentleman in the city of Baltimore, dated Vera Cruz, March 29, 1845.

Congress has been in session on the subject of the Texan resolutions ever since the news of heir passage by the United States congress was received. A great many propositions have been discussed, such as war non-intercourse, expulsion of Americans, confiscation of American property and vessels. But nothing of the kind has been decreed yet; and when the first impression is over, they will no doubt go mildly to work, as what can they expect with high-handed measures against their powerful neighbors?"  [BAH]

NR 68.117 26 Apr 1845: reaction in Mexico to news of annexation of Texas by the US

Galveston papers have been received at New Orleans to the 9th instant. They contain little news and are mainly occupied with the subject of annexation. The Galveston Daily News discusses at some length the mode in which the people of Texas can constitutionally act upon the joint resolutions. On the one hand, it has been said that president Jones has no constitutional power to entertain propositions which go to the overthrow of the present government; and on the other that there is no provision in the laws or constitution empowering the executive or congress to call a convention of the people. Under these circumstances, the editor suggests that the people themselves form a convention and proceed to draught a state constitution, in conformity with the article I the present fundamental law of Texas, conferring upon them "an inalienable right at all times to alter the government as they may think proper."

The New Orleans Bee says:-- "We have received verbal information that major A.J. Donnellson, charge to Texas, had been two days at Washington, but had not laid his dispatches before the executive. Mr. Jones had not expressed an opinion either way, but was generally supposed to be opposed to annexation."

Mr. De Saligny, the French charge to Texas came passenger in the New York to New Orleans. Mr. Elliot, the British charge, had sailed from Galveston on the 3d for Charleston, in the English sloop of war Electra, where also he expects to meet his family.

The hon. Ashbel Smith, secretary of state of the republic of Texas, had arrived at New Orleans, and was to leave that city on the 14th instant for Washington. On an important mission to this gevernment.

The New Orleans Picayune of the 14th says - Mr. Saligny and the hon. Ashbel Smith, secretary of state, came passengers in the New York. Our private information leads us to infer that these gentlemen have come to the United State upon business connected with annexation. We have been informed that such was the eagerness of the French charge to read the city, that when the New York stopped a few miles below to take wood, he procured a horse, set out immediately, and arrived in town on Saturday night. We have been told that Mr. Salingy asserted, in terms rather more preemptory than are usually employed by diplomatic agents, that annexation will not (shall not) take place.

The plan of operations at present adopted seems to be, to create an impression throughout Texas that the United States congress will not sanction the admission of Texas upon the resolution adopted.

The president and cabinet left the capital shortly after captain Elliot and Mr. Saligny got through with their business. This step was taken, it is shrewdly suspected, to escape an interview with Mr. Donelson, United States charge. Mr. Smith's mission hither, too, is thought to be a mere ruse, to give the government excuse for delay.

We have two private letters before us, a day later that those published above, and which were written at the latest hour to be in readiness foe the steamer, from which we learn that president Jones had returned to Washington, and that the United States minister, major Donelson, Had been treated so cavalierly by him and his cabinet, that he spoke of withdrawing from the seat of government to Galveston. This intelligence is from sources so direct as to leave no room to doubt its accuracy. From all that we learn we are constrained to believe, that if a rupture with Major Donelson would assist in procrastination action with the acquiescence of the people, president Jones would edify the nations with another exequatur proclamation.

It seems to be agreed that proclamations have been issued to fill vacancies I congress, so as to house the citizens with a few elections. None has been issued convening congress-nor will there be, we apprehend, until there is a general rising of the country.

It is further stated that the custom house officers on either bank of the Sabine, have discontinued the
collection of the custom duties, the question of annexation, in their opinion, being already settled.

Meetings in favor of annexation continue to be held. One at St. Augustine was a very large gathering, and was attended by the vice president of Texas, gen. Henderson, major Kaufman and other leading men of the country. IN Nacogdoches, out of 100 voters, it is stated, there are not twenty opposed to the measure.

The Picayune gives the following intelligence from Mexico, received by the Alabama, from Havana-

We subjoin such particulars of Mexican affairs as we find our Havana exchanges. They are of great importance, and are nearly a week later than we have received direct. Gen. Almonte's communication of the passage of the measure of annexation, though not unexpected, produced very considerable excitement in the capital. ON the 22d of March, Senor Cuevas, the present minister of foreign relations, addressed a circular to the governors of the different departments, in which he announces this intelligence. He goes on to say that the executive government and the chambers are occupied with the discussion the grave interests involved in the question. He appeals to the patriotism of the authorities of the departments and all their citizens, to forget all divisions, and to stand by the president, and co-operate with him in defense of the rights and the honor of the nation. He promises to communicate promptly to the different departments the measures, which may be resolved upon at the capital.

Upon the reception of official notification of the passage of the annexation resolutions, a very stormy session was held in the house of deputies, during which propositions of a hostile character were submitted and canvasses, without, however, and decisive vote being taken thereon. The policy of issuing letters of marquee was brought up in this debate. [BAH]

NR 68.128  26Apr1845:  denunciation of the annexation of Texas by the US, threat of war

Mexico. Latest dates are to the 4th by the Guadabete, at N. Orleans; official letters have been addressed to our minister, and published, closing all diplomatic relations. Also letters to the ministers of England, France and Spain. They announce, that in opposition to the contemplated measure of annexation: "the Mexican Republic will employ her power and her resources, and, trusting in the justice of her cause, does not fear to give assurance, that whatever may be the result, she will preserve the honor which at any cost she ought to defend in the grave matter under consideration."

A letter addressed to the New Orleans Jeffersonian says: "I have just received my letters from Mexico, and copy the following from one: In congress today a proposition has passed to a second reading, by a large majority, making it high treason if any person who should make proposal for the recognition of the independence of Texas to the cession of that country to the United States. I believe a large majority of congress will not agree to declare war against the United States, but will send a large force to Texas with the object of conquering it, by this means forcing the United States to declare war, if she wishes to protect Texas." [BAH]

May 1845

NR 68.129  3May1845:  earthquakes

An awful earthquake, visited the city of Mexico on the 7th April.

At the moment we write, says the Siglo, (of the city of Mexico) of the 8th, the inhabitants of the capitol of the republic are still under the influence of the horrors excited by the earthquake of yesterday, the disastrous effects of which we are still imperfectly acquainted with.

Yesterday at 52 minutes past 3 o'clock P.M., the oscillations began, slight at first and then stronger - The direction of the motion appeared to be north and south. It lasted about two minutes. The shocks were terrible; nothing like them was ever experienced before, and the condition of the buildings too surely proves the absence of all exaggeration.

We were by chance upon the great square at the time, and we witnessed a spectacle not easily forgotten. In an instant the multitude, but a moment previous tranquil and listless, were upon their knew, praying to the Almighty and counting with anxiety the shocks which threatened to convert the most beautiful city in the New World into a vast theatre of ruins  [BAH]

NR 68.129  3May, 1845:  people of Chihuahua refuse paying taxes because of Apache depredations
The people of the department of Chihuahua refuse positively to pay all direct taxes levied by the government, upon the ground that the irruptions of the Apache Indians have reduced them to extreme want, and that they need succor from the government, instead of being compelled to contribute to its support.

The celebrated criminal Uruera, condemned to the galleys or 10 years, escaped from the prison at Mazatlan an the 16th ult. His evasion is ascribed to the neglect of the authorities.

Gen. Woll of the army of the North arrived at Mexico on the 23d ult. having resigned the command of his troops to Gen. Arista.  [BAH]

NR 68.129  3May, 1845: Gen. Manuel Micheltoreno and troops return to Mexico

A letter from Mazatlan, dated the 19th march, says, "By a vessel which arrived here yesterday from Upper California, we learn that Gen. Micheltorena with 200 troops, is on this way to these port, having been compelled to leave that country, by the terms of the capitulation."

The Vera Cruz papers speak of a horrible murder committed at Puebla by a priest, in consequences of a criminal passion. The particulars are not mentioned.

Senor Echeverria has resigned the office of minister of finance, on account of ill health, and Senor Luis de la Rosa has been appointed in his stead.  [BAH]

NR 68.133-68.135  03May1845:  official announcement of annexation of Texas by the US, note of Luis G. Cuevas to Ambassador Wilson Shannon, Shannon's reply

Diplomatic Relations Discontinued - Official Correspondence. The following important notes are translations, for the New Orleans Picayune, from the official, published at the city of Mexico.

Mexico, 22d March, 1845

The Supreme Government has received official notice of the approval of the congress of the United States of American of the annexation of Texas to their union, on the terms which are expressed in the communication of Don Juan M. Almonte, a copy of which you will find in one of the Journals accompanying this.

The houses of legislation and the Supreme government are at present occupied in the consideration of this serous affair, and take this method of informing you of the means they are adopting in relation to it. And in order to ensure perfect co-operation, we have tot inform you that His Excellency, the president, depends upon the well-known and tired patriotism of yourself and the assistance of all the inhabitants of your department, and that the good feeling heretofore existing between them and the government may be more particularly sustained at this moment when it is so necessary to maintain the rights and fair name of the nation.

(Signed)
CUEVAS

The following are given as translations of a note from the Mexican Foreign Minister to Mr. Shannon, dated March 28, and of a circular addressed by the same functionary to the European Ministers which are as follows:

To His Excellency Wilson Shannon,
Envoy Extraordinary, &c.

National Palace, Mexico, March 28, 1845

The undersigned, minister of foreign relations in addressing himself, for the last time, to his excellency, Mr./ Wilson Shannon, minister plenipotentiary from the United States, desires to inform him, that as both houses of the United States Congress have sanctioned the law in relation to the annexation of Texas to the territory of the United States, and as the minister from Mexico has withdrawn from his mission at Washington, and protested against the act of congress and the government of the United Sates, diplomatic relations between the two countries cannot be continued.

What can the undersigned add to what has already been said by his government upon the grave offence offered Mexico by the United States, usurping a portion of Mexican territory and violation the terms of treaties of friendship, which the republic of Mexico has observed on her part as long as her honor and the desire to avoid a rupture with the United States have permitted? Nothing more than to lament that two nations, free and republican, congruous (vicinos) and worthy of fraternal union, founded upon mutual interests and a common and
honorable loyalty, should have cut short their friendly relations, and by an act as offensive to Mexico as it is derogatory to the honor of the American Union.

The undersigned renews to his Excellency Mr. Shannon, the protest already directed against annexation; and, moreover, would add, that the Mexican republic will oppose the measure with all the decision due to her own honor and sovereignty, and that the government ardently desires that considerations of loyalty and justice should yet outweigh with the citizens of the United States designs for extending their territory at the expense of a friendly republic, which, in the midst of its misfortunes, (disgracias), seeks to preserve an unspotted name, and thereby the rank to which its destinies call it.

The undersigned has the honor to offer to his Excellency, Mr. Shannon, his personal respect, and to assure him of his very distinguished consideration.

Luis G. Cuevas.

United Sates Legation, March 31, 1845.

The undersigned, envoy extraordinary, &c. of the United States, has the honor of acknowledging he receipt of his excellency's, Senor Cuevas, minister of foreign relations, &c., note of the 28th of March, announcing that the congress of the United States has sanctioned the annexation of Texas to its territory; that the Mexican minister at Washington had terminated his official relations and protested against the said act of the congress and government of the United States; and that diplomatic relations between the two counties could not be continued.

The liberal and honorable sentiments entertained by the actual government of Mexico had induced the undersigned to hope that the differences which exist between the governments could be arranged amicably, upon terms just and honorable to both. It would appear, however, from the note of his Excellency Senor Cuevas that Mexico declines to adjust these differences in this manner, and thus preserve the peace of the two counties.

The undersigned can assure his excellency Senor Cuevas that his (MR. Shannon's) government entertains the liveliest desire to cultivate amicable relations with that of Mexico; and here he will improve this opportunity to repeat that which he had before communicated to the government of Mexico, to wit, that the United States has not adopted the measure of annexation in any spirit of hostility towards Mexico, and that the United States are anxious to settle all questions which may grow out of this measure, including that of boundaries, in terms the most just and liberal.

Having offered the olive branch of peace, and manifested a sincere desire to arrange these questions amicably, and upon principles just and honorable to both governments, the United States have done whatever is in their power to preserve the friendly relations between them, and it now remains for Mexico to decide whether they shall be continued, or whether the peace of the two countries shall be broken by a conflict equally injurious to both, and which can give satisfaction only to the enemies of civil liberty and republican institutions.

The undersigned will pass over in silence the charge makes against his government of having violated the treaty of friendship with Mexico. The right of Texas to cede the whole or a part of her territory to the United States, and the right of the United States to accept such cession, have already been amply vindicated repeatedly.

The undersigned has received no official communication as to the action of his government in regards to the annexation of Texas to the Union; nevertheless he cannot doubt, from the tenor of his personal correspondence, that the measure has been passed by congress and approved by the president. He expected daily dispatches from his government, with special instruction upon this subject, and, before any further steps has resolved to await their arrival.

The undersigned has the honor, &c.

Wilson Shannon

National Palace, Mexico, April 2, 1845.

The undersigned, minister of foreign relations, had the honor to communicate to his Excellency, Mr. Shannon, minister, &c., in reply to the note of his Excellency of the 31st March, that the government of Mexico cannot continue diplomatic relations with the United States upon the presumption that such relations are reconcilable with the law which the president of the United States has approved in regard to the annexation of the department of Texas, to the American Union; that this determination is founded upon the necessity which Mexico is under of maintaining no friendship with a republic which has violated her obligations usurped a portion of territory which belongs to Mexico by a right which she will maintain at whatever cost; that the relations between the two counties cannot be re-established before a complete reparation of that injury, (agravio) such as is demanded by good faith, justice to Mexico, and the honor of the United States, is made.

Moreover, the undersigned will take the liberty to say to his Excellency Mr. Shannon, that if the United States government thinks that it entertained friendly sentiments towards Mexico that he time of giving such offence, and when attacking the integrity of the republic of Mexico, this government (Mexico) is very far from
entertaining the same views, or of acquiescing in the assurances which his excellency Mr. Shannon has given, whatever may be its sentiments towards his excellency personally.

The undersigned, in making this announcement to his Excellency Mr. Shannon, doing so by he order of he president of mexco - cutting short a new discussion which the interrupting of the relations of the two countries will not permit, and because nothing can be added to what this department has already said - has the honor to renew the assurances of his very distinguished consideration.

Luis G. Cuevas

Senor Cuevas has also addressed a general circular to the ministers plenipotentiary of England, France, and Spain, which is translated as follows:

The undersigned, minister of foreign relations, has the honor to transmit to his excellency the minister of --- the following circular, being impelled to employ this means of transmitting to his [your] government, in this note, the solemn and formal protest of the Mexican republic, suggested by an act which, wounding to the last degree the rights and honor of Mexico, is equally destructive to the universal principles of justice, to the respect due free and intelligent nations, and the good faith which civilization has fixed as the basis of international intercourse, (international politica.) His excellency Senor - will understand that the undersigned has reference to the law passed by the congress of the United States, and sanctioned by the executive, for the annexation of the department of Texas to the American Union.

To present, in all its deformity, this act of the congress and government of the United States, the alarming consequences of its conduct towards the Mexican republic, would be a useless labor, inasmuch as this note is addressed to the representative of a nation as illustrious as it is powerful, which sustaining nobly the rank which it occupies in the world, respects the laws of comity (buena amistad) between foreign nations, and founds its glory upon the immutable titles of morality and justice. The government of the undersigned has no occasion to exhibit all the grounds upon which it relies for its resistance to this measure of annexation, as they are obvious and known to all, and as the feeling excited among friendly nations, and even those which have no official relations with Mexico, will be profound upon learning of a measure so injurious and offensive to Mexico, and so utterly unworthy the honor (buen nombre) of the United States.

But the undersigned will take occasion to observe to his excellency Senor - that the American government having been the first to acknowledge the independence of the republic of Mexico, showing itself a zealous partisan of liberty, has been the only one which has endeavored to usurp a portion of her territory. He would also add that, as it appears from recent declarations, the designs of the United States have been as old as the friendship which it was sought to confirm, first, by a treaty of amity, and by another for the adjustment of boundaries, which has now been completely violated. In aiding Texas to sever herself from the republic, the United States were wanting in good faith; but in aiding to incorporate Texas with the American confederation, and declaring that this has been her policy for twenty years, she has pursued a course which has no paralleled in the history of civilized nations.

Mexico, to avoid differences which, for the most part had no foundation in justice, [as against her,] has submitted to serious compromises; she has over looked provocations and injuries, and has preserved her loyalty with such fidelity as to give her more right - if the right she possesses can be increased - to speak out and protest, as the undersigned now does, against the annexation of Texas to the United States, and against all its consequences. The Mexican republic will employ in opposition to this measure her whatever may be the result, she will preserve the honor which at any cost she ought to defend in the very grave matter under consideration. With this view the undersigned requests his excellency Senor --- to give this protest its proper direction, and at the same time to accept the assurances of his most distinguished consideration.

With this view the undersigned requests his Excellency Senor - to give this protest its proper direction, and at the same time to accept the assurances of his most distinguished consideration.

Luis G. Cuevas

Mr. Shannon, the American minister, was at Tacubaya. Letters have been received from him at Vera Cruz,
stating that he would leave for the U. States in a few days.

Santa Anna's trial was slowly progressing. His health is represented as being very indifferent.

The British frigate Eurydices arrived at Vera Cruz on the morning of the 12th inst. from Galveston with dispatches, which were immediately forwarded to the capital.

The papers of the city of Mexico and of Vera Cruz continued to be occupied almost exclusively with the subject of annexation. The official paper, El Diario del Gobierno, of the 3d inst. announces that it is in possession of certain movements on the part of the government of a warlike character, which it is constrained to withhold from the public, as secrecy is the soul of military operations; but expresses a hope that the speedy and successful issue of these operations will soon relieve the public curiosity in regard to them.

The Mexican papers comment freely upon the correspondence and state of affairs with the U. States.

The Diario recommends peace and internal tranquility as the sole means of "recovering the territory usurped by the North Americans." The Monitor is astonished at the backwardness of the government, in not making an immediate declaration of war upon the United States. It adds that it has been informed that troops have already gone towards Texas, and advises the government to furnish them with resources for the campaign. The Minerva censures the ministry for explanations with respect to the departure of an English frigate from Galveston with overtures to the government of Texas. The Voz del Pueblo assails the ministry, accusing them of incapacity, and declaring that before undertaking a war upon Texas, they should employ proper measures for saving the Californias from the anarchy, which threatens to destroy and ruin that rich and vast portion of the republic.

The papers literally teem with articles upon Texas, showing that the public mind in that quarter is deeply excited upon the subject, and probably ripe for extreme measures. The Diario de Vera Cruz is one of the few moderate prints in the republic, and that journal observes that though sincerely and ardently desiring peace, it can scarcely see how it is to be preserved. [BAH]

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NR 68.144  03May1845:  receipt of Mexican proposals to treat with Texas on the basis of independence

TEXAS-Latest. The steamer John S. McKim, a New Orleans, left Galveston the 21st ult. President Jones had issued his proclamation for congress to meet on the 16th of June. The proclamation announces that the government of the United States had selected the 1st and 2d sections of the resolutions, (Milton Brown's) as the basis for consummating the proposed union.

A meeting had been held in Washington, (Texas) at which resolutions were passed unanimously, in favor of immediate annexation, "without reference to the wishes or concurrence of any foreign or European power," calling on the president to convene congress immediately, and recommending to the citizens of the republic, in case he did not, to meet in convention and ratify the resolutions and form a state constitution. The next day the proclamation was issued. Some objection was urged by the attorney general, Mr. Allen at the meeting against the tone of the resolutions. Mr. Scurry, in reply, intimated that the citizens might become much more impatient, and adopt measures much more violent than those recommended.

The National Register, says: "The object of the president, (Jones) is, to take such steps as shall not only ascertain the will of the people, but if they shall so require place us in a position for admission into the for admission in the Union, at the next session of the American congress."

A meeting held at Brenham, on the 11th, adopted resolutions similar to those adopted at Washington.

It was believed that government had received communications from Gen. Arista, overland, conveying assurances that Mexico was disposed to treat with Texas, upon the basis of independence and that dispatches to the same effect had arrived from Vera Cruz, to which the Huston Star, of the 19th says, government had sent a reply by a British vessel.

It would appear that Mr. Smith, late secretary of state, has gone as charge de affairs of the Texian republic to England and France, and that EBENZER ALLEN, late attorney general, is to succeed him as secretary. [BAH]

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NR 68.146  10May1845:  benefits to be derived by Mexico from the American annexation of Texas

Mexico. We recently made some remarks on the probable influence that annexation will exercise upon the trade between the United States and Texas. When we consider the condition of Mexico itself, the inefficiency of its government, the prohibitive and oppressive nature of the laws it attempts to enforce, the demoralized condition of
the people and of public integrity, in connection with the wants of the people, we become struck with the important results which must necessarily grow out of the advance of the United States' citizens with ample supplies of goods to the Mexican frontier. The so-called handful of men who control about 7,000,000 of people. According to the best recent authorities, the inhabitants are classed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Indians</th>
<th>Europeans</th>
<th>White Creoles</th>
<th>Mestizos and other classes</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1793</td>
<td>2,319,741</td>
<td>7,994</td>
<td>677,458</td>
<td>1,478,426</td>
<td>4,483,529</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1842</td>
<td>4,500,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>1,515,500</td>
<td>7,015,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The last estimate was that made by the government. Now, of these 7,015,500 persons who occupy Mexico, it is known that 80,000 only of all the classes, except whites, can read and write; of the 1,000,000 whites one half are males, and of these the highest estimates make one-fifth who can read and write. - Here, then, out of a population of 7,000,000 there are only 1000,000 who are in any respect fitted to take part in the public affairs. This small class is directed by a few military men, and they call the whole a "republic." The exports from Mexico for 1841 were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Specie,</td>
<td>$18,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other articles,</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$20,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This indicates the extent to which smuggling is carried on under the absurdly oppressive laws "to protect her home industry. The duties collected on the imports were $5,287,097. or about 45 per cent. Average. The corruption of the government officers is proverbial, and, consequently, large quantities of goods are entered, even now, without paying duties, even when carried across the Prairies from the United States to Santa Fe. Some details of this trade for the last year will be found under the commercial head. The consumption of cotton goods is very extensive in Mexico, and the import of cotton twists is prohibited by the provident government, ostensibly to encourage "home manufactures," but really to raise money by selling permits for its introduction to English merchants. There are in Mexico fifty-three factories, having 131,280 spindles, which consume about 3,000,000 pounds of cotton per annum, while the growth of Mexico, is about five thousand hand looms in Mexico, which work up all the spun yarn into cotton cloth, the rice of which will average twenty-five cents, for an article wroth ten cents in the United States. The benefits which the Mexicans derive form paying the makers of this cloth the extra fifteen cents, are "untold." Now, the Mexican frontier adjoining the state of Texas is about three thousand miles in length, with no means, if the officers had the will, to prevent the smuggling of sufficient goods to supply all Mexico. This process has hitherto been dept in check only by barren waste of eight hundred miles to be traveled before reaching her cities from the United States, and its demoralizing influence is the legitimate result of the absurd notions of "protection," which in Mexico is more openly adopted than in the United States, as a direct means of extorting money from the people.

The "national debt" of this oppressed race is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Internal debt</td>
<td>$18,550,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English debt</td>
<td>60,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States claims</td>
<td>2,4000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other claims</td>
<td>3,2000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$84,150,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The customs were solemnly pledged for the payment of the first time, but the highly respectable late dictator seized them for his own use. The whole revenue of Mexico for 1840 was $12,744,157, derived from most ruthless extortions. The natural effect of the misgovernment in Mexico will now have the same effect in Texas, as does that of Spain in the frontier towns of France, viz: the formation of extensive depots for goods to run into Mexico in all directions. This in France is a regular organized trade, having extensive insurance arrangements to cover goods almost to any point in the interior of Spain. Chihuahua alone consumes some $3,000,000 of goods, at prices ranging 100 percent about those in the United States, for "the protection" of the consumers, of course. With the advancement of the United States population, this premium and smuggling will daily become more tempting, and the result may probably work out a more civilized system of commercial policy, although our own laws present similar barbarisms. [BAH]

The joint committee of the Mexican congress, to which had been referred the subject of Texas, reported at length on the 7th ult., they recommend two projects as follows:

The First is preceded by a preamble, declaring that, whereas, the United States have resolved to annex the territory of Texas; and, whereas, such a mode of appropriating foreign territory to which other nations lay claim, is a monstrous innovation upon the peace of the world and the sovereignty of other powers; and, whereas, this act had long been in preparation, even while the United States were professing peace and friendship for Mexico, an insult to her dignity as a sovereign nation, and menaces her independence and political existence; therefore,

The congress of the Mexican republic solemnly declare, that the law of the United States for the annexation of Texas to the American Union, in no respect impairs the rights which Mexico possess, and will maintain, to that department.

Furthermore, that the United States having disregarded the principles upon which are based treaties of amity, commerce and navigation, and more especially of boundary, congress considers them violated by the United States.

And finally, that the unjust usurpation of which it is sought to make Mexico the victim, makes it her duty to take up arms in her defense, to oppose such usurpation and with the full and rightful determination to use all her resources and power to prevent the annexation decree by the United States.

The second project consists of four articles, as follows:

First --- The Mexican nation calls upon her sons to defend their national independence, threatened by the usurpation of the territory of Texas, which is sought to be consummated by a decree passed by the congress and sanctioned by the president of the United States.

Second --- Therefore the government will consider itself at liberty (prodra poner) to call forth its entire, permanent, and active military force, agreeably to the authority given to it by existing laws.

Third --- For the preservation of public order, and the maintenance of her institutions, and if necessary, as a reserve for the army, the government in virtue of the power granted to it on the 8th of December, 1844, may levy the troops to which said decree refers under the name of Defenders of Independence and the Laws.

Fourth --- With a view to the efficient maintenance of the rights of the republic, the government is authorized to procure all extraordinary resources, which may be deemed necessary, making known to congress the necessary steps to be taken, conformably to the constitution.

No action was had by the Mexican congress on these projects. The N. Orleans Bee remarks:

"The public journals are still excessively bellicose, and, from what we can perceive, there is a very strong indisposition on the part of the government to surrender Texas. Still, though Mexico may bluster, and even declare war, it will be mere child's play. --- She is utterly destitute of resources --- without a dollar in her treasury --- with a disaffected and discontented population ripe for another revolution --- and a disorderly soldiery ill paid, ill fed, and ill clad, who have already, we are credibly informed, at Monterey and elsewhere, exhibited strong symptoms of mutiny. We published, therefore, the above pugnacious manifesto, rather as a part of the history of the times, than because we apprehended anything very serious from its high sounding phraseology. The only way in which Mexico can annoy us is by crippling our commerce in the Gulf, and for this it behooves our government to be prepared." [BAH]
Earthquakes, at Mexico. A brief account of dreadful effects of an earthquake experienced on the April, at the city of Mexico, was given in our last report. Another occurred there at 10 A.M. on the 10th of April which lasted 40 seconds, prostrating many buildings which had escaped the previous visitation, and coming the ruin of many that were then injured. The freighted inhabitants fled to the open fields as the safest sort. The "Hesperia" of the 12th states that the earthquake of the 10th completed the destruction of the pola of Santa Teresa, and increased the damage to the churches of Santo Domingo and San Francisco. But for the shortness of its duration, the entire city has been laid in ruins. Mexico did not suffer all. The shock was felt in a number of towns and well within a radius of several hundred miles. At Puerto Rico the earthquake was experienced on the 7th, about 4 o'clock, P.M. but its effects were comparatively slighted. Several churches were injured, and many private were greatly damaged; though none were absolutely destroyed. At Acuarthio and Toluco the effects of shock were more considerable. At Guadalajara, Milia, and Vera Cruz, the earthquake was experienced on the 7th and 10th, but on neither occasion was damage very serious. [BAH]

The N.Y. Journal of Commerce of Tuesday, has the following intelligence from Mexico:

"We learn from Captain Baker, of the bark Falmouth which left Matanzas, May 9th, that the English mail steamer from Vera Cruz arrived at Havana 7th inst., with dispatches for Mr. Crawford, the British consul, advising him that the boundary line of Texas had been defined and settled, and her independence guarantied by a convention between England, France, and Mexico. Accounts by the same arrival state that Santa Anna has been reduced to the alternative of ten years' banishment, or a trial for maladministration.

The above intelligence must have left Vera Cruz on the 2d or 3d inst., which is ten days later than our previous advices.

This joint guarantee of Texas Independence, with a specification of boundaries, is a more definite form of the proposition sent to Texas from Mexico some weeks since, per British frigate Eurydice. The Texan government objections were obviated, and a liberal boundary specified, the proposition would be presented to the people for adoption or rejection, simultaneously with the annexation project. We presume the line has been placed pretty far West, in the hope of inducing the Texans to acquiesce; but it will be in vain, --- they are almost unanimous for annexation, and annexation will be the result." [BAH]

Senor Boves, on the 15th ult. Offered a protest, in the chambers, against the report of the minister of foreign affairs, in relation to Texas, and in his speech attacked Senor Cuevas, and his policy, and insisted that Texas was irretrievably lost. On the question being taken Boves stood "solitary and alone." A motion to expel him was spoken of. [BAH]

Commodore Conner with the four United States ships constituting his squadron, reached Vera Cruz at the same time that General Almonte landed there from New York. Though the appearance of the squadron is said to have created much excitement, yet the usual cavities and salutes were exchanged, and offers of services were tendered by the Mexican commanders. [BAH]

Santa Fe. The St. Louis Republican has news from Santa Fe to the 14th April, at which time everything was quiet, but a bad feeling existed between the governor and a number of the Mexicans, on account of coercive measure having been resorted to by the former in order to collect he forced loan, which many refused to pay. News of the passage of the Texas resolutions by the congress of the United States, reached Santa Fe on the 13th of April, but it created no excitement of popular feeling. The governor issued a proclamation, desiring such of the foreigners as were so disposed, to meet at a place designated, and receive their protection papers. Very little attention, however, was paid to the proclamation, as no apprehensions were entertained of any immediate difficulties.

The Indians were becoming bolder daily, and the Eutaws had commenced their war against them, having
killed many Indians in the neighborhood of Taos. The Apache Indians were also very daring. Stealing mules and killing them daily. The traders who had gone to Chihuahua will reach Independence in about a month, the roads being good and the prairie beautiful. Mr. Speyer, who sustained such a loss by the Apache Indians, had got back from them about one-half of mules, and they had promised to deliver most of the others - he paying them a trilling sum per head. Goods were scarce in Chihuahua and the lower counties, and no doubt, as Mr. Speyer had just arrived here, he would reap a very handsome profit - he having all the goods that were for sale, by wholesale, in that place.

The Mexican traders had given up all idea of becoming to the states this spring, and it is very doubtful if they will venture in the fall. [BAH]

NR 68.193  31May1845:  Mexican maneuvering, under European tutelage, to prevent annexation of Texas by the US

Foreign Relations. Our government have received dispatches from Commodore Conner, off Vera Cruz, as late as the 10th, by brig. Somers, dispatched to Pensacola. After a warm debate which lasted three days, the resolution sent by the secretary of foreign affairs, authorizing a treaty, acknowledging the independence of Texas, passed the chambers of deputies at Mexico on the 3d inst. by the vote of 41 to 13. The senate was to take the question up on the 8th inst. It was supposed they would pass it by a numerous vote. Mr. Elliot, the British charge, and a confidential commissioner from Texas, stantly with the proposition to Galveston, in the British frigate which they come from there in.

The posture of affairs between the United States and Mexico, has become serious. The fact is ascertained that the administration of Texas had made overtures to Mexico, under the countenance of European diplomats, with the view of obtaining an acknowledgement of their independence and a peace with Mexico. Whether this movement was designed as a means of using its influence to ensure the passage of annexation measures by the United States congress; whether with a view of obtaining better terms of the United States, than the resolutions adopted by congress offered them; whether with a view of making the most of their market, and inducing Europe, the United States, and Mexico, to bid for the "Lone Star;" or whether the movement was induced by a determination to hold on to a separate national existence, and to the powers and perquisites of office, which few persons are found willing to resign; whichever of these motives may have influenced the movement, it is one of somewhat serious import. It appears to us to imply, that the European backers of Mexico will be called upon to take up the broad question, whether the United States shall be arrested in their territorial projects, provided their interference can prevent it?

That England has many and powerful inducements to avoid a war with the United States, is obvious. --- That she would go to war about a remote section of the sterile northwest, may be questioned, notwithstanding the parliamentary array lately exhibited upon the subject. But apprehensions may be entertained by her in relation to nearer and more interesting territory and trade, which she may consider compromised by what she doubtless regards as a spirit of grasping and aggrandizement on our part, and may make the question of peace or war, one of much broader aspect than otherwise it would be. --- When such a state of affairs exists, a small matter may give the die a fatal cast. Mexico in all probability will have the sympathies of the European governments on her side. European governments may adventure a step too far in attempting to sustain Mexico in resisting annexation, and there by make a general war inevitable.

The people of Texas are nearly unanimous for instant annexation with the Union at all hazards. So overwhelming is public opinion there upon the subject, that the Texan executive has had to yield to it, and now any negotiation for independence is too late.

The United States stands comp omitted to Texas, and annexation, to all appearance, is inevitable.

That Mexico will declare war, so soon as this country takes possession of Texas, is certainly to be appearance of things.

We shall await the result of the hasty mission of Mr. Smith, the Texan minister to England, with some anxiety, and should have preferred that de had tarried long enough to carry with him the decided expression in relation to annexation which the people of Texas have uttered since he left home. [BAH]

NR 68.195  31May1845:  the Stockton squadron arrives at Vera Cruz

The Stockton Squadron. The United States squadron, consisting of the steamer Princeton and other vessels, under the command of Commodore Stockton, had arrived at Vera Cruz a few days before the sailing of the Eugenia. The usual friendly salutes were exchanged between the squadron and the Mexican fortifications.  [BAH]
The schooner Titi reached New Orleans on the 19th from Havanna, which place she left on the 6th with Mexican papers to the 26th, and Vera Cruz papers to the 30th April.

The fact that the Mexican and Texan governments are in consultation with a view to an adjustment of the difficulties existing between them, and that the administration of the former now disposed to acknowledge the independence of the latter upon condition that Texas shall refuse the proposition of the United States congress to annex the Republic to the Union, is officially announced in the following-

IMPORTANT COMMUNICATION

Sent to the Chamber of Deputies on the 21st April, by the Mexican minister of foreign affairs-

Gentlemen- The affairs of Texas being of such deep importance as to claim the first consideration of the congress and executive, the government cannot, without assuming a special responsibility, defer the resolution that must be taken to bring them to an issue compatible with the honor and interest of the Republic. The government having assembled a considerable body of troops upon that frontier, and employed all its resources to accomplish the proposed end, and having considered of those asked of the legislative bodies, sees no other course to pursue than to carry our the plan proposed to sustain the Republic in all the dignity due to its honor and good name.

Circumstances have transpired which render it both necessary and roper to enter upon negotiations that will prevent the annexation of Texas to the United States; such an event would inevitably deal to a war with the American Republic—for Mexico would not agree to annexation—however deplorable such a conflict might be. Texas had taken the initiative in proposing a settlement, and his excellency, the president ad interim, well understanding its importance and the necessity of taking a resolution in relation to it, is also persuaded that the executive cannot proceed in the matter without being first authorized to do so by the chambers; that in the case before him he should not exercise that powers conferred by the constitution for conduction negotiations with foreign powers.

The Government—always faithful to its duty, and desirous of submitting its acts to free discussion, and considering that national questions should be disposed of with patriotic spirit, and a conscientiousness superior to assaults and above prejudices of every character—cannot decline the proffered negotiation without, in his opinion, violating his duty by deciding so delicate a question before submitting it to congress. If he could make and arrangement, honorable in itself and such as would satisfy the national honor, he would submit it with great pleasure to congress; and f such could not be achieved, The same government which is so desirous of a peace conformable to the dignity of Republic, would be the first to decide in favor of war, which would be more just after all efforts to avert it had failed.

The preliminary propositions of Texas are to a character honorable and fair towards the Republic, and the government, with out deciding upon them, had not double about accepting them as the initiative to the arrangement sought by Texas. Not to have accepted it, would have been to establish the annexation of Texas to the Unites States, and congress will perceive that a step so ill-advised would have been a terrible charge to the present administration. To refuse to hear proposals of peace that may lead to a satisfactory result would have been and extreme measure the least profitable to the Republic, however it might at first flatter a justly irritated patriotism; but this ins not what the nation expects from its supreme government, which is obligated to foresee and with the evils of a long costly war, and to avoid them as long as its honor can be maintained, as in the present case.

If the government had acted solely upon its impulses as soon as the law of annexation passed the congress of the United States, the chambers well know what its conduct would have been, and what its firmness in resisting all other propositions than war, which the patriotism of all Mexicans would have sustained with glory. His excellency the president ad interim as well as his ministers, make a great sacrifice in asking the authorization of the end of this message; but it is make upon mature deliberation, and from an ardent desire for the prosperity of the Republic, and with the conviction that if war should ensue after making every effort to preserve peace, it will end in the glory of the national arms, and in accordance with the public justice as regards those who provoke it.

Therefore his excellency, the president ad interim, in ministerial council, and with the unanimous advice of his cabinet, has directed me to present for your deliberation the following resolution—

"The government is authorized to receive the propositions made by Texas, and to proceed to the formation of a treaty that if it deems honorable to the Republic; to be laid before congress for its examination and approbation."

With the highest consideration, &c.

Luis G. Cuevas.

GOD AND LIBERTY
Mexico, April 21st, 1845.

The above document establishes the fact, that president Jones and the Texian administration had made overtures to Mexico, with the view to the admission by the latter, of Texian independence.

It seems to be understood, that in case of the failure of the proposed recognition with Texas, from any cause, Mexico will, even by war, resist annexation. The administration have asked congress to authorize a loan of three million of dollars, to provide for such a contingency. Authority is likewise asked for the settlement of the foreign debt.

Two projects are before congress, growing out of the executive message signed by Cuevas.

The first, considers that it has violated the treaties between the two countries especially that in relation to boundaries; and the Mexico ought to arm herself and repel the threatened invasion by force.

The other project calls all Mexicans to arms, and authorizes the government to arm the permanent and active militia, an gives the administrative powers to the necessary means from all sources.

The Mexican journals are said to be very hostile to any negotiation to based upon the re-union of Texas with Mexico. A formidable military force is concentrating on the borders of Texas.

Gen. Almonte had arrived in the city of Mexico.

The papers till speak of the disastrous effects of the earthquakes of the 7th and 10th April. A letter from Guanajuato states that the village called "Valle de Rio Blanco" has almost ceased to exist, as considerable part of its small population was engulfed during the earthquake, in a yawning abyss 38 yards long and 13 wide. More than sixty persons were swallowed up.

Various projects have been submitted to congress or a general amnesty of the military chiefs, against whom prosecution has been commenced, and some have proposed that the amnesty should be extended to all the political criminals, with the restriction that Santa Anna and Canalizo, and the four ministers who signed the decree of the 29th November, should quite the country for ten years, or submit to the continuation of their trial. The latter proposition, slightly modified, was adopted by the chamber of deputies on the 16th. Santa Anna, Canalizo, and the four ministers are allowed eight-day s to determine whether they will choose and expatriation of ten years, or the continuation of their trials. Breaches of trust in pecuniary matters from an exception to this general pardon, and Santa Anna's abdication of the presidency is accepted. [BAH]

NR 68.208  31May1845: insurrection in California against Gen. Manuel Micheltoreno

California. A letter from Mazatlan, published in a late Vera Cruz paper, says --- "The insurrection in California against General Michel Toreno has succeeded --- the holy cause of liberty is triumphant, we are independent." [BAH]

June 1845

NR 68.210-68.212  7June, 1845: history of negotiations for acquisition of California

The London Times, in reference to the design of the United States, to make themselves masters of the Californians, states hat in "1835, Mr. Forsyth offered to the Mexican government five millions of dollars for the port of San Francisco - one of the finest naval positions n the world." The Times is probably mistaken as to the date, and the extont of the proposition.

The credit of this proposition is due to John Quincy Adams. Mr. Adams make an offer to the Mexican government, during his administration, through Mr. Poinsett, of, perhaps, five millions of dollars for Texas. Subsequently, Mr. Adams repeated the offer for the purchases of Texas, and of that part of California lying north of latitude 37, so as to give us the Bay of San Francisco. This offer was again repeated and urged, through Mr. Anthony Butler. - The Mexican government always refused to consider it, and it never came to be a matter of negotiation.

At that time, Mexico was reveling in an unlimited credit with English capitalists and bankers, and for the sake of a few millions, would not entertain a project for dismembering her empire. The Times is quite right in the statement that the "United States have already make several attempts to obtain possession of the great harbors on the coast of California." The attempt has not been confined to the party, nor one administration. It is the natural and necessary policy of the United States. If the only check to its accomplishment is to be sound as the Times
The hold hat Mexico has on the Californians is merely nominal. Since the governor of Monterey abandoned his post and "sloped," there has been no regular government there. They have no communications with Mexico, and are in fact, independent of her. There will soon be more Yankees than Mexicans there, and they will, most likely, establish a government of their own, entirely independent of Mexico. What great harm is to befall the world from the settlement of this fine country by enterprising, intelligent and free citizens of the United States, who will rapidly develop its resources in commerce and agriculture, does not appear. It may prevent Great Britain from possessing it, and hence, perhaps, the apprehensions of the "Times."

A company of British subjects, who had claims on the Mexican government, were at one time, very nearly successful in obtaining a cession of the island in the bay of San Francisco. Had the enterprise succeeded, it would have afforded a pretext of a claim on the part of Great Britain to the territory, and the settlement of it by British subjects would have afforded the means necessary to enable her to maintain her possession. Mr. Pakenham was minister in Mexico at the time when this negotiation was pending, and he aided in it, but did not bring the authority of his government to bear upon it, for the reason that the claims thus proposed to be provided for, were for advances made to Mexico before her government was established, and in the face of the proclamation of the British government, warning its subjects not to look to it for protection in cases where they made contracts with insurgent colonies. The enterprise, therefore, failed. [BAH]
The credit of this proposition is due to John Quincy Adams. Mr. Adams made an offer to the Mexican
government, during his administration, through Mr. Poinsett, of, perhaps, five millions of dollars for Texans.
Subsequently, Mr. Adams repeated the offer for the purchase of Texas, and of that part of California lying north of
latitude 37, so as to give us the Bay of San Francisco. This offer was again repeated and urged, through Mr.
Anthony Butler. The Mexican government always refused to consider it, and it never came to be a matter of
negotiation.

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suggests, in the establishment of another energetic and independent power to share the dominion of North America
with us, then it is perfectly safe to predict that it will be accomplished.

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insurgent colonies. The enterprise, therefore, failed.  [BAH]

Of Mr. Shannon we hear this much:

"Mr. Shannon, late American vessel, and would sail about the 15th instant, for New York. It does not
appear that he possessed any knowledge of the political affairs of the capital of Mexico, and he is not considered in
any other light than an obscure American citizen, whose name is never alluded to as one at all connected with the
important transactions of the day."

NR 68.212  07Jun1845:  Wilson Shannon leaves Mexico

It is thought by a great many that the present government cannot sustain itself much longer, and the idea of its
declaring war against the United States has been abandoned by all sensible men. Congress, to be sure, has passed
a bill to raise $3,000,000 to prepare for a war about to take place; but we are informed that the opinion is pretty
general that the money cannot be obtained, and that it was not designed for that purpose, as they would not
venture, under existing circumstances to collect together any considerable number of troops.  [BAH]

NR 68.212  07Jun1845:  salutary influence of the US squadron at Veracruz

In regard to the American squadron at Vera Cruz, we have the following information.

"The arrival of our squadron at Vera Cruz created a great excitement, and also in the city of Mexico, where it was
represented to consist of twenty-one wail of men-of-war? The unexpected presence of this squadron had, no
doubt, a salutary influence, and possibly might have caused the mission, so privately determined upon, the United
States."  [BAH]

NR 68.212  07Jun1845:  Mexican Army,  number of officers and men
The present army of Mexico is said to consist of 21,000 officers, and less than 20,000 men! [BAH]

NR 68.226  14Jun1845: letter about the capabilities of Mexican forces on the Texas frontier

Foreign Relations- Annexation. The position of affairs at the present moment may be regarded as exceedingly interesting. A very few weeks will probably determine definitely whether this country is to be involved in a foreign war, in consequence of the proposed extension of the limits of our confederation so as to include Texas as a part and parcel of the republic, or not. The Texian congress agreeably to the proclamation issued by President Jones, will assemble on Monday, next, the 16th instant to consider the question of annexation or independence.- And the 4th of July, less than three weeks thereafter, assembles a convention which we presume is intended to represent the essential sovereignty of the people, as above all existing law or constitution, and with powers to dispense with all authority, and to direct the operations, or to terminate the existence of the existing government of Texas, as they may think proper.

Of the disposition with which both those bodies will assemble, we presume there is no longer a reasonable doubt. Of the determination of the people upon the question of annexation whenever it might be fairly proposed to them, upon equitable and honorable terms, we have never had a doubt; and that they would in any event, be disposed to from alliances with European powers, adverse to the tree American interests or feelings, we have never for one moment indulged an apprehension. The Texian people and the Texian interests in all their leading characteristics are too obviously similar to, if not identified with our own, to allow us to imagine that their people would in any form, come subservient to so suicidal a policy as that of adopting a European, Anti-American dependence, or seeking for British protection or British alliance, as against the interests or policy of the United States.

Free from every such apprehension, we have deplored that feverish impetuosity which we fear had buried on a result, that might have been, and we believe would have been attained, by a more deliberate course, with far less risk to the country, and without compromising either its peace or its character or its constitution.

We speak of precipitance in this respect, because it must be obvious to all that besides its hurrying on the Texians to a course which violates all existing authorities of that government, without leaving them time to teach the same result by a legal and legitimate course, it has, as it respects our country, induced a selection by the executive, of an alternative which, if more time and deliberation were supposed to be allowable, would not it is believed have been the one selected by that authority as their choice of the two alternatives which the act of congress left to their selection without a full persuasion that the other alternative would have been selected, it is probable that the measure would not and could not have obtained, at the last session, a majority of votes in the United States senate. The alternative alluded to, we believe would have been greatly preferable to that adopted by the executive; would have been as certain of ultimately accomplishing annexation, and of accomplishing it upon a basis for a better for the Union, for Texas, and for the harmony of the world. When the information that President Tyler had negotiated a treaty with Texas for annexations, first reached us, we indulged an expression of opinion upon the subject, which elaborate discussion and subsequent events have but tended to confirm. The question of annexing Texas was a great national question, involving so many considerations, the new one of amalgamating a foreign state into the confederacy, one of them, that cool deliberation, and the utmost precaution seemed to us to be required in the premises, not only as to the ultimate shall we or not, but as to the wisest and best make by which we shall, if so decided. Instead of that cool deliberation, it has been throughout a series of measures hurried on by feverish impetuosity, avowedly alarmed for fear delay to look and think and choose alarmed for fear delay to look and think and choose wisely would render all hopeless. "Now or never" - was the incessant cry. European intrigue, was the great bugbear that was to hurry both Texas and the United States into, perhaps, nay probably, an ill adjusted union, which one or both for centuries to come may have cause to regret that they had not taken more time to adjust, as it might have been and ought to have been adjusted - carefully and wisely. To adduce proof of this is not necessary. The whole subject is so full and pregnant with what is now to be left to the future, that we much fear the present will be - much ensured for a want of due precaution.

So much as to the parties to annexation.

But the foreign aspect, whether we shall or shall not have a foreign war, in consequence of assuming this new dominion and of taking possession of this additional territory, a few weeks will now determine. All eyes are earnestly directed towards the movements of Mexico. The British, the French, (and the Texian) agents near that government, are all represented as "endeavoring to move heaven and earth" to prevent annexation, and induce Texas to maintain her INDEPENDENCE. We regard the operations of the English and French agents in that direction as a matter of course. The interests of their government would be most promoted by Texas keeping our of our Union, and perhaps they have just as much right to urge the interests and views of their governments in the premises, as our agents have to urge the claims of our government. - Which will be successful, is no longer a matter of doubt.

But how comes the question; - annexation will be consummated, unless a war con prevent - will England and France, or England alone, urge Mexico to a war?

Our notion is, that she will not, unless the English ministry upon a review of the whole that will be staked upon the issue, shall decide that it is to the interest of Great Britain to incur a war with the United States rather than allow her thus to commence enlarging the "area of freedom" by a process which may lead on to the loss of her own
Is it not probable that this very question is now being deliberated upon in the cabinet of St. James, and that it forms a topic for negotiation between that and the French Court? We have evidently arrived at the crisis. Those powers must now immediately decide to allow the United States to steer her own course in relation to annexation, or they must promptly interpose.

The course which Mexico herself, will decide to take upon ascertaining hat Texas is annexed to the United States in spite of all her remonstrance and her maneuvers to prevent it, will also soon be decided. That her government would willingly avert and would procrastinate to the very last hour, if she could not avert, a war with the United States, we have no doubt. But it seems to us hat the crisis is at band with her authorities also. She must now soon abandon the grounds she has to this time maintained throughout, or carry out her repeated threats of declaring war in case the United States assumes jurisdiction over Texas. There is no alternative,

It would undoubtedly have been better the United States to have had a minister at the city of Mexico during these eventful times, sufficiently a diplomatist to have represented and maintained our interests better than they have been represented by the minister who is now leaving here without having acquitted himself to the satisfaction of his country meant, or to the credit of the country he went there to serve. Even at this last extremity, when diplomatic intercourse is closing between them and us, how useful might an able statesman and a good man be, to represent the interests of the United States at the city of Mexico? Mexico had taken one decided step since her minister closed his official duties and left this country. She has admitted the independence of Texas, upon a single condition. She has done so under the united influence of representations from the English, French, and Texan authorities. The latter, beyond doubt, have already deserted the position, which they assumed in this negotiation, - and now abandon independence and go for annexation. The British and the French agents are thereby completely non plussed, unless their respective governments decide to aid Mexico in a war not a war for the independence of Texas, - that Mexico herself would be far from waging, unless she could depend upon Texas as an ally in the contest. - but a war for Mexican dominion over Texas. This would come awkwardly from England and France, both having acknowledged the independence of Texas.

We repeat, unless those European powers determine that it is time to attempt to strangle the young republican Hercules in his cradle, even at the expense of a war, their agents will hardly be authorized to urge Mexico into an actual contest with the United States. To the very verge, they would push the interests of their own governments to prevent Texans from being incorporated into the union, - but the repose of the world hangs upon stepping beyond the Rubicon

The question remains however, whether, though England and France may not urge Mexico on, - in fact, though they now exert their utmost to restrain a popular impulse which they have no doubt aided in fomenting in Mexico against the measure of annexation, whether they may not find that they are too late, and that an impulse once fired to such a pitch, is not to be restrained in such a government as that of Mexico. They may have made war inevitable.

War once began, all the features of the present questions at issue, would change attitude in an instant. The superiority of the one party and the helpless condition of the other would be obvious to all Europe. They sympathies of the world would be with Mexico; and that to an extent, which it is doubtful if any ministry in England could withstand. Mixing up as the question inevitably would, with the Oregon dispute, the ultimate possession of California, with border squabbles, and contentions of various kinds, Mexico and the United States would have the contest to themselves but for a very brief period.

The new position assumed by Mexico, since her minister left this country, above alluded to, admitting the independence of Texas upon a certain condition, and the attitude which she will find herself occupying should the European powers decide to endeavor to restrain her from declaring war, would make the presence of an able American minister at the city of Mexico, of great importance to the interests of both countries, and perhaps to the peace of the world. A negotiation for the Californians, already stated to be passing from under the dominion of Mexico in the same manner Texas has passed, and settlement of the boundaries of both, might perhaps he effected at a price which would be a fair consideration to Mexico, and which the United States would not hesitate to make liberal rather than Mexico should longer complain of our treatment towards her.

Contrasting the relative forces of the powers arrayed in dispute, there can be no questions whether the United States could with self-repect, name and extraordinary minister to Mexico in the present posture of affairs. The new position, which Mexico has herself assumed, fully authorizes, nay, seems to us to call upon our government for such a measure.

The first of the steamers that arrived last week from Liverpool, brought accounts that a feverish excitement prevailed their respecting the dispute with the United States, and that intelligence as it reached Liverpool from this country, was hurried on at the top of steam speed by express, to the impatient authorities at London. The next steamer that arrived, which left Liverpool only three days after the first, brought a paragraph stating that the war fever had entirely subsided. Nothing had transpired in the meantime to effect a change. The difference in the statements we presume resulted from the different views entertained, or the different objects to be accomplished by the writers of the accounts alluded to.

Quite as contradictory are the late accounts, which we have from Mexico.
Private letters received from Mexico by the editors of the New Orleans Republican state it as a matter almost of certainty that before long the Mexican government will declare war against the United States. The tone of public sentiment in Mexico is said to be so hostile to this country and Texas that a new revolution in the government or a war with the United States seems inevitable. One of the letters referred to, written at Vera Cruz on the 22nd May, says:

"Captain Elliott and commissioner of Texas are at this place, waiting for the arrival of letters from Mexico, which, it is said, will arrive to-day. They will sail, direct for Galveston in the French bring 'La Perouse.' The 'Eurdice' will sail for your port with dispatches for the British government. In addition to the propositions make by England to both Texas and Mexico, to settle the relations of these countries to each other and o the United States in a manner agreeable to her policy, I am assured there are inducements offered of rather a tempting nature. They are as follows: England compromises herself with Mexico to pay ten millions of her national debt, and with Texas she agrees to pay the whole of hers, which is computed a t eight millions. This, if true - proves that England has some very deep laid project with regard to Texas: one much more important to her than the advantages she might derive from the simple determination of Texas to remain independent, confirmed by the consent of Mexico."

NR 68.226  14Jun1845:  contradictory accounts from Mexico about the government's attitude toward the American annexation of Texas

On the other hand a late letter from the city of Mexico, received by the same arrival, takes quite a pacific view of circumstances, thus:

Mexico, May 20, 1845.

"This government having been empowered by congress to enter into a treaty with the Texian commissioners, all fear of a rupture between this country and the United States on that score, is now at an end."

Our readers are quite as able to judge between those contradictory statements as we are. An American who professes to know something of the Mexicans and a southern campaign, in a letter addressed through the National Intelligencer, gives the following admonition:

From the National Intelligencer. Washington, May 24, 1845.

Messrs. Editors: As it seems to be a settled point that Texas is to be a component part of our republic, it is suggested, I observe, in one of the N. Orleans papers, that regular troops should be stationed by the United States on the Rio Grande. If that be a settled point, I coincide with him; but I must disagree with him when he says that those troops will require no commissary department. On the contrary, they will require a large and well-organized one. The provisions for this army nave all to be conveyed from New Orleans; for nowhere else can they be procured. The Mexican troops now stationed at Metamoras are, and have always been supplied from New Orleans - the only article to be procured in the neighborhood being fresh meat, stock in some abundance being procurable, but not in sufficiency for the daily supply of an army of six or ten thousand men. I have lived some years in that country, and pretend to know something of its products. I passed through Metamoras in March where there were two regiments supplied entirely from New Orleans all those articles, how much more necessary will it not be for us to supply an army in the same manner?

I think that we have calculated too lightly on the resistance, which Mexico will offer, to our occupation of Texas. Mexico has a very considerable army on the frontier, and the officer in command (Gen'l Arista) is active and brave, and can cross the intervening desert with his light cavalry and commit immense damage, and retire again, without our presenting any obstacle to his advance or his retreat. We have been induced to believe the Mexicans cowardly, &c. I am afraid that we have trusted too much to this belief. Arista had with him in Monterey in March last two thousand three hundred cavalry and a battalion of six hundred runaway Negroes from Texas, well drilled in flying artillery tactics, ready for marching.

The Mexican troops are much better calculated for campaigns I those dry hot plains than any troops we can raise. The Anglo Saxon race will do well enough so long as they have plenty of provisions and water, but no longer. I think Gen. Jackson's campaign and the Seminole war will prove this. The Mexicans will rush in upon us on their light hardy horses, and when we get ready to strike them we shall find that they are beyond our reach. Our heavy well-fed horses will starve to death on those dry plains with our corn or oats, and nothing to east but dry grass.

I should not be surprised if Mexico should now have an army of fifteen thousand cavalry and flying artillery on the river between Emargo and Monclova, as we know well that all the troops who took part with Santa Anna have been sent north by the new government while new troops (or Civicos) have taken their places in Jalapa, Orizaba, Guadalaxara, &c.

I do hope that our government will turn its attention seriously to this subject, and in time; for it would be grievous to be worsted at the commencement by so weak a government as that of Mexico. Arista is enterprising and
The Mexican indemnity. The mystery of the Mexican indemnity is thus noticed in the New York Courier des Etats Unis of the 7th instant. The facts are said to be derived from persons recently arrived from Mexico, and one intimate with Santa Anna, even to a knowledge of his tampering in stocks. - The courier, however, declines to assume any responsibility, as to the person named.

"It is known that a sum of $275,000 is in question, making the quarterly payments of April and July, 1844. This sum has never reached the government at Washington, although the Mexican government insists that it is paid, and exhibits the receipts of the representatives of the United States. Here is the explanation, as furnished to us of this enigma. Mr. Shannon, the United States minister, Mr. Voss, the agent of the United States, to receive the money, are said to have been interested in more than one speculation. The partnership was indeed official between Mr. Voss and M. Trigueros, who belonged to the same commercial firm. M. Trigueros not having as minister, money enough - ready money to pay the amounts as they fell due, induced Mr. Shannon and Mr. Voss to accept drafts on the treasury in favor of and endorsed by an English house in Mexico, for $325,00, being $50,000 more than the amount due. In return it was agreed that M. Trigueros should accept from Mr. Shannon Mexican treasury notes in payment of the excess of the sum of $50,000, and as these were to be brought at any where at from 8 to 10 per cent. - so greatly were they depreciated; this little operation would have a profit of some forty odd thousand dollars to the American agents. In return they were to give a full and entire acquaintance to the Mexican government in terms for the payment of the two installments. Whereas they had only been liquidated. Such is said to be the secret history of this little diplomatic jobbing.

The question now is, were the drafts paid at maturity either by the Mexican treasurer or the English endorser? This is precisely what is not known, and concerning which the official accounts at Washington are silent. However that may be, the Mexican government considers itself discharged from all ulterior responsibility by reason of the very explicit tenor of the American receipt. On the other hand the American claimants insist upon being paid by their own government.

Such is the position of the matter, and it is certainly not a little remarkable and not at all creditable that there should be any room for such a solution of the delay as is here given we must soon know the truth now.

On the other hand, Mr. B. Green, late charge to Mexico, has published a letter in the Washington Union, in which he alleges that the Mexican installments of April and July of 1844 have not been paid. He says that the United States agent, (Mr. Voss), obtained from the minister of the Mexican Treasury drafts upon the departmental treasuries of Guadalajara, Guanaxuato, and Zacatecas. He took these drafts to the house of Tayleur, Jamison & Co. one of the best English commercial houses in Mexico, and requested them to be sent on for collection. They were sent on; and they reply was, that the drafts were good, and would be paid as soon as any revenue could be collected for that purpose. In consequence of the revolution, and the distracted state of things in Mexico since, they have not yet been paid. At the time the drafts were taken Mr. Voss was certain they would be paid, and so assured Mr. Shannon, our minister, who wrote to the secretary of the treasury that the installments had been paid.

FOREIGN RELATIONS. Annexation. The position of affairs at the present moment may be regarded as exceedingly interesting. A very few weeks will probably determine definitely whether this country is to be involved in a foreign war, in consequence of the propelled extensions of the limits of our confederation as to include Texas as a part and parcel of the republic, or not. The Texan congress agreeably to the proclamation issued by President Jones, will assemble on Monday next, the 16th instant to consider the question of annexation or independence.-and the 4th of July, less than three weeks thereafter, assembles a convention which we pursue is intended to represent the essential sovereignty of the people, as above all existing law or constitution, and with powers to dispense with all authority, and to direct the operations, or to terminate the existence of the existing government of Texas, as they may think proper.

Of the disposition with which both those bodies will assemble, we presume there is no longer a reasonable doubt. Of the determination of the people upon the question of annexation whenever it might be fairly proposed to them, upon equitable and honorable terms, we have never had a doubt; and that they would in any event, be deposed to form alliances with European powers, adverse to the true American interests or feelings, we have never for one moment indulged an apprehension. The Texian people and the Texian interests in all their leading characteristics are too obviously similar to, if not identified with our own, to allow us to imagine that their people would in any form, become subservient to so suicidal a policy as that of adopting a European, Anti-American dependence, or seeking for British protection or British alliance, as against the interests or policy of the United States.
Free from every such apprehension, we have deplored that feverish impetuosity which we fear has hurried a result, that might have been, and we believe would have been attained, by a more deliberate course, with far less risk to the country, and with our compromising either its peace of its character or its constitution.

We speak of precipitance in this respect, because it must be obvious to all that besides its hurry on the Texans to a course which violates all existing authorities of that government, without leaving them time to reach the same result by a legal and legitimate course, it has as it respects our country, included a selection by the executive, of an alternative which, if more time and deliberation were supposed to be allowable, would not it believed have been the one selected by that authority as their choice of the two alternatives which the act of congress left to their selection. Without a full persuasion that the other alternative would have been selected, it is probable that the measure would not and could not have obtained, at the last session, a majority of votes in the United States senate. The alternative alluded to, we believe would have been greatly preferable to that adopted by the executive; would have been as certain of ultimately accomplishing annexation, and of accomplishing it upon a basis far better for the Union, for Texas, and for the Harmony of the World. When the information that President Tyler had negotiated a treaty with Texas for annexation, first reached us, we indulged an expression of opinion upon the subject, which elaborate discussion and subsequent events have but tended to confirm. The question, involving so many considerations, the new one of amalgamating a foreign state into the confederacy, on of them, that call deliberation, and the utmost precaution seemed to us to be required in the premised, not only as to the ultimate shall we or not, but as to the wisest and best mode by which we shall, if so decided. Instead of that cool deliberation, it has been throughout a series of measures hurried on by feverish impetuosity, avowedly alarmed for fear delay to look and thing and choose wisely would render all hopeless. "Now or never" - was the incessant cry. European intrigue, was the great bugbear that was to hurry both Texas and the United States is not, perhaps, nay probably, an illy adjusted union, which one or both for centuries to come may have cause to regret that they had not taken more time to adjust, as it might have been and ought to have been adjusted - carefully and wisely. To adduce proof of this is not necessary. The whole subject is so full and pregnant with what is now to be left to the future, that we much fear the present will be much censured for a want of due precaution.

So much as to the parties to annexation.

But the foreign aspect, whether we shall or shall not have a foreign war, in consequence of assuming this new dominion and of taking possession of this additional territory, a few weeks will now determine. All eyes are earnestly directed toward the movements of Mexico. The British, the French, (and the Texan) agents near that government, are all represented as "endeavoring to move heaven and earth" to prevent annexation, and induce Texas to maintain her Independence. We regard the operations of the English and French agents in that direction as a matter of course. The interests of their government would be most promoted by Texas keeping out of our Union, and perhaps they have just as much fight to urge the interests and views of their governments in the premises, as out agents have urge the claims of our government. - Which will be successful, is no longer a matter of doubt.

But now comes the question; -- annexation will be consummated, unless a war can prevent it - will England and France or England alone, urge Mexico to a war?

Our notion is, that she will not, unless the English ministry upon a review of the whole that will be staked upon the issue, shall decide that is to the interest of Great Britain to incur a war with the United States rather than allow her thus to commence enlarging the "area of freedom" by a process which may lead on to the loss of her own colonies on this continent, and to the loss of her own colonies on this continent, and to the building up of a rival for the trade of the world, which has already become so formidable to her schemes of monopoly.

Is it not probable that this very question is now being deliberated upon in the cabinet of St. James, and that it forms a topic for negotiation between that and the French Court? We have evidently arrived at the crisis. These powers must now immediately decide to allow the United States to steer her own course in relation to annexation, or they must promptly interpose.

The course which Mexico herself, will decide to take upon ascertaining that Texas is annexed to the United States in spite of all her remonstrance and her maneuvers to prevent it, will also soon be decided. That her government would willingly avert and would procrastinate to the very last hour, if she could not avert, a war with the United States, we have no doubt. But it seems to us that the crisis is at hand with her authorities also. She must now soon abandon the grounds she has to this time maintained throughout, or carry out her repeated threats of declaring war in case the United States assumes jurisdiction over Texas. There is no alternative.

It would undoubtedly have been better for the U. States to have had a minister at the city of Mexico during these eventful times, sufficiently a diplomatist to have represented and maintained our interests better than they have been represented by the minister who is now leaving there without having acquired himself to the satisfaction of his countrymen, or to the credit of the country he went there to serve. Even at this last extremity, when diplomatic intercourse is closing between them and us, how useful might an able statesman and a good am be, to represent the interests of the U. States at the city of Mexico? Mexico has taken one decided step since her minister closed his official duties and left this country. She has admitted the independence of Texas, upon a single condition. She has done do under the united influence of representations from the English, French and Texan authorities. The latter, beyond doubt, have already deviation, --and now abandon independence and go for annexation. The British and the French agents are thereby completely non plusses, unless their respective governments decide to aid Mexico in a war, not a war for the independence of Texas, -- that Mexico herself would be far from waging, unless she could depend upon Texas as an ally in the contest, -- but a war for Mexican dominion over Texas. This would
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they may now exert their utmost to restrain a popular impulse which they have no doubt aided in fomenting in
Mexico against the measure of annexation, whether they may not find that they are too late, and that an impulse
once fired to such a pitch, is not to be retrained in such a government as that of Mexico. They may have made way
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War once began, all the features of the present question at issue, would change attitude in an instant. The
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independence of Texas upon a certain condition, and the attitude which she will find herself occupying should the
European powers decide to endeavor to restrain her from declaring war, would make the presence of an able
American minister at the city of Mexico, of great importance to the interests of both countries, and perhaps to the
peace of the world. A negotiation for the Californias, already stated to be passing from under the dominion of
Mexico in the same manner Texas has passed, and a settlement of the boundaries of both, might perhaps be
affected at a price which would be a fair consideration to Mexico, and which the U. States would not hesitate to
make liberal rather than Mexico, and which the U. States would not hesitate to make liberal rather than Mexico
should longer complain of our treatment towards her.

Contrasting the relative forces of the powers arrayed in dispute, there can be no question whether the United States
could with self respect, name an extraordinary minister to Mexico in the present posture of affairs. The new
position, which Mexico has herself assumed, fully authorizes, nay, seems to us to call upon our government for
such a measure.

The first of the steamers that arrived last week from Liverpool, brought accounts that a feverish excitement
prevailed their respecting the dispute with the United States, and that intelligence as it reached Liverpool from this
country, was hurried on at the top of steam speed by express, to the impatient authorities at London. The next
steamer that arrived, which left Liverpool only three days after the first, brought a paragraph stating that the war
fever had entirely subsided. Nothing had transpired in the meantime to effect a change. The difference in the
statements we presume resulted from the different views entertained, or the different objects to be accomplished
by the writers of the accounts alluded to.

Quite as contradictory are the late accounts, which we have from Mexico.

Private letter received from Mexico by the editors of the New Orleans Republican state it as a matter almost of
certainty that before long the Mexican government will declare war against the United States. The tone of public
sentiment in Mexico is said to be so hostile to this country and Texas that a new revolution in the government or a
war with the United States seems inevitable. One of the letters referred to written at Vera Cruz on the 22d May,
says:

"Captain Elliott and a commissioner of Texas are at this place, waiting for the arrival of letters from Mexico, which,
it is said, will arrive to-day. They will sail, direct for Galveston in the French brig 'La Perouse.' The 'Eurydice' will
sail for your port with dispatches for the British government. In addition to the propositions made by England to
both Texas and Mexico, to settle the relations of these countries to each other and to the United States in a manner
agreeable to her policy, I am assured there are inducements offered of rather a tempting nature. They are as
follows: England compromises herself with Mexico to pay ten millions of her national debt, and with Texas she
agrees to pay the whole of hers, which is computed at eight millions. This, if true - and I have got it from very good
authority - proves that England has some very deep-laid project with regard to Texas: one much more important to
her than the advantages she might derive from the simple determination of Texas to remain independent,
confirmed by the consent of Mexico."

On the other hand a late letter from the city of Mexico, received by the same arrival, takes quite a pacific view of
circumstances, thus:

Mexico, May 20, 1845

"This government having been empowered by congress to enter into a treaty with the Texian commissioners, all
fear of a rupture between this country and the United States on that score, is now at an end."

Our readers are quite as able to judge between those contradictory statements as we are.
This country is again disturbed by dissension and disturbances. About eight years ago Don Juan B. Alvarado, Son Jose Castro, and others, Californians by birth, aided by several foreigners, took possession of this town, the archives and government property, chartered an English vessel, and sent the Mexican general his officers and their families, to Lower California, and left them there to find their way to Mexico as they could. The Californians then proceeded to take possession of every part of California, with the different missions, and the different offices of honor and profit within this department. The Mexicans remaining in the country, made an effort to put them down, but failed.

The Californians marched two or three times up and down the coast, continuing a part of the foreigners under high pay. President Bustamente, the second year after this revolution, confirmed the Californians in their different employments. During the time they held command, they ordered almost every Englishman and American to be arrested - Over one hundred were imprisoned in Monterey at one time - over fifty of these in a low, damp room, less than 20 feet square, without floor or windows. In May, the same year, many of the men were chained, six and eight to a bar, put into the hold of a vessel, and sent to San Blas. Fifteen months afterwards the government of Mexico sent part of them back to this port - several dying from fatigue and provisions. Had E. Barron, Esq H.B.M. consul, not been in Tepic and San Blas, I have no doubt but that every one of these men would have died in prison or on the road, as they were driven and gored like cattle.

In the year 1843, General Manuel Micheltorena arrived in California with some three or four hundred officers and soldiers, and by order of president Santa Anna took command - putting out of office some of the Californians. Last November, Senors Castro, Alvarado, and many of their countrymen, again rose with the determinations of sending out of their country the Mexican troops. The two parties met and made a treaty. Within a month they each denied the treaty and again took up arms.

These two parties are now traversing the country in hostile order, carrying away the merchants' and farmers' horses by hundreds, and destroying their cattle. General Micheltorena has over one hundred foreigners, English, German, and Americans, as riflemen with him, who have taken up the government cause to put down the rebellion. Several of the foreigners are the same who helped to put the Californians into office eight years back, and four years afterwards were imprisoned and shipped in irons without any trail. They are now in pursuit of the Californians who shipped them, with a strong desire to fight them. There are about one hundred more foreigners standing guard in Monterey, and other places, to support General Micheltorena. A large portion of the riflemen now with the general, arrived in California a few months since, (some with their families,) over the Rocky Mountains from our western states. Others of the party hold large tracts of land - some as much as twenty miles by three - on the waters of the San Francisco, having become citizens of Mexico; which can be done be simply asking for it. They marched with the Mexican troops but chose their own officers from among themselves; Captain John A. Sutter, a Swiss officer, (formerly of Charles X's guard in Paris,) being their commander and leader, and a Capt. Gant, or Grant, (it is said,) formerly of the United States army, their captain.

There is no doubt out these foreigners, and those who join them as they come in by land yearly, are going to exercise a great influence in this department. The present revolution will, in all probability, be decided by them, and perhaps all others in future, as they may choose sides.

Port of Monterey, (California) March 22, 1845.

In addition to what I wrote you in my last, I am now enabled to inform you that the Californians have succeeded in their efforts against the government of the regular governor and commandant general Don Manuel Micheltorena. The Californians to the number of one hundred and fifty, after remaining in this vicinity for a few days, went to the town of Angles, one hundred miles north of this point, and stormed it in the night with the loss of but two men. They were soon joined by the Californians of that place. on the 10th or 12th of January, governor general Micheltorena left this town with his officers, one hundred and fifty Mexican soldiers, some citizens of old Mexico, sixty or eighty wild Indians, trained to arms by Capt. Sutter, (a Swiss settler on the Sacrament,) and one hundred foreigners; a part of whom are settled on the same river. He had also ox-carts, cannon, and baggage; had to make a road as he proceeded, over a difficult mountainous route. Sometimes he went a league a day, and then again would halt four or five days at a place without any apparent object. During all this time, the Californians, (insurgents) traveled throughout the country from ten to twenty leagues (30 to 60 miles) a day. They returned at times to the vicinity of the governor general's forces, from a long distance off and would then disappear.
After the governor general had been on the road a month, the foreigners and his soldiers began to leave him by
fives and tens at a time; the former being disgusted with the slowness of his progress, and the latter left him with
the hope of getting free from the service; while many of those remaining were in hopes that the Californians would
be victorious and would ship them back to San Blas, where they had families or relations; they having been forced
into the ranks and brought into California against their will. General Micheltorena, after having been forty days in
reaching the vicinity of the town of Angels, for the third time came near the insurgents, who then offered him
battle. They (the insurgents) were three or four hundred strong, under Don Jose Castro, who had persuaded many
foreigners to join his party.

On the 20th of February, the two parties (consisting of about six hundred men all together, Mexicans, Californians,
foreigners, and Indians) got into action. Castro commenced the fight with cannon, firing large shot; and the
 governor general, on his side, returning his fire with grape. Both parties remained so far apart all that day as not to
lose a man. On the next day, (the 21st) the battle again commenced, and was continued in what is here
considered a warm and desperate contest. The governor general, however, soon surrendered; for forty or fifty
foreigners having left him some time before, the remainder refused to fight against their countrymen I the
insurgents' ranks. Some reports make the total loss (on both sides) amount to three or four men, while others
make it as many horses. In all probability, there were not six men killed or wounded in the whole two days'
fighting, although 250 cannon balls were fired. After the battle, a treaty was made, by which it was agreed that
every person on either side might go where he wished - the soldiers to go to San Blas or remain citizens of
California. The Mexican officers who wished to remain will continue to hold their present commissions and pay. But
few of them however, will remain here. The governor general is to go by water to San Blas with all who choose to
accompany him, and from thence he is to proceed to Mexico. Don Pico has become governor, as he is the leading
member of the house of deputies or state legislature; and Don Jose Castro has become commandant general of
California. He will, I suppose, make many changes of officers. - The revenue of the country is from eighty to one
hundred thousand dollars, and is all from the customhouse.

The ground over which they (the Mexicans) forces took thirty or forty days to travel, was passed by the Californians
in ten days on their return to this capital to possession of it. This mode of travel caused his ruin; but had he
succeeded, the Californians would have risen again.

California, from Bodega to San Diego, is now once more under its own command - the Russians having left Bodega,
which now belongs to Capt. S. Smith, of Baltimore, United States of America, who is a naturalized citizen of
California. Whether the natives of this country will keep peace among themselves, or be again conquered for a year
or two by Mexico, remains to be seen. If allowed to govern themselves, they acknowledge the Mexican flag, and
their laws, when they please them. They pay little attention to the Mexican tariff, except to raise the amount of
salaries and a few old matters. In fact, the state of California, and its wants and commerce are such that the tariff
and laws of Mexico are but little applicable to the country.   [BAH]

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**NR 68.256  Mexico, Indians, notice of an ethnological article by Albert Gallatin**

**CENTRAL AMERICA. An interesting volume has recently been published by the Ethnological society of New York.**
Among the articles contained in it is one of great research and value, by the venerable Albert Gallatin, on the semi-
Civilized nations of Mexico, Yucatan, and Centeral America. This essay is declared to be a monument of learning
and philosophical saga city.   [BAH]

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**NR 68.257  hostile feeling toward the US**

**MEXICO. A degree is published, banishing Santa Anna from Mexico, forever. Canalizo and Bassadre are banished
for ten years. Rejon, Baranda, Haro, and Tamariz, who fled, the government will provide for hereafter. Each of the
above will receive a pension equal to one-half the pay they received from Santa Anna. This pension is lost if they
change their residence to any other place than that which the government points out,-by the decree the pecuniary
responsibilities of these persons is not withdrawn. Consequently, Santa Anna, Canalizo, and the four ex-ministers
were obliged to satisfy all their creditors before leaving the country.

The republic is said to be in a very unsettled condition and in danger of another revolution. A hostile feeling against
the United States prevailed, with a general belief that Texas would not annex.   [BAH]

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**July 1845**

**NR 68.274 05Jul1845: Texas, annexation to the United States, meeting of Congress, submission of the Mexican
treaty, its rejection, resolutions approving annexation by the United States adopted, notice of various resolutions
related to annexation**
Texas Annexation. The United States steamer Princeton reached Annapolis on the 3d instant, in nine days from Galveston, bringing Washington, (Texas) dates to the 21st of June. Dr. Wright, bearer of dispatches, preceded immediately to Washington.

The Texian congress assembled on the 16th of June in compliance with the president's proclamation.

President Jones, in his message to that body, communicated the resolutions passed by the United States congress, proposing the annexation of Texas to the Union. He also submitted to the senate the treaty proposed by Mexico, for acknowledging the Independence of Texas upon three conditions, viz:

1. Mexico consents to acknowledge the independence of Texas.
2. Texas engages that she will stipulate in the treaty not to annex herself or become subject to any country whatever.
3. Limits and other arrangements to be matters of agreement in the final treaty.
4. Texas to be willing to refer the disputed points with regard to territory, and other matters, to the arbitration of umpires.

This treaty was considered in secret session of the senate on the 21st of June, and rejected by a unanimous vote.

Joint resolutions were introduced simultaneously in each house of congress, in nearly the same words, accepting the terms proposed by the United States congress for annexation. The senate by a unanimous vote passed theirs and sent them to the house on the 18th. The house laid the senate resolutions upon the table, and unanimously passed their own resolutions, and sent them to the senate next day. - There was then a scramble for the honor of paternity to the resolutions, which should finally pass. - The house at length adopted the expedient of slightly amending the resolutions from the senate, and passing them in their present form, returned them to the senate as amended, where the amendments were unanimously adopted.

The following is a copy of the resolutions as they passed both houses of the Texas congress:

Joint Resolutions,

Giving the consent of the existing government to the annexation of Texas to the United States hath proposed the following terms. Guarantees, and conditions, on which the people and territory of the republic of Texas may be erected into a new State, to be called the State of Texas, and admitted as one of the states of the American Union, to wit:

[Here follow the resolutions of the United States congress]

And whereas, by said terms, the consent of the existing government of Texas is required: Therefore,

Sec. 1. Be it resolved by the senate and house of representatives of the republic of Texas in congress assembled, That the government of Texas doth consent that the people and territory of the republic of Texas may be erected into a new state, to be called the State of Texas, with a republican form of government, to be adopted by the people of said republic, by deputies in convention assembled, in order that the same may be admitted as one of the states of the American Union; and said consent is given on the terms, guarantees, and conditions, set forth in the preamble to this joint resolution.

Sec. 2. Be it further resolved, That the proclamation of the president of the republic of Texas, bearing date, May 5th, 1845, and the election of deputies to sit in convention at Austin on the 4th day of July next, for the adoption of a constitution for the State of Texas, had in accordance therewith, hereby receive the consent of the existing government of Texas.

Sec. 3. Be it further resolved, That the president of Texas is hereby requested immediately to furnish the government of the United States, through their accredited minister near this government, with a copy of this joint resolution; also to furnish the convention, to assemble at Austin on the 4th of July next, with a copy of the same; and the same shall take effect from and after its passage.

Dr. Wright informs the Washington "Union" that Captain Waggaman, had arrived at Washington, Texas, to select posts to be occupied by the United States troops, and to provide for their subsistence.

A resolution was introduced into both houses of congress, requiring the executive to surrender all posts, navy yards, barracks, &c. to the proper authorities of the United States.

The convention of delegates which were to assemble on the 4th of July to form a convention for the State of Texas, to be submitted to the people of Texas and to the United States congress, are no doubt now in session.
On the 18th inst. In the Senate, Mr. Greer introduced a joint resolution offering "a nation's gratitude to General Andrew Jackson; which resolution was unanimously adopted.

On the same day Major Kaufman introduced a bill setting apart a portion of the public land - lying between the Arkansas and Red Rivers - for payment of the national debt; read the first and second time, and referred to the committee on the state of the Republic.

On the 19th, in the Senate, Mr. Greer introduced a joint resolution, relative to the introduction of United States troops into Texas; read the first time.

On Tuesday, Mr. Kaufman as chairman of the committee on Foreign Relations, reported the Joint Resolution giving the consent of the existing government to the annexation of Texas to the United States;" which joint resolution was passed through its third reading on the next day, the 19th - the rule being suspended, on motion of Colonel H.L. Kianey, by a unanimous vote of the Senate.

Mr. Kauffman's bill "setting apart land for the payment of the public debt." &c. was taken up, read a second and third time and passed.

Mr. Lawrence introduced a resolution for the relief of post captain E.W. Moore; read the first time.

We are happy to state that Commodore Moore has already been restored to his command.

The Union of the 3d inst. says: We are favored by Dr. Wright with the following memoranda, in MS, taken by himself at Washington, Texas, just before he left it for Galveston:

Memoranda of the conditions preliminary to a treaty of peace, as agreed upon by Ashbel Smith, on the part of Texas, and Mr, Cuevas, on the part of Mexico, and the accompanying papers, as submitted to the senate by President Jones.

I. Message of President Jones, transmitting the treaty and papers to the senate.

II. Letter from Baron Alleye de Cyprey, transmitting to the executive of Texas the condition signed by Ashbel Smith, and the agreement on the part of Mexico to accede to them as the bases of a formal treaty.

III. Conditions preliminary to a treaty of peace:

1. Mexico consents to acknowledge the independence of Texas.

2. Texas engages that she will stipulate in the treaty not to annex herself, or become subject of any country whatever.

3. Limits and other arrangements to be matter of agreement in the final treaty.

4. Texas will be willing to refer the disputed points with regard to territory, and other matters, in the arbitration of umpires.

Done at Washington (on the Brazos,) on the 27th of March, 1845

(Signed) Ashbel Smith, Secretary of State.

Certified copy of the original, presented by Captain Elliott.

(Signed) Alleye De Cyprey, Bankhead.
[BAH]
The report mentioned in our last, copied from the New York News, of Mr. Pakenham, the British minister, having intimated to our government that a minister from the United States would now be favorably received by the Mexican government, is contradicted by the Washington Union. The dispatching a minister to that government, however, is still thought to be a matter well worthy of the immediate and serious consideration of our government.

'Neill'

NR 68.305 19Jul1845: people quiet, not alarmed by war cries
68.305 19Jul1845: proclamation upon receiving intelligence of Texas deciding to annex to the US

We copy from the New Orleans Tropic of the 7th instant, the subjoined Mexican intelligence, brought by the schooner Creole, which left Vera Cruz on the 24th ultimo:

Gen. Bustamente arrived at Vera Cruz on the 17th ultimo, and offered his services to sustain the integrity of the Mexican territory and the dignity of the Republic. He was rather coolly received by the government, and it is reported that he refused the government, and it is reported that he refused the military honors tendered him on his arrival. It was believed that his return was not invited by any party, and that he had no desire to meddle in public affairs.

The people generally were quiet, and not at all alarmed, not withstanding the war cries made by the federalists and the partisans of Santa Anna, who are loud in denouncing the government for want of energy. The state of the public treasury was presumed to be pretty low, as the officers in the employ of the government found great difficulty in obtaining one-fourth of their salaries.

The acting president, general Canaliso, and ex-minister of war, gen. Basadre, not accepting the propositions made by government, to be expatriated for ten years, have been imprisoned for the same term, the former in the castle of Perote, and the latter in that of San Juan de Ulloa.

Don Manuel Rincon, general of division and constitutional governor of the department of Mexico, has published the following

PRO LAMATION:

The minister of foreign affairs has communicated to me the following decree:

Jose Joaquin de Herrera, general of division and president ad interim of the Mexican Republic, to the citizens thereof.

Be it known: That the general congress has decreed, and the executive sanctioned, the following:

The national congress of the Mexican Republic, considering:

That the congress of the United States of the North has, by a decree, which its executive has sanctioned revolted to incorporate the territory of Texas with the American union;

That his manner of appropriating to itself territories upon which other nations have rights, introduces a monstrous novelty, endangering the peace of the world, and violation the sovereignty of nations;

That this usurpation, now consummated to the prejudice of Mexico, has been an insidious preparation for a long time; at the same time that the most cordial friendship was proclaimed, and that on the part of this republic, the existing treaties between it and those states were respected scrupulously and legally;

That the said annexation of Texas to the United States tramples on the conservative principles of society, attacks all the rights that Mexico has to the at territory, is an insult to her dignity as a sovereign nation, and threatens her independence and political existence;

That the laws of the United States, in reference to the annexation of Texas to the United States, does is nowise destroy the rights that Mexico has, and will enforce, upon that department;

That the Unites States, having trampled on the principles which served as a basis to the treaties of friendship, commerce and navigation, and more especially to those of boundaries fixed with precision, even previous to 1832, they are considered as violated by that nation.

And; finally, that he unjust spoliation of which they wish to make the Mexican nation the victim, gives her the clear right to use all her resources and power to resist, to the last moment, said annexation;
IT IS DECREED:

1st. The Mexican nation calls upon all her children to the defense of their national independence, threatened by the usurpation of Texas, which is intended to be realized by the decree of annexation passed by the congress. And sanctioned by the president, of the United States of the north.

2. In consequence, the government will call to arms all the forces of the army, according to the authority granted it by the existing laws; and for the preservation of public order, for the support of there institutions, and in case of necessity, to serve as a reserve to the army, the government, according to the powers given to it on the 9th December, 1844 will raise the corps specified by said decree, under the name of "Defenders of the Independence and of the Laws."

Miguel Artistaín.
President of the Deputies.

Francisco Calderón,
President of the senate.

Approved, and ordered to be printed and published.

Jose Joaquin de Herrera.

A.D. Luis G. Cuevas.
Palace of the National Government,
City of Mexico, June 4. 1845

WILL MEXICO DECLARE WAR?- is now the leading enquiry of nearly every paper that reaches us. The period is so rapidly approaching when speculation will end, that it is useless to add to what has so often been uttered from our columns on the subject; except to say, that none of the apprehensions expressed on that point, have been dissipated. On the contrary, the idea is now certainly entertained by very many, if not by the Cabinet itself at Washington, that war will be declared by Mexico.

A letter from an American gentleman, dated Vera Cruz, June 24, 1845, published in the Baltimore American says,

"War between this country and the United States appears inevitable. My opinion is now completely changed, and from the continued and most recent news from Texas, it appears to be reduced to a certainty that, that country will be united to the States, which will be considered here tantamount to a declaration of war. This is beyond a doubt."

All the letters received at New Orleans by the latest arrivals are said to agree in tenor with the above.

A war, even with Mexico, will be a matter of deep regret to all considerate men, of all parties, in this union. A large proportion of the people entertain the opinion, that a more guarded, deliberate, and circumspect course, in relation to the acquisition of Texas, would have accomplished that object, without incurring a war with Mexico; and there are not a few who believe that Mexico has been greatly outraged by the course that our government has adopted towards her in relation to Texas. The sympathies of most, if to of all other countries will be more or less enlisted on her idea, if for no other cause than that she will be the weaker party in the war. We still hope, though it be almost against hope, that something may yet intervene to prevent and issue which we have reason to fear will be anything but really, or substantially glorious to our republic, let the events which such war might lead to be ever so victorious. Mexico is not such a champion, as the chivalry of the United States would expect to reap laurels in conquering.

The still graver apprehension we have expressed is, that war once declared, the whole structure of our foreign relations would be on the instant materially changed. - and that in all human probability, Mexico and the United States would not long be left to battle alone. There are other governments that are controlled by popular impulse, as well as that of Mexico.

Once more may we be allowed to deplore, that an able AMBASSADOR has not been dispatched by our government, as to the true interests of both countries, and a lost effort to prevent the disgrace of another conflict between the republics of this continent. The offer of Mexico, conditional though it was to acknowledge the independence of Texas gave our government sufficient plea to propose a renewal of negotiations. From the United States, as the stronger party, such proposition would be manly- and the new attitude in which the representatives of both France and England at Mexico, will have to assume, nay, no doubt have by this time assumed, cannot otherwise than dispose all considerate Mexicans to look at prospects before them, with intense anxiety, and might induce, with the aid of suitable overtures from the United States, a pause, and an ultimate reversion of popular feeling in that distracted country. Let the question be fairly and forcibly states, that the United States is anxious to adjust all
difficulties, - anxious to define the boundaries which shall divide the two countries- and disposed to be liberal to the utmost price Mexico might ask for some of the possessions which Mexico now holds a very imperfect control over, and that the United States would cheerfully pay a price for them sufficient to relieve Mexico from her pressing pecuniary embarrassments, present these inducements, as they might be presented, on the one hand, and the alternative of a war with us- and which would they choose?

The following article, taken from a late number of the Siglo diez y nueve, printed at Vera Cruz, shows that there are Mexicans who entertain correct ideas of their position, and hesitate not to assert their opinions under the caption of "How much will Texas cost us?" The writer continues:

"Have we sufficient men to combat, advantageously, the enemy and his allies?"

Let us suppose that fortune smiles upon us, and that we shall give the envy a blow, and the filed remain ours; shall we be able to maintain it without the necessity of fresh troops and money? Let it be understood that the theatre of the war is at a distance; that the expedition will be extremely difficult, dilatory, and expensive, and that by sea it will be almost impossible for us to oppose the enemy; in a work, let it be understood that we are going to carry on the war in the enemy's country, and all he territory we may possess, will be not more than what may be covered by the sole of the foot. We cannot suppose that we shall be long in peaceful possession of the country. Have we such an exuberance of population as to fill up the ranks which war and desertions will occasion? Have our people that adventurous spirited which urges men to seek a grave at hundreds of leagues from their homes?

The half of the republic, and precisely the most exposed to the incursions of the enemy, had for some time past carried on a war, which is becoming every day more disadvantageous, with the numerous tribes which separate us from that enemy. The latter more skilled and more foreseeing than ourselves, excites the tribes to pillage, and exchanges for armed and ammunition the fruits of their depredations. Can we carry on these two wars? Will our soldiers march to conquer in the east, while the enemy lays wasted in our fields, and destroys our families in the north?

One revolution has just ended; its hatred still exists; democracy and dictation now go hand in hand they have sworn hatred to the government in signum faderis? We have nothing to fear from a large body of troops? Will not a liberator spring up amongst us? The fourth of December 1829 the 28th of September 1841, and the 29th of November 1844, will be days never to be forgotten in our annals Pre omnibusnafandae dies.

In order to determine us to make war, it has been asked, how much is Texas worth? The question is not a bad one; but in order to solve the question appropriately, it should be asked how much more will it cost? Four millions were lost to commence it; that sum was given, and it was expended, and we shall want four million more to recommence it.

We are now on the march; let us suppose that we have already met the enemy, and a general action has been fought; we ask how many men and how much money will the first defeat cost us? If it were the custom in our country to make up and render accounts, we might come at the amount approximately by what the last war cost us; but as this is no longer practicable, we will follow the calculations made on the subject a year ago. Fifteen thousand troops were required in order that twelve thousand might arrived at the theatre of war, and according to the account summed up on paper, it was found that their maintenance would cost four millions of dollars annually at least. As these accounts are never practically known, we may add that just double that amount will be necessary. We, therefore, shall require, at least, five millions, in order to give the first general action. How many years will the war last? How many men will be required to be in garrison? How much will be the whole cost of the war? What annual number of men shall we have to send to fill up the ranks?

The nation owes immense sums; she has an innumerable quantity of employees, whom she cannot pay, and the product of its revenue is not sufficient to pay off its ordinary expenses. Where will she obtain the extraordinary revenue, which she is about apportion? Will she lay hands on the rents of the departments? Will she impose new contribution? Will she demand forced loans? Will she augment our foreign debt?

She will necessarily have to do none of these things but in obtaining either one of them, will she gain the ends? Ten years ago the government declared war against Texas, in order to make war upon us; under that pretext the public treasury has been emptied; army of leaders and officers has been raised the liberties of the people have been trodden under foot and by throwing off the makes, the government warned to impose the yoke of a tyrant upon us. During these then years, wrangling and disorders have been produced; corruption has stalked abroad, the priner pal fountains of our wealth have been dried up, and at length they have reduced us to this state of bankruptcy. Can we return to order, and introduce that strict economy, which our present state calls for if we involve ourselves in a foreign war? Shall we obtain from Texas the necessary succor to carry on? Will the war be a popular one? It is said that our god-mother England, or step mother France and our fratricidal brothers the United States. With response the Texan cause. Can we advantageous resist this alliance?

Such are the principal doubts which defer us from giving our opinion on the grave question of peaceful war with Texas, supposing that our doings should prove pos porous; these doubts should be cleared before giving a final resolve; the question should calmly argued by asking not what Texas is worth but what will it cost us. Offended self love and over bearing national pride are not the best counselor such cases; the public convenience, and the good the majority, is what every government should keep in view in order to arrange its operations, stopping its ears to the declamations of enthusiasm, and the censures of private interest. The assault Ptolemais is given as one of the most horrible eve in history; let our leaders and our citizen's read wise words I which M. Michaud describes the
INDIANS OF AMERICA. The semi-annual report of the American Indian Mission Association, held at Forsyth, Ga., on May 17, 18, and 19th ult. In its survey of the field which is opened for their labors, and after remarking upon the claims of the aboriginal race of this continent as being as fully entitled to the philanthropic and benevolent efforts of American Christendom, as the inhabitants of the eastern continents of Asia and Africa, proceeds to give an estimate of the numbers of American Indians. We extract from this report:

"The field we have entered is extensive, comprising a full quarter of the Globe. The population, it is true, is not so dense as in many other countries, but it is supposed to embrace ten or eleven millions of the original inhabitants and about the same number of others, whose condition morally is as deplorable as that of the natives, or of any heathen nation in the world; and with these races of men one, we necessarily come in contact with the other. The portion covered by the population of the United States, and the civilized parts of Canada, is an exception of but a specch compared with the whole. We have, therefore, before us a forth part of the world to work upon: and material consisting of about twenty-two millions, or upwards; and with very partial exceptions among the Indians on our borders, this field is unoccupied by others. Other societies have sailed across the seas to Asia, Africa, and Europe, and have left America for us.

It is estimated that there are yet four millions and a half of the Aboriginals in North America, including Mexico and its dependencies. Further southeast in Central America, in Guatemala, there are supposed to be one million of Indians. One of their towns contains about 20,000 inhabitants. In the more eastern parts of the country, are large districts thinly inhabited by uncivilized Indians.

Still further southeast in New Granada, in a population of about 1,800,000, one million may be estimated as being of Indian blood. In the adjoining region of Venezuela (or Caracas) it is supposed that there are eighty three thousand Indians. Some of these, but not all, have submitted to a state of dependence and vassalage, under the Spanish and Catholic yoke. Other tribes are unsubdued, as the Goahiros, about 30,000 in number, Guaraunos, about 8,000 in number.

In Guiana, the tribes of Caribs, and Warrows adjoin the coast. The Arrowsauks and the Accawaws, reside farther in the interior. Here the European settlements do not extend far back from the sea; and in the interior are numerous tribes but little known.

Peru is said to have a known population of Indian blood, of 853,350. East of the mountains are extensive regions, chiefly Prairie, inhabited by tribes unsubdued by the Spaniards, whom we may estimate at least, at 40,000. The extensive region of Brazil is supposed to contain 800,000 or 1,000,000 unsubdued Indians.

In Buenos Ayres, what are termed civilized Indians, because subject to the Spaniards, number about 700,000 besides those who are unsubdued in the interior.

In Chili there are, perhaps, 500,000 Indians, most of whom are submissive to the Spaniards. The interior of Patagonia is inhabited by unsubdued Indians; the number not known, but probably amounting to one or two millions. In the islands of Trinidad, Margarita, and St. Vincent, it is said that a few of the original inhabitants remain; in all about 3,700. The large island of Terra del Fuego is inhabited by the Aborigines.

We must not, however, disguise a fact, which though it may be felt by some of the missionaries has, perhaps, not been well understood generally namely: that missionary labors among the Indians are usually attended with more toil, difficulties, and obstacles, and consequently may be said to be harder to perform, than those among the heathen of other countries; but it is presumed that none are better qualified to perform difficult and hard work, than the missionaries whom this association will employ.

The prevalence of peace in the greater part of North America, and many other considerations, make the present time peculiarly favorable for carrying forward our work successfully; and even the present time peculiarly favorable for carrying forward our work successfully; and even the present political agitations in Mexico, we have good reason to believe, will result favorably for the designs of the association, and notwithstanding, in the countries further southeast, obstacles not altogether in formidable may be apprehended, we may hope that they will appear less appalling as we approach them. The South Americans have long been in a restless condition: the gospel would insure tranquility and blessings beyond those of which they have hitherto been capable of conceiving.

Since our Divine Master has done so much for fallen man, and we have been so much favored as a nation, as Christians, as members of a benevolent association; and in view of the condition of the Aborigines, and our obligations to them, and of the inviting opportunities which now present themselves for doing them good, and the confidence of success which humble reliance upon God, must inspire us, surely there will not be one in our favored fraternity who will be unwilling to participate most zealously in this good work of “building the old wastes, of repairing the waste sites, and the desolations of many generations.” And, in behalf of all, we adopt the language of
Nehemiah, "The God of heaven, he will prosper us; therefore we his servants will arise and build."

The total number of the Indian race is therefore estimated by the report at near or about 12,000,000, excluding those of mingled Spanish &c., and Indian Blood. [BAH]

NR 68.315-68.316  19Jul1845: British involvement in the negotiation for Mexican recognition of Texian independence

Executive Department, Washington, (Texas,) June 6, 1845.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of you excellency's letter of the 20th ultimo; which, together with the official documents referred to in it, and by which Mexico has given her assent to the preliminaries of peace with Texas, upon the basis of an acknowledgement of the independence of the latter, were handed me by Mr. Elliott, charge d'affairs of her Britannic majesty near this government on the 2d instant.

For your kindness and courtesy in transmitting these interesting and important papers, as well as for your valuable services in producing the result, which they announce to me, and the offer of a continuance of the same good offices whenever they can be useful, I beg you to accept by best thanks. Should the result be the establishment of a good understanding & a lasting peace between the governments of Texas and Mexico, with the concurrence of their people, the cause of humanity will assuredly be greatly indebted to your efforts in its behalf.

I have the honor to transmit you, herewith, for such disposition as you may think proper to make of them, certified copies of the proclamation issued by me on the 4th inst, announcing to the people the agreement of Mexico to the preliminaries of peace, and the consequent cessation of hostilities between the two countries.

The congress of Texas will assemble on the 16th of the present month, and a convention of the 4th of July proximo. These bodies have been convoked to consider the propositions made by the government of the United States on the subject of annexation. The subject of our relations with Mexico will also be presented to them, and their decisions will necessarily govern my future action in reference to the same.

Accept, sir, the assurances of high consideration and respect with which I remain, your excellency's most obedient humble servant, ANSON JONES.

To his excellence,

The Baron Alleye de Cyprey, &c.&c. [BAH]

NR 68.315-68.316  19Jul1845: Texas, annexation to the United States, notice of negotiations for Mexican recognition of the independence of Texas on the condition that Texas reject proposals from the United States regarding the annexation of Texas

From the Texas National Register, June 19.

[Correspondence accompanying President Jones's message of June 16.]

MR. DONELSON TO MR. ALLEN.

The undersigned, charged d'affairs of the Unites States has the honor to transmit herewith, to the hon. Ebenezer Allen, attorney general of the republic of Texas, and charged ad interim with the direction of the department of foreign affairs, the joint resolution which has been recently adopted by the congress of the United States, fro the annexation of Texas into the Union.

This important measure has thus been brought to the consummation so confidently anticipated by the undersigned, his communication of the 10th December last, t this government; and he trusts that it may e received as a just response to the wished of the people of Texas, alike honorable to both countries, and worthy of the reciprocally national interests which have so long demanded it.

It now remains for the government and people of Texas, by their acceptance and ratification of the provisions contained in this joint resolution, to finish the great work of annexation; and to assume their station as an independent, equal, and sovereign member of the American confederacy, as soon as the constitutions requirements, usual in the admission of new states, can be emplied with.

Anxious to execute the trust devolved upon him by the resolution referred to, in the manner best
calculated to secure its objects, and with the least inconvenience and delay to Texas, the President of the United States has instructed the undersigned to inform this government that he has selected as the basis of the action yet necessary on the subject, the first and second sections of their resolution - leaving out of view the remaining or third section. This last section, as the hon. Mr. Allen aware was added as an amendment, and leaves it optional with the president to resort to the means it creates for an adjustment of the terms of annexation on a basis different from that offered in the first and second sections, which constituted the bill as it originally came to the senate from the house of representatives. It was doubtless intended to place in the hands of the president the means of obviating such objections as Texas might possibly make to the details of the positions contained in the two preceding sections, but, in doing so, it complicates the process, and is there wise productive of disadvantages so considerable as to induce the president not to rely upon it as the most appropriate or practicable mode of securing to Texas a speedy admission into the union.

It is obvious that, if the discretionary power contemplated by the third section were resorted to, the action on their part of this government, which can now settle the question of annexation, would be deferred until the new negotiation, to be make by commissioners or ministers on the part of the respective governments, could be known. But this is not all. The negotiation thus make, even when ratified by Texas, would not be conclusive. It would still have to undergo a similar reference to the government of the United States, where it would again be liable to alterations or amendments; and this in its turn, necessarily referable back again to this government, might involve the subject in inextricable confusion, and could not fail to be productive of danger to the measure, and of irritation to those friendly relations in other respects which so happily prevail between the two counties.

Such difficulties will be avoided by adhering to the proposals contained in the first and second sections. By those proposals the door is at once opened for the admission of Texas into the Union, in the manner that has been customary with the other territories of the United States, varied only by the peculiar relations which the two republics have maintained as separate nations. If Texans now accepts those proposals, from that moment she becomes virtually a state of the union, because the faith of the United States will be pledged for her admission and the act of congress necessary to redeem the pledge is obliged to follow, as soon as she presents a republican form of government. All, then, that is necessary upon this basis is for this government, after expressing its assent to the proposals submitted to it, to call a convention of the people, to clothe their deputies with the power necessary to amend their constitution, and adapt the government created by it to the new circumstances under which it will placed by annexation to the Union.

On the grounds, therefore, of more directness and simplicity in the process, whereby time and much expenditure of many will be saved, and of the entire avoidance of all further risk resulting from possible differences attending efforts to obtain terms more suitable to the separate views of the respective governments, it has been thought best by the president of the United States, as before states, to the rest the question of the joint resolution as it came from the house of representatives, which contains propositions complete and ample, as an overture to Texas, and which, if adopted by her, places the reunion of the tow countries beyond the possibility of defeat.

This great question then is in the hands of Texas. It depends upon herself whether she will be restored to the bosom of the republican family, and taking her station with the other sisters states of the confederacy, will co-operate with them in advancing the cause of free government; or whether, standing aloof from them, she is to run the hazards of a separate career at a period in the affairs of the world when the friends of a different system of government are urged by the most powerful motives, to resist the extension of the republican principle.

The undersigned doubts not that there are objections to the terms proposed, which under ordinary circumstances, ought to be obviated before a basis which admits them is adopted. But the circumstances are not ordinary; and the objections when weighed in the scale of importance, with the magnitude of the interest involved in the success of the measure become secondary in their character, and may well be postponed until the natural course of events removes them. If annexation should now be lost it may never be recovered. A patriotic and intelligent people, in the pursuit of a measure of general utility, if they commit a partial mistake or inflict temporary injury, were never known to fail in making the proper reparation. If they have, in this instance, made proposals of union to Texas on terms which deprive her of means that should be exclusively hers, to enable her to pay the debt contracted in the war for her independence, it has been accidental, and no assurance from the undersigned can be needed to give value to the anticipation that such an error will be corrected whenever it is communicated to the government of the United States.

It is objected that Texas, in surrendering her revenue from customs, parts with the ability to put into efficient organization her state government. - This objection must result from an undue examination of the expenditures, which the United States, on the other hand, will make in the many improvements necessary on the seacoast of Texas to protect and facilitate her commerce; in the removal of obstructions in her numerous bays and rivers; and in the military organization necessary to guard her extensive frontier against the inroads of a foreign enemy. When expenditures for these and may other internal objects are drawn from the treasury of the Union, and not from the treasury of the Union, and not from that of Texas, it will be seen that the remaining means for the support of the state government will not only be as great as they now are, but rapidly increased by the influx of population, and the growing capacity resulting from the superabundance of their rich productions.

So, also, on the part of the United States, it was objected that the cession of the unappropriated lands ought to have been made by Texas, for a fair consideration, to enable the federal government to extend her Indian policy over the various tribes within her limits. The right to extinguish the Indian title to these lands seems almost a necessary consequence of the obligation to regulate the trade and intercourse with them, and to keep them at peace with teach other and with us; and the absence of any provision to this effect, to the terms proposed, constituted a serious obstacle in the minds of many sincerely friendly to the measure. Yet, so strong was the desire
to out the question beyond the possibility of defeat, and to leave with Texas the means of discharging her national
debt, that they nevertheless recorded their votes in its favor.

But reference is make to such objections, not to ascertain their justness or unjustness on this occasion, but
to remark on the part of the United States that much was conceded to obtain the passage of the resolution. And it
was also believed that a like spirit would induce Texas to overlook minor considerations, relying on that high sense
of honor and magnanimity which governs both the people and the representatives of the United States, to secure
to her hereafter all that she can reasonably desire, to place her on the most favorable footing with the other
members of the Union. It was this belief that mainly induced the President of the United States to give the
instructions which have controlled this communication fro the undersigned, adopting, as the basis of action for
finishing the work of annexation, the joint resolution as it originally passed the house of representatives.

With these observations, the question is now submitted to the hon. Mr. Allen, under the confident hope
that this government will see the necessity of prompt and decisive action, whereby the measure may obtain the
constitutional sanction of Texas. And the undersigned takes this occasion t renew to Mr. Allen an expression of the
distinguished consideration with which he has the honor to be his very obedient servant,

A.J. DONELSON.

NR 68.323   26Jul1845:  rumors of war between Mexico and the US

RELATIONS WITH MEXICO. The New York Sun says that rumors of war with Mexico have reached that city,
and that the Mexican congress have authorized hostile measures against the Unites States. - The rumor is at least
premature, though our last advices from Mexico indicate such an event as being highly probable.

The latest hints we have from the city of Washington, as well as from New York, rather favor the hope that
peace may yet be reserved. This it is likely may be aided by the arrival of the Texan secretary of stat, Alhbel Smith,
who it will be remembered was, by the late articles from Texas, made the scape-goat of the Texan overtures to
Mexico, for which President Jones is so much censured, and who hurried off so rapidly to Europe at the same
moment that Captain Elliott, "the man with the white hat" started from Galveston for the city of Mexico. Mr.
Secretary Smith, no doubt found, that neither England nor France were at all disposed to risk a war with the United
States in behalf of Mexico, though they both spirited that government on to the very verge, if not beyond the verge
of hostilities in resistance of the annexation of Texas to the Unites States.

Finding that tack was unavailing, Capt. Elliott quits Mexico, Texas, and the United States, by the shortest
cut, and is off for England at the same moment Mr. Secretary Smith is on his way from his hasty embassy to
Europe, "HOMEWARD BOUND" - and they probably intersected each other at New York, where Mr. Smith arrived on
Monday in the Great Western.

The New York Journal of Commerce, in relation to his mission, says:

"We learn that he as accomplished the objects of his mission, which consisted neither in obtaining a loan
nor in selling his country to the French, English, or Dutch, nor in procuring its independence instead of annexation
to the Unites States. Texas has now no diplomatic representative in Europe, except Mr. Dangerfield, who we
believe has some time since received an order of recall. A principal object of Mr. Smith's mission, as we understand
it, was to prepare the way for closing the relations of Texas with European powers in a respectful and becoming
manner. Those relations had been of the most friendly character, and the government of England and France
especially had manifested a cordial interest in the welfare of the young republic. That they wished her to remain
independent rather than be annexed to the United States, is beyond a doubt; but this is to be said to their credit,
that, in any negotiations they may have had with Texas for this object, they have never, either of them, proposed
to reserve any peculiar advantages themselves beyond what should be enjoyed by other nations. This further
should be said to their credit, that now, when they see that annexation is the will of the Texan people, fairly
expressed, they abandon all further attempts at interference. And this, still further, may be relied on, that they
have and will exert themselves to restrain Mexico from the infatuation of making war upon the United States, which
would only serve to complicate affairs, without the possibility of preventing annexation. Mr. Smith expresses his
opinion decidedly that there will be nor war, not even with Mexico."   [BAH]
Unnecessary delay in obeying an order to proceed with the Congress frigate from Annapolis to Norfolk; illegal punishment, by establishing on order from the internal government of the shop, authorizing lieutenants to flog the men six lashes, in their discretion - in violation of law, which gives the power to punish only to commanders; and this, "scandalous conduct, tending to the destruction of good morals," in this that captain Voorhees having been ordered by his department to state his reason for not obeying an order of commodore Turner to bring the Congress into Norfolk; and, instead of doing so, proceeded to Annapolis, gave his reasons for so doing in a letter to the department of March 22d; which letter, the specification alleges, was false, in affirming that he (captain Voorhees) had no intention of violating the order of commodore Turner, whereas he did intentionally disobey the said order, and did design to disobey it, and make preparations for disobeying it, and intimated that such was his intention before he had any knowledge of the alleged hindrances and difficulties from adverse winds and other causes, which he set forth in his letter as the reasons why he proceeded to Annapolis instead of Norfolk; and which letter was also "so written and framed as to convey to the secretary of the navy the meaning and explanation the he (captain Voorhees), was hindered by unforeseen difficulties from obeying the said order," which he did intentionally disobey.

The last accounts from Havana state that H.B.M. sloop-of-war Eurydice was ashore near the Moro, and was discharging her guns.

The John Adams commodore McCluney, sailed from New York on the 18th with supplies for the Gulf squadron.

The brig Washington - on surveying duty, left Brooklyn navy yard on the 17th and sailed from New York on the 21st for the Gulf of Mexico. [BAH]

NR 68.336 26Jul1845: fear of an embargo of American ships, calls for declaration of war

MEXICO. - Latest. The schooner Sarah Ann, Capt. Davidson, arrived at Philadelphia, was hurried from Tampico on the 1st of July, for fear of an immediate embargo upon American shipping. Tampico papers brought by Capt. D. strongly urge an immediate declaration of war. [BAH]

August 1845

NR 68.352 16Aug1845: Mexican determination to declare war when US troops possess Texas, Congress to assemble, preparations for war

Mexico. Vera Cruz dates to the 3d July, and City of Mexico dates to the 28th June, have been received at New Orleans. Nearly all the papers and letters indicate a determination on the part of Mexico to declare war on ascertaining that the United States troops have taken possession of Texas.

President Herrera has by decree, summoned congress to assemble on the 17th of July. The public journals are filled with electioneering for the presidency.- The issue will be decided on the 1st of August. Gen. Bustamente reached Mexico on the 21st of June, and immediately offered his sword and services to maintain the nationals claim on Texas. Vera Cruz is being fortified; the present standing army is given at some 30,000. The two Mexican steamships at Vera Cruz were totally unprepared for service. [BAH]

NR 68.372 16Aug1845: expectation of war with the US over the annexation of Texas

RELATIONS WITH MEXICO. Government appears to be in possession of intelligence, which renders a concentration of all the disposable portion of the United States army on the frontier of the newly acquired possession of Texas, indispensable. In addition to the forces which proceeded from the vicinity of New Orleans as mentioned in our last, the company of Light Dragoons which has been for some time stationed at Fort McHenry, (Baltimore,) and the company which has been stationed at Fort Hamilton, have received orders to be in readiness at a moment's warning, and dispositions are making for their embarkation for the mouth of the Aransas. Arms, fixed ammunition, gun-carriages, &c., are shipping for the same direction in considerable quantities from our arsenals. General Scott, the commander-in-chief, is en route for the southwest. The Washington "Union," alluding to some erroneous statements that have been published relative to the orders issued, says: "As far as we are advised, our government are taking the necessary means to guard against the dangers which are reported to threaten the Texian frontier. The star-spangled banner is flying over that territory; and it will not abandon it. But our troops will not, unless there be the strongest reasons for the act, attack a Mexican fort, or drive off its garrison. They will stand upon the defensive as long as they honestly and properly can do so, and not provoke any hostilities even with the Mexicans. This, we presume, is the position they will take - these the instructions which we suspect
have been issued."

The Mexican consul at New Orleans, Mr. Arangoiz, by the Mexican Schooner Relampago, from Vera Cruz, arrived at N. Orleans, received instructions from his government, in consequence of which his duties as consul were closed on the 6th inst., and he was to sail on the 9th inst.

Intelligence brought by the Relampago, so far as published, indicates very strongly, either a declaration of war, or an embargo upon American vessels. It was generally expected a Vera Cruz the day the Relampago sailed, that the nest mail from Mexico would bring decisive intelligence. That war would be declared, was the general opinion, and we learn verbally that the government of Mexico is making strenuous exertions to borrow $12,000,000 to carry it on. They were landing shot and shells from the Castle of San Juan de Ullao on the wharves of the former, as was said from fear that the castle might fall into the hands of the U. States. The only American merchant vessel at Vera Cruz were the Ann Louisa, to sail for New York on the 30th ult., and the Water Witch, to sail for this port on the 26th.

There were two French, one English, and one Spanish men-of-war at Vera Cruz, no American. The Mexican steamers of war, Montezuma and Gaudaloupe, were lying in the harbor, but they were talking of moving them to some safe place.

The El Veracruzano Libre, of the 16th ult. contains a very warm article on the subject of the Americans taking possession of Texas, one of the fairest of the Mexican provinces, -- the tenor of which may be judged of, by its concluding paragraph, which is in the following words:

"Mexicans! To arms! The common enemy, taking advantage of our disunion, menaces us, and is even now at the gates of the Republic. In the name of Independence, in the name of Mexican liberty, fly to inflict upon them the most exemplary chastisement, and God save the nation!" [BAH]

NR 68.384 16Aug1845: warlike statement of Cuevas to Congress, quotas for Army requisitioned

Postscript. This morning's mail brings further intelligence, brought by the Mexican schooner Relampago, to New Orleans, confirmatory of what is stated under the head of "Relations with Mexico," - and leaving very little doubt of a declaration of war being soon received. The schooner was reported at New Orleans on Sunday, and the news which she brought was not developed in full extent until the following Thursday, (7th inst.) on which day, the files of the Diario del Gobierno, of Mexico to the 19th ult., were furnished. Is it not odd that we should have to depend upon the Mexicans to furnish us with accounts from thence at such a moment?

The Mexican official journal of the 17th, contains a very long communication from the minister, Cuevas, to the two chambers, dated the 16th, reviewing the controversy with the United States, and indicating distinctly that a war must result. Official circulars, from the authorities, calling upon the departments, to furnish forthwith their quotas for the army, are paraded. In one of them dated 16th, Garcia Conde, says: "Mexico will not consent to give up one-half of her territory, from the base fear of losing the other." He calls upon the citizens "to sustain her rights, violated by a nation which refuses to acknowledge them, and obliges Mexico to maintain them by force, which it most undoubtedly will, or fall in the struggle."

Rumor in N. Orleans, was busy of course. Amongst other things, it was whispered that the declaration of war was actually brought by the Mexican schooner, but that the consul took care not to divulge it before himself and schooner should be beyond our jurisdiction.

The American naval force in the gulf at present is about ten sail, mounting an aggregate of two hundred guns. The commodore's ship, the Potomac frigate, we mentioned on undoubted authority some months since, mentioned on undoubted authority some months since, was in an unseaworthy condition. - The department, we presume, must have been in possession of similar information. She was ordered to sea not withstanding, and left Pensacola accordingly, on the 29th ult., for Vera Cruz, but she leaked so badly, that she had to "bout shop" and reached Pensacola again on the 5th inst., the commodore ordering the Saratoga towards Vera Cruz, and the Lawrence towards Galveston. [BAH]

NR 68.388 16Aug1845: Mexico - Congress - Mexican preparations for war with the US

RELATIONS WITH MEXICO. It is certainly remarkable, that during the delicate posture of our relations with Mexico, our government would seem to have depended upon chance to furnish intelligence of the progress of events there. We have been indebted to either British or French vessels of war for more than half of what news reaches us. The most important recent intelligence we derived from a Mexican vessel of war, the Relampago, and our editors quarrel with her because all she brought was not forthwith communicated. Our latest intelligence, prior to this morning, was by a French vessel of war at Pensacola. It is nearly a month since an American arrival has afforded any news for Mexico, until the arrival at last of the Water Witch, long looked for. She left Vera Cruz on the 5th inst.,
and reached Mobile on the 15th. The British brig of war Persian, reached Vera Cruz on the 27th ult. From Galveston, with intelligence of the annexation of Texas, and that a body of 4,000 Americans were expected at Galveston in a few days.

The propositions of the ministry, asking congress to declare war against the Unites States, and to raise the ways and means it would require, were still under discussion in the chambers. The difficulty no doubt, is in the latter clause.

Meantime troops are said to be on the road to the Texan frontier, to the number of 10,000 men.

The Vera Cruz correspondent of the Mobile Herald, thinks that the Mexican government is in no hurry to declare war, and that they will probably attempt to re-conquer Texas without declaring war. That would certainly be a very strange proceeding.

The presidential election commenced on the 1st inst. Four candidates were in the field. Herrera, who now exercises the duties of president, will probably be elected. Almonte, late minister here, has offered his services in the proposed war, and is the most formidable competitor of Herrera for the presidency.

The impression expressed from the first announcement of President Tyler’s project for annexing Texas, and frequently repeated since, in the columns of the National Register, that if that project was carried out, Mexico would declare war, has never wavered. The result now is not far off, one way or the other.

By the French ship of war Mercure, arrived at Pensacola from Vera Cruz, Mexican dates to the 21st July are received.

**EXECUTIVE MESSAGE PROPOSING A DECLARATION OF WAR.**

The "Diario del Gobierno." Of the 21st July contains the following:

Report addressed by the minister of foreign affairs of Mexico, to the Chamber of Deputies. 20th July 1845.

The supreme government, after attentively examining the affairs of Texas, and the annexation of that department to the American union - after weighing carefully all the evils which the republic may suffer therefrom, if its offended honor and the integrity of its territory, thus seriously endangered, should not be vindicated by the means and in the form established by the law of nations - has decided, with the unanimous consent of the council, upon the painful extremity of a war with the United States. Although this resolution resting upon clear and acknowledged justice, and provoked by a series of grievances not to be borne without disgrace, has long since been indicated, and is conformable with the repeated demands of the nation; yet the government could not but reflect upon the responsibility involved by such a measure, and on the evident circumstances that, as the election of a constitutional president. And the establishment of a new administration, are near at hand, the chamber might consider it more natural to leave to that body the decision of a point of such transcendent importance. But the supreme government has not wished to appear, for a moment, less decided in favor of a just and national war, than it was disposed for a worth and honorable peace.

The government continues to prepare the most efficient measures for recovering Texas, and for placing the nation in the attitude most proper for it. If it does not effect all that it desires, it certainly does all that it can; and the chamber should not doubt either its efforts or its patriotism. One this very day are prepared the financial measures which must, from their nature, precede the execution of the present initiatory resolution.

The chamber will bear in mind the third part of the 34th article of the treaty of friendship, commerce and navigation with the United States. In the opinion of the government, it has already practiced over and above all that is therein required.

In virtue of what is here said, and of the circumstances and documents communicated to the chamber relative to this important affair, and under the conviction that the facts to which the first article of the following resolution refers will be confirmed; his excellency the president, at a council of the ministers, and with their full assent, has been pleased to order me to address the chamber, in the following terms, as approved by the council:

**ARTICLE 1.** From the moment when the supreme government shall know that the department of Texas has annexed to the American Union, or that troops from the Union have invaded it, is shall declare the nation at war with the United States of North America.

**ARTICLE 2.** The object of this war shall be to secure the integrity of the Mexican territory, according to its ancient limits, acknowledged by the United States in treaties from the year 1828 to 1836, and to insure the independence of the nation.

God and Liberty! - Mexico, July 21, 1845

Luis G. Cuevas
The papers received from Mexico and Monterey by this day's mail bring the following important times of news:

On the 22d of July, the government submitted to Congress a declaration of war against the United States - the said declaration to be made when there is news of the arrival of American troops in Texas. But the government recommends to Congress to act on a bill authorizing a loan of fifteen millions of dollars previous to acting on the war bill. It appears that the loan is almost completely negotiated - at least so the official papers gives us to understand.

By a dispatch from the Mexican consul at New Orleans, the general commanding this point has been informed of the shipment of troops and artillery at New Orleans, destined for Corpus Christi and Bexar. These troops amount to 2,000 men.

With regard to the movements of the troops here, we know positively that all the points along the line of the river will soon be covered - Arista has about 3,000 men; General Paredes is coming to Monterey with about four or five thousand; General Gaona is coming also with 3,000, and General Bustamente goes to New Mexico. Thus far, however, notwithstanding these preparations, I believe that hostilities are not so imminent as might at first be thought. - There is no general-in-chief appointed yet - no contracts for the necessary supplies of a campaign, or a serious incursion into Texas.

Some persons, generally well-informed, think that the government needs money greatly and is disposed to hold up the prospect of a war, in order to get the loan approved. The hope that foreign intervention will soon put an end to the difficulties between the two countries seems to be at the bottom of the ideas of this government, which on the other hand, if we may credit letters recently received from the capital, appears to be threatened with a new revolution.

By the next mail we shall probably have the debates of Congress on the loan bill and the war, and will then be better able to see into the future. [BAH]

THE GOVERNMENT FORCES. It will be seen by the contents of this number, that government is very properly concentrating the naval and military forces at their disposal, upon the frontier that is threatened.

General Taylor, with his "army of observation," numbered towards 2,000 men, by the last accounts from them, and he will soon have at least 5,000 regular troops. If these are concentrated, the Mexicans will probably take care to leave a fair space of neutral ground between them and many forces they are likely very soon to have in one body.

Nearly the whole of the United States army being thus moved beyond what was recently the bounds of the Union, the government of course relies, - and very properly may do so on such an occasion, upon the armed people of the Union to attend to any defense that may be required within the old limits.

The naval force ordered to the Gulf of Mexico, is likely to be formidable. We should regret to see distant points too much drained of a desirable force, leaving our commerce unprotected elsewhere, in order to make an unnecessary display at this one point. The Mexican naval force is known to be already hors de combat, and seeking safety from the American force now in the gulf. An exposed point abroad would soon be ascertained by privateersmen. [BAH]

TEXAS. The ship Suviah arrived at New Orleans on the 24th ult. From the Bay Aransas. She left the anchorage at the place on the 16th. Nothing has transpired of any interest since our last accounts from that point. Previous to the vessel's sailing, the steamer Monmouth came off, and reported that war had been declared. How the news reached our force on the main land we are not informed. It may be that general Taylor had received
recent intelligence to that effect from the frontier; and then, again it army have been a repletion of the menacing
news received here a short time since. General Taylor, with his command, had left the neighborhood of St. Joseph's
and established himself at San Patricio, on the north bank of the Nueces.

A letter from Santa Fe, written on the 18th of July, and published in the St. Louis Era, states that much
interest is felt in the at section of country in relation to the annexation of Texas. A large portion of the inhabitants
are said to be anxious for annexation, and in favor of the Rio del Norte as the boundary, which would include them
in the union.

"Mr. Armstrong, on the 26th June, asked leave to introduce a bill baring certain claims, debts, judgments,
&c. which he said he would read, and explain how it was connected with the subject of annexation.

The object of the bill was to prevent the collection of claims against the inhabitants of Texas by citizens of
the United States.

Mr. Armstrong said there were many citizens in many of the counties who would be relieved by a bill of this
nature. There were a great many person in this republic, he had no doubt in the world, who would oppose the
measure of annexation unless they thought their rights and interest would be guarded and protected by the action
of congress."

"Mr. Smith, of Fanning, was opposed to the bill. He said: - "It proposes to do away with all just demands
against those who have emigrated to this country from any of the states." The measure of annexation, had been
 carried by a parcel of people who have come into the country very lately; and now they wanted to get rid of paying
their honest debts.

'Why sir, said Mrs. S. 'as I came from home on my way here, I passed through a people who were about to
hand me; not three out of five or whom had been in the country long enough to take the oath of allegiance; and
these people wanted to control my vote.' Vote to exonerate us from our just debt or we will hang you.

"Mr. Armstrong replied: ' many have come to this country under adverse and very embarrassing
circumstances.' The very idea of being again harassed is enough to terrify them, and five them into opposition to
the great measure of annexation."

"There was a good deal further debate on the bill, and it was somewhat amended, but finally carried by a
vote of 22 to 17. So the Texians are pretty effectually protected against their creditors in the states."

Mr. Ashbel Smith's letter. Mr. Ashbel Smith, late minister of the government of Texas to England and
France, has addressed the following letter to he editor of a paper in Texas, and in anticipation of its appearance
through that channel, has authorized its publication in the New York Journal of Commerce. As the late journey of
Mr. Smith has been the subject of a good deal of curiosity, we republish his letter, although we do not perceive that
it makes any important disclosures, or gives us much new light upon the history of the annexation or the
negotiations relating to it.

[Boston Advertiser. Ohio River, Steamboat Pike, August - , 1845 To H. Stuart, esq.] [BAH]

NR 69.003 06Sep1845 war loan, orders to troops to position themselves in advance of the Rio Bravo

MEXICO.

The following is an extract from a letter of the 2d August, which was received in Washington. Union.

"I have the honor to inform you, that by the British express; which left Mexico the day after the amil of this
morning, congress had agreed to the call of the minister for a loan of 15,000,000. The next thing is to get it.

I deem it my duty also to state, that I have just seen a letter from the British consul, sent to his house
here, wherein he observes that orders had been issued, and approved by the war committee, for the troops on the
frontier to take up their position ten leagues in advance of the Rio Bravo; and if attacked, to defend themselves.
&c., &c." [BAH]

NR 69.003 21Jun1845: news of the declaration of war reaches the Army in Texas, Gen. Zachary Taylor
established on the Nueces

TEXAS. The ship Suviah arrived at New Orleans on the 24th ult. From the Bay of Aransas. She left the anchorage at
that place on the 16th. Nothing has transpired of any interest since our last accounts from that point. Previous to
the vessel's sailing, the steamer Monmouth came off, and reported that war had been declared. How the news reached our force on the main land we are not informed. It may be that general Taylor had received recent intelligence to that effect from the frontier; and then, again, it may have been a repetition of the menacing news received here a short time since. General Taylor, with his command, had left the neighborhood of St. Joseph's, and established himself at San Patricio, on the north bank of the Nueces.

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"Mr. Armstrong, on the 26th June, asked leave to introduce a bill baring certain claims, debts, judgments, &c. which he said he would read, and explain how it was connected with the subject of annexation.

"The object of the bill was to prevent the collection of claims against the inhabitants of Texas by citizens of the United States.

"Mr. Armstrong said there were 'many worthy citizens in many of the counties who would be relieved by a bill of this nature. There were a great many persons in this republic, he had no doubt in the would, who would oppose the measure of annexation unless they thought their rights and interests would be guarded and protected by the action of congress." [BAH]

NR 69.004  06Sep1845: notice of Gen. Zachary Taylor and dragoons on the Nueces

The steamer Undine left Corpus Christi on the 18th ult. Gen Taylor had succeeded in removing the 3d and 4th regiments of infantry, and a large part of his military stores to that place, and had fixed his headquarters there. A breastwork of earth had been thrown up, and nearly completed. A few pieces of ordinance, procured in that town, were brought into requisition. No certain information concerning the advance of the Mexicans had been received; but it was rumored that Arista was assembling a large force at Matamoras and along the Rio Grande.

The United States Dragoons under command of Col. Twiggs, had crossed the Colorado, and were on their march to Corpus Christi - all well. A company of Mexican traders were expected in the next day. The location of the encampment is salubrious and pleasant, being immediately upon the beach of the bay, and open to the sea breeze. The health of the camp was good.

At Aransas Bay on the 21st the schooner Florinda, with coal, &c., from N. Orleans, had just arrived. - the wreck of the schooner Swallow, on the Aransas bar, had been stripped of her masts, sails, rigging, &c., and some of her cargo waved. A sale was to take place on the 23d inst.

The Undine arrived at Galveston on the 23d inst., replenished wood and water, and left at noon on the 24th, and was ascending the Mississippi on the 26th the steam ship John S. McKi was in port and advertised to leave at 3 o'clock that afternoon.

The convention was still in session at Austin on the 13th, but it was anticipated that their labors would close on the 23d.

The Houston Telegraph of the 20th contains the letter of E. Allen, acting secretary of state, to the Hon. Ashbel Smith, informing him of the basis of the separate independence of the republic, and telling him, that under such circumstances it is unnecessary for him any longer to continue to discharge the duties of minister to the European governments.

News of the arrival of the dragoons, under the command of Colonel Twiggs, at San Antonio had reached Galveston. They performed their march at the rate of twenty miles per day, and with very little sickness among their numbers - 450. They expected to join the army at Corpus Christi under Gen. Taylor. [BAH]

NR 69.005  06Sep1845: party of Mexican soldiers approach Castroville, but flee

The Houston Telegraph of the 21st instant., says that a party of about seventy Mexican soldiers approached within 16 miles of Castroville, about a fortnight ago. Captain Hays received information of their movements, and went out to attack them; but they were apprised of his approach by one of their spies, and hastily decamped. It is supposed that they intended to attack Castroville for the purpose of capturing a quantity of goods that had been deposited there by some Mexican traders. The traders reported that they were under the command of a man by the name of Platina; that they belonged to a detachment of Cartadores, that has recently been stationed at Presidio. [BAH]
Dear sir - The steamer Creole, captain Hein arrived here yesterday morning from your city and about noon ran down to the forts, where she received on board the troops destined for Texas. Late in the evening she took her departure, accompanied with the wishes of all our citizens for her speedy and safe arrival at her port of destination.

We have but little news here just now, but are looking quite anxiously for the arrival of the sloop of war Saratoga, daily expected from Mexico with important news. I say daily expected - and so she is by many of our citizens - but why she is expected, I cannot tell you. The last accounts we had from that portion of the gulf lead us to suppose that Mexico was about declaring war. Should such a supposition be correct, the proper station for the Saratoga, as well as Com. Conner and the squadron now lying here under his command, would be at Vera Cruz. And for my part, I cannot see the reason why the Saratoga should run from Mexico as soon as war is declared.

My own notion is, that the whole squadron should be lying off Vera Cruz; and when information of the declaration of war is received, it should be dispatched to this country, opt by a sloop of war or frigate, but by one of the fast sailing brigs - either the Somers or Lawrence. But the idea is supremely ridiculous, to me, of a large squadron lying at anchor in one of our own parts, where they are not wanted while only one of our sloops of war is stationed where the whole fleet is required. When war is declared of course that one ship will have to bring the news - and by the time the whole fleet can repair to the scene of action, perhaps millions of property will be destroyed by the privateering pirates of Mexico!

It is said that the fleet will sail from here in the course of two or three days; - but as the same rumor has been current for the last week or two, I will not vouch for its correctness. One thing I will vouch for, however, and that is, hat Com. Conner has not yet transferred his flag from the Potomac, but is still on board that vessel, tinkering away at her leak. He seems to have a mortal dread of going to sea in any other vessel than the "frigate." [Mobile Herald.] [BAH]

Nine-tenths of our people, caeteris paribus, would rather have a little fighting than not. The old Adam is about as rampant in our American republicanism as in any other branch of the Anglo Saxondom. - They rather prefer to do the fighting in question themselves: as the next best thing, they like to look on and see it done by others. And, whether done by self or deputy, they like to see it done well, according to the old established laws and principles of the fighting theory. All this, we repeat, we knew perfectly well, and are therefore very far from surprised at finding our doctrine and advice in regard to this Mexican War (if Mexican war there is to be) civilly but decidedly remonstrated against at once by three of our most respectable contemporaries - the Evening Post, Albany Argus, and the Union; the last carrying multiplied weight of its representative action, which means nothing more nor less than vehement attack, with a view to put an early end to the threatened hostilities by some prompt and crushing blow; or what may be called the offensive defensive system. Be it so if so it must. Be the sin and the shame, be the crime and the disgrace - whatever of either there may be - on the heads where they may belong. We wash our hands of the blood, our shirts of the stain. If such a war is to come, we shall sing no paeans to its heroes, no Te-Deums for its victories; we shall covet none of its laurels. - Mexico has been hardly dealt with in the sole business; dealt with a weak and impotent one. She has been too much disregarded and despised. While no substantive rights, have been injured - and we have the whole law as well as the whole "profits" on our side - we have been too indifferent to her feeling, to contemptuous of those imaginary rights which have been not the less sincere for being absurd. It has been all forliter in re on our side, with none of the suaviter in modo, and the relation between the two in point of power would at least have made a little of the latter a graceful adornment of the former.

Different influences unhappily ruled the hour: perhaps after the 4th of March it was too late for change.

And now the result is, that Mexico, mean and miserable as she is - malicious, too, if you please - is about to march up to certain demolition, in a military collision with us on the simple point of honor; reluctantly as we all know - hopelessly as he herself cannot but feel; not to recover Texas - not to gain anything imaginable; but simply because she feels "concerned" in a position where an attempt at least at war seems vitally due to the defense of her national honor, the preservation of that popular pride of patriotism which it is not for our people to deny as a virtue.

It is not in human nature - not in ours, at least - to look with satisfaction upon any fight between big and little - between a lion and a rat; even though all the right may be on the former side, our own side; and all the wrong on the other, the enemy's side. If it were only a royal Bengal tiger, now or an elephant, or a hippopotamus, or any thing at least looking tolerable even in bulk, it might pass. But the lion to roar against a rat - the eagle to strain his great war-scream against a buzzard! We have no stomach for the business, and never shall have.

Conciliation! Conciliation! Conciliation! Between powerful and weak it is never too late for conciliation. We would have our government send a special mission of conciliation, with unusual form and solemnities, to explain and justify our right, to soothe sincere irritations, to satisfy offended scruples of pride, to deprecate endless, foolish, and criminal effusions of blood. Let there be at the same time overwhelming force concentrated at the necessary points, both for defense and for bloodlessly stringent blockade, if necessary. How gracefully would such an attitude become our country towards Mexico? How beyond all compare superior the moral glory of a peace thus secured, to that of a submission extorted from crushed, despairing, and still hating impotence, by a thousand San Jacintos!
But such counsels will avail but little, either with our people, or, as a necessary consequence, with our people, or, as a necessary consequence, with our Government. Alas that is should be so! So much the worse for them and for us all - for Mexico - for the poor wretches of Mexican soldiers, dragged in coffles to battles not their own; for ourselves, for our own true honor; for the cause of Christianity; for the progress of the Human race. [N.Y. Morn. News.]

NR 69.006  06Sep1845: operations at Pensacola to transport troops to Texas

The Gulf Squadron. A letter from the correspondent of the Mobile Herald, dated Pensacola 20th August, says - The John Adams came in one the 18th instant - and the steamers yesterday - officers and drew all in first rate fighting order. Our bay, just now, presents a magnificent view and a warlike appearance, not withstanding several shops of the squadron are absent in the Gulf. The frigate John Adams, steamers Princeton and Mississippi, and brig Porpoise, are riding at anchor in our bay. [BAH]

NR 69.006  06Sep1845: payment for three of the six vessels built for Mexico at New York

Mexican vessels of war. - About eighteen months since Messrs. Brown & Bell, extensive ship builders of this city, received an order from the Mexican government for six schooners of war, of about 80 tons burthen each. They were completed about six months since, and lay at the yard of Mess's. Brown & Bell, awaiting an order from the Mexican government accompanied with the money, which was to be paid for them. The order came, with plea of inability to pay. About two months since, however, three of them were paid for and dispatched, and the others now lie at Messrs. Brown & Bell's yard, awaiting a like demand. [New York Herald.] [BAH]

NR 69.018  13Sep1845: rumor of movements of Mexican troops toward Texas

Captain Gomez, of the schooner Joaquim, who brought the foregoing news, states that there was a rumor when he sailed from Tampico that General Herrera was elected president, and that fifteen hundred troops were marching from the interior to join Gen. Paredes, who had already tow thousand; that when the junction was effected the forces would march upon Galveston by the northern route, while Gen. Arista attacked Gen. Taylor. Captain G. also says the Mexicans had dispatched emissaries to stir up the slaves in Texas. [BAH]

NR 69.018  13Sep1845: Gen. Mariano Arista's address and call for forces

The Cabinet. The dissolution of the cabinet was announced to Congress by the President, on the 4th August. Tose Maria Ortez Manasterio, secretary of foreign affairs of government and police was the only one that consented to remain. That officer, the 11th, officially informs congress, that "His excellency the President ad interim requests me to communicate to you, that notwithstanding the talents, the patriotism and integrity of those who, in the present difficulties have the honor to administer the departments, Viz: Luis G. Cuevas, Mariano Riva Palacio, Luis de la Rosa, and Pedro Garcia Conde, he has, with regret, found himself compelled to accept their resignation. Until a new ministry can be formed in order that the public affairs may not suffer. His Excellency therefore confers the offices of Minister of Justice and of War upon Jose Maria Duran and Juan Luis de Leon, and upon me, besides that I now administer, the office of Minister of Finance.

In the Diario del Gobierno, of the 12th, there is a communication from the same Minister thanking those who had resigned, for the ability with which those who had resigned for the ability with which they had discharged their duties. The new Ministry was not formed at the last dates, nor will it be done before the inauguration of the new President, and who that would be was not yet certain.

The Diario of the 12th contained two proclamations of General Arista; on e addressed to the people of the departments of Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, and Tamaulipas, calling them to arms; the other to the troops under his command to excite their marital ardor. The last is in the following language:

"Comrades: The Supreme Executive has sent to me by express the news that the United States, in pursuance of their ambitious view, having taken possession of the department of Texas, he had demanded a declaration of war from the congress against that unjust nation.

The time to fight is come. We must prepare with the ardor inspired by duty and patriotism when an attack is make upon the silk, the honor, and the pride of the nation."
I am sure, comrades, that those presumptuous Americans will be greatly disappointed, when they find that our soldiers are not so contemptible as they thought and that cannot conquer them.

I address you under the influence of a lively enthusiasm. All fanciful doubt is vanished; the question is decided; and we are about to commence the most righteous war that we ever waged. Laurels await us! To arms! It is the only means of avenging our honor, insulted by a nation that boasts of its liberality and civilization.

Arms are the only arguments to use against banditti and men without good faith. Let us hope for hat justice which is invoked by all society and the decision of the civilized world.

Our lot will be envied by the rest of the army. - We are nearest the theatre of war; we are the first to avenge the outrages on our country, and to ravish from the usurpers the object of their rapine.

Large bodies of troops are on their march; they will soon be here to share our dangers and repulse the enemy.

The veterans of the north have given proofs their valor and constancy; they are accustomed to conquer this presumptuous race I know your worth. And how dearly you love to serve your country. It is for this that I am pleased to command you and to lead you the combat, in which your comrade and best friend will be prod to follow our example." "Mariano Arista." [BAH]

The official journal at Washington, considers the latest news from Mexico, as "full of Fury, but signify nothing." The Union says: "Congress had voted a loan of fifteen millions, but where is the money to come from? They talk of sending 25,000 troops to the frontier, but the number advancing falls far short of that. They threaten to make a rush upon Texas; but the tardiness of their troops, and the alacrity of our own, will prevent any coup de main. Gen. Taylor conceives himself to be strong enough to withstand any attack which the Mexicans at Matamoras may affect to make upon him; and as soon as he receives further reinforcements of regular troops, he is determined to send back to New Orleans the two gallant companies of volunteers who have flushed to his standard. The Mexicans talk of striking us with our own formal declaration of war; but the threat has reached us before the blow, and, "forewarned," we are now "forearmed." We can scarcely suspect, therefore, that any blow will be armed at us. We defy all the threats, whilst we despise all their power."

"England probably holds peace or war in the palm of her hand; but she does not appear willing to assist Mexico, or to disturb the peace of the world. - The most violent journals in London, which have bitterly denounced our conduct in Texas, and grossly misrepresented our character, seem unwilling to kindle a war out of the passions of Mexico. There is nothing warlike either in the effusions of her press, or in the speeches of ministers on the eve of the adjournment of parliament. The government has literally dispersed with out any preparation to meet the events of war on this side of the Atlantic. The queen and her cortège have repaired to the continent. Lord Aberdeen has joined the pageant. Sir Robert Peel has retired to the country, to kill grouse. We see no signs, indeed, of any expected movement on the great theater of political events. But if England does not stand at the back of Mexico, and supply her with the means of war, it is not easy to imagine that she will rush into hostilities with the United States.

"The re-election of Herrera will usher in some change of counsels. It will give confidence to the measure, which he may think proper to adopt. The force of this government may silence the clamors of the mob. The country is partially recovering from the first impression and the strong excitement arising from the annexation of Texas. Things cannot long remain in the statu quo. The scene must shift. A new act will be introduced. If his troops at Matamoras cannot cross the Rio Grande with impunity, he will probably begin to feel the danger of doing anything, and the ridicule of doing nothing. - We are sorry to hear of the civilities, which were exchanged at Vera Cruz, between the Saratoga and the town. We are not very much surprised to hear the first whisper of a disposition, on her part, to resume the negotiation. Sir Robert Peel has retired to the country, to kill grouse. We see no signs, indeed, of any expected movement on the great theater of political events. But if England does not stand at the back of Mexico, and supply her with the means of war, it is not easy to imagine that she will rush into hostilities with the United States.

"From the Army of Observation. Dispatches from Gen. Taylor, as late as the 26th of August, have reached the war department by express. The troops ordered to Texas, to compose the "army of occupation," are rapidly arriving, together with an ample supply of the munitions of war. Colonel Twiggs' regiment of dragoons were at San Patricio on the 24th, in excellent condition, having well sustained their long march, and finding, though the whole route, a
plentiful supply of water, provisions, and forage. The horses are in a fine condition, and fit for immediate active
service, should there be occasion to put them to it. This regiment was expected to be at Corpus Christi on the 27th.
Gen. Taylor, at no time since his arrival at Aransas Bay, felt any solicitude for the safety of his command, or
the necessity of calling for auxiliary force, even from Texas. The two gallant companies of artillery, which, with
such promptness and patriotic spirit volunteered to go to Texas from New Orleans, under the belief that their
country stood in need of their services, have arrived at general Taylor's camp.-As there has not been, and probably
will not be, any emergency requiring them, they will not, probably, be long detained from their homes. It is the
general's intention to discharge them as soon as a few more of the regular artillery, now on the way to Texas, shall
have arrived - unless things on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande shall assume a more threatening aspect.

The most reliable accounts represent that there were near the middle of August, only about five hundred regular
Mexican troops at Matamoras; and that general Arista was to leave Monterey on the 4th of that month for the
former place - a distance of three hundred miles - with fifteen hundred more troops, five hundred of them cavalry;
but there was no news of his arrival at Matamoras. It is not known of believed that there are regular Mexican
troops at any other point on the Rio Grande. It was probably the original intention to employ these troops in
carrying out the threat of Mexico to take possession of Texas; but the presence of the United States army, and the
preparations in Texas to meet and repel their advance, have caused this design to be abandoned, for the present at
least. The regular troops of the United States now in Texas, and those on the way there, are deemed sufficient to
keep in check the Mexican forces assembled, or likely to be assembled, on the Rio Grande. Gen. Taylor's attention
has not been exclusively continued to the Mexicans. He has had an eye to the Camanches, and taken measures to
guard the country from they're incursions.

The accounts of the climate at Corpus Christi are very favorable. Generally speaking, the troops are in fine health -
better, it is supposed, than they would have been at the posts from which most of them were removed.  [BAH]
Latest from Mexico. - Letters from Pensacola of the 1st September contain dispatches from Vera Cruz of the 18th and 31st August. We have only time, this evening, to state the substance of the information they convey. An opinion very generally prevailed at Vera Cruz, according to the last accounts, that Mexico would not formally declare war against the United States, and that the government would be able to realize but a very small portion of the loan, if any, which had been authorized - so low was the rate of interest. It was said that, in lieu of a declaration, Mexico would carry on hostilities vigorously against Texas; and they talked of making a rush upon her with 25,000 men; but this was generally considered as a sheer fable.

The mail of the 18th had brought news from the city of Mexico of the election of general Herrera to the presidency, and the formation of a new cabinet, consisting of Manvel Pena y Pena, (Minister of Foreign Relations), Pedro Areeaya, (Minister of War), and Fernandez del Castillo, minister of the treasury.

On the 16th August, Capt. Shubrick, commander of the United States ship Saratoga, exchanged salutes with the batteries of Vera Cruz.

A detachment of the 7th Regiment of Infantry, under Major Brown, comprising companies A, E, and K, left Pensacola in the steamer Creole on he 24th August, for Aransas Bay, Texas.

The officers belonging to the command are Brevet Major G. J. Bains; Captains H.S. Miles, D.P. Whiting, 1st Lieuts. A. Montgomery, J.R. Scott; 2d Lieuts. Hayman, Earl Vandorn; Brevet 2d Lieutenants F. Gardinder, J.M. Henry. Company D Captain R. H. Ross, will join the regiment in Texas, as soon as it is relieved by company F, 1st artillery, now on its way to Pensacola.

Loud complaints were uttered against those in charge of affairs, on its being asserted that General Taylor's artillery in Texas were without guns. The U.S. artillery regiments except one company in each regiment, always have been armed and drilled as Infantry, and have not had field pieceed. They are called artillery in the law, and are meant for garrisons to the sea-coast fortifications. We have four regiments of this artillery, or forty companies. Of these four companies are, by law, equipped as field artillery, with guns and horses. Four such companies have been ordered to Texas. The other twelve artillery companies sent thither are armed and instructed as infantry; and, of course, are with out "guns" - that is, "field cannon."  

NR 69.020 13Sep1845: complaints about lack of artillery with Gen. Zachary Taylor

Several Mexican traders had arrived at Kinney's Ranche, near Corpus Christi, bringing rumors that Arista had entirely recovered from his late illness, and had taken up his line of march, with a considerable force, to attack Gen, Taylor. Other reports, again, represent Arista as still being at Matamoras, collecting his men together.  [BAH]

NR 69.021 13Sep1845: attempts to raise troops in Missouri to march against New Mexico

Volunteering. The St. Louis Era; of August 23, says: "Major General Lee, of this division, has made a publication, expressing his willingness to raise a force of 5,000 volunteers, to march against New Mexico as soon as he may be authorized so to do. He declares his willingness to command in person any force that may be thus raised, and is ready to enroll the names of such as are willing to engage in actual rough service, and to meet danger in any form that it may present itself. There are many brave men in our city and state who would make good officers and reliable soldiers in such an expedition. There will be no difficulty in raising an ample volunteer force, if the government will grant the authority and furnish the means and facilities, and will entrust the command of the expedition to men who will command the public confidence.  [BAH]

NR 69.020-69.021 13Sep1845: complaints about Gen. Edmund Pendleton Gaines' efforts to enlist volunteers

General Gaines. The N. York Courier says: We have private letters from New Orleans which give much more detailed accounts of the proceedings of Gen. Gaines, with regard to anticipated hostilities with Mexico, than have yet been spread before the public. He is unquestionably creating a great deal of trouble, involving the treasury in vast expense, disturbing the minds and destroying the business of many young men in the southern states, and in great variety of ways, doing a great amount of evil, and all without the slightest cause.

In his conversation upon the subject we are told he talks wildly. He is known to have said that unless fighting grows out of our present troubles with Mexico, he fears he shall never again see an active campaign: and wishes, and intends, to lead 40,000 men to the city of Mexico! This personal ardor, however admirable and praiseworthy in
a veteran soldier, must not be allowed to plunge us into unnecessary war; and under the circumstances the executive could do no otherwise than to disavow his proceedings. We trust he has before this taken measures to check them and to remedy the evil they may have caused.

Another letter from New Orleans says that to hear the general talk, one would suppose he was planning another Campaign of Austerlitz. "I am daily hearing," says the writer, "of young men who have abandoned their regular situations of business, to enroll in the volunteers he has called for; and today, one who has actually given up a clerkship of $1000 per annum for the station and rank of corporal! Yesterday he reviewed he reviewed one of these recruited or rather recruiting regiments, with a brilliant staff, and made a ridiculous speech to them. There were a number of fine and respectable young men in the ranks, whom I looked upon as regular victims to the unnecessary excitement - but the largest portion were the greatest looking loafers and rowdies, who have joined for the sake of obtaining bread and clothing. They were of all sizes and nations, and had all kinds of clothes, many without hats, shoes, stockings, coats or vests - regular Fallstaff's men - "food for powder, food for Powder, and well calculated fo full a ditch." "I heard to day that he had written Texan government calling on them to embody 3000 volunteers for the service of the U. States! It is so much in character and accordance with his mode of talking, and the authority I derived it from so good, that I have little doubt of the fact."

Another letter states that Gen. Gaines has ordered one of the colonels of the new regiments to go on and uniform his recruits, and that the U. States would pay for it! The governor of Louisiana is also issuing commissions to captains and subalterns, all of who are exerting themselves to fill up their respective commands. Gen. Gaines has said positively that he had made requisitions on all the states lying on the: Mississippi, between New Orleans and the Ohio River!

The Washington union of the 11th says: "Everyday is increasing the regular force of Gen. Taylor, on the Texan frontier. He is preparing to throw his advance lines, with the dragons in front, first towards, and then upon the Rio Grande: and though he will not interrupt any Mexican post which is now to the east of the river, yet he will prevent any reinforcements which the Mexicans may attempt to thoro on this side of the river. [BAH]

The official journal at Washington, considers the latest news from Mexico, as "full of fury, but signifying nothing." The Union says: "Congress had voted a loan of fifteen millions, but where is the money to come from? They talk of sending 25,000 troops to the frontier, but the number advancing falls far short of that. They threaten to make a rush upon Texas; but the tardiness of their troops, and the alacrity of our own, will prevent any coup de main. Gen. Taylor conceives himself to be strong enough to withstand any attack which the Mexicans at Matamoras may affect to make upon him; and as soon as he receives further reinforcements of regular troops, he is determined to send back to New Orleans the two gallant companies of volunteers who have rushed to his standard. The Mexicans talk of striking us without any formal declaration of war; but the threat has reached us before the blow, and, "forewarned," we are now "forearmed." We can scarcely suspect, therefore, that any blow will be aimed at us. We defy all the threats, whilst we despise all their power."

"England probably holds peace or war in the palm of her hand; but she does not appear willing to assist Mexico, or to disturb the peace of the world. - The most violent journals in London, which have bitterly denounced our conduct in Texas, and grossly misrepresented our character, seem unwilling to kindle a war out of the passions of Mexico. There is nothing warlike either in the effusions of her press, or in the speeches of ministers on the eve of the adjournment of parliament. The government has literally dispersed without any preparation to meet the events of war on this side of the Atlantic. The queen and her cortege have repaired to the continent. Lord Aberdeen has joined the pageant. Sir Robert Peel has retired to the country, to kill grouse. We see no signs, indeed, of any expected movement on the great theatre of political events. But if England does not stand at the back of Mexico, and supply her with the means of war, it is not easy to imagine that she will rush into hostilities with the United States.

"The re-election of Herrera will usher in some change of counsels. It will give confidence to the measures which he may think proper to adopt. The force of this government may silence the clamors of the mob. The country is partially recovering from the first impression and the strong excitement arising from the annexation of Texas. Things cannot long remain in the slatu in quo. The scene must shift. A new act will be introduced. If his troops at Matamoras cannot cross the Rio Grande with impunity, he will probably begin to feel the danger of doing anything, and the ridicule of doing nothing. - we are not sorry to hear of the civilities which were exchanged at Vera Cruz, between the Saratoga and the town. We are not very much surprised to hear the first whisper of a disposition, on her part, to resume the negotiation. But we shall scarcely encourage any such proposition, until we are satisfied that Mexico cannot possibly mistake our motives - until she be sufficiently impressed with a sense of her own inferiority - until she distinctly sees that we have no desire to make any but a permanent and honorable peace; and that no peace can be permanent and honorable which does not settle all the caused of difference between the two countries. We can scarcely enter into any negotiations until all these insulting threats, all this gasconade from Arista and others, which comes to us, had ceased." [BAH]
There appears to have been a question made with the Mexican press certainly, and probably in the cabinet and in congress, whether to declare war, or to attempt the reconquest of Texas without formally declaring war. The latter expedient is probably resorted to quiet away the popular impulse. If a war comes from Mexico at all, it will no doubt be before the fever, which is, now up, has time to subside. It is possible, and we sincerely hope that it may turn out to be so, that overtures for an adjustment of the dispute and a settlement of boundaries may have struck the president of Mexico as a safer course, all things considered, that to trust to the fortunes of a war, such as was impending. - However that may be, certain it is, that congress has adjourned without declaring war.  

NR 69.034-69.035  20Sep1845: Gen. Anastasio Bustamente appointed commander of the Army of Texas, history of the revolution which banished him

The El Monitor, of the 22d August, announces the appointment of Gen. Bustamente, as commander in chief of the army of Texas.

It will be recollected that this officer was president of Mexico at the period of the war between that country and France in 1838. That war was managed with considerable ability on the part of the Mexicans. Afterwards when Santa Anna then president Mexico, was defeated and taken prisoner at the battle of San Jacinto, Bustamente was again called to the presidency, and retained that situation until Santa Anna availing of the spirit of disaffection gained to his cause two of the most prominent generals, Paredes and Cortazar. The former being then military chief or "commandante" of the department of Guadalaxara published a manifesto against Bustamente, and in favor of Santa Anna, and marched with all the forces he could muster for the city Mexico. At Guanajuato he was joined by Cortazar. Santa Anna, who was in command at Vera Cruz, and was there very popular, marched with the forces of that department, and being joined by the levies of Puebla, formed a junction with Paredes in the vicinity of Mexico. Bustamente had a considerable force in the city, but was exceedingly embarrassed for want of funds and probably doubtful of his officers. To avoid a sanguinary conflict probably in the streets of the city, he entered into the famous convention of Tacubaya, by which a convention to frame a new constitution was to be summoned, Santa Anna, in the mean time, having supreme authority; and Bustamente was banished to republic. From that period he was absent from the republic, until very recently. He reached Cuba from Europe and the same time that Santa Anna, now himself a banished man, arrived there. From Cuba, Bustamente proceeded to Mexico, and offered his services to his country in their contemplated war for the recovery of Texas. The offer has been accepter, and he is now at the head of the army. The military commanders generally depose and set up governments, just as the Mamelukes used to do in Turkey.  

NR 69.035    20Sep1846: news from the Army of Observation at Corpus Christi

THE ARMY OF OBSERVATION. The New Orleans Bee says that a gentleman who left Corpus Christi on the 29th and Aransas Bay on the 31st ult. States that Gen. Taylor and his army were still at Corpus Christi awaiting further orders. Col. Twiggs, in command of the regiment of dragoons, arrived on the 26th ult. In fine health and spirits. Three companies of Mexican traders arrived at Corpus Christi about the 26th ult. And had purchased largely of goods. They report that a regiment of Mexican troops had started from Tampico about six weeks ago, for Metamora, about 700 in number, 400 of whom had deserted or died for want of food and water. They were also deserting from every post throughout Mexico. Gen. Paredes was at Monterey with from 800 to 1,400 men, and found it impossible to keep his men from deserting."  

NR 69.036   20Sep1845: position of the Army of Observation at Corpus Christi

The position taken by Gen. Taylor is one of extreme beauty; and when the eye first rests upon his camp, clustered with a thousand spotless white tents, along the shelly margin of the shore of Corpus Christi Bay, irresistible bursts of admiration follow! It is a position of security as well as beauty.

His tents are pitched on a piece of table land that reaches about a quarter of a mile to a range of hills; at the distance of half a mile from the crest of these he has stationed, as an out-guard, a force of one hundred and twenty hardy and well trained Texans, to whose fidelity is entrusted this otherwise assailable point. Major Gally, commanding the volunteers from New Orleans, is entrusted with guarding the extreme left, whilst the extreme right is guarded by col. Twiggs, commanding the 2d dragoons. The center is composed of the 3d, 4th, and 7th regiments of infantry.

The commanding general has thrown up a field work, a wall of shells and sand, six feet thick and three hundred yards in length on his right. In case of an overpowering attack from this quarter, the troops stationed outside of this wall are to retreat behind it. The whole length of the line along the shore occupied, appears to be about one mile and a half.

It is probably one of the healthiest and pleasantest spots in the world. From the earliest dawn refreshing breeze
invigorate the body, dissipate the intensity of the heat, and nerve the system to a healthful action. The cool nights invite weariness to repose disturbed neither by the promenading flea, nor the buzzing mosquito.

The only drawback to continuing this encampment is the scarcity of wood and water - the former, the troops haul about three miles, and the latter is quite brackish - though I believe there are one or two small wells in camp which supply a very fair beverage.

The officers appear to enjoy themselves amazingly - considering they were supposed to be all cut up! They purchase Mexican ponies at from $10 to $30, and excellent nags they are to ride too. The waters abound with fish and oysters, both of a superior kind, and the prairies adjacent with rich flavored venison.

Large and fat beeves are slaughtered daily for the use of the troops; all which, with the liberal supplies, of Uncle Sam, these occupiers of an independent nation's soil can get along mighty well with.

There is a rumor in camp, to which the utmost credit is given, that fifteen hundred Mexicans have recently marched to Matamoras for its additional security. This is all the news about the movements of the enemy known here.

It is supposed gen. Taylor will act in this way, viz: Wait for two months in his present position, to know what the Mexicans will do. If they do nothing, our government will send a commissioner to Mexico effused to receive the commissioner and blindly turns away from a peaceable settlement, then our forces will immediately occupy the mouth and borders of the Rio Grande, and establish that as the boundary, whether or no. [BAH]

NR 69.048 20Sep1845: Army of Observation in good health and spirits

"THE ARMY OF OBSERVATION." Accounts to the 6th instant from Corpus Christi, left the army in health and spirits.

NR 69.051 27Sep1845: regiment of volunteers for service in Mexico being raised at Saint Louis

At St. Louis a regiment of volunteers, for active military service in the event of hostilities between Mexico and the United States, was being raised in hat city. Several of the regular organized corps, in that city and the adjoining counties, were moving in the matter, and notice had been given that volunteers could enroll themselves in them or form a new companies until the regiment embraced six or eight hundred men. Major gen. Lee, of the second division of Missouri militia, has published an address calling upon the division to hold themselves in readiness for a summons. [BAH]

October 1845

NR 69.065-69.066 04Oct1845: more troops for Texas, speculations on the destination of the Army of Observation

More troops for Texas. A company of United States troops, from Fish River, under the command of lieut. H. D. Grafton arrived in Boston, in the steamer Penobscot, and were to embark in the brig Cocheco, from that port, for Galveston direct.

The Baton Rouge Advocate of the 17th says: The company of U.S. troops, which was, remanded to this place by gen. Gaines for the protection of the arsenal, has received renewed orders from head quarters, for Texas. It is expected that a company of the 5th regiment will arrive soon, and be stationed here in place of the former.

"Army of Observation."

The New Orleans Bulletin of the 22d September says - "The next advices from Corpus Christi may be awaited with interest, under the expectation of hearing something further and more definite as to the ultimate destination of our little army. We are disposed to look upon the encampment at Corpus Christies a temporary rendezvous, judiciously selected for the collection and concentration of our forces. But it certainly cannot be the intonation that the army shall stop there. The position is far in the rear of the legitimate boundary of Texas, and to make that a point of military occupation would be tantamount to a surrender of the vast territory lying between the Rio Grande and the Nueces. It was prudent to make a halt there at first. As a depot and a point for reconnaissance and preparation, none more convenient could have been selected on the coast. Its distance from the Rio Grande was a security against surprise by any hostile movement of the Mexicans, while its location on the seal shore furnished the best facilitates for the disembarking of troops and landing munitions of war. Now, however, since the place has answered all the purposes of a rendezvous, and our scattered battalions are collected into a well appointed and formidable army, it is time to move the camp. We confidently anticipate that general Taylor's division will march to the Rio Grande, with the view of occupying that rifer as the line of our western boundary. It is
not at all unlikely that the movement is already being made."

A detachment of U.S. troops - consisting of company A, 3d artillery, from fort Johnson, N.C., and company 1, 3d, artillery, from fort Moultrie, S.C., arrived at Pensacola on the 19th ult., under orders for the Bay of Aransas, Texas. The following officers are attached to these companies:


1st lieut. M. Gillham, A company, commanding.


2d lieut. George W. Ayres, A company, commanding.

2d lieut. J. Kilburn, I company, commanding.

Surgeon H. Hawkins accompanies he the detachment and D. Perkins as Sutler.

Capt. Montgomery, of the 8th infantry, and lieut. Gibson, of the 2d artillery, arrived at Pensacola 19th ult. From Tampa Bay, en route for the north.

The St. Louis Era, of the 24th ult. says - The steamer, Cecilia, from St. Peters, bound for Jefferson barracks, with four companies of U.S. infantry on board, stopped here a short time yesterday. - These troops are from Forts Crawford, Snelling, and Atchison, and are under the command of col. H. Wilson, who has been ordered to proceed to Jefferson barracks - and the order further says, to hold himself and them in readiness for active service. - Fort Winnebago and Fort Winnebago have been abandoned. At Fort Snelling there are tow companies of Infantry, and at Fort Atchison, but one company of dragoons. [BAH]

NR 69.066-69.067 04Oct1845: Texian volunteers and Rangers to enter US service or cooperate with US forces

TEXAS. We have accounts from Galveston to the 16th ultimo, but no news of importance.

The National Register, published at Washington, states hat president Jones has authorized col. Clark L. Owen to raise one thousand men by voluntary enrolment, to be ministered into the United States service under gen. Taylor. Maj. Hays, with his command, is also to co-operate with gen. Taylor. Active measures have been taken to recruit the number of men required.

The same paper states that president Jones has this year introduced the culture of tobacco upon his farm in the neighborhood of Washington. He has six acres in cultivation, tow of which are from the Cuba seed. The experiment has succeeded well. One heavy cutting was some time since taken from the field. He expects to get three cuttings during the season. The quality of the leaf is said to be good.

It is ascertained that the following persons have been elected to the tenth Texan congress: Archibald McNeill, for the county of Montgomery; Dr. C. McAnally, for Harris; gen. W.S. Fisher, for Galveston; J.P. Hudson, for Fayette; R. M. Williamson, for Washington; and S.W. Perkins and W.B.P. Gaines for Brazoria.

Mr. David Taylor, a respectable citizen of La Grange, was killed a few days ago while attempting to break a wild horse, by becoming entangled in the rope attached to the horse's neck. [BAH]

NR 69.073-69.074   04Oct1845: intercourse with Mexico, news of Gen. Mariano Paredes y Arillaga and his forces
69.074   04Oct1845: Gen. Anastasio Bustamente not appointed Mexican commander, preparations of bodies of troops under Gen. Mariano Paredes y Arillaga and Gen. Mariano Arista
69.074   04Oct1845: troops at the castle of San Juan de Ulloa
69.074   04Oct1845: position of ships of the Mexican Navy
69.074   04Oct1845: difficult financial position of the Mexican government despite the bill for the fifteen million loan
69.074   04Oct1845: effort of the British minister to prevent Mexico from going to war
69.074   04Oct1845: no Mexican preparations for defense at Tampico, Mexican letters of marque issued
69.074   04Oct1845: American troops rumored moving on Matamoros

We have it at length announced that arrangements have been make by our naval officers in the gulf, whereby regular and early intelligence of the movements in Mexico will be received, a precaution heretofore very strangely neglected.
The first result of this arrangement is the reception by the steamer Princeton, from Vera Cruz, of dates to the 15th September.

The following (probably from one of our naval officers) is extracted from the Washington union: - "There appears not the least reason to apprehend a declaration of war at present. A proposition to that effect was sent to congress by the executive about the same time with the loan bill, but it has not been acted upon, nor is it expected to be taken up. This is probably what government desired, as all thinking men were convinced of the folly of declaring war in the miserably unprepared state of the country. There is no doubt the government did hope to collect a force rapidly, march suddenly upon Texas, and forestall or surprise our troops. Of course they have failed in this; but their intention still is to begin hostilities in that quarter without any further declaration. In this desire the nation is certainly unanimous, nor is there shown by government, press, or people, the least disposition to negotiate with the United States.

"General Paredes was at San Luis Potosi, two hundred and sixty miles from Mexico, and more than four hundred from Matamoros, at the last accounts, which are up to the 1st September. He has six or seven thousand men, miserably clad and armed. A serious mutiny took place on the 9th August in one of the divisions of the army at Paresco, three leagues from San Luis. The soldiers joined by most of the officers, refused to march further until their wants were supplied. The commanding general Gaono, with twenty officers, was ordered to five up the command and return to the capital, where he now demands a thorough investigation. The revolted officers have published a statement, which gives a lamentable picture of the state of the army, and the grievances, which led to the disturbance. They represent their men as without shoes, some without a single shirt, and only the clothes they have on their backs; others so destitute of clothing as not to be decent; many without even a blanket or a cloak to lie down upon, with no knapsacks or canteen, nor any means of transportation for the sick and lame. - There is no reason to suppose that the other divisions are better supplied.

"Paredes himself is the object of the greatest interest just now. Many rumors have been and are in circulation as to his movements and intentions - It has been said that he and his troops have refused to march upon Texas until they are paid by government; that he intended marching to Mexico, and establishing a military triumvirate, to consist of himself, Torrel, and Valencia; and that he had or would refuse to serve under Bustamente as commander-in-chief. The city of Mexico was for some time in daily expectation of a revolution; but Paredes wrote to the minister of war from San Luis, on the 26th August, that he and his troops had most implicit confidence in the government, and were ever ready to obey its orders. His good faith is very much doubted, but the fears of the people had somewhat subsided at the last accounts. Some apprehensions were yet felt that a disturbance might take place before the 16th, the day fixed for the inauguration of the president elect. There is much agitation in the army, also, from a suspicion that the present government is sending them to the frontiers to get rid of them; and that the levy of militia is for the purpose of dispensing with the standing army. To such an extent did this feeling spread that government came out with a circular denying the imputations. On the whole, it may confidently be asserted that the troops of Paredes will never move towards Texas until their wants are appeased if even then. In fact, it seems physically impossible they should do so. There are no magazines prepared for them between San Luis and the frontiers, and no stores of any kind have gone to Matamoros by sea. - It was intended to send a steamer, with camp equipage and provisions, to Arista, but want of money prevented. This general is said to be at Matamoros with two thousand men in miserable plight. He barely raises money to pay himself and officers, and his men support themselves as they can by working at trades.

"Bustamente is talked of as commander-in-chief of all the army destined from Texas; but the report of his being actually appointed wants confirmation. He is now a member of the senate.

The two bodies of troops under Paredes and Arista are the only armies preparing for Texas - or indeed, in existence - except the three or four thousand which always compose the garrison of the capital, and small parties scattered over all the republic. The levy of ‘defensores,’ or militia, has entirely failed; and the governors of many of the provinces have represented the laws as faulty in several particulars, such as the enlistment being voluntary, and the exclusion of day-laborers. It is thought that congress will alter the law in these points, and thus facilitate the levy; but not much is expected from it.

The Castle of San Juan de Ulloa has now about one hundred and twenty guns mounted, and the garrison numbers six hundred men. These, with sixty workmen, are employed still in mounting artillery. - It is said there are one thousand or twelve hundred men in Vera Cruz, and two regiments are ordered into its vicinity - one to Santa Fe, three leagues distant; the other to Pas de Ovejas, nine leagues distant. General Landel is ordered to take command of the castle, which is well supplied with military stores, but no provisos for a siege.

Their naval force is precisely in the same place under the walls of the castle, where they were; nor have they started an anchor in many months. It consists of two steamers, three brigs, three schooners, and five gunboats. The steamers have coal on board, and all the vessels are considered in commission, though not half officered or manned. Government has been intending for some time to send a steamer and some gun-boats to Tabasco, but want of money prevented. It was understood there was a there was a positive order to send all the squadron up the Alvarado river, but money would be required to dispatch them even thus far; so it is most likely they will remain where they are.

The bill for the fifteen million loans passed both houses, with several provisos, which have since been removed. The government were originally limited to six per cent interest, and not allowed to borrow in less sums that a million of dollars. They are now authorized to make the best bargain they can, first submitting the terms to a
Soldiers! My chief glory is to command you. I will show you the path in which you may achieve the renown of immortality. We will share dangers and laurels; and my highest reward will be, that you will inscribe in the annals

Comrades! When the supreme government commands, we will march to avenge so many injuries, to sustain the nation which has sanctioned, by its laws, the most degrading slavery.

My friends! Your mission has also another abject that of maintaining order and peace, supporting society in its safeguards, and the citizen in all his rights. We are no more than sons of the nation, its defenders and support. I flatter myself that honor will never abandon your ranks; that you will show invariable examples of moderation; and that your ardor will be reserved for the day of battle, when you have before you the enemies of the country.

Soldiers! The supreme government has order that the first and third divisions of the army shall constitute the army of reserve, and has been pleased to appoint me its general-in-chief. This proof of the highest confidence requires me to consecrate myself, by a new title, to a country so generous towards me.

Companions! That same country now raises its august front for the purpose of resisting the usurpations of a neighboring power, which has believed your valor asleep, and the you are not the sons of those heroes who, in a hundred combats, manifested their courage and constancy. A rapacious and grasping race have thrown themselves that we will not defend the patrimony, which our fathers conquered with their blood. They deceive themselves! We will fly to snatch from them the spoils, the possession of which they are impudently enjoying; and they shall learn, by dearly-bought experience, that they are not contending with the undisciplined tribes of Indians whom they robbed of their land, their heaven, and their country; and that Mexicans will ardently combat the soldiers of a nation which has sanctioned, by its laws, the most degrading slavery.

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It is said that Mr. Bankhead [the British minister] is attempting, to prevent Mexico from going to war.

The French minister has, for the last few months, been too busy with his own affairs to meddle with those of the United States. The 'auxiliar' (a civil officer,) and the officer of the army who offended him, have been tried by the proper judicial process and acquitted; but this does not satisfy the minister, who roundly accuses the government of bad faith. - Before the sailing of the September mail steamer, they had given them reason to suppose he should receive ample reparation; so he remained in the country, and wrote to that effect to France. Since then he pretends their tune is changed. He has now demanded and received his passports, given up his house in Mexico and will leave in the steamer of 1st October for Havana. Judging from the press of Mexico all has been done in the matter, which could have been reasonably expected under a constitutional government.

The provinces appear to be generally quiet, and disposed to submit peaceably to the administration of Gen. Herrera. California is some that agitated, but by local questions only. Tabasco is still in revolt, and the insurgents are now in the ascendant. - They have acted under the pleas of federalism, but the organ of that party in Mexico disavows them and joins the rest of the press in calling on government to restore order there. He governors of provinces bordering on Texas call for aid in resisting the incursions of Indians; and the press in that quarter is urging he reinforcement of Gen. Arista.

No defenses are in preparation at Tampico, where there are only about twenty men in a small work mounting one of two guns.

No preparations are making at Vera Cruz to fit our privateers; but a letter from New Orleans, from a respectable source, states that offers of letters of marque have been make to the friends of the writer, both in that city and the Havana, to be used in case of war.

On the morning of the 15th, a report arrived at Vera Cruz, by way of Mexico, that our troops were advancing on Matamoros, to the number of 3,000 regulars and 1,800 Texans. They were said to be accompanied by 18 pieces of artillery, and preceded by 700 Indians, who were not, however, considered as in league with the advancing on Matamoras, to the number of 3,000 regulars and 1,800 Texans. They were said to be accompanied by 18 pieces of artillery, and preceded by 700 Indians, who were not, however, considered as in league with the

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[BAH]
of the republic an epoch which grateful posterity will bless. Long live the nation! Long live the supreme government!!  [BAH]

NR 69.086  11Oct1845:  dragoons from Fort Jesup to join the Army of Observation

ARMY OF OBSERVATION. A letter from an officer of the U.S. second dragoons, describing the march of that regiment from Fort Jessup, Louisiana, to Corpus Christi, Texas, says that to Liet. George Stevens, of the second dragoons, acting topographical engineer, is due the credit of surveying and measuring the entire route from Fort Jessup to Corpus Christi - having with his own hands constructed a perimeter for that purpose. The distance between the two points has been thus ascertained to be 501 ½ miles. The regiment left Fort Jessup on the 25th of July, and arrived at Corpus Christi on the 27th of August, having rested eight days on the march.

We learn from the same letter that the regiment when near Corpus Christi, heard continued reports in the direction of that post; which, together with the absence of gen. Taylor, who had informed col. Twiggs, of the dragoons, by express, that he would meet him that day, induced the belief that Corpus Christi had been attacked. The command to advance was instantly given, and, to the surprise of all, fifty of the men, who were sick and convalescent, and expected to remain as a guard to the train, mounted their horses and were ready for active duty. The regiment had scarcely proceeded three miles, however, before general Taylor appeared in sight.  [BAH]

NR 69.091  11Oct1845:  Mexico - population

POPULATION OF MEXICO. As Mexico threatens to declare war against the United States, and probably will do so, it is a matter of some interest to know whom we are to fight, their numbers, character, complexion, and their experience in arms. The following is the census in each province or district:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aguascalientes</td>
<td>69,598</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puebla</td>
<td>661,002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaipas</td>
<td>141,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Queretaro</td>
<td>120,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chihuahua</td>
<td>147,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Louis Potosi</td>
<td>321,840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coohuila</td>
<td>73,340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sinaloa</td>
<td>140,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durango</td>
<td>162,618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonora</td>
<td>124,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guanajuato</td>
<td>512,618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobasco</td>
<td>53,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jalisco</td>
<td>679,311</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tamaulipas</td>
<td>100,068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>1,389,529</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vera Cruz</td>
<td>251,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michoacan</td>
<td>497,906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yucatan</td>
<td>580,938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuevo Leon</td>
<td>101,109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zacatecas</td>
<td>273,575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nuevo Mexico</td>
<td>57,026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oajaca</td>
<td>500,278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6,982,070</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of this population of Mexico, say seven millions of people, one-seventh are whites, the rest are Indians, half breeds, and Negroes. - Petersburg Intell.  [BAH]

NR 69.100   18Oct1845:  more troops for the Army of Observation

ARMY OF OBSERVATION. The Key West Gazette of the 13th inst., says:  "On Tuesday last, the schooners Gen.
Worth and Walter M., with four companies of the 8th infantry, arrived here from St. Augustine, as well as the steamer Cincinnati, from Charleston, with three companies of 3d artillery, all bound to "Texas." The steamer left the same afternoon, and on Wednesday morning the General Worth sailed for Aransas Bay via Tampa. Officers on board the Worth. Capt. Worth; Lieuts. Lee, Gates, Wood, &c.

Explorations have been already commenced in that part Texas. Known as the disputed territory. - Captain Kerr, of the dragoons, has penetrated the country fifty miles west of Corpus Christi, and he describes it as beautiful beyond description. Deer, turkeys, and wild horses range over it in great numbers. Captain McLean had ascended the Nueces thirty-five miles in a steamboat. He found no obstructions in the river for light draught boats, the least depth throughout the entire distance being four feet two inches. [BAH]

November 1845

NR 69.130-69.131  01Nov1845: examination of the state of the Army, account of Gen. Mariano Paredes y Arillaga's supposed rebellion

[PRIVATE CORRESPONDENCE OF THE N.O. COURIER.]

Mexico, September 9, 1845

Two circumstances have occupied the people of Mexico during the last few days - the demand of the French minister of his passporte and the mutiny of a division of the army of the north under the command Paredes.

I will not dwell on the fist of these events - not because it is unimportant, but because it is not completely over, and because we are not permitted to form a surmise on the conduct of the French cabinet. This important business was long ago known in the United States. It commenced at the baths Las Delicias, and its course is yet continued in the diplomatic circles. After the first representation of the French minister, Mr. Cuevas, the secretary of foreign affairs promised satisfaction in the most exact terms. A short time afterwards, the officer Oller, who arrested the Baron de Cyprey, and lodged him in the citadel, was brought before a court martial, who acquitted him.

Mons. De Cyprey then addressed new demands to the Mexican government; but a change had taken place in the ministry, and Mr. Cuevas deposited in the hands of Mr. Pena y Pena the correspondence, which had passed between him and the French minister. Mr. Pena y Pena replied to the French minister that he could receive no further satisfaction than the judgments of the court might afford him. Mr. De Cyprey again demanded his passports; and in this state the matter remained until the 29th of August, the day on which the letters destined for the English steamer left the city of Mexico. A few hours before the departure of the express, Mr. Pena y Pena called upon the British minister, Mr. Bankhead, and requested him to transmit to Mr. Cyprey the following proposition:

"Mr. Pena y Pena, accompanied by the officer Oller and the alcalde, will repair to the house of the French minister, and will there make an apology in the presence of Messrs. Bankhead and Bermudes de Castro, (the latter is the Spanish minister,) for the unfortunate occurrence at the baths of Las Delicias."

To terminate this unhappy affair, Mr. de Cyprey accepted the proposed arrangement. The express was about to start - the apology could not be made till nest day, and Mr. de Cyprey announced to his government the new turn of the affair; the English minister did the same thing, in all probability, and Mr. Pena y Pena wrote to the Mexican minister at Paris that the dispute was finally settled.

But judge of Mr. de Cyprey's disappointment, when, after the departure of the express, new propositions were addressed to him, essentially different from those which had been offered him through the English minister. The French minister refused to hear them read by Mr. Pena y Pena; he declared the diplomatic relations broken between France and Mexico, and placed his countrymen under the protection of Mr. Bermudes de Castro.

The foregoing is a brief account of the second part of the affair of the baths of Las Delicias. I pretend not to go to the depths of the matter. I will only say, either Mr. de Cyprey was right, and then satisfaction is due to him; or he is wrong, ant in that case his demand for satisfaction ought to have been refused. But nothing can be more pitiful or ridiculous that to try to evade a promise by a subterfuge like that employed by Mr. Pena y Pena, which is a real diplomatic trick.

Nevertheless, the final settlement of this difference is not entirely despaired of. The men at the head of affairs in this country are, it is true, blind in their pretensions and rash in their actions. At all events, we may suppose that, in the present awkward state of their affairs, they will yield before a threatened rupture.

I now come to the mutiny of the division of Paredes. But first we must throw a glance upon the Mexican army, and from an estimate of its strength. In our country, you profess the utmost contempt for our braves of all arms; but here, the opinion of them is not quite so low. There are some sensible men here, who put a high value on the Mexican army, and count upon the triumphs, which it will achieve. The Mexican ex-consul at New Orleans (M. de Arrangoiz) expressed opinions of this kind on his arrival at Vera Cruz.
Since so much has been said about this army; -- since the newspapers and public opinion have covered it with ridiculous praises, let us endeavor to form a correct opinion of it. I shall not seek to raise the ghost of the victims immolated by this army at the Alamo in contravention of a capitulation, I will say nothing of the shameless defeat it suffered at San Jacinto, I will more freely forgive the capitulation of San Juan de Ullca; I do not advert to the ignorance of art it displayed in the campaigne of Yucatan.

But what has it done in the interior? Has it maintained the influence of the government in the departments? Has it even repulsed the attacks of the Indians? I answer these questions, by copying literally the conclusion of the memorial of Mr. Garcia Conde, minister of war, to congress, dated the 11th and 12th of March, 1845. "In a word," says that minister, "it appears that the nation no longer possesses the territory of Texas; that the Californians have revolted, that department, and those of New Mexico, Sonora, Chihuahua, Durango, Zacatecas, New Leon, Coahuila, and Tamaulipas, are, some, ravaged, some invaded by the Indians, that they offer scenes of atrocity without an example in our annals, and that the condition of these regions was certainly better a century after the conquest; that, to put an end to these calamities, there is an army, which, notwithstanding the services and the bad treatment inflicted upon the people, amounts to more than 30,000 men, that no attempt has been made to fill the ranks of this army - whence it results that there is great disorder, and all the grades of officers are filled by incapable individuals; that the depots of clothing are in a most deplorable state; and, in spite of the immense sacrifice made by the nation to purchase arms, they too, are in a state equally bad, that, paying no respect to the laws, or to any kind of principle, they have so completely disorganized the war department, that the lapse of several years will be required to rescue it from its present condition - a condition really disastrous for the nation."

Surely Mr. Garcia Conde must have had a good deal of courage to trace so severe a picture of the Mexicans, in a capital so full of political fanaticism and national vanity. I should like to analyze, at some length, the passage of this memorial, in which the minister spoke truths at once rough and useful to his country, if I were not afraid of wandering too far from the actual state of things. It will be interesting for you to know, that, from October 13, 1841, to December 5,1844, the government of Santa Anna granted 9,983 brevets; that the number of officers in the army is countless, and much exceeds that of the private soldiers; and what will interest you still more is, that there are not in all Mexico more that 12,000 men carrying muskets - all, or nearly all, of whom are Indians. The military dispositions of the Indians have been much boasted of, without examining of what use their qualities may be in action. The Indian, it is true is endowed with a sort of stoicism, which enables him to look at danger without much emotion; and (thanks to the sobriety given him by nature!) he supports with fortitude the privations imposed upon him by the necessities of war. But this is not all. - The vivacity, the energy, which so often decides the fortunes of battle, are entirely wanting in the Indians; and, on this account, with superior force on his side and strategic considerations being equal, he will always be beaten.

There are also political and moral motives of which no estimate has been made in the different opinions, which have been formed of the Indian soldier. What interest has he in spilling his blood for the defense of his country? The day, on which an enemy invades the territory of the republic, the Indian will retire to his forests and resume his primitive habits. The sentiment of patriotism is unknown, and the indifference he exhibits on the field of battle, shows the little value he sets upon it. On the other hand, let me ask, how does Mexico recruit her armies? Is it in his primitive habits. The sentiment of patriotism is unknown, and the indifference he exhibits on the field of battle, shows the little value he sets upon it. On the other hand, let me ask, how does Mexico recruit her armies? Is it in this young republic, where the journals are so fond of attacking the immorality and despotism of Europe, that each citizen is called upon to defend his country? - to pay the tax of blood? For an answer to these questions, let us again refer to the memorial of Mr. Garcia Conde.

"The system of substitution," says the minister, "practiced until now, since voluntary enlistments became insufficient, has been most immoral and most puerile to the rights of the citizens. No, gentlemen; the Mexican is not a Russian, who take to the ranks at the mere whim of his lord; he is under the protection of liberal laws enacted by the nation; and nothing can force him but those laws and his own sense of duty." Thus, there is a striking resemblance in recruiting for the armies of Russia and for those of Mexico. The Indians are arrested, and conducted from brigade to brigade, to their ulterior destination. It one of them deserts on the match, the responsible officer seizes upon the first Indian he meets with, and in this manner keeps up his number of men. If this mode proves insufficient to fill the ranks, they break the chains of the convicts and other prisoners, and clothe them with a military uniform.

But after the difficulty of recruiting soldiers, comes that of keeping them to true colors. For this purpose, military posts have been established in all the chief cities of Mexico, and still there is a great difficulty in preventing desertion.

I have now said enough in respect to the private soldiers who form the active and fighting part of the army. Let us now examine the composition of the officers. We read in the memorial: "It is melancholy to look at the history of our army since 1828! At different periods it was the first thing to increase the number of officers, as number was conceived to be the best means of making adherents to an administration, to increase the number of employments."

Again, treating of detached officers, the minister says: "This scheme had for its object to step over all the bounds of justice, and to open a door to all sorts of tricks, with a view of rewarding the most degrading acts of domestic life, and others which my pen refuses to record, and which the decency of any memorial rejects the mention of."

Speaking, in conclusion, of this worthless body of men, he says: "Some officers have shown much talent and information; but they are so few, that they suffice not for the common duties in time of peace."

This is the sort of army of which the Mexican newspapers have spoken with such ridiculous exaggeration. The
army, for the whole republic consists of 12,000 men at farthest, ill-clothed, half-fed, without discipline, unexercised, and poorly commanded. Such are the veteran heroes that menace the existence of your union!

Some days ago, there was a sudden change in the language of the Mexican press in relation to the soldiery. It was on the occasion of the mutiny of the division under the command of Paredes. A dubious rumor was circulated in Mexico, ascribing to Paredes, Valencia, and Tornel, a design to hurl General Herrera from the presidential chair, to form a triumvirate who were to govern the nation for their own profit. There were already inquietudes in the congress, when the deputy Boves made known to the house the intrigues of Paredes. The latter replied, from San Luis Potosi, to the accusations of Boves, in a violent letter, which excited great in the deputy. The news of the mutiny at San Luis arrived at Mexico immediately afterwards. The troops had declared themselves in the usual style, and formally refused to march until the government should furnish them with provisions, clothing, and money. The next day the newspapers cried shame! Accused the army of treason, and thundered forth denunciations against it. On the 28th of August, Mr. Boves brought forward in the house a charge as follows:

There are indications in the interior departments of a design to proclaim a plan similar to that of Tacubaya. There is a man who pretends to all the powerful functions of the fatal plan of the basis. - those who ought to maintain subordination and discipline in the army, are precisely those who have drawn the troops from their duty. The third division of the army, now at San Luis Potosi, which should be marching against Texas, instead of fighting for the existence and honor of the republic, is about to destroy the government, and proclaim an anti-national administration."

After tracing the duties of military chiefs, Mr. Boves continues: "let us go back to Gen. Paredes - who is that exalted officer who aspires to give laws to the republic, to its representatives, and its executive; whom he has treated in a manner inconsistent with the rules of common politeness? He has affected several bloody revolutions. What does liberty owe him? The death of Gen. Montezuma, the dictatorship of Gen. Santa Anna, and the dissolution of the last congress, established that he and the other generals on the side of the fatal scheme of Tacubaya gave a guarantee of their word and honor - and forfeited it! What is owing to him for the administrations, which have followed? He betrayed that of Gen, Bustamente, who covered him with favors and marks of kindness; betrayed Santa Anna, whom he proclaimed dictator, and who was the idol of his worship; and now he attacks the administration of the 6th December, who spared his life.

The acts of the senate form his political sentence, and in them are deposited the votes he gave in compliance with the orders of the dictator, before whom he shamefully humiliated himself. The memorable 6th December drew him from deserts, from the society of wild beasts; and now he wants to arrogate to himself the glory of the day. But no! that glory belongs not to Gen. Paredes, nor to any individual - but to the nation!"

Mr. Boves finished a resolution to inquire into the mutiny at San Luis; which resolution was rejected.

A few days afterwards the government received from Gen. Paredes the following proclamation, addressed by him to his troops on his appointment to command the army of reserve:

"Soldiers, the supreme government has ordered the 1st and 3d divisions to be formed into an army of reserve, and has condescended to name me general-in-chief. This proof of confidence imposes upon me a duty to devote myself to so generous a country.

"Companions in arms, our country raises her august front to resist the usurpation of a neighboring country, which thinks that our valor sleeps. And that you are not the sons of those heroes whose courage and constancy have shone in a hundred fights. A greedy and avaricious race has invaded our territory, and supposes that we will not defend the patrimony acquired by the blood of our fathers. Strange mistake! We will snatch the spoils from their rash hands! And dear bought experience will teach them that they fight not with savage tribes, and that the Mexicans fight with enthusiasm against a people whose laws sanction the most degrading slavery.

"When the supreme government gives the word, we will march to avenge those insults - to defend the integrity of our native soil, the religion of our fathers, the laws which they bequeathed us and the territory which is our right.

"My friends, there is yet another duty to be performed, to preserve peace and good order, the safety of the community, and the rights of individuals. We are merely the creatures of the people - their props and defenders. I rely on your sense of honor, your moderation, and trust you will reserve your ardor for the day of battle.

"Soldiers! It is my proudest boast to command you. I will show you the road to immortality; my reward will be to have my name inscribed on the annals of the republic at an epoch, which will be blessed by a grateful posterity. Long live the supreme government.

"Mariano Paredes y Aragilla. Headquarters, San Luis Potosi, Aug. 27, 1845." [BAH]
March of the Second Regiment of Dragoons. A Letter dated Corpus Christi, Sept. 2d. published in the N. Orleans Picayune says, "For the purpose of correcting the various rumors and reports in circulation relative to the march of the second regiment of dragoons through Texas to this place, it is the request of the officers of the regiment that you publish the following:

"Anticipations and predictions of a disastrous march for the dragoons, on account of the drought and warm season, were rife among certain wiseacres; and verifications of the same, in the shape of vague rumors of sickness and distress, were accordingly sent abroad were we had fairly started; indeed, a report reached us before we left fort Jessup that Col. Twiggs, who had proceeded the command an hour or two, was lying dangerously ill five miles on the road. This we discovered to be utterly false; on the contrary, our "gallant" colonel never flagged or wavered, notwithstanding a slight affliction at the commencement of the march, but conducted the command to this point with a rapidity, energy, and masterly ability in the highest degree creditable.

"Passing through a comparatively unsettled country, a southern clime, a six weeks' drought, the month of August, the various and contradictory reports in reference to forage, &c., with seven companies of dragons and a train of sixty wagons, might well have staggered a firmer and more practical mind. But the task, voluntarily undertaken, has been accomplished, and the regiment and train of wagons presented to the commanding general in such fine condition as to have elicited the admiration of our friends of the infantry regiments, and a complementary order from Gen. Taylor himself.

"True we encountered difficulties on the route, and obstacles that seemed insurmountable; but nothing impeded out progress. Starting at 3 o'clock in the morning, and frequently at 12, our marches of twenty-five, and sometimes thirty miles, were terminated before the heat of the day. Upon our arrival at the town and villages we were greeted by the acclamations of the multitude assembled to welcome us. Balls and parties were immediately gotten up, and committees, composed of the magi of the people, sent to solicit our attendance. The ladies, God bless them, we found always first and most enthusiastic in the expressions of their joy and gratitude.

"Our losses upon the route were principally from desertion - only three deaths having occurred on the march; on, the first day, was occasioned from overheating himself and drinking cold water; and two others from a stroke of the sun, having been obliged, on account of the soreness of their horses' backs, to walk across a prairie fifteen miles wide, on the borders of the Guadalupe. Indeed, mush of the distress and the consequent desertsions, may be attributed mainly to the circumstance that during the first six days over sixty horses' backs were injured by the miserable saddle lately adopted by the government, and the riders consequently dismounted and made to walk the remainder of the way. More upon this subject anon.

"An amusing circumstance, and one that is more flattering to the regiment than any other occurrence on the route, took place at San Patricio. The regiment had made an early start, (12M.) in order to accomplish a distance of twenty-seven miles to San Patricio, and cross the Nueces by means of a raft, which had been previously constructed by a party thrown forward the night and day before. We arrived about 8 A.M. By nine every dragoon had swam the river, with his equipments. During the whole morning, and especially at this hour, had been heard what was at first supposed to be the firing of a salute at Corpus Christi. The continuation of the distant reports, however, together with the absence of Gen. Taylor, who had informed Col. Twiggs by express that he should meet him at San Patricio that day, confirmed even the most skeptical that Corpus Christi had been attacked. 'To horse' was immediately sounded; then 'the advance;' and the sick and convalescent wee ordered to remain as a guard to the train. When we had got fairly under way, and the stragglers were all up, the officer left in charge reported that there were no sick, the number having been suddenly reduced from 50 to 0! We had scarcely proceeded three miles however, before we met the General himself, and soon discovered that, instead of the enemy, we were about to meet a violent thunder-storm. We were not much vexed, as the occurrence displayed to us the alacrity with which our men would prepare to meet the enemy, and the stuff the regiment is made of. Nous Verons

"Ere I conclude, it is but just that I should inform the public that Lieut. George Stevens, of the 2d dragoons, acting topographical engineer, is due the credit of surveying and measuring the entire route from fort Jessup, Louisiana, to Corpus Christi, having with his own hands constructed a viometer for that purpose. The distance to this point has been thus ascertained to be 501 ½ miles. The regiment left fort Jessup on the 25th of July, and arrived at Corpus Christi on the 27th of August, having rested eight days on the march.

Seven companies of U.S. artillery, under command of Major Ewing, reached Aransas pass on the evening of the 4th Oct., from New York, per the U.S. store ship Lexington - all well. The Lexington left there on the 11th for Pensacola.

[BAH]

NR 69.133 01Nov1845: artillery reaches Aransas for the Army of Observation

Seven companies of U.S. artillery, under command of Major Ewing, reached Aransas pass on the evening of the 4th Oct., from New York, per the U.S. store ship Lexington - all well. The Lexington left there on the 11th for Pensacola.

[BAH]
That portion of the Pacific ocean known as California, is at present attracting an unusual share of the attention of the governments and people of this country, Great Britain, and France. It is regarded by them all as in itself one of the richest and most beautiful regions of the earth; and is destined, by its situation, its harbors, and its proximity to Asia, to influence at no distant day, the commercial and political affairs of the world. We have published from time to time, from the English and French papers, able and important speculations upon this subject: - and special attention has been excited by the passages we have given from the Mexican correspondence of the London Times, in which the possession of California by the British is held to be indispensable to check the progress in wealth and power of the United States, which is beginning to excite the jealousy and alarm of the leading nations of Europe. - The writer has repeatedly, intelligently and most zealously urged upon the British government the necessity of at once acquiring California by purchase from Mexico, insisting that thus and thus only, can the American republic be cut off from the West pacific Coast, and shut out from a most advantageous access to the trade of Asia. Substantially the same view is urged in the leading and official papers of Paris.

In this state of things the character, condition and general relations of California become to us objects of the deepest interest. It has been generally understood that certain portions of the territory have been mortgaged to parties in England, by whom money has at various times been loaned to Mexico; and that there is a disposition on the part of the British government, by means of this mortgage, to acquire possession and dominion of the while country. Of course no just argument in favor of such possession can be drawn from the existence of such mortgage, as the mortgage will be equally binding and acquire additional value and validity, should California become part and parcel of the United States. In that case the debt will be guaranteed by the American government; and if the solicitude of the British government extends solely to the security of these debts, it will abandon its designs, if such have been entertained, of acquiring dominion there, and allow California to assume the position which events may assign it. It seems clear, however that jealousy of the United States, a disposition to check their progress and to retard their growth in power and sway is at the root of this proposition to make California a province or dependent section of the British possessions. Such a consummation would be to the United States a most serious and important event; one which would greatly influence our relations with all the world, and cut us off forever from easy and independent access to the boundless wealth of the Asiatic commerce - a consequence to which the United States can never submit. We lay it down as an axiom - to be enforced by war if necessary - that when Mexico ceases to own California it must constitute an integral part of the American Union.

TEXAS. Provisions. - The Houston Telegraph states that the presence of the United States army on their frontier had advanced provisions to unprecedented prices. At Corpus Christi and Aransas, corn was 1.50 per bushel - potatoes and other vegetables in proportion. The army had to depend on supplies from New Orleans, except from beef which Texas afforded in abundance and as low as 1 to 11/2 cts. Per pound.

MEXICO. The United States steamer Mississippi, anchored off the navy yard, Pensacola at 10 A.M. 29th October, in five days from Vera Cruz, from which port the United States steamer Princeton sailed at the same time, with duplicate dispatches, with which both steamers were instructed to reach Pensacola with all possible dispatch. The Mississippi sent her dispatch from the navy yard to Pensacola by the United States steamer Gen. Taylor, in time to be started by the mail of the 29th to Washington. She left the Princeton out of sight, the second day from Vera Cruz.

TEXAS. We have Galveston dates to the 1st. inst. The popular vote taken on the question of annexation, is not large, but very decidedly in favor of the measure, which they seem to consider as now settled, and are discussing who are to be their United States senators. Ex-governor Houston and Gen’ls Lamar and Rusk, each have advocated for the station.

Business continued animated, Mexican traders arriving and departing freely. The Galveston News says that Major Hays and Capt. McCullough, with their companies well mounted, are now on an expedition to the Rio Grande.

The Lagrange (Fayette county) Telegraph mentions that during the night of the 12th ult. the town of Gonzales was visited by a party of horse thieves, and twenty of the finest horses in the place were stolen. It is not
ARMY - three concluded to remain in Texas, and some others it is said design returning thither.

men, of which the detachments consisted, three died during the tour of service - four joined the United States
deemed essential at Corpus Christi. They were received at New Orleans with every mark of respect. Of the 200
detachments of Louisiana artillery and infantry have returned to New Orleans, their services being no longer
"The army of observation," continues as heretofore reported, except that the gallant volunteer
detachments of Louisiana artillery and infantry have returned to New Orleans, their services being no longer
deeded essential at Corpus Christi. They were received at New Orleans with every mark of respect. Of the 200
men, of which the detachments consisted, three died during the tour of service - four joined the United States
army - three concluded to remain in Texas, and some others it is said design returning thither.
It is stated in the New Orleans Picayne that lieut. Reives, of the eighth regiment of U.S. infantry, was severely but not dangerously injured at Corpus Christi by the Rick of a horse, immediately over the region of his heart. He was still confined to bed on the 3d instant.

The Galveston papers state that the 300 dragoons, under Major Fauntleroy had recrossed the Brasos, at Nashville, and are now probably at Austin, where they are to be stationed.

Considerable sickness prevails among the troops at Corpus Christi, though of a light nature attributed to the bad water and the exposure of a camp life.

Lieut. Cooke, of the United States Dragoons, who was a passenger in the steamer New York from Galveston for New Orleans, disappeared from the vessel. He was seen about 4 o'clock, A.M., of 2d instant to make to the guard of the boat, complaining of being sick, and returned again to the cabin. In the morning he was nowhere to be found, and must have gone overboard. - Lieut. C. came up recently from the camp at Corpus Christi in consequence of ill health.

Capt. Suarez of the schr. Josephine reports on the 27th ult, an officer of the U.S. Army was killed on board of the steam schooner Augusta, while lying alongside of a brig in Aransas Bay by the falling of a yardarm. The offer's name was not recollected.

GENERAL ORDERS, - NO. 50.

War department, Adjutant General's Office. Washington November 5, 1845. [BAH]
Almost the whole foreign trade of California is in the hands of Americans. There are now seven Boston ships and barks here. The American consul has a jurisdiction of one thousand miles of sea coast, while the nature of the trade is such that he has barely any fees. Government allows no salary. The fees of the consulate are under to hundred dollars the year. The stationery bill bout the same; which is now allowed by the department of state.

There are many owners of large tracts of land in California, who hold them under the idea of the country changing owners; having no present use for them, as the Indians, tame and wild, steal several thousand head of horses yearly from the ranchos. - Most of these horses are stolen for food. The Indians cut up the meat in stripes and dry it n the sun. While this continues, grazing of cattle cannot be profitably conducted. There is no expectation that the government will find a remedy. Nothing but the fear the Indians have of the American settlers will prevent it. They steal but a few horses from foreigners, as there is too much danger of being followed. Mexico may fret and threaten as much as she pleases, but all here in California, governors and generals, give Californian land to all who apply for it; and from the nature of things they will continue to do so.

Foreigners arriving here expect to live and in the country; - Mexican officers to remain two or three years, and then to be shopped off by force, unless they choose to marry natives, and become Californians body and soul. The parts of California, with the exception of Mazallan, are the only Mexican Pacific ports that flourish. All others are falling and falling fast. Here there is much advance in every thing and the country presents each year bolder front to the world. It must change owners. It is of no use to Mexico, but an eye-sore, a shame, a bone of contention. Here are many fine ports; the land produces wheat even to an hundred fold; cotton and hemp will grow here, and every kind of fruit there is in New England; grapes in abundance of the first quality; wine of many kinds is make, yet there is no facility of making. Much of it will pass for Port. The rivers are full of fish; the woods of game. Bears, seal, and whales can be seen from one view. The latter are often in the way of boats near the beach. Finally, there is the bay of San Francisco, with its branched. This bay will hold all the ships in the United States. The entrance is very narrow, between town mountains, easily defended; and perhaps he most magnificent harbor in the world; and apparently of as much us to the civilized world as if it did not exist. Some day or other, this will belong to some naval power. This every native is prepared for. When Captain Armstrong called on the governor (a native) to give back the country in the name of Commodore Jones, Senor Micheltorena and officers were expected here in a mouth, to take command. The governor said he preferred Com. Ones should retain the command, rather than Gen. Micheltorena.

Words cannot express the advantage and importance of San Francisco to a naval power. There are five hundred to one thousand American whalers, with twenty thousand American seamen, in the Pacific; half of them will be within twenty days sail of San Francisco. While the port belongs to Mexico it is a safe place for whale shops. In a war with England, France, or Russia, should one of these nations own the port, and at some future day declare war against the United States, what will be the result? San Francisco must be obtained, or the Oregon and California must become a nation within themselves. - Time is continually bringing this into notice; and one of the two must soon be consummated. If the Oregon dispute continues, let England take eight degrees north of the Columbia, and purchases eight degrees south of forty-two, from Mexico, and exchange.

The Oregon will never be a benefit to the United States, if England owns San Francisco. Vessels sometimes lie within the bar of the Columbia thirty or forty days waiting an opportunity to go out. - When once out, they can reach San Francisco in four days; a steamboat in less than k two days. The time will soon arrive when, by steam, a person will go from Columbia to Monterey and back in less than four days. For navigation, the Columbia is on little use. A few English ships could prevent any vessel going in, even if the wind allowed them. - Whalers from the northwest now pass the place for California.

This letter contains many facts well known to the writer and which should be know to his countrymen. Each paragraph contains matter from much thought and reflections; and it is sent to you, because from your paper the writer has read many paragraphs respecting California. And give you this information in return.

The settlers of the Organ anticipated the supplying of California. Under present circumstances, they may. A Californian will not work, if he can avoid it. The time will come, must come, when this country must be peopled by another race. This is fully expected here. Many children have been sent to the Oahu (Sandwich Islands) English school, to learn the English language, in order to prepare them for coming events, be the visit from John Bull or Uncle Sam. One of the two will have the country. When once this is accomplished, the place will team with a busty race. As 1 before observed, all frits will go here hemp, cotton, every variety of grain. Fishsmen, from the tender willow to trees seventeen feet in diameter. The natives are now expecting troops from Acapulco to reconquer the country, and are drilling many young men in preparation intending to surround the first port the Mexicans arrive at, drive away the cattle, prevent all intercourse with the ranchos, and by this means expel the invaders from California.

If they cannot exceed in this, they will take to the mountains and worry the invaders out. Many think these soldiers are sent by Mexico at the instigation of the English, under the pretext that the Americans are settling in California too fast, and will one day obtain possession. In the mean time the Californians do not believe the story, but give land to all that come, be they from what nation they may; and the less from Mexico the more it meets their views. [BAH]
December 1845

NR 69.240 13Dec1845: debate on negotiations with the US

Mexico. Vera Cruz dates to the 7th ult. are received. The Mexican government was occupied in deliberating on the negotiation with the U. States. Some of their journals denounce the president and cabinet in the severest terms for entertaining the proposition to part with Texas to the Del Norte, and call upon the army to interfere and punish the "traitors." [BAH]

69.244 13Dec1845: Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's statement on payment of the Mexican indemnity

NR 69.244 20Dec1845: expectation of a successful result to the negotiation with Mexico

There can hardly be a doubt of a successful result to the negotiations which it is presumed are by this time in progress for a termination of all difficulties between the United States and the republic of Mexico. With earnestness from time to time we have urged the adoption of the course now pursued by the administration in relation to these difficulties and as often expressed the confidence, that if it were adopted, the obvious interests of both countries would at once lead to an amicable adjustment. We predicated upon mutual interests, too obvious to require serve peace with the United States if she can do so with honor and safety. Her government is heavily in debt to citizens of other countries as well as to the United States, and without the means to meet those obligations. The United States would be exceedingly glad to obtain suitable ports upon the Pacific for the accommodation of her shipping in that sea, and would not hesitate to give a liberal consideration for territory there, which Mexico finds it now authority over. No man can shut his eyes to the results of the current emigration for the last century, from east to west, and which no human power could have arrested, and which it would be but folly now to attempt to arrest. The Mexican government cannot fail to appreciate the progress, and would be unwise not to avail of a price now, for what in a very short time, would inevitably pass from her control, whether she would or no. That our new envoy to Mexico carried with him instructions of ample scope to embrace the transfer of the territory alluded to, and to allow a generous consideration for it, we considered beyond doubt, from the moment it was known that he had been appointed; and it is not without surprise that we find many subject, announcing that a special messenger and special instructions on the subject have been dispatched by our government to Mr. Slidell, since he left this country. We judge that Mr. S., and the administration too, must have been awake before. We find many articles like the following;

"It seems to be understood that Mr. Slidell, our new minister to Mexico, is fully authorized to arrange our boundary with that republic upon the most liberal footing. His powers in this respect are believed to be so extensive that under them he may negotiate a transfer to the United States of the right of Mexico to Upper California. This would probably be effected by making our line follow that course of the Rio Grande del Norte from the Gulf of Mexico until it reaches the thirty-second degree of north latitude, and then run westward on that parallel to the Pacific ocean." "of course such a result will not be brought about without a handsome compensation to Mexico for her relinquishment of territory. Our claim against her for indemnification to our citizens is now very large, and no way
is so likely as this to secure its full and immediate satisfaction. Indeed, so far as the consideration which we may give her is balanced by this account, it may be said to amount to nothing; for, if we give Mexico the fullest credit for good will in the premises, her detracted and poverished condition warrants but a slight hope that she will very speedily pay us in money."

If we have any doubt as to the conclusion of a treaty with Mexico, it arises from an apprehension of the interference of European powers. If either or several of those powers conclude to attempt to arrest the progress of the "republic" - or if one of them considers it an object to play for the possession of California for themselves, they would be apt to find Mexico very willing to listen to their assurances of support-and not disposed, as Texas was, to reject overtures. Let Mexico be assured that she would be backed by England, or by France - and especially if the capitalists of those countries make a point either for the sake of the Mexican mines or of the commerce of the Pacific - to furnish "ready rhino" to their negotiators our ministers would find them to be ugly customers.

Would it not have been well to have allowed this negotiation with Mexico to progress beyond the danger of its failure, before our president undertook officially to lecture the governments of Europe on their broaching the subject of "a balance of power" - or the concerns of this continent? The introduction at such a moment, of anything that, without intimidating, might provoke the monarchies of Europe to attempt an interference, was we fear, impolitic. We shall rejoice to learn that Mr. Slidell has succeeded in his mission before he dose administered shall have time to operate to our disadvantage. [BAH]

NR 69.256  20Dec1845:  Gen. Mariano Arista's appointment to treat with the US on Texas boundary and other matters

MEXICO. General Arista has been appointed by the Mexican government to treat respecting the boundary of Texas and other matters in dispute, between the United States and Mexico.

A correspondent of the New Orleans Delta, writing from Pensacola, under date of the 3d inst. announces the arrival there of Mr. Parrot, bearer of dispatches to the United States minister in Mexico, and he was to sail that day from Vera Cruz in the U.S. brig Porpoise.  [BAH]

NR 69.258  20Dec1845: relations with Mexico take an unfavorable turn, remarks

RELATIONS WITH MEXICO. There is reason to apprehend that affairs are to assume a more unfriendly aspect between Mexico and this country. Mr. Slidell, our new envoy to that republic, landed at Vera Cruz on the 29th ult. from Pensacola, and proceeded immediately we presume for the city of Mexico, but whether he would find that capital in the possession of the President of eh republic lately installed, and the authorities who had consented to treat with the United States for a settlement of all existing difficulties, and an adjustment of new boundaries between Mexico and the United Sates, was very doubtful. It appears that General Paredes, the commandant of the district of San Louis Potosi, which has between the city of Mexico and the Texas frontier near the coast of the gulf, had issued a manifesto denouncing the existing government for entertaining a design of parting with valuable portions of he republic by cession to the United States, and that at the head of 8000 men he was marching to the capital to arrest and defeat the project, maintain the integrity of their territory and no doubt with design to dire the incumbents form per and take authority in his own hands - possibly with a view of recalling Santa Anna. We are indebted to a British steamer for this intelligence - brought from Vera Cruz to Cuba, from whence it reaches us - Our government have, it is stated in the Washington papers, received important dispatches from Mr. Slidell, dated immediately after his arrival at Vera Cruz, but nothing of their import has transpired. It is quite possible that this movement of Paredes upon the capital of Mexico with the avowed design of frustrating the proposed negotiation with this country may have been if not prompted, at least encouraged by rivals for the possession of the mines of Santa Fe and for the possession of the California. We await the result with anxiety. If this negotiation failed, according to the tenor of president Polk's message to congress, war in that direction would seem to be inevitable. [BAH]

January 1846

NR 68.273  03Jan1846:  letter from an officer at Corpus Christi

Army of Occupation. A New Orleans correspondent of the Charleston Courier says in one of his late letters - "I have just seen a letter from an officer of the United States army at Corpus Christi, which gives a dreadful picture of the state of affairs there he says the place is crowded with outlaws, thieves, and murderers, who daily commit robbery and murder with impunity; that over thirty grogshops have been opened by the vultures who follow the army to prey on the poor soldiers; that two men, one belonging to the 4th and the other to ht 2d artillery, were recently murdered and other have been drugged and robbed; that the country being in dispute, there are no civil officers, and that much chagrin is felt that gen. Taylor has taken no steps to discover the murderers and to put an end to the deplorable condition of affairs.
"The writer says it has excited some surprise that General Taylor has not proclaimed martial law, but according to his belief, it is not for want of firmness or lack of feeling for his command that the general has so acted, but because he is faltered by the department at Washington, which has already given sufficient proof of its utter incapability. The writer goes on to represent the situation of the army as truly deplorable. He says that while by day the men suffer from the sultry heat, at night they are nearly perished with cold; that the tents provided them are worthless and no protection against the drenching rains; that dysentery and catarrhal fever have made sad havoc among the troops; that one third of them dare now on the sick list, and not one fifth have escaped sickness altogether.

Much murmuring, he says, is now heard in the camp at the unnecessary hardships endured. Only wood enough for cooking purposes is supplied by the quartermaster, none being allowed for camp fires, and the men have to sit shivering with cold in their wet tents, when not on duty or drill, while ever and anon a comrade is hurried to his final resting place. Truly, this is a state of things of which we had no idea, especially as the newspapers have been constantly stating that the army was in fine health. - Some measures should be at once adopted to remedy the evils complained of. It is to be hoped the situation of the troops at Corpus Christi will be brought to the notice of congress, and if the facts are as stated, which I fully believe, that a severe reprimand will be administered to those who are answerable."  

NR 69.291  10Jan1846:  relations with Mexico take an unfavorable turn, remarks

RELATIONS WITH MEXICO. The last intelligence we have had from our southern neighbors, left affairs in a very delicate position as regards the reception of our minister who had just landed and was on his way to the capital by one route, whilst the most formidable part of the Mexican army was on their march for the made destination by another route, for the avowed purpose of preventing the conclusion of the treaty he was on his way with powers to conclude. The latest dates, were those of Vera Cruz to the 4th De. - exactly the same day of our latest dates from Europe. If it were to for the absorbing interest of our relations with England, every eye would new be diverted to the south; that point seems almost forgotten, for the moment. It is full time we had further accounts from thence. We await them with deep anxiety.  

NR 69.304  10 Jan 1846 John Slidell not recognized, quits the city

LATER. The barque Ann Louisa, arrived at New York, brings Vera Cruz dates to the 14th; files of papers from thence to the 10th, and from the city of Mexico to the 4th December. Our readers will be equally surprised and gratified, to ascertain formal these sources that the report of a counter revolution having been attempted by Gen. Paredes, and his pronouncing against a treaty with the United States, and this marching upon Mexico, are unfounded aspersions of that officer's character, for which he has ordered legal proceedings to be commenced at Mexico. The American Minister, Mr. Slidell, had left Vera Cruz for Mexico. Verbal accounts say he had reached that city. Mr. Parrot, secretary of legation, had reached Vera Cruz in the U.S. brig Porpoise. The U.S. ship St. Mary's was to sail from Vera Cruz for Pensacola on the 15th ult.  

NR 69.304  10Jan1846:  relations with Mexico take an unfavorable turn, remarks

MEXICO. The New York Sun says it has received letters a few days later from the city of Mexico, but they contain no certain information of the actual result of General Paredes' revolt. There were rumors in Washington last week that he had overthrown Herrera's government, and these rumors appear only to be repeated the intelligence received by the Sun. It says, "He had pronounced against the administration of President Herrera, and was marching rapidly towards the capital, having thrown he government off their guard by writing to them, on the Texan frontiers to 'chastise the Americans.' H was carrying all before him n the road, being joined by the forces in he departments. 'Herrera has fallen,' says one of our correspondents, "and a fierce tyrant of the order of Santa Anna has ascended the throne of the Montezumas.' We infer from this that the capital has submitted to Paredes. The rumored movements of France and England in Mexico indicate an alliance between them and Paredes. An officer of the Society for the Union from the North American Republics writes encouragingly of the society's prospects, and says, 'the revolution of Paredes is only the first of a long series of revolutions, planned in Europe for a purpose which the people of mexico will yet discover, in time to defeat the whole scheme and save the country."  

NR 69.304  10Jan1846:  Mexico, departments assaulted by Indians

The department of Durango had suffered dreadfully by an attack from the Indians. The city of San Juan del Rey, had been taken by them after a severe fight in which 58 of the citizens were left dead upon the field. The Indians were threatening the department of Coahuilla, and also others. On the 9t December the steamship Guadeloupe left
the above port for Tabasco, having on board General M. Cela, governor and commandant of the department, with
officers and suite, and battalion of infantry. [BAH]

NR 69.305  10Jan1846: gloomy reports from Mexico about the reception of John Slidell and the possibility of a
movement by Gen. Mariano Paredes y Arillaga against the government of Jose Joaquin Herrera on the basis of
declaring war against the US over the annexation of Texas

This very serious question is now asked on every hand, and alike in relation to both Mexico and Great Britain.

Relations with Mexico. The week commenced with a gloomy aspect. Various reports circulated indicating that
unpleasant information had reached Washington from Mexico. The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun
wrote expressly that a messenger had arrived here with voluminous dispatches from Mr. Slidell, our minister and
bringing Mexico, dates to the 4th, which sated that a revolution would be effected either the next day or the day
after, in favor of gen. Paredes, upon the avowed basis of his declaring war against the United States in less than
thirty days.

These rumors were in a measure confirmed by New York papers of Saturday last, stating that though the
papers brought by the Ann Louisa, from Vera Cruz, (as noticed in lour last) went to discredit the report of any
attempt at revolution by gen. Paredes, yet the statements of persons who had arrived in that vessel were to the
contrary. They now represent that affairs looked unfavorable.

Tuesday morning's southern mail brought confirmation of the reports. It was said that a messenger from
Mr. Slidell had arrived at Pensacola, on the 2d inst. in the U.S. ship St. Marys and had reached Washington.
Pensacola and Mobile journals all agree that the intelligence brought by this arrival from Mexico is unfavorable.
Some state that Mr. Slidell "had not been well received" - others, "that he had not been received at all" - others
again hat "he had been badly received." The fact appears to be, hat a revolution was impending, unfavorable to
the purposes of his mission.

The union of Monday Evening, contradicts the rumor of a messenger having arrived from Mr. Slidell, and is
silent as to the import of the dispatches received from him.

The New Orleans Courier of January 3, with some information not possessed by other papers of that city,
discusses at large the probability of the success of Mr. Slidell's mission to Mexico. According to its views, (as
translated and condensed for the Picayune) this success must depend upon the ability of the government of
president Herrera to withstand the attack of Paredes. The Courier enters a t length into the circumstances and
position of both the chieftains, as well as of generals Arista and Bustamente, and thence it deduces the almost
certain triumph of Paredes. But the principle upon which Paredes will go into power is that of unqualified resistance
to the annexation of Texas to the United States, and to the dismemberment of the Mexican republic. Hence, the
Courier argues, his supremacy will be fatal to the hopes entertained of success for the American minister. The
latest account received at New Orleans brought a report that Paredes had declared against Herrera, and was
marching upon the capital: but in the mean time at the government organ at Mexico has officially announced that
Paredes had assured the president that he would stand by and support the government in negotiating with the
United States, in case the popular clamor against making peace should endanger the safety of he government.

The New Orleans Courier, said to be well informed as to Mr. Slidell's movements, states that the minister
reached Mexico on the 8th, and was still there on the 17th unaccredited as minister.

The New Orleans Times published an extract of a letter from Mexico dated the 18th , which says - "Mr.
Slidell has been refused by the ministry to enter upon the negotiations respecting Texas, as he came here with
credentials as a resident minister, instead of as a commissioner for the arrangement of a particular question."

The Times adds - "Private letters mention that Mr. Slidell has written on to Washington for full powers; we
know not on what authority this statement is made, but it would seem a singular one, in his capacity of minister
plenipotentiary." [BAH]

NR 69.320  24Jan1846: Gen. Mariano Paredes y Arillaga approaches Mexico

Mexico. - Latest. There remains no doubt of "the army of reserve" under Paredes being on their march for
Mexio. The project of the usurpation was approved by the army at San Louis Potosi, on the 14th, and at Tampico
on the 20th. The propose avowed is, to prevent the dismemberment of the republic by treating with the United
States. [BAH]

NR 69.320  24Jan1846: unpleasant rumors of sickness, &c., among US troops
"The Army of Occupation" What few paragraphs we have this week from Corpus Christi, to confirm unpleasant accounts and rumors as to the want of health and comforts amongst the men and officers, but are too indefinite for insertion. We hope they may prove to be exaggerations. [BAH]

NR 69.350  31Jan1846:  reference to relations with Mexico by Gov. Silas Wright of New York

"We learn from the last message of the president of the United States, that the relations of the federal government, with all the powers of the earth are also peaceful. Considerable sensation has been experienced, at various periods during the past year, from the prospect of an interruption of those relations with the republic of Mexico; but as that government has concluded to re-establish the diplomatic intercourse between the two countries, which had been suspended by its action, and as the measure which induced that suspension has progressed so far as to leave no doubt of its final consummation, the reasonable presumption is that all difference will be amicably adjusted, and the peace of the two nations continue unbroken." [BAH]

NR 69.323  24Jan1846:  Gen. Mariano Paredes y Arillaga approaches Mexico
69.323  24Jan1846:  cabinet declines to recognize John Slidell, who retires to Jalapa
69.323  24Jan1846:  Jose Joaquin Herrera's circular to the provinces

Relations with Mexico. That Presidnt Polk's reliances for preseving peace with Mexcio, shold be suddenly interruped by a reoluiion in the Mexican administration, at the same moment that a revolution in the British administration at least suspends his demonstrations towards England, is somewhat of a peculiar fate. It would be the more remarkable if it should turn out that both of those revolutions were produced by measures emanating from Washington. It is much easier for those entrused with executive power to raise a tempest, than it is to rule the storm when at its maddest.

The clouds lowering in the southern horizon, have gathered gloom by every arrival from thence since our last, and now really look portentous. Our government have advices from Mr. Slidell, hte import of which we can judge of by one fact, - Orders have issued from our navy department which indicate that an immediate concentraiton of a much larger force than is at present in teh Gulf, is to be made in the direction.

For the latest intelligence from Mexico, we are indebted to the Mexican schooner Julia, which reached New Orleans on the 13th, bringing Vera Cruz dates to the 30th. And Mexican dated to the 23d, ult. Previous arrivals had furnished us with the declaratons of several southern provinces and chiefs in favorur of Paredes, and of the march of his army upon Mexico, for the avowed prupose of preventing president Herrera from concluding an arrangement by which a part of the empire was to government was hesitating to recognize Mr. Slidell as residnet Minister, on finding that he was without adequate specail poers to treat upon the questions which they had signified a disposition to open negotiations on. Herrera was not doubt compelled to respect to a considerable extent the popular impulse of the moment.

He seems determined however to make an effort against Paredes. The Moniteur of the 21st ult. says that the supreme government has appointed Gen. Bustamente Commander in Chief, and Gen. Rorregon his second in command, of the Army to oppose Gen. Paredes, and adds, that the government is indefatigable working to quell the revolt, and that it has already taken the necessary measures to put the Capital in a state of defense, and had given out 3,000 guns to be distributed among the citizens.

On the 21st ult., the senate concurred with the government in giving dictatorial powers to President Herrera.

El Siglo says, that Paredes had seized upon the public treasury of the Fair at St. Juan, which had been committed to his charge.

El Verocruzana on the 24th says, that on the 23d, a salute from the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa, under the command of Cassanova, announced the first movement of the Army and Navy in favor of the proclamation of San Louis Potosi, by Gen. Paredes, and that it was immediately seconded by the garrison of the place at whose head is the brave Laudero, with the exception of a part of the battalion Sigero, numbering about 100 men, who left their barracks with their officers, refusing to join their companions. This body, as they were marching out fired a volley on those wo remained, killing a captain and ten veterans, and wounding three others. It then marched to the government palace, and was ordered to quarter in the Convent of San Francisco, where they remained at the latest dates. The same paper says that at a later hour it learned that the city and garrison of Jalapa had pronounced in favor of Paredes, and that it was momentarily waiting for a similar movement in Orisana and the fortress of Perote.

On the 23d, the forces of Paredes were said to be only three days march from the city of Mexico.

On the 24th, the troops at Puebla under Gen. Inclan, who had received orders to march to the Capital, refused to depart, and it was certain that, notwithstanding the efforts of the General to the contrary, they would soon declare
in favor of Paredes.

Mexico, it was said, would in a few days open its gates to Paredes.

The Vera Cruzano of the 29th, says that it learns by letters, of responsible persons, from Mexico, that the imbecile and short sighted Cabinet had mortgaged to England the department of Yucatan, on condition that she would pay its immense debt. There, says that paper, are facts that will soon be divulged.

A Circular of the 24th, transmitted by President Herrera to the governors of the different Departments, delegates to said governors the tremendous extraordinary powers with which Congress had invested him, and already had the Capital of the Republic begun to feel the weight of such despotism, as imprisonments, irrespective of persons or characters, had become common, and even the archbishop Garduna, had been obliged to fly from the persecutions that awaited him. Gen. Ampudia had gone over to the revolutionists, and the Government troops had publicly espoused their cause.

Gen. Almonte was concealed, fearing persecutions.

The latest intelligence is to the effect that the numerous cavalry of that General were in the near vicinity of the Capital. His artillery and infantry were between the city and Arroya-Sareo. The cities of Orisava and Guanajuato had also declared for Paredes at the approach of his forces.

Gen. Urrea, says El Eiglo of the 19th, has been defeated by the forces of General Campuxaua and Cuesta, each party having lost about 60 persons.

The paper says that the Government Council, after long deliberation, had determined not to receive Mr., Slidell in his ordinary official capacity, notwithstanding its previous engagement to receive a Plenipotentiary from the United States with special powers to treat on the subject of Texas. This conclusion of the Government took place after Mr. Parrott had reached Mexico on his return from the United States.

In the Moniteur of the 23d is published Herrera's proclamation calling upon his compatriots to rally in defense of the laws. It is a long document, and concludes as follow? - "it is my duty to defend our liberties and yours to sustain me!"

Mr. J. Tilghman Hoffman, bearer of dispatches from our minister, Mr. Slidell, for the government at Washington, came passenger in the Julia. The impression seems to be, that Parades, who is said to have 9000 men on the march, will succeed in revolutionizing the government. Puebla and some interior towns side with the government, while Vera Cruz, Tampico, and Jalapa favor Paredes. The movement was commenced at Vera Cruz on the 23d ultimo.

The nomination of Mr. Slidell, as minister, when made to the U.S. senate, gave rise to a very warm debate. The nomination was confirmed on Tuesday last, by, it is said, a strict party vote. He will have an opportunity for the display of diplomatic tact. - if he succeeds in the object of his mission, through difficulties which now appear to surround the case, he will deserve credit. We like his decision in remaining at his post in Mexico, notwithstanding the coldness of his reception by Herrera, or the approach of Paredes, and have some doubts whether a little consideration, “a second sober thought,” may not influence Paredes himself, in case of his succeeding to power, to accept the terms and considerations which he is endeavoring to drive Hererra from power for considering. Mr. Peel played that some game upon the Whig administration of England, without apparently, half so good an apology as Paredes would have, on carefully reviewing the responsibilities of a war with the United States, on the one hand, and the convenient settlement of many embarrassments which we offer them the means of affection, on the other hand.

So much for this week, on the question of peace or war.  [BAH]
Washington from Mexico. We infer from some hints, that the idea was entertained by some that it had been suggested that the United States should make an immediate disposition to sustain Herrera and prevent Paredes from effecting the revolution.

The additional forces which our government have directed towards the Gulf, it is more likely are designed to meet the contingency which has occurred. From the direction of those forces as well as from the tone of the administration journals on the subject, there can be little doubt of Paredes having very speedily the alternative presented, of treating with Mr. Slidell, or defending himself.

The intelligence that Paredes had entered Mexico, and been received with open arms, reached Washington on the 22d. On the 24th the union announced the fact, but intimated at the same time that Paredes was understood to be more favorable to the reception of a minister from the United States, than his predecessor.

From Havanna, we have by way of New Orleans, fresh rumors relative to the intrigues of Santa Anna, who according to the notion of the correspondent of the New Orleans paper, must think that he can play upon the English, French, and Spanish authorities on one hand, and upon Herrera, Paredes, Almonte and the Mexican people on the other, with inimitable slight of hand. No doubt he is an arch intriguer, capable of playing a bold game, but - he has occasionally failed.  

The indications of the week, in relation to our, affairs with Mexico, continue to be portentous, but by no means as decidedly so, as reports, rumors, and various publications have represented. At one time indeed, it was assisted that Mr. Slidell, our minister at Mexico, had been assassinated, - other accounts, published at New Orleans as from Mexico, represented him as having demanded his passports, and being told in reply, that as he had never been recognized, there were no passports to return. Then we had him asking for an escort to protect him on his return to Vera Cruz, and being told that he was no more entitled to such a favor than any other foreigner. Next we are told that a detachment from the United States sloop-of-war St. Mary's, on learning Mr. Slidell's embarrassment, had immediately started for Jalapa, to escort him from thence to Vera Cruz. These are but mere instances from the general assortment of rumors, which have been afloat during the week, from this direction.

The Washington Union plays havock with all these tales, by assuring the public that the dispatches received by government, indicate nothing of the kind. Mr. Slidell has not been recognized, but hopes are expressed that when President Paredes comes to a careful review of all the responsibilities which now surround him in his new sphere, he will distinguish, as his predecessor did, that the true interest of Mexico will be best consulted by preserving peace in the United States, instead of allowing herself to become the victim of European diplomacy on one hand, or of ill-judging antipathies on the other.

We see it stated in New York paper; that letters have been received there from the late Mexican minister Almonte, now the right hand man of Paredes' administration, which state that Mr. Slidell will not be recognized, and that a formidable movement will immediately be make upon Texas. We do not believe Almonte would have so committed himself. A few days no doubt will acquaint us with the determination of the new government. Meantime, all our disposable naval force are under orders for the Gulf of Mexico, to be ready for contingencies.  

Army of occupation. The documents of the war department accompanying the message, state the strength of this army as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Officers</th>
<th>Privates</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Sick</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Staff</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2d dra'gs 10 companies,</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>555</td>
<td>596</td>
<td>80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Artillery, 12 &quot;</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>842</td>
<td>923</td>
<td>97</td>
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<tr>
<td>Infantry, 50 &quot;</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>2336</td>
<td>2536</td>
<td>324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td>3732</td>
<td>4079</td>
<td>501</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Absent</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With the colors</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>3592</td>
<td>3881</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This force is under command of brevet brigadier general Zachary Taylor.  

[BAH]
NR 69.384  14 Feb 1846: notice of American ships of war off the coast of California

California, October 8, 1845. "The news of the day here in California is, that we must soon have a bout with Mexico; but you may think differently, from the better information you must have of the political relations now pending between that and other powers. - Should there be a war we are bound here till it is over. I trust it may not be so.

Our (American) vessels of war are hovering about the coast, altogether too thickly for the quiet feelings of the natives. Their guns have bristled at Monterey during the last month, and in case of a declaration of war, there would be half a dozen of them here in no time, and then California is ours. This year is a most unfortunate one for business, it having rained only on one half the coast, the windward part." [BAH]

NR 69.384  14Feb1846: difficulties in the advance of the Army of Occupation to the Rio del Norte

"Army of Occupation." Nothing new that can be relied upon from Corpus Christi this week. A paragraph in the New York Journal of Commerce states, that the army has orders to take a position on the Rio del Norte, but the richness of the soil renders the mud so 'exquisite.' As to prevent a movement. [BAH]

NR 69.416  28Feb1846: Army of Occupation ordered to the Rio del Norte

"The Army of Occupation." Accounts from Corpus Christi state, have received orders to proceed to take up a position at the mouth of the Rio del Norte - and are making dispositions accordingly - though apparently without some reluctance. It is a sad season we should judge for movements of troops, munitions, and stores, in that alluvial soil. [BAH]

March 1846

NR 70.018  14Mar1846: number of ships, men, guns, etc.

Gulf squadron - The sloops of war Falmouth, John Adams, and St. Mary's, and the brig Porpoise, were all at Vera Cruz on the 16th ult. The steamer Mississippi and the brig Somers were at Pensacola, the latter to sail for Vera Cruz on the afternoon of the 2d instant.

The schooner Flirt, at Norfolk, is to be fitted for a dispatch vessel for the gulf. [BAH]

NR 70.050  28Mar1846: Army of Occupation quits Corpus Christi and advances to the Rio Grande


The second brigade commanded by lieut. Col. J.S. McIntosh, of the 5th regiment of infantry, under major T. Brown, struck their tents on the morning of the 10th, and took up their line of march for the Rio Grande.

The third brigade commanded by col. W. Whistler, composed of the 3d regiment of infantry, commanded by lieut. Col. E.A. Hitchcock, and the 4th infantry, commanded by lieut. Col. J. Garland, were to take final leave of their old Corpus Christi encampment, on Wednesday, the 11th instant, to join the main army.

The squadron of transports was to leave on the 20th inst. under convoy of the U.S. cutter Woodbury, captain Foster, and the steamer Monmouth. [BAH]

NR 70.050-70.051  28Mar1846: Gen. Zachary Taylor's general order on respecting the rights of Mexicans

Head quarters army of occupation, Corpus Christi, Texas March 8, 1846.
Orders. No 30. the army of occupation being about to take position on the left bank of the Rio Grande, under the orders of the executive of the U. States, the commanding general deems it proper to express his hope that the movement will prove beneficial to all concerned; and that nothing may be wanting on his part to insure so desirable a result, he strictly enjoins upon his command the most scrupulous regard for the rights of all persons who may be found in the peaceful pursuits of their respective avocations, residing on the both banks of the Rio Grande. No persons, under any pretense whatever, will interfere in any manner with the civil rights and religious privileges of the people, but will pay the utmost respect to both. Whatever may be required for the use of the army will be purchased by the paper departments at the highest market price. The general commanding is happy to say that he has entire confidence in the patriotism and discipline of the army under his command, and feels assured that his orders, as above expressed, will be strictly observed.


NR 70.051  28Mar1846:  Gen. Jose Antonio Mejia returns to Matamoros

the Mexican gen. Mejia is said to have returned to Matamoros on the 2d instant. The Mexican troops this side the Rio Grande - if any - are said to be under the command of Garcia, Canales and Severiego. It was reported in Galveston that gen. Taylor had made a requisition for more troops, but the report was doubted.

Four companies of volunteers called out at New Orleans, by gen. Gaines, for Texas, without any orders from the war department, and without any occasion for their services, were paid $51,600 for three months' service.  [BAH]

April 1846

NR 70.096   11Apr1846:  Mexican efforts to protect Point Isabel

70.096   11Apr1846suggestion that Mexico cede Texas, New Mexico, and California to the US

MEXICO. Vera Cruz dates to the 19th March, have been receive. Mr. Slidell was still at Jalapa. The New Orleans Times says, that on the 4th March, Senor Castillo Lanzas received a note from Mr. Slidell, requiring peremptorily a definitive answer to the demand to be received as minister plenipotentiary, not only to arrange the question of Texas, but to settle every other matter in dispute between the two countries, such as payment of the installments due on the debt, and a satisfactory remuneration for the losses sustained by our citizens, by the delay in those payments. The supreme government immediately convoked the council, and submitted Mr. Slidell's note for their opinion. They advised the government not to receive Mr., Slidell, except as envoy extraordinary to settle the difficulty about Texas, leaning all other affairs unattended to, until that shall have been adjusted. It is not known whether the government will conform to the wishes of the council, but it is supposed it will, since the president and his cabinet find in its favor, not only the recorded opinions of the preceding administration and the late chambers, but the whole of the Mexican press.

On the other side, it is asserted in the Mexican prints that Mr. Slidell will not abate one jot of his pretensions, and will quit the republic immediately after the receipt of Senor Lanzas' reply, if it be not perfectly satisfactory.

The La  Hesperia of the 7th, confirms the above.

Mexican dates are to the 7th, at which time rumors of the advance of General Taylor to the Rio Grande had reached there. It was even said that the advanced troops had seized the pilots at Matamoros, to force them into the service of the vessels of war collecting about the Bazos, Santiago, and Boca Chica. From every quarter - the Pacific, the Gulf and by the Rio Grande - the prospect to Mexico from the United States, according to the paper, was deemed most hostile.

Gen. Mejia, had pushed 400 infantry to protect Point Sta. Isabel and Gen, Parrodi was very busy in drumming up pupils to repel invasion. All these movements have reference only to our reconnoitering parties, which having made their observations, immediately retired. - The Mexicans think they will be able to concentrate 8,00 men on the Rio Bravo by the 1st of April.

A private letter, dated on the 7th ult., informs us that some twenty United States soldiers, who had deserted from Corpus Christi, had arrived at the city Mexico and been set at liberty by the government. They are represented by our correspondent as in a most wretched condition, many of them going about begging, and despised by both Mexicans and foreigners. They say they have been much deceived about Mexico, and heartily wish themselves back in Gen. Taylor's camp again. Good enough for them.

Gen. Ampudia is said to have reached as far as St. Louis Potosi, on his way to the command of the "Army of the North."

The correspondent of the Locomotor of the 11th ult., writing from the city of Mexico, states: "Ij this event there is
no doubt that the maritime forces of the Anglo-Americans situated in the gulf, and in the Pacific, will attack our ports, and Gen. Taylor will commence operations on the Rio Bravo." [BAH]

MR. SLIDELL'S MISSION, has been unfortunate as well as unsuccessful. No one regrets this result more than ourselves. It is unfortunate that the appointment of a minister was delayed beyond the moment, which would have been most favorable for success. The instant the Mexicans ascertained that neither England nor France were disposed to incur a war with the U. States in order to prevent the annexation of Texas, an American minister should have been upon the spot to take advantage of the reaction produced by that discovery. Both of those governments had prompted Mexico. - alone in her glory. Incensed at the desertion, a reaction took place, which should have been restored. It was a stickling about etiquette, we fear, which lost us the tide, which would have led to fortune.

There was a resort to secrecy, too, in the premises, which was probably unfortunate. The motive for this no doubt was to steal a march upon European governments. No one was aware, until the president in his annual message announced the fact to congress, that Mr. Slidell had received such an appointment or left home on such an errand. The advantage gained by this mystery, in any whatever was gained, was overbalanced far by a want of that countenance and respectability which would have especially marked the mission. The manner of Mr. Slidell’s approach aroused patriotic as well as popular prejudice. The character of his embassy was questioned. Unfortunately, according to President Herrera's construction, Mr. Slidell's credentials were not in accordance with the preliminary understanding, and etiquette interposed another delay. Further instructions ere now forwarded to Mr. Slidell, but in the meantime a revolution in the Mexican government predicated expressly with the view of defeating the object of Mr. Slidell's embassy had been accomplished, his errand failed, and he has returned home.

Our naval and military forcers were concentrated upon the Mexican frontier and coast, in anticipation of Mr. Slidell's mission. On its being suggested by President Herrera's government, that this would interpose an obstacle to his reception or to a pacification, the squadron was recalled, and the army was continued to "observation." On the indications or to a pacification at Mexico, these counter-maneuvers were retracted. The squadron was augmented and again ordered to the Mexican coast and the army was ordered to advance to "occupation." If these orders were designed to sustain Herrera, they were to late. If designed to intimidate Paredes to recognize Mr. Slidell, they have failed.

The commanders of both army and squadrons have now arrived at the very borders of the Rubicon. [BAH]

"ARMY OF OCCUPATION."

TAKES POST ON THE RIO GRANDE. - The revenue cutter Woodbury, left the Brazos St. Jago on the 30th ultimo, and reached Galveston, on the 4th instant, with intelligence from the army, the steamship New York reached N. Orleans on the 8th from Galveston bringing intelligence of the arrival of the pilot boat Hitchcock which left Brazos St. Jago on the 1st inst. Those sources furnish us with details from which we abbreviate the following. It will be recollected that our previous accounts left the army en route from Corpus Christi for the Rio Grande; distance 119 miles.

Two reconnoitering detachments, one commanded by Capt. Hardee, the other by Lieut. Hamilton, preceded the movement. The one approached opposite Brazos Santiago via Isla del Padre, the other by the old Matamoras road, near Sal Colorado. Gen'l Mejia, in command at Matamoras, on hearing of their approach, mustered every soldier there, and crossed the Rio Grande in person, under the impression that he should meet the advance of the army. He Marched as far as the Colorado creek, with all possible dispatch, and discovered that both these detachments had returned to the camp at Corpus Christi.

The account from Matamoras of the 13th March goes on the say: --"his anger at this unexpected 'no find you there' knew no bounds - as he had boasted upon his departure from Matamoras, of the laurels that he his troops would win before their return to their old quarters. His excellency was, however, compelled to put back without a single trophy to grace his unwelcome return."

It will best to show, here as far as we are able the

DISPOSITON OF THE MEXICAN FORCES ON THE FRONTIER.

We extract from the above letter from Matamoras:

"All the forces late under the command of General Arista, at Monterey, and now under the orders of Gen. La Vega,
about 1,800 strong, have arrived at Matamoras, and it is said, will march forthwith for the Salt Lakes and the Sal Colorado, to arrest the march of Gen. Taylor upon the Rio Grande. Gen. Canales, of Comargo, with his regiment, nearly 1,000 strong, has received orders from the advance of our forces, to march the movements of you r army, and is now occupying a position in a direct line between Comargo and Corpus Christi, about 22 leagues from the former place, at the north western extremity of the great Salt Lake. General Ampudia (the gentlemen who boiled Sentmanat's head) is within two days march of us, with 3,500 men, mostly cavalry. We know very little of what is going on in the country or interior as General Paredes has stopped the transmission of all newspapers as dangerous. You, who know pretty well all the movements upon the political draft board, will be able to judge of the times by the signs. What is here stated id true, and you may assure your friends of that fact. I might state many other matters, but they are too delicate for discussion. - in my next you will have further particulars, and before you get this, the questions of fight or not fight between us and Gen. Taylor will have been decided upon, and the independence of the northern provinces declared, or their future connection with the parent state, quietly, tamely, basely, acquiesced in. Our present armed force and station are as follows: --

Gen. Canales with 900 to 1,000 troops at head of Salt Lakes, sixty miles from Comargo.

Gen. Mejia on Al Colorado, where the old Matamoras road crosses that river, about 60 or 70 miles from Matamoras, about 750 men.

Gen. Garcia, at Point Isabel, with 280 men, mostly infantry and artillery.

Gen. Savereigo, with some 200 men, is upon the Colorado, between Gen. Mejia is the lower ford, which is from 10 to 15 miles from the gulf.

Gen. La Vega, at Matamoras, with 1,800 troops, late commanded by Gen. Arista, detained to reinforce Mejia. Total force, say 4,000 men, about half of whom are on the east side of the Rio Grande.

Arista, is still keeping himself in reserve at his hacienda. Don La Gaixa y Flores, governor of the Tamaulipas, arrived here last night, with an intention, as it is said, of organizing the rancheros, veterans, &c., for defensive operations, should they unfortunately be required."

To resume of account of Gen. Taylor's movement.

Gen Taylor, with a company of dragoons under the command of Col. Twiggs, in advance of the main army, reached Point Isabel on the 24th of March. Isabel is a bluff or promontory of sixty feet elevation, on the north side of the Rio Grande, a few miles below the Mexican city of Matamoras, which is situated upon the southern side of that river.

The fleet of transports from Aransas reached the point by within half an hour after the arrival of the commanding general.

When near Point Isabel with the dragoons, General Taylor was met by a deputation of 30 or 40 men, bearing a proclamation and message from Gen. Meia, protesting against the invasion, and gasconading of defense. At the same moment, the conflagration to the custom house and several other buildings at Point Isabel, which Rodriguez, the commandant had set fire to on the approach of the fleet of transports, was discovered. Gen. Taylor dismissed the deputation, informing them that he would reply to Gen. Mejia on the 28th opposite to Matamoras. Rodriguez was pursued some distance, but made good his retreat to the river.

The only opposition experienced by the army on their march, was first, at the little Colorado, where a Mexican officer, with about 150 mounted men, threatened to fire upon Gen. Taylor if he attempted to cross that stream, stating that such were his positive orders, and that Mexicans knew no fear. The artillery was immediately ordered up, where the troops formed and commenced fording in perfect order, the water being nearly to the arm-pits, whereupon the gallant Mexicans retreated without executing his "positive orders." The only other show of opposition had been previously made by a party of 50 or 60, who met the army in the prairie, informed Gen. Taylor that he must proceed no farther in that direction. By order of Gen. Taylor the army opened and this party were permitted to march through to the rear, and then depart.

The country was in a highly favorable condition for the march of the army - more rain would have made the traveling bad, less would have occasioned a scarcity of water.

Col. McCrea was disappointed in his attempt to take the barges across the Laguna la Madre, for the want of sufficient water. They will, in consequence, have to be taken by land. The average depth of water on the bar at Brasos St. Iago is eight and a half feet; from thence to Point Isabel, a distance of about three miles due west, the uniform depth is about five feet. Extraordinary successes attended getting the vessels over a difficult bar, without pilots. The schooner Belle del mar was however driven on the South side. After beating heavily on the bar, and lies into feet water. She cannot be saved. The Louisiana, Capt. Eddy, had her rudder unshipped, but she received no other damage. The U.S. brig Lawrence, Com't Mercer, remained at anchor off the bar. The brig Porpoise, Com't Hunt, sailed for Pensacola on the 26th ult.

Forty wagons with supplies for the arm, left point Isabel on the morning of the 26th in fine condition, and having an excellent road twenty-eight miles to the army opposite Matamoras, and on the morning after Gen. Taylor followed,
leaving a company of artillery at Pont Isabel in command of Maj. Munroe.

On the 28th of March, the army of occupation, numbering in all about 3,500 arrived and encamped opposite Matamoras. On the appearance of the American army, the Mexican forces were drawn out on the opposite bank of the river, making a great display of martial music, with trumpets, bugles, &c., which mode of salutation was duly reciprocated in kind by a similar sounding of trumpets and drums in the American lines. Thus ended the first day's reencounter between the two armies on the opposite banks of the Rio Grande, and within two or three hundred yards of each other.

On the next morning, 29th, the American troops discovered the Mexican artillery of eighteen pounders, lining the opposite bank, and pointing directly into their camp, whereupon the American army moved their encampment four miles below. This step, says the account, was doubtless taken by Gen. Taylor in order to avoid every appearance of any disposition to commit aggressions upon the west bank of the river, and to maintain strictly the defensive character of his operations.

The most reliable statements represent the regular army in Matamoras to consist of 2000 soldiers and 500 rancheros.

We are bound to presume that in some way or other, the above hasty accounts have done injustice to our commanding general. Whatever of approbation we might bestow upon his forbearance in the premises, must be at the expense of his claims to generalship, which make this instance of forbearance necessary. Gen. Taylor has been entrusted with the command of the "army of occupation" and will be too circumspect to lose the appellation, by occupying a post which prudence requires him to evacuate so soon as an opposing army show a battery in his front. [BAH]
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<th>August-October 1846</th>
<th>November-December 1846</th>
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<td>November-December 1847</td>
<td>January-March &amp; July December 1848</td>
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NNR 70.240 demand on ships for freights at New Orleans

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NNR 70.241 comment on national finances in light of the war with Mexico

NNR 70.241 offer of British ministers to mediate differences between the United States and Mexico

NNR 70.242 consuls of neutral powers protest American blockade of Veracruz, arrangements to withstand the blockade

NNR 70.243 Dr. William Maxwell Wood, bearer of dispatches from the Pacific squadron, passing through Mexico, meets and forwards to Com. John Drake Sloat intelligence of the war

NNR 70.255 report of taking of Matamoros

NNR 70.255 Com. David Conner's instructions to the squadron on principles of a blockade

NNR 70.256 exhibit of force of the Gulf Squadron, unlikelihood of successful attack on Veracruz

NNR 70.256 rumors of a British offer of mediation between the United States and Mexico

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NNR 70.261-70.262 article in the "Southern Quarterly Review" reviewing the campaign, noticed

NNR 70.262 formidable force organizing against Santa Fe

NNR 70.262 Lt. Col. Henry Wilson marches against Reynosa

NNR 70.262 Gen. Zachary Taylor's letter complaining of want of transport and the large body of volunteers beyond what he had asked for

NNR 70.262-70.263 letters from "The Corporal" at Matamoros

NNR 70.263-70.264 Gen. Zachary Taylor's letter of 22d April to Gen. Mariano Arista, relative to blockade of the Rio Grande

NNR 70.264 council of war after Palo Alto, incidents of the Battle of Resaca de la Palma

NNR 70.264-70.265 incidents of the battlefield

NNR 70.265 general orders directing rendezvous of the several corps of volunteers

NNR 70.265 Gen. Mariano Arista's official report of the battles of 8th and 9th May

NNR 70.265 topography of the route from Matamoros to Monterey and Saltillo

NNR 70.265-70.266 movement of the Mexicans

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NNR 70.272 Gen. Zachary Taylor awaiting transport to join the advance corps

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NNR 70.273 march on Barita

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NNR 70.276 discussion of general officers chosen to conduct the war with Mexico
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Mexican plan of campaign

compliment to the Marylanders in Mexico

accounts of wounded officers, suspicion that Mexicans use shot containing arsenic

Lt. Theodoric H. Porter's body found

account of the wounded in the hospitals

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hunting for "Rio Grande deer"

Gen. Zachary Taylor's letter accompanying Gen. Mariano Arista's invitation to American soldiers to desert

reception of deputation that delivered the thanks of Louisiana to Gen. Zachary Taylor

comments on the expedition against Santa Fe

notice of strong discontent expressed by volunteers whose services were declined by the government

seven companies of volunteers depart from Nashville

twenty-three Alabama companies ready for the Rio Grande

volunteers raised in Missouri for Santa Fe refused by US government

recruits engaged for a mounted regiment against Santa Fe

blundering in the calling out of volunteers

volunteers at Fort Leavenworth

a volunteer heroine among the Indiana troops

full complement of Ohio volunteers enrolled

requisition on Illinois for volunteers is filled

apathy among volunteers on the Rio Grande described by "The Corporal"

appointment of officers of volunteers

soldiers arrive at Baltimore and Saint Louis from the seat of war

Army depot established at Robinson's Ferry on the Trinity

Maj. Thomas Turner Fauntleroy ordered to proceed to San Antonio with dragoons

Bibles forwarded to Army in Texas
NNR 70.289 officers from the Rio Grande arrive in Philadelphia

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NNR 70.290 three ships of the line ordered ready for service

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NNR 70.291 account of the Princeton in the blockade of Veracruz

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NNR 70.294 tendering of New York troops for service in Mexico

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NNR 70.294 recruiting of Mississippi volunteers for service in Mexico

NNR 70.294 mustering of Ohio volunteers for service in Mexico

NNR 70.294 complaints about Gov. Thomas Ford of Illinois in mustering volunteers for Mexico

NNR 70.294 comments on arrangements for payment for clothing for volunteers

NNR 70.294 departure of Kentucky units for Mexico

NNR 70.294 dissatisfaction of Missouri volunteers at Fort Leavenworth

NNR 70.294 financial support for volunteers in Tennessee

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NNR 70.295-70.296 ceremony of surrender of Matamoros

NNR 70.296 account of enterprise on the Rio Grande under American influence
Mexican ladies at Matamoros reconciled to the Americans

Mexican compliment to American behavior after their victories

dead of Capt. Jose A. Baragan

reconnoiter after Gen. Mariano Arista

interview between Col. Matthew Mountjoy Payne and Gen. Romulo Diaz de la Vega

examination of the trophies of the war, including the flag of the Tampico guards

Mexican treatment of American prisoners

Gen. Mariano Arista's official account of killed and wounded in the battles of the 8th and 9th of May, &c., his account of evacuation of Matamoros

proposed expedition against Yucatan, denial that the American government intends to support it

British view of the Mexican war, sympathy with Mexico, British mediation suggested

Charles Bent, Saint Vrain, and Folger arrive at Saint Louis and report, Gen. Jose Urrea said to be advancing to relief of Santa Fe

Santa Fe traders pushing forward rapidly in advance of US troops

federal government accepts services of Missouri mounted regiment and artillery for operations against New Mexico

Santa Fe expedition

withdrawal of troops from our Indian frontiers, leaving them exposed to outbreaks

volunteers reach the Rio Grande

lack of authentic intelligence from the interior of Mexico

present of exploded shot by Capt. D.S. Miles to the Baltimore high school

account of the rank and file in the late battles

Gen. Zachary Taylor, for want of transports and supplies, unable to improve his victories, inundated by volunteers of whose services he cannot avail; items from the Rio Grande; letter from the seat of war; Gen. Urrea advancing on Santa Fe

California expedition preparing at New York

departure of the expedition against Santa Fe from Fort Leavenworth

Louisiana habeas corpus case

Gen. Zachary Taylor's interview with a gentleman's son among the volunteers

organizing of the regiments of Illinois volunteers

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indignation over appointment of Sterling Price as commander of a company of Missouri volunteers

Alabama election of officers, departure for Point Isabel

arrival of volunteers from Maryland and the District of Columbia at Brazos
use of a draft in North Carolina to determine troops chosen for service in Mexico
departure of Ohio volunteers for the Rio Grande
destination of Kentucky volunteers in Mexico

correspondence of Gen. William Jenkins Worth and Gen. Zachary Taylor on Worth’s desire to retire from his command

intrigues to restore Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna to power in Mexico

war for a "piece" of Mexico

gathering of a board of naval officers, denial that it dealt with an attack on San Juan de Ulloa

energetic measures by the administration to carry on the war, posture of affairs
Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna about to embark for Mexico
uncertainty about whereabouts of Gen. Mariano Paredes y Arillaga, prospect of a rebellion to supersede him

European powers indisposed to take part in the war
Mexican movements
rumors of the departure of Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna from Cuba for Mexico

items from the Rio Grande

report on supplying materials for transportation to the Army
gales off Brazos, numerous shipwrecks
letter from Henry Whiting on the delivery of supplies to the Army in Texas

route to the interior of Mexico

want of discipline among the volunteers

report on the tendering of Pennsylvania volunteers for service in Mexico

third regiment of Ohio volunteers reach New Orleans

deaths in the Baltimore battalion

complaint about the appointment of political partisans to militia positions

complaints about the rejection by Gov. Thomas Ford of Illinois of some volunteers

relief to families of volunteers

Mormons enlist in the expedition against California

arrival of the Georgia regiment of volunteers at Mobile

expedition to Santa Fe
May 9, 1846 Mexican protest against Gen. Zachary Taylor’s taking position on the Rio Grande

The army of occupation. Accounts already furnished, left gen. Taylor on the 29th alt. Taking post on the eastern bank of the Rio Grande, immediately opposite and commanding the town of Matamoros. – By the arrival of the steam Col. Harvey at New Orleans, we learned that general Taylor was met by a deputation of civilians from the town of Matamoros who protested against his “invasion of the Mexican department of Tamaulipas” [JEB]

May 9, 1846 Gen. Pedro Ampudia enters Matamoros, correspondence with Gen. Zachary Taylor

On the 11th April, general Ampudia marched into Matamoros with 1,000 cavalry and 1,500 infantry. Thus augmented the Mexican force there to 5,500 men.

On the next day gen. Ampudia, notified gen. Taylor to retire to the eastern bank of the Nueces. This notification was of a threatening character, and was regarded by Gen. T. As of a belligerent nature, and accordingly he instructed the military commander at Brazos to consider the Mexican army as in a hostile attitude. [JEB]

May 9, 1846 deserters from the two armies

We are informed says the New Orleans Bulletin that about thirty of the American troops had deserted, ten or twelve of whom were shot in endeavoring to make their escape. This had the effect of checking further desertions. It is said that about 1,000 of Ampudia’s men deserted him on his march. [JEB]

May 9, 1846 Gen. William Jenkins Worth resigns

Gen. Worth is on his way to this city in the U.S. steam propeller Hunter, which vessel left on the same day as the Colonel Harney. [JEB]

May 9, 1846 Col. Trueman Cross disappears, believed captured by Mexicans

Col. Truman Cross, quarter master general of the army, disappeared so singularly, that for several days the greatest anxiety was felt. A letter from an officer of the
army, dated Point Isabel, April 14, says- "Col. Cross left the camp about noon on Friday, 10th inst. He was alone, and when last heard from, was at the house of a Mexican, about one mile from the camp. Since that time no certain information has been received as to his fate. [JEB]

NNR 70.133 May 2, 1846 NAVAL JOURNAL

The Potomac frigate arrived at Vera Cruz on the first April from Norfolk.

The American squadron at Sacrificios on the 5th April consisted of the Cumberland and Potomac frigates, the Falmouth, St. Marys' and John Adams, sloops of war.

The frigate Brandywine, now in ordinary as Gosport navy yard, is to be fitted out forthwith.

Lieut. G. S. Blake, takes command of the U.S. brig Perry, now at Norfolk preparing for the Pacific. Lieut. B. has for some time been occupied in surveying the Delaware bay and river, in the course of which he discovered a safe ship channel in the bay, not heretofore laid down on the chart.

The Constitution - Old Ironsides. A letter from an officer on board the U.S. frigate Constitution, now in the Pacific, relates the following pleasing incident, which occurred when the Constitution was out about ten days from Macao, on her way to Manilla, and found herself near a fleet of six British vessels, becalmed:

"A few light cats-paws fanned us along until we were within two miles of them, and then the wind left us. We were all thus becalmed in sight of each other. We made them out to be a large line of battleship, two frigates, one brig and two steamers; their nation as yet unknown, as there was no wind to throw out their ensigns. Presently one of the steamers began firing up, and shortly afterwards bore down for us. We were just exercising our crew at general quarters, (always keeping up our discipline, you perceive), when she came within hail. From her we learnt that the vessels composed the East India squadron of H.B.M. under command of rear admiral sir Thomas Cochrane, K.C.B., that they had been seven months down among the islands, and the whole squadron were short of bread, 'grog', water, and other necessaries, and they desired to know if we could furnish them with the stores required, to last them one week. No sooner asked than done. No sailor ever stops to count the biscuit in his locker when he sees a hungry customer. Then a lively scene occurred, gratifying, I assure you, to both sides. Our guns had to be secured, and, indeed, we must have presented rather a hostile appearance to Mr. Bull; in fact, one of the officers good humoredly observed, he 'thought we were going to blow him out of water.' We turned to with light hearts, and broke out the provisions and sent them on board, while we entertained the officers in very gallant style, in fact doing the clean and genteel thing by them. I don't recollect ever spending a more pleasing time that I did the two short hours they were with us; and when they left, it was like parting with friends of long standing. One good fellow gave, as he was about leaving, ' The good Old Ironsides - always the first to prepare for her friends, or foes; and her gentleman officers the first to treat them accordingly.' A light breeze shortly afterwards sprung up - night closed in - the wind freshened - we cracked on studdensails, both sides, alow and aloft, and the next day the high mountains of Luzon were plainly in view."

The Marion, U.S. ship, sailed from Lagos, Jan. 20 - all well. The purser died on board January 10, and was buried at Quitar.

The razee "Independence," is to be taken to the dock at the navy yard, at Charlestown, for repairs. We give this information for the benefit of our southern contemporaries, who for the past four months, have every two weeks announced that the "Independence" was fitting out, as the flag ship of com. Perry, for the Gulf squadron. That may be her destination for ought we can say. [GLP]

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NNR 70.160 May 9, 1846


The iron steamer Hunter was off Galveston bar on the 27th inst., having lost her smoke pipe and being short of provisions. She was then eleven days out from Brazos Santiago. Some of her passengers were transferred to New York.

Nothing further is known of Col. Cross. Lieut. Deas, who crossed the Rio Grande in search of his friend, has fallen into the hands of the Mexicans.

The N. Orleans Picayune says : There are various rumors in town in regard to skirmishes between the Mexican and American forces, but we have not been able to trace them to any authentic source.

The schooner L.M. Hitchcock, Capt. Wright, arrived at Galveston on the 23rd from
Brazos Santiago, having sailed on Sunday, the 19th - three days after the Col. Harney, but she brings no news of much interest.

Later - Lieut. Porter and three men killed. The steamer Telegraph, Capt. Auld, left Brazos St. Iago on the 27th and reached N. Orleans on the 29th. - By her we have the unpleasant intelligence that on the 19th instant, Lieut. Porter, of the 4th regiment, (son of the late Commodore Porter,) being out with a fatigue party of ten men, (some of them wearing uniform,) was fired upon when within a few miles of the camp. Lieut. P. and three of his men were killed in the attack, the rest of the party escaping, returning to the camp next day. It is stated that the guns of the Americans were wet and would not fire.*

The N. Orleans Tropic says - Lieut. Van Ness informs us that nothing further had been heard of Col. Cross up to the 19th, but that the general opinion is that he is still a prisoner, though not at Matamoros.

About fifty of the American army have deserted and swam the river for the Mexican camp, but a number of them were shot as deserters while in the water. The whole number of American troops is estimated at between two and three thousand, and they are said to be in excellent discipline, and eager for an engagement with the enemy. Ampudia's forces are reported at between three and four thousand. It is rumored that Arista is about to supersede Ampudia in the command.

Still later. - From the Galveston News, Extra. - We may here remark that it is understood as a fact that Ampudia is already superseded by Arista - from whom we may expect the next proclamation. This general is admitted to be an officer of character, good sense and prudence, and whatever proceeds from him will be entitled to some consideration.

In our summary of news by the steamship Telegraph we omitted to state what may be of some importance, viz: - that General Ampudia, in his answer to the inquiries of General Taylor concerning Colonel Cross, expressly disavowed any acts of hostility that might have been or might hereafter be committed by Mexicans on this side of the river, stating that all such acts were unauthorized by him or his government.

The Washington Union gives an extract of a letter from an officer of the army dated the 16th which, says: "The news from the camp is very pacific at present. The report is that the Mexicans intend to postpone their operations until the 1st of June, in order to allow the governments to arbitrate the matter, but no reliance is to be placed upon what they say."

A letter from the army, dated April 18th published at New Orleans, says: "The two opposing armies are within 500 yards of each other - both busily engaged in entrenching themselves and throwing up field works. The most perfect non-intercourse is established."

The same letter says that Lieut. Deas crossed the river to Matamoros without permission of General Taylor.

Still later. - By the brig Appalachicola, which left Point Isabel on the 24th, - we learn from New Orleans the melancholy fate of Col. CROSS, U.S. quarter master general. His body has been found about four miles from Gen. Taylor's camp. From the wounds thereon it seemed evident that he had been killed by a lance. The body was entirely stripped. It was reported that a person in Matamoros had acknowledged that he had murdered him, that he had the watch and clothing of the colonel in his possession, and that Gen. Taylor had made a formal demand for the murderer.

The Mexican schooner Juanita, from N. Orleans, for Matamoros, was taken into Brazos Bay on the 22d ult. by the pilots - no doubt by permission of the blockading force.

Later. - The schooner Cornelio arrived at New Orleans, left Brazos Santiago on the 24th. An express from General Taylor reached there just before she left, in which Gen. T. stated that the commander of the Mexican forces had made a formal declaration that if Gen. T. did not move his army from the position he then occupied, in thirty six hours, the Mexican batteries would be opened upon him. - There had previously been so many rumors to the same effect in the camp, that little reliance was placed upon this one, which was first communicated by a Mexican, who was prudently detained by order of Gen. Taylor.
The same express stated that a body of 2,000 Mexicans had crossed the Rio Grande near Boretta, a small town eight miles below Matamoros, on the west bank, between Point Isabel and Gen. Taylor's camp, cutting off communication and supplies to the latter. A private letter was also received last evening from an officer in General Taylor's camp, confirming in part the above reporting of the Mexicans having crossed the river, but stating the number at 1,000 only.

LATER STILL. - The steamer General Worth, with intelligence twelve hours later from Brazos and one day's later from General Taylor's camp, was in the river, says the Picayune of the 1st instant, eight or ten miles below the city. A bearer of dispatches from General Taylor was on board. Mr. Marks, attached to the American Consulate at Matamoros, is on board. apprehending imprisonment from the Mexicans, he had left his post and repaired to Gen. Taylor's camp.

On the 24th the Mexican schooner Juanita, was taken by the United States schooner Flirt, and sent into Brazos as a prize.

The Mexican troops above spoken of as having crossed the Rio Grande, had captured several wagons belonging to settlers, loaded with provisions for the American camp.

The American consul and merchants, resident in Matamoros, had been ordered by General Ampudia to leave for Victoria, Tamaulipas, twenty-four hours having been allowed them to adjust their affairs.

Our army is in good health and spirits, only 135 being on the sick list.

Blockade of the Rio Grande. New Orleans papers of the 29th ult., announce the arrival of the schooners Equity and Floridian, both of which had left that port a day or two before, bound to Matamoros, with assorted cargoes. They were ordered off by the U.S. brig Lawrence and schooner Flirt, of the blockading squadron.

It is stated that protests were immediately filed at New Orleans against the United States, for illegal interruption.

LATER. - Last night's Union announces the arrival of Mr. SLIDELL and Gen. WORTH at the seat of government.

*Lieut. Porter, whose death is announced above, had been but a short time married. His wife is a daughter of Major Benjamin Lloyd Beall, who is now in command of the 1st regiment of dragoons in Texas. Mrs. Beall and daughter are at Fort Washita, the late station of Major B., where they had been left by their husbands but a short time ago. [GLP]

NNR 70.164 May 16, 1846 ARMY JOURNAL

Army of Occupation - Lieut. Porter. - A letter from an Officer in Gen. Taylor's camp, dated 22nd, April says: -

"Lieut. Dobbins, 3d Infantry, and Lieut. Porter, of the 4th Infantry, son of the late Commodore Porter, left this camp on the 17th inst., each with a detachment of 2 non-commissioned officers and 10 privates to reconnoiter the surrounding country, from ten to twenty miles, in search of a band of robbers known to have been in the vicinity, and who were supposed to have murdered Col. Cross, and also to learn, if possible, something of his fate. The two parties took different directions, it raining hard during the night. The second day after, Lt. Porter met a party of Mexicans, one of whom snapped his piece at him. In return he discharged both barrels of his gun at the Mexican, who disappeared in the thorny thicket. - Lieut. Porter took the marauders' camp, ten horses, saddles, &c.

"This was about noon of the 19th, about eighteen miles above Gen. Taylor's camp, and about six miles from the Rio Del Norte. He continued his search, and about 4 p.m., of the same day, he fell in with another party of Mexicans which had been probably joined by those whom he had met before. The rain continued. Lt. Porter's party was fired on by these men, and one private of the party was killed. They made an attempt to return it; the heavy rains caused the guns to miss fire. The Mexicans continued their fire. Lieut. Porter, as is reported by his sergeant, made a sign with his hand for the men to extend to the right. The party was thus separated in the thickets. The sergeant and four privates returned to this camp on the 20th, and
"A detachment of 30 dragoons was dispatched early the next morning to reconnoiter the position and search for Lieut. Porter and those of his party who were missing. They returned the same night without having learned anything of them, the thickets being so dense that it was impossible for horses to move through them. They however fell in with Lt. Dobbins, who said he would continue to look for Lt. Porter a day or two longer. Yesterday, about noon, the corporal and three men of Lieut. Porter's party returned, saying they feared Lieut. Porter had been killed. One of the men stated that he saw Lieut. P. fall from his horse. Another said he dismounted and staggered afterwards; and that volleys were poured into the place where he was. Lieut. Porter and one man of his party are still missing, besides the man known to be killed.

"Two other companies of twenty-five men each, were despatched early this morning to make still further search."

COL. CROSS. - The body, as found, stripped of all clothing, was brought into Gen. Taylor's camp about noon, April 21 st. and was interred with military honors on the following day.


Gentlemen: I am the bearer of a communication from Gen. Taylor to Gov. Henderson, requesting to be immediately reinforced by twenty companies of foot Riflemen. My destination is Victoria, and thence to Austin. I was instructed by the General to send an express from the former place by land to your city with communications to Lieut. Kingsbury, and at the same time to spread the information through the country. But it having been left discretionary with me, and the Monmouth being available, I have determined to send the communications by her, and also to write to you, in order to facilitate as much as possible the sending on of troops. Gen. Taylor is in a very precarious situation at his camp near Matamoros, and an attack is feared on the post at Point Isabel. I believe a reinforcement of two hundred men would save that place. This is vastly important, as a larger amount of commissariat and ordnance stores are deposited there, and if that place should fall, General Taylor will be left without resources of any kind.

I was instructed by Gen. Taylor to send out from Victoria expresses in such directions as I might deem most advisable, so as to have all the men possible on their march to his relief without awaiting orders of the Governor. You will have it in your power to send to the Lower Brazos, Houston and Montgomery sooner than an express can go from Victoria. I therefore leave that to you, knowing that it will be promptly attended to. I shall send to Matagorda, Texana, Richmond and San Felipe. If you have an opportunity, please send to Washington. I shall send there from La Grange.

The place of rendezvous for the foot companies is suggested by the General at Galveston; that of the mounted men at Corpus Christi; at which place there will be provisions and forage. No party less than 400 should think of going through on the direct road to Matamoros, as there is a large force of Mexicans on the Aroyo Colorado, for the purpose of cutting off reinforcements in that direction. Small parties can cross from Corpus Christi on to Padre's Island. Arrangements are made for crossing from the lower point of the Island to Point Isabel.

If two hundred men could be raised even temporarily at Galveston, I am decidedly of the opinion it would be better to send them forthwith by the Monmouth - the security of Point Isabel is of the last importance.

From the best information we could obtain, the force of the Mexicans is set down at seven thousand certain and reports go as high as twelve thousand.

All communication is now cut off between the camp and Point Isabel, except by running the gauntlet. I came out in the night of the 26 th with a guide, and was prowling all night through chaparral, swamps and lakes.

Capt. Baker will be able to give all the particulars of what has happened, the situation of Point Isabel, &c. &c.

In haste, your obedient servant.

W.G. CATLETT.
Messrs. Williams and others.

N. B. - A propeller has left for New Orleans with a requisition upon the Governor of Louisiana for troops also. I have thought a steamer might be leaving Galveston immediately for New Orleans, and for fear the propeller should be detained, would it not be well to state the facts to the Governor, that the troops might be in readiness by the arrival of the propeller; there is no mistake as to the order; the captain will explain.

W.G.C.

[GLP]

NNR 70.161-163 May 16, 1846 editorial notice of war preparations, prompt movements in Texas, Alabama, and Louisiana

For several months past a standing enquiry in the National Register has been "Is war brewing; are we ready?" The subject was pressed in no capacious spirit or manner. Careful regard was had to avoid as far as possible party political bearing, and full latitude was at all times claimed for the Executive, forbearing to embarrass by any improper suggestions, the full influence which that department of the government is always entitled to and ought always to have the exercise of, in its management of our foreign relations. Our anxiety however has been expressed over and over, in the enquiries which have been made in almost every number of the register, whether war was not very likely to result from the course which was in progress, and if so were we prepared, as a nation ought to be prepared, for the approach of a war? Were we preparing, were any adequate measures recommended even, towards a preparation.

We repeated these enquiries for months, pointing as far as it was prudent to do so to, "the nakedness of the land" as to military preparations, incurring as we did from time to time, the imputation of "croakers" "panic makers" and similar respectful epithets from the party press, for having ventured to admonish as we endeavoured respectfully to do, and for urging that war was evidently so far possible, if not probable, that prudence required such steps to be immediately taken as prudence required such steps to be immediately taken as would avert those mortifications, humiliations and losses. To which we must inevitably be subjected if it found the nation, in its then unprepared condition.

The fact is, that we were really perplexed beyond measure to conceive what the real views of the President and his Cabinet could be, in relation to the question of peace of war. So far as we were allowed to discern, for several months after Congress met, no recommendation, looking towards a preparation for war with a formidable power, had emanated from the Executive. On the contrary, the particular department to which we cast our eyes for the very first ingredient towards a preparation for war, instead of having such an object in view; or making any demonstrations whatever towards raising ways and means to sustain the public credit and wherewith to meet war expenses, were devotedly occupied in preparing and endeavoured to secure the passage of a bill for reducing the existing duties upon imports to one third less than those of the existing tariff. The unvarying tone of the official journal in the mean time was that we might trust to the President for a peacable as well as honorable termination of our foreign difficulties.

At length inquiry was directly made from the senate at the suggestion of J. M. Clayton, whether in the opinion of the President, our foreign relations were in such attitude as to make it advisable for Congress to direct preparations for war.

The President's reply to this inquiry was such as to induce us to qualify previous expressions. We now understood the President to say that he had, through the departments, some time back, recommended to Committees of Congress certain measures looking to a preparation for war. Without deeming this to have been the straight forward, responsible and influential course which it seemed to us the occasion called for, we were yet for receiving it for its full value, and gave President Polk credit accordingly. No sooner had we done so than we found ourselves brought up on the other hand by the unexpected disavowal on the part of heads of departments and others of the responsibilities and recommendations to which it was supposed the President in his message had allusion. A strange, not to say discreditable squabble ensued as to what had and what had not been officially
recommended, as well as who it was that recommended the measure in question, looking towards adequate defence of the country, in case the war, now thought to be at least possible, should ensue.

Bewildered by all this, we deemed it due to the character of the country to let the subject drop for the time being, and it was dropped also in Congress.

The progress of circumstances quickly awakened both Congress and the country from this quiet. The question that we have so often repeated, is solved. It is now no longer "Is war brewing?"- War is here- Without authority of either the Congress of Mexico or the Congress of the U. States, on both of which the constitutions of the two countries confers the sole authority to "declare war" war as commenced, and whether it be in the Constitutional sense, a war or only hostilities provoked by executive mismanagement of either or both of the parties, all the incidents of war are brought upon the two countries, and actually exist. The people of both republics have learned, that the restrictions of the constitution to the contrary not withstanding, the Executives have it in their power to make war inevitable at pleasure. This is truly a startling development in the operation of republican system.

The act which passed both houses of Congress within a few hours after receiving the President’s message recommending them to ‘recognize’ the existing war between Mexico and the United States,” is in conformity with that recommendation. But instead of being a plain, direct unequivocal "Declaration of war," such as the Constitution seems to have contemplated in any such exigency, and which would as we think have been the most appropriate form for the consideration of congress, it is equivocal, and leaves the question as to whether we are now technically and "constitutionally" at war with Mexico, or not. This half way hobbling, this complication and involution of great national affairs, should be avoided. Distinct definite-and indisputable ground is generally the best foothold. We can distinguish no necessity for leaving our own citizens nor foreign governments are able to pronounce whether war, in its higher and legal signification, now exists between Mexico and the United States. We know that fighting, killing, taking prisoners, blockading ports, invading territory, and all the usual accompaniments of a war are now not only enacting, but on our port at least, are now legalized, and yet war is not "declared." Nay, some of the incidents to war yet want legal formalities. Whether for instance, the commander of the American squadron in the Gulf would be authorized to take Vera Cruz, if he could? Whether the Pacific squadron might take possession of Monterey.

Letters of marque are as yet certainly not authorized on our part, although there is reason to apprehend that, they have been or speedily will be authorized by the Mexicans.

Accounts from Cuba intimate that one of the objects which the Mexican Minister to England had inview in stopping at that Island, was to make disposition of letters of marque for the annoyance of our commerce. That thousands of the buccaneers and slavers that infest those seas would spring to such a harvest as our wide spread commerce would afford them, is too probable.

But dropping discussion as to the NATURE of the possession now occupied, or as to whether technically we are at war or not, we certainly, de facto are sufficiently at war to induce as to recur once more to the oft and anxiously repeated enquiry "ARE WE READY?"

The question "Is war brewing" is solved, the second enquiry "are we ready," is now at test, so far as Mexico is concerned. How long it may be before the test may be applied to a case of war with Great Britain, who will undertake to say? Their "Union" of Thursday of last week, certainly apprehend the time to be not very remote. The National Intelligencer treated the article in the Union to which we have allusion, very lightly and intimated that the editor of the Official Journal must have allowed himself to be hoaxed on that occasion; yet as we see that the Foreign Quarterly, just republished in this country, says in a postscript to an article on the Oregon question, "Every public man that we have seen or heard of, seems to think, and the whole public press concur in announcing, that the dissolution of Sir Robert Peel's ministry is inevitable. No definite reason seems to be assigned for this expected event. It is intimated that Sir Robert will remain in office until his tariff measures are carried. Why he should then resign, with a majority in his favor, no explanation is given. Upon the occasion of the retirement of the Peel cabinet not long since- a retirement which lasted but two days- there were some who held the belief that the real cause of that step was not the one publicly announced; but that PEEL withdrew in order to leave Lord John Russell and a Whig Cabinet to meet the responsibility of the Oregon question, which seemed then approaching crisis. Inasmuch as that the question is now certainly approaching a crisis, the same design, if it existed before, may be the
moving cause of the predicted resignation."

A firm persuasion that the government was not preparing with due promptitude for a contingency which to our vision seemed to be too probable, has induced us to continue unceasingly so urge the questions so important to the country. If mistaken, it were at least to mistake upon the safe side. Neglect preparation, let war overtake us, and disgrace, as well as disaster inevitably awaited us, to retrieve which how many lives and what a struggle would it not cost the country?

The measure of those disasters is not duly appreciated. That in case of a war, disasters at first were to be expected, seemed to be admitted on all hands, as a matter of course; we mean in a war with England. People had as if by common consent made up their minds to that. Alas, how few, expect those who have tasted of the bitter draft, know how to appreciate a series of national disasters, or what it costs to recover from them.

But as to being "ready" for war with Mexico, who would have dared to express a doubt.

That a very mistaken estimate prevailed of what a war with Mexico might become, and of what was required to make such a war brief, and terminate it advantageously, we have unpreservedly and repeatedly urged.

The first announcement of hostilities, comes to us with the postscript, that "the Mexicans have been sadly underrated." Ten days ago the prediction was confidently pronounced from the American camp, that "Of this you may be certain, we shall have no fighting, unless we ourselves lead off the dance."

The very next arrival brings us not only disastrous affairs of out-posts, but the startling intelligence that our army is invested by the enemy and its supplies and munitions cut off, and with only fifteen days provisions in store. It is true, assurances are given of their being able to maintain their position, provided they receive timely supplies and succor, but great apprehensions are felt for the safety of the detachment at Point Isabel, which have in charge the stores and munitions designed for the army.

"The Army of occupation" will do, we have no doubt, whatever the same number of men, with the means they have at command, could do, and whilst we regard it as quite possible that the "fortune of war" may have further reverses for them to experience, yet we have far more of faith that of despondency on the occasion. We believe that if the precaution has been taken there, as we presume it must have been to apprise. Commodore Conner of the posture of affairs, the Squadron, or a part of it, will have repaired with timely succour to the vicinity to insure the safety of the post and the stores. Although the depth of water will not allow them to approach the port, their men and arms will be efficient. It will take some time, even with the characteristic alacrity of our South western volunteers, for forces sufficient to re-open safe communication with Gen. Taylor's camp from Point Isabel, which have in charge the stores and munitions designed for the army.

The dispatches asking for additional forces left Gen. Taylors camp on the 26th. ult. He then had fifteen days provision. Half allowance might of course make them last longer, but would have an unfavorable effect upon the physical powers of the men.

We have Galveston dates to the 3d inst. The steamer Monmouth left Galveston on the 1st inst. with volunteers to join the army. They were no doubt the first to reach Point Isabel, under the requisition of General Taylor. From the old states the credit of making the first actual movement of volunteers for the rescue, we believe, is due to the spirited company which left mobile on the 4th inst. Under command of Gen DESHA, for New Orleans. Without waiting to receive a requisition from any direction they heard the bugle call and the response was instant, "We are here-READY." On the 5th inst., they reached New Orleans, one hundred strong and on the 6th inst., embarked from thence for Texas.

Louisianians were, some of them, equally prompt but the requisition upon that state was for a considerable force, and necessarily required more time to muster. The legislature instantly placed $100,000 at the disposal of the governor for the exigency.

Benjamin Story, Esq., placed $500,000 at the disposition of the state of Louisiana, immediately on learning the situation of the army on the Rio Grande.
The papers teem with evidences of public spirit on every hand. Without waiting to determine whether fault as been committed or to question, if so where the fault is chargeable, all agree that the army now exposed, must be sustained, and war, continued, must be waged with decisive-energy.

A general meeting of the citizens of New Orleans was called, and the following resolutions were adopted with the greatest unanimity. Whereas hostilities have actually commenced between the United States and Mexico; and where our army of occupation upon the frontier of Texas, pressed by embarrassments and surrounded by a superior force, calls for immediate assistance; and whereas Louisiana has ever been prompt in her action on emergencies like the present:

Resolved, That as Louisianians we will immediately respond to the call of Brigadier General Taylor, and without a moment’s delay place at his command for regiments of infantry, as required.

Resolved, That as Americans it behooves us to forget all differences of opinion, and only to remember that our country’s honor is in danger.

Resolved, That we point with pride to the action of our legislature in the present crisis, and that we will do everything in our power to sustain its appropriations and carry out its patriotic views. [JEB]

NNR 70.163 May 16, 1846 position of the Army at Matamoros, description of Point Isabel, Brazos Santiago, &c.

The camp of Gen. Taylor extends about four miles along the river bank, two miles above and two below Matamoros. It occupied his twenty-three hundred men for thirty days to construct the defences. It is made of sand, covered over with twigs, woven together like basket work, surrounded by a wide and very deep ditch.

The walls of the magazine in the interior of the fortification are formed of pork barrels, filled with sand, seven tier thick, four tier high, covered over with timber, on which sand is piled ten or twelve feet.

Twelve heavy pieces of ordnance are so placed as to command the town of Matamoros.

This camp is about 30 miles above the mouth of the Rio Del Norte. In its rear stretches the wide desert region between that river and the Nueces, 150 miles in breadth, affording no sustenance. Along nearly the whole coast between the mouths of those rivers stretches Padre island, (a barren sand ridge,) and Madre Laguna, which latter is penetrated near the southern end by a high bluff called, Point Isabel, which is Gen. Taylor’s depot of provisions, and the point from which his supplies are to be derived. It is 27 miles from his camp, through a country difficult to penetrate. A narrow channel, the outlet of Madre Laguna, opens into the Gulf opposite Point Isabel, and forms its means of communicating with the sea. But it is only of depth to admit small vessels. Some few miles outside of the Laguna, the Brassos Santiago, a small port, off of which, and between it and the mouth of the Rio Grande, our ships occasionally anchor. The U.S. schr. Flirt was endeavoring at the last accounts to get over the bar into the Brassos Santiago, in order to co-operate more effectually in the defence of the depot and position at the mouth of the river. [JEB]

NNR 70.165 May 16, 1846 report of the steamer Augusta

REPORT of the steam schooner Augusta, Gillett, ordered to proceed to New Orleans by the U.S. Quarter Master at Point Isabel, with importar despatches.

Crossed the bar at Brazos Santiago on Tuesday the 28th ult., at 6 o’clock, A.M. On Friday, 1st instant, when 60 miles west of the S.W. Pass, at 12 o’clock, M., was hailed by steamer Galveston, laid to and put Col. C. Doane, bearer of despatches, on board the Galveston. Left in port steamer Cincinnati, Smith, just arrived with baggage and arms for the U.S. Army, from Arkansas; U.S. steamers, Col. Long and
Nevan, lightening vessels in the harbor; schr. Ellen & Clara, Griffin, for N.O.; steam schr. Florida, Clift do; steam schnr. Jas. Cage, Sherman, do.; Mexican schr. Juanita lately arrived from New Orleans with stores for the Mexican army, was taken possession of by order of Gen. Taylor, and ordered to return to New Orleans without discharging her cargo; U.S. brig of war Lawrence, Commander Mercer, and U.S. schr. Flirt, Lieut. Sinclair, commanding, were blockading the mouth of the Rio Grande; schr. Bella del Mar, stranded on the bar of Brazos Santiago, was condemned and sold on the 25th ult.; U.S. steamer Monmouth was despatched, on the evening of the 27th ult., for Port Lavacca and Galveston, with a requisition from Gen. Taylor on the Governor of Texas for two regiments of cavalry and two regiments of foot-militia. [GLP] [JEB]

NNR 70.165 May 16, 1846 letter from Col. Fitzpatrick

Extract from a letter from Col. FITZPATRICK, of Florida serving as a volunteer under Col. TWIGGS, to a member of congress.

[Col. F. is a gentleman of high character, well known as an officer who served in the Florida war.]

Camp before Matamoros, April 27, 1846.

DEAR SIR: The war has commenced on the part of Mexico. On the night of the 25th instant, Capt. Thornton, of the dragoons, with a squadron consisting of his own and Capt. Hardee's company, were ordered to reconnoiter the Mexican army, which Gen. Taylor had been informed were crossing the Rio Grande twenty-seven miles above here. The squad was ambuscaded and fired on, and a number (unknown) killed, and all besides taken by the Mexicans. They sent in two wounded, with a note to Gen. Taylor. Capt. Hardee is prisoner, but no news of Capt. Thornton and Lieuts. Mason and Kane. You will believe me when I tell you the war is commenced in Mexico, and that Gen. Taylor is about to be surrounded and cut off from his supplies at Pont Isabel, which is twenty-seven miles distant. - The Mexicans have a force of from two to three thousand on this side of the river, and their destination is doubtless Point Isabel, where there is not more than four hundred men of all descriptions. You will believe me when I tell you that this army will have the d-dest hardest fighting that ever any army had in this world, and, unless reinforcements are largely and speedily sent to its assistance, it must be cut off, as the enemy are in great force, and I fear have been very much underrated. I tell you, sir, the enemy have been entirely underrated, and this army has put itself in a trap, and is cut off (or about to be so) from its supplies.

I am here with Col. Twiggs as an amateur, and I shall stick to it till I am killed or made prisoner.

Yours, truly,
R. FITZPATRICK
[GLP]

May 16, 1846 NNR 70.165 LETTER TO A MEMBER OF CONGRESS

New Orleans, May 2, 1846

DEAR SIR: The intelligence that has reached us this morning from Gen. Taylor's army has fully realized the fears of every intelligent person here of the imminent danger of our whole army in Texas. At last accounts he had but about twenty-one hundred and fifty efficient men with him opposite Matamoros, with only ten days' provisions; cut off from all communication with Point Isabel, where he has his supplies and a large portion of his artillery, munitions, &c. At Point Isabel there are not over three hundred men. Gen. T. is literally surrounded, and from all accounts there cannot be less than sixty-five hundred Mexicans in his vicinity, under arms.

There is little or no enthusiasm in Texas, and there will be difficulty and delay in getting the twenty-four hundred men in the field called for from Texas. Here there will be also yet greater difficulty, I fear. The extreme dilatoriness of government in paying off the Texas volunteers has produced a most unfortunate effect.
There seems to be little or no confidence in the administration. There is no money here. Both the quartermasters and commissary are without a cent, and large sums are now due to citizens; and yet it appears we have eleven or twelve millions in the treasury.

You need not be surprised to learn that Gen. Taylor's army is destroyed or made prisoners within ten days from this time.

Arista is in command, and he is an excellent officer, and looks forward no doubt to the presidency as his reward.

The stupidity of our government in sending General Taylor to the Rio Grande, and opposite to Matamoros, where he assumed a threatening attitude, is quite without parallel. With only twenty-one hundred and fifty men, too! What the object was I cannot imagine. An army of ten thousand men will now be necessary to maintain our position on the Rio Grande, and a probable expense of twenty millions of dollars will be incurred before this awful blunder can be remedied.

Gen. Smith (Persifer L.) has agreed to take command of the four regiments of Louisiana militia required by Gen. Taylor. Our governor could not have made a better selection.

Extract of a letter received by senator Cameron, and communicated to the Union.

Brasos Santiago, (Texas), April 27.

I embrace the opportunity of the departure of a vessel for New Orleans to announce to you that hostilities have commenced between the Mexican forces and the American army of occupation under the command of Gen. Taylor. The Mexican army is believed to be ten or twelve thousand strong. A considerable force is now crossing, or has crossed, to the left bank of the Rio Grande, with the view, it is thought, of either attacking Gen. Taylor's camp, or his depot. If they could take this place, and thereby cut off Gen. Taylor's supplies, he would be compelled to make a retrograde movement. There are only two companies of troops at this post for its defence; but there are some two hundred and fifty persons here besides the soldiers - sutlers, clerks, and persons in the employment of the quartermaster's department - all of whom are willing to defend the place; so that we can probably muster three hundred and fifty men under arms. If they do not bring too large a force against us, we will be able to hold out until succor arrives from New Orleans or elsewhere. We have entrenched ourselves. Gen. Taylor's situation meantime is rather a critical one. All his supplies are received from this post which is twenty-seven miles distant from his position, and requires a considerable force to guard each wagon train, and by that means weakening his forces, which are in the immediate vicinity of a hostile force about four times as numerous. He has to-day made requisitions upon the authorities of Texas and Louisiana, and perhaps other states, for troops; until the arrival of which he must defend himself, as well as he can. He is strongly entrenched and has several pieces of artillery, of which he expects an additional supply from Baton Rouge in two or three days. [GLP]

NRR 70.176 May 16, 1846 Volunteers and regulars arrive at Brazos Santiago on steamers, troops march for Barita.

Gents., The volunteer companies under command of Col. J.B. Walton of the Washington Regiment, on board the steamer Jas. L. Day, arrived here on Thursday morning the 14th inst., after a very pleasant passage of three days, and those by the Telegraph arrived on the 15th and went immediately into camp. Gen. Taylor left here on the morning of the 14th for his camp, with a large train of wagons, and quite a formidable train of artillery, dragoons, and infantry, amounting to some six or eight hundred. There was an arrival from the upper camp this morning, which passed him yesterday on his march; he has in all probability ere this reached his camp.

On the morning of the 15th, regulars enough to swell the amount to about one thousand embarked on board the steamers Neva, Leo, and Cincinnati, and at 1 o'clock were landed at the Brazos Santiago, and took up their line of march for the Rio Grande, all under the command of Col. Wilson; their march is for Barita, situated some fifteen miles up the river, where it is stated the Mexicans are collecting considerable forces.
The United States fleet consisting of the Mississippi, Cumberland, Raritan, Lawrence, &c which have been here for some days, have run down to the mouth of the river and come to, and with their boats will cross the troops under the command of Col. Wilson to the south bank of the river. The steamers will be on readiness at Barita to assist in the transportation of arms and ammunition.

Colonel Wilson's command have with them two days' rations, and scarce a blanket, with no tents nor my baggage train. At dark they had crossed Pococachita, and were on their march for the river, -- This morning, the 16th, the sea is very high, and the weather squally, so that the steamer Neva cannot get to the sea, and if it continues so, must create some distress in Colonel Wilson's camp for provisions and blankets.

List of Vessels at Brazos Santiago, May 16--

schr. Enterprize, Trainer, arrived 15 instant, brig [million], arrived 14th inst., beat hard on the bar, but without much damage: schr. Gertrude, Flander, arrived 16th: brig Apalachicola, arrived 16th; schr. Mary Emer, of Mobile, arrived 16th; brig Virginia, J.M. Hood master, arr. 14th inst., 7 days from Pensacola, with two companies of artillery under the command of Capts. Webster and Taylor, and sailed for New Orleans on Saturday the 16th inst.

On the 15th, the steam schooner Augusta, sailed for St. Joseph will all the wounded that were able to be transported, taken from the battle of the 8th and 9th instant. [AEK]

NRR 70.176 May 23, 1846 war clause on marine insurance

INSURANCE.- The war clause, is now a serious item with the marine insurance offices. The New York Courier states that the officers there generally, insert the following:

"War clause.- Warranted by the assured free of all loss, damage or charge arising from, during or in consequence of capture, seizure, restraint, blockade or detention resulting from war or hostilities between the United States and Mexico or pretext there of." [JEB]

NRR 70.176 May 23, 1846 orders and movement of troops for the frontier

ARMY.- Two companies of U.S. artillery stationed at Pensacola, another company at Fort Pike, and one company at Fort Wood, near New Orleans, have been ordered forthwith to the Rio Del Norte, by Gen. Gaines. They embarked from New Orleans, on the 5th inst. the New Orleans Tropic of the 6th inst. Says- "A detachment of regular troops numbering about 80 arrived yesterday from Fort Pike, and marched to their quarters at the barracks. [JEB]

NRR 70.176 May 16, 1846 Killed and wounded


Dear Sir: - I send you below a copy of the official list of the killed and wounded, of the detachment under the command of Captains Thornton and Hardee, who were cut off by a party of 2,000 of the enemy (2,000 against 75!). Some of the killed resided in Philadelphia.


Wounded.- Privates - St. Clair Shipley, slightly; John Perkins, do.; William S. Muff;

I will write again the first opportunity. You may make any use of this you think proper.

I remain, yours, &c.

[NOR 70.176 May 23, 1846 Louisiana orders for enrollment of all persons subject to military duty]

The latest intelligence we have from New Orleans states, that the governor of Louisiana, in consequence of the want of a sufficient number of volunteers, had issued orders for the enrollment forthwith, of all persons liable to military duty, as preliminary to a draft. Altogether twelve companies, including one from Attakapas, and another from East Feliciana, had been mustered into service, comprising a force of about one thousand men. [JEB]

[May 16, 1846 NOR 70.176 Steamer Mississippi ordered to Vera Cruz, St. Mary’s ordered to Brazos, New York legislature authorized governor to call 50,000 volunteers]

NAVY. The U.S. steamer Princeton, having been repaired at the Charlestown navy yard, Capt. FRENCH FORREST reached Boston on Monday, with others for her to proceed immediately for Pensacola. By 10 o’clock on Tuesday morning she was under way and went to sea in fine style, all sails filled with a fair breeze. Capt. Forrest went as passenger, under orders to relieve capt. DULANEY, in command of the frigate Cumberland, now in the gulf. The Princeton is commanded by F. ENGLE, Esq.

The Mississippi, U.S. steam frigate, Capt. Fitzhugh, was ordered to start for Vera Cruz, at 4 P.M. on the 4th inst from Pensacola.

The St. Mary’s, U.S. sloop of war, Commander Saunders, on the reception of intelligence at Pensacola, via N. Orleans, of the news from Rio Grande, was ordered to get under way immediately for Brazos St. Iago to the aid of Point Isabel.

African squadron. - The Dolphin, U.S. brig, Com. Pope, and the Marion, sloop of war, Com. Simonds, were at Monrovia April 1, the latter just from a cruise down the coast, about to sail to windward in a few days. J.C. Spencer, Jr., purser of the Marion, is deceased. On the 30th March, the Marion’s boat was capsized, while crossing the bar of the Messurado river, and Mr. Joseph T. Bartlett, of Maine, midshipman, and Mr. John Johnson, seaman, were drowned.

Lieut. W.D. Hurst, of Philadelphia, who was some months ago struck off the list of the navy, for fighting a duel with an inferior officer, has been reappointed by the president, by and with the advice and consent of the senate.

THE NEW YORK LEGISLATURE closed their session on the 13th instant. They enacted 337 laws during the 128 days it continued. The anti-rent bills were all passed except the one regulating the statutes in relation to devise and decent.

On the last day of the session a resolution passed the lower house, authorising the
governor to call out 50,000 volunteers for the use of the nation in the war with Mexico. The senate however adjourned without taking any notice of the resolution. [GLP]

NNR 70.177 May 23, 1846 proclamation of war against Mexico is copied from declaration of war with Great Britain in 1812

The president’s proclamation announcing war with Mexico, is copied nearly word for word from Mr. Madison’s proclamation of June 19, 1812, announcing the declaration of war with Great Britain, according to act of congress the day previously. The document may be found in Niles’ Register for 1812 – N.Y Jour. Of Com. [JEB]

NNR 70.177 May 23, 1846 manifesto of Mexican President ad interim Mariano Paredes y Arillaga against the United States

THE MEXICAN MANIFESTO. A manifesto of “the president ad interim” Paredes, issued on the 23d April, 1846, in relation to hostilities with the United States, has been received, and with the official documents communicated to congress by president Polk, accompanying his message of the 11th instant, comprising the correspondence of Mr Slidell with the Mexican ministers, &c. will occupy a portion of our next number.

The Washington “Union” considers the manifesto of Paredes as an official declaration of war on the part of Mexico, not withstanding one of its sentences italicized reads thus "I solemnly announce that I do NOT declare war against the United States of America because it pertains to the august congress of that nation and not to the executive to settle definitely the reparations which so many aggressions demand." [JEB]

NNR 70.177 May 23, 1846 Creek Indians volunteer for service in Mexico

Amongst the thousand and one rumors that now fill the journals, we find the Pennsylvanian saying, as from good authority, “that one of the chiefs of the Creek nation, now in Washington, has offered to the President the services of two thousand picked warriors, should they be required in the conflict with Mexico:” and the editor (that paper is published in the city of brotherly love) coolly adds:=“This is a most praiseworthy movement, and we have no doubt will be made use of effectively, if occasion requires.” [JEB]

May 23, 1846 NNR 70.177 NAVAL JOURNAL, revenue cutters ordered to Gulf

Navy post office. Under the instructions given by the house of representatives to one of its committees, a bill has been reported providing for the transfer of the revenue and post office branches of the navy to the navy department. We have now three descriptions of navies: one, the navy proper, under the orders of the navy department; one, the revenue marine navy, under the treasury department; the other, the post office navy, under the orders of the post office department. The house has wisely determined to place the whole under the direction of the navy department.

The Congress frigate captain Stockton, spoken 30th January in latitude 48 34’, lon. 166 52’ W. all well; from Rio Janeiro for the Pacific.

The Dale, U.S. sloop of war, was taken into dry dock last week, and will be immediately repaired and equipped for service.

The Revenue cutters, that can be spared from their respective stations have been ordered to the Gulf of Mexico.

The Spanish squadron now in the Gulf of Mexico, is said to consist of one ship of the line, one frigate, one sloop of war, three steam ships, five brigs of war, and several
schooners and transports.

The Gulf squadron. The frigate *Raritan* reached the squadron of Vera Cruz on the 18th ult. And commodore Conner transferred his flag to her. He sailed from Vera Cruz on the 23d, on a cruise off the coast, accompanied by the *Cumberland*, *Potomac*, and *Falmouth*. The fleet had previously gone out to sea for a day or two, to give the men the benefit of fresh air, &c. The sloop of war *John Adams* was the only vessel of war lying at Sacrificios.

The *Portsmouth* and *Shark*, left Mazathan, for sea on the 1st April.

It is stated that not a case of yellow fever has yet occurred in the squadron - general health good.

The U.S. brig *Perry*, commander Blake sailed from Norfolk on the 16th for Chagres.

Midshipman McRae, goes out in the *Perry*, has bearer of despatches, to the Pacific squadron. He is to await the return mail at Chagres, and there report to commodore Conner.

The *Independence*, at Charleston navy yard, has as many men as can conveniently work upon her, now busily employed in repairing her.

The *Decatur*, sloop of war is now fitting for service at Norfolk.

The *Brandywine* frigate has also a few additional hands employed in fitting her for service at the navy yard.

The *Truxton*, U.S. brig, is also ordered to be fitted forthwith. Commander Carpenter takes charge of her.

Recruits for the service are sought for at the rendezvous. [GLP]

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PRIVATEERING. The Washington Union says – Apprehensions have been expressed that Mexico may issue letters of Marque to Spanish subjects in Cuba, to cruise against the commerce of the United States, and that privateers may be fitted out in the ports of that island for this nefarious purpose. Indeed, it has been suggested that the two Mexican steamers which have been recently transferred to the Havanna have been sent there with this object. We know that the government of Spain would not sanction such a proceeding; but it is not generally known that a Spanish subject could not accept a commission for this purpose from the Mexican government without being guilty of piracy. For public information we copy the 14th article of our treaty with Spain of the 20th October, 1795, which article is now in force: "ARTICLE 14. No subject of his Catholic majesty shall apply for, or take, any commission or letters of marque, for arming any ship or ships to act as privateers against the said United States, or against the citizens, people, or inhabitants of the said United States, or against the property of any of the inhabitants of any of them, from any prince or state with which the said United States shall be at war. Nor shall any citizen, subject, or inhabitant of the said U. States apply for or take, any commission or letters of marque for arming any ship or ships to act as privateers against the subjects of his Catholic majesty, or the property of any of them, from any prince or state with which the shall be at war. And if any person of either nation shall take such commissions or letters of marque he shall be punished as a pirate" That is he shall be “hung by the neck until he is dead.” [JEB]

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THE CAMPAIGN.- The President and his Cabinet without doubt, have determined immediately to concentrate such a force upon the Mexican frontier, as they deem adequate for an effectual invasion of the enemies territory, provided the war is not
terminated before the forces shall reach their destination. In addition to the regular forces comprising the “Army of Occupation,” under General Taylor, at least thirty thousand of the volunteers authorized by the recent act of congress will be forthwith ordered to the Rio Grande. It is understood that these will be detailed from the States nearest to the scene of action.

The President has called upon the Governor of Maryland to furnish two thousand men, as the contribution of this State. Governor Pratt received the requisition on the 20th Inst.

The thirty thousand volunteers alluded to, we presume, will be exclusive of the troops now concentrating from Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Texas, &c. under requisitions from Generals TAYLOR and GAINES, and which were authorized by laws in existence prior to the volunteer act, alluded to.

It is to be feared that government will find difficulty in adjusting the several descriptions of forces thus organizing or contemplated. The volunteers that are now embarking under the call from Gen. Taylor, certainly calculate on a tour not extended beyond the emergency. It was for the immediate safety of Point Isabel and to secure the supplies and succor to General Taylor, opposite to Matamoros- and not with a view of being detained to invade Mexico, that the Louisiana Legion for instance have so suddenly left their families and occupations.

Next we shall have nearly ten thousand men under the requisition made upon the southwestern states by General Gaines. The term for which these can be held in service under the law which authorized his call, is limited if we mistake not, to three months- a term too short to accomplish much beyond the limits of the Union.

And next comes the requisition for “volunteers,” under the provisions of the act passed by congress last week. These will be required to serve for not less than six months, and may therefore be available for a foreign campaign, if it be brief.

One difficulty in these ramifications will be, that in consequence of these requisitions from Gens. Taylor and Gaines upon the southwestern states, the VOLUNTEERS required for the last mentioned corps may not so easily be found there.

To muster, officer, organize, arm, and discipline twenty-five thousand volunteers and move them, accompanied with sufficient supplies and munitions to the borders ready to commence an effective invasion of Mexico, will occupy at least three months. Precipitance would be disastrous. Let whatever is done, be well done. [JEB]

NRR 70.178 May 23, 1846 discussion of command of the Army

THE COMMAND OF THE ARMY.- Thus concentrating is to be entrusted to Major General Scott, who next to the President, is Commander in Chief of the United States army, and whose services are now required in the field. His experience as a Commander will be of value. His cool judgment may be equally important. It is probable that he will not assume the immediate command until the “Army of Invasion” shall have concentrated on the frontier. A paragraph is circulating in the papers of the day which asserts that General Scott denies having been consulted or advising the movement of the army beyond the Nueses.

A war having commenced, the country will of course look with scrutinizing interest into the manner in which it is conducted. The general project of the campaign, will no doubt be a matter of consultation with the Cabinet, the Commander in Chief, and the superior officers that are at the Seat of Government. Amongst the latter it happens fortunately for the occasion, that government may avail the practical advice of,

Brigadier General Wool, who, on his way from the North, for Texas, is now at the city of Washington; and likewise of

Gen. Worth, who had forwarded on his resignation in consequence of the orders of the department disparaging, as he thought, his brevet rank. He reached the seat of government from Rio Grande before the arrival of his resignation, and immediately tendered his services to government in whatever capacity they might be deemed most useful. The President decided not to accept his resignation, and he left Washington on the 9th instant to join the army again. Not only the Army,-his
countrymen will approve of both his patriotism and spirit. Of General Worth, an officer under General Taylor writes—"The high reputation of this officer, and his unquestionable military genius, had secured the confidence of every officer; while his personal gallantry, equally well known, won for him the love and admiration of every soldier in the command. At the passage of the Colorado he was second in command, and at the word "forward" he and his staff, Leedes, Magruder, Deas, and Blake, plunged into the flood and led the advance, (then considered "a forlorn hope") amidst the cheers of the troops drawn up on the banks of the river, and landed within twenty yards of the Mexicans who skirted the opposite side. The enemy become panic struck and fled precipitately."

General Taylor, in command of the "Army of occupation," "was born in Virginia and raised in the neighborhood of Louisville, Ky. He entered the army as a lieutenant, in 1808; was a captain, and greatly distinguished himself in the defence of Fort Harrison in the war of 1812, which post he commanded when it was attacked by a greatly superior force of British and Indians. For his gallant conduct on the occasion he was made a brevet major, being the first brevet that was conferred in that war. General Taylor was in Florida during a part of the late Seminole war, and commanded in person at the battle of Occochubbe, on the 25th December 1837. His gallantry and skill on that occasion won for him the rank of brevet brigadier general. [JEB]

NNR 70.178 May 23, 1846 comments on the abilities of the Mexican general Mariano Arista

THE MEXICAN COMMANDER ARISTA, beyond a doubt, is an able officer. He has exhibited both gallantry and tact. His not making a dash upon Point Isabel, before Gen. Taylor arrived there, convinces us that he is not in as much force on this side of the Rio Grande as was apprehended, else he would have attempted to make so important a prize. If he had an adequate force, his failure to do so showed want of generalship.

General Taylor's movement to that point, confirmed the estimate in which he is held as an able officer. [JEB]

NNR 70.178 May 23, 1846 description of Matamoros and its vicinity

Matamoros, is an old Spanish city, beautifully situated on the southern bank of the Rio Grande, within its folds, so that its front and rear are both on the river.—Seen from the American side, it has every appearance of being an American town. The streets intersect each other at right angles, and appear to be lined with many varieties of shade trees, which give the town an air of coolness and render its appearance very inviting. Many of the buildings are built of brick, and in the modern style of architecture. The cathedral, market and buildings occupied by the military, are among the finest.—The dwellings of the poorer classes are constructed with canes, brush, mud, and the like materials, and are essentially Mexican. The town has about 7,000 inhabitants, but formerly contained double its present number, and was a place of some importance. The rapid decline is owing to their internal commotions and the growing indolence of the people. The citizens are all under the rule of the military, and are obliged to provide for them. The military is supreme, and the orders of their general are law.

The vicinity of Matamoros is peopled on both sides of the Rio del Norte by Mexicans, who, so far from ever having admitted themselves to be Texans, have been actively contributing to carry on the war between Mexico and the Texans ever since its commencement. They are strewed over the region about as thickly as in many of the interior countries of our states, and a levy en masse, would produce several thousand men in arms, fully equivalent to our militia. Even if a love of Mexico, or apprehensions for their own families or property, failed to inspire them, there is no doubt that a prospect of plunder and of éclat, if once inspired with the idea of taking an American army or their munitions and provisions, would rally some thousands of them in an instant. [JEB]
April 28th. Capt. WALKER, commander of a partizan corps of Texan Rangers, this evening reached Point Isabel, having suffered severely, and as he supposed having lost nearly all of his detachment in an affair with a large body of Mexicans, which he encountered whilst reconnoitering between Point Isabel and Gen. Taylor's camp, opposite to Matamoros. The captain, however, whom we are proud to learn, is, as well as the lamented Col. CROSS, a native of Prince George's county, Maryland, - true sons of "The old Maryland Line," distinguished in the annals of the revolution, by a fame that never faltered from the first encounter in the memorable battle of Long Island, to the close of the eventful struggle for independence; - Capt. Walker, we were about to say, so far from being deterred by the disaster he had met with, instantly volunteered, if any four men would join him, to proceed to Gen. Taylor's camp at the risk of his life, acquaint him with the situation of affairs at Point Isabel, and bring back any orders he might entrust him with.

As the impression was, that some thousand Mexican troops lay in the route, the proposition was considered almost fool-hardy. Six brave fellows however accepted his challenge, and the party started accordingly.

The papers received furnish no reliable account of his excursion. One statement says that two of the party were killed by the Mexicans. The captain's horse was killed, without doubt, as we see by the New Orleans papers of the 12th, that the spirited citizens of that city had determined to send the captain a splendid charger to replace his own. He, however, reached the camp, and was the first to acquaint Gen. Taylor with the situation of affairs at Point Isabel.

Gen. Taylor had now nearly completed the defences constructed opposite Matamoros. The citadel of the position, an irregular hexagon, with bastioned fronts, and a capacity to receive 1,200 men, though it may be defended by 500, he considered sufficient to sustain a regular assault for at least ten days, from disciplined troops and scientific approach from trenches. The present Mexican forces would scarcely attempt to carry it by storm.

The general's next object, of course, was to secure a supply of provisions and ammunition, then growing very short in his camp, in consequence of the interruption of communication with Point Isabel, where they had been landed and remained in store. On learning from Capt. Walker the state of affairs upon the route, he promptly decided to secure the depot, and re-open communications.

Entrusting the works opposite to Matamoros to the command of Major BROWN, and leaving with him the 7th regiment of infantry and two companies of artillery, under command of Capt. LOWD and Lieut. BRAGGS, with about 500 men, Gen. Taylor with the rest of the army under his command, on May 1st, took up his line of march for Point Isabel, expecting in all probability to meet with about an equal number of the Mexicans in some of the innumerable defiles upon the route. Not a Mexican was to be seen however.

May 2d. Gen. Taylor encamped at Point Isabel.

May 3d. The Mexican commander having ascertained the absence of most of the American forces from before Matamoros, at 5 o'clock this morning opened a cannonade from their fort with seven guns. The fire was promptly responded to from the American battery. In thirty minutes the Mexican fort was silenced, two of their guns supposed to have been dismounted.

A fire then commenced from the Mexican lower fort, and a mortar battery, which was kept up without intermission until half past seven o'clock.

The fire from these was deliberately returned by the Americans, and as a part of Matamoros was within the range, some of the houses necessarily suffered. The inhabitants had no doubt withdrawn from that direction before they commenced the fire from their forts.

This cannonade from these positions was continued occasionally until 10 o'clock, when it was suspended for a time but was resumed occasionally until midnight. The Mexicans exhausted some twelve or fifteen hundred shot, but with very little effect. One sergeant, - we think he was of company B, 3d regiment, and not of company A, 7th regiment, as in the following extract, from the statements before us, was the only American killed, no one wounded, - and though the enemy’s fire was for a long time concentrated upon our 18 pounder battery, and the shot frequently struck the
embrasures, no gun was injured.

No information as to the extent of casualties sustained by the enemy, had been received.

A letter from an officer says: "The Mexicans fired the first shot at reveille, and the way 4, 6, 9, and 12 (I think) pound shot flew about these parts was a sin, and their mortars throwing shells kept the atmosphere in continued confusion with their "whiz! whiz! bang!" all the to."

It would have warmed the wax in your ears to have heard our 18-pounders "giving out the cry." One shot struck in the embrasure of the enemy’s works, and knocked cannon, carriage, embrasure, and men "into fits." We have no mortars. * * *

"Up to the present speaking, the enemy have thrown between 1,200 and 1,300 shot, solid and hollow, while we have fired 357. On our side, one sergeant - of company A, 7th regiment - has been killed, and one man slightly wounded in the arm. This is all the damage to us; the extent of the damage to the enemy is not known, but must be considerable. It is almost incredible to suppose we should receive so little injury from so many shot."

General Taylor was, of course, anxious to learn the results of all this cannonading, which was distinctly heard at Point Isabel.

May 4th, 4 o'clock, P.M. - Capt. May, with a squadron of dragoons returned to Point Isabel, from a scout. He reports a heavy force encamped on the road 12 miles below Matamoros, whose camp he passed around. Capt. Walker left May with seven of his Texas Rangers, and entered to communicate with the fort last night. May waited till day break for him, but Walker, not returning, he came back to camp. May and his command were taken for Mexicans, and an alarm given. In twenty minutes the general with his whole force was in full march to the battle.

May 5th. - Walker not returned. Two Mexican scouts came in and said they found the chaparel lined with sentinels everywhere. Firing still heard at the fort this morning.

Dispositions were made by General Taylor to commence his return march on the 6th inst., with an ample train of baggage wagons, loaded with wares for the army. Whether the Mexican commander had concentrated his forces so as to assail the camp opposite Matamoros in rear as well as in front, during the absence of the army - whether the works were found capable of sustaining the assault that had been made - or whether the great body of the Mexicans would take advantage of the defiles and chaparels upon the route he was about himself to enter with so cumbrous a train of baggage, was matter of total uncertainty.

May 6th. - Walker arrives with despatches from Maj. Brown’s camp, and reports the particulars we have detailed above. The Major was reserving his ammunition. All safe there. Walker thought that an assault was about to be made about an hour after daylight.

The assurances so received, determined Gen. Taylor to postpone his departure in hopes that additional forces would arrive within a short time at Point Isabel, for the better security of that important station, as well as to augment the effective force with which he would soon be ready to encounter the enemy. He had, it is true, as yet no intelligence of the result of the requisitions which he called for on the 26th ult., but reasonable time had nearly elapsed for him now to expect to hear from his countrymen.

According to a statement which we find published in the N. Orleans Bulletin of the 13th, over the signature of "Wm. H. Chase, major of engineers," that officer calculates that the two companies of regulars and the company of volunteers from Mobile, (which left N. Orleans on the 6th,) will reach Point Isabel, per Augusta, on the 10th. The detachment of regulars from Pensacola on the 11th - the 1st battalion of Louisiana volunteers, per the Galveston, and some Texan riflemen from San Antonio, Austin, Houston, &c., per the Telegraph, on the 13th. The Major goes on to calculate that by the 20th inst., Gen. Taylor will have 10,000 men under his command, and that by one or two redoubts thrown up on the line between Matamoros and Point Isabel, communication may be maintained. [GLP]
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**EXAGGERATIONS, & c.**

We have found it no trifle of a task to sift the above facts from such a heterogenous mass of exaggerations and preposterous stories as filled the daily papers and "EXTRAS," issued in all directions, many of them made up for speculation and utterly regardless of anything but to make a market of public credulity. As for instance, we have had Matamoros reduced to ashes, and 700 Mexicans killed. Major Ringgold gloriously distinguished himself in command of the American camp opposite to Matamoros when in fact he was with Gen. Taylor at Point Isabel- and hundreds of similar tales. Such wholesale and indeed often unfeeling impositions should be visited upon their authors by public indignation. Every hour is now replete with incidents that require truths to be steadily assorted. Let no sudden impulses from false premises influence our communities.

An article in the *Washington Union*, of the 19th compiled they say from official intelligence received at the department, dated 3d and 5th instant, received after we had placed the above in type, confirms their accuracy in every particular. The Union says: "The affair with Capt. Walker’s Texan Rangers, as was presented by rumor, was much exaggerated. In the temporary absence of that gallant and enterprising officer his company lost, by surprise, but a handful of men-8 or 10.”

"In the cannonade Major Brown, Captain Mansfield of the engineers, Captain Lowd, and the garrison were all much distinguished. Gen. Taylor always writes coolly. His march, when he expected to meet 3,000 Mexican horse, was a gallant enterprise. The Mexicans have not probably had a good and bad, 4,000 troops on the Rio Grande.” [JEB]

**LETTER FROM GEN. TAYLOR.**- The New Orleans Tropic of the 4th gives the following extract of a letter from Gen. Taylor: "Strong guards of foot and mounted men are established on the margin of the river, and thus efficient means have been adopted on our part to prevent all intercourse. While the opposite to us their pickets extend above and below for several miles, we are equally active in keeping up a strong and vigilant guard to prevent surprise, or attacks under disadvantageous circumstances. This is the more necessary, whilst we have to act on the defensive, and they are at liberty to take the opposite course whenever they think proper to do so. Nor have we been idle in other respects; we have a field work underway, besides having erected a strong battery and a number of buildings for the security of our supplies, in addition to some respectable works for their protection. We have mounted a respectable battery, four pieces of which are long eighteen pounders, with which we
could batter or burn down the city of Matamoros, should it become necessary to do so. When our field work is completed (which will soon be the case) and mounted with its proper armament, five hundred men could hold it against as many thousand Mexicans. During the twenty-seven days since our arrival here, a most singular state of things has prevailed all through the outlines of the two armies, which to a certain extent, have all the feelings as if there were actual War. "Fronting each other for an extent of more that two miles and within musket range, are batteries shotted, and the officers and men in many instances waiting impatiently for orders to apply the matches; yet nothing has been done to provoke the firing of a gun or any act of violence."

"Matamoros, at the distance we are now from it, appears to cover a large extent of ground, with some handsome buildings, but I would imagine the greater portion of them to be indifferent one story houses, with roofs of straw and walls of mud, or unburnt brick. During peace the population is said to be five of six thousand, but it is now filled to overflowing with troops. Report says from give to ten thousand of all sorts, regular and militia. The number I presume is very much overrated.

"P.S.-Since writing the above, an engagement has taken place between a detachment of our cavalry and the Mexicans, in which we were worsted. So the war has actually commenced and the hardest must fend off." [JEB]

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NNR 70.179 May 16, 1846 EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER OPPOSITE MATAMOROS TO A FRIEND, DEFENSES AT POINT ISABEL

Fort opposite Matamoros, May 4th, 1846.

I have only time to write a few lines by the express which goes out to Point Isabel this evening. - Whether he succeeds in getting there or not is doubtful as the Mexican army, about 4 or 5,000, are encamped about seven or eight miles from here. I suppose you have seen by the papers that the war has commenced and we are expecting re-enforcements of troops from New Orleans, &c. On the 1st May Gen. Taylor left here for Point Isabel with the greater part of his army, and my regiment (the 7th infantry) with two companies of artillery, &c.; about 600 men were left to garrison the fort, then nearly finished. Yesterday morning the Mexicans opened their batteries from the town, which was returned from our 18 pounders and a brisk fire was kept up for an hour or more, during which time one of their batteries was silenced by our guns and a number of shots fired on the town. My station being in one of the batteries opposite the fort I could sometimes hear the shot crashing through the houses. Our guns stopped firing about 10 or 11 o'clock, as we were only wasting our ammunition and did but little injury except to the town. They kept on firing through the day and part of the night to-day; they however do us but little injury as they have killed but one man of our garrison. They have a mortar, and annoy us considerably with their shells - no one can tell where the confounded things are going to fall - several have fallen in the fort and exploded, but did no serious injury. We are hourly expecting an attack from their forces, and are prepared to make a vigorous defence. I will write you again by the first opportunity. * * * * *

Yours, &c.

P.S. - The Mexicans will probably attack Gen. Taylor on his return from Point Isabel with supplies, and if they do, I have no doubt the general will give the Yellow Skins a sound drubbing. [GLP]

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NNR 70.180 May 23, 1846 SURPRISE AND SURRENDER OF CAPTAIN THORNTON'S COMMAND.

In our last number amongst the list of killed and wounded in the affair of Captain Thornton's detachment with the Mexicans, two distinguished names were included as killed, that we are delighted to find still amongst the living. Captains THORNTON and HARDEE and Lieut. KANE, all of the 2d dragoons, have reported themselves to Gen. Taylor, by letter, as prisoners to the Mexicans, by whom they are kindly treated. They are in good health. We subjoin an account of the affray in which they were overpowered.
On the evening of the 23d ult., General Taylor’s spies brought in intelligence to the effect that about two thousand five hundred Mexicans had crossed the Rio Grande to the Texas side above the American Fort and that about fifteen hundred of the same had crossed below. Gen. T. immediately despatched a squadron of dragoons to each place of crossing for the purpose of reconnoitering them and ascertaining their position. The squadron ordered below was in command of Captain Ker; the one above was commanded by Captain Thornton and composed of Captain Hardee, Lieut’s. Kane and Mason, with sixty-one privates and non-commissioned officers.

The former commander, Capt. Ker, on arriving at the point where it was supposed they had crossed found that the report was false, that they had not crossed there but had all crossed above, which was afterwards proved by Capt. T.’s command being surprised, in which Lieut. Geo. Mason with nine men were killed and two wounded. The wounded were sent to Gen. Taylor's camp; the army having no hospital in the field. Capt.’s Thornton, Hardee, and Lieut. Kane miraculously escaped together with the balance of the non-commissioned officers and men, but were captured and are now prisoners of war in Mexico.

The circumstances which led to the surprise are these: After Capt. T.’s command had proceeded up the Rio Grande about twenty-four miles, and as was supposed, to within about three miles of the Mexican camp, the guide refused to go any further, and stated for his reason that the whole country was infested with Mexicans. Capt. T. however, proceeded on with his command about two miles when he came to a farm house, which was enclosed entirely by a chapparal fence, with the exception of that portion of it which bordered on the river, and this was so boggy as to be impassable.

Capt. T. entered this enclosure through a pair of bars and approached the house for the purpose of making some inquiry, his command following him. So soon as his command had all entered the enclosure, the enemy having been concealed in the chapparal, about two thousand five hundred in number, completely surrounded him and commenced firing upon his command. He then wheeled his command thinking that he could charge through the enemy and pass out where he had entered, not however without a considerable loss. This he attempted but did not succeed, the enemy being too strong.

At this instant, Capt. Hardee approached him for the purpose of advising him how to extricate themselves. The firing of the enemy still continuing, Capt. Thornton’s horse having doubtless received a shot, ran away with him and leaped the chapparal fence and plunged into a precipice, where he fell, with Capt. T. under him, where the latter remained insensible for five or six hours. This casualty placed Capt. Hardee in command, who attempted with the residue to make his escape by the river, intending on arriving at its margin to swim it. In this he failed, finding it so boggy that he could not get to it. He then returned, taking the precaution to get out of distance of musketry, dismounted and examined the arms of his men, determining to sell their lives as dearly as possible.

Before he had succeeded, however in the inspection of his arms, a Mexican officer rode up and asked him to surrender. Capt. H. replied that he would surrender on one condition, which was, that if the Mexican general would receive them as prisoners of war, and treat them as the most civilized nations do, he would surrender, but on no other conditions. - The Mexican officer bore this message to the general commanding, and returned with the assurance that he would. Captain H. then surrendered. Captains Thornton and Hardee, with Lieut. Kane and the residue of the non-commissioned officers and privates of Capt. T.’s command are now prisoners of war in Mexico. The enemy treat them remarkably well.

Lieut. Geo. Mason was a fine young officer, and his death is much regretted. His sabre belt was recognized among some articles that were subsequently captured from the enemy. [GLP]

Capt. Walker’s detachment and its engagement with the Mexicans

CAPT. WALKER’S DETACHMENT.- The N. Orleans Picayune, of the 9th May, furnishes the following account brought by the Ellen and Clara, Capt. Griffin, which sailed from Point Isabel on the 29th ult.-“We learn from Capt. Griffin, and Dr. N. Briggs, a passenger, who has been several months with the army, that Capt. Walker, formerly of the Texan revenue service, who has been stationed between Point Isabel and Gen. Taylor’s camp, with a body of twenty four volunteer Texan
Rangers, found several of the teams which had started from the point for the camp were returning, and reported that the Mexicans were on the road. He started from his camp on the 28th with his whole force to reconnoiter, and, if possible, open a communication with Gen. Taylor. He had proceeded as far as about midway between Point Isabel and the camp, when an overwhelming Mexican force appeared very suddenly. A portion of his troops were raw; the he instructed to keep on his right, and gave orders to the whole to retire under cover of a chaparelle in view."

But his raw troops, panic stricken, scattered in confusion, and the Mexicans advancing in overwhelming numbers, he was compelled to retreat.-He was followed by the Mexicans within a mile of Point Isabel, where he arrived with only two of his men. Six others subsequently came in.

Captain Walker estimated the number of Mexicans he encountered at 1500, and he supposes that at least 30 of them fell, during the fifteen minutes he engaged them. This force is supposed to be a portion of that which had the last accounts crossed the Rio Grande some 20 or 25 miles above Matamoros, and which is estimated at 3000 men. It is believed that they had arrived at the position they occupied by taking a circuitous rout on the eastern side of Gen. Taylor’s camp.

No communications had been had with General Taylor at Point Isabel, for three days previous to the departure of the Ellen and Clara. At the last accounts it was reported that he had but ten days’ provisions. Captain Walker, immediately after his arrival, gallantly tendered his services to Major Monroe, the commander at Point Isabel, if four men would accompany him, to make his way to General Taylor with despatches, or die in the attempt. His offer was accepted, and accordingly he started at daylight on the morning of the 29th. During the nights of the 27th and 28th the troops at Point Isabel were in constant expectation of being attacked, and dispositions were made accordingly.-The masters and crews of vessels in the harbor were called on, on the 28th, and spent the night under arms. On that night, 500 men were furnished with arms, of which about 50 were seamen.

The works were as perfect as it was possible to make them under the circumstances, and it was generally believed that should but fifteen hundred Mexicans attack the place, they could be at least, held at bay until reinforcements arrived. Messrs. Monroe and Saunders, it is started, deserve great praise for the manner in which they have fortified Point Isabel.

Capt. Griffin and Dr. Briggs informs us that the officers of the army speak of the Mexicans as being in a very high state of discipline- the cavalry particularly. Besides the three thousand who have crossed the Rio Grande, it is intimated that there are about five thousand at Matamoros, and it is supposed that the Mexicans general has not yet displayed his full strength, but has kept a large reserve back of Matamoros.

It is believed that the Mexicans have possession of an island at the mouth of the Brazos, which commands the entrance. If so, it is apprehended that the troops by the New York will not be able to get in. The island is laid down on some of the maps as “Brassos Village” It is a natural fortification.

A small schooner, the Aurora, sailed from Point Isabel on the 28th for this port, with dispatches=The weather has been very severe on the coast, and it is to be feared that she has been driven ashore.

The extras from the offices of the Times, Tropie, and Picayune all concur in stating the number of men with Capt. Walker, when he encountered the Mexican force, at 75. The Picayune says:"The Mexicans pursued Capt. Walker in his retreat till they came within range of the guns of the post, when they in turn immediately retreated. There are now about 3000 Mexican on the American side of the Rio Grande-one half above and one half below Gen. Taylor’s camp. [JEB]"
Headquarters, Army of Occupation,
Camp near Matamoros, April 25, 1846.

The commanding general has the painful duty of announcing to the army that the
doubt which has so long prevailed in regard to the fate of the late Col. CROSS, has
at length, been resolved into the melancholy certainty of his death, and, there is too
much reason to fear, by violent hands.

The high rank of the deceased, and the ability and energy which he carried into the
discharge of the important duties of his office, will cause his loss to be seriously felt
in the service, while the untoward circumstances of his demise will render it
particularly afflicting to his family and personal friends.

The remains of the late colonel will be interred, with military honors, at 4 o'clock P.
M. to-morrow. The funeral escort will be composed of a squadron of dragoons and
eight companies of infantry; the latter to be taken from the 2d brigade, and the
whole to be organized and commanded by Colonel Twiggs.

The necessary arrangements for the funeral ceremony will be made by Lieut. Col.
Payne, inspector general.

All officers off duty are respectfully invited to attend the funeral. By order of

BRIG. GEN. TAYLOR.  
[GLP]

NNR 70.180 May 23, 1846 GILBERT DUDLEY’S CAPTURE OF TWO MEXICANS

GILBERT DUDLEY, a youth of 19, attached to the army under Gen. Taylor according
to a letter from an officer, published in the Newark Adviser, must be a brave fellow.
The letter says:

"Returning two days ago from one of our most advanced pickets, whither he had
sent to convey orders, he came unexpectedly upon two Mexican soldiers, who had,
apparently, just rowed across the river, and were refreshing themselves in a cool
shade, having placed their muskets in thoughtless security against a neighboring
tree. Gilbert was equal to the emergency; he sprang to the muskets, threw one upon
the ground, and stepped upon it, while with the other he menaced the lives of his
opponents. And thus marched them into camp. [ GLP]

NNR 70.181 May 23, 1846 official orders as to organizing the volunteers in US service

ORGANIZATION OF VOLUNTEER CORPS FOR THE UNITED STATES SERVICE- War
Department, May 19, 1846

Sir:—In reply to the inquiries contained in the letter of Major General Steuart, and in
other communications, submitted by you to this Department, I have the honor to
inform you that the rule adopted, is to call for the volunteers that are required from
any particular State, through the Governor. This is an act of respect to the Executive
of the State, due as well to his position, as to his generally superior knowledge of
the character and efficiency of the volunteers throughout the State, the sections
from which it is most advisable to take them, and which of them can, with the
greatest facility and least expense be embodied for the service for which they may
be required. Circumstances, may, however, occur to render it expedient to accept
offers of service direct without the intervention of the Governor, when an application
to him might cause delay. Applications of companies, regiments, &c. To enter the
service may therefore be made direct to this Department.

The law, a copy of which is enclosed, provides that the officers of the volunteers
shall be appointed by the proper State authority, in the manner prescribed by the
State laws; and the accompanying memorandum shows the number of officers, non-
commissioned officers and privates, and the organization of companies and

The law also requires that the volunteers furnish their own clothing, and if cavalry,
their own horses and horse equipage. Such as are already uniformed need not change such as are not, and contemplate uniforming, are at liberty to adopt such as they think proper but it is advisable that all who may be called into the service adopt their dress as nearly as circumstances will permit, to the nature of the service that may be required of them, and to the character of the country and climate where they may have to serve. Those that shall be accepted will be armed and equipped at the expense of the United States, and will be inspected and mustered into the service by an officer of the army, or by one appointed by the Governor, at such times and places, as will be specified when their services are called for. Very respectfully, your ob't serv't

Hon. Wm. F. Giles W.L. Marcy
House of Rep. Secretary of War

[JE]

NNR 70.182 May 23, 1846 Gen. Edmund Pendleton Gaines' requisition on Louisiana for troops, the prompt response

Head Quarters, Western Division,
New Orleans, May 2, 1846.

Sir:-By a letter which I have this morning received from Brig. Gen. Taylor, announcing the commencement of hostilities on the part of the Mexican forces near Matamoros, I learn that in addition to the several corps of mounted and other Riflemen which he expects soon to join him from Texas, he has requested of your Excellency four Regiments of Infantry, to embark as soon as practicable for Point Isabel.

I avail myself of the earliest occasion to say that Col. Hunt, Dep Quarter Master General and other officers of the General Staff, on duty at this city, are instructed to furnish promptly every supply that may be required for health and comfort of the four regiments desired from the State of Louisiana. They shall receive their arms and fixed ammunition within the next twenty-four hours, when the requisite steam transportation will be ready.

Gen Taylor and his army will be much gratified to find amongst the corps now requested, officers and men such as they had the satisfaction to find in the excellent battalion lately commanded by Major Gally. I am with perfect respect

Your ob't serv't
EDMUND P. GAINES
Major General U.S. Army

To his excellency Governor Johnson.

P.S. I look for a battalion of regular troops from Jefferson Barracks, in a day or two: I wish to send to Point Isabel, the Regulars with the Volunteers

BY THE GOVERNOR:-Head Quarters, Louisiana Militia- General Orders No. One.

Gen. Taylor, commanding the U.S. Army of Occupation on the frontier of Mexico, has announced to the Commander-in-Chief that hostilities have commenced between his forces and those of the Mexicans; and under the authority of the General Government has called upon the State of Louisiana to furnish four Regiments of Infantry, to join his army.

The General, in concluding his requisition, says: "I cannot doubt that the gallant State of Louisiana will respond with alacrity to this call upon the patriotism of her sons."

The State of Louisiana has never hesitated at any call on her patriotism or spirit, and is now as she ever has been, ready to devote her energies and her blood for our common country, and the honor of its arms.

Assured that the call now made will be responded to by the citizen soldiers of the State without resorting to a draft, four regiments of Volunteers will be received and mustered into the service of the United States for the term of six months, unless
sooner discharged, and as fast as any regiment or company is organized for the purpose, its commanding officers will report to the Adjutant General at the State House in Canal Street.

Each Regiment will consist of-(as in Gen. Taylor’s requisition given above.)

It is desireable that the Companies should each be 100 strong.

The Legislature animated by the universal feeling of patriotism and zeal, have already passed a bill, which has been signed by the Governor and become a law, making appropriations to aid the equipping the force, and the Staff Department of the U.S. Army are prepared to furnish the corps with the arms, equipments and camp equipage necessary. The Major Generals and Generals of Brigade are charged with the execution of this order. By order of the Commander-In-Chief of the Militia of the State.

Charles N. Bowley
Adjt. and Insp Gen.

[JEB]

NNR 70.182 May 23, 1846 Gen. Edmund Pendleton Gaines' requisitions for volunteers

Gen. Gaines Authority to Col. Lewis.
Head quarters, Western division
New Orleans, May 12, 1846

Col. Wm. B. Lewis is hereby authorized and requested to raise a regiment, or a battalion, of mounted gunmen, to consist of not less than five, nor to exceed ten companies-each company to number seventy to one hundred men, to rendezvous at the Opelousas, where they will be mustered into the service of the United-States for duty upon the Rio Grande, for six months, unless sooner discharged. The United States quarter master and commissary of subsistence will be instructed to issue the regular supplies of camp equipage, forage, and subsistence upon the requisition of Col. Lewis.

Edmund P. Gaines
Maj. Gen. U.S. army commanding the western division

[JEB]

NNR 70.182 May 23, 1846 list of officers of the Army in Texas

List of Officers in the United States, Army in Texas.


Topographical Engineers- Capt. T.J. Cram, 1st Lieut. J.E. Blake, 2nd Lieut. George Meade.

Light Artillery-Maj. John Irving, 2nd artillery; Ass’t Surgeon J.B. Wells, general staff; 2nd Lieut. S.S. Fahnestock, 4th artillery, act’g adjutant.

Brevet Majors- John Monroe, 4th artillery; S. Ringgold, 3d artillery.
First Lieutenant- James Duncan, 2d artillery; Branton Bragg, 3d do; J.F. Roland, 2n
do; R. Ridgely, 3d do; W.H. Shover, 3d do; E. Bradford, 4th do; J.C. Pemberton, 4th
do; J.H. Thomas, 3d do.

Second Lieutenants- Wm. Hays, 2d artillery; J.F. Reynolds, 3d do; J.J. Peck, 2d do;
S.L. Fremont, 3d do; M. Lovell, 4th Do; J.P. Johnstone, 4th do; S.G. French, 3d do.

Second Regiment of Dragoons- Col. D.E. Twiggs, commanding; Assistant Surgeon L.
C. McPhall, general staff; 1st Lieut. H.H. Sibley, Adjutant.

Captains- Croghan Her; C.A. May, S.B. Thornton, W.J. Hardee, prisoners.

First Lieutenants- W.H. Saunders; F. Hamilton; A. Lowry; O.F. Windship. A.C.S. and
A.Q.M.

Second Lieutenants-R.P. Campbell; George Stephens; R.H. Anderson; W. Steele,
Lewis Neill, G. T. Mason – Kane; D.B. Sackett

First Brigade- Brigadier General W.J. Worth, commanding, (resigned) First
Lieutenant Larkin Smith, 8th infantry, A.D.C.; Surgeon H.S. Hawkins, general staff;

Battalion of Artillery- Brevet Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Childs, Commanding;Second
Lieutenant R.S. Garnett, 4th artillery, acting adjutant.

Brevet Majors- J. Dimick, 1st artillery; W.W. Morris, 4th artillery.

Captains- Giles Porter, 1st artillery; S. Mackenzie, 2d do; Martin Burk, 3d do; A. Lowd, 2d do. C.C. Smith, 2d do; J.B. Scott, 4th do; R.C. Snead, 4th do.


Second Lieutenants- L. Chase, 2nd artillery, A.B. Lansing, do. A.A. Gibson, do., W.S.

Eighth Regiment of Infantry- Brevet Lieut. Col. W.G. Belknap, commanding, 2d
Lieut. John D. Clark, acting adjutant.


T. Lee.

Longstreet, H.M. Judah, Geo. Wainwright, J.S.S. Shelling.

Second Brigade- Lieut. Col. J.S. McIntosh, 5th infantry commanding, 1st Lieut. C.L.
Stevenson, 5th Infantry commanding, 1st Lieut. C.L. Stevenson, 5th infantry, Brigade-
Major-Surgeon, R.C. Wood; general staff, Assistant Surgeons, J.W. Russell, and H.C.
Crutenden, do. do.

Fifth Regiment of Infantry- Major T. Stanford, commanding; 1st Lieut. G. Deas
adjutant.

Thompson, W. Chapman.

First Lieutenants- B.B. Marcy, A.C.S. and A.Q.M.H. Whipple, N.B. Russell, D.
Ruggles, A.C.S 5th infantry, W. Root, J.A. Whitall.
NNR 70.192 May 30, 1846 remarks and statements on US finances in light of the war with Mexico, possibility of a loan, of issuance of treasury notes, of postponement of revision of the tariff

National Finances. War has commenced. – Ten millions of dollars have been promptly voted towards commencing operations. One and a half millions have been voted to pay expenses already incurred, and which the annual appropriations of last year fell short of defraying. Two millions in addition to the treasurer's estimates, to feed and clothe the 7 or 8000 men, voted last week as additional to the regular army. Their bounty and pay have been provided for in the annual appropriation bill passed last week. Munitions and transportation will accumulate military expenditures rapidly. The naval expenses will also be largely increased. Additional ships are to be put in commission. Crews are to be enlisted, stores to be provided. Transports are to be in service.

The National Intelligencer, noticing an article in a New York paper which intimates that "it may be necessary for congress to authorize a loan to meet these extras," says—"Doubtless congress will find itself under the necessity, before adjourning, of providing money, in addition to the current revenue, to defray the expenditure which will attend the now inevitable operations of the government. The reduction of the tariff of duties on imports, had it been carried into effect, would equally have
induced the necessity, now or not long hereafter, of supplying revenue from some other source. But. The late act of congress—and, indeed, independently of the movement of congress, the preceding action of the executive—requiring an expenditure probably far to exceed the surplus in the treasury, may be considered as an indefinite postponement of the treasury scheme for a general reduction of the tariff. We take it for granted, however, that for any immediate purpose, the administration will first resort to the expedient of an issue of treasury notes; the necessity for resorting to which will in connexion with the existence of a foreign war requiring the transportation to great distances of large sums of money, render the sub-treasury scheme wholly impracticable, and probably cause that as well as the anti-tariff project to be deferred. Should the war unhappily be prolonged, however, loans must be necessarily recurrent to, and will constitute the chief source of revenue for defraying the expenses of the war. Whenever loans are to be authorized, in any considerable amount, congress will find itself obliged to lay direct taxes and excises, and pledge the proceeds of them to pay the interest and provide a sinking fund for their redemption. We do not suppose therefore, that any loan, in the shape of an issue of government stock, will be resorted to at the present session of congress.” [JEB]

NNR 70.192 May 30, 1846 accounts from New Orleans of extravagant expenditures for military supplies

The New York Journal of Commerce says—“The accounts from N. Orleans and Mobile are very bad. The produce of the west and south is coming down in one great arid endless avalanche, but the circulation of business is stopped. This rates of freight have advanced materially; merchants are unwilling to take the hazards of making shipments; the northern merchants, unwilling to advance on property which must encounter the risks of the gulf, have withdrawn their credits; and so the produce is piling up beyond the capacities of all the warehouses—How can merchants meet their engagements, when all their property is suddenly rendered unavailable? Great inconvenience and damage must be the consequence.”

Another New Orleans letter, published in the Philadelphia U.S. Gazette, says—“The government have not a dollar of funds here—are buying everything on credit, and paying enormously through the nose—the certificates of the quarter master, for amounts due for supplies, payable on demand so soon as funds arrive, are hawking out at every shaving shop at eight to ten per cent. Discount on the face.—I saw one today for $1,700 which was offered for $1,550, and no doubt $1,500 would have been accepted. Last week a heavy purchase of pork was made (1,000 barrels) at 13½ when the same quality could have been bought for cash at $10¾—other things in proportion—and this state of things with $12,000,000 of surplus funds in the treasury. Steamboats and transports are chartered in the same way—6 and $8,000 paid to a steamboat to the “Brassos St. Iago,” a run of 60 or 80 hours, and $500 per day demurrage.”

Another letter from New Orleans, dated the 10th inst. Says—“It will hardly be credited that with the large force in Texas, requiring constant and heavy supplies, and with the emergency now existing, the quarter master’s department is entirely destitute of funds, and it has to buy supplies, charter steamboats, and make all its arrangements on credit, of course paying an exorbitant addition in the price of every thing; and the quarter master’s certificates for money due, are hawking about in the streets and at every shaving shop in the city, at a heavy discounts, disgraceful to the credit of the government, who boast of having some 10 or 15 millions of surplus funds in the treasury!! These certificates, though payable on demand so soon as funds are received, are selling at 8 and 10 percent discount, and if they accumulate much longer will be at a still heavier rate. [JEB]

NNR 70.193 May 30, 1846 map of the seat of war

Seat of war map

Matamoros and entrenchments

Into the shoal at the south west extremity of Laguna Madre, another channel of the Rio Grande enters, which is not delineated on the chart. It starts from the main channel at a point (Pondo), between Barita and Matamoros, and when the river is very high this channel has some eighteen inches of water. In common it is converted
into expanded marsh. When the river is very low, it is entirely dry.

The Laguna Madre, or Logo del Santander—is about 90 miles in length, and has generally about two feet depth of water. It is bounded on the east by the Island Padre Vayin, or Padre Bayin, or as generally called, Padre Island. Besides the Olmos and Rio or Sal Colorado, other streams flow into it, the San Fernando, the St. Gertrude, &c. &c.

Brassos Santiago, is about 5 miles from Point Isabel, and in lat 25 degrees 16 mites long. 97 degrees 12 minutes west from Greenwich, or 20 degrees 12 minutes west of Washington city, as represented in the chart. There are from three to six feet water within, and 7 ½ to 8 feet without its bar. There is from three to six feet water from thence to.

Point Isabel, from which two routes are sketched upon the chart, to Matamoros. By the southern road distance is 27 miles, by the other 35 miles. The former pursued by general Taylor’s army, is intersected by one or two small streamlets flowing into the Rio Grande.

Bocca Chica, (the narrow mouth), at the south end of Brassos Island, has approaching it, successively 3,2 and 8 feet water. From this point three roads diverge, viz. One southwardly to Las Taraesas,—one southwestwardly 6 miles to Barita and whence it passes 30 miles more, to Matamoros, and one due west, a wagon route, which after crossing the 2d pass to the Rio Grande is a direct line to Matamoros, follows the northern shore of that river to the point where now stands the American entrenchments.

The Rio Grande, at its first pass, or main outlet, has five feet water. We have stated above, that even at high water the second pass has but 18 inches. The territory or Delta between the two passes, is separated from the Island of Brassos, by the Bocca Chica.

Matamoros is situated in the latitude 25 degrees 53 minutes and long. 21 degrees west of Washington.

Letters from officers of the army represent their march from Corpus Christi to Matamoros to have been one of 120, and in some cases as high as 150 miles. Whether gen. Taylor pursued what is called the old direct road,—which is sketched upon the map,—or whether, as we apprehend, he took another route which led him to Isabel and thence to Matamoros thus by sinuosities increasing the distance, we are not confident. The Nueces is stated to be generally about 90 miles from the Rio Grande. West of Reynoso is Monterey. [JEB]

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NNR 70.194 May 30, 1846 geography of the seat of the war

Geography Of the Seat of War- Distance, from Point Isabel to Matamoros by land, 27 miles, do. by water 90 miles. From Matamoros to Corpus Christi, by land 100 miles, by the old road. An officer in General Taylor;s army mentions that the distance was 150 miles by the route the army marched. From Matamoros to the mouth of the Rio Grande by the river is variously stated, from 60 to 90 miles; in direct line, about 30 miles. From Point Isabel to New Orleans by sea 802 miles. From Point Isabel to Galveston, by water, 320 miles. From New Orleans to Vera Cruz, 1,500 miles. From Vera Cruz W.N.W. to the city of Mexico is 180 miles. From Yucatan to the city of Mexico 900 miles. From Brassos St. Jago to Point Isabel at its W.N.W. 5 miles. From Matamoros eastward to the village of La Barita, 30 miles by land. From La Barita, N. Eastward to Brassos 8 or 10 miles. Santa Fe is N.W. of the city of Mexico, on the Rio Grande, above Matamoros, and its distance from Mexico is about 1131 miles, N.W.-and from St. Louis is about 830 miles, and from New Orleans 1020 miles N.W. population about 4 or 5000. [JEB]

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NNR 70.194 May 30, 1846 course of the Rio Grande (Rio del Norte or Rio Bravo)

The Rio Grande, Rio Del Norte or Rio Bravo, different names by which the same river
is known, rises in the Southern Slope of the Rocky Mountains, near the head waters of the Arkansas river, pursues a course nearly due South for a distance of 2000 miles, to the Gulf Of Mexico. Its course is in good part through a thinly peopled desert, in some places mountainous, in others composed of wide sterile plains. Valuable mines of gold and silver exist in the province of Santa Fe, some 1,5000 miles from its mouth. The River is generally rapid and rocky, rendering the navigation dangerous if not impossible.

Twenty years ago attempts were made, and several times since, with steam boats to navigate it, but Matamoros, some 60 miles from its mouth, by the winding of the river, or 30 or 40 miles in direct line from the coast, is usual head of navigation and even that distance, boats of very light draft only can be used. [JEB]

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**NNR 70.194 May 30, 1846 distances on the route from San Antonio to Mexico City**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Distance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rio Grande at the Presidio</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Juan De Nava</td>
<td>22</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Fernando</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Juan de Mata</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosita</td>
<td>35</td>
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<tr>
<td>River Sabinas</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hacienda of Alama</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
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<td>Encines</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herm'nes</td>
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<td>Castano</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ranche of Bajan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tank of San Felipe</td>
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</tr>
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</tr>
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<td>Mesia</td>
<td>22</td>
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<td>Saltillo</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Incarnacion</td>
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<td>&quot; San Salvad'r</td>
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<td>&quot; Salado</td>
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<td>Hac. Arroya Saco</td>
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<td>Village of Tula</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>1130</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[JEB]

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**NNR 70.194 May 30, 1846 account of the city of Mexico**

The City of Mexico, has a population of 180,000.- Temptations similar to those with which Cortes inspired his Spanish followers three hundred years ago to follow him to the "Halls of Montezuma" are now loudly trumpeted for the purpose of inciting volunteers to undertake another subjugation of the devoted people that populate that lovely region.

Says a New York paper "High mountains rise in the distance on all sides of the city, but the location although under the Tropic of Cancer, is remarkable for its salubrity, and in summer the extreme heat is less severe than in New York of Philadelphia. The city is approached by excellent roads which branch out in every direction, and on which are transported the ores and bullion from some hundred of the richest mines in the world. The magnificence of the principal edifices-some being furnished with gold and silver ornaments valued at many millions, and containing rich treasures hid away by the avaricious-has excited the admiration of all travelers. Yet with all her riches, Mexico is poor. Her people are kept in ignorance by the tyranny of a few, and their wealth is carried off to other lands, to swell the gains of trade and commerce, which they are not permitted to enjoy. The poor Mexican crawls listlessly over
neglected silver mines, lost in the contemplation of his own abject condition. The
iron hand of despotism is upon him” [JEB]

NNR 70.194 May 30, 1846 Health on the Rio Grande - The best defence of Mexico.

The Washington correspondence of the Journal of Commerce says, that when
Almonte was here as Minister from Mexico it was remarked to him that in case of a
war between the United States and Mexico, the Mexicans would have nothing to
oppose to the overwhelming power and force of the United States. General Almonte
replied - "It is a mistake, we have the "vomito" alias, Yellow Fever.

This potent arm will, no doubt, be relied on by Mexico, in the movements now going
on. If our troops shall be kept on the Rio Grande through the summer, they may fall
into the snare which Almonte designated for them."

The Washington Union, on the contrary, says: - "We are informed by an intelligent
physician, who was a native of this city, but who resided for several years to the
west of the Rio Grande, who married a Mexican lady, who was an United States
consul, practised physic several years in the vicinity of Matamoros, and is intimately
acquainted with the climate, as well as the habits of the Mexicans, that although at a
certain season of the year it is unhealthy at Matamoros and on the immediate
borders of the river, yet that several miles from it, the ague and fever is unknown.
The climate for several miles beyond, away off to the west, is remarkably healthy,
and that no such humbug ought to prevent the troops of the United States from
visiting this interesting region of the earth." [GLP]

NNR 70.195 May 30, 1846 "true policy of the republic"

TRUE POLICY OF THE REPUBLIC

The "Courier des Etats Unis," the French Journal published at New York, thus
discourses, in relation to our war with Mexico and as the true policy and destiny of
our republic:-

"The American people is the foremost among all people by the progress it has made
in clearing the wilderness-in the arts of industry, and in navigation. No other has
performed so great miracles in so short a time. It is emphatically the people which
improvises civilization. With its steamboats and its axe it has already conquered one
half of a world and is destined soon to conquer the other half. Industry is its genius,
the fruits of the earth its arms, the liberty which it bears along with it, its power.-
This liberty is the key which will open the universe to it.

But one is not perfect in all things, and it is not given to be, at the same time; a
commercial and free people, and a warlike and domineering people. In nations as in
individuals, particular faculties can only acquire extreme development at the
expense of other faculties. Hence the Americans could not push so far their creations
of industry and their political liberty, except upon the condition of having no military
budget, no regular army. They could only become the strongest of people in time of
peace, by exposing themselves to be the weakest in time of war. Of this, the high
intelligence which distinguishes them, should have convinced them, if self love did
not with them speak louder even than intellect. Accustomed to see everything yield
to their spirit of enterprise-rivers, ports, mountains, they have fancied that whatever
they chose, they could extemporize an army as they extemporize a city or a railroad.
But this is an error which they will discover and deplore hereafter. Citizens are not
soldiers-conscripts are not heroes. In every vocation an apprenticeship is needed-
and that vocation, of all others, most needs this apprenticeship, which puts at
hazard ones life.

"The political and social organization of the United States has, moreover, this
inconvenience-the shade to its brightness-that the military career being the most
neglected of all, the least honored because it is the least productive, the least in
harmony with the instinctively pacific sentiments of the masses, it is a sort of last
refuge for the worst portion of the population. Strangers to the soil, emigrants
without home or hearth, constitute the greater portion of the enlisted men; these
men are mercenaries who fight from necessity, or from the love of adventure, but
who have none of that love of country adhering to their entrails sicul ossa cuti- Such
men in fleeing from the enemy, have no consciousness of carrying off on the soles of
their feet the honor of their country. It is not with such defenders that either great
things, or even good things are done."

Since then such is the system of the country, its rulers should at least comprehend
at once both its feebleness, and its force and act in conformity. Having raised on the
soil temples to all the gods except the god of war, there should be the rarest
possible recourse to his intercession—the combats should be not with the sword, but
with the plough, which is your weapon—conquer the world not by armies, but by
emigration, industry and the hardy pioneers of the wilderness. In all the expansive
force of your arms and your ideas lies all your power and if that power, is less rapid
than that of the cannon, it is more sure and irresistible. Texas furnishes a proof in
point. While you were content to let the west pour itself out into Texas, nothing
could check their progress, and they conquered it for you. And now when
government action is substituted in the same country for individuals, and against the
same enemy, you are conquered! It is because in the United States the government
is nothing, the individual everything.

Since his accession to power, Mr. Polk has misapprehended this great organic
principle of American society. He was for hurrying its march, and cutting the two
knots of Texas and Oregon, which time of itself would have untied. What is the result
of this unnatural policy? That the United States are at this moment placed in a
position which may become excessively critical for them, for it may expose them at
the same time for the two most dangerous wars they could be called upon to meet.
In seeing what the mere commencement of a struggle with such an enemy as
Mexico has already occasioned of embarrassment and expense—in perceiving the
difficulties of meeting the demands of a single contest—one is tempted to ask with
dread, what would happen if we had to repel at the same time a Mexican invasion in
the south, a Canadian invasion at the north, and the attacks of the British fleets on
the seaboard? Fortune which has so long shown herself propitious to the United
States—fortune which loves youth—among people as among kings—when Louis XIV,
when a sexagenarian, mournfully remarked, will spare the Americans this trial—but no
thanks therefore to the policy of Mr. Polk; his policy is grossly blundering. That which
Mr. Calhoun, from the beginning of the Oregon question has proclaimed under the
title of "masterly inactivity," is the only true policy—the only logical one—the only one
in harmony with American institutions, and their actual military organization. The
missions of Americans is that of the pacific conquerors—the institutions are to spread,
as spread the waves by simple law of the level—their dominion is destined to grow by
affinity, by alluvion—the whole of North America is their certain patrimony; land none
but a madman buys with blood what is in fact a portion of his own inheritance. [JEB]

NNR 70.195 May 30, 1846 CAPTURE OF GEN. VEGA BY CAPT. MAY.

The battle commenced by heavy cannonading on both sides. Gen. Taylor, in passing
his lines, accosted Capt. May of the 2d dragoons, and told him—"Your regiment has
never done anything yet—you must take that battery." He said nothing, but turned
to his command and said—"We must take that battery—follow!" He made a charge
with three companies—at least the remainder of three companies—supported by the
5th and 8th regiments of Infantry. They cleared the breastwork, wheeled and came
through the enemy's lines, whilst the fire of the Infantry was so deadly in its effect
as to carry all before it. Capt. May made a cut at an officer as he charged through.
On his return he found him standing between cannon wheels—fighting like a hero.
He ordered him to surrender. He was asked if he was an officer?—Capt. May
answered him in the affirmative, when he presented his sword, remarking, "You
receive Gen. Vega a prisoner of war." [GLP]

NNR 70.196 May 30, 1846 executive power granted to the president for conducting
the war, funds authorized, troops to be raised, officers to be appointed

The President of the United States.

Large powers have already been conferred upon the president, toward meeting the
way with Mexico.

Funds. Ten millions of dollars have been appropriated, and placed at the disposal of
the president, for conducting the war.

The army of the United States, of which the president according to the constitution is
commander in chief—according to the bill just passed by congress will be augmented to about 15,000 men. The volunteers placed at his disposal 50,000. The navy, as now established, 7,800. The increase being ordered, steamers included will augment it at least 10,000. = 82,000

The appointing power, called into requisition for officering these new levies, is amongst the highest of executive prerogatives. Seldom if ever has so vast a scope of power been in the hands of a president of these United States. [JEB]

NNR 70.196 May 30, 1846 requisition on the states for volunteers

REQUISITION FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Circular from the department of War to the Governors of the several States, dated May 19th, 1846 was accompanied with the following tables:-

Volunteers to be enrolled but not called into service until further orders.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>States</th>
<th>Number of Regiments</th>
<th>Foot</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5,439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4,662</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2,331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>24,486</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Volunteers called for from different states for immediate service

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>States</th>
<th>Number of Regiments</th>
<th>Horse</th>
<th>Foot</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>1-2</td>
<td>789</td>
<td>388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>789</td>
<td>1554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>789</td>
<td>1554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>789</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>789</td>
<td>388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>395413,208</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mazatlan

Naval Journal

Pacific squadron. The New York Commercial Advertiser has advices from the squadron under commodore Sloat to the 8th April—all well. A letter from an officer dated Mazatlan, says—"We have still lying here most of the squadron, viz. Savannah 54, Constitution 54, Warren 24, Levant 22, Portsmouth 22, Erie 4, and the Congress 54, capt. Stockton, and the Cyane, daily expected. The Shark, 12, has gone to the Sandwich Islands to repair, after which she will return to the coast again." [JEB]

NNR 70.196 May 30, 1846 government said to intend purchasing small vessels to run close in shore in the Gulf

The Norfolk Beacon of the 25th says—

Commander Garret J. Pendergrast has been ordered to the Memphis navy yard, and Commander Wm. H. Gardner to the rendezvous here; Commander McKean to the sloop of war Dale; and Lieut. Chatard to the Water Witch to be fitted out here. It is said that the government intend purchasing a number of small vessels to run close in shore in the Gulf after privateersmen. [JEB]

NNR 70.196-197 May 30, 1846 Gen. Zachary Taylor’s official letters from Point Isabel, his brief notes on the Battle of Palo Alto and the Battle of Resaca de la Palma

WAR WITH MEXICO

[Official] From the Union of May 26

Headquarters Army of Occupation
Point Isabel, Texas, May 7, 1846

Sir: I respectfully report that I shall march this day with the main body of the army, to open a communication with Major Brown, and throw forward supplies of ordnance and provisions. If the enemy opposes my march, in whatever force, I shall fight him. Occasional guns are heard in the direction of Matamoros, showing that everything is right in that quarter.

Yesterday the recruits under Lieut. McPhail arrived here. After filling up the companies of the permanent garrison, (A 1st arty. and G 4th art.,) the remainder of the detachment with its officers, was placed under Major Munroe’s orders to assist in the defence of the depot. The men are yet to raw to take the field, though efficient for garrison defence. They will be permanently assigned as soon as practicable.

The four companies of the first infantry are hourly expected, and will be a seasonable reinforcement. The first shipment of volunteers from New Orleans may also soon be looked for. Their arrival will enable me to open the river and free our communications.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obed’t serv’t

Z. TAYLOR
Brevet brig’r gen. U.S.A. com’g

The adjutant general of the army, Washington, D.C.

Headquarters Army of Occupation
Camp at Palo Alto, Texas, May 9, 1846

Sir: I have the honor to report that I was met near this place yesterday, on my march from Point Isabel, by the Mexican forces, and after an action of about five hours dislodged them from their position, and encamped upon the field. Our artillery, consisting of two 18 pounders and two light batteries, was the arm chiefly engaged, and to the excellent manner in which it was maneuvered and served is our success
The strength of the enemy is believed to have been about six thousand men, with seven pieces of artillery, and eight hundred cavalry. His loss is probably at least one thousand killed. Our strength did not exceed all told twenty three hundred, while our loss was comparatively trifling—four men killed, three officers and thirty seven men wounded, several of the latter mortally. I regret to say that Major Ringgold, 3d artillery, and Capt. Page, 4th infantry, are severely wounded. Lieut. Luther, 2d artillery, slightly so.

The enemy has fallen back, and it is believed has repassed the river. I have advanced parties now thrown forward in his direction, and shall move the main body immediately.

In haste of this first report, I can only say that the officers and men behaved in the most admirable manner throughout the action. I shall have the pleasure of making a more detailed report when those of the different commanders shall be received. I am sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. Taylor
Brevet brigadier general U.S.A. commanding

The adjutant general, U.S. army, Washington, D.C.

Headquarters Army of Occupation.
Camp at Resaca de la Palma, 3 miles from Matamoros, 10 o'clock, p.m., May 9, 1846

Sir: I have the honor to report that I marched with the main body of the army at 2 o'clock today, having previously thrown forward a body of light infantry, into the forest, which covers the Matamoros road. When near the spot where I am encamped, my advance discovered that a ravine crossing the road had been occupied by the enemy with artillery. I immediately ordered a batter of field artillery to sweep the position, flanking and sustaining it by the 3d, 4th, and 5th regiments, deployed as skirmishers to the right and the left. A heavy fire of artillery and musketry was kept up for some time, until finally the enemy's batteries were carried in succession by a squadron of dragoons and the regiments of infantry that were on the ground. He was soon driven from his position, and pursued by a squadron of dragoons, battalion of artillery, 3d infantry, and a light battery, to a river. Our victory had been complete. Eight pieces of artillery, with a great quantity of ammunition, three standards, and some one hundred prisoners have been taken; among the latter, General La Vega, and several other officers. One general is understood to have been killed. The enemy has recrossed the river, and I am sure will not again molest us on this bank.

The loss of the enemy in killed has been most severe. Our own has been very heavy, and I deeply regret to report that Lieut. Inge, 2d dragoons, Lieut. Cochran, 4th infantry, and Lieut. Chadbourne, 8th infantry, were killed on the field. Lieut. Col. Payne, 4th artillery, Lieut. Col. McIntosh, Lieut. Dobbins, 3d infantry, Capt. Hooe, and Lieut. Fowler, 5th infantry, and Capt. Montgomery, Lieuts. Gates, Seldon, McClay, Burbank, and Jordan, 8th infantry, were wounded. The extent of our loss in killed and wounded is not yet ascertained, and is reserved for a more detailed report.

The affair today may be regarded as a proper supplement to the cannonade of yesterday; and the two taken together, exhibit the coolness and gallantry of our officers and men in the most favorable light. All have done their duty, and done it nobly. It will be my pride, in a more circumstantial report of both actions, to dwell upon particular instances of individual distinction.

It affords me peculiar pleasure to report that the field work opposite Matamoros has sustained itself handsomely during a cannonade and a bombardment of 160 hours. But the pleasure is alloyed with profound regret at the loss of its heroic and indomitable commander, Major Brown, who died to-day from the effect of a shell. His loss would be a severe one to the service at anytime, but to the army under my orders, it is indeed irreparable. One officer and non-commissioned officer killed and ten men wounded, comprise all the casualties incident to this severe bombardment.

I inadvertently omitted to mention the capture of a large number of pack mules left in the Mexican camp.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obd’t. serv’t.,
Z. TAYLOR  
Bt. Brig'r. general U.S.A. com'h  
The Adjutant General of the Army, Washington, D.C.  
[JEB]

NNR 70.197 May 30, 1846 Gen. Romulo Diaz de la Vega and other captured officers forwarded to New Orleans

Headquarters Army of Occupation  
Point Isabel, Texas, May 12, 1846  

[Special Orders No. 62]

1. General la Vega and the other Mexican officers, prisoners of war, will be conducted to New Orleans under charge of Lieut. J.J. Reynolds, 4th artillery, who will report on his arrival to Major General Gaines, for further instructions. The quartermaster's department will furnish a steamer for the transportation of the party.

2. As many of the sick and wounded now at this place as may be indicated by Surgeon Wood, will be moved in suitable transports to St. Joseph’s Island. Assistant Surgeon Byrne will accompany the detachment, and will return with the convalescents that may not be in condition to leave the general hospital. The quartermaster's department will furnish the proper transportation.

By order of Brigadier General Taylor,

W.W.J. BLISS  
Acting adjutant general.  
[JEB]

NNR 70.197 May 30, 1846 Gen. Zachary Taylor's letter from camp opposite Matamoros, enclosing Gen. Pedro Ampudia's letter of 12th April summoning Taylor to quit his position

Headquarter, Army of occupation  
Camp near Matamoros, Texas, April 15, 1846  

Sir: I have to report that on the 11th inst.-General Ampudia arrived at Matamoros with two hundred cavalry, the remainder of his force, variously estimated from 2,000 to 3,000 men, being some distance in the rear on the route from Monterey. Immediately after assuming the chief command, Gen. Ampudia ordered all Americans to leave Matamoros within twenty four hours, and repair to Victoria, a town in the interior of Tamaulipas. He had taken the same severe measure at Reinosa, on his way hither. On the 12th I received from Gen. Ampudia a dispatch, summoning me to withdraw my forces within twenty four hours, and to fall back beyond the river Neuces. To this communication I replied on the 12th, saying that I should not retrograde from my position. Copies of this correspondence are enclosed herewith. I considered the letter of Gen. Ampudia sufficient to warrant me in blockading up the Rio Grande, and stopping all supplies for Matamoros, orders for which have been given to the naval commander at Brazos Santiago.

Notwithstanding the alternative of war presented by Gen. Ampudia, no hostile movement has yet been made by his force. Whether he will feel strong enough to attempt anything when all of his force shall arrive, is very doubtful. Our brigades occupy strong positions, beyond reach of fire from the town, and can hold themselves against many times their number of Mexican troops. In the meantime our defences here and at Point Isabel, are daily gaining strength. The Latter point is well supplied with artillery, and in good condition to resist attack.

I regret to report that Colonel Cross has been missing since the 10th instant, on which day he rode out alone in the vicinity of our camp. All attempts to trace him have hitherto proved fruitless, and I much fear that he has been waylaid and murdered by banditti known to be in our neighborhood. Today I address a letter on
the subject to General Ampudia, desiring him to assist in our efforts to ascertain the colonel's fate.

I shall authorize the raising of two companies of Texan mounted men, for service in this quarter, particularly for the purpose of keeping open our communication with Point Isabel, and relieving the regular cavalry of a portion of their duties, which are now oppressive.

Several resignations of officers have been tendered since our arrival here. While I regret that such has been the case, I have still deemed my duty to throw no obstacle in the way of their stance.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. TAYLOR
Brevet Brig. Gen. U.S.A. commanding

The Adjutant General of the Army

[JE]

NRR 70.198 May 30, 1846 account of events at Point Isabel during the battle of 9th May

In looking over the New Orleans paper and extras of the 17th inst. A second time we observe a few items of sufficient general interest to claim a place in our columns:

The following from the Picayune was written before news of the engagement of the 9th-the last we have any account of-reached New Orleans. It is of some importance, however, as it reveals the reasons which determined Gen. Taylor to leave Point Isabel on the 7th inst. for his encampment opposite Matamoros before the arrival of reinforcements.

Some time after the battle was begun two Negro men ran off from the army, and reported at Point Isabel that the day was going against the United States army. The excitement at the receipt of the intelligence may be more easily imagined than described. It was not till Gen. Taylor sent in his wounded to the Point, on the afternoon of the ensuing day that the issue of the day's bloody business was known. The smoke of the battle was seen distinctly from Isabel, and every report of the cannon counted. It was thought that at least five guns a minute were discharged.

The general left Point Isabel for the entrenchments opposite Matamoros before the arrival of reinforcements, because he was apprehensive lest the enemy might so surround and harass it as to render its safety doubtful. The enemy has concentrated an immense force upon Matamoros and the neighboring country. The Mexican soldiers are in greater strength than has been hitherto supposed.

No further news was heard from Gen. Taylor, after the evening of the 9th, nor was any more firing heard. We are informed that when the two companies of Mexican artillery were seen-as they could be from Point Isabel-whilst yet the battle was raging, coming down to cross Coccha Chica, and boats and stores, the belief was that Gen. Taylor had been cut off. Such a spectacle, taken in conjunction with the story of the Negroes, who deserted; must have been a sad one indeed, to the few brave men who remained in the fort. Fortunately, the U.S. ship Cumberland was at hand to drive off this detachment. The Mexicans must have felt confident of obtaining a victory, to have sent these men down to take charge of the American stores before the close of the battle.

The impression was that Gen. Taylor would throw up a redoubt upon the field of battle, and remain there till the volunteers arrived. This was a conjecture only, as the general is one of those men who keep their own counsel. We have seen a letter from one of the officers at Isabel, who thought such would be his course.

Whilst congratulating the country upon the successes already achieved something is due to the brave men who have fallen in battle and the gallant officers who have been so severely wounded in the field. Major Ringgold is an honor to the service, and a victory is dear that is purchased with the loss of such an officer. Capt. Page we know well. He is as true a soldier as ever faced his country's foe. They will be remembered by their countrymen. Honor to the living and peace be with the dead.
A correspondent of the *New Orleans Bulletin*, writing from Point Isabel on the evening of the 12th inst., remarks-Many instances occurred of our men handing their canteens to the wounded Mexicans, and turning from them to fire upon others. There was not a single occurrence of cruelty towards the enemy.-The morale of the army is at its highest-it can now accomplish anything, and they would die for a commander who does not ask them to go where he is not willing to lead, and in whose judgment they fully confide. [JEB]

NNR 70.198 May 30, 1846 Gen. Pedro Ampudia's proclamation to the people of the east, his address to the inhabitants of the frontier, "Eagle of the North"s notice of the manifesto

From the "Eagle of the North," April 8th, 1846

We have seen with the greatest satisfaction the manifesto given to the nation by his excellency the president ad interim, in regard to the correspondence relative to the subject of Texas, hold between the supreme government and the envoy extraordinary of the United States. This document is as satisfactory as could be hoped for after the sincere offers made at San Louis Porosi by the chief of our destinies; in it we explicitly treated the difficult question, which for ten successive years has been the pretext for civil discord, and in it we have a safe guarantee that the existing energetic government will fulfill without delay the obligations which it contracted with the nation in giving the programme, which unites all divisions, which makes opinion unanimous upon independence, the culminating point of our social experiences.

It is true war is not precisely declared in the manifesto referred to, and this will not readily satisfy the anxiety of those who are menaced by the ironically called colossus of the north; but in addition to their being in the expressions of his excellency, the president, marked indications of a desire for the campaign so long a time talked of, a matter which has no little force in the mouth of the chief magistrate of a people, it is also therein expressed, as a fundamental basis, that the forced occupation of our territory by the United States, and the appearance of their squadrons upon the coasts of Mexico, are regarded as a real aggression; such is the language proper for governments which desire to uphold dignity and decorum; nevertheless, there will not be wanting some malevolent spirits to charge us with not having finally declared was, as if such an act were not the proper duty of congress, for which they are legally assembled, and who will find no difficulty in giving their irremediable sentence. [JEB]

NNR 70.199 May 30, 1846 President Mariano Paredes y Arillaga's manifesto to the Mexican nation

From the "Diario Official," (city of Mexico,) April 24th, 1846 [Translated for the Union]

MANIFEST OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT AD INTERIM OF THE REPUBLIC TO THE NATION

On assuming in the beginning of this year the heavy responsibility of guiding the destinies of the nation during a short period, I determined resolutely to change its policy from the weak and pernicious system of temporizing, which has been observed with regard to the United States of America, not withstanding the perfidy with which that government prepared for the occupation of Texas, its treacherous violation of the existing treaties, which guarantee the limits of the republic, and the insidious act by which it incorporated one of our departments with its own confederacy. The Mexican nation did not conquer its independence by the most bloody and heroic sacrifices, nor place itself among the civilized powers of the world in order to become the sport of a neighboring nation, which, taking advantage of our quarrels and unfortunate disturbances and the exaggerated idea of our weakness, founded upon them, appeared with all the appliances for conquest, and entered upon the invasion of our territory, indulging in the dream that it could extinguish the manly race to which we belong, placing upon our foreheads the brand borne by the slaves in its southern states, destroying our nationality, and abandoning us to the
humiliating misery of oblivion. The magnanimous people which, in a struggle of
eleven years of blood and extermination, proved its boldness no less than its
constancy, was waiting with impatience to rush forward into another war which it
was called by the scandalous aggressions of a government declaring itself our friend,
but at the same time aiming to prostrate us, relying on its power, and not caring to
support itself on the titles of equity and justice which all nations respect, which
strengthen the hopes of peace, and maintain the harmony of the universe. It was for
this reason that the nation sanctioned the movement which I began at San Luis
Potosi, not in order to place myself in the painful possession of power, but that my
country may shine by the triumph of a cause which is the cause of the conservative
principles of human society.

The old grievances, the offences against the Mexican nation, which have been
incessantly repeated since 1836, had been consummated by the insult of sending us
a minister, to be accredited near our government in the character of a residing
minister, as if the relations between the two republics had not suffered any
disturbance by the definitive act of the annexation of Texas. At the very time when
Mr. Slidell appeared, the troops of the United States were occupying our territory,
their squadrons were threatening our ports, and preparations were made to occupy
the peninsula of the Californias, to which the Oregon question with England is only a
preliminary; and I did not receive Mr. Slidell, because the dignity of the nation
repelled this new insult.

In the meantime, the army of the United States fixed its camp at Corpus
Christi, and occupied the island Padre Vayin; it then marched to Point Isabel, and
the flag of stars floated on the right bank of the Rio Bravo del Norte, in front of the
city of Matamoros, the American vessels of war having previously seized upon the
navigation of the river. The town of Laredo was surprised by a party of these troops
and one of our pickets there stationed was disarmed. Hostilities, therefore, have
been begun by the United States undertaking new conquests in the territories
included in the departments of Tamaulipas and New Leon, whilst the troops of the
same states threaten Monterey in Upper California. There can be no doubt to which
of the two republics belong the responsibility of a war, which might have been
prevented by a feeling of equity and justice, and of that respect which civilization
was introduced, for the rights and property of all nations. If Mexico should indolently
suffer these reiterated advances of a power, which already considers itself mistress
and sovereign of the American Continent, not only would she lose the importance
which her population, resources, and peculiar position have given her, ever since she
raised herself to be an independent nation, but she would fall into shame and
contempt should she, when challenged to fight for them, allows herself to be
stripped of the integral parts of her territory one by one. Outrages so many and so
heavy, can no longer be borne; and I have sent orders to the general-in-chief of the
division of our northern frontier, to act in hostility against the army which is in
hostility against us, to oppose war to the enemy, which wars upon us; and invoking
the God of battles to preserve, by the valor of our troops the unquestionable right to
our territory, and the honor of our arms, which are no longer, to be employed only in
defence of Justice. Our general, acting according to established usages, and the
decided instructions given by my government, summons the general-in-chief of the
American forces to retire beyond the river Nueces, the ancient boundary of Texas,
and the summons has been disregarded.

The nations interested in preventing the disturbance of the peace which has lasted
so many years, and whose commercial relations with the Mexican republic, may
suffer injury, see the hard alternative to which we are reduced by the invasive policy
of the United States, and that we must succumb unless we defend with energy our
national existence threatened. I solemnly announce, that I do not declare was
invaded or attacked, shall be valiantly defended.

The time has therefore come which the government of the Mexican nation have
endeavored fruitlessly to put off, by debating the clearest and most just titles; and
these having been condemned we enter into a necessary contest which will secure to
us the sympathies of all nations and governments, which condemn the usurpations
of the powerful. We shall ourselves become strong from the holiness of our cause;
and when everything is endangered, our strength will correspond with the exigencies
of our condition. Meanwhile the Mexican nation will resolve to hazard all in order to
save all; and it will give a sublime example of sacred determination to exhibit that
glorious devotion which has so often been displayed at all times by nations,
maintaining their independence and their liberties.

I rejoice with pride that Providence should have destined me to be the organ for announcing the energetic will of the Mexican republic. Let us prove in battle that the sons of the heroes and martyrs of independence are animated by the recollections of their pure glory; that valor has not degenerated in their breasts, and that they are disposed to sacrifice themselves on the altars of their country.

Mexicans! I raise on the memorable day the standard of independence on which you see inscribed the illustrious names of Hidalgo and Iturbide.-Rally under this sacred ensign, leaving all internal questions and differences for a period of less peril.-I have assured you that the glory which I seek as the reward of my painful career, is not that of the ambitious man who regards power as the spoils of rapine. I have sworn to maintain the republic, in all its just rights, during the short period of my government; and now, while I urge you to the struggle and warn you that you must make great sacrifices, I also promise you that I shall not spare my own blood when it shall be necessary.

Mexicans! Your valiant soldiers are about to fight, and they will fight, with the valor of heroes; keep your blessings for them, and prepare yourselves to crown their noble foreheads, or their tombs, if they should fall, when destiny calls you to take their places in the ranks. Mexico will conquer or will no longer exist!

National Palace of Mexico, April 23, 1846
Mariano Paredes y Arrillaga

[NJR 70.199 May 30, 1846 Texas general orders for volunteers for Mexico]

General Order No. 1
Adjutant general’s office, Austin, May 2, 1846.

The executive has been officially advised by a date of 26th ult., from Gen. Z. Taylor, that actual hostilities have commenced between the Mexicans and the Army of Occupation, provoked by the Mexican foe. Under the authority of the United States, a requisition has been made upon him as the chief magistrate of the state, to call into the service four regiments of volunteer riflemen, two regiments of which to be mounted and two on foot, for six months, unless sooner discharged.

Relying upon the uniform chivalry of his fellow citizens, the executive addresses himself to their patriotism and in the absence of a due military organization makes the following requisition of the respective counties of the state. [JEB]

[NJR 70.199-200 May 30, 1846 prompt measures to sustain Gen. Zachary Taylor, proclamations and correspondence of Gov. William Owsley of Kentucky about raising volunteers]

Kentucky.-Prompt measures. On the 15th of May, Gov. Owsley received from Gen. Gaines U.S. army, a letter dated headquarters western division, New Orleans, May 4th, announcing that he had “solicited from the President authority to concentrate upon the borders” of the Rio Grande, “fifty battalions, each battalion to consist of 500 men,” (of western volunteers,) “to be accepted into service of the United States for six months, unless sooner discharged. To obviate loss of time in the accomplishment of this important service, I take this occasion to say that your excellency would contribute much to facilitate the desired movement by anticipating a formal requisition from the department of war, by authorizing, two, three, or four battalions of infantry and riflemen, to be taken from the young men constituting the chivalry of the state of Kentucky. To organize and repair to this city as soon as practicable, where they shall receive arms, with every requisite supply necessary to their health and comfort and to render them ready for action. From this city they will go by good vessels, (steamers if possible) to the Rio Grande, near Matamoros.

Gob. Owsley on the 16th wrote in reply to General Gaines: “I must beg leave sir, to assure you, that I admire and appreciate the patriotic zeal and professional ardor that so eminently characterizes your communication to this department. I am sure sir, that the people of Kentucky will feel gratified at the compliment paid to their
chivalry, by being thus early called upon by the commanding general of the western division, to bear their part in the defence of the country. Yet, sir, occupying myself a post of great responsibility to the citizens of this state, my duty to them requires that I should await the authority of the president, which you have solicited, and which, if your anticipations are realized, must necessarily reach here in a few days. And this consideration reconciles me to the brief delay occasioned by deterring action till the receipt of orders from the general government. It would be impossible at all events to raise the battalions suggested in your letter, in time for them to form a part of the force to be concentrated at New Orleans "in present month."- The month is now more than half gone, and as there has been no anticipation in the public mind of such an early call for volunteers, the month would have expired before the battalions would be in readiness to be placed under your immediate command. I need not assure you, sir, that when war has been declared by the United States, Kentucky will be found in the line of her duty-true to her ancient renown and true to the American Union. Hoping that the citizen soldiers whose fortune it was to be nearer the scene of action that we are, arrived in time to give all necessary aid to the gallant officers now in command on the Rio Grande. I tender you my grateful acknowledgements for the confidence you have reposed in the volunteers from this state. [JEB]

NNR 70.201 May 30, 1846 Death of Major Ringgold

MAJOR RINGGOLD. The following particulars relative to his death, are from a distinguished officer of the U.S. navy.
Camp Isabel, near the mouth of the Rio Bravo del Norte, 11th May, 1846. The numerous friends of Major Ringgold will doubtless be anxious to know the particulars attending his melancholy end, and I hasten to give them to you. The engagement of the 8th was entirely in the hands of the artillery, and Major R. took a most active and important part with it. About 6 o'clock he was struck by a six pound shot. He was mounted, and the shot struck him at right angles, hitting him in the right thigh, passing through the holsters and upper part of the shoulders of his horse, and then striking the left thigh, in the same line in which it first struck him. On the evening of the 9th he reached this camp under charge of Dr. Byrne of the army. He was immediately placed in comfortable quarters, and his wound dressed. An immense mass of muscles and integuments were carried away from both thighs. - The arteries were not divided, neither were the bones broken. I remained with him all the night. He had but little pain, and at intervals had some sleep. On dressing his wounds in the morning, they presented a most unfavorable aspect, and there was but little reaction. During the night he gave many incidents of the battle, and spoke with much pride of the execution of his shot. He directed his shot not only to groups and masses of the enemy, but to particular men in their line; he saw them fall, their places occupied by others, who in their turn were shot down, pointing his guns to the same place, and he felt as confident of hitting his mark as though he had been using a rifle. He had but one thing to regret, and that was the small number of men in his company. He said that he had made use of all his exertions to have his company increased to 100 men, but without success. From the small number of his men, as they were disabled at their guns, he was without others to take their places. During the day he continued to lose strength, but was free from pain and cheerful. He spoke constantly of the efficiency of his guns, and the brave conduct of his officers and men.

He continued to grow worse, and a medical officer remained constantly by his side. Dr. Byrne remained with him during the night, using every means which could be devised to save his valuable life, but without effect. He continued to grow worse until one o'clock last night, when he expired. He survived his wounds 60 hours; during all this time he had but little pain - conversed cheerfully, and made all his arrangements for his approaching end with the greatest composure and resignation. He will be buried to-day at 3 o'clock, P.M., lamented by the whole camp. The wounded are generally doing very well. I am your obedient servant.

J.M. FOLTZ,
Surgeon United States Navy.
[GLP]
WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States has declared “that a state of war exists between the United States and the Republic of Mexico,” and has authorized the President of the United States, “to employ the Militia, Naval, and Military forces of the United States, and to call for and accept the service of any number of volunteers not exceeding 50,000, to serve twelve months after they shall have arrived at the place of rendezvous, or to the end of the war, unless sooner discharged, according to the time for which they shall have been mustered into service.” And, whereas, the President, with the view of securing to the citizens of each state and territory the privilege of participating in the defence of their Country, has appointed the said volunteer Force among the Several States and Territories; and has made his requisition upon me for two Regiments of Infantry, as the quote of this force to be supplied by the State of Maryland:

Now, therefore, I THOMAS G PRATT, Governor of the State of Maryland, do issue this proclamation, announcing to the Citizens of Maryland. That they are now privileged to enroll themselves under the Flag of their country, and to participate with their fellow citizens of other States in restoring to the United States the blessings of Peace.

I call upon the Citizens of the State of Maryland between the ages of 18 and 45 to enroll themselves forthwith, that the two Regiments required for this state may be immediately filled and mustered into the service of the United States.

The Sons of Maryland have always obeyed the call of patriotism and duty, and will now sustain the honor of the State by enabling her to be the first, or amongst the first, to offer the Federal Executive, for muster into the service of the country, her quote of the Volunteer force which has been called for.

“THE OLD MARYLAND LINE.”

Have already been duly represented in the Mexican war.

This emulation amongst the clans, is a valuable ingredient. No apology is necessary for the introduction here. Let other states compete for the palm.

Col. Truman Cross, the first victim of the war was a native of Maryland, a descendant of the revolutionary officer. [JEB]

Volunteers for the Army of Invasion

The general movement throughout the country may be judged of from the following brief summary which we take partly at random from innumerable articles of similar import which now crowd the daily journals from every direction.

Maryland-About 260 gallant volunteers, under the command of Captains Stewart, Piper, and Steiner, broke up their camp in Howard’s Park on the 27th instant, and after marching through the city of Baltimore, took passage in the cars for the city of Washington, where they designed to report to the commandant of the “District Volunteers,” with a view of expediting their arrival at the frontier.

Alabama-The “Relief Volunteers,” of Montgomery, Alabama, commanded by Captain Elmore, when they arrived at Mobile, received information that the Louisiana requisition was filled, and that they could not be received into service, They immediately sent an agent to New Orleans to solicit the privileges of being received without pay and Gen. Gaines accepted them as part of the regiment which he has authorized Colonel Bayley Payton to raise in the anticipation of a new call. They accordingly went over on the 16th instant to take their places in the ranks of the Louisiana volunteers. Another company from Alabama went over with them to request the same privilege. It is composed of citizens of Mobile and Tuscaloosa, commanded by Col. W.H. Platt

Louisiana-Volunteers pour into New Orleans enroute for the army, from all directions so rapidly that the governor finds it difficult to dispose of them. A proclamation has been issued stating, that the state’s quote of four regiments is full, and that no more
can be received. The organization of Col. Peyton's regiment under the authority of Gen. Gaines, will still continue.

The legislature of the state on the 18th inst. passed a bill appropriating $200,000 for the equipment and transportation of the volunteers to Texas.

The Central Bank of New Orleans, on the 19th, placed whatever funds might be required by the governor for the dispatch of the troops at his disposal free of charge.

Kentucky- The promptitude of the Kentuckians shows that they are as ready as ever to anticipate a call. We notice on another page, Governor Owsley's proceeding. The Louisville Legion composed of eight companies, was to embark on the New Orleans on the 24th instant. Some of the companies have an excess of men. Distinguished military men of Kentucky have tendered their services to Governor Owsley.

The Northern Bank of Kentucky on the 18th instant, placed $250,000 at the disposition of the governor, to enable him promptly to fulfill any requisition upon Kentucky for the southern army.

The Louisville Journal of the 21st instant, says that some of the manufacturing establishments in that city have been compelled to suspend operations for want of hands, so great is the number of operatives who have joined the army.

Missouri-The St. Louis Volunteers, numbering about 600, were to march to Jefferson barracks on the 16th instant, from which point they would embark for the south. Volunteers from the interior of the state were constantly arriving in St. Louis.

Judge Mullanphy, of St. Louis has raised $4,500 by private subscription to defray the expenses of the volunteers.

At St. Louis committees have been appointed at a town meeting to solicit subscriptions in aid of the families of volunteers from that city.

Ohio.-The Cincinnati papers announce that one thousand men in that city are only waiting for orders. In various other sections of Ohio, volunteer corps are forming.

Indiana.-Two volunteer companies have been organized in New Albany, and they report themselves ready to march at a day's notice. Two corps have also been raised at Evansville.

Hoosier pluck!-A western editor says a strapping customer who looked as if he could "chaw up" a half dozen Mexicans at any one meal, without being satisfied, reached our city yesterday morning, from an interior county (Putnam) in Indiana, for the purpose of joining one of the volunteer companies. So anxious was he to enter into service that he walked the entire distance from home, which was more than a hundred miles, barefooted. He is one of the right kind of "boys"

Illinois.-The St. Louis papers say three volunteer companies at Quincy, Illinois, were ready to march to the assistance of the army in the south, whenever their services should be required.

Tennessee Volunteers.-The Nashville Whig of the 19th instant, says that volunteers from every part of Tennessee are daily tendering their services to Governor Brown, the Whig adds-"A draught will certainly take place, but it will be to ascertain who shall be compelled to stay at home. Tennessee will be ready to furnish more than her quote of any number that may be needed."

The Nashville Banner says, five thousand Tennesseans will be ready for whenever their services are required.

The Union Bank of Tennessee has offered a loan of $100,000 to the governor of Tennessee, to equip the volunteers for the war. [JEB]
INCIDENTS OF THE CAMPAIGN. From the New Orleans Bee, May 18

Official dispatch to Gen. Gaines. We have been politely favored with a perusal of the official dispatch addressed by Gen. Taylor, to Gen. Gaines, dated from his camp on the field of battles, three miles from Matamoros, May 9th, 1846. It does not differ materially from the accounts of the two engagements already laid before the public. On the 8th Gen. T. drove the enemy from their position, and occupied it during the night.

The loss in the conflict was 12 killed and 39 wounded. On the 9th, the army resumed its march, until it encountered the enemy protected, as stated in our extra, by a ravine, with artillery on its right. This battery was stormed by Capt. May’s company of dragoons.-The number of killed and wounded on our side could not be ascertained. Private accounts make the number something over one hundred.


They dispatch states that the forces under Gen. Taylor were two thousand three hundred men, and that they had to contend about 3,800 Mexicans of the regular army and about 2,000 irregular cavalry. [JEB]

NRR 70.202 May 30, 1846 bombardment of the fort opposite Matamoros

The fort opposite Matamoros has been incessantly bombarded during one hundred and sixty hours, during which an immense number of shot and shells were thrown in it. No material damage has been sustained. [JEB]

NRR 70.202 May 30, 1846 rejoicing in New Orleans about the action of the president and cabinet on receipt of news of the war

An express from Washington arrived at New Orleans on the 17th inst. with accounts of the action of President Polk, and the cabinet at Washington, on receipt of the news of the status belli existing on the Texan frontier. The news caused great rejoicing. [JEB]

NRR 70.202 May 30, 1846 comments on the plan of the campaign revealed in the correspondence of Gen. Mariano Arista

The Galveston Civilian speaking of Gen. Arista’s correspondence, which fell into the hands of General Taylor, says:

The plan of the campaign, and the instructions from Gen. Arista’s government, ordered him to take possession of Point Isabel; this was to be the brief act of hostility; he was to fortify it as strongly as possible. He was likewise ordered to take possession on the mouth of the river and fortify it at once. [JEB]

NRR 70.202 May 30, 1846 the firing on American troops bearing captured Mexican colors

After the rout, Gen. Taylor dispatched Capt. Carr, of the dragoons, with a guard, to convey the intelligence. They bore so many of the enemy’s colors with them that they presumed in the fort that it was the Mexicans coming up to make an assault, it being dark, and the fort fired upon them, but fortunately injured no one. [JEB]
The total number of volunteers furnished by the state of Louisiana up to the 18\textsuperscript{th} inst., was 4,753, and companies were still pouring in from every direction. [JEB]

Capt. D.J. Ricardo’s corps of Ranger, seventy-one men in all, had left for Point Isabel, without waiting for their bounty and caps. [JEB]

EXPEDITION AGAINST BARITA, &c.- Captain G. informs us that General Taylor left Point Isabel on the morning of the 13\textsuperscript{th}, with about two hundred men and a supply of provisions for the army at the camp. After proceeding for a short distance, however, he deemed it expedient to return and increase his escort, and take with him a large quantity of supplies. He did so, and took up his march again for the camp, on the morning of the 14\textsuperscript{th}, with from six to eight hundred men, a park of artillery, and about two hundred and fifty wagons. He was met about midway between Point Isabel and the camp, late on the evening of the 15\textsuperscript{th}. Up to that time he had not met the enemy nor was it anticipated that he would encounter opposition, as the general impression was that the enemy had retreated from our soil immediately after their disastrous defeat on the 8\textsuperscript{th} and 9\textsuperscript{th}. And sought safety on the west bank of the Rio Grande.

While General Taylor was at Point Isabel but received intelligence that the Mexicans were gathering in large numbers at Barita, a Mexican town, immediately on the bank of the Rio Grande. On being that informed, he ordered the town companies of Louisiana Volunteers under Captains Desha and Stockton, and a detachment of United States infantry, [From Jefferson Barracks,] numbering in all regulars and volunteers, about one thousand men, composed entirely of infantry, to proceed to the attack of that town. [JEB]

General Taylor returned to-night from Point Isabel. A party of Dragoons since his arrival have swam over and brought a boat from the opposite side. The sentinel over this boat left in haste.

All the prisoners whom we had in Matamoros were exchanged day before yesterday, besides which, we gave our enemy ninety-seven wounded men.

P.S. The camp is hurraying for the patriotism of the citizens of New Orleans, having just heard of their reception of the news of our situation and the promptness with which they acted.

From the Picayune Extra, May 19- On Saturday, the 16\textsuperscript{th}, intelligence was received from the General Taylor that the intended crossing the Rio Grande, just below his camp, by making a bridge with his wagons. So far every thing looked favorable to his design. The fleet had sailed from off the Brazos to the mouth of the river, and were to send up detachments to co-operate in the attack upon the Barita.

Arrival of the Volunteers- Expedition against Barita- Camp at Point Isabel, Brazos Santiago. [AEK]
These troops embarked on the morning of the 15th, on the steamers Neva, Leo and Cincinnati, and were landed at the Brasos at 1 P.M. and immediately marched for the Rio Grande; the steamers being ordered to ascend the river and transport the troops and their ammunition across. Commodore Conner with his whole squadron, consisting of the steam frigate Mississippi, the frigates Cumberland, Raritan, and Potomac, sloop Mary, the brig Lawrence, and the schr. Santa Anna, at the same time weighed anchor and sailed for the mouth of the river intending to assist the troops in crossing with his boats, and to add in the attack with his men. The expedition was under the command of Colonel Wilson. [JEB]

**NNR 70.203 May 30, 1846 departure of the steam schooner Augusta with wounded**

On the 15th, the steam schooner Augusta, sailed for St. Joseph, with all the wounded that were able to be transported, taken from the battle of the 89th and 9th instant. [JEB]

**NNR 70.203 May 30, 1846 letter from a correspondent at Point Isabel**

A letter from Major L.J. Beall, to his brother Major B.L. Beall dated Point Isabel, Texas, April 27th, 1846.

My Dear Brother,- I wrote you a long letter yesterday, giving you the melancholy tidings of the death of your son-in-law poor Porter which I despatched by way of New Orleans. This morning about half an hour since, Mr Catlett arrived, and will depart immediately for Austin. Gen Taylor announces through him that hostilities have commenced. I have no but a moment left to give you an account of Porter's death, which from all I can learn, was of a most cruel nature. He was sent out with a party of ten men, to gain some intelligence concerning the late lamented Col. Cross (now ascertained to be murdered.) He was sent out on this duty somedays, when he met with a Mexican sentinel who snapped his piece at him and retreated to the woods, being prused by the men, they came on a camp, where they found nine horses belonging to the Mexicans, which they mounted. On their way back to Gen Taylor's camp they were surrounded by forty Mexicans, and fired upon. Pat Flood was killed, Porter wounded, but not before he had discharged both barrels of his guns with effect. This occurred during the heavy rain, and the men with Porter were unable to discharge their guns, and retreated to the chapparel, only one man remaining near enough to see what took place afterwards. Flood was surrounded immediately and stabbed with knives, and the man things they served Porter in the same manner after he had fallen from his horse. I have only time to express the deep and heartfelt regret that has followed this sad occurrence throughout the army; and the feelings of sorrow which I sympathise with you in this loss to your family.

A note from the camp just received, informs me that a squadron of dragoons under the command of Capt. Thornton, has been surrounded by about one thousand mounted Mexicans, and among other disasters Kane was killed, and Hardee taken prisoner. Mr. Catlett is about leaving, and I cant add another hasty word.

Your affectionate brother

L.J. BEALL

[JEB]

**NNR 70.-203 May 30, 1846 A Letter from Major L. J. Beall, death of Lt. Porter**

A Letter from Major L. J. Beall, to his brother Major B. L. Beall dated Point Isabel, Texas, April 27th, 1846.

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Your affectionate brother,

L. J. Beall.

[GLP, AEK]

NNR 70.-203-204 May 30,1846 account of the search for Lt. Porter

Lieutenant Porter. The Providence Journal publishes a letter from an officer under Genl. Taylor giving an account of the search for the body Lieut., Porter from which some idea of the nature of the campaign may be derived. The letter says,

"As soon as the news of Porter's being shot was made certain, I was ordered, with a party of fifty men and two officers, to go and find his remains, if possible also get hold of some of the rascals by whom he was killed. I started at daybreak on the 22d, with two day's rations, having as guides the same men who had been with Porter. We marched, the first day, twenty-five miles, and encamped, as my guides assured me, within two miles of the place where they were fired on.

I cut a place in the 'chapparel' and stowed my men away so snugly that you might have passed a hundred times without suspecting a soul was near. I hoped, by keeping thus unseen, and making a very early start, to come down upon a nest of the scoundrels before they scattered for their daily scouts, and help myself to the whole of them. After marching about four miles, however, the nest morning, my guide gave up, admitted that he was mistaken in the trail, and could give me no farther assistance. All the other men who had been with Porter said the same. They could tell me nothing, save their belief that it was in a certain direction toward which they pointed.

My guides having all thus failed me, I had nothing to do but try my own resources, so terracing our footsteps about eight miles, I struck off right through the 'chapparel,' steering by compass in the course which would 1 thought, intersect Porter's trail. Of the difficulty of this march I can give you but a faint idea. Most of my men were old Florida soldiers, and they all declared that their worst marches in its swamps and hammocks were play to this.

The 'chapparel,' is made up of a variety of strong gnarled shrubs, or rather bushes, from six to twenty feet high, all bearing thorns, and all so crooked and twisted that you cannot look at them without squinting, between these it is filled up with prickly pear, Spanish bayonet, and an endless variety of other plants, vines &c., all having the one common property of being full of thorns, spikes and prickles. We had often to cruel, and almost constantly to walk bent nearly double.

After penetrating about four miles in this manner, we came at last to a thicket of an entirely different character, composed almost solely of a dry, white, thorny bush, without leaves, and so closely matted together that it looked as if you could hardly run your arm into it. My advanced guard halted and said they could not get through
it. I told them they must try, and by beating the bushes aside with butts of their muskets, they made a place large enough for one an to crawl in.

The labor of the men in front was so severe that I had to change them every few minutes, and by the time I had gone a mile in this slow and painful manner, I saw from the general exhaustion of the men, that it was useless to attempt getting farther. I then sent two of them up the highest bush I could see, for trees there were none, to discover the nearest outlet, but in every direction hey could not see any thing but' chapparel.' There was nothing for it, therefore but to order and about-face and take the back track, until we emerged from this horrible wilderness of thorns.

My two officers were almost exhausted, and two of the men taken sick, from the terrible heat in this dense thicket, where not a breast of wind could relieve the close, sultry, unhealthy atmosphere, and where not a drop of water was to be had. When we got to water again every man would, I believe, had it been deep enough, have plunge in head foremost; fortunately it was nearly milk warm, so that unrestrained indulgence was not very likely to injure them.

My scout was entirely unsuccessful. My guide had misled me so far wrong that I could not get right, and was compelled to return on the third day, having marched at least fifty five miles, and bringing back nothing save the thorns, prickly pear needles, and the ticks, with which we were most abundantly garnished.

My knees and arms, from the wrist to the elbow, bore a striking resemblance to pin-cushions.

Poor Porter still lies, no doubt, a prey to the brigands, and the only way to obtain his remains will be by bribing some Mexican to bring them in. he has left young wife and child utterly destitute, save the pensions which , for five years, they receive from the noble generosity of our country--twelve dollars and a half per month. [AEK]

NRR 70.209 June 6, 1846 British steamer Terrible rumored ordered to Oregon

The British Steamer Terrible.--An article in Wilmer and Smith's Times, states as a rumor, that "twenty gunners, two sergeants, two corporals, and two bombardiers, under the command of Captain Blackwood are to be despatched by the British Government in their war steamer, the terrible, to Oregon early next month; the vessel is to take an adequate supply of guns and stores; and 3,000 excavators are to be sent to the same destination with all possible speed. This force and these men are professedly sent to the Hudson Bay Company's territory, but it would be useless to shut our eyes to the fact that the bar announcement of such an expedition, while the territory in question forms the subject of negotiation between the two Governments, is calculated to produce no small excitement in American amongst the parties who have been striving so zealously to fan the smoldering embers into a blaze." [AEK]

NRR 70.209 June 6, 1846 commissions for production of uniforms

Army Clothing.--Three of our large manufacturers, Messrs. McCallment, Dupont and Whippley, have received commission from the United States, for the manufacture of 60,000 yards kerseys, and 20,000 yards blue cloth for the use of the United States Army--Phila. North American [AEK]

NNR 70.210,70.304 June 6, 1846 French notions about the war, the intention of France to interfere to prevent annexation of Mexican territory by the United States

[June 6, 1846] In relation to Mexico and the United States, the Paris correspondent of Wilmer and Smith's Times, writes, that the subject "excites considerable interest here; but little is said thereon, either in conversation or by newspapers. The latter, however, carefully translate all intelligence they can find in the American or English papers bearing upon the subject. Of course, there is but one opinion, that if the poor devils of the Mexicans go to war with the United States, they will get a most terrible licking. From what I can collect, I am of the opinion that the United States, at present, were to attempt to conquer Mexico, or even to annex any considerable
portion of its territory, they would cause great satisfaction in France; and in all probability, would have to encounter the decided hostility of the French government. A reference to M. Guizot’s very remarkable speeches on the Texan question will show France attaches very great importance to the preservation of Mexico as a separate union, and that, apart from that consideration, it would regard unfavorably any further aggrandizement of the United States. Mr. Polk, it is true, has declared that neither France nor England shall interfere in the affairs of the American continent; but, then, M. Guizot has also declared in the most formal manner, in the name of France that it will, in spite of Mr. Polk, interfere as often and in such a manner as it pleases in American affairs. I say again, then, that my opinion is that any seizure of Mexican territory by the United States government would be stoutly objected to by France; and, no doubt, also by England. It would be ludicrous in me to presume to advise American statesmen as to the course to adopt in the present posture of affairs; but I say to American journalists – wait! wait! wait! and in a few years Mexico will be yours; but if you attempt to seize it now, or any portion of it, you will most likely have to count with England and France, and in that case you may depend upon it that England and France united will be too strong for you. [JCB]

[July 11, 1846] Paris, June 15. The Journal des Debats lately published a remarkable article on the state of affairs between Mexico and the United States. Our contemporary, says an English paper, asserts that Mr. Polk has only gone against Mexico to compensate for his defeat in Oregon, and to regain popularity. It thinks Mexico is totally unable to resist the United States, and that existing hostilities will result in dismemberment. It thinks the states will endeavor to seize the Californias to make up for their being obliged to lose Oregon, and that the Californias are infinitely more valuable. It views all this with regret, but beyond a few sneers at Mr. Polk, for whom it appears to have cherished the most profound contempt, it says nothing offensive to the United States. It points out the necessity of France and England interfering in the matter, in order to bring about a reconciliation, and to protect Mexico. It alleges that France has interests at stake in Mexico which call promptly for such interference. [JCB]

NRR 70.210 June 6, 1846 the Nashville "Union" announces the design of government to take and to hold California

"We understand, from a reliable source, that it is the intention of the Government to send a force to California sufficient to take possession of that country and hold on to it." – Nashville Union. [JCB]

NRR 70.211 June 6, 1846 express riding to carry the news

Express Riding--Probably the most extraordinary equestrian feat of modern times, was accomplished the other day by Fred. Tyler, a youth of fifteen years of age who rode the express between Blakeley (opposite Mobile) and Montgomery, bringing the late news from the seat of war. The distance one hundred and ninety miles, was accomplished in thirteen hours--and during the entire night; he caught and saddled his horses--none of which were in readiness, as he was not looked for by those having the horses in charge.--He was rewarded with a contribution purse of seventy dollars. [AEK]

NRR 70.212 June 6, 1846 difficulties in organizing volunteers

THE ARMY OF VOLUNTEERS. The apprehension was expressed in a preceding number, that the government would find no little difficulty in arranging the several corps of volunteers – especially in relation to the requisition under which they were called out.

Our requisition came from General Taylor, in virtue of existing laws. The most of the volunteers that have yet started for the seat of war, have gone under this requisition.

Next we have a requisition made by Major General Gaines, for some eight or nine thousand men. Under this requisition the Kentucky volunteers paraded, and the Louisville Legion, nearly a thousand men have proceeded to New Orleans. We have it now stated from Washington, that General Gaines’ requisition will not be recognized
by the government. What is to be done in this case?*

And next we have the requisition made by the president upon the several states, for volunteers under the act passed by congress on the 11th ult.

The term of service authorized by the last mentioned law, is six months. Under the other requisition, three months is the hunt.

In a general order issued on the 18th of may, 1846, to Gen. Gaines, the secretary of war directs him to countermand his call for "the several regiments of mounted gun-men," which were to rendezvous at Fort Jesup, as it would interfere with other arrangements. The order adds, "The volunteer force called into service from Louisiana, Alabama, &c., on your authority, and which you have previously reported, I am instructed to say, meets the approval of the department." [JCB]

NNR 70.212 June 6, 1846 various detachments to proceed to Texas, Flying Artillery


Company E. Capt. Merchants, has orders to proceed from Fort Trumbull, New London, to garrison Fort Adams. [AEK]

NNR 70.212 June 6, 1846 General Plan for Conducting the War with Mexico.

That the President of the United States has calculated upon the probability of a war occurring with Mexico, no one who read his annual message to Congress of December last, could doubt for a moment.--the tenor of that message sufficiently indicated his view to Congress on the subject, to prepare them fully for such a contingency. The President's political opponents indeed insist that he not only considered such an event to be probable, but that he took such measures and gave such orders as to inevitably produce that result, whether designedly or not. The truth or falsity of this insinuation will in due time no doubt be ascertained; until then the executive is entitled to such a fair share of public confidence as is necessary to a successful conduct of the war, with a view to its speedy and successful termination.

So far as we can judge by the present spirit of the public journals, the question of the origin of the war, seems to be, by general consent, postponed.--as a family dispute which can be settled hereafter. We are at war, --and all hands--and all hearts, are required to use efforts to aid the government in making that war as brief as possible. On this point all political parties speak and think alike. To carry out this the representatives of every party in congress vote alike. The government meets with no opposition to their call for either men or money to prosecute the war, any more than to their recommendation to "recognize the existence of the war," which we believe not one member in congress opposed, though some few votes dissented from the expression of opinion as to the provocation for war with which the declaration set out. The war my be assumed as having been virtually, unanimously authorized by congress, and as now being as unanimously sustained by the people, so far at least as to enable the government to prosecute it with every energy, to a successful termination.

Thus armed and thus countenanced, the country cannot but look with deep solicitude to the government for an able conduct of the war. How much there is dependent upon this.

It was said above that the president must have at least contemplated the strong probability of a war with Mexico, and this implies of course, that he must have prepared some general, comprehensive plan, for carrying on the war and for achieving the object of which the war was commenced.

That no general plan has been arranged, should not be concluded from the fact that no publications of such plan has been made. The government might not deem it good policy to announce their designs as to conducting the campaign.
This may be true as to details, and as to some general views on foreign relations. The Executive is fairly entitled to have some state secrets, as well as secret service money.

But, allowing full latitude to these, there must be, or certainly should be, well arranged by the government, some general plan for conducting the war, some distinct outlines as to both means and ends, sufficient to satisfy people, jealous of both their honor and their interests, that their confidence is deserved, and that the sacrifices which they are called upon to make in the cause of their country, are entrusted to the management of competent authorities, and will be well improved. The country is looking to the government with profound anxiety for the announcement of so much of their views as fairly come within the scope of these remarks. [AEK]

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<tr>
<th>NNR 70.212 June 6, 1846</th>
<th>Brig. Gen. Wool to muster troops bordering Ohio and Mississippi rivers</th>
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<td>Brigadier Gen. Wool, U.S.A., is said to be now on his way to the northwestern states bordering on Ohio and Mississippi rivers, having been commissioned by the president to muster the quota of troops required of those states into the service of the United States, and to expedite them to the scene of action on the Mexican frontier. [AEK]</td>
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<th>NNR 70.213 June 6, 1846</th>
<th>letter about traders to Santa Fe departing Independence despite news of the war</th>
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| SANTA FE TRADE - Independence, Mo, May 16, 1846. Since last May, the scene has entirely changed in our town. Instead of great bustle of emigrants for Oregon or California, with their wagons crowding our streets, laying in their outfits for their journey across the plains, we have a great crowd of Mexicans and traders to Santa Fe and Chihuahua. It is supposed that we have at least two hundred Mexicans in the town and vicinity, at this time. Messrs. Aguira and Skillman arrived here a few days since in advance of the main company, making the trip from Chihuahua in forty-six days. The present week several companies have arrived, among them Peo Semirane, Jose Gonzales, and Louis Yaulwager Mexicans, who are on their way to purchase goods. They came in the early part of the week: also, James Magoffin, with others from Chihuahua, have also reached here. These various companies have brought in an immense quantity of specie, amounting to about three hundred and fifty thousand dollars. These Mexicans had to make forced marches between Chihuahua and Santa Fe, owing to the hostilities of the Indians, who pursued them for the purpose of robbing them, and were much pressed.

About forty wagons have left for Santa Fe and Chihuahua this week; and others are preparing to leave shortly. The late war news from Mexico does not seem to intimidate the traders. They are determined to push ahead, let what will turn up. They feel very sanguine of success in their enterprise, and say they believe they will not be molested, as the northern States of Mexico are in favor of the trade being kept open at all hazard. What will be the result, time only can determine. It is believed by many, that the trade will greatly increase in consequence of the ports of the gulf and Pacific being closed by our vessels, and thus having this only point through which they can safely receive goods. We trust that such may be the result of a war which cannot be sanguinary. St: Louis Republican [JCB] |

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<th>NNR 70.214 June 6, 1846</th>
<th>Incidents of the Campaign.</th>
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| Latest from the Army. No official accounts have reached the public from the army on the Rio Grande, since our last. The arrival at New Orleans on the 28th ult., of the statesmanship Telegraph, in twenty-six hours, from Point Isabel, via Galveston, furnishes the latest intelligence.

Barita, was taken without opposition, on the 17th, by Col. Wilson, with a detachment or 300 regulars and 350 volunteers, this was the first post occupied by the Americans on the south side of the Rio Grande.

Matamoros, Taken. An express arrived on the night of the 19th, from General |
Taylor, announcing that he had crossed the Rio Grande and taken the city of Matamoros, without opposition. The Mexicans had fled the city. Their army were deserting in battalions. They were in a state of starvation, having been suddenly collected, without sufficiency of provisions.

Part of two U.S. regiments having arrived, were stationed at Brassos Point, waiting Gen. Taylor's orders to march for Matamoros.

The steamer Sea reached Isabel on the 10th, filled with volunteers. The Alabama left same day for New Orleans.

The Mexican army certainly behaved bravely, ad were ably commanded during the battles of the 8th and 9th of May. Disciplined bererans have seldom acquitted themselves better, under similar circumstances, even including Napoleon's forces at Waterloo.

Capt. Auld thinks the whole number of our killed and wounded must amount to more than 300; besides the wounded taken to St. Joseph's, there are now forty at Point Isabel too badly wounded to be removed. All but three, it is tough, will recover.

There are three Mexican prisoners having but one leg between them all.

The wounded at Point Isabel, were doing well.

After being shot in the arm, Col. McIntosh received a bayonet wound in the mouth which passed through one side of his head. There are hopes of his recovery.

The condition of the brave and esteemed Captain Page is melancholy indeed. The whole of hi lower jaw, with part of his tongue and palate, was shot away by a grape shot. He, however, survives through entirely incapable of speech. He communicates this thoughts by writing on a slate, and receives the necessary nutriment for the support of life, with much difficulty. He does not desire to live, but converses with cheerfulness and exultation upon the success of our army.

Captain Thornton's escape, at the time his company was so badly cut up, is almost incredible. After carrying him safely over a high hedge enclosure, into which he had been decoyed, his horse bore him safely over several other fences and deep ravines, swimming the Rio Grande, above Matamoros; then passing down below the town on the opposite side.--in attempting to leap a broad ditch he missed hi footing, when both horse and rider were thrown.--By the fall, Capt. T. was so stunned that he was soon after taken up by the Mexicans, perfectly unconscious of what had happened. After the battle of the 9th he was exchanged and restored to our army. [AEK]

NNR 70.214 June 6, 1846 expedition against Santa Fe planned

MOVEMENT AGAINST SANTA FE. It was a matter of course, if war with Mexico occurred, that our government would immediately take measures for securing Santa Fe.

An extract of a letter written by a U.S. senator, "in confidence of the government," on the day after war was recognized by congress, to Col. R. Campbell, and to the governor of Missouri, is published in the St. Louis Republican of the 22nd of May, which says –

"Our first care in this sudden change in our relations with that country was to try and take care of our Santa Fe trade. For this purpose, it will be proposed to the people of New Mexico, Chihuahua, and the other internal provinces, that they remain quiet and continue trading with us as usual, upon which condition they shall be protected in all their rights and treated as friends. To give effect to this proposition and to make sure of protection to the persons and property of our traders, (besides the proclamation of the president to that effect,) Col. Kearney will start immediately with three hundred dragoons; to be followed as quick as possible by one thousand mounted volunteers from Missouri, and with authority to engage the services, if necessary, of all the Americans in that part of the world. This military movement will be to make sure of the main object, to wit: peace and trade, to be secured peaceably if possible, forcibly if necessary. For, unless they accept these conditions, the country will have to be taken possession of as a conquest. This, however, we hope will not be necessary, as it will be so obvious to the interest of the inhabitants
of that part of Mexico, (too far off from the central government to have any effect in general hostilities,) to enjoy the benefits of peace and trade, with the full protection of all their rights of person, and religion.

This letter caused a great deal of excitement in St. Louis. A book was opened for the enrollment of names of persons desirous of entering upon an expedition to Santa Fe. The Republican says that a gentleman – understood to be the bearer of important dispatches from the government to the governor of Missouri and Col. Kearney – arrived at St. Louis on Thursday, and would proceed on his route as fast as steam could carry him. No doubt seemed to be entertained that the statement contained in the letter was true, and that a requisition on Missouri for one thousand mounted volunteers would be speedily made. The requisition, it is said, can be filled immediately. [JCB]

NNR 70.214-215June 6, 1846

COMMANDER OF THE AMERICAN ARMY Major General Scott. From announcements which made their appearance in the official journal at Washington, as well as elsewhere, it was understood that General Scott, who, next to the president, is commander in chief of the army of the United States so soon as sufficient forces were concentrated upon the frontier, for an effectual invasion of Mexico, was to proceed to the field and assume command. The Union of the 16th ult., for instance, the following article, under the head of

“Military arrangements. During the week the first active preparations have been made to give effect to the measures of congress for a vigorous prosecution of war with Mexico. We do not doubt that large discretion given to the president, will be felt to be in safe hands. While the public may rest assured that the utmost care will be used to control the economy, and to secure a force competent to the protection of the national honor, and to a speedy termination of the war, we do not apprehend that the authorized number of troops will be immediately mustered into service.

“True economy and a due regard to the high national interests, however, make it indispensable that a force shall be at once put into active service extraordinary for us in point of numbers, as large that officers of the highest rank will of necessity be in command. From the mixed character of the corps – partly of regular troops and more largely of volunteers – it seems natural that the general chief of the army should take the field – and we assume that Gen. Scott will, as a matter of courage to assume command.”

The foregoing article, and others of like idea rendered it certain that the president, at that designed that Gen. Scott should have command of the army intended for the invasion of Mexico.

Subsequent publications have led the public to apprehend that the views of the president in this aspect have changed. The official journal for two weeks past remained silent on the subject while papers out of Washington, however, have not presented silence. It is feared that an unpleasant difficulty is experienced.

The Philadelphia North American, of the 26th has an article on the subject which assesses "There is serious reason to believe an effort is being made by the administration to supersede Gen. Scott in the command of the southeastern army!!! In order to present the case fairly, it is necessary to refer to the circumstances which brought about his selection to this post. After the first indications of his return from the frontier, Gen. Scott was called in for council as to military operations. It was then presented to him by the president and secretary of war to proceed to the Rio Grande and take command of those forces – in plain terms, they desired to displace Gen. Taylor. With all the true instincts of a commander and the noble qualities of a man, Gen. Scott respectfully requested to be relieved from such duty. He stated that Gen. Taylor was his personal friend – they had served on the field of battle together – he had always shown himself superior to every emergency in which he had been placed, and was a brave and gallant officer, and would come out victoriously. Afer this urgent remonstrance, at various interviews, the subject was renewed, and it was then submitted whether he would accept the command of forces ordered by congress. To this he readily assented, alleging that General Taylor would then have no proper ground for exception, inasmuch as his higher rank would entitle him to the position, and could not be regarded as any disparagement to Gen. Taylor. When this understanding had been perfected, the president at once entered into what was presumed to be very confidential intercourse with Gen. Scott, and they were closeted nearly two days without interruption of any sort, in arranging the
It was well known with what a cordial and universal response the selection of Gen. Scott was received all over the Union, and by men of all parties. – The echo found its way back to Washington, and fell upon the ears of some high office, in anything, but grateful notes. I shall not say how much or how little the prospect of a future, beyond the successful termination of this Mexican war, may have influenced those in power in the course of conduct which has been manifested towards Gen. Scott since this acclimation was heard; but I know, and proclaim it, that the president and his advisers have acted with marked coolness, and in a manner utterly at variance with their recent profession. Whether this be the result of cause and effect, is left to others to judge.

During all these consultations and councils, no order of any sort was issued to Gen. Scott. The president expressed his desire he should take command of the army, when it was mustered into service, and General Scott made but one stipulation, viz., that in the event of war with England, he should be permitted to return from the frontier, to the more honorable command, which was granted.

Thus stood matters until about nine days ago. – Gen. Scott was all the while pushing forward his arrangements, and was devoting night and day to the organization of troops. Then, much to his surprise, the president, and the secretary of war, and others connected with the administration on different occasions, renewed the suggestion, that he ought to go to the seat of war. He replied as before – Gen. Taylor had accomplished as much as any officer could do, under the circumstances – had proven himself in every way capable of coping with the enemy, and deserved whatever laurels were to be won from the campaign on the Rio Grande. Still it was pressed upon his attention, so as to become disagreeable. – About this time, (a week ago,) it became necessary to frame a bill systematizing the details of that granting the supplies. This was confided to General Scott, and was laid before the military committee of the senate in his handwriting. It was done with the knowledge and consent, and I believe at the request of the war department.

The military committee of the senate met, and Mr. Marcy, the secretary of war, appeared in person before them – a proceeding altogether unusual. Several members being absent, a section was introduced without any conference with General Scott, which appears as the very first in the bill reported on Tuesday morning last by Col. Benton. It is as follows:

Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled, that the president of the United States be, and he hereby is authorized to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of senate, two major generals, and four brigadier-generals, in addition to the present military establishment.

Within the last few days Gen. Scott being still without orders, the subject not being resumed, and this bill, itself singularly expressive, being before congress – he addressed a letter to the president, stating at length his reasons for declining the appointment to supercede Gen. Taylor, and why he could, without any reflection upon that gallant officer, assume command of the whole force to be called out. No reply has been given, as yet, and it is now a matter of much doubt if he will be ordered."

The N.Y. Express intimates that a sharp correspondence has taken place between Gen. Scott and the administration, which will shortly be published.

That general Scott might not be acceptable commander to southern volunteers, we can readily imagine. Without pretending to decide whether he deserved the imputation, certain it is he was accused, of having more regard to his own prerogative of command than to the true interests of his country, in giving his orders to General Clinch, during his, General Scott’s, first campaign in Florida, not to move from the spot they were at, not to “give any aid to the interloper,” as he is said to have designated General Gaines, who was at the moment, at the head of a corps, in very much such a predicament – nay, a worse one than was General Taylor recently on the Rio Grande. Gen. Clinch’s forces, if allowed to move, might have relieved them promptly. They proposed to do so – Gen. Scott’s orders forbid them. The men under Gaines were literally in a state of starvation when subsequently relieved by Gen. Clinch.

These and similar incidents, with which southern volunteers are familiar, growing out of Gen. Scott’s unfortunate Florida campaigns, would prevent his being popular commander of volunteers from that section of the Union. The expression used by
him in making his official call upon the government for adequate forces wherewith to
commence his second campaign against the Seminoles, with a prospect of better
success, has not been forgotten by the ardent spirits that at that time rushed
spontaneously to the field, as thousands are now doing, and served their country as
devotedly as men ever did: Gen. Scott told the government upon that occasion, that
it would require such and so many troops for the ensuing campaign – “good troops –
not volunteers.”

The insinuation, the reflection, contained in this official expression from the
commander-in-chief, under whose orders these volunteers had so faithfully served,
was keenly felt and will never be forgotten. If commanders indulge preferences as to
the forces they require to fight with, volunteers will be apt to choose as to who they
will volunteer under.

It is an assembly of mainly ‘volunteers” that is now assembling on the frontier.

Yesterday, 5th inst., in the United States senate, we find a warm debate occurred,
relative to Gen. Gaines, and the above topic was introduced, and a call was made
upon the president for all the correspondence of both generals. [JCB]

Capt. Thornton.  We learn that this officer was put under arrest immediately after his
exchange, by order of Gen. Taylor. The cause of this proceeding our informant was
not at liberty to state, but mentioned that it was on complaint preferred by his
officers. There is a possibility, it is said, that Capt. Thornton may not be brought to
trial at all inasmuch as he would be entitled to demand his release and return to
duty on the firing of the first gun by the Mexicans. [AEK]

THE BATTLES OF THE RIO GRANDE.  A letter from an officer who was in both the
battles, writes to Gen. Towson, from Fort Polk, Point Isabel, May 16th, the following
account of them, which we extract from the Union, of the 30th ult.

“General Taylor having received information from the fort, on the morning of the
5th of May, that it was doing well, and the enemies shells not doing much execution,
concluded to wait at this place with his army for a few days, and on the morning of
the 6th, placed his whole force on the trenches of this work, and by united efforts of
officers and men, added greatly to its strength in the course of twenty-four hours.
About 3 o'clock on the 7th of May, General Taylor having completed all of his
arrangements, moved forward with his army and supplies, to resume his former
position opposite Matamoros, determined and prepared to push his way through – (I
must here state that it was my good luck to receive orders to join the army on this
march, and to be present at the two succeeding engagements.) – His artillery
consisted of two 18 pounders on siege carriages, intended to strengthen the fort,
and Major Ringgold’s and Capt. Duncan’s light artillery batteries. The cavalry
numbered two hundred sabers, divided into two squadrons, and the infantry
numbered about 1800 bayonets, composed of the 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 8th regiments,
with a battalion of artillery acting on foot.

At 12 o’clock on the 8th, the scouts reported the appearance of the enemy. Line of
battle was immediately formed, and the supply train (consisting of 250 wagons)
closed upon the troops. The army then advanced in this order about a mile, when
the troops found an abundant supply of water. From this position the enemy was
seen drawn up in the form of a crescent, with his left resting on the road leading to
the fort. As soon as the two armies had approached within half a mile of each other,
the Mexicans opened their batteries. Our battalion was thrown back so as to look to
the left flank, which was menaced by the enemies cavalry.

General Taylor advanced in person with the two 18 pounders, and directed them to
be placed in battery as soon as he was told that the range was good. When the fight
commenced, Ringgold’s and Duncan’s batteries moved rapidly forward some eighty
or ninety yards, and returned the fire of the enemy’s artillery. The two 18 pounders
were directed against the cavalry on the left flank of the enemy’s line. – This cavalry,
accompanied by two pieces of artillery, soon made a movement to turn our right or
to attack the train. As soon as this was observed, the 5th infantry was advanced to
the front and the right, and formed square against cavalry perceiving the square
advanced at a charge sufficiently near to discharge their escopettes, but without
doing much damage – The fire was immediately answered by one face of the square,
which emptied some dozen saddles. The head of the cavalry column then withdrew,
and continued its movement towards our rear. The 3rd infantry was then placed so
as to cover the train, and two pieces of Ringgold’s batteries disposed on the left of
the 5th. These movements were executed with great promptitude and effect. The
cavalry seeing the 3rd infantry covering the train, began a retrograde movement,
and at the same moment the two pieces of Ringgold’s battery under Lieut. Ridgely
opened a brisk fire on the column and the two pieces of artillery that accompanied it
before they could be unlimbered. This fire was so galling to the cavalry as to compel
them to retire with the utmost precipitation. During these movements Duncan’s
battery had done the enemy’s lines great damage.

The battle commenced at 3 o’clock, P.M., and after continuing for one hour and a
half, the smoke from the cannon and burning prairie (between the two armies)
became so dense that the artillery fire gradually ceased on both sides, and there was
an intermission of three-quarters of an hour. The 5th infantry was then moved
forward to the point abandoned by the enemy’s cavalry. The two 18 pounders were
also advanced along the road – the artillery battalion on Ringgold’s left, and Duncan
threw himself on the enemy’s right, supported by the 8th infantry. The battle was
renewed, and the firing continued until dark, when out train being ordered to the
rear of our new front, we all bivouacked for the night around the spot occupied by
the 18 pounders. On the morning of the 9th, Gen. Taylor determined to disembarrass
himself of his train; and with this view, it was placed in a good position, guarded by
the teamsters, the two 18 pounders, and two 12 ponders, (that happened to be in
the wagons for the defense of the fort,) with such field-works as could be
immediately constructed. The army then moved forward over the ground occupied
by the enemy the day before, and for the first time got an idea of the great havoc
and distruction that had been done. – 150 of the enemy had been buried the night
before, and upwards of 100 were lying dead on the field. – Most of the wounded had
been carried off, but enough remained to tell the dreadful havoc that had been
produced in their ranks. They acknowledge their forces to have been upwards of
7,000, and their loss in killed and wounded 500. The loss sustained by our army was
46 killed and wounded; among the latter three officers, one of whom, Major
Ringgold, has since died.

General Taylor had not advanced far before he was informed that the light troops
had discovered the enemy, occupying a strong position three miles this side the fort,
and prepared to receive him.

This accompanying sketch represents the position of the enemy as near as could be
ascertained. The artillery and infantry of the line were posted as indicated, and their
light troops filled the woods up to line A B. General Taylor threw forward one
hundred as skirmishers, who engaged those of the enemy and drove them back.
Ridgely’s battery pushed along the road until it gained the point C, when it opened
upon the guns of the enemy. The 5th, 3rd, 4th, and 8th regiments of infantry were
put into the brush on each side of the road, extended as light infantry. Captain May
was then ordered to charge the three guns pointed down the road with his squadron
doing gally, and the men driven from their pieces.
The 5th infantry followed up the charge and took possession of the guns. General La
Vega surrendered his sword to Captain May. Duncan’s and Ridgely’s batteries rushed
forward, gained the center of the enemy’s position, and directed a terrible fire on the
flanks of his broken lines, while the 8th and 5th attacked him from the front; the
Mexicans gave way and all the rest was rout. In this battle the slaughter on the part
of the Mexicans was immense – between one and two hundred were made prisoners
among them twenty officers, eight pieces of cannon, a number of standards, ten or
twelve wagon loads of ammunition and arms, 500 pack mules, besides a large
quantity of camp equipage, &c., were also captured. General Arista’s private
baggage, portfolio, with all his instructions from Toruel, the secretary of war, and a
great deal of useful information was also got possession of. Among the latter was a
map of the country showing the dispositions of his army since it crossed the river, a
copy of which I send you.

After detailing the casualties, already mentioned in former accounts; the letter
proceeds –

The rout was followed up by Duncan’s and Ridgely’s batteries, and Captain Ker’s
squadron of dragoons, moving at a rapid pace on the road taken by the enemy. The
infantry also followed in close pursuit. The second day after the battle an exchange
of prisoners was made, and the dragoons previously captured by the Mexicans joined
our ranks.
The cannonading and the bombardment of the fort were kept up by the Mexicans until the evening of the 9th. They established one mortar battery on this side of the river, and arranged their others so as to bombard the fort from three quarters of a circle. Astonishing to relate that, although 1,500 shells and 3,000 round shot were thrown at the fort during the siege, only three were killed. Among them the gallant Major Brown, its commanding officer. He was struck in the leg by a shell, mortification took place, and he dies while hearing the guns of our second battle. It is the intention of this regiment, the 7th infantry, to gather the shot and shells thrown into the fort, and from them to erect a monument to his memory. This can be easily done, as all their projectiles are copper.

The following account is from the pen of an officer who bore his share in the duties and dangers of scenes he so graphically describes:

Camp opposite Matamoros, May 13, 1846. On the 1st of May he army under Gen. Taylor took up its line of march at three o'clock, P.M., for Point Isabel, thirty miles distant, in order to force up from that point provisions, which were necessary to the maintenance of our fort here. To defend it in our absence Gen. Taylor left the 7th regiment of infantry, Bragg's battery of four six pounders, Capt. Lowd's battery of four eighteen pounders and some convalescents as garrison – the whole under he command of Major Brown of the army. We had heard of the crossing of six or seven thousand of the enemy to oppose our march to our depot, and expected to fight them going down – but did not meet them. On the 2nd instant, in the afternoon, we reached Point Isabel, and on the 2d heard the bombardment of our fort at this place. This bombardment continued at intervals for several days. In the meantime, Gen. Taylor – having learned by express from Major Brown that he could hold the fort – put his whole command to work in the entrenchments at Point Isabel, the basis of our operations, and having made it sufficiently strong and loaded about three hundred wagons with provisions and ammunition, he determined to proceed at once to the relief of our gallant little band in this fort, and to give battle to the enemy if necessary. He commenced his march at 2 o'clock, P.M., on the 7th instant, in the following order: A squadron of dragoons, commanded by Captain May, in front; the third brigade, composed of 3rd and 4th regiments of infantry and Ringgold's light artillery; the 5th infantry not brigaded, and the first brigade, composed of the artillery battalion serving as infantry; Duncan's light artillery and the 8th regiment of infantry – to which must be added two eighteen pounders drawn by oxen, and Capt. Kerr's squadron of dragoons protecting the rear – the wagons on the march being in a degree interspersed between the brigades for greater security.

On the night of the 7th we encamped about twelve miles from Point Isabel, without seeing the enemy. On the 8th we had advanced about five miles, when we descried the enemy some two miles distant, drawn up in great force on the open prairie, and occupying the crest of a gentle slope with their backs to the thick bushes, - called in this country “chaparral.”

We immediately formed line to the front, and advanced calmly and quietly to the attack. Our brave and considerate old general, finding that the enemy waited to receive us, and that we were passing near a lake of water, the day being very hot and the men thirsty, halted in full view of the adversary and directed the men to fill their canteens with water. – We had now a little leisure to examine the force of the enemy and its composition. The horizon in our front and to the right appeared lined with cavalry. – (Lancers and Dragoons.) The works in their rear were giving p column after column of infantry, which were maneuvered with great regularity, and batteries of artillery were observed taking their designated places in our front and on our flanks. – The lowest estimate, at the time, of the enemy’s force was 5,000 of all arms – our own being under 2,000 fighting men. We have since learned that on this occasion the enemy had over 6,000 fighting men. But the greatest difficulty, under which we labored, was the absolute necessity of protecting in an open prairie, from the enemy’s numerous cavalry, our enormous train of provisions and ammunition, without which, even if we gained a victory, we could not hope to relieve our garrison opposite Matamoros or maintain our position there. Besides we were miserably deficient as to the number of our cavalry, having only some 200 dragoons, while the enemy could not have had less than 1,800 or 2,000. The men being refreshed our general rode to each brigade, told the men to keep cool, and when the enemy charged, not to fire a shot until they were repulsed with the bayonet, and had turned their backs in fight.

Our advance the recommenced slowly, but firmly, wagons and all; and when we arrived within good artillery range, their batteries opened upon us, some of their balls bouncing along the plain and passing us in “ricochet;” others flying over our heads, and falling in the rear, showing us in a few moments that their pieces were
served with skill and precision. A movement was now observed among the enemy’s cavalry as if about to charge, and the regiments nearest them were thrown into square, or formation preparatory to the square, and so disposed as to protect our own artillery whenever it was ordered to fire. During this time, some fifteen minutes, the enemy’s fire was received in perfect silence by us, and at length, Capt. Duncan having been ordered to open upon them, advanced in a position to be protected by the infantry from the assault of the enemy’s cavalry, and one which would enable him at the same time to gall their cavalry and masses of infantry, sent a withering fire among them, which created some confusion, and which was answered by our squares of infantry by one long simultaneous shout, which showed how anxious they were to be led to the charge at once – but this could not be. – They were destined to give the strongest evidence of the courage that a soldier can exhibit, to stand in squares four hours under the enemy’s artillery, so as to protect from the enemy’s cavalry our own artillery, whilst the latter was mowing down the enemy’s ranks. As soon as Duncan opened, Major Ringgold’s thunder was heard on the right, lieut. Churchill’s from the 18 pounders in the center, and all the enemy’s batteries opening at the same time, a tremendous cannonading ensued, which, on this plain of almost boundless extent, presented a spectacle of great magnificence. The battle commenced at 10 minutes past 2, P.M. It lasted about an hour, when a large body of the enemy’s red Lancers charged the 5th infantry, with a view of cutting off our wagon train. They were met with the most perfect tranquility, and a discharge of musketry from the 5th (Gen. Brook’s) regiment told us their fate. They fled precipitately, leaving men, horses, and guidons on the field. In the mean time, the whole order of battle had been changed to conform to the maneuvers of the enemy, and our brigade, the 1st, which was the left, now found itself in advance and the whole order of battle had been changed to conform to the maneuvers of the enemy. He had also a man killed on his immediate right and left. Some of the balls fell into the centers of the squares, and ricocheted out again, without touching any one. Many dragoon horses were also killed, and the escapes were almost incredible. In Magruder’s company two men, whilst at an order, had the bayonets of their muskets cut off by cannon balls, passing just over their shoulders and between their heads. He had also a man killed on his immediate right and left. Some of the balls fell into the centers of the squares, and ricocheted out again, without touching any one. Others fell just on the outside and bounced over. – To stand patiently and coolly, in
square, under such fire for five hours, without firing a shot, is the best evidence of discipline and invincible courage that troops can give. But more: - the effect of this conduct, which none but regulars could have shown, must be considered. The next morning the enemy retreated, leaving the field strewn with their dead, and having lost, by their own confession, five hundred killed and wounded; but we have found out since that the loss was much greater. The enemy’s artillery was numerous and served with great rapidity and precision; while we had little cavalry, and they had an immense proportion of that arm. Hence our shell and grape shot told briskly among them. In short, we gained on that day a great victory. When we consider the enemy’s numbers, his numerous and effective regular cavalry, and well-drilled infantry and artillery, and above all that he had chosen his own ground, that upon which he is most accustomed to fight, - the plain, - and compare all this with our inferiority in all arms, and that we were encumbered by a train we could not afford to lose, we can only account for the result by the impression made on the enemy by our firm and unshaken advance; by the steadiness with which we repulsed their cavalry, and by the unrivalled skill of our artillery officers and men – to which must be added a perfect knowledge on the part of both men and officers that if we lost that battle the fort at Matamoros would fall, the army be destroyed, and our depot – Point Isabel – be taken, to the eternal disgrace of the American army and the ruin of the interests of our government, for some time, at least, in this part of the world. We could not afford to be driven back a single inch, and we were prepared for anything but retreat.

On the morning of the 9th, the Mexican army left the field at early dawn, and after arranging our train, we commenced the march towards our fort at this place. At 2 o’clock, P.M., we found the enemy drawn up in great force, occupying a ravine, which our road crossed, with thick “chaparral” or thorny bushes on either side before it reached the ravine, and a pond of water on either side, where it crossed the ravine, constituting a defile. They were 7,000 strong, we 54 weaker than the previous day. The general ordered an immediate attack, by all the troops except the first brigade, which was kept in reserve, and soon the rattling fire of musketry, mingled with the heavy sound of artillery, announced the commencement of action. The enemy had chosen his position which he considered impregnable – was vastly superior to us in numbers, and had ten pieces of artillery, planted in the defile, which swept the road with grape, and which it was absolutely necessary for us to take before he could be beaten. These pieces were flanked on either side by a regiment of brave veteran troops, from Tampico, and we were obliged to stand as awful shower of grape and bullet before a charge could reach them. The battle had lasted some two hours with great fury on both sides and many heroic deeds had been done, but no serious impression made, when Gen. Taylor sent for Capt. May, of the 2nd dragoons, and told him he must take that battery with his squadron of dragoons, if he lost every man. May instantly placed himself at the head of his men, and setting off at full speed, with cheers and shouts, dashed into the defile, where he was greeted with an overwhelming discharge of grape and bullets, which nearly annihilated his first and second platoons, but he was seen unhurt darting like lightening, through this murderous hail storm, and in a second, he and his men drove away or cut to pieces the artillerists.

The speed of his horses was so great, however, that they passed through the battery, and were halted in its rear. There turning, he charged back, and was just in time to rescue a Mexican general officer who would not leave his guns, and who was parrying the strokes of one of the men. He handed his sword to May, announced himself as Gen. Vega, and gave his parole. May turned him over to an officer, and galloping back to General Taylor, reported that he had captured the enemy’s battery, and the gallant Gen. Vega, bravely defending it, whose sword he had the honor to present to his commanding officer. The general was extremely gratified, and felt no doubt that a blow had been given, from which it would be difficult for the enemy to recover – and so it proved, for a portion of the fifth infantry, finding the enemy had immediately re-occupied and commenced serving their pieces, gallantly charged and brought off several; when the 8th, which had just come up, marched to the attack by its gallant commander, Col. Belknap, seconded nobly by Capt. Montgomery, and took off the remaining pieces. – Col. Belknap, leading his regiment into the thickest of the fight, seized a Mexican standard, and waiving it over his head, dashed on in front of his men, until his horse stumbled over some dead bodies and threw him. Being a heavy man, he was helped on his horse by a soldier, who in the act received a ball through his lungs, and at the same moment, a shot carried away the Mexican flag, leaving but the handle with the colonel. He dashed ahead with that, however, and his regiment carried every thing before it. At this moment, the Mexicans gave way entirely, and throwing down their arms, fled in every direction, leaving all their stores, munitions of war, arms, standards, &c. the killed, wounded, and prisoners, including among the killed those who were drowned in the Rio Grande, do not fall short of 1,500 – so that the enemy’s loss in two days amounts to at least 2,000 men, something more than the number we had in our army.
When Lieutenant Magruder introduced General Vega to General Taylor, the latter expressed his deep regret that such a misfortune should have happened to an officer whose character he so highly esteemed, and returned to him his sword which he had won so bravely. It is said also that the general gave the captive officer an order on his private banker for a large sum, for his use when he arrived in the United States.

Immediately after the victory, a regiment marched into this fort, and was received with cheers and open arms. All had done their duty – those who were left to defend our fort – those who marched to relief. I had nearly forgot to mention that no officer in the battle of the 9th was more distinguished than Lieutenant Randolph Ridgely. His conduct drew praises from the lips of every officer; but I shall never finish if I record the feats of personal valor which occurred in this battle, where officers and men fought hand to hand for hours with the Mexicans. I shall therefore conclude with the hope that in a few days we shall be in Matamoros. [JCB]

NNR 70.217 Mexican account of incidents on the Rio Grande

MEXICAN ACCOUNT OF EVENTS ON THE RIO GRANDE FROM MAY 1ST TO 3RD INCLUSIVE. We have been favored, says the New York Journal of Commerce with the following translation of an article in the Matamoros Eagle of the North, of May 4th, giving an account of what it calls the “retreat of general Taylor” to Point Isabel on the 1st inst., and the subsequent cannonading between the forts of Matamoros and the American encampment opposite. Read in connexion with the events which have since occurred, and with the well known fact that only one man, (a sergeant,) was killed in the American fort on the 3rd and 4th, and only three up to the date of the last accounts, (14th instant,) nothing can be more ridiculous, - unless it be the reports of the same affair which reached this country, representing that 700 Mexicans were killed, their batteries silenced, town burnt, &c. The Eagle limits the death of one sergeant and two artillerymen on the Mexican side during the cannonading of the 3rd, which is two more than were killed in the American fort. On the whole, the firing on both sides appears to have been nearly harmless. We should like to see what the eagle will say of the actions of the 8th and 9th. Perhaps by this time it has found out that Gen. Taylor is not so great a coward as it supposed him to be. [JCB]

NNR 70.217-218 June 6, 1846 bombardment of Fort Brown

THE BOMBARDMENT OF FORT BROWN. – The New Orleans Picayune says:

“We have nowhere else seen so circumstantial and interesting an account of the bombardment of the camp opposite Matamoros as is contained in the following letter. It is due the author to state that it was written exclusively for the gratification of “a select few” of his friends – not for the public eye.

Camp opposite Matamoros, May 13, 1846. Since the evening of the 9th, nothing has transpired here. You may know ere this, that we gave the Mexicans “jesse” on the 8th and 9th. General Taylor, after establishing his little sand fort here, right opposite the town left the 7th infantry and two artillery companies in it, with instructions to defend it to the death; he then left with the remainder of his force for brazos Santiago for supplies, and with the hope that the two mortars (which he had ordered six months ago) had arrived from Washington, and also to bring up ammunition enough for our four 18 pounders to batter down Matamoros. – General T. and command left on the 1st of this month. On the morning of the 3rd, at daylight, the Mexicans opened their batteries on our fort, or rather our grand entrenchments; from that moment it was right hot work until 12 o’clock, when both parties had to cease until their guns would cool. Were you ever shot at, in front, with a 12 pounder, in the flank with a 6 pounder, and a shell directed to burst over your head? If not, try it, just to properly enjoy a brandy toddy after the gun cooling begins. Well, after the refreshments the ball continued, varied only by a little more “vindictate looseness,” and wild-colt comet like flying shells. It was only 23 minutes after we commenced our fire before one of our 18 pound shot struck their twelve pound cannon directly in the muzzle, and knocked it, head back and stomach into the air about 20 feet, and it was accompanied by legs, hands and arms.

Seven Mexican officers were wounded, and eight privates who were round their
pieces were killed. We have not heard from their 12 pounder since, and so hot was
the little fort in which it had been placed, that they were compelled to abandon it.
When the first fire came, I rushed into my tent and jerked up my rifle, and as I
stepped out, a 9 pound shot struck my tent at the head of my bed, ranged the whole
length of my bed, cut off the back upright pole, passed out the back part through the
two other tents, and then buried itself in the parapet. I’m glad I was not “caught
napping.”

In the first half hour a sergeant of Captain Lee’s company was killed; he was
carried over to the hospital tent (full of sick) and directly after was laid on a bed, a
bomb shell was thrown through the top of the tent, lit near the bed, burst and blew
the dead man’s head off without injury to anyone else. On Wednesday, 6th of May,
and the 3rd day of the bombardment, Major brown was struck on the leg with a
bomb shell, and his leg had to be amputated – he died on the 9th. These are the
only two we have lost during the bombardment, which commenced on Sunday, the
3rd, and lasted, with little intermission, day and night, until the next Saturday at
dark. – During this time the enemy had thrown about 3,500 shots – solid and shell –
amongst us. It is incredible that the damage should have been so light. Finding we
could not dismount their mortars – they being sunk into the ground, with thick
embankments in front – and having only about 400 rounds of ammunition to our
cannon, we went to work to throw up a kind of temporary bomb proof shelter, by
taking our barrels of pork, laying sticks of wood across them, and throwing up six
feet of earth upon that. These we built at points in the fort where they would be
convenient for the men; and when we saw the smoke from their guns, everyone
would fall from the parapet, and “hole.” When we would see a shell coming we
would fall upon the ground, as the explosion takes place upwards. The Mexicans
thought they thought they had killed nearly all of us, as they were under the
impression that all who fell were shot.

It was very distressing to stand and be fired at all round and not be able to return
it “in full force and virtue;” but, knowing our ammunition was scarce, we reserved it
till the death struggle should come on. We were in hopes that after a reasonable
time of the bombarding, the enemy would attempt to storm us. Two or three feints
were made, but they could not be brought to the scratch. Five mortars were playing
on us at once, from every point of their works. General Taylor’s orders to us were to
maintain this post, and not to pretend to make any sally, or risk in the least his
position here; but in case we were surrounded after he left, hat signal guns should
be fired at certain intervals, which would notify him of the attack. This notice was
given to the general, as they heard all our guns at Point Isabel. On the 8th, the
general commenced his march with the train of provisions, and when about twelve
miles from here, he saw the enemy in position. He immediately “walked into their
affections.” We heard the firing of the cannon on both sides, and distinctly the
volleys of musketry. We knew well that it was the general poking it into their short
ribs. We had then stopped to “licker,” but at the first gun we sprung to our parapets,
opened our batteries and for one hour we had the prettiest little cannon fight that
ever a man beheld. They gave us gun for gun, while we slung at them “the best the
shop contained.”

But wait, I forgot one thing: On the first Wednesday, after the bombardment had
lasted three days, the enemy “sounded a parley.” Major Seawell and Lieut. Britton
were ordered to go out and see what they wanted. They did so, and the Mexicans
demanded the surrender of the fort for “humanity’s sake.” They gave us one hour to
surrender, or they would put us all to the sword. They brought us a letter from
General Arista to our commanding officer. The commanding officers, Captain
Hawkins – Brown had been shot just before – had a council of war called, and said
he presumed we were unanimous on such points, but that he would put the matter
to vote as to their feelings. The vote of the youngest member was taken first, and so
on throughout. This was the unanimous vote: “Defend the place to the death.”
Gen, Arista was in thirty minutes replied as follows:

That we had received his humane communication, but not understanding perfectly
the Spanish language, we were doubtful if we had understood exactly his meaning;
but from all we could understand, he had proposed that we give him possession of
this place or we would all be put to the sword in one hour; if this was proper
understanding, we would respectfully decline his proposition, and “took this
opportunity to assure his excellency of our distinguished consideration.” After the
reception of this by his “excellency” it just rained balls. The different mortars kept
two pair of “saddle bags” in the air all the time, varied only by their six and four
pounders. But in the midst of all the storm, the Star Spangled Banner still floated on
our breast – works, at the point where they directed their strongest efforts; and we
took out our two regimental colors and planted them on different parts of the wall.
This fire was kept up all night, while their musketry played on us from the rear, at
the distance of five hundred yards. We ordered our men not to fire a shot until they
came within eighty yards – but they did not approach. Their object was to exhaust us in ammunition. They knew from deserters that it was scarce and Gen. Taylor had gone for a supply. They are fond of fighting at long distance, but they can’t stand the cold steel.

Now for where I left off on the night of the 8th; Gen. Taylor and the Mexican army were twelve miles from here – between this and Brazos. The batteries at Matamoros and around us, and our fort kept up a constant firing until dark, when all ceased. We had no communication from the general, but that he had to lick ’em or die! The sound of arms had not retrograded but advanced; besides there was no ringing of bells in the city or signs of rejoicing, therefore we judged they had not the first cause for jollification. That night was the first sound napping that had been done in the fort for six nights. The next morning at daylight the enemy’s batteries opened on us as usual, we laying low, as our cannon ammunition was nearly exhausted, giving them now and then a “crowder” to let them know that the “degenerate sons of Washington” were not all dead yet. At 1 o’clock we heard General Taylor open again and from that till 4 o’clock, the battle raged with fury, and coming closer almost every shot. – The general was driving them before him in the chaparral at the point of the bayonet. About half a mile in our rear we saw their cavalry retreating for the ferry, to recross the river at Matamoros, and they were in utter confusion; we turned one of our 18 pounders to bear on the mass and gave them a “blizzard” to help them along.

Then you should have heard the loud huzzas that went up from the little spot. I sprang upon the walls near our regimental flag and requested silence. Every thing was still as death. Says I, “three cheers, altogether, for the Star Spangled Banner.” It was given in full blast; Matamoros heard the shout, and then, and not till then, every gun of the enemy ceased its fire.

General T. captured more muskets from the enemy, than we had in the fight against them – the biggest pile of ammunition you ever saw, 400 splendid mules, and baggage of all kinds enough to load the steamer “Harney.” We have lost about 150 killed and wounded – 4 officers killed, 9 wounded. Gen. T. left day before yesterday, for Brazos to bring up his mortars, which we understand have arrived. – He will also organize the volunteers expected. We look for him to night, and so soon as he arrives, we shall commence operations against Matamoros, and we will have it or faint in our traces. It is my opinion that we have crippled them so by the loss of their cannon, muskets, and ammunition, that they will be forced to retreat to Comargo. [60 miles from here,] or Monterey, [108,] but from indications they may be fortifying the city and preparing to give us a street fight; let it be so – we are prepared for any event. The American never can acknowledge the corn of the cross of Negro and Indian. Some of us will get our pates cracked, but it is our profession. Nevertheless, mark what I say – unless everything we demand is granted, our banner will in a few days waive from the walls of Matamoros. [JCB]
would be difficult, and the sudden abstraction of funds from places where they had been deposited would occasion a deal of mischief. Whether treasury drafts ought be issued – or what measure for relief would meet the views of those who had the country in charge, was a matter of profound interest. He respectfully enquired of the chairman of the committee on finances, if anything was to be done towards relieving the exchanges, no so unequal?

MR. LEWIS, knew of no changes in the present mode of conducting the transfers.

MR. CALHOUN, did not like that one senator should catechize another. The embarrassments spoken of were incident to, and necessary to a state of war. – Exchanges were against New York and in favor of New Orleans, and that was the cause. It could not be avoided by a national bank, or in any other way.

MR. WEBSTER, said that the government might afford relief by a proper administration of the existing laws, or by framing new ones. If he was called upon to point out the means of relief he should suggest a small issue of treasury notes, the effect of which would be to allay alarm, to increase confidence, to facilitate exchanges. It would not be necessary in doing this to rely upon treasury notes for the support of the war. All that would be necessary would be to aid the government itself by a transfer of its finds in the available means to treasury drafts.

MR. SIMMONS, of R, Island, concurred in this, and thought it a practical remedy for relief.

MR. NILES, of Conn., was for a vigorous application of the sub-treasury bill, and that was his means of relief.

MR. DAVIS, was glad that the resolution had been brought forward. It was time that the policy of the administration was made known in reference to the existing war. The policy laid out by the president and his friends six months since was in reference to a time of peace, and not to such a moment as the present.

After further debate the resolutions were deferred until next day, when –

MR CRITTENDEN, offered an additional enquiry, by way of amendment, and the whole were adopted without further debate.

The financial views entertained by the government will no doubt be communicated accordingly. [JCB]

NRR 70.224 June 13, 1846 Volunteers, Mexican schooners to USN, Brooklyn Navy Yard activity

Overwhelmed with articles, that ought to be inserted, many of them of primary interest, it is difficult to select. We have a number of columns in type, waiting for room, each one seeming to demand immediate insertion, amongst them the "Volunteer" movements, in all directions. Six thousand Volunteers were stated to have reached Point Isabel within a few days past. The disbursements required for the army now on the frontier are stated to approach half a million of dollars per day, rather an over estimate no doubt, but yet the amount must be heavy.

Amongst the volunteers for the Army, are noticed Henry Clay, Jun., son of Henry Clay, of Ashland Kentucky; a son of Mr. Crittenden, U. States Senator from Kentucky; the youngest son of Daniel Webster, with the approbation of his father, U. S. Senator from Massachusetts is raising, volunteer company in that state, for army of invasion.

Additions to the Navy.--The *Bonito*, *Petrel*, and *Reefer*, three schooners which are recently built at New York for Mexico, not having been paid for, have been sold by their builders to the United States government, delivered at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, and will be forthwith armed and dispatched to the Gulf,-- under command of Lieutenants Shaw, Sterret and Purviance.

Two Steamers, built also at the same port for the Mexican government, have likewise been purchased by our government, and will be ready for delivery in about a month.
The Brooklyn Navy Yard, is all bustle.--The Sloop Albany, will be launched in about two weeks.--The splendid picture, presented by the Albanians in honor of her name, has arrived, and will shortly occupy a conspicuous place in her cabin. A North River sloop was engaged on Saturday morning in landing some eight or ten Paixhan guns from the West Point Foundry, probably intended for the Albany. Workmen are likewise engaged in making ready the store ship Relief and the sloop Boston.--Nothing is said about preparing the frigate Macedonian, Lexington, or the frigate Sabine, the latter of which is on the stocks. There are now some eight hundred additional hands of all kinds who have been placed in employment since the arrival of recent orders for fitting out the government vessels. [AEK]

NNR 70.225 indignation of disbanded volunteers

A letter from New Orleans says: "The disbanded mounted gun-men,' which were being raised under Colonel Lafayette Saunders, and who had been at great expense in procuring equipments, &c., have held several meetings to express their indignation at the conduct of the war department, in rejecting their services. Their disappointment seems to have been very great, and they express it in no measured terms. [JCB]

NNR 70.225 June 13, 1846 Official Reports

June 13, 1846 GENERAL TAYLOR’S OFFICIAL REPORTS, of the battles of the 8th and 9th of May, have been received at Washington, but not yet published. Despatches from him dated Matamoros, 18th, 20th, 21st, and 24th May, giving an account of the retreat of the Mexicans and of his having taken possession of Matamoros, displaying the American flag over "Fort Paredes," and referring to the embarrassments which General Gaines’ requisition for other volunteers than had been asked for in his, Gen. Taylor’s requisition, &c., &c., reached us too late for insertion in this number. [JCB]

NNR 70.226, 256 June 1846 escape of two Mexican steamers from Veracruz for Havana

June 13, 1846 THE MEXICAN STEAMERS - Montezuma and Guadaloupe. – A slip from the office of the Charleston Courier, dated May 31st says – The schooner F. A. Crown, four and a half days from Havana, reports that two Mexican steamers, Montezuma and Guadaloupe, had escaped from Vera Cruz and arrived at Havana under English colors on the 24th ult. In 6 days. [JCB]

June 20, 1846 The Mexican steamers, Guadaloupe and Montezuma have reached Havana, their officers rejoicing at their escape from the American squadron. Santa Anna is said to have connived the purchasers of these vessels.

The probability is, that British capital was obtained where with to pay for building those vessels, and that the Mexican governemtn having never paid for their construction and outfit, the capitalists concerned have paid themselves as far as they could, by taking the steamers as a purchase from the Mexican government. The British government it is thought have had no agency in this transaction. The steamers were built in New York. [JCB]

NNR 70.227 difficulties developing over requisitions for volunteers

The difficulties which were foreseen and pointed out in the first reception of intelligence that requisitions from different authorities were being made for volunteers, are now developed, exactly as predicted. Government finds them exceedingly embarrassing, the state authorities scarcely less so, and the volunteers themselves are provoked and disheartened at the outset, by an evident want of proper arrangement in the premises. Meantime officers of the army heretofore high in estimation, are to be overhauled, perhaps, court martialled, instead of being in command at the moment when and where their experience and military knowledge ought to be available to the country. [JCB]
confusion about mustering of the Saint Louis Legion into US service, troops raised for service against Santa Fe

THE MISSOURI VOLUNTEERS, or rather, the St. Louis legion, numbering 700 men, promptly assembled under command of Col. A.R. Easton, under Gen. Gaines' requisition to aid Gen. Taylor on the Rio Grande, were utterly confounded on being informed that under instructions from the war department, General Gaines' requisition would not be recognized, and that consequently they could not be mustered into the U. States service. After endeavouring in vain to reconcile the difficulty, the legion spiritedly resolved to embark for the Rio Grande on their own hook, and had made arrangements to leave on the 23rd ult. Just as they were leaving, Col. Campbell received a letter from Gov. Edwards, then in Washington, stating that Gen. Gaines requisition on Missouri had been approved by the president, and the volunteers that had started would be accepted, but the president desired that all who had not started, would be detained for the expedition against Santa Fe. Volunteers for Santa Fe, are pouring into St. Louis. [JCB]

KENTUCKY VOLUNTEERS. The Louisville legion, appear to have been too quick for the counter orders from the war department. At least they were off for New Orleans in virtue of impulse, if not of Gen. Gaines' requisition. They will contrive to get themselves mustered into the United States service, we hope, under some constitutional clause or other. Gen. Gaines' requisition was recognized by Gov. Owsley on the 17th of May, and the volunteers on that day were called for. The Frankfort Commonwealth, of the 26th says: "The requisition has been met. Before 12 o'clock on Monday, 13 companies of infantry, and nine of cavalry had been tendered to the governor. The governor accepted them in the order in which they tendered themselves, so that there were three superfluous companies of infantry, while but one company of cavalry remains to be tendered to fill up the requisition." [JCB]

over 5,000 Tennessee volunteers for the Rio Grande

TENNESSEE. Over five thousand volunteers have offered their services already to the governor, for the Rio Grande, twice the number the state is to furnish. Ex-governor Jones, (the late whig candidate,) is raising volunteers. [JCB]

Gov. James Pinckney Henderson takes command of the Texas volunteers and proceeds to frontier

TEXAS. Gov. Henderson and a portion of his staff left for the Rio Grande on the 19th ult. [JCB]

departure of Texas companies of volunteers for the Rio Grande

A splendid company of volunteers from Montgomery, under Captain (late colonel) Jo. Bennet, left Galveston for the Rio Grande on the 29th ult. A company of about sixty mounted riflemen, under the command of Capt. Early, had started from Washington county for the Rio Grande; another company was to follow in a few days. [JCB]

general orders specifying routes of western volunteers to the frontier

ROUTE OF VOLUNTEERS. A general order from the headquarters of the army, at Washington, under date of 19th May, thus specifies the destination and routes of the
quotas of volunteers called from the western states:

"The regiments of cavalry or mounted men called from Kentucky and Tennessee, will, from their respective state-rendezvous, take up their line of march, by the best routes, via Memphis, Little Rock, on the Arkansas, Fulton, on the Red River, and Robins' Ferry, on the Trinity River, upon San Antonio de Baxar, Texas. The regiments of cavalry or mounted men called from Arkansas, will, from its state-rendezvous (say) Washington, take the same route from Fulton to San Antonio de Bexar.

"Exception one regiment of the Kentucky and one of the Illinois quota of foot – to which General Wool is charged with giving different routes, and also excepting the Arkansas battalion which will receive instructions through Brevet Brigadier General Arbuckle, all other regiments and battalions of volunteer infantry or rifle called for, from the said states, will be embarked at the nearest navigable points to their state-rendezvous, and thence proceed by water, with or without transshipment at Mobile, or New Orleans, to Point Isabel or Brazos Santiago, Texas, like the troops ordered to San Antonio de Bexar? The whole will come under the orders of the general officer in the chief command of the United States' land forces operating against Mexico."

NNR 70.227discouragement of Indiana volunteers

INDIANA VOLUNTEERS. The requisition on Indiana called for three regiments of volunteer infantry, artillery and riflemen.

A public meeting was called at Indianapolis, which was addressed by gov. Whitcomb, (a warm partisan of the administration,) who addressed the people, and exhorted them to volunteer for the defense of the country. As to supplies, he said no provision had been made by the general government for supplies of any kind, and the volunteers must pay their own expenses, until mustered into service, but be thought the general government would refund! – he stated that the Madison bank had offered to place $10,000 to his credit for supplying volunteers, but he had scruples about his right to accept it. He would consider of the proposition further, and, in case the bank would agree to advance and look only to the United States for payment, he did not know but he would accept it! Before this speech, says the statement, some were determined to volunteer, but they were discouraged and did not offer. [JCB]

NNR 70.227difficulty in supplying Ohio troops mustered into US service

OHIO VOLUNTEERS. The requisition on this state was for three regiments, 2,400 men.

Cincinnati promptly responded, by parading the following companies –

Cincinnati Greys, numbering 80, Montgomery Gaurds, 160, Washington Cadets, 80, Morgan Riflemen, 80, German Volunteer Companies, 500, total, 900.

Difficulties were encountered as to meeting expenditures. The Ohio Life Insurance and Trust Company placed to the credit of the governor of the state the sum of $10,000 to meet the immediate demands of fitting out the volunteers.

The quota of the state was filled up. The Cincinnati Gazette on announcing the fact, adds – "We regret to learn that arrangements supposed to have been completed for passing the troops into the service of the United States, and for the prompt supply of volunteers by the general government, have failed, and that major Tompkins declines furnishing supplies, or to pay for those heretofore furnished. The state officers, therefore, continue to perform these duties.

Why is the burthrn thrown upon the state officers? Why this disregard by the war department of the wants of men invited in its behalf into the service of the country? These volunteers are United States troops, brought into service under the law of the U. States. The action of the state executive has been invoked to facilitate the raising these troops for the United States, not for the state. The governor has acted promptly with mean procured of individuals and state institutions – no menas whatever having been furnished by the war department, though congress had placed $10,000,000 at the disposal of the president, for the express purpose of raising and
supplying this force. The action of the state governors and other state officers is gratuitous as it regards the general government. The act of congress confers no authority and impresses no obligation upon state officers. Why, then, are they asked to assume these onerous duties? And why, if these duties are readily assumed, and the department relieved, are they left to raise the means as best they may? Surely, if asked to perform these duties, they should be supplied with means. There is culpable negligence somewhere.

Major Tompkins, of the quarter master’s department of the army, has been here some days, but for some reason unknown to us, refuses to relieve or provide for the troops in camp! The law provides a method of mustering the volunteers into the service of the United States. This has been complied with. The law expressly provides, that when mustered into service, these volunteers shall be subject to the rules and articles of war, and shall be “in all respects, except as to clothing and pay, placed on the same footing with similar corps in the United States army.” The volunteers of camp Washington have been mustered into service, and have taken the oath according to law. They are entitled to subsistence from the United States most clearly. Under what pretext so plain a duty as to supply them is neglected or thrown upon the state, we are unable to discover. The word now is, they must wait the arrival of ge. Wool. There is great fault somewhere, and it should be ferreted out and exposed. But we are glad to learn that the governor will furnish supplies rather than let the troops suffer.” [JCB]

NNR 70.228 American consul at Veracruz and all Americans ordered to leave

It was reported that Gen. Paredes intended leaving the city of Mexico with troops to reinforce the army at the north. By an order from the Mexican government the American consul at Vera Cruz was ordered to close his office, and, with all Americans to leave in eight days from the date of the order, which was on the 18th of May.

The consul intended to embark on board of the U.S. steamer Mississippi on the 26th. At anchor off the Isla Vorda, U.S. frigate Raritan and steamer Mississippi, and off the port the U.S. sloop Falmouth. [JCB]

NNR 70.228 June 13, 1846 Maryland volunteers

Maryland volunteers. We noticed in our last, the departure on the 29th of three fine companies of volunteers, raised within a few preceding days in the city or Baltimore, for the Mexican war. Impatient of delay, they determined to report themselves at once to the secretary of war, and for that purpose took passage in the cars for Washington. No provisions having been made for their reception there, they had some difficulty in the then extremely crowded condition of the city, to find accommodations. A touch of campaigning even in the capital of their own made republic they had to begin the service with. They soon made themselves known however, and were then duly appreciated and their services were accepted. The president requested the governor of Maryland to make the appointments of that portion of “the District of Columbia Battalion composed of Maryland volunteers.” Gov. Pratt accordingly commissioned Wm. H. Watson, late captain of the Independent Blues, (of Baltimore) to lieutenant colonel of said battalion. Another company also from Baltimore joined the battalion a few days after, and the whole embarked on the 11th instant, on board the steamer Massachusetts, for the Rio Grande. [AEK]

NNR 70.228 June 13, 1846 Mexico--Latest, Vera Cruz blockade, Battles of May 8th and 9th

Advices to the 25th ult., were received at New Orleans, on the 1st inst., from Vera Cruz, brought by the barque Louisiana, Capt. Williams.

The blockade of Vera Cruz commenced on 20th May, and 15 days were allowed for all neutral vessels to load and depart. The British mail steamers will enter and leave the port as usual; but will only be allowed to take specie.

The day the Louisiana sailed, information reached Vera Cruz that Mazatlan and Lepia
had proclaimed in favor of General Santa Anna. Gen. Alvarez, in the south, was carrying on a disastrous war against the government.

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Great animosity prevailed against the Americans since the defeat of the Mexicans at Matamoros was known. The Louisiana sailed from Vera Cruz in company with the brig Helen McLeod (of Baltimore) for this port. I learn from Capt. Williams that no American vessels were left in port at the time he sailed. The packet brig St. Petersburg sailed for New York on the 20th ult.

The N. O. Picayune, June 2d, says--"The enormous forced loans which the government had imposed upon the clergy, the latter had declared itself totally unable to meet. The Metropolitan church was ordered to furnish a subsidy of $98,000 per month; the Mechoacan $35,000; of Puebla $40,000; of Guadalajara $2,000; of Durango $15,000, and of Oaxaca $8,000. These great sums per month show that the president is determined to prosecute the war with energy. He will never be able to collect such loans.

In regard to Paredes putting himself at the head of the army, El Republicano says it is uncertain whether he will repair to the Rio Grande or to Vera Cruz; but he will leave the capital as soon as congress assembles. Full accounts of the disastrous actions of the 8th and 9th had reached the capital and appeared in the official journal.

They are more accurate by far than Mexican bulletins generally, and do credit to Arista.

The news was received with profound regret, but with an apparent determination to fight the war out."

The Mexican papers claim positively that the number of the killed and wounded on the part of the Americans was more considerable than that of the Mexicans. Gen. Arista sets down the force of the Mexicans in the action of the 8th May at 3000 men and twelve pieces artillery; our numbers are stated to have been 3000 men, more or less, with great superiority in artillery. The destruction by our artillery is represented to have been severe--over three thousand shot are said to have been fired at the Mexicans in the same time discharged seven hundred and fifty shots from their artillery.

The Mexican loss on the 8th is set down at 352 killed, wounded, and missing--and they claim to have retained possession of the field of battle.

We have not the description of the action of the 9th, by Gen. Arista, as we had supposed in our has, but we have by us a journal friendly to him. His position is represented to have been gallantly forced, notwithstanding the repeated charges of the Mexican cavalry, the last of which was headed by Arista in person, and during which they actually "cut to pieces two entire companies of the Americans." The loss of the Americans is still represented as superior to that of the Mexicans.

The papers make very patriotic appeals to all good citizens to come up now to the rescue of the country.

In regard to the loan attempted to be raised from the cleft of Mexico, we have the official letter of the minister of the treasury, Senor Iturbe, dated the 13th, before the news of the actions of the 8th and 9th could have been received. It sets for the grievous necessity of money for the war, and urges the duty of the clergy to submit to the hardship forced upon all by the national calamities.

He tells the archbishop that the government has appropriated all revenues which were mortgaged, suspending, without exception, all payments to its creditors; that it withheld a fourth part of the salaries of all its employees; that all classes were called upon to make sacrifices, and the clergy must not be exempt. He then calls for a
loan of $2,400,000, payable in twelve monthly installments, commencing the 30th of June. The archbishop is called upon to partition the loan among the various bodies of the clergy.

On the 15th the archbishop replied, that he had summoned an ecclesiastic convention to meet that morning, before whom the matter would be laid; and that he would co-operate to the extent of his powers "in a war in which were at stake the two precious objects of Mexicans, its independence and its religion."

The next we hear of the loan is an announcement in El Republicano, of the 21st, that the metropolitan churches could not contribute the $98,000 a month allotted to them, as the total of their revenues will fall short of that sum. The same paper states that the collection of such sums as are assigned to the other churches is utterly impracticable in the present ruinous state of the tithes and the general depreciation of ecclesiastical property. [AEK]

**NNR 70.228** proclamation in favor of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna

The day the Louisana sailed, information reached Vera Cruz that Mazatlan and Lepia had proclaimed in favor of General Santa Anna. Gen. Alvarez, in the south, was carrying on a disastrous [. . . ]

**NNR 70.228** Gen. Mariano Paredes y Arrillaga intends to move north with troops

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**NNR 70.228** animosity against the United States

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**NNR 70.228** Mexican clergy refuse to loan funds for the war

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**NNR 70.228** Mexican account of casualties in the late battles

The Mexican papers claim positively that the number killed and wounded on the part of the Americans was more considerable than that of the Mexicans. Gen. Arista sets down the force of the Mexicans in the action of the 8th May at 3000 men and twelve pieces of artillery. The destruction by our artillery represented to have been severe. – Over three thousand shot are said to have been fired at the Mexicans by our artillery, between 2 o'clock. P.M., and 7, in the evening, when the battle closed.
The Mexicans in the same time discharged seven hundred and fifty shots from their artillery.

The Mexican loss on the 8th is set down at 352 killed, wounded, and missing – and they claim to have retained possession of the field of battle. [JCB]

NNR 70.228 patriotic effusions of Mexican journals

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The papers make very patriotic appeals to all good citizens to come up now to the rescue of the country. [JCB]

NNR 70.228 further discussions with the clergy about the proposed loan to the Mexican government

In regard to the loan attempted to be raised from the clergy of Mexico, we have the official letter of the minister of the treasury, Senor Iturbe, dated the 13th, before the news of the actions of the 8th and 9th could have been received. It sets forth the grievous necessity of money for the war, and urges the duty of the clergy to submit to the hardship forced upon all by the national calamities.

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NNR 70.228 preparations for an expedition against Santa Fe

EXPEDITION AGAINST SANTA FE. The St. Louis Republican of the 1st instant says – Yesterday capt. Turner, of col. Kearney’s staff, arrived in this city, direct from Fort Leavenworth, with instructions to the proper officer to furnish the necessary provisions, baggage, trains, &c. &c. for the contemplated expedition to New Mexico. They will be supplied at an early day, and shipped to Fort Leavenworth.

Upon the reception of the orders of the president, col. Kearney put every means in requisition to expedite his departure at as early a day as possible.

We are gratified to learn that col. K. does not go on this expedition, with the meager force which has been reported. His power, we hear, is ample to call for any force which the exigencies of the service may require. We do not know the whole amount of troops which he will deem proper to call for, but we understand that, in
addition to two companies of artillery and mounted men, he will take a large infantry force. [JCB]

**NNR 70.228**

GEN. TAYLORS ARMY. – The *Washington Union* says: - "Gen. Taylor had, according to, the last accounts, about 8,000 troops under his eagles. Hundreds and thousands of volunteers were pouring into his camp. He will soon be in advance into the enemy’s country and we shall not be surprised to hear of his reaching Monterey, about 130 miles from Matamoros about the commencement of the table land, in a healthy region, at no distant day." [JCB]

**NNR 70.228**


ARMY ON THE RIO GRANDE. The steamship *New York*, at New Orleans, from Galveston, brings papers of the latter place to the 30th of May, inclusive. A letter in the *New Orleans Commercial Times* says –

Gen. Taylor took possession of Matamoros without opposition, on the 18th. He sent out Captain Walker and a company of dragoons, on a scouting part, and to observe the Mexican Army on their retreat. They had a slight skirmish with the vanguard of the army, in which they killed several of the enemy, and took twenty-five prisoners. It is reported that the enemy are strongly fortifying Monterey, and receiving strong reinforcements. Gen. Taylor, it is supposed, has now about nine thousand men, and reinforcements coming in daily.

Gen. Taylor’s encampment is a mile from Matamoros, and our soldiers are not permitted to enter the town – the citizens of which are respected and protected in all their rights.

A correspondent of the New Orleans Deltas furnishes the following particulars of the capture of Matamoros:

On the morning of the 17th, Gen. Taylor demanded an interview with Gen. Ampudia, which was granted. Ampudia arrived at our camp, and a *big talk* was to be had.

Ampudia talked of an *armistice*: Gen. Taylor demanded an unconditional surrender of the town. – Ampudia wished the armistice: Gen. Taylor told him that the time for such things had passed; and that it was no use now to talk about it, particularly since he had been put the trouble of transporting those heavy pieces of artillery. Ampudia still hesitated; at length he proposed to exclude the public buildings and public property. "No," says the general, "I will have everything." Finally, Ampudia agreed to return an answer by a certain hour that day – and took his leave, casting a woeful look at the heavy mortars as he passed them.

The hour at which the answer was to be given arrived, but no answer came. Gen. Taylor immediately ordered preparations to be made for crossing the river; parties were sent up and down the river, to secure all boats that could be seen on either side. That night, just after dark, the army moved three miles up the river, and encamped for the night opposite the crossing. Next morning, every thing being ready, the passage of the river was commenced just after sunrise, and the whole army landed on the opposite side without firing a single gun. It was understood that the Mexican army, after throwing part of their ammunition and cannon into the river, and concealing another portion of the same, had commenced their retreat about dusk on the evening before, by way of the main road towards the interior, in number from four to five thousand men, Arista at their head.

After our troops had crossed, Adjutant General Bliss advanced towards the main fort in front of the town, and sounded a peal. The principal Alcalde made his appearance, and a formal demand was made for the surrender of the town, with a promise that all religious and civil rights should be secured to them – all private property protected. The Alcalde wished to know if the public buildings and property would be free. The answer was, every thing belonging to the government must be given up. The Alcalde then said Gen. Taylor could take possession as soon as he
thought proper, and that he would meet with no resistance. This was done, our army encamping in front of the town. [JCB]

NNR 70.228-229 a party of Americans taken and barbarously treated between Point Isabel and Corpus Christi

The Galveston News, May 29th says – "The most distressing news is the murder of a party of fifteen Americans, including two women and a child, between Point Isabel and Corpus Christi, by a party of Mexicans, exceeding in cold-blooded cruelty and of the previous atrocities of these savages. It appears that a party of fifteen, of whom Mr. Rogers spoken of above was one, left Corpus Christi for Point Isabel on the 2nd or 3rd inst. They arrived at Little Colorado just previous to the battle of the 8th ult., where they were surprised by a company of Rancheros, and being overpowered by numbers, were induced by Mexican promises to surrender as prisoners of war.

No sooner had those blood-thirsty dogs obtained possession of their arms than they stripped and robbed their victims, bound them beyond the power of resistance, and having ravished the women before their faces, cut all their throats, one fiend performing the horrible butchery. Rogers saw his father and brother butchered in this terrible manner, before his own turn came, and his own escape was owing to the fact that while the wound upon his throat was not fatal, he had the presence of mind to feign himself dead, and was accordingly, with all the balance, thrown into the Colorado, where he managed to escape unseen, and swam to the other side of the river.

Thence he subsequently made his way to the Rio Grande, was taken prisoner, sent to the hospital in Matamoros, and after the battle, exchanged. It is stated that a letter was written from Corpus Christi two days before the departure of this company, giving information to the Mexicans of their march, and of the amount of their money. It was not, we learn, without much reluctance, and some threats from an American officer, that the Mexican officer consented to exchange Mr. Rogers. [JCB]

NNR 70.229 items of information from Brazos

The New Orleans Commercial Times, June 2nd, says – "By the arrival of steamer Mary Kingsland from Brazos, which place she left on the 27th ult., eight hours after Galveston, we are put in possession of the following items of intelligence: [JCB]

NNR 70.229 arrival of Texas Rangers and infantry at Point Isabel

On the 26th, a reinforcement of 600 Texans arrived at Point Isabel; 400 mounted rangers and 200 infantry, from Padre Island. Amongst the latter is a German company, 80 strong, from Point Lavaca, said to be one of the finest looking bodies of men yet seen in camp.

It is confidently stated that Arista is concentrating his forces at Reinosa.

The troops that went by the Mary Kingsland, were to march on the 28th for Matamoros, by way of Bocca Chica and Barita.

The U.S. brig Lawrence was the only vessel of war left at the mouth of the Rio Grande. [JCB]

NNR 70.229 Mexican account of incidents from 1st to 3rd May

MEXICAN ACCOUNT OF THE INCIDENTS, from the 1st to the 3rd of May, inclusive. [From the Matamoros Eagle, May 4th.]

The first day of this month, at 11 A.M., his excellency, the general-in-chief, left his
place to join the army, which had marched a few hours previous, for the purpose of passing the river at no great distance from the enemy’s camp. In consequence of the orders given for the accomplishment of this dangerous operation, with proper security and conformable to the rules of the military art, on the arrival of our troops at the point designated, all the troops under the command of Gen. Torrejon had already occupied the left bank. The enthusiasm of our soldiers to overcome the obstacle that separated them from the enemy was so great, that they appeared sorrowful at the delay caused by the injuries received by the flatboats that had necessarily been conveyed by land on carts, and were so much damaged that they immediately filled with water on being put into the river. Nevertheless such was the activity of the general-in-chief, whose orders were fulfilled with the greatest celerity and exactness, that a few hours sufficed to transport to the opposite margin of the Bravo a strong division, with all their artillery and train of war.

This rapid and well combined movement ought to have demonstrated to the invaders, that the Mexicans have not only instruction and aptitude for war, but that these qualities appeared realized on the present occasion by the most pure and refined patriotism. – The Division of the North, encountering fatigue and overcoming difficulties, ran in search of the enemy, who covered by parapets and defended by cannons of such heavy caliber, can, with indiscusable advantage, await the attack. With deep losses, with a multitude of fortifications, the defenses were easy against those who present to them their bare breasts. But Gen. Taylor dared not resist the valor and enthusiasm of the sons of Mexico! Well he foresaw the intrepidity with which our soldiers would have rushed upon the usurpers of our national territory; well he knew that those who have so many injuries to avenge, those who have grasped their arms not to augment their own property by despoiling others, not in favor of independence of the country; well he knew, we again repeat, that Mexicans have no dread, either of forces, or fortifications, or heavy artillery. Thus it is, the chief of the American forces, intimidated the moment he knew by the proximity of the situation of his camp that our army prepared to pass the river, sallied out precipitately for the Fronton de Santa Isabel, with nearly all his troops and pieces of artillery, and some waggons.

The march was observed from this place, during which his Excellency Sr. General D. Francisco Mejia sent an express to communicate the notice to the general-in-chief. Here we must render to our heros the honor that they merit. The express verbally informed some soldiers, who had not yet reached the river, of the retreat of the enemy; they immediately set off at a run spontaneously the rest of the distance, such was the ardor and the anxious desire to come up with the enemy. The complete flight and terror that these set off with, from the frontier, to shut themselves in and evade the encounter, frustrated the active measures of Sr. Gen. Arista, given with the object of advancing the cavalry on the plain, to cut off the retreat of the fugitives. But it was not possible, even by a forced march in the night. Gen. Taylor left his camp at 2 P.M., and as fear has wings, he succeeded in getting into the Fronton; for when the cavalry got to the point where they ought to have cut them off, they were already past, and some leagues ahead. Great was the disappointment of our valiants that they could not meet the enemy face to face; Their route would have been certain, and the greatest part of the American army, who thought to cast down the Mexicans, would have perished in the first battle of importance. But we want to fight, and the Americans do not know how to use any arms except deceit and perfidy. Why did they not remain firm and fight at the foot of their flag? Why did they leave the land they iniquitously pretend to usurp? Is this the way the general fulfils his word of honor? – Has not Mr. Taylor said in all his communications, that he was prepared to repel those that offered to attack him? Why then did he run away cowardly, and shut himself up in the Fenton? The chief of the American army has covered himself with disgrace and ignominy; sacrificing, to save himself, a part of his forces that he left in the fortifications; for it is certain he would not return to succor them. He is not ignorant of the danger they run, but he calculates that his would be greater if he had the temerity to attempt to resist on the plain the bayonets and lances of the Mexicans.

We pass on to relate the glorious success of yesterday (Sunday, May 3d.) At day break our batteries opened fire on the fortifications of the enemy, and the thundering of the Mexican cannon was saluted by the drums of all the barracks and points of the line, by the bells of the parish church, and by the cheers of the inhabitants of Matamoros. In a moment the streets were filled, and all were happy that the hour had arrived to give a terrible lesson to the American camp, whose odious presence ought no longer be tolerated. The enemy answered, but were soon convinced that their artillery, although of superior caliber, could not compete with that of this place. After five hours fire, our bulwarks remained immovable from their solidity, and the knowledge displayed in the rules of the art of their construction; but it did not happen so with the fortifications of our opponents, for their parapets were completely demolished, in such a manner that by 11 o’clock, A.M., they ceased to play their artillery, and silenced their fire. For our part we continued actively the
rest of the day without the enemy daring to answer, for the parapets which they sheltered themselves under, being destroyed, they had not the courage to load their cannons, that remained entirely uncovered. The result demonstrates what is in reality the exaggerated skill of the American artillery. – They have 18 pounders, and those of our line do not exceed the caliber of 8 pounds; nevertheless the skill and practice of the Mexicans sufficed to vanquish those that handled superior arms. Unfading glory and eternal honor to our valiant artillery!

The enemy, in their impotent rage, and previous to hiding their shame behind the most distant parapets, had the barbarity to direct their arms on the city, to destroy the edifices, since it was not easy to destroy the fortifications from whence they received so much injury. The mean vengeance, that can only be in the souls of miserable cowards, fortunately did not succeed as they intended. They who so unworthily adorn themselves with the title of illustrated (illustrious?) philanthropists! But their awkwardness was equal to their malice, for nearly all the balls went over, and those that struck the houses, although they were 18 pounders, did no other damage than mark one or two holes in the walls. If those who conceived the infamous idea of destroying Matamoros, had seen the smile of contempt that the owners of the houses displayed, and their indifference for the losses they might sustain, they would have admired the patriotism and unconcern of the Mexicans, who are always ready to make the greatest sacrifices to maintain their country and independence. The brilliant 3rd of May is another testimony of this truth. In the hottest of the fire we noticed the enthusiasm of all the inhabitants. A ball scarcely fell before the children ran in search of it, without fear that another, directed by the same arm, might strike the same place. – This occurred in our presence in the principal square, where a great many citizens had collected. The triumph of our arms has been complete, and we have only to lament the death or one sergeant and two artillerymen, who died gloriously fighting for their country. The families of these victims will be provided for by the supreme government, to whose paternal gratitude they have been recommended by the general-in-chief. It will also serve to console us that the blood of those valiants has been avenged by their brave companions.

As the artillery of our bastions introduced many balls in the enemy’s embrasures, the loss of the Americans must have been very great; and although we do not know with certainty the number of deaths, the most exact information makes them 56. It is probable it is so – their abandoning their cannon since 11 A.M., in consequence of two of them being dismounted, and the rest entirely uncovered – the terror and panic with which they retreated to their farthest entrenchments at the greatest speed; their taking every thing away from the reach of our artillery – the destruction which ought to have been occasioned by the grenades which were so well directed that some were scarcely a vara (yard?) distant from the spot where they ought to have fallen – all contribute to prove that the enemy has suffered terrible injury. If it was not so, why, if they have any valor left, did they not dare to repair their fortifications during the night? It is true that from time to time we fired a few cannon in the dark, but the aim could not be certain, and nothing but cowardice hindered them from answering the fire we opened on them at the break of day; not an American has shown his head. Silence reigns in their camp, and for this motive we have suspended our fire today to a few shots, for there is no enemy to present himself within reach of our batteries. To conclude, we insert a brilliant paragraph in the answer given by his excellency the general-in-chief, to the account which he received of the proceedings of yesterday. He says, "Mexico ought to glory, especially the valiant division of the North, that a force inferior in discipline, and perhaps in numbers, and who require nearly two months to receive their necessary supplies from the Capital, are proudly defying, on an immense plain, the army of the U.S., and all the powers of that republic, who, although they can receive assistance in fifty hours, have not dared to come out of the Fronton and give us battle.” [JCB]

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**NNR 70.229 June 13, 1846 Mexican Statement of their own loss, May 8th and 9th**

Plan of Campaign. Among the papers found in the captured effects of Arista, was the morning return of the Mexican force on the day of battle, which shows the strength of the enemy to have exceeded 8,000; though it is not absolutely certain the whole of that force was on the United States bank of the Rio Grande. Gen. Arista’s aid, while making arrangements with a distinguished officer of our army for the exchange of prisoners and the care of the wounded, stated that the Mexican loss, in killed on the field of battle and drowned, was 800. Among the latter was one of the perished in his flight in the waters of the Rio Grande. In this number, the wounded and prisoners of course are not included. Fifteen hundred Mexican muskets (all king’s arms,) had been collected by our troops.
The plan of campaign, as developed by Arista's papers, was that the general, after demolishing the small force under command of Gen. Taylor, to overrun Texas; and, having effected "the conquest of that revolted province," if it should be necessary to secure the fruits of victory, it was arranged that Gen. Paredes himself should march an army of occupation into the conquered country. [N.Y. Jour. Com.] [AEK]

NNR 70.230 June 13, 1846 La Barita taken

Was the post, in Mexico, (according to the geography assumed by the president of the U. States,) first occupied by the American forces in the present war.

It was taken possession of by Col. Wilson, on the 17th May, 1846. An officer under his command furnishes the following account of the post and of its capture:

"La Barita, May 17, 1846.--I am here to select a site for the depot of our new base of operations and to intrnchit. This village is about then miles from the mouth of the river and the same distance from Brazos Santiago, or Fort Polka, (Point Isabel.) the prominent features which might induce me to decide upon this as the proper point for the depot, are, that it is the first high land you reach in ascending the river, that it is above hurricane tides, that the ground is naturally formed for a military position, commanding everything around it, and commanded by nothing. It is equi-distant, and not very inaccessible, from our other depots. The worst road is to Fort Polk--while the direct line is only then miles, the only road for wagons is over twenty. Col. Wilson is in command. He has four companies of his regiment--1 st infantry, and four of volunteers.

This movement up the river was intended to have been a combined one with Commodore Conner. It has been delayed two days by unfavorable weather, rendering the bar too rough. The commodore's limited stay here compelled him to notify the general not to count upon his co-operation in an expedition up the river. This morning, at daylight, I started the Neva (a river boat) out from the Brazos; she entered the Rio Bravo without difficulty about 8 A.M. I rode down the beach. Col. Wilson's command has been bivouacking for two days on our side of the mouth. We crossed them all over by 12; before 1 P.M., the column was en route up the river. The banks of the river are but slightly higher than the surface of the water for some miles up. The whole country low and filled with lagoons. There is a high ridge of sand hills some twenty feet high, extending up and down the coast, resting immediately on the beach. The couture back of this ridge is one vast plain of prairie and lagoon. The road up the river is tolerably good. The river is very serpentine. The road runs from bend to bend. The distance by river nearly double that by road. The road up the right bank is skirted to the left and south by lagoons until you reach Barita; so that a march of a column up this side was by no means exposed to a thick attack. The steamboat deck gave me a fine opportunity of observing the country. We can find no difficulty in making use of the river for transporting our supplies." [AEK]

NNR 70.235-239 June 13, 1846 Albert Gallatin's address to the people of the United States on the subject of war with Mexico


In resuming my speech on this subject, I wish to say, Mr. President, that the bill now before the senate is not the one recommended by the president of the United States. He recommended that the sovereignty and jurisdiction of the United States be extended to our Oregon territory to the same extent that Great Britain had extended her sovereignty and jurisdiction to the same country. In this recommendation I fully concur: and venture to say that, if such a bill was brought in, it might pass the senate, (leaving out unnecessary speeches) in as little time as it would require to read it three times by its title. But the bill before the senate is not of that character. It goes for beyond the president's recommendation. It proposes many things not found in the British act of 1821 – things implying exclusive jurisdiction and sovereignty in us, and that to an undefined extent of country, and under circumstances which must immediately produce hostile collisions between our agents and the British agents on the other side of the Rocky Mountains. I am opposed to all this; but I am not in favor of the indefinite postponement of the bill. I wish to see it amended and made conformable to the president's recommendation.
If gentlemen who have the conduct of the measure here will bring in such an amendment, and put it on its passage without speeches, I will stop my speech until it is passed.

I will now proceed to show, as well as I can, the degree and extent of our just claims beyond the Rocky Mountains.

To understand what I mean to say, it is necessary to recollect the geography of the country in question, and see it presenting as it does, three distinct geographical divisions, to each of which a different claim and a different degree of claim attaches, and which cannot be confounded under any one general view, without a general mystification and total confusion of the whole subject. The Columbia river and its valley is one of these divisions; the islands along the coast is another; Frazier's river and its valley, (called by the British New Caledonia) is the third. Under these three divisions I now propose to speak of the country. Under these divisions I have always spoken of it; and what I have said of one part had no application to the other. When I spoke of the great river of the west and its valley, either by its American name of Columbia or its Indian name of Oregon, I never intended Frazier's river as its valley, or Vancouver's Island, or the Gulf of Georgia, or Desolation Sound, or Broughton's Arch. When I speak of the coast and the islands, I do not mean the continent and the mountains; and when I speak of Frazier's river or New Caledonia, I do not mean the Columbia river. I repudiate all such loose and slovenly verbiage; and, desiring to be understood according to my words, I go on to speak of the country beyond the Rocky Mountains under the three great geographical divisions into which nature has formed it, and to which political events have so naturally adapted themselves.

I begin with the islands.

From the straits of Fuca, (in fact from Puget's Sound to the peninsula of Alaska – a distance of one thousand miles – these is a net-work of islands – an archipelago – some large, some small, chequered in together, and covering the coast to the extent of one, two, even three hundred miles in front of the continent. They are most of them of volcanic impression, and separated from each other and the continent by deep bays, gulfs, and straits, and by long deep chasms, to which navigators have given the name of canals. This long chequer-board of islands, and the waters which contain them, have been the theatre of maritime discovery to many nations, and especially Spanish, British, and Russian; but except the Russians, no nation made permanent settlement on any of these islands; and they only as low down as 55. The British and Spaniards both abandoned Vancouver's Island after the Nootka Sound controversy; and from the time had no settlement of any kind on the coast, or the islands north of Cape Mendocino, lat. 41; and the British had none anywhere. In this state of the case the question came on between Russia, Great Britain, and the United States, in which the distinction between the islands and the continent was acknowledged by all the powers, and Russia excluded from the continent and confined to the islands, because her discoveries and settlements were not continental, but insular. The conventions with Russia, (British and American), of 1824-25 were framed upon that principle; and now I proceed to read the instructions from our government under which this distinction between the islands and the continent was asserted and maintained. I read from Mr. Adam's dispatch to Mr. Middleton, July 22nd, 1823:

"It never has been admitted by the various European nations which have formed settlements in this hemisphere, that the occupation of an island gave any claim whatever to territorial possessions on the continent to which it was adjoining. The recognized principle has rather been the reverse; as by the law of nature, islands must rather be considered as appurtenant to continents, than continents to islands.

And again, to Mr. Middleton's communications to the Russian government:

"The Russians have an establishment upon the island of Sitka, in latitude 57 degrees 30 minutes. - This fort, built in 1799, was destroyed three years after by the natives of the country, and re-established in 1804 by Mr. Lisianski, who called it New Archangel. Russia cannot, however, avail herself of the circumstances of that possession to form a foundation for rights on the continent, the usage of nations never having established that the occupation of an island could give rights upon a neighboring continent, that the inverse of the proposition."

These were the instructions of our minister, under which we treated with Russia 1824, and upon which the conventions of that period were formed. They establish the fact that these islands in front of the northwest coast were considered a separate geographical division of the country, governed by national law applicable to islands; and that discoveries among them, even perfected by settlement, gave no claims
upon the continent. I have considered it a cardinal error, in all recent discussions on Oregon, to bottom continental claims upon these insular discoveries. The Spaniards, as so well shown in the speech by the senator from N. York, (Mr. Dix), were the predecessors of the British in these discoveries; but I did not understand him as claiming the continent out to the Rocky Mountains, and up to 54° 40, by virtue of these maritime discoveries; and I am very sure that I limited my own sanction of his views to the tracks of ships which made the discoveries. I consider Spanish discoveries along that coast as dominant over the British, both for priority of date and for the spirit of ownership in which they were made. The Spaniards explored as masters of the country, looking after their own extended and contiguous possessions, and to which no limit had ever been placed: the British explored in the character of adventurers, seeking new lands in a distant region. Neither made permanent settlements; both abandoned; and, now, I see nothing, either in the value or the title of these islands, for the two nations to fight about. The principle of convenience and mutual good will, so magnanimously proposed by the emperor Alexander in 1823, seems to me to be properly applicable to these desolate islands, chiefly valuable for harbors, which are often nothing but volcanic chasms, too deep for anchorage and to abrupt for approach. In the discussions of 1824, so far as they were not settled, they were considered appurtenant to the continent, instead of the continent being held appurtenant to them; and the reversal of the principle, I apprehend, has been the great error of the recent discussions, and has led to the great mistake in relation to Frazier's river. I dismiss the question, then, as to this geographical division of the country, with saying that our title to these islands is better than that of the British, but that neither is perfect for want of settlement; and that now, as proposed in 1824, they should follow the fate of the continental divisions in front of which they lie.

Frazier's river and its valley, known in the northwestern geography as New Caledonia, is the next division of the disputed country to which I shall ask the attention of senate. It is a river of about a thousand miles in length, (following its windings), rising in the Rocky Mountains, opposite the head of the Unjigah, or Peace river, which flows into the Frozen ocean in latitude about 70. The course of the river is nearly north and south, rising in latitude 55, flowing south to near latitude 49, and along that parallel, and just north of it, to the Gulf of Georgia, into which it falls behind Vancouver's Island. The upper part of this river is good for navigation; the lower half, plunging through volcanic chasms in mountains of rock, is wholly un navigable for any species of craft. This river was discovered by sir Alexander Mackenzie in 1793, was settled by the northwest company in 1806, and soon covered by their establishments from head to mouth. No American or Spaniard had ever left a track upon this river or its valley. Our claim to it, as far as I can see, rested wholly upon the treaty with Spain of 1819; and her claim rested wholly upon those discoveries among the islands, the value of which, as conferring claims upon the continent, it has been my providence to show that our negotiations with Russia in 1824. At the time that we acquired this Spanish claim to Frazier’s river, it had already been discovered twenty six years by the British; had been settled by them for twelve years; was known by a British name; and no Spaniard had ever made a track on its banks. New Caledonia, or Western Caledonia, was the name which it then bore; and it so happens that an American citizen, a native of Vermont, respectfully known the senators now present from that state, and who had spent twenty years of his life in the hyperborean regions of Northwest America, in publishing an account of his travels and sojournings in that quarter, actually published a description of this New Caledonia, as a British province at the very moment that we were getting it from Spain, and without the least suspicion that it belonged to Spain! I speak of Mr. David Harmon, whose journal of nineteen year's residence between latitude 47 and 58 in Northwestern America, was published at Andover, in his native state, in the year 1820, the precise year after we had purchased this New Caledonia from the Spaniards. I read, not from the volume itself, which is not in the library of congress, but from the London Quarterly Review, January number, 1822, as reprinted at Boston; article, Western Caledonia.

"The descent of the Peace river through a deep chasm in the Rocky Mountains first opened a passage to the adventurers above mentioned into the unexplored country behind them, to which they gave the name New Caledonia – a name, however, which, being already occupied by the Australasians, might advantageously be changed to that of Western Caledonia. This passage lies in 56° 30’. MacKenzie had crossed the rocky chain many years before in latitude 54 ½ ° and descended a large river flowing to the southward, named Tacontche Tessa, which he conceived to be the Columbia; but is now known to empty itself about Birch’s Bay of Vancouver, in latitude 49°, whereas the mouth of the Columbia lies in 46° 15’. Another river called the Caledonia, (Frazier’s river,) holding a parallel course to the Tacontche Tesse, (Columbia), falls into the sea near the Admiralty Inlet of Vancouver, in latitude 48°, and forms a natural boundary between the new territory of Caledonia and the United States, falling in precisely with a continued line on the same parallel with the Lake of the Woods, and leaving about two degrees of latitude between it and the Columbia."
Its northern boundary may be taken in latitude 57°, close to the southernmost of the Russian settlements. The length, therefore, will be about 550, and the breadth, from the mountains to the Pacific, from 330 to 350 geographical miles.

"The whole of this vast country is in fact so intersected with rivers and lakes, that Mr. Harmon thinks one sixth part of it may be considered as water. The largest of the latter yet visited is named Stuart's and is supposed to be about 400 miles in circumference. A post has been established on its margin in latitude 54°34' north, longitude 125° west. Fifty miles to the westward of this is Frazer's lake, about eighty or ninety miles in circumference, here, too, a post was established in 1896. A third, of sixty or seventy miles in circumference, has been named Mcleod's lake, on the shore of which a fort has been built in latitude 55° north, longitude 124° west. The waters of this lake fall into the Peace river; those flowing out of the other two are supposed to empty themselves into the Pacific, and are probably the two rivers pointed out by Vancouver, near Point Essington, as we had occasion to observe in a former article. The immense quantity of salmon which annually visit these two lakes, leave no doubt whatever of their communication with the Pacific; and the absence of this fish from McLeod's lake, makes it almost equally certain that its outlet is not into that ocean. The river flowing out of Stuart's lake passes through the populous tribes of the Nate-ote-tains, who say that white people come up in large boats to trade with the A-te-nas, (a nation dwelling between them and the sea), which was fully proved by the guns, iron pots, cloth, tar, and other articles found in their possession.

"Most of the mountains of Western Caledonia are clothed with timber trees to their very summits, consisting principally of spruce and other kinds of fir, birch, poplar, aspen, cypress, and, generally speaking, all those which are usually found on the opposite side of the Rocky Mountains. The large animals common to North America, such as buffalo, moose, antelope, deer, antelope, bears, &c. are not numerous in this new territory; but there is no scarcity of the beaver, otter, wolverine, marten, foxes of different kinds, and the rest of the fur animals, any more than of wolver, badgers, and polecats; fowls. Also, of all the descriptions found in North America, are plentiful in Western Caledonia; cranes visit them in prodigious numbers, as do swans, bustards, geese, and ducks."

This is the account given by Mr. Harmon of New Caledonia, and given of it by him at the exact moment that we were purchasing the Spanish title to it! Of this Spanish title, of which the Spaniards never heard, the narrator seems to have been as profoundly ignorant as the Spaniards were themselves; and made his description of New Caledonia as of a British possession, without any more reference to adverse title than if he had been speaking of Canada. So much for the written description: now let us look at the map, and see how it stands there. Here is a map – a 54° 40' map – which will show us the features of the country, and the names of the settlements upon it. Here is Frazer's river, running from 55° to 49°, and here is a line of British posts upon it, from Fort McLeod at its head, to Fort Langley, at its mouth, and from Thompson's Fork, on one side, to Stuart's Fork, on the other. And here are clusters of British names, imposed by the British, visible everywhere; Forts George, St. James, Simpson, Thompson, Frazer, McLeod, Langley, and others; rivers and lakes with the same names, and others; and here is deserter's Creek, so named by Mackenzie, because his guide deserted him there in July, 1793; and here is an Indian village which is named Friendly, because the people were the most friendly to strangers that he had ever seen; and here another called Rascals' village, so named by Mackenzie fifty-three years ago, because its inhabitants were the most rascally Indians he had ever seen; and here is the representation of that famous boundary line 54°40', which is supposed to be the exact boundary of American territorial rights in that quarter, and which happens to include the whole of New Caledonia, except McLeod's Fort, and the half of Stuart's lake, and a spring, which is left to the British, while we take the branch, which flows from it. This line takes all in – rivers, lakes, forts, villages. – See how it goes! Starting at the sea, it gives us, by a quarter of an inch on the map, Fort Simpson, so named after the British Governor Simpson, and founded by the Hudson Bay Company. Upon what principle we take this British fort I know not – except it be on the assumption that our sacred right and title being adjusted to a minute, by the aid of these 40 minutes, so oppositely determined by the emperor Paul's character to a fur company in 1799, to be on this straight line, the bad example of even a slight deviation from it at the start should not be allowed even to spare a British fort away up at Point McIntyre, in Chatham sound. On this principle, we can understand the inclusion, by a quarter of an inch on the map, of this remote and isolated British post. – The cutting in two of Stuart's lake, which the line does as it runs, is quite intelligible: it must be on the principle stated in one of the fifty-four forty papers, that Great Britain should not have one drop of our water; therefore, we divide the lake, each taking their own share of drops. The fate of the two forts, Mcleod and St. James, so near to each other and so far from us, united all their lives, and now so unexpectedly divided from each other by this line is less comprehensible; and I cannot account for the difference of their fates, unless
it is upon the law of the day of judgment, when, of two men in the field, one shall be
taken and the other left, and no man being able to tell the reason why. All the rest
of the inclusions of British establishments which the line makes, from head to mouth
of Frazer’s river, are intelligible enough: they turn upon the principle of all or none!
– upon the principle that ever acre and every inch, every grain of sand, drop of
water, and blade of grass in all Oregon, up to fifty-four forty is ours! And have it we
will.

This is the country which geography and history five and twenty years ago called
New Caledonia and treated as a British possession; and it is the country which an
organized party among ourselves of the present day all “the whole od Oregon or
none,” and every inch of which they say belongs to us. Well, let us proceed a little
further with the documents of 1823, and see what the men of that day – President
Monroe and his cabinet – the men who made the treaty with Spain by which we
became masters of this large domain; let us proceed a little further, and see what
they thought of our title up to fifty-four forty. I read from the same document of
1823:

Mr. Adams to Mr. Middleton, July 22, 1823. “The right of the United States, from the
42nd to the 49th parallel of latitude on the Pacific ocean we consider as
unquestionable, being founded, first, on the acquisition by the treaty of 22nd
February, 1819, of all the rights of Spain; second, by the discovery of the Columbia
river, first, from the sea at its mouth, an then by land by Lewis and Clarke; and,
third, by the settlement at its mouth in 1841. This territory is to the United States
of an importance which no possession in North America can be to any European
nation, not only as it is but the continuity of their possessions from the Atlantic to
the Pacific ocean, but as it offers their inhabitants the means of establishing
hereafter water communications from one to the other.”

FORTY-NINE, MR. PRESIDENT, FORTY-NINE! TO THAT LINE, AND THAT FOUR YEARS
AFTER THE ACQUISITION OF THE SPANISH CLAIM, WAS OUR UNQUESTIONABLE
RIGHT HELD TO EXTEND; FIFTY-ONE WAS THE HIGHEST DEBATABLE LINE NAMED,
AND THAT NAMED ON A PRINCIPLE KNOWN TO BE ERRONEOUS, AND READY TO BE
GIVEN UP.

Mr. Adams to Mr. Rush. Same date. “By the treaty of amity, settlement, and limits,
between the United States and Spain, of 22nd February, 1819, the boundary line
between them was fixed at the forty-second degree of latitude, from the source of
the Arkansas river to the South sea. By which treaty the United States acquired all
the rights of Spain north of that parallel.

“The right of the United States to the Columbia river, and to the interior territory
washed by its waters, rests upon its discovery from the sea and nomination by a
citizen of the United States, upon its exploration to the sea, made by Captains Lewis
and Clarke; upon the settlement of Astoria, made under the protection of the United
States, and thus restored to them in 1818; and upon this subsequent acquisition of
all the rights of Spain, the only European power who, prior to the discovery of the
river, had any pretensions to territorial rights on the northwest coast of America.

“The waters of the Columbia river extend, by the Multnomah, to the 42nd degree of
latitude, where its source approaches within a few miles of those of the Platte and
Arkansas; and by Clarke’s river to the 50th or 51st degree of latitude; thence
descending, southward, till its sources almost intersect those of the Missouri.”

“To the territory thus watered, and immediately contiguous to the original
possessions of the united States, as first bounded on the Mississippi, they consider
their right to be now established by all the principles which have ever been applied
to European settlements upon the American hemisphere.”

This is an extract of great value, and is an amplification and development of the
principle laid down in the extract just read. It recites the Spanish treaty of 1819,
and claims nothing under it beyond the Columbia and its valley. To this our title ia
alleged to be complete, on American grounds, independent of the treaty, namely,
discovery, settlement, and colonization by Mr. Astor, under the protection of the
United States. Again:

Mr. Adams to Mr. Rush. Same dispatch. “If the British Northwest and Hudson Bay
Companies have any posts on the coast, as suggested in the article in the Quarterly
Review above cited, the third article of the convention of the 20th of October, 1818,
is applicable to them. Mr. Midleton is authorized to propose an article of similar
import, to be inserted in a joint convention between the United States, Great Britain,
and Russia, for a term of ten years from its signature. You are authorized to make
the same proposal to the British government; and, with a view to draw a definite line of demarcation for the future, to stipulate that no settlement shall hereafter be made on the northwest coast, or on any of the islands thereto adjoining, by Russian subjects, south of latitude 55; by citizens by citizens of the United States north of latitude 51; or by British subjects either south of 51 or north of 55.

"I mention the latitude of 51, as the bound within which we are willing to limit the future settlement of the United States, because it is not to be doubted that the Columbia river branches as far north as 51, although it is most probably not Taconeshee Tess of Mackenzie. As, however, the line already runs in latitude 49 to the Stony mountains, should it be earnestly insisted upon by Great Britain, we will consent to carry it in continuance, on the same parallel, to the sea. Copies of this instruction will likewise be forwarded to Mr. Middleton, with whom you will freely but cautiously correspond on this subject, as well as in regard to your negotiation respecting the suppression of the slave trade."

Four things must strike the attention in this extract: 1. The offer of a partnership to the Emperor Alexander, which he wisely refused. 2. The offer of the same to Great Britain, which she sagaciously accepted. 3. The offer of 55 to Great Britain as her permanent northern boundary. 4. The offer of 51 to her as her permanent southern boundary, and its offer on a principle not valid, with the alternative to fall back upon the line of 49.

The British, who know all this, and a great deal more, must be astonished at our fifty-four-forty war fever of to-day! Again:

Mr. Rush to Mr. Adams. London, Dec.22, 1823. "In an interview I had with Mr. Canning last week, I made known to him, preparatory to the negotiation, the views of our government relative to the northwest coast of America. These, as you know, are:

"First. That as regards the country westward of the Rocky Mountains, the three powers, viz: Great Britain, the United States, and Russia, should jointly agree to a convention, to be in force ten years, similar in its nature to the third article of the convention of October, 1818, now subsisting between the two former powers; and, secondly, that the United States would stipulate not to make any settlements on that coast north of the fifty-first degree of latitude, provided Great Britain would stipulate not to make any south of 51° or north of 55°; and Russia not to make any south of 55°.

"Mr. Canning expressed no opinion on the above proposition further than to hint, under his first impressions, strong objections to the one which goes to limit Great Britain northward to 55°. His object in wishing to learn from me our propositions at this point of time, was as I understood, that he might better write to Sir Charles Bagot on the whole subject to which they relate." Again:

Same to same, December 19, 1823. "And secondly, that the United States were willing to stipulate to make no settlements north of the 51st degree of north latitude on that coast, provided Great Britain stipulated to make none south of 51 or north of 55; and Russian not make none south of 55." Again: Same to same, same date.

"That they (the United States) were willing, however, waiving for the present the full advantage of these claims, to forebear all settlements north of 51, as that limit might be sufficient to give them the benefit of all the waters of the Columbia river; but that they would expect Great Britain to abstain from coming south of that limit or going above 55; the latter parallel being taken as that beyond which it was not imagined that she had any actual settlements."

On Friday, Mr. President, I read one passage from the documents of 1823, to let you see that fifty-four forty (for that is the true reading of fifty-five) had been offered to Great Britain for her northern boundary; to-day I read you six passages from the same documents to show the same thing. And let me remark one more – the remark will bear eternal repetition – these offers were made by the men who had acquired the Spanish title to Oregon! And who must be presumed to know as much about it as those whose acquaintance with Oregon dates from the epoch of the Baltimore convention – whose love for it dates from the era of its promulgation as a party watchword – whose knowledge of it extends to the luminous pages of Mr. Greenhow’s book!

Six times Mr. Monroe and his cabinet renounced Frazer’s river and its valley, and left it to the British! They did so on the intelligible principle that the British and
discovered it, and settled it, and were in actual possession of it when we got the 
Spanish claim; which claim Spain never made! Upon this principle, New Caledonia 
was left to the British in 1823. Upon what principle is it claimed now!

This is what Mr. Monroe and his cabinet thought of our title to the whole of Oregon 
or none, in the year 1823. They took neither branch of this proposition. They did 
not go for all or none, but for some! They took some, and left some; and they 
divided by the line right in itself, and convenient in itself, and mutually suitable to 
each party. This president and his cabinet carry their “unquestionable right” to 
Oregon as far as 49, and no further. This is exactly what was done six years 
before. Mr. Gallatin and Mr. Rush offered the same line as being the continuation of 
the line of Utrecht, (describing it by that name in their dispatch of October 20th, 
1818,) and as covering the valley of the Columbia river, to which they alleged our 
title to be indisputable. Mr. Jefferson had offered the same line in 1807. All these 
offers leave Frazer’s river and its valley to the British, because they discovered and 
settled it. All these offers hold on to the Columbia river and its valley, because we 
discovered and settled it; and all these offers let the principle of continuity work 
equally on the British as on the American side of the line of Utrecht.

This is what the statesmen did who made the acquisition of the Spanish claim to 
Oregon in 1819. – In four years afterwards they had freely offered all north of 49 to 
Great Britain; and no one ever thought of arraigning them for it. Most of these 
statesmen have gone through fiery trials since, and been fiercely assailed on all the 
deeds of their lives, but I never heard one of them being called to account, much 
less lose an election, for the part he acted in offering 49 to Great Britain in 1823, or 
at any other time. – For my part, I thought they were right then, and I think so now; 
I was a senator then, as I am now. I thought with them that New Caledonia 
belonged to the British; and thinking so still, and acting upon the first half of the 
great maxim – ask nothing but what is right – I shall not ask them for it, much less 
fight them for it now.

I come now to the third geographical division of the contested country; purposely 
reserved for the last, because it furnishes the subject for the application of the 
second half of the great maxim: Submit to nothing that is wrong. I come to the 
river Columbia, and its vast and magnificent valley. I once made a description of it, 
with an anathema against its alienation. I described it by metes and bounds – by 
marks and features – and then wrote its name in its face. The fifty-four forties got 
hold of my description – rubbed out the name – obliterating the features – expanded 
the boundaries – took in New Caledonia, and all the rivers, lakes, bays, sounds, 
islands, valleys, forts, and settlements, all the way up to 54 40! And then turned my 
own anathema against myself, because their minds could not apply words to things. 
Well! I take no offense at this. There are some people too simple to get angry 
with. All we do with them in the West, is to have them “cut for the simples;” after 
which they are cured. They can perform this operation for themselves, or have it 
done. If by themselves, all they have to do is to rub their eyes, and read again: if 
by others, the operator must rend, and caution the listening patient to stick the word 
to the thing.

The valley of the Columbia is ours; ours by discovery, by settlement, and by the 
treaty of Utrecht! And has, too often, been so admitted by Great Britain to admit of 
her disputing it now. I do not plead our title to that great country. I did that twenty 
years ago, when there were few to repeat or applaud what I said. I pass over the 
ground which I trod so long ago, and which has been again so much trodden of late, 
and take up the question at a fresh place – the admissions of Great Britain! And 
show that she is concluded by her own acts and words from ever setting up any 
claim to the river and valley of the Columbia, or to any part of the territory south of 
the 49th degree.

I begin with Mr. Astor’s settlement on the Columbia, and rest upon it as a corner-
stone in this new edifice of argument against Great Britain. What was the 
settlement? Not a mere trading post, for temporary traffic, down in a corner, and 
without the knowledge of nations or the sanction of his own government. On the 
contrary, it was the foundation of a colony, and the occupation of the whole valley of 
the Columbia, and the establishment of a commercial emporium, of which the mouth 
of the river was the seat, and the Rocky mountains on one hand and Eastern Asia on 
the other were the outposts. Great Britain saw it without objection – the United 
States with approbation; and every circumstance which proclaimed and legitimated a 
national undertaking signalized and commemorated its commencement, existence, and 
overthrow.

It was in the year 1810 – four years after the return of Lewis and Clarke’s expedition 
– that Mr. Astor, with the enlarged and comprehensive views of a “merchant prince,” 
projected from our eastern shore at the Atlantic this great establishment on the
eastern coast of the Pacific ocean. A ship commanded by an officer of the United States navy, freighted with every thing necessary for the foundation of a colony, sailed from New York to double Cape Horn: an overland expedition of ninety men, led by a gentleman of New Jersey, proceeded from St. Louis to cross the Rocky mountains. In the spring of 1811 the two expeditions met at the mouth of the Columbia, and immediately proceeded to fulfill the intentions of the bold projector of the enterprise. Astoria was founded: its dependent post, the Okenakan, was established six hundred miles up the river: the Spokan, another dependant, was established two hundred miles higher up, and at the base of the mountains: a third, the Wahlamath, was established upon the river of that name, two hundred and fifty miles southeast of Astoria. Parties of traders and hunters covered all the waters of the Columbia river from head to mouth; fleets of bateaus, carrying up merchandize and bringing down furs, had their regular arrival and departure from Astoria. – Two more ships arrived from New York. Canton, the Sandwich Islands, New Archangel, the coast of New Caledonia, were visited by Mr. Astor’s ships. The Pacific Fur company was in full tide of success. – Astoria became the centre of an extended trade; her name became known to the world. This was notice to the world that an American colony was being founded on the Columbia, and no power in the wide world objected to it. It was before the Spanish treaty of 1819, and Spain did not object. It was after all the pretended claims of Great Britain, as now set up, and she did not object. Special notice had previously been given to the minister of Great Britain, and he had nothing to say against it. Special notice had already been given to the northwest company, and they invited to join in the enterprise as traders which they refused to do, because it was an American enterprise. Far from objecting to the settlement, they sent a special agent across the continent to stipulate with Mr. Astor’s agents that they should confine themselves to the valley of the Columbia, which arrangement was made. Special notice was given to our own government, its sanction obtained, and its protection solicited; and if protection, in the full sense of the word, was not promised, it was because it was felt to be impossible to send troops and ships there, in the event of a war, to prevent its falling into the hands of the British; but that it was to be protected, in the general sense of the word, was promised, as was proved at Ghent when peace came to be made.

Two years passed off in this way; Great Britain made no objection; her agent, the northwest company, agreed to our occupation of the whole valley; and acquiescence under these circumstances, becomes an admission of American title which forever closes the mouth of Great Britain.

In this manner the Columbia was settled by Mr. Astor; in this manner it was held by him for two years. Now for the manner in which it fell into the hands of Great Britain. Two years had eclipsed from the time of the foundation of Astoria, when intelligence arrived at that place with the news of war between the United States and Great Britain, and information of a departure of a ship of war from London to join the squadron under Commodor Hillyar, in the Pacific ocean, and proceed to capture Astoria as an important American colony. At the same time several partners of the Northwest company arrived at Astoria, confirmed the information of the British designs on the post, and offered to purchase all the stocks on hand, goods and furs, of Mr. Astor, as the only means of preventing them from becoming a prize of the British squadron. The agents of Mr. Astor sold under this duresse, receiving the fourth or fifth part of what the property was worth. Soon after a ship of war from Commodor Hillyar’s squadron arrived, took possession of the post without opposition, but with all the formalities of a British conquest, and with great shagrin to the officers at the loss of their expected booty. This is the manner in which the British got possession of Astoria, and with it the whole valley of the Columbia. As a British conquest they took it, as such they agreed to restore it under the treaty of Ghent. And thus, at the settlement of Astoria, and the occupation of the whole valley of the Columbia, the British government, by its silent acquiescence, admitted our unquestionable right to it. By seizing it as a British conquest; they admitted our title. Commodor Hillyar’s promise, as was proved at Ghent when peace came to be made.

Now for the proof of all that I have said.

I happen to have in my possession the book, of all others, which gives the fullest and most authentic details on all the points I have mentioned, and written at the same time and under circumstances when the author (himself a British subject, and familiar on the Columbia) had no more idea that the British would lay claim to that river than Mr. Harmon, the American writer whom I am quoted, ever thought of our claiming New Caledonia. It is the work of Mr. Franchere, a gentleman of Montreal, with whom I have the pleasure of being personally acquainted, and one of those employed by Mr. Astor in founding his colony. He was at the founding of Astoria at the sale of the Northwest Company; saw the place seized as a British conquest; and remained three years afterwards in the country, in the service of the Northwest
company. He wrote in French: his work has not been done into English, though it well deserves it, and I read from the French text. He first gives a brief and true account of the discovery of the Columbia. He says:

"In 1792, Captain Gray, commanding the ship Columbia, of Boston, discovered the entrance of a large bay in 46 degrees 19 minutes of north latitude. He entered it; and finding by the fresh water which he found at little distance from its mouth, that it was a large river, he ascended it eighteen miles, and cast anchor along the left bank, at the entrance of a deep bay. He there drew up a chart of what he had discovered of this river and of the neighboring country; and, after having trafficked with the natives, (the object for which he came upon these coast,) he regained the sea; and soon after met Capt. Vancouver, who was sailing under the orders of the British government in search of discoveries. Capt. Gray made known to him the discovery which he had made, and even communicated the chart of it which he had drawn up. Vancouver sent his first lieutenant, Broughton, who ascended the river 118 miles; took possession of it in the name of his Britannic majesty; gave it the name of Columbia, and to the bay where Captain Gray had stopped the name of Gray's bay. Since this period the country has been much frequented, especially by Americans."

This brief and plain account of the discovery of the Columbia is valuable for showing: first, that we discovered the river; secondly, that we showed it to British navigators; and thirdly, that one of those to whom we showed it immediately claimed it as British property. We shall soon see that the British government, or its agents in these parts, the Northwest Company, gave no attention to this claim of Mr. Broughton, so little creditable to his candor and justice. Vancouver, like a man of honor, never claimed Capt. Gray's discovery, but assigned to him the entire credit of it, with thanks for his communication of it to himself.

The design of Mr. Astor's establishment is thus spoken of:

'Mr. John Jacob Astor, merchant of New York, who carried on alone the trade in furs to the south of the great lakes Huron and Superior, and who had acquired by this commerce a prodigious fortune, believed he could yet augment his fortune by forming on the banks of the Columbia an establishment, of which the entrepot should be at its mouth. He communicated his views to the agents of the Northwest Company; he wished even to make this establishment in concert with them; but after some negotiations, the wintering partners (les proprietaires hivernants) having rejected his propositions, Mr. Astor determined to make the attempt alone. It was essential to his success that he should have persons long accustomed to trade with the Indians, and he did not delay to find them. Mr. Alexander McKay, (the same who had accompanied Sir Alexander Mackenzie in his voyages,) a man bold and enterprising, joined him; and, soon after, Messrs. Duncan McDougall, Donald Mackenzie, (heretofore in the service of the Northwest Company,) David Stuart, and Robert Stuart, all of Canada, did the same. Finally, in the winter of 1810, Mr. Wilson Price Hunt, of St. Louis, on the Mississippi, having also joined them, they determined that the expedition should take place the following spring."

This shows a direct communication of Mr. Astor's design with the Northwest Company, and of their refusal to act in concert with him, because of the American character of the enterprise; also the reason why he employed many Canadians in his service. It was for the sake of having experienced traders to assist in conducting his business. It shows also that, among other Canadian gentlemen, he had employed Mr. Alexander McKay, the faithful companion of Sir Alexander Mackenzie in his expedition to the Pacific Ocean in 1793. This gentleman knew where Mackenzie's discoveries were, and whether Mr. Astor intended to trespass upon them. This then was the time to speak: on the contrary, the companion of Mackenzie goes on to assist in laying the foundation of the American colony on the Columbia.

Mr. Franchere proceeds:

"It is well to state that, during our sojourn in N. York, and before leaving that city, Mr. McKay believed it would be prudent to see Mr. Jackson, the minister plenipotentiary of his Britannic majesty, in order to inform him of the object for which he was about to embark, and to ask his advice as to what should do in case of a rupture between the two powers; intimating to him that we were all British subjects, and that we were going to trade under the American flag. After some moments' reflection, Mr. Jackson said to him, 'that we were going to form a mercantile establishment at the risk of our lives; that all he could promise us was, that in case of a war between the two powers, we should be respected as British subjects and traders.' – This answer appeared satisfactory, and Mr. McKay believed that he had nothing more to fear from that quarter."
This was in the year 1810 – seventeen years after the discoveries of Mackenzie, and eight years after Mr. Broughton took possession of the Columbia in the name of his Britannic majesty; and at this time the minister of Great Britain, on a special communication made to him of Mr. Astor’s design to occupy the Columbia, has not a word to say against it. Up to that time, it had not occurred to the British government that the Columbia river was theirs!

The ship Tonquin, carrying the maritime part of the expedition, arrived at the mouth of the Columbia, March 25th, 1811. The approaches to the coast revealed nothing but lofty ranges of mountains, white with snow, through a gap of which the great river of the west entered the sea. The weather was bad – the night dark – two boats had been swamped – no pilots, lights, or buoys – yet the captain (a rash man who afterwards blew up his ship at Nootka) entered safely, and anchored at midnight in a commodious harbor. On the 12th of April, after examining both sides of the bay for the best situation, a site was chosen on the south side, about four or five leagues from the sea, and the foundation of Astoria began – a name in itself the baget of American title. On the 15th of July, the young Astoria received an important visit, which is thus described:

"All was ready at the day appointed, (for an expedition to the interior,) and we were preparing to load the canoes when, towards mid-day, we saw a large canoe, carrying a flag, which was rounding the point called by us Tongue-Point. We were ignorant who they might be, for we did not look so soon for our people, who (as the reader may remember) were to cross the continent by the route which Captains Lewis and Clarke had followed in 1805, and winter for this purpose on the banks of the Missouri. Our uncertainty was soon banished by nearing of the canoe, which landed near a little quay which we had built to facilitate the unloading of our vessel. – The flag which this canoe carried was the British flag; and her crew amounted only to nine persons in all. A man, quite well dressed, and who appeared to command, leaped first to shore, and accosting us without ceremony, told us that he was named David Thompson, and was one of the proprietors of the Northwest Company. We invited him to ascend to our lodging, which was in one end of the shed, our house not yet being finished. After the usual hospitalities, Mr. Thompson told us that he had crossed the continent during the preceding winter; but that the desertion of a part of his men had obliged him to winter at the foot of the mountains near the head of the Columbia river; that in the spring he had built a canoe and had come to our establishment. He added that that the proprietors wintering in them had resolved to abandon all the posts which they had west of the mountains, rather than enter into competition with us, on condition that we would promise not to trouble them in the trade on the eastern side; and to sustain what he said, he produced a letter to Mr. William McGillivray to the same effect.

"Mr. Thompson kept, as it seemed to m, a regular journal, and traveled rather as a geographer than a trader in furs: he had a good quadrant; and during a sojourn of eight days, which he made at our establishment, he had occasion to make several astronomical observations."

This was a visit of great moment in the history of Astoria, and in the consideration of the British claim to the Columbia, which has been lately brought forward. Mr. Thompson was one of the N.W. Company, its astronomer, a gentleman of science and character, to whom we are greatly indebted for fixing important geographical positions in the interior of North America. He had crossed the continent from Montreal simultaneously with Mr. Astor’s land expedition from St. Louis, but in a higher latitude, and arrived a few days before it. He came to the Columbia to give the information to Mr. Astor’s agents that the Northwest Company, to avoid competitions with them, would abandon all their establishment west of the mountains, provided Mr. Astor would not interfere with them in the east. This proposal was agreed to. The valley of the Columbia was left to the free enjoyment of the Americans; and the extensions of the posts to the mountains went on without question according to the original intention. The Northwest Company, at that time, no more then the British government, had happened yet to take it into its head that the Columbia River, or any part of it was British property!

Mr. Astor’s agent proceeded to the establishment of the interior posts, and the dispatch of parties to hunt and trade up the Columbia to the mountains. – The Okanakan, about six hundred miles up, on the north side of the rive, and at the mouth of the river of that name, was the most considerable, and was remarkable for being nearest to the British establishments in New Caledonia; for by that name the valley and district of Frazer’s river was then known; and that was ten years before Mr. Harmon published his book. The Spokane, two hundred miles higher up, and on the south side, was established at the same time. The post on the Wahlamath, two hundred and fifty miles southwest from Astoria, was established the next year and of all these establishments Mr. Franchere gives a particular account, which is not
necessary to read here. The country was, at the same time, completely penetrated by parties of traders and hunters, up to the headwaters of Clarke’s river, and Lewis’ river, and into the Rocky Mountains. Two years every thing had gone on without interruption, when two events occurred, in communicating which I will use Mr. Franchere’s own words:

“The 15th of January, 1813, Mr. Mackenzie arrived from his establishment, which he had abandoned after having cached part of his effects. He came to announce to us that war had been declared between Great Britain and the United States. This news had been brought to his post by some gentleman belonging to the Northwest Company, who had given him a letter containing the president’s proclamation to that effect.”

“On learning this news we strongly desired, that is, all of us at Astoria who were English and Canadians, to see ourselves in Canada: but we could not even permit ourselves to think of it, at least at present – we were separated from our country by an immense space, and the difficulties of travel were insurmountable at this season. We held then a sort of council of war, and, after having thoroughly weighed the crisis in which we found ourselves, after having considered seriously that although we were almost all British subjects, we nevertheless traded under the American flag, and that we could not expect assistance, all the ports of the United States being probably blockaded, we decided to abandon the establishment by the following spring, or in the beginning of the summer at furthest. We did not tell our engages of this resolve for fear that they might abandon thair work at once, but we stopped trading with the natives from that moment, as much because we were not provided with a large supply of merchandize, as that we had more furs than we could carry away.”

Here is as important fact stated, that of hearing of the war and despairing of protection from the United States. The agents of Mr. Astor, upon full consultation determined to abandon that country.

Mr. Franchere continues:

“Some days after Mackenzie’s departure, we perceived, to our great surprise, at the extremity of Tongue Point, two canoes carrying the British flag, and between them another bearing that of America. It was Mackenzie himself, who was returning with Messrs. J.G. McTavish and Angus Bethune, of the Northwest Company. He had met these gentlemen near the Rapids, and had determined to return with them to the establishment in consequence of the news which they had given him. They were on the light canoes, having left behind them Messrs. John Stuart and McMillan with a brigade of eight canoes loaded with furs.

“Mr. McTavish came up to our lodging and showed us a letter which had been written to him by Mr. A. Shaw, one of the agents of the Northwest Company. This gentleman announced to him in the letter that the ship Issac Todd had sailed from London in March in company with frigate Phoebe, and that they were coming by order of the government to take possession of our establishment – this establishment being represented to the lords of the admiralty as an important colony founded by the American government.

“The eight canoes which had been left behind having joined the first, a camp of nearly seventy-five men was formed at the little bay near our establishment. As they were without provisions we furnished them with what they needed; nevertheless we kept our guard for fear of some surprise from them, for we were much inferior to them in number.

“The season advancing, and their vessel not arriving caused them to find their situation very disagreeable; without provision and without merchandize to procure any from the natives, who looked on them with an evil eye, having good hunters but wanting ammunition. Tired of recurring incessantly to us for provisions, they proposed that we should sell them our establishment and its contents. Placed in the situation in which we were, in the daily expectation of seeing an English man of war appear to take away what we possessed, we listened to their proposition. We had several consultations; the negotiations grew wearily long; at length they agreed on the price of the furs and merchandize, and the treaty was signed by both parties on the 23rd of October. The gentlemen of the Northwest Company took possession of Astoria, having agreed to pay to each of the servants of the endevant Pacific Fur Company (a name chosen by Mr. Astor) the amount of their wages in full, deducted from the price of the goods we delivered to them, to feed them, and to furnish a passage gratis to those amongst them who wished to return to Canada.
“It was thus that, after having crossed seas and endured all sorts of fatigues and privations, I lost, in an instant, all my hope of fortune. I could not prevent myself from remarking that we should not look for such treatment from the British government, after the assurances we received from his majesty’s minister before we left New York. But as I have just said, the value of our trading post had been much exaggerated to the ministers; for if they had known it, they surely would not have taken offense at it, at least would not have judged it worthy of a maritime expedition.”

This is the manner in which the effects of Mr. Astor passed into the hands of the Northwest Company; this the manner in which they became installed in the valley of the Columbia. It was a purchase of goods and furs, and of the buildings which contained them, and nothing more. No one was childish enough to suppose that the sovereignty of the country was or could have been transferred as an appurtenance to the skins and blankets. We will now see how the British government obtained possession of the country.

“The 15th of November, 1813, Messrs. Alexander Stuart and Alexander Henry, both proprietors of the Northwest Company, arrived at the establishment in two bark canoes, manned by sixteen voyageurs. These gentlemen had left Fort William, on Lake Superior, in July. They lent us some Canadian newspapers, by which we learned that the British arms had up to that time kept the ascendancy. They also confirmed the news that the English frigate was to take our endevant establishment: they were even ver much surprised not to see the Isaac Todd in the harbour.

“On the morning of the 30th, we perceived a vessel which was doubling Cape Disappointment, and which soon anchored in Baker’s Bay. Not knowing if it was a friendly vessel or otherwise, we thought it prudent to send to it in a conoe Mr. McDougall, with those of the men who had been in the service of the endevant P.F.C, with the injunction to call themselves American if the ship was American, and English, if it was the contrary. Whilst they were on their way, Mr. McTavish had all the furs which were marked with the name of N.W.Co. packed upon two barges, which were at the fort, and remounted the river to Tongue Point, where he was to wait for a signal which we had agreed upon. Towards midnight Mr. Halsey, who had accompanied Mr. McDougall to the vessel, returned to the fort, and announced to us that it was the British sloop Raccoon, of 26 guns, and 120 men in her crew, Captain Black commanding. Mr. John McDonald, proprietor in the Northwest Company, had come as passenger in the Raccoon, accompanied by five engages. This gentleman had left England in the frigate Poebe, which had sailed with the Issac Todd as far as Rio de Janero. Having rejoined their English squadron, the admiral had given them for the convoy the sloop Raccoon and Cherub. These four vessels had sailed in company to Cape Horn, where they had separated after having agreed to meet at the island of Juan Fernandez. The three vessels of war did go there; but after having waited a long time in vain for the Issac Todd, Commodore Hillyar, who commandd the little squadron, having learned that the American Commodore Porter was doing great damage to the English commerce, especially among the whalers who frequented these seas, he resolved to go and find him and give battle; giving to Capt. Black orders to go and destroy the American establishment of the Columbia river. Consequently Mr. McDonald and his men had embarked on the Raccoon. This gentleman told us that they had endured the most terrible weather in doubling Cape Horn. He thought that if the Issac Todd had not slackened at some spot it would arrive in the river within a fortnight. At the agreed signal, Mr. McTavish returned to Astoria with his furs, and learned with much pleasure the arrival of Mr. McDonald.

“The first of December, the barge of the corvette came to the fort of Astoria with McDonald, and the first lieutenant, named sheriff. As there were on the Raccoon goods for the Northwest Company, a boat was sent to Baker’s Bay to bring them to the fort; but the weather was so bad and the wind so violent, that she did not return till the 12th with the goods, bringing also with Capt. Black five marines and four sailors.

“We regard our hosts with as much splendor as was possible. After dinner the captain had fire arms given to the company’s servants; and, we repaired, thus armed, to the platform by which we had erected a flag staff. There the captain took a British flag, which he had brought for the purpose, and had it hoisted to the top of the staff; and then taking a bottle full of Maderia, he broke it on the staff, declaring in a loud voice that he took possession of the establishment and the country in the name of his British majesty; and he changed the name of Astoria to that of Fort George. The Indian chiefs had been assembled to witness this ceremony, and I explained to them their own language what it meant. They fired three discharged of artillery and musket shot, and health of the king was drank according to the received
"The vessel finding itself detained by the contrary winds, the captain had an exact survey made of the mouth of the river and the channel between Baker’s Bay and Fort George. The officers came frequently to see us and appeared to me generally to be very much discontented with their voyage; they had expected to meet several American vessels loaded with rich furs, and had calculated beforehand their share in the taking of Astoria. They had met nothing, and their astonishment was at its height when they saw our establishment had been transferred to the Northwest Company, and was under the British flag. It will be sufficient to quote Captain Black’s expression to show how much they were mistaken with regard to us. This captain landed in the night; when we showed him the palisades of the establishment in the morning, he asked if there was not another fort, and having learnt that there was not, he cried out with an air of the greatest astonishment, "What! Is this fort represented to me as formidable? Good God! I could batter it down with a four pounder in two hours!"

"The greater part of the Pacific Fur Company’s servants engaged themselves to the Northwest Company. Some others preferred returning to their country, and I was among the later. Nevertheless, Mr. McTavish having intimated to me that my services would be need at the establishment, I engaged myself for the space of five months, that is to say until the setting out of the party which was to ascend the river in the spring, to go to Canada, by way of the Rocky Mountains and the rivers of the interior. Messrs. John Stuart and Mackenzie left at the end of the month, the last to deliver over to the first the trading posts which had been established in the interior by the before mentioned company."

This is the way that the British got possession of the Columbia – as a conquest – accompanied by all the circumstances of a national act. The lords of the admiralty in London, charged with the naval operations of the war, plan the expedition, and plan it against the colony of Mr. Astor, and against it as an important American colony. They dispatched a ship of war from London to join the squadron in the Pacific to attack the colony. A ship from the squadron arrives; finds the goods and furs sold; is enraged at the loss of the booty, but finds the American sovereignty of the country remaining in the form of a little fort; takes possession of it as a British conquest; runs up the British flag; christens it in a bottle of rum; and agents are sent off to the Okenakane, the Spokane, and Wahlamath, to deliver up the dependent posts, and with them the whole valley of the Columbia; as a conquest the British took it; as a conquest they held it; as a conquest they agreed to restore it under the Ghent treaty. And here I will answer a question which has been put to me: Does the fight of restoration extend to the whole valley of the Columbia river, or only to the post at the mouth of the river? I answer, the whole valley; and, to parley about anything less is to suffer ourselves to be bamboozled and distracted.

I here cease my readings from Mr. Franchere, satisfied that, upon his testimony, I have made out the fullest and most authentic case of unqualified British admissions, by acts, of our title to the Columbia. To these admissions, by acts I will now add admissions by words. For it so happens that at the time of the negotiations of 1823, at the time we were offering fifty-five for a southern, the parallel of forty-nine was the most southern one to which her claims extended. This was understood and agreed upon by both parties in 1818, 1820, and 1823, and here is the evidence of it in documents of unimpeachable authority. I read first from Mr. Adams to Mr. Rush, July 22nd, 1823:

"Previous to the restoration of the settlement at the mouth of the Columbia river in 1818, and again upon the first introduction in congress of the plan for constituting a territorial government there, some disposition was manifested by Sir Charles Bagot and Mr. Canning (minister in Washington) to dispute the right of the U. States to that establishment, and some vague intimations was given of British claims on the Northwest coast. The restoration of that place, and the convention of 1818, were considered as a final disposal of Mr. Bagot’s objections; and Mr. Canning declined committing to paper those which he had intimates in conversation."

Two dates and a great fact are here mentioned, with both of which I was contemporary, and, my writings of the time prove, not an inattentive observer. The nominal restoration of the Columbia, which was, infact, an empty ceremony, and the non-execution of the Ghent treaty, in favor of the west, as it had happened before the non-execution of treaties which required the British western ports to be given up. That is one date. The introduction of Dr. Floyd’s Oregon bill in the house of representatives, in 1820-’21, is another of those dates, and of which I know something. The great fact is, and my speech of 1824 will show that I knew something of that, is the vague intimation of British claims to the Columbia at that time, the refusal of the minister to write them down, and their utter and entire
This was done by Mr. Canning, the prime minister of Great Britain, to Mr. Rush, in London, in 1823, of which Mr. Rush’s dispatch of the 19th January, 1824, bears witness. Here it is:

"It was an omission in me not to have stated in my communication of the 6th instant what are to be the aims of Great Britain on the northwest coast of America, though as yet Mr. Canning has not made them known to me formally. She will claim, I understand, a point northwards above 55, though how much above I am not able to say, and southwards as low down as 49. Whether he designs to push a claim to the whole of this space with earnestness, I am also unable as yet to say, but wait the more full and accurate disclosure of her views."

Thus on the nineteenth day of January, in the year 1824, the parallel of forty-nine was the furthest south to which the British minister, Mr. Canning – a minister of head, and for forty years’ experience in public affairs – proposed to push the British claim.

After this authentic and express admission of Mr. Canning, the prime minister of Great Britain in 1824, it is hardly excusable to have recourse to secondary of inferior testimony, however persuasive or convincing that testimony may be. But I have still a piece of British testimony in hand sufficiently respectable to be quoted after Mr. Canning, and sufficiently coincident in time and terms to identify the minister’s answer with public opinion of the time, that the extent of the British claims stated to Mr. Rush in January, 1824, was the opinion of the public as well as of the minister. It is found in the London Quarterly Review, October number, 1822. It is in discussing the boundaries of New Caledonia, for which he proposes on the south the line of the Lake of the Woods to the sea:

"Another river, called the Caledonia, (Frazer’s.) holding a parallel course to the Tacoutche Tesse, (Columbia,) falls into the sea near the Admiralty Inlet of Vancouver, in latitude 48, and forms a natural boundary between the new territory (Western Caledonia) and that of the United States, and falling in precisely with a continued line with the same parallel with the Lake of the Woods, and leaving about two degrees of latitude between it and the Columbia."

So said the Quarterly Review in January, 1822, No. 72, article “Western Caledonia.”

I sat out to establish, upon the admission of Great Britain herself, our right to the Columbia river and its valley. I have done more. I have established her admission to the line of 49, giving us near three degrees on the coast, the valuable waters about the Straits of Fuca and Puget’s Sound, and the whole Olympic district, no part of all which is in the valley of the Columbia.

We thus see that, in 1824, the British government, by authentic acts, and by the language of Mr. Canning, admitted our right to the river and valley of the Columbia; and, what was better, limited their claim to 49 – At the same time we see that the two governments were of accord, and the question is, why they did not agree. The documents furnished the answer to this question, and a strange answer it is. Nothing else than a love of partnerships, and a desire to go into partnership with Russia and Great Britain in the use of all the country beyond the Rocky Mountains, each enjoying the use of the whole in common with others, and the title to remain in abeyance. The Emperor of Russia, like a wise man, declined all share in this mixed concern, got his own part laid off to himself, and has enjoyed it ever since in peace and quietness. The British government, like another wise man, accepted our proposal, went into partnership with us, took the use of the whole to herself, and now claims it as her own. We were only unwise in the transaction, and our improvidence, so visible to every body now, seen only by myself then, evidently resulted from the under-estimate of the country, which was then so universal. By our proposal of partnership, we prevented the settlement of the boundary, and put a power stronger than ourselves in possession of our property – a power which has kept it so long that it begins to dream that it is its own; and now we are raising fleets and armies, and preparing to set the four corners of the world on fire, to get him out again. I had the vanity to denounce it the day I first heard of it, in the year 1818, and thought I was doing something. I even published my denunciation in articles which I deem quite sensible, and expected to make a great sensation. On the contrary, not one responsive note was obtained from the thousand newspapers which the United States contained; and I found myself as solitary then in advance of the public as I am now behind it.

I trust that I have made good our title, and that upon British admissions, to the
"Resolved, That it is not expedient for the government of the United States to treat with his Britannic majesty in reference to their territorial claims and boundaries west of the Rocky Mountains, upon the basis of a joint occupation by the citizens of the United States and subjects of Great Britain of the country claimed by each power.

"Resolved, That it is expedient for the government of the United States to treat with his Britannic majesty in reference to their said claims and boundaries, upon the basis of a separation of interests, and the establishment of the 49th degree of north latitude as a permanent boundary between them, in the shortest possible time."

It was in a session of the 1827-'28, and before the ratification of the second partnership convention – the one we are now determined to get rid of even at the price of war – and with the view of preventing the ratification of that convention, that this resolution was submitted. It presented my view of the settlement of this question, namely, no partnerships, the immediate establishment of a boundary, and the 49th parallel for that boundary. They are my views now; and, having said enough against partnerships, and enough in favor of setting upon some line, I go on to give my reasons in favor of that of forty-nine.

It is the line which parts, more suitably than a line following their highlands could do it, the valleys of the Columbia and of Frazer's river, saving to us all our discoveries and settlements beyond the Rocky Mountains, and leaving to the British the whole of theirs. It is a continuation of the line on this side of the mountains – a line which happens to conform to the geographical features of the continent on this side of the mountains, and equally so on the other. On this side, it parts the two systems of waters, one of which belongs to the valley of the Mississippi, and the other to the basin of Hudson's Bay; on the other side, it parts the system of waters which belong to the valley of the Columbia from those which belong to Frazer's river, cutting off the heads of a few streams, of about equal value on each hand. It is the line of Utrecht – a line which will now be denied but by few – and to which few, nothing more on this point will ever be said by me. It is the line of right, resulting from the treaty of Utrecht; and as such, always looked to, in the early stages of this controversy, by American statesmen, as the ultimate line of settlement and boundary between the countries. It is the line of right, resulting from the said treaty of Utrecht, up to which Mr. Adams, in his dispatch to Mr. Middleton, of July 19, 1823, alleged an "unquestionable title" to extend; for only upon that treaty could a line of "unquestionable title" be averred. – On any other basis, it could only be a line of convention – a conventional line of mutual agreement; and Mr. Adams was not a man to confound two things so different in their nature. It is the best line for us; for it gives us all the waters of Puget's Sound and Bellingham's Bay – I do not say the Straits of Fuca; (for those straits, like all the other great straits of the world, are part of the high seas, and incapable of self-appropriation by any nation) it gives us these waters and with them the picture sque and the fertile square, of more than an hundred miles every way, lying between the Straits of Fuca and the Columbia, and between the Pacific coast and the Cascade range of mountains, and on which Mount Olympus, near the centre, is the crowning ornament, and from which the whole district derives its classic name of Olympic.

All this the line of the treaty of Utrecht gives us, which the line of the valley of the Columbia would not; for that river has no valley at its mouth, and enters the sea through a gap in the iron-bound coast. The valley of that river is a fan expanded, the spreading part in the Rocky Mountains, the handle in the sea. It is the best line for the British, for it gives them the upper part of the north fork of the Columbia, where it heads opposite the Athabasca and Saskatchewan – British rivers and covered by British posts – and from all which the valley of Frazer's river would be cut off from communication if the head of the Columbia remained in our hands, just as Halifax was cut off from Quebec by the northern waters of the St. John's. Thus, the line of right – the line of Utrecht – is the best for both parties, giving to each what is convenient and necessary to it, (for the triangle at the head of the Columbia is as necessary to them as the Olympic square is to us,) and taking from each a detached district, of little value except for annoyance. The British could annoy us in the Olympic district; we could annoy them at the head of the Columbia; but why do it,
except upon principle of laying eggs to hatch further disputes? Upon the machiavellian principle of depositing the seeds of a new contestion while assuming to settle the mischiefs of an old one? Forty-nine is the line which Mr. Jefferson proposed in 1807, as I have shown heretofore to the senate. It is the line of which Mr. Gallatin and Mr. Rush said in 1818:

"The forty-ninth degree of north latitude had, in pursuance of the treaty of Utrecht, been fixed, indefinitely, as the line between the British northern possessions and those of France, including Louisiana, now a part of our territories. There was no reason why, if the two countries extend their claims westward, the same line should not be continued to the Pacific Ocean. So far as the discovery gives a claim, ours to the whole country on the waters of the Columbia river was indisputable.

It is the line of all the American statesmen, without exception, twenty and forty years ago. It was the line of Mr. Canning in 1823. It is the line for the rejection of which by Mr. Parkenham, without reference to his government, Sir Robert Peel has lately, and publicly, and in the face of the world, expressed regret. It is a line which we have never presented as an ultimatum; which we have often proposed gently, and which the British have as often gently shoved aside, because they saw, from our own coetaneous propositions, that they could do better, and get the whole, at least for a long time, under our own delusive project of joint usufruction. But now all this gentle and delusive work is done with. The joint use is to terminate – events advance – and the question must be settled now by reason and judgment, or it will soon settle itself by chance and arms. Forty-nine is the line of right with me; and, acting upon the second half of the great maxim, submit to nothing wrong! I shall submit to no invasion or encroachment upon that line.

Senators may now see the reason why, for twenty-five years, I have adhered to the line of Utrecht. It is the line of right, which gives to us the Olympic district and it invaluable waters, and secures to us the river and valley of the Columbia. It is the fighting line of the United States. The Union can be rallied on that line. [JCB].

NNR 70.240 expenses of the war, need for action to raise funds, lack of funds for purchasing supplies at New Orleans

FINANCIAL – National Expenses – During a discussion in the U.S. Senate on Friday last week, Mr. Webster intimated that he had learned, very much to his astonishment, that the expenses of the government at present amounted to very near half a million of dollars per day.

On Monday, Mr. Sevier, in reference to that remark, stated, that the daily expenditures of the army and navy, amounted to $106,000 only.

Mr. WEBSTER, in explanation of his statement, replied, that he did not refer to the expences of the army and navy proper, alone, but including that of the volunteers – and the vast changes for transportation provisions, munitions, and other expences incident to the war, the amount of which altogether he has ascertained from good authority, fell but little short of half a million dollars per day.

Although prepared by some examination, for a large announcement on this score, this exceeds our worst apprehensions. If it be but half true, it is full time that Mr. SECRETARY WALKER were bestirring himself in looking out ways and means t meet drafts upon his department. – Be it remembered too, that this amount of expenditures is for the army now in the field, say some 10 or 12,000 men at most, and they yet within our realm. What amount will be requisite when the army shall number 35,000 men, as is contemplated, and have to be provided with stores and munitions some five hundred to a thousand miles within an enemy’s country? To count the cost, and be provided with ways and means to sustain the cost, is the first consideration with Statesmen, in proposing a foreign war.

The New Orleans correspondent of the New York Courier, writing under date of the 26th ult. Says – "Would you believe it, that up to the mail of today inclusive, the quartermaster general at this place is still without funds, and the treasury with 6 or $800,000 lying to its credit in the deposit banks of this city!!! The state has already advanced $150,000. – The banks, on their own responsibility, and without any security, have advanced largely. Large amounts are due by the quartermaster all over the city, for supplies of ever kind that have been purchased not only for the volunteers but also for the regular army, for which he is unable to pay, and without all these aids and means nothing could have been done to reinforce general Taylor
or even send him supplies, and yet though they had known at Washington for some 
eight or ten days of the crisis that had occurred, and the exertions that were making 
here, yet this criminal neglect is exhibited as to placing means at the disposal of the 
proper officers which they must have known would be so vitally necessary. [JCB]

NNR 70.240 naval operations on the Mexican coast

The latest intelligence from the army is by the steamer Alabama, which took out 458 
soldiers, and reached Brazos Bar on the 28th ult. The same evening, at 8 o’clock, it 
commenced blowing a heavy gale, and at 11 o’clock it increased to a completer 
hurricane, which caused both anchors to drag from 70 into 3 fathoms of water.

The following is the list of vessels in the harbor, and blown ashore at Brazos Bar: 
steamer Col. Harney, ashore, will be got off; steamer Augusta, ashore badly; schr. 
The pilot boat L.H. Hitchcock reported to be lost in the same gale.

Vessels at Brazos. Steamers Monmouth, Sea, and Florida; a barque from Galveston 
with troops, name unknown; brig Apalachicola; schrs. Water Witch, Wm. Bryan, Ellen 
and Clara, Enterprise, Cornelia, Southerner, and Arista – also, a ship off the bar 
waiting to be discharged, name unknown.

The only U.S. vessel off the point was the schooner Flirt.

The Alabama left Brazos on the 1st inst. Gen. Taylor was still at Matamoros, waiting 
for reinforcements.

Major Lear, who crossed the country from Fort Jesup, and for whose safety fears 
were entertained, had reached the camp in safety.

Col. McIntosh was alive yet, and hopes are entertained of his recovery. Capt. Page 
is recovering.

Capt. Saunders, engineer, and Cols. Winthrop and Z. Lyons, attached to General 
Taylor’s staff, came on board the Alabama as passengers, and took at Balize, Capt. 
Major and A Maretta – also, the following sick and wounded officers from the army: 
Lieut. Arthur, 2d artillery, Lieuts. Gates and McClay and Capt. Kells, 8th infantry, 
Lieut. Stevens, 5th infantry. [JCB]

NNR 70.240 attack on Capt. John Charles Fremont threatened by Don Jose Castro

LIEUT. COL. FREMONT. The navy department have received letters from Monterey, 
dated 18th April. Lieut. Fremont having been ordered by Don Jose Castro to quit 
California, and expecting an attack, fortified himself, and thus apprised the American 
consul at Monterey of his purposes.

“MY DEAR SIR: - I this moment have received your letters, and without waiting to 
read them, acknowledge the receipt which the courier requires instantly. I am 
making myself as stong as possible, in the intention that if we are unjustly attacked, 
we will fight to extremity and refuse quarter, trusting to our country to avenge our 
death. No one has reached my camp; and from the heights we are able to see troops 
(with the glass) mustering at Saint John’s, and preparing cannon. I thank you for 
your kindness and good wishes, and would write more at length as to my intentions, 
did I not fear that my letter will be intercepted. We have in no wise done wrong to 
the people or to the authorities of the country; and if we are hemmed in and 
assaulted, we will die, every man of us, under the flag of our country.

Very truly, yours,
J.C. FREMONT

“P.S. – I am encamped on the top of the Sierra, at the headwaters of a stream, 
which strikes the road to Monterey, at the house of D. Joaquin Gomez. J.C.F.”

Castro assembled about 100 men in front of the entrenchments. After remaining 
there three days, he concluded to retreat, when it was discovered that the party had
quietly gone off, leaving some old saddles and trash which the Californians had magnified into munitions of war. Three hundred riflemen offered their services to Capt. F., but they were declined.

The movement against Lieut. Fremont seems to have been directed by the central government of Mexico; but it is not believed that the people of California entertained an ill-will towards him, or would willingly have done him harm. His own conduct in the whole matter seems to have been marked alike by courage and discretion. [JCB]

**NNR 70.240 demand on ships for freights at New Orleans**

**FREIGHTS – NEW ORLEANS TRADE.** – The *Bulletin* of the 1st inst. proceeds to account for the high rate of freights at that port, on other grounds, than that of an apprehension of losing their vessels in the war with Mexico – They say: - "On Tuesday last there were nine ships and eight barks less in port than at the same time last year; while the excess of receipts this year over last; would supply cargoes for two or three hundred vessels. We state them, in round numbers, as follows: -

5,531,000 lbs. bulk pork and bacon; 133,000 bbls. beef & pork; 25,000 tiersce of beef; 11,000 hhds, Pork, Hams and Bacon; 50,000 bbls. lard; 71,000 kegs do.; 559,000 bushels corn; 140,000 bbls. corn, in ears; 218,000 bbls. & sk.wheat; 261,000 do flour, 40,000 bushels oats, 18,000 bbls. whiskey, 3,000 hhds. tobacco; 22,000 pks. buffalo robes; 72,000 bales cotton.

The weight of the above cannot be short of 256 millions of pounds, making 114,223 tons, and requiring to transport it about 250 ships; of average size. We repeat, New Orleans offers a golden harvest to the shipping interest. [JCB]

**NNR 70.240 Catholic Chaplains**

**CATHOLIC CHAPLAINS.** As many rumors are in circulation respecting the Catholic chaplains to be sent to the army of occupation, we think that we would be doing a favor to our readers be stating briefly what we know on the subject from the best authority. A request was communicated to the superior of the Society of Jesus in Maryland, through two Catholic prelates, on the part of the United States government, that he should appoint two clergymen to go as chaplains to the army in Texas. – The request was laid before several bishops then on a visit in Georgetown College, and the principal clergymen attached to that institution. It was the unanimous opinion that it should be acceded to. Fathers McElroy and Rey were then proposed as proper persons to fill the office. All present approved of their nomination. – On the same day the superior, accompanied by two bishops, waited upon the secretaries of war and state, and had a full understanding with them. The two gentlemen are expected to depart for the army next week. [Catholic Herald]

**NNR 70.241 The State of National Finances**

**THE STATE OF NATIONAL FINANCES.** The message of the president, in compliance with the call of the senate, as to his views on ways and means, and the treasury estimates under a state of war with Mexico, are inserted in a following page. It will be seen that the deficiency of means under existing laws would be many millions. His principal reliance for improving the revenue is, by diminishing the duties payable upon importations, so as to induce a much larger importation of foreign goods. The effect would be, according to our notion, to distress the community in far greater proportion than it would relieve the government. True, perhaps, the government could get the duties, but so sure as it did the people would have the goods, thus flooded upon them, to pay for. Their prospect of paying forty or fifty millions more to Europeans per annum, for importations, than they now have to pay them, would be rather an embarrassing task, at the present prices for our produce. That it could be done, we verily do not believe. That the attempt would at once drain the country of its specie – and then spread ruin over the land, similar to what we have recently experienced, is most seriously to be dreaded.

There is no suggestion for sustaining the national credit beyond the brief period
which the president seems to contemplate the present war with Mexico will be confined to. Should that war unhappily be procrastinated – a case certainly within the scope of possibilities, another year would find, according to the project submitted, an empty treasury – temporary expecients exhausted, and a resort to heavy direct taxation to retrieve credit, inevitable.

That a reduction of duties would increase the revenues, except for the moment, is extremely problematical. A sufficient flood of foreign goods would probably be inundated to prostrate our own establishments. Then would come the pinch of poverty. We could no longer import because we could no longer pay, and would have no credit left except by showing that we had provided sufficient taxes to meet the interest loans that would be required. [JCB]

NNR 70.241 offer of British ministers to mediate differences between the United States and Mexico

MEDIATION OFFERED. As a matter of course, when it was decided in the British cabinet to settle their own dispute with the United States amicably, they would become anxious for an immediate termination of the war between the United States and Mexico, otherwise they could hardly hope to keep Europe out of the fray. The question in the cabinet, as to offering the terms which Mr. Pakenham has offered, and which have been acceded to, was decided by a majority of but one vote, Mr. Peel, the minister, voted in the negative, though he acquiesced on finding a majority against him. Had the declaration of war against Mexico been received, Mr. McLane is said to have expressed his conviction that no such terms would have been offered. Having been made, the British cabinet now offer their friendly interference as mediators for a peace between the United States and Mexico, through Mr. Pakenham, and have dispatched a similar proposition to Mexico. Vol. XX. Siglo 19. [JCB]

NNR 70.242 June 20, 1846 Mexico, revolutionary movement in favor of Santa Anna, Vera Cruz blockade, neutral powers protest blockade.

Revolutionary Movements. Mazatlan and Tepec, principal ports on the Pacific, have declared against Paredes, and in favor of the return of Santa Anna.

The heavy demands made on the departments and on the clergy for funds had rendered Paredes unpopular. The death of the archbishop, was a death blow to the monarchical scheme, of which he was the main stay. The federalists of themselves, were not in sufficient force to contend with Paredes, but united with Santa Anna's adherents they would be an overmatch for him. Santa Anna and Almonte were expected at Vera Cruz, from Cuba

Our latest dates are from the Havana Diario del Marina, of June 9, containing Vera Cruz dates of June 1.

The consuls of neutral powers had protested against the Unites States blockade of the port, issued 20th May. Many families were leaving the city for the interior. Affairs were as in 1838, when blockaded by the French, except that the acts is in better condition. There are, including the water battery lately constructed, 200 pieces of heavy ordinance bristling from its portholes. Bravo, who commands, is a generous and liberal as well as a brave man.

The Mexican Congress, assembled on the 27th May. Bustamente, (ex-president) was elected to preside. [AEK]

NNR 70.243 Dr. William Maxwell Wood, bearer of dispatches from the Pacific squadron, passing through Mexico, meets and forwards to Com. John Drake Sloat intelligence of the war

The Steam frigate Mississippi, arrived at Pensacola on the 8th from Vera Cruz, bringing Dr. Wood, U.S.N. bearer of dispatches to the government from the Pacific squadron, who passes through Mexico without interruption. At the post office at
Guadalaxara, he met the news of the capture of Captain Thornton, near Matamoros, and immediately employed a trusty person to take intelligence to Commodore Sloat, at Mazatlan, who would probably receive the intelligence five days in advance of the Mexicans, who had not expressed the intelligence. J. Parrott, Consul at Mazatlan, accompanied him. They left Mazatlan on the 30th of April, were at Guadalaxara on the 9th of May, and their express was expected to have reached Mazatlan again, by the 17th of May. [JCB]

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**NNR 70.255 report of taking of Matamoros**

*Headquarters of the army of occupation,  
City of Matamoros,  
May 18, 1846.*

Sir: I have the honor to report that my very limited means for crossing rivers prevent a complete prosecution of the victory of the 9th instant. A pontoon train, the necessity of which I exhibited to the department last year, would have enabled the army to cross on the evening of the battle, take this city, with all the artillery and stores of the enemy, and a great number of prisoners – in short, to destroy entirely the Mexican army. But I was compelled to await the arrival of heavy mortars, with which to menace the town from the left bank, and also the accumulation of small boats. In the meantime, the enemy had somewhat recovered from the confusion of his flight, and ought still with his 3,000 left him, to have made a respectable defense. I made every preparation to cross the river above the town, while Lieut. Col. Wilson made a diversion on the side of Barita, and the order of march was given out for 1 o’clock yesterday, from the camp near Fort Brown, when I was waited upon by General Reguena, empowered by General Arista, commanding in chief the Mexican forces, to treat for an armistice until the government should finally settle the question. I replied to this, that an armistice was out of the question, that a month since I had proposed one to General Ampudia, which was declined; that circumstances were now changed; that I was receiving large reinforcements, and could not now suspend operations which I had not initiated or provoked; that the possession of Matamoros was a sine qua non; that our troops would occupy the town; but that General Arista might withdraw his forces, leaving the public property of every description.

An answer to the above was promised in the afternoon, but none came, and I repaired at sundown to join the army, already in position at a crossing some two miles above the town. Very early this morning the bank was occupied by about two 18 pounders and three batteries of field artillery – and the crossing commenced – the light companies of all the battalions were first thrown over, followed by the volunteer and regular cavalry. No resistance was made, and I was soon informed from various quarters, that Arista had abandoned the town with all his troops the evening before, leaving only the sick and wounded. I immediately dispatched a staff officer to the prefect to demand surrender; and in the meantime, a commission was sent by the prefect to confer with me on the same point.

I gave assurances that the civil rights of the citizens would be respected, and our troops at once dropped down opposite the town and crossed at the “upper ferry,” the American flag being displayed at “Fort Paredes,” a Mexican redoubt near the crossing. The different corps are now encamped in the outskirts of the city. To-morrow I shall make suitable arrangements for the occupation of the town, and for taking possession of the public property. – More than three hundred of the enemy’s wounded have been left in the hospitals. Arista is in full retreat towards Monterey with the fragments of his army.

I deeply regret to report that Lieut. George Stevens, a very promising young officer of the second dragoons, was accidentally drowned this morning while attempting to swim the river with his squadron.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z.TAYLOR,  

To the ADJUNT GENERAL of the army

*Washington D.C.*

*Headquarters army of occupation,*
SIR: On the 26th of April, I had occasion to advise the department that hostilities had actually broken out, and that in consequence I had found it necessary to use the authority with which I was vested, and call upon the governors of Louisiana and Texas for a force, each, of four regiments. The eight regiments thus called for would make a force of nearly 5,000 men, which I deemed sufficient to meet the wants of service in this quarter.

At the same time that I wrote to the governor of Louisiana requesting this volunteer force, I addressed a letter to gen. Gaines, desiring him to assist in organizing these regiments and having them promptly supplied. In my communication to the governor, the organization was very exactly proscribed, being that indicated from your office on the 25th of August, 1845. I find, however, that this organization has been exceeded, and, moreover, that gen. Gaines has called for many more volunteers than I deemed necessary, extending the call to other states besides Louisiana.

It will, of course, be for the government to decide whether the future operations in this quarter will require the amount of force (entirely unknown) which is coming hither. I only desire to say, that this reinforcement, beyond the eight regiments mentioned above, was never asked for by me, and that in making the call of the 26th of April, I well knew that if the Mexicans fought us at all, it would be before the arrival of the volunteers. It was for the purpose of clearing the river, and performing such further service as the government might direct, that I thought it proper to ask for reinforcements.

It is extremely doubtful whether the foot regiment from Texas can be raised, and I shall desire the governor, who is expected here, to suspend the call for them. None of the mounted companies, except Capt. Price’s, already in service, have reported to me.

I fear that the volunteers have exhausted the supply of tents deposited in New Orleans for the use of this army. We are greatly in want of them; and I must request that immediate measures be taken to send direct to Brazos Santiago, say 1,000 tents, for the use of the army in the field. The tents of the 7th infantry were cut up to make sandbags during the recent bombardment of Fort Brown.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your ob’t servant,


The ADJUTANT GENERAL of the army,
Washington, D.C.

Extracts from a dispatch from General Taylor, dated, "Matamoros, May 21, 1846.
"Our future movements must depend, in a great degree, on the extent to which the Rio grande is navigable for steamboats, and I fear that my expectations in this particular will not be realized. – Though, at times, navigable as high as Camargo, or even Mier, it is doubtful whether a boat can now be pushed higher than Remosa. Indeed, the “Neva,” which is in the river, and accompanied the expedition under General Smith, has not yet reached this place, though hourly expected.

I shall lose no time in ascertaining the practicability of the river for steamboats and shall occupy Reinosa, and such other points as a boat may be able to reach.

“All the cavalry (regular and irregular) of the army, under command of Lieut. Col. Garland, is in pursuit of the retreating army, to harass its rear, and capture prisoners and baggage. We have no authentic intelligence from the lieutenant colonel since his departure. Deserters are, however, coming in from the Mexicans.

“Lieut. Col. Wilson’s battalion, 1st infantry, with some 200 volunteers, was at barita on the 17th, and has since been reinforced by Gen. Smith, with about 700 Louisiana volunteers. This column is ordered to move up the right bank of the river, and I look hourly for its arrival.

A large amount of public stores, chiefly ordnance, has been found concealed in this town. We are gradually recovering it from the places where it was hidden. Two field pieces, several hundred muskets, and 200 shells are among the articles recovered.

Headquarters of the army of occupation, City of Matamoros, May 24, 1846. SIR: I
have to report the arrival this day of gen. Smith, with the battalion of the 1st infantry, the Washington regiment of Louisiana volunteers, and a company of volunteers from Mobile. Another regiment of Louisiana volunteers is below, and will probably arrive this evening or tomorrow. This command was accompanied from the mouth of the river by the steamboat Neva, which succeeded without difficulty in reaching this place.

Lieut. Col. Garland returned on the 22nd from his expedition in pursuit of the retreating army. He succeeded in capturing a small rear party, after a trifling skirmish in the night, in which a man, and unfortunately a woman, were killed on the Mexican side, and two men slightly wounded on our own. – He pursued the route of the army for sixty miles and then returned agreeably to his instructions. – The scarcity of water and condition of his horse made it useless to proceed farther.

I would respectfully solicit instructions as to the disposition to be made of certain property captured in the camp of Gen. Arista. A pavilion and several pieces of massive plate are among the articles. His clothing, and other property purely personal, have been deposited in the city with a view of being returned to him. I would suggest that the pavilion be sent to Washington, to be disposed of as the president may direct.

The recovery of ordnance and other public stores still continues here. Two pieces of cannon have been taken from the river, and small arms in considerable numbers have been taken in the town.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. TAYLOR,
brevet brig. General U.S.A. commanding.

The ADJUTANT GENERAL of the army,

Washington D.C.

[NCR]

FROM THE HOME SQUADRON. We subjoin a copy of the instructions of Commodore Conner to the commanders of vessels in the home squadron, showing the principles to be observed in the blockade of the Mexican ports. The ports already under blockade, are Vera Cruz, Tampico, and Alvarado:

INSTRUCTIONS to be observed by officers commanding vessels of the home squadron, in enforcing the blockade of ports of the east coast of Mexico.

1. No neutral vessel, proceeding towards the entrance of a blockaded port, shall be captured or detained, if she shall not previously have received from one of the blockading squadron, a special notification of the existence of the blockade. This notification shall be, moreover, inserted in writing on the muster roll of the neutral vessel by the cruiser which meets her, and it shall contain the announcement, together with the statements of the day, and the latitude in which it was made.

2. Neutral vessels which may be already in the port before the blockade of it, shall have full liberty to depart, with or without cargo, fifteen days after that upon which the blockade is established.

3. The ports of Vera Cruz and Tampico will remain entirely free for the entrance and departure of neutral non-commercial mail packets.

Mexican boats engaged exclusively in fishing, on any part of the coast, will be allowed to pursue their labors unmolested.

In its present political condition, the flag of Yucatan is to be respected.

D. CONNOR, commanding home squadron. United States ship Cumberland, Off Brazos Santiago, May 14, 1846.

EXTRACT of a letter from Commodore Connor, dated "May 28, 1846."
"On the morning of the 18th, a detachment of nearly two hundred seamen and mariners from the Cumberland and Potomac, under the command of Captain Aulick, in the boats of the two vessels, entered the Del Norte to co-operate with a detachment from the army, under the command of Lieut. Col. Wilson, for the purpose of establishing a post at Barita, on the right bank of the river, about fifteen miles from its mouth. This was accomplished without opposition.

"On the same day (it appears) our army crossed the river and took possession of matamoros, the Mexican army having abandoned it on the day previous in the greatest confusion and disorder. There being no longer and occasion for the services of our men on shore, Captain Aulick returned on board on the 20th." [JCB]

NNR 70.256 exhibit of force of the Gulf Squadron, unlikelihood of successful attack on Veracruz

THE LEXINGTON, sloop of war now at the Brooklyn Naval yard, has been converted into a store ship, and will leave in a few days for the Pacific with supplies for the Navy, under command of Lieut. T. Baily, partially armed – having 6 or 8 guns and 80 men.

The Gulf Squadron. The following is said to be a correct statement of the whole naval force in the gulf:

Three frigates, 156 guns, 1440 crew; Three sloops 66 guns, 600 crew; One steamer, 10 guns, 235 crew; One steamer, 10 guns, 166 crew; Three brigs, 30 guns, 240 crew. Eleven vessels, 292 guns, 2681 crew.

The aggregate of the crews of these vessels is full one-third of our naval force, as restricted by law to 7,500 seamen, &c..

A number of revenue Cutters, small steamers, and other vessels of light draft have recently been ordered to the gulf and will be serviceable, but the entire force is considered altogether inadequate to attempt an attack upon Vera Cruz.

A letter from an officer in the United States Navy, dated at Pensacola, May 30, says: - We shall probably sail, as soon as we are provisioned, for Vera Cruz, but I doubt if any attack will be made on the castle, as they have prepared it so well for defense; and if their practice should be equal to the fire on Gen. Taylor’s camp they would sink the whole of our navy. When the French attacked the castle, there were only twenty-five guns of small caliber at the point of attack; they have now over two hundred pieces, thirteen mortars, and Paixhan guns in quantities, on new batteries, at the same point, and one of our engineer officers says that if they were served well no fleet could ever make any impression. [JCB]

NNR 70.256 rumors of a British offer of mediation between the United States and Mexico

The English papers state that Mr. McLane and his lady were among the congratulatory callers upon the queen – of course Mr. McLane has recovered from his severe illness.

General Armstrong, Consul for the U. States at Liverpool, came passenger in the Great Western, on a visit to the United States. He is announced in N. York papers as the bearer of important dispatches from Mr. McLane.

Among the recent appointments by the President, confirmed by the senate was that of Mr. Thos G. Reynolds, as Secretary of Legion at Madrid.

Mr. Parrott, U.S. Consul at Mazatlan, and Dr. Wood of U.S. Navy, bearer of dispatches from the American squadron on the Pacific, passed through Mexico, to Vera Cruz and reached Pensacola, in about twenty-two days from Mazatlan. At Vera Cruz they were joined by F.M. Diamond, U.S. Consul of that port and seven other Americans. – The intelligence brought by them will be found under appropriate heads. [JCB]
THE TREATY, between the Great Britain and the U. States of America, relative to Oregon, negotiated between the right hon. Mr. PARKENHAM an the secretary of state, Mr. BUCHANAN, was signed by President Polk, and ratified by the United States senate, was taken out by the steamer Great Western, which left New York on the 25th, for the ratification of the British Government.

That British government had instructed Mr. Parkenham to offer the mediation of that government in hopes of restoring peace between the United States and Mexico, was so confidently asserted on the arrival of the Cambria, that the article first inserted in the "Union" in reference to such an offer, led us to the conclusion that such was the fact. The Union now states that if such was the fact, they at least are not advised of it. – The probability is, that the statement was at least premature. The application which had been made by the "Mexican association" in England, to the British ministers, for such a mediation, is inserted in this number, and may lead to the adoption of such a course, after the ratification on their part of the Oregon treaty. Prior to that, such an offer would certainly be out of place. – Their own quarrel with us should at least be settled before proposing to settle the quarrel between us and a foreign power.

The Union is evidently in now way desirous that such an offer should be made. Our own impression is, that it would be better for this country that no such offer be made. We should regret to ascertain that Mr. Parkenham had received such instructions; and this, not because we do not fervently pray for a speedy termination of hostilities, but because we do not believe that such a mediation would be likely to attain that object any sooner than it will be attained without it, if as soon, and because, if offered, we see not how our government can with propriety reject the overture, especially if, as it is said, they have offered the mediation of our government in the case of Buenos Ayres and the French, English, and Argentine quarrel.

An interesting item in relation to the views of the British government, which will be found under our diplomatic head, if true, sheds light upon the subject in hand. Mr. Webster, in his speech in the senate on Wednesday, alluded to the reported offer of mediation. He doubted whether there was any truth in the report. If true, Mexico must come down to a treaty at last. He was for sending a minister at once to Mexico, with full powers to treaty. "If I were to advise," said Mr. Webster, "I would advise to make Mexico and offer of a formal embassy. We can afford to do so; we can lose nothing in dignity by it. I would be for keeping ourselves entirely in the right. It is not stooping on our part, because all the world knows that the contest is very unequal.

This reference to a course of policy, so often urged in our columns, fortifies preconceived impressions. We go now one step further. The claims which conquest might urge, in any settlement with Mexico, we fervently hope will not be asserted. We would like to see our republic not only JUST, but MAGNANIMOUS. It belongs to the character of an intelligent republican people to be so. We have now an opportunity of exhibiting the fact, that the republic of the United States of America, is exactly such a republic, and the PEOPLE, exactly such a people. MILIONS FOR JUSTICE, - FOR CONQUEST, NOT A CENT. [JCB]

AUSTIN FRIARS, LONDON, June 2, 1846. My Lord: The committee of the South American and Mexican Association take the liberty to address your lordship, in consequence of the intelligence recently received of the republic of the United States of America having declared war against the republic of Mexico.

The previous evils certain to result from this unhappy occurrence, to all parties carrying on intercourse with, or having interests in Mexico, the committee need not point out your lordship. The blockading of ports, the warning off of vessels now on
their way to Mexico, with cargoes expressly provided for that market; the impeding
of returns being made for cargoes previously sent; the general interruption of the
pursuits of commerce; the irregular state of warfare introduced by the issuing of
letters of marque, often leading to unlicensed marauding of the seas, are the direct
and unavoidable consequences of active hostilities between two nations, respectively
situated towards each other as are these republics.

That a large portion of these evils must fall upon British subjects from the
extensive nature of their intercourse and connexion with Mexico, your lordship will
also be fully aware.

The committee venture to hope, that, on an examination of the grounds on which
this declaration of war has been issued by the United States, it will be found that the
grievance alleged by that power against Mexico is not so deeply rotted, but the
friendly interposition of good offices between the contending parties by an
independent power, standing in relations of amity and neutrality towards both, may
be found available to remove it.

The President of the United States, in his message to the congress of that republic,
declares the ground of offense to be – that a Mexican force had attacked a force of
the United States, placed on the left bank of the Rio del Norte, between that river
and the river Nueces, said act of hostility on the part of the republic of Mexico
constituting in itself a "state of war."

The president further adverts, in his message, to the fact that Texas has, "by the
final action of the congress of the United States, become an integral part of the
Union.” But it is manifest that the integrity of this part of the Union must be decided
by the geographical position of that state, previous to its separation from the mother
country. There is not a map in existence, published previous to the separation of the
province of Texas, that does not assign the river Nueces as the boundary of that
province.

The only act by which it is assumed that the boundary of Texas could be obtruded
to the Rio del Norte, is an act of the congress of Texas itself, passed in December
1836, Texas being at that time in insurrection against the parent state, and its
independence not having been acknowledged by any power whatever. Upon a title of
such questionable validity it is that the U. States has thought fit to direct its troops
to occupy the territory in question, and to consider the attempt to dislodge them
therefrom as an act constituting a declaration of war by Mexico.

It is to be remarked, that although claiming the whole of the territory in question
between the rivers Nueces and river Del Norte to be their own, the Mexicans, so far
from provoking hostility with respect to this disputed ground, had wholly continued
themselves to the right bank of the Rio del Norte, until the troops of the United
States had appeared on the other side, avoiding therefore on the side of Mexico all
cause for irritation.

And if, indeed, there had been some manifestation of irritated feeling on the part of
Mexico with regard to Texas, it might perhaps have been considered somewhat
excusable. Several hundreds of British subjects are at this time dispersed throughout
Mexico, carrying on, under the protection of the treaty between G. Britain and
Mexico, their several legitimate pursuits to the advantage of the country in which
they are settled and to their own. If these persons were found to congregate
themselves together in a remote and thinly peopled province of Mexico, and there to
foment an insurrection against the parent state, the a declaration of separation and
independence, and, lastly, an act of annexation to the British crown, such a
proceeding could hardly be viewed as otherwise than grievous toward the republic of
Mexico, and not calculated perhaps to attract a moral sympathy in any quarter. It is
now a matter of historical record, that when the signatures to the act of annexation
of Texas to the United States came to be examined, they were found to be nearly all
those of strangers, and not of native Texans.

The committee of the South American and Mexican Association respectfully bring
these circumstances under the notice of her majesty’s government in the hope that
it shall appear, on an impartial view of the political relations between the United
States and Mexico, that there is no cause of rupture between the two parties but
such as a friendly and respectful interposition of good offices might remove. Her
majesty’s government may deem it expedient to endeavor, in that character, to put
an end to a state of hostility between the two republics, embarrassing and injurious
to both.

The committee do not conceal that it is from the desire to protect their commercial
interests, that they address this representation to your lordship; but they trust that that motive comprehends nothing that is not in accordance with the general interests of civilized states. – At a time when the desire for the maintenance of peace is so generally and practically recognized by the powers of Europe, it cannot be out of place for Englishmen to express a hope that between the republics of the Western Hemisphere, possessing the most free institutions, and a boundless territory, with all the means within themselves of encouraging and rewarding industry and extending civilization and happiness, the elements of strife and discord may speedily be dispersed, and the bonds of amity and good will be strengthened, to their own common advantage, and that of all holding friendly intercourse with them.

I have the honor to be, my lord, your most faithful servant,

J.D. POWLES, Chairman of the South American and Mexican Association.

The right hon. the earl of Aberdeen, K.T., one of her majesty’s principal secretaries of state, &c., &c.

NNR 70.261-262 article in the "Southern Quarterly Review" reviewing the campaign, noticed

An article will be found in this number, extracted from the Southern Review, written evidently by a person conversant with the subject on which he treats, and of no ordinary talents. He scribbles with a keen pen, dipped occasionally in caustic ink, yet the facts, which an impartial reader will be able to ascertain in relation to the conducting of the war in which we are engaged, from this writer, are important towards forming a correct judgement of the premises. Some apprehensions which we took an opportunity to suggest at the time the army was about to proceed to Corpus Christi, as to precautionary outfit, and as to adequate information of the nature of the country about to be entered, the harbors, depths of water, roads, &c., &c., and of force and disposition of the occupants of the territory, have been so far indisputably realized, that we cannot help giving credence to far more of what is stated by the writer alluded to, than we like to do. That he is occasionally severe without due regard to circumstances which should excuse or palliate, we have no doubt. Readers however will judge for themselves. [JCB]

NNR 70.262 formidable force organizing against Santa Fe

EXPEDITION AGAINST SANTA FE. – The division of the invading army, which is assembling in the state of Missouri, and which is to be commanded by the old veteran officer General Wool, intending to proceed to Santa Fe and Upper California, is mustering with spirit and will soon be far upon their route.- The Missourians and the "We-tern Rangers" mount at the first blast of the bugle, rifle in hand, bowie knife at the girdle, and revolving pistols in their holsters, demanding only to know who is to lead them on to the west. The first requisition for volunteers for the expedition was deemed inadequate, and another regiment is called for. The frontier-men will have the whole of this frolic to themselves. We judge there will be very little fighting. [JCB]

NNR 70.262 Lt. Col. Henry Wilson marches against Reynosa

Our information from the army on the Rio Grande is to the 6th instant.

An expedition composed of four companies of the 1st infantry and some volunteers, altogether about 500 men marched from Matamoros on the 5th inst., under command of Lieutenant Col. Wilson, towards Reinoso, a town situated about 60 miles above, upon the Rio Grande. From thence they designed to proceed to Camargo, 30 miles still further up.

"The Corporal," two of whose letters are inserted, writes to the New Orleans Bee on the 6th, from the camp opposite Matamoros. "The wet weather and heat of the sun have somewhat impaired the health of our army, though it may yet be considered good. The disease most prevalent is the diarrhea, but I believe it is a milder state of the disease than generally prevails in this climate and at this season of the year. To
prevent the spread of this, the surgeon of our regiment has protested against the use of green corn, and accordingly our colonel has totally prohibited its admission in the lines. I assure you there never was an action on the corn laws of England that produced so much dissatisfaction as this direct prohibition of our military ruler. It was utterly out of the question to hold public meetings on the subject, and had they been held, would have been to no avail, for our king rules without consulting the ministers or parliament, when the health of the troops is brought into question."

We are as ignorant here of our destination as you are, other than that we start up the river. Some are of the opinion that the army will be scattered and take and occupy posts on the river, while the larger portion seem sanguine that we march directly for Monterey, where the enmy’s forces are concentrating and fortifying themselves. Should the latter prophesy be verified, we will have warm work in reaching the point, as the sun is warmer in the prairies on the route than you can imagine. Monterey is ninety leagues from Matamoros, and eighty from the Rio grande, and were it not that rains keep the prairies pretty wet, it would be difficult for infantry to reach water when needed, and at easy marches."

Captain Stringer has established a post office at Matamoros, and demands his ten cents for postage on letters as if commissioned by postmaster Cave Johnson himself. A mail arrives daily.

General Worth had arrived. [JCB]

NNR 70.262 Gen. Zachary Taylor's letter complaining of want of transport and the large body of volunteers beyond what he had asked for

The last official information we have from Gen. Taylor is the following:

Headquarters of the army of occupation, Matamoros, June 3, 1846. Sir:  I respectfully enclose herewith a field return of the forces in and near Matamoros, both regular and volunteer. The corps known to have arrived at Point Isabel, of which no returns have yet been received, will carry the entire forces under my orders to nearly 8,000 men. I am necessarily detained at this point for want of suitable transportation to carry on offensive operations. There is not a steamboat at my command proper for the navigation of the Rio Grande, and without water transportation I consider it useless to attempt any extensive movement. Measures have been taken to procure boats of suitable draft and description, and one or two may now be expected. In the meantime, I propose to push a battalion of infantry as far as Reinosa, and occupy that town. For any operations in the direction of Monterey, it will be necessary to establish a large depot at Camargo, which I shall lose no time in doing as soon as proper transports arrive, unless I receive counter instruction from the department.

I trust the department will see that I could not possibly have anticipated the arrival of such heavy reinforcements from Louisiana as are now here, and on their way hither. Without large means of transportation, this force will embarrass rather than facilitate our operations. I cannot doubt that the department has already given instructions based upon the change in our position since my first call for volunteers.

Our last accounts of Arista, represent his force to be halted at Coma, an extensive hacienda on the Monterey road, about 100 miles from this point. – He has pickets covering the roads leading to matamoros, with a view to cut off all communication with the interior. The departmental authorities have issued a decree denouncing as traitors all who hold intercourse with us, or with those who do so. – I am, nevertheless, disposed to believe that in some quarters at least our presence is not unfavorably received. We have no intelligence from the city of Mexico. Ordnance stores, and other munitions of war, are continually discovered in the town. Five pieces of cannon, and a very large amount of balls, shells, and ammunition generally, have been brought to light.

I am, sir, very respectfully your obedient servant,

Z. TAYLOR,

To the ADJUTANT GENERAL of the Army.
Washington D.C.
[JCB]
NNR 70.262-263 letters from "The Corporal" at Matamoros


GENTLEMEN: Two days after I wrote you, we took up the line of march for this point, which we reached on the 25th. The country through which we passed was lovely to the extreme – being as level as a ball-room floor, and full of little chaparrals and muskeet groves. Our road, though not exactly following the meanderings of the river, touched its banks often enough to obtain water every mile or two. The citizens were friendly to us, and showed us little displeasure at the invasion. In fact, some of them expressed their wish that the country should be governed by Americans or some other people, that would guarantee them a liberal and stable government – so much had they been annoyed by the internal convulsions of their own. At every house we found three or four men, which induced me to believe that the press gang had met with poor success among them. They say it is not their disposition to play the soldier at any time, particularly the present, and when the call is made for troops they leave their homes in possession of the women and find business in the chaparral. They are happy, simple people, whose aim seems to be to make provisions for to-day, leaving to-morrow to look out for itself. All along the road they were found waiting with milk, a sort of bread which they call tortillas, cheese, poloncas of maple sugar, and assort of liquor resembling in looks and taste San Croix rum. We paid them liberally for all we obtained, which to them must have presented a strong contrast to the Mexican soldiery, who spread dismay and devastation among their own people, wherever they go. It seems to have been the desire of every man in our ranks to make the line of disparity between the American and Mexican soldiers as palpable as possible, and the good effect of such conduct, if not immediately developed, will in the course of time be more apparent. Our march was very heavy, particularly the day we left the Baritas, and some of our young men were very much used up. Two from company A were so much affected by the scorching sun as to be unable to proceed further, and stopped at the house of a Mexican, where they received the utmost kindness and attention during the night, and were furnished with horses in the morning to catch up with us.

It was about 10 o'clock in the morning when we reached the town of Matamoros, though its white buildings, so different from those we passed on the route, had attracted the eye long before that time. There was something far more attractive to the eye than the white buildings of the town – something to awaken a thrill of pleasure in the breast of the whole regiment – the Stripes and Stars were majestically floating in the breeze from the highest point in Matamoros, and between the river and the town hundreds and hundreds of white tents were pitched in such admirable order as to induce the beholder to think it a great town.

As we entered the town at the east end, thousands of people sallied out of their houses to look upon us, whose looks more bespoke a welcome to their own army than to that of the invaders. At many a half opened door or window was seen the head of a senora, whose timidity or modesty, (albeit they allow so little to the Mexicans,) forbade their emerging into the streets. Some of these women are indeed beautiful, though a great majority are indolent slovenly and destitute of that female delicacy which characterizes our own women. Their common dress is a white muslim skirt tied quite loosely around the body, without any bodice; their chemise being the only covering for their breasts, in which they wear their jewelry and cross. I did not see one pair of stockings in all the town. From this style of dressing you will infer that pride of dress gives way to comfort and ease, and that, too, in a greater degree, than I think the largest liberty would warrant them in indulging in. I went into a house yesterday evening, occupied by an old man and two daughters, both speaking a sufficiency of English to be understood. After being seated for a few moments, the eldest of the daughters went to the bed and brought to me a most lovely and interesting child, as white almost as any of our own people. She informed me that she was married about two years ago to a Texan prisoner, and that he had been killed whilst fighting under General Taylor. She spoke in the highest terms of her deceased lord, and seemed to worship his image in the child. She is a lovely creature, and I think deeply devoted to our cause.

Matamoros is a much handsomer place than I expected to find it. It covers two miles square though by no means as compast as an American city – every house except those around the public square having a large garden attached. The houses in the business part of the town are built after the American fashion, though seldom exceeding two stories in height. All the windows to these buildings are grated from top to bottom with iron bars, and half of the door only opens for admittance, which
gives them the appearance of prisons more than business houses. The public square is in the centre of the town, and must have been laid off by an American or a European, for the Mexicans never could have laid it out with such beauty and precision. On the four sides of the square the houses are built close enough together, as in black, and are all of the same size and height with the exception of the cathedral, which, though unfinished, still towers above the others. In these houses are sold dry goods, groceries, and every kind of wares, with now and then an exchange of coffee house. They are principally occupied by Europeans, and you can hear French, English, Spanish, and German spoken at the same time. After leaving the public square on either side, the houses decrease in size and beauty for two or three squares, when the small reed and thatched huts commence, and continue to the extreme limits of the place.

In walking through the streets, my attention was attracted to a house in the door of which stood or leaned two half naked Mexicans, so wo begone as to cause me to halt. On my nearing the door a most disagreeable stench almost induced me to bout-face. I mustered courage to enter the door. On the floor lying upon mats without covering, were nearly fifty Mexicans, wounded in the late engagements, attended by some 10 or 12 women. The smell of the place was insufferable, and I had to leave it. The next door was the same, and so on for about 20 houses. – A friend of mine called my attention to a room in which there were at least forty of these miserable objects, and this room was scarcely 12 feet square. There was not positively room for the nurses to attend them. Some had lost a leg, others an arm, and some both legs and arms. I noticed one who will certainly get well, whose legs were shot off within two or three inches above the knee, and he seemed to me to have a greater flow of spirits than some who had only flesh wounds. I said to him, that had only his wounds been made by a Mexican shot he would have been dead, to which he replied, the American shot was very good – no poisonous copper in them. One had died just before I entered the room, and they were making preparations to carry him out. – He had been shot in the mouth by a rifle ball which passed under the left ear, and he had lived from the 9th up to this time. There are between 350 and 400 of these horrid objects in this place, and the sight of them would induce many a stout heart to lament the horrors of war. These men give the number of killed and wounded on the 9th much greater than the Americans ever claimed – some say twelve hundred, some say fifteen hundred, but enough of them.

Lieut, Wells, of the spies, informed me yesterday that General Arista had halted at the distance of 80 miles from this place, and is receiving reinforcements quite briskly. Lieut. Wells with a few men followed them 60 miles. The Mexicans say he (Arista) will certainly return and attack us at this place, but the best informed Americans entertain no such idea.

If things are left to Taylor's discretion, he will march from this place to Monterey, - on this river - and if he does, the Mexicans will give him a hard fight – men will turn out to defend their homes and property in that section that we have never had to cope with yet – men, who when called on heretofore to put down rebellion or to invade Texas, have paid two or three dollars for a miserable substitute, will now take their rifles, and march to the field of fight; and these Rio Grande rancheros know how to use a rifle too. From the manner in which they fought on the 9th, you may safely infer that the fight will be a hard one. They will iways manage to have two ro three to one when they fight us and we look upon it as an equalizing thing, (you may think this boasting but it is an absolute fact.)

An express was sent from this place to Washington six days ago, and the general belief is, that we will not move from here until advised by the government to that effect. In such a case we will drill during the interim, and make preparations for any contingency.

The United States Dragoons left yesterday, for Point Isabel, to get their horses shod; they are a fine looking set of men and did much good service in the field.

Captain Walker, (I believe now a major,) is here with his men. He rode by our quarters yesterday on Tornado, the horse sent from New Orleans to him. Tornado seems as fond of his backer as the backer does of him, and they were the observed of all observers. Walker's men say he has but one fault and that is too brave for his discretion. Capt. Price, also of the Texas Rangers, is here with a fine set of men, and is a rough customer for a Mexican to run against. Major Hayes is occupying the post at San Antonio by Taylor's orders and will remain there until we march. We were about issuing an Army Chronicle here, but before we could get possession of the office, some one took it, and paid or agreed to pay the original owner for the use of it.
Our troops are in excellent spirits and long for the moment which will place them face to face with the enemy. The two volunteer regiments from your city, are in particularly buoyant spirits, notwithstanding their rate heavy march. They have too much pride to complain.

P.S. – Since the commencement of my letter I have conversed with a gentleman of much intelligence, who informed me, that Gen. Taylor would positively cease offensive operations, until he heard from Washington. He says that Mtamoros was taken without orders, as the commands were emphatically to act defensive, and not cross the river under any pretence. He will not be blamed admitting he has overstepped his orders, for he has done some good service on the frontier. Unless Arista returns to Mtamoros, there will be no further hostilities until Uncle Sam tells his sons to go ahead. Yours, &c., THE CORPORAL.

Camp opposite Matamoros, May 28th, 1846. (10 o’clock A.M.) GENTLEMEN: From the date of this you will perceive that we are again on American ground, though within a stones throw of the enemy’s banks. Our stay on the Matamoros side of the Rio Grande was brief – too brief to satisfy the curious portion of our troops in the perambulations through the captured city. But I suppose it’s all right; as the policy of our commander is to annoy the inhabitants of the place as little as possible. We are, however, allowed to cross the river occasionally, in small squads, and to remain for a portion of the day. When I say we, I mean the volunteer regiments, for a greater part of the regulars, with the Rangers and dragoons, are on the other side – dividing the troops on the two sides.

A company of regular troops are encamped on the public square to preserve order, as is also a company of Mexican citizens, whom the general has induced to organize to keep their own citizens under proper restrictions. You must not infer from this that the liberty of the Mexican citizens has been in any manner curtailed – it is not so; for I myself, heard Gen. Taylor tell a citizen, (who complained of an injury received from one of his own people,) that he did not, nor would not, exercise the least civil jurisdiction over the place, but leave them to administer their own affairs so long as it did not conflict with his duty as commander of an invading army.

While at headquarters, two Mexican women cam crying to the general and entreated him to release their husbands, who were prisoners in the fort. He simply bade the interpreter tell them, he could not, and they went on their way, apparently not the least surprised at his refusal. A ranchero also wanted the release of some servants, saying that his cotton was full of grass, but his request me the same success.

Capt. Thornton, of the dragoons, whom, you will recollect, was sent out some time ago to take observations, who charged the enemy, was defeated and taken prisoner, is still under arrest, and wills hortly be tried for action without orders. It is not likely that anything will be done to him more then censure, if that. He is spoken of as a brave and worthy officer. Lieut. Deas, was exchanged for, though he suffered to remain with the enemy as punishment for his indescretion. He was taken for a spy, and that was the reason why gen. Taylor used to exertion to get him back, thinking 'twould be a bad precedent. No one thought him so, and attributed his singular conduct to a generous disposition to find out what had been the fate of Col. Cross.

Looking over the papers received yesterday, I saw several attempts at a description of a chaparral, but all is incorrect. It is a series of thickets of various sizes, from 100 yards to a mile through, with musket trees interspersed in various kinds of bushes, and briars, all covered with thorns, and so closely entwined together by their respective branches as to prevent the passage of anything through larger than a wolf or hare. When they are in the course of a traveler he must travel around them, sometimes four or five miles, before he can make half a mile on his route. In the middle of most of them you will find a small prairie with numerous beds of prickly pears, the fruit of which is often ventured for by those who are accustomed to its use and “know the ropes.” It was in one of these prairies where Captain Walker as first fired on in the commencement of battles – the enemy had cut down the bushes and drawn a piece of artillery to its edge and planted it just as Walker emerged from the thicket by a mustang trail, on the other side. In the large thickets, a good woodman can crawl on his belly without coming in contact with the branches, and thus approach near enough to its outer edge to take a deliberate aim at an object in the prairie.

Four o’clock, P.M. – I ceased writing this morning, because I had nothing to write about; put by implements and crossed the river in search of news. The first place I went was Walker’s headquarters, a place where all the news respecting the enemy is to be found. Walker with the greater part of his men are absent on a ranging or spying expedition, and when he returns he will advise us of the movements of Arista.
On the other side of the river the war bill has created quite an excitement, and the
Mexicans look as though all hope of saving their country from being overrun is lost.
Fifty thousand men they think, or pretend to think, will ruin Mexico. Our soldiers
too, seem cheered by the news, and anticipate a brilliant termination of the
campaign, which a few days ago they feared would end in smoke.

One of the volunteers was found dead in the streets of Matamoros this morning,
having been stabbed in the back, and another one is missing, supposed also to have
been murdered. A Spaniard or Mexican was found dead in his house this morning
early, and his wife came to Taylor’s quarters, complained of the deed and pointed
out the murderer. He was promptly arrested and placed under guard for trial.

We have a regular mail arriving here every morning from Point Isabel, which leaves
again in the evening for the same place, which will afford me an opportunity of
sending you something in the way of words or news every day or two.

Yours,
THE CORPORAL.

NNR 70.263-264 Gen. Zachary Taylor’s letter of 22d April to Gen. Mariano Arista,
relative to blockade of the Rio Grande

The following letter from Gen. Taylor to Gen. Arista, in reply to one from the latter
remonstrating against the blockade of the Rio Grande, is worthy of being put on
record among materials for a future history of the war. It shows General Taylor not
less skilled in the structure of dispatches, than in the conduct of battle:

Headquarters, army of occupation, Camp near Matamoros, (Texas,) April 22, 1846.

Sir. I have had the honor to receive your communication of this date, in which you
complain of measures adopted by my order to close the mouth of the Rio Bravo
against vessels bound to Matamoros, and in which you also advert to the case of two
Mexicans supposed to be detained as prisoners in this camp.

After all that has passed since the American army approached the Rio Bravo, I am
certainly surprised that you should complain of a measure which is no other than a
natural result of the state of war so much insisted upon by the Mexian authorities as
actually existing at this time. You will excuse me for recalling a few circumstances,
to show that this state of war has not been sought by the American army, but has
been forced upon it, and that the exercise of the rights incident to such a state,
cannot be made a subject of complaint.

On breaking up my camp at Corpus Christi, and moving forward with the army
under my orders to occupy the left bank of the Rio Bravo, it was my earnest desire
to execute my instructions in a pacific manner; to observe the utmost regard for the
personal rights of all citizens residing on the left bank of the river, and to take care
of the religion and customs of the people should suffer no violation.

With this view, and to quiet the minds of the inhabitants, I issued orders to
the army, enjoining a strict observance of the rights and interests of all Mexicans
residing on the river, and caused said orders to be translated into Spanish, and
circulated in the several towns on the Bravo. These orders announced the spirit in
which we proposed to occupy the country, and I am proud to say that up to this
moment the same spirit has controlled the operations of the army. On reaching the
Arroyo Colorado I was informed by a Mexican officer that the order in question had
been received at Matamoros, but was told at the same time that if I attempted to
cross the river it would be regarded as a declaration of war. Again, on my march to
Frontone I was met by a deputation of the civil authorities of Matamoros, protesting
against me occupation of a portion of the department of Tamaulipas, and declaring
that if the army was not at once withdrawn, war would result. While this
communication was in met hands, it was discovered that the village of Frontone had
been set on fire and abandoned. I viewed this as a direct act of war, and informed
the deputation that their communication would be answered by me when opposite
Matamoros, which was done in respectful terms.

On reaching the river I dispatched an officer, high in rank, to convey to the
commanding general in Matamoros the expression of my desire for amicable relations, and my willingness to leave open to the use of the citizens of Matamoros the port of Brassos Santiago until the question of boundary should be definitely settled. This officer received for reply, from the officer selected to confer with him, that my advance to the Rio Bravo was considered as a veritable act of war, and he was actually refused an interview with the American Consul, in itself incompatible with a state of peace. Notwithstanding these repeated assurances on the part of the Mexican authorities, and notwithstanding the most obvious hostile preparations on the right bank of the river, accompanied by aridged non-intercourse, I carefully abstained from any act of hostility – determined that the onus of producing an actual state of hostilities should not rest on me. Our relations remained in this state until I had the honor to receive your note of the 12th instant, in which you denounce was as the alternative of my remaining in this position.

As I could not, under my instruction, recede from my position, I accepted the alternative you offered, and made all my dispositions to meet it suitably. – But, still willing to adopt milder measures before proceeding to others, I contend myself, in the first instance, with ordering a blockade of the mouth of the Rio Brave, by the naval force under my orders – a proceeding perfectly constant with the state of war so often declared to exist, and which you acknowledge in your note of the 16th instant, relative to the late Colonel Cross. If this measure seem oppressive, I wish it borne in mind that it has been forced upon me by the course you have seen fit to adopt. I have reported this blockade to my government, and shall not remove it until I receive instructions to that effect, unless indeed, you desire and armistice, pending the final settlement of the question between the governments, or until war shall be formally declared by either, in which case I will cheerfully open the river. In regard to the consequences you mention as resulting from a refusal to remove the blockade, I beg you to understand that I am prepared for them be they what they may.

In regard to the particular vessels referred to in your communication, I have the honor to advise you that, in the pursuance of my orders, two American schooners, bound to Matamoros, were warned off on the 17th instant, when near the mouth of the river, and put to sea, returning probably to New Orleans. They were not seized, or their cargoes disturbed in any way, nor have they been in the harbor of Brazos Santiago to my knowledge. A Mexican schooner, understood to be the "Juanita," was in or off that harbor when my instructions to blockade that river were issued, but was driven to sea in a gale, since which time I have no report concerning her. Since the receipt of your communication, I have learned that two persons sent to the mouth of the river to procure information respecting the vessel, proceeded thence to Brazos Santiago, when they were taken up and detained by the officers in command, until my orders could be received. I shall order their immediate release. A letter from one of them to the Spanish vice consul is respectfully transmitted herewith.

In relation to the two Mexicans said to have drifted down river in a boat, and to be prisoners at this time in my camp, I have the pleasure to inform you that no such persons have been taken prisoner, or are now detained by my authority. The boat in question was carried down empty by the current of the river, and drifted ashore near one of our pickets, and was secured by the guard. Some time afterward an attempt was made to recover the boat under the cover of darkness; the individuals concerned were hailed by the guard, and failing to answer, were fired upon as a matter of course. What became of them is not known, as no trace of them could be discovered on the following morning – The officer of the Mexican guard directly opposite was informed the next day that the boat would be returned on proper application to me, and I have now only to repeat that assurance.

In conclusion, I take leave to state that I consider the tone of your communication highly exceptionable, where you stigmatize the movements of the army under my orders as "marked with the seal of universal reprobation." You must be aware that such language is not respectful in itself either to me or my government; and while I observe in my own correspondence the courtesy due to your high position and to the magnitude of the interests with which we are respectively charged, I shall expect the same in return.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,


Senor Gen. D. Pedro de Ampudia, Commanding in Matamoros. [JCB]
Incidents of the battle field. The New Orleans Delta, of the 9th contains a long and interesting letter from Point Isabel, May 20th. After speaking of the battle of the 8th, the writer says:

"The first case of general Taylor was to visit the wounded and see that every comfort was supplied – the constant and well directed energies of the medical department left but little for him to do, every one, whether officer or soldier, had been attended to with unwavering care and watchfulness. The troops having partaken of their meal, the order was given to get the command under arms. General Taylor here summoned a council of war, composed of the heads of the different commands, in all thirteen, excluding the commander in chief. The general, after returning thanks for their support and bravery on the 8th, and wishing to be advised as to what they thought best to be done, called on each to give his opinion. I twas then ascertained that but four out of the thirteen were in favor of going ahead; the other officers composing the council voted, some to entrench where they were and await the assistance of the volunteers, and others to retire at once to Point Isabel, but the general said, "I will be at Fort Brown before night, if I live!"

He adds: "Those who voted for going ahead, as they watched the countenance of the general, might have seen the smile of approbation that lightened up the old man’s honest face at the moment; though he bowed with respect to the opinions of those who differed from him, and in saying engrave on the sacred banner of the stars and stripes the names of Taylor, McIntosh, Morris, Scott, and Duncan, I mean no reflection upon those who voted against them – they were men tried in many a field before, and their deeds on that day proved them equal to the best.

"Lieut. Ridgely, who was entitled to a vote in the council, was at the time in attendance on the lamented Ringgold, and therefore had no choice in the matter, but as he galloped up to the battery, on returning from his visit to the major, someone said:‘Ridgely, were you not at the council?’ he replied, ‘no, I did not know that one had been called, but I hope old Zach will go ahead and bring the matter to close quarters.’"

A full account of the battle is now given, and ample justice is done to the brave men who participated in the struggle. Alluding to the charge of May, the writer says:

"The enemy again wavered. Gen. Taylor ordered captain May to charge their battery, and on he started; but on reaching the point of the road where he would have been discovered by the enemy, he was stopped by Ridgely, who told him that the enemy had just loaded their pieces, and if he charged, then, he would be swept away. ‘Stop,’ says Ridgely, ‘until I draw their fire;’ when he deliberately fired each gun; so terrible was the effect of the grape, that the Mexicans poured their fire upon his piece, and then May charged like a bullet, drove off the cannoners, took la Vega prisoner, and retreated. Here lieut. Inge, a noble, gallant soldier, charging at the head of the squadron, was killed and stripped. Lieut. Sacket than whom there is no better officer, had his horse shot from under him, and was pitched foremost into a pond, rose again, covered with mud and water, and escaped. The squadron suffered very much. I am sure Charley May feels grateful to Ridgely fr his cool judgment and timely advice. Had he charged on the battery, loaded with grape as it was, I do not believe he would have saved a man."

The letter thus concludes: - "I returned shortly to camp and found that our troops were resting immediately on the battle gound. Alas! What a sad picture presented itself; around were lying heaps of dead, dying and disabled men – the sigh, the groan, the shriek of agony, filled the air, whilst the eye could not rest upon spot but it met with a head, a leg, an arm, a body cut off by the waist, of the more fortunate dead, who had received their death wound from the rifle or musket.

"Now my dear sir, how can I describe to you the personal acts of bravery – not only in one instance but in twenty – and not simply by the officer, but by the common soldier. The whole battle was fought by individual squads, led sometimes by an officer and frequently by the non-commissioned officers. I could not say too much for every man engaged. So eager were our men for the fight that I cannot better describe their enthusiasm than to give you the idea that struck me it was this: Every man, officer and soldier seemed impressed with the idea that there was but a given quantity of fighting to be had – not enough for every man to have his fill of it – and, therefore, it became every on to get what he could as soon as possible."
"Instances there were where one man in charging upon their batteries leaped astride their pieces and holding on with one hand bet of the gunners with their swords, and were cut down.

"An instance occurred when in a charge upon a piece Lieut. Joran was attacked by 2 Mexicans and bayoneted in two places, when lieut. Lincoln of the 8th, rushed up and with his own sabre made perfect mince meat of the two. Again, when Ridgely charged with his battery across the ravine, and was standing at one of his pieces, he was charged on by three lancers, he mounted his horse and drove them off with his own sabre. But it would take a volume to recite the whole, and I am sure that in gen. Taylor's detailed report all will appear – the fact is every man was a hero. If I may say the artillery under Ridgely, and the regiments of infantry, particularly the eighth and 5th. The charge of May's squadron was a gallant thing; its success however, was attributable to the timely advice of Ridgely and his willingness to receive the fire of the batteries, when it was believed sufficient to sweep whole squadrons – not to say but that May would just as leave have charged on the loaded gun as on the empty one – he is a brave, gallant and efficient officer." [JCB]

NNR 70.264-265 incidents of the battlefield

A letter from Point Isabel, dated June 2, to the New Orleans Picayune, contains the following interesting narrative:

"I left Matamoros yesterday morning, in company with captains Ramsay and Hardee, and four dragoons, and on the route to this place had another view of the two battle grounds. Resaca de la Palma battle ground is covered with the graves of our fallen countrymen, who fell, many of them, fighting hand to hand with the enemy. Terribly were they avenged, however, on the spot, for their antagonists are buried around them by hundreds. I was shown one grave, near the spot where brave Cochrane was interred, in which some eight Mexicans are said to have been placed, and there are many more which contain a score or two each of slaughtered foe. The grave of poor Inge was pointed out to me. It is near where one of the enemy's batteries was posted. It was with feelings of deep sadness that I recalled to mind the many virtues of this gallant and noble-hearted officer. He had left a young wife in Baltimore, and had arrived at Point Isabel with a body of recruits, just in time to march with general Taylor; had distinguished himself in both battles by his heroic bearing, and fell at the moment when that brilliant victory, to which he contributed so largely, was about to declare itself in favor of our arms. – Mexican caps and remnants of their clothing are scattered here and there over the battle ground, and the whole field is dotted with marks of the enemy's camp fires. It is a wild looking place, and advantageous was the position of the enemy, that it will ever remain a wonder to me that our little army was not entirely cut to pieces by their greatly superior force. Over a great portion of the ground on which our army prepared to attack them, the thickets are so dense that a dog would find it difficult to penetrate them. The men actually pushed each other through these thickets, and were divided into snail squads of three to six.

The Palo Alto battle field, on this side, near the edge of the chaparrals, is an open prairie, quite level, and a most magnificent place for the meeting of two armies. The positions of the Mexican lines were pointed out to me, and we rode over part of the field where the battle raged the hottest. They are represented as having presented a very warlike as well as wild and picturesque appearance as our troops approached them; their compact line extending from an elevated point of chaparrals on their right, about a mile; their left extending across the road near its entrance to the pass. I visited the place where some of their heavy artillery opened upon our army, and against which our two 18 pounders were for a time directed. Convincing evidences of the skill with which our artillery was used against them was still perceptible upon that part of the field; for although they were permitted to bury their dead, and afterwards returned in numbers and spent considerable time in that employment, I counted some thirty dead bodies, stretched out as they fell, in that immediate vicinity.

Some had been nearly severed in two by cannon ball, others had lost part of the head, both legs, a shoulder, or the whole stomach. Of many of them nothing but the bones, encased in uniform, was left; whilst others had been transformed into mummies, and retained the expression of countenance which their death agonies had stamped upon them. One man had been shot between the hips with a large ball, lay doubled up as he fell, with his hands extended and his face downward between his knees. – Another whose shoulders and back were shot away, seemed to have died in the act of uttering a cry of horror. Dead horses were scattered about in every
During my stay with the army near Matamoros, nothing of consequence occurred. Rumor is always busy enough, spreading ridiculous tales from one encampment to another, and the wags and 'green 'uns,' and literary aspirants, have no doubt kept the newspapers abundantly supplied with the species of "important news." There is no probability of the army moving from its present position for a month at least. This you will have heard before this reaches you, from intelligence officers, one of whom has sent to procure boats, &c. for the transportation of supplies up the Rio Grande. In the mean time the volunteers will be drilled, and those who are not at Matamoros with those who may arrive here, will be sent to Barita, to remain until their services may be needed.

There are now about four thousand volunteers out here. So far as I have been able to learn, their health is good, and they are doing very well in the way of drill and discipline.

We had another heavy wind last night, which like the recent gale, overthrew many tents. The tent in which I slept, in the 2nd dragoon camp, was stripped from over us as if it had been a sheet of tissue paper, and the way the lighter articles of our wardrobe dance about the prairie was quite uncomfortable to behold, especially to me, who gave chase to a portion of them.

It was stated at Matamoros, and generally believed, before I left, that a proclamation had been received from some high functionary, declaring that any Mexican citizen who should hold communication with persons in gen. Taylor's army, would be punished as traitors, and any Mexican citizen who should hold communication with those who held communication with our troops should likewise be punished as traitors! [JCB]

**NNR 70.265 general orders directing rendezvous of the several corps of volunteers**

Head Quarters of the Army. – General Orders No. 15. – *Adjutant general’s Office, Washington May 29, 1846*  

1. Instructions have already been given to Brigadier General Wool, and through him to several officers placed at his disposition for the early inspection and muster into service of the U. States, of the quotas of twelve month volunteers who have been called for by the President of the United States, from Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois, Tennessee, and Mississippi, and who may present themselves, for acceptance, under that call, at the rendezvous of those States respectively.

2. Instructions have also been given to other officers of the Army to inspect and muster the quotas, called for in like manner, from Georgia, Alabama, and Arkansas.

3. As soon as inspected and mustered as above, the several regiments and battalions of horse and foot will, without delay, be put on route, as follows:

4. The regiments of cavalry or mounted men called from Kentucky and Tennessee, will from their respective state rendezvous, take up their lines of march by best routes, via Memphis, Little Rock on the Arkansas, Fulton, on the Red River, and Robbins Ferry on the Trinity river, upon San Antonio de Bexar, Texas. The regiment of cavalry or mounted men, called from Arkansas, will from its state-rendezvous, (say) Washington, take the same route to San Antonio de Baxar.

5. Excepting one Regiment of the Kentucky and on of the Illinois quotas on foot to which Brigadier General Wool is charged with giving different routes, and also excepting the Arkansas battalion which will receive instructions through Brevet Brigadier General Arbuckle, all other regiments and battalions of volunteer infantry or rifle called for, from the said States, will be embarked at the nearest navigable points to their respective state-rendezvous; and thence proceed by water, with or without transhipments at Mobile or New Orleans, to Point Isabel or brassos Santiago, Texas, where, like the troops ordered at San Antonio de Bexar, the whole will come under the orders of the general officer in the chief command of the U. States land force operating against Mexico.

6. The chiefs of the general staff of the army, at this place, will each, in what concerns his department charge himself, through his subordinates, with supplying
the volunteers (horse and foot) the necessary arms, accoutrements, ammunition, knapsacks, haversacks, canteens, (for water) camp equipage, subsistence, medicines, hospital stores, and means of transportation, by land and water, according to routes and destination, and according to law and regulations.

By command of Major General Scott.
R. Jones, Adjutant General. [JCB]
Action of the 8th. Killed – Officers 4, non-com. do and privates. 98; Wounded – Officers 11, non-com do and privates. 116; Dispersed – Non com. Officers and privates 26; 240

Action of the 9th. Killed – Officers 6, non-com. do and privates. 154; Wounded – Officers 23, non-com. do and privates. 205; Dispersed – officers 3, non-com. do and privates 156; -515; 755. [JCB]

NNR 70.265 June 27, 1846 National Military Route from Matamoros to Monterey and Saltillo, Mexican Republic

We publish says the Washington Union, with great pleasure, the following description of the national route towards the city of Mexico. It is drawn up by a gentleman who is perfectly familiar with the localities he mentions:

From Matamoros to Guadalupe village. This village contains about 200 souls; herdsmen and farmers, grazing and water abundant--3 leagues.

From Guadalupe to the Rancho Ensenada--wood, water, and pasture, good - 7 leagues.

From Ensenada to the village of Reynoa, situated on a high rocky hill; has 2,000 souls, mostly herdsmen of black cattle--8 leagues.

To Las Morillos Rancho--of cattle, wood, water and grazing fine---3 leagues,

To Reynosa Viego--500 souls; corn and stock farms--3 leagues.

To Tipalagquaje farm. The to right-hand road, tow miles off, is a village called Las Cuevas, of 300 souls; has abundance of corn, meat and water--5 leagues.

To Camargo, village of 3,000 souls, on the St. John's river, 1 mile from the mouth that empties into the Rio Grande--5 leagues.

Here the road continues on the other side of St. John's river, which is 150 yards wide, ahs 10 feet of water at its month, bank steep, they ferry across in flat-boats. Steamboats can ascend up to this, and some three leagues above, from Matamoros, not to draw over 6 feet of water, on account of bars; there is considerable trade here in cattle from the neighboring ranchos; there is a ford some 40 miles upstream; but very boggy and bad.

To El Guardado, village of 500 souls; good road, good pasture, well-stocked; wood and water; 3 leagues.

To Mier, village of 800 souls; everything scarce--From Matamoros to this you are never 11/2 miles from the Rio Grande; but now leave the river nearly a west course--6 leagues.

To Creiso, ranchito of 100 souls; wood, water and pasture--3 leagues.

To Papa Gallos Rancho, 100 souls; meat and corn, wood and water 7 leagues.

To Ramos Rancho, 100 souls; meat and corn, wood and water--4 leagues.

To Aqua Frio, village of 400 souls, good pasture--8 leagues.

To Marina, village of 1,000 souls; abundance--5 leagues:

To Monterey city, 12,000 souls--8 leagues.

This last eight leagues has many ranchos and sugarcane farms on and off the road. A fine stream of pure mountain water runs through the city; well paved streets, and mostly one story buildings; lies at the foot of the trade-land. From Matamoros to this by government measure, is 100 leagues castillanos.--here the mountains become lofty and abrupt; the road now all up-hill, dry and broad, winding through the canones up to the next village, called -3 leagues.

Santa Clara, which contains 400 souls, farmers. The road to Tampico forks off here, or in the city of Monterrey; water by the road side, but no wood; country sterile, to the vicinity of the La Renconada Hacienda, which is 6 leagues.

Here are abundance of provisions and fine streams of water. The mountains here precipitate themselves like curtains. A determined enemy could make a storm resistance here; long 18 pounders would soon clear the track. The road is wide and good for artillery; the face of the lands here is very broken and covered with the prickly pear and dwarf bayonet plant; soldiers on foot should have on good boots.--from this place the road is bad, steep, and very fatiguing; country dry and barren to Los Muestos, a poor rancho, distant, ascending more rapidly over a bad road--3 leagues.

To Oja Caliente, which is hot water spring--2 leagues.

To Santa Maria Hacienda--5 Leagues.
You are now ascending on plains very broad.—this estate is very large, produces abundance of wheat and corn, and barley, well watered, about 3,000 feet above the level of the sea, latitude 26°—has some 600 souls.

To the Capilleanea village, 2,000 souls, is 5 leagues.

Scattered along the road, the water now generally is brackish.

To Saltillo city, of 12,000 souls, all dishonest rascals, notorious robbers and petty thieves; water from springs in abundance; the country yields abundance of wheat, corn, and barley; extensive grazing estates in the vicinity. Horses, mules, sheep, goats, in abundance and cheap. From this leads off the great roads to Mexico, and to the west and south. From this to the city of Mexico is 300 leagues.

Mexican force in the actions of the eight and ninth May

The official of General Arista, under date of Matamoros, May 14, 1846, published in the government Diario of May 25th, at the city of Mexico, show clearly, so far as they can be relied upon, that the Mexican force amounted to very nearly, if not quite, 5,000 men.

It says:—

"The file of documents contained in No. 1 will make known to your excellency our number of killed and wounded, and of the dispersed who have not yet presented themselves, and that the corps of the army are reunited, forming a total of 4,000 men, including the prisoners received in exchange, and exclusive of the numerous reinforcements, whose reports have not yet come in at the moment when this express is despatched." [AEK]

NBR 70.265-266 movement of the Mexicans

Movements of the enemy. A traveler from Tampico met a government courier between that place and Victoria about ten days ago, hunting for the Mexican army, for whom he bore orders, he said, to retreat upon Tampico. This would seem to indicate that the government consider the day as tentatively lost in this quarter, or were unable to reinforce their army sufficiently to enable it to stand another battle, and were collecting its fragments for the defense of Vera Cruz.

The port of Tampico was not blockaded, he states, as vessels were entering and departing, though an American sloop of war – the St. Mary's – was in sight. Mr. Schatzell and the other Americans, who were so rudely driven from Matamoros by Ampudia, had reached Tampico safely, though shaken in health by their forced journey of three hundred miles. They took shipping on the 23rd ult, for this place, where they may be hourly expected.

In order that friends abroad may not be apprehensive as to the troops stationed here suffering for the absolute necessaries of life, we will inform them that of all things necessary to subsist so large a body, there is sufficiency, and to spare; besides scarcely any of the delicacies which our southern cities present but what can be obtained here in abundance. Eggs, milk, poultry, fresh beef, and a variety of vegetables are constantly huckstered round by the Mexicans among our troops, and though the rates they impose upon us are rather exorbitant, they are cheerfully paid, as an inducement for them to continue their supplies. Coffee and eating houses under the supervision of Americans, are becoming numerous throughout the city; and taking all things together – barring the fleas – Matamoros is not a bad place to live in.

Gen. Ampudia. We are compelled to cut down somewhat of an article upon this Mexican brave: - an amusing story is told by a ranchero's wife of the haste and trepidation in which he crossed the river on he afternoon of the 9th of May – a day likely to be remembered in his calendar. The good woman says that Ampudia came to her house soon after the firing commenced, at full speed and alone, and begged her husband like a hound to cross him over the river before those shouting devils, the Americans, could overtake him. The poor husbandman complied and ferried the poor crest-fallen, terror-stricken hero across; but he had no sooner landed and placed the broad river between himself and his pursuers, than he became the haughty, supercilious Gen. Ampudia again, and ordered his preserver to play lacquey...
and groom to himself and horse.

He is notorious in this city for his meanness in pecuniary matters, especially in swindling the people from whom he hired the furniture of his house, since his last arrival – and for his cold-blooded cruelty to our consul, Mr. Schatzell, a man near 70 years of age, whom he ordered to leave the place, under a guard, for the interior, in such basic as to compel the old man to go on the floor, and sleep for the first night in the open air, in a severe nother. He is also remembered as the first man from the field of battle, who, as an apology for his own cowardice, swore that the entire Mexican army was destroyed. One of the many rumors afloat is, that Ampudia has charged Arista with treachery – with having sold the army to the Americans. A hard bargain, indeed, to Arista, for his only pay was cannon balls and cold steel. Ampudia says further, that he would have won the day had he had command. The lying braggart – the man who ran at the first volley, when second in command, to talk of what he would have done as chief.

Arista's retreat will doubtless continue to the mountains. After losing the day with five to one at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, it is not likely he will make a stand on the plains. Gen. Taylor takes the field with so overwhelming a force, and so admirably equipped in that terrible arm of light artillery, that it would be madness in the enemy to fight again, where defeat would be certain and retreat impossible. Monterey is the first position of any natural strength, and it also commands the entrance to the mountain pass to Saltillo. It is there, in all probability, that Arista will make his great effort, which the importance of the object, his wounded pride, and the advantages of the ground, will all conspire to make a brilliant but a bloody day in the history of this war.

We understand that Canales is at Olmitos Rancho, five leagues on this side of Reynosa, levying contributions upon the people, and plundering them of all their mules and movable property. He has closed the roads and intercepts all communication from this direction, treating all those who are suspected of coming from this place with the greatest harshness.

The steamboat Neva entered the river last week and came up to this place. She found five feet of water at the bar, and five feet scant in the shallowest places inside. [JCB]

NNR 70.266-268 review of the campaign from the "Southern Quarterly Review"

From the Southern Quarterly Review. A military expedition has been recently sent out solely under the direction and control of the chief of the war department, as the commanding general was set aside. With an overflowing treasury, with arsenals teeming with arms of every description, with an experienced and energetic officer to carry out his minutest instructions, with disciplined officers ready to follow their officer even to inevitable destruction, and last, though not least, with the warnings of the past, surely we might have reasonably expected from the secretary a faultless combination of excellence in the outfit, skill in the plan, and efficiency in the conduct of this campaign. We propose an impartial review of this campaign, from its commencement until the present moment, and though truth will compel us to be unsparing of censure, yet it will be given with reluctance, and only from the sincere hope, that the exposure of past management may prevent their recurrence.

In the spring of 1844, pending the negotiation for the annexation of Texas, two regiments of infantry and one of dragoons, constituting a corps of observation were concentrated near the Sabine. The command of this corps or army, was entrusted to General Taylor, a veteran officer, distinguished for his gallantry on many a bloody field, and for his enduring constancy on many an arduous campaign. He was instructed, in general terms, to protect Texas from Mexican invasion during the negotiation, and, for this purpose, was vested with large definite and discretionary powers, such as are not even granted to the commander-in-chief, but upon extraordinary occasions. In fact, so unbounded was the confidence reposed, that, as the opposition presses complained, the war making power was delegated to a subordinate officer of our petty army. But ample were his powers, by some strong fatuity, Gen. Taylor was not authorized to make any exploration of the country with whose defense he was entrusted, nor any survey of its coasts, bays, harbors, inlets, etc. And this country was Texas, concerning which, there were ten thousand contradictory statements, and absolutely no reliable information whatever, - the Utopian dreamer and interested speculator representing it as the El Dorado of hope, the land of promise, - the disappointed settler as a timberless waste, fit only for the wild horse of the desert, and the gaunt wolf of the prairie. Time rolled on; the
senior, in their wisdom refused to add another brilliant star to our glorious constellation. The "Tyler treaty" was rejected, but "the army of observation" was still left on the banks of the Sabine to inhale noxious vapors, and broil beneath a tropical sun, poorly sheltered by wretched huts and tents. Forgotten by all their friends, the devoted little corps awaited, with anxiety, the result of the stormy presidential contest, upon which their subsequent movements depended. A recent historian assures us, that democracies have a liquorish appetite for the acquisition of territory. In this instance, Mr. Allison's assertion proved an "axiomatic fact," as a Georgia member says. "The sovereigns" of our vast republic declared that they had not breathing space, and would have more, and adopting the rallying cry of "texas and Oregon," elected, by an overwhelming majority, the more territory candidate. Of course, the first measures of the new administration were directed to regain, if possible the rejected prize. The previous instructions to our Charge to "the republic of the lone star" were renewed. He was "to make liberal offers, to promise a large and splendidly appointed army, for the protection of the frontier, against the depredations of the marauding Mexicans," etc. Won by his overture, the Texans had once more consented to unite their destinies with the great American people. It remained for the new administration to make good those pledges. In compliance with our Charge's promise, the "army of observation," augmented by an artillery company from Carleston Harbor, S.C., was ordered to the southern frontier of Texas in midsummer, 1845. The "large" army, promised by our Charge, consisted then but of two regiments of infantry, one of dragoons, and a single company of artillery, in all fifteen hundred men. The authorities in Washington thought that there would be an immense sacrifice of life among troops sent upon an active campaign, to a tropical region in the month of July. They therefore ordered out a minimum force, which they deemed competent to guard the Texas frontier until time for the winter operations to begin. The "army of observation" was then the forlorn hope, the advanced guard, - to perish by disease or the sword of the enemy. To conceal its weakness, the pioneer detachment was baptized with the sounding title of "army of occupation," and it was pompously announced, that a magnificent corps of artillery was one of the elements of this army. But the Texas army was not only to be "large," but "splendidly appointed," also. Let us examine its splendid appointments.

The dragoon regiment had just been formed from a rifle corps, half of the men were raw, undisciplined recruits, many unable to ride; their horses recently purchased, were small, weak, and undrilled. The infantry regiments were enfeebled by their long exposure, in miserable tents, to the withering heat and drenching rains of a low southern latitude. The artillery were without their guns. Such was the "splendidly appointed" army sent to a distant frontier, to repel the invasion of a country numbering nine millions of inhabitants! But, although the army was small and inefficient, yet, doubtless, the plan of the campaign was masterly and ably executed under the auspices of Secretary Marcy, a hero of the last war, and a man of lofty order on intellect. We will see. In the latter part of June, 1845, an artillery company, equipped as infantry, at Fort Moultrie, Charleston, S.C., was ordered to New Orleans, there to receive further orders. This company, armed only with muskets, sailed from Charleston on the 26th of June; neither officers nor men having the remotest idea of the nature of the orders awaiting them in New Orleans. On their arrival in that city, the 19th July, they found that though ignorant themselves of their ultimate destination, the whole army, and all their citizens curious about military movements, had known it almost from the moment of their embarkation at Charleston. The expected instructions to the Lieutenant commanding, informed him that his company was to be mounted and equipped, as flying artillery, for the Texan campaign under Gen. Taylor, that horse would be sent him, and a battery for his use shipped from New York for, New Orleans, upon the arrival of which, he was ordered to proceed with it to join Gen. Taylor at the mouth of the Sabine. – As the age of giants, as well as that of chivalry, is gone, it would have been a serious undertaking for the company, unprovided with horses, to have dragged their cannon by hand through the marshes of Louisiana. Fortunately for them, they found Gen. Taylor in the crescent city, with a brigade of infantry, (the 3rd and 4th regiments,) ready to embark for Aransas bay, Texas, without having the slightest intention of approaching within two hundred miles of the Sabine. The 3rd infantry left New Orleans on the 21st, the 4th infantry and the company from Charleston, on the 23rd July. Their cannon no having arrived, the artillery sailed without them. These guns reached two months afterwards; their horses have not yet made their appearance! To some it may seem strange, that the artillery company was sent away with muskets only, leaving a splendid battery in park, at Fort Moultrie, where such battery was utterly useless, to await, in New Orleans, the arrival of another battery from Watervielet arsenal, with all the contingencies of delay in the outfit, delay in shipment, delay by baffling head winds, etc., etc. It was part of that wise, but mysterious policy of the war department, which only the initiated can understand.

Gen. Taylor sailed from New Orleans with three ships and two steamboats in search of the Bay of Aransas. His orders were to cross the Nueces, and he was told in New Orleans, the western coast of Texas was a terra incognita, and no reliable chart of it
could be procured. A pilot, however, was at length obtained for enormous wages, who professed a thorough knowledge of the Texan waters in general and almost a friendly intimacy with the briny particles of the Bay of Aransas. He was put in charge of one of the vessels loaded with troops, and satisfactorily demonstrated, on his first entrance into port, that Texas pilots, unlike popes, are not always infallible, by running the vessel aground among the breakers, where it inevitably would have gone to pieces, had not timely assistance been rendered. The captain of another of the vessels sailed along the coast, in sight on land, for several days, seeking an inlet to enter. And when his ship was at length anchored of St. Joseph’s Island, he roundly asserted, that it was the island of Espirito Santo! Gen. Taylor has been blamed for not using the United States topographical chart. The accomplished and indefatigable chief of the topographical bureau had, with infinite pains and much ingenuity, prepared a map of Texas from a vast collection of Texan maps and charts, each one differing, in toto from all the others. Remembering the maxim, in medio veritas, and that the just middle is always just right, our worthy chief split the difference between them all, i.e., for instance, one map gave the length of some rivers, a hundred and twenty miles, and another but one hundred, he jotted down the length as one hundred and ten miles! The ingenious novelist, Dumas, wrote his fascinating incidents of travel without ever having been beyond the precincts of “the joyous city.” His thrilling adventure with brigands, and his perilous ascents of the Alps, by no means interfered with strolls on the Boulevards and saunters in the Champs Elysees. The French, with just pride, boast of the originality of their ingenious writer. – But surely we have more cause to celebrate the creative imagination and bold conception of our illustrious topographical chief. It was under the revelations of inspired genius, he was prompted to make a map of Texas in his cozy studies at Washington. – That was no ordinary mind, which conceived the bold design of making a map of a country thousands of miles distant, without or exploration, jotting down a shoal here, a reef there, an island in this place, and an inlet at that. The accuracy of this map may seem incredible, but we advisedly assert, that no place in Texas is more than 40 miles from its topographical position. Upon the whole we are disposed to exonerate Gen. Taylor from all blame in not using the geographical chart. In fact, he have heard that our distinguished topographical chief prized his pet bantling as the apple of his eye, and far too highly to entrust its guardianship to other hands. It is, therefore, highly probably, that Gen. Taylor was not provided with the ingenious chart.

By the 3rd of August, the whole “Army of Occupation” had landed at St. Joseph’s island, about thirty miles from the Nueces. In compliance with orders, that river was yet to be crossed. A spot on Corpus Christi bay near “Kinney’s Rancho,” and about three miles south of the Nueces, was selected as the site for the encampment. The Bay of Corpus Christi, though large and tempestuous, is connected with that of Aransas by a shallow tortuous channel. The army now found that, in their ignorance of the country, they had brought as lighters, steamboats drawing several feet of water too much for the channel. They were, therefore, unable to move from St. Joseph’s island, and by no possibility could have ever crossed the Nueces, with the means with which they left the United States. Fortunately for them, Kinney’s Rancho, a smuggling village, contained some light craft, which the smugglers generously proffered for a consideration. A few sail and row boats were chartered, at enormous rates, and, with these, a single company was first sent across the Nueces. A detachment of forty men, armed only with muskets, to begin the invasion of a populous nation! Forty men were landed on the enemy’s territory on the first day, but the average number per day afterwards, did not exceed thirty. The disembarkation of troops is usually effected under the protection of a powerful battery of cannon, but in this case, there was a necessary departure from the usages of war, as the guns of the artillery company were snugly housed in the Watervliet arsenal! Fifty resolute Mexicans, with one field piece, could have repelled all the skiffs that Gen. Taylor could have mustered, and prevented the landing of even a single United States soldier. Secretary Marcy projected the first campaign with infantry alone, that is to be met with in the annals of all times. Napoleon gained a diadem and immortality by despising the musty military maxims of his day. Surely our secretary deserves at least a congressional medal for inventing a new mode of invasion, regardless of the vulgar prejudice concerning the essential necessity of cooperation of dragoons and artillery with infantry. The economy of this original system of warfare will recommend it to those time and money-saving utilitarianists, who scoff at time hallowed opinions and usages, and are sturdy advocates of turnpikes and railroads to knowledge; soon may we expect them to add a shilling edition of “War made easy,” to their splendid library of cheap publications, such as “French,” “German,” and “Italian without a master,” “Astronomy taught in four lessons,” etc. etc. etc. We have said that our secretary was a man of lofty order of intellect, and has not his genius soared far above the loftiest flight of napoleonic? Even that skeptical general had some faith in the long established military principale, that infantry is weak and inefficient, unaided by the dragoons and artillery. But the Herculean mind of the modern Caesar, was not to be shackled by the vulgar prejudice, though hoary with age. The 2nd dragoons, an important, if not essential
portion of the "Army of Occupation," were not put in motion from Fort Jessup, in
time to cooperate with the infantry on their first landing at Corpus Christi, and did
not arrive for a month afterwards. We have every confidence in the wisdom of the
war department, and do therefore implicitly believe, that the dragoon regiments
were delayed for some weighty reasons; perhaps it was to demonstrate the
practicability of the secretary’s new mode of warfare.

Our sensitive pay department, taking seriously to heart the foul aspersion of being
"mercenary." That has been cast upon the United States' troops, resolved to show
the world, that they would endure the hardships of a campaign, and incur the
dangers of the field, "without money and without price." To effect this noble design,
a portion of them were therefore kept without pay for six months, and the rest for
four months, although the law strictly requires payment every two months. All were
without the prospect, almost, without the hope, of ever being paid, for although it
was frequently reported that pay masters were coming, the oft told store was at
length disregarded, and the soldiers began to believe the pay masters had dissolved
in their own golden showers; and when a real live one actually showed himself in
camp, he was an object of astonishment as the Grand Mogul would have been. The
malicious have insinuated, that the nonappearance of the paymasters, for so long a
period, was not owing to their wholesome dread of the Dons, and to their refined
antipathy to the "tented field." We, however, are more charitable, and unhesitatingly give them credit for an honest, though mistaken, zeal to elevate the
"hireling soldiery" in the yes of the "sovereign," so disinterested in all their
actions. But although the pay masters, in their experimenting, were actuated by
purer motives than the quarter masters, yet the pay like the mustang experiment,
was disgraceful and melancholy in its results. Officers and soldiers, destitute of food,
were compelled to borrow, upon the strength of pay due, of their more fortunate
companions, or of the Shylocks in search of victims that polluted the camp. Sick
soldiers directed by their surgeons to return to the United States, had either to
remain and die, or to submit to being shaved by unfeeling villains in their pension
certificates and pay accounts, and though the law requires the pay masters to cash
them in specie. The soldiers who had encountered the parils of a dangerous coast
without chart or pilot, who had braved the horrors (ideal though they were) of
southern malaria, and a savage foe; who had endured hardships, discomforts, and
privation, until disease was preying upon his vitals, was left to dies, like a dog, in
camp, or owe his salvation to the tender mercies of note-shaving knaves! We
decrepate a repetition of the cruel experiment of the pay department, though it
showed, that the hands of the "mercenaries" would still grasp firmly their colors
even when "yellow dirt" did not glue them there.

The cup of army suffering wanted but one drop more to be full to overflowing; that
drop was not wanting long. On the first landing of the 3rd and 4th infantry at Corpus
Christi. "Kinney's Rancho," though a lawless, smuggling town, under the vigorous
sway of its martial proprietor, was as quite and peaceful as a village in New England.
But every fresh arrival of troops was followed by some portion of that vast horde of
liquor selling harpies, that are ever to be found in the train of all armies, ready to
prey upon the simple and unsuspecting among the soldiers. In a short time,
hundreds of temporary structures were erected on the outskirts of the "Rancho," and
in them, all the cut-throats, thieves, and murderers of the United States and Texas,
seemed to have congregated. No sight could have been more truly melancholy that
of southern malaria, and a savage foe; who had endured hardships, discomforts, and
privation, until disease was preying upon his vitals, was left to dies, like a dog, in
camp, or owe his salvation to the tender mercies of note-shaving knaves! We
decrepate a repetition of the cruel experiment of the pay department, though it
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even when "yellow dirt" did not glue them there.
man thousands of miles off, who ignorant and regardless of their wrongs and sufferings! The high compliments of veterans, who had served in Europe, were perhaps not merely idle words, when they said, that “the soldiers of the ‘Army of Occupation,’ in discipline, military skill, and martial bearing, were not inferior to the choicest troops that rallied around the eagles of Napoleon.

Although we have already extended this article beyond our original intention, we cannot conclude it without adverting, once more, to the inefficiency and shameful misconduct of the quarter master’s department. With the expectation of remaining in camp, at Corpus Christi, during the rainy season, General Taylor, at its commencement, ordered the quarter master to provide tent floors, so that the troops might not be compelled to sleep in the mud and water. With all the enterprise that so distinguishes their department, they did succeed, in less than four months, in procuring plank for tent floors, but not until the rainy season was over, and General Taylor was daily expecting orders to break up his encampment. Without a single accruing benefit, all that expense was incurred, which might have materially contributed to the comfort and health of the army.

Again, six months after the army had taken the field, there were not teams and wagons enough to transport one half of the troops; so that, in case of hostilities, had a forward movement been ordered, it could only have been effected by detachments and, in consequence, that most fatal of all military error would have been committed, of permitting the enemy to attack and beat the detail. The few teams furnished, it is natural to think, were the choicest to be found in the west. For, it had been said, that though the ‘Army of Occupation’ was small, the great celerity of its movements, from the superiority of American horses, would contribute, as well as the greater bravery of its men, to make it more than a match for the largest Mexican force. Can any one for a moment suppose, that the quartermasters were insane enough to adopt the weakness of their enemy, - to harness their baggage wagons and provision trains, Mexican horses instead of American? How then can it be believed, that they only purchase little mustangs and oxen, to ensure rapidity in military operations; though the mustang is as much inferior to the Mexican horse as the Mexican is to the American? Ninety yoke of oxen and several hundred mustangs were bought, but not a single American horse. Such madness is rarely to be found beyond the walls of a lunatic asylum.

We have said that three batteries of artillery were added to the one which, at length reached the company from Charleston. Horses were sent with two of them, to maneuver them rapidly on the field of battle, and to transport them wherever the army might go. But the third came unprovided with horses, - none have yet been furnished it, and, if General Taylor advances to the Rio Grande, as he now has permission to do, it must be left on the ground at Corpus Christi, or to be dragged by oxen, - and, in that case, be useless in an engagement. For all the services that this battery can render, it might as well be at Fort Monroe, Va., whence it came.

When the New Orleans volunteers left Corpus Christi, their artillery horse were turned over to the company from Charleston. This company, having always acted as infantry, had never even seen a flying artillery drill, - half of the men could not ride, - many had never ridden at all, and, in mounting for the first time, made Mr. Wu \'inkle's mistake as to which stirrup to use. It was certainly an original idea in our secretary, and one worthy of his genius, to convert, in a single day, a company of foot into light artillery. The military authorities say, that very few soldiers are fit for the light artillery arm, - that it requires picked men, bold and expert horsemen, etc. - and that these only become good light artillerists after long practice in riding, driving, managing, and attending their horses, and in using the sabre; - and our secretary, untrammeled by the musty maxims, decided that his selection and long practice was entirely useless, and that all that was necessary was simply to write light company, A or B, instead of company A or B, and, presto, the men would ride like Cossacks, and drive like Jehus. However, as horses had at length been given to the company from Charleston, it was the ardent desire of the lieutenant commanding – the peculiar views of the secretary to the contrary notwithstanding, - to teach his men to ride and drive, and the sabre exercise. This seeming reflection on the quartermaster resolved to prevent, and, at the same time, to show to the world how economical they were. They, therefore, refused to purchase any more hay and told the dragoons and light artillery, that they, themselves, must cut and haul the dry and sapless broom straw of the prairie, and forage their horse on that. We approve this measure, - it was good economy; and it taught the men the use of the scythe. We all know that it is far more important to tech troops to mow, than to be expert in military exercises, because farmers are more needed in a campaign than soldiers. Oh, that the golden vision and poetic fancies of our quartermasters could be realized. We should see meek oxen with dilated nostrils and sparkling eyes, proudly dashing along eith splendid batteries of artillery; we should see the fiery natives of the prairie, the wild mustangs with slow plodding pace, quietly dragging cart loads of pork and beans; we should see men
who had been shivering all day from want of fires, in the wet and cold, lying
laughingly at night in mud and water; we should see fierce veterans, whose delight
was to inhale the reeking atmosphere of the carnage field, laying aside their
muskets, and grasping their scythes, in order that they might enjoy the perfumes of
the new mown hay; truly we should see such wondrous changes on this little globe
of ours, as would make us fancy ourselves in another planet! – Both dragoons and
infantry were compelled to suspend drills and military exercises, and turn farmers in
earnest. But in consequence of the horrible condition of the prairie, they were not
able, with the most strenuous exertions, to procure a sufficiency of the juiceless
broom straw; so that, for days in succession, during the terrible months of
November and December their horses were without a mouthful of this wretched
substitute for hay. The suffering of these poor animals, under the terrible “northers,”
would have softened the hearts of the most unfeeling miser, and would have induced
him to open his purse strings for the purchase of nutritious forage; but our
conscientious quartermasters, in their scrupulous care of the public funds, refused,
thought with hearts bleeding with compassion, to incur what they deemed an
unnecessary expense. – Those in the encampment, who could not appreciate the
Brutus like firmness of the quarter masters, insinuated that, as the army regulations
positively require them to furnish an abundance of the best forage, they by
dispensing with some of their superfluous luxuries purchased with the United States’
money, might have relieved the sufferings of the horses, and, at the same time,
retrenched the public expenditures. We decline expressing any opinion on the
subject, as we could not see their hearts, and read the high motives at work there.
But we could deprecate the cruel system of economy, did we not feel in our inmost
heart, the essential necessity of teaching soldiers how to use a scythe. In order,
however, to teach this sublime art, it was found necessary to sacrifice much military
instruction. We have said, that on taking the field, one of the companies of light
infantry had never been drilled at all; and that the regiment of dragoons having been
formed but a short time previous, a large number of the men never having been
taught to ride. As all drilling had to be suspended for foraging purposes, the artillery
company, at this moment, cannot perform a single maneuver or evolution on the
field – and many of the “blood dragoons” dare not venture a brisker gait than an
honest, plough horse canter. – And yet, it has been the earnest desire of both the
light artillery and dragoon officers and soldiers, to perfect themselves in the duties of
their particular service. We admire the zeal of the quarter masters for retrenchment,
but would it not be better economy to disband the undrilled light artillery company,
and the dragoons who cannot ride, since both must be useless in an engagement!
Would it not be still greater economy, to disband the whole “Army of Occupation?”
The medical department has been indefatigable in its exertions to relieve the
sufferings in camp, and the commissariat has furnished an abundant supply of
excellent provisions. But, if an advance movement be made towards the Rio Grande,
we learn, that with the present inadequate means of transportation, there will be
dreadful suffering among the troops, from want of medical stores and the necessities
of life. We remember that though commissary supplies, in the greatest profusion,
have been furnished the unfortunate Winchester, the quarter master’s department,
inefficient then as now, having provided no horses, his brave troops could only
secure rations for a few days, by harnessing themselves to wagons, and, when led
into battle, had been subsisting on nuts and bark for a week. The rejoicings around
the war fires of the Indians, and the wailings of the houses of Kentucky, announced
the melancholy result of this wretched state of things. We are no croakers, and we
believe, that in courage, discipline, and efficiency, our soldiers are inferior to no
troops in the world, - but as human ingenuity has been tortured to the utmost in
inventing obstacles and obstructions to impede and employ them, may we not fear
that the terrible scenes of the River Raisin may be witnessed again on the banks of the
Rio Grande? [JCB]

NNR 70.272 Reynosa and Camargo taken

Mexican War. – Latest. The Fashion, landed troops from N. Orleans at Brazos
Santiago, all well, and left there on the 14th instant. The captain thinks the distance
can easily be performed from N. Orleans to that port in 60 hours. Just before leaving
a report reached Brazos, that Reinosa and Camargo, had both surrendered to Col.
Wilson without resistance. [JCB]

NNR 70.272 June 27, 1846 Gen. Zachary Taylor awaiting transport to join the
advance corps

Gen. Taylor was only waiting for transports to push on and join the advanced
NNR 70.272 positions of regulars and volunteers

Most of the regulars are on the right of the river; Capt. Desha and the Washington and Jackson regiments of La. on the left.

The Alabama companies, St. Louis and Louisville Legions are at Brazos Island. Col. Dankin’s Peyton’s, Davisis’, and Featherston’s regiments of Louisiana volunteers are at Brazos. [JCB]

NNR 70.272 Gov. James Pinckney Henderson reaches Rio Grande accompanied by Tonkawa Indians

Gov. Henderson, at the head of about one thousand Texas troops, reached the banks of the Rio Grande on the 10th inst. Seventeen warriors of the Tonkaway tribe of the Indians accompanied the Texans. The sight of these Indians created much alarm to the inhabitants of Matamoros and its vicinity, as they fear that Gen. Taylor will let them loose upon them. [JCB]

NNR 70.273 March on Barita

We have Brazos Santiago, dates to the 20th, brought to New Orleans by the steamer James L. Day.

Col. Edward Featherston’s regiment, took up their line of march for Burrita, on the 19th.

Reinosa was taken possession of by the detachment under Col. Wilson, without opposition. Canales published an order a few days before Wilson reached Reinosa, calling the citizens to their allegiance and commanding them to hold no communication with the Americans. He, it is believed, was in, or near the town, and had expressed himself desirous of having a “talk” with Wilson. The supposition is that his band is within the immediate vicinity of Reinosa, and should an opportunity present itself, would co-operate with such of the rancheros as might wish to dispute the progress of the Colonel’s march. A great many of the citizens kept aloof or had quitted the place. Col. Wilson encamped in the public square of Reinoso, on the 11th, thinking it impossible to throw up fortifications. The place was nearly deserted. [JCB]

NNR 70.273 Capt. McCullough’s Expedition

Captain McCullough’s Rangers started out on the 16th from Matamoros, with 12 days provisions on a spying expedition. [JCB]

70.273 July 4, 1846 deaths of Mexican wounded, deserters from Mexican forces

A Mexican captain, wounded in the battle of the 9th, died at Matamoros, on the 15th, and the church bells were tolled throughout the day. Nearly all of the prisoners in the hospitals have recovered or died of their wounds. Near 200 deserters from the enemy have arrived here amongst their friends, who state that many others are on the road. [JCB]

NNR 70.273 July 4, 1846 reported dispute between Gen. Mariano Arista and Gen. Pedro Ampudia over defeats
It is said that Gen. Arista and Gen. Ampudia have both been taken to Mexico to answer for the recent defeats of the army, or Ampudia is sent for to sustain the charges against Arista. Many Mexicans believe that Arista sold his army to the Americans. [JCB]

NNR 70.273 July 4, 1846 court of inquiry ordered on Gen. Edmund Pendleton Gaines for his requisition of troops and supplies

Major Gen. Gaines. A court of Inquiry, to consist of Brevet Brig. Gens. H. Brady an G.M. Brooke, and Col. J. Crane, members, and Brevet Capt. J.F. Lee, recorder, is ordered by the president to assemble at Fort Monroe, on the 18th of July, to investigate the late conduct of Major Gen. Gaines, in calling upon governors of states for volunteers, in organizing and mustering certain volunteers, and in giving orders to officers since 1st of May, 1846, for subsistence, stores, &c., and for payment to certain individuals or bodies of men, &c. [JCB]

NNR 70.273 July 4, 1846 Yucatan declares independence

Yucatan. The congress of Yucatan have declared independence, and no longer admit the authority of the Mexican government. A vessel from thence has arrived at New Orleans under the national flag of the new republic, which exhibits three stars, in the manner of our union flag.

The design of the Yucatanese to take this step, was suspected by our naval officer in command on the Mexican coast, at the time he received information of the declaration of war, and he dispatched a sloop of war to communicate with the authorities, at the same time exempting their coast from the general blockade, until he ascertained the facts.

It will be recollected that the Yucatanese sent a deputation to the United States, asking to be admitted into the Union, long before the annexation of Texas was proposed at all. The United States government declined to recognize the commissioners. – A war ensued between Yucatan and Mexico, which was terminated, after the defeat of a Mexican army, by a treaty, in which Yucatan agreed upon certain conditions, to return to their allegiance to Mexico. They now assert that those conditions have not been fulfilled on the part of Mexico, and once more they proclaim independence. [JCB]

NNR 70.273 July 4, 1846 revolution in favor of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna and federalism at Jalisco

A revolution in the province of Jalisco, commenced on the 20th of May, in the city of Guadalajara. The battalion of Lagos, followed by other bodies of military and by the enthusiastic populace, attacked the palace of the governor. The assault was so prompt that the defenders had scarcely time for a single discharge of artillery, by which one man only was killed and one wounded. This cry of the assailants was "Long live the Republic, and death to a Foreign Prince." The revolution as to that department was conclusive. The government commander had to submit, and was allowed only to the 22nd to quit with his forces for the city of Mexico. The 6th article of the treaty dictated by the revolutionists, was to the following effect.

“As Gen. Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna had the glory of founding the Republic, and whatever may have been his errors, has been its strongest support, in spite of policy of Europe and the instigations of some perverse Mexicans, and opposed himself to the usurpations by North America; the garrison of Jalisco proclaims the said general as the chief of the grand enterprise for which this plan is entered into.” [JCB]

NNR 70.274 July 4, 1846 a plea for peace
Amongst the incidents of the day in which we live, the organizations of a Peace Society, embracing philanthropists of many nations and Christian members of many denominations, is a remarkable incident. Their ramifications have extended into associations throughout several countries. It is hoped that good may come of so humane an object. Such certainly should be the influence of concentrated efforts from such a body of men, most of whom are individually respectable, some highly influential in communities amongst whom they labor and with the government under which they live, especially in an age when public opinion is coming into so much sway, and cannot well be disregarded.

Another movement, not less striking, and perhaps more practical in its influences, as it is far more simple and unpretending in its measures, and apparently better adopted to the object proposed, has grown out of the late apprehension of a war between England and America, and which deserves to be recorded.

It is well known that the Society of Friends, or Quakers, have been pioneers as a society in many of the most benevolent reforms of the last two centuries. They were the first to testify against the African slave trade, and to protest against their members holding their fellow men in a state of slavery, - the first to move in the temperance reform, having for a century been in that respect, a temperate society, - the first of the modern religious sects to assert the principles on which the peace society, above referred to, is predicated.

We mention the foregoing facts merely as an introduction to the incident that follows.

Another reform, for which the Society of Friends ought to have credit, or for which they should be accountable, as the case may be, is that of recognizing to a large extent, the equality of the female sex with that of males, in departments of church, as well in social relations. Females are allowed to preach as ministers of the gospel, and the females have their own meetings separate from those of the males, in which their church affairs are conducted.

There has been, nevertheless, a certain control exercised by the males, in their meetings over that, or at least in correspondence with the meetings of the females.

The earnest effort of the Friend’s Society has ever been exerted for the prevention of war, and for the preservation or restoration of peace to the nations. When it was perceived that there was danger of a war between Great Britain and America, the subject was introduced in one or more of the regular meetings, and measures were proposed for an appeal to the friends of peace in both countries to endeavor to avert so awful an evil.

One of the female meetings that at Exeter, a populous town near the center of England, understanding that the subject was agitated in the meeting of the males, proposed to associate in the labor of love. After some consideration, the men’s meeting declined this offer, as deeming the subject more immediately belonging to their sex.

With this conclusion, the female meeting at Exeter was not entirely satisfied, and they decided to originate a movement of their own, and to execute it in their own characteristic way.

The meeting prepared an address from the females of Exeter, in England, to the females of Philadelphia, upon the subject. We had a copy of the address, and as it was brief, and breathed the spirit of affectionate regard to human family, we intended to insert it, but it has been mislaid. It was signed by 1,623 women of Exeter, and forwarded by one of the steamers that arrived during the last month.

The females of Philadelphia have promptly responded to this movement of their sisters over the big waters.

A large meeting assembled in consequence of the following notice:

"The women of Philadelphia are particularly invited to a meeting to be held at the Franklin Hall, Sixth St., at 4 o’clock, to hear and reply to an address from 1,623 women of Exeter, England, to the women of Philadelphia, on the subject of peace. As this is a subject which appeals to the highest interests of mankind, a large and general attendance is requested.

Mrs. Sidney Ann Lewis, J.R. Chandler, Sarah Tyndale, Lucretia Mott, R.V. Massey,
Win. Morrison, Miss Sarah Pugh, Hannah L. Stickney, Susan Grew, and Margaret Jones, Mrs. J.N. Bennett.

In conformity to the above call, a meeting was organized by electing Mrs. Sarah Pugh, president, and Mrs. Anne D. Morrison, Secretary.

The address of the women of England was then read and received with demonstrations of much satisfaction.

The following address was then read by Lucretia Mott, and adopted in answer:

*From the women of Philadelphia, U.S.A, in answer to the friendly address of the women of Exeter, England, on the subject of peace.*

Dear friends and sisters: Your communication has met with a cordial reception by us. Heartily do we respond to your earnest desire, that so terrible a calamity as war between your country and ours, may never come upon us. We feel assured that the fraternal addresses, sent by thousands of English men and women, will do much to avert so fearful an evil.

We rejoice that your attention has been awakened to this subject, and that you have been thus ready to acknowledge the bond of human brotherhood – a bond far more holy, than that mistaken patriotism “which would make the people of two nations whose interests are identical, enemies of each other, thus impeding the progress of peace and good will to man.”

We hold it to be the duty of women to look with an attentive eye, upon the great events which are transpiring around them; in order that, with an enlightened judgement, as well as with a feeling heart, they may direct the force of their moral influence against the iniquitous spirit of war. Great is the responsibility of woman in relation to this subject. The false love of glory, the cruel spirit of revenge, the bloodthirsty ambition, swelling in the breast of the soldier on the battle field – these are often but the ripened harvest, from the seed sown by the mother’s hand, when in his childish hours, she gave him tiny weapons, and taught him how to mimie war’s murderous game.

Let us then, dear sisters, be unceasingly faithful in all our relations, whether of the social circle, or the more extended sphere, employing the mighty influences that cluster around the domestic hearth and the way-side, the pen and the press, in bearing testimony to the superiority of Christian love and forgiveness, over the law of physical force.

We are gratified that the late difficulties between our countries are in progress of amicable settlement – but let us not forget that we have other brethren entitled to our sympathy, urging upon us the duty in impress upon the heart of this generation the idea of the brotherhood of the race. The war waged by your government against India, and that of ours against Mexico, admonish us that it is now, as ever, important to instill the principles of justice, mercy, and peace.

For your word of counsel and cheer, we thank you; and would unite with you in prayer, that the kingdom of our Father in heaven may come; and the Gospel of His dear Son, breathing peace on earth and good will to men, may extend from “sea to sea, and from the rivers to the ends of the earth.”

After adopting the address, a committee was appointed to further the object, and in the course of a few days 3,525 signatures, of which the editor of the Philadelphia Inquirer takes occasion to say: “We looked over the signatures with no little delight. All were clearly and distinctly written, and many in a style of elegant penmanship. The address is about two yards long, and embraces 24 sheets foolscap. The Exeter document was signed by 1,623, so that the response contains more than double that number of signatures. Mr. Peter, the British consul for Philadelphia, has kindly consented to forward the response – the whole matter being under the care of Elihu Burritt, the “learned blacksmith,” whose praiseworthy efforts in the cause of peace, entitle him to the kindly regards of every friend of humanity. The movement reflects infinite credit upon our mothers, wives, and daughters.

The province of the female in this transaction is certainly far more appropriately presented, than in the instance which we find commended in the following paragraph: [JCB]
NNR 70.274 July 4, 1846 toast to the Heroine of Fort Brown

“Among the toasts offered at the entertainment which was given at Matamoros by Gen. Taylor to the committee of the Louisiana legislature, was the following, by Lieut. Bragg, of the artillery:

The Heroine of Fort Brown. In offering this toast he said that “during the whole of the bombardment the wife of one of the soldiers, whose husband was ordered with the army to Point Isabel, remained in the fort, and though the shot and shells were constantly flying on every side, she disdained to seek shelter in the bomb-proofs, but labored the whole time cooking and taking care of the soldiers, without the least regard to her own safety. Her bravery was the admiration of all who were in the fort, and she has thus acquired the name of “The Great Western.” [JCB]

NNR 70.276 July 4, 1846 discussion of general officers chosen to conduct the war with Mexico

Congress have decided, after very brief discussion, some knotty points in relation to the command of the armies, and to the appointment of officers for the volunteer army.

The president a few weeks since, gave or signified his intention to give the command of the army, ambracing both the regular army and the volunteer forces, intended to operate against Mexico, to Major General Scott, as senior officer of the United States army. Before he quit the capital on that service, a misunderstanding occurred: he was deprived of the command and retained in service at the seat of government.

A bill within the same brief period was brought in, and after warm debate, was passed into a law, by congress, Which authorizes the president at the close of the existing war with Mexico to reduce the number of officers which the state of war may call into service, by striking from the roll any of the major generals, so as to leave but one in service on restoration of peace. We know not whether the object contemplated was, or was not, to enable the government to remove either General Scott or General Gaines, or both of the old generals, Scott and Gaines, from the army, but certain it is the apprehension that such will be the result, is very general.

The command of “the Army of Occupation” has been confirmed to General Taylor, - "Old rough and ready." As he was but a colonel in lineal rank, a brigade general only by brevet, it was necessary to promote him, or other officers now ordered to the Rio Grande would have outranked him. He had won a fair title to promotion; the government has promptly awarded it, and the people applaud the measure. General Taylor is now a major general in the United States army, - and in command of the force now concentrated upon the banks of the Rio Grande.

For the command of the volunteer forces, the law which passed congress this week, and dates 26th of June, 1846, authorizes the president to appoint two major generals, and eight brigade generals.

William O. Butler, of Kentucky, was nominated and has been confirmed by the senate as a major general under the act.

Gen'l Patterson, of Philadelphia, is nominated as the other major general, and will no doubt also be confirmed.

Six of the eight brigadier generals authorized by the law, have been nominated to the senate.

The present arrangements in relation to the command of the army destined for the invasion of Mexico we understand to be, that General Taylor will move one division from the Rio Grande, towards the city of Mexico.

Gen. Wool of the United States army, in command of the division which is now mustering in the northwest, will move forthwith upon Upper California.

Col. Kearney, United States army, will command a division which is already
concentrating at Fort Leavenworth, and is to proceed against Santa Fe. – We may throw in a few interesting items as to this service, clipped from papers just received. [JCB]

NNR 70.276-277 various incidents of the late battles, the field after battle, &c.

A visit to the battle fields. A correspondent of the *New Orleans Picayune*, writing from point Isabel, says:

I left Matamoros yesterday morning, in company with captains Ramsay and Hardee, and four dragoons, and on the route to this place had another view of the two battle grounds. Resaca de la Palma battle ground is covered with the graves of our fallen countrymen, who fell, many of them, fighting hand to hand with the enemy. Terribly were they avenged, however, on the spot, for their antagonists are buried around them by hundreds. I was shown one grave, near the spot where brave Cochrane was interred, in which some eight Mexicans are said to have been placed, and there are many more which contain a score or two each of slaughtered foe. The grave of poor Inge was pointed out to me. It is near where one of the enemy’s batteries was posted. It was with feelings of deep sadness that I recalled to mind the many virtues of this gallant and noble-hearted officer. He had left a young wife in Baltimore, and had arrived at Point Isabel with a body of recruits, just in time to march with general Taylor; had distinguished himself in both battles by his heroic bearing, and fell at the moment when that brilliant victory, to which he contributed so largely, was about to declare itself in favor of our arms. – Mexican caps and remnants of their clothing are scattered here and there over the battle ground, and the whole field is dotted with marks of the enemy’s camp fires. It is a wild looking place, and advantageous was the position of the enemy, that it will ever remain a wonder to me that our little army was not entirely cut to pieces by their greatly superior force. Over a great portion of the ground on which our army prepared to attack them, the thickets are so dense that a dog would find it difficult to penetrate them. The men actually pushed each other through these thickets, and were divided into snail squads of three to six.

The Palo Alto battle field, on this side, near the edge of the chaparrals, is an open prairie, quite level, and a most magnificent place for the meeting of two armies. The positions of the Mexican lines were pointed out to me, and we rode over part of the field where the battle raged the hottest. They are represented as having presented a very warlike as well as wild and picturesque appearance as our troops approached them; their compact line extending from an elevated point of chaparrals on their right, about a mile; their left extending across the road near its entrance to the pass. I visited the place where some of their heavy artillery opened upon our army, and against which our two 18 pounders were for a time directed. Convincing evidences of the skill with which our artillery was used against them was still perceptible upon that part of the field; for although they were permitted to bury their dead, and afterwards returned in numbers and spent considerable time in that employment, I counted some thirty dead bodies, stretched out as they fell, in that immediate vicinity.

Some had been nearly severed in two by cannon ball, others had lost part of the head, both legs, a shoulder, or the whole stomach. Of many of them nothing but the bones, encased in uniform, was left; whilst others had been transformed into mummies, and retained the expression of countenance which their death agonies had stamped upon them. One man had been shot between the hips with a large ball, lay doubled up as he fell, with his hands extended and his face downward between his knees. – Another whose shoulders and back were shot away, seemed to have died in the act of uttering a cry of horror. Dead horses were scattered about in every direction, and the buzzards and wild dogs were fattened upon the carrion.

The Battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. But now the eventful moment was drawing nigh, and scarcely had we entered the second chaparral, when word came from the advance that the enemy were in force at Resaca de la Palma, and within five hundred yards of the advance guard. Orders were immediately given to park the wagons, and from the order of battle. The wagons were placed as designated in the map, and the artillery brigade, with Duncan’s battery left to protect them. Capt. Kerr’s squadron coving the extreme rear. – The 3rd, 4th, 8th, and 5th infantry, with May’s squadron, were posted along the road, within the chaparral. Gen. Taylor the ordered Ridgely, with his battery to go forward and clear the way – Capts. McCall and Smith to deploy on the right and left, as skirmishers, until reinforced by the 5th and 8th. – Ridgely waited not a moment, but started his battery at full speed, determined to have no more long faw shooting, but to test the
Mexican metal at close quarters. As he charged, with one loud shot from his men, the Mexicans opened their artillery and musketry upon him. On he went, until he halted within one hundred yard of the muzzle of the enemy’s pieces and commenced the action. Smith and McCall soon deployed, and engaged the infantry.

The fire from the Mexican guns was awful. The infantry were engaged within twenty paces of Ridgely’s battery, and the whole fire of their nine pieces concentrated on his battery, the first shot from the Mexican battery knocked over one man and three horses at our first piece. The enemy fired too high, as on the day before. The 5th and 6th infantry soon came up, deployed as skirmishers, and took a hand in the game – the space separating the two lines of infantry not exceeding twenty paces. Our men and officers seemed particularly determined to have a close hug of the enemy, and so cool and collected were all hands, that not a shot was thrown away. – The command from one end of the line to the other was, not to fire until you could see the whites of their eyes.

At this time, no adequate idea can be had of the showers of grape, canister, and round shot that flew from the enemy’s batteries – it was a perfect hailstorm. Their battery, composed of nine pieces kept up an incessant roar, whilst Ridgely gave it to them at a rate of four guns per minute from each piece. The cannoneers threw off their coats, tied their suspenders around their waists, rolled their sleeves to the shoulder, and plied the match unceasingly. For twenty minutes the battery, supported by the 5th and 8th bore the concentrated fire of the enemy. As yet the enemy budged not an inch, but soon the entering wedge was placed; the 5th and 8th, under cover of our battery, tried the effect of cold steel, and wherever a soldier missed the Mexican with his shot, he advanced – as did the brave Mexican – and whoever got the first stab at the other was a lucky man.

A moment before this enemy pressed Ridgely’s battery very hard; the infantry covering his battery, in deploying, got to far at times from his pieces, and left them exposed. I was requested by Ridgely to ride back and say to the general that they were pressing his pieces hard, to send up some infantry. I at once did so, and met the general riding along as though nothing was going on. – He replied to the message – “Oh, never mind! He is doing very well. Let him alone – there is no fear of him.” I returned and found them driving the enemy.

By this time the 3rd and 4th came gallantly on, deploying on the right and the left. Then came the heavy blows that kept the wedge moving. First came a round from the battery, then a blow from the left by the 8th and 4th; and so it was – the word was “Push along – keep moving!” until our men stood on the same ground that had been held by their infantry, and which was then covered by their dead and wounded.

By this time General Taylor was up in the front rank of the fight, with Colonel McIntosh, Pyne, and his staff. His attention was riveted on Ridgely’s battery as though wondering if it were possible a light artillery battery could do so much service: - entre nous, the general was not particularly an advocate of this arm before this campaign. Very soon it appeared as though the enemy in retiring with their batteries across the ravine to the point C, had arranged it so as to have the General and Ridgely’s battery both in their line of fire, for the grape flew thick and fast around him. Adj't General Bliss advised him to change his position, but no, he saw very well from where he was, and did not leave it for some time.

At this time the struggle was tremendous, the infantry had captured one piece of artillery on this side of the ravine, and was charging across the pond of water. At times an intervals would be left between two of our companies, and the Mexicans would charge across the ravine and take apposition there. – In one instance, Lieutenant Deas, the gallant adjutant of the 5th, with ten me, asking me to rally as many more and follow, charged into the bushes where a party of Mexicans on our side of the ravine, were obstinately disputing inch by inch with our men, and after placing men in position, we wheeled to ride out for reinforcement, when seven Mexicans jumped from behind us, and within ten paces of us, and fired, as we charged past them without doing any injury, however the consequence. For some time the cannonading and musketry, though doing tremendous execution, could not drive the enemy, but at last, as the infantry closed the distance, the enemy had to move. Every regiment of infantry did its duty, the fighting assumed the character hand to hand combat, the bayonet was crossed and the sword was used. Ridgely still plied the dash of grape and round shot with terrible effect; his Lieuts. Shover, Fremont, and French, were often engaged in carrying ammunition to the guns and loading them. Just here, Lt. Duncan came up with his battery, but was unable to bring it into action for some time, from the fact that there was no room to place it and open on the enemy without endangering our own infantry in front.
The enemy again waived. Gen Taylor ordered Captain May to charge the battery, and on he started; but on reaching the point of the road where he would have been discovered by the enemy, he was stopped by Ridgely, who told him that the enemy had just loaded all their pieces, and if he charged then, he would be swept away. "Stop," says Ridgely, "until I draw their fire;" when he deliberately fired each gun; so terrible was the effect of the grape, that the Mexicans poured their fire upon his piece, and then May charged like a bullet, drove off their cannoneers, took La Vega prisoner, and retreated. Here Lieutenant Inge, a noble, gallant soldier, charged at the head of the squadron, was killed and stripped. Lieutenant Sackett, than whom there is no better officer, had his horse shot under him, and was pitched head foremost into the pond, rose again, covered with mud and water, and escaped. The squadron suffered very much. I am sure Charley May feels grateful to Ridgely for his cool judgement and timely advice. He had charged on the battery, loaded with grape as it was, I do not believe he would have saved a man.

The Mexicans returned to their guns, and immediately the 5th infantry took the matter in hand, and resolved to try the bayonet again. On they went, and piece by piece fell before their determined bravery, until the entire battery was taken. The infantry and cannoneers fought hand to hand between the wheels. Ridgely and Duncan then pushed their batteries across the ravine, and both opened on the retreating enemy. The 5th, 8th, 3rd, and 4th were all across, having each driven everything before them. The route commenced, the whip was applied, and the battle was won again. The 5th charged on the enemy's camp, where the savory odor of the dinner in the act of preparing for a grand jubilee by the Mexicans had probably lured them, knowing that the Mexicans would fight the harder for his dinner. Here the struggle was short; they captured everything, even to Arista's private baggage and portfolio, their entire camp equipage, and 300 mules.

Now my dear sir, how can I describe to you the personal acts of bravery – not only in one instance but in twenty – and not simply by the officer, but by the common soldier. The whole battle was fought by individual squads, led sometimes by an officer and frequently by the non-commissioned officers. I could not say too much for every man engaged. So eager were our men for the fight that I cannot better describe their enthusiasm than to give you the idea that struck me: it was this: Every man, officer and soldier seemed impressed with the idea that there was but a given quantity of fighting to be had – not enough for every man to have his fill of it – and, therefore, it became every one to get what he could as soon as possible.

Instances there were where one man in charging upon their batteries leaped astride their pieces and holding on with one hand bet of the gunners with their swords, and were cut down.

An instance occurred when in a charge upon a piece lieut. Joran was attacked by 2 Mexicans and bayonetted in two places, when lieut. Lincoln of the 8th, rushed up and with his own sabre made perfect mince meat of the two. Again, when Ridgely charged with his battery across the ravine, and was standing at one of his pieces, he was charged on by three lancers, he mounted his horse and drove them off with his own sabre. But it would take a volume to recite the whole, and I am sure that in gen. Taylor's detailed report all will appear – the fact is every man was a hero.

And let me not overlook the non-commissioned officers and privates, to them the country owes a deep debt of gratitude for their unflinching bravery during both days. As to our good general and his intelligent and efficient staff, too much cannot be said – the peals of approbation are heard from Maine to Georgia, and the page of history will be graced through time with the names of Taylor. [JCB]
government, would have rejoiced in a new political existence. The halt upon the left bank of the Rio Grande afforded an opportunity to the Mexican agents and priests to appeal to the people and assure them that the Americans were their common enemies."

The author of the article, in memoranda, which he has appended, states that the Paredes revolution was extensively a military one, to which a large portion of the Mexican people are opposed – that the provinces of Tamaulipas, New Leon, Coahuila, San Luis de Potosi, Zacatecas, and Chihuahua, are especially opposed to the Paredes movement, and only await a favorable moment to declare in force their opposition. Gen. Arista, it is said, desires the independence of these provinces, and would have set up the standard of revolt some months since, and previously to the Paredes demonstration, if the troops of the United States had taken a strong position on the Rio Grande.

The writer then enters on his plan of campaign, in some detail, which is as follows: first stating that the naval operations in the Gulf of Mexico should be strictly confined to the blockade of the ports of Mexico, and the possessions of Tampico, with a view to its establishment as the main depot of supply to the army after it reached the Panuco of Tampico river and San Luis de Potosi.

"The coast of the Pacific should be blockaded, and Monterey and St. Francisco taken possession of by the naval forces in the Pacific. The reasons for this are briefly stated: The reduction of St. Juan d'Ulloa could only be effected, if properly defended, by great loss, and when taken would exhibit a point in our possession neither affording facilities as a depot nor as a starting point for an invading army on the city of Mexico. The road leading from Mexico to Vera Cruz could easily be defended by a very inferior force. The force considered necessary to march upon Panuca is the thousand men; say five thousand regulars and five thousand volunteers, of which there should be three thousand Texans, who have held arms in their hands for ten years, and two thousand volunteers from Louisiana. If more troops were required, the northern provinces of Mexico would furnish them, under able officers, of whom General Arista is acknowledged to be the ablest. – The squadron operating before Tampico should be supplied with one thousand marines and artillerists, to assist in the reduction of that place. The plan of campaign is as follows: Five thousand men march from Loredo, on Satillo. The two columns march on converging roads to San Luis Potosi, and the communication with Tampico along the line of the Panuco is established. The Panuco thus becomes the base of operations, from which negotiations with Mexico would most probably be begun. If the government of Mexico, after being reinforced by ten thousand men, the principal part of which might be landed at Tampico.

"The road from Mier to Monterey, and thence to San Luis de Potosi, is said the be a very good one, and the country affords ample provisions and water. The road from Laredo, by Satillo, afford equal facilities except, in the supply of water on a distance of forty-eight miles only. This distance could be overcome in two days by forced marches. The object in marching in two columns to San Luis de Potosi is to secure the only two roads leading to that point from the Rio Grande. A favorable impression would also be produced among the population by the prudent conduct of the troops. A detachment must remain at Laredo to observe the road to San Antonio, and keep the Indians in check. One thousand mounted riflemen should be assembled at Bent's Fort, and march thence on Santa Fe. It would only be necessary to send 2, 000 regulars to the present army of occupation, and raise 5,000 volunteers, which could be effected in one month from the date of orders. In six weeks the whole army could be en route beyond the Rio Grande. In thirty days after, the line of the Panuco will be established. This brief memoir does not enter into details, for the military man will at once appreciate the demonstration it possesses; and the statesman will as readily grasp it consequences as most favorable to an honorable peace with Mexico; And to the improved political condition of a new born contiguous republic, whose people desire protection and peace in order to develop the bounteous resources of their country; and to the interests of the United States by securing a well defined frontier, and an increase of internal trade." [JCB]
exhibited the greatest bravery on the field. And Captain May, too, is from Washington city, which you know, is a part of Maryland. May’s charge was equal to that of McDonald’s, under Napoleon, at Wadram, so graphically portrayed by Allison. However, give the Missouri boys a chance, and we will show you some “tall” fighting. They know nothing about the “scienc,” but when it come to the “strong” they are thar. [JCB]

NNR 70.278 July 4, 1846 accounts of wounded officers, suspicion that Mexicans use shot containing arsenic

The wounded. – We learn from Lieut. Stevenson who left the army on the 2nd instant, that most of the wounded are doing well. Col. McIntosh is however still very low and not out of danger. His worst wound is the bayonet thrust in the mouth and neck. Lieutenant Colonel Payne was shot through the abdomen, and the ball is still in him. The crifice of the wound is large but the surgeons are unable to determine whether it was by a musket ball or grape shot. He suffers too much pain and his condition is critical. Captain Hooe, who lost his right arm above the elbow, is nearly well. He is by this time on his way north. Lieutenant Luther was wounded in the calf of the leg, not in the lip as heretofore reported. Captain Page, it is thought, will recover, notwithstanding the dreadful nature of his wounds.

The shot of the Mexicans, except the musket and carbine balls, are of a composition which has not yet been fully ascertained. It is supposed to contain arsenic. Wounds received from these shot are slow to heal. Lieut. S. had one in his possession which he proposes to have analyzed. The army generally was in good health and faring sumptuously in the “quarters of the enemy.”

Among the hairbreadth escapes it may not be improper to state that Lieut. Stevenson had the sole of his foot taken off by a grape shot, without the least injury to his foot. [Detroit Adv. [JCB]

NNR 70.278 Lt. July 4, 1846 Theodoric H. Porter's body found

The body of Lieut. Porter, of the 4th infantry, has been found about 26 miles from Matamoros, on the other side of the river. It was recognized by a peculiar mark upon one arm.

A party passing from Point Isabel lately saw the remains of no less than seven of the unfortunate Rogers party, so cruelly murdered, a few weeks since. Five skeletons, one of them apparently a female, were lying upon the banks, where they had drifted, after their throats had been cut. Two others were discovered near the wagon. The wolves and buzzards had done their work upon all. [JCB]

NNR 70.278 July 4, 1846 >account of the wounded in the hospitals

A person writing from Matamoros, says he recently passed through the hospitals, and looked at the poor fellows who were wounded in the two battles. Of whom three had died in the hospital at Point Isabel. Fifty have been sent to St. Joseph’s island. There are twelve cases of amputation of thigh, leg, and arm under treatment, and are most of them doing well. [JCB]

NNR 70.278 July 4, 1846 compliment by Gen. Romulo Diaz de la Vega to Gen. Zachary Taylor on the quality of Taylor’s troops

Mexican fighting. I am told that Gen. Vega, after he was prisoner in our camp, and saw for himself the number and kind of men composing our army, remarked to General Tyler that with ten thousand such troops he might march to the city of Mexico without difficulty; and I have little doubt this might be done by Taylor, for certainly he is the man above all others that we know to make war with the Mexicans. He understands them perfectly, and knows they will not and cannot stand the charge of the bayonet, which is his favorite arm and mode of fighting, though he
had but little opportunity of using it in the late battles, as the enemy kept pretty
much at artillery distance, which is their favorite arm. And the general himself told
me (for he paid us a visit at Point Isabel since the battles) that he thought they
loaded and fired their pieces with as great celerity and accuracy as we did ours,
though they did not maneuver them so well in the field. – Nearly every death and
wound on our side was from their cannon shot. [JCB]

NNR 70.278 July 4, 1846 hunting for "Rio Grande deer"

Rio Grande Deer. – Largest on record. – There are wandering over the prairies in
the vicinity of our camp on the Rio Grande a large number of the finest large horned
cattle in the world. “Our volunteers,” wishing for a fresh steak, would make some of
them occasionally bite the dust. An order came that no more "killing beef" must take
place, and no more beef was killed. Scouting parties now went out for venison some
good shots were fortunate enough to kill one. It was dragged into camp and duly
divided up among the knowing ones of the regiment. When daylight appeared,
suspicions got out that beef had been killed, this was stoutly denied, and the reports
were contradicted by the assertion, that a deer had been killed weighing over eight
hundred pounds. This caused universal surprise, especially among certain officers,
who demanded to see the horns. After a great deal of delay they were produced, and
examined by a court martial, who solemnly decided that the venison of the Rio
Grande had horns perfectly smooth, and resembling those of an ox species, in other
parts of the world. [N.O. Tropic [JCB]

Mariano Arista's invitation to American soldiers to desert

Official dispatches from the army. We have been permitted to lay before our readers
the following extract from the last official dispatches of gen. Taylor, which have been
received at the war department:

Headquarters of the army of occupation,
Matamoros, May 30, 1846.

I enclose an original draft, found in gen. Arista’s papers, of an invitation of our
soldiers to desert. A similar call was previously made by Ampudia, and has already
found its way into the public prints. – The department may see from these
documents what arms were used against us.

I am, sir, very respectfully your obedient servant,
To the Adjutant General of the army, Washington, D.C.

General Arista’s advice to the soldiers of the U.S. army.
Headquarters at Matamoros, April 20, 1846.

Soldiers! You have enlisted in a time of peace to serve in that army for a specific
term; but your obligations never implied that you were bound to violate the laws of
God, and the most sacred rights of friends! The United States government, contrary
to the wishes of a majority of all honest anf honorable Americans, has ordered you
to take forcibly the possession of the territory of a friendly neighbor, who has never
given her consent to such occupation. In other words, while the treaty of peace and
commerce between Mexico and the United States is in full force, the U. States,
pressuming her strength and prosperity, and our supposed imbecility and cowardice,
Attempts to make you the blind instruments of her unholy and mad ambition, and
force you to appear as the hateful robbers of our dear homes, and the unprovoked
violators of our dearest feelings as men and patriots. Such villany and outrage, I
know, is perfectly repugnant to the noble sentiments of any gentleman, and it is
base and foul to rush you on to certain death, in order to aggrandize a few lawless
individuals, in defiance of the laws of God and man!

It is to no purpose if they tell you that the law for the annexation of Texas justifies
your occupation of the Rio Bravo del Norte; for by this act they rob us of a great
portion of Tamaulipas, Coahuila, Chihuahua, and New Mexico; and it is barbarous to
send a handful of men on such an errand against a powerful and warlike nation. Besides the most of you are Europeans, and we are the declared friends of a majority of the nations of Europe. The North Americans are ambitious, overbearing, and insolent as a nation, and they will only make use of you as vile tools to carry out their abominable plans to pillage and rapine.

I warn you in the name of justice, honor, and your own interest and self respect, to abandon their desperate and unholy cause, and become peaceful Mexican citizens. I guarantee you in such case, a section of land, or 230 acres, to settle upon, gratis. Be wise, the, and just, and honorable, and take no part in murdering us who have no unkind feelings for you. Lands shall be given to officers, sereants add corporals, according to rank, privates receiving 320 acres as stated.

If in time of action you wish to espouse our cause, throw away your arms and run to us, and we will embrace you as true friends and Christians. It is not decent or prudent to say more. But should any of you render any important service to Mexico, you shall be accordingly considered and preferred.

M. Arista, com’der in chief of the Mexican army.

[NCR]

NRR 70.279 reception of deputation that delivered the thanks of Louisiana to Gen. Zachary Taylor

Louisiana and gen’l Taylor. – The committee appointed by the legislature of Louisiana to present the resolutions and thanks of the general assembly the gen. Taylor, arrived at Matamoros on the 8th inst., and were presented to the brave old chieftain at 11 o’clock on the 8th by Col. Labuzan, one of the aides of Governor Johnson. On being presented to the general, his staff, and officers of the army, the colonels and their staff and officers of the army, the colonels and their staff who were invited to be present on the occasion, Mr. Zacharie, chairman of the committee, said –

“General, I have the honor of presenting to you the resolutions and vote of thanks and the act appropriating a sword which were unanimously passed by the state of Louisiana, to you, your brave officers, and the army under your command, for the gallantry displayed by them in the battles of the 8th and 9th of May. I am no orator, General, but my own heart and the heart of every Louisianian approves of the beautiful sentiments of these resolutions. In behalf of the state of Louisiana, I thank you and your brave army for the additional luster which those glorious victories have shed upon American arms.”

To which the general, briefly and with much emotion, replied: “My heart feels too deeply and sensibly the high honor that has been conferred upon me, my officers, and men, to respond to your expressions of gratitude and thanks. I always felt assured that the patriotic state of Louisiana would be among the first to rush to the assistance of our little army in time of need. I well knew, as did also my officers and men, that she was a gallant, brave, and noble state; that chivalry, noble daring, and ardent patriotism were her high attributes. Her volunteers have readily abandoned their homes and business, to assist us in the hour of danger. We feel deep debt of gratitude to them and to you.

The generous and timely action of the legislature of Louisiana will never be forgotten by us; its name will be embalmed on our hearts as a cherished memorial. We feel that we have only done our duty; yet we cannot but feel highly gratified to have gained the approbation of our fellow citizens. Together with the love of country, which is common to us all, it is that approbation which cheers and animates the soldiers in the hour of battle. Gentlemen, I am unaccustomed to public speaking; I, therefore, in the name of my officers and men, thank you and the patriotic state which you represent for the honor conferred upon us.”

At the conclusion of his reply, the general invited the committee and all present to a splendid collation which he had ordered to be prepared for the occasion, and to which ample justice was done. Numerous toasts were drunk. Mr. Zacharie gave "Old Rough and Ready – long life to him."

Mr. Carrigan gave: "gen. Taylor – Ampudia has at least discovered that he was a tailor who understood well how to take his measures, and that the officers and army under his command had shown to the Mexicans and to the world that they perfectly
understood the art of making breeches.”

Mr. Ashbel Smith gave: “American Independence – It was not proclaimed and maintained by the heroes of ’76. It was confirmed upon the plains of Chalmette in ’14 – ’15. It was again asserted and maintained in 1836 at the battle of San Jacinto, and in 1846 will be thoroughly established throughout the whole extent of Mexico.”

Rev. Mr. Crenshaw, chaplain of the Andrew Jackson regiment, gave the following:

“The Church and State, may they never be united. We will pray for the one and fight for the other.”

The ladies and volunteers of Louisiana were severally toasted.

The next day the committee were invited to a dinner given by the officers of the army at the headquarters of General Arista in Matamoros. Colonel Twiggs presided. Gen. Taylor was present. A splendid band of music performed occasionally on the gallery, and hundreds of citizens of Matamoros thronged the plaza to listen to the exulting and joyous strains.

Governor Henderson of Texas and suite, together with Ashbel Smith, Generals Hunt, Johnson, Cook, Burleson, and others were present. The festival was kept up until midnight and right merrily did the wine sparkle around the board intermingled with toasts and songs. This was the first time since the battles of the 8th and 9th of May that officers had met together as a body upon a convivial occasion, and you may depend the shots directed by them as effectual as they were a month previous, although there were not so many killed or wounded. [JCB]

NNR 70.281 July 4, 1846 comments on the expedition against Santa Fe

The march to Santa Fe. The St. Louis Reveille has some timely and sensible remarks, addressed to those about to engage in the expedition to Santa Fe, showing them that it is no holiday service they will be called to perform. We copy the following:

“Those who will be afforded ample opportunity to display the most commendable qualities of soldiers – subordination, fortitude, patience, and endurance. They must be prepared for privations greater than those of the army in the neighborhood of Matamoros. The march across the prairies to Santa Fe – a distance of 1,000 miles from independence and 1,300 from this city – will subject them to alternate exposure to burning sun, rude storms, scarcity of water, scarcity of provisions, and other circumstances “too tedious to mention,” which will all prove their soldierly qualities by the severest tests. They must have, at least, stomachs which cannot only digest any kind of food present, but which can submit to “short allowance,” when necessary. Going to matamoros may be going to fight; but it is not, now at least, going to starve. Going to Santa fe is going to endure a toilsome march on limited supplies, with precarious means of subsistence when there, and on the return. Hence, let none undertake the trip who have not soldiers’ hearts, and, we may add, soldier’s bodies and soldiers’ stomachs. – But let all who go, do so, with the gallant determination to act up to their parts through all the trials.

It is a mistake to suppose that a soldiers only business is to fight. His first business is always to be prepared to fight – his second, to fight when necessary. On this Santa Fe expedition, the greatest difficulty will be to keep up this very preparation. Subordination, discipline, and endurance, will be essential; and woe to him who undertakes the trip unprepared for them.

We throw out these hints, on the suggestion of a friend, that the expedition ought not to be underrated, as involving none of the exposures, perils, &c., which make up the account of military effort, and result in the sum total of military glory. We have no idea of discouraging any, but rather to stimulate, by showing the service to be one really worthy of brave men. Such, in truth, it is; and it ought so to be regarded. Men familiar with the sort of life which the troops will lead, will tell you it will be a glorious trip, and all that sort of thing. – but only, because it is such a trip as we have represented. They would not prize it – if it were a mere jaunt of pleasure, like the journey to a country wedding, through a cultivated rural district, with green meadows and lowing herds on every hand.” [JCB]
The following pithy paragraphs, taken very much at random from numbers that we find in papers which have reached us by this weeks mails, show something of what is going on in this department.

We have numerous accounts and from various places of strong discontent being expressed by the volunteers that had preferred their services and left their homes in hopes of a tour of duty, but whose services could not be accepted, the requisition having already been filled.

Still stronger expressions of dissatisfaction are uttered by those volunteers who assembled under the requisition of General Gaines, and whose services were subsequently declined by the government. We have room at present only to mention the existence of those complaints. [JCB]

Seven companies of Tennessee volunteers took their departure from Nashville on the 4th ultimo. – Thousands were assembled to witness the departure and the scene was one of touching interest. Four companies of Tennessee volunteers left N. Orleans on the 16th for the Rio Grande, viz: Memphis Rifle Guards, Capt. E.F. Ruth; Gaines Guards, Captain M.B. Cook; Avengers, Captain Jones; Tennessee Guards, Capt. Murray; all under command of Capt. Ruth. [JCB]

Alabama Volunteers. – Twenty-three companies altogether have reported to the governor as ready to march to the Rio Grande. [JCB]

Volunteers for Santa Fe, New Mexico. – We learn from the St. Louis papers, that Col. R. Campbell, aid to the governor, has raised several companies of volunteers under the requisition of General Gaines, and marched them into St. Louis. He reported them to Col. Davenport, of the United States army, who refused to muster them into the service of the united States, because Gen. Gaines authority to make requisition had not been acquiesced in by the government! This, says the Cincinnati Gazette, is anything but right. Here are hundreds of men, brought into the field by the state executive on the requisition of a commanding general of the army, in service, and they are turned loose, to get home the best way they can, and to bear the lose of time and expense of equipment because the requisition is disapproved. If the requisition is regular, and the men have been brought out under it, the least that could be done, it seems to us, would be to receive them into the service, supply them with rations, &c. and disband them. [JCB]

While these men are thus turned aside, it is said that Col. Grimsley and Mr. Bent, the latter long engaged in the Santa Fe trade, have succeeded in engaging some 883 recruits, drawn from trappers, &c., of the country, for a mounted regiment to march for the Santa Fe towns, New Mexico. Many of these have seen service in the country, are inured to its hardships, and perfectly familiar with the duties required them. Such men cannot but be useful in such a campaign. [JCB]
More blunders. – There appear to be much blundering and miserable management in calling out volunteers, that subject the volunteer companies to much vexation, trouble, and expense. A large number of volunteers have been called out in Illinois and marched to the appointed place of rendezvous, and when they arrive it appear that the officers of the United States are not authorized to muster them into service or to provide for their subsistence, and they will have to return home and wait for further orders from Washington city. The brave volunteers from Missouri were trifled with and harassed in the same manner. This course is unjust to the gallant volunteers of Illinois and tends to discourage persons from entering the volunteer service. From the *St. Louis New Era* [Amer. Sentinel] [JCB]

**Volunteers at Fort Leavenworth.** – We are informed by the officers of the steamer *Amaranth* that they left Fort Leavenworth on Tuesday last. – Three volunteer companies, numbering about 300 men have already arrived there. More were hourly expected and from the number that were reported as raised and on their way to that point, Colonel Kearney thought that he would have his full compliment of troops in a short time, and would be able to leave the fort for New Mexico. [*St. Louis New Era, June 12.*]

There were at Fort Leavenworth, on the 18th of June, 884 volunteers, of which one company is infantry. Capt. Fisher’s company, to arrive, would increase the force to 1,000. It was thought that Brigade Gen, Kearney would start from the fort about the 22nd or 23rd ult. [JCB]

**A heroine.** – The Indiana volunteers were all mustered into the service of the United States on Friday, June 19. On Saturday, one of Capt. Walker’s company, from Evansville, lost a hankerchief. On sitting down to mess he observed it sticking out of the bosom of one of his comrades. He immediately took hold of it, when, to his surprise, he discovered that his messmate was a female. On inquiring into this strange proceeding, she stated, that being very poor, and wishing to go to her father, who resided in Texas, resolved to join one of the volunteer companies. She afterwards came to this city, and her fellow soldiers raised a subscription to carry her to her father. [*Louisville Journal.*] [JCB]

**Ohio Volunteers.** – The adjutant general of Ohio has given notice that officers returns have been received at Columbus of the full compliment of volunteers to fill the requisition on Ohio. The whole number of men will be in Camp Washington at an early day. More offered than could be accepted. [JCB]

**The requisition of the state of Illinois for volunteers has been filled; and 1,500 men were at Alton, at the last accounts, awaiting the arrival of Gen. Wool, who was expected in a few days to muster them into the service of the United States.** [JCB]

**Volunteers.** – The latest accounts from the volunteers now with Gen. Taylor on the Rio Grande, is from the letter of “The Corporal” with whose productions our readers
are already familiar, dated June 15, which says: “The most perfect apathy prevails among the volunteer troops here now, and every day the inroads of discontent are more apparent. The sun is unusually warm, and from 10 to 4 o’clock, it is so intense that but for the prairie breeze, it would be imposable to stir about. Our tents are gradually made of common Lowell cotton and afford little protection either from rain or sun. All such things combined with no occupation for the mind leaves nothing for excitement, and all that can be said is that we are here. If they would only march us a few miles up the river, or get up a few false alarms, it might, in a measure, tend to dispel the apathy and wind up the chain of excitement.” [JCB]

NNR 70.289 July 11, 1846 Appointments of Officers

Appointments by the president. By and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Robert Patterson, of Pennsylvania, to be major general, and Thomas L. Hamer of Ohio; Joseph Lane, of Indiana; James Shields, of Illinois; Thomas Marshall, of Kentucky; Gideon J. Pillow, of Tennessee; and John A. Quitman, of Mississippi; to be brigadier generals in the military service of the United States, in accordance with the provisions of the act (for the organization of the volunteer forces, &c.) approved June 26, 1846.

Assistant Generals, under the act of June 18, 1846.

Captain George A. McCall, of the 4th infantry, to be assistant adjutant general, with the brevet rank of major.
Brevet Captain William W. S. Bliss, assistant adjutant general, to be assistant adjutant general with the brevet rank of major.
First Lieutenant Randolph Ridgely, of the 3rd artillery, to be assistant adjutant general, with the brevet rank of captain.
First Lieutenant George Lincoln, of the 8th infantry, to be assistant adjutant general with the brevet rank of captain.
First Lieutenant Oscar F. Winship, of the 2nd dragoons, to be assistant adjutant general, with the brevet rank of Captain, in place of W.W.S Bliss, promoted.

[These five officers appear to have been selected for appointments in view of their several distinguished achievements during the battles of the 8th and 9th of May.]

In the regiment of mounted riflemen, or 3rd dragoons. Charles Ruff, of Missouri, to be captain, in the place of Bela M. Hughes, who declines to accept.

Abraham Van Buren, paymaster in the army of the United States.

Appointments in the quartermaster’s and commissary’s departments under the act approved June 18, 1846. In the quartermaster’s department. To be quartermaster with the rank of major. John S. Love, of Ohio; Samuel P. Mooney, of Indiana; Alexander Dunlap, of Illinois; George A. Caldwell, of Kentucky; Levin H. Coe, of Tennessee; Thomas B. Eastland, of Louisiana.

Assistant Quartermaster with the rank of captain. T. Giblert, of Ohio; S. H. Webb, of Ohio; Thomas H. Wilkins of Ohio; Robert Mitchell, of Indiana; John Neff, of Indiana; Elanson W. Enos, of Indiana; Jas H. Ralston, of Illinois; Henry Scott, of Illinois; Joe Naper, of Illinois; Henry M. Vandeven, of Illinois; Theodore O’Hara, of Kentucky; George P. Smith, of Kentucky; Benjamin F. Graham, of Kentucky; Robert B. Reynolds, of Tennessee; Jonas E. Thomas, of Tennessee; Philip B. Glenn, of Tennessee; Samuel M. Rutherford, of Arkansas; Franklin E. Smith of Mississippi; Henry Toulin, of Alabama; Robert R. Howard, of Georgia; George W. Miller, of Missouri; George Kennerly, of Missouri; Joseph Daniels, of Texas.

In the commissary department,
To be commissaries with the rank of major. Wm. F. Johnson, of Ohio; James C. Sloo, of Illinois; Alfred Boyd, of Ky.; Julius W. Blackwell, of Tenn.; William Robbit, of Mississippi.

Assistant commissaries with the rank of captain. Wm. C. McCauslin, of Ohio; Jesse B.
Stevens, of Ohio; John Caldwell, of Ohio; Delany R. Eckles, of Indiana; Christopher C. Graham, of Indiana; Newton Hill, of Indiana; J.S. Post, of Illinois; James M. Campbell, of Illinois; William Walters, of Illinois; Samuel Hackelton, of Illinois; Richard Gholston, of Ky.; Thomas J. Turpin, of Ky.; Wm. Garrard, of Ky.; James R. Copeland, of Tenn.; Wm. B. Cherry; Wm. Fields, of Arkansas; Robert Fenner, of Ala.; Kemp S. Holland, of Mississippi; Thomas P. Randale, of Georgia; Wm. Shields, of Missouri; Amos F. Garrison, of Missouri; Stephen Z. Hoyle, of Texas.


Charles Mason, re-appointed chief justice, and T.S. Wilson, associate judge of the supreme court of Iowa, whose commissions expire July 27. Vol. XX. Sig. 19 [JCB]

**NNR 70.289 July 11, 1846 Soldiers arrive at Baltimore**

Soldiers from the seat of war. A detachment of 28 soldiers from the Rio Grande, belonging to the 7th regiment of U.S. infantry, arrived in this city (Baltimore) on Saturday night and put up at Burk's hotel, Pratt street. They are of those who defended Fort Brown so gallantly during its bombardment of 7 days by the Mexicans. The detachment left this city for Boston, under the command of Capt. Hawkins. Their object is to obtain recruits.

Companies B and K, 1st regiment .S. dragoons, numbering 115 non-commissioned officers and privates, 119 horses, and 15 mules reached St. Louis on the 27th ult., from Forts Atchison and Crawford, under command of Capts. E.V. Sumner and P. St. G. Cook, Lieuts Hammond and Davidson, Surgeon R.A. Simpson. They are to join the expedition against Santa Fe, at Fort Leavenworth.

Capt. Page, who was so dreadfully wounded in the battle of the 8th inst., has arrived at new Orleans. Amongst the melancholy incidents to which the campaign has already been fruitful, we have met with none more truly painful than that of this gallant officer and his devoted wife. The latter was at the city of Baltimore when intelligence arrived of the fate of her husband. Without a moment's hesitation she determined to proceed to administer a wife's attention and consolation to her wounded husband. - She embarked for New Orleans, and thence took passage in a steamer about to leave for Point Isabel. The steamer had to stop at Mobile, and was there delayed some days. On reaching Point Isabel, she ascertained that Capt. Page had embarked for New Orleans a few days before, where we sincerely hope she may soon join him. [JCB]

**NNR 70.289 July 11, 1846 Army depot established at Robinson's Ferry on the Trinity**

The steamship Alabama arrived at Galveston, the 22nd June, and left again the following day for Brazos Santiago. She landed at Galveston some government stores for a new military depot which has been established at Robinson's Ferry, on the Trinity, to supply volunteers on their march through Texas. The stores are forwarded from Galveston to the depot by steam. [JCB]

**NNR 70.289 July 11, 1846 Maj. Thomas Turner Fauntleroy ordered to proceed to San Antonio with dragoons**

The Austin New Era says that orders have been received by Maj. Fountelroy, requiring him to proceed immediately to San Antonio with the company of dragoons under his command. [JCB]

**NNR 70.289 Bibles forwarded to Army in Texas**

The Bible. We are gratified to learn, says the Savannah Republican, that the army in Texas applied to the American Bible Society for the scriptures – and that four
thousand copies of the New Testament have been forwarded for their use. If it is
desirable to inculcate the love of peace among soldiers, the New Testament is the
best of all books for them. [JCB]

Soldiers from the seat of war. A detachment of 28 soldiers from the Rio Grande,
belonging to 7th regiment of the U.S. infantry, arrived in the city (Baltimore) on
Saturday night and put up at Burk’s Hotel, Pratt street. They are of those who
defended Fort Brown so gallantly during it’s bombardment of 7 days by the
Mexicans. The detachment left this city for Boston, under command of Capt.
Hawkins. Their object is to obtain recruits. [VRD]

GEN. GAINES. The "Union” gives the following specifications of inquiry to which
Gen. G. is is to be subjected by the court to assemble at Fort Monroe on the 18th
instant:

1st In calling upon the governors of several of the states for volunteers or militia to
be mustered into the service of the United States between the 1st and 16th May.
1816; and to examine also into the authority and circumstances under which the
said calls were made.

2d. In calling upon the governors of several of the states, between the 16th of May
and the 10th of June, 1846, for volunteers or militia to be mustered into the service
of the United States; and also in appointing or authorizing certain individuals- from
the 1st of May to the 15th of June 1846 [unclear] raise troops to be mustered into
service of the United States; and to examine into the authority and circumstances
under which such acts were done.

3d. In organizing and mustering, or causing to be mustered, into service of the
United States, a body of volunteers or militia of a state of Alabama about the 12th of
June, 1846; and to examine into circumstances calling for the said act of General
Gaines, in reference to instructions given to him by the secretary of war, in letter
dated respectively the 28th of May, and the 1st of June, 1846, and the order of June
2, 1846, relieving him from the command of the western division of the army.

4th. In giving orders, since the 1st of May, 1846, to officers of the ordnance,
commissary, quartermaster, and pay departments, to issue and distribute ordnance
and ordnance stores, subsistence stores, for the disbursement and payment of public
funds to certain designated individuals or bodies of men; and to inquire also whether
the persons to whom such issues of payment were ordered or made were legally in
the service of the United States, or properly authorized to receive, or have the
custody of public property or money.

The court Is ordered to report the facts of the case, and to express an opinion
thereon.

British Troops. The 14th, 89th, and 60th regiments are under orders to proceed to
Halifax this autumn.—They are to be replaced by the rifle brigade, 77th, and a
regiment from the West Indies.

H.M. troop ship Athol arrived at Halifax on 13th from Portsmouth, with a detachment
for the rifle brigade; also, troop ship Arabian, from Cork, with detachments for 77th,
33d, and Newfoundland Veterans. The rifles and 77th landed on the 15th, and joined
their respective regiments in that garrison. [VRD]

THREE SHIPS OF THE LINE. The Pennsylvania, of 120 guns, and the North Carolina,
of 74, both at Norfolk, and the Ohio, 74, at Boston, have been ordered to be got in
readiness for active service. A heavy bombardment is no doubt thought of.

The Boston Journal states that commander Breese, a brother of senator Breese, is ordered to the command of the Albany. We have seen no official announcement of her commander. There are said to be thirty urgent applicants for the command. She is expected to be ready for sea in thirty days.

The Boston is nearly ready for sea, though her destination is unknown. No officers have yet been ordered to her.

Sloop of war Preble is only waiting the complement of her crew, to sail to the Gulf of Mexico.

Store ship Erie, lieutenant Bullus, is fitting out to carry stores to the Gulf.

Texan Navy. A survey of three vessels comprising the navy of the late Republic of Texas has been made recently by captain Randolph of the U. States Navy. Their hulls were reported to be in excellent order, but the upper works had been much injured by exposure in a warm climate. The "Archer," an 18 gun brig, draws two feet and a half less with everything on board that our largest class of schooners. The "Austin," a ship, has a heavier battery for her draught than any vessel in our navy, and draws three feet less than any of our sloops of war. The "St. Bernard" is a schooner of 7 guns.

The Austin, late Texan sloop of war, was towed to sea from Galveston on the 24th ult. Bound to Pensacola for repairs, after which it is said she is to be placed in commission in our navy under command of George N. Hollins, esq.

The steamboat Whiteville, purchased by captain Sanders, intended for government transport on the Rio Grande, left Cincinnati, on the 30th ult. For N. Orleans. She is a substantially built, light draft boat, and just the kind of craft to navigate the shallow waters and short turns of the great Southwestern river.

The Lawrence, U.S. brig, arrived at Pensacola on the 25th ult. In seven days from Brazos, St. Jago, having been employed blockading the Rio Grande and Brazos, and co-operating with army 103 days. [VRD]

NRR 70.290 July 11, 1846 accounts of the attacks of the Saint Mary's on the fort and gunboats at Tampico

The St. Mary’s U.S. sloop of war, captain Saunders, is blockading Tampico. A letter from a gentleman on board, dated the 17th ult. States, that the decree of expulsion of all American citizens from thence, issued on the 17th May, was duly enforced on the 7th June, he had to leave Tampico in consequence, and was kindly received on board the St. Mary’s.

A letter from an officer of the St. Mary’s dated the 13th published in the Norfolk Beacon, gives a long account of an affair which took place on the 8th June. "We discovered the enemy erecting another fort on the north side of the entrance of the river, got the slip under weigh under topsails, stood in, and when within a mile of the fort and gun boats, the latter, three in number, and tonnage about one hundred, opened fire upon them both. Being upon a lee shore and in shoal water, we were not able to fire more than eight shot, before it became necessary to claw off, which we did but at three o’clock returned and continued the firing until we had fired 70 shells and 29 round solid shot. In the last reconnoiter the enemy returned our fire with about ten shot from 18 pound guns, four of which passed near us, two fell directly under our ‘fore foot,’ one passed between the fore and the main top mast, and one over the foot, the others fell at a distance. The first shell which burst over the fort, ejected every soldier from the neighborhood the whole of them taking immediately to the wood. One of our shells passed between one of the schooner’s masts, and exploded beyond her, a fragment having struck the bowsprit and bulwarks, tearing both considerably, as we have learned since the fight. One corner if the custom house was knocked down – a house on the north side of the river, was fired by the explosion of a shell; and a soldier at the fort on guard, by bursting of another shell, exchanged his musket for vacancy, it having been shattered, without I believe, injuring his valuable person. Having driven the party, from their embryo fort, we returned to our anchorage at half past three.
On the 16th an officer writes – "As circumstances, beyond our control, prevented us from reaching the three gun boats, (spoken of in my letter of the 13th inst.,) moored in Tampico river, and which we had desired to cut out, our captain determined to greet the enemy at long shot from the ship, and accordingly at 7 A.M. we ran out a kedge on the quarter, and brought our guns to bear on the gun boats, and fort under which they were anchored. The boats anchored in a line abreast across the river, with springs on their cables anticipating an attack from us. As soon as we opened our broadside upon them they returned fire briskly; but two of our Paixhan shells, which exploded over the fort, silenced it, the boats still maintaining the action – they fired I suppose about fifteen shot, all of which proved harmless. In return for these civilities we presented him with 19 Paixhan shells and 11 solid shot. The bar intervening between us and the fort and the gun boats, we rendered it impossible for us to choose our distance; we were therefore reluctantly compelled to engage them at long shot. Discovering that we did not do the execution which we desired, the captain thought this child’s play caused a useless waste of powder and ball, and therefore gave order at 8 A.M. to cease firing, when we weighed the stream and kedge and stood out to our anchorage.[VRD]

NNR 70.291 July 11, 1846 account of the *Princeton* in the blockade of Veracruz

The Princeton, U.S. steamer, arrived off Vera Cruz in 17 days from Boston, and a letter states that for 12 days she had been underway just out of reach of the guns of the Castle. When vessels make their appearance she makes sail for them, and when they are very fast and wish to run, she fires up – goes alongside and places a prize officer on board. She is the admiration of the English and French men-of-war here. The P. is more useful here than three frigates.[VRD]

NNR 70.291 July 11, 1846 California expedition fitting at New York

*The Expedition*, fitting out at New York, which is to proceed round Cap Horn for California, the N. York Express says, is going on famously. The regiment of which Jonathan D. Stevens is to be the colonel, is filling up with considerable rapidity. It is said that whole companies have been enrolled at the same time; and that several West Point cadets, and even one professor at the same institution have eagerly joined the expedition. The transportation is to be effected on commercial vessels of from six to eight hundred tons barthen, laden for the occasion; and they are to be conveyed by several ships of war, carrying engineers, men of skill and companies of artillery. The regiment is to be reviewed on the 20th inst. And immediately afterwards put into motion. [VRD]

NNR 70.291 July 11, 1846 three schooners being constructed at New York for the Mexican government purchased by the American government

*Three schooners*, which were built at New York for the Mexican government, have recently been purchased by government, and are now fitting at Brooklyn navy yard. Their officers have been appointed.

The *Reefer*, is commanded by Lieut. Com’g. J.S. Sterrett

The *Petrel*, by Lieut. Com’g. T.D. Shaw.

The *Bonita*, by Lieut. Com’g T.G. Benhain.

They are fitting for the gulf service, of course.

Enlistments for the navy are progressing, - $20 bounty for seamen, and $15 for ordinary seamen, are given.  [VRD]

NNR 70.293 July 11, 1846 recruitment of regulars commended for a foreign invasion

70.293 notice of various troop movements
RECRUITING FOR THE ARMY

We have never believed otherwise that that, if the war with Mexico is procrastinated to a second campaign, from any cause whatever, and it should become necessary to push an army towards the city of Mexico, that army, to insure success, must be composed principally of regulars.

For the defence of our own terra firma, our cities, property, firesides, and families, armed citizens, volunteers, and militia, may be depended upon, to a large extent. For operations beyond boundaries of civilization, in the wilderness and wilds of the west, in sparse settlements as Santa Fe, and the like, frontiersmen and dashing volunteers are exactly the kind of troops required. But for entering an enemy’s country where troops that are disciplined as well, and fight as obstinately as the Mexican troops did at Palma Alto and Resaca de la Palma, we must have disciplined troops, and troops whose tour of service will not expire in the midst of a campaign.

If the army of 30,000 volunteers now ordered to the Rio Grande, can be concentrated there in sufficient force, in a sufficiently short space of time, and be sufficiently disciplined, and have on the spot all the requisite "fixings" to undertake a dashing movement upon Mexico, something effective may be done. The government no doubt believe, and having the whole subject before them, they ought to be able to judge in the premises, - they certainly believe that one dashing campaign will terminate the conflict, and they have concluded to rely upon volunteers furnishing three-fourths of the requisite force for that service.

Such having been announced by government as their reliance and their course, no true American would attempt to defeat their object. Every facility and encouragement should be, and so far has been given, fairly to test the efficiency of the project. - The number and description of forces asked for by the president, the officering of the forces by men of his own preference, the money asked for, for carrying on the war, the laws which the occasion calls for, all are promptly voted both by political opponents as well as by political supporters of the administration. The volunteer ranks are crowded by men without the least regard to political distinction. Fifty thousand volunteers are asked for by the president on the 26th of May. By the 1st of July eighty thousand, it is stated, have offered their services. Many of them, without waiting official movements, have hurried off to the field on their own resources and responsibility, ready to be recognized when the "due form of law" gets up.

There has been no hesitation. Whatever the government asked for, it has been promptly accorded. It is to be hoped that their purpose of making a short war of it may be successful. Nothing that would obstruct that aim, ought to be thought of. - We fervently desire that hostilities may terminate with the present campaign, and that honorably.

But it is gratifying to notice, as we have a war on hand, that the attention of the government has been directed to the necessity of earnest efforts for obtaining recruits for the regular army. No man can pretend to say how long the war with Mexico may last. Let the present campaign terminate without obtaining peace, and an army be required for a second campaign to march some five hundred or a thousand miles into the interior of the settled portion of Mexico, and regulars will be required, our word for it. [VRD]

NNR 70.293 July 11, 1846 copy of act authorizing organization of volunteer forces

VOLUNTEERS.

An act to provide for the organization of the volunteer forces, brought into the service of the United States, into brigades and divisions, and for the appointment of the necessary number if general officers to command the same: Passed June 26th, 1846.

Be it enacted, &c., That the president of the United States be, and he is hereby authorised to organize into brigades and divisions, such of the volunteer forces as have been or may be called into service of the United States under the net approved May thirteen, eighteen hundred and forty six, entitled "An Act providing for the prosecution of the existing war between the United States and the republic of Mexico;" and that he be, and hereby in authorised to appoint by and with the advice and consent of the senate such number of major generals and brigadier generals as
the organization of such volunteer forces into brigades and divisions may render necessary; Provided, that the brigadier generals and maj. Generals so appointed shall be discharged from service by the president of the United States, when the war with Mexico shall be terminated by a definitive treaty of peace, duly concluded and ratified; or in case the brigades or divisions of volunteers at any time in the service shall be reduced in number, the brigadier generals and major generals herein provided for shall be discharged in proportion to the reduction in the number if brigades and divisions: And provided further, That each brigades of volunteer shall consist of not less than three regiments, and each division shall consist of not less than two brigades. [VRD]

NNR 70.293 July 11, 1846 response of citizens of New Hampshire to the call for volunteers

NEW HAMPSHIRE. The N.H. Patriot says that the people of that "state are responding to the call for volunteers with gratifying alacrity." Among those who have enlisted is Hon. Franklin Pierce, late U.S. senator. [VRD]

NNR 70.293 July 11, 1846 formation of companies of volunteers in Connecticut

CONNECTICUT. The Norwich Journal states that a company of army volunteers is forming in Oxford and another at Hamilton. Gen. Dimick is also engaged in a similar effort in Norwich, and the Telegraph states that the requisite number have tendered their services. [VRD]

NNR 70.293-294 July 11, 1846 requisition on Massachusetts for troops, extract from the general orders of Gov. George Nixon Briggs

MASSACHUSETTS. The governor and the commander-in-chief of the militia of Massachusetts, having received from the secretary of war a requisition for a regiment of infantry, to consist of ten companies and 778 men, officers included, has made a call upon the people of the state, for the enrollment of volunteers. The volunteers proposed to be enrolled will constitute the first regiment of Massachusetts infantry, and will be a distinct corps from the present volunteer militia of the state, although the companies belonging to the existing regiments, should they tender their services, will be incorporated into the new regiment.

Gov. Brigg, in his general orders, says- "Whatever may be the difference of opinion as to the origin or necessity of a war, the constitutional authorities of the country have declared, that war with a foreign country actually exists.

"It is alike the dictate of patriotism and humanity, that every means, honorable to ourselves and just to our enemy, should be employed to bring "said war to a speedy and successful termination,' and thus abbreviate its calamities, and save sacrifice of human life, and the wasting of the public treasures.

"A prompt and energetic co-operation of the whole people in the use of those means, is eminently calculated to produce that most desirable result.

"To that end, I call upon the citizen-soldiers of Massachusetts at once to enroll themselves in sufficient numbers to meet this request of the president of the United States; and to hold themselves in readiness to be mustered into the service of the republic when the exigencies of the country shall require it.”  [VRD]

NNR 70.294 July 11, 1846 tendering of New York troops for service in Mexico

NEW YORK. At a meeting of the Albany Burgesses corps, held on the 9th ult., it was unanimously- Resolved, That Capt. Townsend be authorized and instructed to tender the services of his corps, through the commander-in-chief of this state, to the president of the United States, for the prosecution of the war with a foreign power.
Capt. Frisbee, of the Albany Van Rensselaer Guards, has tendered his services and that of his company, to Col. Stevenson, for the Mexican war, and the offer has been accepted. The company will be immediately enrolled and ordered into service. – *Albany Argus* [VRD]

**NNR 70.294 July 11, 1846** nineteen companies of North Carolina volunteers report for duty in Mexico

NORTH CAROLINA. Nineteen companies of volunteers have reported themselves to the adjutant general of North Carolina. They are from different parts of the state, and are said to be ready to march to Mexico at a moment’s notice. The *Newberian* says – “This is many more than the president has called for. The number, however, could be quadrupled in a month.” [VRD]

**NNR 70.294 July 11, 1846** Alabama volunteers leave for the Rio Grande

THE ALABAMA VOLUNTEERS, all except one company, left Mobile, on the 29th ult., for the Rio Grande. [VRD]

**NNR 70.294 July 11, 1846** recruiting of Mississippi volunteers for service in Mexico

MISSISSIPPI. A letter from Port Gibson says: - ”We are all in arms here. Many Marylanders are among us, all of whom are ready for Texas.” Among the names mentioned, are J.M. Duffield, Major general of the Mississippi militia, a native of Somerset county, Md., and Wm. H. Jacobs and Edward P. G. Harold, natives of Queen Anne’s county- Hurrah for the old ”Maryland Line.”

*Mississippi regiment of volunteers*, numbering 930 rank and file, was mustered into service on the 17th ult., at Vicksburg. Jeff. Dans, Esq., member if congress, was selected to the command. [VRD]

**NNR 70.294 July 11, 1846** mustering of Ohio volunteers for service in Mexico

OHIO. Gen. Wool reviewed the volunteers of Ohio at Camp Washington on the 21st of June. – They were next day to be inspected and mustered by a United States officer, Capt. Shriver, and were then to proceed without delay to the south.

*A tall company.* A new company for the Mexican war is forming here. Twenty-one volunteers have enrolled themselves; their aggregate height is 126 feet, being an average of 6 feet all around. – *Dayton (O.) Journal*. [VRD]

**NNR 70.294 July 11, 1846** complaints about Gov. Thomas Ford of Illinois in mustering volunteers for Mexico

ILLINOIS. *Serious Complaints*. We learn from Alton, that the Clinton county volunteers are not the only company which received harsh usage at the hands of Gov. Ford. The Clark county volunteers, it is represented to us, enrolled themselves at an early day- their officers were elected- they reported the company as ready for duty, to the proper officer at Springfield, and they were accepted and registered as one of the thirty companies to compose the three regiments. Gov. Ford named them in the list of companies published in this paper, as having been received. But it seems that suspicions of favoritism and unfairness were aroused. The company determined to present themselves at the rendezvous for inspection, and to be mustered into the service; and accordingly made a forced march, traveling all night, and arriving at Alton yesterday morning. – There they found that they had been *overslaughed*, and other companies received, although this is the only one from the Wabash line. They complain, also of the neglect of the proper officers in furnishing them with provisions, but this they do not seem to care so much about, as the rank
injustice which has been done to them by the governor. They still insist upon the right of admission into one of the regiments; and, if possible, they ought to be gratified. They have already incurred a heavy expense, in preparing for the expedition, and in marching to Alton, and it would be a shame to disappoint them. [St. Louis Rep., 27th June. [VRD]

NNR 70.294 July 11, 1846 comments on arrangements for payment for clothing for volunteers

Payment for clothing. The St. Louis Reporter states that paymaster Stuart has been authorized to pay the Illinois volunteers their commutation money for clothing, which is $42 for each man, and that the whole sum required for this purpose will be about one hundred and thirty thousand dollars.” –(for the Illinois quota, we presume).

[There certainly must be some mistake as to this matter. It is not likely that government would pay the whole sum to the volunteers for the clothing required for a twelve months’ tour, in advance. If they do, many a poor fellow will be bare foot, and bare backed too, before the city of Mexico blesses his eye sight. The harpies that always hang round a camp watching to grab the soldiers’ pay, would get most of the cash, --and before a month’s wear was had of the clothing; and then what quarter-master would supply the wants of the improvident for the ensuing eleven months?—Ed. Nat. Reg] [St. Louis Rep., 27th June. [VRD]

NNR 70.294 July 11, 1846 departure of Kentucky units for Mexico

KENTUCKY. The 2nd regiment of Kentucky infantry left Louisville on the 30th ult. In two steamers for New Orleans. The Kentucky cavalry regiment was to leave on the 2nd inst., for Memphis, by water, if transportation could be had, and thence through Arkansas by land. [St. Louis Rep., 27th June. [VRD]

NNR 70.294 July 11, 1846 dissatisfaction of Missouri volunteers at Fort Leavenworth

MISSOURI. --Volunteering. It is rumored that some of the volunteers who went to Fort Leavenworth did not find volunteering what is was cracked up to be. When their rations were issued to them in the morning, some of them ate or wasted at breakfast the rations for the whole day, and were much surprised that they had to go hungry at dinner and supper. But a little hungry experience taught them more economy. Some of them were terribly surprised that their food was not cooked for them, and swore that they would starve before they would cook; but a few weeks’ service will teach them the fashionable accomplishment of cooking. One young man, who has been clerk in a mercantile house in this city, was found driving a cart from the river to the fort and was not altogether pleased that he had been put at such work; but he will probably be benefited by learning the useful business of ox-driving. A portion of the volunteers were dissatisfied, but would soon be enured to actual service. [St. Louis Rep., 27th June. [VRD]

NNR 70.294 July 11, 1846 financial support for volunteers in Tennessee

TENNESSE- Volunteers’ fixings. The way they do things in Tennesse may be gathered from the following paragraph from the last Memphis Enquirer:--[VRD]

NNR 70.294 July 11, 1846 movement of companies of Texas volunteers toward the seat of the war

TEXAS—Volunteers. The Galveston News of the 9th ult. says—"A full company, under Capt. Arnold, have arrived by the steamer Samuel M. Williams, on the 5th
inst. They are from Nacogdoches, and carry a standard with the words "Old Nacogdoches" on it. They are fine looking men, and have a most fatiguing march on foot, of several hundred miles. They have been mustered into service and received their arms, which could hardly fall into better hands to do good service.

"A company from Jaspar and Jefferson counties arrived from Sabine, by water, last Saturday, the 6th, commanded by Capt. Cheshire, who was in the battle of San Jucinto. These have also been received, and left for Point Isabel on the schooner Vesta, Capt. Frisk, this morning.

"A company of mounted men, under Capt. L. Balloo, left Brazoria for the seat of war, on the 27th ult. About 20 persons has left the country previously with the same destination." [St. Louis Rep., 27th June. [VRD]

NNR 70.294 July 11, 1846 statement of Cassius Marcellus Clay on the war

Cassius M. Clay of the True American, the anti-slavery journal, has left the editorial chair to be occupied by some assistant, whilst he takes command of a company of mounted volunteers, and is off for the Mexican frontier. On leaving, he publishes an address to his readers, commencing thus—

"We have volunteered for the war; and will say a word, in parting, to our friends. We have denounced, enspairingly, the annexation of Texas, as a boldly flagitious scheme, and a war with Mexico as kindred with that disgraceful and degrading act—degrading alike to the government that consummated, and the people that submitted to it. The one is perfected; Texas, unfortunately, is apart of our Union. The other is just begun That the war with Mexico might easily have been avoided—that the commonest regard for justice, and a moderate share of prudence on the part of the government, could have prevented it—is palpable as the day. But though this be so, we cannot change the fact. War exists—It has been declared by a government chosen by the people themselves.

Our Opinion is, that war, with so unjustly and wickedly begun, should be pressed with vigor. It is the only alternative left. Clouds and darkness, in consequence, rest upon our path in the future; but it has to be trod. We act upon this necessity, and do not hesitate to support the government; to peril all to sustain it; for we war not against slavery; and when there is a common foe in the field, and the summons comes to the citizen soldier, we know and can know but one country and one duty, and would not urge another to go where we are not willing ourselves to lead." [St. Louis Rep., 27th June. [VRD]

NNR 70.295 July 11, 1846 Gen. Robert Desha's prompt response to news of the outbreak of hostilities with Mexico

GENERAL ROBERT DESHA.

In awarding due meed of praise to those who do signal service to their country, we perform a pleasing duty, and at the same time do public good, by stimulating others to deserve equal praise. The alacrity with which the chivalrous sons of the south and west have responded to the recent call for volunteers, entitles all who have so gallantly offered their services to the country to the highest praises, and among these, conspicuous above all others, stands the name of the veteran soldier-gen. Robert Desha

On the 3d day of May- a quiet Sabbath morning- our city was startled by the intelligence that hostilities had commenced on the Rio Grande. Point Isabel was represented to be in the most imminent peril, and the whole "Army of Occupation" in great danger of starvation and defeat. In addition to the perilous situation of the "pioneer army," the honor of the country was at stake. Upon the history of American arms, heretofore unstained in its glories, a dark and bloody page was about being written. Inspired by the noblest patriotism, General Desha saw at a glance what was necessary- immediate action. With other patriotic citizens he at once pledged himself to pay the expenses of equipping and transporting volunteers who were willing to embark immediately for Point Isabel, and gallantly placed his own name at the head of a roll of volunteers; thus, without stopping to look at the
consequences, offering his purse and his sword to the country. On the 4th of May he was on his way to the scene of danger - was the first volunteer that reported to gen. Gaines "present and ready for action." And the first that reached Point Isabel. It must be recollected too, that his dangers, so far as his knowledge extended, were not the ordinary dangers of ordinary warfare. He had every reason to believe that Point Isabel would be attacked by forces of cruel and merciless, numbering perhaps ten to one, and the struggle would be bloody and desperate. In this enterprise an example if boldness and daring courage was presented which has had a powerful influence in kindling the patriotic fire still burning in the bosoms of the brave soldiers now in the service of their country. In deeds like these, there is a moral grandeur - a sublimity which acts like electricity upon the masses - stimulating the patriotic and the ambitious to dispute with each other the positions of greatest personal peril and adding fresh laurels to the country's fame.

Gen. Taylor's valor, it is true, prevented general Desha from rendering that service which his patriotism burned to perform; but this detracted nothing from honors justly due his. He has heretofore fought nobly for his country, under the lamented Harrison, and had he met the enemy, as all believed he would. At Point Isabel, he would have given a glorious account of himself and his little band of volunteers - and had there been a sufficient number of volunteers raised in this city to justify the chartering of a vessel direct for Point Isabel, which was gen. D's anxious desire, he would have reached gen. Taylor's army in ample time for the glorious battles of the 8th and 9th of May. Major Chase remarked in this city, and the correctness of the remark was evident, that one hundred volunteers sent at the time gen. Desha left here, were of vastly more importance than five hundred a few days later. With such men as gen. Desha to raise and lead volunteers to battle, it might truly be said that the "militia are the standing army of the country."

The circumstances thus noticed, when viewed in connection with the facts that gen. D. is advancing towards the "sere and yellow leaf" of life, is without political aspirations - is engaged in extensive commercial and planting business requiring his constant attention, and has an interesting family, to which he is devotedly attached, to bind him to his house, fully establish his claim to the highest praises yet won by any volunteer for the Mexican wars. Should opportunity offer, he will entitle himself to still higher praises by actual service. Gen. Taylor reposes the greatest confidence in gen. D. and has already sent him on two expeditions where there were strongest hopes of active service - to Barita and Reynosa. He possesses many of the highest qualifications necessary to the good soldier, and in several respects strongly resembles gen. Jackson, particularly in decision and prompt execution. He is an entire stranger to fear, and though ardently rash, is yet cool and calculating when in dangerous positions, and never fails to turn every advantage to the best possible account.

While, to the relinquishment of all the delights of home, of competence and social enjoyment, they are toiling through dangers, privations and the inclemencies of the climate, with no motive but patriotism, to protect the rights and reputation of the country against foreign hostilities - that country should not be forgetful of their names or services - and we at home should always be ready and proud to give them the meed of the highest praise. This is the only adequate recompense of the citizen soldier, and it is a public duty to see that it is paid. Alabama should then proudly point to gen. Desha as one of her contributors to the cause of the country - the prompt patriot, the gallant soldier, the first volunteer. He is in some sense, in this war, the Cincinnatus of our state, and when he shall lay aside the sword and return to the avocations of peace, we are confident that he will not find his fellow citizens forgetful of his gallant conduct and patriotic devotion. [Mobile Daily Advertiser. [VRD]
proposed an armistice, which General Ampudia had declined. He stated that he was receiving large reinforcements, that he would not then suspend hostilities which he had not invited no provoked; he also said that the possession of Matamoros, was a "sine qua non," and that the American troops would occupy the city, at the same time giving to Gen. Arista and his forces, leave to withdraw from the town, leaving behind the public property of every description. Gen. Taylor remarked that "Generals Ampudia and Arista, had promised that the war should be conducted agreeably to the usage of civilized nations, and yet the Mexican forces had in the battles of the 8th and 9th, stripped our dead and mutilated their bodies."—General Reguena replied, that "the women (!) and rancheros did it, and that they could not be controlled." Gen. Taylor said he would come over to Matamoros, and control such people for them.

The answer promised by Reguena to be delivered to Gen. Taylor, positively at three o'clock, did not come. It afterwards appeared, that while the delegation was treating with Gen. Taylor, Gen. Arista was busy in getting out of the city; that even the promise to give Gen. Taylor a positive answer at 3 o'clock, was a mere subterfuge. Gen. Arista taking advantage of the delay, succeeded in moving much of the military stores, securing two or three pieces of cannon, and with the fragment of his army, that very night, abandoned Matamoros and fled precipitately towards Monterey. At sundown, Gen. Taylor perceiving that no word was to be sent to him, he repaired from Fort Brown, to join the army two miles above the fort, in position for crossing the Rio Grande.

Early on in the morning of the 18th, the east bank was defended by two 18 pounders, and the three batteries of our artillery; and the crossing commenced, Co. Twiggs ordering the bands to strike up Yankee Doodle. The light companies of battalions, first went over, followed by the volunteer and regular infantry. Lieut. Hays, of the 4th infantry, and ten select men, with Capt. Walker of the Rangers, first crossed the river with orders to ascertain and report the number and position of the enemy, if near the river. Immediately after Lieut. Hays had crossed, the flank companies of the 3d, 4th, and 5th infantry, were thrown across, commanded by Capt. Buchanan, and Capt. Larned. After these commands had crossed, Capt. Smith of the artillery battalion, crossed with two companies, followed by Capt. Kerr’s squadron of dragoons. After this force had crossed, Ridgely’s artillery was dismounted and taken over in parts.—In the meantime, the infantry already over, had advanced, and occupied the hedge fence covering the crossing; after occupying this position some two hours, a civil deputation from Matamoros presented itself, requesting to see Gen. Taylor. The deputation was sent over the river, in charge of an officer, to meet the general who had not then crossed. The object of the deputation was to inform the commanding general of the American forces, that Gen. Arista and the Mexican troops had abandoned Matamoros, together with his sick and wounded, and wishing to know from Gen. Taylor, what treatment the city might expect from him. Gen. Taylor, finding on inquiry, that this report was true, ordered that portion of the American forces that had not crossed the river, to return to Fort Brown and cross there. Gen. Taylor informed the prefect that the civil and religious rights of the citizens, would be sacredly respected. While this was going forward, the dragoons under Captain Kerr, passed below where they had landed, and raised up on the walls of Fort Paredes, "The Star Spangled Banner."

The different regiments already on the west side of the Rio Grande, were marched to their respective places of encampment, without noise or disorder, save when the flag of our country, was unexpectedly seen waving from Fort Paredes; discipline then gave way to feeling, and nine hearty cheers rent the air, and announced the occupation of Matamoros by American troops.

That evening, a small guard was established in Matamoros, to keep the peace. No troops except under command that night, visited it. The civil and religious rights of the citizens were guaranteed, and the Metamorians slept secure under the protection of the American government, a boon ever denied to them by their own.

A gloom was thrown over the brilliant events of this day by a most unfortunate accident; Lieutenant George Stephens, a graduate of West Point, in 1843, a most promising officer in the second dragoons, was swept by the swift current from his horse while crossing the river at the head of his command. He had distinguished himself on the brilliant days of the 8th and 9th, and his untimely death was universally lamented. His friends, two days after he was drowned, had the melancholy satisfaction of recovering his body and giving it the ceremonies of a soldier’s burial. [N.O. Tropic, June 25] [VRD]
INTERESTING MEXICAN ITEMS.—Commerce on the Rio Grande—This river, under the influence of American enterprise, is assuming a very busy appearance. The steamers Frontier and Cincinnati have arrived at Matamoros, giving to the port of the town a lively appearance. “River front lots” will soon become valuable in that city, and stores will be erected on the water’s edge. There was never but one steamer on the Rio Grande, we believe, before the army occupation arrived on its banks, and that was owned by one of the Texas Austins, as far back as 1827. The boat carried on a very brisk trade as high up the river as Comargo, in hides, tallow, bones, etc.; but the ranchero muleteers, who had the commerce of the country in their own hands, complained to the government of Mexico, and Austin’s boat was ordered off, and ever after prohibited entering the Rio Grande. [VRD]

Mexican ladies—The Republic states, that the Mexican ladies of Matamoros are fast becoming reconciled to “our people,” and begin to believe that the Americans at least “are not cannibals.”

This may be true, but we heard one “volunteer officer” say, that he saw one Signoreta living in Calle Independencia that looked so sweet under her rebza and dark eye lashes, that he felt as if he could “eat her up.” [VRD]

Mexican compliment to American behavior after their victories

The “Republica de Rio Grande,” has an editorial drawing a comparison between the treatment of the English on the Sutlej, and the Americans on the Rio Grande. The contrast between our troops after their victories, and the English after their triumphs, is certainly astonishing, and opens a fine field for the speculations of the philanthrophist. [VRD]

Death of Capt. Jose A. Baragan

Died—On Sunday morning, at 6 o’clock, Captain Jose A. Baragan, of the Mexican army, wounded in the battle on the 9th of May. Capt. Baragan was a brave and meritorious officer, and behaved gallantly on the field of battle. He was much esteemed by the American officers, and received from them every respect and attention. [Matamoros Republic of the Rio Grande.

We had the melancholy pleasure of seeing Capt. Baragan, while in Matamoros. He was confined to he bed by wounds he received in the battle of the 9th. He was an object of interest to the officers of the army, because of his gallant bearing in the field of battle, and for the manner he acted while suffering under his wounds. We heard Col. Twiggs observe, that if he died, he should ask permission from headquarters to bury the brave Mexican officer with military honors, as a last token of admiration for his virtues. These incidents are interesting, because they display the better side of the soldier’s feelings, and the soldier’s heart. [VRD]

Pursuit of Arista. —The day following the taking of Matamoros, Lieut. Col. Garland with all the regular and irregular cavalry of the army, about two hundred and fifty dragoons and rangers, started in pursuit of the retreating Mexicans, with orders to harass their rear, and to capture prisoners and baggage. ON the 22d, Col. Garland returned from his pursuit. He succeeded in capturing a small rear party, after a
slight show of resistance on their part in which two Mexicans were killed and twenty two taken prisoners, two of our own troops slightly wounded, one wagon with ammunition and clothing of an artillery company was captured. The scarcity of water, the barrenness of the country, and the condition of the horses compelled Col. Garland to return to Matamoros, having penetrated over sixty miles into the enemy's country.

The retreating army of the Mexicans, under Gen. Arista, was but twenty four hours ahead of our cavalry, and our officers stopped at the ranches where the enemy had the night previous. A ranchero, at one of these stopping places, inquired with great simplicity of Capt.---- where the Americans were going; he was told in pursuit of the retreating Mexican army. "Retreating army!" said the fellow with astonishment, "why Gen. Ampudia stopped at my house last night, and said that his troops had conquered the Americans, and that he was on his way to Mexico to take the news." The man remained confounded, for it was impossible to believe his nation had been whipped in battle, and still more incomprehensible, that a small number of American dragoons should seriously and for purposes of war really drive before them over three thousand troops. [VRD]

NNR 70.296 July 11, 1846 interview between Col. Matthew Mountjoy Payne and Gen. Romulo Diaz de la Vega

70.296 examination of the trophies of the war, including the flag of the Tampico guards

FRIENDLY INTERVIEW.—The first meeting of the gallant officers, Col. Payne, of the United States army, and the Mexican general, VEGA, after the battles of the 8th and 9th of May, in which both were engaged, took place in the ladies' parlor of the St. Charles hotel, N. Orleans. The N.O. Delta says—

"The meeting between these two brave soldiers was one of cordial greeting, and a kindly interchange of compliments. The general expressed his regret to the colonel at seeing that he was wounded, and indulged the hope that he would shortly recover from the effects of it. The colonel thanked him for his sympathy, and congratulated him in having escaped a similar infliction; he trusted that he would find his residence in the United States as agreeable as the circumstances would admit or: he assured him that his gallantry was appreciated by the officers of the U. States army, and by the citizens of the United States."

The pleasure of this friendly greeting was greatly enhanced by the presence and approving smiles of a numerous assemblage of ladies, invited by Mrs. Gen. GAINES.

Col. Paine, it will be recollected, has brought with him a number of military standards captured from the Mexicans. They are thus noticed in the Tropic:

"The trophies of war. —Among the most interesting relics obtained in the battles of the 8th and 9th, are the standards of the different companies and regiments. We spent half and hour in examining these pomps and circumstances of war with the greatest interest. We found eighteen in all, seventeen of which are of tri-colored woollen or baize cloths, ornamented with the appropriate letters and symbols. They were mounted on staffs sharpened with iron, and were not only ornamental, but dangerous as offensive weapons. But the flag of the most absorbing interest, is that lettered

BATALLON
GUARDA COSTA
DE TAMPICO.

This magnificent and torn flag, apart from its associations, is remarkable for its appearance and the materials of which it is formed. It is of large size—its field, of tri-colored silk, green, white, and red. In the centre is embroidered the Mexican coat of arms, more beautifully than we conceived any modern Penelope had power to do, even if her delicate fingers were over skilled at the work. The Mexican eagle, with its outstretched wings, fairly lay before us, each rustle of the flag on which it rested, causing the prismatic colors of the atmosphere to play over the brilliant floss silk needlework as brilliantly as if it had been the plumage of the bird itself. Some fair Mexican damsel's bright eyes must have grown weary under their long dark lashes, in thus delicately counterfeiting nature. Perhaps it were the work of cloistered nuns, it is so elaborate,—some holy sisterhood, who by ascetic life, have long attenuated fingers, and thus made more nimble, than those possessed by the
"world’s gazers" of their sex. The members of a whole convent, probably, have said their matins and then by turns wrought upon that banner, which they fondly hoped was destined to lead gloriously the arms of their country in every fight. Alas! For the fortunes of war.

That flag, in the battle of the Palo Alto, was torn by our cannon shot, and now bears upon its folds the the shattered shreds thus rudely made; at the Reseca de la Palma, it waved over the breavest troops, and floated in the wind as long as its regiment lasted before the terrible tire of our arms. When all was lost, its bearer tore it from its staff, and fled to save it from the stain of capture. Such, however, was not to be its fortune. The brave man was met by one of our troops, and hand to hand they fought for the prize,—the Mexican nerved by every feeling of patriotism, the American by every feeling of a soldier’s ambition. The brave standard—bearer bit the dust, and the precious objec of his care became an object of curiosity in the hands of his enemy. May it ever be respected among our people, as the only evidence existing of the once brave "Batallon de Tampico." These trophies are in charge of Colonel M.M. Payne, and will be by him carried to Washington."  

**TREATMENT OF AMERICAN PRISIONERS BY THE MEXICANS** – Capt. Hardee, who was taken prisoner in the capture of Thornton’s company, states in a letter to a friend in Savannah, that they are treated with the greatest consideration and kindness. – Gen. Arista received the prisoners in the most gracious manner, and said that “his nation had been regarded as barbarous, and that he wished to prove to them the country.” Capt. Hardee said – “Lieut. Kane and myself are living with Gen. Ampudia, lodge in his hotel, and sit at his table. We are not on parole, but in company with one of the genre4al’s aids- go pretty much where and when we please. Two of his aids speak excellent English, and the general himself speaks French, so that we are admirably off in this respect. Every one around us use their utmost endeavors to make out time pass pleasantly, and if anything could make us forget our captivity it would be the frank and agreeable manners and generous hospitality of Gen. Ampudia. – He and General Arista are both men of high tone and character.” These facts are highly honorable to the Mexicans. 


**ARISTA’S OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE EVACUATION OF MATAMOROS.**  

Headquarters in the Rancho de la Venada, May 18, 1846.

Division of the North- Commander in chief: All the means of subsistence of this division being consumed, its activity paralysed, and its artillery diminished, while that of the enemy has been greatly increased in the number of pieces and the calibre of his guns, in such a manner that, were he to open his fire, the city of Matamoros would be instantly destroyed; to the utter ruin of national and foreign interests, I have decided to retire from it with the forces under my command before I find myself summoned and very likely obliged to evacuate it with dishonor, which I shall thus avoid; for the march is slow, out pieces being drawn by oxen and our munitions in carts. My object now is to defend the soil of these departments, which have been entrusted to me; and for that purpose I am going to post myself at those points most convenient and within reach of supplies, of which I will hereafter inform your highness, though your communications must seek me by the road of China or that of Linares. – The step to which I have referred has saved the national honor; and I communicate it to your highness for your information, recommending you to secure the camp equipage, placing it in a convenient point and preserving the 16 pounders in that city, to which, moreover, I will order reinforcement. MARIANO ARISTA  To the commandant gen’l of Tamaulipas.
NNR 70.304 July 11, 1846 proposed expedition against Yucatan, denial that the American government intends to support it

 Expedition for Yucatan. The Philadelphia Sentinel of the S., states that

"George Washington Dixon, has been parading our streets in a general’s uniform for some days past, representing, it is said that “he is in the pay of the government” and making arrangements for an expedition to Yucatan."

The Washington "Union," in referring the subject, says: "We deem it our duty, therefore, to expose the impostor. G. W. Dixon has no commission, and no species of authority from the government of the United States. We warn our western friends to beware of such an imposition. The plan, too, which is here attributed to him is abhorrent to the policy of our government. Conquer Yucatan! Why Yucatan is already independent of Mexico, and is the friend of the United States. We have no disposition to “annex that portion of Mexico to the (American) constellation,” whether it be by conquest of her soil, or even by the voluntary consent of her people. Let no man, therefore, be taken in by this adventurer."

The plan of the expedition which the Union speaks of is described by the Sentinel as follows:

"The movement is remarkable on many accounts-The men are generally resolute-tearless fellows, who will fall head up wherever they may be thrown-and their objects are not merely to defend American rights with the bayonet, but also to revolutionize Mexico by means of pronunciamientos, pamphlets, &c. Aided by some of our best mercantile houses, Gen. Dixon ah has already sent on a printing press, types, and Spanish compositors to Laguira, Yucatan, where part of the company will a proceed, and there, (where popular sentiment will be in their favor, and where the central government of Mexico is least powerful,) these dauntless fellows will operate with greater certainty of success than ten times their number could have from the bayonet alone. Many who at first were disposed to see it chimeneal, now see its feasibly, and see also that these pioneers will ere long attract thousands from this place.” [VRD]

NNR 70.304 July 11, 1846 British view of the Mexican war, sympathy with Mexico, British mediation suggested

Paris, June 15. The Journal des Debats lately published a remarkable article on the state of affairs between Mexico and the United States. Out contemporary, says an English paper, asserts that Mr. Polk has only gone against Mexico to compensate for his defeat in Oregon, and to regain popularity. It thinks Mexico is totally unable to resist the United States, and that existing hostilities will result in its dismemberment. It thinks that the states will endeavor to seize the Californias to make up for their being obliged to lose Oregon, and that the Californias are infinitely more valuable. It views all this with regret, but beyond a few sneers at Mr. Polk, for whom it appears to have cherished the most profound contempt, it says nothing offensive to the United States. It points out the necessity of France and England interfering in the matter, in order to bring about a reconciliation, and to protect Mexico. It alleges that France has interests at stake in Mexico which call promptly for such interference. [VRD]

NNR 70.304 July 11, 1846 Charles Bent, Saint Vrain, and Folger arrive at Saint Louis and report, Gen. Jose Urrea said to be advancing to relief of Santa Fe

70.304 Santa Fe traders pushing forward rapidly in advance of US troops

SANTA FE. Messrs. Bent, St. Vrain, and Folger, traders to New Mexico, for whose safety there had been much solicitude, reached St. Louis on 2sd inst. all safe. They left Santa Fe on the 27th May at which time nothing was known there of the war now existing. Mr. B. in a conversation with ARMIJO the commandant of New Mexico, did learn that Gen. URREA was on his route to Santa Fe, with a force of from three to five thousand men, gathered in Sonora, Zacatecas and Durango. The object of this expedition was not stated, if known, by Gov. ARMIIJO; but there can be little doubt that the presence of Gov. URREA there, at such a time, was the result of his orders
from the Mexican government, and with an intention to resist any invasion from this quarter.—There were only 180 troops in Sante Fe at the time of Mr. BENT’s departure.

Mr. BENT did not see the advance party of the traders, composed of one of the Armijo’s, Speyers, Colburn, and others; but he learned from a company of about 100 Mexicans, who were out hunting buffalo, that they were met by them at Sand, near Simarone, and sixty miles from Arkansas. They were pushing on with great rapidity, travelling at the rate of thirty to forty miles per day. An express from Independence had informed him of the intention to send a detachment of dragoons to stop the progress of Speyers, as was then understood, but as we know, of all the traders; and hence the rapidity of their travelling.—So intent were they upon getting along that a hundred extra miles were purchased, and when a wagon broke down it was abandoned in the road after transferring the goods to another. Capt. MOOR’s command of dragoons were met on the 17th between the Pawnee Fork, and the Caches of the Arkansas. He was six or eight days, travel behind Speyer’s party, and it was supposed that he could not overtake them.

Mr. HOWARD, the gentleman dispatched by Government on a special mission to New Mexico, was met on the 16th, at the crossing of the Arkansas, with his pack-mules broken down. He had, however, dispatched two men as an express to Santa Fe on fresh mules, and they were expected to reach there in nine days. From thence they were to return to the foot of the Taos mountains, where Mr. H. was to await their coming.

Mr. Bent saw on the route one hundred and thirty wagons belonging to the traders. He met two long trains of provision wagons—the first within twenty miles of Council Grove and the other at Dragoon creek. They were ordered to stop at Fort Bent, where it is understood the whole expedition will rendezvous. The party arrived at Westport on the 27th, thirty days from Santa Fe. Mr. F.P. Blair and George Bent were left at Taos. [VRD]

NNR 70.304 July 11, 1846 federal government accepts services of Missouri mounted regiment and artillery for operations against New Mexico

“The president has accepted the services of another regiment of mounted volunteers, and a separate battalion of artillery, to be composed of five companies. These troops are to rendezvous at Independence, it is said, by the first of August next, and, whatever others may say to the contrary, are to reinforce the command of Col. Kearney, destined to operate against New Mexico. The president, although he has no more authority, under our law, to do it that we have, has agreed to accept the services of the Hon. Sterling Price, now a member if congress from this state, as colonel; and Major D.D. Mitchell and Wm. Gilpin are named as the other field officers of the regiment.

“We hear further, that the traders who have gone ahead of the expedition, and in pursuit of whom Capt. Moore’s command of dragoons was sent forward, are only to be stopped until Col. Kearney’s force can pass them. He is to precede them, if it be possible, into Santa Fe, they will follow, each in possession of his own property. The traders will be protected, Mexicans as well as our own people; but it is possible, we surmise, that the duties on the goods will be paid, if paid at all, to another government that now administered by Armijo.” [VRD]

NNR 70.304 July 11, 1846 Santa Fe expedition

THE EXPEDITION AGAINST SANTA FE-The volunteers under Col. Kearney have started from Fort Leavenworth. Captains Waldo’s and Reed’s companies took up their line of march on the 22d June. Lieutenant Col. Ruff marched on the 27th with the companies under Captains Walton, Parsons, Moss, and Johnson. Col. A. W. Doniphan and Maj. Gilpin marched on the 29th with the companies under Captains Hudson, Rogers, and Harrison. Captain Agney’s and captain Murphy’s companies of infantry left the same day. Captains Weightman’s and Fischer’s companies of flying artillery, and Col. Kearney with his staff started on the 30th. All the troops in excellent health and spirite. [VRD]
NNR 70.305 July 18, 1846 withdrawal of troops from our Indian frontiers, leaving them exposed to outbreaks

The Northwest Frontier.-If any reliance is to be placed upon the last accounts that we have from the northwest, and which are inserted under the Indian journal head, the movement of what few troops were left for the protection of that frontier will be very inoperative. The Detroit Advertiser says: "An order was received yesterday by Col. Riley, from the war department, to move the 2d regiment of infantry, stationed on the frontier, at once to Point Isabel, Texas. The company at this post and one at Fort Gratiot will march forthwith. Orders have been dispatched to the companies to Lake Superior to follow Company C, Captain Byrne, stationed at Mackinac, will remain at that post. The other companies are at Buffalo, Fort Niagara, and Sacketts Harbor. No information has been received by whom their places are to be supplied on the frontier. [VRD]

NNR 70.305 July 18, 1846 volunteers reach the Rio Grande
70.305-306 lack of authentic intelligence from the interior of Mexico

ARMY JOURNAL.

Official-Army of Occupation, June 24, 1846.

"Some volunteers have arrived at Brazos Santiago from Tennessee, presumed to be of the twelve months quota. The volunteers which previously arrived from New Orleans have nearly all moved to Barita, except two regiments in this place. I shall bring them up the river as soon as I can procure transportation, which we are impatiently awaiting. The volunteers from Texas are encamped near Point Isabel, and are now organizing under the direction of the governor.

"We have no authentic intelligence from the interior of Mexico. The army at Linarez is believed to be moving towards Monterey, much reduced in numbers by desertion and sickness. It is rumored that Bustamente is at the head of the government, and that Paredes is advancing with a large force to this frontier." [VRD]

NNR 70.306 July 18, 1846 present of exploded shot by Capt. D.S. Miles to the Baltimore high school

PRESENT FROM THE 7th U.S. INFANTRY, TO THE BALTIMORE HIGH SCHOOL.


To his honor, Col. JACOB G. DAVIES,
Mayor of Baltimore, Md.

DEAR SIR: Understanding that one of the High Schools of Baltimore is making a collection of curiosities, I take pleasure in sending through you, to be presented to it, a sample of exploded shells and round shot, thrown by the Mexicans from their batteries opposite this place, into Fort Brown, during its bombardment, viz: from 5 o'clock, A.M., on the 3d of May, till 5 o'clock, P.M., on the 9th of the same month ultimo.

It may be interesting to you to say, the regiment to which I am attached, the 7th infantry, together with on company of the 2d artillery, commanded by Captain Lowd, and another company 3d artillery, commanded by Lieutenant Bragg, constituted the garrison of Fort Brown; and among the officers in command of these troops, a number are natives of Maryland-those marked with a *, natives of Baltimore, vis: placed according to rank.

Captain D. S. MILES, 7th infantry.
A. DRANE, 5th infantry
R. H. ROSS, 7th infantry
1st Lieut. A. ELZEY, (formerly Jones,) 2d artillery.
1st Lieut. H. LITTLE, 7th infantry.
2d Lieut. L. GANTT, 7th infantry.
I am, sir, with great respect, your ob’t serv’t,
D. S. MILES,
Captain 7th infantry U.S.A. [VRD]

NRR 70.306 July 18, 1846 account of the rank and file in the late battles

THE RANK AND FILE OF THE ARMY.-All the officers with whom we have conversed, who were engaged at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, speak in terms of the greatest enthusiasm of the conduct of the rank and file on those trying occasions. Not only did the men behave well in the fight, but they manifested the utmost anxiety to get into it. Lieut. Crittenden related several incidents to us which places the conduct of privates and non-commissioned officers in the most favorable aspect. After Colonel McIntosh had been wounded on the 8th, one of the men was detailed to take charge of him. He complained bitterly. He loved his colonel, he said, and would be proud to nurse and take care of him; but he did not like to lose his chance in another fight, and begged to be excused. One of the corporals was wounded by a ball in the forehead, which at first looked as if it would prove fatal. He pressed his hand to his head and said “I am hurt, I am mortally hurt.” Then reflecting, he said “No I ain’t; I am good for something yet!” He then bound up his head with his handkerchief, went into the fight, and did his duty like a man. By the time, however, his head had swollen greatly, and he was forced by his officers to place himself in the hands of the surgeon. This noble fellow is now in the detachment commanded by Capt. Marcy and Lieut. Crittenden, and leaves with them to day.

After battles of the 9th, when more hot work was expected, Lieut. Crittenden and his men—or what remained of them, for he had suffered severely in these engagements—were bivouacked on a spot near the river. Early in the evening he was called upon by Lieut. Hays, of this state, who had received an order from General Taylor to cross the river in the morning. Ten of the best men were required for duty then believed to be full of peril, and Lieut. Hays wanted to know if he could obtain this sort of metal in the ranks of Crittenden’s company. The latter thought he could accommodate him.—Most of his men were lying on the ground asleep, or overcome with fatigue. He woke them up “Men,” said he, “Mr. Hays wants ten daring cool fellows to cross the river with him in the morning. All who are willing to go will rise—though all must be aware that it is an enterprise full of danger.” Every man jumped to his feet in a moment! A selection had to be made, however. Those who were not taken were loud in their complaints, and one of the sergeants came to Crittenden several times during the evening, and begged to be detailed. His lieutenant told him that privates not officers were required. “O, never mind,” said the sergeant, “you’ll find that I will play the private very well.”

Is it wonderful that against such a spirit the best torps, and the overwhelming numbers of the foe, were unavailing. [Pennsylvanian of Monday. [VRD]

ARMY OF OCCUPATION. We have but little that is new from the army on the Rio Grande, and have been actually amazed at the impatience which we find expressed in various directions, and even exhibiting itself in congress in the form of a resolution to enquire why the army upon the Rio Grande has remained so long inactive since the victories of the 8th and 9th of May? Persons who indulge in such inquiries must be grossly ignorant of the nature and difficulties of a campaign, or of the preparations which are indispensable to a successful prosecution of a foreign invasion. Flatter ourselves as we may, the fact is that, owing to an error in estimating the capacities of the enemy, the army under General Taylor made a narrow escape from almost utter annihilation, an escape, to effect which, good fortune as well as severe fighting was indispensable.—Had Gen. Arista anticipated Gen. Taylor’s movement from Fort Brown to Point Isabel by a single day, and taken that post, with the stores then there, (and why he did not is to us incomprehensible: it was a fatal error to him and his army;) had he made that movement, Gen. Taylor’s predicament would have been irretrievable. Even with the advantage which Arista’s want of generalship in this particular gave to Gen. Taylor—his predicament still was such, that it seems almost miraculous that he reached Fort Brown with the supplies of which they were there so much in want. The battle of the 8th was most gallantly maintained by the Mexicans. The anxiety with which every officer and man under Gen. Taylor grasped his arms, instead of reposing upon them during the gloom of that night, was unexpectedly relieved in the morning by finding that the
many hours bravely fought for. And the battle of the 9th too, seemed to turn upon
the coincidence of a variety of circumstances of the moment, as disastrous to the
Mexicans as the want of these coincidents might have been to Gen. Taylor's army, if
“fortune” as well as superior generalship had not favored them.

One lesson of this kind, we venture to predict, will be a sufficient admonition to Gen.
Taylor. He will not be apt to adventure again so far upon Mexican imbecility. He will
be cautious to keep his troops within reach of supplies and to have at hand the
means of transportation. We should like Gen. Taylor, in maintaining the appellation
of “rough and ready,” not to forget the pre-requisite of “safe and sure.” Another
such a state of anxiety for the safety of the army as was awakened at its recent
predicament, we hope may not be courted.

NNR 70.309-311 July 18, 1846 Gen. Zachary Taylor, for want of transports and
supplies, unable to improve his victories, inundated by volunteers of whose services
he cannot avail; items from the Rio Grande; letter from the seat of war

That Gen. Taylor will improve to the very best advantage the resources he has at
command, we have full confidence. But he is embarrassed by an inundation of
volunteers, whose term of service will not enable him to fit them for effective
operation and for whose supplies and subsistence even, much less for whose
transportation, adequate provision had not been made. The water in the river, in
the meantime, it appears is falling, and it is quite uncertain whether, by the time the
flat and light draft boats reach, will find sufficient water to enable them to ascend to
where the advance corps, under Col. Wilson, is already pushed. The steamer Neva
left Reynosa, on the 24th June, at which time the river had fallen three feet from
what it was when it ascended.

The Neva, after arriving at Matamoros, was found to require repairs, and was
ordered round to St. Josephs to be overhauled. The 7th infantry, which were to
have gone to Reynosa, had to be disembarked on the 30th of June. The distance
from Matamoros to Reynosa by the river, is 180 miles, by land about 80 miles.
Notwithstanding the fall of the water of the river, the quantity of rain that had fallen
rendered it almost impossible to transport provisions, munitions, &c., on wheels.
The movement of troops must of course be delayed.

But suppose the principal part of the army under Gen. Taylor, by great efforts, were
now either marched or steered up the Del Norte as high as Camargo—what then?
Where are the wagons, or horses or mules, wherewith to commence a march into
the interior of Mexico? Until these reach him—and reach him in numbers, too, that
persons who have not thought upon the subject, very little suspect to be necessary—
until they reach him in sufficient numbers and with sufficient subsistence for their
own support as well as that of the army, not a peg can Gen. Taylor move from The
Rio Grande. It is better, indeed, that his army should remain at Matamoros than
that, if they could without difficulty, be transported to Camargo—they had to remain
there for want of the means of penetrating towards Mexico.

A letter which we find in the New Orleans Picayune, of the 6th, dated Point Isabel,
July 3, from a correspondent who left Matamoros the evening before says—“The road
we came over last night—-I mean the wagon road between Point Isabel and
Matamoros—is still impassable for loaded wagons, and it is a wonder to me how a
light wagon can be dragged over it. From the river to the Palo Alto, some nine
miles, there is not, altogether, half a mile of good road. The mud is generally a foot
deep—and in some places two or three feet deep, and there is at least four miles of
water, in many places hardly fordable for horses. The gentlemen who accompanied
me down captured a garfish on “six mile prairie,” between the battle fields the other
day nearly three feet long. I passed over the same place four or five times when it
was perfectly dry, with no appearance of having ever been overflowed. At the
Resaca de la Palma where, as you will observe on the map a road passes between
the ponds and that is deep enough anywhere for a respectable sized steamboat to
pass through it. The Palo Alto battle field is two-thirds covered with water.

“The mosquitoes showed themselves in numbers for the first time at head-quarters
last evening.—The volunteer camp was perfectly shrouded by smoke, raised by the
men to keep off the intruders. A rumor obtains in camp that a portion of the
Louisiana volunteers are soon to be disbanded, and, though they have been assured
that such will not probably be the case, they are quite uneasy about it—a few,
because they want to go home, and fear the rumor is not well founded, but most of
them because they desire to stay and ‘see the thing out.’ ‘When can we move? Can
we ever get a fight out of them?’ are the questions constantly put to persons coming
from Gen. Taylor's quarter.”

We should have been spared the task of penning the above, had the following article reached us before the foregoing was put in type. It is not for the gratification of verifying what has been said, but for the value of the facts and the cogency of the reasoning that we extract the following from the National Intelligencer, of the 14th.

*Copy of the letter received by a member of congress from the seat of war, dated Point Isabel, June 28, 1846.*

Sir: Being here among that (to many) unfortunate class called volunteers, and having not much else to do but protect myself from the effects of a hot sun and almost daily rains fro the last two weeks, I have concluded to make a few notes for the information of those who keep an eye on the acts and management of the persons charged with the prosecution of the war with Mexico. My position enables me to see and hear much of what is going on; but I do not, like some others, pretend to know every thing; therefore you must not discredit what I state because I do not tell all you may wish to know or all that occurs.

I was here some time before the difficulties commenced in April. On the 20th of that month a young Spaniard and a Mexican were arrested on the point of Brasos Santiago Island upon some suspicion of being spies. When examined nothing was elicited calculated to confirm the suspicion. They stated there were then between six and seven thousand men in Matamoros, commanded by Gen. Ampudia, who was anxious to fight; but that Gen. Arista was on his way to take command, and was daily expected. This statement seemed to excite but little attention here, and it was not for two days transmitted to Gen. Taylor. On the 23d of April a Mexican came voluntarily to this place, and stated that a large Mexican force would cross the Rio Grande on that evening or the next day, for the purpose of making an attack on this place. I was present when a young officer was interrogating him through an interpreter, and it seemed to me the purpose was more to intimidate the man than to elicit information. The statements of the Mexican caused a good deal of talk during the day, but seemed to cause no additional vigilance or extra preparation. On the 19th of April, Capt. Price, who commands a company of Texas Rangers, arrived here. He had for a long time been stationed at Goliad doing nothing. His object was to get Gen. Taylor to order his company to join the army. He went to see the general on the 20th, and left him on the afternoon of the 21st, being told that his company was not wanting then, but whenever there was a probability of the Mexicans fighting they would be informed and ordered to join. On the 24th, the day the Mexicans crossed the river, about ten or eleven leagues from here, the government steamer Monmouth and the chartered steamer Cincinnati towed to sea some four or five vessels, on board of which, passengers and seamen, perhaps eighty or one hundred persons left the place, nearly all of whom would willingly have remained if it had been supposed there was any probability of an attack. That same afternoon the steamer Cincinnati left here for St. Joseph’s Island for the purpose of bringing the women and children left there to this place, so secure did every thing appear. I mention these circumstances, and refer you to the correspondence between Generals Taylor and Worth, to prove that the former and many of his officers believed that the Mexicans would not fight—an opinion that was nearly proving fatal to a portion, if not the whole army. The feeling manifested by the murder of Col. Cross, the attack upon Lieut. Porter and his party, and other circumstances, induced me to think it was their intention to fight soon, and I so expressed myself to several officers high in command. Indeed, the circumstance of two armies being within a few hundred yards of each other in hostile array was certain to produce collision in a short time. The events that took place on the 24th April and the days subsequent, until the 8th and 9th of May, I shall pass over.—Some things, it appears to me, might have been ordered differently and probably better, but I am not soldier enough to form a correct opinion; but the results are sufficiently brilliant to induce a belief that all was right, and will atone for previous want of diligence and over-confidence in the pacific intentions of the enemy.

The president, in his message of the 11th of May, says—“American blood has been shed on American soil,” alluding to the affair that took place on the 24th April between the dragoons, under the command of Captains Thornton and Hardee, in which some were killed and the others taken prisoners by the Mexicans. There is much to be said upon the question whether it is rightfully American soil where this affair took place; but certain it is that as soon as Capt. Thornton was given up by the Mexicans, on the 10th or 11th of May, he was put under arrest by Gen. Taylor for disobeying his orders while on that expedition, and bringing on that fight contrary to his wishes. He is now here under arrest—a circumstance I have not seen mentioned in a public manner. I may at some future time send you a statement of some fact bearing on the assertions of the president and the circumstances relied on to prove that the bank of the Rio Grande was American soil. It may be so considered now.
As soon as the alarm of war was rung through the country, volunteers hastened here from various quarters, until there is now on this frontier some eight or ten thousand, and many more on the way. Many of these men have left comfortable homes, and have come expecting to see active service. Instead of that, they are scattered over the country, in different encampments, exposed to the heat of the sun in latitude 26, and the soaking rains of the summer solstice, inactive, and many indulging in dissipation to kill time and chase away ennui. I will explain why this is so. The great object seems to have been to hasten men on here, without any particular object. If it be for purposes of defence, Gen. Taylor has proved he did not want many to assist him certainly no more than he called for. If the object be invasion, the men come poorly provided. They come with in their hands, and there are, provisions enough, easily obtained, but there is not a sufficiency of transportation for an army of five thousand men. If some attention had been paid to the necessary means of transporting supplies for an army, it would have been much better than sending masses of men to suffer in this climate. An army cannot move without provisions, and if we penetrate far into the country it will require a great number of wagons.

There are about three hundred wagons and teams here, but not drivers enough for them; when I say here, understand with the army. We are told the government has three hundred wagons in or about Philadelphia; when they will be here no one can tell; mules have to be purchased, and no chance of getting them, except from the Mexicans; they are perfectly wild, and must be tamed and taught to work; they will take a long time after the wagons arrive. The Mexican officers are having the mules driven off as fast as they can into the interior, and forbid any sales to us; still a good many are brought to Matamoros and are purchased. A month ago an officer was sent to New Orleans to purchase several steamboats suitable to navigate the Rio Grande. None of them are here yet, and, from what we have been informed when they do arrive, it is not probable they will answer the purpose. In the mean time the mouth of the river has been closed by a bar, the steamers Sea and Cincinnati, chartered at high rates, were caught inside, and are of little or no use; drawing too much water. The Col. Harney steamer, belonging to the government, was during the last week, in open daylight, run on the bar, off this harbor, and has gone to pieces—a great piece of negligence. The utter neglect to supply the army with sufficient transportation for ammunition and supplies now paralyzes every thing and prevents the army moving on. If we had had one month ago three hundred additional wagons and two or three small steamers in the Rio Grande, we should now be far on our way to Monterey, in a high healthy country, the men contented and well, and no time given the enemy to recruit their forces or recover from the consequences of their defeat. Instead of this, I do not believe the army will leave the banks of the Rio Grande before the middle of August or the commencement of September. Until then the men must be paid and supported—at what cost you will see when you get hold of the accounts.

The staff department of the army, particularly the quartermaster’s branch, is most inefficient and extravagant. The only persons qualified for the station of a quartermaster are real business men—men of system and order, well acquainted with accounts—These officers require no military skill or education, but thorough mercantile habits and capacity. The consequence of the quartermasters not being such men, will be developed when the accounts are exhibited and the expenses come to be added up. Their unacquaintance with business, the state of the markets, &c., subjects them to the grossest impositions in making contracts and purchases; and there are those who say favoritism goes a long way, but of that I know nothing.

When the expenses of this war are paid and the accounts exhibited, the Florida expenditures will appear small. The most enormous rates are paid for many things, particularly for the use of ships and other vessels engaged in transporting troops and stores; from twenty-five to fifty per cent. More than a commercial man would pay for similar vessels for his own use. Let me give you a few instances—The steamship Alabama is chartered at the rate of $16,500 per month. She was here about the end of May with volunteers, and returned to New Orleans on the 1st inst. She reached the bar off this port several days ago, and was soon after blown off with out landing the men on her, and has not yet got back. The steamers Augusta and Cincinnati have long been in service under high charters. The former has been fast aground since the 29th May, until two days ago. The latter is cooped up in the Rio Grande and is but little service. An old French barque called the Blayaise, was condemned at Galvestone the last of April, or early in May, as being unsea worthy, and sold in the latter month at auction. The hull, lower masts, and some of the ground tackle &c., was purchased for about $1,100 or $1,200: An expense of $300 perhaps was incurred in partially rigging her; when a Lieut. Kingsbury chartered her to bring two companies of Texan volunteers to this place, giving $950 for the trip. Soon after her arrival she was dismantled, and the rigging sold or otherwise disposed of, and the hull alone hired by the quartermaster at $30 per day—$10,950 per annum; a good interest on $1,500! Other cases as remarkable could be mentioned. A new quartermaster general is on his way here, it is said, and thing may be better managed perhaps. At some proper time it might be well to have an exhibit of the
amount paid to each steamer and sailing vessel engaged in transporting troops and supplies to this place for the army, their tonnage, value, &c., and then obtaining from practical business men what such vessels could have been employed for by individuals for their own use. The most enormous rates were also paid last year for transportation to Corpus Christi and St. Joseph’s Island. Sometimes as much was paid for a vessel from New Orleans as she could have made on a voyage to Liverpool, and the rates have not abated. At an early period it will be well to look into these expenditures, and know who has made them or sanctioned them.

No one can tell when the army will make a forward movement. My belief is it will be a considerable time, and solely for the want of transportation. In the mean time the volunteers are much exposed. For two weeks or more it has rained almost every day, and the appearances are strongly in favor of a continuance of it. When it does not rain the sun is hot enough. The tents furnished are of an indifferent kind, and there are a number of companies particularly among the Texans, that have none at all. Yet the men so far continue tolerably healthy. How long it will last no one can tell.

Whether the Mexicans will risk another battle of a general kind is a question that cannot be decided now. If they could have been pursued soon after the battles in May, their force must have been dispersed, killed, or captured. As it is, they have ample time to raise reinforcements and recruit their spirits, and may make another stand in the hilly country. If they do, I have no doubt they will be defeated, and the war may be terminated soon; but if they do not conclude to make another general fight, the war will be of a partisan character, and no one can tell when it will terminate. We may overrun the country, but will not subdue it. As long as private property is respected, and the lives and rights of those not found in arms secured, the Mexicans do not car about our traveling through their country and paying the highest prices for what they have to sell. It is a species of warfare better for many of them than the state of peace they have heretofore enjoyed. The men are frequently employed here by the quartermaster, and are much better paid than they ever were before. Yet these people, as a mass, have the bitterest feelings against us. Their priests and demagogues have, for their own purposes, fostered their prejudices and animosities, and the idea of “extending the area of freedom” so as to include them, seems to me ridiculous and absurd.

The rumor is (and I think it worthy of credit) that the Mexicans are fortifying the town of Monterey. It is a place of considerable importance in a civil and military point of view, and it is possible the enemy may fight for it. If they do not, they will make no general fight, that is certain; and the war will then be of the guerrilla kind, and be waged in a most sanguinary spirit. Our people, particularly the Texans, feel very hostile and much exasperated against the Mexicans; and if ever the army is broken up into detachments and small parties they will not be spared by them. As long as we are embodied, under the control of high officers, a proper restraint will be exercised; but as soon as the small chiefs have sway then will bloodshed and rapine spread over the country. [VRD]

NNR 70.311 July 18, 1846 departure of the expedition against Santa Fe from Fort Leavenworth

Gen. Urrea, who, it is said, is advancing with a force of from three to five thousand men, upon Santa Fe, with a view of defending that section of the republic of Mexico from invasion, is said to be a man of approved courage and military capacity. Should he make his appearance there in time to avail himself of the best point to repel invasion, as he, doubtless, has done, he many give the force under the command of Colonel Kearney something to do, before possession of New Mexico is obtained. In his absence, however and with the acknowledged disposition of Armijo to show the Americans all possible favor, very little, if any opposition will be made to the entrance of Col. Kearney into that department of the republic. It will be, we suppose, the middle or latter end of August; before Colonel Kearney can cross the Rio del Norte and Gen. Urrea has, unquestionably, full time to prepare for his reception. The prospect of resistance, only give to the expedition a little more interest, and all eyes will be henceforth on the watch for news from that quarter. [St. Louis Repub. 3d] [VRD]

NNR 70.311 July 18, 1846 Louisiana habeas corpus case
HABEAS CORPUS—DESERTERS—Judge McCaleb, U.S. district court, N. Orleans, a few days since, in the case of Henry Grammont, arrested as a deserter from Major Gally’s battalion of volunteers, now stationed at Fort Jackson, after hearing able argument, in which the counsel for the government contended that Grammont was regularly and legally enlisted as a volunteer, under authority of Gen. Gaines—that he was legally enlisted under authority of the state of Louisiana, as expressed in resolutions of the legislature,—and that his voluntary act legally bound him to serve as a soldier in the army of the United States, thus decided.

The judge reviewed the case, and the laws applicable thereto, at some length, and concluded by deciding, that Gen. Gaines had no legal authority for calling out the battalion in question—that the president had not recognized his having so called them into service. That the battalion having been mustered into service by authority of the state of Louisiana, the court could have nothing to do with, unless such mustering was in pursuance of an order from the president or a law of congress;—that the voluntary enlistment of the individual could not be plead against his application, unless his enlistment had been made under due authority of law. His volunteering was for the purpose of aiding Gen. Taylor on the Rio Grande, and could not be construed to cover enlistments made to man forts within the limits of Louisiana, and for service far from the scene of operations, and on a territory where not the remotest apprehension of invasion was apprehended; a service, when we take into consideration that motives and object of the petitioned when he enlisted, comparatively ignoble in its nature. We cannot suppose that it was ever in the contemplation of those who consented to abandon the comforts of domestic life, to engage in the military service of the country, that they would be confined within the walls of a garrison, instead of being allowed to participate in the more exciting and honorable events of the war, for the prosecution of which they were called into service. Li is therefore ordered that the petitioner be discharged from custody.

[VRD]

NRR 70.311-312 July 18, 1846 Gen. Zachary Taylor’s interview with a gentleman’s son among the volunteers

INCIDENTS, &C.—Our friend, Capt. Church, of the Bulletin, on his late trip from New Orleans, brought with him a number of officers just from the army.—They were full of anecdote, of course, and the following little illustration of character is interesting as well as amusing:

Among the volunteers was a “gentleman’s son”—a full private, who, heartily sick of rainy weather, mud and no shelter, first went to his captain with his complaints, but meeting with no particular sympathy, resolved to have a talk with General Taylor himself. Arrived at the commander’s quarters, the general was pointed out to him, but he was rather incredulous—“That old fellow General Taylor?—Nonsense!” Satisfied, however, that such was even the case, he marched up, and rather patronizingly, opened his business.

“General Taylor, I believe?”

“Yes, sir.”

“Well, General, I’m devilish glad to see you—am indeed!” The general retuned the civility.

“General, you’ll excuse me, but since I’ve been here I’ve been doing all I could for you—have, indeed; but the fact is, the accommodations are very bad—are, indeed; mud, sir! Actually mud!—bleeged to lie down in it, actually; and the fact is, General, I’m a gentleman’s son, and not used to it.”

The general no doubt deeply impressed with the fact of having a gentleman’s son in his army, expressed his regret that such grievances should ever exist under any circumstances, in a civilized army.

Well—but, General, What am I to do?”

“Well, really, I don’t know, unless you take my place.”

“Well, now, that’s civil—it’s indeed. Of course don’t mean to turn you out, but a few hour’s sleep—a cot or a bunk, or anything—would be so refreshing! Your place, where
is it, General?"

"Oh. just drop down-anywhere about here-any place about camp will answer!"

The look which the "gentleman's son" gave the general was peculiar.

"Well, no wonder they call you 'Rough and Ready!' " said he; and amid the smiled of all but 'Rough and Ready' himself, "gentleman's son" returned to take his chance of the weather.

[St. Louis Reveille, July 2. [VRD]

NNR 70.312 July 18, 1846 organizing of the regiments of Illinois volunteers

ILLINOIS VOLUNTEERS.-The 1st regiment of Illinois volunteers, now at Alton, under the command of Col. J. J. Hardin, has been fully organized, by the election of Wm. Weatherford, of Jacksonville, as lieutenant colonel, and Wm. B. Warren, of the same place, as major.

A letter from Alton, dated on Saturday evening last, informs us that all the companies comprising the three regiments of Illinois, except four, had arrived at the encampment and been mustered into service. The companies yet behind are to come from the southern counties: Gallatin, Pulaski, Pope, and Wayne. The company from Gallatin passed up on Saturday night last. [St. Louis Rep.] [VRD]

Officers-The board of officers, to whom was referred the question of rank between Col. Baker and Gen. Hardin, have decided in favor of Hardin.-The question of rank between Majors Morrison and Trial has been decided in favor of the former.

[St. Louis Era.] [VRD]

NNR 70.312 July 18, 1846 call on Iowa for an additional company of volunteers

IOWA VOLUNTEERS.-A requisition has been made by the president on the governor of Iowa, for one company of volunteers, in addition to the regiment called for from that territory. This company is to be stationed at Fort Atkinson, where they will probably remain for one year. Captain James M. Morgan is in command; 1st lieut., J. H. McKinney; 2d, D. S. Wilson. [VRD]

Commander of the Iowa volunteers.-The Burlington Hawk-Eye says: "We understand, a few days since, not knowing anything about the feeble state of Ex Governor Chambers' health, Governor Clarke visited Col. Chambers at his delightful country seat, for the sole purpose of offering him, without any solicitation on the part of any person, the command of the regiment of Iowa volunteers with the well deserved complimentary remark, that if Col. Chambers would accept it, he, Gov. Clarke, had no doubt about the regiment being filled up in forty eight hours after it is known that the ex-governor was to be its commander. When Gov. Clarke ad seen for himself that the illness and feebleness of his predecessor utterly prohibited the acceptance of the offer, he expressed much sincere regret." [VRD]

NNR 70.312-313 July 18, 1846 indignation over appointment of Sterling Price as commander of a company of Missouri volunteers

The Plamyra (Mo) Courier says: "It is now positively ascertained that an additional thousand volunteer for Santa Fe will be accepted from Missouri. There has, however, been no regular call upon the state for that number; but the privilege to raise a regiment of one thousand volunteers, has been delegated to certain men, who are to act as commanders. The individuals are, Sterling Price, of Chariton, as colonel; D.D. Mitchel, of St. Louis. Lieut. Colonel; Wm. Gilpin, of Jackson, and Thomas Price, of Cole, majors. No complaint is made of these men as officers; but many object to the mode of their attaining command. It is greatly repugnant to the ideas and feelings of our citizens to be denied the right of selecting their own officers, as they have been accustomed to do. In consequence of this feeling, little disposition is manifested to volunteer. While we cannot approve the manner in which these officer [UNREADABLE] Missouri refased a privilege that thousands in
other states are eager to accept because a condition is attached that they are to receive as officers men whose exertions and influence doubtless obtained for them that privilege.

Gen. Willock having returned from Jefferson city with assurance that one or two companies would be received from this division, has, with his usual promptitude and energy, set about raising a company. His headquarters are at the Missouri house, where persons wishing to volunteer may enroll their names. The general expects to be off in eight or ten days, and has expressed a determination to go whether he gets a company or not. As his company is, however, rapidly filling up, those wishing to join had better report themselves immediately."

_Thomas L. Price_, of Jefferson city, who was designated to take the command of a battalion of artillery in the same way Col. S. Price was designated for the regiment, has abandoned the project, assigning other engagements as the reason for this course. [St. Louis Republican. [VRD]

NNR 70.312 July 18, 1846 Alabama volunteers, NNR 70.313 July 18, 1846 Alabama election of officers, departure for Point Isabel

**ALABAMA VOLUNTEERS** The regiment encamped near Mobile elected their officers on the 27th. Ult.-**JOHN R. COFFEE**, a private in the Jackson county company was elected colonel; **Richard G. Earl**, captain of the company from Benton county, lieutenant colonel; **Geo. Bryan**, of the Tallapoosa volunteers major. The regiment embarked from Mobile on the 29th for Point Isabel. [VRD]

NNR 70.313 arrival of volunteers from Maryland and the District of Columbia at Brazos
70.313 use of a draft in North Carolina to determine troops chosen for service in Mexico
70.313 departure of Ohio volunteers for the Rio Grande
70.313 destination of Kentucky volunteers in Mexico

**THE DETACHMENT OF MARYLAND AND DISTRICT OF COLOMBIA VOLUNTEERS**, which recently left Alexandria in the steamer Massachusetts, the New Orleans Bulletin of the 8th states, had arrived at Brazos in 15 days and disembarked. [VRD]

**NORTH CAROLINA VOLUNTEERS.** - The Raleigh Register states, that about FORTY companies had tendered their services, and as ten companies only were required from that state, that number had to be drafted from the whole that offered. One out of every four drew prizes from the wheel used for the purpose. [VRD]

**OHIO VOLUNTEERS.** – Col. Morgan’s regiment of volunteers left Cincinnati on the night of the 10th inst., on board two steamboats, for New Orleans – All the Ohio volunteers are now on their way to the Rio Grande. [VRD]

**KENTUCKY VOLUNTEERS.** – Orders have been received from Washington, changing the destination of Col. McKee’s regiment of infantry. They will embark this evening for the Rio Grande to join Gen. Taylor. The steamers Louisville and Sultana have been chartered to carry them to N. Orleans. Col. Marshall’s cavalry regiment will probably start on Thursday next, by which time it is expected all their equipage will be got ready. They will proceed from here to Memphis – by water, if transportation can be obtained at a reasonable rate; otherwise by land. – From Memphis, they will take up their march by land through Arkansas. This information is official. [Louisville Journal. [VRD]

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NNR 70.313-314 July 18, 1846 correspondence of Gen. William Jenkins Worth and Gen. Zachary Taylor on desire of Worth to retire from his command

**BREVET BRIGADIER GEN. WORTH.**

Who can view the incidents of the existing war, without profound regret for the fate
in which this, one of the most efficient and distinguished officers that belongs to our army, has been subjected?

The services rendered by General Worth in finally bringing to an issue the protracted war with the Seminoles in Florida, had fully prepared the public mind throughout the country for an exhibition of the same military talents upon a large field, in case of another war. This expectation for a time was fully realized. General Worth left Florida in September last with his regiment, and was amongst the first upon the ground of Corpus Christi, in command of the first brigade, consisting of twelve companies of artillery, the 8th regiment of infantry, and Duncan’s battery. On the march from thence to the Rio del Norte, when the Mexican forces threatened to dispute the passage of General Taylor’s army at the Colorado River, General Worth led the advance of the gallant light companies, in face of a dense chaparral, through water four feet deep, and 110 yards wide. Whist the Mexican artillery, un{illegible} with port fired lit, occupied the opposite bank. It was General Worth, who, with his own hands, first hoisted the American flag on the banks of the Rio Grande, in the face of the enemy’s forces posted at Matamoros, while the Americans loudly cheered the waving emblem of their nation.

It was curing the quiet which for some time succeeded the occupation of the post last mentioned, that General Worth received the mortifying intelligence, that he had been superceded in rank, by an arrangement announced from the war department.

Sharing fully in the opinion which General Taylor manifestly entertained at that period, that no serious hostile demonstrations would be attempted for some time by the Mexicans, General Worth deemed it due to himself as an officer, to demonstrate his sensibility to such an arrangement as had been ordered. He therefore addressed the following letter to Gen. Taylor.

Headquarters, 1st brigade, Army of Occupation, April 2d, 1846.

GENERAL: The bearer of your dispatches has left, and I cannot permit a moment to pass before pressing upon your kind consideration the hope that you will be pleased immediately to relieve me from a command which you had the confidence to confer and in which with all the ardour of my nature, and to the best of my abilities I have sought to serve you and the country. If there is any form or manner in which out of authority I can serve you, it is hardly necessary to say with what alacrity I shall be always at your command. At the earliest moment when you feel assured that no conflict is at hand or in prospective, I shall be much gratified by being allowed to retire and NOT BEFORE. I remain, General. Very truly yours, W.J. WORTH, Brigadier General.

After reaching Point Isabel, General Worth addressed the following letter to Gen. Taylor:

Point Isabel. Brazos Santiago. 13th of April, 1846

GENERAL: Major Munroe has advised me of your communication of yesterday. I have been detained here by stress of weather and shall be probably for several days. I need not say that my services are entirely at your command at any time, place or moment. I remain, General, with highest respect, your obedient servant, W. J. WORTH, Brigadier General. To Brig. Gen. TAYLOR, commanding, &c.

To which Gen. Taylor responded on the 14th of April, as follows:

Headquarters, Army of Occupation, Camp near Matamoros, April 14th, 1846.

GENERAL: Your esteemed letter of yesterday’s date was duly received, and I sincerely thank you for the offer of your services. Had we been attacked as there was a decided probability that such would be the case from the other side, I would gladly avail myself of them, as I know your head, heart, and hand would have been with us even to the death, if necessary, in such a contingency. General Ampudia had just reached Matamoros with a small reinforcement of cavalry, assumed the command, and at once ordered all Americans in the city to leave for Victoria, one hundred and fifty miles in the interior, in twenty-four hours; and the next day notified me to leave for the east bank of the Nueces, also in twenty-four hours. In case of my not doing so war would be the result. I informed him that I had been ordered by my government to take and occupy a position on the left of the Rio Grande, which I had done and from which I could not recede, except by orders from the same quarter that brought me here. The movement in question, it was expected by my government, would have been a peaceful one, and that he was fully at liberty
to make it otherwise at any moment he might see fit to do so; in which case he
would be responsible for all the consequences resulting from the same; since which I
have heard nothing further from him, and I imagine I will not, except in the way of
protests, remonstrances, &c-at any rate until my communication can go to the city
of Mexico, be acted on there, and the measures to be pursued growing out of it
received at Matamoros, not any thing stronger than paper bulletins will be received
by us. At the same time I must be, if possibly fully prepared, at all times to meet
any even or occurrences which may arise. Under this state of things, I could not ask
you to return. The weather here since you left has been wretched, and from present
appearances will continue so for some time, which has made us all quite miserable.
I presume it was no better at Point Isabel; if so you must have had anything but a
comfortable time of it there. We have heard nothing certain as regards the fate of
Cross. Wishing that matters at Washington may be so arranged as to do away the
necessity of your returning from the service, I remain with respect and esteem your
obedient servant,

Z. TAYLOR.

To Gen. Worth, U. S. army, Point Isabel.

This correspondence closes by General Worth’s letter in answer to Gen. Taylor, date
April 16th.

Point Isabel, 2 o’clock P.M.
April 16th, 1846

General: I am this moment in receipt of your kind and obliging favor of the 14th,
and shall, in half an hour, embark with a heart lessened in some degree of its
oppressive burden. I congratulate you on the turn of events. The enemy has now
tired his gun, and will surrender the boundary as submissively as he professed the
determination to resist.-Your duties will be those of pacification; the more agreeable,
because more conformable to the policy of our government. Would to God I could
go better assured of the fate of Cross. I strongly incline to the belief that Canales’
people, acting on the suggestions of Carabajal, may have laid a snare for him, in the
hope that it might provoke you to commence hostilities. Recollect what I reported to
you of the letter addressed to me after his parting with you at Point Isabel. It is possible I may go to Washington as you advise.

Wishing you all success and honor, I remain, General, very truly yours.

W.J. WORTH

To General Taylor,

General Worth repaired to Washington. The day after his arrival information was
received that hostilities had commenced on the Rio Grande.-His letter and that of
General Jones show that he was as prompt now as he had ever been, in a service of
thirty-three years to repair to his country’s standard—which sentiment was
understood and appreciated by the president of the United States.

Gen. W. writes as follows to the adjutant general:

Washington city, May 9th. 1846.
6 o’clock, P. M.

SIR: Reliable information which I have this moment received from the head
quarters of the army in front of Matamoros, makes it not only a duty, but accords
with my inclination to request permission to withdraw my resignation, and that I be
ordered or permitted forthwith to return to, and take command of the troops from
which I was separated on the 7th of April, by order NO. 42, Army of Occupation. I
am, sire, with high respect, &c., &c

W. J. WORTH, Brigadier General.

Adjutant General’s Office

Washington, May 9th, 1846.

General: I have submitted to the secretary of war your letter of this afternoon’s
date, in which for reasons stated, you request that your resignation recently tendered, may be recalled, and you may be ordered or permitted forthwith to return to, and take command of the troops from which you were separated on the 7th of April, by order No. 42, Army of Occupation.

The motives which prompt this course on your part are fully appreciated; and I am directed to say that your request is complied with. You will therefore repair without delay to General Taylor’s head quarters, and report to him accordingly. I am, very respectfully, your ob’t serv’t,

B. JONES, Adjutant General.

To Brevet Brigadier Gen. W. J. WORTH,
U.S. Army, Washington, D. C.

Gen. Worth throughout evinced no disposition to avoid duty, but anxious, to have a question settled that was almost creating a mutiny in the camp—he repaired to Washington determined not to be the cause of dissension in the face of the enemy, believing too, as lie had good cause, “that nothing stronger would occur than paper bulletins,” as expressed by General Taylor. But when the first rumor of a collision reached. Washington city, Gen. Worth sacrificing everything, disregarding that so depressing to a soldier’s spirit, withdrew his resignation, repaired instantly to the camp on the Rio Grande, where he now is, in line, ready to lead our armies to Mexico, which he is abundantly able to do, combining the rare qualities of diplomatist (appreciating and understanding the peculiar features of our government,) with that of a soldier—well tried in many an open field, and bearing upon his body marks of the enemy which will live with the history of those glorious achievements, ever commanding the admiration of the America people as well as the consideration and respect of the world. [VRD]

[NRR 70.320] July 18, 1846 intrigues to restore Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna to power in Mexico

INTRIGUES. There have been various speculations as to certain movements said to be on foot for the restoration of Santa Anna to power in Mexico. It has been intimated also that our government had something to do with the project in question, and that upon Santa Anna’s return to the administration in Mexico a peace would be negotiated between that republic and the United States on the basis of the cession of the Californias to this country. The Union refers to this subject, and says:

"we deem it our duty to state in the most positive terms. That our government has no sort of connexion with any scheme of Santa Anna for the revolution of Mexico, or for any sort of purpose. Some three months ago some adventurer was in Washington who wished to obtain their countenance and aid in some scheme or other connected with Santa Anna. They declined all sort of connexion, cooperation, or participation in any effort for the purpose. The government of this country declines all such intrigues or bargains. They have made war openly in the face of the world. They mean to prosecute it with all their vigor. They mean to force Mexico to do us justice at the point of the sword. This, then, is their design—this is their plan; and it is worthy of a bold, high-minded, and energetic people. [VRD]

[NRR 70.323] July 25, 1846 war for a “piece” of Mexico

DIPLOMATIC JOURNAL.

Diplomatic terms. The Tribune says—“We notice that all the officials, in speaking of the Mexican war, contend that it is to be carried on to ‘conquer peace with Mexico. Why not "own the corn, and say, to conquer a piece of Mexico."

The venerable Pickle Pickleby says—"Read your bible Jabez, study the laws of Moses, and don’t repeal any of ’em; mind the ten commandments tu, and the ’lventh likewise, and don’t sell the birthright of the Yankee nation for a mess of potash; and the day may kum when you will be a minister of a penitentiary or a secretary of negation."—St. Louis Reveille.
The president has recognized Henrich Wilhelm Kuhtmann, as Consul of Hanover, for the port of Charleston, in the state of South Carolina. [VRD]

**NAVAL JOURNAL**


The Intelligencer of the 23d, after mentioning the attendance of each of the officers named, adds—"It has been reported, and generally believed, that the object for which this Board has been convened is to deliberate on the best mode of attacking and capturing, by a naval force, the Mexican fortress of San Juan de Ulloa. We understand, however, that that subject has not, but other matters have been brought before this board, during the two days that it has sat. Nor, from what we hear, do we think that it will be."

This takes us all aback. Even conjecture is at fault.

The "Union" of the 22d, says, all the officers summoned by the secretary of the navy to attend the board on the occasion, were in attendance on the 21st, except Captain Lavallette, who is supposed to be on his way from Memphis to attend the board. The twenty officers named above, in full uniform, waited upon the president, at his mansion, on Tuesday. The Union also says—"The rumor which connects them with the castle of San Juan d’Ulloa, or any thing else connected with Mexican hostilities, is pure fiction."

Gulf squadron. There were off Vera Cruz when the British steamer Clyde left there on the 6th of July, the frigates Cumberland 50 guns, Raritan 50, Potomac 50; corvette John Adams 20 guns, brig Somers 10 guns; steamers Mississippi 8 guns. Princeton 7 guns. Capt. Simmons of the Clyde reports seeing six other U. S. vessels of war off the harbor as lie came out.

The British squadron there consisted of the steamer Vesuvius, a ship of 50 guns, another steamer and a brig. The Vesuvius, it is said, was going to Tampico to take on board specie which the U. S. brig St. Mary’s, block adding there, had refused to permit the British mail steamers to receive. The captain of the steamer is represented as avowing his intention to demand an explanation of the captain of the St. Mary’s.

The port of Alvarado is blockaded. The Mexicans have all kinds of stories in relation to the attack of the St. Mary’s upon Tampico. They have also a rumor that Commodore Conner was to attack the castle off Vera Cruz, &c., on the 10th July.

The British sloop-of-war Rose arrived at Brazo Santingo on the 9th inst. Tampico, and the U. S. schr. Flirt arrived there on the 11th from the same port. [VRD]

**THE WAR WITH MEXICO**

There are sufficient evidences that the administration are exerting their utmost energies for carrying on the war against Mexico in every direction, with a view to insure its termination as speedily as it can be effected. The expedition against Santa Fe, under Col. Kearney, has started from Fort Leavenworth, and are, by this date, far upon their route. That against Northern California under Gen. Wool, is also
concentrating as the several detachments wend their way to the west. The light and flat bottom boats to enable Gen. Taylor to ascend the Rio del Norte, are at length reaching him, and the wagons and teams to enable him to move from the river towards the interior of Mexico, will no doubt soon be on.

In the meantime, the Mexican ports on the gulf are strictly blockaded by the American squadron. Tampico has been attacked. Nothing enters Vera Cruz with out being overhauled by our vessels, which keep just out of gun shot from the castle of St. Juan d'Ulloa.-That government determined that an attack should be made upon the castle, we have no doubt. It was found to be too formidable for our present squadron in the gulf to attempt it. We judge from the active preparations which are said to be now making at the several navy yards for fitting out all the heavy line of battle ships, that the navy officers which have been summoned to Washington and are now in session there, are occupied in discussing what forces are required, and what disposition shall be made of the forces that can e commanded for the purpose of reducing the castle.

The squadron in the Pacific have no doubt, by this time, taken possession of some of the principal Mexican ports on that ocean.

The expedition fitting out at New York under Col. Stevenson, designed to reach the coast of California by the way of Cape Horn, will be on their voyage in the course of a few days, with a force which the Mexican ports will be unprepared to resist in that direction.

Meantime, Yucatan, her most valuable southern province, has declared independence, and is exempted from American assault.

Reports from Cuba, state that Santa Anna and Almonte were to embark from thence in the English mail steamer of the 10th inst. For Vera Cruz, with the intention of attempting another revolution in Mexico. Whether Com. Conner will permit those Mexicans to enter Mexico, is the question. It is confidently asserted that Santa Anna goes home with avowed design of defending Mexico from the invasion of the United States forces, and expects the revolution to turn upon his admitted energy and capacity for meeting emergencies – Almonte we all know, is the inveterate opponent of the United States' measures against Mexico. Already the western provinces of Mexico have pronounced against Paredes and in favor of Santa Anna.

Whether Paredes has ventured to leave the capital, with a view of taking command of the army opposed to Gen. Taylor, is doubtful. He could hardly do so, with any hope of retaining the supremacy. The moment he leads his army and adherents out of the vicinity of the city of Mexico, some one will step in and supercede him there.

From the provinces further north, we have indications of an attempt to separate from Mexico altogether, and erect a republic of their own, - that is, taking a lesson from the recent history of Texas, partisans are colleaguing with a view of treading in her footsteps. It is quite possible that Col. Kearney and Gen. Wool will, on arrival at their destinations, find the country under the flag of the "republic of California." There are Americans(including Mormons) enough on the road to settle all dispute. Upon the whole, Mexico is certainly at this moment rather in a predicament. [VRD]
The English steamer Clyde, arrived at Havana on the 6th inst. From Tampico, Vera Cruz, with dates from Tampico to 2d July, Vera Cruz to 22d, and Mexico city to the 19th June. Dates direct from Vera Cruz via Havana, are to the 30th June, and from Mexico to the 28th, at which time congress was still in session, and deliberating on a declaration of war.

One brigade of the Army of reserve had marched to the aid of the army of the north. The remaining body of reserve would remain in the capital till the arrival of Gen. Bravo, so that the forces previously announced as having collected at Monterey, have been very much overrated. From the Castle of Perote, a large number of mounted guns and ammunition, had been sent to the defence of the city of Mexico.

Paredes had ordered the formation of a battalion of militia to be ordered, and two squadrons of cavalry in the city of Mexico – and every effort is making to increase the ranks of the army.

We have bud from various directions, {unreadable} that Santa Anna and Almonte were to leave Havana for Vera Cruz, - first it was said they were to leave on the 6th, then on the 10th, and now we have it postponed to the 12th. The revolution in favor of Santa Anna has extended to all the cities from Acapulco to Mazatlan, embracing the departments on the Pacific, which are now in arms against Paredes, with the exception of Oajaca and La Puebla, two southern departments which remain neutral.

Santa Anna has written a letter of condolence to Gen. Vega and his fellow prisoners, which is copied in the Vera Cruz papers. It breathes no friendly sentiment towards the United States.

Vera Cruz itself has been almost evacuated, the merchants retiring to Jalapa and Orizaba, with their property.

Two Mexican steamers were at Havana on the 5th inst., with no one on board but ship keepers. [VRD]

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**THE RIO GRANDE.**

There has been a succession of gales at Brazos, and in the gulf, - many vessels wrecked.

The steamer *Potomac*, was wrecked about six miles from the pass of St. Louis. She was on board Captain Lamesdon’s junior company, - all saved, - steamer a total loss; cargo damaged.

The schr. Lavina, wrecked, - her crew saved by the Flirt.

*July 3d.* The revenue cutters Woodbury, Forward, and Van Buren, with a large fleet of merchantmen were outside the bar at Brazos, waiting to be taken in.

Walker, the distinguished Texan ranger, is said to have declined the captaincy of the U.S. mounted riflemen, to which he had been appointed.

*July 26th.* An affray between two Texan mounted men in camp, resulted in the death of one of them named Walker.

Lieut. Kingsbury and Dr. Russell, of the army, arrived at New Orleans on the 3d inst, in the Galveston. [VRD]
TRANSPORTATION.

The "Union" of the 17th, has an article written for the purpose of proving that there has been no fault in the department in relation to furnishing the army on the frontier with requisite material for transportation. Certain it is, as the article says, "Some complaints have been made." The editor of the Union "undertakes to say that there is no foundation" for these complaints, having called at the quartermaster's office that day to enquire, and become fully satisfied, by personal examination.

The editor of the Union says – "We shall not enumerate all the various sources of supply," but "among the letters which he has received is one from Col. Thomas F. Hunt, from New Orleans, July 4. – He "reports that he purchased steamers Undine, for $13,000; Troy, $6,000; J.E. Roberts, $9,000, the 13th June; the Brownville, for $9,000, the 15th June; steam schooner James Cage, for $18,000, on the 19th; Hatchee Eagle, the 1st July, for $5,000. All have been dispatched to the Rio Grande except the last – she detained for repairs deemed necessary. Undine and James Cage have been coppered and otherwise repaired. The Cage is a good seaboat, and suited for lightering vessels at sea, &c. The Undine sent temporarily to La Baca. Has chartered steamers Big Hatchee, the Warren, the Exchange, and the W.A. Mercer, which have also departed for Brazos Santiago. [VRD]

NRR 70.325 July 25, 1846 gales off Brazos, numerous shipwrecks
70.325 letter from Henry Whiting on the delivery of supplies to the Army in Texas

Extract of a letter from Capt. John Sanders, the officer appointed by General Taylor to purchase or charter boats, dated July 2, 1846, at Pittsburg:

"Advises he had purchased five light draught steamers for the Rio Grande, as follows: Whiteville, the Corvette, Rough and Ready, Colonel Cross, and the Major Brown – total cost $60,000. These are all splendid boats of their class."


GENERAL: I left New Orleans in the Alabama the evening of the 19th; she had supplies for Robin's Ferry. These were landed at Galveston, and transportation at once provided for them up the Trinity. Fortunately the waters are high, and it is probable they will get up. The price of freight was high, but the best bargain the means of the place admitted was made by Lieut. Kingsbury, with my approbation. No time was to be lost. A few days later, and the river would have been impracticable."

We anchored off Brazos the evening of the 24th; wind was strong the next morning; and the sea high, still the Monmouth came out to us. But she could receive only the mail, which was transferred with much difficulty and some peril. Towards night our anchor gave way, and we stood off. The next morning early we were back again, but the sea was higher than ever. The day before about twenty sail were at anchor outside, (a large number within where Harney was sunk.) They had all stood off, excepting two square-rigged, having volunteers on board, which had left New Orleans two days before us. The wind continuing violent until the morning of the 27th, we came in here to recruit our water, volunteers, (about 300) with more than fifty passengers, having reduced our supply too low. Some of the companies had also got out of provisions. We hope to start again to-morrow evening with better luck. The Alabama is a first rate boat. None other could have been unusually stormy it is said.

Very Respectfully, I am general, your obedient servant, HENRY WHITING.

General THOS. S. JESUP, Quartermaster General, U.S. Army, Washington city, D.C.

The above are the exhibits of the Union, in proof that no fault is attributable to the department, at Washington, if the army under General Taylor is unable to move for want of material for transportation.

General Taylor defeated the Mexican army on the 9th of May. Upwards of two months have elapsed, and his army is not yet provided with the means of moving to dislodge them from the first position they took up after their defeat. The officer dispatched by General Talor reports to him on 2d July, that he has just then purchased at Pittsburg five light draught steamboats, &c. [VRD]
ROUTE FROM MATAMOROS TO THE INTERIOR OF MEXICO

A letter from F. M. Dimond, U. S. Consul at Vera Cruz, dated Washington, 13th July, 1846, furnishes an extract from a communication of G. T. Pell, of New York, giving memorandae from his note book, kept during a journey from Zacatecas, one of the principal mining districts of Mexico, to Matamoros, by way of Saltillo and Monterey, with a wagon heavily laden with specie, seven mules in harness, and abundant relays. They traveled from eight to fourteen leagues per day. A Spanish league is 2 ½ miles. He represents the road as presenting no serious difficulties for wagons or heavy artillery. - His distances are.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leagues</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Matamoros to Guadalupe (village)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guadalupe to El Rancho Nuevo</td>
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<tr>
<td>El Rancho Nuevo to Reinoza (town)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Camargo lies four leagues from this last rancho, but the nearest road turns off here entering the road from Camargo at the rancho of Los Calabezas, gaining about 4 leagues.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Los Puertecitos to Las Trancas, by the nearest road</td>
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<tr>
<td>Las Trancas to Las Aldamas (rancho)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Las Aldamas to La Manteca (rancho)</td>
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<td>La Manteca to El Capudero (rancho)</td>
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<td>El Capudero to Caideretro (town)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caideretro to Monterey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monterey to La Rinconada (hacienda)</td>
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<tr>
<td>La Rinconada Saltillo</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Spanish league, about 2 ½ miles, makes the distance</td>
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<tr>
<td>From Matamoro to Monterey 247 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From Camargo to Monterey 120 &quot;</td>
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“"The distance through the Canada, or mountain defile, from Monterey to the nearest outskirts of the plain above, Is fourteen leagues. On the farther side of the plain, upon the declivity of a hill, stands the city of Satillo. Within the pass the mountains at times approach rather near, at others recede perhaps a mile and a half from the road, which winds over bold hills. Towards Monterey the mountains approach more closely, and a stream issues from the gorge which irrigates the beautiful gardens of the weather inhabitants, running off below the town, where it is drawn to fertilize the little paicifes of the Indians flowing round and about their mud or bamboo huts, watering the banana, the orange, the pomegranate, the aguacate, cherimoya, and other fruits and vegetables of the tropics, which these poor people carry for sale on donkeys to Saltillo, which, being situated on the lofty plains of the table land, only produces the fruits of the north-the apple, pear, quince, and apricot-with their corresponding vegetables. I trust these poor people will not be molested; for neither to them, nor to lurge classes many grades above them, are to be attributed the maladministration of a government in which, being really a military despotism, they have no more share than the seris of Russia.

I am certainly not a little surprised at so great a stress being laid upon the difficulties
for troops on a march through Mexico in the rainy season. An erroneous idea has crept into the public mind that during this period rain falls almost constantly, rendering the roads deep and impassable. The rainy commences in June, with showers at long intervals, and does not fairly set in until the middle of sometimes the later part of July, varying from one year to another in the quantity which falls as much as happens with us from summer to summer. I have even known a year in which there was not sufficient rain to produce the slightest sprig of grass, causing the loss of hundreds of thousands of animals on the great haciendas in rearing them. When the rains are most copious, they do not generally begin until 12 or 1 o’clock; dark clouds rising rapidly over the heavens, giving sudden and plentiful showers, in most instances passing away early, and leaving a bright sunset and a fine morning.

On two occasions I performed a journey of near 400 leagues over the great mountain ranges of the Cordillera, through which flow many considerable streams, to Culiacan, near the Pacific, during unusually wet seasons, without having in a single instance been caught in the rain. It was accomplished by rising before day light, and arriving at the stopping place for the night before the rain began to fall. Water, at other times, very scarce in certain localities, was found every where, good pasture abounded, and the air was cool; the great heat always abating when the periodical rains set in. There was exemption, too, from dust; nor did I find, except in rare instances, that the roads were heavy.

I can easily understand how gentlemen acquainted mostly with the neighborhood of the city of Mexico, and the great road from thence to Guanajuato, through what is called the bajio, should fall into this mistake. No inconsiderable swamps or lakes. But I have seen nothing like this elsewhere. From Camargo to Monterey, although there are intervals of level ground, yet for most yet for the most part the road runs over easy hills, and I cannot believe an army would meet with any obstacle of importance—the only difficulty being the passage of the river. San Juan, which is but a small stream, and can oppose nothing insurmountable if the troop carry any provision for such an emergency. If the rains do not prove very heavy, it will be found fordable, as I passed it without detention with a loaded wagon.” [VRD]

NNR 70.325-326 July 25, 1846 want of discipline among the volunteer

VOLUNTEERS.

WANT OF DISCIPLINE. - The public journals from the vicinity or routes taken by the volunteers, bring to us, we are sorry to say, innumerable proofs of the lack of discipline and the prevalence not only of insubordination, but also of disgraceful rowdyism, amongst the volunteers. That graceless and lawless spirits, being the most difficult to control, join the ranks and carry with them their lawless propensities, is a matter of course. It is almost impossible to prevent the occurrence of such incidents, where such men “most do congregate,” as are referred to in numerous paragraphs like the following:

Camp Washington.-We are glad to lean there is a prospect of one or two regiments of the volunteers getting off this week. The sooner they are removed the better. A state of things has existed at the camp for the last few days which is highly disgraceful to all concerned. On Sunday a spirit of insubordination (aided by the spirit of alcohol) existed which no friend of law and order desired to be repeated. The troops had been paid during the morning, two months’ wages in advance, and there appeared to be no lack of means bout the camp whereby they could spend their money. [Cin. Atlas.

We are sorry to note a riotous and rowdy disposition manifested by the citizen soldiery volunteered into service. The corps at Louisville have had several rows of disgraceful character, in which knives, pistols, and other southern chivalries were put in requisition. Mr. Marshall, late a M. C. came very near loosing his life in attempting to prevent one of these outrages upon the citizens. [Ex. Paper.

The Louisville Journal of June 29 says—“There was another disgraceful row between some of the volunteers and citizens about dusk last evening, on Green street. We learn that a man named Davis was so seriously beaten by the volunteers that his life is despaired of. The police were promptly on the spot, and the citizens gathered in large numbers, highly incensed at the volunteers. Pierce Butler esq., and Colonel Mc Kee addressed the crowd, after which they dispersed. One of the volunteers, the principal actor in the scene, was put in jail.” [VRD]
Pennsylvania volunteers. - Adj. Gen. Petrikin, of the state of Pennsylvania, in a communication to the Pennsylvania says that "the whole number of companies tendering exactly, according to the regulations of the president of the United States, as transmitted by the secretary of war to Gov. Shunk, is 82, giving an aggregate of 6,437 officers and men, or 1,717 more than required to fill up the regiments. To this add the two Fayette county battalions, (1,000,) and the aggregate is increased to 2,717, about 500 more than the gallant Taylor achieved his brilliant victories with. The number of informal officers would swell the aggregate to, I think, some 10 or 12,000. The offers received and filled, have all been made in good faith and calm deliberation. The officers and men, composing the companies, have had full time to reflect, and did not act from feverish impulse, or under the influence of a fit, or fits, or patriotic delirium. The have been governed by cool, calm, deliberate, and exalted patriotism, and, if called into actual service, who doubts but they will exalt the glory and honor of the country in their most devoted love?"

Philadelphia city and county furnish 27 companies, numbering all told officers and men, 2,284, or within 96 of three regiments, but wanting 3 companies to complete 3 regiments, ~10 companies forming a regiment. This day, July 11th, closes the receipt of tenders of services. I know of three more companies, whose muster rolls have been placed in the hands of the proper officers, but have not yet reached the adjutant generals office, at this place.

Later. - The adjutant general of the Pennsylvania militia states, officially, "that, instead of six regiments, ninety full companies, a number of sufficient to constitute nine regiments regularly organized in accordance with the regulations adopted by the president, have tendered their services as volunteers for Mexico." This fact has been communicated to the president, further orders from whom are awaited by Gov. Shunk. [RCG]

Ohio Volunteers. - The 3d regiment of volunteers from Ohio reached N. Orleans on the 10th inst. [RCG]

The Baltimore Volunteers. -Deaths.- Robert Beacham, a private in Capt. Piper's company; died on the passage to Brassos; Richard Belt, a private of Capt. Kenley's company, was drowned of the passage; - Cole, a private of Capt. Stewats company, was sun struck on the passage, and as the ship came to anchor. They were all buried with military honors.[RCG]

Brigadier Gen. Thomas Marshall., recently appointed to command the Kentucky volunteers, is not Thomas F. Marshall, late a member of congress. A Kentucky paper says:

"Gen. Marshall. -- Thomas Marshall, of Lewis co., Ky., lately appointed brigadier general of a company raised in Mason county. He did not succeed in being elected captain, and was chosen lieutenant, that being in the opinion of his fellow volunteers, as high as he ought to be. This company, we understand, was not received, and a regiment was formed of that and other companies in like situation, and he was chosen to command a battalion. Col. Clarkson and himself were dispatched to Washington to induce the president to accept the regiment. The president received them kindly, and with fair words at the White house, but the troops were not received into the service. Clarkson returned home, leaving Marshall behind. He secured a brigadier's commission for himself. We understand that
Colonel Clarkson has since been appointed paymaster general, but whether through
the instrumentality of Marshall of not we know not.

Brigadier Gen. Hamer. -- The Cincinnati Gazette says: --"The appointment of
Thomas L. Hamer, of Ohio, to be brigadier general of the volunteers, slumps the
editor of the Ohio State Journal -- he has scarcely credulity enough to believe the
report. He says: "It will cause a hearty laugh all over the state. Why Hamer himself
laughed at the mere idea of being elected to the command of one of the Ohio
regiments, in view of the fact that he is entirely destitute of military experience,
even in the peace service! If they wanted speeches made, he said he was the man;
but as to commanding a regiment that was out of the question! If such an
appointment has really been made, Ohio will give up that Mr. Polk is the master
military genius of the age." We do not know how it may be with the Ohio brigadier
general, but we venture to say that he can scarcely be less ignorant of military
matters than General [!!] Shields, of Illinois. He may be able to discuss a "hasty
plate of soup," as witty editors phrase it, but as for any other portion of Gen Scott's
system of tactics, he is as completely at fault as the most ignorant militia captains of
the Sucker state. The thing is absolutely ridiculous, and we shall be deceived in
Judge --stop, General--Shields, if he does not send back his declension of the
commission as fast as the mail can carry it."

The Ohio State Journal enumerates the names of eight of ten persons appointed as
assistant quartermaster and assistant commissaries in that state, and says "they are
all bitter partizans, whose only merit is that they are partizans." It adds that "the
war department sent a request to Gov. Bartly and Gen. Woll, to recommend suitable
persons for these posts, and we learn that not a single individual recommended by
either of them has been appointed from this state." Of course it was not expected
that the would be, the members of congress, as in the case of Illinois, parceled out
the spoils to suit themselves.[RCG]

NNR 70.326 July 25, 1846 complaints about the rejection by Gov. Thomas Ford of
Illinois of some volunteers

Gov. Ford, of Illinois, and the Clark county volunteers. -- At a meeting of the citizens
of Clark county, Ill., held at the court house in Marshall, on the 6th day of July,
1846, Lames Whitlock was chosen president, and R.M. Newport and Stephen Archer
vice presidents; T.R. Young and R.L. Dulaney secretaries. The object of the meeting
was explained by the president, a committee appointed to report a preamble and
resolutions, expressive of the sense for this meeting, in regard to the conduct of
Thomas Ford, governor of this state, in his wanton rejection of the company of
volunteers who had enrolled themselves under Captain Wm. B. Archer, in pursuance
of the general orders for volunteers of said Thomas Ford, as commander in chief of
the militia of Illinois, under date, Springfield, May 25th, 1846. During the absence
of the committee, speeches were made by U. Manly, W.P. Bennet, R.B. McCowen,
esqrs.; and Rev. R.M. Newport. The committee reported the following preamble and
resolutions, which were adopted by acclamation.

Whereas, Thomas Ford, governor of the state of Illinois, (in pursuance of a
requisition from the secretary of war of the United States, for the calling out three
regiments of infantry in this state,) as commander in chief of the militia of this state,
issued his 'general orders,' bearing date May 25th, 1846, commanding all majors
and brigadier generals, &c.; and in case there was no military organization, then all
the sheriffs to call the militia together "en masse," and enroll volunteers for the
service and having stated in said orders that if more than thirty companies with their
proper complement of officers should be companies as first offered their services.
And the sheriff of Clark country, on the 5th day of June, 1846, having (in obedience
to said orders) called the militia of said county together at Marshall, at which time
and a full company of eighty privates and the proper complement of officers,
enrolled themselves; and the said sheriff was dispatched as a special messenger to
the governor, with the return of the said sheriff, to his excellency, informing him that
a company was organized, with the names of the officers, which return was by the
said sheriff on the 9th day of June 1846, delivered into the state department about
noon; and W.B. Fondy, the then acting governor at Springfield, returned by said
sheriff, an answer in writing to Wm. B. Archer, the captain of said company,
accepting the company and saying "that upon the return of the governor, from St.
Louis, he would be directed as to the time and place of rendezvous." Said company
being the 27th on the list of the companies published in the Missouri Republican a
letter of order "for the information of the Illinois volunteers," dated June 11th, 1846,
setting forth a list of the companies received, in which list among others, he specifies
one company from Clarke county, closing his said letter or order with the following
sentence:--"The companies above named may expect to receive marching orders in
The volunteers in this county, relying on the integrity of the said Thomas Ford, as expressed in his "general orders" in the reception of the company by acting Governor Fondy and in said Ford’s letter or order published in the Missouri Republican, proceeded to equip themselves and friends in an expense of nearly one thousand dollars, and being fully ready for service—and relying upon the above assurances, so strong that no one but the most indurated offender could avoid --at noon, on the 21st day of June, took up the line of march for Alton, and arriving at the place of rendezvous on the morning of the 26th, marching a distance of one hundred and fifty miles in four and a half days, and upon reporting themselves to the inspecting officer, they were politely met with the "special plea" of "You have received no marching orders." Ford was then waited on by Captain Archer, and informed of the arrival of his company, to which Gov. Ford replied (among other things) "that he had sent on the 17th of June, orders to Capt. Archer no to march." which orders have not to this time reached our post office; and we are fully of the belief that the governor committed a slight mistake in this statement. The governor, then, instead of adhering to his truly made orders, too two days' time to hunt an excuse to reject the company; and after failing to find, either in his own or in the brain of any of his driveling privates, even a plausible reason, he could only answer "he had done wrong," but utterly refused to correct that wrong and rejected the company.[RCG]

NNR 70.326-327 July 25, 1846 relief to families of volunteers

Relief of the families of the volunteers. -- When the St. Louis Legion was about to leave for the south, a meeting of citizens was held at the court house, at which resolutions were adopted, and committees appointed, to raise the means necessary to provide subsistence for the families of such volunteers as were compelled to leave them unprovided for. Each company was requested to furnish a list of those requiring aid, and it was done. Since the fever for volunteering for that service has passed away, the committee, or at least a portion of them, appear to have lost all interest in the subject, and, with but few exceptions, have taken no measures to provide the destitute with the means of living. On Monday night last, a meeting of the committee was to be held at the court house, but we learn that only three or four were present.

The public are certainly not aware of the destitute condition of the wives and families of several volunteers, or they would not be guilty of this inattention. We have satisfactory information that there are several women, some with a number of children, who are really in necessitous circumstances. They are industrious and hard working, but their own labor is not sufficient to pay house rent, and provide other necessaries for their families. They do not ask or expect much, but the little that was promised when their husbands left, should be made up for them immediately. We have heard of several families who, with all the labor and saving of the mothers, have yet been a tax on the liberality of a few individuals. This state of things ought not to exist. A few hundred dollars which might be raised in a single day, in this community, judiciously applied in paying rent, or providing other absolute necessaries would make these families happy, and place them beyond want, until their protectors return. The service which they are rendering to their county, should secure from their fellow citizens this much, at least; and if the committee appointed at the former meeting are unwilling to act, another meeting should be called, and a new committee appointed. That the wants of some of the families have become distressingly pressing we know and some action should be immediately taken. [St. Louis Rep. July 8.]

[RCG]

NNR 70.327 July 25, 1846 Mormons enlist in the expedition against California

From the Mormon camp.-- The Hancock (Illinois) Eagle of the 10th instant, notices the arrival there of Mr. S. Chamberlain, who left the most distant camp of the Mormons at Council Bluffs on the 26th ult. and on his route passed the whole line of Mormon emigrants. He says that the advance company of the Mormons, with whom were the Twelve, had a train of one thousand wagons, and were encamped on the east back of the Missouri river, in the neighborhood of the Council Bluffs. They were employed in the construction of boats, for the purpose of crossing the river.

The second company had encamped temporarily at station No. 2--which had been
christened Mount Pisgah. They mustered about three thousand strong, and were recruiting their cattle preparatory to a fresh start. A third company had halted for a similar purpose at Garden Grove, on the head waters of Grand river, where they have put in about 2,000 acres of corn for the benefit of the people in general. Between Garden Grove and the Mississippi river, Mr. Chamberlain counted over one thousand wagons en route to join the main bodies in advance.

The whole number of teams attached to the Mormon expedition is about three thousand seven hundred, and it is estimated that each team will average at least three person, and perhaps four. The whole number of souls now on the road may be set down in round numbers at twelve thousand. From two to three thousand have disappeared from Nauvoo in various directions. Many have left for Council Bluffs by the way of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers--other have dispersed to party unknown; and about eight hundred of less still remain in Illinois. This comprises the entire Mormon population that once flourished in Hancock county. In their palmy days they probably numbered between fifteen and sixteen thousand souls, most of whom are now scattered upon the prairies, bound for the Pacific slope of the American continent.

Mr. Chamberlain reports that previously to his leaving, four United States military officers had arrived at Mount Pisgah camp, for the purpose of enlisting five hundred Mormons for the Santa Fe campaign. They were referred to headquarters at Council Bluffs, for which place they immediately set out. It was supposed that the force would be enrolled without delay. If so, it will furnish Col. Kearney with a regiment of well disciplined soldiers who are already prepared to march.

Mr. Chamberlain represents the health of the traveling Mormons as good, considering the exposures to which they have been subjected. They are carrying on a small trade in provisions with the settlers in the country, with whom they mingle on the most friendly terms. [RCG]

**NNR 70.327 July 25, 1846 arrival of the Georgia regiment of volunteers at Mobile**

Georgia Volunteers. -- The Mobile Register of the 6th July says:--Three companies of the Georgia regiment, under command of Major Williams, arrived there on the 5th, and were quartered at the office of the Independent Press. They consist of

The Georgia Light Infantry, Capt. A. Nelson;  
Tensas Rangers, Capt. Nelson;  
On the 6th steamers Amaranth, Lowndes, and Eurea, arrived with the remainder of the regiment, under the command of Col. Jackson, viz.  
The Macon Guards, Capt. Homes;  
The Columbus Guards, Capt. Davis;  
The Richmond Blues, Capt. Dill;  
The Jasper Greens, Capt. McNair;  
The Crawford Guards, Capt. Jones;  
The Fannin Avengers, Capt. Sargent;  
The Canton Volunteers, Capt. Grambling.  
[RCG]

**NNR 70.327 July 25, 1846 expedition to Santa Fe**

Expedition against Santa Fe.--The St. Louis New Era of the 4th instant says: "The steamer Archer arrived in this city yesterday. She left Leavenworth on Wednesday last. Col. Kearney left the fort on Monday, and the last companies, (those of Weightman and Fischer,) left on Tuesday. [RCG]

**NNR 70.327 July 25, 1846 objects of the expedition to California**

Expedition to the Pacific. -- The objects of the expedition which is fitted out from New York, may be guessed at from the letter of the secretary of war to Col. Stevenson.
A young man who went out in the stow ship, Lexington, the pioneer of the squadron, write to the editor of the Baltimore Republican: "The company consists of one hundred and twelve as one, healthy young men as ever filled the ranks of our army, who are in the best spirits imaginable. The shit is loaded entirely with arms and ammunition for the company alone. We have 20 guns of the largest caliber for a fortification. We are first to land at Monterey, in California, and our profess after I will at every opportunity keep you advised of. The ship will necessarily touch at all the naval rendezvous on our way, the news of each of which I will send you. We go fully prepared to lick the enemy of our country--build forts or cities, and under the firm and unwavering Tompkins, we fell confident of the success in everything that will be given us to do." [RCG]

NNR 70.327 July 25, 1846 progress of the expedition against Santa Fe

Captain Weightman was still sick, but getting better; Lieut. Simpson and ten or twelve volunteers remained to escort Major Clark and Capt. Weightman when they should be ready to follow the army. A large quantity of provision were still piled up at Leavenworth. [RCG]

NNR 70.327 July 25, 1846 Gen. John Ellis Wool and movement on San Antonio

An officer had been dispatched to Washington to muster them into the service.--From this point it is supposed the central column of the army, under Gen. Wool, will take up the line of march for San Antonio. The mounted men of the Kentucky volunteers, and probably the volunteers from Illinois, will take this direction--but of the course of the latter, we have no positive information. [RCG]

NNR 70.336 July 25, 1846 Britain proffers mediation between the United States and Mexico

The proffered mediation of Great Britain

Together with the project of a treaty for the settlement of the Oregon question, which arrived from England in June, our readers will recollect it was at first announced, was also an offer of the British government to mediate for a restoration of peace between the United States and Mexico. The official organ at Washington, however, in a day of two so far contradicted the account, as to induce the belief that no such overture had been made. Somewhat to our astonishment we find in the speech delivered by Mr. Peel, in parliament on resigning the premiership, the fact stated by him, that such and offer had been directed by the British government to be made to the American government. The Washington Union however repeats the assertion, that no such proposition has yet been submitted to our government. [RCG]

NNR 70.336 July 25, 1846 movement of troops toward Texas

Movements of troops-- Companies B. and E. of the 2nd infantry, leave this morning, on the Hohn Owen for Toledo, en route for Pt. Isabel, Texas. Officers, accompany the command: Lieut. Col. Riley, commanding Lt. Camby, Adj.; surgeons Tripler and Murray; Company E.--Lietus. Davidson and Granger; Company B-- Capt. Anderson and Lt. Schureman. Detachments of twelve men each, from Company C, are to be posted at Sault St. Marie and Copper Harbor. [RCG]

NNR 70.366 July 25, 1846 THE ARMY OF OCCUPATION.

We have nothing new from the army since our last - The apparatus for transportation either by water or land had not reached Gen. Taylor when the last intelligence have left him. The flotilla was arriving however at the mouth of the Rio Grande. The army was impatient at so long a delay. The twelve month volunteers
were expected, - those from Baltimore had arrived. The three and the six months volunteers were dissatisfied at the prospect of being discharged without having a fight. The troops were enjoying a fair share of health, and musquetoes had just made their appearance.

LATER. - Since placing the above in type, Brassos Santiago dates to the 11th and Galveston to the 13th have reached us, by the arrival at New Orleans on the 16th of the steamer New York, bringing as passengers, Col. McIntosh and son, Lieuts. Bibb, Power, and Lowe, and twenty discharged soldiers. Col. McIntosh has nearly recovered of the wounds received in the late battle.

Company H, 4th U.S. artillery, under Maj. Harvey, arrived at Santiago on the 6th, in 24 days from Hampton roads.

The American Flag, late The Republic of Rio Grande, and The Reveille, rival newspapers already issued by American printers at Matamoros, are received as late as the 8th. The latter has dropped its Spanish and is now American on both sides. They contain vivid accounts of the jollification on the national anniversary, particularly by the Louisiana volunteers, amongst whom are no less than thirty practical printers. Major Ogden pronounced the address. General Taylor reviewed the Louisiana brigade. Capt. Head's company gave a splendid dinner. Gens. Desha, Lamar, and Burleson, Col. Kinney and others were guests. General Taylor dropped in on "the boys" - drank wine with them and passed on to others.

One unpleasant casualty occurred. The steamer Aid, passing over the rope stretched across the river for the use of the ferry boats, so expanded it, that the post to which it was secured broke, and killed Corporal J.J. Mervin, of Graham's company, East Rapides, Louisiana volunteers, and severely wounded Lieut. Scully.

Ten boats had at length reached Matamoros, adapted to the navigation.

The 7th regiment of infantry left Matamoros on the 6th for Camargo; three of the companies embarked on board the steamer Big Hatchie, the rest took up their line of march by way of Reynosa.

Of the volunteers, the Andrew Jackson regiment, Col. Marks, and the Washington regiment, Col. Watson, were the first to be sent forward, toward Camargo, but the papers of the 8th inst., do not represent that they had actually moved.

The American Flag says that General Taylor announced to the two regiments above named, on the 4th, that in a few days he would have boats to transport them to Camargo, whence "he would put them directly in motion for Monterey, and that if he failed to accomodate them with a fight with the Mexicans before the summer had passed away, it would not be his fault." One long, loud, and enthusiastic burst of applause testified the joy of the volunteers.

Gen. Henderson, of Texas, was recovering from a severe attack of illness from which he had suffered. - Col. Lewis P. Cook had also been very ill, and it was at one time reported that he was dead. He was convalescent at last accounts. The general health of the army is represented as good, a few cases of dysentery and camp fever alone occurring.

A MONSTER GUN, surpassing Capt. Stockton's famous "Peace Maker" in weight, by some 5000 lbs. was cast recently at Algiers Foundry, South Boston. - The quantity of metal fused, was 46,000 lbs; eight Chaldrons of coal consumed in the process; when finished, its weight will be 25,000 lbs. Length, 10 feet; diameter at the base ring, 39 inches; length of chamber, 13 inches; diameter of chamber, 9 inches; length of bore, 9 feet 1 inch; diameter of bore, 12 inches. - Weight of round shot which it will carry, 230 lbs; weight of shell, 180 lbs. Range of shot or shell, 3 1/2 miles, - being 1/4 of a mile greater than the recorded performance of the largest and latest invented mortar in England, and 1/2 a mile beyond the reach of any gun in the castle of San Juan de Ulloa, at Vera Cruz. The cost of this immense instrument for harbor defence will not exceed $1700, or one-sixth the cost of the wrought iron gun procured in England by Capt. Stockton. It is said to be designed for Fort George, Boston Harbor. [GLP]
Ammunition -- We understand from a source that may be relied upon, that since the commencement of the present hostilities with Mexico, there has been prepared and shipped from the arsenal, at this place, one hundred and seventy tons of fixed ammunition. Between one and two hundred persons, chiefly boys, are daily employed in the laboratory at the arsenal in the preparation of cartridge, &c. Yesterday about forty tons were shipped; a part to Col. Kearney, and the other portion to the south. The Arsenal at this place with all its conveniences and appliances, for the repairing of arms, manufacturing carriages for cannon, baggage wagons, &c., &c., under the supervision of the indefatigable commander, Capt. Bell, we believe to be one of the most useful and valuable possessions belonging to the U. States, connected with the service. When all that has been furnished from this quarter during the present difficulties is known, the public will be able to estimate its worth, and we hope the U. States government will be prepared to give it that essential facility so much needed, a good landing from the river. -- St. Louis Rep.

NRR 70.336 July 25, 1846 French papers urge necessity of French interference in the war

The *Époque*, the recognized organ of M. Guizot, minister for foreign affairs, has also had a very long and carefully written article on the pending dispute between the great republics of North America.--This article points out the necessity of France and England interfering in the matter, in order to bring about a reconciliation, and to protect Mexico. It alleges that France has interests sufficiently vast in Mexico to warrant such interference. The correspondent of the Liverpool Times, in reference to this article, says: "Considering the connection between this journal and M. Guizot, I am inclined to attach some importance to this lucebration. as showing that if France has not interfered in the business, she assuredly will do so. Indeed, for my party, I entertain not the slightest doubt that the French government will be prepared, if necessary, to give effectual protection to Mexico against her great neighbors; for I remember that in the course of the present session, M. Guizot declared from the tribune on two occasions that it was of vast importance to France that the United States should not seize Mexico, nor the English race absorb the Spanish; and as he is not a man of talk without weighing the force and calculating the consequences of his expressions, I take it for granted that his declarations indicated the policy the French government had determined on pursuing. I have made statements to this effect before, but they can scarcely be too often repeated, as I fear that too many of your readers run away with the notion that because Mr. Polk declared in his message that he would not admit any interference of European governments in the affairs of the American continent, European governments would timidly refrain from interference." [RCG]
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NR 71.038 Presidio occupied by “adventurers”

NR 71.038 Mexican forces at Monterey, Gen. William Jenkins Worth reaches Saltillo

NR 71.038 fatal explosion aboard the steamboat Enterprise, list of killed and wounded in the explosion

NR 71.039 advance of Gen. John Ellis Wool’s division

NR 71.039 Col. William Selby Harney’s expedition

NR 71.039 Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny’s division leaves Fort Leavenworth for Santa Fe, his force, account of parties on the route

NR 71.039 difficulties obstruct New York California expedition

NR 71.039-71.040 comments of the Mobile “Register and Journal” on the disbanded volunteers

NR 71.040 article on payment of the disbanded Louisiana volunteers

NR 71.040 riot among Georgia volunteers near Burita

NR 71.040 poor health among volunteers on the Rio Grande

NR 71.040 illness among the Illinois volunteers

NR 71.048 difficulties with supplies for the Army of the West, arrangement of forces, depredations of Indians

NR 71.048 progress of President James Knox Polk’s “dispatches” proposing negotiations

NR 71.049 mediation between the United States and Mexico proposed by Great Britain

NR 71.049 incident of Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna’s passing the blockade, his reception at Veracruz

NR 71.049 doubts of reception by the Mexicans of an American minister unless forces are withdrawn, remarks of the “Union”

NR 71.049 French journals

71.049 prospect of continuance of the war
"Union" impatient at Gen. Zachary Taylor's delay

Debates in British Parliament, mediation explicitly offered

Letter on the capture of John Pine Bankhead and the Truxton

Loss of the Truxton on the breakers off Tuxpan

Monterey (Pacific) surrenders

Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's passport

"Union" repeats that the country is impatient for Gen. Zachary Taylor to "act," that he has mules now to enable him to advance, "the plan of the campaign has been concocted in a decisive spirit, we ought not to doubt," &c. &c., announces advance of the Army and that Monterey is probably taken

Letter from officer at Camargo as to future prosecution of the war

A night in Matamoros, a false alarm, dead bodies, pleasures of soldiering, want of wagons and munitions, letter describing state of affairs, Gen. William Jenkins Worth at Cerralvo, riot on the Rio Grande

Riot on the Rio Grande

March from Matamoros to Camargo, letter from "the sergeant"

Operation of the Army of the Center, preparations to advance on Chihuahua, San Antonio de Bexar occupied

Army of the West, additional regiments mustered into service, paid, and discharged

Departure of Maj. A. D. Stuart to pay the troops at Fort Leavenworth

Dismissal of the regiment of infantry called for by the requisition of the governor of Missouri

Letter from a volunteer at Bent's Fort, difficulties with provisions

Disappointment to a volunteer of courage, consistency, and indomitable perseverance

New York California expedition delayed

Col. Jonathan D. Stevenson's effects seized, difficulties later resolved

Letter from an officer at Matamoros

Comment on Gens. Pedro Ampudia and Mariano Arista

Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's proclamation from Veracruz on a plan for regeneration of the republic

Arrest and execution of Mexican spies at Camargo, attack on Americans between Camargo and Matamoros

Suspension of building of wagons for the Army

Mexican show of resistance

Gen. William Jenkins Worth's division approaches Cerralvo

Gen. Zachary Taylor's forced march to join Gen. William Jenkins Worth
71.065 Mexican proclamation interdicting trading with or supplying the invaders under penalty of treason
71.065 Gen. Zachary Taylor's orders respecting trade and individuals locating at Camargo
71.065 Col. Clark shot, Mexicans disarmed at Matamoros
71.065 sickness on the Rio Grande

NNR 71.066 curiosity respecting reply received by government from Mexican government, speculation thereon, hopes of a peace diminished, the "Union"for going to war in earnest, another campaign required

NNR 71.066 Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny marching for Santa Fe

NNR 71.066 condition of the Mormon infantry

NNR 71.066 prizes taken by Mexican privateer

NNR 71.066 Infantry assembled at Ft. Leavenworth

NNR 71.067 intelligence from John Charles Fremont, &c.

NNR 71.067 Gen. John Ellis Wool nearly ready to advance on Chihuahua
71.067 Col. William Selby Harney returns from his excursion, is arrested

NNR 71.067 arrival at New Orleans of sick and discharged volunteers from the Rio Grande

NNR 71.067 Gen. Zachary Taylor concentrating at Cerralvo

NNR 71.067 Col. Hay's marching

NNR 71.067 hospitals crowded at Camargo and Matamoros

NNR 71.067 Gen. Robert Patterson in command from Camargo to the mouth of the Rio Grande

NNR 71.067 many deaths

NNR 71.067 Gen. Pedro Ampudia reinforces Monterey

NNR 71.067 doubts expressed by the "Union"as to the account of "desertions"

NNR 71.067 notice by Col. Samuel Hamilton Walker about desertions

NNR 71.067-71.068 letter relative to the campaigns, munitions, supplies, &c.

NNR 71.068 departure of the New York California expedition

NNR 71.080 Santa Fe taken by Gen. Stephen Watts Kearney

NNR 71.081 advance on Monterey

NNR 71.081 letter anticipates battle at Monterey

NNR 71.081 Kentucky regiment encamped at Lavaca

NNR 71.082 settling accounts with volunteer officers: Capt. G. H. Tobin's correspondence with Jonathan M. McCalla

NNR 71.083 Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny's proclamation at Santa Fe to the inhabitants of New Mexico
NNR 71.086-71.087 proclamation issued by Gen. Zachary Taylor on crossing the Rio Grande, announcing the course to be pursued toward Mexicans [incomplete]

NNR 71.087 announcement of the "Union" that the effort to negotiate a peace is to be abandoned and more coercive measures pursued, comments of the "Intelligencer" thereon

NNR 71.087 departure of Gen. Thomas Sidney Jesup to take personal command of the quartermaster's department

71.087-71.088 proclamation issued by Com. John Drake Sloat on taking ports on the Pacific

71.088 particulars of the tragic affair of the Georgia volunteers at Camp Belknap

NNR 71.088-71.089 condition of the volunteers on the Rio Grande

71.089 operations of Gen. John Ellis Wool's division

NNR 71.090-71.092 diary of an officer of the Army of the West to Santa Fe

NNR 71.096 rumor of design to call out volunteers to assail Veracruz, amount of forces now in field operating against Mexico

NNR 71.100 review of the progress of the campaign

NNR 71.100-71.101 Monterey attacked, defended for three days, surrenders to Gen. Zachary Taylor, armistice concluded, incidents

NNR 71.101 official dispatches announced by the "Union" on the battle of the 22d of Sept.

NNR 71.102 report on the battles of the 23rd Sept. and 25th Sept., correspondence and articles of capitulation of Monterey INCOMPLETE

NNR 71.103-71.104 letters from the Army detailing approach to Monterey, storming of Bishop's Palace

NNR 71.105 adjustments in territory of the United States and other North American powers as a result of the conquest of California and New Mexico, and the Oregon treaty

NNR 71.112 Juan Nepomuceno Almonte appointed president of Mexico ad interim, Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna assumes control of armies

NNR 71.112 Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny operating from Santa Fe

NNR 71.112 prize brig Naiad at New Orleans

NNR 71.113 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna assumes the military and declines civil supremacy, Gen. Jose Mariano Salas defers determining whether to receive a minister from United States until Congress, which alone has power in the premises, shall assemble

NNR 71.114 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's reply to the tender of supreme executive authority, his arrival and reception at the capital, levy of men for the Mexican Army, articles relative to funds for the war

NNR 71.114-71.115 notice of groups of recruits for the war in Mexico

NNR 71.115 force of the several divisions of the Army employed against Mexico

NNR 71.115 opinions stated relative to Gen. Zachary Taylor's movements, "plan of
prosecuting the war,"government said to be dissatisfied with Taylor for delaying so long at Matamoros and to have ordered him on to San Luis Potosi, &c., letters detailing the operations against and surrender of Monterey

NNR 71.116 details of deaths

NNR 71.117 notice of the corps of sappers and miners on their way to Mexico

NNR 71.117 design on Veracruz contemplated

NNR 71.117 deaths in hospital at Matamoras, rumors

NNR 71.117 "progress of the war,""plan of invasion to be changed,"rumors at Washington that Gen. Zachary Taylor is to be superseded in command, inquiries as to Gen. Winfield Scott

NNR 71.117 letter detailing the negotiations for surrender of Monterey

NNR 71.118 order of Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny for an expedition from Santa Fe, speculations on operations in New Mexico and California

NNR 71.118 report of affairs at Forth Leavenworth

NNR 71.118-71.119 march and route of Illinois volunteers through Texas
71.119 notice of volunteers preparing to leave Fort Leavenworth for the west

NNR 71.119-71.120 accounts of disease among the Tennessee volunteers

NNR 71.120 sick Tennessee volunteers retiring

NNR 71.120 Col. Samuel Ryan Curtis' letter about the health of troops at Matamoros

NNR 71.120-71.121 notices of officers and men

NNR 71.121 account of a Delaware hero

NNR 71.122 sundry additional incidents in the battles on the Rio Grande
NNR 71.122-3 Col. Humphrey Marshall's Kentucky regiment of volunteers; lack of supplies and pay for the Kentucky volunteers, extensive illness

NNR 71.123 troops embark for Mexico

NNR 71.123 sickness of Illinois volunteers, troops dispatched from Norfolk for Point Isabel and Tampico, word of the position of Col. John Charles Fremont

NNR 71.123 speculations about forces gathered to oppose the Army of the West

NNR 71.123 French brig captured while trying to force the blockade at Tampico

NNR 71.128 requisition for additional regiments of volunteers, "mum" as to future operations, "mental food for the Army"

NNR 71.128 comments on the inability of Secretary of the Treasury Robert John Walker to negotiate a loan with the banks, speculation on his future course

NNR 71.129 Gen. John Ellis Wool's division marching for Chihuahua

NNR 71.129 incidents and results of the recent battles

NNR 71.129 Gen. Zachary Taylor orders up additional forces to Monterey: Kentucky and Tennessee mounted regiments marching for Chihuahua
Gen. Zachary Taylor's general order No. 6, issued 29th Sept. at Camargo, respecting Mexican outlaws, provocations inducing the measure.

Tennessee and Kentucky regiments in Army of the Center under Gen. Wool marching to Chihuahua.

infantry marching for Camargo.

George Wilkins Kendall's letter giving interesting details.

Gen. Zachary Taylor's general order No. 115 directing the march from Cerralvo to Monterey.

"march of the second division of the select six thousand"

Gen. Pedro Ampudia's address to his "companions in arms"prior to attack on Monterey.

description of the castle of San Juan de Ulloa.

Sir George Francis Seymour, in the Collingwood, arrives in California.

Sir George Francis Seymour, in the Collingwood, eighty-gun ship, civilities; Com. John Drake Sloat organizes a corps of dragoons and sails for Mazatlan, leaving Com. Robert Field Stockton in command, who issues a proclamation of blockade, operations of squadron

Com. Robert Field Stockton arrives in the Congress and Sir George Francis Seymour in the Collingwood, eighty-gun ship, civilities; Com. John Drake Sloat arrives at Havana.

Gen. Jose Castro employed to revolutionize California.


Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny's proclamation organizing territorial government in New Mexico.

Gen. Pedro Ampudia's evacuation of Monterey, occupation by American forces.

troops to leave Fort Moultrie for Mexico.

Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny's excursion south and return to Santa Fe.

Col. Canales reported at San Fernando.
70.337 Aug 1, 1846 Gen. Mariano Paredes y Arillaga requests permission, which is granted, to place himself in command of the Army in the North, arrangements with regard to other Mexican commanders

Paredes Elected President. Shortly after the meeting of the Mexican congress, that body proceeded to organize the executive power, by a decree that it should be deposited provisionally in a magistrate elected by a plurality of the votes of congress, and that a vice president should be elected at the same time to act in the absence of the president. This decree was passed on the 10th of June, and on the 12th the election was held. Gen. Paredes was elected president, receiving 58 out of 83 votes. Ben. Bravo received 13 votes, and Gen. Herrera 7 votes. Gen. Bravo was then elected vice president, receiving 48 out of 82 votes. The highest opposing candidate was D. Luis G. Cuevas, who received 17 votes.

Gen. Paredes took the oaths of office on the 13th as provisional president, and at the same time pronounced another discourse, in the most notable passage of which he expresses his confidence that congress will grant all the supplies and make every effort necessary to defend the national cause. He reviews at length the wrongs which Mexico has endured at the hands of the United States, and concludes with desiring permission to assume of Senor Bustamente, who was ill, Dr. D. Louis Gonzaga Gordoa presided over congress. He replied to the president in substance, that every question of domestic policy shrunk into insignificance compared with the invasion of the country on the Rio Bravo; that the Mexican who should think of aught else than the injustice and treachery with which their solld was trampled, and the necessity of avenging their outraged honor, had no right to claim a share in their patriotic devotion.

On the 18th permission was granted to Paredes to place himself at the head of troops, and proceed to join the army of the North. Gonzalez Arevalo was to leave the capital on the 19th in command of the advance of the forces of Paredes. Gen. Mejia was in the actual command of the army of the North, Arista having been ordered to Mexico, and Ampudia to remain at San Luis Potosi. [A paper of the 27th ult. says that Gen. Arevalo, instead of proceeding to the frontier, had marched for Guadalajara to put down the insurrection.]

Gen. Bravo left Vera Cruz for the city of Mexico on the 24th, to discharge the functions of president in the absence of Paredes.

[RCG]

70.337-338 Aug 1, 1846 consideration by the Mexican Congress of a declaration of war against the United States

Declaration of War Proposed. The committee of congress upon foreign relations and upon war made a joint report upon the 16th upon that part of the message of Paredes relating to the United States. The reports recommends the passage of a bill declaring Mexico to be in a state of war with the United States. We do not find that the bill had actually been passed. Bocanegra and Valencia were among the members of this committee. After a short report upon the circumstances of the case, the committee proposed the following:

Project DE LA Loi. The extraordinary national congress of the Mexican republic considering:

That the republic of the United States of America, with notorious violation of all right, has instigated and protected openly and perseveringly the insurrection of the colonists of Texas against the nation which had admitted them upon its territory and generously shielded them with the protection of its laws:

That is has incorporated the same territory of Texas into in union by an act of its congress, notwithstanding it has always belonged by undisputed right to the Mexican nation, has been recognized as such by the United States themselves, as appears by the boundary treaties of 1832 and 1835:

That is has not maintained the solemn assurances and reservations in regard to the
That is has also invaded the department of Tamaulipas, introducing an army upon the left bank of the Rio Bravo, giving occasion and origin to the battles of the 8th and 9th of May of the present year:

That in time of profound peace, and during established relations of amity, between the two countries, it has invaded by land and sea that territories of the Cali:

That it has blockaded the ports of Matamoros, Vera Cruz, and Tampico of Tamaulipas, opening its fire upon the defenses of the latter:

That it has authorized a levy of troops against Mexico:

That it has declared war against the republic under the pretext that the said states had been invaded, when in fact they made the invasion:

And lastly, considering that the nationality of the Mexicans is seriously compromised by the power and the spirit of usurpation, flagrantly manifested by the neighboring nation of the United States.

70.341-342 Aug 1, 1846 letter from "The Corporal" with the Army of Occupation at Matamoros

"THE CORPORAL," whose exceedingly lively and well written articles, communicated to the New Orleans Bee, keep the public well posted up as to the affairs on the Rio Grande, writes from

Matamoros, July 4th, 1846

I was in conversation with Mr. De Grey, who has returned here from Chihuahua, near two hours this morning. He says that he left San Antonio with others about two months ago with good on a trading expedition to Chihuahua, and proceeded on the route unmolested until he had reached Santa Clova, where they were stopped by the guard stationed on the river and their goods taken from them, in the name of the revenue laws of Mexico. Mr. De G. then left his party and traveled down the east bank of the Rio Grande, for a few days, when he crossed over and went to Saltillo, where he was advised of the bloody battle of the 9th, by its citizens, who stated to him that they would never go against the Americans again, and that it was a generally expressed thing at every place they had heard of. He says he was stopped by Arista, who was at his rancho, near Monterey, for two days, and although the general had quit the Mexican army forever, he still though it his duty to detain and would likely have kept him had he not managed to escape and get into Monterey. This place he found dull and "heavy" and not one Mexican soldier in it--the people damning Paredes and the government, saying the soldiers had eat them out of every thing and then left them for the Americans to prey upon, whom they were looking for with much anxiety. They told him at this place that there was much eagerness displayed by the inhabitants of Caohuila and the upper part of Tamaulipas before the news of the fight reached them, but all operations in military affairs ceased after it, and patriotism was sunk. The remnant of the army--not 500--have gone to Lenares, and were in a pitiful condition, and lessening the number daily by desertion. They had recruited a little whilst there, and fortified several points, but the citizens said it was labor thrown away. He heard that 600 men volunteered at Monclova, and were "eager for the fray;" but the startling news from the Rio Grande gave them a lick back; they mutinied, and 500 of them left sans ceremony. They had been made to believe that our pockets were lined with gold. (How they would have been so sucked had they got into the pockets of some folks I wot of.) He saw General Cannales near Reynosa, who told him that he commanded but 125 men at the time. Carabajal, his cher ami, gave De Grey, a passport to protect him from the band.

I am happy to inform you that the present swell in the river has had the good effect of clearing a channel at the mouth, by washing away the sand, and leaving it open for vessels of 5 or 6 feet water. The vessels at the mouth have gone out and several steamers have come in laden with military stores.

Several rows have occurred in this place during the last few days, which have
compelled General Taylor to resume strict measures again. Several Mexicans have
been killed and others wounded. Those of our men who engage in these broils are
bad men—who come to town and remain here about during the day, in connection
with some rangers of similar character, but I am proud to say, for the honor of the
service, they are few in number.

There are, and have been for ten days, a set of mountebanks here performing on the
tight rope and cutting "fantastic tricks before high heaven. About half an hour
before the commencement of their performances they mount each a mustang, and
proceeded by a base drum and charionets, parade through the principle streets--
dressed in their performing costumes, and followed by all the juveniles of the town.
They are natives, and style themselves, "Compania del Norte. I have not had the
courage to visit them.

70.342 Aug 1, 1846 visit of British naval officers to Gen. Zachary Taylor

"Curiosity runs high"to know the object of a visit of two British naval officers to
General Taylor, who arrived here in a vessel of war from Tampico. Communication
being cut off, they sent their dispatches by mail to their consul at Matamoros, to be
laid by him before the consul general. Nous verrons.

Appearances indicate a move of the army into the interior as soon as the waters
subside.

Report says Gen. Paredes has sent a proclamation to the people of Matamoros,
calling upon them to treat our regulars with every kindness and consideration,
because of the unparalleled kindness and attention to the wounded, as well as
prisoners and citizens. He takes occasion to score the Texans, &c. If this be true, it
argues more favorable than otherwise.

70.343 August 1, 1846, Court of Inquiry, charges against General Gaines, Library for
the Army of Occupation, Volunteers

The Court of Inquiry ordered to assemble at Fortress Monroe, (Old Point), for the
investigation of the charges against General Gaines, met on the 21st, and organized
for the transaction of business. - The Court sat with closed doors of course. All the
members had not arrived. Gen. Gaines was, upon his arrival at Fortress Monroe,
received by Col. Walbach, commandant, and saluted with 13 guns, together with the
honors due to his high rank.

A LIBRARY FOR THE ARMY OF OCCUPATION. - Presuming, probably, that the army
would have leisure for study, the following publishers in New York have contributed a
very excellent library for the army on the Rio Grande: - Harper & Brothers; Burgess,
Stringer & Co.; Wiley & Putnam; Saxton & Miles; Mark H. Newman; W. Taylor & Co.;
J. & G.A. Langley; Baker & Seribner; M.W. Dodd; Darius Mead; J.S. Redfield; Fowler
& Wells; C.S. Francis & Co.; Wood & Son, and Stanford & Swords. The idea was
suggested by the Rev. Mr. Marshall, of Vicksburgh, Miss., at present in New York on
a visit.

The government is buying mules in Tennessee, at $100 apiece.

Lieut. DEAS, who, it was reported at the time, had been attracted by some Mexican
damsel, on the banks of the Rio Grande, opposite Fort Brown, but who in reality had
swam the river in search of the lamented Col. Cross, and was captured by the
enemy, has been restored to his company.

DESERTERS. - The two Sergeants who deserted from Capt. Deas's company of
Alabama volunteers on the Rio Grande, were arrested in Mobile, and were about to
be sent back to be tried by a military court, when a writ of habeas corpus was taken
out for their detention, and the examination of their case before a civil court. After
hearing the case, the judge decided that they should be returned to the camp for
trial by court martial. From this decision an appeal was taken to the court of
appeals, where the matter now lies
DEATH OF C. J. McNULTY. - Capt. Hicks, of the New Era, arrived yesterday from New Orleans, reports the death of C. J. McNulty, on his way to the seat of war. He died just below Memphis. He was a private in the Knox county volunteers, and formerly well known as the clerk of the house of representatives.

GEORGIA VOLUNTEERS. - Two men were drowned - Farrar and McNier - in the Alabama river, while on their way to Mobile. They jumped overboard from the steamer in a fright.

The Mobile papers gives the particulars of an affair, on the wharf in that city, connected with a corps of volunteers from Georgia. Some of the men undertook to torment some negroes fishing at the wharf. Two were knocked into the river and one of them drowned. Excitement followed, and the troops were for hurrying off the boat on which they were embarked - but the mayor ordered their detention, and three men were arrested and taken before the mayor. Two were, after examination, discharged, and the third sent to prison to answer for his crime.

SOUTH CAROLINA VOLUNTEERS. - The secretary of war has informed the governor of S. Carolina that there is no necessity at present for calling the regiment of that state into service.

EXPEDITION AGAINST CHIHUAHUA. - The company of U. States dragoons that have for some time been at Austin, Texas, left there on the 16th June, for San Antonio.

Capt. R. M. Snell, of the Texan volunteers, has arrived at Galveston for the purpose of raising three or four companies of foot, for what service is not stated.

THE SANTA FE EXPEDITION. - Col. Price's regiment. A letter from Lexington, Mo., dated the 2d, says - "Col. Price has been informed by Col. Kearney, that his regiment will be received, provided he raises eight hundred infantry - more cavalry not being wanted in the expedition. Col. Price, it is said, objects to this arrangement, and a doubt exists whether he will be able to succeed in raising the number of men. There can be no doubt that Col. Kearney has more mounted men with him than is necessary for the expedition, and we are surprised at the opposition which Col. Price makes, to the new service with which Col. Kearney desires to invest him. He ought not to hesitate about obeying Col. Kearney's requisition, more especially as it may conduce to the safety of the expedition, and to the promptness with which his men may be brought into the field."

**[GLP]**

70.343 Aug 1, 1846 arrival of the first, second, and third regiments of Ohio volunteers at New Orleans

Ohio Volunteers. The first regiment of Ohio volunteers, commanded by Col. Mitchell, and Lieut. Col. Weller, arrived at New Orleans on the 8th of July, by steamers New World and Carolina, from Cincinnati, and encamped at the battle ground blow the barracks.


Two steamboats arrived at New Orleans on the 16th with the 2d regiment.

**[RCG]**

70.343 Aug 1, 1846 arrival of five companies of Indiana volunteers at New Orleans

Indiana Volunteers. A steamboat arrived at N. Orleans on the 16th of July, with five companies of the 2d regiment of the Indiana volunteers.

**[RCG]**

70.343

New York Volunteers. We learn that the full complement of seven regiments of
volunteers required from this state, for service in the war against Mexico, has already been obtained, and all the line officers commissioned. It is expected that the field officers will also receive their commissions in the course of twelve or fourteen days, when the whole force will be complete, awaiting orders from the war department. An excess, nearly sufficient for another regiment, we understand, has been reported to the adjutant general’s office.

[RCG]

70.343 Aug 1, 1846 account of traders, emigrants, and soldiers setting out for Santa Fe, Oregon, and California

Trade to Sante Fe, California, and Oregon.

Dr. J. Gregg, the author of "Commerce of the Prairies,"in a letter to the editors of the Boonslick (Missouri) Times, gives the following important statements.

*Independence, June 30th, 1846.*

The traders having left this place in detached parties, as each proprietor finished his preliminary arrangements and got his goods and chattles, freight and cattle ready for starting, it is difficult to form a correct estimate of their numbers or quantity, unless one had taken the pains of stationing himself upon the borders at the opening of the navigation, in the spring, and counted them when passing. I have, however, by minute and frequent inquiries ascertained that there are "en masse" upon the Santa Fe trail, 216 wagons.

Still behind to start during the summer, principally belonging to Mexicans, say, Small carriages, buggies, &c., 150 " 50" 416

--having on board, as near as I can estimate it, an amount of merchandise, costing a fraction over one million of dollars, which in more than treble that of any previous season.

These vehicles, of various sorts, are accompanied by people as various--compromising traders and wagoners, loungers, on and connoisseur travelers, loafers and loungers, amounting to about one thousand men.

The Oregon and California emigration, (much the larger part of which is for the latter country,) amounts to , men, women, and children, about two thousand persons, and in all probability, I think, at least 400 wagons of all descriptions.

Then, there is our army, the number of which is quite uncertain, although, including dragoons and volunteers, infantry, and cavalry, it will, from present indications, amount to about three thousand men accompanied by two hundred and fifty wagons.

Thus, we have about six thousand souls, with one thousand wagons, moving westward, across the great prairies, during the present summer, from this part of our frontier, How many may put off from other portions of our western border, I know no more than you; but report says that a large number of troops will leave Arkansas next month for our southwestern frontier and Mexico.

Your Friend,

Josiah Gregg.

[RCG]

70.344 Aug 1, 1846 mustering of the New York regiment destined for California, complaints of favoritism to Col. John D. Stevenson

The expedition to the Pacific. -- The regiment under the command of Col. Stevenson, destined for California, was mustered and inspected at the New York arsenal yard on the 21st ult. It is said they intend to encamp on Bedloe's Island, and pass the time previous to their departure in active drill.
The Mechanics' Journal says. -- "Very just complaints are made of the favoritism of the administration in allowing John D. Stevenson to raise a regiment for immediate service, while volunteers are enrolled in New York and waiting to be ordered into survive, waiting without pay, and even without any provision for their maintenance. A son of Mr. Marcy is to be paymaster of this regiment, for the administration has long since assumed the right of appointing the officers of the militia, though in direct defiance of the constitution, which reserves that right to the states respectively. Sir Robert Peel, with the immense patronage in his power, made it a rule never to appoint a relative to office. With all the admiration which this administration exhibits for British examples, this is a precedent which there appears no disposition to follow. [RCG]

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**70.352 August 1, 1846, Steamer Princeton detached for Pensacola**

THE PRINCETON, U.S. STEAMER, which has been exceedingly useful in maintaining the blockade of Vera Cruz, performing what no other vessel in the navy was as capable of doing, has suddenly been detached by Commodore CONNER, in order to bring despatches, with which she arrived at Pensacola, on the 20th, in five days from Vera Cruz. The despatches are said to be from our Pacific squadron. Of their purport nothing has transpired. [GLP]

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**70.352 August 1, 1846, ARMY OF OCCUPATION**

Our latest dates from the Rio Grande left the army still waiting for means of transportation and for supplies to enable them to progress. Gen. Taylor is now encamped with four regiments, (Colonels Walton's, Davie's, Dankin's and Mark's,) with the Alabamians, under Capt. Desha, at Buena Vista, on the borders of a lake, seventeen miles northwest of Matamoros. The health of the volunteers here, with Gen. Taylor, had much improved, owing to the fine air they enjoyed and splendid encamping grounds they occupied.

The roads were perfectly impassable for wheeled vehicles, owing to the swampy soil, occasioned by the immense falls of rain which had recently taken place. - The steamer Mercer arrived at the mouth of the Rio Grande, all safe, on the 17th inst. There were no signs of Mexican soldiery in the vicinity of Camargo.

Capt. Walker had returned from his expedition to Monterey, and delivered a report which is said to be an exceedingly interesting one of the state of the country through which he passed, halting places, &c. &c. - There is no probability of an opposition being made to the advance of the American troops between Camargo and Monterey, and from what could be collected, the Mexican force concentrated at the latter point, is extremely insignificant. Nothing regarding the reported approach of Paredes, with the army of reserve, of an authentic nature has been ascertained at headquarters, although ??? are out in some numbers for that purpose. Everything, however, seems to announce that the possession of Monterey will be fiercely disputed, as it is by nature and art, one of the most powerful strongholds in Mexico. The inhabitants and soldiers are daily employed in improving its defences.

Our informant states that it was reported by the Rangers that they had penetrated to the precipitous cliffs that overhang Monterey, when a trooper, a very adventurous soldier, named Cummins, reached a point overhanging the Bishop's Palace, which commanded a view of the whole city. The utmost activity seemed to prevail among the Mexicans, who were busily employed in repairing the old fortifications and erecting new ones. - The number of troops was not ascertained, but from the movements observable, it was evident they were preparing every means of defence.

The crops it is feared, are almost irreparably injured. The cotton harvest is annihilated; as for the corn much will be saved, although greatly deteriorated.

The Mexican peasantry are employed very diligently in cutting wood and piling it on the banks of the river, for the steamboats. They receive $2.50 a cord. It is muskeet wood, and burns very well. Gen. Taylor put it to them, whether they would cut it and get paid, or oblige him to have it cut by his own men, when they would lose the price of labor. Wood, however, he added, must be had.

Business is very brisk at Matamoros. Fine weather had again assumed a permanent
aspect; the waters were every where falling, and the whole of the military were joyfully preparing for the opening campaign.

[GLP]

70.352 Aug 1, 1846 mounted riflemen and Mormon infantry for California

"Army of the West"

We find the above designation fully assumed in an official order from Col. Kearney, 1st U S. dragoons, dated "Headquarters, Army of the West, Fort Leavenworth, June 19th, 1846," directed to Capt. Allen, of said regiment, which together with Capt. Allen's "circular to the Mormons," dated "Camp of the Mormons, Mount Pisgah, June 26th," are published in the St. Louis Republican, of the 24th, as taken from the Nauvoo Eagle, of the 17th June. The overture to the Mormons in the orders and circular are very comprehensive. Gen. Kearny distinctly point to California as his place of destination, and that he stipulates for the discharge of the Mormons from service in that country. He asks for five companies of infantry. The Mormons are eager to embrace the overture. The Republican adds: "We learn from the same source that Gen. Kearny in consideration of their having placed five hundred men at the disposal of the government, has emigrating Mormons, and that they shall have the use of "any of the Indian lands they may think proper to select," until they are ready to cross the mountains. The Mormons have, in accordance with this arrangement, selected Grand Island, on the Platt river, for their temporary residence. It is a large tract and has a salt spring upon it. There they will winter, and collect the entire Mormon population of the west, preparatory to their march to California next spring. They propose to push forward from this point as rapidly as possible, and, after reaching in, to send back from five hundred to one thousand wagons, for the purpose of helping along those who may yet be in Illinois, Iowa, or Missouri. This is to be done with all possible expedition. Grand Island is stated to be between one hundred and two hundred miles west of Council Bluffs. At the last dates the requisition of Gen. Kearny was rapidly filling up; and on the 17th, the United States officers gave the Mormons a splendid fete or ball, which is said to have been a fine affair."

A letter from an officer date --Camp at Cotton Wood, July 10th, published in the National Intelligencer, of the 30th, states that the detachment crossed Kansas on the 2d, and were 180 miles from Fort Leavenworth, without meeting with any accident. They had no intelligence as yet from the detachment sent under Captain Moore to overtake the Santa Fe expedition.

The companies of Mormon infantry and col. Price's regiment of mounted Missourians, are expected to join general Kearny at Bent's Ford, at which place he halts for them to come up. Including these he will have about 3 200 men with which to invade Mexico and Santa Fe.

[RCG]

NRR 70.368 Nashville "Union's"correspondence on the campaign, move toward Monterey anticipated

70.368 Aug 8, 1846 Camargo taken

Camargo was taken possession of by the advance corps, without a shadow of opposition.

[RCG]

70.368 Aug 8, 1846 wagons purchase and contracted for in Atlantic states

The U.S. Quartermaster at Baltimore, a few days since, advertised that he would purchase as number of wagons for the U.S. army. The notice came to a ready market. The way his quarters were beset forthwith, and the crowd of wagons that were ready for Uncle Sam's cash, was a caution. We have heard of persons
obtaining $150 for second hand wagons, that cost when now $90; and again we have heard of persons who had their eyes open for a speculation, realizing $600 in a single day by purchasing up wagons, and selling them to the government -- all scandal, perhaps. Yesterday's *American* contained a laconic notice from the Quartermaster, that he had "wagons enough, and would purchase no more." [RCG]

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**70.368 Aug 8, 1846 expenses of the war**

*Expenses of the War.* The *St. Louis Republican* of a recent date has the following:

"It is only by ascertaining the actual cost of particular items that the expenses of the war with Mexico can be estimated. The government agents, a few days since, purchased five hundred barrels mess pork for the "use of the army of the West." This pork is to be transported to Santa Fe. It cost $10 per barrel. Three or four years ago supplies were needed for an expedition on the same route, and contracts were made with Bent & St. Vrain, for transportation. They were paid 8 cents per lb., from Independence to Bent's Fort. The government, of course, paid the transportation to Independence. It is alleged that the contract to which we have alluded was a losing concern, and that no one will undertake it for less than ten cents per pound. A barrel of pork will average 320 pounds. The cost of its transportation from Fort Leavenworth, to which point all public stores are shipped to Bent's Fort, will then be thirty-two dollars. But this is not all. It has there to be wagoned to Santa Fe, and it is a very moderate calculation to say that the additional cost, with the transportation from St. Louis to Fort Leavenworth, will increase the cost to $40 per barrel. Add the original cost and it makes the actual expense of the barrel of pork, on its delivery at Santa Fe, fifty dollars. In other words, the government pays $25,00 for the 500 barrels of pork.

"The cost of all other freight must be charged in the same way -- by the pound-- and the expense cannot be much less than we have estimated." [RCG]

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**70.368 August 8, 1846, move toward Monterey anticipated**

"It is now understood that we will move towards Monteray, a beatiful town at the head of the San Juan (river), about two hundred miles distant. I think it is probable that in two weeks more the mounted force, viz. the Texas mounted riflemen and the United States dragoons will be on their march thither. If we can get the needful transportation, we will overrun and occupy, before the end of summer, all that part of Mexico lying on this side of the Auahuae mountains. This I imagine will be the end of our operations in this direction. If the war continues, the main blow must be stricken through Vera Cruz. The means of reaching that point by water are always abundant, and we are taken at once into the heart of the enemy, where every blow will count. To approach the city of Mexico by Monterey will require immense transportation of provisions and forage, over an uninhabited desert of a thousand miles, with roads through mountains and defiles.

We hear but little of the enemy. The rumor is, and has been for some weeks, that they are fortifying the pass this side of Monterey. It is said to be a strong place. Yet we will pass it, if we try." [GLP]

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**70.368 August 8, 1846, CAMP, ON THE BATTLE-FIELD**

**MAY 10TH, 1846.**

SIR, - In compliance with your request, I have the honor to report that, in the deployment of the 4th Infantry, I found myself in command of companies B, D, and K, on the left of the road as we entered, and having been ordered to cross to the right abd advance, did so. After crossing the pond, I had with me Lieuts. Hays and Woods and about twenty men of different regiments, mostly however, of the 4th. Upon deploying my men on the crest of the hill, I discovered one of the enemy's pieces about fifty yards in my front which was defended by about 150 Infantry. I
charged and took the piece and attempted to spike it, but not being able to do so, took it back to a place of safety. - The enemy had a breast-work in my rear, and opened a heavy fire on me, with about ten men, I dislodged him and drove him across the road. Too much credit cannot be given to Lieuts. Hays and Wooda, of the 4th. They were among the very first to reach the piece, and to them belongs the credit of its capture. - Whilst I was engaged in driving the enemy from his breastwork, these officers, with their men, repulsed a party that charged them in order to recapture the piece. I cannot refrain from calling your attention to Sergeant Major Maloney and Corporal Farrall, who behaved with remarkable coolness and gallantry. - Everybody did his duty nobly, as becomes American soldiers.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant.

ROBERT C. BUCHANAN, Capt. 4th Infantry

To Maj. G. W. ALLEN, Command'g 4th Inf'y.

[GLP]

70.368 August 8, 1846, Death of Lieut. Blake, deaths at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma

LIEUT. BLAKE. A letter from Gen. Worth, dated New Orleans, May 18, 1846, says. - You will probably by mail, hear of the loss of that gallant ornament and devoted member of your corps, my warmly cherished friend, Blake. The manner adds poignancy to our sorrows. Had he fallen in the conflict, in which by all accounts, he had especially distinguished himself, regrets would have been turned into envy. After the battle, on casting aside his weapons, one of his pistols accidently discharged, and gave him a mortal wound. Knowing and valuing him as I did, you will readily conceive how I deplore his loss, both as a gallant and true hearted friend, and accomplished comrade. He has left no better soldier behind."

"Our troops have behaved with great intrepidity. - Every man has done his duty. My own gallant regiment speaks for itself in the list of the killed and wounded - verified by the colors of the crack Mexican regiment, that of Tobasco. Would to God I could have been with them; but a sad fate ordered otherwise. There is time yet; it is but the beginning of the end. I sail to-morrow, and, with God's blessing will be in line by the 21st.

(Lieut. Blake served with Gen. Worth throughout his operations in Florida.)

THE MORTALLY WOUNDED. The Surgeon General of the Army on the Rio Grande has sent to the editor of the Washington Union a list of the private soldiers who were mortally wounded in the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, and who expired on the days of the battles, or have since died of their wounds. It is as follows:


The names of the men who were killed outright, or who did not come under the observation of the surgeons, have not been reported to the Surgeon General's Office.

[GLP]

70.371 Aug 15, 1846 volunteers return to New Orleans

The brig Empresario, the steamer New York, and the schooner Native, all reached New Orleans on the 1st from Galveston and the seat of war -- bringing a number of volunteers that had been discharged under orders from government. Among the passengers by the New York and Col. Morgan, Capt. Holton, and Lieut. Alvord, of the U. States army; Col. Narks, Adj. Hunter, Lieut. Harris, of the Andrew Jackson
A number of fine artillery companies arrived at the Brazos before the departure of the Empresario. Gen. Smith, with the 3d and 4th regiments U.S. Infantry, had proceeded to Camargo. Brig. Gen. Hamer was to be left in command at Matamoros, with a regiment of volunteers and a supply of artillery to garrison the ports. Gov. Henderson, at the last accounts, was lying dangerously ill at Matamoros, little hope was entertained of his recovery.

The propeller Massachusetts arrived at the Brazos on the 26th ult. The brig Crusoe struck on Brazos bar in going over, and upon making the landing she unfortunately sank. The clerk of the New York reports that he saw on the 29th the bark Lazan, hence for Brazos Santiago, ashore ten miles to the east of the Brazos. The troops on board were all saved. Her cargo consisted of government stores which were all saved; the vessel was a total loss.

Nothing was known of the movements of the Mexican forces. Letters from the city of Mexico stated that Paredes was to leave the capital to join the army on the 29th ult.

INCIDENTS OF THE BATTLE FIELD.

The Maryland Line. A letter from Point Isabel on the 2d inst., says: "There were four gentlemen from Baltimore in the battle of Palo Alto: the gallant and ill-fated Ringgold, who fell at the close of a long fight, in which he did incalculable damage to the enemy; Capt. Magruder, who, when the Mexican army charged upon the square
of the artillery battalion, then unsupported by any other battalion, seized a musket
which had fallen from the hands of a man killed near him, and fighting with the
soldiers in the ranks, assisted in repelling the charge; Lieut. Randolph Ridgely, who,
commanding two pieces, dashed to the assistance of the fifth infantry in the square,
when charged by the Mexican Red Lancers, and in the most gallant manner assisted
that regiment in repulsing it; and lastly, Mr. Lloyd Tilganan, a gentleman amateur,
who graduated at West Point and resigned; but who, upon this occasion,
reconnoitered the enemy's whole line before the battle, and, as a volunteer aid to
Gen. Taylor, exposed his person every where, and was always in the hottest part of
the field."

THE VETERAN OF NAPOLEON.

As Churchill's battalion of artillery were advancing to take their position in the
second line of battalion on the 8th, a private in the 4th regiment was come up to,
who lay upon the battle field with both his legs shot off. He was one of the first that
fell after the cannonade commenced, and was a veteran in Napoleon's wars. After
having escaped in the terrible conflicts of Austerlitz and Wagnam, and in the retreat
from Moscow, and the battle of Waterloo, he lived to fall on the Palo Alto, by a
cannon shot from a Mexican battery. As his fellow soldiers passed him and noticed at
every pulsation of his heart, that the blood flowed from his wounds, they stopped an
instant to sympathise with him, the noble hearted fellow, as his eyes were glazing in
death, waved them on, and with his last breath, said, "Go comrades, I have only got
what a soldier enlists for."

A private, on the 9th, who had followed Lieut. Dobbins through the thickest of the
fight, raised his musket at a Mexican, and would have blown him through if the poor
fellow had not most petiously cried out amigo, amigo, at the same time dropping his
weapon; the private did the same and advanced towards the Mexican to take him
prisoner, the Mexican then perfidiously raised his piece and instantly killed the
generous American. This so enraged Lieut. Dobbins, that he drew his bowie knife
and at a bound reached the coward and literally split his head in twain.

70.373 Aug 15, 1846 notice of the departure of Maj. E. Kirby for the war

Major E. Kirby. Among the distinguished officers of the army that embarked on
board the steamship Alabama, on Saturday evening bound for the seat of war, we
noticed Major E. Kirby, of the regular army. Major Kirby, has rendered his country
much service in his time, having served in the last war, and in the Black Hawk and
Florida campaigns. He belongs to the Cincinnatus school of soldiers; for when his
country needs not his services in the field, he may be found tilling the soil on his
farm near Brownsville, Jefferson county, N.Y., formerly the residence of his
distinguished father-in-law, the late Major Ge. Jacob Brown. It was the good fortune
of the writer of this to meet Major K. last September, at the exhibition of the New
York State Agriculture Society, at Utica, and well could he descant upon the beauties
of a Burham, a Decon, and a Hereford. Major K. has gone out as paymaster general,
and took with him $100,000 for the pay of soldiers--and it may be safely ventured
that he is shipper of Mexican dollars to Mexico. N. Orleans Tropic.

[RCG]

NRR 70.373 Aug 15, 1846 Account of the Heroine of Fort Brown

THE HEROINE OF FORT BROWN. The N. Orleans Picayune has a letter from
Matamoros which furnishes some interesting particulars respecting the heroine of
Fort Brown, who is generally known in the army of the south as "The Great
Western."- The writer says: -

"She was first brought to the notice of the public in a few remarks by Lieut. Bragg,
at the collation given by the army to the Louisiana delegation at Gen. Arista's
headquarters in Matamoros. He mentioned her gallant conduct and noble bearing
during the whole of the bombardment. A few of the incidents of the life of this
extraordinary woman, which I have been able to pick up in camp, will be read with
some interest; they prove that the sex has not been unrepresented in the soul-
stirring and bloody scenes on the Rio Grande.

The Great Western belong to a class known and recognized in the organization of the
When the army took up its line of march for the Rio Grande, the women, with a few rare exceptions, were left behind to come by sea. A very few procured ponies and followed their husbands on their tedious and arduous march. Not so with "The Great Western." Her husband was sent by water, whether on duty or for disability. She could not learn; but she, true to her character, declaring that "the boys" (young officers of her mess) "must have somebody to take care of them," purchased a mule and a cart, packed her luggage, cooking utensils, and supplies, mounted behind her donkey, with whip in hand, and displayed upon the whole route qualities and attainments which the best teamster in the train might have envied. During the whole journey she kept up the "mess," a relief from the burdens of which is the greatest boon to an officer on the march. The brigade to which she was attached arrived upon the banks of the Sal Colorado as Gen. Taylor was preparing to cross with the dragoons and the 1st brigade of infantry. The Mexicans upon the opposite bank were making great demonstrations by blowing bugles, &c., &c. After calmly surveying the scene from her cart, she remarked, with great coolness and determination, that "if the general would give her a good strong pair of tongs, who would wade that river, and whip every scoundrel that dare show himself!" It may be imagined that the men were not backward in crossing after that.

When Gen. Taylor marched to Point Isabel with his army, on the 1st May, the 7th infantry, and of course, The Great Western, remained to garrison Fort Brown. How that noble regiment and the two companies of artillery left in this work sustained themselves, is already known, but nothing will more gratify them than to have justice done their gallant heroine, of whom they speak in the warmest terms. She, with all the other women left behind, some eight or ten, moved into the fort, where her mess was soon put in operation, the position of her tent and fire being near the centre of the fort. The enemy's fire opened on the 3d, just as she was commencing her arrangements for the "boys" breakfast. Every security that could possibly be provided was offered to the women, to whom the gallant soldier always gives his first attention. The magazines were the only "bomb proofs" in the fort, and as the government had sent no ammunition to fill them, the next most inflammable material - the women found perfect security in them. These women, however, be it said to the honor of the sex, were not idle. Most nobly did they ply the needle in preparing sand bags out of the officers' and soldiers' tents, wherewith to strengthen the work, and protect the artillerymen when serving their guns. The Great Western, true to herself again, declined participating in this protection of sewing, and continued her labors at the fire, in the open air. From the firing of the first gun all hands were at their posts, Lowd's and Bragg's artillery speaking in tones of thunder the indignation they felt at being thus saluted on a bright May morning.

When the hour arrived for breakfast, but few expected the luxury which awaited them. The mess was as well attended to as if nothing but a morning drill with blank cartridges had come off, and in addition a large supply of delicious hot coffee was awaiting the thirsty, who had but to call and partake, without distinction of rank. To some of the artillerymen, who were unable to leave their guns, the beverage was carried by this 'ministering angel,' and, as may readily be believed, no belle of Orleans, as much as she might be admired and beloved, ever met a more gracious reception. The fire of the artillery was kept up almost incessantly until dinner hour - a soldier's dinner hour is 1 o'clock - when the good and generous woman again provided for those who were almost utterly exhausted and worn out, a delicious dish of bean soup - this bean soup is declared by the Mexicans to be the foundation of that invincible spirit which they have seen so strikingly displayed by the Yankee soldiers. This she distributed again, without money and without price. Thus did she continue to discharge her duties during the seven days that the enemy kept up an incessant cannonade and bombardment. She was ever to be found at her post; her meals were always ready at the hour, "and always of the best the market afforded."

When the despatches were made up for General Taylor on the evening of the 4th, a number of officers and others had written to their friends at Point Isabel, and among them "The Great Western" had found time to communicate with her husband; and I have frequently heard it said by those who saw her letter, for it was loudly called for and made public, that her description, if not the most accurate, was certainly the most graphic which was given of the events of the 3d and 4th May. She expressed her full confidence in the ability of the garrison to sustain itself, and only regretted the absence of her husband. To supply his place, however, I am told that she applied, early in the action, for a musket and ammunition, which she received and put in a secure place, expressing her determination to have full satisfaction whenever the
enemy should dare approach within range of her piece. This they never did, and our heroine must rest contented with the reflection that she nobly performed her own duty and will long be remembered by the besieged garrison of Fort Brown.

She is probably as celebrated for her personal appearance as she is for her deeds. With an erect and majestic carriage, she glories in a height - six feet - which fully entitles her to a place in the grenadier, any soldier of which might well envy her athletic but graceful form. But her reputation, the dearest of all things to a woman, is what she prides herself on. The tongue of slander has never yet dared to attack her well earned and well sustained character. With virtue as a basis, and such heroic conduct to build with, she never need fear the necessity of exercising her extraordinary physical ability in defence of that reputation. But if attacked, the gallant defenders of Fort Brown will, I doubt not, be found pressing forward in her defence, and woe be to the dastard who receives a discharge of artillery from such gunners."

70.384 Aug 15, 1846 the Mormon infantry at Fort Leavenworth

Mormon Volunteers. Capt. (now Lieut. Col.) Allen has reached Fort Leavenworth with 500 Mormon volunteer infantry. They proceed forthwith to join Gen. Kearny in his expedition against Santa Fe.

70.385 Aug 22, 1846 rumor of Mexican request that Great Britain and France mediate the end of the war with the United States

The Offer To Negotiate For Peace

President Polk's overtures to Mexico, to send or to receive a minister plenipotentiary with powers to settle the existing controversy and terminate the war, will not only meet the cordial approbation of the people of this country, but will also elicit the plaudits of all the Christian powers. This proposition of the president, it will be observed, was not at all dependant upon the success of his application to congress for the two millions of dollars which he asked that body for, with a view to aid him in the negotiation. The letter from the secretary of state, Mr. Buchanan, to the Mexican minister of foreign relations, proposing negotiation, was dated the 27th of July, 1846, and was winging its way towards "the Halls of the Montasumas," a full week before the president, in confidential message to the senate, apprised that body of his having any such design. The confidential message was sent to the senate on the 4th of August--informing that body of the step he had taken, and asking money to aid him in negotiation a peace. --That the Mexican government will be constrained to accept this overture of our governments under which they are laboring, will now be added beyond doubt--the earnest advice of the British legation, and the offer of that governments to mediate for a peace between the United States and Mexico. England might have been disposed to promote a dispute between Mexico and the United States, very naturally, so long as she had a quarrel of her own with the latter, which there was a probability would terminate in war, but having now settled all disputes of her own, she has such obvious interests to sub serve by a restoration of peace in Mexico--her commerce and her capitalists have so much to loose by Mexico being blockaded, invaded, overrun, and dismembered, that there can be no doubt of the sincerity of their interposition.

70.385 Aug 22, 1846 comments on the offer to negotiate for peace

To the influence of the British diplomatic agents at Mexico, it is probable will soon be added that of a new French minister, with whom a frigate was about to proceed to the gulf with, when the last steamer left Europe. No potentate of Europe is more anxious to maintain a general peace amongst the Christian powers, that Louis Philippe. The continuance of a war between the United States and Mexico, would soon embrace other powers in the conflict.
70.386 Aug 22, 1846 promotion and appointments for distinguished services in the campaign

Military Appointments

The following brevet appointments have been made in the army by the President, and confirmed by the Senate:

In Executive Session.

Senate of the United States, August 8, 1846.

Resolved. That the Senate advise and consent to the following promotions in the army and brevet for gallant and distinguished services in the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, in Texas, on the 8th and 9th of May, 1846, and in the defense of Fort Brown, Texas, during its bombardment from the 3d to the 9th of May, 1846, agreeably to their nominations respectively, viz:

Lieutenant Colonel James S. Mc-Intosh, of the 5th regiment of infantry, to be colonel by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Lieut. Colonel Matthew M. Payne, of the 4th regiment of artillery, to be colonel by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Brevet Lieut. Colonel William G. Belknap, major of the 8th infantry, to be colonel by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Captain Edgar S. Hawkins, of the 7th regiment of infantry, to be major by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Capt. George A. Mc-Call, of the 4th regiment of infantry, to be major by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Capt. Joseph B. F. Mansfield, of the corps of engineers, to be major brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Capt. Alexander S. Hooe, of the 5th regiment of infantry, to be major by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Capt. Robert C. Buchanan, of the 4th regiment of infantry, to be major by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Capt. Charles A. May, of the 2d regiment of dragoons, to be major by brevet, to date from the 8th of May, 1846.
Capt. P. W. Barbour, of the 3d regiment of infantry, to be major by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Capt. James Duncan, of the 2d regiment of artillery, to be major by brevet, to date from the 8th of May, 1846.
First Lieutenant Randolph Ridgely, of the 3d regiment of artillery, to be captain by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
First Lieutenant William H. Churchill, of the 3d regiment of artillery, to be captain by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Second Lieut. James S. Woods, of the 4th regiment of infantry, to be first lieutenant by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Second Lieut. Alexander Hays, of the 4th regiment of infantry, to be first lieutenant by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Captain James Duncan, 2d artillery, to be lieutenant colonel by brevet, for gallant and highly distinguished conduct in the battle at Resaca de la Palma, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Captain Charles A. May, 2d dragoons, to be lieutenant colonel by brevet, for gallant and highly distinguished conduct during the battle of Resaca de la Palma, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.

Subsequently to the nomination of the above, which was on Saturday, a list of names for brevet appointments was received from Gen. Taylor, containing the following in addition to the above. These additional names were submitted to the Senate yesterday morning; but as that body did not go into Executive session before its final adjournment at 12 o’clock, the list lays over for the future action:

Lieutenant Colonel Childs, 3d artillery.
Captain C.F. Smith, 2d artillery.
Capt. J.B. Scott, 4th artillery.
Captain Lewis N. Morris, 3d infantry.
Lieutenant Colonel J. Garland, 4th infantry.
Brevet Major George Allen, 4th infantry.
Major T. Staniford, 5th infantry.
Captain M. Scott, 5th infantry.
Captain Montgomery, 8th infantry.
Lieutenant C. R. Gates, 8th infantry.
Lieutenant G. Lincoln, 8th infantry.
Lieutenant C. D. Jordan, 8th infantry.
Captain A. Lowe, 2d artillery.
Lieutenant B. Bragg, 3d artillery.
Capture D. S. Miles 7th infantry.
Lieutenant F. N. Page, 7th infantry.

Colonel Twiggs, who is on General Taylor’s list, having recently (since the battles of the 8th and 9th of May) been appointed a brigadier general in the army, his name for brevet of that grade was not included in the list submitted to the Senate. About twenty more officers were presented as deserving brevets, if it should not be deemed proper to extend the number beyond the first class, but this was not done. As the list now is, it is believed to be large beyond any former precedent.

70.386 Aug. 22, 1846 General Gains, Court of Inquiry, Col. Thornton acquitted

General Gains-- The Military Court of Inquiry, at old Point, concluded their task, and on the 11th inst., sealed and despatched their verdict to the war department. The conducing part of the gallant old general’s defence occupies four columns of the Norfolk Beacon.

Col. Thornton. It is stated that the Court Martial has honorably acquitted the brave officer.

70-386 Aug. 22, 1846 Capt. Thornton's defense

The trial of Capt. Thornton, 2d dragoons, on the charges preferred against him by the commanding general, for the loss of his squadron of dragoons, captured on the 25th April last, terminated on Wednesday. It is a long established custom, we believe, in both the army and navy, to bring to trial the commander of an expedition, whenever unfortunate; and this however, unfortunate to individuals, appears but just to the accused and the country--truth is vindicated, and the community learns whether her intersects are committed to safe hands. Capt. Thornton was assisted, in the management of his case, by Capt. Barbour, 3d infantry, and Lieut. Bragg, 3d artillery; and at 10 o'clock, on Wednesday, his written defence was made to the court by Mr. Bragg.

Several members of the court, veterans who had stormed the breach, could not restrain a tear of sympathy--and many a moist eye was to be seen in the large audience which attended to hear the vindication of this gallant and universally popular officer.

We regret that we are not able to lay before our readers the whole of the admirable defense of the gallant captain. He commenced by stating that a long established principle of his profession, and a stern sense of duty on the part of his accusers, had brought him before the court in his present position. Success, he was aware, was, with military men, often the best of merit: yet he hoped to be able to show, even if he were not successful in his expedition, his failure was not owing to the omission of necessary precaution.

On the night of the 24th of April, with a command of three commissioned officers and fifty rank and file, he was ordered to reconnoitre a country some 27 miles in extent, and to bring information, whether the enemy had crossed the Rio Bravo, his numbers, and his position; and he had also further vested orders from the commanding general, to ascertain, if possible, whether he had crossed his artillery, and to report by the next day at 12 o'clock. He referred to the testimony of Capt. Hardee and Lieut. Cane, for the manner in which he executed these instruction. He regretted that he could not lay before the court the testimony of Lieut. Mason, but regarded his loss as nothing, compared with that of the friends and relations of the gallant young officer, who fell as he had lived, in the discharge of his duty.

From the recapitulation of the testimony of Capt. Hardee and Lieut. Cane, in the defense, it appears that every precaution was used to guard against surprise—that an advance guard was thrown out, that flanks were impassible for the most part,
form the nature of the country it being a perfect defile, admitting at times a single horseman with difficulty, that when Captain Thornton halted his squadron to rest his men and horses, which was extremely necessary, a sentinel was placed at both ends of the road, so that no one could approach without his knowledge. About daylight next morning the command proceeded toward the river, and to the constant inquiries made of every one that was met, "whether the enemy had crossed," the reply was "he had," but all spoke from rumor--this Capt. Thornton believed to be unreliable authority upon which he could not base a report, and he referred as an evidence of this, to the numerous false rumors with which the American camp had abounded for a month previous. Captain T. alluded to the suspicious confidelity; and subsequent events, he thought, proved to lead him into a position from which retreat was impossible. Subsequent information upon which he could rely, satisfied him that his return to camp had been cut off, that the enemy was in his rear with a force of 500 cavalry and a party of Indians. Upon the receipt of this information, he redoubled his precautions--he increased his advance guard and placed it under the command of Lieut. Mason, with minute instructions to keep ahead and be vigilant, but not to fire upon the enemy unless forced to do so. Form this time, Captain Thornton proceeded without a guide, Chapito having deserted him. Captain Thornton here argued, and we think conclusively proved that an attempt to return would have been more disastrous than his move forward; he also contended that a "rear guard," with such a small force, would have been untactical, and, in his opinion, unnecessary; and further, that it was not prescribed. The rear was assigned to Captain Hardee, and he never left it without being ordered back by Capt. Thornton. He went on further to state, that if the command had obeyed his instructions, they would not have entered the field in which they were afterwards captured; but, he remarked, "no precaution from myself, or any one else, could have altered the result, our fate was sealed long before entering the field."

Captain Thornton, here summoned up the facts of the case, as shown by the testimony, from which it appeared that he had too responsible and somewhat variant duties to perform, that of commander of the squadron, and reconnoitering officer. For a guide, a Mexican of doubtful fidelity; a country of twenty seven miles in extent, with which he was totally unacquainted, and fifteen hours, and eight of them in the night, to perform this duty in. In the opinion of his officers, his rear could have been gained by day without his being able to know it. Spies were upon his actions from the time of his leaving the army, until his capture. Ordered to keep an attitude of peace, until the first blow should be struck. The following portion of this manly and soldier like defense, struck us so forcibly, that we believe that we can repeat it verbatim. "It was my misfortune," said Captain Thornton, "to secure that first blow, upon my devoted head, but it had to be secured, and why not by me?" Captain Thornton, here contended, that the information he obtained was important; that by means of his capture Gen. Taylor was able to understand his real position, that he was no longer on debated ground, and as an evidence of this, referred to the immediate call for reinforcements, the industry in the completion of Fort Brown and the march to Point Isabel for provisions. But for the loss of his squadron probably, the thanks of a grateful people would not now be showered upon the heroes of the battles of the Rio Grande, but instead, the tears of widows and orphans might have been met with the usual indifference, by the national legislature. Capt. Thornton, reminded, that to prevent this he would be willing again to hide in his bosom, the only bleeding heart amid the rejoicings of a victorious army.---Capt. Thornton, here remarked if he neglected any of the usual precautions, it was form want of knowledge, and begged the court to acquit him of (?) and to find a verdict, if necessary, against him in incapacity. He then referred to his services in Florida, and thought the manner in which he discharged his duties there, well known to some of the court would enable him to defy such an imputation. Capt. Thornton concluded by saying, that his honor and military reputation, were in the hands of the ocuts that the country had found her's safe in their hands, and with confidence he submitted his to them.

[AEK]

70.386 Aug 22, 1846 account of the Kentucky mounted regiment

Volunteer Army. -- The Kentucky mounted men left Memphis about the 21st July. The Tennessee regiment left there on the 26th July, both en route for Mexico. The former are designated as,---

"The Hunters of Kentucky-- The Calvary regiment of Col. Humphrey Marshall, mustering 100 strong, are represented as a body of martial men. They are generally athletic young men, riding splendid horses, and their picturesque dress imparts to them a romantic appearance. The hat particularly is very fanciful. It is a drab beaver with a broad brim, ornamented with several gold stars, and looped up with
gold lace in the three cornered fashion of the Revolution. They all wear their beards unshorn with boots over the legs of their trousers, reaching above the knee, armed with huge spurs on the head and faced with red morocco.

70.386 Aug 22, 1846 distrust of the members of the California expedition of the government's promises

The California Volunteers. The U. States Gazette says--It appears that the volunteers of California, who are at present encamped on Governor Island, are not quite as willing to go further than they have gone--at least upon the faith of the promise which the government has made to them. It was the general impression that after the term of their enlistment expired, they were to receive grants of land in California, as a reward for their services. Of course, this intention implied that California was to be made an integral part of the union.

70.387 Aug 22, 1846 baggage wagons being made for the Army

Baggage Wagons. We understand that 6 or 700 baggage wagons, and about as many sets of harness, for the U.S. army, are making in this city and the neighboring towns, and an unusual activity, for the season [. . .] prevails therefore in those branches of trade.

70-400 Aug 22, 1846 Army of Occupation

We have nothing form General Taylor's corps, to report this week. The discharge of Louisiana and Alabama volunteers, and their return home, occupies the southern papers for the time being, --and much dissatisfaction is expressed on all hands.

The difficulties with which this whole system of volunteer forces is surrounded, can hardly be appreciated by those that have not had an opportunity of observing how it works, and how it will not work. The embarrassment which government would have to encounter in the instances of these very men, was distinctly foreshadowed in remarks which we submitted at the time they were being embodied. The secretary of war is now heavily censured, and the treasury of the Union severely taxed, --the gallant troops that waited for nothing but to ascertain that the army of the nation was surrounded with difficulties, and threatened with destruction, to induce them to seize their arms and report to the scene of danger, after spending just sufficient time to completely organize, discipline, and fit them for action--no a day too much for that--are now discharged, without having seen an enemy.

The secretary of war had difficulties to encounter, take what course he would. To discharge those forces must have been unpleasant to him. But the organization of the army was imperative. The twelve months volunteers were crowding toward Gen. Taylor' lines, already incommoded with more troops than he had the means of transporting or of provisioning, in an enemy's country, beyond the margin of navigation. Other officers, proud of their distinction, lead these new levies. It will take as long, at least, to organize, discipline, and fit these forces for efficient service in the field, as was expeded upon the volunteers now discharged.

Gen. Taylor at the last dates, was urging on the supplies towards Camargo as expeditiously as he had it in his power. the roads had been impassable, and by the river, he had as yet and inadequate supply of light draught steamers to get his troops and munitions to that place.

The following are the latest we have from the Rio Grande.

"Camargo, (Mexico) July 23--We are furnishing transportation for the army, and securing supplies of forage on the route to Monterey. We have contracted for 1,000 to 2,000 mules,"(another letter fixes it positively at (1,500) "with the packing equipment's complete; and these, with the 500 wagons expected here, will be ample for the marching columns. A large portion of the 19,000 men of this corps d'armes
will be left at the different depots and entrepots, from Brazos Santiago to China, about 60 miles from this place on the route to Monterey.

"The troops are now fast arriving here in our steamboats; and the General will, in all probability, move forward from here about the middle of the next month,--(August). Now comes the commencement of those operations which will require all the capacity, skill, and energy of our General to accomplish. The great difficulties of an army invading Mexico begin here. So far, everything has favored Gen. Taylor, and he has acquired not only a most enviable reputation, but his good fortune has become a proverb. I hope, of course, for his further success; but in order to secure it, the most careful combinations of every kind, preparatory to the march, are absolutely necessary. Too much haste may prove as great and evil as a faulty tardiness. It takes time for the requisite arrangements for the transportation required for so many men, suddenly collected here. Meantime, the General is impatient of the least delay, and the officers of our department are incessantly occupied in preparations.

70-400 Aug. 22, 1846 Yellow Fever.

The British steamer Vesuvius, reached Bermuda on the 11th inst., having twenty-seven cases of yellow fever on board, besides losing ten of her crew with the disease, on her passage from Vera Cruz. The captain reports that the fever had broken out on board the American squadron and the British frigate Endymion, off Vera Cruz.

70.400 Aug 22, 1846 regiment of volunteers for Santa Fe organized, artillery expected

Expedition against Santa Fe. The last accounts we have from Fort Leavenworth are up to the 9th inst. Seven companies had arrived at the fort, and three more were expected, to complete the regiment. The seven companies had voted for field officers, and Sterling Price, ex-member of Congress had been elected Colonel of the regiment, by the unanimous vote of the companies present. The companies to arrive could not, of course, although privileged to vote, change the result. The St. Louis Republican states that the election of Col. P. was forced upon the regiment by an unmistakable imitation that it would be disbanded if he was not chose. A private in one of the companies named Allen was elected Lieut. Colonel over D.D. Mitchell, Esq., of St Louis, the person designated by President Polk for the office, by a majority of 90 votes. Four of the companies were to leave the fort, on their line of march, on the 10th inst.; the others were to follow as soon after as they could be furnished with transportation for provisions, &c.

Four companies, composing a separate battalion of artillery, were also daily expected at the fort.

Lieut. Col. Allen, of the U.S. Army, in command of the five hundred Mormon volunteers, was still at the fort. There was much bad feeling between this corps and the other volunteers. Lieut. Colonel A. and his command were to take up the line of march on the 12th inst.

Still later accounts from Fort Leavenworth are up to the 11th inst. About one thousand more Mormons had arrived at the fort, in hopes of being mustered into the United States service. Two of the additional companies of volunteers had arrived at the fort, and Colonel Price’s regiment marched out on the 10th inst.

70.400 Aug 22, 1846 Mormon volunteers reach Fort Leavenworth

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70.401 Aug 29, 1846 decree relative to the powers of the extraordinary Congress in Mexico

Mexico, July 7th. The following decree, sanctioned by the army, is published:

"The present extraordinary congress of the national powers conferred upon the chambers of the national congress by articles 76, 77, and 78 of the organic bases."

70.401 Aug 29, 1846 Indian threat to Chihuahua, approach of the vanguard of the American Army

Chihuahua, July 7. Our enemies on the East are the four tribes of Camanches, with their allies, the Cahiguas and others; on the North, the Apachas, subdivided into nine tribes, more numerous in population than the Camanches. On the same side also, are the Anglo-Americans, rocked in the cradle of the Indian whom he abhors, and nurtured with the blood and sweat of the negro whom he despises.

70.401 Aug 29, 1846 movements of Mexican troops for San Luis Potosi

Mexico, July 21. *The Diario del Gobierno* says --"Two brigades completely equipped, have already left this capital for San Luis Potosi and in a short time the Provisional President (Paredes) will depart with the remainder of the army of reserve."

70.401 Aug 29, 1846 Mexican arrangements to use the interior resources of Mexico to sustain the war with the United States

Thus the nation will see that the government has not made use of the extraordinary powers conferred upon it by congress for providing means to carry on the war. Our unjust invaders, who in the delirium of their ambition, have proclaimed that out want of resources would make us slaves without a conflict, will find that the Mexican nation has great resources in the interior, and that they will be sufficient in any event—for the administrative order and moral power of the government increase them. The government of the United States, with little reflection, will perceive that the war which it wages against us, is not to be terminated by a conquest of our country, but by honorable propositions of peace.

70.401 Aug 29, 1846 departure of Mexican troops from the capital

July 22. Left the capital for the interior, the 2d brigade, of 1,200 men, of all arms, with seven pieces of artillery, 500 horse, 400 mules, with ammunition and warlike stores. The 1st brigade had left on the 18th, in the direction of Matamoros, under command of Gen. Garcia Conde.

70.401 Aug 29, 1846 Assassinations by the insurgents of Guadalajara, dismay over the deplorable state of Mexico

The insurgents of Guadalajara by a surprise assassinated the troops of General Arevalo; but the papers state nothing positive as to the fate of the General himself.
The commander of the steamer says he was killed. Letters from Mexico also state that he lost his life.

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70.401 Aug 29, 1846 American troops reported leaving Camargo for Monterey

Mexico July 28. An express has just arrived, announcing that the United States troops to the number of 8,000 men have left Camargo on their way to Monterey. Last night the secretaries of departments withdrew, and to-day at 1 o'clock P.M. Gen. Bravo took possession of the presidency.

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70.401 Aug 29, 1846 Gen. Nicolas Bravo assumes the presidency of Mexico, resignation of the ministers

*Letters of Marque.* A decree has been issued by the Supreme Government, in respect to cruises which may be made by privateers against the commerce of the U. States.

On the 28th, the Vice President, Gen. Bravo, assumed the reins of government in the Mexican capital. It was stated that the Paredes ministry continued in the exercise of its functions until that day. Gen. Bravo was about to appoint a new ministry.

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70.401 Aug 29, 1846 Mexican Army assembles at San Luis Potosi

According to the statements of the Mexican *Diario Official*, the army assembled at San Luis Potosi, numbered 10,000 men, and when this force and that under Gen. Azpeitia consisting of two regiments of infantry, a squadron of lancers, and a section of engineers with three 12 pounders, numbering in all 2,000 men, which was to leave the capital on the 24th, would join Mejia, the army in the field would number from 12,000 to 15,000 men. But 1,500 men were left to garrison the capital. Mejia who succeeded Arista in the command of the army on the frontier, reports on the 9th that he was about to march for Monterey with his column.

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70.401 Aug 29, 1846 "pronunciamento" in favor of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna at Veracruz, he embarks from Cuba

Revolution in Favor of Santa Anna.

Jalapa, July 21, A pronunciamento was made on the 20th instant, in the town of Coatepec. We are ignorant of its object.

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70.401 Aug 29, 1846 steamer Princeton dispatched express for Pensacola

It is a remarkable coincidence, that just as the steamer *Princeton* was demonstrated to be of all the vessels of the squadron the most efficient in blockading the port of Vera Cruz, and was performing prodiges in that service, all at once she was detached by Commodore Conner, and arrives at Pensacola with important despatches for our government. The British steamer *Dee* must have left for Vera Cruz very speedily after the *Princeton*. The messenger dispatched by President Polk with instructions to Commodore Conner respecting the propositions to the Mexican government to send a minister to negotiate for peace, if he has good luck, will reach Vera Cruz about the same time that Santa Anna calculated to arrive there. We say if he has good luck, for the N. Orleands *Picayune* furnishes rather an unfavorable
The messenger dispatched by President Polk with instructions to Commodore Conner respecting the propositions to the Mexican government to send a minister to negotiate for peace, if he has good luck, will reach Vera Cruz about the same time that Santa Anna calculated to arrive there. We say if he has good luck, for the N. Orleans Picayune furnishes rather an unfavorable account of his progress. That paper says--

"We stated in the Picayune a few days since that a bearer of dispatches for Com. Conner had arrived at Pensacola, and that the Wolcott, revenue cutter, Capt. Fatio, had received orders to proceed to the Gulf with him. She went to sea on Monday last but the captain fearing the approach of a storm, put back and Mr. Habersham, U. S. navy, the bearer of the dispatches, proceeded at once to this city, where he arrived yesterday. He will proceed to the Brazos to-day, and from thence proceed in one of the revenue cutters at that point to Vera Cruz."

John Slidell's mission to Cuba

There was a report widely circulated some time since, that Mr. Slidell, a connection of the late minister to Mexico, had been dispatched to the Island of Cuba by our government, and it was inferred that his object was to ascertain the views of the illustrious Mexican exiles there, in relation to affairs between Mexico and the United States. The Washington Union promptly and emphatically contradicted the insinuation at the time.

But to return to the news from Mexico, furnished by this arrival of the Dee, at Havana. The following are the prominent items:

Mexican decree authorizes privateers

Letters of Marque. A decree has been issued by the Supreme Government, in respect to cruises which may be made by privateers against the commerce of the U. States.

description of Camargo

Camargo. --As the army of occupation has commenced its advance upon the interior of Mexico, by pursuing the Rio Grande up as high as Camargo, both by land and water, and as this will be the place where a permanent depot will be established, and from which the advancing army will leave the Rio Grande when it takes up its general march upon Monterey, it will naturally hold a conspicuous place in the estimation of the American people. The Matamoros "Flag"furnishes the following:

Camargo is situated immediately upon the banks of the San Juan river, three miles from its junction with the Rio Grande. It is a small rudely constructed village, with some few stone building, many built of mud bricks dried in the sun, some constructed by driving stakes into the ground, and then plastering them with much, and others formed of cane and plastered in like manner. The number of inhabitants will not exceed two thousand; but as the Mexican government has never thought her population worthy of enumeration, no possible statement can be made of the population of any of their towns. The late extraordinary rise of the Rio Grande has
caused the San Juan to back up and literally inundate Camargo, to the great damage of houses and property; also to the sacrifice of several lives.

Camargo may be considered the head of navigation, as above here the bed of the river is so filled up with rocks that its navigation higher up has never been attempted. The road upon leaving Camargo and crossing the San Juan, becomes higher and less obstructed by swamp grounds. And it then becomes an important inquiry what other obstacles may present themselves in the distance between this place and Monterey, which is 210 miles. The road passes through a level country, thickly set with a small underwood, the largest timber being ebony and the mesquite, neither of which grow to the height of more than 12 or 15 feet, and 12 or 14 inches in diameter. So dense is this undergrowth, armies of 10,000 men each might march for half a day within a mile of each other without the vicinity of one to the other being unknown.

70.402 Aug 29, 1846 description of Monterey and Caiderete

Monterey. -- The literal meaning of Monterey is the king's woods; but to those who have been raised in a heavily timbered country, it would seem more appropriate to call it a grove of brush. It is a common saying with Texans who have traveled through the forest that "it's so d--d which you can't shove a bowie knife through it." And what may appear somewhat singular, every bush and shrub is armed with thorns curved in the shape of fish-hooks, and the hold they take upon the clothes and skin of travelers is not easily shaken off, as the jackets of the soldiery will testify to before they reach Monterey.

The whole distance is well watered from August until March, plenty of wood, reasonable pasture, many herds of cattle, numerous flocks of sheep and goats, now and then a small village-- which all have the appearance of decay. Scattered along the road are miserable huts, singularly picturesque from their original construction, not quite equal to rail-pen stables built in the backwoods of Arkansas and Texas for scrub ponies. Yet nature, in her mighty formations, has formed some positions on this road, which, if taken advantage of by a skilful and daring enemy, would prove a second Thermopylae to those might have the temerity to tread these formidable passes. The American army will no doubt look ahead before entering these dangerous and shady pavilions. The mazes of the labyrinth are beautifully pictured out by meandering paths and conflicting cross-roads, leading to some farmer's hut, some watering place, or the wily lure of some Mexican bandit.

Caiderete.--When within fifteen leagues of Monterey the village of Caiderete presents itself, enjoying the most lovely situation, standing upon a perfectly level plain, surrounded with green groves, presenting everlasting summer; the fields blesses with natural fertility. The beholder involuntarily exclaims, Why should a Mexican toil or labor?

70.402 Aug 29, 1846 difficulty over supplying Gen. Steven Watts Kearny's expedition to Santa Fe, reports of alarm in New Mexico

Provisions must of necessity also be vary hard to get, and unless some other means of securing them be found out than such as was anticipated previous to their departure, they will be in a very bad way this winter. It was pretty certainly known before they left, that there would not be even a show of fight on the part of the Mexicans, unless a very small force was sent along at first, for the assertion of the governor was made, and word sent to General Kearney by our informants to that effect; and he further says that if a respectable force comes upon him, he shall immediately abandon the country, and remove south of the Rio del Norte.

70.402 Aug 29, 1846 engineer corps at West Point being readied for Mexico

Volunteers.
West Point. An extra exertion is making at West Point to get the Engineer Corps ready to start for Mexico. Out of 67 men and 20 are from Philadelphia, and chiefly mechanics, fine fellows, "and to the marrow bone." The officers have been assigned, Capt. Swift and Lieuts. Smith and McClellan. As fast as the recruits are perfect in the infantry drill, they are put into another squad and drilled as engineers, in which they are fast learning the rudiments.

The rubber "ponton" train has been tried, and succeeds well. Two of the boats sustained 67 men, two horses, and two pieces ordnance, and the corps think they can bridge the river at West Point in an hour and a half strong enough to take a whole army over. All at West Point betokens that strict discipline that has given us such a gallant set of officers that will give as an effective army, with such good material as we have in our volunteers.

70.402 Aug 29, 1846 disorder among the New York troops gather for the California expedition

"It is said that the recruits for California now encamped on Governor's Island, are not behaving with the propriety which is becoming. It is said that the "regulars"were called out upon a day or two since

70.402-403 Aug 29, 1846 letter from A. Moses of the Ohio regiment

The Ohio State Journal publishes the following letter from one of the Ohio volunteers in the army in Mexico:

Dear Brother:

Be not the least surprised if you should see me in Cincinnati in the course of six weeks. When I volunteered it was to fight, and not to be idle for a year. But I now find the regulars are to be able to defend any post of danger. Gen. Taylor says that one regular is worth five volunteers, and that he only wants volunteers for a standby. It would seem that we are kept merely to do the drudgery; and such is the case.

We had quite an affair a short time since. Colonel Mitchell as commandant of this post, ordered a volunteer from Baltimore to bring him something. The volunteer paid no attention to his order. Our colonel then commanded him a second time to perform the service. The volunteer turned upon his heel, and replied that "he would see him d--d first." I was close by doing duty, when Col. M. ordered me and five other cadets to arrest the Baltimorean. He immediately placed himself in a defensive position, and drew a knife, swearing at the same time that he would cut the first man that dared to come near him. Lieut. Col. Weller then approached and ordered us to "stand back"when all party got to fighting. So you see we have had one fight at least.

Our whole regiment and the Baltimore regiment were then all ordered out. But as we had but sic men on the ground, and as the colonel's tent was about two miles from our encampment, out colonel was disarmed and carried to the ground by a superior number of stout fellows, where they laid him down. Two of them were about to stab him, when I backed by our boys, jumped into the melee and released our commander from the ruffians. By this time the field was full of soldiers and the Baltimoreans left. I presume the case will undergo investigation.

Affectionately your brother,

A. Moss

70.403 Aug 29, 1846 Account of mosquitoes on the Rio Grande

A volunteer, writing to Louisville from the Rio Grande, says that the mosquitoes there "can stand flat footed upon the ground, and without difficulty drink water out
70.403 Aug 29, 1846 Gen. John Ellis Wool's force, supplies, wagons

ARMY JOURNAL.

Illinois Volunteers. Gen. Wool, accompanied by his aides, and a large portion of the Illinois volunteers, reached New Orleans on the 23d ultimo. These troops, it is stated, are destined for San Antonio de Bexar.

Troops for Chihuahua. Light company B, of the 4th regiment of U.S. artillery, under the command of Capt. J.M. Washington on the 18th ultimo. Capt. W. furnished the editor of the Sentinel with a statement of the force which is to proceed to the Mexican state of Chihuahua, by the way of San Antonio, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Light Company 4th artillery</th>
<th>112 men.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 companies 6th regiment infantry</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squadron 2d regiment dragoons</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 regiments Illinois infantry</td>
<td>1,554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 regiment Arkansas horse</td>
<td>777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 battalion Arkansas foot</td>
<td>388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 regiment Texas horse</td>
<td>777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 regiment Texas foot</td>
<td>777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4,734</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This force, it is stated, constitutes an independent command, which will be under Gen. Butler. It is to strike into the province of Chihuahua, between Santa Fe and Gen. Taylor's position; and it will no doubt interrupt the retreat of the forces which will fall back from General Kearney at Santa Fe. It will take the Santa Fe route to Mexico, and there cooperate with General Taylor. Its route is through the most healthy and richest parts of Northern Mexico.

[RCG]

70.403 Aug 29, 1846 Col. Churchill departs New Orleans for Texas

Col. Churchill, Inspector General, has left New Orleans for Texas. This indefatigable and veteran officer has, within the last six months, traveled over twelve thousand
miles, inspected last spring on and near the Gulf of Mexico and in Florida, mustered into service all the volunteers in Indiana and Illinois and now goes to join Gen. Wool as chief of his staff, on the march to Chihuahua, in Mexico. The good wishes and the prayers of his numerous friends and the country attend him.

[RCG]

70.403 Aug 29, 1846 complaint about the manner of buying and treating wagons for the Army

Wagons for the Army. New Orleans dates of August 7, says -- "A large ship from Philadelphia brought a cargo of these wagons, which were landed some time since, and after laying exposed to out tropical sun on the Levee for eight or ten days, splitting and cracking, with their wheels and springs, the same ship is chartered to reload them for the Rio Grande, at a greight double that from Philadelphia--at least doubt what it ought to be from thence, though I think it probable there, as well as here, the government pay at least double what individuals would. It is really enough to disgust any bosy to see the manner the whole affair is being conducted; and the way they are going on, the treasury, even after issuing the ten-millions of treasury notes, will be bankrupt before congress again meets."

[RCG]

70.406-408 Aug 29, 1846 proceedings and decision of the court of inquiry on Gen. Edmund Pendleton Gaine's efforts to raise volunteers

GENERAL GAINES.

1. The court of inquiry, whereof Brevet Brigadier General H. Brady is president, instituted by "General Orders," No 23, of June 30th, to investigate certain transactions therein set forth on the part of Brevet Major General E.P. Gaines, commanding the western division of the army, and which convened at Fort Monroe, Virginia, on the 20th day of July, 1846, has reported the following facts and opinion:

"FACTS"

"General Gaines learned at New Orleans, about the 1st May, 1846, that a Mexican army, of superior force to the army under General Taylor was advancing to invade Texas, and that actual war was impending. He was informed officially from General Taylor of his situation, and what auxiliary force of volunteers he had called from the states, viz: four regiments from Louisiana, and four regiments from Texas and he was requesting by General Taylor to aid the governor of Louisiana in equipping and forwarding the troops of that state."

"On the receipt of this information, Gen. Gaines wrote to the governors of Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Missouri, advising them to anticipate a call from the president of the U. States for volunteers, and to make preparations to raise the troops. It was not, however, in form, a requisition on them to send forward troops before they were called for by the president.

"On the 3d May, General Gaines sent an officer to Mobile to raise volunteers for Taylor’s army. On the 4th, one company was raised and embarked for New Orleans. The whole volunteer force to be raised at Mobile, Gen. Gaines limited by order of May 6, no to exceed two regiments of twenty companies.

"About the 4th May, the governor of Missouri, being at New Orleans, tendered to General-Gaines a regiment, which offer General Gaines accepted.

"On the 8th May, General Gaines authorized Col. Crane, commanding at Pensacola, whence General Gaines had withdrawn the garrison of regulars to send to Texas, to muster into the service one or more volunteer companies; also, informing Col. Crane that he had requested the governor of Alabama to send there two volunteer companies; making three or more companies called out, or authorized to be called out, for the protection of Pensacola.

"On the 9th May, he authorized A. M. Dunn to raise a company of 100 men to guard the arsenal at Baton Rouge.
"On the 12th May, he authorized A. Rust to raise a regiment of mounted gunmen from five to ten companies; each company to number from 60 to 100 men; thereby authorizing the levy of 300, or 500, or 600, or 1,000 men.

"May 12th. He authorized W. B. Lewis to raise a regiment of mounted gunmen- from five to ten companies of 70 to 100 men - amounting to 350, or 500, or 700, or 1,000 men.

"May 13th. He authorized Balie Peyton to raise a regiment of ten companies- each 60 to 100 - amounting to 600 or 1,000 men.

"May 14th. He authorized F. Buisson to raise a battalion of two companies - each 60 to 100 - amounting to 120 or 200 men, to garrison forts Jackson and St. Philip till further orders.

"May 16th. He authorized I. S. Gilbert to raise a regiment of mounted gunmen- five or ten companies; each company to be 60 to 100 men- amounting to 300,500,600, or 1,000 men.

"May 20. He authorized E. Fetherston, W. M. Fulton, W.S. Hays, J. R. Creecy, and E. L. Tracy, to raise each one regiment of ten companies, each 60 to 100 men. The whole amounting to 1,500, 2,500, 3,000, or 5,000.

"May 22d. He accepted the offer of the governor of Mississippi to furnish 2,000 volunteers- including the regiment to be raised by P.B. Starke.

"May 31st. He issued orders to complete the muster of two regiments of volunteers from Alabama- only three companies having been at this time raised on his previous requisitions.

"In the latter part of May, General Gaines raised and mustered into service Gally's battalion of light artillery- three companies- 286 strong. The precise date of this levy does not appear in any document before the court, and it is not remembered by the witness, examined to this point- Gen. Gaines assistant Adjutant General.

"The court find further, that in consequence of General Gains' communication to the governor of Kentucky, about the 1st or 4th of May, representing the situation of General Taylor's army, the governor raised and sent forward a regiment from Louisville; which on its arrival at New Orleans, about the latter part of the month, General Gaines accepted and mustered into the service of the United States.

"The foregoing statement shows all the troops raised or called for by General Gaines. It appears, however, that the only troops actually raised and brought into service by him on these calls, were the St. Louis Legion, of Missouri, the Louisville Legion, of Kentucky, Peyton's and Featherston's regiments of Louisiana volunteers, and Gally's battalion of light artillery, and three companies of Alabama volunteers, raised at Mobile.

"The court find further, that when General Gaines was relieved from command of the Western Division, and ordered to repair to Washington City, and in execution of said order, had arrived at Mobile on the 12th June, he was then and there informed by the governor of Alabama that much disorder prevailed among the regiments of volunteers assembled at that point by the president of the United States; for which reason the governor applied to General Gaines to receive into the service of the U. States, for the proper government of those volunteers, Brigadier Gen. Smith, whom the governor had commissioned to command them, and his staff. Whereupon Gen. Gaines did receive and muster into service:

Walter Smith, as Brigadier General.

Thomas Caey, Assistant Adjutant General.
William P. Brown, Brigade Quartermaster.
Henry K. Zettyplace, Paymaster.
Charles B. Sandford, Aid-de-camp.
Richard Lee Fream, Brigade Surgeon.

"The order of General Gaines published in this case, directed that it should remain in force till final instructions should be received from the proper authorities at Washington; and further directed Gen. Smith to organize the volunteers, and as
soon as the said organization should be completed, to proceed with them without
delay to the seat of war.

"The appointment by General Gaines of certain volunteers and others to staff offices,
as shown in the official documents sent as evidence to the court, not being stated in
the order appointing the court, as one of the matters into which it is directed to
inquire, it is not considered in this statement of facts, nor in the opinion of
the court. The facts and circumstances, however, are set forth in the evidence for the
information of the department of war.

"In regard to issues of public stores by order of Gen. Gaines, the court find that he
ordered the issue of ordinance and ordnance stores to arm and equip all the
volunteers called out by him; also, when necessary, for those called out by Gen.
Taylor; also, that he ordered the quartermaster's supplies; also, he ordered the
commissaries to furnish subsistence to all volunteers arriving at the general
rendezvous for muster, and to issue to them previous to the muster.

"The court also find an issue by order of General Gaines of two pieces of field
artillery, and twenty five rounds of ammunition to two private gentlemen and
planters in the parish of West Baton Rouge, for the protection of the parish against
the slave population, on condition of the return of the guns when called for.

"In regard to orders by General Gaines to staff officers to issue or pay public money,
the court find only two such payments indicated in the documentary evidence. 1st.
He ordered that quartermaster to pay $2,500 to Major Gally's battalion for
commutation in advance of clothing; and 21. He ordered the ordinance officer to
pay accounts contracted by Maj. Hally for ammunition for his batteries, amounting to
$1467(5)0. Both of which sums and accounts were paid accordingly. And further,
the court find that he ordered the quartermaster's department to pay in advance to
all volunteers' commutation of six month's clothing. That any payments were made
under this order does not appear by any evidence sent to this court.

"And upon the foregoing findings of the facts in the case, the courts submitted the
following

OPINION.

"It is contended by General Gaines that he acted in accordance with his instructions
from the war department. The court find that these instructions were as follows:

"1st. August 28th, 1845. The secretary of war wrote to General Gaines: 'It cannot
be necessary to apprise you that the authority to make a requisition upon the
governors of the respective states for the militia thereof, to be employed in the
service of the United States, is vested only in the president, and limited in its
exercise to two or three specified cases. The emergency which would tolerate or
excuse the assumption of this authority by a military officer in command at a
distance from the seat of government, in anticipation of the president's action, must
be one indicating great and imminent peril to the country--a peril so great and so
imminent as to leave no reasonable doubt that the president, with a full knowledge
of all the circumstances of the case, would have felt it his duty to resort to such aid.
The assumption of this authority by an officer so situation, should be under
circumstances which would be sure to command his subsequent ratification of it.'"

"2d. On the 13th September, 1845, the secretary of war wrote to General Gaines:
'You misunderstand your position in regard to the commanding general in Texas.
His command is wholly independent of you; the orders and instructions for his
conduct emanate only from the government here; and you are directed to abstain
from all interference with him.'

"3d. And again, on the 30th September, 1845: 'The power which you have
exercised could only be resorted to in cases of extreme public peril. An error of
judgment, with such motives as the president has with pleasure conceded to have
governed your conduct in this case, cannot be regarded as a crime, or an offence
subjecting the officer to trial.'"

"The court find further instructions to General Gaines from the office of the adjutant
general, of date May18, 1846, from which the following is extracted:

'The volunteer force called into the service from Louisiana and Alabama, &c., and
which you have previously reported, meets the approval of the department.'"
"In the opinion of the court this approval ratifies the call and orders of General Gaines to raise two regiments at Mobile, and three of more companies at Pensacola.

"The court also deem it unnecessary to consider the case of the St. Louis Legion received into service by General Gaines; as he was informed from the adjutant general's office, May 22d, that 'the said regiment had been accepted, and would be regarded as a portion of the force called out by the president.'"

"In regard to the Louisville Legion, it appears from the statement of General Gaines, and testimony of Lieut Calhoun, to have been raised without a direct call from General Gaines; though accepted by him into service before he had received special authority from the war department. It was, however, subsequently accepted by the department--by instructions to General Gaines of May 28th--in which instructions, however, written on the supposition that he called on the governor for the troops, he is informed of the disapproval of the department, and then the call was without authority of law.

"In regard to the other calls made by General Gaines, before the 17th May to raise troops for Taylor's army, the court are of opinion, that, under the previous instructions of the war department, and in the situation of Taylor's army, and upon ascertaining the slow progress of the enrolment of the Louisiana volunteers, and upon ascertaining further that General Taylor could not receive more than a small portion of the force which he had called from Texas -- that under these circumstances General Gaines was justified in endeavoring to supply Gen. Taylor to the amount of auxiliary force could not be obtained from the states to which General Taylor had applied, then General Gaines was justified in applying to the other states. The court do not extend this approval to the requisitions for mounted gun-men. The four regiments of this description of force, amounting to 4,000 men, which he authorized to be raised before the 17th May, destined to march overland to the army, however useful Gen. Gaines may have considered them for the future operation of the way, not being required or intended for the immediate emergency, were not authorized by his instructions or by law.

"It is proper in this connection to bring to the favorable native of the war department the prompt recall, by Gen Gaines, of all his requisitions for mounted gun-men on receiving orders to that effect; and that the government incurred no expense on account of these calls.

"For the calls made by General Gaines for volunteers, after the 16th May when he knew of the victories of Taylor, the court cannot find any necessity at the time, any authority in his instructions, or any warrant of law. These calls authorized the levy of 7,000 men, besides Gally's battalion of artillery. It does not appear, however, that any, except the artillery, were raised before the calls were countermanded.

"Two of the requisitions made by Gen. Gaines for volunteers appear to the court to be of a special character, viz: to raise a garrison of volunteers for Forts Jackson and St. Phillip, and for the arsenal at Baton Rouge. As the government had withdrawn the garrison from the arsenal, and had not seen fit to garrison the forts, the court are of opinion, that General Gaines ought to have felt himself specially restrained from raising volunteer garrisons without authority.

"In regard to the authorities given by General Gaines to certain individuals to raise troops, it appears to have been his motive to avail himself, under what he felt as the pressure of the emergency, of the supposed influence of these individuals. In Louisiana, where troops were actually raised under such powers, it was with the sanction and concurrence of the governor of the state, who commissioned the officers and organized the troops according to the state laws. It does not appear in any case to have been the intention of General Gaines to act independently of the state authorities.

"In General Gaines' proceedings at Mobile, on 12th May, [June,] in mustering into service General Smith, and his staff, after he was relieved from his command, and instructed by the war department, to 'cease his independent action in these matters, and to confine himself to carrying out the orders and views of the president, so far as they might be communicated to him from that department--the court are of opinion that he transcended his authority, and violated his orders, particularly in
appointing such a staff officer as an inspector general, after the recent and emphatic instruction to him by the secretary of war, that 'such appointments would not be recognized or confirmed, and that the president himself had no authority under existing laws to make such appointments.'

"yet the court are satisfied that Gen. Gaines had not the intention to act in defiance or in disregard of his instructions. He though that the disorganized state of the volunteers assembled at Mobile made it a matter of very urgent importance that a commander should be appointed over them. He acted, too, at the special application of the governor of the state; and the court, therefore, recommend his conduct to the favorable construction of the president.

"the issue of rations to volunteers before muster is not provided in the regulations of laws. But the court present to the consideration of the department, the necessity of the case, when the volunteers had arrived at the rendezvous, and were absolutely without means of subsistence.

"Such issues, as of the two pieces of field artillery and ammunition to planters of Baton Rouge parish are not provided for by the regulations of the army. But under the circumstances, being required for the security of the parish, and issued to responsible persons, on condition of their safe return whenever demanded, the court are of opinion that is ought to be approved.

"In the absence of certain official information on the subject, the court suppose it to be the practice of the government to make advances to the militia called into service, in commutation of clothing; and that the orders of General Gaines on this subject did not introduce a new practice. Of the correctness of the particular account of $2,500, which General Gaines ordered to be paid to Gally's battalion, the court have not the means of judging, and therefore leave it as an account to be settled, according to law and regulations in the auditing offices of the treasury.

"The court cannot approve General Gaines' order to Captain Whitley to pay Major Gally's bill of $1,467 50, for ammunition, as it does not appear that whatever ammunition was required might not have been furnished from Baton Rouge arsenal, or otherwise procured by the ordnance officer.

"The court have not considered, as connected with the issues of stores and payments of funds before mentioned, whether the persons or troops to whom, or on account of whom, the issues and payments were made, were legally in the service of the United States, inasmuch as the act of congress of the last session has since provided for the settlement of such accounts. Of the lawful authority of General Gaines to raise the troops, the have expressed their opinion in the several cases.

"Having now reported their finding and opinion, the court recommend to the favorable consideration of the president the good and patriotic motives, and the public seal, by which, as the court believe, Gen. Gaines was actuated in all these transactions, and therefore they recommend that no further proceedings be had in this case."

II. The proceedings of the court of inquiry in the foregoing case having been duly submitted, the following are the orders thereon--

War department, August 18, 1846

The proceedings of the court of inquiry in the foregoing case have been laid before the president, and carefully examined.

It is seen that the court have found that several of the acts of Brevet Major General Gaines "were not authorized by his instructions or by law; and that he has violated orders,"

That for the calls made by him "for volunteers after the 16th of May, when he knew of the victories of [General] Taylor, the court cannot find any necessity at the time--and authority in his instructions, or any warrant of law."

That in mustering into service at Mobile certain general and staff officers, after he was relieved from his command by instructions from the war department, "the court are of opinion that he transcended his authority, and violated his orders."

The president views with deep regret the exercise of this assumed authority on the
part of the late commander of the western division; and while he is disposed to give
every consideration to the circumstances which may tend to qualify or mitigate his
conduct he can see nothing in them which would justify him for withholding the
expression of his decided disapprobation of the irregular and unauthorized
proceedings of that officer. But in consideration of the recommendation of the court
and concurring with them in their opinion of the “good and patriotic motives and the
public zeal by which he was actuated,” the president directs that further proceedings
in the case of Brevet Major General Gaines be dispensed with.

The president cannot dismiss the case without inviting the serious attention of the
army to the grave subject which has been presented for his consideration and
decision. The officers belonging to the military service zeal, gallantry, and skill have
long been established. The country duly appreciates their value, but unremitted care
should be taken to abstain from any act which may tend to impair their high
character. And what so likely to derogate from this as the assumption of important
executive or ministerial authority by a military commander, or the disregard of his
orders?

The exercise of authority not possessed nor delegated -- the non observance of
instructions, or the expenditure of the public treasure, not warranted by law nor
justified by imperious necessity, cannot be disregarded. A just responsibility of all in
authority makes it a public duty of imperative obligation to observe and strictly
enforce the law and the rules of the service.

By order of the President,
W.L. Marcy
Secretary of War.

III. The court of inquiry, of which Brevet Brigadier General H. Brady is president, is
hereby dissolved.
By order,
R. Jones, Adjutant General.

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70.416 Aug 29, 1846 Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny arrives at Santa Fe, friendly
reception

The Santa Fe Expedition. -- An express from Gen. Kearney reached Fort
Leavenworth on the 14th instant. The general with several companies United States
dragoons, the 1st regiment Missouri volunteers under Col. Domphan, and Major
Clarke's battalion of volunteer artillery left Bents' Fort for Santa Fe, on the 1st of
August, all in fine health and spirits. They had information that so far from a
resistance, the Mexicans were anxious for the arrival of the Americans. The ladies of
Santa Fe were making extensive preparations for a fandango dance and other sports
to welcome their reception, and some of them expressed a desire to accompany the
expedition to California. Captain Moore, United States dragoons, had captured three
spies, sent by the Mexicans to look out. They were taken to camp, and there told to
examine every thing and make what enquiries they please, and were then
dismissed. Gen. Kearney would remain at Santa Fe till Colonel Price's regiment
arrived, and then proceed to California.

Col. Allen with 500 Mexican infantry was progressing rapidly and would probably
reach Bents' Fort before Col. Price's mounted men. A great member of traders and a
large quantity of goods were met on their way out.

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70.416 Aug 29, 1846 unsuccessful attack on Alvarado

A demonstration, by order of Com. Conner, was made against Alvarado, on the 8th
inst., in which the Mississippi participated. The difficulty of passing the bar and the
appearances of an approaching storm, induced a signal to haul off, after some shots
had been exchanged, without injury on our side.

[RCG]
70.416 Aug 29, 1846 chartering of ships for the California expedition, charges of malfeasance by Thomas Jefferson Sutherland against Col. John D. Stevenson in connection with outfitting the California expedition

The California Expedition. -- We learn that Col. Stanton has chartered the ships Susan Drew, T.H. Perkins, and Loo Choo, to convey the California expedition to their place of destination. These vessels are all of the best class of ships and of about 700 tons custom house measure--well ventilated and admirably calculated for transports.

We are please to learn, that while millions of dollars have been squandered in extravagant charter parties at the south, these vessels have all been taken up at what would be considered reasonable terms if engaged by individuals. The gross amount paid to the three ships is only $65,000. Those who are acquainted with Col. Stanton will not be surprised at this, while the public will of course be prepared to learn that certain friends of the administration were anxious to do the work for double the sum!

For ourselves we have never believed that this expedition would sail under the command of J.D. Stevenson; and warrant for such an opinion, may be found in the well known Glentworth affair. A man who has ever found it necessary to be an alias, should never be entrusted with a military command or made the associate and companion of gentlemen. How Governor Marcy can justify it to his conscience and the country for having recommended Stevenson for this highly important command, we can not conjecture.

We have now lying on our table a paper, signed Thos. Jefferson Sutherland making many grave charges against Stevenson which he pledges to prove before a court of enquiry if an opportunity be afforded him. Of course we know nothing of their truth; but whether true or false, the government will not be held excused by the people, if the expedition be permitted to sail under the command of Stevenson without an investigation into these charges.

We copy the following iron this paper, which has been handed us by Sutherland who is himself a captain of volunteers.

4th. That he has purposed a fraud upon the members of his regiment by procuring a large quantity of clothing, not American in its fashion nor suited to the climate of California, which he designs to compel his men to purchase from him at prices far above the real value; his son-in-law being the pretended contractor.

5th. That he reported company rolls to the governor of this state as complete according to the requisitions of the war department, when in fact the companies did not contain the men protessed to have been enrolled, and thus procured commissions for favorites to the exclusion of competent men and good officers who had reported perfect rolls of companies, whose ranks were filled with respectable men.

6th. That he has used his influence to exclude from the corps of officers of his regiment all men of capacity and experience, and those who would be most likely to be directed by a nice regard for the interest and honor of their country, and to constitute it a body of weak, or very young and unexperiences men, who must needs be his suppliant underlyings.

7th. That he has publicly declared that if he was sent out by the government in a convoy, he would run away from the naval commander; and that after he had landed in California he would no longer obey the President of the United States nor any other authority of the government.

8th That he has practiced duplicity on the President, the Governor, and other persons in office in this state, unbecoming an officer and a soldier.

These are grave charges which concur not me alone, but the whole country, and they are now declared with the fullest sense and understanding that I endorse their truth with the commission which I myself hold, and a time and imprisonment on an indictment for libel, if the charges should prove to be such- and with this I am content.

[RCG]
Gen. Taylor left Matamoros on the 5th August, in the steamer Whiteville, for Camargo, accompanied by about one half the Texan regiment of infantry and a few regulars.

"General Order, No. 94. No spirituous liquors will be permitted to enter the river or the city of Matamoros for the purposes of barter or traffic on the account of any person whatever, whether sutler in the army or private dealers. Any liquors found in violation of this order will be confiscated and sent to the quartermaster in N. Orleans to be sold--one half of the proceeds for the benefit of the informant, the other half to be applied to the support of the hospital department.

The commanding general issues this order under the sanction of the general government, and calls upon all officers to give their aid in executing its provisions. The quartermaster's department and Col. Clark will take the necessary measures to have it communicated to the persons interested, particularly to the dealers in Matamoros, and the masters of all public transports or other vessels in the river. Any steamboat captains or other hired persons that are found violating it, will be at once dismissed from the service."

We judge from the numerous articles in the Matamoros papers, that the above order has occasioned no little excitement. How far it is possible to evade its provisions, is the question. "Spirituous liquors?" says the sutler, and the government wines and malt liquors they insist are included in the prohibition.

By the close of September this column will reach Monterey, where the chances of a battle are sufficiently uncertain to make it a matter of daily doubt and speculation. The very air is rite with rumors. It is said that Wool is now in command; if so, and he continues there, it is a guarantee of hard knocks.

The health of the regular army is represented to be good. The volunteers are suffering considerably, mainly from indiscretions, to which want of strict discipline renders them liable.

LETTER FROM COL. YELL, OF THE ARKANSAS VOLUNTEERS.


MY DEAR SIR: I have only a moment to write to you. We reached this place on yesterday at 11 o'clock A.M. and by 10 P.M. we crossed the river, and will take up the line of march for San Antonio. I regret that we have been disappointed in receiving our public arms and camp equipage. There has been inexcusable negligence somewhere, and I shall make the report to the proper department; and if
that negligence should be continued, and we reach San Antonio without finding our arms, I shall make a final and direct report of the case to the secretary of war, and in he does not correct such inattention he will deserve to be removed from his present position. I hope, however, all will yet be satisfactorily explained, and that we shall be furnished on our arrival at our point of destination.

I am pleased to say that our troops are remarkably healthy yet, and in good spirits. They will, when an opportunity offers, give a good account of themselves.--

In haste, yours, A. YELL

[RCG]

NRR 71.001 5 Sept 1846 indications of government aiding to restore Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna to power, contradiction of the "Union" notwithstanding, he is allowed to pass the blockade, enters Veracruz, assumes command and the revolution progresses, Mariano Paredes y Arillaga overthrown and imprisoned by Gen. Jose Mariano de Salas, who aids Santa to power

WAR WITH MEXICO.

All eyes are now directed towards Ver Cruz waiting the progress of the new revolution in Mexico. Even our cabinet, if may credit the Washington correspondent of the N. York Journal of Commerce, at a meeting held on the 27th ult. determined to take no step in reference to the demonstration of the Santa Anna party, until the result of the revolution shall be known. The fleets are to remain inactive and Gen. Taylor is to continue to menace invasions. The "Union" has repeatedly denied, that our government has any connection with any Mexican faction. Notice the fact of Santa Anna not being prevented to enter Vera Cruz in the dull British steamer Arab, which he effected on the 16th of Aug. although it was known to the whole squadron that he would about that time make the attempt--and although our crack steamer, Princeton made a show of attempting to intercept the Arab. Yet it may have been that wind, weather and fortune, all conspired in favor of the daring enterprise. Certain it is, that a letter from the American Ex-Consul, Campbell, introduced Gen. Santa Anna to the Commandant of the American squadron, Com. Conner.

The Savannah Republican says--"We have been frequently asked whether Com. Conner will be likely to allow Santa Anna to pass unmolested into Ver Cruz? We unhesitatingly answer yes--if he has received his despatches from the government at Washington. We have no positive information on the subject, but we rather guess so from few facts and circumstances which may be easily connected. In the first place, we think that the government and Santa Anna understand each other thoroughly. Mr. Slidell McKenzie, who may now be considered the man with the "white hat," has been to Cuba--has conferred with the fleet off Vera Cruz, and with General Taylor. Senor Tamariz, secretary of the treasury of Mexico during the last administration of Santa Anna, has been in the United States--probably at Washington. He came to Charleston, and there chartered a steamer for a large sum to carry him to Cuba, where he arrived only a day or two before the announcement that Vera Cruz had declared in favor of the exiled chief. Private letters received in New York from Havana as late as the 8th instant, state on high authority that Santa Anna is not so averse to peace with this country as has been generally supposed, and that he will rejoice at the appearance of any liberal offer was in contemplation by the administration, we may not only infer from the call for the passage of the two million bill but from the well ascertained fact that Mr. Polk has actually dispatched a messenger to Mexico.

Now, putting all these facts together, we are inclined to the belief that this whole movement is well understood, and that the ascendency of Santa Anna, and the banishment of Parades will be followed by an early adjustment of the difficulties between the two governments. If, therefore, the scheme has worked right, it is highly probably that there will not be the slightest difficulty interposed to the triumphal entrance into Vera Cruz by Santa Anna and his friends.

OVERTHROW AND IMPRISONMENT OF PAREDES. The N. Orleans papers of the 24th ult. furnish an account of the arrival of the British brig of war During, with Vera Cruz dates to the 16th.

General Santa Anna reached Vera Cruz on the 16th and immediately placed himself at the head of the movement in that department.
Mexico and Puebla had declared in favor of Santa Anna. General Bravo had scarcely assumed the presidency to act in the absence of Paredes, before Paredes was seized and placed in confinement in the Citadel of Mexico. Gen. Salas "assumed the responsibility" and took command. His two sons proceeded immediately to Vera Cruz to meet and welcome Santa Anna. They reached Vera Cruz on the 8th.

The Picayune say--"Before Santa Anna left Havanna he took letters from Gen. Campbell to Com. Conner, and avowed himself, in reply to some inquiries as to his intentions, as follows--"If the people of my country are for war, then I am with them; but I would prefer peace."

Gomez Farias aided the revolution at Mexico. Salas has issued a proclamation, directing Congress to meet on the 6th of December, under the constitution of 1824; the restoration of which he declares to be one of the chief objects of the revolution. That is, the federal Constitution--of which he was always a warm advocate.

Santa Anna will be an indifferent hand to govern under confederate authority, or we have mistaken his character.

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ANNEXATION OF CALIFORNIA. Various rumors brought by the British steamer to N. Orleans, from Vera Cruz, assert that California--meaning we presume, Monterey--Mazatlan, or some other port on the Pacific has been taken possession of, or has declared in favor of annexation to the United States. The most plausible version of the report is from Mexican letters dated 8th August, stating that "some of the disaffected citizens of Monterey, in conjunction with a few inhabitants of American origin, who were aided by the crew of the U.S. sloop of war Falmouth, took possession of the city, hoisted the American colors, and proclaimed California's annexed to the United States." The crew of the Falmouth will be surprised to learn the caper they have been cutting beyond the Cordilleras whilst they supposed themselves quietly blockading Vera Cruz all the while.

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ENTRANCE OF THE ARMY INTO MIER.

Mier, (Mexico,) July 31, 1846.

Captain Vinton's command entered this place this morning without the least show of opposition, the inhabitants thronging to the Plaza in crowds as the troops filed into it and stacked their arms in front of the house of the Alcade. It seemed to me as though there were men enough in the square to have beaten us off with nothing else save the loose rocks lying about; yet not a hand was raised.

Mier is by far the most pleasant, cleanly, and well regulated place we have yet seen in this part of Mexico. It is built on a hill overlooking a clear running stream of the same name, three miles from the Rio Grande, and is said to contain 6,000 inhabitants, although I do not know where they stow them all. You may well recollect that it was in this place that the Texans under Col. Fisher were compelled to surrender after they had killed twice their number of Mexicans.

I have stated that the number of the inhabitants is put down at 6,000; admitting that it is 4,000, it was still entered and taken possession of by 93 men only --85 regulars and 8 of McCollock's Rangers, acting as a mounted guard. You could not serve any town in the United States in that way, and this place is a perfect fortification from its position and the strength of the houses, which are of stone. Captain Vinton's command occupies a large school house in one corner of the Plaza, near the church--strong, and at the same time commodious and comfortable quarters.

It is company B, of the third artillery, or "Redlegged Infantry," as it is now called from the fact that the men are at this time serving as infantry, while they wear the red artillery stripe down their pantaloons. I give you a list of the officers, who are all

I return to Camargo in the morning with the Rangers. If I could have my own way I should remain here, for it is worth forty of Camargo. [RCG]

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**NNR 71.002 Sept 5, 1846 attempt on Alvarado**

**UNITED STATES SHIP CUMBERLAND,**

*Off Vera Cruz, July 30, 1846.*

SIR: Shortly after closing my letter of the 28th instant, the Cumberland, Potomac, and two of the schooners sailed from Green Island for the purpose of attacking the enemy's vessels in the river of Alvarado. In passing through the channel leading to the roads of Antonio Lizard, I regret to inform you this ship, owing to a strong current, ran on the northwest part of a coral reef, called the Chopas, in three fathoms water. This was about half past 4 o'clock in the afternoon of the 28th.

After great exertions, and lightening her more than a foot by pumping off the water, removing the provisions and shot to the other vessels, and depositing most of the spar deck guns on a shoal part of the reef near the vessel, (whence they can be easily removed,) with the assistance of the Mississippi, she was finally extricated from her perilous position at about 8 o'clock, P.M., on the 29th, after grinding in the coral reef for upwards of 27 hours. With the exception of her false keel, of which small crushed fragments rose to the surface of the water alongside, the ship does not appear to have sustained any material injury, as she makes no more water than usual. It is reasonable to infer, however, that much of the copper on the bottom has been rubbed off.

It affords me great satisfaction to add that the officers and men of the Cumberland performed their incessant labor with untiring zeal and assiduity; and my acknowledgements are due to Captain Fitzhugh, his officers, and men, for the very efficient aid rendered by the Mississippi, whose services were of the greatest importance, and to Lieutenant Le Roy and the men of the Potomac, who shared our labors.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. CONNER

[RCG]

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**NNR 71.002 Sept, 5 1846 effect of Gen. Zachary Taylor's temperance orders at Matamoros**

By the steamer *McKim*, from Brazos Santiago, which reached New Orleans on the 30th we have the following, extracted from N. Orleans papers:--

Col. Clark has succeeded in re-establishing order at Matamoras, by promptly executing the recent temperance orders of Gen. Taylor.

Capt. F.L. Ball, of the Kentucky volunteers, is supposed to have been murdered by the Mexicans on the road between Barita and Matamoras.

[RCG]

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**NNR 71.002: September 5, 1846 -expedition of the Rangers to the interior**

Camargo, Mexico, Aug. 11, 1846.

One step towards Monterey is to be taken tomorrow. Captain Duncan's battery, accompanied by a small portion of M'Cullough's men, leave this place in the direction
of the mountains, and by some road on the opposite side of the river. It may be
looked upon only as a reconnaissance, although an artillery force is along. Of
whatever befalls them on the road you shall be made acquainted all in good time. If
the command does not take Mier in the route, it will go close to that place.

News has reached here this morning to the effect that the city of Guenero has
pronounced in favor of the United States government. The people of that place have
all along been friendly towards the Americans, or have so seemed; but whether from
any love they might bear them, or from fear of the encroachments of the
Camanches, is a matter I am not able to determine at this present writing. I believe,
honestly, that the people of Guenero have some intelligence and are better disposed
than those of any place on the river.

The crack steamer Brownsville, by which I send this, brought up two companies of
the advance of the Baltimore troops last evening, the rest coming on by land. They
are a hardly looking set of "b'hoys"by all appearance, but I have no doubt will do
good service. Captain Blanchard's company of twelve-months Louisiana volunteers,
recruited from the regiments recently disbanded, entered camp this forenoon.

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NNR 71.002 Sept 5, 1846 China occupied

The town of China, on the Rio St. Juan, about 65 or 70 miles from Camargo, was
taken on the 5th instant by Capt. M'Cullough of the Texas Rangers, without
opposition. Col. Seguin with one hundred Mexicans were in the town, but on the
appearance of the Americans they retreated.

[RCG]

NNR 71.002 Sept 5, 1846 Gen. Taylor proceeds to Camargo, grand review

A letter from Camargo, dated August 9, says:

The steamer Hatchee Eagle arrived here last evening, Gen. Taylor and his staff
coming up on her. The talk is of an immediate movement at some point on the
route. Whether the army is to move by way of China, or is to cross the San Juan at
this place and march on the other side of the river, has not yet been settled upon I
believe. There are now near 3,000 men, all regulars encamped here, and hosts, of
volunteers are en route and shortly expected--some of them this afternoon.

The general impression among the best informed, as regards the chances of the
Mexicans giving another battle, is that Gen. Taylor will have an opportunity of
gaining fresh laurels at Monterey or near that place. On the river the inhabitants
appear friendly enough, but in the interior the case is different.

[RCG]

NNR 71.002 Sept 5, 1846 Gen. William Jenkins Worth's division prepares to move to
Monterey

Editors of the Picayune-- Gentlemen: I have just heard of the arrival of the
remainder of the Texas infantry, under Col. Johnson -- also of portions of the 3d and
4th U.S. infantry, under Col. Garland, with Capt. Bragg's battery. I have already
mentioned that Gen Worth's brigade was under marching orders for the interior, the
order being to be in readiness to move within eight days from yesterday.

[RCG]

NNR 71.016 Sept 5, 1846 complaints from volunteers at Matamoras about high
prices for provisions

PRICES CURRENT AT MATAMOROS. In a letter from one of the Ohio volunteers,
published in the Cincinnati Gazette, we find the following quotation of prices which
they have to pay for anything beyond their rations, in that direction, viz: sugar, per
lb. inferior, 40 cents; coffee, do. do. 35 cts.; cheese, do. do. 30 cts.; cider per gallon stale, $2.50 whiskey per gallon, inferior, $4; shoes, stogas, per pair, $2 50; shirts each, hickory, $2.

Another Ohio paper says--"The volunteers in the army of invasion complain bitterly at the exorbitant exactions of the sutlers. One poor fellow, troubled in spirit says: "it is pretty tough, I can tell you--wages only seven dollars a month, whiskey from one to two dollars a gallon, and other necessaries of life in the same proportion."

[RCG]

NNR 71.016 Sept 5, 1846 junta at Santa Barbara declares independence of Mexico, Gen. Castro declares martial law

CALIFORNIA. The Washington "Union" furnishes the substance of the information received by the government, from which, and from the Philadelphia Ledger, we obtain the following facts.

On the 15th of Jun, a junto met at Santa Barbara, headed by Governor Pico, for the purpose of declaring California independent.

The Mexican Commandant General, Castro, to resist this movement, proclaimed Castro, to resist this movement, proclaimed martial law throughout the country.

[RCG]

NNR 71.016 Sept 5, 1846 Sonoma occupied by Col. John Charles Fremont

Col. Fremont's advanced detachment, about the 1st July, took possession of Sonoma, situated to the north of San Francisco. Col. Castro immediately placed himself at the head of his forces to dislodge them. Col. Fremont met the movement in person. Castro retreated.

[RCG]

NNR 71.016 Sept 5, 1846 Com. John Drake Sloat takes Monterey

71.016 Sept 5, 1846 Capt. John Berrien Montgomery in the Portsmouth takes Yerba Buena

On the 6th of July, Commodore SLOAT, entered the harbor and took possession of Monterey, hoisted the American flag, and issued his proclamation, as commander-in-chief of the U.S. forces in the Pacific, giving the inhabitants every assurance of protection and friendship, announcing that they were destined to become apart of the Union, and to enjoy the privileges of its citizens--enjoins them, in the mean time, to preserve their present Alcades and other magistrates. Those who decline to become American citizens are, on laying down their arms, permitted to depart in peace, with their property.

On the 9th of July, Capt. Montgomery, of the U.S. ship Portsmouth, entered the harbor of Yerba Buena, and issued his proclamation, in virtue of instructions from Com. Sloat, similar in import.

[RCG]

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[RCG]

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NNR 71.016 Sept 5, 1846 transport wagons contracted for the Army

WAGONS.--We understand that 6 or 700 baggage wagons, and about as many set of harness for the U.S. army, are making in this city and the neighboring town, and an
unusual activity, for the season, prevails therefore in those branches of the trade. Several of the wagons passed through this city yesterday.

NRR 71.017 Sept 12, 1846 dispatches to Mexico

DESPATCHES TO MEXICO. The New Orleans Picayune of the 29th ult. says: "As there were two or three revenue cutters at Brazos Santiago, when the Alabama left there, we presume that Mr. Habersham had no difficulty in procuring an immediate conveyance to Vera Cruz. Mr. Habersham, it will be recollected, was the bearer of Mr. Buchanan's letters to Commodore Conner and the Mexican secretary of war, but had been detained here for the want of a vessel going to Vera Cruz."

The Charleston Partiot of the 4th inst., has the following: "U.S.R. steamer Legare, off Rio Grande, Aug 22. I have just received on board a bearer of dispatches for Vera Cruz, and sail immediately. You may expect to hear of my arrival at New Orleans about the 10th or 12th of Sept. The steamer Mclean arrived here yesterday, and will go back for coal."

Mr. McLane, has been received with as great cordiality on his return to his native country as he appears to have been parted from with regret at the court to which he was a representative. English journals and English statesmen, all speak of the American minister with respect, and testify to the services he has contributed towards a restoration of harmony and of comparative good feeling between that country and the United States, and also refer to the deep solicitude he has evinced no less than to the business like capacity and statesman like views which have distinguished his intercourse with their government. The New York chamber of commerce and the common council of New York, on Mr. McLane's arrival on the 5th at that city from Boston, by deputation, met him with congratulations on the happy success of his mission, and with expressions of good will and good wishes.

NRR 71.020 Sept 12, 1846 difficulties attending the California expedition preparing at New York

The Albany Argus publishes the following letter, we presume, from one of the volunteers.

"The California regiment is still stationary here in New York, though every effort is making to expedite its departure. The government has engaged three noble ships, 700 to 800 tons, for transports, at a cost of $65,000. The preparations made for arming the regiments are very extensive. We are to be furnished with 800 percussion lock muskets, 800 do, with flint locks, and 800 rifles. In addition to this there will be equipments and cannon sent out for one company of artillery, and all the appointments for the corps of dragoons. This is done to provide against any possible contingency, and to make success any thing but problematical. If, therefore, on out arrival, we should not be enabled to co-operate with Gen. Kearney, immediately, Col. Stevenon will probably at once organize the dragoon corps. It is also expected that one company will be furnished with rifles, so that we shall form a complete army in ourselves, having one company of artillery, one of dragoons, seven of infantry, and one of light infantry or riflemen. I have had the pleasure of examining some of the muskets destined for our use, and I hesitate not to say that a more perfect article was never made. They are of the latest and best army pattern, perfect in their construction, and of most exquisite finish. The bayonet is secured from being wrenched off in action by a moveable ring, which renders it utterly impossible for the most expert swordsman to change the position or unfix the bayonet."

NRR 71.020 Sept 12, 1846 reasons why the "peace with Mexico"now anticipated may prove delusive
"The peace with Mexico," from the measures which have been promulged, and other measures supposed to be in process, our readers no doubt are by this time looking out for an announcement of, instead of a continuance of the caption, which, however, encircles with laurels, has not yet become an agreeable one to the peace-loving citizens of our happy republic. As yet, however, we cannot cry "peace," we have on one hand, the assurance that every member of the new cabinet of the (late?) acting President of Mexico, Bravo, is in favor of a peace with the U. States, and the assurance on the other hand, that Santa Anna "prefers peace," though, it is added, if the Mexicans insist on war, that he must needs obey their will, putting that and that together, and then adding a third assurance which we also find on just about the same reliable authority, (the public journal and their letter writers,) that the people of Mexico are exceedingly anxious for peace, giving credit to all these, and not doubting the official assurance which President Polk took occasion in his late communication to the Mexican minister of foreign affairs, so emphatically to repeat, the he was all along been most solicitous to restore, as he was before hostilities, to preserve peace, putting, we say, all these together, and adding the now admitted anxiety of both France and England for an amicable settlement of the difficulties between the United States and Mexico, such assurances as these, that all parties concerned, as well as of others not concerned, are anxious for a restoration of peace, and it would seem as if the deuce must be in it, if we cant obtain a peace under such favorable circumstances, more especially, as it is not at all concealed that our executive would be willing to stipulate to pay a few millions to obtain the terms he designs to propose.

Yet, with all these inducements, these apparent facilities towards a restoration of harmony, and not withstanding the general impression that an understanding exists between President Polk and Santa Anna, an impression which has been fortified almost into a certainty on many minds, by the fact of Commodore Conner going on board the Princeton himself, "on discovering the British steamer Arab approaching, on board of which Santa Anna was known to be, and his allowing the latter to slip into the port of Vera Cruz without boarding, all these favorable appearances notwithstanding, there are those that still apprehend that way may be continued. Some, through want of faith in Santa Anna; some from a certainty that Almonte, who accompanied Santa Anna, is an inveterate opponent of the dismemberment of Mexico; others from the fact that Santa Anna was accompanied by several distinguished military officers, one of them said to be the best cavalry officer in Mexico, (as, though Santa Anna redes); and others again who are not without suspicions that Paredes, Bravo, Santa Anna, and Almonte all understood each other, and are playing a Mexican game upon us; others doubt the disposition of the people of Mexico being friendly to a settlement on terms of dismemberment, and think that let Paredes, Bravo, Santa Anna, or whoever may be dictator, he will be compelled to defend, or attempt to defend the integrity of the Mexican territory.

[RCG]

71.020: September 12, 1846 General Taylor delayed

"THE ARMY OF OCCUPATION"

General Taylor with, it is believed, the whole of the "regulars" under his immediate command, were concentrated as high up the Rio Grande as Camargo, by the 10th of August, a few advance detachments being pushed a little in advance of that post, in the direction of Monterey. It was expected, at the latest dates from thence, that wagons, horses, and mules, as well as munitions and provisions, for which he had been impatiently waiting, might arrive there by the 20th or 30th of August, sufficient to authorize his quitting navigable water and commencing a march for the interior of Mexico.

In the mean time, whilst General Taylor was detained, after the victories of the 8th and 9th of May, for want of these indispensable "materials" for an offensive campaign, from pursuing the enemy, the terms of the volunteers who had hurried to his relief on the first requisition, expired, and they have been discharged without a man of them having been afforded a chance to meet a Mexican in arms. No fault of theirs, or of the general in command. It may have been the fortune of war.

"It is not in the power of mortals to command success. You have done more, my countrymen,

"You have deserved it."
Fresh volunteers, or twelve month's of men, to the number of ten or twelve thousand, have just reached the scene of action, and whilst they garrison the positions which General Taylor has left in his rear, or gradually march to sustain him, they are devoting most of their time, as they should do, to acquiring sufficient discipline to qualify them to meet a disciplined enemy. A few companies only, and those composed of troops from vicinities in which they have had opportunities to acquire considerable discipline, have as yet been associated with "the regulars." It must take some time to qualify troops gathered from the interior, and who have never seen service, to meet such troops as were met with on the 8th and 9th of May, without imminent risk of a very different result.

An abstract of the latest intelligence from this division of the army will be found in this number.

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**THE EXPEDITION UNDER GENERAL WOOL**

Without waiting for arrival of the general and his volunteers and munitions, we perceive that a detachment has advanced from Antonio de Bexar to the Rio Grande in the direction which this division was to take, between Santa Fe and Camargo. We shall hear from them shortly.

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**OPERATIONS UPON THE PACIFIC**

We are yet without authentic information from our squadron, other than was noticed in our last, received by the British brig of war Daring, at New Orleans. Government may possibly be in our possession of intelligence not yet promulgated. Of the occupation of at least two of the ports on the coast of California, by our squadron, there is no doubt. The British commandant on that station, it is said, was at a loss how to act in such a case, and dispatched an officer for advice or instructions from the British minister at Washington or the governor general of Canada.

As Commodore Sloat has had all the tedious, inactive service, and had, no doubt, made himself familiar with the whole concern on that station, we sincerely rejoice that the little share of éclat which was to be obtained in that remote latitude, has fallen to his lot, before officers sent for the purpose of superceding him in the command arrived.

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**Lt. James Duncan's report on the battles of the 8th and 9th May**

**BATTLES ON THE RIO GRANDE**

The report by Lieut. Duncan, of the operations of the corps under his command in the battles of the 8th and 9th of May, has but lately reached us through the columns of the *New York Courier*.

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**The affair of the Baltimore battalion "and their Ohio commander"**

The following letter is from the camp of the Baltimore volunteers on the Rio Grande:

*Camp Belknap, August 2, 1846.*

Our battalion is joined to one from Ohio, which forms a regiment, and this in connection with two other regiments from Ohio, comprises a brigade. There are also regiments from Alabama, Georgia, and Tennessee, quartered at this same camp, which is situated on a high bluff of land, from which we can see thousands of tents, and hear the drums beating the reveille.
Yesterday, Lafayette Hands, Andrew Metteer, and some of our boys went over to Barita, and returned in rather high spirits. As they were returning home, some one gave Andrew Metteer a catfish, which Col. Mitchell, of Ohio, who is Colonel of the whole brigade, claimed as his own, and ordered three of his men to take it from him. On the men seizing him, in compliance with the orders of their commander, Metteer drew a dagger and stabbed two of them. Colonel Mitchell then rushed on Metteer with a drawn sword and inflicted several severe gashes on his head, from the effects of which he fell as if dead. Layafette Hands then seized the Colonel, wrested his sword from him, and chased him with it for some distance around the camp, until another sword was handed him, when they had a regular sword fight, lasting some minutes, until the Colonel's sword broke, and he again ran, finally escaping to his own quarters. He then gave immediate orders for his men to turn out, armed with ball cartridge, when out Captain gave similar orders, and marched the Chesapeakes down to meet them. When we arrived, Captain Stuart, who in the absence ordered out the battalion, and we were all full of fight, and I verily believe that our 600 Baltimorians could have whipped the whole 2,500 Ohioans. Dan Wells had taken dead aim at the Colonel, and would have blown him sky high, had it not been for Charles Ehrman, who struck his musket. The Colonel then claimed the command of the whole brigade, and ordered us to out camp, which order we were compelled to obey. Colonel Watson was at Barita, where we immediately sent after him, and on his arrival he started for the camp of Colonel Mitchell, to demand an explanation of his conduct. On his arrival there, however, he was told that the Colonel had started for Matamoras to report to Gen. Taylor, but Colonel Watson is now after him, and I do not know how the spree will end.

[RCG]

NNR 71.022 Sept 12, 1846 letters detailing march from Matamoras to Camargo, difficulties encountered, progress impeded, incidents, movements, and position, advance under Gen. William Jenkins Worth proceeds to Cerralvo

Extract of a letter from young Stettinius, of the Baltimore volunteers to his parents, dated Camp Belknap, opposite Barita, July 29, 1846:

"My dear father and mother--It is with pleasure that I again write to inform you of the past, the present, and of the anticipations of the future. When I wrote my last letter, we were at the mouth of the Rio Grande. The ground was very low and marshy, and when it rained we were completely deluged. It was, however, far preferable to the Brasos. The water which we drink is from the Rio Grande. It is of a dark yellow color, caused by the muc with which it is mixed. After standing, however, for a few hours, it becomes pure and sweet.

On the 25th, we left the mouth for this place, a distance of nine miles, but our guide, the adjutant, not knowing any precise road, led us out of the way about 25 miles. During the whole march we had not a dry place for the "sole of our foot." We had to wade through tow canals, supposed to have been dug by the Mexicans during the Texan war. It was quite amusing to see the men in the water, struggling to get to the opposite shore, falling down, others falling over them. Many, one of whom was Lieut. Boyle, stuck fast in the mud, and were near being lost. We all, however, arrived safe at night, tired enough. We slept on the bank of the river, and awoke next morning, covered with sand crabs.

There are a great many birds of various kinds here which we hunt. Among them are the mocking bird and the red bird. There are also many rare plants, such as the wild cactus--some grow like a pineapple and bear a yellow flower, while others are flat like a cap, and bear red blossoms. Out colonel says we shall probably remain here until we start for home, as there appears to be no likelihood of our having a fight. There is a great deal of wild cattle about us which we shoot. They afford us a good supply of fresh meat, We have been here three days, and have already killed three beeves.

The place abounds in rattlesnakes, scorpions and lizards; also a reptile called Santa Fe, whose sting produces death in a short time; likewise large red ant which bite terribly; poisonous spiders, and last, but not least, the mosquitoes.

One might be led to think that in this desolate and far distant country we were wholly destitute of music, but at night we have plenty of it. The concert is opened by the mosquitoes, who is soon followed by the cricket. Then comes master wolf, with Soprano; the basso is admirably performed by Monsieur Jackass, whose tremendous voice nearly drowns the tenor of the frog. The concert cease by a piece called the
reveille, which is composed of the fire and drum, at 4 o'clock in the morning. Father, you should volunteer for Texas!
[RCG]

NNR 71.022 Sept 12, 1846 hot weather, Army concentrated at Camargo, advances made towards Monterey, want of wagons

THE ARMY OF OCCUPATION.

Matamoros, Mexico, Aug 18, 1846

Messrs Editors-- The army is fast concentrating upon Camargo, or at least that wing of it under the immediate direction of Gen. Taylor. This, you know, is preparatory to a movement upon Monterey. The General expects to put his column in motion by the 1st of September, may be he will start earlier, but I do not think he will be enabled, if even so soon. Monterey is, by the shortest route from Camargo, a military march of twenty days, at least, provided the army be well supplied and no obstacles, other than natural, be interposed. With the present means, I do not think it can be accomplished, at this season, much short of a month.

I conceive the advance upon Monterey, even if I prove fully successful, to be a "feat of arms"barren of fruit: for what is to be gained by it? I have no doubt the Mexicans will make a stand at Monterey or this side of the city, and give out troops some hard work to do; but that the place will fall into out hands I've no doubt, as I have none of the ultimate success of the American forces.

In relation to the amount of force the Mexicans can bring into the field into the neighborhood of Monterey, there are various estimates; but no one knows-- for whilst the enemy, by a well organized system of espionage, knows all about us, we about them know but very little indeed, out knowledge scarcely extends beyond the precincts of out camp. Thus has it ever with the "Army of Occupation." Heretofore there was excuse in the smallness of out numbers, which disabled us from sending out scouts; but no there is now excuse on that score, and a want of knowledge of the enemy's numbers and position is an unpardonable neglect, or argues too great contempt of their valor--which was unexpectedly shown on the 8th and 9th of May last.

As I have said, I have no fear of the ultimate triumph of our arms. The greatest fear I apprehend is that whilst the main body of our army is marching upon Monterey, the enemy will make a diversion in this quarter, and attempt to regain Matamoros by a "coup de main,"or get possession of Point Isabel. Last night we had an alarm in town. Indeed, a body of some 400 Rancheros burst into the city, bent on mischief. There merely made a show however, and took themselves off; but it makes known to you how poorly we were off here, that we could not pursue and punish them. Had they remained a little while longer; an armed body of citizens, (American) would have been upon them, assembled upon the spur of the occasion. As it was, the wee regular force left here had to keep guard over the Q.U. commissary and pay departments, thus left heedlessly exposed to pillage. This late affair may stir up to the realities of our situation, the powers that be, and not leave us londer to the sport of fortune for safety. This morning Colonel Clark has taken upon himself to enlarge the force here, and has called over from the other side of the Rio Grande a battalion of Ohio volunteers, and will organize the American citizens. It is not strange that here is a captured city, with a depot for the army, left exposed to pillage, without an adequate force to prevent it; and besides no means taken to know who has a right to be here? I myself have seen "fellows"whom I am certain are emissaries from the Mexican army prowling about here; and it is a known fact that Mexican officers were killed and taken prisoners at Palo Alto and Resaca, recognized as the former "milk and chicken merchants"of Camp Taylor! Indeed, I consider out situation here a little critical, as we have not an adequate force to defend the city; and should it be seriously threatened, by a large force of the enemy, we will have to fire the place and cross the river to Fort Brown which is now all but the parapets, under water. The demonstration last night was a most daring one. The first show of another will be followed by the forcible expulsion of every "ochre-colored face"if not of a war of extermination upon the deceitful thieving Rancheros.

The Florida war is being acted over here again, both in relation to the conduct of the war and the creation of an enormous "sinking fund." The "hawks of the chapparal" like the Seminoles of the hammock, now infest every road and by path to cut off the unwary. Several have been thus killed by the volunteers who had left Matamoros for elsewhere and have never been heard of since--one a captain of the Kentucky
Regiment. The "Guerrilla" system of old Spain is commenced in the new world. The only consolation we have is that at this kind of warfare the Texans are equally good with the Rancheros, and that we can put Capt. Walker against Roman Falcon.

The measles have got among the wester volunteers and plague the boys mightily. Those from the eastern parts of the country have fortunately passed through the disease whilst young and have no fears of it. Your Baltimore and District boys have gone up the river to Camargo--left hence two days ago. They are generally well, but a little too much disposed to fight "a la rowdie" by way of getting their hands in against the time of meeting the Mexicans. Some few were in the guard house at Matamoras, but considering these were often in the watch house when at home, it was looked over lightly, and no general reflection passed upon the credit of the whole for the riotous conduct of the few. I have no doubt in a fight with the enemy they will show themselves valiant and strong--bold and fearless.

[RCG]

NNR 71.022 12 September 1846: Confusion over disbanding of the six months' volunteers

Our information is that the department ordered General Taylor, positively, to dismiss all the six months' volunteers for whom he could not furnish immediate service. From this order, he retained the Texas mounted men, for he could give them immediate service, but as he could not put all the six months' volunteers from Louisiana, Alabama, and Missouri into immediate services as he had more men than he needed, he did not choose to make selections, and therefore issued the orders for disbanding the whole. Previous to the receipt of this peremptory order from the department he had attached the St. Louis Legion to Col. Twigg's command of regulars.

[RWH]

NNR 71.022 12 September 1846: letter from young Stettinius of the Baltimore volunteers about their position in Mexico

My dear father and mother--It is with pleasure that I again write to inform you of the past, the present, and of the anticipation of the future. When I wrote my last letter, we were at the mouth of the Rio Grande. The ground was very low and marshy, and when it rained we were completely deluged. It was however far preferable to the Brazos. The water which we drink is from the Rio Grande. It is of a dark yellow color, caused by the mud with which it is mixed. After standing however, for a few hours it becomes pure and sweet.

On the 25th, we left the mouth for this place, a distance of nine miles, but our guide, the adjutant, not knowing any precise road, led us out of the way about 25 miles. During the whole march we had not a dry place for the sole of our foot. We had to wade through low caoals, supposed to have been by the Mexicans during the Texan war. It was quite amusing to see the men in the water, struggling to get to the opposite shore, falling down, others falling over them. Many, one of whom was Lieut. Boyle, stuck fast in the mud, and were near being lost. We all however, slept on the bank of the river, and awoke the next morning, covered with sand crabs.

There are a great many birds of various kinds here which we hunt. Among them are the mocking bird and the red bird. There also many rare plants, such as the wild cactus--some grow like pine apple and bear a yellow flower, while others are flat like a cap, and bear red blossoms. Our Colonel says we shall probably remain here until we start for home, as there appears to be no likelihood of our having a fight. They afford us a good supply of fresh meat. We have been here three days and have already killed three beeves.

The place abounds in rattlesnakes, scorpions, and lizards; also a reptile called Santa Fe, whose sting produces death in a short time; likewise large red ants which bite terribly, poisonous spiders, and last but not least, the musquitoe.

One might be led to think that in this desolate and far distant country we were wholly destitute of music, but at night we have plenty of it. The concert is opened by the musquitoe, who is soon followed by the cricket. Then comes the master wolf, with Soprano; the basso is admirably performed by Monsieur Jackass, whose tremendous voice nearly drowns out the tenor of the frog. The concert ceases by a
piece called the reveille, which is composed of the fife and drum, at 4 o'clock in the morning. Father you should volunteer for Texas.

[NRR 71.022 12 September 1846 letter about the concentration of the Army at Camargo preparatory to a movement upon Monterey]

The army is fast concentrating upon Camargo, or at least that wing of it under the immediate direction of Gen. Taylor. This you know is preparatory to a movement upon Monterey. The General expects to put his column in motion by the 1st of September, may be he will start earlier, but I do not think he will be enabled to if even so soon- Monterey is, by the shortest route from Camargo, a military march of twenty days, at least, provided the army be well supplied and no obstacles other than the natural, be interposed.

[NRR 71.022 12 September 1846 measles among volunteers from the west]

The measles have got among the western volunteers and plague the boys mightily. Those from the eastern parts of the country have fortunately passed through the disease whilst young and have no fears of it.

[NRR 71.022 12 September 1846 rowdyism among the volunteers from Baltimore and the District]

Your Baltimore and District boys have gone up the river to Camargo- left hence two days ago. They are generally well, but a little too much disposed to fight "a la rowdie"by way of getting their hands in against the time of meeting the Mexicans.

[NRR 71.022-71.023 letter from Point Isabel about various activities and movements]

The last case of murder I heard of was that of Col. Haynes. I saw him killed a few evenings before as Richard III, when he died as all monarchs do- very badly. His death was a loss to the theatre at Matamoros, as they are left destitute of a tragic hero. He was not only celebrated as an actor, but was generally known by his having stopped the play, in the theatre at Corpus Christi, while he and Adjutant Gen. Johnson went out to take a drink. The command at Matamoros is under Col. Clark, who has a portion of regulars and the 3rd regiment Ohio volunteers under Colonel Curtis, who are stationed on the bank of the river, at Fort Paredes and Fort Brown. Since the movement of the army above to Camargo, the place seems very dull and the judicious order of General Taylor, prohibiting the sale of spirituous liquors after the 15th, has helped to make it so, and made the place somewhat decent.

A friend of ours accompanied Gen. Smith to Camargo by land. He says they left Matamoros to join Col. Wood 's command of mounted Texans, but Col. W. had gone another route. Gen. Smith nothing daunted, started off with only one friend as a volunteer and two servants. Rather harsh, you will say, after having heard the day before that Canules was between them and Reynosa. They went the first afternoon to Guadalupe; the next day to La Mesa, and the next into the Lagona St. Anna, about twelve miles from Reynosa. Here the water rose over the wagon body in less than half an hour. They were obliged to unhitch their mules and for three days they worked with seven Mexicans and six yoke of oxen, to get clear of the water occasioned by the overflow. At the expiration of the third day they got out and proceeded on their way. Fortune still pursued the General, as a party of Toukewa Indians supposed to be the same we saw at Matamors came over to the Mexican side and took off a family of eight persons from the very rancho at which our friend was going to pitch his tent; so you will see there is luck for him yet. They got sale at Camargo, where Gen. Smith (now Colonel) was ordered by General Taylor to take command of the 5th and 7th regimens of regular military. Since then Col. Smith has
received under his command the company of Louisiana volunteers commanded by Captain Blanchard. That company have now got the regular uniform, and the officers say they cannot tell the difference between them and the regular soldier. It is certainly an ornament to Louisiana, to think there are some men that had sum sufficient to remain to defence of their country.

Gen Worth moved forward towards Seralvo on the 99th with the 8th infantry, under Captain R. B. Scriver, of your city, Capt. Duncan’s battery, and Bradford’s company; and two companies of Texas mounted men to convey back the mules, 700 in number. They were packed with provisions; General T. throwing forward his supplies to Seralvo, Captain Duncan had previously been up there, and reported a beautiful wooded country- the Mexicans were willing to grant him all the assistance in their power- that there was plenty of water and forage for horses- met with agreeable reception. One Mexican, whom they met in the road in the night, would not stop for them, and they shot him, when he threw his horse over a precipice and took to the chapparal. On their return they found the horse, which had evidently belonged to an American, and no doubt had been stolen.

[NRR]

NNR 71.023: September 12, 1846 Regiments toward Monterrey, sickness, inactivity for want of wagons

August 22, 1846.

General Taylor has started two regiments in the direction of Monterey, and several other regiments will be pushed forward in a few days. There is great complaint for the want of wagons. For goodness sake why are three or four hundred wagons permitted to remain on your levee. If the administration are serious in the prosecution of the war, why such palpable neglect? The idea of keeping 12 or 15,000 men in the hot sun, cutting chapparal, meets the disapprobation of every individual in the army. I, for one, know the arduous duties thrown upon Col. Hunt, yet there could be found plenty of assistants, and those wagons must come over in double quick time, or we shall believe, on this side, the war is a most inglorious humbug. I say, sent the wagons and give Gen. Taylor "a white man's chance."The Rio Grande has taken a second and greater rise than the first-the whole of the low lands under water.

A good deal of camp sickness-confined however, principally to the Illinois and Indiana troops. The sickness yields to medicine, and there are few deaths.

The Mexicans are very confident of giving us a severe thrashing at a pass in the mountains. They are certainly in possession of information which emboldens them, and the opinion gains ground here, that unless the administration backs out, that Parades will be found at the head of 30,000 troops in and about Monterrey. Rough and Ready does not believe a word of it, and if you recollect, General Worth and most of the officers gave it as their decided opinion that Arista and Ampudia would not attack us. I say to you that we will have the hardest battle fought since the battle of Waterloo-unless, in the absence of Paredes, Santa Anna should attempt to get into power, and compels his countermarch to the capital. The administration should prosecute the war vigorously, and bring it to a close. Any treaty made now would not last twelve months. The Mexicans are as treacherous as the Sioux. They do not consider themselves whipped.

I must conclude by requesting you to send forward the wagons, and relieve us from our 'masterly inactivity'. You will receive the thanks of 15,000 dis-spirited soldiers; and it will be the means of saving thousands of dollars to the treasury. Excuse this hasty scrawl, as it is written in a hurry for the steamer, Alabama.

A VOLUNTEER.

P. S. Say to adventurers, if they do not want to get into double trouble, they must not bring alcohol or slops to this market. The Generals swear by all that is holy, they will have each box, barrel and package examined, and if they find any smuggling they inflict a punishment cruel to youths with tender skins. They are in earnest, and I think the army will improve from this day forward. A. V.

[JTW]
Baltimore Volunteers. The Patriot of the 8th states that some twenty or thirty of the Baltimore volunteers have returned, having been discharged on account of sickness.

A letter written on board the steamboat Brownsville, while on her way from Matamoras to Camargo, says,-Two companies of our battalion, (Baltimore), are now on this boat, on their way to Camargo. The remaining four will follow immediately. The two which are now on board are under the command of Captain James E. Stewart. I would here take the opportunity of speaking a few words in reference to this officer. He is a gentleman as well as an officer, kind and yet decisive towards the subordinates, respecting and respected. He enjoys the greatest confidence of his fellow officers in matters of consideration, and it seems that his judgment is necessary before a final consummation. He is a son of the gallant Colonel Stewart, who so triumphantly defended Fort McHenry during the last war, and the bright laurels won by him will receive no tarnish in the hands of his brave son. Give him an opportunity, and if I am not greatly deceived, he will prove himself on of Maryland's brightest stars.

Letter from Camargo

A letter dated Camargo, 11th August, says- "We are not troubled with mosquitoes here except in the houses, where they can remain cool through the day. But the ants seem to have possession of the town. - Last night they made a serious attempt to carry me off in my sleep. Thousands of them attacked me.

Flare-up Among the Illinois Volunteers

FLARE-UP AMONG THE ILLINOIS VOLUNTEERS. We hear from New Orleans that is was exceedingly difficult to keep down the spirit of insubordination among the volunteers under Col. Hardin. This was manifested to some extent on board the Hannibal, but was still more apparent when they were about to be shipped to the point of destination. One steamer and three or four transport schooners had been appointed to receive them. Lots were drawn, and it fell to the Chicago company, under the command of Captain Mower, to go on board a very small transport vessel. To this the Captain and all his company demurred. They were called out, paraded, and he made a speech to them. They determined then to march to town and thence to proceed home. At this juncture Colonel Hardin appeared with four companies of men. The mutineers were ordered on board, put there, and the Captain placed under arrest. This prompt movement put an end to any further attempt at insubordination. [St. Louis Republican, Aug. 5].

Ohio Volunteers

OHIO VOLUNTEERS. About sixty of the Ohio volunteers have returned from the Rio Grande. They gave sad accounts of the condition of things there. Fare intolerable; sickness extensive; work hard; climate bad. -Gen. Taylor gave them permission to return on account of sickness. He is willing to part with more. Government has poured in upon him more troops than knows what to do with. The following is an extract of a letter from one of the Third Regiment of Ohio Volunteers, dated Camp Belknap, opposite Burita, July 29th, 1846, to his friend in Cincinnati:

"We left the mouth of the Rio Grande the next morning after I sent you my last pencil scraw. WE did not start till the sun was five hours high, and were compelled to march thirteen miles in the hottest part of a very hot day, through swamps and chapparal; sometimes wading in two feet of water and three of mud, and a pretty looking set we were. A steamboat took the heavy baggage; we beat her by two hours; we then had to carry all our baggage upon a bluff, about a mile and a half back of the river, and ther pitch our tents. The next day we pushed half a mile further up the river, and with axes and spades, commenced clearing a camping
ground for the whole regiment. We had a tall time in clearing out the chapparal, full of snakes, frogs, lizards and turtles, (or gophers, as they call them here.) We had one good mess of soup, however.

"We are now encamped two miles from the river, from which we have to carry all our water in camp kettles. We are literally hewers of wood and carriers of water," and nothing else." The water is very muddy, and much worse than the Missouri; but we are glad to drink it, mud and all, considering the distance we have to carry it, the scorching weather, and the salt provisions. Our food is adominable; when you break a biscuit, you can see it move, (if the critters are not dead from eating bad flour.) The pork and bacon are of the same character. We would not mind this so much, if they would only serve us out enough; we do not get half rations, and were it not for the wild beef we shoot, we should starve.

"We expect to remain her for two months. Mosquitoes abound; the "boys" are getting home sick, and trying every way to get discharged. We have a great many sick; out of nine in our mess, five are sick, one of whom we think cannot recover; a case of yellow fever is reported in Barita. Some of the "boys" who used to sing,

"Rio Grande! I would I were upon your banks,"

now reverse the case, and wish they were three thousand miles away from it." [Cincinnati Gaz. [JTW]

NNR 71.024 12 September 1846 complaint of a Pennsylvania volunteer about the poor arrangements for supplies

The late appointments for volunteer general officers may all be very good men, and if experience is afforded, some if not all, may become able generals, but a disaster would now involve our country in a protracted contest.

This is my experience in campaigning, and I may be deceived in supposing that many things might be done better than they are. For instance, I think it a great outrage that the quarter master department and commissary department, are not so managed as to supply all the troops called into service with provisions and forage as needed, when the fact is, that since we have been encamped here, our men have been three times without a supply of provisions for days together, and for a week past our horses have had no forage furnished.

[RWH]

NNR 71.025-027 12 September 1846 account of the bombardment of Fort Brown

We have been favored by an officer of the army with the subjoined communication, narrating particular sets of gallantry and other interesting incidents which occurred during the bombardment of Fort Brown on the Rio Grande. The brilliant bravery and gallant achievements which distinguished the battles of the 8th and 9th of May command the warmest admiration; but assailed on all sides by a vigorous, incessant, and long-continued attack, as Fort Brown was there is no event in our military annals in which, it appears to us a higher degree of military skill and resource, courage and endurance, under the most trying circumstances, were displayed, than in the brave and successful defence of that post. In all of these conflicts- those in the field, under Gen. Taylor, as well as that of the fort- the high spirit and training of West Point, it should be remembered, were every where conspicuous; and if any thing were needed to sustain the friends of that noble institution against the demagogue- clamors which have assailed it they might point with pride to these actions which have shed so much luster on our arms.

The various letters which have been written on the subject of the bombardment of Fort Brown seem to have been gotten up on the spur of the moment, written during the high excitement which prevailed amongst us, without regard to justice to officers, non- commissioned officers, and soldiers and to the importance of such an event in our military history.

Having occupied a position to judge the combined action of the garrison, and of observing all the various incidents of the bombardment, I take pleasure in furnishing
a correct account of it, as I am not only anxious to do justice to all concerned, but am anxious that events which must bear an important place in our military history should be fully and correctly detailed to the public. And if I succeed in rescuing from oblivion any of those events which reduced so much to the credit and honor of our regular army, I shall feel that I have at least contributed my share in toward reestablishing its worth in the estimation of those of our people who, from long-continued peace, had almost forgotten it.

On the 26th of April, the day after the attack and capture of Thorton's squadron of 24 dragoons, we were first possessed of certain information that the enemy had crossed the Rio Grande in considerable force, and it was evident that he had in view "one of two objects, either to advance on Point Isabel to cut all our supplies, or to attack Gen. Taylor in position; either of which rendered the completion of Fort Brown of immediate necessity in order that it might be held by a small force, whilst the remainder of the army was free to move against the enemy, leaving the United States flag still planted and protected on the left bank of the Rio Grande. From this to the 1st of May the forces were kept more constantly engaged on the work, laboring hard by day whilst at night they were kept constantly on the alert in expectation of an attack.

On the 1st of May the commanding general ordered the movement of his army, designation as the garrison of Fort Brown the seventh regiment of infantry. Captain Lowd's company of the second artillery and Lieut. Bragg's battery of light artillery, composed of two six pounders and two twelve pounder howitzers. The army moved at 3 o'clock PM on the 1st, and the garrison of Fort Brown marched in two companies and the seventh infantry being assigned to every bastion except the one occupied by Capt. Lowd's company, which manned the eighteen pounder battery of four guns, bearing on the town of Matamoros and the Mexican batteries. When the army marched it was confidently expected that the fort would not be attacked, but General Taylor would certainly have a fight, either in going or returning from Point Isabel. The fort was now far from being finished, or in a proper state of defence—on curtain entirely unfinished, the draw bridge and interior defences not yet commenced.—Our commander saw before him an immense deal of labor to be expended on the work before it could be regarded in proper state of defence, and that not a moment ought to be lost in its completion.

Immediately after reveille on the 2d of May the seventh infantry was turned out to work, and continued to labor hard during the whole day, and until long after dark on the unfinished curtain and gateway, whilst the artillery companies were not less usefully employed in placing their batteries in a condition for offensive and defensive operations. At tattoo at night our gallant commander was on the alert, and, fully impressed with the importance of his trust, ordered his command under arms, and saw every man at the post he was to occupy in case of an attack, directing that every man should be instructed to be ready to report to his place at the parapet at a moment's warning. During the day muskets were placed in the hands of every man capable of bearing arms, and our force numbered five hundred and sixty men and forty officers: thirty-two officers and three hundred and forty-one rank and file seventh infantry; three officers and forty-two rank and file of Captain Lowd's company; four officers and fifty one rank ad file of Lieut. Bragg's company, six dragoons, and one officer and ninety-two rank and file of a detachment of inefficient men from other regiments. Of this number, ninety-five were on the sick report, seventy seven being the number of inefficient men left from other regiments, and the remainder of the five hundred and sixty were citizens and sutlers, twenty-five in number. This was the strength of our force during the whole of the bombardment, and it has been truly said that "we were surrounded by as many thousands as we had hundreds."

Reveille on the memorable morning of the 3d found the gallant Brown at his post, and whilst giving an order to his staff giving an order to his staff officer to have the seventh infantry turned out to work on the defences, his attention was attracted to the first shot fired by the enemy. With a smile of joy he turned to his staff officer and said: "Sir, we have other to do today; order the batteries manned; go to the right and see that every man is at his post; I will go to the left." Lowd's battery needed no order, it was already manned and each piece directed by an officer, Captain Mansfield, our engineer, having volunteered to aim the fourth piece. At this time it was observed that the flag had been overlooked and not yet raised, when Lieut. Van Dorn volunteered to raise it; which was done under fire from the enemy, which was drawn upon him. The work commenced, and notwithstanding the fear entertained that the axles of the old 18 pounder would not stand it, it was done, and well done.

The enemy's fire was opened on us from the nearest fort, called by us the "Sandbag Battery", by the Mexicans "La Fortine Redonda". This was composed of one eight-
pounder and two mortars, under the command of Capt. Passamente, a Frenchman, who as he asserts took up arm for his adopted country and for the protection of his family, but who bravely declined to follow the fortunes of Gen. Arista when he ingloriously fled from Matamoros. To the skill of Capt. Passamente as an artillerist we can all bear witness, as a constant and well-directed fire was kept up from his battery until his eight-pounder was dismounted by us. The enemy's fire was commenced and continued with nine pieces of artillery. At this time Sergeant Weizart of B Company 7th infantry, was killed by a round shot. The enemy's fire was now continued from the batteries between La Fortine Redonda and the lower fort from Las Fortine de la Fetcha, and the mortar battery in its vicinity. After silencing La Fortine Redonda, our batteries continued a deliberate fire on the other batteries and the town until ten o'clock, when the enemy ceased firing to repair their batteries, the embrasures of which were well torn to pieces. We were compelled to cease our fire, in consequence of the necessity of using our ammunition as sparingly as possible, the fort having been left with only one hundred and fifty rounds of ammunition for each eighteen pounder, and the six pounder just as badly provided. Lieut. Bragg was now ordered to place his guns in barbette in the several bastions for defence, one, under his own direction, placed in the bastion commanded by Capt. Hawkins, one, under Lieut. Thomas, in the bastion commanded by Major Seawell; one under the direction of Lieut. Reynolds, in the bastion of Capt. Miles; and the other, under the direction of Lieut. Johnson, in the bastion commanded by Capt. Lee. In this condition we were surrounded, and without the means of preventing our enemy from placing his batteries almost wherever he pleased, and using against us his immense supply of ammunition to every advantage. The conduct of the officers and men of Capt. Lowd's and Lieut. Bragg's companies during the cannonade with their batteries deserves high commendation, as they attracted the admiration of the whole command by the skillful management of their guns. From seven o'clock on the 1st the seventh infantry was kept constantly at work on the defences, though the enemy's shells fell and exploded in all directions around them, every man lying down, when a shell fell near, and immediately resumed the spade and mep after it had exploded. Officers were seen showing an example of their men, even in throwing dirt on the parapet.

NNR 71.034 19 September 1846 account of the Alvarado affair

The three armed schooners got close in- the steamers Mississippi and Princeton not near enough for their shot to take effect. I suppose, however, the commodore felt disposed to let them know on shore that he was there on a visit, and the two steamers and two schooners opened their fire on the fort with round shot and shell, their shot taking wonderful effect.- What was very strange, the fort did not return fire. The schooners might have been injured had they opened on them. When it became twilight three or four hundred ranged themselves under the cover of the chapperal bushes, and commenced firing on the schooners which were near on shore, the schooners returning the fire with the long gun, musketry, grape, canister, and shell until the firing ceased from the shore. Certainly many must have been killed, for at every flash from shore a stand of canister or grape was poured right into them. When the firing ceased from the shore, the schooners hauled off, by order, into deep water.- During the night the weather was squally, with heavy rains. The next morning it was portentous of a heavy gale from the northward, which here, in this gulf is generally a terrific hurricane. Signal was made from the commodore to stand to the northward and anchor at this anchorage. The day was one- enough to sicken the oldest tar; thick with heavy rains, and a dead beat to windward, against a strong current. Thus ended the visit of observation to Alvarado.

NNR 71.035 19 September 1846 the Cumberland Frigate on a reef

Shortly after closing my letter of the 28th instant, the Cumberland, Potomac and two of the schooners sailed from Green Island for the purpose of attacking the enemy's vessels in the river of Alvarado. In passing through the channel leading to the roads of Antonio Lizardo, I regret to inform you this ship, owing to a strong current, ran on the northwest part of a coral reef called the Chopas, in three fathoms water. This was about half past 4 o'clock in the afternoon.
The only event of importance which has transpired of late, is the loss of the U.S. brig *Truxton* on the bar of the Tuxpam river, about 130 miles northward of Vera Cruz. The intelligence was brought to the squadron on the 19th by the *St Mary's* that ship having picked up one of the *Truxton*'s boats, with Lieutenant Berryman on board.

It appears that Captain Carpenter of the *Truxton*, wishing to get his vessel near shore to protect his boats while obtaining provisions, employed a Scotchman he had taken out of a Mexican prize to pilot him in, but who, whether by design or accident run him around on the 15th. On the 17th with the exception of Lieut. Hunter and a boats' crew she was abandoned by the officers and men, who went ashore to the number of about 60 in all, and surrendered themselves to the Mexican commandment.

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**THE ATTACK ON ALVARADO.**

A correspondent of the New Orleans Picayune gives the following account of the affair:

"U. S. Steamer Mississippi,

Off Point Antonio Lizardo, Aug. 9, 1846.

"GENTLEMEN: The commodore has just made signal that letter bags will be sent to Pensacola, and as I may not have a chance again, I write now.

"Day before yesterday we all got under way and steered down to Alvarado for the purpose of attacking that place. We took our position, as did the Princeton also, and commenced firing; but the current running so strong that we were unable to spring the ship, we could only use our bow guns. The other ships, with the exception of the schooner, were not within gun shot. We found it useless to send the boat expedition, as we could not stem the current. Night came on and we stopped firing - The commodore said we would recommence next morning. When morning came, the signal was "come here again," and so here ends our first fire on the enemy. We shall not renew the attack until the arrival of the steamers Spitfire and Vixen. They drawing but little water, will be used to tow the boats across the bar. The schrs. Bonita, Pearl, and Reefer were lying in shore during the attack, and they received many discharges of musketry, which fortunately did no harm; but one of them left fly a shell and knocked a Mexican lancer, horse and all to the d--l. You will received more particular accounts by some of the newspapers and from the officers of whatever vessel takes this latter to Pensacola - for the commodore will not tell us what vessel is going to Pensacola, but I think it is the Princeton."

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**Gen. Zachary Taylor, having been detained from 10th May to 1st Sept. for want of material of transport, at length succeeds in purchasing 1,500 mules from Mexicans, loads with provisions and munitions, reviews his forces and advances towards Monterey**

True, General Taylor has at length obtained supplies and means of transport which enable him to leave the Rio Grande and push after the enemy in the direction of Mexico, after having been detained for want of such provisions from the 10th of May until the first week of September. This sufficiently evinces that our Administration are not yet familiar with the difficulties incident to carrying on- or rather commencing a campaign in a foreign country.

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**General Twigg’s Command-First Division- 3rd brigade, composed of 3rd and 4th infantry, commanded by Col. Garland; 4th brigade composed of the 1st and 2nd**
infantry under Col. Riley, regular cavalry, and Capt. Ridgely's battalion of light artillery

General Worth's Command—Second Division—1st brigade, composed of the artillery battalion, acting as infantry, and the 8th infantry; 2d brigade, composed of the 5th and 7th infantry. Duncan's battery and Capt. Blanchard's company of Louisiana volunteers are attached to this division.

NRR 71.038 19 September 1846 management of mules

The Mexican muleteers, assisted by the soldiers soon put things to right yesterday morning, and the train went on, the nose of each mule being tied fast to the tail of his predecessor. They cut a most ludicrous spectacle, a long train of mules, thus tied; it effectively puts a stop to their kicking and running away.

NRR 71.038 19 September 1846 march of Ohio volunteers from Matamoros to Camargo

The 1st and 2nd regiments of Ohio volunteers, six companies of the Louisville Legion, and the Baltimore battalion, arrived here today. They have been seven days on the march from Matamoros, and brought all the men but two to Catamargo. One of these died from an injury in the thigh, and the other died in convulsions soon after wading a lagoon. They suffered very much for want of water, and, to make it harder, and more dangerous for the men, their officers had the bad taste to march them by day instead of night. This proves that the Northern troops can stand the climate of Mexico nearly as well as those from the South.

NRR 71.038 19 September 1846 Col. William Selby Harney's expedition

Col. Harney left San Antonio on the 23rd of Jul with about 120 U.S. Dragoons, 500 mounted Texans from the Red River counties, and 18 Delewares in the United States service under Capt. Beaver. The Colonel was marching for Monclova, Mexico. This movement of Col. Harney astonishes General Taylor very much but we will soon know what he thinks of it. I guess Col. H will learn that his moving in advance of Gen. Wool (who is to take the same route) and that too, without any authority, saying nothing about his muster volunteers into the service on his own responsibility, will not meet with the approval of the commander of the army.

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NRR 71.038 19 September 1846 Presidio occupied by "adventurers"

Letters from Monterey assert that a body of Americans, who came down by the way of New Mexico, were joined near the Presidio by a number of Texan adventureros,
and the combined force entered the town without any opposition.  

Mr. Kendall writes on the 22s ult., from Camargo, that the most authentic intelligence from Monterey represented that Mejia had 2,000 regulars and 3,000 raw recruits, all without money or shoes, and ill provided in every respect.

In the same letter Mr. K. announces that news had been received that Gen. Worth had reached a point one third of the way to Seralvo the morning of the 21st- all well.

An explosion occurred on board the steamboat Enterprise on the Rio Grande. This casualty occurred a little after daylight on the 21st ult., about forty-five miles above Reynosa. There were over 150 persons board and many in the immediate vicinity of and directly over the boilers who were scarcely injured.

For the satisfaction of those of our reader who have friends on board the Enterprise, we give the following list of killed and wounded, made out with great care, and which is no doubt correct.

Killed-- Enoch Tucker, A. Boswell, Tenn., Thomas Gaulney, N.Y.; second cook and a stranger name unkown.

Badly Wounded-- Lieut. Dearing of the Louisiana Legion; Wm. A. Cook, C.B. Cook, Tenn., Captain Woods, Wm. Grey, Jacob Bowridge, Thomas Eagle, Texas; J.C. Howard, sutler Baltimore; Joseph Grigsby, Mr. Hickey, sutler, Louisville Legion, Thomas Henepee, Samuel Martin, Patrick Kelly, Frank Tallant, deck hands; J. P. Clark, mate.

Slightly Wounded-- Wilton Cunningham, James Wilson, Tenn.; J. Wheeler, J. Humerick, Matthew Samson, Christian Coleman, Texas; Mr. Adams, sutler, Louisville Legion; Edmond Newell, clerk; Captain Kelsey, Conn.; Henry A. Emmons, mate.

We learn from a gentleman who lately arrived from the Falls of the Brazos that news reached that place a few days since that 2,000 of the mounted men from Kentucky and Tennessee had arrived at Robbins' Ferry on the Trinity. Several persons residing at the Falls immediately started to go to the Trinity to contract for furnishing beef and other supplies for the troops on their route to the Brazos. As no depot of military stores has been established between Robbins' Ferry and Bexar, it is probable that the troops will wait several days on the Trinity, until their horses can be recruited and teams procured to convey a supply of provisions to sustain them on the route."

Much curiosity as well as astonishment was exhibited amongst the officers at Camargo and at Matamoros, on learning that Col. Harney had advanced; crossed the Rio Grande and invaded Mexico without waiting for the arrival of General Wool.
General Kearney left the Fort on the 3d ult., for Santa Fe, in advance we presume of the main body of his forces. They remained five days at the Fort. The troops had lost about one hundred horses altogether, but were still in good spirits and willing to go ahead. The company of infantry reached the Fort two days before the mounted troops: they had not lost a man on the way, and were in excellent health. The whole regiment when he left, were on half rations and had but few days provisions them. The wagons taking supplies for them, were met some eight days behind them. [RWH]

The difficulties between Col. Stevenson and his regiment are not yet ended.- The colonel has chartered four vessels to take his regiment on to California- but as things look now, one will be amply sufficient unless he sails it very soon. The circuit court is crowded this morning with the parties and witnesses to a case of habeas corpus, which is to test the legality and validity of Colonel Stevenson's commission. General Sutherland continues to be the active instrument of opposition and perhaps will succeed in breaking up the enterprise. If he does not, it will fall to pieces of itself, most likely, under the operation of the new movement for peace. In either case a partisan of the government has been liberally rewarded and it is "all right." [RWH]

The disbanding of the volunteers. We have little said of the disbanded volunteers, about whom there has been so much effort to get up an excitement in New Orleans and elsewhere, because we had not the means of deciding for ourselves how far the war department had compromised itself in its correspondence, as it has been accused of doing, by engagements to receive and retain volunteers for a period of six months. We have always believed that the course of the department in disbanding these troops and sending them home, was in fulfillment of strict duty under the laws wherein there is no discretion allowed- nor have we had any doubt that it is for the benefit of the service and the interest of the country. These troops could not be retained lawfully for a less period than twelve months- and if they had voluntarily changed their term and reentered under new law for twelve months, they would have been, or at least some equal or larger number of these would have been supernumeraries in camp. Gen. Taylor has, without them, of the regular mustered troops, even more than he needs, and more than his means of transportation enable him to send forward. [RWH]

The four companies of volunteers called out at New Orleans, by Gen. Gaines, for Texas, without any orders from the war department; and without any occasion for their services, were paid $51,600 for three months services.-

"We take the liberty to say the assertion relative to the pay of the volunteers is wholly unfounded.- There is not one particle of truth in it. So far from receiving $51,600 neither the four companies nor any individual man of them has received on red cent of pay, from the general, state, or municipal government. It was not for pay or emolument or personal advantage of any kind, that those men volunteered their services to defend the country when it appeared to be menaced with invasion by the Mexicans, and it is hard that their proceedings should misrepresented to the public. What kind of encouragement is this for men voluntarily to leave their homes and endure the hardships of a camp for months in a distant region, at an inclement season of the year? They come back,, are paraded through the streets- display the skill in martial exercises which they acquire in the service- and are there dismissed
without a dollar in their pockets - many of them not knowing where they shall obtain a pillow to rest their tired limbs, or procure a morsel of food to assuage their hunger. None of them, we believe actually suffered from either of these causes but if they did not, it was because they were furnished with food and lodging by the kindness of private citizens. It is a reflection upon the justice of our national and local authorities, that payment of these patriotic men has son long been deferred. Four months have elapsed since they returned from Texas, and this sacred debt has not been discharged. We say 'sacred' because it was incurred in a sacred cause and from honorable motives.

"The fact alleged that they went into the service without a call from the government, so far from being a bar to the validity of their claim to remuneration, strengthens it and makes it irresistible. Their service was voluntary and disinterested- and therefore its values is the mere enhanced and its recompense, as we first remarked, ought to be regarded as a sacred debt- a debt of honor, which concerns the whole country."

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**NRR 71.040: September 19, 1846 Terrible Riot**

**TERRIBLE RIOT.** A very melancholy affair, little creditable to the discipline, order and character for civilization, which, in spite of all that has occurred during the present campaign, we are proud to say are the attributes of the volunteers, occurred near Burita, Rio Grande, on the 31st ultimo. On that day a steamboat took on board at Burita five companies of one of the Georgia regiments. A good deal of animosity had previously been exhibited by two of these companies, one against another; one of the rivals was an Irish company. From some circumstance or other, not explained, a row broke out in the evening between them-close proximity, we presume, producing hostile collision-and fire arms and bayonets and swords were very freely used. The Colonel of the Georgia regiment did all he could to put an end to this disgraceful affray; but so fierce was the conflict between the contending parties that all was unavailing although it is stated he shot one man and wounded two more with his own hand. While the battle was raging between these insensates on the deck of the steamboat, Colonel Baker, 4th Illinois regiment, ordered out companies A and G, commanded by Captains Roberts and Jones, to assist in putting and end to it. He then went forward. He then went forward at the head of twenty men, and urged the rioters to desist; but on his attempting to ascend the ladder of the steamboat, he was fiercely attacked by those on board, and after a desperate fight he was shot through the neck, the ball entering behind and passing through his cheek, prostrating him at once. His small party was obliged to retreat, having no ammunition with them, carrying off Colonel Baker senseless. Commissary Post, Sergeant Oglesby, and six men of the Illinois regiment were wounded-two mortally. Captain Roberts, company A, then attempted to board the boat, but, after a desperate conflict, he and his men were beaten off- Captain R. received a severe bayonet wound through the shoulders into the back, three in length. The affair having now assumed a serious aspect, Maj. Harris brought out the whole remaining force of the 4th Illinois regiment, well provided, with ball cartridge. At sight of this the rioters ceased their disturbance, when the Georgians were disarmed and put under a strong guard. Colonel Baker, who received his wound while fighting hand to hand with the Captain of the Irish company of the Georgia battalion, (also severely hurt), will recover, it is said, as will also Captain Roberts. There were thirty lying wounded on the boat and on shore on the morning of the 1st instant. Those who were killed outright, some eight or ten, were said to have been thrown overboard. An inquiry was to have been immediately instituted to ascertain the cause of his sad affair.

[JTW]

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**NRR 71.040(2): September 19, 1846 Health of volunteers**

**HEALTH OF THE VOLUNTEERS.** The Louisville Courier says:"Some eighty volunteers who were discharged from the Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana regiments on account of sickness, came up on the steamer John J. Crittenden."

The Lexington Observer of the 9th says--"Two of these volunteers belonged to this place and have arrived at home. Some of the Montgomery volunteers also passed through this city on their way home. They look to be in wretched health, and were discharged because of their supposed inability to do further service during the period of their enlistment. We understand they report a great deal of sickness among the
volunteers. It may reasonably be inferred, however, that as they are now on the move, towards Monterey, the health of the men will be improved."

[JTW]

NNR 71.040(3): September 19, 1846 Illinois Volunteers

ILLINOIS VOLUNTEERS. The St. Louis New Era says- "About 20 sick volunteers returned to this city on furlough on the Corrine. They are sad specimens of the effects of disease, and some of them will scarcely survive. One volunteer named Escord, who had been suffering from fever, in a fit of phrensy, jumped overboard below Memphis and was drowned. There are said to be about two hundred of the Illinois volunteers at New Orleans in a lamentable situation, unwell and without money. -One of those men informs us that when he left the regiment they were twelve miles from Victoria in Texas, and on that day 260 of the Illinois volunteers were reported to be sick in camp, and unable to travel. Such are some of the practical results of war. A few heroes are made, but the mass of those who fill the armies suffer from privations and disease. We fear that many brave fellows will fall under the hand of inglorious disease during the present fall."

[JTW]

NNR 71.048 19 September 1846 difficulties with supplies for the Army of the West, arrangement of forces, depredations of Indians

Col. Kearney with a command of at least 1800 men, reached Fort Bent on the 30th of July, and left for Santa Fe on the 2d of August. All these men were mounted when they left Fort Leavenworth, except a few companies of infantry, which had preceded him from hence and arrived out before him. Absolute want of forage for his horses, obliged Gen. K. to push on immediately from Fort Bent, in hopes of finding food for them on the prairies. He had but a limited supply of rations, and these were extenuated by reducing the men to half rations.

"To all our inquiries,"says the St. Louis Republican of the 10th inst., "as to the prospect of forage for his animals at Santa Fe, we have received the same uniform answer; it was not to be had, except in very limited quantities- at the rancheros from ten to twenty and more miles from Santa Fe. In the whole department, the highest estimate of the surplus wheat is 7,000 to 8,000 bushels, and corn was so scarce as to make it worth, when it could be obtained at all, $3.50 per bushel. Such is the prospect presented for the support of the horses, mules, and cattle, which accompany the expedition."

A battalion of 500 Mormon infantry are marching in the general's rear, towards Fort Bent. These are followed by Col. Price’s regiment of mounted men, a thousand strong, and by Major Willok's battalion, consisting of five hundred mounted men. In the course of the present month, another regiment of infantry will be organized, and on their way, numbering at least one thousand men. And to these are to be added a thousand men, at least connected with the train of the army." Should they ever reach Santa Fe, the company will consist, in round numbers of forty eight hundred men; and with the teamsters and attendants of the camp, it will be swelled to six thousand. At least this number will, at all events, have to be subsisted and that subsistence must, beyond question, be derived from the United States."

[RWH]

NNR 71.048 19 September 1846 progress of President’s James Knox Polk’s "dispatches"proposing negotiations

"Those dispatches"- Mr. Habersham to whom is supposed the government entrusted the dispatches addressed "To the Mexican Secretary of Foreign Affairs,"dated 27th July last, we find has at length reached Commodore Conner, off Vera Cruz, by whom they were to be forwarded to Mexico. The New Orleans Picayune says, "If it did not evince a querulous spirit, we would say, that government carries travel to the tune of "take your time, Miss Lucy." We have been watching the progress of the messenger with some curiosity. He left the City of Washington on the 28th July-some days previous to the President communicating to the Senate in confidence, his having made pacific propositions to Mexico. Mr. H. reached Mobile on the 4th of
August and proceeding thence to Pensacola, embarked on the steamer Walcott for Vera Cruz. The Walcott put back on account of weather and on the 13th we find Mr. H. at New Orleans- from whence, on the 19th he embarked for Brazos when he met with the Legare, on board of which he embarked for Vera Cruz and at length we have an account of his arrival there with his dispatches, which Commodore Conner the next day sent with a flag of truce to the city.

[Source: RWH]

NNR 71.049 26 September 1846 mediation between the United States and Mexico proposed by Great Britain

From what has passed in the British parliament, it appears that their government did propose the mediation for a peace between Mexico and the United States, some time since. The Washington Union gave the public to understand that no such proposition had been made. The British minister states that the proposition was to such form as left it optional with our government to answer or not, and that no answer was given,- but that the offer has again been made, and in such a way as to require an answer.

[Source: RWH]

NNR 71.049 26 September 1846 incident of Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's passing the blockade, his reception at Veracruz

All counts say that Santa Anna was not received at Vera Cruz on landing with the cordiality which he had anticipated. After had an opportunity to address them, more enthusiasm was awakened, and 500 troops proceeded towards the capitol to which Almonte and Rejon had already repaired. Santa Anna proceeded to a hacienda some distance on the route, where he remained to recruit.

[Source: RWH]

NNR 71.049 26 September 1846 doubts of reception by the Mexicans of an American minister unless forces are withdrawn, remarks of the "Union"

The impression derived from rumours at Pensacola, Mobile, and Washington, and which the public journals spread, was, that the Mexican Authority- for the time being had refused to enter into negotiations, unless the invading army was withdrawn. Others had it that they demanded an armistice as preliminary to receiving a Minister.

The last Washington "Union"however asserts that "the public journals are under erroneous impressions about the dispatches brought by the Princeton." Nothing can be inferred from this journal.

[Source: RWH]

NNR 71.049 26 September 1846 French Journals

It is of some importance to notice, by the way, that some of the French journals are loudly complaining that the British ministry had not observed that cordiality which was to have been exposed from them, toward the French government, in a case where the interests of the two countries were so mutual, as in the arbitrating a peace between the United States and Mexico.

[Source: RWH]

NNR 71.050 26 September 1846 debates in British Parliament, mediation explicitly offered

If that discussion had ended in rupture between Great Britain and the United States, our mediation, of course between the United States and Mexico would have been out of the question. The offer therefore, which was made to the United States was in effect this- that if the United States were disposed to accept the mediation of Great
Britain that mediation would be frankly offered and tendered.

[WH]

NNR 71.051 26 September 1846 letter on the capture of John Pine Bankhead and the Truxton

Having the honor of being a friend of your son's I take the liberty of addressing you to alleviate the solicitude of your family on the receipt of the news of the loss of his vessel, and the capture of her officers and crew by the enemy, with the exception of Lieuts. Hunter and Berryman.

The former gentleman informs me that your son was quite well when he left the vessel, and speaks in the highest terms of his conduct on the emergency.

I would also state that the officers are enjoying all the honors of war, and are residing with the Lieutenant Governor at Tuspan- a person very kindly disposed towards them- and that the province itself has declared for peace. As the Mexican Government are in our debt a number of prisoners, your son's detention must be a short one. Sincerely hoping that your son will shortly will be restored to you.

[WH]

NNR 71.051-052 26 September 1846 loss of the Truxton on the breakers of Tuxpan

On the 16th a small vessel was seen standing to the port of Tuxpan, and Lieut. Hunter, with nine men, proceeded in the cutter to take possession of her. They forced their way through the breakers, and captured the vessel, which proved to be a Mexican schooner, with thirteen persons on board. After an unsuccessful attempt to board the Truxton, Lieut. Hunter anchored astern of the brig. On the morning of the 17th the brig hoisted flag of truce, lowered the dingley with sail battened over her, and cast her adrift. The current carried her through the breakers and Lieut. Hunter took possession of her. She contained some articles of provisions, and a letter to him from Commander Carpenter in the following words:

I have resolved to surrender the brig, and you are at liberty to use your discretion about going in. I shall as to have assistance sent to you immediately.

[WH]

NNR 71.052 26 September 1846 Monterey (Pacific) surrenders

I wrote you from Monterey on the 6th of July, or shortly after, giving you a detailed account of the occurrences at this place. Fearing, however, that you may not have received it, I forward it to you by this opportunity, which will probably be the last communication you will receive from me, being now homeward bound.

On the 6th of July all was bustle in the cabin of the Savannah; some four or five men were busily employed writing letters, proclamations &c., preparatory to taking possession of California. It was long after the witching hour of midnight ere I was enabled to catch a short and troubled repose, as all was to be prepared by six o'clock the following morning, which came as bright and beautiful as a July day of our own favored island. At six A.M. Capt. Mervine came on board to receive orders, and at 7 he left with a summons to the military commandant to surrender the place forthwith to the arms of the United States, and also a similar summons to the military Governor for the surrender of all California.

At 9 A.M. of the 7th July, the expedition started from the Savannah, composed of the boats of the Savannah, Levant, and Cyane, and landed without opposition at the mole. The forces were then marched up a short distance to the custom house, where a concourse of the inhabitants were assembled. Here the marines and men were halted, and the proclamation read to the multitude by Rodman M. Price, Esq., purser of the Cyane, in a loud and distinct manner, which was received with three hearty cheers by those present. The flag of the United States was then hoisted by acting Lieut. Edward Higgins, immediately after which a salute of 21 guns was fired by the Savannah and Cyane. The custom house was then turned into a barrack for the
United States forces, and everything settled down quickly.

Communications were immediately dispatched to Commander Montgomery, of the Portsmouth at S. Francisco, at which place, and at Zanonia, the U.S. flag hoisted on the morning of the 9th; and before ten days had elapsed the whole California, North of Monterey, was under the flag of the United States, much to the apparent satisfaction of the people; who hope it will last, knowing how much better off they will be under the Government of the United States.

[NRR]

NNR 71.053 26 September 1846 Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's passport

The New York Telegraph states that they have received the following information exclusively, and that it is true:

Gen. Santa Anna, when the Arab was boarded by an officer of the St. Mary's was in bed. His handsome wife had risen a few moments previous to the officer's arrival, and sat in the cabin in a loose wrapper. A pass was exhibited to the officer, signed by the American Secretary of State, and of course he was allowed to proceed.

[NRR]

NNR 71.054 26 September 1846 "Union"repeats that the country is impatient for Gen. Zachary Taylor to "act", that he has mules now to enable him to advance, the "plan of the campaign has been concocted in a decisive spirit we ought no to doubt"&c., announces advances of the Army and that Monterey is probably taken

The Washington Union of the 14th says:

The last mails bring no very late intelligence from the army on the Rio Grande. The last dispatches from General Taylor state that the army will be on advance for Monterey by the 1st of September at the latest- perhaps several days earlier. - The country begins to be impatient for action. The heroes of the 8th and 9th May displayed such energies on those memorable occasions as could not but encourage the most sanguine expectations of a prompt and vigorous campaign. "Old Rough and ready"has become the soubriquet of the commanding general. We hope that he will realize the character in the end of the chapter. The General who leads the army into an enemy's country should be full of resources- "self-balanced, self-centered"- susceptible of the highest enthusiasm- capable of imparting it to all his followers-bold as well as active- confident of himself- exerting every means, and employing secondary substitutes, according to the circumstances in which he may be placed. Such, we hope, will prove to be the course of the brave commander and the gallant officers with whom he is associated. General Taylor, it is now understood, has the means of transporting in his bands- mules as well as wagons. We hope soon to hear of his rapid marches, and his victorious progress. The plan of the campaign has been conceived in a decisive spirit; and we ought not to doubt that the success of the results will correspond with the vigor of the design.

One rumor has lately prevailed for which we learn there is no sort of foundation. It came in the shape of a letter from Matamoros, about the 18th of August, and was published a few days ago in the "Baltimore Sun." It states that on the preceding night four hundred rancheros had broken into the town and created some confusion; that it was the commencement of the guerrilla mode of warfare, &c. The whole story was unfounded. It was an idle quiz, perpetrated upon the colonel of a volunteer force, which betrayed him into ridiculous blunders.

The Washington Union of the 16th says:

Dispatches have been received which agree, in the most material circumstances, about the movements of the army with the private letters. General Taylor, having sent forward the van and the body of the army, was to leave Camargo on the first days of the present month. A very experienced officer, who has the best opportunities of judging the course of events, expressed the opinion to us today, by this time General Taylor was in possession of Monterey.

We understand that no allusion is made to Colonel Harney in any of the dispatches just received. One would suppose that General Taylor was better acquainted with his
GENTLEMEN: - "Thus far into the bowels of the land have we marched without impediment." The first Brigade, under General Worth, is now well on to Monterey, and the second, under Col. P. F. Smith, and third, under Colonel Garland, are expected soon to follow. - Captain May, with the second Dragoons and Major Munroe, with the Light Artillery, are to move forward in the same direction. These, with the Texans, Ohio, and Kentucky volunteers all under the command of Old Rough and Ready, will constitute an effective force of 7,500. But a portion of these, however, will proceed to Monterey, the remainder will be stationed at different posts in the rear, to guard them and preserve a communication with the supplies. This is not a pleasant service for those who are eager for the fray, but it can't be helped.

The want of proper means of land transportation is severely felt, although General Taylor has an effective force of nearly 15,000 men, not a single additional wagon has arrived, and the conveyance of baggage and accoutrements is effected exclusively by mules, of which come 1,500 or 2,000 have been hired or purchased from the Mexican. [Correspondent of the New Orleans Bee.

General Worth, with his command, arrived at a pleasant little town called Seralvo, at the foot of the mountains, on the 24th, where he will remain until the main body of the army approaches. It is about seventy miles from here. Colonel Smith is yet within a few miles of this point, but will advance immediately.

General Taylor expects to be at Monterey by the 15th of September, and in Saltillo, about sixty miles beyond, by the 1st of October. Whether any movement beyond the latter place will be made on this line of operations is unknown to the uninitiated. Whether we shall meet with any resistance, is a question upon which opinions are divided. It is certain there will be no resistance this side of Monterey, unless it may be a skirmish between small parties, and that is not very probable. Col. Hays in his tour, of upwards of two hundred miles, met no resistance. Gen. Worth has not seen any enemy. Single companies of Texan Rangers have traversed the country in different directions and me no opposition. Small parties of men have traveled different routes without interruption. So far, every thing indicates a state of quietude and peace.

At Montgomery we understand there is from three to five thousand men, almost in a state of disorganization, and deserting every opportunity. Gen. Mejia commands there. I doubt if there be any serious fight. The Mexicans have no army that can resist the one now moving against them. They are all excellent troops, and efficient in every respect.

'Col. Baker had just returned with a company of his regiment from the burial of one of their number, and, hearing the riot still progressing on the steamboat, he ordered..."
this company and one other to follow him to the boat, with the view of quelling it. In his attempting to do so, one of the officers attached to the Georgia companies engaged in the melee at once attacked him with his sword. They had been engaged but a few moments, when come cowardly villain among the rioters fired a pistol at him, which passed through the thick part of his neck from behind into his mouth, knocking out one of his teeth. Such is the report to me this morning from the assistant surgeon of his regiment. The wound is not this morning considered mortal, although last evening I did not suppose he would be alive at this time. He is more comfortable than could be expected, and we now entertain no doubt that he will recover. In addition to Col. Baker, Capt. Roberts was slightly wounded by a pistol shot. Capt. Post, acting commissary, slightly; Sergeant Helm, of company C, badly wounded, a ball passed directly through his body; Corporal Ursary very slightly; private Dillion mortally wounded with a bayonet—he probably will not live the day out; privates H. Martin, Shepherd, and Lee, all slightly wounded. This constitutes, as far as can be ascertained, all who were wounded in the third regiment of Illinois volunteers, and who acted under the command of Col. Baker in the effort to suppress this disgraceful and unpardonable riot. How many are killed and wounded among the two companies who were engaged in the riot on the Corvette I cannot ascertain with sufficient certainty to venture any statements. 

[Letter to the New Orleans Delta. ]

NRR 71.056 26 September 1846 the march from Matamoros to Camargo, letter from "the sergeant"

After a twelve days march, I have arrived here well, although personal suffering and inconvenience have been with us all, more than you can possibly imagine. We have marched nearly eighteen miles every day, through a country of dense chapparal, the sun blazing upon us with an intensity of heat I never before experienced. But add to this a want of water, and such a condition and such a duty may well seem intolerable. We sometimes had not a drop of water for twenty and twenty four hours; and at others our relief was from drinking from the muddy pools which were found a hailed with a shout of delight upon the way. Were I to relate all, you would scarcely believe that human nature could endure such privation and exposure as I have witnessed. Out men have dropped from the ranks and sought shelter among the dry chapparal, careless whether they lived or died. The spot of their retreat has been marked, and when we reach water, a party has been dispatched to bring them in- and we made the march under these trying circumstances, without losing a man.

A hot sun- a breathless atmosphere- a thick chapparal- and no water; this is another picture of campaigning. In the last I gave you, we figured in water up to our necks, and w had a taste of that also. In the early part of the march we have just completed. On our way we killed several very large rattlesnakes; they are here in great numbers, but none of our men have so far been bitten. The reptile the most obnoxious our apprehensions is a very poisonous species of spider which very often proves fatal to the poor bitten. I witnessed a few nights ago the sufferings of one of our men from this cause; his agony was so great as to wring from him the most piercing screams; I am glad to say, however, that he recovered.

We have been very fortunate so far; the health of our men is upon the whole very good, and they stand the climate better than any other regimen here. Indeed, amongst the others it appears to me that the drum is continually beating the funeral note of some poor fellow who has just been "planted."

The other day a wagon of the Kentucky baggage train, passed over the fleshy part of the leg of one of their men; mortification ensued, and he was a dead man by morning. Several instances of this character have had the effect to confirm an opinion the wounded in such a climate, is but a passport to the grave; gangrene seems so sure and sudden. Our doctor is now getting ready to take off the foot or toes of one of Captain Piper's men, who was run over by the same train. But I give you these details to interest, not to alarm you that you may have definite idea about our whereabout and true condition. It is all in a man's lifetime you know, and what is to be will be. For my own part, I am happy enough. It is just the life I wanted to have a taste of, and I am by no means disposed to relinquish it.

When we left Barita, we marched through a lagune, nearly a mile of which the water was up to our armpits; I don't know that was ever more amused in my life, and it would have been an odd and ludicrous sight could connoisseur of fun have perched upon us. Imagine to your mind's eye, three men, feeling their way, wading and swaying here and there, holding their musket high over head to preserve them from
the water, while now and then some unlucky fellows would souse into a hole, and tumble over out of sight, until he could scramble up or be hauled out by his comrades. Our baggage train numbered ninety-nine wagons, each drawn by six mules.

On our march from Matamoros, we were overtaken by a horse express, one of Captain May’s men, dispatched after us by Gen. Twiggs, with information that intelligence had been received at headquarters, that Canales would make an attack on us so as to cut off our baggage train. If you could have seen the Baltimore boys then! The blood was up to fighting heat in a minute - a perfect thrill of extacy accompanied the intelligence as it ran along the lines. Every musket was thoroughly examined, and all were anxious for an introduction to Canales and his army. But, alas! And alack a-day, their homes were blighted, and no Canales with his men appeared.

I am really beginning to be fearful myself that we shall have no fight. I would like to have on chance on a battlefield, if it were to only see how I should feel. There is nothing like a practical insight into human nature, as it exists in one's own breast. But I am almost certain we shall have no fighting to do. We are, however, still destined to proceed, "onward", is the word, to Monterey. We are not to have our baggage train; all our trunks are to be left behind. Provisions, air munitions, and all necessary articles are to be carried on packed mules. The route to Monterey is long, and I am told by one of our guides very difficult. Let it be ever so difficult we will let Gen. Paredes see that while war lasts, our determination to march through Mexico will never be abandoned. We have here something like twenty thousand men, which is rather more than enough to beat all the troops Mexico can bring into the field.

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Excuse all errors and appearances, for I write upon a piece of the top a flour barrel, lying in my lap.

[RWH]

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NNR 71.056 26 September 1846 operation of the Army of the Center, preparations to advance on Chihuahua, San Antonio de Bexar occupied

Gen. Wool is up early and late, and is fast bringing the volunteers into form. He is still in town, but, tomorrow or next day, will pitch his tent, with the troops in Camp Crockett, as will every officer whose constant business does not make it necessary to remain in town.

I have no doubt that the general will take possession of the capital of Chihuahua some time in the month of October. The distance to the Rio Grande is calculated at about 140 miles, and from there to Chihuahua 450 miles, making our march 600 miles, over lovely country.

The Kentucky and Tennessee cavalry, it is supposed, will join Gen. Taylor's command. They have as yet, not arrived. Gen. Wool's force will amount to about 5,000.

Since writing to you on the instant Capt. Washington's company of the 4th United States artillery arrived here from Carlisle, (Pa). They entered the city yesterday, and passed through in full uniform with four 6 pounders and two 12 pound howitzers, with their caissons, traveling forge, baggage train, &c, which made quite formidable appearance for this part of the country, and much astonished the Mexicans here, they never having seen so great an artillery displayed in an army, and believing nothing could equal that of the Mexicans. They encamped on the San Pedro, about two miles from the city.

[RWH]

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NNR 71.056-057 26 September 1846 Army of the West, additional regiments mustered into service, paid, and discharged

The St. Louis Republican of the 8th says: "Major A. D. Stuart, paymaster of the United States army for this district, we understand will leave today for Fort Leavenworth, to pay the companies compromising the regiment of infantry now forming there to join Gen. Kennedy. They will be entitled, we suppose, to a year's clothing, and traveling expenses from the place of enrollment to the place where
they are mustered into the service. If we are correctly informed, Major S., is
anticipating what he supposes will be the orders of the proper department, and to do
so, we understand has raised the money from the Bank of Missouri, upon his own
drafts.

[WH]

NNR 71.057: September 26, 1846 Missouri regiment dismissed

ANOTHER COUNTERMAND. - Letters were received at St. Louis on the 12th instant,
from the war department, notifying the United States officers at St. Louis of the
determination of the government to dispense with the services of the regiment of
infantry called for by the requisition on the governor of Missouri of 18th of July, and
which regiment had nearly all, assembled at Fort Leavenworth. The order directs
that they shall be mustered out of services as speedily as possible, either at Fort
Leavenworth, or any other point where they may be. They will, or course, receive
pay for the time which they may have passed in service, for traveling to Fort
Leavenworth, and, we presume, six months long.

[JTW]

NNR 71.057(2): September 26, 1846 Letter from a volunteer, artillery

FROM BENT'S FORT. - The St. Louis New Era has the following extract of a letter from
a volunteer in Major Clark's artillery company:

Fort Bent, August 9, 1846.

"We are not encamped exactly at the fort, but about nine miles this side. Our
intelligence is very limited as regards our future course, the officers seeming to
consider that the dear people have no use for information. The impression is we shall
start after resting eight or ten days to recruit horses and men, they are both in
almost a universally use up condition, though there are not a great number actually
laid up by sickness-in all, in our company, about ten. There is great complaining
about a want of provisions, the men actually not receiving more than about half as
much as they can eat. The issue to be made in the future of coffee is to consist of
four tin cups for the entire company for 24 hours. One company lately attacked a
provision wagon and took therefrom all they wanted; and their example may be
imitated. Some of the companies, I believe, have less or nothing to complain of."

[JTW]

NNR 71.057(3): September 26, 1846 Disappointed volunteer

A DISAPPOINTMENT. - One of our citizens, a youth of remarkable courage and
consistency, and indomitable perseverance, left this city some years ago for Texas,
where he became distinguished in the military service. He was here, last spring,
looking for an appointment in the mounted regiment, in which he was promised a
captaincy. Being here, he was designated and employed by the government to carry
the Santa Fe traders the intelligence of the war with Mexico. When the Texas
senators were informed that he had undertaken the task, they pronounced that
would be rash in the extreme for Capt. Howard to undertake the enterprise without
an escort. But the captain did undertake and execute it with entire success. He
returned to this city, a few says ago, and found that he had lost his captaincy, there
being no vacancies-and the war department cut down his allowance for his energetic
enterprise one half. [Washington corres. of the N. Y. Commercial.]

[JTW]

NNR 71.057 26 September 1846 New York California expedition delayed

New difficulties have broken out amongst California volunteers at Governor's Island,
New York. On the 18th the regiment was marched to the guard house to receive
their bounty money previous to embarking. The men of company C- the first
company marched up- refusing to pay the prices charged for the clothing, viz: $5 for
jackets, $3 for pants, and $1.50 for caps. They were willing to pay a fair price, but
were confined for insubordination. Company A then came up and refused. They were
marched back to their quarters; and confined to their tents. Col. Bankhead, finding
the refusal general, told them they would be compelled to embark without their pay-
which they preferred to taking the clothing at the prices charged.

NNR 71.057 26 September 1846 Col. Jonathon D. Stevenson’s effects seized,
difficulties later resolved

Col. Jonathon D. Stevenson- A motion, we understand, was yesterday made for the
appointment of a receiver of the property and the effects of this gentleman, upon a
creditor’s bill filed against him, in which N. Dane Ellingwood was complainant.- The
motion was granted. Will not this stop his supplies from the government? He is
under bail, which was put in upon his arrest under a writ of ne excal, to stay within
the jurisdiction of the court.

NNR 71.057-058 26 September 1846 letter from an officer at Matamoros

The main body of the army having advanced to Camargo, I am left here to follow on
a few days with some of the rear parties. This leaves a few idle hours on my hands
and it will be interesting for me to occupy them with a narration of facts and fancies
that come within my observation or that pass through my brain: I only hope that it
will be equally interesting for you and those around you to read these random
thoughts strung together in a random manner.

I have seen many letters, dispatches, communications, &c. from Washington, and
also letters from this place to the press of the United States, having the Mexican
troops, affairs, country, and people as topics; but all that I have seen, has impressed
me unfavorably as regards to the knowledge received by the one class of writers,
and that intended to be conveyed by the other. Something, therefore, on these
subjects may be interesting. My information and opinions addressed in the following
manner: Shortly after arrival at this place I received the General’s permission to
take a room in town. My next door neighbor, Don is a fair representative of the most
worthy class of Mexicans- well educated, well acquainted with history, and statistics
of his own country and those of the United States; at the same time, without
energy, enterprise or industry; bigoted as a Catholic, yet opposed to the priests as
republican opposed to all the recent military Governments, and as a patriot opposed
to the Americans. I was called upon almost daily to protect his family from the
unceremonious visits or the rude treatment of the volunteers, so that an intimacy
was soon established between us: he was pleased to see me in his house, he and his
wife and sister took pains to teach me the language, and we were soon on the most
amicable relations; and enabled to interest each other in conversation. From the
Mexicans one meets in the streets nothing is to be learned, except probably some
isolated fact. They are polite and cold- Enter their houses, which you can seldom do
without intrusion, and you are treated with a still more cold civility. From the
Americans and Irish merchants could learn but little of the true character of the
people. They are better acquainted with the state of trade, and geographical facts,
and with the mere present temper and opinion of the people. But in this family I
learned that feelings exist and opinions are entertained which I neither saw nor
heard else, here. For more than two months I have been intimate with this family,
and have been a daily visitor, and I have always found them consistent- warm
impulsive feelings, weak judgment, and weak character.

The province of Texas extended say they, to the Nueces, and the conquest of Texas
extended no further. On the east bank of the Rio Grande, and as far in the interior
as the Arroyo Colorado, Mexican families resided- Mexican customs, and Mexican
laws prevailed. Texas presumed to lay claim to the Rio Grande and by force of arms
of the United States possessed themselves the country. This they say was
ungenerous, unjust, and mean; as a powerful people did wrong to a weaker one;
under the cloak of a shallow claim. The presence of our troops upon the Rio Grande
they looked on as an invasion of their country; when we get among finer and more
intelligent race of men. As a nation they are peculiarly given to hope for something
better. They are satisfied to see things as they are; they can see no way by which
they are to be improved, and are unwilling to make an exertion to improve them;
and yet they hope and sincerely expect that things will turn out better.- They do not
believe yet but their troops are superior to our regulars; and, as for the volunteers,
they consider them as useless being undisciplined. They explain the defeat of the
"Resaca" in different ways; the Ampudia men say that Arista sold the army; others say that Ampudia acted as a traitor. There is no doubt but that Ampudia demoralized the army much by his seditious talk, both to his officers and men.

They believe that their cavalry is the best in the world; all that they want is good horses; provided with these; they will be enabled to break any square or line of infantry. In their own fights, the cavalry ride over the infantry. They believe moreover that in May's charge the whole merit was due to the horse - that they ran away with the riders and carried them much further than intended. In want of other arguments, they fall back upon the history of their revolutions, when rude and undisciplined masses drove from this country the regular troops of Spain. Their first position is to doubt if we will be successful against equal numbers, and they calculate with certainty on our falling before superior forces. Second, that the great disadvantages we will labor under when in the interior of the country, far removed from our supplies, that these difficulties will defeat us, without the agency of Mexican troops. Third, that though they may be beaten, still they will not be conquered; they will have to continue the war three years, when we must be defeated by our own expenses. That these opinions are held is proved in other ways. We can get the services and property of these people for the money, but we have not got their good will.

There is another circumstance that will make our military success unavailable: the want of stiffness in the nation. If they had a commerce for this war to destroy; if they had an internal industry which it would interrupt, or if the people possessed luxuries and comforts of which they would be deprived, there would then be something to operate against, and by which we could move the people. We could be as the whirlwind in the forest - leave the desolation of war around us. But, constituted as Mexico is, our visitation will be as the tempest in the prairie: for a moment we will agitate the grass that is in our track, but leave no impression behind us. The country is without commerce, industry or institutions; the people are without comforts, and are armed with a panoply of vanity and pride which is bullet-proof. They have but to step aside and let the storm pass, biding their time to set. And, should it not come, they will still smile complacently as they reflect that this tempest, which had done them no harm, has at least been expensive to their enemies.

Nothing can be more uncongenial to their feelings than the idea annexation, or of living under American laws. They recognize the superiority of our institutions; they see that property is protected, that industry is promoted, that our people are not the sport of yearly revolutions, nor victims to the exactions of a ruthless and starving soldiery. They wish that their institutions and laws could be the same, and that they could have the same chance of being a happy and industrious people; but they want it among themselves. But, with annexation to the United States, they see not their amalgamation with our people, but to their own extinction. They see their religion sunk from the high position it now holds they will have strange laws and strange customs thrust upon them; they will see their lands pass from their hand through some deficiency of title, of which they are now happily ignorant; they will have the wild restless population from Texas and the valley of the Mississippi for neighbors, whose contempt for all law is supreme, and whose disregard of the decencies of life, and of property, and of life itself, is notorious. No its better for us to wait, say they; time may improve our Government, or we may be enabled to set up one for ourselves. At any rate, whatever disorders we have we must submit to; we have still our own religion, our own people, our own lands, and our own laws and customs, and no advantage which we might gain from annexation to the United States can compensate us for the loss of these. Such is the spirit and feeling as expressed by themselves, and is demonstrated by their acts. How will this affect our military operations? We must expect to find no party in our favor, no gratuitous information or assistance - every thing reluctantly given, even for high prices, whereas the Mexican General will be informed of all the particulars relative to us which he may desire to know. They will offer no resistance to our progress, and probably will cause us but little annoyance to our supply trains and our foraging parties; for although imbued with the feeling of bitterness and hate, they still want the courage and enterprise of the Spanish guerrilla to make them formidable. Should, however, occasions present themselves where there would be but little risk and certainty of escape, and booty to be acquired they would not fail to make the trial; and if successful would make it a bloody triumph. Should disaster happen to us, then would they be about us.

[RWH]
So much for General Arista. Ampudia did all he could to destroy Arista and, I think was gratified at the results of the two fights.

**NRR 71.058-060 26 September 1846 Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's proclamation from Veracruz for the regeneration of the republic**

Vera Cruz, August 16, 1846. MEXICANS: Called by the people and the garrisons of the departments of Jalisco, Vera Cruz, and Sinaloa, South Mexico, and other points of the republic, I quitted Havana on the 8th inst. at nine in the evening, with the sole object of coming to aid you in saving our country from its enemies, internal and external. Great has been my joy, when, on arriving at this point, I learned that the former had been overthrown by your own forces; and that I was already proclaimed, on all sides, as general-in-chief of the liberating army. A proof of so much confidence will be met by me with the utmost loyalty; but on accepting the plan proclaimed, allow me to enter into some explanation, which I consider necessary, in order to dispel any suspicions founded on a past, the recollections of which are so painful to me.

Desiring to consolidate peace in the interior of the republic, in order to make it flourish and prosper, and to assure by that means the integrity of our immense territory, I devoted all my efforts, in consequence of the events of 1834, to establish an administration endowed with vigor and energy, and capable of keeping down the spirit of turbulence and discord. Without ever going beyond republican forms, I endeavored for this purpose to support myself on property, on high position, on creeds, and even on the few historical memorials existing in our country; hoping thus to moderate, by the inertia of conservative instincts, the vehemence of popular masses. But without ascendancy and prestige, as I was, and the elements assembled by me being viewed with distrust, resistance was made on all sides; which, however, expected to overcome in time. I call on God to witness, that in this I acted with patriotism, with sincerity, and with good faith.

After some years of trial, I began to remark that the republic did not advance; that some departments showed tendencies of separation from the others; and that the public discontent was daily increasing wavering then in my convictions, they afterwards lost all their power, when a part of the country had been occupied by strangers, and our national existence of the, whole was endangered. I called on the people to the rescue, and they answered me with threats; as if any other misfortune could have been preferable to that in which the country then was placed. Urged by the firm determination that we should be a sovereign and independent people, and knowing, on the other hand, the vast resources on which we could rely for support, I then became convinced that our government, being organized in a manner by no means conformable with the wishes of the nation, and governed by secondary legislature, not adapted for the advancement of its interests, the people revenged themselves in that way, by seeking for an occasion in which they should be called on to take care of their own good, and to organize their government in a manner which they should consider most proper.

In our time, we have seen another nation, in a similar conflict employing similar means to oblige its government to promise the representative system which it was anxious to have established, and when that had been obtained, we have seen its moral apathy changed into heroic enthusiasm against the foreign invader who endeavored to subjugate it. Is there anything, therefore, strange in the idea that our people should, in this instance, do as much to recover the full enjoyment of their sovereignty, acknowledged by all governments, though trodden under foot by all, in the practical administration of affairs? On this point I owe to my country, in consideration of the part which I have taken, to declare frankly and honestly, upon this critical and solemn occasion, that it can be saved only by a return to first principles, with entire, submission of the minority to the sovereign will of the majority of the nation. Upon proof so clear and peremptory, of the serious difficulties attending that which I had considered best calculated to secure to the republic respectability abroad, I found it right to recede, and to yield to public opinion, and follow it with the same ardor and constancy with which I had opposed it before comprehending it. To discover the most effective means of raising the spirit of the public, and predisposing it to the war, with which we were threatened on the north, was my employment; and I was beginning to develop the measures for that purpose, when the events of the 6th of December, 1844, occurred, and plunged the republic into the miserable situation in which you now see it.
Expatriated from that time forever from the national territory, with a prohibition to return to it under the hard penalty of death, the obstacle which I was supposed to present to the establishment of an administrative system, conformable with public exigencies, being removed, I believed that the men who had succeeded in placing themselves in my stead, by calling public opinion to their aid in effecting it, would respect that opinion, and summon the nation to organize its government according to its own wishes. Pained, as I was, not to be allowed to take part in the real regeneration of the country, I still most sincerely desired it; because I believed that whilst our political horizon was daily becoming darker, no other means was left to save us.

My prayers for this were redoubled, on seeing that, in consequence of the development of the invasive policy of the United States, stimulated by the perfidy of the cabinet of General Herrera, on the serious question of our northern frontiers, the European press began to indicate the necessity of a foreign intervention in our domestic concerns, in order to preserve us from the ambitious projects of the neighboring republic. That, however, which raised my uneasiness to the greatest height, was to see in a newspaper of credit and influence, published in the old world, a proposition made in October last, to bring us back, by force, under the yoke of our ancient masters. My conviction was, nevertheless, still strong, that no Mexican, however weak might be his feelings of attachment for his country, would dare to favor such ideas openly, and still less to recommend them to the consideration of the people.

Meanwhile, news reached me of a revolution projected by General Paredes, which revived my hopes; for though he had been the determined enemy of every representative popular government, I supposed that he had altered his opinions, and I honored him so far as to believe him incapable of advancing schemes for European intervention, in the interior administration of the republic. He succeeded, and his manifesto declaring his adhesion to the plan proposed by the troops quartered at San Lus Potosi, increased my uneasiness; because I clearly saw in it a diatribe against the independence of the nation, rather than the patriotic address of a Mexican general, seeking, in good faith, to remedy the evils of his country. His perverse designs were, in fine, fully revealed, as well by his summons [for the assemblage of congress] of the 24th of last January, issued in consequence of this revolution, as by the newspapers showing the tendency of his administration to the establishment of a monarchy, under a foreign prince, in the republic.

As one of the principal chiefs of the independence of our country, and the founder of the republican system, I was then indignant at this endeavor of some of its sons to deliver the nation up to the scoffs of the world, and to carry it back to the ominous days of the conquest. I thereupon took the firm determination to come and aid you to save our country from such a stain, and to avoid the horrible consequences of a measure by which its glorious destiny was to be reversed, carrying it back to what it was, and to what it never should be again. To execute this determination, was to offer up my blood to any one who, in case of failure, might choose to shed it, in compliance with the terms of the barbarous decree which drove me from the republic; but I preferred to perish in this noble attempt, rather than appear indifferent to the ignominy of my country, and see the countless sacrifices made for our independence, and the right to govern ourselves, all rendered illusory.

Mexicans: The real objects of those who, while invoking, order and tranquillity, have constantly endeavored to prevent the nation from organizing its government as it chose, have now been laid open; and the time is come when all true republicans of all parties, the body of the people as well as the army, should unite their efforts sincerely, in order to secure entirely the independence of our country, and to place it at liberty to adopt the form of government most suitable to its wishes, each sacrificing his own individual convictions to the will of the majority. How, indeed, can the minority, however wise, opulent, and powerful they may be, pretend to assume to themselves the right to regulate the affairs of the community, or to govern the majority, without an express delegation from the latter, given of their own accord, not presumed, nor still less extorted by force? This may be among people who are ignorant of their own rights, and where the want of the means of independent subsistence subjects the many to the few, who have monopolized everything; but it is not to be effected among us, in whom the democratic spirit, in the midst of so many favoring circumstances, has been developing itself for thirty-six years, and now renders imperious and decisive, the necessity of concentrating by practice, the political axiom of the sovereignty of the nation.

This most essential circumstance has been disregarded and despised in all the constitutions hitherto given to the country; and in the only one which has appeared most popular, the antagonism of the principles adopted, has rendered it ineffective; so that democracy, which alone can serve as a solid basis for our social edifice, has
been unable to develop itself, and thus to afford the peace which is its instinctive
law, and the other ineffable benefits which it produces. Hence the convulsions which
have so long agitated us, and of which some European writers have taken
advantage, so far as to depreciate our race; opposing the liberty and independence of
the republic; manifesting the necessity of interference, in order to strengthen it
against the febrile invasion of the United States; and declaring, in fine, that it would
be as easy to conquer Mexico with a portion of the troops now quartered in the
island of Cuba, as it was in the time of the native Mexican princess. My blood boils
on seeing the contempt with which we are thus treated, by men who either do not
know us well, or who, interested in transplanting among us the fruits of their old
social systems, and of the times in which they originated, consider America in the
same state in which it was in the sixteenth century. Should any attempts be made,
as indicated, to carry these mad plans into effect, all interests of race would be
silenced, and but one voice would be heard throughout the continent. The one
hemisphere would then be seen arrayed against the other, and for the disasters each
would fall on the rash aggressor who should thus attempt to interfere with the
internal administration of other nations, he alone would be responsible.

To pronounce thus against the many nations which form the great Hispano-American
family, to declare them incapable of enjoying republican institutions is, in fact, to be
ignorant of the conscience, which is proved by the testimony of Chili, New Grenada
and Venezuela, in contradiction of such assertions. It is to attribute, no doubt with
evil intentions, to men of a certain race, defects of administrative forms, which, not
being entirely democratic, have produced the bitter fruits of the monarchical forms,
engrafted on them, without adverting to the fatal influence of the latter on the lot of
the others.

To expect, moreover, to strengthen the nation by monarchy, under a foreign prince,
is to suppose the existence in it of elements for the establishment and maintenance
of that system; or that, wearied by its struggle, to conquer its liberty, the nation
signs for European masters, or for anything else than the peace, which alone it
wants. Erroneous, most erroneous indeed is this idea. In the efforts of the nation to
emancipate itself from the power of the few, who, in good or in bad faith, have
endeavored to rule it in their own way, its democratic tendencies have acquired such
a degree of intensity and energy, that to oppose them, to attempt to destroy the
hopes to which they gave birth, by a project such as that advanced, would be to
provoke a desperate measure; to endeavor to cure an evil by the means calculated
to exasperate it. Fascinated by the example of a nation not yet a century old, and
which, under its own government, has attained a degree of prosperity and
advantages not enjoyed by those of the Old World, notwithstanding their antiquity,
and the slow progress of their political systems, our republic aspires only to the
management of its own affairs, either by itself, or through representatives in whom
it has confidence, in order to develop the vast resources of power and wealth in its
bosom.

This being therefore its dominant, its absorbing idea, it would have resisted the
other plan with all its might and if an attempt bad been made to change its direction
by the employment of foreign bayonets, it would have flown to arms, and war would
have burst forth throughout its immense territory, renewing even more disastrously
the bloody scenes of 1820 and the succeeding years. From such a state of things,
the Anglo-American race would have derived great advantage for the progress of its
ambitious schemes, or for forming a new republic from our interior departments, by
exciting their sympathies and gratitude for the services rendered them in repelling a
project no less injurious to itself. This tendency, which has been excited in some
departments by disappointment from not obtaining provincial liberties, which they
desired, would have become general throughout all; and no force would have been
able to restrain them from carrying such views into effect.

On the other hand, the republic being composed for the most part of young men,
who have no knowledge of the past, except from the sinister accounts of their
fathers, and who, educated with republican ideas, rely with confidence on a
government eminently popular, to lead their country to prosperity and greatness---
where are the internal supports which monarchy presented as the means on which
our salvation can be founded? That which has disappeared, habits of passive
obedience no longer exist; and if there remains a sentiment of religion, time has
undermined the political power of the directors of consciences. An influential
aristocracy, so necessary for the permanence of monarchies such as exist in old
Europe, the only proper place for institutions of that class, is not to be found, nor
can it ever be organized here. In Europe, the misery of the great mass of the
overloaded population, which depends on its own labor to obtain what is strictly and
merely necessary for its subsistence, in the midst of an industry which is so severely
tasked, allows no time to the people to think of their political rights, nor means to
free themselves from the tyranny of the patrician families, on whom they depend, all
the landed property being in their hands. But no such state of things can be found in
our republic; in which all is uncultivated, virgin, rich, and fruitful, offering to man, in the utmost abundance, and with the greatest facility, all that he can ask for his labor---all that can lead to that individual independence which favors the development of democratic instincts.

These difficulties being, therefore, of such a nature as to render nearly impossible the establishment of monarchy in our country, attempts have been made, in order to overcome them, to throw the affairs of the republic into the greatest disorder, preventing the organization of its government within, and aggravating the most serious question of our northern frontiers with another nation.

In this manner the faction which fostered that parricide project, having attained the first of its ends by many years of artifices and maneuvering, next proposed to carry the second into effect, by provoking, in a manner almost direct, the government of the United States to aggrandize itself by taking our rich department of Texas, and then advancing into the very heart of our country. To involve our people in the evils of a fearful invasion, has been its last resource, in order to force them to accept its painful alternative obliging them either to become the prey of Anglo-American ambition, or to fly, for the safety of their national existence, to monarchical forms under a European prince.

For this object it was that this party, having the control in the chambers of 1844-45, refused to the government of that period the appropriations which it asked for maintaining the integrity of the national territory, already seriously jeopardized. It did more: it raised up a revolution, in which the slender allowances made to the government for that object, on its urgent demands, were unblushingly declared to be suppressed; and, on its triumph, it scattered the means collected for the war, and hastened to recognize the independence of Texas. The chief of this revolution, who has always acted under the influence of his own fatal inspirations, then appeared again in insurrection at San Luis Potosi, with the force destined for the defence of the frontiers; and withdrawing that force to the capital of the republic, he there usurped the supreme power, and began to put in operation his scheme of European intervention in our interior administration, whilst the hosts of the Anglo-Americans were advancing to take possession, even of the banks of the Rio Bravo. Having at his disposal considerable forces in the adjoining departments, he allowed the enemy time to advance, without resistance, through our territory; and at length—most tardily—be sent to Matamoras a small body of troops, needy, and unprovided with anything necessary for conducting the campaign with success. Who can fail to see, in these perfidious maneuvers, the bastard design of attracting the forces of the enemy to our central territories, in order there to propose to us, in the midst of the conflicts of war, as the only means of safety, the subjection of the republic to servitude, the ignominy of the country, the revival of the plan of Iguala---in fine, the return to the government of the viceroys.

With this object, and for this fatal moment, which every means was employed to hasten, was a congress assembled, chosen for the purpose, composed only of representatives of certain determined classes, not forming even a sixth of our population, and elected in a manner, perfidiously arranged, to secure a number of voices sufficient to place the seal of opprobrium on the nation. Leaving, with scarcely a single representative, the great majority of the nation, the eleven bishops of our dioceses were declared deputies, and our ecclesiastical cabildos were authorized to elect nine others on their parts, giving to the bishops the faculty of appointing such proxies as they might choose, to take their places in case they should not find it convenient to attend in person. Does not this prove abundantly that a decided endeavor was made to supplant the will of the nation, in order to give some species of authority to this scheme of European intervention in the settlement of our internal affairs?

The protestation of republican sentiments made by General Paredes, after these irrefragable proofs so fully condemning him, were only new acts of perfidy, intended to tranquilize the republic, to set its suspicions at rest, and to arrange the occasion for carrying into effect his base designs. He uttered these protestations in the middle of March last, when he saw the public discontent manifest itself against his powers and his plans. But what followed? Did he not continue to protect the Tiempo, a newspaper established in the capital itself, for the sole object of rendering republican forms odious, and recommending the necessity of a monarchy; advancing every argument which could be supposed calculated to lead astray the good sense of the nation? Did he convene another popular congress? Did he retract the summons which he had issued in January, placing the fate of the nation at the mercy of the few men who remain among us of the old colonial regime? Everything continued in the same way; and, when the press was prohibited from discussing forms of government, it was in order to give an amnesty to the writers in favour of monarchy, who were then prosecuted by the judicial power, and to encourage them to continue
their criminal publications, while silence was imposed on the defenders of the republican system. Meanwhile he hastened, by every means in his power, the assemblage of the congress destined to carry into effect his monarchical plan; he concentrated his forces, in order to suppress all movements on the part of the people, alarmed by the neat, approach of such an unpropitious event; abandoning our frontiers to the invaders, or rather surrendering them to the foreign enemy, by the reverses which he had prepared and arranged at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma.

No, Mexicans! let there be no compromise with a party whose conduct has been a tissue of cruel treachery towards our country; have nothing to do with it, however flattering be its promises, and whatsoever the forms with which it may in future invest itself.

In the last convulsions of its agony it sought to assure its safety by its accustomed maneuvers. It proclaimed principles which it detested. It allied itself with bastard republicans, and exhibited itself as the friend of liberty, in order, by that means, to avoid its just punishment, to maintain itself in power, and to continue to undermine the edifice cemented by the illustrious blood of the Hidalgos and Morelos.

The fraudulent schemes of the enemies of our country being thus unfolded, and the true source of its misfortunes being laid open to all, the radical remedy of the whole evil consists in putting an end for ever to the ruinous control of minorities, by calling on the nation honestly to fix its own destiny, and to secure its territory, its honor, and its welfare. Thus placed in entire liberty to act, as it should be, in the midst of the discussions carried on by the press, in the tribune, and even in the streets and squares, it will take into consideration the evils which surround it, and seek the means of resisting them and satisfied in its desires, mistress of its own fate, it will display the energy peculiar to a free people, will prove equal to the conflicts in which it is to be engaged and will come out of them, not only honorably, but moreover, entirely regenerated. In this way, the administration, established, resting on, and springing from public opinion, may display all its organized forces, to maintain our territory, instead of quartering them in the central towns, as hitherto, under a government created by seditious movements, constantly at war with the nation, and occupied solely in endeavoring to save itself, without regard for our external dangers.

Fellow-countrypeople, never has the situation of the republic been so difficult as at present. Its national existence threatened on one side, on the other an attempt has been to subject it to the hardest of all lots, to European dominion. Such is the abyss to which we have been brought by the endeavor to govern our young society according to the system adopted in the old. This is the true cause of the long struggle in which we have been engaged, which has weakened our forces, and by which the interests of the majority have been sacrificed to the extravagant pretensions of a small minority. This state of things must be ended, in compliance with the wishes of the nation; and by opposing to the former, the Union of republicans of true faith, the concert of the army and the people. By this union we shall conquer the independence of our country; thus united, we shall confirm it by establishing peace on the solid basis of public liberty thus united, we shall preserve the integrity of our immense territory.

But now, with regard to the plan proposed for revolution, it is my honor and my duty to observe, that by limiting the congress therein proclaimed to the organization of the system of government, and the determination of what relates to the serious question of our northern frontiers, the provisional government of the nation would find itself required, until the system has been thus organized, to use its own discretion on all other points. This would be investing the provisional government with a dictatorship, always odious, however imperious might be the circumstances rendering it necessary. I therefore propose that the said assembly should come fully authorized to determine with regard to all branches of the public administration, which may be of general interest, and within the attributes of the legislative, power; the provisional executive of the nation acting with entire submission to its determinations.

I consider it, moreover, indispensable that a uniform rule be established for the regulation of the interior affairs of the departments; and that for this purpose the constitution of the year 1824 be adopted, until the new constitutional code be completed. By this means we shall avoid that divergency of opinions, at this critical moment, when uniformity is so much needed; the national will which sanctioned that, code will have been consulted, and the executive of the nation will have a guide to follow, so far as the present eccentric position of the republic will allow. I submit both measures to the will of the departments, expressed by the authorities, who may be established in consequence of the revolution; proposing, moreover, that the
provisional government of the nation should adopt forthwith the second, as the rule of its conduct, until it be determined otherwise by the majority of the departments, in the form already indicated. The slave of public opinion myself, I shall act in accordance with it, seeking for it henceforth in the manner in which it may be known and expressed, and subjecting myself afterwards entirely to the decisions of the constituent assembly, the organ of the sovereign will of the nation.

Mexicans! There was once a day, and my heart dilates with the remembrance, when leading on the popular masses, and the army, to demand the rights of the nation, you saluted me with the enviable title of soldier of the people. Allow me again to take it, never more to be given up; and to devote myself until death, to the defence of the liberty and independence of the republic.

[NRR]

NNR 71.065 October 3, 1846 Arrest and execution of Mexican spies at Camargo, attack on Americans between Camargo and Matamoros

Intelligence from Point Isabel, of the 16th instant, states that two Mexican spies had been arrested at Camargo and hung. It is also stated that a party of Americans on their way from Camargo to Matamoros were attacked by some Mexicans, and one American and six Mexicans killed.

[WFF]

NNR 71.065 3 October 1846 suspension of the building of wagons for the Army

The Newark Adventurer of the 16th states that orders are received there to stop building wagons for the army for the present. Only about 150 as yet been forwarded from there.

[RWH]

NNR 71.065: October 3, 1846 LATEST FROM THE ARMY OF OCCUPATION.

Advices reached New Orleans, on the 21st from Brasos St. Jago.

Capt. Murray reached Camargo on the 8th Sept. post haste from Gen. Worth's camp at Seralvo, 60 miles from Monterey. McCullouch's rangers had come into camp with intelligence that on the 4th, about 40 miles from Seralvo, they discovered a body of Mexicans, who retired as the rangers advanced until the latter discovered a body of 800 to 1000 men. They ascertained the Mexicans to be in force, and probably designed to attack General Worth before the army arrived.

Capt. Murray met General Taylor, with a part of his force, some distance in advance of the main body, and within 35 miles of Seralvo, on a forced march to its relief. Captain Murray thought it highly probable that a battle was fought on the 8th. The Mexicans it was said had determined to make a strong resistance between Seralvo and Monterey. The forces of Ampudia and Arista were co-operating, and their numbers now said to be 8000, were accumulating rapidly, the Mexicans rallying to their standard from all quarters. Monterey is said to be well fortified.

Santa Anna, Ampudia and the Governor of Tamulipas, have issued proclamations which have been received at Camargo. The proclamation of Ampudia makes the penalty very severe upon all who may furnish provisions, assist in transporting provisions, or in any wise aid the Americans. It prohibits them from holding any intercourse or carrying on any trade with us. Death and a confiscation of property are the penalties for disobeying the order.

General Taylor issued an order on the 10th instant, at Camargo, forbidding any American citizen to locate in Camargo without a written permit from the General. No goods would be permitted to remain, and no person not connected with the Army suffered to stop in Camargo.

Intelligence from Point Isabel, of the 16th instant, states that two Mexican spies had been arrested at Camargo and hung. It is also stated that a party of Americans on
their way from Camargo to Matamoras were attacked by some Mexicans, and one American and six Mexicans killed.

At Matamoras col. Clark was shot at while sitting in his room. It was ordered that all Mexicans be deprived of their arms, and none should either go out of the city or come into it without the written order of the commander.

There appears to be a vast deal of sickness at Matamoras and other towns on the Rio Grande. The McKim brought over 250 invalids to New Orleans, a number of whom were admitted into the Charity Hospital.

NNR 71.066 3 October 1846 curiousty respecting reply received by government from Mexican government, speculation thereon, hopes of a peace diminished, the "Union for going to war in earnest, another campaign required.

The government paper at Washington preserves a silence not easily accounted for, in regard to the nature of the reply received by the president from the government of Mexico, provided the general impression derived from other sources to be correct as to the tenor of that reply. Granting that state policy would frequently, especially during a state of war, render the promulgation of dispatches improper, yet it is difficult to perceive how such a reply as it is said the government has received, could be that of character. Not only public curiosity, but an immense amount of public private, and individual interests could relieve the anxiety incident to these involvements, so that the future might be duty attend to by all, is so obvious a duty that we are bound to presume that government has some motive for the silence in this case, however much it may puzzle us to conceive what that motive can be.

From information derived from our other sources, the impression has become fixed, however, that the authorities of Mexico instead of replying definitely to the proposition of President Polk, have alleged that their executive has not the adequate authority to act in the premises, and that until their congress shall assemble in December, they are compelled to defer an answer.

This resolves itself at once into a decision that war must be continued.

NNR 71.066: October 3, 1846 Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny marching for Santa Fe

"The Army of the West,"under Gen. Kearney, was at the last authentic intelligence from thence, in full march for Santa Fe, with more than ample force for its occupation. A report had arrived at St. Louis that General K. had taken Santa Fe without opposition, but it was believed to be premature.

[LA]

NNR 71.066(2): October 3, 1846 The Mormon Battalion

Not only more than adequate force to take possession of, but many thousands of "settlers"intending permanently to occupy California, are far on their way towards that region. From one of those parties that started prior to the commencement of the Mexican war, we have in the St. Louis Republican of the 21st September, the following gloomy account:

"The Mormons. We have a most dismal account of the condition of the Mormons who undertook to migrate to California, but stopped at a place agreed on between them and Col. Allen, when the latter was desirous of raising a battalion of infantry from among them. They were to locate on the Platte river, and there to remain for an indefinite period of time. They attempted to raise a crop for their subsistence, but failed to do so, and have abandoned the Platte, and are now at Bellevue, on the Missouri river, near the Council Bluffs. -They are said to be in a starving condition, and nothing but the aid of the government, during the coming winter, will save many of them from death. President Polk, it is understood, some time ago dispatched an agent to their camp, to inquire into their condition--probably with a view of granting them some relief--and he is said to have returned to this city on the General Brooke."
NNR 71.066 3 October 1846 prizes taken by a Mexican privateer

Captain J. H. Rodney of the brig F. L. Vail, arrived at St. John’s, N.B. from St. Martins, reports that on the 23d of July, he saw Mexican privateer with three American vessels, prizes, passing by the Island of St. Martins, apparently bound through Sombrero passage.

[RRH]

NNR 71.066(3): October 3, 1846 Infantry assembled at Fort Leavenworth

THE REGIMENT OF INFANTRY, which had just assembled at Fort Leavenworth and about the marching of which so late in the season anxiety was awakened, at last received their pay and outfit, and had no sooner done so, than an officer arrived with orders from the department for their immediate discharge. The expenses incurred in raising, subsiding, clothing, supplies, and transports for this corps is estimated at between ninety and one hundred thousand dollars.

[JTW]

NNR 71.067 3 October 1846 intelligence from John Charles Fremont, &c.

We have received communication by which we learn that Mr. Toplin arrived at Independence September 11th, direct from the Sacramento river, where he left Capt. Fremont on the 3d of April last. Capt. Fremont had received no news of the war, but was intending to remain where he was until he received further orders from the United States, which were daily expected.- Our reader will remember that he was ordered out of the country, but did not intend to go until he was ready.

Mr. Toplin was at Bent's Fort on the 18th of August, Gen. Kearney and all of his troops had been gone some days. He met at Col. Price's regiment at Pawnee Fork and Col. Price himself at Pear Spring, with the remainder of his command. They were all in good health and getting on well. The Mormon battalion was at Council Grove on the 20th August.

[RRH]

NNR 71.067: October 3, 1846 The Army of the Center ready for Chihuahua march; Col Harney arrested

THE ARMY OF THE CENTRE, under General Wool, at the last dates from his headquarters announced to between 3 and 4000 men; were nearly ready to commence the march for the Mexican province of Chihuahua.

Colonel Harney, with his mounted dragoons, returned from his excursion into Mexico, without surprising Monterey, as some seemed to apprehend that he had done or might do, and without, so far as we can perceive, having achieved anything from which laurels can be culled. Three of his men were killed by the Mexicans on their route back. His corps will probably form the advance of Gen. Wool's division, which will consist altogether of over 5,000 men.

It was stated in some accounts that Col. Harney had returned in consequence of orders that effect from Gen. Taylor, and that he was under arrest and would be court-martialed, but the account has been contradicted.

[JTW]

NNR 71.067 3 October 1846 arrival at New Orleans of sick and discharged volunteers from the Rio Grande

The United States steamer Telegraph, Captain Auld, left Brazos Santiago on the 12th
and arrived here yesterday via Port Lavacca and Galveston, which place she left on
the 16th. The Telegraph brought to the city 365 sick and disabled volunteers, and 45
officers, and landed at Lavacca 72 Texan Gunmen, and part of a company
numbering 20 men, at Galveston.

[ RWH ]

NNR 71.067 3 October 1846 General Zachary Taylor concentrating on Cerralvo

Gen. Patterson was left in command of all the volunteers from Camargo to the
mouth of the Rio Grande. Generals Butler and Quitman accompanying General
Taylor. He has prohibited any strangers from coming up the river, under instructions
from Gen. Taylor. It was then reported that Gen. T. would not proceed further than
Seralva, until he received further orders from the Government.

[ RWH ]

NNR 71.067 3 October 1846 Col. Hay’s marching

Gen. Taylor crossed the San Juan on the 6th, and took up the line of march on
the7th for Seralvo, where the forces under Worth had halted. Hay’s regiment would
leave China and take up the line of march for the same place, as to reach there
about the same time as Taylor.

[ RWH ]

NNR 71.067 3 October 1846 hospitals crowded at Camargo and Matamoros

There were 600 sick volunteers in the hospital at Camarago, and they dying very
fast. So many were sick, that it required nearly a whol regiment to attend them.
Those whom the Tennesseans left behind, seemed particularly unfortunate, for they
had to call on the Alabamians to attend the living and bury the dead. As fest as men
get able to leave the hospital, they are discharged and sent home. In fact, Gen.
Taylor has a disposition to discharge all volunteers who are discontented and whish
to return to their homes. Though the number of patients in the hospital at
Matamoros is larger than at Camargo, the mortality is greater in the latter place-
near three to one. Those who are accustomed to a southern climate, when once
prostrated by the fever seldom regain their former strength on the Rio Grande,
without a change of atmosphere. - They die off quickly, else become so enfeebled
that they are unable to help themselves. A person who has visited the hospitals at
the different posts has said that if one-half of the western and northern volunteers
who went to the Rio Grande are effective men on the 15 th of October, it is more
than he looks for.

[ RWH ]

NNR 71.067 3 October 1846 Gen. Robert Patterson in command from Camargo to
the mouth of the Rio Grande

Gen. Patterson was left in command of all the volunteers from Camargo to the
mouth of the Rio Grande. Generals Butler and Quitman accompanying General
Taylor.

[ RWH ]

NNR 71.067 3 October 1846 many deaths

In Camargo there were between 600 and 700 volunteers in the hospitals, and they
were dying very fast.

[ RWH ]

NNR 71.067 3 October 1846 Gen. Pedro Ampudia reinforces Monterey
One letter we have seen sets down the force which Ampudia entered Monterey at from 5,000 to 10,000. It adds that he had issued a proclamation prohibiting all intercourse between the Mexicans and the American army under pain of death.

[NRR]

NNR 71.067 3 October 1846 doubts expressed by the "Union" as to the accounts of "desertions"

In reference to the above and to previous accounts the Washington Union says.- The news which reached us from the army, on Saturday night through the New Orleans papers, is not to be received without many grains of allowance. No dispatches have been received for the three last days; but if it is not difficult to see that the last rumors from the army have come to us through reporters who have imparted hues of too dark a complexion to their stories. We do not credit this report, for example, that when General Taylor arrives at Seralvo, he intends to tarry for dispatches from Washington. It would have been far more consistent with a tactician to have remained at Camargo near to his depots, than to have gone on with provisions for 12,000 troops for 30 days, and then pause upon his march to consume his rations and receive his dispatches. We do not believe it. The reports of sickness, too, are probably extravagant- though it would not be surprising if at this season of the year, under new circumstances so trying to unacclimated constitutions, some hundreds of sick should be found in an army of more than 20,000 people.

[NRR]

NNR 71.067-068 3 October 1846 letter to relative campaigns, munitions, supplies, &c.

Before this reaches you I presume you will have known whether Mexico has declined our offer and is unwilling to receive a Minister from the United States or not. It is said here that Princeton; which arrived few days since at Pensecola, brought the reply of the Mexican Government to our proposition, and all the private letters received here from Vera Cruz and the city of Mexico unite in saying that our offer has been politely declined; the reason assigned is that the Executive Government do not feel authorized to act, and that it rests with the Supreme Congress, which does not meet until December.

When Mr. Polk, upon his own responsibility, brought on this war, I wrote you that neither the Administration nor the people were aware of the job they had undertaken. The former has found out this secret some time since, and the people are finding out very rapidly, and, before many weeks or months have elapsed, will have their eyes fully opened on the subject. Probably there is no man in the country so heartily sick if the war, or more sincerely desirous to get rid of it than Mr. Polk and never was an Administration placed in such a false position as he is at present. When he commenced it he thought he could swallow up Mexico at a single mouthful; that, so soon as she heard of the 50,000 volunteers and all the regular army she would "cave in" at once, and sue for peace on any terms; instead of which, after we have spent millions and millions of money, have collected all our military force on her frontiers, ready to advance from different points into her territory and cover her coasts with our fleets- whilst the cloud of war has thus gathered over and is ready to burst upon her, we offer to treat and to send a Minister for the purpose. She very coolly says, in so many words, to us, "we are very sorry you are so soon tired of the war; we are very comfortable ourselves; it has thus far done us no injury, or created any extra expense; and beg leave to decline receiving any Minister from you." The fact is, Mexico is impassive; she cannot be struck in a vital place; the natural obstacles of the country and the total absence or limited nature of the supplies will prevent a large army from penetrating to the capital, or near it, and the plan of doing so from the Rio Grande is peculiarly absurd, even if it were to succeed, as the distance is double what it is from the seacoast.

Gen. Taylor will no doubt reach Monterey and will find a city of non-combatants, and the object of the campaign no further advanced than at Matamoros. We may take some of their seaports, but that is of no material consequence, as Mexico has but little commercial trade, and none that is of any advantage to her, as it is all done by foreigners, and in foreign ships; and as to taking possession of her frontier towns or provinces, it is very acceptable to the inhabitants, as our army, by their immense expenditure, is enriching the country by consuming every thing they can furnish, and
paying four prices for every article. As to the manner in which the war has thus far been conducted, utter ignorance, waste and extravagance, have marked all the arrangements connected with it here at home, and has consequently had corresponding effect on the condition and movements of the army; and in nothing has there been grosser or more palpable errors that as regard to the means of transportation, and a volume might be filled with details. At this moment our levee is incumbered with wagons intended for Gen. Taylor's army, lying day after day, with all their fixtures exposed to a sun which raises the thermometer to 130 degrees; and mules bought in the Western country, and brought here at great expense, are being shipped by vessels which receive $3000 to $5000 freight for the run down to the Brasos Santiago, carrying 100 to 150 mules each; many of which perish on the voyage from want of proper care, and the usual risks of a sea voyage, and one half of those landed will die from not being acclimated. One of these transports recently embarked 127 mules here and landed 22; the remainder died or were thrown overboard in a gale; and all this is done when far better, more serviceable and acclimated mules can be bought there at $25 each. All this, however, is but a mere item in comparison with other arrangements, and particularly with the arrangements connected with the inland expedition to Santa Fe &c.'

The following anecdote, among other things, shows what were the views and expectations of the Government as to the present war: A field officer of the army, now with General Taylor, told me, when passing through here, that he was in Washington last spring when the first news arrived of hostilities, and Congress adopted prompt measures for the war; he was conversing with a prominent member of Congress, the chairman of an important committee, which brought him in constant and confidential communication with the Government, of which he was an ardent political supporter and this officer was stating his views as to the most efficient plans for prosecuting the war against Mexico; and, after he got through doing so, added that if this plan was followed he thought the war might be brought to a close by January next. "January!" said the chairman in reply, and with much astonishment; "Well, sir," said the officer, "if such are your expectations, the sooner you being to get the money ready to buy her off the better."

[RWH]

NNR 71.068 3 October 1846 departure of New York California Expedition

The Commercial Advertiser of the 28th says- The California Expedition is off at last, shorn somewhat of its numeric force, as it has long been almost wholly of its moral. Its departure had been signalized by a prolongation of that un happy compound, made up almost equally of misfortune and misconduct, which has attended it from the beginning; and it requires no very abiding or superstitious faith in omens to believe that the issue will be useless and inglorious, in strict conformity with the inception and progress.

[RWH]

NNR 71.080 3 October 1846 Santa Fe taken by Gen. Stephen Watts Kearney

August 18. Gen. Kearney proceeded through the pass and at 5 pm reached hill that overlooks Santa Fe.

Major Clark's artillery was put into line, and the mounted troops and infantry were marched through town to the Palace (as it is called) and his staff dismounted and were received by the acting governor and other dignitaries and conducted to a large room. The general gave the assurance of safety and protection to all unoffending citizens. The stars and stripes were hoisted on the staff which is attached to the Palace by Major Swords. As soon as it was seen to wave above the buildings, it was hailed by a national salute from the battery of Captains Fischer and Weightman, under the command of Major Clark. While the general was proclaiming the conquest of New Mexico as a part of the United States, the first gun was heard. "There," said he, my guns proclaim that the flag of the United States floats over this capitol. " The people appeared satisfied. The general slept in the palace. (we democrats must call it the governor's house.) One company of dragoons ws kept in the city as a guard and the business of the day was ended.

[RWH]
NNR 71.067(2): October 3, 1846 Matamoros, no Irishmen deserted

Matamoras, July 21st, 1846.

To all whom it may concern: I hereby certify that no Irishmen deserted me in any engagement or skirmish with the Mexicans, during the campaign on the Rio Grande; and for public information, I will state that the deserters on the night of 2nd May, when an attack was made on the enemy, were one Englishman, two Americans, and three Germans, who all speak good English. One of the Americans gave as such an excuse for running that his horse was lame.

S. H. Walker,
Lt. Col. Texas Rangers.

[JTW]

NNR 71.081: October 10, 1846 THE WAR WITH MEXICO.

The accounts received during the week are but mere confirmations of previous intelligence.

Army of occupation. The steamship Galveston arrived at New Orleans on the 29th ult. from Port Lavaca and Galveston.

The Galveston Civilian says--"The Kentucky regiment under Col. Marshall, numbering about 800, in encamped at the mouth of the Lavaca, with 200 men on the sick list, owing to the fatigues of a long march. This regiment has just received orders to march forthwith to Camargo. The Tennessee regiment is daily expected. Neither of these regiments were intended to join gen. Wool.

An arrival at Port Lavaca, which left Matamoras on the 18th instant, reports that news had been received very late from General Taylor, to the effect that he was marching upon Monterey with 8,000 men, and was within a few miles of that city. Monterey was said to be defended with a force of 15,000 Mexicans under Gen. Ampudia."

[JTW]

NNR 71.081(2): October 10, 1846 "ARMY OF OCCUPATION."- letter anticipates battle at Monterey.

A letter published in the Washington Union, dated Matamoras, Sept. 14 says: "It is agreed on all hands that we are to have a fight at Monterey. The Mexicans are pouring into this place and making every preparation to Gen. Taylor a warm reception."

[JTW]

NNR 71.081 10 October 1846 Kentucky regiment encamped at Lavaca

The Kentucky regiment under Col. Marshall, number about 800, is encamped at the mouth of the Lavaca with 200 men on the sick list, owing to the fatigues of a long march. This regiment has just received orders to march forthwith to Camargo. The Tennessee regimen is daily expected. Neither of these regiments were intended to join gen. Wool.

[RWH]

NNR 71.082 10 October 1846 settling accounts with volunteer officers: Captain G. H. Tobin's correspondence with Jonathan M. McCalla

Sir- You are charged on the books of this office with $1,625, the value of the clothing furnished for the use of your company, and for which you will be held accountable. In order to relieve yourself from this accountability, you will enter on

[JTW]
your first muster roll all articles of clothing and blankets issued to the men under your command, and request they paymaster to deduct the several amounts from their first payment.--Jon M. McCalla, second auditor

Sir- By a decision of the honorable secretary of war, each soldier is entitled to 'six months' clothing to the amount of $21- all over that are to be charged with. There will be other charges of which you will be informed by this office. You will please consider this letter your guide in addition to the one you received from me of the 31st ult.--Jon M. McCalla, second auditor

Sir- I have the honor of acknowledge of receipt of two favors from you, one dated 31st July, the other 8th August. I can only answer by a yarn.

A countryman of mine was one indulging in the very intellectual occupation of sucking fresh eggs raw and reading a newspaper. By some mischance he contrived to bolt a live chicken. The poor bird chirped as it went down his throat and he very politely observed- "Be the powers, my friend, you spoke too late."

I can only say, sir, that your favors have reached me too late. They have been chasing me through the Mexican Post Offices; that is, to express myself more clearly, when I receive them, they (the letters) were down in Mexico and I was up here, and when I didn't receive them, they were up here and I was down there.

The fact is that most of my men have been paid off, and are now scattered to the four corners of the globe. They were mostly sanors, as I was myself. From them (if there be charges) nothing can be expected. The camp and garrison equipment has been turned over to the proper officers, with the exception of sundry axes smashed and placed hors du combat in chopping down there amiable chapparals on the banks of the Rio Grande. I except, also, the camp kettles and pans, many of which were used up in roasting, boiling, stewing, and frying our pork and beans, bacon, and fresh beef, not to speak of the slow venison, which some were nurtured enough to call Mexican beef (may the Lord forgive them).

For my own responsibility in the matter I regret more on Uncle Sam's account than on my own, that I am not worth a continental dime. I have been not only paid, but I believe over paid by about $40. My conscience compelled me to remonstrate with the Paymaster but they assured me that they made no mistakes. I considered their feelings and indulged them. However I am gonna make good on the money. I gave it to the sick and damaged soldiers.

Most of the other Captains are in the same fix as myself (barring the overpay) about the responsibility refer to my epistle as an answer.

If you have any further enumerations for me please direct the entire case to Major General John Davis V. Orleans. I seldom go to the Post Office cause I have nobody to correspond with, and yet I am not the man who never had a father nor mother, but was won at a raffle-Captain G.H. Tobin.

[NWH]

NNR 71.083 10 October 1846 General Stephen Kearney's proclamation at Santa Fe to the inhabitants of New Mexico

As by the act of the republic of Mexico, a state of way, exists between that government and the United States, and as the undersigned, at the head of his troops on the 18th inst. took possession of Santa Fe, the capital of the old department of New Mexico, he now announces to hold the department with its original boundaries (on both sides of the Del Norte) as a part of the United States, and under the name of the Territory of New Mexico.

The undersigned has come to New Mexico with a strong military force, and an equally strong one is following close in his rear. He has more troops than necessary to put down any opposition that can possibly be brought against him, and therefore it would be folly or madness for any dissatisfied or discontented person to think of resisting him.

The undersigned has instructions from his government to respect the religious institution of New Mexico, to protect the property of the church, to cause worship of those belonging to it to be undisturbed, and their religious rights in the amplest manner reserved to them. Also to protect the persons and property of all quiet and
It is the wish an intention of the United States to provide for New Mexico a free
government with the least possible delay, similar to those in the United States, and
the people of New Mexico will then be called on to exercise the rights of freemen in
electing their own representatives to the territorial legislature, but until this can be
done the laws hitherto in existence will be continued until changed or modified by
competent authority, and those persons holding office will continue in the same for
the present, provided, they will consider themselves good citizens and willing to take
an oath of allegiance to the United States.

The undersigned herby absolves all persons residing within the boundaries of New
Mexico, from further allegiance to the republic of Mexico, and hereby claim them as
citizens of the United States.- Those who remain quiet and peaceable will be
considered as good citizens, and receive protection.- Those who are found in arms,
or instigating others against the United States, will be considered as traitors, and
handled accordingly. Don Manuel Armijo, the late governor of this department has
fled from it. The undersigned has taken possession of it without firing a gun, or
spilling a drop of blood, in which he must truly rejoices, and for the present will be
considered as governor of the territory.

Given at Santa Fe, the capital of the territory of New Mexico, the 23d day of August
1846, and in the 71st year of the Independence of the United States.
savage Gamanches to prevent the renewal of those usurpers, and to compel them to restore to you from captivity, your long lost wives and children. Your religion, your altars, and churches, the property of your churches, and citizens, the emblems of your faith shall be protected. *Contributors Note: The rest of the proclamation was illegible.*

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**NNR 71.087** announcement of the "Union" that the effort to negotiate peace is to be abandoned and more coercive measures pursued, comments of the "Intelligencer" thereon

There can no longer be a question that the refusal of the Mexican Government to accept our propositions for peace, instead of relaxing our own measures will stimulate our Government to a more vigorous prosecution of the war. We must bring its pressure home to the people of Mexico. We must make them feel the evils of the war more strongly, in order that they may appeal to their own Government for peace. It cannot be denied nor concealed that new energy is to be infused into our operations; and the strength of the national arm is to be put forth more efficiently than ever.

When the army of occupation became the army of invasion, and our victorious banners were planted on the right bank of the Rio Grande, with the view of the conciliating people of Mexico, it was proclaimed by the commanding General, under instructions from his government, that our armies were to respect their private property; and that they were to take nothing and receive nothing which was not to be paid for.- We were anxious to soften the horrors of war in every respect and to conduct it upon the most liberal and refined principles. We had even determined to dispose with the rights which the Laws of Nations fully recognized." Instead of th pillage of the country and defenceless places a custom has been substituted more humane and advantageous to the sovereignty making war. I mean that of contributions. Whoever carries on a just war, has a right of making the enemy's country contribute to the support of the army, and towards defraying all the charges of the war. We waived these rights in every sense of the term. But what has been the result? It is shown in several articles which have appeared in New Orleans papers, and in letters from the officers of the army. We republished one of them the other day from the columns of the 'National Intelligencer'. It seems certain that our forbearance has not been appreciated by the Mexican people, and that, not content with receiving fair value for their productions, they have demanded exorbitant prices, whilst their hostility to us has remained undaunted. Officers ask, how can you expect to make it the interest of such people to terminate the war? The experience of the lst five months strengthens the argument.

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**71.087 10 October 1846** departure of Gen. Thomas Sidney Jessup to take personal command of the quartermaster's department

So much complaint has been made, and so many difficulties experienced, that we rejoice to find from the Union of the 2nd, that "Major General Jessup, Quartermaster General, left Washington this morning for the frontier of Mexico, to take upon himself the general direction of the affairs of his Department in that quarter. This step has been taken with a view to provide for every exigency without the delay and inconvenience which sometimes result from warning instructions from Washington, and in order to secure the utmost clemency and economy to the measures of that Department. We understand also, that when General Jessup left Washington he had recently purchased two excellent steamboats on very moderate terms, for the operations of the Rio Grande, in order to have the high freights which were demanded for the transportation of our stores. Other appliances have been recently adopted, which will save much expense and contribute most effectually to the transportation of the necessary means of our army.

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**NNR 71.088-71.089** Conditions of the volunteers on the Rio Grande

**VOLUNTEERS ON THE RIO GRANDE---**A letter from a member of the Louisville (Ky.) Guards, to his brother in Louisville, written at Camargo, Mexico, September 1st says--
There are not so many sick as we have had, but the cases are generally of a more fatal character, being bilious fevers, which, being very violent, if not reduced in a day or two prove fatal. We have lost some six men since we have been here. Every day you can hear the roll of the muffled drum, and it casts gloom over the countenances of all. There are many going home from disability to perform military duty.

In a letter of Aug. 25, he says--

The day after the date of my last, the six companies of the Legion, whose lot it was to walk, took up the line of march for this place, (via Matamoras)--The country through which we passed is generally low and marshy. After going about four miles, we came to a Lagune, two miles wide and about two feet deep, mud and water. Being heavily laden with our clothes and provisions, the men suffered a great deal, a good many fainted, and had to be carried out by others. One man, belonging to the Baltimore and Washington regiment, died a few minutes after getting out.

The water decided the distance of our marches throughout. The march on the 18th I will recollect long as life lasts, not so much for any suffering I had to undergo, as for what I saw. We made twenty-five miles; the first ten was accomplished early in the morning and without a halt. At the end of the ten we had tolerable water, and rested two hours. ---It had been determined to go to the next water; the march was through a sandy prairie, with occasionally a few miles of chapparal; in the latter the heat is suffocating; they are not high enough to make a shade, and too thick to admit a free circulation of air. The troops were scattered along the road for ten miles in perfect disorder. By dark we came to a muddy pond of filthy water which served to quench our thirst. A great many did not get into camp, till past midnight; some had to be brought in the wagons. We pitched no tents, but tumbled down upon our blankets without taking off any of our equipment.

Thursday August 13- Started at 12M, Col Doniphan’s regiment in sight as we left the camp. We soon met the spy company, who, with his small party, had captured four Mexicans well mounted and armed. They summoned him and his party to surrender, but the captain told them that he thought their safest plan was to surrender to him.- They prudently consented to do so. They acknowledged themselves sent to ascertain who were.- They were made prisoners.

One of the Mexicans who was taken day before yesterday, was disarmed and sent forward to his village, distant 24 miles, with letters and proclamations. He promised to meet us tomorrow. At eight miles, we came to the establishment of a Mr. Wells, an American. He had an abundance of horses, mules, and cattle. With him was another American who had been sent from Santa Fe by an American merchant of that place, to inform Gen Kearney that the Mexicans were 10000 strong and had determined we were fifteen miles outside of Santa Fe, at a deep ravine.

The Americans at Santa Fe and other towns are very much alarmed for their safety. The Mexicans tell them that if defeated, they will return to their towns and villages and get full revenge on them.

All of this is news communicated to us in a heavy rain, and we are encamping in the midst of it. No little excitement prevails in camp. To retreat nine hundred miles is idle; and if they do met us, as they promised we shall vindicate the character of the Saxon blood in death or victory, Mark that! General Kearney is as cool as if walking to his office on a May morning to attend his accustomed garrison duties, and all look to him as to a man, who has shed glory on the American name. It is sad here that Governor Armijo is opposed to the fight, but is urged on by the rich men of the country; yet the latest accounts are that the rich are backwards in lending their money. But if 10,000 men are assembled they must have furnished the means. There is a Mr. Bonny living near this place, he visited us, and gave us a fat slicer. This is the first settlement we have met. The place is called "Moro." Two beautiful mountain streams meet here, each is sufficient size for milling purposes. The artillery came up at sundown. At this place the road by the Simerone comes in.
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[RWH]

10 October 1846 rumor of design to call out volunteers to assail Veracruz, amount of the forces now in field operating against Mexico

There are various informations afloat, that it is the intention of the president to call out the residue of the 50,000 volunteers authorized by the late act of congress, for the city of Mexico, by way of Tampico or Vera Cruz


[RWH]

17 October 1846 review of the progress of the campaign

We have nothing from the Gulf Squadron or from the Pacific Squadron since our last. The intelligence which has reached us from General Kearney's division of the West, is that he is in quiet possession of Santa Fe, is busied in fortifying it, and in preparing for the movement of the one half of his forces to take possession of Upper California and penetrate to the Pacific, whilst the other half will proceed a view of forming a junction with General Wool.- The regiment of infantry that had just assembled at Fort Leavenworth for the purpose of reinforcing Gen. Kearney, has been paid off, and are discharged.

From "the Army of the Centre,"General Wool's division, we have but little further. An arrival from Galveston brings a letter which says:- "The Kentucky regiment under Colonel Marshall, numbering about 800, is encamped at the mouth of the Lavaca, with 200 men on the sick list owing to the fatigues of a long march. This regiment had just received letters to march forthwith to Camargo. The Tennessee regiment is daily expected. Neither of these regiments were intended to join Gen. Wool.

[RWH]
NNR 71.100-101 17 October 1846 Monterey attacked, defended for three days, surrenders to Zachary Taylor, armistice concluded, incidents

The morning of the 20th was devoted to reentering, and determining a plan of attack. In the afternoon General Worth's division marched by a circuit for the rear of the city and engaged that night between Monterey and Saltillo.

Captain Eaton one of the aids to General Taylor, left Headquarters, now at Monterey, on the 25th and reached Washington City on the 11th inst, bringin official accounts of the battles which took place between the 19th and 25th and the terms of capitulation were agreed upon.

The opportunity which Gen. Taylor so generously afforded Gen. Worth to cut the first laurels from the field,- we should say heights, that commanded Monterey, was worthy of both officers- and right gallantly did Gen. Worth improve the opportunity,- and as gallantly have those under his command seconded his daring.

[RWH]

NNR 71.101 17 October 1846 official dispatches announced by the "Union"on the battle of 22d Sept.

We lay before our readers this evening the official dispatches of General Taylor detailing the heroic and victorious onset of our army upon Monterey.- They bear the most ample and honorable testimony to the gallantry, the skill, and the patriotic self devotion of our officers and soldiers. In this respect, the intelligence from Monterey fully responded to the high wrought expectations of the country. Regulars and volunteers- through three days' battle alternately under a burning sun and drenching rains, against a foe strong in all overwhelming superiority of numbers, and in the advantages of a position so strongly fortified as to be apparently almost impregnable- seem to have vied with each other, their gallant leaders, in efforts noble and chivalrous daring. The result is a triumph every wasy memorable in military annals. In three days our army has carried intrenchments which the enemy had expected to maintain against any exhibition of military force on our part, and in which they probably stored, on the calculation, a large magazine of provisions. The Mexicans re thus driven from their chosen strong hold, and one of the strong keys of Mexico is now in our hands.

[RWH]

NNR 71.102 17 October 1846 report on the battles of the 23d September and 25th September, correspondence and articles of capitulation of Monterey INCOMPLETE

Sir: At noon on the 23d instant, while our troops were closely engaged in the lower part of the city, as reported in my last dispatch, I received a flag, a communication from the governor of the state of New Leon, which is herewith closed,- To this communication I deemed it my duty to return an answer declining to allow inhabitants to leave the city. By eleven o'clock P.M. the 2d division which had entered the town from the direction of Bishop's Palace, had advanced with in one square mile of the principal plaza, and occupied the city up to that point. The mortar had in the meantime, been placed in battery in the cemetery within good range of the heart of the town, and was served throughout the night with good effect. . . name.

The light batteries, one of which is commanded by Lieut. Mackalf, were now drawn upon the slope of the ridge, and the howitzers opened upon the height of Palace Hill.. A few shells only were thrown before the enemy commenced firing with a 9 pounder from the height immediately over the right of the column, aiming at Duncan's batteries. The several regiments took positions, and a few more shells were thrown towards Palace Hill, but did no execution. The 9 pounder continued to throw its shot, with great precision, at our batteries, one ball falling directly in the midst of the pieces, but fortunately hitting neither men nor guns. Finding his batteries thus exposed, and unable to effect any thing, Col. Duncan removed his command to a rancho about a half a mile further up the Saltillo road, where Gen. Worth took up his position, after ordering the foot regiments to form along the fence, near the point of the ridge. The artillery battalion, 5th, 7th, and 8th infantry,
and the Louisiana volunteers remained in this position about two hours, directly under the fire of the enemy’s guns, (now two.) The balls fell directly in their midst all this time without wounding a man! The Mexicans manage their artillery in battery as well as the Americans do. This I believe is now conceded by every officer.

At half past 10 the column moved toward the general’s position. At this time Capt. McKavett, of the 8th infantry, was shot through the heart by a nine pound ball, and a private of the 5th infantry was so severely wounded in the thigh that he died the next morning. About fifty Mexicans now appeared upon the hill side, over the moving column, and fired at our troops some hundred musket shot, without doing any harm. The division deployed into the positions pointed out, and remained an hour or two, when Capt. C. F. Smith, of the artillery battalion; with two companies (his own and Capt. Scott’s) and four companies of Texan rangers on foot, were ordered to storm the second height. This the gallant officer cheerfully undertook, and was followed with enthusiasm by the officers and men of his command. It was considered on all sides to be a most dangerous undertaking, and this party was considered emphatically a forlorn hope. That the height would be taken no one doubted, but that many brave fellows would fall in the attempt seemed inevitable. The distance to be climbed, after reaching the foot of the hill, was about a quarter of a mile; a part of the way was almost perpendicular, and through, thorn bushes and over sharp-pointed rocks and loose sliding stones.

The 7th infantry, commanded by Capt. Miles, was ordered to support Capt. Smith’s party, and by marching directly to the foot of the height, arrived before Capt. Smith who had been ordered to take a circuitous route. Capt. Miles sent up Lieut. Gantt with a detachment of men, upon the hill side, to divert the attention of the enemy from Capt. Smith’s command, which could not yet be seen. The 7th had already sustained a heavy fire of grape and round shot, as they forded the San Juan, which winds around the foot of the height, which fell like a shower of hail in their ranks, without killing a man. Lieut. Gantt’s party were greeted with grape and round shot, which cut the shrubs and tore up the loose stones in the ranks without killing any one; but the gallant young officer came within an inch of being killed by a cannon ball, which ranked down the steep, and filled his face with fragments of rock, dust, and gravel. This fire was accompanied by a constant discharge of musketry, the enemy covering the upper part of the hill side, but the detachment continued to move up, driving the Mexicans back, until they were recalled. Capt. Smith’s party now arrived and moved up the hill, the Rangers in advance, and did not halt for an instant until the Mexicans were driven from the summit.

Whilst this was going on, Col. Persifer F. Smith, who commanded the 5th and 7th infantry- the 5th, with Blanchard’s Louisiana boys, under Maj. Martin Scott, had been ordered to support the whole, gave orders for these commands to pass around on each side and storm the fort, which was situated about half a mile back of the summit on the same ridge, and commanded the Bishop’s Palace. Such a foot race as now ensued has seldom if ever been seen; the Louisiana boys making the tallest kind of strides to be in with the foremost. Capt. Smith had the gun which he took on the height, run down toward the breastworks and fired into it. Then cam Col. P. F. Smith’s men, with a perfect rush, firing and cheering- the 5th and 7th and Louisianians reaching the ridge about nearly at the same time. The Mexicans fired at them with grape, but it did not save them or cause an instant’s hesitation in our ranks.- Our men run and fired and cheered until they reached the work, the foremost entering at one end whilst the Mexicans, about 1,000 in number, left the other in retreat. The colors of the 5th infantry were instantly raised, and scarcely were they up before those of the 7th were alongside. The three commands entered the fort together, so close was the race- the 5th, however, getting an advance in first. In less than five minutes the gun found in the fort was thundering away at the Bishop’s Palace!- Thus was this brilliant coup de main made almost without bloodshed.

[RWH]

NNR 71.105 17 October 1846 adjustments in territory of the United States, and other North American powers as a result of the conquest of California and New Mexico, and the Oregon treaty

The conquest of California and New Mexico extends the boundary of the United States on the west coast, from the forty-second to the thirty-second parallel of north latitude, and produces a great alteration in the territorial possessions of the belligerent powers. The comparative size of Mexico and the United States, in 1833, was as follows:

U. States territories 1,408,000,000 square acres
Mexican territories 1,081,600,000 square acres

We have now to deduct from Mexico and add to the U. States:

Upper California 240,869,160
New Mexico 137,472,000
Texas 123,904,000

------------------502,236,160

Left to Mexico 579,363,840

In 1838 the possessions of various powers on this continent were as follows:

Russian 480,000,000
British 1,792,000,000
United States 1,408,000,000
Mexico 1,081,600,000
Central American 119,040,000

Total (7,328,000 miles) 4,880,640,000 acres.

Deducting from Mexico and adding to the United States 502,236,160 acres and from the U. States and to the British possessions, 32,000,000 which the United States claimed, but ceded to Great Britain by the Oregon treaty, the possessions of the various powers on the North American continent now stands as follows:

1846 Miles Acres

Russian 750,000 480,000,000
British 2,850,000 1,824,000,000
United States 2,934,744 1,876,236,150
Mexican 905,259 579,363,840
Central American 186,000 119,040,000

7,626,000 4,880,640,000 [RWH]

NNR 71.112 17 October 1846 Juan Nepomuceno Almonte appointed president of Mexico ad interim. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna assumes control of armies

The New Orleans Picayune says that advices from Mexico via Matamoros states that General Almonte has been appointed president of Mexico ad interim, and Gen. Santa Anna generalissimo of the armies of Mexico; and further that Santa Anna was then engaged in raising and organizing troops, intending to take the field in person in the north. [RWH]

NNR 71.112 17 October 1846 Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny operating from Santa Fe
Advices to the 9th September are received from Gen. Kearney. He had ordered an expedition into the interior about 150 miles, expecting the Mormon battalion of infantry up by the time they returned. It had been determined that the two companies of dragoons under Captains Moore and Cook, and the Mormon infantry, should accompany Gen. Kearny in his expedition to California.

NRR 71.112 17 October 1846 prize brig Naiad at New Orleans

The Hamburg brig Naiad, prize of the blockading squadron on the Mexican coast; arrived at New Orleans on the 17th.

NRR 71.113 17 October 1846 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna assumes the military and declines civil supremacy, Gen. Jose Mariano Salas defers determining whether to receive a minister from United States until Congress, which alone has power in the premises, shall assemble

Santa Anna instead of assuming the duties of civil supremacy has assumed the military, and takes the field as commander of the armies. He has suddenly become the chief head, and hope of the war party in Mexico, which indeed, to say the truth, embraces nearly the whole of the population.

The conduct of the present cabinet is as frank and honorable as it is possible for it to be, and none of the administrators which have preceded it, has been so explicit with the nations. We now see that none had such claims to its confidence; the present cabinet can be said to direct affairs, it is the people who really govern.

NRR 71.114 24 October 1846 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna’s reply to the tender of supreme executive authority, his arrival and reception at the capital, levy of men for the Mexican army, articles relative to funds for the war

Sir: I have received your favor of this date, acknowledging a decree issued by the supreme government of this nation, embracing a programme of the proceedings adopted to regulate a due celebration of the reestablishment of the constitution of 1824, the assumption by myself of the supreme executive power and the anniversary of the glorious cry of Delores.

My satisfaction is extreme to observe the enthusiasm with which preparations are made to celebrate the two great blessings which have fallen upon this nation- her independence and her liberty- and I am penetrated with the deepest gratitude to find that my arrival at the capital will be made to contribute to the solemnities of so great an occasion. In furtherance of this object I shall make my entrée into the city tomorrow, at mid-day, and desire, in contributing my share to the national jubilee, to observe such a course as may best accord with my duties to my country- beloved of my heart- and with the respect due to the will of the sovereign people.

I have been called by the voice of my fellow citizens to exercise the office of commander in chief of the army of the republic. I was far from my native land when intelligence of this renewed confidence, and of these new obligations imposed upon me by my country was brought to me, and I saw the imminent dangers which surrounded here on all sides, formed the chief motive for calling me to the head of the army. I now see a terrible contest with perfidious and daring enemy impending over her, in which the Mexican republic must reconquer the insignia of her glory, and a fortunate issue, if victorious, or disappear from the face of the earth, if so unfortunate as to be defeated. I also see a treacherous faction raising its head from her bosom, which in calling up a form of government detested by the united nation, provokes a preferable submission to foreign dominion; and I behold at last, that after much vacillation, that nation is resolved to establish her right to act for herself, and to arrange such a form of government as best suits her wishes.

All this I have observed, and turned a listening ear to the cry of my desolated country, satisfied that she really needed my weak services at so important a period.
Hence I have come without hesitation or delay to place myself in subjection to her will, and desirous to be perfectly understood, upon reaching my native soil, I gave full and public expression of my sentiments and principles. The reception which they met convinced me that I had not deceived myself, and I am now the more confirmed in them, not from having given them more consideration, but because they have found a general echo in the hearts of my fellow citizens.

I come, then, to carry my views into operation, and in compliance with the mandate of my country. She calls me as commander in chief of the army, and in that capacity I stand to serve. The enemy occupies our harbors- he is despoiling us of the richest of our territories, and threatens us with his domination! I go, hen, to the head of the Mexican army- an army the offspring (rijo) if a free people- and joined with it, I will fulfill my utmost duty in opposing the enemy of my country. I will die fighting, or lead the valiant Mexicans to the enjoyment of a triumph to which they are alike entitled by justice, by their warlike character, and by the dignity and enthusiasm which they have preserved, of a free nation. The war is a necessity of immediate importance; every day's delay is an age of infamy; I cannot recede from the position which the nation has assigned me; I must go forward, unless I would draw upon myself the censure due to ingratitude for the favors of which I have been overwhelmed by my fellow citizens; or, unless I would behold her humbled and suffering under a perpetuation of her misfortunes.

Your excellency will at once perceive how great an error I should commit in assuming the supreme magistracy, when my duty calls me to the field, to fight against the enemies of the republic. I should disgrace myself, if, when called to the point of danger, I should spring to that of power! Neither my loyalty nor my honor requires the abandonment of interests so dear to me. The single motive of my heart is to offer my compatriots the sacrifice of that blood which yet runs in my veins. I wish them to know that I consecrate myself entirely to their service, as a soldier ought to do, and am only desirous further to be permitted to point out the course by which Mexico may attain the rank to which her destinies call her.

In marching against the enemy, and declining to accept of power, I give a proof of the sincerity of my sentiments, leaving the nation her own mistress, at liberty to dispose of herself as she sees fit. The elections for members of a congress to from the constitution which the people wish to adopt, are proceeding. That congress will now soon convene, and while I shall be engaged in the conflict in armed defence of her independence, the nation will place such safeguards around her liberties as may best suit herself.

If I should permit myself for a single moment, to take the reins of government, the sincerity of my promises would be rendered questionable, and no confidence could be placed in them.

I am resolved that they shall not be falsified, for in their redemption I behold the general good, as well as my honor as a Mexican and a soldier. I cannot abandon this position. The existing government has pursued a course with which the nation has shown itself content, and I have no desire to subvert it by taking its place. I feel abundant pleasure in remaining where I am, and flatter myself that the nation will applaud my choice. I shall joyfully accept such tasks as she shall continue to impose upon me; and while she is engaged in promoting the objects of civilization, I will brave every danger in supporting its benefit, even at the cost of my existence.

Will your excellency have the goodness to tender the supreme government my sincere thanks for their kindness? I will personly repeat them tomorrow, for which purpose I propose to call at the palace. I shall there embrace my friends, and hastily pressing them to my heart, bid them a tender farewell, and set out to the scene of war, to lend my aid to serve my country, or to perish among the ruins.

I beg you to repeat to your excellency assurances of my continued and especial esteem.

Antonio Lopez De Santa Anna.

[NRR]
Mason, of the 1st dragoons; is about to be organized into a battalion of four companies, preparatory to joining the regiments for which they have been enlisted; in the field.

They are a fine body of men, and will render efficient service whenever the torch of war shall illuminate their path.

NNR 71.115 24 October 1846 opinions stated relative to Gen. Zachary Taylor's movements, "plan of prosecuting the war,"government said to be dissatisfied with Taylor for delaying so long at Matamoros and to have ordered him on to San Luis Potosi, & c., letters detailing the operations against and surrender of Monterrey.

From the various and contradictory statements and opinions furnished by those who would appear to have the best opportunity of knowing or judging, leave our readers to form their own conclusions, it will be seen that some including the department in Washington, are urging Gen. Taylor to advance the army under his command without delay, further into the heart of Mexico; that others are of the opinion that an outward movement can not be made with a possibility of success before Gen. Taylor is reinforced by several thousand men, besides leaving the posts in his rear amply guarded, and his chain for transportation of munitions and supplies sufficiently protected.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce, writes on the 15th instant: "It appears to have been doubted whether the government intends to take possession of Tampico or not; and whether it is intended to send reinforcements and supplies from that point to meet Gen. Taylor at San Luis Potosi. But I have been informed that the Mississippi took out orders on the 30th September to Com. Conner to take possession of Tampico immediately. He has four revenue cutters and a number of small steamers, by means of which he can execute the order. There are twice as many marines in his squadron as will suffice for the enterprise. It appears also that a force has been gradually drawn of late from various points, and is about to be concentrated at New Orleans or some other port, and that ample means of transportation have been put under the control of Gen. Jessup. It would seem therefore, to be the design to send some six or eight thousand troops from Tampico to meet General Taylor at San Luis Potosi.

Gentleman: The army arrived in sight of Monterey on Saturday, the 19th inst., about 8 a.m. As soon as the advance picket showed themselves on the plain, to eastward of the town, a battery, called the Old Monastery, opened its fire, and continued it, at intervals, during the day, without injury to any one. The day was spent in some unimportant movements to call attention from the engineers, who were busily engaged in making observations from every point, and during the night an expedition was out until a late hour. The result of these observations induced Gen. Taylor, on Sunday, the 20th to push General Worth's division, with two artillery batteries, commanded by Lieut. Col. Duncan and Lieut. Mason, and Col. Hays' Texas regiment, into the mountains, to the left of the town [their left] and all the enemy's works in that quarter.

[NNR 71.115 October 24, 1846 Force of the several divisions of the Army employed against Mexico]

ARMY OF OCCUPATION

The steamer Mckin left Brazos Santiago on the 5th, and reached New Orleans on the 10th instant, bringing Major Coffee, paymaster of the army, Capt. Dawson, U. S. artillery, Capt. Howard, Mississippi regiment, and more than two hundred sick and discharged volunteers. This arrival furnishes additional details, but nothing later from Monterey than we had before.

Major Coffee states that the loss in the late engagements was greater than at first supposed, especially the Mexican loss, which he rates 1,500, ours at 600.

We make the following external, the first from a letter published in the New Orleans Times. These letters evidence occasionally rather a free use of the pen as well as of
Camp, three miles from Monterey, September 24, 1846.

Gentlemen: The army arrived in sight of Monterey on Saturday, the 19th inst., about 8am. As soon as the advance picket showed themselves on the plain, to eastward of the town, a battery, called the Old Monastery, opened its fire, and continued it, at intervals, during the day, without injury to any one. The day was spent in some unimportant movements to call attention from the engineers, who were busily engaged in making observations induced Gen. Taylor, on Sunday, the 20th, to push General Worth's division, with two artillery batteries, commanded by Lieut. Col. Duncan and Lieut. Mason, and Col. Hay's Texan regiment, into the mountains, to the left of the town (their left0 and all the enemy's works in that quarter.

Monday, 21st. Every thing being ready to make a demonstration on the enemy's works, the main body of the army marched into the plain. As the troops came in sight, the batteries opened on them, and also on a battery of two pieces commanded by Captain Webster and a mortar in charge of Captain Ramsey.

A part of the first division, led by Col. Garland, composed of the 1st and 3rd infantry and the Baltimore battalion, filed off to the left as they came up until they reached a point were Major Mansfield, assisted by Col. Kinney, was making observations. --- The order was to attack the point the engineers should point out. He said dash into the town; and Col. G. with his command, pushed into it, under a tremendous fire from three batteries and a shower of musketry. Major Mansfield and Col. Kinney went ahead with him. The fire of the enemy was returned with great spirit, and for more than an hour the thunder of artillery and the roar from the small arms exceeded any thing I ever heard or saw. The force of the enemy and the strength of their works made it necessary to order up reinforcements—accordingly the 4th infantry and Gen. Butler's division of volunteers were ordered up. The fire was soon renewed with increased animation on both sides.

I have not time now to go into the details of these attacks. The result was that we got possession of one fort in the lower part of the town, with five pieces of cannon; and were repulsed in the attempt on the second fort, distant about four hundred yards. The action was a most bloody one, and our loss very severe. The 1st, 3rd, and 4th infantry suffered terribly.

Colonel Watson, of the Baltimore battalion, was killed some distance ahead of his command, displaying much zeal and gallantry. I regret to state that many of the regular officers think that this battalion did not come up to the fight as they should have done.

Col. McClung, of Mississippi, the great duelist got upon the breast work, waived his hat, and was in the act of giving three cheers, when a ball struck him, from the effects of which he has since died.

Samuel W. Chambers, one of the Rangers, or "the Delaware hero", as they call him, got over the breast works, obtained a foot-hold on the top of an eighteen-pounder, and deliberately took aim with his "fire-shooter", firing with great effect, and crushing the Mexicans, until the piece was taken by General Worth and turned on the city. Chambers escaped without a wound.

Capt. Gillespy, of the Texas Rangers, was killed whilst pouring water, into the tube of a cannon, with the Mexicans all around him. But it is impossible for me to mention all the numerous incidents that occurred at the present time.

NNR 71.116 24 October 1846 details of deaths

I will relate you a number of incidents that occurred during the three days:

Col. McClung, of Mississippi, the great duelist got upon the breast work, waived his hat, and was in the act of giving three cheers, when a ball struck him, from the effects of which he has since died.

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NNR 71.117 24 October 1846 notice of the corps of sappers and miners on their way to Mexico.
This corps, seventy two in number, came down from West Point this morning, and have gone board the ship Clinton (transport) for Point Isabel, from whence they are under orders to join General Taylor, at his headquarters. The company is under the command is under the command of Capt. Swift, of the engineer corps.

[RWH]

NNR 71.117 24 October 1846 design on Veracruz contemplated

A Washington letter in the N. York Herald represents the future policy of the war department in its operations against Mexico, to be as follows:

The plan of the invasion is to be changed. The march from Monterey to the city of Mexico is at least six hundred miles longer than from Tampico on the gulf, or Alvarado, or Vera Cruz, which latter point affords the nearest and most accessible point. The detachment under Gen. Patterson, strongly reinforced by volunteers, is to attack Tampico, reduce it and march forward into the interior towards Mexico- and we are more strongly impressed with the idea this evening than we were yesterday, that nearly simultaneous attack by land and sea is contemplated upon Vera Cruz, if not already resolved upon and arranged.

[RWH]

NNR 71.117 October 24, 1846 deaths in hospital at Matamoros


[PTH]

NNR 71.117 October 24,1846 "progress of the war,""plan of invasion to be changed,"rumors at Washington that Gen. Zachary Taylor is to be superceded in command, inquiries as to Gen. Winfield Scott

The Progress Of The War

There seems now to be every probability of a longer war than was by many anticipated. The probability that at least a second campaign would be necessary before a peace would be "conquered"has been several times thrown out incidentally in out columns. That it was not more distinctly expressed was from apprehension that doubts expressed as to the success of our arms might dampen ardor in some direction. One point has been distinctly urged,- and, we believe, cannot be too earnestly pressed,- and that is, that government, if they design to carry on a foreign war for any length of time, should forth-wit take more effectual measures to recruit the regular army, as the only certain dependence for maintaining an adequate army out of the limits of the Union.

That a formidable movement against Tampico, and some say against Vera Cruz also, is contemplated, there can hardly be a doubt. To insure a success, worthy a contest there, a formidable land force will be indispensable. The mere occupation of the ports might be accomplished by an adequate naval force, but the object is understood to be, to approach the city of Mexico from this direction, as a shorter and more accessible route than the one Gen. Taylor has been ordered to pursue.

We are informed of a speedy attack upon Tampico, as a result of the late cabinet deliberations, and that with this view, a portion of the New York volunteers, called for last summer, may expect now a call for active service.
We have strong reasons to believe, also, that Vera Cruz is no longer to be spared; but that a co-operate attack by land and by sea will follow close after the storming of Tampico, if it does not take place simultaneously.

The government is resolved to force it upon the Mexicans that we are in earnest, and is satisfied that the sooner the enemy is convinced of it the better for them, for us, for humanity, and for the treasury.

A Washington letter in the *N. York Herald* represents the future policy of the war department, in its operation against Mexico, to be as follows:

The plan of the invasion is to be changed. The march from Monterey to the city of Mexico is at least 600 miles longer than from Tampico on the gulf, or Alvarado, or Vera Cruz, which latter point affords the nearest and most accessible point. The detachment under Gen. Patterson, strongly reinforced by volunteers, is to attack Tampico, reduce it and march forward into the interior towards Mexico - and we are strongly impressed with the idea this evening than we were yesterday, that a nearly simultaneous attack by land and by sea is contemplated upon Vera Cruz, if not already resolved upon and arranged.

Gen. Taylor will leave Monterey occupied with a garrison; and march forward with his main body up on Saltillo without delay, depending on the country for supplies. It is necessary that his army should be divided to enable it to subsist in their slender resources left in their retreat by the enemy. For the whole force to remain in Monterey would be to remain and starve. He will occupy the little towns in his progress in pursuit of the enemy, and if his force reserved for the forward movement be not sufficient for the conflict when he shall have overtaken Ampudia, (who runs like an Arab,) he will pause until his reinforcements in the rear can be called up, as the emergency may demand. Of course he will have his pickets and pioneers sufficiently in advance and upon his flanks to give notice of the approach to the Mexicans or any scattering parcels of their army.

From Monterey to the city of Mexico there is a journey of at least 700 miles, (some say 900) among the table lands, and deep gorges, and dangerous passes of the mountains of Mexico. This line of march running southward lies parallel with the eastern gulf coast, at about 250 miles distant, more or less. Vera Cruz lying nearly in a direct line across from the city of Mexico to the coast subsequently opens a passage to the capital as short and more convenient and accessible than the route traversed by General Taylor from Point Isabel to Monterey.

The *Savannah Republican* of the 15th instant has the following intelligence:

Lieut. Berryman, the gallant officer who behaved so nobly at the loss of the Truxton off Tuspan, passed through this city on Wednesday might last, as a barer of dispatches from the squadron at Vera Cruz to the Government in Washington. We learn from a gentleman who conversed with Lieut. Berryman on the cars, that it has been determined to attack Vera Cruz on the land side by an expedition from Tampico, and that the hoisting of the stars and stripes in the city, will be a signal for the attack by the squadron upon the castle of San Juan d'Ulloa. This is the only way in which the castle can be taken, and the obtaining possession of that point is deemed necessary to end the war.

The brig *Saldana*, with Capt. Mason's and Lieut. McLane's troops, of mounted riflemen, arrived safe at Brazos Santiago, on the 4th instant, and the brig *Union*, Capt. Hooper, which sailed about the same time as *Saldana*, arrived the day before. Both vessels weathered bravely the storms which have prevailed since their departure. This is gratifying news to the numerous friends of those who were on board the vessels.

Sappers and Miners.-This corps, seventy-two in number, came down from West Point this morning, and have gone on board the ship Clinton, (transport,) for Point Isabel, from whence they are under orders to join Gen. Taylor at his headquarters. The company is under the command of Capt. Swift, of the engineer corps. [N.Y. Express.

The editor of the Philadelphia 'North American,' who was recently on a visit to West Point, says of this corps- "Although the corps had already been but a few weeks in practice, it had already rivaled, in constructing bridges and throwing them across the river, the quickest time of the French engineers. In the works of mining and sapping, a harder, or more unusual labor had to be performed, and although the corps was engaged in digging trenches and throwing up breastworks for the two days we were at the point, the spirit of the men were not daunted by the prospect of hard labor.
Command of the Army of invasion.-The N. York Tribune, significantly asks the Washington Union to answer the following queries-

1. Has not General Taylor recently intimated to the government his desire to be aided or relieved in the command in the chief against Mexico?

2. Has not General Scott recently urged upon the government his claims to command the army advancing on Monterey, and been coldly refused?

3. Is it not the purpose of the president to appoint one of the new generals of his own creation to the chief command of our forces invading Mexico?

The Washington correspondent of the N. York Herald writes on the 19th –

We learn from an officer of the army, that General Scott, a few days ago, applied to the president for the privilege heading the army of invasion under the new plan of operations with the land forces; but that the executive declined his application on the ground that the services of the major general in chief would be as advantageous to the government at the war office as the head of the army.

[NJR]

[NJR 71.117 October 24, 1846 letter detailing the negotiations for surrender of Monterey]

Extracts from a letter from an officer of the U. S. army in Mexico dated--Monterey, September 25, 1846

"Yesterday morning a flag of truce came into our camp offering to surrender the town, provided the troops marched out with their arms, colors, artillery, and private property, which Gen. Taylor refused. They entered however into an armistice from 10 until 12 o'clock. Gen. Taylor transferred the negotiations from our camp to Worth's headquarters at the Bishop's palace a large work situated on an eminence in rear of, and commanding the city. After much discussion Gen. Taylor agreed that the cavalry and infantry should march out with their arms, and that the artillery should carry a field battery of six 6-pounders and thirty rounds of ammunition and personal effects. All the forts, fortifications, with their armaments, ammunition, supplies, and government property of every description to be delivered over to us at 10 o'clock this morning. They are allowed one week to vacate the city, and are then to withdraw beyond this province, the whole of which is given up to us except Tampico--and this I presume they claim, as the navy has not succeeded in taking it. This, you will perceive, makes the Sierrra Madre mountains the Boundary.

"General Ampudia, during the conference, said he had positive information that Gen. Kearney had taken Santa Fe and that our citizens had captured California. What a slice has this taken from them!

"They have further entered into an armistice for eight weeks. Gen. Taylor agreed to this on Ampudia's positive assurance that our commissioners were in Mexico arranging the basis of a treaty.

"Gen. Worth has just completed a series of the most brilliant operations in modern warfare, and with but little loss. He carried four works and then came into the town when every house was a fortification. He acted thus: Divided his forces into two columns, moving parallel, and opining their way with pick axes through the houses and walls. Thus when they knocked a hole in the house they of course had possession, and in this way avoided the streets and enemy's fire from roofs of houses and barricades thrown up in every street.

"Our side or wing of the army has had some hard fighting, and our loss has been very great. They had a very strong work on this side, the southeast, built of earth, stone and sand bags, containing a 12, a 9, and a 6 pounder and an old fashioned thirty-two pound howitzer, with a large musketry force. This work was flanked by a stone house arranged with loop holes and flat roof with a parapet for the men to lie behind. Both of these were again flanked by another redoubt about 300 yards distant, heavily armed with cannon, infantry with escopets and fine English muskets. The first works were carried, but attended with great, very great loss; for
independently of all those, there was a cross fire from a very strong castle about 1,000 yards distant, with shell and 12 pound shot.

"We had been attached to the dragoons, and as they could do nothing in this kind of work we have had but little chance. However when our troops moved down Ridgely rode up to Gen. Taylor and volunteered to move with two pieces to what could be done, as all of us were ignorant of the ground. He cheerfully granted if Twiggs consented. ***** We moved forward at a dashing gallop, with only two pieces, leaving caissons behind; when within 400 yards they turned their whole fire upon us. It was terrific. We however gave them three or four rounds, but discovering the strength of the work, and perceiving we should be annihilated in 30 minutes, retired. Having had two men and three horses wounded. I verily believe two more rounds, as they then would have had the exact range, would have knocked us all over. The third and fourth infantry and the Baltimore battalion threatened the right and the Mississippi and Tennessee volunteers attacked and carried it on the left. Poor Watson was shot dead, through the neck, about seventy yards from the work leading his men on. The third infantry went into the engagement with twelve officers; five killed, one mortally and one slightly wounded.--judge of the fight.

"Shortly after these were carried General Taylor told Ridgely to take two pieces and move on an open plain not over 250 yards from the third fort mentioned and silence it. R. told him he thought it too strong for our pieces to affect it in the least, and asked if it had been reconnoitered. He said no, and proposed it should be done. Ridgely dashed off half speed, and perceiving it was very strong, returned and reported. God only knows how he escaped, as there was a continuous blaze of musketry fired at him until he returned, and yet neither him nor his horse was touched. ***

"We had on the 23rd a severe street fight, the Mississippi volunteers all with rifles, some of the Tennessseans and Texans on our side, against some 5,000 Mexicans whom Ampudia had collected in the plaza. They evacuated and carried off the cannon from the third fort on the night of the 22nd. We took possession on the 23rd and Gen. --brought on this street fight, greatly to Gen. Taylor's disgust, but he had to support him. Bragg was sent in with his battery and got badly used, as he also on the 21st." [PTH]

NRR 71.118 October 24, 1846 Order of General Stephen Watts Kearny for an expedition from Santa Fe, speculations on operations in New Mexico and California

Army Of The West

Head Quarters, Army of the West,
Santa Fe, N.M., Aug. 31, 1846.

Order No. 17.-I, The Commander-in-Chief will, on the 2d proximo, leave this city for El Rio Abajo, with nine hundred men, who will provide themselves with provisions for twenty days, &c.

II. The expedition will consist of 300 dragoons, under command of; 500 Missouri cavalry, under command of; and 100 Missouri artillery, under command of Capt. Fischer, and Lieuts. Chouteau, and Kribben, &c. &c.

By order, Gen. S.W. Kearney, &c.&c. It is understood that the troops are to move 200 miles on the east side of the Rio del Norte, and return on the west side. The object of this sudden call is partly to put down some show of hostility at Albequerque, and to take formal possession of the small towns situated along the Rio Grande, and partly to make the proclamation of the General felt by the discontented amongst the Aristocracy about "El Paso." Besides, Armijo, and Ugarta are still engaged in the south with the raising of troops, and it is expected that this expedition will either disperse them or cause their submission.

The Pueblos, the poorer classes of the Mexicans, seem to be well satisfied with the changes in the Government, and receive us everywhere with open arms; but he who supposes that the rich do not watch every opportunity to shake off the American yoke (?) is much mistaken.

Whether, and how soon troops will be sent to California, is still uncertain, and it
seems principally to depend on the reinforcements which General Kearney expects to receive by Captain Allen, the Mormons, and Col. Price’s regiment. So far Captains Moore and Cook, with 200 dragoons, are ordered for that purpose, but no time is specified, and but few volunteers to strengthen this expedition; at least it is not known that any other officers than Capt. Fischer, Lieuts. Kribben and Hassendeubel, have offered. The soldiers are still more backward than the officers; and it seems to be doubtful whether he will be able to raise a company for that purpose.—Among the knowing ones, it is a settled fact, that neither horses nor mules would ever be able to move in masses, of two or three hundred, over the mountains. For this reason they are preparing to march....with the expectation of subsisting, for several weeks, on the chance of game.

If the expedition to California should start before the 1st of October, it would, according to Fitzpatrick’s opinion, not reach Monterey before the middle of February, making the trip about 130 days.

A letter dated September 2, adds that Armijo and Ugarta are moving towards us with five thousand troops. But this story is not generally credited.—General Kearney expressed himself about it—“six thousand are better than two thousand; they are harder to manage and much more easily confused.”

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NNR 71.118 October 24, 1846 Report of affairs at Forth Leavenworth

Mr. Brant Chapman and five other persons reached here last evening in a skiff, with which they descended the Missouri River from Fort Leavenworth. They left on the 6th instant, at 2 P. M. On Sunday the 11th inst. they passed the steamers Little Missouri and Tributary at the mouth of the Osage, both hard aground. General Brooke had hauled over and was on her way up. Met Clermont No. 2 and Archer hard aground at Portland Bar; met St. Joseph in the bend below Lexington on the 9th; Algoma on the night of the 8th at Lexington. River falling, with but 30 inches on the principal bars. October 13.

[PTH]

NNR 71.118-71.119 October 24, 1846 march and route of Illinois volunteers through Texas

VOLUNTEERS.

Illinois Volunteers In The West.
Monday, August 24th, 1846

The 1st and 2nd regiments of Illinois volunteers have arrived at their encampment, two miles below the Alamo and city of San Antonio, on the river of the latter name. A few particulars, of interest to their friends, may now be furnished for your paper, which has so extensive a circulation throughout Illinois.

Our march from Port Lavaca, the point at which we landed in Lavaca Bay, has been one hundred fifty good Spanish miles, through a country of remarkable fertility, presenting to the eye of a northern man many striking features, which will hereafter become worthy of public notice.

While I write, the sun is just hiding his face in the forest of the Lapan, and the Tankawa, and around me the soldier is singing, "home, sweet home!"while he drives his tent pins, after a faithful eighteen miles for a days march. The laugh, the song, the joke, the hurra, and the merry talk, among seventeen hundred men, seem to indicate an absence of all care, and the enjoyment of good health and high spirits.

Since we landed in Texas the only death we have any intelligence of in camp was that of Mr. Vanduser, the orderly sergeant in Captain Dodge’s company, from Kendall County. He died of a lingering fever, at Camp Irwin, ten miles from Port Lavaca, on the 11th inst., where he was buried on the next morning, by his brother soldiers, with the solemnity and decency due to his merit and due to the feelings of the bereaved family he left in Illinois.

We have all been remarkably healthy in general, though the measles, in a mild form,
has spread to a great extent in some of the companies. We left a sick station at Camp Irwin, on the 12th inst. and one at the Savilla Creek on the 19th; the latter in the care of Dr. Hope, and under the command of Captain Webb, who remained there with his company—one one of the best companies of volunteers ever offered for the service of the country. In all, I believe, we have left about two hundred me in the rear, one third of whom were sick, the other nurses, &c; but we have the cheering news to-day that the "rear guard," as we call them, are coming up strong, and what few still remain are nearly all convalescent.

The opinion prevails among our officers, that considering the change of climate, at this particular season of the year, our regiments have been singularly blessed with good health.

The most interesting camp news today is, that Dr. Price, of Bellesville, St. Clair county, one of the appointees of the president as surgeon, has arrived in camp, to be assigned to whichever regiment Gen. Wool may designate. This leaves our friends, Dr. Hope, of Alton, and Dr. White of Chicago, the right to toss up who shall go home and attend to his business, where there is competition. Ahem!

A dragoon arrived this morning with dispatches to General Wool from the Camp of Col. Harney, who is now on forced marches "back agin" from the Presidio of the Rio Grande to San Antonio. It is said, the Colonel, in his zeal to serve his country, so far forgot his military obedience as to take up his line of march from the latter to the former named place without any orders whatever from his superior and commanding officer, Gen. Wool, and that the General has ordered his return. If all this be true, I see no great harm in it. I suppose Colonel H. wished to train his dragoons by a few days marches, so as to keep their hands in for the coming trial of bottom and speed between this place and Chihuahua. Pooh! What's a thousand miles and then we will settle some important questions as to the comparative speed and endurance of American infantry and cavalry on thousand mile marches— for we calculate to go there and back again without seeing a hostile Mexican.

I believe the prevalent Texan opinion is, that a majority of the inhabitants of the Province of Chihuahua, have for several years, and still are, decidedly partial to our political institutions and our social security in proportion as they are tired of civil wars in Mexico and disgusted with their thousand and one mushroom tyrants, who reign to-day, ruin tomorrow, and run away the next day. Such a state of feeling in that province ought to render the protection of our newly required republic, in anything like border defense, an easy and economical task for Mr. Polk and his successors.

I hope there are important services in store for General Wool's command of four or five thousand troops in his central position, and I hope too, the laurels which he and those officers under his command, who would not appear awkward in laurels, may win, will be brightest and best. But I declare I do not know upon what foundation I have erected this hope.

As nothing of peculiar interest has transpired in camp since my last, I will make mention of some subjects which have proved worthy of notice on our march through the country—and, among these, I know of none more striking than the vestiges which now remain of the early Spanish settlements.

GOLIAD IN RUINS

On the 14th, as our long train was moving through the entirely unsettled country bordering the San Antonio river, most unexpectedly our attention was attracted to some venerable looking ruins in the distance, which proved to be the bare black walls of the now desolate and doomed city of Goliad. This stands on the west bank of the river, in the bend the shape of a crescent. The town site is elevated with commanding, so as to give the ruins a venerable appearance through the
surrounding champaign country. The immediate cause of its abandonment and desolation is to be found in the history of the Texan revolution. The inhuman murder of Fanning and his men at this place by Urrea, under the order of Santa Anna made it necessary for the inhabitants and Mexican army at Goliad to fly in terror before the avengers, and on a dark and terrible night, they fled in despair, expecting never again to stand before the Texan forces at this point. They applied the torch to their own dwellings, and left in a heap of smoldering ruins where their once beautiful town had so long stood, the abode of civilized society and peaceful happiness. They snatched the gold and silver from the alters, and bid adieu to the holy church where, for a century, the faithful had worshiped in uninterrupted security.

MISSIONARY STATIONS

But after a fatiguing march of many days through the wilderness, with no human habitation in view, our eyes were directed to some lowering domes and lofty battlements, with a heavy growth of grass and prickly pear upon their summits, on the same river. This is the mission of St. John. Two or three miles further, ascending the same stream, stands the stupendous mission of St. Joseph. Again, two miles, the mission of conception, and two miles further, the city of San Antonio and the old mission now connected with the Alamo. What are these missions? Moss covered ruins. What were they? The out-posts of Christianity in the wilderness of the savage.- When Mexico was a Spanish province, the faithful ministers of her religion conceived the scheme of christianizing this vast portion of our continent.- With a zeal and courage like that of Ignatius Loyola, they planted the seeds of their religion in his rude heart. As we have visited them with feelings of no ordinary interest, we suppose the mention of their existence; being now within the undisputed limits of our country, might prove worthy the attention of tourists and travelers in general. We have seen only those we have mentioned and one other, which still stands unspoiled, and in use, in the town of San Antonio; yet we are informed that many others are standing in ruins on these rivers. St. Joseph's about five miles below San Antonio, on the rive, is the most extensive; its grand court yard is about two hundred yards square; its principle chapel is about one hundred and five feet long by thirty in width; the wing containing the cells of its nuns is about one hundred and fifty feet long by fifty-seven in width; the height of its principal dome is about eighty-feet; its court is surrounded by old buildings, enough for the accommodation of about one hundred families; the base of the wings is divided into small cells built with great strength; the battlements and towers are covered with the prickly pear, growing to the height of six feet above the walls, and with grass and mesquite wood, the common growth of the country; the bells lay scattered and broken, some in the courtyard, and others in the cupola.

The main front of the building opposite what was once the grand entrance is adorned with richness of architecture and statuary, so far superior to anything in its class among the religious edifices of our country, that it strikes an American with awe and admiration. Besides many statues of full size, in an arch around the entrance are also plaster images of small dimensions- the large one representing the saints and Christ and the Virgin- the small ones in groups surrounded by well preserved wraths of fleur de lis and other flowers, representing the striking scenes in the history of Christ and his Apostles. The entire exterior of these vast buildings, as well as the roofs, domes and parapets, have been painted in imitations of mazaic work, portions of which are not yet defaced. In a small chapel in the basement, which is still locked, stand in a state of preservation, under the care of the present keepers of the property, three statues- one of Jesus with a crown of thorns and pierced hands and feet, and bleeding one side; one of the Virgin weeping, and the others we could not distinguish through the grates, where we were obliged to peep in.

The principal material of these edifices is rock and a kind of cement, which in its mouldering condition, although hard, has the appearance of old lava. The sills of the doorways and the caps of many of the pillars, as well as the door posts or of white marble, of ponderous dimensions.

A strong evidence of most extensive labor in the establishment of these missions, is to be found in the canals which have been dug to irrigate with the waters of the San Antonio river, large tracts of country, extending over leagues of land. In some places this plan of irrigation seems to indicate that in former years the drought rendered agriculture and horticulture unavailable without much artificial aid, and it proves too, as well as does the completion of such vast public edifices, that the labor of large numbers of the aborigines must have been employed by the missionary priests and their associates in the work.

The dates of the completion of these respective edifices range along from the beginning to the middle of the last century, which makes some of them more and some less than one hundred years old, and although they do not boast of a very
remote antiquity, the desolation of war and the corroding nature of this climate upon buildings, as well as the rapid growth of wood and vegetation peculiar to this region, gives them the appearance of very ancient ruins. They are, to say the least, much older in appearance than any of the other buildings we have seen standing in the United State, excepting, perhaps, the old Spanish cathedral at New Orleans, or the old Scandinavian fort or old mill at Newport, Rhode Island. The reason why I take such hasty notice of them now is, that we have men of competent skill and talents detailed from our camp for the purpose of making drafts and giving accurate descriptions of them they can find, as well also to furnish from the most authentic sources of the history of their construction, use and overthrow, for future publications.

LAPAN INDIANS.

A murmur of indignation was running through our lines to-day, in consequence of a scene of unusual interest which transpired here this morning. An old squaw from an encampment of Lapan Indians about two miles below us on the river, came to the camp of the Texan volunteers, and offered for sale two Spanish girls from thirteen to fifteen years old. They were dreadfully emaciated and almost destitute of a single garment of clothing. The Texans seized the girls and squaws and carried them immediately to head quarters, where, upon examination, it was ascertained that the Lapans had murdered a whole family, the parents and brothers of the two girls, in the vicinity of the Rio Grande, stolen all their property and led the girls into captivity; there they had treated them with extreme cruelty, and nearly starved them to death, and were now offering them for sale. The girls readily pointed out the ringleaders of the outrage, and some fifteen or twenty of them were arrested for further investigation by the order of Gen. Wool.

SAN ANTONIO

There is nothing very attractive in the present appearance of San Antonio, save the most ancient looking walls of such portions of the old towns are still occupied, and the dilapidated ruins of the parts now deserted. In 1813, when the Spanish entered this place during the Mexican rebellion, San Antonio contained a population of nine thousand inhabitants—now one thousand is the extent of its numbers. The principal houses are flat roofed stoned edifices, one story in height, with doors and windows constructed like those of prisons and fort-for protection at an early day against the Indians. Some two or three modern looking American buildings have been erected, also of stone, which indicate the commencement of a new era in this country—I mean the coming of the Anglo-Saxon. The society here is composed of illiterate Mexicans and a few intelligent Americans, as the people of the United States are called—the American society, however, is quite limited. The fandango is the chief amusement; this comes off every evening—resorted to by "the million;" the "upper ten thousand" keep aloof, "the boys," as Texan volunteers and others are called, go and pay their dime a dance for a few rounds in the waltz, quadrille or reel, with some olive signorita. The "Tiger rooms" are open and tolerably well patronized by both sexes of Mexicans, as well as by the "new comers." Some officers can beat the Jews winning at Monte. So passes the time, and we return to reflect upon things of more importance.

The few priests who still maintain their ground here, in spite of many bloody scenes which have marked the spot, are true to their profession and their duty; they celebrate mass, and keep holy days with fidelity and zeal, and vespers are attended by many of the older inhabitants with punctuality. I understand that one Presbyterian preacher has been encouraged to remain, who teaches school and preaches regularly in the town.

I will endeavor to give you some idea of the Alamo in a few days; at present, I must conclude by saying a few words about the mails. Since the Texan mail has been withdrawn, the United States mail has only begun an irregular foreshadowing of what I suppose is its intended to be hereafter, a system of arrivals and departures. The purport now to send and receive a mail, once a week, but I believe the black fellow who rides the mule, brings the mail bag without anything in it. However, send us the news, we may possibly get a chance paper occasionally.

Yours, respectively, P.L.

P.S. Since my last, one thousand mounted volunteers from Arkansas, have arrived and encamped with us.

[MJK]
The following letter from our esteemed correspondent Lieut. E. Eastman of Nashville Blues, will be found interesting:

Camp near Camargo, September 11, 1846.

Before this reaches Nashville you will doubtless have heard of the condition of our regiment, and of the great amount of sick among our volunteers. In view of the fact that some 250 or 300 volunteers have just been discharged from our regiment by the surgeon's certificate, and already left for their homes in Tennessee, I deem it a duty which I owe to my fellow soldiers and officers who have reluctantly been compelled to return before the conclusion of the war, and at a time when the country needed their services, to say that such was the only course they could preserve their own existence, and that in remaining here they could be of no service to the government.

Our situation here is truly melancholy, and I can see no good reason for concealing it. Many of our companies have dwindled away to a comparatively small number by sickness and death, and many noble brave, generous sons of Tennessee have breathed their last on the Rio Grande. The principal diseases are congestive fever, inflammation of the bowels, measles, and the chills and fever. The measles appear to be peculiarly fatal, and wholly different from the disease of the same name in the United States. --The patient scarcely ever recovers. The hand of death has been heavily upon us--dispensation of Providence are mysterious, and we submit without a murmur to Him "who spoke and it was done--who commanded and it stood still."

The necessity of discharging all who are sick consists in several particulars. 1st, want of medicine to effect a cure; 2nd, the severity of the disease, the uncertainty, and I would add the almost utter impossibility of recovering in this climate, and 3rd, very few, if any, ever recover after being prostrated by disease here.

In view of these facts I would ask, is not every soldier justified in getting discharged who is attacked by diseases which almost invariably proves fatal? He could be of no service to his country here, and by remaining would sacrifice his own life. Dr. Norris, who is now our principal surgeon, is worthy of the greatest praise for his noble conduct in the trying scenes through which we have passed. --The sick have been so numerous that frequently he could not obtain an hour's sleep for four days or nights in succession--Dr. Robertson, one of the assistants being dangerously sick, and Dr. Stearns being absent with a portion of the sick sent to the hospital at Camargo.

All the well men in the Nashville Blues left with Captains Cheatham and Lieutenants Bradfoot and Putnam, for Monterey some days ago, together with all the other companies of the regiment capable of performing the march. Enough well men, however, were left to take care of the sick. In our company some forty were left, including myself and those at the hospital at Point Isabel. Some twenty-five or thirty Blues have been discharged--four have died in all since we left, Nashville, and one died who was discharged are able to leave, I shall start with my small detachment for Monterey. I remained, in pursuance of Gen. Pillow's order, with the men in our company unable to march.

I should do injustice to Brigadier General Pillow did I omit to mention his unceasing exertions to alleviate the sufferings of the sick. He has done every thing in his power, and his magnanimous conduct as an officer meets with universal admiration.

This town is literally void of interest and I am heartily sick of it. Last night, to break the monotony of the camp, the regiment above u had an alarms, which spread up and down the river, and two companies were sent out as scouting parties, who fired many guns, had some fun, and returned in the morning to their quarters without discovering any thing in the shape of a hostile Mexican.

[PTH]
of Tennessee troops--most of them out of funds as well as out of health. Many of the
other regiments have been considerably reduced by the same cause, as will be seen
by the subjoined extract of a letter from Col. Samuel R. Curtis, commanding the
third regiment of the Ohio volunteers. The more recent accounts, however indicate
that the health of the remaining troops had much improved.

NNR 71.120 October 24, 1846 Col. Samuel Ryan Curtis' letter about the health of
troops at Matamoros

Matamoros, September 7, 1846:

"In my regiment there are 150 on the sick list. The same proportion at Camp
Washington, when you were there, would have made the list eight or nine hundred,
as there was then under my command all the volunteers from the state, and five or
six times the force I now command. My surgeon reports that, though the number
continues large, there is evidently a change for the better, and almost every man is
on the mend.

'It is considered a very hard battle, and a bloody one that carries off ten per cent of
a given force. Very few battles of the many thousands the world has fought have
risen above five per cent. But by disease and death I have seen my ranks already
reduced from 780 to 620. --And in some of the regiments, where they have guarded
themselves, or been more exposed, the regiments are reduced from 760 to 500. The
number gone are not all dead. Hundreds pass down the river daily on their way
home, having procured a certificate from their surgeon that they are attacked by
incurable disease. They will many of them return home to their families emaciated,
sick, and unable to oil. They are wounded soldiers who have met the pestilential foes
of the south; and as much deserve the honor and care of their country as though the
fatal shaft had been composed of lead.

'So far as life and death are concerned, I would rather risk a battle once a week,
with my regiment in the north, than remain in a climate so unnatural to them. --But
we do not repine--we do not complain. Those who stay, and those who die here, are
doing so in the discharge of the duty. Of those who leave to return home, many will
never reach there, but will find graves in the gulf or river. '  

[PTH]

CAPT. THORNTON, of the United States dragoons, accompanied Capt. Eaton, the
bearer of despatches from Monterey to the city of Washington,--with the purpose of
prevailing upon the department of war, to afford him an opportunity of retrieving
himself from the effects of the late disaster near Matamoros.

LIEUT. COL. WATSON. --Every thing relating to this gallant officer has a melancholy
interest for our citizens. The following is an extract of a letter written in the camp
before Monterey on the 22nd of September, by an officer of the US army, to a
gentleman of Baltimore.

"In the attempt to enter the town we lost Colonel Watson of the Baltimore
volunteers, who conducted himself most gallantly. I saw him a few minutes before
he fell. He had lost his horse, which was killed under him, and was on foot. He was
shot dead while leading his men to the charge."

The York (Pa. ) Republican says:

Col. W. H. Watson. --"We notice with regret the fall of this gallant Baltimorean in the
fierce conflict at Monterey. He was one of the most popular and esteemed residents
of Baltimore--the commander of one of the oldest volunteer corps--once her
representative in the state Legislature, and speaker of the house of delegates of
Maryland. He was also the chief Marshal of the great Whig Young Men's convention
in May, 1844, and passed the 4th of July of that year in York with the Colombian Fire
company, of which he was president. He was appointed by Gov. Pratt to command
the Baltimore and Washington battalion of volunteers in Mexico, where he has
bravely fallen in his country's service. Noble, gallant, and chivalrous, due honors to
Messrs. Editors: I send you extracts from a letter I have jést received from Col.
Charles A. May, US dragoons. Yours, JBW

Dragoon camp, near Monterey, Mexico.

September 26th 1846

Dear J--It is sad and painful duty to perform, in announcing to you the death of your
father's young friend. We have had hard fighting for the last three days, and he was
mortally wounded in a charge against the enemy's cavalry. He behaved most
gallantly and fell in the front of battle. Yesterday he died, but retained his senses
until the last. He was a gallant fellow, and is much regretted. You can say this to his
friends, that he had every attention. I was not present when he expired, but was
absent on duty. He was buried with military honors.

Many gallant spirits have gone out in the last three days. The flowers of our little
army have fallen--peace be with them! The enemy yesterday surrendered the city on
condition that they should be allowed to march out with the honors of war. *****

The gallant Watson fell at the head of his regiment, leading the charge. I cannot tell
you of our loss, but it is at least five hundred killed and wounded.

My men have not suffered any, as they have been exposed but very little. *****

I write this on my saddle, and am so tired I can't hold my pen any longer. I have not
slept for the last three days or nights, so you must excuse this wretched scrawl.
Yours, Charley May.

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We regret very much that the above letter announces the death of a most
respectable young gentleman, Mr. Herman Thomas, of Harford county, of this state.
When congress passed the act calling into service the volunteers, numerous were
the applications to those in authority for commissions.--All, of course, could not be
gratified, and Mr. Thomas was among the unsuccessful applicants.--Resolved,
however, to win laurels in his country's service he left for the seat of war among the
first, and took his place in the ranks. He was especially recommended to Colonel
May's notice, as will be seen by the above letter, and had scarcely time to
distinguish himself before he met a soldier's death.

Capt. Field.--The New York Express says:--among the officers killed at Monterey
was Captain Field, of the United States army. His lady was on a visit to this city,
residing at the house of Assistant Alderman Oliver, anxiously expecting letters from
her husband. The first intelligence that reached her after her arrival here, was his
death. Mrs. F. is the daughter of the late Colonel Vose, a gallant officer who was with
the army on the Rio Grande, and whose death also she was called to mourn a short
time since. Thus has she to lament the loss of a husband in whom her very life
seemed wrapped--sorrows sufficient for one, at least, to be called to bear.

"Capt. Williams, of the topographical engineers; killed during the series of desperate
conflicts before Monterey, was a resident of for some time married in this town. He
married the daughter of the estimable widow of the late Thomas Peters, Esq. , at
whose residence the orphans of Capt. Williams now remain, their mother being also
died. Georgetown is not only fully represented in the gallant army of the south, but
offers her share of the shining victims to be immolated on the altar of this most
unfortunate war."GEORGETOWN DC ADVOCATE.

Capt. Lewis N. Morris.--The details of the battle of Monterey confirm the sad rumor
that Captain Lewis N. Morris, of this city, fell at the head of his regiment, during the
progress of that sanguinary conflict. The mournful intelligence has deeply afflicted
his surviving relatives, and brought sorrowing to the hearts of a large circle of the
friends and acquaintances of the departed.

Captain Morris was a native of this state; grandson of Lewis Morris, one of the
signers of the Declaration of Independence, and eldest son of Capt. Staats Morris,
who served as aid-de-camp to Gen. Wayne, during the Indian wars, at the close of
the revolution. He graduated at West Point Military Academy, in 1820, as second
lieutenant of artillery, but was soon after attached to the 3rd infantry, then, and for
several years, stationed on the western frontier. He served in the Black Hawk war, in 1832, and was promoted to a company in October, 1833.

In November, 1840, he was ordered to Florida, where he remained in active and often dangerous service, until the spring of 1843. During most of the period of his residence in Florida he had the command of his regiment, and for six months he was entrusted with the command of the Middle District of Florida, having his headquarters at Fort Gamble. During that campaign he rendered efficient service. Few men displayed greater personal courage, as none stood more deservedly high as an accomplished and successful disciplinarian.

He went to Corpus Christi with Gen. Taylor, and commanded the 3rd regiment in the well fought battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. During those battles he exhibited great coolness and courage, and for his distinguished gallantry in those engagements, was nominated by the president brevet major.

Captain Morris, in the battle, which has terminated his career, accompanied the command of Major Lear, in their gallant charge upon the masked batteries within the walls of Monterey. He was among the foremost of the column, and when Major Lear fell wounded, he took command. His position was one of great hazard and responsibility; and fell, pressing forward to the capture of the battery, under a murderous and sweeping fire from the enemy.

The death of Capt. Morris will be deeply regretted. He was an officer of great experience, and promise, in the 46th year of his age. He has left a wife and family; and the tears of a grateful people, who can appreciate the virtues of a brave soldier, will be mingled with hers over the grave of the departed. Albany Journal

Lieut. D. Irwin. --In the list of officers who fell at Monterey we are pained to recognize the name of Lieut. D. Irwin of the regular army, son of Joseph Irwin, Esq. at Fort Monroe. But while we sympathize with the venerable parent in the loss of a gallant and accomplished son, it is a consolation to reflect that he met a patriot soldiers death, in his country's cause, in the van of the battle, and in the arms of victory. Norfolk Herald.

THE HEROS OF MONTEREY. --General Worth is a Massachusetts man, born at Martha's Vineyard.

GENERAL DAVID E. TWIGGS. --The citizens of Augusta, Georgia, have made arrangements to present to General Twiggs, a sword, as a testimonial of their appreciation of his gallant conduct in the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, on the 8th and 9th of May last.

CAPTAIN ALBERT BLANCHARD, who distinguished himself at the battle of Monterey is the son of Reuben K. Blanchard, of Charlestown, Massachusetts, Captain B. was born within a rifle shot of Bunker Hill--and educated amid the recollections which belong to the spot.

Col. A. C. Fanning, of the United States army, died suddenly in Cincinnati a few days since, of apoplexy, in the 59th year of his age. He entered the army in 1812, served through the war with England; was with General Jackson through the Seminole war, and was in service in Florida, where he participated in two of the most sanguinary battles. He was Lieutenant Colonel of the 2nd regiment of artillery, and colonel by brevet of date December 31, 1835.

DEATH OF CAPT. WM. WALTERS. --The St. Louis Republican of the 31st announces the death of Capt. W. at the Planters House in that city, on the day before. He was assistant commissary in the army, and was on his route to assume his new duties. -- Capt. Walters was the editor of the Illinois State Register published at Springfield, and in this capacity had taken an active part in state and national politics, for many years past.

COL. McLUNG, of Mississippi, died of the wounds received in the battle of Monterey.

CAPT. CROGHAN KER, and LIEUTS. A. LOWERY, and G. HUMPHRIES, United States dragoons, embarked with the United States recruits from Fort McHenry, a short time since on board of the brig C. H. Rogers, for Brazos Santiago. Captain K. has served in the army upward of ten years, and besides having been engaged in the actions of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, served through the entire Florida campaign.
Two days before Capt. Ker left Baltimore, as a testimonial of their appreciation of his worth as a soldier and gentleman, Sept. 9, 1846.

The presentation was made through B. C. Presstman, Esq., preceded by a very eloquent an appropriate address which drew forth the warmest applause from those assembled, and was received by Captain Ker with a few brief but appropriate remarks. On the conclusion of the ceremonies of the presentation, the company sat down to a collation, prepared in a handsome style.

Lieut. Woods, who fell at Monterey, was a native of Lewistown, Pennsylvania, where his father the venerable Congregational clergyman of that place, still resides. His maternal grandfather was John Witherpoon, one of the signers of the declaration of Independence and president of Princeton College.

A DELAWARE HERO--A correspondent at New Orleans, who belongs to the army, has sent the Philadelphia Ledger a letter detailing the exploits of a young Delawarian, named Sam'l E. Chambers, who it seems, was the "brother in arms" of the writer. -- Chambers joined the army at Corpus Christi, and went with Captain Walker's Texas Rangers to the Rio Grande. On the first of May, when Walker made the desperate attempt to cut his way through to Taylor's camp for the purpose of opening the communication, Chambers was one of the few men who went with him. In the encounter with the Mexicans, they lost all but fifteen men. Chambers had a horse shot under him. He captured another from a Mexican, which shared the same fate as the first, and was the last man who returned to camp. --Chambers did admire the discretion of Captain W. as much as he did his courage, and applied to Captain May for a place in his company in the expected battles on the 8th and 9th. The application was granted and C. was the second man that crossed the Mexican battery in charge. He was found after the battle lying under his horse by the side of one of the Mexican pieces, with his dislocated and much bruised, and entirely insensible. He was removed from the field, and has since recovered from his injuries. The writer of the letter says his comrades have given him the name of the "Hero of Delaware." Some of those who observed his conduct during the battle, say he fought as if he intended with his single arm to put to flight the whole Mexican Army. With his sabre in one hand, he assaulted the men in charge of the battery, and with the other he discharged his pistols in their faces. --Three bayonet wounds through the body which he received, show how desperate the contest was, and how gallant he stood his ground. The father of this young hero was named Isaac Chambers. He resided in the state of Delaware, and has also lived in Philadelphia. His mother lives at present in Wilmington, it is believed and the object of the letter is to acquaint the latter of her son's safety. --Success to him, and may his gallantry win him more substantial honors than the admiration of his comrades.

A correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce, who signs himself "A friend of the Army," has published in that paper a communication the object of which "is to detail some of the services rendered by a portion on gen. Taylor’s army which have heretofore been passed over almost in silence, while the services of others have been placed before the public in a most conspicuous fight." The following passages were extracted from it:

"In the gallant charge of Capt. May with a squadron of dragoons of the 9th, there were several officers who participated with him in all the danger of the onslaught yet their names were never mentioned. But few know that such a man as capt. L.T. Graham was in that charge with his company, and entitled to just as much distinction as capt. May, who because his name happens to be placed two above the other upon the Army Register, or from some other unknown cause, gets all the glory, not only from the public, but from congress, receiving two brevets, while the other officers of the squadron are not noticed. This is manifest injustice.

Among other instances which might be cited, is that of capt. Duncan, a brave and gallant officer, who is brevetted for gallant services on the 8th, and again for highly meritorious and distinguished services on the 9th, while lieut. Ridgely gets a brevet
Now let us inquire what each of these two gentlemen did on the 9th, and see if justice has been done them.

Each of them on the morning of the ninth commanded a company of light artillery of about the same magnitude. It was however Ridgely’s fortune to be placed in the advance of the army with the 5th infantry. This position he retained until the action commenced. Captain Duncan was placed near the rear of the column, which marched by platoons through the narrow road, and of course extended a long distance to the rear.

The action commenced the moment the head of the column reached the enemy, and from this time until he was routed, and the retreat towards the river, lieut. Ridgely’s battery was most actively engaged, and as he very justly remarks in his report, he had the honor to command the only artillery that was engaged; consequently all that was done in that engagement by artillery, is due to him, and not to Duncan, as it was as it was impracticable for the latter to reach the field until late in the action, and Ridgely is not noticed. Such instances of injustice as the foregoing have created much dissatisfaction in the army, and in my opinion it would have been better for the service to bestow no brevets at all, than to pass over so many who so richly deserve them.

There appears to be another cause for dissatisfaction in the army, which is, that some regiments that figured conspicuously, have not had justice in the official dispatches.

I have as yet seen no statement which appeared to me to do justice to the gallant manner in which our infantry received and repelled the charge of the Mexican Lancers on the 8th.

The commanding in his report says, "the enemy’s cavalry made a charge upon the 5th infantry, and was repulsed; "that Ridgely’s artillery did great execution among them, scattering them in every direction." Hereby leaving the inference that the infantry did no execution, but that the cavalry were in fact repulsed by Ridgely. This impression would most certainly obtain from the reading the general’s report; but so far from this being the case, the services of this regiment on that occasion contributed not a little, (in our opinion) towards a victory.

When Gen. Taylor discovered that the enemy’s lancers were making a movement from the left of their line, passing around a skirt of woods towards our right flank, apparently with the intention of turning it, he ordered the 3rd and 5th regiments of infantry to march in that direction and intercept them. This movement was promptly executed, and over cover of the woods and the smoke of our guns, these regiments gained a position about a half mile from the main body of the army, where the lancers must pass; and it was but a few moments before they were seen approaching around the pint of woods which had until now concealed them.

The regiments were instantly thrown into square, -the 5th front, the 3rd about three hundred yards in the rear, and in this position they awaited the enemy.

When the Lancers espied our troops formed in square, they were taken by surprise, halted at a distance of some four hundred yards from the 5th Infantry, and formed for a charge. Their numbers appeared most overpowering, and it was afterwards ascertained that the odds were at least three to one in their favor.

As soon as their columns were formed, the charge was sounded from numerous trumpets through their lines- at the same time setting up a most unearthly shout, and putting their horses at full speed, they came bounding towards the 5th, a little band of three hundred and forty men.)

As they came sweeping down the prairie, dressed in the wild costume of the Mexican cavalry, their appearance was truly terrific: but the officers encouraged their men to stand firm in their places, and not to permit their ranks to be broken, impressed upon them the importance of maintaining the square. It required all of their efforts to give confidence to the soldiers, as they heard the most formidable accounts of their troopers: they were considered the choice troops of the Mexican army, and it was upon them that their general had placed the most reliance. Indeed they had been pronounced by one of our dragoon officers a fine body of well disciplined troops.- This, together with the fact that they were one thousand strong, rendering the situation of the 5th anything but enviable at this particular juncture.
It is stated by an experienced officer, that the situation of soldiers when in square against cavalry, awaiting a charge is the most trying of all others. There is no excitement in the attacking party which simulates the most timid, and blunts the thought of danger. The enthusiasm of the impetuous assault when making the charge, spreads from man to man like wildfire, and the most cowardly get some sparked of courage from their brave comrades around them: on the contrary, imposing array of a large body of horse coming upon them at full speed, is enough to shake the nerves of brave men. The moral effect is very great; and the Mexican general, (Torrijon) taking advantage of this fact, to cut the square to pieces in a short time. Little did he know of the material of our army; the men behaved most nobly. Not a man moved, spoke, or fired a shot, but permitted the Lancers to approach, fire their carbines into the square, and when within a distance of thirty yards from the second front, the command was given in a distinct and audible tone of voice, for that front to "ready, aim, fire." It was well timed, and well directed; and most fatal and decisive was the effect. Thirty riders plunged headlong from their saddle never to mount again; and the others, thrown into the utmost terror and confusion, turned back to their army, and did not make their appearance again.

It was while the Lancers were retreating, that two pieces of Mexican artillery, each drawn by five mules, were seen approaching within two hundred yards of the square. Had they brought them into battery at this distance, and given the infantry a round of grape, the effect on the condensed square would have been most fatal; but they continued to approach still nearer. Whereupon Col. McIntosh called for lieut. Ridgely, who had been with him during the day with two pieces of Ringgold’s artillery, but had been detained with the main army when the fifth were ordered to the right. At this moment someone exclaimed ‘there he comes!’ and sure enough he was discovered approaching from the direction of the army, his horses flying at the very top of their speed, and in an incredibly short space of time had reached the square, wheeled his guns into battery, unlimbered, and before the Mexicans had time to detach their mules from their guns, he was pouring charge of grape and canister into them from his battery.

The first shot killed four gunners at one of their pieces, and was followed up by other equally effective, which soon placed "Messieurs Mexicanos"completely "hors du combat,"and drove them back in double quick time back to their lines without firing a shot in return.

Thus it will be seen that the 5th Infantry repulsed the Lancers with great loss on the 8th, and that lieut. Ridgely repulsed the artillery on the same day, but that the operations of each were separate and distinct from the other, and that lieut. Ridgely did not fire a shot at the Lancers, or do "any execution"among them at the time they charged the infantry.

[MMK]
When the bill comes to be footed up, the nation will be amazed at the extent to
which the lives of our citizens have been literally sacrificed and the treasury of the
nation wasted; which might have been saved by a more judicious and wise policy on
the part of our rulers.

The following is an extract from the letter above referred to. It is dated at Port
Lavacca on the 23rd September:

"Disease has increased in our camp alarmingly since our arrival here. Yesterday the
surgeon reported 160 new cases in the hospital. Many of our boys look chapfallen at
this sudden reverse of our condition, but the commander and the surgeons seem to
recognize the change as one they had expected, and to feel no great degree of fear
for the result. I hope by the next letter I write to give you an account of improving
health in the regiment. You ought to see the boys. Their condition is a reproach to
the government. They are barefooted, and some of them literally without breeches,
many without hats and coats, but they stand up as proud as if they were dressed in
imperial purple. The government is in debt to this regiment this day 75,000 dollars--
it has received no pay whatever, and though paymasters pass and repass, it has
seen no signs of payment. Young men of education and intelligence, used to the
luxuries of private life, are by this neglect absolutely turned naked in a wild country,
and exposed to the climate and suffering from the weather, without any care for
their condition on the part of the government they serve. They would raise a row
pretty quickly, but that they respect too highly the feelings of their own officers to
place them in an awkward position by drawing down on them the displeasure of the
war department."

[PTH]

NNR 71.123 October 24, 1846 Troops embark for Mexico

TROOPS FOR MEXICO.

The baroquie Margaret Hugg, Capt. Little, bound for Point Isabel, (Texas), sailed from
Fort Monroe on Thursday last, with a detachment of 200 troops, lately stationed at
that post, under the command of Major W. W. Morris; consisting of Company "A,"4th
Reg. U. S. artillery, Capt. F. E. Hunt, commanding; lieutenants J. P. Gaiesche and J.
A. Brown. Each of these companies is 92 strong. And detachment of 20 infantry
recruits, Lieut. McJilton, commanding.

[PTH]

NNR 71.123 October 24, 1846 sickness of Illinois volunteers

ILLINOIS VOLUNTEERS. Of the two regiments of Illinois volunteers at Camp
Patterson, on the 8th ult. three hundred were on the sick list, about one hundred of
whom were in the hospital. The sick had to lay on their blankets on the ground, in
small miserable tents, and most of them get drenched every rain that falls.
[St. Louis Republican.
[MJK]

NNR 71.123 October 24, 1846 Speculations about forces gathered to oppose the
Army of the West: word of the position of Col. John Charles Fremont

Army of the West. A letter from a distinguished officer of general Kearney's staff,
dated Santa Fe, September 1, 1846, says--"Mr. Charles Bent informs me that
Sublette left Fremont in May, at the head of the Sacramento, and he thinks he will
return by the way of Bent's Fort.

'The rumors from below in reference to the forces collected to oppose us are very
contradictory. We move in the morning to meet them, and my opinion is, that they
will disperse without giving us battle.

'Nothing, however, prevents the people of the country from rising en masse to
oppose us, but the belief that they will be whipped whenever they do so, and if a
rising should take place on any extensive scale, I think it will be after Gen. Kearney
leaves here for California."

[PTH]

**NRR 71.123 October 24, 1846** French brig captured while trying to force the blockade at Tampico

Capture. --Information has been received by the revenue cutter *Van Buren*, at New Orleans from Vera Cruz, that the U. S. brig *Somers* had captured a French brig, whilst attempting to force the blockade at Tampico, and sent her to Commodore Conner, off Vera Cruz.

The U. S. ship *Saratoga*, which vessel sailed from Rio de Janeiro on the 22nd of August for the Pacific.


The *Southampton*, U. S. store ship, was at St. Vincent, August 19--All Well.

A letter has been received, via: Havre, from an officer on board of the U. S. store ship *Lexington*, bound to California. It is dated at sea, north lat. 29, long. 40, August 7th, 1846--All Well.

[PTH]

**NRR 71.128 October 24, 1846** requisition for additional regiments of volunteers, "mum"as to future operations, "mental food for the Army"

REQUISITION FOR VOLUNTEERS. We have from various sources, intimations that the President of the United States either has made, or is about to make requisitions upon the governors of many states for their quota of volunteers under the act of last session of congress. The Philadelphia Inquirer states that it is rumored that six regiments are called for from Pennsylvania. New York papers signify that a brigade is called for from that state, and add, Col. Webb, of the Courier & Inquirer, has applied for the command. A rumor was circulating at New Orleans at the last dates from thence, that a call had been made also upon that state. After what Louisiana has already furnished, we should hardly suppose that another requisition would be made on their patriotism, especially as her position on the frontier renders her immediately liable to any emergency, such for instance as she so promptly met when Gen. Taylor was in danger of loosing his munitions and supplies at Point Isabel.

It is supposed that those volunteers are intended for the expedition against Tampico, or Vera Cruz. The Union, of last night, has an editorial in relation to the above and other rumors, under the caption of "CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS," which says, "whether, or when, the government will call for some volunteers, we know not, and it is possible they have not as yet decided; but no such call has yet been made." The article thus concludes: "We cannot be mistaken in stating that a vigorous prosecution of the war is the order of the day. But we will not undertake to develop the plan of the campaign. The extents will duly develop themselves."

From this as well as another editorial of the Union a few days since, we judge that "mum"is to be the word in future, as to operations.

MENTAL FOOD FOR THE ARMY – "It would have done your heart good,"(says the Tract Agent, Rev. Mr. Vail, who raised $1,000 in New Orleans fir supplying the army with Christian books,) "to have witnessed the gratitude with which the soldiers received our books-in some cases, as I address-ed them, company by company, passing a formal vote of thanks-and in others in the ar'dor of their feelings giving three cheers to the American Tract Society."

[MJK]

**NRR 71.128 October 24, 1846** comments on the inability of Secretary of the Treasury Robert John Walker to negotiate a loan with the banks, speculation on his future course
United States Finances.- The unsuccessful attempt of the Secretary of the Treasury to negotiate a loan, either with the Banks or the Bankers of New York and Boston, has given rise to a number of pointed articles in the opposition journals. We have been looking for what the official journal would say upon the subject, but have met with nothing definite in its pages as yet. Letter writers at Washington intimate that the Secretary is now more than ever determined to sever all connection between the Government and the banks. He has refused such offers as they have made him. The Banks have refused the offers he made to them, and so the case stands as to the Banks. Business men were certainly alarmed, their own interests being involved and apprehensions awakened that their usual resources for making purchases and payments might be so absorbed by the banks attempting to sustain the government in its expensive war. It is now said that their remonstrances would prevent the banks from parting with funds on the terms which they had offered to Mr. Walker.

The Bankers, on the other hand, are no doubt anxious to negotiate the loan, but, - they look ahead to see what United States stock is likely to command in market some time hence – and whether the expenses of the war are not likely to throw a large amount of United States stock in some form, into the market, thereby depreciating its value. Their offer has no doubt been predicated accordingly. The Secretary of the Treasury believes that he can obtain money on better terms. It is supposed that Gen. Armstrong, Consul at Liverpool, who went out in the last steamer, has instructions to attempt to negotiate a loan in Europe, - and that the Secretary will in the mean time, rely upon the issue of Treasury notes for contingencies.

Congress will meet in six weeks from this. Mr. Walker may get on until that period, with the aid of what funds he yet has in the deposit banks, the cash he will receive for duties and sales of public lands, and the issue of treasury notes. If he can keep those notes and the U.S. stocks at par till that period, he will achieve more than many believe to be in his power. When he took charge of the treasury, United States stock was at a premium of somewhere about 16 per cent.

The period arrived at which it is natural for the people to be somewhat anxious as to the project which the Secretary will be likely to submit to Congress in his Annual report, for providing ways and means to meet the expenditures of the cifsuing. Curiosity is awake to see what amount has been expended during the past year, and especially for the two months during which we have been at war. Mr. Walker’s exhibit will be most anxiously looked for as some criterion may be formed therefrom as to the future expenses of the war.

The heavy importations of foreign goods which reduce duties will invite from abroad during the first year after the new tariff comes into operation, will replenish the public treasury and measurably relieve the government. This will continue until the goods have to be paid for and until the space is drained out to pay up the balance which our exports will fall below the amount of our imports. Then look out for the consequences of abandoning our own manufacturers, and resorting to foreign, instead of availing of a home market.

Since placing the above type we find in last nights’ Union the following:

OFFICIAL. Treasury department, October 22, 1846. This department will issue treasury notes to the amount of three millions of dollars, bearing an interest of 5 2-5 per cent per annum, payable to the order of persons or corporations making deposits therefore in specie in sums of not less than one thousand dollars, with either the Treasurer of the United States, assistant treasurer at Boston, New York, Charleston, or St. Louis, or treasurers of the mint at Philadelphia, or New Orleans. The notes will bear even date with the date of the deposite.

R.J. WALKER, secretary of the treasury.

The Union, in an editorial, noticing the advertisement says, "The notes issued will be receivable "for all public dues, both in the land office and customhouse, as well before and after maturity, and must be regard in the light, for many uses, of specie bearing interest; and at the rate now proposed, we cannot doubt, there will be a large demand for these notes."

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From the National Intelligencer of the 10th instant.

It may be affirmed that there is no country in the world in which the lessons of
common sense and experience are so entirely disregarded, when they conflict with
party dogma, as in these Unites States. Practical and shrewd as the people pf this
country certainly are, in all that concerns the ordinary pursuits-of life, this proneness
to surrender their judgments, if not their consciences too, into the hands of party
leaders and hyprics, constitutes a striking feature in our national character. And
this remarkable inconsistency, strange to say, appears to be peculiar to the popular
form of government; for in such only can demagogues rise and flourisch by party
legerdeman and cajolery. A striking instance of this obedient surrender of the
judgment glaring party imposture is furnished in the support still given to the sub-
treasury scheme—a scheme only congenial to despotic governments, and utterly
incompatible with the habits, the conveniences, and the whole social structure of
free communities.—This scheme, originally broached many years ago by a southern
abstractionist, was then discountenanced—he being at the moment in favor with the
dominant party; but, unhappily for the country, that same party, not long after,
selected it as its specious scheme for popular delusion, and put it into operation. It
proved, however, so repugnant to our system of government, so impracticable
indeed, and so obnoxious to the public taste, that, a wiser party coming into power,
it was soon repealed and discarded. But it had now become an item of the party
creed and therefore must be adhered to; and when its friends regained the
ascendancy in the government it must needs be received, and all he faithful called
on to stand by it. Every days experience calls on its impracticability, and its
mischievous nature, even were it practicable. Its very patrons, the officers of the
government, are obliged daily to violate its provisions, although their observance is
enjoined under the severest penalties.

At the very moment the government organ here is singing hosannas to its wisdom,
the act is treated with contempt and derision by the government itself. While one
high officer is in New York begging the banks to lend the government money—
receivable of course, in their notes—another proceeds thither, and with government
funds buy New York bank notes to bring here for disbursement to the public
creditors. And all this while the pains of the penitentiary are denounced by the law
against any officer or agent who violates its provisions. The whole matter is become
a farce, yet party allegiance requires the system to be upheld and defended. We
have seen nothing which exhibits more strikingly the grossness of the whole hard
money imposture than the two following paragraphs, appearing in the same number
of the leading democratic paper of N. York, the Evening Post, which articles, indeed,
gave rise to these remarks. In that paper of Wednesday we find, first, this paragraph
extracted from the address of the New York Democratic Convention assembled to
nominate a governor:

"Experience has shown that the fiscal transactions of the government should be
disconnected with all banking institutions; that the revenue system should not be
made an instrument for the circulation of a paper currency; and that these objects
should only be secured by collecting the public dues and discharging the public
obligations in specie; or, in other words, that the government should collect, keep,
and disburse its revenues in gold and silver."

And, in the same paper, the following item of intelligence:

"the Secretary of the Treasury has been in this city several days, and, we
understand offered to sell the deposite banks treasury notes from three to four
millions of dollars, bearing interest at 5 per cent. The banks offered to take them at
6 per cent per annum."

[MMJK]

**NNR 71.129 October 31, 1846 GENERAL JOHN ELLIS WOOL'S division marching for
Chihuahua and naval affairs**

The details given this week from the seat of war, are full of interest. The operations
of the navy in the Pacific, and of General Kearney in the west, furnish a tolerably
distinct view of affairs in both directions. From General Wool's division we have
nothing definite, except that he has marched in full force for Chihuahua. The arrival
of the steamer James L Day at New Orleans on the 22nd, brings the latest
intelligence. She left Port Lavaca on the 19th. The Kentucky regiment, Colonel
Marshall, took up their line of March on the 13th, and the Tennessee regiment, Col.
Thomas, on the 15th for Camargo. On the 18th news reached Port Lavaca that they
were now ordered to proceed to Matamoros instead of Camargo.

From Victoria, Texas, we learn that Colonel Thomas' regiment passed that place on
the 5th October for Placedo's Creek where they intended to remain 8 or 10 before
starting for Camargo.

Three companies of the Kentucky regiment passed through Victoria on the 6th instant, on their way to Comargo. The Advance consisted of Captains Milam’s, Lillard’s, and Pennington’s companies, and is commanded by Major Gaines. The remaining companies would leave in eight or ten days under the command of Col. Marshall.

From the "Army of Occupation" a number of interesting letters have been received, besides those which we insert, from which we shall cull for our next.

It is reported that Ampudia has been superseded in command of the army of the north, by Mejia.

The report from Monterey that Santa Anna had reached Saltillo, is manifestly premature. Accounts from the city of Mexico, via Havana, state that Santa Anna left there on the 28th with 4,000 men. He could not make the march from thence to Saltillo in less than three weeks. They had not heard of the battle of Monterey at Mexico on the 28th.

Major Graham, United States army, bearer of the President’s orders to General Taylor to terminate the armistice, left New Orleans on the 22nd for the Rio Grande, in the steamer Galveston; Captain Webb, quarter master’s department, and Lieut. Kearney with his company of U. S. dragoons, on board.

Some of the latest letters from Monterey represent the army there as being not only without adequate means of transportation, but as being upon short allowance for provisions and as requiring to be immediately reinforced.

[NRR] 71.129 October 31, 1846 Incidents and results from recent battles

"Army of Occupation"

Much anxiety has been relieved by arrival of the steam ship Galveston, at New Orleans on the 20th, bringing accounts from Monterey as late as the 6th October.

The reports from the several officers to the commanding general, of the battles at Monterey had not yet been completed. The accounts heretofore given are now confirmed in general. The N. O. Picayune says.

"Captain Owen (formerly Lieutenant) of the Baltimore battalion, left Monterey on the 6th instant, and we are indebted to him for many interesting details. He informs that the American loss in the three actions is set down at five hundred and sixty-one killed and wounded. Our correspondent, writing on the 29th ult., makes the loss a little less, but it had not then been ascertained with precision. The Mexican loss has not been, and probably never will be ascertained with precision. The Mexican loss has not been and probably never will be ascertained with certainty. It is believed to exceed one thousand."

We rejoice to learn that the report we had of the death of Col. McClung, of the Mississippi volunteers, was untrue. It was believed at Monterey on the 6th that would recover.

His friends will regret to hear that Lieut. Dilworth, of the 1st infantry, was still alive and hopes were entertained that he would recover. He was so desperately wounded that his recovery would be deemed a miracle, but he has great strength of constitution and his numerous friends do not despair.

Maj. Lear, of the 3rd infantry, is doing well, and it is believed that he will recover.

The death of Mr. Herman S. Thomas, of Harford county Md., will be deeply felt in his native state. He had joined McCulloch’s rangers to see active service, and fell in storming the second height. He was in Mr. Kendall’s mess.

The following officers, who came on the Galveston, were in the battle of Monterey;
Lieut. Sackett, United States army, Captain Nicholls, Louisiana; Lieut. B. F. Owen, Baltimore battalion; Lieut. Thomas J. Curd. --Lieut. C. is the bearer of despatches from the army to Washington.

NRR 71.129 October 31, 1846 Gen. Zachary Taylor orders up additional forces to Monterey, steamer Col. Harney and schooner Atlantic lost, duels at Camargo

General Taylor has now under his command at Monterey upward of 5,000 troops, and he is ordering up all his regulars and most of the volunteers. He feels confident of maintaining his present position against all Mexico. All the fortifications, but a short time since the glory and boast of the Mexicans, are now in Taylor's possession.

A bearer of despatches reached Matamoras from Washington, en route for Monterey, on the 5th inst., in ten days and was expected to arrive at Monterey in four more. There is quick work.

The steamer Sea, supposed to have been lost in the gale, arrived at the Brazos on the 3rd inst. She brought half a million of dollars, and steamer Whiteville which arrived on the 6th, brought 40,000 dollars more.

The Mexican force at Monterey could not have been less than 10,000 or 12,000 men; and now that their forts have been examined by our engineers, they are pronounced to be of the strongest and most scientific construction--impregnable, indeed, it would seem.

A Letter from Gen. F. Smith says--

"We have taken 32 pieces of brass cannon, and an immense amount of ordnance stores, and are now in possession of all the works, city, and surrounding country."

The steamer Colonel Harney, Captain Shannon, was totally lost on the 12th instant, on Rio Grande Bar. --Twelve persons perished, two of whom were sergeants of the U. S. Army. Captain M. could not ascertain the names of the persons lost. The Col. Harney was loaded with government stores from Brazos St. Lago, bound up the Rio Grande.

The schooner Atlantic hence for the Rio Grande, with a load of coal for the government, was also totally lost on the 8th inst. 8 miles to the south of the mouth of the Rio Grand.

The Hon. Balie Peyton and Brigadier Gen. Thomas Marshall, of the Kentucky volunteers were to have fought a duel at Camargo on the 12th inst. another duel between Capt. Munson, of N. Orleans and Capt. Cheevers, of the volunteers, was also to have taken place on the same day.

NRR 71.129 October 31, 1846 Gen. Zachary Taylor's general order No. 6, issued 29th Sept. at Camargo, respecting Mexican outlaws, provocations inducing the measure

The steamer Major Brown has left Camargo to go up the river to ascertain how far the river may be navigable, and the "flag"says it is intended to establish a military depot at the furthest navigable point, so as to have stores at at a place as near as possible to the route taken by Gen. Wool, marching from San Antonio to Chihuahua. At the last accounts she had reached Mier without meeting obstruction, and was proceeding on up. An officer was on board to survey the river and select the extreme navigable point.

Some excitement has been occasioned at Monterey by the refusal of Gen. Taylor to allow Col. Cazenau to open a stock of goods at Monterey, which he had brought there at great expense. It is said he was required to pay over to the alcalde of the city the same duties which would have exacted had a Mexican imported them for sale. The details of the affair we do not clearly understand.
The following order from Gen. Patterson will promote the safety of travelers going to and from Monterey:

ORDERS – No. 6

Headquarters Army of Occupation, Camargo, Sept. 29, 1846.

Agreeably to the terms of the armistice entered into by Maj. Gen. Z. Taylor, commanding the army of occupation and the commander of the Mexican forces at Monterey, it was established that all the troops in the service of the Mexican government should retire west of a line passing in a north and south direction, 30 miles to westward of Monterey.

All bodies of armed Mexicans, therefore, who shall be found henceforth in the neighborhood of the Rio Grande, or on the route to Monterey, will be viewed as acting without authority from their government officers, and will be considered and treated as outlaws.

The recent murders in this vicinity and on the road call for decided action, and the commanding general directs that all commanders of posts and camps on the river, and of escorts on the route use every exertion to apprehend any Mexicans who may be found in their vicinity bearing arms; and furthermore, that in the event of resistance or attempt to escape of said Mexicans, they shall be treated as outlaws and enemies to mankind, and shall be fired upon by troops and captured or destroyed.

Official: Jno. M. Brannan, Lt. 1st Art’y, Acting Adj’t

NNR 71.129, 71.152 October 31 and November 7, 1846 the Kentucky and Tennessee mounted regiments marching for Chihuahua

The details given this week form the seat of the war, are full of interest. The operations of the navy in the Pacific, and of General Kearney, in the west, furnish a tolerably distinct view of affairs in both directions. From General Wool’s division we have nothing definite, except that he had marched in full force for Chihuahua. The arrival of the steamer James L. Day at New Orleans on the 22nd, bring the latest intelligence. She left Port Lavaca on the 19th. The Kentucky regiment, Colonel Marshall, took up their line of march on the 13th, and the Tennessee regiment, Col. Thomas, on the 15th for Camargo. On the 18th news reached Port Lavaca that they were now ordered to proceed to Matamoros instead of Camargo.

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ARMY OF THE CENTRE – GEN. WOOL.


I avail myself a short respite from my arduous duties to give you some little information in regard to the movements and operations of this division of the invading army. I arrived here on the 20th Sept. from La Baca, after a somewhat fatiguing journey. On the 26th ultimo the advance of this army left from Presidio Rio Grande, consisting of the following troops, viz: company B, 4th light artillery, under captain Washington: two companies 2d dragoons, under brevet major Beall; three companies 6th infantry, and one company Kentucky volunteers, under major Bonneville, United States army; six companies Arkansas cavalry under colonel Yell; four companies of Illinois volunteers, under captains Webb and Morgan; corps of pioneers, artificers, &c. under command of captain Lee, of the engineers U. States army; a train of one hundred and eighteen wagons, loaded with subsistence, ammunition and quartermasters stores, boats and lumber, for making a flying bridge across the Rio Grande- the train under charge of captain O. Cross, assistant quartermaster United States army. The entire command of col. Wm. S. Harney, 2d dragoons, amounting to fourteen hundred effective men.

On the morning of the 29th ultimo. Gen. Wool, with a portion of his staff, and escorted by two companies of the first dragoons, left here to overtake the advance.

Col. Churchill, inspector general is left in command of the rear division, to follow the remainder of the forces as soon as a sufficient number of wagons (now en route for this place) shall arrive from La Baca. Major Thomas, chief of the quartermasters department, also remains for the purpose of hastening the forwarding of supplies, &c. and will be here in about five days, with col. Churchill and the remainder of the forces, to join gen. Wool at the Presidio, when the entire forces under his command will march upon Chihuahua. Eight companies of the first regiment volunteers, (Illinois) took up their line of march yesterday for the Presidio, under the command of Col. J.J. Hardin, with a train of twenty four wagons and two pieces of cannon.

The wagons with supplies and stores, are rapidly arriving; one train of fifteen wagons came in on the 30th ultimo, and one to-day of twenty-one wagons.

It is almost impossible to imagine the difficulties encountered by the quartermasters department towards fitting out and preparing the "trains"for transporting supplies. In the first place the mules have to be broken to work in harness. There is a scarcity of teamsters, and inefficient wagon-masters are sent from New Orleans, where they are picked up and sent out upon their representing that they are first rate teamsters – the greater part of whom scarcely know how to harness a mule, not to speak of their driving a five mule team.

Too much praise cannot be awarded to maj. Thomas for his untiring exertions and unceasing vigilance in organizing the department, and protecting the interest of the service from the depredations of those who are constantly devising means to cheat the government. It was really amusing to see coming into La Baca with old wagons and broken down oxen to sell to the government, for which the most exorbitant prices were asked. Six hundred dollars has been asked for a wagon and five yoke of oxen, for which three hundred dollars would be a great price. Individuals have an idea that the government must purchase from them at any price, and that government officers are bound to believe what they say, without examination. However, they found major Thomas an officer possessing to much practical knowledge to be taken in by them. Consequently he is abused in the newspapers in the most outrageous manner, and why? For the simple reason that they cannot deceive him and rob the government.

[MJK]
"ARMY OF OCCUPATION."

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The Picayune publishes a series of letters from Monterey from Mr. Kendall, from which we select the following items:--

Speaking of wounded comrades reminds me of poor Thomas. He was one of the most daring fellows in McCulluch's company, and had his horse wounded in the charge the enemy's lancers made upon us on the morning of the 21st. On the following morning, while storming the battery on the height overlooking the Bishop's Palace, he was mortally wounded, and after suffering incredibly died on the morning of the 24th. A musket ball shattered his hip joint, at the same time that the brave Capt. Gillespie was shot through, and the two are now quietly resting side by side on the height where they received their death wounds—Mount Gillespie, as it has been appropriately named by Gen. Worth. The friends of Thomas are among the most respectable in Maryland; he was in the same mess as myself, and it may afford his acquaintances some consolation to know that every attention was paid him, during his last hours, that circumstances would admit.

I saw Ampudia as he left town for Saltillo on the morning of the 26th - rode along in his escort for a mile or two. The base and lying wretch, for every page in his black history proves him such—looked crest-fallen, nervous, and timid to a degree. He was fearful less some of the Texas rangers, many of whom had deep wrongs to avenge, might shoot him from the way-side; and as he rode through their encampment, situated directly on their route, he could not conceal his fears. They allowed him to pass, however, without even a cry or shout of exultation.

A great many are discontented at the terms given the Mexicans, and think that they now will certainly fight again after being let off so easily. Had the battle continued on the 24th three hours longer, the Mexicans would undoubtedly have been on their knees crying and begging for their lives.

A terrible carnage would have ensued had not Ampudia sent in proposals for the surrender of the town, for his forces were huddled, if I can use such a term; and all this General Taylor well knew. To carry out the known conciliatory policy of our government, however, appears to have been his aim—to spare life and property, in accordance with his instructions, his object—and this should relieve him from all censure in the matter. For myself, I believe the whole policy of our government is, and has been wrong for years.

General Taylor is still encamped at the old ground, three mile from here—Generals Worth and Smith are in town. The main part of the wounded officers are doing well. Gen. Butler is recovering, while Colonel McClung and Mitchell are also in a fair way.

Our army has taken, or rather, retained, thirty-five pieces of artillery, many of which are valuable, and as much ammunition as will ever be needed to use with them. The killed and wounded of the enemy cannot be ascertained with any degree of certainty, nut it is known now that there loss far exceeded ours. The reports of the different commanders in General Taylor's army have not all been sent in yet, but enough is known to render it certain that our loss will not very twenty from five hundred killed and wounded. A considerable number of the wounded will die, so that the number who will have lost their lives will be about three hundred. Gen. Worth lost eighty, killed and wounded; about twenty killed, or have died since battle.

The large fort on the north of the town is a very strong work, and it would have cost a heavy sacrifice of life to have taken it. It is built scientifically—has four salients, each of which is pierced for eight guns. Inside of the walls, which are apparently new, and 'which enclose an area of some two or three acres are the thick walls of an unfinished cathedral, inside of which are twenty very large pillars intended for the support of the roof. These pillars are at least twelve feet square at the base; and, like the walls, are about 20 feet high. The walls of the fort are solid and neatly built, having a gateway and drawbridge on the side next to the city.
THE MARCH AGAINST MONTEREY. We have published very full accounts of the three
days siege of Monterey and the capitulations of the Mexican troops occupying
the town and fortifications. The correspondent of the New Orleans Picayune, in his
letters written previous to the 19th, furnishes some of the progress of interesting
sketches and explanations of the progress of the invading army, or which we at once
avail ourselves.

Seralvo, Mexico, Evening, September 11, 1846.

Gentlemen—The following order has just been read at parade. It is important, and I
hasten to furnish you with it in time for the express or mail carrier who goes down
tomorrow. It is better than all the rumors that have emanated from the army these
two months:

Head quarters, army of occupation.
Seralvo, September 11, 1846.

[ORDERS NO. 115.]

1. As the army may expect to meet resistance in the further advance towards
Monterey, it is necessary that the march should be conducted with all proper
precaution to meet attack and secure the baggage and supplies. From this point the
following will be the order of march until otherwise directed:

2. All the pioneers of the army, consolidated into one party, will march early to-
morrow on the route to Marin, for the purpose of repairing the roads and rendering it
practicable for artillery and wagons.—The pioneers of each division will be under a
subaltern to be specially detailed for the duty, and the whole will be under the
command of Capt. Craig, 3d infantry, who will report to head quarters for
instructions. This pioneer party will be covered by a squadron of dragoons and
captain McCulluch’s company of rangers. Two officers of topographical engineers, to
be detailed by capt. Williams, will accompany the party for the purpose of examining
the route. Two wagons will be provided by the quartermaster’s department for the
transportation of the tools, provisions, and knapsacks of the pioneer party.

3. The first division will march on the 13th inst. to be followed on successive days by
the 2d division and field division of volunteers. The head quarters will march with the
first division; capt. Gillespie with half of his company, will report to major gen.
Butler; the other half, under the 1st lieutenant, to brig. Gen. Worth. These
detachments will be employed for out posts and videttes, and as expresses between
the column and head quarters.

4. The subsistence supplies will be divided between the three columns, the senior
commissary of each division receipting for the stores and being charged with their
care and management. The senior commissaries of divisions will report to capt.
Waggaman for this duty.

5. Each division will be followed immediately by its baggage train and supply train,
with a strong rear guard. The ordinance train under captain Ramsay will march with
the third division, between it’s baggage and supply train, and will come under the
protection of the guard of that division. The medical supplies will, in like manner,
march with the first division.

6. The troops will take eight days rations and forty rounds of ammunition. All surplus
arms and accoutrements, resulting from casualties on the road, will be deposited
with lieut. Stewart, left in charge of the depot at this place, who will give certificates
of depot to the company commanders.

7. The wagons appropriated for the transportation of water will not be required, and
will be turned over to the quartermaster’s department for general purposes.

8. Two companies of the Mississippi regiment will be designated for the garrison of
this place. All sick and disabled men, unfit for march will be left behind, under the
charge of a medical officer to be selected for this duty by the medical director. By
order of major general Taylor.

W.W.S. BLISS, Ass't. adj't general.

[MMK]

NNR 71.130-71.131 October 31, 1846 "march of the second division of the select six thousand"

On the road to Monterey, Mexico,
14 miles from Marin, in camp, Sept. 15, 1846

GENTLEMEN—We are encamped for we know no how many hours—for an express has just arrived from gen. Taylor, bringing orders for us to overtake him in the morning—and I will foot up our progress to this place, by copying from my note book:

Second division of the select six thousand—march from Servalo to Monterey.

Sept. 14—The 2d division under general Worth, which was ordered to march to-day—the 1st division, under general Twiggs, having marched yesterday—had just placed their personal clothing and accoutrements in convenient conditions for packing yesterday evening, when they were called out for inspection, orderlies, servants, and all, leaving their tents unattended. Just as gen. Worth appeared on the field a heavy rain, accompanied with wind, commenced, and, prostrating many of the tents, soaking every thing in camp. At 2 o'clock this morning, the reveille beat, and the poor fellows, with all their duds still wet, commenced their preparations for the march. The tents were at once struck and packed—wagons were brought up to receive the tent poles, camp kiddles, &c.—private mules and pack horses were harnessed—camp women with children at the breast, and of all sizes, packed themselves and little ones upon Mexican mules and ponies, and, by daylight the column was in motion. The rear guard did not get off until 11 o'clock. The day has been exceedingly warm. We have marched twelve miles, over a country different in every respect from any I have ever before seen. The shrubbery and plants are entirely new to me, with the exception of the eternal cactus, which grows all over Mexico, in a hundred varieties. The wild olive, and a white, round leaf shrub with pink colored blossoms, cover the mountains and table lands. We have crossed five or six clear, cool streams to-day, and are encamped upon the brow of a ravine, down which runs a spring brook. On one side of the ravine is a perpendicular rock of limestone filled with slate pebbles. From this rock hundreds of cool streams gush out, and opposite the headquarters of the old 7th infantry, is a basin of cold, clear water, about five feet deep into which at least one thousand of our men have plunged, this evening. This stream is full of pataxas (sun fish) and trout.

15, we are now about 14 miles from Marin. We passed a few moments since, a rancho which had just been deserted in great taste—the cows, goats and chickens having been left behind. We left camp this morning at four o'clock. Our way has led along the foot of a mountain which rises on our right to a height 2,500 to 3,000 feet. We likewise have a mountain on our left, of nearly the same height. These two mountains converge before us, and descend at the same time, to about the level of the table lands upon which we now are. But far in the distance before us rises the Sierra Madre, higher and more majestic than any we have before seen. Our march has been over a very bad road to-day. Up hill and down—all rocks and pebbles, ravines and mines. The whole country over which we have to-day traveled is covered with aged "Spanish bayonet" trees, a species of palm, each leaf of which is pointed with a sharp thorn. Some of these trees are two and a half to three feet in diameter, and must be from 150 to 200 years old. As we reached this camping place, and express came from gen. Taylor, directing this division to join him at Marin by a forced march. We are, therefore, bivouacked, ready to march at a moment's warning. It seems that the Mexicans are assembled in force, between here and Monterey, and that Santa Anna himself is in the field. [Rumor.] There is no doubt about there being a strong force at Monterey, and gen. Taylor therefore directs that the 1st and 2d divisions shall join to-morrow, and march before the town.—Capt. Graham of the dragoons, had a skirmish last night near Marin, with some Mexican videttes, and killed one or two, and took two or three more prisoners. As I have said before, it is the opinion of most of the officers, that a harder fight is in store than has before taken place. Gen. Worth keeps his division always in readiness, so that he could hardly be surprised by night or day. Last night a sort of stampede was got up in camp, and we shall have another night of course. I can not help thinking that if an alarm were to come off to-night, a most singular scene would follow. We are bivouacked in a thicket of trees, or large shrubs, all of which have thorns. To walk
through them without stooping and dodging about to avoid the thorns, is impossible. Horses and mules are tied by long lassos, in every direction. The whole thicket, as well as the road for a half mile, is filled with men stretched out on blankets, chatting about the probabilities of a fight—some predicting that no such happiness is in reserve for them, whilst others of more experience, think differently. Gen. Taylor enters Marin to-night, and will there consolidate his little army. We march to-morrow morning at half past 3.

[MJK]

NNR 71.131-10/31/1846 Ampudia's Address to His Troops

Ampudia's Address to His Troops. The following is a translation of gen. Ampudia's address to his troops upon learning of the advance of gen. Taylor upon that city, forwarded to us by our correspondent. The address is conceived in good taste, and it is useful showing the mounted force of the enemy hovering upon the skirts of our army, and the estimation in which Ampudia held gen. Taylor's troops.

The general in chief of the army of the North to his companions in arms

Soldiers - The enemy numbering only 2,500 regular troops, the remainder being only a band of adventurers without valor or discipline, are, according to reliable information, about advancing upon Seralvo, to commit the barbarity of attacking this most important place. We count near 3,000 regulars and auxiliary cavalry, and these will defeat them again and again, before they can reach this city. Soldiers, we are constructing fortifications secure, and hence we will sally forth at a convenient time and drive back this enemy at the point of the bayonet.

Soldiers! Three great virtues make the soldier worthy of his profession; discipline, constancy under fatigue, and valor. He who at this moment would desert his colors, is a coward and a traitor to his country. Our whole nation, and even foreign countries are the witnesses of your conduct. The question now is, whether our independence shall be preserved or forever lost; and its solution is in your hands.

I have assured the supreme government of the triumph of our arms, confiding in your loyalty and enthusiasm, and we will prove to the whole world that we are worthy sons of the immortal Hidalgo, Morelo, Allende, Iturbide, and so many other heroes who knew how to die combatting for the independence of our cherished country.

Soldiers! Victory or death must be our only device.

PEDRO DE AMPUDIA.
Headquarters, Monterey, Sept. 14, 1846.
[SCM]

NNR 71.132 10/31/1846 San Juan D'Ulloa

The London Daily news gives the subjoined minute description of this famous castle:

"On the termination of the war with Spain, after the miserable remains of their garrison had been sent off to Havana. I went with two companions over the castle of San Juan d'Ulloa. It is a tremendous place if at all well manned. No wonder it had held out so long. Had it not been for the raging of the yellow fever within its walls and the want of provisions, the Mexicans would never have taken it without a naval force very superior o the one they possessed, though they have never since had any force comparable to that one.

"The outer walls of this fortress are of immense thickness-upwards of twelve feet; and in the positions most exposed, the walls are seventeen or eighteen feet in depth of solid white stone. It is a very porous and rather soft stone, so that balls do not split or crack it so much as they quietly embed themselves. These outer walls have batteries all round; the guns are well planted, with here and there a neat corner for mortar. The inner walls are so constructed that if the outer walls are gained it would still be at a slaughterous expense to the besiegers, if the garrison were at all competent to avail themselves of their position."
We entered the fortress from below at the principal gate, which was of great strength, and very skillfully contrived; and then went along a stone passage, which had several gateways, and cunningly devised 'narrow passes, with high stone walls on each side. This was terminated by a canal, or moat, with a draw-bridge over it. We next arrived at flights of stairs, and passing up several vault-like ascents, we gained the top of the grand batteries. The general characteristics is that of great strength, and plenty of room to work in. They mounted 120 long 24-pounders, all of brass. They were, for the most part, in excellent condition. The mortars were of large calibre, though not in such good order as the guns. The powder magazines were each literally a dry stone well, plugged at the top with blankets, and having a round metal lid over the mouth that opened upon the batteries.

We next descended to the inner works, and gained the secondary walls by a circuitous route. Besides the necessity to the besiegers of having guides who well knew every turn of the works, the excitement and smoke are almost certain to produce a confusion, in which the voice or presence of the guides would be lost, and the party dashing onward might only arrive at a dead wall, a gap looking out upon the sea, or the mouth of a twenty-four pounder. -The circuitous route of our descent from the upper to the lower range of walls was entirely exposed to their batteries, the guns grinning at us all the way, like so many black tusks, as we traversed stone causeways and narrow passes. Whole regiments might here be raked down, after they had conquered thee outer walls. But the "chances of war"are numerous; and one imperfection in the greatest power (if otherwise perfect) may render it inapplicable, and perhaps ridiculous. On arriving at their inner batteries, we found the guns in a wretched condition. They were better than a Chinese effect "calculated"to strike terror into his mind. But one may imagine how very angry the subtle architect of this formidable castle would have been, could we have seen his excellent arrangements for the safe and nearly certain destruction of the assailants thus rendered abortive.

We now descended a very wide and steep flight of stone stairs which led down into the grand castle square, or little town, as one might call it. --We entered at the bottom through some gateways, [the architect had never passed an opportunity for giving besieged protection in retreating, and time to rally] and then found ourselves in a large open square, enclosed on all sides by very lofty walls, the lower part of which displayed the doors and entrances into the barracks, guard houses, and shops of various kinds for the sale of such articles as a garrison would need. The governor's house is at the farther end. -- It was a genuine soldier's lodgement, and very bare of ornament, except for that of war, for it was riddled all over with the marks of shot and shell. Its strong covered balcony, intended to serve as a protection both from the broiling sun and from the fall of missels, was in many places torn in long gaps. All the towers and buildings of any elevation had also been knocked about and defaced by the shot and shells from Vera Cruz, previous to the surrender of the castle. But the mutilations and destruction did not materially affect the strength of the place. Very few of the guns had been dislodged; even the outer batteries were not injured so as to render them ineffective, with the exception of a gap of ruins in one or two places. There is about a mile's breadth of sea running between San Juan d'Ulloa and the town of Vera Cruz.

"How strongly and skilfully this fortress is protected by art the reader has now some idea: but San Juan d'Ulloa is equally protected by nature; for while the defences of art which I have briefly described are chiefly devoted to the side and angle facing town, those angles which face the main ocean on the opposite side, or back of the castle, are protected by a long succession of rocky reefs, utterly defying the approach of any vessels of war. Many black and rotting wrecks visible even at high water, attested some of the natural 'terrors of the place. ' -But in these days it is generally understood by all military men that no place is impregnable, and that thorough soldiers, well officered and led, can, and will, and do, take any place. At what cost, is not the question. The thing can be done."

[NCR]
government, invaded the territory of the United States north of the Rio Grande, and had attacked the forces under Gen. Taylor, and that the squadron of the United States was blockading the coast of Mexico on the Gulf.

“These hostilities, he considered, would justify commencing offensive operations of the west coast.—He therefore sailed on the 8th, in the Savannah, for the coast of California, leaving the Warren at Mazatlan, to bring any dispatches or important information that might reach there. We arrived at Monterey on the 2d on July, where we found the Cyane and Levant, and learned that the Portsmouth was at San Francisco.

“On the morning of the 7th, having previously examined the defenses and localities of the town, the commodore sent Captain Mervine, with a summons to the military commandment of Monterey, requiring him to surrender the place forthwith to the forces of the United States. In reply, he stated that he was not authorized to surrender the place, and referred the commodore to the commanding general of California, Don Jose Castro.

“Every arrangement having been made the day previous, the commodore immediately embarked the necessary force (about two hundred and fifty seamen and marines) in the boats of the squadron, which landed at ten o'clock, under cover of the guns of the ships, with great promptitude and good order, under the immediate command of Capt. Wm. Mervine, assisted by Commander H.N. Page as second.

“The forces were immediately formed and marched to the custom-house, where commodore Sloat's proclamation to the inhabitants of California was read, the standard of the U. States hoisted, amid three hearty cheers by the troops and foreigners present, and a salute of twenty-one guns fired by all ships. Immediately afterwards the proclamation, both in English and Spanish, was posted up about the town, and two justices of the peace appointed to preserve order and punish delinquencies,-the alcaldes declining to serve.

“Previous to landing a ‘general order,’ was read to the crews of all the ships for their guidance under the new circumstances in which they were placed. We feel confident that the inhabitants of Monterey and all other places where our forces were, have been safe from the least depredation or the slightest insult.

“Immediately after taking possession of Monterey Com. Sloat dispatched a courier to General Castro, the military commandment of California, with a letter and a copy of his proclamation, to which he received a reply. On the 9th, he despatched a letter by courier to Sr. Pio Pico, the governor of Santa Barbara.

“On the 6th of July he dispatched orders by sea to Com. Montgomery to take immediate possession of the bay of San Francisco; &c. and at 7 a.m. of the 9th, that officer hoisted the flag at San Francisco-read and posted up commodore Sloat’s proclamation, and took possession of that part of the country in the name of the U. States.

On the 13th, at the request of the foreigners at the Pueblo of San Jose, the commodore furnished a flag to be furnished at that place—about 70 miles interior from Monterey, and appointed a justice of the peace to preserve order in the town—the alcaldes declining to serve. The flag was hoisted on the 16th.

On the 8th, Commodore Sloat selected Purser D. Fauntleroy to organize a company of 35 dragoons from volunteers from the ships, and citizens on shore to reconnoitre the country—keep the communication between Monterey and San Francisco, and to prevent the people of the country from being robbed &c., &c., and directed him to purchase the necessary horses and equipment to mount them.

Passed midshipman Louis McLane having also volunteered for that service, he appointed him first lieutenant of that company. On the 17th, Fauntleroy was directed to reconnoitre the country with his command as far as the mission of St. Johns—to take possession of that place—hoist the flag, and to recover ten brass guns said to have been buried there by Gen. Castro when he retreated from that place. On his arrival there, Mr. Fauntleroy found that place had been taken possession of an hour or two previous by Capt. Fremont, with whom he returned to Monterey on the 19th. He was subsequently sent to garrison the place, dig up, mount the guns, and recover a large quantity of powder and shot, said to have been secreted there; all of which he accomplished before we sailed for Monterey; between which—the Pueblo of San Jose and San Francisco, a perfectly free communication was maintained.
On the Afternoon of the 15th July the Congress arrived with Commodore Stockton.

On the 16th, the British Admiral, Sir George F. Seymour, arrived in the Collingwood, 80. An officer was immediately sent by Commodore Sloat to tender him the usual courtesies and the facilities of the port. He was subsequently furnished topgallant masts and other spars for his ship, and sailed on the 22d for the Sandwich islands.

The visit of the admiral, I have no doubt was very serviceable to our cause in California, as the inhabitants fully believed he would take part with them, and that we would be obliged to abandon our conquest; but when they saw the friendly intercourse subsisting between the two commanders, and found that he could not interfere on their behalf, they abandoned all hope of ever seeing the Mexican flag fly in California again.

On the 23d Commodore Sloat directed Commodore Stockton to assume command of the forces and operations on shore, and on the 29th, having determined to return to the United States via Panama, he hoisted his broad pendant on board the Levant, and sailed for Mazatlan and Panama, leaving the remainder of the squadron under his command.

At the time of our leaving Monterey, the United States were in quiet possession of all 'Alta California' north of Santa Barbarra.

The Cyane sailed for St. Diego on the 26th to carry down Captain Fremont, with about 150 riflemen, (Americans,) to take possession there, and to cut off General Castro's retreat to Lower California or Mexico. The Congress was to sail on the 30th for San Pedro, to take possession there. That place is 27 miles from the city of Angelos, where General Castro and Governor Pico then were; and it was believed that immediately on their arrival they would surrender, which would put an end to all opposition to the United States in the Californias."

NNR 71.133 October 31, 1846 California ports taken by Com. John Drake Sloat

The Philadelphia U.S. Gazette has also the following letter, dated-

U.S. flagship Savannah,
Monterey, Territory of California, July 27, 1846

SIR: I send you this by the sloop of war Levant, which is bound to Panama, Commodore John D. Sloat, who comes home by that way, and send you all the news I am in possession of. We left Mazatlan on the 9th of June and arrived at this place on the 2d of July, all well. On entering the bay we found lying at anchor the sloops of war Levant and Cyane, and on the 15th of July the frigate Congress, Commodore R. F. Stockton, arrived-all well.

On the 7th of July, 1846 at half past 10 o'clock, we sent our boats ashore, armed, under the command of Captain Mervine, took the place, hoisted the American ensign and saluted it with twenty one guns, and ever since we have had a strong guard on shore to protect the place. From all appearances the inhabitants are well satisfied. On Sunday, 19th of July, Col. Fremont, and his party arrived here. A nobler looking set of men I never saw. Full of health and vigor. They have a Delaware Indian chief with them, and some Indians of the same tribe.

We have had the pleasure of a visit from Col. Fremont. We have received official information that the flag of the United States is now flying at Yerba Bueno, St. Johns, Sutlas fort on the Sacramento, Laviritli, Somona, and Bodega, and that the forces of the United States have quiet possession of the Bay of San Francisco, and all the country within one hundred miles around, to the manifest satisfaction of the inhabitants, many of whom have enrolled themselves under the flag and officers for protection.—In taking possession of these places, many fine pieces of brass ordinance have been acquired. The sloop of war Portsmouth Captain Montgomery, is lying at San Francisco, taking care of that part of the country.

As Commodore Sloat leaves us, we shall be under the command of Com. R.F. Stockton, and Captain Mervine takes command of our ship and Capt. Dupont of the sloop of war Cyane. We expect to leave this place in two or three months for home. I think it is most time, for next October we have been out three years, and by the time we get home it will make our cruise three years and six months. We are all
well, and our ship is in beautiful order. We are very sorry to lose our commodore, for he is very popular with us. The barque Sterling of Boston, is here at anchor, and on the 4th of July the barque Angola left this place of Oahu and the East Indies: [MJK]

NNR 71.133 October 31, 1846 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna inspires new vigor amongst the Mexicans, assembles a formidable force at San Luis Potosi, orders Monterey and Saltillo to be evacuated before the attack, but not in time to reach before the former was besieged

GULF SQUADRON

Mexican Movements.

Extract of a letter from an officer in the squadron, dated

"Off Vera Cruz, Sept. 22.

The files of the El Indicator and other journals contain intelligence of passing events, with nearly all the decrees issued since the formation of the new cabinet, but for the increase of the military force, and regulation of other branches of the government.—The national guard in being organized: and from the statements in the public papers, the measure would seem to be a popular one, as the citizens are said to offer themselves freely to be enrolled. The decree embraces every citizen from the age of sixteen to fifty. The citizens of Puebla have armed and equipped a force of one thousand men, at their own expense, for the service of the government. General Santa Anna entered the city of Mexico on the 14th inst. with a great parade. In his letter, written to the minister of war on the occasion, he states his intention of proceeding immediately to assume the command of the army on the northern frontier, and disclaims any design of accepting the supreme power, if his services are required in the field.

The report which was previously mentioned of his having given orders to the army at Monterey to fall back on San Luis Potosi, is contradicted by Gen. Mejia, in the dispatch dated at Monterey, Aug. 24.—He states that a force of eight thousand men will soon be assembled there, and he will defend the place to the last extremity. It is said that our army is in possession of Santa Fe.

The present government has manifested in great activity since its accession to power, and adopted every measure for a vigorous prosecution of the war.—Detachments of troops from the city and other parts of Mexico, with thirty pieces of artillery, have been lately dispatched from the north, and by the end of the month it is not unlikely they will have a force of 15,000 men — or perhaps more, in the neighborhood of Monterey. It is difficult to say how this large force is to be kept in the field, as it is well known the public treasury is empty. The only money received by the government, within our knowledge, are the small sums contributed by private individuals, not sufficient to maintain a regiment for a month."

[MJK]

NNR 71.133--10/31/1846 Mexican Movements, Gulf Squadron

"Off Vera Cruz, Sept. 22."

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70. 133 -10/31/1846 The Flagship; loss of Bonita

There is a report that Com. Stewart us to have the command of the naval force in the gulf, and that the big ship, the Pennsylvania, which is now being fitted out at Norfolk, will be his flagship.

The U. S. schooner Bonita, command by Lient. BENHAM, Passed midshipmen THOMPSON and COLBY, and Midshipman PHELPS, was cruising at the entrance of the harbor of Vera Cruz where the recent gale commenced, since which nothing has been seen of her. It is probably she was lost.

NRR 71.133-10/31/1846 THE SQUADRON IN THE PACIFIC - CALIFORNIA TAKENPOSSESSION OF

Capture of a Mexican brig of war. From a letter published in the city of Mexico, it appears that the Mexican brig of war Malek-Adhel was captured in the ports of Mazatlan by one of our vessels, supposed to be the sloop of war Warren. The Warren being outside, despatched five launches, well armed, to capture the Mexican then at anchor in the bay. The officers and crew on board the brig, unprepared for an attack, took to their boats in great confusion on the appearance of the Americans. Two officers named Zerega and Cilloio, and several sailors, were taken prisoners. The moment the "Yankees" found themselves masters of the vessel, they cut her cables and made sail for the frigate.

NRR 71.134-10/31/1846 Stockton's Proclamation

To all whom it may concern. I, J. R. Stockton, commodore, and commander in chief of the United States naval forces in the Pacific Ocean, and governor and commander in chief of the territory of California, do, by the authority of the president and congress of the United States of America, hereby declare all the ports, harbors, bays, outlets, and inlets on the west coast of Mexico, south of San Diego, to be in a state of vigorous blockade, which will be made absolute except against armed vessels of neutral nations.

All neutral merchant vessels found in any of the bays and harbors on said coast on arrival of the blockading force, will be allowed twenty days to leave.

Given under my hand and seal, this nineteenth day of August, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and forty six, at the government house in the "Ciuod de los Angelos," the capital of California.

[Signed] J. R. STOCKTON

Commodore and commander in chief of the naval forces of the U. S. in the Pacific
Commodore Stockton has declared the whole of the coast of Mexico in a state of blockade. He has established himself governor in the capital of Upper California. It is reported that the ports of Lower California are to be taken possession of, and San Blas made a rendezvous for the squadron and their prizes.

The Cyane arrived off San Blas on the 2d of this month and sent the notification of the blockade to the authorities. She is cruising off the coast, occasionally anchors in the bay, and has seized a couple of coasting vessels. Another vessel has also arrived off Mazatian, and has cut out of that harbor a coasting vessel.

Commodore Sloat Returning Home--arrived at Havana on the 7th inst. - accompanied by five or six of his officers, having left at Monterey Pacific, U. S. frigate Congress, bearing the broad pendant of Commodore Stockton. The officers and crew of the squadron were all in excellent health. Commodore Sloat hoisted his pennant at Havana on the 10th inst. on board the U. S. brig Perry, and would sail for Norfolk or Charleston in a few days.

Gen. Castro employed to revolutionize California

The Philadelphia North American has the following interesting letter, dated

U. S. frigate Congress,
Monterey, California, July 26, 1846

We proceed from Callao to the Sandwich Islands; we made the passage in 28 days, though it covers about six thousand miles. We landed Mr. Van Eyk, our new commissioner, and Mr. Turrell, our new consul at Honolulu under appropriate salutes, and commodore Stockton introduced the new commissioner to the king; we found the missionaries in good health, actively employed, and received from them many kind attentions. We visited all their schools and were highly gratified. In these are educated those on whom the destiny of these islands depends. Nothing struck me here with so much force as the huge volcanoes, which threw up these islands to the light of heaven, which ages became extinct, but which still lift their towering cones, which look out in savage grandeur on the seas.

We sailed from Honolulu on the 22d of June, and arrived here after a passage of 28 days. We found all Monterey in a state of revolution and the American flag flying over Monterey. There has been but little fighting as yet, as Gen. Castro with his forces has retired to the south. Commodore Stockton had dispatched the Cyane, with Capt. Fremont and his two hundred riflemen to cut off his retreat, and the commodore, with marines of the squadron, is to engage him as he wheels about to the north. He is a savage military chieftain—usurper who has covered this country for years with rapine and blood.—He massacred in the most brutal manner, but a few days since three American residents here. His overthrow will be hailed by the natives as well as foreigners. He is held as an outlaw by both.

This revolution commenced in an attempt to drive all of foreign birth, who had settled here and were not Roman Catholics, out of the country. The proscribed party took up arms, appointed Mr. Ide, of the United States, their leader, declared California free of Mexican rule, and avowed their determination to make her an independent republic.

They took Sonoma, an important town, the inhabitants joined them, fortified the place, and repelled successfully, every force sent against them. When Monterey was taken by our squadron, they immediately put up the American flag. On the arrival of Captain Fremont from the west they joined him and came here; Captain Fremont took up arms in consequence of having been assaulted, while engaged in his surveys, by the forces of General Castro. He is a man of great coolness and resolution. His
original force consisted of thirty, but since he espoused the republican cause his force has increased, by volunteers, to three hundred: but they are now all under the command of Commodore Stockton. They will debark from Cyane, when she reaches her destination, mount fresh horses, and take the field with their rifles, revolving pistols, and rapiers, glistening in light over their buckskins.

We have taken the harbor of San Francisco, and our flag floats over the bright beauties of the Sacramento. All California will, in a few months, be under its protection. The natives, disgusted by the sway of military chieftains, are flying to it for repose, for hope, and blessings of a republican government. Our government cannot pull it down if they wanted, or make it stay down. The people will run it up again: are determined to establish anew state and connect themselves with our Union.—Mexico cannot prevent this. She has had but very little to do with California for years, and has abandoned her to the cruel sway of bloody usurpers, till the people have at last risen in arms. We are going to aid them, and if you cannot find the defense of our conduct in the let-alone policy, then look into the obligations of humanity, which rests on nations as on individuals. Having established a free representative government, extending its protection alike to all classes, we expect to withdraw. But the government will stand, for its foundations will be laid in the allections and confidence of the nation.

Our squadron consists of the Congress, Savannah, Cyane, Portsmouth, Warren, Levant, and schooner Shark. The Columbus is expected here in a few days from the East Indies. The Savannah, Warren, and Levant have been out here three years and ought to return, but will be detained until difficulties are settled, or they are relieved, except the Levant—she leaves for home and lands Commodore Sloat at Panama, when he will cross the isthmus and reach the United States by West India steamers. The officers and crew are in general god health. As spirit of cheerfulness and activity pervades all ranks. We are patrolling streets under arms, building forts, and administering law and justice.

[MJK]


GENERAL KEARNEY AND THE ARMY OF THE WEST

We have been favored with the following extract of an unofficial journal of 1st Lieut. Emory, of the corps of Topographical Engineers. Lieut. Emory is Chief of the Engineer staff of General Kearney’s command. We are pleased with the opportunity of laying before our readers such scenes as are here described, with so much novelty and freshness around them. The author of the journal, Lieutenant Emory, is distinguished for his superior intelligence as an officer and a man.

EXTRACTS FROM THE JOURNAL.

August 2d, 1846. I looked in the direction of Bent’s Fort, and saw a large United States flag flowing to the breeze, and straining every fiber of an ash pole that was planted over the center of the gateway, with no very mathematical regard to centering or perpendicularity. The reason of this display was soon explained by a column of dust to the east, advancing with the velocity of a fast-walking horse. It was the "Army of the West." I ordered my horse hitched up, and as the column passed, took my place with the staff."

"The river was forded without difficulty, opposite the fort, being paved with well-rounded pebbles of primitive rock.

We advanced five miles along the river, where its bed slides over a black carbonaceous shale, which has been mistaken for coal, and induced the Bents to dig for it.

Here we turn to the left and pursue our course over an arid and elevated plain for twenty miles, without water, and when we reach the Timpas, find the water in puddles, and the grass bad.

Colonial Doniphan was ordered to pursue the Arkansas to near the mouth of the Timpas, and join the army, following the bead of that stream.
Near where we left the Arkansas, found on the side of the slope several singular
demi-spheriods protruded from the ground, about the size of an umbrella, coated
with a singular substance, (specimen 22) in pyramidal crystals.

The growth along this part of the Arkansas consists of mean grass and few
cottonwoods; on the plains very short grass, burned to a cinder; artemesia in
abundance. The only animals seen were one black-tail rabbit, and one antelope—both
killed.

Our march 26, that of the army 37 miles. The last twenty miles without water. The
artillery did not get up until 11 P.M.; horses and men parched with thirst. The
teamsters, who had to encounter the dust suffered extensively; when water was
near, they sprang from their seats, and ran for it like madmen. Two horses sunk
under the march.

August 3d.—Ascended the Timpas 6 miles, and halted for the day, near running
water; the grass was all burned dry, not a green sprig to be seen; passed three
buttes of singular appearance, composed of limestone, and (specimens 23 and 24)
evidently of ingenious origin: saw more of the nodules described yesterday; passed
the dry bed of a river, with bottom paved with argillaceous limestone, containing
now and then the impression of shells, very distinct. The valley in which we are now
encamped presents the appearance of a crater being surrounded with buttes capped
with stunted cedar. The stratification, however, appears regular.

Growth—an evergreen (see specimen) which Fitzpatrick says is the Fremont. A
beautiful cactus three feet high, with round limbs, shaped like a rope, three and a
half inches in diameter. It is said the Mexicans make hedges out of it.

Doniphan’s regiment passed our camp about four P.M. Water saltish. Went to the top
of one of the adjacent hills. Formation distinct. Limestone 10 feet; hard sandstone
with impression of shells; and then blue marl. Gendes, with crystallized limestone on
top, and the interior of serpentine. The ground covered with a great many detached
pieces of ferruginous sandstone.

Growth—cedar, very stunted Missouri flax, some wild gooseberries, a very stunted
growth of plums; moss, cactus in great variety, one or two new plants.

Our march only 6 2/3 miles.

August 4th.—Road runs along the valley of the Timpas, and the dust was
overpowering; soil impregnated with lime which makes the dust distressing. Stunted
cedar on each side; strata on each side of the valley the same as that described
yesterday. Iron nodules very frequent. March 13 miles, to the crossing of Timpas:
The only water hole 40 feet in diameter, into which the volunteers rushed, pell-mell,
and soon destroyed it. March 9 miles further, to the "Hole in the Rock;" a large hole,
with plenty of pretty good stagnant water. Saw antelopes, rabbits, wild horses, two
jackdaws, (magpies,) larks, king birds, and robins. The grass is so bad the Col.
Kearney thinks of marching 16 miles further, to the "Hole in the Prairie," where there
is no water, but some little dry grass. We passed a dead horse black with crows, a
wolf in the midst, quietly feeding on the carcass.

March at 5 P.M., with the staff, to the "Hole in the Prairie," and reach there at 10;
distance 14 &frac12; miles. Find grass, as we expected, and were agreeably
surprised to find water also. All slept in the open air, the colonel setting the
example. Found infantry encamped here. Total distance to-day 36 miles. What we
call good grass, is grass burned as dry as cinder. Horses falling away in alarming
manner. Mules seem to require the stimulus of distention, and nothing else; this the
dry grass affords. The people of the country to whom we apply for information, he
without mercy; when they tell you there is fine grass for an army of 2,000, your may
find grass for a small party of 10-15.

On the march, Nattah-Yah, (twin hills,) rose suddenly to view, about 75 N.; and soon
Pike’s Peak, 20 or 30 further to the north. The dim outline of the great western
parallel of the Astek chain began to show itself. We were now crossing the divide
between the waters of the Timpas and those of the Purgatory, or Rio de los Animos,
of the Spaniards.

August 5th—Descended 11 &frac12; miles and reached the valley of the Purgatory; a
swift running stream, a few yards in width. No grass of any amount at the crossing.
Large trees, for many miles along its course, all dead, cause is not apparent. Growth
of the bottom, which is very narrow, locust, the everlasting cottonwood, red willow (kinikinck) wild gooseberry, plum, and grape. No fruit on the bushes. March 5 \(\frac{12}{16}\) miles farther, and encamped on the bed of a stream tributary to the Purgatory which comes down from the north side of the Raton, or Mouse, which is the name given to a chain of low ragged looking mountains, that strikes the course of the Purgatory nearly at right angles, and separates the waters of the Arkansas from those of the Canadian. The banks of the Purgatory now begin to assume something of a mountainous aspect; different from scenery in the states. The hills are bare of vegetation, except a few stunted cedars, and look less the work of God than the hills at home. In this valley, 'tis said, we have the grisly bear, turkeys, and antelope.

Passed the rear wagons of the infantry-the horses almost done. Trotting in the wake were 3 wolves. Many a horse of the army of the west, must this night, I think, give up the ghost.

Captain Cook, sent ahead day before yesterday to Armijo. The day before, Lieffendorfer, a trader, married to a Santa Fe woman, sent in the direction of Taos, with two Puebla Indians, to feel the pulse of the Pueblas and the Mexican people, and probably to but wheat, if any, and distribute the proclamation of the colonel commanding. Yesterday Wm. Bent and six others, forming a spy guard, sent forward to reconnoiter the mountain passes.

August 6th.-Col. Kearney left Col. Doniphan’s regiment and Clark’s artillery at our old camp ground of last night, and scattered Sumner’s dragoons three or four-miles up the creek. This done, we commenced the ascent of Raton, and, after marching seventeen miles, halted, with the infantry and general staff, within a half mile of the summit of the pass. Strong parties were sent forward to repair the road, which winds through a picturesque valley, with the Raton towering to the left. Pine trees, which here attain a respectable size, lined the valley through the whole’s day’s march; a few oaks, big enough for axles, were found near the halting place of to-night. When we first left the camp this morning, we saw a few clumps of the pines which much resemble the common pine, stunted. It bears a resinous nut, eaten by Mexicans and Indian. We found, also, the samita in great abundance. It resembles the wild gooseberry. It grows to the height of several feet, and bears a red berry, which is gathered, dried, pounded and then mixed with sugar and water, making a delicious drink, resembling our current shrub.

Neither this plant, nor the pinon, nor plum, nor any of the grapevines, had any food on them, which is attributable to the excessive drought. The stream, which last year was a dashing torrent, is this year dry and in pools. Several beautiful flowers. Turned over the charge of botany to Lt. Peck, this day. Spanish bayonets, soap plant, in great abundance.

The view from our camp transcendently beautiful and singular, reminding me of the pictures I have seen of some parts of Palestine. Rocks chiefly a light colored sandstone. A great deal of stone of (specimen 24) volcanic appearance; color purplish brown, porous, and melts over a slow fire. The road is well located, and the general appearance of the scenery something like the summit of Boston and Albany railroad, but the scenery bolder, and more oriental in appearance.

Express arrived from the spy guard, reporting all clear in front; Cook and Lieffendorfer have only reached the Canadian.

At Captain Sumner’s camp, about seven miles above our camp of last night, and twelve from the summit, there is an immense seam of coal cropping out, thirty feet deep. Grass and water good at camp 35.

August 7th camp 36 – Commenced the ascent of the Raton, which we reach with ease with our wagons; in about two miles observed the barometer, and determined the elevation to be about 7,000 feet above the sea. From the summit we had a beautiful view of Pike’s Peak, the Nattah-Yah, and the chain of mountains running south. Saw several large white masses near the summit, which we at first look for snow, but which, on examination with the telescope, I determined was the [ . . . ] limestone of which we see so much in this country.

The near view was no less imposing. To the east rose the Raton, which appeared still as high as from the camp 1,500 feet below. There is singular formation on the top of the Raton giving the appearance of a succession of castles. [ . . . ] would be required to visit it, I was obliged to forego that [ . . . ] sure, and examine it with the glass. The mountain appeared to be formed chiefly, of sandstones disposed in horizontal strata, dipping gently to the east, until you reach near the summit, when the castle,
The valley is strewn with pebbles and fragment of trap rock and the fusible stone described yesterday.

There is said to be a lake about 10 miles to the east of the summit, where immense herds of deer, antelope, and buffalo congregate; but of this I have my doubts. I would certainly test the matter if I could dispose of my own time.

The descent is much more rapid than the ascent; and for the first few miles, through a valley of good burned grass and stagnant water, containing many beautiful flowers, specimens of which were collected. But presently you come, to a place where a stream, a branch of the Canadian, has worked its way through the mountains, and the road has to ascend and then descend a rugged spur. Here is where the real difficulties commence, and the road, for three or four miles, is just passable for a wagon. Many of the train were broken in the passage. A few thousand dollars, judiciously expended here, would be an immense saving to the government, if the Santa Fe country is to be permanently occupied.

After 10 miles from the summit, we reached a wide valley, where the mountains open out, and the rugged and inhospitable looking hills recede to a respectable distance to the right and left. Sixteen from camp 36, brought us to the main branch of the Canadian, a slow running stream, discharging a volume of water to the thickness of a man's waist; found here Bent's camp. Dismounted under the shade of cottonwood, near an anthill and saw something black, which had been thrown out by these busy little insects; and, on examination, found it to be bituminous coal. I crossed the river, and proceeded about 1 and 12/16 miles, and found the colonel, from whom I had become separated, encamped on the river, with a plentiful supply of grass, wood, and water. After crossing the river, found the plain strewn with lumps of bituminous coal.

Growth on to-day's march—pinion, in small quantities, scrub oak, scrub pine, a few samita bushes, and, on the Canadian, a few cotton wood trees.—Grass, except at the camp little or [ . . . ] rain this evening, but the clouds passed away, and I had a good night for observing. No rain since we left our creeks twenty-seven days ago. And yet this a country that some men talk of one day being settled—this sun-burnt country, that produces no vegetation except on the very edges of the few and far between streams.

We are now in the Paradise of that part between Bent's Fort and San Miguel and yet he who leaves the edge of the Canadian must make a good day's march to find wood, water, or grass.

There may be mineral wealth in these mountains, but that must be left to some explorer not tied to the staff of an army, marching for life into an enemy's country. I say for life, for we are from day to-day, on half rations bread, and, although we have meat enough to prevent anything like immediate starvation, we are sufficiently hard pressed to make it expedient to pounce on Santa Fe, - and its stock of provisions, as soon as possible.

August 8th.—Remained in camp all day to allow Doniphan's regiment and the artillery to come up.—Observed at night for the latitude and time, and found our chronometers preserving their rates admirably. Light hurricanes of wind, and clouds discharging rain to the west. Captain Sumner drilled his three squadrons of dragoons, and made quite an imposing show.

August 9th.—At 2 broke up camp, and marched with the colonel's staff and the 1st dragoons 10 and 12/16 miles, encamped under the mountains on the western side of the Canadian river, on the banks of a small stream, a tributary of the Canadian. Grass, short but good; water—in small quantities and in puddles. Here found a trap dyke, course N. 3. W. which shows itself also on the Canadian, about four miles distant, in the same course. Six miles from last nights camp the road forks: one running near the mountains to the west, but nearly parallel with the old road, and never distant from it more than four miles, and almost all of the time in sight of it:—The army is here divided: the artillery, infantry, and wagon train ordered to take the lower road, Missouri volunteers and 1st dragoons the upper.—The valley here opens out into an extensive plain, slightly rolling flanked on each side by ranges of perpendicular hills covered with stunted cedar and the pinion. In this extensive valley or plains me be traced, from any of the neighboring heights, the valleys of the Canadian and its tributaries— the Vermijo, the Poinel, the Crimaron, the Rajado, and the Ocate. Saw great quantities of antelope, deer, &c. cactus in great abundance, and a plant which my friend Dr. DeCamp. Pointed out as being highly balsamic: he collected quantities of it in his campaign to the Rocky Mountains, and tested its
efficacy with entire success as a substitute for balsamic coparva.

Observed a great many insects at the camp to night, the first of any number since leaving the Arkansas. Scarcely a bird, however, to be seen, the cow bird always excepted, which has been in great numbers on the whole route and very tame, often lighting by your horse. The horned frog is also numerous and has been the whole distance from here to beyond Bent's Fort.

August 10th.- Col. Kearney, dissatisfied with the upper road, determined to strike for the old, which we did. After reaching the Vermijo, 9 &frac12; miles in a diagonal line, and reaching the road at the Cimaron, where we found the infantry encamped; total distance 20 &frac12; miles; grass good, and water plenty, though not flowing. Another trap dyke parallel nearly to the last, and 3 miles distant from the last; both strewed with fragments of ferruginous sandstone, and crystallized carbonate of lime. A Mexican came into camp from Bent’s Fort; reported Lieut. Abert much better. Colonel Kearney, allowed him to pass to Taos; for which place, 60 miles distant, by a brittle path, he set out to reach to-night. The Colonel sent by him copies of his proclamation, letters to the alcalde, padre, &c.

Five Mexicans were captured by Bent’s spy company; who had been sent out to reconnoiter us, with orders to retain all persons passing out of New Mexico. They were mounted on diminutive asses, and cut a ridiculous figure, along side the thumping big men and horses of the 1st dragoons. Fitzpatrick, our guide, who seldom laughs, became almost convulsed when he turned his well practiced eye upon them.

Tonne, an American citizen, came to headquarters, when at the Vermijo, and reported himself just escaped from Taos: He reports that the proclamation of Governor Armijo reached there calling the citizens to arms, and placing the whole country under martial law. He stated that Armijo had assembled all the Puebla Indians, above 2,000; all the citizens capable of bearing arms; that 300 Mexican dragoons arrived in Santa Fe the day Armijo’s proclamation was issued; and that 1,200 more are hourly expected. That the Spanish Mexicans to a man, are anxious for a fight, but that about half the Puebla Indians are indifferent on this subject, but will be made to fight.

A succession of thunderstorms passed yesterday to the north and west of us, but nothing reached us. The ground showed recent rain and so does the grass which looks as it does in the spring, just sprouting.

The hills of the left are, as near as I can judge, the same as in the Raton, of different colored sandstone, regularly stratified, and dipping gently to the east.

The growth, on the mountains, pinion and cedar; on the plain, scarcely a tree can be seen, and those along the edges of the streams. Observed at night for latitude and time.

August 11th.- Made a long march to-day, with the advanced guard—the 1st dragoons, to the Ocate, 31 miles. The road approaches the Ocate at the foot of a high bluff, to the north, and runs through a canon, making it accessible to horses. We followed it four or five miles. Where the road crosses the river from the road, and found good grass and running water.

The scenery to-day was very pretty, sometimes approaching to the grand. The road passes through a succession of valleys and crossed numerous divides of the Rayado and Ocate. The Rayado is a limpid running stream, 10 miles from the Cimaron, and although we have been in the midst of mountains for some days past, this is the first stream that has any thing the look of a mountain stream. The grass, however, is not good. Two and a half miles further on, at the foot of the mountain, there are springs. At the last place they halted. About five miles before reaching the Ocate, the road descends into a valley overlined by confused and rugged cliffs, which give promise of grass and water; but ongoing down, we found it had no outlet, and that this beautiful valley, terminated in a salt lake, which is now dry, and the bed encrusted with a thin coat of a white substance, (see specimen.)

Here the road is indistinct, and takes a sudden turn to the left, at this moment we discovered, coming towards us, at full speed, Bent’s spy guard. All though they had met the enemy, I rode forward to meet him, followed by Fitzpatrick and two dragoons. It turned out to be a false alarm. Like a set of silly fellows—or as Fitz called them, d----d fools—they got off the road, which we were not aware of, and were now galloping back to it in full speed.
The hills are composed of what I take to be trap and a porous volcanic stone, very hard, with a metallic fracture and luster. It is underlayed by sandstone. From the uniform height of those hills, one would think they originally formed the table land, and that the valleys had been washed, and their limits determined by the existence or non-existence of the hard crust.

Things are now becoming very interesting. Five or six Mexicans were captured last night, and on their persons were found the proclamation of the protect of Taos, based on that of Armijo, calling the citizens to arms to repeal the Americans, who were coming to invade their soil, and destroy their property and liberties; ordering an enrollment of all citizens over 15 and under 45, and list of arms and ammunitions. It is decidedly less [ . . . ] than any Mexican paper which I have yet seen. Colonel Kearney assembled three prisoners together, some ten or a dozen; made an admirable speech to them, and ordered, that when the rear guard of the army have passed, that they be released. In his speech he informed them that he considered New Mexico a part of the United States; that he intended to extend our laws over it, and substitute laws for the arbitrary will of one man; that he came as the friend of the people, that he would protect them in the exercise of their religion, and of their property, that he would defend the weak against the strong, and the poor against the rich. This brightened their faces, as far as such poor, down cast, unmeaning faces could be brightened. They were mounted on little donkeys, or jennies, and guided by clubs instead of bridles; the whole turn out contrasting in a way with our large, well mounted dragoons that was very ludicrous.—The colonel said to me, "Emory, if I have to fire a round of grape into such men, I shall think of it with remorse all of my life."

To-night two more Mexicans were captured; or rather came into our camp, who were severely cross-questioned by the colonel. Their story was, that they came out by order of the alcalde of the More-town to look for their standing enemies the Eataws, who were reported in the neighborhood; that they had heard of our coming some time since. They believed us at the Rayado, twenty two miles back, but seeing our wagons, and having faith in the Americans, they rode with out hesitation to our camp.—When they said they had faith in us, the Colonel, with great quickness, ordered them to shake hands with him. He then told them pretty much the same that he told the Mexicans this morning. These men appeared to be of a higher class, and listened with profound attention. The Colonel had told them, in conclusion, that he must keep them for a day or two; for it was quite evident to all of us that they were spies, who had come too suddenly into the ravine into which we were camped.

They appeared well satisfied. One of them, with the guard, turned back, and presented the colonel with a fresh cream cheese.

Collected a great variety of new and beautiful flowers. The hills sparsely covered with cedar and pinon. Antelope and horned frogs in abundance; no other animals seen.

August 12th.- The Colonel discharged the oldest Mexican, giving him two proclamations—one for the alcalde, another for the people of the town. He sent a message to the alcalde to meet him at the crossing of the Moro with several of his head men.—The other Mexican was detained as a guide. About 12 o’clock, the advance was sounded, and the Colonel, with Sumner’s command marched twenty miles, and halted in a beautiful valley of fine grass and good pools of cool water. The stream, when flowing, is a tributary of the Moro. From the drift wood, &c., found in its wide, well grassed bed, I infer it is subject to great freshets. In crossing the Ocate to the valley of the Moro, the mountains became more rolling, and as we approach the Moro the valley opens out, and the whole country becomes more tame in appearance. Ten miles up the Moro is the Moro town, containing, as the Mexican informed me last night, 200 houses. It is off the lower road, but a tolerable wagon road leads to it from our camp of last night.

The plans were strewed with a red porous lava-like substance (See specimen 30.) The plains are almost destitute of vegetation—the hills covered with a stunted growth of pinon and red cedar. Rains have fallen here recently, and the grass in the bottom is good. The gamma now constantly appears, but very thinly scattered over the ground. Saw, to-day, some prairie dogs, with stripes on their sides, resembling the common prairie dog in every thing else. A flight of birds to the south, but too far to distinguish them. Antelope and horned frogs as usual. Attracted to the left by an object supposed to be an Indian; on reaching found it a sandstone block, three feet long, standing on end, and topped by another, shorter. A mountain man, who was along, said it was in commemoration of a talk and friendly smoke between some two bands of Indians.
August 13th.-At 12 o’clock, as the rear column came in sight, the call of "boots and
saddles" were sounded, and in twenty minutes we were off. We had not advanced
more than one mile when Bent, of the spy guard, came up with four prisoners. They
represented themselves to be an ensign and three privates of the Mexican army,
sent forward to reconnoiter and ascertain our forces. They said 600 men were at the
Vegas to receive us, and give us battle, or treat us as friends, according to our
intentions towards them. They told a great many different stories, and finally
delivered up a paper being an order from Captain Gonzales, to the ensign, to go
forward on the Bent road, and ascertain our position and numbers. They were
severely cross questioned by the Colonel, and told very much the same the all the
rest have told. They were retained for the present as prisoners.

As soon as we commenced descending into the valley of the Moro creek, Col.
Kearney’s orderly, who carried his telescope, reported a company of Mexicans at the
crossing. Col. K. ordered me to go forward with 12 dragoons, and reconnoiter the
party, and if they attempted to fly, to pursue and capture as many as we could. As
we approached this company, it seemed wondrous and still motionless; but a few
steps dispelled the illusion, and showed the pine stakes of a corral. The dragoons
were sadly disappointed, they evidently expected a fight or chase. A few minutes
brought us to the first settlement we had yet seen in 775 miles. The first object I
saw, was an American, with clean white stockings, who came to me, very
cordially shook hands, and asked for tobacco. Fitzpatrick said I was singled out
for my large red whiskers; but I was at the head of the party, and that was the
reason of honor done me.

The next house, and out popped a live American, and soon after, his wife. This was
Mr. Bonny, who has lived here for some time, owns a large number of cattle and
horses, which he keeps in defiance of wolves, Indians, and Mexicans. He is a perfect
specimen of a generous, open-hearted adventurer, and is in appearance what I have
supposed Daniel Boon to have been. He drove his herd of cattle into camp, and
picked out the largest and fattest, which he presented to the army.

Below, about 2 miles, at the junction of the Moro and Sapilla, is another American-
Mr. Yells, of North Carolina. He has been here but six months, and from his gay
dress may have been taken for a sergeant of dragoons, with his blue pantaloons with
broad gold stripes on the sides, and his jacket trimmed with lace. I bought butter of
him at 4 bits the pound.

We halted at Sapilla, distance 9 ½ , miles from our last night’s encampment,
in a tremendous shower.—Grass indifferent, having been eaten up by the cattle from
the ranchos. Wood and water plenty. At this place an American came into camp from
Santa Fe, on foot, with scarcely anything on his back; escaped from there night
before last at Mr. Houston’s request; to inform Col. Kearney that Armijo’s forces
were assembling to the number of 8,000 or 12,000, and that he might expect
vigorous resistance; and that a place called the Canon, 15 miles from Santa Fe,
where I had before predicted the battle would be fought, was being fortified, and
advising the colonel to go around it.

The canon is a narrow defile, easily defended, and of which we have heard a great
deal. A conflict now “is inevitable,” and the advantages of ground and numbers will,
no doubt, enable the Mexicans to make a stiff fight.

Miserable grass, and the camp ground inundated by the shower of to-day, which was
quite a rarity with us, although we understood the rainy season had commenced ten
days before, farther in the mountains.

August 13th.-The order of march to-day was the order of battle. After proceeding a
few miles, we met a queer cavalcade, which at first we thought was the looked for
cavalcade from Moro town; but it turned out a messenger from Armijo. A lieutenant,
one sergeant, and two privates, of Mexican lancers. The men were good looking
enough, and evidently dressed in their best bib and tucker. The creases in their
pantaloons were quite distinct. Their horses were mean in the extreme, and the
contempt with which our dragoons were filled was evident.

The messenger was the bearer of a letter from a Armijo, in answer to the colonel’s.
The army was on tip-toe to know the contents of the letter. The colonel
communicated it to but a few myself amongst the number. It was a sensible,
straightforward letter, and written by an American, or by an Englishman, would have
meant this: “You have notified me that you intend to take possession of the country
I govern. The people of the country have risen in mass to my defense. If you get the
country, it will be because you prove the strongest in battle. I suggest you stop at
the Sapilla, and I will march to the Vegas. We will meet, and negotiate on the plains.
between them."

The artillery were detained a great while in passing the Sapilla. This kept us stewing in the plains for four hours, but it gave the colonel time to reflect on the message with which he should dismiss the lancers. There were apprehensions that Cook was detained, and this made their discharge a matter of reflection. Sixteen miles brought us in sight of the Vegas, a village on the stream of that name. A halt was made at this place, and the colonel called the lieutenant and lancers, and said to them: "The road to Santa Fe is now as free to you as it is to myself; say to my friend General Armijo, I shall soon meet him, and I hope it will be as friends. I come here as the friend of the whole Mexican people, and not as their enemy. My Government considers New Mexico a part of the United States, and I intend to extend her laws over it. All who obey me, and do not resist, I will respect, and make secure in their property, their persons, and their religion. All who take up arms against me, I will treat as enemies."

A great deal more was said, but the conversations which followed with other people were so much more significant, that I will not repeat what passed. At parting, the lieutenant embraced the colonel, Captain Turner, and myself; this was the first man hug that I ever encountered, and if God spares me, it shall be the last.

The country to-day was a rolling, almost mountainous prairie; the grass on the hills beginning to show a little. The soil was good enough, apparently, but vegetation was little or nothing, from the want of rain. As we emerged from the hills into the valley of the Vegas, our eyes saluted, for the first time, with waving corn. The stream was full, and the little drains, by which the fields were irrigated, full to the brim. The dry soil seemed to drink it with the avidity of our thirsty horses.

The village, at a short distance, looked like an extensive brick-kiln; On approaching it, its outline presented a square, with some arrangements for defense. Into this square they are sometimes compelled to retreat with all their stock, to avoid the attacks of the Eutaws and Navajos, who pounce upon them, and carry off their women, children and cattle. But a few days since, they made a descent upon the town, and carried off 120 sheep, and other stock. As Captain Cook passed through the town some ten days since, a murder had just been committed on these helpless people. Our camp extended for a mile down the valley. On one side was the stream, and on the other the corn-fields, with no fence or hedge interposing. What a tantalizing prospect for our hungry and jaded nags.

The water was free, but the colonel posted a chain of sentinels to protect the corn, and gave strict orders that it should not be disturbed. Captain Turner was sent to the village to inform the alcalde that the colonel wished to see him and the head men of the town. In a short time, down came the Alcalde, two captains of militia, with numerous servants, prancing and careering their little nags into camp.—The colonel stated to them that he was ordered by his government to take possession of the country, and annex it to the United States – to extend over it the protection of her troops. He hoped to effect this object peaceably; but if need be, he had the power, and would do it forcibly. That he had no doubt of his ability to do it peaceably, if the people of the country could be bought within the sound of his voice, and made to understand the advantages they would derive, in the protection of their lives and property from the savages, and in the just administration of the laws. That he desired the alcalde to assemble all his people in the laza, where he would address them at 8 o’clock the next morning.

All went smoothly, except with one of the captains of the militia, who was very surly, and said he always understood the Arkansas was the boundary of the United States, and soon after rode off abruptly, leaving the party. The old alcalde was very confidential, begged the colonel, in a whisper, to allow no trespass on the corn. The colonel pointed to him his chain of sentinels. The old man hen pulled out a bottle of vile Taos whiskey, and requested us to drink with him. The dose was bitter, but taken with passable grace.

71.157-159, 7 November 1846 Lt. Emory's Journal

August 15th.- Twelve o’clock last night the colonel (General Kearney) was awakened up, and informed that six hundred men had collected at the posts of the Vegos, two miles distant, and were to oppose his march. In the morning, ordered were given to prepare to meet the enemy. At seven the army moved and just as we made the road leading through the town, Major Swords, of the 3d, Mr. Dupat joined us from Fort Leavenworth, and presented Colonel Kearney with is commission as brigadier
general in the army of the United States. At eight o’clock precisely, the general was in the public square, where he was met by the alcalde and people, many of whom were on horseback, (for these people live on horseback.) The General pointed to the top of one of their houses, which are all of one story high, and flat roofed; and suggested to the alcalde, that if he would go to that place he and his staff would follow, and from that point, where all could hear and see him, he would say to them what he had to say.

This was a wise precaution. He was thus enabled to speak so that all could hear and see, and we were placed out of reach of difficulty, of which there might have been some danger, as we were pressed closely in a dense mass of people, the disposition of none of which we then knew.

The colonel (now Brig. Gen’l Kearney) then addressed the multitude, nearly as follows:

"Mr. Alcalde and the people of New Mexico: I have come amongst you by the orders of my government, to take possession of your country, and extend over it the laws of the United States. We come among you as friends, not as enemies; we come to you as protectors, not conquerors; we come among you for your benefit, not for your injury.

Henceforth I absolve you of all allegiance to the Mexican government, and from all obedience to Gen. Armijo. He is no longer your governor, [great sensation,] I am your governor.

I shall not expect you to take up arms and follow me, to fight your own people, who may be in arms against me; but I tell you that those who remain peaceably at home, attending their crops and herds, shall be protected by me in their property, their persons, and their religion; and not a pepper or an onion shall be disturbed or taken by my troops, without pay, or without the consent of the owner.-But listen! He who is found in arms against me, I will hang.

From the Mexican government you have never received any protection. The Apaches and the Navajo come down from the mountains and carry off your sheep and your women whenever they please.—My government will correct al this. They will keep off the Indians, protect you in your persons and property, and I repeat again, will protect you in your religion. I know you are all good Catholics, and that some of your priests have told you all sorts of stories; that we would pollute your women, and brand them upon the cheek as you do your mules upon the hip. It is false. My government respects your religion as much as the protestant religion, and allows each man to worship his Creator as his heart tells him best. Her laws protect the Catholic as well as the Protestant, the weak as well as the strong, the poor as well as the rich. I am not a Catholic myself; I was not brought up in that faith; but at least one-third of my army are Catholics. And I respect a good Catholic as much as a good Protestant.—There goes my army! You see but a small part of it. There are many more behind. Resistance is useless.

Mr. Alcalde, and you two captains of militia, the laws of my country require that all men who hold office under it, shall take the oath of allegiance. I do not wish for the present, until things get settled, to disturb your mode of government. If you are prepared to take the oath of allegiance, I shall continue you in office and support your authority."

This was a bitter pill, but swallowed, the discontented captain looking close down to his toes. The general remarked to him, in hearing all of the people: "Captain look me in the face, while you repeat the oath of office." The hint was understood; the oath administered, the general pronounced the alcalde and two captains still in office, and I called upon all the citizens to obey the alcalde, &c. The people grinned, and exchanged looks of satisfaction; but seemed not to have the boldness to express what they evidently felt, that their burdens if not relieved, were at least shifted to some ungalled part of the body.

We descended by the same rickety ladder by which we climbed to the top of the houses, mounted our horses, and rode briskly forward to encounter our 600 Mexicans in the gorge of the mountains, two miles distant. The sun shone with dazzling brightness, the guidons and colors of each squadron, regiment, and battalion were, for the first time, unfurled.

The drooping horses seemed to take pluck from the gay array, the trumpeters sounded "to horse"with unusual spirit, and the hills multiplied and reechoed the call. All looked like a gala day; and as we approached the gorge where the fun was
expected, the general broke into a brisk trot, then into a full gallop, preceded by a squadron of horse. He kept close to their heels. The gorge was passed, but no 600 Mexicans were there! One by one the guidons were furled, the men looked disappointed, and a few minutes found us dragging our "slow length along" with the usual indifference to envoy subject except that of overcoming space.

Two miles farther brought us to another pass as formidable as the first; and the entire intermediate country was broken, and covered with a dense growth of pine, pinon, and cedar. The mountains now begin to rise to the height of a thousand feet above the road.

Nine miles brought us to Selcolate, where we met the alcalue and people in the cool and spacious apartments of the forum, where a repetition of the drama was again enacted. This was graced by the presence of women, with their bare ankles and slippered feet. –Marched ten miles further to Vernal springs; halted at the upper spring, and observed for time and latitude about 500 feet south of the upper spring.

August 16th—Marched to San Miguel, where the general assembled the people, and gave them much the same harangue as at the Vegos; but in swearing the old alcalde there was great difficulty. His honor hesitated, faltered, looked at the priest, who held down his head and refused to respond to his enquiring looks. But it had to go down: the general was pertinacious.

As we were ascending the ladder, the priest—a famous man in this country; famous for his love of cards, women and wine—stopped the general to engage him in a discussion on the merits of the question of invasion. He said a great deal that was exceedingly silly and out of place. The general told him so very sharply before all his people, Sinner as he is his hold upon his flock is firm and unyielding.

The repartee of the general floored him completely, and made some of his poor deluded flock look aghast. He had previously invited the general to his quarters. Being in our route we halted. The general told him that he and all his brotherhood were laboring under a great mistake with regard to the intentions of the American government in respect to his religion; that there was not the least intention of disturbing it, or any of its rights and privileges; but if he found any of them stirring up the people to rebellion, he would not let the priests robe stand between the offender and the rope. This, by the way, he mentioned in his speech to the people, while the priest was made to stand by him in full view of the mass below.

His reverence saw the sort of person he had to deal with, and disclaimed any mischievous intentions. This through, he displayed his Taos brandy, which we drank. The general cracked several jokes with him, and finally took leave, by a cordial embrace and a mutual assurance of friendship.

Reports now meet us at every step, that the people were rising, and that Armijo was collecting a formidable force to oppose our march, at the celebrated pass of the canon, fifteen miles from Santa Fe. About the middle of the day’s march, two Puebla Indians, previously sent to sound the chief men of that formidable tribe, were seen in the distance, at full speed, with arms and legs both thumping into the side of their mules, at every stride.—Something was now n the wind for certain.

The smartest and foremost of the two, dashed up to the general, his face radiant with joy, and exclaimed:--"They are in the canon, my brave! Pluck up your courage, and push them out." His extravagant delight at seeing the prospect of a fight, and the pleasure of communicating it, by and by subsided, and he then gave the general a pretty accurate idea of Armijo’s force and his position. He further told him that the Pueblas were with the army there, by Armijo’s orders; that they came voluntarily, and he might rely on their assurance that at first fire, every Puebla would throw down his rifle, his bow, arrows, and sling, and come over to him, (General Kearney).

The general told him that that was all very well; but that he should like to see, that night, some of the head chiefs, and he wished him to go back and bring them out. The brave little fellow at once assented, but his comrade refused, from fear that Armijo would catch and hang him.

The road passed over to-day was good, but the face of the country exceedingly rugged and broken; covered with pinon and cedar. To the left, at one or two miles distant, towers a wall nearly perpendicular, 20 feet high, apparently level on the top, and showing, as near as I could judge, from the road, an immense stratum of red sandstone, capped by puddingstone and limestone. The road was red with disintegrated sandstone. We turned from the road to the creek where there were a few ranchos to encamp, at which place we passed an uncomfortable night; the water
being hard to reach and the grazing very bad.

August 17th.—The picket-guard, stationed on the road, captured the son of Salazar, who, it is said, is to play the part in this country that Zraalcaraguay[?] did in Spain. The son was at San Miguel yesterday, and heard from a concealed place, the general's bar rangue. It is supposed, at this time, he was explaining the position, strength &c. of our army, to report it to his father.

A rumor has reached camp that 4,000 Mexicans assembled in the canon, have quarreled among themselves; that Armijo, taking advantage of the dissensions, fled with dragoons and artillery to the south. He was long suspected of wishing an excuse to fly. It was known he was averse to a battle, but some of his people threatened his life if he failed to fight. He has been-for some days- more in fear of his own people than the American army. He sees what they have failed to see, -the hopelessness of resistance. Every assurance has been given him by the general, if he quietly surrendered, he would protect him in his person and property; but it is quite evident he fears the penalty of his long misgovernment.

As we approached the ruins of the ancient town of Pecos, a large fat fellow came towards us at full swing, and exceeding his hand to the general, congratulated him on the arrival of himself and army. He said, with a roar of laughter:—"Armijo and his troops have all gone to hell, and the canon is all clear!"—This was the alcalde of the settlement, two miles up the Pecos from the ruins, where we encamped—15 miles from our last camp, and 2 miles from the road.

Pecos, once a fortified town, is built on a promontory of rock, something in the shape of a fort. Here burned, until within the last seven years, the eternal fire of Montezuma; and the remains of the architecture exhibit, in a pointed manner, the engraftment of the Catholic Church upon the crest religion of the country. At the end of the short spire forming the [ . . . ] of the promontory, are the remains of the stuffa, with all its parts distinct; at the other, are the remains of the Catholic church. Both showing the distinctive marks and emblems particular to the two religions. The tires from the stuffa burned and sent and incense through the same alters from which was preached the religion of Christ. Two religions so utterly different in theory, were here, as in all Mexico, blended in harmonious practice, until, about a century since, the town was sacked by the Nava-hoe band of Indians.

Amidst all the havoc of plundering the city the faithful Aztek managed to keep his fire going in the stuffa, and it was continued until a few years since, the band became almost extinct. Their devotions rapidly diminished their numbers, until they became so few as to be unable to keep going their immense stuffa, forty feet in diameter, when they abandoned the place, and joined a tribe of the original Montezuma race, over the mountains, about sixty miles south. There to this day; it is said, they keep their fire; which has never yet been extinguished.

The labor and watchfulness, and the exposure to heat required, is fast diminishing this regiment of the Montezuma race; and a few years will see the end of this interesting people.

The sketches will give a much more accurate description than can be written of the remains of the modern church, with its crosses, its cells, in dark mysterious corners and niches, where many a maid signed out her confessions. The architecture of the present day in New Mexico; that of the Aztek part of the ruins presents many peculiarities worthy of notice.

Both are constructed of the same materials: the walls of sun dried brick, the rafters of well hewn timber, which could never have been hewn by the miserable axes now used by the Mexicans, which resemble, in shape, and size, the wedges used by our farmers for splitting rails. The corners and drops of the architecture, in the modern church, are elaborately carved with a knife.

To-night we found excellent grass on the Rio Pecos, abreast of the ruins. Here is situated the modern village of Pecos, with a very inconsiderable population. To-night there is a fandango, a mile and a half from camp; but as anxious as I am to see this dance, the threatening appearance of rain deterred me from going.

August 18.—We are this morning 29 miles from Santa Fe. Reliable information from four or five different sources, reached camp yesterday, and the day before that dissensions had arisen in Armijo's camp, and that his army was dispersed, and himself fled to the south, carrying with him his artillery and 100 dragoons. Not a hostile rifle or arrow was now between the army and Santa Fe, the capital of New Mexico; and the general determined to make the march in one day, and raise the
New horses and mules were ordered for the artillery, and everything was braced up for a forced march. The distance was not great, but the road was bad, and the horses on their last legs.

A small detachment was sent ahead at day break, and at six the army followed. Four or five miles from old Pecos from old Pecos the road leads into a canon, with hills on each side, from 1,000 – 2,000 feet above the road, and in all cases within cannon, and in many cases, point blank musket shot, which continues until within 12 or 15 miles of Santa Fe.

The scenery is wild, but the geological formation is much the same as before described, until you begin to fall towards the Del Norte, when the primitive rocks, granite, &c., are densely crowded wherever the rock affords a crevice. Fifteen miles from Santa Fe, we came upon the position deserted by Armijo. The topographical sketch will give a much more accurate idea of it than a written description. It is a gate way, which, in the hands of a skilled enemy and 100 resolute men, would be perfectly impregnable.

Had the position been defended with any decency, the general would have turned it by a road which branches to the south, six miles from Pecos, by the way of Gulisteo.

Armijo's arrangements for defense were very defective. His abattis was placed behind the gorge, some 100 yards, by which it is evident he intended that the gorge should be passed before his fires were opened. This done, his batteries would have been carried without difficulty.

Before we reached the canon, the noon halt was made, in a valley covered with the native potato. It was in full bloom. The fruit was not quite so large as a wren's egg. As we approached the town, a few straggling Mexicans came out, all opening their eyes wide, in search for the general, who, with his staff, was clad so plainly, that they passed us. Another officer and myself were sent down to explore the by road, for a short distance, by which, Armijo fled,—On our return to the main road we saw two Mexicans, one the acting Secretary of State, in search of the general. They had allowed him to pass unobserved. When we pointed the way they broke off in full run, their hands and feet keeping time to the pace of their nags. We followed, in a sharp trot, and, as we though, at a respectable distance. Our astonishment was great, to find as they wound through the ravine, and through the open well-grown pine tree forest, that they did not leave us perceptibly." Certainly they are in full run, and as certainly, we are only in a trot," we both exclaimed. I supposed we were under some delusion, and turned to my servant to see the pace at which he was going—and, said he, "them Mexican horses make a mighty great doing to no purpose." That was the fact. With their large cruel bitts, they harass their horses into a gait which enables them to gallop very long without losing sight of the starting place.

The acting secretary brought a letter from the lieutenant governor, informing the general of Armijo's flight, and of his readiness to receive him in Santa Fe, and extend to him the hospitalities of the city. He was quite a youth, and dressed in the hasion of the Americans.

Here, all persons from the United States are called Americanos, and the name is extended to no other race on the continent.

To-day's march was very tedious and vexatious.—Wishing to enter Santa Fe in an imposing form, frequent halts were made to allow the artillery to come up. Their horses were on their last legs; and during the day, mule after mule was placed before the guns, until scarcely a horse was left.

The head of the column arrived in sight of the town about three:-it was six before the van came up. Vigil, the lieutenant governor, and twenty or thirty of the people of the town, received us at the Palace. The general addressed them in a speech little different in substance, but much in manner, which was conversational, as at the Vegas and San Miguel. We were then asked to partake of wine and brandy, of domestic manufacture. It was from the Passo del Norte. We were too thirsty to judge of its merits. Anything liquid and cool was palatable. During the repast, and as the sun was setting, the United States flag was hoisted on the palace, and a salute of thirteen guns fired from the artillery that was left on an eminence overlooking the town.

The ceremony ended; the general and his staff were invited to supper at Capt.
Hortises, a Mexican gentleman, once in the army. The supper was served very much after the manner of a French dinner, one dish succeeding another, in endless succession. A bottle of good wine from the Passo del Norte, and a loaf of bread were placed near each plate. We had been from five in the morning without eating, and endless as were the dishes, more endless still were our appetites.

We returned to the palace, where we found Mr. Thurston, an American with an invitation to another supper, at the celebrated Madame Tula’s. This is a lady who has amassed a large fortune here and at Chihuahua, by gambling and other accomplishments. A few of us went down. We found the lady a little passe, but by far the most vivacious and intelligent Mexican we had yet seen. I wished to make observations; and, after gratifying my curiosity by a survey of her spacious and well-furnished halls, I returned to my quarters where I found my people all so much fagged, that I determined to follow their example and go to bed. The room assigned to me was very close and disagreeable, and I had my blankets moved to the plaza, where I slept till the sun was high in the heavens, and the horses, mules, and men, had been trampling around about me some hours.

August 19th.—Received an order to make a reconnaissance of the town, and select a site for a fort, assisted by Lieut. Gilmer of the engineers. This occupied me diligently on the 19th and 20th, and on the 21st the general was furnished with the map, a copy of which is sent to the adjutant general, and another to the topographical bureau.

The site selected, and marked on the maps, is within 600 yards of the heart of the town, and is 60 to one hundred feet above it. The contour of the ground is unfavorable for the trace of a regular work; but being the only point which commands the entire town, and which is itself commanded by no other, we did not hesitate to recommend it. The recommendation was approved by the general, who viewed it in person. On the 22d we submitted a complete plan of the work, which was also approved, and a copy of which will hereafter be forwarded to the department. It is computed for a garrison of 280 men. Its regular shape is the natural consequence of the ground; and, estimating its merits, due considerations must be given to the objects in erecting it. It is to be a magazine of ammunition, and a citadel in case of extremities, into which a few troops can retreat, and hold at bay, until help arrives, a large number of opposing force.

But the chief which is imposing position will doubtless achieve is the moral effect over a feeble and distracted race, who are now, since our capture of their artillery, without a single gun. Their own guns will be chiefly used to garrison the fort; and with them every house in Santa Fe could be leveled on the least appearance of revolt. On the 23d the work was commenced with a small force, and on the 27th, the requisition being complied with, 1 set to work 100 laborers, detailed from the soldiers of the army, and on the 31st thirty one Mexican brick masons were added, which will form the permanent force until the work is completed.

It is being determined to send an express to the states, on the 25th instant, I recommended to project and place my maps of the route of the army of the west, that the government might have at once the benefit of my labors. This was a bold undertaking—to compass in a few days the work of months. My astronomical observations were brought up from day to day as we progressed on the march, without which the undertaking would have been impracticable. We all worked day and night, and with the assistance of several gentlemen of the volunteers I succeeded in accomplishing the undertaking, not, however, in a very satisfactory way, as the accompanying letter to General Kearney, forwarded by him with the express, will show. Should this journal ever appear, that letter will form part of it, and explain what I have stated here more fully. I am now preparing, at more ease and with more care, another trave of my maps, which, together with my additional observations for the position of Santa Fe, the lunar observations at Bent’s Fort, which confirm, in the most satisfactory manner, my chronometric determinations, and the latitude of each camp and place of note, will be forwarded direct to the bureau by an express which left here on the 5th or 6th of September.

Events at the same place now begin to crowd upon each other in quick succession; but my duties keep me so constantly occupied in my office and in the field, they will not be chronicled in regular order, or in much detail.

On the morning of the 19th the general assembled all the people at the palace, and addressed them in about the same language as at Vegas; the principal difference being, that he notified all those who were dissatisfied with the new order of things, they had full liberty to quit the country without molestation. The next morning the chiefs and head men of the Puebla Indians in to give their adhesion, and to express their great satisfaction of his arrival. This large and formidable band are amongst the
best and most peaceable citizens of New Mexico. They, early after the conquest, embraced the forms of religion and like manners and customs of their then more civilized masters- the Spaniards. Their interview was long and interesting. They expressed what was a tradition with them that the white man would come from the far east, and release them from the bonds and shackles which the Spaniards have imposed, not in the name, but in a worse form than slavery.

They, and the numerous half-breeds, in whose veins flow their blood, are our fast friends now and forever. Three hundred years of oppression and injustice have failed to extinguish in this race the recollection that they were once the peaceable and inoffensive masters of the country. The day of retribution has now come, and they have their revenge.

The same afternoon, just as twilight had closed, the vicar of the department, a huge lump of fat, who had fled with Armijo, came puffing into town, and soon presented himself to the general. The interview was amusing. His holiness was accompanied by two young priests; one of whom showed the highest state of alarm and agitation. The vicar assured the general he had been persuaded to run off by the women of his family. The general told him, sharply, he thought it would have been much more in keeping with his holy office to stand by his flock, and not desert them in the hour of trouble, than listen to the unreasonable fears of two women. He then told the general that at another time he would give him the real reason for running away on the approach of the American army.]

A message was received the same night from Armijo, asking on what terms he would be received by the general, but this turned out only to be a ruse, on his part, to gain time in his flight to the south. It is now quite certain he had in the canon with him 4,000 men, tolerably armed, and six pieces of artillery. Had he been any sort of a general, he would have been able to give us infinite trouble. A priest arrived last night (the 29th) and gave the certain intelligence, that at the moment of Armijo’s flight, Ogarte, a colonel of the regular service, was on his march this side of the Passo del Norte, with 500 men to support him; that he would have been enabled to rouse the whole southern district, which is by far the most wealthiest and most populous.

Mr. McGriffin, an American, says that the night Armijo’s messenger returned from Gen. Kearney with the news that the latter had refused to stop, but was still advancing, he (Armijo) was thrown into the greatest trepidation; that he sent for him, (Mr. McGriffin,) embraced him, and asked him for God’s sake to go out and use his influence with General Kearney, to stop him. When Mr. McGriffin told him that was impossible, he gave away to the most uncontrollable despair.

In the course of the week, various deputations have come in from Taos, giving their allegiances, and asking for protection from the Indians. That portion is the best disposed to war is the United States. You can tell a Taos man at once by the cordiality of his salutation.

A band of Navahoes, naked, thin, and devilish looking, dropped in on the general while I was present. He told them to tell their chiefs and people that he was aware that they had, for a long time, subsisted by plundering the Mexicans, that hereafter, if they committed these acts he would hang the offenders by the neck until they were dead.—He also sent a message, that he had some presents to give them, which he would distribute in a few days.

Various rumors reached us from the south that troops are marching on Santa Fe, and that the people are rising, &c. To quiet them, the general has determined on an expedition down the river, 150 miles, to start on Wednesday, 1st of September.—The order is already out to prepare to march for California no time to lose.

September 30th – To-day we went to church, in great state. The governor’s seat, a large well stuffed chair, covered with crimson, was occupied by the general. The house was crowded with an attentive audience, of men and women; but not a word was uttered from the pulpit by the priest, who kept his back to the audience, the whole time uttering prayers. The band—the identical one used at the fandango—played the same tunes as at the dance, without intermission. Except the governor’s, and one row of benches, there were no seats in the church. Each woman dropped on her knees, on the bare floor, as she entered; and only changed this position for that on her seat, at long intervals, announced by the tinkle of a small bell.

The interior of the church is decorated with some fifty crosses, a great number of the most miserable paintings, and wax figures and looking glasses, trimmed with pieces of tinsel. The priest who was a very grave, respectable looking person, of fair
complexion, commenced the services by sprinkling holy water over the congregation. When abreast of the general, he extended his silver waterspout, and gave him a handful.

Though not a word was uttered, the whole service was grave and impressive; and I thought it was the very religion for the people present; and much more decent and worthy of God’s temple, than many of the ranting, howling discourses we have at home.

All appeared to have just left work to come to church. There was no fine dressing or personal display, that will not be seen on weekdays. Indeed, on returning from church we found all the stores open, and the market women selling their melon and plums, as usual.

The fruit of this place—muskmelons, apples, and plums—is very indifferent, and would scarcely be eaten in the states. To this I must except the apricot, which grows in perfection.

Leaving the narrow valley of the Santa Fe, which various from a thousand feet to a mile or two in width, you reach barren hills, utterly incapable, from soil and climate, of producing anything.

The valley is entirely cultivated by irrigation, and is, as you will see on the sketch, now covered with corn.

The population of Santa Fe if from 2,000 to 4,000; and they are, it is said, the poorest people of any town in the province.

The houses are of mud bricks, in the Spanish style, generally of one story and built on a square. The interior of the square is an open court, and the principal rooms open into it. They are forbidding in appearance, from the outside, but once in, and nothing can exceed their comfort and convenience. The thick walls make them cool in the summer, and they say, warm in the winter.

The better class of people are all provided with excellent beds, and have furniture, and have furniture; but the lower class, who are in fact but serfs, are very destitute, and sleep chiefly on skins untanned.

The women here, as in all other parts of the world, appear to be much before the men in refinement, intelligence, and knowledge of useful arts. The better class dress like American women, except they wear, instead of a bonnet, a scarf over the head. This they wear asleep or awake, in the house, or out.

He dress of the lower class of women, is a simple petticoat, with arms and shoulders bare, except what might be covered by the reboso.

The men who have means to do so, dress after our fashion; but by far the greater number, when they dress at all wear leather breeches, tight round the hips, and open from the knee down; and shirt and blanket takes the place of our coat and vest.

The city is dependant on the distant hills for wood, and at all hours of the day may be seen jackasses coming laden with wood, which is sold at 2 bits, or 25 cents per load. They are the most diminutive little creatures, and generally mounted from behind, after the fashion of a leap frog. It is the only animal that can subsist in this barren region with out the greatest expense. Our horses are all sent to distance, 12, 15, and 20 miles to grass.

Grain was very high when we first entered the town, selling freely ay $5 and $6 the fanegan (140 pounds.) As our wagons draw near, and the crops of wheat are being gathered, it is generally falling to four dollars the fanegan.

Milk sells at six cents the quart. Eggs, too, for the same sum; sugar 35 cents per pound, and coffee 75 cents. The Sugar made in the country is principally made from the cornstalk.

A great reduction must now take place in the price of dry goods and groceries—20 per cent, at least, for this was about the rate of duty charged by Armijo, which is now, of course, taken off. He collected annually some 50,000 or 60,000 dollars, principally, indeed entirely, on goods imported over land from the wagon load, without regard to the contents of the wagon.
Mr. Alvarez, our respectable consul here, informed me, that the impression from the United States, through New Mexico, varied very much; but that he thought they would average about a half million nearly, and no more. Many of the wagons go on to Chihuahua without breaking their loads.

New Mexico contains, according to the last census made a few years ago, 100,000 inhabitants. It is divided into three departments—the northern, the middle, and the southeastern. These are again subdivided into counties, and the counties into towns. —The lower, or southern, is comparably the richest, containing 48,000 inhabitants, many of whom are rich, in the possession of farms, stocks, and gold dust.

The statistics and resources of this whole country I will defer entering into until my return from the south.

This country, although poor and barren, unless the gold mines should be more extensively developed, is of great interest to the United States, and all important for her to possess. The road from here to Fort Leavenworth presents no obstacle for a railway, and if it continues as good to the Pacific, will be the route over which the U. States will pass immense quantities of merchandise into what will, at one day become the rich and populous state of Sonora, Durango, and Southern California.

As a military possession, it is important and necessary. Its mountain fortresses have long been the retreating place of the warlike parties of the Indians and robbers that sally out to intercept our caravans, moving on the different line of travel to the Pacific.

Another event of the day I must not omit to mention—the ball given at the palace by the general on Thursday night. It was well attended by all the principal people in town, Madam Tula included, and kept up to a late hour. The American cotillion was danced once or twice, but soon gave way to the rocha, the boleso, and the Italian. Every variety of figure was introduced in the dance; but the waltz was the basis of all, except the boleso which, as danced here resembles our Negro jig. My friend Lieut. Cribbon, of the artillery, has noted some of the music, which may be that of the time of the conquest. I send a few of the airs, some of which are pretty, and when I get back to Washington, hope to find them in vogue.

August 31st—Lieutenant Warner arrived to-day, with the wagon train of ordinance stores; but the general cannot yet relieve him from the duty. To-morrow a small expedition goes to Taos; but Lieutenant Peck being sick, I have not an officer to send with it.

To-day, pretty well authenticated accounts have arrived that Armijo, having met Ugarie advancing up the Del Norte with 500 regulars and several pieces of artillery, returned with, and is now rallying his forces in the lower country to the amount of four or five thousand; and it is said that numbers are joining him from the upper towns. In consequence, the general has strengthened the army with which is to meet him, with all his disposable force.

We march day after to-morrow; and I shall turn over the construction of the fort to Lieutenant Gilmer, and leave Lieut. Peck to assist him, as he is still unable to ride.

**NNR 71.140 October 31, 1846 Gen. Stephen Watts Kearney’s proclamation organizing territorial government in New Mexico**

The most of the papers we find regard the following as a hoax. The Union is silent on the subject:--

**Another Proclamation from Gen. Kearney**

From the New York Express.

The Pittsburg American has a letter from Santa Fe, dated September 12, enclosing another proclamation by General Kearney, summoning the citizens of New Mexico to hold an election on the 25th of October, to elect a delegate to the Congress of the United States, and members of a Territorial Legislature, the latter to assemble in Santa Fe on the second Monday of December next. The Senate to consist of 13 and the House of 35 members. Two candidates for delegates to Congress announced,
Don Manuel Linosa, Secretary of the Territory, and Mr. Magoffin, a merchant of Santa Fe connected with the house of P. Harmony & Nephews, of New York. It is supposed two or three other candidates would take the field. (The first we have seen of this proclamation is in the Cleveland Herald.)

"The proclamation called on the alcades and all other magistrates to superintend the polls' count the ballots, make returns, and preserve order; and commands all officers, soldiers, and followers of the army to abstain from all interference in said elections, and to be vigilant in securing the peaceable and undisturbed enjoyment of the good citizens of the Territory in the exercise of their valuable privileges authorized by this proclamation."

[MIK]

NRR 71.144 October 31, 1846 Gen. Pedro Ampudia's evacuation of Monterey, occupation by American forces

EVACUATION OF MONTEREY

Monterey, Mexico, Sept. 29, 1846

Gentlemen-We are at length in quiet possession of this place, the last division of Ampudia's army having marched out yesterday morning. The 1st division marched our on the 26th, the 2d on the 27th, and the balance on the 28th. I saw the two last and was able to form a tolerable good idea of the number of men in them. There could not have been fewer than 2500 in each division, of regular soldiers, well armed and equipped. Add to these some two thousand horsemen who left the city in small parties, during the four days flight, and at least 5000 citizens of the town who took up arms in its defense, and you have a pretty strong force for the defense of a place which nature and art have combined to render as strong as any in the world.

How such an army thus situated, could ever allow itself to be conquered by a force of less than 7000 men, will always appear strange to me. The cowardice of Ampudia is now established beyond a doubt. So careful was he of his person, that it is said he never once left his house when any firing was going on.

I felt perfectly satisfied, when I saw the Mexican troops pass out of town, with the arrangements which Gen. Taylor had made with them. To have taken all these men prisoners would have been useless. Their arms we did not want; their horses were worthless with a few exceptions, and it would have been very expensive and troublesome to feed and guard so many men. And moreover, it would have cost many a valuable life to have carried the city at the point of the bayonet.

I rode out with the head of the column day before yesterday, when their second division left town. That scene alone would almost have remunerated one for the long journey to Monterey. At the head of the column rode the commander of the division, with his staff, accompanied by Maj. Scott, of the 5th infantry, with his Adjutant (Lieut. Deas) and Lieuts. Hanson, Robinson, and McLaws. Col. Peyton rode by the side of the chief, and received a very affectionate embrace from him as we turned out to let the column march on, when the head had reached Palace Hill.

And now was presented a scene that I can never forget. Two regiments of infantry led off with colors flying, drums beating, and trumpeters blowing with all their might. The fifers made all the noise they could.—The men were all well armed, and the whole division seemed to be well appointed, with the exception of shoes, in lieu of which, most of the men wore sandals. Three pieces of artillery were in the center of the column, one six, one nine, and one twelve pounder. The line, marching four abreast about one mile.

The army was accompanied by a great many females; officers wives on horseback, their faces muffled, and with hats on; soldiers wives mounted on donkeys or on foot, some of them carrying burdens that I would scarcely think of packing upon mules; young women with short petticoats, and hats, tripping lightly along; young girls trudging along with their little valuables in their arms.

Yesterday morning the last division was drawn out in the plaza next to the Cathedral—that is, all the plaza could hold—and Captain Miles, who is stationed there with his regiment, (7th infantry,) drew up his command and saluted the regiments as they passed him.
The 1st division is encamped in the grove, three miles east of town—one of the loveliest spots in the world, shaded by large pecan and live oak trees. This grove seems to be the only woodland in the region, and is resorted to by the citizens of Monterey, as a place for holding pic-nic parties. The 3d, a volunteer division, is also encamped in the grove. Gen. Worth's division occupies the town. The citizens are beginning to return in great numbers, and appear to feel glad that the Mexican army has left them.

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**NNR 71.144 October 31, 1844 troops to leave Fort Moultrie for Mexico**

The Charleston Courier says that 260 U.S. troops were to leave Fort Moultrie on the 27th instant in the ship South Carolina for Mexico.

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**NNR 71.144-10/31/1846 Gen. Stephen Watts Keran'y excursion south and return to Santa Fe**

Santa Fe. -Latest- An express arrived at Fort Leavenworth on the evening of the 17th October, with intelligence from Santa Fe to the 17th ult. Brig. General Kearney had returned from the south, after a very successful tour. The inhabitants all hailed the stars and stripes with joy, and none expressed dissatisfaction but the rich. The middle and lower classes looked upon General K. as their deliverer. Orders had been issued to have the dragoons and 100 of Fischer's command, in readiness to march to California by the 25th September, at which time the Mormons were expected to arrive. --Gen. Kearney will command this expedition in person.

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**NNR 71.144-10/31/1846 Col. Canales at San Fernando**

CANALES- We learn that this notorious Mexican colonel was at San Fernando at last accounts. He is supposed to have commanded the men who cut off Dr. Alsbury and party. He will be likely to keep on the Mexican side of the lines hereafter. One of Gen. Patterson's orders is aimed at just such scamps as he.

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**NNR 71.144-10/31/1846 Military and Naval Movement**

Military and Naval Movement. - U. States steamship *Massachusetts* went to sea on Monday, from New York, with troops for our army in Mexico, which she will land at Brazos. They have been enlisted for the 4th, 5th, 6th, and 8th infantry, and are under orders of officers most of whom were engaged at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma.

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**NNR 70.337 Aug 1, 1846 Gen. Mariano Paredes y Arillaga requests permission, which is granted, to place himself in command of the Army in the North, arrangements with regard to other Mexican commanders**

Paredes Elected President. Shortly after the meeting of the Mexican congress, that body proceeded to organize the executive power, by a decree that it should be deposited provisionally in a magistrate elected by a plurality of the votes of congress, and that a vice president should be elected at the same time to act in the absence of the president. This decree was passed on the 10th of June, and on the 12th the election was held. Gen. Paredes was elected president, receiving 58 out of 83 votes. Ben. Bravo received 13 votes, and Gen. Herrera 7 votes. Gen. Bravo was then elected vice president, receiving 48 out of 82 votes. The highest opposing candidate was D. Luis G. Cuevas, who received 17 votes.
Gen. Paredes took the oaths of office on the 13th as provisional president, and at the same time pronounced another discourse, in the most notable passage of which he expresses his confidence that congress will grant all the supplies and make every effort necessary to defend the national cause. He reviews at length the wrongs which Mexico has endured at the hands of the United States, and concludes with desiring permission to assume of Senor Bustamente, who was ill, Dr. D. Louis Gonzaga Gordoa presided over congress. He replied to the president in substance, that every question of domestic policy shrunk into insignificance compared with the invasion of the country on the Rio Bravo; that the Mexican who should think of aught else than the injustice and treachery with which their soil was trampled, and the necessity of avenging their outraged honor, had no right to claim a share in their patriotic devotion.

On the 18th permission was granted to Paredes to place himself at the head of troops, and proceed to join the army of the North. Gonzalez Arevalo was to leave the capital on the 19th in command of the advance of the forces of Paredes. Gen. Mejia was in the actual command of the army of the North, Arista having been ordered to Mexico, and Ampudia to remain at San Luis Potosi. [A paper of the 27th ult. says that Gen. Arevalo, instead of proceeding to the frontier, had marched for Guadalajara to put down the insurrection.]

Gen. Bravo left Vera Cruz for the city of Mexico on the 24th, to discharge the functions of president in the absence of Paredes

NRR 70.337-338 Aug 1, 1846 consideration by the Mexican Congress of a declaration of war against the United States

Declaration of War Proposed. The committee of congress upon foreign relations and upon war made a joint report upon the 16th upon that part of the message of Paredes relating to the United States. The reports recommends the passage of a bill declaring Mexico to be in a state of war with the United States. We do not find that the bill had actually been passed. Bocanegra and Valencia were among the members of this committee. After a short report upon the circumstances of the case, the committee proposed the following:

Project DE LA Loi. The extraordinary national congress of the Mexican republic considering:

That the republic of the United States of America, with notorious violation of all right, has instigated and protected openly and perseveringly the insurrection of the colonists of Texas against the nation which had admitted them upon its territory and generously shielded them with the protection of its laws:

That is has incorporated the same territory of Texas into in union by an act of its congress, notwithstanding it has always belonged by undisputed right to the Mexican nation, has been recognized as such by the United States themselves, as appears by the boundary treaties of 1832 and 1835:

That is has not maintained the solemn assurances and reservations in regard to the rights of the Mexican republic, which by means of its agents it had made conformity with whose treaties:

That is has also invaded the department of Tamaulipas, introducing an army upon the left bank of the Rio Bravo, giving occasion and origin to the battles of the 8th and 9th of May of the present year:

That in time of profound peace, and during established relations of amity, between the two countries, it has invaded by land and sea that territories of the Cali:

That it has blockaded the ports of Matamoros, Vera Cruz, and Tampico of Tamaulipas, opening its fire upon the defenses of the latter:

That it has authorized a levy of troops against Mexico:

That it has declared war against the republic under the pretext that the said states had been invaded, when in fact they made the invasion:
And lastly, considering that the nationality of the Mexicans is seriously compromised by the power and the spirit of usurpation, flagrantly manifested by the neighboring nation of the United States.

[RCG]

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**NNR 70.341-342 Aug 1, 1846 letter from "The Corporal" with the Army of Occupation at Matamoros**

"THE CORPORAL," whose exceedingly lively and well written articles, communicated to the *New Orleans Bee*, keep the public well posted up as to the affairs on the Rio Grande, writes from

*Matamoros, July 4th, 1846*

I was in conversation with Mr. De Grey, who has returned here from Chihuahua, near two hours this morning. He says that he left San Antonio with others about two months ago with good on a trading expedition to Chihuahua, and proceeded on the route unmolested until he had reached Santa Clova, where they were stopped by the guad stationed on the river and their goods taken from them, in the name of the revenue laws of Mexico. Mr. De G. then left his party and traveled down the east bank of the Rio Grande, for a few days, when he crossed over and went to Saltillo, where he was advised of the bloody battle of the 9th, by its citizens, who stated to him that they would never go against the Americans again, and that it was a generally expressed thing at every place they had heard of. He says he was stopped by Arista, who was at his rancho, near Monterey, for two days, and although the general had quit the Mexican army forever, he still thought it his duty to detain and would likely have kept him had he not managed to escape and get into Monterey. This place he found dull and "heavy" and not one Mexican soldier in it--the people damning Paredes and the government, saying the soldiers had eaten them out of everything and then left them for the Americans to prey upon, whom they were looking for with much anxiety. They told him at this place that there was much eagerness displayed by the inhabitants of Coahuila and the upper part of Tamaulipas before the news of the fight reached them, but all operations in military affairs ceased after it, and patriotism was sunk. The remnant of the army--not 500--have gone to Lenaes, and were in a pitiful condition, and lessening the number daily by desertion. They had recruited a little whilst there, and fortified several points, but the citizens said it was labor thrown away. He heard that 600 men volunteered at Monclova, and were "eager for the fray;" but the startling news from the Rio Grande gave them a lick back; they mutinied, and 500 of them left sans ceremony. They had been made to believe that our pockets were lined with gold. (How they would have been so sucked had they got into the pockets of some folks I wot of.) He saw General Cannales near Reynosa, who told him that he commanded but 125 men at the time. Carabajal, his cher ami, gave De Grey, a passport to protect him from the band.

I am happy to inform you that the present swell in the river has had the good effect of clearing a channel at the mouth, by washing away the sand, and leaving it open for vessels of 5 or 6 feet water. The vessels at the mouth have gone out and several steamers have come in laden with military stores.

Several rows have occurred in this place during the last few days, which have compelled General Taylor to resume strict measures again. Several Mexicans have been killed and others wounded. Those of our men who engage in these broils are bad men--who come to town and remain here about during the day, in connection with some rangers of similar character, but I am proud to say, for the honor of the service, they are few in number.

There are, and have been for ten days, a set of mountebanks here performing on the tight rope and cutting "fantastic tricks before high heaven." About half an hour before the commencement of their performances they mount each a mustang, and proceed by a base drum and charionets, parade through the principle streets--dressed in their performing costumes, and followed by all the juveniles of the town. They are natives, and style themselves, "Compania del Norte." I have not had the courage to visit them.

[RCG]

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**NNR 70.342 Aug 1, 1846 visit of British naval officers to Gen. Zachary Taylor**
"Curiosity runs high" to know the object of a visit of two British naval officers to General Taylor, who arrived here in a vessel of war from Tampico. Communication being cut off, they sent their dispatches by mail to their consul at Matamoros, to be laid by him before the consul general. Nous verrons.

Appearances indicate a move of the army into the interior as soon as the waters subside.

Report says Gen. Paredes has sent a proclamation to the people of Matamoros, calling upon them to treat our regulars with every kindness and consideration, because of the unparalleled kindness and attention to the wounded, as well as prisoners and citizens. He takes occasion to score the Texans, &c. If this be true, it argues more favorable than otherwise.

NRR 70.343 August 1, 1846, Court of Inquiry, charges against General Gaines, Library for the Army of Occupation, Volunteers

The Court of Inquiry ordered to assemble at Fortress Monroe, (Old Point), for the investigation of the charges against General Gaines, met on the 21st, and organized for the transaction of business. - The Court sat with closed doors of course. All the members had not arrived. Gen. Gaines was, upon his arrival at Fortress Monroe, received by Col. Walbach, commandant, and saluted with 13 guns, together with the honors due to his high rank.

A LIBRARY FOR THE ARMY OF OCCUPATION. - Presuming, probably, that the army would have leisure for study, the following publishers in New York have contributed a very excellent library for the army on the Rio Grande: - Harper & Brothers; Burgess, Stringer & Co.; Wiley & Putnam; Saxton & Miles; Mark H. Newman; W. Taylor & Co.; J. & G.A. Langley; Baker & Seribner; M.W. Dodd; Darius Mead; J.S. Redfield; Fowler & Wells; C.S. Francis & Co.; Wood & Son, and Stanford & Swords. The idea was suggested by the Rev. Mr. Marshall, of Vicksburgh, Miss., at present in New York on a visit.

The government is buying mules in Tennessee, at $100 apiece.

Lieut. DEAS, who, it was reported at the time, had been attracted by some Mexican damsel, on the banks of the Rio Grande, opposite Fort Brown, but who in reality had swam the river in search of the lamented Col. Cross, and was captured by the enemy, has been restored to his company.

DEserters. - The two Sergeants who deserted from Capt. Deas's company of Alabama volunteers on the Rio Grande, were arrested in Mobile, and were about to be sent back to be tried by a military court, when a writ of habeas corpus was taken out for their detention, and the examination of their case before a civil court. After hearing the case, the judge decided that they should be returned to the camp for trial by court martial. From this decision an appeal was taken to the court of appeals, where the matter now lies.

DEATH OF C. J. McNULTY. - Capt. Hicks, of the New Era, arrived yesterday from New Orleans, reports the death of C. J. McNulty, on his way to the seat of war. He died just below Memphis. He was a private in the Knox county volunteers, and formerly well known as the clerk of the house of representatives.

GEORGIA VOLUNTEERS. - Two men were drowned - Farrar and McNier - in the Alabama river, while on their way to Mobile. They jumped overboard from the steamer in a fright.

The Mobile papers gives the particulars of an affair, on the wharf in that city, connected with a corps of volunteers from Georgia. Some of the men undertook to torment some negroes fishing at the wharf. Two were knocked into the river and one of them drowned. Excitement followed, and the troops were for hurrying off the boat on which they were embarked - but the mayor ordered their detention, and three men were arrested and taken before the mayor. Two were, after examination, discharged, and the third sent to prison to answer for his crime.

SOUTH CAROLINA VOLUNTEERS. - The secretary of war has informed the governor of S. Carolina that there is no necessity at present for calling the regiment of that
EXPEDITION AGAINST CHIHUAHUA. - The company of U. States dragoons that have for some time been at Austin, Texas, left there on the 16th June, for San Antonio.

Capt. R. M. Snell, of the Texan volunteers, has arrived at Galveston for the purpose of raising three or four companies of foot, for what service is not stated.

THE SANTA FE EXPEDITION. - Col. Price's regiment. A letter from Lexington, Mo., dated the 2d, says - "Col. Price has been informed by Col. Kearney, that his regiment will be received, provided he raises eight hundred infantry - more cavalry not being wanted in the expedition. Col. Price, it is said, objects to this arrangement, and a doubt exists whether he will be able to succeed in raising the number of men." There can be no doubt that Col. Kearney has more mounted men with him than is necessary for the expedition, and we are surprised at the opposition which Col. Price makes, to the new service with which Col. Kearney desires to invest him. He ought not to hesitate about obeying Col. Kearney's requisition, more especially as it may conduce to the safety of the expedition, and to the promptness with which his men may be brought into the field.

[GLP]

NNR 70.343 Aug 1, 1846 arrival of the first, second, and third regiments of Ohio volunteers at New Orleans

Ohio Volunteers. The first regiment of Ohio volunteers, commanded by Col. Mitchell, and Lieut. Col. Weller, arrived at New Orleans on the 8th of July, by steamers New World and Carolina, from Cincinnati, and encamped at the battle ground blow the barracks.


Two steamboats arrived at New Orleans on the 16th with the 2d regiment.

[RCG]

NNR 70.343 Aug 1, 1846 arrival of five companies of Indiana volunteers at New Orleans

Indiana Volunteers. A steamboat arrived at N. Orleans on the 16th of July, with five companies of the 2d regiment of the Indiana volunteers.

[RCG]

NNR 70.343 August 1, 1846 Full Complement of NY Volunteers

New York Volunteers. We learn that the full complement of seven regiments of volunteers required from this state, for service in the war against Mexico, has already been obtained, and all the line officers commissioned. It is expected that the field officers will also receive their commissions in the course of twelve or fourteen days, when the whole force will be complete, awaiting orders from the war department. An excess, nearly sufficient for another regiment, we understand, has been reported to the adjutant general's office.

[RCG]

NNR 70.343 Aug 1, 1846 account of traders, emigrants, and soldiers setting out for Santa Fe, Oregon, and California

Trade to Sante Fe, California, and Oregon.

Dr. J. Gregg, the author of "Commerce of the Prairies," in a letter to the editors of the Boonslick (Missouri) Times, gives the following important statements.
Independence, June 30th, 1846.

The traders having left this place in detached parties, as each proprietor finished his preliminary arrangements and got his goods and chattles, freight and cattle ready for starting, it is difficult to form a correct estimate of their numbers or quantity, unless one had taken the pains of stationing himself upon the borders at the opening of the navigation, in the spring, and counted them when passing. I have, however, by minute and frequent inquiries ascertained that there are "en masse" upon the Santa Fe trail, 216 wagons.

Still behind to start during the summer, principally belonging to Mexicans, say, Small carriages, buggies, &c., 150 " 50" 416 --having on board, as near as I can estimate it, an amount of merchandise, costing a fraction over one million of dollars, which in more than treble that of any previous season.

These vehicles, of various sorts, are accompanied by people as various -- compromising traders and wagoners, loungers, on and connoisseur travelers, loafers and loungers, amounting to about one thousand men.

The Oregon and California emigration, (much the larger part of which is for the latter country,) amounts to, men, women, and children, about two thousand persons, and in all probability, I think, at least 400 wagons of all descriptions.

Then, there is our army, the number of which is quite uncertain, although, including dragoons and volunteers, infantry, and cavalry, it will, from present indications, amount to about three thousand men accompanied by two hundred and fifty wagons.

Thus, we have about six thousand souls, with one thousand wagons, moving westward, across the great prairies, during the present summer, from this part of our frontier, How many may put off from other portions of our western border, I know no more than you; but report says that a large number of troops will leave Arkansas next month for our southwestern frontier and Mexico.

Your Friend,
Josiah Gregg.

[RCG]

NNR 70.344 Aug 1, 1846 mustering of the New York regiment destined for California, complaints of favoritism to Col. John D. Stevenson

The expedition to the Pacific. -- The regiment under the command of Col. Stenvenson, destined for California, was mustered and inspected at the New York arsenal yard on the 21st ult. It is said they intend to encamp on Bedloe's Island, and pass the time previous to their departure in active drill.

The Mechanics' Journal says. -- "Very just complaints are made of the favoritism of the administration in allowing John D. Stevenson to raise a regiment for immediate service, while volunteers are enrolled in New York and waiting to be ordered into survive, waiting without pay, and even without any provision for their maintenance. A son of Mr. Marcy is to be paymaster of this regiment, for the administration has long since assumed the right of appointing the officers of the militia, though in direct defiance of the constitution, which reserves that right to the states respectively. Sir Robert Peel, with the immense patronage in his power, made it a rule never to appoint a relative to office. With all the admiration which this administration exhibits for British examples, this is a precedent which there appears no disposition to follow."

[RCG]

NNR 70.352 August 1, 1846, Steamer Princeton detached for Pensacola

THE PRINCETON, U.S. STEAMER, which has been exceedingly useful in maintaining
the blockade of Vera Cruz, performing what no other vessel in the navy was as
capable of doing, has suddenly been detached by Commodore CONNER, in order to
bring despatches, with which she arrived at Pensacola, on the 20th, in five days
from Vera Cruz. The despatches are said to be from our Pacific squadron. Of their
purport nothing has transpired.

NNR 70.352 August 1, 1846, "ARMY OF OCCUPATION."

Our latest dates from the Rio Grande left the army still waiting for means of
transportation and for supplies to enable them to progress. Gen. Taylor is now
camped with four regiments, (Colonels Walton's, Davie's, Dankin's and Mark's,) with
the Alabamians, under Capt. Desha, at Buena Vista, on the borders of a lake,
seventeen miles northwest of Matamoros. The health of the volunteers here, with
Gen. Taylor, had much improved, owing to the fine air they enjoyed and splendid
encamping grounds they occupied.

The roads were perfectly impassable for wheeled vehicles, owing to the swampy soil,
ocasioned by the immense falls of rain which had recently taken place. - The
steamer Mercer arrived at the mouth of the Rio Grande, all safe, on the 17th inst.
There were no signs of Mexican soldiery in the vicinity of Camargo.

Capt. Walker had returned from his expedition to Monterey, and delivered a report
which is said to be an exceedingly interesting one of the state of the country through
which he passed, halting places, &c. &c. - There is no probability of an opposition
being made to the advance of the American troops between Camargo and Monterey,
and from what could be collected, the Mexican force concentrated at the latter point,
is extremely insignificant. Nothing regarding the reported approach of Paredes, with
the army of reserve, of an authentic nature has been ascertained at headquarters,
although ?? are out in some numbers for that purpose. Everything, however,
seems to announce that the possession of Monterey will be fiercely disputed, as it is
by nature and art, one of the most powerful strongholds in Mexico. The inhabitants
and soldiers are daily employed in improving its defences.

Our informant states that it was reported by the Rangers that they had penetrated
to the precipitous cliffs that overhang Monterey, when a trooper, a very adventurous
soldier, named Cummins, reached a point overhanging the Bishop's Palace, which
commanded a view of the whole city. The utmost activity seemed to prevail among
the Mexicans, who were busily employed in repairing the old fortifications and
erecting new ones. - The number of troops was not ascertained, but from the
movements observable, it was evident they were preparing every means of defence.

The crops it is feared, are almost irreparably injured. The cotton harvest is
annihilated; as for the corn much will be saved, although greatly deteriorated.

The Mexican peasantry are employed very diligently in cutting wood and piling it on
the banks of the river, for the steamboats. They receive $2.50 a cord. It is musket
wood, and burns very well. Gen. Taylor put it to them, whether they would cut it
and get paid, or oblige him to have it cut by his own men, when they would lose the
price of labor. Wood, however, he added, must be had.

Business is very brisk at Matamoros. Fine weather had again assumed a
permanent aspect; the waters were every where falling, and the whole of the
military were joyfully preparing for the opening campaign.

NNR 70.352 Aug 1, 1846 mounted riflemen and Mormon infantry for California

"Army of the West"

We find the above designation fully assumed in an official order from Col. Kearney,
1st U. S. dragoons, dated "Headquarters, Army of the West, Fort Leavenworth, June
19th, 1846," directed to Capt. Allen, of said regiment, which together with Capt.
Allen's "circular to the Mormons," dated "Camp of the Mormons, Mount Pisgah, June
26th," are published in the St. Louis Republican, of the 24th, as taken from the
Nauvoo Eagle, of the 17th June. The overture to the Mormons in the orders and
circular are very comprehensive. Gen. Kearny distinctly point to California as his place of destination, and that he stipulates for the discharge of the Mormons from service in that country. He asks for five companies of infantry. The Mormons are eager to embrace the overtire. The Republican adds: "We learn from the same source that Gen. Kearny in consideration of their having placed five hundred men at the disposal of the government, has emigrating Mormons, and that they shall have the use of "any of the Indian lands they may think proper to select,"until they are ready to cross the mountains. The Mormons have, in accordance with this arrangement, selected Grand Island, on the Platt river, for their temporary residence. It is a large tract and has a salt spring upon it. There they will winter, and collect the entire Mormon population of the west, preparatory to their march to California next spring. They propose to push forward from this point as rapidly as possible, and, after reaching in, to send back from five hundred to one thousand wagons, for the purpose of helping along those who may yet be in Illinois, Iowa, or Missouri. This is to be done with all possible expedition. Grand Island is stated to be between one hundred and two hundred miles west of Council Bluffs. At the last dates the requisition of Gen. Kearny was rapidly filling up; and on the 17th, the United States officers gave the Mormons a splendid fete or ball, which is said to have been a fine affair."

A letter from an officer date --Camp at Cotton Wood, July 10th, published in the National Intelligencer, of the 30th, states that the detachment crossed Kansas on the 2d, and were 180 miles from Fort Leavenworth, without meeting with any accident. They had no intelligence as yet from the detachment sent under Captain Moore to overtake the Santa Fe expedition.

The companies of Mormon infantry and Col. Price's regiment of mounted Missourians, are expected to join general Kearny at Bent's Ford, at which place he halts for them to come up. Including these he will have about 3 200 men with which to invade Mexico and Santa Fe.

Expenses of the War. The St. Louis Republican of a recent date has the following:

"It is only by ascertaining the actual cost of particular items that the expenses of the war with Mexico can be estimated. The government agents, a few days since, purchased five hundred barrels mess pork for the "use of the army of the West." This pork is to be transported to Santa Fe. It cost $10 per barrel. Three or hour
years ago supplies were needed for an expedition on the same route, and contracts were made with Bent & St. Vrain, for transportation. They were paid 8 cents per lb., from Independence to Bent's Fort. The government, of course, paid the transportation to Independence. It is alleged that the contract to which we have alluded was a losing concern, and that no one will undertake it for less than ten cents per pound. A barrel of pork will average 320 pounds. The cost of its transportation from Fort Leavenworth, to which point all public stores are shipped to Bent's Fort, will then be thirty-two dollars. But this is not all. It has there to be wagoned to Santa Fe, and it is a very moderate calculation to say that the additional cost, with the transportation from St. Louis to Fort Leavenworth, will increase the cost to $40 per barrel. Add the original cost and it makes the actual expense of the barrel of pork, on its delivery at Santa Fe, fifty dollars. In other words, the government pays $25,00 for the 500 barrels of pork.

"The cost of all other freight must be charged in the same way -- by the pound-- and the expense cannot be much less than we have estimated."

[RCG]

NNR 70.368 August 8, 1846, move toward Monterey anticipated

"It is now understood that we will move towards Monteray, a beatiful town at the head of the San Juan (river), about two hundred miles distant. I think it is probable that in two weeks more the mounted force, viz. the Texas mounted riflemen and the United States dragoons will be on their march thither. If we can get the needful transportation, we will overrun and occupy, before the end of summer, all that part of Mexico lying on this side of the Auahuae mountains. This I imagine will be the end of our operations in this direction. If the war continues, the main blow must be stricken through Vera Cruz. The means of reaching that point by water are always abundant, and we are taken at once into the heart of the enemy. where every blow will count. To approach the city of Mexico by Monteray will require immense transportation of provisions and forage, over an uninhabited desert of a thousand miles, with roads through mountains and defiles. We hear but little of the enemy. The rumor is, and has been for some weeks, that they are fortifying the pass this side of Monteray. It is said to be a strong place. Yet we will pass it, if we try."

[GLP]

NNR 70.368 August 8, 1846, CAMP, ON THE BATTLE-FIELD

MAY 10TH, 1846.

SIR, - In compliance with your request, I have the honor to report that, in the deployment of the 4th Infantry, I found myself in command of companies B, D, and K, on the left of the road as we entered, and having been ordered to cross to the right abd advance, did so. After crossing the pond, I had with me Lieuts. Hays and Woods and about twenty men of different regiments, mostly however, of the 4th. Upon deploying my men on the crest of the hill, I discovered one of the enemy’s pieces about fifty yards in my front which was defended by about 150 Infantry. I charged and took the piece and attempted to spike it, but not being able to do so, took it back to a place of safety. - The enemy had a breast-work in my rear, and opened a heavy fire on me, with about ten men, I dislodged him and drove him across the road. Too much credit cannot be given to Lieuts. Hays and Wooda, of the 4th. They were among the very first to reach the piece, and to them belongs the credit of its capture. - Whilst I was engaged in driving the enemy from his breastwork, these officers, with their men, repulsed a party that charged them in order to recapture the piece. I cannot refrain from calling your attention to Sergeant Major Maloney and Corporal Farrall, who behaved with remarkable coolness and gallantry. - Everybody did his duty nobly, as becomes American soldiers.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant.
ROBERT C. BUCHANAN, Capt. 4th Infantry

To Maj. G. W. ALLEN, Command’g 4th Inf’y.

[GLP]
LIEUT. BLAKE. A letter from Gen. Worth, dated New Orleans, May 18, 1846, says. -
You will probably by mail, hear of the loss of that gallant ornament and devoted
member of your corps, my warmly cherished friend, Blake. The manner adds
poignancy to our sorrows. Had he fallen in the conflict, in which by all accounts, he
ead especially distinguished himself, regrets would have been turned into envy.
After the battle, on casting aside his weapons, one of his pistols accidently
discharged, and gave him a mortal wound. Knowing and valuing him as I did, you
will readily conceive how I deplore his loss, both as a gallant and true hearted friend,
and accomplished comrade. He has left no better soldier behind."

"Our troops hav ebehaved with great intrepidity. - Every man has done his duty. My
own gallant regiment speaks for itself in the list of the killed and wounded - verified
by the colors of the crack Mexican regiment, that of Tobasco. Would to God I could
have been with them; but a sad fate ordered otherwise. There is time yet; it is but
the beginning of the end. I sail to-morrow, and, with God's blessing will be in line by
the 21st.
(Lieut. Blake served with Gen. Worth throughout his operations in Florida.)

THE MORTALLY WOUNDED. The Surgeon General of the Army on the Rio Grande
has sent to the editor of the Washington Union a list of the private soldiers who were
mortally wounded in the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, and who
expired on the days of the battles, or have since died of their wounds. It is as
follows:

William Atherton, Lewis H. Tucker, George Bates, Charles Wilson, Frederick Papae,
James Manning, Thomas Cantwell, - Martin, - Eichler, Owen Hawkins, James Morgan,
William B. Fuller, John Forsyth, Matthew Niddy, Charles Marsland, George Chisholm,
Philip Lee, Orlando Pierce, Robt. Mathews, Daniel Mc-Dardie, - Eldridge, James
Stockley, - Albertson, - Shermaher, Weigart Horace, - Francis, - Anthony, - Fisher, -
Mullen, - Hunt, - Hart, - Wallace, - Farrell, - Lewis, - Murray, - Waldron, - Patton, -
Haddock.
The names of the men who were killed outright, or who did not come under the
observation of the surgeons, have not been reported to the Surgeon General's
Office.

A number of fine artillery companies arrived at the Brazos before the departure of
the Empresario. Gen. Smith, with the 3d and 4th regiments U.S. Infantry, had
proceeded to Camargo. Brig. Gen. Hamer was to be left in command at Matamoros,
with a regiment of volunteers and a supply of artillery to garrison the ports. Gov.
Henderson, at the last accounts, was lying dangerously ill at Matamoros, little hope was entertained of his recovery.

[RCG]

NRR 70.372, August 15, 1846, War with Mexico, Volunteers, Navy

The brig Empresario, the steamer New York, and the schooner Nutwe, all reached New Orleans on the 1st from Galveston and the seat of war - bringing a number of volunteers that had been discharged under orders from government. Among the passengers by the New York are Col. Morgan, Capt. Holton, and Lieut. Alvord, of the U.S. States army; Col. Narks, Adj. Hunter, Lieut. Harris, of the Andrew Jackson regiment, Louisiana volunteers; Col. Dakin, Maj. McCull, Capts. Fowles and Clark, and Lieut. Mace, of Dakins regiment; and Col. Walton, Lieut. Col. Forre, Maj. Breedlove, and Dr. Wilson, of the Washington.

The Empresario brought back Capt. Desha's company of Alabama volunteers, who have been ordered to New Orleans, to be mustered out of the service, in compliance with the instructions of the war department. Six additional companies of Alabama volunteers and the St. Louis Legion are to be disbanded. The regiment of Cols. Peyton and Featherston are not recognized by the department as attached to the service. Not a single company, and very few of the men had accepted the alternative offered to them by the department, of enlisting for twelve months.

A number of fine artillery companies arrived at the Brazos before the departure of the Empresario. Gen. Smith, with the 3d and 4th regiments U. S. Infantry, had proceeded to Camargo. Brig. Gen. Hamer was to be left in command at Matamoros, with a regiment of volunteers and a supply of artillery to garrison the ports. Gov. Henderson, at the last accounts, was lying dangerously ill at Matamoros, little hope was entertained of his recovery.

The propeller Massachusetts arrived at the Brazos on the 26th ult. The brig Crusoe struck on Brazos bar in going over, and upon making the landing she unfortunately sunk. The clerk of the New York reports that he saw on the 29th the bark Lazan, hence for Brazos Santiago, a shore ten miles to the east of the Brazos. The troops on board were all saved. - Her cargo consisted of government stores which were all saved; the vessel was a total loss.

Nothing was known of the movements of the Mexican forces. Letters from the city of Mexico stated that Paredes was to leave the capital to join the army on the 29th ult.

INCIDENTS OF THE BATTLE FIELD.

The Maryland Line. A letter from Point Isabel on the 2d inst., says: "There were four gentlemen from Baltimore in the battle of Palo Alto: the gallant and ill-fated Ringgold, who fell at the close of a long fight, in which he did incalculable damage to the enemy; Capt. Magruder, who, when the Mexican army charged upon the square of the artillery battalion, then unsupported by any other battalion, seized a musket which had fallen from the hands of a man killed near him, and fighting with the soldiers in the ranks, assisted in repelling the charge; Lieut. Randolph Ridgely, who, commanding two pieces, dashed to the assistance of the fifth infantry in the square, when charged by the Mexican Red Lancers, and in the most gallant manner assisted that regiment in repulsing it; and lastly, Mr. Lloyd Tilganan, a gentleman amateur, who graduated at West Point and resigned; but who, upon this occasion, reconnoitered the enemy's whole line before the battle, and, as a volunteer aid to Gen. Taylor, exposed his person every where, and was always in the hottest part of the field."

THE VETERAN OF NAPOLEON. As Churchill's battalion of artillery were advancing to take their position in the second line of battalion on the 8th, a private in the 4th regiment was come up to, who lay upon the battle field with both his legs shot off. He was one of the first that fell after the cannonade commenced, and was a veteran in Napoleon's wars. After having escaped in the terrible conflicts of Austrelitz and Wagnam, and in the retreat from Moscow, and the battle of Waterloo, he lived to fall on the Palo Alto, by a cannon shot from a Mexican battery. As his fellow soldiers passed him and noticed at every pulsation of his heart, that the blood flowed from his wounds, they stopped an instant to sympathise with him, the noble hearted fellow, as his eyes were glazing in death, waved them on, and with his last breath, said, "Go comrades, I have only got what a soldier enlists for."
A private, on the 9th, who had followed Lieut. Dobbins through the thickest of the fight, raised his musket at a Mexican, and would have blown him through if the poor fellow had not most petiously cried out amigo, amigo, at the same time dropping his weapon; the private did the same and advanced towards the Mexican to take him prisoner, the Mexican then perfidiously raised his piece and instantly killed the generous American. This so enraged Lieut. Dobbins, that he drew his bowie knife and at a bound reached the coward and literally split his head in twain.

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NNR 70.373 Aug 15, 1846 notice of the departure of Maj. E. Kirby for the war

Major E. Kirby. Among the distinguished officers of the army that embarked on board the steamship Alabama, on Saturday evening bound for the seat of war, we noticed Major E. Kirby, of the regular army. Major Kirby, has rendered his country much service in his time, having served in the last war, and in the Black Hawk and Florida campaigns. He belongs to the Cincinnatus school of soldiers; for when his country needs not his services in the field, he may be found tilling the soil on his farm near Brownsville, Jefferson county, N.Y., formerly the residence of his distinguished father-in-law, the late Major Ge. Jacob Brown. It was the good fortune of the writer of this to meet Major K. last September, at the exhibition of the New York State Agriculture Society, at Utica, and well could he descant upon the beauties of a Burham, a Decon, and a Hereford. Major K. has gone out as paymaster general, and took with him $100,000 for the pay of soldiers—and it may be safely ventured that he is shipper of Mexican dollars to Mexico. [N. Orleans Tropic.

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NNR 70.373 Aug 15, 1846 Account of the Heroine of Fort Brown

THE HEROINE OF FORT BROWN. The N. Orleans Picayune has a letter from Matamoros which furnishes some interesting particulars respecting the heroine of Fort Brown, who is generally known in the army of the south as "The Great Western." - The writer says: -

"She was first brought to the notice of the public in a few remarks by Lieut. Bragg, at the collation given by the army to the Louisiana delegation at Gen. Arista's headquarters in Matamoros. He mentioned her gallant conduct and noble bearing during the whole of the bombardment. A few of the incidents of the life of this extraordinary woman, which I have been able to pick up in camp, will be read with some interest; they prove that the sex has not been unrepresented in the soul-stirring and bloody scenes on the Rio Grande.

The Great Western belong to a class known and recognized in the organization of the army as "Laundresses," three of whom are allowed to draw rations in each company, and are required to wash for the soldiers thereof, at a price regulated by a council of officers. She arrived at Corpus Christi last autumn with the 7th infantry, to one of the companies of which her husband was attached. Up to the time the army marched for the Rio Grande, she performed all her appropriate duties, and in addition, kept a "mess" for the young officers of the regiment.

When the army took up its line of march for the Rio Grande, the women, with a few rare exceptions, were left behind to come by sea. A very few procured ponies and followed their husbands on their tedious and arduous march. Not so with "The Great Western." Her husband was sent by water, whether on duty or for disability I am unable to learn; but she, true to her character, declaring that "the boys" (young officers of her mess) "must have somebody to take care of them," purchased a mule and a cart, packed her luggage, cooking utensils, and supplies, mounted behind her donkey, with whip in hand, and displayed upon the whole route qualities and attainments which the best teamster in the train might have envied. During the whole journey she kept up the "mess," a relief from the burdens of which is the greatest boon to an officer on the march. The brigade to which she was attached arrived upon the banks of the Sal Colorado as Gen. Taylor was preparing to cross with the dragoons and the 1st brigade of infantry. The Mexicans upon the opposite bank were making great demonstrations by blowing bugles, &c., &c. After calmly surveying the scene from her cart, she remarked, with great coolness and determination, that "if the general would give her a good strong pair of tongs, who would wade that river, and whip every scoundrel that dare show himself!" It may be imagined that the men were not backward in crossing after that.
When Gen. Taylor marched to Point Isabel with his army, on the 1st May, the 7th infantry, and of course, The Great Western, remained to garrison Fort Brown. How that noble regiment and the two companies of artillery left in this work sustained themselves, is already known, but nothing will more gratify them than to have justice done their gallant heroine, of whom they speak in the warmest terms. She, with all the other women left behind, some eight or ten, moved into the fort, where her mess was soon in operation, the position of her tent and fire being near the centre of the fort. The enemy's fire opened on the 3d, just as she was commencing her arrangements for the "boys" breakfast. Every security that could possibly be provided was offered to the women, to whom the gallant soldier always gives his first attention. The magazines were the only "bomb proofs" in the fort, and as the government had sent no ammunition to fill them, the next most inflammable material - the women - found perfect security in them. These women, however, be it said to the honor of the sex, were not idle. - Most nobly did they ply the needle in preparing sand bags out of the officers' and soldiers' tents, wherewith to strengthen the work, and protect the artillerymen when serving their guns. The Great Western, true to herself again, declined participating in this protection of sewing, and continued her labors at the fire, in the open air. From the firing of the first gun all hands were at their posts, Lowd's and Bragg's artillery speaking in tones of thunder the indignation they felt at being thus saluted on a bright May morning.

When the hour arrived for breakfast, but few expected the luxury which awaited them. The mess was as well attended to as if nothing but a morning drill with blank cartridges had come off, and in addition a large supply of delicious hot coffee was awaiting the thirsty, who had but to call and partake, without distinction of rank. To some of the artillerymen, who were unable to leave their guns, the beverage was carried by this 'ministering angel,' and, as may readily be believed, no belle of Orleans, as much as she might be admired and beloved, ever met a more gracious reception. The fire of the artillery was kept up almost incessantly until dinner hour - a soldier's dinner hour is 1 o'clock - when the good and generous woman again provided for those who were almost utterly exhausted and worn out, a delicious dish of bean soup - this bean soup is declared by the Mexicans to be the foundation of that invincible spirit which they have seen so strikingly displayed by the Yankee soldiers. This she distributed again, without money and without price. Thus did she continue to discharge her duties during the seven days that the enemy kept up an incessant cannonade and bombardment. She was ever to be found at her post; her meals were always ready at the hour, "and always of the best the market afforded."

When the despatches were made up for General Taylor on the evening of the 4th, a number of officers and others had written to their friends at Point Isabel, and among them "The Great Western" had found time to communicate with her husband; and I have frequently heard it said by those who saw her letter, for it was loudly called for and made public, that her description, if not the most accurate, was certainly the most graphic which was given of the events of the 3d and 4th May. She expressed her full confidence in the ability of the garrison to sustain itself, and only regretted the absence of her husband. To supply his place, however, I am told that she applied, early in the action, for a musket and ammunition, which she received and put in a secure place, expressing her determination to have full satisfaction whenever the enemy should dare approach within range of her piece. This they never did, and our heroine must rest contented with the reflection that she nobly performed her own duty and will long be remembered by the besieged garrison of Fort Brown.

She is probably as celebrated for her personal appearance as she is for her deeds. With an erect and majestic carriage, she glories in a height - six feet - which fully entitles her to a place in the grenadier, any soldier of which might well envy her athletic but graceful form. But her reputation, the dearest of all things to a woman, is what she prides herself on. With virtue as a basis, and such heroic conduct to build with, she never need fear the necessity of exercising her extraordinary physical ability in defence of that reputation. But if attacked, the gallant defenders of Fort Brown will, I doubt not, be found pressing forward in her defence, and woe be to the dastard who receives a discharge of artillery from such gunners."

[LA]
his expedition against Santa Fe.

The Offer To Negotiate For Peace

President Polk's overtures to Mexico, to send or to receive a minister plenipotentiary with powers to settle the existing controversy and terminate the war, will not only meet the cordial approbation of the people of this country, but will also elicit the plaudits of all the Christian powers. This proposition of the president, it will be observed, was not at all dependant upon the success of his application to congress for the two millions of dollars which he asked that body for, with a view to aid him in the negotiation. The letter from the secretary of state, Mr. Buchanan, to the Mexican minister of foreign relations, proposing negotiation, was dated the 27th of July, 1846, and was winging its way towards "the Halls of the Montasumas," a full week before the president, in confidential message to the senate, apprised that body of his having any such design. The confidential message was sent to the senate on the 4th of August--informing that body of the step he had taken, and asking money to aid him in negotiation a peace.--That the Mexican government will be constrained to accept this overture of our governments under which they are laboring, will now be added beyond doubt--the earnest advice of the British legation, and the offer of that governments to mediate for a peace between the United States and Mexico. England might have been disposed to promote a dispute between Mexico and the United States, very naturally, so long as she had a quarrel of her own with the latter, which there was a probability would terminate in war, but having now settled all disputes of her own, she has such obvious interests to sub serve by a restoration of peace in Mexico--her commerce and her capitalists have so much to loose by Mexico being blockaded, invaded, overrun, and dismembered, that there can be no doubt of the sincerity of their interposition.

To the influence of the British diplomatic agents at Mexico, it is probable will soon be added that of a new French minister, with whom a frigate was about to proceed to the gulf with, when the last steamer left Europe. No potentate of Europe is more anxious to maintain a general peace amongst the Christian powers, that Louis Philippe. The continuance of a war between the United States and Mexico, would soon embrace other powers in the conflict.

Military Appointments

The following brevet appointments have been made in the army by the President, and confirmed by the Senate:

In Executive Session.

Resolved. That the Senate advise and consent to the following promotions in the army and brevet for gallant and distinguished services in the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, in Texas, on the 8th and 9th of May, 1846, and in the defense of Fort Brown, Texas, during its bombardment from the 3d to the 9th of May, 1846, agreeably to their nominations respectively, viz:

Lieutenant Colonel James S. Mc-Intosh, of the 5th regiment of infantry, to be colonel by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Lieut. Colonel Matthew M. Payne, of the 4th regiment of artillery, to be colonel by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Brevet Lieut. Colonel William G. Belknap, major of the 8th infantry, to be colonel by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Captain Edgar S. Hawkins, of the 7th regiment of infantry, to be major by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Capt. George A. Mc-Call, of the 4th regiment of infantry, to be major by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Capt. Joseph B. F. Mansfield, of the corps of engineers, to be major brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Capt. Alexander S. Hooe, of the 5th regiment of infantry, to be major by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Capt. Robert C. Buchanan, of the 4th regiment of infantry, to be major by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Capt. Charles A. May, of the 2d regiment of dragoons, to be major by brevet, to date from the 8th of May, 1846.
Capt. P. W. Barbour, of the 3d regiment of infantry, to be major by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Capt. James Duncan, of the 2d regiment of artillery, to be major by brevet, to date from the 8th of May, 1846.
First Lieutenant Randolph Ridgely, of the 3d regiment of artillery, to be captain by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
First Lieutenant William H. Churchill, of the 3d regiment of artillery, to be captain by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Second Lieut. James S. Woods, of the 4th regiment of infantry, to be first lieutenant by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Second Lieut. Alexander Hays, of the 4th regiment of infantry, to be first lieutenant by brevet, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Captain James Duncan, 2d artillery, to be lieutenant colonel by brevet, for gallant and highly distinguished conduct in the battle at Resaca de la Palma, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.
Captain Charles A. May, 2d dragoons, to be lieutenant colonel by brevet, for gallant and highly distinguished conduct during the battle of Resaca de la Palma, to date from the 9th of May, 1846.

Subsequently to the nomination of the above, which was on Saturday, a list of names for brevet appointments was received from Gen. Taylor, containing the following in addition to the above. These additional names were submitted to the Senate yesterday morning; but as that body did not go into Executive session before its final adjournment at 12 o’clock, the list lays over for the future action:

Lieutenant Colonel Childs, 3d artillery.
Captain C.F. Smith, 2d artillery.
Capt. J.B. Scott, 4th artillery.
Captain Lewis N. Morris, 3d infantry.
Lieutenant Colonel J. Garland, 4th infantry.
Brevet Major George Allen, 4th infantry.
Major T. Staniford, 5th infantry.
Captain M. Scott, 5th infantry.
Captain Montgomery, 8th infantry.
Lieutenant C. R. Gates, 8th infantry.
Lieutenant G. Lincoln, 8th infantry.
Lieutenant C. D. Jordan, 8th infantry.
Lieutenant F.N. Page, 7th infantry.
Captain A. Lowe, 2d artillery.
Lieutenant B. Bragg, 3d artillery.
Captian D. S. Miles 7th infantry.

Colonel Twiggs, who is on General Taylor’s list, having recently (since the battles of the 8th and 9th of May) been appointed a brigadier general in the army, his name for brevet of that grade was not included in the list submitted to the Senate. About twenty more officers were presented as deserving brevets, if it should not be deemed proper to extend the number beyond the first class, but this was not done. As the list now is, it is believed to be large beyond any former precedent.

NNR 70.386 Aug. 22, 1846 General Gains, Court of Inquiry, Col. Thornton acquitted

General Gains— The Military Court of Inquiry, at old Point, concluded their task, and on the 11th ist., sealed and despatched their verdict to the war department. The conducing part of the gallant old general’s defence occupies four columns of the Norfolk Beacon.
NRR 70.386 Aug. 22, 1846 Capt. Thornton's defense

The trial of Capt. Thornton, 2d dragoons, on the charges preferred against him by the commanding general, for the loss of his squadron of dragoons, captured on the 25th April last, terminated on Wednesday. It is a long established custom, we believe, in both the army and navy, to bring to trial the commander of an expedition, whenever unfortunate; and this however, unfortunate to individuals, appears but just to the accused and the country--truth is vindicated, and the community learns whether her interests are committed to safe hands. Capt. Thornton was assisted, in the management of his case, by Capt. Barbour, 3d infantry, and Lieut. Bragg, 3d artillery; and at 10 o'clock, on Wednesday, his written defence was made to the court by Mr. Bragg.

Several members of the court, veterans who had stormed the breach, could not restrain a tear of sympathy--and many a moist eye was to be seen in the large audience which attended to hear the vindication of this gallant and universally popular officer.

We regret that we are not able to lay before our readers the whole of the admirable defense of the gallant captain. He commenced by stating that a long established principle of his profession, and a stern sense of duty on the part of his accusers, had brought him before the court in his present position. Success, he was aware, was, with military men, often the best of merit: yet he hoped to be able to show, even if he were not successful in his expedition, his failure was not owing to the omission of necessary precaution.

On the night of the 24th of April, with a command of three commissioned officers and fifty rank and file, he was ordered to reconnoitre a country some 27 miles in extent, and to bring information, whether the enemy had crossed the Rio Bravo, his numbers, and his position; and he had also further vested orders from the commanding general, to ascertain, if possible, whether he had crossed his artillery, and to report by the next day at 12 o'clock. He referred to the testimony of Capt. Hardee and Lieut. Cane, for the manner in which he executed these instruction. He regretted that he could not lay before the court the testimony of Lieut. Mason, but regarded his loss as nothing, compared with that of the friends and relations of the gallant young officer, who fell as he had lived, in the discharge of his duty.

From the recapitulation of the testimony of Capt. Hardee and Lieut. Cane, in the defense, it appears that every precaution was used to guard against surprise--that an advance guard was thrown out, that flanks were impassible for the most part, from the nature of the country it being a perfect defile, admitting at times a single horseman with difficulty, that when Captain Thornton halted his squadron to rest his men and horses, which was extremely necessary, a sentinel was placed at both ends of the road, so that no one could approach without his knowledge. About daylight next morning the command proceeded toward the river, and to the constant inquiries made of every one that was met, "whether the enemy had crossed," the reply was "he had," but all spoke from rumor--this Capt. Thornton believed to be unreliable authority upon which he could not base a report, and he referred as an evidence of this, to the numerous false rumors with which the American camp had abounded for a month previous. Captain T. alluded to the suspicious confidelity; and subsequent events, he thought, proved to lead him into a position from which retreat was impossible. Subsequent information upon which he could rely, satisfied him that his return to camp had been cut off, that the enemy was in his rear with a force of 500 cavalry and a party of Indians. Upon the receipt of this information, he redoubled his precautions--he increased his advance guard and placed it under the command of Lieut. Mason, with minute instructions to keep ahead and be vigilant, but not to fire upon the enemy unless forced to do so. From this time, Captain Thornton proceeded without a guide, Chapito having deserted him. Captain Thornton here argued, and we think conclusively proved that an attempt to return would have been more disastrous than his move forward; he also contended that a "rear guard," with such a small force, owl have been untactical, and, in his opinion, unnecessary; and, further, that it was not prescribed. The rear was assigned to Captain Hardee, and he never left it without being ordered back by Capt. Thornton. He went on further to state, that if the command had obeyed his instructions, they would not have entered the field in which they were afterwards captured; but, he...
remarked, "no precaution from myself, or any one else, could have altered the result, our fate was sealed long before entering the field."

Captain Thornton, here summoned up the facts of the case, as shown by the testimony, from which it appeared that he had too responsible and somewhat variant duties to perform, that of commander of the squadron, and reconnoitering officer. For a guide, a Mexican of doubtful fidelity; a country of twenty seven miles in extent, with which he was totally unacquainted, and fifteen hours, and eight of them in the night, to perform this duty in. In the opinion of his officers, his rear could have been gained by day without his being able to know it. Spies were upon his actions from the time of his leaving the army, until his capture. Ordered to keep an attitude of peace, until the first blow should be struck. The following portion of this manly and soldier like defense, struck us so forcibly, that we believe that we can repeat it verbatim. "It was my misfortune," said Captain Thornton, "to secure that first blow, upon my devoted head, but it had to be secured, and why not by me?" Captain Thornton, here contended, that the information he obtained was important; that by means of his capture Gen. Taylor was able to understand his real position, that he was no longer on debated ground, and as an evidence of this, referred to the immediate call for reinforcements, the industry in the completion of Fort Brown and the march to Point Isabel for provisions. But for the loss of his squadron probably, the thanks of a grateful people would not now be showered upon the heroes of the battles of the Rio Grande, but instead, the tears of widows and orphans might have been met with the usual indifference, by the national legislature. Capt. Thornton, reminded, that to prevent this he would be willing again to hide in his bosom, the only bleeding heart amid the rejoicings of a victorious army. -- Capt. Thornton, here remarked if he neglected any of the usual precautions, it was from want of knowledge, and begged the court to acquit him of (?) and to find a verdict, if necessary, against him in incapacity. He then referred to his services in Florida, and thought the manner in which he discharged his duties there, well known to some of the court would enable him to defy such an imputation. Capt. Thornton concluded by saying, that his honor and military reputation, were in the hands of the ocuts that the country had found her's safe in their hands, and with confidence he submitted his to them.

[AEK]

NNR 70.386 Aug 22, 1846 account of the Kentucky mounted regiment

Volunteer Army. -- The Kentucky mounted men left Memphis about the 21st July. The Tennessee regiment left there on the 26th July, both en route for Mexico. The former are designated as,--

"The Hunters of Kentucky." -- The Calvary regiment of Col. Humphrey Marshall, mustering 100 strong, are represented as a body of martial men. They are generally athletic young men, riding splendid horses, and their picturesque dress imparts to them a romantic appearance. The hat particularly is very fanciful. It is a drab beaver with a broad brim, ornamented with several gold stars, and looped up with gold lace in the three cornered fashion of the Revolution. They all wear their beards unshorn(t) with boots over the legs of their trousers, reaching above the knee, armed with huge spurs on the head and faced with red morocco.

[RCG]

NNR 70.386 Aug 22, 1846 distrust of the members of the California expedition of the government's promises

The California Volunteers. The U. States Gazette says--It appears that the volunteers of California, who are at present encamped on Governor Island, are not quite as willing to go further than they have gone--at least upon the faith of the promise which the government has made to them. It was the general impression that after the term of their enlistment expired, they were to receive grants of land in California, as a reward for their services. Of course, this intention implied that California was to be made an integral part of the union

[RCG]

NNR 70.387 Aug 22, 1846 baggage wagons being made for the Army
Baggage Wagons. We understand that 6 or 700 baggage wagons, and about as many sets of harness, for the U.S. army, are making in this city and the neighboring towns, and an unusual activity, for the season [...] prevails therefore in those branches of trade.

[RCG]

NNR 70.400 Aug 22, 1846 "Army of Occupation."

We have nothing from General Taylor's corps, to report this week. The discharge of Louisiana and Alabama volunteers, and their return home, occupies the southern papers for the time being, --and much dissatisfaction is expressed on all hands.

The difficulties with which this whole system of volunteer forces is surrounded, can hardly be appreciated by those that have not had an opportunity of observing how it works, and how it will not work. The embarrassment which government would have to encounter in the instances of these very men, was distinctly foreshadowed in remarks which we submitted at the time they were being embodied. The secretary of war is now heavily censured, and the treasury of the Union severely taxed, --the gallant troops that waited for nothing but to ascertain that the army of the nation was surrounded with difficulties, and threatened with destruction, to induce them to seize their arms and report to the scene of danger, after spending just sufficient time to completely organize, discipline, and fit them for action--no a day too much for that--are now discharged, without having seen an enemy.

The secretary of war had difficulties to encounter, take what course he would. To discharge those forces must have been unpleasant to him. But the organization of the army was imperative. The twelve months volunteers were crowding toward Gen. Taylor' lines, already incommodeed with more troops than he had the means of transporting or of provisioning, in an enemy's country, beyond the margin of navigation. Other officers, proud of their distinction, lead these new levies. It will take as long, at least, to organize, discipline, and fit these forces for efficient service in the field, as was expended upon the volunteers now discharged.

Gen. Taylor at the last dates, was urging on the supplies towards Camargo as expeditiously as he had it in his power. the roads had been impassable, and by the river, he had as yet and inadequate supply of light draught steamers to get his troops and munitions to that place.

The following are the latest we have from the Rio Grande.

"Camargo, (Mexico) July 23--We are furnishing transportation for the army, and securing supplies of forage on the route to Monterey. We have contracted for 1,000 to 2,000 mules,"(another letter fixes it positively at (1,500) "with the packing equipment's complete; and these, with the 500 wagons expected here, will be ample for the marching columns. A large portion of the 19,000 men of this corps d'armes will be left at the different depots and entrepots, from Brazos Santiago to China, about 60 miles from this place on the route to Monterey.

"The troops are now fast arriving here in our steamboats; and the General will, in all probability, move forward from here about the middle of the next month,--(August). Now comes the commencement of those operations which will require all the capacity, skill, and energy of our General to accomplish. The great difficulties of an army invading Mexico begin here. So far, everything has favored Gen. Taylor, and he has acquired not only a most enviable reputation, but his good fortune has become a proverb. I hope, of course, for his further success; but in order to secure it, the most careful combinations of every kind, preparatory to the march, are absolutely necessary. Too much haste may prove as great and evil as a faulty tardiness. It takes time for the requisite arrangements for the transportation required for so many men, suddenly collected here. Meantime, the General is impatient of the least delay, and the officers of our department are incessantly occupied in preparations.

[AEK]

NNR 70.400 Aug. 22, 1846 Yellow Fever.

The British steamer Vesuvius, reached Bermuda on the 11the inst., having twenty-seven cases of yellow fever on board, besides losing ten of her crew with the
disease, on her passage from Vera Cruz. The captain reports that the fever had
broken out on board the American squadron and the British frigate *Endymion*, off
Vera Cruz.

NNR 70.400 Aug 22, 1846 additional regiment of volunteers for Santa Fe organized,
artillery expected

Expedition against Santa Fe. The last accounts we have from Fort Leavenworth are
up to the 9th inst. Seven companies had arrived at the fort, and three more were
expected, to complete the regiment. The seven companies had voted for field
officers, and Sterling Price, ex-member of Congress had been elected Colonel of the
regiment, by the unanimous vote of the companies present. The companies to
arrive could not, of course, although privileged to vote, change the result. The St.
Louis Republican states that the election of Col. P. was forced upon the regiment by
an unmistakable imitation that it would be disbanded if he was not chosed. A
private in one of the companies named Allen was elected Lieut. Colonel over D.D.
Mitchell, Esq., of St Louis, the person designated by President Polk for the office, by
a majority of 90 votes. Four of the companies were to leave the fort, on their line of
march, on the 10th inst.; the others were to follow as soon after as they could be
furnished with transportation for provisions, &c.

Four companies, composing a separate battalion of artillery, were also daily expected
at the fort.

Lieut. Col. Allen, of the U.S. Army, in command of the five hundred Mormon
volunteers, was still at the fort. There was much bad feeling between this corps and
the other volunteers. Liet. Colonel A. and his command were to take up the line of
march on the 12th inst.

Still later accounts from Fort Leavenworth are up to the 11th inst. About one
thousand more Mormons had arrived at the fort, in hopes of being mustered into the
United States service. Two of the additional companies of volunteers had arrived at
the fort, and Colonel Price's regiment marched out on the 10th inst.

NNR 70.400 Aug 22, 1846 Mormon volunteers reach Fort Leavenworth

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thousand more Mormons had arrived at the fort, in hopes of being mustered into the
United States service. Two of the additional companies of volunteers had arrived at
the fort, and Colonel Price's regiment marched out on the 10th inst.

NNR 70.401 Aug 29, 1846 decree relative to the powers of the extraordinary
Congress in Mexico

Mexico, July 7th. The following decree, sanctioned by the army, is published:

"The present extraordinary congress of the national powers conferred upon the
chambers of the national congress by articles 76, 77, and 78 of the organic bases."

NNR 70.401 Aug 29, 1846 Indian threat to Chihuahua, approach of the vanguard of
the American Army

Chihuahua, July 7. Our enemies on the East are the four tribes of Camanches, with
their allies, the Cahiguas and others; on the North, the Apachas, subdivided into
nine tribes, more numerous in population than the Camanches. On the same side
also, are the Anglo-Americans, rocked in the cradle of the Indian whom he abhors,
and nurtured with the blood and sweat of the negro whom he despises.
NNR 70.401 Aug 29, 1846 movements of Mexican troops for San Luis Potosi

Mexico, July 21. The Diario del Gobierno says --“Two brigades completely equipped, have already left this capital for San Luis Potosi and in a short time the Provisional President (Paredes) will depart with the remainder of the army of reserve.

NNR 70.401 Aug 29, 1846 Mexican arrangements to use the interior resources of Mexico to sustain the war with the United States

Thus the nation will see that the government has not made use of the extraordinary powers conferred upon it by congress for providing means to carry on the war. Our unjust invaders, who in the delirium of their ambition, have proclaimed that out want of resources would make us slaves without a conflict, will find that the Mexican nation has great resources in the interior, and that they will be sufficient in any event—for the administrative order and moral power of the government increase them. The government of the United States, with little reflection, will perceive that the war which it wages against us, is not to be terminated by a conquest of our country, but by honorable propositions of peace.

NNR 70.401 Aug 29, 1846 departure of Mexican troops from the capital

July 22. Left the capital for the interior, the 2d brigade, of 1,200 men, of all arms, with seven pieces of artillery, 500 horse, 400 mules, with ammunition and warlike stores. The 1st brigade had left on the 18th, in the direction of Matamoros, under command of Gen. Garcia Conde.

NNR 70.401 Aug 29, 1846 Assassinations by the insurgents of Guadalajara, dismay over the deplorable state of Mexico

The insurgents of Guadalajara by a surprise assassinated the troops of General Arevalo; but the papers state nothing positive as to the fate of the General himself. (The commander of the steamer says he was killed. Letters from Mexico also state that he lost his life.)

NNR 70.401 Aug 29, 1846 American troops reported leaving Camargo for Monterey

Mexico July 28. An express has just arrived, announcing that the United States troops to the number of 8,000 men have left Camargo on their way to Monterey. Last night the secretaries of departments withdrew, and to-day at 1 o’clock P.M. Gen. Bravo took possession of the presidency.

NNR 70.401 Aug 29, 1846 Gen. Nicolas Bravo assumes the presidency of Mexico, resignation of the ministers

Letters of Marque. A decree has been issued by the Supreme Government, in respect to cruises which may be made by privateers against the commerce of the U. States.
On the 28th, the Vice President, Gen. Bravo, assumed the reins of government in the Mexican capital. It was stated that the Paredes ministry continued in the exercise of its functions until that day. Gen. Bravo was about to appoint a new ministry.

NR 70.401 Aug 29, 1846 Mexican Army assembles at San Luis Potosi

According to the statements of the Mexican *Diario Official*, the army assembled at San Luis Potosi, numbered 10,000 men, and when this force and that under Gen. Azpeitia consisting of two regiments of infantry, a squadron of lancers, and a section of engineers with three 12 pounders, numbering in all 2,000 men, which was to leave the capital on the 24th, would join Mejia, the army in the field would number from 12,000 to 15,000 men. But 1,500 men were left to garrison the capital. Mejia who succeeded Arista in the command of the army on the frontier, reports on the 9th that he was about to march for Monterey with his column.

NR 70.401 Aug 29, 1846 "pronunciamento" in favor of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna at Veracruz, he embarks from Cuba

Revolution in Favor of Santa Anna.

Jalapa, July 21, A pronunciamento was made on the 20th instant, in the town of Coatepec. We are ignorant of its object.

NR 70.401 Aug 29, 1846 steamer Princeton dispatched express for Pensacola

It is a remarkable coincidence, that just as the steamer *Princeton* was demonstrated to be of all the vessels of the squadron the most efficient in blockading the port of Vera Cruz, and was performing prodiges in that service, all at once she was detached by Commodore Conner, and arrives at Pensacola with important despatches for our government. The British steamer *Dee* must have left for Vera Cruz very speedily after the *Princeton*. The messenger dispatched by President Polk with instructions to Commodore Conner respecting the propositions to the Mexican government to send a minister to negotiate for peace, if he has good luck, will reach Vera Cruz about the same time that Santa Anna calculated to arrive there. We say if he has good luck, for the *N. Orleans Picayune* furnishes rather an unfavorable account of his progress.

NR 70.401 Aug 29, 1846 progress of the messenger bearing President James Knox Polk's overtures to Mexico

The messenger dispatched by President Polk with instructions to Commodore Conner respecting the propositions to the Mexican government to send a minister to negotiate for peace, if he has good luck, will reach Vera Cruz about the same time that Santa Anna calculated to arrive there. We say if he has good luck, for the *N. Orleans Picayune* furnishes rather an unfavorable account of his progress. That paper says--

"We stated in the *Picayune* a few days since that a bearer of dispatches for Com. Conner had arrived at Pensacola, and that the Wolcott, revenue cutter, Capt. Fatio, had received orders to proceed to the Gulf with him. She went to sea on Monday last but the captain fearing the approach of a storm, put back and Mr. Habersham, U. S. navy, the bearer of the dispatches, proceeded at once to this city, where he arrived yesterday. He will proceed to the Brazos to-day, and from thence proceed in one of the revenue cutters at that point to Vera Cruz."
There was a report widely circulated some time since, that Mr. Slidell, a connection of the late minister to Mexico, had been dispatched to the Island of Cuba by our government, and it was inferred that his object was to ascertain the views of the illustrious Mexican exiles there, in relation to affairs between Mexico and the United States. The Washington Union promptly and emphatically contradicted the insinuation at the time.

But to return to the news from Mexico, furnished by this arrival of the Dee, at Havana. The following are the prominent items:

Letters of Marque. A decree has been issued by the Supreme Government, in respect to cruises which may be made by privateers against the commerce of the U. States.

Camargo. --As the army of occupation has commenced its advance upon the interior of Mexico, by pursuing the Rio Grande up as high as Camargo, both by land and water, and as this will be the place where a permanent depot will be established, and from which the advancing army will leave the Rio Grande when it takes up its general march upon Monterey, it will naturally hold a conspicuous place in the estimation of the American people. The Matamoros "Flag" furnishes the following: Camargo is situated immediately upon the banks of the San Juan river, three miles from its junction with the Rio Grande. It is a small rudely constructed village, with some few stone building, many built of mud bricks dried in the sun, some constructed by driving stakes into the ground, and then plastering them with much, and others formed of cane and plastered in like manner. The number of inhabitants will not exceed two thousand; but as the Mexican government has never thought her population worthy of enumeration, no possible statement can be made of the population of any of their towns. The late extraordinary rise of the Rio Grande has caused the San Juan to back up and literally inundate Camargo, to the great damage of houses and property; also to the sacrifice of several lives.

Camargo may be considered the head of navigation, as above here the bed of the river is so filled up with rocks that its navigation higher up has never been attempted. The road upon leaving Camargo and crossing the San Juan, becomes higher and less obstructed by swamp grounds, and it then becomes an important inquiry what other obstacles may present themselves in the distance between this place and Monterey, which is 210 miles. The road passes through a level country, thickly set with a small underwood, the largest timber being ebony and the mesquite, neither of which grow to the height of more than 12 or 15 feet, and 12 or 14 inches in diameter. So dense is this undergrowth, armies of 10,000 men each might march for half a day within a mile of each other without the vicinity of one to the other being unknown.

Monterey. -- The literal meaning of Monterey is the king's woods; but to those who have been raised in a heavily timbered country, it would seem more appropriate to call it a grove of brush. It is a common saying with Texans who have traveled through the forest that "it's so d--d which you can't shove a bowie knife through it." And what may appear somewhat singular, every bush and shrub is armed with
thorns curved in the shape of fish-hooks, and the hold they take upon the clothes and skin of travelers is not easily shaken off, as the jackets of the soldiery will testify to before they reach Monterey.

The whole distance is well watered from August until March, plenty of wood, reasonable pasture, many herds of cattle, numerous flocks of sheep and goats, now and then a small village-- which all have the appearance of decay. Scattered along the road are miserable huts, singularly picturesque from their original construction, not quite equal to rail-pen stables built in the backwoods of Arkansas and Texas for scrub ponies. Yet nature, in her mighty formations, has formed some positions on this road, which, if taken advantage of by a skilful and daring enemy, would prove a second Thermopylae to those might have the temerity to tread these formidable passes. The American army will no doubt look ahead before entering these dangerous and shady pavilions. The mazes of the labyrinth are beautifully pictured out by meandering paths and conflicting cross-roads, leading to some farmer's hut, some watering place, or the wily lure of some Mexican bandit.

Caiderete.--When within fifteen leagues of Monterey the village of Caiderete presents itself, enjoying the most lovely situation, standing upon a perfectly level plain, surrounded with green groves, presenting everlasting summer; the fields blesses with natural fertility. The beholder involuntarily exclaims, Why should a Mexican toil or labor?

[NRC]

NNR 70.402 Aug 29, 1846 difficulty over supplying Gen. Steven Watts Kearny's expedition to Santa Fe, reports of alarm in New Mexico

Provisions must of necessity also be vary hard to get, and unless some other means of securing them be found out than such as was anticipated previous to their departure, they will be in a very bad way this winter. It was pretty certainly known before they left, that there would not be even a show of fight on the part of the Mexicans, unless a very small force was sent along at first, for the assertion of the governor was made, and word sent to General Kearney by our informants to that effect; and he further says that if a respectable force comes upon him, he shall immediately abandon the country, and remove south of the Rio del Norte.

[NRC]

NNR 70.402 Aug 29, 1846 engineer corps at West Point being readied for Mexico

VOLUNTEERS.

West Point. An extra exertion is making at West Point to get the Engineer Corps ready to start for Mexico. Out of 67 men and 20 are from Philadelphia, and chiefly mechanics, fine fellows, "and to the marrow bone." The officers have been assigned, Capt. Swift and Lieuts. Smith and McClellan. As fast as the recruits are perfect in the infantry drill, they are put into another squad and drilled as engineers, in which they are fast learning the rudiments.

The rubber "ponton"train has been tried, and succeeds well. Two of the boats sustained 67 men, two horses, and two pieces ordnance, and the corps think they can bridge the river at West Point in an hour and a half strong enough to take a whole army over. All at West Point betokens that strict discipline that has given us such a gallant set of officers that will give as an effective army, with such good material as we have in our volunteers.

[NRC]

NNR 70.402 Aug 29, 1846 disorder among the New York troops gather for the California expedition

"It is said that the recruits for California now encamped on Governor's Island, are not behaving with the propriety which is becoming. It is said that the "regulars"were called out upon a day or two since."
The Ohio State Journal publishes the following letter from one of the Ohio volunteers in the army in Mexico:

Dear Brother:

Be not the least surprised if you should see me in Cincinnati in the course of six weeks. When I volunteered it was to fight, and not to be idle for a year. But I now find the regulars are to be able to defend any post of danger. Gen. Taylor says that one regular is worth five volunteers, and that he only wants volunteers for a standby. It would seem that we are kept merely to do the drudgery; and such is the case.

We had quite an affair a short time since. Colonel Mitchell as commandant of this post, ordered a volunteer from Baltimore to bring him something. The volunteer paid no attention to his order. Our colonel then commanded him a second time to perform the service. The volunteer turned upon his heel, and replied that "he would see him d--d first." I was close by doing duty, when Col. M. ordered me and five other cadets to arrest the Baltimorean. He immediately placed himself in a defensive position, and drew a knife, swearing at the same time that he would cut the first man that dared to come near him. Lieut. Col. Weller then approached and ordered us to "stand back"when all party got to fighting. So you see we have had one fight at least.

Our whole regiment and the Baltimore regiment were then all ordered out. But as we had but sic men on the ground, and as the colonel's tent was about two miles from our encampment, out colonel was disarmed and carried to the ground by a superior number of stout fellows, where they laid him down. Two of them were about to stab him, when I backed by our boys, jumped into the melee and released our commander from the ruffians. By this time the field was full of soldiers and the Baltimoreans left. I presume the case will undergo investigation.

Affectionately your brother,

A. Moss

[RCG]

A volunteer, writing to Louisville from the Rio Grande, says that the mosquitoes there "can stand flat footed upon the ground, and without difficulty drink water out of a pint tin cup."

[RCG]

Illinois Volunteers. Gen. Wool, accompanied by his aides, and a large portion of the Illinois volunteers, reached New Orleans on the 23d ultimo. These troops, it is stated, are destined for San Antonio de Bexar.

Troops for Chihuahua. Light company B, of the 4th regiment of U.S. artillery, under the command of Capt. J.M. Washington on the 18th ultimo. Capt. W. furnished the editor of the Sentinel with a statement of the force which is to proceed to the Mexican state of Chihuahua, by the way of San Antonio, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Light Company 4th artillery</th>
<th>112 men.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 companies 6th regiment infantry</td>
<td>200</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
This force, it is stated, constitutes an independent command, which will be under Gen. Butler. It is to strike into the province of Chihuahua, between Santa Fe and Gen. Taylor's position; and it will no doubt interrupt the retreat of the forces which will fall back from General Kearney at Santa Fe. It will take the Santa Fe route to Mexico, and there cooperate with General Taylor. Its route is through the most healthy and richest parts of Northern Mexico.

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NNR 70.403 Aug 29, 1846 Col. Churchill departs New Orleans for Texas

Col. Churchill, Inspector General, has left New Orleans for Texas. This indefatigable and veteran officer has, within the last six months, traveled over twelve thousand miles, inspected last spring on and near the Gulf of Mexico and in Florida, mustered into service all the volunteers in Indiana and Illinois and now goes to join Gen. Wool as chief of his staff, on the march to Chihuahua, in Mexico. The good wishes and the prayers of his numerous friends and the country attend him.

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NNR 70.403 Aug 29, 1846 complaint about the manner of buying and treating wagons for the Army

Wagons for the Army. New Orleans dates of August 7, says -- "A large ship from Philadelphia brought a cargo of these wagons, which were landed some time since, and after laying exposed to out tropical sun on the Levee for eight or ten days, splitting and cracking, with their wheels and springs, the same ship is chartered to reload them for the Rio Grande, at a freight double that from Philadelphia--at least doubt what it ought to be from thence, though I think it probable there, as well as here, the government pay at least double what individuals would. It is really enough to disgust any bosy to see the manner the whole affair is being conducted; and the way they are going on, the treasury, even after issuing the ten-millions of treasury notes, will be bankrupt before congress again meets."

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NNR 70.406-408 Aug 29, 1846 proceedings and decision of the court of inquiry on Gen. Edmund Pendleton Gaine's efforts to raise volunteers

GENERAL GAINES.

1. The court of inquiry, whereof Brevet Brigadier General H. Brady is president, instituted by "General Orders," No 23, of June 30th, to investigate certain transactions therein set forth on the part of Brevet Major General E.P. Gaine, commanding the western division of the army, and which convened at Fort Monroe, Virginia, on the 20th day of July, 1846, has reported the following facts and opinion:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Squadron 2d regiment dragoons</th>
<th>150 &quot;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 regiments Illinois infantry</td>
<td>1,554 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 regiment Arkansas horse</td>
<td>777 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 battalion Arkansas foot</td>
<td>388 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 regiment Texas horse</td>
<td>777 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 regiment Texas foot</td>
<td>777 &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4,734 &quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
"FACTS."

"General Gaines learned at New Orleans, about the 1st May, 1846, that a Mexican army, of superior force to the army under General Taylor was advancing to invade Texas, and that actual war was impending. He was informed officially from General Taylor of his situation, and what auxiliary force of volunteers he had called from the states, viz: four regiments from Louisiana, and four regiments from Texas and he was requesting by General Taylor to aid the governor of Louisiana in equipping and forwarding the troops of that state."

"On the receipt of this information, Gen. Gaines wrote to the governors of Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Missouri, advising them to anticipate a call from the president of the U. States for volunteers, and to make preparations to raise the troops. It was not, however, in form, a requisition on them to send forward troops before they were called for by the president.

"On the 3d May, General Gaines sent an officer to Mobile to raise volunteers for Taylor's army. On the 4th, one company was raised and embarked for New Orleans. The whole volunteer force to be raised at Mobile, Gen. Gaines limited by order of May 6, no to exceed two regiments of twenty companies.

"About the 4th May, the governor of Missouri, being at New Orleans, tendered to General Gaines a regiment, which offer General Gaines accepted.

"On the 8th May, General Gaines authorized Col. Crane, commanding at Pensacola, whence General Gaines had withdrawn the garrison of regulars to send to Texas, to muster into the service one or more volunteer companies; also, informing Col. Crane that he had requested the governor of Alabama to send there two volunteer companies; making three or more companies called out, or authorized to be called out, for the protection of Pensacola.

"On the 9th May, he authorized A. M. Dunn to raise a company of 100 men to guard the arsenal at Baton Rouge.

"On the 12th May, he authorized A. Rust to raise a regiment of mounted gunmen- from five to ten companies; each company to number from 60 to 100 men; thereby authorizing the levy of 300, or 500, or 600, or 1,000 men.

"May 12th. He authorized W. B. Lewis to raise a regiment of mounted gunmen- five to ten companies of 70 to 100 men - amounting to 350, or 500, or 700, or 1,000 men.

"May 13th. He authorized Balie Peyton to raise a regiment of ten companies- each 60 to 100 - amounting to 600 or 1,000 men.

"May 14th. He authorized F. Buisson to raise a battalion of two companies - each 60 to 100 - amounting to 120 or 200 men, to garrison forts Jackson and St. Philip till further orders.

"May 16th. He authorized I. S. Gilbert to raise a regiment of mounted gunmen- five or ten companies; each company to be 60 to 100 men- amounting to 300,500,600, or 1,000 men.

"May 20. He authorized E. Fetherston, W. M. Fulton, W. S. Hays, J. R. Creecy, and E. L. Tracy, to raise each one regiment of ten companies, each 60 to 100 men. The whole amounting to 1,500, 2,500, 3,000, or 5,000.

"May 22d. He accepted the offer of the governor of Mississippi to furnish 2,000 volunteers- including the regiment to be raised by P.B. Starke.

"May 31st. He issued orders to complete the muster of two regiments of volunteers from Alabama- only three companies having been at this time raised on his previous requisitions.

"In the latter part of May, General Gaines raised and mustered into service Gally's battalion of light artillery- three companies- 286 strong. The precise date of this levy does not appear in any document before the court, and it is not remembered by the witness, examined to this point- Gen. Gaines assistant Adjutant General.

"The court find further, that in consequence of General Gains' communication to the
governor of Kentucky, about the 1st or 4th of May, representing the situation of General Taylor's army, the governor raised and sent forward a regiment from Louisville; which on its arrival at New Orleans, about the latter part of the month, General Gaines accepted and mustered into the service of the United States.

"The foregoing statement shows all the troops raised or called for by General Gaines. It appears, however, that the only troops actually raised and brought into service by him on these calls, were the St. Louis Legion, of Missouri, the Louisville Legion, of Kentucky, Peyton's and Featherston's regiments of Louisiana volunteers, and Gally's battalion of light artillery, and three companies of Alabama volunteers, raised at Mobile.

"The court find further, that when General Gaines was relieved from command of the Western Division, and ordered to repair to Washington City, and in execution of said order, had arrived at Mobile on the 12th June, he was then and there informed by the governor of Alabama that much disorder prevailed among the regiments of volunteers assembled at that point by the president of the United States; for which reason the governor applied to General Gaines to receive into the service of the U. States, for the proper government of those volunteers, Brigadier Gen. Smith, whom the governor had commissioned to command them, and his staff. Whereupon Gen. Gaines did receive and muster into service:

Walter Smith, as Brigadier General. Thomas Caey, Assistant Adjutant General.
William P. Brown, Brigade Quartermaster.
Henry K. Zettyplace, Paymaster.
Charles B. Sandford, Aid-de-camp.
Richard Lee Feam, Brigade Surgeon.

"The order of General Gaines published in this case, directed that it should remain in force till final instructions should be received from the proper authorities at Washington; and further directed Gen. Smith to organize the volunteers, and as soon as the said organization should be completed, to proceed with them without delay to the seat of war.

"The appointment by General Gaines of certain volunteers and others to staff offices, as shown in the official documents sent as evidence to the court, not being stated in the order appointing the court, as one of the matters into which it is directed to inquire, it is not considered in this statement of facts, nor in the opinion of the court. The facts and circumstances, however, are set forth in the evidence for the information of the department of war.

"In regard to issues of public stores by order of Gen. Gaines, the court find that he ordered the issue of ordinance and ordnance stores to arm and equip all the volunteers called out by him; also, when necessary, for those called out by Gen. Taylor; also, that he ordered the quartermaster's supplies; also, he ordered the commissaries to furnish subsistence to all volunteers arriving at the general rendezvous for muster, and to issue to them previous to the muster.

"The court also find an issue by order of General Gaines of two pieces of field artillery, and twenty five rounds of ammunition to two private gentlemen and planters in the parish of West Baton Rouge, for the protection of the parish against the slave population, on condition of the return of the guns when called for.

"In regard to orders by General Gaines to staff officers to issue or pay public money, the court find only two such payments indicated in the documentary evidence. 1st. He ordered that quartermaster to pay $2,500 to Major Gally's battalion for commutation in advance of clothing; and 21. He ordered the ordinance officer to pay accounts contracted by Maj. Hally for ammunition for his batteries, amounting to $1467()]. 50. Both of which sums and accounts were paid accordingly. And further, the court find that he ordered the quartermaster's department to pay in advance to all volunteers' commutation of six month's clothing. That any payments were made under this order does not appear by any evidence sent to this court.

"And upon the foregoing findings of the facts in the case, the courts submitted the following

OPINION.

"It is contended by General Gaines that he acted in accordance with his instructions from the war department. The court find that these instructions were as follows:
"1st. August 28th, 1845. The secretary of war wrote to General Gaines: 'It cannot be necessary to apprise you that the authority to make a requisition upon the governors of the respective states for the militia thereof, to be employed in the service of the United States, is vested only in the president, and limited in its exercise to two or three specified cases. The emergency which would tolerate or excuse the assumption of this authority by a military officer in command at a distance from the seat of government, in anticipation of the president's action, must be one indicating great and imminent peril to the country--a peril so great and so imminent as to leave no reasonable doubt that the president, with a full knowledge of all the circumstances of the case, would have felt it his duty to resort to such aid. The assumption of this authority by an officer so situation, should be under circumstances which would be sure to command his subsequent ratification of it."

"2d. On the 13th September, 1845, the secretary of war wrote to General Gaines: 'You misunderstand your position in regard to the commanding general in Texas. His command is wholly independent of you; the orders and instructions for his conduct emanate only from the government here; and you are directed to abstain from all interference with him.'"

"3d. And again, on the 30th September, 1845: 'The power which you have exercised could only be resorted to in cases of extreme public peril. An error of judgment, with such motives as the president has with pleasure conceded to have governed your conduct in this case, cannot be regarded as a crime, or an offence subjecting the officer to trial."

"The court find further instructions to General Gaines from the office of the adjutant general, of date May 18, 1846, from which the following is extracted:

'The volunteer force called into the service from Louisiana and Alabama, &c., and which you have previously reported, meets the approval of the department.'"

"In the opinion of the court this approval ratifies the call and orders of General Gaines to raise two regiments at Mobile, and three of more companies at Pensacola.

"The court also deem it unnecessary to consider the case of the St. Louis Legion received into service by General Gaines; as he was informed from the adjutant general's office, May 22d, that 'the said regiment had been accepted, and would be regarded as a portion of the force called out by the president.'"

"In regard to the Louisville Legion, it appears from the statement of General Gaines, and testimony of Lieut Calhoun, to have been raised without a direct call from General Gaines; though accepted by him into service before he had received special authority from the war department. It was, however, subsequently accepted by the department--by instructions to General Gaines of May 28th--in which instructions, however, written on the supposition that he called on the governor for the troops, he is informed of the disapproval of the department, and then the call was without authority of law.

"The court cannot find that General Gaines, at the time he received this legion into service, (about the last of May) had authority to do so under his instructions. But as the regiment was already sent forward he felt himself, on its arrival at New Orleans, under the necessity to receive it, and to trust to the subsequent ratification of the department.

"In regard to the other calls made by General Gaines, before the 17th May to raise troops for Taylor's army, the court are of opinion, that, under the previous instructions of the war department, and in the situation of Taylor's army, and upon ascertaining the slow progress of the enrolment of the Louisiana volunteers, and upon ascertaining further that General Taylor could not receive more than a small portion of the force which he had called from Texas--that under these circumstances General Gaines was justified in endeavoring to supply Gen. Taylor to the amount of auxiliary force could not be obtained from the states to which General Taylor had applied, then General Gaines was justified in applying to the other states. The court do not extend this approval to the requisitions for mounted gun- men. The four regiments of this description of force, amounting to 4,000 men, which he authorized to be raised before the 17th May, destined to march overland to the army, however useful Gen. Gaines may have considered them for the future operation of the way, not being required or intended for the immediate emergency, were not authorized by his instructions or by law.

"It is proper in this connection to bring to the favorable native of the war department
the prompt recall, by Gen Gaines, of all his requisitions for mounted gun-men on receiving orders to that effect; and that the government incurred no expense on account of these calls.

"For the calls made by General Gaines for volunteers, after the 16th May when he knew of the victories of Taylor, the court cannot find any necessity at the time, any authority in his instructions, or any warrant of law. These calls authorized the levy of 7,000 men, besides Gally's battalion of artillery. It does not appear, however, that any, except the artillery, were raised before the calls were countermanded.

"Two of the requisitions made by Gen. Gaines for volunteers appear to the court to be of a special character, viz: to raise a garrison of volunteers for Forts Jackson and St. Philip, and for the arsenal at Baton Rouge. As the government had withdrawn the garrison from the arsenal, and had not seen fit to garrison the forts, the court are of opinion, that General Gaines ought to have felt himself specially restrained from raising volunteer garrisons without authority.

"In regard to the authorities given by General Gaines to certain individuals to raise troops, it appears to have been his motive to avail himself, under what he felt as the pressure of the emergency, of the supposed influence of these individuals. In Louisiana, where troops were actually raised under such powers, it was with the sanction and concurrence of the governor of the state, who commissioned the officers and organized the troops according to the state laws. It does not appear in any case to have been the intention of General Gaines to act independently of the state authorities.

"In General Gaines' proceedings at Mobile, on 12th May, [June,] in mustering into service General Smith, and his staff, after he was relieved from his command, and instructed by the war department, to 'cease his independent action in these matters, and to confine himself to carrying out the orders and views of the president, so far as they might be communicated to him from that department--the court are of opinion that he transcended his authority, and violated his orders, particularly in appointing such a staff officer as an inspector general, after the recent and emphatic instruction to him by the secretary of war, that 'such appointments would not be recognized or confirmed, and that the president himself had no authority under existing laws to make such appointments."

"yet the court are satisfied that Gen. Gaines had not the intention to act in defiance or in disregard of his instructions. He though that the disorganized state of the volunteers assembled at Mobile made it a matter of very urgent importance that a commander should be appointed over them. He acted, too, at the special application of the governor of the state; and the court, therefore, recommend his conduct to the favorable construction of the president.

"the issue of rations to volunteers before muster is not provided in the regulations of laws. But the court present to the consideration of the department, the necessity of the case, when the volunteers had arrived at the rendezvous, and were absolutely without means of subsistence.

"Such issues, as of the two pieces of field artillery and ammunition to planters of Baton Rouge parish are not provided for by the regulations of the army. But under the circumstances, being required for the security of the parish, and issued to responsible persons, on condition of their safe return whenever demanded, the court are of opinion that is ought to be approved.

"In the absence of certain official information on the subject, the court suppose it to be the practice of the government to make advances to the militia called into service, in commutation of clothing; and that the orders of General Gaines on this subject did not introduce a new practice. Of the correctness of the particular account of $2,500, which General Gaines ordered to be paid to Gally's battalion, the court have not the means of judging, and therefore leave it as an account to be settled, according to law and regulations in the auditing offices of the treasury.

"The court cannot approve General Gaines' order to Captain Whitley to pay Major Gally's bill of $1,467 50, for ammunition, as it does not appear that whatever ammunition was required might not have been furnished from Baton Rouge arsenal, or otherwise procured by the ordnance officer.

"The court have not considered, as connected with the issues of stores and payments of funds before mentioned, whether the persons or troops to whom, or on account of whom, the issues and payments were made, were legally in the service of the United States, inasmuch as the act of congress of the last session has since
provided for the settlement of such accounts. Of the lawful authority of General
Gaines to raise the troops, the have expressed their opinion in the several cases.

"Having now reported their finding and opinion, the court recommend to the
favorable consideration of the president the good and patriotic motives, and the
public seal, by which, as the court believe, Gen. Gaines was actuated in all these
transactions, and therefore they recommend that no further proceedings be had in
this case."

II. The proceedings of the court of inquiry in the foregoing case having been duly
submitted, the following are the orders thereon--

War department, August 18, 1846

The proceedings of the court of inquiry in the foregoing case have been laid before
the president, and carefully examined.

It is seen that the court have found that several of the acts of Brevet Major General
Gaines "were not authorized by his instructions or by law; and that he has violated
orders,"

That for the calls made by him "for volunteers after the 16th of May, when he knew
of the victories of [General] Taylor, the court cannot find any necessity at the time--
and authority in his instructions, or any warrant of law."

That in mustering into service at Mobile certain general and staff officers, after he
was relieved from his command by instructions from the war department, "the court
are of opinion that he transcended his authority, and violated his orders."

The president views with deep regret the exercise of this assumed authority on the
part of the late commander of the western division; and while he is disposed to give
every consideration to the circumstances which may tend to qualify or mitigate his
conduct he can see nothing in them which would justify him for withholding the
expression of his decided disapprobation of the irregular and unauthorized
proceedings of that officer. But in consideration of the recommendation of the court
and concurring with them in their opinion of the "good and patriotic motives and the
public zeal by which he was actuated," the president directs that further proceedings
in the case of Brevet Major General Gaines be dispensed with.

The president cannot dismiss the case without inviting the serious attention of the
army to the grave subject which has been presented for his consideration and
decision. The officers belonging to the military service zeal, gallantry, and skill have
long been established. The country duly appreciates their value, but unremitting care
should be taken to abstain from any act which may tend to impair their high
character. And what so likely to derogate from this as the assumption of important
executive or ministerial authority by a military commander, or the disregard of his
orders?

The exercise of authority not possessed nor delegated--the non observance of
instructions, or the expenditure of the public treasure, not warranted by law nor
justified by imperious necessity, cannot be disregarded. A just responsibility of all in
authority makes it a public duty of imperative obligation to observe and strictly
enforce the law and the rules of the service.

By order of the President,

W.L. Marcy
Secretary of War.

III. The court of inquiry, of which Brevet Brigadier General H. Brady is president, is
hereby dissolved.

By order,

R. Jones, Adjutant General.

[RCG]
The Santa Fe Expedition. -- An express from Gen. Kearney reached Fort Leavenworth on the 14th instant. The general with several companies United States dragoons, the 1st regiment Missouri volunteers under Col. Domphan, and Major Clarke's battalion of volunteer artillery left Bents' Fort for Santa Fe, on the 1st of August, all in fine health and spirits. They had information that so far from a resistance, the Mexicans were anxious for the arrival of the Americans. The ladies of Santa Fe were making extensive preparations for a fandango dance and other sports to welcome their reception, and some of them expressed a desire to accompany the expedition to California. Captain Moore, United States dragoons, had captured three spies, sent by the Mexicans to look out. They were taken to camp, and there told to examine every thing and make what enquiries they please, and were then dismissed. Gen. Kearney would remain at Santa Fe till Colonel Price's regiment arrived, and then proceed to California.

Col. Allen with 500 Mexican infantry was progressing rapidly and would probably reach Bents' Fort before Col. Price's mounted men. A great member of traders and a large quantity of goods were met on their way out.

**NNR 70.416 Aug 29, 1846 unsuccessful attack on Alvarado**

A demonstration, by order of Com. Conner, was made against Alvarado, on the 8th inst., in which the Mississippi participated. The difficulty of passing the bar and the appearances of an approaching storm, induced a signal to haul off, after some shots had been exchanged, without injury on our side.

**NNR 70.416 Aug 29, 1846 chartering of ships for the California expedition, charges of malfeasance by Thomas Jefferson Sutherland against Col. John D. Stevenson in connection with outfitting the California expedition**

The California Expedition. -- We learn that Col. Stanton has chartered the ships Susan Drew, T.H. Perkins, and Loo Choo, to convey the California expedition to their place of destination. These vessels are all of the best class of ships and of about 700 tons custom house measure--well ventilated and admiraly calculated for transports.

We are please to learn, that while millions of dollars have been squandered in extravagant charter parties at the south, these vessels have all been taken up at what would be considered reasonable terms if engaged by individuals. The gross amount paid to the three ships is only $65,000. Those who are acquainted with Col. Stanton will not be surprised at this, while the public will of course be prepared to learn that certain friends of the administration were anxious to do the work for double the sum!

For ourselves we have never believed that this expedition would sail under the command of J.D. Stevenson; and warrant for such an opinion, may be found in the well known Glentworth affair. A man who has ever found it necessary to be an alias, should never be entrusted with a military command or made the associate and companion of gentlemen. How Governor Marcy can justify it to his conscience and the country for having recommended Stevenson for this highly important command, we can not conjecture.

We have now lying on our table a paper, signed Thos. Jefferson Sutherland making many grave charges against Stevenson which he pledges to prove before a court of enquiry if an opportunity be afforded him. Of course we know nothing of their truth; but whether true or false, the government will not be held excused by the people, if the expedition be permitted to sail under the command of Stevenson without an investigation into these charges.

We copy the following iron this paper, which has been handed us by Sutherland who is himself a captain of volunteers.

4th. That he has purposed a fraud upon the members of his regiment by procuring a large quantity of clothing, not American in its fashion nor suited to the climate of
California, which he designs to compel his men to purchase from him at prices far above the real value; his son-in-law being the pretended contractor.

5th. That he reported company rolls to the governor of this state as complete according to the requisitions of the war department, when in fact the companies did not contain the men professed to have been enrolled, and thus procured commissions for favorites to the exclusion of competent men and good officers who had reported perfect rolls of companies, whose ranks were filled with respectable men.

6th. That he has used his influence to exclude from the corps of officers of his regiment all men of capacity and experience, and those who would be most likely to be directed by a nice regard for the interest and honor of their country, and to constitute it a body of weak, or very young and unexperienced men, who must needs be his suppliant underlyings.

7th. That he has publicly declared that if he was sent out by the government in a convoy, he would run away from the naval commander; and that after he had landed in California he would no longer obey the President of the United States nor any other authority of the government.

8th. That he has practiced duplicity on the President, the Governor, and other persons in office in this state, unbecoming an officer and a soldier.

These are grave charges which concur not me alone, but the whole country, and they are now declared with the fullest sense and understanding that I endorse their truth with the commission which I myself hold, and a time and imprisonment on an indictment for libel, if the charges should prove to be such- and with this I am content.

[RCG]

NNR 70.416 Aug 29, 1846 Gen. Zachary Taylor leaves Matamoros for Camargo

Gen. Taylor left Matamoros on the 5th August, in the steamer Whiteville, for Camargo, accompanied by about one half the Texan regiment of infantry and a few regulars.

[RCG]

NNR 70.416 Aug 29, 1846 order barring spirituous liquors from Matamoros

"General Order, No. 94. No spirituous liquors will be permitted to enter the river or the city of Matamoros for the purposes of barter or traffic on the account of any person whatever, whether sutler in the army or private dealers. Any liquors found in violation of this order will be confiscated and sent to the quartermaster in N. Orleans to be sold—half of the proceeds for the benefit of the informant, the other half to be applied to the support of the hospital department.

The commanding general issues this order under the sanction of the general government, and calls upon all officers to give their aid in executing its provisions. The quartermaster's department and Col. Clark will take the necessary measures to have it communicated to the persons interested, particularly to the dealers in Matamoros, and the masters of all public transports or other vessels in the river. Any steamboat captains or other hired persons that are found violating it, will be at once dismissed from the service."

We judge from the numerous articles in the Matamoros papers, that the above order has occasioned no little excitement. How far it is possible to evade its provisions, is the question. "Spirituous liquors?" says the sutler, and the government wines and malt liquors they insist are included in the prohibition.

[RCG]
NNR 70.416 Aug 29, 1846 probability of reaching Monterey in September

By the close of September this column will reach Monterey, where the chances of a battle are sufficiently uncertain to make it a matter of daily doubt and speculation. The very air is rife with rumors. It is said that Wool is now in command; if so, and he continues there, it is a guarantee of hard knocks. [RCG]

NNR 70.416 Aug 29, 1846 health of the army

The health of the regular army is represented to be good. The volunteers are suffering considerably, mainly from indiscretions, to which want of strict discipline renders them liable. [RCG]

NNR 70.416 Aug 29, 1846 Col. Archibald Yell's letter about the lack of equipment for Arkansas volunteers

LETTER FROM COL. YELL, OF THE ARKANSAS VOLUNTEERS.

MY DEAR SIR: I have only a moment to write to you. We reached this place on yesterday at 11 o'clock A.M. and by 10 P.M. we crossed the river, and will take up the line of march for San Antonio. I regret that we have been disappointed in receiving our public arms and camp equipage. There has been inexcusable negligence somewhere, and I shall make the report to the proper department; and if that negligence should be continued, and we reach San Antonio without finding our arms, I shall make a final and direct report of the case to the secretary of war, and in he does not correct such inattention he will deserve to be removed from his present position. I hope, however, all will yet be satisfactorily explained, and that we shall be furnished on our arrival at our point of destination.

I am pleased to say that our troops are remarkably healthy yet, and in good spirits. They will, when an opportunity offers, give a good account of themselves.--

In haste, yours, A. YELL

[RCG]
# The Mexican-American War and the Media, 1845-1848

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**Vol. 71, November-December 1846**

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disputes in Yucatan over re-incorporation into Mexico

Alvarado made a city

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disease in our Army, letters describing state of affairs

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Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny orders part of his force back to Santa Fe and proceeds for California with only 200 men

apprehensions about winter forage at Santa Fe, large number of men left unemployed there

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Com. Matthew Calbraith Perry's operations at Tabasco

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NNR 71.210-71.211 Gen. Pedro Ampudia's proclamation on the fall of Monterey

NNR 71.218 Com. Matthew Calbraith Perry's official account of affair at Tabasco

NNR 71.218 addition to the official report of the affair at Tabasco

NNR 71.219-71.220 Gen. William Orlando Butler's report on the Battle of Monterey

NNR 71.220 Gen. Thomas Lyon Hamer's report on the Battle of Monterey

NNR 71.220-71.221 Gen. John Anthony Quitman's report on the Battle of Monterey

NNR 71.221 Gen. David Emanuel Twiggs' report on the Battle of Monterey

NNR 71.221-71.223 Gen. William Jenkins Worth's report on the Battle of Monterey

NNR 71.223 Gen. James Pinckney Henderson's report on the Texas volunteers at Monterey

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NNR 71.226 arrest of Mark H. Parkenson at New Orleans for holding intercourse with the Mexican government

NNR 71.226 news of Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny on his way from Santa Fe to California
71.226 Col. Alexander William Doniphan detained for want of provisions, no money, treasury draughts at heavy discounts, predictions, provisions on the way to Santa Fe
71.226 Col. Philip Saint George Cooke, with the regiment of Mormon infantry, leaves Santa Fe for California

NNR 71.226 designation of New York volunteers for Mexico
71.226 letters from the secretary of war declining additional volunteers

NNR 71.240 Panuca captured
71.240 troops arrive at Tampico
71.240 Saltillo occupied by Gen. William Jenkins Worth
71.240 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's movements

NNR 71.240 Gen. John Ellis Wool's reception at Monclova, which he occupies, proceeds for Saltillo

NNR 71.241 speculation as to the disposition of the new Mexican Congress and as to Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's designs, &c.
71.241 urgent appeals to the Mexican Congress to make Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna dictator

NNR 71.241 correspondence between Gen. Zachary Taylor and Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna

NNR 71.241 Gen. Zachary Taylor visits Saltillo
71.241 Gen. Winfield Scott's purposes

NNR 71.241 more volunteers called into service

NNR 71.241 state of affairs at Santa Fe

NNR 71.242 Mexican account of affairs at Monterey
71.242 skirmish between Georgia volunteers and Mexicans
NNR 71.242 storming the Bishop's Palace at Monterey, touching incident

NNR 71.243 Com. Robert Field Stockton's proclamation organizing a government in California

NNR 71.243 burning the Mexican brig Creole

NNR 71.256 accurate table of killed and wounded in Battle of Monterey unavailable
NNR 71.256 fifteen hundred volunteers said to be buried on the Rio Grande
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NNR 71.257 loss of the United States sloop of war Boston, capture of Panuca

NNR 71.258 estimate of the prize money from the Tabasco and Tampico captures

NNR 71.258 praise for Midshipman Simpson's gunnery

NNR 71.259 exposed state of the Indian frontier because of withdrawal of troops for the war with Mexico

NNR 71.262 rumors relative to superseding the commanding generals by appointing a lieutenant general, Gen. Robert Armstrong or Thomas Hart Benton considered for post, Com. Charles Stewart's appointment as commander of the Gulf Squadron also being reconsidered, review of results of the campaign, glimpse at the future

NNR 71.262 affair at Angelos, Mexican finances, ordnance at San Luis, Campeche identified with Mexico, Capt. G. T. M. Davis' account of route of Gen. John Ellis Wool's division

NNR 71.263 Wool abandons original object, Chihuahua, marches to Monclova, and thence to Saltillo; letter from "a volunteer" describing the country, condition of the troops, objects, &c.

NNR 71.264 Gen. John Ellis Wool ordered to occupy Parras

NNR 71.264 wounded from Monterey, change of the direction of the Army, Gen. Zachary Taylor proposes to march for Victoria

NNR 71.264 Gen. Robert Patterson's command retiring to the mouth of the Rio Grande en route for Tampico

NNR 71.264 Gen. William Orlando Butler

NNR 71.264 Gen. Gideon Johnson Pillow

NNR 71.264 rumor of Gen. Antonio Canales having taken sixty baggage wagons

NNR 71.264 directions of the different corps

NNR 71.265 letter of "Gomez" from Monterey
71.264 rumors respecting Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's movements

NNR 71.266 letter from Brazos

NNR 71.270 letter of Consul John Black to Secretary of State James Buchanan transmitting correspondence of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna

NNR 71.270-71.271 plans of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna

NNR 71.272 Mexicans determined to defend their country

NNR 71.272 formidable Mexican force assembled at San Luis

NNR 71.272 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna at a grand review of the troops

NNR 71.272 defense of the Mexican withdrawal from Tampico
NNR 71.272 accounts of the burning of the Mexican vessel Creole at San Juan de Ulloa

NNR 71.272 prizes taken at Tabasco are wrecked

NNR 71.272 American blockade of Mexican ports

NNR 71.272 Cyane blockading Guaymas

NNR 71.272 American traders arrested at Chihuahua

NNR 71.272 Gen. John Ellis Wool occupies Parras, Gen. William Jenkins Worth at Saltillo

NNR 71.272 Mexican destruction of water tanks between Saltillo and San Luis Potosi

NNR 71.272 Gens. Zachary Taylor and Gideon Johnson Pillow march for Victoria

NNR 71.272 volunteers embark from Rio Grande for Tampico

NNR 71.272 Gen. Winfield Scott arrives in New Orleans on his way to the seat of the war

NNR 71.272 military appointments, &c.

NNR 71.272 Mexicans at El Paso del Norte

NNR 71.272 Mexican levy on the church and clergy to finance the war, shipments of specie to Europe

NNR 71.272 steamer Gopher breaks her chains and is lost in heavy winds, other ships sunk in gale

Santa Fe, Sept. 13, 1846

Messrs. Editors: On the 2d instant, General Kearney, with about eight hundred men, left this town on an excursion south. We went to a village called Tonie, about one hundred miles distant. We struck the Rio Grande twenty seven miles from this place, at a village called San Domingo, inhabited by the Puebla Indians. Our reception at this village was quite a grand affair; the principal men and braves met us six miles from the town, and escorted us in; the braves were mounted on their best horses, and dressed in the most gaudy apparel, and armed and equipped in the same manner as when they go out for the purpose of fighting. When the general passed the head of their columns, they fired off their guns, and then one file on each side of our companies proceeded to the rear, and then wheeled and came down to close our line at the top of the speed of their horses, yelling and going through all the maneuvers of a regular charge; they met again at the head of our columns, fired at each other with their pistols, made passes with their lances, and then filed off, and returned to the head of our companies. This was repeated several times, to the great admiration and astonishment to all who witnessed it. I have never seen better horsemen anywhere, and from what I could discover, I should take them to be formidable in battle, if properly armed. They are fine looking men, and much superior in every respect to the Mexican population. They have a very fine village, most splendid vineyards, and appear to be much more comfortable, in every respect than the Mexicans. When we got into the village, we were invited to the priest’s house, where a most sumptuous repast was set out consisting of the best grapes I ever saw, melons, apples, cakes, and with liquor sufficient to wash them down.

There is at this town quite an extensive church, to which is attached the priest’s house, where he keeps his wives, or concubines. The priest at this place has four-two of them are quite good looking. After our repast, the general made a speech to the citizens, who appeared quite well pleased. They then escorted us out of town, and we went on our way rejoicing, with full stomachs, and every man with just liquor enough in him to make him feel patriotic. This was the only Indian village we visited.

After we left San Domingo, we passed through villages every eight or ten miles, until we reached the village of Tonie. Most of them, however, were quite small and the inhabitants, with exception of two or three men in each, are a poor miserable set.

The only villages on the Rio Grande, that we visited worthy of note, are San Domingo, San Phillippe, Albuquerque, and Tonie. Albuquerque was the residence of Armijo. We halted a short time at the place, going and returning. Gen, Kearney called on the late governor’s wife, and passed an hour or two, as he told me, very pleasantly. She is said to be an intelligent woman, and deported herself with much propriety. Her husband, (Armijo,) it is said, has gone to the
Passo, and it is supposed will continue on to the city of Mexico. The people near the town of Tonie, and the inhabitants of the different villages, have heard of our intended visit, and the general so arranged our marches as to bring us to this town the evening before the anniversary of our patron Saint – a great day with the inhabitants of that region of the country; and I assure you it was a great day not only with them, but to all who were present. There was an immense concourse of people, men, women, and children, Mexicans, Indians, and White folks. They had prepared fire-works, which were gotten up in a very good style, the town was illuminated, they had a theatre- that is, a play in the open yard, which appeared to be well received by the inhabitants. They also had a fandango, which was not only crowded, nut jammed and crowded to overflowing. The beauty and fashion were there, and, to my astonishment, I found some of the women quite handsome. During the day there was mass said, and the Virgin Mary was paraded down the streets followed by the principal men of the town, and also Gen. Kearney and his staff, with lighted candles in their hands.

The priest at Tonie joined in the waltz, and appeared as jovial and as much disposed to participate in all the amusements as anyone else. The country south of this place, (Santa Fe,) along the Rio Grande, is much better than any portion of the province I have yet visited; yet in my judgment, no Missourian would ever think of locating anywhere here for the purpose of cultivating the soil. The province has been overrated, and our government has been grossly imposed upon and deceived, as to its resources, commerce, &c. I have not seen anything since my arrival here that would excite the least desire for me to reside here. To sum up the whole in a few words, the Mexicans are physically, mentally, and morally, an inferior and “low flung” race.

Yesterday an order was read, assigning the five companies of dragoons for the California expedition; there has not as yet been any place designated for my winter quarters; it is however believed that my company will be attached to Maj. Clark’s battalion, and stationed at this place. I hope such may be the case, unless I can induce the general to let me go south, to the Passo del Norte. I saw the general last night, and requested that he would not assign me to Doniphan’s command—he said he would not.

I have found the officers of the army very agreeable companions, and thus far, all has gone on very well.—Our mail will not leave before next Thursday. Should anything occur before the departure of the mail, I will write you again.

September 15, 1846.—Since writing the foregoing, an order was made, assigning my company to do duty with Maj. Clark’s battalion, and stationing us at this place for the winter. The five companies of dragoons, will, it is said, march on the 25th instant for California. We have had no news in relation to Price’s regiment, nor of Captain Allen’s command of Mormons. We do not know how to account for the non-arrival of Price, nor the delay of Allen.[MJK]

NNR 71.145 November 7, 1846 the "Union" discredits the report that additional volunteers will be called for, remarks thereon

The Washington Union contradicts the report that additional volunteers have been called for. That paper of the 4th inst. says: "The moment 'new troops' are wanting, in addition to the regulars and the volunteers now in service, we presume they will be called for. When, it does not become us to say; still less to what point any of our troops may be sent—whether to Saltlillo, (to which the Inquirer undertakes to say Gen. Taylor has been ordered to advance,' without any discretion,) or to Tampico, or to Vera Cruz, and the castle of San Juan de Ulloa, as other essayists have urged, or to any other point of the compass. We avoid touching upon these points. It is not within our province. The impartial press will excuse us for saying that, even if any friend of the administration were to be acquainted with the plan of the campaign, or even to suspect it, it would scarcely be his duty to go to the house tops and proclaim it in the ears of our enemies." The Baltimore American, of yesterday, quoting the above, replies: “Not withstanding the strict reserve which the Union here professes, it did intimate some time ago, with distinctness enough that an expedition was contemplated against Tampico, and that the men to compose it were to be taken, a portion at least, from the Rio Grande.

With such a disclosure as this, and with the further knowledge that Gen. Taylor had peremptory order to terminate the armistice, with a view, as we are told, of a vigorous prosecution of the war, the public anxiety becomes naturally excited at the apprehension that Taylor’s support is to be withdrawn from his base line of operations at the very moment that he is directed to advance into the enemies country. It is not from a disposition to indulge in idle speculation that the newspapers in various parts of the country dwell upon this subject. Great fears are felt that the gallant army in Mexico, which has covered itself with glory, may, by some blunder of the administration, be left in jeopardy. We say that such fears are felt—and sensitively too. The country looks with anxiety towards Gen. Taylor, watching every step; and while it has great confidence in him and his brave soldiers it has not a great deal of confidence in the competency of the administration. This, we believe, is the chief secret of the extreme solicitude which possesses the public mind in reference to affairs in Mexico, and concerning the manifestations of which in the public prints the official paper gives indirect lectured on propriety. “A report has become very general, and was certainly authorized by the highest authority that the President had determined to call for additional volunteers. At the same time a report prevailed that a formidable diversion was to be made either upon Tampico or Vera Cruz. It is probable that the two reports were dependent upon each other. If an invasion of Mexico, at one of these ports was to be attempted, the call would be made, and not otherwise.

We refer to details from the several divisions of the army, for the latest intelligence from each.

The official reports and particulars of the late engagements, and list of the killed and wounded, have not reached Washington. [MJK]
Two companies of the U. S. army embarked from Charleston, S. C., on the 27th ult. in the ship South Carolina, for Pont Isabel. The following are the names of the officers--


Recruits. - The officers of the army were detached by Gen’l Taylor after the battles of the 8th and 9th May for recruits are now returning with the recruits they have obtained to join the army. A detachment of fifty German recruits, under the command of Lieut. H. Browne, embarked from N. York on the 29th ultimo in the brig Ellen and Clara, for Fort Brooke, Tampa bay, Florida. [SCM]

The company of ninety-five Sappers and Miners reached N. Orleans on the 24th ultimo in the ship Clinton, from New York. The ship John Holland, arrived at Brazos on the 17th with troops. The steamer Florida, with a number of the wounded soldiers from Monterey, had been aground on the bar off Brazos, but got off, and proceeded for New Orleans. Capt. Ruggles, in command of a detachment of the 5th infantry, about 175 men, accompanied by Lieuts. Tyler and Gibson, the latter in command of a detachment of artillery recruits, embarked from New York on the 30th ult., in the ship Corsair for Brazos Santiago. Capt. Ruggles was in the battles of Palo Alto and Reseca do le Palma. Wm. W. Tompkins, esq., formerly captain of the 2d dragoons, U. S. army, and who served in the Florida war until the close of the year 1838, is making vigorous efforts to organize in New York a corps of volunteers for the Mexican war [SCM]

Col. STEPHENSON.—Commander of the California expedition.— In the suit of Ellingwood vs. Jonathan D. Stephenson, colonel, &c. United States army, his honor said the motion to set aside the writ of ne exeat must be denied, and the motion to open the default, and the motion for an attachment against the colonel must be granted. [N.Y. Gaz & Times. [MJK]

At a public meeting held in Boston on Thursday evening, Charles Sumner, Esq., was nominated as an independent candidate for congress, in opposition to the regularly nominated whig candidate, Mr. Winthrop. Hon. C.F. Adams (son of the ex-president) presided, and such men as Dr. S. G. Howe, Dr. Channing, Dr. Bowditch, &c., who are opposed to the Mexican war, were concerned in the measure. They oppose Mr. Winthrop because he voted for supplies. Whig journals say the true whigs of Boston will be inspired by the result of this meeting to make extra exertions in favor of their candidate.—Four parties are in the field arrayed against them. [MJK]

The Commanding General has the satisfaction to congratulate the Army under his command upon another signal triumph over the Mexican forces.—Superior to us in numbers, strongly fortified, and with an immense preponderance or
artillery, they have yet been driven from point to point until forced to sue for terms of capitulation. Such terms have been granted as were considered due to the gallant defense of the town and to the liberal policy of our own government.

The General begs to return his thanks to his commanders and to all his officers and men, both the regulars and the volunteer forces, for the skill, the courage and the perseverance with which they have overcome manifold difficulties, and finally achieved a victory shedding luster upon the American arms.

A great result has been obtained, but not without the loss of many gallant and accomplished officers and brave men. The Army and the country will deeply sympathise with the families and friends of those who have thus sealed their devotion with their lives.

By order of Maj. Gen. TAYLOR:

(Signed)

W.W.S. Bliss


71.152 November 7, 1846 letter about the cause for losses at Monterey, skepticism about the results of the armistice, notice of arrival of dispatches from Washington.

Another correspondent over the signature of L. writing from Matamoras, under the date of October 5t, says:— It is generally believed that our great loss was occasioned by a “fool hardy valor” pushing men up in the face of danger, when the exercise of a little military skill would have enabled our troops to have taken the enemy at great advantage. Our troops are as brave as any in the world, and our regulars act upon the principle—“No nice distinction a true soldier knows, But bid him go to h—I, to h—I he goes.” And under this military axiom would push through death and surrounding dangers-whenever ordered.—But it was wise to place our brave men to be sacrificed to the want of skill on the part of chefs de batallion or of division either? Certainly not; and the taking of Monterey and its consequences, have demonstrated if any demonstration were needed, that cool courage, skill, and tact do more, with less loss, than impetuous valor without arrangement-whose line of march is marked but by his own dead-however great was the goal at the final end of the bloody trail.

In relation to the armistice, and prospects of permanent peace, I place no confidence in the benefits to flow from the former, knowing, as I do, that before the fall of Monterey, the Mexican government had, with commendable foresight, called for a draft of 30,000 men, who will, I’m of opinion, be assembled at Saltillo, and fortify the mountain passes before the expiration of the stipulated two months; and as to peace, I conceive the time of its consummation with Mexico far distant. Heaven grant I may be mistaken. But it behooves our government to reinforce Gen. Taylor by at least fifteen or twenty thousand men; and if it consult the best interests of the nation, it will dispatch Gen. Scott immediately to the seat of war. His skill and judgment would give regularity and order, and insure a peace in the shortest possible time.

October 6th.—Last night a special messenger arrived from Washington, bearer of dispatches to General Taylor- we are ignorant of their import. If in consideration of overtures for peace from Mexico, distrust them, as Paredes is again getting up, and may be, before long, once more in the ascendancy; and as to Santa Anna, who but an idiot would trust him, even under the most solemn obligation. I tell you, that unless we send reinforcements here, the termination of the armistice will find General Taylor hemmed in Monterey-mark that! San Luis Potosi has pronounced against Santa Anna, and in favor of Paredes-this after the taking of Monterey. [MJK]

ARMY OF THE CENTRE

GEN. WOOL.

Letter from a correspondent of the Boston Courier, dated:

Army of Chihuahua,
San Antonio de Bexar, Oct. 2, 1846.

I avail myself of a short respite from my arduous duties to give you some little information in regard to the movement and operations of this division of the invading army. I arrived here on the 20th Sept. from La Baca, after a somewhat fatiguing journey. On the 26th ultimo the advance of this army left for Presidio Rio Grande, consisting of the
following troops, viz: company B, 4th light artillery, under captain Washington; two company 2d dragoons, under brevet major Beall; three companies 6th infantry, and one company Kentucky volunteers, under major Bonneville, United States army; six companies Arkansas cavalry, under colonel Yell; four companies of Illinois volunteers, under captains Webb and Morgan; corps of pioneers, artificers, &c. under command of captain Lee, of the engineers U. States army; a train of one hundred and eighty wagons, loaded with subsistence, ammunition and quartermasters stores, boats and lumber, for making a flying bridge across the Rio Grande—the train under charge of captain O. Cross, assistant quartermaster United States army. The entire force under command of Col. Wm S. Harney, 2d dragoons, amounting to fourteen hundred effective men.

On the morning of the 29th ultimo, gen. Wool, with a portion of his staff, and escorted by two companies of the first dragoons, left here to overtake the advance.

Col. Churchill, inspector general is left in command of the rear division, to follow with the remainder of the forces as soon as sufficient number of wagons (now en route for this pace) shall arrive from La Baca. Major Thomas, chief of the quartermaster’s department, also remains for the purpose of hastening the forwarding of supplies, &c. and will be here in about five days, with col. Churchill and the remainder of the forces, to join gen. Wool at the Presidio, under command of col. J. J. Hardin, with a train of twenty four wagons and two pieces of cannon.

The wagons with supplies and stores, are rapidly arriving; one train of fifteen wagons came in on the 30th ultimo, and one to-day of the twenty one wagons.

It is almost impossible to imagine the difficulties encountered by the quartermasters department towards fitting out and preparing the “trains” for transporting supplies. In the first place the mules have to be broken to work in harness. There is a scarcity of teamsters, and inefficient wagon-masters are sent from New Orleans, where they are picked up and sent out upon their representing that they are first rate teamsters--the greater part of whom scarcely know how to harness a mule, not to speak of their driving a five mule team.

Too much praise cannot be awarded to Major. Thomas for his untiring exertions and unceasing vigilance in organizing the department, and protecting the interests of the service from the depredations of those who are constantly devising means to cheat the government. It was really amusing to see coming into La Baca with old wagons and broken down oxen to sell to the government, for which the most exorbitant prices were asked. Six hundred dollars has been asked for a wagon and five yolk of oxen, for which three hundred dollars might be a great price. Individuals must have an idea that the government must purchase from them at any price, and that government officers are bound to believe what they say, without examination. However, they found major Thomas an officer possessing too much practical knowledge to be taken in by them. Consequently he is abused in the newspapers in the most outrageous manner, and why? For the simple reason that they cannot deceive him and rob the government.  [MJK]

NRR 71.152-71.153 November 7, 1846 Gen. John Ellis Wool’s division advancing on Monclova, for Chihuahua, letters giving details, list of officers

The New Orleans Delta, of the 27th has the following:

THE ARMY OF CHIHUAHUA.

From major M. C. M. Hammond, U.S. army, who arrived a day or two since Port Lavaca and San Antonio, Texas, we obtain the following information:

One half of gen. Wool’s army left San Antonio for the Presidio on the Rio Grande on the 26th of September. The general went in person on the 29th. The remainder, consisting of sixteen companies of Illinois infantry and four companies of Arkansas cavalry, were under command col. Churchill, inspector general United States army. Between the 5th and 8th of October eight of these companies marched, commanded by Col. Hardin; and colonel Churchill was to have conducted the remainder on the 14th, leaving one or two companies in garrison at Bexar, to protect supplies and furnish escorts.

Gen. W. expected to reach Presidio in twelve days. He established a depot at that point, until it was ascertained whether steamers can ascend the Rio Grande to a position more suitable to his operations. His army will cross the river on a flying bridge, boats for which were constructed at San Antonio, under the direction of capt. Fraser, engineer, and were transported in wagons.

As soon as supplies are received to enable him to advance, gen. Wool will press on to Chihuahua, taking Santa Rosa and Monclova in his route. The former town is garrisoned with regular troops and said to be capable of strong resistance. This line of operations is longer than might be selected, but it has the advantage of turning the mountain passes—of abundance of water and some provisions—and runs within seventy or eighty miles of gen. Taylor’s when co-operation can be readily effected if necessary.

If it is found impossible to transport supplies by water to the Presidio or other point on the Rio Grande whence to furnish the army, it will be necessary to haul all their provisions from Port Lavaca by way of San Antonio, a distance to Chihuahua of nearly 800 miles, and through a country in a rainy seasons almost impassable for heavy wagons.
It will be seen that this enterprise is gigantic and its accomplishment will be an achievement more arduous and more creditable than a brilliant victory. The health of the troops had very much improved. The sick were left at Bexar under the care of Dr. Glen, U. States army.

The command consists of the following officers and troops:

**STAFF**


Captains Lee and Frazer, corps engineers.

Captain Hughes and Lieut. Sitgreaves and Franklin, topographical engineers.

Lieut. Kingsbury, ordinance corps.

Major Thomas, quartermaster; Captains Cross, Will, Chapman, and Chilton, assist quartermasters.

Dr. Hitchcock, medical director; Drs. Simpson, Levely, and several volunteer surgeons

1 company light artillery; 2 do. 1st dragoons; 2 do 2d dragoons; 1 regiment Arkansas Cavalry; 3 companies 6th regular infantry, 1 do. Kentucky infantry; 2 regiments Illinois infantry.

The Kentucky regiment of cavalry left Lavacca on the 13th inst. for Matamoras. About 40 of them had died, fifty to seventy had been discharged, and one hundred sick had been sent to Matamoras by water. At one time it was said that 300 men were on sick report. The Tennessee cavalry followed the Kentucky regiment on the 16th. [MJK]

**NRR 71.153-11/7/1846 The Louisville Legion**

An officer of the legion writes to the editor of the *Louisville Courier*:

-“The situation of the Louisville Legion was a very silent, but at the same time a very chafing one. We were obliged to stand the fire from a well directed battery of twelve pounders from the Castle, which were directed at the howitzer and mortar, before mentioned as being immediately in front. Their pieces were very troublesome. Their cavalry formed in front of the Castle frequently, for the purpose, it is supposed, of making an attack upon us, but a bomb thrown in their midst soon dispersed them. The Legion was formed in squares every hour or so for the purposes of receiving their expected attack on our battery. This is the reason why we were not actively engaged. Gen. Butler ordered us into the city at one time, but Major Munroe, who had charge of the pieces, remonstrated in the strongest terms, and said that the mortar battery would be taken by the Mexicans in half an hour after we left, and that the pieces we were protecting were then doing more damage to the enemy than we could possibly do in the city. Upon this, General Butler then countermanded the order.” [SCM]

**NRR 71.153 November 7, 1846, Gen. William Orlando Butler’s letter detailing affair at Monterey**

**GENERAL BUTLER.**

—The following letter from General Butler to a near relative near Louisville is from a Louisville newspaper:

Monterey, Sept. 25, 1846.

Monterey is ours, but not without a heavy loss, and my division has probably sustained more that one half of it. I am myself wounded, but not badly. I was struck by a musket all below the knee; it entered in front, grazed the bones without injuring them, ranged round through the flesh, and came out on the opposite side.

I became faint from loss of blood, and was compelled to leave the field after having been in it under a heavy fire of grape and musketry for three hours.—I have been required by my surgeon to keep perfectly still, ever since the battle.

I was in the act of leading the Ohio Regiment to storm two of the most formidable batteries un the town, flanked by a stone wall, ten feet high, with a deep ditch in front and covered by a strong musketry force in the rear, under complete shelter. There were two other batteries of grape shot discharged, that swept the ground continually.

Col. Mitchell, who commanded the regiment of Ohio volunteers, was wounded about the same time that I was, and we then prudently abandoned the enterprise, as we became convinced that our loss would have probably been at least one hundred more men, had we persevered.

I hope you will not think I acted rashly. I know that I am often rash where I involve myself alone, not so, however, when the fates of other are at stake.
THE KENTUCKY MOUNTED VOLUNTEERS.

Perhaps a more splendid or spirited regiment of men, officers, and horses never paraded in any country, then composed the Kentucky volunteers that repaired so promptly to the frontier — and were ordered to join the division of the army under general Wool. They had no sooner reached his headquarters, then they were ordered thence to Port Lavaca en route to Camargo, to join general Taylor. The following letter from an officer of the regiment is from the Observer and Reporter.

Camp near Port Lavaca, Texas Sept. 23, 1846.

Dear sir— the departure of the steam ship Galveston affords another opportunity to write to you, and more and more at large than I was able to do the other day. We are somewhat rested from the fatigue of our long and hard march. The equinoctial gales are in full blast, and the fresh breeze from the sea brings healing on its wings to the sick I our hospitals. I told you in my last, that Col. Marshall chafed much under the order of brig. gen. Wool directing him to repair with his regiment to this place. His reasons seemed sound at the time, and subsequent events verify their correctness. He said that a halt and quiet at a moment just preceding a change in seasons, when the sickness carried in the atmosphere would develop disease lurking in or passing through the system, because the indolence of a stationary camp would aid, where as continual action would enable the system to resist or ward off the attack of disease. He was anxious to press forward to Camargo without halting and to rest on the Rio Grande after the season changed, which they do generally after the equinoctial storms. Disease has increased in our camp alarmingly since our arrival here. Yesterday the surgeon reported 160 new cases in the hospital. Many of our boys look chap fallen at this sudden reverse of our condition, but the commander and the surgeon seem to recognize the change as one they had expected, and to fear no great degree of fear as a result. I have no doubt the letters from the regiment will be gloomy enough by this mail, but the writers don’t understand the diagnosis of our malady. We are sick of an order from a general who don’t know what he is about, and which brings death in its train that could have easily been avoided. Col. M. sent an express to gen. Taylor the other day, immediately arriving here, remonstrating against the order delaying him here, and predicting just what has occurred. He also spoke freely to officers on their way to gen. Wool’s camp, and wrote gen. Wool himself. General Wool sent down an order day before yesterday to Col. M. authorizing him to move forward to Camargo whenever he chose to do so. The troops expected that col. Marshall would be off directly, and he did make one “revolution,” as they say, but his train wanted repairs and on applications from the shops at Lavaca, he found them employed from gen. Wool’s train, and that the same mail which authorized him to proceed, imperatively directed the quartermaster to confide the shops exclusively to work on wagons destined for San Antonio de Bexar, which cut off all chance of a speedy departure, unless we go without a train. The col. did talk a little of cold meat, but he abandoned that notion, and now I suppose we may be considered as firmly aground. Indeed, the news by the Galveston that Mexico had rejected the overtures of our government for peace, on the ground that the Mexican congress alone had power over that notion, and now I suppose we may be considered as firmly aground. Indeed, the news by the Galveston that Mexico had rejected the overtures of our government for peace, on the ground that the Mexican congress alone had power over that object opens a new chance for a contest and seems to have produced a desire on the part of col. Marshall to recruit his men more effectively than he seemed disposed for when he thought there was a slim chance of getting there on time. I hope by the next letter I write to give you accounts of improving health in the regiment. You ought to see the boys. Their condition is a reproach to the government. They are barefooted, and some of them literally without breeches, many without hats and coats, but they stand up as proud as if they were dressed I imperial purple. The government is indebted to this regiment this day $75,000- it has received no pay whatever, and though paymasters pass and repass, it hath seen no signs of payment.—
Young men of education and intelligence, used to the luxuries of life, are by this neglect absolutely turned naked in a wild country, and exposed to the climate and suffering from the weather, without any care for their condition on the part of the government they serve. They would raise a row pretty quickly, but that they respect to highly the feelings of their own officers to place them in an awkward position, by drawing down on them the displeasure of the war department. We shall go to Camargo, and I think we shall leave here between the 1st and 5th of October. In the meantime we shall drill and be recruited. The distance to Camargo from our camp is 236 miles. Col. Marshall has already every creek, spring, pond, bayou, Ranche, sandy piece on the way, and I am indebted to his politeness for information as to the gross distance. He says he shall march it in 14 days. The arming of our regiment in two different ways attracted originally, some comment, and alarmed the pride of our commanding officer. He had a correspondence with the war department as to the meaning of this movement, but the secretary repelled the idea that any undue advantage was to be taken of the volunteer officers. The apprehensions of Col. Marshall are beginning to be realized. For instance, the advanced guard of Wool's division is made up of thus:

4 companies United States infantry – 1 company Kentucky infantry - Capt. Williams. 2 companies Illinois infantry – Hardin's regiment. 3 companies Illinois infantry – Sissell's regiment.

No volunteer colonel or lieutenant. Colonel obtains the command, but the command is conferred on brevet major Bonneville, of the regular army. He - a mere major by brevet - it to be placed in command of a full regiment, while superior officers who are volunteers are not noticed at all. He is forsooth to have ten companies under his charge, while Hardin and Bissell are reduced to seven or eight each by the operation! A similar operation is opening on our regiment.

Gen. Wool has ordered major John P. Gaines to detach C. M. Clay's and Pennington's companies from Marshall's regiment, one company from the Tennessee and one from the Arkansas cavalry, to form a battalion which he now says should be under Gaines's command. This robery of our regiment is to [?]ure to the benefit of Archie Yell, colonel of the Arkansas regiment who will have command of more than a regiment by the operation! I don't know what our col. Means to do with these orders. I see he is moody and clouded to-day, and not disposed to say much about it. He had a Mexican rider in camp to day and started him to Camargo. It is supposed he bears dispatches touching on this order to major gen. Wm. O. Butler. I see no preparations making for the departure of our companies, and should not be surprised if this business closes with our colonel in arrest, for if he determines to permit the separation of the regiment into minute detachments for the use and advantage of other officers, he will maintain his position at the cost of his commission. He has trouble ahead of him I fear, and it is suspected that there had been some intrigue, as the order designates the companies to be detached. By my next we shall have a development, of which I will apprise you.

J.J.

[MJK]

NNR 71.153-71.154 November 7, 1846 letters of S.D. Allis about the assault on Monterey

The following letters are copied from the N. Orleans Picayune, and were written by S.D. Allis, who was formerly a clerk with the Picayune office, and was known as "the tall Yankee clerk." The letters were written for private perusal by his family, but on that account are the more full of those personal details which always interest and enlighten the reader:

- Monterey, Sept. 24, 1846

Uncle:- I once more have an opportunity to write you, and it would be difficult for me to express the sensations of pleasure I feel in being able to do so, after having participated in many hard fights with the enemy to get possession of this beautiful place. Yes, Monterey is ours. After four days' hard fighting the Mexicans have capitulated. I have heard and read of battles, but never had an idea what a battle was before. The whistling of bullets, grape and canister- 6, 12, and 18 pound balls - the roar of cannon and bursting of shells- have become as familiar and common to me during the fight as the alphabet. Our company has done honor to Louisiana, and our division, under Gen. Worth, all agree, has done its duty. I was with our company at the storming of three batteries, located on hills so high that you might call them mountains, and so steep that a slip of the foot would have thrown us hundreds of feet below. The Louisiana boys made the attack on the castle, and lay five hours by themselves within 200 yards of it, picking off those that exposed themselves, and all the time the enemy pouring in showers of musket balls and grape; but they flew over our heads. Finally they sallied forth and charged on us. The 7th infantry, in reserve all this time came up and rushed on the castle, and raised the stars and stripes. We fired on the Mexicans as they left the breastworks and the castle, and captured four pieces of artillery. Our division has done the work; although our loss is small, we have done more to conquer Monterey than the whole of the two divisions who made the attack of the front. I would give you a description of the fight on our side, but Haile and Kendall, who were there, can do it better than I can. I will say, however, that the first five shells thrown by the Mexicans in the rear, where we made the attack, fell almost in the midst of your company, and burst without doing any harm. This was the opening of this side of the town, on Monday, the 21st inst. Yesterday, three divisions of Mexican troops marched out of town, and to-day 3,000 more. The balance have four more days to leave in. There were troops enough here, had they been Americans to keep of 50,000 good men. Every house is a fort, and every resident, even the little boys, had muskets and fired them upon the rooftops; but we finally went from house to house until we had taken one half the city, when a flag of truce was sent in by General Ampudia, and the terms of surrender agreed upon. We are in a most splendid house, near the center of town; but will be removed to the Government barracks as soon as the Mexicans have all left. The two Nichols have behaved nobly during all the fights, indeed exposing themselves more than necessary. The old gentlemen may well be proud of such boys as they are. We are now anticipating a speedy return, for we think that affairs will soon be settled, and that this dose will be enough for the Mexicans. The taking possession of the big fort was an interesting ceremony. The Mexicans fired a salute and marched out – we fired one and marched in, then raised the star spangled banner and gave three cheers, while our band...
played the appropriate air.—We marched in the tune of Yankee Doodle, but it would be hard to tell what tune was played by the Mexican band. Our company has had two killed and four wounded. Many of them have the marks of balls in their clothes and caps, and it would seem that a Divine Power had interfered to preserve the lives of our little band.

Monterey, Mexico Sept. 28, 1846

Dear Uncle:

I am sergeant to the guard to-night, and have concluded to write out a description of my own experience and what I saw at the storming of this place during the three days' hard fighting, for your amusement and for the benefit of those who left me here in particular—who tried to persuade me to go home, saying that we would never see a Mexican with a musket that would pull a trigger at us. You, who returned, don't you wish you had stayed here—that you had come along as far as Monterey and taken a hand in a battle that will be remembered as the United States remains a nation, and perhaps longer? To thrash these yellow skins in their own forts, cities, and their own mountains—to see the stars and stripes raised in triumph on the ramparts of their fortifications by the boys that can do it handsomely! Ah, pity you from the bottom of my heart! You came a long ways to get a fight and were disappointed.

I came a little further and was in a glorious one. It would have done you good to have seen what these long understandings of mine have been to me in climbing up the Mexican mountains. But I must commence more formally.

Saturday morning, Sept 19th.

—The 1st division under Gen. Twiggs took the head at daybreak, and soon ours (the 2d) one hour latter, and the third one soon after us. About 10 o'clock, we first heard the cannon of the Mexicans in this place, which had been fired at a body of Texas Rangers, who had been reconnoitering and trying to coax out the Mexican lancers, and, oh, with what pleasure did we here it rebound around the fort! Cheers rent the air for miles— the whole army. Exhausted as the men were, all appeared to double their speed, anxious to be brought to the scene of action. But it was not the intention of Gen. Taylor to bring us into action until Monday, so we came to a halt at the walnut springs, distant four miles from town, a beautiful place in a small valley and surrounded by large timber. The water is cold and delicious, and the springs afford water enough for 50,000 men, if they could all get to it. The body of water running out of one spring alone is at least a half barrel.

Sunday, Sept. 20th.

-Our division, under the command of Gen. Worth, and composed of the 5th and 7th infantry, eleven companies of artillery with muskets, the 8th infantry, the Louisiana volunteers and 150 rangers, and two batteries of four guns each, was ordered to march at 12 o'clock and take up a position in the rear of the city and co-operate with the army that made the attack in front. We opened our way around the town at a distance, through fields of corn, sugar cane, and pea fields, without being disturbed until sun down, when a few shots were exchanged at a distance between advance of the enemy and our own, but no harm was done. At dark we bivouacked for the night, which was quite cold, and no blankets or tents to cover us from the occasional showers of rain; at the point of rain we started again, but had not gone more than two miles before we found ourselves directly under a Mexican battery so high that it was out of reach of our cannon. They opened lively upon us with shell, the first fire of which appeared to be directed at our company, although they burst without doing the least harm. But the grand fandango soon commenced in front, the lancers and Texas Rangers aided by three regular companies, came to loggerheads, and had a pretty sharp skirmish, killing fifteen Mexicans and wounding several more. We had two wounded on our side, and the lancers too French leave. We soon saw that there were two more batteries in front beside the castle of Monterey, off to the left—indeed, it seemed as if the place could never be taken. We had not gone far before opened us with a 9 pounder, killing one captain and one private of the 8th infantry. We waited, under their fire, until our train had passed around the hill and up the valley out of reach of their fire, and we all soon followed them to make preparations for the attack. In the meantime, company was ordered to defend a pass in the mountains I our rear in case the enemy should advance in that direction.

About 12 o'clock, the enemy commenced firing down the second hill with muskets, and occasionally a load of grape and canister. From where I was I had a most splendid view of the fight as it proved to be, but thus far a one sided one, for not a single shot had been sent forth from below for nearly an hour after the first attack. Ah! There goes the volley of muskets; I can occasionally get a peep at our boys, who are climbing the mountain as fast as they can, keeping as much as possible under every nook, bush and rock. Volley after volley are exchanged on both sides, our boys gain the top and the Mexicans run off on the other side. The stars and stripes are raised with cheers, which are responded to in the valley below. It is now our turn. Another battery still further on, built of stone and on a very steep and high hill, is next to be stormed. “On the right fire, close intervals!” When we all ran in the double quicktime. The 5th infantry comprising about 200 men and Louisiana for the next. It was with good cheer that we marched onto the attack, our company so stationed as to be in advance. We had hardly reached the roof of the hill when down came a shower of grape and canister in the midst, but it appeared as if Mexican iron and copper was not made to kill Yankees. On we went through the showers of musket balls, and soon had climbed the mountain high enough to reach them with our musket balls. On we went, loading and forming as we advanced, until within fifty yards, when we rushed up as fast as our legs would carry us, driving the Mexican down the other side and taking a 9-pounder brass cannon, ready loaded with grape, but the load intended for us was turned lose on them.

The first hill taken was directly opposite the hill that opened on us in the morning with shell, and the hill taken by us directly in front of the castle, an ugly customer well fixed to kill Yankees, mounting four 9-pounders and two mortars. They soon opened on us with shell, which burst all around us without doing any harm. Dark soon put an end to all cannonading, and we lay down to rest anticipating hot work in the morning. Occasional showers of rain, and no blankets...
with us, kept up awake during most of the night. About one hour before the day we heard muskets on the opposite hill, and soon after we heard the 8th infantry, which had not yet had a turn at the enemy, had climbed to the fort and made an attack. By sunrise they drove the Mexicans out, but they were smart enough to take the cannon with them this time and broke for the castle, we cannot climb its walls, nor can we batter it down. We may drive them out with shells, and kill all those who expose themselves, with out muskets. Perhaps we can coax them into a bit of a fight outside. But take it we must. At 7 o’clock, A.M. we were ordered across to the last place taken. In the course of an hour we found ourselves at the top of our last prize. We seated ourselves on the rocks to rest, while I took a glorious nap on an hour. I heard the alarm, that the enemy were advancing on us around the side of the mountain. Our company, the immortal “phoenix.” Was ordered out alone to hold them in check; but it was only a small body who were trying to coax us out under the guns of the first, and within reach of about 500 lancers who were at a halt about a half mile off.

Balls began to fly thick as we advance; every bush has a Mexican in it; they upon us from the castle; the lancers move off. We get under cover of nooks, bushes, and low places, and whenever we get a good shot at a fellow in or near the castle, cut loose. Volley after volley is fired at us, but we lay low and they shoot high. They are coming out of the castle, about 500 strong, to make an attack on us. One of out 12-pound howitzers has been hoisted on the hill in the rear, and the shells commence whizzing over our heads. Everyone tells, bursting on and in the castle. They advance on us; we are ordered to close at the right on the top of the hill, and fall back into a ravine one hundred yards distant. We did so in great order, firing several times as we retreated. The Mexicans came at us with a yell; the battle grew hot. The word charge was given when the regulars in reserve came to our aid, and on we rushed, sweeping them and the castle at the same time; and, as usual when we entered the door of the castle, which we had stove, they ran out at the other; but we chased them to the edge of the town, pouring in a deadly fire upon them. We do not know the number of dead on the Mexican side, but counted 21 in lot. We lost one noble fellow, as good and brave a spirit that ever moved in the army. We also had three wounded in this mornings fight. The day before our company lost one and had four others slightly wounded. Some have caps, some jackets, and others guns marked with balls. Of the Wednesdays fight and capture of the town, I will tell you when I see you again. This latter was a battle on the house tops.

Over 9000 Mexican regulars have already left town, and God only knows how many are in line to leave tomorrow. Including citizens who turned out to fight, they must have had two men to our one, and perhaps more.

I saw Haile several times during the fight, riding about quite indifferent to the balls which fell around him. Although he did not run into danger, he did not appear to try to avoid it when it visited him.

We are in a splendid house near the plaza, and have a plenty to eat; thousands of oranges, apples, and other fine fruit. I forgot to tell you that our brigade marched up to receive the big Mexican fort, with six guns, and raised the big American flag on it, fired salutes, marched out about 2,000 yellow skins, and gave cheers for the star spangled banner. Had 2,000 Americans been in this fort, half of Mexico could not have wiped us out of it. We took a mortar in town the next day after taking the castle, and fired one of our shells into the square from it, killing and wounding over thirty Mexicans. Most of the Mexican soldiers or half of them nearly are married men and have their wives with them. Between 800 and 1,000 went out with a division of 1800 soldiers yesterday. It looks bad to see the Mexican army marching off in this way, ready to give us a fight another time, but I believe Gen. T. acted wisely, and has saved a thousand lives which would have sacrificed in the taking of the rest of the fortifications and town. [MJK]

The following is an extract of a letter from Lieutenant Henry Little, of the U.S. Infantry, (son of the late Col. Peter Little, who so long represented the District in Congress.) The letter of Lieut. L. was written to his family in this city, of course not for publication, but as everything in relation to the brilliant affair at Monterey is of grossing interest, the letter has, at our request, been furnished to us, and from it we make the following extracts:

Monterey, (Mexico,) September 29th, 1846.

I wrote you a letter from our camp at Seralvo, and I believe I mentioned that it was pretty generally thought there would be no fighting here. After leaving Seralvo we took upon our line of march through the mountain passes, surrounded by some of the most beautiful scenery in the world. On encamping the second night, the mail reached us and brought me ----’s letter, dated I think in August, (for I destroyed it going into battle.) The next day we reached a town called Marin, which was deserted by a body of the enemy’s troops on the advance of ours. We remained there all day for the whole army to concentrate.—

From the belfry of the church we could see Monterey, about 22 miles distant. The rising and setting of the sun in the mountains exceeded anything I have ever seen, and by lovers of the beauties of nature, was indeed hailed with delight. One will no doubt read descriptions of our march in the papers from abler pens than mine, as several contributors to different newspapers accompany the march. On the second days march from Marin, and about 6 or 8 miles from here, our ears were saluted by the firing of artillery. It afterwards proved to be the town firing upon General Taylor with the advance guard, who were reconnoitering the place. This of course settled all doubts with regard to a fight. The town was evidently fortified, and strongly too. As proved on closer observation. The strength of the enemy’ forces could not of course be known, but supposed to be large or they would not make a stand. The army encamped that night about three mile from the town, on a little stream called the Walnut springs. The army had been previously divided into three divisions, the 1st under General Twiggs, the 2d under Gen. Worth, the 3rd under Gen. Butler. On Sunday the 20th inst. the 2d division consisting of the artillery battalion, 8th infantry, 5th and 7th infantry, one company of Louisiana volunteers, two battalions of light artillery, and some Texas Rangers marched out of camp to take position in the rear of
the town, preparatory to storming the fortified hills and Bishop's palace the next morning. We marched until near night when very heavy rain commenced and drenched us all to the skin; soon after we halted for the night, and lay on the ground shivering with cold. I was fortunate enough to get my cloak, a brother officer and myself contrived to cover ourselves with it, and with a stone for a pillow, and the broad canopy of heaven over us, endeavored to get some rest. At daylight we again commenced our march and soon being in range of the enemy's guns, they commenced throwing round shot and shells at us, but for some time did no damage.—Soon the head of our column came up with a body of Mexican troops, consisting of lancers and infantry. After a slight resistance and some loss, they fled, and with some delay we still continued our march. The road was directly under fire, and they took pretty good advantage of it; their shot fell around us, and one officer (Captain McKeavet, 8th infantry) was killed and several men wounded. We were then moved out of reach of their fire and soon after two hills from which they had been firing at us were stormed and taken—thus ended the operations on our side of the town the first day. Our loss was very trifling indeed. On the other side of the town our loss was very great—some nine or ten officers of the regular army were killed and I do not know how many volunteers. A great number of wounded also.—The loss among the men was also very great; I have not heard the exact number.

That night I was on guard on the road leading into the town. It was as dark as a pitch, rained nearly all night; I was cold, hungry, fatigued, and wet through, not allowed to have a fire, and I thought I never spent so miserable a night in my life—not even my coat to cover me. The next day another hill and the Bishop's palace were taken, and the next day (Wednesday) the town was attacked; the streets were barricaded and fortified, the tops of the houses leading to the main plaza covered by their soldiers. The roofs of the houses are flat, with a wall of masonry around them, which makes a capital breast work.—And here we fought them, driving them from street to street and house to house—cannon on both sides were raking the streets with grape shot. We had nearly driven them into the main plaza when night came on. The next morning early the firing recommenced, but lasted a very short time, when the enemy sent in a white flag offering to surrender on certain conditions, After much consultation, lasting nearly all day, the terms of surrender were settled.

-------- I have ever been very brief in my account of the foregoing actions, as I know you will see a full account of them in the papers. It has been another glorious achievement of our arms, of which every American will feel proud. The Mexican soldiers have all gone, and my regiment is encamped in the grand plaza. We have pretty comfortable rooms assigned to us, and after so long living in the streets, I assure you I feel quite comfortable with a table, chair, and bed. I am told the Mexican forces amounted to about 8000 regular and 3000 irregular troops, with about 40 pieces of cannon of different sizes. This is indeed a most beautiful place, and some of the gardens almost come up to my idea of Eastern magnificence. They abound in delicious fruits, and we revel in oranges, pomegranates, grapes, &c. The view from on of the hills is one of the finest things I ever saw. The valley in which this town is built extends for nearly thirty of forty miles, and looks like a beautiful garden.

**SIEGE OF MONTEREY.**

**The Baltimore Battalion**

Extracts of letters of officers belonging to the battalion to our friends.

The following we take from the **Patriot**.

Camp near Monterey, September 25, 1846.

We arrived here on the 20th inst. and when within three miles of the city we were saluted by a brisk cannonading from the enemies batteries—they fired upon our advance guard and general staff. We of course countermarched, and encamped within sight of the city. On Sunday we went out, and returned with out doing anything, the enemy fired upon us—not a shot returned. Early on Monday the troops were assembled in battle array. I cannot picture the horrors of the day to your mind, and am thankful that al All—wise Providence has spared me the fate that many a noble has met with. Four officers belonging to the army fell near to me, among them Col. Watson, for whom a nation might mourn. He is no more.

In a desperate charge against one of the Mexican forts he fell mortally wounded. He handed his sword to lieut. Bowie, and died with a smile on his face, that indicated more than the tongue could tell. He died a brave and gallant soldier. The last words which he uttered were: "Men, your general leads you—who would not follow?" These were uttered seeing an officer pass who, it is presumed, he, in the expiring agony of death, took for gen. Taylor.

I deeply regret that Col. Watson was not spared to enjoy the victory with us. Poor fellow he is gone, and I hope his country will take care of his wife and children. It will be great loss to them. It was hot was the battle, that we were unable to take the body of our lamented colonel from the street, till nearly 48 hours had elapsed. We buried whim in a brick house within about 400 yards from where he made a charge with the battalion. A very singular circumstance occurred while the act was in the act of preparing the grave: a ball came and took his head off; and instead of burying one, we had to have another dirge for the poor soldier. Such is war.

We have lost a number of men, but nothing appears so horrible to me as those men who have their arms and legs taken off. I never before imagined what a battlefield was—never thought it like this.—We have some noble fellows in our battalion instead of being privates they should be generals. They charged three forts and succeeded in taking them, but many who were foremost are now numbered with the dead. We passed the forts on Monday and got into the city. I left my tent determined to surmount every obstacle. I knew we had eyes looking upon us that had jealousy in them, and we
determined to lead the leaders.

You would not suppose that any one could live in this lane or street which we were fighting. Three batteries were constantly playing upon us. Muskets, rifles, and every weapon that could be brought to play was bearing upon us. The lanes became so dense with dead men and horses, that we had to tread upon them in passing. The Mexican lancers, not satisfied by seeing the poor fellows wounded upon the ground, must revenge themselves by thrusting their lances into their bodies. Many of the lancers, however, in turn were made to bite dust.

Every one thought I was killed. My horse was found with blood upon him and brought to camp, and finally they sent out to find me, when I discovered sergeant major Day holding my charger near the fort. I called out and told him to tie the horse to a bush and take care of himself, three forts all the time throwing grape shots at us. I finally managed to get charge of twenty three prisoners, which our men found had retreated from the fort to the tan yard. - Among them were three officers. You may be sure we had to run for it, regardless of the lives of the prisoners. All the forts opened upon us, and such a dodging of balls you've never heard of. I had often heard of getting out of the way of balls, but never believed it before. Every time while we were running to the camp with our prisoners, as we saw the flash of the old twelve-pounder, down all would go upon the road, get up again and run forward. At every flash the Mexicans would fall as flat as flounders.

It is thought that our enemy had some French artillerists among them, as they fired with great skill. Yesterday they fired at a single Texas Ranger, struck his horse and broke the poor man's leg, so that it had to be taken off this morning.

On Tuesday gen. Wool, I understand, wished a suspension of hostilities until he could bury the dead, which was actually refused by the Mexicans, although the truce asked for was only for two hours. It soon came our time to refuse. They wanted, as they said, to remove the women and children out of the city. This was refused. They were told, if they continued hostilities we would remove the men. - They, however, came to terms last night.

The slightest wound here, I might say is worse than a mortal one, for the wound is soon filled with worms, and in spite of all physicians can do, the wound cannot be kept clean of them. They abound in great abundance and of almost every imaginable species.

I am heartily tired of Mexico, and but for the duty I owe to my country, would be the bearer of this letter. You can get nothing without great difficulty.

Our fare has been exceedingly bad. The provisions which the government allows to soldiers are anything but good. Contracts are given to political men, and they put such trash upon our troops as Negroes would not eat it in the south— the pork is fat that lean is considered a great rarity; flour and crackers without worms, are so scarce. In fact the only thing relishable I am able to get is corn, occasionally. On the march through this country, I sometimes get a hold of an old hen, and it seemed old enough to be mother to the chickens that crowded in the days of Hamlet's father. I have just been informed that on of the Ohio men who received a wound in the arm, and which I bound up with my handkerchief during the battle, was stabbed by one of the infernal lancers while resting himself on the chaparral, whither he had gone to get out of the way of the shot.

The Mexicans have fought hard—very hard. No city could have been better forfeited than Monterey, and none but Americans have fought as we have. Nothing but the principle of "never give up" and our go-ahead business that makes us a people defying nations in quiet arms. From what I have seen from observation to day, there is no place so well calculated, in regard to power of defiance as this. In natural advantages I am confident, it has no equal. — Here the Spanish and French forces were separately defeated, and once the combined forces of the two nations.

You can tell Mr. Rodgers that Seth is well. We left William Hickman at Camargo with Dr. Miles and about thirty of our men. Hickman was not in the battle owing to his sickness. Tell Mr. Boyd that his son is well and makes a first rate soldier.

A lancer got after Henry Norris— he ran until he came to a fence, and then leveled his musket and dropped the gentleman from his horse. He was struck so hard that he never knew what hurt him. Mr. N. is a great boy. He says he was never more frightened and that he thought he was a "goner."

Please say to John Glenn, esp. that capt. Kenly is well and one of the foremost in the battle—that he was far ahead of his company in the charge.

A poor old soldier named Kelley, who says he is acquainted in Baltimore, has had his ankle broken by a cannon ball, and will probably lose the leg. Remember me to all your friends and believe me,

Yours.
A Baltimorean

Monterey 26th Sep., 1846

My dear sir: The American arms are once more victorious after one of the most glorious contests on record. The enemy fought us five days and surrendered yesterday The city of Monterey, with all its public buildings and records; its cathedral, armed to the dome; its plaza, a complete net work of masonry, in some places eight feet thick; its distilleries
and tan yards, all turned into forts, and in our hands, impregnable; besides five regularly built forts of the strongest kind-all are ours- 42 pieces cannon, mortars, howitzers and 18-pounders; small arms and ammunition innumerable, together with a large number of prisoners are also ours. Monterey, the place where has heretofore been invulnerable- the spot where she once defeated the combined forces of Old Spain and France, 17,000 strong, has fallen into our hands. The regular and volunteer infantry fought like lions charging in several instances right up to the fort walls, six foot thick; jumping and wading the dykes and ditches; climbing the walls and shooting the cannonnories at their guns, without any support from artillery whatsoever. Such a thing was never heard of before. Our battalion charged upon the city with three forts pouring a continuous cross fire on us, while every roof, window, and door sent forth one uninterrupted stream of musket and rifle balls; bomb shell, 18, 24-pounders, grape, canister, and round shot of all sizes fell around us and passed over us in millions and many a gallant heart that beat high on the glorious 21 September [?] around and within the city of Monterey. Honored be their memory. The brave and chivalrous Col. Watson, after making two different charges on the city, after the 3d infantry regiment of regulars and flying artillery had retreated as ordered, on his return to the eastern section of the city, and while again charging on a fort, tannery, and distillery, fell mortally wounded with a musket ball through his neck and separating the jugular vein. He never spoke, but died in three minutes and lies buried in a grave with officers of the army, 40 feet from the upper fort. It was reported that our gallant captain, now Colonel Stewart had fallen early in the action, but I found him twice downtown in the thickest of the fight, while death was claiming many around him, ultimately leading and urging is own men and others (for we were all huddled together) to another charge, or directing and pointing out the best shelter a mud hole, hedge, fence, or sapling would afford. He made a gallant stand after we were ordered to retreat, killing with his own hand an officer and driving back, with a few more, a larger body of lancers who were charging among the volunteers.—He succeeds to the command of the battalion by seniority, and with, I may say, the universal approval of the officers and men, and Gov. Pratt would do great injustice to the son of an old defender, to a brave and cool officer and warm hearted gentleman, were he to entertain for moment the idea of commissioning any other person as colonel. Captain Boyd of the Chesapeake was also reported to have fallen early in action, but I saw him soon afterwards bravely leading his men up the cannon’s mouth, followed by volunteers from others regiments. Capt. Kenly, bore himself gallantly in the fight, also pressing into the very thickest of the fray; and capts. Pipers and Waters both behaved well. Capt. Bronaugh’s were on the guard and not in action. The 1st sergeant in Capt. Waters’ company, (Orderly Trescott, a man about 42 years of age,) and whose place is at my elbow in line, had his head blown about 40 feet in the air by a 12 pound shot. There are eight men in my mess. William P. Alexander, of them, has not been recognized since the action of the 21st. The lancers killed all the wounded and I fear he had been buried without being recognized.—Robert Caples, another, was mortally wounded, I fear in the groin- the ball was taken out of the back.

Malcolm Wilson, another, was wounded in the arm by musket ball. Three out of eight killed or wounded; besides, W. G. H. , another, was in the first fort taken all night, and R. W. R., another, after charging on the fort once and down town twice, was cut off, and taken prisoner, but succeeded, two hours after the Americans had retreated , by the aid of a Mexican officer, in making his escape, running the gauntlet of three batteries without receiving a scratch. After being forced into the little shelter which a small hole in an open field, raked by three forts, afforded, raising my head a few moments after, I found forty lancers with one hundred yards of my right, and 5 or 600 hundred between me and the American army. Knowing that their mode of warfare is to show no quarter, and cut the throats of the wounded, you may know I did not feel comfortable, and was glad to see Gold and Freburger, the only two of our company on the field. I feel grateful God that my life was spared in such hope less circumstances, and a general feeling of gratitude to the Almighty God of battles pervade our men. We had to run three miles in making the different charges. Poor Watson said to me a few moments before he fell, “Who will now dare say that American volunteers cannot be depended upon in any fight.” They were the last words I heard him utter, being separated from him when wounded. Albert Hart, our color sergeant, has lost an arm, and the flag staff of banner presented to the brave Stewart, by the ladies of Baltimore, through the Old Defenders, has a wound upon it, from the same ball. That flag was the first and only that floated gallantly in the breeze yesterday from the first fort taken from the enemy. Joseph Files has lost an arm, and William Lee was wounded slightly in the abdomen. I merely mention the killed and wounded within our company, knowing that you will see an official list. General Worth, with two brigades, was led around by a secret pass behind the town, (by a Mexican to save his neck,) and coming into Saltillo road, cut off the enemies supplies and utterly surprised him by a brisk cannonading and bombardment in his rear. Unfading laurels are due to Worth for his scientific, soldierlike and highly praiseworthy part in the bloody battle of Monterey. The fight commenced, on our part, Monday morning early and ended late Wednesday night. They had fired upon us, however, for three days before, with but little success. Our glorious little battalion has covered itself with honor and with the exception of a very few, who will be duly reported, every individual seemed to think the result depended on him. All in Captain Stewart’s company not here mentioned as wounded, escaped unhurt and are well. An armistice had taken place for eight weeks, and we hold this whole country as security for the expenses of the war. It is said the enemy were 14,000 strong at least, and our forces in the field were less than 6,000. I had forty odd wounded Mexicans placed under my charge by Col. Stewart night before last. Miserable objects of compassion some of them are, and they and the stench of the dead lying around the damp, the dirt, and the want of food for almost eighteen hours, almost overcame me. Monterey is the strongest place naturally I ever saw with the eye or in print. There is an open plain, three to four miles long or four or five miles wide in front, except a little range hills, about forty feet high, behind which the town lies. In the rear, and on the right and left, the mountains back right up to it, and rise several hundred feet high abruptly and almost perpendicularly, while the only pass is through a mountain gorge directly in its center. I was within ten feet of Gen. Taylor, in the town, on the 21st. He was as cool as a cucumber, and ordered us to pass into the city and break open the houses. God knows how any of us got out.

THE BALTIMORE BATTALION IN THE BATTLE OF MONTEREY

Letter from a Baltimorean commanding one of the companies of the Baltimore volunteers:
Monterey, Sept. 27, 1846.

I should like to give you a full account of the operations of our Army from the time we reached this town until it was forced to capitulate. On Monday last, the 21st, (after having been under arms a portion of the previous night exposed to a heavy rain,) at 7 o’clock, A.M., we marched for camp with two companies of the 1st Infantry, and after an hours hard marching, we issued from a cornfield directly in front of a battery, or rather fort, of some six or seven pieces of artillery, and crowded with infantry, which opened on us the moment the head of our column made its appearance. We were within point blank range, and I, for the first time, heard the whistling of shot. Our battalion was immediately formed in line of battle under this fire, and we were ordered to charge. Forward I went, cheering and waving my sword, and the men came after me gallantly. When within a hundred yards of the trenches I looked back to see who was following, being anxious to know the men. Judge of my astonishment when I beheld the four companies of regulars marching by a flank to the right. I saw Col. Watson shouting, but as to hearing a command, that was an impossibility, owing to the deafening roar of the cannon and musketry. I saw the head of our line changing its direction, and I knew at once that the point of attack had changed, and ran at the head of the company to intercept the head of the column. I reached just as Col. Watson was dismounting from his horse, which the next moment fell from a shot. The colonel cried to the men—“Shelter yourselves, men, the best way you can.” At this time the Battalion was scattered over a space of about an acre, and the men were lying down, the shot in most instances flying over our heads; but the guns were soon depressed, and the shot began to take effect.

I was lying close to Colonel Watson, alongside of a hedge, when he jumped up and cried out “Now’s that time boys, follow me.” I was up and after him in a second, my men following me. We were now in a street or lane with a few houses on either side, and within a hundred yards of three batteries which completely ranked, in addition to which two twelve pound guns were planted in the Castle on the right, and completely infiladed the whole distance we had to make. Add to this the thousand musketeers on the houses tops and in the barricades at the head of the street up which we advanced, and at every cross street, and you may form some idea of the deluge of balls poured on us. (Bear in mind that the four companies of regulars were now with us, the one intermingled with the other.) Onward we went, men and horses falling at every step. Sheers, shrieks, groans of words of command added to the din, whilst the roar of the guns was absolutely deafening.

We advanced up the street under this awful and fatal fire nearly two hundred yards, when we reached a cross street at the corner of which all who had succeeded in getting this far alive halted, ad if by mutual consent. I was shaking Col. Watson by the hand, whilst he was complimenting me, when a shower of grape, round and canister shot came from the corner above, and you may form some idea of the deluge of balls poured on us. (Bear in mind that the four companies of regulars were now with us, the one intermingled with the other.) Onward we went, men and horses falling at every step. Sheers, shrieks, groans of words of command added to the din, whilst the roar of the gen. was absolutely deafening.

I sat down on the ground with my back to the wall of a house. On my left two men torn nearly to pieces. One of them was lying flat on his back with his legs extending farther in the street than mine. Crash came another shower of grape, which tore one of his wounded legs nearly off. He reared up and shrieked and fell back a corpse. I never moved for I was satisfied that one place was as good as another. Directly opposite to me was a Brevet 2nd Lieut. Aisquith; on the right hand corner was Lieut. Bowie, also of my company; and close to me sat Colon Watson, and Adjut. Schaefer. In a few minutes I saw our color sergeant, Old Hart, come past with his right arm shattered (it has since been amputated) and in a few minutes came our Battalion Flag, borne by one of the other color guards, our glorious stars and stripes; and note this, that it was the first American flag in the city of Monterey-an honor which we know belong to our battalion.

When I saw the flag, notwithstanding the novelty of the scene around me, a thrill of pleasure shot through me and I felt as if I could die, for I had made up my mind to die, and no man there ever thought for a moment that he would get out alive, and most of them did not. The firing still continued without the slightest intermission whilst we remained at the memorable corner, which was perhaps for fifteen minutes. When we were ordered to charge up the street a slight hesitation was manifested by both regulars and volunteers, but the officers sprang to the front in double file, I being alongside of Colonel Watson.

We advanced, suppose, fifty yards when Col. Garland, of the Army, ordered us to retire. We still advanced, and he again ordered us to retire, adding this time, in good order. I now became separated from Col. Watson, and never saw him again. He took the left hand side of the street and I the right hand, and when I reached the open field where he had first ordered us to lay down, I was joined by Lieut. Aisquith, who, to my inquiry, answered that he had just left the Colonel, and supposed that he would soon be with you. Seeing no other officer around me, I rallied the Battalion (remember that the firing was just as hot and incessant now as it had been at the first) and led them down to make another attack on the fort, having made up my mind or take it or die in the attempt.

Imagine my surprise—a most agreeable one, I confess, to find the fort in our possession, it having been captured by the Mississippi and Tennessee regiments when it turned its fire on us as we charged into the town. I have not the slightest doubt that it was the charge made by the 1st infantry and our Battalion into the city which made the Mexicans retreat the Fort.

I was ordered to shelter my men from the fire, and await further orders, I took them in the ditch and then clambered over the ramparts to take a look at what was going on. My appearance was greeted with a dozen or so of musket balls, which accelerated greatly a retrograde movement, and I sat down quietly in 10 feet of dirt between me and the enemy’s shot. This was the first spot I had been in which I was out of fire for more than two hours, and I was nearly exhausted. One of my men now came up to me and reported the death of poor Col. Watson, whom he had seen
fall from a musket shot through the neck.

As well as I can learn, the Colonel, in retiring from the city, inclined a good deal to the left, and became separated from the main body of the battalion; that in company with Lieut. Bowie, who remained with him, he met another column advancing to the attack, joined them with a few men he had with them, and fell a few minutes afterwards. He met with a gallant soldiers death—his face to the foe. His loss is deplored by all who knew his generosity of heart and chivalry of character. His loss to me, individually, is great, but to the battalion it is irreparable.—I know not how we will get along without him.—We have much, very much to contend against, and have ever since we left home. But of all this more anon.

We had been in the ditch for about a quarter of an hour whe Capt. Ridgely’s battery came up, also for shelter; but his appearance was the signal for the castle to open before us, which killed one of his horses on the very first shot, and wounded one of my men. We were now ordered to support Captain Bragg’s battery which had taken position to cut off the lancers who had sallied out to intercept what they thought was our retreat. We killed 5 or 6 of them, and the rest fled back to the city.

We were again ordered to the Fort to be ready for another attack on the city. Again the Castle opened on us and every shot told, and I never was s glad in my life as when I got into the old ditch. But it was a short lived gratification, for a regiment of Mexican Infantry were firing on Captain Webster’s battery, and their balls raked the whole fort, ditch and all. We were then ordered to join the Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee troops which were forming on the plain for another attack on the city.

The attack was not made, although I was burning to have revenge, and from the time I last left the ditch until we were ordered back to the camp by General Twiggs, we were constantly under fire being in open view and fair range of the artillery in the gray castle. I was under first one General and then another, until I became completely worn out, as well as my command, which had remained so faithful with me. I returned to camp as night approached, wearied in body and mind, but thankful to God for preserving my life through the perils of the day.

Thus terminated, as far as our battalion was concerned, one of the longest bloodiest battles ever fought on this continent, and strange to say, our battalion only lost six killed and twenty wounded. I had about thirty-eight men of my company in the fight, and two were killed and three wounded; yet every one of those that escaped has told me he did not expect to live through the day, and most of them had, their clothes struck by balls.

I cannot realize that my loss was so small, so completely were my ranked raked by shot. Above, below, alongside, between legs and arms, everywhere the balls whistles and howled. The air seemed cut to pieces by the quantity the that the artillery hurled at us, and it would be childish to tell you how close they came to me, and what and how many escapes I had. Others will hereafter tell you of the first days fight at Monterey, and now I tell you that I was in that fight and exposed to shot for nine hours.

I have thus given you a hasty and ill digested account of my doings on the 21st. I could fill fifty pages if I were to give you a detail of the whole week’s work which resulted in the capture of this important town; but I will stop short, for my back aches now from writing this on my knees. Of my own company I cannot say enough. I love them. They stuck to me through every phase of fortune, and one of them, as he was dying, told me to write to his father and tell him, “he died like a true patriot.”

[Balt. American]

The following letter we copy from the Washington Union:

-Camp near Monterey 27th September, 1846.

To the editors of the Union:

You have, no doubt, had official information some days ago relating to the battles of the 21st, 22d, and 23d instant; and, without attempting to say anymore of the bloody conflict, I consider it due to Lieut. Taylor, or company B, under the command of Captain Piper, of the Baltimore volunteers to say that his conduct, during the three days fight, was brave and gallant, and that the is the gentlemen the recovered the dead body of our brave Lt. Col. Watson, under the heavy fire of the enemy. To-day General Twiggs met the officers of our battalion, and conferred the honor of colonel commanding the battalion on Capt. James E. Stewart, of Baltimore city it being due to him as the senior captain; as also a reward of merit for his conduct during the struggle. Gen. Twiggs also stated, in our presence, that the Baltimore Battalion through out had acted as brave and noble a part in three days’ struggle as any troops in the American army.

I am, dear sir, your very respectfully
K. Bronaugh, Capitan Comp. C.

[MJK]
List of Killed and Wounded.

A Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun furnishes the following extract of a letter from Captain Piper, of the Baltimore volunteers, to his brother Dr. Piper: “Col. Wm. H. Watson’s body was brought into camp by Lieut. Taylor, assisted by privates Hyde and Simpson, who risked their lives under a heavy cannonade to rescue it from where it fell.”

The loss in our battalion during the battle is six killed and fifteen wounded, as follows: “Company A—Captain Stewart’s—Joseph Files, wounded in the left arm, since amputated; Albert Hart, color sergeant, wounded in right arm, since amputated; Robert Caples, in the abdomen; William Lee, in the groin; Malcolm Wilson, in the left arm; and Wm. Alexander, in the leg.”

Company B—Captain Piper’s—Patrick O’Brien, left killed; Wm. F. Powelson, 1st sergeant, wounded in the left wrist; and George Harold, in the right arm badly.

“Company D—Captain Waters of Washington—1st sergeant Truscott, killed by a cannon ball; Charles Yerst, wounded in the leg; A Parris, in the side slightly.” Company E—Captain Kenly—Alexander Ramsay, killed; Joseph Wharry, killed; James Henry, wounded in the left arm; Henry Elslen, in the thigh slightly.”

Company F—Capt. Boyd’s—George A. Herring, son of Henry Herring, Esq., of Baltimore killed; Henry Clifford, wounded in the left arm; William Kelly, in the right foot, slightly; George Pearson, of Co. F, died on Monday morning, having been sick for 10 to 12 days.”

The Sun says—

“The above is evidently a full and authentic list of the killed and wounded, for which we are much indebted. It will be seen there is no reference made to Company C, commanded by Capt. Bronaugh, which was on camp duty during the battle.” [SCM]

NNR 71.160 November 7, 1846 Col. John Charles Fremont’s affair in California

Col. Fremont—A letter from Monterey on the Pacific to the editor of the Alexandria Gazette contains the annexed notice of our interesting young countryman; Lieut. Col. Fremont. The letter is dated July 20:

“Col. Fremont’s party arrived here yesterday, having had some pretty hard fighting with the Mexicans and Indians. They number about two hundred, and are the most daring and hardy set of fellows I ever looked upon. They are splendid marksmen, and can plant a bullet in an enemy’s head with their horses at a full gallop. They never think of eating bread, but live upon meat all the time. They never sleep in a house built on the ground, but a blanket around them, their saddle for a pillow, and a rifle by their side. I should like to give you some more minute account of them, but time will not admit.” [MJK]

NNR 71.160- 11/7/1846 Letter of Col. W. B. Campbell

The Tennessee Volunteers

Camp near Monterey, Mexico, September 25, 1846Dear Sir: I have not time, as the express leaves very shortly, to write you a letter, but only to let you know that an attack was made by Gen Taylor’s army on Monterey on the 21st, which succeeded in part by taking one fortress and portion of the town on that day; and on the 22d and 23d, two other forts fell into our hands, and on the 24th Gen. Ampudia sent in a white flag proposing terms. A conference was held yesterday which resulted in an armistice for eight weeks, and an agreement that the Mexican general should march off his whole army with their arms and six pieces of artillery. The stores to be given up to the Americans, and to-day at 10 o’clock, the main fortress is to be delivered up. For all this Tennessee has suffered most severely—my regiment went early into action on the morning of the 21st September, and was ordered to sustain some regulars who were said to be attacking a fort at one end of the city. When I arrived with them within point blank musket shot of the fort, no regulars were visible— they had filed to the right and taken shelter behind houses, and had got into the outskirts of town, so that my command was left exposed to the most severe discharge of artillery and musketry that was ever poured upon a line of volunteers— They bore the fire with wonderful courage, and were brought to charge in a few minutes, and rushed upon the fort and took it at the point of bayonet. It was most gallantly done. The Mississippi regiment sustained my regiment most gallantly in the charge, and came into the fight like valiant soldiers. We passed through the fort and into the town, but other well fortified places put a stop to our progress, and we had to keep up the fight from behind wallfences and houses all day.

The fort which we took has been in our possession ever since. Two other efforts were abandoned by the enemy on the 22d, and taken possession of by our men. On the morning of the 21st September, I marched to the attack on Monterey with my regiment, numbering 379, including officers, non commissioned officers and privates; and my loss during the
Mexico some things must be undone, and our government must commence again. Discharge your volunteers, and raise
over 700 miles from the city of Mexico, with a vast desert to traverse. In a word, to make peace economically with
must be struck nearer the Mexican Capital; and that it, Vera Cruz should be taken by way of the Alvarado. We are now
committed an irreparable error in leaving the Rio Grande to march in this direction. To end this war a more vital blow
advance to meet us of 30,000 men. I am convinced, and so is every officer in the army, that we have done wrong and
army will muster, when all arrive from below, 9,000 men for they duty, and we her the Mexicans have one on the
but, with exception of those regiments commanded by late officers of the army, without discipline. I suppose our whole
campaign over thirteen months, with scanty clothing and much hardship and exposure. The volunteers are numerous,
or the effective part of it, is too diminutive to meet a strong force. It is week, physically, for it has now been in
Although this is a rich valley, its supplies are inadequate to our wants except in beef, for any length of time. Our army,
The ranchero troops, numbering 2,500 are behind us as guerrillas, and if they choose to act our trains must be cut off.
critical. Our supplies at Camargo, 180 miles distant, must be wagoned to this place.—This long line has no protection.
and more accomplished generals. In fact, so far from the war being ended, it has just commenced. Our position is
defeating their old officers, thus causing their army to be placed under the direction of younger, more ambitious, braver,
mountaineers and a better class of soldiery. So far I consider we have not injured their nation but done it a service, by
There never was a notion so much mistaken as ours in regard to that of Mexico. I mean in respect to its military
views of an officer of rank and experience in the army of invasion; and with this we conclude for the present:

W. B. CAMPBELL
I am yours,
Allen A. Hall, ESQ.

Annexed are the papers of the day:

NNR 71.164 November 14, 1846 "Union" discredits notion that volunteers are to be called, signified that Gen. Zachary
Taylor has not been ordered to advance on San Luis Potosi, &c., reconcile to his remaining for the present where he is, 
impression that a peace is about to be effected

For some weeks past the public have been from time to time apprized by publications in the official journal, as well as
from other sources of the highest authority, that the war was to be prosecuted with ore vigor and means of, "conquering
a peace" speedily. With this view it was, that the instant information was received of the conclusion of an armistice,
order were forwarded by express from Washington to General Taylor to terminate at once, to push on with the army
under his command. The States, it was said, were to be called upon for the residue of the 50, 000 volunteers. Mexico
was to be invaded at some point nearer to the capital than that prescribed as the route from the Rio Grande. Tampico
was to be attacked by the squadron-the most imposing front was to be assumed in every direction, and effective,
striking demonstrations given to Mexico, that nothing but a speedy peace could save her national existence.

Suddenly, however, if any confidence is to be placed in letters from Washington, a very different course has been
concluded upon. The "Union," without contradicting that orders to terminate the armistice and advance with the army
beyond Monterey, now indicated that general Taylor has discretionary powers in the premises and appears reconciled to
his so exercising that discretion as to remain for the present where he is. The department of War, in reply to a tender of
volunteers from Delaware, officially announces that no more volunteers are to be ordered out at present. Preparations
for another descent upon the coast of Mexico would seem at least to be differed for the present.

There are various conjectures as to the cause of this sudden change. Some attributed it to a renewed prospect of
negotiating with Santa Anna or the approaching Congress of Mexico, since they have been beaten out of Monterey, and
have lost California. Others think it impossible that remonstrance's at an attempt to conquer and dismember Mexico,
may have arrived from some of the powers of Europe, since the rejection of offers to mediate a peace. Others attribute
the change to the ascertained expense of the war and the financial difficulties already experienced by the treasurer in
providing funds- and others again refer it to the result of recent elections and that probability that an opposition majority
will be elected to the next house of representatives. Quite possibly all these conjectures may be erroneous. [MJK]

NNR 71.164-71.165 November 14, 1846 letter on the campaign against Mexico

The following extract is quoted by the Monterey correspondent of the New Orleans Picayune as containing the views
of an officer of rank and experience in the army of invasion; and with this we conclude for the present:

There never was a notion so much mistaken as ours in regard to that of Mexico. I mean in respect to its military
resources. The people are warlike, and have an abundant supply of munitions of war. Our battles with them improve
them as soldiers. Our invasion is held by them in abhorrence. And has united all classes in determined resistance
them as soldiers. The States, it was said, were to be called upon for the residue of the 50, 000 volunteers. Mexico
was to be invaded at some point nearer to the capital than that prescribed as the route from the Rio Grande. Tampico
was to be attacked by the squadron-the most imposing front was to be assumed in every direction, and effective,
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may have arrived from some of the powers of Europe, since the rejection of offers to mediate a peace. Others attribute
the change to the ascertained expense of the war and the financial difficulties already experienced by the treasurer in
providing funds- and others again refer it to the result of recent elections and that probability that an opposition majority
will be elected to the next house of representatives. Quite possibly all these conjectures may be erroneous. [MJK]
your regular force to thirty or fifty thousand men. We have the fullest expectation of the most active guerrilla war against us. Move where we will, the mountains and passes afford every facility to carry it on successfully and most disastrously for us. Our army, as now situated, can now be compared o the French in Spain, when Joseph was driven out.” [MJK]

NNR 71.165 November 14, 1846 brisk trade at Matamoras, order of Gen. Patterson concerning persons trading on the Rio Grande

The Rio Grande is now quite low but its navigation is still good-in fact, it is much easier as the current is not more than half as strong as when it overflowed the banks.

Merchants apprise us that the trade has been quite brisk for the last few days and continues to increase, Traders have been arriving from Monterey and neighborhood in considerable numbers, and they speak of many others on the way and preparing to come.—They purchase pretty freely.

In relation to the order issued by General Patterson, concerning persons trading on the Rio Grande, which was interpreted by many as being intended to prohibit the importation of goods, the Flag says General Patterson did not desire that it should be so understood and adds:

"The order was intended for the government of masters and steamboats in receiving and carrying freight and passengers, and to render more positive and concise the prohibition against receiving on board any spirituous liquors. As far up as this place, all legitimate freight can be brought without an order, but before sending it higher it is necessary to obtain the consent and an order to the effect from the commander at this post. The object in thus making it incumbent on persons in order to proceed higher up with goods, to obtain the consent of the commander or quartermaster here, is to prevent individuals from following the army, and hanging around military posts who have no specific business.” [MJK]

NNR 71.165 November 14, 1846 arrival of sappers and miners at Matamoras

The company of sappers and miners from New York, under command of Captain Swift of the topographical Engineers, arrived at Matamoras on the 23rd. [MJK]

NNR 71.165 November 14, 1846 Mexicans evacuate Saltillo

"ARMY OF OCCUPATION"

By the arrival of the steamship Galveston at New Orleans on the 2d instant, we have Galveston updates to the 30th ult. The news of that date says-

From Col. Davis we learn that the Mexicans have totally evacuated the whole country this side of San Luis Potosi. The information has been derived from so many sources that there is now no doubt of this fact. They left behind some forty dragoons to destroy fortifications that had been constructed at Los Muertos, a naturally strong and difficult pass on the road to Saltillo, and about five or six miles beyond the Rinconada. They have also dismantled Saltillo, destroying whatever might be of use to our army, and which they could not take away. Thus there is nothing left for General Taylor to conquer, but a barren region of rugged mountains and thirsty plains, affording neither water nor provisions for the sustenance for man or beast, over a distance of two or three hundred miles, to San Luis Potosi.[MJK]

NNR 71.165 November 14, 1846 Gen. Zachary Taylor ordered to advance on San Luis, difficulty doing so

If, as has been said, General Taylor has orders to march upon San Luis Potosi, so as to reach that city by the end of November, the question arises how he is to traverse such a country as he will have to do, by a forced march at the rate of 15 or 20 miles per day?

The only water on this route is in the Mexican tanks, which will doubtless be all broken up as the enemy retires. To carry water sufficient to save his army and teams from suffering would probably require more horses, mules and oxen that are now in the army, all of which are required for the transportation of the necessary stores and munitions. In making this retreat the enemy has doubtless adopted a wise policy, leaving behind them a far more formidable enemy for Gen. Taylor to encounter, (viz: this march) than he could ever find in their own arms and fortified towns.

This policy has doubtless been dictated by the sagacity of Santa Anna. It is stated on good authority that he sent
orders to Ampudia to evacuate Monterey and all other places this side of the mountains, but that those orders were not received till after the battle.

After leaving the troops necessary to garrison Monterey, Saltillo and other town, Gen. Taylor will only have an army of about 5000 men with which to penetrate into the heart of the enemy’s country, and far beyond the reach of any reserve upon which he might fall back in support, in case of necessity.- Such, we believe, is an account of the present position and prospect of our army, as derived from good authority. Gen. Ampudia has been superceded in command, but the name of his successor is not remembered.[MJK]

NNR 71.165 November 7, 1846 correspondence between Gen. Zachary Taylor and Gen. Francisco P. de Morales respecting conduct of volunteers; Correspondence relative to supplies of provisions

The Matamoros paper, the American Flag, of the 24th ult., says:

Although several persons have called at our office within the last two days, direct from Monterey and intermediate posts, yet not one word of news do they bring not before published, except that preparations for future hostile operations on our side are rapidly progressing. By the time the armistice shall have expired, everything will have completed to ensure success in future engagements or movements.—Of the doings of the Mexicans we can learn nothing accurate. If any belief could be attached to the to the trading parties of Mexicans coming here from Monterey and vicinity, all their troops have been withdrawn from Saltillo and are concentrating at San Luis Potosi, where Santa Anna is stated to arrived. A Mexican who arrived in town yesterday, states that there is no preparations making at the pass of Rinconada to dispute the passage of our army to Saltillo, and that Saltillo will not be defended. It is but fair to presume that he knows no more in regard to the intentions of the Mexican Generals, than we do to the intentions of our own Generals. It would take more than his assurance to make us believe that the passes through the mountains will be left undefended.

Every thing has remained quiet and peaceable since the battle, both at Monterey and on the road. The trains were going up without molestation. The full extent of the American loss in killed and wounded was 480. The climate favors the healing of the wounds, and many are recovering. The general health of the troops is good. Preparations are going forward actively for a renewal of hostilities after the expiration of the armistice- no belief was entertained in Monterey that the Mexicans designed to break it. If they did, General Taylor was prepared for them.

The flag contains a translation of a correspondence which took place after the capitulation of Monterey between General Taylor and Governor Morales, in regard to certain charges made by the latter against the volunteers quartered in the city, of having murdered several Mexicans, and being generally disorderly in their conduct; and also concerning the furnishing of supplies for the American army.—After the capitulation, General Taylor had a conversation with Morales on the last mentioned subject, and subsequently Col. Whiting, Quartermaster General addressed the following to the Governor:-

"General Taylor orders me to address your Excellency upon various subjects in reference to the conversation had with you the other morning when visiting his camp.

He desires, in particular, that you will order the inhabitants of this province to furnish mules for burden between this place and Camargo. Though we have a good number now employed, yet many more are needed.

He also charges me particularly to say to your Excellency, that you will request or command the inhabitants to bring in their corn and deposit the same to a considerable amount in the city. It is necessary that this corn should be brought in, and it must be, by your Excellency’s order of by force. If procured by the first means, it will be paid for at the same price the Mexican government allowed; if by second the owners may look to their own government for redress.

You will please to inform me officially; (we wish a speedy reply,) what the current prices of transporting each mule load from Camargo to this city, and the prices which the Mexican government have been paying for corn at this season.”

To this note of Col. Whiting, Governor Morales replies as follows.

"Since this government had the pleasure of conferring with Gen. Taylor upon various subjects of importance, they have taken due measures to accomplish your desires, relative to the accumulation of corn and removal of effects from Camargo belonging to the American army. I have to inform you that corn will be furnished, (as much as can be gathered) at five dollars per mule load, and also mules for burden, as soon as they arrive from the interior, where they have been sent on business, but ordered to return forthwith—with the understanding that the current prices for freight from this city to Cervalo is two dollars and fifty cents per mule load-to Camargo five dollars- to Cadereita one dollar and fifty cents- the same to the estates of Dolores and Conception, which are below Cadereita.

Such being the case you will signify the same to General Taylor, adding at the same time that it will not be necessary to use force in procuring the object indicated, for there is no lack of desire to serve.

With this motive I offer you my consideration and esteem. God and Liberty.
Monterey, Sept. 30th, 1846.

Francisco P. Morales

Col. Whiting consented to receiving the supplies on these terms. The flag says the prices are double those paid by the Mexican government.

The following is what Governor Morales says in relation to the volunteers, in a note dated the 29th of September:

"Multitudes of complaints have been made to this Government against excesses committed upon persons and property against Mexicans daily by the volunteers, in the service of the United States, and I am this moment informed that three of our citizens have been killed by them, without pity or any reasonable motive. Only because they possess the power to do so. Under such circumstances, it is impossible that society can remain in much security, as the most essential guarantees are wanting. I have the honor of making this known to your Excellency, hoping that measures will be adopted to put an end to such atrocities in the future, and to carry into the effect the assurances given to the protection of the people.

Repeating my esteem and consideration for your Excellency, I am, &c. &c.

"On the 1st of October, General Taylor wrote in reply:

"The communication of your Excellency, dated 29th ult., relative to excessive committed by volunteers in Monterey, was duly delivered. Some delay has occurred in answering it, in order that I might communicate with the commandant of that post.

It is with sentiments of regret I learn your just cause of complaint, founded upon the grounds stated by your Excellency. Your Excellency must be aware that it is no easy task to keep such men in subjection, and although my great desire is to maintain good order, yet excesses have been committed, but I believe, none of grave character.

The volunteers now in the city, will be removed in a few days, and by their absence, I hope all cause of further complaints will cease. In the meantime, Brig. Gen. Worth will use all efficacious measures to maintain order in the city. He is now invested with orders to this effect. Your Excellency must be aware that my desire is to comply with the guarantees I have given, in the name of my government, relative to the security of persons and property."

In order to arrive with a better understanding with General Taylor, while his correspondence was going on, Morales, understanding that General Taylor had a knowledge of the French language, requested that correspondence be carried on in that language. The old hero, however, determined to stick to the vernacular, and at the conclusion of the last of the above notes, he says:-

"I take the liberty, at the same time, to add, that your Excellency has been misinformed in regard to my possessing a knowledge of the French idiom, and in consequence, you will please hereafter, as heretofore, receive my communications in English."[MJK]

NNR 71.165-71.166 November 14, 1846 express mail with dispatches taken by Mexicans

ORRESPONDENCE OF THE N. O. PICAYUNE.
Monterey, Mexico, Oct. 12, 1846

GENTLEMEN: We have received new from New Orleans up to the 25 ult. It seems that there is no probability of peace being established for some time to come. Lieut. Armistead, of the 6th infantry, has just arrived from Washington with dispatches for Gen. Taylor, but the instructions sent him are not known in the army.

A mail which was sent from Camargo by a Mexican express rider for the army, about the 21st ult., and which, it is believed, contained important dispatches for Gen. Taylor, besides many private letters was taken by the enemy and conveyed to Ampudia, who received it on the day of the capitulation. Whether the Mexican mail rider was killed, as is pretended, or carried the mail of his own accord to Ampudia, is not known; but certain is it that the mail is in the possession of the enemy. After the Mexican army had retired to Saltillo, Gen. Taylor, hearing the loss of the mail, sent a messenger to Ampudia and requested him to return the private correspondence. The self-appointed postmaster of our army replied, through a Mr. Faullac, that a mail had been taken and received by him, but that he had forwarded the bag to Santa Anna! Mr. Faullac, however, hoped soon to have the pleasure either of sending back the private correspondence or bringing it in person. This accounts for the many persons in the army not receiving intelligence from home when they knew it was due. For instance, I have not received a letter from my family of a later date than six weeks ago. It is hoped that to Ampudia and all his officers and wives and concubines and Santa Anna shall have read these letters, they will be returned to us. The ladies who have husbands or lovers in the army will have the satisfaction of knowing that their letters have been read by the illustrious Ampudia. It is hoped that our wives have written us very becoming letters, and that they have been mum on family secrets.—Happily for their feelings of delicacy on this subject, however, neither Mexican men or women can understand or appreciate the devotion which has been breathed forth in
their letters to those who are dear to them here. I know that I have at least a half a dozen letters in that mail, none of which will assist the Mexican government in the least in the war with us. I would write to Pedro de Ampudia and ask him to do me the special favor to return them to me, only this, “corresponding with the enemy” is a shooting affair. You may ask how the mail be entrusted to a Mexican, or to one man, to be carried a distance of one hundred and eighty miles through a country filled with rancheros, and particularly at a time when General Taylor was anxiously expecting instructions from Washington. I will answer this, if not to your satisfaction, at least to the best of my knowledge and understanding. The economical quarter master at Camargo was enabled to hire the Mexican to run the gauntlet for fifteen dollars, where as if any escort had been sent up with it, the expense would have amounted to, just nothing at all. No American citizen could be hired to take the mail through alone for $100, but it should be obvious to any one that it is very important to risk a mail with such a chance.

71.166 November 14, 1846 Texas volunteers disbanded at Monterey, their return to Texas

The first part of this statement is not to be relied on. There were no such accounts at Monterey on the 17th instant. There is no such place as Labradores near Monterey, unless it be a small rancho—Governor Liano, it is known, was not there, because his whereabouts had been ascertained a few days before. Salinas is much further than San Luis Potosí than Monterey and that part of the story is but the extension of the report current at the latter place ten days before the time mentioned. As to the killing of the Texans at Lampasos, it is not improbable. The troops from that state were disbanded at Monterey, and a number set off on the road to Salinas, Lampasos, &c., to Loredo on the Rio Grande. They were without provisions for themselves, or food for their horses, a certain sum being allowed for each day’s expenses. Their organizations were broken up, and they went off in parties, many without other arms but pistols and knives. It is very probable they levied contributions on the people, and they got into difficulty. At first, all the public arms were taken away, and it was not until General Henderson sent Colonel Hays to General Taylor, that the arms were restored to be delivered up to Bexar, in Texas. Many men would not go to get them.

NNR 71.166 November 14, 1846 General John Ellis Wool crosses Rio Grande en Route for Monclava

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE NEW ORLEANS PICAYUNE

Monterey, Mexico, Oct. 16, 1846

A chance offers to send a line, which I must write in haste, as the gentleman who takes it will be off in a few moments. Gen. Wool crossed the Rio Grande thirteen days ago on his way to Monclava. A train of fifteen hundred mules arrived from Camargo a day or two since, with provisions. Two thousand mules have been hired at this place for the use of the army at 37 ½ cents per day each.

Lieut. Graham’s remains were followed to the grave three day’s since, by Gen. Taylor and nearly all the officers.

No news yet from the first mail that was captured by the enemy. Another large mail started from Camargo a few days ago (the 5th Inst.) which shared the fate of the first. This makes two important mails that have been captured from us within a month.—The last was taken out of the mule train.

NNR 71.166 November 14, 1846 Major Lear expected to recover from his horrible wound

The wounded are doing well, better than what was at first anticipated. Major Lear who was so horribly wounded through the mouth, the ball coming out at the back of the neck, shattering the jawbone and palate, will, it is hoped, recover. His son, a young gentleman o twenty, is fortunately with him.

71.166 November 14, 1846 death of Lt. Richard H Graham

Lieut. H Graham, of the 4th infantry, died of his wounds last night.

NNR 71.166 November 14, 1846 Gen. William Orlando Butler recovering from wound

General Butler, who was shot through the leg, is recovering fast, and begins to attempt, in his impatience to be on his legs again, to hobble about the floor.

General Taylor keeps his own counsel respecting the nature of the instructions received from Washington. The
Washington letter writers probably know more about the it than a majority of the officers under General Taylor at the moment. Something is brewing, however, and I can see that some movement is soon to be made, though none has yet been ordered. [MJK]

NNR 71.166 November 14, 1846 Letter reporting that the Mexicans had evacuated Saltillo to stand at San Luis Potosi

The following letter from the Commercial Times, states, as a fact, that the Mexicans had evacuated Saltillo, and intended to make their stand, if they stood again, at San Luis Potosi:

Camargo, Mexico, Oct.22, 1846

Gentlemen: In my last letter I intimated you that the evening was very quiet about Monterey, and the indications were in favor of a continuance of the calm until the terms of capitulation, or the return of Capt. Eaton, the aid of Gen. Taylor, from Washington city. Up to the time of my departure on the 16th, nothing indicated any change in the state of things. The discharge of the Texas troops and their departure caused the town to be more tranquil than ever. Not many of the Mexicans had returned to the place, as they are yet afraid; but that will not continue much longer.

Before my departure, the account of the departure of General Ampudia from Saltillo with the army was fully confirmed. He proposed to fortify that town and make another stand: therefore he called on the citizens to assist him. They held a meeting, and the answer to his call was, Monterey was a town naturally easier of defense than Saltillo, that it was well fortified, and he had been driven out of it, therefore they would not expose their families and property to certain injury and danger.—The general then left, taking the road towards San Luis Potosi. [MJK]

NNR 71.166 November 14, 1846 Gen. Pedro Ampudia and the authorities of Saltillo, his official announcement of the surrender of Monterey

MEXICO.

The Washington Union states that dispatched have been received from the U.S. squadron off Vera Cruz. Before the battle of Monterey, Ampudia boasted that the American army should be defeated, and that not one of our troops would be left to taste the waters of the Rio Grande. And since the Mexicans were driven from Monterey, they are misrepresenting everything-making our loss to be 1500-and some say near 3000-and stating that they left behind them only about 6 pieces of artillery, not fit for use. Private letters from Vera Cruz, however, appreciate the depth of the blow they have sustained-Monterey being considered one of the strongest places in the world. A few numbers of the Locomotor of Vera Cruz, to the 8th of October, inclusive, have been received at the Navy Department. The intelligence of the capture of Monterey is copied from other papers, with few comments.

OFFICIAL DESPATCH OF GENERAL AMPUDIA TO THE MEXICAN SECRETARY OF WAR, ANNOUNCING THE SURRENDER OF MONTEREY:

Most Excellent Sir:

After a brilliant defense, in the course of which the enemy was repulsed, with the loss of fifteen hundred men, from various posts, he succeeded in possessing himself of the heights commanding the Bishop’s palace, and another to the south of it, and likewise a detached breastwork, called the Teneria, and continuing his attacks through the houses, which he pierced in a direction towards the center of the city, he succeeded in posting himself within a half gun-shot of the principal square, where the troops were posted, who suffered much from the hollow shot.

Under these circumstances, I was requested by various principal officers to come to such terms that would diminish our losses: for to open our way with the bayonet, surrounded as we were by entrenched enemies, would have resulted in the dispersal of the troops, and nothing of the material would have been saved. These considerations having been weighed by me, I also took into view what the city suffered, and would suffer, from the attacks by the piercing of the houses, as well as the destruction by the bombs; the scarcity of ammunition, which was beginning to be felt; the provisions which we were losing, as the enemies lines approached the center; the distance from our supplies, and finally that to protract this state of things for two or three days, even if it were possible to do so, could not end in a triumph, and I consented to open propositions, which resulted in the annexed terms of capitulation.

Your excellency will perceive that the preserve the honor of the nation and that of the army; and it is to be observed that, if they do not grant us as much as was perhaps expected, that of itself proves the superiority of the enemy, not in valor, which he displayed in most of the combats but in his position within the squares of pierced masonry, which surrounded the square and cut off any supplies of provisions, wood, or other articles necessary to subsistence.

With the greatest regret, the army withdraws from their capital, abundantly watered with its blood, leaving under the guarantee of the promises of the American generals the severely wounded and the neighboring population of the state, whose civil authorities will continue in the exercise of their functions. Tomorrow I shall continue my march
to Saltillo, where I will await the orders of the supreme government. And in communicating this to you, I have the honor of reiterating the assurances of my highest respect.

PEDRO DE AMPUDIA
God and Liberty!
Headquarters in Monterey, September 25, 1846.

[NJK]

NNR 71.166 Gen. Jose Mariano de Salas’ announcement of the loss of Monterey, and calling on Mexicans to rally

PROCLAMATION OF GENERAL SALAS, THE ACTING PRESIDENT, TO THE PEOPLE OF MEXICO, ANNOUNCING THE LOSS OF MONTEREY:

Mexicans! A government established against the will of the nation is interested in concealing from it events which are disastrous to it; above all, when the responsibility of their occurrences must fall upon the government. A government whose sentiments and interest are no other than those of the nation, and which has emanated from the movement by which it threw off its oppressors, has no need to conceal anything from it, for the nation itself must combat for its preservation and for its honor.

Mexicans! Monterey has fallen. It was not enough to defy death, as our valiant fellow-countrymen did for four days; it was necessary to do more, to defy want in every shape, and the insufficiency of means of resistance. The intention of the enemy to occupy the whole republic is manifest; but the government is determined to triumph or parish with the republic. Partial disasters are of no importance; the Spanish nation suffered much more in the space of six years, and the results of her heroic efforts, and the co-operation of all her sons, was that the bones of a half million unjust invaders whiten the fields of the peninsula. Shall we become unworthy of independence, by not showing ourselves sons worth y of out fathers? The independence was achieved by us alone, only after ten years of constancy; and it is not possible that an organized nation should show less strength than its oppressed sons, such as our first leaders were.

Mexicans! The time to act has come. Will you suffer your population to be decimated, sending it to perish by the handfuls on the frontier, one to-day, another to-morrow, and to perish less by the enemies' balls then by neglect? The government will exert all its power in the defence of its rights; but it has a right to expect that the indifference or inactive contemplation shall not be the recompense of its plan of operation; for the nation will prefer that not one stone will be left on another, rather than behold its sovereignty, its right and its temples trampled under foot. The invincible general called by it to place himself at the head of the troops is resolved not to survive the dishonors of the country.

Will it be less so? No. Our blood and our property will be the sacrifice that we offer up; and when you are in the full enjoyment of the rights which you claimed, I do not doubt of your co-operation, and with it we will snatch from fortune a complete victory, which in the end will ensure to us existence and honor.

JOSE MARIANO DE SALAS
Mexico, September 30, 1846.

[NJK]

NNR 71.167-71.168 November 14, 1846 Maj. Luther Giddings’ account of Monterey and its capture

No mention is made in those papers of Santa Anna. Except that he has been ill with a severe constipation, from which he had recovered; and that, after he learned of the capture of Monterey, he wrote several letters to his friends reminding them of his advice to the government to withdraw the troops from Monterey.

It is mentions in one of the papers, as some indication of public spirit, that the dealers in pulque (a kind of beer) in the city of Mexico, had requested the government to double the tax on that article, which would yield in an increase in revenue, in the capital, of a thousand dollars a day.

The most exaggerated statements are made of the loss sustained by our troops at Monterey, one account estimating it to be three thousand.

LETTER FROM MAJOR GIDDINGS.

We publish to-day a long and interesting letter from Major Giddings, giving the most intelligible description we have yet seen, of the city of Monterey, its topography, its defences, and fortifications, the storming the place and its capitulation. Lieut. Egry resigned a few days after the battle, and reached home last night in good health, but most heartily sick of the war! He pronounces it a humbug, alike in its origin, design, and conduct. Gen. Taylor, in his opinion, is really a great man, but in danger of being sacrificed by the feeble and inefficient conduct of the government at
We have a private letter from an officer of the 1st Ohio regiment, which speaks highly of the coolness and gallantry of Lieut. Egry. The Lieutenant gives a good report of the conduct of the Dayton companies—who stood for hours together exposed to the enemy’s fire, suffering a loss in killed equal to all the other companies of the regiment. But not a man faltered or blenched at the death-shot that rained thick and fast around and among them. Maj. Giddings was much exposed during the action, and won “golden opinions” from men and officers by his cool courage and self possession throughout.

Colonel Mitchell being badly wounded, and Lieut. Col. Weller being sick of a fever, Major Giddings has the principal command of the 1st regiment, and will be promoted to the colonelcy, in case of Mitchell’s resignation. [Dayton Jour.

Camp near Monterey, Mexico,
Thursday, Oct. 1, 1845.

Messrs. Comly-Gentlemen: In my last letter from Comargo, I informed you that our army was about moving upon Monterey, at which place we expected to meet the Mexican forces. We left Comargo on Sunday, Sept. 6. halted three days at Seralvo, and encamped before the walls of Monterey on Saturday, 19th Sept. The first days of the march were void of interest; the road passing through a wilderness of thorns, broken up in places by immense chasms, hundreds of feet deep. In these ravines alone, often mile apart, the heated and toil-worn soldiers found water offensive to every sense. At Mier, the town so celebrated in the History of Texas border warfare—we caught the first glimpse of the distant mountains, and the following day, encamped on a pure, transparent mountain stream, called the Arroya Mier, the murmuring of whose waters made every heart bound with delight. As we approached the mountains the country improved, and our camps were usually upon the banks of pleasant streams and amid groves of olive trees, whose branches were loaded with both flowers and fruit. The whole of the vast region between the gulf and the mountains, seems to be thinly populated. On some days of the march we did not pass a rancho or see a ranchero, (farmer,) the only visible traces of man and his religion, being the cross, which was erected upon almost every hill, and in every valley. Upon many of these holy emblems were inscriptions in Spanish, requesting the prayers of the clergy for him who died or was murdered there.

At Marin—two days’ march from Monterey—our army was concentrated, it having hitherto marched by divisions. Here several handbills, printed in English, were scattered through the camp, signed Pedro de Ampudia, inviting us all to desert, and accept places in the Mexican army, or a free passport to the interior. Our men, after reading the extra, concluded to visit Gen. Ampudia in a body, and accordingly we marched the next day to San Francisco, a small village about 10 miles from Monterey, and which all those through which we had previously passed, was deserted by all its inhabitants, who were not too poor to move away.

The following day (Saturday, Sept. 19th) was the last march which many of our brave men performed. Our regiment was on the rear upon that day, and ere we had fairly left San Francisco, we heard the report of heavy artillery in the direction of Monterey. Supposing that the advance guard was engaged with the enemy the shout was—“Quick time! Forward!” and for six miles the men ran, quickening the pace at every report, until we met a dragoon going to the rear, who informed us that the firing was from the town upon the mounted Texans, who had ventured within range of the enemy’s guns. The American army of invasion, about 6,000 strong-horse, foot, and artillery—encamped that morning in a beautiful grove of live oaks, about 3 miles from the city; a more suitable spot for a picnic could not be found in the vicinity of our own Dayton. I am informed that this camp ground of the invaders (and from which I now write) is a place much resorted to by the elite of Monterey.

The afternoon of the day of our arrival, and morning of the day of the following, were spent by our engineers in the reconnoitering of the defences of the city, which they reported to be splendidly fortified. Almost everyone seemed to be disappointed in the strength of the place.

In order that you may better understand the character of the conflict, which I shall presently attempt to describe, and appreciate the indomitable courage and resolution of our little army, as displayed in the “storming of Monterey,” it is proper that you should first learn of the position of the parties at issue.

Monterey contains about 15,000 inhabitants, and is situated at the base of a lofty range of rugged mountains, called the Sierra Madre. A branch of San Juan River divides the city in unequal parts, the larger and better proportion being between the river and the base of the mountain. A gently ascending slope, covered in places with chaparral—there and there a field of corn or sugar cane, spreads itself before the town. The road by which our army approached, descends over this plain into the center of the city. Standing upon the elevated grounds, midway between our camp and town, but little of the latter can be seen. It is embowered in trees—a spire or white wall being, in some places, all that is visible through their branches.

In front of the city, and about one fourth of a mile out, upon the plain, stands, solitary and alone, an immense fort, covering 3 or 4 acres of ground. It is built of solid masonry, with bastions, ditches, &c.—and is one of those strong holds which, in the opinion of our military engineers, can only be taken by what they call regular approaches. This fort is pierced for 32 guns, and commands every avenue to the city, over the plain upon the east. It throws both shots and shells from its walls; and it was this fort (named afterwards by our boys—“The Old Colored Gentleman”—from its dingy appearance) that fired upon our advanced division on the day of our arrival.
in the rear, or west of the city, rises, ridge after ridge, and peak after peak, the lofty Sierra Madre. On the north of the city is a deep gorge in the mountains, through which is the road to Saltillo and Mexico. This pass and the approaches to Monterey upon the side, are defended by a series of batteries placed upon peaks jutting out of the sides of the great Sierra, and by a strong and elevated fortress, located about halfway between the pass and the town—known as "the Bishop's palace." It was through this pass alone, that the Mexican army could receive reinforcements or retreat with safety. The city was protected on the south, by a chain of small forts, (six I think the number,) extending from the foot of the mountain out to the plain.

In addition to these immense exterior defenses, almost every street and square of the city was barricaded, and raked by field pieces, and every house (being built in the old Mexican style, with thick walls and stone roofs) was a fortress. These fortifications of Monterey (the position and strength of which we learned by cruel experience) were occupied by at least 10,000 regular Mexican troops, and defended by forty or fifty pieces of heavy artillery. It will thus be seen that Monterey is one of the strongest places on the continent.

When it is recollected that the assailants of such places should (other things being equal) be much more numerous than the besieged, you will perceive how great was the work to be achieved by our arms. Indeed the Mexicans had the advantage in everything but the character of our troops. The Anglo-Saxon race cannot be beaten by any other on the face of the earth. The Mexicans having felt the power of our arms at Palo Alto and Reseca, had wisely retreated to one of their strongholds in the interior, knowing well that if we should be unsuccessful there, our army would be utterly destroyed: for had we failed it would have been impossible for us to retreat though the wilderness without provisions:-the first step backwards, would be our ruin. Every ranchero between the mountains and the coast would have been encouraged to take up arms in defence of his bleeding country, and assist in driving back the bold invaders.

Such was the position of affairs on the 19th of September. We all felt that our safety could only be secured, by wresting Monterey from the Mexicans; and as our army was provided with a siege train, or heavy artillery for battering, the city was to be won by downright fighting and good luck;—the place must be carried by storm, and that too without delay, as every hour strengthened the Mexicans and weakened us.

Accordingly on Sunday, the 20th of September, Gen'l Worth with his division 2,000 strong and the flower of the army, marched out of camp to secure possessions of the Saltillo pass and the heights on the north of the town. In order to attract attention from Worth's movements, General Hamer's brigade made a feint upon the town, which was, however, observed by the Mexicans, and the next morning the division was marched halfway down to the city and formed in line of battle behind the crest of the hill, which as before remarked slopes down to the walls of the town;—the regulars on the left an volunteers on the right. A mortar (the only one with our army) had been planted here the night previous, and was engaged in sending bombs against the huge fort that communicated with the approach to the city from our side, the east. They fell short, however, whilst the guns of "the old colored gentleman" were throwing round shot clear over our heads, and almost into our camp. Duncan's battery having accompanied Worth's division, our three remaining batteries of field pieces (Bragg's, Ridgely's and Webster's) took up position to engage the Mexican forts upon the south of the town.

The battle commenced with a brisk cannonading on both sides, in which the enemy had much the advantage—our guns not being large enough to be effective in battering; their men were also concealed behind stone walls, whilst our men were in the open, and the Mexicano's were in the exercise of artillery and indeed the battle was fought on their side mainly with that strong arm of war. For about one hour, our division remained in line, anxiously watching a scene so novel to volunteers, their hearts beating with wild enthusiasm, as they beheld the great superiority of the Mexican artillery. Yes-tell it not at West Point, publish it not in the streets of Washington—the volunteers demanded to be led where veteran troops have often quailed—to the cannon's mouth. In the meantime, the first division of regulars had moved off from our left and became engaged with the defenders of the chain of forts on the south of the city. They drove in a body of Mexican infantry, and in the heat of the pursuit were drawn in between two batteries which poured down upon them a shower of grape and canister, making sad havoc in their ranks, and cutting down thus early in the action, several of the most gallant officers in the service. At this juncture, our division was put in motion. Gen. Quitman's Brigade, composed of the Tennessee and Mississippi regiments, hastened to the left to support the first division of the regulars. One regiment of Gen. Hamer's brigade, the Louisville Legion, being left to guard the mortar on the hill, either fortunately or unfortunately, did not get into action at all; whilst the other (1st Ohio regiment) faced to the left flank, and with a loud huzza, rushed down alone upon the center of the town to support Bragg's battery, which had already been weakened by the loss of seventeen horses, and being in that quarter of the suburbs, was in danger of being captured. For at least a mile, our regiment advanced under fire of the guns of "the old colored gentleman," and entered the suburbs of the city, only to find itself raked on all sides, by batteries of whose location we were ignorant, and escopette balls from the tops of the houses, whose occupants were perfectly safe, as we could neither burn nor batter down their stout walls. But notwithstanding the discouraging and disagreeable position (that of being fired at by an unseen enemy) in which our regiment found itself, the men grouped their way on cheering at every volley that descended upon them. On we scrambled through the gardens and yards, until we finally reached a ditch and stone wall a few feet beyond and parallel to it, behind which we saw for the first time, some of the black rascals loading and firing off old rusty muskets at us. This party rapidly retreated with some loss to a battery that was about a hundred
At this period the scene must have been “grand and gloomy;” it was certainly very peculiar. Gen’l Worth’s division was engaged in contending for the heights on the north of the city; the first division of regulars with the Tennessee and Mississippi volunteers were storming the forts upon the south side, whilst our little regiment (we took about 400 men into action) stood alone in the center, clouds of dense smoke rolled over and through the streets of the town, through which might be seen the flashes of the musketry, and the redder flames of the deep-toned artillery. In the meantime our people had succeeded in carrying two of the forts upon the left and the Mexicans retreating from that quarter, came up to the support of their center, and bringing around with them a field piece, commenced a raking fire upon our flank. Our regiment having secured the object of its attack, viz: the safety of captain Bragg’s battery, was ordered to retire. Our forces having gained a foothold on both ends of the city, the battle was from that time continued by us from those quarters alone.

Our companies having become very much scattered by this species of Indian fighting in the suburbs, and the order to retire not being generally known, the regiment presented a very ragged and unmilitary front when it emerged upon the plain; so much so, as to embolden a squadron of lancers to charge it. — They it seems were concealed behind the large fort which continued to send us in quick succession its ugly and unmusical iron messengers. It being impossible to form a square in time to resist this charge as officers had lost their companies and men their officers and the stragglers of other regiments both regulars and volunteers having joined our ranks, our broken column was hastily formed in line, behind a brush fence which happened as a Paddy remarked— “to be very convenient.”

On came the lancers dashing over the plain, spearing as they passed at full gallop, the wounded Americans who had been struck down by their deadly artillery, and were strewed like leaved over the field. Had it not been for this dastardly conduct, I could have almost of imagined that the days of Spanish chivalry were revived, so much did these murderers with their lances and pennants and flowing parti-colored blankets, resemble the knights of olden times. A single volley from our line emptied several saddles, and put them to flight. The remainder of the afternoon our regiments remained in position, supporting the battery of Bragg. Bragg, a target for the enemy’s artillery without being able to fire a musket in return.

After hard days work, the settling sun saw us in possession of two of the forts upon the south side of the town, whilst during the day Gen. Worth had won all the heights and batteries on the north, except the Bishop’s palace. At dark we returned to camp, weary and hungry, to prepare for battle the next morning. Our men had not eaten anything since daylight, and many of them were so exhausted as scarcely to be able to drag themselves from the field. As it was many of the companies came home only to sleep in the mud, without blankets or tents, the treacherous muleteers having lost their baggage somewhere upon the march. The result of that day’s conflict was very unsatisfactory to our regiment. It had been dreadfully exposed to the enemy fire, without being able to return it.

The evening breeze swept up the mountain side—the clouds of smoke that hung over that beautiful city, and the silence which followed the darkness was almost as appalling as the thunders that heralded the morning. That night was a gloomy one in our camp. How great was the contrast between the evening before and then after the battle! The surgeons were busy amputating limbs, extracting balls, dressing wounds; and all who had walked unmoved through the carnage of the field, then found time to weep for the groaning sufferers. The loss of our regiment was 15 killed and 39 wounded. Of the number killed, the company known in Dayton as the “Dayton Riflemen,” lost 5—being one third of the whole number killed in the regiment. Lieutenants Motter and M’Carter, of that company, were also wounded—but I am happy to inform their friends, they are fast recovering. In Capt. Hormell’s company there were three killed.

At daylight, on Tuesday morning, the battle was renewed by the occupants of the forts and batteries won on Monday. Early in the day, another fort and some squares of the southern end of the town were wrested from the Mexicans, who fought with desperation over their hearth stones, and being acquainted with all the streets and the alleys of the city, had always much the advantage in position. For 12 hours more our men sustained most gallantly this unequal contest, calling upon the “yellow villains” to come out from their stone walls, and give us a fair and decent fight.

General Worth having been taken in succession all the batteries of the enemy, on the northern side of the city, and secured the Saltillo road, was seen in the afternoon to advance upon the Bishop’s palace or castle, which fortress was all that remained to the Mexicans in that quarter. It was gratifying to see how quickly this strong hold was taken. I have not yet learned the manner in which it was won, but to us who were looking on from the other side of the town, it appeared as if the Mexicans made a sortie, either to drive back our men, or to effect their own escape; but being met almost at the threshold by Worth’s column, were forced back, and Mexicans and Americans entered pell-mell into the castle over the battlement of which soon floated the American flag.

Thus the evening of the third day saw us in possession of all the strong holds of the enemy, on both sides of the city. The “old colored gentlemen,” in front of, and the many interior defences of the town, yet remained to be taken.

On Wednesday morning, Sept. 23d, Gen. Hamer’s brigade marched down to relieve the brigade of Gen. Quitman, which had been holding the position won from the Mexicans on the south side. The battle raged with great fury during the most of this— the third day. The Texan Rangers, having dismounted, entered the extremities of the city, now in our possession, and with their axes and rifles cut and fought their way from house to house, shooting, with unerring aim, every Mexican who ventured from their cover. One of them told me that in one room he found 11 Mexicans, all shot
through the head.

The Mexicans were thus driven by inches toward the center of the city. In the afternoon of that day Gen. Worth's division descended from the Bishop's castle upon the town. In a few moments after, Duncan's artillery was heard thundering in the streets of that quarter, advancing half a square at every discharge, driving the Mexicans towards their church and into the large plaza, which they had barricaded for a final and desperate resistance.

During that day there occurred a few intervals of deathlike silence, in which some exhausted men sunk down and slept, whilst other untiring, reckless fellows, between their work, sang in concert popular negro melodies.

Thus for three days the work of death had progressed in and around the beautiful city, whose groves of orange and pomegranate were stained with the blood of contending mortals. That (Wednesday) night, our regiment slept, or rather watched in the forts. The air was tainted by the dead bodies, that were scattered over the plain and in the streets and which were stripped in the darkness by the prowling rancheros.

Early on Thursday morning and before it was light enough to renew the attack, a white flag was borne out to our fort, and a proposition to surrender sent to General Taylor in camp. You will have learned ere this; the terms of the capitulation. I scarcely know what to say of them. It was important that we should get possession of Monterey upon any terms, but it is now certain that after another day we could have got it upon our own terms, and made prisoners of war of Gen. Ampudia and his army. We had him in what is often termed a "tight place." The rangers, (of whom I should like to write more,) were much incensed at the capitulation; for as they said, "they had just gotten possession of all the high houses," and could have slaughtered the Mexicans ad libitum.

It is to be hoped that these terms were not given to Ampudia in pursuit of the wretched policy of conciliation. If our government wishes to conciliate Mexico, our cause is a bad one. If its object is conquest, then have the volunteers been much deceived. They came here to punish Mexico in the most summary manner, for her aggressions and wrongs committed upon our people, and not by pursuing this sneaking policy of conciliation-this unpleasant mixture of war and peace, to plunder her of her territory. It is true we have got possession of thirty or forty pieces of artillery, some tons of ammunition, and a lot of good Spanish cigars, which our idle soldiers are now smoking, but they have cost us in killed and wounded about 500 brave men. The Mexican army and most of the citizens have left Monterey, whose streets are almost as silent and deserted as are ours at midnight. Our army is still in camp-the wounded alone being removed to the city.

Whilst the days are still exceedingly hot, the night have been exceedingly cold in this climate, and there is much suffering among many of our men who are without tents and blankets. Indeed there are but few of them who would not be pleased to return home, as they have seen quite enough of the elephant. I have neither the time nor inclination to describe any of the scenes of the battle field, -besides my letter as already grown to a tedious length. It would however afford me pleasure to give you some account of a tour which a fellow Daytonian, (Mr. Mc****) and myself made through Monterey on yesterday.—to tell you of the magnificence of the church, the beauty of the paintings, (to obtain one of which, I would willingly serve Uncle Sam a year,) and the splendor of Arista's bath and palace gardens.

It is reported here to-day that Gen. Ampudia has gone on with his army to San Luis Potosi, to assist Santa Anna in quelling a rebellion in that province. In the meantime we shall await here the news from Washington,-peace or war! If war, we shall fight another battle at Saltillo about Christmas. Of this our government may be assured, we can hold Monterey and the country between it and the coast, if desired-against all Mexico combined.

Yours, &c.

G.

[MJK]

NRR 71.168-71.169 November 14, 1846 Col. Weller's report of the actions of the Ohio regiment in the action at Monterey

COL. WELLER'S REPORT.

I have the honor to report that the first regiment of Ohio volunteers, now under my command, was led by its commanding officer, Col. A. M. Mitchell, unto the attack made on Monterey in the 21st instant.- Notwithstanding the galling fire to which they were exposed for many hours from the batteries of the enemy, the loss has been much less than anticipated. The whole force brought into action, exclusive of commissioned officers, was, as near as can be ascertained, three hundred and seventy.<

Soon after the column reached the city, and near one of the enemy's batteries, my immediate commander, then at its head leading the charge, received a severe wound in the leg, compelling him to retire from the field.

The battalion remained some time exposed to a galling fire in front and upon each flank from the enemy's batteries, the locations of which could not be ascertained until immediately among them, and apparently increasing in number at every fire, we were ordered to retire from the streets into an open ground, giving us a position less exposed, and with a better opportunity of obtaining a knowledge of the enemies actual position.
The extent of our impression upon the batteries of the enemy, though severe, cannot be precisely known; a continued fire was kept up by our troops, who exhibited the coolest intrepidity and bravery, though exposed to batteries beyond their reach and by an almost invisible foe.

When the troops were in position upon the plain, a large body of lancers were seen in the distance advancing with great speed. We immediately took position under cover of a brush fence, and arranged in line. Our fire upon them, with the aid of a shell from our mortar at a distance, drove them with precipitation and some confusion into the fort; not, however, until they had speared several of our wounded, as they lay helpless on the ground.

Our battalion was again remarched to the streets of the small town to sustain our own batteries, and after remaining in this position till near night, were marched from the field into camp, having been exposed to cross fires of four or five batteries for five or six hours. The men, wore down and exhausted from the day's fatigue, were ordered to remain in camp the whole of the 22d. On the morning of the 23d we again took the field, and were ordered in position to sustain Capt. Webber's batteries, and subsequently into the fort which fell into our hands upon the first day, and which itself was exposed to the range of several of the enemy's batteries and forts. We kept possession of the fort until the succeeding day, (24th,) when we were again relieved, and ordered into camp.

Too much credit cannot be given to the officers and men under my command for the gallant and chivalric manner in which they acquitted themselves during the engagement. They proved satisfactorily that in their hands the reputation of Ohio will never be tarnished, and that whenever an opportunity is presented they will be found ready and willing to maintain it. I regret to say that in the battle of the 21st., Adj't A. W. Armstrong was severely wounded in the leg, making an amputation of the limb necessary; 1st Lieut. Hett, of company H, was killed, 1st Lieut. Niles, of company E, was severely wounded, and Capt. George, of the 2d rifle, and Lieut. Motear, of company B, slightly wounded. The total killed, wounded, and missing is fifty-two; a detailed statement of which I herewith send you. It is proper that company F, under Lieut. Beargrand, had been detailed as a guard for the camp, and of course was not in actions.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John B. Weller.
Lieutenant Colonel 1st regiment O. V.

Brevet Brigadier General Hamer. 1st Field Brigade of Volunteers. [MJK]

NNR 71.169 November 14, 1846 John Wise's project for reducing the fortress of San Juan de Ulloa

EASY METHOD OF CAPTURING THE CASTLE OF SAN JUAN D'ULLOA, AT VERA CRUZ.—

Mr. Wise the Aeronaut, has become before the public, in the columns of the Lancaster (Pa.) Republican, with a plan of taking the business out of the hands of the Generals Taylor, Worth, and Patterson, and doing up the Mexicans at a short notice. We do not think our readers would be satisfied with less than the whole article:

Mr. D. S. Kieffer:- The present condition of the war with Mexico, will require our forces to reduce Vera Cruz. And it is acknowledged on all sides to be an extraordinarily well fortified point of defence, almost impregnable to the common mode of warfare; and at best cannot be taken in that way, without a great sacrifice of life and ammunition. I will suggest a plan to our War Department, that will render the capture of the castle of San Juan D'Ulloa as feasible and easy as the launching of a frigate.

Although the plan I shall propose may seem novel to many, still a brief detail of it, I think, will satisfy the most incredulous of its efficacy. In the first place, it will require the construction of a balloon of common twilled muslin, of about one hundred feet diameter. This machine, properly coated with varnish, will retain its buoyancy for many days or weeks. It will be capable, when inflated, to raise over 30,000 pounds-say, 20,000 of its own weight, net work, car and cable. It can be inflated in a day, or less time, if necessary.

The process of inflation may be accomplished on land, board of a man of war at sea, as circumstances may require the car to be loaded with percussioned bomb shells and torpedoes to the amount of 18,000 pounds, which will leave 2000 pounds for ballast and men. Thus it will be ready to be placed in a position for deadly action, in a very short time. The cable by which it is to be maneuvered, may be at least 5 mile long, so that the balloon, at a mile of elevation, would leave the vessel, or land position, which act as the retaining point, out of reach of the castle guns, and under the cover of our own batteries. The man of war balloon, hovering a mile above the castle like a cloud of destruction, would be entirely out of danger of the enemies guns, since they could not be made to bear at an object immediately above them. The position of the balloon as to the heighth and distance above the retaining point, could be easily maintained by keeping a proper eye to its ballasting. As it would become lightened by the discharge of shells and torpedoes, an adequate quantity of gas can also be discharged.

If a gun from the castle could ever be made to bear upon the war balloon, it would soon be silenced by the rapidity, precision, and certainty, with which the deadly missiles could be showered down upon them.
With this aerial warship hanging a mile above the fort, supplies with a thousand percussion bomb shells, the castle of Vera Cruz could be taken without the loss of a single life to the army, and at an expense that would be comparatively nothing to what it would be to take it by the common mode of attack.

Through the medium of your journal, I would most respectfully suggest this plan to our government, and will tender my services for its construction, and when constructed, will, if necessary, most cheerfully undertake its directorship into actual service, at a moments warning.

Very respectfully, your friend and fellow-citizen,

J. Wise
Lancaster, Oct. 22, 1846

[MJK]

NRR 71.173-71.174 November 14, 1846 Letter concerning Capt. John Charles Fremont’s operations in California

LETTER FROM SENATOR BENTON TO THE PRESIDENT.

Sir: In the absence of official information on the subject of Lieutenant Colonel (then Captain) Fremont’s operation in Upper California, I deem it my duty to lay before you the private letters which I have received from that officer, for the purpose of showing you his actual position at the latest dates; the unwilling manner in which he became involved in the hostilities with the Mexican authorities of that province, before he had heard of the war with Mexico; and especially to disprove the accusation, officially against him by governor Castro, of having come into California with a body of United States troops, under the pretext of a scientific expedition, but in reality to excite the Americans settled in that province to an insurrection against the Mexican government. The accusation is of the greatest character, most seriously implicating the good faith and honor of our government, and officially made by Governor Castro, in a dispatch to the minister of war and marine, under date of the first of April last, and published in El Monitor Republicano, in the City of Mexico, by the order of the Mexican government, on the 10th of May last. A copy of this paper was sent to Mrs. Fremont, my daughter, by the Hon. Mr. Slidell, and an English translation of it herewith presented.

When Captain Fremont left the United States to complete his scientific labors beyond the Rocky Mountains, it was with full knowledge of the Political, as well as personal difficulties of the enterprise. He knew that the relations of the United States were critical with both Great Britain and Mexico—that he was going through the territories of one, and among the settlements of another—that jealousy would attach to his movements, and all his acts be referred to his government; and he was perfectly determined to use the utmost circumspection in all his conduct, confining himself wholly to his scientific pursuits, and carefully avoiding as well the appearance as the reality of either a political or military mission. With this view, and after having traversed the desert, and crossed the great Basin which lies between the Rocky Mountains and the Sierra Nevada of the Alta California, he left his men upon the frontier, an hundred miles from Monterey, and went alone to that city to explain his object and wishes in person to Governor Castro. He did this in the most formal and official manner, in company with the United States consul, Mr. O’Larkin, (at whose house he stopped;) and conforming to the whole detail of the Spanish ceremonial, he not only called on the Governor, but also on the prefect and the alcalde. The interview was entirely satisfactory. To the governor’s remark that he was bringing a considerable body of United States troops with him, Captain F. answered that it was not so—that he had no troops at all—only a few hired men for security against Indians and Killing game, that he was not even an officer of the line, but of topographical engineers—and that he was seeking a new route (among other objects of science) to the mouth of the Columbia, upon a line further south than the present traveling route, and which had brought him though the unsettled parts of Upper California; and that he now wished to winter in the valley of the San Joaquin, where there was game for his men, and grass, for his horses. To this the governor agreed, and Captain Fremont left Monterey to bring his men to the beautiful valley which he explored in his previous exploration, and to which both himself and his men looked forward as to a paradise of repose and refreshment, after their toilsome and perilous march of three thousand miles among savage tribes, and through wilderness and desert countries.

Scarcely had he arrived in this valley, when information began to reach him from all quarters that the governor was raising the province against him, and coming upon him with troops of all arms—cavalry, artillery, and infantry—and that his situation was most critical and dangerous. The consul sent a special messenger to warn him of his danger; the American settlers below offered to join him; but he utterly refused their assistance, because he would not compromise them. But he did what honor and self-preservation required, and what the courage and fidelity of his men enthusiastically seconded; he took a position, and he awaited the approach of the assailants; and that position was nearer to them, on the summit of the Sierra, overlooking Monterey, at thirty miles distance, and whence, with their glasses, they could plainly see the troops, with their artillery, which had crossed the bay (of Monterey) to San Juan, on their way to attack him. The governor, with these troops, and with all his threats, after coming towards the camp on Sierra, did not come to it; and Captain Fremont, faithful to his design to avoid collision, if possible, finding himself not attacked, determined to retire, and to proceed to Oregon, on his intended route to the valley of the Sacramento, the Tlamath Lake, and the valley of the Wahlahmath river. Accordingly, about the 10th of March, he left his position on the Sierra, descended to the valley of San Joaquin, and commenced his march by slow and easy stages, of four and six miles a day, towards Oregon.

It is of this encampment on the Sierra that governor Castro makes particular complaint in his dispatch to the minister of War and Marine, as evidence of hostile intentions, and where the American flag was raised, a fortification
built, and the American settlers called in for defense. Unhappily we have no letter from Captain Fremont detailing the events of these days; but the want of such a letter is well supplied by the official communications from the American consul at Monterey to our secretary of state, and by Captain Fremont’s brief note to the consul, (written in pencil) while expecting the attack of Governor Castro, and which has been heretofore published in our papers. Mr. Buchanan furnished us, as soon as they were received, with copies of these dispatches, which are herewith laid before you, and from which it will be seen that Governor Castro’s accusations against Captain Fremont are entirely unfounded—that so far from having excited the Americans to revolt, he absolutely refused to receive those who offered to join him! And, more, that when after leaving his position, and granting discharges to five or six of his men, he refused to fill their places with men in the country! So determined was he to avoid as well as in appearance, as in fact, the smallest fact offensive or injurious to the Mexican authorities. The same correspondence shows the entire falsehood of all the superlative gasconade which Governor Castro put into his official report about the spoils of the camp—the dispersion of Fremont and his men—their flight into the brushes, and through the desert, his suffocation in the cradle of a dangerous conspiracy, &c., with all which imaginary exploits his official dispatch was filled, while Fremont, with sixty-two men and two hundred horses, were slowly retiring in a body, almost in his view, and utterly abstaining from any act of offense to the province or its authorities. It was no doubt this false report to his government, and the ridicule he incurred by it in California, that led to his subsequent operations in May to exterminate Fremont’s party, and all the American settlers on the Sacramento.

On return from the evacuated camp on the Sierra, the governor also put forth a proclamation, in the vein of his report, and even worse, styling Fremont and his men a band of highway robbers, plundering the people, &c., which accusation of plundering, the consul took the trouble to investigate, and found to be a very trivial offense of manners (not of law or morals) which the injured party valued at five dollars, and for which Captain Fremont gave ten. For the rest, the consul, after all this, declares the inhabitants of the country to be well pleased with Capt. Fremont. And that he might walk the streets of Monterey the next day alone, if he chose. The only truth in Governor Castro’s dispatch is, that Captain Fremont took a military position, entrenched it, and raised the American flag; but these events were the consequence and not the cause of Governor Castro’s movement against him; and this is fully known in that brief, heroic note, written in pencil in answer to the consul’s warning, in which Captain Fremont, after refusing the aid of the American settlers, declared for himself and his sixty-two men that they had done nothing wrong to the authorities or the people of the country—that if attacked they would defend themselves, and die to last man under the flag of their country, and leave it to their country to avenge their deaths. All they did was in self defence. The flag was raised, not as a standard of insurrection, or as a sign of contempt for the Mexican government, but as the American symbol of honor and patriotism, which was entitled to respect from others—to defence from them—and which they had displayed in that hour of danger as a warning to the approaching assailants—as a bond of union and devotion among themselves—and as an appeal and invocation (if they should be destroyed) of the avenging spirit of their far distant country.—To my mind, this entrenching on the mountain, and raising the national flag, was entirely justifiable under the circumstances of the case; and the noble resolution which they took (refusing the aid of their countrymen) to die if attacked under the flag of their country, four thousand miles distant from their homes, was an act of highest heroism, worthy to be recorded by Xenophon, and reflecting equal honor upon the brave young officer who commanded and the heroic sixty-two by whom he was supported.

The first letter that we received from Captain Fremont after his withdrawal from the Sierras, and from the valley of the San Juan, is dated the first day of April, in latitude 40, on the Sacramento river; and though written merely to inform Mrs. Fremont of his personal concerns, becomes important in a public point of view on account of the subsequent events in June and July, by showing that on the first of April he was on his way to Oregon—that he had abandoned all intention of returning through any part of California—would cross the Rocky Mountains through the Northern Pass on the line between the Upper, or Kettle Falls of the Columbia, and the Great Falls of the Missouri, and be in the United States in September. This shows that he had, at that time, no idea of the events in which he was subsequently involved, and that he had abandoned the cherished field of his intended scientific researches for the express purpose of avoiding all offence to the Mexican authorities. Of the events in the valley of the San Joaquin [?] he speaks in few words, without detail but descriptive of his condition, characteristic of his prudence in not compromising his country, and worthy to be repeated in his own language. He says, “The Spaniards were somewhat rude and inhospitable below, and ordered me out of the shadow of a cause the governor suddenly raised the whole country against me, issuing a false and scandalous proclamation. Of course I did not dare compromise the United States against which appearances would have been strong; but although it was in my power to increase my party by Americans, I refrained from committing a solitary act of patriotism, which was entitled to respect from others—to defence from them—and for which Captain Fremont gave ten. For the accusation of plundering, the consul took the trouble to investigate, and found to be a very trivial offense of manners and leave it to their country to avenge their deaths. All they did was in self defence. The flag was raised, not as a standard of insurrection, or as a sign of contempt for the Mexican government, but as the American symbol of honor and patriotism, which was entitled to respect from others—to defence from them—and which they had displayed in that hour of danger as a warning to the approaching assailants—as a bond of union and devotion among themselves—and as an appeal and invocation (if they should be destroyed) of the avenging spirit of their far distant country.—To my mind, this entrenching on the mountain, and raising the national flag, was entirely justifiable under the circumstances of the case; and the noble resolution which they took (refusing the aid of their countrymen) to die if attacked under the flag of their country, four thousand miles distant from their homes, was an act of highest heroism, worthy to be recorded by Xenophon, and reflecting equal honor upon the brave young officer who commanded and the heroic sixty-two by whom he was supported.

His next letter is dated the 14th of May, and informs me that, in his progress to Oregon, he found himself and party unexpectedly attacked by the Tlamath Indians—the most warlike of that quarter—had lost five men in killed and wounded—and still expected to be in the United States by September.

This was the last letter received from Captain Fremont until the one of July 26th, from Monterey, of the Pacific Ocean, and brought in by Com. Sloat. The events which have brought him back you have learnt from that commodore; but the causes which led to these events are necessary to be known for the justification of Captain Fremont; for, although actually justified by the existence of the war with Mexico, yet he knew nothing of the war when these events took place; and, though knowing of it when he wrote, yet he would not avail himself of the subsequent knowledge to justify his previous acts, and there fore he chose to justify everything on the state of facts, as he saw them, when he resolved and acted. These causes, and the events to which they led, are rapidly sketched by him in this, his last letter; and while the whole letter is herewith submitted to you, yet for your convenience, I collect its substance into the smallest compass and lay it before you. The substance is this: At the middle of May, capt. Fremont, in the process of his design reached Oregon, and returned by the Columbia and Missouri through the Northern Pass in the Rocky Mountains, had arrived at the Tlamath Lake, in the edge of the Oregon territory, when he found his further progress completely barred by the double obstacle of hostile Indians, which Castro had excited against him, and the lofty mountains, covered with deep and fallen snows, which made the middle of May in that elevated region, the same as the middle of winter.—These were
the difficulties and dangers in front. Behind and in the North bank of the San Francisco bay, at the military post of Sonoma, was General Castro, assembling troops with the [?] of attacking [?] Fremont’s party, and at the American settlements, against whom the Indians had already been excited. Thus, his passage barred in front by impassable snows and mountains—hemmed to by savage Indians, who were thinning the ranks of his little party-menaced by a general head with a tenfold force with full arms—the American settlers marked out for destruction on a false accusation of meditating a revolt under his instigation—his men and horses suffering from fatigue, cold, and famine and after the most anxious deliberation upon all the dangers of his position, and upon all the responsibilities under his command, captain Fremont determined to turn upon his pursuers, and fight them instantly, without regard to numbers, who seek scarcely for his party and the American settlers, by overthrowing the Mexican government in California. It was on the 6th day of June that he came to his determination; and the resolution being once taken, all halfway measures were discarded, and a rapid execution of the plan was commenced. On the 11th of June a supply of two hundred horses for Castro’s troops, on the way to his camp, conducted by an officer and fourteen men, were surprised at daylight, and the whole captured—the men and officers being released, and the horses retained for American use. On the 15th, at daybreak, the military post at Sonoma, (the point of rendezvous, and the intended headquarters), was surprised and taken with nine pieces of brass cannon, two hundred and fifty stand of musket, other arms and ammunition, with several superior officers, general Vallejo, (Val-ya-ho), his brother captain Vallejo, colonel Greuxdon, and others; all of whom were detained and confined as prisoners. Captain Fremont repaired to the American settlements on the Rio de le Americanos to obtain some assistance: and receiving an express from his little garrison of fourteen in Sonoma that gen. Castro was preparing to cross the bay of San Francisco and attack them with a large force, he sat out on the afternoon of the 23d of June with ninety mounted riflemen, and traveling day and night, arrived at 2 o’clock the next morning of the 25th at Sonoma—eighty miles distance. The vanguard of Castro’s forces had crossed the bay— a squadron of seventy dragoons, commanded by de le Torre—which was attacked and defended by twenty Americans, with the loss of two killed and some wounded on the part of the Mexicans, and no injury to themselves—de le Torre barely escaping with the loss of his transport boats, and spiking six pieces of artillery. In the meantime, two of Captain Fremont’s men, going as an express, were captured by de le Torre’s men, and, being bound to trees, were cut to pieces alive with knives! In return for which, three of de le Torre’s men, being taken, were instantly shot. The north side of the bay of San Francisco was now cleared of the enemy, and on the fourth day of July, capt. Fremont called all the Americans together at Sonoma, addressed them upon the dangers of their situation, and recommended a declaration of independence, and war upon Castro and his troops, as the only means of safety. The independence was immediately declared, and war proclaimed.

A few days afterwards, an officer from commodore Sloat brought intelligence that the American flag was hoisted at Monterey— an example that was immediately followed wherever the news flew. The pursuit and defeat of Castro was the only remaining enterprise. He had fled south towards the numerous Mexican settlements beyond Monterey with his four or five hundred men; and, captain Fremont, leaving some fifty men garrisons, set out with one hundred and sixty riflemen in the pursuit, when he received instructions from commodore Sloat to march upon Monterey. He did so, and found commodore Stockton in command, approving the pursuit of Castro, and aiding by all the means in his power.—The sloop-of-war Cyane was put at his service.— Capt. Fremont, with one hundred and sixty American riflemen and seventy marines, embarked on that vessel, and sailed down the coast on the 26th of July, to San Diego, four hundred miles south of Monterey, and one hundred south of Puebla de Los Angelos where Castro was understood to be, with an increasing force of five hundred men. The descent of the coast as far as San Diego was to get ahead of Castro, and to be in position to either intercept him if he fled south to Mexico or to Lower California, or to run back upon him if he remained in Puebla de Los Angelos, or any of the numerous towns in its neighborhood. In either event, the enterprise will probably had its conclusion in early August, and official details may now be looked for by the first arrivals from the North Pacific Ocean. In the meantime I hope the information I am able to give, though all of a private character, written solely for the information of friends, and never expected to go before the public, may be sufficient to relieve any anxieties, to disprove the accusations of g.v. Castro, and to justify the actions of captain Fremont. I make this communication to you, sir, upon the responsibilities of an American senator, addressing the president of the United States, and with the sole view of vindicating the American government, and its officer, from the foul imputation of exciting insurrection in the provinces of a neighboring power, with whom we were at peace. I could add much more to prove that captain Fremont’s private views and feelings were in unison with his ostensible mission—that the passion of his soul was the pursuit of science— and that he looked with dread and aversion upon every possible collision either with Indians, Mexicans, or British, that could turn him aside from that cherished pursuit. A more formal occasion for the exhibition of these further and other proofs may soon occur; but the exigency of their circumstances seemed to me to require that no time should be lost in communicating the truth to the public mind, both at home and abroad, in a case so seriously affecting the national character, and in which uncorrected error, for even a short time, would do great mischief.

Very respectfully, sir, your friend and fellow citizen,

THOMAS H. BENTON.

Washington, Nov. 9, 1846.

[MJK]

NRR 71.174-175, 14 November 1846 Lt. Emory’s Journal

The last mail from General Kearney’s command brought a continuation of Lt. Emory’s journal, from Santa Fe, which we have now the opportunity of laying before our readers:

September 1.—The day passed away in preparing for tomorrow’s march, and listening to the thousand rumors about the force we are to encounter, not a word of which do I believe.
September 2.—Marched at 9 o'clock out of Santa Fe, taking no one of my party but Mr. Bestor. We descended the valley of the Santa Fe river nearly west for five miles, when we left the river, which is here dry, and struck across a plain intersected by arroyos, (creeks,) in a southwesterly course. Twenty-three miles brought us to Galisteau creek, which at the time was barely running. The bed is sand and pebbles of primitive rock, and lies between steep cliffs of clay and limestone, traversed occasionally by trap dykes, which in one place are so regular as to resemble walls pierced with windows. From this place to its mouth there is scarcely a sign of vegetation. At its dry mouth, and directly, on the Rio del Norte, is the town of Santo Domingo.

September 4.—This was a great day. The general received some days since an invitation from the Pueblos to visit their town of Santa Fe. From height to height as we advanced we could see horsemen disappearing at full speed. As we arrived abreast of the town, the general was told by a guide posted there for the purpose, that this was the road for Santo Domingo.

He sent the chief part of his command and the wagon train along the highway, and with his staff and Capt. Bargwin’s squadron of dragoons, wended his way along the middle path nearly due west to the town. We had not proceeded far before we met ten or fifteen sacheum looking old Indians, well mounted, two of them carrying gold headed canes with tassels, the emblem of the office of New Mexico, that no dandy, nor even an alcalde, or other magistrate, dare sport.

Salutations through, we jogged along, and in the course of conversation, the alcalde, a grave and majestic looking old Indian, said casually, we shall soon meet some Indians mounted. They are young men of my town, friends, come to receive you, and I wish you to caution your men not to fire upon them when they ride towards them.

Sure enough, within a few miles of the town, we saw a cloud of dust rapidly advancing, and soon a terrible yell; the real Florida war whoop over again.

The first thing that caught my eye through the column of dust, was a fierce pair of Buffalo horns overlapped with long shaggy hair. As they approached, the sturdy form of a naked Indian revealed itself beneath the horns, with shield and lance, dashing at full speed on a white horse, which, like his own naked body, was painted all the colors of the rainbow, and then, one by one, his followers came on painted to the eyes, their heads and their horses covered with all the hideous looking things that the brute creation could afford, in the way of horns, sculls, feathers, and claws.

As they passed us one rank on each side, they fired a volley under our horse bellies from the right and from the left. My horse, a fresh one, had never before smelt gunpowder, and long will my friend, Dr. Decamp. Recollect that fact, for he jumped against him, and the end of my pistol struck his knee, right on what the children call the singing bone. A pure American “God d---n,” came, perhaps for the first time from the doctors lips. I muttered some apology, but it was lost in the house that was made to the right and to the left of the passing Indians.

Our well trained dragoons sat motionless on their horses, who went along without pricking an ear or showing any signs of excitement.

Arrived in the rear, the Indian circled round and dropped into a walk o our flanks, until their horses recovered breath, when off they went at full speed, passing to our front, and when there, the opposite ranks met, and each man selected his adversary, and kept up a running fight with masked lances, and bows and arrows. Sometimes a fellow would stoop almost to the earth to shoot under his horse's belly at full speed, or shield himself from an impending blow. So they continued to pass and repass, all the way to the steep cliffs which overhang the town. Here they filed out on each side of the road, which at this place descended through a deep canon, and halted on the peaks of the cliff. Their motionless figures projected against the clear blue sky above, formed studies for an artist. In the canon we were joined by a priest, a hearty looking old white man, with the idea of the locality, occasioned several of us to say, well, this is really a canonical meeting. We were taken first to the padre’s of course, for here, as everywhere in New Mexico, the padre’s are most intelligent, and the best to do in the world; and when the good people wish to put the best foot foremost, the padre’s wines, beds, and meats have to suffer. The entrance to the portal was lined with the women of the place, all dressed alike, and ranged in simple flies. They looked rather fat and uninteresting.

We were shown into his reverence’s parlor, tapestried with curtains stamped with the likenesses of all the Presidents of the United States up to this time.

The cushions were of spotless damask, and the couch of the luxuriant old saint, covered with a white Navahoe blanket worked in richly colored flowers.

The air was redolent with the perfume of grapes and melons, and every crack of door and window was glistening with the bright eyes of the women of the casilla. The old priest was busily talking to the general in a corner, and little did he know of the game of sighs and signs the young fellows were carrying on with the fair people of his house. We had our gayest array of young men out to-day, and the women seemed to me to drop the usual subdued look and timid motion of the eyelash for good hearty twinkles and signs of unaffected and cordial welcome. Signs in this group was the only conversation, as neither party could speak the language of the other.

This little exchange of artillery of the eyes amused me a good deal; but I was very glad to see the padre put a stop to it, by advancing towards the grapes, melons, and wines. We were as thirsty as dust and heat could make us, and whatever was the quality of the wine, we relished it highly. The sponge cake was irreproachable, and would have done honor to the padre’s wines, beds, and meats have to suffer. The entrance to the portal was lined with the women of the place, all dressed alike, and ranged in simple flies. They looked rather fat and uninteresting.

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The general now went forward on the portal, and delivered a speech to the assembled people of the town, which was interpreted into Spanish, and then into Puebla. He was very happy to-day in what he said, and almost every sentence was responded to by grunts of satisfaction. I will not report the speech, as I am not sure that it would be proper, or expected of me to do so.
The population of the town was impossible to arrive, but I should judge it to be 1,000; and the quantity of ground under tillage, for their support, about 500 acres.

The valley of the "Del Norte" is here quite narrow, and the soil sandy. The river itself was viewed, by me for the first time, with strange interest.—The hardships, trials, and perseverance of the gallant Pike, and the adventures of the pious and brave soldiers of the cross—the monks and early adventurers—came to my mind; and as I kneeled down to drink its waters, my thoughts were of them.—The little episode, too, in my own dog-trot life, in relation to this river, was not forgotten. Being stationed at Washington when the annexation of Texas was determined on, I was ordered to compile a map of that country. Instead of going to the hasty compilers, and romantic voyagers of the day, I went back to the original explorers themselves. I pleased neither party, and was roundly scolded in both houses of congress, until Colonel Benton, that able statesman who is the best informed man in congress in history and geography took the matter in hand, and justified all I had written and done.

Leaving Santo Domingo, we struck the highway in about four miles, and two miles more brought us to the pretty village of San Filipe, overhung by a sleep craggy precipice; upon the summit of which are the ruins of a Roman Catholic church, presenting in the landscape the appearance of the pictures we see of the castles of the Rhine.

Between San Filipe and the Augusturas, 6 miles below, the valley of the river is very narrow, affording no interval for agriculture. On the west side the banks are steep basaltic walls, crowned by table lands the west are rolling sand hills, covered with large round pebbles, terminating at the base of high mountains, running north and south.

The little town of Angosturas, the valley of the river opens into a plain, varying from two to six miles in width, generally low and level to admit the water of the river to be carried over it for purposes of irrigation; but the soil is very sandy, and better adapted to Indian corn than wheat. Of this last, we saw but few stubbles, the ground being chiefly in corn.

News now began to arrive which left but little doubt that the reports which caused our movements down the river, were exaggerated, if not without foundation. People had passed down the river, as was reported to the general, but in no great numbers. A messenger came in, too, from the alcalde of Topie, with an official note, stating that Armijo had left with him 100 mules, pressed into service by him, to meet us at the canon, and that Armijo had also notified him that 100 more would be left at the Passo del Norte. These belonged to citizens of New Mexico, and had been taken from them without their consent. It was his practice, in peace or in war, to seize the person or property of any who fell under his displeasure.

The town of Bernallillo is small, but one of the best built in the territory. We were here invited to the house of a very wealthy man, named Pasilla, to take some refreshment. We were led into an oblong room, furnished like that of every Mexican who is well to do in this world. A banquet runs entirely around the room, except where the "couch" goes. It is covered with cushions, carpets, and pillows, upon which the visitor sits or reclines. The dirt floor is usually covered a third or half with a common looking carpet. On the uncovered part is the table, freighted with grapes, sponge cake, and the wine of the country. The walls are hung with miserable pictures of the saints, crosses innumerable, and common Yankee mirrors without number. These last are hung entirely out of reach, and if one wishes to shave, or adjust his shirt, he must do it with out a mirror, be there ever so many in the chamber.

Mr. Pasilla was hospitable, but very uncommunicative. He evidently had not yet the news from below, of the retreat of Ugarte and Armijo. We passed on to the house of his wealthy son, where we were invited to dine. Here we found another table of refreshments, and, after waiting some hours, dinner was announced. It was a queer jumble of refinement and barbarism, the first predominating in everything, except in the mode of serving, which was chiefly done by the master, his Mexican guests, and a few female serfs.

The plates, forks, and spoons, were of solid silver clumsily worked in the country. The middle of the table was strewed with the finest white bread, cut into pieces and within the reach of every plate.—At close intervals were glass decanters, of Pittsburg manufacture, filled with wine made on the plantation. The dishes came of separately: the first was soup meager, then followed roast chicken, stuffed with onions, then mutton boiled with onions, and various others, all stuffed with the everlasting onion, and the whole terminated by chile—the glory of New Mexico. This dish, which the Mexicans consider the chef d'oeuvre of the cuisine, they seem really to revel in; but the first mouthful brought the tears trickling down my cheeks, very much to the amusement of the leather throated spectators. It was red pepper stuffed with mince meat.

From Bernallillo the valley opens but narrows again at Sandina, an Indian town, on a sandbank, at the base of a high mountain of the same name, said to contain the precious metals. Here they were treading wheat, which is done by making a circular enclosure, on level ground, of clay. Upon this floor they scatter the wheat, turn in a dozen or so of mules, and one or two Indians, who, with whoops, yells and blows, keep the affrighted brutes constantly in motion. To separate the wheat from the chaff, both Indians and Mexicans use a simple hand barrow, with bottom of raw bull's hide, pierced with holes. I should think it took an hour to winnow one bushel.

After dining sumptuously at Sandiral's, we went to our camp in the Allabavo. Here the valley is wide, and well cultivated. The people of the surrounding country flocked in with grapes, melons, and eggs. Several very pretty women were clustered around the general's tent; and, as night approached, he asked them if they were not afraid to venture amongst the strangers at that dangerous hour. "No," said one, "what have we to fear when our general is here?"

Swarms of wild geese and sand cranes passed over camp. They frequent the river; and are undisturbed, save when some American levels his rifle.

September 5.—Encamped last night on very indifferent grass. Breakfasted with Don Jose Chavis, at Pardilla. When sitting, the table was as high as our chins. There were five or six courses, ending with coffee. Before breakfast we were summoned to mass in a private chapel of Don Jose, where officiated the eccentric dandy we met yesterday at dinner. Priest and dandy were curiously combined in this person. Proud of his pure white hands, he flourished them incessantly, sometimes running his fingers through his hair, to give an air of elegant intelligence; and ever and anon, looking into the wine of the country. The walls are hung with miserable pictures of the saints, crosses innumerable, and common Yankee mirrors without number. These last are hung entirely out of reach, and if one wishes to shave, or adjust his shirt, he must do it with out a mirror, be there ever so many in the chamber.

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one of the many looking glasses with which they decorate their churches. After mass, to our surprise, he delivered a
course-eulogizing the grandeur, magnanimity, power and justice of the United States. When we visited his chapel at the
town of Isoletta, near by, some of the gentlemen of the staff stumbled into the refreshment room before it was intended
and surprised two or three pretty women aiding in the arrangements.

Mass was anything but an appetizer before breakfast. The church was crowded with women of all conditions; and the
horrid rebozo, which the poor use for shawls, bonnet, handkerchief, and spit-box, sent out an odor which the incense
from the alter failed to stifle.

One thing struck me as singular— in all the houses of the better class, that we visited, the ladies never made their
appearance; but here we caught, in the act of running across the court, the very pretty and gay widow of Mr. Chavis,
who was killed for his gold, near the western borders of Missouri, a year or two since.

At Isoletta I became tired of the show, and seeing my servant talking, at the door of one of his acquaintances, I took the
liberty of asking an introduction, with the intention of taking a quiet siesta, but this was out of the question. The good
woman overwhelmed me with a thousand questions about the United States. I could only stop her by asking questions
myself. She denounced Armijo as a coward, and said, with a true Castillian flash of the eye. "I do not see how any man,
wearing those things," (pointing to my shoulder straps,) "could run away." "He had a good army to back him, and could
have driven you all back to the United States."

The valley suddenly contracts below Perdilla.— Between Isoletta and Peralta, on the east side of the river, there is deep
sand, and the country perfectly barren.

September 7.— Last night was the most beautiful, light, and scene; the air of the natural temperature of the body,
ocasionally varied by a gentle breeze from the mountains, wafting along the perfumes of the vineyards.

Observed for time and latitude; the last unsatisfactorily, in consequence of the brightness of the moon dimming the
southern stars. About 11 o'clock the whole character of the night was changed by an east wind, that came rustling down
from the mountains, and driving the sand before it. Nearly the whole distance traveled to-day and yesterday, and
indeed the day before, was over deep sand, with only occasional patches of deep soil. Although up late, I rose early; and
after dispatching (by order) a note to Colonel Ruff, requiring him to move at 9 o'clock, I walked over the town of
Peralta, which is dotted with cotton wood trees, growing in nearly the regular order of an apple orchard. Having seen all,
I repaired to headquarters, at the Palace of Mr. Hortera, a spacious edifice, nearly five hundred feet front. I found the
general up, and waiting for the slow coming breakfast.— This was announced about ten; and as I had already
breakfasted, I stretched myself on the luxurious ottoman that surrounded the whole room, and napped away, well
knowing the length of a Mexican dejune. This over, we waited till the rear of the army passed, and escorted the general
to Mr. Hortera, senior.

Here ends all my journal that could be copied in time to go to the mail. I wish I could go on, and describe our visit to
Tome, the fete, the religious jubilee in honor of the conception, the fandango at night, and the dramatic performance of
David and Absaloin. But this must be left for another opportunity.

We ascertained that the reports were all unfounded in reference to Armijo’s rallying the people in the south to
resistance; that when near Col. Ugarte, who was marching towards us with a regular force he sent word to him that
Kearney was in possession of Santa Fe. Upon this Ugarte left 12 dragoons for Armijo, turned short round, and trotted
towards Chihuahua with his whole force.

We returned here on the 12th, and immediately retrieved orders to march for California on the 25th. 1,000 miles, a
great portion of which is desert. I am constantly employed in examining guides, trappers, &c., in reference to it.

I studiously avoid giving any general notions of this country. I reserve that till I see all that is to be seen.

Peck and Abert are still too weak to accompany me to California, but both are fast recovering.

I will close this, as we are directed to hand in our official papers at 9 o'clock, and I intend it to go through the bureau. I
will write further by this same mail, directed to you in person.

The more I think of the matter, the more I think of this journal, the preceding part of which as already been sent—the
more I am satisfied it is unfit for official use in its present state. Therefore let it be considered as an unofficial record of
passing, and often even trivial events.[MJK]

NNR 71.176 November 14, 1846 spirited Mexican exertions of defense

MEXICO-Latest. The New Orleans Times of the 7th, has a letter from Vera Cruz of the 7th ult. The news of the fall
of Monterey seems only to have inspired the Mexicans with a sense of necessity of more spirited exertions of defense.
Santa Anna had reached San Luis Potosi and was concentrating an imposing force, at least, according to his own
account. [MJK]

NNR 71.176 November 14, 1846 Gen. Stephen Watts Kearney’s proclamation appointing offers for the government of
New Mexico, leaves Santa Fe for California
SANTA FE.  General Kearny, by proclamation dated the 23d September, 1846, announces that, being duly authorized by the president of the United States, he appoints the Governor and administrative officers of the Territory of New Mexico. He names as governor Charles Bent; secretary of treasury, Don Aduciano Vigil; marshal, Richard Dalain; U.S. District Attorney, Francis P. Blair; treasurer, Charles Blummer; auditor, Eugene Leitensdorfer; Joab Houghton, Antonia Jose Otero, and Chas. Baubie, judges of the supreme court. [MJK]

NNR 71.176 November 14, 1846 Col. Alexander William Doniphan’s regiment to proceed from Santa Fe for Chihuahua

Col. Doniphan’s regiment proceeds forthwith towards Chihuahua, which they believe to be in possession of gen. Wool. Indeed such a movement was necessary, as, owing to some mismanagement, provision were vary scarce, the army being obliged to subsist from Bent’s Fort, (some time in July), up to the last in September, without sugar or coffee, and on half rations of flour, (ground wheat.)

On the 25th General Kearney left Santa Fe for California, with a detachment of 400 U.S. dragoons; mounted on mules. They take the route known as “copper mine route,” down the Rio Grande, to Socorro, 900 miles south of Santa Fe, thence west to Gila, (Heela), thence the head of the Gulf of California and thence N. W. to Monterey. The route of this small command was considered by many of the oldest and most experienced mountain traders, as one of great hardship and suffering, if not absolutely impracticable. [MJK]

NNR 71.177 November 21, 1846 British press on the Monterey victory

THE MONTEREY VICTORY.- The Hibernia arrived at Liverpool on the 30th, with intelligence of the storming and seizure of Monterey. The London papers of the 30th, devoted a large portion of their columns to the details of the news, which created a marked sensation there. The London journals had not found time or disposition to comment upon the event at any considerable length. The Times publishes the news without a word of comment. The herald simply calls attention to the fact, and the chronicle of the 30th, barely alludes to the intelligence as ‘of considerable interest.’

The Daily News states that “the Mexicans have redeemed their character as soldiers, and maintained to the full the modern reputation of the Spanish race for stubborn valor in defensive war. Their courage, indeed, has not been crowned with success; they have not been able to repulse from Monterey the well-appointed Anglo-American army, consisting of a force almost as numerous as their own, but they baffled the American general for five days, behind crumbling and inefficient fortifications, disputing each position, inch by inch, and even at the last, when driven by the cannon of the enemy to a mere entrenchment in the public square, and to a church as their chief stronghold; even in this position, the attitude of the Mexican general and his troops, compelled the American commander to grant him not only the most honorable terms that a soldier could require, but to make concessions, which would seem to prove the conquering army to have been completely paralyzed by its very success.

Creditable as the defense of Monterey is to the Mexicans and Ampudia, it casts not slur on the valor of the Mexican troops or the skill of their commander. The satisfaction to be derived from it consists not in the incompleteness or the dear purchase of American victory, but in the unexpected assurance that the Mexicans are still possessed of the force and the courage to assert their independence, and compel its being respected even by their formidable neighbors.”

The Chronicle, of the 31st, recurs to the subject, and speaks of the capture of Monterey as having afforded a stimulus to those who loved war and pantet for conquest, and as having excited the dislike of those who began to see that the war was likely to prove long, difficult, expensive, and of doubtful issue. The American government, moreover, it adds, undoubtedly counted on the treachery of Santa Anna, and is doomed to disappointment. The Chronicle concludes thus—“It is really a matter of doubt whether the American successes at Monterey have brought the war one step nearer to its termination. They have exhibited an obstinacy of defence beyond what was expected; they have inflicted no irreparable injury upon the Mexicans; and they have weakened the influence of the peace party both in Mexico and the United States.” [MJK]

NNR 71.178 November 21, 1846 advice to government and estimates of force requisite to take the city of Mexico, by correspondent of New Orleans “Tropic”

A writer in the New Orleans Tropic, of the 9th instant, states that he has visited and examined thoroughly the entire territory of Mexico; that he is well acquainted with the institutions, its people, its resources, policy, and topography; and therefore he considers himself qualified to offer to the government some useful advice as to the proper mode of prosecuting the war with Mexico. The conquest of Mexico, (which he seems to take for granted to be the object of this administration,) through an invasion by land, he says, may be deemed extremely problematical. He then makes the following suggestions:

“That, to take the city of Mexico in virtue of his arrangements, the president will require an army of 50,000 men, and $50,000,000 of cash, and half of the above 50,000 men, and if he really entertains a serious desire to effectively
conquer the country, he is advised to put the navy forthwith into motion; take possession of, garrison, and hold all the Mexican Atlantic ports as well as those of the Yucatan. In this way he will not only speedily conquer the country, but at once throw open to our commerce the gates of a benighted territory, the resources of which have been hitherto underdeveloped.

“As to the ports on the Pacific, they have nothing to do with the conquest of Mexico; they are out of the question. Our ships of war had better all be recalled from there, to act on the Atlantic board, where they would be of some service. A garrison left in California would be sufficient to maintain it in possession of the United States.” [MJK]

NRR 71.178 November 21, 1846 orders related to recruiting

OFFICIAL.-Premium for Recruits.

War Department Nov. 3 1846. With a view to expediting the recruiting service, the officers on that duty are hereby authorized to allow to any citizen, non-commissioned officer or soldier, two dollars each for able bodied men he may bring to the Rendezvous, and who shall be accepted for the public service. Signed,

W. L. Marcy Secretary of War.

[MJK]

NRR 71.179 November 21, 1846 copy of Secretary of War William Learned Marcy’s reply to inquiry from Delaware, saying no more volunteers would be required, requisition among states for nine regiments of volunteers, rendezvous assigned them, speculation of the public press as to the reasons for the sudden change, letter from Camp Crocket, Texas, remarks on letter writing

When our last number went to press, we were fully under the persuasion that the administration had abandoned their intention of calling upon the States at present for any additional volunteers for the army. Such was not only the general expression of the public press, hardly excepting the “Union” itself, but also of the head of the Department of war, as will be seen by the following letter, published in the Wilmington (Del.) Gazette, of the 6th Nov.

War Department, October 15, 1846.

Sir: in reply to your letter of the 12th instant, I have the honor to inform you that it is not contemplated to make any further call on the Executive of your State for any volunteer or militia force, with a view to the existing war with Mexico. A sufficient amount of force for the prosecution of that war has, it is believed, been already called into service.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. MARCY, Secretary of War.

Mr. Willard Saulsbury,
Georgetown, Sussex county, Delaware.

It was under the impression derived from the foregoing, that the introductory remarks in our last, were predicated. This change from the course which the Union had previously indicated as about to be pursued seemed so sudden, so contradictory, that nothing short of official authority would have induced us to credit it.

We had but just time to get the announcement that no more volunteers were to be called for shortly, into the mail, before the Washington Union reached us, with the counter announcement, that requisitions have been sent out from the War Department, calling into service of the United States nine additional regiments of volunteers to serve during the war with Mexico, unless sooner discharged. They are asked for from the following States:

One regiment of infantry from Massachusetts; One regiment of infantry from the State of New York; One regiment of infantry from Pennsylvania; One regiment of infantry from Virginia; One regiment of infantry from North Carolina; One regiment of infantry from South Carolina; One regiment of infantry from Louisiana, One regiment of infantry from Mississippi; and One regiment of mounted men from Texas:

In allusion to the foregoing announcement the Union says—“We have no time, at the late hour at which we receive the above interesting intelligence, to dwell upon the subject. It shows,” adds the official paper, “how little force there is in such suggestions as are thrown out in a Baltimore paper, that “it is believed that nothing decisive will be undertaken, either by our Army or Navy, before the next meeting of Congress.”:

The Union of the 17th, designates the rendezvous for the above regiments. The Massachusetts regiment, Boston; New York regiment, City of N. York; Pennsylvania, Pittsburg; Virginia, Guyandotte; N. Carolina, Wilmington; South
ARMY OF THE CENTRE.

The correspondent of the St. Louis Republican of the 12th November writes:

Camp Crocket, (Texas.) Oct. 10.

"As we are about to leave the United States post office in our rear, you will hear from us only at irregular intervals. The last detachment of Gen. Wool's command will march from hence to the Presidio in a day or two, and it is estimated that the effective force with which he will cross the Rio Grande will not exceed three thousand men; from the Presidio it is expected we will proceed to Chihauhua or Monclova, which you will perceive by the map is as near to Monterey as Matamoras is; though in case we shall diverge thence towards Chihuahua, you will behold this striking picture: A force of three thousand men, without the possibility of early reinforcement, on a march of invasion hundreds of miles into the interior of the enemy's country, and a country too 9,000,000 of people, accustomed to arms, and of a stubborn military pride, with standing armies, and a wealthy religious establishment.

At the latest accounts there were 12,000 troops assembled at San Luis Potosi, and a large force at Zucatecas. If, then, Durango will give her proportion for the western defenses, while Gen. Taylor is attended to by the cities east of the capital, I would enquire what are they of a Fabian character, or more in the line of precedent of Charles XII?

Whatever may be said of the poverty of the Mexican treasury, and however poor she may be on paper, it is nevertheless now a matter of history that her dominant priesthood holds the coffers, and with the military name and character of her politicians, these coffers once freely opened, could not Mexico defend herself, creditably, among her mountain passes, against an equal foe invading?

And when the Northern Saxon comes down with his regiments in battle array, will the priesthood be blind enough to see that its dynasty is to receive a shock from the electric influence of American institutions?—Will not, then, the gold and silver of the mines be turned for a time into a channel, by the ruling power of Mexico, for its own necessary self-protection?

If these questions are to be answered in the affirmative, then three thousand men entering the central dominions of that country will run no ordinary hazard, and must be considered the most fortunate of men, if they ever return.

This is the position and prospect of our little army; the timid and the tired have already left us, and we now leave them in security in their own homes, and hope the colors of our country will not be stained with dishonor by anything we may do or suffer in our campaign.

We wage no war of plunder, we disturb no religion; and if a religious zeal shall be infused into the Mexican lines by her wily hierarchy, we believe it only will be done to excite sufficient patriotism in her sons for a proper defense of the country which pays its tribute so generously to the tax-gathering hero of the Crozier and Mitre.

Our days here are still a little too hot for fair marches, yet we are drawing near the season of active military operations in this climate, and will soon be winding round the hills in the department of Chihauhua, from whence you will get but once in a great while, any tidings of our situation; but this you will know, that we are not reveling in the halls of the Montezumas, though traveling in the hills of the Turantulas.

Gn. Wool, with the first detachment of our force, is erecting fortifications at the Presidio-Col. Harney waiting there in breathless eagerness to try our fortunes on some bloody field-while Col. Churchill is hurrying on with his portion of the troops, thirteen companies, to share these fortunes. And in passing, I will remark, that the old colonel, without knowing it himself, has the name among our raw soldiery, of being a very cross, ill contrived old fellow, while in fact he is one of the most amiable and best natured men in the army. He takes hold of a gun on inspection, he scolds the soldier, then his captain, then the colonel, and looks very thunder at all times; but it you will scrutinize, you will perceive a good natured smile hiding itself in the dimples of his fine face, which seems ready to leap forth and say, you did not see me, but I was surely there. He is an excellent officer, and has a large share of strong logical mind, with sufficient experience, knowledge of tactics, and military pride, to inspire confidence among the soldiers in his usefulness on the field.
Monterey has fallen, five thousand men have seen nine thousand file past them with humbled mien and downcast looks; have gazed proudly on two fortified mountain fastnesses they had escaled; upon a castle of enormous strength bristling with cannon, and upon our formidable forts they had stormed; upon an impregnable citadel, thirty-five pieces of ordinance, countless munitions of war and the loveliest city in the world, with its stately palaces, sparkling streams and fountains, its magnificent gardens and fragrant groves of orange and pomegranate, which their gallantry had won. Ensconced among the dizzy cliffs of the Sierra de la Madre, circled on three sides by a buttressed wall in many places thirty feet high, the houses built of stone with flat and parapeted roofs for sharp-shooters, with barricades of solid masonry twelve feet thick crossing in all directions,-every house a castle and every street a fortress, defended to by ten thousand veteran troops, the pride of the Mexican soldiery, the city of the Royal Mountain seemed to scoff from her lofty seat at the puny force that lay encamped below. But in three days this despised band had entered the proud city, defeated an army twice their numbers, one thousand of whom lay stretched on the field of battle, and without ladders, fascines, siege guns, or battering train, had made themselves masters of more than thirty fortifications on which the heaviest artillery could have produced no impression by a six months uninterrupte cannonade.

Wonderful as is the achievement, the actors know that there will be deep dissatisfaction in the United States. It was thought a light matter to crush an imbecile people, and thousands of gallant spirits, burning with patriotism and covetous of distinction, had rushed to their country's standard in the fond belief that in a few months they would be reveling in more than Oriental pomp and luxury in the gorgeous palaces of the capitol of Mexico. How keenly must be felt the rebuke to the arrogant presumption with which the war begun,-this baffling our arms for three days, and arresting our progress for eight weeks, on the very borders of the country that was to be overrun in six months! How mortifying too must be the fact that our proud banner would have trailed in the dust, but for the much despised "mercenaries" under Gen. Worth, aided by three hundred ragged Texans almost as much reviled as they.

No one here pretends to deny that everything was effected by Gen. Worth's division of regulars, with the assistance of Col. Hays' little regiment of Rangers acting as light troops. The other two divisions did nothing whatever but waste their blood like water and inspire with enmity and confidence. High functionaries of the government had made invidious distinction between the few 'hirelings' and that fearful host of "citizen soldiery" so eager to fight for their country. It was unfortunate for such distinction, that but little more than two thousand of that "fearful host" were here, when tower, castle, citadel, fort, and redoubt sent forth their sheets of flame, and that not a few even of these showed more relish for shelter than danger. Most of the 1st and 3d divisions; however, fought bravely, and, that the few "hirelings," among them earned their wages, the havoc made in their ranks but too plainly shows. One fragment of a regiment, (the 3d infantry,) entered the field with fourteen officers, and returned with seven,-five being killed in the battle and two desperately wounded. The failure of these divisions is mainly attributable to the rashness of their commanders. Heavy dragoons on clumsy horses were ordered to charge through the streets barricaded with such wall as the boldest English sportsman, light clad, full of wine and mounted on his finest hunter, would shudder to think of leaping. Six pounders were sent to batter down fortifications that twenty four would played upon harmless as a child's bow and arrows. But it is, and must ever be, a proud reflection to the friends of the army, that one of the strongest cities in the world was captured, and a well-appointed force ten thousand strong, defeated, by fifteen hundred regulars poorly provided, and assisted by three hundred Rangers.

Gen. Worth volunteered his division to perform what was considered by far the most difficult and dangerous task,—the storming of the castle and the craggy heights that commanded the city and guarded the Saltillo road,—the only avenue for escape or reinforcement to the Mexican troops. So perilous did this enterprise seem to the rest of the army, that his command as they marched out of General Taylor's camp, were regarded as doomed men,—a forlorn hope of the most desperate character. Little was it thought that they were destined, with incredibly small loss, to be captures of this city of stone, where incessant volleys of grape and canister like hurricanes swept every street, and torrents of musket, rifle, and escopette balls poured from every door, window, embasure, and parapet; all these seem rather the fabulous exploits of Paladin and Knight, or the dreams of military enthusiasts, than the sober realities of the times. The morning of the 24th found the 2d division with but one barricade to storm and but one short street to traverse, to reach La Plaza Grande, in which the masses of the enemy were so crowded as to be helpless as sheep in a fold. A captured eighteen-pound howitzer was looking down at point blank distance from the roof of a high building, upon the cathedral in the Plaza, full to overflowing with arms and ammunition. In one hour it would have been blown to atoms and the fragments
of Ampudia’s shattered army would have been unconditional prisoners of war. It was with deep dissatisfaction and indignation even, that the division heard of the capitulation so favorable to the enemy. From the highest officer to the humblest private, all felt that a great folly had been committed, and that the same army must be fought again under the most adverse circumstances, which would have been here crushed with scarce an effort. Still, no one blamed Gen. Taylor, for it was universally believed that he was influenced by political reasons and controlled by orders from the war department.

The folly from which the country suffered so much during the war, of directing the operations of a distant army from a parlor in Washington, it is feared, will be repeated again and again, until our arms are defeated and our country disgraced. The president distinguished secretory of war seems never to have doubted that with the aid of ridiculously inaccurate maps and ignorant advisors he could plan a campaign with the skill of a Wellington, and thus from the moment our army landed on the shelly shore of the Corpus Christi till now, he has taken upon him to manage every thing,-at one time restraining the general from the performance of possibilities, on another goading him on to impossibilities.—The “Man of Iron,” whom our secretary regards as a brother in arms, would doubtless be filled with astonishment, if not admiration, at some of his performances. He sent an army of invasion into the field without a single piece of artillery. He ordered the same army to encamp under the heavy gun of a fortified city, although entirely destitute of siege train and all the ordinary entrenching elements. To show that a battle could be fought earlier then Gen. Scott predicted, he urged on Gen. Taylor to the attack of an almost impregnable city, although the general’s weightiest was two twenty-four pound howitzers, whose shot fell back like pebbles from the solid fortifications of Monterey. And to crown the whole, when every obstacle had been overcome, and the Mexican forces were completely in our power, the secretary’s order determined that it was better to fight them again behind other entrenchments, then to crush them on the spot. It is supposed here that he is ambitious to occupy a page in Dr. Frost’s Wonders of History, and that to ensure so desirable an end, he will next order us to take San Luis Potosi with slings and pop-guns.

We are sorry to say, at the close of this rambling letter, that the general of this victorious division, apparently for the sake of popularity, sullied his fair fame by neglecting for some time after the capitulation, to restrain the passions of the volunteers. The guards were prohibited from sending out patrols to preserve order and quiet in the city; as a matter of course the foul spirit of mischief was no longer in showing itself. As at Matamoras, murder, robbery, and rape were committed in the broad light of day, and as if desirous to signalize themselves at Monterey by some new act of atrocity, they burned many of the hatched huts of the poor peasants. It is thought that one hundred of the inhabitants were murdered in cold blood, and one Mexican soldier, with Gen. Worth’s passport in his pocket, was hot dead at noon-day in the main street of the city by a ruffian from Texas. But for the moral influence and the finally exerted physical force of the “hirelings of the government,” the dark deeds of Badajoz would have been repeated at Monterey. Guards of "mercaries” are now placed in every street and over every valuable building in the city to prevent depredations being committed by those who came here from devotion to “the land of the free and the home of the brave.”

We do not care so much for the disregard of authority among the volunteers, -their frays and feuds among themselves, and the unsoldiery scenes between the officers and privates, such as the chasing of a dignified commander through his own camp. All these are private matters of their own, affecting but indirectly the issue of the campaign.—But outrages on the helpless and unoffending Mexicans, on the contrary, have a direct and palpable bearing on the successful termination of the war.—The Mexicans themselves admit that before the arrival of the volunteers upon the Rio Grande, all eastern Mexico was ripe for revolt and annexation to the United States. Now there is no portion of the country so bitterly hostile to us and to our institutions. We have before us at Monterey paper of July, which reminds the disaffected of the atrocities committed at Matamoras, and adds that “the volunteers, the most unprincipled and ungovernable class at home, have been let loose like blood-hounds upon Mexico.” We fear that very soon there will be kindled a burning hatred towards us, which will make the timid Mexicans rally from every city, village, and rancho around the banner of their country, and fight with a courage and constancy worthy of the descendents of those renowned hero’s who conquered the fairest portion of America.

AN ACTOR

[JM]

NNR 71.180-71.181 November 21, 1846 Gen. William Jenkins Worth’s general orders after the Battle of Monterey

"ARMY OF CAPITULATION."

GEN. WORTH’S GENERAL ORDER.

The following order was issued by the general to the officers and soldiers under his commander after the battle of Monterey.

Headquarters second division,
Monterey, September 28, 1846.

The commanding general of divisions seizes the first instant of leisure to tender to the officers and soldiers of his command the expression of his thanks and admiration. During the three days’ operations, and down to the final capitulation of this important position, until after they have seen nearly twice their numbers defile before them in retreat—whether on the fatiguing march, in combat, in the valley, or on mountains, on the house-tops or in the streets, this noble division has given an exhibition of courage, constancy, and discipline above all praise, and generous and mainly
forbearance towards fallen and humiliated foes, which bear comparison with the proudest achievements that grace the annals of their country.

The general feels assured that every individual in the command unites with him in admiration of the distinguished gallantry and conduct of Col. Hays and his noble band of Texan volunteers. Hereafter they and we are brothers, and we can desire no better guarantee of success than by their association.

To Brig. General Smith, commanding 2d brigade; Lieut. Col. Stanford, 1st brigade; Lieut. Col. Childs, artillery battalion; Major Scott, 5th infantry; Capt. Miles, 7th infantry; Captain Smith, 2d artillery; commanding light troop; Captain Scriven, 8th infantry; to Captain Blanchard, Louisiana volunteers; Lieut. Col. Duncan and Lieut. Mackall he tenders all his thanks and respect. To the gentlemen of the staff, Major Monroe, chief of the artillery; Captain Saunders, military engineer; Lieut. Deas, division quarter master; Lieut. Daniels, division commissariat; Lieut. Meade, topographical engineers; Lieuts. Pemberton and Woods, Aids de-Camp, his special thanks are due, for the alacrity, zeal and gallantry with which they have performed every service. To Col. Peyton, Louisiana volunteers, who did him the honor to tender his very acceptable services as Aid de-Camp, he feels under special obligations for his valuable counsel and splendid exhibition of courage.

To the general himself, the highest and proudest gratification is, that such fortunate results have been attained with comparatively so small sacrifice of the precious blood of the soldier.

By order of Brig. Gen. Worth:

J. C. Pemberton,
1st Lieutenant and Aid de-Camp.

[MJK]

NNR 71.181 November 21, 1846 no token of submission on the part of the Mexicans

MEXICO.

By the same correspondence which brought Com. Connor’s official account of his second attempt upon Alvarado, the New Orleans Picayune received Vera Cruz nates to the 22d October.

That paper says- In the first place we say in general terms, that in no paper which we have opened do we find any token of submission on the part of the Mexicans in their conflict with this country. Every paragraphs breaths threats of vengeance. Their losses are enumerated in detail, to found theirupon more urgent appeals to the patriotism of their citizens to give up everything for the support of the war. It is not too much for us to say that there is the warmest enthusiasm apparent in all that we read whether in editorial remarks or the military addresses with which the papers are crowded. The spirit all is, “war to the knife.” But this shows the surface of affairs only. We shall have occasion to notice incidents, which lead us to suspect the country is by no means so united as the crisis in her affairs would seem to demand. [MJK]

NNR 71.181 November 21, 1846 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna’s letter on arrival at San Luis de Potosi, his seizure of a conducta of specie

The news of Santa Anna’s arrival at San Luis de Potosi. He did not reach there until the 8th of Oct. As every thing in regard to his movement is sought after, we annex his letter announcing his arrival:

Liberating army of the republic,

Headquarters, San Luis, Oct. 10, 1846.

Most Excellent Sir-On the evening of the 8th inst. I arrived at this capital, accompanied by my staff, and established therein the headquarters of the army of operations, destined to repel the unjust invasion made upon the republic by the army of the United States on the North.

I have the pleasure of saying to your excellency that my entrance into this state was made amidst the congratulations of a magnanimous people who have not ceased to bestow upon me profuse marks of consideration, and the same remark will apply to the authorities and public functionaries of all classes.

Oblige me by communicating these facts to his excellency, the general charged with the supreme executive power, and accept assurances of my consideration and esteem. God and Liberty.
To the secretary of war.

One of the first acts of the wily generalissimo was to supply himself with funds. This he did very effectually by seizing upon a conducta of specie thereby getting a hold of two millions of dollars. His pretext was that it was unsafe to forward this large amount of money to the sea coast in the present state of affairs. He gave receipts for the money and his individual bonds for its restoration. It must be confessed that this mode of supplying his coffers is infinitely more expeditious than advertising for a loan, and more acceptable to the people at large than a forced loan from the clergy. The accounts we give of this great financial stroke, we do not derive from Mexican papers, but have entire faith in the facts.—We trust they will be satisfactory to English merchants, and be acceptable as earnest of the security of the money they loaned Mexico on the mortgage of the Californias. We find Santa Anna’s letter, of the 10th ult. In the last paper before us. We regret to say that the papers give us no clue to his plan of operations. [MJK]

But while Santa Anna was on his way to San Luis he wrote back from Quertaro on the 3d of October, as follows: “the disaster which we encountered at Monterey is not so great as I at first thought. Our troops have left for Saltillo and have already occupied principal points of the Sierra. So far from the troops having become demoralized, I am assured that great enthusiasm prevails among them. Their success has cost the enemy, according to uncontestable evidence, more than fifteen hundred men. Our artillery was well managed and it is said that the enemy believe it was served by French officers.—

**** I am now about to unfold all my character, with the energy which is habitual to me, and the Americans will very soon succumb, or I shall cease to exist.” Upon copying this effusion of Santa Anna, the Diario breaks forth: “May Heaven crown with the most brilliant results the patriotism of this illustrious child of his country, whom we ardently desire to see return to the capital covered with glory.” [MJK]

We now for the first time learn what the fruits of the Mexican derived from the seizure of our mails near Marin, intended for Gen. Taylor at Monterey. Among the multitude of papers forwarded by Ampudia to Santa Anna and the government, we find a letter from our secretary of war, Mr. Marcy, to General Taylor, revealing the design upon Tampico and San Luis Potosi. This letter is dated Washington, Sept. 2d, and though our account of the letter will be an old story at Washington, we may say here that the design of the secretary’s letter is to obtain general Taylor’s opinion, rather than dictate a line of proceeding from him. He is told what the government has thought of doing, and asks what he thinks about it. The government refers to him for information on various points—as to the difficulties of his own advance—whether he deems it advisable to continue his march upon San Luis de Potosi, and various kindred topics. The letter pursues its inquiries in the most respectful terms, deferring it to the better judgment of Gen. Taylor; but of course discloses our plans, the number of troops intended to be used at Tampico, and some other general particulars. The letter of general Ampudia covering Mr. Marcy’s dispatch, contains a singular paragraph, if in our haste we rightly apprehend it. It is to the following effect:—“Every moment which passes, confirms my idea of the immense advantages we have gained from fighting four consecutive days at Monterey, since the enemy entertains great respect for the Mexican soldier, and the American blood flowed with such profusion that from the generals of the enemy came the suggestion of an armistice of eight weeks, which disarms, as it were, a great part of his regular troops.” [MJK]

Since writing the above we have seen another positive ascertain made on the authority of Ampudia, that the idea of the armistice was suggested by the American officers, and the Mexicans were led to presume it was suggested by them because the greater part of our regulars were cut to pieces at Monterey. [MJK]

The Mexican accounts of the battle of Monterey are more numerous than have been published in the United States. As a matter of necessity they praise very highly the valor of their troops, and they insist upon the obstinacy and gallantry of the defense. The movement of Gen. Worth on the west side of the town are described as very brilliant. One fort taken by Gen. Worth is said to have been taken and retaken three several times—once by Gen. Mejia at the point of
the bayonet, capturing at the same time 300 Americans and eight pieces of artillery. Some of their first accounts declare that Gen. Worth was killed. From Saltillo Gen. Ampudia wrote to his government demanding an investigation of his conduct, both before and after Gen. Taylor presented himself at Monterey. He courts scrutiny, alleging that, "as laws of honor and the good of his country are the only elements of his existence, his mind cannot be tranquil until the secretary of war, the supreme government, and the republic are satisfied with his conduct." The humble letter does not save him from the letter writers. They charge him with the grossest cowardice and incompetency. But we have neither time nor space to-day to enter further in the Mexican accounts of the battles. One thing we must note, however. Almost all their accounts say they refused to capitulate until we agreed to salute their flag. Before the two months' armistice expires, the Mexicans count confidently that Santa Anna will have an army around him which will prevent any further advance of Gen. Taylor.

The Mexican papers are full of the orders of Gen. Salas made through his secretaries, providing resources for the war. We have various circulars of Almonte, one of which is the nature of a manifesto and written with marked ability. [MJK]

**NNR 71.181 November 21, 1846 Gen. Romulo Diaz de le Vega exchanged for Capt. Edward William Carpenter of the brig Truxton, &c.**

**EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.** Col. T. F. Hunt, U.S. army on Saturday, the 7th, notified officially to Gen. Vega and other Mexican officers, prisoners in N. Orleans, that they had been exchanged for Captain Carpenter and the crew of the brig Truxton. They were informed that they could proceed to Pensecola as soon as possible, when they would be taken on board one of the U.S. men-of-war to Vera Cruz. It was, however, left to the discretion of General Vega and the other gentlemen to return to their country by way of the Havana. The communication containing this information was dated Washington the 28th ultimo, and signed by Gen. Winfield Scott.

[N. Orleans Times.  [MJK]

**NNR 71.181-182 November 21, 1846 Mexican movements, their account of the Monterey affair, disputes over control of the reins of government, &c.**

On the morning of the 14th of Oct. a rumor was circulated in the city of Mexico that some battalion of the National Guard designed to issue a pronunciamento, the object of which was to wrest the reins of government from Gen. Salas, on the ground that he was aiming to perpetuate his power and intended to seize upon the property of the commercial classes. This rumor was followed by another of dissensions in the cabinet, threatening the stability of the government. The multitude assembled in crowds about the palace, and at last Gen. Salas, accompanied by Senior Gomez Farias, appeared and addressed the people, endeavoring to soothe and quiet them. The general was received, says the government organ, with enthusiasm of the liveliest kind.

The excitement subsequently took a new turn.—Senor Cortina, the governor of the federal district of Mexico, was said to have given notice to the merchants that he could no longer guarantee the security of their property. The warehouses of the merchants were in fact closed in some quarters, and the owners, it was said, were arming themselves in order to protect their property. This led again to the assemblage of throngs of people deeply anxious to learn the facts, and Gen. Salas and Senior Ferrias again sallied forth and addressed the people, and succeeded in dispersing them quietly. All this commotion is attributed by the papers in favor of the government to the intrigues of the monarchists. The church is roundly berated for favoring the designs of the monarchists. The motives of the clergy were of course their dread lest the government should seize upon their revenue to carry the war against the United States. We find unequivocal indications in the papers that such a seizure would be a very natural and justifiable measure on the part of the government.

An express arrived at Vera Cruz on the 21st ult., which announced that during the night of the 18th there was another alarm in the capital, similar to that of the 14th, which was quieted, however, like that of the 14th, after some moments of convulsion. We bitterly regret these commotions, says El Indication, because if they are continued, they will infallibly produce our ruin. Our enemy is already in the heart of the country, and nothing but the union of our entire strength can save us. The government is unable to discharge its weighty obligations toward a foreign enemy, when confidence is thus shaken by unfounded alarms and the time of the government is wasted in preventing and dispelling them. [MJK]

**NNR 71.182 November 21, 1846 circular of Minister Manuel Crecenio Rejon about resisting the enemies of the existing order**

We annex a circular from the state department in regard to the last attempt made in the capital. It is the best mode of giving an insight into the internal affairs of the republic:
CIRCULAR

Ministry of Internal and Foreign Relations

SIR: The enemies of the existing orders of affairs, who are equally enemies of the public repose, have aimed this day to disturb the peaceable inhabitants of this city, by circulating alarming reports, pretending that private property was threatened and the citizens composing the National Guard were divid in opinion—all this being done with the corrupt purpose of perpetuating discord and preventing the assembling of that congress which is to organize the republic. Conduct do perilous at a moment of extreme peril for the independence of the country, is calculated to affect most deeply every true patriot and the people who eagerly sought to learn the origin of the alarm, and to place themselves around the supreme government. But the government, supported by public opinion, dictated the most efficacious precautionary measures, thanks to which, calm was reestablished, without a necessity of resort to force or any other arms than those of persuasion; and this people, which has been atrociously calumniated, afforded one more proof of the prudence, good sense, and moderation which it has so often given.

In the supplement of the Diario of this day, of which I send you copies, you will find the proclamation, issued is the circumstances by his excellency charged with the supreme executive power. Firm in his principles, he is determined to carry out the programme of the revolution commenced at Jalisco and seconded in the citadel of this capital. Standing upon this basis, he directs me to recommend to your excellency that you provide, with the most solicitous that in your state no foothold is found for the suggestions of the enemies of the plan of the citadel, who aim at nothing less than the destruction of the government. But on the contrary you are directed assiduously to provide for the security of public order and liberty, as well as rendering the assistance indispensable for the prosecution of the war in which the country is compromised.

I reiterate to you assurances of my regard. God and Liberty. REJON.

NNR 71.182 November 21, 1846 resignations of Senor Cortina and Minister Manuel Crecenio Rejon

Mexico, 14th October, 1846.

Circular to the governors of the state, and the political chief of territories.

Subsequently to this latter difficulty Senor Cortina sent in his resignation of his post. His letter is dated the 17th of October. He says that his services can be no longer useful to the government, as his views and wishes have been misrepresented; and he takes advantage of the order and tranquility which prevails in the capital to lay down his authority. The newspapers promise that he will follow up his resignation with an expose of his motives in taken a step which was regarded a very critical in the then existing state of affairs. The subject of these commotions in the capital is touched upon by the papers as a very grave one, and we cannot doubt it is so considered by the government, or the above circular would not have been issued. We have, however, the papers upon one side only, and are therefore unable to fathom the secret causes of the difficulty. The promoters of it are stigmatized in general terms as disorganizers, monarchists, and enemies of the country.

We may as well mention in this connection that Rejon, the author of the above circular, subsequently resigned his portfolio. We do not know his motives, but it indicated farther dissatisfaction. [MJK]

NNR 71.182 November 21, 1846 Mexicans perfectly apprised of sickness at Matamoras, their movements in defense of Vera Cruz

The Mexicans appear to be perfectly apprised of the state of things in Matamoras. Their accounts of the sickness which prevails there are quite minute. [MJK]

NNR 71.182 November 21, 1846 enthusiasm among Mexicans for the successful defense of Alvarado

The Mexicans have received intelligence that our government was about to send vessels of a large class against Vera Cruz. This led to an immediate call upon the troops in the interior to move to the defense of the city and fortress. From Jalapa we have the address of Col. Sayago to his battalion of National Guards. It is full of enthusiasm and alludes to the success obtained by the inhabitants of Alvarado over our forces, as but the prelude to other victories which await them. We find numerous military addresses of this kind, all alluding to Alvarado. [MJK]
In Jalapa volunteers are urged to come forward and be organized as light somewhat on the plan of "minute men" – to be ready at any moment to march to any point which may be assailed. The enemy evidently are [?] and are organizing [?]. [MJK]

El Indicator of the 22d October has an article eulogizing Gen. Basadre for his skill, tact, and judgment in bringing the reincorporation of Yucatan in the confederacy, notwithstanding the formidable obstacles which he encountered. [MJK]

Domingo Ibarra writes to the secretary from Puebla on the 18th of October that a battalion of troops styled "Libres de Puebla," a part of the National Guard, would leave that city on the following morning, on their way to Vera Cruz, in conformity of the orders of the war department. From other points, too, troops have gone to the same destination. [MJK]

The correspondence of the N, O. Picayune, furnishes a brief description of the principal redoubts of the enemy in the east and the north of the town, which will convey some idea of the difficulties that had to be overcome.

1st. A strong redoubt of masonry of four faces, with an open gorge of ten feet, prepared for four guns, overlooked and commanded by a large stone house in rear: prepared with sand-bags and loop holes for infantry.

2d. Strong redoubt of four faces, open gorge of twenty feet, prepared for three guns.

3d. Fleches of masonry for infantry.

4th. Tete de pont, in front of the bridge of the Purisina, a strong work of masonry for three guns.

5th. Strong redoubt for one gun, not occupied by the enemy.

6th. A strong redoubt of masonry for three guns overlooking the approaches from Cadereita, and commanding the gorge of No. 2.

7th. A strong redoubt of masonry for three guns, overlooked and commanded by a large stone house prepared for infantry with loop-holes and sand-bags. Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 were connected by breast works of earth and brush for infantry, thus forming a complete line of defence from 4 to 7. Barricades of masonry, twelve feet thick, with embrasures for guns, were met with in every direction. The house tops and garden walls (reader will remember the peculiar construction of the house) were loop-holed throughout the city, and prepared with sand-bags for infantry defence.

8th. Fort Independence, or Citadel. - A large rectangular stone building, walls only standing, surrounding by an enclosed work of solid masonry, of four bastioned fronts, and prepared for thirty-one guns. A continued fire of artillery from this place was kept up during the 20th, 21st, 22d, and 23d. From No. 7 along the southern edge of the town, a stone wall four feet thick, and prepared with embrasures for guns and banquettes for infantry, extended beyond the plaza.

9th. Cathedral in main plaza, principle magazine of the enemy. [SCM]

MUNITIONS CAPTURED AT MONTEREY Park or Artillery. - Division of the North.

Invoices of Artillery, Arms, ammunitions, and other munitions of War, given in virtue of the articles of capitulation, signed Sept. 24, 1846.

Pieces of Artillery with Equipments and Sets of Arms.
2 - 4-pounders, culverine, mounted. 5 - 4-pounders. 4 - 7-inch howitzers. 1 - 12-pounder, dismounted. 1 - 6-pounder, mounted. 1 - 8-pounder, mounted.
1 - 4-pounder, dismounted, conical. 1 - 3-pounder, dismounted. 1 - iron howitzer, unservicable. 6 - rampart guns, (bronzed.) Arms for Infantry and Cavalry
149 - English muskets
102 - carbines
122 - bayonets
305 - gun barrels, (loose)
100 - carbine barrels, (loose)
43 - lances.

Munitions for Infantry and Artillery
882 - 18-pound balls, (in pile)
320 - 12-pound balls, do. 18 - boxes 12-pound cartridges--12 in each. 19 - boxes 8-pound canister shot, do. 40 - rounds 8-pound canister shot, (loose.)
3 - boxes 8-pound blank cartridges. 17 - boxes 6-pound ball cartridges-fixed: 15 and 18 in each box. 59 - boxes 4-pound ball cartridges-fixed; 18 and 24 in each box
2 - boxes 4-pound black cartridges-100 in both together
123 - rounds 3-pound ball cartridges
1 1/2 - boxes 7-inch howitzer blank cartridges
1/2 box 5 ¼ inch do. do. 15 - boxes 6-pound canister cartridges--10 and 12 each
14 - boxes 4-pound canister cartridges- 12 and 16 each
40 - 8-pound balls
17 - boxes 12-pound canister cartridges
70 - rounds do. do. 12 - rounds 8-pound do. 28 - rounds do. do. 15 - boxes 7-inch howitzer canister cartridges. 70 - rounds 7-inch do. (loose)
253 - pound cartridges. 27 - boxes loaded grenades, 7-inch howitzer, 4 in each box
20 - boxes loaded grenades, 5 ¼-inch howitzer, 4 in each box. 350 - loose grenades, (part loaded)
248 - boxes musket-ball cartridges- (double ball.) 1200 in each
83 - boxes cannon powder, (good) ---12,450lbs nett. 35 - boxes cannon powder, (damaged)--- 5,250lbs. Nett not examined probably good
7 - boxes musket powder, (damaged)--120lbs nett. 3 - boxes rifle powder, (fine) 300lbs. Nett. 680 - pounds slow match. 71 - quintals lead, in balls. (The reader can calculate this)
101 - quintals lead, in bar. 10 - dozen signal rockets.

[Here follows a long list of tools &c] Park of Artillery. --Post of the Citadel. Statement of Ordnance and Ordnance Stores which are at this post on the 24th Sept. , 1846. 60,000 - musket cartridges with ball
949 - 12-pound blank cartridges
334 - 8-pound do. 723 - 8-pound cartridges with ball. 294 - 6-pound do. 201 - 7-inch howitzer blank cartridges. 72 - 6-pound cartridges with grape. 171 - 12-pound canister shot. 390 - 8-pound
50 - 6-pound
102 - 7-inch howitzer canister shot. 112 - do. do. loaded shells. 218 - 12-pound balls
710 - 12-pound priming tubes, (paper)
1200 - 8-pound do. do. 160 - 6-pound do. do. 300 - do. do. 6 arobas slow-match, (150lbs)
4 - 8-pounders
2 - 6-pounders
2 - 7-inch howitzers

The special correspondent of the Picayune (who furnishes the above) says "Capt. Ramsay, of the Ordnance Department, who has all these things in charge, informs me that an immense quantity of musket cartridges have been fortified concealed in the city since the property named in the foregoing invoices was turned over by the enemy; also many other articles in the shape of arms and munitions. Much property no doubt remains yet concealed, As for provisions, enough was found in the city to subsist our army and the citizens a month, and it is known that the enemy carried off large quantities of ammunition and provisions during the attack." An officer of our Army writes, in relation to that part of Gen. Ampudia's proclamation which stated that the Mexicans were short of ammunition and provisions,—"that more ammunition was captured and surrendered than has been sent from the U. States for the use of the army of occupation since the was begun, and that the provisions found in the city have mainly subsisted the citizens and entire American forces ever since the capitulation, now more than two weeks, to say nothing of the amount permitted to be carried off by the Mexican army." [SCM]

NNR 71.182-184 November 21, 1846 list of the killed and wounded at Monterey

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<th>Names</th>
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<th>Regiment Company</th>
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<td>C E De Witt</td>
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<td>Oliver Jenks</td>
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<td>J F Minter</td>
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<td>Thomas Law</td>
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<td>John Rabb</td>
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<td>Wm E Reese</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel McCarty</td>
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<td>J W D Austin</td>
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<td>killed 21st</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jesse Perkins</td>
<td>do</td>
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<td>N F Browning</td>
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<td>Roundtree</td>
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<td>J B Walker</td>
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<td>Wm Carey</td>
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<td>R A Gillespie</td>
<td>captain</td>
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<td>Gilbert Brush</td>
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<td>John F Fullerton</td>
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<td>J B Barry</td>
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<td>F F Keys</td>
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Col. Wood’s regiment of TEXAS RANGERS.

Operating in the eastern part of the city on the 23d,
Killed- George Short and Thomas Gregory.

J Buchanan, H P Lyon, and C W Tufts were left behind on special duty, and are supposed to be killed.  [MJK]
SECOND ATTACK ON ALVARADO.

Of Antonia Lizardo, October 13, 1846.

GENTLEMEN: We are on the eve of another attack on Alvarado. At 5 o'clock this afternoon com. Conner issued orders for the sailing of the squadron (frigates and reritan excepted) for the mouth of the Alvarado river. The Commodore takes command of the expedition un person, making use of the steamer Vixen as his flag ship for the occasion. One o'clock tomorrow morning ids the hour fixed for getting under weigh, and already the steamers Mississippi, Vixen, and McLane are firing up. Besides these vessels the force consists of the revenue cutter Forward, schooners Reefer, Petrel, and Bonito, and prize schooner Nonata. This latter vessel was recently captured from the Mexicans and and was formerly the American schooner Belle, out of your port. She now mounts four 42 pound cannonades. For the past month we have been drilling our men as infantry upon a small island here, and Jack is so anxious for a fight that he marks time with a good grace, and everyone appears pleased, that at last we are to have a chance at the enemy.

At the mouth of the river the Mexicans have a ten gun battery, and we know of a brig of war and two guns boats being anchored inside. A number of their small merchantmen have taken refuge in the harbor, and there must be a smart sprinkling of prize money in store for us.

October 16. Our sailing orders for the morning of the 14th were commanded in consequence of its blowing to fresh for operations-occasioning a delay of the expedition for twenty-four hours. We sailed, however, at 1 o'clock A.M. yesterday, but I regret to say that we are all at anchor again to-day and Alvarado is yet in possession of the Mexicans.

You were pleased to call the former attack on Alvarado an abortion, and I suppose you will not be sparing of hard names for the greatest failure; but I trust that when you examine the facts of the case, you will understand that it was owing to the efiiciency of the means at the disposal of Com. Conner, and to the natural defences of the place itself, that we have not been successful, rather than to any want of skill or courage on his part, or lack of spirit and support by the officers and men under his command.

We were within ten miles of the mouth of the river at daylight and stood slowly into shore, it being dead calm-the Vixen and McLane towing the schooners-the Mississippi anchored at long shot distance and commenced her fire. Up to this time everything seemed favorable for the success of the expedition. There being a heavy swell on the bar the pilots declined taking there vessels over. The commodore leading in the Vixen, with the rest of the force following, passed by the fort, each vessel firing her broadside as she ranged ahead, with but little effect, however, owing to the distance. A long eighteen in the forward sent a shot directly into the fort-this movement was completed with better success, the distance being lessened and again the Forward made a most beautiful shot. In the meanwhile the Mississippi had closed up and was exploding her Paixhans about the heads of the Mexicans in a way that must have made some of them see more stars than the Lord had ever made. One shot from her dismounted a heavy gun of theirs from a stockade, this they soon remedied, but thus far all their shot had fallen short. During the morning several of our boats surrounded within a half mile of the fort, receiving the fire of the enemy with as much impunity as indifference. The swell on the bar having somewhat subsided at 1 P.M., the time was formed as follows. Steamer Vixen, flagship, towing gunboats Reefer, and Bonita; steamer McLane, toeing the Nonata; cutter Forward and gunboat Petrel; then two launchers, three cutters and a barge, but the McLane stuck fast, and the commodore finding himself deprived of two thirds of his force, and being unable to sustain the fire of a twelve gun battery with but four light pieces of his own, was obliged to retreat. The force in the boats was now exposed to heavy fire, the shot flying thick and fast around us, and had the Mexicans fired grape it would have knocked some of us into fits. We escaped however, with a good ducking from the spray of the balls.

It being now too late in the day for any further operations, signal was made for return for anchorage, and thus ended this bloodless combat, bloodless not because each and every man of us would not have shed our hearts best to gain the day, not because our plan of attack was not good, or that we were not properly led, but because Providence has provided the enemy with such natural defences as cannot be overcome by a naval attack with such means as Commander Conner has at his disposal. The McLane is an abominable abortion, (to make use of your own word,) drawing too much water to be serviceable, and with not sufficient power to drive her over three and a half knots an hour-but it is due to Capt. Howard to say that as soon as he got this vessel afloat again he proffered to make another attempt to pass the bar, but the commodore declined, as it was now too late in the afternoon.

There remains one way to take this Alvarado, and mark my words, it will be done before many weeks; meanwhile we must expect to be severely handled by the newspapers at home, and by the people who expect us to accomplish impossibilities and gain glory on a field where none is to be won-although no man, with two ideas in his head, who witnessed our recent defeat can attribute blame to any one. [MJK]
command of Com. Perry, left Anton Lizardo for an attack on Tobasco. On the morning of the 17th, the Mississippi made a prize of the American bark Coosa. Capt. Hickling, off Alvarado river, and sent her to this place upon suspicion of her being about to land her cargo on the Mexican coast. This vessel was cleared from New Orleans on the 3d inst. for Havana, by Messrs. Wythe & Egana, with 1,600 bales of cotton, put up in 200 pound bales, and there appears good reason to suppose that it was intended for Mexico. She will sail for your port on the 27th, in charge of passed midshipman Barrett, son of one of your former collectors.

To day, another prize, the Yucatan schooner "El Telegrafo," arrived from the Tobasco expedition on the 22nd, and reports the fleet standing off the land waiting for weather to go into the river.

Yours,
R.A.

[NRR 71.185 November 21, 1846 movements on the Pacific coast, expedition against San Diego, Com. Robert Field Stockton takes San Pedro, California ports occupied]

PACIFIC SQUADRON. Accounts from the Pacific of August 22, afford us some interesting particulars: On the 22d of July, Commodore Stockton assumed command of the United States Naval Forces on the west coast of Mexico. On the 25th, the "Cyane" with the "California company of mounted riflemen," under Col. Fremont, sailed from Monterey for San Diego, that they might be landed southward of the Mexican forces, amounting to 500 men, under Gen. Castro and Gov. Pico, who were all well fortified at the camp of the Mesa, three miles from the "city of the Angels." A few days after, Commodore Stockton, in the "Congress" sailed for San Pedro, where he landed with his gallant sailor army, and marched directly for the redoubtable "camp of the Mesa." When he had come within 12 miles of the camp, General Castro broke ground and ran for the city of Mexico. The governor of the territory, and the other principal officers, separated in different parties; and on the 13th August, having been joined by Col. Fremont and 80 riflemen, and by Mr. Larkin, late American consul, the commodore entered the famous "Ciudad de los Angelos," the capital of the Californias, and took quiet possession of the government house. Most of the principal officers were subsequently taken.

The American force thus chased the Mexican army more than 300 miles along the coast; pursued them 30 miles in the interior of their country; routed and dispersed them, and secured quiet possession of their territory.

The "Congress" was to sail in a few days on a cruise for the protection of our commerce, and the remaining vessels of the squadron were to be disposed with a view to the same object, so far as they could be spared from the blockade of the southern coast.

The President's proclamation, and the congressional proceedings in reference to the war, were first received by Commodore Stockton (in a Mexican account) on the 19th of August, by the United States ship Warren, from Mazatian. The flag of the United States is now flying from every commanding position in the territory of California.

The patriotism and courage of the men who accompanied the commodore on this expedition after Castro, are spoken of in the highest terms. Their march was trying and hazardous, perhaps longer than has ever been made in the interior of a country by sailors after an enemy.—

Wash. Union. The John Adams U.S. ship, Commander McCluney, sailed on the 4th inst. from Pensacola for Vera Cruz. [KMK]

PRIZES.- Bark Coosa, recently seized off Alvarado by the U. States Squadron, arrived at New Orleans on the 10th instant, in charge of Passed Midshipman Barrett.

The Mexican prize schooner Telegraph, taken by the U.S. steamship Mississippi of Tabasco, was brought up to the fleet on the 16th ult. [KMK]

On Friday evening, November 6, 1846: Mr. President and Fellow Citizens: I had not anticipated the pleasure of being present on this occasion. It is my wish rather to avoid, than to seek opportunities of addressing large public bodies. While it is my purpose to discharge, as well as I am able, the duties which devolve on me, as a citizen of the
Gentlemen, since some little while— I think about six or seven weeks ago—great changes have taken place, not only with regard to political parties, but with respect to the great political prospects of the country.

There are many of my fellow citizens who heard me on a former occasion, and many gentlemen here present, this evening, who have heard me declare that it was difficult, and always would be difficult, to maintain such principles unless we could make an impression for the good upon the great central portion of our Union. We had done excellently in the east—excellently in the south, and in the southeast—and excellently in the steady west. But nevertheless, while New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio were against us our difficulty was great. We required them to come forward in the great work of maintaining sound whig principles. Here was our hope. And now or later, to-morrow if not to-day, we trusted that they would array themselves on the right side.

That day has come. (Great cheering.) The brightening of that morning has dawned upon us— and they are here, to-day, not against us, but with us.

(Renewed applause.) Gentlemen, let me remind you that every election, since the policy of the administration has been developed, has been, more or less, adverse to that administration. The results in Maryland, in New Jersey, in Florida, in Georgia, in Ohio, in Pennsylvania, in New York, (loud cheers,) all prove this. And will any man say, can any one suggest, that one single state has sanctioned the policy of the present administration? The most recent denomination has been in New York. (Enthusiastic applause.) The state of this election is very well known to all of you, and I do not know of anything new to communicate, except the following telegraphic dispatch, dated at five o’clock this afternoon—which I will read—

"The good news of yesterday is more than confirmed by telegraph from Buffalo and through this P.M. John Young’s majority will not be less than 11,000; 23 whigs are elected to congress out of 34, and at least 70 whig members of assembly out of the 128. Under the term "whigs" we do not include any ‘anti-renters’ or ‘hunkers.’ Massachusetts will respond to this next Monday, will she not? Gentlemen, will not Massachusetts respond? (Immense cheering.) Now gentlemen, there remains an important question to be answered. It is this. What has produced this great change in the political policy of the people? And upon this question I confine my remarks to the state of New York, the change in which is the most recent and important of all.

And what is it? It has been said by some that the anti-rent vote, the universal suffrage vote, &c., would greatly affect the result. We have also heard it said that the personal enemies of Gov. Wright would turn the scale of the election. But let me assure you that the case lies deeper than all this.

There are counties on the river which have given positive whig majorities—such as Long Island, and the river counties—wherein the question did not turn upon the local questions affecting the personal choice of members. But, throwing aside these returns for the assembly, and all the local questions connected with them, it is now certain that the whigs have elected the governor of New York by 11,000 or 12,000 majority. Not only is this a very handsome majority for the governor, but when we look at the congressional delegation, we find that more than two thirds (cheers) are ours. (Cheering.) Throughout the whole state we ran for members of congress, and throughout the whole state we are far ahead. But instead of choosing 23, the whigs ought to have chosen 26 members. Unhappily, in the city, and in Kings’ county, the whigs and the native republicans were divided.

Now, the native republicans and the whigs are divided. Amongst the former I must say there are men of intelligence, and I am glad to say men of the best character. They have all great personal and political respectability, and I should be glad if all could be chosen. I should be happy, too, could, at the same time, some others of our candidates for congress have been elected. James Munroe, inheriting not only the name, but the virtues of his ancestor, Van Wagenen, Phoenix. Unhappily this division amongst our party, and amongst the agents we employed, defeated all, and let in the enemy.

This let in the enemy. This was unhappy. But it does not become me to impute blame to any body, on this account. It was one of the infirmities of human nature.

Gentlemen, I shall go, on Monday, to the meeting in the town in which I live, and there deposit my vote. (Loud applause.) I shall find many well meaning men who differ from me, though they do not write "conscience" upon their flag. Some of my worthy neighbors will give their votes for the candidates of the 3d party, with the certainty that their votes can only avail to keep the district unrepresented, or let in the opposition candidate. I wish, that upon this subject, I could address myself—feeble as my voice may be—to every voter in the district in which I live.

The evil which threatens us is not to be overcome by railing or reproach, but by reasoning with our neighbors—by representing to them the true consequences of their conduct—and by showing them its inevitable result. It is as clear as anything can be, that those persons who voted the third party ticket in 1844, suffered Mr. Polk to be elected and Texas to be annexed. And therefore, so far as their permission extended, they suffered what we call the Mexican war to be suffered upon us. The Mexican war! It was proclaimed on the house-tops by the opposition, that the annexation of Texas would involve a war with Mexico, and denied by the other side. And yet those who professed to be the most zealous of peaceful annexation, did just what they could to bring about a war.

But to return to the causes which have brought about these changes in the middle states. What has caused this change? It is all to be referred to the recent measures of congress, not owing to the change of fifty or a hundred here and there.
in the state of New York, but because the reflecting men of all parties—the masses, the troops, have come over from the
opposite side and voted the whig ticket. In the most effectual manner they have signified their utter disapprobation of the
war, the new tariff, the sub-treasury, and the various other projects of the administration. Tried on this standard,
New York has gone whig, and especially as to members of congress has she gone whig out and out. There results here
opens quite a new view— it opens quite new prospects; and if, as I trust, the whigs will act becomingly and moderately,
and discreetly, we shall hold the majority we have gained.

Gentlemen, I do not suppose that the sub-treasury did much for the administration in New York. That is not yet in
operation, and its benefits are not yet perceived. (Laughter.) Much as is the influence of the Union, it cannot refer all
these results to the sub-treasury, either on one side of the other. The tariff and the war have had their share of these.

The Mexican war is universally odious throughout the United States, and we have yet to find any Sempronius who raises
his voice for it.

(Here some one in the gallery asked Mr. Webster who voted for the war. He replied, "nobody at all. The president made
it without any vote whatever." Tremendous applause.)

And that leads me to say that the war, in its origin, was a presidential war. But the constitution declares that congress
alone shall have the power of declaring war; and I beg to know where, when they so declared it. Every one does
know that our army was ordered, by the president, to advance from the Nueces to the Rio Grande, thereby invading a
foreign territory. And because the Mexicans resisted this encroachment on their soil, we have next the proclamation
of the president that war exists between Mexico and the United States. The proclamation of the president stated that
explicitly.

But, gentlemen, there is another question here— Texas had become a part of this Union. We had received her as a state,
and had assumed her boundary—the Nueces. Why should we not treat with Mexico for that? Why, when all new territory
of the United States was bounded by the Nueces, and everything beyond that was claimed by Mexico; and in the actual
occupation of Mexico—why, then, I say, should the president of the United States have ordered the army south of the
Nueces, to take possession of Mexican land? That was the origin of the war, and that was against the spirit of the
constitution of the United States. (Vehement applause.) Congress alone has the power to declare war, and yet it is
obvious, under the present construction, that if the president is resolved to involve the country in a war, he may do it.
This, I say, is a great misjudgement on the part of the president; it is a clear violation of his duty; in my judgment it is
an impeachable offence. (Great cheering.)

The great objection to this war is, that it is illegal in its character. There has been a great violation of duty on the part of
the president. He has plunged the country into war, whereas, unless in case of invasion of our actual limits, he has no
right to do so. In that case of such invasion, the power does exist in the president to take measures to repel aggression.
But to go out of our limits, and declare war for a foreign occupation of what does not belong to us, is no part of the
power invested in our president by our constitution.

So much for the origin of the war.

Mr. Chairman, I wish to speak with all soberness in this respect, and I would say nothing, here, tonight, which I would
not say in my place in congress, or before the whole world. The question now is, for what purpose, and to what ends is
this present war to be prosecuted.

And in speaking of this, let me, in the first place, put myself right before the people. Individually, I have no respect for
the government of Mexico. The people of that country are the worst governed on the face of the earth. They are subject
wholly to military despotism, and it matters not whether Fareles, Almonte, Santa Anna, Ampudia, or any one else wields
the supreme power.

And I say, also, that Mexico should have come to terms with us before. The United States have well-founded claims
against Mexico. There is no doubt of that. And I have as little doubt, and as little hesitation, in saying that Mexico has
behaved most wrongfully towards us. She has acted ruinously for her own interests, and injuriously for her own
character, in all respects.

Mexico is a republic professedly formed on our own model. I could wish—we all wish—that she could find amongst her
sons another Washington. But the truth must be told. And the truth is, that all republics made out of Spanish dominions
in America, have been miserable failures. Mexico, especially, has no principles of free government about her at all.

But to indulge these considerations is not to discharge our own duty of inquiry into the objects and ends of this war. Who
knows anything about the war, except that our armies have reached to Monterey, and will reach to Mexico if they can.
(Applause.) And what then? Is the whole country to be fortified—taken possession of as American territory—a territory
equal to the formation of forty new states? These are questions which it is time for us to put with sobriety and
seriousness. It is time for us to know what are the objects and designs of our government.

The people of these United States are not in the habit of calculating, when a right is to be asserted, what will be the
expense, but on an occasion of this kind they will be very apt to ask what the speculation will cost. I have been at some
pains to ascertain the facts of this respect, and I submit to your consideration the results to which I have arrived.
It appears from the monthly statements of the treasury of the U. States, that the balance in the treasury on the

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Balance</th>
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<tr>
<td>27th April</td>
<td>$12,036,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st June</td>
<td>$11,478,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th June</td>
<td>$9,310,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>27th July</td>
<td>$7,725,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th Aug.</td>
<td>$5,593,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>21st Sept.</td>
<td>$4,815,000</td>
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Total diminution in 5 months $7,221,000

And it appears from the monthly statements of the register of the treasury, that the amount of outstanding treasury notes was as follows:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>1st Aug. last</td>
<td>$447,000 (being remains of old issues)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Sept.</td>
<td>$1,090,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increases in August</td>
<td>$643,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Oct.</td>
<td>$2,240,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increases in Sept.</td>
<td>$4,150,000</td>
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Making the excess of expenditures (beyond receipts) for 5 months $9,014,000.

The excess being at the rate per annum of $21,633,600.

According to the President’s message to congress last December, the receipts for the year ending 30th June, 1845 were $29,769,000. If they are the same the present year, it would appear that the government is expending money at the rate of $51,000,000 per annum. But as payments are, probably, not made so fast as debts in incurred, it may, I think, be fairly estimated that our present annual expenses are at least double the revenue, that is to say - at least $60,000,000.

So that the result is that the government, for the last five months, has been paying at the rate of sixty million per annum, or twice the amount of the revenue. And this does not include the outstanding claims.

All this has to be met. And how is it to be met? Congress has given authority to the secretary of the treasury to issue treasury notes, and to effect a loan. The notes have been issued, and the loan has been applied for - at a high rate of interest, 6 per cent. But as the existing debt is not above par, it is doubtful whether the new issue can be obtained on favorable terms.

And here it appears the absurdity of the sub-treasury scheme. And I must say, that if the government were to set itself at work most effectually to thwart its own financial measures, it could not contrive a better means than the sub-treasury for that purpose. Government, for instance, asks for a loan now, and obtains a loan from the capitalists. In January next, it requires another loan to say ten millions, all to be paid in specie. Where will it be found? It would require all the specie in New York and Boston to make the sum. As the matter now stands, the scheme is impracticable; by its operation, if carried into effect, the wheels of government would be clogged; the administration would be obstructed upon its own course, and government would be deprived of all means of action.

It is agreed by all that the administration is not, at present, remarkably strong in financial affairs, taking into consideration the present war - and it seems to be pretty certain that it will be hard work, rather an up-hill business, to carry that war on. And provided that every dollar which government gets locked up, is required by the sub-treasury act, the machine will soon come to a standstill.

Gentlemen, let me refer you to the tariff. That question was one of the causes which operated largely in the recent New York election. In counties where, for many years before, we had not been able to secure a majority any where, the whigs have now majorities in every town in district. The tariff law of 1846 is found to strike directly at the labor of the country and the interests of labor. (Prolonged cheering.) I have asked a friend of mine what caused the remarkable change in his district, in New York, and he replied that this was not an agricultural, but a manufacturing district, and the new law was a death blow to nearly all its interests. So of nearly all places where manufacturers are established.

Mr. Chairman, it is the Mexican war, the tariff of 1846, and the presidential vetoes, which have produced the great changes we see around us.

Sir, there are two surprises which have been sprung upon the people of the United States, The first was the nomination of Mr. Polk at the Baltimore convention – for surely no people was less prepared for any great event than this people for the nomination. (Applause) When the event was first made known, as you are all aware, the great
question was, “Who, under heaven is James K. Polk?” But party allegiance was so strong that it overcame the surprise, and convinced the people that Mr. Polk was an especial fit man to maintain and support the interests of the country, and the interests of Pennsylvania in particular. (Laughter.) The second surprise was the Mexican war. Who expected that? But upon the 11th of May the war did exist, according to the president’s declaration. Our army was then in a critical condition. I had then, gentlemen, occasion to be absent from congress and at home, never anticipating such a state of things. The war bill which you have so often heard referred to, passed on the 11th, fourteen members voting against it in the house and two in the senate. And upon what ground was it passed? Surely on the part of the whigs, that the country was unexpectedly in a state of war—that our army was in an exposed situation—and that it was absolutely necessary to sustain them. I arrived in Washington a few days afterwards, and never did I hear the suggestion from anybody, that a vote for that bill involved an approval of the course of the administration. Never did I hear such a thing then.

Your excellent representative—than whom very few men, indeed, enjoy more the esteem, respect and confidence of the great whig party of the U. States—(tremendous cheering.) was one who voted for the bill. The opposition to it, and to him, springs up here and no where else. The members from the liberty loving state of Vermont, those from Connecticut—are they accused? And Amos Abbot, from your third district—is there a voice raised against him? Mr. Vinton, of Ohio, one of the most able, intelligent and influential members of congress, and for whom every whig member would this day, with all his heart, cast his vote for speaker—was any thing said against him? Not one word.

Fellow citizens, I am grieved, sorry, that at this late time a clamor should be raised against your member for his vote on that occasion. I do not think it quite fair—it is not reasonable or just—it is not at all like Boston. (Great approbation.) Sir, we live in a day of uncommon prosperity. Heaven has been gracious to us, beyond our hopes. We have been blessed with health. Education has flourished. Commerce and agriculture are prosperous. We have an enterprising and thriving population. But, Mr. Chairman, excesses sometimes lead to discontent, and I am afraid that something of that nature is the case with us. While I admit that the genial influences of our climate, the character of our soil, the energy of our people, much of this prosperity is owing, I cannot shut my eyes to the fact that the protective power over all these—carrying us onward to honor and renown—is the Constitution of the United States. (A tremendous burst of cheers.) And it is, therefore, with the greatest regret, that I hear any suggestions of doing away with that instrument. (Renewed shouts.) I entertain no such counsel. (Cheers.) I am for taking the constitution as out fathers left it to us, and standing by it, and dying by it. (Vehement cheers.) I agree that it has been violated. The admission of Texas—another slave holding state—was a violation of the constitution. But, how was that accomplished? I would indulge in no bitter expressions against our southern brethren. They had education, and hate, and prejudice, all to sustain them in their course. But what shall we say of those members of congress from the north—from New Hampshire, and Connecticut, and Maine—who voted for it? How they so acted, and why they so acted, is almost utterly incomprehensible. How they have since been rejected by the people, is comprehensible enough. (Laughter.) I agree that the annexation of Texas struck a blow at the influence of free institutions. New England might have prevented it if she would, but her people would not be roused. Thank God I did not slumber over that danger. (Cheering.) But if the constitution be violated—what is our duty? To destroy it? To cast it aside? Surely not. But to renovate and restore it. To be more alive to our own duties under it, and more earnest in performing them. If we are true to ourselves, let me say to you, there can never be another annexation of slave territory to this union under heaven. Never—never! (Vociferous plaudits.) But if the people, under the influence of party feelings, and for the sake of the dry and stale loaves and fishes in the gift of party, shall neglect their duty—then there is no limit to such annexation, from the Rio Grande to Patagonia.

Gentlemen, has not the constitution given this people great prosperity? Has not our commerce flourished under it? Has it not made our flag honored and respected in every sea on earth? Has it not festered our manufacturers? Where would our Massachusetts have been without it? Not the Massachusetts she is now.

I will not, I cannot contemplate—I cannot endure to turn my eyes to the state of things consequent on an abandonment of the constitution.

Some have spoken of it as violated, and therefore at an end. But it is not plain that to abrogate it involves the abandonment of oaths—the perpetration of violence—the shedding of blood—the existence of civil war? To speak disunion, therefore, without violence and bloodshed is nonsense. We may, it is true, make a revolution more or less bloody—but it will be a revolution still.

Sir, no true whig can, for a moment contemplate disunion. The project has been charged upon the whig party, but it is a false charge. (Immense and long continuous cheers.) From the Orient to the extremity of the west, an American is known—not as a citizen of Massachusetts or any other state—but as a citizen of the United States. It is the union which gives us our character abroad—and may we all and ever—in the language of the Father of his Country—“frown indignantly” on all attempts to dissever it. (Applause.) It was formed amidst the agitation of the whole European world. The subsequent storms which convulsed that quarter of the globe reached us likewise, and what carried us safely through them? What but this constitution of the United States? With Him at the helm, the constitution was the ark which bore us over the political ocean of the world, agitated by a thousand whirlpools, as if Eolus had let loose all his winds—and while in Europe there was but one Palinurus who is generally spoken of as the pilot who “weathered the storm” we had in America a yet greater pilot, who not only “weathered” the storm, but controlled it. (Loud applause.) This constitution therefore, is the rallying point of all true Whigs, and should be so, forever. (Vehement cheers.) If we were now to say, because we suffer some temporary grievance from its provisions, that therefore we would destroy it, get rid of it, we should act as wisely as if we struck down the sun from heaven, because the moon sometimes eclipses his light, or a cloud passes over his dise.
General Prefecture of Upper California.

Your Excellency:

In my note on the 5th of last March, I informed the supreme government of the arrival of several families coming from the United States, who came from the Sacramento River, and of the measures taken to make them leave the department in the coming month of May, for not having brought the legal passports; and of the news communicated by an officer who also entered by the same road a few days afterwards, with an armed party, announcing that during the past winter a considerable number of individuals who were persecuted for their religious opinions were to leave the states for this country; and here I should inform your excellency of the result of the line of conduct observed by the said officer, to whose affairs I referred in my note of the 6th instant, making reference to my sally from this point in consequence of the intimation given to Don J.C. Fremont, that he should retire from the within limits of this department, as was expressly instructed in the order of 12th July, 1844.

This officer, failing in the respect due to the laws of the republic and the authorities of the country introduced himself into the midst of the population of the department with a respectable force, under pretext of coming with a scientific commission from his government; and treating with contempt the notice referred to, he took possession of the heights of the Sierra nearest to this point, distant about nine leagues, having only made a verbal answer as to what would be in the conduct of the military command under him in his camp, which was, that they did not intend to obey the order to retire, but would remain on that spot prepared to resist any force that should attack on them.

It not being possible to endure such a haughty answer, in obedience to the authorities of this place, all the neighborhood collected at this command with the most lively enthusiasm, and having organized a force of 150 men, I went to the vicinity of the Sierra where the said Fremont had entrenched [parapetado] himself under the American flag which he had had the audacity to raise there. I was prepared to attack him in the night of the 10th of the same month, when the said officer taking advantage of the darkness, abandoned the fortification, without doubt precipitately, as we found there the next day some iron instruments and other things belonging to his equipment, and, in trying to find the trail, to know which direction they took, it was impossible for me to know on account of their having withdrawn in complete dispersion: this obliged me to stay for some days in that neighborhood until, by some individuals who came from the valley of the Tulares to my camp, I was informed that the adventurers were taking the road by the river to the north into the desert country.

The wish to give the supreme government immediate knowledge of this event has rendered it necessary for me to hire a vessel which will sail at once for Acapulco, carrying Captain Andres Castillero, commissioner for the supreme government in this department, which individual, notwithstanding his delicate health, undertakes this step alone in a wish to do a service to this country in particular and the nation in general.

The accompanying letter, translated into Spanish, written to the American consul at this port by Capt. Fremont from the camp he occupied during the days referred to, will be proof of the decision made by this individual to maintain his position, without doubt in the hope of uniting to his forces the American adventurers who are disseminated among the pueblos of the department; but this did not happen, on account of the rapid movements made by the population of the north in consequence of my foresight alarming them in a manner which should suffocate in its cradle and such extravagant design, as it effectually did in the province of Sonora, in which there are indications of having intended to second the views of Captain Fremont, on which affair I occupy myself with some caution to investigate the truth of such event with all suitable precaution, operating with the military commandant of that frontier Lieutenant Colonel Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo.

This will enable your excellency to lay all the matter before his excellency the Senior President of the republic, accepting at the same time my assurances of obedience and respect.

God and liberty, Monterey, in Upper California, April 1st, 1846.

JOSE CASTRO

TO THE DEPARTMENT OF WAR AND NAVY.

Official letters from Mr. Larkin, United States consul at Monterey, of Upper California, to Mr. Buchanan, Secretary of State.

Prefecture of the Second District.
The undersigned, prefect of this district, has the honor of applying to the consul of the United States of the north, by this note, asking if he will favor the prefectory under his charge with an information of the object or commission with which an officer (now residing in your house) has arrived at this district with troops from the aforesaid republic, and has advanced as far as the river Sacramento, that he may be able to do the same to his excellency the governor of the department.

The undersigned embraces this opportunity of renewing to the senior consul of the United States his highest respect and consideration.

MANUEL CASTRO

TO THOMAS O. LARKIN
CONSUL UNITED STATES, MONTEREY.

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Consulate of the United States of America,
Monterey, California, January 29th, 1846.

The undersigned, consul of the United States of America, has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this morning; requesting information respecting the motives Capt. J.C. Fremont, of the United States army, has in visiting this country. The undersigned is informed by Capt. Fremont that he has been ordered to survey the most practicable route from the United States to the Pacific ocean—that he has left his company consisting of fifty hired men (not of the United States army) on the frontiers of this department for the purpose of resting themselves and animals. He has come himself to Monterey to obtain clothing, and funds to purchase animals and provisions; and when his men are recruited, intends to continue his journey to the Oregon territory.

The undersigned has the honor to offer to the senior prefect the highest esteem and consideration.

THOMAS O. LARKIN

TO THE SENIOR PREFECT OF THE SECOND DISTRICT, D. MANUAL CASTRO

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Prefecture of the Second District.

The undersigned, prefect of this district, has received the note of the consul of the United States, Mr. Thomas O. Larkin, dated 6th inst.; and in answer thereto, has the honor to say that far from replying in it that he will order that captain of the United States army, J.C. Fremont, to leave immediately with his force of armed troops (according to the acceptation of the word camp which he uses in his communication) the limits of this department, transgressing the principles established amongst civilized nations, he defends his unjust introduction. The undersigned, when he ordered Capt. Fremont to march back, founded himself on repeated orders and decrees of the supreme government of the Mexican republic which prohibits the introduction not only of troops belonging to any power, but even that of foreigners who do not come provided with legal passports, and not on false reports and false appearances, as the consul of the United States says in his said note. The undersigned promises the consul of the United States that as far as lays in his power, those persons who are subject to the laws of the country and may harass the subjects of his nation, who are under the protection of said laws, shall be punished according to the same, after the necessary proof shall be given and the necessary formalities gone through. The undersigned makes known to the consul of the United States; that if he desires to avoid that the force of Capt. Fremont may come to an unfortunate end in meeting with the force of this department, he ought to inform said Capt. Fremont that since he entered this department with an armed force, whether through malice or error, he must now either blindly obeys the authorities, or, on the contrary, experience the misfortunes which he has sought by his crimes.

God and Liberty! Monterey, March 8th, 1846.

The undersigned reiterates, &c. &c.

MANUEL CASTRO

THOMAS O. LARKIN.
CONSUL TO THE UNITED STATES, MONTEREY

[No.79]

Consulate of the U.S. Monterey
California, March 6th, 1846
Sir: The undersigned, consul of the United States, has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your official note yesterday containing a copy of your letter and orders to Capt. J.C. Fremont, United States army, now camped near the Salines river with his men, to leave this country immediately.

The undersigned understood that your letter was yesterday carried to Captain Fremont by officer having some eight or ten men under his charge, and that at this moment there is a large number of armed men collecting in this town for the purpose of going to the camp of that American officer; he would therefore take the liberty of saying, that although he is well aware that you, as a Mexican officer and patriot, are bound to take every step that may redound to the integrity and interest of your country, he would further observe that his countrymen must not be unnecessarily harassed from causes that may arise from false reports and false appearances, and would recommend that if any party is going to the camp of Capt. Fremont that it may be commanded by a trustworthy and experienced officer, which may prevent affairs, on the meeting of the two parties, from being brought to some unhappy conclusion.

The undersigned has the honor to subscribe himself as your most obedient servant,

THOMAS O. LARKIN

To Senor Jose Castro, commandant general, and D. Manuel Castro, Perfecto of the second district, California

[Copy No.80]

Consulate of the U.S.,
Monterey, California, March 8, 1846.

Sir: With this you have my consolar answer to the general and prefecto’s letter to you of last week, of which I had the honor to receive copies from them; I also add the honor and prefecto’s second letter to me of this day. By your messenger of last week, I forwarded some United States newspapers, a Spanish grammar, some magazines, and English copies of the general and prefecto’s letters to you on the 5th instant. I then informed you that there was an American brig (brig Hannah, of Salem) at anchor in this port, bound to Mazatlan, whose supercargo I had requested to remain here until the third day, to enable you to send letters to the United States, if you were so inclined. I cannot tell whether my letter reached you, but heard of your man being almost at your camp the day before yesterday. I have now to inform you (and my information is derived from the current reports of the day) that General Castro was on the plain last night, with about sixty people; many more from the rancho joined him to day; at this moment some forty men are preparing to leave Monterey to join the party. I should think tomorrow, he might have two hundred men, perhaps more; many of the common people will join through choice, others by being so ordered by the general. Among the other class, there are some looking on the affair with indifference, some perhaps with favor to either side, as their friendship to the present authorities, or their own interests may govern them. Respecting the result there are various opinions. It is not for me to point to you your line of conduct; you have your government instructions; my knowledge of your character obliges me to believe you will follow them; you are, of course, taking every care and safeguard to protect your men, but not knowing your actual situation, and the people who surround you, your care may prove to be insufficient. You are officially ordered to leave the country; I am sure you will use your own discretion on the subject; your danger may remain in supposing that no uncommon means will be taken for your expulsion, although the expression of the common people under the passions of the moment, breathe vengeance in every form against you. I cannot conclude that so much will be put in force, should they succeed in overpowering you. Therefore only wish you to suppose yourself in a situation where you must take every measure to prevent a surprise from those you may consider partly friends. Should my ideas be correct, the act perhaps will originate, not from their heads, or the respectability of the country, but from those of a more headstrong class, who have fought so many (called) battles, may consider themselves invincible.

Your encamping so near town has caused much excitement – the natives are firm in the belief that they will break you up, and that you can be entirely destroyed by their power. In all probability they will attack you; the result either way may cause trouble hereafter to resident Americans. I, myself, have no fear on the subject, yet believe the present state of affairs may cause an interruption to business. Should it be impossible or inconvenient for you to leave California at present, I think, in a proper representation to the general and prefecto, an arrangement could be made for your camp to be continued, but at some greater distance; which arrangement I should advise, if you can offer it. I never make to this government an unreasonable request, therefore never expect a denial, and have for many years found them well disposed to me. You cannot well leave your people. Should you wish to see me, I will immediately visit your camp. Please answer directly by the bearer.

I am yours, very Truly in heart,

THOMAS O. LARKIN.

Captain J.C. Fremont,
United States army, Alisal

Note in pencil from Captain Fremont to the consul Larkin, from his entrenched camp at Alisal, on the Sierra, thirty miles from Monterey, March 10, 1846.
My dear sir: I this moment received your letters, and without waiting to read them, acknowledge the receipt which the courier requires immediately. I am making myself as strong as possible in the intention that if we are unjustly attacked we will fight to extremity and refuse quarter, trusting to our country to avenge our death. No one has reached our camp, and from the heights we are able to see troops (with the glass) mustering at St. John’s and preparing cannon. I thank you for your kindness and good wishes, and would write more at length as to my intentions did I not fear that my letter would be intercepted. We have in no wise done wrong to the people or the authorities of the country, and if we are hemmed in an assaulted here, we will die, every man of us, under the flag of our country.

Very truly yours,

J.C. FREMONT

P.S. I am encamped on the top of the Sierra, at the headwaters of a stream which strikes the road to Monterey, at the house of Don Joaquin Gomez.

J.C.F.

THOMAS O. LARKIN, ESQ.
CONSUL OF THE UNITED STATES, MONTEREY.

[No.35]
Consulate of the United States,
Monterey, California, March 4, 1846.

Sir: The undersigned has the honor to inform the Hon. Secretary that Captain J.C. Fremont arrived within this department in January Last; with his party of fifty men, and was at the house of the undersigned a few days, during the last month, for the purpose of getting funds for refitting and clothing his party; which he received as far as could be procured. He is now in this city surveying, and will be again at this consular house during this month. He then proceeds for the Oregon, returns here in May, and expects to be in Washington about September. To this gentleman is due from the government unqualified praise for the patience, industry, and indefatigable perseverance in the attaining the object he is engaged in.

Captain Fremont passed three degrees south of Fort Hall, having taken a route supposed to be a desert, which made his distance to California eight or nine hundred less. He considers the distance from Independence to Monterey about one thousand nine hundred miles. He describes the new route he followed far preferable, not only on account of the less distance, but it is less mountainous, with good, pasturage and well watered. The second day of his arrival in Monterey, he visited the commandant general, prefecto, and alcalde; and by verbal request of the general, informed him officially of his object in visiting California. The undersigned forwards, with this, the two annexed letters respecting Captain Fremont’s arrival.

I am, sir, with the highest respect and consideration, your most obedient servant,

THOMAS O. LARKIN.

To the Hon. Secretary of State, &c.

[No.36]
Consulate of the United States of America,
Monterey. March 5, 1846

Sir: The undersigned has the honor to forward to the Department of State the accompanying translations of letters this day received in this consulate. Captain J.C. Fremont has, for near one month, been slowly traveling; and encamping within this district, (say within eighty miles of this town.) Last week information was received by the prefect from some alcalde, respecting a horse or mule of Captain Fremont, claimed by a Californian. (I understand that the animal came from the States.) Last night notice was received that some of Captain Fremont’s party had offered an insult to some person or persons on a farm. The general, has this day sent out ten or fifteen men, with letters to Captain Fremont, ordering him away. I am not aware that any of the party have committed any excesses, and do not suppose such to be the case.

I am, respectfully, &c.,

THOMAS O. LARKIN.

To the Hon. Secretary of State, &c.

Commandant General of Upper California:
With this date, I say to Captain J.C. Fremont the following: "At seven o’clock this morning the commandant general was given to understand that you, and the party under your command have entered the towns of this department; and such being prohibited by our laws, I find myself obliged to advertise you that on the receipt of this you will immediately retire beyond the limits of this same department, such being the orders of the supreme government; and the subscriber is obliged to see them complied with. And the undersigned has the honor of transcribing the same to the consul of the United States of America for his knowledge of the same.

God and Liberty!
Monterey, March 5, 1846.
JOSE CASTRO.

Mr. Thomas O. Larkin, Consul U. States of America in this port.

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Prefecture of the Second District,
Monterey, March 6, 1846.

Captain J.C. Fremont:

Sir: I have learned with surprise that you, against the laws of the authorities of Mexico, have introduced yourself into the town of this departmental district, under my charge, with an armed force, under a commission which must have been given you by your government only to survey its own proper lands.

In consequence, this prefecture now orders that you will immediately, on receipt of this, without any pretext, return with your people out of the limits of this territory. If not, this office will take the necessary measures to cause respect to this determination. I have the honor to transcribe this to you for your intelligence that you may act in the case as belongs to your office, and that he may comply with the expressed orders.

God and Liberty.

Monterey, March 5, 1846
MANUEL CASTRO

Mr. Thomas O. Larkin.
Consul of the United States of America.

[No. 37]

Consulate of the United States,
Monterey, March 9, 1846

Sir: Enclosed, you have a copy of my answer to the general and prefecto of this place, one to Capt. Fremont, and the second letter from the prefect. Captain Fremont is eight or nine leagues from this place, encamped, intending to move as soon as the state of his horses will permit. There will be two or three hundred people collected together to-morrow, with the intention of attacking the camp. Capt. Fremont has about fifty men- all men in confidence, and remarkably well armed. Neither himself or men have any fears respecting the result of the present state of affairs; yet, be the result for or against him, it may prove a disadvantage to the resident Americans in California. I have at some [risk] despatched out two couriers to the camp with duplicate letters, and this letter I send to Santa Barbara, in expectation of finding a vessel bound to Mazatlan. Having over one-half of my hospital expenses of 1844 cut off, and know not why, and even my bill for a flag, I do not feel disposed to hazard much for government, though the life of Captain Fremont and party may need it. I hardly know how to act. I have only received on letter (of June) from the department for the year 1845. In the month of February, Captain Fremont, in my company, visited the general, prefecto, and alcalde of this place, and informed them of his business; and there was no objection made. Within twenty days, the general says he has received direct and specific orders from Mexico not to allow Captain Fremont to enter California; which, perhaps, accounts for the change of feelings with the people — I am, sir, with the highest respect and consideration, your obedient servant,

THOMAS O. LARKIN.

To the Hon. Secretary of State, &c.

[No.38.]

Consulate of the U.S. of America,
Monterey, March 27, 1846.

Sir: Captain J.C. Fremont, of the United States army, has arrived at this United States consular house in Monterey, on the 27th of January, 1846. Being very anxious to join his party of fifty men at the second place of rendezvous, without
the settlement, they having missed the first place by mistake, he remained but two days, in which time, with myself, he visited the commanding general, prefecto, alcalde, and Col. Alvarado, informing them that he was surveying the nearest route from the United States to the Pacific ocean. This information, and that his men were not United States soldiers, was also, by myself officially given to the prefecto. Having obtained funds and supplies from myself, he returned to his camp; it being well known in Monterey that he was to return when he collected his men. Some fifteen of twenty days after this, captain Fremont, with his party, encamped at a vacant rancho belonging to Captain Fisher, (about ninety miles from here,) to recruit his men and animals. From there, he proceeded towards Santa Cruz, making short journeys. On the 3d of March, he encamped on the rancho of Mr. E.P. Hartwell, where he received letters from the general and prefecto, ordering him out of the country, and to obey the order without any pretext whatever, or immediate measures would be taken to compel him to do so. This, not corresponding with assurances received at Monterey, it was not answered, and he gave orders to hoist the United States flag the next morning as the only protection his men were to look to. From the 7th to the 10th of March, they fortified their camp with a breastwork of logs. Encamped on a high hill which commanded a view of the surrounding country, they could see (with the use of spy-glasses) the general and his troops, numbering about two hundred men, at their camp, in the mission of St. John’s, preparing their cannon. On the 9th instant, I sent duplicate letters; one by an American, who lost his papers, and the other by a Californian, to Captain Fremont informing him of the movements of the Californians. The California courier returned to the consulate in about nine or ten hours, bringing a letter from Captain Fremont, having traveled in that time sixty miles. He reported being well treated by Capt. Fremont and his men; and that two thousand of his countrymen would not be sufficient to compel him to leave the country, although his party was so small. At the earnest request of the alcalde for a translation of Captain Fremont’s letter, it was given, and immediately dispatched to the general at St. John’s; and one also to the governor of the Puebla of los Angeles. The general informed the alcalde on the night of the 10th instant, the Captain Fremont had left his encampment, and that he (the general) should pursue and attack him the first opportunity, and chastise him for hoisting a foreign flag in California. In the post script of the same letter, the general stated that Captain Fremont had crossed a small river, and was then about three miles distant from them; but the general made no preparation to follow him. On the morning of the 11th, Gen. Castro sent John Gilroy, an Englishman long resident in this country, to make offers of arrangement to Captain Fremont. On his arrival with his party that morning, the camp fires were still burning. He found in the camp the staff used for the flag, tent poles, (cut on the spot,) some old clothes, and two old and useless pack saddles, which the Californians have magnified into munitions of war. Gen. Castro informed his party that he had received various messages from the camp of Captain Fremont, threatening to exterminate the Californians, &c., (but will hardly name his messenger, nor did they put any confidence in it themselves.) From the 11th to the 13th, the natives had returned to their respective homes, to resume their customary occupations. A few people that were ordered to march from San Francisco to join the general at his camp, returned to their homes. On the 12th, a proclamation was put up by the general, in the billiard room, (not the usual place,) informing the inhabitants that a band of highwaymen, ("bandoleros") under Captain Fremont, of the United States army, had come with in the town of this department; and that he, with two hundred patriots, had driven them out, and sent them into the back country. Some of the officers of the two hundred patriots (and more were expected to join them) arrived in Monterey, and reported that the cowards had run, and that they had driven them to the Sacramento river; some added that they drove them into the bulrushes, on the plains of the Sacramento; and that, in their haste, they had left some of their best horses behind. The horses proved to be those belonging to the Californians themselves, and had strayed into Captain Fremont’s band. (being an everyday occurrence in California and, on raising camp, they were turned out and left behind. Instead of the Americans being driven out of the country, they traveled less distance, for three or four days, than the natives did in returning to Monterey- moving from four to six miles per day, in order to recruit. One of the complaints made by the general was that three men, when drinking, went to the house of Angel Castro (an uncle of the general) to purchase some beef for the camp, and insulted his family. On the 7th, I personally called upon Don Angel, for the truth of the story, and was informed by him (the father himself) that he was frightened by one of the Americans insisting on his daughter drinking with him. On ordering him to leave the house, he resisted, but was put out by his own companions, he drawing a pistol while they were putting him out. Don Angel mounted a horse and rode off to Captain Fremont’s, about one mile distant, who on hearing the case, came to the house immediately, and called up the family to inquire into the affair. On the examination, he asked the father what he should do with the men. He requested them to be punished, which was promised; and was told, if he would send a boy, a fine of five dollars should be sent to him, (he being alcalde.) The boy returned with ten dollars from the camp, which settled the business, although there had been nothing of consequence transacted; yet Captain Fremont was anxious not to let the people of the country have any cause of complaint against him.

The undersigned has the honor to subscribe himself, your most obedient servant,

THOMAS O. LARKIN

To the Hon. Secretary of state, &c.

[No. 39]

Consulate of the U.S. of America,
Monterey, April 2, 1846

Sir: In giving my first information to the department respecting Captain Fremont’s arrival in California, I did not anticipate such an extensive correspondence as it has now reached. Captain Fremont was well received in this place, and to the last day we heard of him, by the natives individually, who sold him provisions, and liked his presence. During his encampment, thirty or forty miles from here, dispatches were received by the commandant, General Jose Castro, (a native of Monterey) from Mexico, ordering him to drive Captain Fremont out of this department; which order, with one hundred and seventy or two hundred men present, and over one hundred more daily expected, he pretended to execute. Capt. Fremont left his camp a few hours after he received the undersigned’s letter of the 9th of March, (not
from right of General Castro,) as he had been preparing the week before to travel. It is supposed he has gone to St.
Barbara, where an American was sent by the undersigned, in February, with funds and provisions for his use. From
there he proceeds on his journey, according to his instructions from his department in Washington. Although from the
correspondence it may appear that in the centre of a strange country, among a whole people with real or apparent
hostile intentions towards him, the: Captain Fremont was in much danger, it can be believed that he was only annoyed.
Whether he will visit Monterey after this unexpected affair, or not, is uncertain.

The undersigned has not supposed, during the whole affair, that General Castro, wished to go after Captain
Fremont; and was very confident that, with all California, he would not have attacked him even had he been sure of
destroying the whole party, as five times their number could have taken their place before the unexpected battle.
Captain Fremont received verbal applications from English and Americans to join his party; and could have mustered as
many men as the natives. He was careful not to do so. Although he discharged five or six of his men, he took no others
in their place. On the return of General Castro, he published a flaming proclamation to the citizens, informing them that
a band of bandeleros, (highwaymen or freebooters, under Captain Fremont of the United States army, had come into
this district; but with the company of two hundred patriots he had driven them away., and exhorted his companions
and countrymen to be always ready to repel others of the same class. This proclamation was missing from the place
where it was put up on the third day.

The undersigned has written to the general for a copy. To this day there has been no answer received. Duplicate
copies of consular letters to Captain Fremont, and in the hands of General Castro, he having taken them from one of the
consular's couriers, promising to forward them as directed. These copies he promised to return, but has not done so.
This government is about sending a commissioner to-Mexico (as the undersigned believes) to report the country in
danger of revolution from the Americans. By this we understand in California, (foreigners,) that some Americans (who
left Capt. Fremont)are joining the Indians to attack the farms, and others were about to take possession of a town in the
upper part of the bay of San Francisco; and that Sn. W. Hastings (author of the history of California) is laying off a town
in New Helvetia for the Mormons. None of this information (in the opinion of the undersigned can be relied upon) is to
be given to the President to urge upon him the necessity of giving General Castro two hundred men, (he prefers not
many men, nor any Mexican general,) with sufficient funds to protect the country. As a general thing, Hastings's book is
very untrue and absurd. He brought a number to this country, which do his countrymen no good, and perhaps injures
them. No general English reader will read one quarter of the book. The arrival of Capt. Fremont has revived the
excitement in California respecting the emigration, and the fears of the Californians losing their country. The
undersigned believes that if a new flag was respectfully planted, it would receive the good will of much of the wealth and
respectability of the country. Those who live by office, and the absence of law, would faintly struggle against a change.
Many natives and foreigners of wealth and pursuits, are already calculation on the hopes, fears and expectations from
the apparent coming change now before them, from the great influx of strangers.

In the mean time, the undersigned has the pleasure of saying that, with every department of office in this country
he is on the best terms of friendship, as far as appearances are before him.

With the highest respect and esteem, I am your obedient servant,

THOMAS O. LARKIN.

To the Hon. Secretary of State, &c.

[No. 81]

Monterey, March 5th, 1846.

Sir: I have just received two letters from the commandant general of California, and prefecto of this district, who
inform me they have sent you official letters, enclosing me the copies. The following is a translation.

I remain, dear sir, yours sincerely,

THOMAS O. LARKIN.

To Capt. J.C. Fremont,
United State Army.

[No. 82]

Consulate of the Untied States,
Monterey, California, March 9th, 1846.

Sir: Captain J.C. Fremont, with a party of fifty men, has been within the limits of California about two months; within
a few days encamped about eight leagues from this town, resting his men d animals; he has received two letters from the
general and prefecto, wherein he his ordered to leave this country, or they will take measures to compel him. They
sent me copies of the same, which [. . . ] have sent in English to Captain Fremont. I have not heard from the camp
since. This morning I wrote to Capt. Fremont in duplicate, one by a native, the other by a foreigner. By to-morrow,
there will be collected together nearly three hundred men, with the intention to drive out the strangers; and, if required,
there will be by the next week a much larger body collected. Should this force be used against Captain Fremont, much blood will be spilt. His party, though of only fifty in number, have from three to six guns, rifles, and pistols each, and are very determined, both commander and men, having every confidence in each other. It was the intention of Capt. Fremont to leave this week, if his animals were in good condition; perhaps he may not be willing, as the people wish to force him; he was at my house alone, in February, and, in company with me, visited the general, prefecto, and alcalde, informed them of his orders to survey the nearest route to the Pacific, and had come into California to purchase provisions, clothes, and horses; no objection was made at the time. Since then the general states that he has received by the Hannah, positive orders from Mexico to drive Captain Fremont from the country.

I shall send his letter open to Consul Parrott, of Mazatlan, with copies of this week’s correspondence. If there is a fight between these people and Captain Fremont, be the result for or against him, the American residents are under some apprehensions of their safety hereafter. I would therefore request you, if in your power, to dispatch a sloop-of-war to this port from Mazatlan, on the receipt of this. I understand there were, in December, five of our ships of war then in that port. Should this be the case, I hope it will not be inconvenient to comply with this request. I have looked for the Portsmouth over two months. Capt. Montgomery informed me he was to return.

I remain, sirs, your respectful servant,

THOMAS O. LARKIN.

To the commander of any American ship-of-war, in San Blas or Mazatlan.

[No. 83]

Consulate of the United States
Monterey, California, March 9th, 1846.

Sir: Enclosed with this you will receive several copies of correspondence in this town, for the present week, also an official letter for the captain of any of our ships of war, you may have in your port on your receiving this letter. It is impossible to say whether Senor Castro, the prefecto, and the general will attack Capt. Fremont; we expect such will be the case. I am just informed by Senor Arce, the general’s secretary, who has just come from the general’s cap, (St. John’s) that the whole country will be raised to force Capt. Fremont, if they require so many. Senor Arce further says, the camp of the Americans is near Mr. Hartnell’s rancho, on a high hill, with his flag flying; of the latter I am not certain. AS you are acquainted with this country and its people, you will advise with our naval captains on the subject of sailing immediately for this port. If the vessel is not actually obliged to go elsewhere, it is my earnest desire she sails for Monterey on the receipt of this, although every thing may end peaceably among us.

Believe me to be, yours sincerely,

THOMAS O. LARKIN.

To John Parrott, Esq., United States Consul, Mazatlan.

[No. 84]

Consulate of the United States.
Monterey, California, March 10th, 1846.

Sir: Your letter of yesterday I received last night at 8 o’clock: I thank you for the same; it took from me a weight of uneasiness respecting your situation. The alcalde of Monterey has requested of me a copy in Spanish of your letter. Not knowing what you might approve of in the case, I had some objection; on second thoughts I considered that the alcalde having given the courier a passport for (without which he would no go) carrying of the letters both ways, were made public, and people might put a wrong construction on our correspondence, I gave it to him with the following additions. I also considered the letter contained nothing of importance to keep secret, and now annex my letter of this morning to the alcalde. AS you may not have a copy of your letter I send you one. My native courier said he was well treated by you—that two thousand men could not drive you. In all cases of couriers orders your men have no hints or words with them, as it is magnified: this one said a man pointed to a tree, and said there’s your life; he expected to be led to you [. . . ] says you have sixty-two men, well armed, &c., &c., &c.

You will, without thought of expense or trouble, call on me, or send to me, in every case of need, not only as your consul, but your friend and countryman.

I am yours, truly,

THOMAS O. LARKIN

Capt. J.C. Fremont, U.S. army.

[No.86]
Consulate of the United States
Monterey, California. March 10, 1846

Sir: I am not confident that Captain Fremont may approve of my giving you a copy of his hasty wrote letter, [but] as you allowed the courier to travel to the camp and return, and hoping the letter may, on being known bring affairs to some better understanding, I send you the translation you request. It may be that the authorities of this department expect something from me as United States consul under the present state of affairs, yet I know nothing that I can do. I have verbally offered my services whenever required, and now do the same in writing. Captain Fremont has his own instructions, and is not to be ordered by this consulate; yet I would with pleasure allay the present sensation if in my power.

I can only add, that I would respectfully advise that you would in your letter to the general today, say that I would take the liberty to propose that he should send a letter to Captain Fremont, requesting one hour’s conversation before any extreme measure’s are taken; as I am in the firm opinion, should that officer be attacked, much bloodshed will ensue, that may cause not only loss of life to many of the present parties, but cause hereafter much expense, trouble, and perhaps further loss of life to many of out respective nations, and I am satisfied that no present or future advantage will be obtained by the country from the circumstances as they now appear. I have reason to believe that Captain Fremont only waits a few days to rest his horses, (having purchased his provision) and intends to remove immediately from California; yet it may be impossible for him to do so while surrounded by people with hostile intentions towards him. Will you please send a copy of this letter to the commandant general, D. Jose Castro? I have the honor to remain yours, respectfully,

THOMAS O. LARKIN

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Private letter from Captain Fremont to Mrs. Fremont,
April 1, 1846 Sacramento River, (Latitude 40) April 1, 1846.

It is hard to say when I shall see you, but about the middle of the next month, at latest, I will start for home. The Spaniards were somewhat rude and inhospitable below, and ordered us out of the country, after having given me permission to winter there. My sense of duty did not permit me to fight them, but we retired slowly and growingly before a force of three of four hundred men, and three pieces of artillery. Without a shadow of a cause, the governor suddenly raised the whole country against us, issuing a false and scandalous proclamation. Of course, I did not dare to compromise the United States, against which appearances would have been strong, but, though it was in my power to increase my party by many Americans, I retrained from committing a solitary act of hostility or impropriety. For my own part, I have become disgusted with everything belonging to the Mexicans. Our government will not require me to return by the southern route against the will of this government; I shall therefore return by the heads of the Missouri, going through a pass of which your father knows, and be at Westport about 1st September. I go in about two weeks through from the Tlamath lake to the Walamath valley, to make a reconnaissance of the pass which I mentioned to you before. Say many kind things for me to all the family. Glad will I be when finally we turn our faces homeward.

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Private letter from Capt. Fremont to Senator Benton,
May 24, 1846 Sacramento River, (lat.40) May 24, 1846.

My Dear Sir: Most unexpectedly, and in a remote region of the northern mountains, I had the great pleasure to receive your letters. An express from Mr. Gillespie overtook me, the man being Neal, whom you will remember as having been left by me here in the last expedition. No other man there would have had the courage and resolution to follow us. I had the good fortune to save the lives of Mr. Gillespie and party from the Indians. In a charge at night by the Tlamath Indians I lost thirteen men killed and had one dangerously wounded, being then with a detached party of fourteen men. You will regret to hear that among the killed was my old companion, Basil LaJeunesse. We afterwards fought the nation from one extremity to the other, and have ever since been fighting, until our entrance into the lower Sacramento valley. I have but a faint hope that this note will reach you before I do; but the object for which I write is a pressing one and therefore I make the experiment. The Tlamath lake on our last map I find to be only an expansion of the river above, which passes by an outlet through a small range of mountains into a large body of water to the southward. This is the true Tlamath lake, and the heart of the Tlamath nation. It is on the east side of a range of mountains, (the Cascade.) Directly west, and comparatively near at hand, is the Umpqua river. Here the British have a post. Why do they keep it there? The trade in fur will not justify it. If there is to be any war with England, it is of great importance that they should instantly be driven from this and similar posts before they furnish the Indians with fire arms, and engage them in their service. These Indians are considered by the Willamette missionaries (who have been able to have only knowledge of those in the north) as the most savage and warlike Indians on the continent. So said Mr. Lee. This post maintains an intercourse with the Tlamaths and other mountain Indians, and furnishes them with the tomahawks and iron arrow-heads, with which they fought us. They are the bravest Indians we have ever seen; our people (my camp, Carson, &c.) consider them far beyond the Blackfeet, who are by no means so daring. You know that the Indians along the line of the Columbia are well supplied with fire arms, ammunition, and horses—hardly a man having less than forty or fifty of the latter; that they are brave, friendly to the British, and unfriendly to us. These things may be worthy of Mr. Buchanan’s attention. Your letter led me to expect some communication from him. I received nothing. I shall now proceed directly homewards, by the Colorado, but cannot arrive at the frontier until late in September. I saw a notice of your illness in the papers, and your letter relieved me of much anxiety. I trust that I will be able to force my way through this rough
My dear sir: when Mr. Gillespie overtook me in the middle of May, we were encamped on the northern shore of the Greater Tlamath Lake. Snow was falling steadily and heavily in the mountains, which entirely surrounded and dominate the elevated valley region into which we had penetrated; in the east, and north, and west, barriers absolutely impassable barred our road; we had no provisions; our animals were already feeble, and while any other way was open, I could not bring myself to attempt such a doubtful enterprise as a passage of these unknown mountains in the dead of winter. Every day snow was falling; and in the face of the depressing influence exercised on the people by the loss of our men, and the unpromising appearance of things, I judged it inexpedient to pursue our journey farther in this direction, and determined to retrace my steps, and carry out the views of the government by reaching the frontier on the line of the Colorado river. I had scarcely reached the lower Sacramento, when General Castro, then in the north (at Sonoma, in the department of Sonoma, north of the bay of San Francisco, commanded by General Vallejo,) declared his determination immediately to proceed against the foreigners settled in the country, for whose expulsion an order had just been issued by the governor of the Californias. For these purposes Castro immediately assembled a force at the Mission of Santa Clara, a strong place, on the northern shore of the Francisco bay. You will remember how grossly outraged and insulted we had already been by this officer; many in my own camp, and throughout the country thought that I should not have retreated March last. I’m humiliated and humbled; one of the main objects proposed by this expedition had been entirely defeated, and it was the opinion of the officers of the squadron (so I was informed by Mr. Gillespie) that I could not again retreat consistently with any military reputation. Unable to procure supplies elsewhere, I had sent by Mr. Gillespie Captain Montgomery, commanding the United States ship of war Portsmouth, then lying at Monterey, a small requisition for such supplies as were indispensably necessary to leave the valley; and my animals were now in such a state that I could not get out of the valley, without reaching the country which lies on the west side of them in an entirely destitute condition. Having carefully examined my position, and foreseeing, I think, clearly, ALL the consequences which may eventuate to me from such a step, I determined to take such active and anticipatory measures as should seem to me most expedient to protect my party and justify my own character. I was well aware of the grave responsibility which I assumed but I was also determined that having once decided to do so, I would assume it and its consequences fully and entirely, and go through with the business completely to the end. I regret that, by a sudden emergency, I have only an hour for writing to all friends and that therefore from the absence of detail, what I say to you will not be clearly understood. Castro’s first measure was an attempt to unite the Indian population of the Joaquin and Sacramento valleys, and the neighboring mountains, to burn the crops of the foreigners and otherwise proceed immediately against them. These Indians are extremely numerous, and the success of his measure would have been very destructive; but he failed entirely. On the 6th of June I decided on the courses which I would pursue, and immediately concerted my operations with the foreigners inhabiting the Sacramento valley. A few days afterwards, one of Castro’s officers, with a party of 14 men, attempted to pass a drove of 200 horses from Sonoma to Santa Clara, via New Helvetia, with the avowed purpose of bringing troops into the country. On the 11th they were surprised at daylight on the Cosumne river by a party of twelve from my camp. The horses were taken, but they were [the men] dismissed without injury. At daybreak on the 15th, the military fort of Sonoma was taken by surprise, with 9 brass pieces of artillery; 250 stand of muskets, some other arms, and a quantity of ammunition. General Vallejo, his brother, (Captain Vallejo,) Col. Grenxdon, and some others were taken prisoners, and placed at New Helvetia, a fortified post at my command. In the meantime a launch had reached New Helvetia with stores from the ship Portsmouth, now lying at Yerba Buena, on Francisco bay. News of General Castro’s proceedings against me in March had reached Commodore Sloat at Mazatlan at the end of that month, and he had immediately dispatched the ship Portsmouth to Monterey, with general instructions to protect American interests in California.

These enterprises accomplished, I proceeded to the American settlements on the Sacramento, and the Rio de los Americanos, to obtain reinforcements of men and rifles.

The information brought by Mr. Gillespie to Captain Montgomery, in relation to my position, induced that officer immediately to proceed to Yerba Buena, whence he had dispatched his launch to me. I immediately wrote to him, by return of the boat, describing to him fully my position and intentions, in order that he might not, by supposing me to be acting under orders from our government, unwittingly commit himself in affording me other than such assistance as his instructions would authorize him naturally to offer an officer charged with an important public duty; or, in fine, to any citizen of the United States.

Information having reached me from the commanding officer at Sonoma, that his post was threatened with an attack by a force under Gen. Castro, I raised camp on the American fork in the afternoon of the 23d, and, accompanied by Mr. Gillespie, at two in the morning of the 25th, reached Sonoma, with 90 mounted riflemen, having marched 80 miles. Our people still held the place, only one division of Castro’s force, a squadron of cavalry, numbering 70 men, and commanded by Joaquin de la Torre, (one of his best officers,) having succeeded in crossing the straits, (Francisco bay.) This force had attacked an advanced party of twenty Americans, and (was) defeated with the loss of two killed and two or three wounded. The Americans lost none. This was an unexpected check to the Californians, who had announced their intentions to defeat our people without firing a gun; to beat out their brains with their “tapaderos,” and destroy them “con cuchillos pueros.” They were led to use this expression from the circumstance that a few days previous they had captured two of our men (an express,) and after wounding, had bound them to trees and cut them to pieces while alive, with an exaggeration of cruelty, which no Indian would be capable of. In a few days de la torre was driven from the
The California Command

The California Command- Col. Mason, of the U. S. Army, who left Washington a few days since for New York, whence he will sail for Chagres, cross the isthmus of Panama, and proceed to Monterey, on the Pacific Coast, as to supersede Col. Stevenson, in the command of the California expedition, Colonel Mason outranks Col. S., and is expected to arrive in California before him, and also before Gen. Kearney, who, on his arrival, will relieve Colonel Mason. [SCM]
Capt. G.K. Lewis, was the bearer of his melancholy intelligence. He left Monterey on the 13th ult., and came by the route through San Antonia.

When Capt. L. quit Monterey it was the general opinion of the army that Ampudia had not evacuated Saltilla, but had marched with a formidable force towards Montelova, to intercept Gen. Whool’s division in their march from Presidio, an operation which the armistice did not forbid his undertaking. No direct information, but strong presumptive evidence fortified this impression. [KMK]

Americanizing Santa Fe. - Colonel Doniphan, who was left by General Kearney in command as temporary Governor, military and civil, writes thus: “In addition to other duties, Willard P. Hall and myself are arranging the Government, &c., trying to get thee machine in operation. It is a very arduous matter - the laws are all in Spanish, and every thing is done through and interpreter, and there is much in the laws conflicting with our constitution to be altered. The officers and citizens of the department, for all the counties above and around here, have come in and taken the oath of allegiance. - The Indians are citizens in the full acceptation of the term, and are by far the bravest and some of them the wealthiest portion of the north of the territory.” [SCM]

Com. Robert Field Stockton’s proclamation to the people of California

On my approach to this place with the forces under my command, Jose Castro, the commandant-general of California, buried his artillery, and abandoned his fortified camp of the “Mesa,” and fled, it is believed, towards Mexico.

With the sailors, the marines, and the California battalion of mounted riflemen, we entered the “City of Angels,” the capital of California, on the 13th of August, and hoisted the North American flag.

The flag of the United States is now flying from every commanding position in the Territory, and California is entirely free from Mexican dominion.

The Territory of California now belongs to the United States, and will be governed, as soon as circumstances may permit, by officers and laws similar to those by which the other territories of the United States are regulated and protected.

But until the Governor, the Secretary of Council are appointed, and the various civil departments of the Government are arranged, military law will prevail, and the Commander-in-chief will be the Governor and protector of the territory.

In the mean time the people will be permitted, and are now requested, to meet in their several towns and departments, at such time and place as they may see fit, to elect civil officers to fill the places of those who decline to continue in office, and to administer the laws according to the former usages of the territory.

In all cases where the people fail to elect, the commander-in-chief and Governor will make the appointments himself.

All persons, of whatever religion or nation, who faithfully adhere to the new government, will be zealously and thoroughly protected in the liberty of conscience, their persons and property.

No persons will be permitted to remain in the territory who do not agree to support the existing government, and all military men who desire to remain are required to take an oath that they will not take up arms against it, or do or say anything to disturb its peace.

Nor will any persons, come from where they may, be permitted to settle in the territory, who do not pledge themselves to be, in all respects, obedient to the laws which may be from time to time enacted by the proper authorities of the territory.

All persons who, withough special permission, are found with arms outside of their own houses, will be considered as enemies, and will be shipped out of the country.

All thieves will be put to hard labor on the public works, and there kept until compensation is made for the property stolen.

The California battalion of mounted riflemen will be kept in the service of the territory, and constantly on duty, to prevent and punish any aggressions by the Indians, or any other persons, upon the property of individuals, or the peace of the territory; and California shall hereafter be so governed and defended as to give security to the inhabitants, and to defy the power of Mexico.
It is required that all persons shall remain in their houses from ten at night until sunrise in the morning during the time this territory is under military law.

F.F. STOCKTON,
Commander-in-Chief and Governor of the Territory of California.

City of the Angels, California, August 17, 1846. [KMK]

NRR 71.194 November 28, 1846 general orders regarding preparation of returns and transfer of officers

TO THE PEOPLE OF CALIFORNIA:

On the 15th of September, 1846, an election will be held in the several towns and districts of California, at the places and hours at which such elections have usually been holden, for the purpose of electing the alcaldes and other municipal officers.

In those places where alcaldes have been appointed by the present Government, they will hold the election. In places where no alcaldes have been appointed by the present Government, the former alcaldes are authorized and required to hold the election.

Given under my hand, this 22d day of August, anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and forty –six, at the Government House, “Ciudad de los Angelos.”

R.F. STOCKTON, Commander-in Chief, and Governor of the Territory of California.

ARMY JOURNAL

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJT GENERAL’S OFFICE,
November 16, 1846.GENERAL ORDER, No. 50.

Whenever five or more companies of a regiment are serving with the Army against Mexico, the senior officer on duty therewith will be considered the commander of the regiment, and will make the returns, &c., accordingly. The monthly returns of the companies in the field will be consolidated at Regimental Head-Quarters; those of companies not serving with the army against Mexico, will be sent direct to the Adjutant General.

In consolidating the regimental returns, the field officers absent on duty, will be reported on detached service; and spaces will be left for the insertion, in the Adjutant General’s office, of the returns of the absent companies.

The adjutant, non-commissioned staff, colors, and band, will, in all cases, be with the Head-Quarters in the field

BY COMMAND OF THE MAJOR GENERAL SCOTT:
W.G. FREEMAN,Assistant Adjutant General.

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HEAD-QUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT GENERAL’S OFFICE,
Washington, Nov. 20, 1846.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 51.

The following paragraph of “General Orders,” No. 29, of May 20, 1841, is republished, and made applicable to the theatre of war in Mexico:

III. “The President directs, that hereafter all officers of every branch of the service, assigned to duty with the Florida Army, shall only be relieved, or be transferred, through the orders of the General or other officer commanding the troops; and when it may be transferred, through the orders of the General or other officer commanding the troops; and when it may be necessary to withdraw any officer of the staff from duty there, the requisite instructions will be communicated through the Adjutant General’s Office.”

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL SCOTT:
W.G. FREEMAN,
Assistant Adjutant General.
WAR WITH MEXICO.

The war is becoming every day and every way more eventful, and begins seriously to compromise national existence. It is probably that the whole of the Californias are, or very soon will be in the undisputed possession of the United States forces. At least they are irretrievably lost to Mexico. The operations of the American squadron in the Pacific and the diversion of Captain Fremont’s detachment in the interior, have in a great measure anticipated the intended operations of the “Army of the North” under General Kearney, and the principal part of that army will now no doubt be directed to proceed to join the “Army of the Centre” under General Wool. Interesting details from each of the divisions of the army, as well as of the operations of the navy, are inserted in this number under their appropriate heads.

The movement of a considerable portion of General Wool’s forces will very probably be in like manner diverted to a considerable extent, from its intended direction, in order to aid the ulterior movements of General Taylor’s division. General Taylor has communicated with General Wool on the subject, and will no doubt avail of so much of the forces of the latter, as can now be spared from the divisions destined against Chihuahua. General Wool has detached one thousand men to take possession of Moncloa.

We have no later dates from Monterey, than those of the 29th ult. Given under the head of Army of Occupation, nor had they any later at Matamoras on the 7th instant. Robert M. McLane, Esq. who left Washington on the 23d October, reached Matamoras on the 4th instant, and left ath evening for Camargo, on his way for headquarters, which he would probably reach by the 11th. The Matamoras Flag expresses the opinion, from certain “unmistakable indications,” that the dispatches of which Mr. McLane is bearer, will modify to some extent, the orders previously sent to General Taylor by Major Graham, and adds—“We believe, that in view of the answer of the Mexican government or rulers, to our pacific proposition, the President has concluded to establish and garrison posts along our Southern boundary, from Tampico, to a point on the Pacific, several degrees south of latitude 42; that he will appoint territorial Governors, Judges, and other ministerial officers; that the U.S. revenue laws will be extended over the new country; that people of all classes will be taught to read, and furnished with cheap goods; and that large supplies of human happiness and virtue will be speedily introduced.”

The regular troops had all been removed from Matamoros; the last company proceeded up the river on the 4th inst. The 3d Regiment Ohio, and 3d Indiana volunteers, are now the sole guardians of the city. Fort Brown is likewise garrisoned by the Ohio troops. The remainder of the two regiments, with the exception of two companies of Indians, stationed at Reynosa, are encamped on the bank of the river, just below the town.

Colonel M’Kee’s 2nd regiment of Kentucky infantry were under marching orders for Monterey, three companies have already left Camargo. The Georgia regiment had probably reached Gen. Taylor’s camp. General Marshall’s regiment of Kentucky mounted men were encamped four or five miles below Camargo. Some companies of Col. Ormsby’s regiment of Kentucky infantry were at Camargo. The Tennessee regiment of mounted men were encamped a short distance below Matamoros.

The recruits for the regular army are sent forward to Monterey as they arrive.

The Executive at Washington, in consequence of the new features of the contest, and the probability from indications evinced not only by Santa Anna, but by the Mexican people, that the war may be protracted, have deemed it expedient to order more formidable operations than have heretofore been resorted to. Not only is the Gulf squadron to be placed upon a far more effective footing, with a view to the occupation of the Mexican ports upon the Gulf, but there the probability is, that the final demonstrations upon the city of Mexico will be made from that direction. A Cabinet council it is said, was held at Washington on Saturday evening last, at which several distinguished officers of the Navy attended. The Commander-in-chief of the U.S. Army, General SCOTT, has received orders, to repair, with his Staff, to the seat of war. He will probably repair to the coast, and take the immediate command of the operations, with General PATTerson as commander of the division. General SCOTT left Washington on the 24th for New York. It is intimated also, that Commodore STEWART will proceed to the Gulf in a ship of the line, as speedily as one can be fitted out for the purpose, to take command of the squadron. We judge from these movements that it has been found advisable to delegate a larger discretion to the commander entrusted with the active operations. Than hitherto been extended. The inconvenience of managing a campaign in a foreign country, when orders for every considerable movement have to be obtained from Washington, is obvious, and has already occasioned serious delay and heavy expenses. At every stop beyond our own borders, these inconveniences would be increased.

The intelligence from Mexico, (under out Mexican head,) evidences any thing rather than a disposition to accept President Polk’s overtures for a negotiation of peace. Yet if we credit the New York Journal of Commerce, which certainly has access to official authority, a correspondence is actually going on between Mr. Buchanan, secretary of state, and an agent of the Mexican government now in this country, who insists that the disposition and decision of the Mexican government in deferring the propositions of President Polk to their ensuing congress, has been misconstrued. The agent himself, in August and September last, urged in strong language to the Mexican government the entertainment of the propositions to negotiate. Their constitution denied them the power. He says to Mr. Buchanan, "I think you have failed to
view in a true light, the reply sent.** * * "It is not improbable indeed, that you may receive a proposition." * * * "An honorable peace to Mexico, you are pledged to assent to, by the tenor of your late dispatches to Mexican minister of foreign relations." * * * "I send you reasons to believe pacific sentiments of an honorable nature, exists in the minds of the rulers of Mexico.

The President will hardly allow any overtures to divert him from active operations. It is rumored that his message will ask of congress an additional forty million dollars and 50,000 troops, to prosecute with was with. [KMK]

NNR 71.195-196 November 28, 1846 Mexican operations, Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's finances
NNR 71.196 agent sent to Europe to negotiate a loan for Mexico
NNR 71.196 November 28, 1846 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna concentrating his forces at San Luis Potosi
NNR 71.196 Gen. Gabriel Valencia selected as second in command to Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna
NNR 71.196 Mexican reinforcement of Veracruz
NNR 71.196 disputes in Yucatan over re-incorporation into Mexico
NNR 71.196 Alvarado made a city
NNR 71.196 Yucatan ships warned off Mexican ports

MEXICO.

The account inserted in our last, that Santa Anna had laid his hands upon a conducta, with $2,000,000, on its way from the mines to the coast, for the purpose of being shipped on board the British steamer, and of his forwarding his own obligations instead of the cash, was probably unfounded. Santa Anna would hardly venture to incur the responsibility, in his present difficulties, of touching John Bull in so sensible a nerve. A writer in the N. Orleans Tropic, avers that the seizure was made with the contenance of the British authorities, for the purpose of aiding the Mexicans with funds for the moment. For our own part, we are better content that Santa Anna did not get the two millions that he wished to avail himself of out of our treasury. If old John allows him to finger his cash, we doubt his being able to get an insurance for its future forthcoming, work the tack however he may.

The probability is, that Santa Anna detained only the amount that would have been levied at the seaport as export duty upon the metal.

The British steamer Tay arrived at Havana on the 6th with Vera Cruz dates to the 1st November. A Vera Cruz date of the 31st nit. Says—"A conducta arrived at Mexico on the 20th instant, from Guanajuato, with about $1,200,000, so that money was again abundant there. Another had left San Luis de Potosi on the 16th inst. for Tampico, with upwards of a million, and was to arrive at the end of the month. The British sloop Electra has sailed to Tampico, probably on purpose to receive on board the specie for shipment. Two private conductas arrived here from Mexico, with silver bars and about 200,000 hard dollars.

"At the middle of this month, private letters from Mexico stated that Mr. Bankhead had offered the mediation of England, and that the ministershad been in session for two days, to deliberate on the subject, but nothing farther has transpired since."

Don Felix Rivera was among the passengers in the Tay, on his way to Europe, on some mission from the government, one object of which it was said was to negotiate a loan of $30,000,000 by mortgaging the church property. It was to be submitted at teh next session of congress. The Mexicans seem determined to fight as long as possible.

Senor Mier y Teran, a rich merchant at the capital, had advanced $20,000 to pay the troops at San Juan de Ulua, and $30,000 more to be forwarded to Vera Cruz to meet demands against the government there. Of the loan which was authorized to be obtained from private individuals, the sum of $175,000 had been raised.

The Tay had 102 passengers, an unusual number, supposed to indicate that many, either Mexicans or foreigners, were quitting Mexico to escape the dangers of war.

The Republicano of the 27th ult. States that the English have offered to mediate between us at Mexico, and that the British fleet at Lisbon has been ordered to Vera Cruz.

The late revolution in Mexico was effected by a union of the partizans of Santa Anna with the federalists. The federalists are divided into two parties, the Puros—conservatives,—and the Moderados—republicans, and Santa Anna holds the balance of power between them. Salas, in the executive chair, is a conservative. Gomez Farias, president of the council of government instituted on the 1st ultimo, is a moderado.

General Salas, who was at the head of the government, attempted to raise a forced loan. Great disaffection ensued. In the turmoil Senor Rejon, secretary of state, Senor Pacheco, minister of justice, and other members of the government resigned. The first has been succeeded by Senor D. Jose Maria Lafragua, and the second by D. Joaquin Ladron de Guevara. Private letters received in Mexico from San Luis Potosi say that these nominations are entirely
acceptable to Santa Anna, although they were old opponents of his.

Finally an attempt was made to assassinate Salas, and he deemed it expedient to quit the capital for Tacubaya, and reported the state of affairs to Santa Anna. The latter disapproved of his departure, and he returned to Mexico on the 29th. Meantime Santa Anna officially noticed the proceeding by publishing the following—

GEN. SANTA ANNA TO GEN. ALMONTE.

To His Excellency the Minister of War:

Sir: By the reception of your circular of the 19th instant, I have learned with extremem regret that our foreign enemies, by means of their disguised agents, attempted on the evening of that day a serious outrage, from which it appears that they were endeavoring to dispossess his excellency of the supreme executive power, which circumstances gave rise to a series of alarms, and would have produced the most disastrous consequences had it not been opportunely discovered at the moment.

I rejoice exceedingly that the tranquility and public confidence remain firmly established in this state, and conforming myself to the wishes of the supreme government, I shall take good care that it is preserved. I beg leave to assure your excellency, on the part of myself and the troops under my command, that no other thought is given place to here except a burning desire for revenge against our foreign enemy, to fulfil our obligations to the country, and to repel the suggestions of those who endeavor to distract us from such noble objects. I have the honor to reiterate to your excellency my consideration and high respect.

God and Liberty.
Headquarters, San Luis Potosi,
October 23d, 1846.
ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

Santa Anna is evidently concentrating all his forces at San Luis Potosi. What their amount was at the last dates, is not mentioned. Some accounts by a direction overland, have swelled them to nearly 20,000. He had undoubtedly ordered Saltillo to be evacuated, and the forces from thence are marching to San Luis. He has also ordered the forces from Tampico, designing it is said, to make no defence of that place.

The enemies of Santa Anna accuse him of a design of making himself dictator. Whe he has a sufficient army concentrated, it will be in his power at any moment to do so. In his letter announcing the settlement of the difficulties, he repudiates the idea and asserts that no human power will induce him to accept of any office.

The government of San Luis de Potosi had passed a decree proclaiming Santa Anna Chief of the republic, with the sole power to appoint the president pro tem.

Gen. Valencia had been selected by Santa Anna as his second in command, and was expected at San Luis with 5000 or 6000 men. It was pretended there was much enthusiasm in favor of Santa Anna at San Luis, and that he expected to raise a large body of troops, and that Gen Cortazar had raised 2500 to 3000 volunteers.

There is not the least intimation of any expectation or desire for peace on the part of the Mexicans.

They were busily employed increasing the defences of Vera Cruz, who garrison is said to be 4000 men and further reinforcements arriving.

Alvarado had been made a city in compliment for its brilliant and successful defence against Com. Conner.

YUCATAN. The schr. Javen Leonidas, arrived at New Orleans on the 17th, from Campeachy, which she left on the 2d. The New Orleans Times, says: "She brought likewise despatches for the state department at Washington containing, we are informed, full accounts of the origin and progress of the quarrels between the different sections of the peninsula of Yucatan, and copies of the pronunciamentos made by Campeachy and Laguna, in favor of the independence of the state and its total separation from the Mexican republic.

"The American squadron was exercising a rigid surveillance along the coast, ordering of all Yucatanese vessels that attempted to enter any of the ports between Tabasco and the Rio Grande, the entire line having been declared under blockade.

"It appears that Campeachy and Laguna are in earnest, in their efforts to maintain the independence of Yucatan, while Merida is equally bent upon securing the union of that state to Mexico. Since the pronunciamento in Merida, of the 25th of August, declaring the re-annexation accomplished, great discontent has prevailed in Campeachy and Laguna. In both these towns, the disinclination augmented until the citizens by common consent, agreed to repudiate the connection, and raise the flag of Yucatanese independence. Merida, it seems, is the principal customer of Mexico, and will reap many advantages from the removal of all commercial restrictions upon the entrance of her products into Mexican ports. Hence she is particularly interested in effecting the incorporation of Yucatan into the republic. On the other hand, Campeachy and Laguna have no such interest at stake, but fear the suspension and total destruction of their large foreign commerce by blockade, in the event of taking part with Mexico. This is the real secret of the various intrigues and intestine
bickerings between the several towns of Yucatan.” [KMK]

NRR 71.196-71.197 November 28, 1846 Disease in our Army, letters describing state of affairs

“ARMY OF OCCUPATION.”

Brasos Santiago dates to the 5th, the Matamoros Flag to the 4th ist. and Monterey dates to the 29th October have been received at New Orleans. From these we learn that the health of the troops at Monterey was not so good, diarrhea and chills and fevers prevailed, brought on probably by too free indulgence in fruit, &c. The Mexicans at Monterey appear as yet not so well disposed towards our folks as at Matamoros. Major Eaton, bearer of dispatches sent from Washington prior to hearing of the taking of Monterey had reached headquarters. Major Graham, who was sent subsequently to hearing of that victory, was met between Camargo and Monterey, on the 27th, and probably reached the latter place on the following day, with the orders of our government to terminate the armistice and to pursue the enemy without delay.

The report that the Mexicans had not evacuated Saltillo is contradicted. Santa Anna’s orders to evacuate reached here on the 10th and the last of the Mexican forces on the 15th October. They were concentrating their forces at San Luis Potosi, where Santa Anna was said by some accounts to have 12,000 men, and no less than 37 generals! Other accounts diminish his actually for to about 3,000. It is doubted whether Santa Anna would venture to detain the specie that he stopped at San Luis Potosi, belonging to the British, for fear of offending that government. There was a rumor at Monterey on the 29th, so says a letter from the distinguished officer, that Bustamente had gone north, in the direction of Chihuahua, to meet General Wool. “And further,” says said letter, “it is positively stated that the Indians are killing and laying waste all before them in the latter state.” [KMK]

Monterey, Mexico, October 20, 1846.

I can only repeat that I have no news to send. No movements have been made in the army and non are contemplated at present. The health of the army is bad, a very heavy disproportion of officers and men being on the sick list. Dysentery and intermittent fevers are the prevailing complaints; many are suffering with both, and such unfortunates can well exclaim, “Our sufferings is intolerable.” I speak feelingly on the subject for I am one of the doubly stricken. The 8th infantry, for illustration, numbers about 300 men; last evening only 164 appeared at parade, the residue either being sick or wounded, or on guard. A fully appointed regiment ought to have about forty commissioned officers; the 8th has thirteen in the field, four of whom are sick to day, and one, (Lieut. Wainwright), wounded and sick. The 7th infantry came out to Corpus Christi with about 500 men, and all the officers but three or four. It now numbers 306 men, and last evening only 138 appeared on parade, the residue, being sick, wounded, or on guard. These are tolerably fair samples of the health of the army.

It is rumored and believed here that Santa Anna, in consequence of information obtained from the captured dispatches from our government to Gen. Taylor, is preparing to send a strong force to Tampico. Santa Anna is at San Luis Potosi, or was a few days since.

The weather is getting so cool at night and morning that fires would be comfortable; in truth, they are necessary to real comfort; but there is not a solitary fireplace in Monterey! As to fruit, we have enough. The road between Saltillo and this place is lined with donkeys and mules, loaded with apples, oranges, pears, lemons, pomegranates, figs, bananas, &c. All these grow in Monterey, but the two armies here nearly cleared the vast number of orchards of their fruits. The market, near the main plaza, is filled with meat, vegetables, and fruit. As for the curiosities, the scenery, the habits of this singular people, and many rich scenes I have come across here, my notes will enable me to pen descriptions of them for your readers when in health and leisure.

Gen. Taylor, with the 1st and 2d divisions, is still in camp at Pecan Grove, or San Domingo woods. General Worth is acting governor of Monterey, and keeps everything in perfect order.

Mier, Mexico, October 30. I have again taken advantage of a cessation of hostilities to return home, and am now speeding on my way as fast as possible. We left Monterey on the 24th October; with a train of fifty wagons, escorted by a detachment of dragoons under Lieut. Campbell. We have in our company a number of wounded officers and men, and others who have been discharged on account of sickness.

I called on the commanding officer just before leaving, and found them in good spirits. All send compliments and kind wishes to their friends. General Taylor assured me that he should make no movement further than to take possession of Saltillo until he received reinforcements. The volunteer and regular troops had been so reduced by sickness and death, and discharges, that his forces were too weak for the responsible work before him. The people at Monterey and this side seem more spiteful towards us than ever. From the former place they are constantly moving towards San Luis Potosi. I am so confident in the wisdom of our government, that I am sure a new policy will be pursued in the future operations of our army in Mexico. It is useless to conciliate; this has been demonstrated. It is useless for us to expend our means in the enemy’s country, for they charge the highest prices, and receive our money with one hand, while they would cut out throats with the other. As to their disunions, they do us more harm than good.

Point Isabel, November 4. I am waiting impatiently for a steamship to start for New Orleans. The Virginia is here,
and will probably start to-morrow, but there are about two hundred persons who wish to go in her. Major Dashiell is here also, waiting impatiently for a conveyance. He informs me that before leaving Monterey a messenger had arrived, six days from Gen. Wool. That officer was within a short distance of Monclova, with his command, and with fifty days’ provisions. It was understood at Monterey that Gen. Wool had been ordered by Gen. Taylor to send a detachment of his troops to Chihuahua, and then join the army at Monterey. I think you will find I am correct in my opinion that no important movement will be made by Gen. Taylor until he receives considerable reinforcements. His own opinion on the subject is certainly pretty good evidence. As to the armistice being overruled by our government, this fact will make little or no difference. I believe Gen. Taylor hoped and expected that would be so.

Balize, (La.) November 13.

The Virginia has arrived with us at last, but we have had “a tough time of it,” I can assure you. We left the Brasos on the evening of the 4th, with one hundred and fifty passengers, most of whom were discharged volunteers. Half of these people were wounded or sick, some having lost their legs, others their arms, and others being wounded in their arms and legs. Night before last, a discharged soldier, who was wounded in the battles of last May, and had been in the hospital at Point Isabel ever since, died on board, and was buried at sea. Had a severe gale caught us, four or five more undoubtedly would have died. Will you believe me when I tell you that, with all these sick and wounded and dying men, not a surgeon or a nurse was sent along to attend upon them, not a particle of medicine furnished, not a patch of linen for dressing wounds? Such is the truth, and such, I understood, is the usual manner in which the men who have been out to fight our battles, but who are unfortunate enough to get wounded or become sick, are sent home like old horses turned out to die! The Virginia has no accommodation for passengers, having but eight berths, and you may be assured that the condition of the sick was horrible. Capt. Tucker did all in his power to alleviate their sufferings, but, of course, not much could be done without means. [Correspondence New Orleans Picayune. [KMK]

NRR 71.197-11/28/1846 Jersey Blues

Jersey Blues. It is highly complimentary to the character of our state that New Jersey has given two governors of the newly acquired territories of Mexico. Captain Stockton who has taken possession of California, and General Kearney, who has become governor of Santa Fe, are both, we believe, native Jerseymen. Capt. John Drake Sloat, now in command of the United States squadron in the Pacific, and Captain Stringham, of the United States war ship Ohio, we are gratified to state, are also both citizens in the adjoining county of Orange- the former born and brought up at Goshen in that county. Captain Aulick, also, in command of one of the ships of the line, we believe, was formerly from, or is the descendant of a revolutionary veteran in this county. Surely in this region we have no reason to blush for the fame of Jeresymen. [SCM]

NRR 71.197 November 28, 1846 account of the interview between Gen. Pedro Ampudia and Gen. Zachary Taylor at Monterey

Generals Ampudia and Taylor.-The New Orleans Delta says that the interview between Gens. Taylor and Ampudia, in relation to the capitulation of Monterey, has been described to its editors by a gentleman who was present, as a very rich scene, in which the two chief actors were in fine contrast.

Ampudia was all courtesy and fine words, big speeches, great volubility, with an abundance of gesticulations, shrugs, nods, alternate smiles and frowns, and that whole catalogue of silent language, with which persons of French origin are wont to help the expression of their ideas. Gen Ampudia is of a French family, and was born in the West Indies.

Gen. Taylor, on the other hand, was as dry as a chip, as plain as a pipe-stem, and as short as piecrust. Dressed in his best coat, (which by the bylas if it had served some half a dozen campaigns,) with his glazed oil cloth cap, strapless pants, and old fashioned white vest, he looked more like an old farmer, lately elected militia colonel, who had put on his every day suit, with the slightest imaginable sign of military toggery, to distinguish him from a crowd of mere civilians. In his reply to Ampudia's long harangues, he used such direct, blunt and emphatic language, that the valorous Mexican was thrown all aback and “had nothing to say.”

Ampudia opened the interview by stating that his forces were too large to be conquered by Gen. Taylor's army—that he had an abundance of ammunition 7000 infantry and 3000 cavalry, with 40 cannon, and the best artillerists in the world—that his loss was very small—and he felt confident he could defend the city against a much stronger force than that under Gen. Taylor’s command—but that from motives of humanity—to spare the effusion of blood—to save the lives of helpless women and children—he was willing so far to compromise the glory of the great Mexican nation as to surrender the city provided he was allowed to retire with his whole force, and carry the public property with him, and all the arms and munitions of war. When he had finished his magnificent oration, which in the style of his celebrated proclamation, was garnished with numerous allusions to the stupendous power and unfading glory and renown of magnanimous Mexico, old Zack quietly stuck his hands deep into his breaches pockets, cocked his head a littl on one side, and gently raising his grizly eyebrows, that the bold little black eye lurking beneath might have full play upon the grandiloquent Mexican, replied in these few but expressive words:

“Gen. Ampudia, we came here to take Monterey, and we are going to do it on such terms as please us. I wish you good morning.” And the old General hobbled off on his two short little legs, leaving the Mexican General and Staff in the
NRR 71.197 November 28, 1846 Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny orders part of his force back to Santa Fe and proceeds for California with only 200 men

NRR 71.197 Apprehensions about winter forage at Santa Fe, large number of men left unemployed there

“ARMY OF THE NORTH”

Upper California. – Santa Fe. The St. Louis Republican of the 16th inst. Announces the arrival in that city of Major Fitzpatrick, U. S. Indian agent for the Oregon territory. He was just from Santa Fe, having left that town on the 14th October.

It was intended that Major Fitzpatrick should accompany Gen. Kearney on his expedition to California, as a guide, his superior knowledge of that country making it very desirable that he should accompany the general. He accordingly did so; but, when about 175 miles from Santa Fe, down the Rio Grande, the command was met by an express from Col. Fremont, with information as to the situation of affairs in Upper California. This party consisted of sixteen. They left Puebla de los Angeles with fifty mules, each carrying about one bushel of dried corn, and when they met Gen. Kearney, such was the expedition with which they had traveled, and the dangers of the route, that only eighteen mules survived. They were thirty-one days on the route. From the express, Gen. Kearney learned that Upper California was completely in possession of her American forces, the Mexicans having been driven out of the territory; that Col. Fremont was acting as provisional governor of that department, and the whole country was quiet.

On the reception of this news, Gen. Kearney determined to dispense with the services of a portion of his force, taking only so many men as were deemed necessary for an escort. He therefore selected one hundred men for this purpose, and ordered the remainder back to Santa Fe. He was accompanied by Captains Johnson, Turner, and Moore, Lieuts. Hammond and Love, and Lieut. Emory, of Topographical Engineers. With this command he recommenced his expedition – taking with him three of the persons who had formed a part of the express company, as guides, and thus relieving Major Fitzpatrick of his duty. He returned with the remainder of the company to Santa Fe, and started thence on the 14th ult. For this city. He will proceed immediately for Washington, having in his charge dispatches from Com. Stockton, commander of the American fleet on the Pacific, for the government.

We learn, further, that the permission given to Capt. Hudson, of the Laclede Rangers, to organize a company of mounted volunteers, to go with the Mormons, on their expedition to California, was countermanded. The Mormons were, therefore, to go without a mounted escort. It was expected that Col. Price, with about 150 men of his regiment, would proceed to California, but this was not positively determined.

There was nothing new at Santa Fe. Much apprehension was felt as to the supply of forage for the horses and cattle, and it was feared that many of them would be lost during the winter. In returning home, many wagons, containing provisions, were met, broken down, and teams had given out. Major F. met Col. Thompson 300 miles from Santa Fe; he had recovered his horses, which had been stolen from him – as heretofore noticed – and was proceeding on his route. Major F. frequently diverged from the road, so as to find grass for his animals, and for this reason saw nothing of Dr. Penn, who left Santa Fe some days before him.

Major F. brings information of the death of a young man named Cowie, whose father resides in this city. He went out with Lieut. Fremont, but at the time belonged to the California volunteers. He was captured by the Mexicans, and most inhumanly tortured to death. He also mentions the death of Bazile Lajeunesse, who has friends in this country. He, and two other persons, were killed by the Klamet Indians, on the route from Oregon to California.

The change in Gen. Kearney’s disposition of his forces will leave a large number of men unemployed at Santa Fe. The regiment under the command of Col. Doniphan had not marched for Chihuahua, but that was their destination. Even then a very considerable military force would be left at Santa Fe – probably not less than fifteen hundred men – and, unless the surrounding Indians should afford them something to do, their career promises to be a very quiet and uninteresting one. [KMK]

NRR 71.198 November 28, 1846 second attack on Alvarado

THE ATTACK UPON ALVARADO, AND THE PROPOSED ATTACK ON TOBASCO

There was a general regret, if we are not mistaken, on witnessing, not only in letters from our gulf squadron, but in official reports from the commander himself, which have been published, expressions of such deep mortification at the result of the attacks upon Alvarado, and an anticipation on the part of the writers of these accounts, that severe censure would be heaped upon those engaged in those affairs by their countrymen. The people, as well as the government of this country, know well enough that our navy, nor any other navy, can surmount impossibilities, navigate where there is not sufficient water, nor achieve victories without adequate means. What it seemed hardly worth while to attempt, for any useful object in view, has been attempted, rather than endure the idea of inactivity. An inhospitable coast was the only enemy dreaded. Who expected our officers to do more than take the chances of fortune in wind and weather, and...
We took occasion yesterday to make some remarks upon the failure of Commodore Conner in his attempt to take the city Alvarado, a result which, we suppose, naval men must have foreseen, if they had known the situation of the city to be assailed, and the difficulties of getting vessels into an assailing position; but especially must any man thus informed, have seen the forces under the real command of Com. Conner, were wholly insufficient for the object. One of the greatest dangers of a military man is to underrate his enemy. But now that the failure has taken place, we are to look out for the assault upon Tabasco - if, indeed, such an assault should really have been ordered. It is possible that instead of running down to the mouth of the river Tabasco, Com. Conner may try another attack with the aid of some troops to invest the town from the water side.

But if Tabasco is to be the object of attack, under Com. Perry, all ordinary experience would indicate that there must be a different and a larger force, than that which failed at Alvarado. The city of Tabasco is about ninety miles up the river, and not like Alvarado, within a few miles of the mouth. The month of Tabasco river is fortified with a pretty strong fort. There is, also, a small town, called Frontere, and the custom house. - But there is a bar off this river as, indeed, there is all along the coast; and there are only twelve feet of water on this bar, really one foot less than Alvarado. The fleet which Com. Perry has at his command is too small for any attack. The Mississippi steamer cannot come within gun-shot of the fort. At Frontere, indeed, neither fort nor town is visible at the bar, and all the guns which Com. P. can take in, are about sixteen 12-pounders, and three 18-pounders, viz: six in the cutter Forward, six in the McLane, and four in the Vixen; and the little schooners Petrel, Bonita, and the Reefer, each carries one 18-pounder. To these may be added the prize schooner Nonata, with four 42-pound carronades. These are all that can be taken over the bar and the two steamers must tow, the two, and the other three vessels.

In the fall of 1840, Com. Moore, of the Texan navy, entered the mouth of the Tabasco river, took possession of the fort, which had only forty men, placed it in charge of troops from Yucatan, and then ascended the river with the following vessels:

- The Austin, a twenty gun ship, viz: eighteen 24, and two 18-pounders.
- The schooner St. Bernard, with seven 12-pounders.
- The steamer Zavala, carrying eight 18-pounders.

These vessels drew the following water, viz: the Austin, eleven feet; St. Bernard, eight feet, and the steamer Zavala, nine feet. To these vessels was added the Yucatan brig Yman, carrying six 12-pounders, and a long 18. (This vessel was afterwards captured by the Mexicans.) All of these sailing vessels were towed by the steamer, and forty-eight hours were consumed in ascending to Tabasco, against a current of from three to four miles an hour. Com. Moore, with his force, took the city, though defended by two forts. He levied a contribution of $25,000 upon the city, before which he lay twenty days, and then departed.

We mention these facts to show that such things can be done, and also to show how they can be done, I will be seen that the force said to be under Com. Perry, is wholly insufficient for the proposed purpose and that to attempt to cross the bar at Tabasco, accompanied as he is, would be a step so rash, as to call for censure from some quarters. Success alone could excuse, scarcely any event would justify the measure.

But why should Tabasco be made the point of attack? It is no in the way of the city of Mexico. Its conquest would not facilitate the movement of our troops towards the center of the country, nor enable them to retreat, if necessary, with greater facility and safety. There is nothing at Tabasco, but Tabasco, and about ten thousand inhabitants, who when conquered, would probably come on board the vessels, and dance with the conquerors, and be as ready the next day to join in a plan to drive them off. But Alvarado is different. At that place there are, we believe, a considerable portion of the Mexican fleet, viz:

- The steamer Rejerador, carrying one long 24, and two 18-pounders.
- The brig Euchatache, with sixteen 18 pounders, and one long 18.
- The brig Santa Anna, with twelve 18 pounders.
- Brigg Yman, captured from the Yucataneees, carrying six 12 pounders, and one long 18.
- Schooner Eagle, with six 18-pounders, and one long 32.
- Schooner Campechiani, with four 12 pounders.

Now the possession of the Alvarado, and the conquest of these vessels, would have been a good day’s work. But this could not be done, for the force at command was wholly insufficient, and thus by frittering away the means, the hopes, and the enterprise of the navy, upon ill advised projects, we see that right arm of national defence suffering, and a gallant Pennsylvanian laboring under the mortification of a failure, when proper means, and sufficient and easily obtained force, would have insured success.

The honor of the navy, the honor of the nation, is concerned in a proper management of this part of the war against Mexico, and every American has a right to demand of the navy department, the employment against assailed points, of a force reasonably large for the object. It is cheapest, it is safest, it is right.

The coast of the gulf seems not to be well understood by any one that directs, and there is in consequence, a continual danger.
The United States Gazette furnishes the following interested article upon the subject: "When the fleet under Com. Perry had been last heard from they were immediately off Tabasco, and were but waiting for a violent swell to subside before passing over the bar to attack the place.

"The squadron consisted of the Mississippi, (flagship) Com. Perry; the Vixen, Com‘r. Sands; revenue cutter McLane, Capt. Howard; revenue cutter Forward, Capt. Jones; prize schr. Nonato, Lieut. Hazard; schr. Reefer, Lieut. Sterrell; and schr. Bonita. Besides these, there were twelve, besides the crews of the respective vessels number two hundred men, principally marines from the Raritan and Cumberland." [KMK]

NRR 71.199-71.200 November 28, 1846 Com. Matthew Calbraith Perry's operations at Tabasco

BOMBARDMENT OF TABASCO

An Officer of the navy furnishes the New Orleans Picayune with details from which it appears that:


One of the principal objects of the expedition was, to capture several vessels that were lying off the town – they were all taken. When the city was summoned to surrender, the people were all in favor of yielding at once. The governor and soldiery opposed it. Time was given for all peaceable persons, women and children, to get out of harm’s way; but the governor would not allow any one to leave, so that it is feared most of those killed during the bombardment were not soldiers. Some of the regulars were killed. Had it not been that the execution was principally done upon inoffensive person, the city would have been demolished, with the exception of the residences of foreign consuls and the hospitals. [KMK]

NRR 71.200 November 28, 1846 vessels captured at Tabasco

List of vessels captured and destroyed during the late expedition to Tabasco, under Com. M. C. Perry: MANNED AND SENT IN.

| American barque Coosa. |
| Mexican schooner Telegraph. |
| " steamer Petrita. |
| " steamer Tabasqueño. |
| " hermaphrodite brig Yunante. |
| " schooner Laura Virginia. |
| " schooner Tabasco. |
| " schooner Amada. |
| American brig Plymouth BURNED. |
| Mexican sloop Campeachy. |
| " brig Rentville. |
| " tow boat " |
| " schooner " |

Mexican sloop Desada returned to the captain in consequence of his excellent conduct when his vessel was attacked while in charge of Lieut. Wm. A. Parker.

M. C. PERRY.

[KMK]

NRR 71.200-201 November 28, 1846 Gen. Zachary Taylor's official account of taking of Monterey
Sir: I have now the honor to submit a detailed report of the recent operations before Monterey, resulting in the capitulation of that city.

The information received on the route from Seralvo, and particularly the continual appearance in our front of the Mexican cavalry, which had a slight skirmish with our advance at the village of Ramas, induced the belief, as we approached Monterey, that the enemy would defend that place. Upon reaching the neighborhood of the city on the morning of the 19th of September, this belief was fully confirmed. It was ascertained that he occupied the town in force; that a large work had been constructed commanding all the northern approaches; and that the Bishop’s Palace, and some heights in its vicinity near the Altillo road, had also been fortified and occupied with troops and artillery. It was known, from information previously received, that the eastern approaches were commanded by several small works in the lower edge of the city.

The configuration of the heights and gorges in the direction of the Saltillo road, as visible from the point attained by our advance on the morning of the 19th, led me to suspect that it was practicable to turn all the works in that direction, and thus cut the enemy’s line of communication. After establishing my camp at the “Walnut Springs,” three miles from Monterey, the nearest suitable position, it was accordingly, my first care to order a close reconnaissance of the ground in question, which was executed on the evening of the 19th by the engineering officers under the direction of Major Mansfield. A reconnaissance of the eastern approaches was at the same time made by Capt. Williams, topographical engineer. The examination made by Major Mansfield proved the entire practicability of throwing forward a column to the Saltillo road, and thus turning the position of the enemy. Deeming this to be an operation of essential importance, orders were given to Brevet Brig. Gen. Worth, commanding the second division, to march with his command on the 20th; to turn the hill of the Bishop’s Palace; to occupy a position on the Saltillo road, and to carry the enemy’s detachment works in that quarter, where practicable. The first regiment of Texas mounted volunteers, under command of Col. Hays, was associated with the second division on this service. Capt. Sanders, engineers, and Lieut. Meade, topographical engineers, were also ordered to report to General Worth for duty with his column.

At 2 o’clock P. M. on the 20th, the second division took up its march. It was soon discovered, by officers who were reconnoitering the town, and communicated to Gen. Worth, that its movement had been perceived, and that the enemy was throwing reinforcements towards the Bishop’s Palace and the height which commands it. To divert his attention as far as practicable, the first division, under Brig. Gen. Twiggs, and field division of volunteers, under Major Gen. Butler, were displayed in front of the town until dark. Arrangements were made at the same time to place in battery during the night, at a suitable distance from the enemy’s main work the citadel, two 24-pounder howitzers and a 10-inch mortar, with a view to open a fire on the following day, when I proposed to make a diversion in favor of Gen. Worth’s movement. The 4th infantry covered this battery during the night. Gen. Worth had in the mean time reached and occupied for the night a defensive position just without range of a battery above the Bishop’s Palace, having made a reconnaissance as far as the Saltillo road.

Before proceeding to report the operations of the 21st and following days, I beg leave to state that I shall mention in detail only those which were conducted against the eastern extremity of the city or elsewhere, under my immediate direction, referring you for the particulars of Gen. Worth’s operations, which were entirely detached, to his own full report transmitted herewith.

Early on the morning of the 21st, I received a note from Gen. Worth, written at half past 9 o’clock the night before, suggesting what I had already intended, a strong diversion against the center and left of the town, to favor his enterprise against the heights in rear. The infantry and artillery of the first division, and the field division of volunteers, were ordered under arms and took the direction of the city, leaving one company of each regiment as a camp guard. The 2d dragoons, under Lieut. Col. May, and Col. Wood’s regiment of Texas mounted volunteers, under the immediate direction of Gen. Henderson, were directed to the right, to support Gen. Worth, if necessary, and to make an impression, if practicable, upon the upper quarter of the city. Upon approaching the mortar battery, the 1st and 3d regiments of infantry and battalion of Baltimore and Washington volunteers, with Capt. Bragg’s field battery – the whole under the command of the Lieut. Col. Garland – were directed towards the lower part of the town, with orders to make a strong demonstration, and to carry one of the enemy’s advanced works, if it could be done without too heavy loss. Major Mansfield, engineers, and Capt. Williams and Lieut. Pope, topographical engineers, accompanied this column, Major Mansfield being charged with its direction, and the designation of points of attack. In the mean time the mortar, served by Capt. Ramsay, of the ordnance, and the howitzer battery under Capt. Webster, 1st artillery, and opened their fire upon the citadel, which was deliberately sustained, and answered from the work. – Gen. Butler’s division had now taken up a position in the rear of this battery, when the discharges of artillery, mingled finally with a rapid fire of small arms, showed that Lieut. Col. Garland’s command had become warmly engaged. I now deemed it necessary to support this attack, and accordingly ordered the 4th infantry and three regiments of Gen. Butler’s division to march at once by the left flank in the direction of the advanced work at the lower extremity of the town, leaving one regiment (1st Kentucky) to cover the mortar and howitzer battery. – By some mistake, two companies of the 4th infantry did not receive this order, and consequently did not join the advance companies until some time afterwards.

Lieut. Colonel Garland’s command had approached the town in direction to the right of the advanced work (No. 1) at the northeastern angle of the city, and the engineer officer, covered by skirmishers, had succeeded in entering the suburbs & gaining cover. The remainder of this command now advanced and entered the town under a heavy fire of...
artillery from the citadel and the works on the left, and of musketry from the houses and small works in front. A movement to the right was attempted with a view to gain the rear of No. 1, and carry that work, but the troops were so much exposed to a fire which they could not effectually return, and had already sustained such severe loss, particularly in officers, that it was deemed best to withdraw them to a more secure position. Capt. Backus, 1st infantry, however, with a portion of his own and other companies, had gained the roof of a tannery, which looked directly into the gorge of No. 1, and from which he poured a most destructive fire into that work and upon the strong building in its rear. This fire happily coincided in point of time with the advance of a portion of the volunteer division upon No. 1, and contributed largely to the fall of that strong and important work.

The three regiments of the volunteer division under the immediate command of Major. Gen. Butler had in the mean time advanced in the direction of No. 1. The leading brigade, under Brigadier Gen. Quitman, continued its advance upon the work, preceded by three companies of the 4th infantry, while Gen. Butler, with the 1st Ohio regiment, entered the town to the right. The companies of the 4th infantry had advanced within short range of the work, when they were received by a fire that almost in one moment struck down one-third of the officers and men, rendered it necessary to retire and effect a conjunction with the two other companies then advancing. Gen. Quitman's brigade, though suffering most severely, particularly in the Tennessee regiment, continued its advance, and finally carried the work in handsome style, as well as the strong building in its rear. Five pieces of artillery, a considerable supply of ammunition, and thirty prisoners, including three officers, fell into our hands. Major Gen. Butler, with the 1st Ohio regiment, after entering the edge of the town, discovered that nothing was to be accomplished in his front, and at this point, yielding to the suggestions of several officers, I ordered a retrograde movement; but learning almost immediately from one of my staff that the battery No. 1 was in our possession, the order was countermanded, and I determined to hold the battery and the defences already gained. Gen. Butler, with the 1st Ohio regiment, then entered the town at a point further to the left, and marched in the direction of the battery No. 2. While making an examination with a view to ascertain the possibility of carrying this second work by storm, the general was wounded and soon after compelled to quit the field. As the strength of the No. 2, and the heavy musketry fire flanking the approach, rendered it impossible to carry it without great loss, the 1st Ohio regiment was withdrawn from the town.

Fragments of the various regiments engaged were now under cover of the captured battery and some buildings in its front and on the right. The field batteries of Capt. Bragg and Ridgely were also partially covered by the battery. An incessant fire was kept up on this position from battery No. 2 and other works on its right, and from the citadel, on all our approaches. General Twiggs, though quite unwell, joined me at this point, and was instrumental in causing the artillery captured from the enemy to be placed in battery, and served by Capt. Ridgely against No. 2 until the arrival of Capt. Webster's howitzer battery, which took its place. In the mean time I directed such men as could be collected of the 1st, 3d, and 4th regiments and Baltimore battalion to enter the town, penetrating to the right, and carry the second battery, if possible. This command, under Lieut. Col. Garland, advanced beyond the bridge "Purisima," when finding it impracticable to gain the rear of the second battery, a portion of it sustained themselves for some time in that advanced position; but as no permanent impression could be made at that point, and the main object of the general operation had been effected, the command, including a section of Capt. Ridgely's battery, which had joined it, was withdrawn to battery No. 1. During the absence of this column, a demonstration of cavalry was reported in the direction of the citadel. Captain Bragg, who was at hand, immediately galloped with his battery to a suitable position, from which a few discharges effectually dispersed the enemy. Captain Miller, 1st infantry, was dispatched with a mixed command, to support the battery on this service. – The enemy's lancers had previously charged upon the Ohio and a part of the Mississippi regiment, near some fields at a distance from the edge of the town, and had been repulsed with considerable loss. A demonstration of cavalry on the opposite side of the river was also dispersed in the course of the afternoon by Capt. Ridgely's battery, and the squadrons returned to the city. At the approach of evening all the troops that had been engaged were ordered back to camp except Capt. Ridgely's battery and the regular infantry of the first division, who were detailed as a guard for the works during the night, under command of Lieut. Col. Garland. One battalion of the first Kentucky regiment was ordered to reinforce this command. Intrenching tools were procured, and addition strength was given to the works, and protection to the men, by working parties during the night, under the direction of Lieut. Scarritt, engineers.

The main object proposed in the morning had been effected. A powerful diversion had been made to favor the operations of the 2d division, one of the enemy's advanced works had been carried, and we now had a strong foothold in the town. But this had not been accomplished without a very heavy loss embracing some of our most gallant and promising officers. Capt. Williams, topographical engineers, Lieuts. Terrett and Dilworth, 1st infantry, Lieut. Woods, 2d infantry, Capt. Morris and Field, Brevet Major Barbour, Lieuts. Irwin and Hazlitt, 3d infantry, Lieut. Hoskins, 4th infantry, Lieut. Col. Watson, Baltimore battalion, Captain Allen and Lieut. Putman, Tennessee regiment, and Lieut. Hett, Ohio regiment, were killed, or have since died of wounds received in this engagement, while the number and rank of the officers wounded gives additional proof of the obstinacy of the contest, and the good conduct of our troops. The number of killed and wounded incident to the operations in the lower part of the city on the 21st is 394.

Early in the morning of this day, (21st,) the advance of the 2d division had encountered the enemy in force, and after a brief and sharp conflict, repulsed him with heavy loss. Gen. Worth then succeeded in gaining a position on the Saltillo road, thus cutting the enemy's line of communication. From the position the two heights south of the Saltillo road were carried in succession, and the gun taken in one of them turned upon the Bishop's Palace. – These important successes were fortunately obtained with comparatively small loss, Capt. McKavett, 8th infantry, being the only officer killed.

The 22d day of September passed without any active operations in the lower part of the city. The citadel and other works continued to fire at parties exposed to their range, and at the work now occupied by our troops. The guard left in it the preceding night, except Capt. Ridgely's company, was relieved at mid-day by Gen. Quitman's brigade. Capt. Bragg's battery was thrown under cover in front of the town to repel any demonstration of cavalry in that quarter. At
dawn of day, the height above the Bishop’s Palace was carried, and soon after meridian the Palace itself was taken and its guns turned upon the fugitive garrison. The object for which the 2d division was detached had thus been completely accomplished, and I felt confident that with a strong force occupying the road and heights in his rear, and a good position below the city in our possession, the enemy could not possibly maintain the town.

During the night of the 22d, the enemy evacuated nearly all his defences in the lower part of the city. This was reported to me early in the morning of the 23d by Gen. Quitman, who had already mediated an assault upon those works. I immediately sent instructions to that officer, leaving it to his discretion to enter the city, covering his men by the houses and walls, and advance carefully as far as he might deem prudent. After ordering the remainder of the troops as a reserve, under the orders of Brigadier General Twigg, I repaired to the abandoned works, and discovered that a portion of Gen. Quitman’s brigade had entered the town, and were successfully forcing their way towards the principal plaza. I then ordered up the 2d regiment of Texas mounted volunteers, who entered the city, dismounted, and under the immediate orders of Gen. Henderson, co-operated with Gen. Quitman’s brigade. Capt. Bragg’s battery was also ordered up, supported by the 3d infantry; and after firing for some time at the cathedral, a portion of it was like wise thrown into the town. Our troops advanced from house to house, and from square to square, until they reached a street but one square in the rear of the principal plaza, in and near which the enemy’s force was mainly concentrated. This advance was conducted vigorously but with due caution, and, although destructive to the enemy, was attended with small loss on our part. Capt. Ridgely, in the mean time, had served a captured piece in battery No. 1 against the city, until the advance of our men rendered it imprudent to fire in the direction of the cathedral. I was now satisfied that we could operate successfully in the city, and that the enemy that had retired from the lower portion of it to make a stand behind hi barricades. As Gen. Quitman’s brigade had been on duty the previous night, I determined to withdraw the troops to the evacuated works, and concert with Gen. Worth a combined attack upon the town. The troops accordingly feel back deliberately, in good order and resumed their original positions, Gen. Quitman’s brigade being relieved after nightfall by that of Gen. Hamer. On my return to camp, I met an officer with the intelligence that Gen. Worth, induced by the firing in the lower part of the city, was about making an attack at the upper extremity, which had also been evacuated by the enemy to a considerable distance. I regretted that this information had not inexpedient to change my orders, and accordingly returned to camp. A note from Gen. Worth, written at eleven o’clock P. M., informed me that he had advanced to within a short distance of the principal plaza, and that the mortar (which had been sent to his division in the morning) was doing good execution within effective range of the enemy’s position. Desiring to make no further attempt upon the city without complete concert as to the lines and mode of approach, I instructed that officer to suspend his advance until I could have an interview with him on the following morning at his headquarters.

Early on the morning of the 24th I received, through Col. Moreno, a communication from Gen. Ampudia, proposing to evacuate the town; which, with the answer, were forwarded with my first dispatch. I arranged with Col. Moreno a cessation of fire until 12 o’clock, at which hour I would receive the answer of the Mexican general at General Worth’s headquarters to which I soon repaired. In the mean time, Gen. Ampudia had signified to Gen. Worth his desire for a personal interview with me, to which I acceded, and which finally resulted in a capitulation, placing the town and the materiel of war, with certain exceptions, in our possession. A copy of that capitulation was transmitted with my first dispatch.

Upon occupying the city, it was discovered to be of great strength in itself, and to have its approaches carefully and strongly fortified. The town and works were armed with 42 pieces of cannon, well supplied with ammunition, and manned with a force of at least 7,000 troops of the line, and from 2000 to 3000 irregulars. The force under my orders before Monterey, as exhibited by the accompanying return, was 425 officers, and 6,220 men. Our artillery consisted of one 10 inch mortar, two 24 pounder howitzers, and four light field batteries of four guns each – the mortar being the only piece suitable to the operation of a siege.

Our loss is twelve officers and one hundred and eight men killed; thirty one officers and three hundred and thirty seven men wounded. That of the enemy is not known, but is believed considerably to exceed our own.

I take pleasure in bringing to the note of the government the good conduct of the troops, both regulars and volunteers, which has been conspicuous throughout the operations. I am proud to bear testimony of their coolness and constancy in battle, and the cheerfulness with which they have submitted to exposure and privation. To the general officer’s commanding divisions – Major Generals Butler and Henderson, and Brigadier Generals Twigg and Worth – I must express my obligations for the efficient aid which they have rendered in their respective commands. I was unfortunately deprived, early on the 21st, of the valuable services of Major General Butler, who was disabled by a wound received in the attack on the city. Major General Henderson, commanding the Texas volunteers, has given me important aid in the organization of his command, and its subsequent operations. Brigadier Gen. Twigg rendered important services with his division, and as the second in command after Major General Butler was disabled. Brigadier General Worth was intrusted with an important detachment, which rendered his operations independent of my own. Those operations were conducted with ability, and crowned with complete success.

I desire also to notice Brigadier General Hamer and Quitman, commanding brigades in Gen. Butler’s division. Lieutenant Colonels Garland and Wilson, commanding brigades in General Twigg’s division, Colonels Mitchell, Campbell, Davis, and Wood, commanding the Ohio, Tennessee, Mississippi, and 2d Texas regiments, respectively, and Majors Lear, Allen, and Abercrombie, commanding the 3d, 4th, and 1st regiments of infantry; all of whom served under my eye and conducted their commands with coolness and gallantry against the enemy. Colonel Mitchell, Lieut. Colonel M’Clung, Mississippi regiment, Major Lear, 3d infantry, and Major Alexander, Tennessee regiment, were all severely wounded, as were Captain Lamotte, Lieut. Graham, 4th infantry, Adj. Armstrong, Ohio regiment, Lieuts. Scudder and Allen, Tennessee regiment, and Lieut. Howard Mississippi regiment, while leading their men against the enemy’s position on the 21st and 23d. After the fall of Col. Mitchell, the command of the 1st Ohio regiment devolved upon Lieut. Col. Weller; that of the 3d infantry, after the fall of Major Lear, devolved in succession upon Captain Bainbridge and Captain Henry, former being also wounded.
The following named officers have been favorably noticed by their commanders: Lieut. Col. Anderson, and Adjutant Herman, Tennessee regiment; Lieut. Col. M’Clung, Capts. Cooper and Downing, Lieuts. Patterson, Calhoun, Moore, Russel, and Cook, Mississippi regiment; also Sergeant Maj. Hearlan, Mississippi regiment, and Major Price and Capt. J. R. Smith, unattached but serving with it. I beg leave also to call attention to Captain Johnson, Ohio regiment, and Lieut. Hooker, 1st artillery, serving on the staff of Gen. Hamer, and Lieut. Nichols, 2d artillery, on that of Gen. Quitman. Capts. Bragg and Ridgely served with their batteries during the operation under my own observation, and is part under my immediate orders, and exhibited distinguished skill and gallantry. Capt. Webster, 1st artillery, assisted by Lieuts. Donalds and Bowen, rendered good service with the howitzer battery, which was much exposed to the enemy’s fire on the 21st.

From the nature of the operations, the 2d dragoons were not brought into action, but were usefully employed under the direction of Lieut. Col. May as escorts, and in keeping open our communications. – The 1st Kentucky regiment was also prevented from participating in the action of the 21st, but rendered highly important services under Col Ormsby, in covering the mortar battery, and holding in check the enemy’s cavalry during the day.

I have noticed above the officers whose conduct either fell under my own immediate eye, or is noticed only in minor reports which are forwarded. – For further mention of individuals, I beg leave to refer to the reports of division commanders herewith respectfully transmitted. I fully concur in their recommendations, and desire that they may be considered as part of my own report.

From the officers of my personal staff and of the engineers, topographical engineers, and ordinance associated with me, I have derived valued and different assistance during the operations. Col. Whitting, assistant quartermaster general, Colonels Crogham and Belknap, inspectors general, Major Bliss, assistant adjutant general, Capt. Sibley, assistant quartermaster, Captain Waggamah, commissary of subsistence, Capt. Eaton and Lieut Garnett, aids de camp, and Majs Kirby and Van Buren, pay department, served near my person, and were ever prompt in all situations, in the communication of my orders and instructions. I must express my particular obligations to Brevet Majr Mansfield and Lieut. Scarritt, corps of engineers. They both rendered most important services in reconnoitering the enemy’s position, conducting troops in attack, and strengthening the works captured from the enemy. Maj. Mansfield, though wounded on the 21st, remained on duty during that and the following day, until confined by his wound to camp.

Captain Williams, topographical engineers, to my great regret and the loss of the service, was mortally wounded while fearlessly exposing himself in the attack on the 21st. Lieut. Pope, of the same corps, was active and zealous throughout the operation. Maj. Monroe, chief of the artillery, Maj Craig and Capt. Ramsay of the ordnance, were assiduous in the performance of their proper duties. The former superintended the mortar service on the 22d, as particularly mentioned in the report of General Worth, to which I also refer for the services of the engineer and topographical officers detached with the second division.

Surgeon Craig, medical director, was actively employed in the important duties of his department, and the medical staff generally were unremitting in their attentions to the numerous wounded – their duties with the regular regiments being rendered uncommonly arduous by the small number serving in the field.

I respectfully enclosed herewith, in addition to the reports of division commanders, a held return of the force before Monterey, on the 21st September – a return of killed, wounded, and missing during the operations – and two topographical sketches – one exhibiting all the movements around Monterey – the other on a larger scale frustration more particularly the operations in the lower quarter of the city – prepared respectively by Lieuts. Meade and Pope, topographical engineers.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your ob’t serv’t.

Z. TAYLOR
Major General U. S. A. Com.

The ADJUTANT GENERAL of the army,
Washington, D. C.
[KMK]
John C. Hays, a native of Middle Tennessee, came to Texas early in the year 1839, I believe, and settling a San Antonio, commenced business as a land agent and surveyor. This calling was, then, exceedingly dangerous, for it was rare indeed that a surveying party went beyond the settlements without a rencontre with either Mexicans, Camanches, Beediis, Wacoes, Towackanies, Keechies, or straggling bands of some other hostile tribe infesting the western frontier of Texas. In these encounters, Hays, though hardly a man in age, soon obtained a reputation for coolness, judgment, courage, energy, and a knowledge of frontier life and Indian and Mexican character, which induced the government of Texas to render to him the command of its first company of rangers, which was organized in the winter of 1840 and '41. Sometime afterwards, when it was found necessary to raise two more ranging companies, Capt. Hays was invested with the command of the battalion, with the rank of major, and he and "his men" continued to serve as rangers until the annexation. He is not more than 30 years of age (if so old) and weights from 130 to 140 pounds. I need say nothing to you concerning his remarkable soldierly qualities, for the pens and voices of such men as Balie Peyton and Gen. Worth have already told the world that it holds few such warriors as Jack Hays.

In western Texas, where, from habit, all men are good Indian and Mexican fighters, modesty is his most remarkable trait; for it is no uncommon thing to hear an over-modest man characterized as being almost as modest as Jack Hays. Indeed, I question whether there is a man in Taylor's army who has as poor an opinion of the merits and services of H. as himself. He thinks much and speaks little, and that little always to the purpose. There never lived a commander more idolized by his men; for his word is their law. Now, as they are regular frontier men, and of course, notoriously restless under any other restraint, his perfect control of them attracted much curiosity, and many inquiries in Texas before its annexation. Their experience with him as a soldier has given him their confidence; but his rigid and exact justice to him, his habits of living and faring as roughly as any private in the regiment: when on duty, and of treating each comrade in arms as in all respect his equal when not on duty, are probably the reason why the boys, one and all, are so willing, without a murmur, to live on parched corn, ride 70 or 80 miles without demounting for five minutes at a time, or to fight Mexicans with pick axes, when Hays deems either necessary.

His men, who, in the estimation of Gen. Worth, are the best light troops in the world, are just the men to be led by such an officer.

Out of the four hundred I presume at least three hundred and fifty are farmers and stock raisers in a small way on the Colorado, Navidad, Layacea, Guadaloupe, and San Antonio, rivers in western Texas.

From the time of the battle of San Jacinto up to forty-one, when formed into regular ranging companies, they defended the frontier on their own book without pay, employment, provision, or even ammunition at the expense of the government. Whenever Indians or Mexicans approached the settlements runners were dispatched up and down the rivers I have before named to sound the alarm, and on such notice these now composing Hay's "first regiment of Texas rangers" rarely required more than six hours to prepare for a campaign of three months; for, after all, catching their horses, running fifty . . ., and parching and grinding a half bushel of corn for cold flour or pan . . as the Mexicans term it, were the only preparation necessary. Hot or cold, wet or dry, they carried no tents, and required no other provisions than fresh beef, which was usually driven with them. Once in a while a green horn, on his first campaign, would pack a . . . but he would soon learn that boys who had to fight for nothing and find their own horse flesh and ammunition could it about as well on "..." surplus. In fact, after . . . experience with such a life, few at least of those then, would be troubled with the care of any other provisions with beef, or with any other equipment than shooting irons, bowie knife, a pair of old blankets, a Mexican saddletree, and a good horse; which, with leather breeches, indomitable perseverance, an extra shirt, a light heart, great capacity for endurance and sworn hatred to Mexicans and Indians, make up the Texas ranger.

Suffer me to digress for a moment in order to say that having been "one" four or five times with these men, I claim to know what is necessary for the true comforts of the soldier in active service. With this knowledge, I was not a little amused the other day, on reading the Baltimore bill of complaints against the government and Gen. William O. Butler, I can well imagine the fun the young gentlemen correspondent of the Sun would afford to a squad or Hays’ men, on telling his griefs over their camp fire. I refer to the writer who growls about no sugar when his coffee is ready, and no bread when there is beef enough. Verify, if the boys had not smelt "carni" for a fortnight, they would quit the very interesting work, (under such circumstances,) of roasting ribs to "roast" such a customer after their own fashion; and Heaven help the grumbler who falls into their hands.

But to continue. When the government of Texas organized these men into regular companies, they first began to receive pay, and, perhaps, half of those now with Hays, gave up their farms and took to soldiering for a livelihood.

Capt. Ben. McCulloch, who commands the first company of his regiment, (to which ... of the Picayune, is attached;) G. T. Howard, who was lately dispatched to Santa Fe by the president, and has since joined Wool's force, to which he will soon be what McCulloch is to the main army; poor Gillespie, who was killed in battle, and Hancock Chevallie, originally of Richmond, VA., were Hays’ right hand men in the frontier campaigns of Texas. McCulloch is a native of Tennessee, near the Alabama line, and came to Texas from the latter state, settling in Gonzales county, as a surveyor. He served one of the two field pieces in the battle of San Jacinto, "the twin sisters," as the Texans dubbed them, and there, for the first time, distinguished himself. He is the hero of what is known as the Plumb creek fight with the Indians who burnt Linnville. Howard is a native of this city, and commanded in the famous court house fight in the town of San Antonio, when he found it necessary to close the door, and with nineteen men, to fight thirty-seven Camanches, both parties being completely armed. In this melee, he himself received four wounds, and lost nine men killed, all the rest of the command being more or less wounded. But seen of the Indians got out of the room alive; and of those, six were subsequently killed in the street. Gillespie is either a native of Virginia or Tennessee; and being the lieutenant of the
first company of rangers, was chosen its captain when Hays was promoted to the command of the original battalion. Indeed, all these gentlemen are distinguished frontier officers, having long since won their way to fame in Texas, in, I may almost write, a hundred well-fought battles. S. W. Walker, the Capt. Walker of the beginning of this campaign, who, by the by, is from this city also, is now the lieutenant colonel of the regiment, having fairly earned his election in the events of the month prior the battles of the 8th and 9th of May last. Ever since the organization of the ranging corps, he has been one of their number; though, heretofore, I do not know that he was distinguished beyond his comrades generally. Before the annexation f Texas, and election for a lieutenant of the 1st company (Gillespie’s) took place, and Edward Ratcliffe, a brother to Daniel Ratcliffe, Esq., of this city, was chosen, Walker being his competitor. Ratcliffe, poor fellow, was killed in the little fight between nine men; under Walker, and a party of Mexicans, which took place a few days prior to the battle on the 8th of May.

But when I think of these men, facts crowd so fast on my memory, that I might write you about them until daybreak. A personal knowledge of at least three fourths of the men of the regiment, teaches me that Col. Balie Peyton has not praised them beyond their true desserts in saying that –

“Amongst the volunteers, none have shown more conspicuously than the 1st regiment of Texas mounted riflemen, commanded by that chevalier Bayard, Col. J. C. Hays, better known as Jack Hays. This corps, from the colonel to the private, has fully sustained its former reputation. In the first affairs in which Gen. Worth’s division was engaged on the morning of the 21st, Col. Hays, with several companies of his mounted riflemen, were thrown forward to open the bail, which he did most beautifully, encountering and shooting in the presence of the general the colonel of dragoons who commanded the enemy’s forces. In scaling heights, storming batteries, and clambering over walls and house-tops, the voice of the gallant colonel, and the reports of the unerring rifle of the ranger, were over heard in the yon. – The courage and constancy, and subordination of this corps is the theme of admiration in the army.” [KMK]

NKR 71.208- 11/28/1846 Expeditions Against Tampico

Expeditions Against Tampico. - Commodore Conner on the 11th instant, despatched the frigates Raritan, Captain Gregory, Potomac, Captain Aulic. And sloop of war St. Mary’s, Cap'am Saunders for Tampico. On the 12th the commodore hoisted his broad pennant on board the steamer Princeton. Captain Eagle, and followed them with the steamer Spitfire. Captian Tattnall and gun boat Perot, Lieutenant Shaw, in tow. The tow the Vixen. Captain Sands, the Baulta, Lieutenant Benham the Reefer, Lieutenant Sterrett, and the Nomata, Lieutenant Hazard and proceeded for the same destination. [SCM]

NKR 71.209 December 5, 1846 review of the condition of affairs

NKR 71.209 California’s occupied, Mexican ports in possession, position of the armies, Gen. Winfield Scott and Com. Charles Stewart to assume command and Veracruz the next point of attack, move-making with that view

WAR WITH MEXICO

The conquest of the Californias, the occupation of Santa Fe, and that of the province of Chihuahua may be considered as effected. The entire valley of the Rio Grande will soon be in our occupation and the mountain passes beyond Monterey, as far as Saltillo, are probably by this time occupied by American troops. Much of the sparse & principally “savage” population of these remote provinces, have never been fairly subjected at any time to Mexican authority. Adventurers have here and there located themselves and maintained a frontier independence, whist submitting so far to Mexican government as they could distinguish to be to their interest at the moment, and defying authority whenever they thought proper. – The question with all of these, at present is, which government, Mexico or the United States, is likely to afford the best protection, the most indulgence, the cheapest supplies and the best prices for what they have to dispose of?

These questions are decided. The choice has no doubt been made. The forms of ratification alone remain to be adjusted. The forms will be far more difficult of adjustment at Washington, than within the late Mexican boundaries.

The ports of the entire coast of Mexico, the Pacific on one side, and the Gulf of Mexico on the other, may be considered as either in possession of the United States forces, or closely blockaded, so as to be no longer ports to Mexico, except by the sufferance of one squadron.

All this notwithstanding, there is no doubt that the intelligence which our government are now in possession of, has led them to conclude that this war is not likely to be terminated so speedily as they had, until a few days past, flattered both themselves and the people of this country that it would be. These is no longer a lingering hope that Santa Anna, or that the people of central Mexico are not seriously determined to maintain their nationality and resist invasion to the last extremity.

This prospect has awakened our government to the necessity of adopting measures which are now in progress, materially changing the whole project of invasion. The services, talents, and experience of the commander-in-chief, Gen. Scott, heretofore confined to bureau duties at the seat of government, are called into more active requisition. He proceeded last week, with his suite, to New York, where he embarked for New Orleans, and will embark from that port.
for Point Isabel, and thence to Tampico, which has just been taken possession of by the American squadron under Commodore Conner. To this point, troops have been ordered, and are now hurried on from various directions. A considerable proportion of the forces under Gen. Taylor posted along the line from Point Isabel to Monterey, for the security of his rear and the safe transport of his supplies, are understood to have been ordered to proceed under Gen. Patterson’s command, towards Tampico. – Marching an army from Monterey, by the Saltillo route, to the city of Mexico, is supposed to have been abandoned. It is stated and believed that Gen. Taylor, early last spring, expressed to the department of war his opinion that it would be impolitic, if not impracticable, to reach Mexico by that route. His advice was probably overruled by suggestions of others less qualified to judge. However that may have been, Gen. Taylor was ordered to advance, first, from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande, from Matamoros to Camargo, from Camargo to Monterey, and from Monterey to Saltillo, and from thence onward. Instead of exercising his own discretion, he has OBEYED ORDERS, up to the receipt of the very last. We have no doubt that it was the united recommendation of the principal officers under General Taylor’s command, as well as of that general himself, forwarded after the conclusions of the armistice at Monterey, that contributed to influence our government to relinquish or materially modify their design of progress in that direction, and to countermand their previous orders.

The impression now is, that the most formidable movement will be from some point on the gulf, either Tampico, Vera Cruz, or some other place, much nearer to the “Hall of the Montezumas,” and to, and from which supplies or reinforcements may be forwarded without on third of the cost of either time or expense, that would be required by the Saltillo route. To concentrate an adequate force at this new point, and furnish it with ample supplies for a successful invasion through the thickly populated portion of Mexico to its capital, will require some months. Mean time, whatever has been taken possession of, must be held by our army and navy.

There are indications also, more emphatic than on several former occasions, that Vera Cruz is to be attacked both by sea and land. Our taking possession of that place would be nearly as sever a blow to Mexico as the taking of the city of Mexico itself. Com. STEWART, one of the most experienced officers of the navy, has proceeded to Washington, by direction of the executive, and the impression here is, that the command of the naval operations in the gulf, and hoist his broad pendant on board one of our heaviest ships of the line, now fitting out for that purpose. Com. MORRIS left Washington on the 2d inst. for New York, it is said, with a view of procuring bombs and other materiel for an attack on Vera Cruz. Gen. Scott and Com. Stewart are directly to act in concert, and the largest powers have no doubt been confided to their joint discretion for the management of the invasion and conquest of Mexico. No officers in our service have the advantage of more experience; by age if it qualifies for counsel, is apt, in an equal degree to disqualify for active operations, either at sea or in the field.

Our latest dates from Brazos San Jago, are to the 21st ult. The Baltimore committee to bring home the remains of the Maryland heroes that fell that Monterey, reached Brazos on the 19th from New Orleans. No intelligence from Monterey later than heretofore given.

From New Orleans we learn that the steamship Alabama, of N. O., has been purchased by the U. S. government for $90,000.

The steamer Neptune, was to leave Brazos for Tampico on the 21st inst., with seven companies of regulars of the second regiment artillery under the command of Col. Belton. The steamer Sea was taking in the field battery, consisting of to 18-pounders and sixteen 6-pounders.

The U. S. steamer Mississippi, Com. Perry’s flagship, left the Balize on the 23d ult for Tampico.

The schr. J. T. Bertine, from New Orleans for Matagorda, with government stores, was wrecked on the 9th ult. – vessel and cargo a total loss. [KMK]

NNR 71.209 December 5, 1846 condensed table of killed and wounded at Monterey

| KILLED AND WOUNDED AT THE SIEGE OF MONTEREY |

We are indebted to the N. O. Picayune for the following recapitulation, prepared from the returns which were inserted in a late number of the Register – page 182. “This,” says the P. “makes the sum total of killed and wounded 550. If to these were added a few classed as missing, it would bring up our loss nearly to the figure we once gave – namely, 561.”

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DIVISIONS</th>
<th>Officers</th>
<th>Privates</th>
<th>Officers</th>
<th>Privates</th>
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<tr>
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GEN. TWIGGS’
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<th>Killed</th>
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<td><strong>2d Regiment Dragoon's</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1st Infantry</strong></td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>2d Infantry</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3d Infantry</strong></td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4th Infantry</strong></td>
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<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3rd Artillery</strong></td>
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<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Light Artillery</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Baltimore Battalion</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Capt. Shriver's Company of Texas Volunteers</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>9 47 1 6 4 106 - 17</strong></td>
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**GEN. WORTH'S**

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<th>Unit</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Artillery</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5th Infantry</strong></td>
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<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7th Infantry</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8th Infantry</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Phoenix Company of Louisianna Volunteers</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Colonel Hays' Regiment of Texas Volunteers</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>25 19 21</strong></td>
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**GEN. BUTLER'S**

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<td><strong>Gen. Commanding</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Kentucky Regiment</strong></td>
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<td>5</td>
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<td><strong>Ohio Regiment</strong></td>
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<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td><strong>32</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regiment</td>
<td>Killed</td>
<td>Wounded</td>
<td>Total</td>
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<tr>
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<td>---------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee Regiment</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi Regiment</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Col. Wood's Texas Rangers</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Killed 56, wounded 224]</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>68</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>125</td>
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<td>216</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Grand total killed 158  
- wounded 302

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**NNR 71.209 December 5, 1846 Capt John Gross Barnard to supervise fortifications at Tampico**

TAMPICO. – Captain J. G. Barnard, of the engineer corps, embarked in the *Mississippi* with Commodore Perry, for Tampico for the purpose we understand, of superintending the fortifications there, and putting them into a suitable state of defence. We consider that this port is a most important position for the future prosecution of the war, and are pleased to see the indications that the government intend to garrison and hold it – General Brooke, will have, in a short time, five or six hundred disposable troops in this place, all of which are to be embarked, without delay, for that place, and an additional force will no doubt be sent from the Rio Grande.

*N. O. Bulletin.*

The bark *Ivanona* with troops for Brazos, to sail on Tuesday, (December 1st,) has received orders to change her destination to Tampico.

*N. Y. Journal of Commerce*

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**NNR 71.209-12/5/1846 Movement of General Kearney**

From Santa Fe, we have dates via St. Louis, to the 20th October. General Kearney had reached 205 miles south of Santa Fe, on his route to California, but had already abandoned his wagons. Serious apprehensions were entertained at Santa Fe in regard to the subsistence of the army there. The troops were without money and the war office currency was hawked about at ten per cent. discount, without finding buyers. Gen. Kearney had sent back all but 100 of the officers and men that he had started from Santa Fe with. [SCM]

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**NNR 71.209 December 5, 1846 concern about subsistence at Santa Fe**

FROM SANTA FE, we have dates via St. Louis, to the 20th October. General Kearney had reach 205 miles south of Santa Fe, on his route to California, but had already abandoned his wagons. Serious apprehensions were entertained at Santa Fe in regard to the subsistence of the army there. The troops were without money and the war office currency was hawked about at ten per cent. Discount, without finding buyers. Gen. Kearney had sent back all but about 100 of the officers and men that he had started from Santa Fe with. [KMK]
Mexican Recreants- The Mexican papers state that the following officers have been dispossessed of their command by the order of Santa Anna, and directed to proceed to the town of Los Pozas, to be tried for having misbehaved before the enemy at Monterey. Generals Don Antonio Maria de Jaurequi, and Don Simeon Ramirez; Colonels J. Carrasco and N. Enciso; Lieutenant Colonels J. Castro and J. Fernandez; Majors J. M. Beant of the battalion of San Luis, M. Huerta. General Ponce de Leon is charged with preparing the accusations against them. [SCM]

TAMPICO- Captain J. G. Barnard, of the engineer corps, embarked in the Mississippi with Commodore Perry, for Tampico. For the purpose we understand, of superintending the fortifications there, and putting them into a suitable state of defence. We consider that this port is a most important position for the future prosecution of the war, and are pleased to see the indications that the government intend to garrison and hold it- General Brooke, will have, in a short time, five or six hundred disposable troops at this place, all of which are to be embarked, without delay, for that place, and an additional force will no doubt be sent from the Rio Grande. [SCM]

"ARMY OF THE CENTRE"
MARCH FROM SAN ANTONIO DE BEXAR TO THE RIO GRANDE

Camp near Presidio de Rio Grande
Mexico, October 13, 1846

SIR: In compliance with your instructions, I have the honor to submit, herewith, a brief report of your route and march from San Antonio de Bexar to the Rio Grande:

First day, September 29th – The march commenced at 9 o’clock in the morning; and in about one hour, the dry bed of the Alazon Arroyo was crossed, water being found there only at uncertain periods. After leaving this narrow valley, the land rises, and is somewhat rolling, but, with the exception of the lines of shrubbery which skirt the water courses, is generally destitute of vegetation. The Leon is about three miles from Alazon, and the Medio four or five miles from Leon. These streams are seldom dry. The Medina, distant about twenty-six miles from San Antonio, was forded at 4 o’clock P. M. – This is a fine stream of water, rising N. W. of San Antonio, and a never failing tributary of the river of that name. The village of Castroville is located here; the inhabitants are mostly German. The place is yet in its infancy, and, of course, incapable of furnishing supplies of any sort to any considerable extent. It is understood that several hundred bushels of corn have been procured in the vicinity this season. The camp was a mile west of the village. – On the right bank of the river the grazing was not good; the dragoon horses, were, therefore, sent over the river, where the grass had not suffered from the fire.

Second day – It was 7 o’clock this morning when we left the camp. In a short time we reached a hill of considerable height, in descending which, the axle-tree of an ammunition wagon was broken. The main body, however, passed on, after the necessary means were taken for repairs, and entered upon a wild and broken country, differing very much from that traversed the day before. The Quije was crossed about 10 o’clock, distant from the Medina about nine miles. The land here is fertile, and near it a small German settlement is formed, but there is no evidence of prosperity in its appearance, and the people complain of much sickness. From the Quije to the Alamos there is a distance of five miles, and thence to the Hondo is about seven miles. The country is rolling and rocky; has more timber than is usual in Texas, among which the stunted live oak, the only kind found here, is most conspicuous. The Hondo is good water, but is not a continuous stream; near our encampment the water was found only in pools. We reached this position at 2 o’clock P. M.

Third day – The march of this day commenced a few minutes before sunrise. Soon after leaving camp, the column entered upon an open prairie, presenting the worst features of the hog wallow species; which in wet weather would be almost impassable. The Seco is nearly seven miles from the Hondo, and, from its name, is probably dry at certain seasons.

The Sabinal was crossed a few minutes after 12 o’clock, where we found the advance, under Colonel Harney, in camp. The soil through which the road of to-day passes is generally of clay, with superficial deposits of gravel. Distance of to-day about twenty miles.

Fourth day – The whole body started this morning at 5 o’clock. The country traversed throughout the day is thickly covered with herbs and dwarf shrubs, but the trees are few and of little size. Stony creek is about seven miles from the Sabinal, and from it to the west branch of the Frio the distance is nearly the same. The second dragons, infantry, and volunteers were encamped at this place, while the first dragons and artillery passed on over a road of almost solid limestone, shaded at intervals by scraggy live oaks to the Leona, where we arrived about 12 o’clock. It was necessary to
cut down the banks of this creek preparatory to the passage of the train which, after the labors of the pioneers, was successfully accomplished. The water of this stream is the best on the route, and it is asserted that the quantity is annually increasing. In its immediate vicinity, on the left bank, the soil is rich, and covered with an unusually dense growth of timber. The grazing is not good.

Fifth day – After leaving the bottom of the Leona, the country presents the usual appearance of the prairie, is of a sterile and unproductive character, stony, and without much timber. We came in sight of the Nueces in three hours’ march, distant about ten miles from the Leona. On the left bank of the river there is an open prairie; but either from fires or previous encampments, furnished a very scanty supply of grass.

Sixth day – The Nueces was forded about 6 o’clock in the morning, after which the column entered upon a desert region, abounding in dwarf specimens of chaparral and mezquite, and a luxurious growth of prickly pear. Between the Nueces and the Mina, an interval of seven or eight miles, the soil is of clay, with the exception of a belt of sand about half a mile in width, nearly midway between the streams. The banks of the Mina required a little labor to render the ford practicable. Traversing a continuation of the same desert waste, we arrived at the channel of the Erquipula about 10 o’clock. This was found perfectly dry, and made is necessary to proceed to the Chaparaoza, distant about ten miles from the Mina, which we reached about noon. The water here was in stagnant pools, separated from the natural bed of the stream.

Seventh day – From the Chaparaoza the road lies through a hog wallow prairie, extending a mile or two, which then becomes sandy, and abounds in the usual amount of thorny vegetation. The Saline, or Salidito, is five or six miles distant from the Chaparaoza; its name indicates that its waters are brackish, and Mexican guides so report them; such however is not the fact; and in purity of flavor it is hardly surpassed by any stream on the route. A temporary bridge of branches required a few repairs before the passage of the artillery and baggage wagons was effected. Passing over a region of the country of the same uninviting aspect as before, we reached the Picoza, about fifteen miles from the Chaparaoza, which, like the latter, consisted only of a detached pools of bad water, and so thickly surrounded with the prickly pear as almost to elude the search. The grazing here was poor, and it was deemed advisable to proceed further. Four miles in advance we came upon a series of pools, the waters of which are somewhat brackish, and to which, doubtless, the name of Salidito, was originally given, now misapplied, as above stated, to a stream of pure fresh water. After halting here a short time, intelligence was received that there was good water ahead; and in about an hour’s march we reached another collection of ponds, which, in high water, are supposed to form a rivulet, whose confluence with the Cuevas, ten or eleven miles farther west, it is conjectured, forms the Norita. The fuel at this place was scarce, and the grazing scanty. – Distance to-day twenty-two miles.

Eighth day – The country traversed to-day is generally flat, an supports but a very scattered growth of vegetation. We encamped on the banks of the supposed Cuevas. Fuel was with difficulty procured here, and even the prickly pear was reduced to a dwarf. The water was in ponds, muddy and unpalatable. This encampment was continued until the 8th; it having been determined to await the arrival of the troops under Colonel Harney, and effect a concentration of both detachments, before proceeding to the Rio Grande, distant about twelve miles. – These troops came up on the 7th, about 10 o’clock, A. M.

Tenth day – The army arrived at the Rio Grande this day at 11 o’clock A. M. The road is very winding, and passes over several narrow and deep ravines, which were crossed, however, without much difficulty. The country is hilly, the vegetation stunted and scattered, and the soil of indifferent quality.

The line of march is known as Wool’s road. It is more circuitous than the old Presidio route; but by crossing the streams nearer their source, it is perhaps practicable for an army during a greater portion of the year. Its general direction is southwesterly; the southing being mostly made west of the Nueces.

It may be added that the march was accomplished under circumstances no less favorable than was the success which attended it remarkable. It had been preceded by a drought of several weeks, which had not only rendered the road hard and in good condition for traveling, but had reduced the streams to a fordable depth. Over many of the latter it would be very difficult to construct bridges during freshets, and to ford them at such times would be impossible. A large portion of the route lies through a country, the soil of which is of such a nature that even light rains would convert the roads into a condition so as to be impassable for loaded wagons, even if the streams offered no obstacles. It is presumed that east of the Nueces, during all seasons, there is an ample supply of water; west of that river, however, the streams are generally shallow, and soon become dry. It cannot be doubted, therefore, that droughts of long duration are favorable to military operations in this country.

The temperature during the march has been very unequal, and its extremes appear somewhat remarkable. On some days the mercury has ranged from 90° to 95° Fahrenheit, and at night it has sunk to 48°. These nights, though cold, have been favorable, as the heavy deposits of dew thereby produced greatly improved the grazing, and might have proved, if necessary, a substitute for water.

Very respectfully, I am, sir,
Your obedient servant,
C. P. KINGSBURY
Lieutenant Ordinance.

Brigadier General J. E. WOOL,
Com’dng Centre Division Army of Mexico
AMPUDIA’S PROCLAMATION,

The general commanding the Army of the North to the people of these departments:

Fellow Citizens: Occupied before all things else in providing for the defence of the rights and integrity of the territory of our beloved republic against the enemy that has invaded her soil, the supreme government thought proper to entrust to me the command of the patriotic troops destined on the northern frontier to this holy purpose. I accepted with enthusiasm, the post assigned me – [for the zeal with which I have ever defended the holy cause of the people is notorious to every one] – and in the beginning of the month assumed the direction of such means as were in my power to repel the advance of the enemy, But fearing that the charge would prove too great for my feeble abilities, I solicited the worthy and most excellent Senor Gen. Don Juan Neponuceno Almonte to come and relieve me from the command of the army, presuming that the illustrious conqueror of Panuco would on his return to Mexico resume the reins of our national government.

On the 19th instant the enemy having appeared in the vicinity of Monterey and encamped in the San Comingo woods – their camp being one league in length and three leagues in circumference, I ordered their movements to be carefully observed, and hostilities to be commenced forthwith; the generals and other officers, who were under my command, of every branch of the service, being all decided to risk combat rather than retreat.

The redoubts of the Citadel and of the new Cathedral opened their fires the same day upon the enemy, who were occupied during that and he succeeding day in reconnoitering and preparing for the attack.

On the 21st, the assault was made by a formidable body of their troops, chiefly of the regular army upon the bridge of the Purisima and our redoubts of the Teneria and Rincon del Diablo, but they were gloriously driven back by our valiant veterans, with a positive loss to our adversaries of fifteen hundred men.

On the morning of the 22d, Gen. Taylor directed his column of attack against the Bishop's hill, an elevation commanding the city, and although in their first advance they were repulsed in a skirmish, a full brigade of regular troops returned to the charge. – Unfortunately two pieces of cannon and a mortar, which defended the position, go out of order and became useless, and, although as soon as advised of it, I sent a reinforcement of infantry, with two pieces of light artillery, to their aid, it reached the hill too late – the enemy had already succeeded in obtaining possession of the castle.

This accident compelled me to concentrate my force in the Plaza, in order to present to the foe a more vigorous defence, and to repel on the 23d as was done, the assaults made by them through the streets and houses of the city. But, as under these circumstances, I suffered great scarcity of ammunition and provisions, and in spite of the ardor with which the entire army, both regulars and auxiliaries, were animated, I proposed to the American general a parley, which resulted in an understanding by which the honor of the nation and the army, the personnel of the division under my command, its arms and equipments were preserved.

This is a true statement of the operations of the campaign up to the 24th inst., and if an inadequate supply of means and other circumstances have led to this result, we have yet no cause for a moment's dismay, for the republic will now put forward all her elements of greatness: and with one single victory, which we may, shaft, and must obtain, will solve the problem definitely in favor of our arms.

People of the East: The event which occurred at Monterey is of little moment. The favorite general of the Mexicans, and worthy and most excellent Senor Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, will promptly take charge, in person, of the direction of the campaign. Let the sacred fire of patriotism continue to burn in our bosoms, and without fiel we will triumph over our enemies.

PEDRO DE AMPUDIA
Headquarters, Saltillo, 29th Sept., 1846

Com. Matthew Calbraith Perry's official account of affair at Tabasco

A detailed account of the proceedings of the expedition under my command along the eastern coast of Mexico.

I left the anchorage at St. John Lizardo on the evening of the 16th of October, with the steamer "Mississippi," having on
The next daylight I captured, off the bar of Alvarado, the American barque "Coosa," found in treasonable communication with the enemy: and the same day the "Vixen" chased and boarded the American schooner "Portia." The "Coosa" was dispatched to this place as a price, and the "Portia" was permitted to proceed, her papers having been endorsed. From the day of our leaving "Alvarado" (the 17th) up to the 22d, we had a succession of very bad weather, which gave me much trouble in keeping my little command together. During the interval however, we captured and sent in the Mexican schooner "Telegraph." On the 23d, all the vessels, with the exception of the "Reefer," (previously separated in a gale) reached the bar of the river Tabasco; and having determined on attacking the commercial town of Frontera, at the mouth of the river, and the city of Tabasco, situated 74 miles higher up, I placed myself on board of the "Vixen," leaving the "Mississippi" in command of Commander Adams, at anchor outside, and taking in tow the "Bonita" and "Forward," with the barges containing the detachment under command of Captain Forrest, I crossed the bar, the "Nonata" following under sail.

The "Vixen" with this heavy drag steadily ascended the stream against a four-knot current and arriving near to Frontera, I discovered two steamers (of which I had received previous information) firing up, doubtless in the hope of escape, but the "Vixen" proceeded ahead; followed by the other vessels and all the vessels in port were in our possession, excepting only the schooner "Amado," which vessel, attempting to escape up the river, was pursued by Lieut. Commandant Benham in the "Bonita," and captured.

Desirous of reaching Tabasco before they would have time for increasing their defences, the detachment under Captain Forrest was placed on board the largest of the captured steamers, the "Petrita," and barges in tow, and the "Vixen," with the "Bonita," left Frontera at half past 9 the next morning. Lieut. Walsh being left in command of the place.

After steaming all night, and encountering various incidents arising from the rapidity of the current and the circuitous course of the stream, we arrived at 9 the next morning in sight of Fort Aceachappa, intended to command a most difficult pass of the river.

On our approach, the men employed in preparing the guns for service fled, and we passed it unmolested, but I was careful to cause the guns to be spiked.

Anticipating serious resistance at this place, arrangement had been made for landing Capt. Forrest with his detachment a mile below the fort, to march up and carry it by storm.

At noon, all the vessels anchored in line of battle in front of the city at half-musket range, when I immediately summoned it to surrender, the boats meanwhile being employed in securing five merchant vessels found at anchor in port.

To my summons sent by a flag with Capt. Forrest, a refusal to capitulate was returned, with an invitation to me to fire as soon as I pleased. Suspecting, as I did, that this answer was given more in bravado than in earnest, and being extremely reluctant to destroy the place, I entertained the hope that a few shots fired over the buildings would have caused a surrender. According I directed the guns of the "Vixen" alone to be fired, and at the flag staff, sending an order to all the vessels to avoid, so far as possible, in case of a general fire, injury to the houses distinguished by consular flags.

At the third discharge from the "Vixen," the flag disappeared from the staff. On seeing it down, I ordered the firing to cease, and sent Captain Forrest again ashore to learn whether it had been cut down by our shot, or purposely struck; the reply was, that it had been shot away, and the city would not be surrendered.

I now directed Capt. Forrest, with the force under his command, to land and take position in the city, commanded by our guns. This movement brought on a scattering fire of musketry from various parts of the city, which was returned by the flotilla.

Perceiving towards evening that the enemy did us but little injury, though openly exposed on the decks of the small vessels, and their balls passing through our slight bulwarks, and apprehending, from the proverbial heedlessness of sailors, that should they and the marines be attacked in the narrow streets after dark, they would be cut off by sharp-shooters from the houses, I ordered the detachment to be re-embarked.

In this position the vessels remained all night, the crews lying at their quarters ready to return the fire of the artillery of the enemy, which I was supposed they would have had the courage to have brought down under the cover of the night to the openings of the streets opposite to our vessels, but they left us undisturbed.

Learning that the merchants, and other citizens of the city, were desirous that a capitulation should be made, but were overruled by the governor, who, regardless of consequences, and secure himself against attack, was content that the city should be destroyed rather than surrender, I determined from motives of humanity not fire gain, but to pass down to Frontera with my prizes.
In the morning, however, the fire was recommenced from the shore, and was necessarily returned, but with renewed orders to regard the consular houses so far as they could be distinguished. In the midst of the fire, a flag of truce was displayed on shore, on perceiving which, I caused the firing again to cease, and Captain Forrest was sent to meet its bearer, who submitted a written communication addressed to me, a copy of which with a copy of my replay, marked B and C will be found enclosed.

As an assurance of my sincerity, I now hoisted a white flag, and directed the prizes to drop down the stream, intending to follow with the flotilla; but, in violation of the understanding implied in the beforementioned correspondence, the enemy, in discovering that one of the prizes had drifted ashore in front of the city, collected a large force within and behind the houses in the vicinity, an commenced a furious fire upon her. Lieut. Parker, of this ship, in command of the prize, defended her in the most gallant manner, and ultimately succeeded in getting her again afloat, having one of her men killed and two wounded.

It was in carrying an order to Lieutenant Parker that Lieutenant Morris was wounded. He had been of infinite service to me from the time we left Lizardo, and conducting himself during the bombardment with remarkable deliberation and coolness, he approached the prize in a line to cover his boat, and though apparently regardful of the safety of the officers and men of the boat, who were seated, he stood erect himself, and the ball struck him in the throat. No one can deplore the fate of this very valuable young officer more than myself. – His loss is irreparable to the service and to his family.

It may well be supposed that on perceiving the attack upon the prize, I reopened upon the city, which again silenced their fire. I now proceeded with the flotilla and prizes down the river. One of the prizes, a small schooner of the little value, having grounded in a dangerous pass, and knowing that it would be difficult to extricate her without causing inconvenient delay, I ordered her to be burned.

We arrived safely at Frontera on the evening of the 26th, the "Vixen" having towed down the river five vessels and several barges.

From Frontera I dispatched my prizes to this place; an after destroying all the vessels and craft found in the river of too little value to be manned, I proceeded on the 31st to rejoin you, leaving the "McLane" and "Forward" at anchor opposite Frontera to continue the blockade of the river and to afford protection and shelter to the neutral merchants, residents of the place, who professed themselves in apprehension of violence from the Mexican soldiery should they be left unprotected.

Our our way to this place the prize steamer Petrita, in company and in sight of this vessel, captured the American brig "Plymouth," found engaged in landing a cargo upon the enemy's coast.

M. C. PERRY

In regard to the "McLane" I propose to make a special communication.

P. S. – I omitted to mention, that while lying off the bar of Tabasco, this ship boarded the Campeachy schooner "Fortuna" and the French brig "Jenne Amadee," on the papers of both of which a notification of blockade was endorsed. [KMK]

NRR 71.218 December 5, 1846  addition to the official report of the affair at Tabasco

U. S. STEAMER MISSISSIPPI St. John Lizardo, near Vera Cruz, Nov 3d, 1846.

SIRS: It seems to be just and proper, and it is certainly gratifying task, to make known to you for the information of the department, the excellent conduct of the officers and men who served under my command in the late expedition to Tabasco. The enterprise and spirit displayed by them, on every occasion, gave sufficient evidence that in scenes more sanguinary they would do full honor to the corps.

I was particularly indebted to Capt. Forrest for his promptitude; cheerfulness, and judgment in carrying out my instructions.

To commander sands, and officers and men of the "Vixen," to Commander Adams; to Lieuts. Commanding Benham, Sterrett, and Hazard, and their respective officers and men; to Capt. Edson, and Lieuts. Gist, Winslow, Walsh, Hunt, and Parker, and their detachments – in a word, to all and every one – I am under lasting obligations for the zeal and energy with which they seconded my plans.

I am, sir, respectfully, Your obedient servant,

Commodore David Conner, commander-in-chief U. S. naval forces, Gulf of Mexico

[KMK]
SIR – Pursuant to the instructions of the Major General commanding, on the 21st instant, at about 8 o’clock A. M. I marched my division, (with the exception of one company from each infantry regiment, left to guard the camp), and placed it in order of battle, under cover, immediately in rear of the mortar and howitzer battery, my left resting on the main road to Monterey. I had been in position but a short time when I received the General’s further orders to move as speedily as practicable, with three regiments, to the support of General Twiggs’s division, then engaged in an attempt to carry the enemy’s first battery on our left. To expedite this movement, I marched the three nearest regiments, commanded respectively by Col. s Davis, Campbell, and Mitchell, by the left flank, leaving Col. Ormsby to sustain the batteries. Finding the rifle regiment in front, that of Col. Campbell was ordered to take its place. The two last mentioned regiments constituting General Quitman’s field brigade, he took the immediate command of them, and moved off with spirit and promptness in the direction indicated by the enemy’s line of fire. Having seen General Quitman’s brigade fairly in motion, I turned my attention to that of General Hamer, now consisting of the Ohio regiment only. Pursuing the instructions of the Major General, I felt my way gradually, without any knowledge of the localities, into that part of the city bordering on the enemy’s continuous line of batteries, assailed at every step by heavy fines in front and flank. After having traversed several squares, I met Major Mansfield, the engineer who had conducted the movement of General Twiggs’ division on the first battery. He informed me of the failure of that attack, and advised the withdrawal of my command, as there could no longer be any object in advancing further, warning me at the same that if I advanced I must meet a fire that would sweep all before it. Knowing the Major General commanding to be but a short distance in the rear, I galloped back and communicated this information, in consequence of which he gave the order to retrograde, and the movement was commenced accordingly. In a short time, however, it was known that General Quitman’s brigade had not only stormed the battery in question, but had also carried a stone house of considerable strength connected with the first, and occupied by the enemy’s infantry. The direction of Gen. Hamer’s brigade was at once hanged, and the city re-entered by another route, which, after about a half hour’s march under a destructive fire, brought it within, say one hundred yards of the enemy’s second fort, called El Diablo. A very slight reconnaissance sufficed to convince me that this was a position of no ordinary strength. – Still feeling its importance, after consulting with a part of my staff as to its practicability, I had resolved to attempt carrying it by storm, and was in the act of directing the advance, when I received a wound which compelled me to halt. Col. Mitchell was at the same time wounded at the head of his regiment, as was his adjutant. The men were falling fast under the converging fire of at least three distinct batteries, that continually swept the intervening space through which it was necessary to pass. – The loss of blood, too, from my wound rendered it necessary that I should quit the field; and I had discovered at a second glance that the position was covered by a heavy fire of musketry from other works directly in its rear, that I had not seen in the first hasty examination. Under all these discouragements, I was most reluctant compelled, on surrendering the command, to advise the withdrawal of the troops to a less exposed position. There is a possibility that the work might have been carried, but not without excessive loss, and if carried, I feel assured it would have been untenable.

Accordingly, the division under Gen. Hamer, on whom devolved the command, moved to a new position near the captured fort and within sustaining distance of our field batteries on the left. The troops remained in and near this position, and under fire of the enemy’s batteries until late in the day. For the details of the after proceedings of the day, I refer to Gen. Hamer’s report.

It is with no . . . . pride and gratification that I bear testimony of the gallantry and good conduct of my command. Were proof . . . . one is . . . . casualties of the day. That part of my division properly in the field did not exceed eleven hundred of which number full one fifth were either killed or wounded. The fact that troops for the first time under fire should have suffered such loss without shrinking, in a continuous struggle for more than two hours, and mainly against a sheltered and inaccessible foe, finds but few parallels, and is of itself an eulogium to which I need no add. That there were some more prominent for skill and gallantry than others, even in a contest where all were brave, there can be no doubt; and I leave to those better qualified from their situations than myself the pleasing though delicate task of reporting upon their respective merits.

Of my brigadiers, however, it is proper that I should myself speak. Gen. Hamer was placed in a situation where nothing brilliant could be achieved, but which at every moment imperatively demanded prudence, and calm unbending courage. It is but justice to him to say that I found him equal to the emergency.

General Quitman had before him a field in which military genius and skill were called into requisition, and honors could be fairly won, and I but echo the general voice in saying that he nobly availed himself of the occasion.

My special thanks are due to Major L. Thomas, assistant adjutant general; Gen. A. Sidney Johnston, of Texas, acting inspector general, and Lieut. G. W. Lay, aid-de-camp, who not only displayed great gallantry and coolness, but, by their professional skill, activity, and energy, rendered valuable service throughout the action. After my withdrawal they remained with the troops in the field.
Surgeon R. P. Hunt, my volunteer aid-de-camp, also evinced great coolness, and conveyed promptly the orders confided to him.

On my way back to camp, I found the Kentucky regiment, under the command of Col. Ormsby, drawn up in find order to repel a threatened charge from a large body of Mexican cavalry then in view. Though necessarily kept from the held of action proper they occupied a most important position, and had two men wounded in defending it.

I make no mention of the movement of Captain Webster’s howitzer battery, which was withdrawn from division and placed under charge of the chief of artillery.

Enclosed are the reports of Brigadiers General Hamer and Quitman of the operations of their respective brigades; also, a statement in detail of the loss sustained by the division.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

W. O. BUTLER,
Maj. Gen. Com’dg. Field Division Volunteers

NRR 71.220 December 5, 1846 Gen. Thomas Lyon Hamer's report on the Battle of Monterey

Headquarters First Division of Volunteers,

Camp near Monterey, September 28, 1846

SIR – I have transmitted to Major General Butler a report of the operations of this first brigade of this division on the 21st instant; but it becomes my duty as a commandant of the division, to send you an account of the movements of both brigades during the remaining days of our attack upon Monterey.

For a full statement of the points occupied and the services rendered by the second brigade, I respectfully refer you to the report of Brigadier General Quitman, who accompanied the brigade, and whose communication to me is herewith sent. I was not with them to witness their gallantry; but from the General’s report, they are all entitled to great credit for the courage, energy, and zeal displayed on the 23d, in pushing their attack so far into the city, and sustaining themselves under the galling fires of the enemy, who had such decided advantages over them in their barricades and other defences.

On the mornings of the 23d, the first brigade was ordered out in front of the city, and took a position near the infantry of Gen. Twiggs’ command, where we remained until the afternoon. Whilst on the plain we could distinctly hear the discharges of small arms, occasionally between Gen. Quitman’s and Gen. Henderson’s command and the forces of the enemy in the city. When they were ordered to retire from the city and return to camp, the first brigade was directed to march to the town and occupy the fort taken on the 21st; the one above it, “El Diablo,” which had been abandoned by the enemy the previous evening, and tannery between them. – We obeyed the order, approaching them under a regular fire of balls and shells, which fortunately did us no injury.

Capt. Webster’s battery formed part of my command and, after stationing the brigade, I directed them to throw a couple of shells from his 24 pound howitzers into the plaza, where it was understood the principal force of the enemy was collected. He did so; and, as far as we could discover, with a great precision and considerable effect. Subsequently information confirmed our opinions in regard to the injury and alarm produced by these shells. During the night, General Worth threw several in the same direction from the batteries on the western side of the city, proving to the Mexicans that they were assailable in this form from both flanks.

Through the whole night the enemy threw up rockets from the plaza and from the citadel; no doubt expecting a night attack, and adopted this method to discover the approach of our troops.

Early on the morning of the 24th, we had made every preparation for renewing the attack upon the city, when we were suddenly arrested by a bugle with a flag of truce approaching the fort. It was accompanied by Col. Moreno, one of Gen. Ampudia’s aids, bearing a letter to the General-in-Chief. He was conducted to me by Lieut. Col. Rogers, from the upper fort, and I furnished him a horse and escort to Major General Taylor’s quarters in camp. – The firing on both sides was suspended until a conference could be held. This led to the capitulation by which the city was surrendered.

I have in my former report expressed my opinion in regard to the coolness and gallantry displayed by the officers and men under my command; and have only to add that their conduct, from the firing of the first to the last gun, was of the most meritorious character, richly deserving the approbation of their superior officers, and the gratitude of their countrymen.
Being ordered on the morning of the 22d to relieve Dol. Garland’s command, which had during the preceding night occupied the redoubt and fortifications taken on the 21st, my command marched from their encampment about 9 o’clock in the morning. Col Campbell, of the Tennessee regiment, being indisposed from the fatigue and exposure of the preceding day, the command of his regiment devolved on Lieut. Colonel Anderson. Both regiments were much reduced by the casualties of the preceding day, and the necessary details for the care of the wounded. – The much necessarily exposed the brigade for a short distance to a severe fire of artillery from the works still in possession of the enemy on this side of the city, and from the cross fire of the citadel. We were not allowed to reach our post without some loss. Private Dubois, of Captain Crump’s company of the Mississippi riflemen, was killed, and two men of the same company wounded before entering the work. The redoubt and adjacent works being occupied by my brigade and Lieut. Ridgely’s battery, a portion of the troops were engaged under the direction of Lieutenant J. Scarrett, of engineers, to strengthening our position on the side next to town.

At intervals during the whole day until 9 o’clock at night, the enemy kept up from their fortifications and from the citadel discharges of shell, round shot, and grape. It was in the forenoon of this day that, by the aid of our glasses, we were presented with a full view of the storming of the Bishop’s Palace by troops under Gen. Worth on the heights beyond the city. The shout by which our brave volunteers greeted the display of the American flag on the palace was returned by the enemy from their works near us by a tremendous fire of round shot and grape upon us without effect. During the day plans of assault on the adjacent Mexican works were considered of, but in the evening my attention was drawn to a line of about 1,500 Mexican infantry at some distance in the rear of their works. The presence of this force, amounting to nearly three times our effective number, which appeared to be posted for the protection of the works, induced me to give up all idea of forcing the works without reinforcements. During the night several reconnaissances were made with details of Captain Whitfield’s company in the direction of the redoubt “El Diablo.” Frequent signals between the different posts of the enemy during the night kept us on the alert; and at first dawn on the day on the 23d, it was discovered that had abandoned, or were abandoning, the strong works nearest to us. Colonel Davis, with a portion of his command, supported by Lieut. Colonel Anderson, with two companies of the Tennessee regiment, was ordered to take possession of the works. This was promptly done. The enemy had withdrawn their artillery during the night, and nothing of value fell into our hands but some prisoners and ammunition. From this work, which commanded a view of the cathedral and a portion of the great plaza of the city, we perceived another half moon or triangular redoubt in advance of us, and on our right, which appeared to be connected with heavy stone buildings and walls adjoining the block of the city. Having reported my observations to the Commanding General, who had approached the field of our operations, I received permission to advance upon the defences of the city in this direction, and, if deemed practicable, to occupy them. It was sufficiently apparent that all the approaches to the city on this side were strongly fortified. Wishing to proceed with caution, under the qualified permission of the Commanding General, I sent out a party of riflemen, under Lieut. Graves, to reconnoiter, supporting them at some distance by a company of Tennessee infantry, under Captain McMurry. Some active movements of the enemy in the vicinity induced me to halt this party, and to order out Colonel Davis, with two companies of his command and two companies of Tennessee troops, to advance on these works. As the troops advanced, armed men were seen flying at their approach. Upon reaching the redoubt which had attracted our attention, we perceived that it was open, and exposed to the fire of the enemy from the stone buildings and walls in the rear. It was therefore necessary to select a another position less exposed. Posting the two companies of infantry in a position to defend the lodgment we had effected, I directed Colonel Davis to post his command as he might deem most advantageous for defence or active operations, intending here to await further orders or reinforcements. In reconnoitering the place several shots were fired at Colonel Davis by the enemy and several files of the riflemen who had advanced to the slope of the breastworks, (No. 1), which had been thrown across the street for the defence of the city, returned the fire. A volley from the enemy succeeded. Our party having been reinforced by additions from the riflemen and infantry, a brisk firing was soon opened on both sides, the enemy from the house tops and parapets attempting to drive us from the lodgment we had effected. A considerable body of the enemy, securely posted on the top of a large building on our left, which partially overlooked the breastwork No. 1, continued to pour in their fire, and killed private Pryce, of company K, whose gallant conduct at the breastwork had attracted the attention of both his Colonel and myself. From this commencement, in a short time the action became general. The enemy appearing to be in great force and firing upon our troops from every position of apparent security, I dispatched my aid, Lieutenant Nichols, with orders to advance the whole of my brigade which could be spared from the redoubts occupied by us. A portion of the Mississippi regiment, under Major Bradford, advanced to the support of the troops engaged, but Lieut. Col. Anderson, with a part of the Tennessee regiment, was required to remain for the protection of the redoubts in our possession. With
this additional force more active operations upon the city were begun. Detachments of our troops advanced, penetrating into buildings and occupying the flat roofs of houses, and, by gradual approaches, driving the enemy back. They had been engaged more than an hour, when they were reinforced by a detachment of dismounted Texan rangers, commanded by General Henderson, with whose active and effectual cooperations the attack upon the city was gradually, but successfully prosecuted. Buildings, streets, and courts were occupied by our troops without much loss, until, after being engaged for about five hours, having advanced within less than two squares of the great plaza, apprehensive that we might fall within the range of our own artillery, which had been brought up to our support and our ammunition being nearly exhausted; active operations were ordered to cease until the effect of the batteries, which had been brought forward in one of the principal streets, could be seen. It being found that the barricades in the neighborhood of the plaza were too strong to be battered down by our own light artillery, the Commanding general, who had taken position in the city, ordered the troops gradually and slowly to retire to defences taken in the morning. This was done in good order, and the enemy occasionally firing upon us, but not venturing to take possession of the part of the town we had occupied. Our forces had scarce retired from their advanced position in the city when we heard the commencement of the attack of the division under General Worth on the opposite side of town. The force under my command had been engaged from eight o'clock in the morning to three P. M. It should be recorded, to the credit of the volunteer troops, that the greater portion of them had been without sustenance since the morning of the 22d, and exposed throughout the very inclement and rainy night of the 23d, to sever duty without blankets or overcoats, and yet not a murmur was heard among them – their alacrity remained unabated to the last moment. The character of this affair, the troops being necessarily separated into small parties, gave frequent occasion to the exhibition of individual courage and daring. The instances occurred so frequently in which both officers and men distinguished themselves, that to recount those which feel under my own observation, or which were brought to my notice by officers, would extend this report to an improper length. It is my duty and pleasure to mention the fact that veteran Gen. Lamar, of Texas, joined my command as a volunteer in the commencement of the attack on the city, and by his counsel and example aided and encouraged the troops. Major E. R. Price, of Natchez, and Capt. J. R. Smith, of Louisiana, both from the recently disbanded Louisiana volunteer in the commencement of the attack on the city, and by his counsel and example aided and encouraged the troops. Major E. R. Price, of Natchez, and Capt. J. R. Smith, of Louisiana, both from the recently disbanded Louisiana

NRR 71.221 December 5, 1846 Gen. David Emanuel Twiggs' report on the Battle of Monterey

Headquarters 1st division Army of Occupation,

Camp near Monterey, Sept. 29, 1846

SIR – For the information of the major general commanding the army of occupation I have the honor to make the following report of the operations of the divisions of the army under my command against the enemy in position at Monterey. On the morning of the 21st instant my division advanced towards the city. Lieut. Col. J. Garland’s brigade, composed of the 3d and 4th regiments of regular infantry and Capt. B Bragg’s horse artillery, Lieut. Col. H. Wilson’s brigade, composed of the 1st regiment of regular infantry and the Washington and Baltimore battalion of volunteers, were ordered to the east and lower end of the city, to make a diversion in favor of Brevet Big. Gen. W. J. Worth’s division, which as operation against the west and upper part of the city. It being deemed practicable, an assault was ordered against two of the enemy’s advanced works. The regular force of my division was thrown to the right of the two works, with orders to take possession of some houses in the city on the right and rear of the enemy’s advanced position, with a view of annoying them in flank and rear. The “Washington and Baltimore battalion” was ordered on the road leading directly to the works. Under a most galling and destructive fire from three batteries of small arms from all the adjacent houses and some walls, my divisions advanced as rapidly as the ground and the stern opposition of the enemy would admit of. The 1st, 3d, and 4th regiments of infantry gained the position to which they were ordered, and annoyed the enemy in flank and rear, until he was obliged to evacuate his two advanced works, which were hotly pressed by Gen. Butler’s division of volunteers, and the Washington and Baltimore battalion, under command of Lieut. Col. Watson.

The 3d and 4th advanced still further into the city, but finding the streets strongly barricaded by heavy masses of masonry, behind which batteries were placed, and the houses filled with tight troops, were obliged to retire to the works first taken by the volunteers. The position of the enemy’s batteries, and the arrangement of his defences, in every street and corner, rendered it necessary for the regular troops who advanced into the city to be separated, each company being led by its captain or immediate commander, and for the time acting independently. After a most manly struggle of some six hours, my men succeeded, after various repulses, in driving the enemy from each and every of his positions in the suburbs. The 3d infantry, commanded by Major W. W. Lear, and part of the 4th, all under the command of Lieutenant Colonel J. Garland, led off towards the right, and in the direction of one of the enemy’s strongest works in front of a bridge in the city. – Captain B. Bragg’s battery accompanied the command, under a destructive fire, which killed and disabled several of his men and horses, until directed to retire beyond the range of small arms. In this desperate struggle the 3d infantry and Captain L. N. Morris and G. P. Field, Brevet Major P. N. Barbour, First Lieutenant and Adjutant D. S. Irvin, and Second Lieutenant R. Hazlitt, killed, together with several non-commissioned officers and men, and its commanding officers, Major W. W. Lear, and Capt. H. Bainbridge, wounded, the former dangerously and the
A cessation of hostilities on the morning of the 24th stopped our further progress, and gave us time to collect the
of the city. When night closed our operations on the 23d, our men had advanced to within two squares of the center
working their way from house to house, supported by Captains R. Ridgely's and B. Bragg's batteries, driving the enemy
collecting and conveying the wounded to our camp. On the 23d the advance into the city was resumed, the infantry,
commanded by Lieut. Col. A. May, were not brought into action. They were, however, actively and usefully employed in
Owing to the position of the enemy and the nature of the ground, the two squadrons, of the 2d dragoons,
occupied this position until the morning of the 22d. Very materially in driving the enemy from them. Captain J. H. Lamotte, of the 1st, with his company, was mortally wounded by a twelve pounder before entering the town. The remainder of Capt. J. H. Lamotte's company being now without an officers, was incorporated with the others of the regiment. Capt. A. S. Miller's company 1st infantry was actively employed in driving the enemy from his hedges and stone fences near the advanced work, and having succeeded, with considerable less, took command of what remained of companies C, E, G, and K, 1st infantry, accompanied by Lieut. S. Hambleton, acting adjutant, Brevet Major J. J. Abercrombie, commanding the regiment, having been wounded, and Lieut. J. C. Terrett, his adjutant, and moved to repel a threatened attack on Capt. B. Bragg's battery by a body of lancers; after which his command joined Gen. Hamer's brigade, operating in the suburbs, and there remained 'till close of the day. The Baltimore and Washington battalion, commanded by the gallant Lieut. Col. Wm. H. Watson, who was killed whilst advancing under a heavy fire into the city, served in co-operation with the regular infantry. After their commander fell the companies were detached and did good service till the close of the day.

The number of killed and wounded in that assault shows with what obstinacy each position was defended by the
enemy, as well as the gallantry and good conduct displayed by our officers and men.

Capt. B. Bragg's company, having suffered severely, after advancing some distance into the city, was obliged to
withdraw to a point out of range of the enemy's small arms. Capt. R. Ridgely, with one section of his battery, annoyed the enemy's advanced works for some time in the commencement of the assault, but was obliged to retire out of the range of their batteries that were playing on him. Having used a twelve pounder taken from the first work against the enemy till the ammunition gave out, he was sent with one section of his own battery still further in advance; out, being unable to accomplish much against the enemy's heavy breastworks, returned to and occupied with it battery the first work taken from the enemy. Captains R. Ridgely and B. Bragg, and their subalterns, W. H. Shover, G. H. Thomas, J. F. Reynolds, C. S. Kilburn, and S. G. French, deserve the highest praise for their skill and good conduct under the heaviest fire of the enemy, which, when an opportunity offered, was concentrated on them. In the advanced works referred to were taken four officers and sixteen men, prisoners of war, together with five pieces of ordinance, some ammunition, and small arms. Having thrown up some slight breastworks, the 1st, 3d, and 4th infantry, and Capt. R. Ridgely's battery, occupied this position until the morning of the 22d.

Owing to the position of the enemy and the nature of the ground, the two squadrons, of the 2d dragoons,
commanded by Lieut. Col. A. May, were not brought into action. They were, however, actively and usefully employed in collecting and conveying the wounded to our camp. On the 23d the advance into the city was resumed, the infantry, working their way from house to house, supported by Captains R. Ridgely's and B. Bragg's batteries, driving the enemy before them. When night closed our operations on the 23d, our men had advanced to within two squares of the center of the city.

A cessation of hostilities on the morning of the 24th stopped our further progress, and gave us time to collect the
wounded and bury the dead. The operating strength of my command on the morning of the 21st was sixty three officers
and ten hundred and twenty-two men, and out of that number were killed and wounded fifteen officers and one hundred
and sixty-four men. I enclose herewith a tabular statement of the killed, wounded, and missing. Of the field officers, I
take pleasure in noticing the conduct of the late and lamented Col. W. H. Watson, of the Washington and Baltimore
battalion of volunteers, who fell at the head of his command, whilst gallantly leading it against the enemy's works, as also that of Major W. W. Lear, commanding the 3d infantry, who was dangerously wounded in the same assault, for which good service I present his name for praise and promotion. Lieutenants G. W. F. Wood, 1st infantry, and W. T. H. Brooks, 3d infantry, were actively and usefully employed as acting assistant and adjutant generals, the former to Lieut. Col. H. Wilson, 4th infantry, and the latter to Lieut. Col. J. Garland, of the 3d brigade. They were both dismounted by the enemy's artillery.

My staff officers, Lieut. D. C. Buell, 3d infantry, acting Assistant Adjutant General, and Lieut. P. W. McDonald, 2d
dragoons, Aid-de-Camp, rendered me valuable and meritorious services, in exposed positions, during the time my
division was engaged with the enemy.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. E. TWIGGS,

Major W. W. S. BLISS
Asst. Adj’t. Gen. Army of Occupation
NOTE – After Major W. W. Lear and Capt. H. Bainbridge left the 3d infantry wounded, that regiment was led and
commanded by Captain W. S. Henry, 3d infantry, until the close of the day. [KMK]
SIR: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to the verbal orders of the General-in-Chief, the division under my command, composed of Lieutenant Colonel Duncan’s battery of horse artillery, artillery battalion, (Lieutenant Colonel Childs,) and eighth regiment (Captain Scriven,) constituting the first brigade, under lieutenant Colonel Stanford, Lieutenant Mackall’s battery horse artillery, fifth infantry, (Major Scott,) seventh, (Captain Miles,) and one company Louisiana volunteers, (Captain Blanchard,) second brigade, under Brigadier General Persifer F. S., . . . (colonel of rifles,) and Colonel Hays’ regiment of Texan mounted riflemen, moved from the main camp at El Bosque de St. Comingo at 2 P. M. on the 20th.

My instructions were by a detour to . . . endeavor to find and reach the Saltillo road, through thorough reconnaissance of the approaches to the route from that direction, to enroll supplies and reinforcements, and if practicable, carry the heights.

Owing to the difficulties of the ground after leaving the Marin, and before striking the Presquina Grande road, the division had reached only six miles – in consequence of the delay in making the route practicable for artillery, which service was executed by Captain Sanders – at 6 P. M., and was halted just without the range of a gun battery upon the summit of an isolated hill, called Lomadne Independencia, and way on the ascent of which was the Bishop’s Palace. Thence a reconnaissance was made, under cover of detachments of Hay’s Texans, to the intersection of the Presquina Grande route, then in our possession with the Saltillo road. This examination resulted in the conviction that the grounds in our front and on our left, in advance, constituted at the same time the weak and the strong points of the enemy’s position, and entered mainly into the defences of the city – the weak point because commanding the only lines of retreat and of supply in the direction of Saltillo, and controlling that in direction of Presquina Grande, the strong point, because of the peculiarly defensive character of the hills and gorges, and of the very careful and skilful manner with which they had been fortified and guarded. It was clearly indicated that our further advance would be strenuously resisted.

On the morning of the 21st, the division was put in motion, and with such formation as to present the readiest order of battle on any point of assault. At ... o’clock the advance, consisting of Hays’ Texans supported by the light companies 1st brigade, under Capt. C. F. Smith, (both extended, as the valley widened or contracted,) closely followed by Duncan’s light artillery, and battalion, heads of columns, on turning an angle of the mountain, at a hacienda called San Jeronimo, came upon a strong force of cavalry and infantry, mostly the former. A conflict immediately ensued. The Texans received the heavy charge of cavalry with their unerring rifles and usual gallantry; the light companies opened a rapid and well-directed fire; Duncan’s battery was in action in one minute, (promptly supported by a section of Mackall’s,) delivering its fire over the heads of our men. Ere the close of the combat, which lasted but fifteen minutes, the first brigade had formed to the front, on the right and left, and delivered its fire, – The second brigade was held in reserve, the ground not admitting of its deployment. The enemy retired in disorder, (leaving on the ground one hundred killed and wounded; among the former Don Juan N. Najira, colonel of the permanent regiment of laneers,) upon the Saltillo road and was closely pursued until we got possession of the gorge, where all the debouches from Monterey unite, whereby the force just defeated, as also reinforcement and supplies from that direction, were excluded from entering the city. At this important point the division was halted, and attention directed toward the mountain forts which envelop the city on its western and south western faces. Soon discovering, however, that our position brought us within effective range of the batteries, the troops were advanced some eight hundred yards further on the Saltillo road.

The examination thus far had manifested, besides the importance of the positions, the impracticability of any effective operations against the city, until possessed of the exterior forts and batteries. Independent, however, of ulterior objects, the occupation of these heights became indispensable to the restoration of our line of communication with headquarters, necessarily abandoned for the moment in order to secure the gorges of the Saltillo road. At 12 M. a force was detached under Captain C. F. Smith, with orders to storm the batteries on the crest of the nearest hill, called Federacion, and after taking that to carry the fort called Soldada, on the ridge of the same height, retired about 600 yards. The two effectually guarded the slopes and roads in either valley, and consequently the approaches to the city. – This command consisted of four companies (K 2d, B 3d, and G and H, 4th infantry) of the artillery battalion, and Green’s McGowans, R. A. Gillespie’s, Chandler’s, Ballowe’s, and McCulloch’s companies of Texan riflemen, under Major Chevalier, acting in co-operation – in all about three hundred effectives. It was impossible to mask the movement of the storm-party. On approaching the base of the mountain the guns of both batteries opened a plunging fire, and numerous light troops were seen descending and arranging themselves at favorable points on the slopes. Perceiving these indications of determined resistance, Capt. Miles was detached with the 7th to support and co-operate with the first party. In a short time the fire became general, the enemy gradually yielding and retiring up the rugged acclivity, and our men as steadily pursuing. The appearance of heavy reinforcements on the summit, and the cardinal importance of the operation demanding further support, the 5th, under Major Scott, and Blanchard’s company of volunteers were immediately detached, accompanied by Brigadier General Smith, who was instructed to take direction in that quarter. On reaching the advance parties, Gen. Smith discovered that, under favor of the ground, he could, by diverting a portion of the force to the right, and moving it obliquely up the hill, carry the Soldada simultaneously with the Federacion. He accordingly very judiciously pointed and accompanied the 5th, 7th, and Blanchard’s company in that direction. Capt. Smith’s command having most gallantly carried the first object of attack, promptly turned the captured gun – a nine-pounder – upon the second, and moved on with his main body to participate in the assault upon Soldada; which was carried in gallant style by the forces under Scott, Miles, Blanchard, and Hays, (who had been detached on special service, but who returned in time to share with fifty of his men in the first assault, and to take a prominent part in the second,) the whole directed by Gen. Smith.
At this point we secured another 9 pounder, and immediately both pieces were brought to bear upon the Bishop’s Palace, situated upon and midway on the southern slope of the hill Independencia, a valley of only six hundred yards intervening. We had no secured an important advantage, and yet but half the work was done. The possession of these heights only made the more apparent the controlling importance of those opposite and the necessity of occupying the palace. A violent storm ensued, and night closing in, operations for the day ceased. The troops had now been thirty-six hours without food, and constantly taxed to the utmost physical exertions. Such as could be permitted slept with arms in hand, subjected to a pelting storm, and without covering, till 3 A.M., when they were aroused to carry the hill Independencia.

Lieut. Col. Childs was assisted to lead this storming party; consisting of three companies, I and G 4th and A 3d (artillery battalion;) three companies 8th infantry, (A, B, and C,) under Captain Scriven, with two hundred Texan riflemen, under Col. Hays and Lieut. Col. Walker, (captain of rifles,) acting in co-operation. The command moved at three, conducted to its point of ascent by Captain Sanders, military, and Lieut. Meade, topographical engineers. Favored by the weather, it reached by dawn of day within about one hundred yards of the crest, in which position, among the clefs of rock, a body of the enemy had been stationed the previous evening in apparent anticipation of attack. The enemy’s retreating fire was ineffectual, and not returned until Colonel Child’s and Hays’ command had reached within a few yards of the summit, when a well directed and destructive fire, followed by the bayonet of the regulars and rush of the Texans placed us in possession of the work. The cannon having been previously withdrawn, no impression could be made upon the massive walls of the palace or its outworks without artillery, except at enormous sacrifice.

Meanwhile, to reinforce the position, the 5th, Major Scott, and Blanchard’s volunteers, had been passed from the first heights, and reached the second in time to participate in the operations against the palace.

After many affairs of light troops and several feints a heavy sortie was made, sustained by a strong corps of cavalry, with desperate resolution, to repossess the heights. Such a move had been anticipated and prepared for. Lieut. Col. Childs had advanced, under cover, two companies of light troops under command of captain Vinton, acting major, and judiciously drawn up the main body of his command, flanked on the right by Hays and left by Walker’s Texans. The enemy advanced boldly, was repulsed by one general discharge from all arms, and fled in confusion, closely pressed by Childs and Hays, preceded by the light troops under Vinton; and, while they fled past our troops, entered the palace and fort. In a few moments the unpretending flag of the Union had replaced the gaudy standard of Mexico. The captured guns – one six inch howitzer, one twelve, and two nine pounder brass guns, together with Duncan’s and Mackall’s field batteries, which came up at a gallop, were in full and effective play upon the retiring and confused masses that filled the street (of which we had the prolongation) leading to the nearest plaza, la capella, also crowded with troops. At this moment the enemy’s loss was heavy. The investment was now complete. Except the force necessary to hold positions on Independencia and serve the guns, (shifted to points whence the shot could be made to reach the great plaza,) the division was now concentrated around the palace, and preparation to assault the city on the following day, or sooner, should the general in chief either so direct, or, before communication be had, renew the assault from the opposite quarter. – In the mean time attention was directed to every provision our circumstances permitted to alleviate the condition of our wounded soldiers and officers, to the decent interment of the dead, not omitting in either respect all that was due to those of the enemy.

About 10 A.M. on the 23d a heavy fire was heard in the opposite quarter. Its magnitude and continuance, as well as other circumstances, did not permit a doubt that the general was conducting a main attack, and that his orders for my co-operation (having to travel a circuit of some six miles) had miscarried, or failed to reach me by means of the numerous cavalry of the enemy. Under these convictions the troops were instantly ordered to commence an operation which, if not otherwise directed, I had designed to execute in part, under favor of the night. Two columns of attack were organized, to move along the two principal streets, leading from our position, in direction of the great plaza, composed of light troops slightly extended, with orders to mask the men whenever practicable; avoid those points swept by the enemy’s artillery; to press on the first plaza, Capella; to get hold of the ends of streets beyond, then enter the buildings, and by means of picks and bars break through longitudinal section of the walls; work from house to house, and, ascending to the roofs, to place themselves upon the breast height with the enemy. Light artillery by sections and pieces, under Duncan, Roland, Mackall, Martin, Hays, Irons, Clarke, and Curd, followed at suitable intervals, covered by reserves to guard the pieces and the whole operations against the probably enterprises of cavalry upon our left. – This was effectually done by seizing and commanding the head of every cross street. The streets, were, at different and well chosen points, barricaded by heavy masonry walls, with embrasures for one or more guns, and in every instance well supported by cross batteries. These arrangements of defence gave to our operations at this moment a complicated character, demanding much care and precaution; but the work went on steadily, simultaneously, and successfully. About the time our assault commenced, the fire ceased from our force in the opposite quarter. Disengaged on the one side, the enemy way enabled to shift men and guns to our quarters, as was soon manifested by accumulation of fire. At dark we had worked through the walls and squares, and reached to within one block of the great plaza, leaving a covered way in our rear – carried a large building which towered over the principal defences, and during the night and ensuing morning, crowned its roof with two howitzers and a six pounder. – All things were now prepared to renew the assault at dawn of day, when a flag was sent in, asking a momentary suspension of fire, which led to the capitulation upon the terms so honorable to our arms. – As the columns of attack were moving from the Palace hill, Maj. Munroe, chief of artillery, reached me with a ten inch mortar, which was immediately advanced to the plaza, Chapel, put in position masked by the church wall, its bed adjusted as rapidly as possible, and by sunset opened upon the great
Lieutenant Porter, 7th; Lieutenants Russel, 5th, and Wainright, 8th infantry, and Lieut. Reece, Texas riflemen, received the storming of the first heights, and perished in seeking similar distinction on a second occasion. Captain Gatlin and Gillespie, Texas volunteers, on the 22d. The latter eminently distinguished himself while leaving his brave company at de-camp, 7th; Lieutenant Robinson, 5th (quartermaster's department,) on the staff of General Smith, Lieutenant and having highly distinguished themselves by personal daring and efficient service. The officers of brigade and regimental the city, on which occasion he threw himself in advance, and on the most exposed points, animating the men by his Ross, 7th infantry; and Captain Scriven, commanding 8th infantry; to Lieut. Col. Walker, (captain of rifles, Major Palace, and who secured the colors. Each of the officers named either headed special detachments, columns of attack, storming parties, or detached guns, and all were conspicuous for conduct and courage. My attention has been particularly directed by General Smith to the gallant conduct of Lieutenant Gardner, 7th infantry, during the assault upon the city, on which occasion he threw himself in advance, and on the most exposed points, animating the men by his brave example. Particular attention has also been called to Lieutenants Nicholls, (brothers,) Louisiana volunteers, as having highly distinguished themselves by personal daring and efficient service. The officers of brigade and regimental staff were conspicuous in the field, or in their particular departments. Lieutenants Hanson, (commanding,) Vandorn, aid-de-camp, 7th; Lieutenant Robinson, 5th (quartermaster's department,) on the staff of General Smith, Lieutenant and Adjutant Clarke, 8th infantry, staff, 1st brigade; Lieutenants Benjamin, adjutant artillery battalion; Peck, ordinance officers, artillery battalion; G. Deas, adjutant 5th; and Page, adjutant 7th infantry, are highly commended by their respective chiefs, to the justness of which I have the pleasure to add my personal observation. In common with the entire division, my particular thanks are tendered to assistant surgeons Porter (senior,) Byrne, Conrad, DeLeon, and Roberts, (medical department,) who were ever at hand in the close fight, promptly administering to the wounded and suffering soldier. To the officers of the staff, general and personal, more especially associated with myself – Hon. Col. Balie Peyton, Louisianna troops, who did me the honor to serve as aid-de-camp; Captain Sanders, military engineers; Lieutenant Meade, topographical engineers; Lieutenants E. Deas, Damets, and Ripley, quartermaster's and commissary's staff, and Lieutenants Pembleton; 4th artillery, wood, 8th artillery; my aids-de-camp – I have expressed the greatest obligation. In such diversified operations; during the three days and nights, they were constantly in motion, performing every executive duty with zeal and intelligence only surpassed by daring courage in conflict. I beg to commend each to special consideration.

On the 25th, in conformity with the articles of capitulation, the citadel was taken possession of by a command consisting of two companies of each regiment, and one section of each battery, second division. General Smith was directed to take command of this corps, and conduct the ceremony, which duty he executed with delicacy to the unhappy and humiliated foe.

You will receive lists of captured munitions of war; lists of such as were surrendered have already been handed in. It is a source of high gratification that we have been able to accomplish such fortunate results with so moderate a sacrifice of gallant men. Annexed is a return of killed and wounded, exhibiting dates, actions, and circumstances.

When every officer and every soldier, regular and volunteer, has, through a series of harassing and severe conflicts, in the valley and on the mountain, in the street and on the house top, cheerfully executed every service and complied with every exaction of valor and patriotism, the task is as difficult as delicate to distinguish individuals; and yet it will always happen, as it has always happened in varied scenes of battle and siege, that fortune presents to some those opportunities which all would have seized with gladness and avidity. It is my pleasing and gratefully duty to present to the consideration of the general in chief, and through him to the government, the distinguished conduct of Brigadier Gen. Smith, colonel of rifles, Brevet Lieut. Col. Childs, artillery battalion; Col. Hays, Texan riflemen; Brevet Lieut. Col. Duncan, horse artillery, and Captain C. F. Smith, second artillery, commanding light troops first brigade.

My thanks are also especially due to Lieut. Col. Stamford, 8th, (commanding first brigade;) Major Munroe chief of artillery, (general staff;) Brevet Major Brown, Captain J. R. Vinton, artillery battalion; Captain J. B. Scott, artillery battalion, (light troops;) Major Scott commanding, and Captain Merrill, 5th; Captains Miles, commanding, Holmes, and Ross, 7th infantry; and Captain Scriven, commanding 8th infantry; to Lieut. Col. Walker, (captain of rifles, Major Chevalier, and Captain McCulloch of the Texan, and Captain Blanchard, Louisiana volunteers; to Lieutenants Mackall, (commanding battery,) Roland, Martia, Mays, Irons, Clarke, and Curd, horse artillery; Lieutenant Longstreet, commanding light company, 8th; Lieutenant Ayres artillery battalion, who was among the first in the assault upon the Palace, and who secured the colors. Each of the officers named either headed special detachments, columns of attack, storming parties, or detached guns, and all were conspicuous for conduct and courage. My attention has been particularly directed by General Smith to the gallant conduct of Lieutenant Gardner, 7th infantry, during the assault upon the city, on which occasion he threw himself in advance, and on the most exposed points, animating the men by his brave example. Particular attention has also been called to Lieutenants Nicholls, (brothers,) Louisiana volunteers, as having highly distinguished themselves by personal daring and efficient service. The officers of brigade and regimental staff were conspicuous in the field, or in their particular departments. Lieutenants Hanson, (commanding,) Vandorn, aid-de-camp, 7th; Lieutenant Robinson, 5th (quartermaster's department,) on the staff of General Smith, Lieutenant and Adjutant Clarke, 8th infantry, staff, 1st brigade; Lieutenants Benjamin, adjutant artillery battalion; Peck, ordinance officers, artillery battalion; G. Deas, adjutant 5th; and Page, adjutant 7th infantry, are highly commended by their respective chiefs, to the justness of which I have the pleasure to add my personal observation. In common with the entire division, my particular thanks are tendered to assistant surgeons Porter (senior,) Byrne, Conrad, DeLeon, and Roberts, (medical department,) who were ever at hand in the close fight, promptly administering to the wounded and suffering soldier. To the officers of the staff, general and personal, more especially associated with myself – Hon. Col. Balie Peyton, Louisianna troops, who did me the honor to serve as aid-de-camp; Captain Sanders, military engineers; Lieutenant Meade, topographical engineers; Lieutenants E. Deas, Damets, and Ripley, quartermaster's and commissary's staff, and Lieutenants Pembleton; 4th artillery, wood, 8th artillery; my aids-de-camp – I have expressed the greatest obligation. In such diversified operations; during the three days and nights, they were constantly in motion, performing every executive duty with zeal and intelligence only surpassed by daring courage in conflict. I beg to commend each to special consideration.

We have to lament the gallant Captains McKavett, 8th infantry, an officer of high merit, killed on the 21st, and Gillespie, Texas volunteers, on the 22d. The latter eminently distinguished himself while leaving his brave company at the storming of the first heights, and perished in seeking similar distinction on a second occasion. Captain Gatlin and Lieutenant Porter, 7th; Lieutenants Russel, 5th, and Wainright, 8th infantry, and Lieut. Reece, Texas riflemen, received honorable, happily not mortal, wounds.

The following non-commissioned officers are reported as having highly distinguished themselves; Sergeants Hazard, 4th, and Dilworth, 3d artillery; Quartermaster Sergeant Henry, 7th infantry; Cross, company C; Rounds Bradford, (color sergeant,) and Magg, company E; Barley, company I; and Ballard, 7th infantry.

In the several conflicts with the division, the enemy's loss is ascertained to exceed four hundred and fifty men; four 9 pounders, one 12 pounder brass gun, one 24 pound howitzer, and two national (garrison) standards captured.
On the 21st ultimo I was ordered with my second regiment to the support of General Worth; but, on arriving at the spirited officer (General Worth) whose military genius guided their valor and conducted to victory. by the reflection that the merits of that gallant band are fully appreciated by yourself, as well as by the talented and high source of exceeding gratification to me, as a Texans; as well as an American – a gratification which is greatly heightened officer. An official account of his bold and successful attack upon the upper part of the city has, no doubt, been already General Worth; and I am proud that it had the honor in co-operating in all the brilliant operations of that distinguished General Quitman, however, a brave and excellent officer, will do justice to the merits of his own men. Colonel Davis, of me also to a public acknowledgment of the good conduct of the command with which I had been ordered to co-operate. Your order, towards the close of the day. They retired with reluctance, from a perfect confidence in their ability to continue their onward movement, and to hold the city as far as they might extend their capture. Our loss, under the circumstances, was surprisingly small, being only one killed and five wounded. That of the enemy is not known; but we have reason to believe that it was considerable, not only from their own acknowledgments, but also from signs of blood, as well as from the fact that our men seldom fired except with great deliberation, and only where an object was in view.

I have no observations to offer upon the events of the day, further than to express my unbounded admiration of the indomitable courage and perseverance exhibited in the attack; and to reiterate the regret experienced by men at being called upon, in height of success and confidence, to retire from the field of their operations. A sense of duty constrains me also to a public acknowledgment of the good conduct of the command with which I had been ordered to co-operate. General Quitman, however, a brave and excellent officer, will do justice to the merits of his own men. Colonel Davis, of that command, I am told, was the first to receive and return the shot of the enemy, and was among the last to retire from the contest. I had the pleasure of his company during the greater part of the fight, and am proud of the opportunity of bearing testimony to his gallant conduct. I beg leave also, under the authority of General Lamar, to compliment Lieut. Thomas, of the artillery, and his brave men, for the bold advance and efficient management of the gun under his charge. When ordered to retire, he reloaded his piece, fired a farewell shot at the foe, and returned, (we hope without
In the distribution of honors among my own people, I am sensible of the responsibility of the task, and of the great difficulty of executing it to the satisfaction of all. That some should accomplish more than others is a law of nature. It may be the result not so much of superiority in physical strength and other adventitious circumstances. But on occasions like the present, where all did their duty, and did well, it would seem to be proper and just that their fame should be a common one. For this reason, and other considerations, I must avoid the indulgence of individual eulogy altogether, except so far as it may be inseparable from an exposition of the conduct of my staff which I feel bound to make, inasmuch as I am in some degree responsible to the public for their behavior. Major Clarke, my junior aid, who had rendered himself useful to me on many occasions was an active officer, conducted himself in battle with the true spirit of the soldier, and had the honor of being the first in the regiment to enter the city. – He was rapidly followed by Mr. Walter Winn, (a worthy gentleman, and soldier of San Jacinto,) who was connected with my military family as the secretary of Gen. Lamar. During the hottest of the fire, he was frequently by my side, and also acted with Major Clarke in the transmission of my orders, in the face of many perils. General Barleson, my senior aid, had accompanied the command of General Worth, and acquired fresh laurels for himself, and added new luster to the arms of Texas. General Lamar, my division commander, (acting also as adjutant,) was mainly instrumental in causing my troops to be called into requisition. He had accompanied General Quitman in the occupancy of a point in the lower part of the city, where the battle commenced; and it was at his suggestion that a messenger was dispatched for my command. He was found in active co-operation with the Mississippi and Tennessee troops, but rejoined my regiment on its arrival, and acted, during the balance of the fight, with the Texans. Fully satisfied throughout with the conduct of each, I take this method of returning them my sincerest thanks, as well as my best wishes for their welfare; and beg leave also to embrace the opportunity of tendering my gratitude and admiration to the whole force under my command – officers and soldiers – for the important services rendered their country, and the noble manner in which they have sustained the honor and chivalry of their state.

In doing justice to the living, let us not be forgetful of the dead. Among the fallen in my command, we have been called upon to mourn the fate of a young officer who was the brightest ornament of the service, the soul of honor, and the pride of chivalry. He had long been employed by the government of Texas in defence of the western frontier, as the commander of a corps of mounted rangers; and probably no officer ever performed his duty with more activity and efficiency, or with more satisfaction to the country. He possessed nothing of the rough habits, ignorance, and presuming forwardness which is usually supposed to attach to the frontier soldier. He was an educated man, and a gentleman by nature; quiet in his manners; amiable in temper; just in his dealings; and strictly moral in all his habits. During his connexion with the present campaign, his deportment was such – so marked by a happy union of modesty and bravery, and dignity with obedience – as to win the hearts of all and constitute him the chief favorite of the army. He followed the fortunes of General Worth, shared his brilliant career amidst the shouts of victory. Though feeble in frame, the inspiring energies of his mind enabled him to keep in advance of his comrades; so that in the storming of the Bishop’s hill he was the foremost man and the first victim upon the ramparts of the foe. He was buried where he fell – upon the loftiest summit – and the mountain that encloses his remains will stand an eternal monument of his glory – it will be known in history, and long frequented by his grateful countrymen, as the grave of Gillespie.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. PINCKNEY HENDERSON,
Major Gen. Comd’g Texas Volunteers.

Major Gen. Zachary Taylor,
Commd’g the Army of Occupation.

[KKM]

NRR 71.224 December 5, 1846 traders to Santa Fe proceeding to Chihuahua

SANTA FE TRADERS.

The St. Louis Republican of the 10th instant says. – Our information from Santa Fe advises us of the departure of the traders from Missouri for Chihuahua, about the 20th September. They expect to find Gen. Wool in possession of Chihuahua by the time of their arrival. But we know, by accounts direct from Gen. Wool’s command, that he did not expect to reach that city before the latter end of December. It is very possible, therefore, that if they persevered in entering Chihuahua, they may have been subjected to much inconvenience, if they were not deprived of their goods, and themselves made prisoners. [KKM]

NRR 71.225 December 12, 1846 report of Mexican privateers fitting at Cuba

ANOTHER WAR BREWING. –

Mexican privateers.
The New Orleans Delta says: "We are informed that about forty commissions have been taken out; that four vessels are already prepared for the service at St. Jago, and others are being prepared as rapidly as is practicable. – That the government is cognizant of these facts, and that is generally believed by those who are presumed to be acquainted with the intentions of the government, that the ports of Cuba will be opened to prizes that may be captured by privateers. We are not prone to yield to authenticated reports of matters of so grave a character, and we should not publish this statement, if we were not satisfied it was founded on the best authority in the city of New Orleans in regard to matters transpiring in Cuba and Mexico."  [KMK]

NRR 71.226 December 12, 1846 arrest of Mark H. Parkenson at New Orleans for holding intercourse with the Mexican government

HIGH TREASON. – Mark H. Parkenson has been arrested at N. Orleans, accused of holding intercourse with the Mexican Government. [KMK]

NRR 71.226 December 12, 1846 news of Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny on his way from Santa Fe to California
NNR 71.226 Col. Alexander William Doniphan detained for want of provisions, no money, treasury draughts at heavy discounts, predictions, provisions on the way to Santa Fe
NNR 71.226 Col. Philip Saint George Cooke, with the regiment of Mormon infantry, leaves Santa Fe for California

Santa Fe, October 18, 1846. – General Kearney has gone (or rather started) to California. Whether he will be able to reach there by the route he has taken, is a matter of doubt and speculation amongst the knowing ones of the country. He has taken no more men than will serve as an escort – the conquest having already been made by Lieut. Col. Fremont, aided by the Pacific squadron. Conquests in California or New Mexico are a mere matter of parade – resistance being out of the question. The poor devils neither know nor care anything about the government of either the United States or Mexico.

Our men have money – government drafts being uncurrent, and the disbursing officers having nothing else to offer. They have sent to St. Louis to have $100,000 in specie brought out, but it will be towards spring before it arrives, if it arrives at all.

Col. Brenton’s remarks about the issue of this war office currency were perfectly correct; and they are now hawked about Santa Fe at ten per cent. Discount, and no buyers at that. In the mean time, the first of November – the time with the volunteers are to be paid, according to law – is rapidly approaching. – One hundred dollar drafts – which is the lowest denomination – are not a convenient kind of funds for soldiers, even if they were at par. I happened to be at the office of the quartermaster to-day, and found his sergeant trying to buy six mules for the Mormon battalion, for which the Mexican asked $75 each. – He finally (after consulting with a trader) agreed to take $100 each in government checks! Whether or not they were purchased, I am not able to say. I mention these things merely to show the shortsighted policy of this hard-money administration.

We look forward with gloomy anticipation to the future. There are not provisions enough in the country, including all that are now here or expected to last beyond the first of February. The country cannot furnish the deficiently, even were there funds to buy it. Three thousand armed men in a state of starvation is a mass not easily kept in subordination, particularly when a large portion of them came out as armed emigrants to California – a region which none of them (save the Mormons) will see in the service of the United States. If they go in the spring, they will go on their own hook. Mark this prediction.

Not a word has been heard from below, and nothing is known as to the movements or whereabouts of Gen. Wool. We have a thousand and one reports in circulation – none of which are believed – except that Mr. Maguffin, a trader, has been robbed below by the Indians. All the traders are waiting in a state of anxious suspense, fearing to advance, and neither able nor willing to return.

The Mormons under Capt. Cook left this morning for California.

[We are pleased to hear that there was an abundance of provisions for the army at Bent’s Fort, although it was with great difficulty that they could be transported from that point to Santa Fe. The baggage wagons and teams were in a broken down and wretched condition. When one day out from Santa Fe, Lieut. Elliot was met with the advance of a train of provision wagons, and this supply would be amply sufficient until more could be obtained from the depot at Bent’s Fort. [Correspondence of the St. Louis Republican.

KMK]
VOLUNTEERS.

Gov. Wright has designated the Volunteers of the 1st Military division of the State of N. York, to supply the requisition made by the President upon that State. This exacts the whole levy from the city of New York.

The secretary of war makes the following reply to enquiries made by Capt. Pickell, whether the services of more volunteers for the Mexican war would be accepted from the state of Maryland.

WAR DEPARTMENT. – Washington Nov. 24, 1846

SIR: I have received your letter of the 18th inst., asking whether volunteers for the Mexican war, will be accepted from Maryland, and in reply, have the honor to inform you, that it is not contemplated at present to call for volunteers from that State.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant.

W. L. Marcy,
Secretary of War.

John Pickell Esq., Balt., Md.

In reply to an enquiry from the state of Kentucky, the Secretary writes.

WAR DEPARTMENT, - Nov. 11, 1846

SIR: In reply to your application of the 2d instant, to raise a company of volunteers to be attached to the 2d regiment of infantry from Kentucky, I have the honor to inform you that it is not contemplated to fill up the regiments that have been reduced; but should the exigency of the war render a further call for volunteers necessary, due consideration will be given to your patriotic offer. It is proper, however, to say that the amount of force already in service is deemed sufficient for the prosecution of the war.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. Marcy, Secretary of War,

B. F. Purdam Esq, Stanford, Kentucky.

[TMK]

NRR 71.240 December 12, 1846 Panuco captured
NNR 71.240 troops arrive at Tampico
NNR 71.240 Saltillo occupied by Gen. William Jenkins Worth
NNR 71.240 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's movements

TAMPICO.

The U. S. brig Porpoise, Capt. Hunt, left the squadron at Tampico, all well, on the 22d November, and arrived at Pensacola on the 1st inst.

PANUCO, was taken possession of by Capt. Tatnall, in the steamer Spitfire, in which he ascended the river. – Not a Mexican in arms to be seen. No opposition was made. The fort was taken possession of. It mounted 16 guns, which, as they could not be transported to Tampico, were spiked, and their carriages broken.

U. S. troops were arriving at Tampico daily. Business was brisk, and the Mexicans appeared pleased with the change of government.

The U. S. sloop of war St. Marys, left Tampico on the 28th November; landed Adju. AUSTIN, 3d artillery at the Rio Grande, on the 30th, and reached the mouth of the Mississippi on the 1st inst.

The steamer Neptune arrived at Tampico on Sunday, 22d November, from Brazos St. Jago, with 450 regular troops, under the command of Col. Gates, and the steamer Sea, with 200 more troops, on the 23d, when the town was formally handed over to the army. Fort Andonega was immediately garrisoned, under the name of FORT CONNER, and armed with two long eight pounders. A battery of two 42-pounder carronades, called Fort Ann, in honor of Mrs. Chase, lady of the late American consul at Tampico, commands the Altamira road. Besides these, some field pieces are mounted on the house tops. The town of Tampico is already in a good state of defence.

Saltillo had been abandoned, and there is no doubt that it is now in the possession of the advance guard of the army under Gen. Worth.
The state of Mexico is represented to be even worse than ever. Santa Anna lately made an address to his troops, apparently to extract from them an invitation to install himself at the head of the government. He was disappointed, however, at finding that his oration was received in profound silence, and immediately afterwards started with all his cavalry on a secret expedition, some think to cut off one of the divisions of our army – which he will not be likely to find. The most probable conjecture is, that he is gone to Mexico to control the action of the new congress.

The two regiments which evacuated Tampico revolted when they got to San Louis Potosi, and were disbanded. They were opposed to Santa Anna. Great dissentions prevailed at San Louis Potosi – army about 16,000, and in a state of starvation; four different factions among them, as follows: Santa Anna, Arista, Herrera, and Paredes. The recent election in Mexico was much in favor of ex. President Herrera, who it was generally believed at Tampico would be the president. [KMK]

MONCLOVA TAKEN. – Gen’l. WOOL, proceeding with about 2600 men, when within 100 miles of Monclova, was met on the 26th October by a formal protest from General Lopez, governor of the department, against his further invasion of the Mexican territory, informing him of the armistice that was entered into between Generals Taylor and Ampudia at Monterey, and alleging that he should consider any further advance of our forces as an infraction of the same.

General Wool sent word to General Lopez, in reply, that he was aware of the existence of the armistice alluded to; that his government, whose orders he was obeying, construed its terms differently from the interpretation which General Lopez had given it; that he was determined to continue his march, and would do so with the least possible delay. He did so, and on the 30th halted four miles north of Monclova. To this place General Lopez came quickly out, attended by an escort. He politely welcomed Gen. Wool to Coahuila, and offered him a peaceable surrender of the city of Monclova, explaining, at the same time, that the protest which he had previously forwarded to him was drawn up and dispatched in the discharge of what he believed to be his duty to his own government; but that, so far as he and the civil authorities of the city were concerned – and there was no military force in the place – they would receive the General and his command as friends, and in return they looked for the treatment of friends from them. General Wool then encamped his men where they were – a most favorable location – and with his staff and a detachment proceeded on, took possession of the city, and raised the American flag over the citadel. Excellent and comfortable quarters were selected for himself and staff.

On the second of November Captain Davis left with dispatches for Washington, taking Monterey in his route, having information to communicate to Gen. Taylor also. The health of Gen. Wool's command he represents as remarkably good, their march a most agreeable one, and through one of the finest grain, corn, cotton, sugar, and pasturage countries that he ever saw, or can well be conceived.

Although reports were rife that the country was infested with Mexican banditti and treacherous Indians, Capt. Davis left the camp with only two Mexican guides, and arrived safely in Monterey on the 8th ultimo. There he found things pretty much in repose, Gen. Taylor awaiting dispatches from Washington. The camp was still sickly, and among those who were not convalescing as fast as desirable is Gen. Butler. His wound is still painful to a degree.

LATER – Mr. A. L. Daunoy, furnished the following – which we find in the Picayune of the 4th inst.

On the 6th November arrived at Monclova, found General Wool and army encamped, his army in fine condition; remained at Monclova until the 14th, then started with an escort with dispatches for Gen. Taylor; found the road for 100 miles a perfect desert; destitute of water and arrived at Monterey on the 19th; ascertained that Gen. Taylor had left for Saltillo, 70 miles. Lieuts. Franklin and Dashields, with the dispatches left for Saltillo with the same escort, on the 19th. The distance from Monclova to Monterey is 180 miles, thence to Saltillo 70 miles, whilst from Monclova to Saltillo it is but 180 miles, water plenty and corn in abundance, and no doubt General Wool will advance direct from Monclova to Saltillo.

Mr. Daunoy thinks that General Wool and Army are now at Saltillo. He (Mr. D.) left Monterey on the 19th ult. Eleven miles from Monterey met a train of sixty wagons. On the 21st, met another train of fifty wagons, escorted by four companies, having two long 18 pounders. Dr. Hawkins along with the train. [KMK]
movements of Santa Anna were, for a time, involved in still more profound mystery. Letters published from writers in our squadron, represented that he had left San Luis Potosi at the head of a body of cavalry, whether for the purpose of restoring his own authority at the capital, or with the view of making a dash at some point in the rear of General Taylor, the writers could not agree in opinion. The impression appeared to be cherished by some of our journals, that Santa Anna was playing his cards with a view to a speedy peace, according to a supposed bargain made at Cuba, with U. States agents, conceding the invaded provinces to the U. States, pocketing the two millions of the proposed secret service fund, and depending upon the U. States government to sustain him in the government of Mexico. They predicted these opinions partly upon the suspicious looking facts, that Santa Anna had ordered the evacuation of Monterey, before he heard of the engagement there; that he subsequently ordered the important pass near Saltillo, and that place itself to be abandoned, - still later, he had withdrawn all the troops from Tampico, and left the American squadron to occupy the place without opposition, – and now, that he appears to be about to leave San Luis Potosi to an easy conquest.

The intelligence received by last night's mail must somewhat unsettle these impressions as to Santa Anna’s movements and designs. City of Mexico dates to the 17th November, two weeks later than our previous accounts, furnished a correspondence which took place between General Taylor and Santa Anna, published by the latter in the Mexican papers, which indicates anything rather than concession, and shows that he must have been at San Luis Potosi on the 10th November. The Mexicans were under the impression that General Taylor would advance on San Luis Potosi early in November, and a corresponding activity was evinced to prepare for defence.

Urgent appeals to the approaching congress, are published in the Mexican journals, to make Santa Anna dictator, for the purpose of repelling "the barbarians of the north." [KMK]

NRR 71.241 December 19, 1846 correspondence between Gen. Zachary Taylor and Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna

Headquarters of the Army of Occupations,
Monterey, Nov. 5, 1846

SIR: In the convention agreed upon on the 24th September it was conceded that the American forces should not pass a stipulated line before the expiration of eight weeks, or until they should receive orders or instructions from their government. In conformity therewith I have the honor of apprising you that my government has directed me to terminate the suspension of hostilities, and accordingly I consider myself at liberty to pass the designated line after the 13th instant, by which date I presume this communication will have reached you.

I have been informed that several Americans, who were taken prisoners at China and other points, are no at San Luis, detained as such. I trust you will deem it an act of justice to release these men and allow them to rejoin the forces under my command.

When the convention was entered into to which I have referred, I entertained the hope that the terms in which it was conceived would open the way for the two republics to agree upon an honorable peace; and, acting upon this conviction, I at once released the prisoners of war who were in my power; among them were three officers.

At that time I did not know that there were any American prisoners who had been sent into the interior. I trust that my conduct will be deemed a sufficient ground to justify you in yielding to this request and to the dictates of humanity towards the American prisoners who I am told are at San Luis.

In case Major Graham, the bearer of this communication, reaches your head quarters, I take the liberty to commend him to your courtesy, and I shall be pleased to receive by him your reply to this communication, whatever it may be. I have the honor to be, with the greatest respect, your obedient servant,

Z. TAYLOR
Major General of the Army of the U. States.

To Gen. D. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, Commander in chief
Liberating Republican Army
San Luis Potosi, Nov. 10, 1846

Senor General – At 10 this morning, by an official communication of the Governor of Coahuila of the 8th inst., I received your letter of the 5th, apprising me of your intention, by order of your Government, of breaking the convention agreed upon at Monterey, on the 24th of September last, and passing on the 13th of the present month the line therein designated, by which date you supposed I should receive your communication.

Believing that the terms stipulated in said convention should be religiously observed by both parties, I had taken no step which should tend to vacate it; but in view of the obligation you deem imposed upon you by the orders of your government, I confine myself by replying that you can, when it pleases you, commence hostilities, to which I shall correspond accordingly.

In regard to the American prisoners, let me say that there are only seven of them at this post, a list of whom is...
annexed; and, relying upon your representation in regard to the release of several Mexicans, I have determined to respond to your generosity by doing the same to the seven referred to, whom the commissary of this army will supply with $70 for their sustenance upon the road.

You remark that when the convention was entered into at Monterey you entertained the hope that the terms in which it was conceived would open the way for the two Republics to agree upon an honourable peace.

Laying out of the question whether that convention was the result of necessity or of the noble views now disclosed by you, I content myself with saying, that from the spirit and decision manifested by all Mexicans, you should banish all idea of peace while a single North American in arms treads upon the territory of this Republic, and there remains in front of its ports the squadrons which make war upon them.

Nevertheless, the extraordinary Congress will assemble in the capital towards the end of the present year, and this angust body will determine what it shall judge most suitable for the honor and the interests of the nation.

Major Graham has not arrived at my quarters. Had he done so, he would have been received in the manner due to his rank and employment, and in conformity with the wishes expressed to me in his behalf by you.

I have the honor of offering you the assurances of my distinguished consideration. God and Liberty.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.


The following is a list of the prisoners whom Sergeant Mariano Hernandez conducted to San Luis Potosi, and who have been set at liberty by General Santa Anna:


NRR 71.241 December 19, 1846  Gen. Zachary Taylor visits Saltillo
NRR 71.241 Gen. Winfield Scott's purposes

We have no later news from General Taylor than was inserted in our last. Gen. Worth had taken possession of Saltillo, and General Taylor had left Monterey to visit that place, and make a reconnoisance. He was to be back in a few days.

From "the Army of the Centre," under General Wool, we are without later intelligence, but furnish interesting details of his movements, &c., not before given. The report of the taking of Chihuahua was premature.

From the "Army of the North," under General Kearny, we furnish interesting details to which we refer.

We have no intelligence from General Scott, since he sailed from New York for New Orleans. – Dispositions are making to move a large portion of the forces that have been posted at different points in General Taylor’s rear, in the direction of Vera Cruz, upon which it is believed that a formidable assault is to be made both by land and water, as speedily as the requisite material can be contracted for the purpose. Amongst those, we find it mentioned that a number of flat bottom boats are being constructed at different ship yards east of us, with unusual dispatch. The St. Louis Iron works have received orders for 1,000 tons of bombshells in the same haste.

General Patterson has reached Tampico, and taken command. About 2,000 troops had arrived there. [KMK]

NRR 71.241 December 19, 1846 more volunteers called into service

MORE VOLUNTEERS, has been called into service by the President. An additional regiment is required from Pennsylvania. [KMK]

NRR 71.241 December 19, 1846 state of affairs at Santa Fe

“ARMY OF THE NORTH.”

FROM SANTA FE. – The letter from which our correspondent quotes below, is from Col. Doniphan, commanding the
Missrs. Editors: - Through the kindness of a friend in town, I am permitted to make a few extracts from a letter just received from one of the commanding officers at Santa Fe, which brings us news to the 21st October. If you have not been apprised of the facts by some of your correspondents at Santa Fe already, the information herein contained may be of some interest to your readers. He says: "We have established a civil government here, and all things wear the appearance of profound peace and entire satisfaction on the part of the people – but to a close observer, it is evident that it is all hypocrisy; indeed it could be nothing else. A people conquered but yesterday, could have no friendly feeling for their conquerors, who have taken possession of their country – changed its laws and appointed new officers, principally foreigners. Yet, such is their cunning and hypocrisy, that they partially imposed on Gen. Kearney up to that very day of his departure; but there are so many troops here now, that their good or bad feeling is a matter of perfect indifference. On yesterday, we obtained what we deemed pretty correct information from El Passo del Norte, that Magoffin, Dr. Connelly, Col. Owens and Glasgow, were retained there as prisoners, by the troops, but were treated very respectfully, yet not permitted to go to Chihuahua or return. They had gone in advance of their wagons, and will lose nothing, and will only be detained until orders can be obtained for their release. Our regiment is under marching orders for Chihuahua, and would have been off before to day, if Gen. Kearney had not sent back orders, after he had got ten days from here, requiring us to go into the Eutaw and Navijo countries, and bring both these wars to a close before we left here. We have made a permanent treaty with the Eutaws – Major Gilpin having penetrated far into their country. Our whole regiment will march into the Navijo country immediately; this lies between the Del Norte and the waters running into the Pacific. Major Gilpin goes up the Chanas; Lieut. Col. Jackson up the Puerto of the west, (there being two of them;) and Gen. Doniphan (our command) up the Junes. As soon as we return, we will start with the traders to Chihuahua. Col. Price and all his regiment and separate battalion, will remain here this winter. To-day, John P. Campbell, of Springfield, arrived here, and brings our first positive information that 1000 infantry were on their way for this point, and that our provision trains were all breaking down and giving out, and that few of them could reach here this winter. If this is the case, starvation will be the inevitable consequence. No provisions can be had there. We have not ten days provision at present. Hon. Willard P. Hall left with Captain Cook, for California."

Fearful of the great treachery of the Mexicans and their dealings, particularly with the traders, so far as confiscation of their goods and deprivation of personal liberty are concerned, we will look very anxiously for further news from that quarter, and when we receive any, I will again apprise you of it. There are many rumors afloat here, but as they are not well authenticated, I will not make mention of them.

Yours, in great haste.

The editor of the Independence Expositor says that there has been another loss of provision wagons and teams, on the route to Santa Fe. The Indians surrounded the train, and drove off a large number of mules with perfect impunity – the men not having ammunition enough to protect themselves from the attack. The Expositor makes some serious charges about the manner in which things have been managed in this department of the army, at Fort Leavenworth.

All the papers from the upper part of this State contain letters from Santa Fe, of late date, and all of them refer with much solicitude to the prospect of a scarcity of provisions. A letter of the Palmyra Courier, written on the 11th October, says that Col. Doniphan is unable to get off, for want of money to purchase provisions on his route south, and the Quartermaster has not the provisions or means of transportation for a regiment. "It will take almost all the means of the different departments here to fit out the Mormon battalion for California, and should the regiment of Infantry ordered here arrive, there will be serious apprehensions of suffering for want of provisions this winter, as the country can furnish but little, and that in cattle. The soldiers are now upon part rations, expecting supplies daily from Bent's Fort." "The Paymaster has has no money to pay the troops, having been disappointed in his expectations of selling drafts to the traders, to meet the claims of the soldiers."

"A short residence here satisfies the most curious, who visit this far famed town of mud houses, filthy streets, and still more filthy people. The Mexicans show but little disposition to mix with the Americans, and are evidently not satisfied with the powers that be. Many of them, and among them the most wealthy, have left and are daily leaving. The inter course is confined to the lower class, who find ready sale and good prices for what little corn and meat they have to sell. The fandangos – the only public amusement here, are generally free to all – are a promiscuous assembly of whites, blacks and copper-colored, and but a grade higher than a Negro dance in Missouri, and not as amusing. The dreams of rich signors, with beautiful, languishing signorettas, brunettes with black eyes, &c., vanish into dried up, half-breed Indians and Spaniards, in blankets, and swarthy, mulatto, slip-shod wrenches, without modesty or regard to common decency. If we remain here, we will have a dreary time this winter; but we hope for better luck, and having come this far, think we deserve it."

W. C. Remington writes to the editor of the Platte Argus, under date of the 12th October, that "there is no money here to pay off the troops, except checks and they are worse than nothing, as there appears to be no silver in the country. The pay masters brought some money with them, but they retain it for the use of the officers to buy them provisions." The apprehended scarcity of provisions is also noticed. Mr. Remington says that the Mexican population are leaving Santa Fe daily, for what reason no one knows, but it is supposed that they have sold all their provisions to the Americans, and are compelled to leave or starve. "To say the best of them, they are a miserable race of beings, and the volunteers consider themselves disgraced by coming so far to fight such a degraded set of men.

Another letter in the Paris Mercury, dated on the 14th October, says: "The general impression is, that Price's
This is the poorest country I have ever seen; the natives raise nothing except in the bottom of streams, where they can irrigate the land over by throwing up dams, and the bottoms will not bring as good corn as our poorest uplands — I would say about six bushels to the acre, and wheat in the same proportion. — They raise a few onions and red pepper, which constitute all the vegetables they use. Onions are worth 6 ¼ cents a piece, and corn $3 per bushel. They sell every thing they have, and never think of tomorrow. We will produce a famine here among the Mexicans before spring. I had a conversation with the men who brought the express from California, and they are well acquainted with the country. They say that it is just such a country as is about Santa Fe, except that corn will not grow so well there as here; and I have been informed by many others to the same effect. Admit this to be true, and I cannot see what the United States want with a country which it would be an enormous expense every year to keep. We would be compelled to maintain an army here to keep down the Mexicans, and protect them from the Indians; and a war with these mountaineers would cost the government more than the Florida war. — As for revenue, we could never raise any here to support government; the great mass of the people are in the most abject poverty. They come to our camps and gather up the scraps of meat and bread, which we have thrown out and trampled under foot for two or three days; many of them will eat of a dead horse! [KMK]

A SKIRMISH. — A letter from Capt. Calhoun, of the Georgia Volunteers, dated at Monterey, October 12th, and published in the Savannah Republican, states that a skirmish took place between some of the Georgians and a small force of the Mexicans on the 11th of October. A part of the Georgia regiment, on their way from Camargo to Monterey, had encamped about six miles from the latter place, with a heavy train of wagons and mules loaded with provisions for the army. Early after night fall, it was ascertained that a party of Canale’s men were in a neighboring rancho. They were attacked by a detachment under Lieut. Horne, of the Sumter volunteers, and ten prisoners and some of the baggage of Canales were taken. Canales had just left the rancho to arrange to assault for the night. One Mexican was killed, and the number wounded is not known. None of the Americans were killed or wounded.

One of the Havana papers states that news had been received at the city of Mexico on the 7th ult., that the Gulf squadron off Vera Cruz was nearly destitute of coal and was suffering greatly from scurvy, and that the war had already cost the United States sixty-five million of dollars. The Mexican journals say that if hostilities are prolonged, the Republic must triumph; particularly if the Americans are harassed and cut up in detail by skirmishes and flying attacks. — This probably had relation to the following incident which we have from our own army.

Gen. Rincon died at Jalapa on the 11th October.

The Mexican press contains the most absurd stores — such for instance, as that, out of 1,800 American troops that
Matamoros, 1,500 were prostrated by yellow fever. [KMK]

TOUCHING INCIDENTS. If there be virtue in Monuments, humanity should rear a pile, lofty as the Bishop's Palace, to the victm who bled at her shrine, as detailed by a correspondent of the Louisville Journal, thus:

"Camp Monterey, October 7, 1848

"Hungry and cold I crept to one corner of the fort to get in the sunshine and at the same time to shelter myself from the bombs that were flying thick around me. I looked out, and, some two or three hundred yards from the fort, I saw a Mexican female carrying water and food to the wounded men of both armies. I saw her left the head of one poor fellow, give him water, and then take her handkerchief from her own head and bind up his wounds; attending one or two others in the same way, she went back for more food and water. As she was returning I heard the crack of one or two guns, and she, poor good creature, fell; after a few struggles all was still – she was dead! I turned my eyes to heaven and thought, "Oh God, and this is war!" I cannot believe but that the shot was an accidental one. The next day, passing into another fort, I passed her dead body. It was lying on its back, with the bread and broken gourd containing a few drops of water. We buried her amid showers of grape and round shot, occasionally dodging a shell or twelve pounder, and expecting every moment to have another grave to dig for one of ourselves. [KMK]

A PROCLAMATION OF COMMODORE STOCKTON, GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA.

I, Robert F. Stockton, Commander-in-chief of the U. States forces in the Pacific Ocean, and governor of the territory of California, and Commander-in-chief of the army of the same; do hereby make known to all men, that having by right of conquest taken possession of that territory known by the name of Upper and Lower California, I do now declare it to be a territory of the U. States, now under the name of the territory of California.

And I do by these presents farther order and decree, that the government of the said territory of California shall be, until altered by the proper authority of the U. States, continued in manner and forms as follows: that is to say:

The Executive power and authority in and over the said territory, shall be vested in a governor, who shall hold his officer for four years, unless sooner removed by the President of the U. States. The governor shall reside within the said territory; shall be commander in chief of the army thereof: shall perform the duties and receive the emoluments of superintendent of Indian affairs; and shall approve of all laws passed by the Legislative Council before they shall take effect; he may grant pardons for offenses against the laws of said territory, and reprieves for offences against the law of the U. States, until the decision of the President can be made known thereon; he shall commission all officers who shall be appointed to offices under the laws of the said territory, and shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

There shall be a secretary of the said territory, who shall reside therein, and hold his office for four years, unless sooner removed by the President of the United States; he shall record and preserve all the laws and proceedings of the Legislative Council, hereinafter constituted, and all the acts and proceedings of the governor in his Executive Department; he shall transmit one copy of the laws of one copy of the executive proceedings on or before the first Monday in December in each year to the President of the United States; and at the same time two copies of the laws of the speaker of the house of representatives, for the use of congress. And in case of the death, removal, resignation, or necessary absence of the governor from the territory, the Secretary shall have, and he is hereby authorized and required to execute and perform all the powers and duties of the governor during such vacancy or necessary absence.

The legislative power shall be vested in the governor and Legislative Council. The Legislative Council shall consist of seven persons who shall be appointed by the governor for two years, after which they shall be annually elected by the people.

The power of the Legislative Council of the territory shall extend to all rightful subjects of legislation; but no law shall be passed interfering with the primary disposal of the soil; no tax shall be imposed upon the property of the United States; nor shall the land or property of non-residents be taxed higher than the lands or other property of residents.

All the laws of the Legislative Council shall be submitted to, and if disapproved by the governor, the same shall be null and of no effect.

The municipal officers of cities, towns, departments or districts, heretofore existing in the territory, shall continue to exist; and all their proceedings be regulated and controlled by the laws of Mexico until otherwise provided for by the governor and legislative council.

All officers of cities, towns, departments or districts shall be elected every year by the people, in such manner as
may be provided by the governor and legislative council.

The legislative council of the territory of California shall hold its first session at such time and place in said territory as the governor thereof shall appoint and direct; and at said session, or as soon thereafter as may by them be deemed expedient, the said government and legislative council shall proceed to locate and establish the seat of government for said territory, at such place as they may deem eligible, which place, however, shall thereafter be subject to be changed by the said governor and legislative council; and the time and place of the annual commencement of the session of the said legislative council thereafter, shall be on such day and place as the governor and council may appoint. [KMK]

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**Burning of the Mexican brig Creole**

On the night of the 26th November, about midnight, the U. S. brig Solmers, then lying at Green Island, four or five miles distant from Vera Cruz, sent a boat with Lieut. Parker, Passed Midshipman Robert Clay Rodgers, and J. R. Hynson, with five men, and burnt the Mexican brig *Creole*, moored to the castle of San Juan. They also succeeded in capturing seven Mexican prisoners. – No one except Passed Midshipman Hynson, who was burnt by firing his pistol into some powder to set the brig on fire – he is doing well.

_Expediton south_. On the morning of the 2d December, Com. Perry sailed from Tampico on an expedition not known, with the following vessels of war: steamship *Mississippi*, steamer *Vixen*, sloop *John Adams*, and schnrs. *Bonita* and *Petrel*. A correspondent of a New Orleans paper writes that their probably object is to attack, and if practicable, take possession of the ports of Tobasco, Sisal, and Laguna. The capture of Alvarado, it is stated, will not be attempted again until the attack can be made both by land and sea. For this purpose a land force of 1,500 or 2,000 men is deemed necessary, as the garrison has been strongly reinforced since the last demonstration by the fleet upon that place. Campeachy will remain unmolested in consequence of the friendly disposition by the people towards the U. States, and their repugnance to a reunion with Mexico.

*Tampico, Dec. 3*. This city is well garrisoned by our troops under Col. Gates, and that gentleman is delighted with his new quarters. The greatest activity has been carried on here by the officers of the army and navy for several days, in fortifying all the assailable points, and we are now ready to meet all the force that Mexico can send against us. The occupation of this place by our navy and army, has caused the greatest alarm in Santa Anna’s army at San Luis Potosi, and his troops are daily deserting.

The *Forward* left Tobasco river on the 21st November – all quiet. Left at that place, U. S. steamer *McLane*, Capt. Howard, for the purpose of blockading said port; officers and crew well. [KMK]

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**Accurate table of killed and wounded in Battle of Monterey unavailable**

**Fifteen hundred volunteers said to be buried on the Rio Grande**

**Diminution of the Baltimore battalion**

_The Killed and Wounded at Monterey_. – The U. S. Surgeon General announces in the Union, that he has not yet received an official list of the names of the killed and wounded at the several assaults on Monterey, and that he has given up hope of being able to furnish fuller or more accurate lists of them than have been given to the public through the papers.

_Volunteers_. – We find it stated in one of the latest letters published from an officer on the frontier, that at least 1500 volunteers have been buried on the banks of the Rio Grande.

_The Baltimore Battalion_ that numbered 683 when it reached the Brazos could only muster at last dates 477. Making the total loss 206. [KMK]

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**Loss of the United States sloop of war Boston, capture of Panuco**

_**Naval Journal**_

_loss of the Boston – Official Report_. *Island of Eteuthera, November 16th, 1846 – Sir*: It is my misfortune to be under the necessity of reporting to the department the loss of the United States sloop Boston, under my command.

On Saturday evening last, at 8 o’clock, the ship was in the lat. of 26 degrees 20 minutes north, and longitude 76 degrees 35 minutes west.
From this position it was my intention to reach the parallel of Abaco light house, and then haul in for “Hole-in-the-Wall” passage.

I therefore steered SSW, until half past 1 o’clock A. M. when a light was seen bearing SSW, ½ W. – As it was possible that this might be Abaco light I steered south in order to counteract the effects of a stronger westerly current than already allowed.

We had light winds during the night, and the deep sea and hand leads were in constant use.

At 4 hours 35 minutes A. M. when about to haul in for the “Hole-in-the-Wall” passage, we experienced a hard black squall, with rain from the northward, which, notwithstanding all our exertions, swept the ship upon the bank of this island, but she immediately passed into deeper water, when an anchor was let go. Such was the violence of the sea and the wind, however, that the ship was swept upon the north point of this island, the sea making a breach over her. It was not until the ship was on shore that we could see the land in any direction.

I now cut away the masts, and, as all hope of saving the ship was at an end, proceeded to land the property on board, the greater part of which I hope to save.

I trust that the department will perceive that the "Boston" has been driven on shore owing to circumstances beyond my control; and in order that the matter may be thoroughly investigated, I respectfully request that I may be brought before a court of inquiry, or a court martial, on my return to the United States, and there answer for my conduct throughout the whole of my short and unfortunate command.

The officers and crew generally, I am happy to add, are in good health. I have the honor to be, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

G. F. PEARSON, commander.


Prize money. A letter from an officer in the U.S. squadron off Tampico says- "We took an estimate of the prize money accruing on the various prizes taken at Tabasco and this place. It amounts to $220,000- half of which $110,000, goes to the government; so the navy is at last doing something for itself." [KMK]

Midshipman Simpson. A fact worthy of observation occurs in the attack upon Tabasco by Com. Perry. The Mexican flag staff was cut down by a shot from one of our guns. It is said the gun was directed by passed midshipman Simpson; and it may be thought accident. We have reason, however, to believe that it could be done again and again. Passed midshipman Simpson is the class of midshipmen who were passed last summer by Com. Kearney and Perry, and Captains McCauley, McKeever, and Mayo, who constituted a board of examiners at the naval school in this place. We are told that such was the precision of experiments in target by the young men of the school, as to call forth from the board the highest commendation, and it is said of Com. Kearney, that he said he had not only ever seen such precision, but stated that he had never heard of such. [KMK]

The Six Nations. Oneidas, & c. – The circumstances of withdrawing the detachments of the regular army, from our extensive Indian frontier, for the purpose of carrying on the Mexico war, leaves an awful responsibility for the safety of frontier settlers, as well as for the protection of the miserable remnants of once formidable tribes of Indians that nothing but the presence of disciplined military authority has been found adequate to protect, so far as they have been protected, from the rapacity of marauders and outlaws that never fail to hover on the confines of civilization. A letter dated November 20, from the neighborhood of Fort Scott, in the Osage nation, published in the St. Louis Republican, gives the most distressing accounts of the exposed state of the frontier left with a mere handful of soldiers, and threatened continually with bands of predatory Indians, whose rude passions have been inflamed by the wars of the white men, raging around them. What is far more to be lamented, and denounced by every independent man who has a particle of respect for justice and the honor of his country, we find detailed in regard to the poor half civilized, half christianized Indians lately removed by the government from Western New York, as detailed in the following paragraph:
"We have on our border, and near us, an unfortunate band of badly treated Indian emigrants. They are portions of the Six nations of New York. They were sent here by the government, according to treaty stipulations. Their treatment, suffering and conditions cannot be described. I have said they were from New York. They were brought hither by the government agents in June last, but with promises that money should be paid them on their arrival here. By the treaty, they were to have houses, fields, mills, churches, school houses and other comforts erected for, and extended to them. But up to this time, they have not received a dollar of money, nor has a cabin, to say nothing of a house, been erected. No churches nor school houses have been prepared, nor has a field been opened. The consequences are easily told. Of the whole number, more than one half have been consigned to their mother earth - while those who remain are borne down by sickness and the loss of so many friends. The government is responsible for this destitution and affliction. The people of the Six nations have seen better days, and something besides the government ration was necessary to their comfort, and was provided for in the treaty. As yet, the government authorities have not responded to an appeal made by them, through their agent, while other nations, before and since their emigration, have had moneys paid to them. There is something wrong in the proceedings towards these wretched Indians, and some one should be made to suffer, and account for their wrongs. I appeal to Benton, Crittenden, Sevier, and other senators, to move an investigation in this matter. The interposition of the independent press is invoked, and I ask the whole country to see that the stain is removed from the national honor." [KMK]

Rumors relative to superseding the commanding generals by appointing a lieutenant general, Gen. Robert Armstrong or Thomas Hart Benton considered for post, Com. Charles Stewart's appointment as commander of the Gulf Squadron also being reconsidered, review of results of the campaign, glimpse at the future [KMK]

The route of General Wool's Army Captain G.T.M. Davis, aid to Brigadier General Shields, and bearer of dispatches to the President, who arrived in this city on Saturday evening, has favored us with the following very interesting of his journey through Mexico from Monclova, via Monterey.

"I left Monclova on the 2d of November, and crossed to Monterey, a distance of 288 miles, through a section of country infested with Indians and Rancheros, with no other escort than a Mexican guide and a servant The trip was performed in six days, on horseback, meeting with no interruption except at the town of Sabinos, about 130 miles from Monterey. The interruption was temporary, the Alcalde allowing me to resume my journey with but a few minutes delay.

"I left Monterey on the 11th, and was detained at the Brasos several days in consequence of no steamer leaving for N. Orleans.

"On the 30th of Oct. the center division, under Gen. Wool, the advance of which was commanded by Brigadier Gen. Shields, encamped four miles north of Monclova. Within an hour after we had pitched our tents, Gen. Lopez, the governor of the province of Coahuila, of which Monclova is the capital, accompanied by an escort of about twenty principal citizens, rode out to the encampment and called upon Gen. Wool. He informed the general that no resistance would be made to him taking military possession of Monclova, but, on the contrary, our column would be received and treated as friends. On the 31st, Gen. Wool, accompanied by his staff and an escort consisting of two squadrons of the 1st and 2nd dragoons, rode into Monclova and took nominal possession of the same. One of the best furnished houses in the place was tendered to Gen. Wool as his headquarters, which, in the event of his making his headquarters in the city, he would accept. The health of the entire column was excellent, and the condition of the men, notwithstanding their long march, as good as could be desired.

"The strength of the column is 2,600, rank and file; and consists of the 1st and 2d regiments of Illinois volunteers, commanded by Colonels Hardin and Bissell; Col. Yell's regiment of Arkansas cavalry; Major Conneville's battalion, composed of three companies of the 6th infantry, and Capt. Williams company of Kentucky volunteers; Capt. Washington's battery of flying artillery; and two squadrons of the 1st and 2d dragoons. The march from the Presidio de Rio Grande at Monclova, a distance of 204 miles, was made in eleven marching days, though somewhat retarded in their progress by an immense provision and baggage train, about 250 in number. The column was highly favored with excellent weather, and with one of the best natural roads ever passed over by and army.

"The towns through which the column passed after crossing the Rio Grande were, Presidio de Rio Grande, Nava, San Fernando, San Rosa, and Monclova. Presidio de Rio Grande is situated upon a beautiful and fertile plain, five and a half miles from the Rio Grande; it contains a population of 2,000 inhabitants, and has no public buildings in it save two Roman Catholic churches. Twenty-five miles from Presidio de Rio Grande you reach the town of Nava, containing 700 inhabitants. It is surrounded by exceedingly fertile country, and corn in great abundance is produced in this region. In fact, the whole country between the above two places is very fertile, and most admirably adapted to agricultural pursuits. Between the two points there is no water, except what is conducted through artificial channels. Twelve miles from Nava is the town of San Fernando, containing from 3,500 to 4,000 inhabitants. It is one of the neatest built towns through which I passed in Mexico, and is abundantly supplied with water, a beautiful little river watering it on both sides.
In the vicinity of this town also the soil is of excellent quality and the production of corn and sugar-cane large. Cotton is also produced here, but not in very large quantities. Seventy miles from San Fernando, we came to the town of San Rosa, with a population from 3,000 to 3,500 inhabitants. It is situated immediately at the base of a beautiful range of mountains, bearing the same name as the town. Their notoriety in Mexico arises from the fact that they possess some of the richest silver mines in that Republic. In consequence of the unsettled state of that government, these mines have not been worked for some years, as their productions were immediately seized by the government to replenish its exhausted treasury. I was informed by a Dr. Long, of Pennsylvania, who for thirty years had resided in San Rosa, that the mines near the town, when last worked by the Mexicans, yielded at least half a million of silver per annum. By the application of American skill and industry no question can arise but, from the richness of extend of the veins, they could be made to produce a million per annum. During the periods these mines were worked the town of San Rosa was in a flourishing condition, and its inhabitants in prosperous circumstances. But since they have ceased working them the town has deteriorated, and its citizens, to a great extent, became impoverished. At the end of the first day’s march after we left San Rosa, the Alcalde and several of the principal citizens of San Rosa followed our column, and gave to Gen. Wool and Shields a dinner. The Alcalde also proposed to Gen. Wool to issue a pronunciamiento in favor of the government of the United States, provided that he (Gen. Wool) would sustain them in it. But, for reasons best known to himself, he declined the proposition.

“Monclova is the next place we reached, and where the column still was when I left. It is situated at the base of a beautiful and extensive range of mountains, called the Monclova mountains, but which, in reality, are nothing more than a continuation of the San Rosa chain of mountains. It contains about 4,500 or 5,000 inhabitants, is situated on a fertile and extensively cultivate plain, and is in the midst of what is called the granary of Northern Mexico. Corn and wheat are produced in great abundance, and the whole country abounds with cattle and the finest mutton. In no part of Mexico yet traversed by our army could a large body of men by better or more abundantly subsisted than in the region of Monclova. “The road from Presidio de Rio Grande to Monclova was over a section of country that was generally level, with the exception of a short distance between San Fernando and San Rosa. The second day’s march after we left San Fernando we crossed a small chain of mountains called the St. Joseph’s. They were from two to three hundred feet high, and filled with extensive beds of the finest limestone rock. After passing this chain of mountains some twenty miles, we crossed two very rapid streams called the Alamos and Sabino. The former is about seventy yards wide, the latter between eighty and ninety yards, and the distance between them about five miles. The depth is from three and a half to four feet, with the most rapid currents I ever encountered in my life. The water is as pure as crystal, and delightful to taste. Both of these rivers have beds of large sized pebble-stones, and abound with the finest fish. At a point not many miles distant from where the column crossed these two streams, they mingle their waters into one common channel, which finally empties itself into the river Salado. The river Salado is also a beautiful stream, upon the left bank of which stands Guerreo, a flourishing town of 5,000 inhabitants. The Salado empties itself into the Rio Grande, which, in fact, is the principal receptacle of all the small streams over which our army has passed during their invasion of Mexico. After crossing the Sabino, we came in view of the San Rosa mountains, which lay to the right of us, and in our immediate view, during the whole of the residue of our march until we reached Monclova. It will thus be seen that our army as yet has not crossed any prominent or extensive range of mountains in Mexico. The height of the San Rosa mountains is variously estimated at from 1,500 to 3,000 feet, and a part of them is a continuous range of beautiful peaks, presenting a view which baffles description. The timber through this whole section of country is very scarce, the principal production being muskot. Considering, however, the extreme mildness of the climate and the uniformity of temperature, there may be sold to be sufficient to supply all immediate wants.

“The latitude of Monclova, derived by actual observation from two astronomers in our column, is 26 56. Oranges, figs, lemons, and grapes are produced in abundance in that vicinity and vegetables that would grow in any country could be produced here by taking the trouble to put the seed into the earth. Monclova is a very old town, and is in a rather dilapidated condition. Its public buildings are several Catholic churches and extensive stone barracks, capable of garrisoning some ten of twelve hundred troops.

“Notwithstanding the professions of friendship towards us on the part of Lopez, the governor of the province, the inhabitants were very perceptibly far more hostile towards us than those of all the rest of the towns through which we passed. This arises from the fact that it influential citizens are generally strong centralists, favorable to a monarchical form of government; while those of the other towns are as strongly inclined towards a republican form of government.

“In my journey from Monclova to Monterey, I passed through several towns, descriptions of which I am only precluded from giving through fear of wearying your patience.

“The towns through which I passed between Monclova and Monterey were Candella, Flascalla, Biloadama, Sabinos, and Aqualeras. Beyond this last town I struck the main road leading from Camargo to Monterey at Serlavo.

“The distance from Saltillo to San Luis Potosi is estimated at 300 miles; from Monterey to Tampico 150 miles, from Tampico to San Luis Potosi 350 miles.

Yours Respectfully,

Geo. T.M. Davis, Aid-de-camp.

[KMK]
A few lines from an old friend, especially when written from the seat of war, I trust may not prove unacceptable to you.

On the 30th of last month Gen. Wool's column encamped four miles south of this city, the whole army coming up in fine condition and excellent health. On the day following, accompanied by his staff and a small escort of dragoons he went to the city and took nominal possession of the same, and on Wednesday of this week, on his way to a new encampment, selected south of this place, he intends marching the entire column through Monclova and take actual military possession of the same. Thus it will be seen that the ancient capitol of Coahuila is in the actual possession of our arms, without the slightest resistance having been made on the part of the Mexicans. How long we shall remain here is involved in some uncertainty. The officers commanding that battery of artillery, and the squadrons of the 1st and 2nd dragoons, have required that some two weeks be given them to recruit their horses. Added to this is a rumor which receives credence at headquarters, that General Kearny has sent a detachment of his column that has taken Chihuahua without resistance. Should subsequent information confirm this report as to the movement of Gen. Kearney, then all the anticipated good of this column, on its present destination, will have been realized, and the only alternative left for us will be to form a junction with Gen. Taylor, at Saltillo, or march on our own hook directly upon San Luis Potosi. His last step has been objected to by Gen. Taylor until after the expiration of the armistice. The strong probabilities, therefore are that we shall not move from Monclova before the 25th of this month at least.

Col. Bissell's regiment of Illinois volunteers will be up tomorrow evening, the advance having already reached here. They are in fine health and condition, and have made a very rapid march with a view of overtaking us, previous to our advance from this place.

Monclova contains a population of between four and five thousand inhabitants, many of whom are intelligent and wealthy citizens. The leading spirits among them, however, are strong Centralists, and make no concealment of the hostility of their feelings towards us and our Government. Many of them assert that if peace is not consummated during the pendency of this armistice, a vast amount of blood will yet have to be shed and a large number of lives sacrificed, before they will submit to the dismemberment of a foot of their territory this side of the Nueces. I am satisfied that the liberal policy of our government towards the Mexicans, in the prosecution of this war, is not appreciated by them, and that unless that policy is changed, so far as to subsist our army upon them, at a reasonable price for their produce, this war will be protracted unnecessarily for months.

This column is now in what is regarded as the granary of Northern Mexico. Wheat is produced in considerable quantities, and flour manufactured from it is of an excellent quality. Corn is not only abundant, but may be regarded as a drug among them in this immediate vicinity. The highest rate it commanded, even when peddled out in the single peck, was not to exceed fifty cents the bushel, but the moment we appeared among them it was put up to a dollar. For this there is no other excuse on earth, except a disposition on the part of the Mexicans to extort from us, believing that our government has sent its armies into Mexico to bribe them into submission by paying extortionary prices for everything we purchase from them, rather than conquer them by a force of arms. The officers have demanded of General Wool that he establish a tariff of prices and insist upon forage and subsistence being furnished us, as far as they have it to spare, at those rates, and, from what I can ascertain today, he will be driven to a line of policy which his own judgement and experience should have dictated, without any such demand being made upon him by his officers.

Their wheat is of good quality, which they dispose of by the mule load. The charge six dollars a load, which comprises two sacks, containing in the aggregate, from three hundred to three hundred and twenty pounds. Not anticipating we would want any of it they did not raise the price of it before General Wool made a formal requisition upon Gov. Lopez, for a given quantity, to subsist his men while here. Lopez replied that is should be furnished. There is small mill in the vicinity of Monclova, constructed on the plan of Gentry's patent, which we have taken possession of, and it will be kept continually running, in grinding flour for the army, while we remain at Monclova. The last train of wagons, with provisions, that we expect to receive from Lavacca, is now on its way hither. That depot will then be abandoned by the subsistence department, and our entire reliance for provisions will be by opening a communication with General Taylor, and drawing them from Camargo, and by obtaining them in part from the country that we march through. Here there is no difficulty whatever in procuring all the beef, wheat, and corn that we may desire, for our subsistence and the forage of the horses.

We have an immense and unnecessarily large train of wagons - numbering over two hundred and fifty - when nearly any other officer in the Army above the grade of a corporal would have been enabled to have gotten along with half the number. If we are compelled to go to Chihuahua by the nearest and most direct route, this train, as well as the artillery, will have to be left behind, as the route will admit of no other kind of transportation than by pack mules. On the other hand, if Gen. Wool persists in dragging at his heels this immense wagon train, and the artillery, then we will be driven to go through Durango, which is the only route admitting transportation by wagons, and which will nearly double the distance we will have to travel - making it between nine and ten hundred miles. You will, therefore, agree with me, that it will turn out a most fortunate thing for the government of the United States, if it be true that Gen. Kearney has taken Chihuahua, as it will save millions of expense that will otherwise accrue, if this whole column is sent there. Most of the officers in the army ridicule, without stint or mercy, this expedition, notwithstanding it is evidently the favorite one with the controlling powers at Washington.

The country in this vicinity is beautiful, and the soil of the most desirable quality for all agricultural pursuits. Of the character of the wheat, I have already spoken; and the corn cannot be surpassed, in my judgement, in any section of
This column, though comprised of as able, well disciplined, and brave a body of men as were ever mustered into service, is, notwithstanding, in a most unfortunate condition. It arises from the little confidence reposed in Gen. Wool, and the peculiar faculty he possesses in finding fault, and gaining the ill will of every officer in his column. This state of feeling is applicable to both regulars and volunteers. So marked has been his unwarranted course of conduct towards Col. Harney, that some ten days since he asked and obtained leave to be relieved from duty under Gen. Wool, and to be sent to Gen. Taylor to report for duty. Col. Harney is not in Monclova and leaves in the course of a week for Monterey. His separation from us, has caused universal expressions of regret on the part of both officers and men throughout the entire column; and the treatment he has received from Gen. Wool received equally as united a condemnation. As an officer, none stood higher in the command; and in the event of our encountering the enemy, he was looked up to with far more confidence than Gen. Wool. Yet no one blames him for the course he has felt himself compelled to pursue, although his loss to our column is sensibly felt and universally expressed.

A Missouri Republican of the 6th September found its way into our camp a few days since, and never was a popular work of romance sought after with more avidity than it was by all the Suckers. It was read and reread, until if fairly tumbled into pieces from being handled; and when it was gone, there was a general lamentation even among those who had read it once, but were anxious to read it again. The officers have come to he determination to hire an express, and send him into pieces from being handled; and when it was gone, there was a general lamentation even among those who had read it once, but were anxious to read it again. The officers have come to he determination to hire an express, and send him

A Volunteer.

[AKS]

Gen. Wool has been ordered by Gen. Taylor to occupy forthwith the town of Parras, a small but beautiful place seventy miles northeast of Saltillo. Gen. Wool would have no opposition at Parras as the inhabitants were prepared to receive him peaceably. His troops are represented to be in the finest health and discipline. [AKS]

The ultimate plans of Gen. Taylor had not of course been fully developed, but sufficient was known to render it quite certain that something like the following outline was to be adhered to. He had received intelligence from the government of the call for additional troops. He would therefore occupy all the posts, towns, &c., either immediately or remotely, on the line of operations to Tampico.
Lieut. Col. Riley now occupies Mount Morales with the 2nd Regiment of U. S. Infantry. Gen. Taylor would himself take up his line of march for Victoria, where rumor has it, Santa Anna has 10,000 choice troops. This city is indispensably necessary to Gen. Taylor, in order that he may secure his lines of communication in an attack upon San Luis Potosí. Santa Anna knows its importance, and will no doubt resist its possession by our troops. But I shall not speculate. Gen. Taylor intended to march, as soon as provisions could be hastened up—which would probably be the 10th December—with the 3rd, 4th and 7th Infantry, the dragoons under Col. Harney, who had arrived at Monterey, Bragg's battery, and two regiments of volunteers, which latter had not been designated.

It would seem that Gen. Taylor himself attached some importance to the rumor of Santa Anna's 10,000 troops, as he heads in person the expedition against Victoria. After taking this point, which he most assuredly must do, it is thought he will make no further demonstration until desired reinforcements reach him from Tampico. [AKS]

NNR 71.264 12/26/1846 Gen. William Orlando Butler's wound

Should Gen. Butler's health admit of it, he will be left at Monterey in command, otherwise Col. Smith, of the rifles, will be detained for that purpose. Gen. Butler's wound was not improving; indeed it is said to be getting worse. The air of Monterey is considered unfavorable to wounded invalids, and the surgeons have advised that all such should leave the country if practicable. [AKS]

NNR 71.264 12/26/1846 Gen. Gideon Pillow's health improved

Gen. Pillow goes back from this place to take command in Gen. Patterson's column, which marches for Victoria. Gen. Pillow was on his way home. But owing to letters received from above, developing something of the future operations of the army, as well as letters from home rendering it unnecessary for his return, he goes back to his command. His health, too, is greatly improved. [AKS]

NNR 71.264, December 26, 1846 rumor of Gen. Antonio Canales having taken sixty baggage wagons

Dec. 11th.-A rumor which needs confirmation, but which was believed generally, however, reached this place three days ago, stating that sixty government wagons, with provisions, specie, &c. for our army had been captured by Canales somewhere between Camargo and Mier. No particulars stated. Whether this be true or not, I understand that it is not improbable, as the incautious and unguarded way in which the trains too often move would render their capture no difficult thing.

From what I see and hear in certain quarters, I am more and more inclined to believe that Santa Anna intends to harass Gen. Taylor, and that a stand will be made against him that will require fighting, and not long first. [WFF]

NNR 71.264 12/26/1846 Gen. Robert Patterson's command retiring to the mouth of the Rio Grande en route to Tampico

In closing I will add that Maj. Gen. Paterson had left Camargo with the Alabama and Illinois regiments, and was conveying these troops down to the mouth of the Rio Grande, intends to go to Tampico by water. Having duly reported his intentions to the commanding general, an express was despatched and arrived in time, ordering General Patterson to go to Tampico by land. Gen. P. and staff have arrived at Matamoros. [AKS]

NNR 71.265 December 26, 1846 letter of "Gomez" from Monterey

Monterey, Mexico, Nov. 11th, 1846

Within a day or two past, we have all been on the "qui vive," arising from the arrival of Major Graham with dispatches to Gen. Taylor from Washington, disapproving of, and terminating the armistice, and directing an immediate renewal of hostilities, and vigorous prosecution of war. General Taylor was somewhat surprised at the disapproval of the government of the terms of the armistice, especially as he had informed them, that under no circumstances whatever could he have moved his army an inch beyond Monterey, short of the sixty days, the term during which the armistice was to last. The locofocos would have been glad to have raised a shout over this action of Mr. Polk, had not their mouths been closed by the consideration that two of three commissioners who fixed upon and settled the terms of capitulation, were distinguished leaders of their party—Col. Davis, a member of Congress from Mississippi, Governor Henderson, from
The distance from Saltillo to San Luis Potosi, is generously estimated from three to four hundred miles. I am inclined to the opinion, that it is about three hundred and fifty miles. Most of this march will be through a country very difficult to subsist an army in a large portion of which is watered by artificial means. Ten miles a day is a fair estimate of the distance the army will average in marching between the two points. So that, taking into consideration that January and February are the two wet months in this country, no fight or collision between the two armies can reasonably be looked for, earlier than the last of March, or the forepart of April. If it be true that Tampico is in the possession of American forces, and a communication is immediately opened between there and Saltillo, sufficiently protected to allow our drawing subsistence from there, instead of Camargo, it would greatly facilitate our operations beyond saltillo, and more especially, if it also turns out correct, that the river above Tampico is navigable for some seventy five or eighty miles.

The impression prevails here in the most intelligent and best formed circles, that the Mexican Government will make its last attempt at resistance at San Luis Potosi, and that if (as they will be) they are defeated there, they will then come to our terms, in establishing peace once more between the two nations. I estimate the Mexican character in a different light, and arrive at the opposite conclusion expressed by the majority in this city. I believe that if defeated at San Luis Potosi, they will fall back within the walls of the city of Mexico, and that the invasion and conquest of this country is only to be achieved by wading through fields fertilized with carnage. Had the entire Mexican force at Monterey been taken prisoners, deprived of their arms, and treated as enemies of our country, a different state of things would at this time have existed. But allowing nearly five thousand of the flower of their regular army to withdraw with their small farms, furnished the enemy a nucleus around which they have rapidly gathered a force of twenty two thousand to resist our arms. Incapable of estimating or appreciating a magnanimous act, our indulgence and liberality towards them is construed into fear, or the result of compulsion; and that they will only fall back for the time being, that they may attack our drawing subsistence from there, instead of Camargo, it would greatly facilitate our operations beyond saltillo, and more especially, if it also turns out correct, that the river above Tampico is navigable for some seventy five or eighty miles.

Ampudia, by surrendering in this city and capitulating, has terminated his military career forever in Mexico. To escape violence at the hands of his own men whom he led to battle, it became necessary for Gen. Worth and one or two others to escort him out of the city. And he only then succeeded in reaching Uadalagra (pronounced Wetherlagara) where he was seized by his own countrymen, incarcerated within the walls of a prison, where he will remain until he is tried and cashiered, or shot as a traitor to his country. During the whole battle of Monterey, he never made his appearance upon the field, but remained safely immersed in the large Catholic church on the main plaza, from whence he gave his orders, as the commander-in-chief of the Mexican forces. I mention this, to show you that the surrender of Monterey by Ampudia, met with everything else but the favor or approbation of either his army or his government.

Maj. Gen. Butler, it is said, is to be left here with his division, to garrison and protect our interests in this city. This has created a great deal of dissatisfaction among the volunteers, and caused no little excitement among the portion of them at least. In his division is the regiment of Kentuckians that were here at the battle in September, and who were the only volunteers on the ground but what participated in the dangers and the glory of that fight. They are exasperated
beyond description, at being left behind again, where there is a moral certainty that, by advancing with the main army, they could have an opportunity of displaying their valor in an engagement with the enemy. They have accordingly sent word to Gen. Taylor that under the circumstances, if they are not taken forward and allowed to participate in any future battle that may be fought, they will mutinize to a man and return to their homes. To me it looks like the most short sighted policy, to throw a large body of volunteers together to garrison any town or city. Those at all acquainted with their temperament and habits in life cannot be insensible to the fact that this is the very worst service that can be assigned them. That is a duty, which should in the man be assigned to the regulars, whose rigid discipline peculiarly adapts them to that service, while the volunteers should be led forward and placed in front of the fight. The situations of some, and open speculations of others, that in the heat of a battle they would be found incompetent to the contest, has been repudiated by their undaunted bravery, and valorous achievements in the battle of Monterey. Where there is a regiment of regulars, or a regular officer, that would have led a regiment to charge up on a fort containing double their numbers and a large piece of ordnance, with nothing but rifles without bayonets? Yet it was done by the Mississippians, and the enemy was driven from their fort, who surrendered it to the valor and bravery of the volunteers. It is therefore looked upon and regarded here, as a *studied design*, to reverse the order of things, and leave the volunteers behind to garrison Camargo, Mier, Seralvo, and Monterey, while the regulars to a man are to be pushed forward that the brows of *their commanders alone* may be decked with the laurels of valorous deeds. By this species of injustice, its participators may hope to crush forever the volunteer system, and thus increase the necessity of enlarging the forces of a mercenary soldiery; but they will in the end, when it is too late to remedy the evil, discover they have reckoned without their hosts. Nearly a majority of the states in the Union, have volunteers in Mexico. The outrage, injustice and indignities that have been visited upon them during this whole campaign, will not go unredressed. And if, when the progress of this war shall come to be the subject matter of investigation before the people of our nation, when its horizon is once more encircled by the bow of peace, the regular army shall find itself on the verge of destruction, hurled thither by the *by the whirlwind of public indignation*; they can console themselves with reflection that during the war with Mexico, they aroused the storm, the peltings of which they are then encountering. This is no idle speculation. It is based upon realities that not only exist, but which pervade every volunteer force in this country. They are only restrained from giving vent to their indignation through the public prints, from one end the Union to the other, by the restrictions of the articles and regulations of war, that for the time being fetter them in an unrestrained expression of opinion.

Under instructions from Washington Gen. Patterson has been directed to fit out immediately an expedition that will march against Tampico. Although every exertion has been made on his part to leave at the earliest possible moment, he has encountered nothing but obstacles from those departments filled by regular officers, through which alone he can complete his arrangements and commence his march. The reason for this is obvious. According to the new Army Register, he is one of the *classified gentlemen*, whose military existence is only to last pending this war; and with the incubus hanging upon him, of being a volunteer, but little regard is to be paid to his wants, though striving to obey the orders of his government. His perseverance and determination will, however, yet overcome all difficulties thrown in his way, and his friends here say that in a few days he will be in motion. Brigadier General Pillow, it is supposed, will accompany the expedition, and General Marshall, of Kentucky, be left at Camargo in command of that post. The principal part of gen. Patterson's command will be composed of volunteers; but what regiments he designs taking, I have not been able to ascertain in this city. It may be that if it be true that the naval forces have taken Tampico, that the capitulations of this expedition is at an end, although a force to guard the place and protect the depot that it is contemplated establishing there, will become indispensable.

Intelligent Mexicans in this city, assert with great confidence, that after General Taylor retires from Monterey, and his forces are divided between this place and Saultillo, an effort will be made to repossess themselves of this hitherto impregnable position. They also express themselves that as sure as such effort is made, it will be crowned with success. It is needless to say, that no apprehensions are entertained upon that score by general Taylor; and if the Mexicans desire to see this ancient city laid waste, and its inhabitants driven off like chaff before the wind, to shelter and refuge in the caverns of the mountains that overhang and surround their city, let them take up arms against general Butler and his Division, that will be left to protect and garrison this place. No flag of truce will avail them. Neither will armistice or capitulations be left them, behind which they can retire when over powered and conquered by our forces. The perversion given by them, of the motives that prompted general Taylor to listen to their proposition for an armistice and capitulation in September last, cuts off every hope of any repetition of it, in the event of a renewal of hostilities on the plains of Monterey. I question whether any thing short of *extermination*, would satisfy our forces, if the Mexicans dare to venture an attack upon Monterey with a view of repossessing it.

Captain Randolph Ridgely, of the 3d artillery, confessedly one of the most valuable officers in the army, and universally esteemed here by all who knew him, died a few days since from a fracture in the skull, caused by being thrown from his horse. He was one of the most finished horsemen in the army, which caused the more astonishment among his friends at the happening of the accident. He lingered three days, during which entire period he lay perfectly senseless, recognizing neither persons nor things. His remains were laid alongside those of his valiant comrades who fell on the 21st, 22d, and 23d of September. Around them all, a beautiful enclosure of faced stone has been reared, in the center of the front wall of which, a large square monument is being built. A stone with appropriate inscriptions will adorn the monument, about midway of its height, the whole the work of those who participated in the battle that caused the death of the fallen, to whose memory the work is reared. The place where their remains rest, and where this work is done, is immediately fronting the headquarters of general Taylor, at the encampment four miles from the city. The health of the troops generally is excellent, most of the sickness being among the wounded.

GOMEZ.

[KMK]
Ere this reaches you, you will doubtless, have heard of the taking of Tampico by our naval forces, without expending an ounce of powder. The reception of the news here has entirely changed the aspect of things; the depot of subsistence will be changed from this point to Tampico, so far as the main force under gen. Taylor is concerned. The steamer Sea, with a portion of the 2d artillery, was sent round from this place to Tampico on the 20th instant, with a view ascending the river as far as practicable, and to be ready to transport troops and subsistence to its head waters as fast as they can reach here. It is asserted, with much confidence, by those who profess to have knowledge of the navigation of the river, that boats can ascend it some two hundred miles above Tampico. Should this information prove to be correct, upon actual experiment, it will enable the government of the United States to make its provision depot within one hundred and fifty miles of San Luis Potosi. This would greatly accelerate the movements of gen. Taylor, and enable him to make an attack upon San Luis Potosi- now, the strong post of the Mexicans- at least a month earlier than he anticipated previous to that point being secured by our forces.

The movements here have been attended with a great deal of expedition. This morning at 9 o’clock, the steamship Neptune was dispatched to Tampico with several companies regulars under the command of Col Gates, 2d artillery; and others will be sent forward in a day or two. The whole number of regulars shipped from here to day on the steamers Sea and Neptune is seven hundred and fifty.

The steamer Brownsville arrived at the mouth this morning, four days from Camargo, having left there on the 17th instant. By her I learn that Capt. McLean, the bearer of dispatches from Washington, reached Gen. Taylor in the night of the 11th inst. They were of such a nature as to change his previous plan of operations. The idea of making Saltillo his instant. By her I learn that Capt. McLean, the bearer of dispatches from Washington, reached Gen. Taylor in the night of the 11th inst. They were of such a nature as to change his previous plan of operations. The idea of making Saltillo his starting point has been abandoned, and the order directing gen. Worth to move on the 12th instant for Saltillo, countermanded. At present, everything will remain in statu quo at Monterey, until it has been positively ascertained how far up the river from Tampico a subsistence depot can be established. That determined upon, Gen. Taylor will march the main body of his forces directly to that point, and remain there until he takes up his march to move directly upon San Luis Potosi, and from thence he will have but one hundred and fifty miles to march his army, previous to paying his respects to Santa Anna. The Mexican force which he will have to meet and conquer, will not be less than thirty thousand. This assertion is based upon information, upon which you can place the most implicit reliance.

The movements here have been attended with a great deal of expedition. This morning at 9 o’clock, the steamship Neptune was dispatched to Tampico with several companies regulars under the command of Col Gates, 2d artillery; and others will be sent forward in a day or two. The whole number of regulars shipped from here to day on the steamers Sea and Neptune is seven hundred and fifty.

The health of the volunteers from the mouth to Camargo, continues to be bad. From a careful estimate, made by several officers in command of different regiments, it has been satisfactorily ascertained that not less than fifteen hundred volunteers have made their graves upon the banks of the Rio Grande. Many place the number still greater than this, but Heaven knows the estimate of the officers is sufficiently appalling without increasing it. The dissatisfaction among them is very great at their being left in a wholly inactive condition; and this excitement is by no means diminished at their seeing company after company of regulars, and new recruits at that, sent forward to Monterey and Tampico, who have just landed from the United States, while they who have been buffeting the diseases of this climate for nearly four months, are left behind, to be victims of disease and death. If the United States call for more volunteers, those who respond to the call are fools, unless they stipulate, before leaving home, and bring orders to that effect from those who respond to the call for nearly four months, are left behind, to be victims of disease and death. If the United States call for more volunteers, those who respond to the call are fools, unless they stipulate, before leaving home, and bring orders to that effect from Washington, that they shall at once be put into active service.

The steamer McKim, which came in on the 19th from New Orleans, brought the glorious and gratifying news of the great whig victory achieved in the Empire State. It has thrown the locos in this region into a perpetual shake of fear and ague, and they are astonished that the war is not more popular with the people of N. York. Some of them think it looks mighty like making old “Rough and Ready,” president, and they swear that it is too bad that the administration should get up this war with Mexico, expressly for the purpose of making capital for themselves and the whigs are about depriving them all the thunder of it. But enough of politics. The grimaces of my Polk friends have been so terrible since the arrival of the news, that their curses against the whigs are so ferocious, that I could not avoid indulging in a few reflections touching their wailings.

There is now lying off here about: fifty sail of vessels, most of which are in the employ of the government, transporting subsistence and forage from New Orleans. Several vessels, loaded with government stores, have lately been wrecked, or come here with their cargoes in a damaged state. On Monday, the 23rd instant, lieut. French, the acting commissary at this post, has a large sale of damaged stores. Among the items enumerated in his advertisement I notice two thousand three hundred barrels of flour, and eight hundred barrels of bread. There are a number of speculators here with a view of attending the sale, and from present appearances there will be little or no loss.

The edict has already been issued against the admission of all liquors, or goods of any kind, into Tampico. Even settlers are prohibited from landing goods there, unless called for by the military commander of the post. In time, the notice of major Gardner is, that Tampico is under the most rigid system of martial law. These troops have been sent here without any orders whatever from Washington, or any of the commanding generals in Mexico. It is, as I understand it, the voluntary act of the officer in command at Point Isabel. This regiment was destined for gen. Taylor at Monterey, and their transportation to Tampico may meet with his approbation.

D. [KMK]
correspondence of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna

MEXICAN CORRESPONDENCE.

Consulate of the United States of America.
Mexico, April 26, 1846

Sir: I have the honor to enclose herewith, a printed plan, and copy of the communication of General Santa Anna, addressed to a friend in Mexico, dated 8th of March, to which is added a note under date of the 8th of April last, relating to the political regeneration of Mexico. This plan has been secretly circulated amongst the leaders of the federal party, and adopted by them; a revolution to put this plan into operation was to have commenced in Vera Cruz on the first of this month; but owing to some differences of opinion, which took place among the chiefs at the time, the thing failed to be carried into effect. Not withstanding, General Alvarez, who was in the plan, and who was to have acted simultaneously, in concert with the movement intended to have commenced at Vera Cruz, afterwards made a pronunciamento in the south of this department, for the deposition of the present government, and to place in its stead for the present, a triumvirate composed of Generals Santa Anna, Herrera, and Rincon, to occupy the seat of government until a free election could be made of a president by the people. If this pronunciamento, intended to have been commenced at Vera Cruz, has gone into effect, it would have been followed by nearly all the departments; but this failing to take place, the departments have not involved in this affair; although a very great majority of the people are strongly opposed to the present order of things, and would be willing by any means in their power to lend their aid to destroy the present government, which they are satisfied are working for the establishment of a monarchy, and intend to call in foreign intervention to secure and maintain the same.

It is the opinion of many of the liberals, that if the congress meet (which is to be the 1st of June) they will establish a monarchical form of government, and will call in foreign aid. This act, they then think will have the semblance of legality; it is, therefore, their desire that this government, may be put down before the meeting of said congress, that no foreign power may have such pretext to intermeddle in their affairs.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant,

JOHN BLACK

To the Hon. James Buchanan, Secretary of State, at Washington.

[KMK]

NRR 71.270-271 December 26, 1846, plans of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna

Translation of General Santa Anna’s plan.

The inhabitants and the garrison of the town of, being impressed with the urgent necessity of sustaining the republic, in the serious peril to which it is now exposed, and considering –

I. That from the period when the constitution freely and spontaneously provided for the republic by itself, ceased to exist, those since formed have not been compatible with the wants and wishes of the majority of the nation.

II. That from this have arisen the continual agitations which have afflicted the country, until it has at length been torn in piece; and after its evils from without have been studiously aggravated, some spurious Mexicans have considered themselves authorized to endeavor to subject it to the most shameful vassalage, attempting to invite a foreign prince to govern it, with the title of monarch.

III. That in order to prepare the way for this, they have dared to deny the sovereignty of the people, by summoning a congress in which special care has been taken to bring together elements the most strange, but the best adapted for consummating the disgrace of the nation.

IV. That we cannot assent to the meeting of the said congress, without thereby giving a pretext for assuming the will of the nation, which is pretended to be represented, in favor of calling in European intervention, and thus supporting the parricide project of the administration now established in the capital of the republic.

V. That the establishment of a monarchy in the nation would involve not only the dissolution of our army, which the new monarch would not suffer to subsist, as he could confide in no other troops than those whom he should bring with him, but also the absolute subjection of the Mexicans, who would be excluded from all public employments, in order to give place to the courtiers or countrymen of the sovereign charged with governing us.

VI. That this would render illusory the benefits of the independence for which we sacrificed our blood and fortunes, in order to obtain the right to govern ourselves, with reference to our respective interests.
VII. That as these overwhelming evils cannot be averted unless we immediately establish our government in a manner more comfortable with the will of the majority of the nation, in order to give stability to the fundamental code, and, under its benign influence, to develop our great elements of power and wealth.

We have resolved to proclaim, and do hereby proclaim, the following plan for the real regeneration of the republic.

Article 1. The people and garrison of the town of disavow the summons [to a congress] issued on the 27th of March last, by the so called president ad interim and his ministers, as being a direct attack upon the sovereignty of the nation, and issued with the evident object of making the nation appear to call for a monarchy, with a foreign prince to govern it.

Art. 2. Instead of the congress summoned by the said decree, another shall be assembled, composed of representatives chosen by the people, according to the electoral laws under which the congress of 1824 was chosen, which body shall be charged to provide a constitution for the republic, and to adopt for it a form of government, such as it may consider best, with the exclusion only of the monarchial form, which the nation detests, and to settle everything connected with the question of Texas, and the other frontier departments.

Art. 3. Within four months after the occupation of the capital of the republic by the liberating forces the congress mentioned in the preceding articles shall be assembled; to which end it shall be the duty of the general in chief to issue a decree of summons in the terms herein indicated and to take other measures for the conduct of the elections, with the utmost freedom possible.

Art. 4. The existence of the army is guarantied, giving to it all the attention which is due to the meritorious military class of a free people.

Art. 5. All persons shall be declared traitors to the nation who shall attempt to impede the assembling of the said congress, or to attack it by placing obstacles to the liberty of its members, by dissolving or suspending its sessions, or who shall endeavor to oppose the constitution which it may establish. [RLK]

NNR 71.272 December 26, 1846, Mexicans determined to defend their country

MEXICAN WAR – Latest.

The French journal published at New York, professes to have information of the election tot he Mexican Congress, of a large portion if not of a majority of member who are in favor of concluding peace with the U.S. How they have obtained such information, even if true is a mystery. Certain it is, nothing that we have from Mexico looks of that case. On the contrary, everything indicates a determined spirit to defend their country. Even Yucatan, the last to join in the fray, on their legislature recently assembling, promptly ratified their re-annexation to Mexico. [RLK]

NNR 71.272 12/26/1846 formidable Mexican force assembled at San Luis

The Mexican represent the army at San Luis at 25,000 strong, with 52 pieces of Artillery-24 pounders; 5000 additional troops expected daily. "The powder of powder and the stores of balls and other missiles are said to exceed belief. Every piece of iron that can be found is converted into pikes or other deadly weapons. In one storehouse alone there are two hundred mechanics working day and night, mounting guns and manufacturing munitions of war. There are five hundred more at work on their fortifications, which are being strengthened in every possible manner. One thousand women, filled with enthusiasm in the national cause, had come down to the camp from San Diego and Tlascala, to aid in making articles for the soldiers, and working on the fortifications. In one store there has been sold 16,000 daggers, bought by the country people, both men and women — in every direction we see them making lances, sharpening swords, and fixing firearms, and other warlike arrangements." [AKS]

NNR 71.272 12/26/1846 Gen. Antonia Lopez de Santa Anna at a grand review of the troops

Santa Anna had a grand review of the whole army on the 13th November. It is described as a magnificent pageant. So overpowered was he by the boundless enthusiasm which greeted him as he passed along the lines that his feelings overcame him, and tears rolled down his swarthy cheeks, amid the prolonged hussas of the various regiments, and cries of "Victory or Death!" "God and Liberty!" "Long live Santa Anna!" "We will beat the Yankees this time!" &c. &c. Provisions were pouring into the camp in immense quantities. Language is said to fail in attempting a description of the formidable preparations making at San Luis. There was to be the last great struggle. There, say the newspapers, will the fate of Mexico be decided. Fears were entertained, however, that even then the fortunes of war would be against them, and accordingly, preparations are going on to defend the road to the capital. Forts were being erected at various points, and passes were being strengthened very rapidly. One large fort is building at Tlascala, another at Santiago. [AKS]
Santa Anna's evacuation of Tampico is defended on the ground of his inability to resist the vessels of war; and that port being one in which the yellow fever rages fiercely eight months in the year, the editors predict that it will become a grave for thousands of Americans, as it was for the invading Spaniards. [AKS]

The burning of the American steamer at Tampico, the wreck of so many United States vessels on the coast, and the loss of prizes taken at Tabasco, are matters which the Mexican editors record with joyous exclamations. Various accounts are given of the Mexican vessel of war Creole, under the walls of San Juan d'Ulloa. The battlement of San Miguel saw the United States boat approach the fort, but mistook it for a boat from the British steamer, and made no alarm. Others allege that an alarm was given, but the officers of the fort would not fire for fear of killing their own people. Other versions are given of the affair. The fort begins to be an object of suspicion among the Vera Cruzanos, who seems to think it less formidable to the Americans than they did formerly.

On the 21st November, a brig and merchant packet, part of the prizes captured at Tabasco, were wrecked near Alvarado, and of nine Americans on board five were drowned and four were saved.

But no further accounts of the capture and massacre of the 150 Americans at the City of Angels; dates from the Pacific are to the 11th. [AKS]

On the 21st November, a brig and merchant packet, part of the prizes captured at Tabasco, were wrecked near Alvarado, and of nine American on board five were drowned and four were saved. [RLK]

The United States sloop of war Cyane, was blockading the port of Guaymas. Mazatlan is said to be so loosely blockaded that vessels entered or departed with impunity. [AKS, RLK]

The United States ships Colombia, and Vincennes had not arrived at Monterey, as late as the 20th of September. [AKS]

Accounts from Chihuahua to the 20th of October, confirm the arrest of the American Traders, six in all, whose property was confiscated. James McGriffin, Henry Connelly and Mr. Francisco were the principle victims, and lose large fortunes. Mr. Connelly had been an old resident. Several caravans of Mexican traders came down about the same time from New Mexico, who reported General Kearny's departure for California, and Colonel Doniphan's movement upon Chihuahua. Five hundred men were equipped to resist the latter at El Passo del Norte, where there is a fort which they were to occupy.

LATER. By the steamer McKim, which reached New Orleans on the 20th, we have dates two days later from Monterey. Gen. Hamer, of Ohio, died there on the 3rd inst. , of inflammation on the bowels. Gen. Taylor had imprisoned the Alcalde of Monterey, for furnishing deserters with horses. Colonel Harney reached Monterey on the 24th ult. [AKS]

Gen. Wool was at Paris, 100 miles north of Chihuahua, with 1,000 men. Gen. Worth was at Saltillo, and will shortly have under his command 2,000. Col. Riley was at Monte Morales with about 1,000 men. Gen. Pillow was to move to Victoria on the 14th. [AKS]
Santa Anna had sent out a detachment of 2,000 men to destroy the water tanks between Saltillo and San Luis Potosi.

Gen. Taylor was to move, in column, on the 8th, 9th, and 10th inst., for Victoria, with about 1,500 men. Victoria is equidistant from Monterey and Tampico, and it was supposed that General Taylor would make that place his headquarters. No further demonstration would be made towards San Luis Potosi until further orders from our government.

The steamship Virginia left the Brazos for Tampico on Tuesday, 15th inst., with Lieut. Col. Clarke and six companies of the Alabama regiment, numbering nearly 400 men, rank and file. The steamer Cincinnati and U. S. propeller James Cage, left on the 16th with Gen. Sheilds and staff. Mr. Lumsden of the Picayune, and Capt. Shelly's company of Alabama volunteers-all bound for Tampico.

Gen. Scott, accompanied by Major Smith, Capt. Monroe, and Lieuts. Scott and Williams, arrived at New Orleans on the 19th inst. In the ship Union, from New York, all in fine health and spirits, and would leave in a few days for the seat of war.

Hugh O'Donnell, of Ohio, to be assistant quartermaster, with the rank of captain, Oct. 7, 1846, to fill a vacancy.

Geo. V. Hebb, of Tennessee, to be assistant quartermaster, with the rank of captain, Oct. 13, 1846, to fill a vacancy.

Ralph G. Norvell, of Indiana, to be assistant quartermaster, with the rank of captain, December 2, 1846, to fill a vacancy.

Geo. M. Lanman, of Penn., to be assistant quartermaster, with the rank of captain.

Frederick A. Churchill, of Ohio, to be commissary, with the rank of major, Nov. 24, 1846, to fill a vacancy.

McDonough J. Bunch, of Tenn., to be assistant commissary, with the rank of captain, Aug. 18, 1846, to fill a vacancy.

Francis M. Diamond, of Rhode Island, to be assistant commissary, with the rank of captain, Oct. 26, 1846, to fill a vacancy.

Isaac R. Diller, of Penn., to be assistant commissary, with the rank of captain.

Alexander Perry, of N. York, to be surgeon, Aug. 21, 1846.

David McKnight, of Tenn., to be surgeon, Sept. 10, 1846.

Wm. R. Washington, of Tenn., to be surgeon, Oct. 29, 1846, to fill a vacancy.

John C. Reynolds, of Penn., to be surgeon.

Geo. B. Sanderson, of Mo., to be assistant surgeon, Aug. 20, 1846.

Wm. C. Parker, of N. York, to be assistant surgeon, Sept. 2, 1846, to fill a vacancy.

Enoch P. Hale, of Tenn., to be assistant surgeon, Sept. 10, 1846.

Thomas C. Bunting, of Penn., to be assistant surgeon.

Lambert Reardon, to be deputy postmaster at Little Rock, in the State of Arkansas, in the place of Wm. E. Woodruff, resigned.
The Cincinnati Atlas says: - Col. F.A. Churchill, of Cincinnati, has been appointed commissary in the U.S. Army, in place of Maj. Wm. F. Johnson, resigned. The appointment entitles him to the rank and pay of major. He has orders to report himself to Gen. Taylor, at Monterey. [RLK]

NRR 71.272 December 26, 1846, Mexicans at El Paso del Norte

Accounts from Chihuahua to the 20th of October, confirm the arrest of the American traders, six in all, whose property was confiscated. James McGeffin, Henry Connelly, and Mr. Francisco were the principal victims, and lose large fortunes. Mr. Connelly had been an old resident. Several caravans of Mexican traders came down about the same time from New Mexico, who reported General Kearny’s departure for California, and Colonel Doniphan’s movement upon Chihuahua. Five hundred men were equipped to resist the latter at El Passo del Norte, where there is a fort which they were to occupy. [RLK]

NRR 71.272 December 26, 1846, Mexican levy on the church and clergy to finance the war, shipments of specie to Europe

The Church and Clergy of “both sexes,” have been levied upon to support the war to the amount of two millions of dollars, of which the Archbishop contributes one million, the bishop of Oajaca $100,000, Guadalaxara $200,000 &c. This measure was very popular with the army.

Specie is being shipped for Europe in large amounts. The British Steamer Clyde alone, took $1,600,000 from Vera Cruz for England, on the 2d Nov. [RLK]

NRR 71.272 12/26/1846 steamer Gopher breaks her chains and is lost in heavy winds, other ships sunk in gale

The U. S. steamer Gopher broke her hog chains, and steam connections in crossing the bar on Sunday, the 13th. She was, however, enabled to get outside and come to anchor in five fathoms of water, but the wind blowing strong from the southeast and a heavy sea running, she was literally smashed to pieces, and sunk at her anchors. The U. S. steamers De Rossett and John R. Thompson were despatched to her assistance, and but barely succeeded in saving some fifty lives before she went down. The pilot boat Ariel was lost the same day, a large sea splitting open her wood ends. Cargo and crew saved-several vessels were blown to sea in a gale on the 7th losing anchors and cables. The barque Wm. Ivy, returned on the 13th with a loss of 50 mules. The McKim was nine days outside the bar before communication could be had to discharge her. [AKS]

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The Mexican-American War and the Media, 1845-1848

**NILES' NATIONAL REGISTER**
Vol. 71, January-February 1847

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the ten additional regiments of volunteers nearly completed

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marriage of a Massachusetts volunteer, sermon to the troops

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Mexican clergy refuse to pay the tax levied on church property

Maryland resolutions of regret over deaths in "the Maryland line"
January 2, 1847, Withdrawal of the British offer of mediation because of American indisposition to accept

Accounts from Mexico state, that the British government have withdrawn their offer to mediate for peace between that government and the government of the United States, in consequence of the government of the latter expressing an indisposition to such interference. [RLK]

January 2, 1847, Rumors about Gen. Zachary Taylor’s movement from Monterey to Victoria

From the army of occupation our latest dates are to the 2d Dec. Gen. Taylor is represented in some of the letters as preparing to march from Monterey with his division, in the direction of Victoria, and the opinion expressed that he would quit Monterey by the 10th or 12th of Dec. Other letters say that he will wait for more explicit orders or authority from Washington before undertaking to move. [RLK]

January 2, 1847, Arrest of the son of the Alcalde of Monterey for inducing American soldiers to desert

Desertions from the American Army. A correspondent of the New Orleans Tropic, writing from Monterey on the 27th ultimo, says: "This morning three Mexicans were arrested on a charge of trying to induce some of our men to desert. One of them is the son of the Alcalde, and I think it will go hard with them. Gen. Taylor was in town, and told them that unless some three or four men, who had been seduced off, were brought back in a given time, he would hang them in the Plaza. This business induced me to make inquiry as to the number of men who had deserted from our ranks, and was told that not less than fifty had gone over to the enemy since the capitulation of Monterey; but I am proud to state that none of them were native born Americans." [RLK]
Guerrilla war commenced. A correspondent of the N. Orleans Delta, writes from Monterey, Dec 1, 1846. “The war between the Kentuckeyians and Mexicans, as it is fairly termed, has created no little excitement both in town and in camp. It is thought that not less than forty Mexicans have been killed within the last five days, fifteen of whom, it is said, were killed in one day, and within the scope of one mile. From this you will see that the boys are determined to have and to take revenge for the assassination of their comrades.” [WWF, RLK]

The trial of the Alcalde’s son and the others accused of tampering with the soldiers to desert was to commence on the 2nd. It is stated that a thousand including many of the first families in Monterey had precipitately left the city since his arrest. Accounts from Mexico represented Santa Anna as having 20 to 25,000 men, of which 10,000 are cavalry, and 52 pieces of field artillery, at San Luis Potosi. Since then we have accounts of his having been joined by General Valencia, at the head of 800 men, raised principally from among the hardy miners of the district of Guanajuato. Valencia is considered one of the best Generals in Mexico and has been appointed second in command by Santa Anna.

[Private letters have been received from Santa Anna, and from Almonte, in New York, - so says the French Journal published in that city, which state that these officers express great confidence in being able to defend the country and determination to do so. From our Guilt squadron, we have another and yet the most disastrous incident of the war of which an account will be found under the naval head. Since placing that account in type, the official account of the loss of the Somers has reached us and will be inserted in our next. This affair illustrates at once the daring intrepidity of our officers and men, and the dangers of the coast upon which they are serving. [WFF]
January 2, 1847, correspondence between Gen. Zachary Taylor and Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, the latter asserts that Congress nor any Mexican will ever listen to overtures of peace until hostile forces are withdrawn.

Another correspondent has taken place between General Taylor and Santa Anna, - in the course of which the latter holds the following language:

"I believe that I do not deceive myself in assuring you, that neither congress, nor any Mexican, will ever be able to listen to overtures of peace unless the national territory be first evacuated by the forces of the United States, and the hostile attitude of their vessels of war be withdrawn. This must be without doubt the preliminary of whatever negotiation may be opened; and it may be permitted to me to declare to you, that the nation, moved by a sentiment of patriotism, and determined to defend at every hazard and inch by inch its territory, will never cease to qualify as it deserves, and as the world has already qualified it the conduct of the United States; and it will do whatever it can and ought honorably to deserve the title which it bears, of an independent and free nation." [RLK]

SERGENT KELLY

No one in the long procession that followed the remains of the lamented Ringgold to the quiet Cemetery where they now repose, was more deeply affected on the occasion, or was as object of more general interest and sympathy, than the wounded teamster, who led the representative for the occasion, of the gallant major's war horse. Alas! The remains of the real steed lay moldering on the battle field. Pierced by the same ball that felled his rider. He breathed no more - and never again responded to the trumpet charge.

Poor Kelly! He is now a cripple for life. Upon the field of Palo Alto he left his good right arm. For twenty years he had been in the United States service, no man more faithful to his trust. On the day before the battle of Palo Alto, the term of his last enlistment expired. He received an honorable discharge and was about to return to the U. States. For eight years he had been sergeant in Major Ringgold’s Flying Artillery, and having charge of the teams, was invaluable to him. If a man ever loved his officer, Kelly was that man. He had watched every stage of the major’s promotion with all the enthusiasm of a generous heart, and was ever at his side when danger threatened. There was at the moment a prospect of an approaching conflict. The morning of the 8th of May had but dawned, when, beside the tent of Major Ringgold stood Sergeant Kelly.

The major made his appearance. The sergeant touched his cap in military style, and said - “You'll have a fight today, Major.”

"I think we shall, Kelly, and I don't see how I am to do without my old teamster in such an occasion."

"Can Sergeant Kelly be of any service? If he can you shall not be without him."

"You are familiar with duties that may be important. I can depend on you Kelly."

"Can Sergeant Kelly volunteer?"

"You can, and shall have your accustomed station."

Kelly was in his saddle in a moment, and again touching his cap for orders, with a heart glowing with renewed affection for his commander.

The tents were struck. The lines advances. They encounter the foe. As they opened their fire from the chaparral, Kelly, in the act of stooping down with the right hand extended forward, received a ball which shattered the arm to pieces. Slowly raising his body, and grasping his right arm with his left, e quietly went off in search of the surgeon general of the army. His arm was amputated. Whilst lying in the rude temporary hospital he learned that his commander was soon after far more dangerously wounded than himself. After being removed to Point Isabel, Kelly was compelled to submit to a second amputation. He there learned the death of the major.

When the Baltimore committee reached Point Isabel, Kelly applied for permission to accompany the remains of his deceased friend and beloved commander to their last resting place. The request was granted, although he had scarcely sufficiently recovered to endure such a movement. On reaching New Orleans, where the facts were familiarly known, as well as that having been discharged from the service, Kelly would not be entitled by law to a pension, a handsome subscription was immediately raised for him. On reaching Mobile, Ala., the sum of $250 were tendered him. At Charleston, S. C., $307 were raised and sent to Baltimore for him.

At every stage, Sergeant Kelly, the rough and stern soldier, the volunteer of the day, with his war cloak close around him, was the chief mourner nearest the coffin that concealed the relics. No smile has been seen to brighten his countenance. His countrymen have promptly pensioned him for life. He asks not where is his own right arm, but, where is his beloved
THE PRESENT CONDITION OF THE ARMY

Adjutant General’s Office,
Washington, December 5, 1846

SIR: In obedience to your instructions, I have the honor herewith to submit the following statements and returns of the army:

1. Tabular view of organization, marked A.
2. General return of the regular army, B.
3. Position and distribution of the troops in the eastern division, C.
4. Position and distribution of the troops in the western division, D.
5. A tabular statement of the whole number of recruits enlisted from October 1, 1845, to September 30, 1846, E.

The authorized regular force (officers and men) is 16,998, and is constituted as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Designation of corps</th>
<th>Commissioned Officers</th>
<th>Non-commissioned Offic’s and troops of the line</th>
<th>Aggregate: Officers musicians, artificers, &amp;privates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Officers</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Staff</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical department</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pay department</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officers of the corps of engineers</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officers of the corps of topographical eng’rs.</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officers of the ordnance department</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military storekeepers</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggregate</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two regiments of dragoons</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>2,230</td>
<td>2,298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One regiment of mounted riflemen</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>765</td>
<td>799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four reg’ts of artillery</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>4,480</td>
<td>4,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eight reg’ts of infantry</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>8,832</td>
<td>9,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggregate troops of the line</td>
<td>538</td>
<td>16,315</td>
<td>16,853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One company of engineer soldiers, (sappers, miners, and pontoniers)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The actual force in service, commissioned officers and men, is 10,381 – leaving a deficiency of 6,958 to be recruited.

The mechanics and laborers belonging to the ordnance department, not being restricted in number by law, are not included in the foregoing exhibit. The number now in service is 309.

General and staff officers of the volunteer forces in the service of the United States

General officers 8
Quartermaster’s department, (7 majors, 26 captains) 33
Commissary’s department, (7 majors, 22 captains) 29
Medical department, (22 surgeons, 24 assistant surgeons) 46
Additional paymasters, (under the 25 section, act of July 5, 1838) 17
Total general and staff officers provided for the volunteer troops in commission at this time 33

The army in campaign.

The army in Mexico has been augmented during the year by recruits and detachments of regular troops drawn from various points, and by numerous regiments of twelve month volunteers.

The land forces employed in prosecuting the war may be estimated as follows:

REGULARS
In the field, officers and men, including general staff 6,613
Troops at sea, and under orders to join the army 1,098
Recruits en route for the seat of war 762
Aggregate regulars in campaign 8,473

VOLUNTEERS
In the field 15,745
At sea, for California 766
Aggregate volunteers in campaign 16,511

The regular force on active field service is composed of the following regiments:

1st dragoons, 8 companies 560
2d dragoons, 10 companies 723
Aggregate 1,283
1st artillery, 8 companies 609
2d artillery, 9 companies 787
3d artillery, 8 companies 660
4th artillery, 8 companies 650
Aggregate 2,706
1st infantry, 4 companies 188
2d infantry, 9 companies 687
3d infantry, 6 companies 319
4th infantry, 6 companies 332
The volunteers employed in the war consist of twenty-seven regiments and two companies, of which five regiments are cavalry or mounted men and twenty-two infantry, except a part of one battalion, of which two of the companies are field artillery.

On the 21st of September, it appears by the statement then submitted by the secretary of war that the volunteer force in the field (twelve months men) amounted to 23,161 officers and men, exclusive of the general officers and staff provided for the irregular troops. This force, it is seen, does not now exceed 16,500, if the data upon which the strength of the army is based be tolerably correct.

Distribution of the army in campaign

Army under command or order of Major General Taylor –

Regular troops 5,663
- En route to Mexico 981
- Recruits en route 762
- Regulars 7,406
- Volunteers 10,926

Aggregate 18,332

Under Brigadier General Wool, charged with the conduct of a separate division –

Regular troops 621
- Volunteers 2,039

Aggregate 2,660

Under Brig. General Kearney, charged with the conduct of a separate division in New Mexico and California –

Regular troops 446
- Volunteers 3,546
- Aggregate 3,992

Aggregate force employed in the field 24,984

Of this force (24,984) 8,473 are of the regular army and 16,511 volunteers.

The achievements of every division and battalion in the field have nobly sustained the character of the regular army. In the day of battle the efficiency and skill displayed only equaled the expectations of those best acquainted with its high state of discipline, &c. The victories won and the graves of the fallen attest the ability and valor of the veterans of other wars, as well as of younger officers – élèves of the National Academy, and others.

The volunteer troops won unfading laurels in the sanguinary battle of Monterey. Their gallantry was conspicuous wherever duty called. Many fell in the action.

The destination of a part of the troops reported “en route to Mexico” for the army under Major General Taylor has been suddenly changed; and it is also probably that detachments have been drawn from the lower Grande for Tampico, which reduces the force reported under the immediate order that general. But the additional volunteer force recently called into the service will soon be pushed forward in the direction of the Rio Grande.

Of the force reported as under the orders of Brigadier General Kearney, one company of the third regiment of artillery embarked at New York for Monterey, California, July 14th, and the New York regiment of volunteers for the same destination
embarked 25th September. The brigadier reported, October 16th, that he was *en route* for that country from Santa Fe, with two companies of the first regiment of dragoons, deeming that force (with the several officers of the staff who accompany him) adequate for the service in view.

**Distribution of troops in the eastern and western divisions.**

The forts on the sea coast and the posts on the western frontiers have nearly all been evacuated, and the garrisons of the few now occupied been greatly diminished since the war with Mexico.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Troops</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New York harbor – Fort Columbus</td>
<td>one company second regiment artillery</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chesapeake bay – Fort Monroe</td>
<td>one company fourth regiment artillery</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charleston harbor, S.C. – Fort Moultrie</td>
<td>one company third regiment artillery</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gulf of Mexico – Fort Pickens, Pensacola harbor, Florida</td>
<td>one company 1st artillery</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>four companies of artillery</td>
<td>232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Mackinac, Michigan – one company</td>
<td>second regiment Infantry (detached at Fort Brady)</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Snelling, Upper Mississippi, Iowa</td>
<td>two companies first regiment infantry</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Scott, Missouri frontier, (on the Marimitou)</td>
<td>one company 1st regiment infantry</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cherokee country – Fort Gibson</td>
<td>one company first regiment dragoons</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>one company sixth regiment infantry</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aggregate</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Smith, Arkansas</td>
<td>one company first regiment dragoons</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Washita, Arkansas</td>
<td>one company sixth Regiment infantry</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>two companies dragoons and six companies infantry</td>
<td>485</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to the twenty-seven regiments and two companies of volunteers reported in the field, seven other companies are now in the service of the United States, and stationed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Troops</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Iowa – one company foot, Fort Atkinson</td>
<td></td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin – one company foot, Fort Crawford</td>
<td></td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas battalion, (two companies horse and three companies foot)</td>
<td></td>
<td>381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Three companies at Fort Gibson, Cherokee country)</td>
<td>one company at Fort Smith, Arkansas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>one company at Fort Wayne, Arkansas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggregate</td>
<td></td>
<td>522</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**The recruiting service.**

The recruiting service has been pushed with vigor. Several companies, much reduced, have been temporarily broken up, rendering available more officers for this essential service than otherwise could have been withdrawn from active duty in the field.

The whole number of men enlisted from the 1st of October, 1845, to the 30th September, 1846, is 5,945, being an excess of 2,388 over the previous year. The number enlisted in December, may be put down at 1,500.

The raising of numerous regiments of volunteers and the greater inducements to enter for short periods, satisfactorily accounts for the want of better success in recruiting for the regular army. High wages for labor is another cause reported as having a decided influence upon the recruiting service; but more than all, perhaps, the distinction seen in the pension laws between the private soldier of the regular army and the volunteer, and which operates so unfavorable to the former. The widows and orphans of the volunteers who may be killed in battle, or die of wounds received in the service, are pensioned; while the widows and orphans of the regular soldiers who die under the same circumstances are entirely unprovided for by law.

The rank and file of the army, (enlisted men of artillery, infantry, dragoons, and riflemen) including detachments, recruits, and recruiting parties, may be computed to be about ten thousand men by the 31st December.

The objections heretofore urged to the *bounty-in-hand* system deemed to be valid *in time of peace*, are not applicable to a state of war. I recommend, therefore, that the provisions of the 12th section of the act entitled "An act fixing the military peace establishment,” &c. approved March 16, 1802 (repealed in 1833*) be now re-enacted and continued during the war, and no longer. The impulse given to the recruiting service would be prompt and decisive of better success.
I respectfully request the attention of the department to the special report I had the honor to submit to the secretary of war July 30, 1846, on the subject of providing an addition major for each of the regiments of the line. I then stated that "a view of the actual service as it has been, and more especially as it now is, must convince you that the complement of the field officers for the several regiments of artillery, infantry, and cavalry is inadequate; and that the service at this time greatly needs the addition of one major to each for duty in the field. The regiments in Mexico do not average one field officer and when the operations are pushed into the interior of the enemy’s country, there may be several battalions, as is the case now with the 7th infantry, which will be commanded by captains.

"To ensure as many as two field officers with the regiments under Gen. Taylor, an additional major should be allowed to be selected from the active captains of their respective arms. The second major was found indispensably necessary in former organizations of the army, especially during the war with England. The staff corps are well provided with this very useful grade of field officers; in three of which (engineers, topographical engineers, and ordnance) the same complement is allowed (four each) as the law provides for the whole twelve regiments of infantry and artillery. The complement of field officers of the marching regiments, officers who recruit, instruct and discipline the troops, and who must lead them into battle, is utterly insufficient, and this the present state of the actual service in the field too clearly demonstrates. The return and reports from Gen. Taylor show the great deficiency in this, the junior grade of field officers with the army under his command, which it is not possible to supply with our present means; for the disabled and invalid list is not likely to be diminished, but rather increased."

I also beg leave respectfully to recall the attention of the department to the recommendation, more than once repeated in the annual reports of the major general commanding-in-chief, in reference to the importance of having the several regiment effective in officers as well as in men. The plan proposed by the late Major General Macomb was to provide by law for a retired list, which, according to the details submitted, would not cost the government one cent more than the present rates allowed. "The only difference would be that the places of the non-effective officers would be supplied by the effective officer doing their duty, and the brevet officers at the foot of the list would be sooner advanced; and thus, by the increased efficiency of the several regiments and corps, there would actually a benefit result to the public," &c. It is believed that a plan could be devised which would improve the condition of the service, and at the same time do justice to the invalid office whose life had been spent in the faithful performance of public duty. In his annual report of November 22, 1841, Major General Scott brought up the subject to the consideration of the secretary of war, and at the same time recommended that some provision of law might be adopted "in favor of widows and orphans of regular officers who have died or may die in consequence of wounds received or disease contracted in the service; there being such provision already made in behalf of the widows and orphans of navy, volunteer, and militia officers dying under the same circumstances."

Respectfully submitted,

R. JONES,
Adjutant General U.S. Army.

The Hon. WM. L. MARCY, Secretary of War.

[RLK]

NRR47January v71.288 1/2/1847 Somers, brig of war, wrecked in storm

The writer gives an interesting account of the heroic devotion of the foreign vessels at Sacrificios, two miles distant, to save the crew of the Somers. Two hundred of the crew of the British ship Endymion volunteered for the service, and among the French and Spanish vessels equal heroism was exhibited. The gale, however, was so violent that her boats had to be recalled. When it abated they again put out, and succeeded in saving fourteen lives. We regret that we have not space for these interesting details.

The strange vessel which tempted the Somers from shelter was the Abrasia, bound for the squadron.

Sixteen of those on board the Somers, reached the shore on hen-coops, and are now prisoners in Vera Cruz.


On the 13th inst., the same writer says:- As sailing of the Morgan Dix has been delayed by a head wind, I have an opportunity to add the good news that eight more of the men of the Somers have been picked up by the Mexicans on the beach near Anton Lizardo, whither they were driven by the gale on a hen coop. One of them has since died. They are held as prisoners in Vera Cruz. This makes forty-four all told, who have been saved from the wreck. The Somers had nearly eighty souls on board, all told.

Passed midshipman Hynson, one of the officers lost by the disaster to the Somers, was one of those who participated in the burning of the Creole moored to the walls of San Juan de Ulloa. It is said that he could have saved his life, but for his generosity in giving up his spar to a sailor whom he considered weaker than himself. In seeking another support he went down. [AKS]

**Reconnoitering party captured by the Mexicans**

Reconnoitering party captured by the Mexicans. - On the 5th Dec., Midshipman R. Clay Rogers, Dr. J. W. Wright, and John G. Fox, a seaman of the Somers, went ashore for the purpose of reconnoitering one of the enemies' magazines, and ascertaining the practicability of destroying it. The party had gone some distance from the boat, when they were surrounded by seven Mexican soldiers. Dr. Wright made his escape. Mr. Rogers and the seaman were made prisoners, and sent to Perote to be confined there. [AKS]

**Editorial review of the campaign**

THE CAMPAIGN OF 1846, has terminated. Without delaying to learn from all direction the exact attitude of affairs everywhere, at the expiration of the year, this number of the Register details the latest intelligence we have from each point, and summing up the whole, it is worth while to review what has been done, and estimate as well as we have means, what is yet to be accomplished.

It is our duty to look at what is before us, fully in the face, and to take precaution accordingly.

When the war with Mexico was commenced, the impression prevailed, that it would be but a brief affair. The Executive, without doubt expected to have it brought to a favorable close by the end of the year, which has expired. They asked congress for such an appropriation of money as was deemed by them adequate for the occasion, which was granted with great unanimity. They applied for a law authorising 50,000 volunteers, which was also granted; for an increase of the Army, and that was granted – and larger appropriations for the Navy also. No measure was proposed to congress by the Administration for prosecuting the war with vigor, that was not readily granted. The call for volunteers was not even waited for in many of the States; Louisiana, Kentucky, Maryland, and other States hurried more than their quotas to the frontier, before the requisitions reach them. The party in opposition to the Administration not only voted for the supplies of men and money. The only whig representative in congress from the state of Illinois left his seat and joined the Army in Mexico. The older members of the party did not themselves follow this example, but Mr. Crittenden and Daniel Webster, leading whigs of the United States Senate, have each a son commanding volunteers in the war. Mr. Calhoun’s son is aid to Gen. Gaines – Mr. Van Buren’s son is also with the army. Cassius M. Clay was one of the foremost to lead the Kentucky volunteers to the field. Henry Clay has a son amongst the foremost, and it would seem from a toast and speech which the statesman himself uttered at a dinner to which he was invited a few days since at New Orleans, that he has half a notion to start off himself to join his countrymen in arms. Even the "old man eloquent" John Quincy Adams himself, led off at the head of his party, in the House of Representatives, against any movement to obstruct war measures.

The Administration at Washington planned and directed the campaign. Six months have elapsed since war was "recognized". The frontiers of Mexico are in possession of our armies. Santa Fe, situated on the east side of the Rio Grande has been taken by Gen. Kearny. Monclova is in possession of General Wool. The lower valley of the Rio Grande, after a severe conflict, fell into the hands of General Taylor. Another conflict not less severe, won Monterey. The enemy evacuated Saltillo, and the pass at the Sierra Madre is in our possession. Tampico has just been captured without opposition. The ports of California are in the possession of our Pacific squadron.

Mexico has lost, of course, just what we have won.

They have lost some of their ports of the Pacific, they have lost the valley of the Rio Grande, from the mouth to Santa Fe – they have lost Monterey, Saltillo, and Monclova – and they have lost Tampico.

They have lost Gen. Arista, Gen. Ampudia, and President Paredes, - as commanders and conductors of the war. But in their places, unfortunately for us, and partly from our indiscretion too, they have Gen. Santa Anna.

[Word unreadable] of San Jacinto?

Aye, - and the same who at Tampico captured the [word unreadable] of Spain that was sent to endeavor to recover or win Mexico – the same too, that so bravely defended Vera Cruz from the attack of the French army that had won the Castle of San Juan d’Ulloa, -and was attempting to begin a march on the City of Mexico.
Second in command, they have Valencia, one of the best Mexican General – the same that with 1200 men and a battery of artillery, defeated the Generals Urrea and Mejia, commanders of the federal forces, at [word unreadable], 15 leagues from Puebla, capturing the latter; Mejia was subsequently shot by Santa Anna. Urrea, by fleetness of his horse, escaped. A year afterwards, 1840, Valencia was again called to command, and in hours, obliged Urrea to capitulate and surrender the national palace, where he had posted himself. – In 1841 he become the pet of the government, and when Santa Anna raised the standard of revolt, Valencia, was ordered to oppose him. He deceived the government, took sides with Santa Anna, and seconded his success. Always lucky, he avoided being banished with Santa Anna, but joins him with 8000 immediately upon his return to Mexico, and is now second in command.

URREA is now also with Santa Anna – with probably the best corps d'arme in the Mexican service. He is about 50 years of age, of polished manners, and is esteemed an able officer. We know him to be unscrupulous, by his having obeyed Santa Anna’s ordered to perpetrate the horrible murders at Golial. – He became a federalist in 1835, and for four years resisted the central government. Santa Anna has gone over to his party.

ALMONTE, unquestionably one of the ablest of the Mexican statesmen, as well as most inveterate opponent to the dismemberment of Mexico, is managing the departments at the Mexican capital.

General WOLL, a Frenchman, and former Mexican commander on the Texan frontiers, has also lately returned from Europe. Besides this, many experienced and tired officers of ability, are stated to have been in company with Santa Anna himself at his return from Havana, Spanish as well as Mexican.

Such is the array of officers that have now to be combated.

The amount of force which our army encountered at Palo Alto, and Resaca, was below 10,000, and they but that moment concentrated and fatigued with a long and hurried march. It was there ascertained that we had no child’s play in hand. Mexicans, it was found, could fight, and would fight.

The force concentrated at Monterey, numbered about 10,000. General Taylor was entirely uncertain whether he would meet any opposition, until within sight of the city. It happened to be commanded by a General, who during the three days fight, instead of exhibiting personal courage, kept himself safely ensconced, - and so exasperated were the Mexicans at his having capitulated whilst the citidel and the plaza, their strongest fortresses, were yet unassailed, that an American escort was required for his safety on leaving the city, and his is now under arrest for cowardice.

It is admitted on all hands, that Santa Anna had, within the period between his leaving the coast upon which he was permitted to land, or rather from his leaving his hacienda without even an escort, and the latest dates from San Luis, say in less than three months, concentrated an army of 30,000 men, 10,000 of which are cavalry, and that he was just receiving a formidable train of artillery, in addition to the light pieces he had in the field.

He has it in his power to precipitate a large force from the centre he occupies, in which ever direction he may select. Monclova, Saltillo, Monterey, Matamoros, Victoria, Tampico, - any of them are to him within striking distance.

No indication of a disposition to submit to the terms which our government is understood to demand, is perceived on the part of those in power, - and still less is such a disposition found amongst the Mexican people. They have their factions and their cliques, but no one of them all, has yet breathed a word like submission to our demands.

The struggle assumes a more serious aspect. Our own executive perceive that it will require more time, more men, and more money to “conquer a peace,” than they had anticipated.

Immediately upon receiving intelligence of the capture of Monterey, without waiting for the reason which influenced the officers of the army to conclude the armistice, the President ordered the agreement to be annulled, and the army to advance towards the city of Mexico – General Taylor promptly obeyed the order, and occupied Saltillo, evacuated by the enemy.

After receiving the despatches, assigning their reasons, and stating the difficulties, the army would have to encounter by advancing in that direction, orders were sent from Washington to change the whole plan of invasion. The several divisions were directed to concentrate at a southern point on the gulf, and the formidable movement is to be made from thence.

The commander in chief of the United States army, Gen. Scott, is ordered on to take charge of the campaign and has no doubt by this time reached Tampico, which is already occupied. Vera Cruz, however is supposed to be the first object of a formidable attack. Some of our heaviest ships and most experienced officers have orders to join the blockading squadron. Ordnance of the largest calibre, bombs of immense size and in large quantities are being forwarded. Everything indicates that a bold attempt is contemplated by the squadron.

A land attack is probably relied upon with no less confidence. A squadron of flat bottomed transport vessels, suitable for moving troops in shoal waters, are being constructed with the unusual despatch at our eastern building yards. Some of them are nearly completed. The newly raised corps of sappers and miners, are en route for the army, and another corps forming under Captain Walbach, U.S.A., intended to manage mountain howitzers on an improved system, is rapidly organizing. The eleven additional regiments of volunteers, are being mustered into service, choosing officers, concentrating and disciplining preparatory to embarking for the coast of Mexico.

To take Vera Cruz – and the castle of San Juan d’Ulloa, - to penetrate the different passes which lead from thence to Mexico
or San Luis Potosi, to encounter an army of over 30,000 Mexicans, now in the field for the defence of that post, commanded
by the officers we have named, prompted on by a general impulse from the whole Mexican people – fighting, as it will be,
for their country and their homes – is no child’s play.

The president and cabinet at Washington apprized of the nature of the case, have applied to congress to authorize the
appointment of a "Commanding General," with a view, it is presumed, of superseding all the officers now in the field, or
afloat, in authority and control of the campaign which is about to commence.

This proposition, as will be seen in our columns of congressional proceedings, met with a prompt veto by the house of
representatives. The committee to which it was referred consisted of six administration and three whig members. Only one
member of the committee – it is said objected to the report agreed upon – and although the vote of the house was next day
reconsidered, its believed to have been only in respect of the feelings of the president.

How the proposition will far in the senate, is the question. The committee to whom the subject was referred, stood two for,
and two against the appointment, the chairman of the committee, Col. Benton, not present, as he is understood to be
probably interested in the issue. If such an appointment be authorised, he is no doubt to be "Commanding General."

Mr. Calhoun, is said to be opposed, and Gen. Cass, to be in favor of appointing such an officer.

Views in relation to the next Presidency, may perhaps influence some votes, or may decide the question in the Senate.

This failure of executive influence in the legislation – constituted as it is of the same members that last session so faithfully
seconded his recommendations, looks rather ominous.

FINANCES

A still more important recommendation, urged by the secretary of the treasury, all important to his obtaining ways and
means for sustaining the government and carrying on the way, was on Saturday last treated with, if possible, a still more
emphatic negative. We allude to the decision, by an overwhelming vote, that it was "inexpedient to lay a duty upon tea and
coffee," – which the secretary has so urgently pressed upon them to lay, and to lay promptly.

The first stage, an agreement between the secretary of the treasury and the committee on ways and means of the house, as
to the features of a revenue bill, has not been arrived at. They differ in opinion – the vote in the house on the secretary’s
proposition to tax tea and coffee, it is feared is but on feature of the difference. A resort to a direct tax upon certain
personalities, is favored in committee. The secretary is opposed to direct taxation.

How difficult it will be to reconcile the vastly conflicting views entertained by members in the house on such a subject, may
be readily conceived. Several of the last tariff bills have been carried only after a long struggle, by casting votes of the
presiding officer.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Courier and Enquirer, writes on the 4th instant, “It is said great companies
are made by capitalists who negotiated the late loan at the conduct of the secretary of the treasury. If I am informed
rightly, he gave them positive assurances, that the war was about being terminated, and no more troops would be ordered
out. On the faith of these pledges, offers were made which could not have been induced under other circumstances, and yet
the negotiators had hardly turned their backs upon the capitol before every promise was violated. Transactions like these
are pre-calculated to impair every sort of confidence in the administration, and this one will be the means of affecting the
new loan should it be authorised by congress.”

This is incredible. If untrue, such a publication is exceedingly imprudent.

These indications of a failure of executive influence in the legislature, are the more portentous from the fact, that it is from
the “house of his friends,” from the administration members, that the president has experienced this falling off.

The session of congress has nearly half elapsed, and no report has yet been made as to ways and means, so urgently
demanded for sustaining the credit of the government. It is stated that the committee on finance is in favor of a resort to
various internal taxes, which it would take a considerable time to make available if adopted.

But the gravest aspect of all, is the turn which it is feared the whole question is about to assume, in relation to the adding
more territory to the Union, whether it is admitted under the Missouri compromise, or whether slavery is to be excluded
from the new territory?

On this point, hang the destinies of the country.

In eight weeks, the session of congress must close.

In the house of representatives of the next congress, it is yet uncertain whether the now dominant party will have a
majority. The northern administration men will number far less than in the present congress, and the president will find
difficulty in exerting such an influence as he has in the congress that is about to expire. [RLK]
The wagons were in charge of Capt. D. S. Marne, who lost all his clothing, collected for a three years' expedition, together

The Colombia (Boone Co. ) Statesman announces the reception of a letter from Santa Fe, by the same arrival, dated on the St. Louis Rep

We learn from Liberty (Mo. Tribune, that a train of twenty four government wagons were attacked and robbed on the 28th Nov. , by a body of about 500 Indians, thirty miles below the crossings of the Arkansas.

The wagons were in charge of Capt. D. S. Marne, who lost all his clothing, collected for a three years' expedition, together
with nearly all the mules attached to the train. One man, John Dougherty, was killed, and four others wounded.

A letter written at Santa Fe on the 19th of Nov., states that Col. Price's regiment is stationed at that place for the winter, and that great sickness prevailed amongst the troops. There had been as many as seven deaths a day.

There are reports, we sincerely hope unfounded reports, as many of those received through Mexico are, that a part of our forces about the gulf of California, have been overcome and killed by the Mexicans. That it is false, is the more probable from our no having any confirmation of the story by later dates received from Mexico. The impression in Texas was, that if true, it must be Col. Fremont's detachment that has suffered.

The posture of affairs in the division of our army at Santa Fe, as furnished by the latest intelligence from thence, is rather uncomfortable, not from dread of the enemy, but of suffering starvation.

The main object for which "The Army of the Centre," under General Wool was understood to have been destined, was, to occupy, Chihuahua and its provinces. This object seems to have been either abandoned by that division for the present, or left to a portion of the forces under Gen. Kearny. General Doniphan was to have left Santa Fe with a view to accomplish, what Gen. Wool was started to effect, immediately after our latest dates from thence. [AKS]

71.290 January 9, 1847, reports from the Army of the Center

"ARMY OF THE CENTRE."

Advices have been received at New Orleans from Galveston, Texas, to the 22d December. The Picayune says - "There is a story in the Galveston News, told be a teamster recently from Mexico, to the effect that Colonel Riley was recently surrounded, at Mroelos, by 500 Mexicans under Gen. Urrea, and that was no hope of Col. R's escape. We do not believe a word of it."

We hear, (says the St. Louis Republican) from a source entitled to confidence, that General Wool's army has been, or will soon be ordered to march to Monterey, where it, together with all the disposable forces under Gen. Taylor, is to march to Tampico, and constitute the advance of the twenty thousand men which, we have already said, are to march against the city of Mexico. If any demonstration is to be made again Chihuahua by Colonel Doniphan, he must, it is now certain, do it without the co-operation of Gen. Wool, and with a force, the efficiency of which is very much impaired by the want of almost every material for a successful campaign.

A letter dated Parras, Mexico, December 9, says:

"Col. Yell, Lieut. Col. Roane, and Major Borland, are under arrest, for positive disobedience of orders. The "old war horse" [Gen. Wool] has ordered a court martial. [RLK]

71.290 January 9, 1847, Gen. Zachary Taylor's visit to Saltillo, &c

"ARMY OF OCCUPATION"

SALITLLO

Dragoon camp, near Monterey, Mexico

November 25, 1846

I have just returned from Saltillo, where I have been with the dragoons as escort to General Taylor, who accompanied the command under Gen. Worth, which marched from here for that place on the 13th instant.

This force, in all numbering about one thousand men, marched into the city and took possession of the same on the 16th instant, and Gen. Worth, with his division of about eight hundred men, now remains in command of the same.

We found no troops in the city, nor met with any resistance in taking possession of it. It is situated about fifty miles southwest from here, and contains at present over twenty thousand inhabitants. As a city, it is far inferior to Monterey, the buildings being built of sun-dried tiles in place of stone, thus offering, as you see, a dirty appearance to the observer.

In the nicer parts of the city, however, and around the main plaza, the buildings are covered with a hard white cement which makes them appear quite well. It has a most magnificent cathedral built of stone, and as I surveyed the "thousand and one" statues, images, candlesticks, crosses, &c., with which its inner walls and domes were ornamented, I almost began to imagine that I was gazing upon the vast riches of the halls of the ancient Montezumas; but it was the house of worship.

The entire route from Monterey to Saltillo lie along a narrow valley, varying from a quarter to three miles in extent, while on
either side bold and precipitous mountains rise almost to the very clouds. They are entirely destitute of timber of timber and vegetation of any kind, and the scene at times was particularly grand and sublime. On one occasion the sun was obscured from out sight at 10 A.M. by these towering heights. But I cannot dwell here. The whole distance was greatly ascending and the road rocky and broken. As our route for the most part lay along the stream we generally found plenty of water.

On one of these narrow defiles the Mexicans had thrown us some defences, which were evacuated after the fall of Monterey. At Saltillo we found no wood of any kind, and were under the necessity of purchasing brush enough from the Mexicans to boil our coffee. This they brought some ten miles or more upon their backs, or upon pack mules as is customary in this country. At Monterey the orange, lime, lemon, citron, &c. – prosper to perfection, while at Saltillo, (farther south,) they do not grow or do well. This is owing to the different altitudes of the two places.

But wheat and apples do well at Saltillo; at Monterey they are not raised. Corn grows well in both places, and the seasons are so long that two crops are raised from the same piece of ground yearly – Potatoes do not grow here. About Saltillo the fields are without fences, and are watched for safety against cattle, &c. daily and nightly by sentinels. As we are arrived at Saltillo we captured 125 pack mules, each loaded with 300 lbs., public flour destined for the Mexican army at San Luis Potosi. While there Gen. Taylor detached Capt. Graham and myself, with our companies and an engineer officer, to reconnoiter the country and passes lying south of that place, with a view of learning its mean of defence. We were out three days and examined the country around for about 30 miles. Found some strong passes, but none so formidable as those on the Monterey road and none which could not be turned by infantry. They had been represented as stronger. N.Y. Com. Adv. [RLK]

The war between the Kentuckeians and Mexicans, as it is fairly termed, has created no little excitement both in town and in camp. It is thought that not less than forty Mexicans have been killed within the last five days, fifteen of whom, it is said, were killed in one day, and within the scope of one mile. From this you will see that the boys are determined to have and to take revenge for the assassination of their comrades. When it is known that no Mexican, since the commencement of the war, has been punished for outrages committed on the persons and property of American soldiers and they have been numerous, many person will look at the course pursued by the Louisville Legion first in a light far from condemnation, and whilst regretting the circumstances which have lead to it, they will ask you the question, "Shall we rest quietly in our tents whilst the enemy is lying in ambush murdering our comrades as they pass the roads?" Ever since the occupation of Matamores by our troops the Mexicans have been cutting off our men, whenever they could be found in convenient places for the job, and the compliment has been invariably retuned generally two for one, and this too in many cases without regard to the Scriptures, giving out that it is "better to let ninety-nine guilty go than punish one innocent man." The first of these difficulties, in different places find their origin in the Mexican disposition to rob, to accomplish which they will murder an American if it be only to get possession of the clothes upon his body. Retaliation is sure to follow, and in many case the innocent is made to suffer for crimes committed by his guilty countrymen. This is a state of society deeply to be regretted, and no man in or out of Mexico would feel more pleasure in recording a termination of such proceedings; but I candidly believe that they will continue to exist as long as the difficulties between the two countries remain in the present unsettled state.

The trial of the Alcalde’s son and the others engaged in tampering with our men is set for tomorrow. I should not exactly say trial, for it will for it will be more in the shape of a court of inquiry at first. I saw this young Alcalde this morning in prison. He is a young and very interesting man, and was weighed down to the ground with irons, not that they fear his escape, but to deter others from following in his footsteps. At first it was thought that but few men were engaged in the business, but it is now clearly ascertained that many of the principal men the place have had a finger in the pie, and since the first arrest many of the first families of Monterey have left, and the population of the place has decreased in that time nearly one thousand. The 7th regiment has lost many men by desertion, and I have since ascertained that the number I spoke of before, (forty) as having deserted may be safely trebled, and all since the 25th September. The regulars have invariably gone to the enemy, but what of the volunteers who have left us "sans ceremonie" have made tracks for a Christmas dinner in the white settlements. The friends of those arrested, particularly of the Alcalde, fear the worst, and if they were hung in the Plaza, as Gen Taolor threatened, they would not be much surprised.

A train of wagons loaded with provisions started, yesterday for Saltillo, escorted by a company of infantry. Our dates from Gen. Worth are as late as the 27th. Every thing is reported quiet, and the command well satisfied with their location. Nothing from Gen. Wool since my last, and I am unable to say whether he has yet Monclova for Parras.-If he has not, he will certainly do it when he gets short of provisions and forage.

It was generally believed yesterday that a movement would be made in less than ten days, originating no doubt from an order for all the infantry to sell their horses, and the small number of men who were permitted to leave camp. But it is known generally that when Captain Rhine offered the service of his company of rangers to Gen. Taylor, they were declined on the ground that no movement would be made until ordered from Washington, which the gen. said might not reach him until after the sitting of congress; so you can judge what chance there is of an early move.
The weather is lovely at this time, and forcibly reminds one of the spring time of the year. It is a great climate, and blossoms, half blown, and ripe fruit can be found on the same tree.

[Correspondent New Orleans Delta.]

71.291 January 9, 1847, a Marylander, H.P. Lyons, from San Luis Potosi, his report of affairs there, letter from Monterey, position of several divisions and corps of the Army, Mexican government recruiting in the valley of the Rio Grande, Tampico startled, letter from Saltillo

A MARYLANDER AT SAN LUIS POTOSI. A correspondent of the New Orleans Picayune, at Monterey, has had a conversation with Henry P. Lyons, one of the American prisoners recently released by Santa Anna at San Luis Potosi. Mr. Lyons is a native of Maryland, and has been three times in the clutches of the Mexicans.

He says that a short time before the battle of Monterey, and whilst Hay’s Rangers were at or near China, he was shoeing some of the horses in that town, and after finishing his work, was ordered by Gen. Henderson to remain in town a short time and dispose of what iron he had not used. The regiment and his company, (McCown’s) had been gone about an hour when thirteen Mexicans rode up to where he was, and one of them threw a lasso over his shoulders, and immediately pinioned his arms. He was then dragged in the chaparral, and the same number of lashes laid upon his back as had been given to the Mexican thief near San Fernando, that is, thirty six. After this operation was gone through with, he was mounted on a mustang and taken to Monterey, where he arrived on Saturday about the same time the black fort opened upon Gen. Taylor. He was not suffered to remain here any length of time, and after being tied fourteen inches in the rear of Chas. W. Tufts, (I believe of the same place), two traders captured near China tied the same distance in his rear, and two more captured when Harey went to the Presidio Rio Grande in theirs, they were marched off to Saltillo, from which place, after the news of the battle reached it, they were sent to San Luis Potosi.

Mr. Lyons says that the first intimation they had of their release was from a Mexican Colonel, who handed each man $10 from Santa Anna, and told them they were at liberty to depart. Other than the lashing and forced marches the treatment was good. It was currently reported and believed in the Mexican camp, on the 10th ult. That Very Cruz had surrendered to the Americans. The Colonel was interrogated on that head by Mr. L. who answered that he believed it was so. When asked where Gen. Ampudia was, he stated that he was in the Castle of rote, where Mexico put all cowardly generals.

Mr. Lyons speaks Spanish, and had an opportunity of learning much of the doings of the enemy – He states that when Santa Anna was notified that the armistice had been terminated by our government he was greatly enraged, and accused us of making our engagement; and this, too, after he had ordered a part of his army back to Saltillo and the pass to Durango. It was thought that Gen. Kearny was marching down from New Mexico, and the force iguated for the Pass to Durango was to oppose him hat point, but when news of the whereabouts of Gen. Wool reached San Luis, this project was abandoned, for they knew he would be first on the ground. The forces at San Luis on the 9th ult. are stated by Mr. Lyons to have been opposed him hat point, but when news of the whereabouts of Gen. Wool reached San Luis, this project was abandoned, for

Mr. Lyons says that notwithstanding the scarcity of water on the road – one stretch of 52 miles without a drop – they look for our forces there, are ditching and throwing up embankments of earth all around the city. So terrible has the name of Gen. Taylor become, that the Mexican people believe he can travel 100 miles without water.

With Worth beyond Rinconado – Wool in command of the Pass to Durango, and a force which will shortly be at the lower Pass near Victoria, all the northern provinces will be cut off from the enemy.

The correspondent of the Delta states that Gen. Taylor is to march from the capital of Tamaulipas, and will take with him the Baltimore battalion, the Mississippi, Georgia and Tennessee volunteers, all the regulars, with the exception of one company of artillery, and one or two of the 7th infantry. The letter giving this information, is dated Monterey, December 8th, and adds!

From this, you will infer that the headquarters will be at or near Tampico. It may still be 8 or 10 days before this move is made, although some of the regiments are ordered to march next Thursday. As there is nothing apprehended from the enemy at this time the movement will be made by easy marches, stopping sometimes two and three days at a place. – The division will move down the valley, from the S.E. end of the town, passing through Cayderete, Monte Morales, Linares, Villa Grande and Hidalgo, a distance of nearly 200 miles to Victoria. After reaching the latter place, a halt will be made for some time, when a garrison will be left of 1,000 or 1,500 men, and the remainder will accompany Gen. Taylor towards Tampico. For aught I know, a junction may be formed at Victoria with the troops under Gen. Patterson, but I can not speak with with any certainty, on this head, not being advised of the movements below. This move, leaving Worth and Wool above us, argues very strongly, to my thinking, that offensive operations, for the present, have ceased.
The steamer Fashion arrived at N. Orleans on the 27th ult. from Brazos bringing Capt. Yeatman, aid-de camp to Gen. Wool, bearer of despatches for government, and 80 discharged volunteers. The remains of young Allison, of Nashville, Tennessee, who was shot at Monterey, was brought in the Fashion. John Chittick, one of the Indiana volunteers died on the passage, and was buried in the great deep. The steamer brought a large mail from the army.

GENERAL WOOL'S DIVISON. General Wool was encamped within two miles of the city of Parras, his force amounting, by the field reports, to 2,900 men. He is ordered there to establish a depot, and to levy upon all supplies belonging to the Mexican government. He has already taken large quantities of flour, wheat, and corn.

The 1st and 2d regiments of Indiana volunteers, were on their march from Camargo to join General Wool.

Gen. Worth was at Saltillo, in command of 1,500 men, and the command of Monterey has been assigned to Gen. Butler with 2,000 men to garrison it.

Gen. Twiggs and Gen. P.H. Smith, with their respective commands, were at Victoria, and Gen. Quitman, with his brigade, left Monterey for Victoria on the 14th inst.

Gen. Taylor, with a squadron of dragoons, also left for Victoria on the 15th inst.

Gen. Patterson was to have left on the 22d inst. accompanied by the Tennessee regiment of cavalry, for Tampico, via Victoria.

The Alabama regiment of volunteers, and the 2d regiment of United Stated artillery, had arrived there already. The city was in command of Gen. Shields.

Lieut. Col. Henry Clay, with six companies of the 2d regiment of Kentucky volunteers, was at Ceralvo. Capt. Willis was at Mier with two companies of the same regiment, and Captain, (General M.B. Lamar) with a company, is stationed at Laredo.

The U.S. steamer Major Brown, Captain Steerling, was at Laredo, the stage of the river being such that she could not navigate it. Lieut. Tilden is about to remove the obstructions in the river, which if successful, will enable the steamer to go up to Camargo.

Col. Marshall confined by injuries received in falling from his horse, was recovering. An express had reached Gen. Patterson to the effect that Santa Anna was advancing from San Luis Potosi upon Saltillo, for the purpose of cutting off Gen. Worth.

About 450 regulars were to have left Camargo on the 20th for Monterey; among them were Captains Kerr's and Hunter's command of the second regiment of dragoons.

The Mexican government recruiting in the Valley of the Rio Grande. The Mexicans are making great exertions to raise troops in all the small Mexican towns on the Rio Grande, and with some success. About the 15th instant, Captain Stone, with a detachment of 70 men, proceeded to a rancho up the Rio San Juan, a distance of thirty seven miles, where he found about 200 Mexicans collected, and among them Capt. Cantooa, who was the particular object of his search. Captain C. was captured, and the muster roll of his company, and the letters of instructions from Generals Ampudia and Paredes, with a quantity of blankets, 50 stand of arms, ammunition, etc. were secured. Captain Cantooa was carried to Camargo, and put in prison.

On the evening of the 16th inst. a Mexican was taken by guards at Camargo, having made an entry into the powder magazine with a design, it is supposed, of blowing it up.

TAMPICO ASSAILED. The New Orleans Times of the 28th says it learned from a passenger who came direct from Tampico, in the schooner R. M. Johnson, and left the schooner at the South West Pass, and took passage in the steamer Fashion, from New Orleans, that on the 16th instant Tampico had been attacked by an army of 7,000 Mexican cavalry, who thought they would carry the town by coup de main. Our troops, however, were on the alert, and on the Mexicans making their appearance, opened upon them a brisk fire of artillery, when the Mexicans broke and fled.

Saltillo 20th November, 1846.

"There are a great many Americans, Irish and English in this place, who appear very well pleased to see us. On the day of our arrival, we were met, some miles from the town, by a whole bevvy of 'fair ones,' who appeared to be perfectly delighted - having seen no one from the 'States' for a long while. Our captain of the day was very much struck by being hailed by a buxom lass, and asked in good sound English, 'how do you do?' To which he replied, 'where did you come from?' 'Catauugus county, York state; I am glad to see you; I have seen but one white man for eight years, and he was a nigger!' The captain being from New York, would not believe her, but thinks she must be of Irish blood, as none other could perpetrate such a bull.

"Our regiment is finely quartered in a monastery from which we have frightened the 'friars of order grey.' They seemed to believe, from the way they acted, that we were truly heathens, as well as 'barbarians of the north!'"

"Saltillo is by far the best town I have seen yet in Mexico. It surpasses Monterey in all respects. The Cathedral is a fine
Saltillo 20th November, 1846

...there is a rumor current here that a party of two hundred Americans were massacred in Upper California lately. It is supposed to be Lieut. Col. Fremont's party, as none other was known to be in that region. We hope the rumor may prove unfounded.

...Santa Anna's army is cantoned on the road from Saltillo to San Luis de Potosi, advanced about fifty miles from the latter place. I do not believe he will advance upon us. Should he, however, we must abandon Saltillo and fall back upon the pass 'de los Muertos,' or as far as Monterey. Saltillo we can not retain with less than 5,000 men and plenty of artillery, as we should have to fortify several heights which overlook the town, and which, in possession of an enemy, we would be driven out of in an hour's firing. The place itself is not defensible, being commanded by eminences on all sides. The 'Muertos,' or Death's Passage, we could defend with out present force for a season against a host in arms; and Monterey with much less force than we could Saltillo, and much more effectively. This is no need of Saltillo: all we want is Monterey and the pass los Muertos, and we have the communication through the mountains sufficiently perfect. I am astonished that the Mexicans should have left the important pass of Los Muertos undefended. The fact is, they took the 'big scene' at Monterey, and rushed headlong through the mountain, casting scarce a glance behind.

...Upon our arrival at Saltillo we captured, some four miles beyond, on the San Luis de Potosi road, about 30,000 pounds of excellent flour, on the ay to feed our enemies, together with some 110 mules and packs. It was quite a strike, and will no doubt annoy Santa Anna no little. Some 600 mules left here the day before our arrival, with supplies for Santa Anna's army. It was supposed Gen. Taylor would send forward and capture them, but he did not, and I have no doubt had good reason for his want of action.

...The weather is very cold - about the same temperature in this season as at Baltimore. There is but little wood in the country, and in the Mexican houses no fire places are known. I have no doubt there is coal is abundance near here, and a more enterprising race would soon be comfortable before good fires. Our troops are shivering; and you would hardly believe the difference felt between this place, (Saltillo), and Monterey. A mountain range of about an hundred miles intervenes, and yet snow and ice are common to Saltillo, whilst Monterey enjoys a tropical climate, and grows all the fruits of the Indies. Whilst all is sunshine and summer in December, at Monterey, that month is the coldest and dearest in all the year at Saltillo, and plenty of snow falls, and frequently severe storms of almost Alpine wilderness, overtake the traveller in the mountain gorges near the town.

...Since writing the foregoing, I have more certain information of Santa Anna's position and numbers. He is in the vicinity of San Luis de Potosi, with an army of 22,000 men, certain, and a daily increasing augmentation of force. He has received twenty pieces of heavy ordnance lately, and was before well supplied with light field pieces. If he advance upon us we must fall back, even if reinforced by Gen. Wool, unless we get on some heavy guns, of which we are destitute here. Could we have some 18's and 24's, we might make a stand - I mean a fruitful one. With our present means, 'twould be the height of folly to remain in face of certain starvation, destruction, or capture.

...eneral Taylor has received from Santa Anna an acknowledgment of the despatches breaking the armistice brought out by Major Graham. We met the flag at the Rinconada. 'The Mexican chief informs the American General that a peace will never be conquered out of Mexico, and that the magnanimous Mexican nation cannot listen to them until every North American soldier is off the soil of a sister Republic, and returned to that of his own. But peace, adds the wily Santa Anna, 'is matter for the congress of both nations to determine. I am a soldier, and will crown with a glorious victory, the valor of my army, or die in the attempt!' Only hear the barking of the poodle pup.'

[RLK]

November 26th. - "Captain Graham returned last night from a tour of reconnoissance, some thirty miles beyond this place. He gives a glowing description of the first steps of the table land, spreading out in vast extent and magnificent prospect. Captain G. saw no signs of the enemy; and it is believed all the disposable troops are still in progress of concentration upon San Luis de Potosi. If anything occurs I will write you again." L.

NNR47 January v71.292 1/9/1847 Mexican American War - description of Saltillo, items, Tampico, item

Saltillo 20th November, 1846

"There are a great many Americans, Irish and English in this place, who appear very well pleased to see us. On the day of our arrival, we were met, some miles from the town, by a whole bevy of fair ones, who appeared to be perfectly delighted - having seen no one from the 'States' for a long while. Our Captain of the day was very much struck by being handed by a buxom lass, and asked in good sound English, 'how do you do?' To which he replied, 'where did you come from?' 'Cataraugus County York state; I am glad to see you; I have seen but one white man for eight years, and he was a [omitted]!' The captain being from New York, would not believe her, but thinks she must be of Irish blood, as none other could perpetrante such bull.

"Our regiment is finely quartered in a monastery from which we have frightened the friars of order grey. They seemed to believe, from the way they acted, that we were truly heathens, as well as barbarians of the north!"
Saltillo is by far the best town I have seen yet in Mexico. It surpasses Monterey in all respects. The Cathedral is a fine building, of a sort of Moorish or Saracen order of architecture, but withal gloomy within and disgustingly filthy. There is a great deal of gilding upon rude carved work about the alters and chapels; but I have seen but little of the precious metals in the churches, of a solid shape.

"There is a rumor current here that a party of two hundred Americans were massacred in Upper California lately. It is supposed to be Lieut. Col. Fremont's party, as none other was known to be in that region. We hope the rumor may prove unfounded.

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broken down; and though much is and ought to be anticipated of us, unless a great change is made in our management;

Our spirits are depressed; and that ambition which filled our breasts when we left home, is entirely gone. - We have been

bread and meat, and not enough of that.  They have baker's bread, beans, peas, sour krout, molasses, and many things

regular drill.  They have to mount guard once in nine days, and have nothing else to do.  We get nothing to eat but hard

in general, and the engineers the highest, but allow me to compare our corps with the body of infantry encamped close to

a great deal more which the quartermaster's men perform for other troops.  In fact we are literal slave, and while we are in

hard bread, which was not only stale, but moldy, and full of bugs, worms, and even lice.  Until yesterday this has been our

In short time we arrived at Brazos, and since that time (Oct. 11th) we have lived wholly on southern pork, or bacon, and

THE SAPPERS AND MINERS. - A correspondent of the New London "Advocate" furnishes the following information with

Now, on the road between this and Santa Fe.  After our troops get through with the Indians on the other side of the

mountains, they will have to commence on this side; and after thrashing some half dozen nations in all, there will be no

more trouble with them."  St. Louis Rep. Dec. 7.  [RLK]

71.304 January 9, 1847, news of the captured Santa Fe traders

Independence, Dec. 1, 1846.

I am able to communicate a little more news from Santa Fe and the adjoining province.  Dr. Vaughn; physician to

Doniphan's regiment, accompanied by Messrs. Smith, Fielding, and others, have just this moment arrived from the plains.

They left Santa Fe on the 26th October.  Through the politeness of the doctor, I am permitted to make a few extracts from a

letter to Col. S.C. Ownes, dated Valverde, October 20, 1846, which embodies almost all the news we have received.  The

colonel says - "We have been here some two weeks, and in all probability, will be here some two weeks, or perhaps two

months, longer.  James Magoffin was robbed by the Apache Indians on this side El Passo, and on his arrival at El Passo, he

was taken prisoner.  Drs. Connelly, Doane, McManus, Valdez, who reached El Passo some few days after Magoffin, were also

made prisoners, and the whole of them have been sent on to Chihuahua, under escort of some soldiers.  This news we have

received from different Mexicans, who left El Passo in the last six or eight days.  We have no doubt of the truth of the report,

for the entire business of Connelly & Co. was to give us intelligence relative to the situation of affairs in the El Passo.  In

short, McManus, agreeably to our arrangement, was to have been here ten days ago - his not coming, or writing, convinces

us that they are all prisoners.  We are here in no enviable situation, and do not know whether to go forwards, backwards, or

remain.  We cannot get any news from Santa Fe, nor from the United States. - If Col. Doniphan marches his forces immediately
to Chihuahua, he will win laurels enough to last him to eternity."

[RLK]

71.304 January 9, 1847, Maj. Gilpin to move again Indians
71.304 Col. Alexander William Doniphan to move forward against Chihuahua

In accordance with the desire of the traders, and more particularly to protect persona and property Col. Doniphan has
determined to send Major Filpin out to allay disturbances among the Indians, and move forward himself immediately, with
all his regiment, to Chihuahua.  He was to have started on the 27th October. [RLK]

71.304 January 9, 1847, complaints about the usages of the sappers and miners

THE SAPPERS AND MINERS. - A correspondent of the New London "Advocate" furnishes the following information with

to this new corps:

The corps consists of about 75 men - the finest in point of intellect and general appearance that the army can show -
collected together by the above inducements.  Men that stood in high estimation, as citizens and mechanics - that, but for
the above, would not have dreamed of the army - and men who now wish themselves anywhere but where they are.  But to
facts: - They were taken to West Point, and set to work erecting and fitting up barracks that they were not destined to
occupy; and then with an infantry drill in the morning, and an engineer drill of three hours in the afternoon, throwing up
breastworks, digging trenches, &c., making in all about ten hours of hard labor per day - until we were ordered off to
Mexico.  When out clothing came to us we were indeed surprised, for I am certain that our citizens would not bestow such
upon the town's poor.  It is coarse and not half made, and such as it was, half of our pay was requisite to have it altered to
fit us.  Several deserted us there; and well they might.  But let me pass on.  The order for Mexico was received with three
hearty cheers, for none of us even dreamed of what we were to endure; and on the 24th of September we left West Point,
and embarked on board the ship Clinton, which left New York on the 26th for Brazos St. Jago, with a sufficient quantity of
provisions for the voyage.  But through the neglect of the proper officers our living was more like hogs than things human -
our food was partly raw and not enough of that.

In short time we arrived at Brazos, and since that time (Oct. 11th) we have lived wholly on southern pork, or bacon, and
hard bread, which was not only stale, but moldy, and full of bugs, worms, and even lice.  Until yesterday this has been our
fare, and our work has been of the hardest kind, for we have to load and unload our pontons, sapping and mining tools, and
a great deal more which the quartermaster's men perform for other troops.  In fact we are literal slave, and while we are in
some respects the highest company in the regular army, we are in others, the lowest.  The infantry are classed as the lowest
in general, and the engineers the highest, but allow me to compare our corps with the body of infantry encamped close to
us.  We have to work hard at getting our train ready for Monterey, and have to mount guard every third day, besides our
regular drill.  They have to mount guard once in nine days, and have nothing else to do.  We get nothing to eat but hard
bread and meat, and not enough of that.  They have baker's bread, beans, peas, sour krount, molasses, and many things
that we are not allowed; and in everything they have the advantage of us.

Our spirits are depressed; and that ambition which filled our breasts when we left home, is entirely gone. - We have been
humbugged so much that our only thought now is to get out of the scrape.  Thus have the spirits of this noble corps been
broken down; and though much is and ought to be anticipated of us, unless a great change is made in our management
nothing can be accomplished, for we feel like anything but fighting. By inserting this you will oblige me, and confer a favor on THE ENGINEER CORPS. [RLK]

71.305 January 16, 1847, US Army general order No. 2 on recruitment

RECRUITS FOR THE ARMY.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 2, issued from the department of war, January 8th, 1847, quotes the act of congress which passed both houses on the 7th, authorizing enlistments hereafter to be for "during the war," or five years, at the option of the recruit, and offering a bounty of $2 to be paid, $6 of which payment is deferred until he joins his regiment.

The order goes on to give instructions to officers detached for the recruiting service, and is followed by a form for an advertisement for recruits to be published by recruiting officers. [RLK]

71.305 January 16, 1847, U.S. Army enlistments during the year

ENLISTMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY, DURING THE LAST YEAR.

War Department, Adjutant General's office, Washington, January 7, 1847.

Statement showing the number of recruits enlisted in the regular army during the year commencing Oct. 1, 1845, and ending Sept. 30, 1846.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For the general service (or army at large)</td>
<td>2,576</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regimental Recruiting Service</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two regiments of dragoons</td>
<td>471</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regiment of mounted riflemen</td>
<td>729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four regiments of artillery</td>
<td>1,043</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eight regiments of infantry</td>
<td>1,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sappers and miners, and detachments</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of enlistments for the term of five years, made in the regular army during the year ending Sept. 30, 1846.</td>
<td>5945</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The number of enlistments made in the regular army during the months of October, November, and December, 1846, so far as returns have been received, is 1,673. This number will probably be increased, when all the returns are in, to 1,800.

Total number enlisted from Oct. 1, 1845, to Dec. 31, 1846. 7,645

The number of enlistments made during the year ending Sept. 30, 1846, exceed the number made the previous year by 2,388.

In the Adjutant General's letter to the secretary of war on the 5th inst., he states that "men enlisted for the term of 'during the war,' can be recruited for the regular service probably as fast as volunteers can be enrolled and sent to the seat of war. If the term of service for the regular and volunteer troops be the same, the probability is, there will be but little difference in the time of filling the ranks of either description of force."

And, in the official report of the secretary of war of the 5th Dec., the fact was stated that "the greater inducements to enter for short periods (in the volunteer regiments for the term of one year only) satisfactorily account for the want of better success in recruiting for the regular army;" and, "more than all, perhaps, the distinction seen in the pension laws between the private soldier of the regular army and the volunteer, which operates so unfavorably to the former. The widows and orphans of the volunteers who may be killed in battle, or die of wounds received in the service, are pensioned; while the widows and orphans of the regular soldiers who die under the same circumstances, are entirely unprovided for by law."

If authorized by law to enlist for the period of during the war, with the small bounty proposed, there is little doubt that the department will be able to fill the ranks of the regular army in a very short time - that is, the five or six thousand men now wanted could be recruited and sent to join their regiments in the field, in as short time as five or six regiments of volunteers could be raised, organized, and dispatched to the army in Mexico, after the date of any requisition from the war department.

The same remark applies with greater force, perhaps, to the raising of new regiments for the regular military establishment, if the term be during the way; for all the captains and lieutenants would be employed (under their field officers) in recruiting for their own companies, generally in their own neighborhoods where they are known, and it is believed, could fill their
companies within forty or fifty days after receiving orders. I feel justified in expressing this belief, because several of the companies of the rifle regiment were recruited quickly last summer, some in less than fifty days, although the men were enlisted for five years. Lieut. Tipton enlisted fifty-six men in less than a month, and Lieut. Van Buren sixty. Respectfully submitted,

R. JONES,
Adj't Gen. U. S. A.

Hon. W. L. MARCY, secretary of war.

[RLK]

71.305 January 16, 1847, Texas indignation that Santa Fe and surrounding area are treated as conquered territory rather than part of Texas

STATE OF TEXAS, vers. GEN. KEARNEY, AND THE U. STATES. The press of Texas exhibits strong indignation at the course of the government in treating Santa Fe and the surrounding country as a conquered foreign territory, and establishing a separate territorial government over it. They claim the whole country east of the Rio Grande; and are consequently astounded at its seizure as a military conquest from Mexico. They denounce it as "a violation of the compact of annexation," - a lawless, unjust and forcible seizure of their public domain. They do not seem to understand how president Polk reconciles his military movements with his assumption of the Rio Grande as boundary. Santa Fe is equally a part of our annexed territory (on this assumption) as that portion opposite Matamoros. Gen. Taylor is sent to the one to occupy and defend as our own soil. Gen. Kearney is sent to conquer and take military possession of the other.

The Austin Democrat says: -"If Santa Fe is a province taken by force of arms from Mexico, so was the country between Nueces and the Rio Grande and the very moment Gen. Taylor set foot on the western bank of the former stream, he committed an aggression upon foreign soil, and hostily invaded a country with which his government was at peace. If Laredo was ours so was Santa Fe; if Santa Fe was not, neither was Laredo."

The whig journals are severe upon the administration in their comments upon this subject, and President Polk's message, in reply to the call of the senate for information relating thereto. As a specimen, the following is from the Baltimore American:

"We have not space in this paper to comment upon the President's explanation of the authority given to Gen. Kearney and Commodore Sloat and Stockton. We say, at once, however, that we regard it as unsatisfactory and insincere, and a most palpable afterthought. The instructions to Kearney direct him to promise the people a government, just like those in our territories; and when he gives them such a one, merely because he justly thinks that a government established in that manner must be intended to be permanent, the president now says that he disapproves of the gallant officer's words, of permanency, making no sort of objection to his acts. But again: the president excuses himself by alleging that the "form of government" was conveniently delivered, and then it was discovered that it contained some objectionable things. Now the proclamation of Kearney, Sloat and Stockton, which were just as explicit as this form of government, were all before the president long before he sent in his message. Why did he not find objections then? The truth is, since the meeting of congress, he has found it expedient to disapprove of proceedings to which when he wrote his message he fully assented. We can give no other interpretation to his own account of the matter." [RLK]

NNR47January v71.305-306 1/16/1847 contract for Samuel Colt's revolving pistols

Colt's Patent Revolving Pistols. --Capt. Walker left this city yesterday for Washington, having while in N. York, among other things, made a contract for 1,000 revolving pistols for the new mounted rifle regiment, which is to serve in Mexico. This regiment is to be armed with a pair of these weapons, besides rifles. It was found impossible to obtain any number of these pistols in this city, such has, of late, been the demand for them for soldiers and others going to Mexico. It is a fact worth noting that the German, who has been the principal mechanic or manufacturer of these revolvers, has recently left us, and suddenly, for Mexico, with his chest of tools and machinery. It pretty well ascertained that he has had most liberal and rich rewards from the government of Mexico, which have tempted him to leave N. York, in order to begin the manufacture of that deadly weapon in a foreign country. Capt. Walker is very anxious that the war department should order for the mounted riflemen Wesson's improved rifle, which will carry the ball with unerring precision 400 yards and over. The rifle is light, and well adapted for such service as it will find necessary. [PTH]

NNR47January v71.306 1/16/1847 Laguna taken

Capture of Laguna. The U. S. steamer Mississippi, Com. Adams, left Anton Lizardo on the 29th Dec., touched at Havana for coal and water, and arrived at Norfolk on the 13th inst., bringing as passengers. --J. L. O'Sullivan, of N. York, from Havana, and Ed. P. Moore, bearer of despatches from the republic of Ecuador to our government.

The U. S. ships Raritan, Princeton, and store ship Relief, were at Anton Lizardo, when the M. sailed. --The John Adams was
On the 20th of Dec., commodore Perry, with the U. S. steam frigate Mississippi, and steamer Vixen, Bonita, and Petrel took possession of Laguna in Tobasco, and destroyed the guns and munitions of war found in the ports and town. Commander Sands, with the Vixen and Petrel, was left in charge of the place and the Bonita was left to assist in holding the frontier mouth of Tobasco river.

The Mississippi will return to the gulf as soon as some necessary repairs are done to her machinery. --Purser A. D. Crosby, of the Mississippi, was killed by falling from aloft on board the steamer Vixen, which vessel he was assisting to pilot over the bar at Laguna, on the occasion of the attack on that place.

Capture. --Off Alvarado the Mississippi captured the Mexican schooner Amalio, and sent her to New Orleans for adjudication. At the same time she detained the Spanish schooner Isabel, which was released, after examination, by commodore Perry.

71.306 January 16, 1847, reports that Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna was about to attack Gen. William Jenkins Worth at Saltillo, instant concentration of the several divisions of our Army in that direction

THE CAMPAIGN
ARMY OF OCCUPATION.

REPORT THAT SANTA ANNA IS ADVANCING AGAINST SALTILLO.

Last Monday's mail brought us New Orleans papers of the 2d inst. teeming with accounts of Santa Anna's advancing upon Saltillo, and of the hastening of our troops towards that post to reinforce General Worth, who is in command at Saltillo with about 1,700 men.

The New Orleans Editor says:

"The steamer Virginia brought as passenger from Brazos, Col. Langdon, who was direct from Monterey, and with whom we have conversed. He states that an express from Gen. Worth, at Saltillo, arrived at Monterey on the 16th of December. It brought the news that Gen. Worth had learned through his spies that Santa Anna was within three days' march of Saltillo at the head of an army of twenty or thirty thousand men. The express bore a call upon Gen. Taylor for reinforcements. Gen. Taylor and his staff had left Monterey on the 15th ult. - the day before the express arrived - for Victoria, to join his command, which was two days' march in advance of him.

Gen'l Butler, in command at Monterey, immediately sent off despatches to Gen. Marshall, at Camargo, and to Gen'l Patterson, at Matamoros, to send forward without delay all the troops they could spare from their commands. Gen. Patterson had left Matamoros the day before the news reached that place. It was at once forwarded to him, and upon learning its purport he immediately started on his return with the view to proceed to Monterey.

The express reported at Matamoros that the road from Monterey to Camargo was lined with troops - regulars and volunteers - on their march to Monterey, having been previously ordered up. There were four regiments upon the road. The road from Monterey is infested by predatory bands of rancheros, by which the travelling is rendered insecure. One train had been attacked a few days before our informant passed over the road, as had also several small parties and some few men had been killed and wounded."

The journals were immediately filled with editorial speculations as to the truth of these reports, and with statements some contradictory other confirmatory.

A correspondent of the N. Orleans Bulletin, writing from Matamoros, Dec. 23d, says - "Several persons are going to your city, all of whom are from Monterey, as they say, they will carry alarming accounts as to the situation of Gen. Worth at Saltillo, and the advance of a large force under Santa Anna. I have endeavored to ascertain the particulars, and do not credit the rumors. They may be true, but the express spoken of, arrived here yesterday, and no such despatches as are said to have been sent, have been received. On thing is certain - General Patterson has not changed his route towards Victoria, with the force under his command, as he would probably do, if Santa Anna was advancing towards Saltillo, with the force represented. The rear of his column left to-day with the exception of a few wagons."

71.307 January 16, 1847, further intelligence, the valley of the Rio Grande in great ferment, anxiety for the safety of Gen. John Ellis Wool's as well as Gen. William Jenkin Worth's division, troops that were moving towards Victoria return to sustain Worth

CONFIRMATORY ACCOUNTS, reached us by Wednesday morning's mail from New Orleans. The steamer Edith arrived on the night of the 2d, with intelligence from Brazos to the 30th ult.
By this arrival we learn that when Gen. Worth's express reached Monterey, Gen. Taylor had only gone six or eight miles on his march to Victoria, and the troops under Generals Twiggs and Quitman were but twelve miles in advance. Orders were immediately issued to this division to retrace its steps and proceed at once to Saltillo.

Gen. Butler, who was left in command of Monterey, had already marched with all the troops he could collect to join Gen. Worth at Saltillo.

Before the express reached Camargo Gen. Lane had started for Saltillo with his command - this was on the 20th. Gen. Marshall set out the next morning, taking with him the remainder of the forces, with the exception of Captains Hunter and Swartout's commands, which were left to protect that point. The troops from Camargo were on a forced march to reach Saltillo in time for a battle, reports having prevailed for several days before positive advices were received of the movements of Santa Anna.

Gen. Wool was ninety miles from Saltillo at the best advices from him, and it was supposed he would join Gen. Worth in season to assist in repelling the enemy.

There was a rumor (not credited) that Santa Anna had thrown a body of 7,000 men between General Worth and General Taylor, to prevent a junction of the American forces. It does not seem probable that this is true, as the main road to Monterey passes through Saltillo. True, there is a circuitous mountain road which avoids Saltillo, but it is not favorable to the march of an army, and is impracticable for ordnance.

It was the impression of a gentlemen who came passenger in the Edith, that a battle was fought about the 25th ult. It was thought, however, that Gen. Taylor had reached Saltillo before that time, and also Gen. Twiggs', Gen. Quitman's, Gen. Butler's, and Gen. Wool's commands. It was likewise hoped that the troops from Camargo would also arrive at Saltillo in good season. If these expectations were realized, Gen. Taylor had about seven thousand men to oppose Santa Anna.

The whole valley of the Rio Grande was in a state of great ferment. Apprehensions of an attack were entertained at Camargo, Matamoros, and other points, from the rancheros under Canales. The withdrawal of so many troops from the river left the valley exposed to danger. At Matamoros, Colonel Clark had called upon the citizens to enrol themselves for service, and at the Brazos General Jesup had done the same thing. Both these points were sadly deficient in both men and arms. It was thought Canales had 2,000 men under him, and that the large supply of goods at Matamoros and the exposed condition of that city, might quicken his courage.

It was believed that an express had been sent to Gen. Patterson, countermanding his march in the direction of Victoria.

The amount of all intelligence before us is, that General Worth commanding at Saltillo had received information upon which he relied, that Santa Anna was approaching that post, and he had therefore despatched expresses for reinforcements, in consequence of which, the forces that were marching for Victoria were recalled, and, with those from Camargo, were hastening towards Saltillo. [RLK]

71.307 January 16, 1847, Gen. Winfield Scott reaches Brazos and proceeds to Camargo

Gen. Scott arrived at the Brazos on the 28th ultimo. The following day he proceeded to the mouth of the Rio Grande and was yet at that point when the Edith left, waiting the arrival of the horses belonging to the regiment of mounted riflemen, when it was understood he would proceed immediately up the river to Camargo. [RLK]

71.307 January 16, 1847, speculations as to Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's operations

It remains doubtful whether Santa Anna was in fact approaching Saltillo with his main army, or whether it was but a detachment sent in that direction by Santa Anna with a view to divert General Taylor from advancing upon Victoria - or with a view to prevent Gen. Wool from joining Gen. Worth - or whether it may not be a demonstration against Gen. Wool's division while at the last accounts from them were 115 miles west of Saltillo.

Commercial letter received at New Orleans from San Luis Potosi dated as late as the 17th Dec., make no mention of any movement of the army under Santa Anna. They do not refer to political or military subjects however in any way - very probably on account of the danger of so doing. Strict martial law is maintained in San Luis.

Letters have been received in New Orleans from Mexico, to the 8th ult., and from Tampico, of the 26th, the former of which from a reliable and well informed source, state that Santa Anna writes, he will crush any force that may venture to attack him at San Luis, which is well prepared for defence, but does not allude to any intention of advancing from thence; these letters from him, however, must have been late in November or early in December.

Whatever be Santa Anna's object, one thing is certain - that the movement of our army towards Victoria, and the contemplated demonstration upon Vera Cruz, are for the present interrupted. The troops which were on their march in that direction are retracing their steps, and hurrying towards Saltillo.
Santa Anna will hardly venture to attack our army anywhere without having such an immense advantage in numbers or position, as to flatter him with a certainty of success. The probability is, that he would not date to attack General Worth in post, at Saltillo, even if he reached the vicinity before any of the reinforcements arrived. Santa Anna would appreciate 1700 of our men entrenched, as likely to be rather ugly customers to his Mexicans. His game would be to move as in this case, from his centre of operations a formidable detachment, in this direction, or in any other that would annoy and harass our army, and keep them from making any general effective movement.

By this process he has the advantage of detecting any point in our long line of "occupation" which may be left exposed, and by making a dash in that direction, cut off supplies, reinforcements, and communication. - This movement upon Saltillo may be altogether a feint, to attract our forces as far into the interior as possible and then to move his main body of troops so as to interrupt supplies from reaching them. Matamoros or Point Isabel, may be his real aim. [RLK]

71.307 January 16, 1847, Gen. William Gates at Tampico

*From Tampico* we have dates to the 26th December, Gen. Gates was in command there, with about 1000 men. The alarm of Mexican forces being in the vicinity, was all occasioned by a party of dashing marauders. [RLK]

71.307 January 16, 1847, another revolutionary movement in Campeche

*From Campeachy, we have dates to the 22d December. A letter of that date states that Campeachy has positively despatched a force of 2500 men, joined by five hundred on the road, with 12 pieces of artillery, all well equipped, with a view to compel the government at Merida to succumb to the pronunciamento of Campeachy of the 8th December. The object of the pronunciamento and of this movement, is declared to be to maintain the neutrality of the peninsula as between the United States and Mexico, and put down the government, which they say has wed the country to Santa Anna.*

The people of Campeachy have elected Domingo Barret Provisional governor. He addressed, on the 11th ult., a long communication to the government of Merida, setting forth the causes of the insurrection of Campeachy. We received this document at too late an hour to examine it to-day. [RLK]

71.307 January 16, 1847, Mexican Congress assembles, their proceedings, &c.

MEXICO. *Congress assembled.* Preparatory sessions were held as early as the 30th November. Congress was duly installed at 11o'clock on the 6th December. - The Committees were appointed on the 7th. The latest of their proceedings received are to the 11th.

A resolution was offered, declaring the constitution of 1824 to be in force, with such amendments as congress may see fit to make thereto.

Another resolution, that a committee be appointed to embody the principles entertained by congress, and which will be the foundation of its action in the present war. No other mention is made of the war in the proceedings, so far as we have them. They are however, incomplete. On the 8th the secretary of the treasury made his report, and a project for a conversion of the foreign debt.

Some of us have formed opinions favorable to peace, from the supposed sentiments of the persons named upon the committees, - from the fact that no other reference to the war is found in the proceedings of the body - and from the additional fact, that the usual quantity of tirade against "the audacious North Americans," is not found in the Mexican journals.

On the other hand, no mention or intimation is made of a disposition to settle the differences. [RLK]

71.307 January 16, 1847, letter from Veracruz

*From Tampico,* to the editor of the *New Orleans Picayune,* dated December 17, A.M., says:

"Advices via Vera Cruz were received last evening of the action of the Mexican congress. They declare that they will not think or treat of peace until every hostile foot has cleared from the Mexican soil, and every vessel that lines our coast is withdrawn. I consider the war as now commenced in real earnest and I prophecy that Tampico will become an American town." [RLK]
January 16, 1847, suspicion that Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna aspires to dictatorship

A letter from an officer of the navy, dated Anton Lizardo, Dec. 22:

"It is the prevalent opinion at Vera Cruz, as I learned from English officers yesterday, that Santa Anna had intended to march from his present quarters upon the capital and to strike for a dictatorship. In this case, it is supposed he will be sustained by the regulars and opposed by the militia, and that a battle with probably ensue between the two parties. If Santa Anna succeeds in becoming dominant, we have a guaranty of peace, as no administration in Mexico can support the burden of a war. He is much inclined to prefer diplomacy to fighting. I hope our government will not relax its strong arm, nor permit itself to be cajoled by this wary diplomatist." [RLK]

January 16, 1847, election of a mayor (or alcalde) at Monterey

CALIFORNIA - PROCESS OF REPUBLICANIZING MEXICO.

Next after a newspaper, comes in proper course, AN ELECTION. The Mayor, or ALCALDE of Monterey, was for the first time, to be elected by the people, and the arts of king caucus being as yet unknown in these parts, there were no less than three 'natives' and four 'foreign citizens' in the field as candidates - "Don Walter Colton (the chaplain of the congress) received 68 votes, Don Juan Malarin 37 votes, Don David Spence 65 votes, Don Manuel Dias 60 votes, Don Salvador Munras 40 votes, Milton Little, Esq. 36 votes, William E.P. Hartnell, Esq. 32 votes." Upon this return the chaplain was declared duly elected for one year. In case of his absence of illness, Don Milton Little was elected substitue; Messrs. Hartnell, Spence, Dias and others were chosen councillors, and Don Salvador Munras treasurer. [RLK]

Printers among the volunteers in Mexico, appearance of American newspaper

It is said that upwards of five hundred printers have volunteered during the war with Mexico. They undoubtedly far exceed in proportion, any other of the professions. There are thirty in one regiment. --many a fair as well as foul form will be knocked into pi, and be distributed among the chaparrals.

Matamoros was hardly occupied by our troops before an American press was in motion, ad in a few weeks, two, if not three, public papers were regularly issued in that city. "The Flag," is at this moment one of the most frequently quoted papers we know of, on this continent.

Monterey, in California, surrendered to the American squadron, under Commodore Sloat, on the 9th July. On the 29th August, the first number of "The Californian," edited by the Rev. Walter Colton, was published in that city, and has been issued weekly since. [PTH]

Ten additional regiments of volunteers nearly completed

The ten regiments of volunteers last called for by President to serve "for the war," are nearly all completed.

The first regiment to embark, was that of Pennsylvania. It rendezvoused at Pittsburg, and embarked from thence on the 23rd ult., and a part of them reached New Orleans on the 28th, consisting of Capts. Nagle's and Small's companies, and the second detachment, consisting of Capts. Scott's and Bennett's companies--the Philadelphia Light Guards and Cadwallader Greys. [PTH]

First Pennsylvania regiment embarked for New Orleans, second regiment assembling

Of the 2nd Pennsylvania regiment, the Pittsburg Inquirer, of the 3rd inst says:--The following companies are now at this place, viz: Westmoreland Guards, Greensburg; Cameron Guards, Harrisburg; Ranger, Philadelphia; Highlander, Cambria county; Columbia Guards, Danville; Maunch Chunk company. None of the Pittsburg companies have been mustered into service (for officers) yet. The Reading and Uniontown troops are expected here to-night. The Westmoreland Guards and Stockton artillerists have been mustered into the service.

The Harrisburg company will be here this evening, and also Capt. George's. At an election of officers fore the second regiment; there were three candidates for Colonel. Roberts of Fayete county wad elected by a majority of six votes over Capt. Hambright. Z. W. Geary, of Cambria was elected Lieut. Col. [PTH]
NEW YORK VOLUNTEERS. --The time now rapidly approaches (says the Brooklyn Eagle of Thursday the 7th,) for the final departure of this fine body of men. We were at Fort Hamilton yesterday, and learned from several of the officers that they expected the regiment to embark this day or to-morrow, in three vessels, which have been chartered for the purpose of transporting them to Tampico; and to finally depart some time during the beginning of next week. They will leave here under sealed orders, but it is thought that their first operations will be directed against Vera Cruz. There are ten companies of eighty men each in the regiment, the last one hundred and fifty having yesterday been mustered into the service. [PTH]

The Massachusetts Regiment. Six companies have been mustered into service and others are organizing. There is not so much of the war enthusiasm in this section of the Union. Captain Webster, son of the senator, was the first to have a full company. The Salem Register says it is rumored that Hon. Caleb Cushing is desirous to take the command of the Massachusetts regiment, should the complement be made up. [PTH]

There has been difficulty in obtaining a regiment from this leading administration state, and it is yet incomplete. We notice her officers have been recruiting in Baltimore city, and Washington county, Maryland,—and, if we mistake not, in Philadelphia also. It is also asserted by Whig journals of Virginia, that the first companies of the regiment to organize, were all from Whig districts of the state. This kind of rivalry may have its use. Two of the six companies that rendezvoused at Richmond have proceeded to Old Point Comfort, where Col. Walbach, U. S. A. is in command. [PTH]

Maine was called upon by the general government to raise one regiment of volunteers for the Mexican war. It was then expected this regiment would be called into the service at an early day. Such however has been the enthusiasm with which the citizens of states located nearer the theatre of conflict have rushed to the army, that the volunteers in this state have not yet been called to the field. From present appearances, it being now understood that a controlling force is about to be brought into the field by our government, this regiment may soon be wanted. There have been enlisted eight full companies, and the other two, necessary to complete the regiment, are, as we understand, nearly full. It is to be hoped that these companies will be immediately filled, and the regiments organized and held in readiness for immediate action.

"In this general encounter for justice and right, shall not Maine be represented? Shall the treacherous Mexicans be chastised for their perfidy and our patriotic citizens have no hand in administering the well merited castigation? Let this regiment be organized at once and its services tendered to the government." [PTH]

The Charleston Courier of the 8th says—"We understand that the right wing of the Palmetto regiment will leave the camp near Hamburg, this evening, on their route to Mobile, and that the left wing will follow them the succeeding evening. The troops are said to be in fine spirits and eager to move." [PTH]

The Mississippi regiment is nearly full. [PTH]

Preparations for arming and equipping the North Carolina volunteer
North Carolina is making every preparation for the arming and equipping of her sons, and letters from Louisville announce that there is every prospect of success in raising the regiment required of her. [PTH]

NNR47 January 16, 1847 election of officers of the Louisiana volunteers

Louis G. De Russy, a graduate of West Point, has been chosen Colonel of the regiment of volunteers from Louisiana, and Francis Rigault, Major. --The Lieut. Colonel is yet to be appointed. [PTH]

NNR47 January 16, 1847 desecration of the graves of Capt. Gillespie and Young Thomas

Capt. Gillespie and young Thomas. A Letter from Monterey says:

"In your paper of the 4th ult. I saw a biographical sketch of Capt. Gillespie, and on showing it to an acquaintance, he informed me that about four weeks after the battle, he went to the graves of Capt. Gillespie and young Thomas, and found that the bodies had been dug up by the Mexicans, and stripped of every vestige of clothing. The bones were reentered and the graves covered over with large flat rocks. --When it is generally known by these groveling wretches, that nothing but the bones of the heroes are left in the grave, their pilfering propensities will be left to sleep in their quiet but proud homes."

The gentlemen mentioned as having been recommended as Colonel of the Baltimore Battalion, vice Col. Watson, deceased, is not B. Buchanan, but Major Robert C. Buchanan, son of the late Andrew Buchanan, long a distinguished merchant of Baltimore. This officer was brevetted for his good conduct at Pal Alto and Resaca de la Palma, and served with some distinction in the Florida campaign. [PTH]

71.308 January 16, 1847, marriage of a Massachusetts volunteer, sermon to the troops

Marriage of a Volunteer. Yesterday afternoon, at east Boston, Henry Carney, one of Captain Webster's company, was married to Miss Almira Bent. Lieut. Kelley, office of the day, allowed an escort of thirteen men in uniform, with side arms, under sergeant Sterns, to accompany the bridegroom from the quarters in Pitts street to East Boston, and witness the wedding. A furlough of 48 hours was also allowed the bridegroom.

In the forenoon, twenty men of this company, in uniform, attended the Rev. Mr. Taylor's church. - The reverend gentlemen availed himself of the circumstance to discourse eloquently upon the duties of patriotism, and at the close of the services he prayed that the young defenders of their country present, and their brethren in arms might go forth to battle armed with the breast plate of righteousness, and be sustained in the hour of their utmost danger by a sure hope in Christ. - Boston Post. [RLK]

NNR47 January 16, 1847 Mexican American War - deaths of volunteers at Matamoros

Deaths at Matamoros. In the General Hospital since 1st November, 1846. L. P. Callagan, Tennessee cavalry; Charles Fough, 1st regiment artillery, company H.; D Lemmon, 1st regiment Indiana volunteers, company G; Z. Haynes, 3rd regiment Illinois volunteers, company A; Paxton, rejected recruit of 1st artillery; W. W. Campbell, 1st regiment Georgia volunteers, company I; John Reynolds 1st. Mississippi volunteer company D; C. T. Davis, 1st Alabama volunteer company; Mich. Burke, 7th regiment infantry, company F; Eli Robinson, 3rd Ohio volunteer company. [AKS]

71.308 January 16, 1847, departure of South Carolina Volunteers for Mexico, notice about an additional corps

South Carolina Volunteers. The right wing of the regiment, consisting of the Sumpter de Kalb, Fairfield, Charleston, and Lancaster volunteers departed en route for the seat of war on the 31st; and the left wing, consisting of the Abbeville, Edgefield, Richland, and Chester volunteers, on the day following, in good health and spirits. The line of march is stated to be as follows: - by Rail Road to Griffin, Georgia - thence march to Notasulga, in Alabama: a distance of 104 miles - next, by Rail Road to Montgomery, and thence, by steamboat, to Mobile; whence they are to embark.


Dear Sir: - You will please notice in your paper that I am raising a corps of 100 men, to be attached to the Palmetto regiment. Newbury court house will be the place of rendezvous. The company will leave the last of next week. Persons wishing to join, can do so by addressing a letter to me at Newbury court house. Your ob't ser'vt.
JAMES F. WILLIAMS

71.308-309 January 16, 1847, message of Gov. William Owsley of Kentucky on the raising of volunteers

VOLUNTEERS. Governor Owsley, in his annual message to the legislature of Kentucky, furnishes the rare and as some think commendable example of abstaining from any remarks upon national affairs, except what are immediately incident to the affairs of the state over which he presides: That part of his message is as follows:

"The United States had become involved in war with Mexico, a sister republic. The calamity was great, and deeply to be deplored; but the rubicon was passed, and it was too late to look back and wrangle as to the manner in which it was brought about. Our country needed assistance, and most willingly was assistance afforded. A call was made by the government at Washington, upon Kentucky, for three regiments of volunteers - one of mounted riflemen, and two of infantry - and each to be composed of ten companies. The requisition was received the 22d of May, but in anticipation of it I had previously, on the 10th of that month, issued a proclamation calling for the organization of volunteer companies, and before the 26th of May, companies for each regiment were organized, their services tendered and accepted by me, and one of the regiments, (the Louisville Legion,) actually embarked on steamers for the seat of war. There was a burst of patriotic feeling on the occasion, and a promptness in responding to the call of government worthy the sons of Kentucky, and for which they justly merit high commendation. Party strife gave way to the love of country, and the struggle to be first to tender their services, became common every where throughout the state. The dispatch was so great and unexpected that means were not provided by the government to pay the incidental and necessary expenses of the Legion. Unwillingly that the service should be impeded or the brave soldiers who had so promptly stepped forward at the call of their country, should suffer for lack of necessary supplies, I did not hesitate to accept the tender, made to me by an association of patriotic citizens of Louisville, of money adequate to pay the expenses and supply the wants of the Legion. But I am happy to inform you that the government at Washington has since reimbursed the entire amount expended, and the accounts with those who advanced the money have been finally adjusted and closed.

"I should do injustices to my feelings, were I not to express my high estimation of the services of quartermaster general Ambrose W. Dudley, and assistant quartermaster, Col. William Preston, in bringing the account to such speedy and satisfactory adjustment. The prudence, industry and skill of Gen. A.W. Dudley, in keeping with the account of the state's expenditure, and managing his difficult and embarrassing department, this result is chiefly owing. Other states, less fortunate in this respect, are still involved with the department at Washington, over unsettled accounts for precisely similar expenditures."

NNR47January v71.309, January 16, 1847 City of Jalapa

Jalapa, or Zalapa, the capital of the state of Vera Cruz, is a pleasant town situated 89 miles from the city of Vera Cruz, on a steep declivity of the table land, 4,340 feet above the level of the sea. It contains eight churches, a good school for drawing, and 13,000 inhabitants. The principal merchants of the city of Vera Cruz reside at Jalapa, and only visit the sickly city occasionally. An annual fair is held at Jalapa, and much frequented.

[WFF]

71.309 January 16, 1847, sketch of the Mexican cities on the route from Veracruz to the city of Mexico

ROUTE FROM VERA CRUZ TO THE CITY OF MEXICO.

The New York Commercial publishes the following sketch of the Mexican cities on the route from Vera Cruz to the city of Mexico:

Vera Cruz - The city of Vera Cruz is walled around with a fort at each extremity of the water front; the walls on the land side are loopholed for musketry. Parapet guns have been recently mounted on the walls. The city walls are very thick, of coral rock; the walls of the houses are usually 2 1/2 feet thick, and the roofs are flat. Each house has a cistern or cisterns of rain water. The city is well paved.

From Vera Cruz to Mexico - About ten miles from Vera Cruz is a stream 200 yards wide, crossed at a ferry in scows, or by swimming horses over. The next stream, about 30 miles from Vera Cruz, is fordable, and is also spanned by a wooden bridge called Puente del Rey, (the King's bridge,) and also the national bridge. Near it on the right is an eminence of about 60 feet, on which is a fort completely commanding the approach and bridge.

Between these bridges and Jalapa the road passes near several heights, from which the natives can annoy invaders on the
City of Jalapa - This city stands on a very elevated ground, yet for many miles the ascent is quite gradual. From the city, Vera Cruz is visible, as is also the sea, 90 miles distant. The city itself is upon a high hill - highest in the centre, so that the streets incline considerably; so much so that no wheeled vehicles can pass along any of them except the main street or road, which has a considerable rise and descent. The city is surrounded by a wall, and has a strongly built church near the western gate, which could be converted into a citadel. The streets are paved. The houses, as in other Mexican towns, are of stone, with flat roofs and iron barred windows. - Opposite the city, on the left of the road, is a hill from which the road might be annoyed, and shells thrown into the town. For the distance of six or seven miles before reaching the town the road is a handsome and substantial structure of chequered pavement, and must have been very costly.

Perote - At the base of a high mount, bearing the same name, some distance from the road on the left, is a cluster of houses, with a church, called Perote.

Castle of Perote - Opposite, on the right of the road and commanding it in every direction, stands the castle. It is upon a flat sandy plain, strongly built of stone and encircled by a deep dry fosse or ditch. The main entrance is by going over a chevaux de-frize by a stile, descending some twenty five or thirty stone steps to the bottom of the fosse and crossing it to the gates, which are on a level with the bottom.

City of Puebla - This city is walled and fortified. It is built of stone and the streets are well paved. - Contains about 100,000 inhabitants. Here water is abundant, but from the national bridge to this city no water can be obtained - the natives substituting pulque as a beverage.

From Jalapa to Puebla there are occasional heights near the road, which if fortified, might annoy invaders. In fact, from Vera Cruz to Puebla this is the case - the travel being alternately over broad unobstructed roads and narrow passes, commanded by heights. The road passes through Puebla. The Pueblanos have a peculiar character; they are cunning and courageous and the most expert robber and assassins throughout Mexico, where there is no lack of such. If an offender is brought before an alcalde, any where else, and is known or ascertained to be a Pueblano, his condemnation is sure.

Cordova - A small walled and garrisoned town, through which the road passes. Beyond Puebla the road is good till it reaches the mountain of Cordova, about midway between the former and the city of Mexico, where the ascent is very rugged and steep, though without defiles. Near the road, at the foot of this mountain, passes the Rio Frio or cold river, which has its rise in the neighboring mountain of Popocatepeti, 17,000 feet above the level of the seas. A work on some of the heights of Popocatepeti would command the road.

After leaving the mountain of Cordova the road is good and unobstructed, with plenty of waster, to the city of Mexico. For several miles before reaching that city the road is delightful, passing between parallel canals and rows of Lombardy poplars.

The lake of Tezcuco - This lake commences on the right of the road, near the city, into which its waters are carried by a canal, the latter serving also to drain the gutters, &c., into the lake. The so-called lake is a large, long and very irregularly shaped basin, shallow, and containing numerous small islands and covered by myriads of wild ducks. The depth of water varies with the season; in the rainy months the basin is filled, and then it assumes the appearance of a large lake. Being the receptacle of all the drainage from the city it is very filthy. The canal from the city passes through it, fed by its waters, five or six miles in a southeast direction to the small fort of Chalco, at the extreme margin of the basin in that direction. This canal is used for transporting produce into the city and for pleasure excursions in gondolas, &c.

City of Mexico - Like all other Mexican cities this has walls and houses of stone, with flat roofs &c. It is well paved; a gutter four feet wide passes through the centre of each street, covered by broad flag stones, removable at pleasure, all the gutters are drained into the canal or lake. The city has many large and strong churches and other great buildings, easily converted into fortresses. If its walls were repaired and mounted with cannon, and well garrisoned it could make a formidable resistance to besiegers.

During the festival days, which are very numerous, the haciendas for twenty or thirty miles around send into the city not less than 10,000 mounted peasantry of the better class, most expert horsemen. - They are courageous and skillful in the use of the lance, and machete, which is a large and heavy knife. Nothing more would be necessary than for the padres to go forth into the principal cities; particularly Puebla and Mexico, and elevate their crosses, and appeal to the bigotry of the population, to rally an immense force of blood, active and desperate men, who would make fierce resistance to an invasion and if invaders should force their way in, assassinations by the hands of so many expert murderers would soon make fearful inroads on their numbers. [RLK]

71.320 January 16, 1847, letter from Gen. Winfield Scott on his plans

A letter from Major General Scott, now commanding all the land forces in Mexico, dated December 28th, from Brazos Santiago, states that he should leave the next day via Matamoros and Camargo, in search of official news, by which he should be governed accordingly. Referring to the reports of the movement of the enemy, he states that, in the meantime, events may take him to Monterey; and that, "if Santa Anna be on the offensive, he must be repulsed," &c. [RLK]
The reported advance of Santa Anna on Saltillo contradicted

We were hurrying much of the details given in the Union, as mentioned above, into type, when another mail, Friday morning's, brought us a sudden change of scenery.

The U.S. transport steamer Alabama left Brazos on the 3rd, and reached New Orleans on the 7th inst. Major Butler, U.S. Army, who left Parras, where Gen. Wool's division then lay in good health and spirits, on the 17th ult., and passed the whole line of present exciting operations, furnishes authentic and the latest intelligence.

General Worth on the 16th ultimo received information from the two scouts that the Mexican General-in-chief had left San Luis Potosi, at the head of a body of 15,000 cavalry, with the intention to fall on the American division at Saltillo, which he imagined he could easily crush. After this, he proposed attacking Gen'l Wool, and if similar success attended him, to repair to Monterey and capture or destroy the magazines and public stores which lay there. Gen. Worth, without attaching more importance to the report than it seemed to merit, forthwith despatched expresses to Generals Taylor, Wool and Butler, acquainting them with what he had heard, leaving it entirely to them to act in the premises.

An express overtook Gen. Taylor a short distance from Monterey, on the route to Victoria. He immediately returned to this encamping ground, near Monterey with the whole of his division, and then waited further advices. After remaining three days, during which he received information of the improbability of the report of Santa Anna's advance on Saltillo, he again took up the line of march, and proceeded onward to Victoria. Meanwhile, Gen'l Wool, who had been informed of the rumor current at Saltillo, called in all his detached commands, and at the head of his division, 3000 strong, quitted Parras on the 18th ultimo, and by arrangements previously made, was to enter Saltillo, on the 23rd at farthest, pushing forward with practicable speed.

Gen. Butler had previously reached Saltillo from Monterey. During this time the intelligence of the reported advance of Santa Anna had reached over more distant points of the line of occupation; and troops, already under orders to march towards Monterey, hastened their progress, onward.

It appears that Generals Taylor and Worth, on mature reflection, readily discovered the improbability of the report of Santa Anna's advance, or, near proximity to Saltillo, from the following facts:

1st. The distance between San Luis de Potosi and Saltillo was too great to admit of the possibility of the march of so large a body as 15,000 men, without timely notice being afforded to the American general to prepare for his reception. 2dly. The ground between the two cities is extremely bare of verdure, or other means of subsistence for man and beast - 90 miles of which, as is well known, being an arid desert, divested of fountains, running streams, or any other source of water, besides affording not the least chance of getting food or fodder, being almost uninhabited, throughout its wide extent.

The report of the Mexican scouts, however, is said to have been corroborated, by information received at Saltillo, in a letter from an English merchant at San Luis de Potosi, who stated that Santa Anna had positively left that city, at the head of a numerous body of cavalry. Even now, in these parts of Mexico occupied by our troops, it is admitted that Santa Anna is out with a considerable mounted force, but with objects far different from those attributed to him by the scouts.

It was stated in the letter above alluded to, that the Mexicans' intentions were to hurry forward, and occupy the only practicable pass in the mountains, lying between division of Generals Worth and Wool. thus intercepting their communications. After realizing his anticipated success against them, by cutting them up in detail, he was then to advance on Monterey, &c. &c. These announcements are now proved to be premature, and things are now proceeding in their former train; accelerated a little by the alarm which has just subsided.

Maj. Butler was in Monterey on the 23d ult. at the time Gen. Taylor was encamped there. Col. Harney was in that city, on his way to Saltillo. Everything seemed satisfactory, regarding the conduct of inhabitants, as to peace and tranquility. One regiment, it is presumed, will be sufficient to form its garrison. [RLK]

The reported California massacre, according to official accounts published in the Mexican papers, signed by Col. J. M. Segura, and addressed to the Gov. of Sonora, turns out to have been a small matter. It appears from this document, that,

On the 23rd September, the citizens of Los Angeles and its vicinity met, proclaimed liberty from the American rule, and placed Florez at their head. Strife ensued, and actions took place on the 26th and 27th in the vicinity, in which the Americans were routed, 27 of them made prisoners and 3 were wounded--none killed. The Mexicans had one killed.

The conquerors then laid siege to the city--and on the 30th it capitulated. The treaty of capitulation at Monterey was not half as formal and minute as this grand treaty.
Commissioners were appointed on both sides, the American commander, Don Archibald Gillespie, being represented by Senor Don Edward Gil Chitre--Surgeon; with the rank of Major--and Lieut. D. Miguel Prior. (The Doctor in this case we presume to be surgeon Edward Gilchrist, of the US sloop of war Portsmouth.) Capt. Gillespie bound himself to retire with all his force to the port of San Pedro, thence to embark for Monterey, (California), remaining in San Pedro no longer than might be necessary to make all needful preparations for departure. Art. 1, stipulates for their retiring with the honors of war, with their arms and private property. Art 2, gives them the mounted artillery then in Los Angeles to accompany them to San Pedro, but there to be restored to the Mexicans; exchange of prisoners, restoration of property, and &c. The terms of the capitulation would seem to have been religiously observed till the time for embarkation arrived. Then the complaints of the Mexicans begin. Col. Segura says that the guns which should have been restored were all spiked; that arms should have been surrendered; that the American vessel off the port sent her boats ashore with a force of three hundred men, besides the force which had capitulated, and maintained a permanent occupation of the town. Notwithstanding all this, Col. Segura goes on to say that the troops of Sonora continue to be animated with the same enthusiasm for the liberties of the country as heretofore. We give the Mexicans the benefit of their own version of these affairs. [PTH]

MARCH OF TROOPS, &c. On his way from Monterey to Camargo, Major Butler met the Kentucky mounted riflemen, with Gen. Marshall at their head, and one of the Ohio regiments - both corps on their way from the former place. [AKS]

CHIHUAHUA - A despatch is published from Gov. Angel Trias, dated the 20th of November, in which he announces that on the day previous a body of 480 troops, part infantry and part cavalry, with four light pieces of artillery, left Chihuahua for El Paso del Norte, under the command of Lieut. Col. Cuilty; with provisions, &c. for one month. Those forces were to join at El Paso 600 men, previously raised, and the whole were to proceed and make an attempt to surprise General Kearney, who was then with a small force at Cobre, near two hundred mile north of that point. All classes of the citizens took part in celebrating the departure of these troops. [RLK]

ARMY OF THE NORTH.

SANTA FE - Letters to the 15th of November, at St. Louis, detailing all the movements previous to that date. No allusion is made to the reported defeat of the sixty dragoons. [RLK]

"A letter from Moro, dated on the 21st of Nov, announces the arrival there of Mr. N. Colburn, in advance of the wagons belonging to the last company of the traders which left Independence. On the 17th they experienced a severe storm of snow, which killed many of the oxen, but they were able to supply themselves, at Moro, and would get safely into Santa Fe. The United States trains could not, it is said move a wagon on account of snow and the loss of animals, and they were then buying oxen to get the wagon along. A wealthy Mexican citizen, seeing the embarrassments of the government's agent for the want of money, had generously proffered to loan Major Walker, paymaster, one hundred thousand dollars, at an interest of only three per cent a month." [RLK]

Movement of the army from Monterey for Victoria -

The following general orders show the dispositions made at the date thereof:

[ORDERS NO. 156.]

Headquarters, Army of Occupation

Camp near Monterey, Mexico, Dec. 10, 1846.
I. The 4th infantry is detached from the 1st division and with company E., 1st artillery, will form the garrison of the citadel, which will be occupied as soon as practicable; the commanding officer making his reports to Major General Butler's headquarters, and receiving his orders therefrom. The Maryland and District of Columbia battalion is likewise detached from the 1st division and will report to Brig. Gen. Quitman.

II. The 7th infantry and 2 companies of mounted riflemen in Monterey are attached to the 1st division which will be recognized as follows: 3d brigade under Colonel Harney - light company C, 3d artillery; company B, C, D and E, 2d dragoons; the 2d infantry to join at Monte Morales; 3d infantry. 4th brigade under Col. Smith - company E, 3d artillery; mounted riflemen; 1st and 7th infantry; the remaining companies of the 2d dragoons will be assigned when they shall join.

III. The troops of the first division, as organized, will be held ready to march on Sunday, the 13th inst., in the direction of Victoria.

IV. The field division organised, in order No. 108, of August 28th, is broken up; the Ohio and Kentucky regiments will report to Major General Butler and the 1st Tennessee, Georgia, and Mississippi regiments, will be held ready to march as above under the orders Brig. Gen. Quitman.

V. The troops will carry 4 days rations in their haversacks and 200 rounds of ammunition, per man, of which 40 will be taken in their boxes - the regulation allowance of transport, one wagon for each company, and such allowance for ammunition as may be found necessary.

VI. The regular general hospitals in town will be consolidated into one, to be under charge of Surgeon Jarvis; the following assignments of medical officers are made and will go into immediate effect: Surgeon M'Claren to the 7th infantry; Ass't Surgeon Byrne, 4th infantry; Ass't Surgeon Wills, mounted riflemen; Ass't Surgeon Byrne will also perform the duty of medical purveyor in Monterey; Ass't Surgeon Madison will accompany the medical director as medical purveyor on the march.

By order of Major General TAYLOR:

[Signed.] W. W. S. BLISS

In pursuance of the above orders the army had marched from Monterey, and General Taylor was en route from Victoria.

[RLK]
Potosi, Gen. Taylor did not think it worth while to throw forward Gen. Twiggs's division to that place, and after resting it a
day, designed putting that division again in march for Victoria, to which point he was to proceed himself.

Gen. Patterson was supposed to be then well on his march from Matamoras to Victoria, when his division, except the
Alabama rangers (in garrison at Tampico,) will be brought together. With a force holding in observation the passes from
Tula, the garrison at Tampico may be reduced with advantage to the service. [RLK]

71.321 January 23, 1847, rumors at Washington

RUMORS AT WASHINGTON - The Washington *Fountain* flows freely, occasionally overflows - Amongst the editorial on *dits* in
Tuesday's paper, one was, that General Taylor was to be recalled. It goes so far as to predict that he will arrive at
Washington, to which it adds that he is ordered to repair - by the middle of February.

The next item is stated to be "on the authority of Commodore Perry" - the Castle of D'ULLOA is not to be attacked,
"government having determined to 'conquer a peace' without attacking this stronghold." It adds that Commodore Perry is
not to return to the Gulf, - with the saving clause: "How true these rumors are, we do not pretend to say."

Their next rumor is the following:

"Ultimatum of Mexico - We learn that our government is in possession of the ultimate conditions on which Mexico will
consent to make a peace with the United States, and that it has determined to accede to them, if Congress will enable the
Executive to meet the views of Mexico. It will be seen by reference to our epitome of the congressional proceedings of
yesterday, that the committees on foreign relations in both houses, having already moved the appropriation of large sums of
money to be placed at the disposition of the President in treating for peace with the enemy."

The *Union* referring to the "rumors" inserted in the Washington Fountain, noticed in the above says "we do not believe there
is any adequate authority or foundation for either of these 'rumors'." [RLK]


To GENERAL Z TAYLOR,

Commanding the U. States troops,

at Corpus Christi, Texas:

SIR, I have the honor to inform you that I have had several conference at Monterey with Gen. Mariano Arista, commander in
chief of the Mexican forces on the frontier of the Rio Grande, in relation to the difference at present existing between the
United States and Mexico, and I am pleased to state to you that from the opinions and views he made known to me, the
内阁 of Mexico is disposed to enter into an amicable arrangement with the United States, in relation to the boundary and
all other momentous questions. Although I was not clothed with any official authority, I took upon myself as a citizen of the
United States, desiring to see the two countries in harmony of friendship, to say, that it has ever been and is the policy and
sincere wish of the government and people of the United States to cultivate the good will and friendship of the sister
republics of the American continent, and most especially Mexico, and that I was confident the United States would make a
liberal settlement with Mexico relative to the boundary question.

As General Arista was under the impression that I was a secret agent of the United States, though I declared to him quite
contrary, and that I was only acting as a private individual, endeavoring to avoid a recourse to arms between the two
countries, he nevertheless thought it advisable to send a minute of our conferences to his government, and assured me that
there will be no declaration of war on the part of Mexico, until I can proceed on to Washington and lay before the president
the views of Mexico, of which I am possessed.

General Arista pledged his honor to me that no large body of Mexican troops should cross the left bank of the Rio Grande;
that only small parties not to exceed 200 men should be permitted to go as far as the Arroya Colorado (20 leagues from the
Rio Grande) and that they would be strictly ordered only to prevent Indian depredations and illicit trade. I then had no
hesitation in assuring him that you would not commit any aggressive act against Mexico, or her citizens, and that you would
solely maintain the position you at present occupy at or near the Nueces river. I trust, in having made this assurance to
him, though, I again repeat I did it as a private citizen of the United States, that it has ever been and is the policy and
sincere wish of the government and people of the United States to prevent them as far as possible. General Arista spoke also
of Indian incursion on the frontier of the Rio Grande, and is under the impression that the United States would be prevented by the
troops under your command, as the Indians always come from the Nueces river. I expressed my profound regret at the frequent
atrocious acts of the Indians, and said that you would no doubt in future use all endeavors to prevent them as the United
States was bound by the treaty of April, 1831, to prevent them as far as possible. He suggested that if you would station a
body of cavalry at the pass of San Salas (head waters of the Nueces) through which mountain pass they invariably proceed
to the Rio Grande, it would effectually check them.
I shall leave this village to-morrow for Matamoros to which port I shall arrive in three days; from thence I will embark in the first vessel for the United States, proceeding immediately on to Washington, to lay before the president the information and views of Mexico, which I am possessed of; in the meantime, should you decree this note of sufficient importance, I trust that you will transmit a copy of it by express to the government, as by timely information much good may result therefrom.

I beg to congratulate you that the door is opened to an amicable adjustment of the vexatious questions between the United States and Mexico, and feel happy in having been instrumental in this great and good object.

I am, with great respect, sir, your ob't servant,

[Signed]
ISAAC D. MARKS.

71.322 January 23, 1847, letter of Isaac D. Marks to Secretary of State James Buchanan

New Orleans, Oct. 29th, 1845.

To the Hon. JAMES BUCHANAN, Secretary of State:

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, a "copy" of a letter I addressed to General Z. Taylor at Corpus Christi, from the village of China, (Mexico). - I despatched it by special courier to him, but was subsequently informed that the express was detained at the town of Camargo, (on the Rio Grande,) up to the 7th instant, by reason of the continual and heavy rains. I beg leave to add that I arrived in this city yesterday from Matamoros, and will leave to-morrow for Washington. I am, with great respect, &c.,

[Signed]
I. D. MARKS.

71.322 January 23, 1847, Mrs. Anna Chase’s letter from Tampico

MRS. CHASE, THE HEROINE OF TAMPOCO

All recollect that previous to that taking of Tampico, Mrs. CHASE, the wife of our consul at that place; sent to Com. Conner, an exact plan of the entire town, harbor, and forts of Tampico, with information of the exact strength of the place; and that, on receiving the documents of Mrs. Chase, the commodore immediately set sail for Tampico, and took the place without opposition, owing his success entirely to the information sent him by that accomplished and patriotic lady. We give below a letter for which we are indebted to the kindness of our friend, Mr. B.M. Norman, to whom it was addressed, written by Mrs. Chase herself, giving, somewhat in detail, the taking of Tampico, and the part she had in it. Much less praise, we think, has been bestowed on the noble conduct of this courageous and patriotic lady than she deserves, and we trust that our government, in consideration of the very distinguished services which she had rendered, at the peril of her life, will unhesitatingly reward her with enduring honors.

We doubt whether, there is a letter on record, written by a female hand, breathing a purer patriotism, a nobler ardor, a more courageous heart, than that of Mrs. Chase, which we give below. She is a noble example among our countrywomen, and her name will descend, on the pages of our history, winning the admiration of future ages. It will be seen that by her skilful management, that would have done honor to the most shrewd general, she succeeded, before sending information to Commodore Conner, in so terrifying the Mexican troops that they evacuated Tampico with precipitation, after throwing into the river six hundred stand of arms and one hundred quintals of powder. We give the letter entire, it being the most authentic account that can be furnished. She writes what she saw and did.

"MY ESTEEMED FRIEND: A great change has come o’er the spirit of my dream – at least within the last month – so that I almost doubt the evidence of my own senses, we having at this moment some twenty sail of vessels in the river Panuco – steamers passing and repassing, the sight of which pays me, in part, for my six months’ solitude and suffering. I am not a believer in purgatory, but I think I have passed through that ordeal by residing in an enemy’s country alone; not only hostile in feeling, but subtle and unprincipled.
"My dear friend, I scarcely know how to reply to your friendly solicitude towards me and mine especially. In beginning my imperfect narrative, one great misfortune seems to accompany me – my pen can never keep pace with my feelings. You will have been aware of Mr. Chase’s expulsion, agreeably to the decree of the 12th of May last, and in compliance with the act he had only twenty four hours’ notice to embark, or eight days to retire twenty leagues into the interior. He prudently chose the former, and embarked forthwith on board of the St. Mary’s the blockading vessel off the bar of Tampico, leaving some eighty thousand dollars in his store with no other protection than such as I could afford, and two clerks, one of whom was a Mexican; and he, in accordance with the true spirit of Mexican chivalry, commenced robbing me. In fact my annoyances were so numerous that I cannot give you them in detail, but merely sketch an outline, knowing the sympathy you feel for my perilous position in this new drama. In the next place, Inez de Primera Instancia, by order of the commanding general, passed me a notice that my privileges ceased as the wife of the American consul, and my store must be closed. I replied to him in the most decisive manner, that I was not only his wife, but also his constituted agent – in addition to this I was a British subject, and, as such, neither the judge nor the general could deprive me of my natural rights, as the English law admitted of no annexion – stating that any infraction on it prerogative would be hastily chastized by that government; and in confirmation of my assertion, referred the learned Inez to the law of nations.

Thus defeated and exasperated, I was not allowed to send an open note to my husband, then off the bar. But, thank God, who ‘tempers the wind to the shorn lamb,’ He directed me, and I concerted a plan which again defeated their hostile purpose, and sent by strategem nine letters in eight weeks, and through the same means received replies. But those things were daily making inroads upon my health and spirits, which I most carefully concealed from my good husband, knowing the intensity of his feelings for his government, and particularly for my welfare.

"I, in the meantime, drew a plan of the city and river, and had it sent to Com. Conner and Captain M’Cluney of the John Adams, with a correct description of all the forts, the number of guns, a list of the troops and how they were posted, and every political movement, so that through Mr. Chase and his agent, they knew every important movement in this section of the country.

"They abused and insulted the American name and nation to such an extent that it often caused me to retire and pray God for the day of retribution – With the exception of my faithful Amelia, I had but little human sympathy, as all the English influence was against our national cause.

"I am, perhaps, a little prosy, but I well know the sensitive heart to whom these lines are addressed, and so continue. I daily watched, not very christian-like, for the moment of retaliation, hoping to be able although alone in the combat, to “square accounts” with my fierce debtors, and, if possible, place myself and party on the credit side of the entangled account.

"Santa Anna recommended to the government of Mexico the confiscation of all American property in order to carry on the war, and that all Americans residing in this country should be made prisoners of war, as a fatal stroke of those usurping pirates – the gentle name generally applied to them – and that this garrison should be reinforced with some 3,000 more troops. When I read this article in one of the flaming periodicals, it was rather grating to me in my isolated condition. I determined, however, upon the old Roman motto –

'Who would be free, himself must strike the blow,' or in other words, my case was at best helpless, and now even desperate, and required a desperate remedy.

"Two spies came daily to my house, always under the guise of friendship; and on one occasion, one of the wretches believe that I was possessed of items concerning American movements, I represented him that 30,000 troops were to join Gen. Taylor at Matamoros, 30,000 more had been despatched to capture San Juan, &c., and closed with remarking that I would be compelled to close my house within a day or two as a force of 25 to 30,000 troops was coming against this place – which bit of romance so frightened my poor Amelia, that she thought the general here would call me to account for it.

"Next day I had a call from the captain of the port who wished to know the truth, and inquired if Mr. Chase had written to me to that effect; and soon after some other of the high functionaries discovered me to be an important character, in their daily rounds. In a conversation with the father in law of the general, I recommended to him an early retreat, as the wisest course to be taken; and that same night a private post was despatched to San Luis Potosi upon the strength of the information so received, through me; the town of Tampico was ordered to be vacated on the appearance of this large force off the bar; scouts were sent in every direction, to procure muleteers, for the conveyance of property to the interior; and two schooner loads were shipped to the city of Panuco; six hundred stand of arms were sunk, the cannons were removed from the fort, and the troops evacuated the place. I then despatched to Com. Connor an account of the state of things, and in triplicate to Havana, under different covers to my husband, urging his return forthwith. These were sent by an agent, who supposed them mere letter conveying a wish to my husband to meet me at Vera Cruz, to accompany me to Havana. I spent a restless night and morning, but it has certainly brought its reward. My letter to the commodore was dated October 23d; he received it October 27th, and immediately called a meeting of his senior officers and laid my despatch before them. It had due weight. Provisions were brought from Point Isabel and distributed among the squadron, and on the morning of the 13th have in sight, twelve sail off the bay of Tampico. I was so confident of the coming of the squadron, that in anticipation of their coming, I had a flag staff made one week previous, and had it erected upon the house-top, in order to raise the first American flag hoisted as a right over Tampico. On my first sight of the fleet, my pent up feelings gave way and I wept as a child for joy, seeing that God had brought deliverance to the captives, and in anticipation of soon seeing the object of my affection, and also in gratitude to Him who is mighty to save, and that my feeble efforts had wrought so strange in our national welfare.

Here I must pause, and say I cannot pretend to describe my feelings at that time. Fortitude seemed to give way, and in the
In thirty minutes the Ayuntamiento called upon me and ordered me to haul it down. I replied it was raised as a right of protection. They said I had no such right as I rejoined that that it was a matter of opinion in which we could not agree. They said it was a burlesque upon their nation – a lady taking the city – and what would the supreme government of Mexico say? I replied very laconically, 'Quien sabe!' and offered them wine under the new banner. They threatened the house. I ran to its top, and asked Mr. Uder if he would stand by me. He replied, "Yes." "Then," said I, "the flag must remain, or all of us sent over the house-top, as I shall never pull it down or suffer any Mexican to sully it by his touch." I had been robbed, - my store entered and pillaged of more than two thousand dollars, in the dead of the night; and when the regiment from Puebla entered this city, they entered my store and carried off my goods, and I had no redress and still less sympathy; and although alone, the God of the just was my captain general, and I had nothing to fear from all Mexico. And now the house of redemption was at hand. I expected they would either fire upon or storm the house. I rested with my right arm round the flag staff, the banner waving in majestic beauty, and the squadron nearing the city, where they saw the flat. It was like lightning to pilgrims to know from whence it came, but soon the officers saw two female forms standing by it, and gave three cheers in front of the city, and then came to my house, which had been now nearly six months as if proscribed by some crime or plague, and my fault was that o being the wife of an American. Commodore Perry and the municipal authorities came to my house on arrival, also Commodore Conner. My despatches have been sent to the state department, and I have letters of thanks from the officers commanding, who have changed the name of Fort Libertad to Fort Ann, in compliment to me. They arrived on the 16th. Forty eight hours after came Mr. Chase, crowning all my happiness.

"You will no doubt have heard part of my story previous to this reaching you, knowing the interest you feel; and this unlimited friendship evinced by you, I thus have taken the liberty to give as far as practicable in detail, and have extended my account far beyond my intention, and at the same time trusting that you will give at least a reading to this imperfect scroll, and may never feel the pangs of mental affliction, as felt by me.

"You very kindly inquire if the existing war has injured us in a pecuniary point? It has very materially, but that loss has not in the least allowed my spirits to flag. My trust is in Him, who can withhold and best. We have suffered in mind, in person and pocket, but with feelings of interest toward our beloved country and duty to the cause, and like the widow I was writing to contribute my might for the honor of the country he had so long represented, and as a dutiful wife to follow him in weal and woe, according to the pressure of misfortune, and in impending anger, the break blasts of adversity should not chill my ardor, in following his advice and his cause and trust to God.

"We will lose nearly one half of our stock goods. No doubt the U.S. government will indemnify Mr. Chase at a future day.

"Our house will be turned into a garrison, and three field pieces will be placed upon it. I am willing to stand by my husband at a gun until we both die or are victors.

"I have been trying to keep a journal of the beauties of the drama, in rather a rough form, and may place it in your hands at a future day. [RLK]

71.323 January 23, 1847, announcement of the "new plan of operations" for the campaign about to be commenced by Gen. Winfield Scott, M. Gomez suspected of abstracting it

THE WAR. – New Plan of Operations – Extraordinary Revelations – We read in the La Patria of the 31st ult., a Spanish paper published in New Orleans, by Aleman & Gomez, the following extraordinary revelation of the new plan of operations in the war with Mexico:

"The government appears to confide much in General Scott, who has just gone to the field of operations, and from whose diplomatic and military tactics, it hopes to gain great advantages. The plan of operations, we learn, is as follows:

Gen. Taylor, instead of moving upon San Luis Potosi, will repair to Saltillo, where he will remain for a short period. Gen. Scott, after having made some arrangements on the Rio Grande, will hasten to Tampico, where he will assume the command of the 7,000 volunteers recently called out and ordered to assemble at that point. From Tampico, General Scott will march towards Vera Cruz, and Gen. Taylor will make a simultaneous movement towards Tampico, with all the troops he can muster, after leaving sufficient force to garrison Saltillo, Monterey, Victoria, &c., and in union with Gen. Worth’s division, will join Gen. Scott, who will have at his command the new military arm of rocketeers and howitzers.

At the proper moment, fifteen or sixteen vessels of the American squadron, with a force of from 230 to 300 guns of all sizes and calibres, will appear off San Juan de Ulloa, and begin the attack upon the castle. According to the new plan of operations the land forces will rendezvous at the mouth of the river Antigua, which empties into the Gulf a short distance to the north of Vera Cruz, and ascend the same to where the main road to Jalapa crosses it. If this plan be speedily put into execution, there can be no doubt that Vera Cruz and the Castle will as speedily fall into the power of the American forces; but if any faith be put in Santa Anna’s declaration, it is plain he will be able to cut off the advance of Gen. Taylor from Saltillo."
Mr. Gomez, the editor of La Patria, and the author of the above, is the same person, who was appointed by Gen. Scott, while tarrying in N. Orleans, to be one of his staff, and whose commission was afterwards revoked by the General on the ground that he was not a friend to the American cause. Did Gomez obtain the above information while he was Gen. Scott’s aid? – Washington Fountain [RLK]

71.323 January 23, 1847, Col. Joseph G. Totten sent to Mexico

A Washington letter in the New York Commercial Advertiser thus refers to the above publication:

Colonel Totten, chief of the engineer department, has gone to Mexico, secretly and with despatch. [RLK]

71.333 January 23, 1847, subscription by Maine state treasurer to loan for war with Mexico

The treasurer of Maine has subscribed one hundred and fifty thousand dollars of the 5,000,000 loan for carrying on the war with Mexico. [RLK]

71.336 January 23, 1847, comments on aspirants to the presidency, the question of a lieutenant general, and the war with Mexico

PRESIDENTIAL, 1848 – The different aspirants and their partizans in congress it is said by letter writers at Washington, seriously influence the questions now before that body. Without room for many of those speculations, we insert the following from the correspondent of the Balt. Sun, (a decidedly administration writer) – as a specimen:

"Every measure which may now be brought forward, - every demand made by the president, - every bill introduced in either house by a member of congress, will lead to slavery and anti-slavery discussions, in which the moral and statesmanlike views of the question will be made to yield to the inordinate desire for power, for in all these discussion no other issue is made than this: Which shall predominate, "the South or the North?" "From which section of the country shall the next president be taken, from the slave or from the free states?" Shall Silas Wright be brought forward, or John C. Calhoun, General Cass, or Sam Houston? The Lieutenant Generalship is supposed by many to be very intimately connected with this question; for if Colonel Benton is to be Lieutenant General, he and senator Dix and Silas Wright will lead off the Northern and Northwestern wing of the party – and, for this very reason, the south will steadfastly oppose it. It is now pretty certain that a Calhoun man will be elected in the place of Mr. Pennybacker, in the same manner that Mr. Hunter was elected in the place of Mr. Archer; which will make the democratic vote against the Lieutenant General, should he again be galvanized, stand thus: Calhoun, Butler, Colquitt, Lewis, Yulee, besides the two senators from Virginia; making in all 7. These, with the 24 whigs, who will vote to a man against him, the friends of Col. Benton will never overcome, and thus the measure will be lost, unless skilfully brought forward in another form. This will be done before the next 4th of March, with what success remains to be seen. – I am even very creditably informed that Col. Benton will himself defend the creation of a Lieutenant General, and state his reasons for doing so at full length. They will, no doubt, be very interesting and command the attention of the country; especially if, as it is rumored, the charges brought by Mr. Ficklin, of Illinois, and Thompson, of Mississipi, against Scott and Taylor, should receive some new coloring, or be in some measure substantiated. But, gentlemen had better take care how they make those charges; as, if they cannot prove them, the accusation will, with unerring certainty, recoil upon the calumniators. But nous verrons.

While an attempt is thus made to force a new organization of the army on the country, Mr. Calhoun intends to wait for an opportunity of presenting his proposition for peace, amity and a treaty of commerce and navigation with Mexico. He deprecates the war and its consequences, but thinks that peace may yet be concluded on terms mutually honorable and without depriving us of our legitimate inheritance, California. If Mr. Calhoun’s plan succeeds in enlisting a majority of congress in its favor, he will be the candidate of the juste milieu party at the next presidential election, and, perhaps, be elected in the same manner that Hunter was returned senator from Virginia. His friends, I can assure you, intend to run him at all hazards; urging that it is better that “half a dozen first rate men should be brought forward, than a compromise be made in favor of a secondary one.”

If the spring elections turn out against the administration, the Calhoun men, in both houses, will hold the balance of power, and in that position, elect the policy which they deem proper. We shall then have a regularly organized juste milieu, and a consequent lopping off of the wings of parties.”

The Washington correspondent of the Evening Post, a leading administration paper of New York, writes on the 5th inst.:

"The proceedings of the House today will be looked to by the country with great interest. The remarks of Mr. King on the subject of the admission of more slave states into the Union, is denounced by the southern members as a concerted movement for the benefit of Mr. Wright, as the northern candidate for the presidency, and the exceedingly able and well
written speech which he this morning read to the house, as an exposition of his motives in offering it, were both prepared at
Albany by the special and particular desire of Mr. Wright. No one acquainted with Mr. King will question his capacity to
conduct such a business as the management of the northern side of the impending controversy, with judgment and skill.”

REPORTED MOVEMENT IN FAVOR OF PEACE. – The Washington Union, makes the following allusions to a reported
movement in congress for effecting a peace with Mexico:

“A rumor has gone forth that a resolution will be submitted to our own congress to recall our troops, and take our position
on the Rio Grande. It is a mere rumor, and we trust, without the slightest foundation. We do not credit it. We cannot
believe that any statesman would dare to rise in his place, and submit a proposition which is to cast such a slur on the
institutions of his country – which tells Mexico, or the nations of Europe, that our internal feuds are so embarrassing, our
government so cursed with imbecility, that the nation is too divided and too weak to avenge the wrong, and asset the rights
of our country. Mr. Jefferson asserted in his inaugural address, that, “This is the strongest government on earth.” We are
satisfied that no politician will hazard a proposition which would prove it to be one of the weakest. Away then with such a
suggestion! The rumor must be like the thousand and one other gossips of Washington, unfounded and false. We do not
believe it.”

The subject is alluded to in a Washington letter published in the N.Y. Herald, thus:

For some days past it has been whispered about that a distinguished senator from the south was resolved at an early day to
propose to the senate to withdraw our armies from Mexico, for the following reasons:

1. We want peace.
2. We can acquire it by withdrawing our forces, military and naval, from the lands and waters of Mexico.
3. We can gain nothing by the continued prosecution of the war.
4. The question of slave or free territory puts a bar of acquisition of land south of the Rio Bravo.
5. And Mexico has no money, and the longer the war is continued the poorer she will become.
6. We have, therefore nothing to gain from the prosecution of the war but peace, which we may easily obtain at once by the
withdrawal of our forces.

Such, we understand, is the proposition, but we rather suspect a majority of congress would prefer fighting it at a dead
expense. But we shall see. [RLK]

71.336 January 23, 1847, naval preparations for bomb vessels

"NAVAL PREPARATIONS" – The New Orleans Picayune of the 13th states that orders were issued by the Navy Department on
the 4th inst., for the purchase without delay of four brigs or schooners to be converted into bomb vessels to carry each a
gun ten feet in length and ten inches calibre, alterations to that effect to be made with the utmost despatch. A ship of 500
tons is to be procured right away to carry munitions and stores for the bomb vessels. The Bangor and the Aurora steamers
have been purchased, and alterations are making in them, to fit them for the service; names changed to Scourge and
Scorpion. [RLK]

71.336 January 23, 1847, progress of the California expedition in Brazil

THE CALIFORNIA EXPEDITION, was to leave Rio on the 28th November for the Pacific. The design of stopping at Valparaiso
had been abandoned. Capt. Turner, of the California volunteers, came passenger in the Reindeer, at New York, bearer of
despatches from Mr. Wise. He proceeded immediately to Washington. Mr. Wise’s version of the affair should be in hand
before making up an opinion. As between ourselves and any foreign government we are bound to presume our agents to be
in the right till after a fair hearing, the contrary is shown. [RLK]

NNR47January v71.336  January 23, 1847 Reported in favor of peace

The Washington Union makes the following allusions to a reported movement in Congress for effecting a peace with Mexico:

"A rumor has gone forth that a resolution will be submitted to our own congress to recall our troops, and take our position
on the Rio Grande. It is a mere rumor, and we trust, without the slightest foundation. We do not credit it. We cannot believe
that any situation would fare to rise in his place, and submit a proposition which is to cast such a slur on the institutions of his country — which tells Mexico, or the nations of Europe, that our internal feuds are so embarrassing, our government so cursed with imbecility, that the nation is too divided and too weak to average the wrongs, and assert the rights of the country. Mr. Jefferson asserted in his inaugural address the ‘This is the strongest government on earth.’ We are satisfied that no politicians will hazard a proposition, which would prove it to be one of the weakest. Away, then, with such a suggestion! The rumor must be like the thousand and one other gossips of Washington, unfounded and false. We do not believe it.”

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Such, we understand, is the proposition, but we rather suspect a majority of congress would prefer fighting it at a dead expense. But we shall see. [MLL]

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NNR47January v71.339 January 30, 1847 General Gideon Johnson Pillow’s general order relative to suffers refusing treasury drafts (“hard money”)

Hard money—Treasury drafts are paid out to the troops in Mexico in thus wise;—Four volunteers have $100 due to them. The paymaster calls them up and gives them $100 treasury draft. The four owe the sutler $40, and hand him the draft—if he has the change he gets the money—if not, he goes without. This has produced much dissatisfaction among the men and sutlers, and the paper was reluctantly received, if at all. This brought out by Gen. Pillow, of the volunteer service, the following order, to compel the refractory to receive the papers. *Nat. Intel*.

1. Sutlers will receive treasury notes in payment for grade purchased by the soldiers, or any balances that shall or may be against them, at their par value, and any attempt to extort more than this value for them will be punished, when properly brought before the general commanding the brigade, by shutting up the store and sending the goods or the offender out of the country.

2. The general commanding the brigade can scarcely find words to express the astonishment he feels at the rapacity which is not constant with absorbing every copper of the soldier’s hard-earned pittance; but it must turn to shaving the money which he is bound to take when offered by the government, or none. He trusts that none of the sutlers of his brigades have been guilty of these outrages; but, if they have, he warns them against it. Its repetition in the future, so he is determined to carry out his measures to the very letter.

3. Commanding officers of regiments are held strictly responsible for the literal enforcement of the above order.

By order of Brigadier General Pillow

[MLL]

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NNR47January v71.342 January 30, 1847 General Zachary Taylor’s confidential letter to a friend

*My Dear ******

Your very kind and acceptable letter of the 31st of August, reached me only a short time for which I beg leave to tender to you my sincere thoughts. {A few confidential remarks on certain transactions are here omitted.}

After considerable apparent delay on the part of the Quarter Master’s department, in getting steamboats late the Rio Grande adapted to its navigation, I succeeded, towards the latter part of August, in throwing forward to Camargo, (a town situated on the San Juan River, three miles from its junction with the Rio Grande, on the west side, nearly 500 miles from Bragos Island by water and 200 by land, and 140 from this place) a considerable depot of provisions, ordnance, ammunition, and forage, and them, having brought together an important portion of my command, I determined on moving this place.
Accordingly, after collecting 1,700 peak mules, with their attendants and conductors, in the enemy’s country, (the principal means of transportation for our provisions, baggage, &c.,) I left, on the 5th of September, to join my advance, which had preceded me a few days to Serraivo, a small village 75 miles on the route, which I did on the 9th, and, after waiting there a few days for some of the corps to get up, moved on and reached here on the 19th, with 6,250 men—2,700 regulars, the balance volunteers. For what took place afterwards, I must refer you to several reports,—particularly to my detailed one of the 9th unit. I do not believe the authorities at Washington are at all satisfied with my conduct in regard to the terms of capitulation entered into with the Mexican commander, which you no doubt have seen as they have been made public through the official organ, and copied into various other newspapers. I have this moment received an answer (to my dispatch announcing the surrender of Monterey, and the circumstances attending the same,) from the secretary of war, stating that "it was regretted by the president that it was not advisable to insist on the terms I had proposed in my communication to the Mexican commander, in regard to giving up the city,"—adding that, "the circumstances which dictated, no doubt, justified the changes." Although the terms of capitulation may be considered too liberal on our part by the president and his advisers, as well as by many others at a distance, particularly by those who do not understand the position which we occupied (otherwise they might come to a different conclusion in regard to the matters,) yet, on due reflection, I see nothing to induce me to regret the course I pursued.

The proposition on the part of General Ampudia, which had much to do in determining my course in the matter, was based on the ground that our government had proposed to his to settle existing difficulties by negotiation, (which I knew was the case, without knowing the result,) which was then under consideration by the proper authorities, and which he (Gen. Ampudia,) had no doubt would result favorably, as the whole of his people were in favor of peace. If so, I considered the further effusion of blood not only unnecessary, but improper. Their force was also considerably larger than ours; and from the size and position of the place, we could not completely invest it; so that the greater portion of their troops, if not the whole, had they been disposed to do so, could, any night, have abandoned the city, at once, entered the mountain passes, and effected their retreat,—do what we could! Had we been put to the alternative of taking the place by storm, (which there is no doubt we should have succeeded in doing,) we should have, in all probability, have lost fifty or one hundred men in killed, besides the wounded,—which I wished to avoid, as there appeared to be a prospect of peace, even if a distinct one. I also wished to avoid the destruction of women and children, which must have been very great, had the storming process been resorted to. Besides, they had a very large and strong fortification, a short distance from the city, which, if carried with the (?) , must have been taken at great sacrifice of life; and, which our limited train off heavy battering artillery, it would have required twenty or twenty-five days to take it by regular approaches.

That they should have been surrendered a place nearly as strong as Quebec well fortified under the direction of skilful engineers,—their works garnished with forty two pieces of artillery, abundantly supplied with ammunition, garrisoned by 7,000 regulars and 2,000 irregular troops, in addition to some thousand citizens capable of, (and no doubt actually,) bearing arms, and aiding in its defense,—to an opposing force of half of their number, scantily supplied with provisions, and with a light train of artillery,—in among the unaccountable occurrence of the times.

I am decidedly opposed to carrying on the war beyond Baitillo in this direction, which place has been entirely abandoned by the Mexican forces, all of whom have been concentrated at San Luis Potesi; and I shall lose no time in taking possession of the former as soon as the cessation of hostilities referred to expires,—which I have notified the Mexican authorities will be the close on the 13th instant, by direction of the President of the United States.

If we are (in the languages of Mr. Polk and General Scott) under the necessity of “conquering a peace,” and that by taking the capital of the country,—we must go to Vera Cruz, take that place, and then march on the city of Mexico. To do so in any other direction, I consider out of the question. But, admitting that we conquer a peace by doing so—say, at the end of the next twelve months—will the amount of blood and treasure, which must be expanded in doing so, be compensated by the same? I think not—especially, if the country we subdue in to be given up; and I imagine there are but few individuals in our country who think of annexing Mexico to the United States.

I do not intend to carry on my operations (as previously stated) beyond Saltillo,—deeming it next to impractical to do so. It then becomes a question as to what is best to be done. It seems to me, the most judicious course to be pursued on our part, would be to take possession at once, of the time we would accept by negotiations, extending from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific, and occupy the same or keep what we already have possession of, and that, with Tampico, (which I hope to take in the course of next month, or as soon as I can get the means of transportation,) will give us all on this side of the Sierra Madre, and as soon as I occupy Saltillo, will include six or seven states or provinces, thus holding Tampico, Victoria, Monterey, Saltillo, Monclova, Chihuahua, (which I presume General Wool has possession of at this time) Santa Fe, and the California, Sad sat to Mexico, "drive us from the country!"—throwing on her the responsibility and expense of carrying on an offensive war—at the same time closely blockading all of her ports on the Pacific and the Gulf. A course of this kind, if persevered on for a short time, would soon bring her to her proper senses, and compel her to sue for peace—provided there is a government in the country sufficiently stable for us to treat with, which I fear will hardly be the case for years to come. Without large reinforcements of volunteers from the U. States—say ten or fifteen thousand, (those previously sent out having already been greatly reduced by sickness and other casualties) I do not believe it would be advisable to search beyond Saltillo, which is more than 200 miles beyond our depots in the Rio Grande—a very long time on which to keep up the supplies (over a land route in a country like this) for a large force, and certain to be attended with as expense which it will be frightful to contemplate, when closely looked into.

From Saltillo to San Luis Potesi, the next place of importance on the road to the city of Mexico, is three hundred miles—one hundred and forty badly watered, where the supplies of any kind could be procured for men and horses. I have informed the war department that 20,000 efficient men would be necessary to insure success if we move on that place—(a city containing a population of 60,000 where the enemy could bring together and sustain, besides the citizens, an army of 50,000) a force which I apprehend will hardly be collected by us with the train necessary to feed it as well as to transport various other supplies, particularly ordnance and munitions of war.
In regard to the amenities, which would have expired by limitations in a few days, we lost nothing by it as we could not more even now, had the enemy continued to occupy Saltillo for, strange to say, the first wages which has reached me since the declaration of war was on the 2nd instant, the same day on which I received from Washington an acknowledgement of my dispatch announcing the taking of Monterey; and then I only received 125, as that I have been, since May last completely crippled and am still so, for the lack of transportation. After reaching and scraping the country for miles around Camargo, selecting every pack mule and other means of transportation, I could bring here only 80,000 rations (15 days supply,) with a moderate supply of ordnance, munitions, &c., to do which, all the corps had to leave behind a portion of their camp equipment necessary for their comfort, and, in some instances, among the volunteers, their personal baggage. I moved in such a way, and with such limited means, that, had I not succeeded, I should no doubt have been extremely reprimanded, if [2-3 illegible words] I did so to sustain the administration.

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Of the two regiments of mounted men from Tennessee and Kentucky, who left the respective states to join me in June, the letter has just reached Camargo; the former had not gotten to Matamoros at the latest dates from there. Admitting that they will be as long in returning as in getting here, (to say nothing of the time necessary to recruit their horses) and were to be discharged in that time to reach their homes, they could serve in Mexico, but a very short time. The foregoing remarks are not made with the view of finding fault with any one, but to point out the difficulties with which I have had to contend.

Monterey, the capital of New Leon, is situated on the San Juan River, where it comes out of the mountains--the city (which contains a population of about 12,000) being in part surrounded by them, at the head of a large and beautiful valley. The houses are of stone in the Moorish style, with flat roofs, which, with their strongly enclosed yards and gardens, in high stone walls all looped for musketry, make them such a fortress within themselves. It is the most important place in Northern Mexico, (or on the east side of the Sierra Madre, commanding the only pass or road for carriages from this side, between it and the Gulf of Mexico is the table lands of the Sierra, by or through which, the city of Mexico can be reached.

I much fear I shall have exhausted your patience, before you get half through this long and uninterrupted letter. If so, you can only commit it to the flames, and think no more about it, as I write in great haste, besides being interrupted every five minutes; so that you must make great allowances for blots, interlineations, and blunders, as well as want of connection in many parts of the same.

Be so good as to present me most kindly to your excellent lady, and accept my sincere wished for your continued health, prosperity and fame.

I remain, truly and sincerely, your friend,

Z. TAYLOR

[MLL]

Extract of a letter to a member of Congress, dated Camargo, December 19, 1846

Dear Sir: I have just arrived here in haste from Monterey, the expedite the movement of troops that have been ordered forward. I left Monterey on the morning of the 17th, and arrived here this morning. The emergency was this: Gen. Worth on the 16th, despatched an express from Saltillo to Gen. Butler, at Monterey, to inform him that Santa Anna, with his whole army, would attack Saltillo in a few days, perhaps in three, and requesting all the aid that he could get, and stating that his whole force for duty did not exceed 900 men. The general belief is, that Santa Anna’s force is at least twenty or thirty thousand men. Upon the receipt of Worth’s letter, an express was sent by Butler to Gen. Taylor, who had left two days for Victoria, and was supposed to be about thirty miles from Monterey, with some regular force, and Gen. Quitman’s brigade. He also sent an express to Gen. Wool at Parras, (Worth having also sent an Express to Wool,) commanding him to proceed at once to Saltillo. Should Taylor and Wool reach Saltillo in time, there will be a force there of between six and seven thousand men, which will be all that can be got there in any reasonable time. I forgot to say that Ben. Butler left for Saltillo immediately with the Kentucky and Ohio regiments, that were at Monterey, numbering together, about eight hundred efficient men. The two regiments, at a moments warning in the dead of night, broke up their camp, and, in fine order, moved off for Monterey, to start from that place at daylight o the morning of the 17th. On my return from the city to the camp about an hour before day. I met them, marching in quick time, and in the finest possible spirits, the Kentucky regiment under command of Major shepherd, and the Ohio regiment under command of Major Giddings.

Orders had been issued at least six weeks ago To General Lane to move forward with two Indiana regiments, in order that Worth might be reinforced; but by some means, the orders, although they arrived in Matamoros, did not reach General Lane. This matter, I suppose, will be looked at into hereafter. I do not mean hear the result, though matters now look a little precarious. I foul that Gen. Lane in motion; and though he cannot reach Saltillo by the time the fighting is expected, he may possibly get to Monterey in time to reinforce our troops. If they should be compelled to fall back upon that place. I will leave here tomorrow or next day for headquarters, with General Marshall and the Kentucky cavalry. [AKS]
CONSTITUTIONALITY OF THE VOLUNTEER ACT. Wilst thousands of volunteers are in arms invading Mexico, some of them fighting furiously, many falling in battle, and many others in hospitals, and whilst thousands more are hurrying on to other battle fields and greater dangers. The courts of our country, it seems, entertain doubts of the constitutionality of the law under which all these are serving. The Constitution makes no reference whatever to, nor recognizes any other military force than those of the regular army and militia. It is not easy to classify volunteers as organized for the invasion of Mexico, and especially those enlisted under the recent orders "to serve during the war," as militia. The Constitution limits the term for which militia may be called into service, and as militia, of course, they cannot be detained beyond that limit. The purpose for which militia may be called into service by the United States, are also expressly laid down, and amongst those, the invasion of a foreign country is not included. [AKS]

**NNR47February v71.354 February 6, 1847 Regulation of 1825 respecting officers writing letters revived**

*The following is the paragraph of the general regulations for the army established on the 1st of March 1825, referred to the above. "650...Private letters or reports, relative to military marches and operations, are frequently mischievous in design, and always disgraceful to the army. They are, therefore, strictly forbidden and any officer found guilty of making such report for publication, without special permission, or of placing the writing beyond his control, so that it finds way to the press, within one month, after the termination of the campaign to which it relates, shall be dismissed from the service."

BY ORDER W.G. FREEMAN, Assistant Adjacent General

[MLL]

**NNR47February v71.354 2/6/1847 judicial decision that a minor cannot be held under the volunteer act**

A case of habeas corpus was argued at Boston for several days last week. Kimball, Murray, and Stone, three volunteer minors in the Massachusetts regiment, were brought before the supreme court, and their cases were elaborately argued, and excited much interest. The court decided that a minor cannot be held under the volunteer act of May 1846. The question of the Constitutionality of the act itself, the court declined to entertain in the present proceedings. [AKS]

**NNR47February v71.355 February 6, 1847 Thefts by the Osages because of the withdrawal of troops**

JOURNAL

The Osages and the Sioux

_Massacre—Butchery of women and children_ —A letter from a gentleman at Council Bluffs, dated, on the 17th of December, to his correspondence in St. Louis states that, on the previous day, a band of the Omaha were met by a band of the Sioux, in the neighborhood of the Bluffs, that a battle ensued between them; and that the Sioux killed sixty of the Omaha before the conflict terminated.

It was a cold-blooded butchery of women and children, in the absence of all the warriors of the villagers. On the night of the 12th and 13th, the letter states, a war party of Yancton Sioux Indians defeated and destroyed fourteen tribes of the Omaha tribe of Indians, located at the time of Wood’s Bluff, situated about sixty miles from this place—Bellevue. The men and warriors of the Omaha had left the camp on a hunt, and the Sioux soon after they reached the camp discovered that they only had women and children to contend with. The slaughter was terrible—seventy-three were killed and nineteen mortally wounded. Two men made their escape—one of them, Joseph Lafteehe, a trader in the employ of Mr. Peter A. Sarpy, and at the time in charge of a stock of goods. He ran from the scene of blood bare-footed, and arrived at Bellevue with both feet frozen. Mr. Sarpy and Major Miller, the present agent, dispatched a party of men to ascertain the facts, and they confirmed, on their return, the report of Lafteehe. They also reported that five of the Sioux Indians had been killed, no doubt, stabbed by the Omaha squaws. Going twenty miles further than the ground of the massacre, they found the place where the goods of the trader had been divided among the robbers.

It seems, adds the letter, that fate is against the Omaha Indians. Four or five days before the event took place, one lodge, camping at Cabanne’s old trade log house, was attacked by a war party of Ayonas, commanded by the well-known chief White Cloud, and four of the men wounded, and one woman killed. [MLL]

**NNR47February v71.359 February 6, 1847 March from Monterey to Victoria**

MARCH FROM MONTEREY TO VICTORIA
THE COUNTRY. A letter from an officer of the army, dated Victoria, January 6th, obligingly handed for our perusal, gives us an account of the march commended the 13th of December from Monterey, to Mont Morales; a small town about 50 miles on the road to Victoria, there, being overtaken by the express from Gen. Worth, of the countermarch to Monterey, where it was ascertained to have been a false alarm for the safety of Saltillo—after resting for two days at Monterey, they started again for Victoria where they arrived on the 4th of January. Their route was along the range of the lofty mountains on the right—on their left an open country, part of it very beautiful, and in quite a high state of cultivation—some very large sugar plantations;—great abundance of fruit. Many of the little lawns were very pretty and clean, the churches are generally the quite prominent buildings in the place, and in some instances have an antiquated and picturesque in appearance. The letter says, "I enjoyed the march very much when all things went on smoothly and the wagons did not stall, sitting upon my horse, eating sugar cane, oranges, and thinking about all my old sweet hearts and love serapes."—"Christmas day was as hot as midsummer." [MLL]

Particulars of the loss of Capt. May’s rear guard—Arrest of the Lieut. in command.

Florida, January 1st, 1847—Between 7 and 8 o’clock, Capt. May got in with his dragoons.—He reports the loss of eleven men and their horses and seven pack mules. As far as I can gather the particulars, they come from Capt. May, they are these.

"Between Monte Morales and Lineres, Capt. May ascertained that there was a pass in the a gorge of the mountains, and determined to ascertain the nature of it. His command consisted of two companies of dragoons—some seventy or eighty men. On approaching the foot of the mountain every precaution was used to guard against surprise. A lieutenant with twelve men noted as the rear guard and guard of the pack mules of the command, who remained some few hundred yards in the rear, and in this way they progressed slowly and carefully until they found out the pass, which was so narrow that it was with much difficulty a single horse could go through it.—But May was determined to transverse it, and make what discoveries he could on to the other side. Dismounting himself and men, he led his horse on the way, and, after experiencing much difficulty in getting from rock to rock, the command ultimately succeeded in getting through. On the right hand side of this pass there is a perpendicular cliff of some six hundred feet. On the left hand, after ten or twelve of perpendicular, there was a gradual slope to the top, on which any enemy could run down, fire a place, and then return. It is represented as being the most dangerous pass to a daring enemy that is known, and one where a few determined men could stop the advance of thousands. After going as far on the other side as was thought necessary, they turned to come back, and the main body retraced their steps with the same caution observed in effecting the first passage. But the rear-guard were not so lucky in getting through this time; for it appears after the lieutenant and sergeant got through, a large body of men, who stationed themselves on the perpendicular side, showered down stones from the top so fast and so heavy that their advance was completely cut off, and that they were wither killed, taken prisoner, or made their escape to the other side.

"It seems that Capt. May was not taken by the surprise, for he was continually urging vigilance, and left his best bugler in the rear to sound the alarm in case of accident, as though he anticipated an attack. A rumbling sound in the pass caused him to halt for the rear guard, but they not coming up when he thought it was time to reach him, he wheeled about and went in the direction of the pass at full speed. He shortly met the lieutenant and a sergeant and immediately demanded of him to halt for the rear guard, but they not coming up when he thought it was time to reach him, he wheeled about and went in the direction of the pass at full speed. He shortly met the lieutenant and a sergeant and immediately demanded of the former, ‘Where’re your men?’ The answer of the lieutenant was, ‘close at hand’, at the same time turning his head around as if with the expectation of seeing them just behind him. But there were none there save the sergeant, and the truth immediately flashed upon the commander that something was wrong with them. As quick as thought, and the nature of the path would permit, they dashed off for the pass, and when they reached it found that a large number of stones had been thrown, and discovered traces of blood along the debris. They followed up as fast as possible, but it was to no avail; they could make no further discoveries, nor learn anything of the fate of their companions. So they sorrowfully retraced their steps, and arrived here as noticed.

"I have given the above as truly as it was related to me, without omission or addition, and it is the received and acknowledged amount of the unfortunate affair. It may seem strange, and wanting in detail; but, as it involves several delicate points, I do not feel warranted in surmising what may have made out a good story. Capt. May has Lieutenant under arrest, and many blame him for being in advance of the guard when his post was in the rear of it. His traveling on without discovering that his command was absent, will readily be credited by any who is familiar with travel in a chaparral country, or in any narrow pass where two abroad cannot proceed. In coming through the pass, the men were necessarily fifteen to twenty feet apart;--their safety demanded this, and with the noise on the stones made by his horse’s own feet, and those of the sergeant’s horse, and this in coming down a declivity, it is not strange (at least to me) that he did not miss them; and as to him looking back to see them, that may have been out of the question, as it is natural to suppose he needed to constant use of his eyes to guide his horse over the rugged path.—Military discipline, no doubt, demanded his arrest, but censure should be reserved until the whole statement of the mishap is made known by some one who witnessed it.

"It is not thought that any regular soldiers of the Mexican army had a hand in this business. Rancheros and banditti, actuated by plunder than anything else, are believed to have cut them off, thinking probably that there was more value than what they obtained. In the hands of such men the fate of the prisoners are doubtful, though they would be perfectly safe in falling into the hands of an officer of the army. * * * * *
January 4th—About 10 o'clock this morning

[M.L.]

NNR47 February v71.359 February 6, 1847 Mexican view of the war

MEXICAN VIEW OF THE WAR—Santa Anna’s campaign for the war. A letter dated at the city of Mexico, on the 29th December, and published in the New Orleans Delta, thus speculates on the warlike movements and intentions of the government of Mexico:

“The newly elected President still remains at the head of the army at San Luis Potesi; and, according to what I understand, he will remain there with it whilst there is a necessity for sustaining a hostile position. The troops, notwithstanding the want of resources and comforts, are kept united; and as good Mexican soldiers, are enthusiastic and contented, even in the midst of the poverty which prevails among them. Santa Anna is probably the only Mexican general who knows how to behave with his troops, and keep the men always pleased and already to the good cause. Gomes Farias is as much disposed and determined to prosecute the war, cost what it may, as Santa Anna himself is. On this subject, I believe every Mexican, at present connected with the government, holds a little resolve.

“The plan of the campaign, if we may so style it, which Santa Anna has adopted, is an admirable cause, and perhaps the only one which may serve to punish the North Americans as they deserve. I, who am well acquainted with their character, and have been able to study well their inclinations during my residence in the United States, think the plan a feasible and practical one, and entitles the commander-in-chief of the Mexican forces to high praise. Here it is a few words.

“Every means of precaution will be taken in order to fortify well one point of the republic, with all the necessary reinforcements within a radius not very extended, but well traced, distracting in every possible manner the enemy, and calling his attention to insignificant movements. By these means, it is hoped that much precious time will be lost by the troops of the United States, and thus at the beginning of the summer, they will be scattered all about the country at different points, so that, at no single place, they may have a force as large as the central division of the Mexican army. Thus the advances into the country will cost the Americans a large sum of dollars, which will be touching them is a tender point.

“Besides the loss of time and the exorbitant expenses of the North Americans, which are three times as great as those of the Mexican army, the summer season will fall upon them unexpectedly, with its numerous diseases and epidemics, as perilous to the unacclimated [?]; and thus, without a single shot from the Mexican ranks, they will perish daily by hundreds, both men and beasts, who will not have the strength to resist out climate, and in a short time their regiments will be decimated. In that season of the year, when the native Mexican is better fitted for the war, the Mexican army will be able, by one bold and concentrated movement, to suddenly fall upon and tear to pieces the remnant of Taylor’s army. And in case the North Americans should wish to retire, their retreat will prove as fatal to them as any death-bearing epidemic, for they would find no resources on the line of their retreat, and will be exposed to attack from roving bands of highway men and bandits, which the miseries of war are calculated to increase.

“This is, in brief, the please which, according to information gathered from several persons, whom I believe to be well acquainted with such affairs, I have been able to trace out. But I must remark that the whole complot is not divulged. It is said that Santa Anna will not leave San Luis Potesi, although some movements and apparent marches will be practiced, so that the enemy may believe that he is about to leave. Every necessary precaution has been taken, and all means are daily used, to collect at San Luis Potesi all possible provisions and munitions of war. It is believed that the North Americans are determined to leave Saltillo and Tampico. They will come towards San Luis, and there fight the great decisive battle, as Santa Anna will not leave that city, and will keep there constantly about 25,000 men.

“There are, at present, in a distance of about one hundred and 50 miles or less, nearly 45,000 men of all arms, and it is expected to raise, during the month of January, about 8,000 more of infantry and cavalry. A considerable amount of troops are stationed at proper points to cut off the North Americans as their retreat, in case they should come so far as San Luis where they will not be able to sustain the resistance of the Mexicans.” [M.L.]

NNR47 February v71.360 February 6, 1847 Rumor of Mexican offer for peace

MEXICAN PROPOSITION FOR PEACE— An American minister asked for—Letter from Santa Anna to General Worth.—We learn from Washington that the rumor prevailing at Tampico from the last dates, to the effect that the Mexican congress, has agreed to receive an American minister to treat for peace, and had sent a messenger to Gen. Taylor to that effect, is believed to be well founded in that city. The following letter from our correspondent at Saltillo, also shows that the same rumor, in a pretty strong form, has reached that place;--

Saltillo, (Mexico,) Dec. 21, 1846

Dear Sirs: Since I closed my letter to you yesterday, another batch of news has arrived here from San Lula de Potesi, which, if true, is certainly important. I believe it can be relied or correct, coming, as it does, very straight. The Mexican congress has agreed to accept a minister from the United States to treat for peace! Some say, however, they are only disposed to receive one, whilst again it is confidently asserted that they have agreed to make peace at all hazards.

General Worth received yesterday, through a courier, from Gen. Santa Anna, a letter which is said to be of a very pacific character. An individual in Saltillo who says he has seen the bill passed by the Mexican congress, authorizing the appointment of a commissioner, to meet one from us, to treat for peace; and that he saw it distributed in the form of a hand bill, and posted up in the city of Mexico and at San Lois de Potesi. Report says there is a copy in this place at this time. From the confidences with which some of my Mexican friends speak of the matter, I am myself disposed to believe it true—should it turn out so it will be a great cause for rejoicing, no doubt, throughout the United States as well as Mexico, and prove most acceptable in the army.
Santa Anna is still at San Lois de Potesi, and I believe now, without an intention of advancing. His army there is represented to be inactive—this is a good omen.

FROM THE ARMY. Late letters have just been received at Washington from the army, down to the 7th of January, from Victoria, in Mexico. They state that Brigadier Gen. Quitman had, on the 29th December, occupied the city of Victoria, the capital of the state Tamaulipas. The enemy had a body of some 1,500 cavalry in the town with its advanced picket at Santa Eugracie; but it fell back as General Quitman approached, and as understood to be now at Juanmare, in the direction of Tula. At Tula, there is a strong division of observation under the command of Gen. Valencia.

An examination of the mountain pass leading to Tula, shows that it is entire impracticable for artillery or wagons. Such is also believed to be the character of the Santa Barbara pass, which opens in the direction of Tampico.

General Taylor arrived with the division of Brig. Gen. Twiggs on the 4th of January, and was joined on the same day by the force which Gen. Patterson conducted at Metamoros. The force then collected at Victoria is more than 5,000 strong, in excellent health, and in capital condition for the service.

It was there unofficially know that Gen. Scott was there in the country under orders from the government. Gen. Taylor would probably remain at Victoria until he should hear from Gen. Scott, and determines what disposition to make of the troops.

The reconnaissance of the mountain passes leading to Labradores was completely successful, so far as to regret to learn that on the return of the party to Lennerve [?], the effort was attached to a difficult pass of the mountain, and the baggage and the men of the rear guard cut off. It is yet hoped that the rear guard has effected their escape and may yet regain the army. The officer and non-commissioned officer of the rear guard are in arrest, and the former under charges. No blame can possibly attach to Lieut. Colonel May who commanded the escort for this unfortunate occurrence.

Newspapers have been received from the city of Mexico to the 19th of December, at which state the congress had taken no action in regard to the war or the shooting of the president. The country seems to be (says one of the letters) in a very distracted condition, and the tone of the public press more desponding than heretofore.

A letter has also been received from Tampico, stating that the writer has just arrived from Tamaulipes, where he left General Taylor, General Patterson, General Pillow, and General Quitman, with the various commands, amounting to six thousand men. He had a very hazardous and fatiguing trip from Victoria to Tampico, and had to pass the line of the Mexican cavalry twice on the road. He reports a large force of the Mexicans at Tula (between which and Victoria there is an almost impossible range of mountains,) under the command of General Valencia, Urrea, Fernandez, Romero, Lorbarre, and Monta Negro amounting to eight thousand men.

JURY TRIAL IN CALIFORNIA.—The first jury ever summoned in California was empanelled in the Alcaldo’s court at Monterey on the 4th of September last. It was for the trial of a case in which Isaac Graham was the plaintiff and No Carlos Rouissillion defendant. The jury was composed of Mexican and Americans—about “half and half” we infer from the names—a Mexican being foreman. The defendant was indicted for fraudulently shipping of lumber, the property of the plaintiff. Mr. Colton presided and heard testimony for several hours. The jury acquitted the defendant of felonious intent, but found a balance due plaintiff of $65, but on the defendant had before offered to this without suit, the plaintiff was ordered to pay the costs. The verdict gave satisfaction, and the plaintiff published a card exonerating the defendant from suspicions of unfairness.

The New York Gazette, on inserting the above, adds, “if things continue to be thus conducted in California, the Stevensons adventurers will have to carry themselves pretty straight, when they arrive in that land of law and order.”

A letter from the Rev. Mr. Colton says, “that 3,000 emigrates from the United States, it is understood, have just arrived at San Francisco in two companies, one commanded by Capt. Hastings and the other is commanded by Capt. P. Russell and 10,000 are on their way.
were troops of Castro, marching to attack Captain Freemont, then encamped at the junction of the Feather river and the Sacramento. The foreign residents hastily assembled and marched to the relief of Freemont; a party overtook the Lieutenant and captured the horses, dismissing the officer and his party; and this was the first overt set of the revolution. It was followed by the capture of the Iowa of Sonoma without resistance, the captors being only thirty-three in number. At Sonoma a Mexican general and three other officers were made prisoners.

In the same number is a notice from Capt. Mervince, commander of the United States forces in Monterey, offering a reward of $50 for the apprehension of William Parker, a deserter. Also a notice from Mr. Alcaldo Colton, prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquor, on penalty of fine and imprisonment, and forfeiture. Shopkeepers and keepers of public houses are forbidden to have liquors or wines in their possessions.

In the paper of September 5, the history of the revolt is continued, some details being given of the capture of the Sonomas. The conduct of the captors is described as generous in the extreme, not a dollar's worth of private property having been taken, or any set of violence committed.

This number contain the various proclamations of Commodore Stockton which have appeared in our columns.

The following ostraet [?] is given from a letter to the editors written by Lieut. W.A. Bartlett:

“There is regular express mail from the headquarters of the Northern military district at Yerba Buena in Sonoma and New Helvetia (Sutter's fort) leaving every Wednesday morning and returning from Sonoma as soon as the river mail arrives.”

Also constant communication from headquarters at Yerba Buena to Salsalito, San Rafael, San Peribo, Corito, and other posts on the opposite coast.
Mexican privateering. - The Mexican attempt to enlist adventurers in the West Indies, and particularly at Cuba, in privateering was as to the latter promptly met by the authorities of that island. New reports however are in circulation, and it is asserted that several "long low sharp built clippers" are actually fitting out, for some purposes. Instead of attempting to operate in the neighboring seas, it is intimated that they will proceed to remote places - the Pacific - the Chinese and Indian seas - even the . . . [missing] [AKS]

THE ARMY OF THE CENTRE

Our last accounts from Gen. Wool left him in December 26th encamped at a strong pass called Eucornation, 20 miles south of Saltillo. Perras, the day after Gen. Wool left it, was occupied by a body of Mexican cavalry. [MLL]

ARMY OF THE NORTH

Santa Fe, Nov. 29, 1846

About 400 of the Mormon troops left this place for California, under the command of Colonel Cook, on Sunday, the 18th. The residue amounting to about 100 men and 23 women, were sent back to Fort Pueblo, on the Arkansas, by order of Colonel Doniphan, as the inclemency of the season rendered it impractical for them all to complete their march to the Pacific this winter. The Mormon battalion is composed of 5 companies, and numbers 500 men, 25 women for laundresses, and some boys and girls.—They are well drilled troops, and were apparently in good condition when they arrived here, and also when they commenced their march for California.

This 1st regiment will march against the Navahos forthwith. The 1st battalion is already on the march. Captain Morin's company from Platte is ordered to proceed against the Apache Indians on the headwaters of the Rio Mora. They are said to have killed one of the men and driven off some stock. The Indians are much more troublesome than the Mexicans. They sally forth from the gorges of the mountains and commit murder, and so soon as an armed force is sent against them, they fly back to their inaccessible retreats and lurking places. [MLL]

The arrival of the steamship McKim, at New Orleans furnished Brazos dates to the 24th and Galveston to the 29th of January. The steamer Alabama subsequently brought Brazos to the 31st.

General Worth with his command, arrived at Brazos on the 23rd by way of Camargo. The Galveston News says that Gen. Scott and Gen. Worth are to have command of the main and regular army which is now concentrating at Tampico, or at some place in the neighborhood. The new recruits have their place of rendezvous at the new island of Lobos about 60 miles south of Tampico. The opinion is almost universal that a movement is now to be made against Vera Cruz. It is understood that that place is to be invested both by land and water.

Col. Harney with five companions of the 2nd dragoons, was expected in Metamoros, Col. Duncan arrives at Matamoros and Col. Harney to be court-martialed and

The Galveston News says: "Col. Harney is again in limbo. It appears he was ordered to proceed to Monterey with four companies, while Major Torrens of the regiment was ordered to take command of the remaining six companies and march for the south of the river to join Worth's division.

Col. Harney said he was not to be disgraced, though they might arrest him, and he accordingly marched with the largest portion of his regiment.

A court martial is ordered to convene for the trial of Col. Harney, on the 30th instant. It is generally believed that Col. Harney will plead guilty of the charge and leave it for the court to decide the offence.

Gen. Taylor has returned from Victoria to Monterey with a small escort. He is to remain at the latter place in command of the volunteers. His orders to this effect proceed from Gen. Scott, who now holds the chief command.
The vessels with the 1st regiment Pennsylvania volunteers on board have arrived off the Brazos—all well. [MLL]

NNR47February v71.369 February 13, 1847 Gen. John Ellis Wool encamped with 3,000 men south of Saltillo and Lt. Phillip Kearney at Matamoros, &c. and Mexican troops posted for defense of Chihuahua and the hospitality of Mexican ladies at Parras and Gen. Wool to abandon Parras, Saltillo, and Riconada Pass to the Mexicans and Gen. Taylor...taking command of the volunteers and Mexican force said to be posted at San Rosalia under late governor of Chihuahua

The Matamoros Flag of the 24th of January, announcing the arrival there of Gen. Worth’s division says:

"It is composed of the fourth infantry, under Col. Whistler; fifth infantry under Major Martin Scott; eighth infantry, Major Wright; second dragoons, Colonel Harney; Col. Child’s artillery battalion; Lieutenant P. Kearny’s company of dragoons, and Capt. Blanchard’s company of Louisiana volunteers, the latter setting with the fifth infantry.

The whole command appear to be in fine health and spirits, and the horses in excellent condition—in fact, a more hardy and efficient body of men than this command, cannot be produced in any country, and we look forward with much interest to their future operations, being satisfied they ‘go where glory waits them.’"

General Butler was at Saltillo, on the 17th, when Worth’s division left, but it was understood that he would fall back on Monterey with his troops. Gen. Wool was still at Parras, but it is said that he will also march for Monterey—thus abandoning Saltillo, Parras, and Riconada Pass to the possession of the enemy. This step is to be taken on account of the indefensible state of these places with their diminished forces. The severity of the climate and the scarcity of wool, forage, &c. combine to render them unpleasant quarters for this season of the year.

General Taylor has established his headquarters at Monterey and the place is being put in such a state of defense that all the troops of Mexico, with Santa Anna at their head, will not be able to disturb him.

We suppose that General Taylor will be left in command of all the forces above, while the invading army of General Scott, consisting now of almost all of the regulars now in Mexico, some seven thousand strong, and nearly twice that of the number of volunteers, will set in conjunction with the navy in attacking Vera Cruz.

There are two companies of dragoons with Gen’l. Taylor—Colonel May’s and Capt. Graham’s—Captains Washington and Webster batteries are at Saltillo, and one company of artillery at Camargo, which comprise nearly all the regulars above.—At Camargo, are the second Ohio volunteers, and a few others are stationed at Punta Aguda and Cerralvo, comprising nearly all the forces from between this and Monterey.

The Ohioans are under orders for Tampico, leaving the third Indiana regiment at this place, with a company of two regulars in Fort Brown.

The last previous accounts left Gen. Wool in command at Saltillo or in the neighborhood retaining his original force, 3,000 men. He was encamped on an elevated and commanding position 10 miles to the south of Saltillo on the road to San Luis Potosi called Buena Vista, and Gen. Wool, with a battery of twelve pieces of ordnance, commands the only possible route to and from San Luis. Col. Hardin and his regiment from Illinois—a part of Gen. Wool’s command—are spoken of in the highest terms. In fact, the whole of Gen. Wool’s army is represented as composed of excellent troops.

The country from Reynosa to Camargo and Mier, and through to Monterey, is filled with marauding Mexicans, robbing and murdering whenever they care to do so with impunity.

The kindness and hospitality of the Mexican ladies at Parras are highly eulogized. At the same time as Gen. Wool’s departure from that place where they were 13 invalid soldiers, too much worn by sickness to accompany the army. On this occasion some fifty or sixty Mexican ladies, favorably to the American cause, visited the hospital, everyone of whom sought it as a favor she might be permitted to take home one of those suffering soldiers, where she might be able to nurse and restore to health.

Another similar case is given of the two daughters of Don Lorenzo Yarto, a citizen of Parras, who took a sick soldier in their charge, and for several days in succession they kept a constant watch over him, the one sitting by his bedside by day and the other performing the same service at night.

A Mr. Daing, who has been engaged in the wine trade between Parras and Chihuahua, recently returned from the latter city, and reports that Gen. Cuitly, late governor of Chihuahua, was posted at San Rosalia as early as the 10th of December, with a force of 2,000 citizen soldiers or rancheros, with a view to intercept Gen. Wool, who was expected to march upon Chihuahua from Monclova. [MLL]
General Taylor has established his headquarters at Monterey, and the place is being put in such a state of defense that all the troops of Mexico, with Santa Anna at their head, will not be able to disturb him.

We suppose that General Taylor will be left in command of all the forces above, while the invading army of General Scott, consisting of nearly all the regulars now in Mexico, some seven thousand strong, and nearly twice that number of volunteers, will act in conjunction with the navy in attacking Vera Cruz.

There are two companies of dragoons with Gen'l Taylor - Colonel May's and Captain Graham's. Captains Washington and Webster's batteries are at Saltillo, and one company of artillery at Camargo, which comprise nearly all of the regulars above. At Camargo, are the second Ohio volunteers and a few others are stationed at Punta Aguda and Cerralvo, comprising nearly all the force between this and Monterey.

The Ohioans are under orders for Tampico, leaving the third Indiana regiment at this place, with a company or two of regulars in Fort Brown.

The last previous accounts left Gen. Wool in command at Saltillo or in the neighborhood, retaining his original force, 3,000 men. He was encamped on an elevated and commanding position ten miles to the south of Saltillo on the road to San Luis Potosi called Buena Vista, and Gen. Wool, with a battery of twelve pieces of ordinance, commands the only passable route to and from San Luis. Col. Hardin and his regiment from Illinois - a part of Gen. Wool's command - are spoken of in highest terms. In fact, the whole of Gen. Wool's army is represented as composed of excellent troops. [AKS]

The country from Reynosa to Camargo and Mier, and through to Monterey, is filled with marauding Mexicans, robbing and murdering wherever they can do so with impunity. [AKS]

The Mexican congress on the 9th, after a stormy session, approved the first section of a bill authorizing the government of Mexico to raise $15,000,000 by the hypothecation or sale of certain goods of the Church. Santa Anna opposes this, and it is rumored that his opposition so exasperated his soldiers that they had shot him! Our correspondent says that this report requires confirmation, but there are still many circumstances which still render it not impossible such has been the fate of Santa Anna. The army was in great distress.

"The passage of the above law has certainly created the greatest excitement in Mexico. The churches are closed, and every indication of mourning and of resistance has been envied by those who support the religious establishments. The Mexican congress and the Mexican press everywhere, appear to be thoroughly aroused. The issue they make is "Ser o no ser"—to be or not to be:

Mr. Rogers was still in confinement in Vera Cruz, but was well treated.

On the day Loredo left, the U.S. steamer Princeton went into Vera Cruz, with Lieut. Raines on board of bearer of dispatches, and sixteen Mexican prisoners who had been taken at the mouth of the Rio Grande.

The frigate Raritan was lying at Anton Lizardo; the rest of the U.S. squadron were at Sacrificious."

The latter arrivals at New Orleans furnish no confirmation of the above report of Santa Anna being shot. [MLL]

Resolved. That the General Assembly of Maryland record with melancholy pleasure their profound sensibility of the loss which this state has sustained in the death of Col. Truman Cruise, of Major Samuel Reingold, of Col. William H. Walton, of Major William Lear, of Capt. Randolph Ridgley, of Passed Midshipman John Ringgold, his son, and her other brave sons who have fallen over in conflict with Mexico: and that while as Americans we cordially unite in national tribute of admiration so justly and enthusiastically paid to their memory; yet as Marylanders we feel entitled to cherish with particular pride the honor which from the ashes of the dead have been gathered to her name.
Resolved. That in thus expressing our profound respect for the memory of the dead, we should do violence to feeling and to justice, were we mindful of those whose swords, though entwined with cypress, have yet won for them a need of glory such as reflects the name of Maryland, and stands a proud trophy of intrepid valor, the cool discipline, and the uniting ardor of the gallant men—regulars and volunteers—who followed their bold leaders to desperate and brilliant victories.

Resolve. That this general assembly take great pride in commending the gallantry of the Maryland battalion, and in returning their thanks to them for the aid they have contributed to the brilliant victory of Monterey, exhorts them by the glamorous recollections which cloister around the name "the old Maryland line" to believe that the ancient renown of Maryland is committed to their keeping, and that their fellow citizens at home look to them with undoubting confidence to preserve that renown untarnished.

Further resolved. That his excellency the governor be requested to transmit a copy of these resolutions to the commanding officer of the Maryland battalion, to be by him read to the officers and men as a slight token of that high respect and pride with which their fellow citizens of Maryland regard their indomitable gallantry and courage. [MLL]

NNR47February v71.385 February 20, 1847 Pressure on shipping and cost of freights because of war in Mexico and demand for breadstuffs in Europe

THE REVENUE BILL

Mr. McKerr, from the committee of ways and means, on the 17th, reported a bill to modify the existing TARIFF,—and graduate the price of PUBLIC LANDS.

The bill proposes a duty of TWENTY PER CENT on tea and coffee.

TEN PER CENT on loaf and other refined sugars—on coal, bar iron, manufactured by rolling, or pig iron, round iron, as brazier rods of 3.16 to 10.16 of an inch in diameter, inclusive; nail and spike rods, slit, rolled or hammered sheet iron, hoop iron, branded scroll iron, easement rod, slit, rolled, or hammered, wood screws of iron, spikes, out or wrought, and white and red lead.

FIVE PER CENT on manufacturers of cotton if dyed, colored, printed, or stained, exceeding in value of 30 cents per square yard; and manufactures of cotton not dyed, colored, printed, or stained, exceeding in value of 20 cents per square yard.

These duties to close two years after the conclusion of a peace with Mexico. [MLL]

NNR47February v71.395 Official papers and letters

OFFICIAL PAPERS AND LETTERS

From the Washington Union of the 10th

Victoria, Tamoulipas, Mexico, Jan. 6, 1845

Dear Sirs,

After much speculation and no little misrepresentation about the capitulation of Monterey, I perceive by our recent newspapers, that a discussion has arisen as to who is responsible for that transaction. As one of the commissioners who were entrusted by Gen'l. Taylor with the arrangement of the terms upon which the city of Monterey and its fortifications should be delivered to our forces, I have had frequent reasons to recur to the course then adopted, and the considerations that led to it. My judgement after the fact has fully sustained my decisions at the date of the occurrence; and feeling myself responsible for the instrument as we prepared and presented it to our commanding general, I have the satisfaction, after all subsequent events, to believe that the terms we offered were expedient and honorable, and wise. A distinguished gentleman with whom I was seated with on that commission, Governor Henderson, says, in a recently published letters, "I did not at the same time, nor do I still like the terms, but acted as one of the commissioners, together with General Worth and Colonel Davis, to carry out General Taylor’s instructions. We ought to and could have made them surrender at discretion,” &c.&c.

From each position taken in the above paragraph I dissent. The instructions given by General Taylor only presented his object, and fixed a limit to the powers of his commissioners; hence, when points were raised which exceeded our discretion, they were referred to by the commander; but minor points were seated on, and finally submitted as a part of our negotiation. We fixed the time within which the Mexican forces should retire from Monterey. We agreed upon the time we would wait for the decision of the respective governments, which I recollect was less by thirty-four days the Mexican commissioners asked—the period adopted being that, which according to our estimate, was required to bring up the rear of our army with the ordnance and supplies necessary for further applications.
I did not then, nor do I now, believe we could have made the enemy surrender at discretion. Had I entertained the opinion it would have been given to the commissioners, and to the commanding general, and would have precluded me from signing an agreement that would have permitted the garrison to retire with the honors of war. It is demonstrable, from the position and known prowess of the two armies, that we could drive the enemy from the town; but the town was untenable whilst the main fort (called now the citadel) remained in the hands of the enemy. Being without siege artillery or entrenching tools, we could only hope to carry this fort by storm, after heavy loss from our army; which, isolated in a hostile country, now numbered less than half the forces of the enemy. When all this had been achieved, what more would we have gained than by the capitulation?

General Taylor's force was too small to invest the town. It was, therefore, always in the power of the enemy to retreat, bearing his light arms. Our army, poorly provided, and with very insufficient transportation—could not have overtaken, if they had pursued the flying enemy. Hence, the conclusion that, as it was not in our power to capture the main body of the Mexican army, it is unreasonable to suppose their general would have surrendered at discretion. The moral effect of retiring under the capitulation was certainly greater than if the enemy had retreated without our consent. By this course was secured the large supply of ammunition he had collected in Monterey—which, had the assault been continued, must have been exploded by our shells, as it was principally stored in "the Cathedral," which, being supposed to be filled with troops was the special sum of our pierces. The destruction, which this explosion would have produced, must have involved the advance of both divisions of our troops; and I commend this to the contemplation of those whose arguments have been drawn from facts learned since the commissioners closed their negotiations. With these introductory remarks, I send a copy of manuscript in my possession, which was prepared to meet such necessity as now exists for an explanation, to justify the commanding general, should misrepresentation and cautiously attempt to tarnish his well earned reputation, and, for all time to come, to fix the truth of the transaction. Please publish this in your paper, and believe me as your friend, &c.

JEFFERSON DAVIS

[MLL]

NNR47February v71.400 Finances

FINANCES—Hardly any direct opposition was made to passing the bill for raising additional army. All the debate was upon the details of the bill.

And so also in regard to the financial resources which so promptly passed both houses a week before, as to the grant of authority to obtain the money, hardly an objection was made,—though much difference of opinion existed as to the most eligible means of obtaining it.

The money required my the government for immediate emergencies, has been procured by the secretary of the treasury, by selling treasury notes authorized under the net to the amount of four million dollars—most of it to New Orleans banks and operators. These notes are to bear an interest of six percent and sold at par. The N.Y. Journal of Commerce says:

"The Treasury note operation while it was a good one for the government, was a good one also for the contractors. They sold out a million in this market at two percent advance, and could get two or two and one half percent profit on the whole, making a net three thousand dollar profit without using a dollar of the capital."

This arrangement having been effected, the secretary of the treasury immediately advertised to receive proposals for a loan under the recent act. The advantageous position of our foreign exchangers, superinduced by the unprecedented quality and high prices of our provisions shipping to Europe, affords fortuitous opportunity to obtain the loan upon good terms, provided laws be passed to sustain the national revenue for the payment of the interest.

That additional sentiments to secure this object is indispensable is manifest from the official statement of receipts and expenditures of the quarter ending the 30th of December last, inserted in our last number. The receipts from customs, the same of public lands, all the regular revenue resources for the quarter amounted to an average of only sixteen million per annum, whilst the expenditure for the same period averaged a rate of over forty-eight million per annum.

The quarter may not be a fair one to average by, but the disparity between the receipts and the expenditures, is of too serious an amount.

Heavy complaints are made in the New York Courier and Enquirer and in some others of the journals, of the secretary of treasury having adopted means for obtaining the five millions loan a few months since, as well as effecting the sale of the treasury notes last week, which were not justifiable in a high officer of the government. We merely the complaints, without knowing whether they will be founded or not.

A FURTHER LOAN ANTICIPATED—Some of the last New York papers anticipate an application from the executive for authorities to raise still another loan, for carrying on the war with Mexico. They say that when the estimates were made upon the application for the loan and treasury note bill of twenty-eight millions which was passed last week, was sent to congress, the expenses incident to the additional army since authorized, and the additional bounty to the soldiers were not included, and that ten millions will be asked for, to cover the items of additional expenditure. They signify also that the
line following the paragraph in the message sent by the president to congress on Saturday last (inserted in this number) has reference to such additional loss.

"The increased revenues which the measure now recommended would produce, would moreover enable the government to negotiate a loan for any additional sum which may be found to be needed, with more facility and at cheaper rates, than can be done without them." [MLL]

NNR47February v71.400 Contending proposals for the conduct of the war

THE THREE MILLION DOLLAR BILL

The house of representatives in the meantime have been discussing a bill of still more intricate and exceeding character, and which not only has reference to how the war is to be conducted or concluded, but what disposition is to be made of the acquired territory, if territory be acquired by the terms of a peace.

On this point hangs the delicate question, of adding additional territory to the Union, with or without allowing slavery to exist if the territory is acquired.

The administration party appeared to be divided upon the question beyond any present proposal of reconciliation. The "Wilmot Proviso" has been attached to the bill by majority in the House of Representatives, stipulating against the admission of any more territory, unless slavery be excluded therefrom. In this form the bill passed the house and is now before the senate.

Even if it were to pass the senate in that form, it is certain that the president would not sign the bill.

This part of the executive project for terminating the war, would appear therefore hopeless.

Indeed, to our apprehension, the probability of a termination of the war, under any circumstances, seems to be very remote. The country is at war—the constitution provides that congress "may declare war"—and it can be done by a majority of each house so deciding. We have seen sufficient to convince us that the Executive may so order the operations of the army and navy as at any time to make a war inevitable,—and that virtually, he has it in his power to place the country in a state of war. But to make peace under our constitution is rather a more difficult process. After the enemy, whoever they may be, shall consent to treat, the executive had the entire control of the initiative proposition to congress. The President must be satisfied in the first place, so far as least, as that he would finally approve of the conditions of the treaty. Having no doubt at this time, if he had not at the origin of the war, a definite object in view in relation to Mexican territory, it is not probable that he will originate any negotiation that does not correspond with that object.

But supposing Mexico to be, by some means,—the force of arms—or the influences of three millions of secret service money proposed in the bill to be placed at the disposition of the executive—suppose Mexico by either or both those influences to be brought to the terms which our executive may demand—and a treaty to be negotiated and submitted to the senate for ratification. Would two thirds of the senate be found to advise the ratification of such a treaty, without the stipulation that the territory acquired by the treaty would be excluded?

It is believed that two thirds of the Senate would not ratify the treaty without, not with, such a stipulation.

The slave states and the free states are at issue so radically on the subject, that the prospect of any adjustment of the difficulty appears very gloomy.

It may be said, perhaps, that we are anticipating a difficulty which may never be realized. True.—Before the difficulty can be realized, Mexico must consent to treat for a relinquishment of territory which to this time her government and her people appear determined not to entertain a thought of submitting to. Yet although a discussion of the origin of the war, has been but incidentally entertained in congress, the period seems now to have arrived when the objects intended to be obtained by the war, should distinctly ascertained and sanctioned by congress.

The people of the United States will hardly be satisfied to be carrying on a war, at heavy expense of both man and money, the objects of which war they are not fully approve of. It is the duty of their representatives in congress, as well of the executive, to let them understand the true position of the question.

Mr. Calhoun, yesterday, the 19th, submitted to the senate, resolutions counter to the "Wilmot Proviso" incorporated in the house "three million bill" which resolution he signed his intention to call up for consideration on Monday next. A keen pass between him and Colonel Benton took place on his introducing the resolution.

Suppose a treaty made—whether coerced or bought—which the Mexican people and the Mexican army disapprove, how long would those who conclude such a treaty remain in power in Mexico—how long would the treaty endure? [MLL]
The war is rapidly assuming a most horrible guerrilla aspect, at which humanity cannot but shudder. [AKS]

Brazos Santiago, dates t the 5th instant, received at New Orleans, acquaint us that General Scott was still there, about to embark for Tampico or the Island of Lobos, preparatory to the attack upon Vera Cruz. A letter of the 4th says: "Several vessels with troops and stores, munitions of war, &c. have sailed already. General Scott and staff, will go in a few days, and other troops in transports, with necessaries, will follow as soon as possible. The regular troops, under the command of General Worth, are still encamped on the Rio Grande, but will all be here in a short time. They will come in detachments, so that they can embark conveniently. It is now well understood that the expedition is to rendezvous at the Island of Lobos, a short distance north of Vera Cruz. Between the island and mainland there is an harbour or roadstead, where the vessels can lie in safety. The shore, it is said, is bold, and there is water enough to enable the armed vessels to get sufficiently near to protect the landing of the troops. The island is represented as nearly barren, but will be occupied as a depot and encampment. The troops will be landed in boats, some ten or twelve miles from town, and a combined attack by land and water made on it, and the castle of San Juan in the harbour.

"The preparations for the expedition are on a grand scale, and if the elements are favorable, it must succeed. But it is well known, this and--the next month are always boisterous on this coast; and men cannot control the winds and waves. Our land force will be about 15,000 strong and our squadron be able to bring about 300 guns to bear on the fortifications." [LA]

The court martial which tried Col. Harney on the charge of disobedience of orders, sentenced him to be reprimanded. Gen. Scott remitted the sentence, and ordered him to the discharge of the duties for the neglect of which he had been tried. [LA]

A few days ago, an officer of the Ohio regiment, Lieut. Miller is believed to be his name, was murdered, at Chichironi, and awfully mutilated. His heart was cut out and hung upon a shrub, to show us, I suppose, how deeply seated was their hatred towards us. [AKS]

Fate of Lieut. Ritchie U. S. A. Lieutenant R. Belonging to the 4th infantry, but acting with the 2nd dragoons, was started about the 11th ult., with important despatches from General Scott and other officers, to General Taylor then at or on his route to or from Victoria. The despatches were supposed to contain a plan of the campaign about to commence, as well as orders to General Taylor and other commanders. The Lieut. Had ten men to accompany him. They reached Monterey in safety, spent a night and next evening at La Grande, a small village 23 miles on the road, Lieut. R. Whilst occupied in procuring something for the party and their horses, to eat, in company with an English resident of the place; crossing the plaza, a Mexican on horseback, whirled past, threw his lasso over Lieut. Ritchie, and dashed off with a prize at full speed. A mile or two from the place the lieutenant's body was afterwards found, stripped and dreadfully lacerated. His despatches were in the hands of the Mexican. The men of the detachment reached Victoria in safety. If we mistake not, Lit. Ritchie, was of Ohio. [AKS]

Major Borland, of the Army cavalry with 40 men, and Major Gaines and Capt. Cassius M. Clay, with 30 men, surprised and made prisoners. The following letter from Captain Chapman of the army, reached General Worth last evening.

Saltillo, January 25, 1847

I have only time to write a word. Maj. Borland, of the Arkansas cavalry, with 50 men, and Major Gaines and Captain M. Clay, with 30 men, were surprised and captured at Encarnacion (about 45 miles beyond Saltillo) on the morning of the 23rd, by General Minion. He heard that Borland was there, and marched from Matchuala with 500 cavalry and taking them without
firing a gun. This is no *stampede*.

Yours Truly,

W.W. Chapman

The above is all that has reached us on the subject, in fact, it is clear enough. Between 80 and 90 of our men have been taken prisoners, and undoubtedly at San Luis Potesi ere this. The hatred of the Mexicans is so inveterate, however, against our volunteers, that fears are entertained for the safety of the prisoners. [MLL]

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**NRR47February v71.401 February 27, 1847 Battle at El Paso**

A BATTLE AT EL PASO—ANOTHER VICTORY—We have been exceedingly anxious to learn something from the detachments which left Santa Fe for Chihuahua. The only news received, is from papers from the city of Mexico, of the 26th, which we find thus condensed by the National Intelligence.

On the 25th of December Senior Cuylti was at El Paso at the head of 480 regulars, who added to the Pasenos, of troops retired near El Paso, exceeding 1,000 in number. The Americans were at Dona Ana, 300 strong. They advanced upon El Paso. Cuylti prepared to fight them, but the evening he was to set forth on his march he was seized with brain fever which rendered him helpless. The command devolved upon Vidal, who possessed little military skill, and expected to surround and destroy the Americans like so many rabbits. He pushed forward 500 cavalry under Captain Antonia Ponee, of which one half were Rancheros. The Americans demanded a parley, which was denied, and fight immediately commenced. Ponee charged at the head of the cavalry, but in vain, as he was wounded in the first onset. Just then the Pasenos ran; and threw such disorder into the whole, that all took to flight, leaving a howitzer (?) in the hands of the Americans, but carrying off three other pieces. Vidal returned with all speed to Carrizal, forty leagues from El Paso. The loss on each side was not known, nor was it stated. On the 27th the Americans took possession of El Paso with 600 cavalry and 400 infantry. The cavalry immediately started in pursuit of the runaways and although it was not known at Chihuahua, on the 21st of January that they had overtaken them; it was thought likely they would get possession of two wagons which were in the rear with the park, as well as of thirty men who escorted them. This seems probably to us, too; thought we much doubt if the Americans ever got up with the runaways. [MLL]

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**NRR47February v71.401 2/27/1847 loss of the transport ship Ondiaka and incidents connected therewith**

LOSS OF THE TRANSPORT SHIP ONDIKA, WITH TROOPS ON BOARD. This fine ship got away from the Balize about the 20th ult., with four companies of the Louisiana regiments of volunteers, viz: Company E, Capt. Preg; company F, Capt. Hunt; company G, Capt. Pope; and company K, Capt. Lewis. They were under the immediate command of Col. DeRussy, and exceeded three hundred in number. The Ondiaka touched at the Brazos and sailed thence on the 25th ult. She was off the bar of Tampico on the 28th, and the next we hear of her is her total loss. It must have happened about the 1st inst. and near to the Island of Lobos. [AKS]

The first rumor was, that all troops on board and crew, got safely on shore, but were taken prisoners as they landed.

The next account was, that they succeeded in landing with their arms and a week’s provisions, erected a temporary defence, and dept the Mexicans at bay.

Rumor was now kept busy enough; we omit most of the sotries

Upon hearing of the disaster, at Tampico, the steamer Undine, was dispatched, with company H, of 3d artillery on board, to look after the wreck and the troops on shore.

Rumor reached Tampico by a pilot boat, that this company of artillery had been surprised and cut off by a body of 800 Mexicans.

*Tampico, Feb. 6, 1847.* Last night the town was rife with rumors of the caputure of the wrecked Louisianians, by la large Mexican force. The captain of a schooner had been sent to the wreck, and he returned yesterday, reported that he could not get to it, and that a Mexican force had surrounded and captured Col. De Russy and his command. At first little credit was attached to the report, but at a later hour in the night, there was a sort of change in the unbelievers. Lieut. Miller, who had been sent down to their assistance was looked for during the day, and his non-arrival, coupled with the report of the captain, caused much uneasiness, and at eleven o’clock, a command of men was hurried off for the wreck, who took with them two piece of artillery. - This evening and to-morrow morning we will probably know the truth. [LA]
ARMY JOURNAL

The Pensacola Gazette, of Feb. 7th, reports that the garrison at Fort Barancas, in that harbor, has been removed, having sailed under orders to Sacrificios. It was commanded by Capt. Winder, of the 1st artillery, with whom were two subalter officers, Lieutenants Grafton and Seymour, also of the 1st artillery. [MLL]

71.402 2/27/1847 particulars of the capture of Laguna

Gulf Squadron. - Arrival of General La Vega at Vera Cruz.- American Prisoners released. - In the account given of the arrival of the United States steam ship Mississippi, Com Perry, at Norfolk, it was stated that that vessel had captured a Campeachy schooner (Amalio) and sent her into New Orleans as a prize.

The captshipmen Barbour, of the Mississippi, and a prize crew.

The full particulars of the taking of Laguna are given. The place was yielded without resistance. Fifteen cannon were destroyed, some 800 lbs. Of powder taken, and fifty soldiers disarmed, although the latter affected to be favorably disposed to the cause of the Campechians , who had declared themselves entirely independent of Mexico, and had sent their commissioners on the schooner Sisalmo to Com. Conner, at Anton Lizardo, to request him to desist from any hostile measures against Yucatan , until commissioners could be sent to the government of the United States to obtain the recognition of the independence of the State. These commissioners left Anton Lizardo on the 20th, to return, but the result of their conference with Com. Conner is unknown.

We mentioned, a few days since, that a boat from the John Adams had made a thorough night examination of the castle of San Juan de Ulna. The officer who had charge of the boat, as we learn from N. Orleans Mercury, was passed midshipman Fitzgerald. He had eight men in his boat, with muted oars, and in the darkness of the night rowed around and around the castle, went under the drawbridge, entered the water battery, and made a thorough reconnaissance in every part. This gallant exploit has proved that men may be landed from the boats at night, and that the water batteries may easily be taken.

Com. Perry, on his return to Anton Lizardo from Laguna, looked in at Alvarado and Tobasco, and found that the fortifications of both places have been repaired and much strengthened since they were attacked by the squadron. At Tobasco there were about three thousand troops, and at Alvarado about four thousand. Notwithstanding, these formidable preparations, the general impression is that Com. Conner will soon attack these places.

On the arrival of Gen. La Vega at Vera Cruz on the 15th, all the prisoners from the squadron in the hands of the enemy were released. It is now ascertained that but eleven of the crew of the Somers had drifted to the main land when she had wrecked, and not sixteen as was first stated. Midshipman Rogers was at Vera Cruz. He had been tried by the civil and military tribunals as a spy, and had been acquitted by the former, but found guilty by the latter. It was believed, however, that the more favorable verdict would prevail, and that he would be liberated. [AKS]

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Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny's code of laws for New Mexico
recruits embarking from New York for Tampico

Gen. Winfield Scott's general order No. 20 respecting atrocities

Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's proclamation before quitting San Luis
comments on the series of demonstrations toward peace undertaken by the executive

collection of troops and transports at Lobos Island for the demonstration on Veracruz
howitzers sent to Veracruz

Mexican reports of a severe battle and that Gen. Zachary Taylor was retiring, great anxiety, all communications with Monterey cut off
Mississippi regiment relieves the Indiana regiment

Col. Samuel Ryan Curtis' requisition for 50,000 volunteers, reply of the governor of Louisiana
great doubts as to movements of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna amongst our commanders

torial remarks on the campaign

latest official accounts from Gen. Zachary Taylor

memoranda of Dr. Jarvis, alarming rumors respecting Gen. Zachary Taylor's Army, excitement on the Rio Grande

remarks of the London Times on the war

posture of the fleets and armies
anxiety to ascertain the result of the combat between Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna and Zachary Taylor, various rumors

Gen. Jose Mariano de Salas commences revolution in the capital

letter on the demoralization of forces under Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna
Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny reaches California, attacks Los Angeles

appointment of staff officers by Gen. Winfield Scott
circular on re-enlistment of volunteers whose terms have expired in
Mexico

NNR 72.066-067 account of the loss of the Somers

NNR 72.067 offer of premium for an essay on the war with Mexico

NNR 72.068 Gen. Zachary Taylor's dispatches on the Battle of Buena Vista

NNR 72.068 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna summons Gen. Zachary Taylor to surrender

NNR 72.068 losses of the Kentucky volunteer regiment at Buena Vista

NNR 72.068-72.069 dispatch from Com. David Conner on the investment of Veracruz

NNR 72.069 landing of the Army at Veracruz

NNR 72.069 news of the victory at Buena Vista
NNR 72.069 operations on the route from Camargo
NNR 72.069 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's letter announcing victory of Buena Vista (or Angostura)

NNR 72.069-72.070 American officers killed and wounded at Buena Vista

NNR 72.070 details of the victory at Buena Vista

NNR 72.070 Col. George Washington Morgan attacked

NNR 72.070-72.071 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's letter to governor of San Luis on the victory at Buena Vista

NNR 72.071 letter about a march from Camargo to Monterey

NNR 72.071 Lt. C.H. Kribben's account of the Battle of Bracito

NNR 72.071-72.072 article from El Republicano about the war with the United States

NNR 72.072 further details about the victory at Buena Vista
NNR 72.072 publication in Mexico City of the American proposal for peace
NNR 72.072 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna retired from Agua Nueva toward Parras, Gen. Zachary Taylor still at Buena Vista
NNR 72.072 route of dispatches from Buena Vista to New Orleans

NNR 72.072 Mexican preparations to oppose the American attack at Veracruz

NNR 72.072 Gen. Zachary Taylor expected to open communications from Monterey to Camargo

NNR 72.072 Gen. Jose Urrea retreating before Col. Samuel Ryan Curtis

NNR 72.072 adventures of Col. Alphonse Dupera of Louisiana as a spy

NNR 72.072-72.073 details of the insurrection in New Mexico

NNR 72.080 editorial remarks on the victory of Buena Vista

NNR 72.080 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's official report of the Battle of Buena Vista[see also, 72.117-119]

NNR 72.081 bombardment and surrender of Veracruz and of the castle, officers killed and wounded
Col. Alexander William Doniphan occupies El Paso
New Mexico insurrectionists defeated, severely punished by Col. Sterling Price

Lt. Talbot's daring feat at Santa Barbara

history and description of San Juan De Ulloa castle

concentration of troops at Pittsburgh for New Orleans and Mexico

notice of Pennsylvania volunteers first in the field

sickness at Lobos

"fixing responsibility"

Gen. Zachary Taylor's general orders after the Battle of Buena Vista

compliment of the Washington Union to Gen. Zachary Taylor's general orders after Buena Vista

coolness and bravery of the Mississippi and Illinois volunteers at Buena Vista, faltering of the Indiana regiment

Gen. John Ellis Wool's greeting to Gen. Zachary Taylor after the victory at Buena Vista, his comments on the battle

description of the fortifications of San Juan de Ulloa

Mexican accounts of Buena Vista, proclamation of the victory by the governor of San Luis Potosi

general orders issued by Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna after Buena Vista

various accounts of the Battle of Buena Vista

guerrilla warfare on our part

account of the surrender of Monclova

guerrilla warfare on our part

Union's statement of forces under Gen. Zachary Taylor

correspondence involved in levying a tariff on Mexican ports

naval operations in the Gulf, loss of horses

Gen. Winfield Scott's official report of landing and investing Veracruz, correspondence relative to foreigners in the city

historical account of San Juan de Ulloa

notice of troop movements

Col. Joseph K.F. Mansfield's account of the Battle of Buena Vista

the siege of Veracruz, operations after surrender, forces employed in the siege

Col. Alexander William Doniphan takes Chihuahua
Gen. Zachary Taylor's movement to re-open communication, pursues Gen. Jose Urrea

movements at Camargo

fighting between factions in Mexico City

rising of Indians of New Mexico against the Americans

triumphal entry of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna into San Luis Potosi

Gen. Winfield Scott's orders on occupying Veracruz

Col. Stephen Ormsby's official report of the Battle of Monterey

Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's return to San Luis

letter of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna to Valentin Gomez Farias, announcing that he should march to the capital to quiet contending factions

Col. William Selby Harney's fight near Veracruz

official report of the capitulation and surrender of Veracruz and of the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa

order of Com. Matthew Calbraith Perry terminating intercourse with Veracruz

orders and correspondence relating to naval operations off Veracruz

vessels lost near Veracruz in two northers

prospects of peace

Gen. Zachary Taylor's pursuit of Gen. Jose Urrea unavailing, he returns to Saltillo, impression that he will advance to San Luis

lack of Mexican troops on route to Mexico City

Gen. John Anthony Quitman's brigade marches on Alvarado, Navy vessels sail for Alvarado

Army movements towards the capital

Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna arrives at Mexico City, assumes executive duties, his cabinet, orders troops to Veracruz

"Have we conquered a peace?"

comments on the assignment of the eighteen million loan

regiment of Massachusetts volunteers at Matamoros

Alvarado surrenders to Lt. Charles G. Hunter, Com. Matthew Calbraith Perry's official report

forces under Com. Robert Field Stockton and Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny attack Gen. Jose Maria Flores, two engagements, Flores retreats and surrenders to Col. John Charles Fremont
MEXICO. A letter dated U.S. squadron off Anton Lizardo Feb. 2, 1847, represents the condition of affairs at the Mexican capital as in the last degree of disorder. The members of the cabinet one after another are compelled by difficulties to resign from their stations. Only one it is said was officiating—and his resignation is subsequently announced though appointed but the week before. Gomes Farias, the vice president, was exerting his authority manfully, but against odds which he cannot long maintain. The church party openly preaches rebellion, and has everywhere so stoutly resisted the act of congress levying upon their property, that the law is totally inoperative. All other means resorted in for raising money to carry on the war which has proved abortive. [MLL]

Intelligence has at length reached us from Santa Fe, from which all our readers are by this time anxious for information. We give them at full, as we find them in the St. Louis Republican, from their correspondents.

From these accounts, we infer that the battle which took place at El Paso, of which we gave a brief account in our last, derived from the city of Mexico, must have been fought by Capt. Cook, who is here reported to have been left in a council of his officers deliberating whether to make the attack. He was in advance of both Colonels Donaphan and Price. The former was left at Tome, on the Rio del Norte, encamped with the traders and waiting for reinforcements and quartermaster's supplies. Col. Price was still at Santa Fe. [AMA]

General Scott sailed on the 13th; General Worth was still diligently occupied whenever weather permitted, in shipping and forwarding troops, munitions, and supplies towards Lobos. The prevalence of Northers had retarded operation. For a number of days it was impossible for the transports to communicate with the shore.

A different account states, that General Scott was at Brazos on the 17th, employed in forwarding the embarkation for Lobos, and he sailed on the 18th.
The American forces in the vicinity of Vera Cruz at our last dates, numbered about 7000.

The transport ship American 650 tons which left New York, on the 17th of January, loaded partly with surf boats, reached Brazos, on the 6th of Feb. About 30 transport vessels were lying off Brazos bar on the 17th, and as many more within the bar, loading and embarking troops with all activity. [AMA]

NNR 72.016, March 6, 1847 THE CAPTURED AMERICANS

Minon's own report of the exploit, sets down the number of Americans taken at 82, besides one Mexican, Galeano, used as spy and guide by the American detachment, and who, notwithstanding the remonstrance of Major Gaines, was immediately put to the sword.

Another list of the captured, includes the names of Captain Albert Pike, of the Arkansas, and Capt. William Heady, of Kentucky. The latter, with seventeen men was taken two days after the capture of Major Borland's party, by a party of Rancheros. The parties captured consist of fifty Arkansas troops, and two parties of Kentuckians, one twenty five, the other eighteen. Their camp was surrounded at night, after a march of forty miles. Report says, that Cassius M. Clay, wished to break the ranks, but the others refused to join him. The Mexicans numbered from 1500 to 2000, according to the same accounts. Others say not over 500. DAN HENRIE, well known as a Mier prisoner, and who acted as interpreter to the Arkansas troops, having had some experience of a Mexican prison, concluded it about sale to try virtue of Major Gaines' horse dashing past the Mexican guard, escaped their fire, and--was off to parts unknown.

The rest of the prisoners arrived at San Luis on the 26th--and were received with ever demonstration of Mexican triumph. [AMA]

NNR 72.016 March 6, 1847 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna moves from San Luis, speculations at to his object

A DEMONSTRATION BY SANTA ANNA--The Mexican army is in motion and from San Luis Potesi--Our officers are divided in opinion as the their real destination.

Santa Anna's address to his "companions in arms" dated San Luis Potesi, January 27th, says: "The operations of the enemy demand that we should move precipitately upon his principal line, and we go to execute it. The independence, the honor, and the destiny of the nation depend at this moment on your decisions. Soldiers! The entire world observes us, and will expect our acts to be as heroic as they as necessary. Privations of all kinds surround us in consequence of the neglect shown towards us, for more than a month, by those who should provide your pay and provisions. But when has misery debilitated your spirits or weakened your enthusiasm! The Mexican soldier is well known for his frugality and patience under suffering--never wanting magazines for marches across the deserts, and always counting upon the resources of the enemy to provide for his wants. To-day we shall undertake to march over a desert country without succor or provisions. But be assured that we will immediately provided from those of the enemy, and with them you will be sufficiently remembered. My friends we go to open the campaign. What days of glory await us! What flattering future for our country! How satisfactorily when we contemplate that we have saved its independence! How the world will admire us! And when in the bosoms of our families we shall relate the risks and fatigues which we have endured, the combats with and triumphs over a daring and presumptuous enemy, and hereafter, when telling our children that we have saved out country a second time, the jubilee will be complete, and the sacrifices will appear to us to be nothing. Soldiers! Harry forth in the defense of your country. The cause we sustain is a holy one; never have we struggled more for justice, because we fight for honor and religion of our wives and children! What sacrifice, then, can be too great for objects so dear? Let our motto be, "CONQUER OR DIE!" Let us answer before the great Eternal that we will not want an instant in purging our soil of the stranger who has dared to profess it with his presence. No treaty, nothing which may not be heroic and proud."

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA
HEADQUARTERS, SAN LUIS POTESI, Jan. 27th, 1847

Some believe that Santa Anna has issued this as a feint, and that his real object is to move to the defense of Santa Cruz. Others think his design is on the dictatorship and settle affairs at the city of Mexico.

It is certain however, that on the 27th of January, there marched out of San Luis towards Fanque de in Vaea, (the place where the Minon captured the American detachment,) three bodies of infantry, a brigade of cavalry, and another of artillery, having with them 24 pounders, three 18 pounders, four 16 pounders, and four lighter pieces, and that two days after another division would march in the same direction.

These movements are corroborated by a letter from Tampico, dated the 9th of February, published in the La Patria, Spanish paper at New Orleans, which on authority of a letter from San Luis says, "16,000 of the most brilliant troops are marching for the road between Saltillo and Monterey."

A letter from Tula, Feb. 3 says, "On the 1st Feb. Gen. Parodi" with the 12th regiment of the line, styled the 'faithful soldiers of San Luis' 1,500 strong and the battalion of 'the national guards of Jalico' with three pieces of artillery, were marching in the direction of Monterey by the road of Maetherala. The sierre is fortified at every point by the battalions of Puebla, Guarda Costa de Tampico, the company of veterans, and three companies of cavalry. In the village, Col. Jose Antonio del Castillo is stationed with a respectable force to defend that point. Gen. Urrea, with 1,500 men of the 1st regiment of cavalry, 'Primero Republicano' must have already arrived at Victoria de Temaulipas."

The foregoing renders it highly probable that Gen. Taylor will once more be in the hottest of the fray, and have the war to manage. The last accounts stated that he was getting "ready" and Santa Anna will find him to be a "rough" customer.

Gen. Wool apprized Gen. Taylor, towards the end of January, that he anticipated an attack at Saltillo. In consequence, Gen. Taylor left Monterey on the 1st of February, with his staff for Saltillo. He took with him Bragg's battery and Thomas's battery, the 1st Mississippi rifles, and May's squadron of dragoons. Capt. Thomas F. Marshall was to leave Monterey for Saltillo with Gen. Taylor.--The American forces at Saltillo would be between 5,000-6,000 men. In addition to the two batteries named above, the batteries of Capt. Washington and Captain Webster were at Saltillo, and at last accounts the troops were throwing up formidable fortifications.

The number of troops left at Monterey does not exceed 500 men, but the citadel or "Black Fort" is field by them, and there is no route by which the Mexicans can approach the city with artillery, save by Saltillo. Without artillery any attempt upon Monterey would be futile. The troops at Monterey consist of principally Ohio and Indiana volunteers, all under the command of Col. Rogers. Captain Arnold, of the 2nd dragoon, has also been ordered to Monterey from the mouth of the Rio Grande.

Our own notion is that Santa Anna knows better than to attack our army in post. Our line of operations is so widely dispersed that he can annoy them exceedingly by interrupting communications and supplies, and cutting off detachments. The approach of Urrea towards Metamoros is rather startling. [MLL]

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NRR 72.016, March 6, 1847 THE BATTLE AT EL PASO

The N.O. Picayune of the 25th ult. says: "We have conversed with an intelligent Spanish gentleman who left Durango on the 15th January--Senor Benito Velez, a nephew, we learn, of Peter Harmony, of New York. Senor Velez confirms all that we have said of the action near El Paso on the 25th of December. The loss of the Mexicans in that affair was about 180 men. No news had reached Durango of the fall of Chihuahua when our informant left there. On the 10th of January, General Heredia left Durango for Chihuahua at the head of 700 men, of whom 160 were cavalry. He took with him 1,500 muskets and two pieces of artillery. When he
reached Cuencame, in the north part of the state of Durango, he heard the news of the action near El Paso; and, leaving there his infantry, he pushed on to Chihuahua with his cavalry, with the view to assume the command of the government forces there. The cavalry of Culitz, which was in the action of the 25th of December, and which protected, as far as possible, the retreat of the Mexicans upon El Paso, and afterwards Carizal, has dwindled down to a handful by desertions which took place at the different rancheros on the route.

The Mexican papers contain violent denunciations of their countrymen for permitting a handful of Missourians to capture El Paso, the key to Chihuahua. One paper speaking of the Mexicans, says--"they ran like the devil," and of the principal commander--"he ran forty leagues before he stopped."

COL. DE RUSSY AND THE LOUISIANA REGIMENT. Our last left this gallant officer and his command, wrecked upon Mexican coast, in the transport ship Ondiaka, in eminent peril. We rejoice to announce his arrival at Tampico, on the 4th Feb., with the whole corps except seven men, who, unable to make the forced march which was necessary, had to be left, as they could be carried no further on litters. One of the seven overtook the detachment before they reached Tampico.

Col. de Russy, the morning he landed from the wreck, was visited by the Mexicans who proffered assistance. In the afternoon a flag from Gen. Cos summoned to an immediate surrender to the 1,800 Mexicans he pretend to have under him. He had but 980 men. Col. de R. obtained until 9 o'clock next morning to deliberate. At night fall fires were lighted, everything that would encumber was left, the detachment started for Tampico, and made 35 miles the first 24 hours, without meeting with an armed Mexican. The whole of them were exceedingly exhausted when they reached Tampico. [AMA]

NNR 72.016 March 6, 1847 Col. DeRussy reaches Tampico with the shipwrecked Louisiana regiment

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NNR 72.016 March 6, 1847 Three million dollar bill

THREE MILLION DOLLAR BILL

AS ACT appropriating three million dollars to enable the president to conclude a treaty of peace and limits with Mexico.

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled. That whereas a state of war now exists between the United States and the Republic of Mexico, which it is desirable should be speedily terminated upon the terms just and honorable to both nations; and whereas assurances have heretofore been given to the government of Mexico that it was the desire of their president to settle all questions between the two countries; and whereas the President may be able to conclude a treaty of peace with the Republic of Mexico prior to the next session of congress, it means for that object are at his disposal; and whereas, in the adjustment of so many complicated questions as now exist between the two countries, it may possibly happen that an expenditure or money will be called for by the stipulations of any treaty which may be entered on
to; therefore the sum of three million dollars be, and the same is hereby
appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, to
enable the president to sign a treaty of peace, limits, and boundaries with the
Republic of Mexico, to be used by him in the event that said treaty, when signed by
the authorized agents of the two governments, and duty ratified by Mexico, shall call
for the expenditure of the same, or any part thereof, full and accurate accounts for
which expenditure shall be by him transmitted to congress at as early a day as
practical.

JOHN W. DAVIS
Speaker of the House of Representatives

George M. Dallas,
Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate

Approved, March 3, 1847

JAMES K. POLK

[MLL]

NRR 72.019 March 13, 1847 General orders on the organization of the troops raised
for service in Mexico

ARMY JOURNAL

[GENERAL ORDER No. 8]

War Dept., Adjt. General office
Washington, March 4, 1847

1. The regiment authorized to be raised under the "approved February 11th,
1847" will be recruited, armed and equipped for active duty in the field without
delay; and the several officers appointed in each will report for orders and recruiting
instructions to their respective colonels, who will establish their recruiting
headquarters at some central position and report to the adjutant general. Colonels
are charged with superintending the recruiting of their respective regiments; and will
assign the lieutenant colonel and majors to such sub-recruiting districts as may be
found expedient. When two or more companies and raised and sent to any depots,
or ordered to the seat of war, a field officer should be assigned to the command.

2. The established recruiting regulations will be strictly observed by all officers,
and the required returns, muster, and descriptive rolls, reports, &c. will be regularly
made and transmitted through the proper officer to the adjutant general and other
chiefs of staff, in strict conformity with the rules of service and the blanks with which
they have been furnished. The attention of recruiting officers is specially directed to
the prompt rendition of the recruiting accounts, and the abstract of contingent
expenses, required for the second auditor, and the colonel as superintendent, which
must be forwarded within three days after the expiration of each month or semi-
monthly when called for. See paragraphs 50, 51, and &c. revised recruiting
regulations, 1847.

3. As soon as eighty men shall be enlisted by a captain and two subalterns, they
will be inspected, mustered, armed, and equipped as a company, and be considered
ready to take the field. The final assignment of the subalterns, and the permanent
designation of companies by the letters of the alphabet, will be made by the colonel
at the proper time. See paragraph 43 "General Regulations for the Army."

4. The attention of recruiting officers and commanders of posts is directed to
paragraph 73 of General regulations. Recruits must be drilled in the school of the
soldier, as far as practical, from the moment of enlistment, even when there may be
no arms at the rendezvous, until sent to join their companies or regiments.

5. The officers of the new regiment (infantry and dragoons) will furnish
themselves with the prescribed infantry tactics (See Scott's system). Cavalry tactics
will not be furnished until the regiment is supplied with horses, until which time the
dragoons officers and men will be well drilled as foot soldiers.
6. The officers appointed, and the ten companies to be recruited in the States of Maine, 4; New Hampshire, 2; Vermont, 1; Rhode Island; 1; and Connecticut, 2; will constitute the "ninth regiment of infantry" to be commanded by Colonel---; headquarters established for the present at Boston. Fort Constitution and Fort Adams, RI will be used as recruiting depots for the regiment and the concentration of companies, preparatory to their immediate embarkation for the rest of the war.

7. The officers appointed, and the ten companies of infantry to be recruited in New York, 7; and New Jersey, 3; will constitute "the tenth regiment of infantry," under Colonel Robert E. Temple; headquarters at New York. Fort Hamilton and Lafayette will be the receiving depots for this regiment.

8. The officers appointed, and the ten companies of infantry to be recruited in Pennsylvania, 6; Delaware, 1; and Virginia, 3; will constitute "the eleventh regiment of infantry" Under Col. Albert C. Ramsey; headquarters at Baltimore. The companies to be raised in the interior of Pennsylvania for the regiment will proceed to Point Isabel, under their respective captains, via the Ohio River, and embark at Pittsburgh or Wheeling, as may be most convenient; and those recruited in Philadelphia and Delaware will rendezvous at Fort Mill, preparatory to their immediate embarkation for the same point; the companies raised in eastern Virginia will be sent to New Orleans, and then to Point Isabel, with the least practicable delay, where the regiment will be concentrated.

9. The officers appointed, and the ten companies of infantry to be recruited in North Carolina, 2; S. Carolina, 2; Texas, 2; Arkansas, 2; and Missouri, 2; will constitute the "twelfth regiment of infantry" under Colonel Louis D. Wilson; headquarters at New Orleans. The companies will be raised in North and South Carolina will rendezvous at Fort Moultrie, SC, preparatory to their immediate departure for Point Isabel; and the companies to be recruited in Texas, Arkansas, and Missouri will proceed, as soon as organized, under their respective captains, via New Orleans, to Point Isabel.

10. The officers appointed, and the ten companies of infantry to be raised in Virginia, 1; Georgia, 4; Alabama, 4; and Florida, 1; will constitute the "thirteenth regiment of infantry" under Colonel Robert M. Echols; headquarters at New Orleans.

11. The officers appointed and the ten companies of infantry to be raised in Louisiana, 5; Tennessee, 4; and Illinois, 1; will constitute the "fourteenth regiment of infantry" under Colonel Wm. Trousdale; headquarters at New Orleans.

12. The officers appointed, and the ten companies of infantry to be raised in Ohio, 5; Michigan, 3; Iowa, 1; and Wisconsin, 1; will constitute the "fifteenth regiment of infantry" under Colonel George W. Morgan; headquarters at Cincinnati.

13. The officers appointed, and the ten companies of infantry to be raised in Kentucky, 4; Indiana, 4; and Illinois, 2; will constitute the "sixteenth regiment of infantry" under Colonel J.W. Tibbatis; headquarters at Newport, KY.

14. As soon as any company to be recruited for the 13th, 14th, 15th, or 16th regiments shall be raised and organized; it will proceed without further delay to Point Isabel, under the captain, by the most expedient route, unless otherwise ordered, where these regiments will be concentrated.

15. The officers appointed and the ten companies of infantry raised in Pennsylvania, 2; Maryland, 3; Virginia, 2; Miss., 1; Georgia, 1; and Kentucky 1; will constitute the "regiment of volunteers" under Colonel T.P. Andrews; headquarters for the present at Washington, D.C. The companies recruited in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia will be concentrated at Fort Monroe, preparatory to their immediate embarkation for the seat of war; and those to be raised in Mississippi, Georgia, and Kentucky will proceed direct to Mexico, under their respective captains, as soon as organized.

16. "The third regiment of dragoons" is to be raised in the following states: Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Louisiana, Kentucky, and Indiana--in each company, Colonel Edward G. W. Butler; headquarters at New Orleans. As soon as raised and organized, the companies will proceed direct, under their respective captains, without loss of time to Point Isabel.

17. The foregoing arrangement of regiments and assignment of companies are made for the present with a view to expedite the recruiting service--subject
hereafter to such revisions and modifications as the good of the service may require.

18. The president expects that the new regiments will be raised and brought into the field in the shortest practicable time. The public interest require that the recruiting service be pushed with the greatest vigor by every officer employed in it; and, at the same time, the strictest economy is enjoined in all expenditures and arrangements, &c. Efforts must not be limited to one rendezvous or neighborhood, but auxiliary stations, within a convenient range, should be temporarily established by the same officer, according to the facilities of intercourse and the chances of success, &c.

BY order,

R. Jones, Adjt. General

[MLL]

NNR 72.019 March 13, 1847 Notice of awards of brevets

Brevets--The Washington Union says--"We understand that many brevets were conferred by the president, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, the last evening of the session, and that the official general order for publishing the name is n the course of preparation. We shall take pleasure in laying before our readers as soon as we can obtain a copy of it. We announced the other day that the brevet of Major General had been conferred on Brigadier General Worth for 'gallant and notorious conduct' at the Battle of Monterey; and in anticipation of the official inst. we now mention the names of Col. Percifer F. Smith, of the regiment of mounted riflemen, to be brigadier general by the brevet, and Lieut. Colonel Henry Wilson, of the first regiment of the infantry, to be colonel by brevet, for their gallant and meritorious conduct in the capture of Monterey. Lieut. Col. John Garland, of the 4th regiment of infantry, to be colonel by brevet, and Captain Thomas Childe, of the 3rd regiment of artillery, and lieut. col. by brevet, to be colonel by brevet, for their gallant and meritorious conduct in the battle of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma," &c., &c. [MLL]

NNR 72.020 March 13, 1847 Movement of troops from Fort Snelling to Mexico

The company of the United State infantry, spoken of a few weeks ago as having been ordered from Fort Snelling to Mexico, arrived yesterday on the steamer Tioga, which took them on board at Bridgeport, they having performed the rest of the journey on foot. They left Fort Snelling fifty-five in number on the 19th of January. On the way down, four were discharged, and on of the privates, whose name was Richard Monohan, fell overboard from the steamer Tioga yesterday, and was drowned. The men suffered a great deal from the cold on the journey and several of them had their hands, feet, and ears frozen. The officers in command are Captain Plummer, and Lieut. Granger and Donham. [MLL]

NNR 72.020-72.021 March 13, 1847 General William Orlando Butler returns to New Orleans, his remarks on the war and report that General Santa Anna had ordered the evacuation of Vera Cruz

A letter dated at New Orleans, March 1, 1847, to the editors of National Intelligence say--General Butler arrived here yesterday. Among the leading items of the news is the reported evacuation of Vera Cruz, by order of Santa Anna. As regards the city, I should think this very probable, as the garrison could not defend it against Gen. Scott, and the troops of which that garrison is composed will be of more service with Santa Anna, particularly if he contemplates an attack on Gen. Scott, as it is probable he does.

Gentlemen who have conversed with Gen. Butler says he freely expresses his opinion as to the proper, indeed, the only mode of conducting the war, and which coincides with the views of Mr. Calhoun--to take and fortify by posting a line of territory, and wither capture of blockade their ports without any attempt to
penetrate the interior. The line to be taken, he thinks should be the one, (whatever it may be), which the government intends to insist on as permanent boundaries between the two countries, and he says 15,000 men would be sufficient to hold and protect it from the Gulf to the Pacific.

Gen. Butler justly says that, admitting we advance into the country with every success that could be expected, and even captured the city of Mexico, it would not have any material effect on the enemy, nor place us any nearer to peace than we are now, and we should never command any more territory than what we actually covered with our bayonets, and would be constantly surrounded by a hostile population, and the Mexicans would have nothing to do but avoid fighting, and let out armies waste away, as it rapidly would do, by fatigue, sickness, and constant guerrilla war.

He seems to think it is probable that Santa Anna has removed with his whole force to Vera Cruz, and with a view of giving Gen. Scott a grand fight; though he says it would be impolite for him to do so under any circumstances, but that his plans should be to let our army advance into the interior without taking a general battle, but merely to harass them, and cut off stranglers or detachments. Any serious repulse to an advancing army would be fatal to them under the circumstances.

The administration have got themselves and the country into a most acquired predicament as to this war, so blindly and rashly undertaken; for, as recently observed in the senate, we have the wolf by the tail, and it is equally dangerous to hold on or let go. There is no doubt to the fact that, sooner or later, we will have to come to the point of holding on to what we have, and the prevailing opinion in the army is, that we should give up the idea of penetrating into the country. The views and intentions, however, of the administration are different; they are actually at this moment calculating on an advance of Gen. Taylor from Saltillo, and their measures will hastily result in some serious misfortune, that will rouse the indignation of the whole country.

All the officers from Mexico speak in high terms of the Mexican cavalry, and admit that they are fully equal to our mounted volunteers, man for man, and greatly out number forces of that description.

I do not believe we shall have any decisive intelligence from Vera Cruz till the close of this month; as the issue of Gen. Worth's troops will not leave the Brazos before the 6th or 8th of this month, and the whole force cannot be collected at Lobos and Tampico before the 15th, and if they were as said that they may, it would be at least the 10th before they reached Vera Cruz.

Those who pretend to know the best, say that the castle can only be taken by bombardment, and that if the garrison is properly supplied, it will be very difficult to take it at all, and at any rate will require a long time to do so.

It is difficult from the conflicting opinions to form any correct ideas on the subject, but I shall not be surprised if it should be an easy conquest. [MLL]

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**NNR 72.020 March 13, 1847 Trials for the loss of Boston and Truxton**

COURT MARTIAL. Commander Pearson, tried at Norfolk for the loss of the sloop of war BOSTON, has been found guilty and sentenced to one year's suspension.

Past midshipman Rolando, acting as master of the Boston, was also tried and acquitted of any blame for the loss of the ship.

Commander Carpenter, tried by the same court for the loss of the brig of war Truxton, was found guilty, and cashiered, but recommended to the mercy of the president, who has modified the sentence to one year's suspension. [MLL]

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**NNR 72.021 March 13, 1847 General Taylor's headquarters advances to Agua Nueva and Gen. Wool to Buena Vista**
FROM THE ARMY--Letters have just been received in this city from the camps of Generals Taylor and Wool. The headquarters of the latter were at Buena Vista on the 29th of January and of the former at Agua Nueva, eighteen miles south of Saltillo, on the 7th of February.

The letters from General Wool's camps state that since the 27th of January they had the usual nightly alarms of the approach of the enemy, and that there reports had all come from Saltillo. The enemy was said undoubtedly at Incarnacion, and perhaps small parties had been within twelve leagues of Saltillo. It was also reported that a considerable number of rancheros had embodied themselves and were not far off, lying in wait for any small reconnoitering parties that may come their way. The report had reached the camp (on the night of the 28th) that a party, consisting of Captain Heady and seventeen, Kentucky volunteers, were captured on the 27th by a party of rancheros, under the following circumstances: Capt. H. as sent out on a reconnoitering party by Lt. Col. Field. When about ten or fifteen miles away from their station they stopped at a rancho, and asked for liquor to drink. It was immediately furnished, and in abundance. The men became intoxicated, and in that condition left the rancho. They were afterwards captured, and, as reported, without resistance or a gun being fired.

There was no idea entertained at the date of writing this letter that the town of Saltillo, or the troops at Buena Vista were to be attacked. It was supposed that some decisive measures would be taken to check the reconnoitering parties of the enemy.

These letters give further accounts of the capture of Major Borland. It appears that an alarm of being given at the approach of the Mexicans upon Saltillo, Gen. Wool sent Major B. with fifty men to make a reconnaissance on the San Luis Potesi road, and, if practicable, to go as far as Incarnacion, about fifty-five miles from Saltillo, for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not the enemy had advanced to that place, and to report the result of that observations. He left on the 18th instant, and arrived at the Incarnacion the next morning but found no troops there; they having left the morning before. Instead of returning as ordered, the major took the liberty of halting and sent an express to Col. Yell for reinforcement. Col. Yell, on receiving the major's application sent a request to Gen. Wool for permission to go with his whole regiment to join the major and to go on as far as Salado. The application was sent by General Wool to Major General Butler, who refused it, but sent Gen. Wool word by the bearer that he would see the general in a few moments. Shortly after Gen. Wool sent the refusal to Col. Yell. An interview then took place between the two generals. Then Gen. Wool proposed an immediate recall of Major Borland. Gen. Butler said it was necessary to send the order, as he was immediately going to see Col. Yell, and, if necessary, he would give the order.

It appears that Major Borland was joined by Major Gaines and Capt. Clay's companies, about thirty to thirty-five strong, who were ordered by General Butler to make a reconnaissance in the same direction. They decided at once to continue their reconnaissance as far as Salado; the result of which was a surprise and capture of the whole party of about five hundred Mexican cavalry, commanded by General Minion. It was reported that they were surprised early in the morning, whilst asleep, with no pickets or sentinels, to guard against the surprise. Colonel Yell was afterwards sent with part of his regiment on the Potesi road, to ascertain the truth of the report, with instructions to be cautious; but, on preceding to the Incarnacion he found no troops; yet he received information of the approach of General Minion, with 3,000 cavalry, on which he retired to camp. Every precaution was subsequently taken to have an active reconnaissance on the roads by which the enemy could approach. As these unfortunate occurrences had been the result of vigilance and disobedience of orders, it is hoped that they may prove a lesson to our troops.

General Taylor had changed his headquarters from Monterey to Agua Nueva, eighteen miles south of Saltillo, where he arrived on the 5th instant, bringing forward in the first instance, Lieut. Col. May's squadron of dragoons, two batteries, (Sherman's and Bragg's) and the regiment of Mississippi riflemen. He was subsequently joined by the Kentucky and Indiana regiments, and other troops were expected from Saltillo. It seemed to be understood that Gen. Taylor was determined to hold both Saltillo and Agua Nueva in its front. It was supposed that the scarcity of water and supplies for a long distance in front would compel the enemy either to risk an engagement in the field or to hold himself aloof from our troops. No intelligence has been received from the interior more recent or authentic than has been hitherto communicated. But the impression is that three was no considerable force in front, nor was it supposed to be likely that any serious demonstration would be made in that direction. The population of Saltillo was fast returning to the city, and it was hoped that, under the judicious management of Major Warren, a discreet officer of the Illinois volunteers, who commands in the worn, the people may remain quietly in
Lots have been received in Washington of the men belonging to the Kentucky mounted volunteers who had been captured at Incarnacion, amounting to thirty-five, and also those of the Arkansas regiment captured at the same place, amounting also to thirty-five. [MLL]

From Tampico, by way of New Orleans, we have dates to the 17th of February. Much anxiety was awakened there to have the truth or falsity of an account brought in by three Mexicans from Victoria, of a sanguinary battle having been fought at or near Monterey between Santa Anna and Gen. Taylor. They stated that General Taylor had fallen back from Saltillo, to Monterey, that Santa Anna had ventured to attack them, a long conflict ensued--loss of life on both sides exceeded any of the engagements--that Santa Anna finally gave way, having suffered so severely in killed and wounded--amongst the latter was Gen. Arista.

Our advice from Gen. Taylor is later than the period on which the battle was said to have been fought. They make no mention of the affair. It is quite possible the Mexicans were sent to Tampico with a view of creating a diversion.

Of real movements made Santa Anna and his army from San Luis de Potosi, we are as yet entirely without satisfactory accounts, and shall be very curious to know what was the object of his move. [MLL]

The Baltimore American of the 10th says--It is intimated by letters from Washington that president and other officials there entertain the confident expectation of a speedy peace with Mexico. This belief is an approaching pacification is said to be founded on the use that is to made of the three millions entrusted by special appropriation to the president. Having no confidence, for our own part, in the pacific disposition of the Mexican people; none in Santa Anna's power, if he has the will, to expect such overtures as we are prepared to make; and therefore none, not the slightest, in the speedy conclusion of the war, we mention these rumors from Washington as indicating, we fear, rather the wishes than the convictions of reasonable and well informed men.

It is only necessary to place ourselves for a moment in the position of the Mexicans, and then allow them what we claim for ourselves, the possession of the feelings, sympathies and sentiments of men, to understand the exasperated hostility with which they must be aroused and stimulated to resist to the death the powerful invaders of their country. We cannot expect people to smile upon us when we have just provoked them by blows. To conciliate and to fight the same party, at one and the same time, would be to render all efforts both at fighting and at conciliation abortive. Hence the inconclusive results of Mr. Polk's management of our difficulty with Mexico. And the infatuation which possessed him when he plunged into the war, and which has marked his course in the prosecution of it, seems to accompany him still. He is not full of the project of the three million bill money--a ridiculous scheme which must end in disgrace.

The administration, we believe, has never yet perceived the really serious nature of this Mexican war. In so far as it relates to political interests, in the way of placing vast patronage in the president's hands and furnishing profitable contracts for the reward of the meritorious or for the encouragement of the wavering, it has probably been appreciated to the full. But there are other points of view in which some, not partizans, may be disposed to regard it.

We find in the New York Journal of Commerce some extracts from a letter dated "City of Mexico, January 28, 1847," apparently written by a Mexican of intelligence.
"You will discover our sense of injury to be great by the prompt punishment received by those of our citizens who have by force attempted to resist the will of the Junta in the matter of the law relating to church property. There is, then, as before remarked, but small expectation that the two nations will be able to come to terms at present, notwithstanding the storm that appears to be gathering for the subjugation of the city of Vera Cruz. The force loan upon, or seizure as some call it, of the church party, in defense of the nation, you will understand, is not carried out to impair the usefulness of the church itself. The property in question is promulgated to be the gift of individuals of the nation: it is considered national property, under God in the custody of the church, for use in just such an emergency as, at this time, threatens the independence of the country. As the agent of heaven for good to us, to whom can we turn more properly in the hour of necessity than to our church?

These are but a few appeals uttered in defense of the law. The exigency of the case impels the carrying out of a measure, which, under different circumstances, there would be few among us disposed to sanction. Some call the law a sacrilege; others say, if it is, the United States are the actors of it, by forcing upon us the necessary of performing it. The fault, then, lies at the door of our sister republic. Does it or does it not? The many generous sentiments discovered in many of the presses and in the speeches of some of the members of congress of the United States, I will here take occasion to observe, engage our attention. They are a relief to us under the circumstances; but the relief of mere language in a few, has little of satisfaction in it, so long as the nation itself is opposed to us. We are not so blinded by our conviction that we are right, as to be incapable of comprehending the instrumentality that prevents its satisfactory acknowledgement on the part of the United States.

We believe it nevertheless the duty of an elevated patriotism: that we should enforce something like an admission of the wrong done us, not for the benefit of our own republic merely, but for the less selfish motive that the peace that must be eventually arrived at, may be founded upon durable basis. Should Vera Cruz be taken, our nation will not be conquered. If even a march be successfully forced to our capital city, we shall still not be conquered; our enemy will be in a state of siege in our very midst. What is to happen under these circumstances, it is impossible to know. We shall, however, do our best to protect the interests involved. A single reverse will place the army of our enemy in a critical position. That desirable object affected, it may then be necessary and proper to offer the alternative we hesitate to yield on compulsion. The honor of our nationality demands of us the tremendous sacrifices under which we suffer. If we err in prizing the dignity of that, it will be an error for which posterity will not condemn us." [AMA]

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NRR 72.021 March 13, 1847 Description of Lobos Island

THE ISLAND OF LOBOS--The island of Lobos having become a place of some interest for many of our citizens as the place of rendezvous of that portion of our army which is detained for the attack on Vera Cruz, we extract the following brief account of it from the correspondence of the Philadelphia North American:

Island of Lobos, Gulf of Mexico

-February 7, 1847

"This letter is written upon the most delightful tropical island ever trodden by adventurers from any climb.

"The island of Lobos is a lovely little spot, formed entirely of coral, about two miles in circumference, twelve miles from the Mexican shore, about 60 miles from Tampico, and some 130 miles from Vera Cruz. It is covered (or was before we landed) with a variety of trees and shrubs, the highest of the former about twenty-five feet high, and there are so thickly covered with vines that one can hardly get through them. There is hardly a tree or shrub, or plant growing there that I have ever before seen. Banyan trees spreading over large spaces of gourds, their limbs forming props as they pierce into the earth and take root, while the tops thickly thatched with evergreen vines, form most beautiful arches. Lemon, lime, fig, palm, cane, and a hundred other species of wood are growing with all the freshness and beauty of the Indies. There is plenty of water to be had by digging four to six feet. It is brackish and sweet, but we are getting used to it, and like it nearly as well as ship water. Fish and sea fowl we have is profusion. With there we have delightful air, that fourteen hours of the twenty-four make the place delightfully pleasant."
"It will be difficult, I imagine, to convince you, who will read this scrawl besides great coal fires, that we are literally roasting during a portion of the day. The sun is so hot that our faces and arms are blistered if exposed but a few minutes. Tuesday, by Fahrenheit, in the shade, I scored 92 degrees. The universal remark among the volunteers is, 'if this is winter, what will summer be?'

"General Scott is daily expected here, and we shall soon be joined by seven thousand troops from Tampico, &c. There are six companies of Louisiana and South Carolina troops already here. They arrived on the 3rd instant. They were all in fine health, and are encamped besides us." [MLL]

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NNR 72.022 March 13, 1847 Report of Colonel Alexander Doniphan's taking of El Paso

ARMY OF THE NORTH

The St. Louis Republican has accounts from Santa Fe to the 14th of January. At that time but little further was known of the movements of Colonel Doniphan. Some Mexicans, who were in the battle of Brazito, reported that Colonel Doniphan entered El Paso on the 28th of December, and took possession without resistance—the military force which he met on the 25th and defeated having scattered to the mountains.

The attempt to produce a revolution in Santa Fe was to have been made on Christmas night. It was a time when great numbers of Mexicans were expected to congregate in Santa Fe for the purpose of attending the ceremonies of the Catholic Church. A very large number were in attendance from all sections of the country; and no doubt by preconcert. A priest from El Paso, habited as greaser, was present and took an active part in all the preliminary arrangements. But the whole plot was disclosed to the Americans by Mexican women, and the authorities were able to secure a good many of the leaders. [MLL]

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NNR 72.022, March 13, 1847 ARMY OF THE NORTH; REVOLUTION AT SANTA FE FOILED

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NNR 72.022, March 13, 1847 MEXICO--DEFERRED ARTICLE, Santa Anna, Vera Cruz

The British Steamer arrived at Havana from Vera Cruz furnish dates from thence to the 1st—and city of Mexico to the 29th of January. We give brief extracts:

The rumor of the assassination of Santa Anna turns out to be unfounded; so also of his active opposition to the seizure of church property. At last accounts he was still at San Luis Potosi. Vera Cruz papers of the 28th ult., announce that letters from San Luis speak of his immediate departure for Tula. Letters from the city of Mexico are to the same effect, and represent, that he would move at the head of the main body of his forces. His whole strength does not exceed 23,000 men of all arms—represented to be in a deplorable situation for want of means, destitute of clothing and provisions; one regiment had actually left for the city of Mexico.
Santa Anna employs his time in gambling and cock fighting and writing menacing and energetic representations to congress for money. He quite recently won $34,000 at monte from his own officers, very many of whom are very young men. The latest accounts we have seen from San Luis say that he would move upon Tula the morning of the 27th  ult. This is stated in a letter dated the 26th.

Gen. La Vega has been appointed commandant general of Vera Cruz.

Private accounts, from responsible sources, set down the number of troops in the city of Vera Cruz at 3400--some say 3000. The garrison of San Juan de Ulua does not exceed 100 troops. Some accounts represent that there are two months provisions in the castle, but we have a letter from a gentleman who has access to the most respectable sources of information, but whom we need not name, in which he assures us that there is not a barrel of salted provisions in the castle, are dependent upon the back country for their daily supplies of food. So far as the troops in the city are concerned, this has long been the case.

The congress of the state of Vera Cruz had issued a manifest calling on the people at all hazards to resist the invasion of the Americans. During the month of January the approaches to Vera Cruz on the road to the interior were strengthened by a battery of heavy guns.

The law authorising the seizure of fifteen millions of property belonging to the church promises to be a dead letter. The property consists almost wholly of real estate in different cities of the republic. Even if the law of congress be enforced, it is said that no one will advance money upon the property so seized much less purchase it. The whole body of the clergy had protested against the seizure as sacrilegious and they were supported by large portions of lower classes of the people. Santa Anna gave in his adhesion to the measure with great reluctance.

One of the clergy in the city of Mexico has been imprisoned for his factious opposition to the measure. At our last accounts the Mexican congress had before it a modification of the law, which would render it less burdensome, but without changing the principle.

Our letters say that all the late ministers have resigned. The ministers of foreign affairs and of finances have certainly done so. To add to the general disorganization, the Mexican congress is said to have determined to dissolve about the first of the present month.

A report was in circulation in Havana, derived from a letter of the very latest date from Vera Cruz that Gen. Minon had had an engagement with some American troops, near Victoria, and taken 800 of them prisoners. This transpired through the Mexican consul at Havana, and was totally discredited rumor was founded upon Minon's exploit near Saltillo. We find the prize seized by Minon noticed in the Indicator. That paper sets down the number of his prisoners at seventy, two of whom, it says, are field officers, and four company officers.

The Mexicans appear to be particularly well informed of the movements and positions of our troops. They give, from time to time, the forces at Tampico, Saltillo and Victoria and other places. Everywhere they see our arms advancing, and, to the consternation of all parties, sweeping all before them. This occasions much speculation in Mexico, as will be imagined, as to the final issue. Letters from Havana express the belief, founded upon information from high quarters in Mexico, that their government will very soon enter into negotiations for peace, from total inability to subsist and protract the struggle. Still we read that one regiment of the Auxiliaries of San Luis had made formal proclamations that they would allow no treaty to be negotiated with the Americans, until the latter had entirely evacuated the country.

Several vessels have succeeded in running the blockade of Vera Cruz, a Sardinian brig and Spanish schooner were among the number. Officers write that with their present class of force it is impossible to prevent this. The Princess Marie, of Bordeaux has been seized by the squadron for irregularity in her papers, and it was thought would be sent to this port. The bark Felix, likewise of Bordeaux, has also been seized and sent into Anton Lizardo. We believe the sloop of war Albany made these captures. Conner has returned from Laguna to the station of the squadron.

A project has been started in Mazatlan of declaring Santa Anna dictator. This drew from him an immediate declaration that as he did not aspire to the presidency, he would use all his force to put down any movement in Sonora or any other state which would threaten to kindle political commotion. The latest dates from San Luis
Potosi are to the 26th ultimo. The army had not then moved, but the Vera Cruz Vindicator of the 21st ult: thinks that it had done so subsequently, being enabled to do so by the funds raised by the state of San Luis.

Gen. Valencia is said by the same paper to mediate a descent upon Tampico. [AMA]

NBR 72.032 March 13, 1847 Preparations for attacking Veracruz, delay, ships to be employed

The attack on Vera Cruz.—According to Gen. Scott's project it is stated, was to have commenced on the 20th of March, or at the earliest possible day thereafter. The New York Express states "that active preparations are making and nearly completed at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, in the fitting out of two vessels, to be used as bomb ketches in the contemplated attack. They have been strengthened in every possible way by strong oaken knees, secured by bolts and screws, massive oaken frake work, and iron braces running through the vessel, secured upon the outer sides by broad iron plates. Each of the vessels is to carry, besides guns of smaller caliber, an immense gun upon deck (and a smaller one below) weighing about eight tons, and which will throw shot or shells of ten inches diameter a distance of of three and a half miles. It is calculated they will be at Vera Cruz ready for service by the 1st of April."

The U. States bomb ketches Etna and Stromboli, commanded by Captains G. J. Van Brunt and W.S. Walker are to sail from Boston for the gulf in a few days.

From this it would appear that the period of attack had been somewhat delayed. Gen. Scott left Brazos for the point of action about the 18th February.

The new sloop of war Germantown, lately launched at Philadelphia and since fitted out at Gosport, on the 10th instant was towed by the steamer Engineer to the anchorage, and will sail in a few days.—Whether for the gulf or for the Pacific, we are not confident. Commander Franklin Buchanan, lat superintendent of the naval school at Annapolis, commands her.

The following vessels the N. Y. Herald says, will compose the squadron that will attack Vera Cruz:-

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<th>Type</th>
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<td>Frigate</td>
<td>Potomac, Capt. Aulic</td>
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### NNR 72.032 March 13, 1847 "Irish Legion" of deserters from the United States to the Mexicans

**DESERTERS FROM THE ARMY--**As the bounty for enlisting is increased in amount, the number of attempts to obtain the bounty by abandoned characters, with a view awaiting the public, will increase in full proportion.

The adjunct general of the United States, has advertised rewards amounting in the aggregate to over $33,300 for arresting 1,011 deserters from the U.S. army.

The Irish Legion--El Republicano of Mexico has the following:

"We had the pleasure on Sunday last of seeing a company of Americans deserters, principally Irish, reviewed by his excellency the general in chief. They are perfectly armed and equipped, and are on the point of departure for Tula. This company have made a particular standard for themselves, on one side of which is seen the national cost of arms, with the motto, "Long live the republic of Mexico." On the other side is a figure of St. Patrick, their patron. There brave men who have abandoned one of the most unjust of causes for the purpose of defending the territory of their adopted country, will find in the Mexicans, a frank and loyal heart, open and hospitable; and besides, a just and ample recompense for their merited services. [MLL]"

### NNR 72.033 March 20, 1847 Adventure of Capt. Dan D. Henrie

**ADVENTURES OF CAPT. DAN HENRIE**

When the two accounting parties under Majors Borland and Gaines were captured by the Mexican forces under General Minion, on the 23rd of January, about sixty miles from Saltillo, there were taken with them a Texan, Capt. Dan Henrie, and a Mexican guide who had been compelled to act as such. Before the Americans surrendered, Gen. Minion pledged his honor that Captain Henrie should be treated as a prisoner of war, and should not be hurt, and that the Mexican guide should have a fair trial. Soon afterwards the Mexican guide was shot down, by order of the Mexican general--a circumstance which indicated clearly to the captain what his fate was to be. The subsequent occurrences connected with his escape were narrated by himself:

The whole party remained at Incarnacion that day. The next morning, the 24th, the prisoners were stated under a guard of 200 men, for San Luis Potesi. Majors Gaines and Borland were permitted to retain their horses and arms; the rest of the prisoners were stript of both. Capts. Clay and Dainey among other commissioned officers, were furnished with mustang ponies; the remainder marched
on foot.

The treatment of the Mexican guide induced Capt. Henrie to believe that he might share the same fate. He had no confidence whatever in the word of general Minon. During the day he remarked that officers talking to each other and looking at him. Manuel Sanchez that lives in Saltillo, and who also received from our officers many thousand dollars for corn, was with Gen. Minon. He recognized Henrie, and riding up to him said, "Well, sir, I suppose you will visit the city of Mexico a second time." "That is very doubtful," replied Henrie. In the afternoon the express came with a letter. Some acts of the officer who received it aroused Henrie's suspicions further, and turning short around where the officer was watching him. He believed they designed to murder him, and he determined to make his mistake if possible, and advised some of the prisoners of it.

By some accident, during the evening he found himself on Major Gaines' mare, one of the best blooded nags in Kentucky, and the Major's pistols still remaining in the holsters. The prisoners had become considerably scattered near sunset, and Capt. Henrie set himself busily to work to make them keep close together.

To do this he rode back, within ten miles of the rear of the line, when, discovering a small interval in the line of the Mexican guard, he suddenly put spurs into the mare and darted through the lines. The guard immediately wheeled in pursuit, but their ponies were no match for a Kentucky blood horse, and before a gun could be fairly leveled at him he had darted out of reach. He had three ranchos to pass. As he passed these he found that the Mexicans in pursuit gave the alarm to the rancheros, who followed him with fresh horses; still he outstripped them all. After passing the last rancho he had pulled up his mare, to rest her, when a single Mexican came up supposing him to be unharmed. He waited until he came within thirty steps, when cocking the pistol he fired the dueling pistol and the Mexican rolled off.

In a short time another came nearer; he likewise permitted him to approach still nearer, when he wheeled and shot him down. He loaded his pistol, and after going some distance another started up from behind some bushes near the road, and rode at him; he shot at him, with what success he could not tell, but was not pursued by that Mexican any farther. When he came to Incarnacion he had found that the camp had been alarmed, as he supposes by some one who had passed him when he left the road. Diverging from this strait course, he crossed several roads and evaded a number of parties who were in pursuit. At length he came to a plain where there was no place to hide. The moon was shining, and he could see a large number of men in pursuit. Putting spurs to his now jaded mare, he made for a mountain valley, and following it to the east, he at length eluded his pursuers. He traveled up into the valley forty miles, as he supposed, hoping to find water for himself or for his famished mare, and the next morning after his escape the noble animal expired, more from the want of water than from fatigue.

Capt. Henrie now had to make it on foot. He wandered about all day, trying to find a path across the mountain. In the evening he found some water to quench his thirst. He then determined to retrace his steps down the valley, and did so, marching without food or water, frequently seeing parties of Mexicans, whom he had to avoid. On the 28th he killed a rat with a club, part of which he ate and put the balance in his pocket for another meal.

On the night of the 28th he reached the road, and followed it until an hour after sunset, when he discovered a party of horsemen approaching. Not knowing whether they were friends or enemies, he concealed himself until they came near, when he discovered they were a picket guard of the Arkansas troops. He gave one shout and gave up---nature was exhausted. His nerves, which had been strung up to the highest degree of tension, became unstrung, and he was almost helpless. They put him on a horse and took him to Agua Nueva, where Capt. Pike commanded an outpost.

Capt. Pike informed me that when Henrie came in he was the most miserable looking being he ever saw. His shoes were worn out, his pantaloons cut in rags, his head was bare, and his hair and beard matted, his hands, feet, and legs were filled with thorns from the prickly pear, and his shin was parched and withered with privation, exposure, and exertion. He had tasted no water for four days, and seemed almost famished for want of it. The soldiers gathered round him, and all that was in their wallets was at his service as they had recently had a new outfit of clothing, Capt. H. was soon newly fitted out. After resting awhile, and getting some food he was able to ride to this place. He says that during the pursuit, there were more than one hundred shots fired at him, one of which passed through his hair. [MLL]
The regiment of Mounted Riflemen are thus described by a correspondent of the Buffalo Commercial Advertiser, writing from Jefferson Barracks, Mo. 24th, Nov. 1846.

There are now at this point about five hundred men of the regiment who were enlisted in the short space of four months. Of these, all of nine-tenths are Americans, enlisted in the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Very few were enlisted in the northern and eastern states. Two companies of the regiment were organized in September, and one is already serving in Mexico. These are commanded by Capts. Mason and Walker.

I will venture to say that a finer body of men were never enlisted in this country. They are strong, athletic fellows, who appear capable of enduring and hardships. A good proportion of them are over six feet in height, and not a few will go six foot four "in their stockings." They have been well as cavalry tactics, and should occasion require they can act as trailleurs, or light infantry.

Owing principally to the low stage of water in the river the arms and clothing for the regiment did not arrive until a few days since. This has been a serious impediment to us, as the order for us to repair to Point Isabel was issued from the Adjunct General's office six weeks since. Our squadron, composed of two companies commanded by Capt. Sanderson and Crittenden, leave tomorrow, and the other companies will leave as soon as horses can be procured by the quartermaster at St. Louis.

We are to be armed with the short rifle, and we hope the requisition which has also been made for sabers and pistols will be favored. In the absence of Col. Smith and Lieut. Col. Fremont, already in Mexico, the regiment is to be commanded by Major Burridge. [MLL]

War With Mexico.

Major General Scott, and suite, embarked from the Rio Grande in the steamer Massachusetts, and reached Tampico on the evening of the 19th February. He met with "a thundering reception," of course. Landing next morning he proceeded to Gen. Patterson's head quarters, and received the attention due to a commanding officer and the welcome of his friends. He found about 9,000 men at Tampico, preparing to embark. Four brigades, under Genl's. Twiggs, Pillow, Shield. and Quitman, were to embark on the 20thand 21st.

The scene in and about Tampico, is stated to be stirring in the extreme. Reviews of troops, in regiments and brigades, were daily taking place; vessels were continually arriving with goods, merchandize, military stores, &c., the American population were all in intense excitement, regarding coming events. Every thing announced action, in its utmost intensity. All quiet, with regard to the enemy, in the interior.

On the 21st, Gen. Scott, and suite left Tampico, in the Mississippi for the island of Lobos, where about 2,500 men had already encamped on the 17th of February.

The squadron off Vera Cruz consisted of the Potomac, Raritan, John Adams, Albany, Princeton, and a fleet of small craft. Gen. Scott had been expected daily for some time. The ships and troops would rendezvous, it was said, at Anton de Lizardo, but the place of debarkation would not be finally settled on until the arrival of Gen. Scott-it would either be at Anton de Lizardo, 9 miles from Vera Cruz, or opposite Sacrificios-at either of which places it would be done under complete protection from the guns of the ships.
A letter from Mr. Lumsden, one of the editors of the Picayune, written at Tampico on the 20th of February, says:

Gen. Twiggs' division is first under marching orders, and leaves to-day. All is bustle, and very soon we shall not have more troops here than are barely sufficient to take care of the town. I think my mind is pretty well made up to go and see the Vera Cruz fandango. I was unlucky enough to miss the sport at Monterey, and do not feel willing to be absent when the "ball" opens at Vera Cruz.

To give you some idea of what is expected to be done, I will show you a portion of what is going down in the way of munitions: First, there are some 100,000 rounds of heavy ammunition; rockets, shells and an enormous supply of all sorts of combustibles, with 40 mortars and columbiads-some of them ten inches calibre; from 10 to 20 24-pounders; 3 field batteries, consisting of six and twelve-pounders, and twelve and twenty-four pound howitzers. With all these go the sappers and miners and the pontoon train.

The United States schooner Tampico, acting master M. C. Perry, Jr., sails this morning for Lobos Island and Anton Lizardo, with despatches from Gen. Scott.

A postscript to this letter, dated February 23d, says:-

I have not much to add—In fact it is almost impossible to gather any thing here in the way of what is called army news—so secret is everything kept. There is not a Mexican in this whole country who does not know that our troops are going to Vera Cruz, while in the United States, and even here, our own people are all in the dark. Santa Anna manages to keep himself well advised of our movements—I almost venture to say that he now knows as much of our plans and intentions, and of our strength and numbers in the field as any of those who are at headquarters, in Washington city. Despatches of the greatest moment are sent through the enemy's country, almost totally unguarded, and, like weak and straggling forages, and mules and wagons without good and strong escorts, they fall into the hands of our foes.

All the forces now here, except the Louisiana volunteers, the Baltimore battalion, and one company of artillery will be on the way to Vera Cruz in a short time. Those that I have named will be left here, under the command of Col. Gates, to garrison the city.

Every thing indicates a movement upon Vera Cruz, which place, so far from being abandoned by the Mexicans, appears to be making efforts for defence. Men, women and children are said to be labouring on the works for defence, making ditches, removing sand banks, &c. Additional troops have arrived, and it is stated that Santa Anna has advanced $75,000 of his personal estate for the immediate exigencies of the place.

Advices at New Orleans from the mouth of the Rio Grande are to the 27th February. General Worth's division was embarking with all possible speed. [ANP]
and is now, we presume, on his way to Washington. It is not supposed he has accomplished much by his mission.-The Mexicans had personal objections to him, and his reception by the authorities of Vera Cruz, and the people and government of Mexico, was anything but cordial.

Passed Midshipman Rogers has been ordered to Ferote, and is now confined in that gloomy prison.

We learn that the blockade of Vera Cruz continues to be violated with almost perfect impunity.-This is attributed not more to the want of vessels of the proper description, than to the instructions by which the commodore enforces the law of blockade.

Two barques have arrived off Vera Cruz with volunteers from the north, and gone into Anton Lizardo. One of them is the St. Cloud from Hampton Roads, with a portion of the Virginia troops.

The news from Santa Anna is no later than we have already given, though it is more full. Although Santa Anna announces the capture of Capt. Heady and his small company of Kentuckians, we find no mention of the murder of Lieut. Ritchie, and the seizure of his despatches. The despatches have not formally been made public by him.

The latest advices we see from Chihuahua, are to the 16th of January, a fortnight later than our former accounts. The city had not then been taken by our troops, nor do we see anything said of their advance upon it.

The New Orleans Bulletin, referring to the news by the United States schoner Forward, says that the despatches brought by Mr. Atocha are said to be of high importance; but the content had not in any way transpired, though it was reported that there was a prospect of a favorable termination of the negotiations.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce writes-

"The Mississippi, which sailed on the 7th, carried out, as I now learn, full instructions from our government to the able and intelligent United States consul in the city of Mexico, Mr. Black, who is still employed there as a means of communication between the two governments. Mr. Black will enunciate the 'three million bill,' which conveys on its face, to the Mexican government the expression of a desire, on the part of the American congress, to obtain "a speedy and honorable peace" with Mexico.-The Mississippi may possibly arrive at Vera Cruz, if the equinoctial gales do not interrupt her, by the 20th March. It strikes me that, very possibly, preliminaries for a treaty of peace will be settled before the intended assault upon Vera Cruz and the castle. That was the opinion expressed by Mr. Soule before he left the city." [ANP]
to Mexico; another asks how long Mexico will permit herself to be set at thought.
The odium in which Senor Atocha is held has apparently prejudiced the proposals,
whatever they may be.

Santa Anna was, by the latest accounts, (coming down to the 14th instant
from Guadalaxara,) still advancing towards Saltillo, and had reached Cedral. On the
12th an extraordinary snow storm occurred at San Luis. We may expect
melancholy accounts from the denuded Mexican army.

The opposition to the law confiscating the church states is unabated, and is
beginning to assume a more systematic character. The state of Jalisco had
suspended the execution of the law until congress can consider the petitions of the
several states for its repeal. Distrusting capitalists consider the investments as too
insecure for speculation, even at enormous discounts. The amount of property held
in (indecipherable word) is estimated at 50,000,000 and the government cannot, at
the proposed rates, raise 10,000,000 by the sacrifice of he whole of this property.
Mr. Vaddy Thompson says that his residence in Mexico has thoroughly convinced him
that no political moment can succeed to which the priesthood is opposed. The issue
of this favorite financial scheme for young Farias is likely to illustrate the truth of the
remark, as there is much reason to suppose that the law will eventually be repealed.

The people of Vera Cruz have turned out en masse to clear away the sand
embanked against the walls of the city, on the northern and western side, and to
(indecipherable words). The women and children were actively engaged in carrying
away the sand. [ANP]

NRR 72.037 March 20, 1847 Mexican financial difficulties because of resistance to
law confiscating church property

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against the walls of the city, on the northern and western side, and to dig a ditch.
The women and children were actively engaged in carrying away the sand. [MLL]

72.037 March 20, 1847 March of the Mormon battalion toward California

THE MARCH OF THE MORMON BATALLION

Extracted from a letter, dated at Los Playna, Sonora, on the 24th of
November, written by an officer in the command of Col. Cooke, who is at the head of
the Mormon battalion on its way to California:

"We are now about three hundred and fifty miles from Santa Fe, on our way
to California. So far, we have been successful in finding a good road, that may be
considered a natural one, for we have had but little work to do. We find water
scarce, and prospects will worse ahead, thought I am in hopes we shall not suffer.
The grass for our animals is very fine. We have crossed several high mountains, or
rather passed through them, without difficulty, and have suffered but little from cold.
Our course has been further south than we wished to follow, but it was necessary on
account of water. We are about fifty miles northwest of Yara, so by referring to the
map, you can see our present position. From here we go to San Bernadino, and then
to the Rio San Pedro, and down that river to the Gulf of California, and thence across
to San Diego, and up the coast to Monterey. There are journey westward will be
ended. We will retire at least seventy days yet to perform the trip, for our animals
must necessarily fall if we attempt to push them. They are our only hope, and it behooves us to favor them in every possible way. This is a wild country, and too far from the home ever to be settled on by white men. The health of the command is good; in fact, the sir is too pure to have disease of any kind generated into it.” [MLL]

NRR 72.038 March 20, 1847 Account of the Santa Fe insurrection

NEW MEXICO--SANTA FE--IMPORTANT

Pittsburgh, March 16

By the river we have St. Louis papers four days in advance of the mall, with dates from Santa Fe covering important news. There has been an extensive Mexican insurrection at Taos. All the Spaniards who evinced any sympathy with the American cause had been compelled to escape.

Gov. Bent, Stephen Lee, acting sheriff, General Elliot Lee, Henry Seal and twenty Americans were killed and their families deported. The chief Alcalde was also killed. This all occurred on the 7th of January. The insurrection had made formidable head and the dissatisfaction was rapidly spreading. The insurgents were sending expresses out all over the country to raise assistance. The number engaged in the outbreak at Taos was about 600. They were using every argument to incite the Indians to hostilities and were making preparations to take possession of Santa Fe.

The Americans at Santa Fe had only about 500 effective men there; the rest were on the sick list or had left to join Col. Doniphan. Such being their situation they cannot send succor out, as they are hardly able to defend themselves. It is thought that Santa Fe must be captured, as neither the nor the block houses are completed.

It is announced as the intention of the insurgents who captured Taos, to take possession of the wagon trains, which are carrying forward our supplies, and thus cut off all communication.

The representations made to Col. Doniphan, that Chihuahua would be an easy conquest, were evidently intended as a lure to entrap him, beget a spirit of security, and lead him far off into the interior, where he might easily out off.

It is the universal opinion in Santa Fe that if Gen. Wool had gone direct to Chihuahua there would have been no trouble in New Mexico. Col. Doniphan had possession of El Paso del Norte on the 28th of December. Letters have been received from the governor of Chihuahua, stating that Gen. Wool was within three days march of the capital. This, too, was doubtless another rose to lure Col. Doniphan on in confidence, and cut him off from all chance of escape, or falling back upon Santa Fe, to relieve it in its emergency.

The Mexicans are in hold in their tone and confident of capturing Col. Doniphan and has command, which consists of about 600 men, 500 being of his own troops, the regiment of mounted Missouri volunteers, and a detachment of 100 men from Santa Fe, under the command of Lieutenant Col. Mitchell, of the 2nd regiment--consisting of 30 men from Clark's battalion of light artillery, under command of Capt. Hudson and Lieut. Kribben, and 70 from Colonel Price's regiment and Colonel Willock's battalion. They then assert that they will massacre every American in New Mexico and confiscate all their goods.

A letter from Lieutenant Albert, United States topographical engineer of later date, confirms all the above intelligence. The details of the battle of Bresto [?] are also confirmed. The massacre beyond doubt has been a horrible one, of which we have as yet heard from the beginning, and the insurrection had been kept so quiet until all was ready for the outbreak, that our handful of troops there must be demolished, before any effort can be made to relieve them from the most advanced of our western military posts.

Lieut. Albert's men suffered severely coming to Missouri. Th calls upon the government for prompt assistance and large reinforcements are strenuous; and the actuation of our gallant men, far away from succor, in the heart of an enemies country, shows the rashness which has characterized the whole advance in New Mexico.
Eight of the leading men engaged in the conspiracy have arrived (our
dispatch does not say where) who have made a full confession of the whole thing.

Letters received also state that Col. Cook and the Mormon battalion were
350 miles beyond Santa Fe. They were in generally good health and progressing
slowly.--Phila. North Amer. [MLL]

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**NNR 72.048 March 20, 1847 Gen. Carrabajal's cordon of posts round Matamoros, &c.**

**War with Mexico.**

Latest from the Army.-The schr. John Howell reached New Orleans on the 12th, with Brazos St. Jago dates to the 28th ult.

General Worth left Brazos on the 25th, in the steamer Edith, one company of artillery, one of dragoons, and the light batteries had all embarked. Six companies of dragoons remained, waiting for transports.

Capt. Hughes, of the Illinois volunteers, left Gen. Taylor's camp, 20 miles below Saltillo, on the 13th and Monterey on the 15th, all quiet then. Gen. T. designed to remain at his camp till the 1st April.

There were many reports at Brazos Santiago, on the 28th ult. It was rumored that a large body of Mexicans were in the neighborhood of Saltillo, and that Gen. Taylor had fallen back on Monterey, and expected every day to have a battle, as the Mexicans were following him up.

The New Orleans Mercury, March 12, evening, says-

We learn from Captain Somers, of the schooner James & Samuel, which arrived to day from Brazos Santiago, that an express came into that place on the 4th instant, stating that a Mexican force had passed Matamoros on the opposite (Texas) side of the river on the morning of the 4th. Captain Somers could not learn the number of men, or who commanded them. This arrival brought no letters or papers for this city.

The New Orleans Delta of the 12th says-

The reports in circulation, as to the advance of the enemy, 15,000 strong, on Saltillo, are, beyond a doubt, true; and Gen. Taylor has by this time, either fought and whipped the Mexicans again, at Agua Nueva, or has fallen back on Monterey. The great fear entertained by General Taylor's friends is, that should he fall back on Monterey, and a force of 15,000 should advance upon that place, that being obliged to keep his whole force (5000) at Monterey, the enemy would be strong enough to detach a portion, (say 5000,) to act on his base of operations, and by uniting with the force known to be under Urrea, (some 3500 or 4000 men,) effectually break up in detail, Camargo, Matamoros and the Brazos St. Jago, thereby cutting off all supplies from General Taylor, and obliging him to subsist in a country even now drained by the demands of so large a force as we have maintained, in the country around Monterey. The black fort at Monterey may be made impregnable, and with even the small force under his command General Taylor could hold it against any force the Mexicans might bring against it, should be compelled to retire on that position. Camargo is tolerably well fortified, and Matamoros has recently been fortified under the direction and superintendence of Col. Lloyd Tilghman.

Besides the large force advancing under Santa Anna from San Luis Potosi, and that of Urrea by the way of Victoria, there is another force of the enemy under Canales, who has a force under his command well calculated to give great annoyance along the whole line of the Rio Grande. This is the force referred to by Colonel Morgan, as acting between Monterey and Camargo. A portion of it is under Carrabajal, engaged in levying a tax on all goods brought into, and carried out of Matamoros by traders.

Carrabajal, with his bandit rancheros, has established a cordon of posts for 39 miles around Matamoros, and in the absence of custom house buildings holds his revenue court under some convenient tree. Such is his audacity, that on the 15th ult. he slept with his command of 100 men, at Puerta Verdes only one league from...
Matamoros, awaiting a stock of goods supposed to be coming from the Boca del Rio, by way of Burrita. The commanding officer at Matamoros has no cavalry at his disposal, and this Carrabajal is perfectly aware of, and can levy his contributions, with impunity, even within a mile of the city. [ANP]

NNR 72.048 March 20, 1847  The last two companies of Massachusetts volunteers leave from Boston

The barque Smyrna left Boston on the 18th, with the two last companies of the Massachusetts volunteer regiment, under Captain Nicholas and Walsh. Major Abbot went out in the Smyrna. Col. Cushing is to embark in a few days. [MLL]

NNR 72.048 March 20, 1847  Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny's code of laws for New Mexico

LAWS OF THE TERRITORY OF NEW MEXICO

We are indebted to a friend of Santa Fe, for a copy of the organic law for the government of the territory of New Mexico, and also for a code of laws, established by Gen. Kearny, to carry out the provision of the constitution. This work comprises 115 pages, and the text is in Spanish and English, placed in juxtaposition. We have already published a synopsis of the constitution. The laws are fashioned very much after our own, saving such changed as are demanded by the condition of the people of New Mexico—are arranged under regular heads, and embrace everything necessary to preserve the rights of the people.

A delegate congress is to be elected on the first Monday, August, 1847. St. Louis Rep. [MLL]

NNR 72.048 March 20, 1847 recruits embarking from New York for Tampico.

Military Movements. -A detachment of 400 recruits for the 3d and 4th regiments of artillery, embarked on the ship Orpheus yesterday afternoon, from Governor's Island, for Tampico. There recruits are under the command of Lt. Schuyler Hamilton, 1st regiment of U. S. Infantry. Lt: S. B. Hayman, 7thinfantry, accompanies the detachment. Another detachment of 120 men, under the command of Lt. J. H. Potter, 7th infantry, also left the Island on the bark Lewis. These men are for the companies of the 1st and 2d regiments of artillery, serving with Gen. Taylor at Saltillo.-N.Y. Herald. [ANP]

NNR 72.049 March 27, 1847 Gen. Scott general order No. 20 respecting atrocities

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY
Tampico, February 19, 1847

1. It may well be apprehended that many grave offences nor provided for in the act of congress establishing rules and articles for the government to ...[large water stain has permanently damaged the rest of the first paragraph].

2. Assassination, murder, malicious wounding, maiming, rape, malicious assault and battery, robbery, theft; the wanton desecration of churches, cemeteries, or other religious edifices and fixtures, and the destruction, except by order of a superior officer, of public or private property, are such offences.

3. The good of the service, the honor of the United States, and the interests of humanity, imperiously demand that every crime committed above should be severely punished.

4. But the written code, as above, commonly called the "rules and articles of
war" provides for the punishment of not one of their crimes, even when committed by the individuals of the army upon the persons or property of the same, except in the very restricted case in the ninth of those articles, not for like outrages, committed by the same individuals, upon the persons or property of a hostile country, except very partially, in the 51st, 52nd, and 55th articles; and the same code is absolutely silent as to all the injuries which may be inflicted upon the individuals of the army, or their property, against the laws of war, by individuals of a hostile country.

5. It is evident that the 99th article, independent of any reference to the restriction of the 87th is wholly nugatory in reaching any one of those high crimes.

6. For all the offences, therefore, enumerated in the second paragraph above, which may be committed abroad, in, by, or upon the army, a supplemental code is absolutely needed.

7. That unwritten code is martial law, as an addition to the military code, prescribed by congress in the rules and articles of war, and which unwritten code all armies, in hostile countries, are forced to adopt, not only for their own safety, but for the protection of unoffending inhabitants and their property, about the theatre of military operations, against the injuries contrary to the laws of war.

8. From the same supreme necessity, martial law is hereby declared, as a supplemental code in and all about all camps, posts, and hospitals which may be occupied by any part of the forces of the United States in Mexico, and in and about all columns, escorts, convoys, guards, and detachments of the said forces, while engaged in prosecuting the existing war in and against said republic.

9. Accordingly, every crime enumerated in paragraph 2 above, above, whether committed—By any inhabitant of Mexico, sojourner, or traveler therein upon the person or property of any individual of the United States forces, retainer, or follower of the same: By any individual of the said forces, retainer, or follower, of the same, upon the person or property of any inhabitant of Mexico, sojourner, traveler, therein; order any individual of the said forces, retainer, or follower, of the same, shall be duly tried and punished under the said supplemental code.

10. For the purpose it is ordered that all offenders in the matter aforesaid shall be promptly seized and confined, and reported for trial before military commissions, to be duly appointed as follows:

11. Every military commission under this order will be appointed, governed, and limited, as prescribed by the 65th, 66th, 67th, and 97th of the said rules and articles of war; and the proceedings of such commissions will be duly recorded, in writing, reviewed, revised, disapproved, or approved, and the sentences executed— all is in the cases of the proceedings and sentences of court-martials; provided that no military commission shall try any case clearly cognizable, by court-martial... (completely illegible from the same stain as before)

12. This order will be read at the head of every company of the United States' forces serving in Mexico or about to enter on that theater of war.

By Command of Major General Scott,
H.L. SCOTT, A.A.A.G.

[MLL]

NRR 72.057-058, March 27, 1847 PROCLAMATION OF SANTA ANNA

COUNTRYMEN—Faithful to the solemn promises which I made on my return to this country in August last, and determined to respect the national will, whatever it should be, I have all my attention to the defence of the country, to the sustaining of her threatened liberties, to restore to our arms their old brilliancy, (which had been tarnished in the late conflicts,) and the rout the enemy who attempts to blot out Mexico from the catalogue of nations. Fully satisfied with the honor of exposing my life for the good of my country, (and perhaps, not without hopes of acquiring an immortal name, in securing her glory forever, by placing her in that prominent position which she ought to occupy amongst the civilized nations of this part of the globe,) I came to take command of the army. I knew very well how dangerous the
Surrounded by difficulties and thousands of obstacles, which I had seen without being able to surmount, and to do all which, as a Mexican and as a general who loves his country and his honor, I might think expedient and necessary, I felt very much afflicted, considering myself as the great centre of all hopes, and I trembled contemplating how closely leagued are my destinies with those of this country, which is so beloved by me. A single fault on my part could have submerged her forever in abyss of ignomy; and that it was easy to do but difficult to mend.

The supreme government knew all my afflictions and fears, as I took care of advising it of all, placing constantly before it the doleful picture of the sufferings which the army was enduring. And I continually requested them to send resources to cover the great and urgent necessities with which I was surrounded; but I did not wish to publish my frequent and nearly daily communications, fearing that my letters might be badly interpreted, and also that the enemy would be made acquainted by them of our painful and difficult situation, and would have recovered more courage and probably have undertaken larger enterprises.

I thought of deserving, by such noble conduct, the esteem of all my fellow citizens, who, certainly, being aware of the facts, could not do less than appreciate in it all that should be considered noble and great. But, unfortunately, I see that I was mistaken, and that far from granting to me their sympathy, if not praise, they heap upon me their affronts and vituperation. I am accused of apathy and inaction. It is supposed that I see with cool indifference the ills of the country, and some of them have gone so far as to present me in the eyes of the world as a traitor.

Why then this detention in San Luis? says the hostile party of the press. Why, when the general of the enemy freely and with a small body of troops explores the States of Coahuila, Nueva Leon, and Tamaulipas, do they not go out and meet him? Why does not the commander in chief advance into the country? Fellow citizens, hear me, and believe that no one wishes more than myself that the day of glory for the country, the day of confusion and horror to the unjust enemy, should shine; but, unfortunately, holy as my wishes are, the difficulties are great with which I am beset.

On my arrival at the capitol, the army was not what it is today, as you will easily see by my narration. Since that time it has been increased three-fourths of its original force. I did not find here, nor was there any, in any other places, a deposit of men, horse, or equipments. I was compelled first to send for the men of all the states to fill up the regiments. A soldier cannot be made at once, and the whole world knows that the ordnance requires four months at least of instruction, for the purpose of being able to do duty in time of peace. Would it have been prudent, then, wishing to escape from the note of inaction to take the initiative, and to present myself to the field with an army of novices, composed of men taken up in the moment from their domestic occupation? Would the people not accuse me then, and with more reason, of having exposed to an evident danger, the honor of our arms and the liberty of our country, having committed the imprudence of operation with men and not with soldiers? Was it not my duty to prepare ammunition--to collect and improve the arms--to bring from all points the artillery, and at last to gather all the war materials? Think about this with impartiality, and afterwards judge if I deserve to be reprimanded. But it is not sufficient; if we desire to secure a victory to our arms, that the army which I have the honor to command should be numerous and disciplined; it is not sufficient if this army is possessed of the most eminent enthusiasm to avenge the outrages that have been done to the nation; this is a great deal, certainly, but it is by not means all that is required. Full of fire, and desirous of glory, the gallant republicans of the army of the Alps would not have been able to do what they did if instead of finding the beautiful and fertile fields of Italy, they had met with barren deserts and obliged to cross in the horrid nudity in which they were. No help could be given to them for the moment; but they young general, from the snowy top of the Alps, pointed out to them the relic cities which would become a prize to their army. They saw with wonder the magnificent palaces to which victory led them. Has the Mexican soldier the same perspective? He has to march through his own country, and he is obliged to respect the houses and the property of his countrymen, who expect from him protection. All nearly deserted, it does not offer a shelter against the elements, nor a sufficient quantity of water for the men and horses; if we advance, it is necessary to put from distance to distance
deposits of provisions where the soldier will be able to find, after being worn down by fatigue and hunger, the necessary resources to live on. Without this it seems impossible for the army to make any movement. Has anything been done concerning this important matter, although I have made thousands of representations? It is very painful to tell it, Mexicans, but I cannot keep it secret any longer; nothing has been done, and what is worse, I don’t see that there is any prospect of doing it. They army is kept in a state of great nakedness, and in the most dreadful misery--so much so that for twenty-five days I have not been able to pay their rations, which have been therefore taken on credit.

The heroic defenders of Monterey, wounded by the balls of the enemy, are lying here, quite abandoned, without any other assistance than that which the charity and the patriotism of a few inhabitants give them.

There is not in this fellow citizens, any exaggeration. I appeal to the testimony of the authorities of San Luis; since the 25th of December it has been scarcely possible to assist the troops with two days’ pay, which has served more to pay off old debts than to attend to present necessities. Of the $400,000 appropriated for the expenses of the army, only $175,000 have come to hand which was received in December last, and nothing this present month; and in order to help the great wants I was compelled to engage my personal credit for the amount of $20,000 which were lent to me on pledge of my private property, and which were sent to the division in observation at Tula. Could the army under such miserable circumstances, make a movement? Far, very far, am I from insinuating that the Mexican soldier depends upon the promptness with which his country pays him, but there are difficulties which it is impossible for us to overcome. It is impossible to give rations to the troops when there are no rations, or to pay them when there is no money. This is, as described, the situation of the army, as courageous, and as full of patriotism as any other in the world, which it will sacrifice itself with its chiefs for the national honor; it is its wish, and if it asks for assistance, only to satisfy its wants, it does it so as to be able to approach the enemy, to sustain its good name, and the glory and liberty of the nation to which it belongs.

Useless have been, till today, all the endeavors I have used, all the steps that I have taken, having view of the receipts of the necessary funds. Notes over notes were almost daily repeated, showing the horrid state in which the troops were placed. The answers to all these were promises and remote hopes, which I fear will never be realized, or if so, they will come perhaps too late.

I think that I have fulfilled, by this, my duties because it is not for me to propose the way of providing the necessary funds, and I have only to say that if the nation wishes, as I think, to carry on the war, it must be known that those small sums that have been remitted are not of great help, because they will do only to cover the wants of a day; they are not sufficient to make permanent impression, nor to base further operations upon. If those who are able to do it are not willing to help the army, the only protection which the country has will be exposed, and they may lose all, with their independence, and they will be obliged to transmit to posterity a name full of ignominy.

Countrymen: I would have omitted to present to you such a picture as that given to you now, and which I know will fill your hearts with bitterness; but I find myself compelled to give you notice of all that occurs. It would be a crime were it not brought to your notice. I do not accuse any one, nor do I direct myself to any body; but I cannot consent that, the honor of they army, and mine also, should suffer when in no period of our history has the army deserved more credit and more esteem from the whole country.

Concerning myself, I shall repeat the last time, Mexicans, that I still recollect that the nation called me to defend her in the present contest, and to restore to her her liberty, honor, and glory, or perish with her. This is my only desire, and I do not want, nor do I pretend anything else. But if, unfortunately, credit should not be given to my words--if, against all hopes, somebody should think me not capable of keeping faith with them, I shall prove it with deeds. Tell me, if it is desired to deliver up to the command of the army, and I will do it, although I would lose by that the last opportunity to acquire an immortal name; because when it concerns my country, her feelings and glory, there is nothing, nothing in the world, difficult to me. I will retire if it is thought useful, not to take the power which was conferred upon me a few days ago, because I have already said more than once that I do not wish any more employment nor other honor than that of saving my country in the present war with the United States; and as soon as it has been done I shall retire to my domestic hearth, and no human power will be able to take me from thence to public life. And still if my self-denial is not judged sufficient--if my presence is thought dangerous on the soil on which I was born--I shall seek in a foreign country an
asylum for my last days, in which I shall pray constantly for the prosperity and increase of my country. For, very far am I from having an ambition less noble and praiseworthy because, undeceived of the value of power and distinction, there only remains to me one true pleasure, which is to deserve and enjoy the applause and esteem of my fellow citizens.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA
Headquarters, San Luis Potosi, Jan. 26, 1847

[AMA]

NRR 72.058 March 27, 1847 Comments on the series of demonstrations toward peace undertaken by the executive

TREATING WITH MEXICO FOR PEACE

A series of demonstrations, have been made for our Executive, which, if judiciously conceived, have certainly been most unfortunate in their results.

The whole country was taken by surprise, when the president in his annual message of December 1845, announced to congress that a minister had already embarked and was probably by that time in Mexico, charged with the duty of proposing terms with a view of avoiding war. The most profound secrecy was said to be to steal a march upon the European governments. We took occasion, at the time, to express deep felt regret that an open, formal, respectful, and imposing mission, had not been preferred to a secret one--and that a purpose had not been publicly avoided, of proposing to Mexico to purchase, for a fair equivalent, the California, and to adjust the boundary lines between us, as well as all other subjects of the difference, in an amicable as well as equitable spirit. Twenty, or twenty-five millions of dollars would have been cheerfully paid by the country for the Mexican ports upon the Pacific and intervening territory. Such a sum, offered in a manner not wounding to the pride of the Mexican nation, would have been a relief to them, and one in their known financial difficulties, not to be disregarded. Mexico might and we think ought to have been approached for a purchase of California, as France was for the purchase of Louisiana, and Spain was for that for Florida. It would have been a plain "business transaction," and instead of being roused at once to the defense of their sovereignty, instead of having their self-respect and pride to rally and maintain, they would have come to the question as a matter of interest--is California, and the slender chance there is of Mexico retaining it much longer, worth more than the United States now offers us for it? Mexican statesmen as well as all other intelligent men, must, know, that it is beyond the power of any government to arrest the tide or turn the humor of emigration which is sweeping onward with resistance impetuously from east to west--and they must be aware too, that the Mexican government could not long pretend to control the new population which California is about to acquire in this process. Had they not better embrace the opportunity of getting a fair price for the territory, than by attempting to hold on, inevitably lose it?

Such, we have very little doubt, might have been made the question of the Mexicans--had they been approached by as every sovereign independent power has a right to require, and as a weak and touchy neighbor would be more likely to be scrupulous is requiring and which a republic, of all other governments, is bound to be scrupulous about.

Instead of being so approached, it unfortunately happened that when Mr. Sidell reached the republic of Mexico, he took the Mexican people as much by surprise as his appointment occasioned there. The executive of Mexico, tottering before, was overwhelmed by the suspicion which Mr. Sidell's approach is so secret, so questionable a manner, aroused against them. Herrara fell, under the weight of these implications. Paredes succeeded to power upon the very question of rejecting the overture which Mr. Sidell was suspected of making.

A second demonstration was made, it is supposed, by a mission to Cuba, whilst Santa Anna was resident upon that island, which was certainly not more fortunate in its results, even if more judicious in its inception.

A third approach, if we may credit the United States Gazette, and other prominent journals, has recently attempted, with no better success. The following extract will furnish our readers with a specimen of what is said upon the subject. We look for
some official or semi-official notice of the affair, to place the Executive in its proper position.

From the **United States Gazette**

THE MISSION AND THE MISSIONARIES

"Meanwhile, we hear of a peace mission, kept secret till now, of Senor Atocha, a resident of the city, but a South American (and a Mexican, we believe) by birth."

The above is from the *New York Express*. We wish to notice a slight inaccuracy in the remarks of our contemporary, and then to note a flagrant wrong by the government. Atocha, we believe, is not a Mexican, by birth; if he is, he certainly cannot be a South American.

But let us look at the mission of this man, if indeed, he really has had any mission. Whom has the President of the United States sent on a deliberate errand to the Mexican government, to a people proverbially jealous of personal and national policy?

Atocha, we have heard, is a native of Old Spain. He went some years ago to Mexico, where he resided, but having rendered himself very odious to the government, he was dismissed from the country, and left it in disgrace. He then landed at New Orleans where, after some time, he was admitted as one of the police of the city. There he made out an account against the Mexican government, of the items of which, or the vouchers, we know nothing. Subsequently, he preceded north, and after various movements, it seems he was selected, of all men in the United States, to go on a delicate mission to Mexico, to be the bearer of the wishes and views of the republic of the United States, of which we do not know that he is even a citizen, to the republic of Mexico, from which he had been banished.

We speak from information: and if our information is correct, surely nothing could be considered more injudicious (to use no harder term), than the employment of such a man upon such a mission to such a people. It is not strange that the extraordinary minister of the United States should have found a great difficulty in landing, and it is less strange that the editors of the Mexican papers should express a belief that his mission would prove abortive; for successful and unsuccessful, as the obstinacy or miseries of the Mexican may triumph, it is evident that no ordinary circumstances could warrant the president of the United States to entrusting the affairs of government with this type of man. And no man with any respect for the government of an independent nation, would offend that nation by sending an important message, leading to a national negotiation, by a person situated as that man is with Mexico.

We hope, or rather we desire, that peace may be result from this, or some other proposition; but we cannot believe that the people will sustain such a step as has been taken, if any such mission has been made. There are gentlemen enough in the United States, who speak the Spanish language well, to do the errands of the government; and if nothing but a partisan will serve the president, we doubt not that some of his own side could be found. [MLL]

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**NNR 72.059 March 27, 1827 collection of troops and transports at Lobos Island for the demonstration on Veracruz**

The Army of Invasion. Whilst General Taylor with his new command, consisting principally of volunteers, is contending near Saltillo with five times their number of Mexicans, commanded by the most distinguished officers in the Mexican army, General Scott with the main body of regulars, and a formidable portion of the volunteers, are engaged in a demonstration upon Vera Cruz.

After a very short delay at Tampico, General Scott embarked from thence on the 21st Feb. for the little island of Lobos, from which we have dates to the 1st March, at which time about eighty sail of transports, &c. were then laying, and on board of which had been embarked nearly everything that had been on the island, men munitions, provisions; &c. They expected to leave the island on the 2d for Anton Lizardo, and that the assault on Vera Cruz would be made on the 10th of March.

General Worth reached Lobos on the 1st.-Gen. Twiggs arrived a few days
Gen. Patterson was still at Tampico on the 3d of March, on which day the Louisiana volunteers that had been at Lobos arrived, and with their associates that had been wrecked in the Ondiaka, were to garrison Tampico. They had suffered severely by sickness.

The Mississippi volunteers that were at Lobos, part of the 2d regiment, had suffered terribly by sickness and look miserably. They were ordered to repair to Monterey and report to Gen. Taylor, and had embarked accordingly.

The three men that were under arrest as spies at Lobos were tried after General Scott's arrival, and acquitted.

The Alexandria Gazette says—We have seen a letter from the Island of Lobos, dated the 28th of February, which states that there has been a most unreasonable delay in the arrival of transports and munitions of war at that place. They are six weeks later than they out to have been, and up to the latest dates all the troops had not arrived, and several vessels containing ordnance stores, such as cannon and mortars, were wanting. The expedition to Vera Cruz will consist of about 12,000 troops and probably 100 sails of all kinds. Gen. Scott, it is said, expects to have boats enough to land 5,000 troops at once.

A letter in the New York Journal of Commerce states that forty howitzers, capable of discharging forty shells in a minute, have been sent to Vera Cruz, to be used half a mile in the rear of that city. The letter adds—"They can, from that point, destroy the town in five hours, if necessary. If the Mexican army should make a rally, gen. Scott will be ready to receive them. The position also commands the Castle—and, at a distance of three quarters of a mile, beyond the reach of any gun in the Castle. We have also the best engineer officers in the world."

The latest date from Gen. Scott's division of our forces was brought to New Orleans by the brig Ann Still, which left Tampico on the 3d inst. Captain Stafford, 8th regiment U. S. infantry, came passenger; having fallen into the hold of the vessel whilst disembarking his company, and broken two of his ribs, he returns to recruit.

A correspondent of the Picayune, writing from Tampico, February 28, says—"This morning the U. States steamer Edith, from Brazos Santiago, with Gen. Worth and staff and two companies of troops on board, touched off the bar at the mouth of our river, coming to anchor two miles outside, and sent despatches up to Gen. Patterson. I went down with a friend and saw Gen. Worth; found him in good health and fine spirits. The Edith being bound for Lobos Island, sailed on her course at half past 2 P.M. The U. S. steamer Alabama, now lying in the stream opposite the city, is to sail to-morrow with General Patterson, staff and troops. The steamer Virginia, with Gen. Pillow, do. do. do. If the transports on the way here from the Brazos arrive, it is probable that by the last of this week all the forces to leave will have sailed.

"Whether there be a battle any where else, it seems to be pretty certain that we shall have one at Vera Cruz, and before we get to Vera Cruz. It is known here that the enemy are preparing to give us a warm reception on landing. In the rear of Anton Lizardo they have built strong fortifications, too far for the guns of our squadron to bear upon them, but in reach of the point of landing.

"On these fortifications very heavy guns are mounted, and other arrangements are made and being made, to make a desperate stand against the landing of our troops. It is also to be expected that the city of Vera Cruz is in a condition to make bloody resistance. But a few days, I hope, will tell the tale, and make all speculation unnecessary. Who doubts the issue?"

"Tampico, March 2.

"I will give the last rumor. News reached here ye s terday that Gen. Minon, leading the advance of Santa Anna's forces against Gen. Taylor, with 500 men, had attempted to surprise Gen. T. by a night assault, but that he met with a total disappointment. The whole force was defeated—how many killed and made prisoners not stated precisely, but they were essentially whipped." [ANP]
Call for Volunteers--By the annexed letter from Col. Curtis, commanding at Camargo, it will be seen that a call has been made for a large number of volunteers, for the defense of the Rio Grande.

Headquarters, Camargo, March 2, 1847

SIR--I send an officer to headquarters, at Washington, making a requisition on the president of the U. States for fifty thousand six months volunteers. All communication has for several days been cut off between this place and the army above, and I see the adequate relief this side of New Orleans. I request you, therefore, to call out ten thousand men of the character of troops, and I anticipate they will be recognized under the call of the president.

As fast as any considerable force can be accumulated, let then be forwarded to Brazos Santiago. All troops as far as practicable, should be armed before leaving the United States, and the officers commanding companies should take in charge ammunition enough to distribute, in case of emergency, forty rounds at least.

Very respectfully, your obed't servant,

SAMUEL R. CURTIS, Col. Com'ing

To the governor of Louisiana.

The New Orleans Tropic says that the governor of Louisiana expresses his readiness, with his accustomed patriotic fervor, "to pull off his coat and go to work to raise volunteers, and he hopes all good citizens will aid him." This hope, (adds the Tropic) he will assuredly realize; for the citizens of Louisiana, of all parties, will stand by their chief magistrate in any responsibility he may assume in this emergency. [MLL]

The whole country has been kept during the week in a state of intense and daily increasing anxiety. The imminent peril and sufferings to which the several detachments constituting "the army of the north," were evidently exposed when our last accounts left them, and which it was our painful duty to publish in the last number of the Register, were scarcely known before intelligence arrived of the "Army of the Centre" under Gen. Wool and "the Army of Occupation,"--what was left of it, both unified under command of General Taylor, and comprising together about 2,000 men, were attacked by Santa Anna with a force so vastly superior, as to leave the issue very doubtful if not disastrous.

The first report, reached us on Saturday night, that a battle or battles had been fought, in which two thousand of our army, and four or five thousand of the Mexicans had been killed or wounded--and that General Taylor was falling back on Monterey--that in the mean time a formidable division of Mexicans under Urrea was advancing upon Camargo--that a number of wagons on their route from Camargo to Monterey had been taken by the Mexicans, their teamsters all murdered, and that all communication with Monterey was cut off.

The communications have but cut off, but the rumors of the battles are altogether derived from Mexican authority. When the last accounts left Gen. Taylor, a fight was expected immediately.

By the Palmetto steamship which reached New Orleans on the 15th, we have Galverston dates to the 6th, Brazos dates to the 7th, and Camargo to the (?) instant, but nothing later than the 23d ult. from Monterey.

The 2d Mississippi regiment reached Matamoros on the 5th instant. They relieve the Indiana regiment, which was to leave the 6th for Camargo. [AMA]
Our government have had considerable difficulty in understanding Santa Anna’s
game. Many believed that in spite of all his pretenses, he was in reality disposed
to take the two or three millions of dollars from the United States and to ask our aid to
maintain him in supremacy at Mexico, in order to render the concessions he might
make, available. The president may have continued to entertain this opinion.
Perhaps Gen. Benton shared this opinion with him.

Our generals in the field appear to have been no less puzzled to understand the arch
Mexican’s movements. When he publicly announced in general orders and in his
address to his companions in arms, his design to march to the north and fight the
invaders of Mexico at all hazards--and at the same time published the remonstrance
which is inserted in this number of the Register, exposing the utter destitution of his
army, of requisite means for such a conflict, few appeared to believe in his sincerity,
or to think it possible that he could attempt such a march. His sincerity was doubted.
All were curious to know his real purpose.

It appears by the issue, that for once at least Santa Anna was candid. He apprised
friends and foes of the direction he was about to take, and the plight he was taking it
in. Whether he has been successful or not, must soon be ascertained. One thing has
been ascertained, and that is, that he is a skillful, bold, and intrepid commander.

By one of the most daring expedients we have ever read of, he succeeded in
obtaining General Scott’s express, containing his entire plan for the ensuing
campaign, which our readers will also find inserted amongst the documents inserted
in this number. Of this knowledge he had availed himself, and took his own
measures accordingly.

General Taylor has been not only a brae and sagacious, but also a most fortunate
officer. He was the first, if we mistake not, to win the brevet in the war with Great
Britain, in 1812--and the first to be brevetted for still greater distinction in the
present war. It is to be hoped that his luck will not have failed him in the present
emergency. What a good commander could do under the circumstances, we have full
faith in his having done. He may again have full faith in his having done. He may
again have been victorious in the unequal conflict to which he has been exposed. If
he has been, his former laurels may possibly fade in comparison with those he has
now won. If on the contrary, he shall have been overwhelmed, but we refrain from
that theme.

Whilst on one hand we have it confidently assumed, and that too in articles evidently
penned by men of superior military intelligence, that General Taylor would by no
means have been justifiable in waiting Santa Anna’s attack either at Agua Nueva, or
at Saltillo, but must have prudently fallen back upon Monterey in time to prevent
disaster, we have it on the other hand asserted in the New York Sun, on authority of
a letter from an individual in the army, dated at Monterey the 20th Feb. which says,
that Gen. Taylor selected Agua Nueva for a field-fight with Santa Anna’s whole army
and that Gen. Marshall, on the day named, left Monterey with four pieces of artillery,
and all the disposed forces, to join Gen. Taylor, who was then hourly expecting an
attack from Santa Anna. From the tenor of the letter, it would seem that Gen. Taylor
had selected his ground for a fight. The tenor of all the letters from that direction,
including the latest from Gen. Taylor himself, instead of retiring from their advanced
positions.

By the latest arrival from Tampico we have city of Mexico dates to the 27 th
February. A letter is published from Santa Anna, dated the 17 th Feb. from San
Salvador, at 10 o’clock, a.m. In this he says Gen. Taylor was in force at Agua
Nueva--twenty leagues distant--and preparing for a general action, with seven or
eight thousand troops, and with more than twenty pieces of artillery. He announces
his own intention to fight him on the 21 st, and adds: "By the time this letter reaches
you, there will have been a great action fought, the result of which will be of
incalculable consequence to the country." He represents his own troops to be full of
enthusiasm.

The latest movement of Santa Anna’s force is indicated in a number of El
Rupublicano of the 25 th ult. It is published as very important. It is a letter from San
Luis Potosi dated February 20 th, which announces the receipt of information by a
captain who had just arrived, that "the Yankees had abandoned Agua Nueva, at
which point they had fortified, retreating upon Saltillo. Our active General Santa
Anna has cut off their retreat upon Monterey, by interposing between Monterey, and
Saltillo Gens. Minon and Torrejon."
But on the other hand again, the last line of Mr. Kendall's latest postscript from Tampico of the 7th of March says: "General Taylor has had no fight, but has fallen back on Saltillo and Monterey."

The Savannah Republican has information said to be derived from Lieut. F. of the regular army, on his way to Washington. Lieut. F. had seen, since, he left Monterey, a letter from General Taylor to his son-in-law, Dr. Wool, in which he says, that he was sixteen miles from Saltillo, with his own and Wool's command, amounting to 5,800 effective men, and was retiring quietly to Monterey.

There would seem to have been fault somewhere, that thus within the brief space of eight months, the whole country should twice be thrown into a state of alarm for the safety of General Taylor's command, and that requisitions should twice have to be made extra-officially upon the nearest state authorities for troops to fly to the rescue. In the first instances Gen. Taylor escaped as if by miracle; we say nothing of the miracles that required to be performed to insure success at Monterey, with an army without a battering train to assault such fortifications as were there won.

General Gaines was in command of the southern military division last May, when General Taylor was in imminent danger between Matamoros and Point Isabel. That officer immediately assumed the responsibility of making a requisition for volunteers upon Louisiana and the neighboring states, to rescue General Taylor. The requisition was promptly met, but the general had to suffer for exercising unauthorized power in the premises. Colonel Curtis, who is represented to be "a cool, judicious, and deliberate officer," seems not to have been admonished by General Gaines' fate in that instance. The general's requisition was for a few battalions at most. Colonel Curtis draws with a bolder pen; ten thousand men from the single state of Louisiana--and fifty thousand men--the total amount of volunteers authorised by the act of congress, forgetting we presume the portion of the fifty thousand that are already in the field under the act alluded to, the whole fifty thousand are embraced in the colonel's requisition upon the president!

Colonel Curtis no doubt feels the deep responsibility of his own position, in command at Camargo, where it is stated that government stores, munitions, clothing and supplies for the army are deposited to the value of five or six millions of dollars. This would be a prize in the present condition of the Mexican army worth fighting for. A formidable division of Mexicans under Urrea and several predatory corps, are undoubtedly in that direction. If General Taylor has not severely defeated Santa Anna--if, as is supposed, he has retired to Monterey, with a design of there defending himself, that place will be invested, and a large portion of Santa Anna's army may be detached towards the Rio Grande in pursuit of what they are so much in need of.

Meantime, General Scott, it will be seen, is actively occupied in approaching Vera Cruz. The probability is, that before this time he is in possession of that city, and with an army of 12 to 15,000 of our choicest troops, he is there, within 252 miles of the city of Mexico, and 240 miles from Tampico. From Tampico to San Luis Potosi, is 120 miles; from San Louis Potosi to Mexico is 380 miles, and to Saltillo 320 miles. Santa Anna left San Luis the 3d, and is said to have fought General Taylor on the 22d or 23d of February. By the 10th of March, the day assigned by report for General Scott to attack Vera Cruz, Santa Anna may have accomplished something of his errand to the north, and be able to retrace his steps in time to defend. San Luis before Gen. Scott could reach that place.

Vera Cruz has a population of not over six or seven thousand. Its importance to Mexico is as a commercial sea port, of which she has so few that are safe upon her eastern coast. In a time of war, when the commerce of Mexico is entirely suspended by blockade, Vera Cruz is comparatively valueless to them. To the United States it would be an important key, but not so important we apprehend, as that its possession would, as some assert, enable us to dictate a peace.

These are all speculations. True, but when intense interest is excited, it is impossible to restrain the mind from searching for probabilities. It is not only prudent, it is a duty to look out, and see, as well as we can, how the land lies. [AMA]

NNR 72.060, March 27, 1847 THE LATEST OFFICIAL ACCOUNTS FROM THE ARMY

The painful anxiety which now pervades the public mind in regard to the situation of General Taylor's army, has induced us to apply to the war department for the latest
authentic information on the subject. We have been furnished with two following dispatches, the last received from General Taylor, and we now lay them before our readers--Wash. Union

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION
Agua Nueva, 18 miles south of Saltillo, February 7, 1847.

Sir: I changed my headquarters to this place on the 5th inst., bringing forward, in the first instance, Lieut. Col. May's squadron of dragoons; two batteries, (Sherman's and Bragg's) and the regiment of Mississippi riflemen. Yesterday the second Kentucky and second and third Indiana regiments came up, and will be joined in a day or two by the other troops in and near Saltillo, except the small garrison of seven companies left in that town.

Although advised by Major General Scott to evacuate Saltillo, I am confirmed in my purpose of holding not only that point, but this position in front. Not to speak of the pernicious moral effect upon volunteer troops of falling back from points which we have gained, there are powerful military reasons for occupying this extremity of the pass rather than the other. The scarcity of water and supplies for a long distance in front compels the enemy either to risk an engagement in the field, or to hold himself aloof from us; while, if we fall back on Monterey, he could establish himself strongly at Saltillo, and be in a position to annoy more effectively our flanks and our communications.

I have no intelligence from the interior more recent or authentic than that heretofore communicated. There is understood to be no considerable force in our front, nor is it likely that any serious demonstration will be made in this direction. The frequent alarms since the middle of December, seem to have been without substantial foundation. I am happy to add that the population of Saltillo is fast returning to the city. Under the judicious management of Major Warren, a discreet officer of Illinois volunteers, who commands in the town, it is hoped that the people may remain quietly in their homes.

I respectfully inclose copies of statements, showing the names of the officers and men recently captured by the enemy, as reported in my despatch No. 11. I am sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. TAYLOR,
Major General U.S. army commanding.

The ADJUTANT GENERAL of the army,
Washington, D.C.

[AMA]

NRR 72.061 March 27, 1847 Memoranda of Dr. Jarvis, alarming rumors respecting Gen. Taylor's Army, and excitement in the Rio Grande

From the New Orleans Picayune, March 14

The United States schooner Agripa arrived yesterday afternoon, from the mouth of the Rio Grande, having sailed thence on the 6th instant. Dr. Jarvis, of the U. S. Army, came passenger on her. He is the bearer of the dispatches from Col. Curtis, commanded at Camargo, to the government at Washington.

Dr. Jarvis left on the 21st instant. There had been nothing received by Gen. Taylor for several days. The rumors which prevailed were brought through by Mexicans, and were of most contradictory character. To enable us to distinguish what is known to be true from what is merely rumored, and thus to correct as far as possible by the exaggerated reports in circulation, Dr. Jarvis has at our request furnished us with the following memoranda of events during the month of February of which he was personally cognizant.

[MEMORANDA OF DR. JARVIS]

Left Monterey on the morning of the 21st of February for Matamoros. At that time no apprehension of expectation of the approach of Santa Anna towards Saltillo was entertained, either by us or by the Mexicans, so far as we could learn by the
latter. A large force of cavalry was known, however, to be in the front of Gen. Taylor, which of course was made known by their capture of the detachment of the Arkansas and Kentucky cavalry advanced beyond San Incarnacion. The force of cavalry on this side of the Sierra Madre under command of General Urrea, estimated from six to eight thousand, was said to be at Victoria, and part as far towards Monterey as Mont Morales, when I left the former place. They were, in fact, in Victoria at the time of our troops marched to that place in January last, and returned to Tula as an advance brigade under General Quitman entered the town. The were supposed to setting up a corps of observation, and a belief was entertained that they would seize the first favorable opportunity to strike on our line of communication between Camargo and Monterey, and capture such trains as should happen to be on the road at that time. Gen. Taylor must have apprehended some intentions of this kind, for on my arrival at Matamoros I found them fortifying the piazza of that place in consequence of orders just received from Gen. Taylor to guard against the sudden attack of the whole or part of this force.

I left Camargo on the morning of the 26th of February to return to Monterey, in company with a train of 70 wagons, laden with supplies, and escorted by a company of cavalry, under command of Capt. T.F. Marshall, and a detachment of 20 men belonging to the 23 dragoons. We had not preceded to five miles when an order for our return, in consequence of instruction just received by express, which passes us on the road, directed to the quartermaster at Monterey, which were received from Col. Whitting assistant quartermaster general at the headquarters of General Taylor, directing, for the future, that all trains be stopped, as certain information had been received that a large force of enemy's cavalry, say four or five thousand, was in or near China, and that Cadereits are already occupied them. These last particulars are contained in a hasty note from the quartermaster at Monterey, dated February 23rd, and terminating it with the remark, "look out." With Col. Whiting's instructions also came the order of Gen. Taylor, dated Agua Nueva, February 21, the last one received up to the time of my leaving Camargo, March 2. This order is doubtless the dispatch of Gen. Taylor calling for reinforcements--alluded to by Capt. Montgomery in his note, as mentioned to him by Col. Harding.

On the morning of the 27th another express arrived at Camargo from the from the quartermaster at Monterey, stating, in a note, that he had sent one off the day before, but apprehended that he may have been put off, and, as he understood from Col. Whiting that there were important dispatches from General Taylor calling for reinforcements, he had sent another to advise of this fact.

About 2 o'clock the same day another express arrived with a note from the same officer, dated Monterey, 11 o'clock A.M. February 23, saying an express had just arrived from Saltillo bringing information that Santa Anna sent a summon to Gen. Taylor demanding his surrender. The general told him to come and take him. Santa Anna stated that he had twenty thousand men and that if Taylor demanding his surrender he would eat up in pieces. The note concludes: "The express which left after dark last night says that Taylor was giving the Mexicans hell."

This may be considered the last official communication received, all the subsequent information being derived from the Mexicans. I might here remark, that a note was received from the post master at Monterey, at the same time with the last communication of Capt. Montgomery, which gives the additional particulars that Gen. Taylor had fallen back from Agua Nueva to Saltillo, which I should infer also from the notes of Capt. M., although he does not directly say so. The Mexicans say they lost six pieces of candy at the former place. He moreover states that the General Marshall had gone to the pass of Los Muertos with a view of fortifying it, and large quantities of ammunition had been dispatched from Monterey from Saltillo.

The detachments of the 34 Ohio regiment, under Colonel Morgan and Lieut. Col. Irving--the former having seven companies at Seraivo, and the latter three at Marin--it was greatly feared at Camargo had been cut off by a large force of three thousand men, who are said to have occupied the latter place on the afternoon of the 23rd. Lieut. Col. Irving, in obedience to general order No. 11, is said to have left Marin in the morning of the same day it was occupied by the enemy, marching towards Seraivo, with a view of forming a junction with Col. Morgan, and than preceding to Monterey. Col. Morgan left Seraivo on the 24th, having destroyed, in obedience to the endorsement on the same general order, all such provision and supplies as he could not carry with him. He must of consequence have encountered the enemy in his route, as they had already, as we have seen above, occupied in force Marin, lying between him and Monterey.

Moreover, a train of 120 wagons, which left the 16th or the 17th, laden with provisions, clothing, and &c. is said to have been attacked on the 24th, at or near
Ramos, lying between Seraivo and Marin, and, with the escort, captured. The intelligence was brought in by an American or Mexican mule driver, who was with the train, and escaped at the time of the capture. He says that the Mexican s charged at the same time both the front and the rear of the train. After the bring (which was of short duration) ceased, he cautiously ventured from out of the chaparral, with a view of finding some of his comrades. He discovered the Mexican s busily engaged with unharnessing the mules from the wagons, and seeing none of his own party, made his way back, carefully avoiding the road to Camargo.

A hundred Mexican stories were in circulation at Camargo when I left in reference to the battle going on between Gen. Taylor and Santa Anna. They say it has already continued three days, with considerable loss on our side, but much greater on that of the Mexicans. Subsequent accounts represent Gen. Taylor as having fallen back on Monterey. The day I left Camargo a letter was received from the alcade of Vicer, saying that the Mexican troops had entered that town, twenty-four miles distant from the former place, and had made him prisoner of consequence of his endeavoring to secret stories left behind in his charge when Lieut. Col. McCook evacuated the place. Col. Curtis intended to march with his regiment to Monterey in the moment Col. Drake with the 34th Indiana regiment arrived from Matamoras to retrieve him. The latter officer was awaiting the arrival of the Mississippi regiment, which I met on the river a short distance below Matamoras, on its way up. The regiment and six companies of the Virginia regiment, under Lieut. Col. Randolph, which arrived at Camargo the day I left that place, are the only volunteer regiments that had arrived below to Lobos. From what source Gen. Taylor is to expect relief is impossible to say. --Every soldier, and, in fact, double or thrice the number that now constitute the garrisons at the different depots, are actually necessary for their defense, and not one can be spared. Information can hardly reach Gen. Scott in time for him to march a division to his relief.

In addition to the above, which reduces to some order and certainly our information from the Rio Grande, we learn further from Dr. Jarvis that a bearer of dispatches had left Camargo from Tampico, and sailed from the mouth of the Rio Grande on the 6th instant, on the McKim. Id the information we give in another column from Tampico be entirely authentic, the messenger would not reach his destination till the departure of all the troops which can be spared from that point. It would seem, however, that Tampico, by the way of Victoria, General Taylor, by the way of Victoria, General Taylor must look for his reinforcements.

The Mexican citizens in the valley of the Rio Grande are abandoning their homes in crowds. Matamoras and Camargo are stripped of their native inhabitants. They dread the approach of their own army more than the presence of ours.

No fears are expressed for the safety of Camargo, where we have a vast amount of stores. There are 1,500 fighting men in the place, including all classes. They are well armed, and the place so strongly fortified that it will not probably be attempted.

[MLL]
the taxes and customs of a nation can be seized and distributed ad libitum already, it is hard to conceive what further advantages are to be gained by the most amicable negotiations. What does President Polk want to buy with two millions of dollars, when he can get so much for nothing? Philip of Macedon's receipt for taking a fort was sensible enough; but who ever drove an ass laden with silver into an unprotected town? The Mexicans have clearly the vantage ground of their foes. Defeat and invasion may easily be put up with when they leave the conquerors beggars and the vanquished choosers. Santa Anna is flattered with compliments and beset with solicitation, and has the daily refusal of half a dozen overtures of the eternal amity of his enemies. He can hardly do better than strengthen himself by additional defeats and fresh repulses, and leave his adversaries to complete their humiliation and embarrassments by a protracted career of glory.” [AMA]

NNR 72.064 March 27, 1847 Posture of the fleet and armies and Anxiety to ascertain the results of the combat between Santa Anna and Taylor

LATEST FROM OUR ARMY

What a week of intense anxiety to this whole country. How many throbbing hearts, at the moment we put this paper to press, are aching with suspense and yet dreading to hear the intelligence that is expected every hour.

General SCOTT, with the main body of our choicest troops, as at the last dates, on shipboard, on the eve of moving to the assault at Ver Cruz. The next arrival may tell of triumph or defeat--but of blood, and of loss of many lives, beyond doubt.

General Taylor, when our last accounts left him, was on the very eve being attacked by Santa Anna, with the main body of the Mexican army. Numerous Mexican reports say that the battles took place, results variously stated. The most probable of them, that an attempt was made by Minon to surprise Taylor on the night of the 22nd February, at Agua Nueva, 18 miles beyond Saltillo, and that the Mexicans were severely repulsed, losing 400 men. The next morning Gen. Taylor it is believed to retire to Saltillo--where according some accounts another engagement took place--according to others Taylor fell back to Monterey without having any fight. All is uncertainty and anxiety.

This painful suspense in heightened by the fact, that communications from Monterey to Matamoros line been cut off. It is a striking circumstance, that at Matamoros on the 11th of March, they had no intelligence from Gen. Taylor later than the 21st February--and that our latest advises from him, reach us through the city of Mexico! Whatever may have been the result of the collision of the two hostile armies, Gen. Taylor's position must be painful and precarious. If in Monterey, he may be there invested by a portion of Santa Anna's army, whilst with the remainder of his Mexicans that dexterous commander may unite with the forces under Urrea and Canalea, that have already cut off communications in the rear of Gen. Taylor, and together make a dash for Camargo, Matamoros, and the vast military stores that are known to there in depot, accounting it is said to six or seven million in value. The commander at Camargo was evidently startled by the responsibility of his situation, when he dispatched an officer to Washington with a requisition on the president for fifty thousand men.

We have no further intelligence this week from Santa Fe, from which our last week's advices left in a state of great alarm, in consequence of the insurrection movement, and the murder of Governor Bent and his companion in that vicinity. Col. Doniphan's command was left in imminent peril--and fearful apprehensions are entertained for the late of every one of the detachments of the "army of the north".

The arrival of the schooner Hume, at N. Orleans, furnishes Tampico dates to the 7th instant. The substance of the news by her is, that--

General PATTERSON left Tampico on the 21st, the steamer Alabama, to take command of his division under General Scott--General Pillow sailed on the fifth--and General Quitman and Shields were to leave Tampico on the 8th, and 650 of their troops accompanied by General Jessup, and Surgeon Gen. Lawson. All the squadron from Lobos and Tampico were to rendezvous at Anton Lizardo, from which it is not likely that General Scott would proceed to land without being joined by the officers just named.
At Tampico, every hour some new Mexicans version of the affairs between Santa Anna and General Taylor seems to have been received from the Mexicans--no one could tell what to rely on. The last postscript received was from Mr. Kendall to the Picayune, dated the 7th, says: "General Taylor has had no fight, but has fallen back on Saltillo and Monterey." [MLL]

NNR 72.064 March 27, 1847 Jose Mariano de Salas commences revolution in the capital

REVOLUTION IN MEXICO

By the way of Tampico we learn that on the night of the 26th February, a portion of the National Guard in the city of Mexico made its first essay as a pronunciamento. The regiments known as the "Independence" and "Hidalgo", the battalion of "Victoria" and a part of the bodies of "Mima" of "Zapadores" and of "Chalchicomula" under the orders of Gen. D. Martias Pena y Barragan, proclaimed a "plan." The government had at its disposition to oppose this revolutionary attempt 800 troops in the citadel, the 6th permanent infantry, the squadron of Pajaca and those bodies of the National Guard not in favor of pronunciamento. Gen. Canalizo, as commander-in-chief, was preparing to attack the revolutionary forces with a column of 1,000 men.

The New Orleans paper says, "We know not the issue of this revolutionary attempt, but inline to the opinion that it will be successful. Mr. Kendall writes that it has succeeded and the Gen. Salas is in power. He founds his statements on reports at Tampico." Our papers are not late enough to verify them. The administration of Farias has long been tottering and has in all probability succumbed. [MLL]

NNR 72.065 April 3, 1847 Letter on the demoralization of forces under Santa Anna

LETTER FROM PAYMASTER J.B. BUTLER

Monterey, March 3, 1847

I have no doubt of the dissolution of Santa Anna's army, morally and physically, and there will be no more fighting in the region, if there be anywhere.

Gen. Santa Anna is really to be pitied. His men are a wretched set. He had twice, during the battle, to enterprise his lancers to prevent desertion, and they shot down some fifty at each time before he could prevent the flight of the infantry. This information comes from prisoners who deserted as soon as exchanged, and came into Gen. Taylor's camp. They report that Santa Anna is destitute of all kinds of provinces, and that he cannot keep them together.

Santa Anna expected an easy victory. His army was told that the Americans had an abundance of provisions and lots of money, and that they must enter Saltillo the day of the battle and take their supper at our expense. This is the report of persons taken, officers as well as privates. [MLL]

NNR 72.065 April 3, 1847 Gen. Kearny reaches California, attacks Los Angeles

GENERAL KEARNY'S ARRIVAL AT CALIFORNIA

Letters from Tampico, near San Blas, give accounts from California to the 18th of January. Gen. Kearny had arrived with 200 men near New Mexico. Uniting other forces with his own, he immediately attacked the town of Los Angeles, and retook it, after a stout resistance. Upper California is now is our undisputed possession. [MLL]
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Santa Anna expected an easy victory. His army was told that the Americans had an abundance of provisions and lots of money, and that they must enter Saltillo the day of the battle and take their supper at our expense. This is from reports of persons taken, officers as well as privates. [AMA]

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 19
Headquarters of the Army
Tampico, February 18, 1847

The General-in-chief announces to the army the staff officers who are attached to general headquarters in the field.

Department of Orders

First Lieut. H.L. Scott, 4th infantry, aid-de-camp and acting assistant adjutant general.
First Lieut. T. Williams, 4th artillery, aid-de-camp.
First Lieut. E. P. Seammon, topographical engineer, acting aid-de-camp.
Second Lieut. G. W. Lay, 6th infantry, military secretary.

General Staff Officers

Capt. James Monroe, 6th infantry, acting assistant inspector general.
Col. J. G. Totten, chief of the corps of engineers.
Major W. Turnbull, acting chief of topographical engineers.
Capt. B. Huger, acting chief of ordinance.
Major S. McRee, acting chief of the quartermasters department.
Capt. J. B. Grayson, acting chief of subsistance department.
Major E. Kirby, acting chief of pay department.
Surgeon Gen. T. Lawson, chief of the medical department.

The senior field officer of artillery, Col. J. Bankhead, 2d artillery, will enter upon the duties of chief of artillery as soon as there shall be occasion for planting heavy batteries. All general staff officers will be mainly employed in their respective departments of duty, and any orders that any chief of department may give in relation to his peculiar duties in the name and by the authority of the general in-chief of the army, will be promptly obeyed.

By command of Major General Scott.

H.L. Scott, A.A.A.G.

WASHINGTON, MARCH 27, 1847.

Extracts from the act approved March 3, 1847, in reference to the acceptance of
such of the volunteers now with the army in Mexico, as may, on the expiration of
their present term, voluntarily engage to re-enter the service for the period of during
the war.

Sec. 3. And it be further enacted, That the president be and he is hereby authorized
to accept the services of such of the volunteers now in Mexico as, in his opinion, the
state of the public service may require, and who may, at the termination of the
present term, voluntarily engage to serve during the war with Mexico, and to
organize the same into companies, battalions, and regiments, agreeably to existing
laws, and to commission the officers for the same.

Sec 4. And it be further enacted, That in addition to pay and allowances provided for
the volunteers now in the service of the United States, under existing laws, each
volunteer who shall re-enter the service under the provisions of this act in Mexico,
immediately after the close of his present term of service, shall be entitled to a
bounty of twelve dollars, to be paid as soon as the company shall have been duly
mustered and received by the mustering and inspecting officer.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That the president be and he is hereby authorized
to accept the service of individual volunteers to fill vacancies which may occur by
death, discharge, or other causes in the volunteer regiments or corps now in the
service of the United States, or which may be received during the existing war with
Mexico.

2. In conformity with the law, the president directs that the volunteers in Mexico be
received into the service of the United States for "during the war," should they so
desire, and the officers commanding divisions, brigades, or a less number of the
forces in Mexico, are authorized to accept their services, designate proper officers to
remuster them on the expiration of their present terms, and are directed to take all
proper measure within the scope of their powers to carry out the provisions of the
law.

3. The volunteers who may so render their services for a second term will be
received by companies, consisting of one captain, one first lieutenant, two second
lieutenants, and not less than sixty-four privates and then be organized into
battalions and regiments. Although preferable, it is not deemed indispensable and
commands should be made up of officers and men from state.

4. Single companies, as well as independent battalions to consist of four companies,
to be commanded by majors, each with an acting adjutant, may be accepted; and
may, if deemed expedient, be associated for camp and field service with the regular
troops. If organized into brigades and divisions, the requirements of the act
approved June 18, 1846, must be observed.

5. The Captain and subalterns will be chosen by the men of the several companies,
and will be commissioned by the president accordingly; but in the mean time the
company officers will at once enter upon their duties on the authority of the officer
who may forward the evidence of their election. It is made the duty of the several
Brigadier Generals of volunteers, or such officers as they designate for that purpose,
to superintend and hold the elections of the company officers.

6. The field officers will be appointed by the president; and as it is highly essential to
the public interest that none but active, efficient officers of every grade should
receive commissions, the president invites the recommendations of the several
general officers of volunteers serving in the field; and also an expression of the
preference of the officers and men who may compose each battalion or regiment, on
satisfactory recommendations forwarded from the army.

7. The further instructions of the President, if any be necessary, will be
communicated direct to the General commanding in chief and to Major General
Taylor.

8. Proper arrangements will be made by the Paymaster General to pay the bounty of
twelve dollars in hand to each volunteer as soon as the company to which he may
belong shall have duly mustered and received by the mustering and inspecting
officer.

9. In the execution of the provisions of this order the public interest will not admit of
any delay; and all officers on whom this duty may develop are required to forward
their reports without loss of time, to enable the president to make appointments and
to complete the re-organization of the volunteer forces according to law. By order, R.
Glorious Example. We beg to direct the attention of our readers to an account of the loss of the American brig of war Somers, which abounds with traits of heroism—heroism, not in destroying, but in saving—which do honor to humanity. The brig was upset in a squall; before she foundered, one boat only could be got out; the men appointed to her implored others on board the sinking ship to take their places, and some actually returned on board to perish with their comrades. But this was not all. The officers and the crews of the French, Spanish, and English ships of war, who witnessed the disaster, exerted themselves with the most glorious bravery to save the lives of the poor fellow clinging to spars and wreckage. In this gallant endeavor, Frenchmen, Spaniards, and Englishmen were all on the sublime level of the highest courage and most exalted humanity. How poor are feats of arms compared with this display of the best virtues of the three nations in sight of each other—one good heart beating in common in all! To crown the glory, the saved were worthy of their preservers, as generous, as brae, as devoted.

The Somers, being employed in the blockade of Vera Cruz, was capsized in a sudden squall; and it was soon clear that she was a sinking state. The following account of what passed is by one of the American crew: "The small quarter boat was cleared away, and dropped carefully round to leeward and manned by her usual complement of five oarsmen. Midshipmen Clarke was ordered by Captain Semmes to take charge of the boat. Finding that there was no chance of saving the brig, and she was fast sinking, Capt. Semmes ordered Mr. Clarke to shove off with Dr. Wright and seventeen men, besides Purser Steele, to pull for Green Island, about half a mile distant, and immediately to return, if possible, and save more lives. This order was at once executed, but not until some of those in the boat had solicited, by name, each of the officers left the wreck to come with them. These officers resolutely declared that they would wait and take their chances with the brig. Passed Midshipmen Hynson, who had been partially disabled by a bad burn received in the firing of the Creole, was particularly implored to go into the boat. A lad of the Name of Nutley jumped out of the boat and offered his place to Mr. Hynson, and a man of the name of Powers did the same thing. Mr. Hynson refusing both offers, these men then declared that others might have their places, and then they would abide on the wreck with Mr. Hynson. Captian Semmes who was in impaired health, was also to go, but refused. Lieut. Parker answered similar solicitation by saying he would drown with the brig. Lieut. Claiborne and Act'g Master Clemson held the same language. It is a remarkable circumstance that three of the officers and all f the men who acted thus nobly saved. When the boat shoved off, the gale was blowing with great violence, and a heavy sea running, so that for some moments it was a matter of doubt whether the boat would live. The boat, however, reached the island in about twenty minutes. As soon as the men were landed, Mr. Clarke, disregarding the most strenuous entreaties, resolutely shoved off again with a volunteer crew, at the imminent hazard of their lives. In less then three minutes after the boat left the brig, Capt. Semmes and Lieut. Parker were picked up by Mr. Clarke from a grating, and Jacob Hazard, yeoman, was rescued swimming near them. Those who survived have told of many instances of heroic self-devotion. The acting master Henry A. Clemsen, was struggling on a small steering sail boom with five others, two of whom could not swim. He found that all could not be supported, and he left and struck out alone and unsupported. He was seen for the last time upon a skylight, and probably perished in the surf. The five men he left were saved, the two who could not swim being supported by their companions, Colson and Williamson. Those who were lying at Sacrificios, about two miles to the leeward of the wreck, her Britannic Majesty's ships Endymion and Alarm, and brig Daring, commanded respectively by Captains Lambert, Franklin, and Matson; the
French brigs Pylade and Mercure, Captains Dubut and La Voyaire; and the Spanish
corvette Luisa Fernanda, Capt. Puente. As soon as the accident was discovered, the
boats of all these vessels were simultaneously called away. The crew of the
Endymion, to the number of 200, came aft and volunteered. There was the most
noble emulation as to which vessel should use the greatest expedition and persevere
in the most strenuous exertions. The violence of the gale was such at that time none
of the boats could pull against it, and it was with the greatest regret that Capt.
Lambert and others in authority felt it to be their duty to make signals recalling their
boats. An hour or two afterwards, when there was a slight abatement of the gale,
they again put forth at the peril of their lives, and succeeded by a miracle in
reaching safety, but where his situation was most critical. The most gallant ad well-
directed efforts were made by the officers and crew in the boat of the Mercure. She
rescued ten men at se to leeward, on a spar. On hardly knows which to admire
most, the forethought or the daring of this noble adventure. The risk was
incalculable. Five boats representing each of the foreign vessels, reached the island,
and took off twenty-three persons to their respective vessels, where they were
received with a degree of kindness and delicate consideration which I cannot
adequately describe, but which none of us will ever forget. They gave us
refreshments and supplied us with clothes. I regret that I do not know the names of
all the generous and brave officers who were in charge of the boats of the different
vessels. I cannot however forbear mentioning such as I have learned, Lieut. Wood
and the gunner of the Endymion, and Midshipman Saliz, of the Pylade.” [AMA, MSM]

**NNR 72.067 April 3, 1847 OFFER OF PREMIUM FOR AN ESSAY ON THE WAR OF MEXICO**

**PIECE PREMIUM.**

The American peace society hereby offer a premium of $500 for the best review of
the present war with Mexico, the essays to be presented in four months after the
close of the war, and the premium, if any essays is denied worthy of it, to be
awarded by the Hon. Simon Greenleaf LL.D., the Rev. Francis Wayland, D.D, and the
Rev. Wm. Jenks, D.D.

The review should be written without reference to political parties, and present such
a view of the subject as will command itself when the hour of sober and candid
reflection shall come, to the good sense of fair minded men in every party and in all
sections of the country. The war, in its origin, its progress, and the whole sweep of
its evils to all concerned, should be reviewed (the essay to be not less than one
hundred and fifty, nor more that two hundred and fifty pages duodecimo,) on the
principles of christianity, and an enlightened statesmanship, showing especially its
waste of treasure and human life; its consistency with the genius of our republican
institutions, as well as with the precepts of our religion, and the spirit of the age; its
bearings, immediate and remote on free popular government here, and through the
world; how its evils might have been avoided with better results to both parties;--
and what means may and should be adopted by nations to prevent similar evils in
future. Our sole aim is to promote the cause of permanent peace by turning this
war into effectual warning against resorts tot he sword hereafter.

The manuscripts may be fowarded to the subscriber, at 21 Cornhill, Boston, or to M.
W. Dodd’s care Brick Church Chapel, New York.

By order of the executive committee of the American Peace society

Geo. C. Beckwith, Cor. Sec.

*U. S. Gazette*

[MSM]

**NNR 72.068, April 3, 1847 OFFICIAL DESPATCHES OF GEN. TAYLOR**

Headquarters Army of Occupation.
Camp on the field of battle, Buena Vista.
Meixico, February 24, 1847

SIR: I have the honor to report that, having become assured on the 20 th inst., that
the enemy had assembled in very heavy force at Encarnacion, thirty miles in front of Agua Nueva, with the evident deign of attacking my position, I broke up my camp at the latter of Buena Vista seven miles south of Saltillo. A cavalry force left at Agua Nueva for the purpose of covering the removal of supplies was driven in during the night, and on the morning of the 22d the Mexican army appeared immediately in front of our position. At 11 o’clock, a.m., a flag was sent, bearing from General Santa Anna a summons of unconditional surrender. To which I immediately returned a negative reply. The summons and my reply are herewith enclosed. The action was commenced late in the afternoon between the light troops on the left flank, but was not seriously engaged until the morning of the 23d, when the enemy made an effort to force the left flank of our position. An obstinate and sanguinary conflict was maintained; with short intervals, throughout the day, the result being that the enemy was completely repulsed from our lines. An attack of cavalry upon the rancho of Buena Vista and a demonstration upon the city of Saltillo itself were likewise handsomely repelled. Early in the night the enemy withdrew from his camp and fell back upon Agua Nueva, a distance of twelve miles.

Our own force engaged at all points in this action fell somewhat short of 5,400 men, while that of the enemy, from the statement of General Santa Anna, may be estimated at 20,000. Our success against such odds is a sufficient encomium on the good conduct of our troops. In a more detailed official report, I shall have the satisfaction of bringing to the notice of the government the conspicuous gallantry of particular officers and corps. I may be permitted here, however to acknowledge my great obligation to Brig. Gen. Wool, the second in command, to whom I fell particularly indebted for his valuable services on this occasion.

Our loss has been severe, and will not probably fall short of 700 men. The Mexican loss has been immense. I shall take the earliest opportunity of forwarding a correct list of the casualties of the day.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. TAYLOR
Maj. General U.S.A. commanding

The adjutant General of the Army, Washington, D.C.

NNR 72.068, April 3, 1847 SUMMONS OF SANTA ANNA TO GEN. TAYLOR

You are summoned by twenty thousand men, and cannot, in any human probability, avoid suffering a rout, and being cut to pieces with your troops; but as you deserve consideration and particular esteem, I wish to save you from a catastrophe, and for that purpose give you this notice, in order that you may surrender at a discretion under the assurance that you will be treated with the consideration belonging to the Mexican character, to which end you will be granted an hour’s time to make up your mind, to commence from the moment when my flag of truce arrives in your camp.

With this view, I assure you of my particular consideration.

God and Liberty.
Camp at Enanetada, February 22d, 1847.
ANT LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

To Gen. Z. Taylor commanding the forces of the United States.

[AMA]

NNR 72.068 April 3, 1847 LOSSES OF THE KENTUCKY VOLUNTEER REGIMENT AT BUEAN VISTA

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE ARMY, WASHINGTON, D.C. General Taylor’s report of the killed, wounded, and missing, as far as ascertained on the 1st of March, accompanies the despatches. We shall publish it when it is completed. We could not have it in time for the present mail. The National Intelligencer of this morning says: “We are informed, on the authority of an officer who was present, and who left Saltillo in the beginning of last month, that the Kentucky cavalry lost in action sixty-
one men, viz: 29 killed and 32 wounded—which would make our aggregate loss eight hundred and one, or nearly one-sixth of the whole force engaged."

NNR 72.068-72.069 dispatch from Com. David Conner on the investment of Veracruz

Official Despatches From Com. Conner.

Investment of Vera Cruz -By the schooner Portia, Capt. Powrs, which reached New Orleans, on the 25th ult., the following important despatch was received:-

U.S Ship Raritan,

Of Sacrificios, March 10, 1847.

Sir:-In my last despatch, dated on the 7th instant, I informed the department of he arrival of Major General Scott at Anton Lizardo. Most of the transports, with the troops and the materiel of the army, having arrived, about the same time a speedy disembarkation was resolved upon, it being quite important that we should effect a landing before a norther should come on, as this would delay us two or three days. After a joint reconnaissance, made by the general and myself in the steamer Petrita, the beach due west from Sacrificios, one of the points spoken of in my previous letters, was selected as the most suitable for the purpose. The anchorage near this place being extremely contracted, it became necessary, I order to avoid crowding it with an undue number of vessels, to transfer most of he troops to the vessels of war for transportation to Sacrificios.-Accordingly, on the morning of the 9th, at day light, all necessary preparations—such as launching and numbering the boats, detailing officers, &c.—having been previously made, this transfer was commenced. The frigates received on board between twenty-five and twenty-eight hundred men each, with their arms and accoutrements, and the sloops and smaller vessels numbers in proportion.

This part of the movement was completed very successfully about 11 o'clock, a.m., and a few minutes thereafter the squadron under my command, accompanied by the commanding general, in the steamship Massachusetts, and such of the transports as had been selected for he purpose, got under way. The weather was very fine—indeed we could not have been more favored in this particular than we were. We had a fresh and yet gentle breeze from the southeast, and a perfectly smooth sea. The passage to Sacrificios occupied us between two and three hours. Each ship came in and anchored without the slightest disorder of confusion, in the small space allotted to her—the harbor being still very much crowded notwithstanding the number of transports we had left behind. The disembarkation commenced on the instant. Whilst we were transferring the troops fromt the ships to the serf-boats, (sixty five in number,) I directed the steamers Spitfire and Vixen, and the five gun boats, to form in a line parallel with and lose in to the beach, to cover the landing.

This order was promptly executed, and these small vessels, from the lightness of their draught, were enabled to take positions within good grape-range of the shore. As the boats severally received their complements of troops, they assembled, in a line abreast, between the fleet and the gun-boats; and when all were ready, they pulled in together, under the guidance of a number of the officers of the squadron, who had been detailed for this purpose.—General Worth commanded this, the first line of the army, and had the satisfaction of forming his command on the beach and neighboring heights just before sunset. Four thousand five hundred men were thus thrown on shore, almost simultaneously. No enemy appeared to offer us the slightest opposition. The first line being landed, the boats, in successive trips, relieved the men-of-war and transports of their remaining troops, by 10 o'clock, P. M. The whole army (save a few straggling companies) consisting of upwar is of ten thousand men, were thus safely deposited on shore, without the slightest accident of any kind. The officers and seamen under my command vied with each other on this occasion, in a zealous and energetic performance of their duty. I cannot but express to the department the great satisfaction I have derived from witnessing their efforts to contribute all in their own power to the success of their more fortunate brethren of the army.

The weather still continues fine to-day, we are engaged in landing the artillery, horses, provisions, and other material. The steamer N Orleans, with the Louisiana regiment of volunteers, 800 strong, arrived most opportunely, at

Anton Lizardo, just as we had put ourselves in motion. She joined us, and her
troops were landed with the rest. Another transport arrived at this anchorage to-day. Her troops have also been landed. Gen. Scott has now with him upwards of eleven thousand men. At his request, I permitted the marines of the squadron, under Capt. Edson, to join him, as a part of the third regiment of artillery. The general in chief landed, this morning, and the army put itself in motion at an early hour, to form its line around the city. There has been some distant firing of shot and shells from the town and castle upon the troops, as they advanced, but without result. I am still of the opinion, expressed in my previous communications, as to the inability of the enemy to hold out for any length of time. The castle has, at most, but four or five weeks’ provisions, and the town about enough to last for the same time.-

I am very respectfully, &c.
D. CONNER
Commanding home squadron.

Hon. J. Y. Mason, Sec’y navy, Washington.

NRR 72.069 April 3, 1847 landing of the Army at Veracuz

The Picayune furnishes the following:

Memorandum furnished by Captain Powers, of he schooner Portia.

Schooner Portia, Captain Powers, 8 days from Tampico anchorage, but was detained to the south and east of Vera Cruz by a heavy north gale until the 17th inst. The United States squadron and all the transports left Point Lizardo for Sacrificios on the 9th inst., with 12,100 troops. On the morning of the 10th a landing of all the troops and marines was effected within three miles of Vera Cruz, without much opposition from the enemy, as the landing was well covered by a constant discharge of bomb shells and round shot from the U. S. steamers and gun boats anchored near the beach and in front of the landing. Immediately after and organization of the American forces on the beach, they took up a line of march over the sand hills to the attack of the enemy’s outposts and fortifications, situated from one to three miles from the castle and forts of the city. They carried everyone by storm, not, however without losing seventeen men.

On the 11th and 12th, the American forces were employed in throwing up breast works and digging entrenchments. Occasional skirmishing took place with the enemy, who were throwing showers of bomb shells and round shot from the castle and city, but without much effect. During this time the seamen were landing provisions and ammunitions from the transports.

On the 12th, a strong north gale set in, which cut off still further communication. We left during the norther, and as we were unable to make progress to the north, believe that it was impossible for our bombs and shells to have been landed until the 18th instant, so that the bombardment of the castle and Vera Cruz did not probably commence until the 20th.

There were some feats of bravery displayed on the 11th in which Col. Dickerson, of he Palmetto regiment, S. Carolina, was wounded in the breast by a musket ball from the enemy, and Captain Alburtis, of the 2nd infantry, had his head shot off by an 52 pound ball.-This same ball broke a drumer's arm and took of a private's leg.

But on the same day the American army had gained complete possession of all the fortifications of the enemy which were raised by them to stop our troops from approaching the city. All the water-pipes leading to the city were cut off, and all the communication effectually stopped. Gen. Scott landed in person on the 11th inst. A French bark ran the blockade and moored under the walls of the castle on the morning of the 13th, and many of our transports were ready to leave for the U. States as soon as the norther was over. The vessel brings despatches and letter bags from every vessel in the Gulf Squadron then at Sacrificios. [ANP]
Dr. Turner, of the U.S. army, who arrived at Matamoros on the 9th inst., from Monterey, brought the glorious intelligence of another brilliant victory over the Mexican army.

The scene of action was at Buena Vista, about six miles west of Saltillo. The fighting commenced on the 22d of February, and ended on the 23d.

Santa Anna retired to Agua Nueva, a distance of ten miles, leaving four thousand killed and wounded on the field. The loss on our part was but seven hundred killed and wounded.

Santa Anna's army amounted to about 15,000 men. That of Gen. Taylor amounted to about 5,000, nearly all volunteers. His army is composed of Washington's, Bragg's, and Thomas' batteries; one squadron of the 1st and 2d dragoons; the Arkansas and Kentucky cavalry; the first Mississippi, and second Kentucky regiments, and one company of Texas volunteers.

Dr. T. brought a list of sixty-three officers killed and wounded.

The official despatches of General Taylor have been cut off.

Col. Morgan's regiment of Ohio volunteers having been reinforced by a command from Monterey, had reached that place in safety.

Colonel Curtis, of Ohio, with one company, Capt. Hunter's of the U.S. dragoons, his own regiment, and one of Indiana volunteers; the Virginia regiment, and I think, some Texian rangers, in all about 2000 men, was about leave Camargo to attack General Urrea, who is said to be about thirty miles south of that place, with an army of from four thousand to five thousand men, principally rancheros.

He is believed to have with him only 1500 regular troops. A great many, if not all of these rancheros, as soon as they hear of the discomfiture of Santa Anna's army will disperse, and the gallant Colonel will no doubt obtain the victory.

Of the defences at the mouth of the river I know nothing, but have been told that they will make a strong resistance.

The fortifications at Brazos, with a force of artillery, and persons in the quarter master's employ, which can be raised as a garrison, are sufficient to drive back a command of at least 2,500 or 3,000 Mexicans.

The works erected may be technically termed a continued line, enclosed for the quartermaster's and commissaries store in depot. The parapet is built of barrel of damaged commissaries stores, with sand bags at the front, thrown up against the barrels, which form the exterior slope.

The armament of the fort consists of four pieces of artillery, two twelve and two six pounders in barbette, which sweeps the foot of and crosses fires on the level plane over which the enemy would be compelled to advance. They have also about 300 muskets to line the parapot. This was thrown up when an attack was daily expected.

We annex Santa Anna's account of the battle of Buena Vista, as transmitted for the Tampico Sentinel:

Camp near Buena Vista, Feb. 23d, 1847

Excellent Sir: After two days of battle, in which the enemy, with a force of from 8,000 to 9,000 men and 26 pieces of artillery, and two flags.

I have determined to go back to Agua Nueva, to provide myself with provision, not having a single biscuit or a grain of rice left. Thanks to the position occupied by the enemy he had not been completely beaten, but he left on the field about 2,000 dead.

Both armies have been cut to pieces, but the trophies of war will give you an idea on which side has been the advantage.

We have struggled with hunger and thirst during forty hours, and if we can provide
ourselves with provisions we will go again to charge the enemy.

The soldiers under my command have done their duty, and crowned the honor of the Mexican nation with glory.

The enemy has seen that neither his advantageous position, nor the nature of the ground, or the state of the season, for it has been raining during the action, could prevent the terrific charge of the bayonet; which left him terrified.

SANTA ANNA

[NRN 72.069-72.070 April 3, 1847 American officers killed and wounded at Buena Vista

American Officers Killed and Wounded at the Battle of Buena Vista.

Regulars.

Killed-Captain Lincoln, Assistant Adjutant General.

Wounded-Capt. E. Stein, 1st dragons, severely; Lieutenant S. G. French, 3d artillery, severely; Lieut. J.J.P. O’Brien, 4th artillery, slightly.

Mississippi Rifles.

Killed-Lieuts. R. S. Moore and F. McNulty.

Wounded-Colonel J.P/ Davis, severely; Captain J. M. Sharpe, severely, Lieutenant A. B. Corwin, slightly; Lieuts. Posey and Stiockton, slightly.

First Kentucky Cavalry.

Killed-Adjutant Vaughan.

Wounded-One Captain and three Lieutenants, (no names given)

Arkansas Cavalary.


Wounded-Lieut. S. A. Redder.

Second Kentucky Foot Rifles.


Wounded-Lieutenants E. S. Barbour, Withers, and Mosier.

Indiana Brigade.

Wounded-General Lane.

Second Regiment.


Wounded-Caps. Sanders and Osborn; and Lieutenants Cayen, Pennington, Morse, Lewis, Davis, and Epperson.

Third Regiment.
Killed-Captain Faggat.

Wounded-Major Gorman and Capt. Sleep.

Illinois Brigade-First Regiment.

Killed-Col. J.J. Hardin, commanding; Captain Zabriskie and Lieut. Haughton.


Second Regiment.

Killed-Captain Woodward; Lieutenants Brunton, Fletcher, Ferguson, Rollins, Bartheson, Athuson, and Price.


Texas Company.

Killed-1st Lieutenant Campbell, and 2d Lieut. Leonard.

Wounded-Capt. Conner.

Recapitulation.

Killed-3 Colonels. 1 Lieut. Colonel, 9 Captains, 14 Lieutenants- total killed 27.

Wounded-1 Brig. General, 1 Colonel, 1 Major, 9 Captains, 29 Lieutenants- total wounded 37. [ANP]

NNR 72.070 April 3, 1847 details of the victory at Buena Vista

From the N. O. Delta March 23, 12 M.

Additional Particulars

On the 22d, Santa Anna began the battle by various manoeuvres, attempting to out-flank and terrify old "Rough and Ready." On that day the battle was confined to skirmishing and cannonading, without much effect on either side.

In the mean time Santa Anna had sent a large force to Taylor's rear, but our artillery opened upon them with great effect, and they were soon compelled to withdraw.

On the 23d the battle commenced in real earnest, and raged with great violence during the whole day. The Americans did not wait the attack, but with the most daring impetuosity, with loud huzzas, rushed into the battle, their officers leading them gallantly.

General Taylor was in the thickest of the fight and received a ball through his overcoat, but was not injured.

Adjutant Bliss was slightly wounded at the side of Gen. Taylor. Ddj. Lincoln also, of the medical staff and also of the General's staff, the intrepid young officer who so distinguished himself at Resaca de la Palma, was killed.

The battle of the 23d continued from early in the morning until about 4 P.M., when Santa Anna withdrew from the field, and retired to Agua Nueva for reinforcements.

It will be remembered that Santa Anna's reserve corps, commanded by Gen. Vasquez, had been delayed in its march, and has no doubt joined him a few days after the battle.
In the meantime his army is starving and many of his men are deserting.

Captain Hunter's strong artillery company was not in the action, but had left Monterey to join Gen. Taylor, with six cannon, two being 8 pounders.

On the 7th of March, one of he Ohio regiments also left Monterey to join General Taylor. If these and Capt. Prentiss's artillery arrive in time, the General's heavy loss will be fully repaired, and he will be ready to meet Santa Anna again.

General Taylor, at the last accounts, was still maintaining his position undisturbed by the enemy.

An exchange of prisoners had taken place, and old "Rough and Ready"'s promise to Col. Marshall, to get back Cassius M. Clay, and his party, by taking enough Mexican prisoners to exchange for them, has been redeemed.

General Wool greatly distinguished himself in the battle, and fought like a hero.

After the battle Gen. Taylor demanded of Santa Anna an unconditional surrender of his whole army, which the latter declined, but in return requested that Gen. Taylor should surrender immediately to him. Immortal be the reply of old "Rough and Ready," as delivered by the gallant Lieut. Crittendem:-"General Taylor never surrenders."

Santa Anna's adjutant general was captured by the Americans, but was afterwards exchanged.

Gen. Taylor occupied his ground on the 24th and 25th without opposition.

Col. Morgan, of the Ohio volunteers, with a small force, cut his way through large bodies of Mexicans and arrived at Marin.

A detachment of three companies under command of Captain Geddings, was sent to his relief, and the whole party are said to have arrived in safety at Monterey.

A train of 100 wagons, on their way to Monterey from Camargo, under an escort of thirty volunteers, was captured by a body of Mexican cavalry, a few miles beyond Marin. Three of the men made good their escape- the rest were taken prisoners.

A young lady, the daughter of an American citizen, living in Mexico, and returning home from New Orleans, where she has been going to school, was taken with this train, her father having been killed by the Mexicans. She, however, had escaped, and arrived at Monterey in safety, where her misfortunes had excited the most lively sympathy. The lady's name is Miss Burns.

Col. Curtis of the Ohio volunteers, had started on his explanation (indecipherable text) who was at Aldamas, a village on the Sad Juan river, about 40 miles from Camargo.

The Colonel has a fine body of men, composed of he Ohio regiment, the Virginia volunteers, and Capt. Hunter's company of U.S. dragoons.

The Mexicans have possession of Seralvo, China, Mier, and all the towns between Camargo and Monterey.

Major Coffee, paymaster, will carry Gen. Taylor's despatches for Monterey.

[ANP]

NNR 72.070, April 3, 1847 Col. George Washington Morgan attacked

February 26.--An express reached here this morning from Col. Morgan, of the 2d regiment Ohio volunteers, (who are in the neighborhood of Marin,) stating that his command had been attacked--a detachment of three companies under Major Geddings, of the 1st regiment Ohio volunteers, were sent from this place
immediately, to reinforce Col. M., and no doubt we shall hear a good report of them. A young lady by the name of Miss Burns had just come in who was along with the train that had been captured. Her report is as follows: Says she was in the third wagon from the front; soon after they had left their encampment on the morning of the 22d, the attack was made. She remained in the wagon until she saw her father shot, when she ran to his assistance, but on reaching him found that he was dead. One of the attacking party fired at her, but to no purpose. Seeing that her parent was no more, and also seeing that the men were seeking shelter in the chaparral, she at their request, endeavored to make her escape. After running some few hundred yards the enemy captured her, and took her to a rancho, where every attention was paid to her by the women who were there. She was sent in today. Miss B. reports forty-two of our men killed. Her father, as I learn, is a resident of Saltillo, and a man of some considerable property. He was on his return from New Orleans, where he had been for the purpose of returning with his daughter, who was there at school. At this time Miss B. is in Monterey. [WFF, MSM]

Further From Tampico and the Brazos.

From the Picayune Extra, of March 23.

Through the courtesy of a gentleman who arrived on Monday evening from Tampico we were placed in possession of El Soldado de la Patria, dated 27th February at San Luis Potosi. The paper opens with a sounding editorial headed as follows: "Viva la Republica! Viva el Illustre General Santa Anna!" The article is devoted to the praise of Gen. Santa Anna, and forms the introduction to the official despatch from him, and to several letters from officers of his army: We have already given a translation of this despatch. It was addressed to Ramon Adame, governor of the State of San Luis Potosi.-The editor then remarks that other letters have been received by private citizens of San Luis, written from Agua Nueva on the 24th February. These letters say that two commissioners had arrived there from Gen. Taylor demanding their surrender; that Santa Anna exhibited to them the state of his army, showing them the enthusiasm and decision that prevailed among the troops, who had fallen back to that point only for the purpose of obtaining food; and, finally, gave them as his definite reply, that unless they surrendered at discretion he would renew the battle the following day and continue it until he had completed their destruction.

Then follows an address of the Governor of San Luis to his countrymen, dated the 27th, recapitulating Santa Anna's despatch, and congratulating the people upon the victory, of which, in the most emphatic language, all the glory is attributed to Santa Anna.

Next follows a private letter dated "the enemy's camp," 5 P.M., of the 23d, in which the writer claims that they have taken four positions, tow standards, and three pieces. The "positions" he says were obstinately defended. He thinks only four prisoners are in their possession; all the others taken are dead. This letter was written before Santa Anna fell back to Agua Nueva. It confesses that they (the Mexicans) have lost many officers, out of all proportion to the men.

The letter goes on to say that the Mexican troops are perishing of hunger and thirst; that they have eaten nothing since leaving Incarnation, save a slice of roasted meat at La Vaca. It expresses great fears lest the army should disband that night on account of their deprivations.

The same letter says that Santa Anna had a horse killed by a grape-shot.

A postscript to the letter says: "After closing my letter, the general-in-chief, convinced doubtless that the army would disband unless it obtained food and water, ordered it to move to Agua Nueva, where there are cattle and water-water before everything."

The postscript adds that they have lost about a thousand men, many general officers killed and wounded, and among the latter Gen. Lombardini.

A brief letter from Catorce is published, dated the 25th ultimo, in which it is
said that an action was fought at Encantada on the 24th, in which General Minon, won a victory, taking six pieces of artillery, killing three hundred, and making some prisoners.

Among the Mexicans killed on the 22d and 23d were Colonel Francisco Berra, the lieutenant colonel of the first light infantry; Colonel Pena, of the light cavalry; the lieutenant colonel of the eleventh infantry, "and who knows how many more have met the same fate," says one letter. Another gives the following additional names of officers: Pepe Oronoz, Pepe Bonilla, the major of the regiment of Morelia, Asenos, and Luyando, major of hussars.

Besides General Lombardini, D. Angel Guzman and D. Miguel Gonzalez are named among the wounded. [ANP]

NNR 72.071, April 3, 1847 MONTEREY, LETTER FROM A COLUMBIA VOLUNTEER

Monterey, Mexico, Feb. 6, 1847.

My dear father: Sitting in the deserted halls of the vanquished Mexicans, with the tail-board of our wagon for table, I shall attempt to give you a few ideas of Monterey and its vicinity. On the 24th of January, myself and 24 others of our company left Camargo for Monterey via Pontaguida, Seralvo, and Marine, as an escort to train of pack mules, numbering over eight hundred, loaded with provisions for the army.

Our second day's march brought us to Mier, a beautiful little town about 25 or 30 miles northwest from Camargo. The next day brought us to Chiterona, or Canales' watering place, a rapid little stream, fresh from the mountains. There we were detained one day by the rain; and it is a day I shall never forget. While our Mexican mule drivers were out hunting up their mules, they discovered a dead body and came in and reported it as an American. Lieutenant Cully made a detail of eight men to bury the body. Guided by the Mexicans we started out, and after a little search we came to the place, and as we approached the body, a cloud of carrion birds arose from their unholy feast, filling the air with their discordant croaks and screams, in such a manner as to make my hair stand on end, and almost to chill my blood. But judge of my feelings when I discovered in the murdered man an acquaintance, Lieut. Miller, of the Mount Vernon company. He started out a few days previous, with one Winne, of the same company, (a brother of Winne who keeps, or did keep the Neil house). We immediately made search for Winne, but could not find him; we found where he had been murdered and dragged into the Chiterona, and there ended all trace of him. The wolves and vultures had eaten flesh from the body of Lieut. Miller; he had been shot in the right breast, and cut and beaten in the face, till he could hardly be recognized by those best acquainted with him. The robbers had stripped him of every article of clothing, except his shirt; and that was so torn and bloody in the affray it was not worth taking. With a hoe we delved his narrow grave.

"Slowly and sadly we laid him down
We spoke not a word of sorrow,
But steadfastly gazed on the face of the dead,
And bitterly thought of the morrow."

We heaped up the ground over him, then cut and dragged prickly pear, which grows 10 or 15 feet high, and covered his grave with an impenetrable barrier to wolves and the no less humane robber, for they would drag him from his humble grave for very spite. We marked the place and pursued our way sorrowing, little dreaming that a greater tragedy was soon to be enacted at the same place. But an express came up last night, bringing intelligence that eight more volunteers had been murdered there. Who they were I could not learn, but I fear they were a part of company F, of the Columbus Guards, for they were about leaving Pontaguida as we came through; but there is no certainty who they were. Captain Latham started for this place eight days before we did, on a new route, and has not arrived. He sent an express to Lieut. Colonel Irwin at Seralvo, a distance of some forty miles, for aid, stating that he was surrounded and asking for immediate succor. But there being not troops enough to send them relief and guard the place, no help was sent. But I have since heard that he made a safe escape. They had a part of their pack mules stolen, but he seized upon the justice of the peace, and made him fork over the requisite number of mules; and he is now on his "winding way" to this place.
February 7, 1847

"The sun rose clear and bright this morning over the towering heights of Saddle mountain--the eastern boundary of the beautiful city of Monterey. The air is loaded with perfume, most delicious, from the thousand orange and lemon trees that fill the gardens and groves that surround the city. Birds of every hue and song, fill the air with noes of harmony; among which are mocking birds, and others numerous and to me nameless.

South of the city there runs another chain of mountains, divided by a pass only, a broken chain on the west nearly surrounding the city. And such a city! Guarded at every point by fortifications, both of nature and art, rendering it almost impregnable to an enemy; and how it could be taken by a force fighting against four to one, I cannot tell; but so it is, and had not the carnage been stopped, full one thousand more of the Mexicans would have fallen.

I have rambled over the city, visiting places of note, among which is the cathedral, an immense pile of stone, towering up in relief against the blue mountain side, carved work from base to dome, give it an ancient and romantic appearance, its chimes ringing the time each quarter, each half, and each hour, both night and day.

The next is the Bishop's castle, magnificent building, strongly fortified, but now a heap of ruins. It is situated about half a mile west of town, on a hill of perhaps some two hundred feet in height, guarded on the west by a still higher hill; on the east by a strong bastion of stone, with four port holes--thus commanding the city on the north, south, and east. After climbing for half an hour up the step ascent, over pointed rocks, I came within a few rods of the castle, and stopped to breathe a moment. While standing there, the most melancholy strains of music met my ear that I ever heard--that they came from the castle I was sure, and determined I was, to discover the author. I therefore preceded very cautiously, till I came into the court of the castle, and there, sitting with his back towards me, playing upon his guitar, was a young Mexican. The air he was playing was "Days of Absence," and others followed in strains equally plaintive, so soft and melancholy it caused me almost to shed tears. Soon however he changed to the lively air of "Come buy a Broom"--and suiting the action to the tune, he jumped up and commenced a series of waltzing--which would have done credit to a teacher of art--and then, for the first time, he discovered my presence. He ceased his capering and music, and saluted me with a warm good day, and desired me to "pli tundi" (play a tune) which I of course declined. (Of course you now why.) He accompanied me over the castle, showing and explaining to the best of his knowledge, the castle and its history. After climbing to the top and viewing the city to my heart's content, I started for the camp--and what I saw afterward, shall be the subject for another letter. I am well--never better--fat as good living can make me.

My best love to dear mother, and compliments to all friends, and I am, as ever, yours affectionately.  J.W.

[AMA]

NNR 72.072, April 3, 1847 THE BATTLE OF BRACITO

The following account of the battle of Bracito, (heretofore known as the battle of El Paso,) is from the army correspondence of the St. Louis Union:

Yesterday (Christmas Day) when we had just arrived in camp here, with about 600 men, had unsaddled our animals, and most of our men had engaged in carrying wood and water, the news was brought into camp of the enemy being in sight and advancing. It was about 2 o'clock, P.M., and the day was very pleasant. Out horses were grazing some distance from the camp at the time we formed a single line and determined to meet the enemy as infantry. Their attack being designed on the left flank, near which was our wagon train, our detachment was ordered from the extreme right to the left, where we soon took up our position. One piece of artillery, 490 regular lancers and cavalry, and 100 regular infantry, besides some 500 militia troops from El Paso, composed the enemy's force, according to the best information I can obtain from reports of prisoners and from papers found among the baggage on the battle field. The enemy ranged themselves on the east within a half a mile of our line, the mountains in the rear. In our rear was the river, with a little brushwood on its banks.
Previous to the encounter, a lieutenant from their ranks came forward, waving a black flag in his hand but halted when within 100 steps of our line. Tho's Caldwell--our interpreter--rode out to meet him. The messenger with the black flag of defiance demanded that the commander should come into their camp and speak to their general. The reply was, "If your general wants to see our commander let him come here." "We shall break your ranks then, and take him there," was the retort of the Mexican. "Come and take him," said our interpreter, unwittingly using the phrase of the Spartan at Thermoploe. "A curse on you prepare for a charge," cried the Mexican, "we give no quarter, and ask none," and waving his black flag gracefully over his head, galloped back towards the enemy's line. Their charge was made by the dragoons from their right direct upon the left flank, bringing our detachment into the closest fire. Their infantry, with one howitzer with them, at the same time attacking our right flank.

Their charge was a handsome one, but was too well--too coolly met to break our line. After their fire had been spent, their front column being at about 100 steps from the front of our flank, out line poured a volley into them, which being a few times repeated, made such havoc in their columns, that their forces wheeled to the left, retreating from our fire, and in a flight made an attack on the provision train. Here they met a very warm reception, and were compelled to fly in all direction, and in the utmost confusion. Their infantry having been put to flight, the Howard company under the command of Lieut. Wright, taking advantage of the panic, charged upon them and took their cannon from them. This was soon manned by the artillery detachment, under Lieutenant Kribben, in Colonel Mitchell's escort. The enemy had by this time fled, leaving their arms, baggage, provisions, and other stores on the field of battle.

A small body of mounted men under the command of Capt. Reid, had by this time gathered together in a line and charged upon the enemy, pursuing them into the mountains where they sought refuge.

The number of the dead is said to be about 30; that of their wounded was slight as far as can be ascertained. Had we a single piece of cannon with us they would have lost more of their men; but having no artillery on our side, we had to act as infantry until we got possession of the howitzer so gallantly captured by the Howard company.

We lost not a single man, and had but seven slightly wounded. We took eight prisoners, six of whom died last night. Thus ended the battle of Bracito, the first battle of the army of the west, and as bravely fought by our men as ever men fought any engagement.

We have every reason to believe that there is more in store for us.

C.H. KRIIBKEN,
1st Lieut. Mo. Light artillery,
Santa Fe, Jan. 1st, 1847

[AMA]

NRR 72.071-072 April 3, 1847 ARTICLE FROM "EL REPUBLICANO" ABOUT THE WAR WITH THE UNITED STATES

THE FOREIGN WAR- Having just published the communication in which General Santa Anna announces that he was upon the point of hazarding a general action between the forces under his command and those of Gen'l Taylor, is it not possible, even in the midst of the painful circumstances by which we are surrounded, (on the eve go the revolutionary outbreak in the city of Mexico,) it is not possible to think of aught save the immense consequences of the battle which has in all probability already been fought. The conflict which we are engaged with the United States of the North cannot be worthily maintained unless the whole nation is profoundly convinced that its interest imperatively require that it should be prosecuted with insuperable energy--not to be shaken by a reverse, nor satisfied with a partial victory. Such is the true point of view of the question at this moment.

In the civilized world war is not the result of savage impulses of hatred and revenge; it is only a measure of national defense- destructive, to be sure, but legitimate. Nations do not wage war save to preserve and secure their rights; and hence it follows that when they have justice on their side, they should never lay down their
arms until they have obtained these important ends. In our case, Mexico is defending the interests of her nationality, her territory, and her race; resisting the invasions with which the people of the United States threaten to occupy our country, to incorporate us with the American Union, and to extend themselves across the continent. We therefore must regard, as our object in the war, the preservation of our territory and the establishment of relations which shall assure its future security.

Neither of the ends can be obtained without a prolonged war. To believe the contrary, to suppose that a single battle is to decide the great question, is to mistake the nature of it, and to cherish errors fatal to the republic. Among nations there are epochs in which their honor and their interest impose upon them great sacrifices, and it becomes a duty to submit to them, whatever they may be.

Even should we to-day obtain a victory, if we examine well the situation of affairs, we cannot deceive ourselves with hope of an honorable peace. The territory of Texas having been incorporated with the American Union, the Union will not consent to its dismemberment unless it is forced to it by great reverses; and, anxious to acquire all the land in the north of our republic, we have seen it pretending to extend the boundaries of Texas in a manner shamefully iniquitous. Thus it has claimed the line of the Rio Bravo del Norte as the rightful boundary of Texas; and in its last propositions, according to some of the papers, it proposes to occupy all the territory comprehended by a line running from the mouth of the Bravo, and following that parallel of latitude to the shores of the Pacific; whereby we should lose one half of the republic and have aided our dangerous neighbors in acquiring a more pernicious preponderance. And in truth it is not to be expected that they will abate from these ignominious proposals so long as they do not feel the full advantages which they have gained, being masters of a long line of coast, of towns, cities, and states now in their occupation. Under these circumstances a victory which should destroy one division of their army, or should restore to us some of our cities, would not suffice to change the aspect of affairs. But, on the other hand, by prolonging the war, the American Union will be made to feel all the weight of the expenses which it has encountered, it will be constrained with difficulties of climate and a war which will pervade every part of our republic. Thus, then, the continuation of the war is necessary for us, whether we obtain a victory or whether Providence present to us a new reverse.

View it in another light. It is when a people are struggling for their independence that they display the virtues which they possess, and by their courage vindicate a just position in the estimation of the world. In this manner the Spaniards at this day rest their glory and their respectability upon the spirit with which, in their war of independence, they hold forth our struggle from emancipation as our title to the [ ] pect of other nations, because in that struggle Mexicans were neither intimidated by dangers nor disheartened by reverses.

But in the present campaign there has been nothing glorious for us. The battle of Resaca was lost by the pusillanimity of some regiments, Matamoros was abandoned through fear, and the capitulation of Monterey covered us with ignommy. A battle gained would not compensate us for these losses; it would not reinstate in public estimation our wounded honor; it would not thrust forth the Americans from the territory which they occupy. Peace would ever be disadvantageous and the remote frontiers of our unfortunate country would not fail of being ultimately lost to us again, because the North Americans would be emboldened to attack them with the confidence of not encountering resistance. Finally, under such circumstances a foreign combination would become less difficult than ever for carrying out the project of a monarchy, masmuch as all the enemies of Mexico would take advantage of our weakness and discredit.

But, on the other hand, a protracted and vigorous war will be more grievous to our enemies than to ourselves, and when the day of peace shall at last arrive, Mexico will have re-established her honor and her frontier be made secure. If we adopt any other conclusion we can see nothing before us but disgrace and ruin, and therefore do we demand that whatever may be the issue of the battle, which probably had already been fought, all Mexicans should agree that the first of our necessities and the first of duties is war. [MSM]

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NNR 72.072 April 3, 1847 further details about the victory at Buena Vista

From the N.O. Picayune of the 24th of March

Dr. Turner, bearer of despatches from Col. Curtis arrived here this morning
at 3 o'clock. He embarked at the Brazos in the sch. St Paul, on the 14th inst. which vessel he left fifty miles below the city last evening, and took passage in the towboat De Soto. We learn from him verbally that it is understood at Camargo that Santa Anna has retired from Agua Neueva, in the direction of Parras, where it is supposed he would make a halt. General Taylor still maintained his position at Buena Vista.

Dr. Turner informs us that the news heretofore published of the battles of the 22nd and 23rd may be relied upon; that it was brought from General Taylor's camp to Monterey by Paymaster Coffee, who was the bearer of despatches from Gen. Taylor, but who could not get farther than that place with them.

The despatches were sent thence by a Mexican, who had not got through by the last accounts. The news received at Camargo was the substance of these despatches, and were brought by an express rider, who was nine days in making the trip through (indecipherable text) make a circuit of five hundred iles, to escape the Mexican forces and rancheros that swarmed in the valley.

Nothing has been heard of Col'l. Curtis since he left Camargo. It was thought that Gen'l. Urrea would fly before him as soon as he ascertained the overwhelming defeat of Santa Anna.

Private letters had been received at Saltillo as late as to the 5th of March, at which time Gen. Taylor was at Buena Vista. The following letter was received at Matamoros by a Mexican merchant of that place, from a Mexican of Saltillo. It was dated on the 6th March, and gives the only account of the manner in which the battle was fought that has yet been received.

"At 3 o'clock on the 22nd ult. the battle commenced at Buena Vista, five miles from Saltillo. The fight opened with artillery, and destructive cannonade was kept open until sunset. No decided advantage was obtained by either side-the loss on both being very great.

"On the 23rd at 10 o'clock, the battle was again renewed and kept up without intermission, until half past three in the afternoon. Both armies were closely engaged during the whole time. Gen. Wool advanced with a strong detachment against the Mexican army, but was driven back with immense loss. The Mexican cavalry charged upon him with immense loss. The Mexican cavalry charged upon him withdrawn swords and did great execution. As wool fell back Gen. Taylor advanced with fresh troops and repelled the Mexicans with great slaughter.

This charge decided the battle, which was not again renewed. The number killed and wounded was very great on both sides. I can only estimate the number by the cart loads of wounded that have entered this city from both battle fields.

"On the 24th both armies hung off without coming to a general engagement-each occupied in carrying off the wounded and burying their dead.

"After the 24th there was no more fighting-the Mexican troops famishing with hunger became convinced that they could not triumph or drive General Taylor from his position, and retired.

"As yet Santa Anna has only retired a short distance, but I do not entertain the belief that he will venture another engagement.

"Mexico has not the means to bear the burden of the war-it is opposing poverty of abundance-weakness to strength. In my opinion it would be best for the two governments to enter into negotiations. With the power the United States possess, it would be dishonorable in her to force us into treaties advantageous alone to herself, as it would be for us to make concessions from necessity.

"It is reported that a train carrying provisions to the American army was attacked and captured at marina, by Don Jose Urrea, and is yet in his possession, with a quantity of private merchandise, taken at the same time," &c.

Through the politeness of Mr. Arnold, who came with Dr. Turner, we have received the Matamoros Flag of the 13th, also letters from an esteemed correspondent. Our letters confirm the list of killed published in another column, and also the amount of loss on both sides heretofore reported. The Matamoros Flag publishes the letter from which the above extracts were made.
Under the head of "Latest Intelligence," the Flag states that Gen. Taylor was expected at Monterey on the 8th, with the Kentucky cavalry, for the purpose of opening the communication between that place and Camargo.

"So it seems" adds the Flag, "that old Rough and Ready" not only has to whip their big general in the mountains, but has to come down to scare their little ones away from the highways, so as to relieve the lower country from Lieut. Gen. Stampede." In case he undertook the chastisement of Urrea, he would leave the main body of his army at Buena Vista.

A Mexican physician residing in Camargo, says the Flag, has received a letter from a surgeon at Saltillo, dated two days after the battle, which states that Gen. Taylor permitted Santa Anna to have all his wounded conveyed into Saltillo and tendered him surgical aid from his own army.

It is reported in Matamoros that General Urrea has retreated toward the Tula Pass, as soon as he understood that Colonel Curtis was marching against him.

It was also said that Santa Anna was falling back upon San Luis Potosi; but as we before said, Dr. Turner thinks he has only retreated to Parras. [ANP]

NNR 72.072 April 3, 1847 Mexican preparations to oppose the American attack at Veracruz

A correspondent of the Mobile Herald and Tribune, gives the following interesting account of the adventures of Colonel Alphonse Dupera, of Louisiana:

Under the instructions from Gen'l. Scott, Colonel Dupera set out from New Orleans to visit Vera Cruz and the surrounding country, as a spy, and to cover his intentions, proceeded first to Havana, and obtained a passport to Vera Cruz as a Frenchman—he is of French descent, and speaks the tongue like a Parisian.) After arriving there, he penetrated as far as Jalapa, ascertained the probable number of men that could be thrown into the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa, the length of time for which it is provisioned, &c., and the general tout ensemble, the materiel, &c. that would oppose General Scott's contemplated attack. During his stay, he narrowly escaped detection, being suspected and subjected to several close examinations. Being informed that the authorities intended committing him to the Castle as a spy, he had barely time to escape on board a French merchant barque lying at Sacrificios, from which he was taken and brought down by the steamer Petrita. His escape was singularly providential. The men of the boat supposed him one of the passengers of the boat, and carried him off under mistake.-They were waiting for one of the passengers, and being ordered authoritatively in French "to shove off," obeyed unhesitatingly. Again, the arrival of the Petrita at Sacrificios was purely accidental, nor should I omit to state that the French barque had been brought into Anton Lizardo as a prize a few days before, and had just been let go."

An officer for service of this kind, deserves double credit, as an ignominious death surely awaits him in case of capture. [ANP]

NNR 72.072 April 3, 1847 Gen. Zachary Taylor expected to open communications from Monterey to Camargo

Mexico-The editors of the New Orleans Delta have received files of Mexican papers by way of Havana. All sorts of preparations to oppose the attack of the Americans were going on at Vera Cruz, where 2,000 men from Puebla were daily expected to arrive. General Morales, commander in-chief of the troops at Vera Cruz, is represented as very anxious that the Americans should commence their attack on the city, as he was confident that with the forces under his command and the reinforcements expected, he would be able to give them a hard fight.-The Mexicans were fearfully watching all the movements of the American squadron, and nothing indicated the approaching of the attack, but they had reliable information that the troops and several vessels intended to operate in it, were at Lobos Island, where they awaited the result of Don Alejandro Atocha's mission, in order to begin the attack if the proposals tendered by him on the part of the United States government were refused.
It was reported in Vera Cruz that a most fatal sickness had made its appearance among the crews of the American vessels, in which we believe there is no truth.

The papers from the capital seem to confirm the belief, that the mission of Senor Antocha was to propose an arrangement by which the line of the 26th parallel should be the boundary between Mexico and the United States, for which $200,000,000 would be paid to Mexico and moreover the United States would take upon themselves to satisfy the claims of their citizens amounting to about $11,000,000. The Monitor says that, however advantageous this offer may appear at first sight, it is not so in reality, for the line of the 26th degree would cut off the states of Chihuahua, Durango, Coahuila, New Mexico, New Leon, Tamaulipas, Texas, and both the Californias. [ANP]

NNR 72.072 April 3, 1847  GEN. JOSE URREA RETREATING BEFORE COL. SAMUEL RYAN CURTIS

DR. TURNER, bearer of dispatches from Col. Curtis arrived here this morning at 3 o'clock. He embarked at the Brazos in the sch. St Paul, on 14th inst. Which vessel he left fifty miles below the city last evening, and took passage in the towboat De Soto. We learn from him verbally that it is understood at Camargo that Santa Anna has retired from Agua Nueva, in the direction of Parras, where it is supposed he would make a halt.

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Nothing has been heard of Co. Curtis since he left Camargo. It was thought that Gen. Urrea would fly before him as soon as he ascertained the overwhelming defeat of Santa Anna. Private Letters and been received at Saltillo as late as the 5th of March, at which Gen. Taylor was at Buena Vista. The following letter was received at Matamoros by a Mexican merchant of that place, from a Mexican of Saltillo. It was dated on the 6th March, and gives the only account of the manner of which the battle was fought that had yet been received.

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"It is reported that a train carrying provisions to the American army was attacked and captured at the Marina, by Don Jose Urrea, and is yet his possession, with a quantity of private merchandise; taken at the same time." &c. Through the politeness of Mr. Arnold, who came with Dr. Turner, we have received the Matamoros Flag of the 13th, also letters from an esteemed correspondent. Our letters confirm the list of liked published in another column, and also the amount of loss on both sides heretofore reported. The Matamoros Flag publishes the letter from which the above extracts were made.

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NNR 72.072 April 3, 1847 ADVENTURES OF COL. ALPHONSE DUPERA OF LOUISIANA AS A SPY

A CORRESPONDENT, of the Mobile Herald and Tribune, gives the following interesting account of the adventures of Colonel Alphonse Dupera, of Louisiana. Under the instructions from Gen'l Scott, Colonel Dupera set out from New Orleans to visit Vera Cruz and the surrounding county, as a spy, and to cover his intentions, proceeded first to Havana, and obtained a passport to Vera Cruz, as a Frenchman—(he is of French descent, and speaks the tongue like a Parisian.) After arriving there, he penetrated as far as Jalapa, ascertained the probable number of men that could be thrown into the castle of San Juan de Ulloa, the length of time for which it is provisioned, &c., and the general tout ensemble, the materiel, &c., that would oppose General Scott's contemplated attack. During his stay, he narrowly escaped detection, being suspected and subjected to several close examinations. Being informed that the authorities intended committing him to the Castle as a spy, he had barely time to escape on board a French merchant barque lying at Sacrificios, from which he was taken and brought down by the steamer Petrita. His escape was singularly providential. The men of the boat supposed him one of the passengers of the boat, and carried him off under mistake. They were waiting for one of the passengers, and being ordered authoritatively in French "to shove off;" obeyed unhesitatingly. Again, the arrival of the Petrita at Sacrificios was purely accidental, nor should I omit to state that the French barque had been brought into Anton Lizardo as a prize a few days before, and had just been let go. An officer for service of this kind, deserves double credit, as an ignominious death surely awaits him in case of capture. [MSM]

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NNR 72.072-073 April 3, 1847 DETAILS OF THE INSURRECTION IN NEW MEXICO

The NEW ERA of last evening contains a letter from fort Bent, dated on the 1st February, which corroborates, in all essential particulars, the news heretofore received of an insurrection in Taos and the murder of Governor Bent and many
others.- This letter puts an end to the hope entertained here that the report might have been exaggerated or unfounded. We have already published an account of the suppression of an insurrection at Santa Fe; the sures made by the prisoners. But this-latter heads us to suppose that there was another popular out break, and that it extended all over New Mexico. The writer says that a "general insurrection," happening about a month after the discovery of the first abortive one, had taken place, and that all the Americans who could be found were massacred and their property plundered. These representations make us exceedingly anxious to hear from that quarter: We cannot believe that the Mexicans have been able to make much head against our troops in Santa Fe, but they may (id assisted, as this letter states, by the Pueblo Indians) have been able to destroy a vast amount of property and to sacrifice many lives in their assaults upon weaker points. An express from Santa Fe, which may soon be expected, we suppose, out to give us full particular in regard to this insurrection. [MSM]

NNR 72.080 April 3, 1847 editorial remarks on the victory of Buena Vista

Battle of Buena Vista.

To fully appreciate Gen. Taylor on the occasion of the battle just fought, it must be recollected that he took upon himself the delicate responsibility, contrary to the advice, which under the circumstances of the case, in fact amounted to an order of his commanding officer, Gen. Scott, probably in accordance with a plan of campaign arranged at Washington before the latter left that city-we allude to Gen. Taylor advancing beyond Saltillo to meet and fight the enemy, instead of evacuating that post to the enemy and retiring to Monterey, as he was advised, if not ordered to do, when withdrawing Gen. Worth's command and so many of the regulars. Gen. Taylor differed in opinion, distinguished what was the best course, staked every thing upon the issue, and marched up to it at every hazard. His volunteers were all AMERICAN SOLDIERS. The result is, a TRIUMPH!

The despatches from Gen. Taylor to the department of war were brought by Mr. CRITTENDEN, a volunteer aid-de-camp of Gen. Taylor during the battle. Mr Crittenden left Gen. Taylor, with his army, at Agua Nueva on the 2d March, and brought the despatches along the usual route from Monterey to Camargo, under the escort of about 250 troops, commanded by Major Geddings, having a long train of some 130 empty wagons. As they approached Cerralvo, a small party was sent in to provide forage, &c., when the enemy under Urrea were discovered, about 1,500 strong. Out troops were immediately placed on the defensive, and received the assault of the superior numbers with the resolution of men determined to cut their way through. They were repulsed with the loss of about 30 men, while we lost about half the number. A part of our baggage train was destroyed, (40 or 50 of the wagons,) when the gallant Urrea made his retreat in the direction of he Tula pass. The teamsters were unwilling to proceed without a stronger escort, and Mr. Crittenden was detained five or six days at Cerralvo, when Col. Curtis arrived from Camargo with a large body of troops. He was too late to overtake Urrea, who had probably commenced his retreat as soon as he heard of Santa Anna's discomfiture. Colonel Curtis proceeded to Monterey, the enemy having fled as rapidly as possible, and this may be the last that we shall hear of them on this side of Tula and San Luis for some time. [ANP]

NNR 72.080, April 3, 1847 SANTA ANNA'S REPORT OF THE BATTLE OF BUENA VISTA

Republican Liberating Army.

General in Chief--Excellent sir: During a moment of leisure--it being now 7 o'clock in the morning--I have to inform your excellency, in order that you may communicate the same to the sr. vice president of the Republic, that the army under my command, after a painful and long march over the desert between the Cedral and this place, has had to encounter a battle that lasted two days, with the United States Army under General Taylor, composed of 8 to 9000 men, with 26 pieces of artillery. Both armies have fought a bloody and desperate fight. This morning the action commenced at six o'clock, and continued until sunset. The field of battle is covered with the dead. Blood has flowed in torrents. Two standards, which I have the honor to send your excellency, were taken by us, together with three pieces of artillery, the calibre of 6 and 4 pounders, with their horses. Although the battle was not decisive I can assure you Excellency that the field, however stoutly disputed, finally remained in our possession, as is manifested by the trophies I have mentioned. Upwards of
2000 of the enemy's dead lie strewed upon the field of battle, and we have taken some prisoners, the exact number of whom has not been made known to me.

On our part I regret to say that with generals, officers and troops, we have lost in killed and wounded about 1000—readily accounted for by the obstinate encounter we have had—lasting through two successive days. During one of the charges today my horse was killed by a grape-shot. The strong position of the enemy was all that saved him from complete route.

A few hours before I reached this point the enemy, having notice of our advance, retired from his position at Agua Nueva, where he was first posted, and fell back to his defile, which may be even compared to the pass of Thermopyloae. But he must have been taught by the experience of these two days, that neither the rugged steep of the mountain nor his fortified position, nor any other of his advantages, could restrain the Mexican soldier from battling in defence of his country and her rights.

Our soldiers are indeed worthy of all commendation, and I glory in the consciousness of being at the head of an army of heroes, who not only know how to fight bravely but to suffer patiently both hunger and thirst for forty-eight hours, a sacrifice required of them by the nation, and of which I have myself been a witness.

The only painful reflection I have at this moment is that not a biscuit nor a particle of rice can be had here for our sick and wounded. We have subsisted, for many days on meat alone. Thus is verified the complaints I have heretofore made of the neglect this army has suffered, from having depend for supplies on its own resources during the last two months. I will now ad that it is not possible to carry on the campaign successfully unless the army is provided with all the supplies required in war. I therefore think of moving back my camp tomorrow morning to Agua Nueva, three leagues distant, to provide myself with some necessaries that must have arrived at the hacienda of Encarnacion; and if I succeed in obtaining those necessaries, and relieve myself of the incumbrance of the wound, I will return to the charge—in spite of my own wound, which was reopened in the consequence of being continually on horseback twelve hours a each day.

In the detailed account of the obstinate combat, which I shall soon present, due notice will be given of the generals, chiefs, officers and others who have bravely fought, and poured out their blood in defence of the country. I have not been willing to detain this report for such details, supposing the supreme government would wish to have the earliest account of these successes. Tomorrow or the day after I will cause to be transmitted to your Excellency the said detailed account, together with a notice of subsequent occurrences.

Accept, I pray your excellency, with this explanation, the consideration of my particular esteem, God and Liberty. Field of Angostura, near Buena Vista, February 23, 1847.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

His Excellency, the MINISTER OF WAR.

[AMA, ANP]
was triumphantly waiving over the city of Vera Cruz and the castle of San Juan D'Ulloa.

An officer of the Princeton furnishes the Gazette the following summary:

March 9<sup>th</sup>.-Disembarkation of troops commenced.

14<sup>th</sup>-Investment of the city complete.

18<sup>th</sup>-Trenches opened at night.

22<sup>nd</sup>-City summoned to surrender-on refusal, seven mortars opened a tire of bombs.

25<sup>th</sup>-Navy battery, three long 30 pounders and three 68 pounders-Paizhan guns-opened a fire in the morning, distance 70 yards.

25<sup>th</sup>-Another battery of four 24-pounders and 3 mortars opened. This day the navy battery opened on a breach in the wall of the city- the fire was very destructive to the town.

26<sup>th</sup>-Early in the morning the enemy proposed for a surrender. Commissioners on the American side-Generals Worth and Pillow and Col. Totten.

29<sup>th</sup>-Negotiations completed-city and castle surrendered-Mexican troops marched out and laid down their arms. The American troops occupied the city and batteries of the town and castle-at noon of that day the American ensign was hoisted over both, and saluted by our vessels.

The garrison of about 4,000 men, laying down their arms as prisoners of war, and being sent to their homes on parole. Five Generals, 60 superior officers, and 270 company officers amongst the prisoners.

The total loss of the American army, from the day of landing, (March 9,) is 65 persons killed and wounded.

Officers Killed -John R. Vinton, 2d artillery; Captain Albartis, 2<sup>nd</sup> infantry; Midshipman T. B. Shubrick, navy.

Officers wounded-Lieut. Colonel Dickenson, South Carolina volunteers, severely; Lieut. A.S.Baldwin, navy, slightly; Lieut. Delozier Davidson. 2<sup>nd</sup>infantry, very slightly; Lieut. Lewis Neill, 2d dragoons, severely.-All the wounded are doing well.

Of the Mexicans, the slaughter is said to have been immense. The commanding general was stationed in the cry, while his second in command held the castle. Their regular force was 3,000, and they had about the same number of irregulars. Outside the city was Gen. La Veja with a force of from 6,000 to 10,000 cavalry. Col. Harney, with between 2 and 300 U.S. dragoons charged on and repulsed this immense force with terrible carnage, scattering them in all directions. They had barricaded a bridge to protect themselves, and our artillery soon knocked away this obstacle and gave Harney's command a chance at them.

In the attack on the town and castle only our smaller vessels, drawing not over nine feet were available.-But few shots and shells were thrown upon the castle-the attack being mainly upon the town. None of the enemy's missiles struck our vessels; and Midshipman Shubrick who was killed, was serving a battery on shore. With the city the hopes of the enemy fell, as they had not provisions in the castle to sustain a protracted siege.

The Princeton is commanded by Capt. Engle; as she sailed from Vera Cruz, Com. Conner's flag was saluted from the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa. The Commodore is a passenger on board, having been relieved by Com. Perry before the commencement of these operations. [ANP]
PASSO
NRR 72.081 April 10, 1847 NEW MEXICO INSURRECTIONS DEFEATED, SEVERLY
PUNISHED BY COL. STERLING PRICE

SANTA FE-EL PASSO- An extra of the Independence (Mo.) Expositor, of the 25th
March says-

"Thos. Caldwell, esq. Has just got in from the plains, and confirms the sad
intelligence if the massacre at Taos. Gov. Charles Bent and twenty five Americans
are the victims of a cold-blooded assassination. Among the deal is L.L Wuldo, a
citizen of our county, and brother to Captain David Waldo, of Colonel Doniphan's
regiment.

Mr. Caldwell left El Paso on the 12th January- and Santa Fe on the 3d of February.
He left Colonel Doniphan in possession of El Passo, waiting for the artillery to arrive,
when he intended to move for Chihuahua. Nothing was known in New Mexico of the
change on Gen. Wool's position.

The insurrectionists consisted of about 2,000 men and started for Santa Fe. Col.
Price sent out about 300 men to quell for them; they met about twenty five miles
from Santa Fe, when an engagement took place. The Mexicans drew up 2,000
strong, but at the first fire from the Missouri boys thirty six men fell dead, and the
balance fled. Capt. Morm of Platte who was in command, pursued them through the
Moro valley, and burnt to ashes every house town, and rancho in his path. The
inhabitants fled to the mountains, where they are bound to starve, as Morm leaves
them nothing whatever to subsist on-a just retribution for their assassination of
innocent people.

As Mr. Caldwell was passing out he heard at a distance the sound of artillery, and
learned from rumor in the edge of the settlement's that the American army had
whipped them worse than ever. Captain Hendley, of Ray county volunteers, was the
only one killed on our side, and some seven slightly wounded."

A letter from Independence dated March 21, says "no doubt the city of Taos is now
in ashes, as our Missouri boys had caused the smoke from their burning houses to
ascend from a thousand hills: the inhabitants in the Moro valley, men, women, and
children had fled to the mountains. Mr. Caldwell left Col. Doniphan at El Paso on the
12th of January waiting for artillery companies to arrive. When he intended to march
for Chihuahua. He thinks that Doniphan, ere this has taken Chihuhua or has been
taken himself. We may await with trembling anxiety a long time. I fear, for the result
of this hazardous expedition. Capt. Sublette had not arrived at Santa Fe, when Mr.
Caldwell left- February 3d; fears are entertained that he may have fallen into the
hands of the Mexicans on entering Taos Valley.

Mr. Caldwell learned from a reliable source, that McGoffin, Connelly, and other
prisoners were at large in the streets of Chihuahua, but not allowed to leave the
city." [MSN]

NRR 72.081 April 10, 1847 LT. TALBOT'S, DARING FEET AT SANTA BARBARA

CALIFORNIA-LIEUT. TALBOT-A letter published in the Boston Traveler, dated at San
Francisco on the 15th of November, relates the following daring feat of one of our
young officers who was severing in that distant country:

"At Santa Barbara, one hundred and fifty mounted and well armed Californians
attacked Lieut. Talbot, one of Fremonts' young officers, who was left in charge there
with ten men. They were quartered in Robins house; the house was surrounded, and
they ordered to surrender unconditionally; Talbot refused to surrender on any
conditions. Cooley packing up their provisions, &C., they marched out of the house
to sell their lives at a dear rate; but, those surrounded by the immense odds, they
were not attacked. Talbot drew his men off the hills just back of the mission,
followed all the way by the cowardly miscreants, who were threatening to devour
him is he did not lay down his arms, but none of them were willing to take the first
taste. Halting on a hill, where the Americans had the advantage, the brave
barbarians set fire to the grass in a circle round the little party. Perhaps preferring to
devour them after being cooked, but they would not stay to be cooked and the brave
little Talbot marched his men through the fire in crossing the mountains into the
Tulares, lead them safely to Monterey where Mr. Larkin writes they arrived safe a
THE CASTLE OF SAN JUAN D'ULLOA, is unquestionably the most celebrated of all American Fortresses. Its construction was commenced in the year 1582, upon a bar or bank in front of the town of Vera Cruz, at the distance of 1,062 Castillian varas, or yards, and it is entirely surrounded by water. The centre of the area occupied by this fortress is a small island, upon which Juan de Grijalva landed a year previous to the arrival of Cortez upon our continent, and at that period it accidentally received the name which it retains to this present day. It seems that there was a shrine or temple erected upon it, in which human victims were sacrificed to the Indian gods; and as the Spaniards were informed, these offerings were made in accordance with the commands of the kings of Acholhua, (one of the provinces of the empire) they confounded or abbreviated this name in to the word Ulloa, which they affixed to that island.

Sixty-one years after the conquest the work was undertaken, and although it seems to have been designed not only to defend Vera Cruz, but to attack it in case of necessity, that city was, nevertheless, sacked by the pirates under the renowned freebooter, Lorencillo, in the year 1683.

The cost of the castle has been estimated by various writers to have amounted to the sum of forty millions of dollars, and it may not be regarded as an exaggeration, if we consider the difficulty of obtaining some of the materials of which it is composed, and the fact that a large portion of it is built on foundations laid in the sea, whose waves it has resisted for more than two centuries.

According to a report made on the 17th of January, 1775 it was the opinion of a council of war, composed of distinguished officers, that this fortress, after all of its defenses were completed, would require a garrison, for effective service, composed of 1700 infantry soldiers, 300 artillery do., 228 sailors, and 100 supernumeraries.

The exterior polygon, which faces Vera Cruz, extends 300 yards in length, while that which defends the north channel is at least 200 yards long. Besides this there is a low battery, situated in the bastion of Santiago, which doubles the fire on that channel. The southern channel is commanded, also, by the battery of San Miguel.

The whole fort is constructed of Madrepora astrea, a species of soft coral which abounds in the neighboring islands; and its walls are from four to five yards in thickness, their exterior being faced with a harder stone. It is well supplied with water, having seven eisterns within the castle, viz: one containing 24,948 cubic feet of water; one containing 17,884; one containing 19,000; one containing 6,000; one containing 16,685; one containing 4,500; and one containing 4,752. Total 93,767.

MILITARY MOVEMENTS—Our city is again becoming quite lively with soldiers belonging to the army arriving here for transportation to New Orleans on route to Mexico. The government having found this to be the best point in the Union to concentrate the new companies, and for furnishing the best facilities for accelerating their progress to the seat of war, has ordered a number of them (how many is not yet known,) to rendezvous here.

It is note worthy to remark, that now as formerly Pennsylvania is first in the field. Nine out of the ten companies composing the regiment are from this state, and one other from Maryland. A volunteer company from Virginia had enlisted, and been
SICKNESS IN THE ARMY. Col. Roberts of Va., writing from Lobos, says:-“our men are, nearly all, in fine health and spirits, and we have lost but 3 men since we left home—2 from mania-potu, and one by an injury from a fall into the hold of a ship. But seven are on the sick list at present, and none of them dangerous, which is not many out of 840 men. There was a Mississippi regiment came to New Orleans at the same time we arrived there, which has lost 180 men and left 100 sick, they buried from 6 to 12 per day while we lay there, and sic out of each of the two ships which arrived, and four since arriving here which is something very strange, as it is their own climate—while the two regiments from Pennsylvania have lost but 6 men out of 1700; but there was one great cause—they dissipated more than out men, and were not so well clad, out men all wearing flannel while they mostly wore light cotton clothing.” [MSM]

Under this caption the Richmond Enquirer of the 30th of March, adduces the statement from the 'Union,' of forces under Gen. Taylor's command, [see p.90] as corroborating what had previously been asserted in the Enquirer,—that if Gen. Taylor had been overwhelmed by the Mexican army under Santa Anna, the responsibility for the disaster was all his own, The Enquirer in the same articles adduces as further proof on this point the following remarks of the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun.

"You will perceive from the last official despatches forwarded by Gen. Taylor to the Adjutant General here in Washington, that the position he assumed at Agua Nueva was entirely on his own responsibility and that Gen. Scott had advised him to fall back on Monterey, and act, for a while, on the defensive—And it will also be seen, from the correspondence between the war from pressing him forward, rather expresses a wish that he might confine himself to Monterey, and there await the enemy. If Gen. Talyor has acted against the advice given him from these quarters, he must have had good reason to do so, and I, therefore, trust that he will be able to give a good account of himself, notwithstanding the fatal rumors of disasters which have reached us from the Rio Grande.” [MSM]

General Taylor's General Orders—After the Battle of Buena Vista.

Orders No. 2.
Headquarters Army of Occupation,
Buena Vista, Feb. 26, 1847.

1. The commanding general has the grateful task of congratulating the troops upon the brilliant success which attended their arms in the conflicts of the 22d and 23d. Confident in the immense superiority of numbers, and stimulated by their presence of a distinguished leader, the Mexican troops were yet repulsed in every effort to force our lines, and finally withdrew with immense loss from the field.

2. The general would express his obligations to the officers and men engaged for the cordial support which they rendered throughout the action. It will be his highest pride to bring to the notice of the government the conspicuous gallantry of particular officers and corps, whose unwavering steadiness more than once saved the fortunes of the day. He would also express his high satisfaction with the conduct of the small command left to hold Saltillo. Though not so seriously engaged as their comrades, their services were very important and efficiently rendered. While bestowing this just tribute to the good conduct of the troops, the general deeply regrets to say that there were not a few exceptions. He trusts that those who fled ingloriously to Buena Vista, and even to Saltillo, will seek an opportunity to retrieve their reputation and to emulate the bravery of their comrades, who bore the brunt of the battle, and sustained against fearful odds the honor of the flag.
The exultation of success is checked by the heavy sacrifice of life which it has cost, embracing many officers of high rank and rare merit. While the sympathies of a grateful country will be given to the bereaved families and friends of those who nobly fell their illustrious example will remain for the benefit and admiration of the army.

By order of Major General Taylor;
W.W.S. BLISS, Ass't Adj't Gen.

[ANP]

NRR 72.083 April 10, 1847 compliment of the Washington "Union" to Gen. Zachary Taylor's general orders after Buena Vista

The Washington Union commenting on the above general orders, says:

"It is written in fine taste. It alludes in the most modest terms which he could employ, to the brilliant victory which our troops have won over the immense superiority of he Mexicans, headed by their most distinguished military leader. It pays due honors to the brave officers and troops who live to receive the gratitude of their country. It pays a brief but affecting tribute to those gallant spirits who have gloriously fallen in the battle, but whose "illustrious example will remain for the benefit and admiration of the army," and as a monument of the glory of our republic in the eyes of Europe. It treats as delicately as possible all those inexperienced soldiers who ingloriously fled, to whom he administers the warning lesson of seeking to retrieve their reputation by future exertions on another field. It is impossible to read the various descriptions of this remarkable battle, where the skill of the commanding general in seizing his ground and maneuvering his troops vied with the chivalry of his men, without the deepest emotions." [ANP]

NRR 72.083 April 10, 1847 coolness and bravery of the Mississippi and Illinois volunteers at Buena Vista, faltering of the Indiana regiment

The New Orleans Delta has the following items derived from a gentleman who was present at the battle of Buena Vista:

The coolness and bravery of the Mississippi and Illinois volunteers were, he says, beyond all praise. While firing in line, the front rank knelt on one knee, taking deliberate aim, and doing deadly execution.

Col. Bowles, of the 2d Indiana regiment, finding that his men faltered early in the action of the 23d, withdrew from them in disgust, and taking a rifle joined the Mississippi regiment in the thickest of the fight. It is due to the Indiana regiment, however, to say, that they subsequently rallied, appealed to as they were by Capt. Lincoln and others, and fought bravely.

Col. Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi, is idolized by his regiment. Believing that on the 24th there would be a fight, and being unable to walk on account of the wound in his foot, he ordered that he be carried out to head in a wagon.

Col. Yell, as we have already told our readers, was lanced to death. His horse became restive, his bridle broke, and he carried him into the midst of the enemy, where a lance pierced him through the head.

Col. Hardin, before being killed, captured a flag from the enemy, which, with his horse, he requested should be sent home as a last memento to his wife.

Among the prisoners taken were two who were deserters from our own ranks. They were brought before Gen. Taylor who ordered the wretches to be drummed out beyond the lines. Such rascals, he said, might do for Santa Anna—they would not suit him—and it would be wasting powder and shot to shoot them. They were therefore drummed out to the tune of the Rogue's March.

After the battle of Buena Vista was won, General Wool, who was
distinguished for his gallantry and skill, met General Taylor and threw his arms
around his neck, and congratulated him on the brilliant victory, in warm terms. The
old hero replied, "we can't be beaten General, when we all pull together." The
whole country will attest the justice of the simple reply.

A Washington letter published in the New York Commercial, says-

There is a very interesting letter in the city from Gen. Wool. He speaks in
the most exalted terms of General Taylor's conduct of the battle of Buena Vista. It
was written, too, without the knowledge that General Taylor had so highly spoken of
him. It is pleasing to see these officers so devoid of all jealousy toward each other.
Gen. Wool seems to harbor no envy at the fortune which has reversed the relations
of rank between him and General Taylor.

General Wool, I learn, speaks freely in this letter of the cowardice displayed
by some of the Indiana and Arkansas troops, and gives a graphic picture of the
struggle and the brilliant movements that decided the victory in our favor. [ANP]

NNR 72.083 April 10, 1847 DESCRIPTION OF FORTIFICATIONS OF SAN JUAN
D'ULUA.

-Extract of a letter from an officer on board the United States ship Albany:

As from the deck, with my glass, I swept over the city of Vera Cruz, its environs, and
the stronghold which covers it, said to be impregnable to the combined fleets of the
earth, it was with rather a serious feeling that my eyes rested upon this grim, grizly
pile, barbed and bristling with its hundreds of cannon. The question at once arises,
can it be taken? Shall we ever see our fleet moving up over the expanse before me to
attack it? I doubt it very much. Certainly not with any force we have or have had here.
Let the people prate as much at home as they please about it. If it ever is done it will
be by a tremendous array of cannon and a most awful loss of life. The castle of Vera
Cruz is no more what it was when France carried it than you are now to what you
were when a nursling in your mother's arm. Then there were no guns above the
caliber of 24 pounds, and but a few of them, most miserably served. The magazines,
unarched, were not bombproof. The powder was of such an inferior character that not
a shot penetrated the side of a French ship, but at the close of the engagement were
stuck about the sides of the shipping like so many balls of mud; and in addition to all
this, the commanding officer having been instructed not to fire the first gun,
permitted the French squadron to come up and take its position as quietly as though
mooring to pass the winter season.

Now let us see what a change time and a severe lesson have effected in this same
castle. There are at present mounted within its periphery nearly 300 cannon, and
these all 32's, 42's, and 8 and 10 inch Paixhan, there being a very large number of
the latter; and wherever it has been possible to train a gun upon the channel of
approach, they are planted - en barbette, - ; so that a fleet moving up to the attack
must be exposed to the concentrated fire of seventy cannon over a distance of two
miles before it can get into position to return a single shot. The castle of San Juan is
from the city at a distance of about three-eighths of a mile, and is supported by a
water battery at the northwest angle of the town of fifty 32 and 42-pound guns, all
of which would bear upon a squadron passing up, bows on, from the moment it
arrived within the range of the shot until its anchors were down, with springs upon
the cables, within the reach of musket shot. Judge, then, what a force would be
required for any promise of success, and at what an immense sacrifice it would be
accomplished, if at all. The garrison at this time is composed of 2,000 men. In the
event of an attack they would, with the most perfect safety, retire within the
casemates (which are as impervious to shot as the sides of Mount Orizaba) until the
ammunition of the assailing force was expended, when they would return to their
guns and sweep the waters before them with the most terrific, destructive effect. The
officer commanding the castle lately sent the official word - that if the commodore
would bring his fleet up, he might fire until there was not a shot left in the locker,
and he would promise him not to return a gun until he was done.

[N.Y. Tribune] [ANP]

NNR 72.083 April 10, 1847 MEXICAN ACCOUNT OF THE BATTLE OF BUENA VISTA.

-A number of letters and documents were written by the Mexicans during, and
immediately after the battle, and deapatchee to the interior and there published with flourish of trumpets as for a great victory. We subjoin in addition to what was inserted in our last, the following:

The Enemy's Camp,
February 23, 1847.

DEAR FRIEND: The general-in-chief is upon the point of despatching a courier-now 5 o'clock, P.M. We have taken the fortifications of the enemy, and four of his positions, which he defended with obstinacy, and every height and every ravine of which they furiously disputed. We have lost many field and other officers, out of proportion to the number of soldiers, and we have taken from the enemy two flags and three pieces of artillery. There are very few prisoners-four, I believe the rest are dead.

Our troops are perishing from hunger and thirst.-They have not drank water in two days, and have eaten nothing since the day they were at Incarnation and a slice of roasted meat at La Vaca.

I am much afraid lest this cause should disperse us to-night, since the soldiers are already scattering, and we have seen bodies of them fighting and charging upon the enemy wherever they thought there was water, caring for nothing; and we have seen them disputing among themselves, totally indifferent to the fire of the enemy, for a piece of ham found upon the dead Yankees. This night is a fearful one for the republic, since I dread lest we should become disbanded. In conclusion, dear friend, there now remains but little to be done, because we have been pursuing the enemy all day long with the bayonet, and to morrow they will be finished. They killed the horse of the general-in-chief with a grape shot.

Addition, or Postscript, 24th -Since closing my letter, the general-in-chief, convinced without doubt, that the army, will disband unless it can obtain food, and procure water, has ordered its march to Agua Nueva where there are some cattle and water-water, which is before everything else.

It is very cruel, dear L., that which we have suffered. We have lost about a thousand men and many officers killed and wounded, and our Lombardini among the rest.

It is the first action which the republic has fought on a large scale and obstinately. It begun at five minutes past 2 o'clock in the afternoon of the 22nd. They attacked us on our right and were repulsed at 6 o'clock. On the 23rd they returned to the charge, at the same point, before 6 o'clock in the morning, and were driven back a league and a quarter to Buena Vista, the different conflicts which we had with them being concluded at 6 in the evening.

From a letter, dated Feb. 24th.-We have gained a bloody battle, and taken from the enemy standards and artillery. They have become to demand a peace, and they have been answered by the general-in-chief, that until the whole republic is evacuated by them he will not listen to them. (Here follow the names of some of the officers killed.)

General Juagni writes me, and says that the following officers have been killed. The brave Colonel Francisco Berra, the lieutenant colonel of the 1st regiment; Col. Pepe, of the 2d light cavalry; the lieutenant colonel of the 11th infantry, and who knows how many have met the same fate. The following are wounded; Gen. Lombardini, the Colonel of he 3d cavalry and the Lieut. Col. of he 5th cavalry.

Extract from a private letter, dated Feb. 23.-At the moment of writing (12 o'clock of the day) we are returning from Angostura, where we beat Taylor all day yesterday, taking from them many points among the heights almost inaccessible, and doing so repeatedly, until our troops remained at night established in the position from which we had driven them by main force. We took from them three guns, killed many of their troops. Our soldiers engaging them again and again.

I would not desire to speak to you of those killed of whom we have lost many and among them Pepe Oronoz, Pepe Bonilla, the Major of Morlia Berra, Asonos, Lugando, major of huzzars. There area wounded, Gen. Lombardini, D. Angel Guzman, D. Miguel Gonzales, and others.

Today a flag of truce has come in from Taylor, asking peace. D. Antonio commanded the eyes of the officer to be unbandedaged that they might see our camp, and that if we had countermarched it was for want of supplies and not for want of courage. [ANP]
General orders of the army-23d Feb'ry., 7 o'clock at night-on the positions of the enemy-camp of Angostura.

His excellency, the general in-chief of the army directs me to announce to the generals, field and company officers, and the soldiers which compose it that he has witnessed with satisfaction the gallant bearing of each one of them during the day of combat which we have had with the invading forces of North America. Such bearing is worthy of the soldiers of a people who desire to be free; and the ground which we now occupy, on which the enemy was just now posted, the places of artillery and the colors we have taken, and the thousand corpses of the enemy which are scattered around us, will always be evidence of his valor of the soldiers of Mexico.

His excellency also directs me to say, that in testimony of the brave deeds of his subordinates, he will present them to the nation and to the supreme government with his commendation; and taking into consideration the fatigues of these days, and the scarcity of provisions which the troops are suffering, that he will direct them to be so disposed that they may recover themselves so as to conclude with glory the enterprise so brilliantly commenced. He directs that this order shall be communicated to the army in a general order extraordinary. By command of his excellency; M. Micheltorena. [ANP]

A much more minute and satisfactory account of the incidents "incidents" of a battle is often derived from unofficial than from official reports. Fuller accounts-better written particulars of a war never were so generally, speedily, and accurately spread abroad since wars began, than have been of the existing one between Mexico and the United States.

The New Orleans Delta of the 27th ult., contains some particulars of the battle of Buena Vista, derived from Major Coffee, one of Gen. Taylor's aids. We annex a few of them:

"On the 21st the enemy were descried, approaching over the distant hills. At their appearance the volunteers raised a great shout, and gave three tremendous cheers. Their engineers and officers were seen flying over the field, and dragging their cannon about to get them into position; but the nature of the ground did not favor the undertaking, and it was late in the day before the big guns began to open.

The enemy had with them thirty two cannon, mostly of large calibre. Their fire though kept up very briskly, and apparently well manned, did so little execution in our ranks that it was not considered necessary to return their fire. Our cannon were therefore silent the whole of the 21st. Eight or ten killed and wounded were the extent of the casualties sustained by our army on the 21st. During the day an officer approached our lines with a flag of truce, and requested to be shown to General Taylor.

The brave old man was sitting quietly on his old white charger, with his leg over the pommel of the saddle, watching the movements of the enemy, when the Mexican officer was presented.

In a very courteous and graceful manner the officer stated that "he had been sent by his excellency Gen. Santa Anna, to his excellency Gen. Taylor, to inquire, in the most respectful manner, what he [Gen. Taylor] was waiting for." From the silence of Gen. Taylor's batteries, and the quiet manner in which he received Santa Anna's terrific cannonading, the Mexicans supposed he was asking a very pertinent question, to which, however, old Rough and Ready gave the very pertinent reply that "he was only waiting for General Santa Anna to surrender."

The Mexican returned hastily to his lines.
This message proved to be a ruse to ascertain which Gen. Taylor's position was, for after the return of the Mexican officer to his own ranks the whole Mexican battery seemed to open upon Gen. Taylor's position, and the balls flew over and about him like hail. Utterly indifferent to the perils of his situation, there sat the old chief, on his conspicuous white horse, peering through his spy glass at the long lines of Mexican troops that could be seen at a great distance on the march.

The Persuasion of his aids could not induce him to abandon his favorable point for observation, nor to give up his white horse. To the suggestion of his staff that old Whitey was rather too conspicuous a charge, for the commander, he replied that "the old fellow had missed the fun at Monterey, on account of a sore foot, and he was determined he should have his share this time."

Speaking of the engagement on the 22d, the Delta says-

The broken nature of he ground divided the forces, so that instead of one general engagement, the regiments were compelled in a great measure to fight on their own hook. Our officers were always in the advance, leading their troops, hence the great mortality among them. In this general melee, one of our small regiments, of 400 men, would be attacked by a whole Mexican brigade of several thousand.-Thus the Kentucky infantry was attacked at the foot of a hill, in a deep ravine, by an immense force of the enemy.

A large number of the officers were killed here-among them was Col. Mckee, who fell badly wounded, and was immediately despatched by the enemy, who pierced him with their bayonets as he lay on the ground. Lieut. Col. Clay was shot through the thigh, and being unable to walk, was taken up and carried some distance by some of his men, but owing to the steepness of the hill, the men finding it very difficult to carry him, and the enemy in great numbers pressing upon them, the gallant lieut. Colonel begged them to leave him on the field; the last that was seen of this noble officer he was lying on his back, fighting with his sword the enemy who were stabbing him with their bayonets.

The veteran Capt. William S. Willis of the same regiment, at the head of his company, with three stalwart sons who fought at his side, was badly wounded, but still continued the fight, until he was overcome with the loss of blood. In the meantime the Indiana brigade, who were drawn out and ordered to charge the enemy, were seized with a panic, and displaying some hesitation, Assistant Adj't Gen Lincoln rushed to their front, and whilst upbraiding them for their cowardice, was shot, several balls passing through his body. In justice to this brigade is should be stated, that they subsequently rallied, and fully redeemed their reputation by the most gallant and effective fighting.

Colonel Hardin led the Illinoians in very handsome style, and the sturdy "suckers" fought like lions.-Their intrepid colonel fell wounded, and experienced the fate of Colonels Mckee and Clay, and was killed by the enemy-not, however, before he had killed one of the cowardly miscreants with a pistol, which he fired whilst lying on the ground.

Col. Yell led, the foremost man, a charge of his mounted volunteers against a large body of lancers, and was killed by a lance, which entered his mouth and tore off one side of his face.

The Mississippians, the heroes of Monterey, after doing hard duty as skirmishers, were ordered into line to receive a charge of cavalry, which they did with their rifles delivering at the same time a most destructive fire among the crowded columns of cavalry. The enemy were completely repulsed. The distinguished commander of this gallant regiment, Colonel Jefferson Davis, was badly wounded, an escopette ball having entered his foot and passed out of his leg. He was, however, doing well when last heard from. The chivalrous Lieut. Col. M'Clung was prevented from doing his share of the brave deeds of this brilliant fight, by the grievous wound received at the battle of Monterey, which still confines him to his bed, and from which it is much feared by his best friends he will never recover.

Col. Humphrey Marshall's splendid regiment of Kentucky cavalry were impatient for an opportunity of showing their mettle, and avenging the capture of their brethren, then in the hands of the enemy.-They were soon favored with the desired opportunity, by the approach of a force of more than 2,000 lancers and hassars, who gallantly charged them.-The Kentuckyans stood their ground with immovable steadiness, and receiving the enemy with a fire from their carbines, charged in the most gallant style through the column on the right, and wheeling, fell
on their left, dispersing and killing many of them.-A like charge was made by Col. May, at the head of a squadron of dragoons, and one of Arkansas cavalry, against a large body of the enemy's cavalry, with like results.

As to the flags Santa Anna boasts of having taken, they are, very probably, mere company markers, which were dropped on the field and picked up by the valiant Mexicans. His excellency, of the war department, to whom Santa Anna has sent these trophies, will no doubt be sorely disappointed in the size, texture, and beauty of these standards. Mexican pride is easily satisfied when such feeble mementos of their prowess and valor as these console them for so inglorious a defeat.

All the officers on our side, in this hard-fought battle distinguished themselves. The details of the battle were confided to Gen. Wool, who nobly justified the confidence of his commander and brother veteran, by the most active, zealous, efficient and gallant conduct. Throughout the whole action he was constantly engaged in the disposition of our forces, and in rallying them to the onset. It was a miracle that he escaped the thick flying balls which thinned the ranks he was marshalling. There was but one complaint made against him and that was, that he exposed himself too much. Brig. Gen. Lane, also, showed himself to be a brave and capable officer. Although wounded early in the action, he kept his horse until it closed, and never for a moment left his post.

The Washington Union of the 3d says:

"A note, addressed by Ass't Adjutant Bliss, from General Taylor's army, mentions the fact that the general received two balls during the battle; one passed through the cuff of his coat, the other through the front."

The following account of the battle is extracted from the New Orleans Tropic, of the 30th March. It partakes far too much of the figurative, for either a military report or a historical account, but gives a graphic description of the field of operation, and details more full the chain of incidents than any of the other accounts yet received. The Picayune states that it was written "by an accomplished gentleman who shared in the honors and perils of the fight." We should suspect from the general tenor of the article, that it was penned by one that is or has been in the regular army, attached probably to the artillery, and who full of the espirit du corps had difficulty in preserving a due impartiality to parcelling out the honors won, or consideration for errors committed in the field of action. His reference to the Indiana and Arkansas volunteer corps we hope may turn out to be chargeable to these prejudices.

Camp at Buena Vista, February 24, 1847.

On the morning of the 22d, intelligence reached Gen. Taylor at his camp, on the hill overlooking Saltillo from the south, that Santa Anna, whose presence in our vicinity had been reported for several days, was advancing upon our main body, stationed near Rancho San Juan de Buena Vista, about seven miles from Saltillo. The general immediately moved forward with May's squadron of Dragoons, Sherman's and Bragg's batteries of artillery, and the Mississippi regiment of rifleman under Col. Davis, and arrived at the position which he had selected for awaiting the attack of the enemy, about 11 o'clock. The time and the place, the hour and the man seemed to promise a glorious celebration of the day. It was the 22d of February, the anniversary of that day on which the God of battles gave to freedom its noblest champion, to patriotism its purest model, to America a preserver, and to the world the nearest realization of human perfection; for panegyric sinks before the name of WASHINGTON.

The morning was bright and beautiful. Not a cloud floated athwart the firmament or dimmed the azure of the sky, and the flood of golden radiance which gilded the mountain tops and poured over the valleys, wrought light and shade into a thousand fantastic forms. A soft breeze swept down from the mountains, rolling into graceful undulations the banner of the republic, which was proudly streaming from the flag staff of the fort and from the towers and battlements of Saltillo. The omens were all in our favor.

In the choice of his position Gen. Taylor exhibited the same comprehensive sagacity and masterly coup d'oeil which characterized his dispositions at Resaca de la Palma, and which crowned triumphantly all his operations amid the blazing lines of Monterey-The mountains rise on either side of an irregular and broken valley, about three miles in width, dotted over with hills and ridges, and scarred with broad and winding ravines. The main road lies along the course of an arroyo, the bed of which is now so deep as to form an almost impassable barrier, while the other side is
bounded by precipitous elevations, stretching perpendicularly towards the mountains, and separated by broad gullies, until they mingle into one at the base of the principle range. One h't right of the narrowest point of the roadway a battalion of the first Illinois regiment, under Lieut. Col. Weatherford, was stationed in a small trench, extending to the natural ravine, while on the opposite height, the main body of the regiment under Col. Hardin was posted, with a single piece of artillery from Capt. Washington's battery. The post of honor on the extreme was assigned to Bragg's artillery, his supported by the second regiment of Kentucky foot under Col. McKee, the left flank of which rested upon the arroyo. Washington's battery occupied a position immediately in front of the narrow point of the roadway, in rear of which, and somewhat to the left, on another height, the second Illinois regiment, under Col. Bissell, was posted.—Next on the left, the Indiana brigade, under Gen. Lane deployed, while on the extreme left the Kentucky cavalry under Col. Marshall, occupied a position directly under the frowning summits of the mountains. The two squadrons of the first and second dragoons, and the Arkansas cavalry under Col. Yell, were posted in rear, ready for any service which the exigencies of the day might require.

These dispositions had been made for some time, when the enemy was seen advancing in the distance, and he clouds of dust which rolled up before him gave satisfactory evidence that his numbers were not unworthy the trial of strength upon which we were about to enter. He arrived upon his position in immense masses, and with forces sufficiently numerous to have commenced the attack at once, had he been as confident of success as it subsequently appeared he was solicitous for our safety. The first evidence directly afforded us of his presence of Santa Anna was a white flag, which was dimly seen fluttering in the breeze, and anon Surgeon Gen. Lindenberg, of the Mexican army, arrived, bearing a beautiful emblem of benevolent bravado and Christian charity. It was a missive from Santa Anna, suggested by considerations for our personal comfort, which has placed us under lasting obligations, proposing to Gen. Taylor terms of unconditional surrender; promising good treatment; assuring us that his force amounted to upwards of 20,000 men; that our defeat was inevitable, and that, to spare the effusion of blood, his proposition should be complied with. Strange to say, the American general showed the greatest ingratitude; evinced no appreciation whatever of Santa Anna's kindness, and informed him that whether his force amounted to 20,000 or 50,000, it was equally a matter of indifference: the terms of adjustment must be arranged by gunpowder.

The messenger returned to his employer, and we waited in silence to hear the war of his artillery.—Hours rolled by without any movement on his part, and it appeared that the Mexican commander, grieved at our stubbornness, was almost disposed to retrace his steps, as if determined to have no further intercourse with such ungrateful audacity. At length he mustered resolution of open a fire from a mortar, throwing several shells into our camp without execution. While this was going on Capt. Steen, of the first dragoons, with a single man, started towards a hill on which the Mexican general appeared to be stationed with his staff; but before he completed the ascent the party vanished and when he reached the top he discovered that two regiments had thrown themselves into squares to resist his charge. The captain's gravity was overcome by this opposition, and he returned.

Just before dark a number of Santa Anna's infantry had succeeded in getting a position high up the mountains on our left, from which they could make a noise without exposing themselves to much danger, and at a distance of three hundred yards opened a most tremendous fire upon Col. Marshall's regiment. This was returned by two of his companies, which were dismounted and detached for the purpose as soon as they could arrive within a neighborly range. The skirmishing continued until after dark, with no result to us save the wounding of three men very slightly.

During the night a Mexican prisoner was taken, who reported Santa Anna's force as consisting of fifteen pieces of artillery, including some 24 pounders, six thousand cavalry, and fifteen thousand infantry, thus confirming the statement of his superior.

The firing on our extreme left, which soon ceased after sunset on the 22d, was renewed on the morning of the 22d at an early hour. This was accompanied by quick discharges of artillery from the same quarter, the Mexicans having established during the night a 12 pounder on a point at the base of the mountain, which commanded any position which could be taken by us. To counteract the effect of this piece, Lieut. O'Brien, 4th artillery, was detached with three pieces of Washington's battery, having with him Lieutenant Bryan of the Topographical Engineers, who having planted a few shells in the midst of the enemy's gunners, for the time effectually silenced his fire.

From the movements soon perceptible along the left of our line, it became
lancers, which they seemed not unwilling to appropriate. Fortunately, Lieut. Col. Lane, was ordered to join Col. Davis, supported by a considerable body of myriads of Mexican despotism, were arrayed against five thousand Americans, and the volleys of artillery reverberated through the mountains like the thunders of an Alpine storm.

In the meantime, the enemy's cavalry had been stealthily pursuing its way along the mountain, and though our artillery had wrought great havoc among its numbers, the leading squadrons had passed the extreme points of danger, and were almost in position to attack us in the rear. At this critical moment, the Indiana regiment turned upon its proper front, and commenced an inglorious flight. The efforts of Col. Bowles to bring it into position were vain, and over hills and ravines they pursued their shameful career to the great delight of the enemy, who rent the air with shouts of triumph. Several officers of General Taylor's staff, immediately dashed off, to arrest, if possible, the retreating regiment and restore it again to reputation and duty. Major Dix, of the pay department, formerly of the 7th infantry, was the first to reach the deserters, and seizing the colors of the regiment, appealed to the men, to know whether they had determined to desert them. He was answered by three cheers, showing that though the men had little disposition to become heroes themselves, they were not unmindful of an act of distinguished gallantry on the part of another. A portion of the regiments immediately rallied around him, and was reformed by the officers. Dix, in person, then led them towards the enemy until one of the men volunteered to take the flag. The party returned to the field, and though not in time to repair the disaster which their flight had created, to retrieve in a slight degree, the character of the state. While this day, however, by this disgraceful panic, was fast going against us, the artillery was advanced, its front extended, and different sections and pieces under Sherman, Bragg, O'Brien, Thomas Reynolds, Kilburn, French, and Bryan, were working such carnage in the ranks of the enemy, as to make his columns roll to and from, like ships upon the billows. His triumph, at the Indiana retreat, was but for a moment, and his shouts of joy, were soon followed by groans of anguish, and the shrieks of expiring hundreds.

Washington's battery on the right, had now opened its fire, and driven back a large party of lancers, advancing in that direction. Along the entire line, the battle raged with great fury. Twenty-one-thousand of the victims of Mexican oppression and the myrmidons of Mexican despotism, were arrayed against five thousand Americans, sent forth to conquer a peace. The discharges of the infantry followed each other more rapidly than the sounds of the Swiss bell ringers in the fierce fervor of a finale, and the volleys of artillery reverberated through the mountains like the thunders of an Alpine storm.

The myriads of Mexican cavalry still pressed forwards on our left, and threatened a charge upon the Mississippi rifles, under Col. Davis, who had been ordered to support the Indiana regiment, and had succeeded in preserving a fragment of it in position.—Col Davis, immediately threw his command into the form of a V, the opening towards the enemy, and awaited his advance. On he came dashing with all the speed of Mexican horses, but when he arrived at that point from which could be seen the whites of his eyes, both lines poured forth a sheet of lead that scattered him like chaff, felling many a gallant steed to the earth, and sending scores of riders to the sleep that knows no waking.

While the dispersed Mexican cavalry were rallying, the 3d Indiana regiment, under Col. Lane, was ordered to join Col. Davis, supported by a considerable body of horse. About this time, from some unknown reason, our wagon train displayed its length along the Saltillo road, and offered a conspicuous prize for the Mexican lancers, which they seemed not unwilling to appropriate. Fortunately, Lieut.
assailed him, squadrons and battalions fell like leaves in the blasts of autumn. The progress was arrested, and before the showers of iron hail which killed, and the enemy had advanced to within range of grape, sweeping all before them. Every horse with O'Brien's battery was eclipsed even the fame they won at Monterey, while Sherman, O'Brien and Brian proved themselves worthy of the alliance. Every horse with O'Brien's battery was killed, and the enemy had advanced to within range of grape, sweeping all before him. But here is progress was arrested, and before the showers of iron hail which assailed him, squadrons and battalions fell like leaves in the blasts of autumn. The pursuit was too hot, and, as it evinced too clearly our deficiency in numbers, the whole line was driven back, and the day seemed lost beyond redemption. Victory, which a moment before appeared within our grasp, was suddenly torn from our standard. There was but one hope, but that proved an anchor sure and steadfast.

While our men were driven through the ravines, at the extremities of which a body of Mexican lancers were stationed to pounce upon them like tigers, Brent and Whiting of Washington's battery, gave them such a torrent of grape as to put them to flight, and thus saved the remnants of those brave regiments which had long borne the hottest portion of the fight. The enemy seemed inevitable; but Bragg and Thomas rose with the crisis, and with a most deadly fire, mingled with shouts which rose above the roar of artillery. The craft of Santa Anna had restored his courage, and with his reinforcement of cavalry he determined to charge our line. Under cover of their artillery, horse and foot advanced upon our batteries. These, from the smallness of our infantry force, were but feebly supported, yet by the most brilliant and daring efforts nobly maintained their positions. Such was the rapidity of their transitions that officers and pieces were empowered by ubiquity, and upon cavalry and infantry alike, wherever they appeared, they poured so destructive a fire as to silence the enemy's artillery, compel his whole line to fall back, and soon to assume a sort of sauvage qui peut movement, indicating anything but victory. Again, our spirits rose. The Mexicans appeared thoroughly routed; and while their regiments and divisions were passing before us, nearly all our light troops were ordered forward, and followed them with a most deadly fire, mingled with shouts which rose above the roar of artillery. In this charge the first Illinois regiment and McKee's Kentuckians were foremost. The pursuit was too hot, and, as it evinced too clearly our deficiency in numbers, the Mexicans, with a suddenness which was almost magical, rallied and returned upon us. They came in myriads, and for a while the carnage was dreadful on both sides. We were but a handful to oppose the frightful masses which were hurled upon us, and could have as easily resisted an avalanche of thunderbolts. We were driven back, and the day seemed lost beyond redemption. Victory, which a moment before appeared within our grasp, was suddenly torn from our standard. There was but one hope, but that proved an anchor sure and steadfast.

Rucker, with a squadron of the 1st dragoons, Capt. Steen having been previously wounded and Capt. Eustis (confined to his bed by illness) was present, and by order of Gen. Taylor, dashed among them in a most brilliant style, dispersing them by his charge, as effectually as the previous fire of the Mississippi rifleman.

May's dragoons, with a squadron of Arkansas cavalry under Capt. Pike, and supported by a single piece of artillery, under Lieut. Reynolds, now claimed their share in the discussion and when the Mexicans had again assembled, they had to encounter another shock from the two squadrons, besides a fierce fire of grape from Reinos's 6 pounder. The lancers once more rallied and directing their course towards the Saltillo road, were met by the remainder of Col. Yell's regiment and Marshall's Kentuckians, who drove them towards the mountains on the opposite side of the valley, where, from their appearance when last visible, it may be presumed, they are still running. In this precipitate movement, they were compelled to pass through a rancho, in which many of our valiant comrades had previously taken refuge, who, from this secure retreat, opened quite an effective fire upon them.

It is reported, moreover, that hundreds of the Arkansas cavalry were so well satisfied with the result of this single effort, that they deemed it unnecessary to make another, and accordingly kept on their way to town, and there reported Gen. Taylor in full retreat.
Mexicans were once more driven back with great loss, though taking with them the three pieces of artillery which were without horses.

Thus thrice during the day, when all seemed lost but honor, did the artillery, but the ability with which it was maneuvered, roll back the tide of success from the enemy, and give such overwhelming destructiveness to its effect, that the army was saved, and the glory of the American arms maintained. At this moment, however, let it never be forgotten that while every effective man was wanted on the field, hundreds, some say thousands, of volunteers had collected in the rancho with the wagon train, whom no efforts or entreaties could induce to join their brethren, neighbors and friends, then in the last struggle for death or victory.

The battle had now raged with variable success for nearly ten hours, and, by a sort of mutual consent, after the last carnage wrought among the Mexicans by the artillery, both parties seemed willing to pause upon the result. Night fell, and the American General, with his troops, slept upon the battle ground, prepared, if necessary, to resume operations on the morrow. But here the sun rose again upon the scene the Mexicans had disappeared, leaving behind them only the hundreds of their dead and dying, whose bones are to whiten their native hills, and whose moans of anguish were to excite in their enemies that compassion which can have no existence in the bosoms of their friends.

Throughout the action, Gen’l. Taylor was where the shots fell hottest and thickest, two of which passed through his clothes. He constantly evinced the greatest quickness of conception, fertility of resource, and a cool unerring judgment not to be baffled. Gen. Wool was wherever his presence was required, stimulating the troops to activity and exertion. The operations of General Lane were confined to his own brigade, and his efforts were worthy of better material for their application. Major Bliss bore himself with his usual gallantry, having his horse, as at Palo Alto, shot in the head. Mr. Crittenden, a son of the Senator from Kentucky, as conspicuous in the field as volunteer aid to General Taylor; and the Medical Director’s assistant surgeon, Hitchcock, could sometimes seen where the balls fell fastest, binding up a wound or dressing a broken leg, with true professional zeal; and anon galloping with th ardor of an amateur knight, conveying orders to different commanders.

In this, as in every case of arbitrament by the sword, the laurel is closely entwined with the cypress, and the lustre of a brilliant victory is darkened by the blood at which it has been purchased. I am unable to state our loss, but it has been very severe, and proves the battle of Buena Vista to have been by far the most terrible conflict in which our troops have been engaged. Captain Lincoln, Assistant Adjutant General to Gen. Wool, fell early in the action, while proudly distinguished by his efforts of bring the flying regiment back to their position, and with his last breath bore testimony against Indiana cowardice. Col. Yell was pierced by a lance while gallantly leading his regiment against the Mexican cavalry. The noble Hardin met his death gloriously while conducting the last terrible charge. Colonel McKee, after having gallantly sustained the honor of Kentucky throughout the action, fell in the foremost rank, and Lieut. Col. Clay was cut down at almost the same moment with Hardin and McKee, while giving his men the most brilliant example of noble daring and lofty chivalry.

Others have fallen, but their names are not known to me, nor is it for me to pronounce the eulogy of those whose names I have recorded. Other and abler pens will do justice to the character and memory of the illustrious dead, whose devotion to the Republic they have written with their blood and sealed with their lives. Lincoln was a gallant officer and accomplished gentleman, of pure heart and generous impulses, and worthy of his revolutionary lineage. Yell was a warm friend and gallant man, quick to see the right and ready to pursue it. Hardin was one of natures noblest spirits, a soldier tried and true, a rare union of the best qualities of the head and heart.-McKee was wise in council and brave in the field, with a heart moved by the tenderest sympathies and most noble impulses. And what shall I say of Clay -the young, the brave, the chivalrous-foremost in the fight-the should of every lofty sentiment?-devoted to his friends and genius to his enemies? He fell (indecipherable text) and has left no worthier name behind him. If he was not the "noblest Roman them all," few will deny that in him-

"Were the elements so mixed, that nature might stand up and say to all the world-THIS WAS A MAN."

But I cannot go on.
Everyone will wish an opportunity of learning particulars relative to the regions at, and round about the spot made famous by the last victory of General Taylor over the Mexicans. We avail of the letters of the Correspondent of the Missouri Republican, as affording the best written and most graphic description. The letters which follow, it will be observed, are dated at he place, and but a few days before the battle. Would for our country's character, for the sake of humanity we could have been spared the task of recording the horrid massacre which is detailed in the last of the three letters. It is indeed a tale that an American must blush at the worse than savage enactment of. What a deplorable guerrilla war is this about to degenerate into?

Letters from a correspondent of the Missouri Republican

[Written before the battle]
CAMP SAN JUAN DE BUENA VISTA.
Five miles south of Saltillo, Mexico Jan. 20.
Mexican Campaigning.

This thing of writing letters for publication, in camp, is neither so pleasant nor so easy as might be imagined. Draw the picture of a man of common size sitting crossed legged on a blanket spread on the ground, with his portfolio on his knee, and an old broken lantern holding a piece of candle, propped up on a well worn leather trunk, and an earthenware inkstand on the ground close by, covered, by the by, with a small tent, in which old boots, old clothes, old guns, swords, pistols, are strewed around in the back ground, all striving to withdraw themselves from notice— and you will have an accurate daguerreotype of the writer and his ranch. And then there is no such thing as withdrawing from the noise of the camp, the wont of book makers, whose business is to digest the thoughts of others; but all is written in the midst of the perplexing interruptions. He has commenced a letter, and is endeavoring to recollect an event, or perhaps to philosophize on some new facts presented to his notice, when in walks the quartermaster: "Colonel, one of my wagoners is sick, and I must have another man detailed to drive his wagon. Very sorry, sir, to have to make the request known—the captains are all mad about taking their men for wagoners—but think, sir, the ammunition will have to be left behind, if we don't get a driver."

The quartermaster is scarcely despatched, when in pops he head of an orderly sergeant: "Colonel, the butcher has sent up to our company a quarter of beef that is so blue it looks like it was dyed with indigo, and it is stringy enough to make halters.—Just come and see it." A board of seventy' has to be summoned to condemn the mean beef of the rascally butcher, who is getting seven cents a pound for beef, when he is only giving two or three cents for it.

Five minutes more, and another sentence is half finished, when in comes the sergeant major to inquire whether he shall make a detail to go for wood tomorrow. "Yes," shouts the angry writer, "detail half the regiment, and order the other half to let me alone until I finish this letter."

Ninety miles from the Presidio we encamped on the banks of the Almos. On the evening of our arrival I did not go down to the stream; and was told by a staff officer that it was about seventy feet wide, and we soon crossed it in the morning. By the way, these staff officers seem to consider it a part of their duty to shorten distances and diminish obstructions, whenever they are inquired of on these subjects.—At an early hour next morning, the whole command was on the banks of the Almos, ready to cross. But the first view of the river dissipated all hopes of crossing it easily. It was seventy yards wide, and four feet deep, and swept downward with amusing velocity, foaming, roaring, and tearing along as though it were determined to prohibit any invasion of its light and transparent waters. Men could not wade it—their feet were swept from under them in three feet water, before they had reached the centre of the current; neither mules nor horses could pull their wagons across. It became necessary to take the horses and mules from the wagons and attach long ropes to the wagons, which reached across the stream, and men on the opposite side pulled them across. By elevating the leading wagons, as had been done at the Rio Grande, they were safely taken over with their contents. The men crossed on the wagons or by holding to them.

The current of the river was as rapid as the Ohio at the falls near Louisville, or the Mississippi at the rapids. An examination of it for several miles showed no
decrease in its velocity. The volunteers took hold of the ropes with alacrity, and fairly worked themselves into favor by their good conduct during the day.

Leaving a portion of the troops to assist the provision train across the stream, the principal part of the army, with the baggage and ammunition wagons, marched on to cross the Sabinas, five miles distant, before camping. This was found not to be so wide, but, if possible, more rapid than the Almos, with quicksands on either bank. The men were fatigued with the labor of the morning when they reached it; but here was an obstacle still to be overcome and with redoubled energy they set to work to master it. The same course had to be pursued in crossing the wagons as at the Almos. Men and ropes were found far more serviceable than horses and mules. There were not wagons sufficient to cross the men on, and a bridge of empty wagons was made across the main part of the stream by fastening the wagons together; still the men had to wade to their waists to get on and off the wagons.

This was bad enough, but the hardships of the day were aggravated by another circumstance. It took so much time to cross over the artillery and staff wagons, (who were given preference over the volunteers,) that more than half the company wagons of the regiment of volunteers had to be left on the opposite side of the river from the troops. The consequence was, that after tugging all day at the ropes, pulling wagons over, and going without any dinner, the majority of the men had to lie down at night in their wet clothes without tents, blankets or food.

Many were the accidents and narrow escapes of the day. Several men were washed away from the wagons, and were only saved by extraordinary exertions. One of the artillerists was washed off the gun carriage, and both wheels passed over his legs, yet they were not broken, as the swiftness of the current doubtless prevented the whole weight of the cannon from coming upon him. Several mules were drowned. A quartermaster's wagon was upset in the Sabinas, and his papers and stores floated down the in admirable confusion.

Neither was there any want of commanders; for both the generals, with all the colonels, the whole staff, and all the wagon masters, were giving orders at the top of their lungs, and with the most violent gesticulations.

In the midst of this babel of orders and counter orders, mingled as it was with the roaring of the mountain torrent, the shouting of officers, and the imprecations of the wagoners, Maj. Warren quietly slipped off to one side amongst the bushes to take the matter more easily. Under some brush by the side of the river, he discovered an Arkansas volunteer sitting down, from whose clothes the water was still dripping. His head was between his knees, and he was deeply soliloquizing.

"Well," said he, "if this is war, I ain't in no more."

"What is the matter?" inquired the major.

"Why," answered the Rackensacker, "I was standing on the bank up there with my hands in my pockets, thinking I might as well take it easy, as I didn't own any of them wagons, when along comes the general, and shouted out, 'what are you doing there on the bank, you lazy fellow? Why don't you jump in and help that wagoner?' Without taking time to take a chaw of tobacco, I pitched in like a frog and seized hold of the wagon and worked as hard as if I had been at a gander pulling. And was still at it, a giving of orders equal to the best of them, when here comes a general's aidercong and screaming out 'What the d--l are you doing in the way?' With that I leaped out of the river like a water dog. Now you see stranger, I came here to fight them Mexicans, and not to make a mule of myself to haul wagons, and I say again, if this is war I ain't in no more." [ANP]
found ourselves beyond the confines of grass. Prickly-pear and thorn bushes covered hill and valley.

On the 30th October we encamped near Monclova. We continued encamped in its vicinity for several weeks, during which time we had an opportunity of seeing the town and studying the manners and habits of its people.

Monclova is situated at the foot of one of the mountains of the Bolson de Mapimis, and its houses border a beautiful, noisy rivulet, whose waters are distributed through the town. It contains about six thousand inhabitants, and is the centre of a considerable trade. There are thirty of forty stores in the place, some of which have good stock of goods. The merchants replenish their stock from different places. Most of their goods are brought from Matamoros—some from San Luis—others are brought across the continent, from Mazatlan. Silks and Canton crepes are not more costly that in the United States; but woolen and cotton goods usually sell for twice the price they will command in the villages in the United States. Broadcloths are an exception, and bring about the same price as in the United States.

The houses are built of adobes, one story high. The streets are narrow, and intersect each other at right angles. This town, like most others, has many deserted houses, which are going to destruction. The washings of a few rainy seasons make them a mass of rubbish, and often fill the adjacent street a foot or two in depth. A slight hill separates the town from Pueblo, in which there is a handsome alameda or promenade, three hundred yards in length, set around with fine cotton wood trees, and bordered with a rivulet of water; stone seats, neatly plastered, furnish opportunities for repose. This is the favorite resort of the inhabitants in the afternoons and evenings, during the warm months. In a country here trees are so rare, such a retreat is peculiarly pleasant.

There is another smaller alameda in the main town similarly ornamented. There also several plazas, which are to be found in all Mexican towns.

Every Mexican town, of many inhabitants, in addition to its Alcalde, has a perfect, or governor. Most of them have also a custom house officer. It matters little what the theory of the government may be; it is certain, practically, that heir power over the inhabitants of the town is wholly unlimited.

A day or two after leaving Santa Rosa, Genral Wool received a protest from the prefect of Monclova, in which he informed the general that his advance was a violation of the armistice then existing between the governments of their respective countries, requesting him not to proceed to Monclova; and further advising him, that if he persisted in doing so, his march would be resisted. All this was considered Mexican rhodomontade, and out march continued.

The evening we arrived in the vicinity of Monclova soon after our tents were pitched, a cavaleade, of a dozen richly caparisoned cavalleros approached our camp, and were conducted to head quarters. They were the pretect, and other officers of the town, win thinking “discretion the better part of valor,” wisely determined to welcome the arrival of the general and hi army as friends instead of shooting at them as enemies. They formally informed the general that no resistance would be made, invited him to march into town, and offered to furnish him with quarters.

Like many others, I was struck with the dress and equipage of the party, that with their message.

They were dressed, some in cloth, others in velvet, but most in buckskin pants, with seven dozen buttons on each pair of pants, studded on the outer seams of the legs. A sash tied tightly round the waist, upheld the pants. Calico or cambric shirts, with the bosoms of those worn by the dandies, richly worked, covered the upper man. Over this was a broadcloth roundabout, richly covered with silk braid. A sombrero of fur, covered with back shiling oil cloth, was stuck jauntily on the head, and only sufficient to cover a portion of it, as it is not fashionable to wear one large enough for the head. The bootees, and when mounted they were completely methered in their large wooden stirrups and leather blousings. A plaited whip of raw ox hide, with a handle eight inches long and fastened around the wrist with a fanciful string, was held in the hand. A huge pair of iron spurs with the burrs three inches across, and ornamented with little bells which tiniled as the horse moved, were fastened on his feet with leather straps, broidered with silk. To complete the cavallero’s costume—around his shoulders as thrown, with graceful negligence, the indispensable sarape, or blanket, of the finest work and gayest pattern. No Mexican ever leaves his home without this gar covering. It is as indispensable to then as a gun to the sportsman, a sabre to a dragoon or moustache to an aid-de-campe. In warm weather, it is worn
around the waist like a sash, and a horse back rests on the saddle, with the ends falling gracefully down. When the weather is the least maid he envelops himself in its ample folds, growing one end tastefully over the left shoulder. When it rains, he inserts his head through a hole worked in the center, and with his oil cloth sombrero bids defiance to the weather. A night, it forms his bed and covering. It is not only an article of use, but of the greatest pride to the wearer. Every man purchases as fine a one as he is able—the price of fine ones usually worn by the Spaniards varying from thirty to eighty dollars, though some times ranging as high as four hundred dollars. Gay colors usually predominate in their formation—red, orange, green, blue, &c., being most in a vogue. Patterns are as various as the figures in a kaleidoscope, and most of the fine ones are very beautiful.

The trapping of the horse, however, took the crowd more than the raiders. The pommels of the saddles, the cantels, and holes in the cantels sufficient to admit the hand, and the different fastenings of the saddle, were plated with solid silver. A heavy housing of worsted work, or more frequently of horse hair, was fastened behind the saddle, and covered the lions of the horse. A large piece of stamped leather covered the stirrups, and protected the feet of the rider from the bushes, and hung down like an overgrown set of ears of fox hounds. The saddle tree was covered with leather stamped into various figures, and of infinite work. The bridle buckles were of silver; the ends of all the pieces of leather in the headstall, the brow- brand, and various ornaments in the headstall, conceal nearly all the leather of the headstall, were of solid silver. The reins were of different material; some of hair, some of worsted, some of plaited leather, and some of plated silver wire—but all perfectly round, and of the size of a bed cord. The bit which was of curiously worked iron, with an iron ring curb, hair lariats, with the strands of different colors, was fastened around the horse's neck, and hung in a coil from the pommel of the saddle.

These massive trappings were on their best Mexican ponies, for a well grown horse is not to be found in Mexico, fourteen bands being the measure of a tall Mexican pony. They showed the marks of good keeping and thorough breaking, and would curvet for half an hour under the shade of a tall cottonwood. This rolling, frolicking; cavorting gait, for a Mexican never rides in a trot, and rarely in a walk. The canter is his passion.

A fine Mexican saddle costs from fifty to five hundred dollars, the head stall of a bridle from twenty five to fifty dollars, and silver reins from thirty five to one hundred dollars. A Mexican pony costs from ten to thirty dollars. A few will bring more, but they are rare. When all this costly rigging is put upon a diminutive pony, which the owner would sell for twenty dollars, it does look very like "running the thing into the ground."

Those civil dignitaries were accompanied (as is the universal custom with those who can afford it) by pacons, to hold their horses. These were dressed differently, in some respects, from their masters. The sombrero was of coarser material, usually of wool, with a fancy hat band, worked like a fancy bead purses, others were of silk or leather, with large silver ornaments on them. The neither garments were of seer skin, fastened at the outer sides for six inches below the waist, and open from there down. White cotton drawers half a yard in width, projected their ample folds through the open sides of pants. [These open overalls are the peculiar distinction of the pavons. For, either by custom or law, they never wear their pants closed at the sides.]

A white cotton shirt covered the shoulders, and the better dressed wore a jacket of deer skin, adorned with stripes of stamped leather. Shoes of red leather, with large spurs, were on their feet; and a heavy blanket, of drivers colors, enveloped their waists.

Their horse furniture was much less costly than their masters, yet was in such abundance as to conceal the whole body of their ponies.

These pacons followed their masters like shadows, watched their movements without a word; and at the waving of a hand, darted off at full speed to execute an order. They are the express riders of the country, and will ride incredible distances in one or two days, to carry a despatch.

The Mexicans are most accomplished riders. Their stirrup leathers are fastened to the saddle much further back than is usual in the United States. The seats of the saddle are also smaller. When a person mounts one, and gets his feet inserted into their broad wooden stirrups, he finds himself standing right across the horse. To a person unaccustomed to it, this is a very uncomfortable position, yet it gives the rider better command of his horse, and whichever way he may dodge the rifle is still
Their bridle bits are very severe, giving the rider perfect control of the horse. One of their principal amusements is to put a horse at full speed, and suddenly bring him up standing on his haunches. Owing to the severity of the bit, and their position in their position in the saddle, they bear no weight on the bridle, and do not depend upon it to steady them in riding. With a well trained horse, their arms are consequently free, and this gives them the opportunity of throwing the lasso with so much freedom and certainty.

Notwithstanding the excellency of the horsemanship of the Mexicans, such is their inferiority in stature to the Americans, as well as that of their horses that their cavalry never can be formidable to disciplined American troops.

By the time the perfect and his associate dignitaries had gotten through surrendering the government of the town to the general, the outsiders had completed the inspection of the rigging of the party. Both parties were therefore ready for a mutual separation.

The Mexicans mounting their mettlesome horses, moved back to Monclova in the greatest possible canter. And the soldiers dispersed, after expressing a partly unanimous wish, that they might meet a lot of such fellows in battle, so that they could supply themselves with silver mounted saddles and fine. [MSM]
artillery, well equipped, with eighteen guns, and four companies of dragoons; making in all about six hundred and fifty regulars, who, for prowess and skill in battle, we believe, would be unsurpassed in any service in the world.

"Should Col. Morgan have succeeded in making his way from Seralvo to Monterey, (which we sincerely trust may be the case), he would carry into Gen. Taylor's camp a reinforcement of from 400 to 500 volunteers. [MSM]

NNR 72.093-095 April 10, 1847 CORRESPONDENCE INVOLVED IN LEVYING A TARIFF ON MEXICAN PORTS

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURER, SIR: The government of Mexico having repeatedly rejected the friendly overtures of the U. States to open negotiations with a view to the restoration of peace, sound policy and a just regard to the interests of our own country require that the enemy should be made as far as practicable, to bear the expenses of a war which they are the authors, and which they obstinately persist in protracting.

It is the right of the conqueror to levy contributions upon the enemy in their seaports, towns, or provinces, which may be in his military possession by conquest, and to apply the same to defray the expenses of the war. The conqueror possesses the right also to establish a temporary military government to prescribe the conditions and restrictions upon which commerce with such places may be permitted. He may, in his discretion, exclude all trade, or admit, without limitation of restriction; or impose terms the observance of which will be the condition of carrying it on. One of these conditions may be the payment of a prescribed rate of duties on tonnage and imports.

In the exercise of these unquestioned rights of war, I have, n full consideration, determined to order that all the ports or places in Mexico which now are, or hereafter may be, in the actual possession of our land and naval forces by conquest, shall be opened, while our military occupation may continue, to the commerce of all neutral nations, as well as our own, in articles not contraband of war, upon the payment of prescribed rates of duties, which will be made known and enforced by our military and naval commanders.

While the adoption of this policy will be to impose a burden on the enemy, and at the same time to deprive them of the revenue to be derived from trade at such ports or places, as well as to secure it to ourselves, whereby the expenses of the war may be diminished, a just regard to the general interests of commerce, and the obvious advantages of uniformity in the exercise of these belligerent rights, requires that well considered regulations and restrictions should be prepared for the guidance of those who may be charged with carrying it into effect.

You are therefore instructed to examine the existing Mexican tariff of duties and to report me a schedule of articles of trade, to be admitted at such ports or places as may at any time be in our military possession, with such rates of duties in them, and also on tonnage, as will be likely to produce the greatest amount of revenue. You will also communicate the considerations which may recommend the scale of duties which you may deem advisable, in order to enforce their collection.

As the levy of the contribution proposed is a military right derived from the laws of nations, the collection and disbursement of the duties will be made under the orders of the secretary of war and the secretary of the navy, by the military and naval commanders at the ports or places in Mexico which may be in possession of our arms. The report required is therefore necessary in order to enable me to give the proper directions to the war and navy departments.

SIR: Your instructions of the 23d instant have been received by this department, and in conformity thereto I present you herewith, for your considerations, a scale of duties proposed to be collected as a military contribution during the war, in the ports of Mexico, in possession of our army or navy by conquest, with regulations for the ascertainment and collection of such duties, together with the reasons which appear to me to recommend their adoption.

It is clear that we must either adopt our own tariff or that of Mexico, or establish a new system of duties. Our own tariff could not be adopted, because the Mexican exports and imports are so different rates of duties are indispensable in order to collect the largest revenue. Thus, upon many articles produced in great abundance
here, duties must be imposed at the lowest rate in order to collect any revenue; whereas many of the same articles are not produced in Mexico, or to a very inconsiderable extent, and would therefore bear a much higher duty for revenue. A great change is also rendered unnecessary by the proposed exaction of duties on all imports to any Mexican port in our possession from any other Mexican port occupied by us in the same manner. This measure would largely increase the revenue which we might collect. It is recommended, however, for reasons of obvious safety, that this Mexican coastwise trade should be confined to our own vessels, as well as the interior trade above any port of entry in our possessions, but that in all other respects the ports of Mexico held by us should be freely opened at the rate of duties herein recommended to the vessels and commerce of all the world. The ad valorem system of duties adopted by us, although by far the most just and equitable, yet requires an appraisement to ascertain the actual value of every article. This demands great mercantile skill, knowledge, and experience, and therefore, for the want of skillful appraisement—a class of officers wholly unknown in Mexico—could not at once be put into successful operation there.

If, also, as proposed, these duties are to be ascertained and collected as a military contribution through the officers of our army and navy, those brave men could more easily perform almost any other duty that that of estimating the value of every description of goods, wares, and merchandise. The system of specific duties already prevails in Mexico, and may be put by us into immediate operation; and if, as is conceded, specific duties should be more burdensome upon the people of Mexico, the more onerous the operation of these duties upon them, the sooner it is likely that they will force their military rulers rulers to agree to a peace. It is certain that a mild and forebearing system of warfare, collecting no duties in their ports in our possession on the Gulf, and levying no contributions, whilst our armies purchase supplies from them at high prices, by rendering the war a benefit to the people of Mexico rather than an injury, has not hastened the conclusion of a peace. It may be, however, that specific duties, onerous as they are, and heavy contributions, accompanied by a vigorous prosecution of the war, may more speedily ensure that peace which we have failed to obtain from magnanimous forbearance, from brilliant victories, or from proffered negotiation. The duties, however, whilst they may be specific, and therefore more onerous than ad valorem duties, should not be so high as to defeat revenue. It is impossible to adopt as a basis the tariff of Mexico, because the duties are extravagantly high, defeating importation, commerce, and revenue, and producing innumerable frauds and smuggling. There are also sixty articles the importation of which into Mexico is strictly prohibited by their tariff, embracing most if the necessaries of life, and far the greater portion of our products and fabrics.

Among the sixty prohibited article are sugar, rice, cotton, boots and halt boot, coffee, nails of all kinds, leather of most kinds, flour cotton yarn and thread, soap of all kinds, common earthenware, lard, molasses, timber of all kinds, saddles of all kinds, coarse woollen cloth, cloths for cloaks, ready made clothing of all kinds, salt, tobacco of all kinds, cotton goods or textures, chiefly such as are made by ourselves, pork, fresh or salted, smoked or corned woollen or cotton blankets or counterpanes, shoes and slippers, wheat and grain of all kinds. Such is a list of but a part of the articles the importation of which is prohibited by the Mexican tariff. These prohibitions should not be permitted to continue, because they exclude most of our products and fabrics, and prevent the collection of revenue. We turn from the prohibitions to the actual duties imposed by Mexico. The duties are specific throughout, and almost universally by weight, irrespective of value, are generally protective or exorbitant, and without any discrimination for revenue. The duties proposed to be substituted are moderate when compared with those imposed by Mexico, behalf generally reduced to a standard more than one half below the Mexican duties.

The duties are also based upon a discrimination throughout, for revenue, and keeping in view the customs and habits of the people of Mexico, so different from our own, are fixed in each case at the rate which, it is believed, will produce in the Mexican ports the largest amount of revenue. In order to realize from this system the largest amount of revenue, it would be necessary that our army and navy should seize every important port and place upon the Gulf of Mexico, or California, or the Pacific, and open the way through the interior for the free transit of imports and exports, and especially that the interior passage through the Mexican isthmus should be secured from ocean to ocean for the benefit of our commerce and that of all the world. In the mean time the Mexican government monopoly in tobacco, from which a considerable revenue is realized by Mexico, together with the culture there which yields that revenue, should be abolished, so as to diminish the resources of that government, and augment our own, by collecting the duty upon all the imported tobacco. The Mexican interior transit duties should also be abolished, and their internal government on coin and bullion. The prohibition of exports and duties upon exports should be annulled, and especially the heavy export duty on coin and bullion, so as to cheapen and facilitate the purchase of imports, and permit the
precious metals untaxed to flow out freely from Mexico onto general circulation.

Quicksilver and machinery for working the mines of precious metals in Mexico, for
the same reasons, should also be admitted duty free; which, with the measures
above indicated, would largely increase the production and circulation of the precious
metals, improve our own commerce and industry and that of all neutral powers. In
thus opening the ports of Mexico to the commerce of the world, you would present
to all nations with who, we are at peace the best evidence of your desire to maintain
with them our friendly relations, to render the war to them productive of as little
injury as possible, and even to advance their interests so far as it safely can be
done, by affording to them in common with ourselves the advantages of a liberal
commerce with Mexico. To extend this commerce, you will have unsealed the ports
of Mexico, repealed their interior transit duties which obstruct the passage of
merchandise to and from the coast; you will have annulled the government duty on
coin and bullion and abolished the heavy export duty on the precious metals, so as
to permit them to flow out freely for the benefit of mankind; you will have expunged
the long list of their prohibited articles, and reduced more than one half their duties
on imports whilst the freest scope would be left for the mining of the precious metals.

These are great advantages which would be secured to friendly nations, especially
when compared with the exclusion of their commerce by rigorous blockades. It is
ture, the duties collected from these imports would be for the benefit of our own
government; but it is equally true that the expense of its war which Mexico insists
upon prosecuting are borne exclusively by ourselves, and not by foreign nations. It
cannot be doubted but that all neutral nations will see in the adoption of such a
course by you, a manifestation of your good will towards them, and a strong desire
to advance those just and humane principles which make it the duty of belligerents,
as we have always contended to render the war in which they are engaged as little
injurious [ ] practicable to neutral powers. These duties would not be imposed upon
any imports into our own country nut only upon imports into Mexico, and the tax
would fall upon the people of Mexico in the enhancement to them of the prices of
these imports. Nearly all out own products are excluded by the Mexican tariff, even
in time of peace; they are excluded by the Mexican tariff, even in time if peace; they
are excluded al o during the war, so far as we continue the system of blockading any
of the ports of Mexico, and they are also excluded even from the ports not blockaded
in possession of Mexico; whereas the new system would soon open to our commerce
all the ports of Mexico, as they shall fall into out military possession. Neither our
own nor foreign merchants are required to send any goods to Mexico, and, if they do
so voluntarily, it will be because they can make a profit upon the importation there,
and therefore they will have no right to complain of the duties levied in the ports of
Mexico, upon the consumers of those goods the people if Mexico.

The whole money collected would inure to the benefit of our own government and
people, to sustain the war, and to prevent to that extent, new loans and increased
taxation. Indeed, in view of the fact that the government [ ] thrown upon the
ordinary revenues for peace, with no other additional resources but loans to carry
on the war, the income to be derived from the new system, which, it is believed will
be large, if these suggestions are adopted, would be highly important to sustain the
credit of the government, to prevent the embarrassment of the treasury, and to
save the country from such ruinous sacrifices as occurred during the last year,
including the inevitable legacy to posterity of a large debt and onerous taxation. The
new system would not only arrest the expensive transfer and ruinous drain of specie
to Mexico but would cause it in duties, and in return for our exports, to reflow into
our own country try to an am un perhaps, soon exceeding the nine millions of [ ]
which it had reached in 2835, even under the rest trictive laws of Mexico, thus
relieving our own people from a grivous tax, and imposing it when it should fall,
upon our enemies, the people of Mexico, as a contribution levied upon them to
conquer peace, as well as to defray the expenses of the war whereas, by admitting
our exports freely without entry in to the Mexican ports, which affording those
goods, including the necessarios of life, at least less than one-half the prices which
they had heretofore paid for them, the war might in time become a benefit, instead
of a burden, to the people of Mexico, and they would therefore be unwilling to
terminate the contest. I

It is hoped also that Mexico, after a peace, will never renew her present prohibitory
and protective system, so nearly resembling that of ancient China or Japan, but that,
liberalized, enlightened, and regenerated by the contact and intercourse with our
people, and the far more moderate system of duties resembling that prescribed by
these regulations. In the mean time, it is not just that Mexico, by her obstinate
peristance in this contest, should compel us to overthrow our own financial policy,
and arrest this great nation in her high and prosperous career.

To reimpose high duties would be alike injurious to ourselves and to all neutral
powers, and. Unless demanded by a stern necessity, ungenerous to those enlightened nation which have adopted, contemporaneously with us, s more liberal commercial policy. The system you now purpose, of imposing the burden as far as practicable upon our enemies the people of Mexico, and not upon ourselves or upon friendly nations, appears to be most just in itself, and is further recommended as the only policy which is likely to hasten the conclusion of a just and honorable peace.

A tonnage duty on all vessels, whether our own or neutral powers, of one dollar per ton, which is greatly less than that imposed by Mexico, is recommended in lieu of all port duties and charges. Appended to these regulations are tables of the rates at which a certificate of value is required to be attached to the invoice. There is also annexed a table of foreign weights and measures reduced to the standard of the United States, together with blank forms, to facilitate the transaction of business. It is recommended that the duties herein suggested shall be collected exclusively in gold of silver coin. These duties can only be collected as a military contribution through the agency of our brave officers of the army and navy, who will, no doubt, cheerfully and faithfully collect and keep those moneys, and account for them, not to the treasury, but to the secretaries of war or of the navy respectively. It is recommended that these duties be performed by the commandant of the post, whether naval or military, aided by the paymaster or parser, or other officer the accounts of each being countersigned by the other as a check upon mistakes or error, in the same manner as is now the several principal ports, which had introduced so much order and accuracy into our systems.

It is suggested that, as in some cases the attention of the commandant of the post might be necessary for the performance of other duties, he be permitted to substitute some other officer, making known the fact to the secretaries of the war or of the navy, and subject to their direction. I have the honor to be, with great respect, your obedient servant, R.J. WALKER, Secretary of the Treasury. [MSM]

NNR 72.096 April 10, 1847 NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE GULF, LOSS OF HORSES

Intelligence from the army and squadron near Vera Cruz to the 19th March, received at New Orleans by the ship Oswego, and the barque Montezuma, both of which left Anton, Lizardo on the 20th, we find in the New Orleans papers of the 31st.

The U.S. steamer Mississippi, was seen on the 20th, about six miles from Vera Cruz, bound in with Commodore Perry on board.

One the 17th Commodore Conner fired a salute in honor of general Taylor’s victory at Buena Vista.

There seems to have been a fatality attending the transport if horses for Gen. Scott’s army. The ship Yazoo, which brought Capt. Ker’s squadron of 122 horses, struck a reef near Anton Lizardo, and has been completely wrecked. Capt. K. had by hard work preserved all the horses but two or three, up to the moment the ship ran upon the reef, but the water filled the hold and drowned all the noble animals but eight or ten. He succeeded in saving his men, with their saddles and arms. Capt. K. feels deeply distressed about it, but it could not have been helped.

Capt. Thornton lost forty horses from his squadron on the long and boisterous trip from the Brazos. “Capt. Kearney has not yet landed and I have not yet heard what kind of luck he had with his horses.” Col. Duncan, lost a number of horses during the gale. These losses are deeply felt.

The ship Diadem, which sailed from New Orleans with 230 horses on board, lost all but 27 of them before reaching Vera Cruz. The ship Louisville, which sailed with over 100 horses, landed barely fifty of them at Vera Cruz. Other vessels with horses on board, lost more or less. Col. Duncan lost several of his horses during the gale.

Three men from the store ship Relief were drowned in endeavoring to rescue the dragons.

Col. Harney landed on the 17th. The correspondent of the Picayune says—“He will be able to mount 300 men-enough to drive off all the Mexican cavalry that are now prowling about out rear, ready to attack us there when the attack is made upon the city. I should not be surprised to learn that the gallant colonel had a beautiful fight, for it is said there are 1,000 collected a few [ ] back of us.
P.S.- The steamer New Orleans arrived from Tampico last evening, with some 200 horses, which will in some degree make up for the loss of dragoons and battery horses. Gen. Jesup is on board the New Orleans.

Gen. Scott had landed ten mortars, but had not opened his fire. The ship Charles with forty mortars on board, had not arrived on the 19th instant, but was very anxiously expected by Gen. Scott. [MSM]

OFFICIAL-The following dispatches were received at the war department on the 4th inst:

Headquarters of the army, Camp Washington, before Vera Cruz. March 12th, 1847.

SIR-The colors of the United States were triumphantly planted ashore, in full view of this city and its castle, and under the distant fire of both, in the afternoon of the 9th instant. Brevet Brigadier General Worth's brigade of regulars led the descent, quickly followed by the division of United States volunteers under Major General Patterson, and Brigadier General Twigg's reserve brigade of regulars. The three lines successively landed in sixty seven surf boats, each boat conducted by a naval officer, and rowed by sailors from Commodore Conner's squadron-whose lighter vessels flanked the boats so as to be ready to protect the operation by their cross fire. The whole army reached the shore in fine style, and without direct opposition, (on the beach) accident, or loss, driving the enemy from the ground to be occupied.

The line of investment, according to General Orders,

No. 47, was partially taken up the same night; but has only been completed today-owning to the most extraordinary difficulties. 1. The environs of the city, outside of the fire of its guns and those of the castle, are broken into innumerable hills of loose sand, from twenty to two hundred and fifty feet in height, with almost impassable forests of chaparral between; and 2. Of all our means of land transportation-wagons, carts, pack saddles, horses and mules, expected to join us from Tampico and the Brazos, weeks ago-but fifteen carts and about one hundred draught horses, have yet arrived. Three hundred pack-mules are greatly needed to relieve the troops in taking subsistence, alone, along the line of investment of more than five miles, as at present, our only depot is south of the city. On the cessation of the present raging norther, which almost stifles the troops with sand-sweeping away hills and creating new, I hope to establish a second depot north of the city, which will partially relieve the left wing of the army.

In extending the line of investment around the city, the troops, for three days, have performed the heaviest labors in getting over the hills and cutting through the intervening forests-all under the distant fire of the city and castle-and in the midst of many sharp skirmishes with the enemy. In these operations we have lost in killed and wounded several valuable officers and men. Among the killed, I have to report Brevet Capt. Alburtis, of the U.S. 2d infantry, much distinguished in the Florida war, and a most excellent officer. He fell on the 11th inst.; and Lieut. Col. Dickenson, of the South Carolina regiment, was badly wounded, in a skirmish the day before. Two privates have been killed in these operations, and four or five wounded. As yet, I have not been able to obtain their names.

As soon as the subsistence of the troops can be assured, and their positions are well established, I shall, by and organised movement, cause each brigade of regulars and volunteers to send detachments, with supports, to clear its front, including subbourgs, of the enemy's parties, so as to oblige them to confine themselves within the walls of the city.

I have heretofore reported that but two-sevenths of the siege train and ammunition had reached me. The remainder is yet unheard of. We shall commence landing the heavy metal as soon as the storm subsides, and hope that the five-sevenths may be up in time.

The city being invested, would, no doubt, early surrender, but for the tear that if occupied by us, it would immediately be fired upon by the castle. I am not altogether without hope of finding the means of coming to some compromise with the city on
So far, the principal skirmishing has fallen to the lot of Brigadier Generals Pillow's and Quitman's brigades. Both old and new volunteer regiments have conducted themselves admirably. Indeed the whole army is full of zeal and cannot fail to acquire distinction in the impending operations.

To commodore Conner, the officers and sailors of his squadron, the army is indebted for great and unceasing assistance, promptly and cheerfully rendered. Their co-operation is the constant theme of our gratitude and admiration. A handsome detachment of marines, under Captain Edson, of that corps, landed with the first line, and is doing duty with the army.

March 13-The enemy, at intervals, continues the fire of heavy ordnance, from the city and castle, upon our line of investment, both day and night, but with little or no effect.

The norther has ceased, which has renewed our communication with the storeships at anchor under Sacrificios. We shall immediately commence landing the few pieces of heavy ordnance, with ordnance stores, at hand, and hope soon to have the necessary draught mules to take them to their positions. Any further delay in the arrival of those means of transportation will be severely felt in our operations.

I have the honor to remain, sir, with high respect, your most obedient servant,
WINFIELD SCOTT.

Hon. Wm L. Marcy, secretary of war.

[ANP]

NNR 72.098 April 17, 1847 HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF SAN JUAN ULLOA

CASTLE OF VERA CRUZ-A correspondent of the New Orleans Delta furnishes the following historical reminiscences respecting this fortress: In front the city of Vera Cruz, the Spaniards erected, at an expense of $40,000,000 the famous castle of San Juan d’Ulloa, as a ramparf against foreign invasion as well as foreign curiosity. It was captured for the first time by surprise on the 14th September, 1568, by he pirate Juan Aquinas Acle, who was, however, shortly expelled by Don Francisco de Lujan, with the aid of a fleet composed of twenty-three vessels. This happened when Don Martin Henriquez was vicerey of Mexico. The second captured, was also made by a pirate named Lorencillo. Occurred in the night between the 17th and 18th of May, 1693, and was far more disastrous in its consequences. Lorencillo, after he had mastered the citadel, sacked the city of Vera Cruz, and after having remained in peaceful possession of both for the space of nearly two weeks, departed with his plunder. The third capture was effected by admiral Baudin, and is too well known to require further mention. [MSM]

NNR 72.098-099 April 17, 1847 NOTICE OF TROOP MOVEMENTS

MOVEMENT OF TROOPS- A letter from an officer of the Massachusetts regiments, dated Biasos Santiago, March 17, says:- "We (companies A and D, under command of Captain Edward Webster) arrived here night before last, after a very pleasant and quick passage of nineteen days, and wee are lucky enough to have no sick men. We march this morning ofr the mouth of the river, and thence we take steamboats for Camargo, there to await orders from General Taylor. A part of the Carolina regiment left yesterday, and the last three companies of the Virginia regiment arrived last evening. We are all in good spirits, and hope to have something to do. The N. Orleans Picayune, March 17, says:- The U.S. steamboat Teiegraph, Capt. Auld-which has been thoroughly repaired at a cost of $17,000-got off last evening for Tampico, via Brazos Santiago-Thomas B. Eastland, quartermaster, and his son; Col. Hamtramek and Adjutant August, of the Virginia volunteers; Capt. Erkine, of the commissary department; Capt. Hill, of 1st regiment Pennsylvania volunteers; Dr. F. W. Miller, of the medical department, Lieut. Gowan, of 2d regiment Kentucky volunteers; Lieut. Wilt, of Baltimore battalion; Mesars. Jaohn F. Calanke and N. Ashbrooks, committee to the Alabama regiment; Mr. J. B. Cozzens, sutler at Malamorors, Mr. Reney, engineer in the quartermaster departments, Captain Fulton of the 1st Tennessee regiment; Lieut. moore, of 1st Pennsylvania regiments; Lieut.
BATTLE OF BUENA VISTA.

Through the kindness of a friend, we have been furnished with the following extracts from a private letter written by Lieutenant Colonel Mansfield, of the corps of engineers to a brother officer in this city, giving a brief and hastily written description of the 22d and 23d of February.

Eighteen miles south of Saltillo, at camp U.S. army, Agua Nueva, March 1, 1847.

Dear Captain-We are just recovering from the fatigues of a tremendous battle, fought by this little army on the 22d and 23d at Buena Vista, a place about eleven miles in our rear and seven miles this side of Saltillo.

We had previously been on this very ground from the 6th to the 20th February, reconnoitring the positions, roads, and &c. and ascertaining where the enemy was, and his numbers. We found Santa Anna was at Encarnacion, thirty miles in our advance, with twenty thousand troops of infantry and artillery, and that on our left was General Minon, at Ediorda, say twenty five miles off, with three thousand cavalry and lancers.

On the 21st, at noon, we broke up our camp, and fell back to a good position at Buena Vista, to await the enemy. On the 22d he came in sight-his advance a heavy body of lancers and cavalry, followed by large bodies of infantry, and about eighteen pieces of artillery. A skirmish took place in the afternoon and the enemy gained the mountain side on our left. On our right of the road commenced steep ascents to the tops of the spurs of the mountain, which united and formed a beautiful table land for a battle ground, say one mile east and west by half a mile north and south. There were other spurs on the same side, stretching along the road north and south of us, with deep gullies between, many of them impassable, but none of them forming a table land like this.

A ditch and parapet were immediately thrown across the road, and Washington's artillery placed there, supported by two companies of volunteers behind another parapet.

On the morning of the 23d the enemy made a rush with his infantry and lancers to possess the table land, the key to the whole position; and at the same time a column of infantry and cavalry advanced on the road towards Washington's battery. A terrible fight ensued. Our left was forced back off the table land, and rallied under the bank; but our centre charged with a tremendous fire of horses artillery, (eight pieces) and volunteers, and hurled them back against the mountain and broke their centre, so that large bodies of infantry saved themselves by moving into the ravines and on the spurs of the mountains to the rear of our left where we sent regiments and artillery to fight them and drive them back across the same ground on our extreme left over which they had been forced. If we had had but one single full regiment of regulars in reserve we could have charged their battery on our extreme left and taken four or five thousand prisoners. As it was, we could only hold our own against such odds.

At the close of the day, they made another charge and rush, in great force, to possess the table land and were again repulsed with great slaughter, and with much loss on our part. Night put an end to the scene, and under the cover of darkness the enemy retreated to this place, (Agua Nueva), where our light troops followed them the next morning.

It was a beautiful battle—not a mistake made the whole day; but every man perfectly exhausted at night. Our loss about 264 killed and 450 wounded. The enemy's loss about 2,500 killed and wounded, and 3,000 missing.

It is said that Santa Anna is in full retreat to Matahuila and Lan Luis, with his army dispirited and disorganized. He is said to have lost many officers of high rank. You will
Nothing could exceed the gallant bearing of our horse artillery and dragoons, nor the bravery and good conduct of the volunteers as a body. Not a regular infantry soldier was in this fight.

We have lost most valuable officers. Capt. Lincoln was killed in the first charge. Col. McKee and Lieut. Colonel Clay, of the Kentucky regiment, and Col. Hardin were killed, besides others, in the second charge of his enemy. We lost three pieces of cannon, which we had not the men to recover. Our men actually sunk to the ground from excessive exhaustion.

It has ever been the misfortune of our brave old General to be obliged to fight the enemy with inferior numbers. This, his last battle, has done him more credit than any of his previous ones. His case was not so desperate at Palo Alto, for there he had the best of regular infantry.

I had almost forgotten to speak of our corps. We endeavored to do our duty. Lieut. Benham behaved well, and was slightly wounded. As for myself, I was more fortunate than at Monterey, and escaped unhurt. The old General, however, was made ragged by the balls passing through his clothes.

Yours &c.

JOS. K. F. MANSFIELD.

[ANP]

NNR 72.100 April 17, 1847 the siege of Veracruz, operations after surrender, forces employed in the siege

Of the siege of Vera Cruz.

A correspondent of the New Orleans Delta says: "The Mexicans variously estimate their loss at from 500 to 1,000 killed and wounded, but all agree that the loss among the soldiery is comparatively small and destruction among the women and children is very great. Among their killed is General Felix Valdez, an officer of some celebrity.

At the time of the surrender the Mexicans had but two days' ammunition and three days subsistence, which accounts for their generally withholding their fire during the night.

During the bombardment of our army have thrown the following number and size of shot:

**Army Battery.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Shot</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3,000 ten-inch shells</td>
<td>90 lbs. Each.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55 round shot</td>
<td>25 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200 eight-inch howitzer shells</td>
<td>68 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Navy Battery**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Shot</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,000 Paixhan shot</td>
<td>68 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800 round shot</td>
<td>32 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Musquito Fleet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Shot</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,200 shot and shell, averaging</td>
<td>62 &quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Making in all 6,700 shot and shell, weighing 463,600 lbs.
The destruction in the city is most awful—one-half of it is destroyed. Houses are blown to pieces and furniture scattered in every direction—the streets torn up, and the strongest building seriously damaged. [ANP]

NNR 72.100 April 17, 1847  COL. ALEXANDER WILLIAM DONIPHAN TAKES CHIHUAHUA

EL REPUBLICANO, of the 15th March announces that the American arms have triumphed in Chihuahua, that they city of Chihuahua, the capital of the state has fallen. The small forces which defend it, says the Republican, were routed. The same number of that paper, and the number of the 17th, complains that the government does not publish the details of the fighting, declaring that Mexican courage is not to be daunted by such reverses. [MSM]

NNR 72.100 April 17, 1847  GEN. ZACHARY TAYLOR'S MOVEMENT TO RE-OPEN COMMUNICATION, PURSUES GEN. JOSE URREA

The northerner which commenced at sun down yesterday still continues, completely cutting off all communication with the vessels lying off or under Sacrificios. Shells are occasionally sent towards General Worth’s lines from the castle, but in the main they have fallen short. Captain Vinton continues at his position near the lime kiln. At this time, half past 3 o’clock, they are throwing 13 inch shells from the castle of San Juan de Ulus, and one of them was just bursted a short distance from where I am writing, yet without doing any harm.

P.S.—Captains Lee and Scott, who went out with the white flag with notes to the foreign consuls, have returned. As was supposed, they were not allowed to enter the city, but were detained some three or four hundred yards outside the walls. Three officers came afterwards brought a receipt that they had been delivered. Many of the inhabitants—ladies among them—were seen upon the walls and adjoining houses. The line of investment is now complete and all communication with the city landward cut off. Two French vessels have succeeded in eluding the blockade, favored by the wind, and have doubtless taken in “aid and comfort” to the enemy. The firing from the castle, and also from the batteries, continues. Another night has passed off quietly, no alarm of consequences disturbing the lines. The enemy is occasionally throwing round shot and shell, yet with little effect. One of the latter, and of the heaviest size, struck directly in the midst of the 8th infantry last nigh, but did not injure a man. There is a prospect of some little close fighting today, as out posts are to be thrown in nearer the city walls. Some of our riflemen and sharpshooters are already in motion, and if the Mexicans will allow them to come near enough hey will render a good account of themselves. [MSM]

NNR 72.100 April 17, 1847  MOVEMENTS AT CAMARGO

We started from this place this morning a train of about 60 wagons, for Camargo, with 120 extra mules, being two to each wagon, escorted by Major Stokes and two companies of North Carolinians, which has taken all the troops from this place. With the exception of two companies of the Massachusetts regiment, under Captain Webster, (David’s Company), one of which is stationed in the Plaze, and the other in Fort Paredes, with Captain Merchant's company of artillery at Fort Brown, is the whole of the force at this point. I understand the balance of those regiments, (North Carolinas and Massachusetts) are off the Brazos, but they have not bee able to land, quit a heavy northern which came up in the afternoon. N rain yet. [MSM]

NNR 72.100 April 17, 1847  FIGHTING BETWEEN FACTIONS IN MEXICO CITY

Our news from the city of Mexico, received in a roundabout way, would prove that a most sanguinat[ ] revolution—or rather a series of revolutions—is raging in that city, the different parties being all by the ears, and fighting each other with unwanted [ ]. It is said that the British monster, Mr. [Jankhead, at last dates, hardly dared venture into the streets, for fear of being shot by some on of the different contending
factions. Gomez Farias has his last party, the priests have their party, those in favor of peace have a party, and then there are the war men, the Santa Anna men, the Alonte men, and what not. All was "confusion worse confounded," and I can make neither head or trait of the different rumors. The Mexicans have been fierce since noon today, [ ] from most of their batteries, and the roar of round shot and shells has been constantly dimming the ears of our men. Strange that they do not effect more. They must think they are destroying the "Yankees," as they now term us, by dozens, else they would not keep up such an incessant firing. The weather continues fine for landing and munitions and supplies are rapidly accumulating at the spots. The officers of the navy continue to use their best efforts. By the next day tomorrow, I am in hopes if being able to send you off an account of some of general Scott's doings. Your, &c. G. W. K. [MSM]

NNR 72.100 April 17, 1847 RISING INDIANS OF NEW MEXICO AGAINST THE AMERICANS

The Republicano of the 17th of March reports that certain Indians of New Mexico, [Los Chimayos] to the number of 3,000, have risen against the Americans, and joined the pueblos previously in insurrection. [MSM]

NNR 72.100 April 17, 1847 TRIUMPHAL ENTRY OF GEN, ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA INTO SAN LUIS POTOSI

The entrance of Santa Anna into San Luis Potosi on the 8th ult. was triumphal one. All classes went out to meet him two or three miles on the road. At night he was serenaded and the town illuminated. [MSM]

NNR 72.100-101 April 17, 1847 Gen. Winfield Scott's orders on occupying Vera Cruz

Among the orders issued by Gen. Scott, after the capitulation of Vera Cruz, was the following:

GENERAL ORDERS- No. 75.
Headquarters of the Army, Camp Washington,
Before Vera Cruz, March 28th, 1847.

As soon as the city of Vera Cruz shall be garrisoned by his brigade, Brigadier Gen. Worth will become the temporary governor of the same.

Without disturbing the ordinary functions of the civil magistracy, as between Mexicans and Mexicans, he will establish strict police regulations for securing good order and good morals in the said city.

He will establish a temporary and moderate tariff of duties, subject to the approval of the general in chief and commodore Perry commanding United States home squadron, on all articles imported by sea from the countries other than the United States, the proceeds of said tariff to be applied to the benefit of the sick and wounded of the army, the squadron, and the indigent inhabitants of Vera Cruz.

The tariff so to be established will be continued until the instructions of he government at home shall be made known in the case.

By command of Major General Scott.

H. L. SCOTT, A.A.A.G

[ANP]

NNR 72.101-102 April 17, 1847 Col. Stephen Ormsby's official report of the Battle
In tendering my heartfelt congratulations on your brilliant success at Saltillo, I deem it proper for your information to apprise you of our position and the operations at this point. On the 20th instant in consequence of the departure of Brigadier General Marshall to join your forces, the command devolved on me. With the exception of a few officers of the General Staff of the army on duty here, and a few wounded and sick from the general hospital, the force as you are aware, is entirely volunteers. - My regiment, 1st Kentucky foot volunteers, was encamped at the Citadel and the 1st regiment Ohio volunteers, under command of Maj. Giddings, occupied the city.

The defences of the city, under the most energetic and skilful engineer, Capt. Fraser, were far from being in a state of completion, and his utmost exertions were called into requisition to place the works in condition to resist such force as was probable could be brought against it, as was momentarily expected. On the morning of the 24th instant, deeming it prudent to concentrate my forces, I ordered Major Giddings to join me with his command in the Citadel. All the government stores having been previously removed and stored here by the exertions of the officers in charge of them, and under the active and willing co-operation of my command, I soon found myself equal in all respects to sustain the honor of our flag if assailed.

Through my reconnoitring, and other sources of information, it was ascertained that large forces of the enemy were surrounding me, though none made their appearance here; and this was confirmed on the morning on the 24th instant by a despatch from Lieut. Col. Irwin, of the 2d Ohio regiment, that his command of 130 men was in Marin, surrounded by a large body of the enemy under command of Gen. Urrea. Subsequently I received such information as excited the apprehension that a train of the wagons, escorted by Lieut. W. F. Barbour, with 30 men from the 1st regiment of Kentucky volunteers, would be cut off below Marin.

I despatched Maj. J.B. Shepherd, 1st regiment Kentucky volunteers, with five companies of infantry, thirty mounted men, and two 4-pounders, to relieve Lieut. Col. Irwin, with discretionary orders to proceed beyond Marin, with a view to secure the train and escort, and I have the gratification to announce that Major Shepherd, who volunteered for the service, performed it in the most prompt and gallant manner possible, and without loss. He did not proceed beyond Marin, having ascertained there that the wagons, train and escort, had been captured near Ramos. About forty-five persons, nearly all teamsters, were killed, a number taken prisoners, and the wagons and probably most of the stores destroyed. A few of the teamsters and one of the escort escaped and have come into this place.

This morning it was ascertained that the enemy was in force at Aqua Frio, (12 miles distant,) and has surrounded and attacked Col. Morgan, commanding 21 Ohio volunteers, with about two hundred of his command, who was marching to this place. On the receipt of a despatch from Col. Morgan, Lieut. Col. Irwin, with is command and the troops which had been despatched to his relief, encamped at Walnut Springs, promptly proceeded to the point and arrived in time to render essential service in aiding Col. Morgan to disperse the enemy. I despatched Maj. Giddings, of the 1st Ohio regiment volunteers, with three companies of his command to unite the Lieut. Irwin in reaching Col. Morgan, but he did not reach the place of attack until the forces in advance had dispersed the enemy. Though it is due to Major Giddings to say that he displayed great promptness and activity in marching on the duty to which he was ordered.

I have the satisfaction to announce the return of the several detachments above referred to, but regret to state that one man of this command was killed in the affair at Aqua Frio. Col. Morgan has arrived here with the larger part of his command, and I have the honor to enclose his report.

In concluding this report, which I have endeavored to make as brief as possible, I deem it my duty as well as pleasure, to recommend to your especial notice, Capt. D. G. Ramsey, ordnance commander, whose promptness and efficiency in the discharge of the many duties of his department, are worthy of the highest commendation; and, in addition to these, he rendered me essential service in aiding, in arranging, and drilling a portion of my command in artillery tactics. It is my duty and pleasure also to commend the very prompt and faithful manner in which Captain A. Montgomery, assistant quartermaster, has discharged his duties, rendered unusually numerous by
the necessary removal of all the stores, &c. from the city to the fort.

Lieut. Stewart, of the 3d. artillery, A.C.S. was assiduous in the discharge of his duties, and, in addition volunteered his valuable aid in drilling men at the guns.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, &c.

STEPHEN ORMSBY,
Colonel commanding.

To Major General Taylor.
Com. Army Occupation, Saltillo.
[ANP]

NNR 72.102 April 17, 1847 GEN ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA'S RETURN TO SAN LUIS

There followed from these letters which were published on the 13th or 14th, a suspension of hostilities, though each party accused the other of violating the truce. Santa Anna had not arrived on the 17th, but would encounter no difficulty in assuming power. All parties were waiting for him impatiently, and each claiming that he will side with them. Representations had been made to him in abundance, and large delegations of influential men had gone towards San Luis to meet and propitiate him. The report sent us by Mr. Kendall that he was in the capital by the 19th, and in full possession of power, we have no doubt was true. [MSM]

NNR 72.101 April 17, 1847 LETTER OF GEN. ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTANA ANNA TO VALENTIN GOMEZ FARIAS, ANNOUNCING THAT HE SHOULD MARCH TO THE CAPITAL TO QUIET CONTENDING FACTIONS

EXCELLENT SIR- unable to remain indifferent to the evils which the heroic capital is suffering-the victim of civil war and all the calamities consequent upon it- and to the transcendent evils which are thence extended to all the republic, I have determined, listening to the voice of my conscience and the exigencies for the nation, to submit to the sacrifice of proceeding to the capital to assume the reins of the government, with which I have been entrusted by my fellow citizens.

I communicate this for your intelligence, praying you that until I present myself in the capital, which will be very soon—for I shall proceed thither by forced journeys - you will give direction to suspend hostilities of every kind, in obedience to the voice of reason and humanity, which is impiously outraged by the shedding of Mexican blood, which ought only to flow on fields of battle in driving back our unjust invaders.

To Gen. Matias de la Pena y Barragan, Chief of the Pronunciados, I have made the same recommendation, and I trust that the chiefs of both the belligerent forces will observe the truce indicated, in consideration of the noble views which impel me to solicit it. I transmit this for your intelligence and that it may receive compliance from you out of respect to the patriotic enus I have proposed to myself. God and Liberty. [MSM]

NNR 72.102 April 17, 1847 Col. William Selby Harney's fight near Veracruz

Colonel Harney’s dragoon fight, near Vera Cruz.—Colonel Harney’s gallant exploits in his expedition against Medelin, have added another feather to the cap of the 2d dragoons, as well as to that of the other troops engaged in it. As I am able to give you a correct account of the affair I will do somewhat in detail.

Col. Harney started on the morning of the 25th, with Captain Thornton’s squadron, under the immediate command of major Sumner, and fifty dismounted dragoons under Capt. Ker, towards Medelin river, where it was reported that a strong force of Mexican cavalry had placed themselves. When he reached the stone bridge over the Morena, about six miles from here, he began to reconnoitre, as he had received information that the bridge was fortified and guarded by the two
thousand men and two pieces of artillery. Shall parties of lancers were seen among the thickets as the dragoons approached and, when within about sixty yards of the bridge, Capt. Ker's command received a heavy fire from the breastworks, which killed one corporal and severely wounded two men. Seeing that the bridge was fortified and defended by a strong force, the Colonel fell back and sent a request for two pieces of artillery. Capt. Hardee, who was engaged on the beach getting his horses ashore, hearing of the fight, collected as many of his men as had reached the beach, and in passing through the camp took all he could find there, and marched them (between forty and fifty in number) on foot to the Colonel's assistance. Col. Haskell, of the 2d Tennessee regiment, with a part of four companies, and Capt. Cheatham, of the 1st Tennessee regiment, also joined the dragoons, and shortly after Lieut. Judd, of the 3d artillery, with his subaltern (Lieut. H. Brown) appeared with two pieces of cannon. Captain Ker was now placed upon the right of the road leading to the bridge, the Tennesseans on the left of it. Capt. Hardee and Lieut. Hill were ordered to support the guns and be ready to charge into the work; and Major Sumner, with the wounded men, was held in reserve. Lieutenant Judd now advanced cautiously towards the bridge, and as soon as he was seen he received the concentrated fire of the Mexicans, about fifty yards distant. The parties on the right and left were now ordered to extend and commence firing, to direct the enemy's attention from Judd's guns. Lieut. Judd fearlessly opened upon the bridge, and, after six or eight well directed rounds, drove the enemy under the cover. Haskell, and Cheatham, and Hardee with their men, now rushed intrepidly into the fortification, leaping over the barricade. The enemy fell back and formed beyond the bridge. Col. Harney ordered the obstacles to be cleared away, and Maj. Summer's mounted men galloped up and charged across the bridge. The Mexican foot fled into the chaparral, but the cavalry were met and routed. A party of thirty lancers turned off into a by-road, were pursued by Lieuts. Lowry and Oakes and three men, and all but five were either dismounted or sabred. Major Sumner and Capt. Subley had a number of personal encounters with the enemy, who were in every instance either killed or dismounted. The pursuit was continued to the village of Medelin, six miles beyond the bridge, wher another party of lancers were seen retreating, and Lieut. Neill, the adjutant of the 2d dragoons, pursued them with three men. A supporting party was sent after him, but his horse being fleeter than the others he first caught up with the pursued, two of whom closed upon him. He fought gallantly with them, but received two lance wounds in the arm and breast, and fell from his horse. He pursuit was continued two miles further, but night coming on the party returned to Medelin, rested three hours and returned to camp, which they reached at three o'clock in the morning. Major General Patterson, with Colonel Campbell's regiment, arrived at the bridge soon after Col. Harney had made his dispositions for the attack, but in a very gentlemanly manner declined taking command, but assisted in the attack and assault, behaving very gallantly, as did likewise Col. Campbell.

The cool judgment of Col. Harney in preparing for the attack, and his gallant conduct during the charge and pursuit, filled the command with admiration. Any person who has ever seen him can imagine what an imposing figure he must have presented darting through among the Mexican horsemen, and hurling them to the earth with his powerful arm and keen blade. In his turn he speaks in the most complimentary terms of the bravery and energy of the officers and men who acted under him—of Majors Sumner and Beall, of Capt. Hardee, (who mounted in the pursuit and joined the Colonel as one of his staff,) of Capt. Ker, Lieut. Judd, Lieut. Brown, Dr. Barnes, Lieuts. Lowry and Neill, (the wounds of Lieut. N. are doing well,) of Col. Hasell, Capt. Cheatham, and the other officers and men, both regulars and volunteers. Col. Haskell was the first to leap the parapet of the bridge. Col Harney lost two killed and nine wounded, one of the latter being Thomas Young, of Texas, who acted as guide and behaved bravely. The exact number of Mexicans killed is not known, but it is known that over fifty fell in the attack and pursuit, most of them falling under the sabre. I do not know how many men the volunteers Lieut. Judd lost. [ANP]
labors for planting the remainder of our heavy metal being in progress, I addressed
at two o'clock, P.M., a summons to the governor of Vera Cruz, and within the two
hours limited by the bearer of the flag, received the governor's answer. Copies of
the two papers, (marked respectively, A and B,) are herewith enclosed.

It will be perceived that the governor, who, it turns out, is the commander
of both places, chose, against the plain terms of the summons, to suppose me to
have demanded the surrender of the castle and of the city-when, in fact, from the
non-arrival of our heavy metal-principally mortars-I was in no condition to threaten
the former.

On the return of the flag, with that reply, I at once ordered the seven
mortars, in battery, to open upon the city. In a short time the smaller vessels of
Commodore Perry's squadron-two steamers and five schooners-according to
previous arrangement with him, approached the city within about a mile and an
eighth, whence being partially covered from the castle-an essential condition to their
safety-they also opened a brisk fire upon the city. This has been continued
uninterruptedly, by mortars, and only with a few intermissions, by the vessels, up to
nine o'clock this morning, when the commodore very properly, called them off from
a position too daringly assumed.

Our three remaining mortars are now (12 o'clock, M,) in battery; and the
whole ten in activity. Tomorrow, early, if the city should continue obstinate,
batteries Nos. 4 and 5 will be ready to add their fire; No. 4, consisting of four 24
pounders and two 8 inch Paixhan guns, and No. 5 (naval battery) of three 32
pounders, and three 8 inch Paixhans-the guns, officers, and sailors landed from the
squadron-our friends of the navy being unremitting in their zealous co-operation, in
every mode and form.

So far, we know that our fire upon the city has been highly effective-
particularly from the batteries of 11 inch mortars, planted at about 800 yards from
the city. Including the preparation and defence of the batteries, from the beginning-
now many days-and notwithstanding the heavy fire of the enemy, from the enemy,
from the city and castle-we have only had four or five men wounded, and one officer
and one man killed, in or near the trenches. That officer was Captain John R.
Vinton, of the United States 3d artillery, one of the most talented, accomplished, and
effective members of the army, and who was highly distinguished in the brilliant
operations at Monterey. He fell, last evening, in the trenches, where he was on duty
as field and commanding officer, universally regretted. I have just attended his
honored remains to a soldier's grave-in full view of the enemy and within reach of his
guns.

Thirteen of the long needed mortars-leaving 27, besides heavy guns, behind-
have arrived and two of them landed. A heavy norther then set in (at meridian)
that stopped that operation, and also the landing of shells. Hence the fire of our
mortar batteries has been slackened, since 2'o'clock, to-day, and cannot be
reinvigorated until we shall again have a smooth sea. In meantime I shall leave this
report open for journalizing events that may occur up to the departure of the steam
ship-of-war, the Princeton, with Com. Conner, who, I learn, expects to leave the
anchorage at Sacrificios, for the United States, the 25th inst.

March 24.-The storm having subsided in the night we commenced this
forenoon, as soon as the sea became a little smooth, to land shot, shells, and
mortars.

The naval battery, No. 5, was opened with great activity, under Captain
Aulick, the second in rank of the squadron, at about 10 A.M. His fire was continued
to 2 o'clock P.M., a little before he was relieved by Capt. Mayo, who landed with a
fresh supply of ammunition-Capt. A. having exhausted the supply he had brought
with him. He lost four sailors dilled, and had one officer, Lieut. Baldwin, slightly
hurt.

The mortar batteries Nos. 1,2, and 3, have fired but languidly during the
day for want of shells, which are now going out from the beach.

The two reports from Col. Bankhead, chief of artillery, both of this date,
copies of which I enclose, give the incidents of those three batteries.

Battery No. 4, which mounts four 24 pounders, and two 8 inch Paixhans'
guns, has been much delayed in the hands of the indefatigable engineers by the
norther that filled up the work with sand nearly as fast as it could be opened by the
half blinded laborers. It will, however, doubtless be in full activity early to-morrow
morning.

March 25-The Princeton being about to start for Philadelphia, I have but a moment to continue this report.

All the batteries, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, are in awful activity this morning. The effect is, no doubt, very great, and I think the city cannot hold out beyond to-day. To-morrow morning many of the new mortars will be in a position to add their fire, when, or after the delay of some twelve hours, if no proposition to surrender should be received, I shall organize parties for carrying the city by assault. So far the defence has been spirited and obstinate.

I enclose a copy of a memorial received last night, signed by the consuls of Great Britain, France, Spain, and Prussia, within Vera Cruz, asking me to grant a truce to enable the neutrals, together with Mexican women and children, to withdraw from the scene of havoc about them. I shall reply, the moment an opportunity may be taken, to say-1. That a truce can only be granted on the application of Governor Moralez, with a view to a surrender-2. That in sending safeguards to the different consuls, beginning as far back as the 13 inst., I distinctly admonished them—particularly the French and Spanish consuls—and of course, through the two, the other consul—of the dangers that have followed-3. That although at that date, I already refused to allow any person whatsoever to pass the line of investment either way, yet the blockade had been left open to the consuls and other neutrals, to pass out to their respective ships of war up to the 22d inst.; and 4th. I shall enclose to the memorialists a copy of my summons to the governor, to show that I had fully considered the impending hardships and distresses of the place, including those of women and children, before one gun had been fired in that direction. The intercourse between the neutral ships of war and the city was stopped at the last mentioned date by Com. Perry, with my concurrence, which I placed on the ground that that intercourse could not fail to give to the enemy moral aid and comfort.

It will be seen from the memorial, that our batteries have already had a terrible effect on the city, (also know through other sources,) and hence the inference that a surrender must soon be proposed.

In haste, I have the honor to remain, sir, with high respect, your most obedient servant,

Winfield Scott.

Hon. Wm. L. Marcy, Secretary of war.

A.

Headquarters of the Army
Of the United States of America,
Camp Washington, before Vera Cruz March, 22, 1847.

The undersigned, Major General Scott, general-in-chief of the armies of the United States of America, in addition to the close of the blockade of the coast and port of Vera Cruz, previously established by the squadron under Commodore Conner, of the navy of the said states, having now fully invested the said city with an overwhelming army, so as to render it impossible that its garrison should receive from without succor or reinforcement of any kind; and having caused to be established batteries, competent to the speedy reduction of the said city, he, the undersigned, deems it due to the courtesies of war in like cases, as well as the rights of humanity, to summon his excellency, the governor and commander-in-chief of the city of Vera Cruz to surrender the same to the arms of the United States of America, present before the place.

The undersigned, anxious to spare the beautiful city of Vera Cruz from the imminent hazard of demolition—its gallant defenders from a useless effusion of blood, and its peaceful inhabitants—women and children, inclusive—from the inevitable horrors of triumphant assault, addresses this summons to the intelligence, the gallantry, and patriotism, no less than to the humanity of his excellency the governor and commander-in-chief of Vera Cruz.

The undersigned is not accurately informed whether both the city of Vera Cruz and the castle of San Juan d’Ulloa be under the command of his excellency, or whether each place has its own independent commander; but the undersigned, moved by the considerations or walls, upon the castle, unless the castle should
previously fire upon the city.

The undersigned has the honor to tender to this distinguished opponent, his excellence the governor and commander-in-chief of Vera Cruz, the assurance of the high respect and consideration of the undersigned.

Winfield Scott.

B. [Translation]

The undersigned, commanding general of the free and sovereign state of Vera Cruz, has informed himself of the contents of the note which Major General Scott, general in-chief of the forces of the United States, has addressed to him under date of today, demanding the surrender of this place, and the castle of Ulloa; and, in answer, has to say, that the above named fortress, as well as this place depend on his authority; and it being his principal duty, in order to prove worthy of the confidence place in him by the government of the nation, to defend both points at all cost, to effect which he counts upon the necessary elements, and will make it good to the last; therefore his excellency can commence his operations of war in the manner which he may consider most advantageous.

The undersigned has the honor to return to the general in chief of the forces of the United States the demonstrations of esteem he may be pleased to honor him with. God and liberty!

Vera Cruz, March 22, 1847.
Juan Morales.

To Major General Scott, general in chief of the forces of the United States, situated in sight of this place.

Artillery Headquarters,
Camp Washington, March 24, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor to report for the information of the general in chief, that in the 22d instant and as soon as the chief engineers had reported that the batteries were sufficiently advanced to receive seven mortars, I place that number in battery. By 20'clock on that day I was prepared to open the fire on the city of Vera Cruz. At quarter past 4 I received the order of the general in chief to commence firing on the city, and the batteries Nos. 1, 2, and 3 were opened with great animation and apparent effect.

From the moment the batteries opened on the afternoon of the 22d instant, the fire has been incessant day and night.

On the 22d and during the night, battery No. 1 was under the command of Capt. Brooks, of the 2d artillery; battery No 2, under the charge of Lieut. Shackelford, of the 2d artillery, and battery No. 3, under the charge of Capt. Vinton, of the 3d artillery, and until the hour of his death, about 4 o'clock, P.M., when the command devolved upon Lieut. Vanvliet, 3d artillery.

The severe loss to the army by the death of Capt. Vinton, was the only loss we sustained on the first day. Several of the men were slightly wounded.

The fire from the city and from the castle on our batteries, with shot, shells, and rockets, has been intermittted, but with very brief periods, since we opened our batteries; and we must ascribe our safety, under such a heavy and constant fire, to the skill and conscience of the officers of engineers in the construction of our batteries.

From the morning of the 23d to this morning, the batteries have been under the charge of Captain McKinzie, of the 3d artillery.

Yesterday about 12 o'clock m., I was able to place three more mortars in battery, but owing to the highness of the wind, the shells could not be landed from the storeship, and our fire to this time has been very moderate, not exceeding one fore in every five minutes.

Last night I succeeded in moving three 24 pounder guns to battery No. 4,
with the necessary ammunition and implements which have been placed in battery.

One more 24 pounder and two 8 inch howitzers will be moved out to-night, and to-morrow morning, (as we shall doubtless obtain a supply of shells today, the storm having abated sufficiently to land them) I shall be able to open the four batteries, with ten mortars, four 24 pounders, and two 8 inch howitzers, with increased effect and renewed vigor.

I can bear testimony, from personal observation, to the skill and gallantry of all the officers detailed on artillery service under my direction, and of the cheerfulness and steadiness of the men in the performance of their laborious duties.

I have the honor to be respectfully, your ob't serv't,

Jas Bankhead,
3d artillery, chief of artillery.

Lieut. Scott, acting Ad'j Gen, Army Headquarters.

Artillery Headquarters,
Camp Washington, March 24, 1847-5 P.M.

Sir: since my report this date of operations in the batteries up to 4 o'clock, A.M., the hour when the troops are relieved, I have to state for the information of the general in chief that the enemy opened a brisk fire on our batteries soon after sunrise this morning, without any effect; but about 10 o'clock, most of their batteries were again opened on us, and one man of company "B," 2d artillery, was killed at battery No. 1, and three men were severely wounded.

A shell fell into battery No. 3, where four men of company "F." 2d artillery, were wounded. The shell fell one of the mortars, breaking the mortar bed and throwing the mortar thirty feet from the platform—another mortar bed can be obtained from the ordnance depot, and the mortar will be remounted.

We have been restrained from the want of shells from throwing more than one every five minutes during the day. A full supply will be in place tonight, and as soon as it is dark enough to send them to the batteries without being observed by the enemy.

I am, very respectfully, your ob't serv't,

JAS. BANKHEAD,
Second Artillery, Chief of Artillery.

To Lieut. Scott, Acting Ad'j Gen., Army Headquarters.

[Translation]

Vera Cruz, March 24, 1847.

The undersigned, consuls of different foreign powers near the republic of Mexico, moved by the feeling of humanity excited in their hearts by the frightful results of the bombardment of the city of Vera Cruz during yesterday and the day before, have the honor of addressing, collectively, General Scott, commander in chief of the army of the United States of the North, to pray him to suspend his hostilities, and to grant a reasonable truce, sufficient to enable their respective compatriots to leave the place with their women and children, as well as the Mexican women and children.

The request of the undersigned appears to them to comfortable to the existing ideas of civilization, and they have too high an opinion of the principles and the sentiments of General Scott, not to be full of confidence in the success of this request. They pray him to have the goodness to send back his answer to the parlementaire, who is the bearer of this, an to accept the assurances of their respectful consideration.

T. Gifford,
Consul de sa Majeste Britannique.
A. Gloux,
Le consul de sa Majeste le Roi des Francais.

FILIPPE G. DE ESCALENTE,
El consul de Espana.

HENRI D'OLEIRE,
Consul de S.M. le Roi de Prusse.

A true translation of the original paper, for the secretary of war.
E.P. SCAMMON, A.A.D.C.

(IIndecipherable Paragraph)

I promptly answer in the affirmative, considering that both places are now blockaded by our squadron under your command, and the city not only invested by the army, but actually under the fire of our land batteries.

The intercourse—the subject of your note cannot, it seems to me, however neutral in its intended character on the part of the foreign ships of war present, fail to give the places inquisition, under our fire, much moral aid and comfort.

With high respect, &c. &c.,

Winfield Scott.

Commodore M. C. Perry, US.N., commanding home squadron, &c.
United States Steamer Mississippi,
Off Sacrificios Island, March 22, 1847.

Sir: The city and castle of Vera Cruz being now closely besieged and blockaded by the military and naval forces of the United States, it has become necessary to prevent all communication from outside, unless under the sanction of a flag of truce.

I am, therefore, constrained to inform you that all intercourse between the vessels and boats under your command and that part of the American coast encompassed by the United States forces, must for the present cease.

With great respect, I have the honor to be your most ob't serv't,

M.C. Perry,L
Commanding home squadron.

Commander H. S. Matson, H. B. M. sloop Daring.
Capt. Manuel de la Puente, commanding H.C.M. Naval forces, Gulf of Mexico.
Capt. G. Dubut, commanding French naval forces, Gulf of Mexico.

Headquarters of the Army,
Vera Cruz, March 29, 1847.

Sir: The flag of the United States of America floats triumphantly over the walls of this city, and the castle of San Juan Ulloa.

Our troops have garrisoned both since 10 o'clock. It is now noon. Brigadier General Worth is in command of the two places.

Articles of capitulation were signed and exchanged, at a late hour, night before the last. I enclosed a copy of the document.

I have heretofore reported the principal incidents of the siege up to the 25th instant. Nothing of striking interest occurred till early in the morning of the next day, when I received overtures from General Landero, on whom General Morales had devolved the principal command. A terrible storm of wind made it difficult to communicate with the city, and impossible to refer to Commodore Perry. I was obliged to entertain the proposition alone, or to continue the fire upon a place that had thrown as disposition to surrender; for the loss of a day, perhaps several, could not be permitted. The accompanying papers will show the proceedings and results.
Yesterday, after the norther had abated, and the commissioners appointed by me early the morning before, had again met those appointed by General Landero, Commodore Perry sent ashore his second in command, Captain Aulick, as a commissioners in the part of the navy. Although not included in by specific arrangement made with the Mexican commander, I did not hesitate, with proper courtesy, to desire that Captain Aulick might be duly introduced and allowed to participate in the discussion and acts of the commissioners who had been reciprocally accredited. Hence the preamble to this signature. The original American commissioners were Brevet Brigadier General Worth, Brigadier General Pillow, and Colonel Totten. Four more able or judicious officers could not have been desired.

I have time to add but little more. The remaining details of the siege; the able co-operation of the United States squadron, successively under the command of Commodores Conner and Perry; the admirable conduct of the whole army-regulars and volunteers—I should be happy to dwell upon as they deserve; but the steamer Princeton, with Commodore Conner, on board, is under way, and I have commenced organizing an advance into the interior. This may be delayed a few days, waiting the arrival of additional means of transportation. In the meantime, a joint operation, by land and water, will be (indecipherable text) that has just terminated most successfully, and the importance of his presence, at Washington, as the head of the engineer bureau, I intrust this despatch to his personal care, and beg to commend him to the very favorable consideration of the department.

I have the honor to remain, sir, with high respect, your most obedient servant,

Winfield Scott

Hon. W.L. Marcy, Secretary of war.

Proposition for the appointment of commissioners.

I have the honor of transmitting to your excellency the exposition which has this moment been made to me by the Senores consuls of England, France, Spain, and Prussia, in which they solicit that hostilities may be suspended while the innocent families in this place who are suffering the ravages of war, be enabled to leave the city which solicitude claims my support; and considering it in accordance with the rights of afflicted humanity, I have not hesitated to invite your excellency to enter into an honorable accommodation with the garrison, in which cases you will please name three commissioners who may meet at some intermediate point, to treat with those of this place upon the terms of the accommodation.

With this motive I renew to your excellency my attentive consideration.

God guard your excellency, &c.

On account of the sickness of the commanding general.

Jose Juan De Landero

Major General Scott.

Copy for the Hon. Secretary of war.
E. P. Scammon, A. A. D. C.

Credentials of commissioners on the part of the United States.

In consideration of the proposition the undersigned has received from Senor General Landero, the actual commander of he city of Vera Cruz, and its dependencies, that three commissioners be appointed on the part of each belligerent to treat of the surrender of the said city, with its dependencies, to the besieging army before the same-the undersigned, Major General Scott, general in chief of the armies of the United States of America, has appointed; and does hereby appoint, Generals W. J. Worth and G.J. Pillow, with Colonel J. G. Totten, chief of engineers— all of the army of the said states, commissioners on the part of the undersigned to meet an equal number of commissioners who may be duly appointed on the part of Senor General Landero, to treat of the surrender of the city of Vera Cruz and its dependencies to the arms of the said states.
Done at camp Washington, the headquarters of the army of the United States of America, this 26th day of March, in the year of our lord, 1847.

Winfield Scott.

Gen. Landero's letter notifying the appointment of Mexican commissioners.

In virtue of your excellency's having accepted the proposition of accommodation which I proposed to you in my despatch of to-day, and in accordance with the reply I have just received, I have it honor to inform you that I have named, on my part, the Senores Colonels D. Jose Gutierrez Villanueva, D. Pedro Miguel Herrera, and Lieut. Col. of Engineers D. Manuel Robles, to whom I had entrusted the competent power to celebrate the accommodation, having the honor to enclose you a copy of the expressed power.

I reiterate to your excellency the assurances of my high consideration.

God and liberty.

Jose Juan de Landero.

Vera Cruz, March 26, 1847.

Headquarters of the Army, Camp Washington, before Vera Cruz, March 26, 1847.

Outlines of instructions to the commissioners appointed on the part of the United States, and commissioned by the undersigned to treat with such persons as may be duly authorized on the part of the city of Vera Cruz, and its dependencies, on the subject of the surrender of the same.

2. The garrisons to be permitted to march out with the honors of war, and to ground arms to such forces as may be appointed by the undersigned, and at a point to be agreed upon by the commissioners.

3. The surrendered places to be immediately garrisoned by American troops.

4. Mexican officers to preserve their side arms and private effects, including horses and horse furniture, and to be allowed, (regular and irregular officers) at the end of days, to retire to their respective homes on the usual parole with he exception of such officers as the two parties may deem necessary to accompany the rank and file to the Unite States.

5. The rank and file of regular regiments, corps or companies, to remain as prisoners of war, subject to be sent to the United States, (with such Mexican officers as may be needed with the men,) and to be clothed and subsisted by the United States, at the ultimate cost of the belligerent that may be agreed upon by a definite treaty of peace.

6. The rank and file of the irregular portion of the prisoners to be detained days, and subsisted (if necessary) for the time by the United States, when they may be permitted to retire to their respective homes, their officers giving the usual parole that the said rank and file shall not serve again until duly exchanged.

7. All the material of war and all public property of every description found in the city and its dependencies, to belong to the United states; but he armament of the same, not injured or destroyed in the further prosecution of the actual war, maybe considered as liable to the restored to Mexico by a definitive treaty of peace.

8. If the Mexican commissioners decline, from the want of power or authority, to treat of the surrender of the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa, the American commissioners will urge the former to ask for such powers, and grant any necessary delay to that end; but if such power be not asked for, or be not, on application obtained, the American commissioners may, hesitatingly, consent to refer the subject back to the undersigned for further instructions to meet that state of things.

Winfield Scott.

Note.-Article 8 was not, of course, given to the Mexican commissioners.
A true copy from the original paper.
E. P. Scammon, A. A. D. Camp.

Six propositions from the Mexican Commissioners to the general in chief.

1st. The garrison will evacuate the place within a time to be agreed upon between the belligerent parties, retiring to the city of Orizaba or Jalpa, by regular day marches, according to the custom of armies on a march.

2nd. The aforesaid garrison shall march out with all the honors of war, colors displayed, drums beating, stores belonging to the corps of which it is composed, the allowance of field pieces corresponding to its force, baggage and munitions of war.

3rd. The Mexican flag will remain displayed on the bastion of Santiago until the retiring Mexican garrison shall be saluted with twenty one guns fired from the same bastion, until which time the forces of the United States shall not enter the place.

4th. The inhabitants of Vera Cruz shall continue in the free possession of their moveable and immovable property, in the enjoyment of which they shall never be disturbed, as well as in the exercise of their religious faith.

5th. The national guards of Vera Cruz, if they find it convenient to retire peaceably to their homes, not to be molested on account of their conduct in bearing arms in defence of the lace.

6th. The undersigned desire to know, in case the Senor General Scott should have to know, in case the Senor General Scott should have to continue hostilities on account of not admitting these propositions, if he will permit the neutrals to go out of the place, as well as the women and children belonging to the Mexican families.

Pedro M. Herrera.

José Gutiérrez de Villanueva.

Manuel Robles.

Translated from the original paper for the Hon. Secretary of War.

Headquarters of the Army, of the United States of America.

Camp Washington, before Vera Cruz. March 27, 1847.

The undersigned, Major General Scott, general in chief of the armies of the United States of America, has received the report of the commissioners appointed by him yesterday, to meet the commissioners appointed by his excellency, General Landero, the commander in chief of Vera Cruz and the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa.

In making that report the undersigned received, informally, from his commissioners, the project of an arrangement presented to them by the Mexican commissioner, consisting of six articles. Without re-introducing those articles, in extense, the undersigned will simply refer to them by their respective numbers:

Article 1. is wholly inadmissible. The garrisons the places, in question, can only be allowed to march out or to evacuate them as prisoners of war; but the undersigned is willing that each garrison, without distinction between regular troops and national guards or militia, may retire, in the delay of many days, to their respective homes—the officers giving for themselves and their respective men, the usual parole of honor not again to serve against the United States of American in the present war, until duly exchanged.

Art. 2. The garrisons may be allowed all the honors of war usually granted to gallant troops; but to surrender their arms of every sort, save the side arms of the officers.

Art. 3. As far as practicable by the commissioners of the two armies, this may be arranged to satisfy the just pride of the gallant defenders of the places in question.

Art. 4. Is readily agreed to, and may be solemnly promised.
Art. 5. This is substantially the above remark under article 1.

Art. 6. Not admissible in any case.

Taking the foregoing remarks and the instructions of the undersigned to this commissioners—whic instructions were substantially communicated to the Mexican commissioners—as a basis of an honorable capitulation, the undersigned, to spare the effusion of blood, is willing to refer back the whole subject to the same commissioners met again today at 10 o'clock, a.m., at the same place as yesterday, and proceed without delay to definite conclusion of the whole subject.

The undersigned will wait the answer of his excellency, Gen. Landero, up to 9 o'clock, this day, and in the meantime, renew the assurances of his high respect and consideration.

Winfield Scott.

Copy of the original paper for Hon. Secretary of War.
E. P. Scammon, A. A. D. C.

Articles of the capitulation of the city of Vera Cruz and the castle of San Juan d'Ulloa.

Puente De Hornos,
Without the walls of Vera Cruz
Saturday, March 27, 1847

Terms of capitulation agreed upon by the commissioners viz:

Generals W. J. Worth and G. J. Pillow, and Col. J. G. Totten, chief engineer, on the part of Major General Scott, general in chief of the armies of the nueva Lieutenant Colonel of Engineers Manuel Robles, and Colonel Pedro de Herrera, commissioners appointed by General of Brigade Don Jose Juan Landero, commanding in chief, Vera Cruz, the castle of San Juan de Ulloa and their dependencies—on the surrender to the arms of the United States of the said forts, with their armaments, munitions of war, garrisons, and arms.

1. The whole garrison, or garrisons to be surrendered to the arms of the United States, as prisoners of war, the 29th instant, at 10 o'clock, a.m., the garrisons to be permitted to march out with all the honors of war, and to lay down their arms to such officers as may be appointed by the general in chief of the United States armies, and at a point to be agreed upon by the commissioners.

2. Mexican officers shall preserve their arms and private effects, including horses and horse furniture, and to be allowed, regular and irregular officers, as also the rank and file, five days to retire to their respective homes, on parole, as hereinafter prescribed.

3. Coincident with the surrender, as stipulated in article 1, the Mexican flags of the various forts and stations shall be struck saluted by their own batteries; and immediately thereafter, Forts Santiago and Conception and the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa, occupied by the forces of the United States.

4. The rank and file of the regular portion of the prisoners to be disposed of, after surrender and parole, as their general in chief may desire, and the irregulars to be permitted to return to their homes. The officers, in respect to all arms and descriptions of force, giving the usual parole, that the said rank and file as well as themselves, shall not serve again until duly exchanged.

5. All of the materiel of war, and all public property of every description found in the city, the castle of San Juan de Ulloa, and their dependencies, to belong to the United States; but the armament of the same (not injured or destroyed in the further prosecution of the actual war,) maybe considered as liable to be restored to Mexico by a definitive treaty of peace.

6. The sick and wounded Mexicans to be allowed to remain in the city, with such medical officers and attendants and officers of the army as may be necessary to their care and treatment.

7. Absolute protection is solemnly guarantied to persons in the city, and property, and it is clearly understood that no private building or property is to be
taken or used by the forces of the United States, without previous arrangement with the owners and for a fair equivalent.

8. Absolute freedom of religious worship and ceremonies is solemnly guarantied.

(Signed in duplicate.)

W. J. Worht, Brigadier General,
Gid. J. Pillow, Brigadier General,
Jos. G. Totten, Col. and Ch'f Eng'r.,
Jose Gutierrez de Villavueva,
Pedro Manuel Herrera,
Manuel Robles.

Captain Aulick-appointed a commissioner by Com. Perry, on behalf of the navy, (the general in chief not being able, in consequence of the roughness of the sea, to communicate with the navy until after commissions had been exchanged)-and being present by Gen. Scott's invitation, and concurring in the result and approving thereof-thereto affixes his name and signature.

J. H. Aulick, Capt. U.S. N.

Headquarters of the army of the United States of America. Camp Washington, before Vera Cruz, March 27, 1847.

Approved and accepted: Winfield Scott.

M. C. Perry,
Commander in chief U. S. N. forces Gulf of Mexico.
Vera Cruz, Marzo 27, 1847.

Aprobado y aceptado:
Jose Juan de Landero.

A true copy of the original articles of capitulation.
E. P. Scammon,
1st Lieut. Topo. Eng's, act'g aide de camp.

NNR 72.110-72.111 April 17, 1847 orders and correspondence relating to naval operations off Veracruz

From our Navy before Vera Cruz

U.S. Steamer Mississippi.
At Anchor near Vera Cruz, March 21, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor to inform the department of my arrival yesterday, at this anchorage, and of the transfer of the command of the home squadron to me by Commodore Conner, this mornig at 8 o'clock.

M. C. Perry
Commanding home squadron.
The Hon. John Y. Mason, Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

Flagship Mississippi.
Off Vera Cruz, March 25, 1847.

Sir: The sailing of the Princeton this day for the united States offers me opportunity of informing the department that Gen. Scott had, on the 22d inst. the day after I assumed command of the squadron, so far completed the erection of his batteries in the rear of Vera Cruz as to authorize the summoning of the city, and on the refusal of the governor to surrender, of opening his fire at three o'clock of that day.
In conformity with arrangements made in the morning with Gen. Scott, I directed the flotilla of small steamers and gun boats of the squadron, led by Commander J. Tatnall, in the spitfire, to take a position and commence a simultaneous fire upon the city. The order was promptly and gallantly executed, and the fire was kept up with great animation until late evening.

On visiting them at their position, I found that the two steamers had nearly exhausted their ammunition, but having received a fresh supply during the night from the ship, they at sunrise moved to a more favorable and advanced point, and resumed and continued their fire until recalled by signal.

At the earnest desire of myself and officers, Gen. Scott generously assigned a position in the trenches, to be mounted with guns from the squadron, and three long 32 pounders, (all that were required,) were consequently landed, and after immense labor in transporting them through the sand, in which parties from the divisions of General Patterson, Worth and Pillow, respectively detached by those officers, cheerfully participated, the pieces were place in position and opened upon the city about 10 o'clock yesterday, immediately drawing upon them a sharp fire from the enemy, which in a short time killed and wounded ten of the detachment from the squadron.

In order to give all a chance to serve in the trenches, for the honor of which there is a great though generous strife, I have arranged that detachments from each ship in charge respectively of lieutenants, and the whole commanded by a captain or commander shall be relieved every twenty four hours. Captain Aulick, assisted by Commander Mackenzie, and several lieutenants, had the direction of mounting the guns and opening the fire, and well and bravely was the duty performed. Captain Mayo is now in charge and will be relieved in turn.

The Ohio arrived on the 22d inst., but in consequence of a norther, did not reach her proper anchorage until yesterday afternoon. Detachments of boats from all the vessels are employed night and day I landing from the transports the stores and munitions of the army.

Enclosed is a list of the killed and wounded ascertained up to this hour, (12 meridian,) with the report of Captain Aulick; also a list of the small vessels comprising the flotilla of the squadron, all of which were engaged on the 22d inst.

I have the honor to be your most obedient servant,
M. C. Perry,
Commanding home squadron.

Hon. John Y. Mason, Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

Friday, March 26, 1847.

Sir: The detention of the Princeton enables me to inform the department of events up to this hour, (10 a.m.)

Captain Mayo and his party have returned, having been relieved in the batteries by a detachment under Capt. Breese. I hardly need to assure the department that the party under Capt. Mayo sustained with unabated courage and spirit, the admirable fire of the naval battery. The bombardment from the trenches was continued through the night. A heavy norther now blowing, (the third I five days,) has prevented communication with the shore since last evening. Several merchant vessels have been thrown, this morning, ashore by the gale.

The report of Capt. Mayo is enclosed, as also an additional list of killed and wounded. Among the names of the killed, will be found that of Midshipman T. B. Shubrick, a most amiable and promising young officer.

I have the honor to be, your very obedient servant,
M. C. Perry,
Commanding Home Squadron.

To the Hon. John Y. Mason, Secretary of the Navy, Washington city, D. C.

Sunday, March 28, 1847.
Sir: I am happy to inform you that the city and castle of Vera Cruz, surrendered yesterday to the combined force of the army and navy of the United States, on terms highly favorable to us.

With high respect, your obedient servant,
M. C. Perry,
Commanding Home Squadron

To the Hon. J. Y. Mason, Secretary of the Navy.

Enclosed is an informal copy of the terms of stipulation.

M. C. P.

List of killed and wounded of the detachments at the naval batteries on the 24th and 25th March, 1847.

Killed on the 24th—Wm. Marcus, seaman; Jno. Williams, quarter gunner; John Harrington, boatswain's mate; Daniel McGinnis, landsman; John Tookey, seaman.

Killed on the 25th—Thomas B. Shubrick, midshipman; John Williamson, seaman.

Wounded on the 25th—A. S. Baldwin, lieutenant, slightly; Edward Black, seaman, slightly; Mathias Nice, seaman, slightly; William Hamblin, seaman, slightly; Deforest Carey, seaman, slightly.

Wounded on the 25th—The seamen, slightly, names not ascertained.

Respectfully, your obedient servant.
M. C. Perry,
Commanding Home Squadron.

To Hon. John Y. Mason, Secretary of the Navy.

United States Ship Potomac,
Off Sacrificios, March 25, 1847.

Sir—In compliance with your letter this moment received, calling for a report of my proceedings in command of the detachment on shore yesterday, I have the honor to state that the battery of three-8-inch Paixhan guns and three long 32-pounders landed from the squadron was turned over to me, at 10 a.m., by the accomplished engineer officer who constructed it, (Captain R. E. Lee,) who, as well as Lieuts. Smith, of the engineers, and Williams, aid of Gen. Scott, remained in the battery throughout the fire; the enemy having but a few minutes before discovered our position, commenced the attack upon us. I immediately ordered the guns to be unmasked, and the firing commenced on the enemies batteries, which was steadily and deliberately continued until about half-past two p.m., when our last charge of ammunition, of which we had only about fifty founds to each gun, was expended. By this time our sand bag breast works and traverses were much dilapidated by the shot of the enemy and the concussion of our own heavy pieces. I now directed the embrasures to be filled up with sand-bags, (for the suggestion of which I must thank Captain Lee,) and everybody to seek the best shelter from shot that the work afforded, until the ammunition we expected should arrive.

At 4 o'clock, Capt. Mayo, with a fresh supply of ammunition and a relief party of officers and men, arrived; I then relinquished the command to him agreeably to your order, and returned to my ship.—Our loss was four men killed, and one officer and five men wounded, one of the latter mortally (since dead) the others slightly. When it is considered that we had the concentrated and very active fire of five of the enemies batteries upon us at a distance of less than 800 yards, besides occasional shells from the castle of San Juan de Ulloa, it is a matter of surprise that our loss is so small.

It affords me great satisfaction to add that every officer and man in the battery behaved with the utmost coolness, activity and cheerfulness.

Commander A. S. Mackenzie, who had superintended the duty of placing the
guns in battery, promptly tendered his services to me and took charge of one of my 32 pounders, which he managed with great skill, and, I doubt not, with great effect upon the enemy's works. In the course of the firing the flag on one of the enemy's forts was brought down by a gun fired by Lieut. Baldwin. It was, however, quickly displayed from the same flag staff. It is due to Midshipman Allen McLane that on a call for volunteers to cut away some brush wood which obstructed the view to a battery on which we wished to direct our fire, he sprung through an embrasure, followed by two men, Wm. Cavenaugh, seaman-the name of the other I have not been able to ascertain,) and amidst a showing of balls quickly removed the obstruction, for which gallantry I complimented them on the spot.-I am, however, sure that any officer present would have been happy of an opportunity to have done the same. As you desire to forward this report to the department by the Princeton, leaving at 12 m. to-day, it is necessarily a very hasty and brief one.

I annex a list of the killed and wounded, and also the officers of the detachment.

I am, respectfully your ob't servant,

J. H. Aulick. Captain.

To Com. M. C. Perry,
Commanding Home Squadron, off Sacrificios.

[Son of Hon. Louis McLane, of this city.]

List of Officers of the detachment.


J. H. Aulick, Captain.

List of killed.

Wm. Marcus, seaman, Mississippi; John Williams, arter gunner, Raritan; John Harrington, boats bin's mate, St. Mary's; Daniel McGinnis, landan, St. Mary's; and John Tookey seaman, Potomac.

List of wounded.

Lieutenant A. S. Baldwin, Potomac; Edward ack, seaman Potomac; Mathias Nice, seaman, Potomac; W. Hamblin, seaman, Potomac; and Defor Carey, landsman, Potomac.

J. H. Aulick, Captain.

*United States Steamer Mississippi*,

Of Vera Cruz, march 26, 1847.

Sir: In obedience to your order, I proceeded on the afternoon of the 24th inst. to the naval battery opposite Vera Cruz, with detachments from his ship, Potomack Raritan, Albany, and St. Mary's, under officers named in the accompanying list, and rered Captain Aulick and the officers and men under Command.

The breastworks having been much broken down the cannonade of the day, the night was passed in miring them by Lieutenant Tower, United States ineers, and his party, from whom I received great assistance. Shortly before sunrise of he 25th , the enemy having opened his fire upon us from four of batteries, an active cannonade was returned by and continued without interruption until half past two, p.m., when they were silenced. Two batteries on their left subsequently turned their fire towards us; but on our briskly returning it, they also ceased firing, and about half-past three p.m., our ammunition being expended, the cannonade ceased on our part.
I cannot too highly commend the zeal, courage, and activity displayed by every officer and man under my command; and I regret that the efficient service which they rendered should have been attended with the loss of one officer, Midshipman T. B. Shubrick, and one seaman, J. Williamson, killed, and three slightly wounded. The admirable conduct of Midshipman Shubrick, down to the moment of his fall, whilst pointing a gun on the enemy, occasioned me the more to lament his loss. He was a young officer of great merit and promise, and had he lived, must have become an ornament to his profession and country.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. Mayo, Captain.

To Commodore M. C. Perry, commanding Home Squadron.

List of officers engaged at the naval battery on the 25th March, 1847,


Respectfully,
J. Mayo, Captain Comd'g.

To Commodore M. C. Perry, commanding Home Squadron.

List of vessels comprising the flotilla of the Gulf Squadron, March 22, 1847.

United States steamer Spitfire, Commander J. R. Sands.
United States gun-boat Bonita, Lieutenant Commanding F. G. Benham.
United States gun-boat Reefer, Lieutenant Commanding J. S. Sterett.
United States gun-boat Petrel, Lieutenant Commanding T. D. Shaw.
United States gun-boat Falcon, Lieutenant Commanding J. J. Glasson.
United States gun-boat Tampico, Lieut. Commanding Wm. P. Griffin.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
M. C. Perry,
Commanding Home Squadron.

To the Hon. Jno. Y. Mason, Secretary of the Navy.

United States Steamer Mississippi,
Off Sacrificios Island, March 23, 1847.

Sir: I regret to announce the loss of the steamer hunter, the particulars of which disaster are detailed in the accompanying report of Lieutenant McLaughlin.

I had arrived a few hours before, and fortunately, from the admirable qualities of this ship, was enabled to go to the assistance of the three vessels ashore, the moment at early dawn I discovered their distress, though it was blowing, at the time, a gale.

The boats of this vessel under the special charge of Captain Mayo, who volunteered his service, and commanded respectively by Lieuts. Decamp, Alden, and Blunt, and Passed Mid. Fauntleroy, happily rescued every one, more than sixty in number, from the wrecks.

I have the honor to be, your most obedient servant,
M. C. Perry,
Commanding Home Squadron.

To the Hon. John Y. Mason,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington city, D. C.

United States Steamer Mississippi,
Anchorage near Vera Cruz, March 26, 1847.
Sir: I am writing in the midst of one of the heaviest northers I ever experienced. Twenty-three merchant vessels have already gone ashore since morning, many of them with army stores and munitions.

The vessels of the squadron have so far held on. The loss of life I fear will be great. This is the third norther we have had since I took command, five days since, and we have had thirty wrecks.

I write this in anticipation of the early sailing of the Princeton, fearing I should not have time in the morning. Both the Raritan and Potomac have had vessels across their hawsers. I am ignorant of the extent to damage done to these vessels, but notice that the Raritan has her fore and spiritsail yard carried away.

We have parted one of our chains, and have not yet recovered our anchor.

It would seem to me very necessary that we should have spare chain and anchor for each class of vessels. They can easily be put upon one of the islands. Several boats have been lost in the gale, one actually blown from the davits of the ship; not less than ten small boats are absolutely necessary to our wants; the common iron fastened whale boat, such as are made in New London or New Bedford, costing from $50 to $60, will answer very well, and they can always be purchased ready made.

Spars of assorted kinds are also wanted. It is hoped that the frame for the hospital, to be erected, and one or more sheds will soon arrive. We may soon anticipate much sickness, and the rainy season is fast approaching. The steamers are not in so much danger, as they all work their wheels and propellers.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. C. Perry,
Commanding Home Squadron.

P. S. We are already in want of Manilla hawsers; those received at Norfolk being tarred; four hawsers were in use to-day in this ship. One merchant vessel is partly riding by us.

United States flag ship Mississippi
At anchor near Vera Cruz, March, 29, 1847.

Sir: It is with infinite satisfaction I announce to you that the city of Vera Cruz and the castle of San Juan de Ulloa were this day occupied by garrisons of United States troops. Detachments from the army and navy, with the flotilla, were in motion early in the morning, and the American colors were hoisted on the forts of the city and castle at 12 o'clock, under a simultaneous salute from all the large vessels of the squadron.

Enclosed is a copy of the articles of capitulation.

I have the honor to be, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. C. Perry,
Commanding Home Squadron.

Hon. John Y. Mason, Secretary of the Navy Washington, D. C.

[ANP]

Vessels Lost Near Vera Cruz.

We place by themselves the list of the vessels lost near Vera Cruz, by the two northers which wrought such destruction.

Editorial Correspondence of the Picayune.

Camp Before Vera Cruz, March 27, 1847.
I send you, enclosed, a list of the vessels ashore the most correct I can obtain at present. What number of vessels will be totally lost it is impossible to say, but many of them will doubtless be got off. The gale has entirely abated but the surf still runs high. Here is the list:


List of Vessels Ashore Under Sacrificios.

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<th>Vessel</th>
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<td>Schr. Louisa, Capt. Smith</td>
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<td>Schr. Eleanor, Capt. Drew</td>
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<td>Schr. Oscar Jones</td>
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<td>Schr. Caroline</td>
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NNR 72.112 April 17, 1847 PROSPECTS OF PEACE

We have been permitted to peruse several privates letters, of a very late date, from the city of Mexico, written by persons of the highest respectability, and whose sources of information are ample. They state as a matter of positive certainty, that negotiations for peace between the United States and Mexico are under advisement, and that the return of Santa Anna, who was hourly expected, would be the signal for the commencement of overtures. These advices are similar to those received at the north, and to which several of the journals in that quarter have given publicity. The outgiving of the northern press on this subject were, however, little more than conjecture. Our opinions are based upon more reliable information. [MSM]

NNR 72.112 April 17, 1847 GEN, ZACHARY TAYLOR'S PURSUIT OF GEN. JOSE URREA UNAVAILING, HE RETURNS TO SALTILLO, IMPRESSION THAT HE WILL ADVANCE TO SAN LUIS
After an ineffectual pursuit of Gen. Urrea, with a force of about 1000 men of which 150 were cavalry, General Taylor returned to Saltillo. He was close upon Urrea at Marin, but he escaped.

The impression at the mouth of the Rio Grande was that Gen. Taylor would push on to San Luis. This is inferred from his ordering so much transportation to be sent forward. Col. Hamtramack was at Camargo at the last accounts. Every thing was quiet there, and on the river at the Brazos. [MSM]

NNR 72.112 April 17, 1847 LACK OF MEXICAN TROOPS ON ROUTE TO MEXICO CITY

"A Frenchman has just arrived from the city of Mexico who reports that there are not one thousand armed men, all told, on the road from this to the capital. He says there were nine guns in position at Puente Naciona, but only sixty men to serve them." [MSM]

NNR 72.112 April 17, 1847 GEN. JOHN ANTHONY QUITMAN'S BRIGADE MARCHES ON ALVARADO, NAVY VESSELS SAIL FOR ALVARADO

General Quitman's brigade left Vera Cruz on the 31st March, for Alverado. He has with him the S. Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama regiments. He also has an artillery force with him, Capt. Steptoe's battery, I am informed. One object of the expedition is to open a road from whence mules, horses and supplies for the army may be procured. [MSM]

NNR 72.112 April 17, 1847 ARMY MOVEMENTS TOWARD THE CAPITAL

General Twiggs, with his division was to march for Puente Nacional on the 31st March. General Worth, who was acting as governor of Vera Cruz, would follow with another division in four of five days. [MSM]

NNR 72.112 April 17, 1847 Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna arrives at Mexico City, assumes executive duties, his cabinet, orders troops to Veracruz

Latest from the Army and From Mexico.

The ship and the steamer Alabama, both at New Orleans on the 9th bring Vera Cruz dates to the 1st.-Tampico to the 3d, Brazos tot he 4th inst., and files of city of Mexico papers to the 25th, except those from the 18th to the 23d-which are wanting.

Santa Anna arrived at the capital from San Luis Potosi, on the 22d, and was probably received with open arms by all parties. The particulars were published in the papers not received. Those of the 24th contain an account of his induction into the presidential chair, to which the congress had sometime since elected him, and his inaugural speech upon the occasion. On taking the oath of office, Santa Anna said-

"I am all for my country, and shall ever serve it, without thinking what it may cost me to do that which the nation desires I should do. I have entered upon the supreme magistracy because I have seen that it was the sole legal means of terminating the disturbances of this capital, and because I believe I shall thus be able to facilitate the prosecution of the war, and to save the independence and honor of Mexico, which I wish to present unsullied and brilliant to the world which is beholding us."

Gomez Farias of course retired from the executive chair to his station as vice president. General Pena y Barragan remains at the head of the military affairs at the capital. The report of Salas having been shot, it seems was got up by some of he Farias faction. They all appear to rally under Santa Anna. The church party is said
to have joined him, the Archbishop agreeing to advance him, $5,000,000 to enable him to "drive the barbarians" out of his country.

Mr. Kendall writes to the Picayune on the 2d from Vera Cruz that "Santa Anna" is said to have allied himself with the party of Farias, and to be determined to support the war at the expense of the Church.

The cabinet of Santa Anna is composed of D. Mariano Otero, minister of foreign affairs; D. Juan Rondero, of the treasury, D. Francisco Suarray Triarty, of Justice, and D. Jose Ignacio Gutierrez, of war.

The latest dates received at the capital from Vera Cruz were to the evening of the 24th, at which time the Vera Cruzanos seemed to claim a victory over the Yankees, and were in hopes of being successful throughout the whole affair. Santa Anna had ordered several detachments of troops to march immediately to Vera Cruz, in order to assist the besieged. [ANP]

NNR 72.113 April 24, 1847 HAVE WE CONQUERED A PEACE

It will be seen by the details inserted in this number of the Register, that he whole circumference of the Mexican Republic is in possession of the United States forces. The "insurrections" near Santa Fe, and in the California, are suppressed. Chihuahua is occupied by the forces under Col. Doniphan. The army assembled by Santa Anna had been nearly demolished by Gen. Taylor. The valley of the Rio Grande is in quiet possession of the latter, and he is preparing to march upon San Louis Potosi. Vera Cruz is nearly demolished also, and the United States' flag waves over the battlements of San Juan de Ulloa. Alvarado, Tampico, nearly every Mexican port upon the Gulf and upon the Pacific, is in our possession, and a U. States tariff fixes the duties of Mexican trade. Gen. Scott with a selected army of from thirteen to twenty thousand men well provided is on the march for "the halls of Montezuma." Meantime, the center of that empire is the scene of one political volcanic eruption after another, which scarcely leaves any party or faction one day in power. Inevitable destruction seems to await the nation. [MSM]

NNR 72.113 April 24, 1847 COMMENTS ON THE ASSIGNMENT OF THE EIGHTEEN MILLION DOLLAR LOAN

And yet we have no distinct indications from thence, of a submission. The impression, however, has gained rapidly upon public opinion in this country within the last three weeks, that a peace cannot be far distant. The strongest proof we have of this, is the avidity with which the U. States loan of eighteen millions had been sought for by capitalists, a race of men who invariably contrive to ferret out the utmost that is to be known or depended upon, whenever they are about to adventure heavy speculations. They unquestionably believed, when they made proposals they did for the loan, that a peace was near at hand.

There are all kinds of opinion, and all kinds of rumors too afloat, in regard to questions at issue. On one hand, the loan is no sooner negotiated, than the announcement is made that government have called upon the states for six thousand volunteers, to proceed to Mexico. We see it mentioned in various directions that governors have received requisitions accordingly. [MSM]

NNR 72.114 April 24, 1847 regiment of Massachusetts volunteers at Matamoros

Excerpts from the Flag of the 3d inst.

The Massachusetts regiment. This fine body of troops, save two companies, are now in Matamoros. They, with the scholar colonel, are looked for every day. These boys from the land of pumpkins are a "great people." [ANP]

NNR 72.114 April 24, 1847 ALVARADO SURRENDERS TO LT. CHARLES G. HUNTER,
Sir: I have the honor to inform the department that immediately after the surrender of Vera Cruz, Gen. Scott and myself concerted measures for taking possession of Alvarado.

Although it was not expected that any defense would be made, it was though advisable that strong detachments, both of the army and navy, should be employed, in view of making an imposing demonstration in that direction.

The southern brigade under Gen. Quitman, was detached of this duty, and the naval movements were directed personally by myself.

Gen. Quitman took up his line of march this morning, on his return to Vera Cruz, and I left for this anchorage to arrange an expedition to the north; Captain Mayo, with a small naval detachment, being placed in command of Alvarado and its dependencies, in which may be embraced the populous town of Tiacotalpam, situated about twenty miles up the river. The southern brigade under Gen. Quitman, was detached for this duty, and the naval movements were directed personally by myself. Gen. Quitman took up hid line of march this morning, on his return to Vera Cruz, and I left for this anchorage to arrange an expedition to the north; Captain Mayo, with a small naval detachment, being placed in command of Alvarado and its dependencies, in which may be embraced the populous town of Tiacotalpam, situated about twenty miles up the river.

In this expedition I have had the good fortune to become acquainted with Gen. Quitman and many of the officers of his command, and have gratified to observe a most cordial desire, as well with them as with the officers of the navy, to foster a courteous and efficient co-operation. The enemy, before evacuating the place, burnt all the public vessels, and spiked or buried most of the guns; but, those that were concealed have been discovered, and I have directed the whole number about sixty-eight to be destroyed or shipped, with the shot, on board the gun boats, as they may be found of sufficient value to be removed.

With great respect, I have the honor to be your most obedient servant, M.C Perry.

[MSM]

NRR 72.114-115 April 24, 1847 FORCES UNDER COM. ROBERT FIELD STOCKTON AND GEN, STEPHEN WATTS KEARNY ATTACK GEN. JOSE MARIA FLORES, TWO ENGAGEMENTS, FLORES RETREATS AND SURRENDERS TO COL. JOHN CHARLES FREMONT

Lieut. Gray, U.S. Navy, reached Baltimore on the 22nd from Jamaica, having come overland from the Pacific to Chagres, and from thence to Jamaica. He proceeded immediately to Washington, with despatches from Com. Stockton.

Lieut, Gray furnishes the following memorandum of occurrences: "On the 8th of January last Com. Stockton with 400 seamen and Marines, 60 dismounted dragoons, and the same number of riflemen, under Col. Kearny, (who volunteered to go with Com. S) met the enemy with 700 artillery and dragoons, on the banks of the "San Gabriel." The commodore pushed his force forward, and crossed the river in the face of a plunging fire from the Mexican battery. The seamen dragging six pieces of artillery through the water, (their pieces having been transported by the seamen 140 miles from the ships) under Lieut. Tilghman, of Baltimore, charged up the heights, dislodging and taking the Mexican battery.

"On the 9th, Gen. Flores again made a stand on the plains of "Mesa," and another severe action took place. The American arms were again triumphant. The Mexican cavalry charged repeatedly on the seamen, who met them in squads, armed with the ship's "boarding pikes"--the dismounted riflemen in the center-dealing out destruction with their underring weapons. The American loss was 16 killed and wounded. Lieut. S. C. Rowan was the only officer wounded, and that slightly. None killed. The Mexican loss is about 90 killed.

"It is believed that if Col. Fremont had been able to have joined Com. S. in season, with his mounted riflemen, Flores, with his whole force, would have been captured. Com. S. refused to negotiate with Flores, but sent him word that if he were taken he would be shot as a rebel. Flores soon after surrendered to Col. Fremont—who was..."
not aware of Com. S. having declined to negotiate with him. Flores has promised to become a lawful subject of the U. States, and to assist in quelling the rebellion.”

[NMS]

NNR 72.115-117 April 24, 1847  GEN. ZACHARY TAYLOR’S OFFICIAL REPORT ON THE BATTLE OF BUENA VISTA

Sir: I had the honor to submit the detailed report of the operations of the forces under my command, which resulted in the engagement of Buena Vista, the repulse of the Mexican Army and the reoccupation of this position.

The information which reached me of the advance and concentration of a heavy Mexican force in my front, had assumed a probable form, as to induce a special examination far beyond the reach of our pickets to ascertain it's correctness. A small party of Texan spies, under Maj. McCullugh, detached to the hacienda of Encararcion, 30 miles from this, on the route to San. Luis Potosi, had reported a cavalry force of unknown strength at that place. On the 20th of February a strong reconnaissance under Lieut. Col. May was dispatched to the hacienda of Hacienda, while Maj. McCullough made another examination of Encararcion. The result of these expeditions left no doubt that the enemy was in large force at Encarnacion under the orders of Gen. Santa Anna, and that he meditated a forward movement and attack on our forward position.

As the camp of Aqua Nueva could be turned on the other flank, and as the enemy forces was greatly superior to our own, particularly in the arm of each cavalry, I determined, after much consideration, to take up a position about 11 miles in rear and await the attack. The army broke up its camp and marched at noon on the 21st, in camping at the new position a little in front of the Hacienda of Buena Vista. With a small force I proceeded to Saltillo to make some necessary arrangements for the defense of the town, leaving Brig. Gen. Wool in the immediate command of the troops.

Before those arrangements were completed on the morning of the 22nd I was advised that the enemy was in sight, advancing. Upon reaching the ground it was found that his cavalry advance was in our front, having marched from Encarnacion, as we have since learned, at 11 o’clock on the day previous, a driving amounting force left at Aqua Neuv to cover the removal of public stores. Our troops were in position, occupying a line of remarkable strength. The road at this point becomes a narrow defile, the valley on it’s right being rendered quite impracticable by artillery by a system of deep and impassible gullies, while on the left a succession of rugged ridges and precipitous ravines extends far back towards the mountain which bounds the valley. The features of the ground were such as nearly to paralyze the artillery and cavalry of the army, while his infantry could not derive all the advantage of its numerical superiority. In this position we prepared to receive him. Capt. Washington’s battery (4th artillery) was posted to command the road while the 1st and 2nd Illinois regiments under Hardin and Bissell, each 8 companies, (to the latter of which was attached Capt. Connors company of Texas volunteers,) and the second Kentucky under Col. Mckee, occupied the crest of the ridges on the left and rear. The Arkansas and Kentucky regiments of cavalry commanded by Col. Yell and H. Marshall, occupied the extreme left near the base of the mountain, while the Indian brigade, under Brig. Gen. Lane, (composed of the 2nd and 3rd regiments under Col.’s Bull and Lane,) the Mississippi riflemen under Col. Davis, the squadrons of the 1st and 2nd dragoons under Capt. Steem and Lieut. Col. May and the light batteries of Capt.’s Sherman and Bragg, 3rd artillery, were held in reserve. At 11 o’clock I received from Gen. Santa Anna a summons to surrender at discretion; which with a copy of my reply, I had already transmitted. The enemy still forbore his attack, evidently waiting for the arrival of his rear columns, which could be distinctly seen by our lookouts as they approached the field. A demonstration made on his left caused me to detach the 2nd Kentucky regiment and section of the artillery to the right in which position they bivouacked for the night.

In the mean time the Mexican light troops had engaged ours on the extreme left, (composed of parts of a Kentucky and Arkansas cavalry dismounted, and a rifle battalion from the Indian brigade under Maj. Goreman, the whole command by Col. Marshall,) and kept up a sharp fire, climbing the mountainside and endeavoring to gain our flank. Three pieces of Capt. Washington’s cavalry had been detached to the left and supported by the 2nd Indiana regiment. An occasional shell was thrown by the enemy into this part of our line, but without effect. The skirmishing of the light troops was kept up with trifling loss on our part till dark, when I became convinced that no serious attack would be made before the morning, and returned with the
Mississippi regiment and squadron of 2nd dragoons Saltillo. The troops bivouacked without fires and laid upon their arms. A body of cavalry, some 1500 strong, had been visible all day in rear of the town, having entered the valley through a narrow pass east of the city. This cavalry, commanded by Gen. Minion, had evidently been thrown in our rear to break up and harass our retreat, and perhaps make some attempt against the town if practicable. The city was occupied by four excellent companies of Illinois volunteers under Maj. Warren of the first regiment. A field work, which command most of the approaches was garrisoned by Capt. Webster's company, 1st artillery, and armed with two 24 pound howitzers, while the train and headquarter camp was guarded by two companies Mississippi riflemen under Capt. Rogers, and a field piece command by Capt. Shover, 3rd artillery. Having made these dispositions for the protection of the rear, I could proceed on the morning of the 23rd to Buena Vista, ordering forward all the other available troops. The action had commenced before my arrival on the field.

During the evening of the 22nd the enemy had thrown a body of light troops on a mountainside with the purpose of out-flanking our left; and it was here that the action of the 23rd commenced at an early hour. Our rifleman under Col. Marshall, who had been reinforced by three companies under Maj. Trail, 2nd Illinois volunteers, maintained there ground handsomely against a greatly superior force, holding themselves under cover, and using their weapons with deadly effect. About 8 o'clock a strong demonstration was made against the center of our position, a heavy column moving along the road. This force was soon dispersed by a few rapid and well-directed shots from Capt. Washington's battery. In the mean time the enemy was concentrating a large force of infantry and cavalry under cover of the ridges with the obvious intention of forcing our left, which was posted on an extensive plateau.

The 2nd Indiana and 2nd Illinois regiments formed this part of our line, the former covering three pieces of light artillery under the orders of Capt. O'Brien- Brig. Gen. Lane being in the immediate command. In order to bring his men within effective range, Gen. Lane ordered the 2nd Indiana regiment forward. The artillery advanced within musket range of a heavy body of Mexican infantry, and was served against it with great effect, but without being able to check its advance. The infantry ordered to its support had fallen back in disorder, being exposed, as well as the battery, not only to a sever fire of small arms from the front, but also to a murderous cross fire of grape and canister from a Mexican battery on the left. Capt. O'Brien found it impossible to retain his position without support, but was only able to withdraw two of his pieces, all the horses and cannoniers of the third piece being killed or disabled. The 2nd Indiana regiment, which had fallen back as stated, could not be rallied, and took no further part in the action, except a handful of men, who, under its gallant Col. Bowles, joined the Mississippi regiment, and did good service, and those fugitives who, at a later period in the day, assisted in defending the train and depot at Buena Vista. This portion of our line having given way, and the enemy appearing in overwhelming force against our left flank, the light troops which had rendered such good service on the mountain, were compelled to withdraw, which they did, for the most part in good order. Many, however were not rallied until they reached the depot at Buena Vista, to the defense of which they afterwards contributed.

Col. Bissell's regiment, (2nd Illinois,) which had been joined by a section of Capt. Sherman's battery, had become completely outflanked, and was compelled to fall back, being entirely unsupported. The enemy was now pouring masses of infantry and cavalry along the base of the mountain on our left, and was gaining our rear in great force. At this moment, I arrived upon the field. The Mississippi regiment had been directed to the left before reaching the position, and immediately came into action against the Mexican infantry which had turned our flank. The 2nd Kentucky regiment and a section of artillery under Capt. Bragg, had previously been ordered from the right to reinforce our left, and arrived at a most opportune moment. That regiment, and a portion of the 1st Illinois, under Colonel Hardin, gallantly drove the enemy, and recovered a portion of the ground we had lost. The batteries of Capts. Sherman and Bragg were in position on the plateau and did much execution, not only in front, but particularly upon the masses which had gained our rear. Discovering that the enemy was heavily pressing upon the Mississippi regiment, the 3rd Indiana regiment, under Col. Lane, was dispatched to strengthen that part of our line, which formed a crotchet perpendicular to the first line of battle. At the same time Lieut. Kilburn, with a piece of Capt. Bragg's battery, was directed to support the infantry they're engaged. The action was for a long time warmly sustained at the point-the enemy making several efforts both with infantry and cavalry against our line, and being always repulsed with heavy loss. I had placed all the regular cavalry and Capt. Pike's squadron of Arkansas horse under the orders of Bt. Lieut. Col. May, with directions to hold in check the enemy's column, still advancing to the rear along the base of the mountain, which was done in conjunction with the Kentucky and Arkansas cavalry under Cols. Marshall and Yell. In the meantime our left which was
still strongly threatened by a superior force, was further strengthened by the
detachment of Capt. Bragg’s, and a portion of Capt. Sherman’s batteries, to that
quarter. The concentration of artillery fire upon the masses of the enemy along the
base of the mountain, and the determined resistance offered by the two regiments
opposed to them, had created confusion in their rank, and some of the corps
attempted to effect a retreat upon their main line of battle. The squadron of the 1st
dragoons under Lieut. Rucker, was now ordered up the deep ravine which these
retreating corps were endeavoring to cross in order to charge and disperse them.
The squadron proceeded to the point indicated, but could not accomplish the object,
being exposed to a heavy fire from a battery established to cover the retreat of
those corps. While the squadron was detached on this service, a large body of the
enemy was observed to concentrate on our extreme left, apparently with the view of
making a descent upon the hacienda of Buena Vista, which our train and baggage
were deposited. Lieut. Col. May was ordered to the support of that point, with two
pieces of Capt. Sherman’s battery under Lieut. Reynolds. In the meantime the
scattered forces near the hacienda, composed in part of Majors Trail and Gorman’s
command, had been to some extent organized under the advice of Major Munroe,
chief of artillery, with the assistance of Major Morrison, volunteer staff, and were
posted to defend the position. Before our cavalry had reached the hacienda, that
of the enemy had made its attack, having been handsomely met by the Kentucky and
Arkansas cavalry under Cols. Marshall and Yell. The Mexican column immediately
divided one portion sweeping by the deposit, where it received a destructive fire from
the force which had collected there, and then gaining the mountain opposite, under
a fire from Lieut. Reynolds’s section, the remaining portion regaining the base of the
mountain on our left. In the charge at Buena Vista, Col. Yell fell gallantly at the
head of his regiment; we also lost Adj’t Vaughan, of the Kentucky cavalry—a young
officer of much promise. Lieut. Col. May, who had been rejoined by the squadron of
the 1st dragoons and by portions of the Arkansas and Indiana troops under Lieut.
Col. Roane and Maj. Gorman, now approached the base of the mountain, holding in
check the right flank of the enemy, upon whose masses, crowded in the narrow
gorges and ravines, our artillery was doing fearful execution.

The position of that portion of the Mexican army which had gained our rear was now
very critical, and it seemed doubtful whether it could regain the main body. At this
moment I received from Gen. Santa Anna a message by a staff officer, desiring to
know what I wanted. I immediately dispatched Brig. Gen. Wool to the Mexican
general in chief, and sent orders to cease firing. Upon reaching the Mexican lines,
Gen. Wool could not cause the enemy to cease their fire, and accordingly returned
without having an interview. The extreme right of the enemy continued its retreat
along the base of the mountain, and finally, in spite of all our efforts, affected a
union with the remainder of the army.

During the day the cavalry of Gen. Minion had ascended the elevated plain above
Saltillo, and occupied the road from the city to the field of battle, where they
intercepted several of our men. Approaching the tow, they were fired upon by Capt.
Webster from the redoubly occupied by his company, and then moved off towards
the eastern side of the valley, and obliquely towards Buena Vista. At this time, Capt.
Shover moved rapidly forward with his piece, supported by a miscellaneous
command of mounted volunteers, and fired several shots at the cavalry with great
effect. They were driven into the ravines which lead to the lower valley, closely
pursued by Capt. Shover, who was further supported by a piece of Captain Webster’s
battery, under Lieut. Donaldson, which had advanced from the redoubt, supported
by Captain Wheeler’s company of Illinois volunteers. The enemy made one or two
efforts to charge the artillery, but was finally driven back in a confused mass, and
did not again appear upon the plain.

In the meantime, the firing had partially ceased upon the principal field. The enemy
seemed to confine his efforts to the protection of his artillery, and I had left the
plateau for a moment, when he was recalled thither by a very heavy musketry fire.
On regaining that position, I discovered that our infantry (Illinois and 2nd Kentucky)
had engaged a greatly superior force of the enemy—evidently his reserves—and that
they had been overwhelmed by numbers. The moment was most critical. Capt.
O’Brien, with two pieces, had sustained this heavy charge to the last, and was finally
obliged to leave his guns on the field—his infantry support being entirely routed—Capt.
Bragg, who had just arrived from the left, was ordered at once into battery. Without
any infantry to support him, and at the imminent risk of losing his guns, this officer
came rapidly into action, the Mexican line being but a few yards from the muzzle of
his pieces. The first discharge of canister caused the enemy to hesitate, the second
and third drove him back in disorder, and saved the day. The 2nd Kentucky
regiment which had advanced beyond supporting distance in this affair, was driven
back and closely pressed by the enemy’s cavalry. Taking a ravine which led in the
direction of Capt. Washington’s battery, their pursuers become exposed to his fire,
which soon checked and drove them back with loss. In the men time the rest of our
artillery had taken position on the plateau, covered by the Mississippi and 3rd
Indiana regiments, the former of which had reached the ground in time to pour a fire into the right flank of the enemy, and thus contribute to his repulse. In this last conflict we had the misfortune to sustain a very heavy loss. Colonel Hardin, 1st Illinois, and colonel Mckee, and lieut. Col. Clay, 2nd Kentucky regiments, fell at this time, while gallantly heading their commands.

No further attempt was made by the enemy to force our position, and the approach of night gave an opportunity to pay proper attention to the wounded, and also to refresh the soldiers, who had been exhausted by incessant watchfulness and combat. Compelled for the most part to bivouac without fires, expecting that morning would renew the conflict. During the night the wounded were removed to Saltillo, and every preparation made to receive the enemy should he again attack our position. Seven fresh companies were drawn from the town, and march from the Rinconada, with a reinforcement of Kentucky cavalry and four heavy guns, under Capt. Prentiss, 1st artillery, was near at hand, when it was discovered that the enemy had abandoned his position during the night. Our scouts soon ascertained that the disparity of numbers, and the exhaustion of our troops, rendered it inexpedient and hazardous to attempt pursuit. A staff officer was dispatched to General Santa Anna to negotiate an exchange of prisoners, which was satisfactorily completed on the following day. Our own dead were collected and buried, and the Mexican wounded, of which a large number had been left upon the field, were removed to Saltillo, and rendered as comfortable as circumstances would permit.

On the evening of the 26th, a close reconnaissance was made of the enemy’s position, which was found to be occupied only by a small body of cavalry, the infantry and artillery having retreated in the direction of San Luis Potosi. On the 27th, our troops resumed their former camp at Agua Nueva, the enemy’s rear guard evacuating the place as we approached, leaving a considerable number of wounded. It was my purpose to beat up his quarters in Encarnacion early the next morning, but upon examination, the week condition of the cavalry horses rendered it unavailing to attempt so long a march without water. A command was finally dispatched to Encarnacion, on the 1st of March, Under Colonel Belknap. Some two hundred wounded, and about sixty Mexican soldiers were found there, the army having passed on in the direction of Matehuala, with greatly reduced numbers, and suffering much from hunger. The dead and dying were strewn upon the road and crowded the buildings of the hacienda.

The American force engaged in the action of Buena Vista, is shown, by the accompanying field report, to have been 334 officers, and 4,425 men, exclusive of the small command left in and near Saltillo. Of this number, two squadrons of cavalry, and three batteries of light artillery, making nor more than 453 men, composed of the only force of regular troops. The strength of the Mexican army is stated by Gen. Santa Anna, in his summons, to be 20,000, and that estimate is confirmed by all the information since obtained. Our loss is 267 killed, 456 sounded, and 23 missing. Of the numerous wounded, may did not required removal to the hospital, and it is hoped that a comparatively small number will be permanently disabled. The Mexican loss in killed and wounded may be fairly estimated at 1,500, and will probably reach 2,000. At least 500 of their killed were left upon the field of battle. We have no means of ascertaining the number of deserters and dispersed men from the ranks, but it is known to be very great.

Our loss has been especially severe in officers, 28 having been killed upon the field. We have to lament the death of Captain George Lincoln, assistant adjutant general, serving on the staff of General Wool—a young officer of high bearing and approved gallantry, who fell early in the action. No loss falls more heavily upon the army in the field than that of Cols. Hardin and McKee and L. Col. Clay. Possessing in a remarkable degree the confidence of their commands, and the last two having enjoyed the advantage of a military education, I had looked particularly to them for support in case we met the enemy. I need not say that their zeal in engaging the enemy, and the cool and steadfast courage with which they maintained their positions during the day, fully realized my hopes, and caused me to feel yet more sensibly their untimely loss.

I perform a grateful duty in bringing to the notice of the government the general good conduct of the troops. Exposed for successive nights without fires, to the severity of the weather, they were ever prompt and cheerful in the discharge of every duty, and finally displayed conspicuous steadiness and gallantry in repulsing, at great odds, a disciplined foe. While the brilliant success achieved by their arms, releases me from the painful necessity of specifying many cases of bad conduct before the enemy, I feel an increased obligation to mention particular corps and officers, whose skills, coolness, and gallantry in trying situations, and under a continued and heavy fire, seem to merit particular notice.
To Brigadier General Wool my obligations are especially due. The high state of discipline and instruction of several of the volunteer regiments was attained under his command; and to his vigilance and arduous services before the action, and his gallantry and activity on the field, a large share of our success may justly be attributed. During most of the engagement, he was in immediate command of the troops thrown back on our left flank. I beg leave to recommend him to the favorable notice of the government. Brigadier General Lane (slightly wounded) was active and zealous throughout the day, and displayed great coolness and gallantry before the enemy.

The services of the light artillery, always conspicuous, were more than usually distinguished. Moving rapidly over the roughest ground, it was always in action at the right place and the right time, and its well directed fire dealt destruction in the masses of the enemy. While I recommend to particular favor the gallant conduct and valuable services of Maj. Munroe, chief of artillery, and Captains Washington, 4th artillery, and Sherman and Bragg, 3rd artillery, commanding batteries, I deem it no more than just to mention all subaltem officers. They were nearly all detached at different times, and in very situation exhibited conspicuous skill and gallantry. Captain O’Brien, Lieutenants Brent, Whiting and Couch, 4th artillery, and Bryan, topographical engineers, (slightly wounded,) were attached to Capt. Washington’s battery. Lieuts. Thomas, Reynolds, and French, 3rd artillery, (severely wounded,) to that of Captain Sherman; and Captain Shover and Lieutenant Kilburn, 3rd artillery, to that of Captain Bragg. Captain Shover, in conjunction with Lieut. Donaldson, 1st artillery, tendered gallant and important service in repulsing the cavalry of Gen. Minion. The regular cavalry, under Lieut. Col. May, with which was associated Captain Pike’s squadron of Arkansas horse, rendered useful service in holding several points. Captain Steen, 1st dragoons, was severely wounded early in the day while gallantly endeavoring, with my authority, to rally the troops, which were falling to the rear.

The Mississippi riflemen, under Col. Davis, were highly conspicuous for their gallantry and steadiness, and sustained throughout the engagement the reputation of veteran troops. Brought into action against an immense superior force, they maintained themselves for a long time unsupported and with heavy loss, and held an important part of the field until reinforced. Col. Davis, though severely wounded, remained in the saddle until the close of the action.-His distinguished coolness and gallantly at the head of his regiment on this day entitle him to the particular notice of the government. The 3d Indiana regiment, under Col. Lane, and a fragment of the 2nd, under Col. Bowles, were associated with the Mississippi regiment during the greater portion of the day, and acquitted themselves creditably in repulsing the attempts of the enemy to break that portion of our line. The Kentucky cavalry, under Col. Marshall, rendered good service dismounted, acting as light troops on our left, and afterwards, with a portion of Arkansas regiment, in meeting and dispersing the column of cavalry at Buena Vista. The 1st and 2nd Illinois, and the 2nd Kentucky regiments, served immediately under my eye, and I hear a willing testimony to their excellent conduct throughout the day. The spirit and gallantry with which the 1st Illinois and 2nd Kentucky engaged the enemy in the morning, restored confidence to that part of the field, while the list of casualties will show how much these three regiments suffered in sustaining the heavy charge of the enemy in the afternoon. Capt. Conner’s company of Texas volunteers, attached to the 2nd Illinois regiment, fought bravely, its captain being wounded and two subalterns killed. Col. Bissell, the only surviving colonel of these regiments, merits notice for his coolness and bravery on this occasion. After the fact of the field officers of the 1st Illinois and 2nd Kentucky regiments, the command of the former devolved upon Lieut. Col. Weatherford; that of the later upon Major Fry.

Regimental commanders and others who have rendered reports, speak in general terms of the good conduct of their officers and men, and have specified many names, but the limits of this report forbid a recapitulation of them here. I may, however, mention Lieuts. Rucker, and Campbell, of the dragoons, and Captain Pike, Arkansas cavalry, commanding [illegible]

Major Bradford, Captain Sharpe, (severely wounded), and Adjutant Griffith, Mississippi regiment; Lieut. Col. Robinson, A. D. C. to General Lane; Lieut. Colonel Weatherford, 1st Illinois regiment, Lieut. Colonel Morrison, Major Trail, and Adjutant Whiteside, (severely wounded), 2nd regiment and Major Fry, 2nd Kentucky regiment, as being favorably noticed for gallantry and good conduct. Major McCulloch, quartermaster in volunteer service, rendered. [MSM]
Gen. Kearney had scarcely left New Mexico for California, when rumors of a revolution began to be spoken among the Mexican inhabitants.

On the 14th of January, Governor Bent left this place to attend to private business at Taos. On the 20th, information was brought to Colonel Price, by an Indian, living six miles from town, that Governor Bent, and several other Americans, had been murdered at Taos—that an insurrection was in progress—that the people of Taos and the Pueblo Indians near, were coming in great numbers towards Santa Fe, compelling all on the road to join them, if they would not do so willingly, and that the object was to possess themselves of all the property, public and private, in Santa Fe, and destroy the Americans who had been represented as few in number.

As soon as Colonel Price received report of the murders at Taos, he issued an order for Major Edmonson, of the volunteers, and Captain Burgwin, of the United States dragoons, both stationed near Albuquerque, to repair with their respective commands to Santa Fe; he directed Captain Burgwin to follow him with one company of dragoons on the road to Taos, and at 11 A.M., on the 23d, the colonel, with three hundred volunteers and four 12 pound howitzers, with twenty men from Captain Fischer's company, under Lieutenant Dyer, (ordnance,) and Lieut. Hassendueble, marched in the direction of that place, with a view to meet the enemy as near the mountain as possible, to prevent the inhabitants in the valley of the Del Norte from forming a junction with them.

January 24—Started early, and after marching twelve miles met the enemy, from fifteen hundred to two thousand strong, on the bottom of the Del Norte, near the mouth of a creek which was nearly surrounded by high, sharp hills, from one to two hundred feet high; they were crests, having no level ground on the top, but falling directly back with a steep declivity. Beyond this to a snowy mountain, distant one mile, was a very rough country, broken into conical hills and deep ravines. The enemy, on our approach fled to the top of the hills, and commenced firing on us at 3 P.M. As soon as the howitzers could be brought into line on the plain, the colonel ordered Lieut. Dyer, assisted by Lieut. Hassendueble, of Captain Fischer's company, to open his fire of shells upon the enemy, which order was promptly obeyed, but not with the success we could have wished, for when the guns were elevated sufficiently to reach the top of these crests, the shells would pass within a few feet of the enemy and fly many hundred yards beyond them into the opposite valley, the enemy dropping flat at every flash, behind the sharp points of the hills. At this time it was discovered that they were outflanking us on each side, and that the wagon train, one mile in the rear, was in great danger, indeed, it was evident that this was their object, as well as to prevent us from running away, supposing, from their great superiority in numbers, we could not escape them. At this period of the battle, Col. Price ordered Capt. St. Vrain with his 60 mounted volunteers, citizens of Santa Fe and mounted men to go back and bring up the train. This he did as speedily as possible, under a sharp fire from the enemy from the sand hills and some houses. As Capt. St. Vrain approached the creek on his return, he discovered a number of the enemy outflanking us on the right; he charged upon them and killed the two; after which he returned to the main body of the army.

The Mexicans and Indians, emboldened by their same position, came down the hill on our left, and occupied a house and orchard on the edge of the plain, firing with great accuracy at the artillery men. The colonel then ordered Lieut. Dyer to move his battery within one hundred and ninety yards of the house and adobe wall, behind which the enemy were posted, and to drive them from their position. This was done by firing about twenty shells through the wall and house; but not until six artillery men were severely wounded. The enemy then joined their companions on the hills. There was another house near the foot of the hill, three hundred yards to the right of the one just mentioned, which was supposed to contain enemies. Captain Angney, a company of infantry volunteers, was ordered to charge it. He did so promptly, and had one man mortally wounded from the hill; but no one was in the house. He cut openings through the walls, left a detachment of his company, and returned with the remainder to the main body. Finding that the enemy could not be subdued at the distance we were fighting, Col. P. ordered a charge, leaving a reserve on the plain, to fire on the enemy as long as they could do so with safety to our own troops. Capt. Angney, supported by K company, Lieut. White, with two companies of infantry volunteers, charged most gallantly up the steepest part of the hill in front; Capt St. Vrain, with his mounted Santa Fe volunteers on his right, up a more gentle slope; and the artillery was ordered to occupy the hill on the left, where the ascent was more easy. All these positions were occupied in a few minutes, and the enemy put flight. They ran in every direction over the broken ground spoken of before; but the troops where so much exhausted by the charge that pursuit was impossible: but
they were fired on continually from the smaller arms and howitzers, and considerable execution was done. Lieutenant Irwin, A company infantry volunteers, was severely wounded through the leg, and one private killed, and two of the enemy were bayoneted on the hill. It was now near night, and the colonel ordered the troops to take possession of the town, Canada, which was done without any resistance, the men being with the enemy, except the priest – the women having fled.

It is impossible to say how many were killed in this fight; the battle ground was more than one mile in extent, and few saw the whole number, some make it twenty six, others twenty – the latter number probably correct. Among the slain was their general, Tyrphoya. Colonel Price was struck by a ball in the early part of the action: but his sword belt probably saved his life, and his wound was only a severe contusion.

January 28 – As we were about to march, heard of the battle of Moro town, in which Capt. Henly, of the volunteers, was killed; and the previous murder of Prewit, Waldo, Culver and several other Americans at that place – in all seven. Marched to Securo, and encamped. Captain Burgwin, with his company, having marched all night, joined us with the 6 pounder. At this point, Captain Burgwin, with his company of dragoons, and Capt. St. Vrain's company of volunteers, and company K volunteers, were sent forward to El Emboda, on the near route to Taos, to attack a small party of the enemy, said to be about 60, with orders to join the main body at Tampus the next night; the colonel having determined to accompany the wagons and cannon which were compelled to take a more circuitous route on account of difficulties in the mountain. Captain Burgwin had proceeded only about four miles when he met the enemy in great force, instead of sixty as had been represented. A severe battle ensued; the firing was distinctly heard by us, and Colonel Price sent forward Captain Slack's company to reinforce Capt. B.

30th – Pursued our march through the mountain, which was covered with snow. The labor of getting the wagons and cannon along this day was very severe on men and mules as the road was rough and precipitous. Encamped in the mountain – weather very cold. 31st – Continued our march, and fatigued reached Tampus at 12 M., where we met Captain Burgwin's command. They killed 20 of the enemy the previous day, and drove them towards Taos. – Captain B had one man killed and one severely wounded. Marched three miles further and encamped at Chamaral.

February 1 – Marched 8 miles through deep snow, and encamped on the top of a high mountain; weather very cold, snowed on us all night. 2d – Continued our march; many of the men's feet were badly frozen; reached the first town in the valley of Taos at night. The town had been abandoned, and we fared well enough, as there was an abundance of pigs, poultry, corn & c.

Feb. 4 – Marched four miles to Fernando, where Governor Bunt and other Americans had been murdered, and thence to Pueblo de Taos, distant two miles. On our approach the Indians and Mexicans shouted so loud that we heard them at a mile distant, and as we came near the town, they used all sorts of abusive epithets towards us, thinking themselves safe in their strong place. The troops were soon brought into line, and a heavy cannonading was opened upon them, with discharges of small arms – this was continued till all the ammunition for the cannon was exhausted, the ammunition wagon having been left miles in the rear. Night was now close upon us, and the colonel ordered the troops to return to Fernando, to prepare for a renewal of the attack the next morning.

Feb 5 – We were again before the town soon after sunrise. The six pounder in charge of Lieut. Welser, 1st dragoon, and two howitzers, all under Lieut. Dyer, Ordnance, with a portion of the volunteers, were placed in position on the side of the town, and the two other howitzers, in charge of Lieut. Hassendeubel, with Captain Burgwin's company of dragoons, and one company of volunteers, took position on another side, so as to make a crossfire. The action now commenced at three hundred yards distance, and continued cannonading was kept up with shells and grape shot from the howitzers, and solid shot from the six pounders, till 11 A.M., with occasional tires from our sharp-shooters, as chances offered – by which means the enemy were driven from the streets and plaza and had ceased their yelling.

At this time the colonel ordered a charge from each side. This charge was made promptly and vigorously, but unfortunately, Captain Burgwin's company of dragoons, with Captain McMillen's company of mounted volunteers, reached the church door before the other party came up; the consequence was, that the intended diversion was not effected, and Captain Burgwin's command received the full shock of the enemy's fire, for a time. Captain B had five dragoons killed, and nineteen severely
wounded, several of whom soon died – among them, Captain Burgwin. Captain McMillen had six severely wounded. So destructive was the cross firing on these two companies, that they were compelled to retire behind the adobe wall which surrounds the town, and which ran a few feet from the church. The whole soon came up, and breaking down the wall, placed themselves close under the walls of the church, and commenced cutting an opening into it with an axe. Still they were being shot from the top of the church, from its interior, through loop holes, and from other buildings which commanded it. As we had only axes to work with, our progress was slow; but while it was progressing, a temporary ladder was put up, and the top of the church was soon cleared. Howitzer shells were lighted and thrown into the opening which the Indians had made – these exploded beautifully, and no doubt did good execution; but still they would shoot a man if he presented himself at the holes. Fire was communicated to the roof, but being flat and covered with earth, it burned slowly. The wall had been cut only about one foot deep, and as it now appeared that the town must be taken house by house, and for that purpose it was all important to get possession of the church that night, which was close on us.

Colonel Price ordered Lieutenant Dyer (he ought to be a Captain) to bring up the six pounder within a few yards of the building, and with solid shot to make a break, where the men had been cutting with axes. This was a hazardous duty, as he and his men were dead marks for the enemy, but the other was promptly obeyed – the breach was made, and after throwing in a charge of canister and lighted shell, the troops rushed in. The Indians who had not been killed, fled; the front door was broken open from the inside, and we had possession of the church but it was so full of smoke that it could not be occupied. The colonel had taken precaution to place Captain St. Vrain’s company of Santa Fe mounted men, and Captain Slack’s company of mounted volunteers, in rear of town, and between it and the mountain, supposing that when the charge was made many would attempt to escape. Such proved to be the case; the Mexicans all fled, and left the Indians to fight it out. These two companies killed fifty-five. We soon gained possession of two or three houses near the church, but beyond them, one hundred yards distant, stood two immense buildings, seven stories high, each story receding; and the opening to the room was from the roof down – Lieutenant Hassendeuble, of the artillery, has promised me a plan of them, which I will send you, if I can get it in time, for without this you can scarcely form an idea of their great size and strength. – Into these Indians all fled, and the colonel being convinced that they could not be taken without a heavier gun, sent an express to Santa Fe for one of the 24 pounders howitzers, and a supply of ammunition. We slept soundly that night, but were awaked early by the discharge of fire arms, which proved to be a sentinel firing on an Indian who was endeavoring to make his escape. He killed him after two discharges.

Early in the morning, (February 5th) the women came in crowds to the colonel, on their knees, with white flags, crosses, &c., begging for mercy; and very soon the men followed them. The colonel, thinking that the slaughter had been sufficiently great, listened to their supplications, and granted them peace on condition that they would bring him Tomas, one of the leaders that had fled. This was subsequently done. Much of the property stolen from the American citizens at Fernando, who had been murdered by them, was brought forward and restored to the relatives of the owners, and after solemn promises of good conduct in the future, and sundry hugs and leave taking we returned to Fernando. February 6th – Montoya, the ringleader has been delivered to Col. Price, by some friendly Mexicans, residing a few miles off. He was tried by court martial to-day, and condemned to be hung. 7th – Montoya was executed at 1 P.M. He acknowledged his crimes, and asked pardon of the "Mexicans, the Americans, and God." 9th – Commenced our homeward march, and arrived in Santa Fe on the 11th. The campaign of nineteen days was made without tents, and two of the nights were spent in a high mountain, covered with snow from one to two feet deep, and all without one word of complaint. Missouri may well be proud of her sons, for every man did his duty. As for the United States dragoons, under Capt. Burgwin, their killed and wounded will show where they were in fight. Col. Price displayed the finest qualities of a soldier, and all seemed to court danger where duty called them. Killed of the enemy, from two to three hundred. The Indians acknowledged 175 at the Pueblo – no wounded seen. Capt. Burgwin died of his wound on the 8th, and his remains, with those of Governor Bent, and Mr. Leal, district attorney, where brought to this place and interred with appropriate honors, on the 13th instant. I think that all will now be convinced that New Mexico cannot be held without a strong military force; and for the sake of the Americans residing in this territory, and of its interest generally, I hope the government will not be slow to furnish soldiers to replace those whose term of service will soon expire. Colonel Price received a letter from Lieutenant Colonel Mitchell last night dated at "El Passo,"

Feb 1. He with Colonel Domphan’s regiment and Major Clark’s artillery, were about to start for Chihuahua. No news at that time of General Wool’s having arrived at that place, and rumor said the Mexicans had five thousand soldiers to defend the place. Battle at Moro Town – As soon as Colonel Price received the first intimation of the murder at Taos of Governor Bent and others, and of the disaffection at St. Miguel, he
sent an order to Captain Hently, who had been stationed in that neighborhood, as well to take charge of grazing parties as to protect Captain Murphy, who was expected soon to be there with money from St. Louis – to collect all his forces, and to put down any attempt at a revolution, and give convoy to Capt. Murphy. Hearing of the murders at Moro town, he repaired immediately to that place – a battle ended in which he killed several of the enemy and took fifteen prisoners, who are now in the calaboose, at this place, and was himself slain in storming a fort. As soon as Colonel Willock, who commanded at Santa Fe – Colonel Price being absent – heard of Captain Henly, he sent Captain Morin, of Platte county to command at Moro town; he destroyed it entirely, and I am sorry to add, a large quantity of grain, which was very much needed here. He made the inhabitants feel the horrors of war, but unfortunately, we must come in for a share of it, by the destruction of the wheat and corn. [MSM]
Leaving Lieut. Col. Willock in command of this post, on the 23d of January I marched from this place at the head of companies D, Captain McMillin, K, Captain Williams, L, Captain Slack, M, Captain Halley, and N, Captain Barber, of the 2d regiment Missouri mounted volunteers, Captain Angney's battalion of infantry and a company of Santa Fe volunteers, commanded by Captain St. Vrain. I also took with me four mounted howitzers, which I placed under the command of Lieutenant A. B. Dyer, of the ordnance. My whole force compose three hundred and fifty three rank and file, and, with the exception of Captain St. Vrain's company, were all dismounted. On the march Captain Williams was taken sick, and the command of company K devolved upon Lieutenant B. F. White. On the 24th of January, at half past 1, P. M., our advance (Captain St. Vrain's company) discovered the enemy in considerable forces near the town of Canada, their position at that time being in the valley bordering the Rio del Norte. Preparations were immediately made by me to attack them; and it became necessary for the troops to march more rapidly than the ammunition and provision wagons could travel, in order to prevent the escape of the enemy or to frustrate them in any attempt they might make to occupy commanding positions. As I entered the valley, I discovered them beyond the creek on which the town is situated, and in full possession of the heights commanding the road to Canada, and of three strong houses at the base of the hills. My line of battle was immediately formed — the artillery, consisting of four 12 pounder mountain howitzers, being thrown forward on the left flank and beyond the creek, the dismounted men occupying a position where they would be, in some degree, protected by the high bluff bank of the stream from the fire of the enemy, until the wagon train could be brought up. The artillery opened the houses occupied by the enemy, and on the more distant height, on which alone the guns could be brought to bear. The enemy discovering the wagons to be more than a mile in the rear, sent a large party to cut them off; and it became necessary to detach Captain St. Vrain’s company for their protection. This service was rendered in the most satisfactory manner. So soon as the wagon train had been brought up, I ordered Captain Angney to charge with his battalion of infantry, and dislodge the enemy from the house opposite the right flank, and from which a warm fire was being poured on us. This was done in the most gallant manner. A charge was then ordered to be made upon all the points occupied by the enemy in force. Captain Angney, with his command, supported by Lieutenant White’s company, charged up one hill, while Captain St. Vrain’s company turned the same, in order to cut off the enemy, when in retreat. The artillery, supported by Captains McMillen, Barber and Slack, with their respective companies, at the same time took possession of some houses (enclosed by a strong corral densely wooded with fruit trees, from which a brisk fire was kept up by the enemy) and of the heights beyond them. — Captain Halley’s company was ordered to support Captain Angney. In a few minutes my troops had dislodged the enemy at all points, and they were flying in every direction. The nature of the ground rendered pursuit hopeless; and it being near night, I ordered the troops to take up quarters in the town. The number of the enemy was about fifteen hundred. Lieutenant Irvine was wounded. In the charge my loss was two killed and six wounded. — Of the killed, one was a teamster, who volunteered in Captain Angney’s company. The loss of the enemy was thirty six killed; wounded not ascertained. The next morning the enemy showed themselves in some force (I think no less than four hundred) on the distant heights. Leaving a strong guard in the town, I marched in pursuit of them; but they were so shy, and retreated so rapidly, that, finding it impossible to get near them, I returned to town.

While at Canada, the number of the horses belonging to Captain Slack’s company were brought in by Lieut. Holcomb.

On the 27th, I advanced up the Rio del Norte as far as Luceros, where, early on the 28th, I was joined by Captain Burgwin, commanding company G, 1st dragoons, and company A 2nd regiment. — Missouri mounted volunteers, commanded by Lieut. Boone. — Captain Burgwin’s command was dismounted, and great credit is due to him and his officers and men for the rapidity with which a march so long and so arduous was performed. At the same time Lieut. Wilson, 1st dragoons, who had volunteered his services, came up with a G pounder, which had been sent for from Canada.

My whole forces now comprised 479, rank and file. On the 29th I marched to La Joya, where I learned that a party of sixty or eighty of the enemy had posted themselves on the steep slopes of the mountains which rise on each side of the cannon, or gorge, which leads to Embudo. Finding the road by Embudo impracticable for artillery or wagons, I detached Captain Burgwin in that direction, with his own company of dragoons and the companies commanded by Captain St. Vrain and Lieut. White. This detachment comprised 180 rank and file.

By my permission, Adjutant R. Walker, 2d regiment Missouri mounted volunteers,
accompanied Capt. Burgwin. Lieut. Wilson, 1st dragoons, also volunteered his services as a private in Captain St. Vrain's company.

Captain Burgwin, pushing forward, discovered the enemy, to the number of between six and seven hundred posted on the side of the mountains, just where the gorge becomes so contracted as scarcely to admit of the passage of three men marching abreast.

The rapid slopes of the mountains rendered the enemy's position very strong, and its strength was increased by the dense masses of cedar and large fragments of rock which everywhere offered shelter. The action was commenced by Capt. St. Vrain, who, dismounting his men, ascended the mountain on the left doing much execution. Flanking parties were thrown out on either side, commanded respectively by Lieut. White, 2d regiment Missouri mounted volunteers, and by Lieutenants Mellvaine and Taylor, 1st dragoons. These parties ascended the hill rapidly, an the enemy soon began to retire in the direction of Embudo, bounding along the steep and rugged sides of the mountains with a speed that defied pursuit. The firing at the pass of Embudo had been heard at La Joya, and Captain Slack, with twenty – five mounted men had been immediately dispatched thither. He now arrived, and rendered excellent service by relieving Lieutenant White whose men were much fatigued. Lieutenants Mellvaine and Taylor were also recalled; and Lieutenant Ingalls was directed to lead a flanking party on the right slope, while Captain Slack performed the same duty on the left. The enemy having by this time retreated beyond our reach, Captain Burgwin marched through the defile and debouched into the open valley in which Embudo is situated, recalled the flanking parties, and entered that town without opposition, several persons meeting him with a white flag.

Our loss in this action was one man killed, and one severely wounded, both belonging to Captain St. Vrain's company. The loss of the enemy was about twenty killed and sixty wounded.

Thus ended the battle of the pass of Embudo. On the 30th, Captain Burgwin marched to Trampas, where he was directed to await the arrival of the main body, which, on account of the artillery and wagons, was forced to pursue a more southern route. On the 31st I reached Trampas; and being joined by Captain Burgwin, marched on Chamasil with the whole command. On the 1st of February we reached the summit of the Taos mountain, which was covered with snow to the depth of two feet; and on the 2d, quartered at a small village called Rio Choito, in the entrance of the valley of Taos. The march of the 1st and 2d were through deep snow. – Many of the men were frost bitten, and all were very much jaded with the exertions necessary to travel over unbeaten roads, being marched in front of the artillery and wagons in order to break a road through the snow. The constancy and patience with which the troops bore these hardships, deserve all commendation, and cannot be excelled by the most veteran soldiers. On the 3d, I marched through Don Fernando de Taos, and finding that the enemy had fortified themselves in the Pueblo de Taos, proceeded to that place. I found it a place of great strength, being surrounded by adobe walls and strong pickets. – Within the enclosure, and nears the northern and southern walls, arose two large buildings of irregular pyramidal form, to the height of seven or eight stories. Each of these buildings was capable of sheltering five or six hundred men. Besides these, there were many smaller buildings, and the large church of the town was situated in the northwestern angle, a small passage being left between it and the outer wall. The exterior wall and all the enclosed buildings were pierced for rifles. The town was admirably calculated for defense, every point of the exterior walls and pickets being flanked by some projecting building, as will be seen from the enclosed drawing.

After having reconnoitred the town, I selected the western flank of the church as the point of attack; and about 2 o'clock P. M. Lieutenant Dyer was ordered to open his battery at the distance of about 250 yards. A fire was kept up by the 6 pounder and the howitzers for about two hours and a half, when, as the ammunition wagon had not yet come up, an the troops were suffering from cold and fatigue, I returned to Don Fernando. Early on the morning of the 4th I again advanced upon Pueblo. Posting the dragoons under Captain Burgwin about 260 yards from the western flank of the church, I ordered the mounted men under Captains St. Vrain and Slack might attempt to escape towards the mountains, or in the direction of Don Fernando. – Te residue of the troops took ground about 300 yards from the northern wall. Here, too, Lieut. Dyer established himself with the six pounder and two howitzers, while Lieutenant Hassandaubel, of Major Clarke's battalion light artillery, remained with Captain Burgwin, in command of two howitzers. By this arrangement a cross fire was obtained, sweeping the front and eastern flank of the church.

All these arrangements having been made, the batteries opened upon the town at 9
o'clock, A.M. At 11 o'clock, finding it impossible to breach the walls of the church with the six pounder and howitzers I determined to storm that building, at a signal Captain Burgwin, (1st regiment United States dragoons) at the head of his own company, and that of Captain McMillin, (of the volunteers) charged the western flank of the church, while Captain Angney, infantry battalion, and Captain barber, and Lieutenant Boon, 2d regiment Missouri mounted volunteers, charged the northern wall. As soon as the troops above mentioned had established themselves under the western wall of the church, axes were used in the attempt to breach it; and a temporary ladder having been made, the roof was fired. – About this time Captain Burgwin, at the head of a small party, left the cover afforded by the flank of the church, and penetrating into the corral in front of that building, endeavored to force the door. In this exposed situation, Captain Burgwin received a severe wound which deprived me of his valuable services, and of which he died on the 7th instant. – Lieutenants McIlvaine, 1st United States dragoons, and Royall and Lackland, 2d regiment mounted volunteers, accompanied Captain Burgwin into the corral; but the attempt on the church door prove fruitless, and they were compelled to retire behind the wall. In the mean time small hole had been cut into the western wall, and shells were thrown in by hand, doing good execution. The six pounder was now brought around by Lieutenant Wilson, who at the distance of two hundred yards poured a heavy fire of grape into the town. The enemy during all this time kept up a destructive fire upon our troops.

About half past three o'clock the six pounder was run up within sixty yards of the church, and after ten rounds, one of the holes which had been cut with the axes was widened into a practicable breach. The gun was now run up within ten yards of the wall, a shell was thrown in, and three rounds of grape were poured into the breach. The storming party – among whom were Lieutenant Dyer, of the ordnance, and Lieutenants Wilson and Taylor 1st dragoons—entered and took possession of the church without opposition. The interior was filled with dense smoke, but for which circumstance our storming party would have suffered great loss. A few of the enemy were seen in the gallery, where an open door admitted the air, but they retired without firing a gun. The troops left to support the battery on the north were now ordered to change on that side: --The enemy abandoned the western part of the town. Many took refuge in the large houses of the east, while others endeavored to escape towards the mountains. These latter were pursued by the mounted men under Captains Slack and St. Vrain, who killed fifty one of them, only two or three men escaping. It was now night, and our troops were quietly quartered in the houses which the enemy had abandoned. On the next morning the enemy sued for peace, and thinking the severe loss the have sustained would prove a salutary lesson, I granted their supplication on the condition that they should deliver up to me Thomas, one of their principal men who had instigated and been actively engaged in the murder of Governor Bent and others. The number of the enemy at the battle of Pueblo de Taos was between six and seven hundred. Of these about one hundred and fifty were killed – wounded not known. Our own loss was seven killed and forty five wounded. Many of the wounded have since died.

The principal leaders in this insurrection were Tafoya, Pablo Chavis, Pablo Montoya, Cortz, and Tomas, a Pueblo Indian. Of these, Tafoya was killed at Canada, Chavis was killed at Pueblo, Montoya was hanged at Don Fernando on the 7th instant, and Tomas was shot by a private while in the guard room at the latter town. Cortez is still at large. – This person was at the head of the rebels in the valley of the Mora. For the operation in that quarter, I refer to the sub adjoined letters from Captains Henley, separate battalion Missouri mounted volunteers, and Murphy, of the infantry, and Lieut. McKamey, 2d regiment Missouri mounted volunteers. In the battles of Canada, Embudo, and Pueblo de Taos, the officers and men behaved admirably. – Where a; conducted themselves gallantly I consider it improper to distinguish individuals, as such discrimination might operate prejudicially against the just claims of others.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your ob’t serv’t,
STERLING PRICE,
Colonel commanding the army in New Mexico

The Adjutant General of the Army, Washington.

[MSM]
From the correspondence of the N. Orleans Delta.

March 22.-At 10 o'clock to-day a white flat was sent into the city. The bearer of it conveyed a message from Major General Scott, addressed to Gov. Morales, commander of the Mexican forces. The message was a formal summons to surrender the city of Vera Cruz without further defence, as the general-in-chief of the American forces desired to avoid any further bloodshed. Gov. Morales replied in a very dignified tone and style of language, in substance, that he was sorry to be the cause of unnecessary bloodshed and loss of life, but that he had a high and important duty to perform, involving the honor of his army and the interest of his country, and that he would not surrender until he had exhausted every means of defence.

The Mexicans, during the forenoon, set fire to several buildings, and cleared away the masks to some batteries they had not hitherto exposed, notwithstanding they have kept up a constant fire on our entrenchments during the process of preparation from the Castle, For Santiago, and a bastion front in the rear of the city.

The conferences between the belligerent forces having concluded at 2 o'clock, at 4 the American battery, consisting of only seven mortars, commenced the bombardment of the city. The shells fell into the place after the first fires, and exploded with as much precision as could have been desired. The city, from one end to the other, soon became enveloped in a cloud of smoke—the vivid and lurid flashes of the artillery, from their city batteries, breaking through it at brief intervals, and report after report followed each in quick succession, until after the dusk of evening had passed, when they comparatively ceased. The round shot and shell tell heavy and fast as the entrenchments behind which our batteries were planted.

As soon as Com. Perry perceived the land forces engaged, her ordered Capt. Tatnall, with what is called the "Mosquito Fleet," consisting of the steamers Spitfire and Vixen, and five gunboats, viz: Reefer, Bonita, Tampico, Falcon, nd Petrel, to attack. Capt. Tatnall inquired at what point he should engage. Com. Perry emphatically replied, "Wherever you can do the most execution, sir." Accordingly the little fleet took position under a point of land known as the "Linmekiln," about a mile from the city, where they were protected from a point blank shot of the castle. As soon as they got their position in line they opened a fire of round shot and shell at a rapid rate, and threw them "handsomely" into the town and Fort Santiago.

The castle soon paid its respects to Capt. Tatnall, and the powerful engines of havoc and destruction were now in full blast from every quarter, hurling their dreadful and deadly missiles into each other's ranks in rapid succession, which they kept up until about dark, when the Mexican batteries comparatively ceased, and the "Mosquito Fleet" also held off for the night.

At eight o'clock the party that were in the trenches were relieved by another detail. The troops who returned from the entrenchments were literally covered with smoke and dust, and so much disfigured that they could not be recognized except by their voices. Shell after shell exploded in their midst, and shot after shot threw barrels of earth from the embankments over their heads as they lay in the trenches. Their escape seems to have been miraculous indeed, and every person is surprised that at least one half of their number were not slain.

March 23-A norther sprung up this morning, which has been blowing tortuously all day, filling the air and covering every body with sand. The Mexican batteries have been quiet, with the exception of a few shots about midnight, when they opened a sharp fire for a short time. Our mortars have not ceased during the night, but continued to pour into the city a constant stream of fire. At one time I saw as many as six shells in the air, the whole of which exploded in the city about the same time with a terricec and deadly effect.

Just as daylight was approaching, Captain Tatnall's Mosquito Fleet weighed anchor, and, under cover of a moon somewhat clouded, approached within 600 yards of the castle. As soon as they had got their respective positions, they opened a broadside from the fleet, which was answered by the castle with great spirit, both by round shot and shells. Capt. T. continued the engagement for about half an hour, although the signal from the commodore's ship, calling him off had been hoisted for some time, but I suppose was not seen on account of a cloud of smoke which hung around the shipping.

This attack of Capt. T. on the castle is considered one of the most daring feats that has been attempted since the commencement of the hostilities.
During the whole of to-day Gen. Patterson, in conjunction with the navy, has been making the most extraordinary exertions to finish an entrenchment to plant a marine battery, consisting of three 68's and two long 32's, when have been landed during the course of the day from on board different vessels of war.

The officers and sailors have heretofore borne the brunt of all the labor in landing the arms and munitions of war belonging to the army, and have applied themselves to it with an energy that certainly entitles them to great credit; but now that they had an opportunity of participating in that part of the expedition where honors are to be won and laurels gathered they exerted themselves with an almost superhuman effort. About two hundred volunteers and sailors were attached to each piece of ordinance, which was by them conveyed over sand-hills and hollows hold knee deep in sand, and through a lagoon about two feet deep and seventy yards wide, with a soft bottom. They were all placed in protection, about three miles from where they landed, during the night. The sailors and the volunteers worked admirable together.

During the early part of last evening the town was lighted up by a building on fire, which was ignited by the bomb-shells. It was impossible to tell what building it was, but it was supposed by the engineers to be the barracks. As soon as the fire was discovered from our mortar battery, I was very much gratified to observe the cessation of our fire; for, notwithstanding we were endeavoring to destroy their town, or compel them to surrender it, with their other strongholds and fortifications, still humanity would seem to require that a temporary cessation of hostilities should take place under such circumstances. Was is terrible in its most modified form; but the besieging of a city like Vera Cruz when we know that we are battering down the houses over some fellow creatures' heads, but cannot tell whether we are destroying the soldiers-our real antagonists--or the women and children.*** And then to witness the burning houses lighting up the church spires and domes of the prominent buildings with the families moving about on the tops of the houses it e utmost consternation and apparent despair, cannot do otherwise than excite a feeling of commiseration.

March 24.-After the fire in town last night, our batteries again opened and continued until morning.-During the day the army guns have worked very slow, on account of a short supply of ammunition, being prevented from landing any yesterday by the norther.

Early in the day Gen. Patterson let the town hear from him. The entrenchments and guns were entirely undiscovered by the Mexicans until the "sailor lads" commenced unmasking. They soon commenced pouring into the city a severe and effective fire, until bout 4 o'clock-their position being only seven hundred yards from the wall of the town, and with such a man as to enable them to flank most of the fortifications and works from whence the enemy was firing.

The following is the size and weight of the guns, with their officer, as far as I could learn them:

Potomac-Two 32 pounders, 63 cwt, Captain Aulick and Lieut. Baldwin.
Raritan-One 32-pounder, 63 cwt., Lieut. Ingersoll.
Mississippi-One 8 inch gun, 63 cwt., Lieut. Lee.
Albany-One 8-inch gun, 63 cwt., Lieut. Perry.
St. Mary's-One 8-inch gun, 63 cwt., Lieut. Kennedy.

The navy battery set the town on fire again to-day.

The Mexicans did not fail to return Gen. Paterson's fire with great energy and rapidity, and I am sorry to say with some effect-killing 4 and woundign 6-among the latter was Lieut. Baldwin, of he Potomac.

At 4 o'clock the officers and crews from the navy were relieved by the following: Captain Mayo, Lieuts. Semems, Decamp, Franey, and Studman; Passed Midshipmen Nelson, Cazler, and Wager; Midshipmen Shubrick, Joe Smith, Magaw, and Upshur.

March 25- To day the combatants appear to be more eager on both sides, and the firing more rapid the army battery mounts eleven 10-inch mortars, four long 24's, and four Cohorns. During the morning the Mexicans concentrated their fire as much as possible upon Gen. Patterson and the navy, but the return fire through the day silenced two of their batteries, and the navy breached the walls in different places. Midshipman Shubrick the three sailors were killed and on mortally wounded.
The naval officers at Gen. Patterson's battery were relieved to-day by Capt. Breese, Lieuts. Knox, Wemford, Alder, Taylor, Purser Harris, Midshipmen Bennett, Mayo, Morris, and some others whose names I could not learn. Drs. Baxter, Nuna, and Hambleton.

To-day a white flag was sent in asking, on behalf of the people to allow them to leave the city, with their families and persons who were making no resistance. I could not learn what was the precise nature of his reply, but they did not get what they desired—they had waited a little too long. Gen. Scott was not the person to be caught by a ruse of this kind.

March 26-Last night Gov. Morales was strongly importuned by the inhabitants, who are said to be suffering severely, to surrender the town; but he was obstinate, and would not listen to their appeals. He declared he would not surrender the garrisoned works until every man was buried underneath their ruins, and not one stone left on top of another. Thereupon a meeting of the National Guard was held, an Gov. Morales was deposed, and Gen. Landero placed in command.

Our batteries worked last night, and up to 9 o'clock this morning, with apparent increased vigor, when a flag of truce was received by Gen. Scot, with a proffer on the part of the Mexicans to treat for a surrender. Accordingly, a commission on our part was appointed, consisting of Gens. Worth and Pillow, Col. Tonten. And Capt. Aulick, of the navy, who met the Mexican commission at the time kiln, on the right of our mortar battery, another one mile distant, and they continued in session during the day.

Early this morning a norther sprung up very suddenly, and blew most gloriously all day. Rude Boreas piped his shrillest whistle, and old Neptune seemed to do his best, in the general commotion by land and sea; the rifted clouds flew like sable winged messengers of death through the air; while the furious lashed ocean piled her crested waves far upon the beach. The clouds of sand swept like hail across the strand, from hill-top to the valley's depth, and almost like the famed sirocco fo Egypt, with maelstrom-force, or the sweeping blast over Zahara's desert, filled the air with darkness, and man and beast with feelings of dismay. The mariner was tempest-tossed by the quick surges of the angry deep, and fear might well blanch the cheek of the boldest.-The soldier cowered low, to escape the drifting sand that, in almost impalpable particles, penetrated even the smallest apertures; tents were lifted from their positions, and in many instances torn literally into ribands, and clothing and camp equipage were strewn in confusion for miles around.

During the prevalence of this violent gale, the steam ship Alabama went ashore, but was got off with assistance of the boat's crew of the Princeton, under Midshipman Bassett. The brig Porpoise, about ten miles at sea, was thrown on her beam ends, and compelled to throw overboard her lee guns. About thirty vessels were driven ashore opposite Sacrificios, of which the Eliza S. Lepper was got off by the boats of the Princeton.

During the whole day, amidst the prevalence of the storm, the commissioners were endeavoring to settle the terms of treaty. They adjourned at night, and gave the Mexicans until 6 o'clock of the 27th, to accept or reject. The enemy was evidently in a bad position and trying to get the best terms possible. But Gen. Scott, I think I may safely say, representing the interests of our country, and holding, as it were, the honor of our arms in his grasp, will accede to no proposition but such a one, in general terms, as he may advance. He would prefer whipping terms out of them, inch by inch, if necessary, than to yield the interest of the nation, or honor of our flag. Our banner must be planted upon the walls of the city and castle of San Juan d' Ulloa, in honor and respect by the world at large.

March 27.-This morning the Mexicans did not accede to the terms of the commissioner, and orders were given to fire again at 9 o'clock. However, about that hour the enemy solicited another meeting of the commissioners.

Gen. Patterson's battery was relieved to-day by the following officers from the navy: Capt. Forrest; Lieuts. Case, Blunt, Eld, Humphrey, Almy, Rogers, and Clairborne; Midshipmen Hunter, Renshaw, Cilley, Smith, Genet, Barbour, Carter, Jones, and Lodge.

A general impression pervades the camp to-day that the Mexicans are treating only for the purpose of repairing breaches and fixing up their destroyed fortifications; but our engineers and ordnance officers have not been behind them in this respect. During the day we have been placing our guns in better position,
supplying the magazine with ammunition, and providing the army with scaling ladders and their appurtenances, ready to scale the walls and pass the breaches, if necessary to take the city by storm.

The terms, however, were agreed upon and submitted for ratification.

March 28.-Com. Perry was preparing to land another battery of ten guns from the Ohio, but the necessity was obviated by the ratification by both parties of the stipulations agreed upon by the commissioners.

The Mexicans surrendered the city of Vera Cruz and castle of San Juan d'Ulua, and the armament and munitions of war, together with their small arms. The officers retained their side-arms, and the whole surrendered as prisoners of war, and are allowed to retire into the country on their parole.

The following was issued from headquarters, which directs the manner and force to take possession of the surrendered works:

Army Headquarters,  
Camp Washington, before Vera Cruz, March 28.

1. By articles of capitulation signed and exchanged, the city of Vera Cruz and the Castle of San Juan d'Ulua, with their dependencies, are to be garrisoned by the forces of the United States to-morrow at 10 o'clock A.M.

2. In the mean time no officer or man of said forces will approach either of those places nearer than our batteries Nos. 1,2,3,4,5, respectively, except by special order of permission on some matter of public duty.

3. Pending the ceremony of surrender, the whole army shall stand by its arms, each corps near its present ground, ready to advance and attack if necessary.

4. The first brigade of regulars and a volunteer brigade to be designated by Major Gen. Patterson, together with any detachment from the United States squadron under Com. Perry that he may be pleased to designate, will be present at the ceremonies of evacuating and surrendering. These forces will occupy such positions at the ceremonies as may be assigned by Brig. General Worth, detachments of whose brigade will garrison the surrendered works.

5. Until these garrisons, with their necessary guards, sentinels, and patrols, are duly established, no other person whatsoever will be allowed, except on special duty, to enter either of the surrendered places.

6. The inhabitants of Vera Cruz and their property, are placed under the safeguard of every American's honor; and any miscreant who shall do injury to any persons of property shall be promptly brought before a military commission, under general orders No. 20.

By command of Major Gen. Scott:  

March 29.-The camp of the first brigade has been very active in making preparations to receive the compliments of the Mexican army and their arms, and to occupy the position which they are about to yield to the superiority of our arms and courage of our troops. The following order (No. 16) will show you the disposition of our troops in the garrison and the order of taking possession:

Headquarters First Brigade,  
Camp Washington, near Vera Cruz, March 28.

1st. The brigade (except the guard of all descriptions) will be under arms at 8 A.M. tomorrow morning, canteens filled and haversacks supplied as prescribed.

2d. Lieut. Col. Duncan's light battery will take the head of the column, and be prepared to fire a salute of twenty-eight guns.

3d. One company of 2d artillery and one company of 8th infantry, under Major Wright, will occupy Fort Conception; one company of 3d artillery and one company
of infantry, under Major Scott, will occupy Fort St. Jago; one company of artillery, and one company of 4th infantry, one company of 6th infantry, and one company of 8th infantry, under Lieut. Col. Belton, will occupy the Castle of San Juan d'Ulua; the remainder of the brigade, not on duty, will be marched to the Plaza.

4th. At 2 o'clock P.M. the flag of the United States will be hoisted on the several named works, and a salute of twenty-eight guns fired from each, beginning at Fort St. Jago, next Fort Conception, next San Juan d'Ulua, and, finally, from the light battery of the Plaza.

5th. Not an officer or soldier will be allowed to leave their ranks or station until further orders.

6th. During the ceremony of the surrendering of the Mexican troops not the slightest noise or cheering will be permitted. When our flags are hoisted, in addition to the batteries, they may be saluted with cheers by soldiers not under arms.

By order of Brigadier General Worth.


[ANP]

NNR 72.128 April 24, 1847 Gen. Zachary Taylor's letter to Gen. E.G. W. Butler of Gen. William Orlando Butler, the presidency, Buena Vista, &c

General Taylor—Another confidential letter from the old warrior, certainly not designed for publication, has found its way into public journals, too late for our space this week. It was communicated to the N. Orleans Picayune, by Gen. E. G. W. Butler, of Iberville, Louisiana, to whom it was addressed. W extract for the publication so much of it as has relation to the subject in hand—the presidential topic. After a very friendly introductory, and assigning reasons for not sooner answering his friendly letter, the publication says:

"[The general then alludes to the misrepresentations which have been made in regard to Major Gen. Butler at Monterey. Those misrepresentations had been the subject of conversation between them, and left no feeling lie distrust or unkindness towards each other in heir breasts." The letter then goes on:]

I was aware of the report as well as statements in a few of the public journals, that it was intended by certain individuals to bring Gen. Butler forward as the successor of Mr. Polk, which gave me no concern, and would not, even, had it been the case, which I did not credit and which had been forgotten. I doubt if the subject would have again crossed my mind, had it not been brought to my notice by you or someone else. I have never heard him or any of his friends allude to this matter. He (the general,) in consequence of his wound not hearing, which gave him so much pain as to render him unfit for duty, left short time since, by advice of his medical attendant, for New Orleans, where I hope he has arrived in safety, and where I truly hope he will very soon recover, so as to be able to take the field once more.

I may observe that I have been also named as a candidate for that high office by a few newspaper editors and other, which has been done without my knowledge, wishes or consent. This I have assured all who have written me on the subject; assuring them I had no aspirations for that or any civil office; that my whole energies, mental and physical, were and been absorbed I such a way as I thought best calculated to bring this war to a speedy and honorable close, believing it was for the interest of both countries the sooner it was done the better—at any rate so far as ours was concerned; and that president-making should be lost sight of until this was accomplished." [ANP]

NNR 72.128 April 24, 1847 ILLUMINATIONS IN HONOR OF VICTORIES

The recent victories over the Mexicans are being celebrated in numerous cities over the Union. Apalachicola, Florida, was illuminated on the evening of the 9th inst.;
Nashville, Tenn., On the 10th; Augusta, Ga., on the 12th; the city of Washington on the 19th; Philadelphia, by proclamation of the mayor, Mr. Swift, on the same evening; Baltimore, by Mayor Davie's proclamation, on the evening of the 21st. These are but a few of the many we have the details of. Several of them have been splendid affairs, the brief details of which, fill columns of the journals of the respective places. Coleman's Hotel, Washington, had 1,400 lights exhibited. Bonfires, artillery firing, fuex de joies, [ ] lights, bands of music, transparencies, and all the usual accompaniments of such exhibitions, were of course.

We have not seen a single item indicating any disrespect to those citizens who, whether from not approving of this war, or from any other motive, have thought proper not to join in those celebrations. [MSM]

NNR 72.128   April 24, 1847  LIST OF KILLED AND WOUNDED IN THE CAMPAIGN IN NEW MEXICO.

Killed and wounded at La Canada.-Killed-Private Graham, infantry; G. Messersmith, teamster.-Wounded-1 st Lieut. Irving; private John Pace of the infantry; 1 st Sergeant Caspers; private Aulman, (severely,) Murphy and Mexer, of artillery detachment.

At El Emboda.-Private Papin, of Capt. St. Vrain's company, killed; Dick, (a black servant of Gov. Bent) was severely wounded.


Detachment of artillery-Wounded, privates Beilfeldt, Jod, both severely; Kahn, slightly.

Battallion of infantry, under Captain Angney-Killed, Sergeant Hart. Wounded, Lieut. Van Valkenberg, mortally, since dead; Sergts. Ferguson and Aull, severely.

Of Capt. St. Vrains company-Wounded, privates Gold, severely; Mitchell, slightly. [ANP]

NNR 72.128 April 24, 1847  GEN. STEPHEN WATTS KEARNY'S WINTER MARCH, ENCOUNTERS WITH ANDRES PICO, REACHES SAN DIEGO

Yesterday’s National Intelligencer contains a letter from a gentleman who was attached to General kearny's command, giving an interesting account of their operations, too long for the space we have left in this number, but too long for the space we have left in this number, but too interesting to be left unnoticed. It is dated San Diego, Upper California, Jan. 19th, 1847. From this letter we learn that,

On reaching the Rio Gila, Gen. K. met the first intelligence of a counter revolution in California, brought by peaceable families that were flying into Sonora, to escape the troubles.

After passing the desert of Homada, which had neither water nor grass for their
mules, the detachment on the 2d December reached Warner’s [ ] in a most pitiable condition. Most of the men had to walk the last 500 miles; few of the mules survived, and the mad had to carry their packs. At this place they learned that Andros Pico was at the head. A 120 superbly mounted and disciplined Mexicans, at short distance ahead. As an encounter was inevitable, Gen. K. determined to attack him. The action took place on the 6th. After a desperate hand to hand fight, with repeated rallyings, the Mexicans were finally driven from the field. Our loss was severe; three officers and 16 men were killed, and Gen. Kearny, 7 officers, and 14 men were wounded, but for the gallant interposition of Lieut. Enory, Gen. Kearny would have been killed.

The march was resumed the next day after burying the dead. They had now their wounded to carry, and were obliged to be very cautious. Only nine miles were made, before the enemy made a charge on their rear. Finding they would be duly received, they suddenly wheeled off and attempted to clamber and occupy commanding hills on the right.

It became necessary to dislodge them. An exhibited skill in bush fighting. Few were hurt on either side. The Mexicans were driven off. It became evident that Pico intended to harrass the detachment at every defile. Gen. K. [ ] to occupy a strong position, and send on a trustful Indian to Com. Stockton for aid. He remained here four days, so closely surrounded by the enemy, and mustering 200 men, that his men had to survive entirely on mule flesh.

Com. Stockton despatched to his relief 75 Marines and 100 seamen under Capt. Zeilm, from the ship Congress and [ ]. This enabled him to reach San Diego in two days, a distance at 30 miles. He arrived there on the 12th December. [MSM]
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NNR 72.249 Col. Sowers with dispatches for Gen. Winfield Scott massacred and the dispatches captured

NNR 72.249 several Mexican robbers taken and tried, robbery of Mexicans by their countrymen

NNR 72.249 Mexicans fortifying Rio Frio Pass

NNR 72.249 rumors of insurrection at Puebla

NNR 72.249 Gen. Winfield Scott advances; Gen. David Emanuel Twiggs enters Puebla

NNR 72.249 rumor of a Mexican advance on Puebla

NNR 72.250 Gen. Winfield Scott between Puebla and Perote

NNR 72.250Gen. Winfield Scott enters Puebla

NNR 72.250 prisoners at liberty

NNR 72.250 Jose Joaquin de Herrera elected president of Mexico, clergy favor peace

NNR 72.250 sickness at Veracruz

NNR 72.250 rumors of a change in military command in Mexico, progress of the peace party

NNR 72.250 arrival of a train at Jalapa, Capt. Samuel Hamilton Walker's skirmishes with lancers

NNR 72.250 troops at Veracruz waiting to start for the interior

NNR 72.250 George Wilkins Kendall states Gen. Winfield Scott's aggregate available force at 9,000 men

NNR 72.250 election of Massachusetts officers, departure from Matamoros

NNR 72.250 Col. Jack Hays at Palo Alto with his Rangers

NNR 72.250 troops at Saltillo anticipating an advance to San Luis

NNR 72.250 third dragoons ordered to join Gen. Winfield Scott

NNR 72.250 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna resigns executive power (not accepted)

NNR 72.250 condition of the city and country

NNR 72.250 Gen. Caleb Cushing to be governor of New Leon

NNR 72.250 term of volunteers under Gen. Zachary Taylor expires

NNR 72.250 steamboats lost on the Rio Grande

NNR 72.250 further discussion of reinforcements for Gen. Zachary Taylor

NNR 72.250 address of the clergy of San Luis Potosi to the people of Mexico

NNR 72.250-72.252 Lt. William H. Shover's official report on the Battle of Buena Vista

NNR 72.252 dismal picture of affairs at Santa Fe

NNR 72.252 Col. Alexander William Doniphan's advance corps reaches Saltillo, affairs on the route
NNR 72.252 a march from Camargo to Monterey

NNR 72.252 Col. Philip Saint George Cooke with Mormon battalion reaches San Diego
NNR 72.252 Mormon detachment near San Diego

NNR 72.256 Nicholas Philip Trist said to be clothed with full power to conclude a treaty

NNR 72.257 discharge of the Baltimore Battalion at Tampico

NNR 72.258 Mexican privateers in the Mediterranean

NNR 72.258 remarks on case of Lt. Charles G. Hunter

NNR 72.264 intense heat at Veracruz, fever on the increase
NNR 72.264 train under Col. James Simmons McIntosh to leave Veracruz

NNR 72.264 discussion of the forces under Gens. Winfield Scott and Zachary Taylor, their proposed operations


NNR 72.265 communications to Gen. Zachary Taylor from San Luis Potosi, expectation of an advance on San Luis and Mexico City

NNR 72.265 general orders of War Department commending conduct at Veracruz

NNR 72.265 communication of Secretary of War William Learned Marcy on the success at Buena Vista

NNR 72.265 Gen. Zachary Taylor's announcement of Gen. Winfield Scott's victory at Cerro Gordo

NNR 72.265 number of Mexican cannon captured so far in the war

NNR 72.265-72.266 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's official notice of Gen. Winfield Scott's proclamation

NNR 72.266 Gen. Zachary Taylor's farewell to the Mississippi regiment

NNR 72.266 Col. Alexander William Doniphan's command passes down the Rio Grande, reaches New Orleans

NNR 72.266 arrival of gentlemen from Santa Fe

NNR 72.129 May 1, 1847 ALEJANDRO JOSE ATOCHA'S COMMENTS ON REPORTS OF HIS DEALING WITH MEXICO

The Washington correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce says: Senor Atocha remarks upon the sketch of his correspondence with Senor Rejon, the Mexican minister of foreign affairs, as copied or translated from the Diario del Gobierno, that is incorrect in some particulars. He denies having representing himself as authorized to negotiate for peace or the preliminaries necessary thereto. He also asserts that he could not have made the proposition stated respecting the parallel of latitude as the boundary, as it would have been at variance with the wishes and contrary of the orders of his government. Senor Atocha further states that the whole of his correspondence with Senor Rejon, and others in authority, will hereafter be published. When the correspondence shall appear it will be communicated probably to the next congress. [MSM]

NNR 72.131, May 1, 1847 Maj. Luther Giddings' official report of a battle near Cerralvo while he
We are indebted to a friend of Major Giddings for a copy of his official report to Col. Mitchell, detailing the particulars of the fight with the Mexicans at Seralvo. Major G. with his brief experience in the field was more that a match in tactics, for "three Mexican generals," having a force six times greater than his own! These men behaved nobly through all the discouragements under watch they fought, and the fact that they were ultimately successful, proves the skill and presight of their commander, as well as their own [ ]. [MSM]

Upon receipt of this note, Capt. Keneally had requested an interview with Colonel Langberg, and demanded of him one hour to consult me--which time, and permission to visit me, was politely granted by my rear. Captain Keneally was furthermore kindly informed that the enemy's force amounted to 1,600 men and three generals.

I immediately returned to General Romaro, a brief reply, and desired that the parley might be terminated.

Soon after, I dispatched Capt. Bradley, with the force previously designated, to communicate with the rear, and assist in bringing up the wagons, which had thus far been successfully defended by Captain Keneally. Capt. Bradley cut through the enemy's line in the most gallant manner,--his volleys were responded to by the artillery and musketry of the rear guard, and in a few minutes I had the satisfaction of seeing my little band again united around 100 of the wagons which he had succeeded in saving.--In the absence of Capt. Bradley on his duty--a parley was sounded by the enemy still in force between us and the town, and which portion of his troops Gen. Urrea commanded, in person. They reiterated their demand for a surrender, and desired to know, why I had fired upon the general in chief whilst a truce existed. To their first demand I sent the same reply that had been previously communicated to Gen. Romaro; and also that during the time my fire was continued in front, I was ignorant of the parley existing in the rear.

Towards night the enemy drew off towards the town; in which direction I also continued my march, with little progress however, as the wagons closed in mass were much impeded by the thickets skirting the road. It soon became quite dark and supposing that the enemy would oppose my entrance into the town, I deemed it best to await until daylight before making the attack. As my men were suffering exceedingly for water, I found it necessary during the night drive off a party of lancers stationed near to the stream, distant from us about half a mile. At dawn on the 8th inst. I took possession of Seralvo without opposition,--the enemy having evacuated it during the night. Discovering that there were but ten or twelve rounds of ammunition remaining in the cartridge boxes, I was detained at Seralvo until the arrival of Col. Curtis' command on the 12th instant. Obtaining from him the necessary supplies, I proceeded on my march and arrived at this post on the 15th instant.

There were killed in the affair at Seralvo, on the 7th inst. Two privates of Capt Bradley's company F, 1st rig. Ohio volunteers, and 15 teamsters. I was informed that the Mexican loss in the engagement, amounted to 45 killed and wounded--which number I believe to be nearly correct.

I take great pleasure in stating that the officers and men of my command, met the overwhelming force by which they were surrounded, with the greatest coolness and gallantry. Lieut. A. McCarter and Sergeant Wm. Howell, did good service with the artillery--firing with great rapidity and accuracy.--Lieuts. Jas. P Fytte and James Moore of my staff, performed the many duties with which they were entrusted, with promptness and gallantry.

L. GIDDINGS
Major 1st reg. O.V. com' de detachment

NNR 72.131 May 1, 1847  LT.CHARLES G. HUNTERS OFFICIAL REPORT ON ALVARADO

I wrote you from Havana, and gave you the reasons of our determination at this place. That detention deprived us from sharing in the glory at Vera Cruz, for on the very day of our arrival Vera Cruz was evacuated by the Mexicans, and possession was taken by Gen. Scott and Com. Perry. The whole of the naval forces having been called to Vera Cruz to fight off this place blockading, the commodore ordered this vessel down for that purpose, not dreaming that she would venture to attack the great Alvarado, but we had lost too much at Vera Cruz, so our gallant commander, Charles G. Hunter, at all risks, determined to make an attempt. The city, after two attacks, surrendered to the Scourage. I wish I had time to give you all concerning the affair, but its impossible. The Scourage was sent to Alvarado to blockade, and Com. Perry had made all arrangements to attack Alvarado with a large force by sea, while Gen. Quitman was to enter by hand, but the squadron and the troops got here too late, the Scourage had done all. This force to make the attack. When it came off the port, the American colors was seen hoisted on the forts. This caused the greatest disappointment in the squadron. The commander immediately arrested
out gallant commander for having attacked Alvarado without his orders, and commander Hunter is, therefore, to be tried by a court martial for taking this place. Our gallant commander also captured the city of Tlacotalpan, a city of about 7,000 inhabitants. [MSM]

NNR 72.131 May 1, 1847 THE CAPTURE OF ALVARADO.

United States steamer Scourge,
Alvarado, April 3, 1847.

I wrote you from Havana, and gave you the reasons of our detention at this place. That detention deprived us from sharing in the glory at Vera Cruz, for on the very day of our arrival Vera Cruz was evacuated by the Mexicans, and possession was taken by Gen. Scott and Com. Perry.

The whole of the naval forces having been called to Vera Cruz to fight the great battle, and finding that no vessel was off this place blockading, the commodore ordered this vessel down for that purpose, not dreaming that she would venture to attack the great Alvarado, but we had lost too much at Vera Cruz, so our gallant commander, Charles G. Hunter, at all risks, determined to make an attempt.

The city, after two attacks, surrendered to the Scourge. I wish I had time to give you all concerning the affair, but ‘tis impossible.

The Scourge was sent to Alvarado to blockade, and Com. Perry had made all arrangements to attack Alvarado with a large force by sea, while Gen. Quitman was to enter by land, but the squadron and the troops got here too late, the Scourge had done all.

Com. Perry arrived off Alvarado with the following vessels:

Steamer Mississippi,
Frigate Potomac,
Steamer Vixen,
Do Spitfire,
Schooner Reefer,
Do Tampico,
Do Bonita
Ship Germantown,
Do St. Mary’s
Brig Porpoise,
Ship Albany,
Schooner Petrel,
Do Falcon.

This force to make the attack. When it came off the port, the American colors was seen hoisted on the forts. This caused the greatest disappointment in the squadron. The commodore immediately arrested our gallant commander for having attacked Alvarado without his orders, and commander Hunter is, therefore, to be tried by a court martial for taking this place.

Our gallant commander also captured the city of Tlacotalpan, a city of about 7,000 inhabitants. [ANP]

NNR 72.132 May 1, 1847 OHIO VOLUNTEERS FEND OFF MEXICAN LANCERS AT AGUA FRIO

We have not yet seen the particulars of the battle which has been frequently referred to as having taken place between Col. Morgan, of the 2d regiment of Ohio volunteers, and Gen. Urreah’s lancers. The following extract from a letter from an esteemed correspondent of Saltillo, will in some degree supply this vacuum:

Part of the 2d Ohio, hastening to the relief of Gen. Taylor, from Cerralvo, in all 212, under Col. Morgan, fought with over a thousand lancers, until artillery came to their aid from Monterey. Lieut. Stewart, of company C, of that regiment, merits the highest praise for his daring bravery in riding through the Mexican lines to ask reinforcements. The American force, drawn up in a hollow square repulsed charge after charge of the horse, sustaining a heavy fire from the chaparral. Capt. Latham with his riflemen, was about charging into the chaparral for a hand-to-hand fight, but was recalled, as it appeared evidently the design of the enemy to both break the square and induce the men to charge into the sides of the road, where singly they would both be able to meet horsemen. There was every reason to believe that men were in ambush, ready to rake, at a single volley,
and small body of men opposed to them. And so it afterwards appeared; for, on the first fire from
the cannon into one of these suspected places, nearly thirty of the enemy were killed. After fifteen
minutes' fight with the cannon, the lancers fled in every direction. Leaving more than a hundred
on the field. We lost but four killed and a few wounded. The enemy kept up a heavy fire from
escopetas, but generally overshot us. Capt Graham quartermaster at Cerralvo, was shot through
the heart, in the beginning of the fight, and died instantly. Colonel Morgan was himself cool,
brave, and determined, with the heart of youth, and head of age, as a young man but old Texan
will always feel in battle.

The word now passes along the line—“San Luis in six weeks.” As soon as the rainy reason
commences, ho, for San Luis! And judging from what has happened—catching a prophetic gleam of
the future by the reflection from the past—we can well concur in the rude but truth sentiment of a
wounded volunteer—“Taylor will take it like a d--n!” [MSM]

THE BATTLE OF SACRAMENTO.

We have no account as yet from the division under Col. DONIPHAN, (of the Missouri volunteers)
nor of this affair, except what reaches us through Mexican papers. The furnish a despatch of the
Mexican General Heredia, dated the 2d March, the material part of which is as follows:

At 12 o'clock on the 28th the enemy was seen by my advance guard, and at 2 o'clock P.M. he
appeared in sight of my camp. I instantly drew up three columns of infantry under the orders of
Gen. Garcia Conde, and posted my artillery in the most suitable manner; but as the enemy
changed his route, and marched to the right in order to turn my position, I was obliged to change
my whole plan, and ordered Gen. Garcia Conde with the cavalry to oppose the passage of the
enemy, while I supported him with the remainder of my forces. The enemy halted when the
cavalry came in front of him, and I, with the greatest despatch and all possible order, was
arranging to form the infantry and artillery into battle on the right of the cavalry, and was already
placing the pieces of artillery, when the enemy opened with his cannon on the cavalry, and at the
third fire I had the mortification to see it completely dispersed. My artillery returned the enemy's
fire, and kept firing with activity while I was trying to form the infantry, which had been thrown
into confusion by the cavalry; and, owing to my great exertions and those of Capt. Don Angel
Trius, Don Francisco Padilla, and Don Cayetano Justiniani, we succeeded in again forming the
infantry, and collecting nearly all the cavalry which was stationed in my former encampment, it
being necessary to establish a line with the new position, which was accomplished in the midst of
the firing, all the infantry and artillery falling back without leaving in the other camp even a
cannon that had been dismounted, and bringing away all the dead and wounded.

Being by this time established at Sacramento with all my forces, the enemy attacked us with a
heavy fire of artillery, and a charge which his cavalry made on a redoubt was most chivalrously
beaten off by fifty men of the 7th infantry and thirty men of the Durango squadron, under the
command of the valiant captain cazadores, D. Rafael Gonzales, who fell victim to his bravery, he
receiving a wound of which he died in a few moments. At the same time fell Lieut. D. Augustus
Quintana, and several men of both companies. While they were thus defending the redoubt, the
cavalry which I had sent to its assistance fled, and dispersed completely, carrying confusion into
the ranks of the infantry. In this critical situation I withdrew the artillery to an elevation in the
vicinity, and succeeded in collecting 200 infantry, and there I maintained myself until, without
having the power to prevent it, I was completely abandoned, except byCols. D. Francisco Padilla
and D. Cayetano Justininiani, Capt. Salvado Santa Maria, of the artillery of the National Guard,
and the veteran Lieut. D. Manuel Flores, and Lieut. Col. D. Matias Conde, the commander of he
artillery, who with a new men of the artillery maintained the fire for nearly half an hour. Under
these disastrous circumstances Col. D. Angel Trius, and the commander of a battalion. D. Vicente
Sanchez, used the utmost efforts to reorganize the infantry, assisted by Cols. Padilla and
Justiniani, whom I had sent for the same purpose; but it was in vain: they could not collect twenty
men. The rest fled to the mountains terrified, following the example of the cavalry, of which only
the first squadron of Durango made any resistance; their commander, Don Manuel Aponte, having
ordered tem to dismount in order to extricate them from the confusion in which they were
involved. Abandoned even by their (illegal), the officers of artillery already mentioned were
forced to retire. Having lost all hope of regaining the day, I was obliged to retreat with bitter grief,
as all in the camp remained in the possession of the enemy, nothing being saved except eight
rounds of ammunition, which a servant of Col. Padilla hid in the mountains. In my retreat I
endeavored to collect some infantry to lead them to Chihuahua, but all my efforts were useless.

"On account of the complete dispersion it is impossible to give an exact detail of the number of
killed and wounded; but I can assure your excellency that they cannot be less than eighty to a
hundred." [ANP]
Vol. 72.132 May 1, 1847 GENERAL HOUSTON-THE MEXICAN WAR.

Gen. Houston was at San Augustine, Texas, on his way home from Washington, on the 19 ult.- During the few hours he harried, he delivered a short address to the people. Alluding to his speech, the San Augustine Shield observes:

He stated that the commission of major-general in the army invading Mexico was tendered to himself and his colleague, (Gen. Rusk) but both had declined its acceptance-his own reason for doing so was that he differed in opinion as to the proper plan of carrying on the war with the officers who would have been his seniors in rank, and he would not assist in carrying out measures directly antagonistic to his own judgment. His own experience in fighting Mexicans, which he believed to be greater than that of any of the generals who would have been above him did not approve the idea of marching to Mexico with such a cumbrous train of wagons, and such an immense quantity of hay as Gen Scott required-he did not wish to be encumbered with all the splendor and pomp with which that general was attended. He preferred invading Mexico with Texans, who required but one mule to a mess, and could lay all night with but one blanket around them, and with their rifles hugged close to their bosoms ready to fight at a moment's warning. Whenever his country called him and he was allowed an independent command of any, who, like Texans, were inured to toil, and could feed their horses on grass, and themselves on jerked beef, if necessary, he was then ready to take his life in one hand and his sword in the other, and go as far as his county's good required. [ANP]

Vol. 72.132 May 1, 1847 THE TERMS OF CAPITULATION.

Town of Tla Co-Talpan, 1st April 1847-2 o'clock P.M. Present, the constitutional alcalde and citizens, who compose this illustrious council on the one side, and on the other Capt. C G. Hunter, of the U.S. steamer Scourge accompanied by the second lieutenant of that vessel, M.C. Marin; the object being to enter into such negotiations as shall be suitable for the welfare of the inhabitants, and better understanding with that nation, the terms expressed I the following articles were agreed to by both parties:

1st. The town Tla-co-Talpam hereby declares its perfect neutrality towards the forces of the United States, and also its entire submission to them as long as existing circumstances continue.

2d. In consideration of this, the said captain, in the name of the government, whose commission he holds binds himself that the rights of individuals shall be respected as also their persons and private property, likewise the Catholic religion, and the free exercise of its forms of worship.

And for the fulfilment and faithful observance of this compact, both the contracting partis hereby bind themselves by all the forms usual; and in testimony of the same, they have hereby subscribed their names to two copies of this contract each of the same tenor and date. Done by the alcalde, presiding officer of this council, and the before-named second lieutenant, who assisted in arranging this negotiation, nd who is commissioned to sign for the before-mentioned Capt. Charles G. Hunter.

(signed) PEDRO ATALPICO.
M.C. MARIN, Lieut. U.S.N.

The town of Alvarado having been left defenceless, surrenders itself to the United States steamer Scourge, Capt. C.G. Hunter, on the following conditions:

1st. That the forces of the United States sill respect and protect the Roman Catholic religion.

2d. That they solemnly guarantee complete and entire protection to the inhabitants of this town, and all species of property, it being distinctly understood that no public edifice or private house shall be taken or used by the United States' forces, unless some previous arrangement shall have been made with the owners.

JOSE RUIZ PARRA,
President of the council.
M.C. MARIN,
[ANP]
Killed and wounded at Vera Cruz.

The "American Eagle," a new American-Mexican paper, started in Vera Cruz by Messrs. People, Barnard & Jewell, of the 6th says: "The following is the list of those who were killed and wounded in the attack upon this place, as reported officially to headquarters. We have, in the kindest manner, been permitted to copy them, and whilst we deplore the loss of those who have fallen, we must congratulate the army upon the success that has attended them with so little loss. Of the army it will be perceived that there were 10 killed and 47 wounded.

"Of the navy, we understand that one officer (Midshipman Shubrick) and 7 sailors and marines were killed and wounded, but were regret that it is not in our power to give them names."

Under Col. Harney.

Killed.-James M. Nicholson, corporal of company F, in action of Puente de Moreno, March, 24; Hopkin, private, company H. 3d Artillery, same place and time.


All of the above, with the exception of Lieut. Neil who was wounded at or near the village of Medellum met with their mishaps at Puente de Moreno, March 25th.

Under Gen. Worth.

Killed-J.B. Vinton, captain 3d Artillery, on the 22d March; John Hetner, private, company B, 2d do., 26th March; Nicholas Burns, private, company (undecipherable text)... Emile Voltarat.

Privates, company B. 2d Artillery 24th March. Slightly; Adolphe Malhe, John Golding and Wm. Henderson, privates, company D. 2d Artillery, 22d March-the two last named slightly, the other left arm shot off; Ernest Kunze. Owen Boate, Wm. Carthage, Joseph S. Hayden and Archibald, privates, company F. 2d Artillery-the first on the 20th and remainder on the 24th March slightly Martin Dignant, private company G. 2d Artillery, 22d March, slightly; S. D. Shuetzenback, private, company A, and Edw. Fleming, private, company I, 8th Infantry, 23d March, slightly.

Under Gen. Twiggs.


Wounded.-W.B. Lane and Edward Harris, sergeants, company D. mounted rifleman, March 24th, severely; John Teluna, private, company E, mounted riflemen, March 24th, severely. Frederick Warren, private, company C. mounted riflemen, March 24th, slightly, Henry Neill, slightly, and Thomas Weller, severely, privates, company B, mounted riflemen, March 11th, severely; James Stephen, private, company F. 4th Artillery, March 14th severely; Spencer, corporal, company D. 2d infantry, March 11th severely.

Under Gen. Patterson.

Killed-John Miller and Gothlet Reip, privates, company G, 1st regiment Pensylvania volunteers-the first on the 17th and the latter on the 24th March.


[ANP]
SIR: I have the honor to inform you that it has pleased God to crown our poor efforts, to put down the rebellion and to retrieve the credit of our arms, with the most complete success. The insurgents determined, with them whole force, to meet us on our march from San Diego to this place, and to decide the fate of the territory by a general battle.

Having made the best participation I could, in the face of a boasting and vigilant enemy, we left San Diego on the 29th day of December, (that portion of the insurgent army who had been watching and annoying us, having left to join in the main body,) with about six hundred fighting men, composed of detachments from the ships Congress, Savannah, Portsmouth, and Cyane, aided by General Kearny, with a detachment of sixty men on foot, from the regiment of United States Dragoons, and by Capt. Gillispie, with sixty mounted riflemen.

We marched nearly one hundred and forty miles in ten days, and found the rebels on the 8th day of January in a strong position, on the high bank of the "Rio San Gabriel," with six hundred mounted men and four pieces of artillery, prepared to dispute our passage across the river.

We waded through the water dragging our guns after us against the galling fire of the enemy, without exchanging a shot until we reached the opposite shore; when the fight became general, and out troops having repelled a charge of the enemy, charged up the bank in a most gallant manner, and gained a complete victory over the insurgent army.

The next day, on our march across the plains of the "Mesa" to this place, the insurgents made another desperate effort to save the capital and their own necks; they were concealed with their artillery in a ravine until came within gun shot, when they opened a brisk fire from their field pieces on our right flank, and at the same time charged both on our front and rear. We soon silenced their guns, and replied the charge, when they fled, and permitted us the next morning to march into town without any further opposition.

We have rescued the country from the hands of the insurgents, but I fear that the absence of Col. Freemont's battalion of mounted riflemen will enable most of the Mexican officers, who have broken their parole to escape to Senora.

I am happy to say that our loss in killed and wounded does not exceed twenty, whilst we are informed that the enemy has lost between seventy and eighty.

This dispatch must of immediately, and I will [ ] another opportunity to furnish you with the details of these two battles, and the gallant conduct of the officers and men under my command, with their names.

Faithfully your obedient servant. R.F. Stockton

[MSM]

Enclosed I have the honor to send to you a translation of the letter handled to me by the commissioners mentioned in another part of this despatch, sent by Jose Ma. Flores, to negotiate a peace honorable to both nations. The verbal answer, stated in another page of this letter, was sent to this renowned general and commander in chief. He had violated his honor, and I would not treat with him nor write to him. [MSM]

The Road From Vera Cruz to the city of Mexico, is one of the best Macadamized roads on this continent. C.J. Folsom, of N. York, in a book published in 1842 furnishes the following account of the route:

"The first part of the route, leading through the village of Santa Fe, is low and sandy, over which a
calzada or paved causeway was thrown, forming a part of the great road to the capital; but his is now in a ruinous condition, owing, in a great measure, to the want of repairs, which are rendered necessary by the destructive operation of the mountain torrents during the rainy season. Two fine bridges remain on this part of the route, which communicated with the causeway; one of these, called puente del Rey, or King's bridge, crosses the river Antigua 15 leagues from Vera Cruz, and is admirably built with massive stone arches. The other is thrown over a rapid stream at Plan del Rio, and consists of a single arch of very large dimensions. Plan del Rio is a small village 21 leagues from Vera Cruz, where the ascent of the tables may be said to commence. In the six leagues that intervene between that village and another called Encerro, the traveler attains the height of 3,043 feet above the level of the sea, which is sufficient to give an entirely new character to the climate and productions. A farther ascent of 1,292 feet, within a distance of about eight miles, over a rugged and dangerous road, brings him to Jalapa, or Xalapa, where he enters on a portion of the old paved road, leading through fields of maize and gardens filled with a profusion of flowers. 'Here,' says Hum---, the --- merchants of Vera Cruz have --- ---- in which they enjoy a cool and agreeable retreat, while the coast is almost uninhabitable from the mosquitoes, the great heat and the yellow fever.'

"The distance from Tampico to --- is 312 miles. The road leads over precipitous ----, and is unfit for carriages. A traveller who passed over this route in 1822, describes the country as level for 48 miles from Tampico, with a rich beach soil, few trees, except palms, and thinly inhabited. This was followed by a broken and hilly region for a distance of nearly 100 miles, possessing a deep soil, but destitute of water during the greater part of the year. -The traveller now encountered a steep and rugged mountain, belonging to the great chain of Sierra de Madre. The ascent was difficult and fatiguing, and occasionally frightfully precipices showed themselves at the feet of his mule." [ANP]

VERA CRUZ-HEALTH STATISTICS.-From Brantz Mayer's Mexico as it was and is we learn that-In the year 1841, the number of baptisms in the city was 454, whilst the deaths in the same time amounted to 1,017, say about one-sixth of the whole population! Of these by vomito 155, small pox 142, phthisis and diarrhea 212, fevers 142, dysentery 29.

Mr. Mayer says: "In 1842. I am told that near two thousand died of vomito at Vera Cruz. This however, was owing to the number of raw troops sent there from the interior, to be embarked for Yucatan." [ANP]

The evacuation of Vera Cruz.-A late letter of Me. Kendall to the Picayune says-

"I have said but little about the evacuation of this place by the Mexicans, on the 29th ultimo, because I have had little time. It reminded me more of the Departure of the Israelites than ought else I can compare it to; the long procession of soldiers, national militia, and people of all classes and sexes, as they poured out of the walls of a city set off as this is with huge antique-looking domes and other architectural ornaments. As at Monterey, there was the same throng of camp women, carrying every conceivable implement of ornament and use, especially of the former, to say nothing of the innumerable parrots, poodle dogs, and other absurdities of a kindred nature. It is a singular fact the poorer the people in every country the greater the number of dogs they must have about them; but in no nation does the half starved population affect the animal to the same extent as this.

"The weather continues hot -insupportable hot in the middle of the day; but all my inquiries would induce me to have that as yet there is little sickness among the troops. The report that the dreaded vomito had broken out was certainly premature.-All think, however, hat the sickness must appear in the course of a week or two, but probably not until Gen. Scott has moved onward with the main portion of the army. If all Santa Anna's cattle are brought in, or only a portion of his immense herds, it will accelerate movements greatly." [ANP]

Jaylapa, or Zulapa, the capital of the state of Vera Cruz is a pleasant town situated 89 miles from the city of Vera Cruz, on a steep declivity of the table land, 4,340 feet above the level of the sea. It contains eight churches, a good school for drawing, and 13,000 inhabitants. The principal
merchants of the city of Vera Cruz reside at Jalapa, and only visit the [ ] city occasionally. An annual fair is held at Jalapa, and much frequented.

The Havana Diario de la Marina, of the 9th April, publishes the following: "on the 31st of March was published in Mexico the capitulation of Vera Cruz. President Santa Anna issued an address to his countrymen in which, among other things, he says:

"Mexicans, Vera Cruz is in the power of the enemy. It has fallen, not before the valor of the Americans or the influence of their good fortune. We ourselves, to our shame be it said, have brought this fatal distance upon our arms by our [illegible] I am resolved to go and meet the enemy *******]. Chance may decree that the proud American host shall talk the capital of the Aztec empire; I shall not behold that disaster, for I shall first lay down my life in the struggle. ******

Yet the nation shall not perish. I swear that a sincere and unanimous effort. A thousand times fortunate for us will prove the disaster of Vera Cruz, of the fall of that city shall awaken in the breasts of the Mexicans the enthusiasm, the dignity and generous ardor of a true patriotism. It will undoubtedly prove the salvation of the country."

"On the 27th of March, were already assembled some troops at the National bridge under command of Gen. La Vega and of the govenor of the state, Don Juan de Soto. Between the 27th and 30th two brigades of infantry and one of cavalry marched from the capital in the direction of the bridge, with their corresponding batteries, amounting in all to 2,000 men.

"On the 1st of April, Gen. Santa Anna in person would set out from Mexico, with 2,000 more, to direct the military operations in the state of Vera Cruz, resolved, as he saved, to dispute the ground inch by inch, and die before he will consent to a peace-his own words, as we find them both in letters and in printed documents. "The army of the north has returned to San Luis Potosi, where it remained at the date of the latest advice." [MSM]

NNR 72.136, May 1, 1847 description of Jalapa

City of Jalapa - This city stand on a very elevated ground, yet for many miles the ascent is quite gradual. From the city, Vera Cruz is visible, as is also the sea, 90 miles distant. The city itself is upon a high hill - highest in the centre, so that the streets incline considerably; so much so that no wheeled vehicle can pass along any of them except the main street road, which has considerable rise and descent. The city is surrounded by a wall and has a strongly built church near the western gate, which could be converted into a citadel. The streets are paved. The houses, as in other Mexican towns, are of stone, with flat roofs and iron barred windows. - Opposite the city, on the left of the road, is a hill from which the road might be annoyed, and shells thrown into the town. For the distance of six or seven miles before reaching the town the road is a handsome and substantial structure of chequered pavement, and must have been very costly. [WFF]

NNR 72.136  May 1, 1847  ADDRESS OF SANTA ANNA TO HIS ARMY, ON QUITTING SAN LUIS POTOSI FOR THE CAPITAL.

Companions in arms!-Devoted entirely to the service of the country, I marched to assume the reins of government, in doing which I make the most costly sacrifice, acting contrary to my cherished desires and fixed intentions. But this course will put an end to the civil war which is destroying our beautiful capital; it will give unity to our defences and impulse to the righteous struggle in which we are engaged with the perfidious invaders, and in which you have fought with such bravery and decision in the field of La Angostura.

My friends-I will never forget your glorious actions on that field of battle, your sufferings in the desert, to which you submitted with heroic patience, and, above all, that I had the honor of commanding you. The nation owes you a recompense, and you shall shortly receive it through my exertions, although this is not the consideration which stimulates you to bear yourselves as worth sons of Mexico.

Soldiers-You are the hope of your country, her best defenders. You duty then is to guard all parts; and on this account I have disposed that two brigades of infantry and one of cavalry, with their corresponding batteries, shall march to the defence of the state of Vera Cruz, the rest of the army defending this frontier.

Everywhere you will conduct yourselves as you have done hitherto, and you will ever deserve the
illustrious name you have acquired. I am going to procure whatever is necessary to consummate the great work which is committed to you, and be assure that in the hour of danger you will again find in the midst of you your general. [ANP]

NNR 72.136  May 1, 1847  Santa Anna address on the fall of Vera Cruz

Jalapa, or Zalapa, the capital of the state of Vera Cruz, is a pleasant town situated 89 miles from the city of Vera Cruz, on a steep declivity of the table land, 4,340 feet above the level of the sea. It contains eight churches, a good school for drawing, and 13,000 inhabitants. The principal merchants of the city of Vera Cruz reside at Jalapa, and only visit the sickly city occasionally. An annual fair is held at Jalapa, and much frequented.

The Havana Diario de la Marina, of the 9th April, publishes the following;

"On the 31st of March was published in Mexico the capitulation of Vera Cruz. President Santa Anna issued an address to his countrymen in which, among other things, he says:

"Mexicans, Vera Cruz is in the power of the enemy. It has fallen, not before the valor of the Americans or the influence of their good fortune. We ourselves, to our shame be it said, have brought this fatal disgrace upon our arms by our interminable discussions. * * * * I am resolved to go and meet the enemy. * * * * Chance may decree that the proud American host shall take the capital of the Aztec empire; I shall not behold that disaster for I shall first lay down my life in the struggle. *** Yet the Nation shall not perish. I swear that Mexico shall triumph if my wishes are seconded by a sincere and unanimous effort. A thousand times fortunate for us will prove the disaster of Vera Cruz, if the fall of that city shall awaken in the breasts of the Mexicans the enthusiasm, the dignity and generous ardor of true patriotism. It will undoubtedly prove the salvation of the country.

"On the 27th of March, we're already assembled some troops at the National bridge, under command of Gen. La Vega and of the governor of the state, Don Juan de Soto. Between the 27th and 30th two brigades of infantry and one of cavalry marched from the capital in the direction of the bridge, with their corresponding batteries, amounting in all to 2,000 men.

"On the 1st of April, Gen. Santa Anna in person would set out from Mexico, with 2,000 more, to direct the military operations in the state of Vera Cruz, resolved, as he says, to dispute the ground inch by inch, and die before he will consent to a peace—his own words, as we find them both in letters and in printed documents. Enrolment of troops is going on a various points.

"The army of the north has returned to San Luis Potosi, where it remained at the date of the latest advices."[ANP]

NNR 72.136-137  May 1, 1847  Santa Anna's inaugural address

Santa Anna's Inaugural address.

Senores deputies: I have just taken the oath which the law prescribes, and in doing so ought to accompany it with a manifestation of my sentiments and the motives of my conduct to this respectable committee of the legislative body.

The events which have taken place in the capital are known, and are of such a character as to bind me to give them a speedy and pacific termination.—Surrounded by difficulties of all kinds, interested in what is the most important and essential to the whole nation, as is the sustaining of a strong and decisive struggle with a foreign power, in which nothing less is involved than the existence of the nation, it would be the last of evils to enter into a contest with those who ought to unite in repelling the common enemy. These discords ought to disappear at the imperious voice of patriotism which calls upon the sons of the country to have but one will and aim. The moments have been urgent— I have seen the forward steps of he enemy—I have rushed to the field to repel them, and even at the moment of doing so, I have been forced to leave a victorious army, and to come hither to assume a power which I have repeatedly said was repugnant to my feelings, and which I had determined never to undertake.

That which has been and ought to be an object of aspiration and desire, is for me an enormous sacrifice. But I am all for my country, and shall ever serve it, without thinking what it may cost me to do that which the nation desires I should do. I have entered upon the supreme magistracy because I have seen that it was the sole legal means of terminating the disturbances of this
capital, because I believe I shall thus be able to facilitate the prosecution of the war, and to save
the honor and independence of Mexico, which I wish to present unspilled and brilliant to the world
which is beholding us. I have before me the committee of the sovereign congress, of that august
body whose decisions I respected and shall constantly continue to respect. Its decisions will be my
invariable guide, and I have firmly resolved to preserve a pure union with the legislative body,
which union will give us a final victory and the re-establishment of internal and external peace on
which the happiness of our country depends, and to which we all aspire. The nation has proclaimed
the political principles which ought to be the basis of the administration which I wish to establish.

Thus I understand that its strength will be secured for defending itself, and its rights for which its
sons have those guarantees which belong to all men, and which civilization claims, and which has
been my aim since my return to the country. This will not be denied, and the nation shall still see
me obedient to its wishes without my having any other rule of conduct than its decisions. As a
Mexican and a soldier, I shall always take the same road as the nation, and I aspire to no other
title than that of a good citizen, and in speaking of me that it should be said that I always loved
my country— that I served it with zeal, and that I sacrificed myself for its good. [ANP]

NNR 72.137 May 1, 1847 Gen. David Emanuel Twiggs' division quits Veracruz for Jalapa, arrival of
Col. Bankhead

Latest From Vera Cruz.—The New Orleans Picayune of the 21st says—Our advices by the 'Iona' are
up to the 8th inst. Gen. Twiggs, with a division of the army, left Vera Cruz on the morning of that
day for Jalapa. There was the same doubt in the army as to whether there would be any more
fighting as has always prevailed amongst our troops after a battle with the enemy.

The remaining divisions were to proceed rapidly in the direction of the city of Mexico. Although
the opinion was quite current at Vera Cruz that the Mexicans would not make a stand between
that city and the capital, yet there were some who regarded future collision as certain. Amongst
these was Col. Kenney, who had recently been as far into the interior as Mango de Clava, Santa
Anna's hacienda.

It was distinctly understood at Vera Cruz that the Puente Nacional had been abandoned. This was
the point at which the first resistance to the march of the American forces upon the city of Mexico
would be made; but though the defence of this point was given up, it was by no means certain
that the progress of our army into the interior would not be disputed at others.

Indeed it was asserted that the forces destined to defend the National bridge (Puente Nacional) had
fallen back a few leagues in the direction of Jalapa, to a stronger position, where preparations
were being made for a stout defence. An intelligent officer, just from Vera Cruz, thinks it quite
probable that a battle may have occurred about the 14th inst.

Rumors from the city of Mexico represented Santa Anna as more intently bent upon war than
ever.—The reports are not the best authority, in so far as the wishes of Santa Anna are concerned;
but they indicate the temper of the public mind, which is as good an index of his purposes as any
other.

The New Orleans Evening Mercury of the 21st instant says—Col. Bankhead, bearer of despatches
from Gen. Scott, and having in charge the trophies of war taken at Vera Cruz, arrived this morning
on the ship Elizabeth Dennison, on his way to Washington. The E.D. left Vera Cruz on the same as
the schooner Iona which arrived yesterday, and therefore brings no later news. [ANP]

NNR 72.141-143 May 1, 1847 GENERAL ORDERS, DISPOSITIONS FOR MARCHING TO THE
INTERIOR, &C.

1. The first infantry, and the two volunteer companies temporarily attached to the first division of
regulars, will, upon the march of the army hence, remain to garrison this city and the army hence,
Jaun de Ulloa, when Brevet Col. Wilson, assigned to duty according to his [], will become the
governor and commanding officer of these places. In the mean time that officer, by arrangement
with the present governor and commander, may wish his regiment, relieve so much of the actual
garrisons as shall be found desirable. Accordingly, he will report in person to receive orders for his
regiment.

2. With a view to a march into the interior, the baggage of all corps and officers will be in the next
two days, reduced to the smallest compass and weight. Not more that three common tents
principally for arms and the sick, can be allowed for the present, to the officers and men of any
company; and general officers, general staff and field officers, will limit themselves in proportion.
All surplus baggage, public and private, will, accordingly, be properly packed, marked, and turned over to the quartermaster's department for storage.

3. Requisitions for means of land transportation (wagons, pack, and draught animals) will be made upon the chief quartermaster, by division and by the chiefs of the other branches of the general staff, subject to the severest revision; and notice is now given that any excess of baggage. Public or private, will be rejected and thrown aside by the quartermasters and their agents, at the time of loading up, or at any time on the march that such excess may be detected.

4. It is absolutely necessary for an early march that all public means of transportation—wagons, carts, horses, and mules, with their harness, saddles, bridles, halters, and pack saddles— in the use of the corps, or in the hands of individual officers and men, should, without delay, be turned over to the quartermaster's department, which has instructions to re-loan three or four horses, in as many extreme cases, for a very short time longer. This order includes all such animals as may be held, under the pretence of capture, or purchase since the army landed near the city. Captured properly is always held for the benefit of the service generally, and no purchase can be respected unless witnessed and approved at the time by a general officer or commander of a brigade—masmuch as if the property be stolen by the seller, it will certainly be restored or paid for by the United States, on demand and proof on the part of the rightful owner.

5. If the foregoing directions be not complied with, fully, before tomorrow night, measures will be taken, however reluctantly, to seize every object designated above, and throw the burden of providing a just private title, upon the possessor of the property. By command of Major General Scott. H. L. Scott, A. A. A. General

[MSM]

NNR 72.144  May 1, 1847  REPORTS OF SICKNESS AT VERACRUZ, SANTA ANNA AT CERRO GORDO

ARMY OF INVASION.

An arrival at New York from Havana, brought startling reports which reached there by the British steamer Vesuvius, of the fever having attacked our army at Vera Cruz.

The arrival of the United States steamer Mississippi at New Orleans on the 22d, relieves the anxiety which this report could not but awaken. The Mississippi left Vera Cruz five days later than the Vesuvius, and furnishes Vera Cruz dates to the 134th, Tampico to the 12th, and city of Mexico to the 3d of April.

The most of the letters and publications that mention the health of the army at all represent it to be good, in the general; The Vera Cruz Eagle, (a paper just issued by our printers,) of the 13th has the following.

The hospital. "Many of our gallant soldiers are now prostrated by disease and the hospitals are filled to overflowing with them. The disease most prevalent is diarrhea, in many cases it has proven fatal."

It is manifest that Gen. Scott had been making every possible effort to expedite the movement of the army to a more healthy position. The whole army was en route for Jalapa—except perhaps about 2000 men including the garrison of the town, and Quitman's brigade, at the time the Mississippi left Vera Cruz.

The advance corps 2,500 to 2,700 choice men under Gen. Twiggs, marched on the 8th.

Shields' and Pillow's brigades followed. On the 9th Gen. Patterson had so far recovered as to be able to leave Vera Cruz with the view of joining them and taking command.

General Worth's brigade took up the line of march on the morning of the 13th. The General himself was detained by a sudden indisposition from accompanying them. About one o'clock an express reached him, with the important information that the column under Gen. Twiggs had fallen in with a large force of the enemy at Cerro Gordo, a strong position beyond Puente Nacional, and that a skirmish had taken place between Twiggs' advance guard and the enemy, in which Capt. Johnson, topographical engineer, was severely wounded, and several others. In a half an hour after the reception of this news General Worth had mounted his horse and was off.

On the 11th, General Scott addressed a proclamation to the Mexicans, from headquarters, announcing the advance of his army on the capital and of that of General Taylor upon San Luis Potosi,— "assures them that Americans are not their enemies, but their friends—and the friends of
their holy religion, its hierarchy and its priesthood, -that for the church and the unoffending inhabitants, and their property "I have from the first, done everything to place them under safeguard of marital law against the few bad men in this army. My orders, to that effect, known to all, are precise and rigorous. Under them, several Americans have already been punished, by time, for the benefit of Mexicans, besides imprisonment, and one for a rape, has been hung by the neck."

With these assurances he invites the Mexicans to bring in horses, mules, cattle; beef, and other supplies-and threatens to punish them with rigor if they molest the trains of wagons or teams of mules, &c.-concluding with assurances of a speedy peace. Another general order of the same date regulating the supplies for and order of march of the residue of the forces was issued. [ANP]

NNR 72.144 May 1, 1847 Gen. William Jenkins Worth appoints Lt. Col. Henry Wilson governor of Veracruz, Worth joins the Army

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NNR 72.144 May 1, 1847 SQUADRON SAILS TO ATTACK TUXPAN

THE SQUADRON, under Commodore Perry, left Vera Cruz anchorage on the 12th of the purpose of attacking Tuspan, at which place Gen. Cos was said to be posted with sixty pieces of cannon. [MSM]

NNR 72.144 May 1, 1847 Mexican accounts of the seizure of Chihuahua

FROM CHIHUAHUA. The Mexican accounts from Chihuahua were to the 5th March. The loss of the battle of the 28th February by the Mexicans, is attributed to the cowardice of the Mexican cavalry.-The forces of the Americans are stated to have been 1100, and 8 pieces of artillery; whilst those of the Mexicans were 2000 men, and 10 pieces of artillery. The Americans took possession of Chihuahua on the 2d March, and nearly all the Mexican families were abandoning the city. [ANP]

NNR 72.145 May 8, 1847 ADDITIONAL TROOPS TO BE SENT FROM NEW YORK TO CALIFORNIA

A New York letter in the Philadelphia Inquirer says, "Capt. Turner, of the California expedition, now is this city, whither he came some time since the despatched from Col. Stevenson and the American consul at Rio de Janeiro, had received orders from the war department to recruit a sufficient complement of men to make that regiment amount to one thousand. As soon as the recruits are raised he will proceed with them to California." [MSM]

NNR 72.146 May 8, 1847 LIST OF THE COMPANIES OF THE TEN NEW REGIMENTS OF REGULARS EN ROUTE TO MEXICO

The Union of the 26th publishes a statement furnished by the adjutant general, from which we learn that of the ten new regiments of the regular army, the following companies are now en route for the army in Mexico.

COMP’S

9th Inf-Col. T. B. Ramsen 1
10th Inf-Col. R. E. Temple 5
11th Inf-Col. A. C. Ramsey 7
13th Inf-Col. R. M. Echols 1
14th Inf-Col. Wm. Trousdale 1
15th Inf-Col. G.W. Morgan, (now in Mexico),
Lieut. Col.. Joshua Howard, superintending. 4
16th Inf-Col. J. W. Tibbatts 10
Voltigeurs-Col. T.P. Andrews 6
3rd dragoons-Col. E. G. W. Butler 6

Total. 41

NNR 72.146 May 8, 1847 Com. David Conner's orders for landing at Veracruz

"General Order" from Com. Conner.

"When the men of war and other vessels having troops on board get underway for the place of debarkation, each vessel will display one or other of the following signals to designate the line to which she belongs.

1. Those men of war that belong to same line will arrange themselves around their superior officer; and the other troop-vessels, as the Massachusetts, Alabama, Virginia, Endora and Edith, and the vessels having on board Capt. Taylor's and Lieut. Talcott's field batteries, will range themselves around the men of war belonging to the same line with themselves.-In this order, the three squadrons will proceed to the place of debarkation; line No. 1 loading, and the others following in succession.

2. In distributing the surf-boats to the several men of war, care will be taken to assign them boats marked for their respective lines."

NNR 72.146 May 8, 1847 MANNER OF TAKING POSSESSION OF SAN JUAN DE ULLOA

The boats of the Ohio, proceeded to Vera Cruz took thence Gen. Worth's division and landed at the castle.

Capt. Stringham carried the flag of his ship to him, and the stars and strips which once floated to the mizen of the line of the battle ship Ohio now waving over the castle of San Juan de Ulloa.

NNR 72.146 May 8, 1847 ASSURANCES OF THE "UNION" THAT SUFFICIENT FORCES BE IN TIME FOR GEN. WINFIELD SCOTT AND GEN. ZACHARY TAYLOR, REQUISITION FOR 6,000 ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS

The Washington Union of the 24th April announces the president had called upon the authorities of certain states for 6,000 additional volunteers, and adds:-

"We understand that reinforcements are about to be thrown into both our armies (under Scott and Taylor) and if Mexico should continue besotted, blind to her true interests, infatuated by her ridiculous pride, we must put forth our powerful arms in more vigorous prosecution of the war.

Subsequently the Union Stated, that about 2,000 of these 6,000 volunteers were designed for Oregon and Santa Fe-which of course would leave 4,000 to be divided between Gen. Scott and Taylor.

We have met with no general official announcements yet, of how the requisition for these 8,000 volunteers has been apportioned amongst the states. From local papers we ascertain that Pennsylvania, Virginia and Maryland, are each required to furnish two companies, New Jersey 5 companies, Ohio and Indiana one regiment each.

The District of Columbia is called upon to furnish three companies, which, with the two companies from Maryland, are to compose a distant battalion, under command of Lieut. Col. CHARLES LEE JONES. [MSM]
NNR 72.146 May 8, 1847 LT. CHARLES G. HUNTER SAID TO HAVE BEEN COURT-MARTIALED FOR HIS ATTACK ON ALVARADO

The New York Journal of Commerce says: "We learn from the authentic source that the trial had been had, that Lieut. Hunter has been found guilty of disobedience of orders in attacking Alvarado we presume and sentenced to be reprimanded at the quarter-deck of every ship in the squadron." We doubt it. [MSM]

NNR 72.146 May 8, 1847 Saint Mary's sails for Veracruz

The sloop-of-war St. Mary's, Com. Saunders, this morning had her signal for a pilot, and is in full sail, with a fair wind, down the bay. She has received an outfit her together with some new spars. The fatigue and exertion of her officers and crew have been incessant-constantly at sea for over two years, without intermission. Many of her officers and men, to us their own words, "are nearly worn out." On her arrival here she sent eighty men to the hospital, and yesterday there were some thirty sufficiently recruited in health to take their former places on board the ship. The St. Mary's in bound for Vera Cruz, and carries the latest instructions from Washington to the navy and army on that station. [ANP]

NNR 72.147 May 8, 1847 PRONUNCIATION OF MEXICAN NAMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mexican Name</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>La Resaca de la Palma</td>
<td>Lah Ray-sah-kah day lah Pal-mah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Palo Alto</td>
<td>Pah-lo Ahl-to</td>
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<tr>
<td>Santiago</td>
<td>San-te ah-go</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rio del Norte</td>
<td>Ree-o del Nortay</td>
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<td>Pay-lone</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Los muertos</td>
<td>Lohs Mwer-dhos</td>
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<td>Sawl-te-yo Side</td>
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<td>ag-wah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Novia</td>
<td>No-vee-ah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agua Nueva</td>
<td>Ag-wah New-ay-vah</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Luis Potosi</td>
<td>San-Lew-is Pto-see</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Lohus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cerralvo</td>
<td>Sa-rahl-vo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sierra</td>
<td>See-er-rah</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Juan de Ulua</td>
<td>San Whahn da Oo-loo-ah</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vera Cruz</td>
<td>Vay-rah Crooz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alvarado</td>
<td>Al-vah-rah-dho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anton Lizardo</td>
<td>An-ton Lee-sar-dho</td>
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NNR 72.149 May 8, 1847 Mexican narrative of events at Veracruz

Mexican Narrative of Events at the Heroic City of Vera Cruz, While Besieged by the American Army. -Published at Jalapa, 1847.

How horrible is the scene we are attempting briefly to describe! What sympathizing heart can behold it without his eyes filling with the bitterest tears of grief? We would rejoice to conceal from Mexico this event with the origin of our melancholy abandonment, and the causes of such serious and lamentable misfortunes to the country—but we are compelled to announce to the entire world, what was our true position, during those days of barbarous conflict, without any relief, which this city sustained, and her disastrous end.

This description shall explain the cause of this result: the true language the Bulletin ahs issued, which has been the true expression of the sublime sentiments, animating the hearts of the defenders of ill fated Vera Cruz.

Animated and decided, we awaited the enemies of our nationality, after the beautiful youths of Vera Cruz had devoted many months to the daily practice of fire arms, considering themselves capable of repelling the attack and announced assault, which this city was expected to receive, united with the arms of the valiant veterans we possessed, all studied the best plan of defending our walls, which surrounded our own national and constant hearts, sworn never to surrender them with life. When the squadron of the enemy appeared, bearing the invading army, all our points of defence were at once covered with our veterans and the National Guard. From this first moment, the service was constant, with the greatest vigilance—citizens excused by the law, ran to the common defence, and few were found without their gun, to assist; all worked and ate their ration in the line, momently expecting the assault, and, agreeably to their oath, resolved, at he cost of their lives, to defend their families and their country.

But days and dark nights passed, and the enemy did not approach our walls; remaining concealed behind his works, he was not anxious to measure arms with us—nor venture upon an uncertain deed of arms, selecting as was most agreeable to him, and most in accordance with his character, the barbarous manner of assassinating the unoffending and defenceless citizens, by a barbarous bombardment of the city in the most horrible manner, throwing into it 4100 bombs, and an innumerable number of balls of the largest size, during nights and days, directing his first shots to the powder magazine, to the quarter of hospitals of charity, to the hospitals for wounded, and to the points he set afire, where it was believed the public authorities would assemble with persons to put it out; to the bakers' houses designated by their chimneys, and during the night raining over the entire city bombs, whose height was perfectly graduated with the time of explosion, that they might unite in falling, and thus cause the maximum destruction—but such infamous proceedings indicated from the first day the cowardice of the enemy. His first victims were women and children, followed by whole families perishing from the effects of the explosion, or under the ruins of their dwellings. In short time the hospitals were crowded with the wounded, the dead being simultaneously buried—with the exception of those unknown, who could not be taken from under the ruins. The bombs entered the walls of the church of Santo Domingo, killing the unfortunate wounded, frightening away the nurses and doctors; who after arriving with haste and risk at the church of San Francisco and the chapel of the third order, encountered the same dismal fate; as well as at the hospitals of Belen or Loretto, where it is well ascertained one bomb assassinate nineteen innocent persons. In all quarters perished unfortunate persons, seeking a shelter from this frightful desolation, while the wounded, retaining strength enough to raise themselves, were flying as cripple and sprinkling the streets with their blood.

At the second day of the bombardment, we were without bread or meat, reduced to a ration of beans eaten at midnight beneath a shower of fire, and the light issuing from the projectiles. The citizens had progressively removed to the claleta side, where up to this time less destruction had
yet ignorant of the exact number of our killed and wounded; but by the best data we have
obtained, estimate both at not less than one thousand persons. The damage done to dwellings
and edifices is five or six millions of dollars, which cannot be repaired for many years.

The French consuls and neutral persons, present against their consent to witness such desolating
scenes, eulogize the valor and actions of our defenders and the heroic conduct of this population,
suffering so many calamities in a war, so furious, so savage, so atrocious, in which positions of our
men confronted death, without fear, suffering without the power of defence or vengeance,
witnessing at their sides the destruction of their sons, hearing the shrieks of our wounded and the
noise of such destructive fires, without moving from their position. These recollections fill the
heart with bitterness, and the details, which we omit, will excite horror when published by better
talks.

After sustaining this attack, we remain reduced to the most frightful misery, without any
knowledge how to-morrow to feed his family.

The good treatment of our illustrious municipality will always be engraved upon our grateful
hearts, as well as the noble and generous conduct of the Spanish consul, who sheltered and fed in
his house a multitude of suffering women and children, for whose fate and safety he and others
have shown the most zealous interest.

On the 26th, the authorities of Vera Cruz hoped that she would merit a conclusion to this work
filled with horror, to save from certain death so many sick, wounded and old persons of women
and children whose sacrifice, as well as that of the lives of the garrison, was now useless, without
increasing the defence, and without postponing the result equally painful, besides augmenting our
troubles and our increasing destruction, with the 60 pieces more already prepared by the enemy.
But the entire world will be shocked with contempt when they hear, that without our asking any
that we had not a right to, and which honor could but concede, the enemy ignobly not only
refused to grant what we merited, but desired to force upon us vile conditions, leaving us but a
few hours to decide, between disgrace and death, declaring he would destroy that city, and that
none of the inhabitants should escape (not even the neutrals) not even he sick and wounded:
Incredible declaration on the part of those making it, who at the same time classed us as brave
men. What would have been the fate then of cowards?

Thus and thus only were they able to conquer us. Our selection could not be doubtful; death was a
thousand times preferable to be encountered I passing before his lines, to join the garrison within
Ulloa. A furious norther which stopped all communication with the Castle, allowed the reflection
although surmounting these difficulties, our families would remain as a target to these demons of
the extermination of our race.

Existing and succeeding nations, after ascertaining the truth of our statements, will do us justice;-
and hyena North Americans receive the chastisement and execration of all christians. Such is the
belief of my heart, at the time of writing these lines, at 3 o'clock at daylight, the 27th, in the body of the guards at the point we are defending; and within three hours of that death which they have threatened to begin at 6 o'clock in the morning, as a voluntary sacrifice of our lives in defence of our country and national decorum.

To morrow we may not exist to write; but from our graves will arise the spirit of resistance and independence, which is so imperative, and which it seems does not exist in Mexico.

Our blood shall cry for vengeance, on the infamous assassinations maliciously perpetrated on our people. The month of March fixes the epoch of scorn, decay and dissolution of North America; this mixed and prostituted people neglecting the counsels and forgetting the virtues of the immortal George Washington, have sowed with their ambition the seed of their future ruin, by an action beneath the dignity of a civilized people.

We believe the representatives of European nations anticipated our decision: foreseeing the conduct of the enemy, they humanely and generously visited his camp, to demand the rights of humanity, seeing us all at our posts, resolved that the women, children, old people and neutrals should depart from the city before we would yield; leaving us a heap of dead bodies in lieu of Vera Cruz! And- who will credit it?-Scott, in imitation of the wild savage, refused that they should save even the lives of the yet living and foreign neutrals. In despite of the cry of reason, of virtue, of honor, he constructed new batteries. Finally, these consuls undertook to communicate to the captains of the neutrals vessels of war, lying at Sacrificios; but their application under the federal flag was not listened to. Commodore Perry giving orders to "fire on."

These men turned a deaf ear to everything; their conduct was cowardly and infamous; their navy affected to approach to fight to fortifications, flying from the fire of the castle and the battery of Santiago. They did not fight; they only desired to destroy by advantage.

The 27th hardly arrived, when the entire population of women, with children in their arms, and some strangers, waited before the dwellings of the French and Spanish consuls, who by their flags, saved the lives of so many innocents.

In the streets were heard only the sights of grief and the moans of the most affliction: mixed with this multitude were most respectable ladies, asking with tears in their eyes, if it were near 6 o'clock, because the city clock had been destroyed by a bomb; all were anxious to know how soon the time would arrive to save them, all asking aid, to allow them to go out on foot to those ardent sands; in the meantime the ferocious Scott brutally smiled, ridiculing the magnanimity of said consuls, the only representatives of their nations, deprived of all communication with their ministers in Mexico.

The negotiations for an agreement to end these horrors in the meanwhile continued, the commissioners making a great sacrifice of "amour propre," so as to bring the business to such a point as it would be accepted by the garrison; but it was already nine in the morning and nothing was known, and the people moved from the centre streets, loaded with bundles of clothes, feeble, and without nourishment, seeking a gate by which to go out. Some got on board of boats f proceed to neutral vessels of war, and were driven back by the enemy. The civil authorities offered to put themselves at the head of this female squad, and present themselves, unarmed, for Scott to rife upon, or else too permit them to go to the mountains, since he denied honor to men, and life to women.

Now in this situation, everything fell into a chaos of confusion. Mothers ran to the lines, and found their sons: Gen. Morales refusing to sign the capitulation, and not to bear arms, retired in a boat, with the Major of the National Guards, leaving the command to Gen. Landero. The withdrawal of these chieftains increased the confusion, and the turn of this spectacle was to yield to the power of necessity, because it became known the National Guard would not give up their arms, and would yield life rather than do so, disbanding, as was partly the case the preceding night, so soon as the capitulation was talked of. On the morning of the 26th, everything was completed by the commissioners, and ratified by Landero and Scott. The sun of this day was but the lamp of a sepulchre. All we speak of and desire is, to get out of the hateful sight of the Yankees.

[Vera Cruz, 28th March, 1847, at 10 o'clock in the day, at the time of leaving the works where for 12 days we desired to end our lives for our beloved country.] [ANP]
The following is a translation of a Mexican order found on the battlefield of Buena Vista. It is interesting as conveying an accurate idea of Santa Anna's preliminary dispositions.

Several orders of the 20th to the 21st Feb. 1847.

Gen. officer of the day, Don Rafael Vasquez; aids, Col Jose M. Bermudes and lieut. Col. Don Florencio Aspeitia. And for to-morrow, Don Francisco Mejia, general officer of the day; Col. Don Carlos Barito and Lieut. Col. Don Gregoria Elati, aids.

In the morning the army will continue its march, which will commence at 11 o'clock precisely, in the following order:

The 1st, 2d, 3d, and 4th battalions of the light infantry will take the lead, under the order of Gen. Ampudia, so that he may be able to avail himself of all the advantages that the circumstances may require. Immediately after the battalion of sappers, and in its rear, and at the head of the division of infantry of the van, under the orders of General Pacheco, will be placed the company of Sharp Shooters and three pieces of 16's, with their respective artillerists and reserve—as likewise the ammunition, composed of 100 round shot and 100 grape for each piece, and 80 boxes musket ammunition, each containing 9,600 cartridges. Division of infantry of the centre, commanded by Gen. Manuel M. Lombardini, will follow; at the head of this column there will be five 12's, as above named and ammunitioned, and also 80 boxes of musket ammunition. At the head of the division of the rear, commanded by Gen. Ortega, there will be five pieces of 8's, supplied with men and ammunition as above, and also its 80 boxes of musket ammunition, each containing 9,600 cartridges.

The division of cavalry of the rear will follow closely on the last of the infantry, having at their head the "Hussars" and in their rear the general ammunition train, escorted by the brigade of horse artillery. After the ammunition train all the camp followers of all classes, with the baggage of all kinds, laundresses, cooks, &c. it being distinctly understood that no woman will be allowed to mix with the column. The chief in charge of the commissary department is Don Pedro Ravejel, who is also in charge of the baggage train.

His excellency, the general in chief, furthermore orders that he different corps shall to-day receive from the commissary three days' rations for the 21st, 22d and 23d, and that they require the necessary meat this afternoon for the first meal to-morrow morning, which the troops are directed to eat one hour before taking up the line of march; and the second will be taken in their haversacks, to be eaten in the night, wherever they may halt. This last will consist of meat, two biscuits, and half a cake of brown sugar (piloncello), for each man; for on the night of the 21st there will be no fires permitted, neither will there be signal made by any military instruments of music—the movement at early day break on the morning of the 22d having to be made in the most profound silence.

The troops will drink all the water they can before marching, and will take with them, in their canteens or other vessels, all they possibly can carry; they will economize the water all they can, for we shall encamp at night without water, and shall not arrive at it until 12 o'clock on the following day. The chiefs of corps will pay much much attention to this last instruction.

Each mule belonging to the ammunition train, and the horses of officers, will receive two rations of corn, which they will take with them, and these will be fed to them to-morrow night at dusk and on the following morning at daybreak. The horses' girts will only be slackened, and the mules will not be unfastened while they are eating. The light brigade will likewise obey this order on the night of the 21st—only loosing their saddles a little. The horse and mules will all be taken to water before commencing the march.

Each division will take with it its respective medical staff, hospital attendant, medicines, as regulated by the medical inspector general.

The chaplain I chief will provide each division with its chaplain. He will also, as to morrow is a Feast Day, order mass to be said at 5 o'clock in front of the position occupied by the van guard; at 7 o'clock in front of the centre; at 8 o'clock in front of the rear guard; and at 9 o'clock in front of the division of cavalry.

Gen. Don Francisco Perez is ordered to be recognized as second in command to Gen. Lombardini, and Gen. Don Luis Guzman as second to General Ortega.

To facilitate the duties of the conductor general of the baggage train, the cavalry of Celaza and all the presidial troops are hereby placed under his command.

His excellency the general in chief recommends to every officer punctual compliance with and obedience to each and every part of this his general order.
By order of his excellency,

Manuel Micheltorena,

Chief of the general staff.

Translated literally from the order book of the 8th company of the permanent regular Cuirassiers, found on the battle ground of Buena Vista, February 23, 1847 by

Chas. W. Davis,Capt. And A. Q. M. U.S.A.

[We know not the poetizer that thus condenses the report of Santa Anna to the Mexican minister of war the battle of Buena Vista.]

Your excellency, we've won the day,
My "heroes" fought amid the fray,
And whipped the Yankees without pay,
And then - we ran away.

[ANP]

MAJOR GENERAL SCOTT'S PROCLAMATION.

Headquarters of the army, Vera Cruz, April 11, 1847.

Major Gen. Scott, general in chief of the armies of the United States of America, to the good people of Mexico:

Mexicans!—At the head of a powerful army, soon to be doubled—a part of which is advancing upon your capital—and with another army with Major Gen. Taylor, in march from Saltillo towards San Luis Potosi—I think myself called upon to address you.

Mexicans—Americans are not your enemies, but the enemies, for a time, of those men who, a year ago, misgoverned you, and brought about this unnatural war between two great republics. We are the friends of the peaceful inhabitants of the country we occupy, and the friends of your holy religion, its hierarchy and its priesthood. The same church is found in all parts of our own country, crowded with devout Catholics, and respected by our government, laws and people.

For the church of Mexico, the unoffending inhabitants of the country, and their property, I have from the first done everything in my power to place them under the safeguard of martial law against the few bad men in this army.

My orders, to that effect, known to all, are precise and rigorous. Under them, several Americans have already been punished, by fine, for the benefit of Mexicans, besides imprisonment, and one, for a rape has been hung by the neck.

Is this not a proof of good faith and energetic discipline? Other proofs shall be given as often as injuries to Mexicans may be detected.

On the other hand, injuries committed by individuals, or parties of Mexico, not belonging to the public forces, upon individuals, small parties, trains of wagons and teams, or of pack mules; or any other person or property belonging to this army, contrary to the laws of war—shall be punished with rigor; or if the particular offenders be not delivered up by Mexican authorities, the punishment shall fall upon entire cities, towns or neighborhoods.

Let, then, all good Mexicans remain at home, or at their peaceful occupation, but they are invited to bring in, for sale, horses, mules, beef, cattle, corn, barley, wheat, flour for bread, and vegetables. Cash will be paid for every thing this army may take and purchase, and protection will be given to all sellers. The Americans are strong enough to offer these insurances—which, should Mexicans wisely accept this war may soon be happily ended, to the honor and advantage of both belligerents. Then the Americans, having converted enemies into friends, will be happy to take leave of Mexico and return to their own country.

WINFIELD SCOTT.

[ANP]
A correspondent of the Spirit of the Times says: "On the 4th ult. a party was given by some officers as a slight return for the pleasure they had experienced at the delightful party given them by the amiable lady of the German consul. It was deemed extremely doubtful whether the Mexican ladies could be prevailed to join us. A gentleman well acquainted with them, kindly took the matter in hand, and reported that he believed the affair perfectly practicable. It was decided that it should be a steamboat excursion up the Panuco. The United States steamer Mary Summers was kindly placed at their disposal, and every thing that could possibly be desired was placed on board of her by the energy and taste of the accomplished Captain M----, of the 1st artillery. Just consider the neat little steamboat lying at the wharf, steam up, and tastefully decorated with flags.

At 3 o'clock the ladies and their gentlemen friends commenced assembling. In a very short time we had twenty-five ladies ---with one exception they were either foreigners or Mexicans, and all ladies. The band of the 2d artillery accompanied us. Great anxiety was expressed about the arrival of General S. who was one of the principal persons in getting up the affair; it was his popularity combined with all of the principal families, which induced so many to honor us. The hour arrived-but no Gen. S. Some little anxiety was manifested by our fair friends - the boat was detained. At last much to our regret, apologies had to be made, and we took our departure.

The company had assembled on the hurricane deck—a crowd had collected on the wharf - and, as we shoved off, the band struck p a lively air. I then had time to look around me and take a peep at our fair and trusting visitors. Delicacy forbids that I should individualize, but there was one dark eyed Senora, with true Mexican complexion who attracted universal attention. Her soft drooping black eyes, fine contour of features, and stately form were the subject of admiration. Our interesting her was increased when we were told that she was destined to early widowhood. Her husband, poor fellow, was fast dying with consumption. But few of the ladies could talk English, and I was therefore afraid the affair would go out stiffly.

Before we had gone five miles, partners were called for a quadrille. The ice was broken; the magic of happiness which ever hangs o’er the movements of dance, immediately communicated itself to our fair guests. Eyes that were dull now sparkled- the [illegible] were assured- and all seemed to say, "we have come for amusement, and whether with enemies or friends, we are determined to have it." The graceful waltz took the place of the quadrille. I sat in the stern if the boat and contemplated the scene; it was one that could not but be viewed with the greatest interest. Here we were in the enemy’s country- the fair Mexicans confiding in our honor, were unhesitatingly trusting themselves in the waltz with officers commanding troops opposed to their countrymen. A lady expressed herself to me, “that when it was proposed she had not the remotest idea that it would come[illegible]” This pleasant reunion cannot but have a happy effect socially and politically; it brings us together, and it is only by association that we can be known; they will see that we are not the "barbarian," as represented, but, like themselves are gay and light hearted, and even dance to the "merry castanet."

Stately and rapidly moved the steamer- the graceful and happy couples whirled away in the waltz- the music stole softly o’er the broad and placid rubber, and the deep green woods re-echoed sounds of happiness. I was lost in the quiet tranquil beauty of the scene- was reflecting how soon these graceful arms which now supported beauty, those manly forms might "bite the dust," when my dream was disturbed by the cry of the, "brick yard!” Sure enough there it was, in the elbow of the river. We had sailed 22 miles, scarcely being aware of it.

We soon reached there, and the boat was fastened at the landing. It had been arranged we should sail to the brick yard, and there complete the frolic by dancing at the house of the hospitable owner, who, by the way, was an American. Just as we were going on the shore, a canoe shoved out from the landing, and was paddled up the stream. Seated in it under a cover of raw hides, was a mother and two beautiful girls. They had left the city in the morning, and were on their way to some village of the Panuco.- All explained-"Stop them, and have them join in the festivities!" Every effort was made, but without success.

We all disembarked, and promenaded around the gentlemen's garden, and then betook ourselves to the house; it was quite capacious. With M’s usual energy and management, a room was soon prepared for our dancing; our empty bottles served as candlesticks. Having had the precaution o bring a box of candles, the room was brilliantly illuminated. By this time we were on the nest kind of terms with all, and the dance commenced with renewed glee. Few quadrilles were dances- they are devoted to the waltz and the contre dance, which is a happy combination of the two; the figures of the latter dance are beautiful; even the polka was danced. For the first time in five years I waltzed the whole evening. There is no such thing as an appropriate or monopoly of the belle. During the waltz, if a gentleman wishes to waltz with any particular lady, he signifies his wish, and his partner immediately resigns her. You waltz with her two or three times round, and then return her to her partner. It is a delightful and sensible custom, and, id only introduced into the states,
might be conductive to much more sociability and kindness of feeling and prune off a little selfishness of the monopoly of a belle by a few, to the exclusion of many, and probably more ardent admirers.

At eight o'clock a most excellent supper was set on board the boat, to which the ladies were ushered by a march. Sociability, happiness, and confidence reigned throughout, and amidst the exhilaration of champagne we returned to the dance. Whether bright eyes were really brighter, and fair forms fairer, I knew not; but yet they seemed so, as with renewed joy the dance commenced.

Amid a happy dance the steamboat bell tolled the hour of return; we embarked upon the placid river, and, to the sound of music, glided rapidly to the city. The moon, most unfortunately, had been obscured, but she deigned one smile upon us, as if in approbation of the scene. We landed at the wharf, with the band playing, at 12 o'clock; and our fair guests retired to their homes, apparently gratified with their trip. It is to be hoped no matter where the fortunes of war carry is, that the memory of the Brick Yard Pick Nic, given by the American officers to the ladies of Tampico, will ever be fresh. So much for picnics. [KAM]

NNR 72.151  May 8, 1847  Gen. Zachary Taylor's official report on efforts to re-open communications with Camargo

OFFICIAL. Letters have just been received at the war department from General Taylor. The last bears date on the 28th of March. A previous letter runs as follows; and it pays the proper tribute to the gallant conduct of Col. Morgan, of the Ohio volunteers;

Headquarters of the Army, Camp near Monterey, March 22, 1847.

SIR: I deem it my duty to report somewhat more I detail the occurrences attending the interruption of our line of communication with Camargo, and the service recently rendered by troops on that line.

Pursuant to previous orders, issued before the advance of the enemy upon Saltillo became known, the 2d Ohio regiment had occupied three points of the line--Col. Morgan, with--companies, taking post at Seralvo, Lieut. Colonel Irvin, with three at Marin, and Major Wall with--at Punta Aguada. On the 21st of February, Col. Morgan was ordered to concentrate his regiment, and move forward to Monterey. The enemy had already begun to infest the road, but Col. Morgan, who received the order on the night of the 23d, was able to bring up Major Wall's command and march the next morning.

On the road he was advised that a train on its way from Monterey had been attacked that day (24th) near Ramas, and the escort and drivers, with a few exceptions, killed or made prisoners. On the morning of the 25th, Colonel Morgan was joined by twenty-five drivers and wagon masters, who had fled into the hills and escaped the fate of their companions.--[On reaching the scene of the disasters, he found the drivers horribly mutilated, and several bodies thrown into the flames of the burning wagons.] Finding no wounded, the march was continued to Marin, which was fond to be almost deserted. The enemy's cavalry, under Gen. Urrea, had been before Marin for two days, and several skirmishes had taken place between them and Lieut. Col. Irvin's command. The arrival from Monterey of a reinforcement of infantry nd two field pieces under Maj. Shepard, (1st Kentucky regiment) had been surrounded and captured.

At 12 o'clock at night Col. Morgan resumed his march and met the enemy near Agua Fria. Forming his command in square, and marching in that order he continued to San Francisco, hving on the road several encounters with the enemy, who attempted to break his formation. From San Francisco a messenger was dispatched to Lieut. Col. Irvin, then encamped at this place, who promptly took up the march, and, with two pieces of artillery, joined Col. Morgan at 11 o'clock, a.m. The enemy, who had in the meantime continued his attacks, now made a final effort, but after a sharp action of a few minutes was driven back, and retreated from the field.

The loss of Col. Morgan's command in these affairs was three Americans and one friendly Mexican killed, one wagnner mortally, and one soldier slightly wounded. The enemy is supposed to have sustained a considerable loss, but from the nature of the engagement, its amount could not be ascertained. We have to lament the fall of Captain B. F. Graham, assistant quartermaster in the volunteer service, who was killed in the action after behaving in the most gallant manner.

I would recommend to particular notice the gallant conduct and energy of Col. Morgan throughout these operations. Lieut. Col. Irvin, Major Wall, and Adjutant Joline, 2d Ohio regiment, and Maj. Shepherd, are also entitled to notice for good conduct and valuable services.
NNR 72.151 May 8, 1847 rumor of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna in force between Veracruz and Jalapa

From the Vera Cruz Eagle of the 13 April.

Santa Anna-Again must we appear before our readers without having any positive information as to the doings and whereabouts of the enemy. Rumor, in the meantime, is rife with news, and we must, perforce, set down to her account many things, which, however much we may believe them, we dare not give to the public as veritable. One of the most important outgivings up to this time, is, that Santa Anna, seconded by La Vega, and a force of near 12,000 strong, has taken a position between this and Jalapa, which is said by those familiar with the country, to be very strong.

This report we find very generally believed by many officers of the army, and by the citizens of the place. [ANP]

NNR 72.151 May 8, 1847 Plot discovered among Mexicans at Tampico

Some day last week a number of Mexicans were discovered in the act of inciting the citizens of Tampico to revolt and drive the Americans from the place. We are not advised of the particulars, but learn that Col. Gates banished them from the city, forbidding their return under penalty of death. [KAM]

NNR 72.151 May 8, 1847 Cleaning of San Juan de Ulloa

The castle of San Juan de Ulloa has undergone a thorough cleansing throughout, making it approach much nearer a place in which an American soldier ought to reside. We are informed that a more filthy place could scarcely be imagined at the time our troops took possession. [KAM]

NNR 72.151-72.152 May 8, 1847 breaking up of general headquarters at Veracruz

Breaking up of general headquarters. Yesterday evening at five o’clock, Gen. Scott and his staff left their quarters in the Plaza, and started for Jalapas. They were, and will probably be up with Gen. Twiggs, of the advance, in two or three days. [ANP]

NNR 72.152 May 8, 1847 Alvarado Opened

The port of Alvarado, which has been closed for several months, is now open to our commerce, and to all the neutral vessels not having on board articles contraband of war.

-It appears that there was at Alvarado when the place surrendered to Lieut. Hunter, sixty pieces of heavy cannon; all serviceable and in fine order except three. [KAM]

NNR 72.152 May 8, 1847 Gen. Zachary Taylor's proclamation to the inhabitants of Tamaulipas, Nueva Leon, and Coahuila about losses by banditti

GEN. TAYLOR-MEXICAN BANDITTI.

The general in chief of the American forces to the inhabitants of Tamaulipas, Nueva Leon, and
Coahuila

When the American troops first crossed the frontier and entered the above states, it was with the intention, and publicly declared to you, of making war, not upon the peaceful citizens of the soil, but upon the central government of the republic, with an aversion to obtain an early and honorable peace.

The undersigned was authorized by his government to levy contributions upon the people for the support of his army; but, unwilling to throw the heavy burden of war upon those who, with few exceptions, manifested a neutral disposition, he has continued first to pay punctually and liberally for all supplies drawn from the country for the support of his troops.

He has used every effort to cause the war to bear lightly upon the people of these states, and he had hoped by this means, to retain their confidence and to assure their neutrality in the strife between his government and their neutrality in the strife between his government and that of Mexico; but he regrets to say that his kindness has not been appreciated but has been met by acts of hostility and plunder. The citizens of the country, instead of pursuing their avocations quietly at home, have, in armed bands, waylaid roads and under the direction and with the support of government troops, have destroyed trains and murdered drivers under circumstances of atrocity which disgrace humanity.

The undersigned requires from the people of the country an identification for the loss sustained by the destruction of the - (Illegible); and the pillage of their contents. To that end an estimate will be made by the proper officers of the entire loss, and this loss must be made good, either in money or in the products of the country by the community at large, of the states of Tamaulipas, New Leon, and Coahuila each district of juzgado paying its just proportion.

It is expected that the rich will bear their full share.-And the undersigned calls upon all good citizens to remain absolutely neutral, and to give no countenance to the bands which infest the country for the purpose of murder and pillage. It is his anxious desire to continue the same policy as heretofore, and he trusts that he course of the citizens will enable him to do so.

Z. TAYLOR, Major Gen. U.S. Army,
Headquarters at Monterey, March 31, 1847.

[NPR] 72.152 May 8, 1847 Order exempting foreign goods to be re-shipped to Mexico from the American tariff

Denis Prieur, collector of customs at New Orleans, has received instructions from Washington to allow all merchandise liable to foreign duties to be shipped to the Mexican ports occupied to our troops without paying the foreign duties under our tariff. [KAM]

[NPR] 72.152-153 May 8, 1847 American Plan to demand a right of way across Mexico from ocean to ocean

The secretary of the treasury proposes that the United States should require Mexico the right to cross the Mexican Isthmus from the Gulf of the Pacific. - In this connection, it is said, that the steamer Polk has sailed from Norfolk for Huassacualo, in the bay of Campeachy. She takes out an armament for the purpose of taking occupation of that port. She is to make a complete survey of the coast in the neighborhood of the Isthmus, with a view to its occupation, preparatory to the opening if a ship canal across to Tehuantepee. [KAM]


The Campaign of Gen. Wool,
And the Battle of Buena Vista.

We remarked at the commencement of the war with Mexico, that the incidents of no war of the same extent since the world has been peopled, ever have been so accurately and so universally known as those of this war would be. The reason is obvious; nearly every soldier in the ranks of
our army is capable of writing an account of what he sees, hears, or does-and we have spread
over the Union, a newspaper for every platoon of which the army is composed to speed to the four
winds of heaven whatever is written.

The following rapid and truly graphic description of the march of General Wool's division of
the army, and his junction with General Taylor, and of the subsequent battle of Buena Vista, written
by a person who belongs to the 2d Illinois regiment of volunteers, under General Wool-is as vivid
and distinct a picture as was ever sketched by the pen of a historian.

The reference which the writer of the letter makes to his associate and fellow private in the ranks
of the Illinois regiment, Alexander Konze, the accomplished young German whose character is
sketched in such simple unaffected language, furnishes proof at once of the character of the
individuals that contribute largely to compose an army from this republic. The elite, the inspired
of all lands, seek a home in ours. Konze came from Wisconsin to join the Illinois regiment at
Alton, says his friend, "that he might serve the country whose constitution he respected before all
other systems of government, and to gratify his curiosity in a new mode of life, by seeing Mexico,
and observing, as he did with a philosophic eye, the character of her people and institutions." Such
men amalgamated at once with the mass of kindred spirits here, bringing with them and
diffusing their own acquirements and tastes in exchange for ours. His fate is told. Who can read
it without deploiring,-and the sigh deepens at the reflection, that many as brave, as timable a
man, felt amongst the dead of that battle field, whose taste will never be told. Whose moments
History will neglect to rear. "While awaiting upon the field," says the writer, "on the night of the
twenty-third o February, the renewal of the attack by Santa Anna, the thought was most
consolatory to several of his comrades, that death on the next day might make them companions
of Miltiades, of Socrates, and of Konze." "Such is the language, without the least appearance of
affection, of a private soldier speaking of a group of soldiers around the camp fire a t the close of
a terrific conflict which had lasted all day, and which the next days' dawn, it was expected, would
renew. These soldiers, with hearts saddened by the loss of a beloved comrade, yet glowing with a
sublime patriotism which placed them in communion with the heroic spirits of antiquity, could
speak of death, and await it, not only with composure, but with a serene satisfaction, because of
the noble fellowship it proffered them in another world."

From the correspondent of the Boston Evening Post.
Camp at Buena Vista, Coahuila, Mexico,
March 22, 1847.

I seize the first opportunity afforded since the battle of Buena Vista, of writing you from the field,
an account of the more recent operations of General Taylor's army, including that of General Wool
heretofore known as the centre division. The official details of the battle are, I suppose, already
published in the states and made familiar to you; but you must be ignorant of many occurrences
of great interest, precedent and subsequent to that memorable event.

General Wool landed from the gulf on the 2d of August last, at La Vaca, Texas, with the first and
second regiments of Illinois foot, commanded Cols. John J. Hardin and Wm. H. Bissell, and soon
after took up the march for San Antonio de Bexar, one hundred and fifty miles to the north. Here
he was joined by Col. Yell's mounted regiment from Arkansas, and by that of Col. Marshall, of
Kentucky; by Capt. Washington's well drilled company of flying artillery, eight pieces, from Carlisle
in Pennsylvania and by major Bounneville's battalion of regular infantry. Col. Harney, with four
companies of dragoons, was also attached to this division. General Wool displayed great activity
in organizing his army and putting the commissariat in the finest possible condition. Sugar and
coffee of the best quality have always been a part of his soldiers' daily diet. No army was ever
better provided that this with all the munitions and appliances of war, if we except the quality of
the powder which the government, by some most culpable agents furnished to us, the infantry, for
the day of battle,-an article far inferior to that of English manufacture, used by the Mexican
soldiers. The tow months passed in this delightful region, were well spent in drilling for active
service. On the 26th of September, two days after the capitulation of Monterey, the advance
under Colonel Harney marched for the Rio Grande followed soon after by General Wool, who left
Colonel Churchill, the inspector, and Colonel Bissell to bring up the rear, as they began to do on the
14th of October. The whole army, at this time, was two thousand six hundred strong. We of
the advance, marched to the Rio Grande, two hundred miles in twelve days, resting one, for
General Wool to join us.

As I can only approximate to accuracy, I shall use round numbers in mentioning distances and the
population of towns. Crossing the present boundary between our country and Mexico, on the 12th
day of October, we set foot on the soil of the enemy.-Thence we marched a distance of four
hundred miles to the city of Parras, on the southwestern confines of this state and near to a lake
of the same name, passing through and taking peaceable posession in our circuitous route of the
cities of Presidio del Rio Grande, Nava, San Fernando, Santa Rosa, Monclova, the ancient capital of
this state and Parras, which we reached on the 6th December ult. These cities contain, each, a
population of from five to fifteen thousand should, except Nava, which numbers about two
thousand. Monclova and Parras are quite wealthy and exhibit fine specimens of Spanish art and
refinement. We spent some time at nearly all of them, with pleasure and profit, viewing much of
Mexican manners and customs and enjoying an apparently cordial intercourse with the citizens.
Our line of march carried us through a great variety of scenery, marked after three days progress in Mexico, by high and barren mountains to the south and west, covered with traces of rich ores; by sterile plains and table lands, scantily supplied, in the dry season, with water; and in the interior by beautiful fertile valleys embosoming the quiet Mexican cities, towns, and haciendas, and surrounded in the hazy distance by clout cap mountains, covered with cedar. You are acquainted with Illinois, and can form some idea of Mexico, as I saw it for six hundred miles, by imagining the Prairie state elevated 50 thousand feet, and made somewhat more broken and undulating with craggy rocky mountains covering from one to two thousand feet above the plains, taking the place of the groves and intersecting the face of the country in all directions. But it is only by actual vision that you can adequately estimate the grand though uninspiring picture of lonely desolation; the inhospitable sterility that met the wearied eye of the soldier in his toilsome, thirsty marches, and often made him wish, in his vexation, that an earthquake had sunk the country which he was sent to conquer.

The country bordering the Rio Grande where we crossed it, and for a considerable distance into Mexico, west and south, is low, level, very fertile and well watered by streams or irrigating canals. It already supports a large population, and contains the cities of Presidio, Nava, and San Fernando; the last two, situated forty and fifty miles west of the river, struck me as quite flourishing.

The land between the Nueces and the Rio Grande, for nearly a hundred miles, except a few fertile prairies, is divided into sandy deserts and marshy chaparrals, almost as difficult of access as the jungles of India. It will be the haunt only of savages and wild beasts for many generations, if not forever. Personal observation satisfied me that senator Benton was right when he pronounced the Nueces, the most profitable western boundary of Texas. Of the country east of this river, of which I saw much, I must say, as of Texas generally, with her rolling prairies, and crystal streams, that here I beheld the future France of America—a land destined to bloom with “the olive and myrtle, the cedar and vine,” and to flow even in our own time with milk and honey.

The effect of our long marching, of the strict discipline enforced by our general, and of the exercise taken in drill was most salutary upon the health of the army. After a professional and sedentary life in the bilious atmosphere of the Mississippi, the campaigning had a most renovating effect. The army lay encamped at Monclaova three weeks, during which period our rear came up, and Gen. Wool was ordered to co-operate with General Taylor at Monterey, instead of marching upon Chihuahua, which up to this time had been our destination. Eleven days brought us to Parras, two hundred miles farther into the country, where supplies were abundant. Here we lay in camp eleven days, in friendly intercourse with the people, of whom many are snot destitute of moral worth and intelligence. The American sharpers among them, soi-distant gentlemen, engaged in trade and marrying fortunes, struck me with more disgust than the most degraded Mexicans. Many of the better classes of natives commanded my highest esteem. One Don Manuel Yvarra, who was educated in the United States, found some old friends in the army, and treated us with a hospitality commensurate with his great wealth. His position was fixed in neutrality, by his intelligence, his prudence, by respect for American character and institutions, sympathy with his countrymen, and by an unfeigned aversion from his own rulers, the demagogues in the city of Mexico. Santa Anna has assessed his contribution for the army at sixty dollars per week. His reply was, “come with your army and take it.” But these halycon days soon passed over our heads, and more stirring scenes were at hand. General Worth, who lay at Saltillo, one hundred and twenty miles north of east from us, with a thousand regulars, on the 16th of December received intelligence which he credited, that Santa Anna was within three days’ march of him with 30,000 men, and was advancing. He despatched expresses to Monterey and Parras for aid, promising to hold out one day against any force, and requesting us to reinforce him on the fourth day. General Taylor had gone to Victoria, but General Lane hastened to Saltillo with two regiments. General Wool received the news in the evening of the 17th, and in less than two hours the whole army was on the march. On the 21st we reinforced Worth but no enemy was present. For three nights in succession on this march, which we accomplished in three days and a half, the army was roused at one o’clock in the morning to resume the advance. The cavalry and artillery called us the sleepwalkers, and complained that we were killing off their horses. The spirit displayed by the men, their alacrity, cheerfulness, and patience, were most admirable. Expecting, as they did, to meet the enemy every hour, their demeanor inspired the staff and all other officers with confidence in the result. Volunteers as they were, and, as compared with regulars, but imperfectly disciplined, they suddenly assumed a bearing and readiness in obeying orders, nor altogether unworthy the old guard of Napoleon. This march was a fitting prelude to the battle of Buena Vista. On the 21st of December, we sat down at Agua Nueva, a small rancho or town, twenty-one miles south of Saltillo, and near the great pass in the mountain leading to San Luis Potosi, the seat of the Mexican power. Here we pased Christmas, watching the appearance of the enemy in this pass and two smaller ones, a few miles distant on each side of us. New year’s day was spent at Encantada nine miles nearer to Saltillo; we still watching however, and enjoying the luxury of frequent false alarms. We soon after took up our fighting position at the Rancho, or Ranch, of Buena Vista, five miles from the city, and prepared to defend the pass two miles in advance of our camp. It is said that Colonel Hardin is entitled to the honor of having first suggested this strong position for a stand against the enemy.

In the meantime, General Taylor had hastened back to Monterey, and was concentrating all the
forces at his command, either to receive the attack or to make it himself. General Scott, however, chose that he should receive it. Early in January, General Worth was detached, with his division, from Taylor, and joined to Scott at Tampico. Not content with taking this and General Patterson's command at Matamoros, Scott, broke into our division, the marching column, and drew off to himself Colonel Harney, with two companies of dragoons, and Major Bonneville's battalion of four companies, leaving Wool an army of volunteers, exclusively, if you except Captain Washington's battery, which last, even he had the modesty to request for his own use.

I should have stated before that General Shields, with a body guard, left us at Monclova, in great disgust with matters and things in the "sleeping division," saying we should see no enemy, and that the "old man would deep us gathering up provisions." I am informed that he sent off his aid, G. T. M. Davis, to Monterey, and thence to Washington with despatches, which were mentioned in the papers as coming from General Wool, but of which General Wool denies all knowledge; also, that he was very desirous of supplanting the old man in this command; of all which I have not he least doubt. Wool had alienated many good officers from him, by his 'curst' manner towards them, which was rougher with officers even than with privates.-Among these was Colonel Harney and Major Bonneville, who doubtless received with joy the order sending them to Scott. General Shields thought he saw in these bickerings alone the road between the chief and his colleagues, a fine opportunity to become chief himself, and fanned the flame of mischief with Machiavellian art. We saw him depart without regret, disgusted as most of us were at his fulsome electioneering with the rank and file, and his vain, self-seeking, unscrupulous ambition.

Of Wool, the best language that can be used is his own conduct at Queenston Heights and Buena Vista, and I shall let it speak for him; with the simple remark that his worst faults lean to the side of rigid discipline, and proceeding from the head, have no place in the heart, which is sound to the core.

Our general was encamped on the 5th ult., with Colonel Bissell and Captain Washington, on the heights above and to the south of Saltillo, the rest of the army being distributed through the valley, still watching the passes to San Luis, when he who is called by his devoted soldiers Old Rough and Ready, came up with Bragg's and Sherman's batteries and Colonel Davis' Mississippi regiment. He expressed great satisfaction and pleasure with our discipline and the manner in which General Wool had "brought us up." By command of General Worth, Gen. Lane with his Indians, and Lieut. Kingsbury, had built a very good fort on the heights of Saltillo, and in it Capt. Webster's two twenty-four pound howitzers, with smaller pieces, were placed and commanded every building in the city below as well as the whole plain from mountain to mountain, east and west.

On the 8th of February, the whole army with General Taylor, except four companies of Illinois, left to guard the town, lay in camp at Agua Nueva, and here our generals patiently awaited the arrival of new levies, which they hoped would make their forces ten thousand strong, and forty days' provisions, to enable us to march for Santa Anna's stronghold, San Luis Potosi, three hundred miles south of Saltillo. General Taylor expected to be ready for the march on the first of April. But for a long time the signs had been thickening, that he Mexican dictator was aiming a blow at Scott. The\n
On the 8th of February, the whole army with General Taylor, except four companies of Illinois, left to guard the town, lay in camp at Agua Nueva, and here our generals patiently awaited the arrival of new levies, which they hoped would make their forces ten thousand strong, and forty days' provisions, to enable us to march for Santa Anna's stronghold, San Luis Potosi, three hundred miles south of Saltillo. General Taylor expected to be ready for the march on the first of April. But for a long time the signs had been thickening, that he Mexican dictator was aiming a blow at Scott. The
could not carry off, he retired to our position. On the next day the birth day of Washington, in the
morning, Colonels Bissell and McKee, with their respective regiments, and Gen. Lane with his
brigade, marched out to meet his enemy. We left our tents standing, and our baggage and
provisions, which were in the Ranch, unguarded, except by teamsters, and one man more, Major
Roman, commissary. Our force on the field varied little from four thousand, as all concur in
stating. The mountains on each side of our position stand two miles apart, and are high and
difficult of ascent. Our flanks rested upon them. The centre occupied the road, with Washington's
battery behind a slight breastwork of earth; above, a little on the left and in advance of which,
Colonel Hardin was posted, on a high conical hill, behind a low breastwork of stone. His office was
to guard this battery on the road below. On a level with this hill to the left was an elevated plain
or table land, terminating at the road in high bluffs, and cut up in front and rear of our line, as well
as on its right, by very deep, wide ravines, dry, with sloping sides, and running for the most part
at right angles with the mountain, and parallel with our line of battle. Here was our left wing. Our
right was posted on a low alluvion, cut up in nearly all directions by deep precipitous ravines, now
dry, which in the rainy season receive and convey the mountain torrents. This low ground was
commanded as far as the mountain, and could be swept by our cannon on the road. Near to and
out parallel with the mountain of the right, a creek with high and perpendicular banks ran to the
north, between which and the mountain, the Kentuckians of Colonel McKee, with two of Bragg's
cannon, were posted on the 22d, and remained there till the morning of the 23d, when, finding
nothing to do on the right, they abandoned this position and rushed into the battle, then raging on
our left.

It became evident on the 22d, that the high plain was to be the principal field of battle. Most of
that day was spent by Santa Anna in throwing a large force of infantry, under General Ampudia, to
the mountain to our left, for the purpose of gaining our rear. At four o'clock P.M. of the 22d the
battle began, with a cannonade on our right and centre, followed soon after by a sharp
engagement in the mountain to our left, between Kentucky riflemen from Col. Marshall's mounted
regiment, and the flankers of Ampudia, at least three thousand strong. The mountain sides to the
top seemed alive with the enemy, whose bright English muskets glistened in the rays of the
setting sun.

Night came and all was still, save the hum of voices from the two opposing armies bivouacked
within musket shot of each other. Had our forces been a little larger, that night would have seen
the destruction of Santa Anna's army. But our only safety lay in an obstinate defence of our
position.-Early in the morning of the 23d the ball opened.-The 2d of Illinois, Colonel Bissell,
occupied the right of the plain, his right resting on the head of a ravine, and well guarded by
Brigg's and Sherman's artillery. On his left were O'Brien's three pieces, detached from
Washington's battery, and still further to our left, next to the mountain, stood the 2d of Indiana,
Colonel Bowles, with General Lane and his staff. The 3d of Indiana, Colonel Lane and Colonel
Davis' well tried Mississipians, were held in reserve. Behind our line and sheltered by a ravine
from the heavy artillery of the enemy, (much heavier than ours,) was our cavalry. The battle
today was opened by our riflemen in the mountains, who renewed the attack which they
commenced the evening before. To their assistance was soon sent the rifle battalion of the 2d
Illinois, three companies under Maj. Trail. Here the blows of our men were soon felt by the enemy
who stood at bay, at a respectful distance from their rifles.

The main force of Santa Anna soon advanced against us on the plain, while their artillery played
upon our ranks on the left. The infantry came on in admirable order, crossing one deep ravine
after another in our front, and deploying out of them into line, with a regularity that excited our
admiration, and must have struck the fancy of our two regular generals. Their eight columns of
regiments, advancing in line, looked formidable indeed. As the enemy rose out of the first ravine
in our front, they opened their fire upon us of the 2d Illinois, which we received some time without
returning, and advanced a short way in it; but which, when we did return it, quickly slackened.
The ranks immediately before us soon staggered under our fire, and were ripe for each charge of
the enemy's artillery. They were kept back by the fire of our single regiment with destructive effect. By command of Col. Churchill, Col.
Bissell ordered his ranks to cease firing and retreat to the ravine in our rear, which order was
several times repeated amidst the rattling volleys before it could be heard and obeyed. Rallying
out of the ravine to the right behind the artillery, which was now ploughing through the advancing
columns of the enemy, we quickly joined the Kenuckians under Col. McKee, and with them drove
back the enemy's left with slaughter into the ravines, where many of them were killed and
wounded. But on our left the enemy were citorious, and were fast pushing into our rear. Their
flankers in the mountain rushed forward to surround our riflemen, and the swarms of lancers
driving before them the Arkansas cavalry, whom Col. Yell in vain called upon that adjured to follow
him to the charge.

Our brave skirmishers from the mountains were on the point of being exterminated, when Cols
Yell and Marshall, with a few companies and the dragoons of Captain Stern's squadron, slightly
checked the career of the lancers, and enabled the greater part of our riflemen to retreat to the
The battle on the plain, meanwhile, was confined to artillery, of which the enemy had planted a battery on our left, and along side of which was the main body of the infantry. On the flanks of our artillery, opposed to that of the enemy, were Cols. Hardin, Bissell, and McKee, ready to repel and expected charge of the Mexican infantry, and in full view of he splendid contest going on in our rear.--Col. Hardin on finding that all the attacks by lancers on Washington's battery were feints, and that the stream of battle flowed only on our side of the field, left his hill and came with a portion of his regiment to the plain. With us was young Clay, whose firm set countenance and eye of fire, called up in memory his eloquent father in the height of an oratorical triumph.

At length, about three o'clock, p.m., we saw the Mexican force in our rear begin to falter and retrace their steps, under the well directed shot of our ranks of marksmen, and the artillery still pouring its iron death bolts into their right. Their lancers, who had taken refuge behind their infantry, and there watched the progress of the fight, made one desperate charge to turn the fortune of the day by breaking the line of Indiana and Mississippi. But the cool, steady volunteers sent them with carnage and confusion to Santa Anna on the plain above, with the report that our reserve was five thousand strong, and filled all the ravines in our rear. The retreat of their infantry, which passed for a moment, was now hastened by the repulse of the lancer, but still under a galling fire. They marched back in excellent order. While making their toilsome and bloody way back, with their men falling at every step, Santa Anna practiced a ruse, to which any French or English officer would have scorned to resort. He exhibited a flag of truce, and sent it across the plain to our right, here stood our generals. The heralds first asked what troops we were, and one officer, a volunteer too, had the folly to say we were regulars, "troupes de tigne." They then asked Gen'l Taylor what terms he had to propose, 'I demand that Gen. Santa Anna surrender himself and his whole army prisoners of war; I will release them on parole'—was his reply. In the morning Santa Anna had summoned Taylor to surrender, representing the folly of his example, and willing to share his fate, seconded the movement and marched with his regiment to the plain. Now came a disastrous movement.—Colonel Hardin called his men to a charge on the retiring enemy. Colonels McKee and Bissell, under the influence of his example, and willing to share his fate, seconded the movement and marched with their men against ten times our numbers. Our batteries took a nearer position and continued their fire. O'Brien with his two remaining guns on our left, accompanied us to the middle of the plain, where he opened on the enemy. We continued to advance, when the Mexicans, wheeling into this, poured upon us, not yet formed into line, a fire such as no ranks ever withstood. At the same time their lancers, in immense squadrons, attacked our right, while their whole line of infantry advanced upon us in rapid, regular march. Their discipline is wonderfully perfect. Had they been less eager to kill and plunder our wounded, and had their officers known the value of life, and how to improve them, the day had been lost to us in blood and horror; for they gave no quarter. Lieut. Robbins surrendered and was stabbed dead, with his own sword. The same fate befell Lieut. Leanhart in the morning, and many others during the day.—We retreated fighting to the head of a ravine far to the right of our batteries, and in advance of our line in the morning. O'Brien's batteries and most of his gunners were gone. We made a short stand at the head of this ravine where McKee, Hardin, and Clay fell, and then ran a gauntlet through it, of three quarters of a mile, in the midst of shot from other sides, to the road where Washington's battery stopped the pursuit and saved us. After crossing a small stream of water, we reached the battery, and climbing Hardin's hill, we were soon greeted with the appearance of Col. Bissell, safe and unhurt. Meantime General Lane with Cols. Davis and Lane and the Monterey heroes of
Mississippi, the gallant Indianians and the Illinois Pioneers under their Sergeant McFarland, rose upon the plain, from their victory in the rear, and in full view of our route, with their scathing volleys called off the vultures from the massacre and plunder of the fallen. Following these up, with the American yell, so terrifying to Mexican hearts, they quickly put their discipline to a severe proof to save their own army from a total rout. They formed, however, rapidly, and renewed the battle; when General Lane off to our left to protect our artillery, whose borders, above all other sounds, incessantly and without pause continued to drown the groans of the wounded, and to chant the requiem of the dead, carrying death upon their bolts through the solid ranks of Santa Anna.

As soon as I had found a breathing place, the shrill voice of Gen'l Wool was heard, calling in trumpet tones, "Illinois, Illinois, to the rescue; out my brave boys, out and defend our batteries." So complete had been our rout, and the dispersion of the 2d of Illinois, which, with six companies, had in the morning, kept her iron tanks against the whole Mexican line, that now, only four men of the regiment were within hearing of this appeal, who answered it by rallying instantly, with a few Kentuckians and Illinoians of the first, to repel with General Lane, a threatened charge. These four men were, private Herman Busch, Corporal Charles Gooding, a lieutenant, and Colonel Bissell. I mention the last with greater pleasure, because he is a true man, a good officer, a native of your state and my colonel. Our force augmented swiftly with the rallying fugitives; but Santa Anna judged it prudent not to make this charge, and thus to save a part of his army for other fields. Had he made it, I cannot bring myself to doubt as to the result, when I consider the exasperated mind of every survivor among us, inflamed to the highest and bitterest resentment for the wanton murders of the wounded and vanquished, committed under our eyes throughout the day. We had now determined to conquer or to die.

Santa Anna resumed his retreat. Still under the fire of our artillery and in good order he recrossed the ravines, out of which he had marched upon us in the morning. His bivouack was a little in advance of our position till about midnight, when he retired to Agua Nueva, and thence on the 26th ult., marched for San Luis Potosi. He admitted his loss to have been four thousand killed, wounded and missing, of whom, certainly, not half were deserters.-We exchanged his prisoners for C.M. Clay and the others taken in January, whom he promised to send to Vera Cruz. Our killed and wounded were seven hundred. The dispatches have already informed you who they are. The letter is now so long that I must close with a brief notice of a few of the dead, reserving the most recent events for another epistle.

Captain Lincoln, so distinguished at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, was shot through he head early in the day, while rallying us, and fell from his horse, near me, into the arms of Captain Raith. He was a gallant New Engander, and stood high in the esteem of all. He was adjutant to Gen. Wool.

Colonel Hardin was slain by lancers, near where, and soon after McKee and Clay were shot. He was an excellent officer, a good lawyer, and was a man of talent. His character and late bear a strong similitude to that of Colonel Davies, who fell at Tippecanoe.

Colonel McKee, whom I did not know, is much regretted in the army, and his character spoken of, universally, in the most exalted terms.

It was never my fortune to know a more kind hearted, chivalric and accomplished gentleman than Col. as. He fell with Capt. Porter, with lancers, but feebly knew with but to love him; none named him but to praise.

Lieutenant William Price, of our Illinois rifle battalion, was slain by lancers while retreating from the mountains, after our left was turned in the morning. The frost of seventy two winters had silvered his hairs, and he had left a home of affluence and ease, with the expressed wish to die in the service of his country, and, if need be, on the field of battle. "They cannot cheat me out of many years," said he.-When ordered with the battalion, like a forlorn hope, to the trying contest in the mountains, he exclaimed with a look of joy, as he drew his sword: "Now boys, this looks like doing something." The enemy triumphed over his fall, supposing hi to be General Wool, and some prisoners taken soon after said that General Taylor alone was left to save us. They judged erroneously of us from themselves, and would have found us an army still, though deprived of our three generals.

Lieutenant Colonel Henry Clay, jr., was much lamented. His manners, voice, and features reminded the observer strongly of his father. You saw the suavity, ease, and dignity of his carriage and deportment in them both. The statesman of Kentucky will say with old Siward:

"My son has paid a soldier's debt,  
In the unshrinking station where he fought.  
Had I as many sons as I heirs,  
I would not wish them a fairer death:  
And so his knell is knolled.
In the same part of the field, and about the same time with Clay, McKee, and Hardin, another fell, pierced by a lance, whose name is worthy of a place in the rolls of fame—Private Alexander Konze, of Company H, 2d Regiment of Illinois. The writer was honored with his friendship, and had an opportunity of knowing him well, being a member of the same company and his tent mate. His conduct on the field was most soldierly, cool, calm, deliberate, and prompt in obeying orders. His courage was conspicuous, even in the moment of his death, when he refused to surrender. Except a brother in South America, he left no relatives on this continent. His widowed mother lives in Bueckenburg, in Hanover, near to his native city—Hamburg. He received a splendid education at the universities of Jena and Goettingen. He had been but a year in the United States when he joined our regiment in Alton, whither he had come to volunteer, from Wisconsin. His motives in taking this step were, that he might serve the country, whose constitution he respected before all other systems of government, and gratify his curiosity in a new mode of life, by seeing Mexico, and observing as he did with a philosophic eye, the character of her people and institutions. The writer promised much pleasure to himself in travelling with him through this country. He was twenty-seven years of age, and probably the most learned man in the army. His knowledge of philology was accurate and profound. Such was his familiarity with the Latin, that by one day's examination of a Spanish grammar he was able to read this cognate language with facility. Many pleasant hours have we sent together in rambling over the plains and mountains of Mexico, while he filled his haversack with new plants to send to Germany, and which his knowledge of botany often enabled him to class in their several genera and species.

A better or a braver heart than his never beat its last on a field of battle. While awaiting upon the field, on the night of the 23d of February, the renewal of the attack by Santa Anna, the thought was most consolatory to several of his comrades, that death on the next day, might make them companions of Militates, of Socrates, and of Kunze. This man died for a country of which he was not a citizen; shall it be said that he, the republican son of Germany, was not a true American? May his example animate the hearts of those whom alone he would acknowledge as countrymen—
the good and the true of every clime and country.

Respectfully, Nath'l Niles.

[ANP]
pursued a party of about thirty lancers who turned off in a byroad, and all but five were wither sabred or dismounted. Major Sumner and Lieutenant Silby. At the head of first set of fours, had several personal encounters with the enemy, who were, in every instance, either killed or dismounted. The pursuit was continued to the village of Madeline, six miles from the bridge, from which another party of lancers were seen retreating and Lieutenant Neill, my adjutant, being in advance, pursued them with three men.

A party was sent to support him; but his horse being fleeter than the rest, he came first upon the enemy, and two of them closing upon him, he received two severe lance wounds in the breast and arm, in consequence he fell from his horse, but not until he displayed uncommon gallantry in his defence. Hearing this, and believing the enemy in force, I continued the pursuit two miles further; but night coming on, I was reluctantly compelled to desist. I had Lieutenant Neill brought to the village of Madeline, where I halted for three hours to refresh the men and horses, and then I returned to camp with my command, which I reached at 3 o'clock in the morning. After my disposition had been made for the attack, Major General Patterson came up with Colonel Campbell's regiment of 1st Tennessee volunteers. He did not assume command, but rendered important aid by his gallant bearing and demeanor. Colonel Campbell's regiment participated in the attack and assault; and my thanks are due to him. Also to Colonel Haskell and Captain Cheatham, who evinced great zeal and gallantry. Colonel Haskell was the first to leap the parapet. Lieut. Judd's position was perilous, and he exhibited rare judgment, coolness, and intrepidity; and the service of himself and his subaltern, Lieutenant H. Brown were of inestimable value. The steadiness and gallantry displayed in the presence of the enemy by officers and men, both of regulars and volunteer service, merit my highest approbation. As to my own regiment, it would be invidious to particularize where all behaved so nobly. Especial thanks are due to my staff, Lieut. Lowery, Lieut. Neill, and Dr. Barnes who were active and zealous in the discharge of their respective duties. Neither can I omit to mention the effective service rendered by Brevet Major B. L. Beall and Captain W.J. Hardee, of my regiment. The former, though confined to his bed by sickness, joined my command on the first imitation of engagement. The latter mounted at the commencement of the pursuit, and joined me as one of my staff. In the day's action I lost two men killed and nine wounded, among them my guide Thomas Young, of Texas, who discharged his duty with fidelity and bravery. It is not ascertained precisely what number of the enemy was killed; but it is known that not less than fifty fell in the attack and subsequent pursuit.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. HARNEY, Colonel 2d Dragoons, com'dg

Lieutenant H.L. Scott, A.A.A.G. Camp Washington, before Vera Cruz

[KAM]

NNR 72.159 May 8, 1847 Order No. 94 relative to transportation &c.

Limited means of transportation being in readiness, portions of the army will march as follows:

The second division of regulars on the 8th instant, the division of volunteers (two brigades only twenty-four hours later.

Major General Patterson will leave one of his three brigades in this immediate vicinity for further means of transportation, and also the Tennessee dismounted cavalry until the arrival of their horses. Both of these corps for the time, will be under the immediate orders of the same brigadier general, and the latter, when his division marches, will report to general headquarters for instructions.

The respective chiefs of the general staff will assign to the headquarters of each marching division an engineer, topographical engineer and ordnance officer, an assistant quartermaster, an assistant commissary, and a medical officer.

The chief quartermaster will assign to the second division forty-five wagons, and to the division of volunteers fifty-five, for the entire baggage of the officers of every grade, the regiments and companies.-The interior distribution of wagons will be made at the headquarters of each division.

Taylor's and Talcott's field batteries will march with the second division, and Steptoe's with the division of volunteers.

Col. Harney will detach a squadron of 24? Dragoons with each of these divisions.

A special requisition for transportation will be made for those field batteries and squadrons, and one wagon will be assigned to the medical director of the division for extra medicines and hospital
Every man will take, for his musket or rifle, forty rounds of ammunition, and in his haversack, hard bread for four days and bacon or pork (cooked) for two days. Fresh beef, with rations of salt, will be issued on the march.

The utmost care will always be taken of ammunition and food for the troops.

The chief quartermaster will send in extra wagons, grain for the saddle, artillery, and cavalry horses of each division for four days, and each baggage wagon will take grain for the same number of days for its own team.

He will also turn over to the chief of ordnance ten wagons, and to the chief commissary one hundred wagons, to be loaded by them, respectively, with cartridges for small arms, and subsistence stores.

These extra wagons will be divided between the two divisions, march with and be escorted and guarded like other wagons attached to the division.

The quartermaster's and commissary departments will take prompt measures for the purchase and issue on the march of such forage and subsistence as it may be practicable to obtain, as also for trains and escorts that may be sent back to this depot.

Each general of division will receive a route of march and instruction from general headquarters.

By command of Major General Scott:

H.L. SCOTT, A.A.A. General.

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NNR 72.159 May 8, 1847 OFFICIAL LIST OF KILLED AND WOUNDED AT VERACRUZ

Report of killed, wounded, and missing of the army, during the investment and siege of Vera Cruz commencing the 9th and ending the 28th of March, 1847.

KILLED.

First brigade of Regulars.- Capt. J.R. Vinton, 3d artillery; in the trenches, March 22, 1847. Privates John Hafner, company B; of wound received in the trenches, March 24, 1847. Nicholas Burns, company B, 2d artillery; by the explosion of a shell in the trenches, March 24, 1847. Marines-

Second brigade of Regulars.- Capt. Wm. Alburtis, 2d infantry; in march while the troops were taking the line of investment, March 11, 1847. Private: Timothy Cunningham, mounted riflemen; by a cannonball, March, 11, 1847. Sergeant Wm. R. Blake, 4th artillery, company F; by a musket ball, March 15, 1847.


Col. Harney's Command-Privates: John Miller, 1st Pennsylvania, company G; at the navy battery, March 25, 1847.

General Patterson's Volunteers-Privates: John Miller, 1st Pennsylvania, company G; in the affair on the Madellin road, by lancers, March 17, 1847. Gothjib Reip, 1st Pennsylvania, company G; at the navy battery, March 25, 1847.

WOUNDED.

First Brigade of Regulars: Privates: Wheeler B. Hunt, 2d artillery, company B, slightly; in the right shoulder in the trenches, March 24, 1847; Emile Voiturat, 2d artillery, company B, slightly; in the head, in the trenches, March 24th, 1847. Adolph Meihle, 2d artillery, company D; his left arm shot of while serving in the trenches, March 22, 1847. John Golden, 2d artillery, company D, slightly; in the left cheek, while serving in the trenches, March 22, 1847. Wm Henderson, 2d artillery, company D, slightly; in the hip while serving in the trenches, March 22, 1847. Ernest Krimpe, 2d artillery, company F; slightly; in the hip, while on an advanced piquet guard, March 20, 1847. Owen Boate, 2d artillery, company F; slightly wounded in the face by the bursting of one of the enemy's shells, while serving the mortars in battery No. 3 March 24, 1847. Wm Carthage, 2d artillery, company F, slightly wounded in the face by the bursting of one of the enemy's shells while serving the mortars in battery No. 3, March 24, 1847. Joseph S. Hayden, 2d artillery, company F, slightly wounded in the face by the bursting of one of the enemy's shells, while serving the mortars in battery No. 3, March 24th, 1847. [ANP]

NNR 72.160 May 8, 1847 ACCOUNT OF THE VICTORY AT CERRO GORDO

POSTSCRIPT.

ARMY OF INVASION.

GREAT BATTLE AND VICTORY OF CERRO GORDO.

New Orleans papers of the 29th and 30th ult. furnish us with brief accounts of a bloody battle fought at Cerro Gordo, on the 18th April, in which the American army under Gen. Scot was signally victorious, though not without severe loss on our side.

Gen. Shields was mortally wounded; Gen. Pillow slightly wounded. Major Sumner was shot in the head by a musket ball, but will recover. Capt. Mason of the rifles lost a leg. Lieut. Ewell badly wounded. Lieut. McLane wounded, but not severely—Pierson of the 4th, wounded, also Lieuts. Gibbs, Maury, Kervis; Lieut. Davis; Capt. Patton slightly.

The conflict commenced by the advance under Gen. Twiggs, and a severe but not decisive battle ensued.

Shields, with the Wabash and Illinois regiment, went to the aid of Twiggs—the victory was complete.

Cols. Baker, Childs, Harney, Riley, Foreman, Haskell, all behaved beyond all praise.

On the 17th the Mexicans took possession of a hill in front of all their works, from which to dislodge them Gen. Twiggs ordered the rifles under major Sumner, with some detachments of artillery and infantry, including Capt. Williams' company of Kentucky and Capt. Nailer's company of Pennsylvania volunteers, to the charge. It was done in style, but the loss was severe. The Mexican defense was obstinate. The rifle regiment suffered terribly. In Col Haskell's command, Lieut. F.B. Nelson, and Lieut. C.G. Gill, both from Memphis, were killed; Lieut. Col. Cummings, major Farquharson, Adj't Haile, Lieut. Yearwood, Forest, Murray, and Sutherland were wounded. The regiment went into action with less than 400 men, and lost 79 killed and wounded.

This engagement had not been contemplated. Every arrangement had been made by Gen. Scott to commence the attack on the morning of the 18th and orders issued accordingly. The Mexicans were posted in a Gibraltar from which it was necessary to dislodge them.

The attack was made—the victory is complete.

La Vega on the 17th commanded the Cerro Gordo. Ascertaining that night from a deserter, that the main attack was to be made on the right of their line, he changed places with Gen. Vasquez, in order to meet the assault, which was made there by Gen. Pillow.—La Vega defended the post until the Mexican lines were completely turned.

The Mexican loss upon the heights was awful!—the ground in places covered with the dead. Amongst the bodies were found those of General Vasquez, and near him Col. Palacio, mortally wounded. Their loss in the retreat was terribly severe.—Mr. Kendall, who writes the account, says he thinks five hundred will cover our entire loss. Col. Baker who charged on the last fort taken, had forty five men killed or wounded out of but a portion of his regiment. Lieut. Cowardin killed, Lieut. Murphy mortally wounded, Lieut. Johnson wounded three times, thigh amputated, Lieuts. Scott, Freman, and Maltby, wounded.
Santa Anna lost all his valuable personal effects including plate, money, and even his wooden leg. He narrowly escaped by mounting a saddle mule and taking to the chaparral. The dinner prepared for him was left in haste. His coach is taken and appropriated to the use of major Sumner.

Gen. Vega behaved nobly, but is again taken prisoner. His brother, a colonel is mortally wounded.

There were Mexican general and colonels enough taken to command an abstract army.

Gen. La Vega and Jarero, with fourteen other Mexican officers who refused parole, reached Vera Cruz on the 21st under charge of Capt. G.W. Hughes (Top. Engineers). They will be sent to the U. States. The most of the prisoners will be paroled.

A postscript gives a gleam of hope that General Shields may possible survive. He was wounded leading his brigade to storm one of the enemy's furthest works. Gen. Pillow and all of Col. Haskel's field officers but himself, were wounded in storming the fortification under La Vega.

The rifles, Haskel's Tennessee volunteers, the 1st artillery, the 7th infantry, and Capt Williams' Kentucky volunteers suffered most.

At one o'clock Gen. Twigg's division, who had been in the hardest of the fight, was pursuing the flying enemy towards Jalapa. Gen. Worth allowed Peirson, who commanded the forts near Plan del Rio, fifteen minutes to consider. He surrendered unconditionally. Gen. Worth's division took up the line of march for Mexico on the morning of the 19th,--Gen. Scott was to follow at noon.

[ANP]

NNR 72.160 May 8, 1847 Position of Gen. Zachary Taylor's forces

Our latest dates from Matamoras are to the 18th, and Monterey to the 12th of April.

General Taylor was still encamped at the Walnut Springs, near Monterey. The returning volunteers, it is evident, leave him without an adequate force where with to advance upon Sans Luis, even if his munitions, supplies, and transportations were adequate for penetrating to such a distance, He is waiting for reinforcements.

The 2d regiment of Mississippi volunteers have reached Monterey, all armed as riflemen.

It was rumored at Matamoros that the Massachusetts regiment would be relieved by the 2nd Ohio, and proceed on to Monterey.

The New Orleans Delta, states that the following are the positions and movement of Gen. Taylor's column. According to the last advices:


Our wounded men are doing well. In one hospital, of which Dr. Herrick had charge, one of eighty wounded men of the Illinois regiment, not more than three or four dies-the remainder were fast convalescing. [KAM]
was evidently a gallant and well conducted affair.

[Anxious to insert the colonel's account at large in this number we made the effort, but find we would lose the mail b the delay required. It is too good an article to attempt to abbreviate. Our officers write as well as fight.[ANP]

NNR 72.161 May 15, 1847 Scourge (formerly the Bangor) purchased, its voyage to Cuba

The Scourge, we ascertain, was the steamer Bangor, built some years since at Wilmington, Del. intended as a regular boat between Boston and Bangor, Maine. Some misfortune happened to her in her first or second trip--and we heard no more of the Bangor, until the United States being sadly in want of boats of her daft for the Mexican coast, the Bangor, amongst others was brought up at a round price, refitted at New York, and newly names the Scourge. An officer on board of her, gives the following account, in a letter dated Havana, March 18, 1847:

"I do not know whether you were aware of the prognostications made by many persons previous to our departure from New York; but sir, if you were, certainly, you as well as a large portion of our friends must be desirous to hear from us, for many were the doubtful looks and expressions ventured as to whether she would ever cross the gulf stream. Painful as those expressed doubts were to the friends of those that composed her crew, yet frequently they were repeated, and indeed, some were advised to leave her. But our country called for service, to defend her rights, and although from the ominous look of many an experienced eye in naval affairs, we were disposed to doubt the capacity of the steamer for weathering the storm, yet all were willing to brave the battle and the breeze. And accordingly we sailed from New York on the 4th inst. in company with the steamer Scorpion. The evening of our departure, we left astern our companion, as she could not keep up with us and on the third day we experienced quite severe weather. All on board anxiously watched the movements of the little steamer when the bad weather commenced, and we soon found that all was right, for she mounted the big seas like a duck; and during the greater part of our passage, notwithstanding that the weather was bad, and the sea running pretty high, yet was her quarter deck dry. Of course the wind being generally ahead, our passage has been longer than we had hoped for. We arrived yesterday, making it 13 days passage. The Scorpion is not yet in, but we look for her momentarily.

I had forgotten to say one thing, that is, notwithstanding the doubt, as to the capacity of this vessel for sea service, that not even a spare sail was put on board for cases of emergency; this omission looks much as if it was thought she would never arrive in port again and therefore not necessary to go to farther expense in fitting her out. The sails are all old; scarcely is there a common croger upon the ocean, that has spare sails. With regard to other matters, they are very delicate--so excuse me.

We sail for Vera Cruz in three or four days-we would leave sooner, but deficiencies must be made up, for we are undergoing repairs in the boilers, we have found them, also in a bad condition, &c. &c.

Com. Perry passed this place some days ago, on his way to the squadron. We shall hope for a pleasant passage to Vera Cruz, and when there, if opportunity happens, I think that our gallant commander, Charles G. Hunter will give a good account in his log to the country.

March 20th.--We are still here, repairing a defect in the boilers, and very anxious to get off. The United States bomb brig Heela has just made her appearance off the harbor. One officer in a boat has come in and after communicating with our consul (General Campbell) will continue on to Vera Cruz.

The letter bag is yet on board, and I have opened this to give you an example of American character. This day four American citizens, mechanics, have volunteered to come on board tomorrow, (Sunday) and assist in putting our boilers in order; this arises from pure motives of patriotism, as they have said that any offer of pay for their services will be looked upon as an insult to them. This is too good to go unmentioned, and I hope that their names will be sent by our generous commander to the navy department." [KAM]

NNR 72.162 May 15, 1847 Illuminations for Victory

The celebration in honor of the victories in Mexico, took place at New York on Friday evening, the 7th inst. It must have been a splendid affair. The public places and many private dwellings were illuminated, transparencies innumerable, fire works, and flags displayed in all directions. The crowd of course was immense; it is estimated that 400,000 people witnessed the spectacle.
The celebration at Washington city took place on Saturday evening the 8th, the anniversary of the first victory at Palo Alto. It was for that community, equally as imposing as that of New York. The details fill over two columns of the National Intelligencer. A bonfire composed of 100 tar and turpentine barrels and other combustibles, erected into a pillar forty feet high illuminated the space between the capitol and navy yard. [KAM]

NNR 72.162 May 15, 1847 hospitals at Veracruz full, but few deaths, numerous discharges to permit a change of climate

The Hospitals at Vera Cruz.-We were told last evening that there were between a thousand and twelve hundred sick soldiers in the hospital at that place, but that the deaths were comparatively few.-Many of these men are completely prostrated, worn down with disease, and the nature of the climate is such as to make a change absolutely necessary to bring them up again. TO enable them effectually to recover, discharges are given in every case where the certificate of the physician to that effect is given.-Several hundreds have already been sent home, and we notice too that many of the volunteer officers are retiring from service because of ill health.-American Eagle of April 20th. [ANP]

NNR 72.162 May 15, 1847 Alejandro Jose Atocha's peace proposal to the Mexican government

The New York "Courier des Etats Unis" of the 1st May, publishes a letter from Vera Cruz dated the 9th of April. The writer says that, to his own personal knowledge, M. Atocha just before his departure from Mexico, and at three o'clock in the morning, wrote a confidential letter to Rejon, in which he made the following proposition, (in his own name and not officially,) as the basis of a treaty, that, in his opinion and according to his instructions, would be acceptable to both countries:

The adoption as a boundary line between the two countries of the Rio Grande del Norte as far up as parallel of California, which intersects the Rio Gila between the 33rd and 34th degrees of latitude. [This line would only include New Mexico, in addition to California; while the 26th parallel would have deprived Mexico of only one-third of her territory.] The United States were also able to pay for these acquisitions $15,000,000 or 20,000,000, and also become responsible for Mexican claims.

The expenses if the war, M. Atocha estimated at 60,000,000. There was also to be a treaty of commerce, and of alliance between the United States and Mexico, offensive and defensive; the former engaging to protect the latter, as well as to refuse to acknowledge the independence of revolting provinces, and also to defend the frontier against the Indians, keeping thereon a force of from five to ten thousand men.

This letter-writer also (continues the Courier) says that these liberal conditions were read, and M. Atocha was charged by the Mexican Cabinet with a reply to the effect that it would open negotiations the moment the American arms were withdrawn from the Mexican soil.

The Courier des Etats Unis, in its comments upon this letter, remarks that M. Atocha defrayed the expense of his own mission, and that he is going again to Vera Cruz in a few days; this time as a simple traveler. His presence there (adds the Courier) may prove beneficial to the cause of peace. [KAM]

NNR 72.162-72.163 May 15, 1847 British notions about the position of American forces at Veracruz

English notions as to the attack on Vera Cruz, and a march to Mexico.-The London Chronicle says-"The attack on Vera Cruz appears still to stand; that is to say if the yellow fever and the Mexicans permit the troops stationed in the north of the province to advance by land through the passes. Our correspondent has estimated the attacking force at seventeen thousand men. We have not the slightest hesitation in saying, that if in any manner the United States can contrive to congregate that number of men in the neighborhood of Vera Cruz, the town must infallibly fall. The American in sheer fighting will knock the Mexicans to pieces-so that there can be no doubt. It would only be on martial prowess that the result could depend, for the United States by sea could keep their army well supplied and victualled. The puzzle is, however, to see how much further forward the United States will be even when they have won Vera Cruz. Their plan is, it is said, to advance upon Mexico itself, by Jalapa and Perote; but, unless we are much mistaken, this hope is as absurd as that of Napoleon upon Moscow. There is but one thing we know of that is more difficult for the United States army than to get to Mexico, and that would be to get back
again to Vera Cruz. The expectation of a successful advance is, however, out of the question. Two gaunt spectres,-disease and famine,-stand in the passes between Vera Cruz and Mexico, and waive the invaders back." [ANP]

NNR 72.163-72.164 May 15, 1847 Jalapa Taken

War With Mexico. "Army of Invasion."
Jalapa and Perote Taken.
The U.S. transport ship United States, arrived at New Orleans on the 5th with Vera Cruz dates to the 29th April.
By this arrival the New Orleans Delta received the following letter from their correspondent, "Chaparral."
Jalapa, Mexico, April 21, 1847.

I arrived at this lovely place yesterday, and found that Gen. Twiggs had hoisted the American flag in the city the day before. He followed the retreating heroes of Cerro Gordo to within a few miles of Jalapa, when all traces of them, as a body, disappeared, and he encamped for the night within three miles of the town that evening, and entered and took possession of it early the next morning.

Santa Anna did not pass through Jalapa, but, in company with Ampudia and Torrejon, turned off to the left at his hacienda, and halted for the night at the "nine mile pass," which was being fortified, but which, on second consideration, it was deemed prudent to evacuate. This evacuation took place yesterday morning, and in the evening Col. Harney's dragoons took possession of the Pass. - Gen. Worth following in their footsteps. A number of small arms was taken at the Pass, but they are all of little or no value.

Gen. Worth, it is said, will move on to Perote, at which place many think he will have a fight, as it is reported here that additional defences are being made.

All along the road between Perote and Puebla, the Mexicans here say we will be opposed, and contrary, to the general belief, it is said the commander-in-chief will shortly move in that direction.

The list of killed and wounded, on our side, is much larger than was at first reported - it is over 350. Colonel Childs is the military governor of Jalapa.

April 22d. - Gen. Worth approached last evening within four or five leagues of Perote, and entered the city today. We had accounts last night that it had been evacuated by the soldiery, who spiked all the guns before leaving.

I am extremely glad to have it in my power to state to you that Gen. Shields has improved much since my last, and Lieut. Hammond, who came from him this evening, thinks there is probability of his recovery.

Most of the wagons here will leave for Vera Cruz in the morning, and if it is the intention to remove early, it will retard it for ten or twelve days.

Jalapa, April 23, 10, A.M.

An express has just got in from Perote. General Worth reached that town yesterday, at 11 o'clock, A.M. He found it completely evacuated by the soldiers of the enemy, and a Col. Vasquez left behind to surrender it with decency. An immense number of small arms, the big guns of the castle and city, and ammunition were taken possession of. It was unfounded, the report that the guns had been spiked in the castle; they were found in excellent order. Gen. Ampudia, with about 3,000 cavalry, in a wretched condition, was near the town when our troops entered it, when he put off.

Santa Anna had not been in Perote since the fight at Sierra Gordo, and he is supposed to be somewhere in the mountains. [JLM]

NNR 72.164 May 15, 1847 Perote taken

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when our troops entered it, when he put off.

Santa Anna had not been in Perote since the fight at Cerro Gordo, and he is supposed to be somewhere in the mountains. [KAM]

NNR 72.164 May 15, 1847 scenes witnessed on the route from Cerro Gordo

From the correspondent of the Vera Cruz Eagle.

Jalapa, April 20, 1847.

Yesterday, at noon, I left the encampment near Sierra Gordo simultaneously with the thousands of Mexican prisoners who had been released on parole, and who were winding their way to their different homes, or to some place from whence they may again be forced to take up arms against us. I believe their line, extended as it was along the road, was full five miles in length. The Guarda Nacionale was the only corps that maintained any order in their march—the residue trudging along as best they could, and in most admirable disorder.

We rode over the road on which they marched with great difficulty, turning our horses’ heads twenty different ways in the space of half an hour, to avoid riding them down. They were less sad than men under similar circumstances would generally be, and cracked many a joke at their own expense. This was in the early part of the march. But towards sunset, when they had measured 18 or 20 miles of their journey—most of them in their bare feet—they became quite silent and sad, and the effects of the fatigue of the day combined with previous privations, told sensibly upon them. I felt much interested in the numerous camp women—those devoted creatures who follow them through good and evil—and it grieved me to see them, worn down with fatigue, moving at a snail’s pace, their heavy burthens almost weighing them to the earth.

The woman of sixty or more years—the mother with her infant wrapped in her rebosa—the wife, far advanced in that state that "women wish to be who love their lords"—the youthful Senorita frisking along with her lover’s sombrero on her head; even to the prattling girl who had followed padre and madre to the wars—could all be sent at one view moving along—and bearing the hardships of the tramp, unconscious of the existence of misery in this world.

These women, like the Indians, are the slaves of the men—a slavery they submit to under the all powerful influence of affection. In addition to their bedding and wearing apparel, they pack upon their backs the food and the utensils to cook in it, and worn out as they are by the toils of the day, whilst their husband or lover sleeps, they prepare his repast.

I noticed one man—a general—who left General Scott’s quarters about the time I did. He was an elderly man, and I soon perceived from his hobbling that he had but one leg. His progress on the march was an object of curiosity to me, and I was surprised to see him keep up so well with the more youthful and perfect limbed. I halted for some time at the hacienda of Santa Anna, to rest my horse, and my eyes ran eagerly over the column of prisoners to see if he had kept up. The fourth or fifth man to the writer was himself. He had refused a dozen offers to ride, both from our men and his own. About 11 o’clock at night all of them passed my tent—save those who had sunk down from the effects of the march—which was about three ills from this place. An hour afterwards a polite voice at the tent asked permission to light a segar from the fire. I looked out, it was he. He said he had not been able to keep up with the advance, but would reach Jalapa in one hour’s time. The segar lighted, he hobbled off again, and this morning I met him in the streets, apparently not at all affected with the jaunt.

When the Mexicans surrendered, it was about their dinner hour. In one of their forts the camp kettles were taken from the fire, and the rations were being proportioned out, when the order for surrender came from the second in command—so they had to march out without their dinners. That evening, although large quantities of food had been served out to them by our commissaries, they were picking up old bones, stale pieces of bread, and everything that could be eaten. Yesterday, on the march, they would run up to a beef, killed the day before by our advance, and cut off every piece that could be obtained, as eagerly as though they were half famished.

From the foot of Sierra Gordo to Santa Anna’s hacienda, the roadside was lined with dead Mexicans and horses. At or near the rancho where General Twiggs overtook the retreating enemy, they lay thick around, and a more horrid scene it would be difficult to picture. Mexicans lay dead in every direction; some resting up against trees, others with legs and arms extended, and occasionally a lancer lying with his arm upon his charger that received his death wound from the same volley that ended the career of his rider. Some of the prisoners passing through would occasionally halt to view the features of the deceased, and then, mending their gait, regain their place by the side of those who were more fortunate in the fight.
At the place above cited was to be seen all the property, other than munitions of war, taken from
the enemy. In one place, arranged in good order, were all the pack saddles—then the pen
containing mules—the provisions next, comprising rice, beans, bread, pepper, pilonveos, garlic, &c.
piles of shoes, knapsacks, and all the paraphernalias of a Mexican camp. Captain Robert Allen, A.
Q.M. stopped for a moment and gave orders as to he removal of these things.

The muskets taken from the enemy were broken on stones as I passed the spot where they were.-
They were of no earthly use to us, and hence the summary mode of disposing them. [ANP]

NNR 72.164 May 15, 1847 64 Effects at the capital of the news of the defeat of Gen. Antonio
Lopez de Santa Anna

The Mexicans here, one and all, denounce Santa Anna as a coward, a traitor, and everything else
that is bad; and I verily believe that a majority of them would rejoice exceedingly had General
Scott captured him the other day and hung him upon the first limb strong enough to bear his
weight. That he is playing them false you cannot beat out of their heads— that he has sold the
battles of Buena Vista and Sierra Gordo for a consideration they are equally confident, and in proof
they are internally talking about the $300,000,000. They do not understand why it was that
President Polk allowed him to pass freely into Vera Cruz from Havana, unless there was bribery
and corruption. [KAM]

NNR 72.165 May 15,1847 expectation that Gen. Winfield Scott will cut himself off from Veracruz to
approach Mexico City

Col. Martin Scott went on this morning with the 5th infantry, to join the division of Gen. Worth.-
The general impression now is that Gen. Scott, unable to keep up his communications through the
tierra caliente for want of horses and transportation, will cut himself loose from Vera Cruz, push
on towards the city of Mexico, and to a certain extent depend upon the natural resources of the
country. [ANP, KAM]

NNR 72.165 May 15, 1847 Rumors in Mexico City about offer of British mediation with the United
States

Among other rumors brought by passengers, is one to the effect that Mr. Bankhead, the British
minister, has renewed his offers of mediation between Mexico and the United States, and that
when the last diligencia left the city of Mexico the congress was acting upon his propositions,
whatever they may have been. Notwithstanding the fixed and denunciatory tones of the public
press, there is certainly something in this report of English intervention in the distracted affairs in
Mexico. [KAM]

NNR 72.165 May 15, 1847 Troops Stationed at Saltillo

An officer of the army who left Saltillo on the 14th of April, states, says the N. Orleans Delta of the
6th, that the force stationed there and at Buena Vista, under the command of Gen. Wool, was
composed of the 1st and 2d Illinois regiments, the 2d Kentucky regiment, the 2d and 3d
Indians, and the Arkansas cavalry. The 1st and 2d Illinois were about to leave; the term of
enlistment of the whole of them will have expired between the 1st and 20th proximo.

The artillery force that was in the battle of Buena Vista, are still stationed there, as are also Col.
May's dragoons. A squadron of the latter, numbering some 200 under Lieut. Rucker, made a scout
in the adjoining country. They found Gen. Minon in the neighborhood of Encarnacion, at the head
of a thousand or fifteen hundred lancers. They thought to draw a fight from Minon, but were
unsuccessful. Three of the party, who separated themselves from the main body, got killed before
they returned to camp, by some prowling Mexicans who hung about their lines.

The troops at Buena Vista and Saltillo were in excellent health; and the wounded, who were daily
visited by gen. Wool, and who saw that all their wants were attended to, were rapidly improving.
With the wounded Mexicans, who are in a separate hospital, it is different. The place is in a most
filthy condition, attended by their own surgeons; the American governor of the town had to
compel the alcalde to pay more attention to their wants and to the cleanliness of the place.
Gen. Taylor is still at the Walnut Springs. He has heard of his nomination for the presidency by several presses in the United States, but avoids referring to it or saying aught about it. He evidently appears chagrined, but at or about what he does not communicate to those about him. Our informant left his camp on the 18th ult.

The Kentucky rifles, who were then at the Walnut Springs, were to start for Camargo, on their way home, with the next down train.

The headquarters of Humphrey Marshall's Kentucky cavalry was Cerralvo. Tom Marshall's company was at Camargo. But few or none of the volunteers will reenlist. [JLM]

NNR 72.165 May 15, 1847 Gen. Zachary Taylor's preparations for advancing on San Luis Potosí, Indian rubber bags for water requested, terms of volunteers

There is no longer a doubt of Gen. Taylor's intention to advance upon St. Luis Potosí, so soon as he can obtain a sufficient number of men and means of transportation for the enterprise.

I have satisfied myself of this by the general's requisition upon the quartermaster's department for a large number of Indian rubber bags, calculated to carry water. Several thousand of these were yesterday sent up in a train. Each one is capable of holding from four to six gallons. This seems to me conclusive evidence of a contemplated march through the waterless county between Buena Vista and San Luis.

On the other hand, the disbandment of volunteers, whose term of service is shortly expiring, will leave General Taylor with but a very small force. Several regiments of Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, and Kentucky, and one from Mississippi and Arkansas, will before long return home. The Louisville legion is just now embarking at this place on their way home. You will perceive by this, that unless new forces are sent here, it is scarcely probable that any active operations will take place in this quarter.

Camargo is almost entirely deserted by the Mexicans, But few, and those in the government's employ, are remaining. [KAM]

NNR 72.167 May 15, 1847 Gen. Jose Mariano de Salas summons a council of war, defense by small parties expected

On the 20th of April, immediately after the receipt of Santa Anna's defeat, Gen. Mariano Salas called a meeting of officers to devise some measures by which to preserve the nation from utter obliteration. No one here thinks that the Mexicans can ever make another stand, and to give another battle, but the impression is prevalent that small parties will be organized to annoy the roads, cut off supplies, and kill all stragglers. How great, in this case, is the necessity for two or three, or even one regiment of Texans. [KAM]

NNR 72.165 May 15, 1847 BATTLE OF CERRO GORDO

Official.
Orders issued by General Scott the evening before the battle of the 18th:
Headquarters of the Army
Plan del Rio, April 17, 1847

The enemy's whole line of entrenchments and batteries will be attacked in front, and at the same time turned early in the day to-morrow - probably before 10 o'clock A.M.

The second (Twiggs') division of regulars is already advanced within easy turning distance towards the enemy's left. That division has instructions to move forward before daylight to-morrow, and take up position across the National Road in the enemy's rear so as to cut off a retreat towards Jalapa. It may be reinforced to-day, if unexpectedly attacked in force, by regiments - one or two - taken from Shields, who will march for that purpose at daylight to-morrow morning under Brigadier General Twiggs on getting up with him, or the general in chief, if he be in advance.

The remaining regiment of that volunteer brigade will receive instructions in the course of this day.
The first division of regulars (Worth's) will follow the movements against the enemy's left at sunrise to-morrow morning.

As already arranged, Brigadier General Pillow's brigade will march at 6 o'clock to-morrow morning along the route he has carefully reconnoitered, and stand ready as soon as he hears the report of arms on our right, or sooner if circumstances should favor him, to pierce the enemy's line of batteries at such point - the nearer the river the better - as he may select. Once in the rear of that line, he will turn to the right or left, or both, and attack the batteries in reverse, or, if abandoned, he will pursue the enemy with vigor until further orders.

Wall's field battery and the cavalry will be held in reserve on the National Road, a little out of view and range of the enemy's batteries. They will take up that position at 9 o'clock in the morning.

The enemy's batteries being carried or abandoned, all our divisions and corps will pursue with vigor.

This pursuit may be continued many miles until stopped by darkness or fortified oppositions towards Jalapa. Consequently, the body of the army will not return to this encampment; but be followed to-morrow afternoon or early the next morning, by the baggage trains of the several corps. For this purpose, the feeble officers and men of each corps will be left to guard its camp and its effects, and to load up latter in the wagons of the corps. A commander of the present encampment will be designated in the course of this day.

As soon as it shall be known that the enemy's works have been carried, or that the general pursuit has been commenced, one wagon for each regiment and one for the cavalry will follow the movement, to receive, under the directions of medical officers, the wounded and disabled, who will be brought back to this place for treatment in general hospital.

The surgeon general will organize this important service and designate that hospital, as well as the medical officers to be left at it.

Every man who marches out to attack or pursue the enemy will take the usual allowance of ammunition, and subsistence for at least two days.

H. L. SCOTT, A. A. A. Gen.

NNR 72.168 May 15, 1847 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's address on quitting the capital to encounter Gen. Winfield Scott

MEXICAN OPERATIONS

General Morales, who so long as he was allowed to command, gallantly defended Vera Cruz, as well as General Landero, who surrendered the city and the castle, were immediately put under arrest by Santa Anna, and ordered to Guanajuata.

The following address was issued by Santa Anna before quitting the capital.

Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, president ad interim of the Mexican Republic, to his compatriots.

MEXICANS! Vera Cruz is already in the power of the enemy. It has succumbed, not under the influence of American valor, nor can it even be said that it has fallen under the impulses of their good fortune. To our shame be it said, we ourselves have produced this deplorable misfortune by our own interminable discords.

The truth is due to your from the government; you are the arbiters of the fate of our country. If our country is to be defended, it will be you who will stop the triumphant march of the enemy who now occupies Vera Cruz. If the enemy advance one step more the national independence will be buried in the abyss of the past.

I am resolved to go out and encounter the enemy. What is life worth, ennobled by the national gratitude, if the country suffers under a censure the stain of which will rebound upon the forehead of every Mexican!

My duty is to sacrifice myself, and I well know how to fulfill it! Perhaps the American hosts may proudly tread the imperial capital of Azteca. I will never witness such an opprobrium, for I am
decided first to die fighting!

The momentous crisis has at length arrived to the Mexican republic. It is as glorious to die fighting as it is infamous to declare ourselves conquered without a struggle, and by an enemy whose rapacity is as far removed from valor as from generosity.

Mexicans! You have a religion - protect it! You have honor - then free yourselves from infamy! You love your wives, your children - then liberate them from American brutality! But it must be by action, not by vain entreaty nor barren desires, with which the enemy must be opposed. The national cause is infinitely just, although God appears to have deserted us; but His ire will be appeased when we present, as an expiation of our errors, the sentiments of true patriotism and of a sincere union. Thus the Almighty will bless our efforts, and we will be invincible; for against the decision of eight millions of Mexicans of what avail are the efforts of eight or ten millions of Americans, when opposed by the fiat of divine justice?

Perhaps I speak to you for the last time! I pray you listen to me! Do not vacillate between death and slavery; and if the enemy conquer you, at least they will respect the heroism of your resistance. - It is now time that the common defence should alone occupy your thoughts! The hour of sacrifice has sounded its approach! Awaken! A tomb opens at your feet! Conquer a laurel to repose on it!

The nation has not yet lost its vitality. I swear to you I will answer for the triumph of Mexico if unanimous and sincere desires on your part second my desires. Happy will have been, a thousand times happy, the unfortunate event at Vera Cruz, if the destruction of that city may have served to infuse into the Mexican breast the dignity and the generous ardor of a true patriotism. Thus will the country succumb, she will bequeath her opprobrium and her censure to those egotists who were not ready to defend her; to those who traitorously pursued their private turmoils to trample upon the national banner.

Mexicans! Your fate is the fate of the nation! - Not the Americans, but you, will decide her destiny. Vera Cruz calls for vengeance! Follow me, and wash out the stain of her dishonor.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.
Mexico, March 31, 1847

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NNR 72.168 May 15, 1847 Feud between the parties in Mexico suppressed after the departure of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna from the capital, Don Pedro Maria Anaya elected substitute president

The feud between the party at the head of which has been the vice president, Gomez Farias, and the party of revolutionists, had been restrained so long as Santa Anna was president, but it becomes necessary for congress to decide who should succeed to authority during the absence of the president from the capital. Santa Anna was probably inclined in favor of Gomez. A majority of the congress were opposed to him, but the constitution was imperative. By its provisions the vice-president was entitled to the charge of government during the absence of the president. To obviate this difficulty, a bill was brought in declaring the vice presidency created by the act of the 21st of December, 1846, suppressed. A violent debate on the bill ensued.- The vote was taken on the 31st of March, and stood, for the proposition 38, against it 35.

Decree.- The next day April 1st a decree was passed, granting the provisional president of the republic permission to take command of the army in person, suppressing the vice presidency of the republic, and authorizing the congress to fill the place of the provisional president during his absence, and, finally, ordering that the legislature of the state on the 15th of May, shall proceed to elect a president of the republic, according to the form prescribed in the constitution of 1824, except that they shall vote for one individual only.

This decree was passed, and congress at once proceeded to the choice of a substitute for the president, Senor Don Pedro Anaya received 60 votes, and Almonte 11, when the members voted by person. The vote was 18-3 when voting by states. [KAM]

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NNR 72.168 May 15, 1847 Mexican clergy men bind themselves to contribute to the government

The clergy of the archbishop of Mexico have bound themselves to the government for a million and a half of dollars, payable monthly. The clergy of the different bishoprics are to do the same. [KAM]
MEXICANS: At the moment in which the loss of Ulua and of Vera Cruz, in which the danger of the
capital itself obliges the worthy president of the republic to vacate the government and take
command of the army, the vote of the representatives of the people has committed to me the
executive power of the Union.

Ever devoid of ambition, and deeply penetrated with the terrible difficulty of existing
circumstances, the imperious force of duty alone could impel me to accept the responsibility. But a
citizen and a soldier, I owe to my country the sacrifice of repose of life, and even of my
reputation. The voice of patriotism cries to me that it is necessary to save our country or to perish.

The war which devastates Mexico is for us the most sacred of causes. The world contemplates with
disgust our neighbors of the north converted into conquerors, to gain possession of a territory
which the faith of treaties, which rights the most worthy of respect assure to us. Never was there
a defense more legitimate, never a war more necessary. In it every thing is at stake- our honor,
as well as our national existence; the present and the future.

The territory we have lost, the cities which have bombarded, the blood which has so profusely
flowed in this war, all constrain us to prosecute it undismayed by reverses. It is necessary to
prove that our name ranks with justice among those of the free people of the universe. Let us
accept the trial to which providence subjects us- that from great crises nations are regenerated.

This people cannot think of peace, because it involves its consent to the dismemberment of our
country; it cannot think if the disgrace of our name, because the unworthy thought would proclaim
that Mexico, incapable of showing her valor and enduring sacrifices, is at the disposal of every
people who can bombard her cities and march an army upon her territory. After such disgrace our
independence would be a derision, our nationality a transitory act. War, then is the cry of the
people; war is the policy of the government.

To wage it successfully but one element is necessary union. Too long has our strength been
wasted in senseless conflict; it is necessary to unite the whole against the foreigner. In the name
of the country, I conjure all Mexicans that they rally around the sacred standard of independence
and the republic; that they cease from these pernicious divisions which facilitate the projects of
the invader, which excite smiles of criminal joy in those who count upon erecting a foreign throne
upon the ruins of our conquered and humiliated country.

Mexicans: I have not accepted power for the triumph of any party. The government thinks only
upon the common salvation. In its eyes all generous opinions are worthy of respect; all
republicans are good sons f the country. Throughout my life, liberty, the republic, and federation
have been my cause; this cause I am going to defend, not to forget; to this my power, my blood is
to be devoted.

Upon the banners of the enemy is inscribed "To conquer or die;" and, in order that our country
may be independent, that the cause of our race may triumph, it is necessary to oppose to this
fatal inscription "Force and Liberty;" it is necessary that our arms should thrust forth the enemy
from out territory, and that our institutions should restrain them upon the frontier. Destined to a
permanent rivalry, it is necessary, in order to struggle with them, that we become great and
strong by that power which rules the universe- the power of democracy and civilization.

In accepting power I have sworn to defend our independence and our institutions. The oath is
sacred. The nation can confide in my loyalty and my honor. But these are not sufficient to save us;
the situation is difficult, and I should not have consented to accept the government, had I not
hoped to be able to unite all efforts against the common enemy. Independence demands the co-
operation of all Mexicans, the sacrifice of all animosities, the exercise of every virtue, thee
exertion of all our energies.

Let the nation rise up united; let it enter upon the struggle with the vigorous enthusiasm of the
days of independence, and then Vandals who have threatened us shall repent their rash iniquity.
Victory will crown our exertions, and we shall speedily have a nationality assured, a name worthy
of respect, a permanent existence secured. If, in the hour of danger and of sacrifice, we imitate
the lofty virtues and the indomitable valor of our fathers, Mexico will be saved.

Pedro Maria Anaya
On the 5th of April Senor Gamboa addressed the Mexican congress to the following effect:

GENTLEMEN: Vera Cruz has succumbed, and it has been indicated that an army of 9,000 to 10,000 men is marching into the interior of this republic. This, as it has been seen by every one of us, has caused a general sensation, and it is feared that at the end of the present month or beginning of the next the Vandalic army of North America will reach the capital of our republic. In consequence of this it has been suggested to remove the sovereign congress to another place, and several measures have been proposed, but none of these have reference to fortifying or putting our city in a proper state of defense. It is feared, however, that a resistance may be useless; that all will give up to the impulse of the enemy; and, lastly, that our beautiful and costly buildings will be destroyed and the city ruined. I do not know how any such thing could be expected; and, even if I should see the city of Mexico taken by that handful of adventurers, I would still doubt my eyes.

I flatter myself that the army that General Santa Anna is now commanding will undoubtedly sustain the glory of the nation; and I believe, not from what the love of our country makes me believe, but from the conviction of my mind, free from all partiality.

General Santa Anna takes with him an army composed of 5,000 men brought from San Luis, of 3,000 which we have seen taking the line of march a few days ago, and of 2,000 which will join him near Jalapa; in all more than 10,000 men. It is to be presumed, likewise, that a multitude of National Guards from the states of Mexico and Puebla, and the jarochada (rabble) from the department of Vera Cruz, will join him.

The enemy’s army, according to information from every person who has seen it, has only about 5,000 regulars, and the remaining forces are composed of banditti, without the slightest knowledge of military tactics, without instruction of any description, without confidence, and generally easily terrified.

And it is possible to imagine that only by its powerful artillery the enemy will conquer and exterminate our troops? I hope that the God of justice cannot afford a visible protection to these banditti, the blind instruments of perversity, and of the most barbarous usurpation which could be found in modern and ancient history. But should it be decreed by providence that we must suffer this blow, and that we should once again taste of the cup of bitterness, will this be a motive why we should leave open and unprotected the gates of our capital, and allow the enemy to penetrate into the very heart of our republic, to carry on their customary depredations? I would, in no case, recommend such a course, and will urge the necessity of defending ourselves and of opposing them with all the strength and resources we have at hand, should such an unfortunate event take place.

Let us suppose for a moment that the American army, without losing a single man, should arrive even within sight of this city, would it be possible that 9,10,15, or even 20,000 men should cause a city of more than 250,000 inhabitants to surrender? If such a thing should happen- if we should consent to such a surrender without the strongest resistance- the whole world would forever refer to us as an example of the vilest, most cowardly, and contemptible place on earth, and we should not deserve from any nation the slightest regard or compassion. I will not propose what I would wish to see- that ism that the Mexicans should imitate the Numidians and Carthagarians, when attacked by the Romans in ancient times; or should follow the example of the memorable Saragossa, which, under the command of that great hero Palafox, was reduced to a pile of ruins, burying 100,000 combatants beneath them; but I do wish to see that we should do what has been done throughout the world on similar occasions- that is, we that shall resist the enemy to the last possible extreme.

Paris, in 1814, did not capitulate against the whole forces of Russia, Prussia, England, and Austria, until it had suffered considerable losses under generals Marmont and Mortier. That same city, Paris, after the battle of Waterloo, where the immortal Napoleon lost forever his glory, endeavored to defend herself against the immense torrent that threatened to destroy her, and, organizing an army with the divisions of General Davoust and Grouchy, they still fought hard battles at Serves and Izly. Even Madrid, the capital of the nation to which we were once united, did, by herself, resist the powerful army that France sent against her; and, notwithstanding her oppression, a popular movement was formed against the French, and there Murat exercised his most bloody vengeance.

And can it be imagined that the Mexicans will be frightened and quail at the sight of a handful of adventurers? Such a conquest would surprise the world more than that which Cortez obtained over the Empire of Montezuma; for at the time it was necessary, in order to cause this city to surrender, that it should be besieged by more than 200,000 [illegible], united with the Spaniards, and that very resources of subsistence should have been exhausted. And at the time the natives had not the incomparable means of defence which we now possess- means which I will not mention here-as by so doing I suppose it would be an insult to persons of common sense.
In accordance with what I have here manifested, I am of opinion that the city should be immediately put in a state of defence, and this is the object of my first proposition.

I also beg that congress should not be removed, unless the extreme case should arrive of the occupation of the city by the enemy. My object is not a request of the representatives of Mexico to repeat before the world the pathetic scene of the Romans, when Brennus, general of the Gauls, attacked Rome when sitting in open ground in their council chairs, they awaited the enemy and challenged the death which they received. I repeat that this is not my desire, but I wish that we may not act on the opposite extreme - deserting this place with a shameful fury- that we may remain here until the moment when prudence and necessity should dictate that we must move elsewhere, as in similar cases has been done by the civilized assemblies.

When the Spaniards, had nearly lost all their peninsula, a regency was established at Cadiz, which provoked the Cortes of the kingdom, and immediately promulgated the political constitution of the Spanish monarchy. These events took place in the midst of the bombs and shells which the French army was throwing into the city, and then they were (unsuccessfully) besieged by Gen. Victor.

In France, when the allies conquered for the first time, the senate did not change its residence, and instead constituted a provisional government.- [illegible] like happened after the fall of Napoleon, and the chamber of representatives appointed a commissioner of government, of which Fouche was the president.

All foreign nations have their eyes fixed on our [illegible] And what judgment can we expect them [illegible] of our valor and our cause, if we are [illegible] into a sudden dismay and disquietude? It is fairly necessary, for this very reason, that we hold by our extraordinary efforts prove the justice our rights; and lastly, we must show that we come [illegible] the inconquerable Spanish race, and that we [illegible] in our veins the blood of Guatimozin, Hidalgo, Morelos, and thousands of others, who shed the last drop of it in honor and defence of their country, and who taught us by their examples the course we are to pursue. These considerations have caused me to make the following proposals to congress.

"1st. That our government will proceed immediately to the place the city in a manner fit to resist the invasion of the North Americans. 2nd. That every power which may be considered necessary for this object shall be granted to the executive. 3rd. That, should be the means of resistance be exhausted, and the capital be occupied by the Americans, congress will meet where the president should determine.- 4th. When the removal of congress shall be determined, any majority will be sufficient to constitute it."

GAMBOA

[NKR 72.169 May 15, 1847 Decrees and appeals addressed to the Mexican people about carrying on the war with the United States

MEXICO- The editors of the Spanish paper La Patria, of New Orleans, have received city of Mexico papers to the 10th April.

The Mexican congress had passed a decree, which is published on the 10th to the following effect:

1st. In order to carry on the war, which our nation wages against the United States of the north, all the Mexicans capable if bearing arms are hereby summoned to enroll themselves immediately.

2nd. The government will publish the necessary rules and instructions, in order to make effective the organization of the National Guards, according to what is established in part XIX, article 50th of the constitution.

3rd. The executive may dictate measures which may be considered necessary in order to use all the arms and ammunition which may be in possession of private individuals, and which may not be employed by the police or National Guards: also for the use of wagons, baggage, ammunition, and provisions, and any other articles or utensils which may be necessary for the fulfillment of this object, providing always the means of indemnification, &c.

A meeting of the principal citizens took place on the 8th April, when they unanimously agrees to establish the "guerrilla" system for resisting the North Americans. These resolutions were made known to the government and to congress, the respectable bodies, in order to start immediately
for the mountains, passes, and cliffs.

Among the persons singing the propositions we see the names of many prominent lawyers, military, and other public men. The papers have before announced this as the means of saving the nation, and sustaining Mexican independence.

All the papers are filled with appeals to the citizens, and one of them asks- "can it be possible, that among eight millions of Mexicans we cannot find a sufficient number of patriotic and determined men, who will resist the enemy that is invading our soil without the least regard to our rights?"

[ANN]

NNR 72.169-72.170 May 15, 1847 ARMY OF OCCUPATION.

In the New Orleans Delta of the 2d instant, we find the following general description of the battle, founded on information furnished by Capt. Hughes, of the Topographical corps:

On the arrival of the other division of the army at the encampment of General Twiggs, on the 16th of April, Gen. Scott, after taking a reconnaissance of the enemy's works, determined to storm them. The position occupied by the enemy was regarded by them as impregnable, and truly to any other than American soldiers it must have appeared an insurmountable and impracticable undertaking to carry it by storm or take it by strategy.

The road from Vera Cruz, as it passes the Plan del Rio, which is a wide rocky bed of a once large stream, is commanded by a series of high cliff's rising one above the other, and extending several miles, and all well fortified. The road then debouches to the right, and curving around the ridge, passes over a high cliff, which is completely enfiladed by forts and batteries. This ridge is the commencement of the Tierra Templada- the upper or mountainous country. The high and rocky ravine of the river protected the right flank of the position, and a series of most abrupt and apparently impassable mountains and ridges covered their left. Between these points, running a distance of two or three miles, a succession of strongly fortified forts bristled at every turn, and seemed to defy all bravery and skill. The Cerro Gordo commanded the road on a gentle declination, like a glacis, for nearly a mile. An approach in that direction was impossible. A front attack must have terminated in the almost entire annihilation of our army. But the enemy expected such an attack, confiding in the desperate valor of our men, and believing that it was impossible to turn their position to the right or left. Gen. Scott, however, with the eye of a skillful general perceived the trap set for him, and determined to avoid it. He therefore had a road cut to the right, so as to escape the front fire from the Cerro, and turn his position on the left flank. This movement was made know to the enemy by a deserter from our camp, and consequently a large increase of force under Gen. Vega was sent to the forts on their left. Gen. Scott, to cover his flank movements, on the 17th of April ordered forward Gen. Twiggs against the fort on the steep ascent, in front and a little to the left of the Cerro. Col. Harney commanded this expedition, and, at the head of the rifles and some detachments of infantry and artillery, carried this position under a heavy fire of grape and musketry. Having secured this position in front and near the enemy's strongest fortification and having, by incredible labor, elevated one of our large guns to the top of the fort, Gen. Scott prepared to follow up his advantages. A demonstration was made from this position against another strong fort in the rear, and near the Cerro, but the enemy were considered too strong, and the undertaking was abandoned. A like demonstration was made by the enemy.

On the next day, the 18th, General Twiggs was ordered forward from the position he had already captured against the fort which commanded the Cerro. Simultaneously an attack on the fortifications on the enemy's left was to be made by Generals Shields' and Worth's divisions, who moved in separate columns, whilst General Pillow advanced against the strong forts and difficult ascents on the right of the enemy's position. The enemy fully acquainted with Gen. Scott's intended movement, had thrown large bodies of men into the various positions to be attacked. The most serious enterprise was that of Twiggs, who advanced against the main for that commanded the Cerro. Nothing can be conceived more difficult than this undertaking. The steep and rough character of the ground, the constant fire of the enemy in front, and the cross fire of the forts and batteries which enfiladed our lines, made the duty assigned to Gen. Twiggs one of surprising difficulty. Nothing prevented our men from being utterly destroyed by the steepness of the ascent under which they could shelter. But they sought no shelter, and onward rushed against a hailstorm of balls and musket shot, led by the gallant Harney, whose noble bearing elicited the applause of the whole army. His conspicuous and stalwart frame at the head of his brigade, his long arm leading his men on to the charge, his sturdy voice ringing above the clash of arms and the [...] of conflict, attracted the attention and admiration alike of the enemy and our own army. On, on, he led the columns, whose front lines melted before the enemy's fire like snow flakes in a torrent, and staid not their course until, leaping over the rocky barriers and bayoneting their gunners, they drove the enemy pell mell from the fort, delivering a deadly fire into their ranks,
from their own guns, as they hastily retired. This was truly a gallant deed, worthy the Chevalier Bayard of our army, as the intrepid Harney is well styled. Gen. Scott, between whom and Col. Harney there had existed some coolness, rode up to the Col. After this achievement, and remarked to him, "Col. Harney, I cannot now adequately express my admiration of your gallant achievement, but at the proper time I shall take great pleasure in thanking you in proper terms." Harney with the modesty of true valor, claimed the praise as due to his officers and men. Thus did the division of the gallant veteran Twiggs carry the main position of the enemy and occupy the fort which commanded the road. It was here the enemy received their heaviest loss, and their Gen. Vasquez was killed.

A little after, Gen. Worth having, by great exertions, passed the steep and craggy heights on the enemy's left, summoned a strong fort in the rear of the Cerro to surrender. This fort was manned by a large force under Gen. Pinzon, a mulatto officer of considerable ability and courage, who, seeing the Cerro carried, thought prudent to surrender, when he did, with all his force. Gen. Shields was not so fortunate in the battery which he attacked, and which was commanded by Gen. La Vega. A heavy fire was opened on him, under which the fort was carried with some loss by the gallant Iliansions; under Baker and Bennett, supported by the New Yorkers, under Burnett. Among those who fell under this fire was the gallant general, who received a grape shot through his lungs, by which he was completely paralyzed, and, at least accounts, was in a lingering state. On the enemy's right, Gen. Pillow commenced the attack against the strong forts near the river. The Tennesseans, under Haskell, led the column, and the other volunteer regiments followed. This column unexpectedly encountered a heavy fire from a masked battery, by which Haskell's regiment was nearly cut to pieces, and the other volunteer regiments were severely handled. Gen. Pillow withdrew his men, and was preparing for another attack when the operations at the other points having proved successful, the enemy concluded to surrender. Thus the victory was complete, and four generals and about 5,000 men were taken prisoners by our army. One of their principal generals, and a large number of other officers, killed.

The Mexican force on this occasion certainly exceeded our own. The Mexican officers admitted that Santa Anna had 8,000 men in the lines, and 6,000 including 2,000 lancers, outside of the intrenchments. Gen. Scott's force was about 8,000. Gen. Quitman's brigade not having arrived in time to take part in the engagement. Gen. Ampudia was second in command of the Mexicans, and superintended the operations of the enemy. When the Cerro was carried he was seen retreating on a fine white charger, his hat falling off as he galloped away. Many of the Mexicans escaped by a bye path which runs off from the main road between the Cerro and the fort carried by Gen. Worth. As to Santa Anna and Canalizo, they retreated in time to escape by the main road. Their conduct was regarded as most cowardly. Some of the Mexican officers who were take prisoners do not hesitate to attribute their defeat to the cowardice or corruption of Santa Anna. The force of the enemy was composed of their best soldiers. The infantry that fought so well at Buena Vista, all the regular artillerists of the republic, including several able naval officers, were present. Some of the officers whom Gen. Scott released at the capitulation of Vera Cruz, without extorting the parole on account of their gallantry, were found among the killed and wounded. A gallant young officer named Halzinger, a German by birth, who extorted the admiration of our army in the bombardment of Vera Cruz, by seizing a flag which was cut down by our balls and holding it up in his hand until a staff could be prepared, had been released by Gen. Scott without a parole. He was found among the desperately wounded at Cerro Gordo.

The enemy's loss, in killed and wounded, was about as large as our own; but, in addition to this, the loss of 6,000 prisoners and some of their best officers. Our army captured about thirty pieces of beautiful brass cannon, of large caliber, and mostly manufactured at the Royal Foundry of Seville. A large quantity of fixed ammunition, or very superior quality, was also taken. The private baggage and money chest of Santa Anna, containing $20,000, was also captured. The latter was delivered over to the pay master. The volunteers who were employed in carrying the specie into camp cracked a joke over the prospect of being soon paid off in Mexican coin and free of expense of Uncle Sam.

When our forces had carried the various positions of the enemy, and the road was cleared, General Twiggs started in hot pursuit of the fugitive Santa Anna, and pressed close upon his heels. A strong position, five miles west of Cerro Gordo, fortified and defended by a fine battery of long brass guns, was abandoned by the enemy and occupied by our troops. Gen. Twiggs bivouacked within three miles of the lovely town of Jalapa.

In concluding our imperfect sketch of this brilliant achievement, we cannot sufficiently express or admiration of the extraordinary deeds of or gallant army and able general. Scarcely a month has elapsed since our troops, under Scott, landed on the enemy's shores. In that time a strong walled city has been captured, together with an impregnable fortress; a pitched battle has been fought under the most formidable natural defences; twelve thousand prisoners have been taken, including some half a dozen general officers; five hundred splendid cannon, and an immense amount of munitions of war have been added to the national trophies. Truly, such results are glorious testimonials of the valor of our soldiers, and of the skill, gallantry, and perseverance of the accomplished general who led them. [JLM]
PRISONERS. A list of Mexican officers captured at Cerro Gordo, on the 18th April, who have given their parole of honor to report themselves without delay to the commandant of the American forces at Vera Cruz as prisoners of war:

Jose M. Jarero, brigadier general.
Romulo de la Vega, brigadier general.
P. Ruiz y Baranda, captain of Mexican navy, commanding artillery.
Vicente Argüella, captain artillery.
Jose Ma. Mata, captain.
Jose Ma. Gallegos, commanding grenadiers.
Mariano Camacho, 1st lieut. artillery.
Barthome Amable, 2d lieut. artillery.
Jose R. Coburbias, 2d lieut. artillery.
Jose de Lastor Bras y Soller, lieut. col. battalion de la libertad.
Jose Nufiez, capt. 6th regt. infantry.
Jose Ma. Moreno, capt. 6th regt. infantry.
Gregorio del Callejo, capt. 6th regt. infantry.
Rafael de Berrabidas, 2d lieut. 6th regt. infantry.
Salvero Velez, aid-de-camp to Gen. Vega.
Francisco Fernandez, 1st lieut. Mexican navy.

The above prisoners, under the charge of Capt. Geo. W. Hughes, corps of topographical engineers, arrived at Vera Cruz on the 21st inst. Gen. Scott has left it to their election whether they should remain close prisoners in the castle of San Juan d'Ulua or proceed to New Orleans, where they should be allowed such personal liberty as their condition and conduct might seem to require of the commandant of that post. It is understood that all of the foregoing captured officers have expressed a desire to be transferred to the United States, and that Col. Wilson, Governor of Vera Cruz, had acceded to their wishes, and had directed that a vessel should be held in readiness to sail, for their accommodation, about the 25th of April. [JLM]
We crossed the Colorado about 10 miles below the mouth of the Gila, and, marching near it about 30 miles further, turned off and crossed the desert - a distance of about 60 miles - without water or grass.

On the 2nd December, reached Warner's rancho, (Agua Caliente), the frontier settlement in California, on the route leading to Sonora. On the 4th, marched to Mr. Stokes' rancho, (San Isabella) on the 5th were met by a small party of volunteers, under Capt. Gillispie, sent out from San Diego by Commodore Stockton, to give us what information they possessed of the enemy, 600 or 700 of whom are now to be in arms and in the field throughout the territory, determined upon opposing the Americans and resisting their authority in the country. Encamped that night near another rancho (San Maria) of Mr. Stokes' about 40 miles from San Diego.

The journals and the maps kept and prepared by Captain Johnson, (my aide-de-camp) and those by Lieutenant Emory; topographical engineers, which will accompany or follow this report, will render anything further from me on this subject unnecessary. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J.W. Kearney, Brig. Gen. U.S.A.


Headquarters, army of the west
San Diego, Upper California, Dec. 13, 1846.

SIR- In my communications to you of yesterday's date, I brought the reports of the movements of my guard up to the morning of the 5th instant, in camp near a rancho of Mr. Stokes, (Santa Maria) about 40 miles from San Diego.

Having learned from Capt. Gillispie, of the volunteers, that there was an armed party of Californians, with a number of extra horses at San Pasqual, three leagues distant, on a road leading to this place. I sent Lieut. Hammond, 1st dragoons, with a few men to make a reconnaissance of them. He returned at two in the morning of the 6th inst. reporting that he had found the party in the place mentioned, and that he had been seen, though not pursued by them. I then determined that I would march for and attach them by break of day. Arrangements were accordingly made for the purpose. My aid-de-camp, Capt. Johnson, dragoons, was assigned to the command of the advance guard of twelve dragoons, mounted on the best horses we had; then followed about fifty dragoons under Captain Moore, with but a few exceptions, on the tired mules they had ridden from Santa Fe ( New Mexico, 1,050 miles); then about 20 volunteers of Capt. Gibson's company under his command, and that of Capt. Gillispie; then followed our two mountain howitzers, with dragoons to manage them, and under the charge of Lieut. Davidson, of the regiment. The remainder of the dragoons, volunteers, and citizens, employed by the officers of the staff, &c. were places under the command of Major Swords, (quartermaster), with the orders to follow on our trail with the baggage, and to see to its safety.

As the day, (December 6) dawned, we approached the enemy at San Pasqual, who was already in the saddle, when Captain Johnson made a furious charge upon them with his advanced guard, and was in a short time after supported by the dragoons; soon after which the enemy gave way, having kept up from beginning a continued fire upon us. Upon the retreats of the enemy, Capt. Moore led off rapidly in pursuit, accompanied by the dragoons, mounted horses, and was followed, though slowly, by the others on their tired mules, the enemy well mounted among the best horsemen in the world, after retreating about half a mile, and seeing an interval between Captain Moore with his advance, and the dragoons coming to his support rallied their whole force charged with their lances, and on account of their greatly superior numbers, but few of us in front remain untouched; for five minutes they held the ground from us, and then fled from the field, not to return to it, and which we occupies and encamped upon it.

Our howitzers were not brought into the action, but coming into the front at close of it, before they were turned, so as to admit of being fired upon the retreating enemy, the two mules before one of them got alarmed and freeing themselves of their drivers, ran off, and among the enemy, and was then lost to us.

The enemy proved to be a party of about 160 Californians under Andreas Pico, brother of the late governor; the number of their dead and wounded must have been considerable, though I have no means of ascertaining how many, as just previous to the final retreat, they carried off all excepting six.

The great number of our killed and wounded proves that our officers and men have finally sustained the high character and reputation of our troops; and the victory thus gained over more than double our force, may assist in forming the wreath of our national glory.
A most melancholy duty now remains for me is to report the death of my aid de-camp, Captain Johnson, who was shot dead at the commencement previous to the final retreat of the enemy, and Lieut. Hammond, also lanced, who survived but a few hours. We had also killed two sergeants, [illegible] corporals, and ten privates of the 1st dragoons; [illegible] private of the volunteers, and one man engaged in the topographical department. Among the wounded are myself, (in two places,) Lieut. Warner, [illegible] topographical engineers, (in three places), Captains Gillispie and Gibson of the volunteers, (the former three places), one sergeant, one bugleman, and three privates of the dragoons; many of them were unhorsed and incapable of resistance.

I have to return my thanks to many for their gallantry and good conduct on the field, and particularly to Capt. Turner, 1st dragoons, (assistant [illegible] general) and to Lieut. Emory, topographical engineers, who were active in the performance of their duties, and in conveying orders to me to the [illegible].

On the morning of the 7th, having made [illegible] for our wounded, and interred the dead proceeded on our march, when the enemy showed himself occupying the hills in our front, but which they left as we approached; till, reaching San Bernado, a party of them took possession of a hill near to it, and maintaining their position until attacked by our advance, who quickly drove them from it, killing and wounding five of their number, with no loss on our part.

On account of our wounded men, and upon the report of the surgeon that rest was necessary for them, we remained at this place till the morning of the 11th, when Lieut. Gray, in the navy, in command of a party of sailors and marines, sent out from San Diego by Commodore Stockton, joined us. We proceeded at 10, a.m. the enemy no longer showing himself; and on the 12th, (yesterday), we reached this place; and I have now to offer my thanks to Com. Stockton, and all of his gallant command, for the many kind attentions we have received and continue to receive from them.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J.W. KEARNEY, Brig. Gen. U.S.A.


Headquarters, army of the west
Ciudad de los Angelos, Upper California, Jan. 12, 1847

SIR- I have the honor to report that, at the request of Commodore R.F. Stockton, United States navy, (who in September last assumed the title of governor of California), I consented to take command of an expedition to this place, (the capital of the country) , and that, on the 29th December, I left San Diego with about 500 men, consisting of about sixty dismounted dragoons under Capt. Turner, 50 California volunteers, and the remainder marines and sailors, with a battery of artillery- Lieut. Emory, (topographical engineers) acting as assistant adjutant general. Com. Stockton accompanied us.

We proceeded on our route without seeing the enemy till on the 8th instant, when they showed themselves in full force of 600 mounted men, with four pieces of artillery under their governor, (Flores) occupying the heights in front of us, which commanded the crossing of the river SAN Gabriel, and they ready to oppose our further progress. The necessary disposition of our troops was immediately made, by covering our front with a strong party of skirmishers placing our wagons and baggage train in the rear of them, and protecting the flanks and rear with the remainder of the command. We then proceeded, forded by the river, carried the heights and drove the enemy from them, after an action of about an hour and a half, during which they made a charge upon our left flank, which was repulsed, soon after which they retreated and left us in possession of the field, on which we encamped that night.

The next day, (the 9th instant) we proceeded on our march at the usual hour, the enemy in our front and on our flanks; and when we reached the plains of the Mesa, their artillery again opened upon us, when their fire was returned by our guns as we advanced; and after hovering around and near us for about two hours, occasionally skirmishing with us during that time, they concentrated their force and made another charge on our left flank, which was quickly repulsed; shortly after which they retired, we continuing our march, and in the afternoon, encamped on the banks of the Mesa, three miles below this city, which we entered the following morning, (the 10th instant), without further molestation.

Our loss in the actions of the 8th and 9th was small, being but one private killed and two officers, Lieut. Rowan of the navy, and Capt. Gillispie, of the volunteers, and eleven privates wounded. The enemy, mounted on fine horses, and being the best riders in the world, carried off their killed and wounded, and we know not the number of them, though, it must have been considerable. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J.W. KEARNEY, Brig. Gen.
NRR 72.172-172 May 15, 1847 Letters of Col. Alexander William Doniphan on his operations, capture of Chihuahua

"ARMY OF THE NORTH."

OFFICIAL REPORT OF COL. DONIPHAN
DEFEAT OF THE ENEMY- CAPTURE OF CHIHUAHUA.

Headquarters of the Army in Chihuahua, City of Chihuahua, March 4, 1847.

I have the honor to report to you the movements of the army under my command since my last official report.

On the evening of the 8th of February, 1847, we left the town of El Paso del Notre, escorting the merchant train or caravan of about 315 wagons for the city of Chihuahua. Our force consisted of 924 effective men, 117 officers and privates of the artillery, 93 of Lieut. Colonel Mitchell's escort, and the remainder the 1st regiment Missouri mounted volunteers. We progressed in the direction of this place until the 25th, when we were informed by our spies that the enemy, to the number of 1,500 men, were at Inseneas, the country seat of Gov. Trias, about 25 miles in advance.

When we arrived, on the evening of the 26th, near that point, we found that the forces had retreated in the direction of this city. On the evening of the 27th we arrived at Sans, and learned from our spies that the enemy, in great force, had fortified the pass of the Sacramento river, about fifteen miles in advance, and about the same distance from this city. We were also informed that there was no water between the point that we were at and that occupied by the enemy; we therefore determined to halt until morning. At sunrise on the 28th, the last day of February, we took up the line of march and formed the whole train, consisting of 315 heavy traders' wagons and our whole commissary and company wagons, into four columns, this shortening our line so as to make it more easily protected. We placed the artillery and all the command, except 200 cavalry proper, in the intervals between the columns of wagons. We this fully concealed our force and its position, by masking our force with the cavalry. When we arrived within three miles of the enemy, we made a reconnaissance of his position and the arrangement of his forces. We could easily do- the road leading through an open prairie valley between the sterile mountains. The pass of the Sacramento is formed by a point of the mountains on our right, (their left,) at a good elevation to sweep the plain, and at the point where the mountains extended furthest into the plain. On our left (their right) they had another battery on
Capt. Thompson, of the 1st dragoons, acted as my aid and advisor on the field during the whole confusion. The field was literally covered with the dead and wounded from our artillery and the unerring fire which have since died, and forty prisoners.

Our force was nine hundred and twenty-four effective me, at least one hundred of whom were engaged in holding horses and driving teams.

The loss of the enemy was his entire artillery, ten wagons, masses of beans and pinola, and other Mexican provisions, about three hundred killed and about the same number wounded, many of whom have since died, and forty prisoners.

The force of the enemy was 1,200 cavalry from Durango and Chihuahua, with the Vera Cruz dragoons, 1,200 infantry from Chihuahua, 300 artillerists, and 1,420 rancheros badly armed with lassos, lances, and macheteos or corn knives, ten pieces of artillery, two nine, two eight, four six and two four pounders, and six culverins or rampart pieces. - Their forces were commanded by Major General Heredia, General of Durango, Chihuahua, Senora, and New Mexico; Brigadier General Garcia Conde, formerly minister of defence; General Uguert, and Governor Trias, who acted as brigadier general on the field, and colonels and other officers without number.

Our force was nine hundred and twenty-four effective me, at least one hundred of whom were engaged in holding horses and driving teams.

The loss of the enemy was his entire artillery, ten wagons, masses of beans and pinola, and other Mexican provisions, about three hundred killed and about the same number wounded, many of whom have since died, and forty prisoners.

The field was literally covered with the dead and wounded from our artillery and the unerring fire.
of our riflemen. Night put a stop to the carnage, the battle having commenced about three o'clock. Our loss was one killed, one mortally wounded, and seven so wounded as to recover without any loss of limbs. I cannot speak too highly of the coolness, gallantry, and bravery of the officers and men under my command.

I was ably sustained by the field officers, Lieut. Colonels Mitchell and Jackson, of the first battalion; and Maj. Gilpin of the second battalion; and Maj. Clarke and his artillery acted nobly, and did the most effective service in every part of the field. It is abundantly shown, in the charge made by captain Weightman with the section of howitzers, that they can be used in any charge of cavalry with great effect. Much has been said, and justly said, of the gallantry of our artillery, unlimbering within two hundred and fifty yards of the enemy at Palo Alto; but how much more daring was the charge of Capt. Weightman, when he unlimbered within fifty yards of the redoubts of the enemy!

On the 1st day of March we took formal possession of the capital of Chihuahua in the name of our government.

We were ordered by General Kearny to report to General Wool at this place. Since our arrival, we hear that he is at Saltillo, surrounded by the enemy. Our present purpose is either to force our way to him, or return by Bexar, as our team of service expires on the last day of May next.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,
Colonel 1st regiment Missouri Volunteers.

Translation of Col. Doniphan's proclamation on taking possession of Chihuahua:

Proclamations of the Commander-in-chief of the North American forces in Chihuahua

The commander-in-chief of the North American forces in Chihuahua announces to all the citizens of that State that he has taken military possession of the capital, and has the pleasure of assuring them that in it complete tranquility exists.

He invites all the citizens to return to their homes, and continue in their ordinary occupation, promising to them security of person, property, and religion.

He declares also, in the name of his government, that, having taken possession of the capital since he conquered the forces of the state, he holds possession of the whole state.

He invites all the citizens, pueblos and rancheros, to continue their trade, coming to this capital to buy and sell just as they did before the recent occurrences, for no one will be molested or annoyed in any thing, as he before explained that the property each person will be respected, and that, in case the troops of his command need anything, the value of it will be paid at its just price with all punctuality.

He pledges himself in like manner that the American troops will promptly punish every excess committed, either by the savage Indians or any other individuals.

He assures again all good citizens that we war only against the army, and not against individual citizens who are unarmed.

For this we exact only, not that any Mexican should take up arms against his country, but that, incase if actual war, he shall remain neutral; for it must not, in the contrary, be expected that we shall respect the rights of those who take up arms against our view.

Alexander W. Doniphan
Commander-in-chief

Headquarters of the Army in Chihuahua,
City of Chihuahua, March 20, 1847

SIR:- The forces under my command are a portion of the Missouri volunteers, called into service for the purpose of invading New Mexico, under the command of Brigadier General (then Colonel) Kearney. After the conquest of New Mexico, and before General Kearney's departure for California, information was received that another regiment and an extra battalion of Missouri volunteers would follow us to Santa Fe. The service of so large a force being wholly unnecessary in that state, I prevailed on Gen. Kearney to order my regiment to report to you at this city. The order was given on the 23rd September, 1846; but after the general arrived at La Joya, in the southern part of the State, be issued an order requiring my regiment to make a campaign into the country
inhabited the Navajo Indians, lying between the waters of the Rio del Norte and the Rio Colorado of the west. This campaign detained me until the 14th of December, before our return to Del Norte. We immediately commenced our march for El Paso del Norte with about 800 riflemen. All communication between Chihuahua and New Mexico was entirely prevented. On the 25th of December, 1846, my van guard was attacked at Brazito by the Mexican forces from this State; our force was about 450, and the force of the enemy 1100; the engagement lasted about forty minutes, when the enemy fled, leaving 63 killed and since dead, 150 wounded, and one howitzer, the only piece of artillery in the engagement on either side. On the 29th we entered El Paso without further opposition; from the prisoners and others I learned that you had not marched upon this State. I then determined to order a battery and 100 artillerists from New Mexico. They arrived in El Paso about the 5th February, when we took up the line of march for this place. A copy of my official report of the battle of Sacramento, enclosed to you, will show you all our subsequent movements, up to our taking possession of this capital. The day of my arrival I had determined to send an express to you forthwith; but the whole intermediate country was in the hands of the enemy, and we were cut off, and had been for many months, from all information respecting the American army. Mexican reports are never to be fully credited; yet, from all we could learn, we did not doubt that you would be forced by overwhelming numbers to abandon Saltillo, and of course we could send no express under such circumstances. On yesterday we received the first even tolerably reliable information that a battle had been fought near Saltillo between the American and Mexican forces, and that Santa Anna had probably fallen back on San Luis de Potosi.

My position here is exceedingly embarrassing. In the first place, most of the men under my command have been in service since the 1st of June, and have never received one cent of pay. Their marches have been hard, especially in the Navajo country, and no forage; so that they are literally without horses, clothes or money, nothing but arms and a disposition to use them. They are all volunteers, officers and men; and, although ready for any hardships or danger, are wholly unfit to garrison a town or city. "It is confusion worse confounded." Having performed a march of over 2,000 miles, and their terms of service rapidly expiring, they are restless to join the army under your command. Still, we cannot leave this point safely for some days- the American merchants here, oppose it violently, and have several thousand dollars at stake. They have sent me a memorial, and my determination has been made known to them. A copy of both they will send to you. Of one thing it is necessary to inform you: the merchants admit that their goods could not be sold here in five years; if they go south they will be as near to the markets of Durango and Zacatecas as they now are. I am anxious and willing to protect the merchants as far as practicable; but I protest against remaining here as a mere wagon guard; garrisoning a city with troops wholly unfit for it, and who will be wholly ruined by improper indulgencies. Having been originally ordered to this point, you know the wishes of the government in relation to it, and of course your orders will be promptly and cheerfully obeyed. I fear there is ample use for us with you, and we would greatly prefer joining you before our term of service expires.

All information relative to my previous operations, present condition, &c., will be given you by Mr. J. Collins, the bearer of these dispatches. He is a highly honorable gentleman, and was an amateur soldier at Sacramento.

The Mexicans report your late battle as having been entirely favorable to themselves; but taking it for granted they never report the truth, we have fired a salute for our victory in honor of yourself and General Taylor, presuming from report, you were both present.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
A.W. DONIPHAN,
Comd'g. 1st reg. Missouri mounted vols.

Should the horses or mules of those bearing this express fail, or prove unfit to return upon, I have to request that they may be supplied by the government with the proper means of returning,


NNR 72.172-173 May 15, 1847 Trials for treason in New Mexico

Organization of Government on New Mexico- Power of the Courts- Treason- Drumhead Court Martial- What does it all tend to?

Charge of Judge Houghton to the jury, in the case of Senior Trojillo- (Trohea)

In charging the jury before retiring, on the case of the Unites States vs. Trojillo, the judge ruled out all consideration, by the jury, of the arguments of the counsel for the defence, that the court had not, under the constitution, the right to adjudicate upon a case of treason, where the accused was a citizen of New Mexico, upon the ground that the court, as it was constituted, could not permit the question of its own existence to be the subject of decision by a jury; that it was bound
by its oath to rely upon the authority which constituted, could not permit the question of its own existence to be the subject of decision by a jury; that it was bound by its oath to rely upon the authority which constituted it as sufficient, and under that oath, made before that authority, were solemnly bound to administer justice within the extent of its jurisdiction, and to submit all cases to juries, as judges of the evidence and facts, allowing the responsibility of the constitutional right of the court to sit on cases of high treason, as charged against New Mexicans, to fall back upon the authority who constituted it. The court, therefore, let the case go before the jury to be decided as to the guilt or innocence of the prisoner, by the facts and the evidence.

Don Antonio Maria Trogillo's order.

By order of the inspector of arms, Don Antonio Maria Trogillo, who has directed me to order you, the moment you receive this notice, to raise the whole of your company, and also all the people that are able to bear arms, to present themselves in San Juan de los Caballeros, to-morrow, the 22nd inst., at the latest at 8 o'clock.

We have declared war against the government of the United States; and it is now to take up arms in defence of our abandoned country- to see if we can regain the liberty that we possessed in this unfortunate department. You will be held responsible of you fail to obey the order.

Juan Antonio Garcia

To Lieut. Don Pedro Vigil.

Gen. Taffola's order, No. 1.

The defenders of the country, with the view of shaking off the yoke that binds us to the government of the stranger, and as you are the inspector of arms, and commander of militia, lawfully appointed by your supreme government, which is the one we now claim; at the moment you receive this communication, you will proceed to unite all the companies under your command, and holding them in readiness for the 22nd inst., on which day these forces will be at that point. You will take all the necessary steps, and see if the enemy is advancing this way with any force; and if it should so prove, you will send a messenger quickly, so that I may redouble my march.

You are to understand that there is to be no resistance to this order. Answer this by the bearer.

Taos, January 20th, 1847.
Jesus Tafolla

To Don Antonio Maria Trogillo.

Gen. Taffola's order, No. 2.

COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE REUNION: As soon as you receive this official, you will order your subalterns to gather the men under their orders, to hold themselves in readiness by the time I arrive with my forces, so as to advance all together to the camp of honor.

Jesus Tafolla
God and liberty!
Sent 23rd of January, 1847.

To the Inspector of Arms, Don Antonio Maria Trogillo.

PROCEEDINGS OF A DRUMHEAD COURT MARTIAL,

Convened at Fernando de Taos, New Mexico, on the 6th day of February, 1847, by the following order:

Headquarters, Army in New Mexico,
Don Fernando de Taos, Feb. 6, 1847.

Order No. 115

A drumhead court martial, to consist of five members will assemble at headquarters this morning, at 10 o'clock, a.m., for the trial of Pablo Montollya (Montoya,) and such other prisoners as may be brought before it. The court will consist of the following members:
Capt. Angney, infantry battalion; Capt. Barbe 2nd regiment Missouri volunteers; Capt. Slack, do. [illegible] Lieut. Ingalls, 1st dragoon; Lieut. White, 2nd regiment Missouri volunteers; Lieut. Easton, infantry battalion, judge advocate.

By order of Col. S. Price.

[signed] B.Walker, adj't.

The court met pursuant to the above order. Present, all the members.

The prisoner not objecting to any of the members, was arraigned on the following charge and specifications:

**Charge- Rebellious conduct.**

Specification 1st- In this: That the said Pablo Montoya did, on or about the 19th day of January, 1847, excite the Indians and Mexicans to rebellious conduct, assuming to be one of their principal leaders.

Specification 2d- That the said Montoya did, on or about the 25th of January last, issue a proclamation, exciting the people to rebellion.

Specification 3d- That the said Montoya was engaged in exciting the people to rob the United States wagons, loaded with public funds, then on their way from the United States to Santa Fe. All this in the territory of New Mexico.

[signed] R.WALKER, adjutant, 2nd reg't Mo. Mounted volunteers

To which charge and specifications the prisoner pleaded not guilty.

The court being duly sworn in the presence of the prisoner, Messrs. Lucian Thrustoa and Thomas Rowland were sworn as interpreters.

Jose Maria Sandaval, a witness for the prosecution being duly sworn, said: I was secretary for the prosecution being duly sworn, said: I was secretary for Pablo Montoya, the prisoner, and wrote the following letter, [marked A] which I read to him, and he approved.

"From the superior authorities in command."

"No. A- The alcalde will, the moment he receives this, arrange it so that he will present all the people of the Pueblo before me, at sunrise, well equipped with arms and provisions, that they may leave for Santa Fe with dispatch. This moment, I have received intelligence of importance, requesting us to be in readiness before the forces of Santa Fe advance and overcome our forces at the different points, Rio Abajo, Canada, &c., &c. God and law.

[signed] Pablo Montallo
Senor Alcalde of the Pueblo."
San Fernando de Taos, Jan. 21, 1847."

Witness further states, that the letter marked B., was written by himself, at the instance of the prisoner, Pablo Montallo, which he read to him, and he approved; and also letter marked C, was written by witness, at the instance of the prisoner, which he read to him, and he approved it, and authorized him to sign his name to it,

No B- The citizen Pablo Montolia, being the highest person empowered to command and also to appoint officers who will faithfully discharge their duties according to the arrangement of the splendid plans found on the 21st day of the present month- I hereby give authority to the alcalde of the Pueblo de Taos, Don Francisco Navauso, to write and the letters of this tribunal, and also to cause the people under his command to keep themselves well equipped with arms, with the understanding that they will be chastised who disobey the orders and commands of Senor Alcalde; published for good government.

Given in San Fernando de Taos, 22d Jan., 1847
[signed] Pablo Moulla.
Empowered general of the superior command

No. C- This day I received intelligence from the commander of the Mexican forces, that yesterday, at the setting sun, the war commenced at the Canada with the foreign army. He also states that
they have already vanquished them; believing which, honored Mexicans we shall come out triumphant in all our undertaking. I will commend you to God, that he may give you the souls of valiant men, so that all the enemies you encounter, you may be able to conquer, keeping in mind the rules and regulations presented in the organized plan formed on the 21st day of the present month, the third observance of our adored laws. We are now fighting, and should we vanquish our enemy, we will again place our laws in the best security the nature of the case will admit of. Any prisoners that may be taken you will remit to this tribunal.

Mexican citizens! Live in the hope that we will yet shout glory hallelujah in our province, and live in the confidence that the Divine Protector of the Indians will never permit his people to be vanquished.- Believing in His powerful assistance, no harm can befall us.

Companions in arms! I request you to try and make yourselves possessors of the money and effects that they are now taking to Santa Fe in the wagons.- Accomplishing this, you will place it under the strictest orders according to our plan, until it is in my disposal, taking care not to let the people steal it, it being alone for the defence of our sacred country.

Do the favor to communicate all this as far as El Bao, that the people may rise and protect their frontier. You will give assistance with your people near Santa Fe, at the points where they may be most needed. It is extremely necessary that the orders should be vigilantly executed.

God and liberty.
San Fernando de Taos, Jan. 25, 1847.
[signed] Pablo Montolla.

Antonio Jose Martinez, the priest, a witness for the prosecution, being duly sworn, says: On the morning of the 19th of January last, immediately after the murder of Gov. Bent, prisoner, with others, came into my room for the purpose of finding Elliot Lee, an American, whom they had supposed I had concealed. They were hunting William Lee. My room at that time, was filled with Indians and Mexicans. The murder of Governor Bent and others, was the commencement of the revolution. The prisoner being tendered the appointment of general, at first refused it, but afterwards accepted it. The appointment of prisoner as general, it was said, was to restore good order among the Mexicans.

Elliot Lee, a witness for the prosecution, being duly sworn, says that prisoner on the 20th of January last, told him that he was commander in chief of the Mexican forces, and that he was the Santa Anna of the north, and that he was going to retake this territory, which the Americans had taken from the Mexicans. Prisoner asked me whether there were wagons coming from the states to Santa Fe, with powder, and ball, and money? I told him I understood there were, and that there were some two hundred thousand dollars in money in them.- Prisoner told me to tell a straight take, and if I did, I should not be hurt. He said they were sending out men to take them: they did go out, and brought back some mules and horses. Prisoner started from home with troops to go against the Americans, and said there were no Americans in Santa Fe, for that all of them had been killed.

Jesus Maria Tafoya, a witness for the prosecution, being duly sworn, says: I was interpreter on the 20th January last for Mr. Lee. Prisoner told me to tell said Lee, if he did not answer the questions correctly, he had an instrument with which he could cut his throat. Prisoner told me to ask Lee about some wagons going to Santa Fe from the states, and whether there was powder and ball and plenty of money in the, Prisoner said something about sending out men to take those wagons, and that he would give out the proceeds among the people here. They did go out, but only brought back some horses and mules. Prisoner said that there were not more than two hundred troops in Santa Fe; boys, said he, don't mind that; we can kill them all off. Prisoner said he was the Santa Anna of the north: he said he was commander in chief of the forces against the Americans. Prisoner did not start for Santa Fe; the other generals went; he remained here to keep good order.- The "good order" was to keep the Mexicans here in arms and readiness to flight. This was the order to prisoner, which he had to execute as a part of his duty.
The evidence was here closed, and the court adjourned.

After mature deliberation on the testimony adduced, which was read over by the judge advocate, the court find the prisoner, Pablo Montoya, guilty of all specifications to the charge, and guilty of the charge, and sentenced him to be hung by the neck until he is DEAD- at such time and place as the colonel commanding may direct, after the approval of the proceedings,

The court adjourned sine die.

[signed] W.Z. ANGNEY,  
President of the court, com'd infantry battalion.

L.J. Eastin, judge advocate.

The proceedings and sentence of the court in the above case are approved, and in conformity with the sentence, the said prisoner, Pablo Montoya, will be hung by the neck until he is dead, in the centre of the plaza, in this town between the hours of 11 o'clock a.m. and 2 o'clock p.m., tomorrow, the 7th inst.

[signed] Sterling Price  
Col. commanding the army in New Mexico.

[NRR 72.175 May 15, 1847 Maj. Meriwether Lewis Clark's official report]

Headquarters, Bat. Mo. Light Artillery,  
Camp near Chihuahua, Mexico, March 2, 1847

SIR- I have the honor to report that, agreeable to your instructions, I left camp, near Lauz, on the morning of the 28th ult. Accompanied by my adjutant, Lieut. L.D. Walker, and non-commissioned staff, and proceeded in advance to a position commanding a full view of the enemy's camp and entrenchments, situated about four miles distant. From this point, the enemy was discovered to be in force awaiting our approach, having occupied the ridge and neighboring heights about Sacramento. Upon examination it was discovered that his entrenchments and redoubts occupied the brow of an elevation extending across the ridge between Arroyo Seco and that of Sacramento, both of which at this point, cross the valley, from the elevated ridge of mountains in the rear of the village of Terreon, known by the name of Sierra de Victorias, and that of - on the east, and through which runs the Rio del Nombre de Dios. This valley is about four miles in width, and entrenched by the enemy entirely across, from mountain to mountain, the road to the city of Chihuahua running directly through its centre, and of necessity passing near to and crossing the Rio Sacramento at the rancho Sacramento, a strongly built and fortified beach, with adjoining corrals and other enclosures belonging to Angel Trias, the governor of Chihuahua. From observation it was ascertained that the enemy had occupied the site between these hills, and that the batteries upon them were supported by infantry, his cavalry being in advance positions, formed into three columns, between the Arroyo Seco and our advance. During these observations the enemy's advance guard discovered my party - approached rapidly, with the evident intention of intercepting it; but being met by that of our troops which I had sent forward, it as rapidly retreated; at this time, also, the three columns of the enemy's cavalry recrossed the Arroyo Seco, and retired behind their entrenchments. I then approached within six hundred yards of their most advanced redoubt, from which point the enemy's formation was plainly discernible. The entrenchments consisted of a line, with intervals composed of circular redoubts from three hundred to five hundred yards intervals, with entrenchments between each, covering batteries partly masked by cavalry. The redoubt nearest to my position contained two pieces of cannon, supported by several hundred infantry. The enemy's right and left were strongly positioned- the Cerro [illegible] on his right having high, precipitous sides, with a redoubt commanding the surrounding country and the pass leading towards Chihuahua through Arroyo Seco.

The Cerro Sacramento, on his left, consisting of a pile of immense volcanic rocks, was surmounted by a battery commanding the road to Chihuahua leading directly in front of the enemy's entrenchments, crossing the Rio Sacramento at the rancho, directly under its fire, and also commanding the road from Terreon, immediately in its rear. The crossing of the main road over Arroyo Seco, at the point from which my reconnaissance was made, laid directly under the fire of the batteries on the enemy's entrenchments. The passage was found to be practicable with some little labor, and the point selected as the best passage of the artillery and wagon and merchant trains.

The whole front of the enemy's line of entrenchments appeared to be about two miles, and his
force 900 men; the artillery being masked, the number and caliber of his cannon could not be estimates. - Rather, I have the honor to report that the battalion of artillery under my command composed of 110 men and 7 officers, with a battery of six pieces of artillery, were, on the morning of the battle, directed from under the direction of Captain Weightman, between the two columns of merchant and provisory wagons, being this masked from the view of the enemy; in this column my troops continued to march to within about 1,500 yards if the enemy's most advanced position. Our direction was then changed to the right, and the column having crossed the Arroyo Seco within reach of the enemy's fire, rapidly advanced towards the table land between the Seco and Sacramento; at this time the enemy was perceived advancing from his entrenchments to prevent our seizing upon these heights, but by a rapid movement of the battery it was quickly drawn from its mask, and seizing upon a favorable position, protected at the rear by a marsh from the attack of a large body of the enemy's cavalry ascertained to be hanging on our rear, it was formed, and at once opened fire upon the enemy's cavalry rapidly advancing upon us. At this moment, his charging column was about 900 yards distant, and the effect of our strap shot and shells were such as to break his cavalry into confusion. The enemy now rapidly deployed into line, bringing up his artillery from the entrenchments. During this time our line was preparing for a charge, my artillery advancing by hand and firing. The enemy now opened a heavy fire of cannon upon our line, mainly directed upon the battery, but with little effect.

Lieutenant Dorn had his horse shot from under him by a nine pound ball, at this stage of the action, and several mules and oxen in the merchant wagons in our rear were wounded and killed, which, however, was the only damage done. The fire of our cannon at this time had such good effect as to dismount one of the enemy pieces, and completely to disperse his cavalry, and drive him from his position forcing him to retire behind his entrenchments. For a short time the firing on either side now ceased, and the enemy appeared to be moving his cannon and wounded, whilst our line prepared to change our position more towards the right, for the purpose of occupying a more advantageous ground. One object being soon gained, the order to advance was given, and immediately after I was directed to send the section of howitzers to support a charge upon the enemy's left. I immediately ordered Captain R.H. Weightman to detach the section composed of twelve pound mountain howitzers, mounted upon carriages, constructed especially for field service, and drawn by two horses each- these were commanded by Lieutenants E.F. Chouteau and F.D. Evans, and manned by some twenty men, whose conduct in this action cannot be too much commended. Captain Weightman charges at full gallop upon the enemy's left, preceded by Captain Reed and his company of horses; and after crossing a ravine some 150 yards from the enemy, he unlimbered the guns within 50 yards of the entrenchments, and opened a destructive fire of canister into his ranks; which was warmly returned, but without effect. Capt. Weightman again advanced upon the entrenchment, passing through it in the face of the enemy, and within a few feet of the ditches; and in the midst of a cross fire from three directions again opened his fire to the right and left with such effect that, with the formidable charge of the cavalry and dismounted men of your own regiment, and Lieutenant Col. Mitchell's escort, the enemy were driven from the breastworks on our right in great confusion.

At this time, under a heavy cross fire from the battery upon Cerro Sacramento, I was advancing with our battery of four 6 pounders, under Lieuts. Dorn, Kribben, and Labeaume, upon the enemy's right, supported by Major Gilpin on the left, and the wagon train, escorted by two companies of infantry, under Captains E.J. Glasgow and Skilman, in the rear, when Major Gilpin charged upon the enemy's centre, and forced him from his entrenchments under a heavy fire of artillery and small arms; at the same time the fire of our battery was opened upon the enemy's extreme right, from which a continued fire had been kept up upon our line and the wagon train. Two of the enemy's guns were now seen dismounted on their right; that battery silenced, and the enemy dislodged from the redoubt on Cerro Frijoles. - Percieving a body of lancers forming for the purposes of out-flanking our left, and attacking the merchants' wagons under Capt. Glasgow, I again opened upon them a very destructive fire of grape and spherical case shot, which soon cleared the left of our line; the enemy, vacating his entrenchments and deserting his guns, was hotly pursued towards the mountains beyond Cerro Frijoles, and down the Arroyo Seco to Sacramento, by moth wings in the army, under Lieutenant Colonel Mitchell, Lieutenant Colonel Jackson, and Major Gilpin, and by Captain Weightmen, with the sections of howitzers. During this pursuit my officers repeatedly opened their fires upon the retreating enemy with great effect. To cover this flight of the enemy's forces from the entrenched camp, the heaviest of his cannon had been taken from the entrenchments to the Cerro Sacramento, and a heavy fire opened upon our pursuing forces and the wagons following in the rear. To silence this battery, I had to anticipate your order to that effect by at once occupying the nearest of the enemy's entrenchments, 1,225 yards distant; and notwithstanding the elevated position of the Mexican battery, giving him a ploughing fire into my entrenchment, which was not defiladed, and the greater range of his long nine pounders, the first fire of our guns dismounted one of his largest pieces, and the fire was kept up with such briskness and precision of aim, that this battery was soon silenced and the enemy seen precipitately retreating. The fire was then continued upon the Rancho Sacramento, and the enemy's ammunition and baggage train retreating upon the road to Chihuahua. By this fire the house and several wagons were rendered untenable and useless. By this time Lieutenant Col. Mitchell had sealed the hill, followed by the section of howitzers under Capt. Weightman, and the last part of the Mexican forces taken possession of by our own troops, this leaving the American forces masters of the field. Having silenced the fire from Cerro Sacramento, our battery was removed into the plain at rancho, where we gained the road and were in pursuit of the enemy when I received your order to return and encamp within the enemy's entrenchments for the night. 


From the time of first opening my fire upon the Mexican cavalry, to the cessation of the firing upon the rancho and battery of Sacramento, was about three hours, and, during the whole time of the action, I take the utmost pleasure in stating that every officer and man of my command did his duty with cheerfulness, coolness, and precision, which is sufficiently shown by the admirable effect produced by their, the great accuracy of their aim, their expediency and ingenuity in supplying deficiencies in the field during the action, and the prompt management of the pieces, rendered still more remarkable from the fact that I had, during the fight, less than two thirds of the number of cannoneers generally required for the service of light artillery, and but four of the twelve artillery carriages belonging to my battery harnessed with horses, the remaining eight carriages being harnessed to mules of the country.

During the day my staff were of the greatest service, Adjutant L.D. Walker having been sent with the howitzers, and the non-commissioned officers remaining with me to assist in the service of the battery. In this action the troops under your command have captured from the enemy one 9 pounder, one 6 pounder, and seven 4 pounder guns, all mounted in new stock-trail carriages. Their pieces were all manufactured in Chihuahua, except the six pounder, which is an old Spanish piece. Three of the four pounders were made at the mint in Chihuahua; seven of the ten pieces were spiked, but have been unspiked since their capture; four of them were rendered unserviceable in the action; one entirely dismounted and seized by my adjutant whilst in the act of being dragged from the field by the retreating enemy.---There were also taken two pieces of artillery, mounting three wall pieces of 11/2 inch caliber each, and these are formidable weapons upon a charging force. With these twelve pieces of artillery was taken a due proportion of ammunition, implements, harness, mules, &c., and they may be rendered serviceable by being properly repaired and [illegible], for which purpose I would ask for future reinforcement of my command. It is with feelings of gratitude to the Ruler of all battles that I have now the honor to report that not one man of my command has been hurt, nor any animal. With the exception of one horse, killed under Lieutenant Dorn, chief of the first section of 6 pounder guns, and of one mule belonging to the United States, shot under one of the cannoneers; neither had a gun or carriage of my battery been touched except in one instance, where a nine pound ball stuck the tire of a wheel without producing injury. This is a fact worthy of notice, that so little damage was done to a command greatly exposed to the enemy’s fire, and of itself made a point of attack by the enemy, if I may so judge by the showers of cannon and other shot constantly poured into us as long as the enemy continued to occupy his position. I might call your attention to the individual instances of personal courage and good conduct of the men of command, as well as of the intrepid bravery and cool determined courage of many of your own regiment and Lieutenant Col. Mitchell’s escort, who charged with us upon the enemy’s works, were it not impossible, in any reasonable space, to name so many equally of distinction, and did not presume that other field officers on that occasion would repost the proceedings of their own commands and the praiseworthy conduct of their own officers and men,

M.L. CLARK

To Col. A.W. Doniphan, commanding American forces in the state of Chihuahua.

[KAM]

72.176 May 15, 1847 Mexican orders for fortifications around the capital

The Mexican government have directed every place in the vicinity of their capital to be fortified, and have directed Generals Almonte, Bravo, Rincon and Agea, to superintend their construction. Almonte on the 14th commenced his duties by reconnoitering the road from Venta de Cordova, to San Martin Tesmelucan. [KAM]

NRR 72.176 May 15, 1847 Killed and Wounded at Cerro Gordo

The number of the killed and wounded of our army at the battle of Sierra Gordo, is ascertained to be, says the N. Orleans Picayune: 1 volunteer officer killed: 14 regular officers, and 7 volunteer privates killed; 195 regular and 48 volunteer privates wounded. [JLM]

NRR 72.177 May 22, 1847 Mexican notice of appointment of Alejandro Jose Atocha as emissary from the United States to Mexico

Senor Atocha. The New Orleans Picayune of the 5th speaking of the intelligence brought by the steamer James L. Day, from Vera Cruz says:
The Mexican papers continue their declamatory strictures upon the mission of Atocha. It would appear that the sending of this miserable fellow on any important mission to Mexico has given greater umbrage than all else that has been done by the United States. They regard him in the light of an official pimp, a treasonable pander, a perfidious miscreant, and indeed the concentration of baseness. They think he was sent there by the American cabinet in mockery and scorn.

We have already copied the article of "El Republicano" upon Atocha. That paper- the very best in all Mexico- the highest tone and the sturdiest defender of the republican institutions when the monarchical part was in the ascendant- after noticing the arrival of Atocha on a mission from this country, and recounting his past history in Mexico, exclaims:

"O, God! This is the greatest sign that thou hast forgotten us. Send upon us bombs, rifles, grape shot and every class of projectile and misfortune; burn us, reduce us to ashes, destroy us, annihilate, but do not dishonor us. Send the entire north to subjugate and rule over us, but do not let Atocha be the broker of a contract of piece, because that, devolving upon us the greatest scorn and the greatest humiliation, would be [O God] thy greatest punishment."

This, we are assured, is a true reflex of the feelings of the better order of Mexicans in regard to the unfortunate appointment. [KAM]

NNR 72.177 May 22, 1847 Number of Enlistments in the Army

The Recruiting Service.- Reinforcements ordered to the seat of war.

We learn from the war office that the ranks of the new regiments are rapidly filling up, and that the following companies of the same are now concentrated at Point Isabel, or en route for Vera Cruz and that point. The results here exhibited are highly gratifying, and show the great energy and promptitude with which this new force has been raised and sent forward:

9th Inf'y- Col. Ransom, (aggregate) 258
12th Inf'y- Col. Temple 794
11th Inf'y- Col. Ramsey (companies and detachment of a company) 633
12th Inf'y- Col. Wilson, (now in Mexico) Lieut. Col. Bonham, superintending 110
13th Inf'y- Col. Echols 280
14th Inf'y- Col, Trousdale 180
15th Inf'y- Col. Morgan (now in Mexico) Lieut. Col. Howard, superintending 810
16th Inf'y- Col. Tribbatts 827
Voltigueurs- Col. Andrews 712
3rd Dragoons- Col. Butler 711

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Total- Ten regiments 5,315

This number (5,315) is probably considerably below the actual strength now in Mexico, or even en route for the seat of war. [KAM]

NNR 72.177 May 22, 1847 Assurances of the "Union" that Gen. Winfield Scott will be reinforced by the end of May, equal to the number of volunteers that leave

The "Union" from which the above is extracted, concludes that Gen. Scott's army will be strengthened by the above and other recruits that will reach him by the end of may, fully equal to the volunteers that he will have to part with.

No mention is made as to reinforcing General Taylor. [KAM]

NNR 72.177 May 22, 1847 Letter from Thomas Corwin

Senator Corwin and the Mexican War.
Lebanon, (Ohio) April 4, 1847.

DEAR SIR- I had the pleasure of receiving your letter on the 28th of March yesterday: and I cannot...
deny myself the gratification of expressing to you the satisfaction with which I receive that among many other such evidences of approval of my course on the Mexican war. I felt strongly as any one could the responsibility I assumed. I differed from all the leading whigs in the senate, and saw plainly that they all were, to some extent, bound to turn, is they could, the current of public opinion against me. They all agree with me that the war was unjust in our part; that, if properly begun, (which none of them admitted,) we had already sufficiently chastised Mexico, and that the further prosecution of it was wanton waste of both blood and treasure; yet they would not undertake to stop it. They said the president alone was responsible. I thought we who aided him, or furnished him the means, must be in the judgment of reason and conscience equally responsible, equally guilty, with him. I see the "democratic" presses prate about refusing to feed and clothe the brave men now in the field. Do not these praters know that it was not for that purpose that we were asked for supplies? - Did the president want twenty-eight millions of money and ten regiments more of men to bring Gen. Taylor back to Camargo? No, he told us he wanted them for the purpose of further prosecuting the war. He wanted to storm the halls of the Montezumas! And for what? That question he will not answer. It is for conquest alone. The great model republic of the world makes war upon one modeled after her, to take away her territory and utterly destroy her, till her leading men are driven to bed the aid of Kings to prevent us, the great republic, from robbing and murdering those who, as well as they know how to do it, are trying to establish free governments after our example. I am amazed that a people calling itself democratic-hating kings and loving free government - should act thus. What does it portend? I confess it fills me with melancholy forebodings. I can honor the brave soldier who does his duty in battle; but I despise the mistaken, wicked policy that sends him to fight in such a war. Had the president asked for money to bring home our army after the taking of Monterey, and to send a commission of one or more of the first men in America to treat for peace, I would have given my vote with more hearty goodwill for such a bill then I ever gave any in my whole public life. I often urged this course in private interviews with leading men of both parties. But all in vain. Further battle - more blood - more laurels; these were the insane and barbarous aspirations of men who now hold the power of a nation boasting itself the exemplar of Christendom; vaunting that it "asks for nothing, which is not right, and will submit to nothing which is wrong."

I send you only a few copied of my speech on the subject. I only regret that it is not more worthy of the cause it proposes to uphold. I shall be satisfied if it shall induce a few to ponder the subject of which it treats.

Very truly, your friend,
Thomas Corwin.

Lafayette (Ind.) Journal [KAM]

NNR 72.179 May 22, 1847 Government declines tender of additional brigade from Maryland

Gen. John Spear Smith, of Baltimore, has tendered to the president of the United States, a brigade of volunteers to serve in the Mexican war, from the state of Maryland. The Washington "Union" compliments the patriotism of the corps volunteered on this occasion, and exhibits it as an instance of the public spirit of the people of Maryland, but adds that the president has been constrained, in justice to the like claims which are pressed from other states, to decline accepting the services thus proffered, and adds: "We understand that Gen. Scott will, in all probability, have under his command, in the month of June, at least twenty thousand men, or more, consisting too of regulars, or during the war men." [KAM]

NNR 72.181 May 22, 1847 Paymaster to leave St. Louis with gold for the Army in Mexico

Major Bodine, paymaster of the army, was to leave St. Louis last week for Santa Fe, with $300,000 in gold for the army in New Mexico. [KAM]

NNR 72.182-72.183 May 22, 1847 George Wilkins Kendall's account of the battle of Cerro Gordo

The Battle Of Cerro Gordo.

Mr. Kendall, of the New Orleans Picayune, furnished that paper with regular details from which we extract the following:

Plan del Rio, Mexico, April 16, 1847.
General Twiggs's division of the army reached this place on Sunday last 11th, and Gen. Patterson's on Monday evening. Both are now encamped in a delightful valley, on the banks of the Plan del Rio, or river of the plain, awaiting the arrival of Gen. Worth's division and Gen. Quitman's brigade of the Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina volunteers. General Scott arrived last evening, and we anticipate in a few days a hard battle. The Mexicans, to the number of from 12,000 to 15,000 men, with General Vega, if not Santa Anna himself, at their head, are strongly fortified about three miles in our advance, and appear to be constantly engaged in making their position, if possible still stronger. They have several batteries planted, and if they do not make a desperate stand when attacked, they must be a greater set of cowards than I have yet supposed them. Our present force here is not over 6,000 men, including Steptoe's, Wall's, and the howitzer batteries. The sappers and miners are busily engaged in cutting roads, and when our batteries are erected we shall give them "particular fits," to use a vulgar phrase.

We are fifty-seven miles from Vera Cruz and thirty-three from Jalapa. Several volunteers have been wounded or killed in our march from Vera Cruz, having lagged too far behind the main body. It was, I assure you, hard work to the men while marching, and many more a poor fellow dropped upon the road from complete exhaustion.

April 16-evening.—The Mexicans, under Santa Anna, are occupying a chain of works along the road, the nearest of which about a mile and a quarter from Gen. Scott's headquarters in a direct line. The road this side is cut up and barricaded, and every possible means of defence and annoyance has been resorted to. Beyond the first work there are three or four others, completely commanding the gorge through which the road to Jalapa runs—these fortifications on hills and rising so as to defend one another. It is thought that Santa Anna has 20,000 men with him—the lowest gives him 15,000—and with these he has twenty four pieces of field artillery, besides some fourteen heavy cannon in position. Some of the prisoners and deserters from the enemy's camp even place higher estimates, both as to the number of men and guns.

To turn these different works a road has been partially cut through the rough ground and chaparral to the right; and, although the reconnaissance is as yet imperfect, it is still thought that a point near the enemy's farthest work can be reached. General Twiggs, with his division, is to march at 8 o'clock to-morrow morning by the new road, and on the following morning it is thought the attack will commence on the works on this side. If Gen. Twiggs succeeds in reaching the rear of Santa Anna—and he will use every exertion—I do not see what is to save him. He is generally fox enough to have plenty of holes out of which to escape, however, and, from the great difficulty of reconnoitering his position fully, he may have some means of escape here. The general impression now in camp is, that this is to be the great battle of the war; and the immense natural strength of Santa Anna's works would justify the belief.

The Mexicans are on the alert than they have ever been before, and more bold in throwing out their pickets. Not a party can go near their works without being fired upon, and yesterday a soldier of the 7th infantry fell with no less than seven bullets in his body. It is said that Almonte is their pickets. Not a party can go near their works without being fired upon, and yesterday a soldier of the 7th infantry fell with no less than seven bullets in his body. It is said that Almonte is their pickets.

Gen. Worth left Puente Nacional this afternoon with his division, and will be up during to-night.—He started a little after 1 o'clock this morning, with near 2,000 picked men, determined to make a forced march through; but learning on the road that the attack upon the Mexican works as not to commence as soon as anticipated, he returned to Puente Nacional, after marching a mile and a half. Capt. Pemberton, one of his aids, rode over here last evening after dark, and returned with the information that the attack had been postponed.

The wounds of Capt. Johnston are doing well. I regret to state that Gen. P. F. Smith is confined to his bed—utterly unable either to ride or walk. He has a violent inflammation of the right ankle and knee, resembling crysipelas, which, from neglecting several days when he should have remained in his cot, has finally compelled him to lay up. I will write again to-morrow.

April 17, 8 o'clock, A.M.—General Worth's division came up during last night and this morning, ready for anything that turns up. A section of the siege train, comprising twenty four pounders and an eight inch howitzer will be along this forenoon. A subsistence train is also close by, and is very much needed, as the army is nearly out of provisions.

Gen. Twiggs's division will march by 9 o'clock.—The 1st brigade, composed of the 1st artillery, 2nd dragoons and Captain Kearney's company of the 1st and 7th infantry, is under command of Col. Harney during the illness of Gen. Smith; the 2d brigade consists of the 4th artillery and 2d and 3d infantry, under Col. Riley; and to these must be added Taylor's battery and Talcott's mountain howitzer and rocket men, acting under the immediate orders of General Twiggs. The latter company will probably have plenty of work on their hands, as this is just the country for their operations.

April 17, 11 A.M.—The division of General Twiggs started two hours since, and a heavy cannonade has already commenced upon his line from the farthest of the Mexican works. At intervals, too, the rattling of small arms can be heard distinctly from the dragon camp where I am writing this. I
am going out, with Cols. Duncan and Bohlan and Capt. Pemberton, to the seat of action, and will
return here at night to report the progress of the fight.-it was not intended, I believe, that General
Twiggs should opened the fight to-day, at least to bring on a general action, and it is therefore
presumable the Mexicans have commenced upon him. I write in great haste.

5 P.M.-I have just returned from the scene of conflict, and a bloody one it has been considering
the number engaged. A hill this side of the farthest Mexican work; and on which there was no one
seen last evening, was found occupied by the enemy's light troops this morning, and to force it
was at once deemed indispensable. For this purpose the rifles under Maj. Sumner, besides
detachments of artillery and infantry, were ordered to charge up the rugged ascent. This they did
in gallant style, driving the Mexicans, after a resistance which may be put down as most
obstinate. Great numbers of the enemy were killed, while on our side the loss was also severe.
Major Sumner was shot in the head by a musket ball-severely but not mortally: Lieutenants Maury
and Gibbs, of the rifles, were also wounded, but not severely, as was also Lieutenant Jarvis of the
2nd infantry. I could not learn that any of our officers were killed. The entire loss on our side, in
killed nd wounded, is estimated at about one hundred; but from the nature of the ground-broken,
covered with brush and thick chaparral, and extremely uneven-it is impossible to tell with accuracy.

About 3 o'clock the enemy made a demonstration from the fort on the neighboring height to the
one our men captured, as if with the intention of retaking it; but it all ended in marching down the
hill blowing a most terrific charge on their trumpets, firing a few shots and then retiring. Their
appearance as they came down the slope was certainly most imposing. The cannon on the height
meanwhile kept up a continuous fire on General Twigg's lines, yet doing little execution other than
cutting down trees and brush. As we returned to camp the fire still continued-the enemy had
evidently ascertained the position of the road which had just been cut, with accuracy, but their
balls principally went over.

General Shields, at 3 o'clock, was ordered out to support General Twiggs, with three regiments of
volunteers-two from Illinois under Colonels Baker and Barnett. They will have warm work to-
morrow if the Mexicans stand up as they did to-day.

There has been not a little skirmishing to-day between the forage and beef parties, sent out in the
rear, and the rancheros. One Illinois man was killed and one of the same regiment and a
Tennesseean wounded. I could not learn their names.

To-morrow the grand attack, both upon the front and rear of the enemy is to be made. General
Worth is to move at sunrise, and a little peace will the Mexicans have for one twenty-four hours at
least.

The loss on both sides has been heavy-how could it have been otherwise? The rough and rocky
road, cut through rugged defiles and dense chaparral by our troops, is now lined with our
wounded. The rifles, Col. Haskell's Tennessee volunteers, the 1st artillery, the 7th infantry, and
Captain William's company of Kentucky volunteers, have perhaps suffered most. Gen. Shields was
severely, and I am fearful, mortally wounded, while gallantly leading his brigade to storm one of
the enemy's farthest works. General Pillow was also sounded, although slightly, while storming a
fortification on this side, commanded by La Vega. All the field officers of Col. Haskell's regiment
were wounded at the same time, save himself. Of the rifles, Capt. Mason has lost a leg, Lieut.
Ewell has been badly wounded, Lieut. McLane slightly. I have already mentioned the gallant Maj.
Sumner and other officers wounded yesterday.

I have specified some regiments above which signalized themselves: it happened to be their
fortune, in the disposition of the battle, to fall upon what all good soldiers may term pleasant
places-the most difficult works to storm-and bravely and without faltering did they execute the
perilous duties assigned them. At 1 o'clock this afternoon General Twiggs, whose division has
been in the hardest of it, was pursuing the flying enemy towards Jalapa. Pinson, who commanded
the forts nearest Plan del Rio, asked of Gen. Worth time to consider before the capitulated.
Desirous to come to terms, Gen. Worth gave him fifteen minutes, and he surrendered
unconditionally. Had he not done so, the slaughter would have been terrible.

April 18-4 o'clock, P.M.-The American arms have achieved another glorious and most brilliant
victory. Out numbering General Scott's force materially, and occupying positions which looked
impregnable as Gibraltar, one after another of their works have been taken to-day, five generals,
colonels enough to command ten such armies as ours, and other officers innumerable, have been
taken prisoners, together with 6000 men, and the rest of their army driven and routed with the
loss of every thing, ammunition, cannon, baggage train, all. Nothing but the impossibility, of
finding a road of the dragoons to the rear of the enemy's works saved any part of Santa Anna's
grand army, including his own illustrious person.

It is now impossible to name officers who have distinguished themselves. I cannot, however, omit
to mention Colonels Harney, Riley and Childs, of the regulars; Colonels Baker, Forman and
Haskell, of the volunteers, as every one is talking of them.
April 19.-The rout of the Mexicans last evening was complete. They were pursued within 4 miles of Jalapa by Gen. Twiggs, at which point there were none to follow. Santa Anna himself, instead of entombing himself as he threatened, escaped by cutting the saddle mule of his team from the harness of his magnificent evach, mounting him, and then taking to the chaparral. His service of massive silver, nearly all his papers, his money—every thing in his carriage, even his dinner, was captured. I have a capital story to tell about this dinner when I have a moment to spare. The Mexican loss upon the heights was awful—the ground in places in covered with the dead! Among the bodies found was that of General Vasquez, and near him was Colonel Palacio, mortally wounded. Their loss in the retreat was terribly severe—every by-path was strewn with the dead. Had our dragoons been enabled to reach them in season, all would have been killed or captured—Santa Anna among them. Canalizo, with his noted lancers, had the prudence to "vamos" early.

NRR 72.183 May 22, 1847 Prisoners taken at Cerro Gordo

The Mexican Prisoners. - There were at least 6,000 Mexicans taken prisoners at Cerro Gordo. But few who were within the entrenchments escaped. Santa Anna kept a large corps of reserve outside the batteries, all of whom escaped. The want of cavalry was severely felt in the pursuit of the fugitives. - If Twiggs had had a cavalry force of one thousand he would have taken Santa Anna and his whole army. The officers who were taken prisoners were the bravest and best in the Mexican army. General Jarrero is an old and experienced officer, who has long commanded the castle of Perote. When the Texan prisoners were confined in that gloomy fortress, Gen. J. treated them with great kindness and generosity. We trust that on this account, as well as from a regard to his position, he will be kindly and hospitably treated by our citizens when he visits New Orleans.

Of General La Vega we need only say, that he is well known throughout Mexico and the United States, for his gallantry at Resaca de la Palma, and for his dignified and gentlemanly bearing during his sojourn in this country as a prisoner of war. There are among the prisoners several naval officers, who were very efficient in managing the artillery batteries. They are intelligent gentlemen, and speak the English language. The younger officers were very much exerted against Santa Anna. They declared, that if he had not kept out of the entrenchments and showed a determination to fly, they would have been able to maintain their positions. They openly charged him with being either bribed or frightened—a traitor or a coward.

Seventeen Mexican officers were brought to Vera Cruz under a strong escort. The Mexicans on the road had not heard of the battle or of its results, and when they saw the escort approaching, they ran out of their houses to see what it meant. As soon as the well known faces of their own officers, under an American guard, came within view, they seemed to be struck dumb with astonishment and alarm. Gradually these feelings gave way to sorrow, and their lamentations over the misfortunes and disgrace of their country were loud and affecting.

NRR 72.183 May 22, 1847 the storming and capture of the strong works at Cerro Gordo

The Storming and Capture of the Strong Works on Sierra Gordo, by the brigade under Colonel Harney, may be looked upon as one of the most brilliant achievements of the Mexican war—the fate of the battle turned upon it, and here the enemy had placed an overwhelming force of his best troops. - The hill was steep and naturally difficult of ascent; but independent of this the ground was covered with loose, craggy rocks, an undergrowth of tangled chaparral, besides many small trees, the tops of which were cut off some four or five feet from the ground, and turned down the hill to impede the progress of the stormers. TH climb the height at all, even without arms of any kind, would be an undertaking that few would care about essaying; what then must it have been to men encumbered with muskets and cartridge boxes, and obliged to dispute every step of the precipitous and rugged ascent? Murderous showers of grape and canister greeted our men at the onset, and as they toiled unfaltering through a tempest of iron hail a heavy fire of musketry opened upon them. Not a man quailed—with loud shouts they still pressed upward and onward. At every step our ranks were thinned; but forward went the survivors.

When within good musket range, but not until then, was the fire of the enemy returned, and then commenced the dreadful carnage of the strife. The Mexicans held to their guns with more than their usual bravery, but nothing could resist the fierce onset of the stormers. Over the breastworks with which the Mexicans had surrounded the crest of the hill they charged, and shouting attacked the enemy in his very stronghold. The latter now fled panic stricken, but still they were pursued; and it was not until the affrighted fugitives had reached a point without the extreme range of their own cannon, which had been turned upon them at the onset, that they ceased in their flight. The national colors of our country now supplanted the banner of the enemy, the different regimental flags were also planted on the crest, and shouts louder than ever from the victors rose upon the air, struck terror into the very hearts of the enemy in the works still
untaken, for they knew that their strong position had been turned and that they were at the mercy of the men they had scoffed at in the mooring. Never was victory more complete, although purchased with the blood of our best men. Lieut. Ewell, of the rifles, was among the first within the enemy's breastworks, and it was her that he received his death wound.-The interior of the work was covered with the dead of the enemy, among them Gen. Vasquez, Col. Palacio, and many of their officers, while the hill side down which they fled was strewn as well. Near 200 men were left dead, while the wounded would swell the number to at least 500-some even put it down as high as 700.

The regiments composing Col. Harney's command, and which successfully stormed the noted Cerro Gordo, were the 1st artillery under Col. Childs, the 3rd infantry under Captain E. B. Alexander, the 7th infantry under Captain E. B. Alexander, the 7th infantry under Colonel Plympton, and a portion of the rifles under Maj. Loring. Many cases of individual bravery, performed by subaltern officers, have been mentioned; but as I cannot particularly notice such as I have heard of without perhaps doing injustice to others equally meritorious, I shall forbear writing until I have more full information. I had almost forgotten to state that four companies of the 2nd infantry under Colonel Riley, took an active part in the assault. [ANP]

NNR 72.183 May 22, 1847 Letter from Jalapa

A private letter published in the Union, from Major Wm. Turnbull, of the corps of topographical engineers. Giving some particulars:

Headquarters of the Army,
Plan del Rio, April 18th, 1847.

"I have but a moment to tell you that we have had a glorious day. The enemy were in great force, some twelve thousand men, and fortified in a very strong pass in the mountains, called Cerro Gordo, with over thirty pieces of artillery; but by careful reconnaissance we discovered a route, and made a road through the ravines, so that we got in rear of most of their guns and the principal force; but when we came out expecting to reach the Jalapa road, we came upon a very high conical mountain, on which there was a square tower of masonry and a breastwork, with five or six pieces of artillery. It was essential that this place should be assaulted, and it was ordered and done in a style never before exceeded. I wish I could give you a description of it, or had the time to attempt it. The hill was between five and six hundred feet high, covered with large rocks and loose stones, and brush and chaparral, and so steep that we of the staff who were mounted, of course, could not ride up, but had to lead our horses. The heat was excessive. As we went up we passed by men exhausted and dropping out of the column, but enough succeeded in getting up to drive the enemy; and I do not think that the greater gallantry was ever displayed. The men advanced steadily up the hill, and under a galling fire from both artillery and musketry, without firing a shot, until they reached the brow of the hill, when they opened, and in a few minutes the American flag, and that of the 7th infantry, took the place of the Mexican, which was received with a shout from all around the hill. I will not attempt to describe the scenes I witnessed; passing the wounded, the dead, and dying of our own people affected me exceedingly.

"We remained but a few minute on the hill, and passed down to the road where a large portion had already reached; the portion of the enemy opposed and near to us took the road to Jalapa; the rest, whose rear we had reached, we bagged between our portion of the army posted to attack in front.

"Some six thousand men surrendered unconditionally, and as many escaped; but this is rough guessing, as I rode through them after they had laid down their arms and were marching back to camp.-Our loss is comparatively small, considering the circumstances; but I think three hundred will cover the whole loss, killed and wounded, in the skirmishing of yesterday, and fighting of today. Among the number of wounded is one of my party, Lieut. Derby; he was with the storming party, was wounded in the left thigh, but is doing well. I had him brought back to camp. I omitted to mention that Gen. Twiggs's division was sent forward to take position, but were discovered, and some severe skirmishing took place, in which the rifles took the lead, behaved well, and suffered much. Capt. Johnston, who was sent forward with this division, whilst reconnoitering the position of the enemy, was severely but not dangerously wounded- one ball through the right thigh below the hip, and another entered his right arm as he was holding his glass to his eye, between the elbow and the shoulder, and was taken out near the back bone. No bones were broken, and he is doing extremely well, and is in good spirits. Santa Anna, Ampudia, Almonte, and others escaped us, but we got Santa Anna's carriage, his leg, and they say some thirty or forty thousand dollars. Among the prisoners are five generals, and God knows how many colonels, &c.- La Vega one of the,. The general-in-chief seems to be a negro; he is very black.- We march in the morning for Jalapa; in fact, the greater part of the army have gone in pursuit, in that direction, already." [KAM]
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Major Sumner, who led the rifles in the attack of the 17th on the enemy's advanced position, made a very narrow escape. In the charge, he was struck on the head by a musket bullet. The bullet was flattened to the thinness of a dime, and retained on its surface the print of the Major's hair, and yet, strange to say, except the severance of an artery, he sustained no serious injury. The artery was taken up, and at the last accounts, the Major was doing well. This excellent officer-accounted one of the best tacticians and disciplinarians in the army-may certainly felicitate himself on the strength of his craniological defences. He will never find any difficulty in getting a liberal policy in any of our life insurance offices.

Captain Johnson.--This valuable officer, lately appointed lieut. Colonel of the new ten regimen's was badly wounded in a reconnaissance made by order of General Twiggs, two or three days before his battle, and before the enemy's position was known. He received two musket balls, one through the thigh, cutting the femoral artery, and another through the shoulder. His robust constitution and great endurance will, it is believed, triumph over his severe wounds, and he is now renounced by his surgeons to be out of danger.

Gen. Patterson was on the field and under fire, though seriously indispose and greatly weakened.
by sickness. He was unable to take command of his division, both on account of his physical
debility and the separation of the two brigades under his command, which were operating at
different and distant points.

Gen. Smith was severely ill, confined to his cot, and thus lost the occasion which his brave heart
so warmly panted par, or leading his gallant rifles in their brilliant charge against the Cerro.

Gen. Quitman did not arrive on the field until the day after the battle. Our gallant Southern
regiments again lost the opportunity of showing their mettle. The Alabamians and Georgians had
the misfortune to be omitted in the programme of the storming of Monterey, and the sorely
complained on account of it. A like misfortune at Cerro Gordo, coming so close upon the time of
their disbandment, has no doubt given these gallant regiments great mortification and chagrin.

[ANP]

NNR 72.184 May 22, 1847 Diminution of Gen. Zachary Taylor's forces, &c.

"The number of regiments whose year will expire in May or June, now in General Taylor's, column,
is thirteen. How their places are to be filled I cannot devise; perhaps you can inform us." [KAM]

NNR 72.184 May 22, 1847 Gen. Jose Antonio Mejia's Son Captured

GEN. Mejia's son is among the Mexican prisoners now in New Orleans. He is a first lieutenant and
aid de camp of Gen. De la Vega. He is quite a young man, and behaved very gallantly at the battle
of Sierra Gordo, having his horse shot from under him and being wounded. Like la Vega he was
found at his post. General Brooks received his parole of honor, and is now residing with his
mother, a resident of New Orleans, until further orders. [JLM]

NNR 72.184 May 22, 1847 Mexicans Massacred

The Delta contains a letter dated Monterey, April 4, from which we make the following extracts:

"Three days ago the Alcalde and Priest of a small town some twenty miles distant, on the road to
China, came in and reported to Gen. Taylor the murder of twenty four Mexicans, at Guadaloppa, a
small rancho, about six miles from Ramus. The murder was committed, they say, by a party of
Americans numbering about twenty, and was done in the night. The murdered men were first
made prisoners tied, and afterwards all shot through their heads. The murder is said to have been
committed on the 28th [ultimo]. On that night a train of loaded wagons, escorted by two hundred
infantry and about the same number of horse, under the command of Col. Mitchell, of the first
Ohio regiment, encamped at Marin, which is about five miles from the scene of the murder. The
mounted men were composed of United States dragoons and Texas Rangers, under the command
of Capt. Graham, of the 2d dragoons. Suspicion rests upon some part of this corps, though no clue
has as yet been found to discover the guilty. The officers in command-gentle men, and rigid
disciplinarians- are using every means in their power to investigate the matter.

Gen. Taylor has got his steam up on the subject, and is determined to have hung every one who,
it can be proved, has taken part in the murder. The town where these men were killed is but a few
miles from the place where the large train was captured and so many wagoners massacred on the
22d of February. Some fifteen or twenty of the wagoners who escaped from that massacre came
up in the last train, yet there is no evidence that they were engaged in the Guadaloppa murder.

I passed over the place of the massacre of the 22d February a few days ago, and the scene is truly
the most horrid and revolting that I have ever witnessed. The remains of the murdered men, yet
unburied, stripped of every particle of clothing, lay upon the plains, their flesh devoured by
Mexican wolves and buzzards, and their bones bleached in the sun.

"The train was a very large and valuable one, and stretched out from three to four miles in length.
The attack was made upon the escort, who were in the advance, by a large body of lancers. The
escort forty men, under Lieut. Barbour, of the Kentucky legion. Were all taken prisoners, and are
now in the possession of Urrea. The lancers charged down the train, and lanced without mercy the
wagoners as they ran for their lives to the chaparral. More than three fourths of them, it is
thought, were killed, and their bodies shockingly mutilated and disfigured.

"Urrea, by last accounts, was at Linares, expecting reinforcements. It is rumored that he has 4
pieces of artillery with him. Marin, Ceralvo, Mier, and China will be garrisoned by our troops, which
will render our communication with Camargo entirely safe. The troops here are in excellent health
and condition.

"The number of regiments whose year will expire in May or June, now in General Taylor's column,
is [. . .];. How their places are to be filled I cannot devise perhaps you can inform us." [JLM]

NNR 72.184 May 22, 1847 Conquest of Mexico urged by various journals

The last "Democratic Review," has a leading article in which the writer assumes that there can be
no end of the war, short of the annihilation of Mexico as a nation." "The Mexican race," says the
writer, "now see in the fate of the aborigines of the north, their own inevitable destiny."

The New York "Globe" of Tuesday last has a long article in favor of the conquest of all Mexico. We
extract the following paragraph.

"We cannot control the current of events; we gave been compelled to fight; we gad a succession
of victories, and always offered peace, and while we were confident that the victories of Vera Cruz
and Cerro Gordo would be followed by pacific overtures, we are told by the Mexican congress that
no peace can be made with us on any terms. What follows as the inevitable consequence? The
conquest of all Mexico; bringing all Mexico into the Union; and event not desired, not sought for by
us, but by the Mexicans themselves! Tired of revolution, tired of military despotism, bent down by
oppression, impoverished and almost ruined, the civil power of Mexico wishes to change its rulers;
wish to come under the protection of the laws and government of the U. States, and state after
state in Mexico will declare in favor of the measure, until the Anglo-Saxon race is extended even
beyond the Isthmus of Panama. Mexico desires to annex herself to us, with all the declarations of
national integrity, and national glory, the common bond of national safety and sympathy urges the
Mexicans to this change. Whenever our army occupied a city, the Mexicans felt themselves safe-
in person, in property, and in religious rights; and whenever they surrendered a place even after
resistance, they considered the change a happy one, and not a calamity; it is an homage to our
laws and national character. What are we to do? The whigs, relying upon an increased strength in
the next congress, intend to demand of the administration its policy, towards Mexico, as
contingent on voting further supplies to carry on the war. They will be answered, we want peace-
we have offered peace on honorable terms; we want indemnity for the past and security for the
future, and the whigs will not dare assume the responsibility of withdrawing our array, and submit
to any terms which Mexico and its military chieftains will dictate." [KAM]

NNR 72.184-185 May 22, 1847 Occupation of Mexico necessary, estimate of proceeds of the tariff
on Mexico

The New Orleans Delta, of the 4th inst. concludes its details of the victory of Sierra Gordo, with the
following paragraph.

No Prospect of peace. There is no reason, however, to believe that the victory of Sierra Gordo will
bring us any nearer to a peace than we were before. The war is not unpopular with the mass of
the Mexicans. They have suffered none of the horrors. Besides the controlling spirits of the
country, keep up the war spirit, knowing that if the country is occupied by the United States, they
will loose their offices and their influence. It is believed by Gen. Scott, and the officers with him,
that it will be necessary to occupy the whole country. This, he thinks can be easily done. With
20,000 men he will march to the capital, take possession of the government, disarm the people,
establish a provisional government under the authority of the United States, and defray its
expenses from the customs and mines, the chief source of revenue in Mexico. Without this force,
Gen. Scott will not be able to move with safety to his communications beyond Jalapa. He will have
to occupy the Orizaba road, to prevent the enemy operating against the rear from that position.
Having arrived in the Tierra Templada, and encamped in a perfectly healthy position, he will no
doubt wait for reinforcements before he pushes further at least than Perote, then the next point of
attack.

Instead of peace, a military occupation of Mexico, appears now to be in contemplation.

The Vera Cruz "Eagle" looks to the probably necessity of the military occupation of Mexico, in case
he should stubbornly refuse to enter into a negotiation for peace, and thinks that the following
force will be requires:

Tampico 1 Regiment Guanajuato 3 Regi.
Vera Cruz 1 do Zacatecas 4 do
Making in all 47 regiments, amounting, according to the present regulations of the United States to 40,000 men, which, to a certainty, would be enough to carry out the military occupation of the country. The expenses of these 40,000 troops will amount to $15,000,000 per annum, which we shall have to pay.

The expense of maintaining this army the editor sets down at $15,000,000 per annum. He estimates a revenue from the new tariff of $13,000,000, and recommends the imposition of a direct tax on the towns in our possession of $7,000,000; thus leaving a surplus in the treasury instead of drawing from it.

He further estimates, if permanent possession should be kept of the country, that the sale of the public lands, by encouraging emigration from the United States and Europe, would annually amount to more than one fourth of the above sum.

The Eagle expresses the opinion that our government can raise twenty millions of revenue by customs and direct taxes, besides the sale of the public lands in Mexico.

It will be recollected, that the revenue to be derived from this source, whatever the amount may be, is to be at the entire control of the president of the United States, in his capacity as commander in chief of the army and navy, as well as the enactment of all the laws by virtue of which it was levied and the appointment of officers required for collecting and disposing of it.

The Richmond Enquirer quoting the above extract from the Eagle, adds- We shall not venture a suggestion as to the probably course of events in Mexico. The future is veiled in mystery and no one can reasonably speculate upon the erratic conduct of so obstinate and weak minded a people as the Mexican nation. It is true that the members of her congress breathe nothing but "war and vengeance," and that they have recommended a system of guerrilla warfare- but we gave already learned how little faith to attach to such swelling pronunciamentos. Without undertaking to speculate upon what our government may do, in case a negotiation of peace does not follow the capture of the Mexican capital, we are sure that we are not far wrong, when we avow the opinion that our armies will not be withdrawn, until we have secured sufficient territory to indemnify the expenses uncured by us in a just war, and the heavy wrongs and injuries inflicted upon our nation and citizens by Mexico. As to the revenue to be raised from the duties in the Mexican ports, which we have established, in perfect accordance with the laws of nations, we are assured by merchants who have resided in Mexico, that they will realize ten millions of dollars.

The Washington Union speaks of Gen. Scott's advance without delay towards the city of Mexico. It says- "Some of the southern papers are still harping upon the twelve months' men. It is true that the time of a few more than three thousand volunteers will expire in June and July; but we have ascertained from the adjutant general's office that reinforcements have already arrived, or are en route, of men to serve during the war, who will more than supply the vacancy. General Scott will have a strong and most efficient army, to meet and overcome any force which the enemy may send against him. And we learn that fresh detachments of a force now in the service of the government, will probably be sent forward to participate in the war with Mexico." [KAM]

NNR 72.185, May 22, 1847 ARMY OF INVASION
72.185 May 22, 1847 Guerrilla Warfare

The New Orleans Delta of the 11th says--"Immediately before the James-L. Day started from Vera Cruz, Major Leonard, who is stationed there, sent an officer on board to inform Gen. Pillow that an express had just arrived from Gen. Scott, with a dispatch, in which it was stated that a deputation of Mexican citizens from the capital had arrived at the general's headquarters, inviting him to advance, assuring him that it would be surrendered to him without opposition, and asking protection for their persons and property. To such favorable terms Gen. Scott assented. He is, therefore on his way to, if not already in the "halls of the Montezuma."

The Delta gives the following statement on the authority of a gentleman direct from Vera Cruz.- Whatever be the fears of the Mexicans, their feelings are anything but amiable towards the Americans.-The road along Jalapa to Vera Cruz is dotted with the mangled and murdered bodies of our countrymen, who were caught straggling away from the parties with which they happened to be marching.-One person counted no less than twenty one victims of Mexican revenge on the line of road. The bandits which prowl about there, recently attacked a party of infantry, on their
way to join the main body of the army. They fell back on the last wagon tram, which was close in
the rear. The escort charged on the ranchers, who, on the first fire, fled. One American was
killed; it was not known how many Mexicans. This occurred eight miles this side of the National
Bridge.

Gen. La Vega and his associate prisoners are now in Vera Cruz. They are at large in the city, on
their parole. When Gen. Pillow arrived at Vera Cruz, he found them confined in the castle, and
believing this to be done from a misrepresentation or a misunderstanding of the orders of Gen.
Scott, he had them liberated.

They would willingly come to this city, if ordered, but as it has been left optional with them
wither to remain in Vera Cruz or come here, they think that were they to so the latter it might be
constructed into a desertion of their country, in her day of difficulty and danger. A keen sense of
honor dictates the feeling.

The National Intelligencer of the 11th, on the authority of a New Orlanans correspondent, says-the
city of Puebla had sent a deputation to Gen. Scott, and will make no resistance to his occupation
of that place.

Arrangements had been made to defend the capital, but after Gen. Pillow was on board at Vera
Cruz he received a message from shore stating that an express had arrived with intelligence that
the Mexican government had abandoned the capital, taking with it the archives, and that the
citizens had sent a deputation to Gen. Scott to advance and afford them protection.

Proclamations were being circulated by the Mexicans calling for the organization of guerrilla
regiments, which plan of warfare was to be adopted on an extensive scale.

In consequence of sickness, death, and loss in battle, it is said that Gen. Scott will not have left in
his army more than about 5,000 effective men, after the return of the volunteers whose time
shortly expires, and who General Pillow states will return almost to a man. Of the seven
regiments, he says not a company will remain.

Santa Anna's army was entirely dispersed, and he, wholly without power and influence, was
seeking to leave his country.

"The American Star," is the title of an American paper already issued at Jalapa. It states that mid
shipman Rogers, of Delaware, was removed from Perota to Puebla on the day of the fight at Sierra
Gordo.

We find the following proclamation in the Jalapa Star. That paper says, with some feeling, that if
this mode of warfare is adopted, it will be the most sorrowful time Mexico has ever known. War
without pity will be met with war without pity! [JLM, WWF]
astonishment and alarm. Gradually these feelings gave way to sorrow, and their lamentations over the misfortunes and disgrace of their country were loud and affecting. [ANP]

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NNR 72.185 May 22, 1847 Gen. Jose Mariano de Salas' guerrilla proclamation

My friends- The present moment is the most proper to excite the public spirit and form a nation of men truly free. When an enemy triumphs by his union to rob us of our dearest interests, there us nothing more sure and more certain than to vanquish him by valor and constancy.

For this end I have obtained permission to raise a guerrilla corps, with which to attack and destroy the invaders in ever manner imaginable. The conduct of the enemy, contrary both to humanity and natural rights, authorizes us to pursue him without pity, [misericordia] "War without pity and death!" will be the motto of the guerrilla warfare of vengeance; therefore I invite all my fellow citizens, especially my brave subordinates, to unite at general headquarters, to enroll themselves, from 9 until 3 in the afternoon, so that it may be organized in the present week.

Jose Mariano Salas

[KAM]

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NNR 72.185 May 22, 1847 supplies provided by Mexicans at Jalapa, impossibility of maintaining contact with Veracruz

Jalapa April 30th. The Mexicans are bringing in their corn pretty freely. I believe, from what I can hear about headquarters, that when we march from this place, there will be little or no communication with Vera Cruz. Our means of transportation will not enable us to look for supplies from home, and the enemy will be looked to furnish us to a great extent. Out trains are already beginning to be annoyed in the short space between this and Vera Cruz, and to keep the road open all the way to Mexico will require more men than would be necessary to take that city. [ANP]

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72.185 May 22, 1847 Various rumors about the fortifications at Mexico City

In the "Eagle" of the 1st, which I send you, you will learn that Don Pedro Anaya has been declared dictator. The Swedish consul, who arrived yesterday from Mexico, tells me that it is true that Anaya has been elected dictator; Canalizo spoken of as commander-in-chief of the army, and that preparations are being made for the removal of the government to Calaya, incase our army marches into the city.

The Swedish consul tells me that he visited Santa Anna at Orizaba, and obtained from him a passport to come down. He had but a thousand men with him. Badly equipped, and he looking haggard and very much dejected. His day was passed. Both soldiers and officers have lost all confidence in him- and I have no doubt, that were he to come to Vera Cruz during the present state of feeling of the Mexican population, he would be murdered.

When the Swedish consul left, they were busily employed in fortifying Mexico. No stand will be made at Puebla, unless we delay marching on it for some time- Gen. WORTH IS STILL AT Perote-Scott at Jalapa. [KAM]

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NNR 72.185 May 22, 1847 Yankeeizing of Vera Cruz

In Vera Cruz every thing is going on smoothly.-The business of the city is increasing in a wonderful degree. The waters are covered with merchant vessels. Yankee hotels, Yankee auction houses, Yankee circus companies, and Yankee ice houses, are starting up at every corner.

I learn from an officer of the Potomac, that the navy are getting up an expedition to the south, embracing Campeachy, Tabasco, and Huasacualco.

Gen. Shields has been pronounced out of danger.
I have just learned that my company will be ordered up to join our regiment at Jalapa. If so, I shall have a better opportunity of keeping you advised of the movements of the army. [ANP]

NNR 72.185 May 22, 1847 Naval expedition to the south

I learn from an officer of the Potomac, that the navy are getting up an expedition an expedition to the south, embracing Campeachy, Tabasco, and Huasacualco. [KAM]

NNR 72.185 May 22, 1847 Mediation by the British government suggested by the Mexicans

Vera Cruz, May 5th. As the steamer has been detained until to-day by bad weather. I give you the latest news that has reached us since I closed my letter of the 3rd; there is not much of it, but what there us, is of some interest and importance. The British consul at this place has just received a communication from the British minister Mr. Blackhead, saying that the Mexican government has solicited the friendly mediation of his government to settle the difficulties between Mexico and the U. States. - I learned this morning that such a letter had been received from Mr. Blackhead, and at once called on the English consul, who tells me that such is a fact. You may therefore rely on the accuracy of this statement. [KAM]

NNR 72.185 May 22, 1847 Items

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NNR72.185-186 May 22, 1847 Position of the Catholic Church in Mexico with regard to the war

The Washington Union had the following as a leading editorial:

It seems that the church in Mexico has volunteered to supply funds for the prosecution of the war. It is well known that in Mexico the property of the church is not subject to taxation, and therefore, whatever is contributed from this quarter, is done gratuitously. This is part of the system, which has been indicated, in other modes, of giving to the war a religious character. It is denounced as a war of infidels and heretics against the holy church, and against Christianity. Those who are familiar with our history and institutions, know full well that there is nothing either hostile to the Roman Church. - A high dignitary of that establishment, drawing a contrast between the U. States and other Christian communities, including his own, he pronounced his decisive opinion that that branch of the Christian church occupied more advantageous ground in this country, and is advancing with more prosperity and solid strength among us, than in any other nation.- The position and high public estimation which many of our Catholic brethren occupy, the intelligence, patriotism, and social virtues which they exhibit, corroborate this statement.

It is not as a religious body, but as an engine of state, that the Catholics of Mexico look upon us with a hostile eye. It is for their own special political purposes- to retain their vast possessions, which impoverish the nation- to sustain their own hierarchy, which lords it over the people- to preserve their power, which weighs down the rest of the community into the slough of ignorance and slavery- that they are thus solicitous and active. It is a zeal for the mammon of unrighteousness- not for the welfare of souls- which inspires and animates the Catholics of Mexico.

In this aspect of the case, it may become a matter of grave consideration, if the church continues to oppose a peace and furnish the fuel of war, whether the immense revenues of the church in Mexico, shall be left untouched whether they shall be suffered to remain at the disposal if the enemy and be applied to sustain the war against us- whether justice and policy do not equally dictate that they should at least be sequestered during the continuance of the war as a legitimate means of cutting off the enemy's supplies.

The experience we have already had on this point leads to another suggestion. Cannot Mexico be prevailed upon to adopt a more tolerant system? Could not the two nations agree that reciprocal
stipulations should be made for the free and unrestricted enjoyment of religious liberty within the territories of both nations? Independently of the great good which would thereby result to the whole Christian commonwealth, and to ourselves as constituting a portion of it, it may with perfect truth be said that no greater blessing- no higher or more substantial benefit could be bestowed upon Mexico herself. It may well be doubted whether such an arrangement would not be productive of advantage to both countries, which would more than compensate for all the expenses and losses of the war; and our invasion of Mexico be the parent of her general civilization, diffused intelligence, wide spread happiness, and solid prosperity. At the same time it should be distinctly understood that we have no right to dictate this condition to the Mexican government- none to insist upon it as a stipulation of any treaty- none to make it the slightest impediment to the establishment of peace. Mexico may, probably, resist any such suggestion. We should be bound, therefore, to leave the whole question as it is, trusting alone to the progress of the age to effect an object which may be desirable to the whole Christian world.  

NNR 72.186 May 22, 1847 Gen. William Jenkins gathering up grain

Gen. Worth was gathering all the grain he could, and has all the bakeries at work, as if in anticipation of breaking all the communications with Vera Cruz.  

NNR 72.186 May 22, 1847 Gen. Winfield Scott's design to relinquish the line of communication

It was the intention of Gen. Scott, upon the arrival of the wagon train that was to start from Vera Cruz, about the 6th instant, to cut off all connection with the sea coast, rely upon the country for sustenance and push forward for the city. This general order dated at Jalapa, 30th April, intimates as much. But Mr. Kendall's letter of the 4th - the very latest news- throws some doubt upon the speedy adoption of this plan, in consequence of the determination of the 12 months' volunteer, in a body not to re-enlist. This may retard the advance if the army, unless indeed the reported readiness of the city to surrender be confirmed.  

NNR 72.186 May 22, 1847 Mexican account of the Battle of Cerro Gordo

Mexican Account of the Battle of Sierra Gordo.

The following is the despatch of Gen. Canalizo, the second in command at the battle of Sierra Gordo, to the Mexican secretary of war.

"Headquarters, Branderilla, April 18, 1847.

"Sir-One of those unfortunate reverses which will occur in the course of he war, has been productive of most disastrous consequences to this army, and under circumstances that seemed to indicate that fortune was on the point of favoring us, as the enemy were repulsed entirely on the previous day in their charge on the Cerro Telegrato, situated on the right of our works; but this morning at 7 o'clock, availing themselves doubtless with their better acquaintance with the country, they charge with their entire force in such a manner as to dislodge the troops that guarded the newly finished fortifications, after a most vigorous resistance.  After this they succeeded in taking the headquarters and other points of our encampment, giving rise to confusion and disorder on our side, which even the commander in chief, aided by his generals, found it impossible to prevent, occasioning thereby the complete dispersal and rout of the infantry troops, and involving the loss of almost of all our pieces of artillery. The cavalry forces only were not included in this disorder; but, being hemmed in by a column of the enemy's troops that were in the vicinity of a wood on the left, it became necessary for them vigorously to open a passage, in order to avoid being taken prisoners.  This it was that prevented us joining the commander in chief and the other generals who were engaged in defending the battery situated in front of the headquarters.-During this time I was laboring under the most serious apprehension as to the fate of the commander in chief, whether he was killed or taken prisoner; but, as I passed Jalapa, I happily heard of his safety, and hope soon to be reunited with him. In brief, I will say to your excellency, that, with the few remaining troops, infantry and cavalry, that I have reunited, and of which I shall hereafter give a more detailed account, I pursued my march, passed this night at la Hoya, and I shall proceed until I receive further orders from the government, as I am unable to defend any point on the route, in consequence of the total loss of the artillery and ammunition, as I have no sufficient powder left for one round. I would also mention that I have at present no means for supporting the troops that follow me; and as for the cavalry, in consequence of the lengthy march they underwent from San Luis to this point, they are I a most deplorable state as regards service.
"I feel much at having to communicate, through you, to the acting president, such unfortunate new; but, nevertheless, I present you my respects and consideration. Go I and liberty!

Valentine Canalizo.

"To his excellency the minister of war." [ANP]

NRR 72.186 May 22, 1847 Gen. Winfield Scott's official report on the Battle of Cerro Gordo


Headquarters of the army, Jalapa, April 23, 1847.

Sir—In forwarding the reports of commanders which detail the operations of their several corps against the Mexican lines at Cerro Gordo, I shall present in continuation of my former report, but an outline of the affair; and while adopting heartily their commendation of the ardor and efficiency of individuals, I shall mention by name only those who figure prominently, or, from position, could bet be included in those sub-reports.

The field sketch herewith, indicates the positions of the two armies. The tierra caliente, of low level, terminates at Plan del Rio, the site of the American camp, from which the road ascends immediately in a long circuit among lofty hills, whose commanding points had all been fortified and garrisoned by the enemy. His right, entrenched, rested on a precipice overhanging an impassable ravine that forms the bed of the stream; and his entrenchments extended continuously to the road, on which was placed a formidable battery. On the other side, the lofty and difficult height of Cerro Gordo commanded the approaches in all directions. The main body of the Mexican army was encamped on level ground, with a battery of five pieces, halt a mile in height toward Jalapa.

Resolving, if possible, to turn the enemy's left, and attack in rear, while menacing or engaging his front, I caused daily reconnoissances to be pushed, with the view of finding a route for a force to debouch on the Jalapa road and cut off retreat.

The reconnoisance, begun by Lieut. Beauregard, was continued by Captain Lee, engineers, and a road made along difficult slopes and over chasms-out of the enemy's view, though reached by his fire when discovered-until, arriving at the Mexican lines, further reconnoisance became impossible without an action. The desired point of debouchure, the Jalapa road was not, therefore, reached, though believed to be within easy distance; and to gain that point it now became necessary to carry the height of Cerro Gordo. The dispositions in my plan of battle-general orders No. 111 heretofore enclosed-were accordingly made.

Twiggs' division, reinforced by Shield' brigade of volunteers, was thrown into position on the 17th, and was, of necessity drawn into action in taking up the ground for its bivouac and the opposing height for our heavy battery. IT will be seen that many of our officers and men were killed or wounded in this sharp combat-handsomely commenced by a company of the 7th infantry under Bvt. First Lieut. Gardner, who is highly praised by all his commanders for signal services. Col. Harney coming up with the rifle regiment and first artillery, (also parts of his brigade), brush away the enemy and occupied the height-on which, in the night was placed a battery of one 24-pouner and two 24-pound howitzers, under the superintendence of Capt. Lee, engineers, and Lieut. Hagner, ordnance. These guns opened next morning, and were served with effect by Capt. Steptoe and Lieut. Brown, 3d artillery, Lieut. Hagner, (ordnance), and Lieut. Seymour, 1st artillery.

The same night, with extreme toil and difficulty, under the superintendence of Lieut. Tower, engineers, and Lieut. Laidley, ordnance, an 8-inch howitzer was put in position across the river and opposite to the enemy's right battery. A detachment of four companies under Major Burham, N. York volunteers, performed this creditable service, which enabled Lieut. Ripley, 2d artillery, in charge of the piece, to open a timely fire on that quarter.

Early on the 18th the columns moved to the general attack, and our success was speedy and decisive. Pillow's brigade assaulting the right of the entrenchments, although compelled to retire, had the effect I have heretofore stated. Twigg's division, storming the strong and vital point of Cerro Gordo, pierced the centre, gained command of all the entrenchments, and cut them off from support. As our infantry, (colonel Riley's brigade) pushed on against the main body of the enemy, the guns of their own fort were rapidly turned to play on that force,(under the immediate command of Gen. Santa Anna), who fled in confusion. Shields' brigade bravely assaulting the left, carried the rear battery, (five guns) on the Jalapa road, and aided materially in completing the rout of the enemy.
The part taken by the remainder of the forces, held in reserve to support and pursue, has already been noticed.

The moment the fate of the day was decided, the cavalry, and Taylor's and Wall's field batteries were pushed on towards Jalapa in advance of the pursuing columns of infantry-Twiggs' division and the brigade of Shields, (now under Col. Baker)-and Maj. Gen. Patterson was sent to take command of them. In the hot pursuit many Mexicans were exhausted by the heat and distance.

The rout proves to have been complete-the retreating army, except at small body of cavalry, being dispersed and utterly disorganized. The immediate consequences have been our possession of this important city, the abandonment of the works and artillery at La Hoya, the next formidable pass between Vera Cruz and the capital, and the prompt occupation by Worth's division of he fortress of Perote, (second only to San Juan de Ulloa), with its extensive armament of sixty six guns and mortars, and its large supplies of materiel. To General Worth's report, annexed, I refer for details.

I have heretofore endeavored to do justice to the skill and courage with which the attack on the height of Sierra Gordo was directed and executed, naming the regiments most distinguished, and their commanders, under the lead of Colonel Harney. Lieutenant G. W. Smith led the engineer company as part of he storming force, and is noticed with distinction.

The reports of this assault make favorable mention of many in which I can well concur, having witnessed the daring advance and perfect steadiness of he whole. Besides those already named, Lieutenant Brooks, 3d infantry, Lieutenant Macdonald, 2d dragoons, Lieut. Vandorn, 7th infantry-all acting staff officers-Captain Magruder, 1st artillery, and Lieutenant Gardner, 7th infantry, seem to have won especial praise.

Colonel Riley's brigade and Talcott's rocket and howitzer battery, were engaged on and about the heights, and bore an active part.

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The brigade so gallantly led b General Shields, and, after his fall, by Colonel Baker, deserves high commendation for its fine behavior and success. Colonels Foreman and Burnett, and Major Harris, commanded the regiments; Lieutenant Hammond, 3d artillery, and Lieutenant Davis, Illinois volunteers, constituted the brigade staff. These operations, hid from my view by intervening hills, were not fully known when my first report was hastily written.

Brigadier General Twiggs, who was in the immediate command of all the advanced forces, has earned high credit by his judgment, spirit, and energy.

The conduct of Colonels Campbell, Haskell, and Wynkoop, commanding the regiments of Pillow's brigade, is reported in terms of strong approbation by Major General Patterson. I recommend for a commission, Quartermaster Sergeant Henry, of the 7th infantry, (already known to the army for intrepidity of former occasions,) who hauled down the national standard of the Mexican fort.

In expressing my indebtedness for able assistance to Lieut. Col. Hitchcock, acting inspector general to Majors Smith and Turnbull, the respective chiefs of engineers and topographical engineers, and Lieuts. Derby and Hardcastle, topographical engineers-to Captain Allen, chief quarter master, and Lieut. Blair, chief commissary-and to Lieutenants Hagner and Laidley, ordnance, all actively employed-I am impelled to make special mention of the services of Captain R. E. Lee, engineers. This officer, greatly distinguished at the siege of Vera Cruz, was again indefatigable, during these operations, in reconnoissances as daring as laborious, and of the utmost value. Nor was he less conspicuous in planting batteries, and in conducting columns to their stations under ht heavy fire of the enemy.

My personal staff, Lieutenants Scott, Williams and Law, and Major Van Buren, who volunteered for the occasion, gave me zealous and efficient assistance.

Our whole force present, in action found reserve, was 8,500; the enemy is estimated at 12,000 or more. About 3,000 prisoners, 4 or 5,000 stands of arms, and 43 pieces of artillery were taken. By the accompanying return, I regret to find our loss more severe than at first supposed, amounting in the two days to 33 officers and 398 men-in all 431, of whom 63 were killed. The enemy's loss is computed to be from 1,000 to 1,200.

I am happy n communicating strong hopes for the recovery of the gallant General Shields, who is so much improved as to have been brought to this place.

Appended to this report are the following papers:
A.-General return by name of killed and wounded.

B.-Copies of report of Lieut. Col. Hitchcock, acting inspector general (of prisoners taken) and accompanying papers.


D.-Report of Major Gen. Patterson, and reports of brigade commanders.

D.-Copy of report by Brig. General Worth, announcing the occupation by his division of the castle and town of Perote, with an inventory of ordnance there found.

I have the honor to remain, sir, with high respect, you most obedient servant,

Winfield Scott.  [ANP]

NNR 72.187 May 22, 1847 communication of Gen. Ethan Allen Hitchcock on operations at Cerro Gordo

A communication from Lt. Col. E. A. Hitchcock, Inspector General, to Major Gen. Scott, dated Jalapa, April 24, makes a return of the paroles of the Mexican prisoners captured at Sierra Gordo. It compromises the paroles of three general officers and 185 officers of lower grades; and also the paroles of 2,837 of the rank and file of the Mexican army. A separate return comprises the names of 288 officers, besides those, sixteen in number, sent to Vera Cruz.

Col H. goes on to say-

I think proper to remark, with regard to the operations at Sierra Gordo, that by turning the left flank of the enemy, and storming the principal hill occupied by him, which was executed under your personal observation on the morning of the 18th instant, his force was divided-all of the batteries east of the hill begin separated from the main body of the army encamped on the Jalapa road west of the hill.

All of the positions of the enemy were commended by the hill itself, which was believed by the Mexicans to be inaccessible to our troops. The hill being stormed and taken the main body of the enemy fled in the utmost confusion, and but a very few were taken prisoners. Many of the troops in the batteries, at the same time made their escape in the hills, throwing away their arms.

A Mexican officer assured me that no less than 1,500 thus escaped from one single battery. Of those in the batteries who laid down their arms, more than a thousand contrived to escape on their march from the field of battle of Plan del Rio, some five miles or more, along a circuitous road bounded by woods and ravines-and hence the number of prisoners on parole is diminished to about 3,000 men, exclusive of officers. And although this may not be the place for the expression of an opinion, I feel warranted in saying that the defeat was as complete as it was unexpected by the enemy-that he was utterly destroyed, captured, or routed, spreading terror and consternation throughout the country.  [ANP]

NNR 72.186-187 May 22, 1847 Letter About the Capture of Tuxpan

Correspondence of the New Orleans Delta

Tuspan, Mexico, 21st April, 1847

Eds. Delta- Very little time we have for scribbling now a days I assure you, but as the press is stopped, just as present, I will drop you a few lined to keep you acquainted with the last operations of the squadron, On Saturday, 17th inst., the following vessels anchored three miles distant from the bar at the entrance of the Tuspan river- the steam frigate Mississippi, Commodore Perry's flag ship; the frigate Raritan; the corvettes Germantown, Albany, John Adams, and Decatur; the steamers Spitfire, Vixen, and Scourge; the gunboats Reefer, Bonita, and Petrel-and every preparation was made for commencing and finishing a successful attack upon the forts and city on the following morning. The small steamers were lighted, so as to enable then to cross the bar, by removing a part of their coal, masts, spars, rigging; etc., and on the 18th inst., at daybreak, we ran in towards the mouth of the river, with the steam frigate and all the light draught vessels of the squadron. The Mississippi anchored in five fathoms of water, within a mile of the breakers and, as all things were in readiness, boat load after boat load debarked from the
vessels, stood in for the shore, dashed through the breakers, into the smooth water of the river, and then landed their men in safety on the sandbeach. The small steamers, with the gunboats in tow, likewise ploughed their way through the foaming surge, safely crossed the bar, and anchored where there was scarcely a ripple on the surface of the water. Com. Perry came on board the steamer Spitfire, Commander Tattnall, and hoisted his broad pendant. Just about that time Mexican troops were discovered some distance above, on the bank of the river, apparently engaged in throwing up a breastwork; and instantly the order was given, "all hands up anchor"—and in the shortest possible time the almighty steam was driving us a head on the enemy, but as we neared them we were convinced that they were only a reconnoitering party and they fled with the utmost precipitation. The steamer was then put about, and again took up her position preparatory to forming line, in order, to ascend the river to the city, some five miles distant. The Spitfire, flag ship, led the way; then followed the Vixen, Comar'r Sands; The Scourge, Lieut. Comm'g Lockwood, the gunboats Bonita, Lieut. Comm'g Benham, Petrel, Lieu. Comm'g Turner; and all the cutters of the squadron, under the commands of Captains Breese and Forest, and Capt. Lowery, and several of the crew were wounded, but no so as to endanger their lives, very accordingly it did not pass through her, but penetrates the plank and lodged in the timbers, one struck the Vixen, and that was full in her bow, but fortunately just below her water line; - and in regular order, under a full head of steam, we rushed up to the first fort, situated in a bend in the river, about a mile from the city. Here from the fort a curling smoke and a booming sound passed the intimation round that we should not take the place without a struggle; but their shot fell short, and the Commodore, apparently regretting the circumstance, sung out "go ahead fast," and the good old steamer commenced paddling her wheels [illegible] double quick time. And then the enemy opened upon us in earnest: shot after shot flew over the vessel, and struck the water some distance astern.

The tort was located high above us, on a steep bank of the river, and therefore they could only bring a plunging fire to bear upon our approaching squadron. This proved of great advantage to us, for as we ran rapidly towards them they must alter the train of their guns every time they delivered their fire. And now the scene became admirably exciting. The whole of our small squadron had closed up so that we formed a perfect phalanx of steamers, gun boats, and cutters. The marines of the Mississippi were drawn up on the wheel-house, and away from any position of the starboard wheel house, and I had a fair view of the boat tout ensemble. From the flash of their guns I could judge that the shot were not going to strike us, and then I watched them in their course until they plunged into the water astern; many fell right amid a group of cutters, and what astonished and delighted me most, was o see that not a single boat was injured in any wise. And now we were running up to within a hundred yards of the fort, and the enemy commenced firing with musketry and escopetas. The marines returned the fire with musketry, when Lieut. Parker, from the hurricane deck, called out "don't fire yet," but the marine officer answered "we are within musket range," and scarcely were the words spoken when Lieut. P. and three other officers were simultaneously wounded by the enemy's fire, which feelingly demonstrated the fact, that some were inclined to doubt. Comm'r Tattnall, Lieutenants Parker and Hartstein, and Passed Midshipman Lowery, and several of the crew were wounded, but no so as to endanger their lives, very fortunately, and therefore their friends at home have no cause for disquieting themselves thereupon. A few discharges from the pivot guns of the Spitfire, Vixen, and other vessels, served to silence the batteries of this fort, for the peculiar tune hummed by our Paixhan shells had such a startling effect upon the elongated nerves and sinews of our enemies that, beyond a doubt, they are running yet. On passing by the fort we observed that a party of seamen and marines, commanded by Capt. Breese, and led by Lieuts. May, DeCamp, and others, had taken possession of the fort, and hoisted the soul inspiring stripes and stars, which brought forth peals of loud buzzes, which far o'er the hills and valleys ring, and check the vulture on the wing, who, poised in the air hung hovering, to watch the strife below. The river, at this pass, was so narrow that we could have jerked a stone on shore at either side, and the second fort, half a mile above, had already opened a raking fire upon us— but the shot either fell short or flew over our ship, and only one struck the Vixen, and that was full in her bow, but fortunately just below her water line; consequently it did not pass through her, but penetrates the plank and lodged in the timbers, doing but little damage. On the starboard hand, all along, the enemy, his in the chaparral, kept up a steady fire of musketry upon us, but an occasional volley from the marines drove them from their concealment. As related of the first batter, the second and third forts were silenced in detail by our Paixhan guns; - and in regular order, under a full head of steam, we rushed up to the anchorage opposite the city of Tuxpan. All three forts, in quick succession, were taken possession of by the seamen and marines, under their immediate commanding officers, who had landed in their boats among the shores of the river. Directly after coming to anchor, the Commodore's barge was called away, and he, with his staff, proceeded to the shore and took possession of the city, without the least shadow of opposition on the part of the enemy. Subsequently we learned that Senor Gen. Don Martin P. de Cos, Commandate of the place, had struck out for country quarters some time before the fight was done. As soon as the scattered boats could be collected together, the debarkation of the marines was effected, and a battalion of stalwart sea-soldiers, paraded in the Plaza, thoroughly convincing the few remaining citizens of Tuxpan that it were better to receive us as friends than enemies.

Two brass field pieces, drawn and worked by seamen, and commanded by Lieutenants Blunt and Henry Rodgers, of the Mississippi, were stationed in the Plaza; and with due ceremony fired a national salute in honor of the victory. Com. Perry established his headquarters in the custom
house, one of the best constructed buildings in the city. The marine officer, with the guard of the steam frigate was quartered on the ground floor of the same building; and Capt. Edson, commanding marines of the home squadron, occupied the deserted Barracks and an old church in the Plaza. Capt. Breese has been appointed governor of the place, by the commodore, and here we have been for three days, with everything most judiciously arranged, and are as comfortable as circumstances will admit of. From one of the public stores we have taken sails, rigging, etc., that belonged to the wrecked brig Truxton; and an expedition has just returned from up the river, with her boats; besides schooners, launches, and boats captured from the enemy. Gen. Cos' house is handsomely fitted up with costly furniture, and he must have fled in great alarm, for on going to his quarters we found his bed just as he had turned out of it, with shirts, drawers, etc., strewn about in most admirable disorder. On his table were the remains of a jollification: bottles half full of Champagne, sherry and Madeira, with the best of Cubanos distributed about in all directions. Last night it was rumored that Gen. Cos would bear down upon us, and give us "goss," with a thousand lancers; and to prevent the catastrophe, we kept our "harness on our backs" until daylight appeared. The number of killed, wounded, and missing is not yet correctly ascertained, and it will be difficult for us to so with any degree of certainty until we return to our respective vessels. Some of the Truxton's guns were taken from the forts and conveyed to the shipping, and all others rendered useless by the usual process of dismounting, spiking, breaking off the trunnions, etc.- The citizens are returning to their homes, and seem very willing to accommodate us in any way they can; but they are an unfortunate race of beings, take them by and large, and we do not accept of anything without making full and satisfactory remuneration to the owners.

[KAM]

NNR 72.188 May 22, 1847 Arrangements for pay to soldiers and volunteers in the west

We learn that the United States government has given orders for the immediate transmission from the east to Major Steuart, United States paymaster of this department, of about five hundred thousand dollars, a very large proportion of it to be in gold, chiefly doubloons. This, in addition to the sum now on [illegible] with the subtreasurer in St. Louis, about six hundred thousand dollars, is to be applied to the payment of troops now in New Mexico, the troops for that quarter, &c., &c. Several paymasters, will be added to this department, and a large sum of money, say two hundred thousand dollars, will at an early day, be sent directly to Santa Fe, in charge of one of the paymasters, assigned to his command.- The payment of those already in the service, and those now preparing to go there, must throw a large amount of money into circulation in this quarter.

[KAM]

NNR 72.189-72.190 May 22, 1847 LIEUT. CHARLES G HUNTER, THE CAPTURE OF FLA-CO-TALPAM AND ALVARADO

The trial, defence, and reprimand of Lieutenant Charles G. Hunter, before a naval court martial.

CHARGES AND SPECIFICATIONS.

Charges and specifications preferred by Commodore M. C. Perry, commander-in-chief of the United States naval forces in the Gulf of Mexico, against Lieutenant Charles G. Hunter, United States navy, late commanding the United States steamer Scourge.

Charge first- Treating with contempt his superior, being in the execution of his office.

Specification first-In that he, the said Lieutenant Charles G. Hunter, United States navy, did, on the 21st day of March, 1847, being then in command of the United States steamer Scourge, enter the port of Alvarado, and did there arrogate to himself, (the said Lieut. Charles G. Hunter,) the authority and power, that are vested only in the commander-in-chief, by entering into stipulation for and receiving the surrender of Alvarado and its dependencies.

Specification second- In that the said Lieutenant Charles G. Hunter, U. S. navy, did on the 31st day of March, 1847, with the U. S. steamer Scourge under his command, proceed from Alvarado to the town of Fla-ca-talpam, without any orders or authority, and there demand the surrender of the said town of Fla-ca-talpam, and enter into and sign articles of capitulation, although aware of the immediate approach of the commander-in-chief, to whom alone such powers are confided-thus treating with contempt the authority of his superior, being in the execution of his duty.

Specification third- In that the said Lieutenant Charles G. Hunter, United States navy, did on the 31st day of March, 1847, in proceeding from Alvarado to Fla-ca-talpam, capture four schooners, one of which he set on fire and burnt, and another he abandoned, thus substituting his own will for the discretion of the commander-in-chief, who was within a few hours reach of communication,
and treating with contempt the authority of his superior; all of which is in violation of the laws of the United States, as contained in "an act for the better government of the navy of the United States, approved, April 23d, 1800."

Charge second--Disobedience of orders.

Specification first- In that he, the said Lieutenant Charles G. Hunter, United States navy, having been ordered to report to Captain Sam L. Breese, and assist in blockading the port of Alvarado, did, in disobedience or disregard of said orders, enter the harbor and take possession of the town of Alvarado.

Specification second- In that he, the said Lieutenant Charles G. Hunter, United States navy, having been ordered on the evening of the 1st April, 1847, to report himself in person to the commander-in-chief at his quarters in the town of Alvarado, at 10 o'clock A. M. of the following morning, did disobey said order; all of which is in violation of the laws of the United States, as contained in "an act for the better government of the navy of the United States, approved, April 23d, 1800."

(Signed) M. C. PERRY,
Commanding Home Squadron.

DEFENCE OF LIEUTENANT HUNTER

Mr. President and gentlemen of the court- I will not trouble you with unnecessary verbiage, but proceed at once to the point. My orders were, (as stated in the 1st spec. 2d charge) to report to Captain Breese, and to assist in blockading Alvarado. I did not consider them (can they be fairly considered?) as forbidding me to annoy the enemy in every way in my power, as modifying in the slightest degree the general duty of every officer having a military command in time of war to molest and cripple the enemy in every possible way. On the evening of the 30th March, being sufficiently near, I opened upon the fort at Alvarado with shot and shells. Apprehensive of a norther, I stood off and on during the night, with a strong breeze and rough sea. Towards morning, it having moderated, I stood close in to the bar, again opened upon the forts. Shortly afterwards I discovered two horsemen upon the beach holding a white flag, and a boat crossing the bar at the same time. This boat brought me an offer on the part of the authorities to surrender the city.- Permit me here to observe Mr. President, that as there are two sides to every question, so there may be two results to every affair of this kind. Alvarado is now in our possession; but let us suppose that was not to be; that we had been foiled a third time in our efforts to take it. What would have been my position, I say, if I, having refused the offer of the town when the authorities were ready to yield it- the American forces had been a third time baffled in their efforts to capture it? Mr. President, the worst that can now befall me, is a trifle to the infamy and disgrace which would have remained attached to my name, perhaps, long after I was in the grave.

If you, Mr. President, (or any member of this honorable court,) will fancy yourselves in my place when the offer of capitulation reached me, I think that you must perceive that it placed me in a difficult, a most embarrassing position-one that might have got a much more experienced officer than myself into trouble. I had to decide upon the disobeying of my orders on the one hand, and the possible consequences which my refusal to take such a responsibility might lead to on the other. I had to decide between two courses- the one leading to present personal safety, and the possibility of future infamy; the other to some personal risk, perhaps, but by which the honor of the navy and my honor, at least, were safe. I have stated thus the view which I took of my position, and the motives on which my actions were founded. I will not say, Mr. President, that under similar circumstances you would have taken a similar view of your position; but I think I may say, without the danger of dissent here or elsewhere, that taking the same view I did, that you, or any other member of this honorable court, would have done just what I did.

My summons for the surrender of the city of "Alvarado," was not made until the authorities hesitating to sign the articles of capitulation, - I thought myself entrapped; when it became necessary to use strong measures and strong language. Upon the reception of that summons, they signed the articles, and in the name of the United States of America, I took possession of "Alvarado" and its dependencies. Shortly afterwards, I learned that after our attack the evening previous, the garrison had fired the public vessels, spiked and buried their guns, placed a large quantity of government property, chiefly munitions of war, on board of several small vessels, and were proceeding up the river in the direction of the city of "Fla-ca-Talpam." I followed, as I conceived it to be my duty, and captured one of them loaded with arms, &c. that got ashore, and buried her to prevent her falling into the hands of the enemy. Another, worthless to ourselves or the enemy, and abandoned, and two others, I brought to "Alvarado." The pursuit of these vessels brought me to the city of "Fla-ca-Talpam," where I arrived about 2 o'clock in the morning; trusting to the suddeness of the attack, I ordered the junta to assemble, and demanded within thirty minutes an entire and unconditional surrender, and my demands were complied with. I contend Mr. President, and gentlemen of the court, that all that happened after the capitulation of Alvarado, followed as a natural and necessary consequence (not, however, foreseen by me) when I first accepted of their offer to surrender. I contend that my error consisted in the original
disobedience of my orders (which, from what I have since learned, I regret,) and that what I did afterwards, I was in a great measure obliged to do. Knowing that several small vessels of the enemy, laden with military stores were within my reach, could I doubt that it was my duty to destroy or capture them? Seeing, from the conduct of the enemy at Alvarado, that a panic prevailed among them, and that there was a prospect of success, I demanded the immediate and unconditional surrender of Fla-ca-Talpam. I contend that the two acts followed as a necessary consequence to my first disobedience of orders. Of the motives that led to that step, I have made an honest exposition to the court, and I hope that you will consider them, together with the difficulties of my position, and my want of experience in such matters, as some &Û230; of my fault.

I regret my error apart from the trouble it has brought upon me. I regret it, because it has given offence to the commander-in-chief. (I speak from rumor only- I have no certain knowledge of the fact,) as I have heard there was an understanding between the commander-in-chief and commanding general ashore that there was to be a combined attack made by the squadron and army, on these places; it might thus seem that I had sought to rob of its just participation in this affair that arm of the service which in the progress of this war, has acquired for itself and for our country, so much honor and glory. Nothing could be farther from my intentions- I knew nothing of any such understanding. One or two matters remain to be touched upon. I am charged in the two 1st spec. of the 1st charge, with arrogating to myself the powers of commander-in-chief, in signing articles of capitulation, &c. although aware of the immediate approach of the commander-in-chief. In regard to the first, my error was one of simple ignorance. I knew that I had obtained possession of these places, and meant of course to hand them over to the first senior officer that might approach; but I had not the remotest intention of exercising any of the powers of commander-in-chief. I knew, or perhaps I should rather say, had reason to believe, that the commander in chief would arrive in a short time; but I did not know precisely when, still less did I know that he was nearer than Vera Cruz.

In the second specification of the second charge, I am charged with having disobeyed an order to call at a specific time at the commander in chief's quarters.

Gentlemen, I was so absorbed at the difficulties that surrounded me, that his order to me to report myself, entirely escaped my recollection, - this may seem a lame excuse, but it has at least the merit of truth. But, Mr. President, none of us are entirely free from occasional acts of forgetfulness; the honorable member yesterday who gave in his testimony, made a mistake, and I must say that the confidence with which I leave my case in his hands has been increased by the handsome manner in which he corrected his error when reminded of it.

Mr. President and gentlemen of the court, I have been much mortified and excited, by the many and numerous difficulties that surround me. I have aimed at nothing but the glory of my country- the honor and dignity of the service to which I belong. I leave my case with perfect confidence in your hands.

G. G. HUNTER, Lieut. Comdg.

FINDING AND SENTENCE OF THE COURT.

The first specification of the first charge proved. The second specification of the first charge proved. The third specification of the first charge proved.

And the accused guilty of the first charge.

The first specification of the second charge not proved, of the accused not having reported himself in person to Capt. Samuel L. Breese, according to his orders; but proved that the accused entered the harbor of Alvarado, instead of assisting in blockading that part.

The second specification of the second charge proved, and the accused guilty of the second charge. The court then, upon due deliberation upon the above finding, pronounced the following sentence:

That the accused, Lieutenant Charles G. Hunter, United States navy, be dismissed from the United States home squadron, and reprimanded by the commander in chief, which reprimand is to be read on the quarter deck of every vessel of the squadron, in the presence of the officers and crew.

The above is a true copy from the records of the court.

(Signed,)  
J. BRYAN, Judge Advocate.

THE REPRIMAND OF COMMODORE REPLY.

United States flag ship Mississippi,  
Anton Lizardo, April 9, 1847.
SIR: I enclose herewith the findings and sentence of the court martial, convened on the 7th instant, for your trial, which imposes upon me the task of expressing, in the form of reprimand, my opinion of your conduct as proved before the court martial.

However lenient the sentence in your case may seem to be, I have approved it, as I can conceive of no punishment more severe than a dismissal in time of war from a squadron actively engaged before the enemy. The sentence, while it condemns in a most signal manner, your conduct cuts you off from further association in this squadron, with men whose patient endurance of the most trying duties, and whose character for courage, obedience, and subordination, have won my highest approbation.

How different has been your course? Scarcely a day on the station, and you disobey orders, arrogate to yourself the duties belonging to a commander in chief, talk of opening upon the town, and of ordering the troops to advance when you had but one gun, and not a solitary soldier, and "all for the purpose" (as you say,) "of securing an unmolested entrance of the squadron into the river."

It would be difficult, if not impossible, to pint to another instance of similar folly; and the most charitable construction that can be given to it, is—that in the elation of a first command, you had truly imagined yourself actually in command, of the naval and military detachments then approaching and within a short distance of the scene of your exploits.

With due respect,
(Signed) M. C. PERRY,
Commander in chief of home squadron.
To Lieutenant Charles G. Hunter, United States navy

NNR 72.192 May 22, 1847 List of volunteers whose time expires, promise of the "Union" that troops will be adequate

The terms of service of the several, volunteer regiments mustered for the period of twelve months will expire at the following dates:

Twelve months volunteers under Major Gen. Scott

Captain Blanchard's company Louisiana volunteers, July 30, 1847.
Col. Coffee's Alabama regiment, between the 8th and 29th June, 1847.
Col. Jackson's Georgia regiment, between the 10th and 19th June, 1847.
Col. Forman's 3rd Illinois regiment, between the 9th June and 2nd July, 1847.
Col. Baker's 4th Illinois regiment, between the 9th June and 2nd July, 1847.
Baltimore and District of Columbia battalion, between the 30th May and the 8th June, 1847.
Col. Thomas's Tennessee mounted regiment, between the 28th May and 2nd June, 1847.
Col. Campbell's 1st Tennessee foot, between the 4th and 18th June, 1847,

Volunteers under Major General Taylor

Three regiments of Ohio, between the 23rd and 29th June, 1847.
Three regiments of Indiana, between the 18th and 26th June, 1847.
Three regiments of Illinois, between the 17th and 30th June, 1847.
Three regiments of Kentucky, between the 17th May and 15th June, 1847.
Mississippi regiment, between the 3rd and 15th June 1847.
Arkansas regiment, between the 30th June and 3d July, 1847.

From this statement we are happy to say that the reinforcements for Gen. Scott's army, which for several weeks have been en route, including those that must reach Vera Cruz, by the end of May, will be fully equal to the number of twelve months' men who are to be discharged in June and July, as they will, of course, remain in the field for service up to the end of the twelve months, for which they are engaged. [KAM]

NNR 72.192 May 22, 1847 Col. Sterling Price at Santa Fe

Army of the North. Santa Fe dated to the 3d April. Left Col. Price with about 450 troops at that
place, enjoying rather better health, though but few of them had escaped sickness. The remainder of his command were stationed through the country guarding stock or garrisoning posts. [KAM]

Major Campbell's expedition from Chihuahua to New Orleans

NNR 72. 192 May 22, 1847

Major Campbell took possession of a number of places not before being captured, on his route in; had several skirmishes with Comanche Indians; at one time was surrounded by 500 of them, and had to cut his way through. They captured his pack mules and provisions, and cut off his hunting parties, obliging his party to subsist upon mule meat as lean as Pharaoh's kine, relieved occasionally by a prairie dog, wolf, skunk, and other such, to the number of twenty two varieties. In this condition, almost naked, the gallant little party reached General Tarrants, on Chambers creek, Navoo county, Texas, and from thence by the Red River to New Orleans, where they arrived on the 10th instant, hale and hearty. [KAM]

Col. Alexander William Doniphan's uncertainty on how to proceed in the absence of instructions

NNR 72.192 May 22, 1847

Maj. Campbell, of Springfield, Illinois, left Chihuahua on the 15th of March, with a detachment of 32 men and dispatches for the government. Col. Doniphan in the absence of instructions from government, was at a loss to know what course to pursue. His troops were in good health, but their term of service would expire in June and July. [KAM]

Nicholas Philip Trist reaches New Orleans for Veracruz

NNR 72.192 May 22, 1847

Mr. Trist, second officer in the department of state, and formerly United States consul at Havanna, reached New Orleans from Washington, left there on the 26th, and sailed from the mouth of the Mississippi on the 28th of April, for Vera Cruz. [ANP]

Marines employed in land service

THE MARINE CORPS

The marines attached to the squadron before Vera Cruz, forming three companies under the command of Captain Edson, were placed by Com. Conner at the disposition of Gen. Scott. They were attached to the 3d artillery under Col. Benton, and were actively employed during the investment. The first man killed in the trenches was a marine. They were detached by Gen. Scott when the city surrendered, and received the thanks both of the general-in-chief and general Worth in general orders for the effective services they rendered.

The Philadelphia American says - We had a report from the Mouth yesterday, that some movement was contemplated in Mexico, in which the services of the marine corps were to be exclusively employed. - There has been no clue as to the nature of the service, but we have no doubt that something is in preparation which will give this valuable but much neglected arm of the service, full and honorable employment.

Orders have been received, as we learned yesterday, for six companies of the United States marines, numbering about 600 men, under command of Major L. Twiggs, for several years past the commander of the Barracks at this station, to repair immediately to join the army in Mexico. Eight additional companies, under command of Lieut. Col. Watson, have received preparatory orders, and will shortly follow the first battalion.

Upon their arrival at Vera Cruz they will be joined by all the disposable force of the marine corps now attached to the gulf squadron, and the whole amounting to about 1,700 men, will be formed into two regiments, the first under command of Lieut. Col. Watson, and the second of Major Twiggs, the whole comprising the brigade of the veteran Brigadier General Henderson of the marine corps. The object of this movement we have yet to learn. - Phil American [JLM]

"Conquering a Peace"

NNR 72.194 May 29, 1847
PACIFIC SQUADRON. On the 1st of April the U.S. sloop-of-war Portsmouth, arrived off the port of San Jose, and after demanding the surrender of the town landed 150 "Yankees," who planted there American flag. The Portsmouth then sailed to take like possession of the ports of San Lucas, La Paz and Loreto. These are all small ports in the peninsula of Lower California, two in the extreme south of it, and two on the western side of the Gulf of California. [KAM]

NNR 72.194 May 29, 1847 Portsmouth captures ports in Lower California

NAVY JOURNAL

PACIFIC SQUADRON. On the 1st of April the U.S. sloop-of-war Portsmouth, arrived off the port of San Jose, and after demanding the surrender of the town landed 150 "Yankees," who planted there the American flag. The Portsmouth then sailed to take like possession of the ports of San Lucas, La Paz and Loreto. These are all small ports in the peninsula of Lower California, two in the extreme south of it, and two on the western side of the Gulf of California. [JLM]

NNR 72.194 May 29, 1847 The Capture of Tuspan

From the Vera Cruz Flag of the 28th April.

The expedition consisted of the steamer Mississippi, (flag-ship) frigate Raritan, sloop of war Albany, ship John Adams, Germantown, Decatur, Spitfire, Vixen, Scourge, Vesuvius, Heela, Bonita, Petrel and Reefer. Among the vessels were distributed 150 men belonging to the Potomac, and 340 belonging to the Ohio, both of which remained at this place. After some delay at the Island of Lobos, awaiting the arrival of the sailing vessels, and subsequently at sea owing to a dispersion of the vessels by a norther, everything was ready for landing on the morning of the 18th instant, at which time the Mississippi was anchored off the bar of Tuspan river, while the other steamers, having had their masts taken out, and otherwise lightened in every possible way, took in tow the gun boats and barges of the expedition, carrying, in all, about 1200 men, and two pieces of field artillery. The other vessels of the squadron remained at anchor under Tuspan shoals, which lies six or eight miles to the eastward of the bar.

In crossing the bar the Spitfire led the way, and was followed by the Vixen and the Scourge, each having a gun boat in tow. Two of the steamers struck on the bar, but were not suffered to be stopped for a moment. They literally ploughed their way over it. By 12 o'clock, the whole expedition succeeded in gaining an entrance of the river, notwithstanding the serious difficulties presented by the breakers of the bar. Shortly afterwards, everything being in readiness for an attack, Commodore Perry hoisted his broad pendant on board the Spitfire, and at once led the rest of the vessels up the river.

After ascending it about five miles, two forts were discovered on the right bank, both of which opened upon the squadron. Immediately all the boats were manned with storming parties, and while the steamers and gun boats were gallantly returning the fire of the forts they (the boats) dashed on and quickly took possession of the forts, the Mexicans retreating down one side of the hill as the sailors ascended the other.

The whole expedition now moved on steadily towards the town of Tuspan, but a little while another fort, situated on high hill, opened upon the vessels and barges.

At the same time volleys of musketry were fired by the enemy from the chaparral; this latter fort was also promptly attacked, and like the other two was carried without the enemy waiting to cross bayonets, our noble tars proving themselves first rate fellows for this species of boarding work. - Simultaneously with the occupation of this fort, a division of the expedition landed in the town, and at once took possession of it. The greater part of the inhabitants had fired and left but a few scattering soldiers within reach of our balls.

In the course of the contest seventeen men and officers were killed and wounded. Capt. Tatnall received a ball in the right elbow joint Lieut. Jas. L. Parker aid to the commodore, severe wound in the upper part of the left breast, Lieut. Whittle, a flesh wound in the right leg, and Lieut. Hartstein, a flesh wound in the right wrist and thigh. All the wounded, however, are now doing well.

Several guns of the Truxton, were found mounted upon the forts, all of which were found mounted upon the forts, all of which were recovered and brought on board the squadron. Other articles belonging to the Truxton were likewise recovered. - After retaining possession of the town from
the 18th to the 22d inst., force was withdrawn and embarked, leaving, however, the Albany and
gunboat Reefer, under Capt. Breeze, to guard and command the place.

It may be proper to state, that all the forts of the place were destroyed by our forces. There being
no further work on the coast, for the squadron, Com. Perry contemplated, we learn, a movement
towards the interior, with a fine body of 2500 tars, thoroughly organized, should such a step be
deemed advisable. [JLM]

NNR 72.194-195 May 29, 1847 Massachusetts resolution on the Mexican War, the extension of
slavery, and thanks to Gen. Zachary Taylor, proceedings thereon

Resolution relative to the war with Mexico- The legislature closed its session on Monday the 26th of
April. On the Saturday preceding, the following resolutions were proposed in the house of
representatives, and ultimately adoption by a party vote, the whigs in the affirmative, and their
opponents in the negative.

Resolved, That in the present war with Mexico has its primary origins in the unconstitutional
annexation to the United States of the foreign state of Texas, while the same was still at war with
Mexico; that it was unconstitutionally commenced by the order of the president, to General Taylor,
to take the military possession of territory in dispute between the United States and Mexico, and
in the occupation of Mexico; and that it is now waged ingloriously-by a powerful nation against a
weak neighbor-unnecessarily and without just cause, at immense cost of treasure and life, for the
dismemberment of Mexico, and for the conquest of a portion of her territory, from which slavery
has already been excluded, with the triple object of extending slavery, of strengthening the "slave
power," and of obtaining the control of the free states, under the constitution of the United States.

Resolved, That such a war of conquest, so hateful in its objects, so wanton, unjust and
unconstitutional in its origin and character, must be regarded as a war against freedom, against
humanity, against justice, against the free states; and that a regard for the true interest and the
highest honor of the country, not less than the impulses of Christian duty, should arouse all good
citizens to join in efforts to arrest this gigantic crime, by withholding supplies, or other voluntary
contributions, for its further prosecution, by calling for the withdrawal of our army and, in every
just way, aiding the country to retreat from the disgraceful position of aggression which it now
occupies towards a weak, distracted neighbor and sister republic.

Resolved, That our attention is directed anew to the wrong and "enormity" of slavery, and to the
tyranny and usurpation of the "slave power" as displayed in the history of our country, particularly
in the annexation of Texas, and the present war with Mexico; and that we are impressed with the
unalterable conviction, that a regard for the fair fame of our country, for the princed of morals,
and for that righteousness which exalteth a nation, sanctions and requires all constitutional efforts
for the abolition of slavery within the limits of the United States, while loyalty to the constitution,
and a just self defense, make it specially incumbent on the people of the free states to co-operate
in strenuous exertions to restrain and overthrow the "SLAVE POWER."

Thanks to General Taylor -after the passage of the above-

Mr. Hayden, of Boston, asked to obtain leave to introduce the following resolutions:

Resolved tendering the thanks of the legislature of Massachusetts to General Taylor, his officers,
and men.

Resolved, That the people of Massachusetts have beheld with patriotic pride the bravery, the skill,
and sagacity of the commander of the American forces in Mexico, General Zachary Taylor, and the
gallantry and good discipline displayed by the officers and men associated with him in the
campaign, in which admirable conduct of the one, and cordial co-operation of the other, the flag of
the Union has been nobly upborne, and our name in arms gloriously maintained.

Resolved, That while the people and the legislature of Massachusetts feel proud of the brilliant
achievements of the army employed in the war against Mexico \, they mourn the loss of the
officers and men who have gallantly fallen upon the battle field, and sincerely sympathize with
their relatives and friends.

Resolved. That his excellency the governor be requested to cause these resolved to be
communicated to Maj. General Zachary Taylor, and, through him, to the officers and men under
his command.

The resolution having been read, and a motion made to go into committee to consider them;
which met opposition from Mr. Boutwell, a locofoco member, on the ground of their introduction
from the committee of which Mr. Hayden was chairmen at so late a day in the session.

Mr. Hayden explained that, so far as the committee was concerned, he was but one of eleven members, and he was willing to assume all responsibility which could justly attach to him. But he was somewhat astonished that the gentleman from Groton, who had so often, so earnestly, and so recently sought the passage of similar resolutions, should now oppose the consideration of these. He [Mr. H.] had before declared that he would not consent to any vote of thanks to Gen'l Taylor while no opinion had been expressed upon the war. Now we had a solemnly declared opinion of the legislature upon that subject, by the yeas and nays of the house, and he was ready to testify his admiration of the conduct of our general and troops, whatever he might think if the justice and honor of the contest. - He would not now have proposed these resolves, nor advocated any like them, had there not been a clear reprobation, on the part of the house, of all favor to the war with Mexico. And, so far as his own political reputation was concerned, though he might cheerfully submit to the decision of the house, he should neither ask the assistance of the gentleman from Groton in his support, nor much fear his assaults as an enemy.

The resolutions were passed to a third reading by yeas 121, nays 71, and afterwards ordered to be engrossed and read a third time without a count.

The senate negatived those resolutions, by a vote of 4 to 14, without debate, in the last hour of the session.

[NKR]

NNR 72.197 May 29, 1847 excitement about the appearance of the vomito at Veracruz

On the 11th he writes that General Patterson had directed the Fashion to be reserved for himself "and the wounded officers, of which I did no know there were any in town, except Colonol Haskell." "The Endora is to be filled at once and despatched, and two or three sailing vessels will take the remainder of the officers and troops."

He adds-same date: "Quits an excitement is produced amongst the unacclimated this morning, by reports of the appearance of the vomito. Two deaths have occurred during the night, and both are attributed to that disease. One victim was a French lady, and the other Mr. Smith, the sutler of the Pennsylvania regiment. Both were in full health two days ago." [ANP]

NNR 72.198, May 29, 1847 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna appointed commander of the Mexican Army, fear that he will attack the supply train

SANTA ANNA has again been appointed commander of the army by the Mexican government. At the last accounts from him, he was at Orizaba, rallying what troops he could. His force was variously estimated from 600 to 6,000 men. What his designs were, was all conjecture. There was certainly some little apprehension that he might make a dash down upon Vera Cruz, provided General Scott adventured to the capital. More immediate apprehensions however were entertained of his attempting to make a dash at the wagon train which he knew was about to leave Vera Cruz for General Scott's army, and a formidable escort therefore had to be provided to accompany the train, which commenced leaving Vera Cruz on the evening of the 8th, and which took up its regular line from Santa Fe, eight miles on the Jalapa road, on the 9th inst. It was the most formidable train that ever entered that country, being no less than six miles in length having over four hundred wagons and took, it is said, a million dollars in gold, besides munitions, stores, &c. It was accompanied by about a thousand pack mules. The escort consisted of 1,000 men, 500 of whom were dragoons sent down by General Scott for the purpose.

It was, no doubt, the want of the stores which this train starts with from Vera Cruz on the 8th and 9th of May, that prevented General Scott from following up the decisive victory which he achieved on the 23d of February at Sierra Gordo;--the same hard fate that Gen. Taylor was compelled to submit to after his victory at Matamoros.

On the same day that this train left Vera Cruz, the first division of General Scott's army left Jalapa for Puebla.

[WFF]

NNR 72.198 May 29, 1847 Capt. Samuel Hamilton Walker's dragoons arrive at Vera Cruz

CAPT. WALKER, with his troop of over 100 dragoons reached Vera Cruz from New Orleans in good order and ready to mount, and were very acceptable to the Americans at the moment. [JLM]
“Mexicans! We are all one, and Mexicans only. Let us be unanimous; let there be but one cry, and let the cry be war.”

The Jalapa ‘Star’ assigns as a reasons for the volunteers leaving at the time they did, the fact that Vera Cruz was now comparatively healthy. At the period their time would expire, the vomito would almost certainly be prevailing, and home they determined to come then, if not now.

The proceedings at Washington, it is said, had created a general disaffection in the army. General Shields is recovering.

The Mexicans have evacuated Puebla, and at least partially if not entirely discontinued their labor upon the fortifications of the city of Mexico.

On the 7th of May, the first division of General Scott’s army under General Quitmen, marched from Jalapa to take possession of the city of Puebla. Three other divisions were to follow, each on a successive day. They exported to occupy Puebla on the 17th inst.

Gen. Scott and General Twigg’s brigade were to follow in a few days.

Santa Anna has again been appointed commander of the army by the Mexican government. At the last account from him, he was at Orizaba, rallying what troops he could. His force was variously estimated from 600 to 6,000 men. What his designs were, was all conjecture. There was certainly some little apprehension that he might just make a dash down upon Vera Cruz, provided General Scott adventured to the capital. More immediate apprehensions however were entertained of his attempting to make a dash at the wagon train which he knew was about to leave Vera Cruz for General Scott’s army, and a formidable escort therefore had to be provided to accompany the train, which was commenced leaving Vera Cruz on the evening of the 8th, and would take up its regular line from Sante Fe, eight miles on the Jalapa road, on the 9th inst. It was the most formidable train that ever entered that country, being no less than six miles in length, having over four hundred wagons and took, it is said, a million of dollars in gold, besides munitions, stores, etc. It was accompanied by about a thousand pack mules. The escort consisted of 1,000 men, 500 of whom were dragoons sent down by General Scott for the purpose.

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Later the steamer Mary Kingsland reached New Orleans on the 18th with Vera Cruz dates to the 13th Mayor Count de Bongars, aid to General Shields, and several companies of the Illinois volunteers became passengers.

The two Tennessee, the 3rd and 4th Illinois, the Georgia, and the Alabama regiments, have all left the army, and returned home.

Occasionally a case of vomito occurred but apprehensions from the cause as well as of an attack from Santa Anna were subsiding, though speculations as to Santa Anna’s whereabouts and designs are the principal themes of all the letters by this arrival.

The return of so formidable a portion of General Scott’s army, and the want of other troops to replace them, has paralyzed the movements towards Mexico. General Patterson, who had started to take command of the advance, is now in the city of New Orleans. General Scott’s disposable force is said not to exceed 6,000 men. He will advance as far as Puebla, and there await events.

Families were rapidly leaving the city of Mexico. At Toluca rents went up to such a price in consequence, that the authorities interfered.

A Tampico letter of the 12th, in the New Orleans Times, says: “WE have dates from the city of
Mexico to the 5th instant. Peace appears to be further off than ever. I think the war is just commencing. We had an alarm yesterday, that Urrea was within 30 miles of they city with a large body of cavalry.” [CPO]

NNR 72.198 May 29, 1847 Foray Upon Santa Fe.

FORAY UPON SANTA FE. - The great wagon train started from this village eight miles from Vera Cruz, on the 9th of May. On the night of the 12th a detachment of eleven dragoons were there, and whilst all were asleep except the sentinel, a band of Mexican guerrillas rushed upon them. The sentinel's gun missed fire and he was killed defending himself. Six of the other dragoons were killed and three wounded. One only escaped. On learning the event at Vera Cruz, Captain Walker's dragoons were despatched in search of the banditti. [JLM]

NNR 72.199 May 29, 1847, Gen. Winfield Scott’s general order on advancing from Jalapa

General Orders no. 128.

Headquarters of the Army

Jalapa, April 30, 1847.

1. The division of the army in the neighborhood will be held in readiness to advance soon after the arrival of trains now coming up from Vera Cruz.

2. The route and the time of commencing the march will be given at general headquarters.

3. Mayor Gen. Patterson, after designating a regiment of volunteers as part of the garrison to hold this place, will put his brigades in successively in march, with an interval of twenty-four hours between them.

4. brig. Gen. Twiggs' division will follow the movement, also by brigades.

5. Each brigade, whether of regulars or volunteers will be charged with escorting such part of the general supply train of the army as the chiefs of the general staff may have ready to send forward.

6. Every man of the division will take two days' subsistence in his haversack. This will be the general rule for all marches when a greater number of rations are not specially mentioned.

7. As the season is near when the army may no longer except to derive supplies from Vera Cruz, it must begin to look exclusively to the resources of the country.

8. Those resources, far from being over abundant near the line of operations, would soon fail to support both the army and the population, unless they are gathered in without waste, and regularly issued by quartermakers and commissaries.

9. Hence they must be paid for or the people will withhold, conceal or destroy them. The people, moreover, must be conciliated, soothed or well treated by every officer and man of this army, and by all its followers.

10. Accordingly, whosoever maltreats unoffending Mexicans, takes without pay, or wantonly destroys their property, of any kind whatsoever, will prolong the war, waste the means; present and future, of subsisting our own men and animals as they successively advance into the interior or return to our water depot, and no army can possibly drag after it to any considerable distance, no matter what the season of the year, the heavy articles of breadstuffs, meat, and forage.

11. Those therefore, who rob, plunder, or destroy the houses, fences, cattle, poultry, grain, fields, gardens, or property of any kind along the line of our operations are plainly the enemies of this army. The general in chief would infinitely prefer that the few who commit such outrages should desert at once and fight against us; then it would be easy to shoot them down or to capture and hang them.

12. Will the great body of intelligent, gallant and honorable men who compose this army tolerant the few miscreants who perpetrate such crimes? Again, the general in chief confidently
hopes not. Let, then the guilty be promptly seized and brought to condign punishment, or the
good must suffer the consequences, in supplies and loss of character, of crimes not their own.

13. To prevent straggling and marauding, the roll of every company of the army will be called
at every halt by or under the eye of an officer. In camp and in quarters there must be at least
three such roll calls daily; besides, stragglers on marches will certainly be murdered or captured
by rancheros.

14. The waste of ammunition by neglect and idle or criminal firing is the most serious evil in
this army. All officers are specially charged to see that not a cartridge be lost from the want of
care, nor fired except by order, otherwise, fifty wagon of ammunition would not suffice for the
campaign, and it is difficult to find ten. Let every man remember that it is un-safe to meet the
enemy without he has forty round in his cartridge box.

15. Every regiment that leaves wounded or sick men in hospital will take care to leave a
number of attendants, according to the requisition of the principal surgeon of the hospital. Those
least able to march will be selected as attendants. This rule is general.

By command of Major Gen. Scott

[CPO]

NNR 72.198, May 29, 1847 THE GUERRILLA WAR

"The Guerrilla War"

From the N.O Commercial Times.---Furnishes the following items, brought by steamer James
L. Day, from Brazos.

Terrible Retribution.--A heavy retribution has been visited upon a rancho near Ceralvo, by some
persons, unknown as yet, for the inhuman massacres of teamsters and travelers on the Monterey
road. This rancho, which has a considerable population, was known to be the rendezvous of a
number of the Mexicans who have at different times strewn the road between Camargo and
Monterey with the bodies of butchered Americans; and a recourse has been had to a means of
bringing to punishment, its guilty population, which all must condemn, and which can result in
nothing but evil if preserved in as a principle. We acknowledge that it is the only way in which the
offenders can be punished; but in thus punishing, the enhancers are many that the innocent are
made to suffer with the guilty. We do not know that such has been that case in the present
instance, but it is gratifying to hear that Gen. Taylor is making strenuous; exertions to ascertain
what Americans have dared to act in so unauthorized a manner. The full particulars of the affair
we have not heard all we know is that some fifteen or twenty Americans made a descent upon the
rancho and hung upwards of forty Mexicans. Considerable property and some valuable papers
belonging to Americans who had been murdered on the road, were found on the persons and in
the habitations of the Mexicans who had been killed. The commission of this deed was laid at the
doors of Capt. Gray's company, (Corpus Christi Rangers) but we are pleased to hear that an
investigation instituted by Gen. Taylor has proved the charge groundless. Capt. Gray has had his
headquarters at Ceralvo, and his command is actively employed in keeping the road free from
robbers and murderers. The name of Mustang Grey possesses many terrors for Mexicans to allow of
the commission of many evil deeds by them on his scouting ground. [WFF]

NNR 72.198, May 29, 1847 THOMAS SIMONS

Thomas Simons-The Mexicans have ceased their murders on the road, but have dared to attack a
rear party coming down with the last train from Monterey, and in the attack mortally wounded one
of Capt. Grey's men=a Mr. Thomas Simons of Texas--a young man very respectably connected, a
great promise, and deservedly by all who knew him, we speak of him from a perfect knowledge of
his many good qualities. Mr. Simons was some distance in the rear of the train, in company with
three others; all unarmed but himself; when they were on upon from the chaparral and seven
Mexicans charged upon them. The tight had to be maintained a lot by young Simons, his
companions deserting him and the friag commenced. An escort ball broke his thigh and he fell
from his horse. The Mexicans closed round and fired him whilst on the ground but with a
revolving pistol he killed one, disabled a second, and kept the rest at bay until his companions
charged in advance, came to the rescue, drawn hither by the firing. He was taken to Calvaro-his
leg was nearly shot off, and it is supposed impossible that he can recover. It needs no prophet to
foretell how dire will be the vengeance visited upon the Mexicans for this murder. The life of
young Simons was worth a thousand of them. [WFF]
Declaration of martial law in Mexico City, address to the citizens of the federal district

On the 1st of May President Anaya declared the city of Mexico in a stage of siege-equivalent to declaring of martial law.

The governor of Mexico, in an address to the citizens says: "War, and war only; war to the death; war as it was waged by the Morelos; the Galeana's, the Matamoros. Let us die rather than negotiate. He is a traitor who seeks to divide us. He is a traitor who speaks of peace, who dared to propose the slightest truce." And again: "Mexicans! We are all one, and Mexicans only. - Let us be unanimous; let there be but one cry, and let that cry be war." [KAM]

Mexicans evacuate Puebla

The Mexicans have evacuated Puebla, and at least partially if not entirely discontinued their labour upon the fortifications of the city of Mexico. [KAM]

Gen. Winfield Scott's advance corps quits Jalapa for Puebla a large train with supplies for which he had been waiting quits Veracruz the same day

On the 7th of May, the first division of General Scott's army under General Quitman, marched from Jalapa to take possession of the city of Puebla.-Three other divisions were to follow, each on a successive day. They expected to occupy Puebla on the 17th inst.

Gen. Scott and General Twigg's brigade were to follow in a few days. [ANP]

Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna appointed commander of the Mexican Army, fear that he will attack the supply train

Santa Anna has again been appointed commander of the army by the Mexican government. At the last accounts of him, he was at Orizaba, rallying what troops he could. His force was variously estimated from 600 to 6,000 men. What his designs were, was all conjecture. There was certainly some little apprehension that he might make a dash down upon Vera Cruz, provided General Scott adventured to the capital. More immediate apprehensions however were entertained of his attempting to make a dash at the wagon train which he knew was about to leave Vera Cruz on the evening of the 8th, and would take up its regular line from Santa Fe, eight miles on the Jalapa road, on the 9th inst. It was the most formidable train that ever entered the country, being no less than six miles in length, having over four hundred wagons and took, it is said, a million of dollars in gold, besides munitions, stores, &c. It was accompanied by about a thousand pack mules. The escort consisted of 1,000 men, 500 of whom were dragoons sent down by General Scott for the purpose. [KAM]

Nicholas Philip Trist reaches Veracruz and proceeds to headquarters

N.P. Trist, Esq. Second officer of our state department, reached Vera Cruz on the 6th of May.-He may possibly have in charge some commission as to the disposition of the three millions which the President had authority from congress to employ in negotiating a peace with Mexico.

The correspondent of the N. O. Times, writes on the 7th: "Mr. N. P. Trist arrived yesterday with despatches for General Scott and Commodore Perry. The commodore came up to-day and held long conversations with Mr. Trist, evidently very confidential, and often in a tone of voice and in a manner which indicated communications and sentiments of no ordinary importance. Mr. Trist is the government, in Mexico. He goes with the train to-morrow to meet General Scott, and will doubtless give him ample instructions for the effectual prosecution of the war!"

The Vera Cruz Eagle contains a list of fifty five soldiers that have died there within the last three weeks. [ANP]
NNR 72.198, May 29, 1847 barbarities committed on the road from Veracruz

Many barbarities are committed on the road by small parties, which speak like Indians among the brushwood, and watch for stragglers from the trains. A lieutenant, Kingsbury, of the volunteers, (not the intelligent and intrepid member of General Taylor’s staff,) was, the other day, mangled in a dreadful manner—barely escaping to Jalapa with his life. Many others who have observed too little caution have fared much worse—some being found dead in a few minutes after they had stepped out of the train, or line of escort, and no trace of their murders remaining distinguishable. [ANP]

NNR 72.198, May 29, 1847 apprehensions subsiding over the vomito and a Mexican attack

Occasionally a case of vomito occurred but apprehensions from that cause as well as of an attack from Santa Anna were subsiding, though speculations as to Santa Anna’s whereabouts and designs are the principal themes of all the letters by this arrival. [WFF]

NNR 72.198, May 29, 1847 Gen. Juan Morales’ statement about the alleged warning before the bombardment of Veracruz an account of the Battle of Cerro Gordo

Juan Morales, general of brigade of the Mexican republic—To the nation and her allies—It having arrived to my knowledge that some chiefs and officers of the invading army of the United States, which has operated against Vera Cruz, say that Gen. Scott had previously advised me that the families could leave to avoid the evils attendant on a bombardment, and consequently those which have happened are chargeable upon me.

In order that neither now, nor at any future time, any accusations of injustice may stigmatize the defence of Vera Cruz, I declare that it is false that any such advice was given!—that the only communication I have received from Gen. Scott, tended to summon me, in general terms, to surrender; that even the neutrals were prevented from leaving the place; and that if the Mexican families could have left the enemy would not have occupied the place without first burying its defenders in the ruins.

Jalapa, April 4, 1847.
Juan Morales

[ANP]

NNR 72.199, May 29, 1847 Gen. Antonio Canales’ proclamation of no quarter

From the Picayune
PROCLAMATION OF NO QUARTER.

Frontier Brigade of Cavalry.
Camp. In San Augustin, April 4, 1847.
I this day send to the Adjutant Inspector of the National Guards the following instructions:

I learn, with the greatest indignation, that the Americans have committed a most horrible massacre at the rancho of the Guadalupe. They made prisoners, in their own houses and by the side of their families, twenty five peaceable men and immediately shot them. To repel this class of warfare, which is not war but atrocity in all its fury, there is no other course left us than retaliation; and in order to pursue this method, rendered imperative by the fatal circumstances above mentioned, you will immediately declare martial law, with the understanding that eight days after the publication of the same every individual who has not taken up arms (being capable of doing so) shall be considered a traitor and instantly shot.

Martial law being in force, you are bound to give no quarters to any American you may meet or who may present himself to you, even though he be without arms. You are also directed to publish this to all the towns in this state, forcibly impressing them with the severe punishment that shall be inflicted for the least omission of this order. We have arrived at that state in which our country requires the greatest sacrifices; her sons should glory in nothing but to become
soldiers, and as brave Mexicans to meet the crisis. Therefore, if the army of invasion continues, and our people remain in the towns which they have molested, they deserve not one ray of sympathy; nor should any one ever cease to make war upon them. You will send a copy of this to each of you subordinates, and they are authorized to proceed against chiefs of their squadrons or against their colonels or any other, even against me, for any infraction of this order--the only mode of salvation left. The enemy wages war against us and even against those peaceable citizens who, actuated by improper impulses, desire to remain quiet in their houses. Even these they kill, without quarter; and this is the greatest favor they expect from them.--The only alternative left us, under these circumstances, is retaliation, which is the strong right of the offended against the offending. To carry this into effect attach yourselves to the authorities. Your unwilling to do this will be considered a crime of the greatest magnitude. All the officers of the troops are directed to assist you in carrying out this order, and it is distinctly understood there shall be no exceptions. Neither the clergy, military citizens nor other persons shall enjoy the privilege of remaining peaceably at their homes. The whole of the corporation shall turn out with the citizens, leaving solely the authority of the town one of the members who is over the age of sixty years; at the same time, if all the of the members are capable of bearing arms, then one shall be expected; leaving to act, some one who is incapable of military service. You yourself must be an example to others, by conforming to this inquisition. And I send you for publication, and charge you to see it executed in every particular, and communicate it also to the commanders of the squadrons in your city, who will aid you in carrying into effect these instructions; and in fact you are directed to do all and everything which your patriotism may prompt. God and Liberty!

ANTONIO CANALES

[WFF, CPO]

NNR 72. 199 May 29, 1847, Comanche depredations

CAMANCHE INDIAN DEPREDATIONS

Amongst the news reported verbally by a gentleman recently from Monterey and Camargo, we have an account of a recent visit in that neighborhood of a party of Camanche Indians, who have extended their depredations for a considerable distance from there up and down the river, stealing horses and murdering and carrying off Mexican women and children. From their conduct at several instances where they made their appearance, it is supposed that they did not design to molest Americans but tried rather to avoid interfering with them. In ending their visit for the especial visit of the Mexicans. But is so happened that they were not aware of the Americans had turned rancheros, and located themselves upon the banks of the Rio Grande, and in the instance at least, it is presumed they perpetrated an injury upon Americans, unwittingly, of which, right punishment was visited upon them, and greatest is in store. [CPO]

NNR 72.199 May 29, 1847, an account of the Battle of Cerro Gordo

Of the battle of Sierra Gordo, so far as the 7th infantry were concerned, and indeed so far as the finally effective movement which insured the victory is described, we have met with nothing furnishing so distinct an idea, as the brief account written by an officer of the 7th, to his relatives in this city, to whom we are indebted for the privilege of inserting it.

Jalapa, Mexico, April 20, 1817.

Before this reaches you, it is probable that you will hear that we have had another battle and are again victorious: We left Vera Cruz for this place on the 8th, and saw nothing of the enemy until we approached a pass called Sierra Gordo, (mountain gorge,) where our advance was fired upon; and upon examination it was found to be strongly fortified and defended by a large army, commanded by Santa Anna in person. On General Scott’s arrival two or three days after, preparations were made to turn the enemy’s flank, and take rear fort, situated on a high hill, and commanding the pass, or road. In advance of this work, they had several more all commanding the road, which was barricaded, and several large pieces of cannon planted which would rake the road for several hundred yards. On the morning of the 17th, our division commanded by General Twiggs, marched out of camp, and after going about 2 miles, left the main road and made a circuit through the woods, it being necessary to cut a road as we advanced. When we reached nearly opposite the last fort the enemy perceived us, and immediately attacked one company of the 7th stationed on a high hill on our left. This company repulsed them and was soon reinforced. The enemy also sent reinforcements on their side, and the engagement became quite warm; the result was that they were driven back to their woods. They still kept up a firing with artillery during the afternoon. During the night we were able to get up the hill some pretty large pieces, and opened our fire on their work next morning, The men were told to hold themselves in readiness for
storming; soon as the bugle sounded the charge, and with a cheer away we went over the crest of the hill, down its steep sides, through the valley, and up the heights on which their fort was situated. They had erected a small breastwork round the top of the hill up to which our regiment charged, and commenced a deadly fire on them. Soon we charged over this and were in the fort; many of the Mexicans still fought and were shot dead beside their guns. Others retreated still fighting; the ground was strewed with the dead and wounded, and many of our gallant fellows fell. Soon our regimental colors were flying in the place of the Mexican flag and the fight was won. Their own cannon were turned upon them and they were flying in all directions. Santa Anna escaped, leaving behind his carriage, money, and cork leg, (this is a fact,) with probably four or five thousand of his troops. About 4000 men and 5 generals surrendered, together with 40 pieces of cannon. I have not time to go into details, but for the time the fight lasted, it was the hardest fighting I have yet seen. Our regiment lost about 60 or 65 in killed and wounded, and looks quite small. There is some talk of our being left to garrison this place. It is one of the most beautiful places in Mexico, the garden spot. I will write you again the first opportunity.

Yours, &c.

[CPO]

OCCUPATION OF PEROTE.

Headquarters 1st Division
Perote, April 22, 1847,

Sir: I have the honor to report, for information of the general in chief, that my division occupied the castle and town of Perote at 12 m. today, without resistance, the enemy having withdrawn the night before last, and yesterday evening leaving Col. Valsquez, as commissioner on behalf of the Mexican government to turn over the armament of the castle, consisting of fifty four guns and mortars, iron and bronze, of various calibers, in good service condition, eleven thousand and sixty five cannon balls fourteen thousand three hundred bombs and hand grenades, and five hundred muskets.

In the retreat hence, the enemy carried away no material of war. No force has passed, embodied except some 3,000 cavalry in deplorable plight, headed by the recreant Ampudia. The infantry some 2,000 passed in small bodies, generally without arms. The few having any, sold them, whenever a purchaser could be found, for two or three reals. The rout and panic is complete, and the way opened. A stand may be made at Puebla, but doubted. These are the fruits of the victory at Sierra Gorda.

The fortress affords quarters for 2,000 troops and their officers, with ample storehouses, hospitals, and a supply of good water within the walls.

The Generals Landero and Morales confined in Perote for the affair at Vera Cruz, as also some American prisoners, were allowed to go at large on the retirement of the garrison. I have several of the latter belonging to the South Carolina regiment captured near Verz Cruz. Lieut. Rogers, of the navy had been previously sent to the capital.

I have the honor,
W.J. WORTH
Maj. General Commanding

[CP0]

The Battle of Cerro Gordo

Of the battle of Sierra Gordo, so far as the 7th infantry were concerned, and indeed so far as the finally effective movement which insured the victory is described, we have met with nothing furnishing so distinct an idea, as the brief account written by an officer of the 7th, to his relatives in this city, to whom we are indebted for the privilege of inserting it-

Jalapa, Mexico, April 20, 1847.

Before this reaches you, it is probable that you will hear that we have another battle and are again
victorious: We left Vera Cruz for this place on the 8th, and saw nothing of the enemy until we approached a pass called Sierra Gordo, (mountain gorge,) where our advance was fired upon; and upon examination it was found to be strongly fortified and defended by a large army, commanded by Santa Anna in person. On General Scott's arrival two or three days after, preparations were made to turn the enemy's flank, and take their rear fort, situated on a high hill, and commanding the pass, or road. In advance of this work, they had several more all commanding the road, which was barricaded, and several large pieces of cannon planted which would rake the road for several hundred yards. On the morning of the 17th, our rear division commanded by Gen. Twiggs, marched out of camp, and after going about 2 miles, left he main road, and made a circuit through the woods, it being necessary to cut a road as we advanced. When we reached nearly opposite the last fort the enemy perceived us, and immediately attacked one company of the 7th stationed on a high hill on our left. This company repulse them and was soon reinforced. The enemy also sent reinforcements on their side, and the engagement became quite warm; the result was that they were driven back to their works. They still kept up a firing with artillery during the afternoon. During the night we were able to get up the hill some pretty large pieces, and opened our fire on their work next morning. The men were told to hold themselves in readiness for storming; soon the bugle sounded the charge, and with a cheer away we went over the crest of the hill, down its steep sides, through the valley, and up the heights on which their fort was situated. They had erected a small breast work round the top of the hill up to which our regiment charged, and commenced a deadly fire on them. Soon we charged over this and were in the fort: many of the Mexicans still fought and were shot dead beside their guns. Others retreated still fighting; the ground was strewed with the dead and wounded, and many of our gallant fellows fell. Soon our regimental colors were flying in the place of the Mexican flag and the fight was won. Their own cannon were turned upon them and they were flying in all directions.-Santa Anna escaped, leaving behind his carriage, money, and cork leg, (this is a fact,) with probably four or five thousand of his troops. About 4,000 men and 5 generals surrendered, together with 40 pieces of cannon. I have not time to go into details, but for the time the fight lasted, it was the hardest fighting I have yet seen. Our regiment lost about 60 or 65 in killed and wounded, and about 500 prisoners. Deeming it impracticable to advance with advantage beyond the position which I had gained during the reconnaissance on the 12th, (being some three and a half mile from water,) I withdrew my main force to my old camp, keeping up a strong picket to retain the ground I had passed over, intending on the following morning,(the 13th,) at 4 o'clock, to make the attack with effect.

Two brigades of volunteers, under the command of Brigadier Generals Pillow and Shields, respectively, arrived at my camp on the 12th instant. Major General Patterson, United States volunteers, having reported sick, I assumed command of the whole.-The volunteers wishing to participate in the fight, and being so much broken down from the recent march from Vera Cruz, I thought proper, at the suggestion of Generals Pillow an Shields, to defer the attack one day. Having done so, and having matured my plan of attack, and assigned to each division its duty, I was overtaken by an order of Major Gen. Patterson, after night on the 13th, to suspend all further offensive operations until the arrival of the general-in-chief, or until ordered by himself,(General Patterson.) Agreeably to this arrangement I received, one the evening of the 16th, verbal orders from the general in chief to proceed on my line of operations on the right of the national road. At 11 o'clock A.M. I got in my position, the right of my column being about 700 yards from the enemy's main work. Lieut. Gardner's company, 7th infantry, was then detached to observe the enemy from the first commanding height on my left. In a short time a strong reconnoitering or skirmishing party was observed approaching towards him, having in reserve a large force, in all numbering about two thousand.-Lieut. Gardner held his position, under a heavy fire, until relieved by Col. Harney with the rifle regiment and 1st artillery. With this force Colonel Harney cleared the two hills in front of the enemy's main work, and held secure the position intended for our heavy battery, which was established during the night under the direction of Capt. Lee, of the engineer corps. During this evening Brig. Gen. Shields joined me with his brigade of volunteers, composed of two Illinois regiments, under Colonels Baker and Foreman, and one New York regiment, commanded by Col. Burnett.
On the morning of the 18th, when our heavy guns opened, Colonel Harney, having been reinforced by the 3d and 7th infantry, pushed forward his skirmishing parities. Overcoming all obstacles presented by the nature of the ground, and under a most galling and destructive fire, this command advanced with steadiness and regularity, and finally succeeded I driving from the strong position of the enemy all his forces, and in putting them in complete rout.

In speaking of the individual efforts of the officers in command of regiments and companies, I am unable to do ample justice. Each and every one seemed to be endeavoring to excel in all that is required of gallant officers. Hey all responded to the encouraging voice of their gallant leader, and conducted their men to victory and glory.

The 2d brigade, under Colonel Riley, advanced under a heavy fire to gain a position on the Jalapa road in rear of the enemy, with a view of cutting off his retreat. After crossing the valley at the foot of the Cerro Gordo, the fire of the enemy became so annoying that two companies of the 2d infantry were ordered out as skirmishers to occupy them.-The remainder of the 2d, conducted by Captain Lee engineers, proceeded on this course. Perceiving that the enemy were extending to their left, I ordered General Shields to cross the ravine on our right and keep us the left bank on the part previously reconnoitered by Captain Lee. In the further progress of this portion of Colonel Riley's brigade, he was obliged to turn his whole column to the left to oppose the enemy's direct movement down the spur.-Captain Lee continued his course, supported by Lieutenant Benjamin's company, 4th artillery. On coming out in the plain west of the Cerro Gordo, and in full view of the Jalapa road, a battery of five guns, supported by a body of lancers, was discovered by this portion of the enemy. The battery opened with grape on him and on Lieutenant Benjamin's company. The gallant general, with a shout from his men, pushed boldly for the road on the enemy's left, who, seeing their position completely turned as well as driven from the hill, abandoned themselves to flight. General Shields was here severely wounded, the command of the brigade devolving upon Colonel Baker, who conducted it with ability. The pursuit was continued as far as Encerro, when I was overtaken by Major Gen. Patterson, United States volunteers, who then assumed command of the advance and ordered a halt.

I cannot speak in too high terms of the conduct of Colonel Harney, who, united with his indomitable courage, possessed the cool judgment which enabled him to know just how far to advance to obtain the desired object. That sterling soldier and accomplished officer, Major Sumner, 2d dragoons, who was in command of the regiment of mounted riflemen, exhibited all the skill and ability required of a permanent commander of a regiment. He was severely wounded in the head by an escopette ball, and obliged to leave the field, the command of the regiment devolving upon Major Loring.

Captain Magruder, 1st artillery, by his wary and good management in the face of the enemy's works, driving before him the parties immediately in the front. His gallant conduct deserves especial notice. Brevet First Lieutenant Gardner, 7th infantry, whose company was the first sent on the hill, by sustaining himself against a vastly superior force, displayed that ability as commander of a company which, on a former occasion, acquired for him the distinction he now has as brevet first lieutenant.

I am sorry that the advantages gained over the enemy the first day were attended with some loss on our side. Besides Major Sumner, 2d dragoons, and Lieutenant Maury, rifle regiment, who were severely wounded, and Lieutenant George H. Gordon, rifle regiment, serving in Major Talcott's battery of mountain howitzers, and Lieutenant Gibbs, mounted riflemen, slightly, some fifty casualties occurred, principally in the first artillery and rifle regiments.

Of the conduct of the volunteer force under the brave General Shields, I cannot speak in too high terms. After he was wounded, portions of the three regiments were with me when I arrived first at the Jalapa road, and drove before them the enemy's cannoniers from their loaded guns. Their conduct and names shall be the subject of a special report, as also that of the several officers of the regular army who are distinguished on the occasion.

Accompanied with this, I transmit the several reports from brigade and regimental headquarters. In all the recommendations for praise and promotion I entirely concur.

Although whatever I may say may add little to the good reputation of Captain Lee, of the engineer corps, yet I must indulge in the pleasure of speaking of the invaluable services which he rendered me from the time I left the main road, until he conducted Colonel Riley's brigade to its position in rear of the enemy's strong work on the Jalapa road. I consulted him with confidence, and adopted his suggestions with entire assurance. His gallantry and good conduct on both days deserve the highest praise. I again present to the favorable consideration of the commander in chief, and the president, the names of my personal staff, First Lieutenant W.T.H. Brooks, third infantry, A.A.A. G., and First Lieutenant P.W. McDonald, second dragoons, A.D.C. Captain R. A. Allen, A.Q.M., rendered me invaluable services, not only in communicating orders when he was in the field, but in keeping at hand, under all disadvantages, the necessary supplies for my division. For his services on this and on former occasions, I most earnestly recommend him for promotion. To
Lieutenants Mason, Beauregard, and Tower, of the engineers, and Lieutenant Sikes, third infantry, A.C>S. to the division, I am indebted for valuable services. Whilst on reconnoitering duty on the 12th, I lost the valuable services of Lieut. Col. Johnston, who was on duty with me as chief topographical engineer, and was very severely wounded under the enemy's works on the left of the road.

In conclusion, I have the pleasure of tendering my thanks to the commanders of regiments and batteries, whose conduct tended so much to the attainment of our glorious victory. The 1st brigade, under Col. Harney, was composed of the 1st artillery, commanded by Col. Childs, the rifle regiment, (after Major Sumner was wounded,) commanded by Maj. Loring, and the 7th infantry, commanded by Colonel Plympton.

The 2d brigade, under Colonel Riley, was composed of the 4th artillery, commanded by Major Gardner, the 2d infantry, commanded by Captain Morris, and the 3d infantry, commanded by Captain Alexander.

The volunteer force under my orders was composed of the 3d Illinois regiment, commanded by Colonel Baker, the 4th Illinois regiment, commanded by Colonel Foreman, and the New York regiment, commanded by Col. Burnett. The field battery was commanded by Capt. Taylor, and the howitzer battery by Major Talcott.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,  

D.D. TWIGGS,  
Brigadier General U.S. Army.

[ANP]

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**NRR 72.200 May 29, 1847 reports of Gen. Robert Patterson on the actions of his volunteer division at Cerro Gordo**

72.200-201 May 29, 1847, reports of Gen. Edward Dickinson Baker on the operations of the third brigade during the action at Cerro Gordo

Report of Major General Patterson.

Headquarters volunteer division,  
Jalapa, April 23, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor to report, for the information of the general in chief, the operations of the volunteer division of the United States army under my command, at the pass of the "Cerro Gordo," on the 17th and 18th of April.

On the afternoon of the 17th, a rapid and continuous fire of artillery and infantry announcing that the second artillery and infantry announcing that the second division of regulars was closely engaged with the left of the enemy's lines, I was instructed, and immediately directed the 3d volunteer brigade, under Brigadier General Shields, to proceed at once to its support.

Before the brigade reached the position of what division the action had ceased for the day; the night was, however, occupied in establishing several pieces of artillery upon a height adjacent ot the "Cerro Gordo."

Early on the morning of the 18th, the brigade moved to turn the extreme left of the enemy's line resting upon the Jalapa road. This was done, over rugged ascents and through dense chaparral, under a severe and continuous flank fire from the enemy.

Brigadier General Shields, whilst gallantly leading his command, and forming it for the attack of the enemy posted in force in his front, fell severely wounded, and was carried from the field.

Colonel Baker, 4th Illinois regiment, having assumed the command, the enemy's lines were charged with spirit and success by the 3d and 4th Illinois and the New York regiments of volunteers under their respective commanders-Colonel Foreman and Brunett, and Major Harris. The rout now becoming general, the brigade pressed forward in rapid pursuit, leaving a sufficient force to secure the artillery, specie, baggage, provisions, and camp equipage, left in our hands.
Whilst our troops were engaged with the enemy’s left, the 1st volunteer brigade, under Brigadier General Pillow, proceeded to operate upon that portion of the Mexican army which was posted upon the heights on the right of the pass, and either to storm their works, or, if impracticable, to divert attention from the main attack to be made on their left and rear.

A storming force, composed of the 2d Tennessee volunteers, Captain Naylor’s company of Pennsylvania volunteers, under Colonel Haskell, was directed upon one of the enemy’s batteries, (No.2.) which it approached with great enthusiasm and firmness, until, after sustaining a heavy loss of both officers and men, it was obliged to retire.

Dispositions for attacking another point, (battery No. 1,) by a column under Col. Wynkoop. Were rendered unnecessary in consequence of the carrying of he works on the heights of Cerro Gordo.

The attention of the general in chief is particularly called to the gallantry of Brigadier Generals Pillow and Shields, who were both wounded at the head of their respective brigades; to Colonel Campbell, 1st Tennessee regiments, temporarily in command of Pillow’s brigade; and to Colonel Baker, who led Shield’s brigade during a severe part of the action and during the pursuit. The chiefs of brigade speak in the highest terms of the courage and conduct of the regiments under their command, and of their personal staffs, viz:


I desire to recommend to the favorable notice of the general in chief Dr. Wright, surgeon, United States army, medical director; and 1st Lieutenant Beauregard, of the engineers, on duty with my division; and the officers of my personal staff, Brevet Lieutenant Abercrombie, 1st infantry, aid-de-camp; 1st Lieutenant Wm. H. French, 1st artillery, acting ass. Adj. General; and 1st Lieutenant Seth Williams, 1st artillery, aid-de-camp; to each of whom I am under many obligations for valuable services.

I am, very respectfully, your ob't serv't,

R. Patterson,
Major General United States army,
Comd'g Volunteer division.


Headquarters Volunteer division,
Jalapa, April 26, 1847.

Sir. I have the honor to state, as a supplement to the report made by me to the general in chief on the 23d instant, that after the action of the 18th of April, as soon as the dragoons effected a junction with the main body of the army upon the Jalapa road, in obedience to instructions received on the field from Major General Scott, I moved with them as rapidly as possible in pursuit of the enemy.

At Corral Falso, overtaking Brigadier General Twiggs, I directed him to follow on with his division, part of which was returning. Late in the afternoon I arrived at El Encerro, where the exhausted state of the cavalry horses compelled me to remain for the night.

Captain Blake, with a squadron of dragoons, continued the pursuit for some miles, and returned with several prisoners.

The 2d dragoons, under Maj. Beall, and company of the 1st dragoons, under Capt. Kearny, exhibited great activity and zeal in the pursuit, which was very severe on both horses and men.

Colonel Baker had advanced near Encerro, with a small portion of Shields’ brigade, some time previous to my arrival, but had retired when the battery of the 2d division of regulars was recalled.

On the morning of the 19th, leaving Brig. General Twiggs in command of the infantry and artillery, I moved on with the dragoons, and entered Jalapa with a deputation from its authorities, who had come out to implore protection for the inhabitants of the cit.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. Patterson, Maj. Gen. U.S.A.
Jalapa, Mexico, April 20, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor to report that my battery served with the division under the command of Brig. General Twiggs in the recent conflicts on the 17th and 18th instants, but had no opportunity, (although exposed occasionally to the fire of the enemy,) from the nature of the ground, of engaging with him actively.

I succeeded, however, in getting two pieces, under the command of Lieut. J. G. Martin, on the main road in rear of the enemy's position, in time to follow up his retreat, and was enabled from time to time to fire upon his rear. The pursuit was continued for about twelve miles, when I was ordered to go no further, being then considerably in advance of the whole army, with but a small force of infantry to support me.

The second section of my battery, under Lieut. Irons, joined me in the advance as soon as it was possible for him to do so; and, through the great exertions of Lieut. Jack on, the caissons were brought up early in the night.

It may be proper for me to add, that the difficulties of getting artillery over the hills of the Cerro Gordo were great. Taking out the horses, the pieces were drawn up by men by means of picket ropes attached tot he carriages.

On the 18th instant, the laborious work of getting the pieces over the last hill was performed by the companies of volunteers under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Willie, who had been detached to support my battery. My thanks are due to him, his officers and men, for this important service.

On the 17th instant I had one corporal and one private wounded.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Francis Taylor,
Capt. Comd'g light battery 2d division.


Jalapa, April 24th, 1847.


General: On the 5th instant I had the honor to lay before you the paroles of honor by which the Mexican troops, captured by the army under you immediate command at Vera Crus and the Castle San Juan d'uluia, were enlarged, I have now the satisfaction of enclosing the paroles of those captured at the pass of Sierra Gorda on the 18th inst., to wit:

1. The original paroles of honor of three general officers two others being accounted for below, together with similar paroles from hundred and 185 officers of all grades.

2. Original paroles of honor given by officers of the Mexican army on behalf of the troops of the several corps, prisoners of war, respectively, under their command, binding them not to serve during the war unless duly exchanged. These rolls embrace two thousand eight hundred and thirty seven (2,837) names-the rank and file of the army.
3. A copy of the parole of Gen. Pinson—a translation of the same; and a list of all others on a parole, numbering, in all, two hundred and eight officers.

4. Copies of the several papers referred to above in No. 2, to wit: the paroles for the rank and file.

Besides the above, I enclose an original paper, signed by two general officers, (including Gen La Vega,) and by fourteen other officers of various grades, who declined giving their paroles not to serve during the war unless exchanged, but pledged themselves, as the paper shows, to report as prisoners of war to the commander at Vera Cruz, who was instructed under your orders to secure them in the Castle San Juan d'Ulloa, or send them, if they preferred it, to the United States.

A separate list of these sixteen officers is also furnished.

I think proper to remark, with regard to the operations at Sierra Gordo, that, by turning the left flank of the enemy, an storming the principal hill occupied by him, which was executed under your personal observation on the morning of the 18th instant, his force was divided—all of the batteries east of the hill being separated from the main body of the army encamped on the Jalapa road west of the hill.

All of the positions of the enemy were commanded by the hill itself, which was believed by the Mexicans to be inaccessible to our troops. The hill being stormed and taken, the main body of the enemy fled in the utmost confusion, and but a very few were taken prisoners. Many of his troops in the batteries at the same time made their escape in the hills, throwing away their arms.

A Mexican officer assured me that no less than 1,500 thus escaped from one single battery. Of those in the batteries who laid down their arms, more than a thousand contrived to escape on their march from the field of battle to Plan del Rio, some five miles or more, along a circuitous road bound by woods and ravines; and hence the number of prisoners on parole is diminished to about 3,000 men, exclusive of officers. And, although this may not be the place for the expression of an opinion, I feel warranted in saying that the defeat was as complete as it was unexpected by the enemy; that he was utterly destroyed, captured, or routed, spreading terror and consternation throughout the country.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E.A. Hitchcock,

Major General Winfield Scott,
General In Chief, Jalapa Mexico.

[ANP]

NNR 72.201-72.202 May 29, 1847 LIST OF KILLED AND WOUNDED AT SIERRA GORDA

The following list of names of the killed, wounded and missing of the second division of regulars, commanded by Gen. David E. Twiggs, at the battle of Sierra Gorda, has been forwarded to the Picayune by Mr. Kendall.

FIRST BRIGADE, consisting of the 1st artillery, the rifles, and the 7th infantry, all under Colonel HARNEY:


Missing. Lewis Monroe.


Rank and file killed- James Olsed, John Schenecke, Michael Christal, Andrew Divin, Wm. Turner, James Mellish, Wm. Scott, Jas. Wilson, Jas. Conway, Giles Ischam.


Light company 1st artillery- Wounded, Charles Kallmyer and George Campbell.
Rockey and howitzer battery- wounded, Lieut. Geo. H. Gordon; private Moses L. Kinney.
Detachment- Wounded, Lieutenant colonel Joseph E. Johnston, severely; killed, --- Croley; wounded, ----Graff.

THIRD BRIGADE. Consisting of the New York volunteers, and 3d and 4th Illinois volunteers, under General SHIELDS.

Officer killed- Lieut. G. M. Cowarden.
Officers wounded- General James Shields, Capt. ---- Pearson, Lieutenants Richard Murphy, Robert C. Scott, S. J. Johnson, Andrew Froman, Chas. Malthy.

Rank and file killed- N. H. Melton, Joseph Neuman, Benjamin Merritt.


Recapitulation:

Officers Rank and File
Regiments, &c. Killed Wounded Killed Wounded
Reg. Md rifles -- 7 9 59
1st artillery -- -- 10 28
7th infantry -- 1 9 52
4th artillery -- -- -- 3
2d infantry -- 2 5 14
3d infantry -- 2 5 35
Light co. K 1st artillery -- 2
Rocket and howitzer co. 1 -- 1
Detachment -- 1 1 1
General staff -- 1* -- --
3d Illinois -- 1 15
4th Illinois 1 5 2 28
New York regiment -- 1 -- 5
Total, 1 21 42 213

*Since dead. Missing from regulars, 1.
One private missing, not included in the total.

The killed and wounded of Capt. Magruder’s company 1st artillery is not included in this return, the company being detached since the action. Twelve non-commissioned officers and privates of company F (Illinois) are known to have been either killed or wounded; but, as the company has been detached since the action, details cannot be furnished at this date.

To the above we add, from the same paper, a list of the killed and wounded in the brigade under General Pillow:

Officers killed- Lieuts. F. B. Allen and C. G. Gill.


Making a total of killed and wounded in this brigade 103; which, added to 308, the list published above, gives 411. These are all the killed and wounded whose names have been ascertained. The others, say fourteen men, belonged to Captain Magruder’s company of first artillery and company F, Illinois, from which no returns were made, as they were detached immediately after the action.

[NJM]

NNR 72.202 May 29, 1847, Gen. Zachary Taylor’s official report on Maj. Mike Chevallie’s expedition

Dispatches from General Taylor’s army received on the 21st from the camp at Monterey.

Headquarters Army of Occupation
Camp near Monterey, April 21st, 1847

Sir: Since my dispatch of April 11th, Major Chevallie has reached this place with a part of his command, the remainder being detached with a train now on its way up, VIN China. Agreeably to my order, Major Chevallie has explored the country between China and Montemorelos, and has ascertained satisfactorily that Gen. Urrea has left that region and has probably recrossed the mountains. The communications are now infested only by bands of robbers, which are very numerous in the country. Our escorts can thus be reduced much below the strength, which it has hitherto been necessary to employ.

I learn that Colonel Doniphan is probably by this time at Parras, on his way from Chihuahua to Saltillo, having anticipated my order to march on the latter place.

You will perceive from my order that we have received authentic intelligence of the fall of Verz Cruz. Our latest date from the city of Mexico is March 31st, on which day General Santa Anna is
issued an address or appeal to the Mexican people. I do not enclose it, presuming that it will reach you much sooner by Vera Cruz or Tampico.

It is represented by a person who has just arrived from San Luis that not more than one half of Gen. Santa Anna's original force was saved in the retreat after the battle of Buena Vista, and the his march is indicated by the dead strewed along the road for 60 leagues. Nearly all the troops have been withdrawn from San Luis and the adjacent positions.

I am, sir, very respectfully you ob't serv't,

Z. TAYLOR
Major General U.S.A. commanding

The Adj. Gen. Of the army, Washington D.C.

[NCR]

NNR 72.202 May 29, 1847 Gen. Zachary Taylor's letter transmitting minor reports from the Battle of Buena Vista

"Army of Occupation."

Despatches from General Taylor's army received on the 21st from the camp at Monterey.

Headquarters Army of Occupation,

Camp near Monterey, April 21st, 1847.

Sir: Since my despatch of April 11th, Major Chevallie has reached this place with a part of his command, the remainder being detached with a train now on its way up, via China. Agreeably to my orders, Major Chevallie has explored the country between China and Montemorelos, and has ascertained satisfactorily that Gen. Urrea has left that region and has probably recrossed the mountains. The communications are now infested only by bands of robbers which are very numerous in the country. Our escorts can thus be reduced much below the strength which it has hitherto been necessary to employ.

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I am, sir, very respectfully, your obt' serv't,

Z. Taylor,
Major General U.S.A. commanding.

The Adj. Gen. Of the army, Washington, D.C.

[CP]

NNR 72.202 May 29, 1847 Gen. Zachary Taylor's letter transmitting minor reports from the Battle of Buena Vista

"Army of Occupation."

Despatches from General Taylor's army received on the 21st from the camp at Monterey.

Headquarters Army of Occupation,

Camp near Monterey, April 21st, 1847.

Sir: Since my despatch of April 11th, Major Chevallie has reached this place with a part of his command, the remainder being detached with a train now on its way up, via China. Agreeably to my orders, Major Chevallie has explored the country between China and Montemorelos, and has ascertained satisfactorily that Gen. Urrea has left that region and has probably recrossed the mountains. The communications are now infested only by bands of robbers which are very numerous in the country. Our escorts can thus be reduced much below the strength which it has hitherto been necessary to employ.

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I am, sir, very respectfully, your obt' serv't

Z. Taylor,
Major General U.S.A. commanding.

The Adj. Gen. Of the army, Washington, D.C.

Camp near Monterey, April 17th 1847.

Sir: I respectfully transmit herewith the minor reports of the battle of Buena Vista, with accompanying documents, and those of the affairs with General Urrea's cavalry on the road hence to Camargo-all for file in your office.

I also transmit, in several packages, the proceedings of a court of inquiry called at Ague Nueva, March 4, at the request of Captain O'Brien, assistant quartermaster, and the proceedings of three general courts martial; of which Major (now Brevet lieut. Colonel) Craig, ordnance department, Col. Roane, Arkansas cavalry, and Lieut. Col. Weller, 1st Ohio regiment, were presidents respectively.
I am, sir, very respectfully, your ob't serv't,
Z. Taylor,
Major General U.S.A. Commanding.

The Adjutant General of the army, Washington, D.C.

[ANP]

NNR 72.202-204 May 29, 1847 Gen. John Ellis Wool's official report on Buena Vista

Battle of Buena Vista.


Headquarters Camp Taylor, Agua Nueva,
Twenty miles south of Saltillo, Mexico,

March 4, 1847.

Major: Agreeably to the orders from the commanding general, I have the honor to report that, on the 21st ult. the troops at Agua Nueva broke up their encampment and preceded by the supply and baggage train, marched for Buena Vista and Saltillo, except Col. Yell's regiment of Arkansas volunteers, which remained to look out for the enemy, reported to be advancing on Agua Nueva in great force, and to guard some public stores left at the hacienda until transportation could be obtained to carry them to Buena Vista.

On the arrival of the commanding general at Encantada, he directed that Colonel McKee's regiment 2d Kentucky volunteers, and a section of Captain Washington's battery be kept at that place to give support to Colonel Yell in case he should be driven in by the enemy. Between Encantada and Buena Vista, called the pass, Colonel Hardin's regiment 1st Illinois volunteers was stationed. The rest of my command encamped near the hacienda of Buena Vista. The major general commanding, accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel May's squadron (2d dragoons,) Captains Sherman's and Bragg's batteries, (3d artillery,) and the Mississippi regiment, commanded by Colonel Davis, proceeded to Saltillo to provide against the attack meditated by General Minon with a cavalry force reported to be 3,000 strong. As many wagons as could be obtained were ordered to return forthwith to Agua Nueva and bring off what remained of the stores at that place.

In the course of the evening, agreeably to the instructions of the commanding general, transmitted from Saltillo, Colonel Marshall, with his regiment the first dragoons were ordered to Agua Nueva to reinforce Colonel Yell, who was directed, in case he should be attacked, to destroy everything at that place he could not bring off, and to retire before 12 o'clock, PM. Colonel McKee at Encantada, with the section of artillery, was directed to join Colonel Yell on his retreat, and the whole to fall back to Buena Vista, should the enemy pursue them to that place. Before leaving Agua Nueva, Colonel Yell's pickets were driven in by the advance parties of the Mexicans. He then retired with the reinforcements, under the command of Colonel Marshall, after destroying a small quantity of corn yet remaining at the hacienda, and leaving a few wagons which had been precipitately abandoned by their teamsters.

All the advance parties came into Buena Vista, except Col. Hardin's regiment, before daylight on the morning of the 22d.

At 8 o'clock, A.M., on the 22d, I received notice that the Mexican army was at Agua Nueva, and ordered a section of Captain Washington's artillery to move foreword and join Colonel Hardin. Shortly afterwards I repaired to that position where it had been determined to give battle to the enemy. During the previous night, agreeably to my orders, Colonel Hardin's regiment had thrown up a parapet on the height, on the left of the road, and had dug a small ditch, and made a parapet extending from the road around the edge of the gully, on the right of he road. They were then directed to dig a ditch and make a parapet across he road for the protection of Capt. Washington's artillery, leaving a narrow passage next to the hill, which was t be closed up by running into it two wagons loaded with stone.

About 9 o'clock, our pickets, stationed at Encantada, three and half miles distant, discovered the enemy advancing. Word was immediately dispatched to the commanding general at Saltillo; and I ordered the troops at Buena Vista forthwith to be brought forward.

Captain Washington's battery was posted across the road, protected on its left by a commanding eminence, and its right by deep gullies. The 3d Kentucky infantry, commanded by Colonel McKee, was stationed on a hill immediately in rear of Washington's battery. The six companies of 1st
Illinois regiment, commanded by Colonel Hardin, took post on the eminence on the left, and two companies, under Lieut. Colonel Weatherford, occupied the breastwork on the right to Washington's battery. The 2d Illinois regiment was stationed on the left of the Kentucky regiment. The Indiana brigade, commanded by Brigadier General Lane, was posted on a ridge immediately in rear of the front line, and Captain Stein's squadron in reserve, in rear of the Indiana brigade. The Kentucky regiment of cavalry, under the command of Colonel Marshall, and the Arkansas regiment, under the command of Colonel Yell, were stationed to the left of the second line towards the mountains. Shortly afterwards the rifle companies of these two regiments were dismounted, and, with the cavalry companies of the Kentucky regiment, and a battalion of riflemen from the Indiana brigade under Major Gorman, under the command of Colonel Marshall, were ordered to take post on the extreme left, and at the foot of the mountains.

These dispositions were approved by the major general commanding, who had now returned for Saltillo, bringing with him Lieut. Col. May's squadron of the 2d dragoons, Capt. Sherman's and Bragg's batteries of artillery, and the Mississippi regiment of riflemen.

The enemy had halted just beyond cannon shot, and displayed his forces on either side of the road, and commencing pushing his light infantry into the mountains on our left. At the same time, indications of an attempt on our right induced the commanding general to order the 2d Kentucky infantry and Capt. Bragg's battery, with a detachment of mounted men, to take post on the right of the gullies, and at some distance in advance of Capt. Washington's battery, in the centre.

Capt. Sherman's battery was held in reserve in rear of the second line.

The enemy was now seen pushing his infantry on his right towards the heights, showing evidently an intention to turn our left in order to get possession of the key to our position—the eminence immediately on the left of Washington's artillery—and thus open a free passage to Saltillo.

Colonel Marshall, with his regiment, the Arkansas riflemen, under Lieutenant Colonel Roane, and the Indiana rifle battalion, under Major Gorman, was charged with meeting this party, and checking their movement on our left. Brigadier General Lane, with the 2d Indiana regiment, and a section of Capt. Washington's artillery, under Lieut. O'Brien, since captain in the quartermaster's department—was ordered to the extreme left and front of the plain, which was terminated by a deep ravine, extending from the mountain to the road, with orders to prevent the enemy from coming around by the base of the mountain.

At 2 o'clock as the enemy's light infantry were moving up the side of the mountain and in the ravines, they opened a fire on our riflemen from a large howitzer posted in the road; and between three and four o'clock Colonel Marshall engaged the Mexican infantry on the side of the mountain, and the firing had ceased, the major general commanding again returned to Saltillo to see to matters at that place, and to guard against Gen. Minon and his cavalry, taking with him the Mississippi regiment and squadron of the 2d dragoons.

The troops remained under arms during the night in the position they occupied at the close of the day. About two o'clock, A.M., of the 23d, our pickets were driven in by the Mexicans, and at the dawn of day the action was renewed by the Mexican light infantry and our riflemen on the side of the mountain.

The enemy had succeeded during the night, and early in the morning, in gaining the very top of the mountain, and in passing to our left and rear. He had reinforced his extreme right by some 1,500 to 2,000 infantry.

Major Prail, 2d Illinois volunteers, was ordered, with his battalion of riflemen, to reinforce Col. Marshall, who was engaged holding the right of the enemy in check.

The enemy now opened a fire upon our left from a battery planted on the side of the mountain in ear where his light infantry had commenced ascending it—everything now indicating that the main attack would be against our left.

The 2d Kentucky infantry and Bragg's battery of artillery were, by instructions given to major Mansfield, ordered from the extreme right, and Sherman's battery ordered up from the rear to take post with Colonel Birrell's regiment, (2d Illinois volunteers) on the plateau which extends from the centre of the line to the foot of the mountain, the sides of which were now filled with the Mexican infantry and our riflemen, between whom the firing had become very brisk. About this time the major general commanding was seen returning from Saltillo with the Mississippi regiment and the squadron of the 2d dragoons; and shortly after he arrived and took his position the centre of the field of battle, where he could see and direct the operations of the day. At 8 o'clock a large body a of the enemy, composed of infantry, lancers and three pieces of artillery, moved down the high road upon our centre, held by Capt. Washington's battery and the 1st Illinois volunteers, but were soon dispersed by the former. The rapidity and precision of the fire of the artillery scattered and dispersed this force in a few minutes with considerable loss on their side, and little or none on
In connexion with this movement, a heavy column of the enemy's infantry and cavalry and the battery on the side of the mountain moved against our left, which was held by Brigadier General Lane, with the 2d Indiana regiment, and Lieutenant O'Brien's section of artillery, by whom the enemy's fire was warmly returned, and, owing to the range, with great effect, by Lieutenant O'Brien's artillery.-General Lane, agreeing to my orders, wishing to bring his infantry within striking distance, ordered his line to move forward. This order was duly obeyed by Lieutenant O'Brien. The infantry, however, instead of advancing retired in disorder; and in spite of the utmost efforts of their general and his officers, left the artillery unsupported, and fled he field of battle. Some of them were rallied by Col. Bowles, who, with the engagement fell in the ranks of the Mississippi riflemen, and during the day did good service with that gallant regiment. I deeply regret to say that most of them did not return to the field, and many of them continued their flight to Saltillo.

Lieutenant O'Brien, being unsupported by any infantry, and not being able to make head against the heavy column bearing down upon him with a destructive fire, fell back on the centre, leaving one of his pieces, at which all the cannoneers and horses were either killed or disabled, in the hands of the enemy. Seeing themselves cut off from the centre by the flight of the 2d Indiana regiment, and the consequent advance of the Mexican infantry and cavalry upon the ground previously occupied by it, the riflemen under the command of Colonel Marshall retreated from their position in the mountain, where they had been so successful engaged with the enemy, to the other side of the dry bed of a deep torrent that is immediately in the rear of our position. Here many fled in disorder to the rear. Some of them were subsequently rallied and brought again into action, with their brave companions; others were stopped at he hacienda of Buena Vista, an here reformed by their officers.

The enemy immediately brought forward a battery of three pieces, and took a position of the extreme left of our line, under the mountain and commenced an enfilading fire on our centre, which was returned with so much effect upon the advancing column of the Mexicans, containing near 6,000 infantry and lancers, that it forced them to keep to the upper side of the plateau close under the side of the mountain; and, instead of turning to the left and advancing on our centre, against the heavy fire of so much well served artillery, continue its course perpendicular to our line on the extreme left, crossed over the bed of the dry torrent in the direction taken by our retreating riflemen, keeping all the while close to the foot of the mountain. Colonels Marshall and Yell with their cavalry companies, Colonel May, with his squadron of the 1st and 2d dragoons, and Captain, Pike's squadron Arkansas regiment, in connection with a brigade of infantry, formed of the Mississippi regiment, the 3d Indiana (Colonel Lane,) and a fragment of the 2d Indiana regiment under Colonel Bowles' and Bragg's artillery, and three pieces of Sherman's battery, succeeded in checking the march of this column. The Mississippi regiment alone, and a howitzer under Captain Sherman, moved against some 4,000 of the enemy and stopped them in heir march upon Saltillo. A large body of lancers, from this body, formed column in one of the mountain gorges, and advanced, through the Mexican infantry, to make a descent on the hacienda of Buena Vista, near which our rain of supplies and baggage has been packed.-They were gallantly and successfully met by our mounted men, under Colonels Marshall and Yell, and the attacking column separated-part returning to the mountain under cover of their infantry, and a part going through he hacienda. Here the latter were met by a destructive fire from those men who had left the field in the early part of the action, and had been rallied by their officers. Colonel May's dragoons and a section of artillery, under Lieutenant Reynolds, coming up at this moment, complete the rout of this portion of the enemy's cavalry. The column that had passed our left, and had gone some two miles to our rear, now faced about, and commenced retracing their steps, exposing their right flank to a very heavy and destructive fire from our infantry and artillery, who were drawn up in a line parallel to the march of the retreating column, of whom any were forced on and over the mountains and many dispersed.

Gen. Santa Anna, seeing the situation of this part of his army, and, no doubt, considering them as cut off, sent in a flag to the major general commanding to know what he desired. The general asked me to be the bearer of his answer, to which I cheerfully assented, and proceeded immediately to the enemy's battery under the mountains to see the Mexican general in chief. But in consequence of a refusal to cease firing on our troops, to whom the news of the truce had not yet been communicated, and who were actively engaged with the Mexican infantry, I declared the parley at an end, and returned without seeing General Santa Anna, or communicating the answer of the general commanding.

The Mexican column was now in rapid retreat, pursued by our artillery, infantry and cavalry, and, notwithstanding the effect of our fire, they succeeded for the greater part, favored by the configuration of the ground, in crossing the bed of the torrent, and regaining the plateau from which they had previously descended.

Whilst this was taking place on the left and rear of the line, our centre, under the immediate eye of the commanding general, although it suffered much in killed and wounded, stood firm, and repelled every attempt to march upon it.
he Mexican forces being now concentrated on our left, made a bold move to carry our centre by advancing with his whole strength from the left and front. At this moment Lieut. O'Brien was ordered to advance his battery and check this movement. He did so in a bold and gallant manner, and maintaining his position until his supporting force was completely routed by an immensely superior force. His men and horses being nearly all killed and wounded, he found himself under the necessity of abandoning his pieces, and they fell into the hands of the enemy. From this point the enemy marched upon the centre, where the shock was met by Col. McKee, the 1st Illinois, under Col. Hardin, and the 2d, under Col. Bissell, all under the immediate eye of the commanding general. This was the hottest as well as the most critical part of the action; and at the moment when our troops were about giving way before the greatly superior force with which they were contending, the batteries of Captains Sherman and Bragg coming up most opportunely from the rear, and under the immediate direction of the commanding general, by a well directed fire checked and drove back with great loss the enemy, who had come close upon the muzzles of their pieces. A part of the enemy's lancers took our infantry in flank, and drove them down the ravine in front of Captain Washington's battery, who saved them by a well directed and well timed fire from his pieces.

This was the last great effort of Gen. Santa Anna; the firing, however, between the enemy's artillery and our own continued until night.

The troops lay on their arms in the position in which they were placed at evening. Major Wareen's command, consisting of four companies Illinois infantry and a detachment of Capt. Webster's company, under Lieut. Donaldson, were brought on the field from Saltillo, where they had performed, during the day, important services in connexion with Capt. Webster's battery, under a piece ably served by Lieut. (now Captain) Shover, 3d artillery, in repelling the attack of Gen. Minon and his cavalry on that place. Every arrangement was made to engage the enemy early, the next morning, when, at daybreak, it was discovered he had retreated under cover of the night, leaving about 1000 dead and several hundred wounded on the field of battle, and 295 prisoners in our hands, one standard and a large number of arms.

Our own loss was, I deeply regret of say, very great, equaling if not exceeding in proportion to numbers engaged, that of the enemy. In killed, wounded, and missing, it amounted to rising of 700. Among the dead, some of he most gallant of our officers fell while leading their men to the charge, and some who are well known to the country for distinguished services on other fields: among whom were Col. A. Yell, of Arkansas, Col. M. Wm. McKee, Lieut. Colonel H. Clay, of Kentucky, and Col. Hardin, of Illinois. I also lost my assistant adjutant general, Capt. Lincoln, who was as brave, gallant, and as accomplished an officer as I ever knew. He fell in the execution of my orders, and in the attempt to rally our men.

The troops posted in the centre were constantly under the eye of the commanding general, and their movements and bearing during the battle are better known to him than myself. I think it proper, however, to bear witness with him to the particular good conduct of the 1st Illinois volunteers, under Colonel Hardin, and after his death under Col. Bissell; and the 2d Kentucky infantry, under Col. McKee, Lieut. Col. Clay, and after their death, under Major Fry. These regiments suffered greatly in the contest, and were ably and gallantly led on by their officers, as their number, names, and rank of the killed will abundantly testify.

I also desire to express my high admiration, and to offer my warmest thanks to Captains Washington, Sherman, and Bragg, and Lieutenants O'Brien and Thomas, and their batteries; to whose services at this point, and on every other part of the field, I think it but justice to say, we are mainly indebted for the great victory so successfully achieved by our arms over the great force opposed to us—more than 20,000 men and 17 pieces of artillery. Without our artillery we would not have have maintained our position a single hour.

Brigadier General Lane was very active and prompt in the discharge of his duty, and rendered good service throughout the day. He reports, among many others, Colonel Lane and the 3d Indiana regiments as having done themselves great credit. To Colonel Davis and the Mississippi regiment under his command, whose services were conspicuous in the open engagements on the rear of our left, great credit is due for the part they performed, and much praise for their conspicuous gallantry, which caused them to be a rallying point for the force that was driven in from the left, and who, in connexion with the 3d Indiana regiment, and a fragment of the 2d Indiana regiment, and a fragment of he 2d Indiana regiment, under its gallant colonel, constituted almost the only infantry opposed to the heavy column of the enemy.

Colonel Marshall rendered gallant and important services, both as the commander of he riflemen I the mountains, where he and his men were very effectual, and as the commander of the cavalry companies of his regiment, in connexion with those of the Arkansas regiment, under Colonel Yell, and after his death under Lt. Colonel Roane, (who commanded them in a gallant manner,) in their operations against he enemy's lancers. Col. Marshall reports that Lt. Col. Field was everywhere during the battle, and equal entirely to his station, and rendered the most essential assistance.

Brevet Lieut. Colonel May, 2d dragoons, with the squadron of the 1st and 2d dragoons, and Capt.
Pike's squadron of Arkansas cavalry, and a section of artillery, admirably served by Lieutenant Reynolds, 3d artillery, played an important part in checking and dispersing the enemy in the rear of our left. They retired before him whenever he approached them. The gallant Captain Steen whilst rallying under the orders of the commanding general, some men running from the field of battle, was severely wounded in the thigh.

Major McCullock, quartermaster in command of a Texas spy company, has, on the field, and in all the reconnaissances for several days previous to the contest, given me great assistance and valuable information.

Though belonging to the staff of the major general commanding, yet the very important and valuable services of Major Mansfield, to whom I am greatly indebted for the aid I received from his untiring exertions, activity, and extensive information, as well as for his gallant bearing during the days and nights of the 21st, 22d, 23d, and 24th, gives me the privilege of expressing to the commanding general my entire admiration of this accomplished officer's conduct.

My thanks are also due to Major Monroe, chief of artillery, for his services rendered by him on the field as chief of artillery, and for his exertions in rallying the men at Buena Vista, and disposing of them at that place, to meet the attack of the enemy's lancers. Paymaster Dix and Captain Leonard rendered very valuable aid by their gallantry in rallying the troops. Lieut. Renham, engineer, was very gallant, zealous, and efficient at all times, night and day, in the performance of the important duties with which he was charged.

Of my staff I cannot speak in too high terms; their devotion to duty at all times, day and night, and their activity and gallant bearing on the 21st, 22d, 23d and 24, not only command my admiration, but is worthy of all praise. Of those entitled to this commendation I would mention the following:

Lieut. Irvin McDowell, my aid-de-camp, I would recommend to the special notice of the commanding general for his activity and devotion, at all times, in the discharge of his duties, and especially for his gallant and efficient services throughout the 22d and 23d, on the field of battle.

Of Colonel S. Churchill, inspector general, I would speak, for his assistance on the field, where his coolness and judgment were in accordance with his previous reputation as a brave veteran. He had his horse shot under him during the heat of the action. I would take occasion, at this place to express to commanding general the aid and support I have received from this officer in disciplining and instructing the troops under my command since the opening of the campaign.

Captain W. W. Chapman rendered me great assistance, as extra aid-de-camp, in gallantly conveying my orders, in rallying and sending back to the field many of the volunteers who had fallen back, and in his admirable arrangement for the defence of the train. He has been a most active, efficient, and diligent officer during the whole campaign and I would recommend him particularly to the attention of the commanding general.

Lieutenant Sitgreaves, topographical engineer, was distinguished for his gallantry and good conduct, and especially in conveying my orders on the field of battle.

Capt. Geo. P. Howard, A.C.S., and Capt. C.W. Davis, A.Q.M., are equally entitled to praise for their efficient services and gallant bearing on the field of battle.

Surgeons Hitchcock, Levely, Hensley, Price, Roane, Madison, Peyton, Herick, Roberts, and Glenn, for their devotion to the wounded of the Mexican army, as well as those of our own, are entitled to my highest praise.

Mr. Thomas H. Addecks, my interpreter, is entitled to high commendation for his readiness to engage in daring enterprises, and especially for fearlessly carrying my orders on the field of battle, on the 22d and 23d.

To these I would add Mr. E. C. March, a most valuable government agent, and who rendered me important services on the 22nd and 23rd, and conducted himself with great gallantry on the field of battle.

I would also mention Mr. A.R. Potts, Mr. Henry A. Harrison, Mr. C. J. Burgess, and Mr. J. E. Dusenbury, all valuable government agents, who rendered important services in the execution of my orders, and exhibited a bold and fearless spirit during the actions of the 22d and 23d.

I cannot close my report without expressing, officially and formally, as I have heretofore done personally to the major general commanding, the feelings of gratitude I have for the confidence and extreme consideration which have marked all his acts towards me, which has given me additional motives for exertion and increased zeal in the execution of the responsible duties with
which I have been charge.

Herewith I have the honor to enclose a translation of the proclamation of the President General Santa Anna, dated the 27th January, 1847, at San Luis Potosi, when the army was about to leave for this place.

Also, a translation of his general order of the 21st of February, and a return of the Mexican prisoners, and the morning report of the force under my command on the 21st ultimo.

The forces engaged in the great battle of the 22nd and 23d ultimo were as follows:

The United States troops commanded by Major General Taylor, amounted to only 4,610, including officers.

The forces under the command of General Santa Anna amounted to 22,000. Some of the Mexican officers, taken prisoners, stated the number to be 24,000, exclusive of artillery. This number, I presume, included General Minon's cavalry, reported to be from 2,000 to 3,000.

The army is represented to be in a disorganized state, and that the losses in killed and wounded, and by desertion, exceed 6,000 men. The dead, the dying, and the wounded in starving condition, everywhere to be seen on its route, bespeaks a hurried retreat and extreme distress.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

John E. Wool,
Brigadier General.


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NNR 72.204 May 29, 1847 Extract from a letter of Gen. John Ellis Wool about Buena Vista

Gen. Wool's Account of the battle - The American Whig publishes extracts from a letter received from General Wool, at which he gives an account of the battle of Buena Vista. At the conclusion of it he says.

"If Gen. Scott had only left Gen. Taylor with a regiment of regular infantry General Santa Anna's army would have been annihilated, whilst for the want of a few regular infantry we came near losing the battle. At a moment when no one doubted that two thousand Mexican lancers were in our power, and would have become our prisoners, one of the Indiana volunteer regiments broke and fled the field of battle, which relieved the Mexicans from their critical position, and at the same time, joined by another column of lancers, bore down upon us, and came nigh wresting from us our strong position. It required all the activity and energy of General Taylor and myself, as well as all the staff officers to maintain our position. Fortunately, the Mississippi regiment and artillery came up in time to restore the fortunes of the day. The commanding General, Taylor, showed himself equal to the crisis, and with the Mexican lancers, but not until they had killed and wounded many of the bravest and most gallant of our little army. We finally repulsed the Mexicans at all points, when, under the darkness of the night, they made good their retreat. We could not, however, pursue them, for every man, horse and mule, was worn down with fatigue. For three nights we lay on our arms, and for more than twenty four hours we had been engaged with the enemy, and for sixteen hours subjected to a continuous and tremendous fire. Our position was a strong one and we made good use of it.

Santa Anna is rapidly retreating with his army, reduced to one half its original numbers, on San Luis Potosi; from thence it is reported he will proceed to Mexico, to denounce congress for not furnishing him with the necessary means of carrying on the war."  [JLM]

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NNR 72.204 May 29, 1847, troops, engaged, killed, and wounded at Buena Vista

General Wool’s account of the Battle- The American Whig publishes extracts from a letter received from General Wool, in which he gives an account of the battle of Buena Vista. At the conclusion of it he says.

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NRR 72.204-205 May 29, 1847, Com. Robert Field Stockton’s difference with Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny

DISPUTES ABOUT AUTHORITY AND LAURELS.

The posture of affairs as between our own officers in the new territory of which they or Com. Sloat, had taken possession, was exceedingly unpleasant when our latest information left them. We have been reluctant to refer to the subject, which must be painful to all of us, and have refrained from doing so in expectation of obtaining something more authentic than we have yet met with. We are obliged to resort to statements which are evidently colored by the feelings and partialities of those from whom they proceed. The Executive are no doubt in possession of far more of the facts in the case than it would at all be prudent in them to make public in the present state of affairs. Those who censure an executive for not publishing forth with whatever comes under their notice in regard to the public service can have little idea of the responsibilities and difficulties incident to executive duties.

A fair and generous latitude in that respect is due from the public to the public authorities, and we have no doubt is freely awarded, notwithstanding the captious objections of partisans. But to our subject:

On the arrival of the last dispatches from the Pacific squadron, a number of publications appeared from which we ascertain, that Gen. Kearny and Com. Stockton are at issue as to which is entitled to the government of California. One account stated that Gen. Kearny had not at the time formed a junction with Com. Stockton, received his bevel and commission of governor of the territory, and that he therefore waived his authority for the occasion rather than that the public authority for the occasion rather than that the public service should suffer. Another statement, and as we think the most probable one is, that Gen. Kearny carried out full powers as governor and military commander of California. Whether they revoked the like powers when is presumed Com. Stockton took out also remains to be ascertained. Col. Stevenson who left New York in command of the California expedition fitted out from thence, it was generally understood he took with him an authority from our government as the governor of California, which however he will hardly have an opportunity of exercising, as Col. Mason, of the U.S. army, was subsequently started express across the Peninsula of Panama, with authority to supersede him, and Com. Shubtick supersedes Com. Stockton as commander of the Pacific squadron.

After Com. Stockton took command, and before Gen. Kearny’s arrival, several unpleasant disasters occurred. San Angelos, which Com. Sloat had captured, was retaken by the Mexicans. Capt. Mervine of the nay, in attempting a recapture, landed according to orders some 200 seamen and marines without artillery. The Mexicans had the advantage of having a couple of flying artillery. The Mexicans had the advantage of having a couple of flying artillery which they worked very actively. The Americans had some fifteen or twenty killed and wounded, and were obliged to relinquish their object.

The New York Sun gives the following statement: “When Gen. Kearny was on his march from Santa Fe, he met an officer and party on their way to the United States with dispatches from Com. Stockton, who informed him that the country was in a quiet state, which induced the general to send back a part of his force, and to come on with only 100 men in advance of the rest of his troops. When within eight leagues of San Diego, to the surprise of all they were surrounded by the enemy from 300 to 400 strong.

“The general entrenched himself, and sent an express to Com. Stockton for assistance, who was
at San Diego with about 500 sailors and marines; which not being promptly compiled with, from some cause not known, another messenger was dispatched by the general, on the third day, who informed the commodore that the general was surrounded by the enemy, that his little army was in great distress, and subsisting on their mules, and that he did not receive immediate relief, the general would cut his way through the enemy if it cost the lives of his whole party. The commodore then sent out a force of 250 to 300, and as soon as they made their appearance, the cowardly Californians fled. General Kearny then marched to San Diego, joined Com. Stockton, and planned the battles of the 8th and 9th of January, when La Ciudad de los Angelos was a second time taken."

"The general showed his orders, instructions and appointment as military and civil governor of California to Com. Stockton, who immediately suspended the civil functions of the general, issued his own proclamation as governor, and afterwards appointed Lieut. Col Fredmont governor of the territory. Gen. Kearny informed Com. Stockton that he would temporarily submit to his assumption of authority, as he did not wish at this critical period to create a civil war, and soon after took passage in the Cyane for Monterey, where he met Com. Shubrick, who supercedes Com. Stockton as commander-in-chief of the naval forces." [CPO]

NNR 72.205 May 29, 1847, high prices of provisions in California

High Price and Scarcity of Provisions. When the dale left Monterey, on the Pacific, February 5th, flour was selling at 440 a barrel; tea $3 per pound; brown sugar 50 cents; and our 6 cent brown domes tie cotton brought 50 cents a yard. Letters say: "If the American troops looked for should arrive, there must be much suffering among the people, unless they bring large supplies. California cannot now sustain a large population." [CPO]

NNR 72.205 May 29, 1847, news from Santa Fe by Lt. William Guy Peck, account of his journey 72.205 May 29, 1847,Capt. John Charles Fremont arrives at Angels, notice of the situation in California 72.205 May 29, 1847, letter about the need for a military force in New Mexico

SANTA FE AND CALIFORNIA

From the St. Louis Republican, May 17.

Yesterday evening several gentleman arrived on board the John J. Hardin, direct from Santa Fe and California, from whom we have gathered the following information:

Lieut. Wm. G. Peck, of the topographical corps left Santa Fe in company with Messrs. Woods and Sandford, and their party. At the time he left Santa Fe, Col. Price was still there, and all was quiet, but it was believed to be the sullen and stubborn quiet which superior force along compels. Although the insurrection, which we have heretofore noticed, had been put down, it was the general opinion that they only needed the aid of a competent leader to rise again. The civil government was going on trying the insurgents, Judge Beaubien presiding.

After Lieut. Peck was out some days from Santa Fe, he was joined by Mr. McKnight, from Chihuahua; Lieut. Theodore Talbot, who went out with Col. Fremont; Lieut. E. Beal, of the U. States Navy, C. Toplin, U. States Army; Christopher Carson; Robert E. Russell, and others, from California. From these gentlemen we learn that the court at Taos had condemned a number of the insurgents to be hung, and that eleven had been executed and a large number whipped. Six were hung on the day that Lieut. Talbot passed through Taos.

The executions excited the Mexicans very much, and when Mr. McKnight passed through Vegas they were endeavoring to raise volunteers for another insurrection. The alcalde and other influential men were opposing the effort, but with what success remains to be seen.

At the bend of the Arkansas, a party of Pawnee Indians made an attack upon their camp, and attempted to excite a stampede among the horses, but didn’t succeed. They, however, stole two horses. They shot a good many arrows into the camp, but without effect. They appeared to have but one gun among them. These gentlemen report that it is the intention of the Indians to attack every party which they think they are strong enough to contend with and are very hostile to us. This being the case, it behooves the general government immediately to send out a force and whop them into better behavior.

Lieuts. Talbot, Beal, and the other gentlemen from California left San Diego on the 25th of
February.  At the time of their departure, Lieut Col. Fremont was at Ciudad de Angelos, acting as governor of the territory under and appointment from Com. Stockton.  The commodore had returned on board his shop and had left the part of the coast.  Col. Wm. H. Russell, of Calloway County, in this state was setting as secretary of the territory.

Gen. Kearny was joined about the 9th of January at San Diego, by Lieut. Col. Cooke, with the battalion of Mormons under his command.  Great praise is bestowed on Col Cooke, for the condition in which he brought his command in.  It is said that all his men were in fine health, with their arms as bright as when they set out in March, in excellent discipline, and without any serious loss.

Soon after being joined by Col. Cooke, General Kearny with the Mormons and dragoons, preceded to Monterey, where he was when our informant left.  There he had been joined by the two artillery companions from Baltimore.  We cannot learn from our informants that any portion of Col. Stevenson’s command, from New York had arrived.  Com. Shubrick had joined Gen. Kearny at Monterey, but we are unable to learn what their operations would be.  The question of the right to act as governor of the territory was still in dispute between General Kearny and com. Stockton.  It was understood that Gen. Kearny intended setting out his return about the 1st of July, but the state of affairs, it was supposed might delay his departure.

Some of the gentleman named, we understand are bearers of dispatchers to Washington.

A correspondent of the *St. Louis Republican* writing from Santa Fe under date of the 7th April says:

“All is apparently quiet here, but every observing man knows that we are walking daily over a volcano which is ready to burst upon us if an opportunity offers.  As I said in a former letter, in peace or war, this country cannot be retained but by military force.  We hear that Colonel Doniphan intends to return to Missouri, through Texas.  If he does so before other troops arrive to relieve him, Chihuahua will fall again into the hands of the Mexicans.  For my part, I cannot think he will do so unwise a thing.”

A letter in the Republican, dated City of Angels, Mexico, January 26, speaking of the arrival of Col. Fremont’s force at that place, says:

“I cannot, in a short letter give you the details of our march from Monterey to this city of Angels, but it was replete with incidents, and throughout furnished me continued evidence of the gallantry, skillful maneuvering, and noble bearing of our youthful commander, Col. Fremont.  He is a scholar, and officer, and a gentleman.

“We found Gen. Kearny here with instructions from the secretary of war to conquer the country, and institute a civil government; but Com. Stockton who was also here, maintained that the conquest had been made by him and Colonel Fremont, and was an incident to it, the right of forming a civil government belonged to him; and that Gen. Kearny's orders were now obsolete, because the business for which he had come, had been anticipated by others.” [CPO]

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**THE CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FROM MISSOURI**

The official papers in relation to this call here been placed in our hands, and we publish them below.  It will be observed, that the requisition is for a regiment of mounted men, but the government in a contingency which has happened contemplate a requisition for a regiment of infantry; and a letter from Governor Edwards says: “I have no doubt but a call will be made in a few days for infantry”

The governor has authorized Captain N. Koseialowski, of this city, who raised a company of volunteers last year fro the Santa Fe service, to recruit a company for this new regiment of volunteers.  If he can raise a suitable company in time, it will be received.

We understand that Mr. E. H. Shepard, of this city, has raised a company of volunteer infantry, and has gone to Jefferson City to tender their services to the governor.

[Missouri Rep.]

*War Department, March 25, 1847.*
Sir: The reports, which have reached this place from Santa Fe, are of a questionable character; yet they are calculated to excite some apprehension in regard to the condition of things at that place. It is regretted that Col. Duniphan was sent down the Rio Grande towards Chihuahua. As Gen. Wool did not proceed with his expedition to the latter place, the colonel and his command may find themselves in an exposed situation.

As soon as it became known here that General Kearny contemplated sending a part of the forces designated for Santa Fe in that direction, and that Gen. Wool might not proceed to Chihuahua, Gen. Taylor was apprised of Gen. Kearny’s suggestion, and requested to cause information to be sent to notify and such detachment that it would not find Chihuahua in our possession. I am not aware that any such information has reached Col. Duniphan. If he should have received timely notice of the fact, he may have returned, as it helped he has to Santa Fe.

It will be necessary, even if there be no disturbance at Santa Fe, to keep up quite as large a force, as that now stationed there. The period of service of the volunteers, first mustered, will expire in June, July, and August, and others will be required to take their place. These will be mainly volunteers, and it is quite probable that they will be drawn, in part or wholly from the state of Missouri, if they can be there readily organized. It is designed to send them one in detachments with each train of supplies for the troops at Santa Fe, until a sufficient force shall be concentrated at that place to hold it safely; unless that state of affairs at Santa Fe should require a different arrangement.

If there has been an insertion attempted in New Mexico, and not fully put down, and increase of force may be there needed. Should you receive accounts to be relied on, which satisfy you that an additional force is promptly required; you are requested, at once to take the necessary preliminary measures in anticipation of advices from this place, to have them held in readiness for the entering into the public service. This it is expected may be done without incurring any public expense. It is probable that the regiment, which was organized last autumn, and afterwards mustered out of service, may claim preference to others, and if so, I hope it will be consistent with the views of your Excellency to yield it to them.

The volunteers sent last year, were all mounted. It is probable that in this respect there will be a change, and that most of the new volunteers for this service, will be infantry.

It is desired that the term of service should be during the war, unless sooner discharged; and it is hoped that this change as to term of service will present no embarrassment to obtaining the number, which may be required. Those now in New Mexico will be invited to re-enter the service under the 3rd and 4th sections of an act of congress, of the 3rd of March, instant. I herewith transmit to you a copy of the act. By this act it will be perceived that a liberal bounty will be given to those who reengage in the public service, immediately after the expiration of their present term.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W.W MARCY, Sec of War.

His Excellency, John C. Edwards,
Governor of Missouri.

[CO]

NNR 72.208 May 29, 1847 Jalapa hospitals filled with sick

JALAPA, May 11. The general hospital is filled with sick and wounded, many of whom are dying daily. - The South Carolina regiment have the largest number, 155; the New Yorkers next. [JLM]

NNR 72.208 May 29, 1847, Mexican colors reach Washington

The Mexican Colors and Standards taken at Vera Cruz, have been deposited at the war department by the gallant Colonel Bankhead, who was charged with their delivery by Major General Scott. [CPO]

NNR 72.208 May 29 Solon Borland, Maj. John Pollard Gained, Capt. Cassius Marcellus Clay, Midshipman Robert Clay Rogers, &c, prisoners set at liberty in Mexico

NNR 72.208 May 29, anarchy in the Mexican capital, states talks of separation
LATEST FROM GEN’L SCOTT’S ARMY.

The New Orleans Picayune of the 20th, contains a letter from Mr. Kendall, brought by this Mary Kingsland, which furnishes the agreeable intelligence that.

Majors Borland and Gaines, Capt. C. M. Clay, and Midshipman Rogers and other officers were set at liberty in the city of Mexico.

The proposition of the English government offering to mediator a peace, were taken up in the Mexican congress, and a motion to even consider them was lost, ayes 33, nays 44, “from this it would appear that the present congress is determined to shut the door.”

The diligence which reached Jalapa on the 11th was full of passengers from Mexico, all of whom say that in the capital there was no government, no order, all was anarchy, Anaya was president protem, but without authority or influence. The states north talk of separating from Mexico, they send her no supplies, but little was doing towards defending the city. “The property holders, the merchants and perhaps the clergy, the military that had disgraced themselves, and all the demagogues among the lawyers were for peace, but still it was far from being popular.” [CPO]

NNR 72.208 May 29, 1847 half of Gen. Zachary Taylor’s dragoons ordered to Veracruz to reinforce Gen. Winfield Scott

Army of Occupation.

Brazos dates to the 11th and Matamoros to the 9th, are received. An express from Gen. Scott to General Taylor passed Matamoros on the 6th. Fifteen hundred troops are encamped on the field of Palo Alto.

The New Orleans Picayune of the 20th, states that the destination of one half of the 3d dragoons that had been ordered to join Gen. Taylor, had bee changed. There are about to embark to join Gen. Scott. The editor infers from the diversion of the troops from the Rio Grande, that it is not intended that Gen. Taylor should advance. [ANP]

NNR 72.209 June 5, 1847, Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna’s pass, New York “Sun”

Santa Anna’s Pass. Since the denial of the Union that President Polk gave any pass to Santa Anna to enter Vera Cruz, the opposition Journals asserts that the order to allow him to pass emanated not directly from the president, but from the department. The quotation, which the Union inserts from Pres. Polk’s annual message to congress, in reference to the subject clearly implies that the president considered it to be his best policy, if not his duty, to allow Santa Anna to return to Mexico, and there can be no doubt of his having encouraged him to do so, and of course would afford him every facility to effect the object.

The Richmond Enquirer, in a leading editorial, considers the allowing of Santa Annas return to have been a capital stroke of policy on the part of the president in a view of its having had the effect of giving to the Mexican army the very worst commander that they could have obtained. This by the way, is not exactly so complimentary to our army as should have been expected from the Enquirer, as it implies of course that their victories were attributable in a great degree to the defective character of the Mexican commander.

The editor of the New York Sun, has been for some months past in Mexico. The New York Mirror, intimates that he had a secret mission from President Polk to negotiate for peace. It was announced some time since that he had been arrested and confined in Mexico. The Sun denies that he was engaged in any agency from government of the kind, and says he was engaged in a depilation connected with the gold mines. Whatever was his object, it is stated that he did not succeed. [CPO]

NNR 72.209 June 5, 1847, steamer New Orleans purchased

Another steamer purchased by government—The steamship New Orleans was yesterday purchased by the government for $125,000—this sum to include the charter of three months, which expired yesterday. The New Orleans has proved one of the staunchest and best sailing
steamers navigating the gulf.  Picayune, May 8

[NCR]

NNR 72.209 June 5, 1847, Lt. G.W. Harrison’s gallant act in cutting out an enemy brig

Lieut. Harrison of the United States navy. We have seen a letter dated in January, from an office of our squadron in the Pacific, briefly describing a gallant action performed by Lieut. G. W. Harrison, in the boats of the Cyane, in cutting out an enemy’s brig from the port of Guaymas, where she was laying within pistol shot of the shore, protected by 500 troops and two pieces of cannon. A continual fire of cannon and small arms was kept up on the assailants from the streets and houses, and it was for a while doubted, by their shipmates on board, whether they would succeed. They did succeed, however boarded the brig, set her on fire and towed her out a blazing mass, under a shower of grape, and musketry. The Cyane plied her guns during the attack, but owing to the shallowness of the water in the harbor she could approach me nearer than half a mile, and even then, was obliged to take such a position that an intervening hill sheltered the enemy. Her fire consequently lent the boats but little aid, except by preventing the Mexicans from debouching on a narrow slip of ground, which lay between them and the water. The boats’ crews were received with great enthusiasm on their return to the Cyane, and the captain praised, in warm terms, the intelligent, gallant and handsome manner in which his orders had been executed.  N.O Com. Bulletin  [CPO]

[NCR]

NNR 72.209-72.210 June 5, 1847, comments on the Mexican tariff

“New Mexican Tariff”

From the New York Evening Post, of the 1st June.

Mr. Editor- In requesting space in your columns the following, from an evening paper, (evidently by one conversant with the subject, confirmatory of the views you so kindly published on the 8th instant, I beg distinctly to disapprove the imputation of an intent to deceive, the part of the administration, either our own countrymen or native Californians, and am still confident that correct statement of the evil effects of the “New Tariff” on Upper California will secure speedy relief.

I remain, sir, your obed’t serv’t
A FRIEND TO CALIFORNIA

[CPO]

[NCR]

NNR 72.210 June 5, 1847, Samuel Houston’s explanation for declining commission as major-general with the Army invading Mexico

To C. N. Webb, Esq.

General Samuel Houston, ex-president of, and now United States senator from Texas, passed through St. Augustine, on his way home on the 26th ult.  The Picayune says. “He remained there several hours, receiving the warm greetings of this numerous friends, and during the time made a speech to a large audience at the customhouse. He gave a general account of his stewardship as a senator from the state, and among other things said that “the commission of major general in the army invading Mexico, was tendered to himself and colleague, Gen Rusk, but both had declined its acceptance- his own reason for doing so was, that he differed in opinion as to the proper plan of carrying on the war, with the officers who would have been his seniors in rank, and he would not assist in carrying out measures directly antagonistic to his own judgment.”

General H, as our readers are aware, has been spoken of and written about, as a suitable candidate for the next presidency.  [CPO]

[NCR]

NNR 72.210 June 5, 1847, comments on Gen. Winfield Scott’s proclamation

GEN. SCOTT’S PROCLAMATION
The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger writes, May 30th:

The proclamation of General Scott is the theme of universal comment; but no one ventures to ensure it. It is a document very much to the purpose, and that made me believe at first that it might, like the proclamation of General Taylor, have been either prepared in, or texturally furnished from, Washington. On further inquiry, however, I learn that it is altogether the production of General Scott himself; though, in the confidential interviews he has had with the president and his cabinet, it may be supposed that the subject of a proclamation was talked of, and the points agreed upon, as this is the most natural way its coincidences with the views entertained by the administration can be accounted for. I was perfectly correct in stating that the confidence reposed by the administration in General Scott, not only as a general and commander, but as a negotiator and diplomat, is unlimited and that he and Mr. Trist have full power to negotiate with Mexico should she exhibit any disposition to come to an amiable arrangement.

When General Scott's proclamation was issued Mr. Trist, I believe, was not with General Scott, but still at Verz Cruz. General Scott may have sent a copy of it confidentially to Mr. Trist, or Commodore Perry (which latter step all military usages would have required him, to take, in order that the commander of the fleet may not do things, or suffered them to be done, which might come in conflict with the commander in chief on terra firma, in order to be certain not to commit his government beyond what the latter would be willing to approve and consider itself bound by. That General Scotts' brought in unison, previous to Gen. Scott's departure, no one can doubt in the fact of the general's proclamation, but how, under those circumstances, the lieutenant general should have been started, is a wonder, and justifies to a certain extent the general's apprehension of a "fire in the rear." [CPO]

NNR 72.214 June 5, 1847, Gen Winfield Scott’s proclamation to the Mexican nation

"ARMY OF INVASION"

THE GENERAL IN CHIEF OF THE ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE MEXICAN NATION:

Headquarters of the Army.
Jalapa, May 11, 1847.

Mexicans! The recent events of the war, and the measures adopted in consequence by your government, made it my duty to address you to show you truths of which you are ignorant, because they have been criminally concealing from you. I do not ask you to trust my words, but to judge of these truths by facts with the views and knowledge of you all.

Whatever may have been the origin of the war, which my country saw itself forced to undertake by irremediable causes, which I learn are unknown to the greater part of the Mexican nation, we regard it as a necessity, such is it always to both belligerents, and reason and justice, if not forgotten on both sides, are in dispute, each behaving them its own. You have proof of this truth as well as ourselves, for in Mexico as in the United States, there have existed and do exist two opposite parties, desiring the one peace, the other war. But government have sacred duties, from which they cannot depart, and often these duties impose, for national reasons, a silence and a reserve sometimes displeasing to the majority of those, who from views purely personal or individual make opposition. To this a government cannot pay any regard, expecting the nation to place in it the confidence inherited by a magistracy of their own election.

Reasons of high policy and of continental American interest propitiated events, in spite of the circumspection of the cabinet of Washington, which ardently desiring to terminate its differences with Mexico, spared no resource, compatible with honor and dignity, to arrive at so desirable an end; and when it was indulging the most flattering hopes of accomplishing its aim by frank explanations and reasoning, addressed to the judgment and prudence of the virtuous and patriotic government of General D.J. Herrera, the misfortune least looked for dispelled this pleasant hope, and at the same time, blocked up every avenue which could lead to an honorable settlement between the two nations. The new government discarded the national interests, as well as those of continental America and elected in preference foreign influences the most opposed to those interests, and the most fatal to the future of Mexican liberty and of the republican system, which the United States hold it a duty to preserve and protect. Duty, honor, and dignity itself imposed upon us the necessity of not losing a season of which the monarchical party was taking violent advantage for not a moment was to be lost; and we acted with the promptness and decision necessary in a case so urgent, to avoid thereby a complication of interests, which might render our relations more difficult and involved.

Again the course of civil war the government of Paredes was overthrown. We could not but hope this would prove a fortunate events, and that whatever other administration might represent the
government, it would be less deluded, as well as more patriotic and prudent, if it looked to the
common good, weighing probabilities, its own strength and resources, and especially the general
opinion as to the inevitable results of a national war. We were deceived, as perhaps you,
Mexicans were also deceived, in judging of the true intentions of Gen. Santa Anna, whom you
recalled, and whom our government permitted to return.

From this condition of things the Mexican nation has seen what have been the results, results
lamented by all, and by us sincerely, for we appreciate, as is due, the valor and noble
determination of the unfortunates who go to battle ill led, worse governed, and almost invariably
outraged by deceit for perfidy.

We have witnessed and we cannot be taxed with partiality for lamenting with astonishment that eh
heroic department of the garrison of Vera Cruz, in its valiant defense, was aspersed by the general
who had just been defeated and put to shameful flight by a force far inferior to that which he
commanded at Buena Vista; that this general, rewarding the insurgents and promoters of civil war
in Mexico, heaped outrage on those who had singularly distinguished themselves by a resistance
beyond what could be expected, and of admirable decision.

Finally, the bloody event of Cerro Gordo has shown the Mexican nation what it may reasonably
expect, it is longer and continues blind to the true situation in which it has been placed by some
generals whom it has most distinguished, and in whom it has most confided.

The hardest heart would be moved to greed in contemplating the battlefields of Mexico a moment
after the last struggle. Those generals whom the nation has, without service rendered, paid for
some any years, with some honorable exceptions, have in the day of need betrayed it by their bad
example for unskilful ness. On that field, amongst the dead and dying, are seen no proofs of
military honor; for they are reduced to the sad fate of the soldier, the same on every occasion,
from Palo A lot to Cerro Gordo, the dead remain unburied and the wounded abandoned to the
clemency and charity of the conqueror. Soldiers who go to fight, expecting such a recompense
deserve to be classed amongst the best in the world, since they are stimulated by no hope of
ephemeral glory, of regret, of remembrance, or even of a grave.

Again, Mexicans of honorable pride, contemplate the lot of peaceful and laborious citizens in all
classes of your society. The possessions of the church menaced, an d held out as an enactment to
revolution and anarchy; the fortunes of the rich proprietors pointed out for plunder to the ill-
disposed; the merchant and the artisan, the laborer and the manufacturer, burdened with
contributions, excises, monopolies, taxes, upon consumption, surrounded with restrictions and
charged with odious internal customs; the man of letters and the statesman, the man of liberal
knowledge who dates to speak, persecuted without trial by some faction, or by the rulers who
abuse their rorer, criminals unpunished and set at liberty, as were those of Perote: is this, then
Mexicans, the liberty which you enjoy?

I will not believe that the Mexicans of the present day are wanting in courage to confess errors
which do not dishonor them, and to adopt a system of true liberty of peace and union with their
brethren and neighbors of the north; neither will I believe that they are ignorant of the falsity of
the culminate of the press, intended to excite to hostility. NO! Public sentiment is not to be
created or animated by falsehood. We have not profaned your temples, nor abused your women,
nor seized your property, as they would have you believe. We say this with pride, and we confirm
it by your own bishops and by the clergy of Tampico, Tuspan, Matamoros, Monterey, Vera Cruz,
and Jalapa, and by all the authorities, civil and religious, and the inhabitants of every town that we
have occupied. We adore the same God, and a large portion of our army, as well as of the
population of the United States, are Catholic like yourselves. We punish crime wherever we find
it, and reward merit and virtue.

The army of the United States respects, and will always respect, private property of every
description and the property of the Mexican church. We to him who does not know who we are!

Mexicans, the past cannot now be remedied but the future may be provided for. Repeatedly have
I shown you that government and people of the United States desire peace, desire your sincere
friendship. Abandon, then, feverous prejudices to be the sport of individual ambition, and conduct
yourselves like a great American nation; leave off at once colonial habits, and learn to be truly
free, truly republican, soon you will become prosperous and happy, for you possess all the
elements to be so. Remember that you are Americans and that your happiness is not to come
from Europe.

I desire, in conclusion to declare and with equal frankness that, if necessary an army of on
hundred thousand could promptly be brought, and that the United States would not terminate
their differences with Mexico in a manner uncertain precarious, or less dishonoring to yourselves.
I should insult the intelligent of this country if I had any doubt of their acquaintance with this truth.

The order to form guerrilla parties to attack us, I assure you, can produce nothing but evil to your
country, and no evil to your army, which will know how to protect itself how to proceed against
them; and if so far from conciliating you succeed in irritating, you will impose, upon us the hard necessity of retaliation, and then you cannot blame us for the consequences which will fall upon yourselves.

I am marching with my army upon Puebla and Mexico; I do not conceal it; from those capitals I shall again address you. I desire peace, friendship, and union; it is for you to select whether you prefer war. Under any circumstances, be assured I shall not fail my word.

WINFIELD SCOTT

[NCR]

NNR 72.214-72.215 June 5, 1847 AMERICAN PRISONERS IN MEXICO

Castle of Santiago. City of Mexico, April 3.

Dear Brother - I have written to you frequently since I became a prisoner of war. My former letter related to business almost exclusively.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

I shall now speak a little of Mexico and Mexicans.

From Saltillo to Agua Nueva is eight leagues and here there is fine water. Thence to San Juan de Venago 150 miles, there is no water except in tanks and wells. The tanks are built of earth and cement and filled in the wet season; but may be easily emptied by opening the bottoms. The wells can be readily ruined by throwing in dead animals. Hence the almost impossibility of an invading army marching through the country. This part of the country is also very unproductive, on account of the scarcity of water, it being impossible to irrigate to any extent from the tanks and wells, and agriculture cannot be prosecuted without copious irrigation, in consequence of the length of the droughts.

From San Jaun de Venegas to Matedaula is twenty four miles. This town is situated in a mining district and contains sixteen thousand inhabitants. From this place to San Luis Potosi there is a tolerably good supply of water. The country presents a beautiful level plain, bounded by rugged barren mountains. - The people are poor, miserable, stupid. The country is going to decay, evidences of which are seen at every step. This has been the case from the time of the revolution - some, indeed, say as far back as the invasion of Cortez.

San Luis Potosi is a beautiful town with some sixty thousand people. We arrived there on the 5th of February, and left the 15th. We passed a number of small towns containing from three to eight thousand people, and arrived at Queretaro on the 21st. This city I had never heard of before. It is the handsomest I have seen, and its reported population varied from thirty to seventy thousand souls. The buildings are truly superb, and the aqueduct, which supplies the city with water, is indeed magnificent.

We reached the vicinity of this place, Mexico on the 27th, when our conductors, learning that the civil war had broken out, detained us at a point three leagues off, for a day and a half - to preserve us from the mob as they said, but as we found out, to save themselves, as not knowing which party was uppermost, they did not know to which they belonged. We reached the castle after midnight and were smuggled into it with great privacy. A few moments after we entered an alarm was raised by the discharge of four guns in rapid succession. We heard some one say four men were killed and ten had escaped. We now ascertained that we were lodged in a prison containing about two hundred convicted felons. The escape made it necessary to change their cells and they were brought out and passed through the yard where we were, chained two and two, and placed in safe dungeons. The fight was yet raging in the city, and I shall never forget my entrée into the city of the Aztecs.

The civil war lasted till about the 20th ult. when the arrival of Santa Anna put an end to it. Whether there were many killed during the twenty day's fight I do not know; but it is said that a great many old women, cats and dogs were slain. The insurrection was a god send to Santa Anna as it furnished him a small job after his dreadful defeat at Buena Vista. He left here yesterday with the shattered fragments of his army, pretending that he would immolate himself, if need be, between this and Vera Cruz, should Gen. Scott attempt to march upon the capital.

This nation, so far as government is concerned, may be said to be annihilated. They are without an army, money, or men, capable of ruling. Santa Anna himself is said to be superior to his countrymen only in knowledge of the Mexican character and his ability in humbugging them.
Whether a peace would follow the capture of this city is extremely uncertain; amongst our friends her the opinion is it will not.

General Scott having taken many prisoners at Vera Cruz we are in daily expectation of being exchanged, in which case we will rejoin the army and probably return to the United States as soon as we would had we never been captured. [Santa Anna appears to be as forgetful as his friend La Vega, as it seems to have escaped his memory that he had engaged with Gen. Taylor for the release of these prisoners. - Eds.]

I have written you several letters since my captivity.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

Although in the city of Mexico I have seen but little of it - and that little through the iron gratings of the castle of Santiago. Whether we shall be indulged with a view of it after our release, I know not. I trust we shall.

Your affectionate brother.

JNO. P. GAINES

[...]

NNR 72.214-72.215 June 5, 1847 THE INDIANA VOLUNTEERS AT BUENA VISTA

When the first account of the Victory at Buena Vista reached us, we took the liberty of qualifying as we believed would prove to be but just, the relation relative to the retreat of the Indiana regiment. The subsequent official report went to confirm the first account. We delayed for further developments confident that it would be ascertained that the men composing the regiment in question were not as striking a contrast to the other volunteers on the field, as they stood implicated as being. A very different version of the whole affair was soon after given in the Indiana journals derived from letter from the army deeply implicating some of those that were represented as having acted with signal bravery and as retrieving the character of Indiana to some extent. These indicated that an inquiry would be demanded, and the truth would be elicited before proper tribunal. Col. Lane's statement of the attack came next, and then the finding of a court martial. We shall have the whole truth in due time.

COLONEL LANE'S STATEMENT.

The commandant of the 3d Indiana regiment writes to the editor of the New Orleans Delta as follows:

Camp Buena Vista, April 19, 1847.

It is an error that the Indiana brigade, as a brigade was in the fight. The first regiment was on the Rio Grande, the 2d on the extreme left of the line of battle, and the 3d on the extreme right - further separated than any two regiments upon the field.

[...] suppose your informant was led into error because Brigadier General Lane was with the 2d regiment. It is an error that my regiment ever hesitated for a single instant, and it has the signal merit of being one, if not the only one in the action, that did [not] retreat.

Our position was in the road, by which alone the artillery of the enemy could be brought forward, and only exposed to the artillery fire until the 2d Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois, Mississippi troops had been driven successively back by the overpowering force of the enemy. The enemy having been twice repulsed in our front and having completely turned our left flank and taken position next the mountain, we were ordered there, and formed a junction with Col. Davis' regiment and the 2d Indianians, which had been rallied. This force advanced upon the infantry and lancers and kept up a brisk fire until it was ordered to cease by Gen. Taylor. It was now that the lancers made the charge alluded to, and for the repulse of which the credit is given to the Mississippians. This charge was made in column upon the extreme right of my regiment; the 2d Indianians and Mississippians being on our left. They were permitted to approach within twenty five steps of the line before I gave the command to fire; they were repulsed, and fled under cover of their battery, and their infantry dispersed among mountains. We now moved to the vicinity of O'Brien's battery, and when we arrived there the Kentucky and Illinois troops, overpowered by numbers were retreating, and the enemy pressing hotly upon them and the battery, which was in imminent danger of being captured. We opened a fire upon them, and they retreated in the greatest disorder. This last blow terminated the battle, and, instead of leaving the battle field as stated, we (the 3d Indianians) bivouacked in the most advanced position held by our troops in the morning, and the enemy drew off.
As troops never fought better than the 3d Indianians; as their steadiness and coolness is proverbial, (as you will see by the official report), I am astonished that such calumnies should be fabricated against it. We were brought into the actions when the day seemed extremely critical, and were victorious in every engagement, and, in my opinion, are entitled to the credit of having twice saved the fortunes of the day. I have not mentioned the retreat or chance of position of other regiments invidiously, but as a proof that the fortunes of the day, in an eminent degree, rested upon and was sustained by my regiment. So much for the 3d regiment of Indiana volunteers.

The 2d Indiana regiment opened the "ball" on the 23d, and I undertake to say they deserve credit for maintaining their first position as long as they did; they were on the extreme left next the mountain. They stood firm and steady as veterans, and exchanged twenty one rounds with a vastly superior force in their front; with their entire line, from left to right, raked by a deadly fire of grape and canister, from one 24 pounder and two 18's; with their right flank threatened, and their rear exposed from a force that was contending with the riflemen upon the mountain. They did not retreat until they were ordered to do so by their commander, as is in evidence before a court of inquiry now sitting. The only possible charge which can be made in truth against the 2d Indianians is that they did not rally as soon as they should; but the fault is not with them, but with the commander, who designated no force or point for them to rally upon.

It would be criminal in me to permit our brave soldiers, who have done so much to sustain their country's honor, to sleep under the gross injustice which your article does them, and I respectfully request that you will give this notice a place in your paper. Very respectfully. J.H. Lane [JLM]

NNR 72.215-72.216 June 5, 1847 Gen. Gideon Johnson Pillow's report on Cerro Gordo

Battle of Sierra Gordo.

Reports of Gen. Scott to the War Department.
Report of Brigadier General Pillow.

Headquarters 1st Brigade, Volunteer Division,
Plan del Rio, April 18, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor to report, for the information of the general commanding the division, that, in compliance with general orders No. 111, I took up a position with my brigade in front of the works occupied by the enemy's right wing, but had not time to gain this position before the attack on his left commenced.

My command was composed of the 1st and 2nd Tennessee and the 1st and 2d Pennsylvania foot, and a small detachment of Tennessee horse, commanded by Captian Caswell, and Capt. Williams' company of Kentucky volunteers. It was divided into tow storming parties, each supported by a strong reserve. It was my intention to assail with these parties, simultaneously, the adjacent angles of batteries Nos. 1 and 2-those points having been indicated by the engineer officer on duty with the brigade, as those proper for the assault-and thus, if possible, turn the whole line of works; but before the proper dispositions for the assault could be made, our movements were discovered by the enemy, who immediately opened upon our ranks with a most galling fire of musketry, grape and canister. In this critical position of affairs, I found myself compelled either to retire beyond the range of the enemy's guns to complete my dispositions for the assault, or commence it at once with such force as I had already I position; but apprehending the moral effect which a retreat might produce upon troops many of whom were comparatively inexperienced and unaccustomed to fire, I resolved to adopt the latter alternative.

I therefore directed Col. Haskell, who commanded the assaulting force intended for the attack of battery No. 2, to assail that work with vigor, and carry it at the point of the bayonet; his party moved onward to the assault with great energy and enthusiasm, but, owing to the many serious obstacles, such as dense chaparral thickets and brush entanglements, the unexpected weight of artillery fire concentrated upon it from seven guns, and to the strong supporting force of infantry, it was compelled to retire with a great loss of both officers and men.

In the mean time, Col. Wynkoop, who commanded the storming party, designed to attack battery No. 1, succeeded in gaining the position where the assault was to have been made, but finding that the fire of the main attack on the enemy's left had ceased, I deemed it prudent to suspend further operations, until it should recommence, or until further instructions should be received from the general in chief. My whole force being drawn up for the attack of battery No. 1, I remained in this position until the news of the enemy's surrender arrived, when I withdrew my command to the national road. It is proper to state here, that Lieut. Ripley, of the artillery, assisted by Lieut. Laidley, of the ordnance, although separated from the rest of my command by
their position, were actively engaged in the service of an eight inch howitzer, which, with extraordinary exertions, they succeeded in having dragged over the eights upon the right bank of the river, and which they established so as to obtain an enfilading fire upon the enemy's lines.

Col. Haskell's assaulting force, composed of his own regiment, (2d Tennessee foot,) Captain Williams's Kentucky company, and Capt. Naylor's Company of 2d Pennsylvania regiment, being, from the nature of its duties, most exposed to the terrible fire of the enemy sustained the shock—both officers and men—with a firmness and constancy worth of high commendation.

In the action, Col. Campbell, finding that I was too severely wounded for the moment to give orders, assumed temporary command, and began, with his accustomed energy and promptitude, dispositions for another attack, which was only deferred by myself for reasons before stated.

Lieutenants Tower and McClellan, of the corps of engineers, displayed great zeal and activity in the discharge of their duties in connexion with my command.

My staff—composed of Captain Winship, A.A.G., Lieutenant Rains, my aid-de-camp, and Lieut. Anderson, 2d Tennessee foot, acting aid-de-camp—were of essential service to me; for on account of my wound in the early part of the action, I was compelled to rely more than ordinarily upon their assistance.

I should do violence to my own feelings, as well as injustice to my command, were I to omit a notice of their coolness and good conduct generally upon this occasion. Although, at the time of their assault, the enemy was found to have a much larger amount of artillery bearing upon the approach of our troops than had been supposed, and which had been, until the moment, concealed by the nature of the ground, as well as by artificial arrangements, still none seemed to doubt its final accomplishment, or to shrink from its performance.

Respectfully submitted, G. J. Pillow,
Brig. General U.S.A.

To Wm. H. French a A. Act'g. Adj't. Gen. [ANP]

NNR 72.216 June 5, 1847 Col. William Selby Harney's report on Cerro Gordo


Jalapa, Mexico, April 21, 1847.

Sir: On the evening of he 16th inst: owing to the illness of Brevet Brig. Gen. Smith, I was placed in command of the 1st brigade of the 2nd division, and it is now my grateful duty to report the operations of that brigade in the actions of the 17th and 18th inst. Our encampment at Plan del Rio enabled the engineer officers of make frequent and close observations on the enemy's position, and it was ascertained that he had fortified himself on a range of hills for two miles in a mountain pass, and that he last of his works was on the Sierra Gordo which, from its position and defences, was considered almost impregnable. On the morning of the 17th the 2d division, under the command of Brig. Gen. Twiggs, was directed to turn the enemy by the right flank, and I was ordered by that officer to seize and maintain all the heights in the neighborhood of the Sierra Gordo, with, from their proximity and position, might be of advantage I an attack on that fortress. Shortly after the column turned off to the right from the main road, Brevet 1st Lieut. F. Gardner, 7th infantry was directed with his company to move to the crest of a hill on the left, and to watch the enemy's movements. While in the execution of this order, Lieut. Gardner became engaged with the enemy, but, he gallantly maintained his position against fearful odds, until he was succored by the riflemen under Major Sumner, and the artillery under Col. Childs, who drove the enemy, after a severe conflict, from their first position, and continued the pursuit until they made a second stand on a hill near the Sierra Gordo, which, from our troops suffered a severe loss but the hill was stormed and carried, and afterwards maintain, although he enemy made three successive charges to regain it. A portion of the troops under Col. Childs led on by their zeal and impetuosity, rushed down the hill the ascent of the Sierra Gordo, but as an attack was not intended at that time they were recalled and joined Gen. Twiggs. The rifles and 7th infantry slept on the hill, and to that point were brought, in the night, a 24 pounder and two 24 howitzers, which, at 7 o'clock in the morning, commenced a cannonade on the enemy's fortification of the Sierra Gordo. Early in the morning I was reinforced by four companies 1st artillery, under Lieut. Col. Childs, and six companies, 3d infantry, under Capt. Alexander, and I immediately gave directions to the different commanders to prepare their troops for stormsing Sierra Gordo. The rifles were directed to move to their left in the ravine and to engaged the enemy; and I instructed Major Loring that, as soon as I discovered hat he had commenced the attack, I would move forward the storming force which I was about to organize.
The 7th infantry was formed on the right, the 3d infantry on the left, and the artillery was formed I rear of the infantry, with orders to support it. Observing that a large force was moving from the left on the main road, towards the Sierra Gordo, I deemed it prudent to advance at once, and immediately ordered the charge to be sounded without waiting for the fire the riflemen. The enemy poured upon my line a most galling fire of grape, canister, and musketry from different positions around the hill; but my troops advanced intrepidly and as steadily as on a parade day. I cannot speak too ardently of heir animation, zeal, and courage under such trying circumstances, and without which they never would have surmounted the natural and artificial obstacles which opposed their progress. Around the hill, about 60 yards from the foot, there was a breastwork of stone, which was filled with Mexican troops, who offered an obstinate resistance, continuing to fire until the troops reached the breastwork, and where, for a few moments, bayonets were crossed. Beyond this, and immediately around the fort, there was another work, from which our advance was again obstinately opposed; but the troops immediately surmount it, carried the fort, pulled down the Mexican flag, and played our colors amid the proud rejoicing of our troops. Agreeably to instructions the rifles moved to the left, where they became engaged with a succoring force, but which they held in check, notwithstanding a most galling fire from the enemy's entrenchment's and from the musketry in front. After the enemy's canon had been captured. I directed Captain Magruder to take charge of the pieces and to direct their fire upon the enemy, which he executed with zeal and ability. It is also due to Lieut. Richardson to state that, as soon as he came into the fort, he took possession of one of the enemy's gun's, and, with his men, promptly turned it with great effect upon the enemy. I also directed Lieut. Colonel Plympton, at the same time, to move with his regiment in the Jalapa road to cut off the enemy's retreat, which he promptly executed, and maintained his position until the forts and forces of the enemy had surrendered. Such is a plain, but I know an imperfect and hasty account of the actions of the 17th and 18th inst:

For further particulars, I would respectively refer the commander of he division to the reports of the different commanders of regiments which are herewith enclosed. It is now my delicate duty tot report he different acts of personal gallantry displayed by individual officers, non commissioned officers, and privates; and as many of these did not come under my own observation, I would again refer the commander of the division tot he different reports of the regimental commanders, with the hope that the merits of all, however humble their situation, may be properly brought before the notice of the government. To Col. Plympton, Col. Childs, Major Sumner, Major Loring, and Capt. Alexander, my especial thanks are due for their coolness, zeal, and gallantry, and for the promptitude with which, on all occasions, they executed my orders. Captain Step toe, 3d artillery, Lieut. Hagner, and Lieut. Reno, Ordinance department, and Lieut. Seyour, of the artillery, rendered efficient service in the management of the artillery on the hill. Lieut. G. W. Smith, of the engineers, with his company, rendered very efficient service in his own department, as well as in storming of the fort. The conduct of Capt. Mason, of the rifles, who was so unfortunate as to lose his leg, came under my personal observation, and it is not the first time I have had an opportunity of witnessing his coolness and intrepidity in danger. Capt. Magruder's gallantry was conspicuously displayed on several occasions, and he rendered me efficient service. I lament to refer tot he death of Lieut. Ewell, whose gallant demeanor, throughout the several engagements with the enemy, attracted my special notice, and who fell in the breastwork noble lead his men to victory. Particular mention is due to Capt. Hanson and Lieut. Gardner for distinguished gallantry. Major Bainbridge, whose good conduct has been so conspicuous on so many occasions since the war with Mexico, was the second officer in rank in his regiment, and deserves my warmest approbation for his gallantry and promptitude. Special thanks are due to my personal staff, Lieut. Van Dorn, 7th infantry, Lieut. Oaks, 2d dragoons, and Lieut. Derby, topographical engineers, for the efficient aid which they rendered me both days in transmitting my orders, and for the individual gallantry which they uniformly displayed. Lieut. Derby was wounded, and Lieut. Van Dorn killed two Mexican soldiers at the breastwork with his own hands. I have been reluctant to mention the names of any, where all acted with so much energy, zeal, and intrepidity; no doubt many behaved as those I have mentioned, but who did not come under my observation; and I know that all, if occasion had offered, would have gladly embraced the opportunity for personal distinction. In two days, had in my brigade, including the 3d infantry, 2 officers killed, 9 wounded; 29 non commissioned officers nd privates killed, 175 non commissioned officers and privates wounded. The officers killed in my command are Lieuts. Ewell and Davis, of the rifles; and wounded-Major Sumner, Capt. S.T. Mason, Lieuts. G. McLane, D.H. Maury; and A. Gibbs, of the rifles; Lieuts. J. N. Ward and Bea, 3d infantry; Lieut. N.T.J. Dana, 7th infantry, and Lieut. Derby, topographical engineers.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. S. Harney,

Col. 2d dragoons, commanding 1st brigade.

To Lieut. W.T.H. Brooks, A.A.A. G. 2d division.

[ANP]
Sir: Agreeably to instructions from Colonel Harney, commanding the 1st brigade, 2d division, of the army of invasion, I have the honor to submit the following report of the operations of the 1st regiment of artillery under my command, on the 17th and 18th of April, at Cerro Gordo.

On the 17th, the 2d division marched from Plana del Rio in pursuance of orders from the headquarters of the army. In taking up a position, the enemy appeared in large force on the hills in front of the mountain of Cerro Gordo. The 1st brigade, consisting of the rifle regiment, the 1st artillery, and the 7th infantry, were ordered to drive back the enemy. The two first named regiments, being nearest the enemy, advanced in line under a heavy fire, driving the Mexicans from hill to hill, and finally to their stronghold, and supposed impregnable position, the heights of Cerro Gordo. In passing the rest of the hill immediately in front of Cerro Gordo, the 1st artillery became separated from the left of the rifles: and, supposing that as the action had commenced, it would only terminate with the capture of the height before us, and hearing a continued fire upon my left, the 1st artillery rushed down the side of the hill and commenced the ascent of Cerro Gordo under a most galling fire.

Having reached within 150 yards of the batteries of the enemy, I found that no other troops had advanced over he hill, and but a portion of my own regiment consisting of a part of three companies, and amounting only to about 60 men, had come up; Captain Magruder, with his company, and Lieutenant Johnston, with a part of Lieutenant Haskin's company, having been ordered by Major Sumner to remain where they then were, in rear of the crest of the hill, in front of Cerro Gordo.

Captain Magruder, in attempting afterwards to join me, with nine of his men, passed gallantly through a shower of bullets from the enemy's musketry, and Major Sumner, in coming to my support, was wounded.

Having maintained my position until the recall was several times sounded, and, seeing that the first attack was not to be made, I fell back with only men enough to carry down the wounded—having had 9 killed and 23 wounded. Before leaving my position I was joined by Captain Nauman, who from severe indisposition, had not been able to keep up with his company.

I cannot close the notice of the operation of the regiment on this day without calling the attention of the commander of the brigade to the gallant conduct of Captain Burke, acting as my adjutant, to Capron, Lieuts. Haskin and Brannan, who, with the few men, stood the deadly fire of the enemy and encourage them to deeds of valor. Among those who particularly distinguished themselves, were Sergeants Heymes, Teahan, and Private O'Brien, of company F; Corporal Littlebrand, of company B; and Corporals Harvey, Williams, and Private Bracklin, of company H.

It is proper for me to state that Lieut. Gibbs, of the rifles, with ten or twelve men, having become separated from his regiment, joined the 1st artillery, and was particularly active and gallant—having shot one of the enemy with his pistol, so close was our proximity.

On the 18th, the 1st artillery, composed a portion of the storming party that so gloriously carried the height of Cerro Gordo defended by thousands of Mexicans; and I can do no less than name the officers who participated in this bloody conflict, all of whom deserve the notice of the general in chief. They are as follows: Captains Naumen, Magruder, Capron, and Burke; Lieuts. Haskin, Dawson, Brannan, Coppee, and Hoffman.

I have again the pleasure to speak in high terms of Sergeant Holden, of company F. privates Ferguson and Foster, of company B. and Corporal Harvey and private Bracklin, of company H.

I beg particularly to notice the untiring attention of Assistant Surgeon Steiner to the wounded of the regiment, and to those of the enemy that fell into our hands. His professional services we in constant requisition for more than forty eight hours.

I have the honor, likewise, to transmit a Mexican standard captured by the regiment.

The loss of the 1st artillery, on this day, was 1 killed, and 17 wounded: making a total of 10 killed and 40 wounded—amounting to one third of the men actually engaged. All which is respectfully submitted.

I am, sir, ver respectfully your obedient servant.
Jalapa, April 23, 1847.

Colonel: I have the honor to report that the regiment of mounted riflemen, under he command of Major Sumner, was, on the 17th instant, directed, in advance of the 1st brigade, 2d division of regulars, then in motion, to take position with a view of turning or storming the enemy's position at the main height of the "Cerro Gordo." The first squadron of riflemen was halted about 400 yards of the point of attack, partly under cover from the enemy's batteries. While awaiting orders, it was fired upon by the enemy's battery in front and their skirmishers on its left flank. The squadron was immediately deployed, and a charge ordered. Simultaneously with this the enemy was attacked upon the summit and farther slope of the hill by the regiment of riflemen and a company of infantry. The enemy was driven from this position under cover of their own batteries. In this attack Major Sumner, commanding the regiment of mounted riflemen, was severely wounded and carried to the rear, leaving myself I command. The rear squadrons having been deployed on the left as skirmishers, advanced and continued the attack and assisted I driving the enemy into their works. At this time the mountain howitzer battery having been placed I position upon the height from which the enemy was driven, the regiment was directed to sustain the battery in lace, and also to prevent the enemy from turning our left flank—a large force being seen advancing down the Jalapa road from the main height towards the two others—and here remained through the day and during the night, assisting, with others, in sustaining the heavy batteries that were planted. At the dawn of day the brigade was ordered to prepare for battle. At an early hour, and before the attack upon the min work, a large succoring force was seen advancing on the Jalapa road; the rifles were ordered to pass to the left, attract the attention of the enemy, and keep them in check until the storming of the heights commenced, in which the regiment was to join on the left flank. During this diversion, it was exposed to a galling and destructive fire of round, grape, canister, and musketry, upon its front and both flanks, from the enemies' three main entrenchment's and batteries, in which it suffered great loss. In this movement, a large force of the enemy was held in check, which, from their position, would have been able to have turned the assaulting column. The general assault having been ordered, a portion of the regiment joining it, the works having been carried before the whole line, which was necessarily extended to the left, could possibly reach the heights; this being effected, the regiment, with others, was place in position on the heights. Ina very short time the enemy surrendered. The regiment of mounted riflemen followed, in company with others, the retreating army to within 10 miles of Jalapa.

The distinguished gallantry of the officers and men of the regiment of mounted rifles was so universal that the task of discriminating is one of extreme difficulty.

Foremost in the assaulting column, and that in the enemy's citadel, was 1st Lieut. Thomas Evell, of company "A," who, in desperate personal conflict with the last of the retreating foe, fell mortally wounded on the scene of his imperishable glory.

The regiment has also to deplore the death of 2d Lieut. Thomas Davis, company "H," who was killed gallantly advancing to the attack.

Capt. Mason, of company "F," had his leg carried off by a round shot whilst leading his company into action, and Lieut. D.H. Maury had his arm shattered in the conflict of the preceding morning.

It is due the regimental staff, Lieut. Frost, regimental quartermaster, and Lieut. Jatch, adjutant, to state that they were upon all occasions found where their services were most wanted, and throughout both days highly distinguished, themselves by their gallantry and good conduct.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. H. Loring,

Major Comdg. R. M. R.
To Col. W.S. Harney,
Comdg. 1st Brigade Regulars
[ANP]

NNR 72.217 June 5, 1847 Capt. Thompson Morris' report on Cerro Gordo

Headquarters 2d Regiment, U.S. Infantry.
Jalapa, Mexico, April 20, 1847.

Sir: In obedience to instructions from brigade headquarters, I have the honor to report the following facts in relation to the operation of the 2d regiment of U. S. infantry, which I had the honor to commend at the recent engagement at the heights of the Cerro Gordo on the afternoon of the seventeenth, and on the morning of the eighteenth instant.

Early in the afternoon of the seventeenth instant, the "rifles" engaged the enemy on a height just to the left of their centre and drove off a large force and carried the first height, when the second infantry was ordered forward to their support; and on arriving in position was ordered to halt until further orders. Shortly after, the regiment was ordered to press forward to the support of Brevet Col. Childs' command, then engaged in advance; but owing to the nature of the ground, which was rocky and precipitous, and to the distance from these latter, they had been withdrawn before it could come up with them. All of this time a plunging and galling fire was kept up by the enemy from their batteries and their musketry without intermission. Lieut. Jarvis, commanding company "A," was wounded so as to be obliged to retire from the field, and the command of the company was give to Lieut. Davis. Two privates were also slightly wounded.

The regiment did not engage the enemy on that afternoon owing to there not being time enough to do so before it would be dark; and accordingly it was place under partial cover near the base of the height above mentioned, and on which our battery was afterwards posted. We remained during the night on our arms in order of battle, completely commanding the pass.

It affords me pleasure to mention that it has been reported to me that Lieut. Hayden, in charge of the pioneers of the division, was constantly employed in preparing a road suitable for artillery to advance in, under a heavy fire, which service he performed with much coolness and energy.

Early in the morning of the 18th instant, the regiment was ordered forward to take position on the Jalapa road in rear of the enemy's works. At the commencement of this movement, which had to be made directly across a ravine swept by the enemy's batteries, Captian Patten, commanding company "K," had his left hand nearly cut off by a grape shot, and the command of his company devolved upon sergeant Shaw, who behaved well throughout the day. The enemy appeared increasing in numbers all over the side of the hills along which it was necessary to pass, and an order was given for a detachment of be sent out to drive them off at every hazard.

Capt. Penrose, commanding company "I," and Lieut. Davis, commanding company "A," the whole under the command of the former, were detached and deployed as skirmishers for this purpose, and I soon had the pleasure of seeing them charging up the height in rear of the main work of the enemy in a most gallant manner, and driving them from their positions of the height; while engaged in which Capt. Smith commanding company "B," and shortly after, Capt. Anderson, commanding company "H," were in like manner detached; and I beg to refer to the reports of Capts. Smith, Penrose, and Anderson, herewith enclosed, for information respecting their commands.

During most of this time the regiment had been advancing towards the Jalapa road, but was at the same time ascending the height in reverse around the sides of which it had bee ordered to deploy as skirmishers. No sooner had this height become our than the enemy appeared in large force on the Jalapa road and we were ordered to hasten to that point. Capt. Canby with a small detachment, accompanied by Lieut. Lyon, pressed hotly on their rear, and were soon in possession of a batter of three pieces which had been firing upon us in reverse.

The Jalapa road was now gained and the enemy were flying in all directions.

Owing to the very difficult character of the ground, orders could not be communicated to the whole regiment simultaneously, nor to even parts of it separated but a short distance from each other.

Capt. Kingsbury, acting major of the regiment, and Lieut. Jones, the adjutant of the 2d infantry, did much to ensure a harmony of action, an by their untiring exertions contributed to the general
It gives me pleasure to state that the whole of the 2d regiment of infantry, officers and men, behaved with so much gallantry, that I am forced to regret I cannot make any more special mention of individuals than I have done.

"A list of the killed and wounded" is enclosed herewith.

"I am sir, with respect, your obedient servant,

T. Morris,
Capt. 2d Reg. Inf. Com'g.

Capt. E. R. S. Canby,
A.A.A. Gen. Headquarters 2d Brig. 2. Division.

[NPN]

NNR 72.217-72.218 June 5, 1847 Col. Bennet Riley's report on Cerro Gordo

Headquarters 2d Brigade, 2d division,
Jalapa Mexico, April 20, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor to submit, for the information of the brigadier general commanding the division, the following report of the operations of my brigade before Sierra Gordo, in the affairs of the 17th and 18th instants. On the morning of the 17th, and while on the march from the camp at El Plana del Rio, the 3d infantry, commanded by Captain E. B. Alexander, was detached from my command by the orders of the brigadier general commanding. Early in the afternoon of that day I received his instructions to move with the 2d infantry, Captain T. Morris commanding, to the heights in front of the Cerro Gordo, on which the first brigade was then engaged with the enemy, and to make an attack wherever I could do so with effect. That regiment was accordingly led to the top of the hill, and ordered to halt until the rear should close up. In order to learn the position of affairs, I immediately proceeded to the opposite hill, then occupied by the regiment of mounted riflemen, when I was informed by Colonel Harney, commanding the 1st brigade, that no additional force was required at that point, but that it was essential that the height of had just left should be held. Orders were immediately sent to the 2d infantry to remain in the position it then occupied. Before the order could be communicated, one of the leading companies of the regiment (A) had crossed the ravine separating the heights, and was then lying under cover on the left of the rifles. A few minutes afterwards I was requested by Colonel Harney to move my command around the hill to the assistance of Colonel Childs, commanding 1st artillery, who was warmly engaged on the opposite side, and required support, whilst a direct attack would be made by his command over the crest of the hill. The advanced company of the 2d infantry was accordingly ordered around the ridge, and halted under cover ant at the foot of the hill on which Colonel Childs's command was engaged, for the purpose of concentrating the regiment before assailing the hill. The remainder of he 2d infantry, being still in the position I which it had been halted, did not reach the new position. The attack having been suspended, and the command of Colonel Childs withdrawn, it was halted, and took up a position on the road near the batteries. The 4th artillery had remained , during the interval, as the guard for Talcott's and Taylor's batteries. During the greater part of h night this regiment was employed in the arduous duty of placing the guns of the heavy battery in their positions on the height in front of the enemy's castle. The 2d infantry was established upon the pass leading to the Jalapa road, and retained that position during the night.

Early on the morning of the 18th my brigade was moved in the direction of the enemy's left on the Jalapa road, under the guidance of Captain Lee, of the engineers, who was supported by company D, 4th artillery, commanded by Lieut. Benjamin. This movement was made under a heavy fire from the castle and from the enemy's infantry posted on the ridge on our left. When the advance of the 2d infantry reached the foot of this ridge, two companies of that regiment (A and I) were detached for the purpose of driving in the enemy's skirmishers.

Orders were at the same time given Major Gardner to make a similar detachment when the head of his regiment should reach that point. The remainder of the brigade moved on in the original direction until halted by the orders of the brigadier general commanding, who also soon afterwards detached, in succession, company B, Capt. Smith, and company H, Captain Anderson, of the 2d infantry, and the 4th artillery, to support the companies first thrown forward. The remainder of the 2d infantry was immediately afterwards ordered up for the same purpose. Companies B and H, of the 2d infantry, joining A and I already engaged with the enemy, gallantly stormed the reverse of Cerro Gordo, driving the Mexicans from before them with great loss, and gaining the crest of the hill at he same moment that the 1st brigade reached it from the front-the advance of both brigades meeting near the castle, and joining in the pursuit beyond the hill. Of the
companies of the 4th artillery and 2nd infantry, last ordered up the hill but one, the advanced company of the latter, under Lieut. Lyon, reached the crest I time to be engaged with the enemy.

From the crest of the hill I discovered that the enemy's batteries on the plain below, which were still firing upon us, could be turned on the right and carried. I immediately directed the advance of the 2d infantry, guided by Captain Canby, to move down, attack, and carry the batteries, and ordered the whole brigade to move as soon as possible in the enemy's camp. A few minutes after these orders were given, I received, through Lieut. Tilden, my acting aid, the orders of the brigadier general commanding to move with my brigade upon the enemy's left. The movement in that direction, already commenced, was accordingly hastened; but, from the great difficulty in communicating orders, it was sometime before my command was collected. The batteries in the camp were abandoned by the enemy after a few harmless shots as our men approached them—that on the right, of three guns, was taken possession of by the advance of my brigade; the one on the left—two guns—by a body of volunteers. A portion of company "D," under Lieut. Lyon, was pushed on in pursuit of the flying enemy, and company "E," under Lieut. Schureman, was established as a guard over the property found in the enemy's camp.

The whole of my command, every portion of which came under my observation at some period of the operations, was characterized by the utmost coolness and steadiness when exposed to a heavy fire of the enemy, which could not be returned, and the most intrepid gallantry when closely engaged.

To the commanders of the 4th artillery, Major Gardner, and of the 2d infantry, Capt. Morris, much credit is due for the promptness in transmitting my orders, and in moving their commands in obedience to them, under circumstances of great difficulty—the nature of the ground, and the extended order of the troops being such that council of actions was almost impossible.

My staff officers, Captain Canby, A.A.G., and Lieutenant Tilden, 2nd infantry, my acting aid, was constantly engaged in the affairs of the 17th and 18th, either in communicating order or in conducting detachments; and by their intelligence and activity in both capacities, rendered highly valuable services.

Although not appropriately within the range of this report, yet coming under my immediate observation, I cannot refrain from hearing testimony to the intrepid coolness and gallantry exhibited by Capt. Lee., United States engineers, when conducting the advance of my brigade under the heavy flank fire of the enemy.

In this connexion, the attention of the brigadier general commanding is particularly called to the cool and gallant conduct of the commander of supporting company, Lieut. Benjamin, 4th artillery.—The officers mentioned by battalion and detachment commander, in almost every instance, came under my own observation, and I am happy in adding my own testimony to that of their immediate commanders.

Authenticated copies of their reports, and a return of the killed, and wounded, and missing, of the brigade are herewith enclosed.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

B. Riley,
Brevet colonel commanding 2d brigade.

Lieut. W. T. H. Brooks,
Acting Ass't. Adj't Gen., 2d division.

[ANP]
discover our movement before we had effected the object; hence a partial engagement was brought on, and one company (E) 7th infantry, under the command of Brevet 1st Lieutenant F. Gardner, was detached to skirmish with the enemy on our left flank, and the regiment under my command, then forming the left of your brigade, was ordered by Brigadier General Twiggs to advance on the general route to check the enemy’s advance in that direction from a strong position on the height from one hundred to six hundred yards.

The enemy, seeing his view frustrated at this point, turned his attention to the vigorous attack made by our troops on his advance on our left; upon which General Twiggs ordered me to march my regiment by the left flank up the height, and report to you, to support and relieve the mounted riflemen, and afford them an opportunity, to get water. Upon reporting to you, I placed my regiment in the line established a little below the crest of the height, within six hundred yards of the enemy’s battery.

At this time he had been driven back, in which Lieutenant Gardner participated, and rendered signal service. On the morning of the 18th, your directed me to advance my regiment by the right flank, so as to cover the space made by a company of rifleman which had left to join its main body, and to be prepared to storm the enemy’s fort on the height. This order was promptly obeyed and the regiment waited in silence for the word of command, ‘charge.’ This being repeated, the regiment charged with cheers-passing the crest of this height, and ascending under a raking fire of grape and canister and a heavy fire of musketry on my right, and extending towards the left and front.

Under the disadvantage of the enemy’s heavy fire, and the rough and steep ascent of the mountain, to reach the fort at its summit, the same spirit prevailed in the regiment from right to left, and although it paused for a few moments for breath, and to force back the enemy, who made a strong effort to turn my right flank, in which I found it necessary, with the sufficient aid of Major Bainbridge, to strengthen and restore the line which has been weakened under the enemy’s destructive fire, and particularly after Lieutenant Dana fall, supposed mortally wounded. I then directed Major Bainbridge to attend to the right, whilst I examined the position of the centre and left. At this time the command “charge” was renewed, and the front was carried by a simultaneous rush of the 7th infantry, driving back the enemy with much slaughter; the enemy’s flag at this moment being taken down by the intrepid and gallant Quartermaster Sergeant Henry, and the flag and standard of the 7th infantry were raised and floated in its place by the brave color sergeants Bradford, Brady, and Murphy, whom Lieut. Page, adjutant had left in pursuit of the enemy down the height. It would appear invidious to name any one gentleman in commission of the regiment for any individual act of gallantry over another upon this gallant occasion, for all were individually determined to execute your orders to carry the fort of he enemy. It is due to remark, tat the first officers who entered the fort of the enemy were Captains Paul, Whiting, and Handson, 1st Lieuts. Henshaw, Little, Adjutant Page, Gantt, and Brevet 1st Lieut. Gardner.

The enemy was driven out with great slaughter, and their guns turned upon them.

After the firing of the enemy had ceased at this point you ordered me to put myself at the head of the regiment, descend the mountain to the National road to cut off the retreat of the enemy, which order was promptly obeyed; and I believe your object thereby secured, as many thousands of the enemy immediately surrendered.

Deeming it an act of justice due to the gentlemen in commission of the 7th infantry on this occasion, I herewith annex a list of their names, viz:

Major Bainbridge, Captains Ross, Whiting, Paul, and Hanson, 1st Lieutenants Henshaw, Little, (regimental quartermaster,) Humber, Adjutant Page, Gantt, Dana, Brevet 1st Lieut. Gardner, 2d Lieut. Smith, and Brevet 2d Lieut. Maxie.

I am sir, respectfully, your obedient servant.

J. Plympton,
Lieutenant Col. 7th infantry

To Lieut. E. Van Dorn, Aid-de Camp.

[ANP]

NNR 72.218 June 5, 1847 report on the actions of Maj. John L. Gardner's artillery regiment at Cerro Gordo

Headquarters 4th Artillery,
Jalapa, Mexico, April 19, 1847.
Sir. In compliance with the directions contained in the circular of this date, addressed to regimental commanders, I have the honor to report the operations of the 4th artillery on the 17th and 18th inst.

The regiment forming the right of the 2d brigade of the 2d division, under my command, marched with the division on the morning of the 17th in its place, in the order of battle, on the difficult and critical expedition of turning the enemy's left flank, through a road of three or four miles in extent for the most part cut the previous day.

Nothing worthy of special remark occurred until the division had arrived near the enemy's strong point, called the Cerro Gordo, here the division was met by the fire of the enemy. The fire becoming very warm, and the right flank of the troops engaged being threatened, I was ordered to cover with one company the advance of the mounted howitzer battery, the remaining companies to cover Captain Taylor's battery, itself threatened, through a gorge in the mountain. Our troops maintained the position acquired on the height, and all bivouacked for the night.

The 4th artillery was then employed through the greater part of the night in the extremely arduous duty of taking the heavy gun and howitzer battery to the height wrested from the enemy.

On the morning of the 18th the regiment was ordered to join the 2d infantry and proceed on the line turning the enemy's left-company D, under Lieut. Benjamin, being detached as a guard to Capt. Lee, of the engineers.

The regiment was halted some fifteen minutes, and was then ordered by the general of division rapidly to advance-passing under the fire of Cerro Gordo, and file to the right into a ravine. Our flank being here exposed, a portion of the regiment, under the order and lead of the general of division, rapidly advanced up the height, and then descended to the Jalapa road, and with its brigade moved it the direction of this city.

I would remark, that to Brevet Major Brown, with Lieutenant Howe (the adjutant) and Lieuts. Benjamin, Porter and Gill, the main credit is due, so far as the regiment was concerned of taking the heavy ordnance up the height that bore upon the enemy's works; and may be allowed to add, (probably a little out of place,) that the major, with Capt. Drum and Lieuts. McCowen and Benjamin, rendered highly valuable services in reconnoitering the enemy's position of the previous day.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obed't. serv't.

J. L. Gardner,
Maj. 4th Artillery, comd'g. regiment.

Capt. E. R. S. Canby, Assistant Adj't. General, 2d brigade, 2d division.

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NNR 72.218-72.219 June 5, 1847 Maj. George Henry Talcott's report on Cerro Gordo

Jalapa, Mexico, April 21, 1847.

Sir: In obedience to instructions I have the honor to submit the following report of the movements of the howitzer and rocket battery under my command, while the 2d division, under General Twiggs, was forcing the pass of Cerro Gordo on the 17th and 18th inst.

On the 17th we followed the 1st brigade closely without assistance, until it ascended the hill on which the enemy was posted, when a halt was necessary till the general decided whether we should continue round the hill or take post on the top.

During the halt, Lieutenant Gordon, of the rifle regiment, temporarily attached to the battery, was wounded, and some other slight damage done to horses and battery.

Two pieces, and one-half our rockets, were soon ordered up the hill, under the command of Lieut. Reno, who, assisted by ten of the rifle regiment, easily and quickly placed them in a good position in advance of our line of troops.

The enemy shortly after appeared forming in the ravine and on the slope of their hill in large numbers as it to attack, but a few well directed rounds from the howitzers scattered and drove them back in confusion to their entrenchment's.

Orders were then given by Col. Harney, who commanded, to cease firing, unless the enemy
approached, and the pieces were withdrawn to within our line on the hill.

The other two sections, under Lieuts. Callender and Gordon, were thrown to the extreme right to command the gorge of our route, when the enemy formed for the attack, and the battery remained as thus posted till the 18th, except one piece, under Lieut. Gordon, withdrawn and held in reserve during the night.

On the morning of the 18th, two sections, under Lieutenant s Callender and Gordon, were in readiness to follow the right, but the pass having been blocked by a section of artillery, they could not be brought into action as desired, but were able to follow handsomely the troops in pursuit of the flying enemy.

The section and rockets on the hill, under Lieut. Reno, opened and fired on the enemy with great effect, till our troops had closed on them-the rockets first towards the enemy's left, below the hill into the cover occupied by his advanced force, and then he howitzers, by direction of Colonel Harney, towards his right at troops in the hollow and a battery, while the 1st brigade was so gallantly storming the heights in front.

Thirty rockets and forty rounds of spherical case shot were fired in all by Lieutenant Reno, who deserves great credit for his judicious placing of he battery, and his cool and galling conduct in so efficiently using it.

The whole command behaved as was to have been expected, and we are fortunate in escaping with but one man severely wounded.

With the greatest respect, your most obedient servant,

G.H. Talcott, Major Commanding.

Lieutenant W. T. H. Brooks,
A.A.A. G., 2d division of reg.

[ANP]

NNR 72.219 June 5, 1847 Capt. Edmund Brooke Alexander's report on Cerro Gordo

Headquarters 3d Infantry,

Jalapa, April 20, 1847.

Colonel: On the morning of the 17th, the 3d infantry marched from the Plana del Rio, with the balance of the division, to the attack to the rear of the enemy's works at Cerro Gordo; but after the column had proceeded some four or five miles, I was ordered to await the arrival of a 24-pounder and howitzer battery, and to conduct them to their position. This was a duty of much heavy labor, and was not completed until some time after dark; so that my regiment did not have the good fortune to participate in the achievements of that day. Early on the morning of the 18th instant, I was ordered to proceed to the top to the eight, occupied by our troops, and to report to yourself. Upon arriving there, I was informed that the Mexican works on the opposite height were to be immediately stormed. The 3d infantry was formed on the left of the front line of the attacking force; and when the order was given to advance, it moved steadily over the hill, under the heavy fire of canister and grape which was poured in from the opposite height. That height was ascended with the same steadiness, the enemy was successively driven from his different lines of breastworks, and in an almost incredible short time, considering the obstacles natural and artificial, the height was ours.

I trust I will be pardoned if I indulge in a slight expression of pride at the conduct of my regiment throughout this affair; and when it is considered that it was composed of at least one half raw recruits, who had only had the benefit of some eleven days or two weeks imperfect drilling, and who fired a musket for he first time, when they came into this action, I feel assured that it will speak more for the gallant manner in which the men were conducted into action by their company officers than anything I can express.

Besides the general good conduct of the regiment, I feel it my duty to bring to your notice individual instances of gallantry which came under my observation. I cannot speak in too high terms of the gallant bearing, throughout the day, of Capt. L. S. Craig, first Lieut. D. C. Buell, adjutant of the regiment, and second Lieutenants B. E. Bee H. B. Clitz, and J. N. Ward. The latter was wounded a short time before the height was carried.
These officers came under my personal observation, and their conduct deserves the highest praise I can give it. In the attack on the height, two companies of the regiment, Captain Gordon’s and Lieut. Richardson’s, became somewhat separated, moving around with the 7th to the opposite side of the hill, so that I cannot speak so particularly of them. It is, however, in my knowledge that as soon as the height was carried, Lieut. Richardson manned one of the captured guns with men of his company, and fired upon the Mexican positions. I should also speak of Lieut. Bownman, regimental quartermaster, who went into action with the regiment entirely voluntarily, (his duty not requiring him to be there,) and who conducted himself with great coolness and credit to himself.

Lieutenant McConnell, of Lieut. Richardson’s company, s reported to me to have conducted himself with a great deal of gallantry, being active in assisting Lieut. Richardson in working the captured guns.

Every possible care was bestowed upon our wounded by our assistant surgeon, Dr. Keeny, who was actively engaged during the greater part of the day after the attack.

Respectfully submitted:
E. B. Alexander,
Captain commanding Brigade.

Col. W. S. Harney, comd’g. 1st brigade.

P.S. Return of killed and wounded accompanies my report. E.B.A.

[ANP]

NNR 72.219 June 5, 1847 arrival of the storeship Lexington in California, disposition of forces there, erection of fortifications

California.

The St. Louis Union has received from Mr. Benton full files of the "Californian," printed at Monterey by Messrs. Colton and Semple, down to the 13th February last.

That paper of the 6th of Feb. notices the arrival of the United States storeship Lexington. Captain Tompkins. Which with his company and field artillery, is now stationed at Fort Mervine. Lieut. Haleck, of the United States engineers, was to make permanent fortifications at the most prominent points along the coast. He was well provided with all necessary implements for the purpose, and had besides a saw and grist mill. The Lexington was loaded with batteries, 24 pounders, mortars, &c. for military purposes. Three other transports with Col. Stevenson’s regiment were shortly expected; "sufficient, with General Kearny’s column, to secure California as a territory of the United States." A fortification will be erected at San Francisco. There is abundance of timber, and water power almost inexhaustible, up the Sacramento river. [ANP]

NNR 72.219 June 5, 1847 report by Gen. Jose Maria Jarero on the Battle of Cerro Gordo

Mexican official Account of the battle of Cerro Gordo.-The annexed official account of the late fight, was despatched to the central government, in the city of Mexico, by General Jarero, after he became an inmate of the castle of San Juan d’Ulloa.

San Juan d’Ulloa, 23d April, 1847.

Most Excellent Sir:

Made prisoner or war, together with Brigadier General Romulus de la Vega, who is with me in this fortress, where we have been placed by the unfortunate events of the morning of the 18th instant, at Cerro Gordo; and separated from Brigadier General Don Louis Pinzon, I conceive it to be my duty to report to your excellency the occurrences of that day, the bitter results of which have place me in the power of the United States of the north.

His excellency the president of the Republic and general in chief of the army, directed Cerro Gordo to be fortified, on the left of the National road, or carriage way, from Jalapa. This road crosses the brow of the mountain, and along it were place our infantry, together with the headquarters, believing that our cavalry were stationed near the Corral Falso and the Encerro.
The broad mountain, called the Telegraph, is the highest of the eminences of that chain, on the Vera Cruz side. Beyond the Cerro, on the right of the present road, and at the point of intersection of the old road, the general in chief ordered a battery to be placed, which would overlook the wagon road, the deepest and narrowest place in the glen. The old river road was commanded effectively by the heights, which were designated by the names of the advanced lines of the right, left and centre. The first, and last named, and the river in front, along which the enemy was stationed; the second commanded, upon its left, the National road, at the point mentioned before, as the deepest in the glen, in such a manner as to enable it to defend the passages from the old river road. The command of these lines was assigned by the general in chief as follows: The right, to General Luis Penson; the left, from the battery on the National road, to Gen. Romulus de la Vega; and the centre, to me.

We were in our positions on the 17th, when about noon, we saw the enemy advancing in column by the left of our vanguard, pushing directly forward for the heights, near the Telegraph. The battery of the advanced line of he left opened its fire of round shot upon them, from our largest pieces and with the best effect.

Soon after the enemy was discovered from the salient angle, upon which another battery of the same advanced line had been place, which also opened its fire, together with the battery of the centre, both acting with such effect that the enemy was driven from his position in less than half an hour. The enemy, compelled to abandon that point by the injury received with the greatest firmness by our troops, and retired in great disorder, with considerable loss.

The following day, (unfortunate for the republic,) the 18th April, the enemy presented himself to renew the attack upon the Telegraph, and opened a fire upon all our fortified positions. The height, after a severe and bloody combat, was taken by main force, at the moment when my advanced line of the centre was attacked by another column, at the point directly under the command of Post Captain (naval) Don Buenaventura Araujo. The battalions of Zacapustla and Hatlanque, the Artillery and Pickets of Matamoros and Libertad, covered themselves with glory, and effectively sustained the right wing of the left line, putting to flight the enemy's column in the short space of five or six minutes, which formed again on our right, among surrounding thickets and ridges.

The height of the Telegraph being taken, the enemy became a master of our rear guard on the left, and the receive orders of instructions from his excellency, the general in chief, I sent my adjutant, Lieutenant Francisco Ruiz, with orders to see him or the senior general, [providing Santa Anna had not run, we suppose,-]but he returned with the information that he found no one there-in our camp and headquarters-and that a flag of truce was flying attached, a fact which was subsequently confirmed by my own observation.

Under these circumstances, Gens. Pinzon, Vega, Noriega, Osando and myself held a consultation, and considering that, our position having been changed by the capture of the Telegraph height; that our rear guard was hemmed in by the enemy in front and rear, and that our supply of water, which had before been scantily furnished in barrels, was now entirely cut off; that the general in chief had previously withdrawn the battalion of grenadiers which had covered our rear guard in the woods, the enemy were thus masters of our fate-and although some of us, by our knowledge of the hollows and ridges, might have saved ourselves, we preferred to be prisoners, to the further sacrifice of the lives of our troops.

In giving myself up to the generals of the enemy I gave them to understand that on opprobrium to our honor to our country, belonged to he act, and although they were the conquerors, I could never in any form palliate the war, which they had made against my country.

In those expressions I was joined by Gen. R. D. de la Vega, whose services in and out of the republic have before this reflected so much honor upon the Mexican name. Col. Jose Maria Pavon, Post Capt. Pedro Ruiz, Major Jose Maria Mta, Captains V. Arguelles, Gregorio del Callejo, Jose M. Nunez, Jose Maria Moreno, Silverio Velez, A. M. Gallegos, Adjutant M. Camacho, (Lieutenant of the navy,) Francisco Fernandez, sub-lieutenants B. Amable, J. R. Covarubias, and Jose Lastortas, all of whom were brought to this place, and as prisoners of war will be conducted to such place in the United States as the present government of Vera Cruz may direct.

I beg your excellency to lay this narrative before his excellency the president of the republic, and to remember me to him and to the nation, whom we should all serve to the last, that this result is an instance of the caprice of fortune, as at the same instant that our three lines of the van-guard had achieved a victory, driving our assailants before us, we found ourselves under the imperious necessity of surrendering ourselves to those who, on the height of the Telegraph, the National road and in our headquarters, had made themselves masters of the field. In numbers there were more than twelve thousand Americans, against less than two thousand Mexicans, who were surrounded by their advanced lines.

I have the honor, &c.
Jose Maria Jarero.

To his excellency, the Minister of War.

[ANP]

NMR 72.219 June 5, 1847, Com. William Branford Shubrick’s order partially suspending the tariff on Mexican ports in California

CALIFORNIA

The St. Louis Union has received from Mr. Benton full files of the “Californian”, printed at Monterey by Messrs. Colton and Semple, down to the 13th February last.

That paper of the 6th of Feb. notices the arrival of the United States store shop Lexington. Captain Tompkins, which with his company and field artillery, is now stationed at Fort Mervine. Lieut. Halleck, of the United States engineers, was to make permanent fortifications at the most prominent points along the coast. He was well provided with all necessary implements for the purpose, and had besides a saw and rust mill. The Lexington was loaded with batteries, 24 pounders, mortars, for military purposes. Three other transports with Col. Stevenson’s regiment were shortly expected; “sufficient, with General Kearny’s column, to secure California as a territory of the United States.” A fortification will be erected at San Francisco. There is an abundance of timber, and waterpower almost inexhaustible, up the Sacramento River.

The following general order will show this view taken by Commodore Shubrick of the extent of his powers:

To all whom it may concern: The undersigned commander of the naval forces of the United States in the Pacific ocean, in virtue of the authority vested in him by the president of the United States, and taking into consideration the injury caused to the agricultural pursuits of the inhabitants of California by the late unsuited state of the country, the great demand at president for all articles of provisions and for the probable increase of that demand, direct that for the spare of six months from the first of March next, viz: from the first of said month of March to the first of the month of September next, the following articles of provisions shall be admitted into the ports of California, free of all charge or duty, viz: beef, pork, bread, flour, butter, cheese, sugar, and rice

W. BRADFORD SHUBRICK
Commander in Chief

[CPO]

NMR 72.219-72.220 June 5, 1847, affairs in California

The Californian of February the 13th says it learns by an arrival from Yerba Buena that a party of emigrants, 60 in number, left on the other side of Californian mountain, had suffered severely. Nineteen started for the valley, but only seven arrived, having been compelled to eat the dead bodies of their companions to save themselves from starvation. Among the survivors were two girls. A public meeting was held at once in Yerba Buena, and $800 raised for the relief of the sufferers in the mountains. Ward and Smith offered their launch and Passed Midshipman Woodsworth, with a small party, started up the river with the intention of disembarking at the foot of the mountains and going on foot with packs of provisions to save the sufferers. The distressed party lost their cattle on the Salt Plains at Hasting’s cut off, a route, which never should be traveled.

Mr. Larkin was at Monterey, attending to his business on the 13th of February, having been released by the enemy. An English school was about to be established there. The Alcalde publishes an order, forbidding men to employ Indians, unless they have certificates from their former employers that their services are not due to the latter for wages advanced. Mr. Semple is about to found a city at San Francisco Bay, to be called Francisco. He has purchased for that purpose the half of a five-mile tract. [CPO]

Col. BENTON’S CARD TO THE EDITOR OF THE ST. LOUIS UNION.

The public mind has been misled in relation to General Kearny and Colonel Fremont, in California; and a letter written in Washington, assuming to speak semi-officially, and from a knowledge of the contents of unpublished dispatches, imputes, the supposed difference to an intrigue of mine to place Col. Fremont in command over General Kearny, and of which General Kearny had got wind. He says:

"It is supposed that General Kearny has reason to believe that, through the influence of Colonel Benton, Colonel Fremont is to be, or has been, put in command over him."

To put an end and end to the anxiety of the friends of the two absent officers on account of such reports, I will here publish an extract from a private letter from General Kearny to myself, dated Ciudad de los Angelos, January 14, 1847, and brought in by the same messenger who brought his official dispatches. Of course, I limit myself in the extract to what concerns Colonel Fremont and myself. Gen. Kearny says:

"I have not written a line to you for three months, because no opportunity itself of sending a letter to you; one is now offered, by way of Panama, and I seize a few moments, and must write, though hurriedly.

After the revolt against Captain Gillespie, at the city of the Angels, in September last, Commodore Stockton sent Colonel Fremont to the Sacramento, to raise volunteers to put down what he termed the rebels. On my arrival on the 12th of December, at San Diego, I found the commodore there, and prevailed upon him by the close of the mouth to send what force he could spare from there in this direction for the purpose of uniting with Colonel Fremont in an attack upon the Californians or to make a diversion in his favor.

On the 8th and 9th we encountered the whole force of the Californians, about 500 mounted men under Governor Flores, and defeated them each day, but as all our men, except about fifty volunteers, were on foot, and all the enemy were well mounted, we could not catch them. The enemy finding that the struggle against us was useless, and unwilling to submit to, marched to meet Colonel Fremont, and on the 12th capitulated to him at San Fernando, twenty-five miles from here, agreeing to submit and to acknowledge the American authorities, never again to rise against them. This day Colonel Fremont at the head of 400 volunteers entered the city. He is now here and perfectly well, and has gained great credit for the manner in which he has raised his volunteers and conducted the expedition from the Sacramento.

Will you please in my name, congratulate Mrs. Fremont upon the honor and credit gained by the colonel, with my best wishes for herself and all your family."

So wrote General Kearny of Colonel Fremont on the 14th of January, and the praise he bestows on the raising the volunteers on the capitulation, are well merited. Colonel Fremont had gone six hundred miles to the American settlements on the Sacramento to raise troops to reconquer the southern half of California, and had raised 400 men and brought them back in an incredibly short space of time. He had done this without means, and legal authority, and wholly by his personal influence, and the weight of his personal character. The defeated Mexicans marched two days to surrender to him, from their confidence in him, and the capitulation to which he admitted to them was wise, just and comfortable to the law of nations expected no oath of allegiance from conquered men deferring that until a definite treaty of peace should make them citizens of the United States. He treated no one as a rebel. He only exacted what the law of nations authorized, namely a promise of submission to the conquerors, revisiting in return protection for life, liberty, and property. The capitulation pacified the country and prevented the wear from becoming guerrilla.

I publish this card to relieve the anxieties of the friends of the two absent officers, and of all well disposed persons, who would be sorry to see Colonel Fremont dishonor himself. I do no publish it to contradict the Washington letter writer, nor do I object to his including my two sons-in-law in his old and daily work against me: but I think that a writer who assumes to be semi official, and to has a knowledge of unpublished dispatches, and who is certainly cormorant, couchant, and levant about the departments, ought to have more respect for the president than to make him my instrument, and subject to my influence, in an intrigue to put Brigadier General Kearny under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Fremont.

THOMAS H. BENTON

St. Louis, May 14th, 1847.

[CPO]
This report, we are gratified to say, has the sanction of Col. Benton himself for its correctness.

Mr. Benton commenced with returning thanks for the honor of the invitation to a public dinner from his political friends. He had declined the honor of the dinner, in conformity to a rule which he had long followed; and as for the speech which might have been expected at the dinner table, he preferred to make it under circumstances which admitted a more general attendance, and would prevent no one from hearing it who chose to listen to it.

Great questions, he said, he occupied the public mind, and received their solution, in the last two or three years of his public service, on all of which he had been called to act on a decided, and even a prominent part, and on each of which it was natural for him to say something on the present occasion. The Oregon question was one of these. At one time big with all the calamities of war, it was now hushed in repose, and the country tranquil and happy under its peaceful settlement. His own course in relation to it had been consistent and uniform. He had opposed the joint occupation treaty of 1818: he had labored for its termination ever since and he had always held the parallel of 49 to be the proper dividing line between the American territory of Oregon and the British territory of Frazer's river. But the public mind, and especially the mind of his own party, had been worked up to a different and a higher view of our rights. 54, 40, and all or none, had become our demand. War was the British answer and although a threat of war would be no bar to a rightful demand, yet in answer to a wrongful one, it was very serious. He believed the whole demand of the United States to be wrongful so far as it applied to Frazer's river, which happened to run through the whole territory from fifty four forty to forty nine, and to have been discovered by the British in 1793, and covered by their forts since 1806. The administration had taken high ground; the party sustained it: but it was an occasion, which required a public man to rise above party, and to look to his country alone. He had resolved to do so, and to go for forty-nine, even if it should cost him his political existence.

This determination, though not formally promulgated, was no secret, and was early enough made known to his friends and to the administration. From the first explosion of the question on April, 1845, from the first reverberation of the thunder which came rolling back from London, in answer to the president's inaugural address, he had made known his opinions to the secretary of state, and informed him that he should support a treaty upon the line of 49, if the president made one upon that basis. From that determination he had never swerved. His friends thought there was great danger to him in the course he took: he himself did not think there was so much. He knew his constituents had been wrought up to fifty-four forty, but he relied upon their equity and intelligence to give him a fair harming and a safe deliverance. He paid them the compliment to rely upon their justice and intelligence, and the event had not deceived him. The boundary was settled at 49. The British kept their river, and we kept ours. War was averted. Great Britain and the United States remain at peace: he and his constituents were at peace: and long might they all reason so.

The settlement of this question, Mr. B went on to say, have cleared away the only remaining difference between the two kindred nations. It left them not only at peace, but also without a remaining cause of quarrel. For the first time since the stamp act of 1764, the two nations came to agreement without a quarrel. For the first time in nearly three generations of men, the two grand divisions o the Anglo-Saxon race, the northern stock in Great Britain and its gigantic progeny in our America were without a cause of disension: and to crown this happy state to give to peace its highest ornament and noblest occupation, and to friendship its most endearing cement, a calamitous visitation in a part of the British empire has called forth all the sympathetic of the human heart, on the side of one nation, and all its gratitude from the other. Ireland famishes! Succor and sympathy fly to her from the United States! And the swelling tide of gratitude comes rolling back better than being at war with each other, at war for Frazer's river, under the sad delusion that it was a part of Oregon! He thanked God that he had been an instrument in diverting aiding to avert, this calamity, and in producing the present happy state between the two nations; and he thanked his constituents for approving his conduct in going for their present wishes.

The annexation of Texas, and its sequences, the present war with Mexico, was another of the great subjects on which he had been called to act within the last few years. This great drama, Mr. B. said divided it into many acts, and covered along space of time, during all which he had been an actor in it, and he hoped a consistent and a prudent one. He considered this drama as beginning 1819, when Mr. Monroe's cabinet seceded Texas to Spain. It was then given away; and if it had not been given away there could have been no war Mexico about getting it back. He denounced that treaty in many newspaper articles as soon as it was made and vowed at the time unceasing efforts to get back the ceded province. Mr. Adams' administration with Mr. Clay
the then administration broke up the peaceful negotiation, dispersed the ministers, assumed the

The question of admission of Texas then went to sleep, and was quietly waiting the end of the war
with Mexico. All the old friends to the recovery of the country were willing to await the event: but
in the year 1842, during Mr. Tyler's administration, a new set of friends, who had cared nothing
about Texas before, and one of whom had given her away when we had her, became furious for
immediate annexation; and the annexation treaty of 1844 was the fruit of that new and sudden
impatience. The old friends of Texas stood upon their ground: the countries were still at war, but
actually negotiating for peace: they wanted Texas annexed, but without war with Mexico, and
urged a little delay, to permit their ministers, then negotiating under the auspices of Great Britain
and France to make peace. All day was refused, the treaty was signed, and was rejected by the
senate because its ratification would have been immediate war with Mexico. He was one of the
majorities of the senate, which rejected that treaty, and his constituents, though all in favor of
annexation, appreciated his motives and justified his conduct, and he made them his profound
thanks for the justice of that verdict, and the honor of that election.

The treaty of annexation was reject, but annexation in another form was still prosecuted. A
resolution for the admission of Texas as a state passed the House of Representatives; an
additional alternative resolution was added in the senate, to appoint commissioners to negotiate
for admission and to conciliate, and recognize Mexico, and thereby prevent the annexation from
bringing on war. The expiring administration of Mr. Tyler snatched the alternative from the hands
of the president elect hurried off the house resolution by a midnight messenger, slammed the door
of consolation in the face of Mexico, and inflamed her pride and resentment to the highest
degree. From that time forth everything berthed war between the two countries, which broke out
the ensuing year.

Mr. B. said this way the history of this loss and gain of Texas, and its sequence, the war with
Mexico. The country is recovered a war has followed and the question now is how to finish it? For
himself he felt clear. His policy had been uniform from first to last, it was to get back Texas,
without a breach with Mexico; and he was certain it might have been done if wise and temperate
counsels had prevailed. The United States had only to wait for peace: that was upon the point of
being signed in January, 1844, under the powerful mediation of Great Britain and France, when
the then administration broke up the peaceful negotiation, dispersed the ministers, assumed the
war, and placed the army and navy under the control of the President of Texas to fight Mexico.

Neither justice nor policy permitted this, especially as, if left alone, they would make peace after
awhile, and then annexation could be effected without a breach with Mexico. Upon this view they
acted. Mr. B. concurred with them, and so did all the people of the United States.

secretary of state, presented the first opportunity to make the efforts for its recovery. Mr. Clay as
a member of the House of Representatives had severely condemned the treaty, which gave away
Texas: Mr. Adams had opposed that article of the treaty at the council table when the majority of
Mr. Monroe’s cabinet adopted it. But this was not known to him until bong afterwards. His
reliance at the time was on Mr. Clay, as a western man, and from his publicity known optimist on
the subject. He and Mr. Clay were than separating in the new division of political parties, but it
did not prevent them from communing together on the subject of Texas, and co-operating to get
her back. They had an interview at Tennison’s Hotel at Washington. Among other things intended
by the new administration. Mr. C. mentioned the recovery of Texas: he cordially concurred, and
promised his faithful cooperation. The administration made the attempt: he wrote articles to
promote it but the scheme failed. Mr. Poinsett was then minister in Mexico, and favorable to the
object, but could not succeed and so ended the first attempt to recover back the great province
which the unwise treaty of 1819 had given away. I speak historically, said Mr. B., and justly, and
without design to favor or injure any man, but to place a right before my constituents my own
conduct, and that of others, in this great drama, which has ended in a war between two republics,
Mr. Adams, at the council table, voted against the article which gave Texas away. Mr. Clay, in the
House of Representatives, denounced the cession. They made the first effort to get it back: and in
a speech which professes to be fair and impartial, let justice be done to every actor. Let every
one take his proper place for censure or for praise in the great drama of the Texas question and its
bloody sequence.

The next attempt was in Gen. Jackson’s time, Mr. Van Buren being secretary of state. A larger
sum was offered than in the previous administration, but with no better result. The negotiation
miscarried, though zealously supported by President Jackson, his secretary of state, and the
minister at Mexico, He, Mr. B., co-operated with them, filing the newspapers with articles in praise
of Texas, and using all the arguments for getting her back which have since been repeated by
others who gave no help then. And so the second attempt to repair the mischief of the treaty of
1819, failed as the first had done.

The mission of General Memucan Hunt, minister from Texas, was the next serious attempt to bring
Texas herself into the Union; but the parties were then changed: it was after a battle of San
Jacinto, and Texas herself became the applicant. Mr. Van Buren was then president. Mr. Forsyth
his secretary of state, and both in favor of getting back the country. But Texas and Mexico,
though not fighting had not made peace: they were in the legal state of war with respect to each
other: and to have admitted Texas into the Union would have been to adopt her side of war, and
to have placed the United States at war with Mexico.

The treaty of annexation was reject, but annexation in another form was still prosecuted. A
resolution for the admission of Texas as a state passed the House of Representatives; an
additional alternative resolution was added in the senate, to appoint commissioners to negotiate
for admission and to conciliate, and recognize Mexico, and thereby prevent the annexation from
bringing on war. The expiring administration of Mr. Tyler snatched the alternative from the hands
of the president elect hurried off the house resolution by a midnight messenger, slammed the door
of consolation in the face of Mexico, and inflamed her pride and resentment to the highest
degree. From that time forth everything berthed war between the two countries, which broke out
the ensuing year.
The rejection of the treaty stopped the war then assumed: but the midnight transmission of the house resolution started it again, and soon placed the two republics in the unhappy condition in which they now stand.

Mr. B repeated. His policy from beginning to ending had been to get back Texas without war, or even a breach of friendship with Mexico. He was greatly averse to such a war. He saw great and extraordinary evils in it. Besides the evils common to all war, loss of lives, distress of families, interruption of commerce, ruin to many merchants, and a load of debts and taxes. Besides all these ordinary evils incident to all wars, he saw others of anew and extraordinary kind of war with Mexico. She was a republic, and a weak one, and our neighbor, and had done us the honor to copy our constitution and form of government, and had maintained civil wards at home to keep it up. She was one of the Spanish American states, which stretch from the southern boundary of the United States to Cape Horn, the whole of which had copied our form of government, and established close political and commercial relations with us. All these states had just emancipated themselves from European domination, adopted the republican system, and taken the United States for their model and their friend, the elder sister and parental guardian of the cordon of republics which stretched across the United States, at the head of this long chain of republics, was grand an impressive and imposed upon her an enlarge and enlightened system, which had been carefully acted upon by all American statesmen from the time these Spanish American states began to establish their independence. Europe had a system of monarchical, consolidated by the holy alliance. The new world had its system of republics, to be cemented and united by sympathy and friendship. To maintain our position at the head of this republican system in the new world was due to the human race and ourselves. To cherish and perpetuate these republics, to preserve their friendship and their commerce, to continue to be their political mentor, to continue them in the republican system of the new world, and prevent their relapse into the monarchial system of the old world, this way our true and noble policy. War with any one of them would endanger that policy; for being all of the same, origin, religion, language, customs, they would naturally sympathize with each other, and having war with one, the friendship of all might be jeopardized.

Mr. B had endeavored to act upon these enlarged principles, originating not with him but with enlightened statesmen before he came into public life. He had endeavored to get back Texas without a war with Mexico, and was certain it might have been done with all ease by this simple process of leaving Mexico and Texas to make peace, and treating Mexico with the respect and deference due to a sister republic, the more proud and sensitive because weak and unusable to contend with us. The first great error was the annexation treaty of 1842, and the manner in which it was conducted: that was the work of the Tyler administration, and of selfish and unworthy purposes. The send great error, or worse than error, was the rejection of the senate’s alternative resolution, and dispatch of midnight messenger to Texas with the absolute resolution of admission, on the night of the 31 of March, 1845; that also was the work of the Tyler administration; and in the last moment of its expiring existence. The first of these steps the treaty would have made instant war if it had been ratified by the senate, the second made the war! And now the great question it to finish it. How finish it? That was the question which every body was putting to him, and on which every one present, no doubt, would wish to hear from speak. Bu this was not the time to speak upon the point. The time would come but it was not now. His opinion had been asked by the president, and given to him, and approved by him, and in time would be given to the public.

But he could say that relied more upon policy that upon arms to finish this war with a weak and proud neighbor. Eight battles, she could not. That was proved from San Jacinto to Sierra Gordo; and wherever the two races met, from the Gulf of Mexico to the Bay of San Francisco, victories would come as often as fights came, but there was a danger to be feared, the danger of fanaticism, and the conversion of the war into a death contest for country and religion. The Spanish race is susceptible of deep national emotion, fanatical emotion, both religiously and politically, and of which their history furnishes abundant examples both into eh Old and in the New World, and from the time of the Carthaginians and the Romans to that of the French under Bonaparte. Policy more than arms, but combined with arms, he considered the road to peace.

He would not say that victories alone would not bring peace they might do so, but not the kind of peace he was in search of. He wanted the peace, which was not merely a collection of hostilities, but a restoration of the fruits and blessings of peace, the restoration of friendship and commerce, and of our position as head and chief and paternal guardian of the system of republics in the New World. The peace, which leaves all the animosities and resentments of war behind, was not the peace, which the interests of the countries, and the good of the republican system, and the safety, and independent of the two Americans, required.

Mr. B said he stood upon ground which he could not explore: he alluded to subject which he could not unfold: but he could say that it was a great error to confound the whole Mexican people, the whole eight million of their mixed population, under any one general view either politically, morally, or intellectually, or in their feelings towards the United States and the war. It would be great error to confound this larger and mixed mass under any one general view and a worse error to act either militarily or politically on that view. It had its division, both of races, and of political parties; and leaving out the illiterate, impoverished, and depressed part of the Indian race, which signified nothing politically, though the half of the whole population and the sole resource for day
Mr. B. said he had expressed his opinions publicly and responsibly in the senate, both in speeches and in votes, and privately and frankly to the president whenever asked. He had done more. He had been willing to resign his place in the senate and go to the field of operations, not so much to command armies as to make military movements subservient to diplomatic policy, and produce a peace which should be a restoration of friendship and not a mere truce, extorted by force from weakness, and leaving the animosities of war behind. He who had refused embassies to the first courts of Europe, was willing to go to Mexico: he who had refused to let his friends propose him of first major general in May, which would have put him at the head of the army was willing to have taken a commission when the war began to take the appearance of continuing and long, and of becoming fanatical, and giving strength to the monarchical European party. He was willing to have taken the place of lieutenant general; for that would have shocked no military feeling, and displaced no military man, and would have allowed a policy approved by the president to have been completely carried out. He could say no more, at this time, upon that point, but when the plan which he submitted to the president comes to be made known, it would be seen that the military men would have nothing to complain of, that Gen. Taylor instead of struggling at Buena Vista with 5,000 men against 20,000 would have been advancing on Santa Anna with 20,000 that Gen. Scott, instead of entrenched army at Sierra Gordo would have probably found the road open to Mexico that the two generals would have probably met sooner at the city of Mexico, and found themselves attended by a diplomatic mission, nationally constituted, both in a geographical and in a political sense, and prepared to take advantage of all events to smooth the way to a solid and lasting peace.

Mr. Benton passed to a new subject, one which had not yet excited the public attention, but which in his opinion was pregnant with much danger, and required early attention. It was not a question of foreign war, to be settled by arms or diplomacy, but of domestic legislation, to be settled by public opinion and by voters. He alluded to the slavery propagandist resolutions, introduced into the senate towards the close of the last session, and which he had stigmatized as fire-bran on the day of their reintroduction. On their face these resolutions contemplate a subversion of the Union, thrown guilt of the subversion upon those who oppose their enactment into law. At the same time, they propose what no citizen of a non-slaveholding state can ever stand, and what many from the slaveholding states; himself in the number would not stand if they could. The propose the abolition of all compromised, past and future, on the slavery question, and treat as violators of the rights of the states, and of the constitution, and as subverts of the union, all who will not agree to extended slavery to all the territories of the United States, even to the most remote and hyperborean, to Oregon itself, in the latitude of Wisconsin and the Lake of the Woods. They go the precise length of the northern abolitionists and with the same practical consequence, only in a reversed form. The abolition creed is, that the admission of constitution, and dissolution of the Union; the new resolutions declare that the prohibition of slavery in any territory of the Union as a violation of the constitution and of the rights of the states, and subversions of the Union! So true it is, that extremes meet, and that all fanaticism, for against any dogma terminates at the same point of intolerance and defiance.

The first effect of this new slavery creed, which the south was summoned to adopt most summarily would be to establish a new political test for trying the orthodoxy of all candidates for the presidency, and as no northern man could stand such a test at home, the whole of their would be knocked in the head, so far as the south was concerned, at a single lick. The next effect of these resolutions, if adopted, in the non-slaveholding states, would be to put an end to the present political editions of parties, and to substitute a new party in the south, bounded by geographical lines and founded on the sole principle of slavery propagandist. The third effect of these resolutions would that which is stated, hypothetically on their face, namely, the subversion of the Union.

Seeing these resolutions in this dangerous point of view, Mr. B. had stigmatized them as a freestanding on the day of their reintroduction, and had since depreciated their application to the Oregon bill, by which the Oregon people were left without law or government for a year longer. Many persons thought him too prompt in his denunciation of these resolutions perhaps the same
persons thought him too prompt in douncing the Oregon joint occupation treaty in 1818, the treaty which gave away Texas in 1819, and all the measures of the Tyler administration which led to the Mexican war in 1846: but the truth might be that he was not too fast, but themselves too slow. The resolutions appeared dangerous to him, and he struck them at their first apportion into the senate chamber. He had done his duty: he had sounded the alarm: it was for the role of the United States, all the friends of the Union to do the rest. There was no Jackson now to save the Union by a voice, like the command of destiny, proclaiming “IT SHALL BE PRESERVED.”

Mr. B. concluded with saying that he limited himself on the occasion, to the few subjects on which he had touched, without exhausting them. They were subjects of present, interest, and of national import, and rose above the level of party, and were fit to be discussed in the assemblage, which was not one of party. He had not acted upon them in a party character when before the senate, and did not speak of them as party measures now. On proper subjects, when party principles were applicable, he was found close enough to his party tune. When principles did not apply, when the subject was either too large or too small for party, when a foreign war, or domestic discussion, was the question, or a poor clerk, or laborer to be turned out of employment, on such great, and on such little subjects as these, he chose rather to act in the character of a patriot who felt for his country, and of a man who felt for his fellow man. [CPO]

NNR 72.224 June 5, 1847, Mexican privateer Unico captures the Carmelita

MEXICAN PRIVATEER

A Barcelona date of the 3rd of May states that the Mexican privateer Unico, of Vera Cruz, carrying one gun and 53 men, had captured in the waters of Arica, and brought into Barcelona the American ship Carmelita, 190 tons, Captain Edwin, Littlefield, from Poace, with a cargo of coffee, bound to Trieste.

The above is no doubt true. The American vessels named sailed from Puerto Rico the latter end of March. [CPO]

NNR 72.224 June 5, 1847 Naval News

NAVAL. Capt. Mayo, U.S.N., governor of Alvarado, started with 80 men in gun boats on the 13th for Talascoya, situated nearly 100 miles S.W. from Alvarado. The place submitted, and he was received with respect. He considered it best not to leave a garrison. On his return down the narrow river, he was fired upon from the chaparral, and one officer and five seamen were wounded.

Com. Perry, with a squadron, had gone to the south, searching for laurels.

Nantla, capitulated to the sloop of war Germantown, on the 10th of May, and was retaken on the 11th by 300 Mexicans.

Major Dunmock, with one company of artillery and some recruits for the 5th and 7th infantry, arrived at Vera Cruz on the 17th, and takes post at the National bridge till further orders.

Just as the Palmetto was leaving, most of the muleteers of a train of 129 pack mules, loaded with flour and pork that had left the evening before for the army, returned to the city, having been fired on three miles out, and the whole train captured. [JLM]

NNR 72.231-72.232 June 12, 1847 address of the second regiment of Tennessee volunteers about Cerro Gordo

Cerro Gordo

From the New Orleans Picayune

Address of the 2nd Reg. Tennessee Volunteers.

If sacrifices in the service of the country entitle patriotic and brave men to a hearing before the tribunal of public opinion, the 2d regiment of Tennessee volunteers may surely claim that
privilege. The attack upon the enemy's batteries by that regiment was the only one of the battle of Cerro Gordo that failed; and although the general orders announcing this fact bear testimony to the courage of the men and gallantry of its officers, the regiment is concerned that the public shall know the circumstances of the assault, that it may be judged how far the commendation of official reports is deserving, and how far it has attempted to smother up an unsuccessful enterprise in the ambitious phraseology of a military despatch. The commander in chief, the generals of divisions, and the heads of detachments have been heard. That regiment now asks to be heard also, and this is all the recompense it seeks for the loss of comrades, mowed down in an effort upon which, it is contended, it was precipitated by the infatuation of a superior officer.

The general of division, whose military capacity is impeached by the regiment, has received the reward due only to exalted abilities or eminent services. HE has enjoyed the credit to leading the 2d regiment of Tennessee volunteers upon the desperate charge in which its flower was cut down. He hastened from the battle field and received the firstlings of the public gratitude from the fields of Cerro Gordo. The sympathies of the people were excited on account of a wound, which was reported to have nearly severed his sword arm in twain, whilst in fact he carried the ball that hurt him in his breeches pocket. And the remnant of the only regiment of his brigade which was actively engaged in battle, and which was repulsed with terrific slaughter, without having accomplished anything, comes forward and asks the calm judgment of their countrymen upon the facts as they occurred. The survivors of the that fearful and needless slaughter have the reputation of being driven from the field, whilst from the blood of the slain incense is exhaled to glorify an officer, who in the language of the address, "neither led nor followed in that assault."

We have heard before now, and from sources which left no room to doubt its truth, a narrative of the events of the battle similar to that now made public. We have heard these same facts from parties who were not interested in the successful assault, beyond the concern which was felt by soldiers and officers of different corps for brethren in arms. And we have no doubt that public opinion will settle down in the conviction that the 2d regiment of Tennessee volunteers did all that men could do under the circumstances, and that the assault miscarried because they were commanded to do an impossible thing by an officer who enjoys the exclusive credit of having ever ordered a regiment from that gallant state to make a charge which necessarily resulted in a repulse. The fact that this regiment immediately rallied for another assault, and was ready to repeat an attack, over ground, upon which in three minutes time, one fourth of its members were shot down, is an evidence of courage of the strongest signification.-These brave men were prepared to sacrifice themselves for the honor of their state and the glory of the United States, and they will not be the less cherished on that account by their fellow citizens for that, the most devoted chivalry, when misdirected, would only achieve and honorable martyrdom.

Certain impressions which are abroad with the public in reference to the operations of the brigade of Gen. Pillow, at the battle of Cerro Gordo, seem to require of the undersigned, officers of the 2d regiment Tennessee volunteers, a simple statement of facts. IT will be seen that the statement differs materially from the accounts which have heretofore reached the public ear, and that the idea it conveys of the military talents of Gen. Pillow is by no means complimentary to that officer. By the undersigned utterly disclaim any other motive in making this publication that such a s arises from a desire to do justice to others and to have justice for themselves. They are unwilling to accord to the uncharitable the privilege of yielding to the brave men they commanded only that impossible sort of reputation which often attaches to men who have been engaged in an unsuccessful enterprise, unless it be shown that impossibilities were required of them.

On the evening of the 17th April last Gen. Scott promul gated to the army his orders for the action on the ensuing day. TO Gen. Twiggs' division, with Shields' brigade, was assigned the duty of carrying the height of Cerro Gordo, of turning the enemy's left wing and securing the Jalapa road, in his rear, so as to intercept his retreat; while Gen. Pillow was to march "along the route he had carefully reconnoitered, and stand ready, as soon as he heard the report of small arms on our right, or sooner if circumstances should favor him, to pierce the enemy's line of batteries-the nearer the river the better, as he may select." Gen. Pillow's plan of attack was arranged by himself, as follows: The command of Col. Haskell, supported by Col. Roberts, 2d Pennsylvania volunteers, was to assail No. 2, the centre fieldwork on the enemy's right; while at the same moment No. 1, on the extreme right of the enemy's line, was to be attacked by Col. Wynkoop, 1st regiment Pennsylvania volunteers, supported by Col. Campbell, of the 1st Tennesseans.

The right of the enemy extended from the left of the Jalapa road to the gorge of he mountains thro' which the river flows. Along this line the enemy had established himself on three different heights, divided from each other by almost impassable ravines. Each of thee three heights were strengthened by admirable constructed fieldworks, known to our engineers as No. 1, 2, and 3. These works were manned by upwards of 3,000 men, 1,500 of whom occupied the central fieldwork.

There can be no doubt but that Gen. Santa Anna, relying oftentimes of the greatest natural strength of Cerro
On the morning of the 18th the brigade of Gen. Pillow was moved by him from the camp in the following order—Co. Wynkoop in front, followed by Col. Haskell, behind whom came Colonel Campbell, while Col. Roberts brought up the rear. Diverging from the Jalapa road to the left, nearest the fieldworks, the regiments moving in the same order, each by the right flank, entered a narrow path leading to a point near the centre of the enemy's line of works. In this order the brigade was moved to the scene of action. Continuing along the path, the right of Col. Wynkoop's regiment had reached a point of rising ground about 350 yards from the enemy, when Gen. Pillow, fearful that the enemy had either discovered him or would do it, suddenly withdrew Col. Wynkoop by the left flank, filing him by the left flank square off tot he left from the path, and directed him to cross the ravine which was immediately on the left of the path and form his line of battle parallel with the enemy's works, under cover of the hill and chaparral and hold himself in readiness to assault No. 1.

While Col Wynkoop was executing this order as rapidly as the ruggedness of the ground would allow him, the General commenced the work of placing the command of Col. Haskell in position. This he did by directing Col. Haskell to rest his right on the right of the path, extending his left square off to the left so as to form his line of battle parallel with the centre fieldwork of the enemy. By this maneuver it will be perceived that the ranks of Col. Haskell's command were reversed, the front rank becoming the rear and the right of the regiment its left. While this novel order was in the process of execution, and before the independent company of Kentucky volunteers, under Capt. John S. Williams and Captain Charles Naylor's company of Pennsylvania volunteers, which were the 9th and 10th companies, had got into position, the enemy opened his fire upon us. (It is proper to remark here that the command of Col. Haskell consisted of this own regiment and Capt. Williams's Kentucky company and Capt. Naylor's company of Pennsylvania volunteers.) The General immediately ordered the assault. The men answered the order with a shout and advanced rapidly and with the greatest enthusiasm in the direction of the enemy who was totally concealed from them by the density of the chaparral. Progressing steadily in the face of a most deadly and incessant fire for more than 250 yards, over a rugged and stony ascent, the command emerged from which the chaparral had been felled for nearly tow hundred yards and left lying on the ground. Here we were greeted us by seven pieces of artillery immediately in front of us. No. 1 opened on one of our flanks with two guns, No. 3 on the other with three, while two small pieces on an extension of the redoubt behind No. 2 kept time with the others. This terrible fire was in the state of New Jersey, exceeds that of last year by 100,000 acres, which ought to yield three or four millions of bushels." [ANP]
About 8 o'clock, a.m. of the 23d instant, an art of the Kentucky mounted riflemen and cavalry, (dismounted for that purpose) were sent up the side of the mountain to support the forces already there, at which time the fire of the enemy became tremendous, but which was returned by our gallant force for more than one hour longer. My instructions from yourself were to hold my position on the left of the field against any force which the enemy might bring against me in that quarter. The enemy had been in great force all the morning of the 23d, directly in my front, and in sight, but too far distant to be reached by Lieut. O'Brien's battery.

About 9 o'clock I was informed by Col. Churchill that the enemy were advancing towards my position in great force, sheltering themselves in a deep ravine which runs up towards the mountain directly in my front. I immediately put my columns in motion, consisting of those eight battalion companies and Lieut. O'Brien's battery, amounting in all to about 400 men to meet them. The enemy, when they deployed from the ravine and appeared on the ridge, displayed a force of about 4,000 infantry, supported by a large body of lancers. The infantry immediately opened a most destructive fire, which was returned by my small command, both infantry and artillery, in a most gallant manner for sometime. Is soon perceived that I was too far from the enemy for my muskets to take that deadly effect which I desired, and immediately sent my aide de camp to Lieutenant O'Brien, directing him to place his battery in a more advanced position, with the determination of advancing my whole line. By this movement I should not only be near the enemy, but should also bring the company on my extreme left more completely into action, as the brow of the hill impeded their fire. By this time the enemy fire of musketry and the raking fire of ball and grape of their battery posted on my left flank had become terrible, and my infantry instead of advancing, as was ordered, I regret to say retired in some disorder from their position, notwithstanding my own and the severe efforts of my officers to prevent them. About the same time, the riflemen and the cavalry on the mountain retired to the plain below. The Arkansas cavalry, (who had been posted by your orders in my rear at the foot of the mountain to act as circumstances might require) also left their position, the whole making a retrograde movement towards the rear. At the same time one of the Illinois regiments, not under my command, but stationed at some distance in rear and on the right of my position, also retired to the rear. These troops, the most of them were immediately rallied and fought during the whole day like veterans. A few of them, I regret to say, did not return to the field at all. By this apparent success the enemy were much elated, and poured down along the side of the mountain on the extreme left of the field their thousands of infantry and lancers, and formed themselves in good order along the mountain fronting perpendicularly to where our lines had been posted. At this critical juncture, the Mississippi regiment, under the command of Col. Davis, arrived on the field, and being joined by a part of the 2d Indiana, met the enemy in a most gallant style, and after a most severe and bloody engagement, repulsed them with great loss. In the mean time a large body of lancer, 600 or 800 in number, who had passed down along the left toward our rear, made a most desperate charge upon the Arkansas and Kentucky cavalry, with a view of cutting off and plundering the baggage train of the army which was at a ranche near the battlefield.

This charge was met and resisted most gallantly by those cavalry, aided by about two hundred infantry who had taken refuge there after they had retired, from the field. This repulse discouraged the enemy, and the Mississippi regiment and part of the 2d Indiana, being joined by the 3d Indiana regiment commanded by Col. James H. Lane, now advanced up towards the foot of the mountain for the purpose of dislodging the enemy's force stationed there. In this enterprise I was aided by Captain 's battery of light artillery and it was crowned with complete success, the enemy retreating in disorder, and with immense loss, back along side of the mountain to the position which they had occupied in morning some flying in terror up the sides of the mountain, and into the ravines, while a few were taken prisoners. Amongst the last desperate attempts of the enemy to regain and hold the left of the field, was a charge made by a large body of lancers upon my command. This charge for gallantry and determined bravery on both sides, has been seldom equaled. The forces on either side were nearly equal in numbers. Instead of throwing my command into squares to resist the charge, the enemy were received in line of two ranks, my force reserving its fire until the enemy were within about seventy yards, which was delivered with a deadly aim, and which proved most destructive in its effects—the enemy flying in every direction in disorder, and making a precipitate retreat towards their own lines. About sunset the enemy withdrew from the field, and the battle cease. In a brief report it is impossible to enter into the details of a day like the 23d. The fighting throughout consisted of different engagements in different parts of the field, the whole of them warm and well contested; many of them bloody and terrible. The men under my command actually discharged eighty and some ninety rounds of cartridges at the enemy during the day. The 2d regiment under my command which opened the battle on the plain, in such gallant style, deserves a passing remark. I shall attempt to make so apology for their retreat; for it was their duty to stand or die to the last man until they received orders to retire; but I desire to call your attention to one fact connected with this affair. They remained in their position, in line, receiving the fire of 3,000 or 4,000 infantry in front, exposed at he same time on the left flank to a most desperate ranking fire from the enemy's battery, posted within point blank shot, until they had deliberately discharged twenty rounds of cartridge at the enemy.

Some excuse may be framed for those who retired for a few minutes and then immediately rallied, and fought during the day; but unless they hasten to retrieve their reputations, disgrace must
forever hang round he names of those who refused to return, and I regret to say there were a few
of those from nearly every volunteer corps engaged.

In a battle so fierce and protracted as this, where there were so many exhibitions of coolness and
bravery, it is a delicate and difficult task to particularize. But justice compels me to mention Col.
Davis and his regiment of Mississippians, who so nobly and so bravely came to the rescue at he
proper time to save the fortune's of the day.

Col. J. H. Lane and the 3d regiment of my command were ordered in the action soon after Col.
Davis; and the coolness and bravery displayed by both the officers and men of that regiment have
rarely been equaled—never surpassed—by any troops at any time. They have done infinite honor to
the state and nation that gave them birth. Lieutenant Col. Hadden, of the 2d regiment of my
brigade; aided me in rallying his regiment after they retired; and he in person succeeded in
marching a party of them back towards the enemy, with whom he immediately became engaged,
and fortunately repulsed with considerable loss. In another part of the field he succeeded in killing
an officer of the enemy with his own hand, by sending a rifle ball through him at a great distance.

I was also much indebted to Maj. Mooney, quarter master; Major Dix, paymaster: the gallant and
lamented Capt. Lincoln, of Gen. Wool's staff; and to Lieut. Robinson, for their assistance in rallying
the forces after they had retired from their position.—They all behaved nobly, and deserve the
thanks of the country for the coolness and intrepidity which they displayed on that trying
occasion. The latter acting as my aid e camp during the entire day—is entitled to particular
attention for the gallant manner in which he executed my orders. Lieutenant O'Brien—who
commanded the battery of light artillery on my right—is deserving of particular praise for his
courage and self-possession throughout the day, moving and discharging his battery with all the
coolness and precision of a day of ordinary parade. Major Mooney, quartermaster, and Major
Morrison, commissary, attached to my brigade, although not belonging to the line of the army, nor
expected to take an active part in the battle, are entitled to great honor for their bravery and
coolness in promptly rallying the scattered forces at the rancho, who assisted, under the command
of Major Morrison, in resisting the desperate charge of the lancers made upon the Arkansas and
Kentucky cavalry, as, by this repulse, the whole baggage train of the army was saved from
destruction. This important duty they discharged, in addition to those which strictly appertained
to their respective departments. A statement of the killed and wounded has already been
submitted, which need not be recapitulated here. Although censure does justly attach to a few
who proved recreant to their duty on that day, yet I am of the opinion that veteran troops, either
of this or any other country, could not have fought and won the battle better than those engaged.
It is a victory without a parallel in this or any other war on this continent; and the men and
officers who did their duty at the battle of Buena Vista deserve to have their names inscribed on
the brightest pages of their country's history.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,
Joseph Lane,

To Brigadier General Wool, U.S. Army,
[ANP]

NRR 72.232-72.234 June 12, 1847 official reports of officers of the light artillery on their actions
at Buena Vista

Battle of Buena Vista.
Light Artillery Report.
Official.
From General Taylor's Army.
Camp Taylor, near Agua Nueva, (Mexico,)
February 28, 1847.

Sir: Agreeably to your orders of to-day, I have the honor to report that my battery of artillery took
position in the line of battle on the 22d instant, at its intersection with the road leading to San Luis
Potosi, which was maintained during the conflict. Every demonstration of the enemy on this point
was promptly repulsed. Two instances, especially, are worthy of notice: the first, about 0 o'clock
on the morning of the 23d, when the enemy appeared in very large force, consisting of lancers and
infantry, covered by a very heavy battery of artillery. The rapidity and precision of our fire
scattered and dispersed this force in a few minutes, with considerable loss on his side, and little or
none on our own. The other occurred late in the day—after three regiments of our volunteers had
been overpowered by the enemy, and a strong body of lancers, in close pursuit of them, was
almost instantly driven back—thereby saving several hundred of our men from impending
destruction. During these operations, four pieces of my battery (which was composed of eight)
were detached at different times, under 1st Lieutenant O'Brien, 4th artillery, and brevet 2d
Lieutenants Bryan, topographical engineers, to a distant part of the field, and entirely out of my
sight. For the part taken by these gallant officers and their brave men, I am compelled to refer you to the report of Lieutenant O'Brien, which is herewith transmitted, and which also explains the cause of the loss of three pieces of his artillery.

Without entering into minor details of the engagement, which lasted the greater part of wo days, and during a large portion of which my battery was the object of a heavy fire from the enemy’s large guns, I have only to bear willing testimony to the good conduct of the officers and men, without exception, who served under my immediate command and within the scope of my own eye. Lieutenants Brent and Whiting, 4th artillery, commanded sections, and breved 2d Lieutenant Couch was either in command of a piece or in charge for promptitude and gallantry in carrying out my order should not be surpassed. It is with great pleasure, therefore, that I recommend them to your favorable notice, and, through you, to the consideration of our government. I would also ask for Lieutenants O’Brien and Bryan the rewards due distinguished merit.

Among my non-commissioned officers it might be considered invidious to draw distinctions, where all did so well. The long experience, however, of my 1st sergeant, Shields, and the greater skill to which he had attained in gunnery, made the fire of his piece quite conspicuous amidst the general accuracy of the other cannoneers.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, you obedient servant,

J. M. Washington,
Captain 4th artillery, command battery.

Lieut. J. McDowell, acting assistant adjutant general, Gen. Wool’s division, Mexico.

Camp on battle ground of Buena Vista, Mexico,
February 25, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor to report to you’re the part taken in the action of the 23d instant, by that portion of artillery which was detached from your battery and placed under my command.

On the morning of the 22d instant I was placed on the elevated plain, which afterwards became the battle ground, in command of three pieces of light artillery, viz: one 12 pounder howitzer, one six pounder gun, and one four pounder Mexican gun.-No opportunity was afforded for the use of these pieces till the morning of the 23d instant, when I pushed the howitzer close tot he mountain and fired a few shells at a body of Mexicans that were advancing along its slope, in order to get possession of the head of ravine, near which our troops were then posted. Finding the elevation ad distance so great as to cause some of my shot to be wasted, I discontinued the fire and moved my battery to the position assigned it in line. During this time a battery of heavy Mexican artillery was playing against me, at such a distance that it was impossible for me to attempt to return its fire.

Soon after this, I was directed by Brigadier General lane to move my battery forward, in order to check the advance of some lancers who were reported to be coming up the ravine nearest the enemy’s line. The 2d regiment of Indiana volunteers was ordered to support me.

On arriving at the point indicated, I found myself within musket range of about three thousand Mexican infantry, while their battery three hundred yards on my left, was pouring in heavy discharged of grape and canister. I opened the fire against the infantry and lancers with tremendous effect. Every shot, whether canister or shell, seemed to tell.-The enemy wavered and fell back. I advanced on him about fifty yards. He was strongly reinforced, until, in fact, I found his main body pressing on me. The pieces were admirable served, but failed any longer to check his advance. Every gap in the Mexican ranks was closed as soon as made. On looking round, at this moment, I discovered that the tremendous cross fire of the enemy had forced the regiment ordered to my support to fall back. Deeming it useless to remain alone, and sacrifice my pieces needlessly, I waited till the enemy came still closer, and then gave the order to limber up and retire. I found that all the horses and all the cannoneers of the Mexican 4 pounder were either killed or disabled. The other pieces were in but little better condition I succeeded, however, in withdrawing them, and retired to our line.

On arriving there, I had not a cannoneer to work the guns. All had been disabled or killed. Finding it impossible to replace them, either from the other batteries or any other source, I was compelled to return your battery, which was guarding the pass at the foot of the heights.

You then furnished me with two 6 pounders, with which I again ascended to the battle ground. I then found myself opposed to a strong line of the Mexican infantry and cavalry and to one of their heavy batteries. I was supported by a body of infantry posted in two ravines on my right and left. The remainder of our artillery and infantry were engaged with the enemy about a half a mile, or more, to our left. We kept the enemy in check, while our troops on the left drove the body opposed to them round the head of the ravine, where they united with those against whom I was firing. At this moment, I received orders to push my section forward. I advanced, and again
opened a heavy fire. The enemy was strongly reinforced by infantry and lancers. Finding themselves so superior in numbers by their junction with this reinforcement, and with their troops driven from our left, they advanced. The position of things now appeared very critical. If the enemy succeeded in forcing our position at this point, the day was theirs. There was not other artillery opposed to them but my section and one other piece. It was all important to maintain our ground until our artillery came round the ravine from the plain on our left and joined us. I therefore determined to hold my post till the enemy reached the muzzles of my guns. The firing from the section became more and more destructive as the enemy advanced. It repelled a body of lancers which was about charging on the Illinois regiment. My own loss was severe. I had had two horses shot under me; the one I was then on was wounded and limping. I had received a wound in the leg. All my cannoneers, except a few recruits who had joined some days before, were killed or disabled. In the midst of this heavy fire, with horses and men dropping around them, the few recruits who were fit for duty lost their presence of mind; and I found it impossible, with all my efforts, to keep them to their guns. I remained with the pieces to the last, until the enemy came within a few yards of the, when I was forced to retire for the want of a single cannoneer to load or fire. I was, however, delighted to find that I had maintained my ground sufficiently long to cause the victory to be secured; for, at this moment, the rest of our artillery arrived and came into action.

You are, well aware that it is often the duty of an artillery officer to sacrifice his pieces for the safety of other troops. Such was my position. He could have saved the guns, had I withdrawn them earlier; but, in such case, the day might; perhaps have been lost.

The large number of killed and wounded (men and horses) in the small commanded me, will sufficiently show the nature of the service in which we were engaged. There was but one man and two horses killed by round shot. All the rest were struck by musketry or canister.

It is with unalloyed gratification that I have to speak of the conduct of Brevet Second Lieutenant Bryan, topographical engineers, who commanded two of the pieces that were first with me. He had been for days suffering from sickness, and ought, in prudence, to have been then in bed. I saw him, when exposed to a close and murderous cross fire of grape and canister on one side, and musketry in front, directed the fire of his pieces, and give his commands with the same coolness as if he were on parade. He received a flesh wound in the arm. I beg leave, through you, earnestly to recommend him to the favorable notice of the government.

It is also my duty to commend greatly the coolness and bravery of Sergeants Williams and Queen, of your company, and of Sergeants Williams and Queen, of your company, and of Sergeants Evans and Moore, attacked to your company—the former of the 1st, the latter of the 2d Illinois volunteers. Corporals Nixon and May, of your company, deserve equal praise. Sergeant Pratt behaved with great coolness and courage, but was, unfortunately, wounded so early, that he could take but little part in the affair. All the cannoneers, regulars and volunteers, who were with me in the beginning of the action, deserve high praise for their coolness, precision, and activity. The same remark applies to those who were with me the second time, with the exception of a few raw recruits; who, I am inclined to think, were affected rather by the confusion incident to raw troops when exposed to a tremendous fire, than by fear. Had they remained at their posts coolly, I might have delivered two more fires on the enemy before he reached the guns.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JNO. P.J. O'Brien,
Capt. U.S.A., Comd'g detachment Art.

To Captain J. M. Washington, Comd'g Company B, 4th Art.

Major: I have the honor to report, for the information of the commanding general, that as soon as the action commenced at Buena Vista on the morning of the 23d instant, a large body of the enemy's cavalry, (supposed about eighteen hundred,) under General Minon, left the position they had occupied during the night, and began to move up near the base of the mountains to my left, apparently to make a demonstration on this redoubt and on the encampment on my right, and at the same time to place themselves in the rear of the army. As soon as they came within range of my guns, I opened from both of my 24 pounder howitzers, which caused them some loss in men and horses, and drove them beyond the reach of my shot. They succeeded, however, in occupying the road between the army and the town, where they remained for some hours, picking up such stragglers as attempted to leave the field and gain the city. Between two and three o'clock, they began to move apparently with the design of gaining their former position; and as they could pass entirely beyond he range do the guns of the redoubt, I ordered one out under the command of Lieutenant Donaldson, supported by Capt. Wheeler's company if Illinois volunteers with directions to advance and take a position so as to annoy the enemy, but not to go beyond supporting distance of the gun remaining in the redoubt. Lieut. Shover also advanced one six pounder from the camp, and both guns took such a position as to flank each other, and at the same time reach the enemy. A brisk fire was then
opened with fine effect, driving them with great precipitation and considerable loss up the base of the mountain, along which they skirted, till they gained the position they first occupied on the plain near the rancho de los Ceritos, where they apparently encamped for the night. Next morning at daylight they were seen crossing the mountains, through the Palomas pass, since which they have not shown themselves on the Saltillo plain.

From all the information I can obtain, General Minon's loss must have amounted to fifty or sixty men and one captain, while no one was injured on our side.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your ob't ser't,

L.B. Webster,
Captain 1st Art., Com. Redoubt.

Maj. Munroe, Chief of Artillery.

Agua Nueva, March 2, 1847.

Sir: Having been directed to report the operations of my light battery, during the action of the 22d and 23d of February, I have the honor to state, that the action of the 22d, having been confined to the skirmishing of the infantry on the left flank of our line of battle, the battery was not brought into action of that day, remaining in reserve a short distance in rear of our line. Early on the morning of the 23d, Lieutenant Thomas's section took a position upon the plateau on our left; a 6 pounder, under Lieut. Thomas, in support of the right of a brigade of infantry, and a 12 pounder howitzer, under Lieutenant French, in support of its left. Soon after this section had taken its position, the action became general upon this flank, and indeed throughout the line; and my reserve section was ordered up, and took position on the right of Lieut. Thomas's piece-three pieces of my battery forming the right of a line of artillery, having Captain Bragg's battery in the center, and one of my howitzers on the left-the brigade of infantry having changed its position during the first part of the action, so as now to be engaged on the flanks of the artillery. The action was here kept up with intense warmth, the enemy making many efforts to sweep us from the plateau, with the evident intention of gaining possession of the only practicable passage for his artillery across that flank of our line. Though the plateau was held in spite of the desperate efforts of the enemy to gain it, yet, by closely hugging the mountain on our left, he succeeded in crossing large masses of cavalry and infantry over that part of our line, and thus seriously threatened in rear our most important positions. Here a crotchet in rear, with its left resting on Buena Vista, having been hastily formed for the purpose of repulsing these rear attacks, I was ordered, with a section of my battery, round to its support. A 6 pounder, under Lieutenant Reynolds, was left for the immediate support of a brigade of infantry, composed of the Mississippi and 3d Indiana regiments, forming the right of the crotchet, whilst I moved forward with a 12 pounder howitzer to disperse a large body of infantry that had sought shelter from our fire in a gorge of the mountain in my immediate front. This infantry having been dispersed and sent up the mountain, I then took the howitzer round to the immediate support of the Mississippi and 3d Indiana regiment-Lieutenant Reynolds's piece having been removed by Colonel May for the support of his squadron on the left of the crotchet. Here I would state that Lieut. French having been severely wounded in their action, his detached piece fell in the hands of Lieutenant Garnett, 4th artillery, who conducted it with great ability until it joined Lieutenant Reynolds, on his way to the support of Buena Vista. Although Lieutenant Reynolds did not reach that place with his two pieces in time to assist in repulsing the serious attack made upon it, yet he was enabled to bring up and serve his guns, so as to effectually disperse a large body of lancers which had still held together, and showed a firm front on the left of the place. The enemy having utterly failed in his attacks upon Buena Vista, and upon the left crotchet, he made another desperate effort to get possession of the key of our position by charging, with a heavy column of lancers, the right formed by the Mississippi and 3d Indiana regiments, and my 12 pound howitzer. This column, with a body of infantry opened such a galling fire as would almost stagger the best of troops. The brigade of infantry very judiciously fell back a short distance to obtain an advantageous position to receive the charge: the movement being covered by my howitzer. The proper position having been secured, a deadly fire was opened upon the column by the line of infantry, which at one hurled it into deep ravine below. The unwavering firmness and deadly fire of the Mississippi regiment on this occasion showed them equal to the most veteran troops. Every effort of the enemy having failed, he was compelled to retreat before the forward movement of the troops forming the crotchet, who gradually wheeled to the right, closing upon his disorganized masses, and driving him back before a sharp fire of canister and shell from battery, supported by that of Capt. Bragg of the left, and some pieces under Lieuts. O'Brien and Thomas upon the plateau on our right. During this movement the several parts of the crotchet, before separated by deep ravines and gullies, now closed upon each other, permitting the two pieces under Lieut. Reynolds to now join me. After having completely dispersed and driven the enemy into his old position, I was directed to take my battery back to the plateau, where I joined Lieut. Thomas, who had been constantly engaged during the forenoon in the preservation of that important position, and whom I found closely engaged with the enemy, and that too in a very advanced position. Here the enemy, taking an other stand, again made his greatest efforts to sweep us from the plateau-the battle raging as hot as ever. The whole of my battery, supported by Capt. Bragg's and by the Mississippi and other regiments of infantry, was her engaged during the rest of the day.-The position was preserved, and my battery bivouacked upon an advanced position of the plateau during the night. The enemy, having exhausted himself in his efforts to carry our positions, retired during the night with an immense loss.
I cannot close without taking pride in mentioning the warm and hearty cooperation given me by nearly every member of the company. The services of Lieut. French, I regret to say, were lost early in the day, but his severe wound attests the zeal with which he entered upon the field. Lieuts. Thomas and Reynolds behaved nobly throughout the action, and their coolness and firmness contributed not a little to the success of the day. Lieut. Thomas more than sustained the reputation he has long enjoyed in his regiment as an accurate and scientific artillerist.

I also regard it my duty to bring to the notice of the commanding general Sergeant Swaine and Artificer Austin, whose services stood conspicuous during the day as the result of both distinguished skill and bravery.

I enclose here with a report of the casualties which occurred in the battery during the action.

I have the honor to be your most obedient servant,

T. W. Sherman,
Capt. 3d Art'y, com'g light company "E."

Major W. W. S. Bliss, Ass't Adj't Gen'l.

Agua Nueva, Mexico,
March 2, 1847.

Major: I have the honor to report that I marched from Saltillo, under instructions from Major Monroe, chief of artillery, on the morning of the 22d of February, 1847, with one section (two pieces) of my battery—one gun under Captain Shover, having been detached for the defence of the town, and one under 2d Lieutenant Kilburn, to escort a train. On my arrival at Buena Vista, I was placed in reserve, and directed to hold myself in readiness for orders. About noon, under instructions from the commanding general, I crossed the deep ravine to the right of the road, and took up a commanding position on the extreme right of our line, supported by Col. McKee's regiment of Kentucky infantry. In this position, after throwing up a slight breastwork, I placed my guns in battery, and remained through the night, keeping a vigilant watch.

Early on the morning of the 23d skirmishing commenced on the extreme left of our line. From my position, I could clearly observe the enemy's movements, and perceived that, unless I recrossed the ravine, I should be excluded from the action then about to commence. At this time I was visited by Major Mansfield, engineers, and, after a short consultation, finding we fully coincided, I started to recross the ravine, and rejoin our main body. On facing to the rear, a heavy cloud of dust was perceived several miles off on the Saltillo road, and, knowing the enemy had a cavalry force in that direction, I feared he was moving upon our depot and train.—With the concurrence of Major Mansfield, I moved rapidly to that point, and on my arrival met a horseman who reported the force to be the commanding general with his escort. The action had now commence in my rear, and I countermarched and moved up to our lines. Passing no one in my route to instruct me, and finding an opening on the left of Capt. Stein's squadron, 1st dragoons, I came into action with marked effect on masses of the enemy's infantry then hotly pressing our front. Here I remained, and kept up my fire until I observed our left flank turned, and the enemy rapidly gaining our rear.—Being very closely pressed with musketry in front, and without adequate support, I retired some two or three hundred yards, and changed the direction of my fire to the left, so as to harass the head of the enemy's column, and check his advance upon our rear. A impassible ravine prevented my gaining his front. In this position my guns were arduously served for a considerable time. Captain Sherman was in my vicinity, and fired in the same direction with admirable effect. So destructive was our fire that the enemy's column was divided, and a large portion of it retired, leaving those in front, as I hoped, totally cut off. I immediately limbered to the front, and moved up in the direction of the foot of the mountains. Passing Colonel Hardin, with his regiment if Illinois infantry, I requested his support, which was promptly given. Having advanced as far as I deemed prudent against so heavy a force as opposed me, I came into action, and again played upon the enemy's infantry and cavalry. It was but a short time, however, before I discovered a light battery of several guns had been advanced by the enemy with in canister range of me; and in a short time it was opened with such effect, that I saw my men and horses must all fall if I maintained my position. I accordingly retired again beyond their range and fired upon the force which had gained our rear. I am particularly indebted to the lamented Colonel Hardin for his able support under this heavy fire.

My ammunition, by this time, was exhausted from my limber boxes; my old cannoneers could not leave their guns; and my recruits—for the first time under fire—I found unequal to the task of replenishing my supply. I therefore moved under cover in the ravine behind me, and rapidly transferred my ammunition to the forward boxes. Before completing it, a loud noise and a cloud of dust attracted my attention to the depot and train. I moved off in that direction, without orders at a rapid pace, supposing the enemy had attacked that point, and my presence might be essential in maintaining it.

Finding, when I arrived, that the attack had been made and repulsed, I directed my attention to
the large infantry and cavalry force which had turned our left flank, and was still advancing. At this time I saw that lieutenant Kilburn had joined me with his gun. He had been actively and gallantly engaged in my vicinity during the greater part of the day; but my close occupation caused me to overlook him. Seeing that force which had turned us was gradually moving along the foot of the mountain towards Saltillo, and was only held in check by Captain Sherman, with one gun, under the support of the Mississippi riflemen, which he had dashing advanced against at least 4,000 of the enemy, I put my battery in motion towards them, and sought support from scattered parties of mounted men in the vicinity of the train. About fifty followed me. By the time I arrived within range of the enemy—my movement being very slow, owing to the jaded condition of my horses—I noticed the Mississippi regiment gallantly led against a force immensely superior. Overwhelmed by numbers, it was forced to fall back. I am happy to believe that my rapid and well directed fire, opened just at this time, held the enemy in check until Colonel Davis could gain a position, and assume a stand. Under my fire the enemy retired some hundred yards, and I advanced the same distance, and again came into action. From this point I several times fell back, and as often advanced, regulating my movements by those of the enemy, my support being weak and uncertain. The effect of my fire was very apparent, frequently throwing whole columns into disorder. Whilst thus engaged, Gen. Wool came up, and at my request, ordered our cavalry, then some distance to my left, to move to my support. I at once approached within canister range, and felt confident I should inflict a loss upon the enemy from which he could not possibly recover. A white flag, however, rapidly passed me, and I ceased my fire. The enemy seized the opportunity, availed themselves of his protection of our flag, and drew off beyond the range of our guns.

As they were retiring by the very route they had advanced, I feared they would avail themselves of our weakness at that point and renew the attack, regardless of our flag; I accordingly reversed my battery, and urged my horses to their utmost. They were so exhausted, however, that a walk was all that could be forced from them by both whip and spur. Several deep ravines had to be passed by circuitous routes before I could reach my desired position; and, as I feared, before I could possibly get there, and awful roar of musketry commenced.—Knowing the importance of my presence, I left some of my heaviest carriages, caissons, and pushed on with such as could move most rapidly. Having gained a point from which my guns could be used, I put them in battery, and loaded with canister. Now, for the first time, I felt the imminent peril in which we stood. Our infantry was routed, our advanced artillery captured, and the enemy in heavy force coming upon us at a run. Feeling that the day depended upon the successful stand of our artillery, I appealed to the commanding general, who was near, for support. None was to be had; and, under his instructions to maintain our position at every hazard, I returned to my battery, encouraged my men, and, when the enemy arrived within good range, poured forth the canister as rapidly as my guns could be loaded. At the first discharge, I observed the enemy falter, and in a short time he was in full retreat. A very heavy loss must have been sustained by him, however, before he got beyond our range. My guns were now advanced several hundred yards, and opened on a position held by the enemy, with a battery of heavier calibre than our own—the same from which our left flank had been driven in the forenoon. Under the support of the Mississippi regiment, I continued my fire until convinced that nothing could be effected—the enemy holding an eminence from which we could not dislodge him without a sacrifice which might compromise the success of the day. I accordingly withdrew their fire.

Thus closed my severe labors for the day, except a few scattered shot fired at different parties of the enemy passing within our range. I had expended about 250 rounds of ammunition for each gun.

About sunset I withdrew my battery in the ravine in rear of our line, and took a position for the night from which I could readily move to any assailable point. Here I reminded—officers and men on the alert, and horses in harness. At daylight the next morning the rear guard of the enemy was seen in full retreat; and a minute examination of the field showed the awful destruction to his ranks, which we could scarcely realize before, but which not fully accounted for his movement.

Captain W. H. Shover, my 1st lieutenant, having been detached with one of my guns for the defence of Saltillo, I must refer to his report for a full account of the operations of that portion of my company. His deportment there, when viewed in connexion with his former distinguished conduct on more that one occasion, and his long and arduous services since the commencement of the war—he being the only officer with my battery who originally accompanied it to the field—deserve, and I hope will receive, the special notice of the commanding general.

Of Lieut. Kilburn, whose coolness, efficiency, and gallantry came under my particular notice, I cannot speak in terms of more complimentary than he deserves. His services are invaluable to me, whether in the camp, on the march or in action. I feel that it is unnecessary for me to say more of men, than to express the hope and belief that they have fully sustained the distinguished reputation the company has enjoyed since it first encountered the enemy of the field of Palo Alto.

It is a source of regret that, just at his critical time, I should have had so many recruits but partially instructed. By it, the accuracy and rapidity of my fire were both impaired, and my attention was frequently withdrawn from its proper direction to encourage, inspire and instruct them. The want of a full complement of officers to my company was also seriously felt.
I am, sir, very respectfully, your obed't. serv't.,
Braxton Bragg,
Capt. 3d art'y, commanding light Co. "C."

To Maj. W.W. S. Bliss, Ass't Adj't Gen'l, army of occupation.

[ANP]

NNR 72.234-72.235 June 12, 1847 report from Col. Charles Augustus May on actions of the dragoons at Buena Vista

Dragoon Camp, (near Agua Nueva, Mexico,)
March 3, 1847.

Major. In compliance with your directions, I have the honor to submit the following report of the services rendered by my command in the affair of the 22d, and the battle of the 23d ult. with the Mexican army. Immediately on receiving intelligence of the advance of the Mexican forces on the morning of the 22d, I accompanied the general chief with my squadron to the battle field. The action not becoming general that day, the duties of my squadron, consisting of seventy-two total, seventy-six aggregate.—As soon as I reached the scene of action, I took position near the squadron of the 1st dragoons, so as to be able to co-operate with it, if necessary, and also to be in supporting distance of Captain Sherman's battery. Shortly after this the battle became general, the enemy's grand column of attack having forced the position occupied originally by the Kentucky and Arkansas mounted volunteers, and driving them before it, was rapidly gaining ground towards our rear. At this moment the commanding general directed me to assume command of the dragoons, and check that column.

Capt. Stein, 1st dragoons, being absent or engaged in some other portion of the field, the command of the squadron of the 1st dragoons devolved on Lieut. Rucker. Owing to the numerous deep ravines cutting the entire field of battle, I was compelled to pursue a circuitous route to gain the head or front of the advancing column. On my way thither I was joined by Capt. Pike, Arkansas mounted volunteers, with his squadron, who informed me he had been ordered to report to me for duty. So soon as I appeared with my command in front of the enemy, his cavalry halted, under cover of a deep ravine, supported by large masses of infantry. At the same timeCols. Marshall and yell, separated from my command by a deep ravine, advanced their respective commands towards the enemy. By these combined movements the progress of the seemingly victorious column was checked. I maintained that position nearly an hour; during which time the enemy didn't advance beyond he defensive position assumed on my first appearance I his front. I was, however, unable to charge his cavalry, owing to he intervention of deep ravines.

The position I then occupied was eminently favorable for the use of artillery, and I accordingly despatched Lieut. Wood, my adjutant, to the commanding general requesting a piece of artillery to be sent to me. Before the arrival, however, of the piece of artillery placed under my orders by the general, I was ordered by Brigadier General Wool to return to the position I occupied first in the morning to support the batteries situated on the ridge nearest to he enemy, and which were also immediately under the eye of he general-in-chief. While in that position I was directed to detach Lieutenant Rucker, with the squadron of the 1st dragoons, with orders to proceed up the ravine under cover of the ridge and to charge the enemy's batteries situated on the plateau at the base of the mountain. He had not, however, proceeded more than a few hundred yards, when it was observed that he enemy's column on the left flank was again advancing, driving the Kentucky and Arkansas mounted volunteers, and menacing our rear. I was ordered by the commanding general to recall the squadron of the 1st dragoons and to proceed with my three squadrons and a section of artillery under Lieut. J.F. Reynolds, to check and force back this column. Before the squadron of the 1st dragoons could be recalled, it had gone so far up the ravine as to be in close range of the enemy's artillery. It was thus, for a short time, exposed to a severe fire, which resulted in the loss of a few men. The other two squadrons and the section of artillery were in the mean time placed in motion for Buena Vista, where a portion of our supplies were stored, and against which the enemy was directing his movements. Lieut. Rucker joined me near the rancho, and in time to assist me in checking he heavy cavalry force, which was then very near and immediately in our front. A portion of the enemy's cavalry, amounting, perhaps to two hundred men, not perceiving my command, crossed the main road near to the rancho and received a destructive fire from a number of volunteers assembled there. The remaining heavy column was immediately checked and retired in great disorder towards the mountains on our left, before, however, I could place my command in position to charge. Being unable, from the heavy clouds of dust, to observe immediately the movements of the body of cavalry which had passed the rancho, I followed it up and fond it had crossed the deep and marshy ravine on the right of the road, and was attempting to gain the mountains on the right.—I immediately ordered Lieut. Reynolds to bring his section into battery, which he did promptly, and, by a few well directed shots, dispersed and drove the enemy in confusion over the mountains. I next directed my attention to the annoying column which had occupied so strong a position on our left flank and read during the whole day,
and immediately moved my command to a position whence I could use my artillery on the masses
crowded it in the ravines and gorges of the mountains. As I was leaving the rancho =, I was joined
by about two hundred foot volunteers, under Major Gorman, and a detachment of Arkansas
mounted volunteers, under Lieut. Colonel Roane. Believing my command now sufficiently strong
for any contingency which might arise, I advanced it steadily towards the foot of the mountains
and to within a few hundred yards of the position occupied by the enemy. I then directed
Lieutenant Reynolds to bring his section again into battery; and, in the course of half an hour, by
the steady and destructive fire of his artillery, the enemy was forced to fall back. This advantage I
followed up; in doing which I was joined by a section of artillery under Captain Bragg. My
command still continued to advance, and the enemy to retire. We soon gained a position where
we were able to deliver a destructive fire, which caused the enemy to retreat in confusion. While
the artillery was thus engaged, by order of General Wool I steadily advanced the cavalry; but,
owing to the deep ravines which separated my command from the enemy, I was unable to gain
ground on him. The enemy having been thus forced to abandon his position on our left and rear, I
was again directed to assume a position in supporting distance of Captain Sherman's battery,
which occupied its former position on our left and rear; I was again directed to assume a position
in supporting distance of Captain Sherman's battery, which occupied its former position some
time, the general in chief directed me to move my command up the ravine towards the enemy's
batteries and to prevent any further advance on that flank. This position was occupied until the
close of the battle, the enemy never again daring to attempt any movement towards our rear.
The cavalry, except Captain Pike's squadron, which was detached for picket service on the right of
the road, occupied, during the night of the 23d, the ground near where I was directed last to take
my position before the close of the battle.-Finding, on the morning of the 24th, that enemy had
retreated it was joined by Capt. Pike's squadron, and ordered by the general in pursuit.

In closing this report, I should o injustice to my feeling were I to omit to bring to the notice of the
commanding general the steady bearing and gallant conduct of the officers and men of my
command.-The squadrons of the 1st and 2d dragoons, under command of Lieutenants Rucker and
Campbell, and the squadron of Arkansas mounted volunteers, under Captain Pike, displayed the
greatest coolness and steadiness under the heaviest fire of the enemy, and the greatest
promptitude in obeying all my commands that day. To Lieutenant Thos. J. Wood, my adjutant,
my thanks are particularly due for the prompt manner in which he conveyed my orders, and for
the battle energy and zeal he displayed throughout the battle, and to Lieutenant Reynolds, 3d
artillery, I must also tender my warmest thanks for the gallant and bold manner in which he
maneuvered his section of artillery, which rendered the most important and effective service.

I regret my inability to state the killed and wounded of the whole command, squadron
commanders not having furnished me the necessary information.

I have the honor to be, your very obed't. serv't.
C. A. May,
Brevet Lieut. Col. 2d dragoons, com'dg.

Major W. W. S. Bliss, Assistant Adj't Gen'l. army of occupation. [ANP]

"ARMY OF THE NORTH"

SANTE FE- The St. Louis Republican of the 28th ultimo says:

"About a dozen volunteers discharged from service in Col. Price's regiment at Santa Fe, on account
of ill health arrived in the city yesterday on the John J. Hardm. They left Santa Fe in detached
parties, the latest on the 21st of April, and reached Independence on Sunday last. They
brought a mail with them; but as it was deposited in the post office at Independence, our letters
have not yet reached us.

We learn, generally, from these volunteers that everything was in a tranquil state when they left
Santa Fe. The natives of the country were deprived of the means of doing mischief, even if they
were so disposed, having no arms upon which they could rely and no ammunition. The courts of
the trials of the rebels had closed both at Taos and Santa Fe, and the sanguinary executions,
which had taken place under their adjudication, were at end. The old man at Santa Fe, under
sentence of death for the part he played in the drama of rebellion, was awaiting the decisions of
the president of the United States in his case on a representation of all the facts, as contained in
papers which passed through this place some weeks since.

Colonel Price was in command at Santa Fe, which has proved the graveyard, for many young and
gallant men. Our informant states, that nearly four hundred persons were buried there, and in the
company commanded by Captain Horine, of St. Genevieve, 11 deaths had taken place. 13 others were discharged from the same company on account of ill health. One hundred had been discharged from Colonel Price’s regiment, on the same account.

In coming in, these parties met great numbers of Indians, whose principal object seemed to be the stealing of mules and horses. On the 12th instant, they were attacked at Pawnee fork, by about one hundred Comanche and Arapahoe Indians, and in the fight one Indian, the leader of the band was killed and several wounded, one or two of the Americans were slightly wounded. The Indians succeeded in driving off one hundred and five head of horses and mules, principally the property of a party of Mexican traders, traveling in company. The party, on their arrival at Independence, numbered 65 men, with 18 wagons and $65,000 in specie, belonging to Mexican traders.

The winter at Santa Fe had been excessively severe and of great duration. A man by the name of Hicks was killed at a dance in Santa Fe, shortly before the last of the company left.

Of the number of volunteers at Santa Fe, very few will enroll themselves for a new term of service.”

The St. Louis New Era at the same date says:

“A party of Mexican traders arrived this morning from Santa Fe, bringing with them $65,000 in specie. They contemplate going past to purchase goods. Another party is on them, and brings with them also a large amount of money.

We are delighted to learn by the latest dates from Saltillo that the AMERICAN XENOPHON, Col. Doniphan had been heard from. After returning to Chihuahua, as we mentioned before, had reached his started his march towards Saltillo. He had reached Parras, and was expected at Saltillo in a day or two, escorted by Capt. Pike, whose company of Arkansas, cavalry whose company of Arkansas had been dispatched for the purpose by Gen. Wool. A letter to Gen. Cushing from Monterey, states that Col. Doniphan was expected down the river shortly with his command. Massena's masterly movement with the French army when surrounded by the Russian Suwarrow, had been fairly matched by our intrepid western volunteers. [CPO]

NNR 72.240, June 12, 1847 ARMY OF INVASION

ARMY OF INVASION

Vera Cruz dates to the 25th, and Tampico to the 27th, reached New Orleans on the 31st May.

No arrivals from Gen. Scott’s army at Vera Cruz for several days. The diligence due on the 24th from Mexico, had not arrived. Mr. Kendall writes from Jalapa, May 16th, that owing to the non-arrival of the train expected that day, Gen. Scott would not be able to leave for some days. No official account of Gen. Worth's entrance into Puebla had reached headquarters on the 20th, although he occupied the place on the 15th. On the 21st, a diligence arrived with intelligence that all was quiet at Puebla.

The Jalapa stage was attacked by rancheros or robbers a few miles from Puente Nacional, on the 23d ult., and robbed. The driver managed to escape after having been dreadfully beaten, and reaching Vera Cruz, gave the alarm. It is much feared the passengers have been killed. This circumstance, however, must not be taken as a guerrilla affair. For it does not appear that there are any regularly organized bands between Vera Cruz and Jalapa. The assailants were, no doubt, acting independently, and were careless whom they attacked, friend or foe, countryman or foreigner, provided they obtained booty.

El Republicano of the 19th announces that General Bravo has proposed to the supreme government that American prisoners should be sent off “successively and with due security” to Tampico to be released, inasmuch as Mexican prisoners taken at the Augustura and Sierra Gordo and been released without condition. [WFF]

NNR 72.240 June 12, 1847, Mexican proposal to release American prisoners at Tampico

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NNR 72.240 June 12, 1847, Com. Matthew Calbraith Perry’s cruise putting the tariff into effect

NAVAL. Com. Perry has returned to Sacrificio from his cruise to the south, having touched at Laguna, Frontera, and other ports on the coast putting the American-Mexican tariff in operation. He took possession of the fort at the mouth of the river Guascaualco, and of a town some 20 miles up that river.

On the 19th the English frigate Alarm, brig Darling and steamer Vesuvius, left the anchorage of Sacrificios for Havana, with several cases of yellow fever on board. The vomito has made its appearance in this city, but as yet in few cases. Vera Cruz has already nearly recovered from the effects of the siege, the people are returning, the knocked down houses are being rebuilt, the streets cleaned, shops opened, and all the activity of a seaport displayed. Among other things we have an American circus in full operation. [CPO]

NNR 72.240 June 12, 1847 Naval News

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NNR 72.240 June 12, 1847 recovery of Veracruz from the effects of the siege

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NNR 72.240 June 12, 1847, denunciation of Gen. Winfield Scott’s proclamation to the Mexican people

MEXICO
By way of Tampico, city of Mexico dates to the 19th of May have reached New Orleans.

The election of president was held on the 15th of May, but as the election is made by the states, it will be some time before the result can be known. Herrera, ex-president, had received the vote of Queretaro, which probably gave rise to the report that he had been elected president. Each state, so far as heard from, has voted for candidates of their own, no candidate having as yet more than one vote, nor had Santa Anna received a vote, so far. Alvarez is a competitor for the presidency. After placing Acapulco on the Pacific in a state of defense, he is now approaching the capital at the head of 4,000 troops. Melchor Ocampa a friend of Anaya, is also a candidate and got the vote of Puebla. Angel Trias got the vote of Mexico.

General Scott’s proclamation to the people of Mexico, reached the Mexican congress on the 14th May. The Republicano denounces it severely. [CPO]

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NNR 72.240 June 12, 1847, Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna returns to Mexico City, is stoned
NNR 72.240 June 12, 1847, Mexican fortifications
NNR 72.240 June 12, 1847, Pacific squadron threatens Mazatlan and San Blas

Santa Anna at the Capital- Santa Anna after precipitately quitting Puebla, as Gen. Worth advanced and took possession thereof on the 15th published an account of his previous operations, and of the skirmish near Puebla with his cavalry, in which he admits the loss of some half dozen men. Another of his publications gave account of preparations for defending the approaches to the capital. He afterwards issued a manifesto, addressed to the nation, but of which no copy has yet been received.

Leaving his army, variously estimated at from 15,000 to 30,000 men to the command of other officers, Santa Anna proceeded towards the capital, which he entered on the 19th of May. His reception was very different from what he had hoped. "The populace or rabble, principally leperos, assembled to receive the President an interim and at first showered upon him curses, both "loud and deep", and soon afterwards commenced stoning him. An armed force of his friends with great difficulty saved his life, and conveyed him to the palace. La Patria, the Spanish paper at New Orleans, has this information from a commercial correspondent at Mexico, whose letter is dated the 21st of May.

The Republicano of the 18th tells us that the Mexicans were fortifying the hills or bridges of Loreto, Guadalupe and San Juan, and that an advanced division of Mexicans had been pushed as far as Rio Prieto, four leagues west of Puebla.

The Pacific Squadron, on the 28th of April a squadron of six of eight vessels was off Mazatlan, and a thousand men were to disembark to take the town. Letters from Mazatlan say they were making there every operation for defense, but if the descent is made in as great force as it is represented, they can make no defense of much account. Other accounts say that the port of San Blas too was menaced by our squadron, and that is was the purpose of the Americans to land and take the town. [CPO]

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NNR 72.240 June 12, 1847, expectation that Gen. Zachary Taylor will advance to San Luis Potosi
NNR 72.240 June 12, 1847, fatal duel between lieutenants in the Virginia volunteers
NNR 72.240 June 12, 1847, reduction in the force under Gen. Zachary Taylor through return of volunteers
NNR 72.240 June 12, 1847, Gen. Caleb Cushing ordered to join Gen. Zachary Taylor
NNR 72.240 June 12, 1847, indignation of the Matamoras traders over the Mexican tariff

**ARMY OF OCCUPATION**

Brazos dates to the 25th, Monterey to the 15th and Saltillo to the 14th of May, were received at New Orleans.

A letter to the N.O. Delta dated Monterey 15th May says: "Here we are pretty much after the old sort. Again all thing, seem to denote a movement of this column, and I think, by the 1st of June, old Rough and Ready will pack his knapsack for San Luis Potosi. I intended going, and have attached myself to the company of Captain J. H. Bean. The young captain is from old Kentucky, and is a good specimen of that noble state, of whose gallantry and courage Americans say well, be proud. You may look out for squalls at San Louis. They say it is there the Mexicans will make their final great struggle, but we will see what we shall see. The whether here at present, is as
hot, if not more hot, then you have it in New Orleans.”

An article in the Picayune, leads us to apprehend that a duel had taken place between a couple of lieutenants of the Virginia volunteers, at China about the 21st, in which both the combatants were killed. The name of one Mahan is given, the other not recalled. We hope the whole story may prove to be unfounded.

Lieut. Mahan was a law student, the son of F. Mahan, the publisher of Taylor’s fashions, Philadelphia, where the lieutenant left a wife and had two children, one born since he left for Mexico. He took an active part in raising the fifty-one recruits from the city of Philadelphia for the VA regiment, and preceded with them to Richmond, under assurances from the Virginia recruiting officer, that he should be one of the lieutenants of the company. At Richmond he found competitors, and it was not until the Pennsylvanians refused to embark for Mexico unless he was made an officer, that his claim was recognized. Ill feeling was engendered, and a sad tragedy has resulted.

General Taylor had been unwell, but has recovered.

A letter from the Brazos correspondent of the New Orleans Bee furnishes particulars respecting the return of the volunteers that had constituted most of Gen. Taylor’s forces at Buena Vista. They were all en route for home, and reinforcements on their way to replace them, were by no means equal in numbers, nor were what there were of them, yet disciplined, or even organized, except one or two regiments. The writer thinks it manifest that General Taylor will neither be in force or donation to make a movement beyond his present location, shortly.

Gen. Cushing had received orders to proceed with the Massachusetts regiment from Matamoras, to join Gen. Taylor. Though not recovered, he designed setting out in a few days. Capt. E. Webster now at New Orleans, has been appointed aid to Gen. Cushing. An election was to be held in the Massachusetts regiment on the 27th, for a colonel to succeed Col. Now Gen. Cushing. Three men of the regiment recently deserted, and attempting to reach Brazos, were murdered by a party of Comanche’s that met with them.

The Ohio regiment was to leave Monterey on the 19th and the 1st Indiana regiment on the 20th for home.

The traders of Matamoras are indigent at the new tariff to Mexican ports. The flag advises them to call public meeting to denounce it.

The Indians are becoming very troublesome in Texas and along the Rio Grande. [CPO]

NNR 72.240 June 12, 1847, movement of the “American Star” from Jalapa to Puebla

"THE AMERICAN STAR," reaches us from a friend and gallant officer. The editor in the number for the 13th of May, announces that having no affinity to the "fixed starts" his star will rise no more at Jalapa. He shoots for the darkest quarter in the horizon, there to contribute his mite to enlighten the benighted. After rising again at Puebla, for a short season, he expects to assist in illuminating “the hails.” [CPO]

NNR 72.240 June 12, 1847 Tennessee volunteers return to New Orleans

The Heroes of Monterey. - Just one year ago there marched through our streets as noble and splendid a body of men as ever went forth to battle. They were about nine hundred strong. The men were in the vigor of youthful manhood, and as in perfect order and with military precision they paraded through our city, the admiration of our people broke forth in loud applause of the gallant array. This was the first Tennessee regiment, under the heroic veteran Col. Campbell. They left our city fresh from their own happy homes in the mountains and by the river sieds in beautiful Tennessee, full of hope, ambition, and patriotism: they departed in cheerful spirits with impatient ardor for the scene of war. * * *

On Friday last the whole of this gallant regiment, whose history we have thus briefly sketched, arrived in our city. It numbers just three hundred and fifty, about one third the force with which it left. And this loss it has sustained in a twelve months’ campaign. It has averaged a loss of fifty men a month. [NGP]
Money Matters At The South. Money and exchange. The exchanges continue depressed, and money scarce, principally, if not exclusively, owing to the action of the government. The complaints are justly loud and general, as to the mode the department has adopted, for making their numerous and heavy payments at this place, in which, notwithstanding its manifest injustice to individuals, and the general injury and derangement it occasions to the business of the city, they will still persevere.

Parties having claims for supplies, or otherwise, are still compelled to take drafts on the north, and those receiving army bills from Mexico, can only get them settled in the same manner, all, or most of which drafts coming on the market, in addition to the usual supply of bills from regular business operations, depresses exchange and obliges the holders to part with them at from 2 to 2 1/2, and in some instances even at 3 per cent loss.

In looking over the American newspapers published in Mexico, we see the disbursing officers of the army advertising their bills on New Orleans for sale, and when parties, with full confidence in the good faith of the government, pay their specie funds for these drafts, they find, on presenting them to the proper officer at this place, that the government has entirely neglected to provide and funds to meet the payment, and they have no claim for damages nor interest, which they would have against an individual. They are then compelled to go without their money, or take in settlement other drafts on distant point, on which they must suffer a heavy loss! The natural consequence of this violation of the public's faith has been to destroy the credit of these drafts in Mexico, and to deprive the government of the great facility of obtaining specie there, free of expense, thus obliging them to send coin from the United States at an enormous cost, particularly when it is recollected what are the expenses for transportation there, to say nothing of the necessity of escorts, to protect it, and the loss of the services of these troops.

But oppressive and unjust as is the tax thus inflicted on individuals, it is not a tythe to what it saddles upon the planters and farmers of the country, who have sent their produce for sale at this place. The present state of exchanges in this city, is an actual and indisputable tax, of one dollar upon every bale of cotton - of fifteen cents on every barrel of flour, and two cents upon every bushel of corn, sold in New Orleans, during the present state of things.

To a business man all this is self-evident, and requires no explanation, for it is very clear that parties who buy and ship produce, landed in a foreign port, must include the loss of exchange on their bills, just as much as the cost of freight; and a purchaser, who will give ten cents per pound for cotton, when he sells his bill at two and a half per cent loss, would give ten and a quarter cents, if he could obtain par for his drafts.

Including what the two armies in Mexico will require, the public expenditure at New Orleans, between this and the first of August, will, it is said, be five millions of dollars; and if the present system is to be continued, and this large sum to be raised by forcing government drafts on the market, the effect on exchange, and the general injury to business, may readily be imagined.

Our banks already hold between four and five millions of northern, exchange, and there is still immense quantity of produce to go forward, (of cotton alone, the present stock is about 175,000 bales, worth seven million dollars,) all of which when shipped must be drawn for. These mercantile bills will furnish a supply, fully equal to what the market can legitimately absorb, and to have the government drafts thrown upon it, in the extra amount of four or five millions, cannot result otherwise than injuriously.

This derangement of exchanges, and consequent loss to the growers of produce, is one of the legitimate results of the subtreasury system, but, at present, greatly aggravated by the want of foresight, or want of financial knowledge, or of both, at Washington.

It is more inexcusable, because Mr. Walker has the prompt and effectual remedy in his hands, by issuing treasury notes to the parties here, in payment for their claims. But if he is unwilling to allow them the benefit of the premium, they at present command him even sell them in the market, and put the premium into the Treasury, and then pay the claimants in par funds. Let us, at any rate, no longer see the disgraceful practice continued of the treasury sheltering itself behind its immunity from the operation of legal proceedings and compelling its creditors to accept a depreciated currency in settlement of just demands. [NGP]
employed, of late, by orders from Government for bombshells, for which they are paid five cents a pound. Since the war commenced, the whole quantity turned out, in that city, exceeds 420 tons. The St. Louis bombs are said to be equal in quality to those made in the Eastern States. They are, doubtless, warranted to kill! [NGP]

NRR 72.242 June 12, 1847 modification of the tariff on Mexico

Sir: In compliance with your directions, I have examined the questions presented by the secretary of war, in regard to the military contributions proposed to be levied in Mexico under the tariff and regulations sanctioned by you on the 31st of March last, and respectfully recommend the following modifications, viz:

1st: On all manufactures of cotton, or of cotton mixed with any other material except wool, worsted, and silk in the piece or in any other form, a duty, as a military contribution, or thirty per cent ad valorem.

2nd: When goods on which the duties are levied by weight are imported into said ports in the package, the duties shall be collected on the net weight only; and in all cases an allowance shall be made for all deficiencies, leakage, breakage, or damage, proved to have actually occurred during the yokage of importation, and made known before the goods is warehoused.

3rd: The period named in the 8th of said regulations, during which the goods may remain in warehouse before the payment of duties, is extended from thirty to ninety days; and within said ninety days any portion of the said goods on which the duties of a military contribution, have been paid may be taken, free of any further duty at any other port or ports of Mexico in our military possession; the facts of the case, with a particular description of said goods, and the statement that the duties thereon have been paid, being cotton from by the proper officer of the port or ports of shipment.

4th: It is intended to provide by the treaty of produce that all goods imported during the war into any of the Mexican ports in our military possessions should be exempt from any new import duty of confiscation by Mexico, in the same manner as said goods had been imported, and paid the import duties prescribed by the government of Mexico.

Most respectfully, your ob't serv't
R.J. Walker,
Secretary of the Treasury

[NGP]

NRR 72.244 June 12, 1847 prompt response in Illinois to War Department requisition for additional troops

Requisition for volunteers from Illinois. The war department has called upon the governor of Illinois for an additional regiment of volunteer infantry, and one company of mounted men. This is in addition to the regiment of infantry and the mounted company recently called from the state, for which the governor issued his proclamation on the 29th of April, and on the 8th of May, four companies more than were required had reported themselves ready for the field:

From

Schuyler county cavalry Capt. A. Dunlap
Bond do infantry Thos. Bond
Manion do do C. Turner
Williamson do do J. Cunningham
Brown do do E. B. Newby
St. Clair do do G. W. Cook
Cook do do -- Kerney
La Salle do do H.J. Reed
Williamson do do Jas. Hampton
Shelby do do R. Madison
Four companies, one from Alton, Captain Wheeler; one from Edwardsville, Capt. Niles; one from Vandalia, Captain Lee; and one from, Green, Capt. Bristow, were reported but a few hours after the requisition was filled. [NGP]

NNR 72.244 June 12, 1847 return of Mississippi volunteers from Mexico to New Orleans

Mississippi troops arrived. On Saturday morning companies F, K, and I, on the 1st Mississippi regiment arrived in the sch. P. B. Savoy, from Brazos St. Jago. These companies are commanded by Capatain Delaye, Taylor and Rogers. The Savoy left the Brazos on the 30th.

The brig Forrest arrived yesterday from the Brazos bringing five more companies of the 1st regiment Mississippi volunteers, company A, Capt. Sharp; company B, Capt. Cooper; company C, Capt. Willis; company E, Lieut. Fletcher, commanding; company H, Capt. Glendenning and Col. Jefferson Davis, numbering 185 men rank and file. [NGP]

NNR 72.244 June 12, 1847 notice of Army troop movements

Troops. The steamer Arkansas No. 4 Captain Beatty, from Little Rock, brought down Capt. Woods, with company C, 12th regiment U.S. Infantry from fort Smith.

The steamship Fashion left Vera Cruz 30th unit and reached New Orleans on the 3rd with Lieut. Murray, company E, 2nd regiment Pennsylvania volunteers; Lieut. L.H. Kane, company D, 1st regiment regulars; Lieut. Fellingale, 1st regiment. Pennsylvania volunteers; James Johnson, quartermaster's sergeant, 2nd regiment Pennsylvania volunteers, and about forty discharged volunteers, many of them wounded and very sick.

The ship Zenobia arrived at Vera Cruz from New York on the 28th, having on board 193 troops principally of the 4th and 5th, 1st, Lieut. H. Price of the 4th infantry, and 2nd Lieut. J.W. Lendrum of the 3rd infantry. Fourteen of the men, were recruits for several regiments of infantry, under command of Capt. J.H. Whipple, of the 5th. [NGP]

NNR 72.244 June 12, 1847 return of the Tennessee volunteers to Nashville

Tennessee Volunteers. The principal portion of the first Tennessee volunteer regiment reached Nashville Thursday and Friday week. They were received by the citizens with every public demonstration. All business was suspended during the reception, and the people turned out in mass and escorted them from the boat to the market house, where they were welcomed home by Major R. B. Turner. During the evening the rejoicing was kept up by a torch - light procession, firing of salutes, &c. [NGP]

NNR 72.244 June 12, 1847 return of the Louisville Legion from Mexico

The Louisville Legion of Volunteers, returning from the wars, (their term having expired,) arrived at home on Tuesday morning last. The citizens of Louisville had gotten up a grand parade to receive the brave fellows; but it wouldn't do, the moment the boats touched the wharf all hands jumped on ship and "broke" for home, to see their sweethearts and wives. [NGP]

NNR 72.245 June 12, 1847 Gov. Jared W. Williams of New Hampshire on the war

Under this administration our rights have been manfully asserted and maintained - our resources and means of national security and defense augmented, and the area of this great republic and the blessings of Christianity and free government, greatly extended.

True it is to be regretted that the republic of Mexico should have refused the just and conciliatory
terms proffered her by our government for an amiable adjustment of difficulties, and that misguided counsels should have instigated her citizens to invade our soil, slay our innocent citizens, and involve our country in war. It is however, consolatory to know that inability to resist could alone have justified our government in longer forbearing to protect our rights against Mexican barbarry and outrage. Any further surrender would have furnished proof that there was no limit in degradation and disgrace to which we might not be carried, and that we were unworthy to enjoy the liberty purchased by the blood of our fathers. Our country fortunately under the smiles of heaven has her destiny in her own hands. Though strongly attached to peace, when duty requires her to relinquish it, danger has no terrors to deter her from the performance of her sacred obligations. These obligations have been clearly delineated in the appeal made by our patriotic president to the people, and with heartfelt and patriotic feeling they nobly responded to the appeal. Shielded by the justice of their cause, they gallantly rushed to the battle field, and by deeds of invincible valor vanquished greatly superior forces of the enemy, and vindicated the rights and honor of our country.

So strong, however, is the disposition of some detract from the justice of the war and the imperishable fame acquired by its brave officers and soldiers, that they would gladly connect its objects with the extension of slavery. [NGP]

NNR 72.246 June 12, 1847 new regiment of Texas six months' men in service

Volunteers. Texas has now in the service a new regiment of six month's men, recently organized at Brazos: three companies under Major Chevalin; six companies under Major Thomas J. Smith; M'Callouch's company of Rangers, Captain Conner's company, General Lamar; and perhaps some others. [NGP]

NNR 72.249 June 19, 1847 several Mexican robbers taken and tried, robbery of Mexicans by their countrymen

From the Vera Cruz Eagle of the 29th of May.

HORRID.--It is with pain mingled with a desire for vengeance that we undertake to relate another massacre of our countrymen in the most cruel and brutal manner. In our paper of last Saturday (only one week ago) we announced the fact that Col. Sowers was in this city as bearer of despatches to General Scott, and to-day we are called upon to inform the public of his horrid death--not with his enemy in front to oppose him, but cowardly shot by those who dared not show themselves.

It appears that he left this city on Saturday last, with an escort of five men and Lieutenant Donnell of Capt. Wheat's company; expecting to find the captain at Santa Fe, or at most a very short distance the other side. They arrived at Santa Fe and lodged there during the night, finding that Capt. Wheat had left; in the morning, anxious to push forward (although it was ascertained that Capt. W. was some thirty miles ahead) with an addition of two more to the escort, Col. Sowers set out for Jalapa. The next that we know of this little party is by the arrival of one of the men, who returned and reported its surprise and destruction. In consequence of the falsity of the greater number of similar stories, Col. Wilson, our governor, had the man arrested as a deserter.--Thus matters stood until yesterday, when developments were made by an arrival from Jalapa--the first that had reached us for a week--tending to confirm our worst fears.

We conversed yesterday with a gentleman who arrived in the morning, and he informs us that at a point two miles on the other side of Puente Nacional, he saw the ruins of the diligence, underneath which was a human body stripped, with the exception of a pair of drawers, and mutilated in the most beastly manner. This is supposed to be the body of Colonel Sowers. Near him lay another perfectly naked and likewise dreadfully mangled. Our informant was assured that five other bodies lay in some thick chaparral a short distance from the road. Now the number of killed, with the man who escaped, exactly corresponds with that of the party which accompanied the unfortunate Colonel Sowers, and leaves no doubt in our mind of its destruction.

A party of Mexican robbers recently captured near Vera Cruz by a party of amateurs under Col. Banks. Ten of them have been tried for robbing, secreting arms and ammunition, &c. Five have been acquitted and five convicted. The latter were sentenced to four and a half months' work upon the public streets and thoroughfares in chains. Two more yet remained to be tried. We hope this example may be salutary.

The Eagle informs us that on the 28th a party of six Mexicans, coming into Vera Cruz from Santa Fe were attacked by some of their own countrymen and robbed of all they had about them. [CCB]
NNR 72.248 June 12, 1847 shipment of over two million in specie to the south

Specie. Government has recently shipped over $2,000,000 in specie to the south. [NGP]

NNR 72.249 June 19, 1847 vomito prevailing at Veracruz

The yellow fever, el vomito, as it should be called, is not getting really serious amongst us. Thirteen cases terminated fatally yesterday, and to-day already I have heard of the death of three individuals whom I personally knew. Two of these are from New Orleans, Mr. Cohen, of the firm of Smithfield and Cohen, and a Mr. Michael, more recently from Tampico. Col. Kearny, the government contractor is now lying in a very dangerous state. [ANP]

NNR 72.249 June 19, 1848 rumors of Jose Joaquin Herrera’s election premature, Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna still at Mexico and in the presidential chair

Well, our reports of Herrera’s elections prove to have been premature, to say the least of it. Santa Anna is at the capital, in much less discredit that we have been led to believe, and in the full of exercise of the functions of his office. Upon his arrival he proposed to resign his seat, but contrived matters so as to have his proposition rejected.

An election will take place on the 13th, when it is hoped that Herrera will be chosen; but Santa Anna creatures are too numerous, and its possible now to favorable for the control of the required interests, to permit me to indulge in such a hope, in any degree confidently.

He expresses an intention to fortify the town, at least with a large ditch and embankment, and to place a force in the city capable of keeping off the Americans. For these purposes he demands four hundred thousand dollars, and has impressed all the horses and mules that can be reached.

A letter from a well informed German merchant of the capital, to his brother in this city says, that Santa Anna has within his control a force of near ten thousand men, besides those on their way under Alvarez, and that he will soon have an army around him capable of annoying, if not of seriously opposing Gen. Scott. Valencia and Bravo are said to have resigned their respective commands. The government is to be established at Morelia.

No disturbances whatever had taken place at Puebla; on the contrary, the people both of the city and country seemed to be much pleased with their conquerors, and trade is quite brisk. Communication with the seacoast seems only to be required, to bring all right again. Generals Scott and Worth were both in Puebla when the courier passed through that city. [NGP]

NNR 72.249 June 19, 1847 recruitment of reinforcements to replace the twelve months' volunteers in Mexico

Reinforcements - The Washington Union says: - "We learn that the measure adopted by the government to send forward reinforcements to replace the twelve months' volunteers withdrawn from the army under the immediate orders of Major General Scott, have been very successful; and that, although the twelve months' troops have left the seat of war some weeks before the expiration of their term, their places will soon be supplied by other troops.

It is calculated that nearly 7,000 regulars, old and new regiments, will soon reinforce the main army via Vera Cruz - of which between 2,000 and 3,000 doubtless have arrived at Vera Cruz in all April and May; and, of the residue, a large proportion will reach that place, it is supposed, by the middle of June." [NGP]

NNR 72.249 June 19, 1847 Col. Sowers with dispatches for Gen. Winfield Scott massacred and the dispatches captured

Horrid. It is with pain mingled with a desire for vengeance that we undertake to relate another
massacre of our countrymen in the most cruel and brutal manner. In our paper of last Saturday (only one week ago) we announced the fact that Col. Sowers was in this city as bearer of dispatched to General Scott, and today we are called upon to inform the public of his horrid death - not with his enemy in front to oppose him, but cowardly shot by those who dared not show themselves.

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**NNR 72.249 June 19, 1847 Mexicans fortifying Rio Frio Pass**

The Rio Frio Pass - Now becomes the great point of interest, as the enemy intend to make a stand there, and that we shall have another severe battle. A gentleman who has traveled through the country, and is familiar with this pass, describes it as much more formidable than that of Cerro Gordo. It goes through the mountain with a steep ascent and for nearly three miles the road, with high and rugged sides, is only sufficient to admit the passage of a single wagon at a time. There is no possibility of turning it, and no mode of attack, except by a direct movement, through the pass. If this really be so, we should think, that with ordinary sciences and courage, it could be readily defended, but we heard pretty much the same story of Cerro Gordo some other plan of attack will be more practicable, than by marching through a single narrow gorge of the mountain, for two or three miles under the fire of an enemy, on the steep sides of the road. The pass is about 36 miles from the capital, and Rio Frio (Cold River) supplies the city with water. [NGP]

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**NNR 72.249 June 19, 1847 rumors of insurrection at Puebla**

Vera Cruz dates to the 1st of June were received at New Orleans on the 1st an exciting rumor from Puebla, mentioned in letters from Vera Cruz, that the citizens of Puebla had risen upon Gen. Worth, and cut off six or seven hundred of his men. The rumor was in every man's mouth at Vera Cruz and much credence given to it. The latest accounts prove the tale to be unfounded. [NGP]

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**NNR 72.249 June 19, 1847 Gen. Winfield Scott advances; Gen. David Emanuel Twiggs enters Puebla**

Gen. Scott left Jalapa on the 23rd for Puebla, at the head of nearly 6,000 men. Gen. Twiggs' division part of Scott's force entered Puebla on the 28th - all well. [NGP]
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>June 19, 1847</td>
<td><strong>rumor of a Mexican advance on Puebla</strong></td>
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<td>The rumors at Puebla on the 29th was, that Generals Bustamente and Leon were advancing with a large Mexican force. [NGP]</td>
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<td>June 19, 1847</td>
<td><strong>Gen. Winfield Scott between Puebla and Perote</strong></td>
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<td>The <em>New Orleans Bulletin</em> says - Gen. Scott had not reached Puebla, but was between that place and Perote. [NGP]</td>
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<td>June 19, 1847</td>
<td><strong>prisoners at liberty</strong></td>
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<td>Major Gaines, Borland, Cassiums Clay, Midshipman Rodgers, and all the other American prisoners, have been released, and were at liberty in the city. [NGP]</td>
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<td>June 19, 1847</td>
<td><strong>Jose Joaquin de Herrera elected president of Mexico, clergy favor peace</strong></td>
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<td>Herrera had been elected president, and the clergy were in favor of peace. It was said he could immediately make a public declaration to that effect. We saw a letter by the last arrival, from an officer in Gen. Scott’s army, and whose situation was highly favorable for obtaining correct information, which said peace would shortly be made. [NGP]</td>
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<td>June 19, 1847</td>
<td><strong>sickness at Veracruz</strong></td>
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<td>Sickness prevailed to a great extent at Vera Cruz. There were 49 deaths the day of the departure of the New Orleans, and 1,800 in hospital, this included the wounded and those that had been sent from Cerro Gordo. [ANP]</td>
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<td>June 19, 1847</td>
<td><strong>rumors of a change in military command in Mexico, progress of the peace party</strong></td>
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<td>The <em>Arco Iris</em> also learned through several persons at Vera Cruz, who received information from the interior, that the peace part in the capital was divided into two parts, one in favor of Santa Anna, and the other in favor of Herrera who were the two prominent candidates for the presidency. [NGP]</td>
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<td>June 19, 1847</td>
<td><strong>arrival of a train at Jalapa, Capt. Samuel Hamilton Walker’s skirmishes with lancers</strong></td>
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<td>A train of 200 wagons arrived yesterday afternoon from Vera Cruz, and proceeded this morning, in company with Gen. Twiggs’s division towards Puebla and the city of Mexico. Captain Walker’s gallant band of mounted men accompanied the train, and during the journey had two skirmishes with a superior force of Mexican lancers or robbers. The last took place at Santa Fe, at an early hour in the morning of Wednesday last, which resulted in the complete rout of the enemy, over 200 hundred in number, who had 10 killed and many wounded. Our men had several wounded, but none dangerously. The 2nd dragoons who were first attacked by the lancers, while reposing in slumber, had six killed and eleven wounded. Walker, in person, pursued the wretches, as far and well as the darkness of the occasion would admit, captured six prisoners, who were handed over to the dragoons, and almost instantly shot dead. Captain Walker has 180 men, only 100 of which are mounted. They are a fine body, and their gallant commander is now &quot;the lion&quot; of Jalapa.</td>
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Gen. P.F. Smith has recovered his health, and has taken command of his brigade, the 1st in Gen. Twiggs division. He marched on Saturday last, with Gen. Scott, for Perote. [NGP]

NNR 72.250 troops at Veracruz waiting to start for the interior

A letter dated Vera Cruz, May 31 says: There are low about one thousand troops here, ready and anxious I assure you, to start for the interior as soon as the specie arrives. The officers complain much at being kept here so long in a sickly encampment. There a some ten or fifteen hundred men waiting to march.

[The force which reached Vera Cruz under Gen. Cadwallader on the 1st June, from Brazos, we presume would number at least 1,500 in addition to the above, ready to march to join Gen. Scott.]

Gen. La Vega it at Jalapa on parole. [ANP]

NNR 72.250 June 19, 1847 George Wilkins Kendall states Gen. Winfield Scott's aggregate available force at 9,000 men

A statement is made in many of the papers of the United States, I believe in the Union among others, to the effect that Gen. Scott will shortly have 20,000 men with which to march upon the city of Mexico. The assertion may not be positively made, but it is given in such a way that the public may really think that he has this overwhelming force. Now what is the real state of the case? I will give it formed upon the last . . . [illegible].

There are not on this line of operations including the garrisons of Vera Cruz, Jalapa and Perote there are not, I say more than 9,000 effective men, all told none are more than 100 percent at the present time on the way to swell the [illegible] [NGP]

NNR 72.250 June 19, 1847 election of Massachusetts officers, departure from Matamoros

From the Matamoros Flag we learn that Lieut. Col. Abbot with four companies of Massachusetts volunteers escorting a wagon train and a number of artillery horses, took up the line of march for Cerralvo on Saturday, the 29th. Col. Wright, with the remaining six companies, was to proceed by boat to Camargo hence to Monterey, as soon as transportation could be had. The troops remaining at Matamoros after the departure of the Massachusetts regiment will be three companies of the 3rd dragoons - Hayes, Butler's, and Merrick's. These dragoon companies are not yet furnished with horses. [NGP]

NNR 72.250 June 19, 1847 Col. Jack Hays at Palo Alto with his Rangers

Col. Jack Hays, with his regiment of Texas rangers, was at Palo Alto, ready to march for General Taylor's headquarters. They are said to be a fine body of men. [NGP]

NNR 72.250 June 19, 1847 troops at Saltillo anticipating an advance to San Luis

The correspondent of the Picayune writes: We all look forward here to the prospect of a speedy movement upon San Luis with confidence, and daily expect the arrival of fresh troops from below.

It is thought that the Parras route will be selected and it is represented to me as a most delightful one. A train is about starting off and I have not time to write more. It is the 2nd Ohio regiment that goes today. They are now entering the town. [NGP]

NNR 72.250, 72.251 forces, how posted
NNR 72.250 June 19, 1847 third dragoons ordered to join Gen. Winfield Scott

The destination of one half the 31st regiment of dragoons, which was ordered to join Gen. Taylor, has been changed. Five companies have been ordered to join Gen. Scott. Three of these companies - to wit: Capt. Duperu's of Louisiana, Capt. Gaither's, of Kentucky, and Capt. Ford's of Indiana, leave this evening in the Fashion for Vera Cruz, under Lieut. Col. T.P. Moore. Capt. McReynolds company, from Michigan, will probably leave tomorrow on the steamship Mary Kingsland for the same destination. [NGP]

NNR 72.250 June 19, 1847 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna resigns executive power (not accepted)

The diversion of troops intended for Gen. Taylor would lead us to suppose that it is not signed that the Rio Grande army shall make adjustments towards San Luis Potosi for some time. Colonel Butler takes but half a (unreadable), we have good reason to believe he was . . . [illegible] half felt along the lines of Canales opened up. The material composing his command is the best quality and there is no more vigorous officer in the service than he. [NGP]

NNR 72.250 June 19, 1847 condition of the city and country

A letter from San Luis, Mexico says the country adjacent was completely stripped of all produce to feed the army of 30,000 men who Anna kept up there for months prior to the battle of Buena Vista, and now even the citizens of the country are suffering for want of the common necessities of life. The Mexican Government makes no promise whatever for the wounded soldiery, and that . . . [illegible] be seen dragging their mangled limbs up streets, and begging, alas, too often in need of bread. [NGP]

NNR 72.250 June 19, 1847 Gen. Caleb Cushing to be governor of New Leon

Gen. Cushin is to be military governor of Leon. The Massachusetts regiment has . . . [illegible] moros. Lieut. Col. Abbot, with four company Massachusetts volunteers, escorting a wagon and a number of artillery horses, to up the march for Cerralvo on the 29th ultimo, Col. Abbot with the remaining six companies, proceeded to Camargo, thence to Monterey as soon as . . . [illegible] can be had. [NGP]

NNR 72.251 June 19, 1847 term of volunteers under Gen. Zachary Taylor expires

Gneral Taylor's Forces. The Flag has a long article entitled "facts against fiction" in which the statement of the Union that the twelve months' volunteers are to be replaced by fresh troops sufficient to swell the forces under Gen. Taylor to nearly 10,000 men is controverted. The Flag says: But four regiments of the late ten have been allotted to Gen. Taylor, and those even, but a few companies have arrived, although the twelve month volunteers are being mustered out with the utmost celerity. But supposing these four regiments to be complete, and here is all the force that is even promised to this division army. The three and a half regiments above alluded to, comprise, 2,400

Four regiments, considering of the Virginia, North Carolina, Massachusetts, and Mississippi, 2,400

Six companies of artillery, 420
Four companies of dragoons 240
and of mounted Texans, about 350

5,810 total

From this deduct for sickness and other casualties
At least twenty per cent. 1,700
And we have Gen. Taylors real effective force 4,640

From this small force garrisons are to be supplied for the longest line of communication known to the modern times, extending from the Gulf of Mexico to the confines of the desert beyond the
Sierra Madre. By stripping this line almost to the verge of total abandonment jeopardizing immense depots of provisions and military stores, &c., Gen. Taylor would leave Saltillo at the head of about 2000 men.

This, with due deference to the late edition as Washington, is the Rio Grande arithmetic, where we counted muskets in the field, instead of parading unfilled muster rolls; or in plain English, the fact as it really exists, instead of the round assertion of warrior-politicians. [NGP]

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NNR 72.251 June 19, 1847 steamboats lost on the Rio Grande

The Gazelle laden with government stores, totally lost: The Savine, Capt. Sterret, sunk; the brig Hatchee sunk; the Lama, collapsed a flue. [NGP]

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NNR 72.251 June 19, 1847 further discussion of reinforcements for Gen. Zachary Taylor

Gen. Taylor's force - The New Orleans Delta, of the 8th instant, says -- "We yesterday conversed with several gentlemen who came passengers in the steamship New Orleans, from the Brazos; they are directly from Gen. Taylor's camp. Whether, when Gen. Taylor would be fully reinforced, he would make any advance movement was known. At present there is nothing to give indication of it. The dispatches from Washington, of which Mr. Parish was bearer, who has before this reached the general's camp, may influence his movements."

It is strange enough, and it goes to show what little concert of action or interchange of opinion there is between the two commanding generals, that Gen. Taylor should, on the 28th have received a letter from Gen. Scott, addressed to him at San Luis Potosi. Kentucky, Illinois, Ohio, Mississippi, Indiana, and Arkansas withdrew from the field between the 1st and 25th, 13th regiments. He would have only the two squadrons of May and Steen, Bragg's and Washington's batteries, and Hunt's company of artillery, but that the new regiments of volunteers are coming to supply the place about to be vacated. Virginia has sent forward a regiment of infantry, Mississippi another, North Carolina another, and Massachusetts another. Texas has the three mounted companies of Chevalie in the field, and Gen. Taylor is to have four of the ten regiments lately raised. This gives him eight regiments to supply the loss of thirteen. Half of the force of Gen. Taylor is disposed of in placing garrisons at points on the line of communications with his supplies. [NGP]

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NNR 72.251 June 19, 1847 address of the clergy of San Luis Potosi to the people of Mexico

The clergy of this state would not be a depository of the high and sublime power which has been placed in its hands, nor worthy of the glorious name of Mexicans, if it should behold the last sigh of our holy religion and our beloved country, and remain in cold indifference, without raising its voice to arouse its compatriots from that indolent apathy in which for more than a year they have been submerged; and if it should not cause them to comprehend our present lamentable and disastrous situation, and to know and secure the means of our salvation. To do this, is our sole object.

The cabinet of Washington have determined to perpetrate, in the present age, a horrible crime - rare, indeed, in the annals of the whole world: Ambitious to extend their prosperity and temporal power, and to perpetuate their race to the last of coming generations, they have not hesitated to violate towards the gentle society of Mexico the most sacred of human rights. In their wild delirium, they behold, with raving thirst, the opulence of our temples, the riches of our church, the magnificence of our homesteads, the angelic beauty of our weaker sex, the immense and inexhaustible treasures of our mountains, the fertility of our fields, and the beautiful variety of our climate; and ever the implacable enemies of our race and origin, they have taken rapid steps to extinguish our name, and possess themselves of all these precious gifts.

You have already seen them, compatriots. In vain is the memory of the thousand and thousand assassinations committed at Palo Alto Tesaca de la Paima, Monterey, Augustura, Vera Cruz, and Cerro Gordo - in vain have we seen multitudes of Mexicans wandering in the woods, and pursued like wild beasts in heir own country robbed of their property and driven from their families - in vain do we recall the multitude of peaceable and honorable men, who have been insulted, seized and beaten, in presence of a beloved daughter or idolized wife - in vain do we recollect the proud barbarity, the shameless cruelty required to burn the village, to stay the simple rustic, the feeble woman, and the innocent child, as we beheld at Agua Nueva, Hidalgo, and other towns at the North. But what can we hope from a horde of robbers, destitute of humanity - monsters, who bid
defiance to the laws of nature when they even insult, rob and condemn God in his hold temple? -
When a man enters on a career of vice, and throws aside the reins of religion, the insensibility and
obduracy of which he is capable can hardly be believed. What can we expect from these Vandals,
who will fly to a more hardy soil, disgrace and sin will fall upon you. To your Priesthood will
fulfil its duties - No! It concerns our common interests - all that man holds most dear on earth.
Let us fly them, all of us, to the combat - placing ourselves under the direction of our authorities -
let us let us enlist with promptitude, and with whatever arms we may be able to obtain - let us throw aside the senseless
desire of living longer - let us encourage solely an insatiable desire to die for our religion! Our
country, and the honor of our families - make effective that compassion, hitherto sterile, which
you should show for your tender children. Let us die before we see ourselves degraded to slaves in
a strange land, deserted, or followed, perhaps, by some ancient father, some son, or a wife whose
ancestral virtues have been punished by the weight of indigence, sending forth cries and lamentations, without finding a single being to extend to us a
hand of pity! Potosinos! For the slave there is no consolation; his respect and his glory are eclipsed
forever.

These are the sole means of salvation. Let us all unite. Let us forget our domestic disagreements:
and authorities, army, people and priesthood, all form a compact mass and resign ourselves to
death rather than turn our backs to the enemy, or survive our misfortunes and disgrace. Let us
swear to God to die for His religion, and to the country for its independence. Let us swear to the
tender child, the delicate maiden, and the decrepit age, that we shall have sunk into the grave
before one of those proud Vandals shall place a hand upon them!

Potosinos! These are the words of your clergy, and we shall not fail to inculcate, in the villages and
towns, and from the pulpits of the capital, these grand sentiments. In your hands is the religion
which your fathers have left you, the country which Heaven has awarded you, the honor of your
daughters and your wives, the lives of your tender infants, and your whole future fate. If you wish it,
you may enjoy them all. It depends on a heroic sacrifices - Make it!

Two fates are left open for you: To be vile slaves, or independent Catholics. Choose. If the former,
bend the knee to the invaders if the latter, prepare for the combat.

Comprehend it - these are the last moments. If my indolence your incurring unhappy late, if your
religion must fly to a more hardy soil, disgrace and sin will fall upon you. To your Priesthood will
rest in the satisfaction of having exposed to you the danger and indicated the means most
affectual and best adapt to your circumstances. And we conjure you to listen to our words without
emotion, assume that you meet in us a tender parent who consoles your families, a human friend
who adopts your wounds, a Christian Priest who dispenses to you the last consolations of religion,
who guards and remembers your ashes; a companion that does not abandon you in the day of battle, and who now ever are willing to bare his breast in defense of the religion of Jesus Christ
and of the most beloved republic of Mexico.

(signed) Manuel Diez
Manuel Navarrete,
Primo Feliciano Castru,
Fr Ignacio Sampayo,  
Fr Blas Enciso  
Fr Jose De San Alberto,  
Dr Fr Felix Rosa Angel

San Luis Potosi, April 28th 1847.  
[NGP]

NNR 72.251-72.252 June 19, 1847 Lt. William H. Shover's official report on the Battle of Buena Vista

(Undecipherable Text)

On the morning of the 22d I was left at the camp near Saltillo with one piece of artillery (6 pounder) to assist in protecting the camp. Two companies of Mississippi riflemen left in the camp for its defence. During the afternoon the wagons were so placed as to form a barricade for part of the camp, the front being protected by my gun and two companies of riflemen, with a cross fire in front from the fort.

On the morning of the 23d, the General gave me directions to watch the motions of a large body of the enemy's cavalry in the plain below Saltillo; and if they came upon the plain below Saltillo; and if they came up upon the plain above the city and attacked the camp, to "defend it to the last extremity."

Soon after the General left for the lines beyond Buena Vista, I discovered small parties of the enemy coming up from the lower plain, and climbing high into the mountains to the left of the road, evidently to overlook the upper plain and battle field.

Just at this time two heavy squadrons of the enemy's lancers came upon the plain at the foot of the mountain, and above Arispa's Mills. They advanced rapidly towards the road and halted near it so as to be just out of the reach of my gun and those at the fort. I fired two shots, but without effect. In this position they picked up a few stragglers. As the runaways from the army reported our force routed, and believing we should have to make a desperate stand to defend the camp, I deemed it impossible, at that moment, to attack them on the open plain. I had my gun ready, horses harnessed, &c., to make a dash at the first favorable moment:

I watched with a glass, from an elevated position, and saw that our troops were not all routed, and that from the direction in which our cannon were firing that every thing was going well in our lines. The lookouts in the mountains had evidently communicated by signals with the enemy in the plain below the city; for early in the afternoon, the whole body of the enemy's cavalry (mostly lancers) came upon the plain in one vast column. They halted in column behind the advanced squadrons near the road. Capt. Webster, from the fort, fired some shells at them, but without effect, as the distance was too great.

After remaining a short time in this position they wheeled into line and moved off towards the mountain, and obliquely towards Buena Vista. I saw this was the time to attack them, believing that I could drive them from the plain, or else bring them down in a charge upon our position, where I knew perfectly well, with two companies of riflemen to support me, we could beat them off, and rout them. Thus my first intention was to advance rapidly upon them, and fire, and retire to camp if they attempted to charge with their whole force.

Accordingly I advanced at a rapid gallop, with a single piece, in an open plain, upon from fifteen hundred to two thousand cavalry, mostly lancers.-By the time I was within striking distance, the whole column was in motion towards the lower plain. I halted and fired several shots at the flank of the column. I again advanced upon them, halted and fired a few rounds in rapid succession, producing some confusion at least, in their ranks. About this time a large crowd of stragglers, &c., something like a hundred, had gathered about my gun, mounted in all sorts of style, and armed, some with swords, some with pistols, some with muskets, rifles, doubled barreled guns, &c., and yelling tremendously, but with out any order or organization.

I again advanced and fired several rounds, when I discovered that Captain Webster had started a piece to my support. About this time I found I was getting rather too far from camp to retreat if the enemy made a rapid charge, thus placing myself and command in imminent danger unless I observed great caution. I discovered that the head of the enemy's column was far advanced along the foot of the mountains, and, in consequence of the many ravines, could not readily come to the assistance of the rear. I again advanced with confidence, believing I could easily keep off the rear of the column. When within good range of the foot of the mountain, nearly all the enemy had passed into the ravines and behind a small hill in my front. Suddenly I discovered a single horseman in our front watching our movements. I suspected at once that there was a large force
drawn up under cover of the hill to charge upon my gun the moment I should come upon the hill, the hill, thus, being within two or three hundred yards of them. I advanced alone at full gallop several hundred yards, when suddenly I saw, close in front of me, a heavy column, eight deep, ready for the charge. I galloped back, moved my piece to the right to a commanding position, and fired a single shot into them, when they all fled. Just at this moment, by some accident, the pole of the gun-limber was broken. I immediately caused the limber of the caisson to supply its place. The men, with most commendable activity, replaced it with a spare pole from the caisson. Whilst this was being done, I galloped to the top of the hill above Arispa’s mills, where a grand sight burst upon my view. The whole column was winding its way along the foot of the mountain and through the ravines, more than half the column being in range of my gun. I galloped back to bring it up, placed it in position and fired rapidly into their crowded ranks, producing considerable confusion and much execution. One squadron was faced to the rear by fours, and began to move briskly with the evident intention of charging me, when a shot sent into their ranks sent them off to the left about in a gallop. I continued to fire upon them as long as they were in reach, evidently doing them much damage. Owing to the deep ravines over which they passed I could follow them no further, but I felt very much gratified that we had been able to drive them from the plain.

During the latter part of the firing, the howitzer under Lieut. Donaldson did serious execution as we could see shells bursting in and near their ranks.

Thus having followed the enemy over an open plain for near three miles, from which he was compelled to retire, I leisurely returned to camp.

W. H. Shover, 1st Lieut. 3rd Art.

To Capt. B. Bragg, com’dg light company C, 2d artillery

[ANP]

NNR 72.252 June 19, 1847 dismal picture of affairs at Santa Fe

“We have a military establishment wastefully extravagant to the government, but which has most signally failed of redeeming any of the promises made by General Kearny, in his proclamation. Instead of being the strong arm on which the civil authority can depend to enforce order and law, and administrator justice to all, the soldiery have degenerated into a military mob, are the most open violators of law and order, and daily heap insult and injury upon the people of the territory; and as matters now stand the civil government is powerless to grant them redress.” [NGP]

NNR 72.252 June 19, 1847 Col. Alexander William Doniphan’s advance corps reaches Saltillo, affairs on the route

Col. Mitchell with the advance of Col. Doniphan’s command, including a picked party, were expected to reach Buena Vista about the 15th of May.

In passing through Durango, they took possession of a small fort, and 1 captain, 21 privates and 46 stand of arms. These were released on parole and furnished with defenses against the Camanches. At Massey, they have 125 muskets and 35 lances, but the troops had fled. [NGP]

NNR 72.252 June 19, 1847 a march from Camargo to Monterey

On our way from Camargo to this place through several ranchos, or small settlements of the houses have been burnt down since . . . [illegible] of the seventy teamsters, of whom you have heard of before now. For three miles each side of the road, where this brutal crime committed are strewed the bodies of the dead, which are still lying exposed to the heat of the sun, out and mangled in such a way as to shock the sense of humanity: and the wildest savage that ever run the forest wonder at the sight. But, to describe that troubling scene, as we passed that morning, to think, defy the descriptive powers of mankind to be first seen to be realized and keep you and the good people of Mexico from witnessing such a sight. And here is the scene which brought forth all the sympathetic nature. It was a respectable looking . . . [illegible] of his brother who had gone but a short trip to Monterey, with ten thousand dollars worth of goods, when he, among the rest came to an untimely end, and his goods perhaps the there . . . [illegible] the backs of the wives and children of the skinned rascals. It was heard rendering and extreme to see the brother of the deceased buried in tears, and overwhelmed with grief, attentively examining the decomposed bodies of those unfortunate men. But, alas, they had laid too long in that situation for any to be
recognized, even by their nearest relations. We had all said in my last letter a company of Texas Rangers, who were the advance guard of . . . [illegible] rain, and on witnessing what I have described above, they swore they would have revenge, and just before coming in Monterey they struck off through the chaparral, and next morning a complaint was sent in to General Taylor, stating that twenty eight of their neighbors had been murdered last night by the Texan Rangers. Gen. Taylor called a court of inquiry, but as the rangers have no uniform, either officers or men (and I am told, that when they get into a scrape of that kind they change clothes with each other, for fear of detection,) and as nothing could be clearly proved against them, individually, the matter was dropped. The city of Monterey is not what it is represented to be at home and the individual who says that the streets, houses, public buildings, public works and the like are handsome, or even what is called neat, has a taste that I do not admire; and , I think, will get a few to side with him. And even the ladies, some will say that they account for my not admiring their beauty. The many fine crystal streams, shade trees, and gardens, (although the latter has not been cultivated since the capture of the town,) together with the varied high and lofty mountains, are, in my opinions, all that can be admired in or about the Virgin city, as it is called, because, during the war with Old Spain, the town of Monterey was not taken, and, has been the stronghold of Mexico ever since, until old Rough and Ready, and the 1st Ohio regiment, together with the bold Montgomery Guards, of your city, entered on the 21st of September, 1846 and made Ampudia condescend and acknowledge that Old Zack was not only Mr. Taylor, as he styled him on a former occasion but that he was General Taylor, and nobody else.

The next town to be stormed by the 1st Ohio regiment will be Cincinnati, about the middle of June or the first of July.

This will be my last till I see you.
R.M.M.

[NGP]

NNR 72.252 June 19, 1847 Mormon detachment near San Diego

By the last accounts from California, Lt. Col. Cookie, with his command of 350 Mormons, from Santa Fe, was within a few days march of San Diego, on the Pacific. [NGP]

NNR 72.256 June 19, 1847 Nicholas Philip Trist said to be clothed with full power to conclude a treaty

The Washington correspondent of the N. York Courir and Enquirer writes on the 19th, in the most confident language, predicated he says upon information from New Orleans, and from Jalapa, which admits of no mistake, "that the treaty prepared to be signed by Mr. Trist as commissioner, has been seen at Jalapa; that Mr. Trist is clothed with the fullest diplomatic powers to conclude a definitive treaty of peace, upon the terms and articles as set forth in the project exhibited at Jalapa, and need not wait for any further instructions from Washington, but can have the treaty as it is, signed by him, ratified at once by the Mexican government. I assert further, that Gen. Scott is to cooperate in the negotiation and carrying the treaty into effect." [NGP]

NNR 72.257 June 19, 1847 discharge of the Baltimore Battalion at Tampico

It has been the earnest wish of the col. Commanding, that orders from the general headquarters of the army should have been received directing him where and when the battalion of Baltimore and Washington volunteers should be honorably mustered out of service; but circumstances not within his control have obliged him to detain it at Tampico until the last day of its term of service. He cannot here refrain from expressing the satisfaction he has experienced in beholding this brave body at its post where it is so much needed, and where he would gladly retain it during the continuation of the war; nevertheless, as that period had arrived, when the expiration of the relations so long amicably existing between that corps and their commanders must cease, he herewith proclaims it honorably discharged, this day. His excellency the president of the United States foreseeing these results, and desiring the continuance of the service of volunteers, requisite for the prosecution of the plans in the event of the prolongation of hostilities with the enemy, the Col. Commanding would testify his desire that these well drilled, experienced and gallant companies would again promptly present themselves for enrollment under their respective officers, determined to abide the issue of their country's struggle, whatever it may be, secure in their acknowledged prowess and capacity in asserting her rights. Maj. Buchanan, whose well tried fidelity, and judicious performance of service have won the entire confidence of your commander,
who seizes this opportunity to make known his thanks, and has been officially authorized to make
terms with the officers and men of this battalion - from the city of heroic monuments and patriotic
associations - by which, if any of you shall think proper to enroll yourselves, leave of absence for
sixty days will be given, and on your return to Mexico the $12 bounty paid; and highly pleased will
the commander be if even one company will raise their standard on the parade for this purpose;
but if not, and he is left to see you pass away, he offers you his cordial good wishes that you may
have a speedy passage, and find your families, relatives and friends ready and joyous to greet
you, as your honorable services justly entitle you.

By order of Col. Gates
E.G. Beckwith, A.A.A.G.

NRR 72.258 June 26, 1847 Mexican privateers in the Mediterranean

MEXICAN PRIVATEERS.--Government, as well as insurance companies and shippers, were
somewhat startled a few weeks since by the announcement from Europe that an American
schooner had been captured by a privateer under Mexican colors fitted out from Barcelona, and
that the prize was carried into that port. It was stated that orders were promptly issued to some of
our armed ships to repair immediately to the Mediterranean for the protection of American
commerce in that quarter. Apprehensions subsided considerably on learning by a subsequent
arrival from Europe, that so far from countenancing the proceeding, the Spanish authorities had
promptly released the captured vessel, and condemned the privateers for capturing her. Decided
demonstrations against allowing such captures were made at London also on this occasion.

But a new source of uneasiness is started--The Boston Journal of the 19th says: "Captain Ingersoll,
of the barque Nautilus, which vessel arrived at this port last night from Gibraltar, says, that four
feluccas, under Mexican commissions, were known to be cruising in the Mediterranean, and one,
formerly belonging to Gibraltar, was said to have been stopped by the French authorities while
fitting out at or near Oran, on the coast of Barbary. A river to the south of Mogadore, on the
Barbary coast, was said to be the place where they carried their prizes. One of these feluccas was
said to be cruising to the westward of the Straits." [CCB]

NRR 72.258 June 26, 1847 remarks on case of Lt. Charles G. Hunter

The Southern Patriot, commenting on Com. Perry's reprimand, says "The latter is really a model of
official sermonizing. One would be inclined to think, on reading it that Lieut. Hunter had been
guilty of treason, cowardice, or military imbecility at least, instead of an act of gallantry, which,
however contrary to the wishes of his superiors, was certainly not very injurious to the interests of
his country. O'meara states in his "Voice from St. Helena" that Napoleon found great fault with
Wellington, and complained that at the battle of Waterloo the ron Duke did not beat him according
to the approved principles of war. This or something like it, appears to be the amount of charges
against the gallant Hunter. In taking the tow of Alvarado, he did not go to work secundum artem,
and be is dismissed from the squadron least he should take any more places in the same irregular
and unscientific method." [NGP]

NRR 72.264 June 26, 1847 intense heat at Veracruz, fever on the increase

ARMY OF INVASION."

Major General Gideon J. Pillow left New Orleans on the 9th instant, in the steamer Fashion for Vera
Cruz, together with Col. G. W. Morgan, 15th infantry; Major G. A. Caldwell, of the Voltigeurs; Wm.
Trousdale, of the 14th infantry, and the following officers and men attached to his regiment, viz:
Captains Pierce B. Anderson, Thomas Glen, Julian P. Breedlove, and Robert G. Beale; Lieut. Jas
Blackburn, Thomas Shields, Richard Steele, Samuel B. Davis, Alex C. Layne, Henry B. Kelley,

The New Orleans Picayune of the 13th contains intelligence from Vera Cruz to the 5th June, by the
steam ship Fanny.

There had been no arrival from Gen. Scott's army since the night of the 31st. ult.
The heat at Vera Cruz was intense, the thermometer ranging for ten days from 87 degrees to 92 degrees day and night in the shade. The fever was on the increase, though when taken in time, the physician had been pretty successful in its treatment.

A large train was to leave Vera Cruz on the morning of the 5th instant, for Puebla, under the command of Colonel McIntosh. It was to carry up a mail, the first, says the Eagle, for nearly a month and about $300,000 in specie, in charge of Major A. G. Bennett, paymaster. The train was to be escorted by a large force of soldiery composed of company F of the 4th infantry, company B 5th infantry, company G of the 7th infantry, companies D, G, and K of the 3d. dragoons--in all about 800 men. [CCB]

NNR 72.264 June 26, 1847 discussion of the forces under Gens. Winfield Scott and Zachary Taylor, their proposed operations

Considerations were manifested sometime since, for fear government would allow the term of the twelve months volunteers to expire before sufficient reinforcements were furnished to enable the commanders of the armies in Mexico to avail themselves of their recent victories, or to continue their operations according to the project of the campaign. The Washington "Union" replied to publications which appeared on the subject, by a semi-official statement derived from the departments, showing conclusively, according to their arithmetic, that there was not the least danger to be apprehended, but that both Gen. Scott, and Gen. Taylor would receive reinforcements in time and in numbers to prevent any inconvenience to either, the troops the anticipated return of the volunteers, and that both would be in sufficient force to prevent any delay occurring from their withdrawal.

We had hardly completed the publication of those assurances however before the fact became undeniable that the operations of Gen. Scott and Gen. Taylor were paralyzed by the return of the twelve months men, leaving them with forces entirely inadequate to make forward movements with. Neither of them could venture to advance with such a force as was left them, and both were, beyond all question when the last intelligence left them, at a dead half for want of reinforcements.

The Washington "Union" very properly resort once more to the departments for official information wherewith to relieve public anxiety upon the subject. The public are entitled to the best information that can be obtained upon so important point. But whilst copying the figures and following the calculations of the officers and clerks in the departments, there is no concealing the disparity between those figures and estimates predicated thereon and the actual returns received from the armies. With the political party complexion which many of the papers on each side attempt to give to so grave subject, the people have just right to complain. They want the facts in the premises; from these they will judge for themselves.

We inserted in our last, one article from Jalapa and another from the Vera Cruz Eagle giving statements as to the forces under Gen. Scott, and in the same number, a statement from he Matamoro "Flag" as to the forces under Gen. Taylor's command all of them in reply to the statement which the "Union" had inserted, as from the department assuring the country that the armies under both those commanders would be in ample force to proceed the campaign without delay. The whole of the articles we find inserted in the Union of the . . . [illegible] and treated as misrepresentations seized upon by the opposition presses for vile purposed. They tempted to make party capital, and is some certain statements, is too true, nevertheless, there is so much accuracy in the figures and known facts where the statements give, that the statements to with the "Union" now resorts, as derived from the department, may have as . . . [illegible] efficiency in enabling either General to advance very speedily, as their former statement "derived for the war office" had in enabling them to propose without one day's delay. We would willingly believe to the utmost, but cannot conceal our misfinding.

As to the notion of Gen. Taylor advancing to San Luis Potosi with the force now under his command, the "Union" is conclusive. In their article on the 17th, the Union thus notices the comments of the New Orleans Picayune upon the statement in Matamoros Flag, to which we have alluded.

The Picayune said, "The belief has been very propagated in various influential quarters, months, that Gen. Taylor was to move upon San Luis Potosi. From various statements, from time to time made in the Union, the country has been led to believe that Gen. Taylor has had, or shortly will have, forces adequate to commence his march with letters from Gen. Scott and his army, for the (unreadable) of Gen. Taylor, are addressed "Headquarters command", Taylor's army, San Luis Potosi" It will not be long before we shall hear reproaches cast upon the hero of Buena Vista for his inactivity.

The Union replies "The Picayune labors under one mistake. We have seen allusions made in the western papers, and in letters, of Gen. Taylor's preparing to move upon San Luis Potosi. We have
never sought to countenance such a belief. We would never have stated that such was the instruction of the war department, or such the plan of the General. Besides every military man know, that in a war with Mexico, there is a time for all things. The climate of the northern and of the southern portions is different. We could not have attacked Vera Cruz when the war broke out, for fear of the vomito Nor could we very well advance upon San Luis Potosi until the rainy season commences.” 

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AN UNPUBLISHED LETTER OF GEN. TAYLOR. The following is a portion of a letter from a gentleman in Pensacola in the New Orleans Bulletin.

"Superb as the battle of Buena Vista was in all its details; skillful as was the selection of the ground; devoted as were those who laid down their lives en face to the enemy; distinguished as was every man who bore arms that day; yet all these glories fade in comparison with the determination of that calm old man, who was called upon to decide between a retreat and assured security within the walls of Monterey or a battle with four times the number he could bring into the field.

He reasoned thus, here are 6,000 men left to hold Saltillo and our positions at Angostura, with the alternative of retreat upon Monterey, where there are provisions for six months. Circumstances justify a retreat. There are precedents for it, and the order of Gen. Scott. If the army retreats the consequences are certain. It will be safe in Monterey until reinforcements can reach it, but before these reinforcements can arrive the numerous enemy, falling by our flanks, will occupy the Rio Grande from Camargo to the Brazos, destroying the garrisons and magazines, and cutting off the communications. This result will be most disastrous. It is inevitable. If the army remains in its present position, there is a chance of success, and supposing it happily realized, everything is saved. But the chances are in favor of the triumph of 20,000 men, led on by the hope that our small forces of undisciplined troops must give way in the attack and by the expectation of great booty.

In the first case, then, the consequences of retreat are certain.

In the second case, the consequences of defeat would be no less disastrous than in the first case, but to the latter must also be added the immolation of our army. But still it affords a chance of success. We will take that chance! So deciding, General Taylor quietly gave his orders, and after the day's work was done, sat down on the night of the 21st of February, just seven hours before he was attacked by Santa Anna, and wrote to his relative and friend, describing his situation, and speaking plainly, of the treatment he had received from his supervisors; also of his arrangement to meet the approaching crisis; of his confidence in his little army; of his hopes, but not of his fears. One sheet, and the page of another, as record, were thus devoted. The remaining pages were given to his private affairs, directing the management of his estate, and expressing affection for his family.

The writer of this communication has been honored with a perusal of that letter. He marked the bold character in which it was written; the even lines and the unblotted pages, giving evidence that it was written as calmly as if the writer had been seated by the fireside of his own happy home. It was written in simple but easy style, without effort, as one wishes to write to relatives and friends. But still it bore evidence, as all his writings do, of a clear judgment and pure thought.

CEPHALUS.

Pensacola, June 4, 1847.

[CCB]

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NNR 72.265 June 26, 1847 communications to Gen. Zachary Taylor from San Luis Potosi, expectation of an advance on San Luis and Mexico City

A short time after my last letter closed the town was thrown into a fever of excitement by the arrival at Gen. Wool's camp of two Mexican officers from San Luis Potosi, charged with dispatches for their contents, but to believe that they had come from the city of Mexico and contained the intelligence that an armistice had been granted, and that negotiations for peace were under discussion between Gen. Scott and Santa Anna.

Exstactic was the joy of many who are in for the war and pine for the day when they shall rejoin their friends and families. The dispatches were immediately forwarded to Gen. Taylor by Lieut.
Franklin, and the Mexican officers treated with the most marked courtesy by our officers at this post. They professed ignorance of the character of the dispatches, but believed that the above was their purport. Singular to say, this ideas was generally believed; for myself I have so little confidence in any thing Mexican, that I believe it to be a paper from the department of San Luis a remonstrance against the advance of Gen. Taylor, or something of that character.

Private letters received from San Luis by citizens here, brought by the Mexican officers, announced that the inhabitants were in a state of excitement from the expected approach of our army from this quarter, which was looked for by the 28th instant. The dispatches arrived her eon Tuesday and were immediately forwarded, and the protracted absence of the bearer, Lieut. Franklin, tended to excite the curiosity felt to be apprised of their contents.

About 1 oclock today he returned, and lo! The bubble bursts. The important dispatch was a communication from the Governor of San Luis Potosi, announcing that he had beard of the intended approach of the American army, and begging to inquire whether it was the intention of the commanding general to conduct the war according to the usages of civilized nations, or according to the manner adopted by the Camanches.

There is no doubt that we shall march upon San Luis at a very early period, as soon as a sufficient number of troops arrive from below, and from San Luis to the city of Mexico. A communication received from Gen. Scott by Gen. Taylor a few days ago, giving a brief account of the battle near Jalapa, directs Gen. T. to more at once, or as early as possible, from San Luis where he expected the letter would reach him, to the city of Mexico. So that Gen. Taylor will not probably remain any time at San Luis, unless he receives orders there but leaving a garrison for the place, will proceed with the residue of his command to the city of Mexico.

The two Illinois regiments will march from here on the 30th or 31st and the Arkansas cavalry on the 1st of June. The two Indiana regiments, 2nd and 3rd, will proceed on Monday. The troops then, of the old stock, will be gone, except Ben McCulloch's company of Texan Rangers, now commanded by Lieut. Tobin, and not a company will go to San Luis, except the artillery batteries, that have been in any of large fights with Gen. Taylor.

Another letter says, "The volunteers are returning from Gen. Taylor with great rapidity. Ere this he is left without any of the volunteers who fought under him at Buena Vista." [NGP]

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**NNR 72.265 June 26, 1847 general orders of War Department commending conduct at Veracruz**

[General Orders, No. 146.]

**Headquarters of the Army,**

Jalapa, May 10, 1847.

The despatch, given below, is announced in this form, for the information of the gallant officers and men of the army of Vera Cruz remaining in Mexico, that they may see how joyously their glorious achievements have been received by the government and people at home:

War Department, April 12, 1847.

Sir: the gratifying intelligence of the bombardment of Vera Cruz, and of the capture of that city and the strong fortress of San Juan, together with the surrender of the Mexican army which garrisoned the two places, effected by the joint and cordial co-operation of the army and navy, was officially made known here by your despatch of the 20th ult., and others of a previous date.

The expedition, so far as it embraced the important objects, has been carried out in a manner highly creditable to yourself, to the commander of our squadron in the gulf, and to the gallant officers and brave soldiers, marines, and sailors, engaged in the difficult and dangerous enterprise.

In compliance with the direction of the president, it is my pleasing duty to make known to yourself, and through you to the army under your command, the high gratification which this additional instance of the eminent skill and good conduct of our officers, and of the endurance and intrepidity of our soldiers, has given him.

This signal triumph of our arms has called forth rejoicings throughout the nation, mingled with heartfelt gratitude to those who, in winning battles for their country, are everywhere securing glory and face for themselves. That the possession of so important a place in the enemy's country as the city of Vera Cruz strongly fortified and garrisoned by a large body of troops, and a castle
renowned for its strength and deemed impregnable by its defenses, have been obtained at so small a sacrifice, is just cause of admiration; and while millions of our fellow citizens joyously exult at this splendid achievement, it is pleasing to reflect that so few among us have occasion to mourn.

Though the sacrifice of life on our part has been comparatively small, yet the nation has cause to regret the loss of some of the bravest and best of her gallant sons. The tribute of honor and respect rendered by a grateful people, will embalm their memories, and assuage the grief of their relatives and friends.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

W. L. March, Secretary of War.

Major General Winfield Scott,
Commanding the Army of the U. States, Mexico.

By command of Maj. Gen. Scott:

H. L. Scott, A.A.A.G.

[ANP]

NRR 72.265 June 26, 1847 communication of Secretary of War William Learned Marcy on the success at Buena Vista

The following "orders," issued by General Taylor, have been transmitted by him to the war department.

[Orders No. 46]

Headquarters Army of Occupation,
Camp near Monterey, May 1847.

Under the instructions of the secretary of War, the commanding general has the gratification to publish to the troops of his command the following communication, received by him from the war department:

"War Department, April 3, 1847.

"Sir: Your communications of the 24th and 25th of February and the 1st of March, announcing the brilliant success of the troops under your command at Buena Vista, against the force of the enemy vastly superior in numbers, have been laid before the president: and I am instructed to convey to you his high appreciation of the distinguished services rendered to the country by yourself and the officers and soldiers of your command on that occasion.

"The victory achieved at Buena Vista, while it adds new glory to our arms, and furnishes new proofs of the valor and brave daring of our officers and soldiers, will excite the admiration and call for the gratitude of the nation.

"The single fact that five thousand of our troops, nearly all volunteers, who, yielding to the impulse of patriotism, had rallied to their country's standard for a temporary service, were brought into conflict with an army of twenty thousand, mostly veteran soldiers, and not only with stood and repulsed the assaults of the numerous host, led by their most experienced general, but in a protracted battle of two days won a glorious victory, is the most indubitable evidence of the skill and gallant conduct of our officers and the devoted heroism of the troops under their command. It will ever be a proud distinction to have been in the memorable battle of Buena Vista.

"The general joy which the intelligence of this success of our arms has spread through the land is mingled with regret that it has been obtained as so great a price—that so many heroic men have fallen in that sangninary conflict. They died in the intrepid discharge of a patriotic duty, and will be honored and lamented by a grateful nation.

"You will cause this communication to be published to the troops under your command.

"I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant, (signed)

"W.L. Marcy, Secretary of War."
By order of Major General Taylor:

W.W.S. Bliss,
Assistant Adjutant General.  [ANP]

NNR 72.265 June 26, 1847 Gen. Zachary Taylor's announcement of Gen. Winfield Scott's victory at Cerro Gordo

[Orders No. 47.]

Headquarters Army of Occupation.
Camp near Monterey, May 8, 1847.

The commanding general has the satisfaction of announcing to the troops of his command another decisive victory achieved by the American forces under Major General Scott, on the 18th of April, at Cerro Gordo, in the State of Vera Cruz. The Mexican army under the immediate orders of Gen. Santa Anna, president of the Republic, is known to have been entirely routed, with the loss of all its artillery and munitions of war.

The army of occupation will hail with joy this brilliant success of the American arms.

By order Major General Taylor:

W.W.S. Bliss,
Assistant Adjutant General.  [ANP]

NNR 72.265 June 26, 1847 number of Mexican cannon captured so far in the war

The number of cannon captured by our forces in Mexico exceeds 500, most of them very heavy pieces. There were captured at

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resaca de la Palma</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>At Matamoros, say</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>At Monterey, about</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>At Vera Cruz, town and castle</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At Alvarado</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>538</strong></td>
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If stacked together they would make quite a pyramid.  [NGP]

NNR 72.265-266 June 26, 1847 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's official notice of Gen. Winfield Scott's proclamation

Army of operations Excellent sir: The commandant of the flying revenue guard of tobacco of Orizaba, the Col. Juan N Caraveo, whom I left with his command near the National road between Perote and Napalucan, to observe the movements of the enemy and to harass him when the opportunity might offer, has remitted to me the accompanying documents which were taken from the enemy's mail trail which left Jalapa for Col. Worth's camp.

Among them you will find Gen. Scott's proclamation to the Mexican nation, which, from its style appears to have been written originally in Spanish and not translated from the English.

This proclamation of Scott is written with the most refined hypocrisy and with the most infamous perfidy. It is the greatest insult yet offered to the Mexican people, whom it has attempted to lull to
make a victim of race, when in another place it feels no embarrassment in proclaiming by the press and in its official documents, that it carries on against us war of conquest, and that this war must be made at the cost of the blood and treasury of this unfortunate country.

Your excellency will not in one of the accompanying intercepted letters, that Scott, the Inspector General of the United States Army, considers the above proclamation well adapted to aid the views of the invaders.

You will observe that this letter harmonizes with others which have been lately published in this capital, and which with reason have been regarded by all well disposed Mexicans as more prejudicial for the venom which they conceal that the loss of a battle.

But in the midst of the malevolence which Gen. Scott shows he has against me, he does me too much honor when he says that they had been deceived as to my real intentions, and that on account of this mistake his government had permitted me to pass to my country. Indeed, most excellent sir, the United States did deceive themselves when they dreamed that I was capable of betraying my country. Before this should happen, I would prefer to be consumed by fire, and my ashes should be scattered that not a single atom be left.

Would to God the Mexicans would open their eyes to discover the poison in the golden chalice that the perfidious Scott proffers to them, and that the reply to his proclamation may be one shout of universal indignation against the invaders of our soil. Let a war he made against these without period, that when we may no longer be able, because Providence may have decreed the subjugation of this unfortunate country, there may remain to our children or grand children, when the wrath of the Omnipotent shall have passed, the noble work of revenging the outrages committed by the republic of the United States on Mexico.

God and Liberty!
Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna.

[NGP]

NNR 72.266 June 26, 1847 Gen. Zachary Taylor's farewell to the Mississippi regiment

The Mississippi regiment of volunteers; those men who so signally distinguished themselves at Buena Vista, have reached New Orleans on their way home, their term of service having expired. One of the New Orleans papers says: Gen. Taylor was extremely affected, on bidding adieu to this gallant regiment. When the time arrived for their parting, and the men were filing past him, almost choked with emotion, he exclaimed "Go on boys, go on, I can't speak." It was his intention to address them on their return home, but the recollection of the trying scenes in which they had stood by each other, quite overpowered him. [NGP]

NNR 72.266 June 26, 1847 Col. Alexander William Doniphan's command passes down the Rio Grande, reaches New Orleans

We heartily rejoice to learn that the colonel with seven companies of Missouri volunteers under his command reached New Orleans where they met a most cordial and hearty welcome. Honors, gallantly won, were showered think and fast upon them. They look as if they had seen hard se rvice, and will remain a few days in the city. [NGP]

NNR 72.266 June 26, 1847 arrival of gentlemen from Santa Fe

Several gentleman, among whom were Dr. Edmondson and Lieut. Hawkins, arrived here yesterday, on the steamer J.J. Hardin, direct from Santa Fe, which place they left on the 3rd of May. Everything was quiet up to that time, and nothing later had been received from California. The sickness among the troops at Santa Fe, which had been very extensive and fatal, had partially subsided, and very few cases were occurring. The party consisted of twenty-seven persons, with four wagons. They saw no Indians on the route; but some of them made their way into the camp one night, including the vigilance of one guard, and succeeded in stealing three mules. Several parties traders and government trains were met this side of the Semirone; but of the latter, only one or two were beyond Council Grove. One of the trains was fired upon by the Indians, at the Cotton Woods, but no injury was done. A Santa Fe mail was brought in, and left at Fort Leavenworth, but the letters have not yet reached this city. [NGP]
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tribute to the deceased officers of the first dragoons

expectation that guerrillas can be driven from the sand hills near Veracruz and the road opened to Jalapa

"Union's" denial of the "National Intelligencer's" statement on Gen. Winfield Scott's actions

failure of efforts to exchange Midshipman Robert Clay Rogers

Nicholas Philip Trist despairs of negotiating at present

refusal of the Mexican Congress to consider overtures for peace

Gen. Winfield Scott awaiting Gen. Franklin Pierce before advancing on Mexico

various rumors about the Mexican peace party, gathering of Mexican troops at Mexico City

correspondence between Gen. Winfield Scott and Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna relative to peace intercepted by the Mexicans

troops under Gen. Gabriel Valencia arrive at Mexico City

dispute between Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna and the Mexican Congress on entertaining peace overtures

details of a letter from Tampico

withdrawal of troops under Gen. Jose Urrea from Tula

American comments on the leadership of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna

Brownson's "Quarterly Review" on the war

Washington "Union" on the Whig Party's policy toward the war with Mexico

New Hampshire "Statesman" on the Whig Party and the Mexican war

letter from the Army of Occupation

Mexican atrocities near Matamoros, barbarities near Parras

arrival of a portion of Col. Alexander William Doniphan's command at Saint Louis

"the starving Mexicans at the battle of Buena Vista"

comments on the withdrawal of the second and third Indiana regiments from Mexico

praise for Private Divers and Corporal Agnew

incident involving Maj. Joseph K.F. Mansfield at the Battle of Monterey

comment on Sr. Pacheco's circulars on conduct of the war with the United States and establishment of peace

plans to enforce a government on Mexico

Gen. Winfield Scott issues orders to his several divisions to advance on the city of Mexico

Gen. Franklin Pierce joins Gen. Winfield Scott

Maj. Jonathan Pollard Gaines and Midshipman Robert Clay Rogers escape from the
Mexicans

NRR 72.416 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna marches to meet the American Army

NRR 72.416 Maj. Folliot Thornton Lally’s affair at the National Bridge

NRR 72.416 Capt. Charles Frederick Ruff's affair with Mexicans

NRR 72.416 active preparations against night attack at Tampico

NRR 72.416 reports of illness in the squadron at Veracruz and along the coast

NRR 72.416 troops at Puebla in want of funds, American and Mexican troop movements

NRR 72.416 call for Illinois regiment to keep open communications to Santa Fe

NRR 72.416 "Old Europe and Young America"

NRR 72.416 new Illinois regiment collecting for New Orleans and Veracruz

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NRR 72.269-72.270 July 3, 1847 Gen. Joseph Lane's supplemental report on the action at Buena Vista

Gen. Lane's Supplementary Report.

From the N.O. Picayune.

The following report by Brigadier General Lane is supplementary to his first official report of the operations of his brigade in the battle of Buena Vista. He has thought it called for by the developments of a court of inquiry held since his first report was made, and by the various statements made in the papers injurious to the character of Indiana. As an act of justice to the Indiana troops and as a part of the record of the great deeds of the 23d of February, we cheerfully give the report an insertion in our column.

Buena Vista May, 1847.

From the comments of the press, the numerous letters that have been written and published, the many false and ridiculous statements uttered by different persons at sundry places concerning the battle at this place on the 22d and 23d of February last, and more particularly in consequence of the erroneous statements invented and circulated in reference to the Indiana brigade in connection with that memorable day, I feel myself constrained, in discharge of an imperious duty to give to the public a succinct account of facts which may enable every candid reader to arrive at correct conclusions, and that the public mind may be disabused of a studied and systematic attempt at misrepresentation and detraction.

The disposition of the troops seems to have been confided to General Wool, and they were posted in the following order, viz: The 2d regiment of Indiana volunteers, commanded by Col. Bowles, with three pieces of artillery under Captain O'Brien, were posted on the extreme left. The 3d regiment volunteers, commanded by Colonel Lane, occupied a height in rear of Washington's battery. The 1st Illinois regiment, commanded by Colonel Hardin, were stationed on a high hill near and a short distance to the left and front of he same battery. The 2d Kentucky volunteers, under Colonel McKee, was on the 22d posted on the right of a deep ravine at the distance of a half mile, on the right of he battery, but on the morning of the 23d were ordered to recross the ravine, and took place near Col Hardin and to his left. The 2d Indiana regiment were placed; which regiment, as before remarked, occupied the extreme left of the field, near the base of the mountain. The four rifle companies of my command, under Major Gorman, were at early dawn of day ordered to move up the side of the mountain to engage the enemy, some three of four thousand strong, who were endeavoring to cross the points of ht mountain and to turn our left flank. These riflemen were directed to check their advance if possible. Three rifle companies of the 2d Illinois regiment, three companies of Col. Marshall's mounted regiment, were dismounted and sent up the mountain so the assistance of Major Gorman, who had not for some time been hotly engaged with the enemy. The contest on the mountain brow raged with fury for the space of about three hours, when I was informed by Colonel Churchill that the enemy in great force were advancing under cover of a deep ravine about four hundred yards in my front and to the right. I immediately put my small command in motion to meet them. It should be borne in mind that my whole force was the eight battalion companies of the 2d Indiana regiment and Capt. O'Brien's battery of three guns-in all about four hundred men. On arriving at a narrow ridge between two deep and rugged ravines, I found the Mexican infantry, from four to six thousand strong, supported by a body of lancers. The infantry were coming out of the ravine on my left and forming in beautiful order across the ridge, leaving the lancer in the ravine. I immediately directed Captain
O'Brien to halt his battery and get ready for the fray. The column was halted when the first company
was up with and on the left of the battery, and formed forward into line of battle. I rode in front of the
column, and continued in front as the companies were forming in line, and was much delighted to see
the officers and men move forward in good order; coolness and courage were depicted in every
countenance. By the time in companies were inline, and while I was yet in front, the Mexicans opened
their fire from their entire line. In a moment the left companies were in line. I passed to the rear, and
the fire was returned with promptness and good effect.

Thus commenced the battle on the plain of Buena Vista. The distance between the enemy's line
and my own was about one hundred and twenty yards. About the time the action commenced, the
enemy opened a tremendous fire from their battery of three heavy guns, posted on my left and a little
to the rear, which nearly enflamed my line. In this manner the battle continued to rage for nearly
twenty minutes, the firing being very severe on both sides, the lines of the Mexican infantry
presenting one continued sheet of flame. I observed the Mexican line to break and fall back several
times, but their successive formations across the ridge enabled them at once to force the men back to
their position and keep them steady. I then formed the determination to take position nearer the
enemy, with the hope of routing and driving them from that part of the field, and for the purpose of
placing the lines out of range of the enemy's guns, which had succeeded in getting the range so as
to be doing some execution nearly every fire. For that purpose I sent my aid to direct Captain O'Brien
to advance his battery some fifty or sixty yards to the front, and to return to the same point. He went
with the battery to its advanced position. I was at that moment near the left of my line. Before my aid
returned to me, I was much surprised to see my line begin to give way on the right, and continuing to
give way to the extreme left, not knowing at that time that Colonel Bowles had given an order to
retreat, and it was several days after the battle (and not until after I had made my official report)
before I was satisfied that the regiment had retreated in obedience to an order given by Colonel
Bowles. The order was not obeyed until it had been thrice repeated, as has since been proved in a
court of inquiry, appointed to inquire into the conduct of the colonel. Lieut. Col. Haddon and twelve
other good witnesses have testified to his having twice or thrice given the order before the line broke,
so unwillingly were they to abandon their position. The 2d regiment occupied an important position—it
was the key to that part of the field—and were unsupported by any other troops. An evidence of their
being in a very hot place is that about ninety of them were killed and wounded before they retreated.
They had stood firmly doing their duty, as well as ever did veteran troops, until they had discharged
over twenty rounds of cartridges at the enemy, killing and wounding some three hundred of them; and
I have no hesitation in saying that if it had not been for that unnecessary, unauthorized and cowardly
order to retreat, they would not have left their position. I hesitate not to express my belief that if my
order to advance had been carried out and we had taken the advanced position as intended, that we
would have driven the enemy from the ridge. Although the men retired in some confusion, the most of
them soon rallied—say, to the number of two hundred and fifty—and they continued to fight like veterans
throughout the day. Lieut. Robinson (my aid-de-camp) and Lieutenant Colonel Haddon were ordered to
proceed to the rancho and bring back such of our men as had gone in that direction; which was
promptly done. Capts. Davis, Kimball, McRae, Briggs, Lieutenant Spicely (then in command of his
company in consequence of the fall of Capt. And lamented Kinder, Adjutant Shanks, and
Lieutenants Hoggart, Burwell, Lewis, Foster, Bennefield, Kunkle, Londermilk, Roach, Rice, and Zenor, with
most of the company officers, were also very active in rallying their men. Capt. Sanderson, and
Lieutenants Davis, Hogan, and Cayce, and several other officers were wounded and had to leave the
field; as also Captain Dennis, who had fought like a hero with a gun in had, found himself from fatigue
and indisposition unable to remain longer the field. Paymaster Major Dix, having arrived on the field.
Paymaster Major Dix, having arrived on the field at this moment, was very active in assisting to rally
our broken and scattered forces—He seized the colors from their bearer, who was unable to carry them
longer, and handed them to Lieut. Kunkle, who carried them triumphantly throughout the day. These
colors, now in possession of Capt. Sanderson, are well riddled with balls—one 24 pound shot, one 6
pound shot, and many musket balls passed through them while they were in the hand of this victorious
young officer, and they could at all times be seen high above the heads of the Indiana brigade, moving
to and from wherever it was necessary to meet and repulse the enemy. Lieut. Peck (now captain) of the
rifle battalion, who had been compelled to retire from the mountain to the plain, after the fall of his
gallant old Captain Walker, succeeded in rallying about twenty men, and joining the regiment
continued to fight gallantly throughout the day. The severe lost in killed and wounded which the 2d
Indiana regiment sustained in the action will convey some idea of the danger they faced and the
tenacity with which they struggled: 107 of their number were killed and wounded.

At or about the time of the retreat of my small command under that ill-fated order, the riflemen
were compelled by superior numbers to abandon their position on the mountain side and retreat to the
plain below. The cavalry which had been posted some distance in my rear, and out of range of the
enemy's battery, to act as circumstances might require, either to advance upon the enemy and cut
them off in case they should be compelled to fall back, instead of affording me the least assistance, left
their position without receiving one fire from the enemy, and made a precipitated retreat to the rear
along the foot of the mountain, pursued by a large body of lancers, who succeeded in cutting of and
slaughtering quite a number of our forces, most of them riflemen. If they had made a bold stand and
allowed the riflemen and the 2d Indiana regiment to rally on them, altogether they would have been
sufficient to check the enemy before he had gained any considerable advantage. After these successful
and simultaneous retreats of the different forces on the left, it remained wholly undefended, and the
enemy, numbering several thousand, came pouring down from the mountains and from the
front, and formed in good order along the foot of the mountain and in the rear of the position at first
occupied by our forces. Soon after the retreat of the 2d, and while I was rallying them, the Mississippi
At this time the 3d Indiana regiment, under Col. Lane, was ordered into the fight, and, joined with the 2d Indiana and Mississippi regiments, composed a force of about one-fifth as large as the enemy, but sufficient to engage them with success. Capt. Sherman, with one gun of his battery, at this time joined us. The whole moved towards the foot of the mountain and engaged the enemy. Here the artillery proved very effective. This portion of the enemy's forces became at length so closely pressed, and our artillery continuing to waste them away with its destructive fire, and they begin separated from the enemy's main force, would have in a short time been compelled to surrender, when a white flag was seen on the field, and we were ordered to cease firing. We did so; but the Mexicans continued to fire from their battery, thus covering the retreat of their forces. This flag was sent to the left wing from Gen. Taylor, in consequence of Santa Ana having sent him a flag, which the general naturally supposed conveyed propositions either of truce or surrender. Hence the white flag on our part of the battle field. This flag proved to be nothing more than a stratagem of the Mexican general to extricate that portion of his troops which he saw was absolutely in our power. During the delay occasioned by this interchange of flags, this portion of his army, so completely in our power, moved off and made good their retreat to where the enemy's main force was posted.

We now moved and took position to meet a large body of lancers supported by about 2,000 infantry. The Mississippi and a portion of the 2d Indiana regiments were formed across a narrow ridge, between two deep ravines, supported by one gun from Capt. Sherman's battery, and the other part of the 2d and all of the 3d Indiana regiments were on the brow of one of the ravines and parallel to the same, the line being nearly in the shape of an L, and faced by the rear rank. The charge was made on the left flank of he 3d Indiana-now right, as they were faced. This charge, it is due to the enemy to say, was made most gallantly, and was as gallantly received by our forces, delivering our fire when they were within a short distance. It proved most destructive to the enemy, felling many a horse and his rider, breaking their columns and putting them to flight, leaving many of their companions dead on the field.

Soon after this successful repulse the field on the left was completely cleared of the enemy's forces; and hearing a sharp and continued firing on our right, and to the left of Washington's battery, I put my command in motion at double quick time, for the purpose of taking part in the conflict. This fire proved to be a severe action between the entire Mexican infantry and the 1st and 2d Illinois and 2d Kentucky volunteers, which was Santa Anna's last and greatest effort. These forces had been repulsed by overwhelming numbers, and were retreating in confusion, hotly pursued by thousands of Mexicans, who were loading and firing on our men, at every jump, when my command, consisting of the 2d and 3d Indiana and Mississippi regiments, arrived within musket shot, which we did by coming up suddenly of a ravine, and opened a destructive fire upon them. Finding themselves suddenly attacked, and from an unexpected quarter, they quit the pursuit, formed promptly in line, and returned our fire with considerable effect; but they in turn were compelled to retreat under our well directed fire to the position they had occupied in the morning. This was the last firing between the infantry of the opposing forces on that memorable day, although the cannon continued to play at intervals until dark. The battle on the plain was opened, as has been shown, by the 2d Indiana regiment, and the last musketry fired was by the 2d and 3d Indiana and Mississippi regiments. It should also be stated that our forces had been under arms since the morning of the 22d, and remained upon the field of battle until the morning of the 24th.

I have here given a brief and faithful account of the operations of the Indiana brigade on the 23d of February, as came under my observation, and there was not one minute, from the time the battle commenced until the last gun was fired, that I was not with them. Captain O'Brien who commanded the battery of light artillery posted on my right at the commencement of he battle, as well as Capt. Sherman, who acted with us part of the day, are deserving particular praise for their gallantry and good conduct-moving and discharging their pieces with all the coolness and precision of a day of ordinary parade. The intrepit and honorable conduit of the 2d Kentucky and 1st and 2d Illinois volunteers could not have been exceeded, and no commendation of mine could add lustre to the glory that should and would be theirs. There is enough of honor and glory for each man who did his duty at Buena Vista, and he must be an uncharitable and selfish citizen who would knowingly wish to detract from any portion of that glorious little army, with a desire to augment that of any other corps at the expense of another. The many gallant officers and men who did their duty on that day should not suffer by invidious comparison.

If I have neglected to particularize the conduct of the Arkansas and Kentucky cavalry, or to define their position on the field, it is not because I deemed them of little moment or importance, but for the reason, that from the time of their retreat I had no opportunity of seeing any thing of their movements. They participated in the rancho fight, when the gallant Yell fell nobly at the head of his column. He, with the noble should who fell on that day, should never be forgotten. The ambition of distinction should never prompt us to deface any portion of the tablet of fame which our country will erect to the honor of the actors in that battle, and the regular and volunteer army should be proud of it, as one of the greatest epochs in our country's history.

It is due to the commanders of he different batteries of light artillery to say that their efforts were most powerful and efficient towards gaining the almost unparalleled victory of Buena Vista. Ready at all
times to meet the enemy at fearful odds, their guns wasted them away with their fire in a handsome
manner, compelling them to retreat whenever coming within their range. Gens. Taylor and Wool were
present as commanders—the former as commander in chief. They were exposed to dangers almost
every instant of the day, watching the movements of the enemy, and ordering and disposing our troops
to meet and repel them. By their coolness and courage in gaining this victory they have won laurels
and a fame that shall endure as long as traces of American history shall exist.

Respectfully your obedient servant,
John Lane, Brig. Gen.

[ANP]

NRR 72.270-72.271 July 3, 1847 Gen. Gideon Johnson Pillow's address to the public on his attack Cerro
Gordo

Gen. Pillow's Statement.

An article in the Picayune of the 29th ultimo, signed by Col. Haskell and other officers of the 2d
Tennessee regiment, addressed to the public, calls for some notice from me. This article professes to
be "a simple statement of facts;" and, in advance, disclaims any other motive in making the publication
that such as arises from a desire "to do justice for themselves." If those gentlemen had made a
correct statement of facts, and had left the public to form its own judgment upon those facts, I should
have been content to have passed the publication by unnoticed; for, from a statement of facts I have
nothing to fear.

This article professes to describe the enemy's works, and the order of attack of my brigade in the
battle of Cerro Gordo. It says: "There were on the line of works, extending from the National Road to
the gorge of the mountains, through which the river passes, three works, known to our engineers as
batteries Nos. 1, 2, and 3, and that, by the order of battle for my brigade battery No. 1, situated upon
the river bluff was to have been assaulted by Col. Wynkoop's regiment, supported by Col. Campbell's;
and battery No. 2 was to have been assaulted by Haskell's regiment, supported by Col. Roberts'
regiment.

Instead of three works in this line of works, as those gentlemen say, there were known to be four
before the battle. Battery No. 1, situated on the river bluff, and No. 2 at the extreme left of the
enemy's line of breastwork, and not nearer to the point assaulted than from four hundred to six
hundred yards, and batteries Nos. 3 and 4 were still further towards the National Road—the place
assaulted made the 5th battery. Col. Haskell (who is the author of this article) says further that he was
to assault battery No. 2, and Colonel Wynkoop battery No. 1.

It never was, however, intended by me to assault batteries No. 1 and 2, and no order was ever
given to that effect. He was not ordered to assault battery No. 2, nor was that battery ever assaulted.
Col. Wynkoop was not ordered to assault battery No. 1. The position intended to be assaulted was,
what was believed by both the engineers and myself, to be the angle of those batteries formed by the
long line of stone breast-works, about four hundred yards from battery No 1. In my official report,
bearing date 18th April, 1847, and prepared immediately after the battle by an officer of my staff, (for
being disabled in my right arm I could not write,) I distinctly stated that the points of assault were "the
adjacent angles of batteries Nos. 1 and 2." But, in the after part of that report, for the sake of brevity,
and for the purpose of designating the positions of his two assaulting forces, I speak of batteries Nos. 1
and 2, without repeating in each paragraph the words "adjacent angles."

At this suppose dangle no guns could be seen, and none were believed to be there—though, on the
last day of reconnoissance, something presenting the appearance of one gun was seen. Still it was
believed to be the weakest point in the line of works, and was therefore selected by the engineer on
duty with my brigade for the assault.

Agreeably to my plan of attack, Haskell's assaulting force was to attack the left of this angle and
Wynkoop's the right, so as to engage at the same time the forces upon both sides of the angle.—General
Scott's order of battle was ling, and reached me about 9 o'clock the night of the 17th, and too late for
me have the necessary copies of it prepared and issued to my command. I therefore sent for Colonels
Campbell, Haskell, Wynkoop, and Roberts, and at my own quarters read to them the general order of
battle, and explained to them particularly the position of the different batteries, my position for assault,
and the order of movement for each regiment, and the order of movement for each regiment, and for
the position to be assumed by each preparatory to the assault.

The assault was made at the place previously determined upon, and made known to these
officers; and, though this point turned out to be a strong work, mounting eight pieces of artillery
immediately in front, and two more on a retired line, all which were to the moment of attack, entirely
Colonel Haskell cannot understand why his regiment was placed between Wynkoop's and Campbell's in Campbell's between his (Haskell's) and Roberts' regiment, on the march from the encampment. This (to him) incomprehensible order of march, which he seems to think was a blunder of mine, will perhaps be under stood by him when I state to him the object.

The narrow pathway along which we were obliged to march pierced the enemy's line of works just at the place selected for the assault. By my order of attack, Wynkoop's assaulting column was to form on the left of the path, fronting the right side of the angle, and Haskell's assaulting force was to form on the right side of the path, and was to attack the works on the left side of the angle. Wynkoop's position was further advanced on the road that Haskell's and therefore he was place dint he advance.

When Wynkoop's regiment reached its position, it was to form, and did form, on the proper side of the 5th. When Haskell's regiment had formed, it cleared the path for Colonel Campbell's regiment to ass up to Wynkoop's support. The passage of Campbell's regiment left the way clear for Roberts' to come forward to Haskell's support. Thus it will be seen that the only order of march by which it was possible to have placed the regiments, with their supporting forces, in proper position was adopted; and it resulted in the proper formation of each assaulting force, without the least confusion or disorder, although there was no road but a narrow pathway.

Again: Colonel Haskell says that I placed his regiment in position by directing him "to rest his right flank right of the path, extending his left square off to the left, so as to form his line of battle parallel with the centre field work of the enemy." He en says that, "by this maneuver, it will be perceived that the ranks of Colonel Haskell's command are reversed, the front rank becoming the rear, and the right of the regiment its left." Now, how s possible for a regiment which is marching by the flank to reverse its ranks and change its wings from right to left, by this order, it will be difficult for any military man to comprehend. If the right of the regiment was upon the right of he path, and the left extended square off to the left, as the says was ordered by me, it was as impossible for the wings to have been reversed any that order, as it would be for a man to reverse the position of his own arms, and equally so for the ranks to have been reversed; for they could not possibly be reversed except by the whole regiment being ordered to face by the rear ranks, which would have turned to backs of he men to the enemy; and yet, Colonel Haskell comes to the conclusion that, by this order, his wings and his ranks were reversed. I cannot account for such inexplicable confusion of mind in a military man. To suppose him so ignorant of he principles of military science, would show him utterly unfit for the command of a regiment. It would be entirely immaterial by which flank he marched; the order which he says I did give, would, if executed, place the regiment in proper position for the assault upon the enemy's works.

First, then, Col. Haskell misstates the number of works in the enemy's line, and their positions. Secondly, he misstated the work which in fact I indented either himself of Wynkoop to assail, and the work which was actually assailed. Thirdly, the order of march, which he regards as a blunder of mine, was proper, and the only one by which the assaulting parties could possibly reach their positions; and the regiments were each placed in the march with this express object. Fourthly, my order for the formation of his command into line of battle, which he says reversed the wings and the ranks of the regiment, was right and proper; and, agreeably to that order, there was no possibility of his wings and his ranks being reversed; and yet the public are told, in the very outset of this article, that the publication made is "a simple statement of facts, "which is by no means complimentary to the general's talents as a military man." Is my military reputation to be affected before an intelligent nation by such an assault as this?

Again: He says I professed to have carefully reconnoitred these works; "but the truth is, the general was ignorant of the ground and enemy's strength and preparations of defence." I did profess to have reconnoitred these works as carefully as, from the nature of he ground and other obstacles, I could; but I deny that either the engineers or myself did or could carefully reconnoitre them, or ever said we had. Colonel Johnston, engineer, while engaged in a reconnoissance of these works was shot through the body twice. Lieutenant Tower, engineer, and myself devoted three other days to the examination of these works, were repeatedly shot at, and once hotly pursued, and narrowly escaped a capture. On this last occasion Colonel Haskell was along himself. Lieutenant Tower and myself had as carefully reconnoitred these works as it was possible to do under the constant fire to which we were exposed from the enemy's picquets. I professed to have examined them as carefully as I could, but we did not know, and could not, by any possibility, have known, the character of the works which we attacked, for they were completely masked by the stone wall and brush. In the strength of this work we were all deceived. It was not my duty professionally to examine or to know these works; that belonged exclusively to the engineer corps; but I took it upon myself to reconnoitre them that I might have a personal acquaintance with the ground, which could only be acquired by a personal reconnoissance. Colonel Haskell was invited to be present at these reconnaissances, and was along more than once, and was as much deceived as any one else. Who does not know that it is impossible to look through stone walls, covered over with brush? What means have either engineers or other officers of discovering works completely masked when the approach to the vicinity of those works is concealed and completely masked by the stone wall and brush, yet, up to that time, it was believed to be an angle in the large stone breastwork, connecting the batteries Nos. 1 and 2. That such was the position tended to be and actually assaulted, will conclusively appear from my official reports of this battle, made almost immediately after the battle, dated 18th and 28th April.
New Orleans, June 7, 1847.

Gideon Pillow.

The question is distinctly asked, "why I assaulted battery No. 2? Why I did so before I was ready, and with so small a force?" As an answer to these questions, I refer to the following portion of my detailed report: "Upon arriving at my position for assaulting forces, without the loss of a moment's time. I had myself placed Colonel Haskell's regiment in position for assault, upon the left side of the angle; had placed Colonel Roberts' regiment (the supporting force of Haskell's regiment) in position in a short distance in the rear; had ordered Wynkoop's regiment (the advance of he other assaulting force) to its position; (and it was on its way to its position, with Colonel Campbell's regiment as its supporting force,) when the enemy, discovering our position, directed a most galling fire into the command. This fire was so destructive that it would have swept away my entire command, had it remained in its position even long enough to have completed the formation of the forces for the assault. Owing to the impenetrable chaparral which covered the whole face of the country, it was equally impossible to fallback and complete the movement, even if such a movement would not have thrown the force entirely out of position. Seeing that no alternative was left me but to retreat, with the whole command, in the face of he enemy's fire,, and break up the order of battle, and violate the orders of he general in chief, and thus bring disgrace upon the whole brigade, or to dash rapidly forward upon the enemy's works with the forces which were in position, I instantly sent my aid-de-camp, Lieutenant Rains, with orders to bring Col. Roberts' regiment as quickly as possible to the support of Colonel Haskell, and directed this last regiment to charge the enemy's works with the forces which were in position, I instantly sent my aid-de-camp, Lieutenant Rains, with orders to bring Col. Roberts' regiment as quickly as possible to the support of Colonel Haskell, and directed this last regiment to charge the enemy's works. I also directed my aid-de-camp, Lieutenant and Anderson, to Colonel Wynkoop, with orders for a similar movement upon the works in front of his position, being on the opposite side of he angle. Haskell's regiment dashed nobly forward, with a shout of enthusiasm." Hence it will be seen that the course which I took of charging the works was the only one left me.

It is manifest, therefore, tat the effort to throw upon me the responsibility of the failure to carry the work assaulted at Cerro Gordo is altogether unjust. The alleged errors in my orders and dispositions of the assaulting forces, I have shown were not errors; but that they were, on the contrary, the proper orders and dispositions for hat purpose. A most vigorous and determined effort was made to carry them by Colonel Haskell's regiment. It was not successful because of he strength of the work assailed, and the almost insurmountable obstacles and barriers to its approach. Though Col. Roberts was in close supporting distance of Colonel Haskell, being within 150 or 200 yards, and was ordered to is immediate support before the latte was ordered to charge, yet he did not get up in time to sustain the assault mad by Haskell's regiment before it was cut down and forced to retire. Upon the report of the fact to me, though at the time I was entirely disabled in the use of my right arm by a canister shot, Immediately formed the whole command to renew the attack, and had ordered the charge, when the enemy ran up the white flag and surrendered..-I am not disposed to charge the fault of this failure to the misconduct of any officer or portion of my command, but to the Gibraltar like strength of the works themselves.

The colonel further says I enjoy the reputation of leading his command in this charge at Cerro Gordo. I was not aware that I enjoyed the reputation of doing what I nowhere claim to have done. In my official report I distinctly state that I was at the head of the column-in person, placed his regiment in position, ordered Colonel Roberts to his support, ordered Colonel Wynkoop to his position, and that, after having ( for reasons which are fully explained in my detailed report) ordered the charge of his regiment, I then moved across the line of the enemy's fire, intending to lead in person the storming party of which Colonel Wynkoop's regiment constituted the advance, but was prevented by a wound received from doing so. If I had led the charge of Haskell's command, I think I should have let it differently and with different results; and if he severity of he fire had cut sown all my filed officers except myself, and driven back my command, I think I should have fallen back with it in good order.

Gideon Pillow.

New Orleans, June 7, 1847.
THE TRAIN ATTACKED--On the night of the 4th inst. Colonel McIntosh, with 800 troops, started from Vera Cruz with the train of 125 wagons and 600 pack mules from Puebla, having $225,000 for paymaster and quartermaster departments in specie in the wagons.

At a well selected pass, twenty-five miles from Vera Cruz, where a party of guerrillas had made some preparations for the purpose, an attack was simultaneously made on the 6th instant on each extremity, and on the center of the train, but mainly directing the assault at the wagons which they supposed contained the specie.

Private accounts represent that the attack was so far successful that forty of our wagons were destroyed--though not those containing the specie--two hundred mules loaded with subsistence were taken, and thirty of our men killed. The American Eagle of the 9th says twenty, but private accounts, from responsible sources, give the loss, at thirty men.

The check was so severe that Colonel McIntosh determined not to hazard an advance without reinforcements. Our troops accordingly entrenched themselves behind their wagons, and despatches were sent off to General Cadwallader at Vera Cruz. The general left on Monday evening, the 7th instant, with a force of about five hundred men and four howitzers. Private accounts say that on the 10th a part of the voltigueurs also left, with four howitzers, to join the train.

The Eagle represents that our troops received the attack with the utmost coolness, and that the enemy, being repulsed feel back towards the Puente Nacional, which some suppose they may attempt to defend. No later news from the train had been received the morning of the 11th.

But the audacity of these guerrillas does not stop here.

They are entering Vera Cruz and stealing our horses. For several nights alarms had been created in the city by these predatory attempts. Private letters say that sixty horses were stolen from one pen in the immediate vicinity of the town. A regiment of Texas rangers, it seems to us, would find ample scope for employment in the vicinity of Vera Cruz.

The steamers Palmetto and Edith arrived at Vera Cruz on the 8th inst. The schooner Gen. Worth had also arrived with one company of voltigueurs. [CCB]

Vomito is on the increase at Vera Cruz. Paymaster Bosworth, who left New Orleans on the 18th ult. sickened and died of it. His brother returns in the Massachusetts with his remains. [CCB]

No later news had been received from the army of Gen. Scott. The reason is obvious; communication has been entirely cut off. But it indicates a necessity for some cavalry force upon the line to clear away the brigands which infest it, and who must have mustered in greater force than had been anticipated to attack a train guarded by 800 troops.

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Guerrillas are around Vera Cruz.沟通给Winfield Scott中断

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A letter from an American officer, a prisoner in Mexico dated the 28th, states that the had been again and again promised his liberty, and expected to be released on the 30th beyond doubt. He writes that it was expected that General Scott would reach the capital in eight days, and he thought no formidable opposition would be made. [NGP]

The Picayune says that private letters which they have seen express the persuasion that Gen. Scott will meet with further opposition to his entry to the capital. [NGP]

El Republicano urges strenuously that the seat of government should at once be removed; the government should still exist and form a centre of union for a rallying point. [NGP]

In an earlier article upon the subject of the defense of the capital, El Republicano sets down the troops available for the purpose as follows: The garrison them in the capital was not far from 10,000 men, while there were to arrive, says the editor, from the state of Guanajuato 3,000, from the south of Mexico 3,000 from Michoacan 2,000, and from Queretaro 1,000. We enter from allusions made to an article in El Razonador that the latter paper ridicules the idea of making any defense of the city, says the Picayune. [NGP]

We see nothing in the paper about the formidable works said to be going on at Rio Frio. We are inclined to the opinion that the resistance anticipated at this point has been much exaggerated. The Mexican papers which we have seen say nothing about it, and speak only of the fortifications in the immediate vicinity of the capital. It looks as though parties were marshalling their forces for a struggle for power among themselves rather than to defend their country against a foreign foe. [NGP]

Gen. Urrea was stationed at Tula, with a large guerrilla force, levying contributions alike on friends and enemies. [NGP]

We find in the papers a copy of the new constitution, or rather the amendments to the constitution of 1824, which have been adopted. The address, too of Gen. Herrera, Gen. Santa Anna, and the president
of the supreme court upon the former promulgation of the new law, are given at length. We have
looked into that of Gen. Herrera with much curiosity to find what he has to say of the war. He touches
upon it only in general terms. He says that a people truly free was never yet conquered by a foreign
invasion; and conjures Mexicans to lay aside their animosities and unite in support of the laws and
constitution. This done he promises that their defense of the independence of their country cannot fail.
Santa Anna's address is in his usual vein; we get no new ideas of his designs from it.

From San Luis Potosi we have dates to the 25th of May. All is quiet and indifference there. There were
about 7,000 of the debris of Santa Anna's army in the place, but they had orders to repair to the
capital, leaving a few of the national guard for the defense of the place. Fortifications miserably
constructed, nothing were doing in them.

They were under the impression that Gen. Taylor would not march on that place, but would advance on
the capital, by way of Zacatecas, the inhabitants of which are said to be highly favorable to the
Americans. [NGP]

NNR 72.274 July 3, 1847 ship Carmelita expected to be released, Privateers

MEXICAN PRIVATEERS.
The Barque Carmelita. A letter from Capt. Littlefield, of said barque received by Messrs. Brett & Vose,
New York, dated "Barcelona, 20th May," says:

"After being retained as prisoners of war on board the privateer until the 9th inst., during which time I
protested against the capture, we were put in possession of our own vessel, and the prize crew
removed on board the privateer May 12th. The Mexican colors were hauled down on board the
privateer, the vessel taken possession of, and the crew imprisoned by the Spanish authorities, to be
tried for piracy. The probability is that more or less of them will be shot and the remainder of them will
have to be confined to the galleys for life. There has been a report of other vessels being fitted out on
this coast as privateers, but I know it to be incorrect. We are detained to await some formalities
concerning the prisoners. As I have avoided being the accuser, I think soon to be able to proceed on
our voyage unmolested. The Queen's Governor has informed the American minister, as soon as proof
shall be received that she was not a legal letter of marque, the captured should immediately be set at
liberty, and all expenses and damages should be paid by the felucca and owners, they being Spanish
subjects, and most of them old offenders against the laws." [CCB]

NNR 72.274 July 3, 1847 Com. Matthew Calbraith Perry's order opening Mexican ports

Flagship Mississippi, Sacrificio, May 24, 1847

Notice having already been given of the opening of the ports of Matamoras, Tampico, Vera Cruz, and
Alvarado, it is hereby made known that the additional ports of Tuspan, Goaxacoalcos, Frontera, and
Laguna, now in the possession of the United States naval forces, are also open to the admission of
American and neutral vessels not having on board articles contraband of war, and subject to the
regulations, established by an order of the United States government, dated April 7th, 1847.

By order of Commodore M.C. Perry
H.A. Adams, Commander and staff officer

[NGP]

NNR 72.274 July 3, 1847 blockade of Yucatan ports officially removed

Notice is hereby given, that the restrictions formerly imposed on the commerce between the ports of
Mexico in possession of the United States forces and the State of Yucatan, are no longer in force: and
that trade may be carried on from the ports of Yucatan as from neutral ports.

By order of Commodore M.C. Perry
H.A. Adams, Commander and flag officer

[NGP]
Sad news from the plains - Capture of a wagon train - murder of teamsters. A gentleman arrived at St. Louis, on the evening of the 21st, from Westport, who informs the editors of the Reveille, that just before his departure, a Delaware Indian had arrived from the Plains, giving an account of a wholesale murder of teamsters, by a combined force of Arapahoes, Camanches and Pawnees. The Indian is a son of Nacomi, the principal chief of the Delawares, and is generally considered a man of voracity. He was found a prisoner at Taos, when Col. Price took that place and was liberated.

His story is, that having started homeward, he fell in with a large body of Indians, of the tribes mentioned, on the Arkansas. They made him prisoner, and only spared his life on the condition that he would join them against the whites. He sets their number down at two hundred fires, which would make the total number of the force about 1,000 men.

Near Walnut creek, he states this formidable party met and attacked a train of thirty wagons, drawn by mule teams, and accompanied only be the drivers and eight or ten horsemen. The Indians surrounded them and charging suddenly drove the teamsters from their saddles, and massacred every man of the party. The wagons were loaded with government stores, which, with the mules, the Indians appropriated to their own use.

The day succeeding this massacre, young Nacom was permitted to depart, having been presented with a fine large American mule. This animal bears the mark "U.S." and has been recognized as one of those belonging to a government train which left Fort Leavenworth a few weeks since.

We further learn that the Delawares are preparing to send a war party against the Osages. The latter tribes have recently taken three Delaware scalps. The Indian who gave the information respecting the murder of the teamsters, says there were a few Osages among the murderers. [NGP]

Gen. Winfield Scott's preparations to advance on the capital

Dispatches were received on Saturday night by the war office from General Scott's camp. Several of the soldiers were sick in the hospitals of Vera Cruz, Jalapa, Perote, and Puebla; but, with the reinforcements that were en route from Vera Cruz, he would probably have troops sufficient by the 22nd to march to the capital, perhaps without any serious opposition. He had ordered all our troops to evacuate Jalapa, in order to strengthen his active army. The last accounts by the steamer James Day are from Vera Cruz to the evening of the 16th which state that Gen. Scott had advanced to Rio Frio, where a dispatch is said to have met with him a proposition for peace. If this last report be true, it is probably that he will remain at Rio Frio, and not forth march to the capital, but according to the intimation in his own dispatches, wait till about the 22nd, both to give himself the opportunity of receiving reinforcements, and to allow the Mexicans more time to negotiate with the better grace. [NGP]

Gen. William Jenkins Worth's official report of march to and occupation of Puebla

Sir I have the honor to report, for information of the general in chief, that the forces under my command, including the brigade of Major Gen. Quitman, took military possession of this city at 10 o'clock today. Halting yesterday at Amosoque, to await the junction of Gen. Quitman, I found my position suddenly menaced, at 8 o'clock, by a large body of cavalry. This force approached somewhat stealthily by a road on our right unknown to us. A rapid examination, as it unmasked itself, exhibited, as was supposed, some 2,000, but from accurate information obtained here, 3,000 cavalry of the line, unsupported either by infantry or artillery, and moving a mile on our right and toward the rear, led to the conclusion that it was a ruse to attract attention in that quarter, while the real attack was to be looked for on the high road in front, or a movement on Gen. Quitman, who might have been supposed the usual day's march in the rear. It was presently reported that a heavy column was actually approaching on the main road. Thus it became necessary while directing a portion of the force against the visible enemy, to guard our large train, reserve ammunition, packed in the square, against the invisible.

The 2nd artillery section of Duncan's battery under the brigade commander, Col. Garland the 6th infantry under Maj. Bonneville, with Stephoe's battery, was promptly moved, and so directed as to take the enemy in flank. The head of his column having now reached a point opposite the center of the town, and distant about half a mile, the batteries soon opened a rapid and effective fire. After some twenty five rounds, the entire column broke without attempting a charge or firing a shot, and hastily fled up the sides of the convenient hills. Only one company of the infantry was enabled, from distance,
to deliver its fire. The march in the direction of Gen. Quitman’s approach. The 2nd artillery and 8th infantry, with two sections of the light batteries, was put in its track, when the enemy again swerved to the left, and disappeared in the hills. Two miles distant Gen. Quitman was met by the last named detachment. He had already discovered the enemy, of whose proximity the firing had admonished him, and promptly taken his order of battle. This discomfited enemy reached Puebla late at night, and evacuated the place at four in the morning. We took some prisoners, and found a few dead. The enemy acknowledged a loss of 89 killed and wounded. Gen. Santa Anna conducted the enterprise. Enclosed, marked A, is a copy of a communication addressed on the 12th to the civil authorities of Puebla. Again, marked C, on the 14th with reply to the latter, marked D: also copy of circular, dated 9th, addressed to commanders of corps, to regulate their conduct in certain contingencies on the march. It is understood the force which retired from this city the day before yesterday, and today is to take post at Puente del Tesmaluca, distant 12 leagues on the road to the capital, where it is where it is proposed to fortify. Our reception was respectfully and coldly courteous, but without the slightest cordiality. Incassent occupation has not allowed me a moment to look into the resources in way of supply; but Mr. --- says, breadstuff will be had in abundance, less of beef, and perhaps a liberal quantity of small rations.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant
W.J. Worth
Brevet Major General Commanding

[NGP]

NRR 72.275-72.276 July 3, 1847 account of the attack on the train from Vera Cruz

The arrival of the Galveston at N. Orleans, from Vera Cruz, which she left on the 15th June, furnished a variety of interesting items from the army, of which we proceed to furnish a synopsis.

THE ATTACK ON THE TRAIN UNDER COL. McINTOSH.

A correspondent of the N. O. Bee, in a letter dated Paso de Ovejas, June 12th, writes: The train of wagons and pack mules under the direction of Col. McIntosh, which left Vera Cruz on the 4th inst., escorted by Capts. Duperu, Ford, and McReynolds, companies of dragoons--the two latter mounted--and three hundred infantry commanded by Major Lee, arrived in this village on the 7th inst., after a march of three days.

The train consisting of 150 wagons laden with specie, and ammunition, and 500 pack mules with provisions &c., proceeded without molestation until about noon on Sunday last, 6th inst., when our advanced guard of Capt. Ford’s Indiana dragoons was suddenly attacked by a large body of Mexicans, killing two men and wounding five or six. In this skirmish the enemy succeeded in capturing several horses and a large quantity of baggage, among which I have to regret the loss of all my clothing and papers. Half an hour afterwards the rear of the train was attacked, and before the rear guard who were unfortunately too far behind could come up to its defence, the Mexicans captured a large number of pack mules, and robbed several wagons of a portion of their contents. With their booty their retired into the dense chaparral, where it was impossible to pursue them. One of the rascals actually dragged from a wagon, the wife an hospital steward, and throwing her across his horse, was making his escape, when he was fortunately shot by one of the infantry, and the terrified lady delivered in safety into the arms of her husband.

After the train which reached several miles had come into order, the whole body moved forward, the two companies of mounted dragoons forming the rear guard. At sunset, when passing along a low portion of the road, with an open chaparral on our left, and a large cleared field hemmed in about 100 yards from the road, by a heavy chaparral and commanded at the further end by a hill on the side of which is a small line fort, our whole advanced guard, consisting of 25 mounted dragoons, about 250 infantry, and our company (Duperu’s) of dismounted dragoons, was assailed by a heavy discharge of musketry, from the fort, the hill in its rear, and the chaparral beyond, and the cleared field. Our boys received their tire, steadily and unflinchingly, and returned it briskly for a few minutes. We hen charged on the chaparral at the rear of the open space, silenced the fire of the enemy and drove them entirely off. At the same time the mounted dragoons charged on the hill, routed the Mexicans out of the fort, and drove them over the hills.

The whole action lasted about half an hour, and our troops, who were principally raw recruits, behaved in the most gallant manner. The Louisiana boys acquitted themselves admirably, and were the first to reach the chaparral. The friends of Capt. Duperu and his company, in New Orleans, will be gratified to learn that we have sustained their highest anticipations. The loss in our company, on this occasion, was three wounded, viz: Samuel Lankin, in the thigh, severely;-----Wallace, in the thigh and hand, severely; William Hassel, in the thigh, slightly. They are all doing well.

We suffered greatly for want of water, but about 9 o'clock, came to a small muddy brook, were we bivouacked for the night, sleeping in the middle of the road. The next morning early we were put in
An hour afterwards we entered the town of Paso de Obejas, (passage of the sheep,) where we were quartered, to award the arrival of reinforcements of artillery from Vera Cruz, with which to pass the National Bridge, six miles from this place, and the heights of Cerro Gordo, where, it is supposed, the enemy will show opposition. About 9 o'clock yesterday morning a small train of 4 or 5 wagons came in direct from Puebla. They contained the baggage, and were escorted by some two hundred discharged sick soldiers and a few teamsters, whose term of service had expired. They were attacked from the heights, while in the act of crossing the National Bridge. Not being able to return their fire, the Mexicans being concealed, they simultaneously raised a shout and ran towards them, whereupon the yellow skinned cowards vamoosed. One wagon master was killed. I have forgot to mention in the proper place, that our whole loss in the two days fighting was 40 killed, wounded, and missing.

The forces at Jalapa have received marching orders, and will join us on our route to 'headquarters,' Gen. Scott and his whole army, with the exception of the Jalapa force are occupying Puebla. He will remain there, until sufficiently reinforced to march on the capital, which will not be, it is anticipated, until fall.

Late yesterday afternoon reinforcements arrived here from Vera Cruz, under the command of Brig. Gen. Cadwallader. They number near five hundred strong; two twelve pound howitzers: the Kentucky company of mounted dragoons, under Capt. Gaithers and four or five companies of infantry. We will probably leave here tomorrow, and should the rancheros give us a fight, we will demolish them.

YOURS, THE DRAGOON.

[CCB]

NBR 72.276 July 3, 1847 George Wilkins Kendall's account of movements, detachment under Capt. William Phillips Bainbridge leaves Puebla for Veracruz, affairs on the route

The New Orleans Delta gives the following synopsis of the news.

The following highly important intelligence was communicated to us by Lieuts. Floyd and McWilliams, of the 2d Pennsylvania Volunteers, who came over on the steamship Galveston, this morning at 6 o'clock. On the 8th a small recruiting party, together with some citizens disbanded soldiers, in number about 150 with 75 armed men, and thirty mounted, left Puebla for Vera Cruz. This party was under command of Capt. Bainbridge, of 3d artillery.-On leaving Jalapa and getting near Cerro Gordo, this party was informed hat it would bet be prudent to go through the pass, as here were about 4,000 Mexicans in the chaparral along the pass. Previous to this tow officers who had gone to the rear of the train were fired at from the chaparral. At the mouth of the pass the party was organized and marched through without meeting an enemy. Arrived at the bridge that evening. Whilst they were bivouacked on the other side of the bridge, being so fatigued that they were unable to furnish a guard, they were informed that some persons were barricading the bridge. A guard was then stationed between the bridge and the encampment, to prevent the party being surprised. At this time signal lights on the ridges and cliffs were distantly seen.

Before daylight the sick and wounded of this little party were removed to Santa Anna's hacienda-a quarter of a mile from the bridge. A scouting party was then sent out, and also a party to clear the bridge, which was done without any opposition. The main body of he party then passed over the bridge. Everything appearing then to be safe, and all danger being passed, Lieut. McWilliams and Mr. Frazer were sent back to bring on the train on the other side of he bridge. Just as they were entering the bridge a party of about twenty five Mexicans appeared on the ridge, and fired several volleys on them. The wagon master and four others, who were passing the bridge, were fired on and the whole five were killed, and a wagon was captured, of no great value.

After the fire had ceased, a party of lancers appeared on the bridge and seemed to be preparing to charge, but seeing that Capt. Bainbridge's party were preparing to receive them, they wheeled their horses and galloped off.

Capt. Bainbridge resume his march in good order, followed by 400 or 500 of the lancers, who hung upon his rear and flanks for four or five miles, but at a respectable distance. Thus hemmed in this little party pursued its way until it arrived at the pass of La Voilta, where Col. McIntosh had encamped with his large train. The Mexicans who had attacked Bainbridge's party were the same who had compelled Col. McIntosh to halt and wait for reinforcements. The party remained that night in McIntosh's camp, and during the whole time the Mexicans kept a continual fire on the camp, approaching, with the greatest boldness, very near to our sentinels.

On the next day Capt. Bainbridge's party resumed its march to Vera Cruz, being joined by Capt. Duperu's dragoons, who were sent back to get their horses. This company, with its gallant Captain, had
behaved very handsomely in the attack on McIntosh's camp. Its gallantry was the theme of universal praise and admiration in the army. Indeed, it was generally admitted that Col. McIntosh's command was saved by the gallantry of Duperu's party. Bainbridge's party continued their march to Vera Cruz, where they arrive in safety. In the meantime Duperu's party, having a long return train to guard, and being threatened by a large body of lancers, halted at Santa Fe, where they were charge by a greatly superior force, which they gallantly repulsed, killing many of the enemy, and suffering no loss themselves. It was said however, that some of our wagons were cut off, and the drivers taken prisoners. Capt. Duperu arrived safely in Vera Cruz, having lost three killed and three wounded.

On the day Capt. Bainbridge's party left McIntosh's camp Gen. Cadwallader had arrived, with a force of 800 men and two howitzers. The two commands were then joined, making, in all, about 1000 men, with two howitzers, under the command of General Cadwallader, and pushed on towards the National Bridge.

On approaching the bridge General Cadwallader occupied the heights commanding the bridge from which the enemy had fired on Capt. Bainbridge's party, where he was attacked by a large force of the Mexicans, posted in the ridges and chaparral, and some hard fighting was carried on for several hours, the Mexicans losing more that 100 men, a and Gen. Cadwallader loosing some 13 killed and some 30 or 40 wounded. The Mexicans were repulsed; the bridge was successfully passed by General Cadwallader, who was on his way to Jalapa.

The estimate loss of Colonel McIntosh's party is about $40,000. For miles the road is strewed with empty boxes and bacon sides, which had been captured by the enemy. There is a great deal of dissatisfaction in the army, respecting the of conduct of the command which had charge of the train. There will be a court of inquiry into the subject.

The garrison at Jalapa has been broken up, by order of Gen. Scott and all he sick and government stores have been sent to Perote Castle, so that this line of communication is entirely closed. General Scott has had a road opened from Perote to Tuxpan, from which in future, all our stores and men will be sent, in preference to the old road. The Engineer corps have completed a fine road from Tuxpan to Perote, the distance being less than one half that from Vera Cruz to Perote, and Tuxpan being a healthier place.

The success of the attack on McIntosh's command has given great confidence to the guerrillas, who are swarming in great numbers through the country, and attacking all our parities, large and small.

It was chiefly owning to the gallantry of Major Bennett, the paymaster, that the specie wagons in McInosh's party were saved. He was in one of them himself when the wagon was attacked, and fought like a tiger.

We are pained to hear that the fine charger sent out by the citizens of New Orleans to Col. Harney was captured by the Mexicans. Their daring was so great that even lariated a woman who was in the wagon, but she was rescued by our men after some hard fighting.

There are about 1000 men in camp at Vera Cruz. General Shields was at Jalapa, and was about to leave for the United States, when he received an order from Gen. Scott to join him at Puebla.

There are no preparations to defend any point between Puebla and the Capital. All the odds and ends of the army are collected in the city, about 20000 in number, but poorly armed, and of miserable material. There was a small pronunciamento at the city of Mexico, which was easily putdown by Gen. Bustamente. It was got up by factions of the peace party. The cry was "down with Santa Anna!" but the president ad interim still maintains his power and influence. Congress has refused to accept his resignation.

We have about 6000 men at Puebla, under command of Worth and Quitman.

Gen. Scott will remain at Puebla until he is reinforced. Gen. Bravo is in command of the army at the capital.

There is much sickness at Vera Cruz, but very little in the Castle. Col. Wilson publishes a card in the Eagle pronouncing the statement of Col. Mata, that La Vega had been confined in the guard house of the Castle to be false.

The little party, who cut their way from Jalapa to Vera Cruz, and so narrowly escaped the many perils that surrounded them, express themselves under the greatest obligation so Capt. Bainbridge, Mr. Karns and Adj Dutton, for their coolness, prudence and judgment in conducting them in safety through their many dangers.

Gen. Cadwallader is much praised for the energy and promptness of his movements to the rescue of McIntosh, and or the bravery and skill with which he scattered the swarms of guerrillas, grown
confident by the success of their previous enterprises.

Rejon, and five other generals, whose names are not given, had been arrested and sent to the different states for confinement.

The gallant Captain Walker has commenced his work of retaliation on the guerrillas. On the morning of the 8th inst. he started with his command from Perote on an expedition some distance since the interior. During the expedition he succeeded in capturing nineteen guerrillas and an alcalde—he has employed them in cleaning the streets and sinks. [ANP]

NNR 72.276-72.277, July 3, 1847 return of Capt. Duperu’s dragoons to Veracruz, his account of the train, arrival there of the dead and wounded, arrival of troops, Gen. George Cadwalader reaches the train with reinforcements and takes command

The Vera Cruz correspondent of the Times writes June 14th—"I have just seen Captain Duperu, who came in this morning from the train, which he left about three miles this side of the bridge, at a stand. It is his opinion that the train will not move forward for some days, if at all. The guerrillas are gathering in great numbers and from all quarters, and the chief danger is in delay. Every hour renders its advance more difficult. Within the past three days a number of young Vera Cruzanos have gone out, and are now under arms against us, after enjoying our protection for the past two months, during which time their property and persons have been more respected than they have for any two months together since they were born. The city has several emissaries within its walls from Jarauta and Robledo, one of which, in a gray friar’s dress, was just pointed out to me.—Persons in the interest and pay or promise of pay—of the Mexican authorities, Mexicans by birth as well as Spaniards, are also in the employ of our authorities in this city, some of them receiving large salaries and holding offices of trust connected with our courts and different departments in administrative and clerical capacities, ready at any moment to turn over their files and books to parties with whom their natural sympathies lie; people openly rejoice at the success—for success it is—of the guerrillas over our troops. The Spanish paper here teems with covert appeals to the sympathies of the foreigners and the patriotism of the Mexicans; magnifies our losses and the Mexican gains; makes a great display of wrongs inflicted on our side, and patient suffering on the part of injured Mexicans, and all passes unnoticed as far as I can see.

The writer goes on to detail of, to him, alarming reports, and appears to be alarmed for the safety of Vera Cruz.

Since I commenced this page I have seen Dr. ----- who has just arrived with thirty wounded and dead men from the train—the latter have died on their way here, from the severity of their wounds and many of the wounded are in such a state that they will probably sink under the amputating knife. The train had reached the bridge when this party left, and the fight had been suspended for the moment. The General, (Cadwallader), however, expected to meet the enemy in full force at Encerro or at Cerro Gordo, and will have to fight every inch of the way to Jalapa, or, indeed, to Perote, as we have reason to believe that our troops have evacuated the former post.

[WFF]

NNR 72.277 July 3, 1847 Report of the determination to remove the military depot from Veracruz to Tuxpan and opening a new line of communication

A letter had been received in Vera Cruz on the 15th previous to the sailing of the Galveston, direct from the headquarters of Gen. Scott, stating that Gen. Scott had issued orders for the removal of the Government from Vera Cruz to Tuxpan and Puebla than between the latter place and Vera Cruz. All the public stores in Vera Cruz would in that case be removed to Tuxpan, and troops only sufficient to garrison the place, left at Vera Cruz. The activity displayed among the different vessels in the harbor of Vera Cruz in shifting the cargoes from vessels having but small portions of Government property on board, into others nearly full, with the evident intention of a move, would go far to confirm the rumor of a change in the base of operations. [NGP]

NNR 72.277 July 3, 1847 Tampico threatened

The steamer James Day arrived at New Orleans from Vera Cruz on the 21st. She left Vera Cruz on the 16th, touching at Tampico on the 17th, Brazos St. Jago on the 18th.

The main interest excited by this arrival, centers on the report communicated to the James L. Day, by Mr. Clifton, the pilot of Tampico, who boarded her on the 17th of that city. He stated that they were in daily expectation of an attack from the Mexicans, who were reported to be 1,500 strong in the vicinity of the city. [NGP]
NNR 72.277 July 3, 1847 insurrection attempted at Tampico

On the night of the 12th a demonstration was made by the Mexicans in Tampico to rise. The American authorities, however, had timely information of the contemplated movement, and to suppress it, if attempted, called out the troops, who lay on their arms all night. There was then no demonstrations of revolt made.

On the 15th a party of Mexican lancers attacked the outposts at Tampico, and drove the sentinels into the city. On the 16th a party of rancheros attacked the pilot station and were greeted by a discharge from half a dozen muskets, when they retreated.

NNR 72.277 July 3, 1847 report that Gen. Winfield Scott had advanced, and that the Mexicans had sent propositions of peace

The most important intelligence brought by this arrival is the flattering prospect of peace. Capt. Wood, of the D. informs us that information had been received at Vera Cruz before the day left, that Generals Scott and Worth, with the main body of the army, had advanced as far as Rio Frio, without opposition, and were met at that place by a deputation from the capital, with propositions for peace. The exact tenor of the propositions was not known; they were however, of such a nature that Gen. Scott refused to accept them, and was determined to push on his forces to the capital. From the deep anxiety felt by the new government if the term government can be applied to any party or power in Mexico, to stay the march of our forces on the capital, it was thought that further concessions would be made to Gen. Scott before he took up his line of march from Rio Frio.

NNR 72.277, July 3, 1847 Capt. Samuel Hamilton Walker’s retaliation on Mexican guerrillas

The gallant Captain Walker has commenced his work of retaliation on the guerrillas. On the morning of the 8th inst. he started with his command from Perote on an expedition some distance into the interior. During the expedition he succeeded in capturing nineteen guerrillas and an alcalde—he has employed them in cleaning the streets and sinks.

NNR 72.277 July 3, 1847 exhaustion of the troops returning to Veracruz, rumors and dissatisfaction at the manner in which the train had been managed

ONE DAY LATER ACCOUNTS. The steamer James L. Day arrived at New Orleans from Vera Cruz on the 21st ult. She left Vera Cruz on the 16th, touching at Tampico on the 17th, Brazos St. Jago on the 18th.

The main interest excited by this arrival, centers on the report communicated to the James L. Day, by Mr. Clifton, the pilot of Tampico, who boarded her on the 17th off that city. He stated that they were in daily expectation of an attack from the Mexicans, who were reported to be 1,500 strong in the vicinity of the city.

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A letter dated Santa Fe, (near Vera Cruz), 5th ultimo, says—"Yesterday it was painful to witness the men dropping down along the road, from sheer exhaustion. Captain Duperu's company, owing to some culpable mismanagement in the commissary's or quartermaster's department at Vera Cruz, was sent as a portion of the escort to the large train, without either horses or arms! Last night when we encamped at a small stream, called Rio Medio, the horses in the train were without a particle of forage. The men of Capt. Duperu's company were in a like condition, so far as the article of provender, as Maj. Dalgetty would say, was concerned. Capt. D. although provided himself with a splendid horse, preferred to share the fate of his brave men, and refused to ride while his men had to foot it."

A letter received in Savannah, dated Tampico, June, 1847, says—"Since I last wrote you, the sickness has decreased somewhat; but the truth is, that nearly all those sick have died. The Louisiana regiment have now but 300 men fit for duty. The rest are either in the hospital or in their graves." [CCB]

NRR 72.277-278 July 3, 1847 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's resignation and manifesto on resuming executive power

The unpropitious events of the war have conducted me to the capital of the Republic, and in obedience to the law I have once more, and that for a short time, seized the reins of the state. It becomes my duty to explain to the nation the grave and powerful motives of this conduct and the course I intend to pursue in the solemn moments which are to decide the life or death, the honor or disgrace of our country.

Ever since the commencement of our just contest with the United States, fortune has treated us with disdain, and has rendered unavailing the efforts of honor and patriotism, made for the most noble and holy cause which has ever been defended on earth. The defeat of Cerro Gordo has only been a link in the chain of our misfortunes, to try, perhaps whether we are capable of overcoming by our constancy the iron destiny which purses us without pity.

Hardly had the valor of the soldiers of the republic succeeded in humbling the pride of the Americans in the field of Angostura, carrying off the trophies of victory, when the imperious necessity to put an end to the discord which was destroying the beautiful city brought me hither, in conformity with the invitation of a respectable majority of the national Congress. Having accomplished this object, I proceeded to the next most important, that of preventing, if possible, the advance of the enemy, who, being already in possession of Vera Cruz, and Ulua, was in search of a better climate to escape the rigor of the season. In three days I went from Mexico to a position recommended of old by those experienced in the art of war, and fortified it as well as the want of time and scarcity of means permitted, uniting in it two brigades of the army of the army of the north, some other troops, without discipline, and some bodies of recruits. The enemy fought with the greater and the most select portion of his army, and although he gained the battle, it cost him much blood, and he received another proof that Mexicans do not refuse to fight, although the circumstances are unfavorable to them. As far as regards myself, I am satisfied that I spared no exertion nor fatigue to snatch a favor from fate, and that Mexicans do not refuse to fight, although the circumstances are unfavorable to them. As far as regards myself, I am satisfied that I spared no exertion nor fatigue to snatch a favor from fate, and that I exposed my existence as long as I entertained any hope of regaining the day.

Escaped as by miracle out of the hands of the enemy, I proceeded to Orizaba with the intention of uniting the dispersed, to gather new troops, and to prepare further resistance to our daring invaders, my firmest resolution having always been never to despair of the fate of the country, nor to abandon it under its greatest reverses. Twenty days sufficed to form an army, with which I proceeded to the city of Puebla with the privilege sanctioned by our laws and which the United States do not respect. Does the land proprietor know how hard and exacting are the degrees of the conquerors? If the high social disdain, and has rendered unavailing the efforts of honor and patriotism, made for the most noble and holy cause which has ever been defended on earth. The defeat of Cerro Gordo has only been a link in the chain of our misfortunes, to try, perhaps whether we are capable of overcoming by our constancy the iron destiny which purses us without pity.

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It is now we are reaping the bitter fruits of our inexperience during the years in which we have governed ourselves. A nation, arrogant and coveting our elements of power and wealth, has been watching, like a tiger lying in wait for its prey, the moment when the civil discord should have debilitating and prostrated the nation, to surprise and subdue us. And when the enemy is carrying into the execution his [ . . . ] intentions we do not even correct ourselves. Disunion progresses sedition increases the political passions are agitated in the worst devise and as if it were nothing that the foreign enemy should be combating us, we endeavor to deprive the authorities of power, and with a fatal blindness and perverseness prevent them from undertaking the defense of our country.

Of these truths I am at once the witness and the victim. Since my return from exile I have only thought of the salvation of the republic. Did I not hasten to create and organize a powerful army? Did I not
meet the enemy without regard to risk and danger? Did I not traverse the whole republic to close the
to the cruel conqueror of Vera Cruz? Have I not in all directions sought the front of the enemy? My
duty was to combat and I have fought! My courage was not more vigorous at Tampico than at Cerro
Gordo, and torture which permitted me there to add another laurel to the many glories of the nation,
als refused to let me secure her happiness. It is, however, counseling to me that the injustice of men
is not lasting, and what still more consoles me is that the majority of my countrymen are important
and intelligent, and that they will pardon my errors and esteem my constant devotion to the service.

As regards the interest and [ . . . ] of the nation I shall be inflexible. I intend that the war must be
continued until our position improves. The conqueror oppresses the vanquished and accords him
nothing but an inglorious peace. Will the nation permit that an immense portion of its territory shall be
torn from it? Can it consent to be called a nation when it has ceased to be so by its mutiny and
impotence!

Should the close of my public life he near at the hand, I desire to terminate it leaving exalted lessons of
devotion without limit to the cause of the country. As long as I live her sovereign will shall be the
constant rule of my conduct. I desire to serve my country and wish that all may serve her with a
firmness and constancy which may form a rampart against which all the efforts of her enemies may
prove unavailing.

Mexicans, my countrymen, examine my actions and let them respond for my intentions. If the
Supreme [ . . . ] of society has probed us in the crucible of misfortune, he already commences to show
his compassion by allowing us to form a constitution which will be a table of salvation in our troubles. I
have sworn to it. I have signed it and I will defend it. With respect to the independence and integrity of
the nation, I have but one wish, and that is the most of my heart. "to combat and die for them."

Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna

[NGP]

NNR 72.279 July 3, 1847 Col. Alexander William Doniphan's achievements, casualties, fight with Lipans
at El Paso, letter to Maj. E. M. Ryland

COL. DONIPHAN'S LETTER.

A note from Major E. M. Ryland, to the editor of the St. Louis Republican, dated Lexington, Mo., June
10, encloses for publication the following letter presuming that "it is only through the medium of the
private letters which have been addressed by the officers in command of the different divisions of the
army, to their intimate friends at home, and which have found their way into the newspapers, that the
country has been enabled to learn and to understand the real nature and extent of the difficulties and
dangers which have, from time to time, encompassed those officers and their respective commands in
the progress of the war with Mexico. And without this knowledge it would be impossible for the people
in general to appreciate properly the indomitable courage and energy which have enabled those gallant
commanders and their brave troops, to surmount every obstacle and defy every danger, and to achieve
a series of brilliant victories, the memory of which can perish only with the institutions and language of
the country under whose banner those victories have been won.

City of Chihuahua, March 7, 1847.

DEAR MAJOR: How often have I again and again determined to send you my hearty curses of
everything Mexican? But, then, I knew that you had seen the sterile and miserable country, and its
description would be, of course, no novelty to you. To give you, however, a brief outline of our
movements, I have to say, that we have marched to Santa Fe by Bents' Fort; thence through the
country of the Navajo Indians to the waters of the Pacific ocean; down the St. Juan river, the Rio
Colorado, and the Gila, back again to the Rio Del Norte; across the Jornada Del Muerto to Brazos,
where we fought the battle of which you have, doubtless, seen the account; thence to the town of El
Paso Del Norte, which was taken by us; thence across two other Jornadas, and fought the battle of the
Sacramento, and have sent you, herewith, a copy of my official report of the same. We are now in the
beautiful city of Chihuahua, and myself in the place of Gov. Frias.

My orders are to report to General Wool, but I now learn that, instead of taking the city of Chihuahua,
he is shut up at Saltillo, by Santa Anna. Our position will be ticklish, if Santa Anna should compel
Taylor and Wool even to fall back. All Durango, Zacatecas, and Chihuahua, will be down upon my little
army. We are out of the reach of help, and it is as unsafe to go backward as forward. High spirits and a
bold front, is perhaps the best and the safest policy. My men are rough, ragged, and ready, having one
more of the R's than General Taylor himself. We have been in service nine months, and my men, alter
marching two thousand miles, over mountains and deserts, have not received one dollar of their pay,
yet they stand without murmuring. Hall rations, hard marches, and no clothes!--but they are still game
to the last, and curse and praise their country by turns, but fight for herself all the time.
No troops could have behaved more gallantly than ours in the battle of Sacramento. When we approached the enemy, their numbers and position would have deterred any troops, less brave and determined, from the attack; but as I rode from rank to rank, I could see nothing but the stern resolve to conquer or die--there was no trepidation, and pale forces. I cannot discriminate between companies or individuals; all have done their duty and done it nobly. Lafayette has sent out hosts of gallant spirits; the whole company behaved nobly.--Your nephew, Lieut. Robert Barnett, (Lafayette volunteers) was in Captain Reid's cavalry company, in the most dangerous charge that was made during the battle. Captain May's charge at Resaca de la Palma, was not bolder or better executed. Robert (your nephew) is a gallant and high tempered boy, and feels himself privileged to praise and to blame his commanders, as may suit his fancy for the time. Lieut. Desha Graves (Lafayette volunteers,) is also a very gallant man. Indeed, it is a fine company, not better than my others; but it is great praise to say that it is equal to the best. I regret most deeply, the death of poor Kirkpatrick. He was in Reid's charge, and fought like a lion.

Col. Samuel C. Owens lost his life by excessive bravery or rather rashness. He rode up to a redoubt filled with armed men, and continued to fire his pistols into it until himself and his horse fell pierced with balls upon its very brink.

When we are to leave here--where we are to go, or what is to become of us, you will be enabled to conjecture more correctly by the time this letter shall have reached you, than I can at this time.

Give my best respects to C. French, Esq. Judge Ryland, Col. Wood, Judge H. Young, &c., and for yourself I send the assurances of my earnest prayer for your continued prosperity, and also for my own speedy reunion with my family and friends in Missouri. Your friend, very truly.

A. W. DONIPHAN.
the celebrated arrived yesterday with dispatches for Gen. Scott and Com. Perry. The commodore came up today and held long conversations with Mr. T, evidently very confidential, and often in a tone of voice and with a manner which indicated communications and sentiments of no ordinary importance. Mr. Trist is the government, in Mexico. He goes with the train tomorrow to meet Gen. Scott, and will doubtless give him ample instructions to execute the prosecution of the war.

The New Orleans correspondent of the New York Courier wrote: "That Mr. Trist had communicated from Vera Cruz with Gen. Scott, at Jalapa; that in all probability, Mr. Trist would proceed with the next train to Jalapa. And that the negotiations might, perhaps, be brought very suddenly to a favorable conclusion. This is not absolutely certain; but he has diplomatic survey of Gen. Scott, and a [ . . . ] officer in Mexico. The exceedingly strong probability now is that we shall soon have peace. Buena Vista was a more brilliant affair than Cerro Gordo; but the results of the latter are now in conjuction with Mr. Trist, sign a treaty of peace in “the Halls of the Montezumas,” he will have achieved glory enough even although he should never be president. Rest assured there is a perfect understanding with Scott and the administration, and that the terms on which both coincide in opinion are: Upper California and New Mexico, and no other or greater portion of territory; and the right of way across the Isthmus, if it can be obtained. These terms are so much more moderate than were anticipated by Mexico, that whenever they are promulged it is believed that the popular voice of Mexico will be clamorous for peace. Unless then, the Mexicans are more besotted than Hotentots or Esquimaus, we must have peace.

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun wrote that "The proclamation was substantially written by Gen. Scott, Mr. Trist have been at the same time, in Vera Cruz and in communication with Gen. S, and no doubt approving of the matter contained in it. The text of the proclamation coincides perfectly with the views of the government.

A Jalapa correspondent of the St. Louis Republican, under date of the 26th April, has the following "I neglected in the hurry of writing my last, to mention that a warm and somewhat severe rupture had broken out between Gen. Scott and the clerk of the state department, Mr. Trist, who has been sent here a s a sort of generalissimo of the American army. This is the same Mr. Trist if I err right, who imparted to Charles J. Ingersoll the knowledge of the existence in the state department of private and confidential papers, during the absence of Mr. Secretary Buchanan, and who found out a way by which Mr. Ingersoll unconstitutionally got access to them, which enabled him to make his attack on Mr. Webster. A pretty representative of a great nation at a foreign court to be sure!

This Mr. Trist in the exercises of his mongrel plenary civil and military powers addressed letter to Gen. Scott, directing him as to what move he must make with his troops. A portion of these directions were such as Gen. Scott believed were at war with the best interests of our government, and the tendency of which would be the protraction rather than a recommendation of host allies.

It was the correspondence growing out of this difference of opinion that was the immediate result of this rupture. Copies of all the correspondence. I learn have been transmitted by Gen. Scott to the war department. [NGP]

NNR 72.288 July 3, 1847 vomito prevails at Veracruz

Latest. The steamer left Palmetto reached New Orleans the 25th ult. from Vera Cruz. Vomito still prevails-many are dying. The report of the Mexicans having proposed peace is fully contradicted. Gen. Scott has left Puebla, expecting to have to fight his way to the Capital. [ANP]

NNR 72.288 July 3, 1847 Col. Alexander William Doniphan's division reaches the states

The Washington correspondent of the New York Courier on the 27th wrote that the Mexican Gen. Trias had made known his views in favor of negotiation [incides] with him, it was supposed, would be elected president; that the terms proposed were known to both of them; that in truth, Mexico is astonished at the moderation of these terms.

Stockjobbers it is said, generally continue to see as deep into political millstones as those that peck them. The New York Express of Wednesday says This is quite a peace day in Wall street. There are so many predictions by the letters from Washington, for the press in various sections of the country, that quite an impression is made on the money market in Wall street. Very large capitalists as well as some of the banks, made heavy purchases of United States treasury note today at 7 and a half percent premium. There is a great desire to speculate in this description of security; and the margin for a rise in case of peace with Mexico is considered most favorable. [NGP]
The army of the north had the severest time of it. The division under Col. Doniphan having left Chihuahua to the enemy, have reached the states after an unprecedented campaign. The division under Col. Price, at Santa Fe, was left in no enviable posture, and a train going to them with supplies has been captured by the Indians and all the treasurers murdered. [NGP]

Accounts from California state that Mazatlan had been blockaded by our squadron for two months. The Cyane had captured a prize valued at 200,000 dollars. The California regiment had arrived out in very bad condition; the men not what they ought to be. The coast was quiet, the Yankee ax and hammer ringing about Monterey, and Yankee girls in Yankee bonnets tripping along, and shawl covered senoras. [NGP]

In business there was little or nothing doing. The whole amount of duties collected under the tariff, at Matamoros, Brazos and the mouth of the river, was short of $20,000. No revival of trade was expected until that tariff was very materially modified.

Major. B. M'Culloch had reached the Brazos with 150 horses, of which 50 were for his own company, the rest for Col Butlers dragoons.

Col. J.P. Taylor, subsistence department, being relieved at Brazos by Capt. Eaton, has returned to New Orleans. [NGP]

The Monterey correspondent of the Picayune, writes that: Capt. Toban with a party of Mculoch's rangers, on a scout, a considerable distance from Buena Vista, came across a Mexican express rider with dispatches from Gen. Sanchez to the Governor of San Luis, with an escort, mostly deserters from the American army. The latter made their escape, but the bearer of dispatches and his horse and papers were captured. Sanchez urges that a movement be made immediately against Saltillo, as but few Americans are left there and the Mexicans were burning for an opportunity to relieve themselves of them.

The horse recovered on this occasion had been stolen from Lieut. Sturgis some time since. General Wool dispatched some of the rangers and a company of dragoons in pursuit of the men that had escaped. [NGP]

GUERRILLA WARFARE--On the 31st May, a member of the Arkansas cavalry while leading his horse in a grove near the Alameda, used as a race track, was accosted by two Mexicans, who extended their hands to him in a friendly manner; but, instead of the grasp of friendship, the assassin's knife was plunged into his heart; and he was cast into a ditch while his horse was made away with. Some of the companions of the deceased, who came to join him on the track soon after, discovered traces of blood, and on pursuing them found the wounded man breathing his last, with just life enough to tell the cause of his situation. Not far from the place two Mexicans were shortly afterwards discovered, whose conduct was suspicious, and they were captured. It was afterwards deemed inadvisable to permit them to be regularly tried, a party of men demanded them, and they were taken out and shot. In the sleeve of one was found a bloody knife, corresponding with the size of the wound. This was not enough! I regret to state that many Mexicans were killed that day--some say seventeen, and some more. Comment is unnecessary.

Col. Curtis, formerly of the Ohio regiment, has volunteered for the war and been appointed Governor of Saltillo.
We have had no more news of Urrea. The 2d battalion of Virginia volunteers garrison this place, but will move on as soon as they can be relieved. --There is still a good deal of sickness here, but of mild character, and but few deaths. For the last few days we have had several showers during the day, and I imagine it is brewing up for the rainy season.

It seems there is still a bare possibility of our going to San Luis at a more advanced period than was contemplated by Gen. Taylor at first, but all depends upon whether troops can be had.

J.D.D.

[CCB]

**NNR 72.288 July 3, 1847 Col. Samuel Ryan Curtis appointed governor of Saltillo**

Col. Curtis, formerly of the Ohio regiment, has volunteered for the war and been appointed Governor of Saltillo.

**NNR 72.289 July 3, 1847Gen. Winfield Scott and Nicholas Philip Trist**

Unless we have been entirely misled by our southern correspondents, Mr. Trist's first step on his arrival at Jalapa, was to request Gen. Scott to transmit to its destination a sealed packed, addressed to the Mexican Secretary of the State, which he enclosed to the General, and of the contents of which he gave him no account. Gen. Scott promptly informed him that he declined to do so; but that he should retain the letter, subject to Mr. Trist's order. His reply to Mr. Trist was of course in writing, and was so emphatic and explicit as to leave no room for misapprehension. This letter we know is now on file in Washington; and if the report that has reached us of its contents is incorrect, the Union, by procuring a copy of it can set us right.

Mr. Trist or more properly the Executive of which in all this he is simply the tool, was thus baffled in his first attempt to throw upon Gen. Scott the responsibility of whatever proposition to the Mexican government his sealed packet contained. He then informed the General that he had come to Mexico with full authority to conclude an armistice with the government of Mexico; to suspend all military operations; and to make all necessary arrangement preliminary to the negotiation of a treaty of peace. This fact has already been asserted in letters from Mexico, published in New Orleans and elsewhere; and we are assured by private advices that it is strictly true. Mr. Trist, moreover submitted to Gen. Scott a letter from the Secretary either of State or of War, confirming in every respect the statement he had made, and directing him to recognize, in its fullest extent, Mr. Trist's plenary authority.

Gen. Scott thus found himself, under the orders of the department, virtually though not formally deprived of his command, and made subordinate to a clerk in the state department. He at once informed Mr. Trist that he should not permit him to interfere with the operations of the army which was under his command; that under the circumstances in which that was placed, an armistice was strictly a matter of military policy; and that he should recognize no suspension of hostilities to which his assent, as commander in chief of the forces in the field, should not be previously given. At the same time, he wrote to the Secretary of War repeating his declaration to Mr. Trist, and assuring the department that he should retain the actual command of the army until formally recalled.

"This correspondence is on file at Washington; and although we do not pretend to give the language used by either party, we appeal with confidence to the documents for full confirmation of this statement of their purport."

"This is the difference which has been characterized by the apologists of the Executive as simply a disagreement upon a point of etiquette. It involves, as will be seen from this statement of facts, a direct attempt to degrade Gen. Scott from his position as Commander in Chief, to that of subordinate to a clerk in the State Department, and that, too, upon questions belonging exclusively to the military authority." [NGP]
The *New Orleans National* says the peculiarities of our institutions make common traits of character which take by surprise even those that were familiar with them through birth and education; how must they then appear to those educated under foreign governments. Among the volunteers in Col. Doniphan's command, was a young man who enlisted to keep from running for the Missouri Legislature! This gave umbrage to his constituents, and his name was put up and he was elected by a unanimous vote. The unfortunate individual, who thus had honors thrust upon him, while marching in slow time with his musket on his shoulder over in Santa Fe, is suddenly disturbed by the appearance of an express from the executive of Missouri demanding of Co. Doniphan, on pains and penalties if neglected, the body of a member elect of the Missouri Legislature, now a volunteer on his regiment. The Col. as a military man, was obliged to obey his commander in chief; so he kicked the legislator out of the ranks, and told him that he must foot it back, under a guard, to Missouri, willingly if he would or chained as a prisoner. The representative vented imprecations upon his constituents and upon his sovereign state, and took the back track home perfectly disgusted with his popularity at the polls. Another private in Col. Doniphan's command, now in California, has been elected to congress. Thus it is, our institutions make it consistent for the American citizen to occupy every place under government, whether distinguished or obscure, and each alike, shed honor if faithfully fulfilled. [NGP]

The report of Gen. Scott having advanced from Puebla towards the city of Mexico turns out to be unfounded as was the report that the Mexicans had sent propositions for peace. General Scott was at Puebla on the 16th June, with a force not exceeding 6000 men, waiting for reinforcements to enable him to advance.

Gen. Cadwallader, who left Vera Cruz on the 7th with some 500 men to reinforce Col. McIntosh, after overhauling the train of which the latter was in charge, and taking command, finally reached Jalapa, after several conflicts with the guerrillas. The entire force of the column was now probably about 1700 men. With these he is said to have proceeded from Jalapa on the 19th, with a view of joining Gen. Scott. One of the latest letters from Vera Cruz states that Alvarez is said to have taken his station with six thousand of his Sonora troops, between Puebla and Jalapa, for the purpose of cutting of Cadwallader's train, and would probably be reinforced. That we do not credit, but the march will be one of difficulty we have no doubt.

Another reinforcement consisting of about 1800 men, that have arrived at Vera Cruz after General Cadwallader left there, were to march under General Pillow, with a view of joining General Scott.

The utmost that the most sanguine can now flatter themselves with, is that those two columns will join Gen. Scott during the month of June. His forces will then fall short of 10,000 men being less than half the number which it appears the government at Washington wrote to him in one of their latest dispatches, that he should have by the last of June.—The dispatches alluded to were captured by Mexicans and their contents or at least part of them have been published. [WFF, NGP]

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Mexicans and their contents or at least part of them have been published. [NGP]

NNR 72.297 July 10, 1847 vomito fatal

Vera Cruz June 24th.--The vomito is yet picking our poor follows off, one or two at a time in the city.
Col. Banks well known in N. Orleans and here as one of the finest fellows, and most enterprising men in
the country, is one of the last victims of which I am informed. He died yesterday morning, after forty-
eight hours of illness. The disease cannot be said to be raging, nor do I think it is nearly so fatal in its
operation as it has been in other years; but it is a serious matter, and it is impossible to feel any
degree of comfort in its neighborhood. [CCB]

NNR 72.298 July 10, 1847 punishment of various criminals

In the case of the United States vs. Henry P. Norris, found guilty of manslaughter, the court sentenced
him to two years' imprisonment or to the end of the American war.

Two notorious robbers, (one of them has already been punished by sentence of the court). Manuel
Estradillo and Francisco Montero, have been found guilty of burglary, sentenced each to receive fifty
lashes and six month hard labor.

A. Smith, found guilty of abusing a Mexican woman, to pay a fine of twenty dollars, one week's
imprisonment and costs of court. [NGP]

NNR 72.298 July 10, 1847 guerrillas audacious

GUERRILLA AFFAIR--The man we reported a few days ago, as being seen by Captain Cummings lying
dead by the roadside a few miles below Reynosa, it has been ascertained was a member of Capt. Faul's
company, Massachusetts men, under Captain Walsh, escorting a train to Camargo, passed the spot a
few days ago, and identified and buried the body. Capt. W. demanded of some Mexicans residing near
the scene of murder to produce the murderers or would burn down their ranchos. The threat had the
desired effect, and three incorrigible scoundrels were handed over to him--one of whom was killed in
endeavoring to make his escape--the other two are imprisoned at Reynosa. The clothes of the
murdered men were upon the Mexican who was killed. [Flag, 3d June

[CCB]

NNR 72.298 July 10, 1847 Gen. Gideon Johnson Pillow marches with 1,800 men and 125 wagons, his
skirmish with guerrillas

From the New Orleans Picayune.

GEN PILLOW--More Generalship.--We are assured by a gentleman who came passenger in the New
Orleans, and one who has done good service to his country, that Gen. Pillow, who left Vera Cruz with a
large force to join Gen. Scott, selected the middle of the day for marching a part of the road, which is
the dread of even old soldiers.

The sand between Vera Cruz and San Juan is over ankle deep, and the rays of the sun in mid-day are
terrific. The result of this experiment upon raw recruits was the death of six men, who were sun struck,
and disabling of near a hundred and fifty more. At San Juan so many of the troops were used up that it
was proposed to send them back to Santa Fe and establish a hospital there.

After consultation, and as there was adequate force to protect such a hospital, it was decided to send
the men back to Vera Cruz. The Vera Cruz Eagle for the 23d instant says that some thirty of them had
then reached there. In this encounter with the sun the poor soldiers had less chance than even
Haskell's command at Cerro Gordo enjoyed. [CCB]
NNR 72.298 July 10, 1847 report arrives at Veracruz that Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna was dictator and at head of 30,000 men

From the New Orleans Bulletin.

A letter from an officer of the army, at Vera Cruz, states they had received information from the capital, via Orizaba, that Santa Anna had been declared dictator, but without authority to make peace. That he was at the head of 30,000 men, and that Gen. Scott was within 25 miles of the city. Another fight was thought to be inevitable.

The same letter also states the General Alvarez is between Perote and Puebla, and is making great exertions, with a view to attack and destroy General Cadwallader. His force is reported to be 5000 men and increasing.

Gen. C., it will be recollected, left Vera Cruz with about 1400 men, nd as he will probably hear of this Mexican fore previous to reaching Perote, he will no doubt halt until joined by General Pillow, who has 1800 men. Two detachments joined will, no doubt, be able to force their way to General Scott's headquarters. [ANP]

NNR 72.298 July 10, 1847 guerrilla affair

You will gather a fair notion of the daring, and audacity of the guerrillas, from their repeated atrocities under the walls of this city. Within the past thirty-six hours, another man has been hanged by them almost within gun shot of our batteries. The victim was one of the most active police officers, a Dane, named Miller. He and a Frenchman were out riding, when they were "lassoed" and carried into the woods. The Frenchman was released, but Miller is said to have been put to death as stated.--arties were out most of the day and night of yesterday, in search of the depredators of the outrage, and seven Mexicans were seized on the roads and brought in. Five of these proved to be gentlemen bound to Medelin, but the others are suspicious characters, and the governor has imprisoned them to await further examination. One of them was taken on the horse which Miller was riding when attacked.

Business is still, of course, at a stand. Another vessel, the Spanish brig *Amistad Campecheana* has arrived with a cargo of the goods in Havana, nearly the last, I think, of that stock. A vessel is expected soon from Campeachy, where one cargo was stored during the blockade, and that, I fancy, will pretty much close the foreign trade with Vera Cruz, for some months at least.

I am informed that the head of one firm, and one of the very first in the city, has replied to a demand for duties, from the collector, that he has no more and cannot pay. His thirty days are out, and it remains to be seen what will be the result. His goods will not be sold, as nobody can buy them, for the same reason that prevents the payment of his duties.

The brig *Petersburg*, from New York, is now here, discharging a small, but rather valuable cargo--chiefly silks and drugs, to owners, Hargous & co.

In the case of the United States vs. Henry P. Norris, found guilty of manslaughter, the court sentenced him to two years' imprisonment or to the end of the American war.

Two notorious robbers, (one of them has already been punished by sentence of the court.) Manuel Estradillo and Francisco Montero, have been found guilty of burglary, sentenced each to receive fifty lashes and six months' hard labor.

A Smith, found guilty of abusing a Mexican woman, to pay a fine of twenty dollars, one week's imprisonment and costs of court. [CCB]

NNR 72.297-72.298 July 10, 1847 business at Veracruz at a stand, refusal of one form to pay the tariff

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Gen. Gideon Johnson Pillow's effort to march his troops in the middle of the day

We are a by a gentleman who came passenger in the New Orleans, and one who has done good service to his country, that Gen. Pillow, who left Vera Cruz with a large force to join Gen. Scott, selected the spot of the day for marching a part of the road with the dead of even old soldiers.

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After consultation, and as there was adequate amounts to protect such a hospital, it was decided to send men back to Vera Cruz. The Vera Cruz [ . . . ] the 23rd says that some thirty of them had reached there. In this encounter with the poor soldiers had less chance than even [ . . . ] command at Cerro Gordo enjoyed. [NGP]

Destruction of guerrillas by dragoons

General Cadwallader left Jalapa on the [ . . . ] 300 of our dragoons were guided by an [ . . . ] Perote, who led them into a ravine where they surrounded 400 guerrillas, killed 30 of them, and wounded many more, so that these fellows will be very careful how they join another party.

"I understand that for duties as they fall due under the temporary tariff, drafts are given on Jalapa and Puebla. For the heavy amounts due from the British and German houses on the new tariff, the goods are stored. They will give drafts on Mexico as soon as Gen. Scott reaches that city.

Santa Anna, for the present has full powers to defend the city; so it all appears. Another report is, that he will treat with Gen. Scott or some one else.

The English part of "The Sun of Anahuac," of the 24th of June, says "Captain Duperu's company of United States dragoons have received their horses. They paraded through our streets yesterday. A fine company it is. We shall soon learn some of their exploits." [NGP]

Speculators harvesting on bounties paid to discharged soldiers

A correspondent of the New York Commercial Advertiser, dated Washington, June 16 says "The speculators have it seems, been very busy at New Orleans in gathering up the fragments that fall from Uncle Sam's table, in the shape of land warrants for discharged soldiers. These warrants are convertible into treasury scrip for 100 dollars, bearing six per cent interest and payable in ten years. Each of the soldiers lately discharged at New Orleans has become entitled to land scrip convertible into stock. Speculators from the north have had agents in New Orleans for the purchase of this scrip. Large amounts have been expanded in these purchases, and the soldiers were doubtless greatly benefited thereby; because in their situation a certain sum in hand was of more value than double the sum a year or two hence. The purchased soldiers certificates came to the pension office, and the chief of that bureau had adopted such a construction as to render it scarcely possible for any speculator to obtain any advantage from these purchases, or even to avoid an almost total loss of the amount invested.

As a proof of this I may mention for the information of all parties concerned, that, a day or two ago, a person came here from New Orleans with five hundred of these soldiers' certificates, convertible into stock worth some fifty thousand dollars. Col. Edwards applied to the give hundred certificates the square and compass of his legal construction, and threw out and rejected the whole five hundred certificates on one point and another, with the exception of twenty three. But these twenty three certificates which were made special pets were perhaps even worse treated than those that were rejected.

The commissioner of pensions required that these twenty three favored documents should go back in pursuit of the persons from whom they emanated and, in case they should be found in the land of the living, they are required, severally, to confirm the sale already made, and to execute a new transfer of their interest, in order to make good the old certificate. They are not obliged by law to make any new transfer, but may draw the stock themselves. In case of the death of any of the parties, their heirs and representatives can alone obtain either the land warrant or the stock. Thus the speculators have been
From the same caution against speculators. It is a well known fact that immense fortunes were made out of the poor soldiers who shed their blood in the revolutionary war by speculators who preyed upon their distress. A similar system of depredation was practiced upon the soldiers of the last war. And now we find by the "St. Louis Union" of the 8th that the sharpers are already at work at New Orleans, waiting for the volunteers as they return from the war, and pouncing upon them the moment they land in the city. We call upon all our brethren to warn the volunteers of the tricks and frauds which will be practiced upon them in all parts of the country, and to put them upon their guard against these harpies. If they do nothing more, we beg them to republish the following article from the St. Louis Union.

"In conversing with the gallant Illinoisians who have just returned from General Scott's army, we were sorry to learn that many of the privates, whilst in New Orleans were induced to sell their certificates. Not knowing the importance of retaining those evidences of their service, they parted with them to sharpers, who, regardless of the soldiers' welfare, extorted from them the bounty to which they were entitled. Each of those privates is entitled to 160 acres of land, and yet many of them sold their bounty to which they were entitled. We learn that there is a set of person's in New Orleans who make it a regular business to seize upon the returning volunteers, and but their certificates for a trifling sum. It is thus they filch from men who have been battling for their country the fruits of a nation's gratitude. In most cases, gross imposition is practiced. If a volunteer parts with his certificate, knowing its value, no one has a right to complain; but if deceived as to its importance, he is outrageously wronged, and the Shylock who abuses him deserves unmitigated execration."

It is far better for the soldiers to preserve these evidences of their service as long as possible, at all events, not to act too hastily; but take time, and consult with their friends at home about the proper disposition of their certificates. Meanwhile, we may add that, according to the act of February last, all sales, mortgages are null and void prior to the issue of the land warrant or certificate. [NGP]

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**NNR 72.299 July 10, 1847 return of Alabama and Georgia volunteers to the United States**

Some hundred or more of discharged volunteers of the Alabama and Georgia regiments arrived here on the steamer Brad Street, and we are much gratified to find and take by the land several of our own glorious fellows who had stood out the campaign, and though bronzed by a Mexican climate still look as fresh and hearty as ever. We welcome them back with pride and pleasure, as deserving he respect and honor of the community as citizens who have done their duty well and manfully under their countries banner. Many of the volunteers bore trophies, Mexican swords, lances, cacopetes, uniforms and acquired in the campaign. Mr. T.J. Noble of our city, has among other things, a writing desk which belonged to Santa Ann, taken at Cerro Gordo, and which contains his autograph letters to Gen. Salas and others. Owing to circumstances, only seven men out of a full battalion which Montgomery county raised for the field, remained in service; and since so much has been said about whig "aid and comfort," Mexican whigs it may not be deemed invidious to remark that six out of the seven which remained in the field were Whigs. [NGP]

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**NNR 72.302-303 July 17, 1847 reception of returning volunteers at New Orleans**

The citizens of New Orleans have not only distinguished themselves since the commencement of war, by prompt and spirited contributions of supplies, funds, or personal services whenever, they were required, but they have also been conspicuous in their attention and respect to those who have served their country.

Upon the arrival at New Orleans during the month of June, of the volunteers whose term of service had expired, the citizens received them with curious and repeated marks of cordiality. One of these evidences was a public dinner, provided in the most commodious manner for the whole of them, and of which thousands partook. The whole affair was highly gratifying. A number of patriotic toasts and sentiments were given, and a number of admissible speeches were delivered, of which one must serve as a specimen. [NGP]

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**NNR 72.304 July 17, 1847 peace rumors, &c.**

The prospect of peace seems more remote than it was a week ago. The latest accounts from Mexico left Santa Anna in power, the election of president postponed at least until September, and every prospect of a fight if Gen. Scott advanced. The latest prediction of the Washington Union, however, if we mistake not, was, that Gen. Scott, would celebrate the 4th of July in “the halls of the Montezuma.”
Such an expectation was undoubtedly entertained at Washington. [NGP]

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**NNR 72.304 July 17, 1847 Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's withdrawal of his resignation**

The Mexican general has his own second sober thoughts. In a letter which is published, he says:

"During the time since I gave in my resignation, I have received singular tokens of the confidence of all classes of persons; the most influential in society, all have besought me not to persist in my intentions. I see in them a determined purpose to force me to remain, founded on the necessity of preserving the present state of things without innovation, in order not to endanger the fate of this populous city and the nation. The excitement has been very general, and even the troops in the garrison and most numerous portion of the people have been constant in their solicitations and their prayers."

General Almonte was still in prison, nor can we distinguish exactly for what.

General Arista is also arrested and confined.

General Gutierrez, Gaona, Martinez and Palomino are entrusted with the command of the lines of defense of the city.

Bodies of the National Guards are on their way, and constantly arriving from the adjoining States. It is believed that from seventeen to twenty thousand troops will be concentrated for the protection of the city.

The papers are filled with accounts of great feats performed by the guerrillas.

The Mexicans have certain information that Gen. Scott cannot expect reinforcements to a greater extent than two thousand men and money to the amount of $200,000 nothing more. They therefore think it doubtful whether he will march to the capital, and talk of marching out to meet him. "There are but 6000 men," they say, "from Vera Cruz to Puebla, who lord it over a population of a million of inhabitants, which the two States contain. It can be believed only because it is seen."

On the first of June all the natives of the United States were ordered to leave the city of Mexico for the states of Jalisco or Morelia, or they would be dealt with according to the law of nations. [NGP]

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**NNR 72.304 July 10, 1847 National Guards collecting to defend, accounts of guerrillas**

Mexico City, accounts of the guerrillas. Mexican skepticism about troops and funds available to Gen. Winfield Scott. Natives of the US ordered to leave Mexico City.

Mexico.—The *N.O. Delta* received Mexican city papers from the 30th May to the 5th June.

Santa Anna's resignation withdrawn.—The Mexican general has his own 'second sober thoughts.' In a letter which is published, he says:

"During the time since I gave in my resignation, I have received singular tokens of the confidence of all classes of persons; the most influential in society, all have besought me not to persist in my intentions. I see in them a determined purpose to force me to remain, founded on the necessity of preserving the present state of things without innovation, in order not to endanger the fate of this populous city and the nation. The excitement has been very general, and even the troops in the garrison and most numerous portion of the people have been constant in their solicitations and their prayers."

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On the first of June all the natives of the U. States were ordered to leave the city of Mexico for the States of Jalisco or Morelia, or they would be dealt with according to the law of nations.

Later.--The N.O. Commercial Times of the 29th ult., received by the streamers New Orleans, Very Cruz dates to the 24th, giving letters from the city of Mexico to the 15th June. One of them states that Santa Anna is elected President, with extraordinary powers to use in the prosecution of the war, but is expressly forbidden to enter in negotiations for peace.

The Editor of "El Arco Iris," the Vera Cruz Mexican papers, says he has information that the election did not come off at the time appointed, but is postponed until the 21st of September. He says the general impression is, that Herrera will be elected and that negotiations for peace will immediately follow his installation.

It is stated that twenty thousand troops are in the city of Mexico and reinforcements constantly arriving. Those under Alvarez now amount to 8000, well armed. Supplies of arms are said to come by way of Acapulco, from abroad. "Taking everything into consideration," says the Vera Cruz correspondent of the Times, "I have no doubt that a bloody battle will precede Gen. Scott's entry into the capital." [SRP]

NNR 72.304 July 10, 1847 consideration of Tuxpan as a port of supply in lieu of Veracruz

Tuspan.--Is a small town say "half the size of Matamoros" situated between Vera Cruz and Tampico, recently taken possession of by Commodore Perry. It is about seventy mile from Puebla and has long been used as a smuggling port to that department. It would o doubt have become a principal port of entry, but for the bar which prevents vessels of over 5 feet draught from entering the harbor. The road from Tuspan to Puebla is at present a mere mule path through a country of very sparse population. Gen. Cos was the Mexican in authority at Tuspan before Perry captured the place. He owns a large property there. Gen. Scott may have been induced to a direct temporary use of this port and route. The idea of its being substituted for Vera Cruz as the channel for supplying the army and maintaining communications with the interior, can hardly be entertained by any one acquainted with the danger of navigating the gulf coast, and the difficulty of making a port during a considerable portion of the year. A regular "norther" would be apt to settle that point. Is the Vera Cruz to be abandoned?-or are two routes to be occupied and to be defended? [ANP]

NNR 72.304 July 10, 1847 Position of forces in California

Late from California. A letter has been received at St. Louis from Monterey, Upper California, dated the 14th of April last. It was transmitted through the interior of Mexico. It does not appear that any event of public interest had transpired between the date of the letter and our previous advices. Gen. Kearny was at Monterey; Col. Mason, of the dragoons, had arrived there; Com. Biddle and Com. Shubrick were in port, with their squadrons. Every thing in Upper California was then quiet. Gen Kearny was expected to leave for the United States about the first of July, taking the route by way of Santa Fe. [SRP]

NNR 72.304 July 10, 1847 Rumors, votes for Mexican President

The rumors relative to peace.

The prospect of peace seems more remote than it was a week ago. The latest accounts from Mexico left Santa Anna in power, the election of president postponed at least until September, and every prospect of a fight if Gen. Scott advanced. The latest prediction of the Washington Union, however, if we mistake not, was, that Gen. Scott would celebrate the 4th of July in "the halls of the Montezumas."-- Such and expectation was undoubtedly entertained at Washington.

As to the dispute between General Scott and Mr. Trist, we have the most confident, and yet
contradictory statements from those who pretend to know most about it. The Washington correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce, and also the correspondent of the New York Enquirer, state that the whole affair is reported to the department, and that Gen. Scott "takes the responsibility" in the premises. The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, writes on the 8th inst:

"The difficulty between Gen. Scott and Mr. Trist seems to be of a nature not so easily reconciled as I had at first imagined, and the way to heal it will be to allow Mr. Trist to come home, and Gen. Scott to finish the conquest of Mexico."

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, wrote on the 7th inst:

"We expect the arrival of the president tomorrow. I do not know that he hastens back for the special purpose of calling the senate together, to lay before them the Scott and Trist treaty. I advised you on the 3d, that, according to rumor, the treaty had been received here, and that this important intelligence had been transmitted to the north. It was, accordingly, published on that day in Philadelphia, and created a profound sensation. But why the rumor-maker should have postponed the treaty so long as twenty days, I cannot imagine, unless he was pressed to sell his stocks within that time. The president, by the way, could have issued his proclamation from Boston as well as from Washington. Gen. Jackson issued his order for the removal of the deposits, from Boston.

But, unless all signs fail, the president will, soon after his return, be compelled, not perhaps to call congress, but to use whatever power he has under existing acts of congress to raise troops and send them to the support of Gen Scott, in Mexico.

While we are amusing ourselves with the cry of peace, peace, our army of invasion is not only suffering intolerable hardships and privations, but is, at this moment, probably, in a very critical condition. While we are daily assured, by the highest authorities, that all Mexico was for peace, that we have none but friends to meet there, that Scott and Trist are daily begged to come into the capital and assume the government, our army is undoubtedly acting on the defensive, against a numerous, wily, treacherous, and resourceful foe.

We are forsooth, sending instructions to Scott and Taylor how to make peace, when we have not given them the means to carry out war. It would be better, ten thousand times over, to resort at once to the disgraceful alternative of withdrawal of our troops and the abandonment of the war, than to suffer it to languish in the manner that it was done and is likely to do. If General Scott had merely a smart skirmish with the enemy in advancing to the capital, his loss of horses and mules, and the care of his wounded, altogether, would delay his march thirty days. Any practical military man will tell you this.

The enemy, in the meantime, are swarming in his rear, and gathering in his front.

All this talk of sending instructions to our generals begins to be considered as mere nonsense. Send them troops. I do not know what glories may be hereafter acquired by Mr. Trist, in the diplomatic line, but a good deal of fighting is yet to be done, in order to prepare a theatre for the exercises of the extraordinary functions said to be assigned to him.

By the way, we have a rumor,--and one rumor is as good as another just now, that Mr. Trist has been recalled for some alleged reason, and will be here in a day or two,--but without any treaty, except the project of one that he carried out with him.

Those people who are seriously desirous of a peace, have become convinced that we are not using efficient measures to conquer it. We have nothing to expect, for the next six months, but a languishing, inefficient, and expensive war. The next congress must send a hundred thousand men, and raise one hundred millions of dollars, to bring it to an end." [SRP]
clerk in the state department;" and they profess to see in this alleged movement of the administration additional evidence of hostility on the part of the government towards its commanding general in the hold. The "Courier and Enquirer," indeed, goes so far as to assert that Mr. Trist has not only been guilty of such interference with General Scott's command, but that he has shown "a letter either from the department of state, or the department of war," fully authorizing such a course on his part.

Since the disappointment of the editor of the "Courier and Enquirer" in reference to the object of his visit to Washington last winter, the motive of his virtuous indignation against the government is so well known as to render any charges against it quite harmless, so long as they are confined to its own columns, though put forth in terms intended to create the impression that the material of them may have been furnished to him, duly exaggerated and discolored, "by private advices" from the scene of our military operations. The repetition of these charges in other journals, however, has led us to make careful inquiry into the matter; and we now state positively that all these accusations against the administration, of giving Mr. Trist any authority to interfere in any form, or in the slightest degree, with Gen. Scott's military command, are absolutely and totally without foundation.

Having made these statements thus positively, we deem it proper to suggest to those Federal journals which persist in charging upon the administration an attempt to do injustice to Gen. Scott in this matter, that the intercourse and the relations between the government and General Scott are *matter of record*. In due time that record may be made to speak for itself. Meantime, it will be no more than prudent for, those journals which now seek to put the administration in the wrong against Gen. Scott, to remember the fate of a similar ill-judged attempt by the professed friends of that officer, which led to the publication, on their call, of the well known correspondence between him and the war department at a previous period of the war. If the success of that experiment warrants, in the judgment of General Scott's friends another call for the record, we undertake to say, on the part of the administration, that such a call, when made in due season, and by due authority, will be cheerfully and at once complied with. We say this, not only without the slightest feeling of unkindness towards Gen. Scott, but, on the contrary, with a full sense of the distinguished services which he has rendered to his country in the field. [SRP]

Col. Doniphan, is described, by the *New Orleans National*, as, "a man of giant frame, and of that loose carriage peculiar to the west, that deceives the eye as to proportion and strength." "His officers and men (that paper tells) have a strange, uncouth appearance: Piecemeal, the ill made clothing of the volunteers has fallen from them, and they have supplied its place with what chance and the wild beasts of New Mexico have thrown in their way. Their sun-burnt faces, grizzly beards, and withal their devil may care air, is perfectly irresistible. Yet beneath those rough exteriors, are concealed minds of educated and high toned sentiments, full of lofty thoughts and love of liberty--minds that are destined to be felt in the councils of the nation, and to play a prominent part in the stirring events of the times." [SRP]

British Mediation. Lord Palmerston stated in the house of commons recently, that an offer of mediation had been made by the British government between Mexico and the United States, but that as yet it had not been accepted by either of the belligerents. [SRP]

Connecticut.--The legislature adjourned, after the longest session (of fifty days) ever held by any legislature of the state.

*Mexican war.*--On the morning of the adjournment resolutions were passed in the strongest terms of approbation of the bravery and skill displayed by our officers and soldiers in the Mexican war. The resolutions were prefaced by the following preamble:

"Whereas, in consequence of the admission of Texas into the Union, and of the order of the president without the authority of the constitution and the law, directing troops to march into territory in the occupation of Mexico; a state of war exists between the United States and Mexico, conducted at a great expense of life and treasure, and which may result in the acquisition of large portions of territory, hereafter to be made states of the Union: Therefore," &e. [SRP]
Passports from Cuba.--A letter from which we inserted an extract, recently written from Vera Cruz, signified amongst other alarming things to the writer, that officers and adventurers were making their way from Cuba to Mexico, taking command of guerrillas, &c. The *La Patria* of the 2d, states that the authorities of Cuba are taking measures to prevent their subjects from interfering in the war. The *Sol de Anahuac* of June 23d, referring to intelligence recently received from Havana, says that the government of Cuba refuses passports to the United States or to Mexico, to every person born in Spain or in that island, except those above thirty-six years of age, or those who can show that they have commercial business in the places to which they wish for passports. [SRP]

City of Mexico--Dates to the 16th June, have been received by the *Mobile Herald*. The *Diario del Gobierno*, of the 12th says: "Trustworthy letters and the evidence of persons of veracity confirm the report that the Yankees in Puebla do not number 6,000, the artillery does not amount to 25 pieces, most of 8, 6, and 4 pounders. What garrison will they think of leaving in Puebla in case they move forward? Certainly not less than 2,000. And with hardly 4,000 will they attempt to come to Mexico? In such cases it is vulgarly and the meat is too little for so much broth."

The same paper of the 13th of June, contains the decree of Santa Anna prohibiting the publication of notices as to the state of defense of the city of Mexico, and cutting off all communication "with the point of the republic occupied by our common enemies, the North Americans." All persons infringing this decree are to be proceeded against according to the laws against spies of the enemy. All persons, therefore, requiring to pass into or to write to such parts must obtain a safe conduct form the supreme government, or from properly constituted military authorities. [SRP]

"Union" insists that Gen. Winfield Scott will have over 20,000 men

The Washington *Union* of the 12th, says: "our army in Mexico has already (notwithstanding the dilatory action of congress) been largely reinforced. It is ascertained by the latest accounts from Vera Cruz, that several thousand additional troops have been already reported there, to strengthen General Scott's command. Besides these, a corps of six hundred marines must have ere this time arrived at Vera Cruz, for the same purpose. The battalion from this District, under the command of Colonel Hughes, will start immediately for the same destination. Additional regiments are also now mustering for the scene of action from Illinois, Ohio, Louisiana, and Georgia. Indeed, almost every mail embarkation of new troops for Vera Cruz. In a word, instead of giving General Scott 20,000 troops on the principal theatre of operations, (which Col. Doniphan calls for, and which the intercepted letter of the secretary shows were intended to be assigned to Gen. Scott), the design now is to give him more than 20,000.

"The administration has done all that the action of congress permitted it to do, in furnishing its generals with the amount and description of force which they required. And the feats which our arms have already accomplished--the armed occupation, both of the Pacific and the Atlantic seaboard of Mexico--the subjugation of vast regions of Mexican territory--the prostration of the Mexican military power, and probably presence, at this moment, of an American general in the Mexican capital--attest the power and success with which the efforts of the administration have been put forth. In these efforts there will be no relaxation, until the objects of the war are secured in a just and honorable treaty of peace." [SRP]

MAJOR GENERAL PILLOW is recognized as one of the army officers with whom the president is upon terms of confidential intimacy. Gen. Pillow was on his return from a visit to his residence in Tennessee, at the time of the public reception of the returning volunteers to that state--and an invitation was given to attend. The following paragraph from his letter declining the invitation shows what his notions are of the objects of the war, and considering his peculiar relations to the president, must be regarded as some inclination also of the views of our chief magistrate on the subject:
"My intention is not again to leave the field of active duty to my country until a permanent peace can be secured by such a form of government in Mexico as will guaranty with certainty to the citizens of the U. States those advantages which may be contained in such treaty; or the establishment of a complete military occupation of Mexico, whereby the revenues may be secured to the use of the United States arising from the internal taxes in the Mexican states, besides the present duties on imports, and affording to the productive classes in Mexico that protection from their enormous taxes which they have not heretofore enjoyed, and thereby also teaching them how such taxes can be correctly collected and honestly accounted for to the people from forced loans, levied by their ever changing revolutionary Government." [CCB]

NUR 72.307 July 17, 1847 Gen. Robert Patterson's opinion of the plan for conquering peace

Major Gen. Patterson. The N. Orleans Deltas of the 19th ult. Says--"It is the opinion of officers just returned from Mexico--and we may mention the name of Gen. Patterson in this connection--that the probability of conquering a peace, upon the plan of warfare hitherto pursued is slender indeed. It is thought by them that an army of forty thousand rank and file, should be in the field; that captured cities should be put under the jurisdiction of American citizens; that the revenues of the states should be seized to defray the expenses of the war; that all the resources pertaining to the Government should be held as spoils of war, and that the military authority set up by the United States army should exercise all the powers of taxation and legislation belonging to the civil administration of the country. This plan embraces the idea of actual conquest and absolute jurisdiction, and is deemed the only feasible on of the bringing the war to a close."

"It is the belief of Gen. Patterson and others who have given the subject a large consideration, that an authority embracing all the necessary attributes of sovereignty, set up in Mexico, could collect revenue equal to its wants, and that the people of that country can alone be brought to their senses by the exhibition of such an authority. To permit the alcalde to use his functions in a captured city, or the native civil magistracy to conduct public affairs, is keeping an enemy in power who will be surely contriving against the army. This system as been productive of hurt wherever it has been tried in Mexico, and experience demands its abandonment.

"A military government, administered upon civilized principles, it is contended would be preferable to the one now existing in Mexico. It would be more acceptable to the tax payers, it is supposed, than the present arbitrary and vacillating one. It would be able to maintain itself without greater exactions than the country is able to bear, and might in the end leave the people in a better condition to govern themselves than they now are. These ideas seem plausible, and it might be wise to give them an experiment in some of the captured states. The opinion is becoming more and more general that that United States may conquer Mexico; but a peace--never." [SRP]


Tampico. The U. States transport ship Sarah, Capt. Farwell, reached New Orleans on the 6th inst. With Tampico dates to the 27th and Brazos Santiago to the 30th ultimo.

"Capt. Farwell reports that news was received at Tampico the night before his departure, that Col. Cassius M. Clay, Majors Borland and Gaines, and all other American prisoners in the City of Mexico had been released and ordered to Tampico, under a very large military escort. When within 150 miles of Tampico, it is stated that the liberated prisoners were met by Gen. Urrea, who detained them as captives, and ordered out all the men he could raise for the purpose of attacking Tampico. It is further reported that as soon as the intelligence was received, three companies of the 11th regiment of infantry which had been waiting at Tampico bar for transportation to Vera Cruz, were ordered up to the city; and the authorities fearing an attack, placed every man under arms. It was estimated that including the escort, prisoners, and all others with Urrea, that commander had under him fully 900 men.

The steamship Alabama left Vera Cruz on the 2d. touched at Brazos Santiago on the 4th and reached New Orleans on the 7th. The New Orleans Times publishes letters from the Vera Cruz correspondent "Indicator," of the 28th, 29th, and 30th June. They appear to have had no later intelligence at Vera Cruz from Gen. Scott nor from the trains that were on the road from Perote, to Puebla, where Gen. Scott, according to the latest accounts still remained--Indicator writes:

Vera Cruz, June 28th. Jalapa, I believe has been entirely abandoned by our troops; and, indeed, we this evening have intelligence that the guerrillas have taken possession of that city. Vera Cruz has less than three hundred men in her garrison. The National Bridge, Encerro and Cerro Gordo certainly, and Jalapa, probably, are not all guarded, and the country is flooded with the native enemy.
29th--Lieut. Merrifield, of Capt. Ford's company of Indiana Dragoons, this morning blew his brains out with a pistol.

The health of the city has suffered but little change for the past week or two, and all circumstances considered, may be pronounced good. The mortality has averaged less than ten daily within the time mentioned.

30th--We have news this morning from both the west and the south, from the city of Mexico and from Tobasco. A merchant's express came in from the capital, but with only half a dozen letters, and the political information contained in them is negative in the extreme. One of them, however, tells us that the Government which is of course Santa Anna, has demanded a forced loan of one million of dollars, and is raising the money at the point of the bayonet. --The work of fortifying the approaches to the city is proceeding vigorously; but one of the letters states, that great want of judgment is shown in the selection of portions for defense.

The writer says that the strongest fortifications are placed exactly where the Yankees are sure not to pass, while the most important points are left nearly open. The letters are very cautiously written, except the one which gives us the intelligence; and these are about all the remarks which it contains on the subject of general interest. The dates are up to the 18th only. The British Courier will bring news as late as the 26th, and I hope will be in this evening.

Capture of Tobasco. Commodore Perry and his squadron arrived at Anton Lizardo last evening, from his expedition against Tobasco. Upon his arrival at the entrance of the river, he found that a short distance up, chevaux de frise had been sunk so as to render the passage of his vessel impracticable. He consequently landed his men and his lighter guns, and commenced his march to the town. This was a most tedious business, but he managed to get ahead at the rate of one knot per hour until he reached the neighborhood of the town, where he found the enemy ready to receive him. Drawing up his army of tars into a very respectable column, he advanced within musket range when he received the enemy's fire, and instantly opened upon them his artillery, charged with grape and canister. The Mexicans did not fire again--Perry's single volley scattered them to the winds. Horses with the stampede could not get over the ground as they did. Some three or four of our men were wounded, but I believe none were killed. Lieutenant May lost an arm, and I believe one other officer only was badly wounded.

None of the officers of the squadron have yet been in town, and I have these particulars at second hand, although from good and intelligent authority.

The N. Orleans Times says--"We learn verbally that the British Courier reached Vera Cruz on the 1st instant, but as the Alabama sailed at day light on the following morning, no news, if any were received through that medium, had transpired. The Courier probably left the city of Mexico on the 26th or 27th ultimo."

Passengers per steamship Alabama--Capts. Clarke and Acker, and Lieuts. Gouverneau, of the 2d Mississippi regiment; Captain Kerrinton, and Lieuts. Kinney and Ashley, of the Virginia regiment. [SRP]
Matamoras, June 23, 1847.

Gen. Wool is at Agua Nueva or Saltillo, with only about four hundred men, composed of several fragments of companies of artillery and dragoons. There are scarcely any volunteers of the old levy with Gen. Taylor. He has with him, or approaching Monterey, the Virginia and North Carolina and Massachusetts regiments, an perhaps a few hundred of Texan rangers and Mississippians. The united forces of these regiments and parts of regiments is not more that 2,500. There are at Camargo, Mier, and Reynosa 960 of the 16 infantry, Colonel J. W. Tibbats, with his staff, passed up the river yesterday morning. Of this regiment 125 are at New Orleans awaiting transportation, together with 400 of the 13th infantry. This camp is formed of he 10th infantry, the New York regiment, under Col. Robert E. Temple, 841 rank and file, and about 400 of the 3d dragoons, under Col. Butler. They are all under the immediate command of Brigadier Gen. Enos D. Hopping, and are impatiently awaiting orders from Gen. Taylor to move up and join him. Major Towler Hamilton, of the 10th, is daily expected with the closing detachment of that regiment, which will complete its full number of 1,100 men. The whole of the 13th will probably soon be here, as, in addition to the four companies an New Orleans, two others have sailed from Mobile. Col. Hays was, two weeks since, on his way to join Gen. Taylor with 350 Texans, three months' men, raised under Col. Curtis' requisition for 3,000 men, but was met with an order to turn back, as the general had no use for me whose terms of service were so short. A recapitulation of the above details will show that Gen. Taylor will soon have at his disposal 4 or 500 artillery and cavalry of the old regiments, 500 dragoons, or one half the new 3d regiment; about 3,000 effective men of the 10th, 13th, and 16 regiments of infantry; and 2,500 volunteers, including several hundred of the very useful no nondescript Texans above referred to as rangers and scouts. [ANP]

NNR 72.308 July 17, 1847 Preparations for defense of Tampico


"Army of Invasion"

Later.--N. Orleans papers of the 8th furnish further intelligence brought by the Alabama, including city of Mexico dates to the 29th, and Puebla to the 30th June.

General Scott had not been able to leave Puebla for want of reinforcements. Gen. Cadwallader was at Perote on the 20th awaiting the arrival of General Pillow. Some of the papers mention that Cadwallader reached Puebla on the 30th, but Kendall's letter of that date from there makes no mention of it. Gen. Pillow is said to have been compelled to contest the road with the guerrilla parties till beyond Cerro Gordo. Guerrilleros took advantage of every defile to resist his progress. His loss is said to have been severe.

Lieut. Col. Belton, 3d artillery, is governor of Puebla.

The American Star, published at Puebla, states that Gen Alvarez was at Atlixco on the 14th June, with 300 Mexican cavalry.

The Star says there is three month's provisions in the city for the army, and that the fields around the city supply all the forage necessary.

A Mexican named Heredia detected by his countrymen on his way from the capital to Puebla with drawings of the different fortifications around the capital was tried and condemned as a spy and a traitor, to be shot on the 21st ult.

The Star of the 24th contains an account of a party of eight or ten men not belonging to the army, who left Puebla on the 20th, and proceeded about 18 miles in the direction towards Mexico, to purchase some mules for the government. As they were about to start by a bye path after procuring them and partaking of a repast, they were discovered by a large party of Mexican lancers, from whom they were endeavoring to escape when their passage was interrupted by another party. The pursuing party over took and charged on them. Dickinson the leader, though severely wounded, managed to escape. John Kinsey is supposed to be killed, and all the others are wounded and taken prisoners.

A rumor was current in Vera Cruz on the morning of the 1st instant, that Gen. Scott had entered the city of Mexico, and the Gen. Pillow had been captured by the guerrilla parties. We know the former report to be false, and believe the latter to be. Our Vera Cruz correspondent puts not faith in either story. [WWF,SRP]
The vomito still prevailed at Vera Cruz. The deaths were from 30 to 40, of these, it was said, full one half were Americans, including not only soldiers, but also laborers, teamsters, and private citizens; the balance were Mexicans. [ANP]

Passengers by the Alabama say that Gen. Pierce, with a large train and a column, said to be 2,000 strong, reinforcements for General Scott, would leave Vera Cruz probably about the sixth. These troops arrived since the departure of the last column, under General Pillow, and embraced nearly all the balance belonging to the ten new regiments, and with the troops of Generals Pillow and Cadwallader, would make an addition to General Scott's army of between 5 and 600. [ANP]

"ARMY OF OCCUPATION."

A letter received at Washington from an officer in Gen. Wool's division, inserted in the National Intelligencer, says:

"Saltillo, June 12, 1847.

Our troops are nearly all taken off this line and ordered to Vera Cruz, and we are here in rather a bad fix. Gen. Valencia, who has been appointed to the supreme command of the Mexican army, is in San Luis re-organizing his forces for another campaign, while we are doing nothing, and can do nothing, owing to the rawness and fewness of our troops. We hear of troops arriving at Matamoras and Point Isabel, but immediately they are sent for by Gen. Scott and we are left alone. We have here about fifteen hundred men, all told: one regiment of Mississippi, one battalion of Virginia, an done company of North Carolina below, keeping up the line of communication." [CCB]

The reception of the returning volunteers at New Orleans, including Colonel Davis's 250 Mississippians, on the 10th ult. at New Orleans, is described as an imposing affair. Two columns of the Delta are occupied with all that was said, done, or seen, on this thrilling occasion. The day was brightly beautiful, and the military escort large in numbers and brilliant in appearance. The gallant Mississippians numbered in all about 250 men--what a wreck of this once powerful regiment! It must have been a sight to make "the pulse throb and the heart beat" with redoubled vigor, to see those heroes of Buena Vista! The city authorities, Governor Johnson, &c., were on the platform in the center, from which S. S. Prentiss welcomed them from their triumphs, in behalf of the city, in one of the most stirring speeches. Col. Davis and Lieut. Col. McClung responded. The day's celebration wound up with a grand banquet at the Place d'Armes. The tables were three hundred feet long, and were filled with every thing that the heart could wish. When the gates of the Place d'Armes were thrown open for the reception of the honored guests, a shout arose from the assembled multitude that might have been heard for miles.

Mississippi volunteers---Major Bradford.--Of all the regiments which have repaired to the field of battle and done yeoman service for their country, none perhaps are entitled to more respect and regard, or occupy a larger space in the public mind than the 1st regiment of Mississippi volunteers, commanded by Col. Jefferson Davis, Lieutenant Colonel McClung, and Alexander B. Bradford. No other regiment has acquitted itself more gallantly, and none, it is stated, shares more largely the affections of General Taylor. The current story that the old hero shed tears when he parted with his favorites, is doubtless strictly true, and is entirely consistent with the general's warm attachment to a body of troops commanded by his son-in-law, and with the known sensibility of his character.

Every officer of this heroic band occupies at home considerable distinction. They are all gentlemen of talents and respectability. Heretofore they were distinguished in the arena of political controversy, and had gathered laurels in combats only of intellectual strife; but they have no added military glory to civil honors, and stand forth as accomplished and successful soldiers. The press has circulated for and wide a thousand laudatory notices of Davis and McClung, and these names are as familiar to the people in the remotest parts of the union, as to their immediate friends and supporters in Mississippi. Less, however, has been said of Major Bradford--not the least worthy and valiant of the noble trio.--We have, therefore, obtained from a friend the material for a slight sketch of his character and career.
Alexander B. Bradford is a native of Tennessee, and is about 47 years of age. His person is commanding and rather handsome. The marked feature in his countenance is his eye, which is black, piercing and full of intelligence. His character has most of the strongly defined attributes of the South. He is brave to rashness—loving danger for the excitement it creates—of rapid perceptions—a nice and jealous sense of honor—eminently endowed with those social and kind qualities calculated to render him popular among his acquaintances. Major Bradford was several years a member of the Tennessee legislature, and in that capacity displayed decided talent and ability. He commanded the Tennessee regiment of infantry in the Florida war, and at the battle of With [lacouche] distinguished himself by his intrepidity and coolness. After serving some time in Florida Maj. Bradford returned home, and shortly after removed to Mississippi, where he at once assumed a prominent position at the bar, as an able advocate and popular lawyer. He was sent to the legislature of his adopted state in 1840. Maj. Bradford is a wig in politics and not only enjoys the utmost confidence of his own party, but is loved by his political opponents. He will probably be the nominee of the Whigs in the northern congressional district of the State, and though the democracy have an immense majority, Major Bradford's strength with the people is such as to throw a shade of doubt over the result.

At the storming of Monterey, Major Bradford played a conspicuous part, and was close upon the heels of the intrepid McClung. At Buena Vista he fought like a lion, and was particularly fortunate, it is said, in rallying a portion of the Indians, when the latter fell back in confusion and jeopardized the day. The stubborn and desperate bravery of Major B. gives him that influence over his men which this first of soldierly qualities generally creates; while his sagacity enables him to act with judgment, and his kindness of heart endears him to those under his command. He is probably without a personal enemy in the world.—N.O. Bee. [SRP]


COL HASKELL'S REPLY TO GEN. PILLOW

To the Public.

While on my way from my residence in Jackson to this city, which I was visiting on private business, I met at Huntingdon with the reply of Gen. Pillow to the communication of myself and officers, published in the N.O. Picayune of the 29th of May last, in relation to the operations of Gen. Pillow's brigade at the recent action of Cerro Gordo.

In rejoining to the reply of Gen. Pillow, I shall endeavor to do so with that dignity of manner and temperateness of tone befitting the columns of a public journal; for, however provoking the language of Gen. Pillow may be to me, and however much I might be justified in the employment of harsher terms than I shall use, still, in the absence of Gen. Pillow, I should suffer in my own esteem if ill temper betrayed me to the use of stronger words than such as are necessary simply to convey my meaning.—Besides, I have a high public duty to perform; and although Gen. Pillow professes to treat the communication of myself and officers as coming alone from me, and endeavors to divert the public mind from a contemplation of his own misconduct by making this controversy purely personal between us, still I cannot bring myself to believe that the pages of a newspaper, while the parties are separated from each other by the distance of two thousand miles, are the proper places for the use of personalities or the settlement of personal affairs.

Following the order in which the general has arranged his reply, I notice, first, his attempt at special pleading and mystification in reference to the enemy's position and number of batteries. In the communication of myself and officers, the enemy's line of works is described in the following language: "The right of the enemy extended from the left of the Jalapa road to the gorge in the mountains, through which the river flows. Along this line the enemy had established himself on three different heights, divided from each other by almost impassable ravines. Each of these heights were strengthened by admirably constructed field works, known to our engineers as Nos. 1, 2, and 3, commencing at the gorge."—This description the general denies to be correct, and says that, "instead of three works in this line of works, as these gentlemen say, there were known to be four before the battle; battery No. 1, situated on the river bluff, and No. 2, at the extreme of the enemy's line of breastwork, and not nearer to the point assaulted than from four hundred to six hundred yards, and batteries Nos. 3 and 4 were still further towards the national road; the place assaulted mad the fifth battery." This singular description of the enemy's work is opposed by General Pillow without one particle of proof to the combined testimony of myself and sixteen of my officers. These counter statements make direct issue of fact between myself and General Pillow. How is it to be determined? So far, the weight of testimony is with me, and if Gen. Pillow desires to relieve himself from the appearance of having endeavored to mislead the public mind by wrongly describing these works, let him produce a map drawn by any intelligent officer of the engineer corps who examined the ground; and if he does, it will prove that he was but only ignorant of the ground before the battle, but that he has learned nothing about it yet; and that if he had his work to do over a second time, he would do it as blunderingly as he did it before. The truth is that there were but four distinct field works on the whole battlefield of Cerro Gordo. Commencing on the enemy's right, they stand in the following order:
No. 1, situated on the bluff immediately above the gorge through which the river flows, and totally disconnected from No. 2 by a deep and almost impassable ravine—leaving a space of some hundred years or more where there was no wall or works of any kind. This work mounted some five or six guns. No. 2 next on the left of No. 1, was divided from 3 by a still deeper ravine, and disconnected from it by a still greater space—say two hundred yards of more—each elevation having its separate battery and fortification. This work had seven guns on its front line, three of four on its redoubt, and two more on what General Pillow calls a “retired line.” No. 3 contained about six or seven guns. This work extended from the top of the height where the guns were placed, along the side of the mountain and nearly parallel with the national road, to the point where it struck the road, nearly opposite the heights of Cerro Gordo. At this point in the road, where this field work terminated, there was a battery of six large brass guns enfilading the road. The next and last field work was that which circled the height of Cerro Gordo, which rose on the right of the road. On this height there were six guns, all mounted on carriages. Higher up the Jalapa road, at or near the headquarters of Santa Anna, there were some five or six brass guns, but no field works. It was the second of these works (No. 2) which my regiment was ordered to attack—and one of the strongest and most reckless declarations which General Pillow, has made is, that I "was not ordered to assault battery No. 2, nor was that battery ever assaulted." In the same paragraph which contains this extraordinary misstatement, Gen. Pillow declares that it never was intended that Colonel Wynkoop should assault No. 1. How does this subsequent statement agree with the language of his of his official report of the 18th April, 1847. In that paper he says: "I therefore directed Col. Haskell, who commanded the assaulting force intended for the attack of battery No. 2, to assault that work with vigor, and carry it at the point of the bayonet. His party moved onward to the assault with great energy," &c.

And in a subsequent paragraph of the same report he says: "In the mean time, Col. Wynkoop, who commanded the storming party designed to attack battery No. 1 succeeded in gaining the position where the assault was to have been made, &c. "How flatly the official report and his reply contradict each other! But the general, for the purpose of relieving himself from the ridicule which necessarily follows him for having ordered the attack on No. 2, while the attacking party was exposed to its dreadful fire in front and to the raking fire of the batteries on either flank, asserts that adjacent angles of Nos. 1 and 2 were the intended points of assault! Why, what sort of quibbling is this? Is not the angle of a work a part of the work itself? How attack the angle of a work and leave the work itself unattacked? Ridiculous!

"But the truth is, there were no such angles as he describes there, and Gen. Pillow unwittingly confesses the fact. In one portion of his reply he says, "The position intended to be attacked was what was believed by both the engineers and myself to be the angle of those batteries, &c., in another part he says: "At this supposed angle no guns could be seen," &c.; and that he was deceived in the supposition, if he ever supposed any such thing, is fully admitted by him in the following language: "The assault was made known to these officers; and, though this point turned out to be a strong work, mounting eight pieces of artillery immediately in front, and two more on a retired line, all of which were, to the moment of attack, entirely concealed and completely marked by the stone wall and brush, yet up to that time it was believed to be an angle in the large stone breastwork connecting the batteries Nos. 1 and 2. Such was the position intended to be and actually assaulted."--Yet General Pillow says No. 2 "never was assaulted."

As to "the stone breastwork connecting the batteries No. 1 and 2, " Gen. Pillow knew well enough when he said so that there was no such stone breastwork there. Nos. 1 and 2, I again say, are separated from each other by a deep ravine. Why did not Gen. Pillow acknowledge this at once? The reason is evident. He is unwilling that the world should know the truth, and is endeavoring to mislead it;--and I will just remark in this connection, that Gen. Pillow, contrary to all courtesy and military etiquette failed to call upon his colonels for reports of that day's work. Why did he do so? The answer is easy. These reports would have elicited the truth, and a description of the ground. This failure on his part to call for reports, and his misrepresentations in his own official report, were among the reasons which implied my officers and myself to give the whole affair to the public.

Reviewing the reply of Gen. Pillow in its proper order, I notice next his defense of the manner in which the regiments were moved to the scene of action. As stated in the communication of my officers and myself, and not denied by him, Col. Wynkoop, supported by Col. Campbell, was to assault No.1, and my regiment, supported by Col. Roberts, was to attack No. 2. These regiments were all moved along a narrow path to the scene of action by the right flank. Wynkoop first, followed by me; Campbell next, who was to support Wynkoop; and Roberts in the rear, who was to support me. This order of march placed a regiment between each of the assaulting and their supporting regiments; and yet the general says this was the only proper order of march. Does not any man of common sense see that each supporting regiment should have moved directly in rear of its assaulting regiment; for instance, Campbell in rear of Wynkoop, and Roberts in rear of me? These regiments, also, that is to say, Campbell's and Wynkoop's, should have been moved by the left flank so that when they reached the point at which they were to file square off to the left from the path towards the river, at an intimation from the general the colonels could have given the command, "file left--march," and the regiments, in obedience to the order, moving simultaneously square off to the left, would have crossed the ravine, and, gaining the hill opposite No. 1, would have been in position, in line opposite of battle, parallel with each other and the batter, at one and the same time. In the mean time, while these regiments were reaching their position, having cleared the path, my regiment and Robert's could have reached the point on the path where they were to file off and at an intimation from the general, at the command of each colonel, "file right--march," our regiments would have moved square off to the right of the path.
and from the river, and in a moment each regiment would have been in line of battle, parallel with each other, fronting No. 2, the left of each regiment resting on the path. This simple movement could have been executed without the slightest confusion, and in three minutes; yet General Pillow contends that the blundering manner in which he brought up the regiments, "was the only order of march by which it was possible to have placed them." I make no comment here.

The error of the General is too palpable. I attributed it, at first, to inadvertence, on his part, and should have continued to do so yet, but that he has defended the movement as right and proper; and I now find that I did him too much justice in my own mind, and place the error to his want of military skill and capacity.

Gen. Pillow, as he has twice stated, placed my regiment in position. He has denied that he changed its wings and reversed its ranks. And for the purpose of sustaining himself in this denial he has seized hold of an error in my first article, which occurred either from inadvertence or in the hast of copying for the press, and of which error he was previously informed; and for the purpose of exculpating himself and implication me in a blunder, has endeavored to make the world believe what he knows to be untrue. In my first article it was stated that Gen. Pillow directed "to rest my [his] right on the right of the path, extending my [his] left square off to the left, so as to form my line of battle parallel with the center field work of the enemy." Instead of "square off to the left," this sentence should have read "square off to the right." An officer of high rank, who participated in the assault told me in this city, that while at New Orleans, and when Gen. Pillow was reading my publication to him, he pointed out this error, and explained to Gen. Pillow that it was either a typographical error or had been hastily and inadvertently written, and was not according to the fact. He informed me, further, that he explained to Gen. Pillow the effect of this error, and showed him that it would make my regiment appear to be on the left of the path, its right resting on the left of the path and its left square off to the left, from the river--which was all wrong, because it changed the wings and reversed the ranks. Gen. Pillow, who, as my informant believes, had not up to that time perceived this inadvertence, immediately took hold of it, and, outraging all fairness and candor and known fact, has actually made it the chief argument of his defense, endeavoring to make the world believe that my regiment was on one side of the path when he knows it to have been on the other. Will General Pillow deny that my regiment was on the right of the path? He cannot. In one part of his reply he has himself confessed it. I quote his language: "By my order of attack, Wynkoop's assaulting column was to form on the left of the path, fronting the right side of the angle; and Haskell's assaulting force was to form on the right side of the path." In forming my regiment in line of battle, as my officers and myself have previously said, and as I now here repeat, the general directed me to rest my right on the right of the path. If my right rested on the right of the path, where was its left necessarily thrown? Still further out to the right. Would not this, I ask any military man, have changed the wings and reversed the rank? I challenge Gen. Pillow to deny in explicit terms, that the wings of my regiment were changed and its ranks reversed. He has not denied it. He only contends in his reply, that if he ordered me to rest my right on the path, and throw my left square off to the left, that then, by that order, the regiment was properly placed as to its wings and ranks. But have no such order, and he knows it. He rested my right on the right of the path, and threw my left square off to the right, not left, as inadvertently said in the first publication of myself and officers; and this he dare not deny; for, if he does, he well knows that every officer and private of my regiment will testify differently. I have now fully exposed General Pillow's unfair quibbling about a word, and have proved upon him the blunder which my officers and myself first charged him with, and still insist on.

The next point in the general's reply relates to his reconnaissance of the enemy's position. I pass over his admissions of his ignorance of the ground, because, as he says, the works could not be perfectly reconnoitered, with one or two inquiries. Why did he induce Gen. Scott to believe that he had "carefully reconnoitered them? And why did he assault No. 2 at all when he was ordered by the general in chief only, "if circumstances should favor him," to pierce the enemy's line of batteries, and then as near the river as possible? The order of Gen Scott was that Gen. Pillow would "march along the route which he had carefully reconnoitered, and stand ready, so soon as he heard the report of arms on our right, or sooner, if circumstances should favor him, to pierce the enemy's line of batteries at such a point, the nearer the river the better, as he might select." Now where is the point of attack clearly indicated in this order of the general in chief? Certainly battery No. 1, nearest the river. If this battery had been assaulted by the whole brigade it would have been carried. Then, turning his own guns upon the enemy, and at the same time attacking him in reverse, he could have been easily driven from the field. Instead of doing this, however, Gen. Pillow assaulted the center battery, it being the strongest of the three, with but one regiment, leaving the other three regiments unemployed! In all this I have contended, and still contend, that Gen. Pillow exhibited a total want of ability to command. [SRP]

NLR 72.316-319 July 17, 1847 "Welcome home" to Col. Alexander William Doniphan's detachment at Saint Louis

The reception of the Missouri Volunteers.

From the Missouri Republican.
The ceremony of receiving the Missouri volunteers, after their victorious march from Missouri, by way of Santa Fe, to Chihuahua and Saltillo, is at an end—and it terminated with great gratification to the citizens, and, we hope, to the volunteers who were the recipients of it.

The uncertainty which attended the arrival of the volunteers—the limited number arriving in each boat, and the very great desire of many of them to return to their homes and friends—all conspired to create solicitude on the part of those who were anxious that everything should go off well. This was the case up to yesterday morning, when, at an early hour, the Clarksville came into port, having on board Major M. L. Clark, Capt. Weightman, Lieutenants Dorn and Chouteau, and other officers, and some of the privates of the battalion of light artillery. Their arrival determined the committee of arrangements to proceed with the ceremonies, and, under their instructions, the chief marshal issued orders to that effect. Thousands of citizens, leaving their usual avocations, turned out to honor the guests of the city, and long before the time appointed for the reception, in front of the Planter's House, and in the streets leading to it, a dense multitude of people were collected. Flags were displayed in every direction and the bells of the churches and of the various engine houses rang a merry peal. Just as everything was ready for the orator appointed to welcome the volunteers, to proceed with his address, it was announced by the chief marshal, that the Pride of the West, having on board Capt. Hudson, and several other officers of the command, and also the artillery capture from the Mexicans at the battle of Sacramento, was in sight, and by common consent any further proceeding was postponed until they could arrive and be participants in it. New spirit seemed to be infused into the multitude by this fortunate coincidence. The committee of arrangements at once repaired to the boat, and, through it, Biennerhassett tendered them the hospitalities of the city, and an invitation to partake in the festival. This invitation was responded to by Captain Hudson, and in a very short time the volunteers, and the train of artillery were on their way to Fourth street, where, in front of the Planter's House, it was arranged that the address welcoming the volunteers to the city should be made.

**Judge Bowlin’s welcome home.**

Judge Bowlin, who had been selected for the purpose, then addressed the volunteers as follows:

Colonel Doniphan, officers and soldiers of the Missouri volunteers:

In the name, and on behalf of the people of St. Louis, I bid you a warm and cordial welcome back to the land of your cherished homes, and tender you the hospitality of their city—a city proud of her identity with your gallant achievements. In doing this, it becomes me to assure you, gentlemen, we are performing no idle ceremony, in which the heart has no participation; but it is the spontaneous homage which we, as your fellow countrymen, feel proud to award your patriotism—your valor—your self-sacrificing devotion to country. Indeed, we hail your return to your homes with no ordinary emotions; as a long anxiety for your safety, a consciousness of the perils that everywhere environed you, a doubiuousness of your false spread a gloom over the community which your security has been dispelled; and awakened, in lieu of it, mingled feelings of gratitude for your deliverance, and admiration for the heroic deeds that won it. Besides, we feel proud as your countrymen, in sharing that halo of glory which your gallant deeds have thrown around the name of the “Missouri volunteer.” You have baptized that glorious title with your blood, and laurelled it with brilliant victories, the memory of which can only perish with the language in which they are recorded. Your deeds have encircled around that hallowed name a wreath of imperishable renown, never to fade or decay:

“For the true laurel wreath which glory weaves,

Is from that tree no bold of thunder cleaves.”

We feel, upon the occasion of this meeting, as the stranger cannot feel. We feel that the perils, the privations, the dangers were yours; but that the fame acquired by your heroic achievements, is the common property of our cherished state, and reflects a luster upon the humblest citizen, who reaps, with you, your harvest of glory. What Missourian does not feel proud to be pointed at as the countrymen of the victors of Brazito and Sacramento?

Gentlemen, in thus tendering you the hospitalities of our city, it may not be inappropriate to allude to the condition of the country, the service, and notice some details of your own heroic adventure, which assumes more the character of romance than reality.

On the breaking out of the war, the promptness with which our citizens volunteered in the service not only surprised ourselves, but actually astonished the governments and people Europe. They could not comprehend that feeling of patriotism in the citizens of the young republic, which prompted fifty thousand swords to spring from their scabbards and their tendered service to their country, upon a call for a tithe of that number. They could not conceal their surprise, I might almost say their chagrin, at beholding such a display of patriotism in a country, which presents the last, best hope of republican liberty. But if that astonished them, our victories, won chiefly with those volunteers, and the demonstrations of the vast resources of the country, bare surprised them more. We have been one year in the war, we have maintained thirty thousand troops in the field, victory has everywhere perched upon our standard, the national stocks above par, whilst individual property is such that we are feeding the starving millions of Europe by voluntary contributions. We may be literally said to be
conquering one nation whilst we are feeding another. The history of the world presents no parallel to this spectacle of national and individual prosperity. After a year's absence, characterized by wild adventure and heroic deeds, amidst the mountains and plains of Mexico, this is the picture of prosperity with which your country greets you on your return.

But, gentlemen, amidst the glorious achievements of this war, your own gallant march will occupy a prominent place upon the page of history. It assumes so much the air of romance, that the world will contemplate it with mingled feelings of doubt and admiration. Organized upon the frontier of Missouri, your first march was for eight hundred miles across wild and barren plains, whose solitude is only awakened by the low of the buffalo and the yell of the savage. New Mexico received you and surrendered without a blow--determined she should have no foe but yourselves, you immediately followed the conquest by an expedition against the Navaho Indians, the natural enemies of your conquered people, and by chastising them, gave the people a repose from the incursions of those daring marauders.

There being no longer a field for enterprise in New Mexico, you sat out on your daring and perilous march to join the army of occupation, with scarcely exceeding a single regiment in number. --You met the enemy in greatly superior force at Barite, and put them to flight without the loss of a single man, and entered El Paso in triumph--with the trophies of the battle field to adorn your march.--This victory, considering the disparity of numbers, the amount of loss on your side, and the results, would be left almost without a parallel, but for the more brilliant achievement at Sacramento. After a march of twenty days into the interior of the enemy's country, it was your fortune again to encounter them, their fortified position, at Sacramento. You no time to number the foe, or weigh the chances of success, but in the name of your county rushed gallantly to the charge, and with your own good swords, cut your passage to the city of Chihuahua, through hosts arrayed to oppose your advice. The loss of the enemy in this engagement, in men, in munitions of war, in trophies of victory, was great, whilst you lost but one man on your side, who fell gallantly charging upon the enemy--

"With his back to the field, his feet to the foe,
And leaving in battle no blot on his name,
Looking proudly to Heaven from the death bed of fame."

His solitary tomb on the battle-field, will serve to point the future traveler to the spot where his countrymen so gallantly triumphed in arms, and where his own spirit arose amidst shouts of victory to Heaven. Long, long will that solitary tomb attract the passing pilgrim's eyes and demand from his heart the homage of a tear. His lonely tomb shall be the battle's monument; and his fame as imperishable as the field of his glorious death.

This battle opened your passage to Chihuahua; you entered in triumph the proud capital of the north, and unfurled the stars and stripes from her battlements, and dictated terms to her people, as creditable to your humanity as to your courage.--From thence you marched Saltillo, and, having completed your glorious work, you were sent home to repose upon the laurels won by your gallant achievements.

This march, with its battles, its perils, its dangers, and its privations, is unparalleled in this or any other country. One thousand men, entering the enemy's country, and marching through it for fifteen hundred miles, meeting and scattering two armies, like the leaves of autumn before a northern blast, looks more like it belonged to the regions of romance, than sober reality. But, gentlemen, you have left nothing to doubt--your cannons and your flags, the trophies of your glorious triumphs, are spread before us, as witnesses of your glorious deeds.

In conclusion, I again bid you welcome to the shores of our own Missouri--welcome to her proud and favored city--welcome to the hospitality of her people--welcome to all that a generous and chivalrous heart casts at the shrine of valor--welcome to the homage due to the brave, welcome to our hearths and our hearts.

**To this address, Lt. Col. Mitchell responded, in a brief, yet very appropriate speech.**

Under the escort of the volunteer companies of the city, the procession was then formed, and proceeded to Camp Lucas. Col. Kennett was in command of the volunteer companies. We observed, among the number, the Grays, Captain West; the Montgomery Guards, Captain Watson; the Iagers, Capt. Resick; the Missouri dragoons, Capt. Steitz, and a company of mounted men. Several of the engine companies, in full uniform, were also in the procession. At Camp Lucas, an immense crowd of people had assembled, and very soon the chief marshal introduced, in fitting terms, the Hon. Thos. H. Benton, who had been selected to deliver the reception speech.

**Col Benton's Speech.**

The orator of the day, Col. Benton, then addressed the returned volunteers, as follows:

Col. Doniphan, and officers and men: I have been appointed to an honorable and a pleasant duty that
of making you the congratulations of your fellow citizens of St. Louis, on your happy return from your much, and well entitled yourselves to the applauses of your fellow citizens, as well as to the rewards and thanks of your government. A year ago you left home. Going out from the western order of your state, you re-enter it on the east, having made a circuit equal to the fourth of the circumference of the globe, providing for yourselves as you went, and returning with trophies taken from fields, the names of which were unknown to yourselves and your country, until revealed by your enterprise, illustrated by your valor, and immortalized by your deeds. History has but few such expeditions to record; and when they occur, it is as honorable and useful, as it is just and wise, to celebrate and commemorate the events which entitle them to be known.

Your march and exploits have been among the most wonderful of the age. At the call of your country you marched a thousand miles to the conquest of New Mexico, as part of the force under General Kearny, and achieved that conquest, without the loss of a man, or the fire of a gun. That work finished, and New Mexico, itself so distant, and so lately the ultima thule--the outside boundary of percolation and enterprise--so lately a distant point to be attained, becomes itself a point of departure--a beginning point, for new and far more extended expeditions. You look across the long and lofty chain--the Cordillera of North America--which divides the Atlantic from the Pacific waters; and you see beyond that ridge, a savage tribe which had been long in the habit of depredations upon the province which had just become an American conquest.--You, a part only of the subsequent. Chihuahua column, under Jackson and Gilpin, march upon them--bring them to terms--and they bind themselves to cease their depredations on the Mexicans, and to become the friends of the United States. A novel treaty, that! Signed on the western confines of New Mexico, between parties who had hardly ever heard such other names before, and to give peace and protection to Mexicans who were hostile to both.--This was the meeting, and this the parting of the Missouri volunteers, with the numerous and savage tribe of the Navajo Indians living on the waters of the Gulf of California, and so long the terror and scourge of Sonora, Sinaloa and new Mexico.

This object accomplished, and impatient of inactivity, and without orders (General Kearny having departed for California) you cast about to carve out some new work for yourselves. Chihuahua, a rich and populous city of near 30,000 souls, the seat of government of the state of that name, and formerly the residence of the captains general of the internal provinces under the vice regal government of New Spain, was the captivation object which fixed your attention. It was a far distant city--about as far from St. Louis as Moscow is from Paris; and towns and enemies, and a large river, and defiles and mountains, and the desert whose ominous name portending death to travelers--el jornada de los muertos--the journey of the dead--all lay between you. It was a perilous enterprise, and a discouraging one, for a thousand men, badly equipped, to contemplate. No matter. Danger and hardship lent it a charm, and the adventurous march was resolved on, and the execution commenced. First, the ominous desert was passed, its character vindicating its title to its mournful appellation--an arid plain of ninety miles, strewed with the bones of animals perished of hunger and thirst--little hillocks of stone, and the solitary, cross, erected by pious hands, marking the spot where some Christian had fallen, victim of the savage, of the robber, or of the desert itself--no water--no animal life--no sign of habitation. There the Texan prisoners, driven by the cruel Salazar, had met their direst sufferings, unrelieved, as in other parts of their march in the settled part of the country, by the compassionate ministrations (for where is it that woman is not compassionate?) of the pitying women. The desert was passed, and the place for crossing the river approached. A little arm of the river, Bracito (in Spanish) made out from its side. There the enemy, in superior numbers, and confident in cavalry and artillery, undertook to bar the way. Vain pretension! Their discovery, attack, and rout, were about simultaneous operations. A few minutes did the work! And in this way our Missouri volunteers of the Chihuahua column spend their Christmas day of the year 1846.

The victory of the Bracito opened the way to the crossing of the river Del Norte, and to admission into the beautiful little town of the Paso del Norte, where a neat cultivation, a comfortable people, fields, orchards and vineyards, and a hospitable reception, offered the rest and refreshment which toils, and dangers, and victory had won. You rested there till artillery was brought down from Santa Fe; but the pretty town of the Paso del Norte, with all its enjoyments, and they were many and dainty and the greater for the place in which they were found, was not a Capua to the men of Missouri. You moved forward in February, and the battle of the Sacramento, one of the military marvels of the age, cleared the road to Chihuahua, which was entered without further resistance. It had been entered once before by a detachment of American troops; but under circumstances how different! In the year 1807, Lieut. Pike and his thirty brave men, taken prisoners on the head of the Rio del Norte had been marched captives into Chihuahua: in the year 1847, Doniphan and his men enter it as conquerors. The paltry triumph of a Captain General over a Lieutenant, was effaced in the triumphal entrance of a thousand Missourians into the grand and ancient capital of all the Internal Provinces! and, old men, still alive, could remark the grandeur of the American spirit under both events--the proud and lofty bearing of the captive thirty--the mildness and moderation of the conquering thousand.

Chihuahua was taken, and responsible duties, more delicate than those of arms, were to be performed. Many American citizens were there, engaged in trade; much American property was there. All this was to be protected, both lives and property, and by peaceful arrangement; for the command was too small to admit of division, and of leaving a garrison Conciliation, and negotiation were resorted to, and successfully. Every American interest was provided for, and placed under the safeguard, first, of good will and next, of guarantees not to be violated with impunity.
Chihuahua gained, it became like Santa Fe, not the terminating point of a long expedition, but the beginning point of a new one. Gen. Taylor was somewhere--no one knew where--but some seven or eight hundred miles towards the other side of Mexico. You had heard that he had been defeated, that Buena Vista had not been a good prospect to him. Like good Americans, you did not believe a word of it; but, like good soldiers, you thought it best to go and see. A volunteer party of fourteen, headed by Collins, of Boonville, undertook to penetrate to Saltillo, and to bring you information of his condition. They set out. Amidst innumerable dangers they accomplish their purpose; and return. You march. A vanguard of one hundred men, led by Lieutenant Colonel Mitchell, led the way. Then came the main body, (if the name is not a burlesque on such a handful) commanded by Colonel Doniphan himself.

The whole table land of Mexico, in all its breadth, from west to east, was to be traversed. A numerous and hostile population in towns--treacherous Camanches in the mountains--were to be passed. Every thing was to be self-provided--provisions, transportation, fresh horses for remounts, and even the means of victory--and all without a military chest, or even an empty box, in which government gold had ever reposed. All was accomplished. Mexican towns were passed, in order and quiet: plundering Camanches were punished: means were obtained from traders to liquidate indispensable contributions: and the wants that could not be supplied, were endured like soldiers of veteran service.

I say the Camanches were punished. And here presents itself an episode of a novel, extraordinary, and romantic kind--Americans chastising savages for plundering people whom they themselves came to conquer, and forcing the restitution of captives and of plundered property. A strange story this to tell in Europe, where back-woods character, western character, is not yet completely known. But to the facts. In the muskeet forest of the Bolson de Mapimi, and in the sierras around the beautiful town and fertile district of Parras, and in all the open country for hundreds of miles round about, the savage Camanches have hold dominion ever since the usurper Santa Anna disarmed the people; and sally forth from their fastnesses to slaughter men, plunder cattle, and carry off women and children. An exploit of this kind had just been performed on the line of the Missourians' march, not far from Parras, and an advanced party chanced to be in that town at the time the news of the depredation arrived there. It was only fifteen strong. Moved by gratitude, for the kind attentions of the people, especially the women, to the sick of General Wool's command, necessarily left in Parras, and unwilling to be outdone by enemies in generosity, the heroic fifteen, upon the spot, volunteered to go back, hunt out the depredators, and punish them, without regard to numbers. A grateful Mexican became their guide. On their way they fell in with fifteen more of their comrades; and, in a short time, seventeen Camanches killed out of sixty-five, eighteen captives restored to their families, and three hundred and fifty head of cattle recovered for their owners, was the fruit of this sudden and romantic episode.

Such noble conduct was not without its effects on the minds of the astonished Mexicans. An official document from the Prefect of the place to Captain Reid, leader of this detachment, attests the verity of the fact, and the gratitude of the Mexicans, and constitutes a trophy of a new kind in the annals of war. Here it is in the original Spanish, and I will read it off in English.

It is officially dated from the Prefecture of the department of Parras, signed by the Prefect, Jose Ignacio Arrabe, and addressed to Capt. Reid, the 18th May, and says:

"At the first notice that the barbarians, after killing many, and taking captives, were returning to their haunts, you generously and bravely offered, with fifteen of your subordinates, to fight them on their crossing by the Puzo, executing this enterprise with celerity, address and braver worthy of all eulogy, an worthy of the brilliant issue which all celebrate. You recovered many animals and much plundered property; and eighteen captives were restored to liberty and to social enjoyments, their souls overflowing with a lively sentiment of joy and gratitude, which all the inhabitants of this town equally breathe, in favor of their generous deliverers and their valiant chief. The half of the Indians killed in the combat, and those which fly wounded, do not calm the pain which all feel for the wound which your excellency received defending the Christians and civilized beings against the rage and brutality of savages. All desire the speedy establishment of your health; and although they know that in your own noble soul will be found the best reward of your conduct, they desire also to address you the expression of their gratitude and high esteem. I am honored in being the organ of the public sentiment, and pray you to accept it, with the assurance of my most distinguished esteem.

"God and Liberty!"

This is a trophy of a new kind in war, won by thirty Missourians, and worth to be held up to the admiration of Christendom.

The long march from Chihuahua to Monterey was made more in the character of protection and deliverance than of conquest and invasion. Armed enemies were not me, and peaceful people were not disturbed. You arrived in the month of May in General Taylor's camp, and about in a condition to vindicate, each of you for himself, your lawful title to the double sobriquet of the general, with the addition to it which the colonel of the expedition has supplied--ragged--as well as rough and ready. No doubt you all showed the title, at that time, to that third sobriquet; but to see you now, so gaily attired, so sprucely equipped, one might suppose that you had never, for an instant, been a stranger to the virtues of soap and water, or the magic ministrations of the blauchissee, and the elegant transformations of the fashionable tailor. Thanks, perhaps, to the difference between pay in the lump
You arrived in General Taylor's camp ragged and rough, as we can well conceive, and ready, as I can quickly show. You reported for duty! You asked for service! Such as a march upon San Luis de Potosi, Zacatecas, or the "halls of the Montezumas," or anything in that way that the general should have a mind to. If he was going upon any excursion of that kind, all right. No matter about fatigues that were passed, or expirations of service that might accrue: you came to go, and only asked the privilege. That is what I call ready. Unhappily the conqueror of Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterey, and Buena Vista, was not exactly in the condition that the lieutenant general, that might have been, intended him to be. He was not at the head of 20,000 men! He was not at the head of any thousands that would enable him to march! And had to decline the proffered service. Thus the long marched and well fought volunteers--the rough, the ready, and the ragged--had to turn their faces towards home, still more than two thousand miles distant. But this being mostly by water, you hardly count in the recital of your march. But this is an unjust omission, and against the precedents as well as just. "The ten thousand" counted the voyage on the Black Sea as well as the march from Babylon; and twenty centuries admit the validity of the count. The present age, and posterity, will include in "the going out and coming in" of the Missouri Chihuahua volunteers, the water voyage as well as the land march; and then the expedition of the one thousand will exceed that of the ten by some two thousand miles.

The last nine hundred miles of your land march, from Chihuahua to Matamoras, you made in forty-five days, bringing seventeen pieces of artillery, eleven of which were taken from the Sacramento and Bracito. Your horses, traveling the whole distance without United States provender, were astonished to find themselves regaled, on their arrival on the Rio Grande frontier, with hay, corn, and oats from the States. You marched further than the farthest, fought as well as the best, left order and quiet in your train, and cost less money than any.

You arrive here today, absent one year, marching and fighting all the time, bringing trophies of cannon and standards from fields whose names were unknown to you before you set out, and only grieving that you could not have gone further. Ten pieces of cannon, rolled out of Chihuahua to arrest your march, now roll through the streets of St. Louis, to grace you triumphal return. Many standards, all pierced with bullets while waiving over the heads of the enemy at the Sacramento, now waive at the head of you column. The black flag, brought to the Bracito, to indicate the refusal of that quarter which its bearers so soon needed and received, now takes its place among your trophies, and hangs drooping in their nobler presence. To crown the whole--to make public and private happiness go together--to spare the cypress where the laurel hangs in clusters--this long perilous march, with all its accidents of field and camp, presents an incredibly small list of comrades lost. Almost all return! And the joy of families resounds intermingled with the applause of the state.

I have said that you made your long expedition without government orders; and so indeed you did. You received no orders from your government, but, without knowing it, you were fulfilling its orders-orders which never reached you. Happy the soldier who executes the command of his government; happier still he who anticipates command, and does what is wanted before he is bid. This is your case. You did the right thing, at the right time, and what the government intended you to do, and without knowing it intentions. The facts are these: early in the month of November last, the president asked my opinion on the manner of conducting the war. I submitted a plan to him, which, in addition to other things, required all the disposable troops in New Mexico, and all the Americans in that quarter who could be engaged for a dashing expedition, to move down through Chihuahua and the State of Durango, and if necessary to Zacatecas, and get into communication with General Taylor's right as early as possible in the month of March. In fact the disposable Missourians in New Mexico were to be one of three columns destined for a combined movement on the city of Mexico, all to be on the table land, and ready for the movement in the month of March. The president approved the plan, and the Missourians being most distant, orders were dispatched to New Mexico to put them in motion. Mr. Solomon Sublette carried the order, and delivered it to the commanding officer at Santa Fe, Col. Price, on the 23d day February--just five days before you fought the marvelous battle of Sacramento.

I well remember what passed between the president and myself at the time he resolved to give this order. It awakened his solicitude for your safety. It was to send a small body of men a great distance, into the heart of a hostile country and upon the contingency of uniting in a combined movement, the means for which had not yet been obtained from congress. The president made it a question, and very properly, whether it was safe, or prudent, to start the small Missouri column before the movement of the left and center was assured. I answered that my own rule in public affairs was to do what I thought was right, and leave it with others to do what they thought was right; and that, I believed it the proper course for him to follow on the present occasion. On this view he acted. He gave the order to go, without waiting to see whether congress would furnish the means of executing the combined plan; and, for his consolation, I undertook to guaranty your safety. Let the worst come to the worst, I promised him that you would take care of yourselves. Though the other parts of the plan should fail--though you should become far involved in the advance, and deeply compromised in the enemy's country, and without support--still I relied on your courage, skill, and enterprise to extricate yourselves from every danger--to make daylight through all the Mexicans that should stand before you--cut your way out--and make good your retreat to Taylor's camp. This is what I promised the president in November last, and what you have so manfully fulfilled. And here is a little manuscript volume (the duplicate of it in the hands of the president) from which I will read you a page, to show you that you are the happy soldier who have done the will of the government, without knowing its will.
"The Right Wing. To be composed of all the disposable troops in New Mexico--to advance rapidly through the states of Chihuahua and Durango, and towards Zacatecas, and to attain a position about on a line with General Taylor in the month of March, and be ready for a push on the capital. This column to move light--to have no rear--to keep itself mounted from horses in the country--and to join the center column, or cut its way out if the main object fails."

This is what was proposed for you in the month of November last, and what I pledged myself to the president that you would perform; and nobly have you redeemed the pledge.

But this not the first, or the only time, that I pledged myself to you. As far back as June, 1846, when a separate expedition to Chihuahua was first projected, I told the president that it was unnecessary—that the Missouri troops under Gen. Kearny, would take that place, in addition to the conquest of New Mexico—and that he might order the column under Gen. Wool to deflect to the left, and join Gen. Taylor as soon as he pleased. Again: when I received a letter from Lieut. Col. Mitchell, dated in November last, and informing me that he was leaving Santa Fe with one hundred men, to open a communication with Gen. Wool, I read that letter to the president, and told him that they would do it. And again: when he heard that Col. Doniphan, with a thousand men, after curbing the Navahos, was turing down towards the south, and threatening the ancient capital of the Captains General of the Internal Provinces, I told him they would take it. In short, my confidence in Missouri enterprise, courage, and skill, was boundless. My promises were boundless. Your performance has been boundless. And now let boundless honor and joy salute, as it does, your return to the soil of your state, and to the bosom of your families.

Col. Doniphan’s Reply.

In response to this address, Colonel Doniphan said:

Fellow Citizens: I return to you, on behalf of my command, our most heartfelt thanks for the distinguished reception which we have this day received at your hands. Such a reception entitles you to our warmest gratitude, and is deeply felt by those to whom it is extended. The honor conferred is greatly enhanced by the consideration of the medium through which it is presented. No selfish considerations could, we are satisfied, have induced the honorable senator to have passed this flattering eulogy upon us. The part which he has taken here today, can add nothing to his fame. From an early day, his history has been identified with the history of the state of Missouri, and a feeling of state pride has induced him to give a favorable consideration to the services rendered by the volunteers of Missouri. To him, and yourselves, I again return our warmest thanks. The minute description given by the orator of scenes through which we have passed, has excited our wonder. Indeed, so correct and minute are his details, that they resemble history, and I might almost say that they have become a part of history.

The few brief remarks which I shall make to you, fellow citizens, will of necessity, be disconnected. Man seldom speaks of himself, without vanity; and it is a habit in which I do not often indulge. Officers of the regular army, whose lives are devoted to their country, may, by their prowess--by their long continuance in the service, obtain promotion. The ladder of fame is before them; and by their deeds of chivalry, they may at length reach the top-most round. Not so with volunteers. They only enlist for a limited period, at the call of their country in her emergency; and then return, to mingle with their friends. The only reward that awaits a volunteer, is the gratitude, and warm reception, and honor of his fellow citizens. If our services have merited honor, then we have been more than repaid.

Upon returning from our arduous campaign, and when entering upon the bosom of that noble stream that washes the borders of your city—when, in passing the magnificent country seats, bright eyes and smiling faces greeted us, and white handkerchiefs were waived in honor of there turning volunteers, we felt that we were sufficiently rewarded for all our toils. When we arrived at the great city of N. Orleans, we were all unknown. That city is the thoroughfare through which have passed the heroes of Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterey, Buena Vista, and Cerro Gordo—indeed, the heroes of all the brilliant victories achieved in Mexico—and it was to be supposed, that they would have been wearied long ago. Yet their patriotism, their regard for their country, is increasing. There was not a volunteer in this corps who was not proffered a welcome hand. The hospitalities of the city were extended to all. Men who arrived there in rags, were clothed—the wealthiest merchants, who never had seen them, proffered them every thing they wished for their comfort and on credit.

Fellow Citizens: It has been said of republics, which have existed heretofore, that they have been ungrateful. However true the charge may be with regard to former republics, it is not true of our own. Patriotism, talent, and virtue, have ever been remembered, in this government; and they ever will be.

It is not for me, fellow citizens, to discuss the merits of this war. But it is natural that I, for one, should say, something in relation to it. It is a strange war: when first commenced, it was denounced by a large party in our county—the party to which I belong—as a war for political purposes. But, when soldiers were to be raised for its prosecution, you find that men of all parties—the opposers and the advocates, the accusers and the accused—were ready to engage in that war, to rally under the same standard, to fight in the same tented field. What a spectacle for the people of the old world to gaze
Men who were engrossed in the strife of political prejudices were willing, like Roderick Dhu and Fitz James, to lay aside those prejudices, for the time, when a common enemy was to be engaged--to renew their dissensions, if ever, when peace should be restored. Fellow citizens--I wish that the same patriotic feeling had existed in the councils of his nation: I wish that Mexico could have seen the same unanimity in our people, in the prosecution of this war, that they have seen in our forces, in the field. I recollect well, the impression made on my mind, on one occasion, when an express sent by me to General Wool, brought me such stray papers as had found their way to general's camp--the latest dates were to the 29th of November--consequently, we had seen nothing of the proceedings of the last session of congress, or of the president's message. The first thing I cast my eye upon was a speech of Mr. Corwin, senator from Ohio, denouncing the war, and those engaged in it, as little better than a band of robbers. Gentlemen, a winter shower bath would have been pleasant compared with my sensations on reading it! Freezing--chilling! Such speeches might have been deemed patriotic in the United States; but, place yourselves where we have been, and endure what we have undergone, and then imagine our sensations. We were in a city numbering in population at least twenty times our forces, and surrounded by enemies on all sides. We had crossed the Sierra Madre, and found, when we had arrived at Chihuahua, that we were looked upon as little better than a band of robbers! Fellow citizens, the speeches which were made in opposition to this war, are said to come from the peace party; but I say that they are made by those who are postponing the peace internally!

If the honorable senator's (turning to Mr. Benton) plans had been adopted, the war would have terminated long ago. If our government had placed at the disposal of Generals Scott and Taylor, each 20,000 men, they would ere this, have subdued the whole Mexican power. To talk about guerrilla warfare is nonsense, against such forces as this. If General Taylor, with 4,500 men, whipped Santa Anna at Buena Vista, with 20,000 he would have hunted him down and crushed him! If Gen. Scott had had a sufficient force on his march from Vera Cruz to Mexico, to establish a line of communication between his army and Vera Cruz, he would, long ere this, have marched into city of Mexico, and there dictated the terms of peace.

Fellow citizens! What have we gained by this war? Of General Taylor I can safely speak, having been through all his lines of operation. He has gained four distinguished victories--perhaps the most brilliant victories that have ever been gained in this continent--and yet he has gained nothing. Why, sir, (turning to Mr. Benton), is it that the efforts of our army are like the efforts of a fevered patient, who spends all his strength in spasms, and as soon as they are over, is prostrated? After the brilliant victories which they have achieved, they have been forced for the want of men, ammunition, money, and conveyance, to lie idle until the enemy have been able to gain strength anew, and then the battles have to be fought over again. In our victories, nothing has been gained. Suppose General Taylor remains where he is, will we have gained any thing? He has been there ever since last September, and unless some better means are afforded him, he will remain there until next October! The expenses of this war are enormous. I have been told that $1,000,000 a week has been paid to sustain the war, and yet General Taylor lies in the very position he was eight months ago, and there he must lie.

Although I have not been over Gen. Scott's line of operations, yet it is clear that he cannot sustain himself from his want of means. He may take the city of Mexico, but he cannot sustain himself then--take it he may, but it is impossible for him to keep it. For Santa Anna, although he was stoned when went to the city of Mexico, from some cause has gained new strength, (some have thought that it arose from Gen. Scott's proclamation), and he will soon have an army sufficient to cope with General Scott.

It is true, fellow citizens, that this war has not been without its effect. It has had a great moral effect upon Europe. We now present to the world a spectacle such as we have never before presented. It has been said, that the United States could not wage a war of invasion. We have shown that we have waged it successfully. We have shown to the astonishment of the world, that volunteer troops can be depended upon--that private citizens can be transformed into good soldiers by a proper discipline. We have shown it at the battle of Buena Vista, where the whole force was composed of volunteers; and I defy to world to produce a parallel to that battle. The whole left wing was turned, and the myriads of Santa Anna's army came pouring down on that handful of volunteers, almost surrounding them on all sides; yet they were sufficient to drive this superior force, and victory perched on their standards. This, fellow citizens, was done by volunteers alone; it was done by volunteers disciplined in the school of Taylor, and of that scientific officer and accomplished gentlemen, Gen. Wool.

Fellow citizens--I deem it necessary to consume your time by the detailed account of our operations as I had intended to do before I closed, for Col. Benton has anticipated me in many of the remarks which I had intended to make. But, I think it my duty to address something to the soldiers who have been under my command. It is natural, that many of you whom I now address will never meet again. It is natural that I should be endeared to you, after having been united with you for more than a year, and by the battles in which we have been engaged--by the sufferings which we have endured.

You have endured much toil and hardship. It is now about to terminate. You have arrived once more in the land of civilized society, and again we are citizens mingling with our fellow citizens. Your lot has been a hard one in many respects.
Before reaching New Mexico, by two hundred miles, you were on half rations, and never afterwards, for a single day, during our long and arduous march to Saltillo, did you receive full rations. Yet all this you have borne, and you have borne it with fortitude. The order which you received to march in Major Gilpin's command, with a large column, over the Sierra Madre, covered with perpetual snow--proceeding on your march on short allowance, without tents or transportation; and many other comforts, because the Government was unable to furnish them; yet you bore it all, and were ready to resume your march in two days, on the city of Chihuahua. You have traveled over five states of Mexico, and five very large ones, in point of territory. Perhaps the citizens of St. Louis do not know what a Bonava is, but I will answer for every man in my command, knowing what they are. I may assure you, had you crossed them, you too, would have known what they are. The shortest one that we crossed was fifty miles, and one ninety five miles, which we crossed in three days in December, without wood, without water, without tents, at an elevation of 7,000 feet above the Atlantic ocean. In sending expresses to the distance of 600 miles, when I was enabled to furnish them with the means of carrying provisions and other comforts with them over immense sand prairies covered with snow, I have never made a detail, but all were volunteers, or when I have sent out parties for the purpose of watching the enemy who have had to starve for days, I never made a detail in this column, but all were volunteers, and I am proud to say it.

But your labors are over, you are now again to return to the enjoyments of civilized life; you are now to return to your homes: you are now to make glad the hearts of your fathers and mothers and sisters and brothers: you are again to mingle together with your friends. But you have not all returned--many a gallant heart, that rallied at their country's call, now lies cold in a far distant country, whilst the hearts of the fathers and mothers, sisters and brothers of some are made to mourn, others are to be made glad by the return of their friends. No soldier dreads to die upon the battle field; but to be worn down by a slow disease, far from the care of friends and the comforts of home, without the attendance necessary to the sick bed, without the tender care of mother or sister--dragged over a rough country in rougher wagons, for hundreds of miles without water to moisten the fever-parched mouth--to be worn down thus by slow disease, this, this, is death indeed. And many a gallant spirit has thus yielded up his life, and lies buried in the arid plains of Mexico, if the wild fanaticism of the country have not dragged them from their resting place, and left them to bleach in the storms and winds of Heaven. They will be remembered gratefully by their country. Their friends will have the consolation of knowing that they yielded up their lives in a patriotic cause. But you have been more fortunate. You have fulfilled every trust with faithfulness, that has been reposed in you; you have performed faithfully every duty required of you. You carry with you the gratitude of your country; you carry with you my gratitude, which never can be effaced. Your noble, heroic, conduct on the battle fields of Brazito and Sacramento will ever be remembered with gratitude by your countrymen. No peculiar generalship was displayed in these battles. If ever the rank and file of an army should have the honor of a victory, such should be the case at the battle of Sacramento. At the battle field we found the enemy. You were marched until you came in view of the enemy's redoubts planted with cannon. You were told that there was the enemy. You were marched until within the proper distance when you were turned loose! The enemy first recoiled, then gave way, then fled. The charge was impetuous. The battle was won! It was yours. It was the battle of Sacramento. Fellow citizens, I have not time to say any thing about the battle of Okachobee; but it is sufficient to say that whatever annoyance it has been to you, however our fair fame my seem to have been tarnished, you will remember that the battle of Okachobee, and the battle of Brazito were both fought on Christmas day. Fellow citizens, I will not detain you longer; may your destiny be onward, border of your great city. [Tremendous applause.]

As soon as Col. Doniphan's speech was concluded, Capt. Hudson was called for, but upon his suggestion, that a very agreeable part of the entertainment--the collation--remained to be discussed, the company adjourned to the St. Louis Park, and did full justice to the ample cheer provided for them.

Speeches and toasts followed the dinner. In answer to calls of the company, Col. Mitchell, Major Clark, Capt. Weightman, Capt. Hudson, Capt. Reid, and others, made speeches. Responding to a sentiment which had been given, Capt. Reid expressed his high gratification at the cordial reception of the Missouri volunteers on this occasion. He took the opportunity to allude particularly to his conduct while at Parras, on his march to join Gen. Taylor's column, as the advance of Col. Doniphan's command. He spoke of the former kindness of the inhabitants of Parras to Americans and strangers, while Texas and Coahuila, (in which Parras is situated), were an integral portion of the Mexican republic. Upon Gen. Wool's being obliged to fall back from this point, and to leave the hospital at Parras, he spoke in the highest terms of the kind treatment which the soldiers had received at their hands--especially at the hands of the ladies. He adverted to the time of his arriving at this place--when the Comanche Indians had been committing depredations in the very sight of the town, and to his meeting an old acquaintance from Illinois (the son of the Rev. Mr. Peck, as he was understood), who had been left behind in Gen. Wool's hospital, and to his being introduced into families warmly sympathizing with the Americans and their institutions. His sympathies were aroused in their behalf, he said, and this impulse induced him to turn out against the Indians, with only fifteen men; afterwards having been joined by 15 Americans, he attacked and defeated the Indians, and restored a large heard of cattle to their owners. Capt. Reid concluded by giving a sentiment in honor of the distinguished senator then present.

Col. Benton being called on for a toast, said that he would take great pleasure in giving one, which he was sure would be warmly received by every person who had witnessed and enjoyed the day's celebration. The ceremonies of the day had been to commemorate a most extraordinary expedition--extraordinary under many aspects, and especially under that of unparalleled exemption from losses,
casualties or accidents. The celebration of the day had been attended with a similar felicity. In the vast multitude which had turned out—in the tens of thousands which thronged the streets, military and citizens, horse, foot and dragoons, carriages and carmen, men, women and children—and in the midst of the firing of cannon, beating of drums, waving of standards, not an accident of any kind had occurred to mar the universal joy! All was order and regularity, in the midst of a city of fifty thousand souls, all in motion to honor the return of citizen heroes who had gained honor for themselves, their state and their country. This extraordinary exemption from the slightest accident—this order or regularity where confusion seemed inevitable—is clearly due to the committee of arrangements, the marshal of the day and his assistant marshals, and well were they entitled to what he knew they would cordially receive the thanks of the company in a toast and a glass. Col. B. Then gave:

The committee of arrangements, the marshal of the day and his assistant marshals: to whom the immense concourse of this day are indebted for the unalloyed happiness they have felt in a celebration as happy as the expedition it commemorates is glorious. [Drank with great applause.

Colonel Grimsley, being loudly called for, came forward and stated concisely, that he did not intend to make a speech but that he would condense the sentiment of all into this—"The North American continent to the Isthmus of Darien—the progress of the Anglo Saxon and his institutions!"

Soon after, the crowd dispersed, and Colonel Doniphan and a large number of volunteers took passage on the Little Missouri for home. [SRP]

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NNR 72.320 July 17, 1847 Movement of government funds to New Orleans

Money matters. The Boston city loan of $1,000,000 at 5 per cent. has been taken by various bidders, at from 90 to 99 per cent. —general average 94 cts. on the dollar. It is to be applied for the introduction of water into the city.

The New York Herald of the 15th, states that according to the custom house returns, about 25,000,000 of specie has been received in this country since the 1st of January, besides about 5,000,000 brought by emigrants.

The New York Tribune of the same day, says that there is two and a half millions of specie in the subtreasury there. The receipts at custom house average $125,000 per day. Within the last month two millions in specie have been sent to New Orleans, and half a million to the Philadelphia mint. Yesterday half a million was paid out at the counter of the subtreasury on drafts from Washington.

The New Orleans Bulletin, says that government has ordered in all six millions to that point, from the north, and that the transportation and insurance costs 11 per cent.; whole cost of moving it $67,500.

The New Orleans Picayune of the 9th says: "One million of dollars in gold arrived here yesterday on the steamboat Paul Jones, Capt. Williamson, from Cincinnati. It is for account of the government."

Government funds. We notice some fluttering in Wall street owing it is said, to the government having ordered on a few more millions of specie from thence to New Orleans, in which direction several millions have been sent within a few weeks, to defray the war expenditures. [SRP]

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73.320 July 17, 1847 Col. Sterling Price at Santa Fe, Attack by Indians on government wagon trains

Col. Price was Santa Fe, with portions of several companies of volunteers. Of his movements and plans we know nothing.

On his way in, Mr. Murphy met Mr. Wethered, some other traders and two government trains of wagons, at the crossing of the Pawnee fork, detained there for three or four days by a freshest in the river. The Indians annoyed them very much, and succeeded in killing 150 head of cattle belonging to the government train.—Mr. Goodrich also lost 27 in the same way. The cattle were all speared, and their tails cut off close, to be used as trophies of victory. A Mr. Smith, of Platte county, who was on guard at the time, received seven spear wounds, one of which struck him in the throat. About this time, this party, who were traveling the river road, heard the discharge of cannon on the ridge road, and as a train of government wagons, having a piece of artillery with them, were on that route, it is supposed that an attack had been made upon them by the Indians.

Lieut. Love's command of dragoons, with the money for the pay of the troops at Santa Fe, was met a few hours' travel from the Pawnee fork, going on well.
Eight miles from Council grove, met Cunifee and other traders, waiting until reinforcements should come up. Met Capt. Shepard's company of infantry near Council grove. The companies of mounted men under Capts. McNair and Korponay, were met 15 miles from 110, going on well.

Col. William H. Russell, secretary of the territory of California, came in with Mr. Murphy, bearer of despatches from Col. Fremont for the government at Washington, stopped at his residence in Calloway county to see his family. We expect a full account of operations in California.

Mr. Murphy heard nothing of the news brought to Westport, by the "Delaware Indian," some days ago, of the attack upon a train of government wagons, and the killing of some 50 teamsters and others, near Walnut creek. [TNW, SRP]

NNR 72.320 July 17, 1847 Battle at Red River Canyon

SANTA FE.—Mr Murphy, an intelligent gentleman, says the St. Louis Republican, of the 7th instant, left Santa Fe on the 29th May, and arrived this morning.

A BATTLE AT THE RED RIVER CANYON, 150 miles southeast of Santa Fe, took place on the 27th May, between Major Edmonson with 175 men, and a party of Mexican and Apache Indians supposed to number 400, who, having stolen 150 of our horses, the major was despatched in pursuit of. He encountered them unexpectedly and under disadvantageous circumstances as he was crossing a miry place at the mouth of the Canon. He was obliged to abandon his horses, and a fight on foot continued for two hours. Two Americans were killed and a third was wounded and left on the ground when a retreat was ordered. Lieut. Elliot, in command of 27 men, principally Kaclede rangers, rendered very efficient service at this juncture. He occupied a point of rocks, and kept the enemy from advancing upon the retreating force until they had got out of difficult position. In doing the service, he had two men wounded, M.W. Wash and John Eldridge, but neither of them dangerously. All the horses were either shot down or captured.

On the 3rd June, Lieut. Col. Willock, with about 115 men, was met on his march from Taos, in pursuit of the Mexican and Indian forces. He has got upon their trail, and was resolved upon an engagement with them. He had Mr. Boggs with him as a guide. Circumstances had led him to suspect Jim Beckwith, mulatto, born in this city, but for many years employed in the mountains, as having been concerned with the Mexicans and Indians in the affair with Major Edmonson. He was found in Taos, and arrested by Col. Willock, and was taken with him on his expedition. A garrison of only fifteen soldiers was left at Taos, all of whom were on the sick list. [TNW]

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Bustle of exports from Cuba to Mexico after announcement of the American administration regarding the tariff imposed on Mexico

American Mexico Tariff. A Washington letter in the *New York Courier* says:

"I hear from Havana, that the recent pledge given to the president, to exempt all imports under our Mexican tariff from confiscation, or any further duties to be imposed by Mexico, after a peace, has produced great excitement there, and that immense shipments of sugar, molasses, coffee, tobacco, sugars, and especially segaritos will be made from Cuba to Vera Cruz, a part to be sold during the war; but chiefly in the expectation of realizing an immense profit in the moment of peace. No doubt the same course will be pursued in Europe, on hearing of this pledge; and since the imports into Mexico will be very large and the revenue very considerable. You must bear in mind that this pledge was not contained in Mr. Walkin's Tariff, as promulgated; but the suggestion came from Scott and Taylor, and has been adopted by the administration. [SRP]

List of Killed and Wounded in the attack on Tabasco

The following is an official list of the killed and wounded:

**Killed:**
- James White, seaman, Spitfire.

**Wounded:**
- Mortally—James Mitchell, ordinary seaman, Potomac, since dead.
- Dangerously—James Hoy, ordinary seaman, Mississippi; Crosby, Etna, from explosion of gunpowder;
- Slightly—Geo. Jonson, Potomac, from explosion of gunpowder. [TNW]

Order of Com. Matthew Calbraith Perry commending the forces involved in the seizure of Tabasco

Notwithstanding the extensive and judicious arrangements made by the Mexicans for defense, they exhibited little gallantry in maintaining their well-chosen position, and the only disappointment evinced by the brave officers and men, proceeded from the fact that the enemy did not stand more firmly to their arms. M. C. Perry, Commanding home squadron.

The commodore arrived at Anton Lizardo on the 30th June, with the squadron. [SRP]

Correspondence between Mexico and the United States concerning the mission of Philip Trist to Mexico

An extra of the Republicano of Mexico, of the 28th of June, has been received at the department of state, containing copies of two notes from the minister of foreign affairs of Mexico, dated the 22d of June last, and a translation of the letter addressed to the Mexican government, by our secretary of state, on the 15th April previous. We here present translations of the two notes first mentioned, together with a copy in the original of Mr. Buchanan's letter; all of which will doubtless be read with interest in every part of our country. [Washington Union.]
and honorable for both parties, yet the Mexican government, by refusing to receive our minister in the
from the beginning, solemnly declared before the world that he desired no terms but such as were just
repeated overtures to the government of Mexico to negotiate for its termination; and although he has,
the Rio Grande, and thus commenced the war, the president, actuated by the same pacific spirit, made
Mexico for this purpose. After the Mexican forces had attached the army of Gen. Taylor on this side of
It would, also, be difficult to find a precedent for the course pursued by the Mexican government in
an invading army should be withdrawn before negotiations for peace could commence between the
parties to the war.

Most excellent sirs: By order of his excellency, the president ad interim of the republic, as resolved in a
council of ministers, I have the honor to place in the hand of your excellencies, that you may submit it
to the sovereign congress, at its first meeting, a copy of the official note, addressed by the secretary of
state of the United States to this government, under date of the 15th of April last, in which he declares
that the president of that republic intends to dispatch, as a commissioner, to the headquarters of the
army operating in Mexico, Nicholas P. Trist, esq, with full powers to conclude a definitive treaty of
peace with the Mexican United States.

I likewise transmit to your excellencies, for communication to the sovereign congress, a copy of the
answer which the most excellent president resolved, in a council of ministers, to have made to the
above mentioned note; his excellency feeling assured that the august assembly, to which is reserved
the determination on the affair to which the present communication relates, will dispatch it with the
promptness and wisdom to be expected from its patriotism and its distinguished enlightenment.

I repeat to your excellencies, on this occasion, the assurances of my high consideration.

Domingo Ibarra.

To his Excellency the Minister of Foreign Relations of the Mexican republic: Department of State,
Washington, April 15th, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your excellency’s note, of the 22d February last, in
answer to mine of the 18th January, proposing, on the part of the president of the United States,
immediately to "dispatch either to the Havana or Jalapa, as the Mexican government may prefer, one
or more of our most distinguished citizens, as commissioners, clothed with full powers to conclude a
treaty of peace with similar commissioners on the part of Mexico, as soon as he shall be officially
informed that the Mexican government will appoint such commissioners."

The president deeply regrets the refusal of the Mexican government to accede to this friendly overture,
"unless the raising of the blockade of our (the Mexican) ports, and the complete evacuation of the
territory of the republic by the invading forces, shall by previously accepted as a preliminary condition."

The president has instructed me to inform you that this "preliminary condition" is wholly inadmissible.
Such a condition is neither required by the honor, nor sanctioned by the practice of nations. If it were,
this would tend to prolong wars, especially between contumacious countries, until the one or the other
power was entirely subdued. No nation, which, at the expenditure of blood and treasure, has invaded
its enemy’s country, and acquired possession of any considerable portion of his territory, could ever
consent to withdraw its forces, as a preliminary condition to the opening of negotiations for peace. This
would be at once to abandon all the advantages it had obtained in the prosecution of the war, without
any certainty that peace would result from the sacrifice. Nay, more: should such a negotiation prove
unsuccessful, the nation which had thus imprudently withdrawn its forces from the enemy's territory,
might not be able to recover, without a cost of blood and treasure equal to that first expended, the
advantageous position which it had voluntarily abandoned.

Fortunately for the cause of peace and humanity, the history of nations at war affords no sanction to
such a preliminary condition. The United States are as jealous of their national honor as any power on
the face of the earth; and yet it never entered into the contemplation of the great statesmen who
administered our government during the period of our last war with Great Britain, to insist that the
latter should relinquish that part of our territory of which she was in actual possession, before they
would consent to open negotiations for peace. On the contrary, they took the initiative, and appointed
commissioners to treat for peace whilst portions of our country were held by the enemy; and it is a
remarkable fact, that the treaty of Ghent was concluded by the plenipotentiaries of the two power
whilst the war was raging on both sides; and the most memorable of the conflicts to which it gave rise
took place upon our own soil after the negotiators had happily terminated their labors. History is full of
such examples. Indeed, so far as the unsigned is aware, there is not to be found, at least in modern
times, a single case, except the present, in which it has been considered a necessary preliminary that
an invading army should be withdrawn before negotiations for peace could commence between the
parties to the war.

It would, also, be difficult to find a precedent for the course pursued by the Mexican government in
another particular. The president, anxious to avoid the war now existing, sent a minister of peace to
Mexico for this purpose. After the Mexican forces had attached the army of Gen. Taylor on this side of
the Rio Grande, and thus commenced the war, the president, actuated by the same pacific spirit, made
repeated overtures to the government of Mexico to negotiate for its termination; and although he has,
from the beginning, solemnly declared before the world that he desired no terms but such as were just
and honorable for both parties, yet the Mexican government, by refusing to receive our minister in the

Historical documents published in *Republicano* of the 28th of June, 1847. [translation]
first place, and afterwards by not acceding to our overtures to open negotiations for peace, has never afforded to this government even the opportunity of making known the terms on which we would be willing to settle all questions in dispute between the two republics. The war can never end whilst Mexico refuses to hear the proposals which we have always been ready to make for peace.

The president will not again renew the offer to negotiate—at least until he shall have reason to believe that it would be accepted by the Mexican government. Devoted, however, to honorable peace he is determined that the evils of the war shall not be protracted one day longer than shall be rendered absolutely necessary by the Mexican republic. For the purpose of carrying this determination into effects with the least possible delay, he will forthwith send to the headquarters of the army, in Mexico, Nicholas P. Trist, Esq., the officer next in rank to the undersigned in our department of foreign affairs, at a commissioner, invested with full powers to conclude a definitive treaty of peace with the United Mexican States. This gentleman possesses the entire confidence of the president, and is eminently worthy of that of the Mexican government.

The undersigned refrains from all comment upon the concluding paragraph, as well as some other portions, of your excellency's note; because the strong sense which he entertains of their injustice toward the United States could not be uttered in the friendly tone which he desires to preserve in the present communication. He turns from these, therefore, Caldwell—as he does with unfeigned pleasure—upon the sentiment contained in an early part of the same note, where the Mexican government expresses how painful it is "to see disturbed the sincere friendship which it cultivated with your [our] republic, whose continued progress it has always admired, and whose institutions have served it as a model."

This feeling is most cordially reciprocated by the president, whose earnest desire it is that the United Mexican States, under institutions similar to our own, may protect and secure the liberties of their people, and maintain an elevated standing among the nations of the earth.

The undersigned embraces this occasion to offer to your excellency the assurance of his most distinguished consideration.

JAS. BUCHANAN.

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**NNR 72.327 July 24, 1847 Article from the New York "Herald" about forces in the field**


The forces in the field.--It appears to us that Father Ritchie has been playing the jack-o-lantern with reference to the actual and even the prospective forces of Scott and Taylor. The administration has been active; but we understand a great number of volunteers have been declined, who would now do efficient service if they were in the field.--We understand that the whole force of Scott is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At Puebla</td>
<td>6,000 men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At Vera Cruz</td>
<td>500 do</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Along the road with trains, &amp;c.</td>
<td>1,000 do</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sick at Vera Cruz and along the road</td>
<td>500 do</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>8,000 men</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

His expected reinforcements in process of arrival at Vera Cruz, deducting casualties, cannot exceed, we suppose, in all the reinforcements for June, 3000 garrison Puebla, leaving for the march upon the city of Mexico a force of 6000 men. And if Gen. Scott has celebrated the 4th of July in the imperial city of the Aztecs, he has done it, in default of reinforcements, with less than 5000 men. So that if he is there, and fails of dictating a peace, the question will next recur how is he to get back?

Gen. Scott has conducted the invasion with singular boldness, enterprise, and success; but has he provided for the "fire in the rear?" He has not had the means. He has done the best that could be done; but how is he to progress or retrograde? He can do neither, and unless Gen. Taylor is dispatched to his relief, the prospect appears to be that General Scott must stand fast at Puebla.

But Gen. Taylor has not the men. To march with even five thousand via San Luis, he must break up all his depots in the rear, and abandon entirely the Northern departments to the enemy. Will that answer?
We think not.

The prospect is, therefore, that both armies will have to stand fast till more troops are sent down.---Ten thousand more men are wanted in Mexico, and they can be had. [SRP]

NNR 72.327 July 24, 1847 Letter from Maj. John Pollard Gaines

Letter from Major Gaines--The New Orleans Picayune of the 14th instant, has the following:--City of Mexico, June 26, 1847.

Dear Sir--I am very sorry that I have it not in my power to advise you our release from bondage.--This execrable government, in violation of repeated promises and a solemn engagement entered into with Gen. Taylor the day after the battle of Buena Vista, still detains us as prisoners of war.

On the 3d instant, I received a note from the government to present myself at the Castle of Santiago, our late prison, and there received the final determination of the authorities in our case. At the castle we were informed that we were exchanged, and that we should depart the next day for Tampico--the officers only, without the men--and were directed to go to the palace, receive our instructions, expense money, &c., &c., preparatory to our departure.

At the palace we were told to call the next day, and on the next day we were informed that they were without means to send us, and that we could not go. Thus were our hopes blasted, after having made all necessary preparations on our part for the trip. This disappointment was the more galling because the reason assigned was known to be a mere subterfuge, and it turned out that four days afterwards our men, one hundred and seventy in number, were sent off to the same place without our knowledge, which required a much larger sum than it would have required to end the officers.

Indeed, it would have taken a very small additional sum to have sent us with them, and that we would cheerfully have paid ourselves. By sending off the men without our knowledge, they were subjected to great suffering and inconvenience on a long road to Tapioca, without the preparation necessary in the way of clothing, shoes, &c., which were then in fact being furnished them. The true reason why the officers were not allowed to accompany them remains to be seen. Since that time (the 4th) I have heard from this infernal government, if government it may be called, but today I have received an assurance from Gen. Scott that immediately upon his arrival in the vicinity of the city, which will surely be within twelve days, he will make a peremptory demand for us. It will be complied with, I think. You may therefore look for me early in August.

Gen. Scott we are assured has made every possible effort to procure our enlargement, but to no purpose. His approach to this city will certainly take place in a very few days. His measures preparatory to moving are all taken, and preparations nearly complete. He comes with a force sufficient to accomplish his object effectually.

I have received no letters from the states except one from A. K., since my captivity, so that the world as to me may be said to be hermetically sealed up. [Here follow passages of a nature altogether private and domestic, and the letter concludes as follows:]

I have now the most positive information of Gen. Scott's readiness to move on his capital within the next three or four days. He will have an easy conquest.

My intercourse with Gen. Worth is frequent. By his generous conduct towards me, he has endeared himself to me for life.

Your affectionate brother,

JNO. F. GAINES.

The Picayune remarks--

We regard these remarks of Major Gaines upon the movements of General Scott as of the utmost interest. He is a cool and cautious gentleman, guarded in what he says or writes, and must have strong grounds for the judgment he expresses as to the Mexican means of defense. We confess that our opinion as to the degree of resistance General Scott will encounter from the Mexicans has been modified by this letter; but that Gen. Scott would promptly and thoroughly flog the Mexicans when he met them, we have never doubted. This letter confirms the expectation of our Vera Cruz correspondent, and of the editors in the city of Mexico, that General Scott would advance from Puebla about the last of June. We look eagerly for further arrivals from Vera Cruz. [SRP]
Tennessee Volunteers - The Jonesborough Tennessee Whig has the following statements respecting the two regiments of Tennessee volunteers who went through a year's service in Mexico.

Colonel William B. Campbell's first regiment of Tennessee volunteers numbered one thousand brave men on their march to Mexico. Only three hundred and fifty, rank and file, of this gallant regiment, returned with their colonelcy to their homes.

Colonel William T. Haskell's second regiment of Tennessee volunteers numbered 1040 on their march to Mexico. Only 360 of those gallant men, rank and file, returned with Col. Haskell to their homes and friends - their wives and children - their fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers, and other relatives and friends.

The rest of the, thirteen hundred and thirty, sickness and bullets, disease, and shot and swords, have consigned to an early grave in a foreign land, far from their native home, without coffins and winding sheets, or headstones, to tell who they are or where they are. [TNW]

Gen. Pierce had not left Vera Cruz with his detachment of troops. It was expected that he would do so in two or three days. [ANP]

On the 26th ultimo rumors which the Republicano calls very alarming were in circulation in the capital. It said that the Mexican government had acceded to the mediation of England; and that the English secretary of legation had been down to Puebla and returned on the 24th; that the object of his visit to negotiate with Gen. Scott a treaty of peace; that the terms agreed upon between them would be the surrender of the Californians to the Americans, the recognition of the independence of Texas, and the acknowledgement of the line 36 degrees as the northern boundary between the United States and Mexico. - The line would give Santa Fe and over a third of New Mexico to the United States.

The Republicano has no faith in these rumors. It denounces them as false, but at the same in such a manner as to betray its fears lest the rumors should be true. The existence of these rumors confirms the information we derived from a distant source in Vera Cruz, that Mr. Buchanan's letter was transmitted through the English embassy. The same considerations may lead the reader to attach some faith to the terms of treaty, which are enumerated above. The English secretary returned to the city of Mexico on the 26th, and at the same time these rumors obtained general currency. [KAM]

Mexico - The U.S. brig Washington, Lieut. S.P. Lee, arrived below Mobile on the 12th instant; in eight days from Anton Lizardo.

Nothing later had been heard from Gen. Scott, No news at Vera Cruz.

The Raritan and the Potomac, the former from Tabasco and the latter from Vera Cruz, had sailed for Norfolk.

There were lying at Anton Lizardo the steamships Mississippi and Vixen, and the ships Albany, Germantown, John Adams and Decatur. The health of the squadron was good.

The Washington left Anton Lizardo on the evening the 4th. On the morning before she sailed the steamer Vixen arrived from Tabasco bringing intelligence that shortly after Com. Perry left Tabasco, Commander Bigelow, who had been left in charge of that post, went out about six miles from the town and attacked and put to rout a largely superior force of the Mexicans, with the loss of two killed and some six of eight wounded. The Mexican loss not ascertained. Lieut. Rodgers understood the Mexicans were commanded by Col. Garcia, and that they numbered some five or six hundred. Com. Bigelow's command consisted of some three hundred sailors and marines. Com. Perry was preparing to sail for Tabasco.
The steamer Mississippi. On the night of the 2nd of July, about 10 o'clock, shortly after the officers and crew of the war steamer Mississippi had turned in, an alarm was caused on board by an apprehension of the ship being on fire, which was induced by the smell of burning wood and an unusual quantity of smoke in the engine room. The fire was at last discovered in one of the coal bunks, and soon extinguished. It is attributed to spontaneous combustion on account of there being an unusual quantity of sulphur in the coal. [TNW]

NNR 72.327-8 July 24, 1847 Mexican Congress summoned, apparently to consider appointment of Nicholas Philip Trist. Rumor of British mediation in arranging a peace. Forces in the field.

City of Mexico.--The Picayune says:--Our files of papers from the city of Mexico, by the way of Vera Cruz, come down to the 29th of June. A summons for Congress to assemble we find in almost every paper we open. We presume it is summoned to take into consideration Mr. Buchanan's letter announcing Mr. Trist's appointment. It is certain that no quorum had been assembled up to the 29th ultimo. The Republicano publishes daily the list of members present and absent. They have several times come very near a quorum, and there is doubtless a sufficient number of members in the city to from one. Seventy one are required; sixty were present on the 25th.

The papers of the city appeared to expect that the American army would move from Puebla by the end of June. They say not a word in their later numbers of their own means of defense, or indeed of their own army. In this particular they show perfect acquiescence in the wishes of Santa Anna. We see no allusion in the papers to the fact which we have stated elsewhere upon the different authority that Gen. Scott had given the government to the 39th ultimo to consider of Mr. Buchanan's letter before pushing on the capital. The Republicano says our army is too insignificant to advance, but hopes it is true that Gen. Scott intends doing so, as it will afford a good test of the fidelity of those Mexicans who have pledged themselves to defend the capital till death. This reads much like a sneer at the Mexican officers—a thing the Republicano is very capable of doing.

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The Republicano gives the following as the result of the election for president made on the 15th May:

Queretaro, Oajaca, and Michoacan voted for Gen Herrera.
Mexico, Guanajuato, and San Luis Potosi voted for Senor Angel Trias.
Puebla voted for Senor Ocampo.
Chiapas voted for Senor Anaya.
Chihuahua voted Gen. Santa Anna.
Durango voted for Senor Elorriaga.
Zacatecas voted for Senor Lafragua.
Jalisco, Coahuila, Vera Cruz, Tabasco, Yucatan, New Leon, the Californians, and New Mexico did not vote.

There is too, a dispute about the vote of Oajaca; a revolution having occurred there since the vote was given to Gen. Herrera, and the new legislature voted Gen. Santa Anna.

The eighty first article of the constitution provides that, to make an election valid, three fourths of the states entitled to vote must vote. As there are twenty three states entitled to vote at the election and only fifteen votes were cast, being less than three fourths, the election has failed. Nor can congress proceed to elect, says the Republicano; for, having concluded its mission of forming a constitution and sworn to the fundamental code, it has no power left to exempt itself from the operation of the law. [SRP]
Camp of Instruction.- General Hopping, now in this city, proceeds immediately to Mier, to superintend the formation of a camp of instruction at that place, for the troops now here and to arrive out for Gen. Taylor's column. The 18th regiment entire, is now at Camargo, and will be the first at the camp. Two companies of the 18th regiment passed up the river on Monday; one company is in fort Paredes, where it will remain for the present, and two more are at the Brazos, expected up. The other five companies of this regiment are yet to arrive. The 10th regiment, complete, is in camp of instruction, when relieved by the Illinois troops, understood to be on the way out. The battalion of third dragoons, now here are under orders to remove the camp, but their march is delayed in consequence of the non-arrival of horses.

In addition to the troops above mentioned, the following forces, raised and to be raised, under the recent call for volunteers, and assigned to Gen. Taylor, will enter Gen. Hopping's school at Mier as fast as they arrive:

One regiment of infantry from Indiana and one from Ohio; one battalion ( 5 companies ) from N. Jersey; one battalion ( 5 do. ) from Delaware and Maryland; one battalion ( 5 do. ) from Alabama; one company of foot from Florida; four companies of horse from Illinois, Arkansas, Ohio, and Alabama; two companies of foot from Virginia, and one company from North Carolina.

The troops will be exercised in their studies at this school under Col. Belknap, and when they shall have passed through a course of instruction under him, they will be fully prepared to fight under Gen. Taylor's invincible banner. [TNW]

From the Baltimore "American" about the inadequacy of troops in the field

"If General Scott had had a sufficient force," said Colonel Doniphan, in his speech at St. Louis, "on his march from Vera Cruz to Mexico, to establish a line of communication between his army and Vera Cruz, he would long ere this, have marched into the city of Mexico, and there dictated the terms of peace."

This declaration is not likely to be doubted. But instead of supplying men enough, Gen. Taylor was stripped of his regulars and left in a perilous position while Gen. Scott's force, increased by the deprivation of Taylor, was still left inadequate. Peter was robbed and Paul was not paid.

It was known to the government that a large portion of Scott's army when he landed at Vera Cruz consisted of twelve months men whose period of service must soon expire. The entire aggregate of his force was never large enough to allow him to march three hundred miles into the heart of an enemy's country, leaving garrisons at every town, with troops sufficient to escort the trains and to keep up communications with Vera Cruz--and not only to do this, but to fight his way as he advanced, and then at the end of his long and dangerous march to assault and carry and occupy the capital of the enemy's country--a city of more than one hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants.

Scott's entire force, we say, when he landed at Vera Cruz, was not sufficient for all this. He had scarcely more than half enough men--taking into the account detachments for garrisons and escorts and the losses in battle and by the diseases of the climate. Yet of his aggregate force a large portion soon left him--their period of enlistment being at an end. The Union talked much of reinforcements which were to arrive in time to supply and more than supply the places of the twelve months' men. By the last of June or the first of July we were told that Scott would have 20,000 men under his command and Taylor 10,000. The fact is not so. There are rumors that Taylor has been stripped again; that the reinforcements which had been sent him, in reliance upon which the old hero had made all ready for an advance on San Luis Potosi, have been withdrawn from him to be added to Scott's army.

Whether this be so or not to the full extent, it is very certain that the assurances of the Union as to Scott's 20,000 and Taylor's 10,000 men by the first of July, are not made good by facts. The case is altogether otherwise. At the last advices Scott was at Puebla, awaiting reinforcements; and as for the brave old chief at Monterey, he has been kept for eight or nine months in the valley of the Rio Grande without the power to advance. If he had been supplied with men and means the storming of Monterey, last September, would have been the thundering prelude to the fall of San Luis--the capture of Zacatecas--the procession of the city of Mexico. But as fast as he accumulated men they were taken from him and he has had to do garrison duty for nearly a year, with one grand episode at Buena Vista.
During all this period in proportion as our gallant soldiers have brought honor and glory to our arms in the field, the administration has been making itself ridiculous at home. Last fall it was announced that no more men were needed for the army; and companies of volunteers offering for service were rejected. In a little while afterwards came the president's call for nine new regiments. This was in November. The administration had passed through one of its intermittent hallucinations concerning negotiations and pacifications and all that. These fits come on periodically, it would seem, and are followed by spasms. There was the Santa Anna admission crisis, which paralyzed operations on the Rio Grande for a while. Why reinforce Taylor when peace was so surely at hand by the good offices of Santa Anna? Next followed the Buchanan negotiation through Com. Conner, which was so confidently relied on for peace that the secretary of war in November declared that no more men would be needed. Afterwards came the Atocha mission—a miserable abortion; and now we have the Trist overture, which is likely to be worse.

These are the hallucinations. The spasms follow immediately after the patient has obtained a lucid interval; they exhibit themselves in paroxysms of martial fury and incoherent patriotism. The Union vents columns of enthusiasm and speaks of nothing but "gun, drum, trumpet, blunderbuss, and thunder." These tones are raised with anathemas against "Mexican Whigs" and eulogies upon Mr. Polk, with occasional rhapsodies about the halls of the Montezumas.

But in truth the patience of the nation is sorely tried by these repeated and aggravated exhibitions of irresolution, infatuation, and imbecility, which are persisted in with an insane obstinacy which is as provoking as it is foolish. In the meantime the lives of our gallant men are wasted in Mexico; treasures are squandered; debts are accumulating; the war drags on, and every body is growing sick of it. What next? Mr. Trist is coming home, the newspapers say, with his finger in his mouth. No peace; no signs of peace. Gen. Scott, too weak to advance, cannot remain where he is without danger of having his communications cut off. If he had twenty thousand men, apart from garrisons and detachments, twenty thousand fighting men in one body, he could enter the city of Mexico as a conqueror should, and from the National Palace he could dictate with dignity the terms of an adjustment which Mexico would have to observe and in due time sanction. This is what the government should have enabled him to do long since. [SRP]

NRR 72.328 July 24, 1847 Article from the Alexandria "Gazette" questioning the administration's energy and vigor in prosecuting the war

From the Alexandria Gazette.

The Washington Union says that "it is the fixed determination of the government to prosecute the war with all possible energy and vigor" until peace be obtained. With all due respect, we must be permitted to doubt it. Our gallant soldiers fight with energy and vigor, whenever an opportunity is afforded them, but as to any energy or vigor on the part of the administration in its management of the war, we have yet for the first time to see it, save on paper. In the very first war message of Mr. Polk, on the 11th of May, 1846, he invoked congress "to place at the disposal of the executive the means of prosecuting the war with vigor, and thus hastening the restoration of peace." Two days after, congress placed at his disposal fifty thousand volunteers and ten millions in money. On the 16th of June following, Mr. Polk states his determination to prosecute the war, "vigorously," and asked, in order that "no contingency should be permitted to occur in which there would be a deficiency in the treasury for the vigorous prosecution of the war," that "authority be given to issue treasury notes or to contract a loan." This was granted. All the men and all the money subsequently asked for have been granted, and all the messages of Mr. Polk have reiterated the determination of the administration to prosecute the war with all possible energy and vigor. Notwithstanding all these professions, and notwithstanding the fact that congress has granted all the supplies of men and money asked for, (except the lieutenant general), the war has never to this day been "prosecuted vigorously," in the sense in which the administration journals use that term.

Our troops have done all that brave men could do, but they have always been left by the administration with such limited means, both of men and supplies, that they have never, in a single instance, been able to follow up their victories as they might have done had the administration performed its duty. So far from adopting or encouraging a "vigorous prosecution" of the war, the administration appears to have done every thing in its power to prevent it. Instead of retaining and employing the volunteers raised by General Gaines, at a time when their services would have proved of more importance probably than at any subsequent period of the campaign, and when they could have been employed under the act of 13th May, 1846, they were disbanded. Subsequently thousands of volunteers who offered themselves have been rejected, and it is but a few weeks since the services of a company raised in Wilmington (Del.) were refused, although both Gen. Taylor and Gen. Scott are well known to have their hands tied for want of troops. The Union some weeks ago published elaborate statements showing that by the first of July, Gen. Scott would be at the head of 20,000 men, and Gen. Taylor at the head of 10,000; and yet, at the last dates from Gen. Scott, his force did not exceed 8,000 effective men, including the garrisons at Jalapa and Perote, while only about 3,000 were on the march from Vera Cruz to reinforce him; and General Taylor had only about 5,000, including every man bearing arms, from Brazos to Buena Vista. Thus has it ever been; and while the president has authority...
to employ (regulars and volunteers) something like 80,000 men, we doubt whether at any one period since the war commenced we have had one-fourth the number in the field. With these facts staring us in the face let us hear no more from the administration or its organs about "a vigorous prosecution of war." [SRP]

NNR 72.328 July 24, 1847 Article from the Washington "Union" about the troops in Gen. Winfield Scott's Army

The Washington Union of the 19th, has the following statements respecting the armies in Mexico:

Troops in Gen. Scott's army. We learn at the adjutant general's office that more than 7,000 troops (new regiments and reorganized companies of the old) have been sent to reinforce the army under Major Gen. Scott; and that official reports have been received which show that nearly 5,000 had arrived at Vera Cruz between the 24th of May and 26th of June, and which we understand have been pushed forward to join the advancing column of the army with all practicable expedition.

The entire force in advance of Vera Cruz, operating in the interior, and moving in the direction of the capital, exceeds fifteen thousand. These are of course exclusive of the garrisons at Tampico and Vera Cruz. It is impossible to determine what deduction should be made on account of the sick; but, according to the best judgment of the military men, it should be put down at not less than 2,000; which would make the efficient force in the heart of Mexico about thirteen thousand, exclusive of staff corps.

The army under Gen. Scott must soon be further increased, since more than 2,500 are known to be en route for Vera Cruz; among which are six companies of the United States infantry, and several companies of marines, &c. In addition to these, a respectable number of troops, of an effective character, are now rising, and will be promptly en route for General Scott's army.

We will say, once for all, that the pay rolls--that infallible test of numbers--will show that the forces in Mexico, under Major General Scott and Major General Taylor, in the month of July, will exceed 30,000. [SRP]

NNR 72.329 July 24, 1847 Letter from Monterey

Monterey, Mexico, June 20, 1847.

Nothing of any note has transpired since my last, and we are all in pretty much the same condition now as then, except that the prospect of moving upon San Luis has grown a little brighter; and we look forward to the arrival of the 1st of September with considerable importance--at least the majority of those here do. I understand that Gen. Taylor has been apprised from headquarters that three of the ten regiments and one battalion of the 3d regiment of dragoons are assigned to his column, and that three of the volunteer regiments recently called for are also to be assigned him. They will probably be in the field by the latter part of August and ready to march by September.

Accounts of the crops in the interior are very flattering; the wheat crop is said to be unusually fine and corn also gives token of an abundant harvest. This is very cheering, as by the time a movement is made the corn harvest will be at its very height, and there will be no difficulty in foraging the animals. The army will probably be subsisted upon fresh beef on the route, to avoid the necessity of transporting salt provisions, and levies will be made on the surrounding country. I am perfectly elated with the prospect of going to San Luis and coming home by the other route. I imagine that General Taylor will visit the states late in the fall, after penetrating into the interior and uniting with Gen. Scott. If his return to the states does not create a sensation exceeding anything of the kind within the memory of "the oldest inhabitants" I shall be most egregiously mistaken; and never was there a more deserving object of admiration and respect than the brave old general who has so valiantly and bravely sustained the honor of our flag, borne it from the bleak sand hills of Corpus Christi, and planted it triumphantly over the yawning gullies of Buena Vista, which were red with the blood of the conquered foe. Never did that spot so well deserve the name of Buena Vista as when our flag unfolded its beauties over that field of deadly strife. In the space of one short year how many brave deeds have been accomplished--what victories won! and in the short space of time how firmly and closely has the brave leader of brave men become "enshrined in the hearts of his country men?"

A Mexican of considerable intelligence arrived direct from San Luis Potosi a few days since, and reports that General Taylor has been expected there for some time. He states that there are some regular troops there, but no very large force, and that but little had been done towards fortifying the place.

By far the most important news he brings is a report which was in circulation in San Luis, and of the
correctness of which no doubt was expressed, that Santa Anna had resigned the command of the army and his office of president and retired. If the reports of the general feeling against him have any foundation, he perhaps resigned none too soon to save his precious life. Mexicans here state that Urrea has levied a tax upon all the inhabitants in this region for the support of his forces, and that he has agents attending to its execution. All those who have arms are directed to keep them in good order and be ready at a moment's warning to stand forth again to protect their soul. It is thought by the Mexicans here, and they could not be made to believe otherwise, that Gen. Taylor contemplates a very speedy movement upon San Luis, in consequence of all the troops being sent on to Saltillo immediately after their arrival here, and Urrea is said to have expressed his intention of retaking Monterey as soon as Gen. T. departs. I am afraid that he will be disappointed in his expectations. That Urrea has issued orders and promulgated an address I cannot and do not doubt. Why should he not as well as Canate?

Eight companies of the North Carolina regiment, Col. Payne, part of who arrived with the last train from below, marched up to Saltillo on Thursday, and apparently with pretty full ranks. A part of the Massachusetts regiment is at Cerralvo and the rest at Camargo, and are soon expected up. There have been a great many discharges in the Virginia regiment of sick; incompetent to perform duty, and the great portion of them were never fit to perform duty when they were mustered into the service in Virginia. Government has been put to the expense of bringing them out here to be kept on the sick list the greater part of the time and finally discharged. The mustering officer of course is the person to blame for not having the men properly inspected. Captain Carrington and Lieutenants Kinney and Ashby are under orders to proceed to Virginia to raise recruits to fill up the companies to their proper standard.

Gov. Early, in consequence of the exorbitant prices demanded for all sorts of marketable matters, meats and vegetables, has been compelled to fix prices for everything at reasonable and remunerative rates. The Mexican hucksters are in a great rage about it, but, to make use of a vulgar expression, have to "grin and bear it." J.E.D. [SRP]

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NNR 72.330 July 24, 1847 News of Naval Operation in the Pacific


From a private letter received yesterday, we learn that Monterey has been fixed upon, by Governor Kearny and Com. Shubrick, as the temporary seat of Government for the territory.

The point for the permanent seat of government has not been determined upon, and probably will not be by the existing authorities, but will be left to the people.

The entire northern Pacific squadron of the U. States are, no doubt, at Monterey, with the exception of the Cyane now at this port. Their destination is not yet know; but it is probable that a greater part of them will be stationed along the coast. The Warren will be sent home if, after inspection, she is not considered seaworthy. The Savannah, it is thought, will also be sent home.

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Our Monterey correspondent informs us that Capt. Turner left that place on the 2nd inst. for the Pueblo of the Angels, with orders from Governor Kearny to disband or reorganize the California battalion, and to forward all the Government archives to Monterey. Col. Fremont has been ordered to Monterey.

[TNW]

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NNR 72.330 July 24, 1847 Establishment of civil government in California, proclamation, choice of a seat of government

From California. The Washington Union says the latest dates from Mazatlan are to the 1st May. Commodore Shubrick, in the Independence, was blockading that port, but would probably leave for the Sandwich Islands to refresh his crews, having had no vegetables since leaving Valparaiso in December. He will return from the Islands to Monterey. Commodore Biddle was at Monterey on the 19th April. The Preble had not arrived. The Congress was at San Diego, but was expected soon at Monterey. The Portsmouth was off San Jose on the 27th--all well. The Warren was employed transporting volunteers from San Pedro to San Francisco. The store ships Xylon and Mount Vernon had both reached Monterey, and the squadron is well supplied with provisions. The Portsmouth had been employed in taking possession of the towns in Lower California, on the gulf; but at no place was there the means of making resistance to our flag.

A file of "The California Star," a weekly journal edited by E. P. Jones, at Yerba Buena, in California,
extends through January and February, and down to March G, inclusive contains very little intelligence which has not been received by previous arrivals. The "Star" of the 27th February gives the following: "Civil Government. Gen. Kearney sailed from this port in the United States frigate Savannah, Capt. Mervine, on Thursday last, for Monterey, where it is understood, in conjunction with Com. Shubrick, he will immediately commence the important work of organizing a civil government for California.

From the California Star, March 6.

We are indebted to our Monterey correspondent for a copy of the circular just issued by Gen. Kearny and Com. Shubrick, which will be found in our paper today. It will be seen by the circular that Gen. Kearny is now Governor of California, and has already entered upon his duties as such. It will also be observed that Com. Shubrick, according to the present arrangement of our government, is to have command of the northern Pacific squadron, and to have control of the important trade of California and the general supervision of the American commerce in the Pacific:

Circular--To all whom it may concern, be it known:

That the president of the United States, desirous to give and secure to the people of California a share of the good government and happy civil organization enjoyed by the people of the United States, and to protect them at the same time from the attacks of foreign foes, and from internal commotions, has invested the undersigned with separate and distinct powers, civil and military; a cordial co-operation in the exercise of which, it is hoped and believed, will have the happy results desired.

To the commander in chief of the naval forces, the president has assigned the regulations of the import trade, the conditions on which vessels of all nations (our own as well as foreign) may be admitted into the ports of the territory, and the establishment of all port regulations.

To the commanding military officer, the president has assigned the direction of the operations on land, and has invested him with administration functions of government over the people and territory occupied by the forces of the United States.

Done at Monterey, capital of California, this first day of March, A. D. 1847.

W. BRADFORD SHUBRICK, Commander in chief of the naval forces. S.W. KEARNY. Brig Gen. U.S.A. and Governor of California.

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Distressing account of a party of emigrants. The Star gives the most distressing details of the sufferings of the party of emigrants, of whose destitution in the mountains, on account of the snow, we have already heard. The company was composed of twenty three wagons and some sixty or eighty persons, and was a part of Colonel Russell's company, which left Missouri a year ago last May. Through some neglect or mismanagement they parted company with other wagons which reached the settlement in October last, and losing their way, were overtaken by impassable snow. After suffering much for want of water and grass, and losing many oxen, they sent forward two of their men to find assistance. These men reached Fort Sacramento, where Capt. J. A. Sutter furnished them with seven mules and two Indian vaquetos, and a supply of flour and beef. With these they returned to the company.

This was about the middle of November last, and from that time until the first of February nothing more was heard of them. Then a message came to Fort Sacramento from Capt. Wm. Johnson's, the first house of the California settlements, bringing the astounding information that five women and two men had arrived at that point, almost entirely naked, with their feet frost bitten. They said that the company had reached a small log cabin near Tucker's Lake, on the east side of the mountains, and
about 100 miles from Johnson's, where they found the snow so deep they could not travel. Fearing starvation, 16 of the strongest, (11 males and 5 females) agreed to start for the settlements on foot. Scantily clothed and ill provided with provisions, they commenced a journey over the mountains, in comparison with which Napoleon's feat on the Alps was child's play.

After wandering a number of days, bewildered in the snow, their provisions gave out, and, after long hunger, they resorted to the horrid step of casting lots to see who should give up their lives and bodies as food for the remainder. As the weaker ones began to sink under their sufferings, however, it did not become necessary to take life. One after another, nine of the men died, and their bodies were eaten by their companions. Mr. C.S. Stanton, a young man from Syracuse, New York, was the first who died. He was one of those who went forward to Sutter's fort, as we have mentioned, and returned to the relief of his companions. After traveling thirty days, the seven survivors of this band of pioneers reached Capt. Johnson's settlement, as stated above.

All the five females withstood the horrors of the journey, and it seems, but only two of the eleven men, and one of them was so exhausted that he was brought into Johnson's on the back of an Indian. The party were at one time 36 hours in a snow storm without fire, and they had but three quilts in the company. One woman was obliged to eat part of the body of her father and of her brother; and there are other statements in regard to their sufferings which are too horrid to repeat. [SRP]
breastwork commanding it. As the shades of evening stole over us, we were fired upon again from the bushes, the discharge breaking a man's leg on board of the Vesuvius. We opened the big guns on them again, cleared the woods of the mosquitoes, and went to bed.

At daylight Lieutenants May and Alden were sent ahead some 100 yards, to sound on the bar, and examining the obstructions, which could be seen projecting out of the water. This was a perilous undertaking, but they went boldly to work, when a shower of balls were poured down upon them from the breastwork and bushes. Lieut. May's boat, being in advance, received the fire, severely wounding him and several of his crew, compelling the boats to return to the vessel. The order was then given for the forces to embark in the boats and form into line, three deep, in the middle of the river. This was done with great dispatch and in beautiful order.

While forming into line, a heavy cannonading was kept up from the vessels. At a signal given from the commodore, the steamers ceased firing, the men gave an awful shout, 700 men dipped their blades into the water, and a thousand Yankee tars stood on the banks of the Tabasco.

The forces were now drawn up in the order of march; the pioneers and scouting party, commanded by Lieut. Maynard, in advance, then the marines, in the command of Capt. Edson, then the "old hoss" and suite, with his broad pendant in front, the artillery, by Capt. Mackenzie, and infantry, in two divisions, by Captains Forest and Breese, the ambulance party following after, to pick up the killed and wounded.

Marching about 300 yards brought us out of the woods into an open space; the grass and flags up to our armpits and an occasional marsh to wade through, rendering our advance extremely painful and laborious. We had ten field pieces dragging after us, with twenty rounds of grape and canister, yet our tars never flinched, but dragged them through muck and mire until we planted them in the Plaza in Tabasco.

As we neared a dense chaparral skirting the woods, the Mexicans opened on us again. Caps. Mackenzie and Buchanan immediately brought forward the artillery, and opened on the thicket, the marines and infantry advancing and returning the fire at the same time. About this time the ran along the line that the enemy was advancing on the right, the field pieces were turned on them, and in the act of firing, when it was discovered to be Lieut. Maynard, with his prisoners, returning from a scouting expedition; five seconds later and they had been dead men.

The Mexicans retreated before us as we advanced, keeping up a running fire, but, rarely showing themselves. It was impossible to charge them for the marshes and chaparral; there was no means of forcing our way through the woods, the undergrowth of briars, vines, snakes, scorpions and other vegetables, rendering it perfectly impregnable. We now struck into a foot path, which we kept until we got in sight of Tabasco.

It was with the greatest difficulty that the artillery could be got along, and but for the indomitable energy and perseverance of the officers commanding them they must have been left on the road.

Our march now for two or three miles was uninterrupted by the appearance of a Mexican, but the roadside was strewn with cartridges, beds, haversacks, and other indications of people moving in a hurry. Scouting some distance in advance of the main body, the pioneers suddenly came upon a large party of the enemy waiting in a close chaparral to give us a volley as we approached. Maynard charged in upon them in gallant style and routed them out, and now you should have been there to have seen what a Texan would call a specimen of "tall walking," the Mexicans running and the pioneers after them. This was our last brush, and toward evening the advance guard came in sight of the fort commanding the approach to the city by land and water. I have never seen a more commanding position, constructed on a bluff, taking in a line of the river one mile and a half long, exposing our vessels to a raking fire the whole distance. In the fort they mounted three long 32's, three heavy field pieces, and a 24 pound carronade, and as the Scorpion and Spitfire came around the bend of the river, they opened on them from the fort with grape and round shot.

The two little steamers came steadily along, paying more attention to steering clear of the shoals than to the shot. The Scorpion coming up first opened her fire as she got abreast, the Spitfire joining in; the grape fairly rained, and soon drove the enemy from their guns, their fire slackening, and Capt. Bigelow, thinking the fort silenced, put on steam and passed up to the city, when the fire reopened from the fort, which the Spitfire returned most gallantly, again driving them from their guns.

The Scorpion at this time landing a party of men to take possession of the town, and thinking in the fort that they were about to be attacked in the rear, prepared to limber up their field pieces, when Lieut. Porter landed with a force from the Spitfire and gallantly rushed up the hill to board, when the enemy fled, leaving two of their field pieces behind all limbered up for moving off. He then spiked the guns and hoisted the American flag.

The wheelhouses of the Scorpion and Spitfire were driven in, by the shot of the fort, paddles shattered, wheel shot away, and several men and an officer wounded. With the assistance of Capt. Taylor's
camels the Etna and Scourge were subsequently brought over the bar. We now formed into line, and with flags flying marched into the city.

On reaching the public plaza, the men and officers were quartered in the public buildings around the square, the commander and suite occupied the government house. Every Mexican had left the city. Not an officer of the government civil or military, could be found in the place. We were in the city nine days, during which time not an outrage was committed by a man, and private property respected most rigidly. At night our jolly tars would assemble together in squads of a hundred in the plaza, and sing their sea songs.

The ladies always assembled in the balcony of the Spanish consul's house every evening, and never left until the last note was sounded. The guns were all put on board the steamers, and the forts and magazine razed to the ground. On the 26th we left Tabasco. Capt. Van Brunt is left as governor. The Etna, Spitfire, and Scourge remained to hold possession of the place. Bruno is still in the woods, in command of 1400 men, and will no doubt annoy the vessels from the river banks. [TNW]

NNR 72.336 July 24, 1847 Prisoners Detained at Huejutla, Col. Lewis Gustavus DeRussy's Expedition to Relieve American Prisoners

From the N.O. Picayune, July 15.

From Tampico we have some verbal intelligence not without interest. The American prisoners had not arrived there, but were at a place about forty leagues distant, probably Huejutla. On the 8th inst., Col. DeRussy, of the Louisiana regiment, left Tampico, at the head of about two hundred men, intending to proceed to the relief of the prisoners.

He took with him a small force of the regular artillery, a portion of his own regiment and some of the mounted men of Tampico- a serviceable description of force raised in the town. It is more than probable that the colonel will have a brush with the enemy before he gets back. There are said to be pretty strong parties of guerrillas on the route to be followed. [TNW]

NNR 72.336 July 24, 1847 Health of Tampico Reported more Favorable

Our accounts of the health of Tampico, and especially of the Louisiana regiment are more favorable.

There is very little yellow fever in the town, and the cases have been confined to the civil hospital.- The fevers which prevail are becoming more malignant as the season advances. [TNW, SRP]

NNR 72.336 July 24, 1847 Capt. J. Mayo’s expedition in search of Caledonio Domeco Jarauta (guerrillas)

The U.S. steamer Vixen, Captain Smith, arrived at Anton Lizardo on the 4th instant from Tabasco.

Capt. Mayo of the navy and Governor of Alvarado having received intelligence that Father Jarauta was in the vicinity and designed to surprise and take Alvarado, went off in pursuit of him at the head of one hundred and fifty men, proceeding up the river. At last dates the expedition had now returned to Alvarado, nor had any account been received from it. [TNW, SRP]

NNR 72.336 July 24, 1847 celebration of the Fourth at Veracruz, train still not started from Veracruz

Vera Cruz, July 6, 1847.

Such a celebration of the glorious fourth as took place in Vera Cruz would do credit to any place in the United States.

The train which was to hale left yesterday has not yet started, and will not probably get off until next Saturday. [ANP, WWF, SRP]
By the way of Tampico, (from Mexico), we received a copy El Repulicano from the city of Mexico, of the 30th June; also the number of the 28th, which was missing from our previous file. Both papers contain matter of the great interest.

A postscript in the paper of the 28th contains a report of the proceedings of a council of war said to have been held in Gen. Scott's camp on Thursday, the 24th, the business of which was to determine whether or not to advance upon the capital. One general, whose name is not given, is said to have argued that it would be imprudent, nay, an act of madness to advance upon the city with less than twenty thousand men; that upon the supposition that every thing should work favorably for them, it was evident that they could not enter the capital without resistance: and that supposing in their different engagements they should lose half of their force or more, they would be left with some four thousand men, with which number it was extremely hazardous to attempt to hold so populous a city.

General Worth was of a different opinion. He maintained that every invader who hesitated was lost; that in their situation a single retrograde movement involved the most disastrous consequences, and that this had already been proved. He added proudly that six or eight thousand Americans were sufficient to conquer twenty thousand Mexicans; that their triumph was certain, and there was no reason for not pressing on.

Gen. Scott and others are said to have approved these sentiments, so that it was at last determined that they should commence the forward movement on the 28th, but upon the suggestion of some one that it might not be proper to act so promptly after having just dispatched the communication from the government of the United States with renewed offers of peace, General Scott replied that he would wait some days at Rio Frio to receive the answer of the Mexican government.

The American force at the time of this council was set down by the Mexicans at eight thousand five hundred men, thirty pieces of artillery, and one mortar.

The Republicano remarks upon this information: "We believe the Americans have compromised their situation beyond measure; and even in the event, certainly very difficult, that they win triumphs upon triumphs, their very victories will cause their ruin."

The council above spoken of was held on the 24th. It is not alluded to in the Star of Puebla of the 26th, nor in Mr. Kendall's letters, which came down to the 30th. Yet the facts are said to be derived from a responsible source, and they look plausible—General Worth's opinions particularly so. The Republicano of the 26th says nothing about the subject, but in that paper of the 30th is another postscript to which is prefixed in large letters "Very Important."

This postscript mentions the receipt of letters announcing the debarkation of 1,800 men at Vera Cruz from Tampico, who had marched immediately for Puebla. (This is probably Gen. Cadwallader's detachment). The letters further said that General Scott had already ordered the march of the first brigade, consisting of fifteen hundred troops with ten guns and a mortar towards the city of Mexico, when he learned that the train was detained at Nopalucan (forty-two miles this side of Puebla and fifty one beyond Perote); that he thereupon countermanded the march upon Mexico, and dispatched a force to the assistance of the train coming up.

The letter then speaks of the review of the troops which took place on the 26th. The number of troops is again set down at 8,500 men, without including those who occupy the fortifications of San Juan, Loreto, &c. But the most important paragraph is that Gen. Scott would probably postpone his march upon the city until the 10th July, to allow these reinforcements to come up. We give these various pieces of news as we find them, but the reader will constantly bear in mind that our advices from Puebla are later than those by the city of Mexico.

The Republicano, in the same postscript, thinks it very probably that Gen. Taylor will abandon Saltillo, Matamoras, and other towns in the north of Mexico, and shortly proceed to Vera Cruz to assist in the taking of the capital, which is now, it adds, the objects of the aspirations of the Americans. It is very anxious that the government should direct Generals Valencia and Salas, now at San Luis, that they harass the retreat of Gen. Taylor.

The Republicano blames the Government for not communicating at once with Mr. Trist, without referring the subject matter of Mr. Buchanan's letter to congress. It holds that it is the business of the executive thus to manage negotiations, and refer the result to the wisdom of congress. Besides it says, that in all probability it will be impossible to procure a quorum of congress. To refer overtures thus is to break them off in the outset.
That paper takes good care to prevent the inference from this remark that it favors peace. It is on the contrary opened-mouth for war. It would not grant a truce for a single day, nor omit preparation for defense. However, it concludes its article by trusting that the executive as well as congress, will show themselves "extremely difficult" in relation to peace, and not consent to one unless the conclusion of it shall protect in every particular the honor, the good name and the interests of the nation. We regard this as a concession on the part of the Republicano and of good omen for peace.

The New Orleans Timesheet of 15th inst. has the following:

Most important—Again a rejection of the olive branch! Mexico declines treating. At the moment when the Galveston was leaving Vera Cruz, a courier, with the mail from the capital, entered the city, bringing dates to the 5th instant. The principal item of intelligence brought from the city of Mexico, is of momentous character, viz: The Mexican congress, with some difficulty, had been brought together, and Mr. Buchanan's communication, containing the president's overtures for peace, were laid before them.

Their decision was immediate, and to the effect that Mexico would listen to no terms for peace. Gen. Scott left Puebla, at the head of his army, for the capital, on the 30th ult. We received this news from a passenger, and have every reason to believe that is authentic.

From the New Orleans Bulletin, July 15.

Gen. Pierce, with the reinforcements that were at Vera Cruz, exceeding 3000 men, was nearly ready to start for Jalapa and Puebla. [SRP]

NRR 72.336 July 24, 1847 Complaints Among Troops in Command at Gen. Gideon Johnson Pillow

From the New Orleans Bulletin, July 15.

Gen. Pierce, with the reinforcements that were at Vera Cruz, exceeding 3000 men, was nearly ready to start for Jalapa and Puebla.

By a passenger in the Galveston, we learn that a great deal of excitement existed at Vera Cruz, in consequence of the numerous deaths among those men of General Pillow's command, that had broken down and been compelled to return to Vera Cruz, in consequence of the mid-day's march, in the hot sun and burning sands, when they first left Vera Cruz.

The "Sun of Anahuac," printed at Vera Cruz, thinks that General Scott will not advance until he receives further orders from Washington, and is of opinion that the reply of the Mexican minister to Mr. Buchanan, informing him that his letter will be submitted to congress, denotes a disposition to deliberate upon the question of peace, instead of abruptly rejecting all overtures. [TNW]

NRR 72.337 July 31, 1847 Members of a legislature nominated in California

California affairs. A letter dated Monterey, Feb 1st, says:

"Seven persons have been nominated to form a legislature. They are to hold two sessions this year; the first in the town of Angeles, in March; and the second some time in autumn, at Monterey. The persons nominated to form this legislature, are the Ex-Governor of Alvarado, Gen. Valleyo, David Spencer, Esq., Thomas O. Larken, Esq., Don Juan Vandine, Don Santiago Arguelir, and E. Grimes, Esq. It is very much doubted if either of the three first mentioned persons will accept of the office to which they have been appointed; neither does this proceeding meet the approbation of the community. Perhaps it would have been better, if the legislatures had been elected; and there is some expectation that ultimately such will be the course pursued; at all events it is the method most desired. [SRP]

NRR 72.339 July 31, 1847 Resolution on slavery and acquired territory in the Maine legislature.

Resolutions of the New Hampshire Democratic Party convention against the extension of slavery in acquired territory

The legislature of Maine, now in session have adopted the following resolutions. It will be recollected that the administration party have the ascendancy of both Branches of the legislature.

Resolved, That Maine, by the action of her state government, and by her representation in congress,
Resolved, That the sentiment of this state is profound, sincere, and almost universal, that the influence of slavery upon productive energy is like the sight of mildew; that it is a moral and social evil; that it does violence to the rights of man, as a thinking, reasonable, and responsible being. Influenced on such considerations, this state will oppose the introduction of slavery into any territory which may be required as an indemnity for claims upon Mexico.

Resolved, That in the acquisition of any free territory, whether by purchase of otherwise, we deem it the duty of the general government to extend over the same the ordinance of seventeen hundred and eighty seven, with all its rights and privileges, conditions and immunities.

Resolved, That our senators in congress be instructed, and our representatives requested, to support and carry out the principles of the foregoing resolutions.

Resolved, That the governor be requested to transmit a copy of the above resolutions to each of our senators and representatives in congress, and to the governors of several states.

The New Hampshire Democracy. The Democratic members of the New Hampshire Legislature, responding to the message of the governor, have proposed the following resolution:

Resolved. That in all territory which shall hereafter be added to or acquired by the United States, where slavery nor involuntary servitude, except for the punishment of crime, whereof the party has been convicted, does not now by law exist--the same should ever remain free; and we are opposed to the extension of slavery over such territory; and that it also approve the vote of our senators and representatives in congress in favor of the Wilmot proposal."

It will be recollected that these are the gentlemen were endorsed by the Editor of the Union, their selection heralded as a great Democratic triumph, and Virginia was call on to imitate the example of "Glorious New Hampshire!" [Charleston Mercury]

The Ohio Statesmen contains a letter from Camargo (Mexico), which thus describes an incident of an occurrence in that place:

"A sooty Mexican, in no respect superior to the longest scented darky in Columbus, called upon the commandant of that post, and demanded his assistance in securing an eloped slave. An investigation followed. A senorita of much fairer complexion and superior in every respect to her master, her master's wife, or any of his children, had fallen, as her fairer ones of the north often do, into Cupid's snare. She married. Her hombre, either not having the means or the inclination to pay the debt for which she had been enslaved by her parents, the difficulty alluded to ensued. The then commandant, though not an abolitionist, had too much gallantry to comply with the sordid demand of the sooty master. The newly wedded pair still love, and live together in the fully enjoyment of all the connubial bliss of Mexican matrimony. Should Mexican laws, however, be again extended over Camargo, neither the tears of our heroine, nor all their Abolition brethren, could save her from the heartless grasp of her former master's tyranny." [SRP]
perpetrated, and I can assure you that neither yourself nor the president of the republic can have felt
deeper pain than that which I felt on the occasion. All the means at my disposal within the limits of our
laws were employed, but in the greater number of cases fruitlessly, to identify and punish the
delinquents. I cannot suppose that you have been so ill informed as to believe that such atrocities
were committed by my connivance, order, or consent, or that they by themselves give an idea of the
manner I which the war has been prosecuted in the part of Mexico. They were in truth unfortunate
exceptions, caused by circumstances which I could not control.

It appears to me in point to inform you that from the moment the American army set foot upon
the territory of Mexico it has suffered individually the loss of officers and soldiers who have been
assassinated by Mexicans, sometimes almost in sight of their own camp. An outrage of this character
preceded the melancholy affair at Cantana. I do not mention these truths with the view of justifying in
any manner the practice of retaliation, because my government is sufficiently civilized to make a
distinction between the lawless acts of individuals and the general policy which governs the operations
of an enemy; but you have endeavored to make a comparison between our respective governments in
regard to the manner in which they conduct the war, which I cannot pass without remark. In this
connection it should be borne in mind that the Mexican troops have given to the world the example of
killing the wounded upon the field of battle.

It is with pain that I find myself under the necessity of addressing you in a manner to which I am
little accustomed; but I have been provoked to do so by the object and the manner of your
communication, which is objectionable, in my estimation, as well in its insinuation as in its tone. With
respect to the implied threat of retaliation, I beg you to understand that I hold it at its true worth, and
that I am at all times prepared to act accordingly, whatever may be the policy or mode of carrying on
the war which the Mexican government or its generals may think it proper to adopt. I am, sir, with
much respect, your obedient servant.

As you have adverted to the requisition which I have made upon the people of these states to
make indemnity for the losses incurred by the destruction of one of our trains, I take the liberty of
informing you that this was not the act of the Mexican troops exclusively, but that the rancheros of the
country were chiefly concerned in it; and that the subsequent assassination and mutilation of the
unarmed teamsters were marked by an atrocious barbarity unequalled in the present war. [BRR]

A whole month has transpired since we have had direct accounts from Gen. Scott’s division of
the [ . . . ]. Indirect accounts reaching us through the city of Mexico, lead us to believe that the
General has felt himself in sufficient force to advance upon the capital.

We have no distinct account as yet of either Gen. Cadwallader or Gen. Pillow having joined gen.
Scott. [ . . . ] no doubt have joined him, or we should have [ . . . ] from the Mexicans the cause that
prevented it. [ . . . ] they join him, Gen. Scott’s force will fall considerably below 10,000 (disposable)
men. A reinforcement was preparing to march from Vera Cruz [ . . . ] the last accounts left that city,
(July 9) com[ . . . ] about 3,000 men, accompanied by two companies of dragoons, (one of them Capt.
Duperu’s) [ . . . ] companies of artillery with six pieces, six companies of voltigueurs, and 500 marines,
forming in the [ . . . ] about 4,000 men. So writes a member of Captain Duperu’s company to the N.
Orleans Times. [ . . . ] Pierce, who was in command of this division, [ . . . ] with fever. The letter states
that the health [ . . . ] Vera Cruz is far from being good. The yellow fever was making some ravages,
and together with dysentery, was carrying off a considerable number of persons every day.

[ . . . ] Gen. Scott is waiting for reinforcements, the Mexicans are diverted from measures for
defense by propositions from Mr. Trist through the agency of the British minister at Mexico.

Meantime a general assortment of rumors are kept afloat here, calculated to tantalize the
community. Yesterday we had one which stated that Gen. Scott had arrived within twenty five miles of
Mexico, and ascertained the enemy to be in such formidable force, that he commenced a retrograde.
The day before yesterday we had a rumor far more probable, derived from the N. Orleans Times, that
the Mexican congress had rejected the proffered negotiation, unless the invading forces were
withdrawn.

The Washington Union inserted an article a few days since, which implied that if General Scott
had immediately after the battle of Cerro Gordo, forwarded the propositions for peace with which Mr.
Trist was charged, we should ere this, have had a treaty.

To this it has been replied, that the battle was fought on the 18th of April, thirty days before Mr.
Trist reached Gen. Scott’s headquarters. Mr. Buchanan’s letter to the Mexican secretary of state, of
which Mr. Trist was bearer, is dated at Washington, April 15th. The Mexican minister’s answer doubt, in
respondence between Mr. Trist and Mr. Bankhead, the British minister, in arranging the interposition

NNR 72.341 July 31, 1847 Items “Unions implied censure of Gen. Winfield Scott relative to Nicholas
Phillip Trist’s proposals

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NNR 72.341 July 31, 1847 Items “Unions implied censure of Gen. Winfield Scott relative to Nicholas
Phillip Trist’s proposals

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the [ . . . ]. Indirect accounts reaching us through the city of Mexico, lead us to believe that the
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The "Union" in an explanatory article, admits that the propositions could not have followed immediately after the battle, but again implies a censurable defray. By the way, the Union and one of the New York journals are at direct issue as to the facts in the alleged misunderstanding between Gen. Scott and Mr. Trist. The former asserts positively that he speaks from the record.

An anxious, feverish suspense is now felt to know whether the war is to be terminated or continued to indefinite period. [BRR]

NNR 72.341 July 31, 1847 peace rumors, "Union's" remarks

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NNR 72.341-342 July 31, 1847 "the war and its generals"

THIS WAR AND ITS GENERALS.

I do not propose, Messrs. Editors, to favor or to trouble you with a critique (as you might infer from my caption) upon a new work lately announced, and which has no doubt been suggested by the success of Mr. Headley’s works and of "Taylor and his generals," rather than by that of those heroes of a day whose deeds are about to be commemorated, in the forthcoming work alluded to, styled "Polk.
However inviting a theme, the martial renown of Generals Polk, Cushing, and Pillow and "Lieutenant General" Benton may be, I must leave it to the Louisville Journal and the American Punch. Of these four worthies, only one has given any evidence of his merits and this has involved him in a dispute, which, however decided, cannot but tarnish his laurels. I suppose that his abilities were not very erroneously described, when the editor of the Louisville Journal said that Gen. Pillow was only a little softer than Gen. "Cushing." The latter unfortunately has shown his prowess by breaking his own leg, instead of those of the enemy.

But to be serious:-What I wished to say was this, whatever animadversions are made upon the administration in reference to the Mexican war, however true and well timed they may be, are attributed to federalism, party spirit, and the like, and supposed to be adequately answered by the charge of "giving aid and comfort to the enemy." But there is a voice that speaks not from the present aspect of our affairs,- that belongs to no party,- that utters only the warnings of the past for the guidance of the present,- the voice of impartial history. To what can its lessons be ascribed, should they be found applicable to the existing condition of our affairs? We have been at war before, and events then have left their teachings behind them.

A few of these may be found in a work which lies before me,-written before the war of 1812 and have no reference to any immediate purpose to be subserved: It is "Lee's Memoirs of the revolutionary war in the southern department of the U. S."-a work of considerable ability and great fairness and liberality.

"Little minds," says the author, "always, in difficulty, resort to cunning, miscalling it wisdom: this quality seems to have been predominant in the Cabinet of Great Britain, and was alike conspicuous in its efforts to coerce and its proffers to conciliate."*

What quality predominated in our cabinet, when the miserable cunning was resorted to of letting Santa Anna into Mexico, in hopes that he would prove traitor to his country? Or what, in the proffers of conciliation to the Mexicans, in the various proclamations issued, and the proposal to seize all their church property? Or what, in the various arrangements for "conquering a peace" by force of arms?- The field of discussion is wide and inviting, but I shall only briefly survey it.

But again, if Col. Lee had been announcing the appointments and promotions in our army, or describing the curious efforts to put Thomas H. Benton, over it and its veteran officers, or giving an account for the battle of Cerro Gordo, how could he have closed more appropriately than in the following language.

"Thus it is," says he, "that the lives of brave men are exposed, and the public interest sacrificed. Yet, notwithstanding such severe admonitions, rarely does government honor with its confidence the man whose merit is his sole title to preference: the weight of powerful connexions, or the arts of intriguing courtiers too often bear down unsupported through transcendant worth."

And how often has this war changed its face? First volunteers for six months-then, for twelve, and many ardent ones offended by a violation of the terms of their enlistment, now they are called for the whole war. This should have been done sooner. Here comes in the wise voice of the "Father of his Country;" and how forcibly has the immoral hero of Buena Vista,-as his troops have daily melted away from him, leaving him on the borders of Mexico's sultry deserts with a handful of men-felt the truth of Washington's sentiments and the strength of his apposite and original figure. Washington, writing to George Mason, of Virginia, October 22 1781, says: "We must have a permanent force; not a force that is continually fluctuating, and sliding from us, as a pedestal of ice would leave a statue in a summer's day; involving us in expense that baffles all calculation." Such expense will be the sad result of this mismanaged war.

President Jefferson is the political stock from which the modern democratic party claim to have descended. Yet, this administration have set at nought one of his best examples. When Governor of Virginia, he adopted a system by which "Continental officers were substituted, in the higher commands, for those of the militia; which although not very well relished by those who retired, was highly grateful to the soldiers; who perceiving the perils before them, rejoiced in being led by tried and experienced men." President Polk has not only disregarded this system of Mr. Jefferson, but reversed it-by which the soldiers are led by untried and inexperienced civilians, suddenly elevated from merited mediocrity over the heads of scientific, experienced and able generals. Should any thing take General Scott now from his command, Gen. Pillow, late of the Tennessee militia, now under the serious imputations of Colonel Haskell and others, would command the whole army in Mexico!! Far, far better had the door keeper of the White House presided over the levees of the East room, or the merest pettifogger be chief justice of the U. States. Now, may doctors suddenly turn judges; carpenters, saddlers; and cabinet makers, statesmen, and philosophers!

Once more to history and I am done: - "When presidents, kings, or emperors confide armies to soldiers of common minds, they ought not to be surprised at the disasters which follow." This observations, too, is called forth by a review of the career of such men as Gage, Howe, and Clinton,-
British generals bred and inured to arms. It is true that few disasters have befallen our arms, but their splendid successes have been achieved by those whom the administration endeavored to supplant and dishonor.

May its unworthy favorites never have an opportunity to verifying the evils of a system which has called them to such responsible stations—a system so unjust, impolitic, and imbecile, that it requires no disasters to cover it with opprobrium.

SUUM CUIQUE

[Richmond Whig.]

GEN. TAYLOR’S COLUMN.
ORDER-NO.68.
Headquarters, Army of Occupation,
Camp near Monterey, June 17th, 1847

I. Matamoros and the posts, camps, and departments below that city, to Brazos Santiago inclusive, will constitute a military district, known as the "Lower Rio Grande," under the command of Col. Wm. Davenport, U.S.A., whose headquarters will be established in Matamoros.

II. Camargo and its dependencies, from Reynoso to Ceralvo, inclusive, will constitute the district of the Upper Rio Grande, under the command of Brig. Gen. Hopping.

III. With a view to perfect the instruction and discipline of the troops, "regular and volunteer," ordered to this column, and at the same time secure their health, a camp of instruction will be established by Brig. Gen. Hopping, at some healthy position near the town of Mier.

The 3d dragoons (five companies) and the 10th, 13th, and 16th regiments of infantry, will be concentrated at that camp as soon as practicable.

IV. The 3d dragoons and 14th infantry may occupy that camp without delay. Also the 16th infantry except such portions (say four companies) as Brigadier General Hopping may deem sufficient to hold Camargo. General Hopping will establish his headquarters at the camp of instruction.

V. Of the numerous regiments and battalions of volunteers destined for this line, it is supposed that the Illinois regiment has already arrived, or will be the first to arrive at the Brazos, under the direction of Colonel Davenport; it will relieve the 1st infantry at Matamoros, where the latter corps, without delay, will join the headquarters of its brigade at the camp of instruction. All other volunteer troops, as they land at the Brazos, will be ordered forward by Col. Davenport to that camp, except one of two companies of volunteer horse, which he is authorised to retain at Matamoros, if he deem their services necessary at that place. An exception will be made of companies from Virginia or North Carolina, which, as they arrive, will be ordered, without delay, to Saltillo.

VI. As soon as the camp of instruction shall be established, Colonel Belknap will be relieved in the command at Camargo and in his capacity of inspector general, attached to the headquarters staff, will superintend the police discipline and instruction of the troops concentrated at that camp. He will report for that duty to Brig. Gen. Hopping, and by letter to headquarters on all subjects connected with his duty.

By order of Maj. Gen. TAYLOR


NNR 72.342 July 31, 1847 ESCAPE OF EIGHT AMERICAN PRISONER- THEIR ARRIVAL IN NEW ORLEANS.

The schooner Home, Captain Kinney, arrived at New Orleans on the 15th from Tampico, bringing over
eight of the American prisoners who have been so long and so unjustly detained in Mexico. The names of these men are A.W. Holeman, W. P. De Normandie, William Funk, John Thomas, John A. Scott, Robert S. Cockrill, John Swigert, and Wm. Russel. The last named belonged to the Arkansas cavalry, the others to the two regiments from Kentucky.

The Picayune gives the following account of their escape.

They left the city of Mexico on the 5th of June, with other prisoners, it being understood that their destination was Tampico. They marched with a small escort in charge of a colonel and two or three other officers. On the 17th they reached Huejutla, where they were turned over as prisoners to General Garay, in command of that town, where several hundred troops were stationed. The prisoners were treated with much consideration by Gen. Garay, and much more kindness that they had before met with. They were informed by him that he had no orders to dispose of them, and although he presumed it was the purpose of the government to send them on to Tampico he had no instruction to that effect. The prisoners were furnished with twenty five cents each daily for their expenses. This money Gen. Garay appears to have raised by contributions among the town's people. After waiting here some days, seeing no prospect of release, and fearing lest events at the capital might induce the government to chance its intention of forwarding them to Tampico, they determined to effect their escape. They attempted this in small parties of five at one time, two at another and five at another. Seven in all left on the 27th- the first five were all retaken and carried back to Huejutla, but one of them again escaped and with the other seven reached Tampico. They marched principally by night and were from four to six or seven days on the route.

After their arrival at Tampico, news reached there by a Mexican that about thirty of the men had also attempted to escape, that twenty-five of them had been retaken, and three others shot in the pursuit. These were the reports in Tampico, but our informant does not place implicit confidence in them. He has little expectation that Col. De Russy's expedition will prove of any avail in procuring the release of the other prisoners. He thinks it certainly will fail, if the intention be to rescue the men by force. The movement of the colonel will inevitably be reported to Gen. Garay in advance, and if he does not feel himself strong enough to receive and attack he can very readily send off the prisoners further into the interior.

The fate of these men is greatly to be deplored and we cannot but think there has been remissness on the part of Gen. Scott in not obtaining their release. With a number of Mexican officers in our power, we would have brought that government to sense of its obligations to our prisoners, by hanging up some of their own to the first tree. [TNW]

NNR 72.342 July 31, 1847 effects of illness among the Virginia volunteers in Mexico

THE VIRGINIA VOLUNTEERS IN MEXICO.-A recent letter from the editor of the Staunton (Va.) Spectator, who commands one of the companies of the Virginia regiment of volunteers at Buena Vista states that there was a good deal of sickness among his men. His report on the morning of the date of his letter (the 15th June) told a melancholy tale- twenty-nine on the sick list, and but two officers, seven non-commissioned officers, and thirty-one men fit for duty. In speaking of this fact he says:

"It is deeply painful to me to look upon my thinned ranks. When we arrived in Mexico, not yet four months ago, we mustered eighty strong- now we are the mere skeleton of a company. But [ . . . ] of our number as yet have died, but many have become disabled by sickness, and either have been or will be discharged. As to our sickness here- I do not know how to account for it. The climate is pretty much like our own, and the water excellent."

He refrains from mentioning the names of the sick, (thinking it probable that many of them will recover in a short time) to avoid giving undue alarm or uneasiness to their friends. In a postscript to the same letter, dated at Saltillo, June 20, to [ . . . ] place his company had been unexpectedly ordered in consequence of a representation from the American governor that a greater force was needed [ . . . ] states that the health of his men had somewhat improved, and that three officers, seven non commissioned officers, and thirty-eight men were reported as fit for duty, and the remainder of the sick, with few exceptions, were getting better. [BRR]

NNR 72.342-43 July 31, 1847 Disturbances in and Around Tabasco

From Tabasco.-- The editors of the N. Orleans Times have been favored with the following extract of a letter, dated,

" Tabasco, June 30, 1847
"We have been far from tranquil ever since the departure of Commodore Perry; small parties of Mexicans having entered the town at night and fired upon the sentries.

"This has led to the burning, the day before yesterday, of about two hundred houses at the back and south end of the city, by order of our governor and military commander. Yesterday reinforcements of about 110 marines and sailors were sent up by Commodore Perry from the bar, and this morning about 250 men have gone out to try and meet some of the Mexican forces that are in this neighborhood, and drive them away."

"The city remains deserted and no business at all doing; not a single shop in the place being opened, and all our usual supplies from the neighborhood suspended. We understand Com. Perry has declared his intention to retain possession of this city unless he receives orders to the contrary from the government in Washington.

"July 1.--The result of the expedition yesterday appears to have been in favor of the Americans, but with a loss of two men killed in ambush and four wounded. The Mexican force waited for them in ambush at Tamulte, but after about twenty minutes' firing retired -- it is not yet known with what loss.

NRR 72.343 July 31, 1847 Letter from Lt. William T. Barbour, A Prisoner in Mexico

AMERICAN PRISONERS IN MEXICO.

From the New Orleans Picayune of July 20.

We have been allowed the use of a letter from Lieut. Barbour, of the 1st regiment Kentucky volunteers, who is now a prisoner in the city of Mexico. It will be recollected that he was taken prisoner when in command of the escort of a train cut to pieces by the Mexican. After the publication of the paragraph in this paper which elicited the letter, intelligence was received of Lieut. Barbour’s fate, and published, yet the letter is interesting for some of its details, and we give it, omitting paragraphs of private nature.

City of Mexico, June 29th, 1847.

Dear Sir: I was surprised on receiving a number of the New Orleans Picayune of the 5th instant, to find that nothing was known of me and my command since our capture on the 24th of February inst. A correspondent of the Picayune supposes that we were murdered and the editor concurs with him in opinion. I had written repeatedly and had confidently hoped that some of my letters had reached their destination; indeed, I was very certain that my friends in Monterey had received intelligence of us. I regret this the more, as it has doubtless caused my family and friends much unnecessary uneasiness.

On the 4th of this month 190 of our prisoners (among whom were Charles and John Swigert) left the Castle of Santiago in this city for Tampico, there we were told they were to be released, but it is with regret that we learn through the city papers where that they stopped at an Indian village 150 miles from this by order of Gen. Santa Anna and that they were starving. Gen Garay, who has them in charge, writes to the government here that he cannot obtain provisions, &c. I refer you to the paper El Republicano, which I send you.

We have suffered great hardships, particularly the men. They have been in a state of nakedness, famine, and disease for the last five months, and many of them would have died had it not been for the foreigners here through whom aid was given them. -- We have been on our parole since the 20th of April last, and this city is assigned us as our charter. The government has paid us during part of this time four rials (50 cents) per diem, and they charge us the same to obtain it; so in fact we get nothing. But we have not been in want, for mercantile houses here are willing to supply us with whatever funds we want.

It is known officially to us that Majors Gaines and Borland, Capt. Clay, Heady, and Danley, Lieuts. Churchill and Davidson were agreed to be exchanged at the battle of Angostura. Capt. Smith quartermaster, Midshipman Rogers, of the navy, and myself were not provided for. But this government, or rather Santa Anna, has no idea of releasing any of us. It is his wish to send us to Acapulco on the Pacific. The most rigid and compulsory measures on the part of our government will do us any good. -- (There is evidently a word wanting in this sentence in the original, and we have ventured to supply it.--It is but a conjecture.)

As I send this by the British courier, thence by the packed via Havana to New Orleans, I cannot mention any news of a local or military character, as it would compromise his neutrality. Respectfully your friend and servant.

WM. T. BARBOUR.

[TNW]
NNR 72.343 July 31, 1847 rumors about a descent on Reynosa by Gen. Jose Urrea, troops sent there, suspicions of Urrea’s object

FROM THE BRASOS.


The steamer Mary Kingsland arrived yesterday from the Brasos, which place she left on the 15th, but brings no intelligence of interest.

There were various reports of large bodies of the enemy being about to attack the posts on the Rio Grande, but they obtained but little credit.

We learn from Capt. Davis, of the steamship, that the steamer Rough and Ready, with troops on board, had started for Mier, where a Camp of Instruction has been formed, under General Hopping and Col. Belknap.

It was rumored at Brasos, when Capt. Davis left that Gen. Urrea, with a force of 3,000 men, was about making a descent on Reynosa. One company, belonging to one of the new regiments, on their way to Camp Instruction, had been landed at Reynosa, and the quartermaster was making every preparation to defend the place.

Several bodies of Mexicans had been seen on the river lately, and it is supposed that Urrea’s object was to attack some of the depots of wagon trains between Camargo and Monterey.

A gang of desperadoes, commanded by a man of the name of King, composed of Mexicans and others had been near the Brasos. Some of them had been taken prisoners—the balance of them were dispersed, and the rancho burnt to the ground.

The tenth regiment, stationed at Matamoros, is highly spoken of for its discipline. It is commanded by Col. Temple, an accomplished officer. The regiment is composed of men from the states of Maryland and New Jersey. [BRR]

NNR 72.343 July 31, 1847 letter from Lt. William T. Barbour, a prisoner in Mexico NNR 72.343 refusal of the president to sanction Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny’s actions conferring rights on citizens of New Mexico NNR 72.343 Col. Russell’s speech in favor of Col. John Charles Fremont NNR 72.343 need to relieve the “military mob” at Santa Fe

SANTA FE.

A mail from Santa Fe was brought to St. Louis on the 16th, containing some interesting information. The latest dates are to the 27th of May, the time at which Mr. Murphy, Col. Russell and others left Santa Fe.

One of the letters which the Republican has seen, states that there were instructions from the war department, which had been received by the last mail brought by Mr. Boggs, directed to the colonel commanding in Santa Fe, in which it was announced that the president refused to sanction any of the acts of Gen. Kearney, so far as they confer any rights upon the citizens of the territory of New Mexico, as citizens of the United States; and General Kearney, or the officer commanding, was directed not to permit to be carried into effect such part of the organic and statute laws of the territory as confer such rights. On the strength of these instructions, Col. Price officially demanded the release and remission of sentence of Antonio Maria Trujillo, convicted of treason against the government of the U. States. The accused was thereupon set at liberty.

The next step to be taken, says the letter, will necessarily be to announce to the natives that, not being citizens of the United States, they cannot elect a delegate to congress.

“The instructions go on to say, that the laws for the internal government of New Mexico received the full sanction of the president, and of course we shall proceed to elect members of a legislative council, and do all other acts and things that a people not quite slaves may do.” This is the writer’s deduction, says the Republican, from the instructions, but if they, as citizens, can elect members of a legislative body, the distinction must be very nice which will prevent them from electing a delegate to congress.
Except in the particulars which we have stated, the letter says all goes on as before. "Some fugitives from the valley of Taos, combined with guerrillas and Camanches, are committing depredations beyond the Moro. A day or two ago, they run off from Santa Clara, or the Wagon Mounds, with 250 horses, killing one, and wounding two of the party in charge."

Col. Russell, the letter says, made a speech on the public square on Sunday, taking the Fremont side of the quarrel in California.

The writer, alluding to the condition of things in Santa Fe, says: "One thing must be done speedily. This military mob must be relieved, or we must be relieved of them soon: they become more lawless and insubordinate every day." "By the instructions lately received here, all the officer created under the government for this territory are declared temporary--to continue only until such time as the country shall be declared annexed, or its possession shall be renounced." [BRR]

NNR 72.343 July 31, 1847 Depredations by Fugitives from Taos

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Except in the particulars which we have stated, the letter says all goes on as before. "Some fugitives from the valley of Taos, combined with guerrillas and Camanches, are committing depredations beyond the Moro. A day or two ago, they run off from Santa Clara, or the Wagon Mounds, with 250 horses, killing one, and wounding two of the party in charge."

Col. Russell, the letter says, made a speech on the public square on Sunday, taking the Fremont side of the quarrel in California.

The writer, alluding to the condition of things in Santa Fe, says: "One thing must be done speedily. This military mob must be relieved, or we must be relieved of them soon: they become more lawless and insubordinate every day." "By the instructions lately received here, all the officers created under the government for this territory are declared temporary--to continue only until such time as the country shall be declared annexed, or its possession shall be renounced." [TNW]

NNR 72.343-44 July 31, 1847 THE ATTACK ON LIEUT. LOVE--DEPREDATIONS OF THE INDIANS

Camp on the "Arkansas," June 17, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor to report, that company "B," 1st dragoons, marched from Fort Leavenworth on the 7th instant, to join the army in New Mexico, escorting some three hundred and fifty thousand dollars--government funds. On our arrival at "Pawnee Fork," (about three hundred miles from Fort Leavenworth,) we found two "trains" of wagons bound for Santa Fe, and one returning to the United States. The day before our arrival, one of the "trains" for Santa Fe, and the one for the United States, (encamped about one mile apart,) were attacked by the Indians, supposed to be either Pawnees or
On the morning of the 26th—just as the oxen of the first train were turned out of the coral, (a pen formed by the wagons,) the oxen of the second about turning out to graze, and the horses of the company were picketed—the Indians made their appearance a half mile distant, in full chase after the oxen.—The herdsmen used every effort to drive the oxen back into the coral; but, unable to do so, placed themselves between the oxen and Indians, hoping to prevent their being driven off. The Indians charged boldly amongst the oxen, frightened them, and drove them into the prairie; wounding in the charge two or three herdsmen. As soon as I saw the Indians, I ordered the company to saddle. Some Indian, seeing my intention to pursue, immediately appeared on the opposite bank of the river, numbering fifty or one hundred men. It now became necessary for me to protect our own camp; I therefore dismounted all but 25 men I ordered, under Sergeant Bishop to pursue the Indians, and recover the oxen.—When the sergeant arrived in the vicinity of the oxen, the Indians swarmed in from all directions, and completely surrounded his platoon; he charged fearlessly amongst them, but our horses being wild, and unaccustomed to the yells of the Indians and shaking of blankets, (all done to frighten the horses,) could not be held by the riders. So great was the number of Indians—supposed to be three hundred on the north side, and two hundred on the south side of the river— that all hope of cutting a way through to the oxen was abandoned. It is with the deepest regrets that I have to report five of our best men killed: privates Arledge, Dickhart, Gaskill, Short, and Ylake; and Sergeant Bishop and five men wounded. Sergeant Bishop (who so gallantly led the charge) and privates Lovelace and Vankastar are severely wounded; privates Bush, Wilson, and Ward slightly. With pride, I call your attention to the gallant conduct of this platoon of the company, as shown in the list of killed and wounded we have no means of telling, as their dead were carried off the field.

The oxen of one train having been driven off, I have encamped both trains together, and shall remain with them until enough trains together, and shall remain with them until enough trains arrive to take the government property to Santa Fe. I would respectfully call your attention to the fact, that it is the determination of the Indians, headed (as I have every reason to believe) by white men and Spaniards, to destroy all the government property in their power. It would seem at first sight that one company of soldiers ought to be enough to secure any number of oxen and mules from spies to watch our movements, never attacked unless by the Indians, but, sir, you must reflect that the animals of a train have to be scattered over a large extent of country for grazing; that in an attack, it is nearly as much as a company of dragoons can do to prevent their horses from taking a "stampede;" that the Indians, thoroughly acquainted with the country, and constantly having everything is in their favor; that being the most expert horsemen in the world, they are enabled to make an attack, alarm the animals, and be out of sight in an incredibly short time. You can judge, when from the time they were first seen approaching on the 26th, until they had the oxen over the river and out of sight, was not more than half an hour.

The only way, then, sir, to insure safety to public property on this road, is, in my opinion, to station about 300 mounted men at Pawnee Fork, 300 near the crossing of Arkansas, and 300 more at or near the upper Cimeron spring. These troops to have their permanent encampments at these points, but to scour the country in all directions, and at least keep the Indians in check, or they cannot catch them.—Scarce a party has crossed the prairie this spring in sight of Pawnee Fork. One man of Mr. Wethered's trading party was severely wounded lanced in five or six places. I at once determined to travel with the trains for Santa Fe, and give them all the protection in my power. Our first day's march from Pawnee Fork brought us on the Arkansas river, where we encamped; one train a quarter of a mile from the river; the other nearly the same distance from the river, and three or four hundred yards from the first. With my company I encamped on the bank of the river between the two trains.

With the highest respect, I am, sir, your obedient servant,

JNO. LOVE,
lieut. 1 dragoons, comd'g. comp. B.

Brigadier General R. Jones,

[TNW]
A DICTATORSHIP, has been suggested as one of the expedients for meeting the threatened emergency.

The Republicano opposes the dictatorship as unnecessary, in consideration of the immense powers with which the government is already invested by a law of congress, passed on the 20th of April last which powers have been construed with the utmost latitude. There are in fact, says the Republicano, only the following six restrictions upon the government: It has not power to make peace; to conclude a negotiation with foreign powers; to alienate the territory of the republic; to enter into colonization contracts; to impose penalties; or, lastly to confer other civil and military employments than those expressly sanctioned by the constitution. To perform any of these six prohibited acts, the co-operation of congress is required.

Our readers, says the Washington Union of the 27th, "will readily perceive what bearing this has upon such a treaty as Mr. Trist may enter into with any government de facto which may grow up on the fall of the capital. For all the purposes of carrying on the war, the powers of the government are already ample. It is only to make peace that there is any need of a dictatorship; and the project of a dictatorship, having been broached and discussed, has been generally condemned and abandoned. Should, then, congress skulk- as they probably will- from the responsibility of advising peace, the course to be pursued by Mr. Trist and Gen. Scott to secure a treaty is not very obvious.

In reading the Mexican papers, it is very clear that the different states have ceased to anticipate a prolonged resistance on the part of the capital to the American arms. In view of the speedy fall of the city, they are congratulating themselves upon the wisdom of the federal system. Had they been placed under the rule of a consolidated central government, the fall of the capital would have involved the subjection of the whole country. The federal system (they reason) has created new centres of action; and even if the capital succumbs, the states, each one for itself, will resist the ascendency of the American arms, and refuse to recognise a treaty which may be forced upon the central government.

"Out of views of this nature has grown a coalition among the states of Jalisco, San Luis Potosi, Zacatecas, Mexico, Queretaro, and Aguascalientes- the latter claiming to be a state, though not so recognised by the constitution of 1824. The new combination of states is regarded by the editors of El Republicano as an alarming feature of the times, threatening to aggravate the anarchy which before prevailed in Mexico. The coalition have published a long address to the nation. The document is almost as important to this country as to Mexico. In it are represent3d the views of reading men in the most powerful states. It will be seen that they look to the triumph of our arms, to the occupation of the capital by Gen. Scott, and the conclusion of a treaty of peace. To such a treaty these states do not propose to submit."

NRR 72.344 July 31, 1847 Coalition of states in defense of federalism

Address of the commissioners of the coalition of the states of Jalisco, San Luis Potosi, Zacatecas, Mexico, Queretaro, and Aguascalientes, to the nation:

Grave and sacred were the objects which impelled the states to form a coalition. Their independence being in danger, and their institutions attacked, it became necessary to strengthen the ties of the confraternity which unites them; it became urgent not only to maintain the relations which constitute their unity by means of the reciprocal obligations which bind the parts to the centre, but also to invigorate the parts themselves, in order to oppose a staunch and vigorous resistance to the tendencies of centralism, and to the attacks, more or less covert, that have been made on the sovereignty of the states; and finally to maintain, at all hazards, the federal institutions which, in less stormy times, secured the happiness of the republic.

The bloodthirsty enemies of these institutions, who at every step have raised difficulties to the peaceable development of the federal system, have assumed every color, have sown distrust and excited party interests, have complicated more and more the state of public affairs, have relaxed the moralities of society, which now presents the confused and strange image of a nation proceeding with out a guide, and with uncertain steps, from precipice to precipice.

By a lamentable fatality, the Mexican nation has had to contend under such sad circumstances, not only with domestic misfortunes, but also with an enemy, who, disguising his unlimited ambition, has, without even a plausible complaint to justify his hostility, violated our territory and seized one of our ports as soon as the fate of arms was adverse to us at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. And although the spirit of a free people and the noble pride of the Mexicans have since made numberless and costly arms and to erase from its escutcheon the blot which disgraced it, a fatality presiding over our destiny has rendered our efforts useless and futile, and on the field of battle we have succumbed not to the valor and daring of the enemy, but to the fate that persecutes us.
Far from being disheartened by such a concatenation of adverse events, farm from having recourse to disgraceful preliminaries which would lead to degrading treaties, the states, aware of the value and power of a people for whom love of country and of liberty are not merely idle words, have called into action the means of defence and the resources on which they rely, not only to maintain their independence, but also the federal institutions adopted by the nation; free, sovereign, and independent, they are conscious of their duties; they have obligations to fulfil, and also rights to maintain and to make respected. As integral parts of the Mexican republic, they cannot be indifferent to the insult which has been brought upon them by the reverses of their arms; they cannot look with tranquility and serenity on the combinations of a weak and infamous policy which drags them into miserable and disgraceful compromises, but, free and independent they will never permit themselves with impunity to be under any pretext whatsoever reduced to the dependence and servility. A free people identified with the institutions which govern them are the only one capable of grand and heroic actions; but a degraded people pass without emotion from one hand to another, the name of their master being entirely indifferent to them. The Mexican nation, which feels and knows its dignity and calls to mind the glorious actions of its ancestors, cannot submit to the domination of foreigners, nor can it suffer the attacks of its internal enemies; it has superabundant forces to repel the former; and to inspire respect into the latter.

Mexicans! The coalition has been formed not to be the echo of paltry interests. Its noble mission has no other object than to defend the independence of their country, and the free institutions by which it is governed. The coalition, in the names of the states which it represents, declares to the nation that their object is no other than to maintain the independence and the republican federal system; that in the event that the national representation should by any accident be unable to exercise its functions, or if, without any fault of its own, the sovereign general congress should not have the requisite liberty in its deliberation, in the opinion of the coalition, then the coalition will reassert the representation of the confederate states as a centre of union for them. They protest that never will they consent to, nor be bound by, and convention or treaty of peace with the North American enemy, as long as he threatens or occupies the capital or any other point of the Mexican republic; they also will not recognise any general suspension of arms which should comprise all the belligerent forces of the nation. The main objects of the coalition being to defend independence and the federal system, they protest in the same manner, that so far from separating from the national union, the states which represent are determined to aid with their private resources the general government, independent of the assistance they are by law bound to give; so that the one cause common to them in its disgraces and in its perils may be sustained, the nation credit and honor re-established, and all possible opposition and resistance made to every attack upon the popular federal representative system.

Lagos, June 6, 1847. Antonio Escudero for the state of Mexico, vice president; for the state of Jalisco, Cayetano Perez Castro; for the state of San Luis Potosi, Mariano Avila, Luis Guzman; for the state of Zacatecas, Teodosio Maria Herrera y Zavala, Manuel Maria Vertiz; for the state of Aguascalientes, Jesus Teran, secretary; and for the state of Mexico, Eulogio Barrera, secretary.

The above coalition has been thought worthy of several able denunciatory articles in the Republican, although, in the principal end it has in view—the prevention of peace with the United States—it has had the Republicano for an ally. This is but one piece of evidence we could present of the hostility of the different states to a peace, even should the central government enter into a treaty with us. We might multiply similar statements, indefinitely, but it were useless. [BRR]

NNR 72.344 July 31, 1847 Letter about the collection of American troops at Puebla

The New York “Sun” contains a letter written at Puebla, 28th June, which says:

General Worth arrived here with the van of the army about 43 days ago, and

General Scott, with the division of Gen. Twiggs, about a month ago- making in all about 6,000 effective men, which is quite sufficient to make a paseo in the country, but without being of any other utility that I can perceive; and had they money enough, they might pass a tolerable good time here, as it is a fine climate and fine season of the year. But money is scarce, and the enemy knows it, unfortunately, and care very little about the American troops, as they do not molest them in any manner whatever. It is supposed that; on the arrival of more troops and trains, we will move on to the city of Mexico- the possession of which city will be beneficial to us in some small respects; but I doubt if the advantage we are to gain will repay the cost of out long separation from the coast, and we shall only finish our paseo to sit down and wait some other move on the board. I of course speak confidently of our entering the
city without any difficulty, because, although the Mexicans have lots of people badly armed, they cannot deserve the name of an army. The last good troops of the government having been entirely dispersed at Cerro Gordo, Santa Anna resigned, but knew at the same time that he had a majority in congress that would not accept his resignation, and in fact he never will let go the reins of power as long as he can hold on to them. [BRR]

NNR 72.344 July 31, 1847 letter of the Mexican Gen. Juan Alvarez about his plans

A letter from General Alvarez, dated [ . . . ]June 18th, says that he has just learned that Rebolledo had attacked a train from Vera Cruz for Puebla, and killed over three hundred. Alvarez was upon the point of marching to join him with 600 cavalry, to see if they could not destroy the whole account, but the conclusion is as follows: "I leave in the immediate vicinity of Puebla some guerrillas to protect deserters, and prevent the introduction of provisions, and keep up the communications I have established." We imagine that this is about all the harm our main army will receive from the redoubtable Gen. Alvarez. [BRR]

NNR 72.344 July 31, 1847 description of Puebla

PUEBLA.- an army correspondent of the Raleigh Register says: "We have no city in the U. States which can equal Puebla, in solidity of buildings, and general beauty, although we doubtless possess many cities of greater extent and mercantile importance. But this city, with its well paved, broad, well lighted, and clean streets- its numerous churches, everyone of which is a specimen of architectural beauty and splendor of decoration- its picturesque and charming suburbs, and its no less delightful public walks and fountains, in a mild and superb climate- render Puebla one of the most attractive cities on the continent of America." [BRR]

NNR 72.352 July 31, 1847 Gen. Franklin Pierce's Train Attacked, Returns to Vera Cruz for Reinforcements, Advances Again

Postscript--Battle Between General Pierce's Division and the Mexicans.

Just as the Register was going to press, a telegraphic dispatch from Richmond, Va., reached here with later news.

Gen. Pierce left Vera Cruz with the most formidable train and force that had yet marched to reinforce Gen. Scott. Previous letters from Vera Cruz estimated his command at about 4000 men, the train at 150 wagons and seven hundred mules, conveying besides other things, about one million of dollars in specie.

The telegraphic dispatch states that General P's. force consisted of 2,500 men, -- that on reaching the national bridge-- which is 23 miles from Vera Cruz, they were intercepted by a body of 1,400 Mexicans, and a severe fight ensued, in which the Mexicans were routed, with the loss of 150 men;-- 30 Americans killed and wounded.

General Pierce, not considering it prudent to push on, had returned to Vera Cruz for artillery and reinforcements. The opinion seemed to be that an immense Mexican force had lined the whole road, not only with a view to intercept the valuable trains, but to cut off General Scott from reinforcement, so as to embarrass him in his onward movement, as well as to make his army a more easy conquest to the forces concentrated at the capital.

General Scott, at the latest accounts, was still at Puebla, waiting the reply of the Mexican congress. General's Cadwallader and Pillow were at Perote, awaiting the summons of Gen. Scott to join him in his forward movement against the capital. They had routed the Mexicans at Lahoya.

Col. De Russey attacked twelve hundred Mexicans at Higinetta, with a few hundred men, and was surrounded and placed in great peril. He, however, succeeded in cutting his way through the enemy, with a loss of 20 killed and 10 wounded. A reinforcement having arrived at a very opportune moment.

Amongst the killed we regret to learn, was Capt. Boyd, who commanded one of the companies, of the Baltimore battalion, and remained at Tampico in service after the battalion was discharged.

Capt. Boyd's lieutenant, Tauneyhill, was mortally wounded.
Another account states that 16 of the Louisiana volunteers were killed, and 16 of other regiments lost or missing, -- killed on the Mexican side one hundred and eleven.

De Russy's detachment reached Tampico on the night of the 16th. They lost their horses and pack mule.

The steamer New Orleans left Vera Cruz on the 14th, -- the same morning that Gen. Pierce marched from thence. She arrived at Tampico the 15th, and was despatched back to Vera Cruz by Col. Gates, with a requisition for four companies of infantry and two steamers, to go to the rescue of Col. De Russy. She arrived at Vera Cruz on the 16th, at 2 P.M., -- found the city in great excitement. General Pierce had returned for reinforcements, and had marched again with 700 additional, making his force 3,200,-- but leaving the city in apprehension of an attack-- The aid could not be furnished. [TNW]

NNR 72.352 July 31, 1847 Gen. Winfield Scott at Puebla awaiting response from the Mexican Congress

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MEXICAN COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED TO CONFER WITH MR. TRIST.- The despatch goes on to say that the letter of Mr. Buchanan seems to have received a more favorable reception in the Mexican congress than was reported or anticipated. They have appointed two commissioners to confer with Mr. Trist, and it was asserted that General Santa Anna had declared himself in favor of peace. Santa Anna is a much more successful negotiator than general, and with doubtless endeavor to reinstate himself in the favor of his countrymen by his management of the negotiations that may ensue.
This news caused a great sensation at New Orleans on the 23d, and was fully relied upon. The commissioners were to meet Mr. Trist at San Martin, eight leagues from Puebla. [BRR]

Col. Lewis Gustavus DeRussy's Detachment Attacked, Returns to Tampico, Alarm There
NRR 72.352 Col. William Gates’ requisition
NRR 72.352 another report that Mexican commissioners were appointed to treat
NRR 72.352 disposition of the forces of the Army of Occupation
NRR 72.352 toast to Gen. Zachary Taylor as next president of the United States

“ARMY OF OCCUPATION.”

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Gen. Wool at the last dates, 27th June, was at Buena Vista with the Virginia, Mississippi, and North Carolina volunteers, and Sherman's, Washington's and Prntiss' batteries,-- in all about 2700 men.

General Taylor was at Walnut Springs with the 16th regiment, Bragg's battery, and two squadrons of dragoons.

General Hoppin is near Camargo, "at the camp of Instruction," drilling about 2000 of the new levies.

About the 13th of June, Gen. Wool was notified of the advance of about 1000 cavalry, from Matahula, under Alvarez and Minon. The Mexicans believed that these were to be joined by a large force under Valencia and Salas, and that an attack was to be made on Gen. Wool. Valencia was otherwise occupied. The 'advance corps' became dissatisfied; at the last accounts they were retrograding.

There was a great dinner given at Monterey on the 4th of July, and a volunteer toast given to "Gen. Taylor, the next president of the United States." This brought out the old hero, in a speech of some length, which described by those who heard it to have been a very able and eloquent one, indeed, and one calculated, if reported in full, to create quite a sensation in the country. [BRR]

NRR 72.352 July 31, 1847 advance and retreat of Mexicans at Buena Vista

"Army of Occupation."

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NRR 72.352 July 31, 1847 Carmelita, brig, Seized by Mexican Privateer, Released

The Carmelita.-- A letter from Barcelona, June 17, says that "the Carmelita, Littlefield, from Mayaguez to Trieste, which was brought in here, 2d ult by a Mexican privateer, has this day been declared by the authorities to be released and it is expected will be able to put to sea about the 20th instant. [TNW]

NRR 72.357 August 7, 1847 spirit of the Mexican press, index of popular feeling in Mexico, threat of enslavement of the Mexican people

MEXICO.

*Spirit of the Mexican press:* The following article translated from a San Luis Potosi paper, sent to a gentleman in this city by a distinguished officer of our army, has been placed at our disposal, and we publish it as an index of the popular feeling in that part of Mexico.

[Troy Adv.

Can it be possible that the Mexican people can for a single moment doubt the justice, the holy justice with which the government of our republic defends itself against the atrocious barbarity of the war which our deceitful neighbors of the north wage against us? Can there be any doubt to the right to resist the assassin who attempts to take our lives, the robber who attempts to break into our house, or the infamous raptor who disturbs the peace of our families? Mexicans! we are in our own country, bequeathed to us by the heroic patriarchs of liberty, and purchased at the price of their venerated blood and who by all manner of sacrifices burst the bonds which, for a period of three hundred years, had enslaved the unhappy Mexicans; they burst them for the purpose of making us free and independent and to restore to us the territory usurped by the Spanish conquest. — Spain, together with the other nations, recognized our independence, but notwithstanding this recognition, the nation which is called enlightened and whose government is held up as a model for a free people, from a blind caprice of their basted government, stimulated by covetousness and the insatiable envy of the host of infamous speculators who she calls her citizens, prosecutes against us a war, condemned by reason and by all laws both human and divine, and those whom she entitles her generals execute this war, not after the manner permitted by humanity and civilization, but much more cruel, more bloody and desolating than that of savages? Can we hesitate for a single moment to reflect whether or not we are justifiable in defending ourselves? But there is not, nor ever can be the least doubt of the justice of our cause.

Is it possible that the Mexican people can hope for compassion from these frantic adventurers full of rapacity and lasciviousness, who with their detestable vices and unbridled appetites have come to satiate themselves upon our wealth and our women? Can we hope for compassion from those who destroy our crops, set fire to our barns and houses, profane our temples of worship, scoff at the emblems of our religion, violate the chastity of our virgins, employ brutal force with our wives, and surrounded by general licentiousness, stain our soil with all manner of crime!

If the Mexican people, if the inhabitants of Potosi wish to be slaves, let them bear in mind that the chains of the Americans will not be of the same temper as those broken by the heroes of the 16th of September 1810; let them bear in mind that the slavery with which they wish to oppress us will be more insupportable than that of the African negroes. Let them bear in mind that the hordes of banditti, of drunkards, of fornicators, of heretics who have neither country, religion, families nor generous sentiments of any kind, are those who wish to subjugate our country. Let the people of Potosi bear in mind that there is near their doors a horde of shameless, daring, ignorant, ragged, bad smelling, long
bearded men, with hats turned up at the brim, thirsty with the desire of appropriating our riches and our beautiful you females. Bear in mind people of Potosi, that a multitude of pirates, galley slaves, prisoners escaped from the penitentiary, and fugitives from justice, burning with the brutal desire to corrupt the virtues of our delicate and handsome damsels-these are those who come to establish within our walls the ignominy of slavery!

People of Mexico! People of Potosi! People descended from the curate Hidalgo! Do you wish to become the slaves of such men? Do you wish, people of Mexico, that your women be the humble servants of such a vile rabble? Do you wish, people of Potosi, that in your holy temples, where you have placed the cross of God; where the holy sacrament of the altar is; where the immaculate and holy virgin, the pure and undefiled mother of God resides; that there, this and of drunken pirates, should revel in their fierce licentiousness, commingling all their brutal passions? Do you wish, people of Potosi, that within the precincts of the church, where are heard the sacred hymns of christianity; where the ministers of God send up to heaven their praises of our Creator, and the sincere prayer for the welfare of our country, from whence rises the pure incense which elevates our supplication to Jesus Christ for a remission of the misfortunes to which we are condemned, and pardon for our sins, that from this same place we celebrate the triumph of their arms and the ignominy and servitude of our children? And this, people of Potosi, where you full of faith and hope, assemble to adore the holy sacrament—do you wish this species of slavery?

[BRR]

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NNR 72.357-358 August 7, 1847 WAR WITH MEXICO, Battle of Huejutla

THE BATTLE OF HUAJUTLA,
FROM THE CORRESPONDENT OF THE NEW ORLEANS TIMES.
TAMPICO, ( MEXICO, ) JULY 18, 1847.

Gentlemen-- Considerable excitement has existed in this city for the past two weeks, in relation to the detention, by General Garay, at the town at Guautala ( pronounced Wahoutla ) 140 miles from here, of one hundred and eighty Americans, who were recently liberated in the city of Mexico, and sent towards this city of Mexico, and sent towards this city with a small escort. They are those who were taken last February at Encarnacion. The renowned General Garay, were not correct, and that he would be under the necessity of detaining them at Guautla, until he could hear from his government.

Six of them made their escape, and arrived in safety in this city, and immediately communicated the above facts to our governor, Col Gates.

An expedition was fitted out on the 8th instant by order of Col. Gates, and the command of it given to Colonel De Russy, of the Louisiana regiment. The expedition consisted of 120 men, and one six pound field piece; 40 men third artillery, commanded by Captain Wyse; 40 dragoons, mounted on untrained mustang horses, and commanded by Capt. Boyd and Lieutenant Tannehill, late of the Baltimore battalion; and 40 mounted men from the Louisiana regiment, commanded by Captains Mace and Seguine-- Lieutenants Lindenbergoer, Campbell, and Heimberger, of the Louisiana regiment, accompanied the expedition, to act in such capacities as might be required.

Their march for four days was uninterrupted, passing through the towns of Puebla - Viejo, Tampico-Alto, Ozuama and Tantoyuca, in all of which the people made professions of friendship, and got within seven miles of Guatla, eight miles beyond the last mentioned town, and one mile from the Rio Calabosa. Here the Colonel met an Indian, who informed him that a large force of Mexicans, under the command of Garay, had heard of his approach, and was in ambush on both sides of the river. Col. DeRussy immediately dispatched Lieutenant Lindenerburger, acting Adjutant, with an order to halt the column, ( advanced guard ) under command of Captain Boyd. The Captain had halted at the river for the purpose of watering his horses, and while in that act, he received a destructive fire from an unseen enemy. As I said before, the horses were all mustangs, and at the report of the musketry they became unmanageable, threw most of the riders and created great confusion. [TNW]

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NNR 72.359, August 7, 1847 march of the train under Col. James Simmons McIntosh from Veracruz to Perote

MARCH OF THE TRAIN FROM VERA CRUZ TO PEROTE.
From the correspondent of the Missouri Republican.
JALAPA, Mexico, June 17, 1847.
This is the last letter I shall write you from this place, and I pen this without knowing how or when I shall be able to give it a direction that will insure its ever reaching even the Gulf Coast. On the morning of the 15th inst., a train of about three hundred wagons, principally loaded with ammunition, succeeded in reaching this place. They were fourteen days coming from Vera Cruz, a distance of seventy miles, have been attacked by the guerrillas, twelve miles out from Vera Cruz, and skirmishing from that point to the hacienda Encerro, kept up during the whole way. The principal object of attack was the large amount of specie in the train—between three and four hundred thousand dollars—which had drawn together between fifteen hundred and two thousand guerrillas. They were principally commanded by three priests, Spanish Carlists, who had been banished from their own country for their ferocity, their fanaticism, and bigotry. They gave us a great deal of trouble, and succeeded, during the entire route, in killing and wounding between forty and fifty of our men. We lost, also, about thirty public wagons, number of a horses and mules, and a great deal of subsistence that was thrown from the wagons, with a view of lightning the loads. Our loss in property, trifling as it is—and especially which compared to the loss of men—is, of course, greatly magnified by the enemy, and the report is industriously circulated by them, throughout the entire country, that they have captured half of the train, and killed half of the escort.

The train left Vera Cruz with an escort of about five hundred men, under Col. McIntosh, under whose management most of the disasters to the train took place. An express was sent to Vera Cruz, informing Col. Wilson, in command of that post, of the number of guerrillas that were annoying the escort, and of the danger that surrounded the train. Gen. Cadwallader, with what men he had there, immediately left to reinforce them, and reached them a short distance the other side of the National Bridge. So soon as he took command, something like order and system was restored, where, before, nothing but confusion and alarm prevailed: and although constantly attacked by the guerrillas from their ambush, he had but little trouble, comparatively speaking, or met with but little loss, after leaving the National Bridge. At the National Bridge the enemy made a regular stand, availing himself of the fort and breastworks upon the heights and sides of the hills that had been thrown up with a view of intercepting General Scott, in his march upon Jalapa. Here, the heaviest of our loss in men occurred, and here the most obstinate attack was made upon the train by the guerrillas. To the prudence, and military skill and experience of Gen. Cadwallader, is solely to be attributed the rout of the enemy and the preservation of the train, specie, mail, &c.

On the 8th instant, a part of citizens, with a number of discharged officers and the wounded men of the 4th Illinois regiment, left here, taking with them some five or six wagons, in one of which was contained a large and important mail. So soon as the news reached us of the number of guerrillas, and the obstinacy of their attack upon the upward train, the greatest solicitude was felt for the company of between one and two hundred men who had left here for Vera Cruz. They were, at best, but poorly armed, were without any organization whatever, and generally composed of better running than fighting material. In the event of attack, all here concluded that the brave wounded Illinoians, and their attendants, would be abandoned, and that the whole would have their throats cut by the merciless and bloodthirsty guerrillas. At the National Bridge they were attacked, and lost five of their number, the greater portion preferring trusting to the speed of their horses, rather than the prowess of their arms. Most fortunate was it for them that Gen. Cadwallander happened in their vicinity at the time, with his command; but for that, not one would have been left to tell the tale of the fate of the rest. The General most kindly detached a company of cavalry, under Captain Duperu, to protect them from further attack, and the whole succeeded in reaching Vera Cruz in safety.

The above incidents will give you some little idea of the state of the road between this and Vera Cruz, and of the immense hazard a man runs, even in a large body, of losing his life in attempting to reach the sea coast. General Scott is in a far more precarious situation than ever General Taylor was in at Buena Vista, and if he succeeds in cutting his way with the small number of men he has, to the city of Mexico, and holding his position, the battles of Buena Vista and Cerro Gordo will sink into utter insignificance, compared with such an achievement.

An express reached Colonel Childs from the generals-in-chief, night before last, placing him on his guard against a contemplated attack on the part of the enemy, upon the train, between this and Perote, and Perote and Puebla. General Bravo had been thrown upon the road, by Santa Anna, with a force of three thousand men, a portion of whom are cavalry, sent from the city of Mexico. General Scott also wrote, that he was now satisfied we should have one of the severest, and most obstinate battles, this side of the capital of the republic, that had yet been fought in Mexico, and he was waiting with the most anxious solicitude to hear of the arrival of more troops at Vera Cruz, and of their being on their march to reinforce him. I rather think, by this time, the general-in-chief has abandoned the idea of celebrating the 4th of July in the city of Mexico, and that his mind is somewhat changed as to the facility with which he would lay the basis for peace by the above mentioned period. A short time more, and you will be able to ascertain from passing events, who has understood the Mexican character and their policy best, your humble correspondent, or the commanders of our armies, who, according to public opinion in the United States, as well as from their own reports, have “conquered a peace” every successive battle that has been fought, from that of Palo Alto to the most signal one of all Cerro Gordo.

To-day, this post is to be evacuated, and our troops take up their line of march for the advance of the army. Colonel Childs, with the garrison, leaves this morning, at 10 o’clock; and, in the afternoon, or very early to-morrow morning, Gen. Cadwallader leave with his command. The aggregate of the
strength of the two commands, will not exceed twenty-two hundred men, and the number of pieces of artillery we shall take along is six. With this strength and materiel we expect to fight ourselves through, let the number of guerrillas be what they may. The strongest point of attack is a pass in the Perote mountains, about a day's march from here, which is said, by those acquainted with the topography of the country, to be equally as formidable a position for the enemy as was that of Cerro Gordo. The present object of the guerrillas, is more to secure the large amount of money, and the ammunition we have along, than to capture or destroy the force that is protecting it.—The "hope of reward" has induced a large number to join the guerrillas, who, but for the money, never would have risked their necks, even in a skirmish.—When I reach Perote, I will again write you, though it will be without any assurance that the letter will get off for weeks to come.

Yesterday, about noon, the entire force that was at Jalapa succeeded in reaching here in safety, and without any loss whatever to the train. The march was conducted under the immediate command of Brigadier General Cadwalldrader, who, although slow in his movements, is generally sure and safe. We were parts of four days in making a distance of thirty five miles, owing to the unwieldiness of the train and the annoyance the guerrillas gave us. They had posted themselves along the heights of the La Hoya for nearly two miles, and were about a thousand strong. The pass of the La Hoya is much longer than that of the Cerro Gordo, though not so formidable, in my judgment; and in the hands of any thing like a warlike people, it would have been very difficult to have got the train through without immense loss.

On the 20th, we encountered the guerrillas, and after some six hours' skirmishing, in which we took eighteen prisoners, and killed between seventy and eighty of them, they were completely and effectually routed. We threw out, in the first instance, large flanking parties, and then scaled every height both with our infantry and cavalry. Two caves were discovered by the 1st artillery, in which were stowed large quantities of provisions, some ammunitions, and a few fire arms. Among the former were American hams, sugar and hard bread. After occupying the heights with our forces, so as to effectually command the pass its entire distance, the train was passed through and halted at the village of Las Vigas, a short distance this side of the La Hoya. The evening previous to our attempting to force our way through the pass in the mountains, Col. Wynkoop, who is in command at this place and the castle of Perote, hearing of the number of the enemy that had posted themselves at La Hoya with a view of cutting off the train, left at eight o'clock in the evening with the greater part of the 1st Pennsylvania regiment and Capt. Walker's company of mounted riflemen. They were engaged with the guerrillas, on this side of the pass, from eleven o'clock that night up to the time we got through the next morning, and did most excellent service. They drove the enemy for several miles back from the road, and burnt every rancho in their route, leaving desolate the whole country over which they passed. On our reaching Las Vigas, a pretty and flourishing little town, it was found that the dwellings were entirely deserted by the Mexicans, and was satisfactorily ascertained that they had identified themselves with the guerrillas. With the consent of the commanding general, the torch was applied to the buildings, and in a few moments the entire town was one universal scene of conflagration. Every building in it, numbering between eighty and one hundred, was destroyed by fire— the only one that was spared being the neat little Catholic church that adorned the town. Its solitary appearance among the smouldering ruins of the town, created sensations better imagined than described; and the example set in this instance, it is greatly to be hoped, will have the effect of restraining the enemy in future in their murderous course of warfare.

Our loss was, comparatively speaking, nothing.—Capt. Guthrie, of Iowa, attached to the 15th infantry, was badly wounded in the knee, the ball having lodged between the bones, where it is impossible for the surgeons to reach it, without his undergoing an operation that he is unwilling to submit to. The opinion of the surgeons is, that it will not require amputation, though he will, of course, have a stiff leg, and be rendered unfit for service. In Captain Walker's company there was one private slightly wounded in the leg, and they had eleven horses killed. Captain Walker himself was very slightly wounded in the hand, scarcely enough to call it a wound. This was the sum and substance of our loss.

On reaching here, Gen. Cadwallader was met by an express from Gen. Scott, desiring him not to advance with the train, except in conjunction with Col. Childs' command, and the force that was to go
forward from their post, as a large body of cavalry, between two and three thousand strong, with a
small field battery, under the command of Generals Bravo and Alvarez, had posted themselves
between this and Puebla, more with a view of securing a part of the train than in any expectation of
doing much injury to our forces. We shall, therefore have another brush with these gentleman robbers
before we reach the advance of the army. But as the country is generally a plain, we can have
fari chance at them, and cut them up more effectually than was done at La Hoya. From here, we take six
companies of the 1st Pennsylvania regiment, under Colonel Black, in addition to our force that we left
Jalapa with; and the train will be materially lessened, in consequence of the number of wagons we
leave here, that brought forward the sick and some subsistence designed for this post. The sick, alone,
required nearly forty wagons, all of which are to remain here.

Colonel Wynkoop, with four companies of the 1st Pennsylvania regiment, Capt. Taylors's battery,
and Capt. Walker's company of mounted riflemen, remain to garrison the castle of Perote and this
town; which, when considering it is the principal hospital and the depot of subsistence between the
advanced of the army and Vera Cruz, is certainly a very small force. But there is no other alternative, if
General Scott is ever to get to Mexico, so slow are the reinforcements in reaching him. In addition to
the force now going forward under Gen. Cadwallader, it is expected that about two thousand more are
now on their march from Vera Cusz to Puebla. If they arrive within four or five days after we do, they
will be in time for the big battle that is to be fought this side of the city of Mexico.

Among the eighteen prisoners taken by us on the 20th inst., at La Hoya, were two Germans,
deserters, from our army. There are four others among the guerrillas that I regret we could not have
secured. The doom of the two captured, will be that of a traitor's death. Among the Mexicans taken
were three men of influence and wealth. One of them was an extensive coffee dealer, and has a large
coffee plantation in the vicinity of Jalapa. He had been treated with the greatest kindness by the army
while garrisoning Jalapa, and the commissary of subsistence, Lieut. Blair, had paid him several
thousand dollars for coffee and other articles purchased of him for the use of the army. He always
professed the greatest friendship for the Americans, received a great many favors at their hands, which
he reciprocated by selling us property at the highest rates, up to the last day we were in Jalapa, and
then hastening to the fastnesses of the Perote mountains where he joined a guerrilla party to rob the
train and cut the throats of every American they could lay hands on. I hope he will be hung, "sans
ceremonie." Another of those taken, was also from Jalapa, and was at once recognized by a number of
our men and officers as a clerk in a store at that place. A third, who had a very genteel appearance,
maintained he was a professor in the college of Jalapa. How he came to be out in the mountains of
Perote among guerrillas, is a question. Being a literary character, however, I suppose he was studying
philosophy, that he as well as his

I was in hopes we would have left here to day, but in consequence of the insufficiency of the
quartermaster's department, we shall not get off before tomorrow, if we do then. We ought to get
through to Puebla in five days, and flog all the Mexican forces besides, that there is between this and
the advance of the army; yet if we do not move with more rapidity than we did from Jalapa here, it will
take us from eight to ten days.

The castle of Perote, next to that of San Juan de Ulloa, is the strongest fortification in Mexico. It
is however, in a most filthy condition, and the sick are dying out of the hospitals in large numbers,
daily. Disease is making far greater havoc among our forces, than is the enemy. Perote is a most
miserable little place even for Mexico, though the country that surrounds it, is picturesque and grand in
the extreme. The valley of Perote is a very fertile soil, and the fields of corn, barley and wheat, are
immensely extensive. Upon the whole, it is more generally cultivated than any other section of Mexico
for the same extent, over which I have passed.

GOMEZ.

[This command had not arrived at Puebla on the 30th, nor had any thing been heard of it- so that
greater difficulties must have been encountered than our correspondent appears to have anticipated.]

A SPEECH FROM GEN. TAYLOR.

At the celebration at Monterey, in Mexico, of the anniversary of the Independence of the United
States, the whole company assembled on the occasion was agreeable surprized by a speech from the
old soldier who has so often led them to battle and to victory. An account of the incident as given by
the correspondent of the New Orleans Picayune: We had in type, but a more detailed statement was
furnished in the National Intelligencer of the 3d instant from which we abstract the following:

NNR 72.361-362 account of the national anniversary celebration at Monterey, speeches, toasts
August 7, 1847
The morning of the 5th was cloudy and portended rain, but the bright sun soon dispelled the heavy mist that clung to the mountain’s side, and ere noon the heavens were as clear and bright as a lovely woman’s smile. Early in the forenoon the American ensign was displayed from the governor’s quarters and the Spanish flag from the residence of the Spanish consul nearly opposite. The five companies of Massachusetts volunteers were assembled, all but the guard, with the colors of the regiment presented them by the governor of their state. A little after 9 o’clock they formed and marched out towards Camp Taylor. An American flag borne by a citizen was carried near the regimental color. Colonel Wright and the members of the regimental staff and others preceded the regiment, and on the road received the marching salute. At Camp Taylor all was ready; under the widespread awning in front of General Taylor’s tent were the brave old hero and the members of his staff and the officers attached to the forces stationed at camp. On the right of the awning the soldiers of Major Bragg’s light artillery were drawn up in line, on the left the 2d dragoons, and in front the Massachusetts regiment.

SPEECH OF GEN. CUSHING.

As soon as the latter had formed into line Gen. Cushing made his appearance and Gen. Taylor and his officers all rose. Gen. Cushing then proceeded to address him as follows:

GENERAL: The veteran officers and soldiers whom you have so many times led on to victory and do fame; those yet untried in the field, who ardently long for the day when your voice shall bid them also tread triumphantly in the same noble path of honor and of duty; and others your fellow citizens present, who, though not called to fight the battles of their country, are not the less animated with the same devoted love towards which we feel, have desired on this anniversary of our separate existence as a sovereign people, to present their respectful salutations to you as the official representative here of the power and authority of the United States.

We come to rejoice with you on this day of glorious memories in the prosperity and greatness of our country, and to rekindle in our hearts the sacred fire of patriotism by remembering together the virtues and sacrifices of our wise and brave forefathers, who have transmitted to us the splendid heritage of the land hallowed by their blood, of the institutions they founded, of their own immortal names.

It is indeed a day never forgotten by an American; for, whether in the home of our affections and interests, surrounded by all that is dearest to the human hear, or on the broad expanse of the fathomless ocean, or wondering over some far distant land, on this anniversary, wherever we may be, our thoughts are turned spontaneously to the same pint as truly as the needle to the pole, as devoutly as the Moslem to his holy Mecca.

And well it is for us that it is so, since no warmth of gratitude is intense enough to be commensurate with the debt of thankfulness we owe to our patriot sires—no language of eloquence is powerful enough to express adequately the emotions of pride which our country’s career awakens—no homage of the soul is profound enough to render due adoration to that gracious providence which has continued to guide and to guard the destinies of the Union.

Meanwhile let us be just the memory of our fathers, and just to ourselves in the measure of regard which we bestow on this day.

Men who have but superficially studied the history of the United States are accustomed to speak of this day as the anniversary of our emancipation from bondage, and vague ideas of that vaguest of all things, called liberty, are attached to the very name of our national independence. But the people of the United States were never in a state of bondage. The war of the revolution was not a war for liberty. On the contrary, it was a struggle in arms to determine whether the two great subdivisions of the British race, one inhabiting Europe and the other inhabiting America and both equally free, should continue to constitute a single empire, or whether they should be reconstituted separately into two independent empires. The God of battles decided that we, the American colonies, were as competent for independent self-government as the mother country; and England, with that practical good sense which distinguished her from other nations, manfully acquiesced in the decision which split her power asunder, and gave to us separate dominion in America.

And the mysterious order of Providence seems to have predestined the American to surpass the European subdivision of the original empire, for, of that high minded, bold hearted, and strong hand British race, which, wheresoever it appears, appears but to command, the more numerous part will ever long be found in America; and the British Isles have already reached that fatal term in the history of nations when their native land can no longer feed its sons, while the people of the United States are still expanding with a rapidity and strength of possession which defies calculation, over the rich virgin soils of the New World.
This reflection acquires new force from the circumstances under which we this day meet, a conquering American army, here in the heart of the Mexican republic, in sight of the captured redoubts and heights of Monterey, amid the venerable trees, and by the side of the se living waters of the wood of San Domingo; which, occupied by you, general, and your victorious troops, has acquired a place in history as enduring as poetry ever gave to the fountain of Vaucluse, or eloquence to the grove of Academus.

Yes, millions of men will have assembled to day within the broad limits of the United States, to do honor to the traditions of the revolution, to ponder on the excellent beauty of the federal constitution, to congratulate one another on the happy condition of our country, and to look forward with inquisitive eye into the sublime future of the American republic. They will call to mind the names of the stricken fields of that first war of independence which vindicated our national rights on the land, of that second war of independence which vindicated our national rights on the sea; and of the heroes who illustrated each; but while Bunker Hill, and Saratoga, and Yorktown, and New Orleans will not be forgotten, Palo Alto, Resaca de la Plama, Monterey, Buena Vista, Vera Cruz, and Cerro Gordo will yet more

"Be in their flowing cups freely remembered,"

and earth and sky will re-echo with shouts of enthusiasm at the mention of the names of Scott and Taylor, and of the brave men who under their lead have borne the banner of the Union in triumph over the wild plains and through the mountain passes of Mexico.

But we assembled in this grander than all human temples, the outspread sky of the bright firmament of heaven, treading with our own feet the conquered savannas of New Leon, surrounded by that lofty Sierra which rises on either hand as though placed by nature to be the boundary of empires, we, I say, can best appreciate, with the sober but strong conviction of the palpable reality, how vast are the strides which the United States have made in greatness since the day, not yet remote, when we were humble colonies, scattered in a narrow line along the shores of the Atlantic, until now, when we have swarmed across the great central valley of the continent, have struck over to the shores of the Pacific, and, unembarrassed by the burden of a war, which has already given to us the possession of two-thirds of Mexico, are yet able, from the superabundance of our overflowing prosperity, to nourish at will the starving nations of the Old World.

Honor then, to the bold hearts who, on the great day whose anniversary we celebrate, dared to comprehend their country's capabilities, and to proclaim it independent! Honor to the heroes and the sages who have conducted it so gloriously on to our times! Honor to the statesmen whose vigorous hand at this time so ably and successfully administer its government! Honor to the generous minded people of our country who freely send forth their sons to fight her battles in this foreign land! Honor to the brave soldiers who live to enjoy the renown they have so nobly earned in the battle field! Honor, above all, to the gallant men who feel in the hour of their country's triumph, whose blood was the sacrificial incense of victory, and who, though dead, yet live immortal in the affectionate memory of their countrymen!

We trust and believe that our brethren in arms, whom Scott has been leading in triumph from Vera Cruz to Puebla, will celebrate this day in the capital of the Mexican republic, and on the site of the great teocalli of the Aztecs; and, if Mexico shall then continue in the blind obstinacy of her fatal infatuation, and still refuse the proffers of peace which the President of the U. States, with honorable solicitude to terminate the evils of war, has at all times been ready to conclude, then we look to you, sir, in the unbounding confidence of perfect faith in your generalship, your wisdom, your courage, and your fortune, to conduct us in similar triumph along that lofty table land before our eyes, and to complete, on the plains of the Bajio, that which you so gloriously commenced on those of the Rio Grande, namely, the total subjugation of New Spain.

Once more, general, in the name and as the humble instrument of your fellow soldiers and fellow citizens whom you see before you, I tender to you their felicitations on occasion of this auspicious anniversary, with sentiments of admiration for the high achievements which have marked your life, or deep respect for you personally, and for the sincerest aspirations for your future happiness and honor, in whatever else of danger or duty you may hereafter be called to by the providence of an all wise God.

Gen. Taylor, who had listened with great attention to the remarks of Gen. C., and evidently powerfully affected by the mention of his name, briefly but feelingly responded as follows:

"GENERAL: In reply to your eloquent and complimentary allusions to the services of the army under my command, I can only briefly express my thanks and those of the brave men of my command, to whose exertions and gallantry alone our success are due. For myself I can claim no merit beyond that of sharing and encountering danger with them. You have traced up and depicted in most faithful colors the rapid progress of four country from the commencement to its present condition of greatness and prosperity—occupying the front rank in the nations of the world. The existing war may show the world that in great national enterprises and interests we are firm and united; and that the flower of our country, without distinction of party, is always ready to vindicate the national honor on the battle field. Should it be our lot to resume offensive operations on this line, I shall move with every confidence in
the gallantry and success of the forces. I have but little doubt that those who have but recently come into the field, and have not been able to participate in active service as yet, will distinguish themselves as greatly as those who have gone before. That thousands of volunteers who have, many of them, been brought up in affluence, have left their pursuits and comfortable homes to encounter the hardships of an active campaign is a sufficient guaranty that the rights and honor of our country will always be maintained."

A general shaking of hands and congratulation here took place for some moments; after which Col. Wright, of the Massachusetts volunteers, by invitation, read the Declaration of Independence. The company then partook of a substantial lunch provided by the hospitable commander, who had a smile and a pleasant word for all, and seemed happy in being able to make others so. He was dressed in undress uniform, and he looked a little more like the brave old hero than he is, and a little less like the plain, unaffected gentleman—very little—than I have yet seen him. At 12 o'clock, while the company were yet at camp, a national salute was fired by Bragg's battery, and before the sound of the last gun had died away, the booming of cannon from the black fort seemed to echo back the salute.

About 3 o'clock Gen. Taylor and staff with an escort of dragoons came into town, and with General Cushing and the officers of the Massachusetts regiment proceeded to Arista's garden, or Arista's house I should say, where a table was spread in the broad corridor, opening into the garden, with its bright green shrubs, its crimson rose bushes covered with fragrant flowers, its well-kept walks, and the gurgling stream that meanders through it. Every one was surprised at the profusion of good things and the variety that was placed upon the table, &c.

When the substantials had been discussed and removed, Gen. Cushing, who presided at the head of the table, with Gen. Taylor on his right, and after some remarks complimentary to the committee of arrangements for the faithful manner in which they had cared for their guests, proceeded to announce the following regular toasts:

*The day we celebrate—* As dear to us in a strange clime and the midst of war as when welcomed at our peaceful homes.

*The president of the United States.*

*The memory of Washington—* Brightening with time, all nations will at last behold and admire its lustre.

*The army and the volunteers of the United States*

*The navy of the United States—* With amphibious facility, finding no enemy on the waters, it has constantly sought and successfully encountered him on the land.

*The constitution—* May it ever be administered in the spirit which controlled its first formation.

*The surviving heroes of the revolution—* Length of days has been vouchsafed to them that they might behold the marvellous results of their youthful toil—all honor to their venerable names.

*Our brethren in arms at the south—* They have lighted their paths with a blaze of victories.

*Mexico—* Blessed with a genial clime and the physical elements of greatness and power, she is a prey to civil strife and bad government: may the influence of wise rulers and fee institutions restore her to her proper rank among the nations of the earth.

*The Spirit of '76—* It burns as brightly among the mountains of Mexico as of old at Trenton. "Skies, not souls, they change who cross the sea."

*The Mexican war—* Waged to secure an honorable and a lasting peace, may such be its early consummation.

*The illustrious dead—* From Palo Alto to Cerro Gordo every field is consecrated by the sacrifice of gallant spirits; a sympathizing country yields spontaneous and grateful homage to their memory.

*The American fair—* Worthy descendants of the women of the revolution; their hearts and prayers are with those who uphold their country's cause in a foreign land.

These sentiments having been all drank with the strongest testimonials of admiration, volunteer toasts being called for, Lieut. Crowninshield, of the Massachusetts regiment, gave
Andrew Jackson- Sacred be his memory. [Drank standing in silence]

Lieut. Fuller, of Massachusetts volunteers, gave-

"Gen. Taylor- We hail him as the next president; may his civil be as brilliant as his military career." [This sentiment was drunk with three times three.]

General Taylor rose and responded to this sentiment:

"Mr. President and Gentlemen- I have never had the vanity to aspire or to look for that elevated situation which has just been alluded to, but if my fellow countrymen think proper to elevate me to so distinguished and honorable a position, I certainly shall do my best to discharge the duties of that responsible position faithfully. But, if any other candidate is preferred by the people as more competent than my self, I need not say that I shall acquiesce most cheerfully in their decision, and shall rejoice that there is one more worthy to represent them in the highest office in their gift."

The general then gave as a toast:

"The state of Massachusetts and the city of Boston- The place where our liberties were cradled; whose sons have borne so conspicuous a part in the establishment and maintenance of the principles of our independence and the constitution, and have gallantly maintained the same by sea and land."

Col. Wright responded; he then gave

"The past and present- Palo Alto, Resaca, Monterey, and Buena Vista, the Bunker Hill, Princeton, and Yorktown of the present century."

By Captain Montgomery, U.S.A.- The orator of the day, scholar, statesman, and soldier- An ornament to his country at home and abroad. We doubt not that his sword will prove as irresistible as his eloquence.

Gen. Cushing responded. In conclusion he offered this sentiment:

"The United States- Baptized in the blood of the revolution, consecrated by the sacrifice of our fathers, rendered glorious by the courage and glory of their sons, may her future prosperity correspond with her present grandeur."

A number of other volunteer toasts were given.

By Capt. Montgomery, A.Q.M.U.S.A.- Henry Clay- He has devoted a life to his country and a son to his country’s glory.

By Capt. Hoyt, a commissary U.S.A. Mass. Reg. Peace- Whenever it comes may it be a permanent one, which shall result in the national prosperity of both the United States and Mexico; a peace which shall bring to the people of Mexico liberty and happiness- to the people of the United States union and all the blessings of a free and and united nation.

By Captain R. A. Arnold, 2d reg. dragoons- The square of the circle- The discovery of perpetual motion, and the "conquered peace."

By Lieut. Sturgis, 2d dragoons.- Henry Clay- He brought to the altar of his country the highest talents that ever adorned it, and sacrificed his son upon the plain of Buena Vista.

You will perceive that this dinner and celebration was got up entirely without distinction of party, and the prominent men of each of the two great political divisions were indiscriminately toasted, and the sentiments met with equal applause; a proof of the good feeling and harmony which prevailed, and that it was not intended to have and did not have any party purpose. [BRR]
The interment of the remains of Col. William R. McKee, Lieut. Col. H. Clay, Capt. Wm. T. Willis, Capt. W. H. Maxey, Adjut. Edward M. Vaughn, Lieut. Joseph Powell, W. W. Bayles, Wm. Thwaits, N. Ramey, Thomas Weigert, Alex. G. Morgan, C. Jones, Henry Carty, T. McH. Dozier, H. Trotter, C.B. Thomson, and W.C. Green, soldiers of Kentucky, who fell at Buena Vista, took place on the 20th ult., in the presence of a concourse of people whose numbers were variously estimated, from fifteen to thirty thousand. The notice given, was so short, that the citizens from distant parts of the state, were not able to attend; several of the companies belonging to the regiments to which the deceased belonged, were not advised of the day fixed for the ceremonies until it had passed. The intense and almost overpowering heat of the weather, prevented many from attending; notwithstanding these things, there came together on that day, the largest concourse of people ever assembled in Kentucky.

But little more than twelve months ago, in obedience to the requisition of the president of the U. States, Kentucky sent to the army near three thousand of her citizen soldiers- the pride and flower of the commonwealth. After moths of toil and privation, the little army to which it was the fortune of a part of them to be attached, met the enemy.- that little army, though fighting against fearful odds, was victorious. The courage, the devotion, and the noble bearing of Kentucky's sons in the dread conflict, has been the theme of many a Poet's song- is and will ever be, the pride and glory of the state. Kentucky's sons there laid the cap stone to the monument of her fame. The page on which the historian shall chronicle the events of that day, will be the brightest in the history of Kentucky.

But rich and luxuriant as were the laurels won at Buena Vista, it was the decree of the God of battles, that they should be closely intertwined with the cypress. Kentucky paid high toll on that memorable day. One fourth of her sons engaged in the battle were left dead upon the plain. The blood of the brave was the price of victory!

The survivors were unwilling that their brave officers and men, who fell on that day, should lie in the land of the enemy. The ashes of the gallant dead, were too dear to the living, to be subjected to the possibility of dishonor at the hands of a rude and semi-barbarous enemy. The regiment when about to return disinterred the ashes of their officers, brought them back to their native soil, to find a resting place in the land, to whose great name their deeds and death had added such undying honor. Several of the bodies of the privates have been brought back by the citizens of the counties to which they belonged. Others are now on the way in custody of trust-worthy messengers. The ashes of all who remain, will, we are sure, be reclaimed by the commonwealth. They were all equally distinguished in the hour of trial; their memories are equally dear to the people. They fell on the same field; met death in a common cause. A common grave should receive their ashes, and a common monument tell the story of their fall!

(Much of the details of the imposing ceremony and procession, we have to omit.)

THE FRANKFORT CEMETERY

The Commonwealth says: "The Frankfort Cemetery Company have conveyed to the state, a beautiful spot near the centre of their wild romantic grounds, as a burying place of the illustrious dead of Kentucky's honored sons, who fell so nobly battling for their country, on the bloody field at Buena Vista!

"The cemetery is situated on a high and commanding eminence, about three hundred feet above the level of the plain on which the capital is built; and overlooking the Kentucky river, which winds around the bade of the bluff, and beautifully encircles the capital of the state. It is forever consecrated and set apart as a place to bury the dead. The remains of Daniel Boon and his wife are interred here, at a point overlooking the deep valley, immediately on the brow of the cliff. What place there more suitable to deposit the remains of those who have so nobly sustained the high name of Kentucky and Kentucky chivalry, than that which contains ashes of the first pioneer of "the dark and bloody land."

Mckee, Clay, Vaughn, Willis, and many of its noble soldiers, were citizens of the same commonwealth. Together, they shed their blood for their country and their chivalry has contributed to the high return of their native state. As Kentuckians they fought; as Kentuckians they met the same glorious death. A [ . . . ] people will express their gratitude, by erecting a monument to their memory. Let them sleep together in the land of their birth, on a spot dedicated for that purpose, that those who may come after us, many know here rest the mighty dead." "Let them rest together in a common grave, and let the monument which marks a resting place, tell the story of their fall!"

From the platform erected for the chaplain and or[ . . . ]of the day, Gen. Leslie Combs, invited the relatives of the dead soldiers, the volunteer officers [ . . . ]late and present war, and officers of the U. army and navy, to come forward and occupy a [ . . . ]on the portico which had been prepared for [ . . . ].

The surviving officers and the company of mourners filled the space. Amid the throng of mourners [ . . . ]present, we observed the form of Henry Clay, venerable and distinguished father, of the late [ . . . ]Col. Clay. Beside him sat the dear little [ . . . ]children of tat gallant soldier- may heaven [ . . . ]watch over them. Around this venerable man and those little orphans, stood the parents,
the brothers, and sisters, and friends of the dead, a sad sorrowing company. On the stand we observed Richard M. Johnson- the guest of the McKee [ . . . ] a gallant soldier of the last war.

A prayer by the Rev. J.H. Brown, of Lexington, [ . . . ] of the day.

The orator of the day, John C. Breckenridge, of Lexington, then delivered the following

ADDRESS

We are assembled on a mission of gratitude, to honor the memory of those who evinced the loftiest [ . . . ] by giving their lives for their country. The place of sacrifice was Buena Vista- a name carved on every American heart. While our [ . . . ] country was represented there, to the lot of [ . . . ] fell an uncommon portion, both of glory [illegible...ereavement]. The mortal remains of a part of sons who perished in that battle, lie before us, will be consigned to the grave with every circumstance of honor. Other citizens fell there, whose [ . . . ] lie not beside these, their comrades; but the [ . . . ] is not eternal. The commonwealth will be careful to recover the ashes, as well as to cherish the memory of all her children; not one will be forgotten; to all belong a common grave, and a common [ . . . ].

These solemn obsequies are the offspring of emotion as universal as they are noble; confined to no land, clime, or people. The customs of preserving the remains of the dead, of honoring their memory, and perpetuation their remembrance, exist in every nation. The most savage tribes bear from the [ . . . ] bodies of their slain, and celebrate in rude [ . . . ] their virtues and exploits. In many countries [ . . . ] of the departed, at each return of spring, [ . . . ] flowers over their graves, and thus gave the [ . . . ] of life to the solitude of the tomb. The [ . . . ] is covered with memorials of the dead. The cherished relics of friends- their forms preserved in marble of the sculptor and the colors of the [ . . . ]- the public cemetery- the family graveyard every monument set up to human memory- the [ . . . ] of the great- the simple stone that marks the resting place of the humble and obscure- all, [ . . . ] the depth and extent of this common feeling about nature. In obedience to such sentiments, the remains of our heroes were recovered from the land of an enemy, and restored to the pro [ . . . ] of their country. Amidst these external [ . . . ] of respect and honor, it is proper to express a grateful sense of their courage, their services, their worth. Wherefore, on this occasion, I relate some particulars of their lives and cha[ . . . ], as an act of gratitude to them, and for the [ . . . ] of the living.

WILLIAM R. M'KEE

Born in the county of Garrard, on the 24th day of September, 1808, and at his death was in the [ . . . ] year of his age. He came of patriotic blood. [ . . . ] McKee, his grandfather, was one of the pioneers of Kentucky, and bore a conspicuous part [ . . . ] early battles. His father, the late Samuel McKee, was a distinguished citizen of the state, and [ . . . ] years a representative in congress. In the War of 1812, though still holding that trust, he [ . . . ] his musket as a private soldier, and served in the northwest, declaring that the times required every citizen to do his duty, and show his readiness to serve his country in any capacity.- The subject of this sketch was early imbued with similar sentiments of duty, which afterwards bore their proper fruit. His education was received at West Point, where he graduated with distinction in 1829, and immediately entered the army as lieutenant in a company of the third regiment of artillery. He continued in the service until 1836, when, the claims of his family demanding attention, and the army in time of peace opening no avenue to fortune or distinction, he resigned his commission and removed to Lexington. Here, for ten years, he was prominent station in society, and adorning that station with all the virtues of social life.

When the war was declared, and a requisition for volunteers made on Kentucky, McKee was among the first to offer his services. He volunteered, in his own modest language, "to serve in any capacity in which he could be useful." It was an offering of pure patriotism. The sacrifice was great, for it involved the abandonment of extensive and profitable pursuits, and separation from an affectionate family and devoted friends. It promised no other reward than the gratitude of his countrymen. He never had been in public life; his path led not towards political honors; his feelings were all domestic and social. He esteemed it a privilege to serve his country; and, in addition, a peculiar duty. Having been educated at a military academy of the union, with the highest sense of honor and obligation, he recognised the nation right to his services.

It was not reserved for him to serve in the ranks. With a proper estimate of his merit, the governor appointed him colonel of the second regiment of Kentucky infantry. His connection with his command continued, with reciprocal sentiments of love and confidence, until it was severed by his fall at Buena Vista. It is well known that the regiment possessed the high confidence of the commanding general. Afterwards, transferred to the centre of the field, it fought under the eye of the general.- When the enemy, in the last combined effort to force Gen. Taylors' position, poured his masses from the left and front upon the centre, the second Kentucky infantry formed a part of the handful who met the shock. It was here, while leading his regiment with gallantry above all praise, and contesting the ground against odds of more than four to one, McKee fell; fell in the right line of duty, full as became his name and life. His affectionate comrades bore his body from the field; his grateful country restores it, with the last honors, to is kindred dust.

Of such a man it is difficult for a friend to speak, except in the language of warmest eulogy; he
won favorable opinions from all men; all who knew him loved him. His character inspired at the same
time respect and affection. Nature had endowed him with a temper of uncommon firmness. His
countenance wore an habitual expression of calm intrepidity; it sat on each feature- it spoke in each
lineament. This native resolution was tempered by a kind and noble hear- his life was filled with good
offices. Perhaps there is not one who knew him, with in whose memory is not recorded some act of his
courtesy or kindness. He was prudent, without timidity-amiable, without weakness-firm, without
austerity- generous, open and true. He is gone, but his memory remains to testify that he lived not in
vain. To his country he left his glorious example, and to his bereaved widow and orphan children, the
great inheritance of a spotless name.

HENRY CLAY JR.

On the same field, and at the same time, perished another son of Kentucky, who bore a name
honored in this, and other lands- a name, for more than forty years identified with the history of the
commonwealth and the union. Henry Clay, jr. was born at Ashland, on the 11th day of April 1811. His
childhood received the double benefit of excellent precepts and high examples. His mind began to
retain lasting impressions at a period propitious to the formation of elevated and patriotic sentiments.
At that day, the principles and events of the revolution yet engrossed the thoughts and conversation of
the people; our nation anniversaries were celebrated with enthusiasm; the youthful heart of the
country glowed with high and almost romantic patriotism. At the same time the nation was involved in
war. Kentucky embarked with ardor in the cause of her country, and freely she her blood in its defence.
At the family hearth, young C., caught inspiration from the same spirit that infused it s power and
temper into the councils of the union- and the flame, then kindled, burned until it was quenched in his
own blood. He was educated at West Point. His father was his companion to the academy: and when
they were about to separate, taking the boy by the hand, and pointing to the surrounding hills, made
memorable by the events of the revolution he said: "Remember, my son, that form these heights the
spirits of our revolutionary heroes are the witnesses of you conduct.: Thus nature and education
combine to form the high bearing and honorable sentiments that marked his social intercourse. For
several years Colonel Clay lived in his native county of Fayette, and represented her, with honor, in the
general assembly. When he entered the service of his country he was a citizen of Louisville. At the first
call to arms, he tendered his services, and was appointed Lieutenant Colonel of the second Kentucky
infantry. At Buena Vista, he was with the noble regimen- through all the vicissitudes of the day, he
filled his station with distinguished courage, and fell at the moment of victory.*

*Mr. CLAY accedes to a request of his fellow citizens, in the state which has always delighted to
honor him, honored as it is, by him,- in the following touching terms:

Ashland, April 12, 1847.

GENTLEMEN: I have received this day your official letter, addressed by you, as the organ of the
people of Louisville, to me, in which after adverting to the resolutions adopted by them, at a public
meeting, expressing their feelings arising out of "the mournful but glorious intelligence" of the battle of
Buena Vista, and of their desire to have brought back to this state the remains of the brave officers and
soldiers from Louisville who died on that day in the service of the nation, you conclude by requesting
my permission to bring back to his native sate the body of my son, Lieut. Col. Henry Clay, Jr., " to
administer the last sacred right of sepulture, and afterwards to erect a monument to commemorate his
virtues and perpetuate his deeds."

I yield, gentlemen, readily, the permission requested. Louisville now contains the remains of his
beloved wife, and was the place of his own residence at the time of his death. There is, therefore, a
peculiar fitness that those who, in life, were united together by the strongest bonds of affection should
sleep together in death.

For the kind and friendly interest which the people of Louisville have taken on an occasion so
distressing to me, and for the generous sympathy manifested by you in your obliging letter, I tender an
expression of my profound gratitude and thanks.

I am, gentlemen, with the highest respect, your friend and obedient servant,

H. CLAY.

The following letter from Mr. Clay to a citizen of Athens, Ga., we find in the Southern Whig:

Ashland, 13th April, 1847.

DEAR SIR: I thank you for your friendly letter of the 5th inst. It comes to me when I am
suffering under one of the heaviest afflictions that has ever befallen me, deep as I have drunk out of
the cup of domestic sorrow. Could the most tender and touching expressions of sympathy and
condolence, which reach me from every quarter, and in every form, assuage my grief, it would be
much alleviated. But alas! there are some wounds too deep and too painful to be healed by any other
remedy, than one which flows from Him, by whose incomprehensible dispensations they have been
It is some consolation to me to know that my beloved son, if death were to come, preferred meeting it on the field of battle in the services of his country. With friendly recollections of our meeting in Augusta and Charleston, I am truly, your friend and obedient servant,

H.CLAY

The New York Express says: "A gentleman of this city has received a letter from Mr. Clay, which concludes with the following noble allusion to his recent affliction:

"My life has been full of domestic affliction, but this last is one of the severest among them. I derive some consolation from knowing that he died where he would have chosen, and where, if I must lose him, I should have preferred; on the battle field, in the service of his country."

A letter from Mr. Clay, dated Ashland, April 8th, to S. Schenick, of Auburn, N. York, in allusion to the Mexican war, says: "For our common country I do regret the issue of the contest. Had it been otherwise, we should have preserved the protective policy under which we had made such rapid and encouraging advances; the march of improvement in our rivers and harbors would not have been arrested; and, above all, we should have avoided this unnecessary war of aggressions. The brilliant achievements and the glorious laurels acquired during its prosecution, gratifying as they are to our national pride and character, can never was begun, the brave and patriotic lives which have been sacrificed, and the tearful issues which, I tremble in contemplating, may grow out of its termination. But I have not now a heart to dwell on this painful theme. I turn from it with hope and dutiful submission to Him, whose no doubt wise but inscrutable dispensation has permitted this awful calamity to visit our beloved country."

Col. Clay was a man of great nobleness and chivalry. To an impetuous and ardent nature ere united the kindred qualities of honor, generosity and truth. For every object of his affections he felt an enthusiastic devotion. One of these objects was his country; he served her with the alacrity of a devoted heart, and when he died in her defence, there remained not behind a braver man, or a better patriot.

CAPTAIN WILIS.

On that field, also, fell Captain William T. Willis, at the head of a company of infantry from the county of Jessamine. His eulogy may be best expressed in a few words of simple narrative. An eminent lawyer, and past the meridian of life, his position and age might have exempted him from the toils of war; but he sought no exemption. Three noble boys of war were his companions to the field; they shared his perils, followed his brave example, and happily survive to bear their fathers honors and their own. Captain Willis was ill at Monterey when the intelligence came of the Mexicans advance. He rose from his bed, hastened forward to the army, and gallantry commanded his company in the battle, until at the close of the day he fell wit McKee and Clay, in the last terrible onset. This was patriotism indeed- this was an act to reveal the governing motives of conduct. Oft times, inhuman life, some signal achievement performed at is close, reflects its character on the past, and discloses the true temper of the heart. Let all men judge William T. Willis in the light of these truths- that he loved his country and freely died in her cause.

EDWARD M. VAUGHN.

It remains to speak of one whose courage and fate excite mingled emotions of pride and sadness- Edward M. Vaughn, adjutant of the Kentucky cavalry, fell at Buena Vista, at the close of a successful charge. His early death, though crowned with honor, quenched high hopes and ended a bright career. He was young, but had known adversity and borne it well. His soul panted for distinction, and he purposed to achieve it. Solitary, but self relying, his noble resolution depended alone on its own strength. Having mastered the past, he looked with confidence to the future. NO borrowed light shone on his path- n avenue to fame was opened before him by power, patronage or wealth. When the moment of departure came, took by the hand his trusted friends- embraced his venerable parents, far descending in the vale of years- and then all ceremonies of separation were over. The public ear was filled with other names; yet he was followed by true hears that felt he would return with honor, or return not all. When the day of trail came, his gallant spirit responded to the call of duty; his chosen place was in advance, "on the perilous edge of battle," and there he fell, pierced with four and twenty wounds.

Thus perished young Vaughn, in the morning of life- a man gifted with noble and lovely qualities. His heart was full of tenderness and honor. His whole being was instinct with elevated sentiments. Among his associates, he stood conspicuous in the chivalry of his nature. In a great cause he would have dared whatever man might accomplish; for his country he would have encountered certain destruction; with Roman devotion, he would have held the bridge against a host, or leaped in the yawning gulf.
Beside the bodies of the officers lie those of the private soldiers. The spirit of our people is illustrated in the equal tribute paid to the memories of all these patriots. The distinctions of rank exist no longer. Upon them all, death had set the seal of equality. The limit of devotion was reached in a common death for a common country. They owned the same allegiance—shared the same perils—fell on the same field. It is most meet they should together find soldiers’ graves. The names of these brave men were W.W. BAYLES, WM. THWAITE, N. RAMEY, THOMAS WEIGERT, ALEX G. MORGAN, C. JONES, H. CARTY, T. MCH. DOZIER, H. TROTTER, C. B. THOMPSON, and W. T. GREEN; let them be remembered and recorded. Theirs was no reluctant service, but the free gift of citizens who felt that the public honor was their won. Some of them had filled other stations, and were qualified to command where they obeyed. Others were mere boys, transferred from the tenderness of home to the terrors of the battle field, and well they illustrated amidst its trying scenes the native heroism of their blood.

Such were the characters of these soldiers—such their actions. For the rest, theirs was a happy fate; to all concerned belongs congratulation rather than sympathy. Are there here any relatives or friends who mourn for these dead, and in the bitterness of their grief refuse to be comforted? If there be, let them consider the vicissitudes, the temptations, the sorrows of human life—and then rejoice that these were spared to the signal glory of such an end—that they escaped death in every other form, to meet it at a time and in a manner to fix their fame forever, and leave their names a precious legacy to the whole country.

The fate of Powell and Maxey may indeed excite emotions of sadness. It was not their fortune to reach the field, where honors might be won. Struck down by disease, they perished ere they had attained the mark of their honorable ambition, but they died on the path that led to glory, and that path they trod at the call of their country. Therefore, with equal gratitude, let them be interred beside their more fortunate comrades.

Amidst the recollections of that day, much must remain unsaid; yet one character commands the especial tribute or our praise; for who can image that battle to himself, and not pause to view the greatest figure in the scene? The spontaneous feeling of this people is to honor Zachary Taylor, the man, in whom, to the courage of the hero is united the heart of the philanthropist. The blaze of military glory cannot obscure the greater lustre of his moral qualities. In the storm of battle, hold him, stern, immovable, self-poised; but when the carnage is over, and to the excitement of strife succeed the wants and suffering of the soldier, see the noble exhibition of tenderness, compassion, humanity, to friend and foe; these things more adorn him than all the honors of the battle field. Four times has it been his peculiar fate to be lost to the sight, and almost the hopes of his countrymen, and as often has he emerged from apprehended disaster, covered with glory. Hence, his name has sunk into the hearts of the people; it has become a household word with every class, from the summit of society to its lowest foundations. Amidst these great events, how striking does he appear in his grand simplicity, a mode of true greatness, without ostentation. The simple narrative of his deeds will be his eulogy.

For all the dead, the limit of eulogy is to say they were present at Buena Vista, and performed their duty. The contemplation of that great engagement fills the mind with wonder. The resolution to meet the enemy there, presents an example of moral grandeur without a parallel. General Taylor, being at the head of less than five thousand men, learned that the Mexican army was advancing in force of over twenty thousand. Well do we remember the gloomy apprehensions that pervaded the Union, as rumors came thick and fast of the situation of our troops, and the numbers of the foe; the best hope was, that after a toilsome and bloody retreat the exhausted remnant of our army might he panting behind the fortifications of Monterey. Gen’l Taylor resolved to give battle; his purpose taken, he chose his position and calmly awaited the approach of the enemy. The odds were fearful, but nothing was desperate to the hero of Palo Alto, Resaca, and Monterey. On the 22d of February, (an auspicious day to the Americans,) the long lines of the Mexican army were seen advancing up the beautiful vale from which the field derives its name. They came confident, exulting, and already in imagination driving before them the handful of their enemies. At Buena Vista, the American army, drawn up in order of battle, was prepared to receive them. The Mexican chief, paused before that firm array, as doubting the reality of the purpose it indicated. An indecisive skirmish, proved the temper of our troops; and their resolve to greet him with bloody welcome. The valley was narrow, a range of mountains rose on either hand—the action must needs be face to face. The remainder of the far spent day sufficed not for the great struggle! Each army slept in position on the filed, and on the morning of the 23d, the terrible conflict began. With impetuous valor the vast columns of the enemy advanced to the onset; every element of war performed its dreadful part—lance and bayonet did their work—the earth shook beneath the rush of cavalry—the mountains trembled to the roar of artillery. The shock was met by spirits worthy to hold the honor of their country. Upon the right, the left, the centre, the conflict raged with unabated fury. The field was narrow, yet too large for its few defenders. From point to point they rushed with ardor, wherever danger threatened most.

"From rank to rank their volleyed thunder flew," and celerity, constancy and courage atoned for want of numbers: yet the combat deepens; can human valor, strength and skill combined, longer sustain the unequal contest—must not the brave perish, must not our flag go down? not on that field—not before that foe; for see! the freshening breeze throws aside the shroud of battle—behold! That spartan band with unbroken ranks, press back the routed masses of the foe—their standards full [. . .] advancing, and the voice of victory on their lips. Again and again followed the charge, the struggle [. . .] the repulse; as rooted to their position as the eternal hills around them, the diminished, exhausted but unconquered few, from sun to sun, sustained the ceaseless shock, and fought as if
conscious that the genius of their country hovered over the scene, and pierced with anxious eyes the cloud of battle, discern the bearing of her children there. [ . . . ] strife is ended- the day is won- the American army is victor of the wondrous field! Honored-thrice honored be the living and the dead. To the memory of the fallen, we render the last honors due to exalted services; to the survivors we pay the willing tribute of admiration and gratitude.

The mind in vain attempts to think of that battle as an event of this generation; it grows on the imagination as some grand dream, or talk of conflict fought in the heroic ages, and transmitted by tradition. Far from their country, their communications cut off, encompassed by overwhelming numbers, and in the presence of a relentless foe- our little army stood like the ten thousand Greeks in the midst of the Persian empire, the history of whose retreat is classic story. That was retreat- this was victory.

In the deeds of her sons, our country possesses precious inheritance of glory. To illustrate the devotion, and her own renown, she may point [ . . . ] Trenton, Saratoga, and Yorktown; to the Thames with its memorable charge- to the vain valor of her sons at the Raisin- to the invaluable victory of New Orleans; these, with many others, form a galaxy whose splendor is not obscured by a comparison with the achievements of any other people. Conspicuous in the cluster, shines the great light of Buena Vista. Here, for the first time in history, a body of [ . . . ] citizen soldiers defeated, on an open field, [ . . . ] times their number of veteran troops. The [ . . . ] pauses before this great achievement, and seeks [ . . . ] cause. The arms were equal- the battle face to face. None of the accidents that sometimes decide the fate of fields, governed the result; it must be referred to the character of the troops- and their character, to the spirit of their government. America contains an army of three millions of men, ever ready for their country's service. Every soldier a citizen, every citizen, if need be, is a soldier. Political and social equality, and the great principal of popular supremacy, foster a spirit of personal independence and honor. Each citizen is a part of the state; his voice is heard in her councils, his influence is felt in all her acts. The general welfare is his won: the public glory is his glory- the public shame, his shame. In battle he raises a freeman arm, and strikes to execute his own will; then, more glorious than all the honors of the field, he converts the sword into the ploughshare, and in peace guides that country whose interests and honor he asserted in war.

Such armies are irresistible- such citizens give prosperity and renown to the republic. Thus the national history is illustrated by the noblest moments. For more than half a century it has presented to the world the spectacle of a happy people- their light a beacon to all who would be free- their path marked by beneficence- their charity [ . . . ] closing nations in its large embrace. It is the [ . . . ] prayer of every patriot, that this great career [ . . . ] not closed in darkness and dishonor, but that our beloved country may fulfil some destiny not unworthy of the past.

To these solemn ceremonies belong a two- [ . . . ] motive. While they honor the dead, and acknowledge the obligations of gratitude, they teach us, the living that his people will preserve the memory of heroic deeds. The nation that rewards the devotion of her sons will never want defenders. [ . . . ] the patriot, no consolation can be more precious than the assurance that he will be remembered by his country. On the bloody field it never his army and at the moment of dissolution soothes his parting spirit.

"Come to the bridal chamber, Death! 
Come to the mother when she feels 
For the first time her first born's breath; 
Come in consumption's ghostly form, 
The earthquake shock, the ocean storm, 
Come when the heart beats high and warm 
With banquet song, and dance, and wine 
And thou art terrible. 
But to the hero, when his sword 
Has won the battle for the free, 
Thy voice sounds like a prophet's word, 
And in its hollow tones are heard 
The thanks of millions yet to be."

We will bury our dead in that beautiful cemetery over looking the river of the state, and in view of the capital. The voice of their great example will [ . . . ] the public servants, and quell the tumults of [ . . . ] . Discord, ere she tears the vitals of the [ . . . ] will pause, rebuke by the silent eloquence of [ . . . ] place. In times of public peril, the ashes of these dead will better serve their country than a thousand bayonets. In the extremity of the commonwealth, though all else should be lost, the worth and patriotism of the state will rally to the great memories that cluster here, as around household gods and draw from them inspiration to redeem [ . . . ].

The field whereon our heroes fell, will remain their monument forever. Another is theirs, erected by the hearts of their countrymen. To mark the consecrated spot where their remains repose, the state will set up a column to their memory, and inscribe on it the narrative of their actions. When, hereafter, Kentuckians, as they muse amidst these memorials of the dead, shall look upon that column, pointing heavenward, and read the inscription on it, and remember the sacred dust beneath it, they will [ . . . ] their hearts in gratitude to Almighty God that he gave the commonwealth such children, and [ . . . ]
from the sad but glorious spot, purer men and better citizens.

The Rev. Mr. Brown then addressed the assembly after which General Leslie Combs offered a [ . . . ] and resolutions, recommending to the next legislature of the state, to make a suitable but liberal appropriation for the erection of a monument for the remains of all the officers and soldiers who[ . . . ] be buried in the state grounds of the Frankfort cemetery. The preamble and resolutions were adopted unanimously.

Testimonies of respect were evinced at every [ . . . ] at which the remains of the deceased were [ . . . ] a moment deposited on their route from the dead where they fell. At New Orleans the ceremony was very impressive. The remains were re[ . . . ] at Louisville, Kentucky, on the 21st ultimo, the military companies and citizens, with every demonstration of public esteem and honor. Business was entirely suspended, and all the stores closed along the streets through which the funeral procession moved.

CAPTAIN LINCOLN

The funeral obsequies of this brave young officer, [ . . . ] at Buena Vista, were performed on Thursday. The remains were escorted from Boston to Worcester, the residence of his father, by a large military [ . . . ], and the interment took place in the afternoon. The occasion called out a large concourse of people, and the procession was unusually large. The rich [ . . . ] walnut coffin, covered with a pall over which [ . . . ] American ensign was thrown in graceful fold, [ . . . ] upon the funeral car, which was hung in black, and drawn by four white horses, each covered with a black pall and led by a soldier. The bearers, six in number, were officers of the army, of the same rank as the deceased, and marched three on each side of the car, accompanied by the customary attendants. Upon the coffin were laid two swords, the arms of the deceased- one of them bearing the [ . . . ] which he used at the battle of Resaca de la [ . . . ], Buena Vista, &c.; and the other one which was presented to him a few months since by the citizens of Worcester. Beside them, were his cap, plume, and belt; and upon the breast of the coffin, thin but rich silver plate, with this inscription:

"GEORGE LINCOLN
Capt. 8th reg’t inf’ty U.S.A.
FELL at Buena Vista, Mexico, Feb. 23, 1847
Aged 29 years."

Next came the white charger rode by Captain Lincoln, and from which he fell at Buena Vista. He was led by a corporal of the United States army, and was covered with a black pall decorated with carpet trimmings, and wore the saddle and holsters containing the pistols of the deceased own-

Over the sides of the saddle were suspended long military boots, spurred as if for battle. [New Haven Register. [BRR]

NNR 72.368, August 7, 1847 correction of account of attack on Gen. Franklin Pierce's division

A postscript inserted in our last just before going to press, gave in substance the first version of a telegraphic dispatch from Richmond, Va., of recent affairs in Mexico, which, when the mail arrived, was ascertained to be erroneous in one particular. No battle had taken place between Gen. Pierce's division and the guerrillas prior to the return of that officer to Vera Cruz for reinforcements. The killed and wounded attributed to an affair with his division, were the numbers killed and wounded in the affair between Col. De Russy and the Mexicans, of which an account is inserted in this number. [WFF]

NNR 72.368 August 7, 1847 intense anxiety for news about overtures for peace, rumors relating to mission of Nicholas Phillip Trist

NNR 72.368 Gen. Winfield Scott to march from Puebla to Mexico City, Gen Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna to give him battle

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During the week there has been intense anxiety for further intelligence from the seat of war, and especially as to the turn which the overtures to negotiate for peace would take. It seemed to be conceded that the account of the Mexicans having appointed commissioners to meet Mr. Trist was entitled to little credit. Letters from the city of Mexico, of two days later date than the one on which the
The tale was predicated, make no allusion whatever to such a circumstance.

In this state of anxiety, contradictory rumors followed each other almost every hour. At one time we had it settled to a certainty that a treaty would be made,—a few hours after it was just as certain that our proposals had been rejected. One had it that Santa Anna was only shamming the resistance whilst his real purpose was to finger those three millions. The next report was that he had met, repulsed, and wounded Gen. Scott!

LATEST. The prevailing rains have swelled the rivers of the south so as to interrupt the mails from N. Orleans, in consequence of which, we have but a very disjointed account of the latest intelligence received there on the 30th July, by the U.S. transport steamer Massachusetts, which left Vera Cruz on the 23d. The following is the substance of what has reached us:

No intelligence direct from the city of Mexico, or even from Puebla, traceable to any authentic source, had reached Vera Cruz since the date of our last advices. All was in a state of doubt and suspense.

The Vera Cruz Sol de Anahuac of the 22d, endeavors to account for the delay of negotiations on one hand, and on the other hand admits that rumors were in circulation quite unfavorable to the success of Mr. Trist's mission. Indeed, from letters which had come to hand from Puebla, it was certain that the commission had not been installed, and "consequently that the hopes of peace, which had been founded thereon, had completely vanished."

A letter dated Mexico, July 6th, gives the items of the Trist proposals which were said to have leaked out, and which were so favorable that great rejoicings were taking place at Mexico. The letter admits however that the three commissioners named to meet Mr. Trist, were self appointed. It was probably one of them who wrote the letter.

General Scott was still at Puebla when last heard from. "Indicator," the reliable correspondent of the N. O. Times writes on the 20th, "that all hopes of peace are entirely crushed, and that General Scott was to "march on the capital on the 15th instant. Santa Anna, at the head of a large army, supposed to be 22,000 strong, intended to give him battle at some point between Puebla and Mexico."

NNR 72.368 August 7, 1847 Gen. Pierce and the train from Vera Cruz

Gen. Pierce had again left with his train. During his advance as firing had been heard along the road. He must have met with some obstacles. His force, however, was so overwhelmingly strong—three thousand men with one hundred and fifty wagons Two hundred men, who set forth from Vera Cruz after the train were attacked a short distance from Santa Fe. The Mexicans had a strong force, but were defeated.

NNR 72.368 August 7, 1847 Santa Fe Burned

Burning of Santa Fe—Lieut. Fitzgerald had been sent on an expedition with twenty five men. They went to Santa Fe, took away some provisions belonging to the army, and set fire to the town.

NNR 72.368 August 7, 1847 vomito declining at Veracruz

The Vomito at Vera Cruz, still claimed its victims though less virulent than usual at this season.

Gov. Wilson, was taken alarmingly ill on the 22d.

NNR 72.368, August 14, 1847 train of wagons and pack mules attacked between Camargo and Monterey

ARMY OF OCCUPATION
By the steamer Ohio, arrived on the 5th at N Orleans from Brazos Santiago, dates from thence to the 31st and from Galveston to the 2d, are received.
The Matamoros Flag, of the 27th ult., states that for more than a week they have had reports there of Gen. Scott having entered Mexico. The Flag appears to credit the report, but on tracing it, it appears to have reached Matamoros from Monterey, and to have arrived at Monterey on the 14th, at which time it is certain that Gen. Scott had not left Puebla.

The commandant at Matamoros, on the 36th July, received a letter from Gen. Hopping, stating that he had information of Gen. Urrea being on this side of the mountains at the head of 4,000 men, and requesting a squadron of dragoons. The Flag says, however, that their colonel chooses to remain here until he has received his complement of horses, in the mean time drilling his men as thoroughly as could be done elsewhere. A company of mounted men from Ohio, recently arrived, was sent up to Gen. Hopping.

Col. Carvajal. We understand from several sources that this worthy was on Friday last at Lavacaria, some twenty-five leagues distant, on the road to Linares, with 250 men, having been joined by Galan, another guerrilla chief. They were said to have detained a large number of mules loaded with corn, soap, sugar, and other produce, destined for this place, besides one hundred cargoes of goods which had been sent from here to Monterey.

Letters from camp Buena Vista to the 18th July; state that Gen. Cushing and suit reached Monterey on the 16th. The Mississippi and North Carolina troops were suffering by diarrheas, &c., average three deaths a day. Of the former, 100 sick, of the latter 150. The Virginia regiment had 150 sick, but no deaths.

Numerous reports are given in those letters, hardly worth detailing here. [WFF]

NNR 72.368 August 7, 1847 financial pressure on the administration because of expenditures for the war

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, writes on the 5th August- "The administration have, I am certain, very strong reasons for wishing a speedy peace with Mexico. The war cannot be vigorously prosecuted, much longer, without a large addition to the means of the revenue. The expenditures on account of the army alone, for the last quarter, ending 30th June, were sixteen millions. The resource of the loans has been nearly exhausted. Active and extensive preparations for the continuance of the war are, at this moment, in progress. The eighteen million, treasury note loan, will be entirely exhausted during the present, or the next month. The war expenditures cannot be met by any estimated revenue that will accrue after the first of October next. This is a dark and gloomy side of the prospect. Peace is the more desirable on account of the embarrassments which a continuance of the war must bring upon the treasury. That the administration wish it, is to say that they wish well to themselves, and their individual and future popularity." [BRR]

NNR 72.369 August 7, 1847 tariff receipts at Tampico

THE MEXICAN TARIFF. A correspondent of the New Orleans Delta, writing from Tampico, says: "About seventy thousand dollars have been collected at this ort since the first of May. With a few modifications it will be a source of much benefit to our government."

We confess this statement disappoints us. Tampico has been the second port in Mexico, and lately has outstripped Vera Cruz itself. If, therefore, in two months and a half only $70,000 have been received there in duties, the annual receipt will not reach $350,000. Put Vera Cruz at as much more or even twice as much more, and the receipts at both ports will only reach $1,050,000. Yet the government has estimated that $15,000,000 can be derived from the tariff!

A correspondent of the N.O. Times writing from Vera Cruz, says on this same topic: "Five millions might have been secured by the establishment of a common-sense rate of duties, and reasonable facilities of payment and trade; but I can assure you, that under those adopted, not one million, including all dues received, and all bonded, will be realized within one year from the date of opening the ports.

The Times is a Whig paper, the Delta is a neutral one, with Democratic sympathies. When, therefore, journals of such opposite political sentiments corroborate each other on a matter of fact, their statements must be taken as correct. We fear that our own government has sadly deceived itself in relation to the [ . . . ] of this tariff as a source of revenue. [N.O. Bulletin [BRR]
GOVERNMENT FINANCES.

From the New York Courier and Enquirer.

The Banker’s Magazine for this month opens with a remarkable article on the National Finances, and the public revenues and public debt of 1847- of which we propose to offer some analysis to our readers.

Before doing so however, we must reiterate our testimony to the general value and excellence of this periodical,-which now amounts to a valuable volume.

The publication commenced in Baltimore a year ago last July, and the numbers are now gathered in handsome volume, of which the value is enhanced by a well digested general index.

To return to the number now before us for the present month of August.

The first article sets out with furnishing a condensed summary from official sources of the commerce of the Port of New York for seven months of the present and of the past year- as follows:

Commerce of the port of New York.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Imports</th>
<th>June, 1847</th>
<th>June, 1846</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Free goods</td>
<td>$401,358</td>
<td>$1,239,006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dutiable</td>
<td>5,689,109</td>
<td>4,695,527</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specie</td>
<td>547,843</td>
<td>29,122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$6,638,280</td>
<td>$5,873,635</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Duties Received

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>June, 1847</th>
<th>June, 1846</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1,444,771</td>
<td>$1,462,098</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Six mos. Previous

| 9,315,854   | 9,080,202  |

Total 7 months

| $10,760,625 | $10,542,300 |

Exports.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>June, 1847</th>
<th>June, 1846</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domestic merchandise</td>
<td>$5,810,203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign</td>
<td>311,756</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specie</td>
<td>134,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7,256,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$23,366,386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total, seven months</td>
<td>$30,622,676</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The imports now in public warehouses are not included above.

Aggregate imports for the seven months.

| Dutiable          | $41,626,427 | $33,889,840 |
| Specie            | 7,988,374   | 422,178     |
| Free              | 6,215,148   | 6,270,561   |
| Total             | $55,819,949 | $41,682,579 |
| Duties received   | 10,760,625  | 10,542,300  |

The average rate of duty under the new tariff is 48 per cent; under the old it was 24 per cent.

The following result appears from the above tables that with an increase of dutiable goods in seven months of 1847- of $7,036,587-the increase in duties was only $218,325.

The discouraging fact here is, that with such a very large addition to our debt to Europe, by the importation of such an excess over ordinary importations of foreign fabrics, we add so little comparatively to our revenue.
At the rate apparent from the above tables, an addition of fifteen millions of dollars of dutiable goods imported, has not produced an addition of half a million to the revenue.

This seems a startling statement, but the authority is said to be derived from official sources.

Now the difficulty in such a state of things is that the moment the temporary and accidental demand for breadstuffs for Europe is removed— as in a very considerable degree it will be; by the coming harvest— the mode of paying for their excessive imports—can only be by the re-exportation of that coin which the recent extent of our shipment of breadstuffs to Europe, has brought to our shores.

But a drain upon our banks for coin, couple with the operation of the sub treasury now in full force, and which, so long as the exchanges rather favor the importation than the exportation of coin, is comparatively inoperative—would then paralyse and derange all commerce and all the banks.

For these latter are now much expanded— secure in the state of the foreign exchanges.

A sudden revulsion would take them unawares.

The amount of debt actually owing to the United States is also brought into view in this paper, and is thus stated:

Abstract of the public debt of the United States on the 1st day of July, 1847. Showing first, the the amount of loans, and second, the amount of treasury notes issued and outstanding:

1st. As to the amount of the debt:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Loan Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1842</td>
<td>$8,343,886.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1843</td>
<td>$6,604,231.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1846</td>
<td>$4,888,149.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1847</td>
<td>$4,447,650.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Mexican 5 percent</th>
<th>Bounty land scrip</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1846</td>
<td>298,754.36</td>
<td>$24,594,321.10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2d. Treasury notes outstanding:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prior to</td>
<td>1846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$279,139.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of the issue of 1846</td>
<td>1,933,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>1847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>11,155,750.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of the old funded and unfunded debt</td>
<td>130,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt of the corporate cities of the District of Columbia, assumed by congress</td>
<td>1,080,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total public debt existing July 1, 1847 $39,122,410.00

With such a debt existing among us; with a continued drain of coin at this period to Mexico; with a war that has already consumed upwards of thirty millions, and may call for thirty millions more; with a tariff which requires the importation of one hundred millions of goods to produce the same revenue which seventy-two millions produced in 1845-6; with the prospect of an abundant harvest in Europe, and the consequent decline in price of grain; with these facts and indications before us, prudence would dictate the husbanding of our resources and renewed caution in our importance from abroad. [BRR]


Lieut. Col. Fremont had been arrested for disobedience of orders by Gen. Kearny, and had been ordered home to the United States to take his trial before a court martial. This difficulty grew out of the feeling and contradictory movements of General Kearny and Commodore Stockton, and the question of authority which existed between them. It was announced some days ago by Colonel Russell, who came with dispatches that General Kearny was about to arrest Colonel Fremont, and have him hung as a
rebel. No body, of course, believed the latter part of the statement; but the arrest of Fremont proves that quarrel between Gen. Kearny and Com. Stockton was more serious than was at first apprehended.

Commodore Stockton had left, and was on his way home. [TNW]

NNR 72.370 August 14, 1847 American fleet off Lower California

The American fleet was off Lower California engaged against Mazatlan, Acapulco, and other towns in that quarter. The troops had all been ordered to concentrate in the same direction. There is no detail given of contemplated movements, but it is doubtless to enforce the blockade proclaimed by Com. Biddle.

General Kearny was about to leave California, and expected to reach the states in the month of September.

The affairs of California generally appear to be in a very unsettled condition.

Messrs. Shaw and Thompson learned from Brannon additional details of the sufferings experienced by the parties of emigrants which failed to reach California before the last winter came upon them. They add to the horrors of the previous accounts; seventy-five perished from cold by exposure to snow and from starvation! The survivors were reduced to the dreadful alternative of subsisting upon the dead bodies of their companions!

The whole Reed family, in connection with that of Donnor, reached the sutler's settlement in safety, after enduring incredible sufferings.

Com. Drake of the British ship Modeste, is on his way to the United States, overland, with small party. He will probably be attacked by the Pawnees. [TNW]


TWO MONTHS LATER FROM OREGON AND CALIFORNIA

The Philadelphia Ledger of the 12th through the medium of the telegraph at Zanesville, Ohio, received and published the following:


Messrs. Shaw and Bolden arrived at St. Louis, on Thursday last, (the 5th) direct from Oregon, having left the frontier settlement on the 5th of May, and made the trip to ST. Joseph's in 83 days.

The party met but little difficulty on the route. The various parties of emigrants to Oregon and California were making rapid progress. Davidson and his company, were met at the Big Sandy, and two other companies at Green River.

The Mormons with their immense train of wagons were met near the Forks of Platte river on their rout to California, and their rulers, the "Twelve Apostles," as they are called, were met at Fort Bridges. It was understood that the Mormons would not proceed this season further than Salt Lake.

At Fort Hall, Messrs. Shaw and Thompson met Samuel Brannon, and from him they obtained news from California down to the 25th May.

Lieut. Col. Fremont had been arrested for disobedience of orders by Gen. Kearny, and had been ordered home to the United States to take his trial before a court martial. This difficulty grew out of the ill feeling and contradictory movements of General Kearny and Commodore Stockton, and they question of authority which existed between them. IT was announced some days ago by Colonel Russell, who came with despatches that General Kearny was about to arrest Colonel Fremont, and have him hung as a rebel. No body, of course, believed the latter part of the statement; but the arrest of Fremont proves that the quarrel between Gen. Kearny and Com. Stockton was more serious than was at first apprehended.
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**NAVAL JOURNAL.**

The U.S. ship *Albany*, Capt. Breese, reached Hampton Roads on the 6th from Havana, where she [ . . . ] on the 26th ult, in 16 days from Anton Lizar[ . . . ]

The Albany has been actively employed since [ . . . ] New York on the 28th November last, on its first cruise, having partaken in most of the [ . . . ] enterprizes since that period on the Gulf coast.

The Albany brings home the remains of Midshipman Shubrick, who fell at the Navy Battery, while [ . . . ] doing his duty.

Captain Mayo, U.S.N. who is a passenger in the [ . . . ], will be greeted with enthusiasm by the cities of his native state. His bearing in the Gulf [ . . . ] the admiration of all.

Commodore G. W. Storer, will go out in the U. [ . . . ] frigate *Brandywine* (his flag-ship) as commander of the squadron on the Brazil station. Capt. Thom[ . . . ], who commands the Brandywine, arrived in Norfolk some days since.

Lieut. J.L. Parker, of the navy, died on the 12th on board the steam frigate Mississippi. Lieut. Parker was saved from the Somers, was severely wounded at Tuspan, was at the capture of Tabasco, [ . . . ] had been amongst the foremost in almost every surprise undertaken by the navy. He was noble [ . . . ] and generous, and beloved by all who knew him. The Philadelphia Evening Bulletin says:- "We understand that a meeting of the friends of this gallant deceased officer, will be held in this city shortly, [ . . . ] measures to erect a monument to his memory. He died of epidemic fever, the board of health will [ . . . ] object to his remains being brought hither; were it possible to do so, we could wish that his [ . . . ] might repose in this his native city."

U. S. steamer *Col. Yell* was totally lost on Aransas [ . . . ] on the 22d ult.- no lives lost.

[ . . . ] hauling the steamer Anson upon the new ways [ . . . ] Brazos, the outer end settled and let the [ . . . ] fall through, leaving her bow on the ways and in the water. Two steamboats had made an unsuccessful attempt to get her off.

The *Water Witch.* - The new machinery for this [ . . . ] which is destined for use in the Gulf, was completed at the navy yard Washington city, on Saturday last. The boat, having on board a number of [ . . . ] officers under the government, made a trial run on that day, and performed remarkably well. [ . . . ] engine is the cross head engine, with side rods, [ . . . ] at an inclination downwards, thus bringing the engine below the shafts. Cylinder 37 1-2 inch diameter: stroke 6 feet; wheels 17 feet diameter average pressure of steam 18 inches- with Sic[ . . . ] in "cut off," adjustable to any point of stroke. The vessel is 130 feet long; beam 20 feet, and draws[ . . . ] five inches aft, and six feet forward, having to hold 60 tons of coal and 35 of pig iron.

[ . . . ]. C.G. Hunter. A silver pitcher was last being presented to Lieut. Hunter, U.S.N., by a number of citizens of Trenton, of which city he is native. Lieut. H. was received at the ears yesterday
noon by a military escort, and in the evening a civic and military, was formed, which to the court house, where the ceremony of presentation took place, the pitcher being presented Beasly Esq., who complimented him. The pitcher bears this inscription:

Presented by his fellow citizens of Trenton, N.J.

TO

LIEUT. CHARLES G. HUNTER,

Testimony of their admiration of his gallant con[... in capturing, on the 31st of March, 1847,

THE TOWN OF AVALRADO,

[... on the night of April 1st, the town of

TLACOTALPAN.

On the other side the motto:

"NEC IMPAR PLURIBUS."

[...] H. in reply made a brief history of his con[... Alvarado, and expressed his gratitude for the[... of this reception in his native place. Among other persons present were Lts. Marins, Mor[... Rowan of the navy, Capt. Bongars, aid of[... Shields, and Lieuts. Burnside and McIntosh of[...].

[Newark Daily Adv  [BRR]

AROUND THE WAR

Reuben Davis, Esq. has resigned his commission as Colonel of the 2d regiment of Mississippi riflemen, in consequence of impaired health and the pressure of private affairs.

More Volunteers. A requisition has been made on the Governor of Missouri for another battalion of volunteers, to be employed in service on the Plains. The requisition is for three companies of mounted men, one company of infantry and one of artillery.

The Washington Union says:- We understand a large corps of Texas Rangers, headed by Jack Hays, has been ordered to Vera Cruz. They will assist in enabling Gen. Scott to keep open the communication between Vera Cruz and the capital. The General will also have the assistance of the fine corps to be despatched under Col. Hughes; for a similar purpose, if it should be directed on that service by the commanding general.

The Arkansas Regiment:- Eight companies of the Arkansas regiment of cavalry, returning from the war, arrived at New Orleans on the 3d instant.- They number but 233. A new company has been formed out of the regiment for and during the war, consisting of 103 men, rank and file, which is commanded by Capt. Means, formerly Lieutenant Colonel of the regiment.

Eight companies of the new volunteers from Indiana arrived at New Orleans on the 3d instant, on their way to the seat of war. They arrived in separate detachments of four companies each, one commanded by Col. Gormat, and the other by Lieut..Col. Dumont.

The remains of Col. Hardin and Capt. Zabrishie, of the Illinois volunteers, and of Col. Yell and Capt. Porter, of the Arkansas volunteers; all of whom were amongst the slain of Buena Vista, have been conveyed to New Orleans by late arrivals from the Rio Grande, on their way to the places of their former residence.
The *N. Orleans Bulletin* of the 4th August says: The steamship *Galveston*, Captain Haviland, left last evening for Tampico and Vera Cruz, having on board $520,000 in specie; for the quartermaster’s subsistence departments. Brevet Col. Miles of U.S. infantry; Capt. J.M. Wells and Lieut. O.D. Wynche, with 85 men of the 12th regiment U. S. infantry; Surgeon Finley and Assistant Surgeon Halstead; Capt. Jordon, U. S. quartermaster’s department; Drs. Summers Halsey, and Mcginnis, destined for hospital service at Vera Cruz, Messrs. H. Guher, N.Y. Lew and A.H. Hays went passengers. Seventy nine teamsters and fifty horses went down in her.

**Enlisted Soldiers**—Two men, named George Burnett and James Flemming, absconded from the schooner *St. Mary's*, Captain Black, a few days ago. Warrants were issued against them by Justice McAllister, and put into the hands of officer Graham for service, who found the parties at Fort McHenry, where they had enlisted and had received the United States bounty money. They were arrested and brought before the justice, who ordered the discharge of the men, deciding that they ease was not within the jurisdiction of a justice of the peace, and that parties enlisted in the service of the United States could only brought into court on a writ of *habeas corpus*.

We learn from the Indiana Democrat that Brig. Gen. Lane, having received a reappointment, will leave home in a few days for the seat of war. He will join the division of the army under Gen. Scott.

Capt. Bragg’s battery, to which belongs the honor of having saved the day at Buena Vista, was we understand, discharged, each gun, over two-hundred and fifty times during the battle. We are told by the one whose authority is unquestionable, that when the battery opened upon the Mexican cavalry, as they were making their last and seemingly overwhelming charge, the horsemen were so near that as the ramrods were drawn from the guns for the first fire they struck the enemy’s men and horses. The next discharge stayed the charge, and the next send them to the right about.

Capt. A.R. Heizel, of the army, died at Louisville on the 21st ult. He had arrived there but a few days previously from Vera Cruz, where he discharged the duties of assistant quartermaster.

Capt. Martin Moore, of the 11th U.S. infantry, a native of Pennsylvania, died on the 25th ultimo on board the schooner Velasco, on her passage from Tampico to New Orleans.

Lieut. Moore, of the 12th infantry, died at the hospital at San Francisco on the 17th ultimo.

A letter from Matamoros, announces the death of Sergeant Yates and private Buroughs, both of St. Mary’s county, Md.

*Virginia Regiment.* The *Charleston Free Press* learns by a letter from the army, that the Virginia regiment now number some 200 or 200 less than when it was mustered into service.

*Colonel Doniphan* is a native of Kentucky, but for the last twenty years he has been a citizen of Missouri. As to talented influence he is among the first lawyers of the state, and as a criminal lawyer, he has, perhaps, no equal in the state. His personal appearance is prepossessing and commanding; his stature is about six feet two inches, in weight, about two hundred and ten pounds; he is of the sanguineous, nervous temperament, and is about the meridian of his physical and mental vigor- being about forty-four years of age.

*Captain Weightman.* This young officer, who commanded the artillery at the battle of Sacramento and who accompanied Colonel Doniphan throughout his long march, has a fact upon which he may be congratulated almost as much as upon his gallantry in battle. An extract of a letter from Capt. Weightman, published in the Richmond Republican, says: "I have, as far as I am at this moment informed, to congratulate my self upon a circumstance peculiar to my company. In a campaign of one year, marching as we have, a distance of 5000 miles, I have not lost a man by sickness or from wounds received in battle. I will go home with my whole company, except the arm of one man, amputated in consequence of a wound received in battle."

*Major Henry Bainbridge.* The *N. York Courier* says that a number of the friends of Major Henry Bainbridge of the United States army, have determined to testify their appreciation of his gallantry and soldierly conduct, but presenting him with a sword bearing upon it the names of the hard fought fields of Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterey, Vera Cruz and Cerro Gordo: The Courier adds: "We notice that of amount already subscribed, ninety five dollars are from ladies! What a tribute to the good conduct and *gallantry* of the army! Coming in fact from such a source, the compliment of a sword..."
Lieutenant Emory. Of the topographical engineers, left Washington on the 6th of June, 1846, and returned there about the 1st of May, 1847. During that time he traveled by steam 6,900 miles, by land 3,600, rode on horses and mules 2,500 miles, made 3,000 astronomical observations, laid out and assisted in laying out two forts, and was engaged personally in one skirmish and three pitched battles, with the enemy. It will be recollected that this officer went out as chief topographical engineer of Brig. Gen. Kearny, and was sent home by him as bearer of despatches from California. After crossing the continent, he was appointed Adjutant General to the combined naval and army forces that marched from San Diego to the Puebla de los Angelos, which force fought the battle of the 8th and 9th of January. He was in charge at San Pasqual, and one of the few who were not killed or wounded in that fierce little conflict which opened General Kearny’s road to the naval forces in San Diego. When lieutenant Emory was ordered to this service he was just from a two years’ campaign on the North Eastern Boundary survey. The scientific manner in which he executed his work amid the exposures of the north drew forth the praises of even the British commissioners, and caused him to be warmly recommended for a brevet to the American commissioner; Major Smith, and by Major James D. Graham, the head of the scientific corps of the survey.

The price of a Colonel’s commission. The commission of an officer in the British army has a state value, just as much as so as a pound of butter or a pint of beer. If an officer wished to leave the service, he sells his commission to the one next below him in rank, who, on his resignation, steps into his shoes. We learn from a Dublin paper that “Col. Persse, of the 16th Lanciers, who for 52 years served with some distinction in the Peninsula, America and India has retired from the army. Col. Persse received eleven thousand guineas by the sale of his commission.”

The Maryland Battalion. This fine corps which rendezvoused at Fort McHenry under Lieut. Col. Hughes, have nearly all embarked from thence, for Vera Cruz. The transport ship Alexandra [ . . . ]out of three companies, viz. the mechanical volunteers. Capt. Brown, of Baltimore, and the companies of Captains Henrie and Barry, of Washington. The whole are under the command of Major John Kenly. Three other companies, Capt. [ . . . ] Washington, the Watson Guards, Captain [ . . . ]Twiggs’ Riflemen, Captain Taylor, the detachment under the command of Captain Degges, embarked on board the transport ship Napier, Capt. [ . . . ]. The two vessels carry out about 420 men, a [ . . . ]able bodied set of troops.

The Washington Union says—”We learn that the battalion of volunteers, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Hughes, raised mainly from the District of Colombia and state of Maryland, are under orders for immediate transportation to the [ . . . ]seat of war. It is intended that Col. H. shall [ . . . ] the road from Vera Cruz to Jalapa, and to [ . . . ]that important town for the purpose of securing Gen. Scott’s line of operation. With this view, the battalion will be greatly increased. At least one company will be taken from Carlisle, Pennsylvania; another, (if its organization should be speedily completed), from Wilmington, Delaware; besides a battery of field artillery from Baltimore. Other independent companies may, perhaps, be added to [ . . . ] last as they are ready. The addition of a squadron of mounted men would be very desirable—thus [ . . . ]in fact, a corps of what is called in European [ . . . ]"eclaireurs," admirable adapted to a guerrilla [ . . . ] fare; but we understand that there is some practical difficulty apprehended in the transportation of [ . . . ]at this season of the year, for so long a voyage, [ . . . ]may prevent such an organization. As it is, [ . . . ] from a beautiful and, we doubt not, a most [ . . . ] command, well calculated to do good service [ . . . ]the organization of this force, the president has [ . . . ]the beginning, taken a deep and almost paternal interest, and has a disposition to render it as useful as possible: and now shows his continued interest and confidence in the battalion, by assigning to it a distinguished and honored duty.

It is announced that Mr. John T. Hughes accompanied Colonel Domphan in his whole [ . . . ] through Mexico, designs publishing a full and accurate account of the expedition. It will be [ . . . ]by maps and ornamented with various [ . . . ]designs, representing the most important [ . . . ]of the present war. Mr. Hughes was the [ . . . ]of many interesting letters written during the campaign, and will, no doubt, make a very interesting book. [BRR]
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The Maryland Battalion. This fine corps which rendezvoused at Fort McHenry under Lieut. Col Hughes, have nearly all embarked from thence, for Vera Cruz. The transport ship Alexandria to out the companies, viz. The Mechanical volunteers Capt. Brown, of Baltimore, and the companies Captains Henrie and Barry, of Washington. The whole are under the command of Major John Kenly. Three other companies, Capt. Degges’ Washington, the Watson Guards, Captain Dol--Twiggs’ Reiflemen, Captain Taylor, the detachment under the command of Captain Degges, embarked on board the transport ship Napier, Capt. Sanford. The two vessels carry out about 420 men, a fine able bodied set of troops. [ANP]

REPORT THAT THE CITY OF MEXICO HAS SURRENDERD TO GENERAL SCOTT

By telegraphic despatch from Richmond Va., received on Sunday night last, and by the [ . . . ] subsequently arrived, bringing the New Orleans National, of the 31st ult., all were elated with the idea that General Scott was in possession of the capital of Mexico.

The National alluded to, announced that- [ . . . ] is news in the city from the city of Mexico [ . . . ] as July 17th. It came through by a [ . . . ] courier, who came by the way of Orizaba and [ . . . ]rado to Vera Cruz. General Scott entered [ . . . ] on the 17th of July. He met with no opposition [ . . . ] This way from Puebla until he arrived at [ . . . ] 8 miles from the city. Here a slight skirmish between his advance and the Mexicans, [ . . . ] latter fell back. The civil authorities [ . . . ] out to meet Gen. Scott. Stipulations were [ . . . ] into by which the persons and property of the citizens of Mexico were to be respected, this accomplished, our army marched quietly into the city of Montezumas.

This important news reached here in the Massachusetts, but has been withheld for purpose that we do not understand. The authority upon which we publish it seems to us undoubted. The courier that brought this news could come from the city of Mexico via Orizaba to Vera Cruz in five days if the weather was good, seven under any circumstances. The Massachusetts left Vera Cruz on the 23d. It will be perceived that this allows seven days for the news to reach Vera Cruz by the route we have stated.

We know upon the highest authority that there is a letter now in this city of the 17th of July from the city of Mexico. The gentleman who gave us the information has a letter of the 15th in which is mentioned the preparations of families about leaving from the approach of the Yankees.

Santa Anna and Canalizo had quarreled about the defence of the city. Canalizo did not want the city injured, as there was no hope of successful resistance. He preferred to meet our troops in the plain, and there decide the contest. Santa Anna would not agree to this, so no opposition was made.
The entrance of Gen. Scott in Mexico is a rumor, from the letter of the 15th we know positively of the preparation of the families in the city to move on the approach of Gen. Scott, and of the quarrel between Santa Anna and Canalizo as to the defence of the city, and we know that there is a letter in the city of the 17th from Mexico.

The courier that brought through the letter of the 15th brought news of Gen. Scott's entering the city. We have no doubt of the report.

Other papers from N. Orleans, of the day following, discredited the report, and assigned a number of reasons for doing so.

The Picayune concludes an article by saying: "we learn that a Spanish gentleman now in New Orleans, who arrived on the Massachusetts, saw Gen. Scott in Puebla on the 14th ult. If this be so, there is an end to the whole story at once."

The Delta of the same date copies the extra of the National and adds:

It seems strange that this news should come by the steamer Massachusetts, when arrived here on Thursday last, and that up to this time, those in official correspondence with Gen. Scott should not be apprised of it. Extraordinary, however, as it may appear, we have every reason to believe, from information confidently communicated to ourselves, that is substantially true- that the main fact of Gen. Scott's entrance into the city of Mexico is a fixed [. . . ] A few days and the statement will be either confirmed or authoritatively contradicted, till which time or readers must bide with what patience they [. . .] may.

The La Patria discredits the entire statement, and [ . . ]the last accounts from Puebla were to the [ . . ] and that tat the time General Scott had made [ . . ] preparations for a forward march; yet to reach the city of Mexico on the 17th ult., he must have [ . . ] about the 11th or 12th. Knowing that he had no idea of moving at the at time the Patria [ . . ] the whole account as preposterous and on [ . . ].

The Washington "Union" appeared at first to place but little credit in the report, but subsequently gave a shadow of countenance to it.

The Union of Wednesday says:

"A young lady at the city of Mexico is said to have written to a Mexican in New Orleans, on the 15th ult., that the families were quitting the city in consequence of the advance of the Yankees, and adds postscript on the 17th (by the courier,) that Gen. Scott was then entering the city. This letter was kept back by the Mexican, from a tender regard to the fair authoress.

"We understand, too today, that another letter has been received at the department from a high military officer, stating that the receipt of the letter from Mexico has been made known to him from the most authentic source."

The New York Journal of Commerce of Tuesday says, on the contrary:

"A gentleman worthy of all reliance, informs us that he has seen a gentleman just arrived by the steamer Southerner, from Charleston, who in New Orleans saw a gentleman who was in Puebla on the [ . . ] saw Scott then there."

El Penon, at which point General Scott is said to have met the Mexicans, is an extinct volcano eight miles from the city of Mexico. The road passes between it and the great Lake of Mexico.

Meantime the steamer Washington reached New Orleans with something like a confirmation of the account. She left Vera Cruz the 22d, Tampico the [illegible], and Brazos the 27th. The Bee says:

"We learn by passengers from Matamoros, on board the propeller Washington, that on the day they left Matamoros an express arrived from the city of Mexico with letters to Mexican merchants of that place stating that General Scott met the Mexican army at Rio Frio and had a battle, in which the enemy were defeated and totally routed, with a loss on the part of the Americans of 300 men; after which General Scott, with his victorious troops, entered and took possession of the city of the Montezumas.

"The news was publicly read to the troops at Matamoros, and although it savors somewhat of improbability, may, nevertheless be wholly true, for our readers will bear in mind that of all the battles fought and victories won on the fields of Mexico, our first news of them was received from the Mexican authority, and afterwards confirmed through American sources. We incline to the opinion, (though
somewhat doubtful) that our army under General Scott has again been victorious, and were then as now in possession of the city of Mexico."

The New Orleans Times says- There was a vague report at the Brazos, when the Washington left, that a Mexican express had reached Matamoros, bearing the intelligence that Gen. Scott had entered the city of Mexico.

The National publishes the following, and claims that it fully sustains the account of its extra.

Brazos St. jago, july 27th.

Sir: I hasten to inform you that Mr. Fischer has just arrived here from Matamoras, and was informed that the Colonel Commanding had read on parade last evening, that General Scott had entered the city of Mexico with the loss of 300 men. The news was brought by express to Matamoros, from San Fernando; by a Mexican to the Alcalde, and was generally believed to be true. There is no doubt as to the information having been imparted to the troops at Matamoros. I would have given you more particulars, but Mr. Fischer has gone back tow miles, in hopes to get his baggage here in time for the Washington. I cannot give you more as the boat goes; and he has not returned in time to go to New Orleans in her.

The Vera Cruz correspondent of La Patria, after mentioning that no commission of peace has been appointed, states that Santa Anna is extremely anxious to prevent congress from assembling, in order that he may be enabled to create an assembly of notables., which shall take into consideration the proposition of Mr. Buchanan. Santa Anna is presumed to desire peace, and the assembly will of course be a mere puppet that will move in response to his controlling will. But before this can take place, the correspondent is of opinion that General Scott and his troops will hasten the negotiations for peace by frightening the Mexicans into forms. Recent letters from Puebla bring assurances that the commander in chief began his march towards the capital on the 15, leaving two fortified points at Vera Cruz, the writer had reached [illegible], situated only eight leagues from the city of Mexico. The correspondent of the Patria puts faith in the rumor.

The public have remained in suspense ever since the publication of the foregoing intelligence; each day rather weakening than strengthening confidence therein- Many entertained fond hopes that even if premature, a few hours more would realize such a result.

The following which, upon what authority we know not, we find attributed to Col. Wilson. Governor of Vera Cruz, is as late as anything we have from that place.

The Picayune of the 31st ult. Says:

We are permitted to make an extract of the latest date from Vera Cruz, written by a gentleman who certainly possesses more than ordinary facilities for getting at authentic news. It shows how meagre are the materials of the Vera Cruz editors for forming opinions of the course of events above. The later is dated:

Vera Cruz, July 22, 1848.

Gen. Pierce, with his brigade, is fairly off at last, with, I am told, some 3,000 men- a pretty good force, but not enough, however, to frighten off the guerrillas, who commenced firing on them by the time they were well out of the city. The place is very quiet now; all fear of an attack seems to have died off.

Pickett was ordered by the quartermaster last Sunday to divide off the quartermaster’s men- there are about five hundred of them all- into companies of 50 or 60 men each, and select a captain and two lieutenants to each, in order that they might receive arms. This was done, but the officers would not receipt for the arms, and the mater seems to be dropped.

There is no news here from headquarters that I know of; the last from Puebla was up to the 22d ult. It was stated that Gen. Scott would certainly leave there on the 15th of this month for the city of Mexico.

It is very difficult to get anything from the interior in an authentic shape; we have nothing but rumors and reports. Everything from Mr. Kendall goes through to his paper, of course, and whatever comes to Col. Wilson or is intended for the government does not transpire here. [BRR]
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NNR 72.373-374  August 14, 1847 “Union’s statement of forces

TROOPS IN GEN. SCOTT’S ARMY. - We learn at the Adjutant General’s office (says the Union) that more than 7,000 troops (new regiments and reorganized companies of the old) have been sent to reinforce the army under M. J. Gen Scott, and that official reports have been received, which show that nearly 5,000 have arrived at Vera Cruz between the 24th of May and 26th of June, and which, we understand, have been pushed forward to join the advancing column of the army with all practicable expedition.

The entire force in advance of Vera Cruz, operating in the interior, and moving in the direction of the capital, exceeds 15,000. These are, of course, exclusive of the garrisons at Tampico and Vera Cruz. It is impossible to determine what deduction should be made on account of the sick; but, according to the best judgment of military men, it should be put down at not less than 2,600; which would make the efficient force in the heart of Mexico about 13,000, exclusive of staff corps. The army under Gen. Scott must soon be further increased, since more than 2,500 are known to be en route for Vera Cruz; among which are six companies of U.S. infantry, and several companies of marines, &c. In addition to these, a respectable number of troops, of an effective character are now raising, and will be promptly en route for Gen. Scott’s army.

We take the present as a fit occasion to say to our readers, that we shall henceforth forbear to make any corrections of the errors and oft repeated misstatements of our forces in the field, which appear in certain prints. But we will say, once for all, that the pay rolls that infallible test of numbers—will show that the forces in Mexico, under Major General Scott and Major General Taylor, in the month of July, will exceed 30,000. [BRR]

NNR 72.374 August 14, 1847 order for organization of the corps of American citizens in Veracruz

"Army of Occupation."

[Orders No. 24.]

Headquarters, Vera Cruz, July 16, 1847.

1. Capt. Cozzens, the former authorized commander of American citizens, having left for the U. States, MR. William S. Tippetts is hereby appointed captain of the corps of American citizens in this city, which corps is to be raised and organized as follows,

Viz: Every American citizen not in the employ of the quartermaster’s department in this city, will without delay report their names and residences to said Capt. W.S. Tippets, at the store of Humphreys, Gray & Co. for enrollment. All American citizens residing in Vera Cruz will on the first alarm immediately turn out and repair to the Governor’s quarters, and there await further orders. Any person failing to comply with this order, either as to organizing or turning out, shall, on conviction, (unless a good and sufficient excuse be offered) be sent out of the country by the first vessel going to the U. States.

2. In the event of an alarm, which will be known by the discharge of a single gun all Mexican men, women and children, (watchmen included) residing in town, will repair to the northern end of the city in rear of Fort Conception, where they will be secure from injury.

3. At a signal from the town, the guns of the castle will open a fire upon the city.

4. Captains of vessels in the harbor are requested, in case of an assault, to repair with a part of their crew to Forts Santiago and Conception, as they may be nearest.

5. Any inhabitant of the town found to be acting in concert with the enemy will be immediately arrested and dealt with either at the moment of afterwards, as the nature of the case may require.
NRR 72.372 August 14, 1847 Capt. John Holliway’s account of Maj. Edmonson at the battle of Grand Canon

“ARMY OF THE NORTH.”

MAJOR EDMONSON AT THE BATTLE OF GRAND CANON. A correspondent of the St. Louis, Missouri Republican, dated Camp near Santa Clara Spring New Mexico, June 16th, 1847, says- "Having heard that a garbled and incorrect version of the battle of the Grand Canon of Red River, of the 26th May last, had reached Santa Fe through persons ignorant of the affair; or, what is still worse, designing individuals, calculated to prejudice the public mind against the commanding officer on that occasion; and supposing that such reports might reach your city- as falsehood takes wings, whilst truth is the emblem of sloth- and knowing that the person referred to is a member of your community, I feel it my duty, as the officer second in command of that occasion, to disabuse the public mind in reference to the matter.

"I was the first man to enter the canon, being at the head of a small spy party, the Major taking the precaution to reconnoitre the canon before entering with his troops. I was near his side during the whole engagement, heard every order given, and executed them to the best of my ability- believing them then, as I do now, conceived in wisdom and calmness; and I positively assert, that he entered the canon at the head of his troops, (they marching necessarily in single file); that at the commencement of the battle although he ordered the troops to dismount and take advantage of the rocks, which was done, he himself disdained to take any such advantage, remaining on his horse during the fight, in the most exposed part of the field, closely noticing the movements of the enemy, and calmly directing the operations of our little army.

After fighting as long as we had daylight and ammunition, and it because necessary to leave the canon for the time, the Major brought up the rear; was amongst the last to cross the river, and the very last out of the canon, it being then dark.

On the day after the battle, the Major urged the propriety of returning into the canon, in which I concurred, but was overruled by a majority of the officers, who urged the want of sufficient ammunition.

After we re-entered the canon, we found that the enemy had abandoned it on the night after the battle, in great haste and confusion; and I am fully convinced that if we had returned to the canon next day, as Major Edmonson wished, that we would have overtaken the enemy in the plains, have completely vanquished them, and recovered all the animals. I feel it due to state that upon a second entrance into the canon, leaving time to examine the locality and circumstances which surround us, I am more than ever convinced of the prudence and wisdom of Major Edmonson’s orders; and concur fully in the opinion I have more than once heard expressed by Captain Robertson, who was third in command on that occasion, that the affair could not have been better managed, or possibly result more favorably to the American arms, under the circumstances.

Major Edmonson is justly entitled to the gratitude of his country, and the highest regard of his fellow citizens, for the coolness and wisdom displayed by him during the engagement, as also for the energy with which he pursued the enemy during their retreat.

In consequence of the want of time, the train having already left, I am under the necessity of making the foregoing statement rather in form of certificate than latter; and for the same reason, beg leave to refer you to the Major's official report for the particulars connected with the battle.

Yours respectfully,

JOHN HOLLIWAY,


[BRR]

NRR 72.374 August 14, 1847 affairs at Veracruz, spy arrested by the Mexicans with dispatches

The Vera Cruz Arco Iris of the 14th ult. copies several items from the Boletin de Noticias, a new
Mexican paper published at Jalapa. The *Boletín* of the 6th says that a Mexican, acting as a spy for the Americans, was that day arrested in the vicinity of Jalapa, and was speedily to be tried.

The public of Jalapa were clamorous against the spy, charging him with having killed two Indians in that town just before he was taken. Upon the spy were found twenty five or thirty letters; among the various articles for the papers of the United States (newspaper correspondence we take it.) The letters generally were said to contain exaggerated accounts of the encounter at La Hoya, representing that guerrilla force was two thousand strong, and lost [ . . . ] killed, twice that number wounded, and a considerable number of prisoners; the Americans having only eight horses lost, and one soldier slightly wounded.

The *Boletín* of Jalapa says this is absolutely ridiculous that every body knows that the loss of - Americans exceeded thirty men; that the guerrillas lost only seven or eight, and that their whole force was about seven hundred only. The *Boletín* makes this statement to prevent people at a distance from being misled.

Among the letters found on the spy was one from Gen. Pillow, written in pencil twenty miles beyond Perote, with instructions for Gen. Price. It represented that the men were dying on an average - eight a day in Perote, and gives some other delay which the *Boletín* deems it imprudent to print. According to this authority, all the letters agree that the person arrested was a courier, and I so - made him a spy. The letter to Gen. Pierce represented that he was the same person who had previously taken a letter from Gen. Pillow to Perote and that he would return with letter from Vera Cruz to the garrison of Perote. [ANP]

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**NNR 72.374-375 August 14, 1847 Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny’s proclamation to the people of California**

**GEN. KEARNY’S PROCLAMATION.**

*To the People of California.*

Translated from the *Diario del Gobierno* (city of Mexico) of the 25th of June.

The president of the United States having devoted upon the undersigned the civil government of California, he enters upon the discharge of his duties with an ardent desire to promote as far as posses the interests of the country and well being of its inhabitants.

The undersigned is instructed by the president to respect and to protect the religious institution of California, to take care that the religious rights of its inhabitants are secured in the most ample manner, since the constitution of the United States lows to every individual the privilege of worship his Creator in whatever manner his conscience [ . . . ]dictate.

The undersigned is also instructed to protect the persons and property of the quiet and peaceable inhabitants of the country, whether foreign or domestic; and now assuring the Californians that his [ . . . ]nations, no less than his duty, demand the fulfilment of these instructions, he invites them to use their efforts to preserve order and tranquility, to promote harmony and concord, and to maintain the authority and efficacy of the laws.

It is the desire and intention of the United States to procure for California as speedily as possible free government, like that of their own territory and they will very soon invite the inhabitants to exercise the rights of free citizens, in the choice of their own representatives, who may enact such laws as they deem best adapted to their interests and being. But until this takes place, the laws acting in existence, which are not repugnant to the constitution of the United States, will continue in [ . . . ] until they are revoked by competent authority; persons in the exercise of public employment for the present remain in them, provided they [ . . . ] to maintain the said constitution and faithfull discharge their duties.

The undersigned by these presents absolve the inhabitants of California of any further allegiance to the republic of Mexico, and regards them as citizens of the United States. Those who remain quiet and peaceable will be respected and protected in their rights; but should any take up arms against the government of this territory, or join such as do so, or instigate others to do so [ . . . ] these he will regard as enemies, and they will be treated as such.

When Mexico involved the United States in [ . . . ]the latter had not time to invite the Californians to join their standard as friends, but found themselves compelled to take possession of the country to prevent its falling into the hands of some European power. In doing this there is no doubt that some ex[ . . . ]some unauthorised acts were committed by people in the service of the United States, and that in consequence some of the inhabitants have sustained losses in their property. These losses shall be investigated, and those who are entitled to [ . . . ]shall receive it.
For many years California has suffered great domestic convulsions; from civil wars, like ... fountains, have flowed calamity and pestilence ... this beautiful region. These fountains are now dried up; the stars and stripes now float over California, and as long as the sun shall shed its light they will continue to wave over her, and over the natives of the country, and over those who shall seek a domicil in her bosom; and under the protection of this flag agriculture must advance, and the arts and sciences will flourish like seed in a rich and fertile soil.

Americans and Californians! from henceforth one people. Let us then indulge one desire, one hope; let that be for the peace and tranquility of our country. Let us unite like brothers, and mutually strive for the improvement and advancement of this our beautiful country, which within a short period cannot fail to be not only beautiful, but also prosperous and happy.

Given at Monterey, capital of California, this 1st day of March, in the year of our Lord 1847, and of the independence of the United States the 71st.

S.W. KEARNY, Brig. Gen. U.S.A.,
And Governor of California.

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BLOCKADE ON THE PACIFIC.

Com. Biddle- As we expected, (says the New Orleans Bulletin,) Com. Biddle, on taking command on the Pacific, has at once commenced reforming some of the arrangements of the great governor and commander in chief, Capt. Stockton. His first act was to annul the paper blockade, and to establish such blockades as he could maintain by an actual force, agreeable to the system always advocated by the United States, they having invariable resisted these nominal blockades established by Great Britain in her former wars.

The following is a copy of Commodore Biddle’s order:

"The blockade ’of all the ports, harbors, bays, outlets, and inlets on the west coast of Mexico, south of San Diego,’ declared by com. Stockton, of the navy of the United States, on the 19th day of August last, is hereby annulled."

"In virtue of authority from the president of the United States, I do hereby declare the ports of Mazatlan and Guaymas, on the western coast of Mexico, to be in a state of blockade; and, with the view to the strict enforcement thereof, competent force will be stationed before the blockaded ports at as early a period as practicable.

"Neutral vessels lying in either of the blockaded ports will be permitted to retire twenty days from and after the commencement of the blockade.

"Given on board the United States ship Columbus, at Monterey, this 4th day of March, A.D. 1847.

"JAMES BIDDLE,
Commanding the United States squadron in the Pacific."

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FROM SANTA FE AND THE PLAINS. The Jefferson (Mo.) Enquirer, of the 3d ult. publishes a letter from Lieut. Eastin, of the Cole county infantry, dated at Independence, where he arrived on the 23d ult. He left Santa Fe on the 21st of June, and was thirty two days on the route. A portion of the company had been discharged; the remainder were yet in the service, and would be mustered out at Fort Leavenworth. Lieut. Eastin left the command at the Little Arkansas, two hundred and ten miles from Independence, all making very good progress.

Capt. Augney, who commanded company A, was left at Santa Fe. So, also, was Lieut. Irvine, who had not recovered from his wound. He had suffered much, and it was apprehended that he might
Every thing was quiet at Santa Fe. The country was rile with rumors of revolution and rebellion, but no confidence was to be placed in them. The people of Taos were said to be discontented and restless, but Lieut. Col. Willock had returned from his expedition to the Red River Canon, and would soon quiet all dissentions. No news had been received of any troops being ordered to Santa Fe, and Col. Price was in perfect ignorance of what the Government intended doing in this matter. He was discharging his men, or sending them back as fast as their time expired. The other company of the infantry battalion was to be discharged on the 27th of June, and Cap. Dent’s and Capt. Fisner’s companies in tow or three days there after. They were to start for home on the 1st July, and Col. Price’s force in Santa Fe would then be very small. He intended to call Willock’s battalion from Taos, and the two companies of dragoons from Albuquerque, and to concentrate his whole force at Santa Fe.

Lieut. Eastin was attacked on the 4th of July by the Indians. They came on him in the middle of the day, when he least expected them, and succeeded in taking one mule and killing another. Judge Brown, at the same time, lost seventeen oxen. Mexicans were engaged in this party, and the second day thereafter a number of them came into the camp, who were recognised as being from Taos. They made profession of friendship, and said they were hunting buffalo.

The day before Lieut. E. arrived at Pawnee fork, a Government train of wagons was attacked, and the Indians captured twenty oxen, and killed a negro man belonging to Moses Payne, of Boon county, within 150 yards from the camp. A white man narrowly escaped with is life.

The Indians are congregated in large numbers on the Arkansas, and commit their depredations with impunity. It is high time, Lieut. Eastin thinks, that the Government was taking some steps to protect her citizens and herself from these repeated outrages. Mr. Hayden in charge of a Government train of wagons, had lost two hundred head of oxen.

Lieut. Love was met eight miles this side of the crossings of the Arkansas, going on, on the 10th of July. The infantry battalion under Col. Easton, and Capt. McNair’s dragoons were met, on the 20th, at Cotton wood Fork- Capt. Simmons’ and Smithson’s companies, a few miles beyond Council Grove, on the 21st. Capt Simonds was at the Grove very sick, through getting better. The Ralls county company was met at Council Grove; and next day met four companies of the Illinois regiment, eleven miles this side of the Grove. Soon after, three other companies of same regiment at Willow Springs. Some seven or eight of the company remained at Santa Fe. The others were expected to reach Jefferson City about the present time, after an absence of thirteen months. [BRR]

NNR 72.384 August 14, 1847 rumors at Matamoros of Gen. Winfield Scott’s having entered Mexico
NNR72.384 August 14, 1847 Gen. Enos D. Hopping’s requisition for dragoons
NNR 72.384 August 14, 1847 operations of Col. Carvajal

ARMY OF OCCUPATION.

By the steamer Ohio, arrived on the 5th at N. Orleans from Brazos Santiago, dates from thence to the 31st and from Galveston to the 21, are received.

The Matamoros Flag, of the 27th ult., states that for more than a week they had reports there of Gen. Scott having entered Mexico. The Flag appears to credit the report, but on tracing it, it appears to have reached Matamoros from Monterey, and to have arrived at Monterey on the 14th, at which time it is certain that Gen. Scott had not left Puebla

The commandant at Matamoros, on the 26th July, received a letter from Gen. Hopping, stating that he had information of Gen. Urrea being on this side of the mountains at the head of 4,000 men, and requesting a squadron of dragoons. The Flag says, however, that their colonel chooses to remain here until he as received his complement of horses, in the mean time drilling his men as thoroughly as could be done elsewhere. A company of mounted men from Ohio, recently arrived, was sent up to Gen. Hopping.

Col. Carvajal. We understand from several sources that this worthy was on Friday last at Lavacaria, some twenty- leagues distance, on the road to Linares, with 250 men, having been joined by Galan, another guerrilla chief. They were said to have detained a largeumber of mules loaded with corn, soap, sugar, and other produce, destined for this place besides one hundred cargoes of goods which had been sent from here to Monterey.”

Letters from camp Buena Vista to the 18th July; state that Gen. Cushing and suit reached Monterey on the 16th. The Mississippi and North Carolina troops were suffering by diarrheas, &c., average three deaths a day. Of the former, 100 sick, of the latter 150. The Virginia regiment had 150
sick, but no deaths.

Numerous reports are given in those letters, hardly worth detailing here.  [BRR]

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**NNR 72.384 August 14, 1847 Gen. Caleb Cushing Reaches Monterey, Troops Suffering with Disease**

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**NNR 72.384, August 14, 1847  peace rumors contradicted, Gen. Franklin Pierce's train**

POSTSCRIPT—The steamer Fashion arrived at New Orleans, brings accounts from General Scott, who was still at Puebla, on the 30th of July. General Pierce had reached Perote with his train.—All the accounts above peace contradicted.  [WFF]

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**NNR 72.386 August 14, 1847 war tax on exports from Mexican ports discontinued by Com. Matthew Calbraith Perry**

**WAR TAX ON MEXICO.**

Commodore Perry has issued the following notice and order:

"U.S. Flagship Mississippi, Anton Lizardo,
July 28, 1847.

"Notice is given that the war tax of ten per cent. ad valorem, hitherto imposed on exports from the ports of the Gulf of Mexico occupied by the naval forces of the United States, is hereby ordered to be discontinued.

"All officers under my command having charge of the collection of duties under war tariff of April 7th, 1847, will act accordingly.

M.C. PERRY, Com’g home squadron.

[BRR]

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**NNR 72.386 August 14, 1847 Orders to West Point cadets to the seat of war**

**WEST POINT CADETS.**

The *Auburn Daily Advertiser* states that the class which has just graduated at West Point has been commissioned and ordered to the seat of war. Augustus A. Seward, eldest son of Governor Seward, who was a member of that class has received a commission as 2nd lieutenant in the 8th (General Worth's) regiment of infantry, and left Auburn on Wednesday to join his regiment, which he will probably find in the "Halls of Montezuma."  [BRR]

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**NNR 72.386 August 14, 1847 Court of inquiry on actions of Gen. William Jenkins Worth at Puebla**

GEN. WORTH. A letter in the *New Orleans Picayune*, from Mr. Kendall dated June 27, states that a court of inquiry, had been in session for a day or two. It seems that General Scott in some way expressed himself dissatisfied with not only the terms by Gen. W., but also with some of the acts of the latter
while in command of the city. Gen. Worth promptly called for an investigation. [BRR]

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**NNR 72.387 August 14, 1847 Washington’s “Union”**

**PEACE OR WAR?** The *Washington Union* of the 12th, in relation to Mexico says:

If the enemy are not yet cured of their infatuation, they must ultimately see with all these evidences in all directions before their eyes, that they cannot cope with our troops, and that they must reap nothing but defeat and disgrace. We have beaten them everywhere, with inferior forces. They have men enough, but few soldiers. They are deficient in arms and in money. We overcome every disparity of numbers by the superiority of our discipline, steadiness and skill. Every hope upon which they relied will be dissipated. The vomito is disappearing. Troops (and a peculiar species) are about to assail and overwhelm the guerrillas, and restore the line of our communication between the capital and the coast. Should the Mexicans now incline the olive branch, we must strike the harder, and make them feel more sensibly the pressure of the war. We will then see men of some moral courage arise to brave all the consequences of public opinion—infact, to give it a new direction, and to smooth the way to pacification. Every intelligent Mexican will see— if he as not already seen— that they cannot withstand our arms; that they cannot resist the force that we will bring against them; that they can gain nothing by the war and that their wisest policy is peace. [BRR]

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**NNR 72.388 August 14, 1847 Washington “Union”**

The *Washington Union* says:- "A letter has been received in Washington, from an officer of the army, as late as the 29th and 30th July. It states that General Scott would move upon the capital as soon as Gen. Pierce arrived with his reinforcements—about the 2d or 3d of August. Mr. Trist had been quite ill, but was then convalescent. We are happy to hear that Gen. Scott had waited upon him during his indisposition, to confer with him about the public concerns."

The *Union* also says: “We can find nothing to confirm the statement which some of the letter writers from Washington are giving, as if appears in the Baltimore Sun of this morning, viz: that “a letter to which I referred in my last, has been received from Mr. Bankhead, by the British legation here. in which he states, as I learn, the same thing, and adds, that the attempt, in which he assisted, to induce the Mexican government to listen to these proposals, utterly failed.” [BRR]

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**NNR 72.388 August 14, 1847 deaths of sailors of the squadron at Tabasco**

**NAVAL JOURNAL**

*United States flag ship Mississippi,*

Anton Lizardo, July 25, 1847.

**SIR:** Having this moment returned from Tabasco, I write a brief line to inform the department that the sick of the squadron are doing tolerable well; though we have numerous case, but few have terminated fatally. We have had nine deaths, including Lieut. Parker, the only officer who has died. I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M.C. PERRY,
Commanding Home Squadron

Hon. J.Y. Mason,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington.
[BRR]

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**NNR 72.389-72.390 August 14, 1847 general orders on the recruiting service**

**[GENERAL ORDERS, NO. 26]**

WAR DEPARTMENT.

*Adjutant General’s Office*
WASHINGTON, July 23, 1843.

GENERAL RECRUITING SERVICE. The measures taken to fill the ranks of the army having been communicated from time to time by special instructions since the promulgation of "General Orders," Nos. 2, 8, and 17, it becomes necessary to publish these instructions to the army, and for the better information and guidance of the officers concerned.

1- Recruiting for the old Establishment.

Col. I. B. CRANE, (Superintendent, Eastern Division 1st Artillery,) - Head Quarters N. York.
Lt. Col. J. ERVING, (Superintendent, Western Division 2d Artillery,) - Head Qrt's Cincinnatti.

Officers of the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th regiments of infantry, who may be sent from the army in Mexico, with a view to the recruiting service, will, on their arrival at New Orleans, report in person to Brig. General Brooke, who will them orders according to the instructions he may receive from Washington.

2- Recruiting for Ten additional Regiments.

For the 9th and 10th Infantry,) Col. J. BANKHEAD, 2d Artillery, Superintend't, Head Quarters, New York.
For the 11th Infantry, and Voltigeurs,) Maj. E.W. MORGAN, 11th Regiment, Superintend't, Baltimore.
For the 12th, 13th and 14th Regiments,) Brig. Gen. G. M. Brooke, Com'dg West'n Division, (assisted by Maj. A. G. BLANCHARD, 12th Reg.) -Head Qrs., N. Orleans.
For the 15th and 16th Regiments- Lt. Col. J. ERVING, 2d Artillery, Cincinnatti.

3.- The men enlisted for the 1st and 2d Dragoons will be sent to Carlisle Barracks, to be under the command of an officer of one of the regiments. The recruits for the 3d Dragoons and Mounted Rifle Regiment, will be sent to Jefferson Barracks. The Commanding officers will enforce a strict system of discipline and instruction according to regulations.

4- Recruiting for the Volunteer Regiments.

For the Massachusetts, New York and New Jersey Volunteers- Col. J. B. BANKHEAD, 2d Artillery, New York.
For the Virginia Volunteers-Col. J.B. WABACH, 4th Artillery, Fort Monroe.
For the North and South Carolina Volunteers- Col. W. WHISTLER, 4th Infantry, Fort Moultrie.
For the Georgia; Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana Volunteers- Brig. General G.M. BROOKE, New York.
For the Illinois and Missouri Volunteers- Lt. Col. T. STANIFORD, 8th Infantry, Jefferson Barracks.
For the Indiana, and Ohio Volunteers- Lt. Col. J.ERVING, 2d Artillery, Cincinnati.

Volunteer officers selected for the recruiting service by their respective Colonels pursuant to the provisions of "GENERAL ORDERS," No. 17, of April 15, will report by letter to the field officers charged with the superintendence of recruiting for the their respective regiments, to who they will make all their reports and returns.

5- As soon as 50 or 60 recruits are enlisted for any one regiment, the superintendent will report for instructions to the Adjutant General's Office, when measures will be taken to concentrate and organize detachments for the field of not less than 250 men.- The officers sent to Mexico with recruits, (both regular and volunteer,) will not return to the United states, but replaced by other officers to be selected by the commanders of their regiments.

6- The public interest requires that the recruiting service be pushed with the greatest vigor, by every officer employed in it; and at the same time the strictest economy is enjoined in all expenditures and arrangements, &c. "Superintendents will report all commissioned or non-commissioned officers who may be incapable or negligent, or unsuccessful, in the discharge of their functions," &c. (See par 757 army regulations, 1847.)

7- Proceedings of courts martial in the trial of recruits on charges of alleged desertion from the rendezvous afforded strong grounds to believe that there are instances in which the recruiting party have contrived to make out the case of desertion for the sordid purpose of obtaining and dividing among themselves the authorized reward of $30. The records show that recruit * * enlisted on the 24th day May, that leave was granted him until 3 o'clock, that not returning at the hour he was seized before 6, at the house of the friend who had accompanied him to the rendezvous in the morning, that he was confined as a deserter by the Sergeant, and that on the certificate of the recruiting officer five of the party, received and divided the reward.

If the recruiting officer performs his duty of the service, these fraudulent schemes to obtain
money at the expense of a recruit, not a deserter in fact, would rarely be successful. It is the special duty of the officer to examine thoroughly every case of absence without leave, and in no instance should be given the usual certificate of apprehension, until well assured that the recruit was really a deserter according to the articles of war and army regulations. If the rule prescribed in paragraph 764 had been observed, the short absence of the man on the 24th of May referred to above, could not have been regarded as a desertion.

The Secretary of War directs that the recruiting officers give strict attention to the subject. It is expected they will diligently watch the public interest, and protect the recruits against all imposition attempted to be practiced upon them.

8- All packages and letters relating to the recruiting service, will be endorsed on the upper right hand corner- "Recruiting Service."

9- Packages containing "Certificates of Disability," or "Certificates for Pensions," will be endorsed, accordingly, on the lower left hand corner of the envelope.

By order:

R. JONES,  
Adjutant General.

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NNR 72.394 August 21, 1847 Receipt of Dispatches from Gen. Winfield Scott at Puebla, Gen. Franklin Pierce's Affairs with the Guerrillas, Gen. Persifor Frazer Smith's Brigade to Meet Pierce

"A respectable person of the city has informed us that a letter has been received yesterday morning by a citizen of this place, from a guerrilla chief, stating that the guerrilleros, about 600 in number, attacked the train commanded by General Pierce near the National Bridge. The letter says the Americans approached under the fire of the Mexicans until they arrived within a hundred yards of them, when the American infantry opened a deadly fire on them forcing them to retreat. While the Mexicans were retreating the American cavalry rushed on them sword in hand, and killed about one hundred Mexicans. The position of the Mexicans was one of the strongest that can be found in the country. The Americans passed the bridge after this successful engagement."

General Scott dispatched Gen. Smith's brigade to meet General Pierce at Perote, and accompany them up. As soon as joined by his reinforcement and replenished by the supply of which he had charged Gen. Scott would probably advance on the city of Mexico. No doubts is expressed in any of the accounts that we have seen, of his being able with the force he will then have (say 12 to 13,000 men.) to enter the "Halls of the Montezumas" in triumph.-- Whether he will meet with but a feeble, if any, resistance, -- or whether he will have to encounter a bloody contest, is a point in warm dispute, -- but in either case his success seems to be admitted. [TNW]

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NNR 72.394 August 21, 1847 Gen. Valencia reaches Mexico with reinforcements

After our last was at press intelligence reached here by telegraph, the substance of which we inserted in a half a dozen lines of postscript. The reports with which the public had been tantalized for the preceding week,- of General Scott having entered the city of Mexico on the 17th July, like the reports which we had the week preceding, of Mexican commissioners having been appointed to treat with Mr. Trist, prove to be totally unfounded.

The steamer Fashion reached New Orleans on the 6th, with accounts from Gen. Scott to the 30th July, a month later than previous authentic accounts. He was still at Puebla, waiting for the arrival of the forces and supplies that Gen. Pierce was taking up. The latter had reached Perote in safety, once account says after a smart conflict with guerrillas, who attempted to defend the pass at Nation Bridge. Of this affair the Sun of Anahuac, (Vera Cruz) gives the following account. It is regarded only as rumour however.

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General Valencia, at the head of 4,000 men, has reached the city of Mexico from San Louis Potosi all full of fight.

Lieut. Whipple who was supposed to have been killed, was taken prisoner, is treated well and expects soon to be exchanged.

Letters are received at New Orleans from the American officers, prisoners in Mexico, to the 15th July. They were all well.

A private letter dated 29th July, says “Mr. Trist’s health has improved.”

Mr. Kendall perseveres in sending couriers to Vera Cruz, though he has had three captured. One has been killed. He fought bravely for his life, and was faithful to the last. The Picayune says- “By singular good fortune the letters by this courier we have recovered. They are not of a late date, but it is rather singular that they should have reached their destination against the wishes of the Mexicans, when once in their possession.” [BRR]

PNR 72.395 August 21, 1847 Letters From Puebla, money arrived for the army, Mexico City fortifications

Puebla, (Mexico,) July 30, 1847

We have a story, tolerably well authenticated, that more than a million of dollars recently arrived at Vera Cruz for the army. A day after the fair again; for how is this money to find its was up in season to relieve the great necessities of those who have so long been suffering? The straits to which our commissaries and quartermasters have been driven, as well as the army agent, Mr. Hargous, to raise the means for the absolute support of the men, has beat the kite flying and skinning days of ’37 all to pieces. A dollar is a dollar, and more than a dollar, here in Puebla.

In relation to the movements of the army, I can give you no other than the impression that General Scott will march immediately on the arrival of Gen. Pierce. The men composing the divisions of General Worth and Twiggs are probably better soldiers than any at present in the world. In the first place, the material is equal if not superior to any; they are equally well drilled; have the best officers to lead them; and what is of the greatest importance, a great portion of them have been in the front rank of battle in numerous fights. Nor is the division of General Quitman, who will doubtless take an active party in any operations yet to take place, much behind the others. The regiments composing it, the New York, South Carolina, and 1st and 2nd Pennsylvania, have been long enough in the field to become well drilled, while Steptoe’s admirable battery is attached to it. The army that will set down before Mexico will be the strongest and best appointed we have yet had in the field, and, let the Mexicans fight as they will, the result of any contest that may take place cannot be double.

I have seen a gentlemen who left the capital two days since. He says that the Mexicans were quietly awaiting the approach of General Scott, having all their works and fortifications completed. The story that the city was partially overflowed is confirmed, but the reports of the extent of the inundation, and of the sickness it had occasioned, have been exaggerated. There was a strong relief of among many of the foreigners that there was a perfect understanding between Gen. Scott and Santa Anna, and that a peace would grow out of it. The congress was still at loggerheads with the president, all business was completely at a stand, and the only law known was that of the military.

Copies of the Diario del Gobierno up to the 27th instant have been received here. It is the only paper now published at the capital, and contains little save government orders and deicides, or articles published under the express sanction of Santa Anna.-- In one of the latter the editor asks the people not to forget their great and glorious victory over "los Yankees" on the triumphant field of Buena Vista, nor the three pieces of cannon and the standard then and there taken from General Taylor! He himself has probably entirely forgotten the seven or eight hundred cannon captured from his countrymen within the last eighteen months, as well as the flags innumerable that have been sent on to Washington. [TNW]
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I must close this letter with a few speculations of my own. There is now every indication that the army will move upon the capital in the course of the coming six days, and it is more than probably that the hardest fight will yet be at the city of Mexico- this is the opinion of the majority. Santa Anna, however much he may be averse to it, can hardly avoid a battle, although he will creep out of it if possible.

Gen. Shields is here and good health. The health of the army continues to improve, and a large portion of the soldiers may now be said to be acclimated.

G.W.K.

[NBR]
this opinion did not prevail. They determined that they would await tranquilly the enemy within the walls of the city, continuing to fortify themselves as strongly as possible. We know not, therefore, what will happen, or whether the Americans will commence their march forthwith. I doubt whether they will do it before the arrival of further reinforcements.

In the meantime affairs are going on here from bad to worse, and heavy contributions are levied, the collection of which is effected with extreme difficulty, so that the government has great trouble to provide the means for the subsistence of a large army. Santa Anna is at this moment sole dictator. Congress can do nothing because there is never a sufficient number of members present to form a quorum for business. They say that the government is seeking a closer union with European powers, and with this view has given orders for the liquidation of the claims of their subjects. [BRR]

NNR 72.396 August 21, 1847 Tabasco evacuated

TABASCO EVACUATED— The following, in relation to the evacuation of Tabasco, is from the Sun of Anahuac of the 27th ultimo:

"The U.S. steamship Mississippi, Com. Perry, arrived yesterday at Lizardo, bringing with him the steamers Scorpion, Spitfire, and Vixen.

"The forces have been withdrawn from the city of Tabasco, in consequence of the severe sickness which prevailed among them, till the sickly season shall have passed.

"Every thing was taken on board, and the evacuation was effected without molestation from the enemy, who was in considerable force outside. The defences were all destroyed when the place was first occupied six weeks since.

"Commander Van Brunt, with the bomb brig Emma, the steamer Scourge, and the gunboat Bonita, were left at Frontera, a few miles from the mouth of the river, (it being a healthy location) to take charge of the custom house there, and guard the passages leading to the capital."

It is due to the truth to say that the Sun of Anahuac, on its Spanish side, represents the evacuation of Tabasco in a less favorable light for our arms than the above account. It attributes our withdrawal to the overwhelming forces of the enemy. Our commandant feared he would be unable to resist an attack, and determined to evacuate the place rather than rise the issue. [BRR]

NNR 72.396-397 August 21, 1847 Col. Lewis Gustavus DeRussy’s report on his expedition to Huejutla

COL. DE RUSSY’S REPORT

Tampico, (Mexico), July 18, 1847

SIR In obedience to your special order, No. 41, Garay, of the Mexican army, stationed at Huejutla, and claim from him certain prisoners of war, who, in your judgement, and for reasons which you authorised me to suggest, should be entitled to liberation, and in case of his compliance, to bring back said prisoners to Tampico, I proceeded with an escort of one hundred and twenty six men in its execution. My force was composed of Wyse's company third artillery, 34 men, with one field piece; Boyd's company, cavalry, 35 men; a detachment of my own regiment of 44 men, commanded by Capt. Mace and Seguine, and eleven men of the volunteer company of Tampico rangers. The officers assigned to troops were Capts. Wyse, third artillery; Boyd, cavalry; Mace and Seguine, Louisiana volunteers; with Lieutenants Tanneyhill, cavalry, Lindberger, Campbell, and Hemberger, Louisiana volunteers. The first of these acting adjutant for the command, the two latter as company officers to Captains Mace and Seguine; and Lieutenant Wells, commanding the rangers. There was also with the party Sergeant Singleton of "La." company, acting Sergeant Major, and Mr. Pemberton, an amateur volunteer. I left this place with my command on the morning of the 8th instant, and reached the town of [ . . . ]on the 9th, which I learned was within the district commanded by Gen. Garay. Here I inquired for any military officer to whom I might communicate the purpose of my mission. I was informed by the alcalde; or chief magistrate that none were there. I applied to this functionary for corn and other necessaries, which were supplied cheerfully, and informed him that my tour, although accompanied by a military escort was not in hostility, but to claim of the commandant general some American prisoners in his custody, but the orders of Col. Gates, commanding in Tampico, and which I trusted would be turned over to me, for reasons which I should explain. Thence I continued my journey to the next town upon the route to General Garay’s head quarters, called Tantayuca, which we reached on the 11th. Here, also I was furnished by the alcalde with corn, and beef, &c. again communicated the character and purpose of my mission; and again inquired, to no purpose, for any military officer with whom I might communicate, and who might accompany me to the general’s headquarters at Huejutla, now
distant about twenty five miles. While here, I perceived indications of uneasiness, producing some apprehension, that notwithstanding my assurance of the pacific nature of my visit, formal preparations of defence were being arranged before me; but I could not suspect to meet these short of the town occupied by the commanding general, at the approach to which I relied upon the white flag, (or sooner, should I meet any one to whom I might show it), to make all right and safe. On next morning, early, we moved towards Huejutla, Capt Boyd and his company being now the advance guard, with orders not to be more than two hundred yards before us. Having reached a point eight miles from our last camp at Tantayuca, and about one mile from the river Calaboso, we met with a Mexican Indian, whom we interrogated in reference to the road, &c. From this man we had learned that the Mexicans had made an ambuscade at the river; that General Garay was there himself with a large force, and that it was intended to attack us three. Immediately despatched the adjutant and the sergeant major to order Capt. Boyd to fall back to the main body; it was too late; they no sooner started to communicate the order than heavy discharge of musketry was heard and many single shouts after. We hastened to the river- Captain Boyd with six of his men had fallen, the remainder of his company had dispersed or fled back to us. As I reached the ground, I perceived the enemy had cleared away the ground of all bushes for the space of 150 yards, on either side of the road, leaving beyond that a dense hedge of chaparral, in rear of which had been constructed a fence to prevent charges of cavalry; in front upon the opposite back was heir main body, also protected by thick chaparral. A charge was instantly made upon the left. Capt. Seguince and his men, and the field piece, protected by Captain Wyse's campaign, was ordered forward to scour the ground upon the opposite bank. These moves were nearly simultaneous, and were gallantly performed. At the first discharge the enemy were driven from the left; two charges on the right also dislodged him from their right, and compelled him to unite in one mass upon the opposite bank.

In this position the battle continued for a full hour, Capt. Wyse gallantly serving his piece, and being during the whole of the engagement, exposed to the most destructive fire from the enemy directly to his front, so well concealed and protected by the thick undergrowth as but seldom to be sufficiently seen to be fired upon with any perfect precision. There were wounded during the service of this piece, six men of its squad. Finally, the enemy sounded their trumpet!- whether for retreat or a charge, I do not know; there was, at all events, a [ . . . ] of their fire. At that moment Capt. Wyse delivered a discharge of canister, so fortunately formed as for the time entirely to paralyze their further action. I took this opportunity to examine our condition. We had exhausted all our field piece cartridges but three. The road to Huejutla lay along the gorge between steep activities. The prisoners, we knew, had been removed from that town. Our fear and our flanks were now attacked by multitudes of men of the towns left behind us on our advance, who had already come so near us as to take from us all our mules, packed with everything we had, in provisions, money, and clothing. There seemed but one way to make our return possible, it was to [illegible], if possible, the position we had occupied in [illegible]. I immediately ordered a retrograde; we [ . . . ] and retraced our steps; immediately there fell upon our flanks and rear large bodies of the enemy, at such distance, however, as to make their efforts [ . . . ] slightly efficient. At every opportunity to reach them, our rear, commanded by Capt. Mace, delivered their discharges of musketry, generally most fatal to our pursuers. While ascending a hill in the road, about one mile from Tantyuca, a very spirited resistance was made by the enemy stationed on the summit, but they were soon driven forward and dispersed by as many of Capt. Wyse's men as could [ . . . ] spared from the piece, who were in the advance, getting as light infantry. At this critical moment, [ . . . ] piece was made again to play a very important part in the safety of our retreat; for it had scarcely reached the summit of this hill before the enemy [ . . . ] rushing on our rear, driving in the rear guard, pack mules, and everything else in confusion around the gun, but Captain Wyse promptly unlimbered, [illegible], and elevated his gun himself; and when within short musket shot, he touched her off, sending death and confusion into the column of the advancing enemy; and before they could recover from this shock, he gave them another well aimed discharge [ . . . ] canister, which effectually prevented further back from the rear. In this manner we advanced one miles back to Tantayuca- the whole round [ . . . ] one continued fight. When arrived at that town, we found an organised force there to oppose [ . . . ] Capt. Seguince, then in advance, was ordered to prepare his men for a charge; and Captain Wyse advanced his piece to a favorable position, discharged upon our opposers one of our last charges of canister, and immediately thereon the charge was made. The enemy fled and dispersed in all directions.

We gained the town, and immediately crossed it to a favorite mound overlooking and entirely commanding it. Thus, masters here, we had leisure to rest and restore our condition to better capabilities of defence. Men were despatched to the stores in the town, to procure powder and ball; from which a number of cartridges were prepared, using champagne bottles half filled with balls, with the remaining space packed with earth- a substitute for tin cylinders. Other munitions were also inspected and equally distributed. These preparations being complete, we had nine or ten good canister charges and an average of nine musket cartridges per man. During this afternoon I found the men were coming to camp, some of them richly laden with spoils of all kinds from the shops and private house; and although I had not authorised it, I didn't regret so just a retribution for the hypocrisy of people, who, after affecting kindness and hospitality as we left them in the morning, had subsequently fallen upon us, to annihilate us, and had despoiled us of about ninety mules, and all our private baggage and provisions.

While here, we perceived the enemy passing round us from all directions, and moving to some pint upon the road by which we had come from Aselhuama. We remembered a most favorable place we had passed for any purpose of ambuscade, called Monte Grande, at which Captian Wyse had been obliged to dismount his piece; and rightly conjectured it was determined to strike us there. We
the night of the 14th. Lieutenant Tanneyhill bay possibly survive his wound. It is but justice to say that Tantayuca. Their exertions and services were constant and untiring, from the morning of the 12th until excellent soldiers. They charged the enemy most gallantly at the river engagement, and in entering Captains Mace and Seguine, of the Louisiana regiment of volunteers, are brave men and entitle him to the highest commendation.

two subsequent days of skirmishing by day and watching by night are also gratefully remembered by constantly under the most direct fire of the enemy. His indefatigable service and endurance, during the instances, however of extraordinary gallantry. Captain Wyse, during the engagement at Calabosa river, acted with that steady courage and gallantry, constitution the highest grade of military character, being mortally wounded, with a man as nurse were left at the house of the alcalde in Tanatyuca, with a letter Character of the enemy, many of whom were destroyed in their pursuit of us.

In the engagement at the river, which is called the Calaboso, we sustained the following loss, viz:

*Boyd’s company.* - Captain Boyd, killed; Lieutenant Tanneyhill, mortally wounded; Serg. Baker, killed, Corporal Bruner, killed; Private Tubifff, Brown, Mullican, and Burk, killed; and Privates Luxton, Wilson, and O’Hara, slightly wounded.

*Wyse’s company.* - Private Allen mortally wounded; and five privates slightly wounded.

*Non commissioned stff.* - Principal musician, Rose; missing.


Havineo surgeon or means of transportation, Lieutenant Tanneyhill and two privates, all mortally wounded, with a man as nurse were left at the house of the alcalde in Tanatyuca, with a letter to that functionary demanding for these unfortunate men the common rights of humanity; and in the conversation with the bearers of Gen. Garay’s flag the disposal made of these wounded was mentioned, and it was mentioned they should be cared for.

For the conduct of every man composing my command, I have praise to bestow. There were instances, however of extraordinary gallantry. Captain Wyse, during the engagement at Calabosa river, acted with that steady courage and gallantry, constitution the highest grade of military character, being constantly under the most direct fire of the enemy. His indefatigable service and endurance, during the two subsequent days of skirmishing by day and watching by night are also gratefully remembered by me, and entitle him to the highest commendation.

Captains Mace and Seguine, of the Louisiana regiment of volunteers, are brave men and excellent soldiers. They charged the enemy most gallantly at the river engagement, and in entering Tantayuca. Their exertions and services were constant and untiring, from the morning of the 12th until the night of the 14th. Lieutenant Tanneyhill bay possibly survive his wound. It is but justice to say that his conduct admirable, and deserving the highest compliments. Lieut. Heimburger is also entitled to our most complimentary notice. After being severely wounded, and suffering with consequent fever, he did not hesitate to report for duty when the enemy appeared, and when it was thought hard fighting was our only resource. Lientenants Lindenbruger and Campbell acted with gallantry and zeal whenever an opportunity presented. Mr. Aldridge, who, as proprietor of the mules engaged as packs, was with us, rendered most essential and gallant service, being forward and active in every charge made upon the enemy. Mr. Laller, one of the Tampico rangers, rendered very important service in coming with the express to Tampico by night when I thought my self so surrounded as to be in the greatest doubts whether there was any possibility of escape without succor. Mr. Pemberton, a gentleman who accompanied us as an ameteur, also rendered essential and gallant services. The small detachment of Tampico rangers, armed as they were merely as cavalry, could not be so advantageously employed as the other troops; they were, however, generally ready and willing to discharge such duties as they were called on for.

Among the non commissioned officers of my command, I have to notice the acting Sergeant Major Singleton, of the Louisiana regiment, who, on several occasions, distinguished himself as a brave
and gallant soldier; he had a horse shot under him.

Another was the sergeant in charge of Captain Wyse’s gun, who, with as gallant a gun quad as ever served a piece, bore the brunt of the action upon the river bank. The names of these brave men have escaped my memory. I will procure and hand them to you.

There were also Sergeants Moore, Woody and Townsend, of the Louisiana regiment, all of whom are entitled to honorable mention.

I have omitted to state the force of the enemy engaged against us, and the probable number of their loss. Their strength must have near fifteen hundred; and although were not actually engaged at any one time against their whole force, yet we were compelled to meet them all in turn. I have learned from Mexican men, how saw the battle round at the Calaboso just before the engagement, that there were three hundred within the [ . . . ] upon this side of the river, and five hundred upon the opposite bank, commanded by General Garay himself; and there was probably as many more upon our flanks and rear the following days while in retreat. Their loss is estimated at two hundred, as well from statements of their own people as from what we saw.

In closing this report, which I fear may already be too long, I must beg to remark, that for our return were are indebted entirely to the field piece taken out by Capt. Wyse’s company and so well managed by that excellent officer and his brave men. It is an arm as yet but insufficiently appreciated, but of which the vast importance and usefulness must be developed by experience. In nay expedition such as that from which I have just returned, I estimate one field piece, well supplied and well managed, is equivalent to one hundred muskets, and perhaps more, in defence. I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant;

L.G. DE RUSSY
Col. La. Regiment volunteers.

To COL. WILLIAM GATES,
Commanding department Tampico.

NNR 72.398 August 21, 1847 Mexican committee of foreign relations on Nicholas Philip Trist’s propositions

MEXICAN CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS ON THE PROPOSED NEGOTIATION FOR PEACE.
Report of the committee on foreign relations.
Committee Room of the Sovereign Constituent Mexican Congress

SIR: The majority of the committee on foreign relations deem it not improper to present the report with the promptitude which the chamber has thought fit to allow, as well because the legal question involved appears to be perfectly clear, as because the same subject has for a long time been the object of their meditations, and also of the debates of the national representation.

In the judgement of the committee our fundamental code is perfectly clear in this part of it. The 110th article of the constitution places among the powers of the executive authority of the Union that of directing diplomatic negotiations and concluding treaties of peace, friendship, alliance, truce, federation, armed neutrality commerce and every other kind whatsoever; but it says that to grant or reissue the ratification of any one of these the approbation of the general congress must first be obtained. The executive power is also exclusive, according to the 15th number of the same article, to receive ministers and other agents of foreign powers.

These articles prove, in a manner incontrovertable, that by our constitutional laws, s among other civilized nations, the direction of foreign relations is entrusted exclusively to the executive; but without conferring on it the power to conclude anything definitively, or to bind the nation to anything without the consent of the legislative body. The same federal constitution places among the powers of congress, that of “approving treaties of peace, of alliance, of friendship, of federation, of armed neutrality, and every other kind whatsoever which the president of the United (Mexican) States may conclude with foreign powers.”

From all this we come to the conclusion that congress does not posses the power to entertain and cannot rightfully entertain the communication which the government of the United States has transmitted with a view to entering into negotiations for peace, and offering to name a minister for this purpose. And if this opinion appeared to us sound according to the federal constitution, when promulgated as a provisional code, and even since congress has acquired an augmentation of powers granted to it by the “Plan of he citadel” and the “convocatoria;” now that the nation is definitely constituted; or possesses a definite constitution- [esta definitivamente constituida] now that one of the
articles of the act of amendments declares expressly that "the powers of the Union are all derived from
the constitution, and are limited to the simple exercise of the faculties expressly designate in it;" now
that all public powers must be measured by it in the most rigorous manner, we can find no possible
objection to our opinion, for any other pact to which we have sworn.

Nevertheless we are not blind to the fact that instead of being a political theory, it has been a
sentiment of the purest, noblest patriotism in its origin, which has interposed so many difficulties in
order that upon a subject of so vast importance that course should be strictly followed which the
commands of constitution so distinctly mark out. Congress as the faithful representative of the wishes
of he people, who have been outraged by the most unjust of all aggressions, and are determined not t
consent that an ignominious treaty should secure to our neighbors the possession of the territory
usurped by theme, and wit it the dominion of this continent- terminating at the same time our political
existence in a manner which would not even entitle us to the compassion of other people-[congress]
has uniformly opposed every thing which should seem to open the way for a peace, which would at this
day be every way ignominious, and it has exercised the most jealous care and precaution to prevent
even the remotest danger of such a disaster.

The committee participates in these feelings, and would only observe that this constitution power
conferred upon the executive cannot be sailed by us, nor does it afford occasion for well founded
alarm, nor in fine is it possible that congress should itself discharge this duty. The management of
diplomatic negotiations demands such reserve, so much discussion, an activity so well timed, a system
of designs so well prosecuted, that it would be impossible to carry them on with certainty, if their
management were entrusted to a numerous body. The policy of all nations confirms this truth, and
there is no doubt that congress itself renounced the power of negotiation when in amending our
original constitutional pact, it determined that there should be no alteration in the provisions we have
cited, and left them to stand as they were.

On the other hand, in perfect consistency with these provisions, the executive can conclude
nothing definitively; it possesses no authority to consummate any arrangement which shall be binding
upon the republic; and congress very well knows that the executive, even in the exercise of its
constitutional exclusive faculties, under a representative system, finds itself constrained to pursue such
a course as may be designated by public opinion and the legislative body. In the position, truly strong
and respectable, which our constitution gives to congress, it, it possesses abundant peaceful and legal
resources, without exceeding it’s duties, to insure the interests of the nation in whatever manner it
may be compromised. For these reasons, therefore, the majority of he committee cannon propose any
other course than to return to the other government the dispatch, and if this report appears subscribed
by only two members of the committee, it should be borne in mind that our associate Sr. Ceballos, who
worthily presides over the committee, but who from his well known illness is unable to co operate with
us, has authorized us to express his agreement with us, and even offered to subscribe the report which
we should prepare expressive of our views, which we conclude with the following proposition:

With a copy of this report let the dispatch be returned to the government, because, in the
present situation of the affair, it comes within its cognizance, with the restrictions which are established
by the fundamental code of the republic.

OTERO.
LAFRINGUA.

Mexico, 13th July, 1847

The report being submitted to congress, underwent a discussion, and the vote being taken
upon it, it was approved the same day. Ayes 52- nays 22.

"We need hardly say, remarks the Picayune of the 12th instant, that this report appears to us an
authoritative, declaration on the part of the most intelligent political party in Mexico, in favor of the
continuance of the war. It is the declaration of the majority of the present congress, and of the party,
called Moderados, which would prevail in Mexico but for the interposition of the military. The same line
of argument which is maintained in the report the Republicano has strenuously pursued hitherto.

We infer from this report, that the embarrassments which have purposely been thrown in the
way of negotiations, are sanctioned by the intelligent liberal class in Mexico; that they were expressly
designed to guard against the possible corruption of their leaders, who might be induced to entertain
thoughts of peace." [BRR]
The Washington Union says:- "A letter has been received in Washington, from an officer of the army, as late as the 29th and 30th July. It states that General Scott would move upon the capital as soon as Gen. Pierce arrived with his reinforcements- about the 2d or 3d of August. Mr. Trist had been quite ill, but was then convalescent. We are happy to hear that Gen. Scott had waited upon him during his indisposition, to confer with him about the public concerns."

The Union also says:- "We can find nothing to confirm the statement which some of the letter writers from Washington are giving, as it appears in the Baltimore Sun of this morning, viz: that "a letter to which I referred in my last, has been received from Mr. Bankhead, by the British legation here in which he states, as I learn, the same thing and adds that the attempt, in which he assisted, to induce the Mexican government to listen to these proposals, utterly failed." [BRR]

NNR 72.399 August 21, 1847 Gen. John Ellis Wool ordered to advance on Encarnacion and San Luis
NNR 72.399 August 21, 1847 outrages committed by Mexicans on their countrywomen and countrymen

From the Rio Grande the most important item is the following article from the Matamoros Flag of the 4th inst.

ADVANCE UPON SAN LUIS- From Major Arthur, formerly quartermaster at Cerralvo, we learn that Gen. Wool ahs received orders to proceed with the advance of Gen. Taylos's column, on the 20th inst., in the direction of Encarnation, some twenty leagues from Buena Vista, where he will establish a depot, into which three months rations will be thrown.

The army will then advance upon San Luis and communication be opened with Tampico or Tuspan, from whence supplies will thereafter be received.- All the mules and other means of transportation have been ordered above and activity prevails throughout the whole department.

The Flag gives sad accounts of outrages perpetrated in the vicinity of Matamoros, by Mexicans upon their own countrywomen. The same paper mentions that the resident Mexicans near Parras lately applied to General Taylor to protect them from armed bands of their own countrymen, sent thither for the express purpose of ravaging the country and destroying the corps. [BRR]

NNR 72.399 August 21, 1847 Lt. Brown and party killed, Maj. Edmonson overtakes and chastises the murderers
NNR 72.399 August 21, 1847 another conspiracy discovered, Lt. Larkin and four privates killed

"ARMY OF THE NORTH"

Arrival from Santa Fe

Lieut. Brown and his party killed- Major Edmondson overtakes and chastises the murderers- another conspiracy discovered part of the returning party massacred. From the St. Louis Republican of August 12 and 13.

Another party of volunteers has returned to Fort Leavenworth from Santa Fe. They arrived on the 6th inst., and left Santa Fe on the 6th of last month. From Mr. Isaac McCarty, of the firm of Bullard, Hook & Co., traders to Mexico and Chihuahua, the following interesting information is derived.

When Mr. McCarty arrived at Bagos, 75 miles this side of Santa Fe, he learned that information had been received there on the 5th, that Lt. Brown, attached to Capt. Horine's company of volunteers, with several of his men had been killed at a small place about 15 miles from Bagos. On receiving this intelligence, Maj. Edmondson, with a party of his men pursued the Mexicans, overtook them, fought with, and killed five or six of them and captured between 30 and 40, whom he threatened to hang.

By this energetic conduct, Major E. induced a confession from some of them, that there was another conspiracy on foot to bring about a massacre and revolution at Taos and Bagos. A letter was found upon one of the prisoners, purporting, though not signed, to come from the ringleader of the former conspiracy, in which he desired to be informed of the precise time when Fischer's company of artillery would leave Santa Fe, as that was necessary to the maturity of his plans. He declared, in this letter, his determination never to rest while there as an American alive in New Mexico. Of the disposition of the prisoners, we have no further information:

Mr. McCarty met the first train of government wagons about one hundred miles from Santa Fe. Lieut. Love, who has charge of the government money amounting to more than $3,000,000 was met at the upper Seminone strings, and Col. Easton's battalion of infantry on the Arkansas. A few days previous to his meeting Col. Easton's command, while some of his men were employed in getting wood..."
on the opposite side of the river, they were completely surprised by a party of the Camanche Indians, by whom eight of the number were killed and three wounded.

One of the wounded was scalped alive, and was found in this situation by those who were sent to relieve them. He stated, that he was scalped by a white man, that he begged for his life, telling him that he had a family dependent upon him for support, but that the only reply received from his assailant was, that he did not care a d-n. We regret our not being able to state the names of the persons killed and wounded, or the company to which they belonged. It may be two or three days before we have the information.

Lieut. Simpson, of Maj. Clark’s artillery battalion was left at Council Grove, on his way home.

Since the above was written, we have learned that J. McClenahan and C. Quisenberry were among the number of persons killed at the time of the attack upon Lieut. Brown. One account states the whole number killed at fourteen.

John Avery, Martin, and Douglass, of Capt. Dent’s company, were landed from the Mamerlane, at St. Charles yesterday.

An extract of the same paper of August 13, says, Mr. Coulter, arrived in the Berland, from the Missouri, furnished later and somewhat different details in regard to the death of Lieut. Brown and his men. That officer, with McClenahan and Quisenberry, and a Mexican guide, left camp in pursuit of persons who had stolen horses from them. They did not return, and on the 5th of July information was received from a Mexican woman, that they had been murdered, and their bodies burnt.

Maj. Edmondson, on receiving this news, took measures to avenge their death. He marched with some sixty men, and a howitzer, against the town where the enormities were committed, and discovered that the inhabitants were flying to the mountains. He commanded them to stop, but as they did not do so, he fired upon them, killing six, wounding several others, and taking forty or fifty prisoners, it was ascertained that the bodies of two Americans were burnt, but that the body of Lieut. Brown, who had the emblem of the cross on his neck, and was supposed, from the circumstance, to be a Catholic, was hid in the mountains, where it was afterwards found. All the houses of persons concerned in the murder were burned to the ground, by order of the Major. Some of the articles of property lost in the engagement, at the Red River Canon were found at this place, showing that some of the inhabitants at least, were participants in the affair.

Lieut. Larkin and four privates surprised and killed!

Killed—Lieut. Larkin, and privates Owens, Wright, Mason and Wilkinson, belonging to a grazing party of Lieut. Col. Willock’s battalion, were surprised about daylight on the morning of the 6th July, and killed. Lieut. Brown, was a son of Robert T. Brown, of Perry county in this state. Young McClenahan was from St. Genevieve; and young Quisenberry was a volunteer from this county, the son of Mr. J. T. Quisenberry.

The news will fail with a crushing weight upon his parents— for he was a young man of excellent qualities, and greatly beloved by those who knew him. His return had been looked for, for some time, and, trusting that he had escaped from all the dangers of the service in which he had been engaged, we learn that his mother, with all a mothers care for her children, had prepared his room for him, even in the most minute particulars necessary for his comfort. [BRR]

NNR 72.400 August 21, 1847 Col. Henry R. Jackson’s vindication against a charge of having plundered the hacienda of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna

The Georgia Regiment.—Col. Henry R. Jackson, commanding this regiment, has addressed a letter to the Savannah Republican, vindicating his command from the charge of having plundered the hacienda of Santa Anna. He says:—

I was in command of the column to which the Georgia regiment was attached on its return march to Vera Cruz, and upon approaching Santa Anna’s hacienda, sent out (as was my custom) a special guard to protect it from molestation. This guard was indeed out before the regiments were dismissed. A highly reliable officer was in charge of it, who reported to me that the house had been completely stripped before our arrival, and that nothing valuable had been left un molested. Similar depredations had been committed upon all the ‘ranchos’ on the road. I heard at the time by whom and for what cause, but learning from experience how false many of these reports are, I am not disposed to give currency to what might have been a slander.

Upon my arrival at Vera Cruz, I made a report in person, of what I had seen, to Gen. Patterson, who informed me that he was already in possession of the facts, and likewise of some very valuable
paintings taken from a portion of the soldiery preceding as, which had been violently torn from their frames in the hacienda of Santa Anna. The idea of General Scott’s having written the letter alluded to, is of course, supremely ridiculous. [BRR]

NNR 72.400 August 21, 1847 “National Intelligencer” on Gen. Winfield Scott’s probable course

A leading editorial in this morning’s National Intelligencer commences thus:

We are satisfied, upon a deliberate review of all the public and private accounts that have reached as from Puebla, that no news of a decisive character need be looked for from that quarter for several weeks; one reason for this impression being the want of likelihood that GENERAL SCOTT would undertake to march his force for an attack upon the city of Mexico, without urgent necessity, during the rainy season, which began on the 10th of June, and will not end before late in September. There are other reasons against the probability of an immediate movement by the main body of the army upon the city; but this one reason being sufficient, it was hardly necessary to state the others which have influenced upon our mind, especially as they reach us through private channels. [BRR]

NNR 72.401 August 28, 1847 shifting of specie from New York to New Orleans for war expenses

U.S. FUNDS. There is a report very current about town, that very lately, $2,000,000 in specie was sent from a bank in New York to New Orleans for war purposes. That the operation might not produce alarm in the money market, the money was taken from the bank at midnight. Can the report be true? [Boston Atlas]

It is true that $2,000,000 in specie were taken [ . . . ] from this city and sent to New Orleans, via Philadelphia, Pittsburg and the Mississippi river. It was not, however, taken from a bank, but from the subtreasury. It was sent to New Orleans in charge of a clerk belonging to the treasury department, and was, as stated, taken from the treasury a little after midnight to the Philadelphia line. This transaction took place within a day or two after the promulgation of the report that an arrangement had been made with the Rothschilds, by which it would [ . . . ] be necessary to move coin, and the day after, [ . . . ] who had been in the habit of transporting specie south for the department had been informed that [ . . . ] would be wanted. [N.Y. Trib.]

[BRR]

NNR 72.401 August 28, 1847 invalids brought to Pensacola from Veracruz

The U.S. steam frigate Mississippi, Sidney Smith e, Lieut. Com’g, arrived at Pensacola, on the 14th ult. in five days from Vera Cruz.

The Mississippi, brought over for the naval hospital 144 officers, seamen, nd marines, belonging to the home squadron. Of the number taken from the other vessels of the squadron, none had died on the passage, and none of the 144 were confined to their hammocks.

Though invalids, they were able to be about, and the sickness could not be considered dangerous.-

Among the sick are Surgeon Lewis Minor and Passed Assistant Surgeon John Thornley.

All communication between the Mississippi and the shore had been interdicted, so that little news transpired. Com. Perry had transferred his flag to the sloop of war Germantown.

The fever was prevailing to a considerable extent on board the sloop of war Decatur. Midshipman Carmichael had recently died of it.

It was supposed at Pensacola that the Mississippi would shortly return to Vera Cruz as her crew is intolerable health. Her arrival had led to some delay in despatching the schooner Flirt to Vera Cruz.

Surgeons Geo. Terrill and W. A. W. Spotswood have been ordered to report to Com. Perry for duty in the home squadron. It continues quite healthy in Pensacola.
From the Commercial Advertiser.

The Sub-Treasury.- It has been rumored, for a day or two, that arrangements were making for the transportation of one or two millions of specie to New Orleans, via the magnetic telegraph, or in some other mysterious way, by which the specie should remain in Wall street, and at the same time the government should have it in New Orleans. We can now say that the arrangement was yesterday consummated- one million of specie being taken out of the sub-treasury and placed in the State Bank, as the first step of its progress southward.

We cannot, of course, know what security is taken by the secretary of the treasury that the specie shall be delivered in New Orleans. It is probably an agreement of certain banks or individuals to pay the sum stipulated within a specified time, it being understood that they get it there in such manner as they may find convenient or profitable. When the government employs the express house to transport their funds, a bill of lading or receipt is given for certain boxes containing so much specie; and the delivery by them of any other boxes, or any alteration of the contents, would be a breach of contract. In such cases we are bound to suppose the government allows no tampering with its money. But the arrangement completed yesterday is for a different character. It does not require the delivery of the identical specie, but merely and equivalent amount of specie, and hence adds to the responsibility assumed by the secretary of the treasury, that of the parties with whom the arrangement is made- not merely that, as honest men, they will transport it safely, but that, as solvent men, they will be able to deliver it at the appointed time and place, because they are allowed the use of the money until the time specified for its repayment.

The Advertiser proceeds to comment on this as a violation of the sub-treasury law and to speak of the transaction as a loaning of the government funds, and as such, a felony in Mr. Walker.

On this the New York Courier remarks as follows: "There is, we believe, no doubt but the secretary of the treasury, in order to save to the government the expense of transporting the specie to New Orleans, and in order to guard against a further drain of two millions of specie from this city, has made an arrangement with a capitalist by which the wants of the treasury will be supplied, and, at the same time, the specie not be moved. Such, we learn, will be the effect of the arrangement; and right glad are we to learn it. But the secretary of the treasury, as we understand, simply turns over the specie here to Mr. A B, with orders to deliver the amount in New Orleans on a day named! This is doubtless in compliance with the letter of a bad law; and the single fact that it cannot be carried out in spirit, demonstrates that it should be rejected. The procedure, however, is one which cannot be otherwise than favorable to commerce, and will, at the same time, save a large sum to the country. If it also proves the folly of the sub-treasury, so much the better. We certainly shall not complain of it on that account."

The Union gives the following explanation of the transaction:

"Now the transfer made by the secretary is in exact conformity not only with the letter, but also with the spirit of the law. The power is not to transport specie from one depository to another, but to "transfer moneys."

Now, the simple question is, whether the same identical dollars in gold and silver must be transported from the depository in N. York to the depository in New Orleans, or whether the same amount of specie may not lawfully be transferred under the law. The secretary is to "transfer money’s from one depository to another" at his discretion,” “as the safety of the public moneys and the convenience of the public service shall seem to him to require.” The secretary is vested by law with full discretion to judge of the mode of transfer, and is to make the transfer in such mode or modes as he may deem most safe and convenient.

Well, what is the present case? The secretary of the treasury is called upon by the war department, a few weeks in advance, to place certain amounts in specie, at certain dates, at New Orleans, for the prosecution for the war. Based upon the requisitions, the secretary, under the law, contracts with a capitalist of undoubted solvency at New York, who receives the specie there, to deposit the amounts required in specie at New Orleans at the times designated by the secretary of war. To the secretary and the government it makes no difference whether same identical dollars be deposited in New Orleans, provided the amount in specie is the same, and that the deposit received in specie is made in specie. Nor does the law make, either in its letter or spirit, any such absurd requisition as to deposite the identical dollars; nor has it ever been so construe, but always otherwise.
In the present case, the transfer was made of two millions in specie, to be delivered in specie at New Orleans within an average period of thirty eight days from the actual receipt of the money in New York. Now, in the present stage of the water, it would take at least twenty days to transport the specie from New York To New Orleans, even if it were all sent at once in the same conveyance; but as this might probably be unsafe or impracticable, we submit whether an average period of thirty eight days is too long to allow for the transfer of two millions in specie from New York to New Orleans. The idea of a loan never entered into the head of the secretary, nor, considering the duty to be performed would such a thing be possible. The secretary, under the law, simply contracts for the delivery of so much specie in New Orleans; and, if the party making the contract already has the specie of his own in New Orleans, is it not much more safe and convenient for him to deposite that specie in New Orleans, which is already there, rather than incur the greater delay and hazard of sending from New York to New Orleans the identical dollars received at New York? The truth is, such as idea never occurred to any friend of the constitutional treasury; and it is only its enemies who desire to destroy it by rendering it unsafe or impracticable, that can give the law such a construction.” [BRR]

A TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF THOSE GALLANT OFFICERS OF THE 1ST DRAGOONS, WHO Fell IN DEFENCE OF THEIR COUNTRY IN THE PRESENT WAR

Death loves to strike
Where deepest he can wound:
And deepest loss his shafts inflict
Is not the numbers- but the men.

If, as the poet says, "death loves a shining mar," truly does the demon of war select for his victims the choicest spirits among the noble and the brave. How large and frequent have been his gleanings f this kind among the officers and men of our gallant, though little army, as if to neutralize the glory it has acquired in the present war, and as a tax upon the immortal fame of its unparalleled achievements! He has demanded, time and again, the flower and chivalry of the noble spirits that compose her gallant regiments and on the 1st dragoons his exactions have been painfully exorbitant.

This regiment had acquired under the command of Col. KEARNY, a high rank- a most enviable reputation for accomplished soldiership. The personel of this regiment, moral, intellectual and physical, was of the very highest order, and furnished a living and mighty demonstration, resistless as the omnipotency of truth, that moral and intellectual qualities are the strength, glory and efficiency of the soldier. And when the war began- when the first notes of the clarion came upon the breeze of the south- how ardent the enthusiasm, how uncontrollable the desire in every breast to hasten to the field of strife, to join their brother soldiers there. But what a change has one short year wrought among and upon that gallant band, that left here so full of hope- so replete with devotion to their country- so ambitious of fame.- Who can recall to remembrance without sad and mournful reflections, their gallant bearing- their proud and brilliant array, as they defiled from out the grove that shades the green parade of the fort, as the band poured forth the rich and soul-inspiring notes of our finest national airs! The very horses appeared to partake of the martial enthusiasm for the their riders, and to be impatient for the battle they seemed to smell afar off. But alas! how many of those stalwart arms are now paralyzed in death! How many of those gallant hearts, whose every pulsation was for honor, truth and chivalry, are cold and still as the dust of the valley that enshrouds their mouldering bodies! How many of those gallant and manly forms that were borne away on their proud and prancing steeds, now sleep the sleep that knows no waking, and year after year the lone minds of heave shall wail their sad requiem over their slumbering dust, while spring, unconscious of sorrow, wo and care, will hang her garlands of peace around, and autumn will shower his faded glories- sad emblems of mortality upon the lonely graves of the good, the generous, and the brave.

The first on the list of the gallant officers of the 1st dragoons, who fell in battle, is Capt. JOHN H. K. BURGWIN, than whom a better or braver man never yielded his life to the cause of his country. A brief notice of this wost estimable man and invaluable officer, is all we can present, for no communication, however extended and ably drawn, could do justice to his merits. He was a native of N. Carolina and descended from one of the first families in the state, where his father still resides to mourn his irreparable loss.

At an early age Captain BURGWIN entered West Point academy- an institution that is equaled by none in the world, and which has imparted that high moral and chivalrid character to our army, which renders its officers so invincible in war, and so distinguished for the gentler virtues in peace. He graduated with distinguished honors, and then entered the army, serving some years in the infantry, from which he was transferred to the 1st dragoons at its formation, in which he served until his death, which occurred on the 7th of February last, from a wound received on the 4th of that month, at the battle of Puebla De Taos in N.M. He fell in the 37th year of his age, lamented by all, for none knew him, but to love and esteem him.
The writer of this short biography, who was honored with his friendship and intimacy for several years, can say of him, that here is not a virtue which adorns and elevates human character, that Captain BURGWIN did not possess in its living and practical character, and the writer can as truly say, that if he possessed a single defect, he know it not. His mind was of the first order, and highly cultivated, not only in all that pertained to his profession, but also in all that constituted the general science and literature of the times; and with the firmness and inflexibility of the soldier were combined the choicest refinement of manners, purity of sentiment, integrity of principle, and gentleness of spirit. Nature seems in him to have furnished a living demonstration of an important truth, which many are slow in receiving- that every virtue which can beautify humanity, can enter into combination with the highest virtues and noblest excellencies of the soldier- and that the latter, are all the better, the brighter, and the nobler, when found in combination with the former.

In the language of the master poet and delineator of human character, we would say of our lamented friend,

"His life was gentle, and the elements
So mixed in him, that nature might stand up
And say to all the world,
This was a man."

The next is Capt. BENJAMIN D. MOORE, who fell at San Pasqual, in California, the 6th of December, gallantly fighting the battle of his country against overwhelming numbers. Captain MOORE was born in Davis, Bourbon county, Kentucky. At the age of sixteen he received a midshipman's appointment to the United States navy, and was employed several years on many an active and remote cruise. In this service he acquired in a high degree the esteem and confidence of his superior officers and messmates, and passed his examination with great credit.

After several years absence on hard service, he returned on a visit to his family, who had removed to Illinois. This was at the commencement of the Black Hawk war. Capt. Moore entered into Capt. Mathew Duncans's company of mounted rangers and was elected first lieutenant of the company, and in that capacity served with great ability during the war; and when the rangers were consolidated into the 1st dragoon, his gallantry and good conduct gained him the appointment permitting him to change his commission from the navy as a [ . . . ] and merited favor.

From that time until his death, his character and conduct as an officer, gentleman, and soldier, were such as secured to him universal esteem. Time would fail to tell of his many and most estimable qualities- of his intrepid courage- his exalted sense of honor- his devotion to his profession, and to his country through his profession- his chivalry, his magnanimity, and his detestation of whatever was dishonorable and mean; and then his generosity and unerring hospitality, how many can testify to the qualities. His hear was alike full of true benevolence as patriotic devotion; and his hand was ever as ready to relieve the distress of others, as his arm was strong to strike for his country. And in all thoughts, feelings, calculations and actions, such never appeared to have a voice or a hearing. For others he alone seemed to exist, as for others he died. As a husband, none could be more affectionate, devoted and kind, and as a father, none could exceed him in paternal tenderness and care. Two children mourn their sad bereavement and early orphanage, their mother having died a few years previous.

In the action in which he lost his life, he was pierced with sixteen lance wounds; his sword was shivered to pieces, after he had cut down some of the Mexicans, and he fell dead, grasping the hilt in his hand.

The next in this distinguished list of heroes, is Capt. ABRAHAM JOHNSTON, who also fell at the same time and place with Capt. Moore.

Capt. JOHNSTON was a native of Ohio, and a graduate of West Point. He was an excellent officer, and a gentleman of most excellent character, and most moral and amiable in his conduct and manners. His mind was of the highest order, and was a most devoted worshipper in the temple of science; his scientific acquisitions were very great, and his love and pursuit of it were most ardent and unwearied. His scientific journal, which he was keeping in the expedition to California, would have been interesting and valuable had he lived to complete it.

The last on this list, is Lieut. THOS C HAMMOND, who was also a graduate of West Point, and had been a little more than three years in the service. But he gave early promise of becoming a valuable officer. Generous, noble, honorable and highminded, he was proud of his profession, and panted for distinction on the battle field, but his first battle was also his last. He fell beside Capt. Moore, who he endeavored to save. They were brothers in law- both having married daughters of Judge Hughes, a worthy citizen of Latte county, Mo. And thus those two gallant officers, most amiable in life, and united together by life's holiest and dearest ties, "in death were not divided."

Lieutenant HAMMOND leaves a young and amiable wife, and one child, to weep their loss; and his mother, now also a widow, (for his father is dead, Gen'l. Hammond, late paymaster in the U.S. army) resides in Milton, Pennsylvania, to mourn over her double bereavement.
Thus have fallen, in the flower of their days, some of the noblest of our country's chivalry. But we indulge the hope—the more than hope—that they rest from their labors with Him, who is the "resurrection and the life."

LEANDER KER,
Chaplain U.S. Army.

NNR 72.409 August 28, 1847, expectation that guerrillas can be driven from the sand hills near Vera Cruz and the road opened to Jalapa

Two hundred mules, laden with sugar and other articles from Orizaba and above, had just arrived at Vera Cruz, which is the first opening that a trade with the interior has experienced. The writer feels confident that, as they have a body of 200 cavalry in the town, they can act on the offensive and drive the guerrillas back from the sand hills; and that as soon as Col. Hughes should arrive with his corps of cavalry, &c, they would have no difficulty opening the road at least to Jalapa. The idea of such an event was calculated to inspire everybody, and especially the foreign merchants, with the hope that foreign importations will increase and specie come down to the city. It was said there was six millions in money and bullion waiting for the opening of the road. The writer confirms the intelligence of 1,100 troops leaving on the 6th inst. to join the main army under the command of Col. Wilson, (of North Carolina) who had arrived there a day or two previous; but he was unable to join them in consequence of an attack of the fever. [LTR]

NNR 72.409 August 28, 1847, "Union's" denial of the "National Intelligencer's" statement on Gen. Winfield Scott's actions

In a postscript in our last, we inserted part of a leading editorial from the National Intelligencer of that morning, relative to the movements of General Scott.

The Washington Union of Monday thus notices the article:

"Wen do not know to what its [the National Intelligencer's] "private channels' of information may be but we doubt in one respect the accuracy of the information of the National Intelligencer. We know perfectly well that General Scott has received no instruction from the department to suspend his operations in consequence of the weather, or of want of reinforcements or of any other cause whatever, except the ratification of a treaty. We know, further, that the department has received no such notice of his intentions as stated by the National Intelligencer, from General Scott himself, or any other officer of the army. We know further, that a letter has been received by one of the principal bureaus of Washington, from a most intelligent officer of General Scott's army, and very much in his confidence, who states that the negotiation is said to have failed; and, therefore, as soon as General Pierce should join him with his detachment, the general would march on to occupy the capital. We are also almost sure that General Scott has every motive to strike at the capital, and that nothing but insurmountable difficulties or the most urgent necessity would induce him to risk his own military character and the glory of the service, and the chance of negotiation and of peace, by declining to take possession of the capital. For General Scott to postpone his advance until "late September," for fear of the rain, would be to put everything at hazard."

The Union then goes on to argue that the "rains" are not usually such as should prevent the advance of Gen. Scott, and though it does not say that he will not advance, yet it leaves an impression that he may fail to do so, and thus bring down upon him the severest censure. [LTR]

NNR 72.409 August 28, 1847 failure of efforts to exchange Midshipman Robert Clay Rodgers

From The Army.- Letters have been received in this city by the last arrivals from Vera Cruz.- Among them is an interesting letter, (which we have seen,) from Puebla, of the 28th of July. General Scott had sent on a flag of truce on the subject of prisoners. It went forward on the 13th, and with it Lieut. R. Semmes, of the navy, who had been sent on some time since to Gen. Scott's camp, for the purpose of effecting on exchange for Midshipmen Rodgers, of the navy, and, if necessary, threatening retaliation in case the Mexicans should treat him as a spy

This flag, however, was stopped by the Mexican authorities a couple of miles beyond the Rio Frio, and some thirty-five miles from the city of Mexico. They refused the flag any admission into the city,
and the dispatches were necessarily sent on by the Mexicans themselves. A reply had been received from the Mexican government agreeing to exchange Mr. Rodgers, with the other prisoners; but the terms of exchange ha not yet been settled, but probably would be in a few weeks. In consequence of this reply. Lieutenant Semmes had deemed it most prudent to withhold Commodore Perry’s peremptory letter. [LTR]

NNR 72.409 August 28, 1847, Nicholas Phillip Trist despairs of negotiating at present

This letter from Puebla further states that Mr. Trist, who had been endeavoring for a month previously to open a negotiation with the Mexican government, had abandoned all hope of success—at least for the present. Mr. Buchanan’s letter had reached Santa Anna through the courteous offices of Mr. Bankhead, and, as we have seen it repeatedly stated in the papers, was referred by Santa Anna to the congress—a session of this body being called for that purpose. After many delays, and much apparent unwillingness to meet, the congress assembled with a quorum of 74 members on the 13th of July. It immediately took the subject into consideration, and, as we have seen it stated, adopted a report and resolution to the following effect, viz: that it belonged to the executive, under their constitution, to receive all ministers and other public agents, and to make treaties of peace, alliances, &c.; that the functions of congress were limited to the approving or disapproving of these treaties when made; and that, consequently, until a treaty should be submitted to it in form, it could take no constitutional action on the subject. Accordingly the congress returned Mr. Buchanan’s letter to Santa Anna, and adjourned on the same day it had met. The letter states there had been no meeting since most of the members having run off. It goes on to the state that, upon the receipt of this report and these resolutions, Santa Anna issued a proclamation, stating that congress, on the 20th of April last, had passed a decree declaring that any Mexican in authority, who should proposition for peace from the enemy, should be deemed a traitor and treated accordingly; and that, until this decree was repealed, his hands were tied, and he could do nothing; adding, at the same time, that as Mr. Buchanan’s letter was courteous, it was due to the character of the Mexican nation to give it at least a polite reception and consideration. Thus, says the letter, the matter stands—neither Santa Anna nor the congress daring to take the responsibility of treating with us, and leaving us no alternative but to march to the capital, subdue and occupy it. “It is barely possible when Santa Anna shall be again beaten and his troops dispersed, that he may be overthrown by a revolution, and that the new party may make peace with us.” The writer, however, thinks it quite likely, considering the dogged obstinacy of the race, that they will reject the olive branch for the present, and compel us to prosecute the war with a greater and a more sweeping vigor. [LTR]

NNR 72.409 August 28, 1847, refusal of the Mexican congress to consider overtures for peace

We have not yet sufficient data to calculate the chances of peace or war; but as Mexico is famous for her dilatory policy and her inconsistent counsels, and as from her character we should suppose that she may employ negotiation with the idle hope of gaining time, so we cannot doubt our military operations will not be seriously suspended until the ratification of a treaty of peace. We presume our propositions, if they should be submitted, are drawn so clearly and distinctly as not to admit of much evasion or delay. We date to venture another suggestion—that the administration is preparing for either fortune, and that additional preparations are making a vigorous prosecution of the war, if such necessity should be imposed upon us. [LTR]

NNR 72.409 August 28, 1847, Gen. Winfield Scott awaiting Gen. Franklin Pierce before advancing on to Mexico

The letter states that Gen. Scott was only awaiting the arrival of Gen. Pierce, who was expected in about ten days, to move forward. Many were expecting a greater battle on the plains of Mexico, as Santa Anna is said to have 25,000 troops, and has fortified the city and its approaches. [LTR]

NNR 72.409 August 28, 1847, various rumors about the Mexican peace party, gathering of Mexican troops at Mexico City

We have seen a later letter from Vera Cruz—viz: on the 7th of August. The writer then indulges more hope of peace—the dawning of which, as he states, the British minister speaks of in his letter to the British consul at Vera Cruz. And even some officers of distinction in Mexico had expressed to their Mexican friends in Vera Cruz the same opinion. This letter also states Col. Wilson had just received a letter from Gen. Soto, the Mexican governor of Orizaba, saying that he will exchange Lieutenant Whipple, recently taken by the guerrillas, for a lieutenant colonel, who is known in Vera Cruz, and will also give four other American prisoners into the bargain; but the colonel is rather scrupulous in
undertaking the responsibility of the exchange. [LTR]

NNR 72.409-410 August 28, 1847, correspondence between Gen. Winfield Scott and Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna relative to peace intercepted by the Mexicans

The New Orleans La Patria, of the 15th, publishes letters from Tampico, from which we give some extracts below, stating that a private correspondence had been intercepted between Gen. Scott and Gen. Santa Anna, which had produced much excitement at the capital. It carries rather a treasonable appearance on the face of it, as regards to Santa Anna, but he explains it by saying he was endeavoring to lead Gen. Scott into a trap.

We have no opportunity of knowing how far the correspondence of La Patria may be depended on, but the tenor of the last advices from Puebla and Mexico, are of a nature, we think, to render the present information very probable. N.O. Bulletin. Tampico, Aug. 6th, 1847. In a letter dated the 9th August, published in La Patria, the information respecting the “intercepted correspondence” is confirmed. [LTR]

NNR 72.410 August 28, 1847, troops under Gen. Gabriel Valencia arrive at Mexico City

The division under Gen. Valencia, from San Luis, it was expected, had joined Santa Anna at the capital, with which his forces would number about 30,000 men, who are in want of neither provisions or water. [LTR]

NNR 72.410 August 28, 1847, dispute between Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna and the Mexican Congress on entertaining peace overtures

Mexico- Santa Anna has made a new communication to congress, through the secretary of foreign affairs, in which he tells them, that if they area not willing to take the responsibility on the subject of Mr. Buchanan’s letter, neither is he. That he does not wish congress to take the initiative, further than to express its opinion, whether the proposals from the American government shall be listened to or not. If congress will express their opinion on this point, it will be followed by him. If it wishes him to listen to the proposals of the United States, he will do so, and he then knows what his duties are.

Congress has given no answer to this, as no quorum can be obtained. There is an existing law, declaring all those traitors, who propose a peace, and the executive would certainly come within the provisions of the law, if he opened negotiations for that object. As matters now stand, there appears but little prospect of any thing being done, as in the position that Santa Anna has assumed, with congress, it is very evident that he cannot enter into any negotiations until congress has acted on the subject and expressed their assent to the measure.

The result, probably will be the immediate advance of Gen. Scott. The capture of the capital, and then possibly, perhaps, even probably, congress may express its willingness that negotiations should be opened. Even however, if this was done the views fo the two governments, are so opposite, as regards terms, particularly as to territory, that we see but little chance of their agreeing.

The Mexicans, however, seem confident of being able to defend their city successfully. If they can do so, all hopes or probability of peace would vanish entirely. A repulse of General Scott, situated as he is, we should regard as equal to an actual defeat, as the whole country would rise like a swarm of bees upon his meeting with any serious reverse.

So confident are the enemy in their strength, that it is stated, they intend to dispatch a considerable force from the capital towards Vera Cruz, in order the more effectually to cut off all communications in the rear, and intercept supplies coming up. The force in and near the city, is estimated at 30,000 men. [LTR]

NNR 72.410 August 28, 1847, details of a letter from Tampico

Extract from a letter from Tampico, dated 7th of August:

“Our dates from the capital are to the 30th. Gen. Scott had moved. The letters are very barren of political news, as, since the expedition, writers are afraid to compromise themselves. Our regular mail
from the city, is for the present, destroyed, owing as much to the late expedition, as to the order of Col. Gates that all letters should first be shown to him previous to distribution. They, however, find their way in, by private hands; owing to these late orders, the contents are only spoken of confidentially.

“You will find herewith, an order from the colonel of the 7th, in which citizens are forbid furnishing any article, that might find its way to the public press, under penalty of expulsion. I learned the order will be strictly enforced, without regard to the amount of sacrifice that might be incurred by the parties.

“It will effectually prevent criticism, and allow the colonel to pen his reports to his own satisfaction.”

NNR 72.410 August 28, 1847, withdrawal of troops under Gen. Jose Urrea from Tula

“The troops that were at Tula, under General Urrea, have been withdrawn to the interior leaving no enemy’s force this side of the mountains, exceeding 300 men, and they are detached in small guerrilla bands.”

NNR 72.410 August 28, 1847, American comments on the leadership of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna

Santa Anna-The Nashville “Union” coincides with the Richmond Enquirer, in considering it fortunate that Santa Anna was placed in command of the Mexican army. The paper says:

“We are not aware that any mischief has been done by Santa Anna to the advance of our arms-On the contrary, we think that if we can keep such cowards at the head of the Mexican army we shall have easy work of it, compared with what we should have if Paredes, or Arista, or Vega were at the head of the Mexican forces; and we have also supposed that he would make a peace as soon as he could though he has now to appear to be warlike to do away with the charge of cowardice.”

NNR 72.410 August 28, 1847, Brownson’s “Quarterly Review” on the war

Mr. Brownson, the late editor of the Democratic Review, who now publishes the Quarterly Review, in his last number, in reference to the Mexican war, says-

“For ourselves, we have regarded the Mexican war from the first as uncalled for, impolitic, and unjust. We have examined the documents published by order of the government; we have read the official defence of the war in the last annual message of the president to congress, and with every disposition to find our own government in the right; but we are bound to say, that our original impressions have been strengthened rather than weakened. The president undoubtedly, makes it clear that we had many just causes of complaint against Mexico, which at the time of their occurrence might have justified reprisals, perhaps even war, but he cannot plead these in justification of the present war, for they were not the ground on which we professed to engage in it. The official announcement of the president to congress was that the war already existed between the two republics, by the act of Mexico herself, and whatever use we may make of old grievances in adjusting the terms of peace, we can make no use of them in defending the war. We can plead in its defence only the fact on which we grounded it namely, war exists by the act of Mexico herself. But unhappily, at the time of the official announcement, war did not exist between the two republics at all, for neither republic had declared war against the other. There had been a collision of their forces, but this was not war, as the president would have conceded, had he known or recollected the distinction between war and hostilities. By placing the war on the ground that it existed by the act of Mexico, and that ground being false, he has left it wholly indefensible, whatever the old grievances we may have to allege against Mexico.

“The act of Mexico in crossing the Rio Grande, and engaging our troops on territory which she had possessed and still claimed as hers, but which we asserted had, by a recent act against which she had protested, become ours-the act which the president chose to inform congress and the world was war-may or may not have been a just cause for declaring war against her, but it assuredly was not war itself. We have no intention to justify Mexico. She may have been decidedly in the wrong; she may have had no valid title to the territory of which the president had just taken military occupation; that territory may have been rightfully ours, and it may even have been the duty of the president to occupy and defend it;--but it cannot be denied that she had once possessed it; that it was still apart of one of her states or provinces; that she still claimed it, and had continued to exercise jurisdiction over it, till driven from it by our army of occupation; that she invaded it with an armed force, if invasion it can be called, not as territory belonging to us, but as territory belonging to her; and that she attacked our troops, not for the reason that they were intruders, on her soil. The motive of her act was not war.
"At this very moment Mexico holds out in the war exclusively on the arguments and pretenses which

"No sophistry can make her act war,-certainly not without conceding that our act in taking military possession of that territory was also war; and if that was war, if it existed at all, it existed by our act and not by hers, for her act was consequent upon ours. The most that the president was at liberty to say, without condemning his own government, was that there had been a collision of the forces of the two republics on a territory claimed by each; but this collision he had no right to term war, for everybody knows that it takes something more than a collision of the respective forces on a disputed territory to constitute a war between two civilized nations. In no possible point of view was the announcement of the president that war existed between the two republics, and existed by the act of Mexico, correct. It did not exist at all; or if it did it existed not by act of Mexico, but by our act. In either case, the official announcement was false, and cannot be defended.

"The president may have been governed by patriotic motives; he may have felt that a prompt and energetic action was required; he may have believed that in great emergencies the chief magistrate of a powerful republic, having to deal with a weak and distracted state, should rise superior to mere technical forms, and the niceties of truth and honor; but it strikes us that he would have done better, proved himself more patriotic, and sufficiently prompt and energetic, if he had confined himself to the ordinary rules of morality, and the well defined principles of international law. By aspiring to rise above these and to appear original, he has placed his country in a false position, and debarred himself, whatever the just causes of war Mexico may have given us from pleading one of them in justification of the actual war. We must be permitted to regret that he did not reflect before-hand, that, if he placed the defence of the war on the ground that it already existed, and existed by the act of Mexico herself, and on that ground demanded of congress the means of prosecuting it, he would, in case that ground proved to be untenable, as he must have known it would, have nothing whatever to allege in its or his own justification. He should have been lawyer enough to have known that he could not plead anew, after having failed on his first issue. It is often hazardous in our pleadings to plead what is not true, and in doing so in the present case, the president has not only offended morality, which he may regard as a small matter, but has even committed a blunder.

"The course the president should have pursued is plain and obvious. On learning the state of things on the frontier, the critical condition of our army of occupation, he should have demanded of congress the reinforcements and supplies necessary to relieve and secure the purpose for which it was avowedly sent to the Rio Grande; and, if he believed it proper or necessary, to have in addition laid before congress a full and truthful statement of our retaliations with Mexico including all the unadjusted complaints past and present, we had against her, accompanied by the recommendation of a declaration of war. He would then have kept within the limits of his duty, proved himself a plain constitutional president, and left the responsibility of war or no war to congress the only war making power known to the laws.-Congress after mature deliberations, might or might not have so or not the responsibility would have resulted with it, and no blame would have attached to the president

"Unhappily, this course did not occur to the president, or was too plain and simple to meet his probation. As if fearful, if congress deliberated, it might refuse to declare war, and as if determined to have war a any rate, he presented to congress, not the true issue, whether the war should or should not be declared-but the false issue, whether congress would grant hi the means of prosecuting a war waged against us by a foreign power. In the true issue, congress might have hesitated-in the one actually presented there was no room to hesitate if the official announcement of the president was to be credited, and hesitation would have been criminal.

"By declaring the war already existed, and by the act of Mexico herself, the president relieved congress of the responsibility of the war, by throwing it on Mexico. But since he cannot fasten it on Mexico,-for war did not already exist, or if so, by our act and not hers,-it necessarily recoils upon himself, and he must bear the responsibility of doing what the constitution forbids him to do,-of making war without the intervention of congress. In effect, therefore, he has trampled the constitution under his feet set a dangerous precedent, and by the official publication of a palpable falsehood, sullied the national honor.

"It is with no pleasure that we speak thus of the chief magistrate of the Union, for whose elevation to his high and responsible office we ourselves voted. But whatever may be our attachment to party, or the respect we hold to be due from all good citizens to the civil magistrate, we cannot see the constitution violated; and the national honor sacrificed, whether by friend or foe, from good motives or bad, without entering, feeble though it be, our stern and indigenous protest.” [LTR]

NRR 72.410-411 August 28,1847, Washington "Union” on the Whig Party's policy toward the war with Mexico

The Washington Union charges the Whig party with inducing the Mexicans to continue the war. The following is from the paper:

"At this very moment Mexico holds out in the war exclusively on the arguments and pretenses which
the opposition orators and presses among ourselves have framed for her, and instructed her to employ. She says we have “robbed” her of Texas. She has adopted both the idea and the phrase of it from the recognized organs of the creed of the opposition. She says we are fighting her to oppress and degrade her, and dismember her territory. She finds the very terms she uses, set down for her in the opposition speeches and journals, and beholds the opposition party of our country rallied upon them as a party motto. She proclaims that to her the question is a question of national existence: and for proof of her assertion, she points to such devices as the “lust of conquest” and the “destruction of a sister republic,” emblazoned on every flag. She calls her people to resistance and endurance, and such predatory battle is they have yet the power to make, avowedly on the hope that the administration her must soon abandon the war; and, as a reason for such faith, she cites the abased diatribes in which the leading organs of the opposition have again and again labored to demonstrate that our war has yet “conquered” nothing but the “spirit of our own constitution” and that its unpopularity with the people must soon eject from power the councils in which it has been waged. Her rulers tell her people that peace is dishonor; and find their warrant to say so in the federal invectives which denounce the war on our part as “ruthless rapine and murder,” and call upon the Mexicans to “welcome the invaders with bloody hands and a hospitable grave.” Her government journals announce to their deluded readers the approaching advent of “a better spirit towards Mexico” in our government, and for proof, they cite the stereotyped federal motto of “no more Mexican territory.”

Mainly—nay, almost solely—upon such federal paid and comfort, the war of Mexico holds out. She looks for help to her “allies” here. American action fights her battle for her, when she can no longer battle with hope of success in the field. The war has been full of victories. Thanks to the ability with which it has been planned and organized, and the high-souled valor with which it has been fought our conflicts have been victories. The military prowess of our people and of our institutions has excited the astonishment and won the admiration of the world. But the fury of faction has found, in the freedom of those same institutions, “room and verge” enough to rally a “peace party” with power to rob our victories, in large measure, of their moral effect upon our enemy, to inspire her new courage and so to protract her hostilities even when the sinews of her war are broken and withered.

NRR 72.411 August 28, 1847, New Hampshire “Statesman” on the Whig party and the Mexican war

The New Hampshire Statesman, inserts the above under the caption of “WHO PROTRACTS THE WAR” and says:—“The federalists are continually denouncing the government for not bringing the war to a close, while they themselves are doing more than any body else to prevent what they pretended so ardentely to desire. They in fact caused the war; for no one believes that the Mexicans would ever have committed the first act of hostility, if they had not been encouraged to do so by their allies in this country. It was the conduct of the Mexican sympathizers here that caused the war; and we have abundant evidence that it is their conduct—the encouragement, “aid and comfort” which they are daily affording the Mexicans—which is protracting the war.”

The Statesman concluded its editorial by saying:—“With these incontrovertible facts before them, the intelligent and patriotic people of this country will have no difficulty in determining where rests the responsibility of the continuance of war. They will see that but for federal “aid and comfort” the Mexicans would have accepted our offers of peace months ago; they will see that our country has been robbed of the fruits of her score of splendid victories, by “the base and selfish purpose of faction,” and seeing this, and these factionists still continue their base game, they will readily infer that before we can secure that peace which we desire and which we are fighting to obtain, we must conquer and disarm the foe from within our own borders.” [LTR]

NRR 72.411 August 28, 1847, letter from the Army of Occupation

Extract of a letter from the army, dated “Camp near Monterey, July 27, 1847.

“We are absolutely without news in this quarter and are anxiously looking towards Mexico, expecting to hear either of an armistice or the occupation of the capital by our troops. Should there be no peace, a forward movement will be made by this column, by 1st September. Gen. Taylor will probably be able to take with him about 6,000 men.

“The troops have been very unhealthy at Saltillo and Mier, where a large camp has been established; at the latter place they are improving; all is quiet in this part of Mexico” [LTR]

NRR 72.411 August 28, 1847, Mexican atrocities near Matamoros, barbarities near Parras

ATROCITIES—Robbery, rape, and hanging appear to be the order of the day among the rancheros in the
neighborhood of Matamoros. A few days ago a party of robbers went to the house of a Mexican in the
country, and while a few of them amused themselves by hanging the man, the rest perpetrated the
two first named crimes. There are bands of lawless desperado Mexicans prowling about our vicinity,
whom it would be well for our scouting parties to look out for. The hanged Mexican was not much hurt-
the object of his tortures being more to divert his attention from what the others were doing, than any
thing else. [LTR]

NNR 72.411 August 28, 1847, arrival of a portion of Col. Alexander William Doniphan’s command at
Saint Louis

ARRIVAL FROM THE RIO GRANDE-The party who were detailed from Col. Doniphan’s regiment to start
from Carmargo to St. Louis, by a land route, to take in charge the horses, mules, &c. belonging to the
regiment arrived in this city on Wednesday evening last. They accomplished the trip of seventeen hundred miles in about six weeks. They arrived with about one hundred mules-being but about one
half of the stock they started with. The horses, almost all, failed to stand the journey, and died, or
were left behind from exhaustion. [LTR]

NNR 72.411 August 28, 1847 "the starving Mexicans at the battle of Buena Vista"

The starving Mexicans at the Battle of Buena Vista. After quoting paragraphs and letters that had
been published here, stating that the Mexican army during the battle of Buena Vista were suffering
from hunger and thirst, the Picket Guard says: "Unadulterated falsehood, every word of this. "Hunger
and thirst!" Santa Anna’s camp at Encantada stretched for two miles along the banks of a plenteous
stream of as good water as there is in Mexico-water enough to supply a million of men. And along this
stream lay the heads and bones of 50 to 100 becves that had been slaughtered during the short stay at
Encantada. This looks wondrously like starvation. Besides our men all know, that there was scarcely a
Mexican found on the field of battle that had not at least a day’s provision in h his haversack. A likely
story that men in starving condition would lug around with them provisions in their haversacks.” [ANP]

NNR 72.411 August 28, 1847, comments on the withdrawal of the second and third Indiana regiments
from Mexico

THE HOOSIERS. The 2nd and 3rd Indiana regiments, the first under Col. Bowles, and the other under
Col. Lane and his brave band, they will go home to meet the warm greetings and congratulations of
their friends, for having nobly borne the hardships of the campaign and sustained the honor of their
state and country by their brave and gallant conduct of the field. But while they are reaping this rich
reward for their toils, let them not forget to do justice to their brethren of the 2nd. Does that once
ardent friend, now by his cold greeting and inquisitive look seem to question their gallantry on the
field? It is unjust let no man refer to the 2nd Indiana regiment as an exception to the uniform brave
conduct of the volunteers. It may be true that if they kept their position in the morning it would have
made a difference in the result of the day; but it was not the men that faltered before the enemy. The ill
conceived and shockingly managed retreat, with all its calamities must rest on others shoulders. They
obeyed orders; and who, after such a retreat can blame them for not being prompt to rally? To rally
where?-Upon some other regiments indeed was their only alternative and most of them did so. Nay, if
the men of the 2nd Indiana regiment are no cowards, then are all regiments such; for there cannot be
collected a body of 500 men from any state in the Union who under like circumstances would not have
been guilty of the same conduct. [LTR]

NNR 72.411 August 28, 1847, praise for Private Divers and Corporal Agnew

PRIVATE DIVERS I was pleased to see in your last number a communication awarding justice to a few
privates that distinguished themselves in the battle of Buena Vista, and since it as so well met your
own approbation. I will take the liberty to add a few more names to the list.

No man can deserve more praise for his general conduct during the battle at Buena Vista than private
Divers, of company I 21 Illinois regiment-He was always in and in advance of the front rank, especially
when on a charge and more than once during the day. I heard his officers calling him back. For his
gallant bearing, he was complimented on the field in my hearing by the lamented Hardin. In the vast
charge he captured the flag that had previously been captured and lost by Captain Raith, and, although
it necessarily rendered him a conspicuous object he bore it in the retreat as far as the road having
been twice attacked on the way. At the road he was attacked by four lancers turning to defend himself
from whom he fell; and before he could recover himself, the flag and his gun having fallen some
distance from him, his assailants recaptured the flag and were sending it to the rear. He shot the man
that bore it and the imminent risk of his life retook it and bore it in triumph.

CORPORAL AGNEW, Again, the conduct of young Agnew, a corporal in the same company, merits all
praise. He carried the banner out on the morning of the 23rd, and in our first retreat went no further
than to the brow of the ravine into which he was ordered, where he planted his colors and declared
that they should be wafted in sight of the enemy as long as he had the honor to bear them. He stood
nobly by them all day and though rent by the enemy’s balls, they were never lowered and were borne
in safe at the close of the day. [LTR]

NRR 72.411 August 28, 1847 Incident Involving Maj. Joseph K.F. Mansfield at the Battle of Monterey

An incident at the Battle of Monterey.—While Col. Davis, with his command, was hotly engaged with
the enemy, exposed to their direct fire, a man in a long gray surtout suddenly rode up, and,
dismounting, placed himself in the middle of the street. There, in face of the enemy, amidst the
thickest of the fire, he coolly drew from a case, suspended about his person, a spy-glass, with which,
having adjusted it to a proper focus, he proceeded to reconnoiter the Mexican battery. Having satisfied
himself as to the information the sought, he shut up the glass, returned it to its case, and, approaching
Col. Davis, said to him: "Sir, the enemy has but two pieces, and by making a detour to the right you
can take them in flank?" "And who the devil are you?" "I, sir, am Major Mansfield, of the corps of
engineers." "All right! come on boys!" responded the colonel. The battery was soon carried. [TNW]

NRR 72.411-412 August 28, 1847, comment of Sr. Pacheco’s circulars on conduct of war with the
United States and establishment of peace

SIR: The nomination which his excellency the president has been pleased to make of the undersigned
to the portfolio of the first secretaryship—in which post he tenders to your excellency his services both
to aid in promoting the happiness of the state and to yourself individually—is a confirmation in every
respect of the programme which has been proclaimed by every act of the administration. Drawn from
the bosom of congress where he has constantly advocated and voted for the maintenance of the war
until glorious peace and should be obtained; an influential actor in the glorious movement in August,
which had for its object to restore to the nation its institutions, and to wash out the stain inflicted upon
it by a general who abandoned the cause of our nationality; an original supporter of the federative
system and well known as the author of various writings published by him as a private citizen; ever the
exponent of the ideas of liberty and order—the president has thought favorably of his capacity to
express his orders based on these views.

One of the weapons which is always employed in wars of invasion—especially when waged as is this
upon Mexico, without a noble aim or from a just motive—is to sow dissention among the people which is
invaded; for there is no people, however weak it may be, that it is not strong and invincible when
united. Unfortunately our people is not united, and in good earnest this infernal policy has here found
opportunity to show its efficacy. It had almost succeeded and would have completely succeeded, had it
not been resisted by a few—so far as to deliver over, bound hand and foot, the chief of the nation into
the power of its enemies, accused with connivance with them, to be sacrificed by them for having
waged war in the name and for the service of the nation. Is this country destined to present to the
world these examples of conduct towards its chiefs? Hurbide! Guerrero! Now Santa Anna! Must this
nation shelter within its bosom men who are forever to bring upon it the imputation of artifice, perfidy,
and ingratitude?

It cannot be that this nation should be more or less devoted to her own dignity than any other; and if
an immense majority of her people are patriots, who would prefer death to the dishonor of the country
of their birth, there not wanting, as in every other nation, individuals who either cowards or traitors,
favor directly or indirectly the enemy.

With us, men of this stamp have not stopped half way. With a view to gain a shameful individual
security, they have aimed to disarm Santa Anna by imputing to him designs the most improbable. The
more absurd these pretenses the more popular are they. The antecedence of his whole life, the glory of
his name indissolubly associated with the history of this war, and the position he has occupied in the
battles he has fought in person—all these are here, with which a reasonable man should be satisfied.
Then consider the guerrillas of the state of Vera Cruz; many of these were early organized by this same
Gen. Santa Anna, were formed from the servants upon his haciendas, and paid for from his own purse,
and one of these is the leader who molested the enemy.

But party rancor, fear, and egotism do not reason; they continue to impute to the president an
understanding with the enemy, and plans and preparations for making peace; whilst the president,
listening only to the dictates of his heart, and the wishes of the legislatures and governors of the
states, will be the first to encounter the enemy at the head of those who will share the honor, as he has before encountered him at La Angostura and Cerro Gordo, and he will so encounter him everywhere. If this nation is destined to lose her independence by the dissensions of her sons, the destiny of General Santa Anna is also fixed. Like another Guatimozin he will be the last Mexican who may fight for his country, let not his evil star disarm the government in the presence of the enemy; and in making use of the powers with which the national representation; has invested it, the executive will continue itself strictly and religiously to the terms to which its powers were confined.

His excellency, the provisional president is also determined to sustain at all hazards the established system and the will of the nation, expecting that their excellencies, the governors of the states, by their zealous co-operation with him will prove in this crisis-the greatest which can ever befall a nation-that the Federal system is that best calculated for the great end proposed by all systems-that it may stand up with all the elements of its strength around it, and be united as one man, in the defence of its independence and dignity.

The secondary measures of the administration to consummate these purposes will be dictated by the law and in spirit eminently democratic. Individual guaranties will be respected so far as the forms of law shall prevail should he survive the combat, like that hero he will be able to exclaim; "kill me if you would enjoy in peace your conquest. A man like me can only be followed by Mexicans and when he raised to their view the standard of honor, it may not disturb your dreams."

Such are the principles by which his excellency, the provisional president aims to justify the confidence in his country, and the hopes of those enlightened nations friendly to her; such are the principles he has expressed to the undersigned, in conferring on him the highest honor a Mexican can receive, by associating the undersigned with himself in this work in the hour of danger; and such, too, are the views with which the undersigned has entered the ministry relying henceforth upon the officers co-operation of your excellency and the state you so worthily govern: which co-operation he solicits in the name of the country which has been outraged.

All which by the order of his excellency, I have the honor to communicate for myself the assurance of my distinguished consideration. [LTR]

NNR 72.412 August 28, 1847, plans to enforce a government on Mexico

EXCELLENT SIR: As you are aware the papers which arrived at Vera Cruz transmitted by the packets do no reach the capital. So far as, can be judged by the correspondence which has arrived this day, the opinion of civilized people is generally favorable to the side of Mexico in the war of defence against the United States. How could it be otherwise in so just a cause? The opinion is equally general that the U. States cannot triumph, except by relying upon the internal dissensions of our republic. Governments and people express unanimous wishes to see us united and strong, in order that we may chastise that abuse of circumstances which an enemy takes who thinks all the advantages are on his side. The documents which are today published in he Diario Official are a proof that these opinions are entertained by foreign nations.

By one of them you will perceive that he government of her BritanniC majesty, loyal to its friendly relations with our republic, has engaged not to recognize any revolutionary government which may ostensibly be set up in the republic, but only that legitimately established, whatever its resistance may be should the chances of war compel the government to leave the capital.

In the other document you will perceive the hopes and plans of the enemy, and in another the multiplied solicitations to our agents in foreign countries to be allowed to come and take part in the war in favor of our just cause. The provisional president desires me to communicate all this to your excellency, that in like manner you may communicate it to the worthy people over whom you preside; and he desires to conjure the people through me in the name of the country for their future destinies and for their character among the civilized nations, that they redouble their efforts and contribute all the resources which the state can raise, and arouse the spirit of their independence and true federation among their patriotic inhabitants so as to confer credit on the system by which we are governed, even in the midst of a crisis such as will probably never again present itself.

I have the honor to repeat the assurance of my consideration.

God and Liberty!
Pacheo.

[LTR]

NNR 72.416 August 28, 1847, Gen. Winfield Scott issues orders to his several divisions to advance on
NNR 72.416 August 28, 1847 Maj. Folliot Thornton Lally's Affair at the National Bridge (guerrillas)

Latest. The steamer Galveston arrived at New Orleans on the evening of the 16th, bringing dates from Vera Cruz to the 12th, and Tampico to the 15th August, with advices from Gen. Scott's headquarters, Puebla, to the 6th inst.

Gen. Scott had issued positive orders to march upon the city of Mexico on the following day, the 7th inst.-- The several divisions were to march in order, leaving during the three following days, 7th, 8th, and 9th.

Gen. Pierce reached Puebla, with his army, on the 6th, and was to go in advance. He had encountered numerous skirmishes with the guerrillas on his march, but in every instance beat them off without losing a man.

Letters in the Picayune from Mr. Kendall, dated Puebla, 3rd and 6th inst., state that the orders of Gen. Scott to march upon the capital, at the time stated above, were positive, and that the army would certainly be moving on the 7th inst., for the Halls of the Montezumas.

These letters further state that Major Gaines and Midshipmen Rogers had escaped from imprisonment in Mexico, and arrived at Puebla on the 4th. They report Santa Anna's forces, in all, comprising his regular army, to number 15,000 men. A Mexican runner, at Puebla, confirms this statement, and says that Santa Anna, at last accounts, was moving to meet the American forces, determined to give battle. He had fifty cannon.

It is further stated in Mr. Kendall's letters that Major Laly's division was attacked near the bridge, on the 10th inst. by the guerrillas. He had a severe skirmish, being attacked front and rear, and unfortunately suffered severely, losing many of his men in killed and wounded. Capt. Caldwell, of the voltiguers, and Capt. Cummings, of the infantry, were severely wounded. Finally, Major L. succeeded in routing the enemy, causing them to lose many lives. Strong reinforcements have been ordered to his assistance. [TNW]

NNR 72.416 August 28, 1847 Capt. Charles Frederick Ruff's Affair with Mexicans (guerrillas)

NNR 72.416 August 28, 1847, active preparations against night attack at Tampico

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An engagement had taken place between Captain Ruff's cavalry and the guerrillas, in which he was eminently victorious, not losing a man.

There was considerable apprehension of a night attack being made on Tampico. Active preparations were making to meet the emergency. [TNW]

NRR 72.416 August 28, 1847 Reports of Illness in the Squadron at Vera Cruz and Along the Coast

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were making to meet the emergency.

We further learn that much sickness is now prevailing in the squadron at Vera Cruz. The fever among the soldiery was decreasing, but at Tampico, and other places along the coast, we regret to learn, it was still on the increase. Many were dying, and suffering of the sick was painful to think of. [TNW]

NNR 72.416 August 28, 1847, troops at Puebla in want of funds, American and Mexican troop movements

Contrary to all expectations the raid which came up today did not bring any money, and hence the poor providers for the absolute wants of the army are worse off than ever. As high as fifteen per cent; has been paid today for money to defray the expenses of the short march from this to Mexico, and some of the holders here are even chaffering for eighteen! Such are the strains to which our quartermaster and commissaries abandoned as they have been by the government at home are driven. Nor is clothing brought, nor are any of the necessaries for the well-being of the army, to say nothing of the comfort; and hence all has to be purchased at rates which amount to ruinous extortion. I give you facts which every man here knows—comments may suggest themselves.

I finish this letter in haste and late at night. Tomorrow morning Gen. Twiggs moves with his division, as I have already stated. Reports continue to come in that large bodies of the enemy are moving in the neighborhood and just now we hear that from 800 to 1,000 guerilleros, who have been dogging Gen. Pierce, were seen this afternoon at El Pinal. The coming fortnight will come to us burdened with news and whether it be of peace or war to the knife, I shall give you fine intelligence as early as possible. [LTR]

NNR 72.416 August 28, 1847, “Old Europe and Young America”

An article translated from a French paper for the New York Spirit of the Times, after dilating at some length upon the accounts which the monarchial journals continue to impose upon the credulity of their readers in regard to the war between the United States and Mexico, and a rather florid parade of the onward progress of our young republic with a just tribute to the achievement of our armies in the short space of one year,—concludes by thus characterizing the doings, during the same period of the great monarchies of Europe.

"During all this time, whilst a few thousand Americans in a few months conquer a country of greater extent than France, richer in mines than the whole continent of Europe—whilst a company of scientific engineers explore the vast deserts of Oregon in every direction, countries hitherto unknown—whilst they describe with the greater talent the course of their rivers, measure the altitude of their mountains, give descriptions of even the new plants they meet with, discover immense and fertile territories, which they prepare for the colonist which follows them—whilst they are doing all this, what is old Europe about?

The three grand Pharaohs of the north, having one hundred millions of subjects or slaves, fifteen hundred thousand regular soldiers, and fifteen hundred millions of revenue, conspire together mysteriously for 6 months, and accomplish the conquest of Croacow—a defenceless town, a country of heroes, the saviors in former times of their states, a sainted and sacred city, into which these sovereigns ought not to have entered save with feelings of awe and respect. The take from the Poles their laws, their language, their God, and cause them to submit to a shameful servitude. These princes absolutely phrenzied by the absolute power in their hands act over again the reigns of Nebuchadnezzar, and Belshazzar, and forget the predictions of Daniel, for the fulfillment of which the oppressed daily put up the most fervent prayers.

Yong American on the contrary, hospitable and generous as she is, offers to the proscribed of all nations, land without taxes, and a free share in all the blessing and liberties which Providence has vouchsafed to the human race.

Young America will enter into a treaty of peace with Mexico, and will receive as indemnity California, New Mexico, and Tampico. * * * The American shipping from the ports in California will monopolize the commerce with China, the East Indies, &c. &c.

America will generously allow Europe to partake of her conquest, emigration will progressively increase, and there will arise in the interior of the Union flourishing countries, under the names of New France, New Poland, and New Ireland. In twenty years America will have doubled her population, commerce, riches, and her fleets will be much more numerous than those of England and the Old World.

During the same period the people of Old Europe, victims of a sickly civilization, ruined by monopolies
and imposts exposed to famine, suffering under a hard servitude, will be without energy sufficient to resist the invasions of the Muscovite barbarians.

France only can save Europe from an interruption of the northern hordes and from the increasing and proud domination of her neighbors on the other side of the channel; but she must be freed from the exorbitant taxation, partial laws, ruinous monopolies, and an absolute and brutalizing administration; she must have an inflexible will to regain the institutions of '89 the re establishment of the national militia, the government of the country by the country itself, the liberty of teaching the press, &c. Had she even an international administration similar to that in existence at the commencement of the 16th century, as described by Machiavelli we might say in the words of that great writer, "France this country of heroes, has nothing to fear from Spain, England, or Germany, &c. She has only to fear the sacrilegious usurpation of her sacred liberties. [LTR]

NNR 72.416 August 28, 1847 new Illinois regiment collecting for New Orleans and Veracruz

Sixth Illinois Regiment. This regiment, which ranks as the second regiment of a requisition, and is now full, numbers 940 strong. Its rendezvous is Alto whence it will make its departure for New Orleans, and thence to Vera Cruz in about a week. [ANP]
The Mexican-American War and the Media, 1845-1848

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OFFICIAL - New call for troops, The war department has first called for five new regiments, explosive of the regiment from Ohio, which is already reported to be raised, and is now in progress of being mustered into the public service, and will in a few days be en route for Vera Cruz.

The five new regiments from Kentucky are to rendezvous, one at Louisville, and the other at Smithland, at the mouth of the Cumberland river.

The regiments from Tennessee are to rendezvous, one at Nashville, and the other at Memphis.

The Indiana regiment is to rendezvous at such convenient point on the river Ohio as the Governor of the state may designate.

These five regiments are expected to be rapidly raised and promptly placed in the public service. Officers have already been made, which induced the executive to designate these states, and to make the necessary arrangements for embodying these troops without delay. [LTR]

NNR 73.001 September 4, 1847, general order no. 44 organizing troops in and around Vera Cruz

Headquarters, Department of Vera Cruz, Mexico, August 11, 1847

I. Lieut. Col. D.S. Miles, U.S. army, is placed in he immediate command of the troops of this city, and the cavalry and infantry outside the walls, ate the gate of Mercy and Bergard.

II. Lieut. Col. Miles will see that the proper guards are mounted, and give such orders as he may deem necessary for the protection of the city-communicating them to the colonel commanding whenever they differ with the orders now in existence.

III. The cavalry will be actively employed in scouring the country about Vera Cruz for about a circuit of 6 or 8 miles, further if necessary. The captains of cavalry are cautioned to take the very best care of their horses. The company of infantry stationed at Bergard, is especially to protect the mules and horses penned there.

IV. No Scouts or armed parties will go from the city or outposts, but by express orders of the commanding officer, or Lieut. Col. Miles; in the latter case, the lieutenant colonel will communicate with the commanding officer.

V. Second Lieutenant W.L. Crittenden is appointed adjutant of the post, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

VI. Officers of the day will report to Lt. Col. Miles for orders

By order of Col. H. Wilson: Adj’t U.S. infantry and A.A.A.G. Dept Vera Cruz.

NNR 73.001 September 4, 1847, election of officers of the Maryland light artillery, company to depart for Vera Cruz

Maryland light artillery.-Some informality having occurred in the first election of officers for this company, another election has been held, which resulted in the choice of the following gentlemen:-Captain, L. Tilghmen; First Lieutenant, Dr. Frisby Tilghman; Second do. Isaac Morrow; Second do. Arnold Tensfield. The company now numbers over 100 choice men, and will embark for Vera Cruz, on the 3rd of September, on the barque Paoli Capt. Welsh, which has been chartered by the government to transport them. There is also at Fort McHenry a company of volunteers from Washington city, which together with about 76 regular recruits, will also sail for the seat of war, on one of the several vessels about to start from this
Besides the Poali, the transport brigs G.M. Randall, Capt. Pinkham, and Pecard. Capt. Buck, and the new transport schooner *Mayer Vinton*, are now here and will carry troops, horses, provisions, &c. to Vera Cruz and other ports on the Gulf of Mexico. [LTR]

### NNR 73.001 September 4, 1847, movements of troops and volunteers

Georgia volunteers. The Columbus Enquirer of the 17th says:-The three companies that will compose the mounted battalion, we are informed, have been accepted by the executive, and we suppose may be looked for in this place in some eight or ten days. The companies are:

  - Fulton’s, Chattooga county.
  - Hamilton’s, Cass county
  - Wofford’s do.

It is, we believe, generally understood that our fellow citizen, Capt. James S. Calhoun, will receive the appointment of Lieut. Colonel of this battalion.

The infantry battalion is as yet far from complete. Only two full companies, Captain Nelson, of Columbus, and Capt. Gaulden’s of Stewart, are yet organized.

The departure of volunteers. Capt. Latham’s time company of volunteers, of the 2nd Ohio regiment, are, as we write this article, just leaving the city for the encampment at Cincinnati, where they will remain until regularly mustered into the service, and then be off for the seat of war. We return them, in this manner, our most grateful acknowledgements for their expression of friendly feeling, and hope their campaign may be both an agreeable and a glorious one. May health and success attend them wherever destiny may lead them. [Ohio Statesman Aug. 25th.]

### Departure of troops.

The following vessel were to leave New Orleans on the 23rd ult. for the seat of war.

- The Steamship *New Orleans* for Tampico, with five companies of the 3rd regiment Illinois volunteers, under the command of Lieut. Col. Hicks. The steamship *Mary Kingsland*, for Vera Cruz, with one company 2nd regiment Illinois volunteers, and Capt. Connolly’s company of Louisiana mounted volunteers. The steamship *Massachusetts* was also to leave for the same destination, with the remaining four companies of the 2nd Illinois volunteers, under the command of Col. Collins.

- The Telegraph was to leave on the 24th ult. for the Brazos, with a detachment of 12th infantry, under Capt. Clinck. [LTR]

### NNR 73.001-002 September 4, 1847, troops to defend the line of communication between Vera Cruz and Perote

The line of communication between Vera Cruz and Perote.-A letter has just been received from Lieut. Col. Hughes of this city. He arrived by the river route at New Orleans on the 7th August, and left that place in the Mary Kingsland on the 23rd. He expects to reach Vera Cruz in advance of his command, unless they should have made and extraordinary run from the capes of Virginia. Lieut. Col. Hughes will have under his command the six companies which sailed from Baltimore some time since for Vera Cruz: and also one artillery company that has been raised in Baltimore, one company that is know raising in Washington, and perhaps two others that may be completed, the Colonel will have under him a regiment. It is destined for the line of communication from Vera Cruz to Jalapa and Perote.

Besides these, there are five companies of mounted volunteers from Louisiana, some of whom have already arrived at Vera Cruz, and the others were en route-the whole, in all probability, have arrived b this time. In addition to these, there are five companies of horse from Georgia, and three from Illinois. These are all en route for Vera Cruz.
Then, there is the regiment of Texas Rangers under Hayes, or such part of them as General Taylor can spare for service—at least five companies.

All these mounted volunteers have been called out to operate principally against the guerrillas; and when the line of communication is opened, they will join Gen. Scott. Gen. Patterson, who left Washington on Monday on his way to Norfolk—there to deliver some baggage, which is to round to Pensacola in the *Water Witch*—will go thence to Pensacola where he is to embark in the same vessel with other officers, for his point of destination. It is said that he is to take charge of this military force, unless order should have been received from Gen. Scott to change these arrangements; and after he had opened the line of communication, he will join the General’s camp. [LTR]

72.002 September 4, 1847, Gen. Robert Patterson to assume command of his division in Mexico

Major General Patterson—The *Pennsylvanian* says, “he will assume the command of his division in Mexico, which, it will be recollected, he was deprived of on the disbanding of the seven regiments of volunteers by General Scott, after the battle of Cerro Gordo.” [LTR]

NNR 73.004 September 4, 1847, James Buchanan’s letter on his sentiments on the Wilmot Provost

WILMONT PROVISO. The following letter from Mr. Buchanan on the Wilmot proviso, is from the *Pennsylvanian*. Washington, 25th August 1847.

GENTLEMEN: I have been honored by the receipt of your kind invitation to unite with the democracy of Old Berks in their Harvest Home Celebration, to be held at Reading, on Saturday, the 28th inst. I should esteem it both a pleasure and a privilege to be present on that interesting occasion: it is, therefore, with regret I have to inform you, that my public duties will render this impossible.

I rejoice to observe that glorious democracy of “Old Berks” are buckling on their armor, and preparing for the approaching contest. It is long since any state election has involved such important consequences for the democracy of the Union, as the approaching election for the governor of Pennsylvania. On its result may probably depend the ascendancy of the democracy of the Union for years to come. Hence our democratic brethren of other states are witnessing the contest with intense anxiety. The field is a fair one; our candidate well tried and honest; and he has been regularly nominated by the party. Should he be defeated, at the attempt will be vain to explain the decision of the ballot boxes in any other manner than by admitting that the whigs have the majority. Our candidate for canal commissioner is, also, above all reproach, both personally and politically, and is eminently qualified for the duties of that important office. If, under the circumstances, the democratic Keystone should give way, there is great danger that the arch may tumble into pieces. I do not apprehend defeat, unless our wily foe should first lull us into security by making no extraordinary public efforts; and then, at the eleventh hour, quietly steal a march upon us as they have done in some other states. Our vigilance ought to be constantly on the alert, until the moment of victory.

The question of slavery, in one of its ancient aspects, has been recently revived and threatens to convulse the country. The democratic party of the Union ought prepare themselves in time for the approaching storm. Their best security, in the hour of danger, is to cling fast to their time-honored principles. A sacred regard for the federal constitution, and for the reserved rights of the states, is the immovable basis on which the party can alone safely rest. This has saved us from the inroads of abolition. Northern democrats are not expected to approve slavery in the abstract; but they owe it to themselves, as they value the Union, and all the political blessings which bountifully flow from it, to abide by the compromises of the constitution, and leave the question, where that instrument has left it, to the states wherein slavery exists. Our fathers have made this agreement with their brethren of the south; and it is not for the descendants of either party, in the present generations, to cancel this solemn compact. The abolitionists, by their efforts to annul it, have arrested the natural progress of emancipation, and done great injury to the slaves themselves.

After Louisiana was acquired from France by Mr. Jefferson, and when the state of
Missouri, which constituted a part of it, was about to be admitted into the Union, the Missouri question arose, and in its progress threatened the dissolution of the Union. This was settled, in a spirit of mutual concession. Under the Missouri compromise, slavery was “forever prohibited” north of 36 deg. 30 min.; and south of this parallel the question was left to be decided by the people. Congress, in the admission of Texas following in the footsteps of their predecessors, adopted the same rule; and, in my opinion, the harmony of the states, and even the security of the Union itself, require that the line of the Missouri compromise should be extended to any new territory which we may acquire from Mexico.

I should entertain the same opinion, even if it were certain that this would become a serious practical question; but that it never can be thus considered, must be evident to all who have attentively examined the subject.

Neither the soil, the climate, nor the productions of the portion of California south of 36 deg. 30min. nor indeed any portion of it, north or south, is adapted to slave labor; and, beside, every facility would be there afforded to the slave escape from his master. Such property would be utterly insecure in any part of California. It is morally impossible, therefore, that a majority of the emigrants to that portion of the territory south of 36 deg. 30 min. which will be chiefly composed of our fellow citizens from the eastern, middle, and western states, will every re-establish slavery within its limits. In regard to New Mexico, east of the Rio Grande, the question has been already settled by the admission of Texas into the Union.

Should we acquire territory beyond the Rio Grande, and east of the Rocky Mountains, it is still more improbable that a majority of the people of that region would consent to re-established slavery. They are themselves, in a large proportion, a colored population; and among them the negro does not socially belong to a degraded race.

The question is, therefore, not one of practical importance. Its agitation, however honestly intended, can produce no effect but to alienate the people of different portions fo the Union from each other, to excite sectional divisions and jealousies; and to distract and possibly destroy the democratic party, on the ascendancy of whose principles and measures depends, as I firmly believe, the success of our grand experiment of self-government.

Such have been my individually opinions, openly and freely expressed, ever since the commencement of the present unfortunate agitation; and of all places in the world, I prefer to put them on record before the incorruptible democracy of Old Berks. I, therefor, be leave to offer you the following statement:

The Missouri Compromise -Its adoption in 1820 saved the Union from threatened convulsions. Its extension in1848 to any new territory which we may acquire, will secure the like happy results. Yours, very respectfully, JAMES BUCHANAN. [LTR]

NNR 73.004 September 4, 1847, October 2, 1847, Col. Louis D. Wilson, obituary

Headquarters, Vera Cruz, Aug. 12, 1847

It is announced to this command, the melancholy intelligence of death of Col. Lewis D. Wilson of the 12th Regiment U.S. infantry, who died on this date.

The escort for his funeral will be commanded by the Lieutenant Colonel commanding, and consist the 1st U.S. infantry, stationed in the city. The funeral will take place at 5 o’clock, P.M. on tomorrow, to which all the U.S. navy, citizens and strangers are respectfully invited to attend.

By order of Lieut. Col. Miles.

Col. Wilson, Commandant and Governor of Vera Cruz, was laboring under attack of yellow fever and life was considered in great danger; at the time intelligence of the death of Col. Wilson, of NC., was received. On the announcement of the death of Col Wilson, the impression became general that it was the Governor of Vera Cruz, and the journals reported.

His friends will be gratified to learn that he has recovered.
Col. Wilson, of North Carolina—The Washington Union says—We learn that, by his will, the late Col. Louis D. Wilson, of the twentieth infantry, bequeathed to the “chairman of the county court of Edgecomb, in North Carolina, and to his successors in office, forty thousand dollars, to be applied to the support of the poor of said county.” This act of charity is touchingly beautiful. Col. Wilson had for years represented the county of Edgecomb in the senate of his native state. When it appeared probable that the requisition for volunteers made by the president on the Governor of North Carolina would not be met, he resigned his seat in the senate, volunteered, and was elected a captain, the highest post to which the voice of men could elevate him—and in that humble rank marched into Mexico. Before marching he made his will, and evinced his gratitude to the constituency which had so long honored him with their confidence, and his charitable regard for his poor neighbors, by this munificent bequest.—There has not fallen in the service of his country a braver or a better man.

NRR 73.004 September 4, 1847, movements of troops

The company of Capt. Halle, of the 14th infantry reached Vera Cruz on the 12th inst. was immediately armed and left the same evening for the scene of action. There had been no further arrival from the train, which was deemed a good omen. No further courier has arrived at Vera Cruz from Puebla. One came through on the 12th instant. He left Puebla on the 7th. He reported that the army commenced its march that day agreeably to announcement.

NRR 73.004, 005 September 4, 1847, Gen. Mariano Paredes y Arrillaga’s return to Mexico

The Washington Union of Saturday night says: We have seen letters from Vera Cruz, which we received by this evening’s Southern mail. To relate to the two interesting topics of Paredes’ leaving, and of Major Lally’s detachment.

As to Paredes, we regret to state that the Capt. of the British steamer must have been acquainted with his true name and character, as Paredes’ not hesitate to speak freely on board the vessel. He spoke freely about Santa Anna’s want of energy, ability, and principles, and declared that unfortunate Mexico would have to throw herself into the arms of America, or of some European power. (This last statement is suspicious, and confirms what the president stated in his message to congress:)

In any event, it was certain that no change whatever in the Government of Mexico which would deprive Paredes of power could be for the worse, so far as the United States were concerned, while it was highly probable that any change must be for the better."

Paredes is a monarchist—a friend of a foreign monarch, there is some reason to believe; and his presence in Mexico, if it looks to any change of her rulers. It will remain for the British captain to explain how and why he as a neutral introduced so decided an enemy into our ports at all, and without acquainting us with his character.

It appears from the Vera Cruz letter, that when Paredes entered that city, he was recognized by two or three persons—an inspector at the gate and by Senor Atocha, who attempt justification for his silence upon the lame excuse, that though he was an American citizen, yet he was no spy! The fact is, that Paredes scarcely remained ten minutes in the city, and went off without the knowledge of Col. Wilson, or any of the military officers.

As to Major Lilly, he is reported to have been attacked by about 1,500 guerrillas, whom he bravely resisted. A reinforcement had been dispatched to him about four hundred troops, including a corps of cavalry, with munitions, &c. &c. No later account had been received of him or from him.

NRR 73.005 Sept. 4, 1847 guerrilla war

From the Rio Grande. AN arrival at N. Orleans brings advices from Brazos to the 17th
ult.

It appears that the roads between Monterey and Camargo are becoming more and more infested with irregular activity and guerrilla bands, and several trials have been attacked.

La Patria published at New Orleans, contains a letter from Havana, which states that four British officers accompanied Parades, but it does not appear whether they had landed at Vera Cruz.

The New Orleans papers brings us accounts from Matamoros of the 18th ultimo, by which it appears that a most lamentable state of things exists along the route to Monterey, for want of a proper force on the road, and that the Mexicans are robbing and slaughtering without restraint everything and everybody that it not strongly protected by a suitable escort.

It also appears that the heavy trains have been halted by order of General Taylor, which the Matamoros Flag attributes to the fact that all idea has been abandoned of that army advancing towards San Luis. The following is the Flag's paragraph on the subject:

"Halting the trains-by an arrival from Camargo, we are informed that an order had been received there from General Taylor, directing a halt of the heavy wagon trains which were being got ready for Monterey, and which it was supposed were intended for the march upon San Luis. We cannot learn whether the dangers of the road or a final resolve not to make any further advance with the army has induced this order; but, from other circumstances, we judge the latter cause to have dictated it."

The subjoined paragraph, from the Picayune, confirms the view of the Flag that the advance upon San Luis is to be abandoned:

"Diversion of Troops-We have a letter from the Brazos, dated the 19th ultimo, mentioning the rumor as current that Gen. Hopping might shortly be expected there, with a considerable body of troops, to embark for Vera Cruz. It is altogether probable that several general officers will be detached from Gen. Taylor's column to repair to the line from Vera Cruz. But a little time will elapse, we trust, before communications will be entirely re-established between Vera Cruz and the capital."

The Matamoros Flag notices several recent attacks upon Government trains by the guerrillas bands, the most serious of which are this abridged by the New Orleans Bee:

A scouting party of twenty seven Texans, commanded by Capt. Baylor, and ordered out by Col. Abbot, commander at Ceralvo, to scout the country between the post and Monterey, fell in with a large body of Mexicans, and were all killed but three. It appears that the Texans visited several ranchos in the neighborhood of the place where the recent attacks had been made upon the trains. They found goods and property captured from the trains, and, the guilt of the Mexican residents being clearly proved, the property was retaken, the dwellings of the guilty burnt and several known desperate characters killed. Captain Baylor was returning with three prisoners, when he was surrounded by some three prisoners, when he was surrounded by some three hundred Mexicans and completely hemmed in. The Mexicans charged upon his little band, killing many of them at the first fire. Three of the party escaped through the chaparral, having been dreadfully lacerated by thorns. When Captain Baylor was last seen he was wounded and unhorsed, but still fighting, and only three of this men were in their saddles-Letters were found among the property in the ranchos, establishing already a connivance between the Alcabe of Cerralvo and Canales. The Alcalde has been therefore arrested. Letters from Cerralvo state that the Mexicans are lying in wait to cut off every train between that place and Monterey. A gentlemen writes that hardly a day passes without some person being murdered on the road, and that the Americans know that the enemy are in large force in their immediate vicinity, without the means of acting, except on the defensive. We have, adds the correspondent, no mounted force at the post, not the means of mounting a single man of our own, should an extreme case of necessity require it. It is much to be desired that the Government will soon clearly see the great folly of placing troops along this line with their hands tied, to be made a laughing stock of, with an enemy so contemptible as the Mexicans. [KAS]
MORE NEWS FROM VERA CRUZ.

Particulars of the attack on Major Lally's Train--Reported defeat of our troops by the Guerrillas.

We are also indebted to the Patria for some particulars regarding Major Lally's train, published in the extra of that paper yesterday. A correspondent from Vera Cruz, who signs himself El Jaroch, under date 15th instant, says that Padre Jarauta had returned to that vicinity at the head of 400 guerrillas, and, having effected a junction with two other bands, commanded by Munez and Alberto, attacked Major Lally's train at Tolome.

After killing and wounding a few of our troops, and capturing some wagons, they had taken post at a spot called Puente Chica, near the Puente Nacional. Major Lally, having divided his command into six columns, attacked the position occupied by the guerrillas, with his whole force, but after a sanguinary fight, he was driven back, leaving the ground covered with killed and wounded.

The guerrillas, through want of ammunition, were obliged to abandon their position, which was the occupied by the Americans on the morning of the 13th. This is the key to the truth in this strange story, which is, we believe, nothing but Mexican gasconade; for if our troops still advanced, the account of their defeat cannot be true.

The Patria's correspondent adds that, on the same day, negotiations were opened with the chiefs of the guerrillas for a capitulation of the whole convoy.--The number of wagons lost is said to be very great, and the killed and wounded of our men exceeds 250, reducing the whole command to 400 and odd effective troops. The guerrillas were in great force on this occasion; and it is said that, as they are persuaded that there is a large amount of specie with the train, it will be attacked throughout the whole of its long route, as long as the enemy can bring an effective man into the field.

El Jaroch, at the close of his letter, says information has just arrived that "The Yankees have capitulated." The whole tale is grossly exaggerated, we have no doubt, though we believe that Major Lally's train has had to fight its way onward, against disadvantages with which other preceding trains have not had the contend--such as vastly increased numbers on the part of the assailants, &c. The necessity of forwarding reinforcements from Vera Cruz, sufficiently proves the fact of the command having been vigorously attacked. [JNA]

NNR 73.005 September 4, 1847, September 11, 1847, Col. Lewis Gustavus DeRussy's regiment

A Tampico letter of the 17th August says that the Louisiana regiment in that place, under command of Col. De Russy, left their homes a few months ago one thousand strong; and of this number not more than two hundred appeared on parade on the 16th. The diseases of the climate had brought about this sad change in the regiment.

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NNR 73.005 Sept. 4, 1847 arrival of Gen. Stephen Watts Kearny and Col. John Charles Fremont at Saint Louis

Gen. Kearney and suite arrived at St. Louis on Wednesday, the 25th July. Col Fremont and his party were left at the Kansas, and will arrive in the next boat that comes down.

Gen. Kearney left California on his homeward route on the 18th June. He was
accompanied by his personal staff and several discharged volunteers, formerly belonging to the Morman battalion, so that his whole party numbered from fifty to fifty-five persons.

Col Fremont, being under arrest, and ordered home for trial under charges of disobedience of orders, left California with his party about the same time that General Kearney did, and was but a short distance in his rear during his entire journey, and reached Fort Leavenworth before the General’s departure for St Louis. General K. arrived at the fort on Sunday the 22d ultimo, having made the entire trip in the very short space of sixty-five days. He chose the south pass for his route, and had many obstacles to encounter, as the snow on the mountains was on the mountains was very deep, and the track in places almost impassable.

Neither party experienced any difficulty from the Indians: on the contrary they were very quiet, and evinced no hostile disposition whatever.

Major Cook and Judge Bryant, who were of the returned party, state that all the trains of emigrants now on the way to Oregon, were severally met. They were progressing finely; stood the fatigues of the journey well, and had abundance of provisions.

When Gen. Kearney and his party left California every thing was in a peaceful and prosperous condition.

Col. Mason was left in command, as military Governor of the Territory.

There was quite a fleet off the coast of California, consisting of the 74 gun ship Columbus, bearing the broad pennant of Com. Biddle; the frigate Congress; the three sloops of war, Portsmouth 20, the Warren 20, and Dale 16, and the storeships Lexington 8 and Erie 8. The latter was to leave in a few days with about 500 men.

The rest of the troops were divided into parties under separate commands, and stationed at different posts throughout the country, where it was deemed most advisable either from precautionary or defensive views.

Nothing has yet transpired as to the specific nature of charges against Lieut. Col. Fremont, but as both the commanding officer and the arrested subordinate have now returned, we shall soon have our curiosities satisfied on this head.

There seems at least, for the present to be no further feeling of resistance towards our army in California. The civil officers elected under the provisional government are executing their duties with Anglo Saxon honesty and directness, and present so new a phase of justice to the native inhabitants that they are delighted. [LTR]

NR 73.006 September 4, 1847, party from California reports General Steven Watts Kearney in supreme command. Lt. Col John Charles Fremont not under arrest, Com Robert Field Stockton’s flagship at Monterey, ships at San Francisco, affairs of Santa Fe

FROM SANTA FE. The St. Louis Republican of 23d inst. says: “Capt. Fischer’s company of light artillery, consisting of about forty men, and Lieut. Gratiot, of Capt. Weightman’s company, arrived yesterday on the steamer J. J. Hardin. They left Santa Fe on the 29th of June, and met with no obstacles in coming in.”

We are indebted to the same paper for an extra, dated August 23, 12 M., in which we find the following interesting intelligence:

Arrival from Oregon and California. On Saturday evening, Captain T. G. Drake, of the British ship Modeste, (not, however, a bearer of dispatches, as has been stated,) and Mr. John G. Campbell, arrived in this city from Oregon. They left Oregon on the 6th of May, and traveled to Fort Hall in company with a brigade of the Hudson Bay Company. They left Fort Hall with only four men, but overtook another party of seven, and arrived in the settlements with a party of fourteen.

They bring us but little information in addition to that already received from Oregon. Every thing was quite when they left, and the prospect for the season favorable. The Columbia had been so high as to require them to take the southern route. This
we presume, they were induce to do from the pleasure and facility of traveling afforded by the force of the Hudson Bay Company.

The British ship Modeste left Fort Vancouver on the 3d, and dropped down the river, on her way to England. She was to proceed, by the Sandwich Islands, home. There were no American ships in the river. The British squadron in the Pacific had not been heard from for nearly eight months prior to their leaving.

Between Fort Hall and Soda Spring, they were overtaken by a party of four men from California. This party left California on the 4th of June. They reported all things quiet when they left. Gen. Kearny was in supreme command, and this party understood to state, most positively, that Col. Fremont was not under arrest up to the time of their leaving. Com. Stockton’s flag ship was at Monterey, and several ships of the United States squadron were at St. Francisco. This party arrived at St. Joseph with Capt. D and Mr. C and may be expected in this city shortly.

Capt. D. and Mr. C. met a great many emigrants and their wagons. They were progressing rapidly and very comfortably, but Mr. Campbell thinks that those for Oregon, because of their number, may suffer a great deal from the want of grass for their stock, on the other side of the mountains. They met the advance party of the Mormon emigrants, and subsequently the main body of about five hundred wagons. The advanced party were hastening on by forced marches, to select a place for a winter encampment somewhere in the vicinity of the Great Salt Lake. A few days previous to their meeting with the main body, the Mormons and a large party of Pawnees, going out on a hunting expedition, to the Little Blue River, met and held a festival together. Our informants passed the ground where the festival was held, but were fortunate enough (from Mr. Campbell’s long and intimate knowledge of the country) to escape falling in with the Indian party. The Mormons represented themselves as being supplied with at least eighteen months’ provisions. They had with them pigs, poultry, and cattle, and appeared to have an abundance of every thing. They seemed to be harmonious among themselves, but it was understood that those of he church who had reached California, had split, and there was a strong quarrel going on between them. The Californians, and most of the emigrants from the United States, were very decidedly opposed to the settling of Mormons there. It was thought they would resort to force to resist their settlement.

From Fort Hall Capt. Drake and Mr. Campbell met with no incident, except the loss of a favorite mare of the captain’s, which was stolen whilst they were encamped at Soux village. Captain Drake returns to England by the earliest steamer to Liverpool. Mr. Campbell will return to Oregon this fall, by some of the southern routes. [LTR]

NRR 73.010, Col. 2 Sept. 4, 1847 Central America: Efforts in Honduras to Assist Mexico to Resist the United States

The Spanish paper La Patria, published at New Orleans, says that the state of Honduras has, through its president and two of its conspicuous generals, invited the other states of Central America to combine to aid Mexico in her present struggle with the United States.

This confederacy of states consists of Guatemala, Quesaltenango, Honduras, Nicaragua, San Salvador, Costa Rica, and the Federal District, a small space laid aside for a federal capital. They have separate territorial governments and legislatures. The population of the confederacy is little more than two millions, and its area about one hundred and ninety-six thousand square miles.

PROCLAMATION.

Compatriots! Fortune now rules the destinies of Mexico, and menaces her sons with desolation and extermination. The North Americans have destroyed the interesting population of Vera Cruz-have possessed themselves of their effects, and are now marching upon the capital. We cannot yet know what either calamities will afflict that nation.

They are our brethren; their dangers are ours and their fate awaits us. We should not maintain neutrality, if we can in any manner aid them in their honorable struggle.

The Entire world should know that the Hondurenos are ready to fulfil their duties, of whatever nature they may be.
I will sustain in the state all honorable peace, at all hazards; but I will not do it with the sacrifice of Hondurenian honor, of a disgraced people are fit to but to bear chains, and to suffer with humility the threats and injuries which the stronger impose.

I address myself to day to the governments of the republic, making these observations in order that if it shall be deemed expedient, we may, if it is possible, afford aid, or at least manifest our favorable disposition to their cause and to liberty.

Divisions and internal feuds have ruined our Mexican brothers. Eight millions of inhabitants, of whom that nation is composed, have been unable to defend themselves against a handful of men, who have seized upon their territory and their property, and annulled their right. What may be the fate of the Central Americans, if we continue divided?

The Honduranians always appear extraordinarily great; they adopted the most effectual means to secure their independence; but nothing has been sufficient to estrange them; respect to the government, and submission to law, they consider as their power, their glory, and their honor.

What happiness does he experience, who rules the destinies of a people adorned by these virtues!!!

JUAN LINDO.

Comayagua, June 1st, 1847.
The undersigned, generals of division, to the army of Honduras.

Compatriots! Notorious is the anguish of Mexico, and evident is our obligation to co-operate in the defense of that country. Her sons are our brothers, and the cause which they sustain is also ours, that of liberty against conquest.

In compliance with a sacred duty, the proclamation addressed by the president to the Central Americans, was yesterday published, and we wish to express our deference and our desire to co-operate at any time that he may call upon us to aid our neighbor.

Forgotten forever are all those ideas which could divide us. Our interests and our passions are secured to our country. Her triumph is our glory and our honor. She demands our union, and that suffices to cause us to cordially offer it. Union and liberty is our motto! Eternal opprobrium to him who would promote and assist dissensions and conquests.

F. FERRERA.

SANTOS GUARDIOLA. [DCK]

NRR 73.017 Sept. 11, 1847 BATTLE OF SAN ANGEL-MEXICO INVESTED-PEACE PROPOSED-ARMISTICE CONCLUDED

The arrival at New Orleans on the 21instant, of the steamer Fashion, with Vera Cruz dates to the 7th of August, brings tidings to relieve the anxiety of the public. Our army have as usual, been victorious, and have the "Halls of the Montezums," within their grasp.

Owing to the late hour at which this intelligence reaches us, we have neither time nor space for more than a brief synopsis.

It appears probable from the account, that Gen. Scott met with no opposition on his march until arriving within eight or nine miles of the capital. At El Peñon, a position fortified by Santa Anna, according to the account in the El Sol de Anahuac, the hostile arms first came into conflict. A division of the American army made an onset on the enemy. The main body passing through Guadeloupe, and to their surprise of the Mexicans, appeared suddenly in their rear, and the contest ended.

A regular fight next occurred at a place called San Angel, situated six or eight miles
south west of the capital. Gen. Valencia's division of the Mexican army was here totally routed on the 20th. Whereupon the division under the immediate command of Santa Anna retired to the capital where of course the utmost confusion prevailed. It was decided by them and his government to send a flag of truce to Gen. Scott, proposing to treat for peace, offering to receive Mr. Trist's proposals and asking for an armistice until congress could be assembled for that subject. They city of Mexico was now surrounded by the American army. Gen. Worth's division was in near of the city, ready to cut off all supplies from that quarter.

Gen. Scott deciding not to drive the Mexicans to separation, accepting their proposition. An armistice was concluded. The minister of foreign affairs immediately wrote circulars, which are published in the Mexican Diario Official, calling an immediate session of congress for the purpose of taking the propositions for peace into consideration.

The express which brought the intelligence to Vera Cruz came by the way of Orizaba. The dispatch which he brought reached New Orleans on the opening of the 26th ult.

Since placing the above in type, we find the following copy of it in the N. Orleans Picayune of the September:

Orizaba, August 25th, 1847.

My dear friend-The Mexican mail, which has at last come in, brings the following intelligence, which the copy from the Diario Official del Gobierno. Being of so great importance, I send you this express, courier, who will be with you to morrow about 12 o'clock.

On the 20th two brigades commanded by General Valencia and Santa Anna, went out to attack the Americans near San Angel. Valencia's division has been completely defeated, and Santa Anna after the first recontre, fell back also in disorder to the city.

They immediately after this asked for a suppression of hostilities, and offered to hear the propositions of peace from Mr. Trist.

The next day the minister of foreign relations invited the congress, through the newspapers to meet for that purpose.

These are the great facts which no doubt will bring after them peace. Your, truly. F.M. Dimond, Eq.

Another express arrived in Vera Cruz on the 26th with letters containing the same news in substance and the following:

[Translated from the Diario Official del Gobierno ]

On the 20th August Scott's troops, who intended marching on Penon, turned [away from] it and arrived near Tacubaya. As soon as the news was known at Mexico Valencia's division went out to attack the Americans at Los Llanos de San Angel, and was completely routed. Next came Santa Anna with another division, which shared the same fate after some fighting. The Mexicans retreated to the capital in great disorder, and such was the panic created by their defeat that the minister of foreign relations immediately convoked the congress to take into consideration Mr. Trist's proposition. A suspension of arms was demanded by the Mexicans and granted. The Americans are around Mexico, but had not entered the city on the 21st.

Intelligence reached Vera Cruz on the 27th, that Lieut. David Henderson, of Captain Fairchild's company of dragoons and his party, who were sent out by Captain Wells, on the 15th of August, to apprise Mr. Lally of the approach of reinforcements, were all shot by the guerrillas. There is little or no doubt of the correctness of this sad intelligence.

It is now very generally believed that Captain Besancon's company went up with the train under Maj. Lally.

Maj. Clark, commanding the Castle at Vera Cruz has died of the vomito.

Lieut. Meads, of the 11th infantry, U. States army, died on the 26th at Tampico. [KAS]
Two of the leading prominent party journals of New York, The Tribune and Courier and Enquirer, are chalking out the course which according to their dictation, the Whig party should pursue in the ensuing congress.

The following article from The Tribune will show their position on the subject:

The subject above discussed (in the Courier and Enquirer of Wednesday), is so immensely important, while the necessity of action thereon is so imminent, that we desire to place it in every practicable light before our readers. Having already submitted to them the views of a leading locofoco journal thereon, we repay the Courier's courtesy in copying one of our paragraphs by placing its entire article conspicuously before our readers. The Courier's past and present attitude with regard to annexation and the war, to say nothing of the ability and moderation which characterize the above article, incline us to weight its words thoughtfully. But

1. The National Intelligencer and the Albany Evening Journal had severally set fourth that the whigs in congress should or would not pursue the course with regard to the war which the Courier also recommends. Their suggestion had been copied and commented on by the Evening Post as the whig doctrine with regard to the war. Now our doctrine (which is surely that of some whigs) being radically different, we felt constrained to say so, and to vindicate those whigs who think with us from the railing accusation of the Post. Thereupon the Courier talks of the Tribune's "beginning in season to instruct the whigs as to the course they are to pursue in the next congress," concealing the fact that these who hold with the Courier had begun still earlier than we to "instruct the whigs in congress," if that is the correct phraseology, and that we had spoken only when we must to correct the statement that the whigs were going in bodily for the prosecution of the war in Mexico. Was this candid and fair? If anybody should be reproached for a premature attempt to instruct the whigs in congress, is it The Tribune?

2. We have never said nor intimated that we would have the whigs in congress resist all appropriations of men and money to carry on the war "unless our army shall first be withdrawn to the line of Nueces." We have said nothing in this connection as to the line to be maintained by our troops. We said expressly that we would vote supplies for our army in Mexico so far as their comfortable subsistence and reasonable safety should seem to require, though not to strengthen them for and stimulate them to farther aggressions and conquests. Instead of refusing all supplies so long as our army shall remain in Mexico, we would readily vote five millions if necessary to bring them all safety and comfortably home out of Mexico. We would have them well fed, well armed, well supplied with everything necessary to repel attack and facilitate their marches. But not Mr. Polk wants the means of bombarding more cities to ruins, and tearing their women and children to pieces, we do trust they may not be accorded him by whig votes.

3. As to the conflicting views of offensive and defensive wars entertained by the Courier and The Tribune respectively, we really do not feel that much need be said. According to the Courier's logic, either the expedition of the French to Moscow in 1812 was defensive, or that of the Russians to Paris in 1814 must have been so. But this we never imagined before, nor recollect that a single historian has so represented. When Napoleon invaded Russia he acted on the offensive; when he bravely resisted the allied invasion of France, he acted on the defensive, no matter how the war began or who provoked it. If this be not so, the world's history should be rewritten. What either party may have claimed or pretended in manifestoes and bulletins is of infinitely less moment than the uniform languages of eminent and impartial historians.

4. Whether the Courier really wishes to affirm to a sober fact that Mexico invaded this country when her troops undertook to drive ours from the left bank of the Rio Grande, where, until the last month, her flag had waved unrivaled and her jurisdiction been maintained undisputed from the very dawn of her national existence, we do not clearly apprehend. We know well, however, that our officers and soldiers considered themselves in a foreign country from the moment they crossed the Sal Colorado creek and wrote home to their friends. How could they doubt it when, after being met by Canales and his force this side of the Rio Grande, they saw the custom house
at San Isabel fired and the whole population flee at their approach—and this weeks before the commencement of actual hostilities? The officers surely knew well that our flag had not before waved within cannon shot of Matamoros, and that the deserted houses and fields all around them were the property of Mexicans, who had never pretended nor desired to be other than Mexicans. To assert, therefore, that the Mexicans invaded this country when they crossed the Rio Grande from Matamoros, is to lie too audaciously for anything more respectable than the Polk message. We are sure the Courier does not mean to assert anything of the kind, but why should it seek to befog the matter? Is not the fabric of imposture and fraud behind which the authors of this war would fain conceal themselves large enough already? Is it the business of a whig journal to be propping and patching it?

5. What the whigs in congress will generally do we will farther discuss at present; we have been concerned rather with what they ought to do as in part the legislators and rulers of a humane and Christian People. We have not much considered what would be the probable obedience to the divine mandate which thunders "Thou shalt not kill!"—We should gladly try the experiment of such obedience, even with a certainty of losing a presidential election by it, but we by no means concede that such loss would result. On the contrary, in the firm and living conviction that God Reigns, we believe that to do absolutely right for the love of right, and in utter disregard of consequences, is the way to secure even that kind of success which the Courier would seem to make the touchstone of party wisdom and the sole end of party effort. And we regret to see a while it manifests so great repugnance to course deemed "suicidal to the party" and calculated to "make us the laughing stock of every civilized nation," seem to have no word or thought for the consideration—What course does our Maker require of us in the premises? What course is enjoined by the Prince of Peace, whose disciples we profess to be? When the matter in hand probably involves the killing or saving alive of some thousands of innocent human beings, are not these of so to account, as well as the sheers of Europe and the chances of an election? As to Mr. Polk and his responsibility, was not the whole concern bankrupt long ago? Can we hope to idle the guilt of blood shed virtually by us upon him, who has more than he can answer for already? The president's position is bad enough, but is his responsibility so absorbing as to relieve us from any?

6. As to voting men and money to the extent of any one's demands, it does seem to us that if congress have no real discretion in the premises the constitution is a juggle and a farce. Why not say at once, "In war, the president shall contract loans lay taxes, raise armies, and in short, do whatever he thinks best?" the part that congress is required to act in the premises implies that each House has a real not merely a nominal discretion. But more: If the money is to be raised for another year of warfare in Mexico, it must be raised in great part by loans or measured taxation. Shall a whig house concur in borrowing twenty or thirty millions more for this purpose? By what moral right shall this burden be saddled upon the American People of 1860 or '80? What will be the nature of their obligation to pay, it no real necessity prompted, and no benefit acnerned from this in position? These are questions we should probably answer with the Courier, yet all must see that the number who answer differently is daily increasing; all must feel that there is somewhere a limit to the right of one generation to impose burthens on its successors. (See the last Democratic Review of what we may expect by and by from those who are now pushing the nation deeper and deeper into debt.) If Messrs. Polk and Walker will frankly recommended the direct taxation professed to love so well when out of power, we hope congress will accommodate them; not for more loans, and especially loans on mortgage on the public lands, we have slender appetite.

Now as to "conquering a peace" How are we at war? By means of our armies in Mexico. Suppose they were at home again, what would the war amount to? Let the last five or six years of nominal war between Texas and Mexico give answer. Mexico wants nothing, expects nothing of us but that we let her alone. And even if she would not make her forces at long cannon shot these past ten years. Now suppose some stout bully were seen in one of the streets holding down and pummeling a feeble, colic child of ten or a dozen years, and, being remonstrated with by the bystanders, should explain "I am trying to conquer a peace! If I stop pounding and get off him, he will fly in my face and do me serious damage,—what would be the response of true manhood, to say nothing of Christianity?

The following extract from the N.Y. Courier and Enquirer will give their position on the subject.
The Whigs and the War—The Tribune reiterates its instructions to the whigs in congress, as to their duty in regard to the war with Mexico. We publish its article at length this morning, and have but little to say in reply to its positions. The Tribune is wrong, (if our memory serves us,) in saying that the National Intelligencer and Albany Evening Journal took to the lead in discussing the subject, and should therefore screen the Tribune from the charge of dictation. We remember articles in the Tribune as long ago as June setting forth the positions which it now repeats, and on the 4th of August, before it was known that the whigs would have a majority in the house, the Tribune declared in the most emphatic language, that “the whigs generally whom it was acquainted,” would not contribute to prolong or prosecute, in any way, the existing war. Up to that time none of the papers mentioned, so far as we are aware, had set forth their views upon this subject.

This point, however, is of slight importance. The only question of interest is, what ground shall the whigs take in the approaching session? The Tribune insists that they should vote for withdrawing our army instantly from Mexico, and that the only supplies which they grant, should be those necessary for doing this safely and comfortably. To what line they should be withdrawn, the Tribune at present declines to say: but the ground it has uniformly taken that we ought not to occupy any portion of disputed territory, would require them to retreat beyond the Sabine, since Texas is still claimed as one of its provinces by Mexico. But for active operations, for a further prosecution of the war against Mexico, the Tribune insists that the whigs should not vote a single dollar.

Now as far as the Tribune stands upon its ultra peace theories, we have nothing to say, if it believes that the divine commandment against murder, forbids the infliction of death upon any human beings, by any human authority, and under any circumstances, consistency of course, requires it to oppose all grants of men and money for any war, offensive or defensive: and so far as we can understand its argument upon this point, it proves this, if it proves anything. And yet the Tribune professes a willingness to “shed blood” in the defence of our soil, and concedes the necessity of driving the Mexicans from our territory in case of its invasion. Now where does the Tribune find warrant for disregarding the divine mandate, “thou shalt not kill,” in this case, more than in others, that may at least be conceived? If “prompt and through obedience” to the Tribune’s understanding of this command is to be yielded in every case, how dare the Tribune assume the guilt of shedding blood, even to keep the Mexicans at “long cannon shot distance: from the rightful boundary?

Our belief upon this subject is that armies are the Police of Nations; and that war is the harsh, but necessary process of enforcing the demands of justice and of law, upon these who rebel against them. If a constable or a sheriff may rightfully enforce the law against a recusant individual, then may the executive rightfully send and army to coerce a nation, into the performance of acts which she wrongfully and unjustly refuses to do. War is justifiable. And the divine command against under no more prohibits war, than its prohibits killing in self defence or as a penalty for the prohibited crime. Upon this point, certainly, argument cannot be needed.

The Tribune renews its assertion that we are waging upon Mexico an offensive war, simply because it is waged on Mexican soil. The position seems o us absurd. According to this, if the fortunes of war had been different,—if success had rested with Mexico instead of the U. States, and their armies had penetrated our territory as we have penetrated theirs the character of the war would have been changed. In that case, although we were the first aggressors, as the Tribune contends, we should have been fighting a defensive war; and for such a war the Tribune would vote both men and money. According to this logic, nothing is needed but defeat, to render the war just an defensive! If we had been beaten, we should have been in the right: but our victories have put us in the wrong. This is reversing the maxim that “might makes right,” and establishing the equally untrue and still more absurd maxim, that "might makes wrong,"-that the defeated party is always in the right. If this be the Tribune’s theory, we do not wonder at its former declarations , that our victories have been our disgrace. Nothing seems to us more clearly true than the position, that the character of a war does not depend at all upon its seat, but entirely upon its origin.

The Courier then proceeds a some length to show that this is a defensive and not an offensive war. [LTR]

NNR 73.022 September 11, 1847, tranquility and in California, no war among rival governors, no resistance by the Creoles to Americanization
The news from California and the letters our Monterey correspondent, of which we publish second package to day, represent that remote conquest the present Dorado of the American imagination, in a state of tranquility comparative tranquility. There is no actual civil war raging between the numerous rival governors, naval and military, whom the wisdom of the administration dispatched thither to reign over the new acquisition; and the Mexican creoles, after a various experiment of resistance, seem to have settled down pacified and reconciled to their fate, which is that a speedy denationalization, if not extinction. Their lands are mortgaged to the foreigner; they are too indolent and powerless to redeem them either with the gold of labor or the iron of war; and everyday almost, witnesses the increase of Americans by a new horde of adventurers landing from ships, or descending the precipices of the Sierra Nevada. [LTR]

NNR 73.033 September 11, 1847, comment on European interference in the war

“The Boston Journal says it is the intention of our government at once to resend the order by which the British steamer has hitherto allowed to enter the port of Vera Cruz.” We doubt their doing any such thing, whilst availing of the friendly agency of the British Minister at the city of Mexico towards bringing about a treaty of peace. The Washington correspondent of the Phia. Ledger, who is considered semi-official authority, says:

“I can assure you to-day that all fears and apprehensions of a European intervention, other than the kind of Mr. Bankhead, British minister in Mexico, to bring about reconciliation and a treaty of peace, have completely vanished. Our government has received the most positive assurance from all the powers of Europe that they will leave us to settle our quarrel with Mexico in our own way, though they are all most anxious that our negotiations may be brought to a successful issue. Their commerce, of course, suffers greatly by the war, and by the state of anarchy and uncertainty which is its immediate consequence.” [LTR]

NNR 73.034 September 18, 1847, the pay of the regiment of Col. Alexander William Doniphan

Col. Doniphan’s regiment consisted of 1000 men. When they returned home each of them received $650 for his pay, horses, &c., and his land scrip besides, so that the expedition cost in these particulars $750,000, three-fourths of a million of money. [LTR]

NRR 73.034, Col. 1 Sept. 18, 1847 War With Mexico: Comments On the Armistice

During the week we have received ample confirmation of the brilliant victories achieved in the immediate vicinity of the city of Mexico, by the army under Gen. Scott and of the subsequent conclusion of an armistice, with a view to a treaty of peace, so desirable to all parties. Deeply is it to be lamented that these achievements had to be purchased by the loss of so many brave men. The conflict has been one of the bloodiest of the war. The enemy appear to have been completely outgeneralled in every direction. According to the American accounts received, our forces were outnumbered four to one. The Mexican loss is represented to be in about the same proportion, four to one. The Mexican account varies widely from those figures however. Without stopping to recapitulate, we proceed to place the intelligence before our readers somewhat in the order in which the same reached us during the week.

“As to the result of the negotiations, the Washington Union of the 14th says:-It is useless to speculate, but we cannot forbear adding, that this decisive victory places the capital of the Mexicans at the mercy of our army. The consternation caused by the rout of their army, has induced the enemy to enter into negotiation for peace. The issue of this negotiation is not to be counted on with confidence. The firmness with which the war has been prosecuted has brought the infatuated Mexicans to enter on the discussion of peace. After the panic of the moment is passed, they may again manifest their insane obstinacy in prolonging the war. There should be no relaxation of our efforts, no pause in our preparations, until a
peace is conquered, and a ratified treaty shall secure its continuance."

The Union of the 16th, referring to what Mr. Kendall writes to the Picayune on the 25th relative to the disaffection produced in the army by the armistice, says:—"We are unwilling, until we receive fuller and official accounts, to discuss the question, or to cast any slur upon the General, whose military services are receiving the thanks of the people. But this we undertake to say, in relation to the whole subject—that it would be most unfortunate if Mr. Trist should permit the negotiation to be spun out beyond the shortest possible time—say two or three days; for, as we now advise, that course is the very policy which the wily politician Santa Anna would himself prefer for rallying and organizing his means; and, under the same reservation, we may add, it is to be regretted that as long a period as forty eight hours after the negotiation had terminated has been allowed for the resumption of hostilities." [DCK]

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NRR 73.034, Col. 1  September 18, 1847  War With Mexico: Order to Passengers Landing at Veracruz

From the letters of Indicador, the correspondent of the New Orleans Times, we extract the following:

Collector's office, Vera Cruz, August 25th, 1847.

NOTICE. Passengers arriving at this port without passports from the American consul resident at the port they embark from, will not be allowed to leave the vessel, and the master of any vessel permitting such passengers to land, will be fined $500 for each and every passenger so landed, and the vessel held responsible for the same.

F. M. DIAMOND, collector.

U. States flag ship Germantown,
Anto Lizardo, Aug. 18, 1847.

[DCK]

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NRR 73.034 September 18, 1847, Com. Matthew Calbraith Perry’s orders for visiting foreign vessels in Mexican ports

GENERAL ORDER, NO 11.

All vessels except army steamers and transports arriving at ports in Mexico held by the U.S. forces are to be visited by a boat from the general ship of the day, or any single vessel of the squadron, that may be in port, for the purpose of tendering the usual compliment of services to foreign vessels of war, and of detecting any irregularities in foreign mail steamers or merchant steamers, whether foreign or American.

It is desirable, when it be practicable, that the boarding officers should be a lieutenant. M. C. Perry, Commanding Home Squadron.

The Effects of these two intimations is exemplified in the following:

"The Spanish brig Martin, Capt. Escalza, arrived her yesterday, from Havana, brings several passengers, some of whom were permitted to land. We are glad to see such measure taken. This is the only way to stop the guerrillas from daily increasing in gangs of robbers that infest the country." [LTR]

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NRR 73.034, Col. 2, Sept. 18, 1847 Death of a guerrilla chief

DEATH OF A guerrilla CHIEF. El Arco Iris, of the 26th ult., says that Don Juan Aburto, the most active of the guerrilla chiefs, after Jarauta, died on the night of the 24th ult., of a fever, at Paso de Ovejas. He had been recently engaged with Major
NRR 73.034 September 18, 1847, difficulty of reinforcements in reaching Maj. Folliot Thornton Lally

GENTLEMEN: The reinforcements, mentioned in a late letter as having been dispatched from this place, in compliance with the urgent call of Major Lally, whose road was blocked up by the guerrillas, returned yesterday afternoon, after having suffered the loss of all their wagons, (except one) and five or six men killed. The guerrillas began to harass them near San Juan, a short distance from Santa Fe; but they pushed their way through without loss, until they arrived in sight of the National Bridge. Here they found an eminence fortified and furnished with a piece of artillery, effectually commanding the road, and from which they received a rapid fire of grape.

Defense is said to have been useless or impossible, and after sustaining the fire for some time and losing several mules, which were in their harness, the officers decided upon a retreat, abandoning nine of their wagons to the enemy. These wagons were loaded chiefly with ammunition, and form a most valuable prize to the guerrillas. They also contained a good deal of money, and private baggage belonging to officers and others; but perhaps the most important item of our loss is that of the government dispatches brought here by Col. Wilson, and unfortunately forwarded by this party.

Poor Col. Wilson was very low when the reinforcements started, and feeling that he could no longer indulge the hope which he had at first entertained, of overtaking his command, he insisted, against the advice of his friends, upon sending these dispatches by Capt. Wells to Major Lally. They are supposed to be very important; but whether they are or not, Gen. Scott must await the pleasure of Santa Anna for the enjoyment of reading them. By the way, is it possible that our departments have no cipher by which these important communications could be made without giving their secrets this constant liability to betrayal? But to return to our subject.

As the guerrillas were evidently too well acquainted with each other to suffer a distribution of the spoils to take place without their individual participation, the retreat of our routed party was made without additional loss or molestation. The fellows seemed to want plunder more than blood, and the wagons proved a golden apple to them.

Blame is attached by many to Major Lally for moving forward, after having sent for reinforcements, before they could have reached him. How far his circumstances free him from blame, we cannot tell, but the act seems really censurable a seen from this place. He is supposed to have pressed Captain Besancon’s company into the command, as they have been heard from definitely since the left the city several days ago on a scouting excursion. It was probably by their appearance that the train was enabled to pass the bridge, as the enemy would be apt to mistake his company for the van of a large reinforcement, and under that impression to retire. [LTR]

NRR 73.036 September 18, 1847, advances of Gen. Winfield Scott on Mexico City, battles of Contreras and Churubusco

The U. States steamship Mary Kingland, Capt. John Davis, arrived at an early hour this morning.-By her we have received our letters from Mr. Kendall from the 22nd to the 28th of August, all dated from Tacubaua. A courier dispatched by him on the 29th with the first account of the battle fought on that day, was cut off.

From a map and plan of the battle fields before us, we note that they are called the battles of Contreras and Churubusco-so called from field works of the enemy of those names. The victories were decisive, but as far as we can judge from a hasty perusal of a portion of our letters, the proposition for an armistice was made by Gen. Scott-probably at the suggestion of the British Embassy. The report we have hitherto given that the city of Mexico was at our mercy, appears to have been unfounded.

Should peace not follow from the negotiations now pending, another battle must ensue, the enemy having a force of from fifteen to twenty thousand men yet left.
But the road appears to be completely open to us, and the city is only two and a half miles from our encampment.

Our entire loss in killed and wounded is short of eleven hundred; that of the enemy is not well known. His loss in killed alone is believed to be fully equal to our entire loss, and it is estimated that at least 3,000 prisoners were taken. The number of his wounded was not ascertained, but is supposed to be very large. Gen. Scott himself received a wound in the leg below the knee, but from the manner in which Mr. Kendall speaks of it, we are led to hope the injury a slight one.

THE BATTLE OF CHURBUSCO. We have at length received account of the great battle which has been fought before the capital of Mexico, from the pens of our own friends. The dispatches, which were expressed from New Orleans, were received by the mail of this evening by the Secretaries of State and of War, and we are enabled to lay some very interesting details of the bloodiest, and perhaps the most decisive and brilliant battle of the war, before our readers.

We have not heard whether any dispatches have been received from Gen. Scott, nor, indeed, that any letters have been received by the Secretary from the camp. But instead of these, we have been favored with the following letters, received at the war department from an officer at Vera Cruz—the first written by himself, and the other addressed to him by two officers of the army—one a highly distinguished general, who “bore the brunt and battle of the day,” and the other from a captain in the service. These letters give to the whole account the stamp and authenticity of official intelligence. In addition to these, we give copious extracts “from the Sun of Anahuac” (Vera Cruz) of the 1st Sept. derived, also, no doubt, from the most authentic sources.

These events are glorious to the arms of our country. The most important, and perhaps most correct letter which we publish—certainly from an officer of the highest distinction—represents the disparity of the number of troops engaged, and the losses of the respective armies, in the most imposing form—7,000 only of our men actually engaged at the main battle of Churubusco—only 7,000 with two light batteries of eight pieces, in the conflict with 32,000 of the enemy, with heavy artillerie and strongly fortified. After two hours of bloody conflict, mainly with the bayonet, we carried everything—the enemy were pursued to the gates of the city—Our loss (heavy, indeed!) short of 1,000, “the enemy’s 5,000 including many distinguished men.”—This is indeed, a brilliant victory. We congratulate the whole country upon the glory which our arms have attained, and the prospect it promises of peace. An armistice had been concluded for forty eight hours—the particulars of which we give full—in order to open negotiations. We give the names of the Mexican commissioners, at the head of whom stand Herrera himself. Mr. Trist writes, that they had already had two meetings and were to have a third, and perhaps a last interview, on Monday, the 30th August. It would be idle for us to speculate on the ultimate results. Indeed, we have no time to night for that purpose, even if we had all the elements of calculation before us.

But we cannot forbear adding that this decisive victory places the capital of the Mexican at the mercy of our army. The consternation caused by the route of their army has induced the enemy to enter into negotiations for peace. The issue of this negotiation is not to be counted on with confidence. The firmness with which the war has been prosecuted has brought the infatuated Mexicans to enter on the discussion of peace. After the panic of the moment is passed, they may again manifest their insane obstinacy in prolonging the war. There should be no relaxation of our efforts, no pause in our preparations, until a peace is conquered and a ratified treaty shall secure its continuance. [LTR]

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**ART. 1.** Hostilities shall instantly and absolutely cease between the armies of the United States and Mexico.
United States of America and the United Mexican States, within 30 leagues of the capital of the latter states, to allow time to the commissioners appointed by the Mexican republic, to negotiate.

2. This armistice shall continue as long as the commissioners of the two governments may be engaged on negotiations, or until the commander of either of the said armies shall give formal notice to the other of the cessation of the armistice, and for 48 hours after such notice.

3. In the mean time, neither army shall, within thirty leagues of the city of Mexico, commence any new fortification, or military work of offence or defence, or do anything to enlarge or strengthen any existing work or fortification of that character, within the said limits.

4. Neither army shall be reinforced within the same. Any reinforcements in troops or munitions of war, other than subsistence now approaching either army, shall be stopped at the distance of twenty-eight leagues from the city of Mexico.

5. Neither army, nor any detachment from it, shall advance beyond the line it at present occupies.

6. Neither army, nor any detachment or individual of either, shall pass the neutral limits established by the last article, except under flags of truce bearing the correspondence between the two armies, or on the business authorized by the next article; and individuals of either army who may chance to straggle within the neutral limits, shall by the opposite party be kindly warned off or sent back to their own armies under flags of truce.

7. The American army shall not by violence obstruct the passage from the open country into the city of Mexico, of the ordinary supplies of food necessary to the consumption of its inhabitants, or the Mexican army within the city; nor shall the Mexican authorities, civil or military, do any act to obstruct the passage of supplies from the city, or the country needed by the American army.

8. All American prisoners of war remaining in the hands of the Mexican army, and not to heretofore exchanged, shall immediately, or as soon as practicable, be restored to the American army against a like number, having regard to rank, of Mexican prisoners captured by the American army.

9. All American citizens who were established in the city of Mexico prior to the existing war, and who have since been expelled from that city, shall be allowed to return to their respective business or families therein, without delay or molestation.

10. The better to enable the belligerent armies to execute these articles, and to favor the great object of peace, it is further agreed between the parties that any courier with dispatches that either army shall desire to send along the line from the city of Mexico or its vicinity, to and from Vera Cruz, shall receive a safe conduct from the commander of the opposing army.

11. The administration of justice between Mexicans, according to the general and state constitutions and laws, by the local authorities of the towns and places occupied by the American forces, shall not be obstructed in any manner.

12. Persons and property shall be respected in the towns and places occupied by the American forces. No person shall be molested in the exercise of his profession; nor the services of any one be required without his consent. In all cases where services are voluntarily rendered, a just price shall be paid, and trade remain unmolested.

13. Those wounded prisoners who may desire to remove to some more convenient place for the purpose of being cured of their wounds shall be allowed to do so without molestation, they still remaining prisoners.

14. Those Mexican medical officers who may wish to attend the wounded shall have the privilege of doing so, if their services be required.

15. For the more perfect execution of this agreement two commissioners shall be appointed, one by each party; who in case of disagreement shall appoint a third.

16. This is convention shall have no force or effect unless approved by their
excellencies the commanders respectively of the two armies within 24 hours, reckoning from the sixth hour of the 23rd day of August, 1847.

A. Quitman,
Major Gen. U.S.A.
Persifer E. Smith,
Franklin Pearce,
Brigadier Gen. U.S.A.

IGNACIO DE MORA Y VILLAMIL,
BENITO QUJANO

A true copy of the original.
G.W. Lay, U.S.A.
Mil. Sec. to the General in chief.

NNR 73.039-73.040 September 18, 1847, letters of George Wilkins Kendell about the armistice

Mr. Kendell writes on the 25th. “The armistice has finally been settled and signed—and I do not tell half the story when I say that it has produced universal dissatisfaction in the army—in the entire army. Let me give you an idea as to the mode by which it was brought about.

"On the night of the 20th inst., after the great Mexican army was thoroughly beaten, broken to pieces and routed, Mr. Thornton, of the English legation, accompanied by the British consul, Mr. Mackintosh, a man who regards Santa Anna, hates the Yankees, and never moves unless his own ends are to be gained—came out of the city post haste, on a visit to Gen. Scott."

"The next morning, Gen. Mora, accompanied by Mr. Arrangoiz, who was formerly Mexican consul in New Orleans, came out, also on a visit to Gen. Scott, and on the same day the latter wrote to the Mexican authorities, hinting at an armistice between the two armies, with a view of opening negotiations for peace. The proposition was eagerly jumped at by the Mexican minister of war, at the instigation of Santa Anna, of course, and the result has been a treaty of armistice in which, according to rumor, nearly everything the Mexicans asked for was conceded. I know nothing of the proceedings of this commission, except from hearsay.

There are many who believe that Gen. Scott has been compelled to adopt this policy, at the threshold of the Mexican capital, by Mr. Trist and his instructions, but there are few, and I must acknowledge myself among the number, who think that a peace honorable and satisfactory to the U. States is to grow out of this matter. The whole affair, on the face of it, looks like one of Santa Anna’s old tricks, to gain time and plan some new scheme of trickery and destimulation, and as he has British influence to back him, he will be likely to carry out what he undertakes."

"I have always said and always believed that Santa Anna was favorable to peace—to peace from policy only—and still believe he may endeavor to bring it about; but great as is his power, like a sail vessel, he can only go with the wind and current, and has too many and too powerful enemies to carry out his present schemes, at least without strong assistance from the United States."

On the 27th he wrote, "The prospects for a peace look brighter, strong peace feeling pervades the better class of citizens, as well as those of the middling order. I may be mistaken, but my humble opinion is that there are three influences now at work in the city of Mexico to bring about a peace. The first and foremost is Santa Anna himself, sick and tired of the war, and seeing nothing in its continuance but his own utter and irretrievable ruin. The second is Mackintosh, Thornton, & Co., the later gentlemen secretary of legation to the English minister, and both representing English interests. -The third, and all powerful interest is, American gold of which Santa Anna and some of his friends are known to be exceedingly fond, and to handle which they will stop at nothing. Thornton, during the illness of Mr. Bankhead, does the talking on the English side-Mackintosh acts as banker and general agent. Not one of these men care any more for the credit or honor of Mexico than they do for that of the Tongo islands—self is at the bottom of all, and Santa Anna is the most selfish man of the lot. -On our own side we have two influences at work; the first is
Gen’l Scott, hampered and bound down by his own government, and anxious to bring about a peace, because he believes a majority of his countrymen are warmly in favor of it; and the second is Mr. Trist, covetous as any man in his position would be, of the distinction so important a deed as making a peace must give him.

Opposed to these influences is a proud but cowardly set of Mexican military demagogues—a band of leeches who have lost all caste but still retain a species of hold upon the people—and then there is the great body of the people themselves, who know not themselves what they want, but who are hoodwinked and led by the demagogues. Santa Anna has no friends; but he has power, and that suits him just as well—perhaps better. Now all the influences enumerated above are to be used to bring about a peace, but how they succeed is a matter of conjecture. I suppose that the means should not be rejected so that the ends are gained. [JCS]

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THE KILLED AND WOUNDED.—The New Orleans Delta of the 9th instant has a list of the killed and wounded of our army in the late battles in Mexico. The following is the recapitulation:

First Division, under Gen. Worth

Killed: Commissioned officers, none; non-commissioned do 5; musicians and privates 32. Wounded: Commissioned officers 13; non-commissioned do. 41; privates, &c. 235 Missing: Privates 10.--Aggregate 336.

Second Division, under Gen. Twiggs.

First Brigade.—Killed—Rifles 4; 1st artillery 10—3d infantry 5, 19. Wounded—Rifles 10; 1st artillery 16; 3d infantry 28-54. Missing—Rifles 3; 1st artillery 1; 3d infantry 8-12, Total, 85.

Second Brigade.—Killed 23, wounded 126; missing 4. Engineer company; wounded 4; missing 1. Total, 158.

Company K. 1st artillery.—Killed 2; wounded 23.

Third Division, under Gen. Pillow.

First Brigade—Commissioned officers; Killed 1; wounded 11; missing 1. Non-commissioned officers and privates; Killed 11; wounded 124, missing 10. Total 158.

Second Brigade—Voltigeurs, Howitzer battery, and 11th and 14th infantry; killed 7, wounded 26; missing 2. South Carolina volunteers; killed 11, wounded 126. Total, 172.

Fourth Division, under Gen. Quitman.

New York Volunteers, killed; commissioned officer 1; non-commissioned 4; privates 11. Wounded, commissioned officers 9; non-commissioned 9; privates 68.—Missing, 1 private. Total, 103.

Dragoons attached to the Headquarters of General Scott, killed 8, wounded 4.

[NNA]

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Headquarters of the Army United States.
Tacubaya, August 23, 1847.

Considered, approved, and ratified, with the express understanding that the word "supplies," as used the second time, without qualification, in the seventh article of this, military convention-American copy—shall be taken to mean (as in both the British and American armies) arms, munitions, clothing, equipments, subsistence (for men,) forage, money, and in general all the wants of an army. That word "supplies" in the Mexican copy, is erroneously translated "rivers" instead of "recursos."

[NNA]
Ratified, suppressing the 9th article, and explaining the 4th, to the effect that the temporary peace of this armistice shall be observed in the capital and 28 leagues around it; and agreeing that the word supplies shall be translated recursos; and that it comprehends everything which the army may have need of, except arms and ammunition.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

Headquarters Army U.S. of America,
Tacubaya, Aug. 24, 1847.

To His Excellency the President and General-in-chief of the Mexican Republic:

Sir: Under a flag of truce I sent Lieut. Semmes, of the United States navy, who will have the honor to exchange with such officer as may be appointed for the purpose, the ratification of the military convention that was signed yesterday by commissioners from the American and Mexican armies.

I particularly invite the attention of your excellency to the terms of my ratification, and have the honor to remain, with high consideration and respect, your excellency's most obedient servant.

WINFIELD SCOTT,
General in chief of the U.S. army.

National Palace of Mexico,
August 23d, 1847.

I have the note of your excellency of this date, in which you are pleased to say that Lieut. Semmes, of the navy of the U. States, will exchange with another officer named for that purpose, the ratification of the military convention which was signed yesterday by commissioners of the Mexican and American armies, and calls particular attention to the terms of the ratification.

The most excellent president orders the undersigned to say to your excellency, as he has the honor to do, that he orders his ratification within the time agreed in the armistice; and he is also charged to direct the attention of your excellency to the terms of the ratification by his excellency the president.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

LINO JOSE ALCORTA,
Minister of state, and of war and marine.

To his excellency the general in chief of the United States of America.

[JCS]

NRR 73.40 Sept. 18, 1847 pronunciamentos

A Vera Cruz letter of the latest date says: "Already there are two pronunciamentos promulgated, one by Valencia at Toluco, where he fled the day of his defeat. Another by Paredes, who has gathered a few hundreds of the discontented around him at Atlisco, and a third by Francisco Rebaud, commandant of the port of Mazatlan, who has declared himself independent of the whole republic." [KAS]

NRR 73.040 Sept. 18, 1847 Concern for Lt. Henderson's detachment

Lieut. Henderson, the Vera Cruz Sun of Anahuac of the 27th ult. says:
"Nothing has yet been heard of Lieut. Henderson and the detachment under his command, who were, it is supposed, taken by the Mexicans near Puente National a few days ago."

The Jalapa Boletin of the 20th says, "that Aburto, the chief who commanded the guerrillas at the Bridge, had made his report, but nothing is said of his detachment.

Postscript—Since the above was put in type, we have seen a Mexican who told us that he was present when the detachment was taken in the chaparral, after surrendering to twenty times their number, and shot! [KAS]

The Washington Union received after our last was at press, contained an article so strongly implying that it was not the government that had ordered the two regiments and sundry companies from the Rio Grande to Vera Cruz, that we prepared an article to correct the statement in our last number saying that government had given such orders. The inference we drew from the remarks of the Union was inference we drew from the remarks of the Union was, that Gen. Taylor had of his own accord, given the orders, as they were stated to be in accordance with "General Taylor's recommendations which Gen. Taylor was known to have made that the Rio Grande should be held by competent garrisons and that the active operations should be carried on from Vera Cruz or Tampico—and to carry out which recommendation he was rapidly advancing at the head of his old regulars when he received General Scott's orders, (given probably in accordance with an undertaking from the department) to leave his said forces and return to Monterey. Gen. Taylor probably did not contemplate when he made the suggestion alluded to, that he would be deprived of a participation in the active operations he recommended, and by himself be laid up in garrison. Fate decreed that active operations should take a turn in the direction to which General Taylor was thus ordered, and the battle of Buena Vista left but a mere wreck of the Mexican army to oppose Gen. Scott's division. Gen. Taylor was manifestly making demonstrations indicating his design recently to move on towards San Luis Potosi.

The Union of Tuesday however, distinctly says that General Taylor "in compliance with instructions," had ordered certain portions of his present forces "to join General Scott's column" and repeats the idea that these instructions were in accordance with the advice of Gen. Taylor. [JCS]

The arrival of Mr. Aubry, direct from Santa Fe, puts into my hands some news that will be interesting to your readers, and which I hasten to communicate. Mr. Aubry left Santa Fe on the 28th of July, accompanied by Mr. Barnum of Baltimore (direct from Chihuahua,) Captain McCinney's company of volunteers from Monroe county, and a train of 65 United States wagons, under the charge of Mr. King.

Through Mr. Barnum, Mr. Aubry has news from Chihuahua to the 3d of July. On the 23d of June Mr. James Aull, the partner of the late Colonel S.C. Owens, in an extensive mercantile business, was killed by four Mexicans. They entered his store at Chihuahua, killed him, and took away $5000. The authorities of the city, and the friends of the deceased immediately had three of the murderers arrested, and put in prison, to await their trial. Mr. Aull's death was not occasioned by any rising of the mob, but chiefly for plunder. Mr. Aull is a gentleman well known in this community, and highly respected. His death spread gloom and consternation over everyone, and more particularly at this crisis, in the midst of large commercial transactions, and so soon after the death of Col. Owens.

The person and property of American citizens generally, were respected at Chihuahua, though none were permitted to leave the city, except neutrals, who could bring away their means by paying a duty of 6 per cent. Mr. Barnum obtained his passport by pretending to be an Irishman.

Gov. Armijo, on his way to Albuquerque, to visit his family, was arrested at
Chihuahua, and kept within the limits of that city. He is said to have expressed great satisfaction at the result of the battle of Sacramento.

No merchandize of any description was suffered to come into Mexico by the southern route.

In New Mexico, the territorial election was to have taken place on the 1st or 2d Monday of August. Consul Alvarez, Capt. Angney, and Mr., Kirkland, of St. Louis, were candidates for the legislature.

The murderers of Brown and others, were on trial, and seven of them would certainly be convicted.

Col. Willock's battalion of volunteers, their time having expired, were ordered to leave Taos and return to Santa Fe. Twenty five citizens remained, and were determined to follow our army, and not to return to their homes until their husbands would consent to become friendly to the United States.

An insurrection had, a short time previous, commenced, but it was nipped in the bud, and the leaders, terrified at the numbers sent out in opposition to them fled precipitately to the mountains.

On this route, Mr. Aubry met a number of troops, traders, government trains, &c., who were getting on easily and safely. On the 1st of August, when three days out from Santa Fe, he met at the Wagon Mound, a company of U.S. dragoons, under charge of Lieut. Love, with a large sum of money for the payment of the troops, and a train of government wagons, in care of Fagan, of Platte city. Messrs. Fitzpatrick, Wetherhead, Turlay, Wally and Dewitt were also accompanying him. [JCS]

NRR 73.041 Sept. 18, 1847 Death of General Hopping

Later.- A telegraphic dispatch from Richmond, Va., states that Gen'l Hopping died at Mier on the 1st inst.

General Lane's command embarked at Brazos on the 8th for Vera Cruz.

General Cushing was concentrating his brigade at Palmo Alto.

NRR 73.041 Sept. 18, 1847 THE MEXICAN ACCOUNT BY THE MEXICANS THEMSELVES

We are indebted for the following letters to a gentlemen in this city. They were forwarded by an officer of distinction at Tampico, who obtained the Spanish copies at that place.

[Union City of Mexico, August 21]

My dear friend-I am in the blackest of humors; I am overpowered by the most profound melancholy; the whole has gone to the devil. The Yankees-the hateful Yankees- have triumphed, because our efficient generals cannot even command four soldiers. Generals Valencia and Santa Anna have been routed successfully at the stone quarry of San Angel, and at the Churubusco bridge, and Scott with his army occupies the hacienda of Portales, distant five miles from here.

That gang of miscreants would have occupied the capital to day, but Gen. Santa Anna, in order, as is reported, to prevent such ignominy to the nation as to have the hateful flag of the stars waving over the palace of Montezuma's, has decided on hearing the proposals for peace from the Untied States commissioner; and as a preliminary, to morrow they will discuss the terms of the armistice. The commissioners on the part of our government are Generals Mora, Villamil ad Quijano.

Malediction and eternal hatred to the preserved, who have usurped the title of leaders of the nation only to head revolutions they promoted for their own aggrandizement, and to demoralize all classes of society. A most shameful condition
to us; without an army or public spirit, which, has been demanded by civil
distensions, and in the face of the treasonable selfishness shown by the authorities
of some of the states, what advantages is it possible to obtain from a proud enemy
who is conscious of his power.

I will not continue discussing this point, because I feel my soul is burning in the mire
by those. [KAS]

NRR 73.042 September 18, 1847, manifesto of Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna

MANIFESTO OF SANTA ANNA.

[Translated for the "Union," from the second and corrected edition published in the
"Diario."]

Manifesto of the president ad interim of the republic, and general in chief of its army,
to the nations:

On critical and solemn occasions, it is a duty, on the part of him who presides over
the republic, to give publicity to events; and I discharge this duty with pleasure,
because frankness has at all times been the characteristic of my administration. The
occurrences of the 19th and 20th are too well known, for they were unfortunate; but
it is proper for me to review them, in order that they may not be misrepresented,
as well from a spirit of detraction and malevolence, as from errors resulting from a
want of analysis in subjects of grave and transcendent importance.

The nation has witnessed the great-the extraordinary efforts with which, during the
space of three months, I have labored for the defence of the capital, which was
about to be surrendered defenceless to the enemy. I have organized, armed, and
equipped an army of more than 20,000 men; I have collected an immense material
for this army; I have fortified various lines in order to keep at a distance from
Mexico the ravages of war; I have created resources in the midst of the state of
abandonment in which the government was left; and no fatigue, no labor, have I
omitted, in order that my country might present herself with dignity and firmness in
the struggle to which she has been so unjustly provoked.

In war, an accident-a circumstance apparently the most insignificant-may frustrate
the most skilfully devised combinations. A glance at the defences which I caused to
be constructed around the city is sufficient to discover the plan which I had proposed
to myself.

The troops which I had advanced, by one of the flanks, supported by others posted
en echelon at convenient distances, were to have made a concerted retrograde
movement, which I commanded at the proper moment. A general who commanded a
strong division of 5,000 men and 24 pieces of artillery, whose headquarters were
at the town of San Angel, was ordered by me on the 18th, and 11 o’clock in the
morning, to fall back on the village of Coyoacan, in order to effect the concentration
of forces, in consequence of demonstration already made by the enemy, and for the
purpose of exactly carrying out my plan of operations. But this general, forgetting
that there cannot be two commanders on the field of battle, and that the execution
of a plan will not admit of comments which annul or retard it, suffered himself to
himself to object to the orders which he had received; and obedience and discipline,
so indispensable in military movements, having been banished from among us, thus
rendering it necessary, in order to avoid greater and imminent evils, to tolerate what
it would be absurd to approve of, I suffered him, in spite of myself, to persevere in
his purpose, and charge himself with the whole responsibility of the consequences.
They were not less disastrous than they had been obvious. He advanced, motu
proprio, [of his own accord,] more than a league to choose a position from which to
meet the enemy, without acquainting me either with his movement or his
intentions. His refusal to obey the order sent him was the first notice which I had of
this temerity; and soon afterwards the report of cannon enabled me to ascertain the
position he had taken, and apprized me that an action had commenced. Although
weighed down with the presentiment of what was to follow, I instantly placed myself
at the head of a splendid brigade of four thousand men and five pieces of artillery. I
arrived at the moment when the enemy had cut off the rear of the position of the ill-
fated general by a considerable force, whose operations I was then hardly able to
check, for it was now nearly night.

But I observed, with the greatest grief, that the position in question was isolated-
that a large ravine intervened, and a neighboring wood was occupied by the
enemy; the troops under my immediate command could not advance by the only
road which existed, without being exposed to the same fate as the others; and a
single battery, which arrived late, was my only means of attack. The firing having
ceased, our brigade took up their quarters in the town of San Angel; for the rain fell
in torrents, and to keep the troops in the field would have been equivalent to their
being routed.

Previous to this, I ordered that my aid-de camp, Col. Ramiro, should, taking as a
guide the deputy, Don Jose Maria del Rio, who was acquainted with the ground,
proceed to the head of the terrible ravine in front of us, and along the skirt of a
distant hill, and, making all haste to the camp of the general referred to, order him
to retire that night, without fail, with his infantry and cavalry, to San Angel, by the
only road which was left him, firing spiking his cannon, if it already impossible to
save them. This my aid accomplished, and communicated my order between 10 and
11 at night; but instead of punctually obeying the order, the general hardly suffered
my aid to speak, interrupting him by saying that what he wanted was 6,000 men
and munitions, and sent him off, after giving him two official letters, which he had
signed and sealed, one of them containing a report of the action of the evening, in
which he stated that he had beaten the enemy, and put him to shameful flight, and
that he had, in consequence, granted promotions of the generals, field officers, and
others.

The following day, at dawn, I repaired again to the same field, reinforced by the
brigade which I had ordered to be brought from the capital, and determined to effect
the enemy made his attack, which lasted about ten minutes, and I witnessed, in the
midst of despair, the rout of those troops, worthy of a better fate, and unfortunately
commanded by a general who was himself the cause of their being cut off.

The consequences of this affair were, in my view, terrible. The enemy could, by a
rapid movement, reach the capital before it would be possible for me to succor it; he
could, by a flank movement, cut off my detached forces; he could, by a flank
movement, cut off my despatched forces; he had obtained, as the result of his
victory, the power of falling with the main body of his troops upon a part of mine;
the enemy, in fine, through the unskilfulness and insubordination of a general,
converted to his own benefit all the advantages of my situation.

The advanced fort of San Antonio could not sustain itself; for our time had been
intersected, and I ordered its garrison to retire, while I covered the fort and tete
depont of Churubusco. The enemy advanced, cutting off a portion of the troops as
they were retiring, and presented himself in front of our nearest defences. I there
placed myself again in front of our soldiers, and my efforts cost the enemy not a
little bloodshed. The losses ensued, although lamentable, were the natural result of
the retreat, which was sudden, unexpected; and embarrassed by the trains,
marching along a narrow causeway flanked throughout its whole extent. -The
defence was from line to line, until the third was reached, where I personally
opposed the enemy, and a saved the capital, which was suddenly placed in danger.

While I was engaged, on the 22d in reorganizing the forces and covering the
batteries, and again in person at the head of a column, which would have continued
the defence to the last extremity, I received a communication from the enemy’s
general-in-chief, proposing to me to conclude an armistice, which would afford time
to consider the propositions which may be made by the commissioners of the United
States, for ending the struggle between the two nations. I consented to the
armistice; and, after consulting the ministers in cabinet, I determined that the
propositions referred to shall be taken into consideration.

The suspension of hostilities is always a good thing, because war is always an evil;
and much more so, after great combinations have been frustrated. To save the
capital from the horrors of war, or at least defer them, was a consideration which I
could not overlook, more particularly when viewed as a means of arriving at an
honorable peace.

When two nations find themselves in a state of war, they have the reciprocal right
to make propositions. A perpetual war is an absurdity, because it is a calamity; and
the instinct of self-preservation, which is even stronger and more powerful in nations
than in individuals, counsels that no means shall be disregarded which may lead to
an advantageous adjustment. The constitution gives me full authority to adopt this
course.

Devoted to interests so great and of such pre-eminent importance, I must maintain
at all risks the respect and consideration due to the supreme authority which I
exercise—now especially, when, if factions beset and harass the government, they
will deprive it of the power of deliberating, and it will become contemptible in the
presence of the enemies of the nation, I will be still more explicit—commotion and sedition shall be exemplarily punished.

I have preserved a considerable body of troops, and the nation will support me in maintaining its honor and vindicating its reputation. I consider myself as free as if I had just obtained a signal victory, and there is no fear that I shall be imposed on by the enemy’s negotiators, when his troops and a cannon have failed to alarm me. We shall adjust our differences, provided honor, above all, is saved; and we shall renew the combat, if the sword is thrust between our justice and acknowledgment of the rights of the nation.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA
Mexico, August 23, 1847.

[JCS]

NNR 73.044-73.047 September 18, 1847, the question of more territory and of the Wilmot Proviso

The Washington Union strenuously advises, that these questions should be postponed, deeming the present agitation of them as calculated to embarrass rather than settle existing difficulties. Meantime however the Union hesitates not to recommend very warmly, the course suggested by Mr. Buchanan in his letter to the “democrats” of Berks County, Pa., (inserted page 4, this vol.) in other words, -the extension of the line of the Missouri compromise to the Pacific ocean. The frequency and earnestness with which the Union recurs to and recommends that letter induces the belief that the policy therein indicated is at present the adopted views of the Administration of which that paper is the organ.

The contrarieties of opinion entertained in the several sections of the Union or adopted by the several parties into which the people of the Union are divided, the pertinacity with which those opinions are asserted, and the earnest disposition manifested of maintaining them, even to desperate extremities, very soon have to be met and determined one way or another, renders its consideration a matter of the gravest interest.

To record the proceedings now taking place, and to give an abstract of the opinion expressed by the leading authorities on the subject is our task.

The principle embodied in the Wilmot proviso has received the sanction of ten states, through their respective legislatures. The following are the states referred to: New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Vermont, Ohio, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island and Michigan.

Three of these states-Ohio, New Hampshire and Vermont-go beyond the stipulation of the proviso, and insist that no new state shall, in any case, be admitted into the Union, unless slavery be prohibited therein.

The resolution of the legislature of Ohio requests the senators and representatives of that state in congress “to procure the passage of measures in that body, providing for the exclusion of slavery from the territory of Oregon, and also from any other territory that now is, or hereafter may be, annexed to the U. States.”

The senators and representatives from N. Hampshire are requested “to urge the passage of measures for the extinction of slavery in the District of Colombia, for its exclusion from Oregon, and other territories, that now or at any time hereafter may belong to the United States.”

The legislature of Vermont declares that it “will not give its countenance, aid or assent to the admission into the federal union of any new state whose constitution tolerates slavery.”

The language of the south, protesting against the proviso, is, in its way, as emphatic and as decided as that of the states, quoted above, in favor of the proviso.

In view of an issue so directly formed, says the Baltimore American, it is evident that a compromise of some kind must be agreed upon. It was by a compromise that the Missouri question was settled; and, indeed, the action of the general government, whenever it relates to slavery, must always involve a compromise. Clearly nothing
is to be gained by the urging of extremes on either side—nothing is aggravating the
tendency to exasperation which is already manifest both at the north and at the
south, and which is so easily quickened when prejudices and passions only are
addressed. Politicians of limited range, sectional and selfish, may find their account
in stirring up and inflaming the sectional and selfish feelings of the people and their
respective localities—knowing no higher ends than the success thus aimed at. It
belongs, however, to a better order of men to evoke better feelings, to embody
them in sound principles, to give them efficiency in the shape of wise and patriotic
measures. That this will be done we are as well assured as that there are sanative
elements in the country sufficient for its redemption from worse ills than any which
are likely to trouble it now."

Amongst the most prominent of the proceedings, is probably the following, which
has just occurred in the State of Ohio.

WHIG MEETING IN OHIO—CORWIN ON THE STUMP.

From the Cincinnati Atlas, Aug. 30th.

In pursuance to previous notice, a large assemblage of whigs took place at Lebanon
on Saturday, the 28th inst. The specific object of the meeting was to receive from
the Hon. R.C. Schenck, a report of his stewardship; the country of Warren, which he
represented in the last congress being struck out of the district which he now
represents.

The meeting was organized by the election of the following officers:

President—Hon. Jeremiah Morrow, of Warren.

Vice Presidents—Governor William Bebb, Hon. John Woods and John M Millikin, of


Committee on Resolutions—Lewis D. Campbell, of Butler, Hon. David Fisher, of
Clinton, Thomas B. Stevenson, of Cincinnati, Wm. Crossley, of Montgomery, and A.
H. Dunlevy, J. J. Janny, E. Baily, Colonel John Hopkins, and Gideon D. Hart of
Warren.

During the absence of the committee on resolutions, Mr. T. B. Stevenson addressed
the meeting. A committee having returned and reported resolutions for
consideration, the meeting adjourned before dinner, after which they were resumed
and unanimously adopted as copied below. Mr. Schenck then delivered a powerful
discourse on the origin and objects of the war, as well as the means of terminating it
honorably, and embracing, besides a masterly, manly, and conclusive defence of
himself, for his own course in congress on that subject. He was listened to with
deep attention, and frequently responded to from the audience by expressive bursts
of approbation, as period after period of indignantly lack of triumphant self defence
rolled eloquently upon his tongue. Mr. Corwin followed. We had never heard him
before. We have heard some good speaking in our time, having grown up among
people where oratory and eloquence seemed to the “manor born;” but we must say,
(for sober conviction extorts it) that Mr. Corwin’s speech at Lebanon last Saturday
was the noblest, whether considered with reference to its matter or manner, or both,
that we ever heard from mortal lips. It was directed to a defence of his vote against
war supplies; to the maintenance of the fundamental principle of free government,
that the representatives of the people must judge of the propriety or objects for the
attainment of which they are called on to furnish means—a principle for which he
solemnly declared, he was ready to lay down his life, as did our forefathers of the
revolution; and to the consideration of the practical means of preserving the Union
from the overthrow threatened by the acquisition of new territory and the
prosecution of the Mexican war. On this last point, he concurred with Mr. Schenck
and the resolutions of the meeting, that no safe plan of redemption remained, but
that of refusing to take any portion of Mexican territory. On the blessings of the
Union, on the duty to preserve it, and on the means of its preservation, his
elocution seemed super-human. Never before was assembled an audience so
solemn, so rapt, so deeply moved; and, on the cheeks of the old, the middle-aged
and the young rolled down torrents of tears as the eloquent and patriotic truths of
the noble orator of the people fell from lips that seemed almost inspired.

But we feel how vain and presumptuous the attempt to describe such a speech.
Some idea of its eloquence and power and effect may be inferred, though not
realized, by the fact that everyone who heard it, declared the ablest speech he ever delivered; and to say that Mr. Corwin far surpassed himself is the highest eulogium that can be pronounced upon his effort. It was certainly superior in ability to his great speech in the senate; and it would be worth more to this country than the expenses of this Mexican war, could it be printed verbatim and given to every man, woman and child in the land. It should be put in the hands of school boys for all time to come, and it would be appropriate both to the Sunday school and the pulpit.

The whigs of Warren county have made a renowned declaration of the faith that is in them—the faith by which they have directed their political course hitherto, and by which they will be guided hereafter. We have no doubt that this expression will be responded to throughout the Union, and we think we assume nothing in saying that the whigs of Warren have expressed the sense of the entire whig party of the great and growing state of Ohio.

The resolutions of the meeting are in the words following:

1. Resolved, That the usurpation of power by the president of the United States, and the wanton abuse by his administration of sound moral and political principles, have involved the country in an alarming crisis, which threatens the permanency of our National Union, and the perpetuity of our republic institutions.

2. Resolved, In the language of HENRY CLAY, is his letter on the annexation of Texas, "That regard all wars as great calamities, to be avoided if possible, and honorable peace as the wisest and truest peace of the country. What the United States most need, are union peace and patience."

3. Resolved, That we view the existing war with Mexico as the result of a most flagrant violation of the constitution by the executive-uncalled for by the true interest or honor of the country-disastrous by in its immediately and ultimate consequences, to the best interests of the nation, and if not arrested terminating in a question which must distract and dissever the Union.

4. Resolved, That we regard the annexation of Texas as the primary cause of the war, and the march of the army from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande, as its immediate cause, and adopting the language of Senator Benton, "we denounce it, 1st. As an unjust war. 2nd. That it is a war unconstitutionally made. 3d. That it is a war upon a weak and groundless pretext."

5. Resolved, That the predictions of Whig statesmen, that the annexation of Texas would involve us in war, and would be the precursor of further attempt for the acquisition of further territory, are fully veiled by the war, and the efforts of the party in power to acquire a conquest apart, if not the whole of the Mexican empire.

6. Resolved, That we solemnly declare to the world that from high moral principles, as well as from our views of sound national policy, we are unchangeably disposed to the annexation of any territory in this union, either directly by conquest, or indirectly as payment of the expenses of the war; but, if additional territory be forced upon us, we will demand that there shall neither be slavery nor involuntary servitude therein, otherwise than for the punishment of crimes.

7. Resolved, That we are opposed to an improper interference with the question of slavery, where it constitutionally exists, yet we solemnly protest against its further extension.

8. Resolved, That inasmuch as the war with Mexico was commenced in violation of law—without any adequate cause, is conducted at a vast sacrifice of human life and an enormous expenditure of the national treasure, and promises nothing favorable to our country's true glory and prosperity, we regard it as the imperative duty of the next congress to adopt summary measures to restore peace, by requiring the president "to call home our armies and bring them all once within our acknowledged limits."—"Conquer your insane love of false glory and you will conquer and peace.

9. Resolved, That we have abiding faith in the cardinal principles and measures contended for the whig party in the contests of 1840 and 1844—protection to American industry—a sound and uniform currency—internal improvements—opposition to the treasury scheme, and eternal resistance to executive usurpations.

10. Resolved, That as whigs of Ohio—we contend for the success of our PRINCIPLES, and that no man who is not a thorough whig, approved by a whig national convention, can receive our support for the presidency now or hereafter.
11. Resolved, "That the congress has power to regulate commerce with foreign nations and amongst the states"—that the lakes and rivers of the mighty west are fit objects for the exercise of this power, and that her people have already too long endured the parsimonious appropriations of congress and the insulting vetoes of the president.

12. Resolved, That we must cordially approve of the course pursued by our senator in congress, the Hon. THOMAS CORWIN, and especially in opposing the war with Mexico, and that we have entire confidence in his talents, patriotism and enlightened statesmanship.

13. Resolved, that the fidelity with which our principles have been represented and our interests advocated by the Hon. ROBERT C. SCHENCK, in congress entitles him to our gratitude. That his acknowledged talents and unflinching integrity have secured to him an enviable renowned, and are sure guarantees of his future usefulness.

The Cincinnati Gazette thus alludes to the subject: THE UNION—MR. BUCHANAN. - The Washington Union endorses Mr. Buchanan's letter. Mr. Ritchie says: "It is written with the distinguished author's usual clearness and force, and it is marked by that high moral courage which the occasion demand,"—that Mr. B has stepped "boldly into the field" to "discharge a great duty at a critical period of public affairs"—that he comes forward in the "spirit of union," of "conciliation," of "compromise to pour oil upon the troubled waves." What "critical period of public affairs" is referred to by the official? —Does it connect itself with the Pennsylvania election? Where are found "the troubled waves" accept in the locofoco in that state? True the "old Jackson doctrine" was that "federal officers should not interfere with state elections;" but that doctrine is among the things of the past—the party has progressed beyond that point! The "troubled waves" roll high and threaten defeat to the party. The necessity is great and urgent—something must be done-done immediately—and in such emergencies laws and rules give way.

Mr. Buchanan opposes the Wilmot proviso, and advocates the "Missouri compromise to settle the agitating question and he is right" says the Union, and for thus throwing himself into the breach, by his warning voice to lull the storm, he deserves the "sincerest gratitude." The doctrine of compromise which he advocates—the compromises of the constitution, the compromises "which prevailed over the destinies of Missouri and Texas," in the opinion of the Union, must "stand, for it is built upon a rock." But has it stood firm in time past? Did it stand when the limits of Missouri were extended, and slavery admitted within the limits from which the compromise excluded it? Has it ever stood, or will it ever stand when it suits the slave power to disregard it?

The state of "democracy" in the Key Stone, required extraordinary exertions to prevent its overthrow—Mr. Buchanan, the second officer in the administration, was detailed on that service and entered upon it, in a wily and artful way, with a palaver about compromises. He says nothing about the tariff, to which Pennsylvania is wedded, nothing about the Kane letter, nothing about the publication of Mr. Clay's tariff speeches with Mr. Polk's name prefixed as the speaker, nothing of any of the frauds practiced to deceive the honest German voters into the support of Mr. Polk. Nothing of thins-these frauds have produced their effect, have had their day, and the sooner they have forgotten the better. —But Pennsylvania is anti-slavery—has been so from the days of William Penn. The Wilmot proviso was gaining popularity in the State. It received the entire vote of her delegation in the house. It asserts the precise doctrine of the ordinance of 1787 against slavery—the precise doctrine under which all the world has witnessed the astounding growth, and the equally astounding advance in prosperity, of the whole north-west; of the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin. Pennsylvania is as firmly wedded to the prohibition of slavery, contained in the ordinance of '87, and reiterated in the Wilmot proviso, as she is to the tariff or to any thing else. The cabinet at Washington oppose the principle of the ordinance and oppose all restrictions upon the South, and all efforts to restrict slavery south of the 36º 30 north latitude, and the secretary is to enter Pennsylvania, and quiet the free spirit of her people, allay this hostility to slavery, and put at rest all effort to advance the great cause of freedom in his native State. He is to "pour oil on the troubled waves," which agitate all parties there on that question. He has made the effort, and made it in a way to win the unqualified approbation of the government organ. We know the "honest Germans" are credulous, easily deceived by those in whom they confide, but in this instance the Washington interference, is too barefaced—to manifestly an effort to cheat Pennsylvania into the support of slave extending doctrines, to be effectual. We should suppose the people of Pennsylvania would spurn the doctrine and the instrument, yet we may find ourselves mistaken. Time will show.
The Charleston Mercury says: -

Now—what does the proviso in question propose?—Nothing less than to impose on a large extent of country, about to become the territory of the United States, for the purposes of future states, a restriction or disability, which is to be the fundamental law, as well of the future states as of the territory in the meantime, to which all other states of the Union are not subjected. The very object of it is to abridge such new states of certain political power possessed by the old states and thus create the inequality which we have contended is inconsistent not only with the whole structure of our government, but with the provisions of the constitution itself. It is to say beforehand to the new states to be carved out of the proposed territory, though New York and Virginia may possess this power, you shall not possess it, and this shall be the condition of your admission into the Union. We are aware that countenance is sought for this usurpation in the ordinance of 1787, and in what is called the Missouri compromise; we are, as it were, upbraided with the sacrifices made by the south at the shrine of peace and harmony, and these sacrifices are held up as the covenant and sanction of all future encroachment. It would be out of place to enter into the history of that memorable controversy; the action of the southern states, on that occasion, has always been regarded by them as a concession; and even supposing it binding and giving it the fullest operation, we deny that such concession in relation to a particular case can be regarded as a surrender of right and relation to any other. As well contend that the southern states, by consenting to such concession, have abandoned all their rights under the constitution, and now enjoy them only at the mercy of the majority of congress.

From the Albany Argus.

THE WILMOT PROVISO—ITS ‘CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES.’—If there is one sentiment more prevalent than another, touching the relations between Mexico and the United States, it is the claim which the latter has in justice and right, upon the former, to indemnity for aggression and spoliation, and the obvious certainty that we must receive such indemnity alone through an acquisition of territory. Without just acquisition, peace is unattainable, with honor or justice. As Mexico can offer, or at least can furnish, indemnity in no other form; those who insist upon trammeling the acquisition of conditions, impracticable in themselves, virtually refuse a peace, and protract the war, or invite or promote a surrender of our interests and character, at once humiliating and dishonorable. A peace without indemnity, is inadmissible. Indemnity can only come in the shape of territory—territory already conquered and held by us. A treaty, recognizing the principle or proposition resisted by one entire section of the union, and the national representatives thereof, could never receive their ascent, and hence, would fail in receiving the constitutional sanction. We should therefore have either no peace or no indemnity—and probably neither. The advocates of the Wilmot proviso, in urging and insisting upon a “fundamental article,” repugnant as they know to a large section of the union, and in admissible because certain to receive the negative votes of that section, in whatever form the question may be presented, become responsible for the duration of the war, or for the rejection of terms on which peace can alone be honorable and advantageous to our country.

Again: In reviving the anti-slavery discussion, —for the intended benefit of any body or any party, an absolute and positive good should be effected, as a counterpoise to the certain evil which, in many respects, the agitation of the question will produce. If sectional divisions and alienations, so much deplore by the father of his country, are to be renewed, with embittered force—if the Union and the constitution are to be invaded—if parties are to be reorganised, and new forms of political association invited—the northern democrat in conjunction with the whig abolitionist—something more than the adoption of an abstract declaration would seem to be demanded as the supposed positive good for so much positive evil. But the Wilmot proviso is simply an abstraction—inoperative in itself—occupying with it not the least legislative or practical force the moment the new territory become a state—and in short, performing little other service than to array the south compactly against the north, and to divide the north with itself.

Again: In the last congress, its effect was to divide and paralyze the friends of the administration—to postpone action upon the measures early reported to congress, and demanded by the exigencies of the country—and to withhold the material for a vigorous prosecution of the war, then and still regarded as the most effectual means of peace. What its effect will be at the approaching session—with a probably whig majority in the house of representatives, and with every disposition in that quarter to embarrass and annoy the administration, it is easy enough to foresee.

There is yet another view of the question. It is politically adverse to the democratic
party—that great patriotic and dominant party, which has ever great patriotic and
dominant party, which has ever maintained the compromises of the constitution, and
all its cherished features of equality, union, and the recognition of the state
sovereignties. That party has ever sought to prevent the intestine agitation of this
question. While it feels that slavery is a great evil, it has ever recognized the
sanctions and guaranties of the constitution, and the clear rights of the southern
states under it. It has invariably set its face against the incendiary or fanatical
efforts which, at different stages of our history, have been made by excited zealots
or at the instigation of designing partisans—and has successfully resisted them, as
repugnant to the constitution, fatal to the public tranquility, and calculated to rend
the Union asunder. In these high aims, acting as a party, and as the friends of the
constitution and of the union, they have been sustained by the American people.
The democracy, North and South, in cordial association, have resisted and checked
the abolition designs, through all the phases of incendiarism. On the other hand, the
“anti-slavery agitation” in some forms, the reception of petitions, congressional
reports and speeches, newspaper paragraphs and appeals, and finally Wilmot
provisos, has been a favorite element of opposition electioneering. It has formed
invariably a staple party commodity, through which they have sought power, and
sought also the defeat of the democratic party. The course of the two parties has
been as distinctive, as any of the principles or action by which they have been
characterized. Hitherto the democracy have successfully resisted all these efforts at
agitation—all the attempts to array one section of the union against the other—and
maintaining the integrity of the democratic party, and the guarantees of the
constitution, have contributed to preserve the union inviolate, and have carried
forward the government to its present high and auspicious state.

At this juncture, however; we are called to witness another and a more remarkable
phase in these efforts to revive or produce sectional agitation and falling back upon
the whig or federal course upon this question, have started the game afresh, and
attempt to set up their candidates upon whig capital. Why they have done so, and
with what ulterior views—with what certain defeat to themselves, and what prejudice
and disadvantage to the democracy—will be the subject of farther remarks
tomorrow. Meanwhile, we copy from the Buffalo Daily Courier, a very forcible article
in relation to this Wilmot proviso question, presenting other and cogent objections to
this new form of semi-abolition agitation.

The Buffalo Courier, under the same caption has the following—

Ill was it for the democratic party of the Union, at the north, as well as the south,
when the Wilmot proviso was inopportunity brought forward in the house of
representatives. It is one of those measures of useless agitation, ineffectual for
good in itself, introduced at a time and under circumstances not only calculated to
embarrass the government in the prosecution of the war, but to cast distrust upon
the motives and purposes of those who threw it as a firebrand into our national
councils, when there was the most urgent necessity for union and concert of action—
firmness of purpose and promptness of execution, to meet the machinations of an
eternal political enemy, and to provide the sinews of war for our army, which was
fighting to vindicate the honor and rights of the nation and to chastise the insults
and aggressions of a faithless foe, whom no treaty could bind.

Let us examine this question abstractly—that is, disconnected with any irrelevant
matter. It provides that slavery shall not exist in any territory which may hereafter
be acquired by the U. States, either by conquest or purchase. What would be the
result on the acquisition of territory? So long as it remained under the jurisdiction or
congress, the proviso could be enforced. But the moment state governments are
formed, the power of Congress ceases—and the people, acting in their sovereign
capacities, can establish slavery at any moment. Congress has no longer power or
jurisdiction over them. The Wilmot proviso becomes null and void. It is in vain to
contend that its provisions would be binding upon States. Such a doctrine would
lead to the worst kind of consolidation, and the establishing of central power which
would be gradual and constant encroachments, swallow up all rights, and become a
monster more to be feared than an absolute monarchy. Against such a
consummation, every democrat, whether at the north or the south, will raise his
voice, and exert the utmost of his energies. And yet there are those who advocate
this doctrine under the disguise of the Wilmot proviso. There are those who contend
that it will be binding in all coming time upon any territory which may be acquired by
the U. States. Such as these, either do not understand the true relation between the
State and General Governments, or have imbibed the federal notions upon this
point, which would go to destroy the former and build up the latter in increased
strength. Restrictions similar to those of the Wilmot proviso were laid upon the
northwestern territory. But who supposes that it is not competent for the people of
Illinois, or Indiana, or any other state, formed of this territory, to establish slavery?
All it requires is an amendment to that effect, in their organic law, and there is no
power on earth to prevent it. Congress cannot interfere, for the States are sovereign above Congress. It is a mistaken notion that the General Government is the superior Government of the country. It had its being and continues it existence only at the will of the States-two-thirds of which can control its destiny-while it exercises only powers which it has acquired of the States, and which are enumerated in a written instrument.

If there are any who honestly suppose that the Wilmot proviso will prevent the existence of slavery in States which may be formed of acquired territory, an examination of the question will convince them of the falacy of their hopes. If any territory should be acquired favorable to the existence of slavery, the Proviso, would or could be no bar to its existence there. It might be excluded in form previous to the formation of State Governments, but beyond this, its power and effect would cease. But the territory which it is proposed to acquire, if any, is so situated in regard to climate, soil, and productions, that slavery could not exist. Its very first principle, avarice, would be opposed to it establishment, as free labor would be most profitable. Therefore, the Wilmot Proviso would be useless for these two reasons: the first, it would be unnecessary to accomplish the professed objects of its agitators; and second, it would be powerless for good as affecting states.

But there is another aspect of this question which is worthy of the serious consideration of the democracy. That is, its effect upon party relations. The democratic party has ever been recognized as standing up firmly and consistently to the compromises of the constitution upon all questions, including of course, that of slavery. Who does not remember the opprobrious epithets heaped upon our public men-the public men of our own State, Messrs. Van Buren, Wright, and others, for the stand they have heretofore taken in relation to the agitations of the abolitionists, and particularly in the matter of the "right of petition," so called? They have been foremost in vindicating the rights of our southern brethren, and so far have they gone, as to have been denounced as "dough faces," for, what was termed their obsequiousness to southern dictation. This has been the position heretofore, of all the prominent democrats of the north. They have stood up manfully to the spirit of the constitution, regardless of the clamor of the abolitionists and whigs. But the springing of the Wilmot Proviso, has caused a "fusion of parties"-a sudden and to superficial observed, an unaccountable abandonment of position by a portion of the democracy which, has, in time past; gone as far as the farthest in opposing a mischievous agitation of the slavery question. Of objects and motives we shall have nothing to say. -They are transparent. But we have to do with effects-with results-with consequences. We have shown-and all may see it, by a candid investigation of the question in all its bearings-then the proviso, if enacted, will be inoperative and void. The consequence of its agitation has been-disconnected with the war measures-to create sectional animosities-to strengthen prejudices-to widen the breach between the north and south-to create ill feeling, and to engender a spirit which may grow and increase until it will threaten the integrity of the Union. Upon the democracy of the north, its effects have been most disastrous. These we may behold most emphatically exemplified in New Hampshire. In that state, the democrats from being the most firm and steadfast in their adherence to the compromises of the constitution, abandoned the safe ground, and went in for the Wilmot Proviso. The whigs and abolitionists, notwithstanding, united against them, and they were defeated.

The Angelica Reporter, New York (Administration) paper, says-We this week lay before our readers in another column, a number of extracts of public sentiments upon the principle of the Wilmot Proviso. We are induced to do this that our readers may judge of their merits, and as to whether its advocates are confined in a "few meddling politicians of this state, or whether the principle is sustained by almost the entire people of the north. We shall continue these extracts from time to time as we may have room and leisure.

We agree with the New York Evening Post, that these extracts contain expressions of a principle which we fully believe is destined to prevail in the future domestic policy of our country. On this point the minds of men throughout the populous north and the fertile and flourishing west are in perfect agreement, and nothing short of the absolute penalty of Congress—a venality too monstrous and barefaced to be thought of—can prevent it from being embodied in our territories, whether already in possession or hereafter to be acquired.

That the south will insist very strongly upon giving us the next president, and will adopt almost any candidate who is a slaveholder, without looking very narrowly at his political opinions, in the hope of preventing the recognition of this principle by Congress, is now pretty clear; but even if the south should succeed in this, the most difficult part of its task will remain to be accomplished. No influence which any administration may exercise will be strong enough to overcome the strength of
popular opinion diffused through a large majority of the American people. -Whenever Oregon received a territorial government, the prohibition of slavery is to be incorporated into her institutions. If California is to be added to our territories, it must come in as a domain the air of which cannot be breathed by a slave. The majority has made up its mind, if any faith is to be placed in the signs of the times, and every day adds to its determination. The minority may be able to protect somewhat the struggle; the minority will be angry, vehement, and loud, but it will submit to the inevitable decision, without any attempt to read asunder the Union.

The Patriot, the leading Administration paper in New Hampshire, in which state the "democrats" are for the proviso, has the following:

The Federalists abandoning the Wilmot Proviso.

We have always believed and frequently declared that there was not a particle of sincerity in the abolition professions of the federal leaders; and we have always maintained that they were dishonest, insincere and treacherous in their professions of detachment to the Wilmot Proviso. We have become more and more confirmed in this belief; every week that has passed since the subject was first agitated. We have never doubted that as soon as they had made all the capital possible out of it, they would throw it aside for some more available issues. What was more opinion then has now become evident to all. As long as there was the least prospect of gaining anything by sustaining this proviso, they were continually proclaiming their attachment, and swearing eternal fidelity to it. But what do we now see? The elections in this state are over; they have gained all that was to be secured by hypocritical professions and base bargaining; and now we see their base hypocrisy fast developing itself. We now see them openly repudiating this same Wilmot Proviso, to which they so openly proclaimed their attachment and swear eternal fidelity!

The Boston Atlas, which all along pretended that this very Wilmot Proviso was the very ark of our national salvation, and which but a few weeks ago denounced every opponent of that proviso as a "doughface" and an "apologist of slavery-this very consistent and honest print is now laboring to show that same proviso, in the words of the paper it was originally written on." In its zealous effort to write down that measure, it argues that so far from its preventing the extension of slavery—we may have a virtual and actual spread of slavery, and increase of slave territory, by the very means of, and under cover of the Wilmot Proviso itself.

Not content with turning this their hobby out to grass, as a favorite broken down horse, unfit for further use; not content with drumming this "issue out of their camp as a disturber of the peace, they sit down and coolly charge that it will cause the very evils for which they have always heretofore declared it to be the sole cure! And this denunciation of the Wilmot Proviso, let it be remembered, as been copied and approved by all the leading federal papers in New England! It is true that in thus repudiating the Wilmot Proviso they urge the adoption of another issue in its place; they raise the cry of "no more territory," and insist that the immense regions of New Mexico and Upper California, which must be free territory, shall not be added to our country. -But this does not in the least palliate their baseness and hypocrisy in repudiating the Wilmot Proviso; for this latter issue—this cry of "no more territory comes from the south; it is the slaveholder's cry and is raised for the express purpose of "heading off" the supporters of the Wilmot Proviso. Mr. Berrien, of Georgia, and Johnson, of Maryland, both slaveholders, both declared in the senate that they would oppose the acquisition of any territory, because they were satisfied that every acre of territory acquired must be free from slavery! And now we see the federal party of New England going over that very issue, thus raised to defeat the Wilmot Proviso and to prevent the acquisition of free territory!

Another writer in the Boston Atlas goes further than its editors; he talk the very language of Mr. Calhoun upon the subject; he declares that the Wilmot Proviso, if adhered to, will finally destroy our Government, and bring upon us, "the fate of former Republics!" Hear him rant and rave like a Southern nullifier:

"AWAY, THEN, WITH THE WILMOT PROVISO!"

Such is the frightful picture which a federal abolition draws as surely to result from "the spirit of the Wilmot Proviso! Has Southern slaveholder predicted more dire results? No; Mr. Calhoun himself has not predicted such fatal consequences, as the great oracle of New England federalism declared will surely follow the carrying out the spirit of the measure which that same paper has a thousand times represented to be the only salvation of the Republic. And here we have the union of the extreme advocates of slavery with the ultra abolitionist; both uttering the same cries of
"away with the Wilmot Proviso," and "no more territory." Here we see New England federal abolitionism openly uniting with S. Carolina and Georgia slavery advocates, in opposing the acquisition of free territory!

This is a picture for the honest anti slavery people of New Hampshire to look upon, and to consider seriously. Those who have heretofore given the federalists the least credit for sincerity in their professions of attachment of the Wilmot Proviso-those who have ever believed that they cared the value of straw for the poor slave, will now see that they have been grossly deceived. They will now see that the abolition of slavery is a thing to be thought of and cared for, by the federal leaders, only when votes are thus to be gained, and they will thus know how to estimate their professions upon this subject, at their true value. In reflecting upon this subject, let them bear in mind the authoritative promulgation of the Boston Atlas—"AWAY WITH THE WILMOT PROVISO!" and compare it with the late talk of that and other federal papers before our election, upon the same subject. And let them watch well the course of the federal papers for this state, for they are now preparing to follow the Atlas; they already copy and approve the slaveholder's method of getting rid of the Wilmot Proviso; and ere long they will openly join in the cry of "AWAY WITH THE WILMOT PROVISO!"

The Richmond (Va.) Whig in conclusion of a long article upon the Wilmot Proviso, says: "It is for every lover of the Union, and to submit to receive no gift which will bring its continuance into danger. Like the Trojan horse, this fatal gift of Mexican territory is fraught with danger and death; like the unwary Trojans let us not break down the walls and admit into the citadel. Let us repel it and those who offer it to us. Then and then only can we be safe; then and then only will we have done our duty to the Union, to ourselves, and to mankind in general, whose hopes are wrapped up in the success of our great experiments."

The Baltimore American of the 14th has the following as a leading editorial.

The question of more territory -The question is, just now, very extensively discussed in the newspapers; and the main consideration, on the part of those who object to further territorial acquisitions, seems to resolve itself into a desire to avert the issue presented by the Wilmot Proviso.

We here leave out of view, as not connected necessarily with the subject, all questions as to the manner of acquisition-taking it for granted that the violence of injustice is contemplated; but that an acceptable and an ample equivalent is to be proffered for any new region that may be added to our domains.

The question, then, is concentrated into one of the geographical affinities, and of national interests and national unity.

Excluding all ideas of violence and injustice, as against other nations, the subject also excludes all ideas of mere aggrandizement on our part, spring from a lust of dominion or a passion for conquest.

A philosopher of no mean note has declared that with the geography of a country given him he will deduce the general features of its character and civilization. This is a generalized expression to be understood according to its spirit-in which view it has a great deal of meaning. In like manner, military men who study the natural features of a country, in the way of their profession, come to ascribe to the facts of geography an importance, which, to less observant persons, might seem exaggerated-the possession of a particular point, for example, being made essential to the security of some other point, not a series of points, with other relations of dependence or affinity so controlling in their influence as to determine the most momentous questions of policy and generalship.

It is to geography, then, that we are to look, mainly in order to determine the extent of our territory and to fix its boundaries.

In this view we find one central fact which gives shape and color to all other facts pertaining to the matter. The characteristic feature of our country is the Mississippi Valley-a grand characteristic. To this great valley all other parts of our country are adjunct, appurtenant-dependencies merely. -This magnificent valley, a unit in itself and a pledge of unity to all the elements it embraces, must draw to itself and bring within its sphere such territories as are really dependent on it. Thus with regard to California advocates of the acquisition of that region believe that it is as much dependency of the Mississippi Valley as Oregon is, or as our own strip of territory between the Alleghanies and the Atlantic.
The Mississippi river, indeed, draining the great valley, disembogues into the Gulf of Mexico and has New Orleans as an emporium of its commerce. But it also stretches out its arms, east and west to lay hold of both oceans. That vast alluvial region, the garden of the civilized world, extending from the Alleghanies to the Rocky Mountains and forming the heart of the North American continent, is to be, and that before many generations shall have passed, the centre of the world’s commerce and its most prolific source. It must have access to the sea coast on both shores, and along the whole extent, communicating freely with Atlantic sea board, which we already possess, entire, and with the Pacific which we must possess, entire. We could not permit a foreign power to occupy on this side of the Alleghanies, any where, between those mountains and the Atlantic. Neither can we permit any foreign power to hold between the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific, intercepting our communications with that coast.

Besides, it is clear that California must have its connections with the Mississippi Valley. It will have them by two routes: the upper route, by Fremont’s Pass communicates with the head waters of the Platte and the Missouri; the lower route, by El Passo, reaches the waters of the Rio Grande. Without these connections California would be insulated. Confined to her own resources, which are not believed to be great, she would maintain only an insignificant existence; her fine harbors without the materials of commerce would not avail her much. But once drawn into the embrace of the great valley and suffused with the rich currents of its ample products, California, from her position alone, becomes important, and her commercial greatness stands revealed.

Holding, then, the Mississippi Valley, we must hold its avenues and outlets. In view of our commercial interests, present and prospective, it would not do to let a rival power possess the harbor of San Francisco. In the hands of Mexico it would be of no account. But it is evident that Mexico cannot long retain it. The country must soon pass from her hand—nay, it has passed already. The inhabitants are Americanized by immigration, and the country is ours really, as it will soon be, we doubt not, formally and by treaty.

The Washington Union on one side and the New York Evening Post on the other, are disputing at great length the point whether the Missouri compromise was or was not sustained and carried out in the annexation of Texas. The Union argues that the express provisions of said compromise were incorporated as the 3rd section of the law of congress authorising the admission of Texas, and also into all the enactments and formalities observed by Texas, in assenting to and confirming said annexation, which several provisions the Union proceeds to quote. To their argument and these quotations the Post thus replies:

The next position of the Union is, that we are wrong in affirming that the Missouri compromise was disregarded in the admission of Texas, and that Mr. Buchanan is right in saying that Texas was admitted “under the rule” of that compromise. To settle this point, it will be necessary to consider the words of the Missouri compromise. Here it is-forming the eighth and concluding section of the act of 1820, by which provision was made for admitting the state of Missouri into the Union.

“That in all the territory ceded by France to the United States, under the name of Louisiana, which lies north of thirty-six degrees and thirty minutes lies north latitude, not included within the limits of the state contemplated by this act, slavery and involuntary servitude, otherwise than in the punishments of crimes, whereof the parties shall have been duly convicted, shall be, and is hereby, for ever prohibited; Provided always. That any person escaping into he same, from whom labor or service is lawfully claimed, in any state or territory of the U. States, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labor or service as aforesaid.”

This is a sweeping, entire, immediate and perpetual prohibition of the existence of slavery throughout every part of the region north of the line of latitude mentioned. If this same prohibition has been applied, in the same manner and with the same strictness, to any part of Texas, then, we are in the wrong, and Mr. Buchanan in the right. On turning to the constitution of the state of Texas, we find the following provisions:

“The legislature shall have no power to pass laws for the emancipation of slaves without the consent of their owners, nor without paying their owners, previous to such emancipation, a full equivalent in money for the slaves so emancipated. They shall have no power to prevent emigrants to this state from bringing with them such persons as are deemed slaves by the laws of any of the United States, so long as any person of the same age shall be continued in slavery by the laws of this state.”
Those provisions form a part of the constitution under which Texas was admitted into the Union, and they received on that occasion the sanction of congress. They are in force in every part of Texas, as well that portion which lies north of the compromise line as of that portion which lies south of it. They allow the owners of slaves to enter that northern portion with their bondsmen, and forbid the legislature to emancipate them unless by the consent and act of the owners. Slavery therefore is legalized, protected, enforced over every foot of soil every handful of dust that forms a part of the domain of Texas. Will Mr. Buchanan or will the Union, on comparing the Missouri compromise with the constitution of Texas, again seriously affirm that Texas has been admitted into the Union under the terms of that compromise?

The Union, however, cites the resolution by which provision was made for admitting Texas into the Union, and insists that the terms of this resolution, including as it affirms, an extension of the Missouri compromise to the soil of Texas, were strictly fulfilled. To this we reply in the outset—that if they resolution did, in fact, apply the conditions of the Missouri compromise to Texas, then that condition has been since repealed by congress, in admitting of Texas with a constitution enforcing slavery throughout its limits; but, if, on the other hand, the resolution does not include that condition, then the north has been cheated. In either case, faith has been violated. The following are the terms of the resolution in question:

“Third. New States, of convenient size, not exceeding four in number, in addition to said state of Texas, and having sufficient population may hereafter, by the consent of said states, be formed out of the territory thereof, which shall be entitled to admission under the provisions of the federal constitution. And such states as may be formed out of that portion of said territory lying south of the thirty-six degrees thirty minutes north latitude, commonly known as the Missouri compromise line, shall be admitted into the Union with or without slavery, as the people of each state asking admission may desire. And in such state or states as shall be formed out of said territory north and said Missouri compromise line, slavery, or involuntary servitude, (except for crime,) shall be prohibited.”

This is not exactly the Missouri compromise, we confess, but there is no doubt that, at the time, the people of the north supposed that some part of Texas would be exempted from the evil of slavery, when that republic should be admitted into our Union. That was not done, however; the expectation, which the tenor of the Union’s whole argument admits to have been reasonable, was disappointed, and a state, lying partly north and partly south of the line of the Missouri compromise, was admitted into the Union with a constitution extending slavery over every part of it. If the south remains in the same temper as now, no free state will ever be carved out of Texas. It is only when a new state lying above the line of the compromise is erected, that the prohibition of slavery will begin to prevail. Texas may always refuse to give the free states the advantage of an addition to their number. She may consent only to the formation of a state lying partly north and partly south of the compromise line; in which case, the example of Texas herself will be pleaded forgiving it a constitution perpetuating, protecting, and enforcing the existence of slavery. The more we look at this pretended compromise, the more it strikes us as a trick, and a trick of the lowest surf—a stratagem to extend slavery over the whole domain of Texas, while we were amused with a hollow promise to give us a free state in the north of Texas, whenever it might suit the southern politicians to allow one to be erected north of the latitude so much talked of.

The Union dwells a good deal upon the reference made to this resolution and to the Missouri compromise, by name, in the constitution of Texas and in the various official proceedings by which Texas was incorporated into the Union. All these things make the trick the more gross, and the breach of faith the more profligate. It is no matter what mockery of words and phrases is used, as long as we are defrauded of the substance of what we were made to expect. We all know that the Missouri compromise has not been extended to any part of Texas, nor is it likely to be in our day; we know that slavery is allowed in every part of her domain and is likely to remain so in our time, and that is enough. [JCS]
A minister is a dilemma. A squad of Capt. Fairchild’s company of rangers happening to be in a scout, espied a body of Mexican lancers in a valley, advancing along a road from the city of Mexico. The men had not forgotten the fate of some of their companions who accompanied Captain Wells to the Natural Bridge. Thirsting for vengeance, they were soon charging down the hill with sabres drawn. As they approached the Mexicans, a gentleman was to spring from a litter borne by a pair of mules endeavoring by gesticulations and speech to keep the squad off. Some few of the boys who understood Spanish, learned that the gentlemen who was making such a liberal use of arms and tongue, was no less a personage than the Spanish minister, and that the lancers were sent with him from the city of Mexico. The squad mistrusted there might be some trickery in the matter, and escorted the party to the gate of the city, where his excellency, followed by numerous trains of mules, entered; and the lancers wheeled about and made their way back. [JCS]

NRR 73.049, Col. 2 Sept. 18, 1847 Dr. Cooper and the Dragoons

Dr. Cooper and the Dragoons.-The N.Y. Herald says that "a letter received in New York from Lieut. Sears, of the second artillery, dated 24th Aug., states that Dr. Cooper and the twelve dragoons who left Capt. Well’s command, for the purpose of joining Major Lally, and informing him of the approach of reinforcements, and who was supposed to have fallen into the hands of the Mexicans, reached the train at Cerro Gordo in safety on the 23d ult. This letter is the only one received that mentions this intelligence.” We fervently hope the account may be confirmed. [DCK]

NRR 73.048, Col. 3 Sept. 18, 1847 Illinois Regiment: New Companies of Illinois Volunteers Sent to Mexico

Illinois regiment.—The steamboat Eudora brought down yesterday four companies of the 6th regiment of Illinois volunteers, (being the second under the new requisition,)—348 men in all—under command of Maj. Livingston. They landed at Carrollton. Three companies, commanded by Capts. Bowman Burnes, and Ewing, embarked at St. Louis on the 13th, on the Buena Vusta, under the charge of Lieut. Col. Hicks; and the three remaining companies were to embark on the 15th, on the Ne Plus Ultra. They will shortly be expected here. [DCK]

NRR 73.049 September 25, 1847, letter from Gen. Gideon Johnson Pillow, comments by S.W. Oakley

GEN. PILLOW—The New Orleans Delta of the 22d ult., contains the following letter from Gen. Pillow.

Puebla, Mexico, Aug. 6, 1847.

EDS. DELTA: My attention has been called to a letter dated, "St. Charles, May 9, 1847,” and purporting to have been signed by myself, in reply to an invitation to the festivities given in honor of the returning volunteers, first published in some paper in New Orleans, (I do not know which) and republished in the Politician, in Nashville Tenn.

I know nothing of this letter, or of its author, further than that, from its being address to Col. Oakey, he would seem to have (no doubt from kind and friendly motives to me) had some agency in it.

I was invited to attend the dinner by several gentlemen of the committee, but it was one the eve of my departure for the army, and I gave none but verbal replies that I could not attend in consequence of my public duties in the army requiring my immediate departure for the seat of war.

I neither wrote that letter nor authorized it to be written, nor in any way sanctioned it; nor do I adopt or approve the sentiments or opinion therein expressed, and
cannot allow such liberties to be taken with my name, no matter what the motive.

Papers that have published that letter will please insert this.

With great respect, I am your ob’t serv’t.
GID. J. PILLOW.

Editorial Commercial Bulletin: Being the member in behalf of the committee, to invite Major General Pillow, I was bearer of the invitation, verbally; so, also was made the reply; but with the express request to me that his reply should be published with the proceedings, and that I should send him a copy of the paper containing it.

Perceiving that Gen. Pillow’s whole thoughts and feelings were most concentrated in the desire to embark that day, and push forward to the command of his division in Mexico, I yielded to this request, promised performance, and redeemed my pledge.

Maj. Gen. Pillow has only been reminded of these circumstances, to do justice to himself as well as to the individually and as a member of the committee. I may have been mistaken in the subject of our conversation, as what he did, or did not, wish to appear in the reply; but, in making the request to me it was his risk as the phraseology: but he knew he incurred no risk of anything appearing, while I was his amanucent is, but those correct, honorable and patriotic sentiments in unison with those on which he can so eloquently converse, and which he did then so fervently express.

I regret that Maj. Gen. Pillow regards so sensitively the fire of ridicule from his enemies in the rear. -He has before him an example in his present senior Major General, who left behind him an almost overwhelming tirade of ridicule. But his onward movements through the enemy’s fire in front, had changed those sneers and laughter into applause, universally bestowed on his generalship and military science, never excelled, if equalled, by any general in any quarter of the globe, excepting only those of our own country.

S. W. OAKLEY.

NRR 73.049, Col. 3 Sept. 25, 1847 The National Revenue: Revenue Derived from tariff on Mexico

The National Revenue-Official Statement.

Treasury Department, Sept. 16, 1847

Sir: The enclosed statement, prepared in the office of the register of the treasury, is transmitted in compliance with the request contained in your communication of the 26th ultimo.

The new tariff went into operation on the 1st December last; and the nett proceeds under it (after deducting all expenses of collection) actually paid into the treasury during the first nine months of its operation, is, as you perceive, $22,961,333 28- being greater by the sum of $3,176,018 57, than the sum paid into the treasury during the same period of nine months under the tariff of 1842; and exhibiting a gain, at the same ratio of increase, of $4,234,691 42 of the first twelve months under the tariff of 1846 as compared with the tariff of 1842.

The gross proceeds received by the collectors is much greater, as the expenses of collection are deducted before the money is paid into the treasury and recorded by the register. Most respectfully your obedient servant,
R. J. Walker,

Secretary of the Treasury.
Tr E. Barksdale, Esq., Yazoo city, Mississippi.

[DCK]
The US frigate Brandywine, Capt. Crabb, bearing the broad pennant of Com. George W. Storer went to sea from Hampton Roads on Monday morning.

The US sloop-of-war Saratoga, was anchored off the city of Vera Cruz on the 14th inst., where she would remain for some time.


The US brig Hecla was at anchor at Anton Lizardo on the 12th inst.-to sail in a few days for the southward. Forty-seven sick on the Island Salmadina, twelve of them of yellow fever. The Germantown was at anchor on the 9th at Anton Lizardo.-She is now the flagship. The Decatur, on the 7th, sailed on a cruise, the fever having broken out on board. The John Adams was blockading the port of Tuspan. Com. Perry expected to sail in a few days with the whole squadron for Las Arcas Islands, lying westward of Yucatan.

The Boston Daily Advertiser of Saturday says:-

The sloop-of-war-Albany was to go into the dry dock at Charleston, yesterday. The statement that the frigate Constitution had been docked for repairs, was a mistaken one. We understand that the Constitution is to follow the Albany in the dock, and received a very thorough repair.

Letters have been received from Com. Perry dated Anton Lizardo, Aug. 12, stating that the health of the squadron was improving.

A company of one hundred and seven marines, under the command of Lieut. Taylor, left the barracks at Washington city, on Monday last, for Mexico. It is expected that more of the same description of soldiers, will leave the same place, for the same destination, shortly.

The US frigate Brandywine, at Norfolk, took her crew on board on Monday last, and is preparing for sea will all possible dispatch. A draft of men for the B. and general service arrived at Norfolk on Saturday from Boston, under command of Lieut. Winslow.

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NRR 73.053 Sept. 25, 1847 War with Mexico

When the daily journals which are now filled with interesting details of the progress of the war, shall have taken the usual course of such passing publications, and a few or none of them are to be found, it has been our purpose that the pages of the national Register shall preserve the best and most comprehensive of those details in such a form as to render them accessible to its readers as well as future historians. We remarked at the commencement of this war, that all its incidents and the transactions of those who were embarked in it, would be more thoroughly known by mankind, than those of any war that he ever taken place:-because the persons who were actors as well as those who observed, were far better qualified to furnish correct accounts of what transpired on one hand, and the faculties for diffusing their statements never have been equaled-heretofore the world learned of such events mainly through the partial statements of the commanders.

In our last we furnished, along with others, the graphic letters of Mr. Kendall, the talented corespondent of the New Orleans Picayune, giving his first version of the affairs which transpired in the vicinity of the city of Mexico. In this number we furnish the statements of other officers engaged in those brilliant transactions, and amongst them, those of "Mustang," the no less talented correspondent of the New Orleans Delta. It is from the accounts of such writers that a vast deal is ascertained, and often a truer picture is given, of events, than could ever be known from the mere perusal of official statements, which come however, very properly, to correct the errors into which such writers are liable to fall, from writing under hasty impulses and with but partial view often ground.

The list of our killed and wounded is given by "Mustang," and is inserted in the Delta, the Washington Union, and the National Intelligencer. After some hesitation between a desire to gratify the impatience of our readers to see the melancholy record, and the uncertainty whether the list would correspond with the more deliberately prepared official list, which will be included in the report of the commander, we have finally concluded to defer the publication of the list for the arrival of the later, as ours is intended to be of the highest authority, for future reference.

The "Union" states that no idea of a relaxation of the measures to reinforce out army in Mexico is entertained by government; on the contrary, every effort is being made to reinforce Gen. Scott with such bodies of men as will "be able to control the Mexicans, to coerce peace, or, of a treaty be already made, to secure its execution." [KAS]

NRR 73.053 September 25, 1847, British courier from Mexico proceeds through United States to London, our government without dispatches, rumors of peace, negotiations

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reinforce Gen. Scott with such bodies of men as will "be able to control the Mexicans,
to coerce a peace, or, if a treaty be already made, to secure its execution.

The week has passed without government having received any despatches from
Gen. Scott's army. They have no letter from our commanders since the battle. The
Union says, that a steamer was kept in readiness at Vera Cruz to receive the
general's official and bring them on to government. IT is to the British couriers we
are indebted for most of the information lately received from our army. The New
Orleans Picayune of the 8th says: "We learn that an English courier arrived here on
the Col. Stanton, who had been despatched by the house of Manning & Macintosh
from the city but a few moments. It is conjectured by those with whom he
transacted business here, that he was despatched to England with a view to some
operation in Mexican bonds. He left here in hopes to hit the Boston steamer of the
16th inst."

This courier will probably be in London by the time our government receive their
official despatches from Gen. Scott.

One reason for this delay, is the difficulty experienced in communicating between
Gen. Scott's headquarters and Vera Cruz. A letter from Vera Cruz written a few days
after the battle of Churubusco, states that the governor of that place would not allow
any body of men less than 1,500 to start from thence to General Scott's
headquarters. This precaution was induced by the repeated embarrassments
experienced already. Gen. Cadwallader had to fight all his way up to Puebla. -Gen.
Pierce had to fall back for reinforcements, and had with him 2,500 men. Major Lally
had to send back for reinforcements, and barely escaped with his forces. Capt.
Wells, the last that started, was compelled to return, with the loss of his train and a
number of his men. The distance to be traversed to connect this depot with
headquarters is now greater and the danger undiminished. We see no intimation
from Vera Cruz to reinforce Gen. Scott. A considerable body of men must have
concentrated there by the 1st September, whether a sufficient force will be collected
to advent on the route before the arrival of the two brigades from the Rio Grande,
is questionable.

The Washington Union speaks of the six additional regiments which have been called
for, and which is now organizing with all practicable despatch, and put them en route
to embark to reinforce Gen. Scott. It is fervently hoped that Gen. Scott may not
have to await till they arrive, to commence further active operations, should a treaty
no be concluded.

Gen. Pierce writes, after the late battles, to his friend, "Our loss has been heavy. -
RUMORS RESPECTING A TREATY OF PEACE. The Spanish paper La Patria, published at New Orleans in an extra, gives a letter from their correspondent at Tampico, dated the 6th September, which we had so little faith in as to conclude not to insert—but as our compositors call for “more copy” we give it, “for what it worth,” as the Picayune has done adding “It is no later from the city of Mexico than has been received by way of Vera Cruz. Nobody we take it, believes the United States are going to restore California.

There may be some diplomatic arrangement by which we may exchange the title by conquest which we now have for one by purchase—we suppose the three millions are intended for some such purpose. -But the United States will never give up California, and this part of the letter must be all fudge. The statement about the canal and Matamoros is simply unintelligible.

But this letter, which we give solely to gratify the gaping curiosity of the town for every word or news from Mexico, is important in one view of it. It confirms the fact that Mexicans generally do sincerely believe that an immediate peace is to grow out of the late victories and the negotiations founded upon them.”

The letterwriters with our army show themselves by no means as sanguine of this as do the Mexicans.

But the letter of the La Patria-Here it is-

Tampico, Sept. 5th, 1847.

My friends -I have just received a letter from Mexico, which arrived here by special express, via Huejutla, and I take advantage of the departure, almost at this very moment, of a vessel bound to your port, to transmit a copy of it. It is to this effect:

Mexico, August 29th, 1847 -Esteemed friends; I have already informed you that Gen. Scott proposed a suspension of arms on the 21st, and that is was followed by an armistice agreed to on the 22d inst. A negotiation was forthwith opened with Mr. Trist, and I have just been assured that up to yesterday it had progressed very satisfactorily. Very shortly, a treaty of peace, it is expected will be concluded. The principal articles re the following:

"The United States shall restore Mexico to California, together with all the ports, cities and towns which the Americans forces occupy in our territory."

"The United States shall for ever retain the State of Texas whose limits shall extend to the left bank of the Rio Bravo del Norte, comprising Matamoros, by means of a canal which shall be cut for that purpose."

In respect to this latter point, it appears that nothing definitive has been agreed on.

It has been found impossible to assemble congress, consequently, a junta of "notables" will be formed, for the express purpose of revising the treaty. There are other articles, but as they are of secondary importance, they are not given.

General Valencia marched to Toluca where he publicly declared that he would not recognize Santa Anna as president of the republic, not as commander in chief; -and the proposed to assemble troops for the purpose of attacking the capital. Subsequently, however, appears he surrendered himself to the government, by whom he had been sent prisoner to Guadalupe, where he is to be brought before a court martial.

Gen. Alvarez is announced as intending to reassemble his troops for the purpose of attacking the Americans, on the first favorable opportunity.

General Paredes, it is stated, is marching on the capital, with a respectable force, which he has succeeded in bringing together, with a view to assist his countrymen. Then he persists in doing notwithstanding the order that has been transmitted to him from Santa Anna to quit the country—to return again to the place of his exile.

General Salas. I have just seen a communication from General Salas, dated Coyuncan, where he remained a prisoner. In this, he declares that it was by the
unskilfulness of Valencia, and the cowardice of Torrejon that the battle of Contreras was lost.

Torrejon, instead of obeying the orders of Salas, which directed him to charge the Americans with his cavalry, pusillanimously fled, and in this manner brought ruin and destruction on our infantry.

This is positively the latest news from the capital, but I expect at every moment the receipt of more, of still greater interest, which will enter more into details. [JCS]

NRR 73.053, Col. 3 Sept. 25, 1847  Gen. Gabriel Valencia's Defiance of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, His Arrest

General Valencia marched to Toluca where he publicly declared that he would not recognize Santa Anna as president of the republic, nor as commander in chief;-and he proposed to assemble troops for the purpose of attacking the capital. Subsequently, however, it appears he surrendered himself to the government, by whom he had been sent prisoner to Guadalupe, where he is to be brought before a cour martial. [DCK]

NRR 73.053, Col. 3 Sept. 25, 1847  Gen. Juan Alvarez Intending to Assemble Troops to Attack the Americans

Gen. Alvarez is announced as intending to reassemble his troops for the purpose of attacking the Americans, on the first favorable opportunity. [DCK]

NRR 73.053, Col. 3 Sept. 25, 1847 Gen. Mariano Paredes y Arrillaga Said to be Marching on the Capital

General Paredes, it is stated, is marching on the capital, with a respectable force, which he has succeeded in bringing together, with a view to assist his countrymen. This he persists in doing notwithstanding the order that has been transmitted to him from Santa Anna to quit the country-to return again to the place of his exile. [DCK]

NRR 73.053, Col. 3, 1 Sept. 25, 1847 Gen. Jose Mariano de Salas' Accusations Against Gen. Anastasio Torrejon at Contreras

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Torrejon, instead of obeying the orders of Salas, which directed him to charge the Americans with his cavalry, pusillanimously fled, and in this manner brought ruin and destruction on our infantry.

This is positively the latest news from the capital, but I expect at every moment the receipt of more, of still greater interest, which will enter more into details.

J.***

Department of War and Navy--Section of Operations
Army of the North--Second General in Chief.

Most excellent sir: On the 19th inst., about 12 or 1 o'clock, p.m., the enemy appeared, as if with the intention of attacking the position occupied by this army on the heights of Contreras. In the moment we began a very steady fire of artillery and musketry, a successively, as the enemy presented himself in the various points
sustained by our troops, and we succeeded in stopping him in several places, until
night put an end to the fighting, in which all the classes of his army gave proofs of
their gallantry and the decision with which they sacrificed their lives in the defence
of our nationality; but on the morning of the 20th - thanks to the bad position we
occupied, and the carelessness paid the movements of the enemy to surround us - we
were routed in all directions by more than 6,000 men - the 3,000 infantry being
placed in one point, which was surrounded. When we observed the dispersion of our
forces, I tried all I could to stop it, and, crying "Victory for Mexico," at the same time
that the bugle sounded for slaughter, I succeeded in stopping it for a moment, and
ordered General Don Anastasio Torrejon to charge with his command; but this chief,
instead of obeying my order, fled cowardly, and the cavalry following his example,
trampled on the infantry, and contributed to the complete rout of it.

It would appear ridiculous to make any recommendations of those who have been
present in an unfortunate battle; however, I cannot help mentioning to your
excellency that I am perfectly satisfied with the gallantry and tenacity with which the
chiefs and officers of the several corps tried, even in the midst of disorder, to reunite
their forces to resist the enemy, who was hotly pursuing us. This conduct, observed
by them, preferring to be made prisoners before abandoning their soldiers, will
always do them honor; and for this, I, think, they are entitled to the consideration of
the supreme government, and the gratitude of their fellow citizens.

His excellency the commander-in-chief, Don Gabriel Valencia, disappeared from
amongst us at the commencement of the action of the 20th; and I, not knowing his
whereabouts, have thought it my duty to address your excellency, accompanying a
list of the chiefs and officers who are prisoners in this city; another of those who
were wounded in San Angel, and of those known to have been killed; another list of
those made prisoners in the action of Churubusco - all of which I have the honor of
manifesting to your excellency for your intelligence, praying that, on communicating
the above to his excellency the president, you will please manifest to him the total
indigence in which the prisoners find themselves, as having lost everything, and the
American general having given orders that they be maintained by the inhabitants of
this city, which is destroyed, they must perish in misery, if their government does
not supply them with what they are entitled to, and which their actual situation and
the well-deserving conduct that has distinguished them, energetically claim.

I reiterated to your excellency my respects and particular esteem. God and liberty.

JOSE MARIANO SALAS.

NRR 73.054 September 25, 1847, Detail of Gen. Winfield Scott’s march from Puebla
to Mexico City, movements prior to the battles

The army left Puebla on the 8th of this month, and after a few days’ march, reached
Avolta, immediately on the margin of the valley of Mexico. Between this place and
the city, about 4 miles distant, we knew there was a strongly fortified position, called
St. Pinon; it is a small isolated mountain, surrounded by water, on one side of the
principal causeways leading to the city. After spending a day or two in
reconnoitering this place, and which would have caused a great loss of life to have
taken, it was ascertained that there was a practical road south of Lake Chalco. The
general determined to take this route, and put the army in motion, leaving out
division to watch the enemy in our rear. The march was a dreadful one, being the
rainy season. The road was in many places, where it passes at the foot of the
mountains, and on the margin of the lake or narrow causeway, nearly covered with
water, and excessively muddy; at others it was over rocky spaces of the mountains,
and in places entirely obstructed by huge rocks rolled down by the enemy; but
nothing seems to damp the ardor of the army - all obstacles vanished before them.
In two or three days when the whole army was in motion, they could be seen from
the front stretched out over a distance of seven or eight miles. On the 18th the
general reached small town called San Augustin, about twelve miles south of the
city, the leading division having arrived there the day before. General Worth had
placed his pickets in advance for the arrival of the general; he ordered the whole
division to advance and take possession of the hacienda within striking distance of a
strongly fortified place called San Antonio and also that reconnoitering parties should
be pressed forward still in advance; the party was supported by a squadron of
cavalry and a battalion of infantry. In passing to the front, I found that a troops
which had been placed as a pickets had gone forward; and as I came up with it, it
made a turn in the road which opened upon them. The first tire killed Capt.
During the afternoon we watched the different movements of our troops with the most fearful anxiety, and could plainly see one of our columns resist a charge of a large body of cavalry, and the enemy falling from their saddles, and taking to their heels. During the whole of the night, we could see on the right a body of at least ten thousand infantry, and cavalry in reserve, towards the city; but they had not the courage to advance, although Santa Anna himself was said to be there. The attack was ordered to be renewed at 3o'clock next morning, and the general returned to San Augustin. He left at an early hour, taking with him General Worth's and one half of his division as a reinforcement; but en route he was met by an officer, who reported that the batteries had been carried by our troops in a most gallant style, Colonel Riley leading the assault. As he approached the scene of action, it seemed most incredible how our men got over the ground to the attack. It was over immense masses of lava thrown up in the roughest, sharpest, possible shapes, and covered with dense brushwood. Streams had to be crossed and deep ravines; and most of them having passed the night in a pelting rain without shelter, it appears almost incredible that they should be able to drive double their numbers from a battery of 23 heavy guns. The scene of the arrival of the general was most exciting. The cheering of the troops left to protect the property taken, and their delight was very gratifying. Many of the guns taken have been added to our siege train. The amount of ammunition taken exceeded by three times the whole which we brought from Vera Cruz, so that we are well provided. But the greatest cause of exultation was the recapture of two of our own guns, brought from Buena Vista, the last battle of General Taylor. When I saw the U.S. on them, I felt like dismounting and embracing them. What is remarkable about their recapture; it was made by the 4th artillery, to which regiment they formerly belonged. They, with other small capture pieces, were immediately fitted up as a light battery, and the captain (Dunn) who took them, in command of it. The general, when he received the intelligence of this victory, sent General Worth back to make a demonstration on San Antonio, whilst he, with the portion of the army which was pressing the enemy, should get in its rear. I will not stop to describe the scene on the field of battle. On leaving it, the road was literally strewed with dead Mexicans, arms, broken carriages, &c. In passing a bridge, I looked over, and saw the bodies of at least twenty, piled one on the other, and the bank of the stream was strewed with them, and it was some distance before we out of sight. Going on, we came to a church, in which were confined 700 prisoners. The general halted a few minutes, and addressed the officers very kindly. Amongst them were four generals. He then hurried out to join the pursuing army. We came put with them at San Angel, where they halted. As the general passed along the line, it was one continued shout. After a few moments we passed on to a village called Coyoacan, where we heard firing on our right, about two miles off, in the direction of San Antonio. The general immediately sent me, with Capt. Kearny's troop, to ascertain the state of affairs. We galloped on; and on approaching the place, I found that Worth had turned the place by both flanks, and driven the enemy from it, and was in hot pursuit of them. I returned to the general as quickly as I had gone, and as I galloped among I heard a brisk firing in the front. When I reached him I found that he was fiercely engaged with the enemy at another strongly entrenched position—San Pablo. This action lasted more than two hours, and the firing was more general and more continued than any I had heard yet. The enemy's grape and canister flew like hail, and the fire of our infantry was one continued volley. The battery was obliged to retire, being most sadly crippled —lost two officers, a great many men, and left the field with only two horses to a gun; but the enemy, although behind entrenchments, with heavy guns, could not withstand the impetuosity and valor of our troops. The place was carried by assault, and the whole armament and a great number of prisoners were taken. In the mean time, Worth having hotly pursued the enemy, came up with them at another fortified place in advance of San Pablo, called Churubasco, and, after an obstinate resistance carried it, made many prisoners, and drove the enemy before him. The dragoons pursued and followed him to the very gates of the city.
Thus ended the day; and I think you will agree with me that it was a TOLERABLY active one-four distinct battles having been fought and won, and the enemy outnumbering us in each at least three to four times. They acknowledge to have had thirty thousand men in the field on that day; and yet we drove them on every occasion, and, in the end, made more than twenty three hundred prisoners, among them seven of their principal generals, and about forty pieces of cannon. Our loss, I am sorry to say, as may be expected, has been very great. It may possibly reach one thousand killed and wounded—but the returns are not yet in; but enough is known to satisfy us that we have lost many very valuable officers. Among the prisoners taken, I was mortified to see between 50 and 70 deserters from our army, with the Mexican uniform on. A court is in session to try them, and I trust that many of them will be published. It is pretty well known from their position in the battle of San Pablo, that a volley from them killed and wounded sixteen out of the second infantry, including an officer, and leaving one officer (the adjutant of the regiment) standing.

There are many of our friends, I am sorry to say, among the killed and wounded; but I can hardly enumerate them now. Young Captain Hanson, of Washington, was killed. Colonel Butler, of S. Carolina regiment, was killed; Smith, badly wounded in the arm and thigh; hopes are entertained that his arm may be saved. Lieut. Irons shot through the windpipe, slight hopes of his recovery. Captain Philip Kearney lost his arm in the charge towards the gate of the city; he is doing well. There are others, no doubt, which I cannot recollect at this moment; but many that we equally interested in are safe. Hagner and Galt are both safe. [JCS]

Vol 73.055 Sept. 25, 1847 From General Wool's command

From General Wool's command.- We have a series of very interesting letters coming down to the 16th of August. We are unable to give any portion before our next regular issue.

Captain Fairfax, of the Virginia regiment died at Satillo on the 14th ult., of fever.

The steamer Ogden arrived at N. Orleans on the 11th with Brazos dates on the 7th, Gen. Lane's brigade was there, and expected to embark for Vera Cruz on the 8th, to which place Gen. Marshall had also been ordered.

General Cushing and Lieut. Col. Abbott reached Matamoros from Monterey on the 3d. en route for Vera Cruz. Gen. C. is concentrating his brigade as the several detachments come down at El Sabinito, near Palo Alto. Deas' battery, which was to have accompanied General Cushing, has been ordered to remain with General Wool at the express request of the latter. Captain Shover passed down the river with Gen. Cushing on his way to Washington.

Captain Clark, of the 2d. Mississippi rifles, was at Matamoros on the 3d. instant, with a detachment of recruits on his way to his regiment at Buena Vista.

Captain Clinch was at the mouth of the river on the 16th instant, with a detachments of recruits for the 13th infantry, and would leave the next day for Gen. Cushing's camp at Sabmito.

Col. R.E. Temple arrived at Matamoros on the 1st instant, with four companies of his regiment, the 10th infantry.

The "Flag" says that col. Tibbatts, who was proceeding from Mier to Monterey with six companies of the 16th infantry, escorting a train, was attacked by a large party of Mexicans near Ramos, and succeeded in driving them off, with a loss of two wounded. Col. Tibbatts and his men were under fire for some time, and conducted themselves with great intrepidity. Intelligence was received at Buena Vista on the 20th of August, in a letter from San Luis Potosi, by the way of Parras, that Gen. Scott's column had marched from Puebla, and two days afterwards a rumor reached there of the capitulation of the city of Mexico. This illustrates the rapidity with which intelligence travels in Mexico by verbal report.

The same paper says that Mr. E. B. Lundy and Mons. Monthly, who were taken prisoners some 4 weeks since by Carvajal, have been set at liberty, and arrived at
Matamoros on the 3d. instant. They state that they were liberated by representing that they were not Americans. They were taken as far as Tula. Mr. L. says that General Urrea left that place a few days since, with 1,200 men, for the purpose of taking trains or goods between Camargo and Monterey.

The Union says that letter have been received from the camp of General Taylor, who was then near Monterey. The general had made the necessary arrangements for carrying out his late general order for sending the troops he could spare to Vera Cruz, to join the column of General Scott. In addition to the troops which he kept upon his line of defense, he had detained the light battery of Capt. Deas, to strengthen his line. A mixed force of dragoons and Texans was employed in clearing the country between Camargo and Monterey of the roving guerrillas.

Reports are renewed of the general’s intention to visit the United States; but he does not yet mention such an intention in his recent dispatches. [KAS]

NRR 73.055 Sept. 25, 1847 a letter from Buena Vista

North Carolina Regiment- A letter from Buena Vista, dated Aug. 19, to the Picayune says: "The mutiny in the North Carolina regiment has been effectually quelled. On the morning after it broke out a number of the officers if the regiment signed a petition to the colonel to resign, which he very properly refused to, but laid it before Generals Cushing and Wool. It was considered by the commanding general that there was a participation in the mutiny and two of the signers were dishonorably discharged from the service. As soon as this was known seventeen officers, I think, tendered their resignation, but after twenty-four hours had elapsed they thought better of it and begged leave to withdraw, expressing all due contrition, and leave was granted. Thus quiet subordination has been restored. The three regiments have all been separated-the North Carolina ordered to the rear, and the Virginians to the front. The soldier who was wounded by Colonel Paine at the time he shot at the mutineers, was a Virginian and has been dishonorably discharged from the service."

A letter of the 21st says: "Since my last, two companies of the North Carolina regiment have been ordered to the support of Captain Prentiss' battery on the hill above Saltillo. One of these companies, commanded by Capt. Henry, is the crack corps of the regiment, and has been stationed in town ever since their arrival. It had no participation whatever in the late mutinous outbreak. Mr. Buck, formerly adjutant to the regiment, but recently appointed aid de camp to gen. Cushing, has been elected captain in the regiment to fill a vacancy, and will not go to Vera Cruz. The express sent to the reported advance upon this quarter, has not yet returned." [KAS]

NRR 73.056-73.057 September 25, 1847, "Mustang’s" Account of the Battles

Editors Delta-The late brilliant achievement of the arms of the United States over the superior numbers of the enemy, and in front of the capital of the country, cannot but excite the admiration and pride of our people, from one end of the land to the other; but those who were not here to witness and participate in the desperation of the conflict-the great and apparently insurmountable obstacles-the privations and hardships endured—never can properly appreciate the brilliancy of the victory, the gallantry and good conduct, and the scientific attainments of our noble little army. Our comparative loss of those engaged, exceeds that of any battle of which we have any recollection; being about one out of six. To attempt to enumerate, in a proper manner, the individual instances of heroism—of determined and deliberate courage—of the perseverance and interpidity with which great and powerful obstacles were surmounted—would be but commencing an endless task. I trust when the details of these brilliant affairs are given by the respective commanders, that our country will testify its admiration and respect of some substantial reward—a reward that will live in memory and history when the actors in these stirring scenes shall have mouldered in the dust.

About the 15th instant it was determined that we should not attack El Penon, where the enemy had made every preparation to receive us, and where, no doubt, we would have been compelled to sacrifice many more lives than we have already done. Accordingly, the engineers having discovered a road by which we could turn it, we took our route to Lake Chalco. At this movement the enemy were seriously nonplussed, as they were not aware themselves of any practicable route we could take that would so effectually turn their position, and in order to delay our
On the 18th, Gen. Worth's column moved down the road in the direction of San but never daring to attack. route, and their cavalry presenting themselves in force several times during the day, enemy's skirmishers firing from every hill top and point which favored them on the unequal a conflict: Their loss was very severe, and among others, we have to lament mostly of large caliber, when they were ordered by Gen. Smith to retire from so batteries sustained for more than an hour, the fire of twenty two pieces of artillery; then concentrated his fire upon the howitzers and Magruder's battery. These two to stand the severity of the conflict, and was compelled to retire with heavy loss. He determined to maintain his position in front of his fortifications, suing his artillery for a time against the rear brigades of our army as they came up; but he was not able troops of General Smith's brigade hotly engaged the enemy's infantry which he had thrown out across a deep ravine and creek in front of his fortifications. He appeared determined to maintain his position in front of his fortifications, suing his artillery for a mile over a broken and confused mass of lava, apparently impassable even for footmen. The enemy opened his heavy batteries from Contreras, and the advancing troops of General Smith's brigade hotly engaged the enemy's infantry which he had thrown out across a deep ravine and creek in front of his fortifications. He appeared determined to maintain his position in front of his fortifications, suing his artillery for a time against the rear brigades of our army as they came up; but he was not able to stand the severity of the conflict, and was compelled to retire with heavy loss. He then concentrated his fire upon the howitzers and Magruder's battery. These two batteries sustained for more than an hour, the fire of twenty two pieces of artillery; mostly of large caliber, when they were ordered by Gen. Smith to retire from so unequal a conflict: Their loss was very severe, and among others, we have to lament

On the 19th, the enemy fired from the works of San Antonio on the hacienda of San Juan de Dios, supposing a part of our forces were still there. About 10 o'clock, the sappers and miners, under Lieutenant Smith, and the section of mounted howitzers, under Lieut. Callender, returned to San Augustin, and joined Gen. Pillow's division, which was then taking up its march in the direction of Contreras. Gen. Pillow continued his march, opening the road as he went, until he reached a high point, from whence we had the enemy and his fortifications in full view. Between one and two o'clock the division of Gen. Twiggs came up with the advance and moved forward Gen. Smith's brigade advancing to the left, and Col. Riley's to the right. Gen. Pillow placed at the disposal of Gen. Twiggs, Capt. Magruder's battery, and Lieut. Cadwallader's howitzers—both of which belonged to the proper division of Gen. Pillow.

With the great difficulty, the two batteries moved forward, having to travel half a mile over a broken and confused mass of lava, apparently impassable even for the engineers in a reconnaissance of the fortifications of San Antonio. Capt. Thornton had been very unwell for some time, and went out in command of his squadron against the advice of his physician and his senior officers; but his energy and gallantry would not allow him to remain inactive when there was the least possibility. The fire was soon as the dragoons were withdrawn, Col. Danean's battery and the sappers and miners moved down the road, and took a position that would enable them to operate in any direction, incase of an emergency. Col. Smith's light battalion was thrown out on the left front, to watch the movements of the enemy, and to hold him in check in case of his advancing his flank. Immediately after Col. Garland's brigade made a diversion to the right, and took position in line, resting his right at the hacienda of San Juan de Dios, about 400 yards to the right of the road. As soon as this movement was completed, the 24 brigade under Colonel Clarke, moved down the road until the head of his column rested on the left wing of Col. Garland. Once section of the mountain was brought forward, and thus they remained until sundown, when the brigade of cavalry withdrew, leaving the infantry and military on the ground. About 2o'clock a heavy rain came on, which completely drenched the troops, and they were also exposed during the night to a slow drizzling rain without tents or blankets. Gen. Worth, with a part of the 1st brigade, occupied the hacienda of San Juan de Dios during the night, and the enemy amused themselves by firing a few random shot at it about sundown, from San Antonio, but without any other effect than to riddle the house completely with balls, and to besprinkle the officers with the mortar and dust of the old hacienda. During the day Major Graham was sent out from San Augustin, (Gen. Scott's headquarters), towards Contreras, to protect the engineers in a reconnaissance of the route in that direction, where, during the forenoon, he engaged a force of the enemy's cavalry and infantry, which he drove back, with a loss of eight killed, two wounded, and five prisoners—Maj. Graham's command sustaining no loss.
the death of Lieut. Johnson: Lieut. Callender was also severely wounded.

Gen. Pillow had ordered Gen. Pierce's brigade to the support of Gen. Smith, and Gen. Cadwallader's to the support of Col. Riley. At this state of the battle, while it was raging with extreme severity, the enemy appeared on the left of the fort at Contreras, and in rear of the village of Ensaldo where Col. Riley had arrived, with a force of 12,000 men, (which we afterwards learned was under the command of Santa Anna himself,) apparently threatening the safety of Col. Riley and Gen. Cadwallader. Gen. Pillow ordered the 15th infantry, under Col. Morgan, to the support of Gen. Cadwallader. Gen. Scott came upon the ground about this time, bringing with Gen. Shields's brigade of volunteers (South Carolina and New York) whom he advanced to the support of the forces under Gen. Cadwallader.

Gen. Twiggs, finding his command so separated, and that it was utterly impossible, from the nature of the ground, for him to reach the point he intended to occupy, as night approached, fell back with a portion of his staff to the place where Gen. Scott was passing the night, exposed to a severe rain, without shelter or anything more than his usual uniform, to protect him from the inclemency of the weather.

Magruder's and the howitzer battery being disabled, and it being evident that our left was advancing on a route prepared for us by the enemy—he having cleared away all the brush and other obstacles that obstructed his view, thereby exposing our infantry to a destructive fire as they approached, and it being doubtful whether they could cross the ravine after they reached it, Gen. Smith directed Captain Magruder and the howitzer battery to open, in order to attract the attention of the enemy, while he made a movement to the right, which he had determined on, in order to try one of the enemy's flanks. Leaving three companies of the 3d infantry to support the battery, and about 20 men of Maj. Dunick's command to reinforce the loss sustained by the battery, Gen. Smith moved off with the sappers and miners. Lieut. Smith, 1st artillery, Maj. Dunick, and 31 artillery, Capt. Alexander, and as many of the regiments as could be got together, they having been detached during the day as skirmishers, and to cover the engineers in their reconnaissance. After passing over the broken and irregular surface of the land, and crossing the deep ravines, he succeeded in reaching the village of Ensaldo. Gen. Smith being the ranking officer present, Gen. Cadwallader reported to him with four regiments of Gen. Pillow's division. Col. Riley's brigade had crossed the ravine, and gone up towards Contreras, after a strong body of the enemy, which he drove off. The enemy was now drawn up into two lines, above the village, on the right of the fort—the front infantry, the rear cavalry. The village of Ensaldo is protected on one side by a deep ravine—on the road between it and the stream is a house and garden, surrounded by a high and rather strong stone wall; the village is intersected by narrow lanes, between high dikes, enclosing gardens full of fruit trees and shrubbery, affording protection and concealment for the men. The church, standing in the centre; also afforded protection, if necessary—Gen. Smith now directed Gen. Cadwallader's force to be drawn up on the outer edge of the village facing the enemy's heavy force on the left of the force—formed the 3d infantry and rifles in column of company, left in front on the right flank, and placed Lieut. Smith's sappers and miners, and Captain Irwin's company of the 11th infantry, in the church, and Maj. Dimick's regiment in the garden on the road, in order to secure that avenue and his rear.

Gen. Smith now determined to attack the large force on the enemy's right; with Col. Riley on the left, Gen. Cadwallader on the right of the former retired in echelon, but before the movement could be completed night approached and the enemy's line could be seen—therefore the order was countermanded, and Gen. Cadwallader resumed his position on the edge of the village; Col. Riley's brigade was formed in a long land inside parallel to it, the rides on his left, and the 3d infantry in the churchyard. Thus they remained exposed to a severe rain all over without fire of shelter—the officers from generals down sharing the severity of the weather—but perhaps it only whetted their appetites for a more glorious and determined engagement in the morning. But now imagine the position of this portion of the army, numbering 3500 at the outside, without artillery or cavalry, while the enemy in front and on the left had 19,000 troops—those in the fort said to be the best of Mexico—with 22 pieces of artillery, and among his troops about 7000 cavalry. It was evident that some decisive action had to be taken—and Gen. Smith and Col. Riley, seconded as they were, were just the men competent to the task. An attack on the main work was determined upon, and the movement to take place at three o'clock the following morning. However, here another obstacle presented itself—the force of Gen. Smith was not strong enough to attack the main work and hold the village at the same time, and it was of the utmost importance he should do so—for if he drove the enemy from this main work, and in his retreat he secured possession of the village, he could hold it long enough to allow his troops to get away, and in all probability seriously embarrass any further movements of our army until he was safely fixed somewhere else. It is said that fortune favors the brave—and in this
instance it most truly did—fort while Gen. Smith was preparing for his attack, Gen. Shields reported his near approach with his brigade of South Carolina and New York volunteers—and here was an exhibition of magnanimity on the part of a high minded soldier to a brother officer. When Gen. S. arrived he was the ranking officer and could have assumed the command, but he was not the man to pluck the bright laurels about to be gathered by a brother soldier in carrying one of the strong works of the enemy—accordingly he moved subject to the command of Gen. Smith, and his brigade was placed in the village of Ensaldo, as circumstances might require, either to cut off the reserve of the enemy in flank, if it should change its front and attempt to attack our force towards Contreras.

At 3 o’clock, on the morning of the 20th, our troops commenced their movement towards the front of attack—the night was so dark that the men could not go out of reach of one another for fear of losing their way. This caused the movement to be slow that day-break approached before the head of Gen. Cadwallader’s brigade commenced descending into the ravine at the village. As soon as Col. Riley got out of the deep ravine, and at a point where it was the head of the column halted and closed—at the same time drawing the loads out of the guns supposed to be wet. Col. Riley then formed his brigades, together with the sappers and miners, under the command of Major Dimick, closed up the rear—leaving Gen. Shields at the village. Col. Riley continued up the ravine bearing a little to his left, and as he raised over the bank he stood facing the rear of the enemy’s work, but he was protected from the severity of its fire by the favorable position of the ground. As soon as Col. Riley ascended the hill and came in full view of the enemy, they immediately opened a warm fire upon him. Col. Riley threw out his two advanced divisions as skirmishers, and said forward: “Now, boys, give them hell close in with them, and let the bayouet do its work”—and his command rushed down the slope with a desperation and enthusiasm enough to strike terror to the heart of the boldest—while the rear of his command moved steadily forward in solid block with the most mechanical precision.

The sappers and miners, and the rifle regiment, which had been thrown across a ravine intervening between the one they had passed up and under the brow of the slope which Col. Riley came down from, that position poured in a fire which swept in front of Col. Riley’s column, then inclining towards their left, joined in the attack on the troops outside of the left flank of the fort. Gen. Cadwallader followed the route taken by Colonel Riley, and as soon as his troops were formed, moved on to his support. The first brigade, which was bringing up the rear, had been ordered to follow the same route, but while it was on its march by the right flank up the ravine and nearly opposite the fort, General Smith ordered the brigade to face to the left and advance in line to attack the enemy’s force in flank—this movement was executed in less time than it takes me to write it—they met the enemy outside of the fort, just as Col. Riley’s brigade rushed into it—they were completely routed and commenced a precipitate retreat—their cavalry and infantry and been formed to receive the charge, but both were compelled to give way to the bayonet—the rout was mostly complete, and the victory most decided—but while Riley’s brigade took possession of the works and plated their colors upon it, the other force continued the pursuit down the road. The retreating force had to pass near where Gen. Shields’s brigade was placed to intercept them. They however, were not aware of it until they received the well directed fire of S. Carolina regiment, which mowed them down like grass before the scythe.

The enemy had been completely deceived in the reference to the position of Gen. Shield’s brigade and the balance of the force, by the sagacity of the Generals. After General Smith moved off to attack the work, General Shields caused his men to build fires over the ground occupied by the troops during the night, as if the men were preparing their breakfast, which led the enemy to believe our troops still in force in the village. This led them to believe that we were going to carry into execution the attack we were meditating the night before—accordingly the night before he placed his batteries along his line, and in the morning moved detachments forward to take in flank of the attack he supposed we would make at daylight, and how great his surprise must have been when the first thing he saw in the morning was Col. Riley moving down the slope, having already turned his strong—hold—but all doubts were soon dispelled by the capture of his works and the dispersion of his army—they were met at every point by the skilful management and energy of General Shields, whose command compelled them to fly in every direction—some taking to the broken and craggy rocks—some to the ravine—while others depended upon their heels and made most excellent time in a race across the fields. One of the most sagacious movements made by a Mexican officer was made at this place. After a large portion of the Mexican army had passed through a very narrow pass and our troops after them, he formed a squadron of lancers in the pass, laid down their arms and surrendered, thus effecting the escape of those who had already passed through, those of our troops who were nearest having to take possession of the prisoners and guard them back, and before another force could go in pursuit they were out of reach.
In this fort there were captured 22 pieces of artillery, mostly large size, a great number of packmules, a large quantity of ammunition and munitions of war, and upwards of 1500 prisoners, among them were several officers of high rank. The enemy left dead upon the field, which we have buried, upwards of 700—but his loss was certainly much heavier—is the Mexicans were still burying their friends when I passed over the battleground two days ago; there were many more killed when the rifles engaged on the 19th than we had any idea of—their unerring aim told with powerful effect. The troops in the fort were commanded by Valencia, those outside by Santa Anna.

Among the highest achievements of the morning's engagement was the re-capture of the two Buena Vista six-pounders, belonging to the Captain Washington's battery, by one of the light companies of the same regiment. They now stand before the door of General Twiggs, and I hope when he shall meet his old friend General Taylor he will have present these beautiful trophies to claim the congratulations. —All the same arms taken were immediately destroyed.

The arms were secured, and a detachment left to protect the ordinance, ammunition and prisoners; the column formed for the purpose of pursuing the enemy, who had been met by a force from San Angel, when Gen. Twiggs arrived, and ordered a speedy and most vigorous pursuit of the enemy, which was immediately done, Gen. Shields's brigade to advance, next Gen. Twiggs's division, and the rear Gen. Pillow's division, the rifles and sappers and miners in advance as skirmishers. There are now ensued a sort of running flight all the way to San Angel, the enemy endeavoring to make a stand at every point on the road, the unerring fire of the rifle made every place too hot for them, and they were compelled to take refuge in Churubusco.

At San Angel General Pillow arrived and took the command, when the whole column moved down to Cluicon, when Gen. Scott came up, and immediately took the command of the whole.

**THE BATTLE OF CHURUBUSCO**

As soon as the enemy's forces perceived that Contreras carried, and that we should be able to turn his position and attack him in reverse, he evacuated the fortifications and fell back on Churubusco with his artillery and whole force. This was also reinforced by the troops from Contreras, and some from the city; they apparently determined to make their final stand at this point.

The work and position were exceedingly strong and completely masked by a high growth of corn and an orchard, which very much precluded our officers getting a proper view of the position of the strength of the work, which proved to be a regular fortification, and had been erected in the incredible short time of 38 hours. The church buildings formed a large square—the lower front, at the north end, was chiefly a wall, scaffolded for infantry; behind it was a higher building, also covered with infantry, and in the rear of this, the church itself was also covered with infantry, and a high steeple on its right flank was filled with infantry; in front of the first wall was a curtain connecting two salient angles, which flanked it, and were continued back to the side walls of the church, garrisoned heavily with infantry, and mounting seven pieces of artillery. This was the point at which General Smith's brigade opened the action, and soon followed, a little further to the left, by Col. Riley's brigade—these two composing the Cerro Gordo division, Gen. Twiggs. Captain Taylor's battery of light artillery also took position near this work, on the right of Gen. Smith's brigade; it drew up it a heavy fire from the fort, which he sustained for an hour and a half, losing 23 of his company, among who were Lieuts. Martin, Boynton and Sims, and 3 sergeants; he also lost during this time 15 horses. The conduct of Captain Taylor and his company throughout, was such as to excite the admiration of all who witness it, as well as his superior officers.

At the opposite side the work, the breastwork extended across the road from the church, presenting a similar front, excepting the buildings of the church, —the work on the road was also strengthened by a bridge over a creed, behind which was a body of infantry, and the work itself mounting 3 or 4 guns. —General Pillow, with part of his division, was sent round by General Scott to assault this part of the work, but as he, with his command emerged from the mud and mire of the corn fields (having waded, some of them, waist deep) into the road, he met Gen. Worth coming up from San Antonio, with his division; they had a hearty welcome, and one of them proposed that their commands should go hand in hand in carrying the work, which was readily agreed to.

At the same time that the other commands were despatched, General Scott ordered
General Shields to attack the enemy’s extreme left, where he was heavily entrenched; at the same time reinforcing his command with the 9th part of the 12th and 15th infantry, under General Pierce. This movement was executed as soon as the nature of the ground would admit—the whole command having to pass through corn fields of high growth, intercepted by ditches running through them in every direction.

The action now became general, and the severity of the conflict never equalled within the recollection of our oldest soldiers—the enemy was more than three times our number, besides his advantage of artillery and position—added to this, he was stimulated by the fact that it was the last effort of resistance he could make before we could enter the capital—his troops knew that they were fighting for the last remnant of the Republic, and they stood their ground with as much firmness and resolution as any troops could stand, before the army we at present have here. The roar of musketry was so great, that it was almost impossible for the soldiers to hear the orders of their officers. There was no point at which the action did not rage with severity for more than two hours, which is proved by the fact that our loss at this point was nearly 1000 men.

After the contest had lasted about two hours, our troops had got into such a position as to be able to close with them at the point of the bayonet, which decided the affair in our favor—General Pillow and Gen. Worth carrying the work on the road, by an officer of Gen. Pillow’s division taking down on flag, and one of Gen. Worth’s taking down the other, and the 8th infantry planting their colors, Gen. Rineon, together with 104 officers and upwards of 1100 noncommissioned officers and privates, surrendered as prisoners of war. Gen. Shields had his work more to himself, and he fully sustained that high reputation hitherto acquired on the field of battle. When the contest raged highest, and his men falling around him in every direction, he preserved that even temperament of mind for which he is so characteristic—his countenance wearing his bland and affable appearance throughout the whole engagement. His volunteers stood and moved under the fire with the regularity of veteran troops. South Carolina has sustained a heavy loss. Col. Butler was wounded twice before he received the fatal shot. Two color bearers were successively shot down, when Lieut. Colonel Dickinson took the colors, and he was beating the Palmetto proudly amidst the storm, when he also received a severe wound. About the same time that the three division at the fort were enabled to close, General Shields succeeded in driving from their position the large force with which he was contending.

The dragoons were now brought forward, and drove the enemy to the gates of the capital, thus closing, for the present, the most brilliant victory achieved by our arms during the war, and one which will vie with any achievement of our arms in times past.

Louisiana had two brilliant representatives, who participated largely throughout the whole affair, viz: Gen. P.F. Smith, of the first brigade, second division, and Lieutenant Beauuregard, of the engineers; both of which gentlemen signally distinguished themselves, both by their superior military knowledge and their personal courage. The engineer corps throughout has borne a large share of the labors and exposure of the battle.

From intercepted letters which we have in our possession, written on the evening of the battle, we learn the Mexican loss to be five thousand killed and wounded, and by them we also learn, that out of thirty thousand men, they had but between six thousand or eight thousand men left, and they in confusion, without leaders—the balance killed, wounded, prisoners, or totally dispersed.

After the troops had arrived at this place, all the former Texan prisoners who were present assembled just below the National palace, on a fine paved road, made by the labor of their hands, while they remained in this country. On the side of the road stood a beautiful monument, with the following inscriptions—"Erected to the memory of General Santa Anna in consideration of his having constructed this road by the labor of he prisoners of Texas." It was not long after the assemblage of the crowd, until down came the monument, and not satisfied with tearing it down, they broke the stone into small pieces, and scattered them to the four winds.

On the evening of the 20th, a white flag came out from the city, and on the morning of the 21st, we learned that propositions for an armistice had been made, which were agreed to, and commissioners appointed, who arranged and agreed on the terms.
The attack on the mule train near Papagallas, no the 31st of July, of which mention was made in the Flag of the 11th instant, was incorrectly reported to us, as we are informed by one of the party present at the time; and we make the following correction from his statement:

The train consisted of thirty-eight mules, and one wagon loaded with merchandise belonging to individuals, two of them proceeding with the train. The escort consisted of only four persons - C.R. Bartlett, the last named later members of Captain Gray's disbanded company. In company, at the time of the attack, were Br. Dickenson and two French gentlemen, sent out by the authorities of New Orleans to take the bust of General Taylor the Frenchmen traveling in an ambulance. About 1 o'clock on the 31st ult., the day being excessively hot, and the escort wearied, a halt was called at a shady spot near the road, and the party dismounted to refresh themselves. They had remained in this situation a half hour or more, when they were alarmed by the Mexican Bugle Charge sounding from different directions. As soon as the charge was sounded, Mr. Gleason ordered all to mount, and they did so with the exception of Mr. Dickenson, whose horse took fright and ran off. Mr. Gleason, who is an old Texan and one of the Mier Prisoners, immediately ascertained that the attacking party numbered several hundred, and remarking that the only hope was in flight, dashed off into the chaparral, followed by the remainder of the escort. The Frenchman sprang into the ambulance, and the driver put his horses to their speed on the Monterey road. Mr. Dickenson was unable to follow, and before he could secrete himself in the chaparral, the Mexicans were in sight. As soon as he was discovered, they commenced firing and advancing upon him. Having a six shooter, the doctor determined to sell his life as dearly as possible. Allowing four of them to come close up, he was able to kill two, mortally wound a third, and after a hand-to-hand engagement with the fourth, finally effected his escape.

A few pursued the ambulance, but the main force was drawn towards the train; and as soon as possession of it was obtained, the bugle sounded a recall and the pursuers all returned without having overtaken the ambulance, which had not proceeded far before a train was met coming down from Monterey escorted by a detachment of dragoons.

The two teamsters were killed, one receiving six balls in his body, and the other had his skull smashed with the butt of a musket, and a sabre cut across the abdomen nearly severing him in two. All the mules and packs were captured, also the baggage wagon containing much valuable clothing, and about $1,500 in money.

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Ex-President and Gen. M. B. Lamar (now Capt. Lamar, commanding a company of Texan rangers) was in Mier a few days ago, with a detachment of his command, on his way from Laredo to General Taylor's camp. Captain Lamar, we understand, is anxious to be relieved from his post at Laredo, and will apply to General Taylor for this purpose. We are happy to hear that he is in excellent health.

Captain Fairfax, of the Virginia regiment, died at Saltillo on the 14th ult. of fever. The steamer Ogden arrived at N. Orleans on the 11th with Brazos dates to the 7th, Gen. Lane's brigade was there, and expected to embark for Vera Cruz on the 8th, to which place Gen. Marshall had also been ordered.

General Cushing and Lieut. Col. Abbot reached Matamoros from Monterey on the 3d, en route for Vera Cruz. Gen. C. is concentrating his brigade as the reverie detachments come down at El Sabinito, near Palo Alto. Deas' battery, which was to
have accompanied General Cushing, has been ordered to remain with General Wool
at the Express request of the latter. Captain shover passed down the river with Gen.
Cushing on his way to Washington.

Captain Clark, of the 2d Mississippi rifles was at Matamoros on the 3d instant, with a
detachment of recruits on his way to his regiment at Buena Vista.

Captain Clinch was at the mouth of the river on the 16th instant, with a detachment
of recruits for the 13th infantry, and would leave the next day for Gen Cushing’s
camp at Sabinito.

Col. R. E. Temple arrived at Matamoros on the 1st instant, with four companies of
his regiment, the 10th infantry. [DCK]

NRR 73.058, Col. 2 Sept. 25, 1847  Attack on A Train From Mier to Monterey.

The 'Flag' says that Col. Tibbatts, Who was proceeding from Mier to Monterey with
six companies of the 16th infantry, escorting a train, was attacked by a large party of
Mexicans near Ramos, and succeeded in driving them off, with a loss of two
wounded. Col. Tibbatts and his men were under fire for some time, and conducted
themselves with great intrepidity. Intelligence was received at Buena Vista on the
20th of August, in a letter from San Luis Potosi, by the way of Parras, that Gen.
Scott's column had marched from puebla, and tow days afterwards a rumor reached
there of the capitulation of the city of Mexico. This Illustrates the rapidity with which
intelligence travels in Mexico by verbal report. [DCK]

NRR 73.058, Col. 58 Sept. 25, 1847 Released American Prisoners Arrive at
Matamoros

The same paper says that Mr. E. B. Lundy and Moris. Montilly, who were taken
prisoners some 4 weeks since by Carvaja, have been set at liberty, and arrived at
Matamoros on the 3d instant. They state that they were liberated by representing
that they were not Americans. They were taken as far as Tula. Mr. L. says that
General Urrea left that place a few days since, with 1,200 men, for the purpose of
taking trains or goods between Camargo and Monterey. [DCK]

NRR 73.058, Col. 2 Sept. 25, 1847 Troops leaving Gen. Zachary Taylor for Vera
Cruz, his intention to visit the United States.

The Union says that letters have been received from the camp of General Taylor,
who was then near Monterey. The general had made the necessary arrangements
for carrying out his late general order for sending the troops he could spare to Vera
Cruz, to join the column of General Scott. In addition to the troops which he kept
upon his line of defence, he had detained the light battery of Capt. Deas, to
strengthen his line. A mixed force of dragoons and Texans was employed in cleaning
the country between Camargo and Monterey of the roving guerrillas.

Reports are renewed of the general’s intention to visit the United States; but he does
not yet mention such an intention in his recent despatches. [DCK]

NRR 73.058, Col. 2 Sept. 25, 1847 Account of the Mutiny Among The North Carolina
Troops.

North Carolina Regiment.-A letter from Buena Vista, dated Aug. 19, to the
Picayunesays: "The mutiny in the North Carolina regiment has been effectually
quelled. On the morning after it broke out a number of the officers of the regiment
signed a petition to the colonel to resign, which he very properly refused to, but laid
it before Generals and Wool. It was considered by the commanding general that
there was a participation in the mutiny and two of the signers were dishonorably
discharged from the service. As soon as this was known seventeen officers, I think,
tendered their resignation, but after twenty four hours had elapsed they thought better of it and begged leave to withdraw, expressing all due contrition, and leave was granted. Thus quiet subordination has been restored. The three regiments have all been separated—the North Carolina ordered to the rear, and the Virginians to the front. The soldier who was wounded by Colonel Paine at the time he shot at the mutineers, was a Virginian and has been dishonorably discharged from the service.

A letter of the 21st says: "Since my last, two companies of the North Caroline regiment have been ordered to the support of Captain Prentiss' battery on the hill above Saltillo. One of these companies, commanded by Capt Henry, is the crack corps of the regiment and has been stationed in town ever since their arrival. It had no participation whatever in the late mutinous outbreak. Mr. Buck, formerly adjutant to the regiment, but recently appointed aid decamp to Gen. Cuching, has been elected captain in the regiment to fill a vacancy, and will not go to Vera Cruz. The express sent to General Taylor on the morning of the 19th, relative to the reported advances upon his quarter, has not yet returned." [DCK]

NRR 73.058 Sept. 25, 1847 Yellow fever at New Orleans

The Yellow Fever—At New Orleans, the number of deaths, daily have diminished, owing not to any diminution of virulence in the disease, but to a diminution of subjects in which to act, the city being so nearly deserted. A gentleman writes from thence, that he sat down to dinner at the St. Charles hotel, with but one other person at the table.

During the week ending the 11th September, 402 victims by fever in the city, and 115 in Lafayette.—The previous week 427 in New Orleans and 111 at Lafayette. At the Charity hospital during the week 350 admissions and 100 deaths by fever. During the twenty-four hours ending the 13th, 51 deaths, 21 of them by fever; 15th, 43 deaths, 31 by fever. [KAS]

NRR 73.064 September 25, 1847, arrangements for letters to and from the Army

LETTERS FROM THE ARMY. -A private letter from the seat of war says: - "The only way of sending letters is to hire a Mexican express and pay him one hundred dollars. Fifty officers club together, and each only are allowed to write half a sheet of thin letter paper, so that the express rider can secrete them, to avoid detection, which would be certain death in case he should fall into the hands of the guerrillas."

The last letter of the army correspondent of the N.O. Delta: - "For the purpose of being always ready with me four horses for my own use and eight extras, and four Mexicans, faithful and good riders, who accompany me and are always on hand to ride expresses.” [JCS]

NRR 73.064 Sept. 25, 1847 letter from Colonel Butler to General Worth

Letter from Colonel Butler to General Worth.

San Augustin, August 19, 1847

Dear general: We are here in tribulation. I can but hope, however, it is but temporary. It is ordered that this division remain as protection to the train. There is gloom on us all: while I am one who believes there will be fighting enough for all. The moral effect is withering. The regiment, though weak in numbers, is up to the full point, and I trust S. Carolina may have a place in the picture. We have been watching you and your division for the last two days with fraternal affection; but the entire voice of the army, where I have been, or heard, is unbounded confidence in "Worth." "So not it be." But I have strayed from the principal point of purpose of my note, which is to say, our friend, Col. Dickinson, more impatient, and not so long a soldier as myself, desires a place nearer the flashing of the guns; and with good taste, wishes to get nearer you. If you can make him useful, he will feel much gratified. I am aware you are surrounded with a talented staff, but a little more of a good thing will render it not the less complete or effectual. I am, my dear General, yours sincerely. P.M. BUTLER, S.C.V. General W.J. Worth, comad’g &c. [KAS]
NRR 73.065 October 2, 1847, failure of negotiations for peace, Gen. Winfield Scott accused Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, and he accuses Scott, of violating the armistice, hostilities recommended, a battle ensues, contradictory accounts of its result.

TERMINATION OF THE ARMISTICE—WAR RENEWED. The Vera Cruz Sun of Anahuac, of the 16th, contains the following letter from their correspondent, which says it "is so interesting to the public that we hasten to give it to our subscribers. It contains all the news that we received yesterday from Mexico."

As we had already announced, hostilities recommenced on the 8th, in the evening, and Gen. Scott's troops on that very evening had a brush to the best of the Mexican troops.

This letter came by the way of Orizaba, and was sent there by our "wide awake" correspondent, -through a private friend, who himself addressed us a few lines to tell us that an express had arrived at Mexico, on his way to Oajaca—that the express had been sent by General Leon, of the Mexican army, who commanded the Mexican forces in the action spoken of in the letter which follows:

Puebla, September 11, 1847

My dear San--I did not think that you ever arrived among us, but to my great astonishment I saw you in the hands of your mutual friend W****

I promised you before I left Vera Cruz, two months ago, that I would, from time to time, if I was fortunate enough to get news, to drop you a few words on a sheet of bad paper, and the occasion has never offered itself with more encouragement than at present, and I hope these few lines will be victoriously passed through the chaparral, mosquitoes, &c, and what is worse (through not so bold) the guerrillas of Cerro Gordo, Paente National, and all the Montes and hiding places of these desperate men.****

Letters arrived here from Atlixio, stating that an express arrived there on his way to Oajaca, sent by Gen. Leon, and that the said express had brought letters from Mexico dated the 9th inst.

These letters state that the propositions made by Mr. Trist were rejected, or, at least, one portion of them, and that hostilities had recommenced in the afternoon, and that a battle had been fought on that evening by a few hundred men of Scott's army against four of the picked out regiments of the Mexican army- (the 11th regiment of the

Mr. Trist then asked 45 days, as he said he was not authorised to accept such a proposition, but the Mexicans replied they would give but five days, and no more.

On the fifth day (the 7th) a letter was written by Santa Anna to Gen. Scott accusing him of breaking the armistice, on some trifling pretext.

Gen. Scott answered making similar charges.

On the 8th, in the afternoon, a body of few hundred men of General Scott's were sent to attack Chapultepec.

They encountered a large force of the enemy's best troops there, and a terrible fight ensued, in which the Mexicans got, as usual, a sound thrashing.

Gen. Leon, who commanded the Mexicans, was wounded, and Gen. Balderas, of the National guards, was killed.

The small number of the Americans, who, the Mexican letter say, (to use their own expressions,) "have fought like devils," retired to Tacubaya, leaving five wagons behind them. Some of these had no wheels, while others no horses.

The loss on the part of the Americans is said to be very small comparatively.
A proclamation (or manifesto, as they call it,) was issued by Gen. Gerrera, governor of the city of Mexico, recommending to the citizens, men, women and children, to collect stones and carry them to the roofs of houses, and from there throw them at the Americans if they entered the city.

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Since placing the above in type the southern mail has arrived with N. Orleans papers to the 24th, and Mobile to the 25th. At New Orleans they had no late intelligence from the army, - and the above contains all that the Mobile papers afford, except a verbal report, that there had been a revolt at Puebla, and that Gen. Scott's loss since leaving Puebla was about three thousand men.

It is difficult to comprehend or reconcile the above account of the victory obtained over Gen. Leon, in the attack on Chapultepec, with the statement that the little detachment of Americans that achieved it, instead of occupying Chapultepec, had retired, with the loss of their wagons, to Tacubaya.

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The Pensacola correspondent of the Mobile Herald says:

It seems that hostilities were renewed on the 8th inst., Santa Anna and Gen. Scott mutuality charging each other with a violation of the armistice, and by the last accounts our troops had possession of two streets, and had driven the principal part of the Mexican force in or towards the plaza.

Our troops had suffered greatly from the fire of the enemy placed in windows and on the roofs of the houses, and Gen. Worth was badly but not mortally wounded. Our loss since leaving Puebla was three thousand men. Mr. Trist's proposition for a cession of a portion of California, for a consideration of 20,000,000 had been agreed to by the Mexican commissioners-but another proposition, fixing the Rio Grande the boundary on this side, was peremptorily refused. Paredes was said to be on the road between Vera Cruz and Mexico, with a large force of guerrillas.

These accounts are derived from the Sun of Anahuac of the 16th instant, and brought by the Osceola, and verbal communication from Mr. Diamond to the captain, at the moment of leaving. I have no doubt they may be relied upon essentially.

The sun of Anahuac of the 16th says, “Troops have been arriving in great numbers from the Brazos for the last five or six days, and we do not doubt that within five or six days more, there will be from two to three thousand men ready to march to the interior.”

The battle of Churubusco was fought on the 20th of August, and up to the 16th of September no despatches from Gen. Scott had been received at Vera Cruz, nor by the government, up to the 21 of October, since the period of his leaving Puebla for the capital.

Some journals express surprise at the reception of official reports of the battles from Gen. Shields and Maj. Dickinson (inserted in this No) when no reports have been received from the commanding General. This is easily accounted for. The Commander in chief would not be disposed to entrust his official despatches to such hands and chance as it is well known these came through, nor would he be justifiable in so doing, even if they had been prepared, which it is certain they could not have been. The reports received of Gen. S. and Maj. D. are no doubt copies of their reports, he must receive, and carefully examine and collect the whole of the reports from his several officers. This requires time and caution.

An announcement of the general events, and of the state of affairs, generally and properly precedes a detailed report in such cases. It is not at all impossible that such an announcement was forwarded by Gen. Scott, and has been intercepted by the Mexican guerrillas.

Anxiety, instead of being allayed by the intelligence given above, is yet more intensely awakened.

That Gen. Scott had sufficient reasons for proposing an armistice when he did, and for needing to acceding to the terms of that armistice we have no doubts. From all
that is known here of the state of affairs at the moment, it would be rank injustice to
our commander to judge otherwise. Gen. Taylor was loudly censured for agreeing to
an armistice at Monterey, although, that was upon condition of a surrender and
evacuation of the place. -Gen. Scott agreed to an armistice without such conditions
and maintained the armistice from the 23d of August to the 8th of Sept, when a
renewal of the conflict instead of a treaty of peace was the unhappy result.

So far as we have seen accounts from Pensacola, the 9th is the latest date from the
city of Mexico, but an editorial in this morning’s National Intelligencer states, that on
the 9th hostilities recommenced and a portion of Gen. Worth’s division encountered
and routed a large Mexican force near the city, our loss being comparatively trifling,
while that of the Mexicans was very great. On the 10th there was other
engagements in all of which our forces proved victories. On the 11th, which is the
latest accounts we have, Gen. Scott had got into the city occupying only two streets,
which commanded the Plaza, and the two armies were contending for victory."

Several letters from Vera Cruz, all dated at the moment the Oceola was leaving,
(16th of Sept.,) are published, some of which contain brief accounts of affairs
pending the negotiations. One of them mentions the loss of the Americans in the
battle of the 9th, according to the Mexican account. [JCS]

NRR 73.065, Col. 3 Sept. 25, 1847 Report of a severe battle being fought and part of
the capital being in possession of Gen. Winfield Scott

LATEST.-A 'Union' extra, of 12 o'clock to-day, states that information is received of a
severely battle in which our loss is estimated at 1000. Santa Anna wounded-Gen.
Scott has possession of part of the city of Mexico, and the fight still going on at the
last accounts. [DCK]

NRR 73.067, Col. 1 Oct. 2, 1847 Assistant Surgeon Prevost: Tribute to Assistant
Surgeon Prevost's Efforts During the Battle of Buena Vista

Camp Buena Vista. General:-In my report of the battle of Buena Vista, 4th March, I
intended to report all the surgeons and assistant surgeons, who were on the field of
battle during the two eventful days of the 22d and 23d February last. It appears,
that I omitted the name of Assist. Surgeon Prevost. I was not personally acquainted
with him at the time, and he was, and supposed during the battle, in Saltillo, as he
was stationed there. From statements recently received, it appears that Dr. Prevost
was not only on the field attending the wounded, but that he rendered me important
and gallant services during the battle. Seeing me alone, my staff being absent in
endeavoring to rally the flying troops from the field, he came to me, when I made
use of him on several occasions to carry my orders to bring up the troops to attack a
heavy column of Mexican lancers and infantry, who had succeeded in getting to our
left and rear. He also carried my orders to the Mississippi and Indiana regiments to
charge the enemy, under the most trying circumstances, a fire in front and a flank
fire from the battery on the plain in front of the centre of our position. At this time I
supposed he was an officer who had just arrived, and belonged to Gen. Taylor’s
staff, and without knowing who he was, called him captain. It is, therefore, I would
recommend him to the special notice of the secretary of war for his daring courage
and gallant bearing at the battle of Buena Vista. I have the honor to be, very
respectfully, your obed’t. serv’t.

JOHN E. WOOL,
Brig. General U.S.A
[DCK]

NRR 73.067, Col. 2 Oct. 2, 1847 Georgia Mounted Battalion and a Battalion of
Infantry Forming for Mexico

To Brig. General R. Jones, Adj’t General Washington, D.C.

General Mounted Battalion - Monday last the Georgia mounted battalion passed
through our city on their way to the seat of war. The battalion consists of six
companies, about 500 men in all, likely to prove rough customers in a campaign. They were under command of James S. Calhoun, who ranks as colonel. There is also a battalion of infantry now being completed at Columbus, four companies are already enrolled, and the fifth nearly filled up. The Georgia boys seem determined to have some share in the fighting. We have no doubt that they will not be found wanting when the hour of trial comes, and we hope they will come out of every fight with success, as we know they will with honor. [Montgomery Flag, Sept. 16] [DCK]

NRR 73.067, Col. 2  Oct. 2, 1847  Movement of Troops: Movements of Troops for Mexico

Movement of Troops-The steamer Alabama left New Orleans for Brazos and Vera Cruz on the 9th instant, carrying $100,000 in specie, for the quarter-masters department at Brazos, and $100,000 for the same department at Vera Cruz. She had also a number of passengers, including several officers of the army, 141 teamsters for the quartermasters department at Vera Cruz. Captain Stapp's company of Illinois mounted volunteers of 95 officers and men, and some recruits for the 1st regiment Louisiana volunteers.

The U.S. steamer Fashion, Capt. Thomas I. Ivy, and the U.S. steam propeller Major Tompkins, left New Orleans on the 9th, for Baton Rouge, there to receive on board Capt. Lawler's company of mounted Illinois volunteers, 115 men and horses to proceed to Vera Cruz. Capt. Leslie Chase, assistant quartermaster U.S.A, went up to Baton Rouge on the Fashion. [DCK]

NRR 73.067, Col. 2  Oct. 2, 1847  Organization of Two New Kentucky Regiments

The two new Kentucky regiments, recently called out by the war department, have been fully organized, and are to rendezvous at Louisville by the 4th of October next. The field officers of one of these regiments, the third, were appointed some weeks since. The officers of the fourth are:-John S. Williams, colonel; William C. Preston, of Louisville, lieutenant colonel, and William T. Ward, major.

Lieut. Irons, aid de-camp of General Cadwallader, and who was wounded in the battles before Mexico, is dead. [DCK]

NRR 73.067, Col. 3 Oct. 2, 1847  Midshipman Robert Clay Rogers Escapes from the Mexicans and Reaches American Headquarters

Midshipman Rogers respecting whose fate so much anxiety has been experienced, made his escape from the Mexicans and reached Gen. Scott's headquarters at Puebla on the 2d of Aug. and accompanied the army in their march upon the capital. [DCK]

NRR 73.067 Oct. 2, 1847 Naval Journal, yellow fever

Yellow fever-An officer of the U.S. ship Germantown writes to purser W. H. Kennon, of the Mississippi, at Pensacola, dated Anton Lizardo, Aug. 27. "Dr. John A. Kearney, fleet surgeon, died this morning. Dr. Clenahan is sick on the island. You have not the slightest idea of the extension of fever since you left. A sloop has just arrived from Tuspan with the intelligence that every officer on board the Decatur is sick. Several men have died. The Stromboli arrived last night from Huascualco with only six well men; is that not horrid?

The correspondence has just arrived: no news from Alvarado."

Dr. P.B. Delany of the U.S. navy, died at Laguna Yucatan, on the 10th of August of yellow fever. The deceased had recently entered the navy as an assistant surgeon, and died on his first cruise.
The new U.S. steamship *Alleghany*, has left N. Orleans and anchored off Ship Island. Five cases of yellow fever had occurred on board. [KAS]

**NRR 73.071 October 2, 1847, resolutions of the New Jersey Whig convention on annexation of new territory**

NEW JERSEY- The "democratic" state convention, assembled at Trenton on the 22d Sept., Gen. Garret Wall, presided.

The first ballot for a candidate for governor stood, for D. HAINES, of Essex, 252; G. Sykes, of Burlington, 73; J. Cassady, of Bergen, 50; scattering 15. -Mr. Haines is therefore the candidate.

The whig state convention, assembled on the 22d and on the first ballot for a candidate for governor P. Robinson, of Warren, 114; J. Rank, of Huntington 37. Mr. Wright is of course the candidate.

The first resolution adopted by the convention, strongly denounced the present national administration for violations of the liberties of the people and interests of the Union, especially in having made war without consulting the people or their representatives, and that too, for party purposes. The second resolution applauded the senate and house of representatives for interposing to prevent the administration from sending Col. Benton "a man who has spent all his life in politics" to supercede the veterans of the army, Scott, Taylor, &c. The third returns thanks to General Taylor for having faithfully and bravely performed, in spite of difficulties, what he has. The following are three last resolutions-

-As to additional territory-"That the people of the state of New Jersey, are opposed to the annexation of more territory to for the purpose of giving undue preponderance to the south; that we will abide faithfully by the Union cur fathers made-but that the addition of new southern partners to the firm without our consent, and for the purpose of destroying our weight in it, the calling in of "the unknown and half civilized states of Mexico and the investing them with privileges equal to or superior to our own is an infamous and almost intolerable insult and outrage.

-Tariff- "That the people of New Jersey are as much in favor of the whig tariff of 1842 as ever; that the temporary foreign demand for our breadstuffs caused by the European famine has never deceived us; that there is no permanent market for the produce of our farmers but the home market; and that time will soon demonstrate again, as it has often done before, the necessity of the wig tariff policy.

-"That all we ask of the opposite party in respect to the tariff is that, that they will always honestly confess their opposition to it, and never here-after assert, as they did falsely in 1844, that they ware the tariff party and the whigs are not." [JCS]

**NRR 73.073 October 2, 1847, officers noted**

GEN. PERSIFER F. SMITH - The heart of every Louisianian will throb with emotions of pride and joy as he reads of the brilliant and conspicuous part which our gallant fellow citizen, Gen. Persifor F. Smith, took in the late severe and bloody battles before the city of Mexico. His cool and masterly maneuvers and intrepid demeanor in action are the them of universal praise.

CAPTAIN SETH B. THRONTON- This intrepid dragoon officer, who was the first to begin this war, was alas! the first to sacrifice his life in the late march of our army from Puebla. The circumstances of his death will be found fully detailed in the letters of our correspondents. Like Col. Butler, he left a bed of sickness to meet the foe, upon who he warmly desired to avenge the treachery by which he had been betrayed in the commencement of this war. He was killed by a cannon ball, in a reconnaissance, several days before the battle.

We knew Seth Thornton well. He was a companion and schoolmate of our early days, and a braver and more warm hearted soul never animated a human frame. He was born in Caroline county, Virginia. Young as he was, his life had been a checkered and eventful one. We doubt whether there is any man now living who has
passed safely through so many and such imminent perils and trials as have marked
the life of Capt. Thornton.

Some years ago he was a passenger, when quite a youth, on the ill-fated Pulaski;
and when that steamer took fire, he was nearly the last to leave her.--When others
thought only of saving their own lives, he thought only of saving the lives of the fair
women and children on board. When all the passengers had been sent off in boats
and on spars, Capt. Thornton, having first securely tied his body to a hen-coop,
threw himself into the sea. Whilst in the water, he picked up several men, whom he
also succeeded in fastening to the coop, and thus they floated for many a long and
weary hour, exposed to a burning sun, and without a particle of food. One by one
his companions’ dropped off, and perished in the sea.--with his face to the foe.
Peace to his manes—immortality to his memory.

COL. PIERCE M. BUTLER. -The death of this gallant South Carolinian—the
representative on the bloody field of Churubusco of as noble a race of heroes as any
country has produced—will create a profound and extended sorrow in this country.
He has been for a long time a conspicuous and prominent citizen of South Carolina,
and was noted for his great resolution and indomitable courage. He possessed
military qualities of the highest order, and gave promise of great success and
distinction in a career which, alas! terminated at its very commencement. Col.
Butler had been very ill for several days previous to the battle; but when we heard
that the Palmetto flag was going into the fight, unaccompanied by him to whose
special charge is had been committed, he broke loose from his physicians,
abandoned his sick couch, and, weak, ghastly, and almost fainting, mounted his
charger, and placed himself at the head of his regiment. With such an example,
men far less ardent and gallant than the South Carolinians would have been
prompted to deeds of superhuman daring. But there was no such incitement
necessary to impel the sons of the “Hardy Hotspur of the Union,” as Prentiss once
styled the gallant Palmetto state, to the most brilliant and conspicuous display of
military qualities. Their services are fully noted in another part of our paper.
Colonel Butler, though twice badly wounded, and weighed down by faintness and
loss of blood, maintained his position until a third wound caused his death.

Lieutenant Colonel Dickinson, who was the first officer wounded at Vera Cruz, also
signalized his valor on this occasion, and was again badly wounded.

COL. MORGAN.—We notice with much pain that this gallant officer, who lately
commanded with so much distinction the 2d regiment of Ohio volunteers, was badly
wounded in the late battle. Col. Morgan is quite a young man, but is one of the
most fearless and daring men in our army. He was the officer who, in command of a
small body of volunteers, last winter, defeated Urra at the head of a large force of
Mexican horse. He had great military talents. -He was lately appointed by the
president to the command of one of the new ten regiments; and it was at the head
of his regiment that he was severely wounded in the last battle.

LIEUT. JONES—This gallant officer, who acted as aid-de-camp of General
Cadwallader, died of the wounds received in the engagements of the 19th and 20th of
August.

THE CERRO GORDO DIVISION—The heroes of Cerro Gordo, led by their noble old
genewal, the white-haired veteran Twiggs, won fresh laurels in both the battles of
Contreros and Churubusco. The never-failing judgement of this experienced and
tried officer continued largely to our success on these occasions. The division when
he commanded is one of the bravest which ever went into battle, and victory has
never failed to perch on it.

CAPT. CHARLES HANSON—Among the gallant officers who fell in the late battles we
observe, with deep regret, the name of Captain CHARLES HANSON, of the 7th
infantry. At the beginning of the Mexican contest we were favored with several
interest ing and well written sketches from his hand, but discovering the existence of
the army order prohibiting correspondence by officers of the army before it was
announced by the secretary, he apprized us of the fact, and with the nice sense of
honor and a soldier’s duty, which ever marked the man, laid aside his pen. At the
bombardment of Fort Brown his coolness and intrepidity were conspicuous. His
gallantry in the storming-division of Worth at Monterey won for him a captaincy.
At Vera Cruz, he fully shared the glories and dangers of his brethren in arms; and at
Cerro Gordo his daring valor won the highest encomiums from his commanding
officers—the colonel stating in his report that he was one of the first who placed his
feet within the frowning Gibraltar which rested on the summit of that almost
inaccessible mountain. A braver, a truer, and more generous spirit never breathed.
In one of his last letters to his relatives, instead of dwelling upon his own
participation in the recent battle of Cerro Gordo, his mind seem4ed occupied with
the sufferings of his wounded men, and the pleasure which he derived from seeing
their happiness at some extra comforts which he had been enabled to provide for
them.

Capt. Hanson was one of the most accomplished gentlemen as well as one of the
most chivalrous officers in the service; and, better than this, amid the temptations of
the camp and the excitement of the field, maintained to the last an exalted Christian
character, which commanded the love and respect even of those who usually regard
religion with aversion and ridicule. Most sincerely do we sympathize with his
afflicted father, Mr. I. K. Hanson, of Washington, who has lost in him one of the
remaining props of his old age—having already given another gallant son to his
country, (Capt. W. K. Hanson,) who died from disease contracted in the glorious
career in the Florida war.

Thus pass away, in the morning of their youth, the good, the generous, and the
brave. These are the victims of war; these, and broken hearts, and desolated
homes, its wretched trophies. [JCS]

NRR 73.073 October 2, 1847, further particulars of the mutiny among the North
Carolina troops

THE MUTINY IN THE N.C. REGIMENT. - The Picayune furnishes some particulars
of the affair, furnished win a letter from Buena Vista, dated August 16, which says-

Col. Paine, of the N.C. regiment, from the rigid system of discipline which he has
pursued, became very unpopular in his own regiment and the Mississippi and
Virginia regiments, with which he has been thrown in connexion as officer of the
day. Many insults have been offered him by members of the two latter; and this
feeling has gradually been ripening, till it came to a head last night. A crowd
assembled about different tents of about thirty men—some his own, and some
privates of the Virginia regiment—and subsequently stones were thrown at his tent.
A number of men also assembled in front of his Lieut. Colonel’s tent, who was sick
and vomiting, and indulged in brutal laughter at his illness. These crowds were
dispersed, and two men ordered to be taken to the provost guard. The men of one
company ordered to perform the duty refused, but were compelled to obedience by
the Colonel. One of them, however, refused to take his arms until the Colonel held
his sword over him and threatened to cut him down if he refused. That company
having evinced a determination not to obey, were ordered to the rear of the
Colonel’s tent, and obeyed, contrary to his expectations, and were dismissed after
answering to their names. Subsequently, quite late in the evening, another posse
assembled in front of the Colonel’s tent; but as he came in sight, they began to
disperse in different directions. He ordered them to halt, out they refused. The
Colonel then cried that he would fire if they did not halt, and ordered them into the
crowd, bringing down two men, wounding one of them mortally. This prompt and
decisive step quelled the mutiny, and the Colonel reported to Gen. Cushing and Gen.
Wool, who approved of his conduct. They both repaired to the camp, but everything
was quiet. I regret to say that the Colonel did not receive any very unanimous
support from his officers on the occasion. The man who was so badly shot died last
night. [JCS]

NRR 73.073-73.074 October 2, 1847, letter from the Massachusetts regiment in
Mexico

THE MASSACHUSETTS REGIMENT.--The Boston Bee, publishes a letter dated “Camp
Cerralvo, Mexico, Aug. 8th, 1847,” which says the Mexicans are in great numbers
near the roads, are attacking every small party they meet with. The largest portion
of company “were under the arrest, the cause of which is said to be the refusal of
the men to wear “regular caps and boots.” The company had bought some palm leaf
hats at Matamoros, with Col. Abbott’s consent, and as they are good and
comfortable, the men refused the others. Col. Abbott said they had been bought for
them, and they should wear them. They still persisted in their refusal. The men
were ordered to get their blankets and three and a half days provision ready, and
prepare to start for Monterey. The order was obeyed. They were ordered to march
without their arms. Col. Abbott is much blamed by the writer. Private Blake, of
Company “D” was buried on the 29th of July. [JCS]
LETTER FROM GEN. PIERCE, to a friend published in the Boston Post.

Headquarters 1st Brigade, 3d div. U.S.A.
Mexsoque, Mexico, Aug. 27, 1847.

Since I left Vera Cruz to this hour I have had no means of communicated with the states. Although but a few months in the service, I know what are fatigue, anxiety, and exposure. Contrary to my expectations, and contrary to my orders from the department at Washington, I was compelled, for the want to the requisite provisions for transportation, to remain for more than three weeks at Vera Cruz, and for more than four in Terra Caliente, (the vomito region, as it is called.) I left the dreaded city on the 10th of July with 2,500 men of all arms, and a train of wagons, which, when closed up, extended more than two miles.

On the 6th of August I reached Puebla, without the loss of a single wagon, with my command in fine condition. My command was attacked six time of the march, but the enemy's force in each instance was easily dispersed, with trifling loss on our side. The National Bridge afforded the enemy great natural advantages, to which they had added breastworks on a high bluff which commanded the bridge perfectly; across the main bridge they had also thrown a barricade. I soon discovered that there was no way in which his position could be turned, and that my artillery was ineffective from the most commanding point where it could be placed. I determined, of course, to cross under the plunging fire of the enemy's escopetas. My order to advance was admirably executed. At the moment Lt. Col. Bonham's battalion rushed forward with a shout the enemy poured down a heavy fire, by which several of my men were severely wounded. Col. Bonham's horse was shot near me, and a ball passed through the run of my hat in very disagreeable proximity to my face. Our men leaped the barricade, followed by Capt. Dueru's company of cavalry, and in less than ten minutes the enemy were in flight in every direction, and the American flag waved upon the high bluff which they had occupied.

The Mexican force, as they said afterward, consisted of 500 men. Had they possessed courage and skill in the use of arms our loss much have been very great. You can hardly conceive the strength of the natural defences of the road over which we passed. Rumors came to me almost every night that we would be attacked by large forces the next day, but they made no where anything like a brave and stern resistance. The official reports of the great battle of Mexico will probably reach you as soon as this letter, and I shall therefore not attempt to give the minute details. It was fierce and bloody beyond anything that has occurred in this war. The battle differed in many respects from that of Buena Vista. There Gen. Taylor received the enemy in a strong position selected by himself. Our force on the 20th consisted of less than 9,000 men; the Mexican force within supporting distance and engaged, undoubtedly exceeded 30,000. We attacked him in position upon ground of his own selection, admirably fortified. -You will distinguish, so far as numbers are concerned, between the battle of the morning and that of the afternoon, although spoken of in official reports as one engagement under the designation of "the battle of Mexico." We took, during the day, 35 pieces of artillery-an immense quantity of ammunition-800 mules and horses, and more than 2,000 prisoners-among them eight generals and any number of colonels.

The Mexican loss in killed and wounded must have been immense. Our troops buried 500 Mexicans upon the field of battle commenced in the morning at Contreras, and the loss in the afternoon was much greater. Our loss has been heavy. With this small army we could not afford to purchase many such victories at such a price; one of the regiments of my brigade (the 13th) lost in killed and wounded one third of its entire force. In killed and wounded we number not less than 1,000, and amongst them I lament to say an unusual proportion of valuable officers. My horse at full speed on the evening of the 19th, when leading my brigade through a perfect shower of round shot and shells, fell under me upon a ledge of rocks, by which I sustained a server injury by the shock and bruises, but especially by a sever sprain in my left knee, which came under him.

At first I was not conscious of any serious injury, but soon became exceedingly faint, when Dr. Ritchie, surgeon of the 12th, (a portion of my command,) who was following the advancing columns closely, administered to me as well as he could, under the circumstances. In a few moments I was able to walk with difficulty, and pressed forward to Capt. Magrudr's battery, where I found the horse of poor gallant Lt. Johnson, who had just received a mortal wound, of which he died that evening. I
was permitted to take him (my own having been totally disabled,) and helped into
the saddle, and continued in it until 11 o’clock that night.

It was exceedingly dark, the rain poured in torrents, and being separated from my
servants and baggage, I was without tent or covering; add to this, that during the
afternoon of the 19th we have gained no advantages over the enemy, who remained
firmly entrenched with 7,000 men opposed to a bout 4,000 on our side, without the
possibility of bringing our artillery to bear, and you will readily conceive that our
situation was not the most agreeable. The morning of the 20th was, however, as
brilliant as the night of the 19th was dark and gloomy. Soon after daylight the
enemy’s works were carried with the bayonet, and of their 7,000 men, regular
troops, under the command of Valencia, probably 5,000 cannot be found to-day. As
we passed this field in pursuit of the fugitives, the scene was awful, the road and
adjacent fields every where strewn with mangled bodies of the dead and dying. We
continued the pursuit until 1 o’clock, when our front came up with the enemy’s
strong works of Churubusco and San Antonio, where the great conflict of the
afternoon commenced.

At San Angel, dispositions having been made to attack in reverse the enemy’s works
on the San Augustine road, Gen. Scott ordered me to march my brigade in concert
with that of the intrepid Gen. Shields, across the open country between Santa
Catarina and the above named road, in order to cut off the enemy’s retreat. We
gained the position sought, and although the enemy’s line was perfectly formed, and
extended as far as the eye could reach in either direction, they were attacked
vigorously and successfully. Arriving at a ditch which it was impossible for my horse
to leap, I dismounted and hurried forward without thinking of my injury, at the head
of my brigade, for 200 or 300 yards, when turning suddenly upon my knee; the
cartilage of which had been seriously injured, I fainted and fell upon the bank in the
direct rang and within perfect reach of the enemy’s fire. That I escaped seems to
me now providential. The rout and overthrow of the whole Mexican force soon
became complete, and we could easily have taken the city; but Gen. Scott was met
with a proposition for an armistice, (after demanding the surrender of the city,) with
a view to open negotiations for peace.

In my judgment the army, full of ardor and confidence, was humanely and wisely
restrained. Major Gen. Quitman, Gen. Persifer F. Smith, and myself were appointed
commissioners to meet the Mexican commissioners to settle the terms of the
armistice. I had not taken off my spurs or slept an hour for two nights, in
consequence of my engagements and the pain of my knee. I obeyed the summons,
was helped into my saddle, and rode two and a half miles Tacubaya, where the
commission assembled at the house of Mr. McIntosh, the British consult general.
Our conference commenced late in the afternoon, and at 4 o’clock the next morning,
the articles were signed.

That I was thoroughly exhausted you will readily imagine. I slept an hour or two
that morning at Gen. Worth’s quarters, and my sprained knee, which was by far my
most serious injury, has been daily improving, and to-day I ride without much
inconvenience. I have lost several dear friends, although our acquaintance had been
of short duration. I visited the hospital yesterday, and saw officers and men with
shots in all parts of their persons. Although all who were not really dying seemed
cheerful, and many who had lost limbs in high spirits, still I sickened at the sight.

My general health has been good. I have been either in my saddle or on my feet
every rod since I left Vera Cruz, which can be said by few officers in my command;
for almost all were obliged at some point of the march, in consequence of the
change of climate, water, exposure, &c., to avail themselves of corps, accompanied
me, and has been uniformly well. He is an excellent, agreeable gentleman, and
admirable officer, and I regret that, having been left with Gen. Quitman’s division of
San. Augustine, he had no opportunity to participate in the battles of the 19th and
20th.

Now a word with regard to the great object of this war-peace. There is no doubt
that Santa Anna is sincerely desirous of peace. Commissioners to treat have been
appointed, and met Mr. Trist this afternoon at 4. My belief is that piece will be the
result, although no man can speak with confidence. [JCS]
First regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers. Our readers will recollect that in the publications and letter writing that grew out of the difficulty between Gen. Pillow and the officers of the Tennessee regiment under Col. Haskell, that some severe reflections were made on the conduct of the Pennsylvania regiment under Col. Wynkoop, at the battle of Cerro Gordo.

Duly sensible of the honor of our native state, we wrote Col. W. on the subject, and forwarded him some of the publications alluded to, and now give his reply below.

This letter was left a few days since at our office, during our absence, with the seal violated, the letter foiled, and the contends partially mutilated, and in consequence it have given us some difficulty to decipher it. Some of the words are entirely gone, but these we have supplied to the best of our judgement, in order to complete the sense, and in each instance that we have done so, we have included those words in parentheses.

The letter, it will be perceived, is dated two months back, and ought to have been received some time since. We are unable to ascertain who was the careful, prompt, and trustworthy messenger to whom Col. Wynkoop intrusted it. We make no comments on the letter, as it speaks for itself in plain, unvarnished statement of facts, and is a full indication of the gallant men under the command of Col. W. The italics are underscored in the original.

Castle of Perote, Mexico, July 6

I perceive through the medium of the numerous papers which you had the kindness to send me, that an altercation has occurred between Gen. Pillow and his Tennessee volunteers. (2d regiment,) relative to the battle of Cerro Gordo, and I regret that the correspondence has made it necessary to explain my own position, action, and instructions, during that fight.

I have a rooted distaste for this kind of controversy, and am aware that the pen of a commander is not always the best evidence of the chivalry of his command. I commanded the 1st regiment of Pennsylvania volunteers—a body of men equal, I think, to any in the service, and which possesses at least, the admirable characteristic of always obeying orders.

Upon the field at Cerro Gordo, my men acted strict and steady obedience to every order given by me—consequently, if their conduct was improper, it was through my imbecility or cowardice, or the fault of the officers controlling me.

My orders were received directly from Gen. Pillow, and were given to me in presence of my lieut. Colonel and the general's personal staff. A strict obedience to these orders, brought me before the batteries left in front, and when I arrived in position, I was compelled to about face my party, and manoeuvre for the charge by the rear rank.

This, although an error, would not have been fatal to the result, because my men had been drilled to the movement, and did not find themselves embarrassed by it.

I was ordered by Gen. Pillow to take a position designated (to me by) his fingers, and was directed to reach that position by a countermarch from the right flank (which was an error, (as we) came on the ground left in front.*) Two hundred yards before (we reached) the position the fired opened, and we walked through it (and halted) where directed.—Gen. Pillow, when I received these instructions, told me to hold the position until he gave me orders to (move.) The first signal agreed upon was a bugle, but (as that) instrument could not be found, he promised to send me an officer with the order.

The order never came. I sent my adjutant three times to request permission to make the attack, and another officer once. General Pillow could not be found. My command was tanding in full view and at short bearing distance from these batteries, and kept there until a private came to me with instructions from Gen. P. to withdraw my command. I refused to move unless the order was conveyed by an officer, and remained until an officer carried the instructions.

I had twelve men shot down in attained the position, and during the whole of the work my men behaved bravely and steadily. They have since that time given me ample evidence of their quality, and I have never doubted them.

I have merely stated simple facts relative to the conduct and control of my own command. I do not criticise even Gen. Pillow's plans or arrangements, and would
not have written thus far had not the correspondence or controversy involved, in
some degree, the reputation of my command.

Very Respectfully, your ob't. serv't.,
Francis M. Wynkoop,

To Wm. L. Hodge, Esq., editor New Orleans Commercial Bulletin.

[DCK]

NRR 73.075, Col. 2  October 2, 1847  Letter From an Officer About the Recent
Battles in Mexico

From a private letter, written by a gentleman of the army after the battles near
Mexico of the 19th and 20th August, the Missouri Republican has been permitted to
make the following interesting extracts. The letter is dated at San Augustine on the
25th of August.

“Our arms are again victorious, but at a fearful cost of life and blood. We have lost
one thousand in killed and wounded, and among the killed are the best officers of
the army. Capt. Capron and Capt. Burke are with the buried, having been killed
dead at the storming of Churubusco, where we lost in three hour seven hundred
officers and men.

“On the 19th our division advanced upon the enemy in position at Contreros, their
first work, defended by then thousand men, with twenty-two pieces of artillery, and
admirably entrenched.

“The advanced guard was commanded by Captain Robers and Capt. Porter and by
them the attack was commenced. Capt. Robers deployed in front of their battery,
about one thousand yards from their lines, and advanced steadily under the fire of
shells, round, grape, and canister shot, driving in all their pickets and skirmishers,
and took his position under shelter of a cover of rocks and a deep ravine, about two
hundred yards from their first line of batteries and breastworks, where he remained
until the rest of the division and General Quitman’s supporting command had come
up to join the attack. It was found impossible, in consequence of the nature of the
ground, considered impassable by the Mexicans, to form the order of battle and
assault the works until morning, our men having made a long march, and having
labored for hours in making roads and hauling artillery and ammunitions. The whole
army took cover within musket range of the enemy, who poured upon us all the time
their fire from ten thousand muskets, and slept on our arms during the night.

“At two o’clock in the morning, under cover of darkness and rain, our positions were
taken, and at seven the assault was made. The works were all carried by the
bayonet in less than an hour, and the ten thousand Mexicans put to perfect
route. The scene cannot be described; eight hundred and fifty Mexicans were dead
upon the field, between three and four hundred were wounded, and fifteen hundred
taken prisoners: and their twenty-two pieces of a artillery, and great quantities
ammunition and other material of war, captured. Our loss in killed and wounded
here was less than two hundred. Capt. Hanson of the 7th infantry, and Lieut.
Johnston of the 1st artillery, were the only officers killed. We pushed forward to this
place in pursuit of the retreating enemy, when the lancers made a stand, and
continued to fire upon us through the roads and field up to Churubusco, where the
most terrible battle ever fought on this continent took place. This assault by the
bayonet has redeemed the impeached valor of the Mexican army Gen. Twiggs’, Gen.
Worth’s, and Gen. Pillow’s divisions were all concentrated here, and for two hours
and a half every man was brought under the fire of the works. The strength of this
position can hardly be conceived. We had but one approach, water surrounding it on
all sides but one. This approach was defended by twenty-five thousand men, behind
the most approved field works, of great strength, and seemingly impregnable. Of
course they were carried, but the field and works, covered with between three and
four thousand killed and wounded on both sides, showed the terrible cost. Fifty of
our officers were killed and wounded.

“Before Gen. Worth had joined our division in this attack, he had stormed and
carried the works at San Antonio, with no little loss. You may well imagine that our
division was too much exhausted and cut to pieces to push on further. We had been
fighting some eight hours, and had marched nearly eight miles; all were worn out
with hunger, thirst and fatigue. As for myself, I had eaten nothing but the half of a
hard biscuit for forty-eight hours. Gen. Worth's division, more fresh, pushed on, and stormed and carried another strong fort before dark, within one mile of the city gates. Capt. Phil Kearny lost an arm here, but he is doing well, and is in no danger. He was greatly distinguished, and has covered himself with glory.

"The 20th of August, 1847, will be a day never to be forgotten. Its history is written blond, and the halo of glory that it wreathes upon the arms of our country is too deeply ensanguined with the blood of Americans, to rejoice the army that has covered itself with imperishable renown. Our camp is filled with mourning, and the reflection that the greater grief is yet to be carried to the hearths and homes of those who have fallen is too sad for utterance. What a carnage for a single day! The sun that rose on the 20th shed its glad light upon seven thousand men, full of life and hope, who worried the battle field with their scattered limbs and corpses when night closed in! The day was tumultuous, revengeful, and bloody: the night gloomy, fearful, and dark-the stillness only broken by the groans of the wounded and dying.

"Of course, all the ordnance of the four positions that were assaulted were captured, and with them ammunition and stores of every kind. We have three thousand prisoners-among them ex-President Annaya-the commanding general of the army, (Rincon,) and ten other general officers. We hardly know what to do with our prisoners and stores. Some forty deserters from our army are among the prisoners, who will be hanged, so soon as we can have a military commission convened for their trial. Several Mexican officers, paroled at Cerro Gordo, are also prisoners-they will swing with the deserters.

"You will now ask, what is to be the result of all this? A question I am not able to answer. The Mexicains agreed to a truce, with a view to appoint commissioners to negotiate a peace. An armistice was yesterday agreed upon for that purpose, and I trust in God that peace will follow immediately. Having destroyed the main approaches and defences of the city, it will be an easy matter to march into it, should hostility be renewed.

"Major Mills was killed, his horse having run off with him and carried him into the enemy's works, where he was lanced after he had surrendered his sword."

Under date of the 27th, it is said: "The prospect of peace brightens; I shall be at home in January, I believe." [DCK]

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NRR 73.076 Oct. 2, 1847 letter from Palmetto regiment

Private letter from an officer of the Palmetto regiment to his relatives.

San Augstin, Mexico, Aug. 28, 1847

It is with no small degree of pleasure that I have just learned that a bearer of despatches is to leave to night at 10 o'clock, for the states, and write in haste merely to say that I am alive and well. We arrived here on the 19th, (10 miles from the city of Mexico) and our regiment, with the New York volunteers engaged the enemy on the morning of the 20th, some three miles from this place, killing about 150 and taking 217 prisoners. We had only one man wounded. We again engaged the enemy on the evening of the same day, and would to God I could say that we had been as fortunate as in the morning. In this last engagement we lost our noble, gallant, and much beloved colonel; he was shot through the head, and never breathed after he fell. He was in conversation with me at the time of receiving his death wound. A braver man never lived; and in his death the regiment has lost a father, and I a best friend. There was hardly an officer or man who was not hit in some way or other. I was struck twice without receiving any injury, once on my cap and once on my thigh, cutting a hole in my pants, and leaving the mark of the ball on my thigh. Lt. Col. Dickinson received a severe wound through the ankle-joint, just after the death of Col. Butler. (The command of the regiment, of course, then devolved on Major A.H. Gladden, for the balance of the engagement.) In company H, Captain De Saussure was slightly wounded in two places, his coat receiving evidence of having been in battle without being hurt, all being struck by spent balls. Sergeant Beggs was severely wounded while bearing the regimental colors. James B. Kennerly, Mooney, Corley, Purse, W.S. Johnson, and E. Price, were severely wounded-all doing well. Killed; Tim Kelley and S. Wiggins, on the field. Wm. Devlin since died of this wounds. Of this company 26 were killed and wounded-all but those mentioned were slightly. T. Price, J.P. Cantwell, R. Wadell, J.T. Watts and W.
Barkelow have all received flesh wounds, but are doing well. This company went into action with forty-nine, all told. I am proud to say, that the Palmetto regiment behaved nobly and gallantly; they stood for one hour and a half, the most galling fire that was ever poured on troops, and that they never once faltered. Our brigade was engaged with at least nine thousand men. At one time we were nearly surrounded, the enemy firing from the front, right, left, and in the rear, and we had at last to charge, when the Mexicans were made to flee before our bayonets. We went into the fight with two hundred and fifty-two privates and had killed and wounded, officers and men, one hundred and thirty-seven. Carolina may well be proud of the Palmetto boys. Well did they sustain the honor and chivalry of the state. We would have been in the city had it not been that propositions of peace having been made by the Mexicans. The commissioners are now sitting. It is thought that peace will be made.

NRR 73.076 October 2, 1847, list of killed and wounded in the Palmetto Regiment

LIST OF KILLED AND WOUNDED IN THE PALMETTO REGIMENT.

We have received from an altogether reliable source, the following list of the killed and wounded of the Palmetto regiment of South Carolina volunteers, in the recent engagements at the gates of the capital of Mexico.

Field and staff - Killed; Col P M Butler, Wounded: Lieutenant Colonel J P Dickinson, severely; Capt J D Blanding, A C S, slightly; Adjutant J Cantey, severely.

Company A - Killed; Corporal E Wilder. Wounded; 2d Lieut S. Sumter, slightly; Corporal W T Norton, severely; privates B Caughman do; J M Smith. do; T Black, do, since dead; C H Moody slightly; E Hunt, do; J Dunn, do.

Company B - Killed; W R Davis. Wounded; T Charles, dangerously, (since dead;) D McHenry, dangerously, (since dead,) J Younge, dangerously, (since dead;) corporal E C Postell, severely; private J Faucette, do; sergeant G W Curtis, slightly; corporal A S Hood, do; privates T Cahill, do; J Connor. do; T O Estes, do; M D Hood, do; T Robbins, do; S Terrill, do.

Company C - Killed; Win R Helton. Wounded; Capt K S Moffatt, slightly; 2d Lieut R G Billings, severely; sergeants J M Gay and G Waters, do; corporals W G Caston, do, (since dead;) S Horton slightly; privates L Bradley, severely; W F Hunter, do; J Villipigue, do; F Ballard, slightly; J G Wooten, do; E Humphries, slightly.

Company D - Killed; 2d Lieut Adams; private T F Tillman. Wounded; 2d Lieut J Abney, severely; corporal W B Brooks, dangerously, privates J Goff, severely; J Whitaker, do; J Addison, do; F Posey, do; R S Key, do; W F Unthank, do; J Lark, slightly; E Simpkins, do; R Solman, slightly.

Company F - Killed; none. Wounded; sergeants J J D Walker and J N Hicks, severely; corporals J F Quinn, slightly; J McCollum, severely; privates J Campson, do; E M Gilbert, do; M Hartman, do; T J Mackey, do; A Murken, do; C H Pratt, do; J Valentine, do; J Weatherby, do: J R Mott, slightly; J H Vannoy, do; J D Wright, do; J C Wagner, slightly.

Company G - Killed; none. Wounded; 1st Lieut J R Clark, dangerously; 2d Lieut J W Steen, slightly; 3d Lieut J R Davis, do; sergeant S T Row, severely; corporals J A McCreight, do; T J Myers, do; J McNeil do; J Cain, do, (since dead;) W Nelson, severely; W B McCreight, do; H Bone, slightly; M B Travis, do; S Camak, do; M B Stanley, do; S Newman, do; R J Barber, do; G W Sanders, do; R J Gladney, do; W M Goodlet, do; S Alexander, do; J Romedy, do-23.

Company H - Killed; privates Timothy Kelley, Shedrick Wiggins. Wounded; Captain W D DeSaussure, slightly; sergeant H Beard, do; T Beggs, severely; S L Percival, slightly; J M Niller, do, privates J B Kennerly, severely; W F Putse, do; Wm Devlin, do, (since dead;) P Price, do; E Price, do; J P Cantwell, do; R Waddell, do; J Y Watts, do; W Barkelow, do; M Brown, slightly; H J Caughman, do; J Campbell, do; J T Lupo, do; E G Randolph, do; J D Stanford, do; D Polock, do-24.

Company K - Killed; 2d Lieut W R Williams; private J Slattery. Wounded; corporal W B Eaves, slightly; private B Creeghan, mortally, (since dead;) private J Braughkam, dangerously.
Company L - Killed; sergeant J Denson. Wounded; corporal J Spears, severely; privates M B O'Neale, do; G H Abney, do; Wm Shepperd, do; C. Wood, do; M Clopton, do; privates V R Gary, slightly; J Warner, do; W R Waldrop, do.

Aggregate in killed and wounded, 137. [JCS]

NRR 73.076, Col. 2, Oct. 2, 1847 Notice of the Difficulties Among the Mexicans in Treating for Terms

The private correspondence of the Diario de la Marina represents that the Mexican government had some difficulty in inducing any one to accept the office of commissioners but the commissioners we have before named. Gen. Herrera, Gen. Mora y Villamil and Senores Couto, and Atristain were engaged on the 28th of August in negotiating. According to some accounts, if Gen. Santa Anna did not obtain fair terms, and such as would save the national honor, the war would be continued.

Others said that peace would be made at all hazards. In regard to this, however, the editor of the Diario says that there are two notable letters from Mexico touching on the matter. One of them declared that congress would not consent to convene in the capital, but offered to meet in Querataro, from which fears were entertained that it was their design to disapprove of any treaty which might be made.

This view of their probable action was confirmed by the face that the executive by his own confession, did not possess the power to make a peace. And furthermore, says the Diario, there were many general officers in Mexico at the last dates who declared that they would resign, or which is the same thing, abandon Santa Anna if a treaty should be concluded. From all which it would follow that the position of the president was extremely critical.

On the other hand, accounts from Queretaro and other states agree that there is a league among eight of the states to resist to the last extremity; that even should the city of Mexico succumb, not an inch of the territory sought by the United States should be conceded. The editor of the Diario then draws the conclusion from all he can learn that it was altogether probable that even should a peace be concluded it would not put an end to the hostilities, and that Paredes would not fail to sustain hostilities.

However this may be, we are not the less solicitous that Gen. Scott should succeed in forming some kind of treaty with Santa Anna's government, which treaty will be the more valuable should it receive the sanction of congress. Give us but this treaty, and the Mexicans may well be allowed to wrangle among themselves as to the propriety of it. It will be quite an easy matter for the United States to hold their own under it.

The Diario remarks: Notwithstanding, we do not think it improbable that the commissioners will bring their labors to a successful conclusion, and that for the ratification of their work, and to supply in a measure the absence of their work, and to supply in a measure the absence of congress, that an assembly of notables will be formed in Mexico. At the same time we foresee, by the general tenor of the correspondence from Mexico. That the end of hostilities has not yet arrived, and that assuredly the treaty which may be concluded will not terminate them. [DCK]

NRR 73.076, Col. 2 Oct. 2, 1847, Forces Under Gen. Winfield Scott as He Marched on Mexico City

The amount of effective force under Gen. Scott, before Mexico, is variously stated. Accounts from our officers of the numbers engaged is the late battles estimate them at but little over 7,000 men. Our own calculation was, that he left Puebla with about 10,000 men. The Mexican paper now published in the city of Puebla makes the following staement of Gen. Scott's force:

Brought by Scott to Puebla 7,500
Volunteers arrived with
   Pillow                      2,000
   Do do Cadwallader           2,500
   Do do Pierce                2,500
   Total number arrived       14,000
Sick, deserters, &c.         -1,000
Garrison left in Puebla      -1,000
   [total not accompanying   -2,000
   force]
Force which marched upon
   Mexico                     11,200

NRR 73.076 Oct. 2, 1847 Santa Fe, murder of Lieut. Brown; Indian attack, disease

SANTA FE- We learn from a letter from a volunteer, that Major Edmonson, with the companies under the command of Captain Horine, Holloway, McMilan, and McKinney, and three companies of the battalion under command of Major Williack, arrived at Fort Leavenworth on the 11inst. All the troops destined for New Mexico were met between Santa Fe and the Arkansas Bend. Matter appeared to be in a peaceable and settled condition in New Mexico, at the time of the departure of the volunteers from Santa Fe.

Six of the prisoners charged with the murder of Lieut. Brown, Jas. McClenalian, and Chas. Quisenberry, were hung in the 3d. of Aug., under the sentence of drum head court martial.

Major Edmonson is bringing home with him the remains of the late Lieuts. B.F. and G.E. Lackland, for interment in St. Louis county. Capt. Horine has likewise with him the ashes of Charles Quisenberry and James McClenahan.

Captain Smithson, of the third regiment of Missouri volunteers, was attacked on the 1st of August, near Pawnee Fort, by about four hundred Indians, in which the latter lost some six or eight killed, and as of twenty-four horses which broke loose at the time of the attack. Two of the volunteers had died of the measles, which were very prevalent; their names were Paul Haney and George Nowland. [KAS]

NRR 73.077 October 2, 1847, Gen. Sterling Price's journey to Fort Leavenworth

ARRIVAL OF THE GEN. PRICE, DR DECAMP. U.S.A., AND OTHER AT FORT LEAVENWORTH-PROGRESS OF THE TROOPS MARCHING TO SANTA FE.

We learn from Fort Leavenworth, that General Price, Dr. De Camp, U. States army, and others, in advance of the volunteers whose term of service in New Mexico had expired, arrived at the post on the 17th from Santa Fe. They left Santa Fe on the 11th of August, proceeding by easy marches to Moro. When they took their departure, all was quiet in New Mexico, which was then held by three companies of U. States dragoons and three companies of volunteers who had re-enlisted under Major Walker.

On the 15th of August they met Lieut. Allen, with Captain McNair’s company of mounted men, and they encamped together on the Moro. Next day, Colonel Easton, with this battalion of infantry, reached the same point; he had with him a large train of government wagons, and a large drove of beef cattle. On the 17th two companies, commanded by Captains Shepard and Jones, passed the camp at the Moro, where Dr. De Camp and others were waiting for the arrival of Col. Price and Mr. Rich, sutler to Price’s regiment. They did not come up on this day. Mr. Rich had his team, wagon, and contents swept away and everything destroyed, by a sudden and terrible mountain storm, while on his way from Santa Fe. He was so fortunate, however, as to recover his trunk, which contained a large amount of gold dust, four miles down the mountain cannon. On the 18th, the company moved the camp three miles, still waiting for the volunteers to arrive, and at night they were robbed of three animals. Next day the volunteers having arrived, they all took up their march
for the United States.

On the 20th—we copy from memoranda kept by one of the company—we encountered one of those terrible storms which occasionally visit the plains, and had to half and hold our teams, to keep them from running away. Aug. 21—It rained all night, and we awoke wet and comfortless, with such bleating, braying, and swearing around us, as it seldom heard here, or any where else. Aug. 22—Met Capt. Murphy and Wm. McKnight, traders, with a train of thirty wagons. Aug. 23—Met Capt. Korponay, with his company of mounted men, and forty government wagons.

Aug. 24—Met this morning two companies Missouri mounted men, and I P M, encamped with another, on Rabbit ear creek. August 26—it rained hard all night; the morning is cold and rainy, and duplicate overcoats are absolutely necessary—met one company of mounted men with 60 government wagons. August 26—Met Capt. Hook’s company of Illinois volunteer infantry, with a large wagon train. We almost met Colonel Newby and Lieutenant Col. Boyakin.

August 28—Met Capt. Kinney’s company of Illinois volunteers, at the upper crossing of the Cimarone—a large government train with them. Aug. 29—Met four companies of Illinois volunteers, under command of Major Donaldson, with a government train of wagons, and four hundred government cattle. September 3—Reached the crossing of the Arkansas, after spending a comfortless night in the rain.

Sept. 6—Met Mr. Moldstein, a trader, with his wagons. He informed us, that Col. Ralls, with two companies of mounted volunteers, and a large government rain was on the lower Cook Creek road, a few miles distant. Sept. 7—Col. Price, Maj. Walker and Mr. Rich, with a small escort, turned to the right, to intercept Col. Ralls, for the purpose of getting the mail. The day proved rainy, and they reached our camp late much fatigued.

General Price, Mr. Rich, and Dr. De Camp, and a small escort, left this day, with provisions and blankets only, for Fort Leavenworth, where they arrived on the 17th, having marched more than forty miles a day for more than seven days, and that with tired animals, and at the end of an eight hundred miles journey. [JCS]

Vera Cruz In Its Palmy Days

In these days of capture by another nation of the great commercial port of the enemy, it may not be uninteresting to go back upon its history and note what by general consent has been considered its palmy days. Much of this information was obtained directly from the official records at Havana, which contain a full detail of the commercial transactions of the different dependencies of old Spain. The subjoined sketch of the commerce of Vera Cruz, may be depended upon as authentic, up to the date given—viz. The year 1810.

The exports of specie from Vera Cruz, that year amounted to a total of $46,775,240! Of which $21,774,240 was by individuals and 25,000,000 by the government authorities; and the coinage for the same year amounted to the enormous sum of $26,000,000.

That same year there were on the road between Mexico and Vera Cruz the vast number of over 54,000 mules engaged in the transport of the different products of the country, of which specie formed the principal item. There is one article of export, however, particularly worth of note, viz: that to Havana alone 27,000 barrels of Mexican ground flour found its way, and was there used in preference to that received from the mother country, and it appears that had not the course of trade been changed by the troubles of the two nations, that Cuba to within the last two years would have drawn her main supply of breadstuffs from Vera Cruz.

The imports for 1810 amounted to the value of $20,430,406 and the exports to $28,277,533. This trade, exclusive of government vessels, was carried on in the arrivals of 291 square rigged craft, and in the clearances of 239 of the same kind. The amount and value of goods entered and cleared on the government arrivals are not included in this statement, but they of course would swell this aggregate to a very considerable degree. [DCK]
GULF STEAMERS. A Pensacola letter of the 18th in the Norfolk Beacon, says; "There are five steamers in the Gulf of Mexico at this time. The Scorpion, Spitfire, Vixen, Scourge, and Petrita, besides three sloops of war, three bomb vessels, and of gun-boats and store ships. I know not how many. The U.S. steamer Mississippi, now at Pensacola has been ordered to the Gosport navy yard for repairs." [JCS]

Gen. Scott and Mr. Trist.-The Union says:-"As to Gen. Scott and Mr. Trist, the last letters received represent them, we understand, to be on confiding and confidential terms. [DCK]

The additional regiments of volunteers, called for by the last requisition of the president, are rapidly organizing and preparing for the service. The west has responded to the call with great spirits. East Tennessee, called on for only five companies, has offered fifteen, and the ten that have not been accepted, asked to formed into a new regiment. In Indiana the requisition had been more than met, and in Kentucky thirty two full companies offered their services to the governor. He had been called upon for twenty companies, and of course had to refuse twelve. Orders have been directed by the governor to the field officers and companies which have been accepted and commissioned to rendezvous at Louisville on Monday, the 4th of October next, to be inspected and mustered into the service of the U. States.

The requisition made just before upon Maryland and the District of Columbia, for an additional battalion has been complied with. The battalion under Col. Hughes are by this time at Vera Cruz.

The Illinois regiment was hardly fairly called for, before we had accounts of their being en route for N. Orleans, from whence they embarked for Vera Cruz. [DCK]

The New Jersey Battalion of volunteers recently mustered into the service of the United States, by Captain M. Knowlton, United States army, sailed from N. York for Vera Cruz on the 29th Sept., in the ship Senator. It consists of four companies, and an aggregate of 343 men.

The Trenton News says: -"We understand that a portion of the men of the New Jersey battalion, when required to go on board yesterday to sail for the seat of war, mutinied and stoned the officers. -This was owing to the treatment that Captain Napton was received from the Colonel. When our informant left the riot had been quelled." [JCS]

Court martial-Cerro Gordo-A court martial was at Puebla, on the 28th July, at the request of Riley, whose conduct in some reports of the battle of Cerro Gordo is represented as improper-the verdict was this-Col. Riley's conduct was deserving of the highest praise, which verdict was appointed by Gen. Scott. [DCK]
NRR 73.083 October 9, 1847, Gen. Sterling Price to return to Santa Fe

Gen. Price -The Jefferson Enquirer says, that General Price intends returning to Santa Fe this fall to resume his command of the forces in New Mexico. [JCS]

NRR 73.083, Col. 2 October 9, 1847 Six Companies of Mounted Georgia Troops at Mobile en Route to Mexico

Georgia troops.-Six companies of mounted men, comprising the Georgia battalion of cavalry, under command of Lieut. James S. Calhoun, of Columbia, arrived at Mobile on the 26th alt., en route for Mexico. Four companies of infantry from Georgia were daily expected at Mobile. [DCK]

NRR 73.083 October 9, 1847, the Encarnacion prisoners released

Release of the Incarnation prisoners.

At length we have the pleasure (says the New Orleans Picayune of the 28th ult.) of announcing the release of our brave countrymen who were taken prisoners at Encarnation and other places by the Mexicans. It will be recollected that Col. De Russy, with his command, was dispatched from Tampico some months since to effect the release of American prisoners. Yesterday the United States steamship McKim arrived in the river from Vera Cruz, having on board a number of these men. About thirty five of the released prisoners (teamsters) remained at Tampico in the employ of the United States Quartermaster at that place. [JCS]

NRR 73.084 October 9, 1847, the Massachusetts Whig convention on the war with Mexico and annexation of territory

The Massachusetts whig state convention, held a meeting at Springfield on the 29th Sept.-GEORGE ASHMUN, esq., of Springfield was chosen to preside, assisted by vice presidents and four secretaries. The convention being organized, proceeded to ballot.

For candidate for governor -GEO. N. BRIGGS received 571 votes, 22 scattering votes. Mr. B. was then declared to be unanimously selected as the whig candidate.

For lieut. governor -JOHN REED, esq., received 572, the whole of the votes taken and was declared unanimously nominated.

On the motion of Mr. Bell, of Boston, Messrs. Bell, Simmons of Norfolk, Pierce of Essex, Sprague, of Plymouth, Bacon, of Barnstable, Adams, of Bristol, Davenport, of Worchester, Conkey, of Hampden, Calhoun, of Hampden, Dewey, of Baltimore, and Osborn, of Dukes, were appointed a committee to prepare and report resolutions for the consideration of the convention.

Mr. Phillips, of Salem, moved that it is inexpedient to nominate a candidate for president by this convention. Mr. Curtis, of Boston, moved that the motion be laid upon the table, which was carried. -The convention then took a recess till 2 ½ o’clock.

In the afternoon, Mr. Webster spoke an hour and 20 minutes, and, the Boston Atlas says, made one of the best speeches he ever made.

The following are the resolutions of the committee which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That it is matter of heartfelt congratulation to the members of this convention, and to the state at large, that the long established and well known conservative policy of the whigs of Massachusetts has been able hitherto to sustain in healthful action the general industry and varied interests of the old commonwealth, notwithstanding the manifold embarrassments created and the
dangers apprehended and realized from the disorganizing tendencies of the leading measures of the national government.

-That whenever the democracy of Massachusetts shall be able to set before us a model of their radial doctrines in actual practice, in any of our sister states, where justice is more fully and more ably administered, where legislation is more pure, and more fairly applied to all interests and classes; where the execution of the laws is more impartial and just; where the equality of persons and the security of their rights are practically greater; and where the acquisition of wealth, of knowledge, and of power is more open to all; where education in all its branches is more fully imparted to all classes, or the institutions of benevolence more fully sustained; where the necessaries, the comforts, and the conveniences of life are more universally and more equally diffused; and where the function of government-leading to these results-have been fulfilled and sustained at less expense than in Massachusetts give heed to their complaints, regard their denunciations, believe in their professions, and trust in the recently selected head and embodiment of their principles.

-That, on a careful examination and review of the administration of George N. Briggs and John Reed, they have eminently fulfilled the requisitions of the constitution, have been distinguished for their zeal and fidelity, uprightness and ability, in the discharge of their duties to the state; that they are, in the judgment of the convention, entitled to the confidence and approbation of their constituents, and are therefore unanimously recommended to the electors of this commonwealth as the whig candidates for re-election to the respective offices of governor and lieutenant governor of the commonwealth.

-That it is a matter of regret that the examination and review of the acts of our national rulers is so much less satisfactory than those of the state. -While the bounties of heaven have been profusely showered over our land, and have enabled us as individuals to become "ministering angels" to the wretchedness and suffering of less favored climes-as a nation, our rulers have been shredding our blood and exhausting our treasures, in carrying the calamities, the desolations, and all the nameless horrors of war, through the length and breadth of the land of our neighbors.

-That the annexation of Texas gave the first strong impulse to the desire the acquisition of foreign lands, and created a national appetite, which, if not seasonably corrected, may lead to the destruction of our most cherished rights and the overthrow of our civil institutions, in the engulfing vortex of military despotism.

-That the war with Mexico-the predicted result, if not the legitimate offspring, of the annexation of Texas-began in a palpable violation of the constitution, and the usurpation of the powers of congress by the president, and carried on in reckless indifference and disregard of the blood and treasure of the nation-can have no object which can be effected but the acquisition of Mexican territory, under the circumstances of the country, unless under adequate securities for the protection of human liberty-can have no other probable result than the ultimate advancement of the sectional supremacy of the slave power.

-That the whigs of Massachusetts are not prepared for this result; they see, therefore, no rational or justifiable objects in the protracted prosecution of the war, and rejoice in every manifestation of the return of peace; for, although sanctioned by a portion of the whigs in its earliest movements, as a measure for the preservation of the army-then no peril by the unauthorized act of the president, yet the war itself, while prosecuted to secure the sectional supremacy of the slave power, or the conquest and dismemberment of the Mexican republic, has never had, and never can have, the sanction and approbation of the whigs of Massachusetts.

-That the great and permanent interests of the American Union as it is, and the highest and brightest hopes of the liberties and the rights of our race on the American continent, require of the great North American republic to stay her hands, already too deeply stained in the blood shed in the unnatural war between the two great republics of this continent, and inscribe on her standard, now waiving victoriously over the halls of the Montezumas, and deeply on the hearts of her ruler, as her well considered and unchangeable purpose, "Peace with Mexico without dismemberment, No addition of Mexican territory to the American Union."

-That, in the judgment of this convention, this course of policy and action would form a basis on which the whole of the country might honestly rally and securely stand, while it would place our country eminently in the right, and show to the world that we are, as a nation, as invincible in moral principle as in military power, and
that we can conquer a peace with Mexico by first conquering in ourselves the raging thirst of military glory and the mad ambition of foreign conquest.

-That if this course of policy shall be rejected, and the war shall be prosecuted to the final subjugation or dismemberment of Mexico, the whigs of Massachusetts now declare, and put this declaration of their purpose on record, that Massachusetts will never consent that Mexican territory, however acquired, shall become a part of the American Union unless on the unalterable condition that "there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude therein, otherwise than in the punishment of crime."

-That, in making this declaration of her purpose, Massachusetts announces no new principle of action in regard to her sister states, and makes no new application of principles already acknowledged. -She merely states the great American principle embodied in our Declaration of Independence—the political equality of persons in the civil states; the principle adopted in the legislation of the states under the confederation, and sanctioned by the constitution, in the admission of new states formed from the only territory belonging to the Union at the adoption of the constitution—it is, in short, the imperishable principle set forth in the ever memorable ordinance of 1787, which has for more than a century been the fundamental law of human liberty in the great valley of the lakes, the Ohio and Mississippi, with what unparalleled results, let the great and growing states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin answer and declare.

-That the whigs of Massachusetts regard the great interests of agriculture, commerce, and manufactures as so inseparably connected that national measures injurious to either are injurious to all; that the increased and rapidly increasing agricultural products of the great west require great and increasing facilities of commercial transport; that the regulation of commerce, both internal and external, is placed by the constitution among the clearly expressed and undoubted powers of congress; and that the improvement of the great lakes and rivers of the west by the construction among the clearly expressed and undoubted powers of congress; and that the improvement of the great lakes and rivers of the west by the construction of harbors on the lakes, and the removal of obstructions from the rivers is among the most obviously just and necessary uses of this important power, and would greatly tend, by the increase of internal trade and commerce to the rapid advancement of these great interests of the country.

-That the veto by the president of the river and harbor bill of the last congress was an act of wanton injury to the great interests, not only of the west but of all interests connected with them, and of unmitigated wrong and insult to the congress that passed it, and ought not to be forgotten until this veto is annihilated by a two thirds vote, or by the election of a president who will execute the constitutional power as it was made to be executed by every president from George Washington down to but not including, James K. Polk

-That the great whig doctrines of protection to American industry, capital, and labors; a sound uniform currency for the people as well as the government, a well regulated system of the internal improvement, especially in reference to the internal commerce of the great lakes and rivers of the west; uncompromising hostility to the subtreasury, to executive usurpations of the powers of congress, and to all wars for conquest; and to all acquisitions of the permanency of the Slave power, are now, as they have been, cardinal principles in the policy of the whigs of Massachusetts, and form, in their judgment, the broad and deep foundations on which rest, and ever must rest, the prospective hopes and the true and enduring interests of the whole country.

-That in a period like the present, when a war of no common character, and to be followed by no common results, actually exists, and is threatening the integrity, if not the existence, of one of the parties, the whigs of Massachusetts, in looking over the catalogue of distinguished names that adorn the ranks of whig statesmen, for the one most competent, under the circumstances, to bear the whig standard, inscribed with their principles, onward to assured victory in the approaching campaign of 1848, see with patriotic pride and pleasure many illustrious statesmen in all sections of our Union, under whose enlightened guidance and discretion success, if not commanded, would at least be deserved; but they can never forget that they have in their midst a statesman who, if he be not "first among equals," has long been by general acknowledgement, equal to this first in any age or country—a statesman who has ever been found equal to any emergency of the country, who clamed the troubled waters of the Oregon controversy, adjusted the long standing and much vexed questions of the Caroline and the boundary at the northeast, and settled the maritime law of the national flag on principles as durable as the ocean on which it floats—a statesman whose longable, and devoted service in the councils of...
the nation has rendered his name, his transcendent talents and unequaled attainments in everything that related to the great interests of the country, in peace or in war, at home or abroad, as familiar as household words in every cottage and ham et in the land; and has pointed him out as eminently qualified, whether it shall be brought to a close, to meet the great questions of national policy and constitutional law that may and must arise in its progress and termination; and as most worthy to receive, what the whigs of Massachusetts are most anxious to give, the highest reward which an enlightened and grateful people can ever bestow on their most deserving and most distinguished son.

-That the whigs of Massachusetts earnestly and unanimously recommend Daniel Webster, of Massachusetts, to the favorable consideration of the whig national convention, as a candidate for the office of president of the United States.

Mr. Palfrey introduced an amendment, which was discussed by Messrs. Winthrop, Adams, Sumner, and Dimon, of Boston, Allen, of Worcester, Phillips, of Salem, Dwight, of Springfield, and Palfrey, of Cambridge. It was lost.

At 7 ½ o’clock the convention dissolved. The Atlas says, “it was one of the largest and most respectable conventions ever held in this commonwealth.” [JCS]

NRR 73.087-73.088 October 9, 1847, Dr. Cooper and Lt. David Henderson safe

LIEUT. HENDERSON AND DR. COOPER SAFE. -The New Orleans Picayune of the 29th ult. says: -A private letter addressed to us from Vera Cruz, dated 2d instant, says: “I am happy to able to inform you of the safe arrival at the headquarters of Major Lally (at Jalapa) of the detachment of mounted men belonging to Captain Fairchild’s company under Lieut. Henderson, accompanied by Dr. Cooper, of the army, and three mounted Georgians, all of whom were supposed to have been captured at the National Bridge. [JCS]

NRR 73.088 October 9, 1847, deficiency of transports

TRANSPORTS-The New Orleans National publishes a letter dated Brazos Santiago, September 3, in which it is stated that three is not a vessel at that place adapted to the transportation of the troop-ordered from Gen. Taylor’s army to Vera Cruz.

The writer adds—“Of course nobody is to blame for sending troops into camp on a barren desert of burning sand, where there is neither wood nor water; the stormy season at hand, and not even adhesiveness enough in the drifting and patching sands to hold a tent pin or give permanency to a tent pole. The consequence will be alternate parchings and drenchings whilst awaiting transports, which will admirably prepare the troops for the graveyards of Vera Cruz.”

At the last dates from Vera Cruz there were several large vessels discharging cargo with great haste, and as soon as they were unladen they were to be despatched to Brazos Santiago to bring the troops from there ordered to Vera Cruz.

The city was filled with supplies recently sent to the army, and with the goods imported on private account. This accumulation was owing to the long time that has transpired since a train was sent into the interior.

There was still some sickness at Vera Cruz, but it was not increasing.

A large number of troops were in and about Vera Cruz, and the garrison is now larger than it has been since Gen. Scott left.

The wound of Gen. Scott is said to be in the calf of the leg, and slight. [JCS]

NRR 73.088 October 9, 1847, news about Gen. Mariano Paredes y Arillaga in the vicinity of Puebla

NRR 73.088 train to leave Veracruz under command of Gen. Joseph Lane
PUEBLA-PAREDES. -The New Orleans Patria of the 27th publishes a letter from its correspondent El Jarocha, in which it is stated that Paredes had been nominated inspector general of the National Guard of Puebla, by the governor of the state. He is said to be with Gen. Rea, on the road between Vera Cruz and Puebla, with 6,000 men, waiting for the train which was supposed to leave the former city, under the command of Gen. Lane, which was to be escorted by 2,500 men, including the troops that were to join at Jalapa. Paredes would not take command of Rea’s troops, alleging as his reason that he came to serve his country, and that he would “not afford a pretext to Santa Anna to denounced him as creating a revolution.

El Jarocha say that it was rumored that General Rea had entered Puebla, and that the American garrison there had capitulated without much resistance. All fudge! He adds that letters from the interior state that the Mexicans were more than ever averse to peace, but if Gen. Scott had 30,000 troops with him their opposition would speedily give way. [JCS]

Capt. Besancon’s Company.

The Picayune of the 29th say: “with the exception of Lieut. John Hawkins and some fifteen or eighteen men who were left to guard camp inside of Vera Cruz, had been attacked by guerrillas within about a mile of the National Bridge, this side, and it was supposed that every man of them had been killed.”

We have seen two private letters; one dated the 15th and the other 19th inst., written by a member of Capt. Besancon’s company from Vera Cruz, the one to his sister and the other to his brother residing in this city.

In the letter of the 15th the writer says: -- "Sixteen of our men have come from Jalapa. One man lost- Ralph Depass, of our city. He was shot through the head while making a charge on the National Bridge. He was a brave and good soldier. Mr. Wilkinson the orderly, was wounded in the leg, but not badly, and Lieutenant Waters was grazed on the face by a ball. The captain and two lieutenants are still at Jalapa, and we do not know when they will be here.”

In the letter of the 19th the writer says: “No further news from the balance of the company than what I stated in my last.” [WFF]

Maj. Lally’s detachment, death of Lieut. Twiggs, guerrilla attack

Maj. Lally’s Detachment- In the Vera Cruz Sun of Anahuac, of the 3d. It is stated that the train under the command of Major Lally had left Jalapa at the latest dates. He sustained but very little loss in the engagements which he had with the enemy, by whom he had been much annoyed all the way through. Lieut. Twiggs was the only officer killed in his command. [KAS]

account of Sergeant Riley the desperer

SERGEANT RLEY, the desperer, was well known by many in this community. He was recruiting sergeant for some time and kept the rendezvous next to the corner of Cedar, in Washington street. Rley was a man of very large frame, more than six feet high. He was formerly a sergeant in the 66th regiment of the British army, stationed in Canada, from which he deserted and came to this city. Shortly after he joined the U. States army, and, being well skilled in his profession, was sent to West Point, where he acted as drill sergeant for some time. [JCS]

Battle At Mill El Rey, (King’s Mill)

From the Boletin extra, of Sept. 9

At half past 5 o’clock this morning (the 8th ) the fire commenced on the two flanks of
Chapultepec.- The left was resting on the miss El Rey, close to the forest of Chapultepec. This point was commanded by Gen. Leon, and under his order were the battalion of Mina, whose colonel was the patriotic and gallant Balderas, and the battalions Union and La Patria, of Oajaca, in on of which were included the companies of Puebla, also a body from Queretaro and some others-all composing the National Guard. The right flank rested on the hose of Mata, at the distance of a quarter of a league from Chapultepec, and occupied by 1,5000 of the regular army, commanded by Gen. Perez. The enemy, in two columns, with his usual daring attacked these points-first with artillery, and at a quarter to 6 with a rapid fire of musketry.

Gen. Perez sustained the fire very well for about half an hour, when, for causes at present unknown, he retired with his forces, although he had not lost ten men. The retreat must have been fatal for Mexico, if, fortunately, Gen. Leon and his brigade had not shown prodigies of valor. Twice his repulsed the column that attacked him, and in the second he sallied from his position to recover the artillery Gen. Perez had lost; but then he received a mortal wound, and few moments afterwards the valiant Balderas was also wounded, and died on the field. They enemy with additional forces again charged and took possession of the mill. Twice he was dislodged, but on his retaking it the third time, it was found impossible to bring our troops to the charge.

In spite of these two advantages which they had gained in their endeavors to attack Chapultepec they could not effect a further advance, which may be owing to there being intimidated by the resistance of our forces and the considerable loss they had suffered. The result was that at 9 o'clock in the morning the fire of small arms had nearly ceased, and they were seen employed in collecting their killed and wounded. At 11 o'clock the enemy announced a retrograde movement, and by 2 in the afternoon he withdrew all forces to Tacubaya, abandoning the two points he had occupied and blowing up the house of Mata, although some say it was set on fire by a bomb fired from Chapultepec. It is believed that Gens. Twiggs and pierce directed the attack, and that they put in motion about 8000 men.

It is certain that the fire was more intense and brisk than at Churubusco. It is impossible to ascertain the loss on either side. Ours does not amount to 100 killed and 250 wounded. There are few missing-nearly all not killed or wounded retiring to Chapultepec. The enemy, according to the confession of an Irishman who came over to us in the evening, carried off 400 dead and 600 to 700 wounded.

We have to lament the loss of Gen. Leon, since dead; that of Col. Balderas, of the valiant Colonels Huerta and Gelati, and of the determined Captain Mateos, of Puebla, who conducted himself like a hero, telling his soldiers, on the point of death, that they must never forget they were Pueblanos, and to fight valiant to the death. We will take care that he shall be buried in the Pantheon, and that his unfortunate widow shall receive a pension.

If the cavalry had taken the position assigned to them at 4 o'clock in the morning, by order of Gen. Santa Anna, and if above all they had made the charge which was ordered at the moment that the enemy attacked the miss of El Rey, instead of flying precipitately, the action would have terminated early and the triumph would have been complete. But they did not take the position to which they were ordered, much less make the charge, because his subordinate officers refused an account of the ground being too uneven and broken for cavalry, as if it were not the same for the cavalry of the enemy.

It is believed that the enemy will renew the attack to-morrow by another route-either by that of La Picdad or by that of San Antonion. May God protect our cause on this occasion!

One of the enemy's guerrillas, who came with Scott, was made a prisoner and shot on the spot. [KAS]
Mexican of the city of Mexico to a Spanish house in this city. The letter came via Orizaba, under cover to Mr. Dimond, American collector of the port of Vera Cruz. The news it gives is more full than we have received from any other quarter, but it bears a Mexican face, for which allowance must be made. It however sufficiently proves that Mexico is reduced to the last extremity. [KAS]

NRR 73.090-73.092 October 9, 1847, peace negotiations, description of Chapultepec, negotiations (during the armistice), Nicholas Phillip Trist’s project of treaty, instructions to Mexican commissioners, subsequent instructions of Mexican terms

THE NEGOTIATION.

COMMISSION OF MR. TRIST

James K. Polk, President of the United States of America, to all those to whom these presents may come, greeting:

Know ye, that, desirous of re-establishing peace, harmony, and good relations between the United States of America and the United Mexican States, and to remove all grounds of complaint, having especial confidence in the integrity, prudence, and talent of Senior Don NICHOLAS P. TRIST, we have named him in the commissioner of the United States to the Mexican republic, and invest him, in the fullest and most complete manner, with ample power and authority, in the name of the United States, to meet and confer with any person or persons who shall have similar authority from the republic of Mexico, and between them to negotiate and conclude an arrangement of the differences which exist between the two countries—a treaty of peace, amity, and lasting boundaries between the United States against the government of that nation, and of all reclamations of that government and its citizens against the United States; and in like manner to determine the limits and boundaries between the United States of America and the United States of Mexico, and all other matters and things suitable for negotiation, and bearing up the interests of both nations, transmitting and delivering said convention, when it shall be concluded, for ratification, to the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the senate.

In testimony whereof, this document is sealed with the seal of the United States.

Done and executed under my hand, in the city of Washington, on this fifteenth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, and in the seventy-first year of the independence of the United States.

JAMES K. POLK, President of the U. States.

JAMES BUCHANAN, secretary of state.

THE AMERICAN PROJECT OF A TREATY

Project of a treaty presented by the American commissioner, on the 27th of Alzcopozalco.

Art. 1. There shall be a firm and universal peace between the United States of America and the United Mexican States and between their respective countries, territories, cities, towns, and villages, without exception of places or persons. All hostilities by sea and land shall definitively cease as soon as the ratifications of this treaty shall be made and exchanged by both parties.

Art. 2. All the prisoners of war made by both parties, as well by sea as land, shall be returned as soon as practicable after the exchange of the ratifications of this treaty. And, further, if there be at present any Mexican citizens held captive by the Camanches or any other savage tribe of Indians within the limits of the United States, as the same are defined by this treaty, the government of the United States will require the restoration of such captives, and their liberty to return to their homes in Mexico.

Art. 3. So soon as this treaty shall have been duly ratified by the United Mexican States, it shall be made known with the least delay to the commanders of the forces
by sea and by land, of both parties; and in consequence there shall be a suspension of hostilities as well by seas as by land, as well on the part of the military and naval forces of the United States as on those of the United Mexican States; and the said suspension of hostilities shall be inviolably observed by both parties. Immediately after the exchange of ratification of the present treaty, all the forts, territories, places, and possessions, whatsoever they may be, which have been taken by the United States from the United Mexican States during the war, except much as are comprehended within the limits of the United States, as the same remain defined by article 4 of this treaty, shall be returned without delay and without causing any destruction or extraction or artillery, or of any public property whatever, originally captured in said forts or places, and which remain in them when said forts or places, and which remain in them when the ratification or this treaty shall be exchanged; and in the same manner all the forts, territories, &c.

Art. 4: The dividing line between the two republics will commence in the Gulf of Mexico, three leagues from land in front of the mouth of the Rio Grande; thence along the middle of said river to a point where it touches the southern line of New Mexico, to the southwest angle of the same; thence northward along the western line of New Mexico to where the same is cut by the first branch of the river Gila; if it be not cut by any branch and of the said river, then to a point in said line nearest the said branch; and thence in a direct line to the same, and downward by the middle of said branch of the said river Gila, until it empties into the Rio Colorado and by the middle of the Gulf of California to the Pacific Ocean.

Art. 5: In consideration of the extension of the limits of the United States, as they are defined by the preceding article, and by the stipulations which are further contained in article 8, the United States abandon forever against the United Mexican States all reclamation on account of the costs of this war; and, besides, agree to pay to the United Mexican States, in the city of Mexico, the sum-

Art. 6: In full consideration of the stipulations contained in article 4 and 8 of this treaty, the U. States agree to assume and pay all sums at present due to claimants, and those which may be hereafter established, according to the convention concluded between the two republics in the city of Mexico, on the 30th January, 1843, to provide for the payment of what shall be decided, to an amount not exceeding three million dollars, which have arisen prior to the 13th of May, 1846, and which shall be adjudged to be due by a commission established by the government of the United States, whose decisions shall be definitive and conclusive; provided always, that in deciding on the validity of the said demands, the commissioners or claimants shall be guided and governed by the principles and rules prescribed by the first and firth articles of the ungratified convention, concluded in the city of Mexico on the 20th of November, 1843, and in no case shall they give judgment in favor of any claim not embraced by those principles and rules. And the United States for the present and the future exonerate the Mexican States from any of the said demands whatsoever, which may be admitted or rejected by said board of commissioners.

Art. 7: If, in the opinion of the said board of commissioners, or of the claimants, it shall be considered necessary for the decision of any of the said claims that any books, registers, or documents which may be in the possession or power of the United Mexican States should be examined, the commissioners or claimants shall make, within a period to be fixed by congress, a petition to that effect to the Mexican secretary of foreign affairs, which shall be forwarded to him by the secretary of state of the United States; and the Mexican government agrees to remit, with as little delay as possible after the receipt of said petition, whatever of the said books, registers, or documents may be in its possession or power, which any have been asked for from said secretary of state, who shall immediately lay them before said board of commissioners: Provided, always, That when said petition shall be made by any of the claimants, the facts which they expect to prove by such books, registers, or documents shall have been stated under oath or affirmation.

Art. 8: The government of the United Mexican States hereby forever concedes and guaranties to the government and citizens of the United States the right to transport across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, from sea to sea, by whatever means of communication may at the time exist, whether by land or by water, free from all tolls or charge, all articles whatsoever the natural produces of the United States, or the products of its manufactures, or the products and manufactures of any country wherever belonging to the government or citizens of the United States, as well as the free right of passage to all citizens of the United States. The government of the United Mexican States equally concedes and guaranties to the government and citizens of the United States the same right of passage for their merchandise and the articles aforesaid, as it grant to its own citizens, by any railroad or canal which may hereafter be constructed across said Isthmus, whether by the government of the
United Mexican States, or by its authorization, paying only such tolls as may be established; and no other or more onerous tolls shall be imposed or collected upon the articles or merchandise mentioned belonging to the government and citizens of the United States, or on the persons of said citizens, for passage over said railroad or canal, than shall be charged or collected for the same articles and merchandise belonging to the government or citizens of Mexico, or whatsoever foreign country, or the persons of its citizens. None of the said articles, be they what they may, which may pass over said isthmus from sea to sea, in either direction, where by the present communications or by any railroad or canal which may hereafter be made, with the object of being transported to any port of the United States, or of any foreign country, shall be subject to the payment of any duty whatever, whether of importation or exportation. The two governments by this article promise, wit has little delay as possible, mutually to agree upon and establish such regulations as may be deemed necessary to avoid fraud and smuggling in consequence of the right of way hereby granted and perpetually guarantied to the government and citizens of the United States.

Art 9: All the effects, commodities, or merchandise which have been introduced during the war, by whatsoever port or place of either party, by the citizens of either party, or by the citizens or subjects of any neutral power, while the same has been in the military occupation of the other, shall be permitted to remain free from confiscation or any charge or duty which there may be on the sale or exchange of them, or on the exportation of the said property from the country; and the properties are hereby permitted to see or dispose of said property in the same manner in every respect as if they importation of the same had been made in time of peace, and had paid the duties according to the laws of each country respectively.

Art. 10: The treaty of friendship, commerce, and navigation, concluded in the city of Mexico, on the 4th of April, in the year of our Lord 1831, between the United States of America and the United Mexican States, and each of its articles, with the exception of the additional articles, are hereby renewed for the term of eight years, from the day of exchange of the ratifications of this treaty, with the same effect and virtue as if the formed part thereof; being understood that each of the contracting parties reserves to itself the right, at any time after the mid term of eight years, to terminate the same, giving one year’s prevision notice to the other party.

Art.11: This treaty shall be approved and ratified by the President of the United States of America, with the approbation and consent of the senate, and by the President of the Mexican States, with the previous approbation of the general congress; and the ratification shall be exchanged in the city of Washington within the period of-months from the date of the signing of the same, or sooner if practicable.

STATEMENT OF THE MEXICAN PRESIDENT.

Statement of the most excellent president in a ministerial council

"AUGUST 25, 1847. The armistice which the general of the enemy asked being agreed to, and it being necessary to appoint upon the part of the Mexican government commissioners of the United States might wish to make in the name of his government, Don Joe Baquin de Herrara, deputy general; D. Antonio Honjardin, magistrate of the supreme court, and D. Antonio Garay, were appointed; sending them at the same time the notification of their appointment, in which they were notified to meet to-morrow at 11 o’clock at the ministry of relations, to proceed with the minister to the residence of the president, in order to receive their instructions agreed to in ministerial council.

“The minister of relations will form a memorandum, which the commissioners will take with them, and which the president will place in their hands. They shall be restricted to their true mission; which, for the present, is no other than to hear the oppositions of peace which the government of the United States pretend to make to the Mexican government, immediately making known to it (the Mexican government) the contents of the propositions, that they may be duly examined, and that the president and his ministers may set upon them. The governments will reserve to itself to give the commissioners sufficient instructions to enter upon the preliminaries of the negotiation, consulting the minister of relations as far as may be necessary to the discharge of their commission, and certainly not agreeing to anything without the previous approbation of the government.”

INSTRUCTIONS OF THE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL TO THE MEXICAN COMMISSIONERS.

Conditions (or points) on which the commissioner of the United States ought to be negotiated with, and which should serve as a basis to those of Mexico, proposed to
Provided, That the place of conference ought to be intermediate between the two armies.

Provided, equally, That, before entering up negotiations, the American commissioner should acknowledge the right of deliberation on the part of Mexico—that is, whether the intention of the United States has been to aggrandize is territory—why they not remain contented with that which they already occupy? If that which he has come to seek in the capital is our consent and sanction to their demands, they ought to desist from what cannot be conceded. In any other event, they can proceed as they have begun, and the war will continue.

1. The independence of Texas shall be acknowledged upon consideration of an indemnification.

2. It is understood by Texas that territory known by this name after the treaties of 1819, and when it formed part of the states of Coahuila and Texas; and by no means the territory comprehended between the Nueces and Bravo rivers, which the congress of the pretended Texas declared belong to it.

3. The evacuation of all the Mexican republic of which they are in occupation, and the raising the blockade, leaving free our ports, shall be a condition of treating upon any other position of territory.

4. Upper California can be a subject of negotiation.

5. In no event shall the parallel of 26° be made the boundary, which would cause the republic to lose all New Mexico, almost all of Durango, all of Sonora, part of Sinaloa, and almost all of Upper California; the concession of a part, should it be San Francisco, shall be yielded as a factory, never as a boundary.

6. A settled indemnification for the apart of San Francisco, and a way of communication to Oregon.

7. The same for the injurious prejudices, and extraordinary expenses of this war, made in the territory of the republic, as it is that for which they come to negotiate, and which has brought them to the capital.

8. The same for that which the families of Matamoros, Monterey, Vera Cruz, and other cities, towns, and villages of the republic have suffered in consequence of the war.

9. The same for the depredations committed by their troops

10. The same for those committed by their bands of foragers, whose licentious conduct has violated the laws of nations.

11. There shall be presented for payment as well the cost of liquidation as that of the reclamations which have been made.

12. The United States shall recognize the legitimacy of the titles of owners of lands in Texas, under grants given anterior to its declaration of independence, as well by the general government as by that of the state, and shall leave to them their free use and profit.

13. The United States shall engage not to permit slavery in any part of the territory acquired from Mexico.

14. The negotiations shall be upon the basis of reciprocity, and due regard shall be paid to the respective conditions of the people of the two nations.

15. Less than a year for carrying into effect the definitive treaty cannot be agreed to.

16. The guaranty of its observance must by agreement be sought in a European power or in a continental congress.
17. The basis of this will be the republican system upon the whole continent, excepting Brazil and French Guinea.

18. The treaty which may be formed shall not prejudice in any manner the principle of "the most favored nations," which the republic has conceded to the most of the nations with which it has treated.

19. The restoration of the foreign prisoners shall be demanded, and none for the American army shall enter the city.

20. The return of the ships and trophies.

21. And, as a general basis, to treat of peace as if we have triumphed, and as if the war could be prosecuted with advantages.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA,
J. R. PACHECO,
V. ROMERO,
ALCORTA.
HONDERO.

Mexico, August 24, 1847.

MR. TRIST’S project of a treaty having been submitted to the council of ministers, they issue on the 29th of August another set of instructions to the commissioners, which are in general a repetition of those already given, except the two following articles:

"7. In relation to the privileges solicited by the government of the United States to navigate the river of Tehuantepec, or to traffic by whatever road or way that may be established between the two seas, the Mexican government refused absolutely all concession in this particular, and in the last resort can offer, at most, that the Mexican government will take into consideration the friendly relations which may be maintained by the United States with the Mexican government; and, with reference to the confidence which its conduct may inspire, it ought not to doubt of the reciprocity of the Mexicans on the same terms as other nations.

"8. The Mexican government can in no manner consent to except from the payment of duties all the effects introduced into its ports proceeding from the United States or any other nation since the occupation of the said ports by the said United States; and it shall be a necessary condition to their transportation into the interior that the duties be paid according to the actual tariffs of the nation. In case the United States are compromised with the importers, the United States shall pay all the duties of importation according to the tariff, and the merchants those of internal transport, consumption, &c.”

These additional instructions, on being transmitted to the commissioners, with instructions that in no case were they to treat contrary to their express tenor, they returned the following answer:

To the Minister of Foreign Affairs

Excellent sir: Having examined the bases and instructions transmitted to us by your excellency on the morning of to-day, for the purpose of prosecuting the negotiation which has been opened with the minister of the United States, we deem it our duty to manifest to the supreme government, with the frankness of honest men, that upon those bases and instructions it is impossible to take upon ourselves the negotiation, and we shall find ourselves without the capacity to discharge the duty as we ought.

We beg, the, that the supreme government will hold as not accepted on our part the powers with which its favor wold honor us. God and liberty!

Mexico, August 31, 1847.

JOSE J. HERRERA,
BERNARDO COUTO,
IGNACIO DE MORA Y VILLAMIL,
NRR 73.092 October 9, 1847, Gen. Gabriel Valencia’s proclamation as governor of the city of Mexico

GABRIEL VALENCIA’S PROCLAMATION TO THE CITIZENS OF MEXICO.

We publish, on the side of our paper printed in Spanish, the whole proclamation of Valencia; but it is of so little interest to he public that it indeed does not deserve translation.  IF anyone has read Santa Anna’s proclamation, he already knows the contents of Valencia’s.  It amounts to he same thing, except that, instead of taking any blame to himself, he accuses Santa Anna.  He says that on the first day he was victorious, but was left destitute of all that was necessary to continue his course; that he disobeyed cause Santa Anna had ordered him to leave a position which protected the city; and that, if the latter had join him, victory was certain fore the Mexicans; that Santa Anna was only four miles from him, but that he remained still; that, if he had left the position which he had taken, the only alternative left to the Mexican army would have been to retreat on the capital.

On the morning of the 19th, Valencia says that he left San Angle, and march to Padierna, where he too, a strong position, and waited for the American forces, who arrived in front of him at 12 o’clock that he immediately sent on of his adjutants to General Santa Anna to advice him of it; at one o’clock the Americans advanced in front of his ambuscades, and the action commenced.  He then sent an express to General Francisco Peres, who was at a short distance from his position with 4,000 men, and who had been instructed to come and his assistance when needed, but he was answered by G. P. that he could not act with Santa Anna’s order.  The action was now vigorous in front, (continues he,) and we succeeded in repulsing the enemy from an entrenchment which was in their power, immediately in front of our works.

The action was now well engaged, and the enemy commenced moving towards our rear, taking at the same time Tiplan, the ranche of Anzaldo, and the small town of San Geronimo.  I immediately directed a battery of six pieces of artillery in that direction; the 1st battalion was also directed to harass them in flank.  I again sent another adjutant (Don Leandro Mosso) to Santa Anna; but he, like the adjutants I had before despatched, (Rodriguez Miranda and Arrietta,) could not return, because the enemy had taken the town of San Geronimo and the ranche of Anzaldo.

Valencia then says that he ordered General Torrejon to charge the Americans, with three regiments of cavalry and four pieces of artillery, but so desperate was the fire of the American infantry that the Mexican were obliged to retreat, leaving Gen. Frontera dead on the field.  That at four o’clock, Santa Anna was 6,000 men made his appearance in the rear of the Americans.  That thinking this general would attack the enemy in the rear, he ordered General Torrejon to attack them in front with one piece of artillery and 400 cavalry, accompanied by Colonel Gerro with one battalion; but it seems that this extraordinary movements was not crowned with the success which Valencia expected it would be, and this he again says was Santa Anna’s fault, because if he had attack the Americans, the Mexican arms would certainly have been triumphant, and the extermination of the 8,000 men who attacked him necessarily followed.

He further adds that, instead of doing what patriotism and honor ought to have dictated to his heart, Santa Anna remained a cold spectator to the destruction of his valiant army of the north.  Night then came on, and Santa Anna retired from the mountain where he had taken a position, and sent adjutant Ramico to him (Valencia) to advise him of Santa Anna’s wish to hold a conference with him.  But his answer was that no conference could be held until Santa Anna had attacked the Americans, as he ought to do, in the rear.  At 9 o’clock the same night another adjutant from Santa Anna arrived, bringing an order from him (Santa Anna) to retreat during the night, and abandon the artillery, (said he) the Mexican army would be certainly defeated the next day if the order was not obeyed.  During that night Valencia continued receiving information that reinforcements were coming to the aid of the Americans, by roads almost impracticable; and he says that Santa Anna remained instead of retiring to San Angel, he would certainly have cut the enemy to pieces; that after consulting with other generals, he (Valencia) came to the conclusion to remain where he was, as, even if defeated, it would be more honorable to him than to retreat; and, in the first case, the responsibility and ignominy would fall upon the
On the morning of the 20th of August, which, according to Valencia, ought to have been one of the most glorious to the Mexican arms, the American columns were seen moving in several directions, so as to attack him on all sides. He sent General Mendoza, with a strong force, to stop their progress; but he was repulsed, and then rejoined the main body. The whole line was then attacked, and so much loss sustained that he was obliged to order a retreat; but to effect this it was necessary to pass through San Geronimo and Anzaldo, which he did, but with immense loss. He the remained at a distance with Generals Salas, Torrejon, Blanco, and Jauregui, to protect the fugitives. The latter general was wounded in the head. He then retired to join the majority of his forces, who had now joined those of Santa Anna; and, while passing near these forces, he states that he can have the satisfaction of saying that two regiments received him with loud cheers; but, wishing to avoid a disagreeable interview with Santa Anna, he went to Cuatimalpa, where he found this battalion of Guanajuato and that of San Luis, under the command of Gen. Romero. He says it was his wish that these two battalions would go to the city of Mexico; but only one (that of Guanajuato) marched to that place, as the other refused to be commanded by Santa Anna.

He then concludes by stating that what he has said can be proved by the testimony of the adjutants whom he sent to Santa Anna, and that or more than twenty thousand friends and enemies. [JCS]

NRR 73.092 October 9, 1847, protest of Mexicans against any treaty made under the guns of invaders, proclamation of the governors of the states of Mexico and Puebla same effect

Protest from the representatives of the States of Mexico, Jalisco, and Zacatecas to this excellency the president ad interim of the republic.

Most excellent Sir: The deputies who assembled on the 10th of this month had agreed to suspend their meeting in the capital. Under these circumstances, the undersigned have to day learned that the minister of foreign affairs yesterday summoned the deputies for the purpose of discussing an arrangement with the invading army, and that there was a meeting, but not enough to constitute a quorum.

The undersigned deem it their duty to declare that existing circumstances in the city of Mexico would not allow the legislative body the necessary freedom in its discussions and deliberations if it should assemble in that city; and that it would not comport with the dignity of their republic that its representatives should deliberate there on this matter. This opinion existing under less pressing circumstances, it passed a decree for removing its sessions to Queretaro—a decree which was not fulfilled in its other provisions owing to unlawful proceedings, which are not a secret, and which resulted in a determination not to repair that city.

But as it is absolutely beyond doubt that any arrangement which may be made with regard to external relations, without the ratification of congress, will, besides being indecent under existing circumstance, be entirely null, as being unconstitutional, and will bring him by whom it may be made without the case of treason declared by article 5th of the law of April; the undersigned are willing to repair to the city of Queretaro as soon as your excellency shall issue the necessary summons to them for that place.

The undersigned protest before the whole nation, and particularly before the states of Mexico, Jalisco, and Zacatecas, their constituents, that resolution on their part, which, as the proceedings of congress referred to show, is concurred in by a majority of their fellow deputies, does not now exist in the federal city, and of saving the republic from the ignominy which would inevitably attach to a treaty concluded and ratified under the guns of the enemy, and on the day succeeding unlooked for reverses.

All which we have the honor to communicate to your excellency, availing ourselves to the occasion to offer the assurances of our respect and consideration.

God, Liberty, and Federation. [JCS]
NRR 73.096 October 9, 1847, drain of specie to pay for the Army in Mexico

SPECIE. -The amount imported into Boston during the month of Sept. 1847, was $322,712: exported $11,585.

The amount brought by the Hibernia, so far ascertained, does not exceed $12,000.

A letter from N. Orleans published in the Nat. Int. says: "The steamer New Orleans took out to Vera Cruz $400,000 in gold for the arm; $200,000 more went last week; and now that the flow of specie has ceased from Europe this contents drain of specie for the army will be seriously felt. The above, with previous shipments make $1,800,000 that the public prints have announced as having been sent from this port since 1st of last month, exclusive of a large amount of bills drawn on Mexico by the quartermaster here." [JCS]

NRR 73.098, Col. 2 October 16, 1847 Ship Empire Sails From New York City for Charleston and Vera Cruz with Recruits

Movement of troops.-The ship empire sailed from N. York on the 12th with about 400 recruits for the 3d Reg. Of infantry, and was to call at Charleston for some 500 men, and will proceed to Vera Cruz from thence. [DCK]

NRR 73.099, Col. 1 October 16, 1847 Letter About Thomas Corwin's Views on the Acquisition of Territory and the Extension of Slavery

Letter From Senator Corwin.

Presentation corrected-New territory-Wilmot proviso.
Lebanon, 23d September, 1847.

To the editor of the Cincinnati Atlas-

Dear Sir: The various and contradictory versions published by the papers of Cincinnati, of my remarks at touching the Wilmot proviso and another related topics, oblige me to state distinctly what I think on those subjects on the occasion referred to. I am represented, by some, as having opposed the proposition of the Wilmot proviso to any territory that may be ceded to the United States by Mexico. This not true. I state more than once, that I am opposed to any further extension of our territory limits at this time; but if territory should be added, either by conquest or treaty, then slavery should be forever prohibited in such territory-or, in other words, the Wilmot proviso should be extended to it. I gave my reasons for this at length, I think cannot fail to be remembered by every one who chose to give the slightest attention to what I then said.

I did urge the propriety of rejecting all territory at this time; as this was, in my judgement, a ground on which the various sections of the Union would be more likely to unite, than on the Wilmot proviso. I did pronounce the Wilmot proviso a dangerous question, and as emphatically as I was able, I did also declare the farther acquisition of territory at this time dangerous to the peace of the Union. The reasons for these positions were given at the time. In the event of a cession of territory by Mexico to the United States, the question of the farther extension of slavery must arise in a form which would necessarily array the north and south against each other. All question having this tendency I consider, in a certain sense, dangerous, since they weaken the bonds of union which bind together the several
parts of the republic, and, if pushed to extremes, will lead to dissolution. It was in
this view, only, that I pronounced the Wilmot proviso a dangerous question. On the
contrary, I stated, again and again, that if, contrary to my judgement of true policy,
territory should be forced upon us, that then the Wilmot proviso must be applied to
it.

I did prefer the ground of "no territory," because, among other reasons for that
preference, I thought on that ground we might succeed, and if we relied on the
Wilmot proviso alone, in the senate at least, as now constituted we must fail. I think
I referred to the vote on Mr. Uphmu's motion in the senate, at the last session, to
introduce the Wilmot proviso into the "three million" bill. The vote stood-for the
proviso, 21; against it, 31. I voted for the proviso then. I shall vote for it again
whenever it can be made applicable to territory hereafter acquired, whether it come
by compact or the sword. These, I understand to be the doctrines of the people of
Ohio of all parties: the same in substance embodied in resolutions of instruction
which passed both branches of the Ohio legislature with unexampled unanimity at its
last session.

I should not now trouble you with this communication, had the papers of your city
given an undue importance to the subject by connecting my remarks with the whig
party in Ohio, and drawing inferences, from what I said, equally unjust to them and
myself.

Your obedient servant,

Thos. Corwin
[DC]
an Puente del Rosario, when the fire of the enemy cause him to hait and wait the arrival of more troops. After pursuing the enemy for some distance, the main body of the regiment was halted and then advanced along the main causeway towards the fort at Puente del Rosario. When about to advance into the cornfield in front to storm the work, the command of the regiment devolved on Brevet Lt. Col. M. Scott in consequence of my being ordered to assume command of the brigade—the wound you there received having temporarily disabled you from command. My thanks are due to Brevet Lieut. Col. M. Scott, second in command for his valuable assistance, cheerfully tendered me on all occasions. His gallantry is too well known to need commendation from me. My staff, Lieut. and Adjt. P. Eugenbeel and Lt. S.H. Fowler, acting regimental quartermaster, will accept my thanks for their gallantry, activity, and good conduct. Assist. Surg. Wm. Roberts accompanied the regiment during the march. His talents and zeal were not only confined to his profession, but were displayed in a more military capacity in aiding, assisting, and urging on the men to the contest.

Capt. M.E. Merrill and D. Ruggles with their companies, were with the advance and the first to be came engaged with the enemy. I noticed with great pleasure the activity displayed by Capt. Merrill at all times. Capt. Wm. Chapman was slightly wounded early in the action, while gallantly doing his duty, which deprived me of his services for a short time. Captain McPhail, Lieut. Rossell, Rosencrants, and Hamilton, commanding companies, displayed coolness, courage, and activity worthy of their profession. Lieuts. Dent. Strong, and J.P. Smith manifested equal zeal, promptness and bravery.

I cannot speak too highly o the gallantry and activity of Capt. James L. Mason, of the corps of engineers, who conducted the regiment into action, and by his skill and knowledge of the country materially lessened our loss. My attention has been called by their company commanders to their gallantry displayed by Sergt. John Gollinger, of "A"; Sergts. Dudley Johnson, and Augustus Whitman, Corporal George Wootten, and privates Walter Slingeland, Daniel Mahony, Michael McGarvey, and James Boyle of "B"; private Isaac Jacobsen, of "C"; Sergt. James O'Brian, Corporal Francis Smith, privates Thos. Hardy, Jas. Cox, and Walter Crawford, of "E"; and Corporal Geo. Morley and privates Walter McCormick and George Scott, of "I." Companies 4th infantry. The regiment went into action with 14 officers and 337 non-commissioned officers and privates.

Our total loss during the day was Capt. Wm. Chapman and first Lieut. and Adjut. P. Lugeneel sightly wounded, six privates killed, forty one non-commissioned officers and privates wounded, and two privates missing. Respectfully submitted,

J.S. McIntosh,
Bvt. Col. U.S.A

Col. N.S. Clarke, commanding 2d brig. 1st civ. U.S.A. [ MDT]

NNR 73.102 16 OCT 1847 Lt. Col. Martin Scott's official report

Lieut. Col. Scott’s Official Report

Tacubaya, (Mexico), August 22, 1847.

Sir: On the afternoon of the 20th of August, while in pursuit of the retreating enemy, in the village of Sotopingo, Brevet Col. McIntosh, being ordered to take command of the 2nd brigade, 1st division, in consequence of Colonel N.S. Clark, commanding of the 5th infantry devolved on myself.

In obedience to orders received from Major General Worth, I immediately ordered the regiment into the cornfields on the right of the road and directly in front of the fort at Puente del Rosario, passed rapidly towards the works of the enemy, and with a portion of the regiment was among the first to storm them, and drive the enemy’s troops towards the city. Brevet Major George Wright, with a small portion of the 8th infantry, gained the works before me.

In consequence of the thickness of the corn and difficulty of crossing the intervening ditches, Capt. Merrill and Lieuts. Rosencrants and Hamilton, in command of companies K, F, and I, were separated from the regiment and passes more towards the right, where they also became warmly engaged.
It affords me great satisfaction to speak of the gallantry and coolness of Lieut. N.B. Rossell, commanding company E, who was brought under my immediate observation during the whole of this affair, and who was among the first at the fort. Captain D. H. McPhail, in command of company B, came also under my immediate notice, and assisted in bringing one of the captured guns to bear on the enemy. Lieut. (and Adjt.) P Lugenbeel passed with me far into the cornfields in front of the fort, and it gives me great pleasure to testify to his zeal, gallantry, and good conduct during the whole affair. In conveying orders to the regiment from me he received a slight wound in the shoulder. In the hottest of the fire I met Capt. Martin Burk, of 3rd and Lieut. Shakelford, of the 2nd artillery, gallantly doing their duty.

I would recommend to your notice the gallant and soldier like conduct of Sergeant Samuell Archer, of H company, 5th infantry, who, I am told, was the first man to enter the enemy's works. Respectfully submitted:

MARTIN SCOTT
Brevet Lieut. Col. U.S.A.

Brevet Col. J.S. McIntosh, U.S.A.,
Commanding 5th regiment infantry.

NNR 73.102 16 OCT 1847 Gen. Jose Mariano de Salas' official report about the fighting at Contreras

Official Report of the Mexican General Salas

Department of War and Navy—Section of Operations.

Army of the North.—Second General-in-chief.

Most excellent sir: On the 19th inst., about 12 or 1 o'clock, p.m., the enemy appeared as if with the intention of attacking the position occupied by this army on the heights of Contreras. In the moment we began a very steady fire of artillery and musketry, successfully, as the enemy presented himself in the various points sustained by our troops, and we succeeded in stopping him in several places, until night put an end to the fighting; in which all the classes of this army gave proofs of their gallantry and the decision with which they sacrificed their lives in the defense of our nationality; but on the morning of the 20th—thanks to the bad position we occupied, and the carelessness paid the movements of the enemy to surround us—we were routed in all directions by more than 6,000 men— the 3000 infantry, being placed in one point, which was surrounded—When we observed the dispersion of our forces, I tried all I could to stop it, and, crying “Victory for Mexico,” at he same time that the bugle sounded for slaughter, I succeeded in stopping it for a moment, and ordered General Don Anastasio Torrejon to charge with his command; but this chief, instead of obeying my order, trampled on the infantry, and contributed to the complete rout of it.

It would appear ridiculous to make any recommendation of those who have been present in an unfortunate battle; however, I cannot help mentioning to your excellency that I am perfectly satisfied of the gallantry and tenacity with which the chiefs and officers of the several corps tried, even in the midst of disorder, to reunite their forces to resist the enemy, who was hotly pursuing us. This conduct, observed by them, preferring to be made prisoners before abandoning their soldiers, will always do them honor; and for this, I think they are entitled to the consideration of the supreme government, and the gratitude of their fellow citizens.

His excellency the commander-in-chief, Don Gabriel Valencia disappeared from amongst us at he commencement of the action of the 20th; and I, not knowing his whereabouts have thought it my duty to address your excellency, accompanying a list of the chiefs and officers who are prisoners in this city; another of those who were wounded in San Angel, and of those known to have been killed; another list of those made prisoners in the action of Churubusco;—all of which I have the honor of manifesting to your excellency for your intelligence, praying that, on communicating the above to is excellency the president, you will please manifest to him the total indigence in which the prisoners find themselves, as having given orders that they be maintained by the inhabitants of this city, which is destroyed, they must perish in misery, if their government does not supply them with what they are entitled to, and which their actual situation and the well-deserving conduct that has distinguished
them, energetically claim.

I reiterated to your Excellency my respects and particular esteem. God and liberty.

Jose Mariano Salas.

Tlalpam, August 23, 1847.
To his Excellency the Minister of War.

It is a copy.-Mexico. 24th August, 1847.
MAN'L. MARIA DE SANDOVAL [MDT]

NNR 73.103 16 OCT 1847 Maj. Folliot Thornton Lally’s official report from Jalapa, the line of communication, Mexicans take Puebla, Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna’s address on resuming hostilities, tone of the Mexican press

Maj. Lally’s Train

A letter from Maj. Lally, rated Jalapa, ......, says that all is quiet there. The wound that he received in the neck came near killing him, but he was then doing well.

We see no very late accounts from this detachment. They at the last dates were at Jalapa, preparing to march for Perota. The Washington Union publishes an official report of Maj. L. as follows:

Headquarters, Jalapa, Aug. 26, 1847.

To Gov. Wilson, Vera Cruz:

My command reached this place on the morning of the 20th isnt. We have fought our way triumphantly every inch of the route, but have had severe contests--nay battles--with the guerrillas: on the 10th at Paso Overjas, (as before reported) on the 12th August at the National Bridge, on the 15th of August at Cerro Gordo, and on the 19th at Las Animas, only a mile and a half from this city. Not a wagon has fallen into the hands of the enemy.

We have been opposed by atleast 1200 or 1500 guerrillas on these occasions--perhaps less at the last, for they were badly whipped at Cerro Gordo, where their loss was so large that they could not reorganize. Father Jarauta commanded them. Our loss is great. During the entire march--7 officers wounded;12 of rank and file killed; 5 mortally wounded; 66 wounded. Of this number, 4 killed and 4 wounded were at places elsewhere than the four actions named above.

I regret to say, that at the National Bridge Mr. Geo. D Twiggs (expecting a commission and to be A.D.C. of G.T.) was killed while gallantly serving in my staff; Capt. J.H. Calwell, of voltigeurs, and Capt. A.C. Cummings, 11th infantry were wounded on the 10th, (as before reported,) but are doing well now. --At National Bridge, Lieut. James A. Winner, of voltigeurs, and Lieut. George A Adams of marine corps, were dangerously wounded, also on the same day, Capt. W.J. Clark, 12th infantry, in the thigh; 2nd Lieut. Charles M. Crearor, 12th infantry, not severely, in the leg.

At Las Animas, on the 19th, Major F.T. Lilly, 9th infantry, commanding officer, was wounded in the neck, not severely; but has, for a few days, been disabled from command. A large number of sick have accumulated, besides our wounded, and we shall be compelled to remain here many days to recruit. I cannot too much praise the gallantry of the officers--the men, raw and uninstructed, have gradually acquired confidence. Col. Wynkoop arrived from Perote on the 24th, having heard we were in danger at Cerro Gordo.

We waited three days for your reinforcement. And hearing of it at Plan del Rio sent back a body of dragoons to the National Bridge, who, finding it in possession of the enemy, we concluded that it was repulsed. I am pained at the rumor we heard of the loss of some of its wagons. Dr. Cooper and 13 wagons reached us.
I cannot too earnestly recommend that you assume the authority to order the re-
occupation of this city. Even if Gen. Scott was not before the city of Mexico, and
beyond the reach of reinforcements, you perceive that trains are constantly
endangered by guerrillas, and I am satisfied that this city has been their
headquarters, and that their chief supplies have been forwarded from here. Their
spirits have been raised by the absence of the troops. I am certain that Gen. Scott,
on the spot, would order its re-occupation. Col. Wynkoop concurs in its importance.
Very truly yours,

F.T. Lilly

Major 9th Infantry, commanding. [MDT]

Opening The Line of Communication Between Vera Cruz and Gen’l Scott.-We
learn that the views of Major Lilly, respecting the re-occupation of Jalapa, have been
long since anticipated by the war department. And that, as early as August 12,
instructions were dispatched by the adjutant general to Col. Wilson, commanding at
Vera Cruz, to organize and send forward, with all expedition, a competent force for
the re-occupation of that city. The instructions also suggested the holding of the
National Bridge and Cerro Gordo. The measures thus taken by the war department
to open the communication from this end of the line, will, we have no doubt, prove
successful. (As has been already stated, a letter has been received from Lieut. Col.
Hughes, stating that he has occupied the National Bridge)

It was reported that the yellow fever had made its appearance in General Lane’s
command; that there was some scarcity of provisions, and that the guerrillas had
fortified Cerro Gordo.

Colonel Wilson reports that a sufficient force left Vera Cruz, September 6, to
take possession of San Juan and the National Bridge, and that other forces would
soon follow to open the remainder of the line to Jalapa. The taking and holding these
points are the first points necessary to keep open the communication with our army
in Mexico Union [MDT]

Of Puebla, we have two or three reports. La Patria has it that “General Rea has
got full possession of Puebla, but that the Americans were pouring a deadly fire upon
his troops from the surrounding heights containing the town.”

Address of Santa Anna on Resuming Hostilities After the Armistice
Terminated:

The president provisional of the republic and commander in chief of the army to
the nation

Countrymen-The enemy, availing himself of idle pretexts, has determined to
commence hostilities upon your beautiful city. Presuming us to be dis-heartened and
humiliated by the reverses of fortune, he expected that I should subscribe a treaty
by which the territory of the republic would have been essentially reduced and the
republic covered with shame and ignominy. Mexicans do not deserve a ....so
ignominious, and having been called upon spontaneously to direct their destiness, I
have felt it my duty to respond with loyalty to go signal a mark of confidence,
preserving those precious rights which cannot be alienated, and thus affording an
example of energy and firmness which are the glory of nations.

The enemy had proclaimed that they would propose to us a peace honorable for
both nations, and it became our duty to listen to them, that their treachery might be
made known. Their propositions and the sequel of the negotiations are to be
published, so that the civilized world may see that we were ready to sacrifice all that
our honor would permit us to sacrifice; and that on the other hand our enemies st up
measureless pretensions, which would have destroyed the republic and converted it
into a miserable colony of the United States. TO such audacity we could oppose
nothing but our firmness and our valor.

Mexicans! You will find me, as ever, leading in your defence, striving to free you
from a heavy yoke, and to preserve your altars from infamous violation, and your
daughters and your wives from the extremity of insult. The enemy raises the sword
to wound your noble fronts; do you draw it likewise to chastise the rancorous pride
of the invader.

Mexicans! Forever live the independence of the country.
ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.
The Mexican papers are filled with articles written in the most earnest spirit. The following is a translation of the leader in the *Diario del Gobierno* after the battle of the King’s mill.

Questions for Scott, for Polk, for that part of the people of the United States in favor of the war, for all that nation and for the world.

What is the cause, what the impelling motive that the United States of America have brought pillage, desolation and death upon the Mexican republic?

What offences has this republic committed?

What reasonable or just aim does that government enterlain, to gain which it has adopted measures so barbarous and unworthy of Christian and civilized people?

Does it suppose that by such conduct, worthy of freebooters and savage, it can vindicate right which can only be legally asserted by means of pacific negotiations?

From the conduct pursued by the American Government, what can possibly ensue but a war at once interminable and of extermination, inasmuch as the Mexican republic is determined to disappear from the catalogue of nations, rather than consent to humiliation and disgrace?

From the state of Jalisco, the tone is to the same effect. The official proclamations, which were issued upon the receipt of the news of the battle of Churubusco, or San Angel as the Mexicans term it, breathe war to the knife. They must never lay down their arms so long as a single American pollutes the soil of the country; their remains must be consigned to the same earth in which repose the victims of Palo Alto, Resaca, Monterey, Augustura, Cerro Cordo and San Angel. Providence has reserved for Jalisco the honor of humiliating the American pride. Let us says the governor give the world occasion to say, “Jalisco was the cradle of the liberty of the Mexican republic, and the tomb of the conquerors of the north.” But in case the issue of the struggle should be unpropitious, it only remains for the Jaliscans to find a common grave with their enemies, and an admiring posterity will exclaim “Jalisco lost her independence, but linked her honor with her tomb.”

From Tamaulipas, too, we have addresses of the same character, encouraging the citizens to rally once more to the contest and make another desperate effort.

From no part of the country are we able to find any unwavering on the part of the Mexicans, no indications of a desire to treat upon the terms which have been offered.

A supplementary number of the *Diario del Gobierno* of the 10th alt., has an address of the Mexican people without any signature, but evidently partaking of an official character. It will be read of course as a Mexican production.

*Mexicans!* Among the European volunteers whom the American army has hired to kill us, there are many unfortunate men who are convinced of the injustice of this war, who profess the same Roman Catholic religion which we profess, but who being harassed by the misery which prevails in Europe from the want of employment and the failure of crops, have consented to enlist. Some of these men, abjuring their errors and following the noble impulses of their hearts, have passed over to our army to defend our just causes. From these, his excellency the president formed the foreign legion, known under the name of the company of St. Patrick. At La Angostura and at Churubusco they bore themselves with the highest intrepidity, and after the enemy had gained possession of this last point, which was only after its defenders had exhausted their last cartridges, they were made prisoners.

The generals of the American army, who cannot count upon their soldiers in a war so iniquitous save though the influence of acts of ferocity, were determined to shoot these Irishmen. Scarcely was this known of the city, before every breast was filled with horror at the thought. His excellency, the minister of relations, in a touching letter to the English consul, the estimable lady of her Britanic majesty’s minister, various private individuals, both Mexicans and foreigners, we ourselves, and even the ladies of families residing at Tacubaya, interceded for these brave men; and we expected that if they could not be pardoned, they would at least be spared capital punishment.
It would have been deemed base and repugnant in the laws of [. . . ] modern wars, offer the bloody spectacle of the execution of these men, which to defense of Churubusco; but they had no share whatever in the slaughter which was made the day before yesterday upon the heights of the King's mill. Well, then, will you believe it, my countrymen? This day, in cold blood, these Caribs, from an impulse of superstition, and after the manner of savages and as practiced in the days of Homer, have hung up these men as a holocaust- they have themselves said it- to the manes of the general or generals who there fell! And in what manner did they hand them?-Noosing them by the neck as they stood upon the ground, and so suspending them that they died " by inches," strangled by their own weight, the mode adopted being such that their horrible agony lasted more than one hour. A spectacle worthy of such men, or rather of demony escaped from hell! This they did with eighteen of these unhappy men, and among them the brave Captain Reilli, whose head they stuck upon a pike and planted at Churubusco. To six others, who proved that they had not volunteered but been impressed, they gave two hundred lashes each, and compelled them to dig the graves of their companion.

Mexicans: These are the same men who call us barbarians and say they come to civilize us: these are the men who have plundered the houses of the surrounding villages, who have stolen children from their families, who have slept in the niches devoted to the sacred dead, who have, with blasphemous revelry, clothed themselves in the ornaments of the altars, who have thrown upon the ground the body of Jesus Christ and have made themselves drunk in drinking out of the sacred vessels. Accursed may they be of all Christians, as they are of God!

Countrymen! The supreme government commanded its commissioners, as you have seen it already published, that they should inquire of their commissioners first of all, why they had brought war upon our republic with blood and fire? What injuries we have done to them that they should thus seek to revenge themselves? Their mode of concealing their confusion at not being able to reply to these inquiries and of satisfying their displeasure because we would not consent to an ignominious peace, has been to light up anew the flames of war, to send us from the King's mill day before yesterday our assassinated countrymen who had in no manner offended them, and to glut their diabolical range upon the defenseless men whom they had in their power.

Mexicans: The supreme government conjures us in the name of the honor of our race, in the name of our dignity as men and of God himself, that we should all unite by one unanimous and continued effort to revenge these great outrages, to yield never to dismay and to wage this war without truce and without relenting. May remorse seize upon every selfish or cowardly Mexican who cannot say to himself that he has fulfilled every duty as a public officer and a good citizen; who has not contributed by every means in his power towards the war-with his person, with the influence of his position, with a part of his fortune, with his labor, by maintaining a number of soldiers, by aiding every way those who fight, and who has not so employed the means which God has given him for his service and that of the country in which God has placed him, that His images shall not be cast down, nor His holy name blasphemed.

Mexico, September 10, 1846.

[MDT]
I suppose, Mr. President, that so far those of us who belong to congress were expected to take any part in the deliberations of this assembly, it was only looked at that we might express our opinions upon the present state of national affairs in the crisis, (I think somewhat of an imminent one,) to which we have arrived. I could have desired, sir, that some of my colleagues, of better health and more ability, had chosen to precede me in submitting remarks to the meeting; but as it is, sir, apparently called upon, I am here, ready to express my opinions, humble as they are, frankly on any subject and every subject that is interesting to the people of this commonwealth. There is nothing I wish to put forward; thank God, there is nothing I shrink from.

We are, in my opinion, in a most unnecessary and therefore most unjustifiable war. I hope we are near the close of it. I attend carefully and anxiously to every rumor and every breeze that brings to us any report that the effusion of blood, caused, in my judgment, by a rash and unjustifiable proceeding on the part of the government, may cease. In this state of public affairs, in this state of excitement of public feeling, which we know, upon this subject of war, pervades all classes and all ranks, I have first to say, sir, that any counseling which this body would receive from me, will not entrench upon the loyalty which we owe to the constitution of the country, and the obedience which we are bound to pay to the laws.

We are bound, sir, to consider the nature of the government under which we live. There must be in every government some supreme power, some ultimate will, from which there is no peaceable appeal. In mixed monarchies, like that of England, the sovereign will resides with the king and the parliament. In despotic governments it responds in the breast of the sovereign, as in Russia, Austria, and elsewhere. But with us, under our free republican and representative government, this public will, which we all agree must in the end prevail, unless from peace we resort to force, consists in the expressed opinion of the majority, ascertained according to the principles of the constitution. Within the limits prescribed by the constitution and pronounced agreeably to its forms, we must submit to this, or we give up all government and surrender ourselves to a state of anarchy. The law of majority, according to our forms, a majority ascertained in agreement with the principles of the constitution, is the law which you and I and all of us are bound to obey.

Sir, I should hardly advert to this, if I did not see afloat in the community, signs somewhat of a dangerous tendency. I agree that all powers may be so abused as to require resistance, whether it be the power of an autocrat, of a king and parliament, or of a majority; for all power in human hands may be so far abused, may make so flagrant a case as to render it necessary in the quorum of conscience to resist its demands. That is not the exercise of our political rights under the constitution of our country, and not in the exercise of our national rights against the constitution. Sir, there is not one of us here who has had the honor of bearing any office, high or low, in the United States government or in the state government, who has not sworn that he will support the constitution of the United States. There is no man ignorant of the fact that the constitution of the United States confers on congress the power of making war, and therefore there is no man so ignorant as not to know that when that power has been exercised according to the forms of the constitution, the will of congress expressed, is the law of the land; and it is binding upon every man’s conscience, in my humble opinion.

While in the course of debate we may oppose the action of congress, and I hope I have not been behind in that respect; but when those councils assume the form of law we may not disregard it. We are not called upon to supply any voluntary aid, succor or support; our duties as good citizens terminate in conformity to the law.

I think, therefore, that the present crisis call once not only for the most serious and energetic, but for the most constitutional and considerate action of all whigs over the whole country. There are those who think that violence is strength. That I hold to be a great mistake. Violent counsels are weak counsels; violent conduct is weak conduct, and violent language is always weak language. Our highest purpose, I may say, our boldest resolves, then, most recommend themselves to the acceptance of the community, when they are announced, certainly with clearness and force, but also with decorum and dignity, with a just respect for others. The great dramatist instructs those who would excel in the power of moving men, not always to be ready to tear a passion to rags and tatters, but in the torrent and whirlwind of their emotions to observe a just temporance- that sobriety of sentiment, that sobriety of language which proves men in earnest. Allow me to say it is not the noisiest water that are generally the deepest; no has it always been found that spirit which is most inclined to vapor when danger and disaster are at a distance, is the firmest in breasting them on their near approach.
With these remarks, sir, upon the tone and temper, which in my opinion, belongs to all constitutional whigs, here and elsewhere. I shall proceed to make a few remarks upon the topics of the day.

I have said, sir, that we are engaged in a war, in my opinion unnecessary, and therefore unjustifiable. I hold it to be a war unconstitutional in its origin-I hold it to be a war founded upon pretexts. Sir, the law of nations, embodying the general sense of mankind, instructs us that the motives of war are good or vicious. Where they are founded in conviction of necessity. In a sole desire to promote the public good and defend the national interest, it is a good motive. Where they are founded in any oblique purpose, or any unjust purpose, when war is waged for conquest, for acquisition, for gain, for renown, for the purpose of gratifying private ambition, or for party purposes the motive is vicious. An sir, they go further, and maintain this distinction, that there may be causes for a war which would justify the war so far as the opposity nation is concerned, and yet not furnish a good motive for a war, because good motives for a war, require always a good cause for a war, require something else. They require that the war should not be waged excepting from necessity, and for its utility to the interests of the country.

Now, sir, the law of nations instructs us that there are wars of pretext. The history of the world proves that there have been, and we are not without proof that there are, wars waged on pretext, that is, on pretenses where the cause assigned is not the true cause. That I believe, it to be a war of pretext, a war in which the true motive is not distinctly avowed, but in which pretenses, afterthoughts, evasions, and other methods are employed to put a case before the community which is not the true case.

I upon think sir there are three pretexts, all unfounded, upon which this war has been justified, in various modes and on various occasions. The president of the united States in his war message of May, 1846, puts the war upon the fact that the Mexican government have invaded the territory of the United States and shed American blood upon American soil. Now in my judgment, this is not the case. The president of the United States as early as January, 1846, to move beyond what Mexico acknowledged to be the boundary of Texas and place itself upon the Rio Grande. Arrived there, blood was shed upon the left bank of the Rio Grande. Was that American soil? That was soil claimed by the United States, but which congress had never recognized. It was territory claimed by Mexico itself, and was, at the time, in the actual possession of Mexico. The most favorable presentment, therefore is this: that we, having a claim to territory of which the other party was in possession, marched an army into it to take possession. Is not that war upon our side? I am of opinion, therefore, that the declaration in the message of the 11th of May 1846, upon which the act of congress, of the 13th, was based, the declaration that war existed “by the act of Mexico,” cannot be made out correctly by any evidence in point of fact. If so it was a pretext.

Then again, although this was the main point upon which the recognition of war was placed by the president, no sooner was the war declared, than other causes were resorted to. One was the refusal of the Mexican government to receive our minister, but where was that ever made a cause of war, and especially of Executive war? Because the government chooses not to have intercourse with us, it is for the president to say that that is just cause for war? It is no just cause of war, and even where it just and proper, it is no sudden emergency authorizing the executive to plunge the government into a war, and especially when congress is in session, ready, at any moment, to receive advices, and to act upon them. I look upon it, therefore, that is this ground is a pretext.

Well then, sir, what was the object of this war? So far as we can now scrutinize the motives of men, so far as we can look into the objects and designs of our rulers, what was the motive, the purpose, the impulses of the heart, which led to the measures that brought on this war? Why sir, I have a very poor opinion of my own sagacity, I do not pretend to see so far into such matters as other men, but to me it
is as plain as a turnpike, as visible as the sun that now shines upon us.

Sir, an eminent person belonging to the party in administration, most eminent certainly of all that do belong to it, so eminent that it strikes one rather oddly that the administration should not belong to him rather than he to it, I mean Mr. Calhoun, one of the most practical politicians and debaters in this country—a gentleman that is not apt to concede away his case, declared, in the last session of congress that if there had been annexation of Texas, there would have been no war; and he went further and said that the immediate cause of war was the order for the march of our officers from Corpus Cristi to the Rio Grande.

But how did the war grow out of annexation? This is a case in which we must adopt proper distinctions and follow the light of ascertained facts. Mr. P. I am not now, nor at any time, an apologist for Mexico. I have a very poor opinion of her government in all its states, and at all times. I pity the people of Mexico from my heart, and I should pity them more if they appeared to me to have sense enough to understand the misery of their own position. I believe it to be very worst government in the world pretending to regard the rights of the people. This republic, which, by the way, is no republic at all, but a military anarchy, has been, I am sorry to say, for years and years the prey of every miserable military upstart that could find money enough to sustain a miserable army. I have no sympathy, therefore, with any form of government, or any of the men connected with the government of Mexico, for the last twenty years. And I go further; I say that in my judgment, that after the events of 1836, and the battle of San Jancinto, Mexico had no reason to regard Texas as one of her provinces. She had no power in Texas, but it was entirely at the disposition of those whose who lived in it. They made a government for themselves. This country acknowledged that government; and I think, in fairness, and honesty, we must admit that in 1840, 41, 42 and 43, Texas was an independent state among the states of the union. I do not admit, therefore, that it was any just ground of complaint on the part of Mexico, that the United States annexed Texas to themselves.

But then, sir, the fact was, that Mexico did take offense at the annexation of Texas. Long as Texas had been independent, notorious as was the fact, that the governments of Europe, as well as our own, had admitted the nationality of Texas, Mexico persisted in saying that it was her province, and she would not live on terms of amity with the United States, although she did not go to war. Her minister, Almonte, went home; she would not receive our minister, she remained gloomy and discontented; and that was the condition of things immediately after the annexation of Texas, and at the commencement of Mr. Polk’s administration.

I think that the object of the war was simply this: Mr. Polk became president of the United States in March, 1845. In June, 1845, Santa Anna was banished from Mexico to Cuba, on what is called half pay. HE seems to have been discontented with his situation at Cuba, and I am strongly suspicious that his half pay was never paid. Through 1845, the condition of things between us and Mexico was thus angry and unsatisfactory.

Not to trouble you, sir, with many dates, allow me to approach a period of some interest. It was in January, 1846, that the army of the United States, which, the summer preceding, had been ordered to take a position at Corpus Cristi, was now ordered to advance to the Rio Grande. The reason given by Mr. Buchanan, among other things, was, that it might be at hand, in case Mr. Slidell was rejected by Mexico, to act as congress should authorize. Now, there had been an opinion I believe very far back, from the time of Santa Anna’s release from imprisonment, that he was rather more favorable to the knowledge of Texan independence than other ministers in Mexico. At any rate, after his banishment by Paredes, there cam a sentiment, that he was more favorable to peace with the United states than the government then existing.

The president of the United States, sent his war message to congress on the 11th day of May, 1846, placing the existence of the war upon the fact that Mexico had invaded our territory and shed the blood of our people. On that very day he dispatched orders to Commodore Conner at Vera Cruz that if Mr. Santa Anna came that way, he should let him in. How came it into Mr. Polk’s head that Santa Anna was likely to come that way? At about the same time, the brother of our minister to Mexico, was dispatched to Cuba. It appears from the correspondence that the United States had an agent in Cuba.

It’s notorious that it was a matter of public conversation in Cuba, that Santa Anna was to return to Mexico upon the invitation of the president of the United States. Mark the coincidence of time and purpose. The president said in his communication at he opening of the session of the last congress, that he did not see any prospect of
putting an end to our difficulties while Paredes was in power. What were our
differences? Our chief difficulty was that Mexico would not assent to the annexation
of Texas.

Now sir, I draw the attention of this meeting to a matter well enough known, but
which, it seems to me, has not received the weight, the scrutiny, which it deserves. I
again repeat that the war message of the 11th of May, placed the war upon the
ground of actual invasion by Mexican troops, and the murder of American citizens
upon American ground. Before the 1st of June a proclamation was drawn up, which
on the 6th of June was dispatched to Gen. Taylor, to be by him distributed through
all Mexico, and that purported to set forth to the people of Mexico the causes of the
war.

I have it, and I hope the gentlemen of the press will publish it. What did that
declaration say to them? Anything about invasion of American territory and murder
of American troops? Now a word like it—not one word. The proclamation goes upon
the old matter of the debts, and upon the refusal to receive Mr. Slidell as our
minister, and upon a supposed declaration by Perades, which I cannot find
anywhere, that war did actually exist. But the fact alleged in the war message of
May 11th, and the fact enacted, if a fact can be enacted by legislative power, that
war existed by Mexican invasion, is not alluded to, stated, or intimidated in the
proclamation to the Mexican people. On the contrary, the proclamation, speaking
from the mouth of Gen. Taylor, says, "we come as friends. WE have great causes of
complaint, but we come to relieve you from the tyranny of your own government.
We come to put down that despotism which lords it over you." Well, what was that
tyranny, that despotism? Why, it was Perades, a military chieftain, who had
succeeded Santa Anna, another military chieftain, according to the order of Mexican
succession for the last twenty years. IT is to put down those tyrants, and to put
down those who would establish a monarchy over you.

Where was Santa Anna at this time? Why, he was in Cuba. At some time in June he
left Cuba and made his way to Vera Cruz, and was there admitted by Com. Conner
according to order. Before he reached Mexico he had sent his proclamation to be
distributed there. He had, by a pronunciamento, set forth his purpose, to put down
the tyrants and to prevent the establishment of a monarchy. Either Santa Anna
borrowed from our executive or they from him, or it was the jumping judgment of
two great geniuses, I don't know which; but the sentiments were the same, they
were pronounced at the same time, and when General Taylor was invading Mexico at
the North, Santa Anna's agents were possessed of his plan of pronouncement to the
same effect, with the same ideas, and in the same language. This terminated in July
or August in deposing Parades.

Now then, the president of the United States acknowledges, and he could not deny
it, in his elaborate commentary on these transactions in the message of last year,
that he did wish to overthrow the government of Paredes, and saw no other way of
getting rid of our difficulty with Mexico. I confess, sir, that when I first read that
message, I was struck with equal mortification and astonishment. We, of the United
States, citizens living together under this constitution, an twenty millions of us, while
we have a just cause of war against Mexico, cannot get rid of the difficulty without
attempting to subvert the temporary existing government of that miserable nation!
Aside from the want of dignity, which it appeared to me almost covered the country
with some degree of disgrace, in formatting a revolution in the country of an enemy,
it appears to me to have been extremely weak, ill judged and inexpedient.

Santa Anna got to Mexico. Gen. Taylor distributed his proclamation. The president
admits in the message of last December that he hoped for councils more peaceful to
the United States from the authority of Santa Anna, than from the authority of
Paredes. How far he has been disappointed the events will tell. How far this military
chieftain entered into an agreement, I am not to say; that there was a general
understanding is evident; whether he was unable or unwilling to carry out that
understanding, or whether he found the sentiment of the nation too strong him, I
leave you to judge; but the fact is, we find him, soon after, at the head of an army,
and in direful and bloody conflicts with the army of the United States. He had put
himself at the head of the Mexican armies; but instead of moving towards peace, he
moved only towards war, and conflict and battle. Whatever else may be said of the
circumstances, ordinary or extraordinary, that have attended the elevation of the
fortunes of the president of the U. States, it will be admitted that at least in one
respect his case is somewhat singular. He has seen armies of vast numbers and
amount, fighting various battles in tented fields, and it so happens that he has had
the selection of commanders on both sides!

The precise object of this war is proved by facts and circumstances, sufficient, I
think to satisfy any reasonable man. The precise object of this was to establish a
government in Mexico, by the restoration of Santa Anna, which should yield the question of Texan independence and give us no more trouble on that account. How grievously that calculation has been disappointed, let subsequent even's show. This then is the real ground and origin of the war, and all the rest, so far as appears to me, is more pretex; and I hope those whose business it is to spread information upon these important subjects will look at that proclamation of the 6th of May, will compare what the President said in his message of the 11th of May, and what congress enacted in conformity with that message, the hypothesis that war arose from invasion by the Mexican forces of our soil, and the murder of our citizens.

Sir, I have alluded to the declaration of Mr. Calhoun that if there had been no annexation of Texas, there would have been no war. I now choose to say sir, that I agree in your sentiment, expressed in your own forcible way in your place in the house of representatives, that the direct consequences of the act of iniquity in the annexation of Texas, is the war in which we are now engaged. I have endeavored to show that it was to avoid this consequence, to pacify Mexico, or subdue the spirit of resistance by changing her government, that these operations, military and diplomatic, were undertaken by the present government of the United States. Now sir, the proposition is too plain that this war grows out of annexation. MR. Calhoun is right. IF there had been no annexation, there would have been no war. Does any one suppose that we should have gone to war with Mexico, depopulated her, and exhausted her resources to collect our debts? Or that we should have gone to war with Mexico, because she did not choose to receive, either as a commissioner, or as an envoy extraordinary, Mr. Slidell? Would congress have declared a war upon any such pretences? Never. It did grow out of annexation, and as you see was not an unnatural consequence. But what is remarkable, sir, is that the grievence is one the part of Mexico and we make the war. She has the prominent complaint and we strike the first blow.

Sir, nothing in the history of a person, no more important than I am, can be of any great consequence to this great people. But it is of some consequence to myself, and it is among m consolations, that from the very first intimation of any design or desire to annex Texas to this country, I have opposed it with all my ability, in all places and at all times. It is now ten years, sir, since at a meeting of our political friends in New York, where that question was one upon which the opinions of those friends were a good deal divided, in which I received many admonitious not to commit myself, I did commit myself; and there it stands, and I am thankful for it. I was then, and I have been at all times since, down to the period when the bill had its last reading and my vote was against it, thoroughly, out and out, under all circumstances, against it. And my opposition was founded upon this ground: that I never would and never should, and I say now I never will and never shall, vote any further annexation to this country with a slave representation.

We hear a great deal, now-a-days about a new panacea, called the Wimot proviso, a very just sentiment but not a sentiment certainly to form any new party or sect of a party upon. For allow me to say that there is not a man in this assembly who does not hold to the sentiment of the Wilmot proviso as firmly as myself, or any other man in this assembly. It is not an opinion upon which Massachusetts whiges differ. Sir, I feel something of a political interest in this. I take the sentiment of the Wilmot proviso to be that there shall be no annexation of slave territory to this union. Did not I commit myself upon that in the year 1838, fully, entirely? And have I ever departed from it in the slightest degree? I must be permitted, sir, to say that I do not now consent that more recent discoverers should take out a patent for the discovery. I do not quite consent that they should undertake to appropriate to themselves al the benefit and honor of it. I deny the priority of their invention. Allow me to say sir, it is not their thunder.

Mr. President, even if new acquired territory should be free territory, I should deprecate any great extension of our dominions. I think we have a very large and ample domain. I think that thus far we have a sort of identity or similarity of character, that holds us together pretty well, from the Penobscot to the Gulf of Mexico. I do not know how far we can preserve that feeling of common country, if we extend it to California and for aught I know the south pole. I apprehend that in a republican government you must have a great similarity of character. It may not be so with despotic governments.

The Emperor of Russia may govern his European dominions by one code of laws and his Asiatic dominions by another code. They have no common acquaintance, no common bond of association. But in a republic, where the laws must all be similar, this cannot be. It does appear to me a very dangerous experiment to extend the territory of the United States over a new unknown tract of land, larger than the old thirteen, and run the chance of amalgamation. More enterprising spirits may choose to undertake it, but I hesitate. Who does not see the total derangement which it
creates? Suppose ten states, or even five states, to be admitted; they will have one representative in each state, and two senators; and here come in ten new senators, (shall I say southern senators) with only five representatives. Does not every one see that that breaks up all the proportion, all the regularity connected with the government, and its perpetuity?

Sir, there are those who think that it is an act of great benevolence to extend our free institutions. I have hope that the principles of liberty as we have experienced them with so much advantage will spread over the world, but I am not sure that it is best for every body to receive our forms. Nor am I a desirous to impose our forms by force upon any people. Where they are fit for them they will receive them in some form; and until they are fit for them, depend upon it, you cannot make freemen out of persons unaccustomed to self government and not knowing in what true freedom consists.

I had the honor for a short time to be connected with the government of the United States and charged with the duty of protecting the commercial interests of the country. I felt that it was all important to the United States, if it could be done with propriety and without danger, to obtain from Mexico, a port upon the Pacific; to wit: the port of St. Francisco, either by session of the port itself, or to obtain power to resort there as a United States place. I looked for nothing but commercial arrangements and commercial advantage. I thought it a matter of some importance but it never entered into my imagination that to accomplish that end, useful so far it went, I should run the risk of attaching a large extent of territory to the United States, whichever in one or the other for man which states are recognized under the constitution.

Now sir, this is our position. Peace may come I hope to hear it before the dawn of another morning; but then I cannot conceal it from myself that peace itself may bring a crisis more dangerous than war. It may bring with it a season of controversy, strife and danger. Heaven knows what will be the terms of that peace. Nor can I see what course it will be the duty of honest men to take, when that treaty shall make its appearance. I hope to be directed to the performance of my duty when that important era shall arrive.

Sir, there has been a proposition, which received the vote of every Whig member in the senate last year, (every one but one certainty) to reject all territory with power to hold slaves. The party which calls itself the northern democracy, (and I may use the term as they have adopted it themselves) adopted the policy to admit territory, to maintain the war for territory, to acquire all we could and then let it in, relying upon the principle of the Wilmot proviso to keep out slavery. The southern portion of the party were for admitting territory. In one respect they agreed. They would let it in and have the contest for spoils after it was admitted. It should be settled afterwards whether it should be free or slave territory.

Allow me to say, sir, that I have not seen one intelligent man of the south who objects to the fair exercise of all the power of the north in preventing the further increase of slave representation in congress. I do not know the man of m. acquaintance who says to me that it is unreasonable in us, or that it is not to be expected from us, or that it may not be rightly performed by us. There is no one who can complain of the north for resisting the increase of slave representation, because it gives power to the minority in a manner inconsistent with the principles of our government. What is past, must stand; what is established must stand; and with the same firmness with which I shall resist every pain to augment the slave representation, or to bring the constitution into any hazards by attempting to extend our dominions, shall: I contend to allow existing rights to remain.

But there is one thing of which southern gentlemen do complain. They complain of this provision of the Wilmot proviso, "because," say they, "it is unequal. You of the north can settle it, because you can go without slaves. W of the south cannot settle it, because we have slaves. It established a derogatory distinction and tends to establish an inequality." Let us consider the force of this argument. I am always happy to meet southern gentlemen of character, honor, talents, and ability upon this question. How is it with the privilege which they now have of a representation desproportioned to ours? They admit this to be an inequality, and if new territory is admitted, open to slaves, is not that plainly an augmentation of that inequality?

Now I am no prophet, nor am I the son of a prophet; but if I was to prophecy, I will say here that the last subject upon which I should venture a prediction would be the course which our friends, called the southern democracy, will take upon this or any other subject. The prediction of the weather in the almanac will hit the truth just as well as I can. I hope that there are many men, and I believe there are, in the other party, that will help us. That is, when it comes to the vote, they will not vote to
admit a state with slave representation. It seems to me that what occurred here at Worcester a few days ago, will shed a little light upon that subject. I do not understand that by that convention, any purpose of adhering to the Wilmot proviso was manifested. I understand, on the contrary, that the whole subject was scouted out of the deliberations of the assembly. And there are loco foci or democratic members in Maine, and New Hampshire. It is quite certain that they will depart from the present administration, and vote for the Wilmot proviso?

Sir, I can only say, that, in my judgment, we are to use the first, and the last, and every occasion which occurs, in maintaining our sentiments against the extension of the slave power. I speak of it now here, as in my seat in congress, as a political question—as a question for statesmen to discuss, and entertain, and act upon. I do not mean to say that the moral part of the question is less important, or not vastly more important, in other points of view; but I speak of it thus, because this is the only point of view in which I, officially, have any thing to do with it. I am aware, sir, that I am using too much of this sun light, and I hasten to end what I have to say by a few remarks.

If peace comes, it will bring with it some terms. This is a matter upon which all decision must be deferred until we can know what they are. But now suppose that no peace is made; that the armistice is broken off and the armies prepare for new combat. Our armies remain in the country or the city of Mexico, and that is the state of things when congress next assemble. It is natural to ask what shall be there done? I would not anticipate what the exigency of the case may suggest. My opinion is clear, perfectly clear. I hold the war-making power to be given by the constitution to congress. I believe that congress was surprised into the act of the 13th day of May, 1846. I believe that if the question had been put to congress before the march of the armies and their actual conflict, not ten voters could have been obtained in either house for the war with Mexico under the existing state of things.

The war exists. Suppose it to continue till the next meeting of congress. What is it the duty of a good citizen and a good whig to do? Well, I say for one, that I suppose it to be true that the next house of representatives in congress may be composed of a Whig majority. I think we have had tones of denunciation from the north and the south, from east to west, sufficient to insure us that result, although it will be a very great change. Suppose that to be the case. I say at once, unless the president of the United States shall make out a case, which shall show to congress that the war is prosecuted for no purpose of acquisition of dominion, for no purpose ot connected directly with the safety of this union, then they ought not to grant any further supplies. If we depart from that, if we says that on the propriety of a war, for on the necessity of a war, begun or to be begun, congress has no voice, no constitutional power, we obliterate the constitution.

What was done in the administration of Mr. Madison just before the close of the last war with England? He placed his terms for peace before congress; I will not advert to them, but they where such as were strongly calculated to create this disposition in congress; that upon these terms now offered, if Great Britain does not make peace, we will not vote to refuse supplies, but we will prosecute the war to the end. It so happened that Great Britain did make peace, and we were not called upon for further supplies. Certainly it is essential to the liberty of a representative government that the representative bodies which have the power and not only power to make war, should ......... cognizance over the objects for which war is prosecuted, and if they think that the war originated in the mischievous purpose which I have been discussing, it is their business, their sole duty to put an end to it. That is my judgment.

I have as much respect for distinguished military achievements, I hope, as any man need to have. I honor those who, being called upon by the course of professional duty, to bear arms in the cause of their country, perform that duty well. I would not see any of their laurels withered; but I am bound to say here, and even o them, that the solemn adjudication of the law of nations, and the sentiment of the world is, that a war waged for vicious motives tarnished even the lustre of arms, and darkens, sadly darkens, if it does not blot, what would otherwise be a bright and glorious page in national history.

I am sorry, sir, to perform what may have been expected of me on this occasion so imperfectly; but I say to the Whigs of Massachusetts, let us stand by our principles. There is hope, there is confidence, and there is trust, and we—everyone who honestly and sincerely does his duty as a good citizen. In regard to public questions, will assuredly save himself, and may help to save the country. It is no moment for shrinking or faltering. It is no moment for going to extremes on the right or on the left. Let us stand on our established principles and opinions. Let us maintain our allegiance to the constitution under which we live. Let us regard those great names
To the Whigs of the State of New York

Fellow Citizens: Hitherto when we have assembled in convention, there were well known and well recognized bounds for our country; but now that the spirit of conquest has been let loose, who can tell where is his country, whether on the Rio Grande, the Sierra Madre, the Rio Gila or the Gulf of California, or whether part of Spanish, much Indian, and some Negro, Santa Fean or Californian may not be as good as an American citizen as himself? Our flag is borne, with fixed bayonets to surround it, and unmuzzled grape shot to clear its way, in the conquering footsteps from the tierra caliente of Vera Cruz—by the base of the snowy peaks of Popocatepetl, to the eternal city of the Aztecs—and Mexicans of every color, and every breed, sprung from combining Moor and straight haired African, as well as from Castile and Leon, are made American citizens, or prepared for being made so by the gentle logic of red mounted artillery, thundering from the heights of Cerro Gordo to the bloody plains of Contreias and Churubusco. Wherever that flag is, being by fixed barriers, the landmarks of civil and religious liberty. Nothing can afford a more admirable illustration of the character of our institutions and the enlightened patriotism of our people.

"There is no feature in our new constitution which has created more serious apprehensions in intelligent minds, than that of the plan of an elective judiciary. But those apprehensions, so honestly entrained by many, seem to have been gradually distilled. It is believed that the people have shown themselves competent to the safe exercise of this delicate responsibility. We have seen our old courts displaced by new tribunals by a process so easy as to be scarcely perceptible, without the slightest shock to established interests, leaving all our rights of person and property in full and undisturbed security. It may be affirmed that our new judiciary possesses the confidence and respect of the community in as full a degree as the system, which it superseded. It now remains for us to lend our new constitution, which restores to the people the choice of that large class of administrative officers who have been therefore appointed through the intermediate agency of the executive or legislative department."

Adverting to the duties of the Whig party in the premises he next touched, but lightly, upon the condition of national affairs, which could not but command the attention of the delegates.

A resolution was then adopted directing the appointment, by the president, of a committee of two from each judicial district, to report an address and resolutions, and the convention adjourned till 2 p.m. On reassembling in the afternoon, Hamilton Fish was unanimously and by acclamation nominated for lieutenant governor.

The president then announced the committee on the address and resolutions as follows:

3rd district, Messrs. Tracy and Jones; 1st Greely and Brooks; 2nd Hasbrouck and McArdie; 4th Dodd and Clark; 5th Barber and Merriman; 6th Bill and ond; 7th Barber and Rose; 8th Cole and Hall.

The convention proceeded to an informal ballot or comptroller, which resulted as follows: Millard Fillmore 99, scattering 10, whereupon MR. Fillmore was unanimously nominated.

For secretary of state, Christopher Morgan received 67 votes, D.D. Spencer 46 and scattering 1, Mr. Morgan was then unanimously nominated.

For treasurer- Alvin Hunt 67, Epenetus Crosby12, and Levi Beardsley 1.
For attorney general—Ambrose L. Jordan had 67 votes, J.A. Spencer 26, scattering 9.

Mr. Hasbrouck and r. Greely read letters from Mr. Jordan declining a nomination, if tendered to him, but Mr. Patterson expressed his belief that under all the circumstances, Mr. Jordan would accept the nomination, and moved that he be unanimously nominated. This motion was adopted.

Mr. C. B. Stuart was then nominated state engineer by the following vote: For Stuart 72, John Lathrop 21, scattering 7.

For canal commissioners—Jacob Hinds, of Orleans, 76, Nelson J. Lewis 93, Charles Cook of Chemung, 62 who were then unanimously nominated. The principal opposing candidates were Thomas Clowes, Thomas Smith, Ebenezer Blackely, and Thomas Spence.

For inspectors of state prisons, John B. Gedney, of Westchester, Issac Comstock of Albany and David Spencer of Tompkins.

Mr. Brooks, from the committee appointed for that purpose, then reported the subjoined address, the reading of which was repeatedly interrupted by applause, and when concluded was unanimously with its stars and stripes, the emblem of our nationality, there our hearts are. But wo! Wo! To the men, we cry, who have dispatched it upon its mission of conquest, and what is yet worse, the conversion of a free into a slaveholding territory.

Fellow citizens—Disguise the Mexican War as sophistry may, the great truth cannot be put down nor lied down—that it exists because of the annexation of Texas, that from such a cause we predicted such a consequence would follow, and that but for that cause no war would have existed at all. Disguise its intents, purposes and consequences as sophistry may struggle to do, the further great truth cannot be hidden, that is main object is the conquest of a market for slaves, and that the flag our victorious legions may rally around, fight under and fall for, is to be desecrated from its holy character of liberty and emancipation into an errand of bondage and slavery. IN obedience to the laws, and in a due and faithful submission to the regularly constituted government of our constitution, we will rally by and defend our flag, on whatever soil or whatever sea it is unfurled- but before high Heaven we protest against the mission on which it is sent: and we demand its recall to the true and proper bounds of our country, as soon as in honor it can be brought home.

We protest, too, in the name of the rights of man and of liberty, against the further extension of slavery in North America. The curse which our mother country inflicted upon us, in spite of our fathers remonstrances, we demand shall never light the virgin soil of the North Pacific. We feel that it would be a horrible mockery for the columns of Anglo-Saxony immigration to be approaching, and looking down upon the dark benighted race of Asiatic despotism, with Africans enslaved under the banners that led their march, as "westward to the Star Empire takes its way." We have no desire to infringe upon any one of the compromises of the constitution. The constitution as it is, and the country as it is, for us.

The Whigs of the north are conservatives of the constitution, in its essence, and its every word in letter. The fell and mischievous results of abolitionism are no where better understood, or more contemned than in New York. But we will not pour out the blood of our countrymen, if we can help it, to turn a free into a slave soil. We will not spend from fifty to a hundred millions of dollars per year, to make a slave market for any portion of our countrymen. W e will never for such a purpose consent to run up an untold national debt, and saddle our posterity with fund managers, tax brokers, tax gatherers, laying an excise or an impost upon every thing they taste, touch, or live by. The Union as it is, the whole Union, and nothing but the Union we will stand by to the last- but no more territory is our watchword—Unless it be free.

Powerless as we are at present, the commander in chief of the army and navy, who created the war, alone having the power to initiate the treaty or take the steps that can end it, we cannot and we would not if we could withhold from our forces, in Mexico all necessary reinforcements and all our sympathy, but we hold up to the condemnation of mankind, to the reprehensions of a Christian world, and to the admonition of freedom every where in its struggles for constitutional liberty, this alarming unitarian power of our republic, that in spite of congress and in defiance of the popular will, thus starts and carries on a sanguinary war, if justifiable, yet unnecessary and uncalled for and in every way detrimental to the true glory and interest of our country.
the peaceful tents of Corpus Cristi and planted them frowning upon Matamoros, a populous Mexican city—no matter what millions of us humble citizens may think—can alone start a treaty, or alone recall a column of our troops now in a foreign country; and thus, as long as one man pleases, the mothers, the sisters, and the wives of all who have relatives in the heart of Mexico, must quiver and tremble in apprehension over every newspaper of the day; and we who deprecate his measures are reduced to the painful alternative of abandoning and sacrificing our brethren in their perils, or to giving to our civic chiefton (safe enough in the marble halls at Washington) the means of realizing vain and ambition dreams through the blood and sacrifice of his countrymen.

Now, fellow citizens of all parties, in vindication of these important principles, and in the time of such a war as this, is it not, your duty, one and all, to act in the forthcoming state election? The voice of New York is powerful in this Union, and when she speaks emphatically, that voice is significant, and makes the one man power tremble at Washington. We have striven faithfully to present good sound men, to personate our principles. WE feel sure such as we have presented will do justice to the state, and at the same time express to the country what think of the measures of the administration. Upon these measure and their consequences we have mainly dwelt, because they are the overruling topics of the day, and because New York will be presumed to approve or censure according to the tone in which she speaks, and the best way to speak our opinion is in an energetic and united support of the Whig ticket this day presented to the Whigs of the state.

Mr. Greely, from the committee, presented the following resolutions, which together with the address, were unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That the whigs of New York have sufficiently proved, and need not reaffirm, their unchanging devotion to the cardinal principles of whig faith and action throughout the Union, among which are embraced the policy of fostering and encouraging the diversification of industrial pursuits, and the creation and extension of home markets, by wisely adjusting discriminating duties on the importation of foreign products. The creation and preservation by government of a sound and uniform currency alike for itself and the people; the promotion and prosecution of internal improvements; the studious cultivation of peace and good understanding with other nations; and in fine, whatsoever tends to diffuse morality, intelligence and prosperity among the whole people.

Resolved, That this convention recommend and approve a national Whig convention for nomination of candidates for president and vice president, and that we trust the Whig members of congress will seasonably designate the time and place of holding such convention.

Resolved, That while the Whig freemen of New York represented in this convention, will faithfully adhere to all the compromises of the constitution, and jealously maintain all the reserved rights of the states, they declare, since the crisis has arrived when the question must be met—their uncompromising hostility to the extension of slavery into territory now fee, or which day be thereafter acquired by any action of the government of our Union.

A resolution pledging unanimous support to the nominees of the convention, and another authorizing their president to appoint a state central committee, were unanimously adopted.

Speeches were made by Mr. Morgan and Mr. Robinson,—and after the usual vote of thanks, the convention adjourned. [MDT]

NNR 73.109 16 OCT 1847 official correspondence relative to the terms proposed by Nicholas Philip Trist, &c.

Correspondence in Relation to the Propostitions Submitted to the Consideration of the Mexican Government by Mr. Trist

The most excellent president has considered your note of this morning, in which you decline the commission which he has been pleased to confer upon you to treat with the commissioner of the United States, under the basis and instructions which accompanied my communication of yesterday. After the conference which he has had with yourselves and with the council of ministers, he has resolved that the instructions may be somewhat amplified, with the understanding that you are to
conform to them as far as may be possible, adding some modifications which the circumstances of the country may demand, and which may comprise points to which the discussion may give rise. In a word, the supreme government have chosen you, as you have many times been selected by the nation, on account of the knowledge it possesses of your distinction and patriotism, and he places in your hands the honor and the interests of our country.

God and liberty!
August 31, 1847.
Pacheco.

[NRT]

NNR 73.110-73.111 16 OCT 1847 account of the revolution undertaken by settlers in California before the acts of United States officers

The revolution in California

So much dispute has taken place amongst the United States officers, both military and naval, in relation to the credit of achieving the conquest or effecting a revolution in California, that the prior claims of humbler men have been kept out of view. We had iniminations repeatedly and from different directions of the progress of a revolution in California, before either of our officers undertook officially to intermeddle. In our tile of the Polynesian published at the Sandwich Islands, during the summer of 1846, we found a statement that a revolution had been effected in California, at the head of which was William B. Ide, before any United States agents had acted, and that subsequently Mr. I and the revolutionists had agreed to recognize the United States officers, and to merge their revolution into the national project. We have been looking since with no little curiously for further accounts of this primary movement. The first that reaches us is the following interesting details.

From the Sangamo (Ill.) Journal.

There has not yet been published in the states as connected and succinct account of the late revolution in California. The acts of American Officers, have been sufficiently emblazoned; but the deeds of those gallant men who first raised the standard of freedom, in opposition to a tyrannical and cowardly government in California, have scarcely ever been heard of in the United States.

There has been put into our hands within a few days, a manuscript report with an appendix, by a committee of citizens of California, giving a history of the origin, and completion of the revolution in that late department of Mexico. It differs materially from the detached and disjointed accounts already published; and for that reason we regret that we cannot, at this time publish it at full length. Justice, however, to all parties concerned, requires its publication, and that copies of it should go into the hands of our public functionaries- that they may be able to value the services, and appreciate the worth and character of those men, who, alone, unaided, accomplished the revolution, and had taken all the incipient measures to establish a free government in California, before there was any active interference of the part of the United States' officers and the forces under their command. We shall give a brief summary of the contents of this report:

The American and other foreign portion of the people of Upper California. Learned in May, 1846, that the government had determined upon their expulsion from the country, and were making preparations to seize or kill all foreigners, and send such as should be made prisoners to the city of Mexico. A large body of horses were collected and some five or six hundred were ordered under arms by General Castro for that purpose. Information was received by Mr. W.B. Ide, living on the Sacramento, on the 8th of June, by letter, brought by an Indian runner, that 200 mounted Mexicans were on their march up the Sacramento river, with the design of destroying the crops, burning the houses, and driving off the cattle belonging to the foreigners. Mr. Ide immediately visited the settlements on the Sacramento, and finding most of the men of the valley with Captain Fremont, repaired to his camp. He there conversed with Captain Fremont on the subject of the revolution, who advised immediate organization and resistance on the part of the foreigners; but declined any action on his part or that of the men under his command. Captain Fremont informed him that he then expected to leave for the States in two weeks. In the meantime, a party of Americans had gone in pursuit of some Mexicans, who were collecting horses, had taken them prisoners, and secured 200 of their animals-which were to have been mounted by Mexican soldiers, and employed in expelling the
foreigners, as well as Capt. Fremont from the country. It was quite apparent, that further, and more decisive action was necessary to secure the lives and property of the immigrants; and it was determined to seize the fort of Sonoma, where many of the government officers were quartered, and munitions of war were stored. A party was raised and upon the 14th June, arrived at, and seized Sonoma by surprise, and without resistance; and directly thereafter, William B. Ide was elected commander of the party. Dr. Semple immediately called a meeting, with the view of taking some action for forming a provisional government. The prisoners were sent to the Sacramento, and placed under the protection of Captain Fremont, and the property of the fort secured, and a garrison established for its further protection. Captain Ide was empowered by the troops to provide provisions for their subsistence, and to draw orders, in behalf of the republic, which were to be thereafter paid. Berryessa, the Mexican alcalde, was sent for, dismissed from that office, and reappointed to the same by the new government. Berryessa pledged himself that the Mexican population of the district of Sonoma, should not interfere in the revolution. Some further measures were adopted—limiting duties on foreign importations to one fourth of the existing rates. Horace Saunders was appointed commissionary. A national flag was agreed upon—its base a brown stripe, next above a wide stripe of green, cut so as to represent growing Tula; the upper part white, to represent the clear horizon, on the end of the flag staff, a rising star, and in the brown stripe the words in capitals, "California Republic." Capt. Ide was made captain general; measures were taken to secure public and private property; and in case private property was used by the government, to adopt measures for compensating the owners therefor, &c, &c. The preparation of the national flag was committed to Mr. Wm. L. Todd, which, when completed, was raised under a discharge of cannon, with other appropriate ceremonies.

The general in chief on the 16th, dispatched Mr. Todd on a mission to Capt. Montgomery of the U.S. ship Portsmouth, for the purpose of obtaining a quantity of powder for the use of the garrison. He declined furnishing it, on the ground that so far as he knew the United States were at peace with the Mexican government. AT the same time, measures were adopted by Gen. Ide in relation to the national domain-making arrangements for establishing a land office, surveying the country, and reserving to those who served the state "ranchos" of some leagues in extent.

In the evening Mr. Todd returned, accompanied by Lieut. Mesroon, of the Portsmouth; who stated that Capt. Montgomery was in expectation of important news from Mexico, and that in the event of war, he would place all the resources of his ship and half of his men under General Ide's command. The lieutenant visited the Mexican population, who expressed themselves satisfied with the change in government, and then returned to his ship. A proclamation by the general announcing the objects of the revolution, was forthwith prepared and sent into circulation. Mr. Fowler and Thomas Cowey, were sent for a supply of powder, about thirty-five miles northwest; and taken prisoners and inhumanely murdered by the Mexicans by cutting their flesh from them while alive. ON the 19th an express arrived from Captain Fremont, with a letter which he wished sent to a man living on the coast, sixty miles distant. Mr. Todd was dispatched with the letter—was taken prisoner—but subsequently escaped.

On the 21st, Capt. Grisby returned from the Sacramento Valley, and was elected captain of the 1st company of riflemen, and the fort placed under command. Lieut. L. H. Ford was dispatched in pursuit of a company of Mexicans, and found them; they proved to be two hundred in number; gave then a fight, killed eight and wounded thirteen; after which they fled. This victory gave a decided character to the revolution, and convinced the Spaniards that it was not prudent to attempt the capture of any more prisoners.

On the 25th of June, Capt. Fremont and the men under his command arrived at Sonoma, and were received with joy by the garrison, which was composed of about one hundred men, exclusive of Capt. F's command, and of some twenty, who were absent on other duty. In the mean time as report said, Gen Castro was busy in crossing men, from the other side of the bay, to San Solito. Capt. Fremont invited Lieut. Ford to accompany him, with the same men he had commanded in the engagement before spoken of, in an expedition against Jose Castro. "Three or four days were spent in endeavoring to bring the Mexicans to an engagement, but without success. Castro had succeeded in landing about 200 en on the north side of the bay, and, finding the ground untenable, was desirous of diverting Capt. Fremont from his object of pursuit, while his men with papers, calculated to deceive Captain Fremont into the idea that Sonoma was, on a certain time, to be attached by a large force and ordered them to discover themselves to his command. The stratagem had the desired effect, although the spics lost their lives. Captain F. repaired to Sonoma with all possible despatch, where he arrived at the early dawn of day, and was pleased to find his friends still in the possession of the post, and at the guns, with
lighted matches in their hands. Captain F's courier had not arrived to inform of his coming, and the two long 18 pounders loaded with grape and canister, were brought to bear directly upon the head of his column. At the same instant, by a sudden involvement to the left in order to cover his men by a block of buildings, he was recognized by the commander of the republican forces. Some little excitement prevailed for a moment, when Capt. F. and his men were distinctly seen, each at the full speed of his horse, in full charge, with rifles erect. They were immediately at the post. After partaking of refreshments, Capt F. and his party returned in pursuit of Castro, and arrived at the bay just in time to see that the last of Castro's men had reembarked with all their baggage.

Castro took quarters at Santa Clara, from whence he issued two proclamations—one was addressed to the foreigners, promising protection to such as remained neutral; the other informed his fellow citizens and adherents of the true religion that the low policy of the agents of the U.S. had gathered up a company of adventurers, who regarded less of the rights of men, had invaded the country, surprising and taking prisoners the military forces of Sonoma; and their religion and independence, the true religion professed by their fathers, obliged both him and then, if necessary, for sacrifice their lives for their country.

The friends of the revolution in the meantime were assembling at Sonoma; whither Capt. Fremont returned on the 3rd July. The fourth was celebrated by reading the Declaration of Independence of the thirteen states, firing of cannon, &c.

On the morning of the 6th, the companies were formed, and marched into the large hall. The men, were called to order by Gen. Ide. There were one hundred and eighty men present, exclusive of Capt. F's command.

Capt. Fremont addressed the troops. HE said that he had visited this country in accordance with per mission previously obtained from the government of California; and, while he was quietly refreshing and resting his men from the long journey which he had taken across the mountains, preparatory to his return to the States, Jose Castro had taken the opportunity to heap upon him the most outrageous epithets and slanderous calumny; and also threatened and menaced him by sending an armed force against him, all without the slightest degree of provocation; that he had determined to pursue and take said Jose Castro, whom he considered but an usurper in California, being unauthorized by the government of Mexico. HE further said he would make a proposition to the men then before him, that although he could not, and would not, intermeddle in the internal affairs of California, yet, if the men present would pledge themselves to abstain from all acts of violence against peaceful families, and to obey afforders of offices of their own choice, in their endeavors to effect the declared purposes of the revolution, he would not only assist them in the internal affairs of California, yet, if the men present would pledge themselves to abstain from all acts of violence against peaceful families, and to obey afforders of offices of their own choice, in their endeavors to effect the declared purposes of the revolution, he would not only assist them by his advice, but that he would volunteer his whole force against Castro, and that he would stand by them at least until Castro shall have been subdued. HE concepted his remarks by saying: IF there has then present, am who was not yet determined to carry on the revolt in an honorable and preserving manner, even at he cost of his life and property, he would advise them to make his peace with Castro as soon as possible and flee to the mountains.

Mr. Ide replied, and said-He was unwilling to interrupt that silent, attentive and considerative respect, which was so justly due to their friend who had just closed his propositions and remark; yet he would like to be permitted to express his opinion, that there was not a man present who had not already freely volunteered his life, his property, and his reputation in an honorable support of the revolution; and that he verily believed there was not a man who would shrink in the least possible degree from the responsibilities he had so honorably assumed. Mr. Ide concluded his remarks by urging the signing of an appropriate pledge.

A pledge, conforming to Capt. Fremont's views, was prepared and signed by the volunteers; they were afterwards organized into three companies under Captains Grigsby, Ford and Swift, leaving a small artillery company to take charge of the fort. These three companies with Captain Fremont's company, concentrated at Sutter's fort on the 10th and made preparations for entering upon an active campaign.

On the 10th an express was received from Yerba Buena, announcing the raising of the United States flag there, the war between Mexico and the U.S. and the capture of Vera Cruz. The events caused a general and heart felt rejoicing. A small party had been sent to Yerba Buena, captured the place, some cannon, military stores and prisoners. News was also received that San Rafel and other places east of the Bay of San Francisco were in possession of the revolutionists. Near Santa Clara, a considerable party of Americans had assembled expecting the arrival of assistance from Sonoma, being encour aged by the promise of an express from that place on his
way to Monterey, of such assistance. In the meantime, Castro was strengthening his position in Santa Clara—endeavoring to collect men and provisions. On the 5th July, he evacuated that place, and took post at St. John’s, leaving the cannon and other property to fall into the hands of the revolutionists.

On the 11th, the flag of the U.S. was raised on the right of the California troops; Capt. Fremont’s company occupying the extreme right, and on the 12th, the army marched for St. John’s; small parties having been detached to other points, to gather in and concentrate the forces; on reaching that fort, Castro had fled, leaving all is cannon and supplies. The army pushed on, gathering strength as it proceeded until it reached Monterey in triumph, when the full success of the revolution was consumated.

From a Correspondent in California

Since the disasters which have befallen the company of emigrants in the mountains of California last winter, we have felt little disposition, by any act of our own, to encourage emigration to that region. We did what we could to induce the Donner family to change their destination from California to Oregon; but Hastings Journal had so inflated their view of the country, that they could not forgo their determination to visit it. Ut we apprehend no further rush of emigration to California for the present.

In the following extract from our correspondent’s communication, he presents a comparison of the advantages of Oregon and California to emigrants. If we were to remark at all upon the claim he assumes for California, we should say, that according to his own showing, settlements must be sparse—families must live distant from their friends—and although they might have thousands upon thousands of cattle—might be rich as the writer fancies they will be still, they can enjoy but few of those advantages which give to life its zest. IN Oregon there is a settled government, dense population, and more industrial and moral people—and if the inhabitants can put up with its advantages and disadvantages—if they will, for the sake of land and better health—got to the west, by all means we would say, go to Oregon. But probably, in the aggregate, it would be better for them if there had been an impassable wall in the dividing ridge of the Rocky mountains that the present fields of sage. But this Anglo-Saxon race will be on the motion—it is natural to them—and we have no idat that even the Pacific will be barrier to their migration. But as emigration to Japan and Kaschatka will e after our time, we shall give ourselves no great deal or trouble on that account.

I cannot say which is preferable, Oregon or California. I have seen may men who have lived in Oregon. If I may judge between the concurring and dissenting testimony of others, my judgment is that the principal difference in the two is that Oregon now has the most salutary government; society more congenial tot he happiness of Americans; it is better provided with mills, stores, mechanic, and has timber more convenient for fence, building, etc, is extremely wet, for six or seven months; ground takes bery hard; cannot plow until after the rains set in, and then it is very wet and muddy plowing; yields an unfailing crop of wheat when sowed in due time; streams very rapid, unfit for navigation can be improved by canals; no mistake about its capacity to fatten cattle the whole year around, even east of the mountains; regulations prevent a man from owning more than one section of land, the hills produce more grass to the acre that the hills in California; the country is in a measure destitute of cattle; plenty of good land yet for emigrants; dampness of the season produces rheomnants, and consumptions, some argue on the river—generally healthy.

The California hills and mountains on the coast from 50 to 150 miles, produce spontaneously grass equal tot he best land in Oregon, oats equal to those cultivated in Illionois, and every vegetable cultivated in the eastern states can be grown with success in the valleys and on the hills lying on the coast of California. Late sown wheat is sometimes affected by the rust, but is never winter killed. Wheat is generally sown in Feb and March. The rivers of California are navigable to the mountain, three to 400 miles. The side streams, like those of Oregon are good mill streams. Land is generally granted by government in farms of 20,000 to 15000 acres. A league is 4938. These ranches are not sold, but are given by the government and are entailed to he donee’s heirs. The rainy season commences in Nov. with occasional showers or rainy days, increasing in the quantity of rain till the middle of Jan. when the showers are lighter and farther between until June and July. The winters are pleasant—never saw the first drop of water frozen where the air could circulate about it. Have not seen the mercury lower than 38 degrees—usually from 44 to 62 in Dec, Jan, and Feb; IN March, April and May from 58-78. The warmest days are 60 at sun rise, and 80 fat 2 o’clock P.M. I prefer California to Oregon, because I can easily obtain 50000 acres of first rate land, that will feed 20000 head of cattle,
with no other trouble than to send an Indian to gather in those that range furthest off once a week.

From the *Illinois Journal*

The revolution in California. We conclude our extracts from the report in relation to the revolution, sent to us by a committee of citizens in California:

Our notice of the revolution left the revolutionary forces in Monterey. Mr. Ide was everywhere received as the governor of California. Commodore Sloat said, if "California, should be hereafter released by the U.S., it should be restored to Gen. Ide as it was the only government he had found in California."

Thus was the whole of California, north and east of Monterey, conquered by the American emigrants of that country, embracing a tract of country of more than five hundred miles in extent on the coast of California, St. Francisco Bay, the valleys of the rivers San Joaquin, Sacramento and the Pueblo, comprising the most valuable portions of the country and also they were in possession of a vast amount of cannon and other public property. Castro was making his way for Mexico, and Com. Stockton took the Californian forces on board the ships with the view to intercept him: but the expedition failed, and Castro escaped. The forces returned to the Pueblo and were divided into small parties with the view of making prisoners of staggling parties of the enemy, on the 1st of Sept., it was not known that there was a man in arms against liberty in California and the country, by proclamation of Com. Stockton, was declared to be in a state of quietable and peace. All those who had not volunteered in the service of the U.S., returned to their homes. Com. Stockton called upon the inhabitants, to elect their civil magistrates according to the custom of the country.

On the 31st October, newd arrived of the rising of the Mexicans at Pueblo. An effort was made to procure the men who had belonged to Capt. Grigsby's battalion to volunteer for the service. It did not succeed. The men thought in the first campaign they had not been treated fairly. After various negotiations and pledges on the part of Com. Stockton, the battalion enlisted for 6 months. Mr. Ide was one of the volunteers; but the commodore required him to return to Sonoma, to look after the general interests of the government in that quarter. The battalion served faithfully there period of enlistment, at great personal sacrifice and suffering almost incredible privations. Their crops were left to rot in the fields. Their services and sacrifices were indeed great, and their country should remunerate them.

W close this article by copying the 1st paragraph of this report. There are matters and things in the appendix, which ought to be published at the present time.

"We have labored to extend the influence of those principles which are the basis of American liberty, and we hope that our brethren, who cannot appreciate the excellent worth of that security which they enjoy in its fullness, while reclining in the quietude of their dwellings, will enquire whether the people of the U.S. will so far forget the perils and glory of their fathers, as not to reward the patriots who fought under the independence flag of the "Bear and the Star", by assuming and paying their prudent expenses; by awarding to those, who solemnly laid their lives and all upon the altar of liberty, their stipulated land premium of one league and, also, on their behalf, in remembrance of their; patriotic virtues, to grant to California a soil worthy the generosity of the American people, for the support of education, that the "Bear Men" may not always be held in derision by those proud Spaniards, who still seek to accomplish their ....."

John H. Nash
John Grigsby
William B. Ide

District of Sonoma, May 13, 1847

[MDT]

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NRR 73.112 16 OCT 1847 October 16, 1847 yellow fever

DEATHS—Yellow fever at N. O., there occurred only 7 deaths by yellow fever during the 24 hours ending 25th September-26th five deaths by the fever, on the 27th
twelve, the 28th ten.

On the 4th 22 deaths of which 9 by the fever. On the 5th only 3 deaths by the fever. Total number of deaths during the week ending the 4th 145, of which 58 were by yellow fever.

The yellow fever was on the increase at Mobile on the 4th inst., and the papers of that city warn absentees not to return until a good frost has driven the epidemic entirely away.

The Mobile Register of the 2d. instant says that the yellow fever us fast disappearing from that city.

At Boston, during the month of Sept. 1846, 336; Sept. 1847, 504. the number of deaths for the 9 first months of 1847 exceed those of the same months of 1846 by 525.

At Baltimore, last week 72, of which 35 were under two years-12 were free colored, 5 slaves.

At N. York, during the week ending 2d. instant., 289, of which 37 were of consumption.

Surgeon McGinnis, of the 14th infantry, died at Vera Cruz on the 1st of September of vomito.

At Tampico, eight deaths in the US hospital from the 1st to 30th August. Letter received at New Orleans dated Sept. 16th says:

"The town, is very sickly. Yellow fever abounds here-most of the deaths that occur are from that dreadful disease. The fact is, there is not other kind of sickness known here, at present, but yellow fever, and no matter what a man dies of, it is put down yellow jack."

E.H. Lawrence, esq. Of N.Y. has collected from merchants and other in that city $3,151 in aid of the Howard Association of Louisiana for the relief of indigent sick.

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Power, Roman Catholic Bishop of Toronto, Canada West, died in that city on the morning of the 1st inst. His disease was typhus fever, contracted during his ministration among the sick and dying immigrants. The Bishop was about fort two years of age; he was native of Halifax, Nova Scotia. [KAS]

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NRR 73.113, Col. 3 Oct. 16, 1847 Forces Under Gen. Winfield Scott

Forces under Gen. Scott-Mr. Kendall of the N. Orleans Picayyune who was wounded in the last engagement before the city of Mexico, in a letter from that city, dated Sept. 20th says:

Do the people of the United States known the real force which has achieved the recent glorious triumphs here, in the valley of this proud republic? I have not seen the paper, but I have been told that a recent number of the Union states that when Gen. Scott would reach the vicinity of Mexico his army would be 22,000 effective men. If such a statement has been made, one more false or ungenerous could not have been promulgated. Gen. Scott arrived on this side the mountains with a fraction over 10,000 men, of the mountains with a fraction over 10,000 men, of which number at least 4,000 were new recruits.-Of this force, so insignificant when compared with the magnitude of the enterprise, at least 1,000 were on the sick list before a blow was struck. With a disposable army, then, of 9,000—not a man more—the bold attempt was made to reduce a popular and well fortified city, and, after a succession of hard fought battles, the result is known. The 12,00 paper men, then, manufactured at Washington, must remain where they have been during all the recent struggles—either unenlisted, in hospitals, in camp, or in transitu—and not detract from such merit as has been gained by the 10,00 true men who have borne the battle’s brunt and won such laurels for their country. To them all honor and credit is due; and I will procure the muster-roll of every regiment that passed the Vente de Cordova, if it should be necessary to prove my statement as to their actual number. [DCK]
Territorial Extension

From the Baltimore American

There are indications, of some significance, that the idea of occupying the whole of Mexico, with a view to its incorporation into the body of this republic, is entertained in high official quarters. The thing is intimated, with more or less distinctness, in letters from Washington; it is said that the president and his cabinet are, in fact, discussing the subject at this time; and that Mr. Walker is known to favor the plan of wholesale occupancy and annexation.

The incredulity which, as we must suppose, generally prevails as to the reality of a serious design of this sort, may be somewhat shaken, if one will consider the probable sequence of events in connection with the further prosecution of the war, as it is henceforth to be waged. It is given out that we are to pour fresh troops into Mexico; that the commanding points everywhere are to be put down. In short we hear now not of “conquering a peace,” if the reader will pardon the use of that affected jargon—but of subjugation. Mexico is to be conquered.

What is the end? Our armies are not now to chase a flying government, to catch it first and make it negotiate afterwards. We are to trust no more to the infatuation of Mexican councils—to the duplicity of Mexican truces. What must follow from this but an armed occupancy of the whole territory of Mexico—an armed occupancy, with the enforcement of military government, bringing in its train confiscation of property and the banishment or destruction of malcontents. Once held in this way, and governed in this way, the tenacity of the Anglo-Saxon grasp upon a most beautiful and productive region might not be easily relaxed. Consider too, how desirable would be these military governorships in the provinces of Mexico, and what a vast amount of patronage the disposal of them would concentrate in the hands of the executive.

A war of indefinite duration may lead to such a consummation as we have indicated—if, indeed, the American people are prepared to admit this idea of conquest and annexation. The mind is startled at the contemplation of it. To the apprehension of many the trumpet call which should summon the invading host of our armed countrymen to this crusade, would sound like the signal of the Union's dissolution.

Nevertheless, to the imagination of multitudes the picture will be made attractive; and to daring spirits, fond of adventure, of enterprise and of danger, a scene may be opened more alluring than that which drew the followers of Cortez through blood and battles to the plunder of Mexican treasures. The reader will observe, in the following extract from the New York Sun, a specimen of those inducements, which in various quarters, are now held out to the American people, to excite in them the last of spoil and conquest. The Sun copies from the Washington Union a glowing description of Mexico, and adds:

Though late in the season, we are happy to welcome the government organ to share in the administration of a beautiful country, which we expressed five months ago, when the freshest flowers were blooming over the Mexican hills and vallies. God has not made a more magnificent land than Mexico. It is a paradise blessed with every variety of climate, every capacity of soil, and almost every species of fruit and flower on the face of the earth. Perpetual summer or perpetual winter, or if you choose, a mid-way between the extremes is found here.

The Cactus and Lily, the Rose and Agave, and the rich odor of the golden orange greet you in Mexico. And if you look beyond her Sierras and vine covered valleys—if you look beyond her beauty to her wealth, behold the cotton, wheat, maize, indigo and cochineal fields, a source of wealth inexhaustible. Look, too, at her forests of mahogany, rose, zebra, and satin woods—at her dye woods richer than the treasures of India. Or if the Union will penetrate still farther, let it look down into those mines of Potosi, Zacatecas and Durango. Look at the gold and silver glittering there in masses that wait for the pick of the saxon.

Look at the gold and silver, and say if this Mexico is not a rich, as well as a beautiful country. Cortez carried away ship loads of gold from the Aztecs, and
England is carrying ship loads from the Mexican, still thousands of mines groan with their golden burden. Mexico is truly a magnificent country, over and under the soil bursting with everything the heart can desire. We have seen this for years, and the Union now sees it. Four years ago, too, we saw and urged the advantages of a ship canal or railway across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, and five months ago we saw and urged the necessity of occupying that beautiful country of Mexico.

The Union now sees and urges all this. Better late than never, we welcome the Union and the whole press of the Union to share our admiration. Let them repeat it until it becomes a common theme, and we shall soon see the Aztec and American Eagle clasping wings, and our Yankee boys swapping nicknacks with Americanized Mexican Rancheros for gold. [MDT]

NRR 73.114 Oct. 23, 1847 Death of Lt. Twiggs

LIEUT. GEO. D. TWIGGS, U.S.A.
Letter addressed to his mourning mother dated- "Jalapa, Mexico, August 22d. 1847.

My Dear madam: it is my painful duty to inform you of the death of your son, Lieutenant George D. Twiggs, who was killed at the battle of the national bridges on the 12th instant. I had the honor to command a battery, and while returning from the bridge where my junior lieutenant had been mortally wounded, I met your son, who, on being informed of my situation, volunteered at assist me. While engaged in drawing one of the pieces up the hill under a very heavy fire, I turned to address a direction to him; he replied "Yes," in the same breath exclaiming, "Oh my God! Same me!" at the same time, before I could catch him, falling to the ground. I caused him to be laid beside the road, and as soon as the piece was carried up the hill I descended myself to bring him up, but alas! He was dead-shot through the body. A cross, a miniature, and prayer book were found in his breast. Permit me, madam, to sympathize with you, most sincerely in the loss of so esteemed a son. Never has it been my good fortune to meet gentlemen possessed of so many good qualities of heart and mind. To every accomplishment which beautifies and adorns man's noblest character, was added a bravery and high souled chivalry unequalled. He was a noble scion of the noble stock from which he sprung. It may in some manner assuage the grief of a soldier's mother, to know that her son died nobly fighting for his country.- Again, madam, permit me to tender my sincerest sympathies, and remain, very truly, your most obedient servant.

HENRY B. SEARS,
Lt. 2d artillery.

[KAS]

NRR 73.115 23 OCT 1847 letter describing the expedition of the Baltimore battalion from Veracruz

Extract of a letter from one of the "Baltimore battalion dated, "Puente Nacionel, 15th September, 1847.

"On the 6th, we left Vera Cruz, with five companies of our battalion, one company of the 11th and one of the 12th infantry; two pieces of artillery and about one hundred mounted men, under Colonel Hughes, with nothing but four days ration. We reached Santa Fe in the middle of the first day, and reached the bridge of San Juan that night, where we bivouacked in a torrent of rain, without a tent to cover us.

"About 5 p.m., the next day, we reached the celebrated pass, called "The Robber's den," upon the heights around which, the enemy were seen in large numbers. But we crossed the bridge and entered the town without molestation. As we started next morning, just as the rearguard left the town, several shots were fired at us, without effect, and a few shots we returned made them cease. On this day's march the heat was so intense, that many of the men gave out, and we had determined to halt, when we perceived the heights covered with the enemy, who commenced firing. We advanced upon them and they fled, and we then encamped upon the heights, about two miles from this place. The next day, the 9th, we started and soon saw the fort and the men's bands above the ramparts. We planted our
guns within 6 hundred yards of the fort, but soon found them too high for our artillery. So we determined to carry the fort by the bayonet. Col. Hughes then ordered Major Kenly to turn to the left of the hill and take the enemy in the reverse. He took Barry’s, Dolan’s, and Brown’s companies, with 50 dismounted dragoons; and having thrown off jackets, knapsacks and all but cartridge boxes and canteens, we started to climb the hill. After three hours of great physical effort, climbing up the precipices by holding on to the roots of trees and hanging vines, we reached the crest. Here we breathed a little, and dashed into the fort. But the enemy, who had perceived us, had fled, and three cheers announced to those below our possession of the place.”  [MDT]

NRR 73.115 23 OCT 1847 gloomy letter from a volunteer in the California expedition

California-We learn from the Northampton (Mass.) Gazette, that a young gentlemen of Worthington, in this state, who connected himself with the 7th regiment of New York volunteers, under Col. Slovenson, writes from San Francisco, under date of May last, as follows:

"The land here is very poor; not a vegetable is raised. All it is fit for is grass, and that all dries up in summer and blows away. There is no rain from May to September. Not a tree grows within twenty miles of this. A few scrub bushes are seen, and they hardly furnish wood enough to cook with. All I can say about the land here, and I mean within a circuit of twenty miles, is, that it is one large sand sink, where vegetation starts up in the spring then dries up and blows away. If there is any with you that wish to emigrate, let them go to any other place in the world than California. Never was any taken so bad as was the 7th regiment of New York volunteers. We expected to find it almost a paradise, and here we are, poor dogs, living on sea biscuit, pork, beans, in face of an enemy, exposed to weather, and bullets rattling among us, and for dollars a month. Blue coats, red patches, stripes and death perhaps-a gloomy prospect indeed.”  [MDT]

NRR 73.115, Col. 1 Oct. 23, 1847  Operations of the Texas Rangers

The Texan Rangers - These men appear to have dreadful reputation even in our own armies, while the Mexicans they must seem the very incarnation of cruelty. The following extract from a Buena Vista letter, which we find in the National Inteneer, gives a shocking idea of their habitual proceedings. A lansiere's (lancer's) fear of a ranger is most remarkable-remarkable even to ludicrousness, as we run from the Mexicans about here. I would not be surprised to see a dozen rangers, with their rough mouth, broad brimmed, but shapeless and slouched wool hats, (peculiar to themselves,) the fronts pressed and fastened full up and aside, to permit the seemingly reckless but really quick and observant eye beneath to have full scope, their red or fancy colored shirts, their equally fanciful pantaloons, from the handsome Mexican buckskin of green, black, yellow, or blue, to the common American domestic, their rifles (that most valuale of all their property) hanging by the side of as good horses and as fast ones as the service can produce and their huge bowie knives in their sheaths, in close company with rifle and pistols-I say, I would not be surprised to see a dozen such fellows charge down, and after a crack of their rifles, race with each a coupole of hundred of the yellow skins, with their lances as long as a small mast. Indeed, all Mexicans, whether friendly or in arms, are dreadfully afraid of them.-A few words that will explain why, and as it is very immediate neighborhood of the army, or of a town, it may be well to give you some idea of what is horrid fact.

In their capacity of rangers, the Texans of course, have an almost boundless field of movements. If sent out from a city or a camp they are never expected to return before or until after night, or the next day. If attached to a train, they are only expected to show themselves occasionally, to signify that they are on the alert. Now, it has frequently happened that a stray ranger has been cut off while on one or the other kind of duty, by perhaps depending too much on his own prowess and strength in a gang of Mexicans with whom he may have fallen in.  [DCK]

NRR 73.118 23 OCT 1847 officers killed and wounded, execution of deserters, Gen. Winfield Scott's general orders on occupying the capital, Washington "Union's" account and compliment


The American Star of the 20th September in speaking of the execution of the deserters, says that 16 of them were hung at San Angel of the 9th; and immediately after some ten or twelve where whipped and branded on the cheek with the letter D. Riley, the chief of the crowd, came in for a share of the whipping and branding.

The next morning four others were executed at Mixcoac; and on the 13th, 30 more were hung upon the gallows at the same place. It appears that Riley, according to our military laws, could not be hung, he having deserted from our army before the commencement of hostilities.

Rumors were rife in Vera Cruz of Santa Anna being in Puebla at the head of some three hundred men. Speaking on this subject, the American Star of Sept 23rd, published in the city of Mexico, says that Gen. Rea with a guerrilla force had entered Puebla a few days previous, and the force under Colonel Childs being so small, he withdrew them to the heights commanding the place where he was quite secure, and from whence he could bombard the city at will.

New Orleans, October 1847.

[General Order, No. 184]

Headquarters army, Mexico, Sept 14 1847.

Under the favor of God, the valor of this army, after many glorious victories, has hoisted the colors of our country in the capital of Mexico, 2nd on the palace of their government; but the war is not ended.

The Mexican army and government have fled only to watch an opportunity to return upon us in vengeance. We must then be upon our guard. Companies and regiments will be kept together, and all stand on the alert. Our safety is in military discipline. Let there be no drunkeness- no disorder- and no straggling. Stragglers will be in great danger of assassination, and marauders shall be punished by courts martial.

All of these rules, so honorably observed by this glorious army in Puebla, must be observed here.

The honor of the army and the honor of our country call for the best behavior on the part of the valiant, thus to win the approbation of all the good of their country. Be sober and mereiful. His noble brethren in arms will not be deaf to this hearty appeal from their commander and friend.

GENERAL SCOTT.

Major General Quitman is appointed civil and military governor of Mexico by command of Major General Scott. Two days after he issued the following order:

The Washington Union states that there are no official despatches received at the department from Gen. Scott’s camp, but it nevertheless furnishes interesting intelligence in the shape of private letters, received from an officer at Vera Cruz, extracts from which are given below. The Union adds-

A letter has also been received in the city by this evenings mail, from one of the most distinguished officers of our army now in the city of mExico. HE gives very rapid sketch of the events which took place from the 8th to the 14th September. HE
describes the storming of the palace of Chapultepac, in which our gallant troops covered themselves with glory. It was a contest of 3000 against 14000 mostly an affair of bayonets- in which General Worth’s brave division lost about 700 men. The Mexican forces were literally cut to pieces, and (to use the phrase of the came) utterly ”demoralized.” Gen. Worth was not wounded, contrary tot the Mexican table of the day.

On the night of the 13th his troops slept in the city. The next morning at 6, Gen Quitman’s troops marched in, and advanced to the palace. Then commenced the firing, from the houses which did some damage to our men; but upon every house that fired in this manner, Gen. Worth directed six and eight inch howitzers to be discharged for the purpose of arresting the house firing. The contest continued some hours, when the victory became complete and all resistance was at an end.

Never did nobler spirits appear on the military theatre than our commander, his officers and his troops. An expression for man English house in one of the following letters, crowds into one sentence the noble compliment which they deserve. These letters leave the desolution of Santa Anna in profound mystery. The reinforcements which are marching to Gen. Scott must astonish and deeply impress, if they do not intimidate the enemy. We have lost many precious lives- many brave and accomplished officers. We wait to hear the rest of their names in trembling solitude; but no army has ever covered itself with more brilliant glory. We see no reason to fear for any of our detachments. Lally must be safe in Jalapa until joined by General Lane, and Childs must be safe in Jalapa until he is joined by Lane and Lally. Other reinforcements are pouring in at Vera Cruz, and marching on the aid of our countrymen. In fact, when we calculate the strength with which we are rolling on torrent upon torrent, and when we see the shattered forces and the broken spirits of the enemy, we confess that we can anticipate nothing still but an honorable war, which we trust will lead eventually to an honorable peace. [MDT]

NNR 73.119-120 23 OCT 1847 the battles of Molino del Rey and Chapultepec, and the capture of Mexico City (from the New Orleans "Delta")

Battle of Mill Del Rey.
Correspondence of the New Orleans Delta
City of Mexico, Sept 25, 1847.

The general-in-chief received information that at Molino del Rey, where stood several buildings, the Mexicans were at work casting cannon, shells, shot, etc. Desiring to stop their military operations, he directed Worth, with his division, supported by Ge. Cadwallader’s brigade to attack and destroy the place, on the morning of the 8th, and then retire. The buildings, which the Mexicans call Casa Mata, are situated fon the west side of Chapultepec; and within 6 pound range of the guns of the fort. On the west side of the buildings and the breastworks around them is a large open plain, gradually descending to the position occupied by the Mexicans; a deep ravine inclines round this plain, or open space, until it arrives within about 200 yards of the buildings, upon which rested the enemy’s right flank. Two 24 pounders belonging to Capt. Huger’s siege train, were placed in position to batter down the breastworks and buildings, if they were found to be occupied by a heavy force, but they did not fire but a very few shot before Gen. Worth advanced his infantry down the plain and attacked the enemy’s works in the front and centre. The Mexicans opened upon them a most murderous fire from the point attacked and both their flanks, which moved down our troops like grass before the scythe. Many of the best officers of the division were cut down, and the heavy loss in the ranks caused that advance to waver for a moment until the supporting force came up, which also sustained a severe loss. A column of lancers, numbering four to five thousand, which were stationed on the enemy’s right, perceiving the effect of this deadly fire on our infantry, came charging down, in the hope of being able to take advantage of circumstances and put our troops to route, but they were soon checked in their onward career. Col. Duncan brought 2 pieces of his battery to bear upon them and Capt. Drum, with two recaptured Buena Vista pieces, also opened his fire on them, while at the same moment, Major Sumner, with 2 squadrons of dragoons, and Capt. Rutl’s company of mounted rifles, which, until then had been held in reserve, passed down under the fire from the enemy’s works, and charged the head of their columns, which they could not stand for a moment, and commenced a confused and precipitous retreat. After that they rallied twice, and attempted to return, but at each time our little handful of dragoons made them leave without exchanging cards, while the calvary and the infantry, rallying, succeeded in carrying the buildings and breastworks which the enemy held, and compelled them to retreat-capturing seven pieces of artillery, a large quantity of ammunition, small arms, etc. and about 600 prisoners. As soon as they were driven from the buildings, capt. Drum and Col.
Duncan advanced their light batteries, and Lieut. Stone brought forward one of the 24 pounders, the whole of which opened a most destructive fire upon them, as they retreated across a low plain to the rear of the position they at first occupied. Our loss was very heavy, and I regret to say that some of the very best officers of our army killed or wounded, while the Mexicans loss was very slight, until they commenced their retreat. While the cavalry were passing in front of the enemy, in order to charge the column of lancers, they were not under fire more than ten seconds, and during that time they sustained a loss of six officers wounded, 32 privates killed and wounded, and a loss of 105 horses. There were but 2 officers that did not have their horses shot under them.

We were deceived in reference to the character of the buildings, as there was no foundry, or even as semblance of one-and after blowing up some of the buildings, and bringing off our killed and wounded, we evacuated the place, as the occupation of it would give us no advantage. Our loss was 8 hundred killed, wounded and missing.

The result of this engagement taught us one lesson, which was, that the Mexicans use their arms well, and fight well, when they are in position; and although the superiority of our arms and the valor of the troops will eventually triumph, yet still we must call into requisition all our military science and skill, or we purchase our victories at too dear a price. A list of the killed and wounded you will find in the general recapitulation which I send you. Many a tear will be shed on its perusal, and many a heart will bleed for the noble souls’ and the old and firm veterans which fell in the assault. [MDT]

NNR 73.120 23 OCT 1847 number of shot and shells fired, letters from Veracruz, troops arrive, “Union’s” statement of forces under Gen. Winfield Scott

The following memoranda will show you the number of shot and shell fired by the siege batteries. The small number fired at Chapultepec, and the manner in which the castle and fort were completely torn to pieces, is one of the best evidence of the power of that arm of our service, and the superior abilities of the officers commanding it.

Battery No. 1- On the Tacubaya road-served by Capt. Drum, company G. 4th artillery—216 pounders and 1 8 inch howitzer—fired 300 round shot, 100 shells, and 50 round of canister.

Battery No. 2- On the ridge south of Molino del Rey—served by Lieut. Hagner and company of ordnance—124 pounder and 1 8 inch howitzer—fired 146 round shot and 74 shells.

Battery No. 3- On the same ridge, the nearer the Molino del Rey—served at first by Capt. H. Brooks 2d artillery, and afterwards by Lieut. S.S. Anderson, 2d artillery, on the 12th of September- 1 16 pounder and 1 8 inch howitzer. (The carriage of the 16 pounder gun) fired 70 rounds 16 pound shot, 37 24 pound, do., and 30 shells.

Battery No.4- 10 inch mortar—served by Lieut. Store and company of ordnance—Fired 84 shells. From the Garita San Cosme, a few 24 pound shot and 5 10 inch mortar shells were thrown into the city after dark on the 13, and a few 8 inch shells into houses from which the firing came, on the 14th.

Extracts of letters received this evening in Washington from an officer of the government at Vera Cruz.

Vera Cruz October 2, 1847.

As to the truth of the report from Mexico that the leperos or lazarams had sacked the city, and that the troops of General Scott could not have prevented it, I certainly cannot believe that.

That General Santa Anna has come down with 2000 cavalry, and was at a small town near Puebla, there is now not a shadow of a doubt. What his intention is, no one can tell. By the small force he has, it cannot be to prevent our reinforcements from going up; for, with the 1000 men under Major Lally at Jalapa, they could march over any force that Santa Anna could get, provided he had the means of which
neither he nor his government, if he has any, has a dollar.

September 30, the British courier has just arrived bringing dates from the city of Mexico to the 27th.

Pena y Pena, as I before informed you, with two associate judges, compose the government, and were at Queretaro, and that they had called the congress together on the 5th of next month.

I have seen a letter from one of the most respected English houses, who speaks of the taking of the different forts and of the city in the most glowing terms; that these victories of the Americans will compare with Cortes’s. In fact, there is, (he says) nothing like them on record.

The British courier informs me that he left Santa Anna in Puebla yesterday; that he conversed with him for an hour; that he deeply regretted not making peace; that he (Santa Anna) arrived at Puebla with a few hundred horse, and that it was his opinion he intended to make for the coast.

Gen. Patterson. I am glad to say, reached here to day in good health.

Brig. Gen. Cushing has also arrived.

Gen. Lane arrived in Jalapa today. Major Lally is still there with his 1000 men.

Colonel Childs had, the day before yesterday, 12 days’ provision, but the reinforcements will reach him in season.

Vera Cruz, October 2, 1847.

Since I had this pleasure, several transports with troops from the Brazos have arrived and are daily coming in.

Gen. Wilson is sick and today delivered over the command for the present to Col. Miles.

I have been told this morning that Santa Anna had ordered a friend of his to inform him at once when Gen. Lane moves from Jalapa. He (Santa Anna) will no doubt start immediately for Oajaca, and thence to Guatemala. This is told me by a friend of Santa Anna. The country appears to be used up; no government-no money-no credit, and no moral courage.

Oct. 4-Since I had the honor to address you by tis steamer, (which has been detained by a norther) I have obtained the following information, to wit: Filisola, general of division, with 4000 men, and Gen Corteyal, with 3000 men, and with all the leperos they can raise, and the national guard, are to make a demonstration on the city of Mexico. Gen. Santa Anna, with Gen. Quijana, and 2000 horse and 1000 foot are to obstruct the reinforcements going to Gen. Scott. He is to be assisted by Gen. Rhea, with the forces under his command, supposed to be about 1500 or 2000. Should Santa Anna he unsuccessful, it is presumed he will make his way to the coast and leave the country.

The war is hereafter to be carried on by the different departments or states; each state to operate with its own forces. The lieutenant governor of the department of Vera Cruz (Guiterrez Villanueva) is to organize a national guard, consisting of 1500 men, to which is to be added the 2d regiment of regulars, under the command of the lieutenant governor named above. Governor Soto (late governor) having lost the confidence heretofore reposed in him, on account of receiving part of the spoils captured by the guerrillas.

The legislature of this state will meet soon at Orizaba. Gen. Santa Anna captured an express from Gen. Scott to Col. Childs at Puebla, directing him to hold out as long as possible, and, if obliged to abandon his position, to fall back on him. This express also directed Col. Childs to hurry up to General Scott any reinforcements that might be on the way from Vera Cruz.

This information can be relied on, and I have felt it my duty to give it to Gen.
Nearly all the troops have arrived from the Brazos, and Gen. Patterson will move up in the course of a few days.

Gen. Lane, with Major Lally, ought to be, and no doubt will be, in Puebla in all this week.

These fresh reinforcements will astonish the Mexicans, and will have a most favorable effect in making them cry out for opening negotiations; they begin to feel as if we had done them all the harm we could.

The Washington Union, in the following article, is giving Gen. Scott large reinforcements. We hope that the sum total which is here set down may not turn out to be a mistake in the figures:

We have seen some late speculations in the public prints about the reinforcements which have been sent or are en route for Gen. Scott's column. Without undertaking to be very precise as to the numbers, we think we may venture to state, from the data which we have seen, that, without counting General Pierce's detachment, which has actually joined Gen. Scott, but counting in Major Lally's corps, the reinforcements destined to join him can scarcely fall short of 1600 troops; and this too, independent of the two new regiments which have just been called into service. The whole column of Gen. Scott in the field, when collected together and this operation was rapidly advancing to its full maturity - will give him from 25000 to 30000 - and nearer the last number than the first, and perhaps even exceeding it.

The N. Orleans Picayune has letters from Kendall, describing the hard fought battle of the 8th September, as follows:

Gen. Worth commenced the attack at early daylight, and in less than two hours every point was carried, all the cannon of the enemy were in our possession, an immense quantity of ammunition captured, and nearly 1,000 men, among them 53 officers, taken prisoners.

For more than an hour the battle raged with a violence not surpassed since the Mexican war commenced, and so great the odds opposed, that for some time the result was doubtful. The force of the enemy has been estimated at from 12,000 to 15,000, them our small force of scarcely 3,000 was obliged to approach to an open plain and without the least cover; but their dauntless courage carried them over every obstacle, and notwithstanding the Mexicans fought with a valor rare for them, they were finally routed from one point or another until all were driven and dispersed. The defeat was total.

But to gain this victory out own loss has been uncommonly severe - if has been purchased with the blood of some of the most gallant spirits of the army. The 5th infantry has suffered the most. That regiment, along with the 6th and 8th, was engaged in the attack upon a strong work on the enemy's right, and was opposed to such superior numbers that it was compelled to retire along with the others. - The celebrated Col. Martin Scott was killed in this attack, along with Lieuts. Burwell and Strong, while Col. McIntosh and many other officers were badly wounded. The worse than savage miscreants in the fort, after our men retired, set up a yell and came out and massacred such of our wounded as were unable to get off. In this way poor Burwell lost his life. Fully were they avenged, however; for within half an hour Duncan's battery, aided by the fall of another of their works, drove the dastardly wretches in full flight across the fields. No one knew or even surmised the strength of the place; it was an old fort, constructed long since, and was one of the main defenses of the line of works.

On the enemy's left, and nearer Chapultepec our loss was also great, although not as severe. it was here that Col. Wm. M. Graham, as brave a spirit as ever lived, was killed; Captains Merrill and Ayres also fell in this part of the field. The wonder now is how any one could come out safe under such a terrible fire as the enemy poured from his entire line of works. Nothing but the daring and impetuosity were falling thick around them, gaining the victory - has they once faltered all would have been lost.
The broken ground on the right of the enemy, cut up by deep ravines, saved many of Santa Anna's troops in their flight; yet, as it was, our dragoons killed and captured many of the fugitives. Large bodies of the Mexican cavalry approached the scene of strife several times, but they were driven like sheep by Duncan's battery.

The Mexican loss has been even more severe than our own. Gen. Balderas, General Leon, and many other officers are numbered among the dead, while the interior of their works, the tops of the houses from which they fled are strewn with lifeless bodies. Such was the panic that many of our officers say that a few fresh troops might have taken Chapultepec itself almost without a struggle; but other than a few shots fired at that point from some of the captured cannon, no demonstration was made.

A letter of the 9th Sept. contains the following full list of all the killed and wounded officers in Gen. Worth's division in the great battle of the Molino Del Rey, as also of those in Major Sumner's command of dragoons, and in Gen. Calwallader's brigade. Its correctness, the writer says, may be relied on:

Gen. Worth's Division—killed—Col. Martin Scott, 5th inf; Captain Merrill, 5th inf, Captain G. W. Ayres, 3d. artillery; Lieut. E. B. Strong, 5th inf; Lieutenants W. Armstrong, 3d artillery; Lieutenat W. T. Burwell, 5th infantry Lieutenant Farry, 3d artillery.

Wounded—Col. McIntosh, 5th inf, severely; Maj. C. A. Waite, 8th inf, badly; Major G. Wright, 8th inf, slightly; Capt. E. Smith, 5th inf, severely; Capt. Cady, 6th inf, slightly; Capt. Larkin Smith, 8th inf, severely; Capt. Walker, 6th inf, severely; Capt. R. Anderson, 3d. art'y, severely; Assistant Surgeon W. Roberts, dangerously; Captain J. L. Mason, corps of engineers, severely; Lieut. C. S. Hamilton, 5th infantry, severely; Lieut. C. B. Daniels, 2d. art, severely; Lieut. Ernest, 6th inf, severely-lost right hand; Lieut. J. G. Burbank, 8th infantry, mortally; Lieut. J. D. Clark, 8th inf, badly; Lieut. C. F. Morris, 8th inf, badly; Lieut. Wainwright, 8th inf, severely; Lieut. H. J. Hunt, 2d art., slightly; Lieut. J. G. S. Snelling, 8th inf, severely; Lieut. H. F. Clarke, 2d. art, slightly; Lieut. W. Hayes, 2d art, lightly; Lieut. J. G. Fogster, corps of engineers, severely; Assist. Surgeon J. Simmons, slightly; Lieut. Dent, 5th inf, severely; Lt. H. Prince, 4th inf, severely; Lieut. A. B. Lincoln, 4th inf., severely; Lt. Herman Thorne, 3d. dragoons, -aid to Col. Garland, severely; Lieut. Montgomery, 8th inf, slightly; Lieutenant Andrews, 3d. artillery, slightly. [KAS]

Entering The City of Mexico

City of Mexico, Sept 14, 1847.

Another victory, glorious in its results and which has thrown additional lustre upon the American arms, has been achieved today by the army under Gen. Scott—the proud capital of Mexico has fallen into the power of a mere handful of men compared with the immense odds arrayed against them, and Santa Anna, instead of shedding his blood as he had promised, is wandering with the remnant of his army no one know whither.

The apparently impregnable works on Chapultepec, after, a desperate struggle, were triumphantly carried—Generals Bravo and Mouterde, besides a host of officers of different grades, taken prisoners; over 1000 non commissioned officers and privates, all their cannon and ammunition, are in our hands; the fugitives were soon in full flight towards the different works which command the entrances to the city, and our men at once were in hot pursuit.

Gen. Quitman, supported by Gen. Smith’s brigade, took the road by the Chapultepec acqueduct towards the Belen gate and the Ciudadela; General Worth, supported by General Cadwallader’s brigade advanced by the San Cosme acqueduct towards the garita of that name. Both routes were cut up by ditches and defended by breastworks, barricades, and strong works of every description known to military science; yet the daring and impetuosity of our men overcome one defense after another, and by nightfall every work to the city’s edge was carried. General Quitman’s command, after the rout at Chapultepec, was the first to encounter the enemy in force.
Midway between the former and the Belen gate, Santa Anna had constructed a strong work; but this was at once vigorously assaulted by General Quitman, and aided by a flank fire from two of Duncan’s guns, which General Worth had ordered to approach as near as possible from San Cosme road, the enemy was again routed and in full flight. They again made a stand from their strong fortifications at and near the Belen garita, opening a tremendous fire not only of round shot, grape, and shell, but of musketry; but boldly General Quitman advanced, stormed and carried the works, although at great loss, and then every point on this side the city was in our possession. IN this onslaught two of our bravest officers were killed-Captain Drum and Lieut. Benjamin.

Meanwhile Gen. Worth was rapidly advancing upon San Cosme. At the English burying ground the enemy had constructed a strong work. It was defended by infantry for a short time, but could not resist the assault of our men—the affrighted Mexicans soon fled to another line of works nearer the city, and thus General Worth was in possession of the entrance to San Cosme. As his men advanced towards the garita, the enemy opened a heavy fire of musketry from the housetops, as well as of grape, canister, and shell from their batteries, thus sweeping the street completely. At this juncture the old Monterey game, of borrowing and digging through the houses, was adopted. ON the right, as our men faced the enemy, the aqueduct afforded a partial shelter; on the left, the houses gave some protection; but many were still killed or wounded by the grape which swept every part, as well as by the shells which were continually bursting in every direction. About 3 o’clock the work of the pick-ax and the crowbar, under the direction of Lieut. G.W. Smith, of sappers and miners, had fairly commenced and every minute brought our men nearer the enemy’s last stronghold. IN the meantime two mountain howitzers were fairly lifted to the top of one of the houses and into the cupola of the church, from which they opened a plunging and most effective fire, while on Dunce’s guns, in charge of Lieut. Hunt, was run up under a galling fire to a deserted breastwork, and at once opened upon the garret. In this latter daring feat, four men out of eight were either killed or wounded, but still the piece was most effectively served. The work of the miners was still going on. In one house, which they had entered, by the pick-ace, a favorite aid of Santa Anna’s was found. That great man had just fled, but had left his friend and his supper! Both wearier well cared for = the latter was devoured by our hungry officers; the former, after doing the honors of the table, was mad a close prisoner. Just as dark was setting in, our men had dug and mined their ways almost up to three very guns of the enemy, and now, after a short struggle, they were completely routed and driven with the loss of everything. The command of the city by the San Cosme route was attained.

During the night Gen. Quitman commenced the work of throwing up breastworks and erecting batteries, with the intention of opening a heavy cannonade upon the Ciudadela with the first light this morning. At 10 o’clock at night General Worth, ordered Captain Hugar to bring up a 24 pounder, and a 10 inch mortar to the garita or gate of San Cosme, and having ascertained the bearing and distance of the grand plaza and palace, at once opened upon those points. The heavy shells were heard to explode in the very heart of the city. At a little after midnight Major Palacious, accompanied by two or three members of the municipal council of the city, arrived at Gen. Worth’s headquarters and in great trepidation informed him that Santa Anna and his grand army had fled and that they wished at once to surrender the capital! They were referred to the commander in chief, and immediately started for Tacubaya; but in the meantime the firing upon the town ceased.

At 7 this morning, General Scott, with his staff, rode in and took quarters in the national palace, on the top of which the regiment flag of the gallant rifles and the starts and striped were already flying, and an immense crowd of blanketed leperos, the scum of the capital, were congregated in the plaza as the commander in chief entered it. They pressed upon our soldiers, and eyed them as thought hey were beings of another world. So much were they in the way, and with such earnestness did they press around, that Gen. Scott was compelled to order our dragoons to clear the plaza. They were told, however, not to injure or harm a man in the mob—they were all our friends.

About five minutes after this, and while General Worth was returning to his division near the Alameda, he was fired upon from a house near the convent of San Francisco. Some of the cowardly Polkas, who had fled the day previous without discharging their guns, now commenced the assassin game of shooting at every one of our men they saw, from windows, as well as behind the parapets on the azoteas or tops of the houses. In half an hour’s time our good friends, the leperos, in the neighborhood of the hospital of San Andres and the church of Santa Clara, also commenced discharging muskets and throwing rocks from the azoteas. I have neglected to mention that just previous to this Cpl. Garland had been severely wounded by a musket, fire by some miscreant from a window.
For several hours this cowardly war upon our men continued, and during this time many were killed and wounded. It was in this species of fighting that Lieut. Sidney Smith received his death wound. The division of Gen. Twiggs in one part of the city, and Gen. Worth in another, were soon actively engaged in putting down the insurrection. Orders were given to shoot every man in all the houses from which the firing came, while the guns of the different light batteries swept the streets in all directions. As the assassins were driven from one house they would take refuge in another; but by the middle of the afternoon they were all forced back to the barrios and suburbs. Many innocent persons have doubtless been killed during the day, but his could not be avoided. Had orders been given at the outset to blow up and demolish every house or church from which one man was fired upon, the disturbances would have been at once quelled. As it is, I trust that the lessons the rabble and their mischievous leader have received today may deter them from future outrages.

On entering the palace Gen. Scott at once named Gen. Quitman governor of Mexico—a most excellent appointment. Some wag immediately proclaimed aloud in the plaza as follows: "Gen. John A. Quitman of Mississippi has been appointed governor of Mexico, vice Gen. Jose Maria Tornell, resigned very suddenly!" It seems that the valiant Tornel ran off at an early hour, and his magnificent house had been converted into a hospital for our wounded officers.

Yours, &c

G.W.K. [MDT]

NNR 73.122 23 OCT 1847 Col. John W. Tibbatts' proclamation on assuming governorship of Monterey

We are indebted to our friend, John W. Tibbatts, Col. 16th infantry, who is now civil and military governor of Monterey, for a copy of the proclamation issued by him, upon his assuming the duties of that office, on the 1st of September, 1847. The proclamation declares that the governor found the city "virtually without law or order, and infested with robbers, murderers, gamblers, vagrants, and other evil disposed persons—the worst of criminals going free, unscathed of justice; even rapine and murder stalking abroad in open day without fear of punishment, insomuch that the peaceable inhabitants of the of have no protection either of person or property." The Colonel gives every dark picture of the morals of his "province," but it there is any virtue in stringent laws and avowals of a determination to enforce them, he will soon have a respectable city of it. HE makes a clean sweep of the gamblers, hells, drinking shops, and rowdies, and invites the Mexican citizens who have been compelled to glee from their homes through fear or other cause to return, with the assurance that they will be protected in all their honest avocations. [MDT]

NNR 73.122 23 OCT 1847 items from California

California—By the way of Mexico and New Orleans we have been favored with the following letter from Mazatlan, of the date of 27th June. Most of the news is of a later date than previously received.

Commodore Stockton and suite, Capt. Gillespie, U.S.M.C. and J. Parker Norris, Esq. Of Philadelphia, were to leave San Francisco for home, overland by the 25th of June.

Col. R.B. Mason, 1st dragoons, took command of California as military and civil governor, 1st June. Col. J.D. Stevenson, 7th Regt. N. York volunteers, commands the Southern Department of Upper California, headquarters at "Puebla de los Angelos."

At Monterey, June 12th, U.S. ship of the line Columbus, Commodore Biddle; sloop Warren, Capt. Hull; transports Erie, Lt. Watson, and Lexington, Lt. Bailey- latter to sail in five days from La Paz, with Lt. Col. Burton’s command, who would be embarked at Santa Barbara.

Sailed from Monterey, June 11th, frigate United States, Com. Stockton, for San
Beauties of the war. The barque Agnes, Capt. Cutter, cleared at Baltimore on the 1st May last, for Vera Cruz, with a cargo of 250 tons Cumberland coal. She arrived in safety at her port of destination, where it was found that the coal was not wanted. The vessel was, however, suffered to remain 60 days in the harbor of Vera Cruz, on demurrage, at the end of which time she was ordered to Baltimore with her cargo. On reaching Baltimore, she was ordered to this port, where she arrived on Thursday last, with her entire cargo, not having broken bulk since she left Baltimore in May 1st. Here the cargo was sold for the most it would bring, probably not over 9 dollars per ton, landed at this port, thus making a loss through the gross mismanagement and ignorance of its officials, of not far from $18,000. This is but one among the many instances of a similar character, which exhibit the manner in which the money of the people is squandered.

Boston Journal. [MDT]

There was a meeting of the people at Dahlonega, Ga., on the 9th, which was attended by Mr. J. M. Berrien. This veteran senator delivered an eloquent speech on the occasion. Mr. Berrien said, our democratic friends appear to be extremely solicitous of making an issue with us upon the subject of national politics, and insist with much earnestness upon a definition of whig principles. Principles which had been often defined to their knowledge, and of which we were neither afraid nor ashamed—he would give them a full and frank avowal of them. So far as time would permit and his understanding of them justify. He and these principles were embodied in one word, and that word conservatism—that conservatism would guard the constitution as a sacred casket—which would look to it as the ark of the covenant of our political, civil and religious liberties—that conservatism which would preserve the coordinate branches of the government, and limit each to its respectively defined powers, and a strict accountability of public officers—that would see to it that there was a clear grant of power for each governmental act—of that conservatism which formed our constitution and had preserved us as a people, and which as aptly expressed in the homely phrase of “let well enough alone,” But as these general principles might not be considered satisfactory, he said he would go more into detail. He referred to the much hexed question of a tariff; he said a whig principle consisted in levying duties upon imports to raise revenue for the support of the government, and such duties only as would be necessary to defray the expenses of the government, economically administered, and to make such reasonable discriminations within the limits of revenue as would protect American manufactures; or in other words, a revenue tariff with discriminations within the revenue standard, or the purposes of protection. Mr. B said the democratic tariff of 1846, and Mr. Polk’s kane letter admitted this principle; that there was no difference between the two parties on this subject, nor a necessity longer for a conflict in reference to a tariff, except as to the amount of revenue which the tariff of 46 would raise. If it yielded enough, he made no war upon it— if it did, it ought to be repealed or changed. He said extremes had met upon this question: that the men of ultra principles he said the alternative question presented to the people were a tariff and direct taxation. The whigs this year as not a test in his opinion, in the amount of income from the customs, on account of the great demand of breadstuffs on the other side of the Atlantic, and the large imports consequent upon the state of affairs created by the failure of the grain crops in Europe; if he was found to be wrong, he should not complain. HE next alluded to a National Bank, and said it had been a question of whig policy, and they still maintained that congress had the constitutional power to charter a bank, and if it were required by the people, and circumstances justified the exercise of the power, the whig party would still be in favor of it.

HE said, however, that in the present state of the country, when upon the breaking up and reorganization of the state banking system, and since men of substantial capital had invested their funds in the state banks, rendering their issues...
at all times convertible into special, and producing a sound currency, which was a result anxiously sought by the whig party, he saw no pressing public necessity for the establishment of such an institution, and he considered that question in abeyance. He said the whig party were still in favor of the principle of distribution of public lands among the states; these lands were the common property of all the states; they had always been in favor of these proceeds going towards the discharge of the public debt; however he thought this question might be considered the debt which this democratic administration had saddled on the country, it was not at all likely that there would be any necessity for such a law, at least during the present generation.

MR. Berrien next spoke of the Mexican war, and characterized it as the offspring of misdirected ambition, and said it commenced, first, in a violation of the constitution, in which the president had assumed the war making power, and justified by no public necessary. Secondly, It has been conducted, so far as the administration was concerned, without wisdom and without energy. Thirdly, It looked to no great and patriotic result; it was a war of conquest, not contemplated by the constitution; a measure at once pregnant with consequence dangerous to the well being of the union, and destructive of the harmony of the people. All of the provisions of the constitution were peaceful in their character, so far as conquest was concerned. It provided for no standing army—its army was the militia, and that belonged to the states, and could only be called out to execute the laws of the Union, to suppress insurrection, and repel invasion. It provided for the common defence only of the good people of these U. States. It was peaceful in all its frame work, as to all the machinery for acquiring territory by the sword. He next spoke of the firebrand which the acquisition of territory would throw into the legislation of the country, and said the northern democracy were determined to engrat "the Wilmont provoso" upon all measures for acquiring territory; as proof of which he referred to the action of the last congress and the introduction of this proviso by a democrat, and to a controversy now pending between the editor of the Union, and the New York Evening Post, which latter paper, professing to express the will of the party at the North, makes adherence to the Wilmot proviso one of the tests of democratic faith. He said our whig brethren at the north were with us in opposition to the acquisition of territory, because it violated the constitution, and to avoid the dangerous questions which would be made by it. He appealed to southern men upon this question, and asked them if they would consent to acquire this territory by our common sufferings, blood and treasure, and have it, except upon terms of perfect equality with our northern territory and exclude slavery from it? The constitution gave us the right to take our slaves there if we wished—were we prepared to dissolve the Union, or let our northern brethren erect a tier of free states around us greatly outnumbering us in numerical strength in the halls of congress, and placing us at their mercy? Far better go with our whig brethren at the north, leave our weak and distracted sister republic to the possession of her territory, and save the constitution and the country.

Mr. Berrien closed his speech with a most powerful appeal to the aged, middle aged and young, to stand by the constitution and the advice of the fathers of the country— to preserve them in ther letter and spirit at all and every hazard. He spoke of himself as soon to pass away in the ordinary allotments of providence—as being in his sear and yellow leaf; as having little personal interest in these questions, save a deep devotion to his welfare of his country. He told the men of middle life, that upon them rested the mighty responsibility the rich heritage bequeathed them by a patriotic ancestry. HE exhorted the young to grid on the harness and be ready to receive the high and solemn trust, when the cycles of time should invest them with the prerogatives of doing battle in favor of the rights of man.   [MDT]

NNR 73.125 23 OCT 1847 Senator Berrien’s Amendment to the three million bill

Senator Berrien’s Amendment to the three million bill.

The Washington Union is vehement against the doctrine embraced in Mr. Berrien’s amendment, which as it is appropriate to the subject in hand, we insert. It was—

"Provided, always and it is hereby declared to be the true intent and meaning of congress in making this appropriation, that the war with Mexico ought not to be prosecuted by this government with any view to the dismemberment of that republic, or to the acquisition, by conquest, of any portion of her territory: that this government, ever desirous to maintain and preserve, peaceful and friendly relations with all nations, and particularly with the neighboring republic of Mexico, will always
be ready to enter upon negotiations with a view to terminate the present unhappy conflict on terms which shall secure the just rights and preserve inviolate the national honor of the United states and of Mexico; that it is especially desirable, in order to maintain and preserve those amicable relations which ought always to exist between neighboring republics that the boundary of the state of Texas should be definitely settled, and that provism be made by the republic of Mexico for the prompt and equitable adjustment of the just claims of our citizens on that republic."

The following were the yeas and nays on the above amendment.

Yeas-Messrs, Archer, Badger, Berrien, Cilley, Thomas Clayton, John M. Clayton, Corwin, Crittenden, Davis, Dayton, Evans, Greene, Huntington, Jarnagin, Johnson, of Maryland, Mangum, Miller, Morehead, Pearce, Phelps, Simmons, Upham, Webster, Woodbridge.-24

Nays-Messrs, Allen, Ashley, Atchison, Atherton, Begby, Benton, Breese, Bright, Butler, Calhoun, Case, Chalmers, Colquitt, Dickenson, Dix, Fairfield, Hannegan, Houston, Johnson, of Louisiana, Lewis, Mason, Niles, Rusk, Sevier, Soule, Sturgeon, Turney, Westcott, Yulee-29.

[MDT]

NNR 73.129 30 OCT 1847 rumor of Gen. Jose Urrea advancing towards the Rio Grande and of Gen. Zachary Taylor visiting the United States, both discredited by the "Union"

Official.-The Washington Union of the 26th says-

Rumors are rife in the city, many of which have no foundation. For instance, we received this morning a telegraphic bulletin from a Philadelphia editor inquiring when we should publish General Scott's despatches? This curiosity was probably produced by the blunder of a scribbler in this city, who writes to New York that a large budget of despatches had arrived from the camp. But the fact is, that no despatches have been received from the General descriptive of the late stirring events; and, indeed, no letter, as we have understood, from Gen. Scott, since the 4th of June. Either they have been intercepted, or they have been withheld, from the apprehension of their falling into the hands of the guerrillas. This state of things cannot continue much longer, as the advancing reinforcements, and the positions which they mean to occupy upon the route, must soon open the communication. Indeed, we understand that Gen. Scott has been expressly instructed to open the road, or the purpose of transmitting his despatches.

Another report was current in the streets of Washington today, viz: that an express had arrived from the Rio Grande, with information that Urrea was crossing the mountains with 20000 troops, for the purpose of sweeping our posts in that direction. But we have ascertained that no express has arrived with any such information. Letters have been received from General Taylor's camp, but they say nothing of Urrea's invasion.

A late New Orleans paper states that Gen. Taylor intends to visit the United States, and expects to be in New Orleans some time in the month of November. We doubt the information, as we presume the General will not leave the army until he has communicated his wishes to the department: and we understand that no such notice has yet been received.

[MDT]

NNR 73.130 30 OCT 1847 Tribute to Colonel Scott

Tribute to Colonel Scott

The correspondence of the Delta, in describing the appearance of the field before Molino del Rey after the action, relates the following exhibition of affection on the part of an old soldier.
After going over a portion of ground, and finding here and there a valued acquaintance, my attention was attracted to a gray-haired veteran, who was standing by the side of one who had fallen. He leisurely took his blanket from his back and spread it over the corpse with great care. I rode up to him and asked him whether that was an officer. He looked up, and every lineament of his face betokening the greatest grief, replied, "you never asked a question sir, more easily answered, is it an officer." I then asked him who he was. He again replied, "The best soldier of the 5th infantry sir." I then alighted from my horse and uncovered the face, found it was Col. Martin Scott. As I again covered the face, the soldier continued, without apparently addressing himself to any person in particular--"They have killed him-they will be paid for this-if it only had been me-I have served with him almost four enlistments but what will his poor family say?" And as he concluded thus the tears coursed down his furrowed cheeks, and the swelling of his bosom showed how deeply he was affected by the death of his veteran and gallant commander. [MDT]

NNR 73.130 30 OCT 1847 official statement of the troops under Gen. Winfield Scott

General Scott’s Column-Official

Much curiosity having been expressed about the force of General Scott’s army, and several speculations having appeared in the newspapers upon this subject, we have applied for information to the office of the adjacent general, who has been polite enough to furnish us with the following schedule. Let us add to this list of reinforcements the troops which Genera Scott carried with him from Puebla—estimated at 13 to 14000 men. It cannot be precisely calculated, m for no regular return of number have been received from the camp for more than five months. The rumors received this day state his whole loss, in the late memorable action near and in Mexico, at 1600 men (since leaving Puebla 3000 men,) including killed, wounded and missing who did not appear in their respective companies immediately after the actions. But many of these are supposed to have returned to their respective commands in a few days after.

Making every allowance, therefore, for the missing, the whole force of General Scott’s column may in a few weeks be estimated at near 30000.

Reinforcements of the army under Major General Scott, since July 14, including troops now en route, and volunteers being enrolled.

1. Troops detached from army under Major Gen. Taylor’s command, exclusive of Col. Hay’s Texas mounted volunteers, of which the strength is not known——2937

2. Troops reported by Colonel Wilson to have arrived at Vera Cruz subsequently to the departure thence of Brigadier General Pierce’s brigade, (July 14th) and exclusive of Sept. 9 the date of Colonel Wilson’s last report.——3838

3. Troops which it is calculated, have arrived at Vera Cruz since Colonel Wilson’s last report, (Sept. 9,) or now en route for that point, [ ]

Regulars

Recruits for 14th infantry, from N. Orleans, Aug. 26——40
Recruits for 11th infantry (46) and voltigeurs (67) from Fort McHenry, Sept. 11——

113

Company K, 1st dragoons, from Jefferson Barracks, Sept. 11——91
Recruits for 3d artillery, (225) 9th infantry, (81) &c, from N. York, Sept. 16——

322

Capt. Jones company 13th infantry for Athens Ga, Sept. 16 —80
Part of Jones company voltigeurs, from Georgia———45
Recruits for 13th infantry, from GA and Alabama———69
Recruits for 8th infantry, from Baton Rouge———49

12——368

Companies L and M, 2d artillery from New York Oct. 16——190
Company M, 4th artillery, Ft. Monroe———50
Hamilton’s and Jones’s comp’s 12th infantry and Clark’s 13th infantry for Fort Moultrie——255
Voltigeur recruits from Forts McHenry and Monroe —50
Recruits for 7th infantry from Newport Barracks, Oct. 11——200
Capt. Turner’s company 1st dragoons from Ft. Leavenworth——84
Recruits for 9th infantry from New York ——100
Total——2115

Volunteers

Part of Captain Connolly’s company Louisiana mounted volunteers, from N. Orleans, Aug. 27—40
Six companies Georgia mounted volunteers from Columbus, GA, Sept 8 & 9 ——547
Capt. Tilghman’s company mounted volunteers, artillery for Ft. McHenry, Sept 11 ——89
Two companies Florida volunteers from Pensacola (about), Sept. 20———157
Col. Irvin regiment Ohio volunteers for Cincinnati, Sept. 22———844
Two companies Illinois volunteers horse, from N. Orleans Sept 23———160
Four companies Georgia volunteers foot and 45 Georgia volunteers horse from Columbus, Sept 25—417
New Jersey battalion volunteers foot, from New York, Sept 28 ——327
Capt. Schaeffer’s company Maryland volunteers foot, from Fort McHenry——80

Total 2631

Volunteers, estimated strength
Indiana, Ohio regiment of foot—800
Kentucky, two regiment of foot—1600
Tennessee, 3 regiment of foot—2400
Georgia, one company of foot—80
North Carolina, one company of foot—80
Virginia, one company of foot—80
Pennsylvania, one company of foot—80
Michigan, one regiment of foot—800

Total—5920

Aggregate reinforcements since July 14, including troops new en route, and volunteers being mustered into service, but exclusive of Col. Hays’ Texas mounted companies.—17461

A battalion of five companies of riflemen from Mississippi, called our in July, has not yet been organized. It is supposed that it will be raised, and its strength may be estimated at 400

Total 17861.

[MDT]

NCR 73.131 30 OCT 1847 notice of Virginia officers killed or wounded

Virginia Officers Killed or Wounded

Of the gallant officers killed or wounded in the late battles near the city of Mexico, we know that the following were natives of Virginia, viz: in the battle of the “Mill,” Lieut. Wm. M. Graham, 11th infantry, killed; Captain Larkin Smith, 8th infantry severely wounded. In the storming of Chapultepec and advance upon the city, Lieut. Col. Garland, commanding 1st brigade Worth’s division, wounded severely, but doing well, Lieut. Col. Johnson, Voltigeurs, wounded slightly; Capt. Magruder, 1st artillery. Wounded slightly; and Lieut. Joseph Selden, 8th infantry, wounded severely but doing well.

We are by no means sure that these are all the officers from Virginia who shed their blood in the service of the country, at these hard fought battles: but, when it is recollected that our state was not represented by any corps drawn exclusively from her citizens, the names we have mentioned may well be conceded to fill up her proper proportion.

Of the brave Lieut. Colonel Graham, who fell in the most sanguinary of all the battles, that of “El Molino Del Rey” we find the following interesting obituary memoir in the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin:

Lieut. Col. Graham. Among the officers who it appears, were lost to their country in the recent assault upon the city of Mexico, was the gallant Lieut. Col. William
Montrose Graham, of the 11th regiment, U.S. Infantry. Col. Graham was about 47 years of age, and was a brave soldier. He entered at the West Point Military Academy in 1813, and graduated in 1817, as 3rd Lieut, of artillery. Another brother, James D. Graham of the topographical engineers, one of the most scientific, accomplished and valuable officers in the service, entered and graduated the same year. They were the sons of Doctor William Graham, of Prince William county, VA., who served as did others of the family, with distinction, as officers in the revolutionary struggle. Col Graham whose fall we are now noticing was, soon after he graduated at West Point, selected by his commander, Gen. Jackson to perform some arduous and responsible duties among the southwestern Indians, which he did so satisfactorily that he was highly complimented by the General. Having been transferred to the 4th infantry, under Colonel Clinch, which was in Florida, he joined it, and was placed in command of Fort King, for a long time in the very heart of the troublesome Miccosakies.

The writer of this notice knew him well during the period, and can bear full testimony to his possession of all qualities that ennoble a gentleman and a soldier. He was in Florida in 1835, when the Seminole war broke out, and bore the brunt of the first battle at the Withlacoochee, where his galling final charge upon the Indians with the bayonet, dispersed the savages and aided greatly in securing the victory. Gov. Clinch in his official report, spoke in the highest terms of the conduct of Colonel then Capt. Graham. HE fell in the charge with 2 severe wounds from the Indian rifles, (one received early in the fight) and his brother, Lieut. Campbell Graham of the artillery, (now Capt. Of topographical engineers,) also received at the same time two severe wounds, at first believed to be mortal, but from which he recovered after a long time. Throughout the whole of the Florida war “the Grahams” were distinguished for their intrepidity and soldierly like conduct. Col. G. was in every battle on the Peninsula of much note, and at Okechubbee he gallantly led one wing of his regiment, and was complimented in the dispatches of his Colonel.

His brother, Brevet Major Lawrence Pike Graham, of the 2d dragoons, also served in Florida with great credit as a young lieutenant in Twiggs’ regiment, and was severely wounded in 1840, while scouting in the night, being fired upon by a party of militia by mistake. He is the same officer who was breveted by the president and senate a major for the gallant charge at Resaca de la Palma, with May, Inge and others of the dragoons. Lieutenant Colonel G. was distinguished at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Pahna, where he was with the 4th regiment of infantry, ot which he then belonged. At Monterey, he was selected by Gen. Taylor to lead his regiment to the assault; and it was for his daring and chivalrous gallantry on those occasions and especially that so signally displayed at Monterey that he was selected as Lieut. Colonel of the 11th, one of the new regiments by the president and senate. HE was not at Buena Vista, having been ordered to join General Scott, but at Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo, Contreras and Churubusco, he bore a prominent part in the conflicts and won his share of the glory of those brilliant achievements.

The particulars of his fall are not yet known. But hat he fell as became a soldier, his past career furnishes sure testimony to all who knew him. HE is mourned by numerous friends who appreciated his worth, and in whose hearts his memory is embalmed. A grateful country will not forget his services. Among all his fine military qualities none were more conspicuous than the generosity of his heart and his kind devotion to the comfort of those under his command. These endeared him to his soldiers, and many a tear will be shed for his loss by men of the stoutest hearts who served in the ranks under him, and experienced his kindness and benevolence.  [MDT]

NNR 73.136 30 OCT 1847 movements on the city of Mexico (New Orleans "Courier")

My dear friend: At last were in possession of the capital of Mexico, and snugly quartered in the far famed “Halls of Montezumas.”

Believing that it will interest you to understand the principal movements of our army since it left Puebla, as I am conversant with them all, I will relate them, and you will find them among the most interesting operations of war that have occurred during the nineteenth century.

When gen. Scott had completed his arrangements and concentrated his forces at Puebla in the early part of August, and when he saw the sudden disappearance of the speck of peace which had been held out to him and MR, Frist, he at once determined to move his whole available force upon the capital, to which demonstration he hoped to compel the Mexicans to accept our offer of peace.
Accordingly little or no resistance until we reached the valley of Mexico, nor did we meet any. We encountered strong natural fortifications at and in the vicinity of Rio Frio. But the enemy seemed to hold himself in reserve for the determined resistance our army met with after passing that region, midway between Puebla and this city, and after we had entered the valley of Mexico.

The reconnaissance of our engineers and information derived from other sources induced Gen. Scott to make his first demonstration upon the Pinon, so called-a height very strong by nature and doubly so by the science of the Mexicans, who left nothing undone to make the position impregnable. A further reconnaissance satisfied Gen. Scott and induced him to believe that the Penon could be turned by the flank; which was accordingly done, and after innumerable difficulties, reached San Augustin, ten miles from the capital on the 18th August.

Worth’s division was thrown forward a league to San Antonio on our right, and Gen. Pillow, with Cadawalder’s and Shields brigades, and Twiggs’ division on our left.

Worth’s division was much annoyed by the enemy’s guns at San Antonio as we were trying to turn that position, while a brisk cannonade was carried on by the troops under Gen. Pillow against the enemy’s batteries at Contreras. In the morning of the 20th August, Riley’s brigade of regulars, supported by Cadwallader’s brigade, assaulted the strong works; while the rifles stood ready to flank, and at a signal one rush was made, the works carried, twenty two guns (some eighteen pounders and O’Brien’s guns taken at Buena Vista) captured, and also eleven hundred prisoners, sixty wagon loads of ammunition, three hundred pack mules, and eighteen thousand dollars in money, besides killing more than 700 men; all this was done in seventeen minutes by the watch, with a loss on our part of only forty seven men killed and wounded.

Leaving our prizes, Shield’s brigade pursued the enemy to Tlalpan, followed by all the troops under Pillow, when Gen. Scott ordered Twiggs by one road, Pillow by another, and Worth by a third, to advance upon the enemy, then in large force and strong position (18000) men at churubusco, and the tete du pont near by.

Worth drove the enemy from San Augustine, who fled to the tete du pont. At these places an obstinate resistance was made for two hours and more, when the enemy fled to the city, followed by the dragoons and light troops to the very gates, leaving upwards of 300 dead and 1000 prisoners, besides a dozen guns and large quantities of fixed ammunition. Our loss was about 1000 and forty killed and wounded. Here we captured about sixty of our deserters, fifty of whom we hanged last week.

In the three fights we lost many of our best and noblest officers in the service.

Gen. Scott wisely recalled the troops, as, by entering the city, (which could most readily have been done,) the authorities would have been dispersed, and all chances of peace dispelled forever.

On the 21st Gen. Mora, chief engineer of Mexico, came out, and, meeting Gen. Scott at Colucan, made propositions for a truce. The advance of the army moved to Misquaka and Tacabaya, and on the 24th a truce was signed, and Mr. Trist met the four Mexican commissioners, when negotiations were commenced.

During the first four days of the truce there were so many palpable violations of it, in stonning our teamsters, murdering our men, receiving reinforcements, laboring on their forts, that, finally on the 6th September, Gen. Scott demanded explanation, apology, and redress, or the reopening of hostilities. Santa Anna having sent an undignified and impertinent answer to Gen. Scott on the 7th, Gen. Worth, with 2200 regulars, assaulted the mill of San Salvador, defended by the Mexican army, 16000 men, commanded by Santa Anna in person, drove the whole of them from the field, blowing up the foundry at the mill, taking 6 guns, a good supply of ammunition, seven hundred prisoners, and killing and wounding two thousand five hundred Mexicans. Our loss was above seven hundred killed and wounded.

By the morning of the 12th September, our engineers had a thorough reconnaissance of every position; and while Twiggs division was making a strong demonstration at the San Antonio. Gen scott had matured his plans to make the strong castle of Chapultepec by assault.

The 12th was occupied in bombarding this castle, and in the morning of the 13th
five hundred picked men, supported by Quitman on our right, Pillow in the centre, and Worth on our left, carried Chapultepec at the point of the bayonet. At this place we killed some three or four hundred, and took above three hundred prisoners and an immense quantity of ammunition. A Mexican was killed in the act of setting fire to three mines, with the intention of blowing up the castle and killing every soul in it. Gen. Smith's brigade joined Quitman's division in this fight. Riley's brigade was ordered up from the San Antonio gates.

Having secured our prizes, Quitman's division and Smith's brigade took the Tacubaya road, while Pillow's and Worth's divisions took the San Cosme road, and pursued the enemy to the gates of the city, which after some fighting were carried. At these places our loss was very great, but it is not yet ascertained. Worth's division dug their way half a mile through stone walls, took to the house tops, and carried every thing before them. Santa Anna, knowing that next morning we would drive him out, evacuated the city with all his army, and on the 14th we took position of the palace.

On the morning of the 14th Sept. Gen. Scott and staff entered the city, and after reviewing the troops were escorted to the palace.

As the troops were about to move to then quarters, a large body of lopers commenced firing on our men from the house tops, and a general street fight ensued which was kept up for two days and nights, when their priests and authorities, finding the lopers worsted, called on Gen. Scott, who stopped the further effusion of blood by recalled the troops and everything is now as quiet as if no hostilities existed. We killed nearly 1000 lopers and lost in killed and wounded about 100 men.

History cannot point to more brilliant actions nor to a more successful campaign. Every effort of our arms had been crowned with success and every officer and soldier had rendered himself worthy of his country's everlasting gratitude. [MDT]
At daylight on the 13th all were expectation. At 6 the order came for Smith's
storm the next morning at daylight.

In the afternoon a call was made for 250 picked men from the fortress hope, to
while then fire was scarcely less hot. It lasted all day and only ceased with daylight.

Every ball went crushing through the building and every sheel tore up the ramparts,
we could see the whole of it from where we were, and a most splended sight it was.

Into position at Tacubay, for bambarding Chapeltepc, commenced firing at daylight.

Arrived at Piedad, where we bivonacked. The next day the batteries having been got
into position at Tacubay, for bambarding Chapeltepc, commenced firing at daylight.

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At daylight on the 13th all were expectation. At 6 the order came for Smith's
brigade to march to Tacabaya. In ten minutes we were on the road and in a hurry
for fear we might be too late. We got into the village and marched down to support
Gen. Quitman in the road. The firing from the Castle was very heavy as our column
passed in the rear of our own batteries but luckily it fell a few yards short. One by
one, we crept through a ditch, which partially sheltered us until the two leading
companies were ordered to deploy as many skirmishers, when off we started across
the open field and drove the enemy from behind a row of mangy plant; and took
their place. We were then formed nearly as follows:

The stormers were in the road at the foot of the hill, on the right looking toward
the city; on the right of the road in a ditch, partially sheltered from the enemy's fire
was Gen. Smith's brigade while tow of our companies were deployed in a ditch
perpendicular to the road, and about one hundred and fifty yards from the enemy's
batteries. Gen. Pillow division attacked on the left of the hill opposite us. After about
an hour's hard firing, the enemies began to stacken, and the word was given to
charge. We rushed forward and in three minutes carried the entire battery. The rifles
entered the battery with the storming party, which was commanded by one of the
captains. We followed the fugitives close up to the aqueduct, and turning tot he left
clambered up the steep path to the castle. The enemy running down the crowds, and
the slaughter was tremendous in the road and orchard. Our men were infuriated by
the conduct of the Mexicans at Molino del Rey, and took but few prisoners. The
castle was completely torn to pieces. Nearly every part was reded by our shot while
the pavement and fortifications were completely torn up by the shells. I am afraid
the prosperity of the Mexican Military Academy has been seriously checked. In it were
crowds of prisoners of every rank and color among them fifty general officers and
about an hundred cadets. The latter were pretty little fellows, from ten to sixteen
years of age. Several of them were killed fighting like demons and indeed they
showed an example of courage worthy of imitation by some of their superiors in rank.

Leaving this captured fortress with the starts and stripes waving over in a
hundred places, we prepared for the pursuit. The road leading from Chapultepec to
the capital is a perfect strait and broad carriage way, in the centre of which runs
the aqueduct that supplies the city with water. It is supported upon stone arches of
about 8 feet span and height. The bottom of which are about a foot higher than the
road. Smith's brigade was intended as a support to Quitman's but it formed so
quickly that it became the attacking party, instead of the reserve and dashed up the
road in full pursuit. The enemy soon commenced a heavy fire upon us from a strong
battery across the road and death again found us., after it seemed tot have left us
for tttheay. At last we crawled up close to the battery and our death dealing rigles
told with fearful effect. Closer and closer, from arch to arch, we crept, until forward
rifles throughout every man with a yell, and the battery was ours. Again commenced
our slow and deadly march as we gradually approached the garrilla or gate of the
city, the enemy retreating slowly before us. As soon as they crossed the gate a
tremendous fire of artillery opened upon us on both sides of the aqueduct as well
as from two flanking batteries on both sides of the road. Here our loss was very
great, slowly creeping from arch to arch we lost many men by the batterieise in front
while the fire from flanking batteries coming through the arches kelled many who
were safe from that in front. About noon we got close up to the garritat and the
enemy's fire being partly silenced by our artillery in the road, and thus being driven out of the cross battery on the left, we once more gave the rifle yell and charged the garrita. Again we were first and at 20 minutes past one, on the 14th of September the regiment again went forward and assisted by some other s we occupied a house and some of the arches and not only kept off but repelled four attempts at charges which they made. Meanwhile we had constructed a battery of sand bags at the garrita and kept up a sharp fire in front. Towards dark those in front were recalled and retired behind the battery. That night the battery was completed and the men slept on therearms in the arches of the aqueduct.

SO much for column of army. Immediately after the fall of Chapultepec, Gen. Worth's division filed round to the left and took the road to the gate of San Cosmo. Thus he soon reached with but little resistance to his progress, and establishing his batteries, he fired upon the rear of the citadel, and thus partially diverted their fire from us. HE entered the city late in the afternoon, some time after us. All night we lay there, cold and hungry, but ready for the next day's work. During the night two commissioners came in, who said that Santa Anna and his army had evacuated the city; that it was at our mercy, and that no further resistance would be offered to our entrance. The next morning at daylight we formed at the garrita and marched into the main plaza in front of the cathedral and the palace. And at 7 on the 15th of September the starts and stripes floated over the Halls of the Montezumas. General Worth's division arrived about an hour later and took possession of the Alameda.

About 8 a tremendous hurrah broke from a corner of the plaza, and in a few minutes were seen the towering plumes and commanding from of our gallant old hero Gen. Scott, escorted by the second dragoons. The heartfelt welcome that came from our little band, was men as Montezumah's Hall had never heard, and must have deeply affect the Gen. Well they might, for of the ten thousand gallant spirits that welcomed him at Puebla nearly 7000 were left. Contreras, Churebusco, San Antonio, El Mundo del Rey, Chapultepec and the Garrita had laid low 3000 of our gallant army, and filled with grief and sorrow the hearts of all the rest.

Gen. Scott enterd the palace. But some random firing began to be heard in different parts of the city, and the whistling balls became the must of the day. The mob of the city had risen, and from behind walls and windows the cowardly leperos fired upon our men in revenge. The firing soon became sharper, and many of our men were wounded in the plaza. Some of them were sent out as skirmishers, and the firing became general; cannon were placed at the corners of the streets leading into the plaza, and we soon cleared them with grape and canister. Many houses were broken open to get at the house tops, and a great many were plundered by the very men who were firing upon us, and of course it was laisd to us. Some fifty or sixty of thiere men were killed in a single house and though they wounded a good many of our we killed 5 for one. This lasted till dark. When we were matched into the yard and quartered there for the night, leaving the artilllery to guard the plaza.

The firing commenced again the next morning, but ws stopped before night by killingsome 200 leperos, and from Gen. Scott's threat of blowing up every house from which firing proceeded. The next day we werer un arched into tolerable quarters and once more made ourselves as comfortable as we could. But ah we were weary men! For 5days wehad not changed our clothes or taken off or arms. WE had not slept in a bed or had a comfortable meal; for three days and nights we had been under constant fire and for two nights we had not slept. I rejoice in the glorious laurels which the rifles have won. It is as all at knowledge the fighting regiment of the army. It entered Chapultepec simultaneously with the storming party. It was first in all the enemy's works from Chapultepec tot he citadel. It was the first to plant its triumphant banner on the palace of the Montezumas. Where bloody work work was tob e done, the rifles ws ithe cry, and there they were. All speak of them in terms of praise and admiration. Let me give you but a single instance. Some of their officers and men were standing together when Ge Scott happened to ride by. Checking his horse he returned their salute saying with greatd energy and emphasis "brave rifles gentlemen" you have been baptised in fire and blood and have ocme out steel! Had you seen the unbidden tear stealing to the eyes of these rough but gallant spirits whose hearts knew no fear, and who had never yet in their long trial, faltered or gallen ack, while their dashing eyes and upright forms bespoke its truth, you would havefelt with me that such words as those wiped out long months of hardship and suffering. But what todl still more the tale of suffering and death, were the deserien reanks and scanty numbers of that gallant regiment. 500 sturdy men left Jefferson Barracks for the plains of Mexico: one hundred and fifty nine have ment us here and now one hundred and seventy alone are left to tell the tale! The fate of the rest you know already. Chapultepec's bloody hill, Mexico's capital have cost us an 100 noble fellows, while seven officers have felt that the rifles were doomed. Our gallant Mahjor lost his arm early in the day. Palmer has a greape shot in is thigh. One of our captains saved his fate by half and inch, while therest whose slighter wounds permit them to be about, attend to duty from necessity.
News still sad have I to tell. Lieut. Morris of the 8th is dead. He was shot through the ankle at Molino del Rey while acting most bravely, and died in the hospital beloved by his regiment lamented by all. He was buried with the honors of war, together with three officers of his regiment. Of 17 officers in his regiment 9 were wounded and 4 died in the battle. Worthy son of a worthy sire! He died with his harness on an the tears of soldiers lament his fate. Rodgers fell at Chapultepec: he was a noble fellow and is bewailed by all who knew him. He died on the spot and his face wore an expression of most beautiful expression imaginable. Foster badly wounded in the leg on the 8th. Palmer wound is not severe, the shot was spent and struck him on the arm and hip bone. The ball was taken out of his boot, and he is now walking about though lame. He behaved admirably. Schuvier Hamilton is nearly recovered I met him in the street yesterday looking thin and pale, but much better and in another week he intends to return to his staff duties. He is in excellent spirits.

Lieut. Graham of the dragoons, is getting better fast, as also, Lieut. Thorn, who was slightly wounded in the action of the 8th. Since we entered the valley of Mexico, we have lost upwards of 25 killed.

Since our communications were cut off with Vera Cruz about the 1st of June, there has been the greatest difficulty in getting letters forward. The only way in which it could be done was by paying a Mexican a couple of hundred dollars to carry a few down in his saddle. This letter I send you by the courier of the British minister, and trust it will reach you safely. We are quartered in a college nearer the palace, with good quarters for men and officers and are quite comfortable. The other regiments were quartered about in the public buildings of the city. They have good accommodations for the sick and wounded, and as the rainy season is nearly over, the surgeon says the climate is very favorable.

We have now whipped the nation thoroughly and if they will only stay whipped we shall be home soon. Santa Anna has resigned the presidency the whole army is disbanded and broken up, and Santa Anna it is generally believed has gone to Guatemala and thence to Cuba. Pena Y Pena is president, and people talk again of peace. Yours as ever, &c.

[MDT]

NNR 73.138-140 30 OCT 1847 March from Puebla, the battles at Contreras and Churubusco

March From Puebla and the Battle of Contreras and Churubusco

We left Puebla on the morning of the 7th, and entered upon a beautiful rolling country of great fertility, supplying with its gardens the inhabitants of Puebla with food, and surrounded by lofty mountains, some of which were covered with snow. Our road was gradually ascending, and so good that on looking back from the head of the head of the column our train could be seen for miles in rear, dotting with its snow-white tops the maguey-covered plain. On our left was Popocatapetl, and Izcatapetl, the snow on their not distant tops rendering the air quite chilly. Gen. Scott did not leave with us, but came on the next day with Capt. Kearney’s dragoons.

The second day’s march was like the first, gradually ascending, passing through defiles, narrow passes, and over damp chasms, where a more determined enemy might have seriously annoyed us by merely making use of the obstacles. Nature everywhere presented. Thick woods of the finest forest trees were abundant, and the rugged nature of the country would readily carry one back to the northern parts of New England, or the passes of the “Notch” Here and there beautiful little lakes were interspersed in the deep valleys, and the clearness and coldness of their waters were almost incredible.

The third day we were to encounter the much vaunted pass of “Rio Frio” and also the passage of the mountain which was to lead us to the El Dorado of our hopes, the great plan of Mexico. Our march was to be long and difficult, and three o’clock saw us underway, with heart and hopes full of the prospect before us. The much dreaded pass is reached and passed. The mountains which skirt the road on the left here close upon it for about a mile, overhanging and enfolding it completely, and affording with their crests most excellent coverings for enemy marksmen. The newly cut trees and long range of breastworks thrown up on the crest, showed us that preparations had been made, while numerous parapets with embrasures in the logs taught us what might have been done. But no men were there; the muskets and cannon were gone. Valencia, with 6000 Mexicans was full a days march ahead,
making for Mexico with a speed which betrayed homesickness. Rio Frio was found to be a little stream pouring down from the snow mountain, of icy coldness and crystal purity. After a slight pause for refreshments, we commenced our assent of the ridge which seperates the plains of Puebla, and Mexico, the former of which it had hitherto skirted. For several long miles we toiled up the hill, only recompensed for our labor by what we hoped to attain at last. When all were pretty worn out, a sudden turn in the road brought to our view a sight which none can ever forget. The whole vast plain of Mexico was before us. The coldness of the air, was most sensibly felt at that great height, our fatigue and danger were forgotten, and our eyes were the only sense that thought of enjoyment. Mexico, with its lofty steeples and its chequered domes, its bright reality, and its former fame, its modern splender and its ancient magnificense, was before us; while around on every site its thousands of lakes seemed like silver stars on a velvet mantle.

We encamped that night at the base of the mountain, with the enemy’s scouts on every side of us. The next day we reached Ayetta, only fifteen miles from Mexico by the National road, which we had hitherto been following. Here we halted until Generals Quitan, Pillow, and Worth, with their divisions, should come up. We were separated from the city by the marshes which surrounded Lake Tezcuco, and by the lake itself. The real is a causeway running through the marsh, and is commanded by a steep and lofty hill called El Pesol. This hill completely entilades and commands the National Road, and had been fortified and repaired with the greatest care by Santa Anna. One side was inaccessible by nature; the rest had been made so by art. Batteries, in all mounting fifty guns of different calibers, had been placed on its sides, and a deep ditch, 24 feet wide and 10 feet deep filled with water, had been cut, connecting the parts already surrounded by marshes. On this side Santa Anna had 25000 men against our force of a little over 9000 all told.

On the 23rd we made a reconnaissance of the work, which was pronounced impracticable, as the lives of 5000 men would be lost before the ditch could be crossed. We continued our search, and found another road, which went around on the left, but when within 5 miles of the city were halted by roaming suddenly among 5 batteries on the hill which commanded this road, at a place called Mexicalcango. We soon countermarched and then saw our danger. With one regiment and three companies of cavalry, in all about 400 men, we saw that El Panol lay directly between us and our camp, distant about 15 miles. Every eye was fixed on the hill with expectation of an approaching column which should drive us back into a Mexican prison, while we sped off with the speed and endurance of 400 Capt. Barelays! At about midnight we arrived safely at camp, and Gen. Scott did us the honor of calling it the “boldest reconnaissance of the war.” Gen Worth was encamped about 5 miles off—that is, in a straight line-across the Lake Chalco, at a place of the same name, but about ten miles by the road. The Mexicans had a foundry in the mountains, at which we were getting some shells made, and on returning from which Lieut. Schuyler Hamilton was badly wounded.

By means of his scouts, Gen. Worth had found a path round the left of Lake Chalco, which led us to the western gate of the city, and which up to that time, had not been fortified. On the 14th the other divisions commenced their march, while we brought up the train and the rear. In the morning, the train was sent in advance, while South’s brigade acted as rear guard. It was composed of the rifles, 1st artillery on the 3rd infantry with Taylor’s battery. As the rear guard, marched slowly along, came up with the train, word came to Gen. Twiggs that a force of about 5000 men were trying to cross the road between them and the train in order to cut it off. We were then passing through a small village which, by a curious coincidence, ws called Buena Vista. On our left were large fields of half-grown barley, through which ws seen advancing in splended order the enemy’s column. It was the most splended sight I have ever seen. The yellow cloaks, red caps, and jackets of the lancers, and the bright blue and white uniforms of the infantry, were most beautifully contrasted with the green of the barley field. Our line of battle was soon formed, and we deployed through the grain to turn their left and cut them off from the mountains. A few shots, however, from the battery soon showed them that they were observed and countermarching in haste they left their dead on the field. Thus ended our fight of Buena Vista. That night we staid at Chaleo. The next day we made along and toilsome march over a horrible road, through which with the utmost difficulty, we dragged our wagons by the assistance of both men and mules. The next was nearly the same, except that the road was, it possible, worse than before as the Mexicans had blocked it up with large stones, rolled down from the neighboring hills. This night we encamped at a most beautiful olive grove, of immense size and accommodating at once both divisions. In the town as well as in Chalco, there are still standing the churches of the Indians where the fire worshippers assembled before Cortez had introduced a new religion. They are large and somber edifices, differing but little from the churches on this country, and, being near the city, are said to have been formerly resorted to by the ancient kings.
The next day we arrived in sight of the rest of the army, and heard the guns which Worth was breaching the walls of San Antonio. That night the news of the death of Capt. Thornton, of the second dragoons, reached us. He was a brave officer and thorough gentlemen, but was always unfortunate in his military career.

On the morning of the 19th we left the little village where we had heard this sad news, and took the road to San Juan, about 7 miles to the west and only about 10 miles from the city. When we arrived here we heard the sound of Gen. Worth’s guns, who was said to have attacked San Augustine, a village three miles nearer the capital, where Santa Anna was said to be with 20000 men. When we arrived at San Juan the men were told to string their blankets across their shoulders, put their knapsacks into their wagons, and to put two days bread and beef in their haversacks. When this order came all knew that the time had come. The officers arranged their effects put on their old coats, and filled their haversacks and flasks. Soon we were ready for any thing but a thrashing. We here heard the position of the enemy which was nearly as follows: Santa Anna with 20000 men at San Augustine, Valencia, with 10000 was at a hill called Conteros, which commanded another road parallel to San Augustine but which led into it between the city and Santa Anna. Now, by cutting a road across it we could whip Valencia, we could follow the road up and get in between Santa Anna and Mexico, and whip him too. Gen. Worth was to keep Anna Santa in check, while Twiggs was to try and astonish Valencia which you will see he did very effectually. Pillow, with some of the ten regiments was to cut the road.

We left San Juan about 1 o’clock not particularly desiring a tight so late in the day, but still not shunning it in case we could have a respectable chance. About 2 p.m. as we had crawled to the top of a hill, whether we had been ourselves pulling Magruder’s battery and the mountain howitzers, we suddenly espied Valencia fortified on a hill about two hundred yard off, and strongly reinforced by a column which had just come out of the city. We laid down close to avoid drawn their fire, while the battery moved past at a full gallop. Just then General Smith manly voice rung out “Forward the rifles to support the battery.” On they went till we got about eight hundred yards from the work, when the enemy opened upon them with his ling guns, which were afterwards found to be sixteen and eight inch howitzers: The sound was the worst possible for artillery, covered with rocks large and small, pricky pear and cactus, intersected by ditches filled with water and lived with mangy plant, itself impermeable to cavalry, and with patches of corn which concealed the enemy’s skirmishes while it impeded our own passage. The artillery advanced but slowly under a most tremendous fire, which greatly injured it before it could be got in range, and the thickness of the undergrowth caused the skirmishes thrown forward to be their relative position as well as the column. About 4 the battery got in position under a most murderous fire of grape, canister, and round shot. Here the superiority of the enemy’s pieces rendered our fire nugatory. We could get but three pieces in battery, while they had 27, all them three times the caliber of ours. For two hours our troops stood the storm of iron and lead they hailed upon them unmoved. At every discharge they laid flat down to avoid the storm and then sprung up to serve the guns. At the end of that time two of the guns were were dismantled and we badly hurt: thirteen of the horses were killed and disabled and fifteen of the commoniers killed and wounded. The regiment was then recalled. The lancers had been repelled in three successive charges. The 2d infantry and 1st artillery had also engaged and successfully repelled the enemy’s skirmishes without loss of either officers or men. The greatest loss had been at the batteries. Officers looked gloomy for the first days fight, but the brigade was formed, and Gen. Smith in person took command. All felt revived and followed him with a yell as, creeping low to avoid the grape, which was coming very fast, we made a circuit in rear of the batteries and passing off to the right we were soon lost to the view in the chaparral and cactus.

Passing over the path that we scrambled through, behold us at almost 6 o’clock in the evening, tired, hungry, and sorrowful emerging from the chaparral and crossing the road between it an Valencia. Here we found Cadwallader and his brigade skirmishing in rear of the enemy’s works: Valencia was ignorant of our approach and we were as yet safe. Valencia was strongly entrenched and surrounded by a regular field work, concealed for us by an orchard in our rear. Mendoza with a column of 6000 was in the road but thinking us to be friends. On our right was a large range of hills whose continued crest was paralleled to the road, and in which we formed in time of battle 5000 of the best Mexican troops. On our left we were sperated for our own forces by an almost impassable wilderness, and it was not twilight. Even Smith looked round for help. Suddenly a thousand vivas came across the hill side like the yells of prairie wolves in the dead of night, and the squadrons on our right formed for charging. Smith is himself again! “Face to the rear!” What till see their red caps, and then give it to them. Furiosly they came on a few yards then changed their minds and disgusted at our cool redemption, retired to their coaches.
On the edge of the road, between us and Valencia, a Mexican hamlet spread out with its mud huts, large orchards, deep cut roads, and a strong church, and through the centre of this hamlet ran a path parallel to the main road, but concealed from us is nearly a mile long. In this road Smith's and Riley's brigade spent the night. Shields who came up in th night, lay in the orchard, while Cadwallader was nearest the enemy works. As we were within range of then batteries, which could enfilade the road in which we lay, we built a stone breastwork at either end to conceal ourselves from their view and grape. There wer completely surrounded by the enemy, cut off from our communincations, ignorant of the ground, without artilllery, wear, dispirited, and dejected. WE were a disheartened st, With Santa Anna and Salas's promise of no quarter a force of four to one against us, and one half defeated already, no succor from Puebla, and no news from Gen. Scott, all seemed dark. Suddenly the words came whispered along "we storm at midnight." Now we are ourselves again! But what a horrible night! There we lay, too tired to eat, toowet to sleep, in the middle of a muddy road in which men side by side with a heavy rain pouring down upon us, the officers with out blankets or overcoats, and the men worn out with fatigue. About midnight the rain was so heavy that the streams in the road flooded us, and there we stood crowded together, drenched and bunumbed, waiting till daylight.

At half past three the welcome word “fall in” was passed down, and we commenced our march. The enemy works were on a hill side, behind which rose other and slightly higher hills, seperated by deep ravines and gullies, and intersected by streams. The whole face of the country was a stiff clay, which rendered it almost impossible to advance. We formed our line about a quarter of a mile from the enemy’s works, Riley’s brigade on our right. At about 4 we started, winding through a thick orchard which effectually concealed us, even had it not been dark, debaughing into a deep ravine which ran within about 500 yards of the work, and which carried us directly in rear and out of sight of their batteries. At dawn of day we reached our place after incredible exertions, and got ready for our charge. The men threw off their we blankets and looked to there pieces, while the officers got ready for a rush, and the first smile that lit up our faces from twelve hours boded but little good for the Mexicans. On the right and opposite the right of their works was Riley brigade of the 2d and 1st infantry and 4th artillery next was rifles, then the 1st and 3rd artillery. In rear of our left was Cadwallader’s brigade, as a support with Shields’ brigade in rear as a reserve-the whole division under command of Gen. Smith, in the absence of Gen. Twiggs. They had a smooth place to rush down on the enemy works, with the brow of the thill to keep under until the word was given.

At last just at dayulight Gen. Smith slo wyly walking up, asked if all was ready. A look answered him. "Men Forward." And wedid. Springing up at once Riley’s brigade opened, when the crack of a undred rifles started the Mexincans from their astonishment, and they opened fire. Useless fired for they were so close that they overshot us, nd before they could turn their pieces on us we were on them. Then such cheers arose as you never heard. The men rushed forward like demons, yelling and firing the while. The carnage ws frightful and though they fired sharply it was of no use. The earthen parapet was cleared in an instant, and the blows of the stocks could be plainly heard mingled with the yells and groans around. Just before the charge was made, a large body of lancers came winding up the road looking most splendidly in their brilliant uniforms. They never got to the work but turned and fled. In an instant all was one mass of confusion, each rying to be foremost in the flight. The road was literally blocked up and while many perished by their own guns, it was almost impossible to fire on the mass from the danger of killing our own men. Some fled up the favine on the left or on the right, and many of these were slain by turning their own guns on them. Forwards the city the rifles and 2d infantry led off the pursuit. Seeing that a large crowd of the fugitives jammed up in a pass in the road, some of our men rean througnthe cornfield and by thus heading them off and firing down upon them about thirty men took over 500 prisoners nearly a hundred of them officers. After disarming the prisoners as the pursuit had ceased, we went back to the fort, where we found our troops in full possession and the rout complete.

We found that the enemy’s position was much stronger than we had supposed, and their artillery much larger and more abundant. Our own loss was small, which may be accounted for by their perfect surprise at our charge, as to them we appeared as if rising out of the earth, so unperceived ws our approach. Our loss ws one officer killed, Captain Hatison of the 7th Infantry and Lieut. Van Buren of the rifles shot through the leg, and about fifty men killed or wounded. Their force consisted of 8000 men under Valencia with a reserve which had not yet arrived under Santa Anna. Their loss as since ascertained was follows: killed and burried since the fight, 750; wounded 1000, and 1500 prisoners, exclusive of officers including four generals-Salas, Mendoza, Garera, and Guadalupe-in addition to dozens of colonels, majors, captains, etc. WE captured in all on the hill 22 pieces of cannon, including five 8 inch howitzers two long 18, three long 16, and several of 12
and 8 inches, and also the two identical 6 pounders captured by the Mexicans at Buena Vista taken from Captain Washington's battery of the 4th infantry. The first officer who saw them happened to be the officer of the 4th selected by General Scott to command the new battery of that regiment, Captain Drum. In addition were taken immense quantities of ammunition and muskets; in fact, the road was streamed with muskets, escopets, lances and flags. Large quantities of horses and mules were captured though large numbers were killed.

At 8 a.m. we formed again, and Gen. Twiggs having taken command we started on the road to Mexico. We had hardly matched a mile before we were sharply fired upon on the side of the road, and our right was deployed to drive the enemy in- We soon found that we had caught up with the retreating party, for the very brink firing in front. And we drove them through the little town of San Angelo, where they had been halting in force. About half a mile from this town we entered the suburbs of another called San Katherina, when a large party in the church yard fired and the head of the column and the balls came right amongst us-Our men kept rushing on ther tear and cutting them down, until a discharge of grape shot from a large piece in front drove them back to the column. In this short space another 5 men where killed, 10 taken prisoner and a small color captured, which was carried the rest of the day.

Meanwhile Gen. Worth had made a demonstration in San Antonio, where the enemy was fortified in a strong something, but they retired on his approach to Churubusco, where the works were deemed impregnabel. They consisted of a terrified his chichaad, which was surrounded by a high and thick wall on all sides. Inside the all was a stone building, the road of which was flat and higher than the walls. Above all this was a stone church, still higher than the rest and havign a large steeple. The wall was pierced with loop holes and so arranged that there were two tiers of men firing at the same time. They had four different ranges of men firing at once, and four ranks where formed on each range, and placed at such a height that they could not only overlook at the surrounding country, but at the same time they had plunging fire upon us. Outside the hacienda, and completely commanding the avenue of approach was a field work and protected by a deep wet ditch, and armed with seven large pieces. This hacienda is at he commencement of the causeway leading to the western gate of the city, and had to be passed before getting on the road. About three hundred yards in rear of this work another field work had been built where a cross road meets the causeway at a point where in crosses arrived, huts forming a bridge head, or tete de pont. This was also a very strong , and armed with three very large pieces of cannon. The workks were surrounded on every side by large cornfield , which were filed with the enemy’s skirmishers so that it was difficult to make a reconnaissance. It was therefore coerced to make an attack immediately s they were out of men and extended for nearly a mile on the road to the city, completely covering the causeway. The attack commenced about 1 p.m. Gen Twiggs’s division attacked on the side towards which they approached the fort; that is, opposite the city. Gen. Worth’s attacked the bridge head, which he took in about 5th hour and a half; while generals Pillow and Quitman were on the extreme left, between the causeway and Twiggs division. The rifles were on the head and in the rear of the work, entrusted by General Scott with eh tasd of charging the work in case General Pierce gave away. The firing was most tremendous-in fact, one continued roll wihile the combat lasted. The enemy, from their elevated position, could readily see our men, who were unable to get a clear view from their position. Three of the pieces were manned by the deserters, a body of about one hundred, who had deserted from the ranks of our army during the war. They were intold on to companies, commanded by a deserter., and were better uniformed and desiplined that the rest of the army. These men fought desperately, and are said only to have shot down several of our officers whom they knew, but to have pulled down the white flag o surrender no less than 3 times.

The battle raged most furiously for about three hours, when both sides having lost a great many, the enemy began to give way. As soon as they commenced retreating, Kearny’s squadron passed through the tete de pont, and charging through the retreating column, pursued them to the very gate of the city. As they got within about 5 hundred yards of the gate they were opened upon with grape and canister, and several officers wounded. Amongst the number was Captain Kearney, first dragoons, who lost his left arm above the elbow. Our loss in the second battle was large. We lost in seven officers; Captains Capron, Burke, 1st artilllery; Lieuts. Iron, Johnston, Hoffman. Captain Anderson, Lieut. Easely, 21 infantry; Captain Hanson, 7th infantry. Leuit. Irons, died on the 28th. Col. Cutler of South Carolina, and about thirty officers wounded, exclusive of the volunteers. The official returns give our loss in killed and wounded at 1150, besides officers. The Mexican loss is 500 killed in the second battle, 1000 wounded, and 1100 prisoners, exclusive of officers. Three more generals were taken, among then Gen. Rincon and Anaya, the provisional president; also, ten pieces of cannon and an immense amount of ammunition and stores. Santa Anna, in his report. States his loss in killed, wounded,
Thus ended the battle of Churubusco, one of the most furious and deadly for its length, in the war. For reasons which he deemed conclusive, General Scott did no enter the city that night, but encamped on the battlefield, about four miles from the western gate of the city. The next day a flag of truce came out, and propositions were made which resulted in an armistice.

Meanwhile, the army in encamped in the villages around the city, recruiting from their fatigue and nursing the sick and wounded. There are but few sick, and the wounded are getting along comfortably in their hospital. [MDT]

The American Star says that General Bravo and staff were taken prisoners by a portion of the New York regiment, in Gen. Quitman’s division. Circumstances preventing their delivered by Gen. Quitman, they were taken to Chapultepec by Capt. Davis, aid to Gen. Q. On reading there, and finding the general in chief still at the castle, he reported to General Scott that he had General Bravo and staff prisoners of war. The general ordered Capt. Davis to bring the prisoners forward to where he was, when the general in chief and addressed Gen. Bravo as follows:

“I deeply regret meeting the valiant Gen. Bravo in misfortune. I have long and favorably know him, by fame. I trust we may soon be friends. I honor and respect him as an enemy.”

Gen. Bravo expressing his thanks for the courtesy extended to him by the general in chief, the latter directed that the former be taken into the citadel and furnished with as comfortable quarters as the convenience of the building would admit of.

On the 17th of September Gen. Scott republished his general orders, proclaiming martial law in places occupied by our troops, with important additions. We copy that portion by which contributors are levied upon the capital.

14. For the ease and safety of both parties, In all cities and towns occupied by the American army, a Mexican police shall be established and duty harmonized with the military police of the said forces.

15. This splendid capital, its churches and religious worship, its convents and monasteries, its inhabitants and property are moreover placed under the special safeguard of the faith and honor of the American army.

16. IN consideration of the foregoing protection a contribution of 150000 is imposed on the capital. To be paid in four weekly installments of thirty seven thousand five hundred dollars each, beginning on Monday next, the 20th inst, and terminating on Monday the 11th of October.

17. The Ayuntamento, or corporate authority of the city, is specially charged with the collection and payment of the several installments.

18. OF the whole contribution to be paid over to this army twenty thousand dollars shall be appropriated to the purchase of extra comforts from the wounded and sick in the hospital; twenty thousand dollars to the purchase of blankets and shoes for gratuitous distribution among the rank and file of the army, and forty thousand dollars reserved for other necessary military purposes.

The next order I dated the 18th, and assigns to the troops their different quarters in the city. The following are the paragraphs:

7. NO private house shall be occupied by any corps or officer until all suitable public buildings within the above ranges shall be first fully occupied, and all officers attached to troops shall be quartered with or near their troops respectively.

8. No rent shall be paid by the U.S. for any building occupation by troops or officers without a special direction from general headquarters; nor shall any private
house be occupied as quarters without the free consent of the owner, or orders from
general headquarters.

9. The collection of customs or duties at the several gates of the city, by the civil
authority of the same, will be continued as heretofore until modified by the civil and
military governor, according to the views of the general in chief; but supplies
belonging to all quartermaster's and commissary's departments will at once be
exempted from all duties.

Gen. Quitman's orders dated the 17th, allow unarmed persons, in the pursuit of
their private affairs, to pass and repass the city gates and outposts, but none with
arms without special leave. He also prohibits arms, ammunition, tobacco, or public
property of any kind to be taken from the city.

Another order of Gen. Q allows the collections of customs and duties at the
gates of the city as usual, save on supplies for the quartermaster's and
commissary's departments. The proceeds are to be appropriated in the first instance
to city expenses, and the residue as the general may direct.

According to the Monitor Republico of the 27th ultimo it was intimated by the civic
authorities to Gen. Scott on the 25th that the contribution of 150000 levied upon the
population, is ready for him. The amount was raised by a loan, so as not further to
distress the inhabitants.[MDT]

NNR 73.140, Col. 3 Oct. 30, 1847 Gen. John Anthony Quitman's Orders

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departments. The proceeds are to be appropriated in the first instance to city
expenses, and the residue as the general may direct. [DCK]

NNR 73.140 30 OCT 1847 Gen. Winfield Scott's order concerning a conspiracy to
surprise his forces

The following orders of Gen. Scott point to a danger by which he is beset

The general in chief has received through many kind sources, Mexican and
others, undoubted information that an extensive conspiracy is on foot about us, to
surprise by means of an insurrection our guards and quarters, and to murder our
officers and men.

Mexican officers and soldiers, in disguise, who had not the courage to defend
their capital are the leaders of the conspiracy, aided by some fifteen hundred thieves
and murderers, who were turned loose for that purpose, and to prey upon the
peaceful inhabitants, the night before the triumphal entered the American army into
this city.

The conspirators have also services of several false priests, who dishonor the
holy religion which they only profess for special occasion.

Until ready for the insurrection the disguised villains hope to do us much harm in
detail. Their plan is to assassinate stragglers, particularly drunken men; to enlure
individuals of small parties into shops to drink, and to stab them when in their cups;
to entice our gallant Roman Catholic soldiers, who have done so much honor to our
colors, to desert, under a promise of land in California, when our arms have already
conquered, and which forever will remain part of the United States.

Let all our soldiers, Protestant and Catholic, remember the fate of the deserters
taken at Churubusco. These deluded wretches were also promised money and land;
but the Mexican government, by every sort of usage, drove them to take up arms
against the country and flag they had voluntarily sworn to support, and next place them in front of battle—in positions from which they could not possibly escape the conquering valor of or glorious ranks. After every effort of the general in chief to save by judicious descrimination, as many of those miserable convicts as possible, fifty of them have paid for their treachery by an ignominious death on the gallows.

Again, the general in chief calls on his brethren in arms, of all grades, to be constantly on the alert, by day as by night; never to appear in the streets without side arms; to walk out only in parties of twos, threes, or more; and to avoid all obscure places, particularly treacherous drain shops and liquor stores. By command of Major Gen. Scott.

H.L. Scott, A.A.A.G.

Toluca, September 18, 1847
Circular by Dr. Jose Ramon Pacheco, secretary of state, to the governors of the different states:

Your excellency: After having sent to your excellency from the city of Guadalupe Hidalgo the manuscript decree issued from that city under yesterday’s date, by his excellency the president ad interim, have now the honor of sending you (blank) copies printed in this city, in order that your excellency may circulate them in the state which you so worthily govern, and that the nation may be informed that it is not left without a head, as his excellency, Gen. Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, previous to his march to commence his military movements against the base of the enemy’s operations, as developed by the constitution.

Impartial history will some day record whether fate or Providence may have decreed the causes which brought about the events which have just occurred in the capital, in consequence of which it is known to thousands of witnesses, and well understood by those only who truly feel its immense loss to their country. The fact is that one of the points which defended the entries to the city having been abandoned without any orders, and another point having been taken at the end of the day on the 13th, after a combat of fifteen hours, it was decided by a meeting of the general held that night in the citadel, that a continued resistance would only expose the city to pillage, and to all the acts of immortality to which a savage enemy abandons himself. This latter was a misfortune which his excellency wished to avoid at all hazards, and with a view to which he had at the very commencement caused the fortifications to be made at far advanced points. In order to retain on the other hand all his armament and the necessary means to continue the war, without owing them to a humiliating capitulation, it was resolved to evacuate the city that very night, conducting the whole army to the city of Guadalupe de Hidalgo, in order to take the next day, according to the intentions of his excellency, the road to Puebla, to redeem that city out of the power of the enemy, cutting off at the same time all communication with Vera Cruz.

The troops having already commenced that march, and having made some progress on the road, it became known, as much to our satisfaction as surprise, that the people, who the day before, although supported by the army and the valiant national guards, had taken no part in the struggle, had undertaken on their own account the extermination of the invaders. Immediately the army was countermarched, and two columns, one under the command of his excellency, and the other under Gen, Don Juan Alvarez, penetrated as far as the streets of Santo Domingo and La Cerea, handing some of the Americans. Subsequently, after some measures and other circumstances which it is unnecessary to mention, the heroic people of the capital were disarmed.
In undertaking to carry out his first intent, the most terrible obstacle to be encountered was the want of means. The troops had been five days without support. His excellency the president had exhausted all his personal resources. From the 19th of August, the date of the misfortune at Padierna, to which our present situation is to be ascribed, up to that day—that is twenty six days—not a man nor a dollar had been sent from any part. How could it be exacted, or even expected, that the city of Mexico, which had already made so many sacrifices, should alone carry on the war and bear the weight of the burdens which are destroyed the nation. To the evils of the war, caused by the invaders, it would not have become the government to add those of making the army live at the expense of the people; and yet to disband the troops, in order that they might devastate the roads and villages, would have been a still greater evil. The difficulty was insuperable, as there was no food on that day for the soldiers, and the situation was dreadful. His excellency, the president, since his return to the republic, has above all had to contend with difficulties of his nature, and to them is to be attributed the greater part of our misfortunes; but rather than destroy a force which, after being purified and organized in a different manner, could still be rendered serviceable to the nation, he embraced the middle course, of dividing the army into sections, under the command of tried officers, giving them instructions as to the roads they were to take, his excellency reserving for himself a part of the cavalry. In this manner were obviated the great evils of a desbandment of the army: the burden was distributed so as not to weigh on as single district, and above all it furnishes to the states of the interior a nucleus which they could increase or shape as they might like, in order to carry on the war, which they have all demanded, without listening to any propositions of peace from the enemy.

The government has not taken a step, nor has it had a single communication with the enemy but what is within the reach of all his compatriots, nor has it been bound by any compromise past, present, or future. If in the publications which have been made it may have excited surprise, and not without reason, not to have found the discussions which were expected. From the general and the commissioner of the government of the United States, it was that the contempt with which they treat us, and the unblushing determination which they have taken to carry on a war the most infamous and sanguinary for their simple diversion and pleasure, no other answer could be given, except through the cannon's mouth and death.

His excellency the president ad interim orders the undersigned to communicate to your excellency the preceding exposition, at the same time transmitting to you the decree of his resignation, reserving to himself to give at a proper time to his fellow citizens a circumstantial manifesto; he has also enjoined him particularly to state it, his name to the new constitutional government, that he will not lay down his arms against the enemy of his country until this government, or whatever government may be nominated by the nation or congress, shall order him to lay them down; that he will be its firmest support against any revolution, as also in every matter which may be determined as to the American question, be it peace or war; that he will comply in his quality of subject with national will legitimately expressed as he always has done in his capacity of first magistrate, and that his excellency wishes to be the first to give an example of submission to the laws of God and liberty!

I have the honor to be, with distinguished consideration,

PACHECO.

[MDT]

NNR 73.141 30 OCT 1847 communication to the "National Intelligencer"

To the editors: I have seen in the last Intelligencer the proclamation of the governor of Mexico to its inhabitants, You truly say of it that for its lofty and unterrified tone it would do honor to any page of Roman annals. IF you had known Mr. Oraguibel, the governor, as I do, you might have aided that these annals would be searched in vain for a nobler example of lofty and disinterested patriotism. If there is one man alive who is capable of enacting the parted Curtius it is Francisco Olagüibel. HE is a distinguished and hard working lawyer, and has always been opposed to Santa Anna, and never would take office under him in the palmy days of his power. He published, some five years since, at his own expense, a small newspaper called El Diablo Caguelo, dedicated entirely to the unmeasured denunciation, ridicule, and exposure of Santa Anna, then at the height of his power. There was no office which he could not have commanded as the price of his adhesion, but there was none which he would accept, preferring to live in humble and virtuous poverty upon his professional earnings. He was at the head of the party
called Exaltados, or those devoted to this country and its institutions. The object of
his idolatry is Washington, and he always wears a miniature likeness of him in his
bosom-unlike almost every other Mexican gentleman who wears a costly jewel. ON
the 4th of July and other festivities of the Americans in Mexico he was always an
invited guest, and the only Mexican who was. I venture the assertion that no
American ever applied to him for an act of a friendship an was released. How idle to
talk of a peace party in Mexico when such a man as he breathes nothing but eternal
war-war to the knife! Since Kosciusko the world has seen no sublimer spectacle of "A
brave man struggling with the storms of fate, and nobly failing a failing state." IF
there were but one such man in Mexico I would not break that one great heart for all
the hands of the republic.

The note of the Mexican secretary of state to the commissioners, and also their
note to MR. Trist, are touchingly pathetic. Courteous, even to kindness, subdued,
despairing, yet firmly resolved, they say we cannot cede New Mexico. Sentiments of
honor and delicacy, more than a calculation of merit, forbid it. "NO portion of our
people are more devoted, in the nationality of their feelings, or have made so many
sacrifices on that account. WE cannot consent to sell them, like cattle, for money.
Never! Let the nationality of the rest of the republic perish with them. Let us perish
together!"

Noble sentiments! Which must find a response in every patriotic heart. Would
we, under a like or under any extremity of suffering, transfer to a foreign power one
of the states of this Union? Is it not urged as one of the strongest of our claim which
would, even without the initial signature, disclose to most of our readers its
authorship. For the information of those, however, who may not recognize it, we
state that the position, social, geographical, and political, of this writer, and the
opportunities which he has had of acquiring knowledge on the subject, entitle every
word that he utters concerning it to the grave attention both of the government and
the people of the United States.

National Intellegencer, Oct. 26. [MDT]

NRR 73.142-143 30 OCT 1847 List of killed and wounded

The killed and wounded at Mexico

First division-Maj. General Worth

Names of the non commissioned officers, musicians, and privates of the first
division, who were killed, wounded and missing in action of Molino del Rey,
September 8.

Killed-Hugh Donahue, Jacobus, Ullenbrook, Brown, Lane, Tansen, Lansing, John
Gracie, Sam Grove, Timothy Sullivan, A.L. Grenier, John Connor, William Hanson,
Jacob Frank, David Campbell, Jacob Dyas, A B Howe, Wm J. Barnhard, John C.
Elloes, Herman Levy, J F Ferry, John Walsh. Simon Margarum, Benjamin M. Harris,
Be Henry, John Cameron, Stillman Coburn, Patrick Ronnau, John McKloskey,
Frederick Workman, John Gotenger, Augustus Oartman, Stanislaus Minal, Samual
Calhoun, Robert Crawford, Griffith Owens, David Sharpe, Thomas Gooding, Peter
Henz, Owen Marry, Jno B. Honer, John Koarstoupfads, Peter G. Moore, William
McKloskey, James McGlynn, Bernard Althor, Marim Munneman, Michael Sheehan,
Mathew Murphy, Victor Duraud, John B. Hond, Nicholas Ramsey, John Smith, Wm
Agol, Wm Fahee, Joe H Plant, Christian Schuman, Wm. Lacey, Michael Murphy, John
Brodaicx, Peter Konte, Isham Canahzo, Edward Bertram, Nicholas Ford, James
Crogan, John Hughes, William Sandys, John Clark, Reuben Brown, Patrick Green,
Alexander Prentice, Peter Callery, Bernard McFarlin, A. Jackson, George M. Lightfell,
Barthel Mahon, Henry Passor, Lewis Hemme, Thomas Flea, Samuel Clark, Robert
Simpson, Sidney W. Guntoyer, Henry W Erwin, Geo Johnson, Chas Fenner, Jno
McMahon, Jno Sigler, Jno Buchannon, Jno Manning, Jas Simpson, Danial Kippy.

Wounded-John Dougherty, slightly; Serg’t McGuire, Corporal Slade, Sergiou
Young, slightly; Corporal Burkley, Sergeants Murphy and Brooks, slightly; Private
Usher, dangerously; Boling, slightly; Kiaws, severely; Zink, dangerously; Sweeney,
slightly; Russell, severely; Kerr, slightly; Walters, Thomas, Murphy, severely;
Porthouse, slightly; Zalikivich, severely; White, slightly; Fielding, severely; Freeman,
slightly; Kohle, Mundieg, Weseredlot, severely; Draw, slightly; Privates Wysatt,
Gardener, Fritshe, Hamston, Paul, Cottrel, Carter, Harris, slightly; Jacob Price,
severely; Private Richards Boone, slightly; JM Quick, slightly; Hugh McCoy, severely;
Richard Gilmore, James Witter, Geo Wagnor, Abram Hart, Wm. Smith, Lawrence Damvan, John Forgy, Samuel Stanley, David Wheeler, John Murphy, slightly; Richard Harper, Joshua Corwin, Hames Devine, Chris Yeager, severely; Jos Updegraff, severely; Thomas Johnson, Samuel Meeker, Gilbert Francour, Jacob Nichols, Edward Green, severely; Daruis Ballard, slightly; Thomas Law, severely; Patrick Reilly, Alexander, George Barr, William Cordes, Herman Knuckerboker, Roudier, Sullivan, Casey, severely; James Brooke, Augustus Beaver, William Beh, Joseph McGarlim, Patrick Rourke, Thomas Seck, Sherman slightey; Ezra Higgins, Michael Leonard, William Lewis, Thomas Pardon, Thomas Joyce, Thomas Clark, William Shoppe, Christi Bower, Jamer Reenford, Chas Hoover, Henry Dean, Marium Sharbuck, Williams Moore, Severly; Patrick Kean Noh Conway, Garrey, Hill, Blunt, Furrain, Webb, severely; William Crook, Samuel Dickman, sligtly; Mcfayden, Alexander, Montgomery, Thomas O’Brien, Thomas Starr, Robert Michan, John Wiley, James Henry, John Mcneil, Hames Walch Wilcox, W Taylor, Philip Rouse, slightly; Oswald Drury, Wm Whrenbaim, severely; Jas Keenan, and Christian Smallbark, slightly; Willaim Allen, Severely; John Gallagher, Lewis Merans, and Joseph Moody, slightly; Philip Hady, severely, Since dead; Richard Abercrombie, Samual Collier, Robt Kuntz, Michael Bonet, Edw McKeon, and Peter W Syms, severely; Martin Myers, and E. McReard, severely; Gilbert Goodrich, mortally; Lile Barton, Alex Miller, and John Dellart, slightly; Theo Crazan, William Wiemrest, severely; Mich McGuire, slighty, Jas Steel, mortally; John Warrick, severely; Chas Skolinski and Kirevin, slightly; Martin Lougheest and Alfred Landrage, severely; Jos Eversteine, severely, since dead; Hugh Frazer, and Jeremiah Delong, severely; Peter Uorick, Leonard Johnson, severely; Charles Buttering Jas Burns, Chas Evans, John Hunter, Jno Wrick, slightly; John Gorlan, John McCameron, Cornilius O’Neal, Samual Tucker, Chester Tully, Thos wood, Jacob Watson, Severely; Augustus De Lonza, Owen Melvin, slightly; John Furgeson, Sylvester Jones, slightly; Samual Morgan, Bennet Keere, Jacob Kennard, Richard Williamson, William Spears, severely; John King, D Louisdensborough; slightly; Jefferson Wells, Abraham Riber, Henry Bertoled, George Smith, severely; Joseph Roland, severely, Brian Curry, Thomas Down, Deobald Snyder, Alfred Carlisle, John Reading, Jeremiah Ryan, Ebenezor Gin, Gregory Keper, John Moon slightly since dead; Mathew Kuls, William Jones, severely; John Fink, severely; Frederick Backhams, Geo Simmons, severely; AT Osbourne, Edson, slightly; Wm Fairchilds, severely; David springham, mortally; Wm Sheppard, L B Hanly, Fitzpatrick, Solomon Viendenbag, Melon Miller, Lyman Royce, Robt Hawkins, Jas Wilson, Hno Graves, Jas Elmonds, severely; Wm Angel, Michael McEwen, Patrick McCarty, , Has Hannigan, slightly; Henry Snellers, Nat Rose, Joseph Arnold, Patk Keany, sefverely; John Knock, Theo Shinard, slightly; Jacob Missil, severely; W Pumrouer mortally; Wm Shad, Wm Looney, severely; Michael Walsh, mortally; Thomas Brennan, John Cosgrove, Cook, Eubank, Gordon, slightly; S Pooler, mortally; Witt McDanial, John McCarty, W Wilson, mortally; Wm Sourly Jas Terril, slightly; Michaal Conrey, wm Morris, Wm Thomas R Swann, Maritin WJ herbert, Wm Thomas, slightly; S Williot, JE Gardner, ED Denson JhWalker, D Graunnybeer, AR Shacklet, D Wypp, A Wamsal, H Brown, W Seaton, J Metcafl, A Adamson, j Bunger, severely; R Lemon, WS Meadenball, J Massey, G Spencer, J Knock, J Massey B McCabe, JV Perry, J Picken, J Pierce, W Jackson, O Morton, G Spencer, GW Jones, severely; W Baldhurst, H White, B Davis, slightly; L Warren, dangerously; Fielding Young, severely; Jackson Lowry, slightly; Thos Person, Jas M Cox, Wm Rarrill, John Weldon, severly, Lenos Rean, severely; MCCluny Ratchill, Henry Dannigan, slightly; WM Sathall, severely; R Rancsh, Robt Brown, Wm Cail, Jesse Isac Pierce, James Nestitt, slightly; Hermine Bickershine, Gred Babe, severely; John Rovering, mortally; Albert McGitt, severely, Oscar Wood, John Wilson, severely; Christian Papst, severely; Corp Buxton, Dangerously.

Missing-Robt McKee, Jos Scott, since discovered to have been blown up at Casa Del Mata; Francis Beer, Isreal Barton, killed; John Coyce, John Gillespie, Thos Hardy, wm Reynolds, Hoas Smith, Conrad Young, Henry Mueller, Jackson Adams, HA Wood, Vanderhoff, HL Hass, David Ayers, Jos Smith.

Names of Non commissioned officers, musicians, and privates, of the same division, killed or wounded and missing in the actions of the 13th and 14th of September:


Wounded: D Hastings, P Maguire, slightly; Davids, Edmund Ring, Thos Murphy, severely; Jos Rateman, Wm Smith, Jno Wolf, Francis Desmond, Hames McCormick, Henry Biegle, slightly; Anthony Baker, mortally; John Sweeney, Herman Von Steen, severely; Carl Coaparean, Geo Chiveton, Fredrick Brugh, Jeremiah Cavaugh, W Garlick, David Ricken, slighlty; John Zear, Godfrey Pemont, severely; Marcu Bain,
John Haggerty, slightly; Wm Blais, David Toobiller, slightly; Theodore Greg, severely; Hos Cooper, slightly; Hamilton Sparks, severely; James Lawless, Stephen Mann, Adolphus Schuver, Jacob Shores, John Mallundar, slightly; Vernon West, slightly; George Henry, Wm Lawrence, severely; Dawinds Myets, Thomas Collins, slightly; Wm Cross, Joseph Peck, severely; John Christie, Martonet Crofoot, Wm Thompson, slightly; Henry Byrnes, Jas Parker, Grapemamp, severely; Aganus Dowis mortally, Harry Farmer, Darius Ballard, severely; Jos McGartlin, William Shanessy, Jno Schuber, severely; Wm Montgomery, slightly; Thomas Oats, Geo Gill, Severely; Edward Thompson, slightly; Andres Paper, severely; Edward Thompson, slightly; Francis Fox, slightly; Bernard Lynch, slightly; Andrew Piper, severely; John Noot, H Fisk, Robert Shaw, Thos smith, severely; Wm Shaw, Jno Hsher, Alex Reinhart, Nathaniel Clegg, Charles McLesky, Hanson Palmer, severely.

Missing: Chas Quirk, Valentine Impoff, Jas Farauder, Ed Blackmon, Victor Whipple, Jas Leise, John Brislon, Chas Whitty.

Second Division-General Twiggs

List of non commissioned officers, musicians and privates of the second division who were killed, wounded and missing in the action at Chapultepec and the Garita de Belen of the 13th and in the city of Mexico on the 14th and 15th of September.

First Brigade

Killed: Dennis Byrne, CC Arms, Thos Wheeler, Geo Towns, Wm Donovan, Enjah Pointer, Jas Reed, Jesse James, Myron Bell, Hyram Dengh, WM Hagan, Wm Finney, James Harrigan, Thomas McGlone, John Bald, James Huntley, Wm Portiton, Jno O'Donnell, Jas Walsh Jno Alexander, Walter Scott, Henry Boyle Michael Loulin, Florence Carty.

Wounded: Alonzo Stanton, slightly; Saml Harp, severely; Hand, Has Mamuy, Wm Sanders, Hyram Dwyer, DM fiamo, slightly; Wm Wineter, slightly; J Milliard, slightly; Thomas Davis, Wm Cook, Jas Farrill, severely; Edward Allen, Chris Linden, Fred Pilgrim, slightly; MN Cannon, severely; A Stickler, slightly; Stans Morask, severely; John Richardson, Hos Habau, severely; Herrington, JC Morton, Geo Moshere, JW Robinson, Joseph Watson, Danial Williams, Lewis Copey, Thomas Brashenno, severely; John Frickle, Brath Wilson, Hno Santmyme, Clinton Frazier, WM Wilson, Wm Spear, M Hamilton, slightly; Jos Patterson, severely; EA B Phelps, slightly; Robt Williamson, Josh Garrison, Hosh Deberque, Arlen Overly, slightly; Daniel Willis, Thos Williams, Severely; Henry Silcer, Amos Kingsbury, slightly; Bradly Lau, Hno cFarne, Jno Thompson severely; Roatkugan, Hendry walls, Harvey Gamperd, Hno Miller, Lewis Russell, Francis Gietelder, slightly; Grederick Wissall, severely; Stewar Doughtery, Dixon Ashworth, Orland Miles, slightly; Nelson Chambers, Jno Storm, severely; WmAdams, slightly; Jas McNulty, Henry Varner, Moses Gleason, severely; Bavha Upton, Edward watrson, Grancis Sulathan, Francis Ocstrein, slightly; Henry Hattrman, Hohn Obrien, Henry Avertee, m severely; Amos Barnhart, WM Campbell, Jno Childer, Cornelius Cowley, Jno Hamilton, Wm Myers, Philip Ryan, Timothy Sullivan, slightly; Wm Kenny, Chas Ellyer, Edward Zimmerman, Patrick Morran, slightly; Henry McCapmrill, Thomas Pritchard, Leonard Evans, David Johnson, severely; Chas McKinne, Jacob Varbes, slightly; Jos Butterfield, severely; George Frank, Thos McFarland, Slightly; Terry Dale, Chas truman, severely; Frederick Collins, Elliot Elimer, Dan Smith, David Wise, slightly; J Hock.

Missing: Edmund Quin, Issac Tracy, John Witty, John Venater, storming party; John Montgomery, Theo Woodbury, do.

Second Brigade


Wounded: Robt Bailey, WM Bond, Wm Evans, slightly; F McNally, Slightly; John Keely, Geo Martin, John Wallace, slightly; Corporal Elis, Stevenson, William Geather, Ritus Gillow, Wm Hughes, Ervin Levin, Nich James, Patrick McKenna, Jacob Miller, Abna Sammons, Caas Clarke, slightly; Thnos Graham, Lewis Hastings, Hohn Kavenaugh, Patrick Kelly, John Semple, Daniew Lanayham, John Lynch, Jas Sullivan, severely; John Steevier, Samual Noble, Augustus Walker, slightly; Wm Anderson, slightly; Francis fFox, Severely; Joh McLaughlin, Thomas Navy, slightly; Robert Howard, severely; Richard Cross, slightly; James Lilly, Jos gillhuiy, Patrick Murphy, Chas Howard, John Barnes, Geo Flagg, severely, John Hughes and Patrick
Murphy, mortally.

Missing: Stephen Rouse, John Pierce, Michael Gilmore and David Mayer.

Third Division-Maj. Gen. Pillow

First artillery, co. 1 Field Battery

Wounded: Paul Dalym, Edmond Lenergan, severely; J Donnelly, Antony Kreiss, Wm Merrick, slightly.

Ninth Regiment Infantry

Killed: George C Spencer, John Bailman, Geo E Barnes, Foster, Edson, John Dorset, George Ball.

Wounded: Geo King, slightly; E T Pike, Chas Horsewell, Clark Green, Wm March, James Mohan, Patrick Connors, Wm Welsh, Robert M Brown, NW King, benj Osgood, N G Shett, Severely; WM H White, H B Stone, Chas Twist, John Welston, John Lock, Issac Ware, A Noyce, W A Brown, J Moody, J Bridges, slightly.

Fourteenth Regiment Infantry

Killed: Benjamin Hall, Robt Arnol, H R Monning, James Monypenny.

Wounded: Wm Bledsoe, mortally; H Montgomery, slightly; Wm Pharris, S Sutzenhizer, W F Beatty, James Kennedy, Steward White, Sohn Philad, Bolivar Vincent, Calvin Forola, severely; A F D Aujon, A Chadwick, John Wilkerson, F Fauball, J Donnelly, slightly.

Missing: John Crawford, Wm Dearing, James McDermott, John Blair, R W Watson.

Fifteenth Regiment Infantry

Killed- Jos Grant, John Haviland, John Herrick, Henry Stoy, Jas Kensil.

Wounded- Jonathan Jones, severely; Wm Koch, Jas McGill, mortally; Harvey Lyon, severely; Thos McClaren, Jacob Eucham, Seth Millington, Honas Auglemyer, George Momeny, Caleb Sly, Marvin Ward, severely; Lewis Anderson, Christian Hammel, Duncomb McKinsey, Frank Hartmaw, Henry Hess, slightly.

Missing-Private-Harkin.

Voltigeur Regiment

Killed- H Frick, E Miller, S Richardson, N Salisbury, S Richardson.

Wounded- W Peat, severely; J C Malbon, T S Gardner, H P Long, slightly; H H Reed, M Finley, mortally; M Conway, severely; J Muldoon, R Cooper, J McGowen, slightly; A Farr, severely, M Bancroft, E Brass, mortally; S McCall, W H Fitzhugh, W Wood, Z Cox, JD Dyer, T Evans, W R Fletcher, J Amey, J Smith, C Redding, M Ram, G Spencer, C Miller, J Young, P Henry, D Haughney, J Dentz, severely; T Wallace, O Russell E T Gordon, J H Matbon, J M Floyd, T H Gill, T Trumble, slightly.


Fourth Division- Maj. Gen. Quitman


Wounded- Wm Herbert, Peter Hogan, Jno Freyman, John Miller, Jacob Armprister, Henry Boyer, Thomas McGee, Jacob Rapp, slightly; John Arthur, George
Henry, Daniel Saul, severely; Nathan Martz, dangerously; Peter Moyer, mortally; John Worthington, Wm Humphries, John Bookbrank, Abraham Rhodes, W J Stone, John Campbell, Hugh storm, John Mclaughlin, Thomas Holland, slightly; Francis McKee, Andrew Dripps, severely; Wm Dietrich, John Snyder, severely; A Patterson, E A Downy, F C McDermott, severely; Davis, W Neff, slightly; David Meckling, R McClendon, Geo Decker, Hugh Fiskil, slightly; John Vauson, Jas Sample, John Betchtel, John Copeland, severely; Wm Rice, Saml E Major, slightly; Samuel Morgan, mortally; Wm Mendenhall, Arch Graham, N Hoops, Fred Myers, slightly; W Clements, J Horn, James Bustard, John Soloman, Emer Davis, severely; Wm Snyder, WM Smyth, M Hasson, H Thomas, Edward Blam, A J Jones, WM Smyth, Thomas Davis, Chris Malone, James Stewart, Wm Bishop, Wm Crabb, slightly; Joshua Hamilton, John Keever, David stone, Charles Epler, severely; Benj Stane, Lewis Bonnetts, Saxtere Heasly, slightly; Jas Montgomery, slightly; James Orr, John Roach, severely; John Curran, slightly; W J Wilson, severely; Granisen L Tansil, slightly; Seeveck, Martin Fogg, Hugh Roney, severely; John McGuignan, Philip Ploenix, Samuel Wilmison, slightly; Francis Quinn, Thomas Smith, Ethan Stevens, severely; OT Gibbs, slightly; Thomas Gafney, R Payan, Dunnogant, W Triplett, M M Adams, J Thomas, M Ward, Y Muller, Y Evans, J Only, severely; J Hood, Y Cabill, H R Evans, J Ferguson, Y Robins, C Ingram, H Lattery, Bennett, slightly; L B Weaver, Y Anderson, C H Kenny, slightly; A Delany, severely; R Watson, severely; W L Rogers, J H Saxton, H J Caughman, H Polock, J D D Stanford, Manning Brown, J Fitzimmoons, B Hutchinson, J Kelly, Tobison Ingram, H Lafferty, John Whaley, R Anderson, John Cassidy, James Smith, James Kennedy, D Standerwick, L Strohm, slightly; J Martin, P S Graham, C Rankin, C Anderson, W L Beadon, N Scott, D Nolan, James Walsh, severely; J W Shett, S Camak, I Duke, W S Tidwell, R J Barker, W Claxton, J Woodward, James Craig, C J Gladney, J W Brittenham, J E Odom slightly; A Tunisip, J B Glass, R S Morrison, John Wines, slightly; Jas Burke, G Barry, W Tomkins, severely; D Montgomery, Charles Thompson, John Snyder, V Van Syke, James Hart, severely; John Duffy, Patrick Rooney, Michael Butler, mortally; Sergeant Baker, Thomas L Decker, James Franklin, George Penberton, Houhn Gardner, R Headerick, W Daly, slightly; O Robertson, Geo Thistleton, Severely; John Lane, Chplett Everett, slightly; Alex Cook, severely.

General Total

<table>
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<th>Killed</th>
<th>Wounded</th>
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[MDT]

NRR 73.144 30 OCT 1847 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna summons Col. Thomas Childs to surrender at Puebla, is refused

Postscript-By the steam ships Fanny and James L Day, Vera Cruz dates to the 19th are received. No dispatches, "not even a well authenticated rumor" from Gen. Scott’s army had reached Vera Cruz.

On the 25th Sept., Santa Anna summoned Col. Childs to surrender at Puebla, assuring him that 8000 men would assault his post in case of refusal. The reply of the Col was of course a refusal. On the 28th heavy cannonading between the parties, which gradually subsiding, was nearly discontinued by the 2d Oct. On the 1st Oct. Santa Anna at the head of 2000 cavalry and infantry, and three pieces of artillery
sallied out of Puebla with the design of attacking the train which left Jalapa on the 1st and entered Perota on the 4th. On arriving at Tepeyahualco, however Santa Anna's whole force, except 130 hussars of his personal guard, "pronounced" against him and left him. At the same time he received an order from the government at Quaretaro, to march at once with all his forces to that place. Instead of obeying, he set out immediately for Oaxaca, he declared for the purpose of raising another army. It was believed that his object was to escape to Guatemala.[MDT]

NRR 73.144, Col. 1 Oct. 30, 1847  Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna is Deserted by His troops, Defies Orders and Marches for Oaxaca to Raise a New Army

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On the 1st Oct. Santa Anna at the head of 2,000 cavalry and infantry, and three pieces of artillery sallied out of Puebla with the design of attacking the train which left Jalapa on the 1st, and entered Perota on the 4th. On arriving at Tepeyahualco however, Santa Anna's whole force, except 130 hussars of his personal guard, 'pronounced' against him and left him. At the same time he received an order from the government at Quaretaro, to march at once with all his forces to that place. Instead of obeying, he set out immediately for Oaxaca, he declared for the purpose of raising another army. It was believed that his object was to escape to Guatemala. [DCK]

NRR 73.144 30 OCT 1847 Americans fortified at National Bridge
NRR 73.144 Capt. Jack Hays reaches Veracruz from Brazos

The American forces at the National Bridge were strongly fortified. Col. Jack Hays, of the Texas Rangers reached Vera Cruz from Brazos on the 17th. [MDT]

NRR 73.144 Oct. 30, 1847 Troops sailed for Vera Cruz on steamer Edith

TROOPS SAILED A detachment of 115 recruits for the 9th regiment of infantry embarked yesterday for Vera Cruz in the U.S. steamer Edith to join their regiment in Mexico, under the command of Lieut. Simmons of that regiment. In the last three months the following number of recruits have been sent from the harbor of New York, to join their regiments in Mexico: For the 10th infantry 284; for the 9th infantry 199; 2 companies of the 2d. artillery 187; general recruits 1,334; 4 companies 1st and 4th artillery 400; Jersey battalion 400; 13th infantry 79; California regiment 195. Total 3,079-Within the last twelve months 10,000 men have been dispatched from this port to the army in Mexico. [KAS]

NRR 73.146 30 OCT 1847 the Encarnacion prisoners paid off

The Encarnacion prisoners were recently paid off at New Orleans. They numbered 92 men, and Uncle Sam gave the "boys" nearly $17000 for their services. [Albany Argus.] [MDT]
The Mexican-American War and the Media, 1845-1848

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NNR 73.213 Mexican war spirit unallayed

73.213 Gen. Rea waiting at Orizaba to attack a train

NNR 73.213 Michael Leonard the teamster executed

NNR 73.214 council of war at Puebla between Nicholas Philip Trist and Gen. Winfield Scott, debate over use of the "three million"

NNR 73.214 death of an American sailor aboard the transport ship Empire

NNR 73.214 "revelling in the halls of the Montezumas"

NNR 73.214 divisions among parties in Mexico, exactions on the clergy

NNR 73.215 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's manifesto to the Mexican nation

NNR 73.216 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's decree that Gen. Jose Joaquin de Herrera and Gen. Nicholas Bravo should exercise executive power in case of his fall, Rosa orders Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna to trial and divests him of command

NNR 73.216 Atlixco taken, a Mexican account

NNR 73.216-73.217 manifesto of Gen. Mariano Paredes y Arillaga

NNR 73.217 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's farewell address, items, Mexican force in the field, affairs in the capital

NNR 73.218 liberty of the press restored in Mexico City

NNR 73.222 official report on the actions of the first regiment of US volunteers of New York in the storming of Chapultepec and the advance on Mexico City

NNR 73.222 Gen. Joseph Lane's report on the relief of Puebla

NNR 73.222-73.223 Gen. Joseph Lane's official report of the engagement at Huamantla

NNR 73.223 Gen. Joseph Lane's report on the battle of Atlixco

NNR 73.235-73.239 address of Albert Gallatin to the people of the United States on the subject of the war with Mexico

NNR 73.239 terms of peace suggested

NNR 73.241 ravages of the war on the second regiment of Pennsylvania volunteers

NNR 73.256 "Revelling in the Halls of the Montezumas;" murder and disease at Mexico City

NNR 73.256 list of deaths of officers of the Gulf Squadron in the last year

NNR 73.256 official order for levying contributions on Mexico by collecting export duties and
taxes

NNR 73.256 account of troops in and around Santa Fe

NNR 73.256 American troops moving against Chihuahua or Mexicans at El Paso

NNR 73.260 resolution of New Hampshire legislature on the Wilmot Proviso

NNR 73.272 Pedro Maria Anaya elected provisional president, his cabinet

NNR 73.272 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's pronunciamento against proceedings at Queretaro


NNR 73.272 Gen. Robert Patterson's train leaves Jalapa

NNR 73.272 execution of two American teamsters and two guerrilla officers

NNR 73.272 Padre Martin captured

NNR 73.272 Otero's proposition to forbid alienation of Mexican territory rejected, guerrilla affairs near Veracruz

NNR 73.147 Nov. 6, 1847 smuggling

Smuggling powder to Vera Cruz- Jose Maria Carabajal, the Mexican who was arrested at New Orleans on the 4th inst. for shipping powder, invoiced as "cigaritos." to Vera Cruz, has been discharged from a criminal prosecution, the case not being embraced in the statute. He was required to give bail, however in the sum of $3200, for violating the city municipality, which, not being able to give, he was committed to jail. [KAS]

NNR 73.147 6 NOV 1847 example of expenditure in the war

War Expenditures- The secretary of the treasury, since the first of January 1st, has sent upwards of twelve million of dollars to N. Orleans, on account of army disbursements.

A letter to the New Orleans Bee, from the Rio Grande, says: "Two hundred government horses were sold at auction, a few days ago, at an awful sacrifice, not averaging more that ten dollars a head. They probably cost each ten times the same."

This reminds us of the transaction of the Florida war, when steamboat wood was furnished to the government at fifty dollars per cord, and bacon which cost the government twelve cents a pound was sold at two and three cents, and bought up by contractors to be again sold to Uncle Sam. When we see the items in the account of this Mexican war, this sale of horses will, by comparison, prove to be a mere circumstance. Many large fortunes will be made by government favorites at the expense of the people of the United States. There are a class of men in this country who, if consulted, would never have the country in a state of peace; not that they fight the battles of the country, or are inspired by the ambition to win a name. NO such idea enters into their heads. They stay at home and make money. Jobs and contracts are the fields of their ambition, and the greater the expense incurred by the country the wider is the field of their exploits. [Petersburg Int. [MDT]

NNR 73.148 6 NOV 1847 resolution of Whigs of New Hampshire, Whig state convention of Vermont, Gov. Horace Eaton's message
New Hampshire- The Whigs have nominated Nathaniel S. Berry for governor- Gov. Colby having declined a nomination for re-election.

A whig county convention lately held in the state of N.H. lately adopted the following resolution:

That, as citizens of a free country, we claim and shall exercise the right at all times in a candid but fearless manner, of expressing our opinions of the acts whether of the state or national administration, and whether those acts relate to peace or war; and that we regard the attempt of the president of the United States in his last message to brand as traitors all those citizens of the republic who do not yield a blind obedience to his will, and approve his conduct in the unconstitutional commencement of the present war with Mexico, as an insult to freemen, and fit only to emanate from one who rules over slaves.

The war is to be avoided at all times as a great calamity, especially by this country, as not congenial to the spirit of our institutions, or the feelings that should animate us in our intercourse with the nations of the earth; but that we regard the present war with Mexico as doubly hateful, inasmuch as it was unconstitutionally commenced by the act of the president, in disregard of the rights of congress, and as it is waged for the dismemberment of a sister republic, upon pretexts that are false, and for a purpose that is abhorrent to all feelings of humanity and justice; and that, although we award to the officers and men engaged in that war all the praise that is due to skill, energy, and courage, yet we regard the glory acquired by our arms as an inadequate compensation for the blood that has been shed, the treasure that has been wasted, and the indelible stain that has been cast upon our national character by the prosecution of a war of conquest and ambition, the first, as we hope it may be that last, in the history of the republic.

That is the duty of the whigs of the country, by all exertion in their power, to extricate the country from the condition into which it has been plunged by the madness of its rulers, and to procure a peace with Mexico as soon as it can be done consistently with the true honor and dignity of the American name, and, by the termination of the war, set an example of justice and magnanimity that shall reflect as much honor upon the character of the American people for exercise of the moral virtues as they have acquired by the display of those of a military and heroic kind.

Vermont- Gov. Eaton’s message, transmitted to the legislature of the 16th ult., is brief and in good taste. HE recommends a good law for the protection of the property of married women, similar to that which has been enacted in other states. The public schools are in a flourishing condition. The geological survey of the state is nearly completed. Ex governor Paine and MR. Marsh have been appointed to correspond with Hiram Powers respecting the statue of Ethan Allen and T. Crittenden, to be placed in the capital.

On national affairs, the governor says:

“I believe that the position of Vermont is distinctly understood in regard to all these great questions of national policy which are from time to time agitating the national councils, and in which Vermont, in common with other states of the Union, has so deep an interest, it affords occasion for the most profound regret that the unhappy war with a neighboring republic has not yet been terminated, but on the contrary, is making still greater and greater demands upon the blood and treasure of the nation. It is believed that Vermont has seen nothing in the progress of the contest: to change her sentiment, either in regard to the insufficiency of the grounds on which the war was commenced, or the unworthiness of the purposes for which it has been waged. She cannot recognize the general government as committed to any career of conquest, nor will she regard any unaccomplished schemes of territorial aggrandizement as presenting an obstacle to the speedy adjustment of existing difficulties. Peace she unequivocally and earnestly desires, and asks for no territory, whether slave or free, as a condition of its establishment and security.”

A Whig state convention was held at Montpelier on the 21 ult., Hon. Carlos Coolidge, presiding. Hons. Solomon Foote and Horace Everett were appointed delegates at large to the national convention to nominate a president, and A.P. Lyman, H. Cutts, H.E. Royce and Portus Baxter, delegates from the several districts.

Resolutions were adopted denouncing the war, approving of the Wilmot proviso, objecting to the acquisition of territory by conquest.

[MDT]

NNR 73.150 6 NOV 1847 Protest of the city council of Mexico City
The city council of Mexico, in the most solemn manner, in the name of their constituents, and in the face of the world, and of the commander in chief of the army of the United States, protest.-That though the chances of war have reduced the city of Mexico under the forces of the United States, is has never entered their mind to submit voluntary to any chief, person or authority, unless such as are recognized by the federal constitution, and sanctioned by the government of the republic of Mexico, whatever be the length of time for which the foreign power may continue its existence de facto. Resolved in the deliberation hall of the city council of Mexico, September 13th, 1847, at 11 o’clock, P.M. Signed by Manuel R. Veramendi and sixteen other members.

Next we have the propositions submitted by them to Gen. Scott, on his entrance into the city, which the general good naturedly told them he would take into consideration, and would assure them all the protection which the welfare of his command and the requirements of the war would permit. The propositions, considering the source whence they come, leave one in doubt whether to laugh at their folly or grow angry at their insolence.

First proposition-The churches and monasteries of both sexes, hospitals, and archives, colleges, and schools, private dwellings, and in general every species of property, movable and immovable, whether belonging to the commonwealth, to corporations or to individuals, shall be individually respected; nor shall the desecration, violation or occupation of any of them, by the forces of the United states, or by the chiefs and privates who compose them, be in any case allowed.

Second- The city shall be governed by the existing laws, and it will enjoy, as theretofore, its privileges; nor shall the forces of the United States, and their respective chiefs, in any case, enjoin upon it the observance of any enactment; which , in its nature, should belong to the legislative order.

Third- The administration of justice, in civil and criminal matters, shall be strictly carried on by the respective authorities of the country, and in accordance with the provisions of the federal constitution of the republic of Mexico.

Fourth- Should a vacancy occur in the government of the district, the members of the council will fill it up according to the requirements of law, without the direct or indirect interference of the armed forces in the designation of the individual who may be selected to fill such vacancy.

Fifth-Any vacancies or absences, among the judges of first, second, and third instance, shall be temporarily supplied, by the district governor, upon due submission by the municipal body.

Sixth- the forces of the United States shall not affect the municipal rents, nor the manner of their collection; but they will allow the free administration thereof and of the direct taxes, paid to the municipal body, whose duty it will be to apply them to the branches with which they are charged, and to the speedy and full dispensation of justice.

Seventh-The city council shall be permitted to keep up such armed force as may be necessary to maintain the security of the jails and the domestic peace of the community, upon agreement, with the general in chief of the forces of the United States, as to the number of said force,and the nature of the arms to be used for the objects in view.

Eighth- The national standard shall be kept flying over the municipal buildings.

Ninth- The forces of the United States shall be quartered in such places as may, on agreement with the general in chief, be assigned to them. Said officers will be pleased to forbid them any unnecessary rambling through the streets of the city, particularly at night; especially are they to be cautioned against entering into any political discussions, or indulging in any mention of the campaign, with the inhabitants of the city.

Tenth- The general and chief of the army of the United States will be pleased not to allow counter guerrillas or the rangers to enter the city.

Eleventh- The council will retain, for public purposes under its direction, the timbers, materials, and other appliances, which were used to maintain the war.

Twelfth- This agreement shall be religiously observed on the part of both the general in chief and the council of the city.
Hall of deliberation, of the city council of Mexico,
September 13, 1847.
(signed) Manuel R. Veramendi and sixteen others.

NBR 73.151 6 NOV 1847 resolution of synod of New School Presbyterians

Preamble and Resolutions just adopted by the Synod of the New School Presbyterian Church of New York and New Jersey

The synod of New York and New Jersey, considering the tendency of war to impede the progress of the gospel, by putting the innings of men in a state unfavorable to the influence of truth and the Holy Scripture, deem it proper and seasonable, in view of the fact that our country is now engaged in war with a neighboring nation, which, as far as it has proceeded, has been unusually sanguinary and disastrous, to express their solemn convictions in the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the synod regard this war both as an exhibition of human wickedness and as a dreadful scourge from the hand of God, which should lead the Church of Christ to great searching of heart, to deep humiliation and [prosination] of spirit, and to earnest supplication before the Thorne of Mercy.

Resolved, That it be recommended to all the ministers of the word belonging to this synod to labor, by prayer, preaching, and all other appropriate means, to impress the minds of men with a sense of the sinfulness and the evils of war, and especially of the existing war with Mexico.

Resolved, That the synod express the earnest desire that all the people, see eye to eye in reference to the present and prospective evils of the existing war, and the desirableness of its speedy termination.

NBR 73.151 6 NOV 1847 practical view of war

Practical View of the War- If there is any subject of the present day on which it is unnecessary to do more than give a plain statement of facts, in such a manner as may carry it home practically, to the minds of our readers it is the war in which this country is now engaged. The method by which the president and his party have secured to themselves an immense amount of patronage and pecuniary benefits, by virtually mortgaging their country, is a fearful instance of power wrongfully usurped. The cost so far as it can be calculated in dollars and cents is a very small portion of the evils incurred. Nothing of this kind can convey an idea of the value of the twenty thousand American lives already said to have been expended during this war. Men of all parties are tired of the war. The bloody triumphs of the battle field are heard now rather as alleviations of anxiety that as gratifying from their glory. Men are inclined to count their cost. Up to the third day of this month the expenses were more than one hundred and sixty seven millions of dollars. The calculations given below, are based upon the supposition that 120000000 are all that have been thus expended. Buffalonians are congratulating themselves upon the intended expenditure of 150000 in improving our harbor. Let us see what a portion only of the debt so recently contracted in war would have done for the country it invested in peaceable objects:

With $120000000 a school house and church might crown every hill top from the Penobscot to the Rio Grande, and teachers of knowledge and righteousness might do their mission of good without money or price for any one.

With $120000000, we might connect every town in our land by railroad; and the magnetic telegraph might be made to stretch its magic wires alone every thoroughfare, from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

With $120000000, we might build such a navy as the world never saw, and carry on such a commerce as Venice, in the palmiest days, never dreamed of; our flag might float on every breeze, our sails whiten every sea, and our name be heard and feared in every house between the poles.

With $120000000, we might feed every poor man, clothe every beggar, and relieve every
distress, not only once, but always, as long as the population of the globe did not exceed 950000000. Starvation, poverty and famine need never find a foothold on earth.

And more, with $120000000 we might give the Bible and tell the tidings of our holy faith to Heathen lands, to every foreign nation and to every human soul.

The government complains that the post office department is a heavy tax upon the treasury, on account of the low rates of postage. Devote four months interest of the Mexican war debt to this end, and our people would never hear the word "postage."

The government doles out with a miser’s hand, and a miser’s spirit, trifling, pitiful sums, for harbors in our western rivers and lakes. Devote two months interest of the Mexican war debt to this end, and no more petitions for appropriations would come from the people of the west.

This is the way to calculate the cost of the war; and these are not idle fancies. Let no reader be satisfied, until he works, with his pencil, each one of these statements. Figures will verify them all. Is our country able to squander money in this wise? Is gold a matter of such little concern, as to be disposed of in this summary manner? What says the farmer, whose taxed lands help to heap up these hoards of wasted money? What says the mechanic, whose taxed "occupation" aids in amassing this squandered treasure? What say the people, who pay for it, in their clothes, food, books, houses, furniture, and property? Can we afford it? We might be doing good with it, such as no country has ever done.

Is this, then, the much boasted destiny of our great country-to tax her people, collect and borrow an immense sum, and spend it in shedding blood and killing men. [North American [MDT]

NRR 73.151 6 NOV 1847 Gen. Winfield Scott's general order No. 287 declaring martial law

The general in chief republishes his order No. 2 of 19th February 1847, declaring martial law, with important additions.

1. It is to be feared that many grave offenses may be committed by or against the persons composing the armies engaged in the present war between the two republics, which are not provided for in the act of congress "establishing rules and regulations for the government of the armies of the United States," approved the 10th April, 1806. Those offences are here alluded to, which, it committed in the United States, or in their organized territories, would be tried and severely punished by the ordinary civil tribunals of the country.

2. The following offences are meant: assassination, murder, poisoning, rape, or the attempt to commit either of these crimes; violent assaults, theft or robbery, the profanation of temples, cemeteries or other sacred places; the interruption of religious ceremonies, or the destruction of public or private property without the express order or a superior officer.

3. For the welfare of the military service, for the interest of humanity, and for the honor of the United states, it is absolutely essential that all the crimes above mentioned should be severely punished.

4. But the code commonly called the "rules and articles of war," does not provide any punishment for he said crimes, not even in case they are perpetrated by individuals in the army against the persons and property of the same, except in the very restricted case in Apr. 9; and they are only partially referred to in Arts. 51, 52, and 55, when committed by individuals of the army against the person and property of a hostile people; and the said code does not refer to the injuries which may be committed by individuals of a hostile country in violation of the laws of war upon the person and property composing the army.

5. It is evident that Article 99, independent of any reference to the restriction in Art. 87, is entirely nugatory and does not reach these capital crimes.

6. Therefore, a supplementary code, covering the crimes mentioned in the second paragraph of this order, whether committed on, by, or against the army, is absolutely necessary.

7. This unwritten code is simply martial law, and is an addition to the military code prescribed by congress in the "rules and articles of war," and all armies in a hostile country should adopt the martial law, not only for their own security, but for the protection of the peaceful inhabitants and their property from detriment on the part of the army in violation of
8. In consequence of this overpowering necessity, martial law is declared as a supplemental code, and it will be observed in and about all posts, cities, villages, camps, hospitals, and other places which may be occupied by portions of the army of the United States in Mexico; and it will be equally observed in the columns, escorts, convoys, guards, and detachments of said army, during the present war with that republic, and while it shall remain in the same.

9. Consequently all the crimes mentioned in the second paragraph, whether perpetrated, 1st. By a Mexican citizen, inhabitant of or sojourner in this republic, against the persons or property of those belonging to or following said army of the United States of America; or 2nd. By any individual belonging to or following said army, against the persons or property of the citizens or inhabitants of, or sojourners in this country; or 3rd. By any individual belonging to or following said army, against the persons or property of any persons appertaining to the same shall be judged and punished under the supplemental code.

10. For this purpose it is ordered, that every delinquent in the above mentioned cases shall be promptly arrested, and notice thereof given, that he may be tried before a military commission, which shall be convoked in conformity with that fellow.

11. Every military commission under this order shall be named, governed, and conducted, as far as practicable, in accordance with articles 65, 66 and 67 or the rules and articles of war, and the proceeding of the said commission shall be duly recorded in writing, revised, and corrected, approved or disapproved, and the sentences executed, so far as practicable, in conformity with the proceeding and sentences of court martial, under the following limitations: NO military commission shall have jurisdiction in any case that may be properly tried by a court martial, and no sentence of any military commission shall be executed against any person belonging to the American army, unless the nature and grade of his offence be established by evidence, and then he shall be punished in the same manner that similar cases are punished in any state of the United States.

12. The sale, waste, and loss of warlike stores, horses, arms, clothing, and provisions of soldiers, shall be punished by law under the Nos. 37 and 38 of the articles of war, and whatever Mexican, whether a resident or a transient person, who shall buy from any soldier, arms, ammunition, provisions, or clothing, horses, or their trappings, shall be tried and severely chastised by a military commission.

13. The administration of justice, both civil and criminal, shall be meted out in all the established courts throughout the country, without the slightest interruption or hindrance from the officers or soldiers of the American army, excepting the following cases: 1st. In case the person be an officer, soldier, agent, servant, or other person following the North American army. 2d. In political cases, that is to say, suits against other individuals, in which it is alleged that friendly information, protection or kind reception, has been given to American army.

14. For the convenience and protection of both parties, in all cities and towns occupied by the American army, a body of Mexican police shall be established and organized to act in concert with the military police of the said army.

15. This beautiful capital, its churches and its religion, its convents, and monasteries, its inhabitants and their property, are placed under the especial safeguard of the good faith and honor of the American army.

16. As a consideration for the aforesaid protection, a contribution of $150000 is levied on the capitals, payable in four payments, at the rate of $37500 per week, commencing on Monday next the 20th instant, and terminating on Monday, the 11th of October.

17. The ayuntamiento, or municipal council, of this city, is especially charged with the collection and payment of these sums.

18. From the entire contribution which is to be paid to this army, $ 20000 shall be appropriated for the purchase of some very necessary supplies for the wounded and sick in the hospital; $90000 to purchase blankets and shoes, which shall be distributed gratuitously amongst the soldiers of the army, and $40000 shall be retained for other military wants.

19. This order shall be read to and circulated amongst all the companies of the American army now in service in Mexico, and shall be translated into Spanish for the information of the Mexicans.

By order of the commander in chief,
Revolt of the Massachusetts regiment over uniforms

The Massachusetts Regiment- The other day it became necessary to clothe the Massachusetts regiment anew; their old grey uniform having become seriously dilapidated. Grey clothing could not, of course be produced here, and the United States blue (the best soldier’s clothing in the world) was substituted for it. The regiment accepted the clothing, with the exception of one company, the members of which positively refused, on the ground that it was disgraceful for them to wear the national uniform! They could not clothe themselves in any thing else; they were becoming ragged, and were on the point of marching to the interior, where there is no clothing at all. General Cushing ordered them out of ranks and sent them to the castle to perform laborer’s duty.

Yesterday the prisoners were marched from the camp to the castle, under charge of Captain Carr’s company, 11th infantry. On reaching the mote some fifteen of them endeavored to beg off, saying that if they were permitted to return to duties they would wear the blue cloth, but it was too late.

Major Webster arrived at N. Orleans on the 25th, on his way to join his regiment, the Massachusetts, in route from Vera Cruz to the interior, with the train under Gen. Patterson.

Gen. Lane’s Advance without Adequate Ammunition

The fact that Gen. Lane had to halt his command on reaching the Governor’s Bridge, and send Capt. Cook for ammunition for his forces, has been already noticed. In reference to this, the writer quoted above says: “I have previously stated that Gen. Lane’s command left here with forty rounds of ammunition. All the facts of the case are not yet known. ON his arrival at the National Bridge, he had an average of eight rounds. The amount that he started with from here is not known. If he started with less than forty rounds, the usual quantity, then the general is responsible, for the act was neglectful; but if he started with the full complement, then his men are also inexcusable, they for divesting themselves, he for allowing it.

Lieut. Morris’ appeal to the Marines

Lieut. Morris of the rifles- It happened soon after Maj. Twiggs, of the marines, was killed, that Lt. Morris, of the rifles, was ordered to make a charge in order to attain a certain point. Deeming his own men too few for the undertaking, and seeing the marines without an officer, he ordered them to help him. They replied, that he was no officer of theirs, and refused—he remonstrated, and they still refused. Finding authority and remonstrance of no avail, he shouted to them—“Marines, I am the son of Commodore Morris—if you have any veneration for his memory, follow me.” This appeal was irresistible; their sailor hearts were touched, and with a cry, as of joy, they pounded forward, and shared his dangers and his perils, until success was obtained.

Capt. Tilghman’s company of light artillery. Amongst the late arrivals of troops at Vera Cruz, is
Captain Tilghman's company of Baltimore light artillery. They are a fine looking set of men, and their uniform remarkably tasteful and neat, though almost too fine for the rough usage it will be subject to in a campaign. They have been supplied with excellent horses, and six beautiful pieces of cannon, forges, caissons, &c., in proposition. [KAS]

NNR 73.152 Nov. 6, 1847 expedition against guerrillas

The Genius of Liberty of the 15th inst., gives an account of an expedition against the guerrillas, sent out by Gen. Patterson, in which several parties of bandits were encountered and destroyed, and a large amount of arms of all kinds were captured.

Some excitement was occasioned at Vera Cruz on the 18th by the arrival of an express from a company of Texas Rangers, announcing that they had been attacked about twelve miles from Vera Cruz by a large guerrilla force, that they had lost one man killed and about eighteen were missing. The report was current that the whole command, excepting two had been cut off and the immediate departure of the rangers at full speed induced the citizens to believe that the report was true.

NNR 73.152 Nov. 6, 1847 Burning of Santa Ann’s Hacienda

A Vera Cruz correspondent of the New Orleans National insists that Captain Lewis of the Louisiana volunteers was justifiable in destroying the seat of the Mexican commander, as it had been made the headquarters of a band that were infesting the line of communication between Vera Cruz and Gen. Scott's army.

The latest dates received here from the National Bridge, by a letter from Major Kenly, informed us that Santa Anna's hacienda was permanently occupied by Col. Hughes and his staff, and how it could have been the resort of guerrillas, we are at a loss to conceive.

NNR 73.152 6 NOV 1847 account of the camp at Veracruz, difficulties of soldiers at the hospital

Correspondence of the New Orleans Picayune
Vera Cruz, October 16, 1847

This city and camp Bajara present the most interesting scenes at this time. At the latter place are some 35000 troops encamped—say the 13th infantry, Massachusetts regiment, new Ohio regiment, two Florida companies, Captain Stapp’s Illinois mounted men, ninety recruits for the 1st dragoons, two companies of the 11th infantry, sixty voltigeur recruits, and last (though by no means the least) Capt. Tilghman's magnificent light artillery battery. About half a mile beyond this camp are four companies of Texan Rangers.

Gen. Patterson has put his shoulder to the wheel in earnest, first, to put an end to certain abuses that have been too long overlooked here, and practiced by officers going up in the several columns that have left for the interior. For instance, a large number of men, belonging to both regular and volunteer forces, have been sent into the general hospital here by their officers without descriptive rolls. Numbers of these poor fellows have remained in hospital six and eight months, some have died, and many are still suffering, who, for want of this light duty on the part of their officers, cannot by honorably discharged or paid. To send them off sick, without pay, and with no papers by which they can claim their land bounty, or perhaps pension, would by treating them badly indeed, and the surgeons will not do it. The pay and board of those who die in hospital are lost to their heirs, if the officers under whom they have served have been so criminal as to neglect to furnish the hospital surgeon with their descriptive rolls and clothing accounts. To prevent a recurrence of this evil Gen. Patterson has issued orders that every officer who shall send men to the hospital without the proper papers shall be arrested and tried. Other healthy orders have been issued and are stringently executed, and the general is determined that the guerrillas, as well in this vicinity as on the road, shall feel the weight of our power.

Day before yesterday he dispatched two companies of Texas rangers and some other mounted men to scour the country between the Jalapa and Orizaba roads, where guerrillas were known to be quartered and arms and ammunitions to be stored. A few miles about Santa Fe a party of rangers came upon a ranch, and then discovered, by the numerous explosions,
that loaded firearms were concealed there. In the vicinity of Medellin, another party discovered large quantities of arms and ammunition, and killed some sixty guerrillas.

Whilst, however, the mounted men are employed in ferreting out and destroying guerrillas and guerrilla depots, the general does not forget to protect the innocent and defenseless. The following general order will show his policy in this respect.

[NMT]

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**NR 73.152 6 NOV 1847 general order for opening the line of communication from Veracruz to the interior**

Headquarters Volunteer Division
Vera Cruz, Mexico, October 12, 1846

Orders, No. 5.- The commanding General of the division being charged with the duty of opening the line of communication with the main army in the interior of Mexico, directs that:

1. The commanders of all corps, detachments, and posts under his command, or left by him on the line from Vera Cruz to the headquarters of the army, shall protect from injury and insult all unarmed and peaceable inhabitants.

2. NO private property shall be taken, except by the order of the commanding officer of the corps, detachment, or post, and then only for the use of the troops, for which, in all cases when the owner can be found, a reasonable compensation shall be paid.

3. The frequent robberies and murders committed by guerrillas and other banditti, who live by plundering Mexican as well as Americans, thereby rendering life and property insecure, and interrupting trade and intercourse with the interior, requiring a prompt remedy, no Mexican will be allowed to bear arms, except by the written permission of the commander of a department of war.

4. Commanders of all armed parties will apprehend armed Mexicans found without proper authority, and should they resist they will be shot.

By orders of Maj. Gen. Patterson:

J.J.Abercrombie, Lt. Col. And A.A.A.g.

Among the other arrangements a depot is to be immediately established at the National Bridge. This is certainly a most judicious measure. The army will probably move to the interior in about a week.

[NMT]

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**NR 73.152-73.153 6 NOV 1847 Mexican official reports on termination of the armistice**

The *Matamoros Flag*, furnishes the following translation of Mexico officials, issued upon the termination of the armistice and the renewal of hostilities. The first is the Mexican secretary's letter to Gen. Urrea-the second is Urrea's announcement to the governor of the province of Tamaulipas.

Excellent sir-It is probable that tomorrow at 12 pm. the enemy will commence hostilities, in consequence of the refusal of the supreme government to precede to advise you of this event. The first magistrate of the nation has never had the power, nor has he wished to make concessions derogatory to the rights, and honor of the republic-and he has therefore, during the time the negotiations were pending, fanned the flame of national spirit and reorganized the army. HE is therefore, to day, in an attitude to rebel force by force, which seems to be the only title of the enemy to acquisitions which the supreme government never could concede, much less admit stipulations which has their origin in the law of force. Your excellency may rest assured, that whatever may be the success of arms, the government will always sustain at all costs, the independence and honor of he republic. God and liberty!

ALCORTA
Mexico, Sept. 6,1847.

[MDT]
Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's summons to Col. Thomas Childs, reply, the siege, Santa Anna deserted by his troops

Santa Anna’s Demonstration At Puebla.

Summons to surrender, dated

Headquarters- Mexican Army I have taken possession of this city with the army under my command, for the purpose of operating upon the several points fortified and occupied by your excellency, and also with the view of liberating its inhabitants from the dominion of the forces of the United States, from whom they have already suffered too much. But before commencing any operations of a military character, I have considered it my duty to act in obedience to the impulses of humanity, and consequently request that your excellency will please evacuate this city within a certain and peremptory space of time, it being known to you at the same time that you can depart with all the honors of war, either to form a junction with General Scott, or the forces of your country at Perote, according as it best suits your pleasure. But should this courteous request of mine be unheeded by your excellency, then, although to me it is a painful alternative, I shall commence to assault your positions the consequences of which act will be felt by your garrison, because there exists in the vicinity of your excellency 8000 men who are determined that the rights of their nation shall be maintained and respected.

God and liberty, headquarters in Puebla, September 25th 1847.
ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

To Senior Col. D. Thomas Childs, commander of the United States army, situated in Loreto.

Col. Childs Reply.

Headquarters, City of Puebla, Mexico
September 25, 1847.

TO his excellency, D Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, General in chief of the Mexican army in front of this city.

Sir- I had the honor of receiving, at 2 o’clock this afternoon, your excellency’s letter of this date. In it you were pleased to notify me of the fact that you had taken possession of this city, for the purpose as you declare, of restoring to the full enjoyment of their liberty its citizens who have hitherto suffered so much from the U.S. army. You likewise were pleased to offer certain stipulations to this garrison, provided that it would, within a fixed time, abandon the point of defense which it now occupies. With regard to the assertion of your Excellency, which implies that the inhabitants of Puebla have been maltreated by the US troops, I wholly deny it. On the contrary, I assure you that the property and privileges of all have been maintained and respected with the greatest scrupulosity, indeed, so much so has it been done, that its parallel cannot be found in the annals of war. And I would most willingly leave it to the most intelligent and impartial portion of the population of the city to decide, from which of the two contending parties they have received the most injury and molestation; whether it is from their own countrymen or the troops of the United States.

With regard to that particular part of your excellency’s letter which demands the surrender, within a fixed time, of all the positions now occupied by the troops under my command, I can only say in reply, that having been honored with the duty of guarding and protecting them, it is equally my greatest wish and paramount obligation to preserve them to the last; and I am fully satisfied that I shall be able to defend all the resources essential to its full and complete accomplishment.

With considerations in the highest degree respectful, I have the honor to be your excellency’s most obedient servant,

Thomas Childs, Col. U.S. Army
Civil and military governor.

[MDT]

The Genius of Liberty furnishes the following sequel to the above correspondence
Puebla, 28th—At 5 in the evening of yesterday the point of San Juan de Dios, Santa Rosa and Santa Monica commenced a heavy cannonade upon the American works. The letter immediately began to throw cannon shot, bombs and grenades into the centre of the city, which suffered in consequence some considerable injury.

Don Mariano del Rio, was standing with his wife on the back balcony of his house was struck dead by a cannon ball. About 8 P.M. the cannonade deceased, but command again at the dawn of the following day.

Puebla 29th—By order of Santa Anna a body of troops was yesterday posted in the convent of Santa Teresa, at one of the corners of which a breastwork of cotton bales was erected. Four hundred cotton bales have already been demanded of the house of Velasco for the defense of the city. To prevent the completion of this work the Americans from the fork of San Jose kept up a continual fire upon the workmen, which being stoutly returned by the Mexicans, the discharge of bombs and grenades from the American lines greatly increased. At this moment a considerable number of private citizens went to Santa Anna, who was at Carmen, and requested of him a piece of artillery, which being granted, together with a small body of men for its management, they quickly marched for the Convent Santa Rosa and opened a will directed fire upon the American works. We were in the greatest construction, but night at last supervening, everything became quiet.

Puebla, Sept. 30—Today partial tranquility reigns in the city. Now and then can be heard the report of a cannon, and the explosion of some grenades thrown in the direction of San Juan del Rio, in the rear of whose church Gen. Rea last night concluded a battery, with which he intends to open on San Jose. Our soldiers are complaining very much, and say they are ready die of hunger, not having received anything in the shape of provisions for some considerable time. The greatest enthusiasm against the Americans prevails throughout the entire city.

Puebla, Oct. 2—Since Santa Anna’s departure the cannonading has totally slackened off. The cotton store house of Velasco took fire last night, and was burned down to the ground—and 200 bales of the same article were totally consumed in the convent of Santo Domingo, without any one’s being able to account for the mode in which they were fired. The inhabitants hearing the ringing of bells which announced the incendiarium, were very much alarmed, believing that the Americans had left their entrenchments, and were storming the city.

From the same source we derive the following narrative of events subsequent to those above detailed. Santa Anna is evidently reduced to great straits:

On the 1st of the present month Gen. Santa Anna, at the head of 2000 cavalry and infantry and three pieces of artillery, sailed out of Puebla, intending to attack the American train which left Jalapa on the 1st, and reached Perote on the 4th. But before arriving at Tepeyahualeo the designs of the commander in chief of the Mexican forces where wholly frustrated, all his men, with the exemption of 130 hussars of his personal guard, having pronounced against him. As an excuse for this proceeding the officers and privates alleged that they were firmly convinced that their further continuance at the disposal and under the orders of the ex president would only be followed by their complete sacrifice; and that withal, their country would not derive the slightest benefit for it.

They attributed the unfortunate events of the war, and their want of success in their battles against the invaders, to his incapacity and unskilfulness. Even some of them fondly declared him to be a traitor, and consequently to be unworthy of holding any command in the Mexican army. The greater part of these transactions took place at Nopalucan.

Santa Anna having got to Tepeyahualea with his 130 hussars, he received an order from the government at Queretaro directing him to proceed thither at once with all the troops under his orders. But the general did not deem it convenient to comply with the mandate of his government and took up his line of march for Oaxaca, whither by the latest account he was wending his way. He publicly declared that his intentions in going to Oaxaca were to see whether he could raise there another army, with which he might return to renew the combat.
with the enemies of his republic.

All the letters from the interior coincide in saying that Gen Santa Anna, conscious of his impotency to effect anything more either in carrying on of the war, or of adjusting the terms of peace, is making his way towards Guatemala, for the purpose of leaving the republic of Mexico forever, and that his march to Oaxaca is only a pretext to the quiet accomplishment of his designs.

The reports that Gen Santa Anna was endeavoring to reach Guatemala, and that Gen Scott had given him a passport to embark free from Vera Cruz if he should think it best, is denied by La Voz de la Patria, a Mexican newspaper which we find extensively copied in the Arco Iris. He is resolved, say La Voz, not to abandon the cause of the country, and to continue the war without respite upon the enemies of Mexican independence and religion.

The genius of Liberty says that Senor Pena y Pena is discharging the duties of recognize as his associate in power, the individuals nominated and appointed by Santa Anna. He proposes that congress shall take upon itself the office of selecting men to that important and high office.

NNR 73.154 Nov. 6, 1847 Guerrilla Warfare

A letter from the army, dated Buena Vista, Aug. 20, says:

"A ranger is missed; search is made for him by his comrades; his body is perhaps found, perhaps not. The nearest Mexicans to the vicinity of his disappearance are required to account for him; they will not, or cannot. The bowie knife is called upon, and deliberately every male Mexican in that rancho is speedily done for, guilty or not guilty. But this is not enough to make an effort for the life of a Texan. Another rancho receives the fearful visit, and again blood flows. The number killed on some occasions in this way has been fearfully great, and has been gathered from what fell from the Texas, but no one but themselves knew about it, as a report of any such doings to the nearest commanding officer, would only be followed by a ten-fold retaliation on the nearest 'customers.' This is all horrid, it is true, but it has had the salutary tendency of causing the well disposed and honest Mexicans to ferret out and inform of those who practice murder and robbery. Going about at some distance from camp is considered much more safe."

[MDT]

NNR 73.155 6 NOV 1847 comment on the "slanders" against Gen. Sterling Price

General Price.- The Glasgow News says, that Gen. Price has applied to the war department for permission to raise a company of mounted men, to act as an escort for him across the plains to Santa Fe.

The same paper says, that "the slanderers of this officer are very quiet since his return from Santa Fe." We do not know who are meant by this term "slanderers" but if reference be had to the truths which have been published in regard to his military command in New Mexico, the want of subordination and discipline in his camp, and the dissolute conduct of those whom he ought to have controlled, and over whom he had full authority, we must says that his presence has not prevented the publication of the facts. Gen. Price proposes, it is said, a visit to Washington. If he feels himself aggrieved, let him ask a court of inquiry, with full power to investigate his military conduct in New Mexico, and witnesses will not be wanting to prove his total unfitness for the station which he occupied, his failure to preserve anything like military subordination in his camp, and the licentiousness which he encouraged, by suffering his men to do very much as they pleased. Gen. Price is now a military man, and if he has anything of the chivalry of an officer about him, he will not willingly rest under accusations which are ringing against him from one end of the state to the other. [St. Louis Repub 4th Oct.]

[MDT]

NNR 73.155 6 NOV 1847 hubbub and confusion among troops at Santa Fe, confusion and disorder in the territory

Santa Fe, New Mexico, Aug, 13, 1847
All is hubbub and confusion here, discharged volunteers are leaving, drunk, and volunteers not discharged are remaining drunk. B company 1st dragoons arrived here escorting a train of wagons with 350000 in specie, on the 6th. Col. Price will give up the command and depart early next week. There will only be left here for the government of this territory, which has a population of 90000, 250 troops. None of the newly enlisted volunteers have arrive yet.  
[N. Y. Cour & Enq.  
[MDT]

NRR 73.155 6 NOV 1847 seizure of a British ship freighted with merchandise for a merchant in California

Affairs in the Pacific.- Capture and condemnation of a British merchantman.-Despatches have been received in Washington from Com. Biddle, dated on aboard the line of battle ship Columbus, on the 10th of April last, giving an account of the seizure by the squadron, of a British merchant vessel, of light tonnage, freighted with merchandise of an English merchant resident in Mexico.

There had been organized in California by Gen. Kearney, at the instance of Com. Biddle, a court of admiralty to adjudicate in such cases. This court took cognizance of this seizure, and condemned the vessel as a lawful prize, on the principle that a merchant permanently residing in Mexico, no matter of what power he may be a subject, is to be treated in time of war as a citizen of the country in which he resides and done business.

This decision is sustained by the practice of the British admiralty courts during the war between France and England, and also during the war of 1812 and '15, between the U. States and Great Britain.  
[NY Herald.  
[MDT]

NRR 73.156 Nov. 6, 1847 letter from a participant in actions against the Mexicans in California

Events in California – A Late Springfield Journal contains a long letter from California, written by Wm. S. Todd, Formerly of Springfield, from which we make the following extract.

When I wrote to you in January last, I expected to leave this country this spring, but I was so long detained in the army, under Fremont, that I am compelled to alter my intention, and even if I had got off in time, seeing the opportunities I now do of making something to repay me for coming to the country, I doubt whether I should leave. The country has just passed through a war of then months, and is beginning to recover from the evil effects of that war, although military despotism still governs it. General Kearney is the governor of the country, and governs it with martial law.

In January, 1847, the foreign residents here became disgusted with the tyrannical and unprincipled acts of the men in power in this country, and raised a revolution against them. The authorities has commenced by declaring that all Americans should leave the country, or "their bones should bleach upon the plains of California," and were preparing a force to carry out the threat, but the Americans took the start and seized the fortress of Sonoma, with several pieces of cannon, small arms, ammunition, &c; and at the same time General Vallejo, Salvador Vallejo, and Captain De la Torre crossed the bay of San Francisco with near one hundred men.—We whipped them and drove them back over the bay, and then prepared to march against General Castro.

On our march down, an express overtook us, stating that Com. Sloat, Had taken position of Monterey and San Francisco, and had hoisted the American flag. Fremont (who had joined us a few days before we left Sonoma,) ... our leader, hoisted the starts and stripes over out camp. From that time until the retaking of Pueblo, in the month of January last, I have been in the service of the United States, I may say, until the 6th of March last, when I was discharged. There were many others, who, like myself served during the whole war, and were discharged at that same time. In November last, Commodore Stockton came to San Diego, and there told us that we must enlist as common soldiers or remain as prisoners on board the Congress until he could send us home. After the retaking of Pueblo we were promised our immediate discharge, and our pay, by Commodore Stockton; but we obtained neither of them. Some two or three weeks after out term of service has expired, Col. Fremont consented to discharge us, and did so on the 6th of March - paying us but twenty dollars each to purchase horses, saddles and provisions, to take us home – a distance of 800 miles!  
[ATT]
THE NEW YORK CALIFORNIA REGIMENT AT HOME

The Northampton Gazette, says: A young gentleman of Worthington, in this county, who became enamored of them western regions, by the representations which he gathered from this reading, and who connected himself with the 7th regiment of New York volunteers, under the famous Colonel Stevenson, and sailed fro California last autumn, writes to his friends from San Francisco, under date of May, in which he gives rather an unfavorable color to the destinies of that command, and of the country, so much eulogized by hose desires of a… our national domain. A few extracts will show pretty clearly the disappointed feelings of those who were looking for a western paradise. He says:

"The land here is very poor, not a vegetable is raised. All it is fit for is grass, and that all dries up in summer and blows away. There is no rain from May to September. Not a tree grows within twenty miles of this. A few scrub bushes are seen, and they hardly furnish wood enough to cook with. All I can say about the land here, .. make within a circuit of twenty miles, is, that it is one large sand bank, where vegetation starts-up in the spring then dries up and blows away. If there is any with you that wish to emigrate, let them go to any other place in the world than California. Never way any taken in so bad as was the 7th regiment of New York volunteers. We expected to find it almost a paradise, and here we are, poor dogs, living on sea biscuit, pork and beans, in face of an enemy, exposed to wind, weather, and bullets rattling among us, and all for seven dollars a month. Blue coasts, red patches, stripes and death, perhaps – a gloomy prospect, indeed."

These are the deluded men, who consented, upon the representation of the government adventurers, to be discharged at the expiration of the war, where-ever they may be, and find their way home as they may, or spend their lives in California. Not a very enviable condition truly.

Another member of the regiment, a correspondent of the Troy N. York Whig, writes as follows:

Santa Barbara, Alta California, May 19, 1847.

Entertaining an idea that there are doubtless many who would like to know the whereabouts of one, who in former days "danced and sang a …song," and who was most familiarly known to the good citizens of his birth place; who, perhaps, think him in another world, as he doubtless would have had not fortune smiled most favorably upon him. I am alive and well, never more so, and may if I meet with no pull-backs, see you again some time in the course of then years if we can satisfy these cursed Mexicans, and make them come to terms. Ere this you must have heard of our arrival and the distribution of our regiment if you have not, Major Harde is stationed with three companies, G, H & K. at the Presidio at St. Francisco; Lieut. Col. Barton with three companies at this place, having arrived here on 7th April; and Col. Stevenson at Monterey with four companies, C. D. E. & … within the last week. Col. C. has been ordered to the "Pueblo des los Angelos" with two companies G & E., 90 miles below this, where there are some 400 Mormon soldiers, and once company U.S. dragoons, engaged in throwing up a breast work preparatory not having occasion to use it, as they expect to have hot work soon. Lieut. C. Burton with two companies A. & B. is ordered down the coast, (place unknown) out a short distance this side of Mazatlan, to take position of the country. We sail next week. We may possibly meet General Wool's division and join him; what's next will for low is all speculation. Capt. Naglee from Philadelphia in command of company D has mounted his company, and is out in the mountains scouting. Capt. Brackett of company C is stationed at Sonoma, 60 miles up the Sacramento from St. Francisco, the balance being in quarters, ready at a moments notice for any emergency. We have had two alarms here, … calling every man to his post in less than a minute. Never did I see men obey a call quicker than on those occasions, it was remarkable by Col. Barton, an old campaigner, that during all his fighting in the Florida war he never saw much promptness in falling into ranks before. Some were without shoes, some without caps, and some without coats, but every man had his musket and his 20 rounds of cartridge in his cartridge box. The alarm was caused by some Indians lurking around the camp, and one of them coming too near the sentry, and not obeying his orders to "stand," he fired upon and killed him – of late things have worn a more peaceful appearance.

The men are contented, having provided for them most comfortable quarters, and a braver set of men I do not believe ever went into the field; they are composed of those careless, reckless d-Is, (yet of good heart) from the Bowery and East River side, that are the terror of the N. York police. They are in good discipline, always respectful and obedient, and the only thing they want is to have a chance of fighting. They occasionally get a fight up on a small scale; pounding an Indian or Californian who does not exactly think as they do, most unmercifully. They love their commander (Col. B.) and well they may, for he is very attentive
to their wants, and they in return try to please him in every thing. Santa Barbara is a pleasant little town with a population if some 1,000 inhabitants, and a jurisdiction extending to over 3,000; it is built upon a beautiful piece of table land, situated between lofty ranges of mountains on its side and rear, with its front opening to the sea. Fruits during the summer season may be had in abundance, and out table of late groans under the weight of delicious dishes, fruits and wine, sent us as presents from the fair hands of the many beautiful Senoritas; while we in return guard and protect them from the hostile Indian depredations. Fandangos' we have almost nightly, rich treats they are. The waltz is the same as out own; but the other dances wholly different. A native stands a poor chance for a partner, when there are enough "Americanos" present. I'm worst feature in the whole case is my morality to reply to their beautiful lingo, I never felt the disagreeable reality before of wanting to talk, and not being able to. Ideas rush in from all sources, but I have to check them or only utter them in most miserable Spanish.

The horsemen of the Californians cannot be surpassed; children from 6 to 8 years of age, rise with much ease and grace as out grown people do at home, and it is not uncommon, occurrence to see them strapped on, riding as the races. Visiting, business, and every thing else is done on horseback, they being to lazy to walk. Daily may be seen from six to a dozen at different corners of the streets seated on their horses all day long, and it they are fortunate enough to get any thing to eat, it is devoured while seated on their horses. The length of the race never exceeds is a quarter of a mile, and the time is never made as we can make it home, an American betting $50 on a race is looked at with surprise, that amount being too large for the Californian's pocket. Their betting is from $5 to $10, and side betting from $4 upwards is not that heavy. Horses that we would willing pay from $100 to $150, you can purchase here for $15, $20 and $25, once more I am again the owner of a horse! Each part of the command which was left in New York when we sailed have arrived, and joined their respective companies; the... belonging to the companies stationed here joined yesterday. We have received news from the states as late as the 24th No. files of the New York Herald and Courier and Enquirer. Eagerly do we scan the proceedings and doings of those at home, and trust provision may be... rising of troops for five years... and those men who wish to remain in the service belonging to the 7th regiment may not be forgotten. It is a general feeling among the officers and as we are already here, would it not be much easier and cheaper fir the United States to muster us for that time. I hope that Congress and the secretary of war will have an eye open favorably for us. – General Kearney, Col. Fremont, and one or two others whose names I forget, leave during this month for the states. Col. F must feel very much chagrined in being obliged to return to the states with Gen. K. after having stood out against him so long, disobeying all orders which have been given him before you will before this reaches you have learned after consequently unnecessary to repeat here. Cornel Mason will be in command of the forces as soon as the general leaves, which will much dampen the spirits of our gallant. French leaving taking colonel From the others on board his ship I learn that he had made all his appointments from secretary of state down, and intended carrying them out upon arrival, but on his arrival, he having learned that Col. Mason was here, never did man's... hopes change more suddenly than was duplicated in the countenance and bearing of Col. Stevenson. Hard stories are told of the colonel during the passage, and many a time and oft' does he catch a drubbing from some luckless wight who has been most shamefully wronged. It is the prevailing wish that he may be dislodged from command, recalled home, and the command given to Lieut. Col. Barton, a gentleman and soldier, and a man beloved by all officers and men. On the 22nd we give a grand ball, now it will terminate if I have time, I will let you now in another letter My remembrance to the good people, and oblige. Frank [ATT]

NMR 73.160 Nov. 6, 1847 "what is to be done with Mexico? her voice is still for war!", subjugation contemplated

“What’s to be done with Mexico?”

Whilst the British government are embarrassed with the difficult questions of “What is to be done with Ireland,” our own government is occupied with a no less perplexing question as to what is to be done with out southern neighbor. The views of the cabinet being but imperfectly and unofficially shadowed forth by the official organ, leaves the scores of "letter writers" full latitude for their occupation, which is improved accordingly. The decided tone of such of those as are well known to occupy stations that afford opportunities for being well informed, is scarcely to be misunderstood.

"X." the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, on the 31st wrote: “The papers, as you will perceive, hint at the revolution in public sentiment which has been effected in Mexico since our seizure of the capital – private letters confirm the same, and there is no doubt but that the true friends of peace, who always consider the continuation in power of Santa Anna worse to the state than the loss of half a dozen provinces, will make a vigorous effort to bring about some kind of an arrangement, especially if they learn that henceforth they
must pay for all the expenses of the war, instead of getting money from us, and that in lieu of pay they must lose other provinces in proportion to the duration of the war. Should there be any such revolution in public sentiment, Mr. Trist, I opine, may yet figure as commissioner; but he will listen, not make propositions on his part.

"The Mexican tariff, as soon as Gen. Patterson and Col. Jack Hays shall have established a permanent safe communications with the interior, will yield a handsome revenue, especially if a few slight alterations in its present rates of duty shall be ordered, such as experience has shown to be beneficial to out merchants, producers, and manufacturers. Such alterations, I believe, are in progress of preparation."

"Ion," another correspondent of the same paper, writes of the same date: "In my letter of the 26th inst., I said "sufficient intimation had been thrown out in regard to the orders recently sent to General Scott, to convince me" that those orders were so and so. I have had ample reason since, to believe that I have fallen into no error in regard to the policy of the government on this subject. Others may have arrived at different conclusions as to the course which the executive will pursue, and no one assumes to speak upon authority in relation to it – not even the editor of the Union.

"What are the "intimations thrown out" by the "Union" in the article of the 27th, and in previous articles? They fully confirm my own convictions, as forced upon me by information derived from other sources. "What now remains?" says the Unions – "Subjugation and occupation." If others have not been able to foresee, or, it seeing, do not choose to state, the means by which the end in view is to be accomplished, it does not follow that my references, and those, I may ass, of the most intelligent and judicious observers here, are imaginary.

"I do not suppose that the cabinet is unanimous in their views, either as to these ends or these means. We shall know something about both, five weeks hence. In regard to Gen. Scott’s future relations towards the fluttering shadow of the supreme government, lately supposed to be at Queretaro, I stated that his orders were “to leave it undisturbed.” – That I am correct in this suggestion has been made apparent. It is the hope of some – I do not say of every one of the cabinet – that the government at Queretaro will sue for peace. It is a vain hope, in my opinion. But I was perfectly aware, and so stated in, my second, that Gen, Scott was to deal tenderly with Santa Anna’s multitude at Queretaro and with the fugitive congress, which may or may not assemble there. I said that Gen Scott was to “leave that shadow of a government undisturbed.” Am I not correct in this? Is it not confirmed by your own correspondent, “X?” and I need go no further for evidence of its correctness.

"AS to the first proposition, every one knows that I was correct, for the “Union” has repeatedly announced that the late armistice was unauthorized, and I know that the rumored movements of General Scott in favor of peace, since the capture of Mexico, were met with disappointment by this government. Gen. Scott, I repeat, is to enter into no more armistices, nor truces, until Mexico has ratified a treaty.

"Next comes the proposition that Gen. Scott is to occupy and pacificate the country. It is the sole object of the reinforcements lately sent to him to enable him to do this. The thirty thousand troops are there for that purpose, and no other; and, for the same purpose, twenty thousand more are to be asked for from congress, at the next session, if need be.

"There remain but two more propositions, to with that Gen. Scott is to disarm the Mexicans found in arms; and that he is to levy contributions on the Mexican states, cities, and people. Here again I have an authority, representing at least a portion of the cabinet, for this assertion. But all this is no more than Gen. Scott is now actually doing under previous discretionary orders, and from necessity.

"I dismiss the matter by asserting that my five propositions have not been and cannot be denied by authority, nor disproved by facts."

"I stated them, the other day, only as my own convictions. I now repeat them as well known, authentic, and indisputable facts – startling as they may be to those who are yet unprepared to meet the responsibility for the state of things which they have contributed to produce."

A letter to the N. Orleans National, from Vera Cruz. Dated October 11, says:

The Mexican “voice is still for war.” Let our people no longer flatter themselves with the hope of an early peace; but let the next congress prepare for a long war; for Mexican obstinacy and false pride is aroused, and so long as they can resist they will do it – even unto their own destruction. There is but one course left to attain a speedy peace, and that is by virtue of fear.
The Washington correspondent of the Charleston Mercury wrote on the 7th ult: "There is no good reason to believe that congress will be disposed to limit the appropriations for war, still less to withhold them. Besides, the government will take at once, or before congress shall act, such measures as will lead to vast expenses, and congress cannot undertake to repudiate them. It is a matter of doubt, too, how far congress can exercise any supervision over the conduct of the war. If the war be carried on at all it must be by the executive."

On the 15th October, the correspondence of the Baltimore Sun wrote:

I have ascertained, since my last, that there remains as yet uncalled for, the sum of six millions and one hundred thousand dollars for the last loan. This sum will, together with the accruing revenue from customs and lands, be ample to carry on the operations of the war, and to meet the ordinary expenses of the government till next spring. There is no danger that the war will lag for the want of means. Whatever may be the delay of action in congress, the operations of the war will go on, and after expenses have been incurred, we shall see how many members will vote their repudiation."

On the 30th August, before the late renewal of hostilities, the "trusted friend and organ of the administration," the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger wrote:

"I alluded, in one of my letters to the Ledger, the fact that the programme of the administration is now completed, and that, through the "union" as yet forbears to save a word, it is intended to prosecute the war, if need be, to the entire subjugation of Mexico, if she persists in rejecting our offers of peace. Connected with this resolution is the determination to oppose the Wilmot proviso, ex officio, as utterly useless and impractical, and only calculated to distract parties."

Another letter to the Charleston Mercury says:

The result of the late election in Pennsylvania is hailed as an administration triumph, and as a strong evidence that Pennsylvania is in favor of acquiring, by war, the whole territory of Mexico. As Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Dallas are rivals, in that state, for the support of the democracy, in the next presidential contest, their respective friends now vie with each other in claiming for them all the advantages to result from their advocacy of territorial extension. It is therefore rumored, and indeed asserted, that Mr. Trist's treaty project was not Mr. Buchanan's ultimatum; and that Mr. B. had sent to Mr. Trist instructions which he has not received at the date of the armistice, to demand the 26th parallel of latitude as the boundary.

The Augusta Constitutionalist has the following paragraph:

"The rights of the Mexican republic exist now only in the sic volo, sic jubeo of the American people. Their will is the law of the case.

The Washington correspondent of the N. Y Journal of Commerce writes on the 25th ult:

The Government sends frequent messages to General Scott. A messenger left this morning these dispatches for him. I learn, from various sources, that the administration has given such orders to General Schott as will prevent him from again offering to accepting an armistice, or inviting the Mexican government to make peace. The day has gone by, too, for offering any pecuniary inducements to the Mexican rulers, or compensation for territory. [ATT]

NNR 73.160 Nov. 6, 1847 heavy northerers

Mexico – Latest – The steamer Alabama, at New Orleans, left Vera Cruz on the 20th, Tampico on 22nd off Brazos the 24th, and Galveston the 25th. Experienced a heavy northern all the way, which prevented her from communicating with Brazos. She brings from Galveston fifteen cabin passengers and fifty discharged soldiers that had reached Galveston in... in the U. S. propeller Ashland, which put in there in distress. The Alabama brings dispatches from General Scott for government.

Gen. Patterson was expected to start with reinforcements from Vera Cruz, on the 24th.

City of Mexico dates to the 7th October left all quiet.

Congress had met at Queretaro on the 5th. Santa Anna is reinvested with executive power and the command of the Army.
NNR 73.160 Nov. 6, 1847 operations of Gen. Joseph Lane's division

Gen. Lane’s division, advancing on the 11th October so suddenly entered the town of Huamantla, situated half way between Perote and Puebla, that Santa Anna has barely time to escape, leaving two pieces of artillery which were taken by Gen. Lane. La Vega, and a son of Iturbide were made prisoners.

NNR 73.160 Nov. 6, 1847 - General Taylor’s camp, all quiet

From Gen. Taylor’s and Gen Wool’s headquarters we have dates to the 4th Oct. All quiet-troops healthy.

NNR 73.160 Nov. 6, 1847 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna at Huamantla

Santa Anna left Huamantla at the head of 1,000 horses, and was joined soon after by 1,500 men, Under command of Gen. Reyes, and together they re-entered Huamantla as soon as General Lane left it, and following the Americans, killed seventy men and took twenty prisoners. They had two pieces of artillery with them, and contrived to be very annoying. A considerable force that left Puebla under Reyes was waiting Lane’s approach at El Pinal, a few miles south of Huamantla.

NNR 73.160 Nov. 6, 1847 Capt. Jack Hays’ rangers and the guerrillas

A dozen of Hays’ Texan rangers, on the 18th, had quite and affair with about 200 guerrillas that charged twice upon them between Vera Cruz and Santa Fe. Rifles first, and then Colt’s revolvers were used, with effect. The Texans arrived all safe.

NNR 73.160 Nov. 6, 1847 yellow fever in Vera Cruz

Yellow fever still claims its victories. Lieut. Jenkins, 1st dragoons, died of it at Vera Cruz on the 19th. Capt. Wm. H. Churchill, 31 artillery died at Point Isabel on the same day, also of the fever which was prevailing at Matamoros.

NNR 73.160 Nov. 6, 1847 Mariano Paredes y Arrillaga at Tulancingo, preaching monarchy

Paredes is in Tulancingo, still preaching monarchy – Valencia is rusticking at his hacienda. Bravo is on parole at Mexico. The other leading men and generals have gone for the most part to Cuernavaca, in the terra caliente, a town seventeen leagues south of the city of Mexico, on the road to Acapulco.

Peace is as far off as ever; the feelings of the people are still said to be most strenuously opposed to any compromise with the North Americans; in fact the hostility which exists against us in the interior towns, cites and villages, is reported to be of the most bitter kind.

[ATT]
Army Court Martial. Trail of Col. Fremont.

Second Day

It being ascertained that Major McCall was detained from attending the court by indisposition, the president of the court applied to the war department to detail another officer to serve in his place, and suspended the proceedings until, about midday, Col. Hunt of the quartermaster's department, appeared as a substitute for Maj. McCall.

The court was then organized by the members taking the prescribed oaths, &c.

The accused was then called upon to object, as of the right he might, to any member of the court. He signified that he has no objection to make.

The judge advocate (Capt. J. F. Lee) then proceeded to read the charges.

Charges against Lieutenant Colonel John C. Fremont, of the regiment of mounted riflemen, United States army.

Charge I.-Mutiny.

Specification 1. – In this, that he, Lieutenant Colonel John C. Fremont, of the regiment of mounted riflemen, United States army, being in command of a battalion of volunteers, organized in California for the United States service, having received the lawful command of his superior officer, Brigadier General S.W. Kearney, in the following words, to wit:

"Headquarters Army of the West,

Cuidad de los Angeles, January 16, 1847.

"By direction of Brigadier General Kearney, I send you a copy of a communication to him from the secretary of war, dated June 18, 1846, in which is the following" 'These troops, and such as many be made in the organized in California, will be under your command.' The general directs that no charge will be made in the organization of your battalion of volunteers, or officers appointed to it, without his sanction or approval being first obtained.

"Very respectably,    WM. H. Emory,
Lieut. And Acting Assistant Adj. Gen.

"To Lieut. Col. J. C. Fremont, mounted riflemen, commanding battalion California volunteers."

And having received with this order a copy of instructions from the war department to Gen. Kearney, in the following words, to wit:

"War department Washington, June 19, 1846.

"Sir **** I have nothing if importance to add to the dispatches which have been already forwarded to you.

"Since my last letter it has been determined to send a small force around Cape Horn to California.

"The arms, cannon, and previsions to be sent to the Pacific will be accompanied by one company of artillery of the regular army. Arrangements are not on foot to send a regiment of volunteers by sea.

"These troops and such as may be organized in California will be under your command.

More than common solicitude will be felt here in regard to the expedition committed to you, and it is desired that you should avail yourself of all occasions to inform the government of your progress and prospects.

"The president desires your opinion, as early as you are in a situation to give it, of the practicability of your reaching California in the course of this autumn or in the early part of the
next winter. I need no repeat the expression of his wishes that you should take military possession of that country as soon as it can be safely done.

"I am, with great respect, your ob’t serv’t,
W.L. Marcy, Secretary of war.

"To Col. S. W. Kearney"

Did reply to General Kearney and his order aforesaid in a written answer, in the following words, to wit"

"Ciudad de los Angeles, Jan. 17, 1847.

"Sir: I have the honor to be in receipt of your favor of last night, in which I am directed to suspend the execution of orders which, in my capacity of commandant of this territory, I had received from Commodore Stockton, governor and commander–in-chief in California.

"I avail myself of an early hour this morning to make such a reply as the brief time allowed for reflection will enable me.

"I found Commodore Stockton in possession of the country, exercising the functions of military commandant and civil governor, as early as July of last year; and shortly thereafter I received from him the commission of military commandant, the duties of which I immediately entered upon, and have continued to exercise to the present moment. I found also on my arrival at this place, some three or four days since, Commodore Stockton still exercising the functions of civil and military governor, with the same apparent deference to his rank on the part of all officers (including yourself) as he maintained and required when he assumed in July last.

"I learned also in conversation with you that, on the march from San Diego recently to this place, you entered upon and discharged duties implying an acknowledgement of your part of supremacy to Commodore Stockton.

"I fell myself therefore, with great deference to your professional and personal character, constrained to say that, until you and Commodore Stockton adjust between yourself the question of rank, where I respectfully thin the difficulty belongs, I shall have to report an receive orders as heretofore from the commodore.

"With considerations of high regard, I am, sir, your ob’t serv’t, J.C. Fremont
"Lt. Col. U.S. army, and military commandant of the territory of California.

"To Brig. Gen S.W. Kearney, U.S. Army."

And did thereby refuse to obey the aforesaid lawful command of his superior officer Gen Kearney, or to receive and obey any other order from him; but did declare himself to be the military commandant of the territory of California; thereby resisting and throwing off the authority of his superior officer. This at Ciudad de los Angeles, California, on the seventeenth of January, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, officially reported his battalion to Brigadier General Kearney, by writing, in words following, to wit"

"On the March, January 13, 1848.

Dir Sir: I have the honor to report to you my arrival at this place with 400 mounted riflemen and six pieces of artillery, including among the latter two pieces lately in the possession of the Californians. Their entire force, under the command of Don Andre Pico, Have this day laid down their arms and surrendered to my command.

"Very respectfully, your ob’t serv’t,
J.C. Fremont,
"Lt. Col. U.S. army, and military commandant of the territory of California.

"To Brig. Gen S.W. Kearney, Commanding
U.S. forces, Pueblo de los Angeles."

Specification 2.–In this, that he, Lieutenant Colonel John C. Fremont of the regiment of mounted riflemen, United States army, being in command of a battalion of volunteers, organized in California, which were placed by the aforesaid orders of the secretary of war of June eighteenth, eighteen hundred and forty-six, under command of Brigadier General Kearney, did issue an order to Captain J. K. Wilson, at Angeles, January twenty-five eighteen
hundred and forty-seven, in the following words, to wit:

"Angles, January 25, 1847.

"To Capt. J. K. Wilson, light artillery.

"Sir: You are hereby authorized and directed to raise a company of men to constitute
the second company of artillery in the California service, and for that purpose are detached
from your present command.

"You will please report the number you may be able to enlist with as little delay as
possible. You are authorized to enlist the men for three months and to promise them as
compensation twenty-five dollars per month.

"Respectfully, J.C. Fremont
"Lt. Col. Commanding California forces in the U.S. Service."

Thereby raising and attempting to raise troops in violation and contempt of the lawful
command aforementioned of his superior officer, Brigadier General Kearney, of date January
sixteenth, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, and thereby acting openly in defiance of and in
mutiny against the authority of his superior officer aforesaid, by raising and attempting to raise
troops, and by proclaiming himself to be and assuming to act as the commander of the United
States forces in California.

Specification 3. – In this, that he, Lieutenant Colonel John C. Fremont, of the regiment
of mounted riflemen, United States army, being in command of a battalion of mounted
riflemen organized in California for the United States service, which was placed by orders
aforesaid from the secretary of war of June eighteenth, hundred and forty-six, under command
of Brigadier General Kearney, did, at Ciudad de los Angeles, California, on the fifth day of
February, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, issue an order to Louis McLane, a passed
midshipman in the United States navy, in the following words, to wit:

Ciudad de los Angeles, February 5, 1847.

"Sir, I feel it my duty, as the representative of the United States government in
California, to instruct you to proceed forthwith north, as far as in your discretion may seem
necessary, and exercise your best efforts in enlisting troops for the term of six months,
compensation to be $- per month, to be employed in the service of the United States and at
such points in the territory of California as in my judgment they are most required. Your are
further more instructed to proceed as far as the town of Yerba Buena, on the San Francisco
Bay, and examine diligently into the state of the navel or military defense of that town, and
particularly to inquire into the best means of fortifying the mouth of the bay, against the
ingress of all enemies, and I particularly recommend to you to cause to be forthwith
commenced the erection of a fort or battery on White Island, calculated when completed to
prevent the entrance of any ship or vessel that may be forbidden to do so by the United States.

"To enable you to carry into effect the foregoing instructions, you are hereby
authorized and required to call on all officers under my command to extend to you any
assistance of money, men, or property that in your judgment may be necessary fully to
accomplished the same.

"In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal, at the capital of
California, this date before written

"J.C. Fremont,
Governor of California.

"Attest: Wm H Russell, Secretary of State.

"To Major Louis McLane,
U.S. Army, California regiment."

Thereby raising and attempting to raise troops in violation and contempt of the
aforesaid lawful command of his superior officer, Brigadier Gen. Kearney, dated January
sixteenth, eighteen hundred and forty-seven; and thereby acting in defiance of the authority
and in mutiny against his superior office aforesaid, in raising and attempting to raise these
troops, and in proclaiming himself to be and in assuming to act as the governor of California.

Specification 4.-In this, that he, Lieutenant Colonel John C. Fremont, of the regiment of
mounted riflemen, United States army, being in command of a battalion of mounted riflemen
organized in California for the United States service, and which was placed by orders aforesaid
from the secretary of war of June eighteenth, hundred and forty-six, under command of
Brigadier General Kearney, did, at Ciudad de los Angeles, California, on the seventh day of
February, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, write to Commodore Shubrick, commanding the
United States naval forces in the Pacific, a letter in words following, to wit:

"Ciudad de los Angeles, February 7, 1847.

"Sir: I had the honor, at a late hour last night, to receive your favor of the 25th ultimo,
and, fully coinciding with your opinion that you express, that a co-operation of our respective
commands, as a precautionary measure at least, is of primary importance, I hasten to
acknowledge its receipt, and signify to you my earnest desire to see you and consult on the
measures calculated in our judgments to be most certain of making out labors conduce the
interest of our government.

"Not having had, as you remarked, and communication since your arrival on this coast
with Commodore Stockton, you seem not to have been made acquainted with the fact that, by
a commission from the commodore, I have been placed in command of the territory as the civil
governor, which I beg leave herewith to communicate to you.

"It is also proper to advise you that Gen. Kearney, who comes to California with
instructions from the secretary of war, dated as early as June last – designed for a state of
affairs which he by no means found, to wit, the country still unconquered, and which of course
being intended for very different circumstances, cannot have application here – claims himself
to have supreme command in California; which position I felt it is my duty to deny him, and, in
language respectful but decisive of my purpose, communicated to him.

"The subjoined reasons led me to the conclusion I adopted: The conquest of California
was under taken and completed by the joint efforts of Commodore Stockton and myself, in
obedience to what we regarded paramount duties from us to our government. That done, the
next necessary step in order was the organization of a civil government, designed to maintain
the conquest, by the exercise of mild and wholesome civil restraints over the people rather
than by the iron rule of a military force.

"The result of our labors - which were precisely what were contemplated by the
instructions of Gen. Kearney - were promptly communicated to the executive of the Union by
an express, which has not yet brought back the approval or disapproval of the government.
General Kearney's instructions being, therefore, to the letter fully anticipated by others, I did
not feel myself at liberty to yield a position so important to the interests of my country until
after a full understanding of all the grounds, it would be the pleasure of my government that I
should do so.

"I trust the foregoing explanation will fully satisfy you that position I take is an incident
to the extraordinary circumstances surrounding me, and is borne out by rigid adherence to the
line of duty.

"The insurrection which broke out here in September last, and which required a
considerable force and large expenditure of money to put down, has left me in rather an
embarrassed condition for funds to redeem my men, and to cancel the necessary obligations
created by the quartermaster and commissariat department of the command. If, therefore,
you can at and early day advance me a considerable sum of money it will tend greatly to
subserve the interests of the country and relieve an embarrassment which, as an officer of the
government, heavily presses me.

"I start, simultaneously with this, a courier to the United States with important
dispatches, but thinking that perhaps you might wish to avail yourself of so good an
opportunity of forwarding dispatches, I have ordered him to remain on the border of the
settlements until the return of my courier from you. The precise point where my courier will
remain recruiting his animals being at this time unknown to me, you will please send your
dispatches by the return courier to me, and I will forward them to the party homeward bound.

"With considerations of high respect, I am, sir, your ob't ser'y, J.C. Fremont
Governor of California

"To Commodore W. Branford Shubrick,
Commanding U.S. naval forces in the Pacific ocean, Bay of Monterey."

Thereby continuing and reasserting his resistance of the lawful authority of his superior officer,
Brigadier General Kearney, assuming to be governor of California, and endeavoring to
persuade the said naval commander to support and countenance him in his mutiny against his
said superior and commanding officer.

Speciation 5. – In this, that he, Lieutenant Colonel John C. Fremont, of the regiment
of mounted riflemen, United States army, being in command of a battalion of mounted riflemen
organized in California for the United States service, and under command of Brigadier General
Kearney by aforesaid orders from the war department, dated June 18, 1846, did, at Angeles,
on the 11th of February, 1847, write to Willard O. Hall, in the following words, to wit:

"Government house, Angeles, Feb. 11, 1847.

"To Hon. Willard P. Hall.

"Sir: The position I occupy as the chief representative of the United States government
in California renders it an imperative duty on me that I should prudently but with energy exert
all the power with which I am clothed to retain the conquest with have made, and strengthen it
all by all means possible.

"The executive office of California, which I understand, centers supreme, civil and
military command in the territory, was actually assigned me as early as September last, and
my entering on the duties of the same was postponed only in consequences of an insurrection
that broke out in this portion of the territory, which it took some months to quell; that done, I
assumed the office of governor, as had been previously arranged.

"I learn with surprise and mortification that Gen. Kearney, in obedience to what I
cannot but regard as obsolete instructions from the secretary of war, means to question my
right, and , viewing my position and claim clear and indisputable, I cannot, without considering
myself derelict to my trust, and unworthy the station of an American officer, yield or permit
myself to be interfered with by an other, until directed to do so by the proper authorities at
predicated on full and ample dispatches that I forwarded to Washington as early as August of
last year.

"I require the co-operation, with a view to the important object of preserving the peace
and tranquility of California, of every American citizen and solider in the territory, and must
expressly inhibit from all quarters all arguments and intimidations that may trend to weaken
my authority, by inducing the belief that my weaken my authority, by inducting the belief that
my present position is an act of usurpation, unjust and will no be sanctioned by my
government.

"Intimidations, not perhaps susceptible of positive proof, have reached me that you
were using your talents and high character as a member of the American congress, in your
intercourse with the citizens of this place and the troops under my immediate command, to
raise doubts, if not questioning altogether the legitimacy of validity of my tenure of office.

"I feel myself constrained therefore, in obedience to the behest and high interests of
my government, as well as respects I cherish for the position you occupy, to inquire of you in
frankness whether the intimations alluded to have any foundations in fact or truth.

"Cherishing a confident belief that you must, on reflection, concur with me in thinking
that at this juncture any move calculated to weaken me, or embarrass, must be inexpedient
and improper, I trust a negative answer from you will dissipate my doubts, and admonish me
that the inquiry I have made was altogether unnecessary.

"With considerations of high respect, I am your obedient servant, J.C. Fremont
Governor of California

Thereby avowing and justifying his resistance and mutiny against his superior officer,
Brigadier Gen. Kearney, and endeavoring to persuade and... the said Hall a person of influence
in California, to aid and abet him therein, and to prevent said Hall from supporting the lawful
authority of Brigadier Gen. Kearney

Speciation 6. –In this, that the, Lieutenant Colonel John C. Fremont, of the regiment
of mounted riflemen, U.S. army, did, at Ciudad de los Angeles, on the second of March,
eighteen hundred and forty-seven, in contempt of the lawful authority of his superior officer,
Brigadier General Kearney, assume to be and to act as governor of California, in executing a
deed or instrument of writing in the following words, to wit:

"In consideration of Francis Temple having conveyed to the United States of North
America a certain island, commonly called White or Bird island situated near the mouth of San
Francisco Bay, J.C. Fremont, governor of California, and in virtue of as the legal representative of the United States, and my successors in office, to pay the said Francis Temple, his heirs, or assigns, the sum five thousand dollars, ($5,000) to be paid as early a day as possible after the receipt of funds from the United States.

"In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and have caused the seal of the territory of California to be affixed, at the Ciudad de los Angeles, the capital of California, the 2nd day of March, A. D. 1847.

J.C. Fremont, Governor of California.

"Attest: Wm H, Russell, secretary of state"

Specification 7. – In this, that he Lieutenant Colonel John C. Fremont, of the regiment of mounted riflemen, U.S. army, being in command of a battalion of volunteers organized in California for the United States service, which by aforesaid orders from the war department, dated June eighteenth, eighteen hundred and forty-six, were placed under command of Brigadier General Kearney, and having been officially informed by W. Branford Shubrick, as commander-in-chief of the naval forces in the Pacific, in a letter dated U.S. ship Independence, Monterey, February twenty-three, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, in the following words, to wit: "General Kearney, I am instructed, is the commanding military officer in California, and invested by the president with the administrative functions of government over the people and territory;" and having received, on the eleventh of March, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, from Gen. Kearney, by the hands of Capt. H. S. Turner, U.S. army, a circular proclamation, in the following words, to wit:

Circular.

"To all whom it may concern: Be it known, that the president of the United States, desirous to give secure to the people of California a share of the good government and happy civil organization enjoyed by the people of the United States, and to protect them at the same time from the attack of foreign foes and from internal commotions, has invested the undersigned with separate and distinct powers, civil and military, a cordial co-operation in the exercise of which, it is hoped and believed, will have the happy results desired.

"To the commander-in-chief of the naval forces the president has assigned the regulation of the import trade; the conditions on which vessels of all nations, our as well as foreign, may be admitted into ports of the territory; and the establishment of all port regulations

"To the commanding military officer the president has assigned the direction of the operations on land, and has invested him with administrative functions of government over the people and territory occupied by the forces of the United States.

"Done at Monterey, capital of California, this first day of March, A.D. 1847.

"W. Banford Shubrick, Commander in chief of the navel forces,

"S. W. Kearney, Brigadier General U. States Army, And Governor of California

And having at the same time, on the eleventh day of March, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, received from Brigadier General Kearney, by the hands of Captain H.S. Turner, the following order, in terms to wit:

"Orders, No. 2.

Headquarters 10th Mil. Department, Monterey, March 1, 1847.

"I. With a view to regular payment, it is necessary that the battalion of California volunteers, now under the command of Lieut. Colonel Fremont, of the army, and stationed at Ciudad de los Angeles, if not originally mustered under the law of May 13th, and the supplement law of June 18th, 1846, should now be mustered into service under those laws. This must be made at once by Lieutenant Colonel Fremont. Should any men of that battalion be unwilling to continue in service under the above named laws, they will be conducted by Lieut. Colonel Fremont to Yerba Buena, via Monterey, and be there discharged.
"III. Lieutenant Colonel P. St. G. Cooke, now in the command of the Mormon battalion, is entrusted with the supervision of the southern military district, for the protection and defense of which he will make the necessary provision, posting his command (to consist of company C, first dragoons, the Mormon battalion, and the California volunteers) at such places as he may deem most eligible.

"By order of Brig. Gen. S.W. Kearney,

"H.S. Turner,  
Captain, A.A.A. General."

Did, at Ciudad de los Angeles, on the fifteenth day of March, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, issue orders to Captain Richard Owens, in the words following, to wit:

"Ciudad de los Angeles, March 15, 1847.

"Sir: In the performance of a portion of my official duties it becomes necessary that I should visit in person the northern district of the territory, where I shall probably be detained some fifteen or twenty days, and the better to possess you of my views in my absence, and to render your authority in the mean time undoubted, I have considered it proper to issue the following orders:

"1st. You will continue with the entire battalion as San Gabriel, observing order, valiance, and exercising as much discipline as in your discretion can be prudently enforced.

2d. You will make no move whatever from San Gabriel in my absence unless to repel an actual invasion, or obey the order of any officer that does no emanate from me.

3d. You will take the best possible care of the public arms and munitions belonging to the command, and turn them over to no corps without my special order.

4th. The general police of the garrison and strict regard to the public interest will of course, as commandant ad interim, constantly engage your best efforts.

"Very respectfully, your obedient serv’t.,

"J.C. Fremont
Lieutenant Colonel U.S. Army, and Commander of California battalion"

To Capt. Richards Owens,  
Acting commandant of California battalion.

Thereby himself resisting the authority and disobeying the orders of Brigadier General Kearney, as conveyed to him in the aforesaid order No. 2 of the 10th military department, by continuing in service the entire California battalion contrary to said orders; and by ordering the battalion to remain at San Gabriel, contrary to the said orders from Brigadier General Kearney to march them to Yerba Buena. – Thereby further inciting and ordering said Captain Owens, with the force of this battalion which he had placed under said Owen’s command, to disobey the order and resist the authority of any officer but himself, and specially ordering him not to surrender the arms and munitions of the battalion. In obedience to which order from Lieutenant Colonel J.C. Fremont, said Owens did, at Ciudad de los Angeles, on the 24th of March, 1847, refuse to submit to the authority of Lieut. Col. P. St. G. Cooke, appointed in the aforesaid department orders by Brigadier Gen. Kearney to command the district in which his battalion was stationed; did refuse to surrender to said Lieutenant Col. Cooke, or to permit Lieut. Col. Cooke to take possession of two howitzers, brought by the 1st dragoons from Fort Leavenworth and then at San Gabriel; which said mutiny and resistance of lawful authority by said Capt. Owens was the incitement and positive order as aforesaid of Lieutenant Colonel J. C. Fremont; not withstanding he, Lieutenant Colonel J.C. Fremont, had officially informed Captain Turner, at Pueblo de los Angeles, on the 12th day of March, 1847, that he would obey and execute the said orders of Brigadier General Kearney, to wit: 10th military department order No. 2, dated March 1, 1847.

Specification 8. - In this, that he, Lieut. Col. John C. Fremont, of the regiment of mounted riflemen, United States army, being in command of a battalion of volunteers organized in California for the United States service, having on the 11th day of March, 1847, received the lawful order of his superior officer, Brigadier General Kearney, to wit, the aforesaid orders No. 2, dated headquarters 0th military department, Monterey, March 1, 1847, whereby he was ordered to march such part of said battalion as refused to be mustered into service to Yerba Buena, there to be discharged, did refuse to obey said order, and did make known his refusal to Lieutenant Colonel Cooke, commanding the district in which his battalion
was serving by a written communication in terms to wit:

"Ciudad de los Angeles, March 16, 1847.

"Sir: I am directed by Gov. Fremont to acknowledge a few moments since the receipt of your communication of the 14th instant, and in reply to say that the volunteers constituting the California battalion decline, without and individual exception, to be mustered into the United States service conformable to order No. 2 of the 10th military department referred to by you.

"The Governor considers it unsafe at this time when rumor is rife with a threatened insurrection, to discharge the battalion, and will decline doing so; and, whilst they remain in service, he regards its forces quite sufficient for the protection of the artillery and ordnance stores of the mission at San Gabriel. "I am, with considerations of respect, your obedient servant,

WM H. Russell,
Secretary of State.

"To P. St. George Cooke,
Lt. Col. Commanding mission San Louis Reg."

Therein still assuming to be and act as governor of California, retaining in service an armed force contrary to the order of his superior officer, Brig. Gen. Kearney, and refusing to march them according to his orders.

Specification 9. – In this, that he, Lieutenant Col. John C. Fremont, of the regiment of mounted riflemen, United States army, being in command of a battalion of volunteers organized in California for the United States service, and under the lawful command of Brigadier General Kearney; and, having received, on the 11th of March, 1847, at Ciudad de los Angeles, as set out in the seventh specification to this charge, due and official notification from Brigadier General Kearney, and Commodore Shubrick that the president of the United States had invested General Kearney with the military command in California, and with the administration functions of government over the people and territory occupied by the forces of the United States, did, nevertheless, at Ciudad de los Angeles, on the 21st day of March, 1847, issue the following order to the collector of the port of San Pedro, in terms, to wit:

"Ciudad de los Angeles, March 21, 1847.

Sir: Your are hereby ordered and permitted, in the case of F. Huttman, to receive government paper in payment of his customs house dues, Very Respectfully,

J.C. Fremont
Governor of California

By William H Russell
Secretary of State

To David W. Alexander,
"Collector of the Port of San Pedro."

Thereby assuming to be and to act as governor of California, in contempt of the authority and in usurpation of the power of his superior officer; whereby the collector aforesaid did receive payment of customs the certificates of the staff officers of his battalion of Californian volunteers, to the amount of seventeen hundred and thirty-one dollars forty-one and a half cents, which paper was purchased by the holder from whom the collector was ordered to receive it at a discount of thirty per cent.

Specification 10.- In this, the he, Lieutenant Col. John C Fremont, of the regiment of mounted riflemen, U. States army, after he had been duly informed by his superior officer, Brigadier General Kearney, that he, General Kearney, had been invested by the president of the United States with the command of the troops in California, by exhibiting to him, Lieutenant Colonel Fremont, on the 16th day of January, 1847, at Ciudad de los Angeles, the aforesaid orders from the war department, dated June 18th, 1846, did, notwithstanding, disregard and set aside the lawful authority of said superior officer, and did himself usurp and exercise the functions of said superior officer in the following official acts and matters, to wit:

First. In ordering a general court martial at Ciudad de los Angeles, on the 24th of January, 1847, by his own authority, and in the order proclaiming himself to be and assuming to act as "the military commander in-chief of California.
Second. In publishing a general order at Ciudad de los Angeles, on the 25th day of January, 1847, in which he, Lieutenant Colonel John C. Fremont, is styled "the military commander-in-chief of California."

Third. In approving, at Ciudad de los Angeles, on the 27th of January, 1847, the proceedings of a general court martial, called as aforesaid by his order of January 24, 1847, by which court martial private George Smith, of the California volunteers, was sustenance to twenty-two months at hard labor, and Lieut. Roch sentenced to be cashiered; and in declaring himself to be, and in assuming said proceedings, as "the governor of California."

Fourth. In accepting, by a general order published at Angeles, on the 13th of February, 1847, the resignation of the following commissioned officers of the California battalion of volunteers, to wit: Capt. H. L. Ford, Captain Samuel Gibson, Capt. Winham Findlay, Lieutenants W. Baldrigern Rhensaw, W. Blackburn, J. Scott, J. R. Barton, and J. M. Hadspeth, in contempt and violation of the aforesaid order, dated 16th of January, 1847, which he had received from Brig. Gen. Kearney, at Ciudad de los Angeles, on the 16th day of January, 1847.

Specification 11. – In this, that he, Lieutenant Col. John C. Fremont, of the regiment of mounted riflemen, United States army, did fail to obey the order of Brig. General Kearney, to repair to Monterey, as communicated to him verbally by Brig. Gen. Kearney, on the 26th day of March, 1847, and repealed to him in writing on the 28th of March, 1847, in the words following, to wit:

"Headquarters 10th Military Department,
Monterey, California, March 28th, 1847.

"Sir: This will be handed to you by Col. Mason, 1st dragoons, who goes to the southern district clothed by me, with full authority to give such orders and instructions in that section of country as he may deem proper and necessary. Any instructions he may give to you will be considered as coming from myself.

"I deem it proper to suggest to you that, should there be at Pueblo any unsettled accounts or demands against the government, incurred by your orders or approval, which you may not have already authenticated and completed for the action of the disbursing officers, you at once do so, as it may be necessary for you to proceed from here to Washington city; and should there be any of the party which accompanied you from Missouri still with you, and under pay from the Topographical department, you will cause them to come to... place, that they may be returned, and discharged, and be of no further expense to the United States, unless they prefer being discharged at once in the country.

"In twelve days ... volunteers at San Pedro... you in this place.

"Very respectfully, your obedient serv’t
S.W. Kearney,
Brig. Gen. and Governor of California

"Lieut. Col. J.C. Fremont,
Regiment of mounted riflemen,
Commanding battalion of California volunteers."

But did remain at Ciudad de los Angeles, until after the arrival there of Brig. Gen. Kearney, on the 9th of May, 1849, and till the order was then there verbally repeated to him.

Charge II. – Disobedience of the Lawful Commands of His Superior Officer.

Specification 1. – In this, that he, Lieut. Colonel John C. Fremont, of the regiment of mounted riflemen, United States army, being in command of a battalion of volunteers, organized in California for the United Stated service, having received the lawful command of his superior officer, Brigadier General S. W. Kearney, in the following words, to wit:

Headquarters Army of the West,

Ciudad de los Angeles, January 16, 1846.

"By direction of Brigadier General Kearney, I send you a copy of a communication to him from the secretary of war, dated June 18, 1846, in which is the following: "These troops, and such as many be organized in California, will be under your command.” The general
directs that no change will be made in the organized in your battalion of volunteers, or officers appointed in it, without his sanction or approval being first obtained.

Very respectfully, WM. H. Emory
Lieut. And acting assistant Adjt. General.

“To Lieut. Col J. C. Fremont,
Commanding battalion of California volunteers.”

And having received with this order a copy of instructions from the war department to Gen. Kearney, in the following words, to wit:

War Department Washington, June 18, 1846.

“Sir: *** I have nothing of importance to ass to the dispatches which have been already forwarded to you.

“Since my last letter it has been determined to send a small force around Cape Horn to California.

“The arms, cannon, and previsions to be sent to the Pacific will be accompanied by one company of artillery of the regular army. Arrangements are not on foot to send a regiment of volunteers by sea.

“These troops and such as may be organized in California will be under your command.

More than common solicitude will be felt here in regard to the expedition committed to you, and it is desired that you should avail yourself of all occasions to inform the government of your progress and prospects.

“The president desires your opinion, as early as you are in a situation to give it, of the practicability of your reaching California in the course of this autumn or in the early part of the next winter. I need no repeat the expression of his wishes that you should take military possession of that country as soon as it can be safely done.

“I am, with great respect, your ob’t sev’t,
“W.L. Marcy, Secretary of war.

“To Col. S. W. Kearney”

Did reply to General Kearney, and his order aforesaid, in a written answer, in the following words, to wit:-

Ciudad de los Angeles. January 17, 1847.

“Sir: I have the honor to be in receipt of your favor of last night, in which I am directed to suspend the execution of orders which, in my capacity of military commandant of this territory, I have received from Com. Stockton, governor and commander in chief of California.

“I avail myself of an early hour this morning to make such a reply as the brief time allowed for reflection will enable me.

“I found Commodore Stockton in possession of the country, exercising the functions of military commandant and civil governor, as early as July of last year; and shortly thereafter I received from him the commission of military commandant, the duties of which I immediately entered upon, and have continued to exercise to the present moment. I found also on my arrival at this place, some three or four days since, Commodore Stockton still exercising the functions of civil and military governor, with the same apparent deference to his rank on the part of all officers (including yourself) as he maintained and required when he assumed in July last.

“I learned also in conversation with you that, on the march from San Diego recently to this place, you entered upon and discharged duties implying an acknowledgement of your part of supremacy to Commodore Stockton.

“I fell myself therefore, with great deference to your professional and personal character, constrained to say that, until you and Commodore Stockton adjust between yourself the question of rank, where I respectfully thin the difficulty belongs, I shall have to report an receive orders as heretofore from the commodore.
"With consideration of high regard,

I am sir your obedient servant,

"J.C. Fremont, Lieut. Col.
U.S. Army, and military commandant of the territory of California

"To Brigadier General S.W. Kearney, U. States Army."

And did thereby refuse to obey the aforesaid lawful command of his superior officer, Brigadier General Kearney, and did thereby refuse to receive and obey any other order from him. This at Ciudad de los Angeles, on the 17th day of January, 1847, notwithstanding he had on the 13th January, 1847, officially reported his battalion Brig, General Kearney, by writing, in words following in wit:

"On the march, January 13, 1846.

"Dear Sir: - I have the honor to report to you my arrival at this place with four hundred mounted riflemen and six pieces of artillery, including among the latter two pieces formally in the possession of the Californians.

"Their entire force, under the command of D Andre Pico, have this day laid down their arms, and surrendered to my command.

"Very respectfully, your obedient servaunt,

J.C. Fremont


"Brig. Gen S.W. Kearney
com’g, U.S. forces Pueblo de los Angeles."

Specification 2.- In this, that he, Lieutenant Colonel John C. Fremont, of the regiment of mounted riflemen, U.S. army, being in command of a battalion of volunteers organized in California, which were placed by the aforesaid orders of the secretary of war, of June 18, 1846, under the command of Brigadier General Kearney, did issue and order to Capt. J.K. Wilson, at Angeles, January 25, 1847, in the following words, to wit:

"Angeles, January 25, 1847.

"Capt. J.K. Wilson, light artillery:

Sir:- Your are hereby authorized and directed to raise a company of men to constitute the second company of artillery in the California service, and for that purpose are detached from your present command.

"You will please report the number you may be able to enlist with as little delay as possible.

"You are authorized to enlist the men for three months, and to promise them as compensation twenty-five dollars per month. Respectfully,

"J.C. Fremont,

Lieut. Col. Commanding California forces in the U.S. service."

And did thereby disobey the aforesaid lawful command of his superior officer, Brig. General Kearney, dated January 16, 1847.

Specification 3.- In this, that he, Lieutenant Colonel John C. Fremont, of the regiment of mounted riflemen, U.S. army, being in command of a battalion of volunteers organized in California, which were placed by the aforesaid orders of the secretary of war, of June 18, 1846, under the command of Brigadier General Kearney, did at Ciudad de los Angeles, California, on the 5th day of February, 1847, issue an order to Louis McLane, a passed midshipman in the United States navy, in the following words, to wit.

Ciudad de los Angeles, February 5, 1847.
Sir, I feel it my duty, as the representative of the United States government in California, to instruct you to proceed forthwith north, as far as in your discretion may seem necessary, and exercise your best efforts in enlisting troops for the term of six months, compensation to be $- per month, to be employed in the service of the United States and at such points in the territory of California as in my judgment they are most required. Your are further more instructed to proceed as far as the town of Yerba Buena, on the San Francisco Bay, and examine diligently into the state of the naval or military defense of that town, and particularly to inquire into the best means of fortifying the mouth of the bay, against the ingress of all enemies, and I particularly recommend to you to cause to be forthwith commenced the erection of a fort or battery on White Island, calculated when completed to prevent the entrance of any ship or vessel that may be forbidden to do so by the United States.

"To enable you to carry into effect the foregoing instructions, you are hereby authorized and required to call on all officers under my command to extend to you any assistance of money, men, or property that in your judgment may be necessary fully to accomplished the same.

"In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal, at the capital of California, this date before written

"J. C. Fremont,
Governor of California.

"Attest: Wm H Russell, Secretary of State.

"To Major Louis McLane,
U.S. Army, California regiment."

And did thereby disobey the aforesaid lawful command of his superior officer, Brigadier General Kearney, dated January 16, 1847.

Specification 4.- In this, that he, Lieutenant Colonel John C. Fremont, of the regiment of mounted riflemen, U.S. army, being in command of a battalion of volunteers organized in California, which by aforesaid orders, from the war department, dated June 18, 1846, were placed under the command of Brigadier General Kearney, and having been officially informed by W. Branford Shubrick, as commander-in-chief of the navel forces in the Pacific, in a letter dated U.S. ship Independence, Monterey, February 23, 1847, in the following words, to wit:

"General Kearney, I am instructed, is the commanding military officer in California, and invested by the president with the administrative functions of government over the people and territory;” and having received, on the 11th March, 1847, from Gen. Kearney, by the hands of Captain H.S. Turner, U.S. army, a circular proclamation in the following words, to wit:

"Circular.

"To all whom it may concern: Be it known, that the president of the United States, desirous to give secure to the people of California a share of the good government and happy civil organization enjoyed by the people of the United States, and to protect them at the same time from the attack of foreign foes and from internal commotions, has invested the undersigned with separate and distinct powers, civil and military, a cordial co-operation in the exercise of which, it is hoped and believed, will have the happy results desired.

"To the commander-in-chief of the naval forces the president has assigned the regulation of the import trade; the conditions on which vessels of all nations, our as well as foreign, may be admitted into ports of the territory; and the establishment of all port regulations

"To the commanding military officer the president has assigned the direction of the operations on land, and has invested him with administrative functions of government over the people and territory occupied by the forces of the United States.

"Done at Monterey, capital of California, this first day of March, A.D. 1847.

"W. Banford Shubrick,
Commander in chief of the navel forces,

"S. W. Kearney,
Brigadier General U. States Army,
And Governor of California

And having at the same time, on the eleventh day of March, eighteen hundred and forty-
Orders, No. 2.

Headquarters 10th Mil. Department,
Monterey, March 1, 1847.

"I. With a view to regular payment, it is necessary that the battalion of California volunteers, now under the command of Lieut. Colonel Fremont Of the army; and stationed at the Ciudad-de los Angeles, if not originally mustered under the law of May 13, and the supplemental law of June 18, 1846, should be now mustered into service under those laws. This muster will be made at once by Lieut. Col. Fremont. Should any men of the battalion be unwilling to continue in service under the above named laws, they will be conducted by Lieut. Col. Fremont to Yerba Buena, via Monterey, and be there discharged.

"III. Lieut. Col. P. St. G. Cooke, no in command of the Mormon battalion, is entrusted with the supervision of the southern military district, for the protection and defense of which he will make the necessary provision, posting his command (to consist of company C 1st dragoons, the Mormon battalion, and the California volunteers) at such places as he may deem for eligible.

“By of Brig. Gen. S. W. Kearney,

“H.S. Turner,

Captain A. A. A. General”

Did, at Ciudad de los Angeles, on the 15th day of March, 1847, issue orders to Captain Richard Owens, in the words following, to wit: "Ciudad de los Angeles, March 10, 1847

”Sir: “In the performance of a portion of my official duties, it becomes necessary that I should visit in person the northern district of the territory, where I shall probably be detained some fifteen to twenty days; and the better to possess you of my views in my absence, and to render you authority in the mean time undoubted, I have considered it proper to issue the following orders:

“1st. You will continue, with the entire battalion at San Gabriel, observing order, vigilance, and exercising as much discipline as in your discretion can be prudently enforces.

“2d. You will make no move whatever from San Gabriel in my absence, unless to repel an actual invasion, or obey the order of any officer that does not emanate from me.

“3d. You will take the best possible care of the public arms and munitions belonging to the command, and turn them over to no corps without my special order.

“4th. The general police of the garrison, and strict regard to the public interest will, of course, as commandant ad interim, constantly engage your best efforts.

“Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. C. FREMONT,

Lieut. Col. U.S. army and

Commandant of California battalion.

“To: Capt. RICHARD OWENS,

Acting Commandant California Battalion.”

And did, thereby disobey the lawful command of his superior officer, Brigadier General Kearney, as conveyed to him in the aforesaid order No. 2, of the 10th military department, by continuing in service the whole California battalion contrary to said orders, and by ordering the battalion to remain at San Gabriel, contrary to said orders from Brigadier Gen. Kearney to march them to Yerba Buena, notwithstanding he, Lieut. Col. John C. Fremont, Had officially Captain Turner, at Pueblo de los Angeles on the twelfth of March, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, that he would obey and execute the said orders of Brig. Gen. Kearney, to wit: Order No. 2 of the 10th military department, dated March one, eighteen hundred and forty-seven.

Specification 5. -In this, that he, Lieut. Colonel J. C. Fremont, of the regiment of mounted riflemen, U.S. army, being in command of a battalion of volunteers organized in
California for the U. States service, having, on the eleventh day of March, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, received the lawful order of his superior officer, Brig. Gen. Kearney, to wit: the aforesaid orders, No. 2, dated headquarters 10 military department, Monterey, March first, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, whereby he was ordered to march such part of said battalion as refused to be mustered into service to Yerba Buena, there to be discharged, did refuse to obey said order, and did make known his refusal to Lieut. Colonel Cooke, commanding the district in which his battalion was serving by a written communication in terms, to wit:

“Ciudad de los Angeles, March 16, 1847

“Sir: I am instructed by Gov. Fremont to acknowledge a few moments since the receipt of your communication of the 14th instant, and to say, in reply, that the volunteers constituting the California battalion declining, without an individual exception, to be mustered into the U. States service conformed to Order No. 2 of the 10th military department, referred to by you. The governor considers it unsafe at this time, when rumor is rife with a threatened insurrection to discharge the battalion, and will decline doing so; and, whilst they remain in service, he regards his force quite sufficient for the protection of the artillery and ordnance stores at the mission of San Gabriel.

“I am, with considerations of respect, you obedient servant.

“WM. H. RUSSELL, Secretary of state.


Lieut. Col. Com’g Mission San Louis Reg.”

Specification 6. –In this, Lieutenant Colonel John C. Fremont, of the regiment of mounted riflemen, U.S. army, after he had been duly informed by his superior officer, Brigadier General Kearney, that he, Brigadier General Kearney, had been invested by the president of the United States with the command of the troops in California, by exhibiting to him, Lieut. Col. John C. Fremont, on the sixteenth of January, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, at Ciudad de los Angeles, the aforesaid orders from the war department dated June eighteen, eighteen hundred and forty-six; and after he had duly received, on the sixteenth of January, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, the aforesaid lawful command of his superior officer, Brigadier General Kearney, on that day, to make no changes in the organization of his battalion or officers appointed in it, except with the approval of said Brigadier General Kearney, did, notwithstanding, disobey said lawful command of his superior officer, by accepting, in a general order, published at Angeles, on the thirteenth of February, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, the resignation of the following commissioned officers of the California battalion of volunteers, to wit: Captains H. L. Ford, Samuel Gibson, Wm. Findlay, and Lieutenants W. Baldridge Rhensaw, W. Blackburn, J. Scott, J. R. Barton, and J. M. Hudspeth.

Specification 7. –In this, that he, Lieutenant Colonel John C. Fremont, of the regiment of mounted riflemen, U.S. army, did fail to obey the order of Brigadier General Kearney, to repair to Monterey, as communicated to him verbally by said Brigadier General Kearney, on the twenty-six of March, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, and repeated to him in writing on the twenty-eight of March, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, in words following, to wit:

“Headquarters, 10th Military Department

“Monterey, California, March 28, 1847.

“Sir: This will be handed to you by Col. Mason, 1st dragoons, who goes to the southern district clothed by me with full authority to give such orders and instructions upon all matters, both civil and military, in that section of country, as he may deem proper and necessary. Any instructions he may give to you will be considered as coming from myself.

“I deem it proper to suggest to you that should there be at the Pueblo any unsettled accounts or demands against the government, incurred by your orders or approval, which you may not have already authenticated and completed for the action of the disbursing officers,“ that you at once do so, as it may be necessary for you to proceed from here to Washington city, and should there be any of the party which accompanied you from Missouri still with you, and under pay from the topographical department, you will cause them to come to this place, that they may be returned home and discharged, and be of no further expense to the United States, unless they prefer being discharged at once in this country.
"In twelve days after you have embarked the volunteers at San Pedro, I desire to see you in this place.

"Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

"S. W. Kearney,

"Brig. Gen. and Governor of California,

"Lieut. J.C. Fremont, reg't of mounted riflemen, commanding battalion California volunteers, Ciudad los Angeles."

But did remain at the Ciudad de los Angeles, until after the arrival there of Brig. Gen. Kearney, on the 8th of May, 1847, and till the order was then and there verbally repeated to him.

**CHARGE III---CONDUCT TO THE PREJUDICE OF GOOD ORDER AND MILITARY DISCIPLINE**

**Specification 1.** – In this, that he, Lieut. Col. John C. Fremont, of the regiment of mounted riflemen, United States army, being in command of a battalion of mounted riflemen, organized in California for the United States service, and placed, by orders aforesaid from the secretary of war of June 8th, 1846, under command of Brig. Gen. Kearney, did at Ciudad de los Angeles, California, on the 7th February, 1847 write to Commodore Shubrick, commanding the United States naval forces in the Pacific, a letter in words as hereinbefore recited in the 4th specification to the 1st charge, thereby officially informing said naval commander that he had refused to acknowledge the lawful authority of his superior officer, Brig. Gen. Kearney, and endeavoring to persuade said naval commander to support and countenance him therein. This to the prejudice of good order and military discipline.

**Specification 2.** – In this, that he, Lieut. Col. John C. Fremont, of the regiment of mounted riflemen, United States army, being in command of a battalion of volunteers organized in California for the U. States service, and placed under command of Brig. Gen. Kearney by aforesaid orders from the war department, dated June 18, 1846, did, at Angeles, on the 11th of February, 1847, write to W. P. Hall in words as hereinbefore recited in the 5th specification to the 1st charge, thereby avowing his resistance of the authority of his superior officer, Brig. Gen. Kearney, and endeavoring to prevent said Hall from supporting the lawful authority of Brig. Gen. Kearney. This to the prejudice of good order and military discipline.

**Specification 3.** – In this, that he, Lieut. Col. John C. Fremont, of the regiment of mounted riflemen, United States army, did, at Ciudad de los Angeles, on the 2d of March, 1847, in contempt of the lawful authority of his superior officer, Brig. Gen. Kearney, assume to be and act as governor of California, in executing a deed or instrument of writing in words as hereinbefore recited in the 6th specification to the 1st charge, thereby assuming and exercising the functions and authority of his superior officer, Brig. Gen. Kearney, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline.

**Specification 4.** – In that, that he, Lieut. Col. John C. Fremont, of the regiment of mounted riflemen, United States army being in command of a battalion of volunteers organized in California for the U. States service, which, by aforesaid orders from the war department, dated June 18, 1846, were placed under command of Brig. Gen. Kearney, and having been officially informed by W. Branford Shubrick, and commander-in-chief of the naval forces in the Pacific, in a letter dated U.S. ship Independence, Monterey, February 23, 1847, in the following words, to wit: "Gen. Kearney, I am instructed, in the commanding military officer in California, in invested by the president with the administrative function of government over the people and territory." And having received on the 11th of March, 1847, from Gen. Kearney, by the hands of Capt. H. S. Turner, United States army, a circular proclamation in words as hereinbefore recited in the 7th specification to the 1st charge, did, notwithstanding, at Ciudad de los Angeles, on the 15th of March, 1847, issue written orders to Capt. Richard Owens, of the California battalion, in words as hereinbefore recited in the 7th specification to the 1st charge, thereby ordering said Owens not to obey the orders of any officer but himself. This to the prejudice of good order and military discipline.

**Specification 5.** – In this, that he, Lieut. Col. John C. Fremont, of the regiment of mounted riflemen, United States army, after he had been duly informed by his superior officer, Brig. Gen. Kearney, that he, Gen. Kearney, had been invested by the President of the United States with the command of the troops in California, by exhibiting to him, Lieut. Col. Fremont, on the 6th of January, 1847, at Ciudad de los Angeles, the aforesaid orders from the war department, dated June 18, 1846, did notwithstanding, disregard the lawful authority of said superior officer, and did himself usurp and exercise the functions of said superior officer in
the several official acts and matters, to wit, as heretofore recited in the 10th specification to the 1st charge; that is to say, in ordering a general court martial at Ciudad de los Angeles on the 24th of January, 1847, and approving at Ciudad de los Angeles, in the 27th of January, 1847, the proceedings of the court; and in accepting at Angeles, on the 13th of February, 1847, the resignations of officers in the California battalion: all this being in usurpation of the functions and authority of his superior officer, Brig. Gen. Kearney, and to the prejudice of good order and military discipline.

The reading of the charges being finished, the accused was called upon to plead to them.

"Not guilty," was the response.

He was informed that it was his privilege to except any particular charge.

Col. Fremont then asked to read the court the following paper.

"Mr. President: In preferring the usual request to be allowed counsel in the case, I wish to state that it is no part of my intention or desire to make deference on any legal or technical point, but only to have friendly assistance in bringing out the merits of the case in lucid and proper order, and in obtaining a full trial on the merits, in the shortest time, and with the least amount of the trouble to the courts. With this view, no objection can be made to the relevancy or legality of any question proposed by the prosecution, the court, or any member of the court: not to any question which goes to show my motives, either by words or acts, in aggravation of the offences alleged against me; not to the authenticity of any evidence, written or printed, which I know or believe to be authentic; not will any question be proposed, or motion made, on my part, knowingly, of a nature to give just ground of objection on the part of the prosecution, or to cause delay in the trial, or give trouble to the court. But this waiver of proof to authenticity of papers is made on the express condition that all the persons brought from California by Gen. Kearney as witnesses, and listed as such, with the charges, and summoned, shall be sworn on the part of the prosecution, so as to save to me my right of cross-examination.

"In this way I hope to facilitate the progress of the trial, to get at once into the merits, to spare this court, the most unpleasant part of an unpleasant duty, and enable them the sooner to obey the feelings which call them to a very different duty.

"I was named as the counsel asked to be allowed me the two friends who accompany me, Thomas H. Benton and William Carey Jones, Esquires."

The Judge Advocate here brought forward for the decision of the court applications on the part of several reporters for the press to be allowed to take notes with a view to the publication of the proceedings in the trial. Whereupon the accused offered the subjoined paper:

"Mr. President: So far as a prohibition to publish the proceeding of the court is intended for the benefit of the accused, I do hereby renounce and waive all such benefit, and agree to the publication of everything."

The president now ordered the court-room to be cleared, with a view to consulting on the application submitted. This being done, the court remained with closed doors for about an hour. At it re-opening, a paper was ready by the judge advocate, in which the court, though declaring that its proceeding were open to the public, declined to take any such order as that asked for by the application, or in any matter to sanction or approve the publication of the evidence which might be disclosed in the course of the trial.

It being now too late (near 3 o’clock PM) to enter into examination of evidence, the court was adjourned until 10 o’clock A.M. next day.

[ATT]

NRR 73.173-73.174 Nov. 13, 1847 account of the leperos

Leperos – “nobody can tell the lepero’s occupation; God only knows how he lives. He has [the rest of this paragraph and article is too poorly microfilmed to transcribe] [ATT]
Capt. John Howard, of the Voltigeurs. – It will be exceedingly gratifying to the many relatives and friends id the young and gallant officer to learn, that he has passed through the fiery ordeal of the recent terrible conflicts, and around in the city of Mexico with safety - and not only so, but with distinguished credit to himself and to his native state, Maryland.

Nothing has been heard directly from Capt. Howard himself, but a brother officer in the same regiment has written to his relatives in this state, from which the following short extracts have been kindly permitted to be taken. They are from a description of the storming of the Hill and Castle of Chapultepec, one of the most gallant and probably the most perilous and sanguinary contests in the whole war.

"We rose to the crest of the hill and, amid the most weathering fire of grape and canister and the musketry of near two thousand Mexicans, planted the ladders and, with a cheer, mounted. The first man who entered alive was Captain Howard – he was followed instanter," &c., &c.

"The first then or fifteen inside the works met some resistance, as they fell back into the building that in the center of the works, but we charged then and there, Captain Howard of Baltimore, with his own hand killed three, and by the time, the poor devils were calling for quarters," &.

Well may Maryland be proud of her sons. The name and fame of one of the most distinguished soldiers of the Revolution, Col. John E. Howard, have descended upon a grandson, if whom he might well be proud and who is able to uphold both. The laurels gathered by the ancestor at Cowpens, and at Entaw, will but bloom with fresh and renewed... by the side of those plucked by his chivalrous descendants at Chapultepec and Mexico.

The gallantry of Lieut. Tilton also of the Voltigeurs, was no less conspicuous. When about seizing the colors of his regiment, as they were falling from the hands of the mortally wounded standard bearer a partially spent ball struck him in the face, prostrating him instantly, so that all thought he was killed. In a moment, or two, however he recovered, and springing forward, after Howard, was the fifth man who entered the almost impregnable fortress alive.

General Pillow, who was in the van, but had just been wounded severely, at the distance of a few yards, was witness to the courage and conduct of both these daring young officers.

To those desirous of forming some idea of the nature of the fortress of Chapultepec, the Mexican West Point, and of the difficulties to be overcome in an assault upon it, we would mention that a small oil painting, taken in 1837, may be seen at the Patriot office.

[ATT]

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Capt. John Magruder-The Charlottesville, (Va.) Advocate, publishes the subjoined extract of a letter from the gallant Capt. J.B. Magruder, who married in Baltimore, where his family now reside. Capt. M. is a native of Port Royal, Caroline County, (Va.) The Charlottesville Jeffersonian says, that Capt. Geo A. Magruder, of the U.S. Navy, a brother of an army officer, is now in that town on a visit to his relatives, having just returned from service in the Gulf of Mexico, where he has been in command of the bomb brig Vesuvius, and was stationed at Laguna as the governor of that Island. he was also engaged in the attack of Tuxpan and Tobasco, where he distinguished himself by his bravery and efficient services.

Extract of a letter from Capt. J.B. Magruder.

I was engaged in the 8th, 10th, 12th, and 13th of September, with the enemy. On the 13th, I was struck four times-knocked off my horse by a grape shot which struck me in the neck, but wounded me very slightly-otherwise, however, to make me faint-but I recovered in a few moments and went on in the action. I was afterwards wounded in the hand by a musket ball, but can now write. I had two horses shot, though not killed, under me, and my battery under my immediate command, repulsed five charges of the enemy's cavalry and infantry. My health is pretty good, though I am thinner than usual.

We want reinforcements dreadfully.
Let us regulate the tariff of this country here and we can support our army without costing the United States a cent. Every battle we have fought, from Palo Alto to the last, has been a forlorn hope. The Mexicans cannot make peace with a corporal guard. They are ashamed to do it, and hence them smallness of out army encourages the war; we will get no peace; less now than ever. I have not heard from home for two months. here we never part with our swords and pistols for a moment as assassinations are in every corner and in every house.

[KAS]

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73.176 Nov. 13, 1847 Health of the Army

LATEST FROM MEXICO.

The steamship New Orleans, Capt. Auld, arrived at N. Orleans on the 4th inst. having left Vera Cruz on the 1st.

The British courier arrived at Vera Cruz on the 31st of October, having left Mexico on the 29th, to which date we have letters and papers.

Gen. Lane entered Puebla on the 13th Oct. with 3,000 men and six pieces of artillery--so says a dispatch of Santa Anna. The latter could effect nothing against him on the Pinal.

Gen. Patterson’s command was to leave Vera Cruz on the 2d inst. It will be composed of at least 5,000 men. The Texan Rangers go up with him.

Gen. Smith has been appointed governor of the city of Mexico. Gen. Quitman is about to return to the U. States. Gen. Shields, Capt. Philip Kearney, Captain Davis, Lieut. Kiger and other officers, will accompany him.

From the Durango Journal, of the 14th ult., is derived the information that the U.S. frigate Portsmouth arrived in the waters of Mazatlan on the 22d of September, from Monterey, in California.--The United States squadron, consisting of the frigates Congress, Deale, the Cyane, and a transport, left Monterey on the 1st of September, for Mazatlan and San Blas, and for those of Guaymas and Acapulco.

The health of the army is far from being good--The climate of the valley of Mexico is not, as it appears, congenial to the constitutions of the south. It is just as enervating and fatal to our southern, as is that of Vera Cruz to the northern constitutions. The effective force of the entire army is reduced ten or fifteen per cent.

The city of Mexico was filled with rumors of peace. It was said that a quorum had met at Queretaro, and that the majority decided in favor of an amicable adjustment of difficulties.

The train which is to come down will be under the command of Col. Harney. A great number of wounded officers are to accompany.

Major Gaines, Capt. Cassius M. Clay, Capt. Heady, Maj. Borland, Capt. Danley and Midshipman Rogers come home, and we are happy to add our associate, Mr. Kendall.

Mr. Bankhead, the British minister, arrived at Vera Cruz on the 30th ult., and was received with military honors.

[JNA]

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NNR 73.176 Nov. 13, 1847 Deaths, death of Capt. Walker, Huamantla, guerrillas

Deaths-Lt. E.B. Daniels, 2d. art. of wounds; Lt. Steen, of South Carolina regiment, of wounds, Capt. Huddleston 11th inf. of a bowel complaint on the 11th; Col. Roberts, assist. surg. 5th inf. of wound received at King’s Mill died on 12th; sergeant Sutcliffe, of ruffles, assassinated on the 15th, assistant surgeon Treadwell, of vomito at Vera Cruz on 24th.

A long list of officers have received leave of absence and will shortly have returned to the U. States.

Death of Capt. Walker.-Gen. Lane having arrived at Perote was there joined by Capt. Walker and his command, and both advance together on the Puebla road until they reached the town.
At this place Capt. Walker, by order of the commanding General, took up his line of march to Huamantla. On his arrival at Huamantla a sanguinary engagement ensued in the streets, between the forces of Capt. Walker, consisting of 250 men, and that of the Mexicans numbering 1,600, the result of which was the total expulsion of the enemy from the town, and its occupation by our valiant little army.

But the gallant Walker, after performing prodigies of valor and feats of the most daring character, fell in a single combat, pierced by the spear of an enraged father, who, goaded to actual frenzy by the death of this son, whose fall beneath the arm of Capt. Walker he had just witnessed, rushed forward, heedless of all danger, to avenge his death, and attacking the captain with almost irresistible violence, plunged his spear into his body, and slew him almost instantly.

The Mexicans last two hundred men and three pieces of artillery. The latter were thrown into a gully in the rear of the town by the visitors, who, after the achievement of their object, the dispersion of the guerrillas, for which they were dispatched to Huamantla, evacuated the place, and directed their course towards Pinal, on the Puebla road, which they reached without any opposition, and there meeting with Gen. Lane again, the combined American force continued its march upon Puebla.

Into this city, which was in a state of insurrection, it entered in platoons, delivering at every step a constant and well directed fire of musketry, which ceased not until the enemy retreated and order was restored in every quarter.

Gen. Rea, of whom we have heard so much of late, fled with 400 guerrillas towards Atlixco. Gen. Santa Anna was, by last accounts, at Tehuacan de las Grandes, having been deserted by all his followers except about 200.

The Delta also says: "Our correspondent, writing at a later date than the 25th ult. gives the following account of the death of Capt. Walker: 'The death of Capt. Walker is fully confirmed by a later arrival. It is stated that he was shot by a cannon ball from a masked battery, about 12 miles from the main road, at a point 16 leagues from Puebla. The ball also killed Capt. Loyall, of the Georgia mounted company, and eleven men are also reported to have been killed in the same action.'"

Atlixco has been taken possession of by 1,000 of our forces. This large city has wisely yielded, without the least resistance. Orizaba is, also, by this time, in possession of the American forces.

The Mexican government has superceded Santa Anna in the command of the army. Gen. Rincon has been appointed to that office. Santa Anna loudly protested against the violation of his rights as the first magistrate of the nation, and, refusing obedience to the government, retires Tehuacan. Gen. Scott and staff have lately visited the city of Guadalupe. Gen. Almonte reached Queretaro on the 7th ult.

[NAS]

Gen. Patterson's command to leave Veracruz

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[ATT]

Gen. Persifor Frazer Smith appointed governor of Mexico City

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General Scott’s Official Dispatches. We commence in this number the publication of dispatches at length, received at Washington from the commander-in-chief of our armies in Mexico, detailing the operations before, and the final capture of the city of Mexico.

The Washington “Union” of the 13th, from which the first order of these dispatches are extracted, publishes a letter from Mr. Penn, the postmaster at New Orleans, which says: “The channel through which the dispatches arrived at New Orleans is not understood. No dispatches were received though the same mail by the other departments, nor have the other reports referred to by Gen. Scott in his letter, reached the adjutant general.”

The Union adds: “By this mail I forward you some public documents which I believe to be important from the army in Mexico. They were brought to this city by Mr. Hays, one of the editors of the Delta. It seems they were forwarded to Vera Cruz by some private conveyance, and brought by him from that place to New Orleans. The editors of the Delta deserve the thanks of the government.”

The Union of the 15th, in which the subsequent package of dispatches appears, appends the following editorial:

“The official dispatches. We lay before our readers the second budget of dispatches which have been forwarded by Gen. Scott, and received by the secretary of war, on Friday night, with the exception of four reports Cols. Harney and Riley, Maj. Summer, and Captain Huger, and the list killed and wounded. These we shall layover for the “Union” of to-morrow evening.

“In addition to these dispatches, a very late letter (being a duplicate sent the 29th of October) from Gen. Scott to the secretary of war, dated “Headquarters of the army, Mexico, October 27,” was received on Saturday evening. It is very brief. He states that he encloses two very interesting reports made to (him) from below: 1. From Col. Childs, governor and commander at Puebla, dated the 13th distant, detailing the defense of that place, which, though highly arduous, gallant, and triumphant, has not exceeded what was expected at the hands of that excellent commander, his officers and men. 2. from Brig. Gen. Lane, dated at Puebla, the 18th, giving a brief account of a brilliant and successful affair between him and a body of the enemy at Huamantla.” These reports, however, have not... on to the war department.

“The general adds: ‘After establishing the new... below, as indicated in my circular letter of instructions, (of October 13,) I hope to have the means of occupying Atlixco, some 18 miles from Puebla, and Toluca, the state capital of Mexico, 40 miles hence, and perhaps Orizaba; but probably shall not attempt anymore distant expedition without further reinforcements, or until I shall have received the views of the department of the plans submitted in my report.’

“The last reports in the newspapers are, that the general has taken the three places indicated above, and it is also certain that he has received further reinforcements.”

Nicholas Philip Trist said to have invited the Mexican government to a conference

A letter, said to be from a very respectable house in the city of Mexico, dated 29th October, 1847, says: Mr. Trist has again invited our government to new conferences. May God grant that the result of them may be peace, which we so much desire.” [We doubt Mr. Trist having so done. – Editor Nat. Reg.]

Re-capture of American deserters at Nassau
DESERTERS. The Nassau (New Providence) Gazette, of the 3d November, says: "Several of the American soldiers recently wrecked have since their arrival here, made their escape to the shore and deserted. The police force have however been on the alert, and have succeeded in recapturing two of them, for which they have received sixty dollars, the amount made payable by the U.S. government, being $30 a head for each one who may be caught. We have no doubt, that those who are still on shore will be also captured by the now efficient and active police body."

NRR 73.177 Nov. 20, 1847 quiet at Santa Fe, reports of assembling of Mexicans, attacks by Indians

Santa Fe. Mr. McCoons, of St. Louis, brings Santa Fe dates to the 19th October, at which time all was quiet there, but numerous reports were in circulation of the forces assembling at El Paso and Chihuahua.

The Indians continue to attack parties on the route. Mr. McC. Furnished details of several skirmishes. There is a great scarcity of grass on the plains and prairies, which have been burnt over as far as the eye could reach. Fire was seen every night on the Semerone. He also experienced snow storms on the route. Great suffering on the part of the men and the teams on the route are apprehended.

[ATT]

NRR 73.177 Nov. 20, 1847 Gen. Zachary Taylor’s request for a leave of absence


It is understood that Gen. Taylor – who has been absent from his family and private business for more than two years and a half, and during the whole of that time has been engaged in the most important and arduous duties – has asked for leave of absence to return to the United States for six months.

His letter to that effect was received by the adjutant general yesterday evening; in the course of which, Gen Taylor states that he thinks, in consequence of the present character of the war, his services may not be wanted at this time. He purposes to remove to Matamoras early this month, where he awaits the answer of the government, and expresses a desire to be in New Orleans by the 1st of Dec.

We understand the leave of absence has been granted to him; and we have no doubt that, if events should arise to call for his services on that frontier, he will fly to place himself at the head of his gallant army.

[ATT]

NRR 73.178 Nov. 20, 1847 President James Knox Polk overrules Gen. John Ellis Wool and restores Lts. Singletary and Pender

The Lieutenants Reinstated. - Lieuts. Singletary and Pender, who were "dishonorably discharged" by General Wool for being concerned in the late mutinous occurrences in the North Carolina regiment at Buena Vista, have been restored to their commands by order of president Polk. The Standard quotes the words: "The order of the president in this case makes General Wool’s order of discharge null and void, and Lieut. Singletary is considered as never having been out of service." And a similar order has of course been given as to Lieut. Pender.

The Raleigh Register, after a testimony to the chivalrous personal qualifications of Lieut. Singletary has the following remarks:

"But certainly, the president has acted most improperly about this affair. We do not question his power in the premises, for as he can remove, we take it for granted that he can also restore. But would any other president have reversed the order of an officer, so high in rank as General Wool, who was on the spot at the time of the occurrences, which led to Lieut. Singletary’s discharge, and must therefore be presumed to have acted on information satisfactory to his own mind – would, we say, any other president have interfered in the matter without examining into the facts if the case, or consulting with Gen. Wool? Mr. Polk’s
conduct in this business, is a second edition, "revised and enlarged," as we printers say, of his high handed assumption of power with regard to the mutiny in the Mecklenburg Rowan companies, last winter. It appears to us perfectly folly, to expect subordination in the army, when the president by his mere *sic volo, sic jubeo*, thus over rides all military rule and etiquette, and proclaims from the house tops- "I am the state!"

"We know not what steps Gen. Wool may deem it proper to take, to rebuke this interference by the executive, but we are confident Col. Paine will promptly resign his command, and return home."

[NRR] 73.178-179 Nov. 20, 1847 Com. Robert Field Stockton's return from California, his quarrel with Gen. Stephen Watts Kearney over authority

California. – *Return home of Commodore Stockton*. The squabble for authority – and for such laurels as the conquest of California has afforded, is likely to prove edifying to the people of this republic. A trial is progressing at the seat of government which every day develops incidents worthy of attention, and for which we regret not having room in our columns for a more detailed report. The path of what passes will be given. Meantime another Richmond enters the field. Commodore Stockton, and suite reached St. Louis Mo. On the 4th inst., by an over land route from California, having been one hundred days in performing the journey. He met with some detention owing to his men being attacked by measles, but finally they arrived all in good health. On their route the Indians were occasionally troublesome. – one occasion received a slight wound from an arrow, said to have been a poisoned arrow, but no serious injury resulted.

On arriving at St. Joseph, an invitation was given to the commodore to accept a public dinner which was declined. He embarked the day of his arrival at St. Louis, for his residence, Princeton, N. J.

The *St. Louis Republican* of the 5th says:

In a conversation with the commodore, we learned from him his determination to demand, on his arrival at Washington *a full and complete investigation of all the occurrences in California*, involving the conquest of that country, and the official regulations of Commodore Stockton, General Kearney, and other functionaries. As our readers are aware, many and very contradictory statements have been presented in relation to public affairs in California, and nothing but a full investigation, sifting error from misstatement, and giving to each officer the credit which his acts deserve, is likely now to satisfy the public. For this reason, we hope that the demand will be acceded to, at and early day. The conduct of our public officers in California has been strangely misrepresented and misconceived, at home, under wrong imputations of charges of official misconduct.

Com. Stockton speaks unreservedly of his public course in California. It will be seen, by a communication which he has addressed to us, and which we publish below, that he claimed for himself the office of “commander in chief of the forces,” taking issue, on this question, with a writer in the “Californian” newspaper, who had spoken of Gen. Kearney in this relation. In regard to this publication, and to the reply of Com. Stockton, it is explained to us, that the letter from Com. Stockton was sent to the press before Gen. Kearney’s departure from California – that it was withheld from the public by the editor on the representations of Gen. Kearney; that afterwards, and when that officer had left the country, it was proposed by the editor that the letter should appear in his columns, but that Com. Stockton would not yield to his suggestion, and that it was after he had left for the states, and in opposition to his desire, that the publication was actually made.

Com. Stockton, in the conquest of California, acted upon his own responsibility before the arrival of General Kearney, and this being the case, that the conditional powers vested in Gen. Kearney were inoperative, and that he had no authority to act as “commander in chief” in California. He assures, that Gen. Kearney, on his arrival at San Diego, did acknowledge him as commander in chief, and offered his services and aid. That after the arrival of Gen Kearney at San Diego, Com Stockton repeatedly proffered him the command of the expeditionary against Los Angeles, which Gen. Kearney declined – preferring to serve as second to Com. Stockton. That, during the expedition, in the battle of San Pasqual, and for several days after their arrival in the city of Los Angeles, General Kearney continued to recognize the commodore as commander in chief. It is even stated, that General Kearney, by letter, requested the permission of the commodore, as commander in chief, to employ a portion of the troops on a particular duty. Some days following this, Gen Kearney set up the claim of being himself the military and civil commander of the Californians. In the correspondence which followed, the commodore denied this authority, and suspended General Kearney. He asserts, that the government at Washington has sustained his view of his powers, in as much as he of major
general, and that of General Kearney was only brigadier general.

Whatever may have been the origin of the difficulties which unquestionably have attended the exercise of power in California, it is due alike to each of the officers concerned that the full inquiry should be made into all their public acts in that region, and that the people should be made acquainted with them. The necessity is the more obvious, as differences of opinion exist now which cannot be reconciled, which justice to anybody, without explanations which can only be derived from a full investigation.

Steamboat Meteor, Nov. 3, 1847.

To the Editors of the Missouri Republican:

Gentlemen: I have not yet seen the papers, but I am informed that it has been stated in yours, as well as other newspapers in the United States, that I was not "commander-in-chief" of the United States forces in California, on their march from San Diego to the Ciudad de los Angeles, in January last.

The same attempt to deprive me of that responsibility was made in California. My reply to the editor of the Californian, whom it turned out was the mere cat's paw, with the accompanying letter, signed by all the staff officers then in California, settled the matter there.

I now send the same papers to you, and request that you publish them, in the hop that they will produce the same result here.

My respect for the government and the people of the United States, will not permit me to characterize such unworthy attempts in the manner they deserve; but those who have been guilty of misrepresentation, will not go unwhipped of justice.

I have been forced, quite unwillingly, before the public, in self defense; and if it should be that the misstatements by which the second in command has been converted into "commander in chief", have not arisen from any "malus animus", but simply from a confusion of ideas on the field of battle nevertheless, I will be excused for having written on this letter without further information on the subject, because I wish that the people of Missouri, who have treated me with so much consideration and kindness, should be informed that I have nailed one falsehood to the counter, and that I intend to back up all I have said or written, or that others have said or written by my authority.

Faithfully, your obedient servant

R.F. Stockton.

From the Californian, July 17, 1847.

U.S. Frigate Congress
Harbor of San Diego, March 10th, 1847
To the Editors of the Californian, Monterey:

Gentlemen: In an editorial article in the Californian of the 13th February, you may find the following paragraph:

"Commodore Stockton announced to the officers that the whole expedition was placed under the command of Gen. Kearney, himself holding his station as commander in chief of California, and the General Kearney did command the whole expedition."

I take the first opportunity to say to you, that the above paragraph is not true in any one of its important particulars. It is not true that I placed the whole expedition under the command of Gen. Kearney, nor did I so announce it.

On the request of Gen. Kearney, and with the consent of Lieut. Rowan,(to whom with the consent of Lieut. Minot, who had previously held it, I had given the command only the night before,) I appointed Gen. Kearney to command the troops, and so announced it; at the same time stating distinctly, that I still retained my position as commander in chief – the word California did not pass my lips upon that occasion.

Now Messrs. Editors, if you say that I delegated or intended to delegate my duty or authority as the director of the expedition or commander in chief of the forces, or that Gen. Kearney, or any other person but myself, exercised, or pretended to exercise, any such power or authority, from the time we left San Diego until we arrived at the Ciudad de los Angeles, there I must say to you that all such statements are false.

But, Messrs, Editors, it id quite true that "Com. Stockton did leave San Diego at the head of the forces of his command," and marched into the Ciudad de los Angeles in the same
There are other most glaring misstatements in the editorial referred to, which no doubt
in due season will be corrected. In the meantime, go on.

"Sic itur ad astra."
Your obedient servant, R.F. Stockton

P.S. This communication has been delayed, in the hope that I could be at Monterey before this
time.

San Diego, 9th March, 1847

Sir: In answer to your letter from the 8th inst, we the Ciudad de los Angeles, was
conceived and fitted out by Commodore Stockton, and commanded by cogence from its
conception, to its successful termination at the Ciudad de los Angeles.

Commodore Stockton gave all orders and directions during the march, compartting
with dignity of commander in chief, and all flags of truce were referred to him (Commodore
Stockton) as commander in Chief and Governor of California.

We considered Gen. Kearney as second in command of the time we left San Diego to
the termination of the expedition, and we believe he was so considered by all of the officers of
the expedition.

With the highest regard
S.C Rowan, Lieut. U.S.N
and Major George Minor, Lieut U.S.N,
and Q.M J. Zeilin, 1st Lieut. and Brevet Captain, and Adj’t of the battalion.

W. Speiden, Purser U.S.N. and com’y

I beg leave further to add that the tactics used in this expedition, were the same as
those introduced and practiced on the first march from San Pedro for Gen. Castro’s camp, in
August last, when California was conquered by the forces under the command of Commodore
Stockton. J.Zeilin, 1st Lieut. and Brevet Captain, and Adj’t U.S. Forces.

We certify that the above is true copy of the original,
T.P. Green, Lieut.
S. Mosely, Surgeon

I fully concur in the above statement, as I know them all to be true from my own
personal knowledge, having carried orders from commodore Stockton, as commander in chief,
to Gen. Kearney, as second in command; besides, during our march from San Diego to the
Ciudad de los Angeles, Gen. Kearny told me himself, that he considered Com. Stockton as
commander in chief.

Archi H. Gillespie
1st Lieut. Marine corps., late Major California Battalion of Mounted Riflemen.

[ATT]

NNR 73.179 Nov. 20, 1847 California tranquil, activities and distribution of troops

A Letter to the editor of the Albany Argus, from and officer in Col. Stevenson’s
regiment, dated Pueblo des los Angeles, California, June 22, 1847, represents the country as
being tranquil, and that nothing of importance had transpired there if importance since Gen.
Kearny had left there for the U. States. Some of the Californians who had left there for
Sonoria, were returning, with deplorable accounts of the condition of the country, in
consequence of which, says the writer, many respectable families at Sonoria were making
arrangements to remove to California, from a conviction that they will be sure of a permanent
and good government under the American flag. The letter says:

"We have now at this post nearly completed a strong fortress. It has been erected by
the troops on a hill that commands the town and the surrounding country. This, of course, will
effectually suppress any attempt at insurrection, as every effort must inevitably involve all
engaged in it, in a common calamity."
The Mormon force here and at San Diego, consists of about 360 men. Their term of service expirers on the 16th of July. They have been invited to re-enter the service for another year. But at present there is not much prospect of their doing so. – This is extremely to be regretted, for they are a... quiet and peaceable set of men, submitting without resistance or a murmur to the severest discipline, and altogether a most useful and efficient body of men.

The regiment of New York volunteers is now very much scattered – being distributed among different posts from Sutter’s Settlement, on the Sacramento, to La Paz, in lower California – a distance of 1509 miles. The regiment will never probably be together again while in service. They will dearly earn all they receive from the government. The... of American industry and enterprise is plainly to be seen wherever our troops are stationed. Brieks are burned, ovens chimneys erected, saw-mills put in operation, and comfortable houses constructed wherever timber can be had. Watchers and... too, are sent to these stations from a distance of 50 miles, to be repaired; cloths brought to be made into clothing, leather to be made into boots and shoes – and at one of the posts, a tannery has been established – and at Monterey two of the N.Y. volunteers, who are employed by the commissary, have opened a stall at which beef, lamb, veal, and mutton can be purchased, dressed in Fulton market style. – They are doing remarkably well, and even the inhabitants who have been in the habit of slaughtering a bullock in the streets for their own use are abandoning the habit and patronizing the New York brothers.

These are specimens of what is going forward here in the way of civilization and improvement under the sway of the United States government and its arms. ...do well here who choose to help themselves and become useful. But I have no more time to write.

Position of the troops &c.- We find the following statements as reported by those arrived overland with Commodore Stockton.

At Sonoma- Capt. Brackett’s company, Stevenson’s regiment.


At Santa Barbara, Capt. Lippe’s company N. York volunteers.

At the Crudad de los Angeles, Col. Stevenson and two companies of his regiment; company c, 1st dragoons, Lieut. Smith commanding, Lieuts. Davidson and Stevenson. And Asst’t. Surgeon John Griffin.

Four companies of Mormon volunteers were discharged July 16th. A considerable number then were passed by Com. Stockton’s party on their return to the United States for their families to take them to the new settlement at Salt Lake. At San Diego, one company of Mormon volunteers; since discharged.

One bastion of the fort at Monterey was early done, then guns were mounded, and on the 4th of July a salute was fired from it.

The country quiet. Few merchants were upon the coast with goods, a supply was much wanted, particularly coffee, tea, sugar, dry goods, and tools for agriculture.

The Louisville Journal says: “Com. Stockton arrived at St. Joseph, Mo., on the 26th ult., with and escort of 45 men, commanded by Major Gillespie; left Sacramento valley July 19th; journey across very pleasant, had but two days rain; saw many Indians upon the road from California to the Missouri; met large numbers of emigrants for Oregon and California; 1,172 wagons passed Fort Laramie for the west, 140 of which were Mormons on their road to the new Zion, at the Great Salt Lake.”

In the commodores’ suit we find named Lieut. Wm. H. Thompson, U.S.N., Major Arch’d. H. Gillespie, and Capt. Saml. J. Hensley, Mr. J. Parker Norris, and Mr. Wm. Simmons. They accompany the commodore on to the seat of government.

[ATT]
the war patriots to volunteer and fill up the five companies required of that state some six months ago. Only one company has yet been raised in that thorough loco-foco state, from which it seems that the locofocos greatly prefer to talk against Mexico to fighting against her. Where are the locofoco editors and demagogues of Alabama who have written and talked so much of the justice of this war, and of the duty of all patriots to volunteer their service in it? – There are enough of them to form a regiment, but these persons refuse to enlist, not withstanding it is their duty to do so according to their own doctrine.

NNR 73.180 Nov. 20, 1847 Skirmish at the National Bridge

WAR WITH MEXICO.

SKIRMISH AT THE NATIONAL BRIDGE, SPET. 9.

A letter from a member of the Maryland regiment, dated National Bridge, Oct. 19th says:

"When within four hundred yards of the fort, we at once commenced throwing round shot and shells. Just before our cannon made a break at them, the Mexicans could be seen waving their swords from the ramparts. They left, however, very suddenly the moment the first shell struck near him. Just at this time an order passed down the line for Captains Brown, Barry and Dolan's companies to take position upon the left. Headed by mjr Kenley, we soon entered the chaparral, and after tugging and climbing the rocks and grape vines for about three hours, we obtained our position, and were soon formed into line of battle. An order was then given to charge. Our men did so with a tremendous shout, and soon gained the ramparts, in time to see the enemy scampering over the hills with the utmost precipitancy. The hill upon which the fort is situated is about 600 feet from the base.

"I see it stated in one of the Baltimore papers that Gen. Lane took possession of this place. Such is not the fact. Gen. Lane did not arrive till we had been there three weeks. He reviewed us several times and then moved on."

Officers--In another part of his letter the writer remarks:--"The appointment of Lt. Col. Hughes as colonel of the regiment has just been read to us on parade. I presume Major John R. Kenly will be made lieut. Colonel. A more popular appointment with the regiment could not be made. The major is the most popular man out here, and the officers of the regiment all go in for him. It is thought that we will leave for Jalapa in the course of two weeks."

NNR 73.180-181 Nov. 20, 1847 Incidents and actors in the campaign

INCIDENTS AND ACTORS IN THE CAMPAIGN.A father's life saved by his son.--Among the deserters tried and sentenced to be hung at Mexico, was a man named Edward McHenry, of the 4th artillery. Gen. Scott, as commander-in-chief-, had the power to approve or disapprove the sentence of the court. In passing on that of McHenry, the general made these remarks: "A like remission [from hanging] is made in the case of Edward McHenry, company G, out of consideration for a son, a private in the same company, who has remained faithful to his colors."[JNA]

NNR 73.181 Nov. 20, 1847 voting for governor among Pennsylvania volunteers at Perote in Mexico

Pennsylvania election at Perote. - By a late act of the Pennsylvania legislature, the volunteers from that state, now serving in Mexico, are entitled to vote for state officers at the time of a general election. – On the 12th of October, a poll was opened at Perote, and the Pennsylvania volunteers, in garrison there, exercised the right to suffrage, at the close of the vote stood for governor: Francis R Shunk, 66; James Irwin, 20. For canal commissioner: Morris Longstreth, 66, G. W. Patton, 19; Robert H. Morton, 1. [ATT]
Sir: Leaving a competent garrison at Puebla, this army advanced upon the capital as follows: -Twiggs's division preceded by Harney's brigade of cavalry, the 7th; Quitman’s division of volunteers, with a small detachment of United States marines, the 8th; Worth's division, the 9th; and Pillow's division the 10th—all in the month. On the 8th I overtook and then continued with the leading division. The crops were at no time beyond five hour or supporting distance apart; and, on descending into the basin of the capital, (seventy-five miles from Puebla, (they became more closely approximated about the head of Lake Chalco, with Lake Tescueo a little in front and to the right. On the 12th and 13th we pushed reconnaissances upon the Penon, an isolated mound, (eight miles from Mexico) of great height, strongly fortified to the top, (three tiers of works,) and flooded around the base by season of rains and sluices from the lakes. This mound, close to the national road, commands the principal approach to the city from the east. No doubt it might have been carried, but at a great and disproportionate loss, and I was anxious to spare the lives of this gallant army for a general battle, which I knew we had to win before capturing the city or obtaining the great object of the campaign—a just and honorable peace.

Another reconnaissance was directed (the 13th) upon Mexicalcingo, to the left of the Penon, a village at a fortified bridge across the outlet or canal leading from Lake Jochimilco to the capital-five miles from the latter. It might have been easy (masking the Penon) to force the passage; but on the other side of the bridge, we should have found ourselves four miles from this road, on a narrow causeway, flanked to the right and left by water or boggy grounds. Those difficulties, closely viewed, threw me back upon the project, long entertained, of turning the strong eastern defenses of the city by passing around south of Lakes Chalco and Jocuimilo, at the foot of the hills and mountains, so as to reach this point, and hence to manoeuvre on hard ground, though much broken, to the south and southwest of the capital, which has been more or less under our view since the 10th instant.

Accordingly, by a sudden inversion—Worth’s division, with Harney’s cavalry brigade, leading—we marched on the 15th instant. Pillows and Quitman’s divisions followed closely and then Twiggs’s division which was left till the next day, at Ayotia, in order to threaten the Penon and Mexicalcingo, and to deceive the enemy as long as practicable.

Twiggs, on the 16th, marching from Ayotia towards Chalco, (six miles, met a corps of more than double his numbers—cavalry and infantry—under General Valencia. Twiggs halted, deploying into line, and by a few rounds from Captain Taylor’s field battery, dispersed the enemy, killing or wounding many men and horses. No other molestation has been experienced except a few random shots from guerrilleros on the heights; and the march of twenty-seven miles, over a route deemed impracticable by the enemy, is not accomplished by all the corps—thanks to their indomitable zeal and physical prowess.

Arriving here, the 18th, Worth’s division and Harney’s cavalry were pushed forward a league to reconnoitre and to carry or to mask San Antonio on the direct road to the capital. This village was found strongly defended by field works, heavy guns, and numerous garrison. It could only be turned by infantry, to the left, over a field of volcanic rocks and lava; for, to our right the ground was too boggy. It was soon ascertained by the daring engineers, Capt. Mason and Lieuts. Stevens and Tower, ‘that the point could only be approached by the front, over a narrow causeway, flanked with wet ditches of great depth. Worth was ordered not to attack, but to threaten and to mask the place.

The first shot fired from San Antonio (the 18th) killed Captain S. Thornton, 21 dragoons, a gallant officer, who was covering the operations with his company.

The same day a reconnaissance was commenced to the left of San Augustin, first over difficult mounds, and farther on, over the same field of volcanic rocks and lava which extends to the mountains, some five miles, from San Antonio, towards Magdalena. This reconnaissance was continued to-day by Captain Lee, assisted by Lieutenants Beauregard and Tower, all of the engineers; who were joined in the afternoon b Major Smith of the same corps. Other diversions coming up, Pillow’s was advanced to make a practicable road for heavy artillery, and Twiggs’s thrown farther in front, to cover that operation; for, by the partial reconnaissance of yesterday, Captain Lee discovered a large corps of observation in that direction, with a detachment of his supports of cavalry and foot, under Captain Kearny and Lieut. Col. Graham, respectively, has a successful skirmish.
By three o'clock this afternoon the advanced division came to a point where the new road could only be continued under the direct fire of 22 pieces of the enemy's artillery, (most of them of large caliber) placed in a strong entrenched camp to oppose our operations, and surrounded by every advantage of ground, besides immense bodies of cavalry and infantry, hourly reinforced from the city over an excellent road beyond the volcanic field, and consequently entirely beyond the reach of our cavalry and artillery.

Arriving on the ground an hour later, I found that Pillow's and Twigg's divisions ad advanced to dislodge the enemy, picking their way (all officers on foot) along his front, and extending themselves toward the road from the city and enemy's left. Captain Magruder's field battery of mounted howitzers and rockets, had also; with great difficulty, been advanced within range of the entrenched camp. These batteries, most gallantly served, suffered much in the course of the afternoon from the enemy's superior metal.

The battle, though mostly stationary, continued to rage with great violence until night fall. Brevet Brig. Gen. P.F. Smith's and Brevet Col. Riley's brigades, (Twiggs's division,) supported by Brig. Generals Pierce's and Cadwallader's brigades, (Pillow's division,) were more than three hours under a heavy fire of artillery and musketry, along the almost impassable ravine in front and to the left of the entrenched camp. Besides the 22 pieces of artillery, the camp and ravine were defended closely by masses of infantry, and these again supported by clouds of cavalry, at hand and hovering in view. –Consequently no decided impression could be made by day light on the enemy's most formidable position, because independent of the difficulty of the ravine, our infantry, unaccompanied by cavalry and artillery, could not advance in column without being mowed down by the grape and canister of the batteries, no advance in line without being ridden over by the enemy's numerous cavalry. All our troops, however, including Magruder's and Callender's last batteries, not only maintained the exposed positions early gained, but all attempted charges upon them respectively, particularly on Riley's, (twice closely engaged with cavalry in greatly superior numbers,) were repulsed and punished.

From an eminence, soon after arriving near the scene, I observed the church and hamlet of Contreras, (or Ansalda,) on the road leading up from the capital, through the entrenched camp, to Magdalena, and seeing at the same time the stream of reinforcements advancing by the road from the city, I ordered (through Maj. Gen. Pillow) Col. Morgan, with his regiment, the 15th, till then held in reserve by Pillow, to move forward and occupy Contreras (or Ansalda) being persuaded, if occupied, it would arrest the enemy's reinforcements and ultimately decide the battle.

Riley was already on the enemy's left, in advance of the hamlet. A few minutes later, Brig. Gen. Shields, with his volunteer brigade, (New York and South Carolina regiments, Quitman's division,) coming up under my orders from San Augustin, I directed Shields to follow and sustain Morgan. – These corps, over the extreme difficulties of ground, partially covered with a low forest, before described, reached Contreras, and found Cadwallader's brigade in position, observing the formidable movement from the capital and much needing the timely reinforcement.

It was already dark, and the cold rain has begun to fall in torrents upon our unsheltered troops; for the hamlet, though a strong defensive position, can only hold the wounded men, and, unfortunately, the new regiments have little or nothing to eat in their haversacks. Wet, hungry, and without the possibility of sleep, all our gallant corps, I learn, are full of confidence, and only wait for the last hour of darkness to gain the positions whence to storm and carry the enemy's works.

Of the seven officers dispatched, since about sun down, from my position opposite the enemy's centre, and on this side of the field of rocks and lava, to communicate instruction to the hamlet, no one has succeeded in getting through those difficulties, increased by darkness. They have all returned. But the gallant and indefatigable Capt. Lee, of the engineers, who has been constantly with the operating forces, just in from Shields, Smith, Cadwallader &t, to report as above, and to ask that a powerful diversion be made against the centre of the entrenched camp towards morning.

Brig. Gen. Twiggs, cut off, as above, from the part of his division beyond the impracticable ground, and Capt. Lee, are gone, under my orders, to collect the forces remaining on this side, with which to make that diversion about five o'clock in the morning.

And here I will end this report, commenced at its date; and, in another, continue the narrative of the great events which them impended.

I have the honor to be, sir, with high respect, your most obedient servant,

Winfield Scott
Sir: My report No. 31, commenced in the night of the 19th instant closed the operations of the army with that day.

The morning of the 20th opened with one of a series of unsurpassed achievements, all in view of the capital, and to which I shall give the general name—battle of Mexico.

In the night of the 19th, Brigadier Generals Shields, P.F. Smith, and Cadwallader, and Colonel Riley with their brigades, and the 15th regiment under Colonel Morgan, detached from Brigadier General Pierce, found themselves in and about the important position—the village, hamlet, or hacienda, called, indifferently, Contreras, Ansalda, San Geronimo, half a mile nearer to the city than the enemy's entrenched camp on the same road, towards the factory of Magdalena.

That camp has been, unexpectedly, our formidable point of attack the afternoon before, and we had not to take it, without the aid of cavalry or artillery, or to throw back our advanced corps upon the road from San Augustin to the city, and thence force a passage through San Antonio.

Accordingly, to meet contingencies, Major General Worth was ordered to leave, early in the morning of the 20th, one of his brigades to mask San Antonio, and to march, with the other, six miles, via San Augustin, upon Contreras. A like destination was given to Major General Quitman and his remaining brigade in San Augustin—replacing, for the moment, garrison of that important depot with Harney's brigade of cavalry, as horse could not pass over the intervening rocks, &c. to reach the field of battle.

A diversion for an earlier hour (daylight) had been arranged the night before, according to the suggestion of Brigadier General Smith, received through the engineer, Captain Lee, who conveyed my orders to our troops remaining on the ground opposite the enemy's centre—the point for the diversion or a real attack, as circumstances might allow.

Guided by Captain Lee, it proved the latter, under the command of Colonel Ransom, of the 9th, having with him that regiment and some companies of three others—the 3d, 12th, and rifles.

At 3 o'clock A.M. the great movement commenced on the rear of the enemy's camp, Riley leading, followed successively by Cadwallader's and Smith's brigades, the latter temporally under the order of Major Dimick, of the 1st artillery—the whole force being commanded by Smith, the senior in the general attack, and whose arrangements, skill, and gallantry always challenge the highest admiration.

The march was rendered tedious by the darkness, and mud; but about sunrise, Riley, conducted by Lieut. Tower, engineer, had reached an elevation behind the enemy, whence he precipitated his columns; stormed the entrenchments; planted his several colors upon them, and carried the work—all in seventeen minutes.

Conducted by Lieut. Beauregard, engineer, and Lieutenant Brooks, of Twiggs's staff—both of whom like Lieut. Tower, had, in the night, twice reconnoitered the ground—Cadwallader brought up to the general assault two of his regiments—the voltigeurs and the 11th and the appointed time, Col. Ransom, with this temporary brigade, conducted by Captain Lee, engineer, no only made the movement to divert and to distract the enemy, but, after crossing the deep raving in his front, advanced, and poured into the works and upon the fugitives many volleys from his destructive musketry.

In the mean time Smith's own brigade, under the temporary command of Major
Dimick, following the movements of Riley and Cadwallader, discovered, opposite and outside of the works, a long line of Mexican cavalry, drawn up as a support. Dimick, having at the head of the brigade the company of sappers and miners, under Lieut. Smith, engineer, who had conducted the march, was ordered by Brigadier General Smith to form line faced to the enemy, and in a charge, against a flank, routed the cavalry.

Shields, too, by the wise disposition of his brigade and gallant activity, contributed much to the general results. He held masses of cavalry and infantry, supported by artillery, in check below him, and captured hundreds, with one General (Mendoza) of those who fled from above.

I doubt whether a more brilliant or decisive victory-taking into view ground, artificial deference, batteries, and the extreme disparity of numbers- without cavalry or artillery on our side-is to be found on record. Including all our corps directed against the entrenched camp, with Shield’s brigade at the hamlet, we positively did not number over 4500 rank and file; and we knew by sight, and since more certainly by many captured documents and letters, 7000 men, with at least 12,000 more hovering with sight and striking distance-both on the 19th and 20th. All, not killed or captured, now fled with precipitation.

Thus was the great victory of Contreras achieved: on road to the capital opened; 700 of the enemy killed; 813 prisoners, including, among 88 officers, 4 generals; besides many colors and standards; 22 pieces of brass ordnance-half of large caliber; thousand of small arms and accoutrements; and immense quantity of shot, shells, powder, and cartridges, 700 pack mules, many horses, &c.-all in our hands.

It is highly gratifying to find that, by skillful arrangement and rapidity of execution, our loss, in killed and wounded, did not exceed, on the spot, 60; among the fore the brave Captain Charles Hanson, of the 7th infantry-not more distinguished for gallantry than for modesty, morals and piety. Lieut J. P. Johnston, 1st artillery, serving with Magruder’s battery, a young officer of the highest promise, was killed the evening before.

One of the most pleasing incidents of the victory is the recapture, in the works, by Captain Drum, 4th artillery, under Major Gardner, of the two brass six pounders, taken from another company of the same regiment, though without loss of honor, at the glorious battle of Buena Vista-about which guns the whole regiment had mourned for so many long months! Coming up, a little later, I had the happiness to join in the protracted cheers of the gallant 4th on the joyous event; and, indeed, the whole army sympathizes in its just pride and exultation.

The battle being won before the advancing brigades of Worth’s and Quitman’s divisions were in sight, both were ordered back to their later positions-Worth to attack San Antonio in front with his whole force, as soon as approached in the rear by Pillow’s and Twiggs’s divisions, moving from Contreras through San Angel and Coyoacan. By carrying San Antonio we knew that we should open another-a shorter and better road to the capital for our siege and to other trains.

Accordingly, the two advanced divisions and Shield’s brigade marched from Contreras, under the immediate orders of Major Gen. Pillow, who was now joined by the gallant, Brig. Gen. Pierce, of his division, personally thrown out of activity late in the evening before by a severe hurt received from the fall of his horse.

After giving necessary orders on the field, in the midst of prisoners and trophies, and sending instructions to Harney’s brigade of cavalry, left at San Augustine, to join me. I personally followed Pillow’s movement.

Arriving at Coyoacan, two miles by a cross road, from the rear of San Antonio, I first detached Capt. Lee, engineer, with Cap. Kearney’s troop (1st dragoons,) supported by the rifle regiment under Major Loring, to reconnoitre that strong point; and next dispatched Major General Pillow, with one of his brigades, (Cadwallader’s) to make the attack upon it, in concert with major General Worth, on the opposite side.

At the same time, by another road to the left, Lieutenant Stevens, of the engineers, supported by Lieutenant G.W. Smith’s company of sappers and miners, of the same corps, was to reconnoitre the strongly fortified church or convent of San Pablo in the hamlet of Churubuseo-one mile off. -Twiggs, with one of brigades (Smith’s-less the rifles) and Captain Taylor’s field battery, were ordered to follow and to attack the convent. Major Smith, senior engineer, was dispatched to concert with Twiggs the mode and means of attack, and Twiggs’ other brigade (Riley’s) I soon ordered up to support him.

Next (but all n ten minutes) I sent Pierce (just able to keep the saddle) with his brigade (Pillow’s division) conducted by Captain Lee, engineer, by a third road, a little farther to our left, to attack the enemy’s right and rear, in order to favor the moment upon the convent, and
cut off the retreat towards the capital. And, finally, Shields, senior brigadier to pierce, with the New York and South Caroline volunteers, (Quitman’s division,) was ordered to follow Pierce, closely, and to take the command of our left wing. All these movements were made with the utmost alacrity by our gallant troops and commanders.

Finding myself at Coyoaacan, from which so many roads conveniently branched, without escort or reserve, I had to advance, for safety, close upon Twiggs’ rear. The battle now raged from the right to the left of our whole line.

Learning, on the return of Captain Lee, that Shields, in the rear of Churubuseo, was hard pressed, and in danger of being out flanked, if not overwhelmed, by greatly superior numbers, I immediately sent, under Major Sumner, 24 dragoons, the rifles (Twiggs’ reserve) and Capt. Sibley’s troop, 24 dragons, then at hand, to support our left, guided by the same engineer.

About an hour earlier, Worth had by skillful and daring movements upon the front and right, turned and forced San Antonio-its garrison, no doubt, much shaken by out decisive victory at Contreras.

His second brigade (Colonel Clarke’s) conducted by Captain Mason, engineer, assisted by Lieutenant Hardcastle, topographical engineer, turned the right flank and by a wide sweep came out upon the high road to the capital. At this point the heavy garrison (3,000 men) in retreat was, by Clarke, cut in the centre, one portion, the rear, driven upon Dolores, off to the right; and the other upon Churubuseo, in the direct line of our operations. The first brigade (Colonel Garland’s) same division, consisting of the 2d artillery, under Major Galt, the 3d artillery, under Lieutenant Colonel Belton, and the 4th infantry, commanded by Major Lee, with Lieutenant Colonel Duncan’s field battery (temporarily) followed in pursuit through the town, taking one general prisoner, the abandoned guns, (five pieces,) much ammunition, and other public property.

The forcing of San Antonio was the second brilliant event of the day.

Worth’s division being soon reunited in hot pursuit, he was joined by Maj. Gen. Pillow, who marching, from Coyoaacan and discovering that San Antonio had been carried, immediately turned to the left, according to my instructions, and though much impeded by ditched and swamps, hastened to the attack of Churubuseo.

The hamlet of scattered houses, bearing this name, presented, besides the fortified convent, a strong field work (tete de pont) with regular bastions and curtains, at the head of a bridge over which the road passes from San Antonio to the capital.

The whole remaining forces of Mexico—some 27,000 men-cavalry, artillery, and infantry, collected from every quarter—were not in, on the flanks or within supporting distance of, those works, and seemed resolved to make a last and desperate stand; or if beaten here, the feeble defenses at the gates of the city—four miles off—could not, as was well known to both parties delay the victors an hour. -The capital of an ancient empire, now of a great republic; or an early peace, the assailants were resolved to win. Not an American—and we were less than a third of the enemy’s numbers—had a doubt as to the result.

The fortified church or convent, hotly pressed by Twiggs, had already held out about an hour, when Worth and Pillow—the latter having with him only Cadwallader’s brigade—began to manoeuvre closely upon the tete de pont, with the convent at half gunshot to their left. Garland’s brigade, (Worth’s division,) to which had been added the light battalion under Lieut. Col. Smith, continued to advance in front, and under the fire of a long line of infantry, off on the left of the bridge; and Clarke, of the same division, directed his brigade along the road or close by its side. Two of Pillow’s and Cadwallader’s regiments, the 11th and 14th, supported and participated in this direct movement: the other (the voltigeurs) was left in reserve. Most of these corps—particularly Clark’s brigade—advancing perpendicularly, were made to suffer much by the fire of the tete de pont, and they would have suffered greatly more by flank attacks from the convent, but for the pressure of Twiggs on the other side of that work.

This well combined and daring movement at length reached the principal point of attack, and the formidable tete de pont was, at once, assaulted and carried by the bayonet. Its deep wet ditch was first gallantly crossed by the 8th and 5th infantry, commanded, respectively, by Maj. Waite and Lieut. Colonel Scott followed closely by the 6th infantry (same brigade) which had been so much exposed in the road—the 11th regiment, under Lieut. Col. Graham, and 14th, commanded by Col. Trousdale, both of Cadwallader’s brigade, Pillow’s division. About the same time, the enemy, in front of Garland, and after a hot conflict of an hour and a half, gave way, in a retreat towards the capital.

The immediate results of this third signal triumph of the way were: three field pieces, 192.
prisoners, much ammunition and two colors, taken in the *tete de pont*.

Lieut. J. F. Irons, 1st artillery, aid-de-camp to Brigadier Gen. Cadwallader, a young officer of great merit and conspicuous in battle on several previous occasions, received in front of the work, a mortal wound. (Since dead.)

As the concurrent attack upon the convent favored, physically and morally, the assault, upon the *tete de pont*, so, reciprocally, no doubt, the fall of the latter contributed to the capture of the former. The two works were only some 450 yards apart; and as soon as we were in possession of the *tete de pont*, a captured four pounder was turned and fired-first by Captain Larkin Smith, and next by Lieutenant Snelling, both of the eighth infantry-several times upon the convent. In the same brief interval, Lieutenant Colonel Duncan, (also of Worth’s division,) gallantly brought two of his guns to bear, at a short range, from the San Antonio road, upon the principal face of the work, and on the tower of the church, which, in the obstinate contest, had been often refilled with some of the best sharp-shooters of the enemy.

Finally, twenty minutes after the *tete de pont* had been carried by Worth and Pillow, and at the end of a desperate conflict of two hours and a half, the church, or convent—the citadel of the strong line of defense along the rivulet of Churubuseo—yielded to Twiggs’ division, and threw out, on all sides, signals of surrender. The white flags, however, were not exhibited until the moment when the 3d infantry, under Captain Alexander, had cleared the way by fire and bayonet, and had entered the work. Captain J. M. Smith and Lieutenant O. L. Shephered, both of that regiment, with their companies, had the glory of leading the assault. The former received the surrender, and Captain Alexander instantly hung out, from the balcony, the colors of the gallant 3d. Major Dimick, with a part of the 1st artillery, serving as infantry, entered nearly abreast with the leading troops.

Captain Taylor’s field battery, attached to Twiggs’ division, opened its effective fire, at an early moment, upon the out works of the convent and the tower of its churches. Exposed to the severest fire of the enemy, the captain, his officers, and men, won universal admiration; but at length much disabled in men and horses the battery was by superior, orders, withdrawn from the action thirty minutes before the surrender of the convent.

Those corps, excepting Taylor’s battery, belonging to the brigade of Brig. Gen. Smith, who closely directed the whole attack in front, with his habitual coolness and ability; while Riley’s brigade—the 2d and 7th infantry, under Capt. T. Morris and Lieut. Col. Plympton, respectively—vigorously engaged the right of the work and part of its rear. At the moment, the rifles, belonging to Smith’s were detached in support of Brig. Gen. Shields’ on our extreme left; and the 4th artillery, acting as infantry, under Maj. Gardner, belonging to Riley’s brigade, had been left in charge of the camp, trophies, &c., at Contreras. Twiggs’ division, at Churubuseo, has thus been deprived of the services of two of its most gallant and effective regiments.

The immediate results of this victory were—the capture of 7 field pieces, some ammunition, one color, three generals, and 1,261 prisoners, including other officers.

Captains E.A. Capron and M.J. Burke, and Lieut. S. Hoffman, all of the 1st artillery, and Capt. J.W. Anderson and Lieut. Easley, both of the 2d infantry-five officers of great merit—fell gallantly before this work.

The capture of the enemy’s citadel was the *fourth* great achievement of our arms in the same day.

It has been stated that, some two hours and a half before, Pierce’s followed closely by the volunteer brigade—both under the command of Brigadier General Shields—-d been detached to our left to turn the enemy’s works;—to prevent the escape of the garrisons, and to oppose the extension of the enemy’s numerous corps, from the rear, upon and around our left.

Considering the inferior numbers of the two brigades, the objects of the movements were difficult to accomplish. Hence the reinforcements (the rifles, &c.,) sent forward a little later.

In a winding march of a mile around to the right, this temporary division found itself on the edge of an open wet meadow, near the road from San Antonio to the capital, and in the presence of some 4,000 of the enemy’s infantry, a little in the rear of Churubuseo, on that road. Establishing the right at a strong building, Shields extended his left, parallel to the road, to outflank the enemy towards the capital. But the enemy extending his right, supported by 3,000 cavalry, more rapidly (being favored by their ground) in the same direction, Shields concentrated the division about a hamlet, and determined to attack in front. The battle was long, hot, and varied; but, ultimately, success crowned the zeal and gallantry of our troops, ably directed by their distinguished commander, Brig. Gen. Shields. The 9th, 12th, and 15th
Brigadier General Pierce, from the hurt of the evening before—under pain and exhaustion—fainted in the action. Several other changes in command occurred on this field. Thus Colonel Morgan being severely wounded, the command of the 15th infantry devolved on Lieutenant Colonel Howard; Colonel Burnett receiving a like wound, the command of the New York volunteers fell to Lieutenant Colonel Baxter; and, on the fall of the lamented Colonel P. M. Butler—earlier badly wounded, but continuing to lead nobly in the hottest of the battle—the command of the South Carolina volunteers devolved—first of Lieutenant Colonel Dickenson, who being severely wound (as before in the siege of Vera Cruz) the regiment ultimately fell under the orders of Major Gladden.


Shields took 380 prisoners, including officers; and it cannot be doubted that the rage of the conflict between him and the enemy just in the rear of the tete de pont and the convent had some influence on the surrender of those formidable defenses.

As soon as the tete de pont was carried, the greater part of Worth’s and Pillow’s forces passed that bridge in rapid pursuit of the flying enemy. These distinguished generals, coming up with Brigadier General Shields, now also victorious, the three continued to press upon the fugitives to within a mile and a half of the capital. Here, Col. Harney, with a small part of his brigade of cavalry, rapidly passed to the front, and charged the enemy up to the nearest gate.

The cavalry charge was headed by Captain Kearney, of the 1st dragoons, having in squadron, with his own troop, that of Captain McReynolds, of the 3rd—making the usual escort to general headquarters; but being early in the day detached for general service, was now under Col. Harney’s orders. The gallant captain now hearing the recall that had been sounded, dashed up to the San Antonio gate, sabreing, in his way all that resisted. Of the seven officers of the squadron, Hearney lost his left arm, McReynolds and Lieut. Lorimer Graham were both severely wounded, Lieut. R.S. Ewell, who succeeded to the command of the escort, had two horses killed under him. Major F.D. Mills, of the 15th infantry, a volunteer in this charge, was killed at the gate.

So terminated the series of events which I have but feebly presented. My thanks were by freely poured out on the different fields—to the abilities and science of generals and other officers—to the gallantry and prowess of all—the rank and file included. But a reward infinitely higher—the applause of a grateful country and government—will, I cannot doubt, be accorded, in due time, to so much merit, of every sort, displayed by this glorious army, which has now overcome all difficulties—distance, climate, ground, fortifications, numbers.

If has a single day, in many battles, as often defeated 32,000 men; made about 3,000 prisoners, including eight generals (two of them ex-presidents) and 205 other officers; killed or wounded 4,000 of all ranks—besides entire corps dispersed and dissolved; captured 37 pieces of ordinance—more than trebling our siege train and field batteries with a large number of small arms, a full supply of ammunition of every kind, &t., &t.

These great results have overwhelmed the enemy.

Our loss amounts to 1,052—killed 139, including 16 officers; wounded 876, with 60 officers. The greater number of the dead and disabled were of the highest worth. Those under treatment, thanks to our very able medical officers, are generally doing well.

I regret having been obliged, on the 20th, to leave Major General Quitman, an able commander, with a part of a division—the fine 2d Pennsylvania volunteers and the veteran detachment of U. States marines—at our important depot, San Augustin. It was there that I had place our sick and wounded; the siege, supply, and baggage trains. If these had been lost, the army would have been driven almost to despair; and considering the enemy’s very great excess of numbers, and the many approaches to the depot, it might well have become, emphatically, the post of honor.

After so many victories, we might, with but a little additional loss, have occupied the capital the same evening. But Mr. Trist, commissioner, &c. as well as myself, had been admonished by the bet friends of peace—intelligent neutrals and some American residents—against precipitation; lest, by wantonly driving away the government and others—dishonored—we might
scatter elements of peace, excite a spirit of national desperation, and thus indefinitely postpone the hope of accommodation. Deeply impressed with this danger, and remembering our mission to conquer a peace, the army very cheerfully sacrificed to patriotism - the great wish and want of our country, the _eclat_ that would have followed an entrance - sword in hand - into a great capital. Willing to have something to this republic - of no immediate value to us - on which to rest her pride, and to recover temper - I halted our victorious corps at the gates of the city, (at least for a time,) and have them now cantoned in the neighboring villages, where they are still sheltered and supplied with all necessaries.

On the morning of the 21st, being about to take up battering or assaulting positions, to authorize me to summon the city to surrender, or to sign an armistice with a pledge to enter at once into negotiations for a peace - a mission came out to propose a truce. Rejecting its terms, I dispatched my contemplated not to president Santa Anna - omitting the summons. The 22d commissioners were appointed by the commanders of the two armies; the armistice was signed the 23rd, and ratifications exchanged the 24th.

All matters in dispute between the two governments have been thus happily turned over to their plenipotentiaries, who have now had sever conferences, and, with I think, some hope of signing a treat of peace.

There will be transmitted to the adjutant general reports from divisions, brigades, &c., on the foregoing operations, to which I must refer, with my hearty concurrence in the just applause bestowed on corps and individuals by their respective commanders. I have been able - this report being necessarily a summary - to bring out, comparatively, but little of individual merit no lying directly in the way of the narrative. Thus I doubt whether I have, in express terms, give my approbation and applause, to the commanders of division and independent brigades; but left their fame upon higher grounds - the simple record of their great deeds and the brilliant results.

To the staff, both general and personal, attached to the general headquarters, I was again under high obligations for services on the field, as well as in the bureaux. I add their names, &c.; Lieut. Col. Hitchcock, acting inspector general; Major J.L. Smith, Captain R. E. Lee, (as distinguished for felicitous execution as for science and daring) Captain Mason, Lieuts. Stevens, Beauregard and Tower - all of the engineers; Major Turnbull, Capt. McClellan and Lieut. Hardcastle, topographical engineers; Captain Huger and Lieut. Hagner, of the ordinance; Captains Irwin and Wayne, of the quartermaster's department; Capt. Grayson, of the commissariat; Surgeon General Lawson, in his particular department: Captain H. L. Scott, acting assistant adjutant general; Lieut. Williams, aide de-camp, and Lieut. Lay, military secretary. Lieut. Schuyler Hamilton, another aid de-camp, had a week before, been thrown out of activity by a severe wound received in a successful charge of cavalry against cavalry, and four time times his numbers; but on the 20th, I have the valuable services, as volunteer aids, of Majors Kirby and Van Buren, of the pay department, always eager for activity and distinction; and of a third, the gallant Major J. P. Gaines, of the Kentucky volunteers.

I have the honor to be, sir, with high respect, your most obedient servant,

WINFIELD SCOTT.

NRR 73.184 Nov. 20, 1847 Gen. Winfield Scott's report on the Battle of Molino del Rey

Section 31

To hon. Wm. L. Marcy secretary of War

Reports of Major Generals Pillows and Worth

To the Commander-in-Chief

Headquarters third Division

Mixcoac

August, 24, 1847

Captain: In compliance with the order of the general in-chief, I moved with my division, consisting of the 9th, 11th, 12th, 14th, and 15th infantry, and the voltigeur regiment, and the field battery of Captain Magruder and the howitzer battery under Lieutenant Callender, early on the morning of the 13th instant, and, opened the road over the mountain on the route
indicated by Captain Lee of the engineer corps, assisted by Lieutenants Beauregard, Stephens, Tower, Smith McClellan, and Foster. -Brigadier General Twiggs, with his division, reported to me for duty, under instructions from the general-in-chief, whilst my own division was moving over the mountain.

Perceiving that the enemy was in large force on the opposite side of the valley, with heavy batteries of artillery commanding the only roll, through a vast plain of broken volcanic lava, rent into deep chasms and fissures, effectually preventing any advance except under his direct fire, I resolved to give him battle. For this purpose I ordered General Twiggs to advance with his finely disciplined division, and with one brigade to assault the enemy’s works in front, and with the other to let in his left flank, and assail it in reverse. Captain Magruder’s fine field battery and Lieutenant Callender’s howitzer battery (both of which constitute part of my division) were placed at the disposal of Brig. Gen. Twiggs.

This officer, in executing my order of attack, directed Brevet Brig. General Smith to move with his brigade upon the enemy’s front, whilst Colonel Riley, with his, was ordered to turn to his left and assail him in rear. To sustain the movements, Brig. General Cadwallader was ordered to advance with his brigade and support Colonel Riley, and Brigadier General Pierce, with his command, to support the column moving upon the enemy’s front, under Brigadier Gen. Smith. This last command was soon closely engaged with the enemy, as were also the batteries of Captain Magruder and Lieutenant Callender.

Col. Riley’s command, having now crossed the case broken up plain of lava, passing the village on the right, and whilst in the act of turning the enemy’s left, was confronted by several thousand lancers who advanced to the charge, when a well directed fire from the brigade twice compelled them to fall back in disorder, under cover of their artillery. About this time, Brigadier General Cadwallader’s command has also crossed the plain, when some 5,000 or 6,000 troops of the enemy were observed moving rapidly from the direction of the capital to the field of action. Colonel Morgan, with his large and fine regiment, which I had caused to be detached from the rear of Pierce’s brigade, was now ordered to the support of Cadwallader by direction of the general-in-chief, who had now arrived upon the field.

This general, having discovered this large force moving upon his right flank and to the rear, with decided military tact and promptitude threw back his right wing and confronted the enemy, with the intention to give him battle, notwithstanding the overwhelming force.

This portion of the enemy’s force moved steadily forward until a conflict seemed inevitable, when Col. Morgan’s regiment having reached this part of the field. Presented a front so formidable as to induce the enemy to change his purpose, and draw off to the right and rear of his former position.

During all this time, the battle raged fiercely between the other portions of the two armies, with a constant and destructive fire of artillery. Magruder’s battery, from its prominent position, was much disabled by the heavy shot of the enemy, as were also Callender’s howitzers. A part of the enemy’s artillery has been turned upon Riley’s command, whilst actively engaged with large bodies of lancers; but even the combined attacks could only delay the purpose of the gallant old veteran and his noble brigade.

The general-in-chief having arrive upon the field with General Shields’s brigade of volunteers-consisting of the New York and S.Carrollina regiments-ordered them to move up to the support of the forces under Brigadier General Cadwallader; but it had now grown so late in the evening that Gen. Shields did not get into position until after dark. Night having come (*but not until entire dark.) this fierce conflict was suspended, to be renewed on the morrow.

The battle all this day was conducted under by immediate orders, and within my view; a short time before sunset, having previously engaged in the fight all the forces at my disposal, myself and staff started to cross the plain, to join in the terrible struggle on the immediate field of action.

On my way hither I was joined by Brig. General Twiggs and staff; but the darkness of the light, rendered by more obscure by a heavy rain, caused us to miss our way thought the broken up lava, and to wander to the close neighborhood of the hordes of the enemy; and it was not until the shrill blasts of his bugles apprized us of our position, that we became satisfied we could not reach, during the night. [ATT]
Report of Major General Scott

[No. 34]

Headquarters of the Army

National Palace of Mexico
September 18, 1847

Sir: At the end of another series of arduous and brilliant operations of more than forty-eight hours continuance, this glorious army hoisted, on the morning of the 14th, the colors of the U. States on the walls of this palace.

The victory of the 8th, at he Molinos del Rey, was followed by daring reconnaissances on the part of our distinguished engineers—Capt. Lee, Lieuts. Beauregard, Stevens, and Tower, Major Smith, Sr., being sick, and Captain Mason, third in rank, wounded. —Their operations were directed principally to the south—towards the gates of the Piedad, San Angel, (Nino Perdido,) San Antonio, and Pasco de la Viga.

This city stands on a slight swell of ground, near the centre of an irregular basin, and is girdled with a ditch in its greater extent—a navigable canal of great breadth and depth—very difficult to bridge in the presence of an enemy, and serving at once for drainage, customhouse purposes, and military defenses; leaving eight entrances or grates, over arches—each of which we found defended by a system of strong works, that seemed to require nothing but some men and guns to be impregnable.

Outside and within the cross fires of those gates, we found to the south other obstacles but little less formidable. All the approaches near the city are over elevated causeways, cut in many places (to oppose us) and flanked, on both sides, by ditches, also of unusual dimensions. The numerous crossroads are flanked, in like manner, having bridges at the intersections, recently broken. The meadows thus checkered, are moreover, in many spots, under water or..., for, it will be remembered, we were in the midst of the wet season, though with less rain than usual, and we could not wait for the fall of the neighboring lake and the constant drainage of the wet grounds at the edge of the city—the lowest in the whole basin. After a close personal survey of the southern gates, covered by Pillow's division and Riley's brigade of Twigg's—with four times our number concentrated in our immediate front—I determined on the 11th, to avoid that network of obstacles, and to seek, by a sudden inversion, to the southwest and west, less unfavorable approaches.

To economize the lives of our gallant officers and men, as well as to insure success, it became indispensable that this resolution should be long, masked from the enemy; and again, that the new movement, when discovered should be mistaken for a feint, and the old as indicating our true and ultimate point of attack.

Accordingly, on the spot, the 11th, I ordered Quitman's division from Coyoacan, to join pillow, by day-light, before the southern gates, and then that the two major generals, with their divisions, should by night, proceed (two miles) to join me a Tacubaya, where I was quartered with Worth's division, Twigg's, with Riley's brigade and Captains Taylor's and Steptoe's field batteries—the latter of twelve pounders was left in front of those gates, to manoeuvre, to threaten, or to make false attacks, in order to occupy to deceive the enemy. Twigg's other brigade (Smith's) was left at supporting distance, in the rear, at San Angel, till the morning of the 13th, and also to support of general depot is Miscoac. The stratagem against the south was admirably executed throughout the 12th and down to the afternoon of the 13th, when it was too late for the enemy to recover from the effects of his decision.

The first step in the new movement was to carry Chapultepec, a natural and isolated mound, of great elevation, strongly fortified at its base, on it activities and heights. Besides a numerous garrison, here was the military college of the republic, with a large number of sub-lieutenants and other students. Those works were within direct gun-shot of the village of Tacubaya, and until carried, we could not approach the city on the west, without making a circuit too wide and too hazardous.

In the course of the same night (that of the 11th) heavy batteries within easy ranges were established. No.1, on our right, under the command of Capt. Drum, 4th artillery, (relieved later next day, for some hours, by Lieutenant Andrews, of the 3rd,) and No. 2 commanded by Lieutenant Hagner, ordinance—both supported by Quitman's division, Nos. 3 and 4, on the opposite side, supported by Pillow's division, were commanded, the former by Captain Brooks and Lieut. S.S. Anderson, 2d artillery, alternately; and the latter by Lieut. Stone, ordinance. The batteries was traced by Capt. Hagner, and Capt. Lee, engineer, and constructed by them, with the able assistance of the young officers of those corps and artillery.
To prepare for an assault, it was foreseen that the play of the batteries might run into the second day; but recent captures had not only trebled our siege pieces, but also our ammunition, and we knew that we should greatly augment both, by carrying the place. I was, therefore, in no haste in ordering an assault, before the works were well crippled by our missiles.

The bombardment and cannonade, under the direction of Captain Huger, were commenced early in the morning of the 12th. Before nightfall, which necessarily stopped our batteries, we had perceived that a good impression had been made on the castle and its outworks, and that a large body of the enemy had remained outside, towards the city, from an early hour, to avoid, our fire, and to be at hand on its cessation, in order to reinforce the garrison against an assault. The same outside force was discovered the next morning, after our batteries had re-opened upon the castle, by which we again reduced its garrison to the minimum needed for the guns.

Pillow and Quitman had been in position since early in the night of the 11th. Major Gen. Worth was now ordered to hold his division in reserve, near the foundry, to support Pillow; and Brig. General Smith, of Twiggs's division, had just arrived with his brigade from Piedad, (w miles) to support Quitman. Twiggs's guns, before the southern gates again reminded us, as the day before, that he, with Riley's brigade and Taylor's and Steptoe's batteries, was in activity, threatening the southern gates, and there holding a great part of the Mexican army on the defensive.

Worth's division furnished Pillow's attack with an assaulting party of some 250 volunteer officers and men, under Captain McKenzie, of the 2d artillery and Twiggs's division supplied a similar one, commanded by Capt. Casey, 2d infantry, to Quitman. Each of those little columns was furnished with scaling ladders.

The signal I had appointed for the attack was the momentary cessation of fire on the part of our heavy batteries. About 8 o'clock in the morning of the 13th, judging that the time had arrived, by the effect of the missiles we had thrown, I sent a aid-de-camp to Pillow, and another to Quitman, with notice that the concerted signal was about to be given. Both columns now advanced with an alacrity that gave assurance of prompt success. The batteries, seizing opportunities, threw shots and shells upon the enemy over the heads of our men, with good effect, particularly at every attempt to reinforce the works from without to meet our assault.

Major General Pillow's approach, on the west side, lay through an open grove, filled with sharp shooters, who were speedily dislodged; when, being up with the front of the attack, and emerging into open space, at the foot of a rocky acclivity, that gallant leader was struck down by an agonizing wound. The immediate command devolved on Brigadier General Cadwallader, in the absence of the senior brigadier (Pierce) of the same division-an invalid since the events of August 19. On a precious call of Pillow, Worth had just sent him a reinforcement-Col. Clark's brigade.

The broken acclivity was still to be ascended, and a strong redoubt midway, to be carried, before reaching the castle on the heights. The advance of our brace men, led by brace officers, though necessarily slow, was unwavering, over rocks, chasms, and mines, and under the hottest fire of cannon and musketry. The redoubt now yielded to resistless valor, and the shouts that followed announced to the castle the fate that impended. The enemy were steadily driven from shelter to shelter. The retreat allowed not time to fire a single mine, without the certainty of blowing up friend and foe. Those who at a distance attempted to apply matched to the long trains, were shot down by our men. There was death below, as well as, above the ground. At length the ditch and wall of the main work were reached, the scaling ladders were brought up and planted by the storming parties; some of the daring spirits first in the assault were cast down-killed or wounded, but a lodgment was soon made; streams of heroes followed; all opposition was overcome, and several of our regiment colors flung out from the upper walls, amidst long continued shouts and cheers, which sent dismay into the capital. No scene could have been more animating or glorious.

Major General Quitman noble supported by Brig. Generals Shields and Smith (P. F.) his officers and men, was up with the part assigned him. Simultaneously with the movement on the west, he had gallantly approached the southeast of the same works over a causeway with cuts and batteries, and defended by an army strongly posted outside, to the east of the work.

Those formidable obstacles Quitman had to face, with but little shelter for his troops or space for maneuvering. Deep ditches, flanking the causeway, made it difficult to cross in either side into the adjoining meadows, and these again were intersected by other ditches. Smith and his brigade had been early thrown out to make a sweep to the right, in order to present a front against the enemy's line, (outside) and to turn two intervening batteries near the foot of Chapultepec. This movement was also intended to support Quitman's storming parties, both on the causeway. The first of these furnished by Twiggs's division, was commanded by succession
by Capt. Casey, 2d infantry, and Captain Paul, 7th infantry, after Casey had been severely wounded; and the second, originally under the gallant Major Twiggs, marine corps, killed, and then Capt. Miller, 2d Pennsylvania volunteers. The storming party now commanded by Capt. Paul. Seconded by Capt. Roberts of the rifles, Lieut. Stewart, and other of the same regiment, Smith's brigade, carried the two batteries in the road, took some guns, with many prisoners, and drove the enemy posed behind in support. The New York and South Carolina volunteers (Shield's brigade) and the 2d Pennsylvania volunteers, all on the left of Quitman's line, together with portions of his storming parties, crossed the meadows in front, under a heavy fire, and entered the outer enclosure of Chapultepec just in time to join in the final assault from the west.

Besides Major Generals Pillow and Quitman, Brigadier Generals Shields, Smith, and Cadwallader, the following are the officers and corps most distinguished in those brilliant operations: The voltigeur regiment, in two detachments, commanded respectively by Col. Andrews and Lieut. Colonel Johnstone—the latter mostly in the lead, accompanied by Major Caldwell, Captains Barnard and Biddle, of the same regiment—the former the first to land a regimental color, and the latter among the first in the assault; the storming party of Worth's division under Capt. McKenzie, 2d artillery, with Lieut. Seldon, 8th infantry, early on the ladder and badly wounded; Lieut. Armistead, 6th infantry, the first to leap into the ditch to play a ladder; Lieut. Rodgers of the 4th, and J. P. Smith of the 5th infantry—both mortally wounded; the 9 infantry, under Col. Ranson, who was killed while gallantly leading that gallant regiment; the 15th infantry under Lt. Col. Howard and Major Woods, with Capt. Chase, whose company gallantly carried the redoubt, midway up the acclivity; Col. Clarke's brigade, (Worth's division) consisting of the 5th, 8th, and part of the 6th regiment of infantry, commanded respectively, by Cap. Chapman, Major Montgomery, and Lieut. Edward Johnson—the latter specially noticed, with Liets. Longstreet (badly wounded—advancing—colors in hand) Picket and Merchant—the last three of the 8th infantry;—portions of the United States marines, New York, South Carolina, and 2d Pennsylvania volunteers, which delayed with their division (Quittman's) by the hot engagements below, arrived just in time to participate in the assault of the heights; particularly a detachment, under Lieut. Reid, New York volunteers, consisting of a company of the same, with one of the marines; and another detachment, a portion of the storming party (Twiggs' division serving with Quitman) under St. Steele, 2d infantry—after the fall of Lieut. Gantit, 7th infantry.

In this connexion, it is but just to recall the decisive effect of the heavy batteries, Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4, commanded by those excellent officers—Capt. Drum, 4th artillery, assisted by Lieuts. Benjamin and Porter of his own company; Capt. Brooks, and Lieut. Anderson, 2d artillery; assisted by Lieut. Russell, 4th infantry, a volunteer; Lieuts. Hagner and Stone, of the ordinance and Lieut. Andrews, 3d artillery—the whole superintended by Captain Huger, chief of ordinance with this army—an officer distinguished by every kind of merit. The mountain howitzer battery, under Lieut. Reno, of the ordinance, deserves, also, to be particularly mentioned. Attached to the voltigeurs, to follow the movements of that regiment, and again it won applause.

In adding to the list of individuals of conspicuous merit, I must limit myself to a few of the many names which might be enumerated: Capt. Hooker, assistant adjutant general, who won special applause, successively, in the staff of Pillow and Cadwallader; Lieut. Lovell, 4th artillery, (wounded,) chief of Quitman's staff; Capt. Page, assistant adjutant general, (wounded,) and Lieut. Hammond, 3d artillery, both of Shields' staff, and Lt. Van Dorn, (7th infantry,) aid-de-camp to Brig. Gen. Smith.

Those operations all occurred on the west, south-east, and heights of Chapultepec. To the north, and at the base of the mound, inaccessible on that side, the 11th infantry, under Lieut. Col. Herbert, the 14th, under Col. Trousdale, and Capt. Magruder's field battery, 1st artillery—one section advanced under Lieut. Jackson—all of Pillow's division—had, at the same time some spirited affairs against superior numbers, driving the enemy from a battery in the road and capturing a gun. In these, the officers and commander, though twice, wounded, continued on duty until the heights were carried.

Early in the morning of the 13th I repeated the orders of the night before to Major Gen. Worth, to be, with his division, at hand, to support the movement of Major Gen. Pillow from our left. The latter seems to have word for the entire division, standing, momentarily in reserve, and Worth sent him Col. Clark's brigade. The call, if not unnecessary, was a least, from the circumstances, unknown to me at the time; for, soon observing that the very large body of the enemy, in the road, in from of Major Gen. Quitman's right, was receiving a half to the east—I sent instructions to Worth, on our opposite flank, to turn Chapultepec with his decision, and to proceed, cautiously, by the road at it northern base, in order, of not met by very superior numbers, to threaten or attack, in rear, that body of the enemy. The movement, it was also believed, could not fail to distract and to intimidate the enemy generally.

Worth promptly advanced with his remaining brigade—Col. Garland's—Lieut. Col. C. F. Smith's light battalion, Lieut. Col. Duncan's field battery—under Major Sumner, which I had just
ordered up to join in the movement.

Having turned the forest on the west, and arriving opposite to the north centre of Chapultepec, Worth came up with the troops in the road, under Colonel Trousdale, and aided by a flank movement of a part of Garland’s brigade in taking the one gun breastwork, then under the fire of Lieutenant Jackson’s section of Captain Magruder’s field battery. Continuing to advance, division passed Chapultepec attacking the right of the enemy’s line resting on that road, about the moment of the general retreat consequent upon the capture of the castle phrase and its outworks.

Arriving some minutes later, and ascending to the top of the castle, the whole field, to the east lay plainly under my view.

There are two routes from Chapultepec to the capital—the one on the right entering the same gate, Belen, with the road from the south, vie Piedad; and the other, obliquing to the left, to intersect the great western, or San Cosme road, in a suburb outside of the gate of San Cosme.

Each of the routes (an elevated causeway) presents a double roadway on the sides of an aqueduct of strong masonry, and great height, resting on open arches and massive pillars, which, together, afford fine points both for attack and defense. The side-ways of both aqueducts are, moreover, defended by many strong breastworks at the gates, and before reaching them. As we had expected, we found the four tracks unusually dry and solid for the season.

Worth and Quitman were prompt in pursuing the retreating enemy—the former by the San Cosme aqueduct, and the latter along that of Belen. Each had now advanced some hundred yards.

Deeming it all important to profit by our successes, and the consequent dismay of the enemy, which could not be otherwise than general, I hastened to dispatch from Chapultepec—for Clarke’s brigade, and then Cadwallader’s, to the support of Worth, and gave orders that the necessary heavy guns should follow. Pierce’s brigade was at the same time, sent to Quitman and in the course of the afternoon I cause some additional siege pieces to be; added to his train. Then, after designating the 15th infantry, under Lieutenant Colonel Howard-Morgan, the colonel, has been disabled by a wound at Churubuseo—as the garrison of Chapultepec, and giving directions for the care of the prisoners of war, the captured ordnance and ordinance stores, I proceeded to join the advance of Worth within the suburb, and beyond the turn at the junction of the aqueduct with the great highway from the west to the gate of San Cosme.

At this junction of roads, we first passed one of those formidable systems of city defenses, spoken of above, and it had not a gun!—a strong proof—1. That the enemy had expected us to fail in the attack upon Chapultepec, even if we meant any more than a feint; 2. That, in either case, we designed in his belief, to return and double our forces against the southern gates—a delusion dept up by the active demonstrations of Twiggs and the forces posted on that side, and 3. That advancing rapidly from the reduction of Chapultepec, the enemy had not time to shift gun—our previous capture had left him, comparatively, but few—from the southern gates.

With those distinguished works, I found our troops engaged in a street fight against the enemy posted in gardens, at windows, and on house tops—all flat, with parapets. Worth ordered forward the mountain howitzer of Cadwallader’s brigade, preceded by skirmishers and prisoners, with pick-axes and crowbars, to force windows and doors, or to burrow through walls. The assailants were soon in an equality of position fatal to the enemy. By I o’clock in the evening, Worth had carried two batteries in this suburb. According to my instructions, he here posted guards and sentinels, and places his troops under shelter for the night. There was but one more obstacle—the San Cosme gate (custom house) between him and the great square in front of the cathedral and palace—the heart of the city; and that barrier, it was known could not, by daylight, resist our siege guns thirty minutes.

I had gone back to the foot of Chapultepec, the point from which the two aqueducts begin to diverge, some hours earlier, in order to be near that new depot, and in east communication with Quitman and Twiggs as well as with Worth.

From this point I ordered all detachments and stragglers to their respective corps, then advance; sent to Quitman additional siege guns, ammunition, entrenching tools; directed Twiggs’ remaining brigade (Riley’s) from Piedad, to support Worth and Capt. Steptoe’s field battery, also at Piedad, to join Quitman’s division.

I had been, from the first, well aware that the western, or San Cosme, was the less difficult route to the centre and conquest of the capital, and therefore, intended that Quitman should only maneuver and threaten the Belen or southwestern gate, in order to favor the main attack by Worth—knowing that the strong defenses at the Belen were directly under the guns of the
much stronger fortress, called the **citadel**, just within. Both of these defenses of the enemy were also withstanding easy supporting distance from the San Angel (or *Nino Perdido*) and San Antonio gates. Hence the greater support, in numbers, given to Worth's movement as the main attack.

Those views I repeatedly, in the course of the day, communicated to Maj. Gen. Quitman; but, being in hot pursuit-gallant himself, and ably supported by Brigadier Gens. Shields and Smith-Shields, badly wounded before Chapultepec, and refusing to retire-as well as by all the officers and men of the column-Quitman continued to press forward, under flank and direct fires; carried an intermediate battery of two guns, and then the gate, before two o'clock in the afternoon, but no without proportionate loss, increased by his steady maintenance of that position.

There, of the heavy battery-4th artillery-Capt. Drum and Lieut. Benjamin were mortally wounded and Lieut. Porter, its third in rank, slightly. The loss of those two most distinguished officers the army will mourn. Lieutenants J.B. Morange and Wm. Canty, of the South Carolina volunteers, also of high merit, fell on the same occasion—besides many of our bravest non-commissioned officers and men—particularly in Captain Drum's veteran company. I cannot, in this place, give names of numbers; but full returns of the killed and wounded of all corps, in their recent operations, will accompany this report.

Quitman, within the city—adding several defensible positions to the one he had won, and sheltering his corps as well as practicable—now awaited the return of daylight under the guns of the formidable citadel yet to be subdued.

At about 4 o'clock next morning (sept. 4) a deputation of the *ayuntamiento* (city council) waited upon me to report that the federal government and the army of Mexico had fled from the capital some three hours before, and to demand terms of capitulation in favor of the church, the citizens, and the municipal authorities. I promptly replied, that I would sign no capitulation; that the city had been virtually in our possession from the time of the lodgments effected by Worth and Quitman the day before; that I regretted the silent escape of the Mexican army; that I should levy upon the city a moderate contribution, for special purposes, and that the American army should come under no terms, not *self-imposed—such only as its own honor, the* dignity of the United States, and the spirit of the age, should, in my opinion, imperiously demand and impose.

For the terms so imposed I refer the department to subsequent general orders. Nos. 287, and 289, (paragraphs 7, 8, and 9 of the latter,) copies of which are herewith transmitted.

At the termination of the interview with the city deputation, I communicated, about daylight, order to Worth and Quitman to advance slowly and cautiously (to guard against treachery) towards the heard of the city and to occupy its stronger and more commanding points. Quitman proceeded to the great plaza or square, planted guards and hoisted the colors of the United States on the national palace, containing the halls of congress and executive apartments of federal Mexico. In this grateful service Quitman might have been anticipated by Worth, but for my express order halting the latter at the head of the Alameda—a green park—within three squares of that goal of general ambition. The capital, however, was not taken by any one or two corps, but by the talent, the science, the gallantry, the prowess of this entire army. In the glorious conquest, **all** had contributed—early and powerfully—the killed and wounded, and the *fit for duty*—at Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo, Contreras, San Antonio, Churubusco—three battles—the Molinos del Rey and Chapultepec—as much as those who fought at the gates of Belen and San Cosme.

Soon after we entered, and were in the act of occupying the city, a fire was opened upon us from the flat roofs of the houses, from the windows and corners of the streets, by some 2,000 convicts, liberated the night before by the flying government, joined by perhaps as many Mexican soldiers, who has disbanded themselves and thrown off their uniforms. This unlawful war lasted more than twenty four hours, in spite of the exertions of the municipal authorities, and was not put down till we had lost many men, including several officers, killed or wounded, and punished the miscreants. Their objects were to gratify national hatred; and in the general alarm and confusion to plunder the wealthy inhabitants, particularly the deserted houses. But families are now generally returning; business of every kind had been resumed, and the city is already tranquil and cheerful under the admirable conduct—with exceptions very few and trifling—of our gallant troops.

This army has been more disgusted than surprised that, by some sinister purpose on the part of certain individuals at home, its numbers have bee, generally almost trebled our public papers—beginning at Washington.

Leaving, as we all feared, inadequate garrisons at Ver Cruz, Perote, and Puebla—with much larger hospitals; and being obliged most reluctantly from the same cause—general paucity of numbers—to abandon Jalapa, we march [August 7-10.] from Puebla, with only 10,738 tank and
At Contreras, Churubuseo, &c., [Aug. 20.] we had about 8,497 men engaged—after deducting the garrison of San Augustin, (our general depot) the intermediate sick and the dead; at the Molinos del Rey (Sept.*) but three brigades, with some cavalry and artillery, making in all 3,251 men—were in the battle; in the day days Sept 12 and 13—out whole operating force, after deducting, the recent killed, wounded, and sick, together with the garrison of Miscoae (the then general depot) and that of Tatucaya, was but 7,180; and finally, after deduction the new garrison of Chapultepec, with the killed and wounded of the two days, we took possession—Sept. 14—of this great capital with less than 6,000 men! And I reassert, upon accumulated and unquestionable evidence, that, in not one of those conflicts was this army opposed by fewer than three and a half times its numbers—in several of them, by yet greater excess.

I recapitulate our losses since we arrived in the basin of Mexico:

August 19, 20—Killed 137, including 14 officers. Wounded 877, including 62 officers. Missing (probably killed) 38 rank and file. Total 1,052.

Sept. 8—Killed 116, including 9 officers. Wounded 665, including 49 officers. Missing 18, rank and file. Total 780.

Sept. 12, 13, 14. —Killed 130, including 10 officers. Wounded 703, including 68 officers. Missing 20 rank and file. Total 862.

Grand total of losses, 2,703, including 383 officers.

On the other hand, this small force has beaten on the same occasions, in view of their capital, the whole Mexican arms, of (at the beginning) thirty odd thousand men—posted, always, in chosen position, behind entrenchments, or more formidable defenses of nature and art; killed or wounded of that number, more than 7,000 officers, and men, taken 3,730 prisoners, on—seventh officers, including 13 generals, of whom 3 had been presidents of this republic; captured more than 20 colors and standards, 75 pieces of ordnance, besides 57 wall –pieces, 20,000 small arms, an immense quantity of shot, shells, powder, &c., &c.

Of that enemy, once so formidable in numbers, appointments, artillery, &c., twenty odd thousand have disbanded themselves in despair, leaving, as is known, not more than three fragments—the largest about 2,500—now wandering in different directions, without magazines a military chest, and living at free quarters upon their own people.

Gen. Santa Anna, himself a fugitive, is believed to be on the point of resigning the chief magistracy and escaping to neutral Guatemala. A new president, no doubt, will soon be declared, and the federal congress is expected to re-assemble at Queretaro, 125 miles north of this on the Zacatecas road, some time in October. I have seen and given safe conduct through the city to several of its members. The government will find itself without resources, no army, no arsenals, no magazines, and but little revenue, internal or external. Still, such is the obstinacy, or rather infatuation, of this people, that it is very doubtful whether the new authorities will dare to sue for peace on the terms which in the recent negotiations, were made known by our minister...

In conclusion, I beg to enumerate, once more, with due commendation and thanks, the distinguished staff officers, general and personal, who, in our last operations in front of the enemy, accompanied me, and communicated orders to every point and through every danger. Lieut. Col. Hitchcock, acting inspector general; Major Turnbull and Lieut. Hardcastle, topographical engineers; Major Kirby, chief paymaster; Capt. Irwin, chief quartermaster; Capt. Grayson, chief commissary; Capt. H.L. Scott, chief in the adjutant general's department; Lieut. Williams, aid-de-camp; Lieut. Lay, military secretary, and Maj. J. P. Gaines, Kentucky cavalry, volunteer aide-de-camp. Captain Lee, engineer, so constantly distinguished, also bore important order from me (Sept. 13) until he fainted from a wound and the loss of two night's sleep at the batteries. Lieuts. Beauregard, Stevens, and Lower, all wounded, were employed with the division, and Lieuts. G.W. Smith and C. McClellan with the company of sappers and miners. Those five lieutenants of engineers, like their captain, won the admiration of all about them. The ordnance officers, Capt. Huger, Lieuts. Hagner, Stone, and Reno were highly effective and distinguished at the several batteries; and I must add that Capt. McKinstry, assistant quartermaster, at the close of the operations, executed several important commissions for me as a special volunteer.

Surgeon Gen. Lawson, and the medical staff generally, were skilful and untiring in and out of fire, in ministering to the numerous wounded.

To illustrate the operations in the basin, I enclose two beautiful drawing prepared under the
direction of Major Turnbull, mostly from actual survey.

I have the honor to be, sir, with high respect, you most obedient servant.

WINFIELD SCOTT

[ATT]

NNR 73.186-188 Nov. 20, 1847 Gen. Gideon Johnson Pillow's official report on the actions of the forces in his command

Headquarters Third Division
Mixcoac
August, 24, 1847

Captain: In compliance with the order of the general-in-chief, I moved with my division, consisting of the 9th, 11th, 12th, 14th, and 15th infantry, and the voltigeur regiment, and the field battery of Captain Magruder and the howitzer battery under Lieutenant Callender, early on the morning of the 13th instant, and, opened the road over the mountain on the route indicated by Captain Lee of the engineer corps, assisted by Lieutenants Beauregard, Stephens, Tower, Smith McClellan, and Foster. -Brigadier General Twiggs, with his division, reported to me for duty, under instructions from the general-in-chief, whilst my own division was moving over the mountain.

Perceiving that the enemy was in large fore on the opposite side of the valley, with heavy batteries of artillery commanding the only roll, through a vast plain of broken volcanic lava, rent into deep chasms and fissures, effectually preventing any advance except under his direct fire, I resolved to give him battle. For this purpose I ordered General Twiggs to advance with his finely disciplined division, and with one brigade to assault the enemy’s works in front, and with the other to let in his left flank, and assail it in reverse. Captain Magruder’s fine field battery and Lieutenant Callender’s howitzer battery (both of which constitute part of my division) were placed at the disposal of Brig. Gen. Twiggs.

This officer, in executing my order of attack, directed Brevet Brig. General Smith to move with his brigade upon the enemy’s from, whilst Colonel Riley, with his, was ordered to turn to his left and assail him in rear. To sustain the movements, Brig. General Cadwallader was ordered to advance with his brigade and support Colonel Riley, and Brigadier General Pierce, with his command, to support the column moving upon the enemy’s front, under Brigadier Gen. Smith. This last command was soon closely engaged with the enemy, as were also the batteries of Captain Magruder and Lieutenant Callender.

Col. Riley’s command, having now crossed the case broken up plain of lava, passing the village on the right, and whilst in the act of turning the enemy’s left, was confronted by several thousand lancers who advanced to the charge, when a well directed fire from the brigade twice compelled them to fall back in disorder, under cover of their artillery. About this time, Brigadier General Cadwallader’s command has also crossed the plain, when some 5,000 or 6,000 troops of the enemy were observed moving rapidly from the direction of the capital to the field of action. Colonel Morgan, with his large and fine regiment, which I had caused to be detached from the rear of Pierce’s brigade, was now ordered to the support of Cadwallader by direction of the general-in-chief, who had now arrived upon the field.

This general, having discovered this large force moving upon his right flank and to the rear, with decided military tact and promptitude threw back his right wing and confronted the enemy, with the intention to give him battle, notwithstanding the overwhelming force.

This portion of the enemy’s force moved steadily forward until a conflict seemed inevitable, when Col. Morgan’s regiment having reached this part of the field. Presented a front so formidable as to induce the enemy to change his purpose, and draw off to the right and rear of his former position.

During all this time, the battle raged fiercely between the other portions of the two armies, with a constant and destructive fire of artillery. Magruder’s battery, from its prominent position, was much disabled by the heavy shot of the enemy, as were also Callender’s howitzers. A part of the enemy’s artillery has been turned upon Riley’s command, whilst actively engaged with large bodies of lancers; but even the combined attacks could only delay the purpose of the gallant old veteran and his noble brigade.

The general-in-chief having arrive upon the field with General Shields’s brigade of volunteers-
consisting of the New York and S. Carolina regiments—ordered them to move up to the support of the forces under Brigadier General Cadwallader; but it had now grown so late in the evening that Gen. Shields did not get into position until after dark. Night having come on, (but not until entirely dark.) this fierce conflict was suspended, to be renewed on the morrow.

The battle all this day was conducted under by immediate orders, and within my view; a short time before sunset, having previously engaged in the fight all the forces at my disposal, myself and staff started to cross the plain, to join in the terrible struggle on the immediate field of action.

On my way hither I was joined by Brig. General Twiggs and staff; but the darkness of the light, rendered by more obscure by a heavy rain, caused us to miss our way through the broken up lava, and to wander to the close neighborhood of the works of the enemy; and it was not until the shrill blasts of his bugles apprized us of our position, that we became satisfied we could not reach, during the night, our destination. We then returned and reported to the general-in-chief.

During the night Brigadier Gen. Smith disposed the forces present to renew the action at daylight, and complete the original order of attack; before dark, however, the enemy had placed two pieces of artillery on a height nearly west of Cadwallader’s position which had opened with several discharges upon his forces. Brig. General Smith, just before daylight, moved a portion of the forces up the ravine to the rear of the enemy’s position, so as to be within easy turning distance of his left flank, leaving Col. Ransom with the 9th and 12th infantry to make a strong diversion in front. The day being sufficiently advanced, the order was given by Brig. Gen. Smith for the general assault; when, Gen. Smith’s command upon the left and Colonel Riley with his brigade upon the right, supported by General Cadwallader with his command, moved up with the utmost gallantry, under the furious fire from the enemy’s batteries, which were immediately carried; a large number of prisoners were taken, including four generals, with twenty-three out of the original twenty-eight original twenty-eight pieces of artillery, and a large amount of ammunition and public property.

The retreating enemy was compelled to pass through a severe fire, both from the assaulting forces and Cadwallader’s brigade as well as Shields’s Command, who had remained at the position occupied by the former General the previous night with the purpose of covering the movement upon the battery. -The forces of the enemy engaged at this place, including the reinforcements of the preceding evening constituted a force of about 126,000 men, 5,000 of whom were cavalry; the whole were under the immediate command of General Santa Anna in person, assisted by Gens. Valencia, Salas, Blanco, Mendoza, Garcia, and others; the last four mentioned were taken prisoners.

Our forces, consisting of my division, Generals Twiggs’ and Shields’ commands, amounted to about 4,500 men. The loss of the enemy, as nearly as I can ascertain, was between 21,500 and 2,000 killed and wounded, and eight hundred prisoners, including the four generals previously mentioned, four colonels, thirty captains, and many officers of inferior grades.

The reports of the different corps engaged in this part of the battle, which were temporarily under my command, being properly made to their respective chiefs, and not have come before me, I am unable to give our loss. Though many brave and gallant souls have fallen, it is believed, however, when the strength of the enemy’s position, his enormously heavy artillery, and his superior forces are considered, our loss is comparatively small. It is a matter of just pride and exultation that amount the guns captured in the batteries were the two pieces taken by the Mexican army at Buena Vista, belonging to Captain Washington’s battery, (at that battle under the immediate command of Capt. O’Brien,) and it is no less remarkable than gratifying that the good fortune and honor or recapturing them belong to the 4th regiment of artillery, of which Captain Washington’s company forms a part.

Throughout this engagement every corps engaged the enemy wherever he was met, with the most determined resolution, and behaved with a degree of gallantry rarely equaled, certainly never surpassed in any engagement known to the American arms—Brig. Gen. Twiggs, next in command to myself, and charged with the immediate execution of my order of battle, was distinguished by the judgment, promptitude, and courage displayed by him throughout the engagement.

Brigadier General Smith, the senior officer who remained across the plain, and disposed the forces for the final assault, deserved and will doubtless received the thanks of the army and the honor due to the constancy of purpose and daring which distinguished his conduct on this great occasion. Brig. Gen. Cadwallader displayed great judgment and high military skill and heroic courage in the manner in which he met the sudden and trying emergency, when all parties were in great anxiety for the safety of his comparatively small command, when about to be assailed by the overwhelming reinforcement of the enemy on the preceding evening; and also in the manner in which he brought up his command to the support of the gallant Riley. This veteran officer distinguished himself no less by the manner in which he contended almost single-handed with greatly superior numbers on the first day, then his gallant and successful
Brigadier General Pierce, though badly injured by the fall of his horse while gallantly leading his brigade into the thickest of the battle on the 19th, did not quit the field, but continued in command of his brigade, two regiments of which—the 9th and 12th, under the immediate command of the gallant Colonel Ransom and Lieut. Colonel Bonham on the 19th, and Captain Woods on the 20th—assailed the enemy’s works in front at daylight, with great intrepidity, and contributed much to the glorious consummation of the work so handsomely commenced on the preceding day.

The commanders of regiments and inferior officers all behaved with gallantry no less distinguished, though in subordinate positions to those named above as commanding divisions and brigades; but the space proper for this report will not admit of further details.

In justice, however, to officers of this class, I beg to call the attention of the commander-in-chief to the detailed reports of the officers of the several corps engaged in this action. It is due to Capt. Magruder and Lieut. Callender, who have no other organization than as parts of my division, to testify to their great gallantry and daring, the proof of which is found in their losses, and in the fact that both of their batteries were much cut up by the terrible fire of the enemy’s heavy guns. During the cannonade, Lieut. T. P. Johnston, whilst gallantly serving the advanced section of Magruder’s battery, fell mortally wounded; and Lieut. Callender, in command of the howitzer, at nearly the same time received so severe a wound as to disable him from commanding his pieces, which consequently devolved upon Lieut. Reno, of the ordnance corps, who for the remainder of the battle, conducted the service of his battery with equal gallantry and judgment.

I cannot in justice omit to notice the valuable services of Captain Lee, of the engineer corps, whose distinguished merit and gallantry deserve the highest praise, and who, in the execution of his duties, was ably assisted by his assistants previously mentioned. They were important aids in the combination of elements brought to bear with success, no less triumphant than glorious to our arms, upon the most powerful collection of artillery (supported by a forces of four to one of our forces) every successfully assailed in any battle upon this continent.

Having myself crossed the plain and reached this bloody theatre as the last scene of the conflict was closing, as soon as suitable dispositions were made to secure the fruits of the victory I resolved upon pursuing the discomfited enemy, in which I found that Brigadier Generals Twiggs and Smith had already anticipated by having commenced the movement. At the same time I appraised the general-in-chief of my advance, and requested his authority to proceed with all the forces still under my command, and sweep around the valley, and attack the strong works at San Antonio in the rear, and requested the cooperation of Gen. Worth’s division, on an assault of that work in front, which the general-in-chief readily granted and directed accordingly—having, as I learn, upon being advised of the victory, previously given the order. I had moved rapidly forward in execution of this purpose until I reached the town of Coyoacan, where the command was halted to await the arrival of the general-in-chief, who I was informed was close at hand. Upon his arrival the important fact was ascertained that the enemy’s forces at San Antonio, having perceived that the great battery had been last and the total defeat and rout of their forces at Contreras, by which their rear was opened to assault, had abandoned the work at San Antonio, and fallen back upon their strong entrenchments in rear at Churubuseo.

Upon the receipt of this information the general-in-chief immediately ordered Brig. General Twiggs’ division to move forward and attack the work on the enemy’s right, and directed me to move with Cadwallader’s brigade and assault the tete du pont on its left. Moving rapidly in execution of this order, I had great difficulty in passing the command over some marsh fields and wide and deep ditches, filled with mud and water. I was compelled to dismount in order to cross the obstacles, which were gallantly overcome by the troops, when the whole force gained the main causeway; at which place I met General Worth, with the advance of his division, moving upon the same work. It was then proposed our united divisions should move on to the assault of the strong tete du pont, which with its heavy artillery enfolded the causeway. This being determined upon, the troops of the two divisions moved rapidly to attack the work on its left flank, and notwithstanding the deadly fire of grape and roundshot from the work, which swept the roadway with furious violence, on and onward the gallant and noble troops moved with impetuous valor and terrible and long was the bloody conflict. But the result could not be doubted. At length the loud and enthusiastic cheer of the Angle Saxon soldier told that all was well and the American colors waved in triumph over the bloody scene.

The larger portion of General Worth’s veteran division was engaged in this fierce conflict, together with the 11th and 14th regiments of infantry, constituting a part of my division, under the commands respectively of Lieut. Colonel Graham and Colonel Trousdale. To the 14th infantry belongs the honor of capturing a flag on this fort, and taking a large number of prisoners in the fort, among whom was the body of deserters.
The voltigeur regiment, then under command of Lieutenant Colonel Johnston, had been leg on by my adjutant general, Captain Hooker, to the assault of the strong fortification on the right, with which General Twiggs’s division was hotly engaged; but finding the artillery of the enemy, as well as his small arms, bore directly on his advance, which was entirely uncovered, the regiment was placed in rear of a church, where it remained until it received an order from myself in person to move to the assault in conjunction with the lively play of Duncan’s battery. This fine regiment was rapidly executing this order now under Colonel Andrews, and led by General Cadwallader, when that work surrendered, and was taken possession of by General Twiggs’s division.

General Worth, (to whose great gallantry during the action it affords me pleasure to bear witness,) with his division, and myself with the 11th and 14th regiments of my command, pressed rapidly on in pursuit of the flying enemy, until we had arrived with our commands nearly under the fire of the guns of the enemy, planted in the suburbs of the capital, where we were overtaken by an order from the general-in-chief to call off our troops from further pursuit. During this movement I met with Colonels Ransom’s and Morgan’s regiments, 12th infantry under Captain Wood, and the howitzer battery under Lieutenant Reno, parts of my division, forming General Pierce’s brigade, which had been moved by order of the general-in-chief, under command of General Pierce, against a large body of the enemy to the right and rear of the main work, where they had been, in conjunction with Gen. Shields’s brigade, engaged in a fierce open field fight with a large force.

Brig. Gen. Pierce, though still suffering severely from his injury of the preceding day, had nevertheless been on duty, and in command of this brigade during the day, and until a few moments before, when he had fainted from pain and exhaustion, and had been carried from the field. In the last engagement, the gallant Col. Morgan was wounded severely, when the command of the 15th regiment devolved on Lieut. Col. Howard.

During this long-continued battle, which lasted nearly two days, every part of the army in the field participated in the engagement. The consequence was, that all share justly in the honor and glory of the brilliant victory. I cannot distinguish between the conduct of the commanders of regiments in my division: they all acted a distinguished part, as did their field and company officers; though the circumstances of battle caused Ransom’s, Morgan’s Graham’s and Trousdale’s regiments, and the 12th infantry, under command of Lieut. Colonel Bonham of the 19th and of Captain Wood on the 20th, to be selective engaged. My division was composed entirely of recruits whom the exigencies of the service had not allowed time to become well disciplined; but they emulated in the deeds of valor and constancy the veterans of the old divisions; and I am proud to testify to the general-in-chief my high appreciation of their good conduct.

I cannot withhold the expression of my sense of the deep obligations I am under for the success and honor due to my command and my two gallant brigadier generals, whose promptitude, skill, and daring were equal to every emergency, and who, in the absence of discipline in their commands, met and overcame every obstacle and led on their brigades to honor and distinction.

I will be pardoned, I trust, by the general-in-chief for travelling beyond the legitimate bounds of a report to notice becomingly the patriotic conduct of the pious chaplain of Col. Clarke’s brigade. Whilst the battle raged furiously, my column had great difficulty in crossing a deep ditch without damaging their ammunition. The worthy chaplain, besides encouraging the passing soldiers to their work, actively set the example of filling the excavations, so as to enable the troops to press onward to the assault. My medical staff (particularly Surgeon Jordan, though infirm and aged, and Surgeon Slade) distinguished themselves by their great activity and energy in keeping with the column throughout the action, and attending to the wounded and dying on the spot where they fell, as did also the entire medical staff of my division.

During the arduous duties of my command on the 19th, my personal staff being all engaged on duty, I was compelled to make use of the services of some of my friends my civil life among these, I am indebted to Mr. Kendall for his assistance in promptly bearing and delivering orders; also to Paymaster Burns I express my indebtedness for his valuable services; to Capt. O’Hara, chief of the quartermaster’s department of my division, I am especially under obligations for his assistance, as well as to Lieutenant Davis, of the 14th regiment, acting ordnance officer.

My personal staff-Captain Hooker, my adjutant general and chief of my staff; Lieutenant Rams, 4th artillery, and Lieutenant Ripley, 2nd artillery, aids-de-camp; and Passed Midshipmen Rott. C. Rodgers, volunteer aid-de-camp—greatly distinguished themselves by their fearless and gallant conduct, as well as by their judgment and skill in leading forward my different commands and placing them in position for effective service throughout these long and desperate conflicts. I trust the general-in-chief will deem their conduct worthy in his special notice.
I must also notice the extraordinary activity and gallant conduct of Lieutenant Irons, 1st artillery, aid-de-cam to Gen. Cadwallader, who received a wound, probably mortal, whilst in the discharge of his duties.

Lieutenant Caldwell, of the marines, on duty with my division as senior officer of the commissary department, rendered invaluable services in his department, as well on the long march to this place as during the long-continued action. Lieutenant Reno, in command of the howitzer battery on the 20th, rendered valuable services under the orders of Brigadier General Pierce in his engagements with the enemy.

Generals Pierce and Cadwallader speak in the highest terms of the good conduct and gallantry of the officers of their respective staffs; and, concurring fully in their expression of opinion, I beg to call them to the special notice of the general-in-chief.

Captain Mason, of the engineer corps, rendered me important services in indicating position for portions of my command, during the action of the 20th at Churubuseo. Lieut. Rams, my aid-de-camp, was stunned, by the fragments of stone thrown from a wall by a cannon shot at the same place.

Captain Kearney, of 1st dragoons, commanding a squadron composed of his own and Captain McReynolds's companies, was on duty with my division during the action, and made his way with great difficulty across the wide and marshy fields and deep ditches. Seeing no field for the action of his fine squadron until the tete do pont was carried, I held him in reserve. I them let him loose. Furious was his charge upon the retreating foe, dealing death with the unerring sabre until he reached the very suburbs of the city, and drew from the enemy's batteries at the garita a heavy and destructive fire, by which the gallant captain lost his left arm. Lieut. J.L. Graham, of 10th infantry, serving with Capt. Kearney, was wounded in the left arm; and Captain McReynolds, 3d dragoons, who nobly sustained the daring movements of his squadron commander, was also wounded in the left arm. Both of these find companies sustained severe losses in their rank and file also.

By detachments to secure prisoners taken in the first engagements at Contreras, and captured public property, my force was reduced to about 1,800 men. My total loss in killed, wounded, and missing, is 211 officers and privates. The loss of the enemy in this last section I have no means of ascertaining. The whole field and road for miles was covered with the dead and dying. In these engagements, constituting one continued battle, the enemy himself estimated his loss in killed, wounded, and missing, at about 7,000. This includes prisoners taken by our forces.

Among the many gallant officers whose loss we have to deplore is the brave Major Mills, of the 15th infantry, who, after having participated most actively in the fierce struggle in which that regiment had its colonel wounded and one-third of its force cut down, joined Capt. Kearney's squadron in pursuit of the enemy, and was killed by the fire of the enemy's artillery at the very garita of the city.

Attended is a list of killed and wounded of my division.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient serv't,

GID. J. PILLOW, 
MAJOR GEN. UNITED STATES ARMY

[ATT]

NNR 73.188-189 Nov. 20, 1847 Gen. William Jenkins Worth's official report of action at Churubusco and before the gates of Mexico

Report of Major General Worth. 
Headquarters First Division

Tacubaya, August 23, 1847

Sir: In obedience to the instructions of the General in chief, I have the honor to report that the first division took position on the 18th inst. On the cause way leading from San Antonio, distant fifteen hundred yards from its well fortified front, which by means of heavy guns, commanded the approach through the whole length and at various angles of the direct route.
A glance discovered the impracticability of assault in front without battering in breach, and the secondary means of scaling ladders, fascines, &c. Reconnaissance was immediately commenced, and continued on the 19th, to determine a route for turning the whole system of defence by the enemy’s right. This accomplished, with satisfactory results, acting under the general instructions and discretion granted by the general in chief, a movement, delayed by the necessary temporary withdrawal of one brigade to sustain the division occupied in the direction of Contreras, was commenced at 11 o'clock a.m., as follows: The 2d brigade, composed of the 5th, 6th, and 8th infantry, commanded by Colonel Clarke, 6th, supported by the light battalion, composed of two companies from the 2d artillery, and one from each of the 5th and 8th regiments of infantry, under Brevet Lieut. Col. Smith; the whole under the guidance of Captain Mason, corps of engineers, assisted by Lieut. Hardcastle, topographical engineers—moved to the left and divergent from the causeway, such a direction as to strike the high road from San Antonio, with the double object of enveloping the right of the enemy’s position, and at the same time cutting off his retreat towards the capital. Lieut. Col. Duncan’s artillery (light battery) and the 1st brigade, composed of the 2d and 3d artillery and 4th infantry, commanded by Brevet Colonel Gartland, was advanced to an angle in the causeway which partially marked it from the enemy’s direct fire, and held in readiness for a rapid direct movement when the 2d brigade should become engaged, and have attracted attention to that quarter. Subsequently the 4th infantry was placed on the left of the causeway, and instructed to move by a flank, under guidance of Assistant Adj’t General Mack H., between that route and the 2d brigade, either to sustain the latter, or, if opportunity offered, rush upon one of the batteries. Discovering these dispositions, and particularly the movement of the 2d brigade, and doubtless somewhat influenced by the operations going on in the direction of Contreras, the enemy sent troops to check the advance of our left, and commenced an evacuation of the works. After having brushed away the troops in the front, Col. Clarke’s command approached a point on the high road occupied by the enemy’s retreating column, and by a rapid movement, particularly of two companies of the 5th infantry, under Captains Morrill and M. Phail, commanded by Lieut. Colonel Scott, guarded by Captain Mason, cut this column nearly in the center; advanced portion of it moving upon Churubusco; (where we shortly afterwards discovered the enemy’s main array of battle,) and the remainder, about two thousand in number, under General Bravo, with four pieces of artillery, retreated upon Dolores. The instant Clarke’s fire opened, Garland was instructed to advance rapidly in column and attempt a direct assault, previously detaching a company in advance; which, by drawing the enemy’s fire, might discover the magnitude of his batteries in that quarter; but it appeared that the guns at that point had been hastily withdrawn, in the hope of getting them away. Garland’s column was soon in, unresisted, and rapidly passed through the works, and on the high road to the capital. Some six hundred yards beyond the works the division was reunited and, disregarding the force retreating upon Dolores, the whole moved rapidly and in good order to the higher object. Approaching Churubusco—that place being on the left and near the road—it was discovered to be strongly occupied with troops, and protected by batteries and infantry defences. Further in advance was discovered a regular field work, garnished with heavy guns, and crowded with troops. Between the two, a continuous line of infantry; and on the left and rear of the work. (tete de point,) a dense line of infantry as far as the eye could reach. On getting within cannon shot, and so of musketry, the enemy opened with effect upon the head of the battalion. Garland’s brigade was now thrown promptly to the right of, and in line of columns obliquely to the road; which order would, in its advance and deployment, strike the enemy’s line at a like angle; the light battalion on its right. The 2d brigade was ordered to move also to the right (except the 6th infantry,) and by a flank parallel to the road, while the 6th infantry was directed to advance by the high road and storm the tete de pont in front. The field to the right was filled with standing corn, while masked large bodies of th enemy, and from whose tire, in consequence, every command suffered greatly in the first instance. Running over these, Garland’s brigade was soon engaged with their more regular lines and masses. Clarke’s, as soon as it could be got in the position above described—and it came at double quick time—became engaged in like manner. The regiment of infantry moved with a steadiness worthy of its established reputation, to assault the work in front, as directed; but being exposed to a combined fire of grape, canister, and musketry, which raked the road, it was of necessity, momentarily checked.

Meantime, the 8th and 5th of Clarke’s brigade, more favorably situated to effect results, but under a terrible fire, dashed past the deep and wet ditch that entirely surrounded the work, carried it by the bayonet, and as quickly as thought, turned the captured cannon upon that portion of the enemy stationed in the town, and which was combating out troops approaching from the direction of Contreras—frequently reversing their fire upon our left flank. Previous to this period, and when in the act of giving direction to the battalions, I was joined by Major Gen. Pillow, who came in from the left with three regiments of his division—Cadwalladers brigade—having with great difficulty made his way through the marshes; thence, to the close of the day, I had the pleasure of his gallant association and assistance. Lieut. Col. Duncan’s battery of light artillery, which had been directed to be masked, being unable to counter batter the heavier metal in front, and the intersected character of the ground rendering it impossible to move it from the high road, was now rapidly advanced by its gallant commander, and opened at a point some two hundred yards distant from the work around the church of San Paolo, situated in and constituting the key of that portion of the enemy’s defences; seizing up the prolongation of a principal face, in a space of five minutes, by a fire of astonishing rapidity, the enemy was driven from his guns in that quarter, and the infantry from
their entrenchments; the body taking refuge in the church and under cover of its yard walls. The fire was then turned upon the church, and, after a few rounds, several white flags were thrown out by the enemy, the fire ordered to cease, and an officer dispatched to accept the surrender of the place. To this period there had been no perceptible abatement from the fire from the town in the direction of our troops attacking the opposite face. Immediately there after, our troops in the vicinity pushed on to the point where portions of Garland’s and Clarke’s brigades were yet engaged in hand to hand conflicts with the masses of infantry on the left and rear of the captured field work first referred to; but, under the triple influence of our musketry, the capture of the tete de pont, and the silencing of the fire in the town, (directed upon the other division of our army,) the main body of the enemy was soon discovered to be in full and confused retreat. Pressing along the highway in pursuit of the enemy, the division was soon intersected by the brigade of Gen. Shields approaching from the left, with the remainder of his brave command, consisting of the South Carolina and New York regiments, and also by the arrival of Lieut. Col. Graham with the small remains of his battalion of the 11th regiment of infantry; these were a portion of the main army assaulting, in the opposite direction of the town, the right and reserve of the enemy, under the immediate direction of the general in chief. The pursuit of the enemy by the 1st division, acting in concert and cordial co-operation with these forces, was continued to within a mile and half of the gate of Mexico, (La Candelaria). At this point, ignorant first of the magnitude of the defences of the garita, and secondly with Major Gen. Pillow and Brig. General Shields.

Col. Harney coming up at this instant with two squadrons of cavalry, was permitted to make a dash at the rear of the enemy’s retiring forces. In the eager pursuit, the head of the column pressing on too closely, and disregarding or not hearing their commander’s recall, came under fire of the battery, and suffered severely. The ground on which the troops operated, off the high road, is remarkably intersected; loose soil, growing grain, and at brief intervals, deep ditches for the purpose of drainage and irrigation. These ditches vary from six to eight feet in depth, and about the same width, with from three to four feet of water—the reserve banks lined with the enemy’s light troops.

When I recur to the nature of the ground, and the fact that the division (2,600 strong of all arms) was engaged from two to two and a half hours in a hand to hand conflict with from 7,000 to 9,000 of the enemy, having the advantage of position and occupying regular works—which our engineers will say were most skillfully constructed—the mind is filled with wonder and the heart with gratitude to the brave officers and soldiers whose steady and indomitable valor has, under such circumstances, aided in achieving results so honorable to our country; results not accomplished, however, without the sacrifice of many valuable lives. The little professional skill the commander may have possessed was intensely exerted to spate the met; and yet, with the utmost care, we have to mourn the loss, in killed and wounded, of thirteen officers and three hundred and thirty six rank and file. Our country will lament the fate and honor he memory of these brave men! A list of captured ordinance has already been handed in, as also of prisoners, from generals down to privates.—Of prisoners we paused to make but few; although receiving the surrender of many, to disarm and pass them was decided sufficient. Among them, however are secured twenty seven deserters from our own army; arrayed in the most tawdry Mexican uniforms. These wretches served the guns, the use of which they had been taught in our own service and with fatal effect, upon the persons of their former comrades!

And now, in closing this report, hastily and inconveniently prepared, comes the pleasing and yet difficult task of bringing more particularly to the notice of the general in chief and government the behaviour of the officers and men under my command. Every officer of every grade, and every soldier, from chief of brigade, through rank and file, to the humblest, have bravely and nobly done their duty; and the delicacy is felt in full force of distinguishing, even by a separation of one from the other; and yet those in whose path fortune threw her special favors are entitled to the benefit.

As least exceptionable, corps will be referred to in order of formation, and persons in connexion with their corps.

1st. Brevet Lieut. Col. Duncan commanded and directed the light artillery, with the zeal and gallantry, judgment and effect which have so often distinguished and presented him to the notice of his general in chief and the government.


3d. Brevet Col. Garland (Lieutenant Colonel 4th infantry) commanded the 1st brigade, conspicuous in many fields in the present war; in this last great combat, by skill, conduct, and courage, he has greatly added to an already established reputation for patriotism and soldiership. Of his brigade, Maj. Galt commanded and gallantry led the 2d artillery, [acting as infantry;] Lieut. Col. Belton, the 3d artillery, [also acting as infantry;] and Major Lee, the 4th infantry. The chief of the brigade speaks in terms of commendation of each of these
A list of officers engaged, as also of non commissioned officers and privates in each regiment, will be found in the regimental reports, to which reference is respectfully made.

4th. Col. Clarke’s commanding the 2d brigade—a veteran of the war of 1812, and heretofore distinguished by zeal and intelligence in this war, was while gallantly leading his brigade into battle, struck from his saddle and disabled for several hours, wherupon the command devolved upon Brevet Col. McIntosh [Lt. Colonel 5th Infantry] who led on with the pressage of many well fought fields, and acquitted himself, as always, with high courage and devotion. The command of the 5th infantry devolved, in turn, upon Brevet Lieut. Col. Scott, and the mantle could not have fallen upon a better or braver soldier; he most gallantly led the regiment to its assigned work, and, in doing, came to the close support and joint action with the corps to whose lot it fell to carry with the bayonet the main work. One wing of the 6th infantry, a portion of which was under the gallant lead of Captain Hoffman, did all that it was in the power of men to do to carry the tete de pont, by direct attack on the main road. The 8th infantry, although from its position coming up last, but the zeal and energy of its commander, Major Waite, and by the circumstances of the ground, which impeded the advance of other and proximate corps, found itself in position to ... most gallant and effective service. The companies of Captain James Bomford and Larkin Smith, under the direction of Brevet Maj. Wright, preceded by Adjutant Longstreet, colors in hand, were led on most bravely to the assault of the tete de pont; crossing the ditch under a heavy fire of musketry, they mounted the rampart, and finished the work with the bayonet, closely supported by the 5th and detachments of other corps. The regimental reports of this brigade are also respectfully referred to. The medical corps, consisting of Surgeons Satterlee (senior) and Wright, Assistant Surgeons Simpson, DeLeon, Simons, Holden, Roberts, and Deyerle, presents claims to especial thanks and admiration—ever among the most fearless and indifferent to hazard during the conflict. It is after the battle, when others seek repose, that they are found skilfully and noiselessly fulfilling the duties of their high vocation, in administering comfort to the crushed and sorrowful soldier.


The division commander cannot forego the opportunity presented to acknowledge his obligations and express his admiration of the gallant bearing of Maj. Gen. Pillow and Brig. Generals Shields, Cadwallader and Pierce, with whom he had the gratification of concert and cooperation at various critical periods of the conflict. And it may now, in closing, be permitted to speak of the staff of the division, general and personal. The subordinate reports will be found to speak with one sentiment of Capt. Mason, of engineers; but these are not to debar my testimony and warm acknowledgements of the intelligent and gallant services of this accomplished officer; in the estimation of all, he has won higher rank. Lieut. Hardeastle, topographical engineers, has been distinguished by zeal, intelligence, and gallantry, in his particular department, as also in combat. To Surgeon Satterlee, senior medical officer, the highest praise is due. Capt. Myers, division quartermaster, has highly distinguished himself by energy and devotion in his particular department, and by gallantry in combat. Lieut. Armstrong, division commissary, is also highly distinguished for energy and devotion in his particular department, and by gallantry in combat. Of the gallantry and efficient assistance of Capt. Mackall, assistant adjutant general, (but in a different relation,) of Brevet Capt Pe...ton and Lieut. Wood, aids de camp, it has been my pleasing duty heretofore to speak under similar circumstances. On this occasion each member of the staff has fulfilled every duty of his station to the entire satisfaction of their chief, and established new claims to professional distinction and reward. To Lieut. Semmes, of the navy, volunteer aid decamp, the most cordial thanks of
general in chief is respectfully requested to present the conduct of this accomplished and
gallant officer to the special notice of the chief of his distinguished branch of the public service
—our glorious navy.

I have the honor to present to the general a national standard, a trophy secured from
the enemy by the 1st division.

Herewith are reports:

1st—Of commanders and brigades, regiments, and corps, lettered from A to N.

2d—Tabular report of killed and wounded.

3d—Report of killed and wounded by name.

4th—Map exhibiting the operations of the 1st division, executed by Lieut. Hardcastle
from a survey jointly by Captain Mason and himself.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
W. J. WORTH
Brevet Major Gen. U. S. A.

Capt. H L Scott, A A A G
[350 men were absent on baggage, train, and other guards.]

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NNR 73.189-190 Nov. 20, 1847 Henry Clay’s resolutions at Lexington

Mr. Clay’s Resolutions.

A grand whig mass meeting was held at Lexington, Ky., on Saturday the 13th
November. It having been publicly announced that Mr. Clay would attend and address the
meeting and submit resolutions for their consideration, the concourse was immense. The
Lexington Observer and Reporter, of 13th, says:

“The anxiety to hear the Sage of Ashland was intense. Among those present were
individuals who had travelled over a thousand miles. I never witnessed a deeper feeling. All
ages participated—the father as well as the son—all classes and conditions of society. And no
wonder. The announcement had gone forth that Henry Clay—the patriot—the statesman—the
sage—was about to address his countrymen on the most important topic of the day—the war
with Mexico, its origin and its objects! Surely such an announcement was calculated to excite
the minds and move the hearts of men—and not only of immediate residents of Lexington and
its vicinity, but of every American citizen—of all who love their country and feel pride in its
honor and prosperity.

Precisely at the hour named, the distinguished orator mounted the platform amidst the
shouts of the assembled thousands. It had rained all the morning, and every thing looked
Novemberish. The fourth estate represented by a gentleman from Louisville, and the writer
hereof had obtained comfortable seats at a table on the platform, with pens, ink, and paper, all
ready, when Mr. Clay came forward, and stated that he was opposed to any report of his
speech being taken, as he ad been so frequently misrepresented; and that he intended to have
it printed under his own supervision, and would furnish copies then to all. In vain we
remonstrated and offered to allow him to revise our notes. The fiat had gone forth, and he
declared that if we persisted in reporting, he would not speak. I mention these circumstances
in order that you ma account for the slight sketch only which I have deemed it proper to give.

Gen. Leslie Coombs called the meeting to order, and hoped that perfect silence might
be observed as it was probably the last time that the illustrious individual now before them,
would ever address a populous assembly, and he had resolved to do it on this occasion, from a
high sense of duty to himself and the country. The momentous question now presented to the
American people, of annexation by conquest or purchase, immense foreign territory inhabited
by millions of people of different races and colors, and placing them on an equal footing with
the free white citizens of this republic, permitted no man who loved his country to remain
silent, and Henry Clay would have been unworthy of his past history, if he had allowed any
selfish considerations to palsy his tongue. He had “rather be right than be president.”

On motion of Gen. Coombs, the hon. W. Robinson was appointed president, with a long
array of vice presidents and secretaries.

Mr. Clay then rose and submitted the following resolutions. They are of the deepest interest and importance, as they imbody the text or principles of this great speech.

RESOLUTIONS

Submitted by the hon. Henry Clay at the public meeting held in Lexington, Ky., Nov. 13, 1847.

1st. Resolved, As the opinion of this meeting, that the primary cause of the present unhappy war existing between the United States of America, and the United States of the Republic of Mexico, was the annexation of Texas to the former, and the immediate occasion of hostilities between the two republics, arose out of the order of the President of the United States, for the removal of the army under the command of Gen. Taylor, from its position at Corpus Christi, to a point opposite to Matamoros, on the east bank of the Rio Bravo, within the territory, claimed by both republics, but then under the jurisdiction of Mexico, and inhabited by its citizens—that the order of the president for the removal of the army to that point, was improvident and unconstitutional, it being without the concurrence of congress, or any consultation with it, although it was in session; but that congress, having by subsequent acts recognized the war thus brought into existence with out its previous authority or consent, the prosecution of it became thereby national.

2d. Resolved. That in the absence of any formal and public declaration by congress of the objects for which the war ought to be prosecuted, the President of the United States, as chief magistrate, and as the commander in chief of the army and navy of the United States, is left to the guidance of his own judgement to prosecute it to such purposes and objects as he may deem the honor and interests of the nation to require.

3d. Resolved, That, by the constitution of the U. States, congress being invested with powers to declare war and grant letters of marque and reprisal, to make rules concerning captures on land and water, to raise and support armies, to provide and maintain a navy, and to make rules for the government of the land and naval forces, has the fullest complete war-making power in the United States, and so possessing it has a right to determine upon the motives, causes, and objets of war, when once commenced, or at any time during the progress of its existence.

4th. Resolved. As the further opinion of the meeting, it is the duty of congress to declare by some authentic act to what purpose and object the existing war ought to be further prosecuted, that it is the duty of the president, in his official conduct to conform to such a declaration of congress; and if after such declaration the president should decline or refuse to endeavor, by all the means, civil, diplomatic, and military, in his power, to execute the announced will of congress, and in defiance of its authority should continue to prosecute the war for purposes and objects other than those declared by that body, it would become the right and duty of congress to adopt the most efficacious measures to arrest the further progress of the war, taking care to make ample provision for the honor, the safety, and the security of our arms in Mexico in every contingency; and if Mexico should decline or refuse to conclude a treaty with us, stipulating for the purposes and objects so declared by congress, it would be the duty of the government to prosecute the war, with the utmost vigilance, until they were attained by a treaty of peace.

5th. Resolved, That we view with serious alarm, and are utterly opposed to any purpose of annexation of Mexico to the United States, in any mode, and especially by conquest—that we believe the two nations could not be happily governed by one common authority, owing to their great difference of race, law, language, and religion, and the vast extent of their respective territories, and large amount of their respective populations—that such a union against the consent of the exasperated Mexican people, could only be effected and preserved by large standing armies, the constant application of military force, in other words, by despotic sway exercised over the Mexican people in the first instance, but which there would be just cause to apprehend might in process of time be extended over the whole people of the United States—that we deprecate, therefore, such a union as wholly incompatible with the genius of our government, and with the character of our free and liberal institutions, and we anxiously hope that each nation may be left in the undisturbed possession of its own labors, language, cherished religion, and territory, to pursue its own happiness according to what it may deem best for itself.

6th. Resolved, That considering the series of splendid and brilliant victories achieved by our brave armies and their gallant commanders during the war with Mexico, unattended by a single reverse, the United States, without any danger of their honor suffering the lightest tarnish, can practise the virtues of moderation and magnanimity toward their discomfitted foe; we have no desier for the dismemberment of the republic of Mexico, but only the just and proper fixation of the limits of Texas.
7th. Resolved, That we do positively and emphatically disclaim and disavow any wish or desire on our part to acquire any foreign territory whatever, for the purpose of propagating slavery, or of introducing slavery from the United States into such foreign territory.

8th. Resolved, That we invite our fellow citizens of the United States, who are anxious for the restoration of the blessings of peace, or if the existing war shall continue to be prosecuted, desirous that its purposes and objects shall be defined and known, who are anxious to avert present and further perils and dangers with which it may be fraught, and who are also anxious to produce contentment and satisfaction at home, and to elevate the national character abroad, to assemble together in their respective communities, and to express their views, feelings, and opinions.

We refrain from inserting the outlines of Mr. Clay’s speech as given by the reporter, preferring to wait for his own report. [ATT]

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Money Matters

The current specie is now setting towards Europe on one hand and towards Mexico, for support of our armies, on the other, in such forces as to affect the money market. Boston, New York and Philadelphia papers mention the comparative rates for discounts as considerable higher and the difficulty of obtaining them as far greater within the last ten days.

That specie would be shipped to Europe in any considerable amount at the present rates for exchanges, was stoutly disputed by most of the commercial journals. Facts are stubborn things however.

The exports of specie from New York and Boston, within a few days past are thus stated—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Steamer/Cargo</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>By Steamer Caledonia,</td>
<td>$662,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By Steamer Washington,</td>
<td>190,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By Ship John R. Skiddy, for Liverpool,</td>
<td>195,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By Ship Fidelia,</td>
<td>242,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By Ship Burgundy, for Havre,</td>
<td>80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By Ship Wellington, for London,</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By Ship Mendoza, for Rio,</td>
<td>32,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$1,501,500

The agents of the steamer Washington had an application to carry out a further sum of $150,000, but were unable to agree with the proposed shippers on the terms.

The total exports of specie from the United States for the month of November, it is believed, will not fall short of two millions of dollars, and will, of course, produce a corresponding effect on the money markets and operations of the banks.

Besides the above we see notices are shipments by several of the other packet ships to a considerable amount.

*Treasury notes*, have fallen below par. Considerable amounts have been disposed of ...99.. The banks no longer receive them in payment except for the accommodation of such of their customers as have duties or other payments to make to the sub-treasurers. So long as treasury notes remains at or below par, they will of course be paid, instead of specie, for public dues. The amount of specie in sub treasury notes at New York, on Thursday last, was, it is said, about $1,500,000. The payments into the custom house about $40,000 per day,—of
which from $5,000 to $7,000 was in treasury notes. Should treasury notes continue to decline, very little specie will be received as long as they are in the market. [ATT]

1st Brevet Lieut. Col. Dinenn commanded and directed the light artillery, with the zeal and gallantry, judgment and effect which have so often distinguished and presented him to the notice of his general in chief and the government.

2d. Brevet Lieut Col. Smith commanded and directed his light battalion with characteristic gallantry and ability.

3d. Brevet Col. Garland (Lieutenant Colonel 4th infantry) commanded the 1st brigade, conspicuous in many fields in the present war; in this last great combat, by skill, conduct, and courage, he has greatly added to an already established reputation for patriotism and soldiership. Of his brigade, Maj. Galt commanded and gallantry led the 2d artillery, [acting as infantry;] Lieut. Col. Belton, the 3d artillery, [also acting as infantry;] and Major Lee, the 4th infantry. The chief of the brigade speaks in terms of commendation of each of these commanders.

A list of officers engaged, as also of non commissioned officers and privates in each regiment, will be found in the regimental reports, to which reference is respectfully made. [JNA]

BATTLE OF HUAMANTLA--We have seen a letter from a member of the late Captain Walker's company to his wife in this city, from which we make a few extracts.--Speaking of the entrance of Captain Walker's command into the town of Huamantla, he says:

"We scoured the streets, and took several prisoners. Among them were Col. La Vega, brother to Gen. La Vega, and Major Iturbide, son of a former emperor of Mexico, and a nephew of General Herrera. The later conversed with us in very good English, and recognized several of our men, particularly Frederick Crey, with whom he had been associate at St. Mary's College."

The writer thus describes the manner in which the intrepid Walker was killed:

"Captain Walker moved out of the gateway of the church yard, in which we were drawn up in line, for the purpose of giving orders, when he was fired upon from the right of the street. One ball entered his back, and came out through his breast. He immediately fell, and some men ran out and carried him in. His last words were to this effect--"Boys, fight to the last; I am dying; do not lose time in attending to me; go and tell Capt. Lewis not to surrender this place as long as there is a man breathing." He expired in a few moments, the service losing an invaluable officer, and we a brave and good commander.

"The body of Capt. Walker was conveyed, after the fight, with military honors, to a carriage supposed to belong to Gen. Santa Anna, escorted by the Pennsylvania regiment, under the command of Col. W.F. Wynkoop. This officer, who had been at variance with Capt. W., burst into tears on looking at the body of the deceased, and exclaimed, "I would have given six years of my existence if I could have spoken to Capt. Walker before he died."

"Our dead and wounded were--Capt. Walker, killed; corporal J.E. Merriken, do.; privates B. Hughmen, do.; Tarbos, do.; sergeant Thos. Goslin, missing; privates Sam McClay, do.; R. Dement, do.; Darlington, Richards, do.; and John Collins; corporal Glanding, wounded severely, since dead; privates Raborg, wounded severely; Meacham, do. Wayne, do.; Scott, do.; slightly, Myers, do; McGill, do.; and the sergeant major of the battalion, severely wounded. David, Capt. Walker's servant, was killed."[JNA]

Santa Anna’s Whereabouts?

The Mexican child, puzzles alike politicians and generals. Romance and fiction are distanced—
his movements are more in the style of eastern fable than of veritable history. First
dexterously cajoling the invaders of his native country, we find him availing of a free pass
through their close blockade, throwing himself upon the country from which a few months
before he had narrowly escaped, denounced as a traitor and hunted as a fugitive. A few weeks
only elapsed, and we find him received by that country, elevated to the chief executive power,
and without either money or credit, raising as if by magic an army five and twenty thousand
men—organizing and disciplining them, and what was more wonderful, without resources of
any kind, without adequate munitions or even provisions, we see him marching this army over
a desert region which has arrested the advance of our own armies—and precipitating
apparently an overwhelming force upon the most exposed and vulnerable point of our whole
time of approach. Miracles alone saved the army under Gen. Taylor. All the ingredients
requisite for certain victory, even to that of desperation of circumstances which must follow
defeat, were combined in Santa Anna’s enterprise upon that occasion. All was unavailing
however, against General Taylor and his men. Santa Anna’s best generalship and his best
troops were doomed to such an overwhelming defeat, as left him apparently in the most
hopeless flight, beyond retrieve. His disciplined army was annihilated here.

The forces that he subsequently mustered in his conflicts with Gen. Scott, were hurriedly
huddled together on the spur of the moment, without either organization or discipline. An
effective scientific was is not the creation of a bugle blast. The difference between a disciplined
army and an undisciplined crowd, is told in the issue of the campaign.

Santa Anna had the double task on his hands, of controlling contending and distracting factions
and of defending, as well as he could, from invading armies. We find him by turns obliged to
march his fragment of forces one day to the capital, to restore something like order, and the
next day wheeling them about to encounter the approaching fires under Gen. Scott. Each
movement is by turns denounced as being desperate as well as treasonable, both by his
enemies and his countrymen.

The battle of Cerro Gordo again doomed Santa Anna to the severest fate to which a defeated
general could well be subjected—the suspicion of treason—as well as the total loss of his army
and munitions.

Once more we see him surmounting all difficulties making a most formidable defence of the
capital. Whatever may be said of the superiority of his positions and numbers that he evinced
courage and generalship seldom surpassed, is a fact that will be duly authenticated whenever
the true history of the siege and capture of Mexico shall be written. Our armies and our
generals had brave and able men to encounter and to overcome, in achieving their victories. It
was no child’s play.

Once more defeated—expelled the capital—officially denounced by his own second officer as a
coward and traitor, and by his own civil officers also, we find Santa Anna emerging from utter
prostration, as if by magic. The accounts say that at the battle of Huamantla, in which the
gallant Walker fell, Gen. Santa Anna himself charged the American forces in the place at the
head of 2,500 cavalry.

Defeat seems to have been his destiny. Again he is said to have been deserted by his forces—
even to his life-guard. After spending his last dollar, he is now, according to one of the latest
letters from Vera Cruz, a prisoner of one of the opposing factions of his own countrymen and
to be tried for his life. According to another letter, he has made his escape from Mexico and
has got on board the British mail steamer which left Vera Cruz on the 1st of November, by
means of a craft from near Tampico. The latter account we place little confidence in.

Santa Anna, fairly considering the difficulties he has had to contend with, has done more than
it would seem possible for any one man to have accomplished. [ATT]

73.192 Nov. 20, 1847 letter describing the fighting at Huamantla and the death of Capt.
Samuel Hamilton Walker, list of killed and wounded

Battle of Huamantla

We have seen a letter from a member of the late Captain Walker’s company to his wife in the
city, from which we make a few extracts—Speaking of the entrance of Captain Walker’s
command into the town of Huamantla, he says:

[Br. Amer.

"We scoured the streets, and took several prisoners. Among them were Col. La Vega, brother
to Gen. La Vega, and Major Iturbide son of a former emperor of Mexico, and a nephew of General Herrera. The latter conversed with us in very good English, and recognized several of our men, particularly Frederick Crey with whom he had been associated at St. Mary's College."

The writer thus describes the manner in which the intrepid Walker was killed:

"Captain Walker moved out of the gateway of the church yard, in which we were drawn up in line, for the purpose of giving orders, when he was fired upon from the right of the street. One ball entered his back, and came out through his breast. He immediately fell, and some of his men ran out and carried him in. His last words were to this effect—'Boys, fight to the last; I am dying; do not lose time in attending to me; go and tell Capt. Lewis no to surrender this place as long as there is a man breathing.' He expired in a few moments, the service losing an invaluable officer, and a brave and good commander.

"The body of Capt. Walker was conveyed, after the fight, with military honors, to a carriage supposed to belong to Gen. Santa Anna, escorted by the Pennsylvania regiment, under the command of Col. W. F. Wynkoop. This officer, who had been at variance with Capt. W. burst into tears on looking at the body of the deceased, and exclaimed, "I would have given six years of my existence if I could have spoken to Capt. Walker before he died."

"Our dead and wounded were—Capt. Walker, killed; corporal J. E. Merriken, do.; privates B, Hughmen, do.; Tarbox, do.; Sergeant Thos. Gosling, missing; privates Sam McClay, do.; R. Demert, do.; Darlington, Richards, do.; and John Collins; corporal Glancing, wounded severely, since dead; privates Raborg, wounded severely; Meacham, do. Wayne, do.; Scott, do.; slightly, Myers, do.; McGill, do.; and the sergeant major of the battalion, severely wounded. David, Capt. Walker's servant, was killed."

NRR 73.192 Nov. 27, 1847 delay in a quorum for the Congress at Queretaro, suggestion of monarchy

General Cushing, with his command, left Vera Cruz on the 30th, and General Patterson with the residue forces at Vera Cruz, marched for Puebla on the 31st October. Between that period and the 5th November, some 1200 to 1500 additional troops had arrived at Vera Cruz from the U. States.

The Mexican congress would not be able to form a quorum at Queretaro before the 29th Oct., if then. Senor Pena y Pena had invited the governors of all the states to assemble at Queretaro to consult on affairs.

Paredes is said to have made himself rather ridiculous by again suggesting his scheme of monarchy. - He has made a long proclamation that only his great desire of serving his country had brought him to it. Said general having received an intimation from the government to go and wait orders at Teloloapan, (or Orizaba,) he answered that it was impossible for him to go there, as he was stuck and without resources, promising that wherever he might remain, the government might rest assured that he had no intention of disturbing the public tranquility.

[RLLW]

73.192 Nov. 20, 1847 Fight among the Mexican guerrillas

WAR WITH MEXICO

Our latest dates from Vera Cruz are to the 5th inst., brought to N. Orleans by the steamer James L. Day. Amongst the passengers of the Day were Maj. Iturbide, prisoner of war, and Lieut. Sears, bearer of dispatches from Gen. Scott to the department at Washington. These dispatches left the city of Mexico between the 12th and the 15th October, escorted by a company of 100 Mexican lancers, under command of Col. Dominguez. The company left Puebla on the 19th. On the same night they were attacked by a strong force under General Torrejon, and shortly after by a party under Col. Vamos. In the two engagements they lost fifteen of their men, but, fighting as may be said, with halters round their necks, they of course fought furiously, and killed and wounded far more of the Mexicans. They returned to Puebla, and General Lane placed the dispatches in the hands of his adjutant general, Lieut. Sears, who came down with his Mexican escort to Vera Cruz, accompanied as far as Plan del Rio by the 1st Pennsylvania regiment, under Col. Wynkoop, Capt. Loyall's mounted men, and three companies of artillery. The American portion of the escort halted at Plan del Rio, and were to return with Gen. Patterson.
The Mexican spy company is described as a rough looking set of men. They fight with ropes round their necks, as the saying is, and therefore fight gallantly. Col. Cominquez is thought to know the road intimately, from long experience upon the line in a different capacity. We understand that we have altogether about four hundred and fifty of this description of force in our pay.

Gen. Lane's command is quartered in the heart of Puebla, the general occupying the palace. He retains all the force he took up with him.

Gen. Scott orders a garrison of 750 men to be stationed at the National Bridge, 1200 at Jalapa, and 2000 at Puebla. Gen. Patterson assigns Gen. Cashing to the command of Jalapa. Gen. Patterson reached the National Bridge on the 4th, with the whole of the forces, unmolested on his route from Vera Cruz.

The guerrillas have had a fight between themselves, in which Jarauta's band killed some 20 or 30 of Cenobio's band, whom he has denounced as a traitor, aiding the Americans.

Santa Anna was at Tehuaca on the 26th Oct., having given up the idea of going to Orizaba.

From Mexico nothing material.

A report was in circulation on the 15th of Mexico, that another serious affair took place between a part of our troops and some Mexican inhabitants of Mexicalingo.

Congress had not met at Queretaro on the 13th October.

The remains of the lamented Captain Walker, and his faithful servant David were in the Castle of Perote on the 5th --having been brought from Huamantla by order of Col. Wynkoop, and will be forwarded to the United States. [JNA]

NNR 73.195 Nov. 27, 1847 Killed and wounded.

Siege of Puebla. List of killed and wounded at San Jose, between the commencement and termination of the siege of Puebla:


Voltigeur regiment.--Private John H. Burgess, killed; John Wilson, company A, slightly wounded; David Ricketts, company F, do.

Mounted rifles.--Private Cornwell, 2d dragoons attached to mounted rifle detachment, private Smith, H, killed. Privates Blair, company D, Campbell, company B, wounded.

Company D, 3d dragoons.--Eli Stewart, wounded.

Quartermaster's department.--A.B. Duncan, Wm. Waddell, slightly wounded; Wm. Johnson, severely.

Guadalupe.--Wm. Patterson, company E, 2d artillery, severely wounded; Josiah Blair, mounted rifles, do; Samuel Houpert. Wm. Schultz, slightly.


Dr. Bunting's hospital.--Sergeant William Deal. John Biers, 2d Pennsylvania volunteers, and Wm. Curry, 2d artillery, severely wounded. Sergeant Diel's conduct is highly spoken of by Dr. Bunting. All the invalids of the hospital capable of firing a musket did good service from the
Spy company.--Officer John Mose, wounded; since killed. J. Gordero, two brothers Dominguez and Jose Servezo, wounded.

Servant to Col. Childs--Daniel Sims, wounded.

In the battle of Atlixco the enemy are said to have left two hundred dead on the road. The Flag gives the following as our loss:

Wounded--Bernard Rork, mortally, [since dead;] Mathas Rautler, slightly; Josiah Corwin, severely. All three men were attached to or serving with Capt. Ford's company (D) 3d dragoons. [JNA]

NNR 73.195 Nov. 27, 1847 need for a loan if the war with Mexico procrastinates

If the war with Mexico be procrastinated our government will probably require a considerable loan soon after congress assembles. [RLLW]

NNR 73.195 Nov. 27, 1847 account of the battle at Huamantla; operations and incident, affairs at Huamantla and death of Capt. Samuel Hamilton Walker

Battle of Huamantla. Death of the brave Captain Walker.

The "Flag of Freedom" published at Puebla, of the 24th, contains the following details of the affair in which the gallant Walker fell. We have an official account of it since.

On the evening of October 8th, the train halted at a hacienda two and a half leagues from Nopaluca. Gen. Lane sent out a spy to the town of Huamantla that night, having received information that Gen. Santa Anna had gone thither during the day before. The next morning he returned and reported that the cavalry of the enemy had left town, leaving behind six pieces of artillery. Orders were immediately issued for the cavalry under Captain Walker, Col. Gorman's regiment, Major Lally's battalion, Col. Wyonkoop's regiment, Capt. Taylor's battery and Capt. Heitzelman's battalion to be in readiness to march for the town, leaving the train with about eleven hundred men and two pieces of artillery, under the command of Col. Brough.

At 11 o'clock the whole moved off in fine style. - The cavalry were ordered to keep some distance in advance. We had gone about two miles when Capt. Walker determined to push on at a gallop and surprise the enemy. For five miles the cavalry moved at a very rapid pace until we reached the outskirts of the town, when Capt. Walker gave orders to form fours and close up. He then entered a very narrow lane, both sides of which were lined with thick maguey, so narrow in many places that the sets of fours had to be broken and the column moved by twos. - One we went at a trot, until the lane opened into the main street leading to the plaza, when, in column of four, the order was given to draw sabres and charge. Then rose a wild yell, and such a charge! The flashing of the sabres, the thundering of the horses' feet over the paved streets, were enough to strike terror into the hearts of the enemy. Two of their cannon were pointed up the street, another pointed down a cross street, and the fuse was burning in it. The terrified artillerymen moved merely to the sides of the houses, at whom our men made their thrusts and right and left cuts, killing many in this manner. - The cavalry rushed over their cannon, the lancers (how many we did not know, but supposed there were three or four hundred) fled, and our men separated into small parties, pursuing them beyond the town, on the outskirts of which a good many were killed. Capt. Walker went beyond the town for the purpose of overtaking the artillery which had left the place. Capt. Lewis went in another direction for the same purpose. Capt. Besancon was ordered to follow the road to see if the artillery could be overtaken. In the mean time, most of our men having gone in pursuit, Capt. Loyall with a few men, assisted by Adj. Claiborne, secured some fifty or sixty prisoners at their quarters, together with their arms, &c. Lieut. Claiborne then proceeded to secure and bring up the plaza the cannon (three pieces) we had captured. Capt. Walker returned about this ... [illegible]... brother of the general's,) and a lieutenant; these he delivered to Capt. Walker. Lieut. Claiborne, assisted by Corporal Hescock and private Myers and one or two others, limbered up the six pounder and brought it to the plaza; leaving it limbered up and the mules standing in it, and returning to get the four pounder, the lieutenant was in the act of bringing it up when he was forced to leave it by the appearance of all Santa Anna's cavalry, 2500 strong. Corporal Tilghman, of company C, (rifles,) brought up a small howitzer. Private Dusenbery, of company C, took a lieutenant of artillery prisoner and turned him over to Surgeon Reynolds. By this time a good many of our men had returned and were in the plaza in scattered groups,
when the lancers charged them suddenly and unexpectedly. Our men received them with great bravery, and kept the plaza with the exception of a few under Capt. Walker, who retired by a street leading west from the plaza - the enemy close on them at a charge; he turned the next street to his left, while the enemy, seeing the 4 pounder, rushed to take it. It was fortunate for the few men with Capt. Walker they saw this piece, for at the very next corner a still larger force met him; he wheeled and dashing swiftly past the rear of those who had cut him off from the plaza, again entered it. Here the men dismounted and occupied the convent-yard, together with a large house on the corner of the square.

Capt. Lewis and Lieut. Waters, with some ten or twelve men, charged twice upon the enemy, who gave way, and were pursuing them, when they discovered they were being surrounded by a vast number of lancers. They gallantly forced their way to the plaza; Capt. Besancon barely returned in time to save himself.

Private Hugenen and Corporal Merrillen, of company C, rifles, being entirely surrounded, drove right into their midst, and fell covered with wounds.

Capt. Walker gave the orders promptly to form the men to receive the enemy, who now made their appearance on our right, front, and on our left. - They had also run up the four pounder to open on us.

Lieut. Claiborne, assisted by Corporal Tilghman, unlimbered the six pounder and pointed it at the column on our left. Having no port fire, he prepared to fire it with a horse pistol; the enemy came nearer and nearer, until at about sixty yards off, when they halted. At this moment the lieutenant fired the pistol, but the fuse of the cannon would not catch, and being left alone in the plaza he retired to the corner house, and posted some riflemen to keep the piece from recapture.

At this juncture Capt. Walker, while examining the approach of the enemy, and looking at the four pounder on our right, was shot from behind, from a house that displayed a white flag. He sunk down immediately and was borne into the yard, the men bursting into tears as the cry spread among them, "Capt. Walker is killed." Capt. Walker directed that we should "never surrender," and died in about thirty minutes. Capt. Lewis made a detail of eight men, who sent out and brought the six pounder and placed it at the gate. The enemy menaced us a long time, and fired the four pounder six or eight times loaded with grape, one of which discharges shattered the leg of Frederick Raborg, Capt. W.'s interpreter, and a private of company C. Seeing the determination of our men they hesitated, faltered, and fell back. Capt. Lewis formed the men after Walker fell, and by his energy and address assisted materially to suppress disorder.

Lieut. Lilly distinguished himself by his daring. Surgeon Lamar was in the first charge by the side of Walker; was in the plaza when the charge was made, and was saved by the devoted act of Captain Walker's slave David, who caught at the lance aimed at him and received it himself. He died in a few minutes. He was honest and faithful, and a favorite of his noble master."; In death they were not divided." The infantry came up as the enemy were retiring - Col. Gorman's being the only portion of the infantry that got a shot at the enemy. There is much praise due them for the gallant manner in which they strove to be with the cavalry. They ran themselves out of breath, and then ran on. Never were men more anxious to reach an enemy. They had discovered the immense body of cavalry that was making its way in a gallop by a parallel road to the town, and both tried to reach town first. When they got to town we had possession. Surgeon Reynolds behaved very gallantly, and his whole energies after the fight were bestowed upon the wounded.

The whole force of Capt. Walker's command did not exceed 195. The enemy dispersed on five hundred, and in the subsequent fight they were two thousand five hundred strong. Company C lost its gallant captain, whose fame needs no eulogy, and whose loss is irreparable. His valor, often tried, is appreciated by the whole of his countrymen. Peace to the ashes of he noble and gallant captain!


The enemy lost over one hundred men, two pieces of artillery, and large quantities of ammunition. - Most of prisoners escaped during the charge.

The whole command behaved in the most gallant manner, and received the highest praises from the commanding general. The whole force under Gen. Lane returned to camp last night.
Proclamation of Col. Childs, Military Governor of Puebla, after the evacuation of that place by the guerrillas:

Office of the Civil and Military Governor.

Proclamation. Order having been restored in the city of Puebla, and a force put at the disposal of the chief of police, it is fondly hoped that no further acts of violence will occur.

The undersigned, in connection with his excellency the Prefect of Puebla, will use his best exertions to maintain the peace and quiet of the city.

The citizens are earnestly requested to open their stores and shops, under the positive assurance that they will be sent to their place of business, and every means taken to protect them.

Officers of the army are respectfully requested to assist in securing any person guilty of improper conduct that may come under their notice in passing through the streets.

THOMAS CHILDS, Col, U.S.A.,
Civil and Military Governor.

Alphonso De Wengierski secretary.

SIEGE OF PUEBLA - OFFICIAL ACCOUNT.

Report of Colonel Childs.

Headquarters military department of Puebla, Puebla, October 13, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor to report, that, after twenty-eight days' close investment, the enemy yesterday raised the siege, and left Atlixco.

I will avail myself in command of Capt. Ford's company of cavalry, 46 strong; Capts. Kendrick's and Miller's companies of artillery, numbering 100; together with six companies of the first Pennsylvania volunteers, commanded by Lieut. Col. Black - his total effective strength being 247 - and hospitals filled with 1,800 sick.

With this command, San Jose, the grand depot in the city, Loreto, and Guadalupe, were to be garrisoned, and held against the combined efforts of the military and the populace.

The isolated position selected for the hospitals compelled me to remove them within their protection of San Jose, on the first demonstration of hostility. This was not long in exhibiting itself, when I put myself, with such means as I had at my disposal, in the best possible state for defence, continuing my efforts to the squares immediately around San Jose; and from those points the enemy during the entire siege were not able to force in (but for a single moment) the sentinel.

No open acts of hostility, other than the murdering of straggling soldiers, occurred until the night of the 13th of September, when a fire opened from some of the streets. On the night of the 14th it recommenced, and from every street, with a violence that knew of no cessation for twenty eight days and nights.

The enemy with their numerous cavalary, succeeded in cutting off, at once, every kind of supply, and vainly attempted to change the current of the stream of water, that we might become more easy prey. The night, however, before the cattle and sheep disappeared from the vicinity, two well directed parties obtained 30 of the former and 400 of the latter.
The various points to be defended for the preservation of San Jose, on which the safety of the other posts depended, demanded the untiring vigilance of every officer and man.

The enemy augmented in numbers daily, and daily the firing was increased; and finally, on the 22nd of September, General Santa Anna arrived with large reinforcements from Mexico, much to the delight of the besiegers, on which occasion a general ringing of bells took place, and was only stopped - as it had been several times before - by a discharge of shells and round shot from Loreto into the heart of the city.

On the 25th of September General Santa Anna demanded my surrender. A copy of his demand together with the reply, are herewith enclosed, marked A.

I here beg to pay a passing tribute to my gallant troops. So soon as I had dispatched my answer, I supposed not a moment would be lost by the general, who was to attack me at all points with his 8,000 troops. I rode to the different posts, and announced to the troops the demand, the force with which it was backed, and my reply. Their response convinced me that all was safe; that a hard and bloody battle must be fought ere the great captain of Mexico could overcome my little band.

The point of attack was San Jose, commanded by Lieut. Col. Black, with Captain Ford's company of cavalry, and Capt. Miller's company of 4th artillery, and four companies of his own regiment, and one hospital, the guard of which was in command of Capt. Rowe, of the 9th regiment of infantry.

The duty required of this command that I have before observed, in consequence of the various points to be defended, demanded an untiring effort on the part of every officer and soldier. A shower of bullets was constantly poured from the streets, the balconies, the house tops, and churches, upon their devoted heads.

Never did troops endure more fatigue by watching night after night, for more than thirty successive nights, nor exhibit more patience, spirit, and gallantry. Not a post of danger could present itself, but the gallant fellows were ready to fill it. Not a sentinel could be shot, but another was anxious and willing to take his place. Officers and soldiers vied with each other to be honored martyrs in their country's cause. This is the general character of the troops I had the honor to command, and I was confident the crown of victory would perch upon their standard when the last great effort should be made. Their bold and determined front deprived them of what they anxiously desired.

On the 30th ult. Gen. Santa Anna had established his battery bearing upon San Jose, and opened with much spirit. Having anticipated this movement, I had thrown up a traverse on the plaza, and withdrawn a 12-pounder from Loreto, by which means I was enabled to answer his shot. Towards night his battery ceased, and on the next morning was withdrawn, together with from 3,000 to 4,000 of the besieging force, to meet the reinforcements then daily expected at Pinal.

On the 2d inst. I availed myself of some reduction of the enemy's numbers to make a sortie against certain barricades and buildings, whose fire had become very annoying. One of the expeditions was confined to Captain Small, of the 1st Pennsylvania volunteers. Passing through the walls of an entire square with fifty men, he gained a position opposite the barricade, and drove the enemy with great loss, they leaving seventeen dead on the ground. The barricade, consisting of 150 bales of cotton, was consumed. In this affair, Capt. Small and his command behaved with great gallantry, and for twenty four hours were unceasing in their labors in accomplishing the object; when I saw Lieut. Laidley, of the ordnance corps, to blow up a prominent building, which was done by that excellent officer in good style; when the entire party was withdrawn, with few wounded.

At the same time Lieut. Morgan, of the 14th regiment, with a detachment of marines, and Lieut. Merrifield, of the 15th regiment, with a detachment of rifles, attempted to gain possession of certain buildings from which we were receiving a most galling fire. Lieut. Merrifield entered the building. Lieut. Morgan was not so fortunate. The enemy being present in great force, I directed him to fall back, with the loss of one man killed. On the 5th inst. Capt. Herron was detached with his company to take possession of a building, from which the enemy had been enfilading the plaza. He did in a very handsome manner, and to my entire satisfaction, with only a few men wounded.

Other minor sets of gallantry and good conduct were exhibited by officers and men at San Jose; and from Guadalupe one or two successful sorties were made upon the enemy, when engaged in their daily attacks on San Jose.

From Lieut. Col. Black, the immediate commander of San Jose, and his officers, I have
received the most cordial support. Col. Black for more than thirty days was untiring in his efforts and zeal for the safety of that point. Officers and men were at their posts night and day, without regarding the pelting storm; and I cannot say too much in praise of the gallant colonel, his officers and men, before and during the siege.

Lieut. Laidley, of the ordnance corps, commanded the 12-pounder, the mountain howitzer, and four rocket batteries at the barricade, and there stationed himself night after night; and, as often as the batteries were opened, it was effect. Capt. Ford, commanding the cavalry, although no opportunity occurred, in consequence of the limited number of his troops, to engage the enemy, was at all times ready. Capt. Miller, of the 4th artillery, was particularly successful in managing the 12-pounder in one of the general attacks, and showed himself a good officer and skillful artillerist.

Major Gwynn, commanding Loreto, although not attacked, was vigilant, and his command was of great assistance to me. Several detachments from his post occupied exposed points, and received heavy fires from the enemy - especially detachments under Lieuts. Carroll and Moore, who for forty eight hours stood their guard, and were of essential service to me.

I cannot speak too highly of Capt. Kendrick and his management of his batteries. His shells and shot fell beautifully upon houses and churches, where the enemy were great in numbers. Wherever his shot took effect the firing soon ceased. The limited number of these missiles compelled us to use them with great caution. I am much, very much, indebted to Capt. Kendrick for his vigilance and exertions before and during the siege. I will take this occasion to mention Sergeant Owell, of company B 2d artillery, as a most skilful artillerist. I never saw shot thrown more accurately from his gun.

I take great pleasure in speaking of Capt. Morehead, commanding Guadalupe. The place and defences were in a most dilapidated condition. Capt. Morehead, with his base command, succeeded in placing himself in a perfect state of defence, by great and constant labor. The enemy several times left him, but, finding him always on the alert, made no serious attack. By sorties upon the enemy, when attacking San Jose, he was of essential service to us, and killed many of them. I consider him an excellent and gallant officer. Lieut. Edwards, 2d artillery, in charge of the mountain howitzer, threw his shells with great accuracy, and commanded a successful sortie.

To Captain Rowe, of the 9th infantry, who commanded the guard of one of the hospitals, (a constant point of attack, both day and night,) I am greatly indebted for able defence of that position, and his gallant bearing before the enemy.

To Surgeon Mills, chief of the medical department, and to his assistants, great praise is due for their unwearied and laborious services. Left with 1,800 sick, and limited supplies, with buy six assistants, their utmost exertions were necessary to administer timely remedies to so many patients. Their attention to the wounded deserves my notice and thanks. These gentlemen were not only occupied in their professional duties, but the want of officers and men compelled me to make large requisitions for the defence of the hospitals on surgeons and invalids, and they were nightly on guard marshalling their men upon the roots and other points. To them I am greatly indebted.

Capt. Webster, A. Q. M., and Lieut. Rhett, A. C. S., rendered valuable services in defending their premises with men in their employ; and with men in the quartermaster's department I was enabled to occupy a position that was all important, and to which I had neither officers nor soldiers to send. - Messrs. Spencer and Brown were particularly active and of good service.

I should be unjust to myself, and the spy company under Capt. Pedro Arria, if I did not call the attention of the general in chief to their invaluable services. From them I received the most accurate information of the movements of the enemy, and the designs of the citizens; through them I was enabled to apprehend several officers and citizens in their nightly meetings to consummate their plans for raising the populace. The spy company fought gallantly, and are now so compromised, that they must leave the country when our army retires.

I have now only to speak of my A.A.A. General, Mr. Waelder, of the 1st Pennsylvania volunteers, and my secretary, Mr. Wengierski. The gallant charge of Lieut. Waelder upon the enemy, although rash, exhibits him as an officer not to be intimidated by numbers. His duties have been arduous and dangerous, having daily to carry orders through the thickest fire. I take great pleasure in recommending him to the favorable notice of the general in chief.

To Mr. Wengierski, secretary and translator, I am much indebted for invaluable services. Mr. W., in addition to his appropriate duties, conducted the operations of the spy company, and through his suggestions and active exertions, I received much valuable information, and many successful expeditions of the spies into the city were made. Mr. W. commanded the detachment on the roof of my quarters, and was the first man wounded. From his efforts, his
wound proved severe and painful; still he performed his various duties night and day, and is worthy of my approbation.

I regret that the health of Capt. De Hart, lieutenant governor, prevented him from taking an active part in the stirring scenes I have related, and in which he was anxious to participate. Until confined to his quarters by sickness, he was of great assistance to me in directing the defences of Guadalupe, and heading a command in the city to disperse the populace.

I herewith enclose a return of the killed and wounded, together with the sub reports.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas Childs.
Col. U.S.A., civil and military governor.

To Capt. H.L. Scott. A. A. A. G.,
Headquarters of the army in Mexico. [RLLW]

NNR 73. 197 Nov. 27, 1847 Capt. Robert Bronaugh killed near Puebla.

Death of Capt. Bronaugh - We learn that Captain Bronaugh, formerly of the Baltimore battalion, was recently killed near Puebla, where he had been acting as postmaster. It appears that, before the siege of that place, 26 of them went on an expedition to retake a number of mules that had been capture by Mexicans. Soon after starting there were surrounded by a large body of lacers, and almost annihilated. Ten were killed on the spot, two or three severely wounded, and a few taken prisoners. A son of Captain Nones, of the U.S. revenue service, commanded the party, and was severely wounded, but has since recovered. [Balt. Clipper]

NNR 73.197-200 Nov. 27, 1847 Henry Clay’s speech at Lexington

SPEECH OF MR. CLAY

At the Mass Meeting in Lexington, KY, on Saturday November 13, 1847.

From the Lexington Observer .

After the organization of the meeting, Mr. Clay rose and addressed it substantially as follows: Ladies and Gentlemen:

The day is dark and gloomy, unsettled and uncertain like the condition of our country, in regard to the unnatural war with Mexico. The public mind is agitated and anxious, and is filled with serious apprehensions as to its indefinitely continuance, and especially as to the consequences which its termination may bring forth, menacing the harmony, if not the existence of the Union.

It is under these circumstances, I present myself before you. No ordinary occasion would have drawn me from the retirement in which I live; but whilst a single pulsation of the human heart remains, it should if necessary be dedicated to the services of one's country. And I have hoped that, although I am a private and humble citizen, an expression of the views and opinions I entertain, might form some little addition to the general stock of information, and afford a small assistance in delivering our country from the perils and dangers that surround it.

I have come here with no purpose to attempt to make a speech, or an ambitious oratorical display. I have brought with me no rhetorical bouquets to throw into this assemblage. In the circle of the year autumn has come, and the season of flowers has gone by, and I too am in the autumn of life, and feel the frost of age. My desire and aim are to address you, earnestly, calmly, seriously, and plainly, upon the grave and momentous subjects which have brought us together. And I am solicitous that not a solitary word may fall from me, offensive to any party or person in the whole extent of the Union.

War, pestilence, and famine, by the common consent of mankind, are the three greatest calamities which can befal our species; and war, as the most direful, justly stands foremost and in front. Pestilence and famine, no doubt for wise although inscrutable purposes, are inflections of Providence, to which it is our duty, therefore to bow with obedience, humble submission and resignation. Their duration is not long, and their ravages are limited. They
How totally variant is this present war? This is no war of defence, but on unnecessary and of
the public confidence. But has not an apprehension of a similar late, in a state of a case widely
objects, bore the aspect of seeking a dissolution of the Union itself. They lost and justly lost
the militia beyond our limits, and to hold a Hartford Convention, which, whatever the real
considerations of policy.

The exceptionable conduct of the federal party, during the last British war, has excited an
influence in the prosecution of the present war, and prevented a just discrimination between
the two wars. That was a war of national defence, required for the vindication of the national
rights and honor, and demanded by the indignant vote of the people. President Madison
himself, I know, at first reluctantly and with great doubt and hesitation, brought himself to the
conviction that it ought to be declared. A leading, and perhaps the most influential member of
his cabinet, (Mr. Gallatin), was, up to the time of its declaration, opposed to it. But nothing
could withstand the irresistible force of public sentiment. It was a just war, and its great
object, as announced at the time, was, "Free Trade and Sailors Rights," against the intolerable
and oppressive acts of British power on the ocean. The justice of the war, far from being
dented or controverted, was admitted by the federal party, which only questioned it on
a preamble was inserted falsely attributing the commencement of the war to the act of Mexico.
Thus the war commenced, and the president, after having produced it, appealed to congress. A
bill was proposed to raise 50,000 volunteers, and in order to commit all who should vote for it,
a preamble was inserted falsely attributing the commencement of the war to the act of Mexico.
I have no doubt of the patriotic motives of those who, after struggling to divest the bill of that
flagrant error, found themselves constrained to vote for it. But I must say that no earthly
consideration would have ever tempted or provoked me to vote for a bill, with a palpable
falsehood stamped on its face. Almost idolizing truth, as I do, I never, never, could have voted
for that bill.

How did we unhappily get involved in this war? - It was predicted as the consequence of the
annexation of Texas to the United States. If we had not Texas, we should have no war. The
people were told that if the event should happen, war would ensue. They were told that the
war between Texas and Mexico had not been terminated by a treaty of peace; that Mexico still
claimed Texas as a revolted province and that, if we received Texas in our Union, we too along
with her, the war existing between her and Mexico. And the minister of Mexico formally
announced to the government at Washington, that his nation would consider the annexation of
Texas to the United States as producing a state of war. But all this was denied by the partisans
of annexation. They insisted we should have no war, and even imputed to those who lore told
it, sinister motives for their groundless prediction.

But, notwithstanding a state of virtual war necessary resulted from the fact of annexation of
one of the belligerents to the United States, actual hostilities might have been probably
averted prudence, moderation, and wise statesmanship. If General Taylor had been permitted
to remain, at the point of Corpus Christi; and if a negotiation had been opened with Mexico, in
a true spirit of amity and conciliation, war possibly might have been prevented. But, instead of
this pacific and moderate course, whilst Mr. Slidell was bending his way to Mexico, with his
diplomatic credentials, Gen. Taylor was ordered to transport his cannon, and to plant them, in
a warlike attitude, opposite to Matamoros, on the east bank of the Rio Bravo, within the very
disputed territory, the adjustment of which was to be the object of Mr. Slidell's mission. What
else could have transpired but a conflict of arms?

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influence in the prosecution of the present war, and prevented a just discrimination between
the two wars. That was a war of national defence, required for the vindication of the national
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dented or controverted, was admitted by the federal party, which only questioned it on
considerations of policy.

Being deliberately and constitutionally declared, it as, I think, their duty to have given it to
their hearty cooperation. But the mass of them did not. They continued to oppose and thwart it,
to discourage loans and enlistments, to deny the power of the general government to march
the militia beyond our limits, and to hold a Hartford Convention, which, whatever the real
objects, bore the aspect of seeking a dissolution of the Union itself. They lost and justly lost
the public confidence. But has not an apprehension of a similar late, in a state of a case widely
different, repressed a fearless expression of their real sentiments in some of our public men?

How totally variant is this present war? This is no war of defence, but on unnecessary and of
It is Mexico that is defending her firesides, her castles and her altars, not we. And how different also is the conduct of the whig party of the present day from that of the major part of the federal party during the war of 1812! Far from interposing any obstacles to the prosecution of the war, if the whigs in office are reproachable at all, it is for having lent too ready a facility to it, without careful examination into the objects of the war. - And, out of office, who have rushed to the prosecution of the war with more ardor and alacrity than the whigs? Whose hearts have bled more freely than those of the whigs? Who have more occasion to mourn the loss of sons, husbands, brothers, fathers, than whig parents, whig wives, and whig brothers in this deadly and unprofitable strife?

But the havoc of war is in progress, and the no less deplorable havoc of an inhospitable and pestilential climate. Without indulging in an unnecessary retrospect and useless reproaches on the past, all hearts and heads should unite in the patriotic endeavor to bring it to a satisfactory close. Is there no way that this can be done? Must we blindly continue the conflict, without any visible object, or any prospect of a definite termination? This is the important subject upon which I desire to consult and to commune with you. Who, in this free government, is to decide upon the objects of a war, at its commencement, or at any time during its existence? Does the power belong to the nation, in the collective wisdom of the nation in congress assembled, or is it vested solely in a single functionary of the government?

A declaration of war is the highest and most awful exercise of sovereignty. The convention, which framed our federal constitution, had learned from the pages of history that it had been often and greatly abused. It had seen the war had often been commenced upon the most trifling pretexts; that it had been frequently waged to establish or exclude a dynasty; to snatch a crown from the head of one potentate and place it upon the head of another; that it had often been prosecuted to promote alien and other interests than those of the nation whose chief had proclaimed it, as in the case of English wars for Hanoverian interests; and, in short, to be confided to the perilous exercise of one single man. The convention, therefore, resolved to guard the war making power against those great abuses, of which, in the lands of a monarch, it was so susceptible.

And the security against those abuses which its wisdom devised, was to vest the war making power in the congress of the United States, being the immediate representatives of the people and the states. So apprehensive and jealous was the convention of its abuse in any other hands, that it interdicted the exercise of power to any state in the Union, without the consent of congress. Congress, then, in our system of government, is the sole depository of that tremendous power.

The constitution provides that congress shall have power to declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, to raise and support armies, to provide and maintain a navy, and to make rules for the government of the land and naval forces. Thus we perceive that the principal power, in regard to war, with all its auxiliary attendants, is granted to congress. Whenever called upon to determine upon the solemn question of peace or war, congress must consider and deliberate and decide upon the motives, objects, and causes of the war. And, if a war be commenced without any previous declaration of its objects, as in the case of the existing war with Mexico, congress must necessarily possess the authority, at any time, to declare for what purposes it shall be further prosecuted. If we suppose congress does not possess the controlling authority attributed to it; if it be contended that a war having been once commenced, the president of the United States may direct it to the accomplishment of any objects he pleases, without consulting and without any regard to the will of congress; the convention will have utterly failed in guarding the nation against the abuses and ambition of a single individual.

Either congress or the president, must have the right of determining upon the objects for which a war shall be prosecuted. There is no other alternative. If the president possesses it and prosecute it for objects against the will of congress, where is the difference between our free government and that of any other nations which may be governed by an absolute Czar, Emperor, of King.

Congress may omit, as it has omitted in the present war, to proclaim the object for which it was commenced or has been since prosecuted, and in cases of such omission the president, being charged with the employment and direction of the national force, is necessarily, left to his own judgment to decide upon the objects, to the attainment of which that force shall be applied. But, whenever congress shall think proper to declare, by some authentic act, for what purposes a war shall be commenced on continued, it is the duty of the president to apply the national force to the attainment of those purposes. In the instance of the last war with Great Britain, the act of congress by which it was declared was preceded by a message of President Madison enumerating the wrongs and injuries of which we complained against Great Britain. That message therefore, and without it the well known objects of the war, which was a war purely of defence, rendered it unnecessary that congress should particularize, in the act, the specific objects for which it was proclaimed. The whole world knew that it was a war waged for free trade and sailors' rights.
It may be argued that the president and senate possess the treaty making power, without any express limitation to its exercise; that the natural and ordinary termination of a war is by a treaty of peace; and therefore, that the president and senate must posses the power to decide what stipulations and conditions shall enter into such a treaty. But it is not more true that the president and senate possess the treaty making power, without limitation, than that congress possesses the war making power, without restriction. These two powers then ought to be so interpreted as to reconcile the one with the other; and, in expounding the constitution, we ought to keep constantly in view the nature and structure of our free government, and especially the great object of the convention in taking the war making power out of the hands of a single man and placing it in the safer custody of the representatives of the whole nation. The desirable reconciliation between the two powers is effected by attributing to congress the right to declare what shall be the objects of a war, and to the president the duty of endeavoring to obtain those objects by the direction of the national force and by diplomacy.

I am broaching no new and speculative theory. - The statute book of the United States is full of examples of prior declarations by congress of the objects to be attained by negotiations with foreign powers, and the archives of the executive department furnish abundant evidence of the accomplishmendment of those objects, or the attempt to accomplish them, by subsequent negotiations.

Prior to the declaration of the last war against Great Britain, in all the restrictive measures which congress adopted, against the two great belligerent powers of Europe, clauses were inserted in the several acts establishing them, tendering to both or either of the belligerents the abolition of those restrictions if they would repeal their hostile Berlin and Milan decrees and orders in council, operating against our commerce and navigation. And these acts of congress were invariably communicated, through the executive, by diplomatic notes to France and Great Britain, as the basis upon which it was proposed to restore friendly intercourse with them. So, after the termination of the war, various acts of congress were passed, from time to time, offering to foreign powers the principle of reciprocity in the commerce and navigation of the U. States with them. Out of these acts have sprung a class, and a large class, of treaties, (four or five of which were negotiated, whilst I was in the department of state,) commonly called reciprocity treaties concluded under all the presidents, from Mr. Madison to Mr. Van Buren, inclusive. And with regard to commercial treaties, negotiated with the sanction of prior acts of congress, where they contained either appropriations or were in conflict with unrepealed statutes, it has ever been held as the republican doctrine, from Mr. Jay's treaty down to the present time, that the passage of acts of congress was necessary to secure the execution of those treaties. If in the matter of foreign commerce, in respect to which the power vested in congress to regulate it and the treaty making power may be regarded as concurrent, congress can previously decide the objects to which negotiation shall be applied, how much stronger is the case of war, the power to declare which is confined exclusively to congress?

I conclude, therefore, Mr. President and fellow citizens, with entire confidence that congress has the right either at the beginning or during the prosecution of any war, to decide the objects and purposes for which it ought to be continued. And I think it is the duty of congress, by some deliberate and authentic act, to declare for what objects the present war shall be longer prosecuted. I suppose the president would not hesitate to regulate his conduct by the pronounced will of congress, and to employ the force and the diplomatic power of the nation to execute that will. But, if the president should decline or refuse to do so, and, in contempt of the supreme authority of congress, should preserve in waging war, for other objects than those proclaimed by congress, then it would be the imperative duty of that body to vindicate its authority by the most stringent and effectual and appropriate measures. And if, on the contrary, the enemy should refuse to conclude a treaty, containing stipulations securing the objects designated by congress, it would become the duty of the whole government to prosecute the war, with all the national energy, until those objects were attained by a treaty of peace. There can e no insuperable difficulty in congress making such an authoritative declaration. Let it resolved, simply, that the war shall, or shall not, be a war of conquest, and if a war of conquest, what is to be conquered. Should a resolution pass, disclaiming the design of peace would follow in less than sixty days, if the president would conform to the constitutional duty.

Here, fellow citizens, I might pause, having indicated a mode by which the nation, through its accredited and legitimate representatives in congress, can announce for what purposes and objects this war shall be longer prosecuted, and can thus let the whole people of the United States know for what and their blood is to be further shed, and their treasure further expended, instead of the knowledge of it being locked up and concealed in the bosom of one man. We should no longer perceive the objects of the war varying, from time to time, according to the changing opinions of the chief magistrate charged with its prosecution. But I do not think it right to stop here. It is the privilege of the people, in their primitive assemblies, and of every private man, however humble, to express an opinion in regard to the purposes for which the war should be continued; and such an expression will receive just as much consideration and consequence as it is entitled to, and no more.

Shall this war be prosecuted for the purpose of conquering and annexing Mexico, in all its
States and Mexico, there are some points of striking resemblance between them. The differences between the condition of England and Ireland, as compared to that of the United Irishman hates, with a mortal hatred, his Saxon oppressor. Although there are great territorial feeling, affection and sympathy, toward the power which has so long borne her down. Every rebellion have been the order of the day; and yet, up to this time, Ireland remains alien in Rivers of Irish blood have flowed, during the long and arduous contest. Insurrection and subjugated the Emerald Isle.

Caesar, after conquering Gaul, returned with his triumphant legions to Rome, passed the Rubicon, won the battle of Pharsalia, trampled upon the liberties of his country, and expired by the patriot hand of Brutus. But Rome ceased to be free. War and conquest had enervated and corrupted the masses. The spirit of true liberty was extinguished, and a long line of emperors succeeded, some of whom were the most execrable monsters that ever existed in human form. And that most extraordinary man, perhaps in all history, after subjugating all continental Europe, occupying almost all its capitals, seriously threatening, according to Mr. Thiers, proud Albion itself, and decked the brows of various members of his family, with crowns torn from the heads of other monarchs, lived to behold his own dear France itself in the possession of his enemies, was made himself a wretched captive, and far removed from country, family, and friends, breathed his last on the distant and inhospitable rock of St. Helena. The Alps and Rhine had been claimed as the natural boundaries of France, but even these could not be secured in the treaties to which she was reduced to submit. Do you believe that the people of Macedon or Greece, of Rome, or of France, were benefitted, individually or collectively, by the triumphs of their great captains? Their sad lot was immense sacrifice of life, heavy and intolerable burdens, and the ultimate loss of liberty itself.

That the power of the United States is competent to the conquest of Mexico is quite probable. But it could not be achieved without frightful carnage, dreadful sacrifices of human life, and the creation of an onerous national debt; nor could it be completely effected, in all probability, until after the lapse of many years. It would be necessary to occupy all its strongholds, to disarm its inhabitants, and to keep them in constant fear and subjection. To consummate the work, I presume that standing armies, not less than a hundred thousand men, would be necessary, to be kept perhaps always in the bosom of their country. These standing armies, reveling in a foreign land, and accustomed to trample upon the liberties of foreign people, at some distant day might be fit and ready instruments, under the lead of some daring and unprincipled chieftain, to return to their country and prostrate the public liberty.

Supposing the conquest to be once made, what is to be done with it? Is it to be governed, like Roman Provinces, by Proconsuls? Would it be compatible with the genius, character, and safety of our free institutions, to keep such a great country as Mexico, with a population of not less than nine millions, in a state of constant subjection?

Shall it be annexed to the United States? Does any considerate man believe it possible that two such immense countries, with territories of nearly equal extent, with populations so incongruous, so different in race, in language, in religion and in laws, could be blended together in one harmonious mass, and happily governed by one common authority? Murmurs, discontent, insurrections, rebellion, would inevitably ensure, until the incompatible parts would be broken asunder, and possibly, in the frightful struggle, our present glorious union itself would be dismembered or dissolved.

We ought not so forget the warning voice of all history, which teaches the difficulty of combining and consolidating together, conquering and conquered notions. After the lapse of eight hundred years, during which the Moors held their conquest of Spain, the indomitable courage, perseverance, and obstinacy of the Spanish race finally triumphed, and expelled the African invaders from the Peninsula. And even with our own time, the colossal power of Napoleon, when at its loftiest height, was incompetent to subdue and subjugate the proud Castilian. And here with in our own neighborhood, Lower Canada, which near one hundred years ago, after the conclusion of the seven years war, was ceded by France to Great Britain, remains a foreign land in the midst of the British provinces, foreign in feelings and attachment, and foreign in laws, language and religion. And what has been the fact with poor gallant, generous and oppressed Ireland? Centuries have passed since the overbearing Saxon overrun and subjugged the Emerald Isle.

Rivers of Irish blood have flowed, during the long and arduous contest. Insurrection and rebellion have been the order of the day; and yet, up to this time, Ireland remains alien in feeling, affection and sympathy, toward the power which has so long borne her down. Every Irishman hates, with a mortal hatred, his Saxon oppressor. Although there are great territorial differences between the condition of England and Ireland, as compared to that of the United States and Mexico, there are some points of striking resemblance between them.
Both the Irish and the Mexicans are probably of the same Celtic race. Both the English and the Americans are of the same Saxon origin. The Catholic religion predominates in both the former, the Protestant among both the latter. Religion has been the fruitful cause of dissatisfaction and discontent between the Irish and the English nations. Is there no reason to apprehend that it would become so between the people of the United States and Mexico, if they were united together? Why should we seek to interfere with them in their mode of worship of a common Saviour? We believe that they are wrong especially in the exclusive character of their faith, and that we are right. They think that they are right and we are wrong. What other rule can there be than to leave the followers of each religion to their own solemn convictions of conscientious duty towards God? Who but the great Arbiter of the Universe, can judge in such a question? For my own part, I sincerely believe and hope that those who belong to all the departments of the great church of Christ, if, in truth and purity, they conform to the doctrines which they profess, will ultimately secure and abide in those regions of bliss, which all aim finally to reach. I think there is no potentate in Europe, whatever his religion may be, more enlightened or at this moment so interesting as the liberal head of the Papal See.

But I suppose it to be impossible that those who favor, if there be any who favor the annexation of Mexico to the United States, can think that it ought to be perpetually governed by the military sway. Certainly no votary of human liberty could deem it right that a violation should be perpetuated of the great principles of our own revolution, according to which, laws ought not to be enacted and taxes ought not to be levied, without representation on the part of those who are to obey the one, and pay the other. Then, Mexico is to participate in our councils and equally share in our legislation and government. But, suppose she would not voluntarily choose representatives to the national congress, is our soldiery to follow the electors to the ballot box, and by force to compel them, at the point of the bayonet, to deposit their ballots? And how are the nine millions of Mexican people to be represented in the congress of the United States of America and the congress of the United States of the Republic of Mexico combined? Is every Mexican, without regard to color or caste, per capita, to exercise the elective franchise? How is the quota of representation between the two republics, to be fixed? Where is their seat of common government to be established? And who can foresee or foretell, if Mexico, voluntarily or by force, were to share in the common government what would be the consequences to her or to us? Unprepared, as I fear her populations yet is, for the practical enjoyment of self government, and of habits, customs, language, laws and religion, so totally different from our own, we should present the revolting spectacle of a confused, distracted, and motley government.

We should have a Mexican party, a Pacific Ocean party, an Atlantic party, in addition to the other parties, which exist, or with which we are threatened, each striving to execute its own particular views and purposes, and reproaching the others with thwarting and disappointing them. The Mexican representation, in congress, would probably form a separate and impenetrable corps, always ready to throw itself into the scale of any other party, to advance and promote Mexican interests. Such a state of things could not long endure. Those, whom God and geography have pronounced should live asunder, could never be permanently and harmoniously united together.

Do we want for our own happiness or greatness the addition of Mexico to the existing Union of our states? If our population was too dense for our territory, and there was a difficulty in obtaining honorably the means of subsistence, there might be some excuse for an attempt to enlarge our dominions. But we have no such apology. We have already, in our glorious country, a vast and almost boundless territory. Beginning in the north, in the frozen regions of the British provinces, it stretches thousands of miles along the coasts of the Atlantic ocean and the Mexican gulf, until it almost reaches the tropics. It extends to the Pacific ocean, on those great inland seas, the lakes, which separate us from the possessions of Great Britain, and it embraces the great father of rivers, from its uppermost source to the Balize, and the still longer Missouri, from its mouth to the gorges of the Rocky Mountains.

It comprehends the greatest variety of the richest soils, capable of almost all the productions of the earth, except tea and coffee and the spices, and it includes every variety of climate, which the heart could wish or desire. We have more than ten thousand millions of acres of waste and unsettled lands, enough for the subsistence of ten or twenty times our present population. Ought we not to be satisfied with such a country? Ought we not be profoundly thankful to the Giver of all good things for such a vast and bountiful land? Is it not the height of ingratitude to Him to seek by war and conquest, indulging in a spirit of rapacity, to acquire other lands, the homes and habitations of a large portion of his common children? If we pursue the object of such a conquest, besides mortgaging the revenue and resources of this country for ages to come, in the form of an onerous national debt, we should have greatly to augment the debt, by an assumption of the sixty or seventy millions of the national debt of Mexico. For I take it that nothing is more certain than that, if we obtain voluntarily or by conquest, a foreign nation, we acquire it with all the incumbrances attached to it. In my humble opinion, we are now bound, in honor and morality, to pay the just debt of Texas. - And we should be equally bound by the same obligations, to pay the debt of Mexico if it were annexed by the United States.
Of the possessions which appertain to man, in his collective or individual condition, none should be preserved and cherished, with more sedulous and unremitting care than that of an unspilled character. It is impossible to estimate it too highly, in society, when attached to an individual, nor can it be exaggerated or too greatly magnified in a nation. Those who lose or are indifferent to it become just objects of scorn or contempt. Of all the abominable transactions which sully the pages of history, none exceed in enormity that of the dismemberment and partition of Poland, by the three great continental powers - Russia, Austria and Prussia. Ages may pass away, and centuries roll around, but as long as human records endure all mankind will unite in execrating the rapacious and detestable deed. That was accomplished by overwhelming force, and the unfortunate existence of fatal dissensions and divisions in the bosom of Poland. Let us avoid affixing to our name and national character a similar, if not worse stigma. I am afraid that we do not now stand well in the opinion of other parts of Christendom. - All the nations, I apprehend, look upon us in the prosecution of the present war, as being actuated by a spirit of rapacity and an inordinate desire for territorial aggrandizement. Let us not forget altogether their good opinions. Let us command their applause by a noble exercise of forbearance and justice. In the elevated station which we hold, we can safely afford to practise the godlike virtues of moderation and magnanimity. The long series of glorious triumphs, achieved by our gallant commanders and their brave armies, unattended by a single reverse, justify us, without the least danger of tarnishing the national honor, in disinterestedly holding out the olive branch of peace.

We do not want the mines, the mountains, the morasses and the sterile lands of Mexico. To her the loss of them would be humiliating, and be a perpetual source of regret and mortification. To us they might prove a fatal acquisition, producing distraction, dissension, division possibly disunion. Let therefore the integrity of the national existence and national territory of Mexico remain undisturbed. - For one, I desire to see no part of her territory torn from her by war. Some of our people have placed their hearts upon the acquisition of the Bay of San Francisco in Upper California. To us, as a great maritime power, it might prove to be, of advantage hereafter in respect, to our commercial and navigating interests. To Mexico which can never be a great maritime power, it can never be of much advantage. - If we obtain it by fair purchase with a just equivalent, I should be happy to see it so acquired. As, whenever the war ceases, Mexico ought to be required to pay the debts due to our citizens, perhaps an equivalent for that bay may be found in that debt, our government assuming to pay to our citizens whatever portion of it may be applied to that object. But it should form no motive in the prosecution of the war, which I would not continue a solitary hour for the sake of that harbor.

But what, it will be asked, shall we make peace without any indemnity for the expenses of war? If the published documents in relation to the late negotiations between Mr. Trist and the Mexican commissioners be true, and I have not seen them anywhere contradicted, the executive properly waived any demand of indemnity for the expenses of the war. And the rupture of that negotiation was produced, by our government insisting upon a session from Mexico, of the strip and mostly barren land between the Nueces and the Rio Bravo and New Mexico, which Mexico refused to make. So that we are now fighting, if not for the conquest of all Mexico as intimated in some quarters, for that narrow strip, and for the barren province of New Mexico, with its few miserable mines. We bought all the Louisiana Purchase for fifteen millions of dollars, and it is, in my opinion, worth more than all of Mexico together. We bought Florida, at five millions of dollars, and a hard bargain it was, since, besides that sum, we gave up the boundary of the Rio Bravo, to which I think we were entitled, as the western limit of the province of Louisiana, and were restricted to that part of the Sabine. And we are now, if not seeking the conquest of all Mexico, to continue this war indefinitely for the inconsiderable objects to which I have just referred.

But it will be repeated, are we to have no indemnity for the expenses of the war? Mexico is utterly unable to make us any pecuniary indemnity, if the justice of the war on our part entitled us to demand it. Her country has been laid waste, her cities burned or occupied by our troops, her means so exhausted that she is unable to pay even her own armies. And every day's prosecution of the war, whilst it would augment the amount of our indemnity, would lessen the ability of Mexico to pay it. We have seen, however, that there is another [illegible]...

Among the resolutions which it is my intention to present for your consideration at the conclusion of this address, one proposes, in your behalf and mine, to disavow, in the most positive manner, any desire, on our part, to acquire any foreign territory whatever for the purpose of introducing slavery into it. I do not know that any citizen of the U. States entertains such a wish. But such a motive has often been imputed to the slave states, and I therefore think it necessary to notice it on this occasion. My opinions on the subject of slavery are well known. - They have the merit, if it be one, of consistency, uniformity and long duration. I have ever regarded slavery as a great evil, a wrong, for the present I fear an irredeemable wrong to its unfortunate victims. - I should rejoice if not a single slave breathed the air or was within the limits of our country. But here they are, to be dealt with as well as we can, with a due consideration of all circumstances affecting the security, safety and happiness of both races. Every state has the supreme, uncontrolled and exclusive power to decide for itself whether slavery shall cease or continue within its limits, without any exterior intervention from any quarter. In states where the slaves outnumber the whites, as is the case with several, the
blacks could not be emancipated and invested with all the rights of freemen, without becoming
the governing race in those states. Collisions and conflicts between the two races, would be
inevitable, and after shocking scenes of rape and carnage, the extinction or expulsion of the
blacks would certainly take place.

In the state of Kentucky, near fifty years ago, I thought the proportion of slaves, in comparison
with the whites, was so inconsiderable that we might safely adopt a system of gradual
emancipation that would ultimately eradicate this evil in our state. That system was totally
different from the immediate abolition of slavery for which the party of the abolitionists of the
present day contend. Whether they have intended or not, it is my calm and deliberate belief,
that they incalculable mischief even to the very cause which they espoused, to say nothing of
the discord which has been produced between the different parts of the Union. According to
the system, we attempted, near the close of the last century, all slaves in being were to
remain such, but all who might be born subsequent to a specified day were to become free at
the age of twenty-eight, and during their service were to be taught to read, write and cipher.
Thus, instead of being thrown upon the community, ignorant and unprepared, as would be the
case by immediate emancipation, they would have entered upon the possession of their
freedom, capable, in some degree, of enjoying it. After a hard struggle the system was
defeated, and I regret it extremely, as, if it had been then adopted, our state would be now
nearly rid of that reproach.

Since that epoch, a scheme or unmixed benevolence has sprung up, which, if it had existed at
that time, would have obviated one of the greatest objections, which was made to gradual
emancipation, which was the continuance of the emancipated slaves to abide among us. That
scheme is the American colonization society. About twenty-eight years ago, a few individuals,
myself among them, met together in the city of Washington, and laid the foundation of that
society. It has gone on amidst extraordinary difficulties and trials, sustaining itself almost
entirely by spontaneous and voluntary contributions, from individual benevolence, without
scarcely any aid from government.

The colonies, planted under its auspices, are now well established communities, with churches,
schools, and other institutions appertaining to the civilized state. They have made successful
war in repelling attacks and invasions by their barbarous and savage neighbors. They have
made treaties, annexed territories to their dominion, and are blessed with a free
representative in government. I recently read a message, from one of their governors to their
legislature, which, in point of composition, and in careful attention to the public affairs of their
republic, would compare advantageously with the messages of the governors of our own
states. I am not very superstitious, but I do solemnly believe that these colonies are blest with
the smiles of Providence, and, if we may dare attempt penetrating the veil, by which he
conceals his all-wise dispensations from mortal eyes, that he designs that Africa shall be the
refuge and the home of the descendants of its sons and daughters, torn and dragged from
their native land, by lawless violence.

It is a philanthropic and consoling reflection that the moral and physical condition of the
African race in the United States, even in a state of slavery, is far better than it would have
been if their ancestors had never been brought from their native land. And if it should be the
decree of the great Ruler of the universe that their descendants shall be made instruments in
his hands in the establishment of civilization and the christian religion throughout Africa, our
regrets on account of the original wrong will be greatly mitigated.

It may be argued that, in admitting the injustice of slavery, I admit the necessity of an
instantaneous reparation of that injustice. Unfortunately, however, it is not always safe,
practicable, or possible, in the great movements of states and public affairs of nations, to
remedy or repair the infliction of previous injustice. In the inception of it, we may oppose and
denounce it, by our most strenuous exertions, but after its consummation, there is often no
alternative left us but to deplore its perpetration, and to acquiesce as the only alternative, in
its existence, as a less evil than the frightful consequences which might ensue from the vain
endeavor to repair it. Slavery is one of those unfortunate instances. The evil of it was inflicted
upon us, by the parent country of Great Britain against all the entreaties and remonstrances of the
colonies. And here it is amongst and amidst us, and we must dispose of it as best we can
under all the circumstances which surround us. It continued, by the importation of slaves from
Africa, in spite of colonial resistance, for a period of more than a century and a half, and it may
require an equal or a longer lapse of time before our country is entirely rid of the evil. And in
the meantime, moderation, prudence, and discretion among ourselves, and the blessings of
providence may be all necessary to accomplish our ultimate deliverance from it. Examples of
similar infliction of irreparable national evil and injustice might be multiplied to an indefinite
extent. The case of the annexation of Texas to the United States is a recent and an obvious
one which, if it were wrong, it cannot now be repaired. Texas is now an integral part of our
Union, with its own voluntary consent. Many of us oppose the annexation with honest zeal and
most earnest exertions. But who would now think of perpetrating the folly of casting Texas out
of the Confederacy and throwing her back upon her own independence, or into the arms of
Mexico? Who would now divorce her from this Union? The Creeks and the Cherokee Indians
were, by the most exceptionable means, driven from their country, and transported beyond
the Mississippi River. Their lands have been fairly purchased and occupied by inhabitants of
Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee. Who would now conceive the flagrant injustice
of expelling those inhabitants and restoring the Indian country to the Cherokees and Creeks,
under color of repairing original injustice? During the war of our revolution, millions of paper
money were issued by our ancestors, as the only currency with which they could achieve our
liberties and independence. - Thousands and hundreds of thousands of families were stripped
of their homes and all and brought to ruin, by giving credit and confidence to that
spurious currency. Stern necessity has prevented the reparation of that great national
injustice.

But I forbear, I will no longer trespass upon your patience or further tax my own voice,
impaired by a speech of more than three hours' duration, which professional duty required me
to make only a few days ago. If I have been at all successful in the exposition of the views and
opinions I entertain, I have shown -

1st. That the present war was brought about by the annexation of Texas and the subsequent
order of the president, without the previous consent and authority of congress.

2d. That the president, being unenlightened and uninstructed by any public declaration of
congress, as to objects for which is ought to be prosecuted, in the conduct of it, is necessarily,
left to his own sense of what the national interest and honor may require.

3d. That the whole war making power of the nation, as to motives, causes, and objects, is
confided by the constitution to the discretion and judgment of congress.

4th. That it is, therefore, the right of congress, at the commencement or during the progress
of any war, to declare for what objects and purposes the war ought to be waged and
prosecuted.

5th. That it is the right and duty of congress to announce to the nation for what objects the
war shall be longer continued; that it is the duty of the president, in the exercise of all his
official functions, to conform to and carry out this declared will of congress by the exercise, if
necessary, of all the high power with which he is clothed and that, if he fail or refuse to do so,
it becomes the imperative duty of congress to arrest the further progress of the war by the
most effectual means in its power.

Let congress announce to the nation the objects for which this war shall be further protracted,
and public suspense and public inquietude will no longer remain. - If it is to be a war of
conquest of all, or any part of Mexico, let the people know it, and they will be no longer
agitated by a dark and uncertain future. But although I might of forborne to express any
opinion whatever as to purposes and objects for which the war should be continued, I have not
thought proper to conceal my opinions, whether worth anything or not, from the public
examination. Accordingly I have stated

6th. That it seems to me that it is the duty of our county as well as the score of moderation
and to magnanimity, as to the view of avoiding discord and discontent at home, to abstain
from seeking to conquer and annex to the United States, Mexico or any part of it; and
especially to disabuse the public mind in any corridor of the Union of the impression, if it any
where exist, that a desire for conquest is cherished for the purpose of propagating and
extending slavery.

I have embodied, Mr. President and fellow citizens, the sentiments and opinions which I have
endeavored to explain and enforce in a series of resolutions, which I beg now to submit to your
consideration and judgment.

After reading the resolutions and handing them to the secretary, Mr. Clay concluded by
apologizing for the length of time which he had trespassed upon the meeting, and thanking the
ladies and gentlemen most cordially, for the honor done him by their attendance on that
occasion and the profound attention with which they had listened to him.

NOTE BY THE EDITOR. - The speech was often interrupted by bursts of applause, and both at
its commencement and conclusion, there was tremendous cheering. [RLLW]
Sir: For the information of the general-in-chief of the United States army, I have the honor to make the following report of the operations of my division, and of those of other troops which came under my command on the 19th and 20th instant.

Agreeably to instructions from Gen. Scott, I left my train of wagons at San Augustin on the morning of the 19th, and proceeded with my division to cross the mountain route previously reconnoitered by Captain Lee, of the engineers, and cover a working party under the orders of Major General Pillow. Having proceeded about two miles, the enemy was discovered at the main roads to the city of Mexico, (and some nine miles from it,) distant one mile, in a naturally strong position made still more by breastworks which commanded the approach in every direction. Captain McLellan, of the topographical engineers, and Lieut. McClellan, of the engineer proper, were sent in advance to reconnoitre, with a view of placing our batteries. They were soon stopped by one of the enemy's pickets, and were compelled to return, each having had his horse shot. The rifle regiment, commanded by Major Loring, was then ordered forward as skirmishers to clear the ground. This duty was performed handsomely and with dispatch. Having driven in the enemy's pickets, to within 300 yards of his works, Capt. Magruder's battery and the mountain howitzer and rocket battery commanded by Lieut. Callender, of the ordnance, were placed in position by Capt. Lee, of the engineers.

These batteries at my disposal by the kindness of Major General Pillow, by whose magnanimity (he being my senior present) I had the control of my reinforcements, and every facility from his division, which I required. So soon as our batteries were established, the enemy opened a most destructive fire from several of his large guns. The connoémading was kept up on both sides for several hours, until compelled by loss of officers, men, and crippled pieces, our batteries were placed for the time under shelter. In this affair the very gallant and much lamented Lieut. J.P. Johnstone, of Magruder's battery, was mortally wounded; and Lieut. Callender, of the howitzer and rocket battery, severely wounded. The coolness and determination evinced by the officers and men while under this hot fire, gave sure indication of the result of the coming conflict, when all my command would get in position. General Smith's brigade was ordered to proceed in the direction of our batteries and Riley's, by inclining to the right, to get a position, if possible, in the enemy's rear. The route he was compelled to take was most difficult and tedious, passing over volcanic rocks and crossing large fissures barely narrow enough to permit the men to get over by leaping. - Accompanied by Lieut. Tower of the engineers, this brigade finally reached the main road and got in position in rear of the enemy (ten or twelve thousand) was discovered coming from the direction of the city, and closing on Riley's rear. At the same time from the field work at Contreras came out two or three thousand men on the road which the brigade had crossed, entirely cutting off Riley's from Smith's brigade. - Notwithstanding the very great disparity in numbers in favor of the enemy, this fine brigade kept its ground, occasionally driving from its vicinity, with loss, bodies of the enemy who had rashness enough to approach within musket range.

During this state of affairs, Smith's brigade was ordered to form a junction with Riley's, while Gen. Pierce's brigade occupied the left of the trail, and remained as a support to the batteries. Much credit is due to Col. Ransom, by whose untiring exertions an zeal the 9th and 12th infantry were placed in position near the batteries late in the night of the 19th. Late in the evening the two brigades joined near the road - Riley having manoeuvred in the face of the enemy so as to rejoin Smith's. Still later - Shields's and Cadwallader's brigades formed a junction with any division, then under the immediate command of General Smith. I being unable from a lame foot, to follow the route taken by my troops, returned to the vicinity of Taylor's battery, where I passed the night. General Smith made his arrangements to attack the enemy's works the next morning.

For the particulars of this affair I would respectfully refer the general-in-chief to the reports of Gen. Smith and Colonel Riley, to whom, and to the other officers engaged, is due all the credit that attaches - I was unable, for the reason given above, to come up to my division till the affair was over, and the road opened for my horse. In all the recommendations from brigade and regimental commanders I fully concur; and in addition, for gallant services on the 19th, would present the names of Capt. McLellan, topographical engineers, Lieutenants Beauregard, Tower, G.W. Smith, G.B. McClellan, Stevens and Foster, of the engineers, proper, (the last named officer was particularly active in the management of one of Captain Magruder's pieces after the lamented Johnstone lost his leg,) Magruder, Lieut. Jackson, Lieuts. Callender and Reno, serving with their respective batteries. Lieut. G. B. McClellan, after Lieut. Callender was wounded, took charge of and managed the howitzer battery (Lieut. Reno being detached with the rockets) with judgment and success, until it became so disabled as to require shelter. For Lieut. McClelland's efficiency and gallantry to this affair, I present his name for the favorable consideration of the general-in-chief.
The medical officers of the division, always ready to administer to the comfort of the sick and wounded, were particularly active on this occasion. With no conveniences for themselves, and but little shelter for the wounded, this admirable corps of officers spent the entire night exposed to the pitiless storm, in dressing the wounded and in alleviating their sufferings. I cannot do less than give their names a place in this report: Surgeons C. S. Tripler, B. Randall, H. H. Siemer, C. C. Kerney, and ---- Hammond, make up the number. My immediate staff --- Lieutenant Brooks, A. A. A. G., Lieutenant McDonald, A. D. C., Captain Allen, quartermaster, and Lieutenants Grafton, ordnance officer, and Sykes, A. C. S. to the division, were active and efficient in conveying orders, and, when necessary, in giving directions.

Having secured the prisoners and captured property at Contreras, [entrenched camp.] the 4th artillery, with other troops, was left as a guard, and to provide for the wounded and bury the dead. Pursuing a small retreating force through the villages of San Angel and Santa Catarina, giving them occasionally a running fire until we arrived in front o Churubusco, where the enemy were in strongly fortified position, with seven pieces of cannon and several thousand bayonets, a large body of lancers guarding the approach to the right of their work, which was incomplete, I came to a halt; by order of the general-in-chief, for the purposes of having a reconnaissance made. Lieut. Stevens, of the engineers, was sent forward to look at the enemy's position, supported by the company of sappers and miners. He reported a good position for Taylor's battery towards the left of the work, from which it was practicable to drive from the roof and walls of the church such of the enemy as, from their elevated position, could annoy my foot troops destined to storm the work surrounding the church.

The battery was accordingly ordered. It opened with great spirit, and remained under a most galling and destructive fire of grape, round shot, shell, and musketry for an hour and a half; by which time, having accomplished the desired object, it was withdrawn, much crippled in officers, men and horses. - In the meantime, Smith's brigade was ordered in the same direction the battery took, immediately in front of the work, and Riley's farther to the left, with a view of turning and gaining entrance to the open portion of the entrenchments on the enemy's right. After an uninterrupted and severe fire on both sides for two hours, my troops entered the work. All the regiments were close at hand, and shared equally in the dangers and honors of the day. Gen. Rincon, the commander of the place, and two other general officers, together with several others of rank, in all numbering 104, and 1155 non-commissioned officers and privates, prisoners of war, seven pieces of cannon, and a large number of small arms, and a great amount of ammunition of all kinds, together with 2655 prisoners of war.

To Captain Lee, of the engineers, I have again the pleasure of tendering my thanks for the exceedingly valuable services rendered throughout the whole of these operations; and to Lieut. G. W. Smith, of the engineers, who commanded the company of sappers and miners, I am under many obligations for his services on this and other occasions. Whenever his legitimate duties with the pick and spade were performed, he always solicited permission to join in the advance of the storming party with his muskets, to which position his gallantry, and that of his officers and men, was conspicuously displayed at Contreras as well as Cerro Gordo. His name I also present to the commanding general for discretion.

Finally, to Brevet Brigadier General Smith and Brevet Colonel Riley all the praise I can bestow is entitled, for their cordial and valuable support to me on all occasions and in every emergency. Their names, already conspicuous in the present campaign, have been rendered doubly so during the two recent battles.

My effective force on the morning of the 20th was one hundred and eleven officers and twenty-five hundred and thirty non commissioned officers and privates, and of the number were killed and wounded twenty-one officers, two hundred and forty-five men, killed, wounded and missing.

For more minute information, I will refer you to the accompanying reports of brigade and regimental commanders. A list of the killed and wounded, and missing, I have the honor to present with this report.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D.E. TWIGGS,
Brigadier General U.S. Army,
Commanding 2d division Regulars.

Captain H.L. Scott, A. A. G.,
Headquarters of the army in the field.
[RLWW]
REPORT OF GENERAL QUITMAN

Headquarters Volunteer Division,  
San Augustin, August 26 1847

SIR:--I have the honor to enclose the report of Brig. Gen. Shields of the operations of that portion of my division which was actively engaged in the recent battles before the city of Mexico.

Having been ordered by the general-in-chief to remain at this point in reserve with the remainder of my division, consisting of the 2d Pennsylvania regiment, under command of Col. Roberts, the battalion of marines, under Lieut. Col. Watson, Captain Steptoe’s battery, and Captain Gaither’s troop of dragons, I have nothing to add, the enclosed report of Brig. Gen. Shields, except the expression of my unqualified admiration of the distinguished conduct of that gallant officer, and my approbation of the good conduct and gallantry of the portion of my division which had the good fortune to be actively engaged under his command.

The troops which remained at this place in reserve, diligently performed the burdensome duties which fell to their lot during and after the sever conflicts which took place before the city. Col. Roberts, 2d Pennsylvania regiment, Lieut. Col. Watson, of the marines, and Captains Steptoe and Gaither assiduously shared the labors and cares which devolved upon me. My thanks are due to 1st Lieut. Lovell, acting assistant adjutant general, and Lieut. Wilcox, my aid, for their able and active performance of their duties. I also take this opportunity of noticing the energy, activity, and zeal with which Capt. Daniels, the division quartermaster, has performed his duties, both on the march and while in this position.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. A. QUITMAN, Major Gen.  
Commanding volunteer divis.

[ RLLW ]

NNR 73.201-202 Nov. 27, 1847 Gen. James Shields' report on operations of August 20

REPORT OF GENERAL SHIELDS.

Headquarters 1st Brigade Vol. Division,  
San Augustin, Mexico, August 24, 1847.

Sir: -- On the 19th instant, about three o'clock in the afternoon, pursuant to the orders of the general commanding this division, I marched from this place with the New York and South Carolina regiments of volunteers towards the battle-field of Contreras. On reporting to the commander-in-chief, who occupied on my arrival a position which overlooked the field, he described to me in a few words, the position of the contending forces, pointed out the route of my command, and briefly instructed me as to the dispositions which would render my force the most serviceable.

Directing my march upon this village near Contreras, the troops had to pass over ground covered with rocks and crags, and filled with chasms, which rendered the road almost impassable. A deep ragged ravine, along the bed of which rolled a rapid stream, was passed after dark, with great diliouity and exertion; and rest to the wearied troops after crossing. I directed them to lie upon their arms until midnight. While occupying this position, two strong pickets, thrown out by my orders, discovered, fired upon and drove back a body of Mexican infantry moving towards the city. I have since learned that an attempt had in like manner been made by the enemy to pass the position on the main road occupied by the 1st regiment of artillery, and with a like want of success. About midnight I again resumed the march, and joined Brig. Gen. Smith in the village already referred to.

Gen. Smith, previous to my arrival, had made the most judictous of arrangements for turning and surprising the Mexican position at daybreak, and with which I could not wish to interfere. This cast upon my command the necessity of holding the position to be evacuated by General S., and which was threatened by the enemy's artillery and infantry on the right, and a large force of his cavalry on the left. - About daybreak the enemy opened a brisk fire of grape and round shot upon the church and village in which my brigade was posted, as also upon a part of our own troops displayed to divert him on his right and front - evidently unaware of the movement in progress to turn his position left and rear. - This continued until Col. Riley's
bride opened its fire from the rear, which was delivered with such terrible effect, that the whole Mexican force was thrown into utmost consternation.

At this juncture, I ordered the two regiments of my command to throw themselves on the main road, by which the enemy must retire, to intercept and cut off his retreat; and, although officers and men had suffered severely during the march of the night, and from exposure without shelter or cover to the incessant rain until daybreak, this movement was executed in good order, and with rapidity. The Palmetto regiment, crossing a deep ravine, deployed on both sides of the road, and opened a most destructive fire upon the mingled masses of infantry and cavalry; and the New York regiment, brought into line lower down, and on the road side, delivered its fire with a like effect. At this point many of the enemy were killed add wounded, some 365 captured, of which 25 were officers, and amongst the latter was General Nicholas Mendoza.

In the meanwhile the enemy's cavalry, about 3000 strong, which had been threatening our position during the morning, moved down towards us in good order, and as if to attack. I immediately recalled the infantry, to place them in position to meet the threatened movement; but soon the cavalry changed direction and retreated towards the capital. I now received an order from Gen. Twiggs to advance by the main road towards Mexico; and having posted Capt. Marshal's company of S. Carolina volunteers, and Captain Taylor's New York volunteers in charge of the prisoners and wounded, I moved off with the remainder of my force, and joined the positions of the 2d and 3d divisions already en route on the main road. On this march we were joined by the general in chief, who assumed command of the whole, and the march continued uninterrupted until we arrived before Churubusco. Here the enemy was found strongly fortified, and posted with his main force - probably 25,000.

The engagement was commenced by the 2d division under Twiggs, soon joined by the first under Gen. Worth, and was becoming general, when I was detached by the commander-in-chief, with my two regiments and Pierce's brigade - the 9th, 12th, and 15th - and with the mountain howitzer battery, and ordered to gain position if possible, to attack the enemy's fear, and intercept his retreat.

Leaving Coyoacan by a left hand road and advancing about a mile upon it, I moved thence with my command toward the right, through a heavy cornfield, and gained an open but swampy field, in which is situated the hacienda de los Portales. On the edge of this field, beyond the hacienda, I discovered the road by which the enemy must retire from Churubusco, and found his reserve of about 4,000 infantry already occupied it, just in rear of the town. As my command arrived, I established the right upon a point recommended by Capt. Lee, engineer officer, to whose skill and judgment I had the utmost confidence, and commenced a movement to the left, to flank the enemy on his right, and throw my troops between him and the city; but finding his right supported by a heavy body of cavalry of some 3,000 strong, and seeing, too, that with his infantry he answered to my movements by a corresponding one towards his right, I ordered my command to form and deploy ground later than I could, owing to the heavy mud and swamp through which I had to operate, I withdrew the men to the cover of the hacienda, and determined to attack him upon his front. I selected the Palmetto regiment as the base of my line, and this gallant regiment moved forward firmly and rapidly under a fire of musketry as terrible, perhaps, as any which soldiers have ever faced; the New York, 12th, and 15th, deployed gallantly on the right, and the 9th on the left, and the whole advanced, spending their fire as they came up, and moving steadily forward the enemy began to waver, and when my order to charge was given, the men rushed upon ... his broken ranks. As we reached the road, the advance of Worth's command appeared, driving the enemy from his stronghold of Churubusco. I took command of the front, and continued in pursuit until passed by Harney with his cavalry, who followed the routed foe into the very gates of the city.

In this terrible battle, in which a strongly fortified enemy fought behind his works under the walls of his capital, ... loss is necessarily severe. The loss, I regret to say, has fallen most severely on my command. In the two regiments of my own brigade, numbering about 600 in the fight, the loss is reported 240 m killed and wounded.

In this last engagement my command captured 380 prisoners, including 6 officers. Of this number 42 had deserted from the American army during the war, and at their head was found the notorious O'Reilly, who had fought against troops at Monterey and elsewhere. A .... Report of the loss, as also of the prisoners captured by the command, accompanies this report.

Pierce's brigade, under my command in this action, lost a considerable number in killed and wounded. - Amongst the latter, the gallant Col. Morgah of the 15th. This command having rejoined its division, immediately after the action, I have, as yet, received no official report of its loss.

In closing this report I beg to offer my thanks to the many gallant officers of my command for their zealous and fearless support during the conflict. To Col. Burnett and Lieut. Col. Baxter, of the N. York volunteers; to Lieut. Colonel Dickinson and Major Gladden, South Carolina
volunteers; as also to many of their gallant subordinates, every praise is due. - Col. Burnett was severely wounded at the head of his regiment; and Lieut. Col. Dickinson also severely wounded whilst in command of his regiment, and while bearing gallantly forward the colors of his corps. My thanks are due to the medical staff of the command - Doctors Halstead and McKeebin, of the New York, and Doctors Clark and Blann of the South Carolina regiments; as also to Doctor Swift, U. States Army, for their devoted attention to the wounded.

It affords me pleasure, and I but perform my duty, too, in acknowledging my great obligations to Capt. R. E. Lee, engineer corps; as also to my particular staff, Capt. F. N. Page, A. A. G. Lieut. R. P. Hammond, 3d artillery, aid de camp; and Lieut. G. T. M. Davis of Illinois, acting as aid, for their gallant services and fearless exposure in encouraging the troops, and conveying my orders during the different engagements. Lieut. Reno, commanding howitzer batter, deserves great credit for the handsome manner in which he brought his guns into action, and continued to serve them. I beg respectfully, through the general or division, to ask for these gentlemen the favorable notice of the commander in chief, and to commend them to the president. Lieut. Shubrick, of the navy, who accompanied me, attached himself to the Palmetto regiment of his native state, and fought in its ranks, and is spoken of handsomely in the report of its commander.

While thus enjoying the pleasure of bestowing my commendation upon the living, I turn with feelings of sorrow, though with pride, to recollect the gallant dead. Lieutenants Adams and Williams, of the S. Carolina regiment, and Lieutenant Chandler of the New York regiment, are of those who gallantly fell. Yielding their lives to achieve this glorious victory, they have won a soldier's fame with a soldier's death.

The noble and gallant colonel of the S. Carolina regiment, P. M. Butler, had risen from his sick bed to share the hardships of the field and the dangers of the combat with his devoted regiment. He survived the conflict of the morning to lead his command where victory again awaited it. Although wounded himself, and having lost his horse, shot under him, he still continued to press onwards near the colors of his regiment, until the fatal ball terminated his life.

A gallant soldier in his youth, he has won in his death, upon the field of battle, fame for himself and his regiment, and added another name to the roll of Carolina's departed heroes.

I am, very respectfully, your obd't serv't,

JAS SHIELDS,

To Lieut. M. Lovell, 4th art., A. A. A. G.

[RRLLW]

NNR 73.202 Nov. 27, 1847 Col. William Selby Harney's report on his operations at Mexico

Report of Colonel Harney.

Headquarters, Cavalry Brigade, Tocubaya, Mexico, August 24, 1847.

Sir - I have the honor to present the following report of the operations of the cavalry brigade under my command during the battle of Mexico.

The cavalry force being necessarily weakened by detachments to the different divisions on the army, I found myself, on the morning of the 19th, in the immediate command of nine companies only, consisting of six companies of the 2d dragoons, one company of mounted riflemen, and two companies of mounted volunteers. With this force I was ordered by the general in chief to report to Brigadier Gen. Twiggs, who was at this time covering Major General Pillow's division in an effort to make a road through the ridge of lava which forms the pass of San Antonio. Owing to the nature of the ground, I was compelled to halt within range of the enemy's shells, and to remain in this position for several hours - an idle spectator of the action which ensued. After night I returned with my command to San Augustin, and remained there until the enemy's position at Contreras was carried on the morning of the 20th.

As soon as the road was ascertained to be opened and practicable for cavalry, I was directed by the general in chief to proceed with two squadrons and Capt. McKinstry's company of volunteers to the field of battle, and to take charge of the prisoners which had been captured. While in the execution of this order, I received instructions from the general in chief to leave one squadron in charge of the prisoners, and to report to him in person with the other three
companies. Captain Blake, with his squadron, was directed to perform this duty; while Maj. Sumner and myself, with Captain Kerr's squadron and Captain McKinstry's company of volunteers, joined the commanding general near the field of Churubusco, just after the engagement at the palace had commenced.

The reports of Major Sumner, commanding 1st battalion, and Lieut. Col. Moore, commanding 2nd battalion, which I have the honor to forward here with, will show in what manner the other troops and squadrons of my command were employed. The three troops of horse brought by me on the field, being ordered away in different directions, Major Sumner and myself soon found ourselves without commands. I then employed myself with my staff in rallying fugitives and encouraging our troops on the left of the main road. Major Sumney, towards the close of the engagement, was placed by the general in chief in charge of the last reserve, consisting of the rifle regiment and one company of horse, and was ordered to support the left. This force was moving rapidly to take its position in line of battle, when the enemy broke and fled to the city. At this moment perceiving the enemy were retreating in disorder on one of the causeways leading to the city of Mexico, I collected all of the cavalry within my reach, consisting of parts of Capt. Ker's company 2d dragoons, and Capt. McReynold's and Duperu's companies of the 3d dragoons, and pursued them vigorously until we were halted by the discharge of the batteries at their gates.

Many of the enemy were overtaken in the pursuit, and cut down by our sabres. I cannot speak in terms too complimentary to the manner in which this charge was executed. My only difficulty was in restraining the impetuosity of my men and officers, who seemed to vie with each other who should be foremost in the pursuit. Captain Kearney gallantly led his squadron into the very entrenchments of the enemy, and had the misfortune to lose an arm from grapeshot fired from a gun at one of the gates of the capital. Capt. McReynolds and Lieut. Graham were also wounded and Lieut. Ewell had two horses shot under him.

Great praise is due to Maj. Sumner, commanding 1st battalion, for his zeal, energy and promptitude, and for the gallant manner in which he led up the last reserve of the general in chief. It is much to be regretted that the 2d battalion, under the command of Lieut. Col. Moore, was so cut up by detachment as to materially weaken its efficiency, and to impair the usefulness of the officer, who was always at the post of danger and anxious to participate in the conflict. My warmest thanks are due to my brigade stall, consisting of Captain Wood, A Q M., Lieut. Steele, A. A. G., and Lieut. May, my aid-de-camp, who were actively employed on the morning of the 20th rallying our men, and who exhibited the utmost coolness and bravery under a heavy fire of the enemy. The two last named officers were foremost in the pursuit, and Lieut. Steele cut down three of the enemy with his own sabre.

In conclusion, I beg leave to state that the dragoons, from the commencement of the march from Puebla, have been engaged on the most active and laborious service. These duties have been the most arduous in consequence of the small force of cavalry, compared with the other arms of service. Small parties being constantly engaged in reconnoitering and on picket guards, the utmost vigilance and precaution have been required to prevent surprise and disaster.

The gallant Captain Thornton, while reconnoitering the enemy near San Antonio on the 18th instant, was shot through the body by a cannon shot and instantly killed. His death is much to be regretted. On the 20th, although I had but lost companies of my brigade with me on the field, the remainder were actively employed in the performance of important and indispensable duties. Capt. Hardee, while watching the enemy with his company near San Augustin, was attacked by guerrillas; but the enemy was promptly and handsomely repulsed, and a number of their horses, with arms and accoutrements, captured.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
WM. S. HARNEY, Col. comd'g cavalry brigade.


[LLLW]
brigades were informed of the plan and order of attack and directed to have their commands
make in our favor from that side might be prepared accordingly. The officers commanding
position, and that I would march out by 3 o'clock A. M., so that any diversion that he could
the engineers, offered to return to Gen. Scott (a most difficult task) and inform him of our
Contreras, (the entrenched camp,) and by turning their rear before day; and Captain Lee, of
by the most prompt and energetic action. I therefore directed an attack on the works at
only maintain our position, which was of the utmost importance to the commanding general,
had now in front, and on our left flank, eighteen thousand Mexicans with between twenty five
enemy's work at Contreras, and thought it practicable for infantry though very difficult. We
At this time Lieut. Tower reported that he had been at the ravine towards the rear of the
of Encelda, whose church was visible among the trees. - As we emerged from the rocks we
saw an immense number of troops, cavalry and infantry, approaching from Mexico and forming
on the slope on the opposite side of the village.

We crossed two small streams at the bottom of deep and difficult gullies, and found some of
our troops in the village, they proving to be four regiments, chiefly of Gen. Pillow's division,
and under command of Gen. Cadwallader, who immediately reported to me. The village lay
entirely on the other side of the main road, and a small stream ran between them at the
bottom of the ravine. On the road, and between it and the stream, was a garden and house
surrounded by a high and tolerably strong stone wall. The village was intersected by narrow
lanes lying between high dikes enclosing gardens full of trees and shrubbery - the lanes
affording cover, the trees concealment for the men. In the center stood an old stone church. I
drew Gen. Cadwallader's force up in the outer edge of the village, facing the enemy - placing
the 3d infantry and rifles in column by company, left in front, on the right flank - occupied the
church with Lieut. Smith's engineer company and Captain Irwin's company of the 11th
regiment - placing Maj. Dimick's regiment in the garden on the road, to secure that avenue
and our rear.

The enemy was now formed opposite to us in two lines - the infantry in front, and cavalry in
the rear - about ten thousand strong. It was now after sunset when Colonel Riley's brigade
arrived. It had crossed and gone up towards Contreras, [entrenched camp,] and driven off
strong parties of the enemy. I now ordered an attack on the enemy's right, intending to attack
in two columns - Col. Riley's on our left, and Gen. Cadwallader's on the right of the former -
retired in echelon; but before the troops could be disengaged from the thickets, (the officers
being without horses,) it was already so dark that the enemy's line could not be seen, and the
order to attack was countermanded. Gen. Cadwallader took position again in the outer edge of
the village; Riley's brigade parallel to it in a long line inside; the rifles under Major Loring on
order to attack was countermanded. Gen. Cadwallader took position again in the outer edge of
the works at Contreras, (the entrenched camp,) and by turning their rear before day; and Captain Lee, of
the engineers, offered to return to Gen. Scott (a most difficult task) and inform him of our
position, and that I would march out by 3 o'clock A. M., so that any diversion that he could
make in our favor from that side might be prepared accordingly. The officers commanding
brigades were informed of the plan and order of attack and directed to have their commands
formed, and the heads resting on the path by which we were to march out by 2 ½ A. M.

I was at a loss of how to secure our rear; for it the enemy took possession of the village, he would not only secure the retreat of his force at Contreras, [his entrenchments,] but would greatly embarrass us; and I was not strong enough to detach largely for that purpose. At this juncture Gen. Shields' aid arrived and reported that the general was near, and on the other side of the ravine, with the South Carolina and New York volunteers. These two regiments were directed to hold Eucelda [the village] and cut off the the retreat of the troops from Contreras, [the camp,] or take his large reserve in flank, if it changed front to the right to attack us towards Contreras, [the camp]. At precisely 3 o'clock in the morning of the 20th, the troops commenced their march. It had rained all night, and the men had lain in the mud, without fire, and suffering from cold. It rained now, and was so dark that an object six feet off could not be seen. The men were ordered to keep within touch of each other, so that the rear could not go astray.

Lieut. Lower of the engineers, with Lieutenant Brooks, acting assistant adjutant general of the 2d division, now acting in my staff, had, during the night, again reconnoitered the pass, to assure the practicability of the march. Lieut. Tower accompanied the head of the column, to lead it, and Lieut. Beauregard, engineers went with me at the head of Gen. Cadwallader's brigade. Col. Riley's brigade led, Gen. Cadwallader's brigade was to follow, and Major Dimick, with my own brigade, at the head of which was Lieut. G. W. Smith, engineer company, closed the rear. The path was narrow, full or rocks and mud, and so difficult was the march that it was day break before the head of Cadwallader's brigade got out of the village, where the path descends to the ravine; and as the march was by the flank, the command was stretched out to thrice its length. - Having followed up the ravine to a point where it seemed possible to get at the rear of the work, the head was halted and the rear closed up; many loads that were wet were drawn, and Riley formed two columns by divisions.

He thus advanced farther up the ravine, turning to the left, and rising over the bank, stood fronting the rear of the work, but still sheltered from its fire by a slight acclivity before him. Having re-formed his ranks he ascended the top of the hill, and was in full view of the enemy, who immediately opened a warm fire, not only from the work, but on his right flank. Throwing out his two first divisions as skirmishers, he rushed down the slope to the work. The engineer company and rifles had been thrown across the intervening ravine, under the brow of the slope, and from that position swept it in front of his column, and then, inclining towards their company and rifles had been thrown across the intervening ravine, under the brow of the slope, and from that position swept it in front of his column, and then, inclining towards their left, joined in the attack on the troops outside of the left flank of the fort. In the meantime, Gen. Cadwallader followed the route taken by Riley, and, forming his columns as the troops came up, moved on to his (Riley's) support. The 1st brigade had been ordered to follow the same route; but, while it was still marching in that direction by its right flank, up the ravine, and nearly opposite the work, seeing a large body of the enemy on its flank, I ordered Maj. Dimick to face the brigade to the left, and, advancing in line, attack the force in flank.

This was done in the finest style, and the 1st artillery and 3d infantry mounted the bank of the ravine, rushing down the next and up its opposite bank, met the enemy outside of the work just as Riley's brigade poured into it, and the whole giving way. - Cavalry formed in line for the charge, yielding to the bayonets of our foot, the rout was complete, while Riley's brigade cleared the work and planted their colors on it. The two first pieces captured, which fell into the hands of the 4th artillery, proved to be the pieces lost (but without loss of honor) by a company of that very regiment at Buena Vista. Leaving a force to collect and guard the captured ordnance, the pursuit continued down the road.

This, it will be recollected, passed not more than half a mile off the garden and house occupied by a part of Gen. Shields' brigade, placed there to intercept the retreat of the enemy. This skilful and gallant officer, when we marched, had spread his men over the line we had occupied, and directed them to make fired toward daylight, as though preparing their breakfast. The enemy in front had, during the night, placed batteries along their line, and in the morning moved detachments forward to take in flank the attack he saw we were meditating the night before, which he was preparing to meet - supposing from the indications he found, that we were still in force in the village. When, after daylight, he saw a column moving on Contreras, [the entrenched camp,] and already prepared to turn it, he must have supposed we had been strongly reinforced: for his movements to and fro indicated great perplexity. His doubts were soon resolved, however, by the loss of Contreras, [the camp,] and he immediately commenced a hasty retreat along the top of the hill, inclining towards the San Angel road.

Shields' force (500 or 600 men) having, under his skilful direction, thus disposed of one enemy, he turned to the other, who, in the flight, found themselves intercepted at the garden, and under the sure fire of the S. Carolina regiment, and broke away over the opposite fields, and, taking shelter in the ditches and ravines, escaped to the rocks. Two squadrons of cavalry, either by chance or a wise design, in a narrow part of the road between the wall and dike, laid down their arms, and so choked by the way, that the pursuit was interrupted for upwards of 20 minutes; which sufficed (we having no cavalry) for the safety of many of the fugitives. A large body escaped upwards towards the mountains. I did not pursue them, being entirely out of our
Accounts from Mexican officers, intercepted since the battle, inform us that there were seven thousand in and about Contreras, (the entrenched camp,) commanded by General Valencia, and upwards of twelve thousand in front of Encelda, (or hamlet of Contreras,) in reserve, commanded by Gen'l Santa Anna. We killed seven hundred and took fifteen hundred prisoners, among them several generals. - We captured 22 pieces of brass ordnance, viz: 4 Spanish 16-pounders, 4 eight inch howitzers, 2 5 ½ inch howitzers, 6 6-pounders, and 6 smaller pieces, with a large amount of shells and ammunition. We also took 700 pack mules and many horses, and an immense number of small arms, which we destroyed. After directing the prisoners and property to be collected, I directed the pursuit to be contained, and was forming the column when General Twigg arrived. He immediately ordered the most vigorous pursuit, and we moved forwards. As we approached San Angel, the rifles were again thrown forward as skirmishers, and entered the town at the heels of the enemy's lancers, capturing an ammunition wagon.

Here Gen. Pillow assumed command, and at Coyoacan the commander in chief came up. The first brigade was sent forward with the rest of the division towards Churubusco; the rifles were detached to the right, to cover a reconnoissence. Lieut. Stephens of the engineers, covered by Lieut. Smith's engineer company, went forward to reconnoitre the church of Churubusco, and reported a 1-gun battery across the road, which could be turned by its left. - The 1st artillery was directed to be detached for that purpose, and marched in that direction. A heavy fire opening there, I was ordered up with the 3d infantry, and shortly after Taylor's battery was placed in position, fronting the buildings about the church, the 3d infantry supporting it. At this time the tremendous fire from the neighborhood of the church showed clearly, not only that there was a strong force stationed there, but that there was also a more considerable work than what was at first supposed; but being all surrounded by very high corn, its form could not be discovered. It afterwards proved that the place was regularly fortified. The church buildings formed a large square; the lower front towards us was chiefly a wall scaffolded for infantry. It rose about 60 feet above the street, and was strengthened on the sides and corners by attached buildings. It was terminated by the corner of a large steeple on its right flank, also filled with men.

In front of the first was a curtain, connecting two salient angles which flanked it, and were continued back to the side walls of the church. It was garrisoned by about 2,000 men, and mounted 7 pieces. - What was supposed to be the 1-gun battery, was the right salient angle which enfiled the road from Coyoacan; so that when the 1st artillery attempted to turn it, mounted 7 pieces. - What was supposed to be the 1-gun battery, was the right salient angle continued back to the side walls of the church. It was garrisoned by about 2,000 men, and an immense number of small arms, which we destroyed. After directing the prisoners and property to be collected, I directed the pursuit to be contained, and was forming the column when General Twigg arrived. He immediately ordered the most vigorous pursuit, and we moved forwards. As we approached San Angel, the rifles were again thrown forward as skirmishers, and entered the town at the heels of the enemy's lancers, capturing an ammunition wagon.

In the meantime Taylor's battery had continued its fire uninterrupted by the severest shower of grape, canister, musketry, round shot, and shell, within short musket range, that was ever witnessed. The conduct of Capt. Taylor, Lieut. French, and the men who remained unhurt, was the admiration of all who witnessed it. The pieces were served as though on drill, while two of the officers - Lieuts. Martin and Boynton, and twenty men wounded, and fifteen horses crippled, laid around, and testified to the danger of their position. Hearing now the fire from the other corps, and finding that of the work to be less steady, I directed Captain Alexander (commanding 3d infantry) to advance to the position indicated and commence his work. After clearing the ramparts partially of their men, the 3d rushed over the bastion, led by Captain J. M. Smith and Lieutenant Shepherd, and their companies, and a part of the 1st artillery, over the curtain, when the garrison, and had gone up into the gallery of the front house, with General Rincon, from which he was displaying the colors of his regiment, a staff officer from another division who had seen the white flag still flying rode into the work to receive the surrender which had been made some time before to Capt. Alexander. Seven pieces of brass cannon, much ammunition and small arms, the prisoners before mentioned, and an important position were the fruits of this victory. I should have mentioned before that Capt. Craig had in the morning rejoined this regiment with the three companies of riflemen who had been left in the pedregal, (field of rocks and lava,) had also joined the regiment.

The troops in the actions of the pedregal, on the afternoon of the 19th, and at Contreras and Churubusco on the 20th, distinguished themselves far beyond my capacity to do them justice. The difficulties they overcame - opposed by the enemy to be insuperable - the hardships they endured, and the fatigue they suffered, contrasted with the manner in which they did their work, raises their character as soldiers highly towards perfection.

Brig. Gen. Cadwallader [in the morning] brought his corps up from his intricate bivouac in a good order, formed the head of the column to support Riley's, and led it forward in the most gallant style under the fire directed at the latter. The 1st brigade was conducted by Maj.
Dimick, who charged in line with it on the enemy's left, driving before the force formed there outside of the works, and putting to rout a far superior force, displaying the skill of the commander as well as the bravery of the soldier. - But the opportunity afforded by his position to Col. Riley was seized by that gallant veteran with all the skill and energy for which he is distinguished. The charge of his noble brigade down the slope, in full view of friend and foe, unchecked even for a moment, until he had planted all his colors upon their farthest works, was a spectacle that animated the army to the boldest deeds.

Majors Gardnes and Brown, 4th artillery, at the head of their regiment, setting an example of their own courage, carried the part of the work before, and Captain Drum, of that corps, had the good fortune to recover the trophies of Buena Vista. Col. Pryptom and Maj. Bainbridge with the 7th infantry, as that veteran regiment deserves to be led; and Captain Morris in command of the 2d infantry, brought it up to share equally with the others in the honors of the successful assault. Capt. Alexander's good conduct brought his regiment up most effectively. Major Loring, detached to Col. Riley's left showed not only a perfect knowledge of the value of his arm, but the courage and activity necessary to make it effective. Lieutenant G. W. Smith, in command of the engineer company, and Lieutenant M'Clellan, his subaltern, distinguished themselves throughout the whole of the three actions. Nothing seemed to them too bold to be undertaken, or too difficult to be executed; and their services as engineers were as valuable as those they rendered in battle at the head of their gallant men. Lieutenant Foster, being detached from his company during the action at Contreras, did not fall under my notice; but in the actions on the 19th, at Churubusco, he was equally conspicuous for his gallantry. In adverting to the conduct of the staff, I wish to record particularly my admiration of the conduct of Capt. Lee, of the engineers.

His reconnaissances, though pushed far beyond the bounds of prudence, were conducted with so much skill, that its fruits were of the utmost value - the soundness of his judgment and personal daring being equally conspicuous. Lieutenants Beauregard and Tower, of the same corps, rendered me the most important services in examining the ground, and displayed throughout the greatest personal gallantry. To the latter I am indebted for the knowledge of the route by which it was practicable to turn the enemy's works. The accident which separated the different parts of the division on the evening of the 19th, left its acting assistant adjutant general, Lieut. W. P. Brooks, with Col. Riley's brigade, and on its joining me he offered his services on my staff. I owe him my thanks for the very efficient aid he rendered me, and for his indefatigable energy and readiness to encounter any danger or difficulty; his personal courage and coolness were brilliantly displayed in the course of the day. The events of Fort Brown, Monterey, Vera Cruz, and Cerro Gordo, had already afforded to my aide de camp, Lieut. Early Van Dorn, opportunities for calling forth the commendations of his commanding officers.

He has not let pass the present one; but though his gallantry was again shown in a personal conflict with the enemy, it is far from being the highest quality of a soldier that he possesses. The names of officers who distinguished themselves in the corps of Gens. Cadwallader and Shields, will no doubt be found in the reports of those generals of the headquarters of divisions to which they properly belong. It would be impossible for me to enumerate the acts of all those in the 2d division ('Twiggs') who have entitled themselves to particular mention. I beg leave to make the brigade and regimental reports, which I herewith transmit a part of my own - merely repeating here the names of those officers mentioned therein as peculiarly deserving of praise. - Capt. Wessels and Capt. Canby, A. A. G., and Lieut. Benjamin and Lieut. Hayden, A. D. C., (mentioned in the 3d brigade report); Capts. Sanderson, Bakinstoe, Porter, and Crittenden, Lieut. Van Buren, McLane, Gibbs, and Palmer, and Asst Surgeon Suter, of the regiment of the mounted riflemen; Capts. Winder and Nanman, Lieuts. Brannon, Seymour, and Coppee, and Assistant Surg. H. H. Steiner, at the 1st artillery; Capt. Casey, J. R. Smith and Kingsbury, Lieut. Gardner, Lyons, Jones, Jarvis, Tilden, and Davis of the 2d infantry; Captains Craig, Van Horn and Chandler, Lieuts. Buel and Richardson, and Asst. Surgeon Keeney, of the 3d infantry; Capts. Ross and Paul, and Lieuts. Grant, Tyler and Henry, of the 7th infantry.

But as the battery of the Captain Taylor was at Churubusco, acting immediately under my own eye, and displaying, from its gallant commander down to the lowest noncommissioned officer, a coolness and activity under circumstances of the most extraordinary danger. I ask leave to record here, besides the names of Sergeants Thos. Wilson, Patrick Martin, Joe McGee, Chas. Kullineyes and Corporal M. Bigelow, John Jones, Wm. Barb...ed Captains Capron and Burke, 1st artillery, and Lieut. Hoffman, 1st artillery; and were wounded, Capt. Cr...g and Lieut. Buel, 3d infantry. In the pedregal were wounded, on the 19th, Captains Hathaway. 1st artillery, and Chandler, 3d infantry; Lieut. Collins, 4th artillery, and Tilden, 2d infantry, were wounded. But the victory there, important as it is, was dearly bought by the death of Captain Hanson, 7th infantry. A more perfect soldier never fell on a battle field - kind in all his affections - just in all his acts - pure in his life; and immoveable in his courage, he met the present with the boldness of a man, and the future with the pious confidence of a Christian.

The force present on our side of Contreras, including Gen'l Shields, was about 3,650 men; that of the enemy about the works, 7,000, under Valencia, and in their reserve, 12,000, under the
I transmit herewith a return of the killed and wounded, but leaving out all those wounded at Contreras who were not disabled.

Our loss in killed and wounded there did not exceed sixty.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your ob't servant,

PERSIFOR F. SMITH,
Brevet Brigadier General.


REPORT OF MAJOR GENERAL QUITMAN.

Headquarters of the Volunteer Division, National Palace, Mexico, Sept. 29, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit, for the information of the general-in-chief, a report of the movements and operations of that portion of the army under my command from the afternoon of the 11th instant to the 14th, when our flag was raised on the National Palace of Mexico.

The general-in-chief, having concluded to carry the strong fortress of Chapultepec, and through it advance upon the city, ordered me, on the 11th, to move my division after dark from its position at Coyoacan to Tacubaya. Steptoe's battery and Gaither's troop of horse having been directed to report to Gen. Twiggs, the remainder of the division, consisting of the battalion of marines, New York and South Carolina regiments, under Brig. Gen. Shields, and 2d Pennsylvania regiment, under command of Lieut. Col. Geary, moved during daylight to the village of Piedad, and at night proceeded thence to their position at Tacubaya, where the troops lay upon their arms until daylight.

Two batteries, Nos. 1 and 2 on the map - the former put up by Lieuts. Tower and Smith, of engineers, under direction of Captain Lee, of the same corps, on the road from Tacubaya to Chapultepec, about 800 yards from the fortress, the latter under direction of Capt. Huger, of ordinance, at some distance to the left of the former - had been erected during the night. My division being intended to support these batteries, and to advance to the attack from the direct road from Tacubaya to the fortress, was placed in position near battery No. 1, early on the morning of the 12th, detachments from its left extending to the support of battery No. 2. At 7 o'clock the guns (two 16-pounders and an 8-inch howitzer) were placed in battery No. 1 in position so as to rake the road, sweep the adjoining grounds, and have a direct fire upon the enemy's batteries and the fortress of Chapultepec.

Our fire was then opened and maintained with good effect throughout the day under the direction of that excellent lamented officer, Capt. Drum, of the 4th artillery, zealously aided by Lieutenants Benjamin and Porter, of his company. The fire was briskly returned from the castle with round shots, shell, and grape. During the day I succeeded under cover of our batteries, in making an important reconnaissance of the grounds and works immediately at the base of the castle, a rough sketch of which was made by my aide, Lieut. Lovel, on the ground. This disclosed to us two batteries of the enemy, one on the road in front of us mounting four guns, and the other a flanking work of one gun, capable also of sweeping the low grounds on the left of the road, and between it and the base of the hill.

The supporting party on this reconnaissance was commanded by the late Major Twiggs, of the marines, and sustained during the observation of a brisk fire from the batteries and small arms of the enemy, who, when the party were retiring, came out of the works in large numbers; and, although repeatedly checked by the fire of our troops, continued to advance as the supporting party retired, until they were dispersed, with considerable loss, by several discharges of canister from the guns of Capt. Drums battery, and a well directed fire from the right of the 2d Pennsylvania regiment, posted on the flank of the artery for its support. Our loss in this affair was seven men wounded; but the information gained was of incalculable advantage to the operations of the succeeding day. In the evening, Capt. Drums company was retrieved by Lieutenant Andrews company 3d artillery, by whom a study in well-directed fire was kept up from the battery until the fortress could no longer be seen in the darkness.

During the day, my command was reinforced by a select battalion from Gen. Twiggs division intended as a storming party, consisting of thirteen officers, and two hundred and fifty men
and non-commissioned officers and privates, chosen for this service out the rifles, 1st and 4th
regiments of artillery, and 2d, 3d, and 77th regiments of infantry - all under the command of
Captain Silas Casev, 2d infantry.

Having received instructions from the general - n - chief to prevent, if possible, reinforcements
from being thrown into Chapultepec, during the night, Captain Paul, of the 7th infantry, with
the detachment of fifty men was directed to establish and advance picket on the road to
Chapultepec. During the night a brisk skirmish occurred between the detachment and the
advanced posts of the enemy, which resulted in driving back the enemy; but apprehensive that
this demonstration was intended to cover the passage of reinforcements into Chapultepec, I
ordered Lieut. Andrews to advance a piece of artillery and take the road with several
discharges of canister. This was promptly executed; and, during the remainder of the night,
there were no appearances of movements in the enemies lines. - During the night, the
platforms of battery No. 1 were repaired, under the direction of Lieut. Tower of engineers, who
had reported to me for duty, and a new battery of one gun established in advance of No. 1 a

The protection of battery No. 2, which was completed on the morning of the 12th, under
direction of Captain Huger, was entrusted to Brig. General Shields. This battery, after the guns
had been placed, opened and maintained a steady fire upon the castle, under the skilful
direction of that experienced officer, Lieut. Hagner, of ordinance.

At dawn on the morning of the 13th, the batteries again opened upon the castle, which was
returned by the enemy with spirit and some execution, disabling for a time the 18-pounder
battery No. 1, and killing one of the men at the guns. During the cannonade active
preparations were made for the assault upon the castle. Ladders, pick axes, and crows, were
placed in the hands of a Pioneer storming party of select men from the volunteer division,
under the commands of Capt. Reynolds of the marine corps, to accompany the storming party
of 120 men which had been selected from all corps of the same division and placed under the
command of Major Twiggs, of the marines. Capt. Drum had again relieved Lieut. Andres at the
guns, retaining from the command of the latter Sergeant Davidson and eight to man an 8
pounder which it was intended to carry forward to operate on the enemies batteries in front of
us; and, to relieve the command from all danger of attack on our right flank from
reinforcements, which might come from the city, that well tried and accomplished officer,
Brevet Brigadier General Smith, with his well-disciplined brigade, had reported to me for
orders. He was instructed to move in reserve on the right flank of the assaulting column,
protect it from skirmishers, or more serious attack in the quarter, and, if possible, on the
assault, cross the aqueduct leading to the city, turn the enemy, and cut off his retreat. Those
dispositions being made, the whole command, at the signal preconcerted by the general-in-
chief, with enthusiasm and full of confidence advanced to the attack. At the base of the hill,
constituting a part of the works of the fortress of Chapultepec, and directly across our line of
advance, were the strong batteries before described, flanked on the right by some strong
buildings, and by a heavy stone wall about fifteen feet high, which extended around the base
of the hill towards the west. Within two hundred yards of these batteries were some
dilapidated buildings, which afforded a partial cover to our advance. Between these and the
wall extended a low meadow, the long grass of which concealed a number of wet ditches by
which it was intersected. To this point the command, partially screened, advanced by a flank,
the storming parties in front, under a heavy fire from the fortress, the batteries, and
breastworks of the enemy. The advance was here halted under the partial cover of the ruins,
and upon the arrival of the heads of the South Carolina and New York regiments, respectively.
General Shields was directed to move them obliquely to the left, across the low ground, to the
wall at the base of the hill. Encouraged by the gallant general who had led them to victory at
Churubusco, and in spite of the obstacles which they had to encounter in wading through
several deep ditches, exposed to a severe and galling fire from the enemy, these tried
regiments promptly executed the movement, and effected a lodgment at the wall. The same
order was given to Lieut. Col. Geary, and executed by his regiment with equal alacrity and
success. These dispositions, so necessary to the final assault up on the works, were not made
without some loss. In directing the advance, Brig. Gen. Shields was severely wounded in the
arm. No persuasions, however, could induce that officer to leave his command, or quit the
field. The brave Capt. Van O'Linden, of the New York regiment, was killed at the head of his
company. Lieut. Col. Baxter, of the same regiment, a valuable and esteemed officer, while
gallantly leading his command, fell mortally wounded near the wall. And Lieut.Cols. Geary, 2d
Pennsylvania regiment, was for a time disabled from command by a severe confusion from a
spent ball. [RLLW]
Sir: For the information of the general in chief I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by my division in the reduction of the city of Mexico and its contiguous workers.

On the 7th instant of Riley's brigade, composed of the 4th artillery, the 2d and 7th infantry, was, by the general's orders, thrown in advance of Pillow's division on the San Angel road, to watch and keep in check any force from the city in that direction. On the following day this brigade was the reserve at the battle of Molino del Rey; after which it assumed its post on the San Angel road, and was joined on the afternoon of the 11th, and by daylight in the morning was enabled to open on the enemy's batteries, situated at the garita in the San Antonio road; and between that and the San Angel road the firing was kept up briskly during the day on both sides, with but little loss to us, who were protected by a good temporary breastwork. On the morning of the 13th the firing was renewed with great spirit, which compelled the enemy to withdraw his guns from the garita, within the protection of the city walls.

Smith's brigade was now ordered to proceed in the directions of Chapultepec and support one of the columns of attack, commanded by Major General Quitman. With the stormers from my division in front of the road, the attacking column on the left and Smith's brigade on the right of it, the force advanced in the face of a well directed fire from a battery at the base of Chapultepec, near a point where the aqueduct leaves it, and also from musketry sheltered by the aqueduct, and by breastworks across and on each side of the road. When within charging distance, the stormers, with the assistance on the right of Smith's brigade, which had been thrown forward toward the aqueduct, rushed on the enemy's guns, drove off or killed, the cannoneers, and took possession of the strong point. Smith's brigade having advanced three companies of mounted riflemen considerably to its right, to protect the right of Quitman's division, they were found near the first battery when the stormers were about attacking, and were thus enabled to enter with the advance. The brigade pushed on an captured a second battery to the rear of the first when several guns and many pioneers were taken; after some brisk skirmishing, the enemy was finally driven from every point on the east of the hill, and were pursued on the San Cosme road some distance by the storming party, under the command of Capt. Paul, 7th infantry; this party having been overtaken by the 1st division and their specific duties as stormors having been accomplished, were ordered to return and rejoin their respective regiments.

Early in the action Captain Casey, 2d infantry, who commanded the storming party from my division, was severely wounded, and obliged to retire. The command devolving upon Captain Paul, 7th infantry, Lieut. Gantt, 7th infantry, with a portion of a party, was ordered to cross the ditch on the left of the road and proceed further to the left of the base of Chapultepec, and, by scaling the wall, gain admittance to the body of the work. This gallant officer was shot dead at the head of his men; the command of his party devolving upon Lieut. Steele, 2d infantry, who led his men on with intrepidity and success. Too much cannot be said in praise of the officers and men who composed this storming force, with Capt. Paul in command, ably and gallantly supported by a Capt. Dobbins, 3d infantry; Lieut. Steele, 3d infantry; Lieut. Steuart, mounted rifles; and Lieut. D. Rosey, 4th artillery, the party advanced without a falter or a check.

Smith's brigade - the riflemen leading, supported by a 8 inch howitzer, in charge of the late and gallant Capt. Drum, 4th artillery - carried a battery near the Casa Colorada, half way to the garita on the Chapultepec road. The command was here reorganized by the senior officer, Major General Quitman, with the mounted rifleman again in the advance, supported by the South Carolina regiment; the remainder of Smith's brigade being in reserve - and charged the battery at the garita; the reserve pushing up, arrived at the battery at the same moment with the advance, and entered the city at 20 minutes past 1 o'clock P.M. The brigade occupied buildings within the city during the night, and the enemy, having in the meantime abandoned the city, our forces took possession of it on the morning of the 14th. Our national colors were planted on the enemies palace by a non commissioned officer of the mounted rifles at 7 o'clock A.M.

Until late in the afternoon of the 13th, Riley's brigade with Steptoe's and Taylor's batteries, were kept in the Piedad road to watch the enemy in that quarter. It formed a junction with the 1st division on the San Cosme road early in the night of the 19th.

For more minute information adds to the operations themselves, and as to the officers and men particularly distinguished on these several occasions, I will respectfully refer the general in chief to the accompanying report of Brig. Gen. Smith, who so ably commanded the brigade in action.

Lists of the killed, wounded, and missing have already been furnished.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
To Capt. H.L. Scott, A. A. G. Headquarters of the army, City of Mexico.

Sir: I have the honor to report that, in compliance with the orders of Major Gen. Worth, I joined his division yesterday morning in the attack on the foundry near Chapultepec.

My command consisted of six troops of the 2d dragoons, under the command of Lieut. C. D. Williams, 3d dragoons, and Capt. Ruff's company of mounted riflemen - in all about 270 men. My orders were to take a positon of the left of our line, to hold in check the enemy's cavalry, and to give a blow to their horse or foot, if an opportunity should offer. In taking up my position, I was compelled to pass within pistol shot of a large body of the enemy, who were protected by a ditch and breastworks. This exposure of my command was entirely unavoidable, in consequence of a deep ditch on my left, which it was impossible to cross, until I got close to their line; and I could not pause at the moment, as a very large body of the enemy's cavalry was advancing toward the left of our line. After passing through this fire, and crossing a ravine, I formed my command in line facing the enemy's cavalry, on which they halted, and shortly afterward retired.

I continued to hold my command on the left flank of our line, until the enemy's infantry broke and retired - changing my position from time to time, in order to face their cavalry whenever they advanced. I should have joined in the pursuit of their infantry when they broke; but, in doing this, I should have uncovered our left, and their large cavalry force was still maintaining a menacing attitude, covered and protected as it was, by a large hacienda filled with troops.

My loss, in passing their line of fire, was very severe - viz: 5 officers and 33 soldiers wounded, and 6 soldiers killed; 27 horses killed, and 77 wounded. Capt. Ker, of the 2d dragoons, 1st Lieut. Walker, of the rifles, and 2d Lieuts. Smith and Tree, of the 2d dragoons, and 2d Lieut. C. D. Williams, of the 3d dragoons, were wounded; but I am happy to say not dangerously.

My officers and men maintained their character for steadiness and confidence throughout the action. They did well; but I must notice, in particular, the successful efforts of Captain Hardee in maintaining order in his squadron during the many evolutions that it was necessary to make with great rapidity. I have also to state that Assistant Surgeon Barnes was very assiduous in his duties, and took such measures that our wounded men received prompt attention. I have also the pleasure to report that I received effective aid from my adjutant, Lieut. Oakes.

Lieutenant Colonel Moore, of the 3d dragoons, joined me after the action commenced, and did me the great favor to abstain from assuming the command. His presence, however, was of great service to me, and his example, of the most perfect coolness under fire, had a favorable influence upon my command.

Col. Harney, who was quite unwell, also came upon the field during the action, and, after observing my measures for some time, expressed himself satisfied with them, and said to me that he would not assume the command; for which I am deeply obliged to him.

I enclose the list of killed and wounded.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your ob't servant,

E. V. SUMNER,
Major, 2d dragoons commanding regiment.

Capt. W. W. Mackall, assistant adjutant general 1st division.
Sir: In obedience your instructions, I moved at 3, A. M., on the 8th of September, with two 24 pounder siege guns supported by the light battalion of the 1st division, and was placed by Lieut. Col. Duncan on the plain, about 606 yards from the building called Modino del Rey, (supposed to be a foundry,) which I was directed to batter. At daylight we opened a fire from these two guns upon the building with good effect, and fired about ten rounds from each piece, when our infantry, having reached the front of the building, the firing of the 24 pounders was discontinued. After the infantry had captured the batteries of the enemy, and occupied the buildings, I received orders to advance to the left of our line, to drive off the enemy, who were in great force in that direction. On arriving at that point, I received your personal order to remove one gun to the foundry, which was immediately dispatched in charge of Lieut. Stone - the other piece remaining in its then position in charge of Lieut. Hagner, who fired with great precision and effect at the Mexican forces on our left, and caused them to retire. When his limited supply of ammunition was expended, his gun was withdrawn.

As Lieut. Stone got into position near the foundry, a large force of the enemy advanced from Chapultepec upon a small field piece Captain Drum had posted there, with only a small supporting force of infantry. A few rounds from the 24 pounder caused the advancing forces to retire; and Lieut. Stone maintained this position, and fixed his gun with great coolness and precision whenever the enemy appeared - the fort of Chapultepec firing upon him all the while. I now returned to camp, and brought out a fresh supply of ammunition, when I received your instructions not to fire at the fort of Chapultepec, but to withdraw the guns and remove the captured ones. I found on the ground 6 pounders, without limbers, (one of which had been used against the enemy by Lieut. Peck, of the 2d artillery.) As soon as the 24 pounders had been withdrawn from the ground, I sent Lieut. Hagner with their limbers, and removed the two captured 6 pounders.

By your direction, I furnished horses and drivers (from the siege train) to Capt. Drum, 4th artillery, for the two light, 6 pounder guns he recaptured from the enemy at Contreras, (those taken by them at Buena Vista,) and instructed him to report to Col. Garland. Capt. Drum will make a special report of his operations; but, as I was present with him part of the time, I must be allowed to say, that never were pieces served with better judgment and effect. Of Lieut. Hagner commanding the siege the train company who by his untiring industry and exertions, has kept the siege battery in the most perfect order and of Lieut. Stone and the non commissioned officers and men of the siege train, I cannot speak in too high terms; they performed their duty well.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

BEN J. HUGER,
Captain, acting chief of ordnance.

To Maj. Gen. Worth, comd’g 1st division.

[Without date]

NNR 73.207 Nov. 27, 1847 Col. William Selby Harney's report about his operations against Chapultepec and the city of Mexico

[Without date]

Sir: I have the honor to submit the following report of the duties performed by my command, during the operations against Chapultepec and the City of Mexico, on the 13th and 14th inst.

On the 10th, I was ordered by the general-in-chief to proceed to Mixcoac with the 2d battalion of cavalry, to take command of the troops at that place, and to make such dispositions as would enable me to protect the depots and hospitals collected there against the large forces of the enemy, known to be outside of the city.

I found the post occupied by Lieut. Col. Bonham, 12 infantry, with four weak companies his regiment - one company of mounted rifles, one of the 3d, and one of the 7th infantry; in all less than 300 effective men - which, added to those I had brought with me, made a force of near 500 men, with which to guard a large body of Mexican prisoners, and protect the hospitals and depots of ordinance and provisions. I immediately put in requisition every means in my power that would increase the strength of the place - manning some of the captured pieces of artillery with such soldiers and teamsters as had any knowledge of artillery practice, and enrolling all camp follows not in government employ. These precautions were useless as the enemy did not see fit to give my small command an opportunity of competing with their companions in arms in gallant achievements.
The 1st battalion of cavalry, I have pleasure in stating, were actively employed under the command of Maj. Sumner; to whose report which is herewith transmitted, I beg leave to refer you for their operations. [RLLW]

NNR 73. 207 Nov. 27, 1847 Capt. P. B. Riley's report

Headquarters second brigade, Mexico, Sept. 23, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor to report that, in accordance with the instructions of the brigadier general commanding the division, my brigade, under the immediate command of Lieut. Col. Plympton, 7th infantry, moved from Coyoacan on the evening of the 7th instant, and took up a position near the San Angel road, and about two miles south of the garita, at the junction of the Tacubaya and Piedad causeways. On the morning of the following day, in obedience to instructions from Major General Pillow, commanding the forces advanced in this direction, the brigade marched to the field of Molino del Rey, at which place I joined it, and was for several hours engaged in the covering of removal of the killed and wounded, and captured ammunition from the battle field.

While so occupied, the 2d infantry - temporarily under the orders of Brig. Gen. Pierce - became engaged with the enemy's skirmishers at the foot of Chapultepec. In the afternoon the position of the previous night was re-occupied. On the morning of the 9th, under instructions from Maj. Gen. Pillow, the brigade occupied a position in an to the right of the Piedad village, in observation of the enemy's works on the San Antonio and San Angel roads, which was retained under his orders until the brigadier general commanding the division arrived, on the evening of the 11th. On the morning of the 12th, the brigade supported Steptoe's battery in the demonstration made against the garita of Candelaria. In the afternoon of the day it furnished seven officers - Lieutenants Hill and DeRussy, 4th artillery, Captain Casey, Lieutenants Westcott and Steele, 2d infantry, Captain Paul, and Lieut, Gantt, 7th infantry - and 125 rank and file, for the storming of Chapultepec.

The stormers were actively engaged in the glorious assault upon the works of the castle of Chapultepec on the morning of the 13th, and lose more than one forth of that number in killed and wounded - among the former, Lieut. Gantt, a promising and gallant officer of the 7th infantry; and among the latter, Capt. Casey, of the 2d. In the afternoon of that day the 4th artillery was detached for the purpose of making a diversion on the Piedad causeway, but was recalled when the brigade war ordered to march for the garita of San Cosme. On reaching this point late in the evening, I reported to Major General Worth, commanding the attack in that quarter, and on the morning of the 14th marched with his division into the city of Mexico. Soon after entering the city, the 2d infantry was detached; and while absent, was actively engaged for several hours with a large Mexican force in the southern part of the city, suffering a considerable loss, and inflicting a very severe one on the enemy. With the remainder of my brigade, under instructions from Major General Worth, I occupied the Careel, near the Tacubaya garita, until late in the evening, when orders were received to report to the brigadier general commanding the division in the Plaza Mayor.

For the details of these operations, reference is respectfully made to the reports of subordinate commanders, copies of which are herewith submitted.

It gives me pleasure to repeat here the commendations bestowed in former reports, and to express to the officers and men of my command my warmest thanks for the zeal and gallantry and good conduct evinced by them in the different positions occupied by the brigade as a reserve, as supporting, and by a portion of it as an attacking piece.

My staff officers - aided by Captain McClellan, topographical engineers, and Lieut. Westcott, 2d infantry, as volunteer aids - were actively engaged in the performance of their appropriate duties.

I remain, sir, very respectfully, your ob't serv't,

P. B. RILEY,
Brevet Col. commanding 2d brigade.

To First Lieut. W. S. Brooks. A. A. A. General, 2d division. [RLLW]

NNR 73.209 Nov. 27, 1847 tariff of duties imposed on Mexico - R.J. Walker
MILITARY CONTRIBUTIONS. - OFFICIAL. - Treasury department, Nov. 5, 1847.

Sir: The military contributions, in the form of duties upon imports into Mexican ports, have been levied by the departments of war and of the navy during the last six months under your order of the 31st March last, and in view of the experience of the practical operation of the system I respectfully recommend the following modifications in some of its details, which will largely augment the revenue.

That the duty on silk, flax, hemp, or grass, cotton, wool, worsted, or any manufacturers thereof, including cigars and cigaritos; glass, china, and stone ware, iron and steel, and all manufactures of either, not prohibited, be thirty percent ad valorem. On copper, and all manufacturers thereof, tallow, tallow candles, soap, fish, beef, pork, hams, bacon, tongues, butter, lard, cheese, rice, Indian corn and meal, potatoes, wheat, rye, oats, and all other grain, rye meal and oat meal, flour, whale and sperm oil, clocks, boots and shoes, pumps, bootees, and slippers, bonnets, hats, caps, beer, ale, porter, cider, timber, boards, planks, scantling, shingles, laths, pitch, tar, rosin, turpentine, spirits of turpentine, vinegar, apples, ship-bread, hides, leather, and manufacturers thereof, and paper of all kinds, twenty per cent ad valorem; and these reduced rates shall also apply to all goods on which the duties are not paid, remaining not exceeding ninety days in deposit in the Mexican ports, introduced under previous regulations enforcing military contributions.

Yours, most respectfully,
R. J. WALKER, sect'y of the trea'y.

To The President.

[To be continued]

NNR 73. 209 Nov.27, 1847 inspection by Gen. Zachary Taylor of forts from Monterey toward the Rio Grande

GEN. TAYLOR, accompanied by Gen. Wood, was at our last dates, making an inspection of the posts from Monterey towards the Rio Grande, and had reached Mier. Gen. Taylor was en route for home, and was expected at New Orleans hourly, at our last dates from thence. There were great preparations making for his reception at New Orleans. [RLLW]

NNR 73.213 Dec. 4, 1847 arrival of officers in the United States from the seat of the war

WAR WITH MEXICO

The steamer Alabama reached New Orleans on the 24th, with Vera Cruz dates tp the 18th and city of Mexico dates to the 8th of Nov. No less than 210 sick, disabled, and wounded soldiers embarked in the Alabama at Vera Cruz, three of whom died on the passage. Ried. McManus, 2d Pennsylvania volunteers, was buried at sea.

The steamship Galveston sailed from Vera Cruz with the Alabama, to touch at Tampico. The New Orleans was to leave on 19th, as was also the Gen. Butler. A number of officers, on their way from the army, as also a portion of the Encarnacion prisoners - among them Major Gaines, Captains Heady and Smith, Lieuts. Barbour and Churchill, will arrive by these vessels.

Amongst the many passengers on board the Alabama, was Major Gen. Quitman, Gen. Shields,Cols. Harney, Garland, Andrews, Morgan, Ramsay and Burnett; Majors Barland, Arkansas volunteers, Smith, engineers, Wade, 3d artillery, Bonneville, th infantry, Loring, rifles, Bennett and Dykeman; plymaster. A proportionate number of captains, amongst them Capt. C. M. Clay, Kentucky cavalry, and of Lieutenants, &c., Lieuts. Porter and Sweeney, of the New York volunteers, Passed Midshipman Rogers and Geo. W. Kendall. Gen. Quitman leaves Mexico under order of Gen. Scott, directing that he shall report personally, or by letter to the war department, as, since his promotion, he had not been permanently assigned to any division, the object of his return is to seek this. Gen. Shields returns to recover his health, impaired from his wounds received in battle. Col. Harney comes home to recruit. Some of the officers returned are ordered to ..in Bragg's battery immediately. [RLLW]

NNR 73.213 Dec. 4, 1847 captured documents from Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna
A Mexican courier had been captured with letters from Atlisco, Orizaba, and Tehuacan. Among them was a document from Santa Anna, in which he says that just as he had matured his plans for attacking Perote he received orders from the supreme government to turn over the command of the army. [RLLW]

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**NNR 73.213 Dec. 4, 1947 Mexican congress assembles at Queretaro**

The city of Mexico *Moniteur Republicano* of 4th Nov. says that a sufficient number of members of congress had arrived at Queretaro on the 1st for the transaction of business. Later letters from Queretaro direct announce that the congress was organized on the 21 November; Senor De Jose Ma..rial, deputy, from Iranalauto, was elected president, and Jose Hernandez, deputy from Durango, vice-president. [RLLW]

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**NNR 73.213 Dec. 4, 1847 question of the election of a Mexican president**

A letter from an English gentleman in the city of Mexico, dated 8th November, says that although much confidence was felt in the acting president and vice president of congress, who are favorably disposed towards peace, it was much feared that Complidado, of Guadalaxara, will be elected president ad interim of the republic instead of Herrera, or Pena y Pena.

The health of Gen. Herrera is precarious, but improving. Some say that Elloriaga will receive a majority of votes for president ad interim. - Others are divided between Herrera, Almonte, Complidado[?] and Gonzales Rosio. [RLLW]

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**NNR 73.213 Dec. 4, 1847 position of the several corps of troops**

**NNR 73.213 arrival of officers in the United States from the seat of the war**

**NNR 73.213 train from Mexico City arrives at Veracruz**

It was reported at Vera Cruz that Gen. Lane had another brush with Rea, near Puebla, and routed him entirely. All was quiet at Perote when the train came through.

Gen. Patterson was still at Jalapa, suffering some what of a severe cold, but recovering.

Gen. Cushing's command was three miles beyond. The entire force was in the vicinity of about 3000.

Col. Hays left for Puebla on the 13th, escorting Major Polk and Mr. Smyth, bearer of dispatches.

Jarauta, the guerrilla chief, had sent a commissioner to Gen. Patterson. It is said that Jarauta has gone towards Queretaro, his forces having been completely broken up.

Gen. Butler and staff arrived at Vera Cruz on the 17th, and was received with all due honors.

From 2000 to 3000 troops, who had sailed about the same time from New Orleans, arrived at Vera Cruz on the 17th and 18th, and Gen. Butler would, in a fortnight, move forward for the capital with 6000 men, including what had been left behind of the former division.

Gen. Quitman's division at the capital had been incorporated with the divisions of Twiggs and Worth, as also the Pennsylvania and New York volunteers with the former.

The Vera Cruz *Arco Iris* of the 18th Nov. states that he had arrived at Orizaba with 1500 ragged followers.

Commodore Perry was to sail for Vera Cruz on the 19th ult. for Alvarado, Tobasco, Laguna and Campeachy.

The *American Star*, of the 3d November, published in the city of Mexico, states that the congress at Queretaro had received a communication from Mr. Trist, but the character of the contents had not transpired. [RLLW]
The papers from the Mexican capital contain a long communication from Señor Otero, a distinguished member of congress, invoking public opinion to induce congress to decline all peace overtures by which any territory but Texas shall be alienated. [RLLW]

Capt. Robert H. Taylor's Rangers sent to rectify a theft against a Mexican

A Mexican trader came into camp day before yesterday and complained to General Wool that while at La Ventura, a small hacienda or village on the route from here to San Luis, he was robbed of his cargas and mules to the value of five hundred dollars. In consequence of the promise to protect the property of Mexicans who remain neutral, and the assurances that robbers and those assisting them shall be punished, General Wool has ordered Capt. Taylor's company of Texas Rangers to repair to the rancho or hacienda, retake the goods if they are there, or if they are not, to seize a sufficient number of the cattle and horses belonging to the place to make up for the loss of the Mexican, and if those who had a hand in the robbery can be pointed out, to seize them and bring them in as prisoners. The expedition started this morning, and before the get back will probably go to the hacienda Potosí. [RLLW]

Squire Collins

Mr. Collins, better known in Missouri as Squire Collins who acted as interpreter to Doniphan's command, and has since been employed as interpreter to the quartermaster department, left here last week with a party of a dozen for Santa Fe, via Monclova and the Presidio, through the Indian country. It is expected that this party may meet guerrilla parties and Indians on their route, but though few in number they are prepared to make a stout resistance. [RLLW]

Another party left yesterday morning for San Antonio, Texas, via Monclova, about fifteen strong. - Among them was Mr. Thos. H. O'S. Addicks, Gen. Wool's interpreter, a most excellent, intelligent and talented follow. He has been in this country or Texas many years, and been an actor in many stirring scenes with the Mexicans and Indians, and among the latter, the Lipans, has spent a considerable time, and I believe has been made a chief by them. He holds the office of county clerk in San Antonio. This party, it is reported, is to be attacked by guerrillas between here and Monclova, by a band who are waiting for them. [RLLW]

Guerrilla attack

Lieut. Campbell of the 2d dragoons left here on the morning of the 1st for Monterey with Lieut. Clark of the Texas Rangers, together with twenty dragoons and two Texas rangers,-in all about 25. About six miles beyond Maria he was attacked by about 150 guerrillas. He fought them for nearly an hour, when they fled. They had him completely surrounded for some time. His loss was three killed, of the dragoons, two missing and sixteen wounded. Lieut. Clarke was shot through the leg and one of the rangers was among the wounded. The wounded are all in camp at Monterey. [JNA]

trial of Mexican prisoners accused of murder

The Mexicans who are charged with the murder of Raynes and Patterson have not been convicted. - The board was in session when I wrote you last had merely examining powers. A regular commission, ordered by General Taylor, commenced its session this morning for the trial. The accused stand a poor chance for their necks, for the evidence is very strong against them. I hear nothing new from Monterey and imagine they are quite as dull as we are here. [RLLW]
NNR 73.213 Dec. 4, 1847 unsuccessful revolution at Guadalajara

Vera Cruz, November 18.

In the city of Guadalajara a fresh revolution has burst forth in favor of the elevation to the presidency of Gomez Farias, the avowed antagonist of the sacerdotal party. His partisans, whilst attacking the churches and endeavoring to abstract therefrom the sacred utensils of gold, were suddenly assaulted by the mob, incited by the priests. A sanguinary engagement immediately ensued between the infuriated parties - the one endeavoring to pillage the sacred edifices, the other to protect them from the threatened desecration. In the action it is said that Gen. Ampudia, of Monterey and Sentmanat notoriety, was slain, together with many of the followers of Gomez Farias. The militant church party, which so well knows how to defend its privileges, has triumphed as usual. [RLLW]

NNR 72.213 Dec. 4, 1847 Gen. Mariano Paredes y Arillaga pronounces in favor of plan of Iguala

Gen. Paredes has openly pronounced, at Tulancingo, in favor of the plan of Iguala. In his pronunicamento and monarchical movement, he was seconded by the garrison of Mazaltan. [RLLW]

72.213 Dec. 4, 1847 Mexican war spirit unalloyed

The spirit breathed forth in every paragraph of these papers, is the spirit of war and unquenchable hatred to the North Americans and their acts. The Mexicans, though destitute of all resources, having amongst them the apple of discord, distracted by internal convulsions and divided councils, yet evince no desire nor tendency whatever to peace or conciliation. [RLLW]

72.213 Dec. 4, 1847 Michael Leonard the teamster executed

EXECUTION. - Michael Leonard, a teamster, belonging to the train which arrived here on the 12th instant, was hung yesterday morning in the main plaza, in pursuance of his sentence, for the murder of another teamster, named William Hampton. The murder occurred on the road the day after the battle of Huamantla. Leonard had previously quarreled with a wagon master named Boulet, and intended to kill him alone. Boulet, however, escaped with the loss of an arm, while the same shot killed Hampton. An immense crowd assembled to witness the execution. Leonard expressed no regret dying, and said that his sentence was a just one, but that if he had the thing to do over again, he would avenge himself on Boulet.[Puebla Flag [RLLW]

72.214 Dec. 4, 1847 council of war at Puebla between Nicolas Trist and Gen. Winfield Scott

COUNCIL OF WAR - MR. TRIST AND GENERAL SCOTT
THE $3,000,000.

Extract of a letter to the St. Louis Republican dated

Puebla, Mexico, Aug. 6. 1847.

While at Jalapa, I announced to you the fact, that an estrangement, as well as some pretty sharp correspondence, had taken place between Gen. Scott and Mr. Negotiator Trist, arising from a no less singular than gentlemanly course pursued by the latter towards the former. That difficulty, I am happy to say, has long since ceased to exist, and Mr. Trist now regards Gen. Scott as the general in chief of the army of the United States, and in that capacity from time to time consults him in all diplomatic matters connected with the object of his mission - peace! I speak advisedly when I assure you, that Mr. Trist's bearing towards Gen. Scott when he first reached Jalapa, was not approved at Washington either by the president or secretary of war. And Major General Pillow, who arrived here on the 8th of last month, was invested not only with the power of making peace between these two high functionaries, but bore directions to Mr. Trist, that in the future progress of his negotiations he must, from time to time, consult with Majs. Gen. Scott and Pillow.
I observe, from the papers that an idea is prevalent among the more intelligent portions of the U. States, that General Scott is vested with high diplomatic powers. Whatever may have been the case, previous to the arrival of Mr. Trist, since then all such powers have been vested in Mr. Trist alone. He was sent here as the confidential political friend of the administration, as the disburser of some three million bribery fund, and with the expectation that by a judicious application of it, a peace could easily be purchased from a people over whom our standard had ... victorious in every engagement we had had with them. I mention this, because I believe that the administration, fearing the infamy that will attach to a peace procured upon such terms, have cunningly devised the plan to create, and allow the impression to become prevalent, that Gen. Scott possessed the diplomatic power, and that upon him must rest the responsibility of any such termination of the war.

A short time since things were in a fair way this to be ended. The application of this fund was to have been, upon certain contingencies, in bringing about the appointment of commissioners to treat with us for peace; and those who had secured this result were to have been the recipients of certain portions of the fund. To this, Mr. Trist was committed to fully and so far as consent went, Gen. Scott in part. A council of war was decided upon, and called. It convened at the headquarters of the army, on Saturday evening, the 17th of July last. Those who was present at this council, were, the general in chief Maj. Gens. Pillow and Quitman, Brigadier Generals Twiggs, Shields and Cadwallader. The justly distinguished General Worth was not present, in consequence of a most unfortunate disruption of the friendly relations that had existed for 35 years between him and Gen. Scott. But of this, more anon.

At this council of war, two propositions were presented for the action of its members. The first was whether the advance of the army upon the city of Mexico should bedealyed until the arrival of Gen. Piece's command, who was then known to have left Vera Cruz for his place. And the second was whether the application of a portion of the three millions in the manner above specified by me, would be justifiable under the peculiar circumstances of the case.

The first proposition was without much discussion, unanimously decided in the affirmative, all concurring in opinion that it was the part of both prudence and discretion to await the reinforcement of Col. Genral Pierce's column.

The second proposition presented in its consideration an entirely different spectacle. All evidently were sensibly impressed with the importance of the contemplated step and the idea of a great and victorious nation attempting to bribe the leaders of the government over whom they had triumphed, to make a peace upon almost any terms, was for the first time to a conflict between civilized nations, about to be resorted to.

The general-in-chief, with his usual bland, impressive, and, I may add eloquent manner, first went over the whole ground, bringing in support of his position in every argument to which tact, much reflection, and a strong mind could give birth. To these considerations, he added the great and pressing ... in all their ... by the administration to terminate by any means, if possible, this war. Upon his concluding, the opinions of the different generals present, were called for according to rank. General Pillow's was the first one given, and was favorable to the plan proposed. Gen. Quitman followed, but objected in tata to it, upon the ground that it would inflict a stain upon our national escutcheon, that centuries could not wipe out. Of the brigadier generals, Twiggs was the first to expose his views, and by regarding it to a great extent as a "political question," declined giving any opinion. - Gen. Shields was next required to give his views; he at once rose from his seat; his whole countenance lit up with animation, and in that bold, fearless, uncompromising manner that so strikingly illustrates his whole public careers, denounced the whole scheme in the most unqualifying terms. He insisted that the application of this fund for any such purpose, was not only immoral, but debasing. That, while for purposes of self defence it was, according to usages of modern warfare, justifiable in one nation, to employ as spies the subjects of the other belligerent power, for the sake of benefiting us, that belligerent power, for the sake of benefiting us, to cut the throats of their own subjects. And he boldly declared, that rather than see the country of his adoption thus disgraced, he would prefer by far to witness a continuation of the war for ten years, and in every battle we fought, lose five thousand men. The one would admit of a remedy; the other was an evil from the consequences of which, as a nation, we never could recover.

Gen. Cadwallader simply remarked, that Gen. Shields had exhausted the subject, and he fully concurred with him in the conclusions to which he had come. Thus terminated the council of the evening of the 17th July. What followed is soon related.

The next day, Gen. Shields had a long interview with Mr. Trist. What occurred at that interview, I have no means of ascertaining, but the subsequent note of Mr. Trist can leave but little doubt upon that subject. Two days afterwards, Mr. Trist withdrew all papers connected with this manner of terminating the war. And from that hour to this, an immediate march upon the capital, so soon as General Pierce came up, was determined upon, and all hopes of an early peace abandoned.
I have been particular in relating the proceedings of what I regarded by far the most important council of war that has convened since the existence of hostilities between the United States and Mexico, because I believe my country has been saved from being plunged into an abyss of infamy, from which there would be no extrication; and for the reason, that those who, regardless of consequences to themselves, have ... that blow, should receive credit for it. [RLLW]

72.214 Dec. 4, 1847 death of an American sailor

AN AMERICAN SAILOR. A letter published in the Harrisburg Argus, written by Lieut. James Elder, says: "When the transport ship Empire struck near ... Rey, not one man was lost, who Lieut. E says he was steering the ship when she struck, and attempted to save her by putting the helm hard down; but when nearly hard down the rudder struck; but when nearly hard down the rudder struck the rocks, which carried him over and under the wheel several times, the handles of the wheels tearing his thigh every revolution, the flesh was literally torn off from the knee to the hip. Lieut. E. asked him why he did not let go. He said 'four hundred lives are more valuable than one.'"

"This brave soldier's name should be known and remembered - he is beyond the reach of this world's recompense, for he did not survive his injuries."[RLLW]

NNR 73.214 Dec. 4, 1847 "reveling in the halls of Montezumas"

"REVELLING IN THE HALLS OF THE MONTEZUMAS."

An officer of the South Carolina volunteers writes from the National Palace of Mexico, under date of October 16th, as follows: Much has been said about reveling in the Halls of Montezumas, but we have seen little of it yet. If sleeping on two blankets on a hard table, and covered with one, then I can say, I do revel. But when one comes to try it, the romance of the thing vanishes."[RLLW]

NNR 73.214 Dec. 4, 1847 divisions among parties in Mexico, exactions on the clergy

PARTIES IN MEXICO. - EXACTIONS ON THE CLERGY.

The St. Louis Republican, of the 22d inst., contains an interesting letter from the city of Mexico, dated October 17th, from which we make the following extract:

"As to the prospects of peace, I have now no more confidence in so desirable a result being brought about, than I had at Jalapa. The country is so divided and unsettled a condition, that I do not see how peace could be made, even if the country was in favor of it. They are divided into three parties. The first is called Santa Anna's party, which constitutes the military and a portion of the clergy, who are in favor of that state of things that will best enable them to rob the public with the least trouble. A second party consists of a large number of respectable citizens, to which may be added the major part of the clergy, who are decidedly in favor of some European Prince being placed over them, and that every vestige of a republican form of government should be swept away from Mexico with the termination of this war. The third and last party, are those in favor of the constitution of 1924, and opposed to every thing like a monarchical form of government. The latter party is rapidly increasing in strength, and are determined to send a commissioner to Washington this winter to ask the U. States to occupy and hold the entire country. A few of the most influential members of this party have already had a confidential interests with Mr. Trist, who promised to represent their wishes favorable to our government."

He states that a Mexican newspaper has been established in the city, edited by an association of gentlemen of the liberal party, which boldly and ably, and with a good deal of effect in the public mind, advocate a restoration of the state of affairs that existed during the first three years of Mexican independence. He alludes as follows to the church interest:

"I have met with and conversed freely with several of the most distinguished clergy in this city, as to the present and future condition of Mexico. - Many of them partially admit that the interest of the church as well as their own, would be greatly enhanced by Mexico becoming a monarchy. But, they as freely asserted that if that could not be done, as they were then in
favor of the United States occupying and governing the country as the next best means of preserving the church property from being consumed to sustain and carry on the war. Or, in the event of peace, it being a ... to feel like praetorian cohort of their officers, civil and military that cling like leeches on the body politic.

The cathedral, in addition to over two hundred thousand dollars previously contributed was compelled to give up some of its images, in order to enable Santa Anna to fortify the city. This was taken and disposed of to the English bankers, Manning A. McIntosh, for $300,000. The convent of St. Domingo, one of the most extensive, and heretofore wealthy institutions of the kind, has been greatly impoverished by the exorbitant contributions extorted from them for the support and maintenance of war, and the government together. The principal padre, or priest, in the institution, told me, a few days ago, that this convent alone, had been compelled to advance upwards of $400,000; and to accomplish it, they had been forced, in addition to giving up all their ready money, to dispose of some of the most valuable real estate of the city. Other religious institutions have suffered in proportion to their wealth, equally as much; and to check further encroachment upon their estates, and to guard against the rapacity of their own government, as well as to avoid the result that would follow the success of Gomez Farias party, who are violent in their opposition to the clergy, and in favor of a confiscation of the whole of the church property to relieve the government from its embarrassments - most of the intelligent and reflecting portion of the priesthood, in the event of no foreign prince reigning over them, prefer for these reasons, solely, that the United States should govern them. Do not think that this is an idle conjecture, or the mere ebullient of a distempered fancy. It is the result of calm investigation, and well authenticated information drawn from the most reliable sources."

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NNR 73.215 Dec. 4, 1847

Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's manifesto to the Mexican nation

MANIFESTO OF SANTA ANNA.

Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, general of division, "Benemerito de la Patria," and provisional president of the republic, to his fellow citizens:

Since my return to the country I have upon various occasions addressed you, giving an account of my operations as chief of the army, and as first executive magistrate; but holding no longer those positions, I now address you with the most profound grief to complain for you of the cruel ingratitude of some, and of the perfidy of others, who, not content to have acted with the most criminal indifference during the period of the great conflict, are now striving to throw upon me alone the responsibility for those great public calamities to which they have so much contributed.

Such conduct does not surprise me, for a full year ago I discovered that I was again to be made the target of the factions which had torn out of the bowels of the country. Their audacity reached the pitch of holding me up as a TRAITOR before a community which had been witnesses of my repeated services in the cause of independence and liberty, and of the sacrifices I had made to save them from the yoke with which they are now threatened. But it was impossible for me to have anticipated my violent removal from the theatre of the war, in the mode in which it has been effected by him with whom I had deposited supreme power whilst I was fighting with our unjust invaders; and as this inexplicable conduct is calculated to confirm the malicious report which has so deeply wounded my heart, I find myself compelled to lay before the world a historical review of my conduct during the fourteen months which have elapsed since my return to the republic, to the end that my labors may be seen and a full exposure made of the injustice with which I was opposed by those whose duty it was to support me, and of the origin of that invention of "traitor" with which I am stigmatized, with a view to discredit me in public opinion, when I had done my best to serve the country; for I have sought to respond loyally to the call made upon me to save the country from the barbarous and iniquitous invasion it has suffered. But as this work will require time, and cannot be prepared as soon as I could wish, at the same time that slander loses not a moment in striking its venomous fangs into my reputation, I entreat all impartial men who have not been witnesses of the exertions I have made, to design to suspend their opinions until that publication, assuring them that therein they shall learn what has been my true conduct, and what that of my unjust detractors.

As the calamity which is iniquitously urged against me is so atrocious, I hurl it back with all the energy of my character, and with the force of innocence infamously outraged. I challenge and summon all my accusers to come forward with their proof, and if they fail to do so, I denounce them as vile calumniators and enemies of the nation.

I call upon Generals Scott and Taylor, and upon every individual in their armies, and I conjure them to declare upon their honor whether the Mexican general, who has fought them in the north and in the east and in the centre, too, of the republic, down to the 10th inst., has
discharged all his duty to his country. 

Fellow citizens: Misfortune has deprived me of the incomparable satisfaction of offering you a splendid victory; but misfortune has never been deemed treason. They insult you who endeavor to persuade you that such infamy can have fallen upon a veteran of independence, covered with honorable wounds received in defence of your rights, and who has grown gray serving his country with affection and loyalty. Remember that these same men have before abused your simplicity, misleading your judgment, and cast upon the pages of our history the bolt which stains it, in the record of the assassinations of Padilla and of Cuilapan; remember that by these men were sacrificed the two chiefs who at Iguala traced the plan of our independence; that they were found guilty of the act of removing from the sacred soil in which it was ... which your fellow citizen last in fighting a foreign foe, to make a public mockery of it under the pretext that it had belonged to one whom in that moment of delirium they called a TYRANT. - If my conduct during these fourteen months deserves reproach, it is required that it be subjected to examination because its results have not been fortunate, I am ready to meet any charges which may be legally and fairly brought against me; but in the meantime I believe myself to the considerations which the fundamental fact secures to me, which my services demand and which justice exacts.

If you will await events as I desire you in order to judge with certainty, you will perceive that those who form their clubs have managed to diffuse distrust and malignant reflections upon my conduct, taking advantage of our misfortunes, are the very ones who are hastening to treat with the enemy and to yield to him what I refused. [RLLW]

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NNR 73.216 Dec. 4, 1847 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's decree, Rosa orders Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna to trial and divests him of command

On the 7th of September Santa Anna issued a decree, in which, reciting the necessity of there being a permanent head to the government, now that neither congress nor the council of government are in session, he orders that, in case he should fall or be taken prisoner, the president of the supreme court of justice would assume his functions, aided by Gens. Herrera and Bravo. This substitution was ordered to continue until congress should assemble and name a president, or the states could elect one. After General Bravo had been taken prisoner, and Santa Anna had abandoned the capital, the latter issued another decree, bearing date September 16th. In this he premises that he designs to continue the campaign; that to do so and retain executive authority are quite incompatible, as the executive government should reside in the centre of the republic. Wishing to avoid this evil, and to provide for the permanency of the government let what may betide, he resigns the provisional presidency of the republic, and orders that the executive authority shall be vested in the president by the supreme court, (Senor Pena y Pena,) assisted by Gen. Herrera and Gen. Alcorta - that latter in place of Gen. Bravo. A second article of the decree fixes upon Queretaro as the seat of government for the nation.

ORDER FOR THE DISMISSION OF SANTA ANNA

Section of Wars

Most excellent sir: His excellency, the provisional president of the Republic, profoundly impressed with his duties to his country, convinced of the necessity of reestablishing public morals in the nation, and of giving more vigor to the discipline of the army, which has been for some time ... and almost extinguished by our civil dissensions; desirous also of manifesting to the people of the city of Mexico, and others in the possession of the city of Mexico, and others in the possession of the enemy, that their fate is not disregarded by his excellency; considering that in every well organized country that the generals of the army should answer before a tribunal for the faults which they have committed, and even the defeats which they have suffered in their campaigns, has resolved that you should deliver the command in chief of the army to his excellency, the commander of division, Don Manuel Rincon. The provisional president directs that you establish your residence in the place you should judge convenient, with the consent of the supreme government, and there await, under the guarantee of your word of honor the orders for a formation of a council of war composed of general officers, who shall judge you for the loss of the actions which you have directed as general-in-chief in the present war, and particularly for the loss of the capital of the republic. His excellency the president believes that your honor requires that your military conduct may be submitted to a decision, the result of which he hopes may be favorable and honorable to you. I have the grief to communicate to your excellency the supreme order, and the honor of offering my distinguished consideration. God and Liberty.

Toluca, Oct. 7, 1847. ROSA.
His excellency the general who deserves well of his country, D. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna.

The above order, it will be seen, is dated the 7th October. It was some days after its date that Santa Anna was engaged at the head of 2,500 cavalry, with Col. Lane's detachment in the battle in which Capt. Walker was killed at Huamantia. [RLLW]

NNR 73.216 Dec. 4, 1847 Atlixco taken, a Mexican Account

BATTLE OF ATLIXCO - MEXICAN ACCOUNT.

Entrance of the Americans with fire and blood into Atlixco.

My beloved Father and Sire, whom I venerate:

Surely your blessing has preserved me in this conjuncture, for the Americans, by their valor and discipline, are invincible, and without exaggeration the attack which they made appeared to me the day of judgment.

I write to you for the purpose of informing you that the army of the United States of America, yesterday afternoon, had a bloody engagement with his excellency, the senior commanding general, Don Joaquin Rea, who was at the head of two thousand infantry, well drilled, well equipped and paid, with all his valiant guerrilleros. But having found it impossible to maintain his position, notwithstanding the profound military knowledge possessed by this ancient soldier of Napoleon, and veteran of independence, he abandoned it with precipitation and retired to the city of Atlixco. And the American army pursuing, and resistance in the impregnable mountain of San Miguel, which, however, was carried by American valor, notwithstanding it was covered with two thousand more troops and one cannon. In this action we had much need of the valiant National Guards, of Huachamanga, who the day before yesterday were commanded by the governor to retire, and who slept at Cholula, and marched out at 1 o'clock in the morning, on their march, with much apprehension.

The American army possessed themselves of this hill, in which they encountered the most admirable firmness of the patriotic Mexicans, who retired to the centre of the city and discharged much musketry from the houses and churches, which served for strong walls of defence. These were attacked by fire, for the artillery was directed with great force against the plaza, into which they threw about 211 shots and shells. This superiority of arms compelled the Mexicans to ask a truce, which resulted in a capitulation, which was commenced at 7 o'clock, at which hour I have the satisfaction to take up my pen to write.

I know not the loss which the American army has suffered, but am assured that it has been very small, whilst we have had 219 Mexicans killed, 300 more wounded, and several guerrillas taken prisoners, of those who call themselves the "poisoned lancers."

I omitted to mention to you, that the Senor Gen. Rea, has departed with his most confidential adjutants, for the south, and on yesterday morning his excellency, the governor, took flight, attended with the most loyal employees. He intends to establish himself at Jalapa, a place very suitable to oppose the enemy with that valor which he has always exhibited and will continue to exhibit.

The Senor Deputy; in consequence of his accelerated flight to Matamoros, has omitted to pay me the draft, but I have had it protested, and in consequence thereof, you will take from the trunk the silver plate, which I consider ought to be sold to pay the expenses of your journey. Starting from your city you will await me at Tepeaca for which place I start this moment.

When I see you I will give you particulars, and now, business aside, I request you to avail yourself of the humble respect with which you are venerated by your affectionate son,

JOSE EDUARDO HERNANDEZ.

[RLLW]

NNR 73.216-217 Dec. 4, 1847 manifesto of Gen. Mariano Paredes

MANIFESTO OF PAREDES.
We are persuaded that our readers will peruse with interest the following manifesto of General Paredes, an ex-president of Mexico, and, in view of those vested to judge, and honest man and a patriot.

Manifesto of Gen. Mariano Paredes y Arrillaga to his fellow citizens.

Countrymen: - The force of circumstances and events constrained my to absent myself from my family and to leave my country. I sought in Europe an exile, where I devoured in silence the grief which I suffered as a father and a citizen - severe is the task of stifling the feelings so natural under such circumstances. Notwithstanding, nothing so depressed my spirits, nothing so preyed upon my heart, as the impossibility of giving to my country the same services which I rendered her in the happier days of her independence - fighting for her and pouring out my blood.

This exile, and the constrained inaction to which I was condemned, were to me a most costly sacrifice. But one single consideration could have brought me to submit to it, the necessity of depriving my enemies of the pretext that in my person an obstacle was presented to the defence of then national territory, the fate of which caused me the most painful disquietude, for I foresaw the consequences, and the danger was becoming constantly more imminent.

It is easy to conceive of agony of such a position; and the anxiety in which I lived. I sought, unceasingly to take part in the current of events, but the distance rendered this impossible; each day seemed to me an age. In the meanwhile the most sinister rumors were current in Europe, which are ever the precursors of the great calamities that nations endure; the republic was insulted, humiliated, abashed; its gratuitous enemies and those who were ill-disposed towards it, omitted nothing which could injure it. Unhappily the events of Monterey, the An..ra, Vera Cruz, and Cerro Gordo ensued to confirm those ominous portents, and they increased my anxiety and my distress. I saw with dread a large portion of the territory of the republic in the power of the enemy; the states of Chihuahua, Coahuila, New Leon, Tamaulipas, New Mexico and the Californias had been invaded; a like fate had befallen Vera Cruz; ... occupied, and the battle of Cerro Gordo laid open the road to the capital and exposed the nation to the gravest and most frightful consequences. On every side the republic was assaulted; she was hemmed in by a line of steel, and the cause of justice succumbed in every encounter. Difference of opinion did not disappear; civil war again presented itself, and the blood shed in the combats with the foreign foe was not sufficient to extinguish civil dissensions.

Such a state of affairs was terrible, for who could look with indifference upon calamities like these, following one after the other! Who could think upon the conflict and the difficulties in which the country was involved without feeling a vehement desire to sacrifice himself in her ...? Do you suppose that a citizen in whose breast had once burned the purest patriotism, could look with frigid egotism upon such calamities? Could a soldier, ... and cowardly though he were, remain an unconcerned spectator, far from the scene and the places where the conflict was going on for a cause so just and interests so sacred? Could he watch unmoved the audacious strides which the invader was making on his work of iniquity? Misfortune never has overwhelmed my soul, but my prostrate country could not survive calamities like these. I declare to you with all sincerity, I hesitated not a moment, and followed the impulses of my heart, inspired by a patriotism pure and free from personal speculations, I embraced the resolution of coming to join my efforts with yours in favor of our country. I reflected not that I had enemies among my countrymen, for I had been the enemy of none; I never considered that I should become the mark of poisonous shafts of ... for I was satisfied with the purity of my intentions; all within me was truth. I came to offer my services to a country which saw me in the ranks of her glorious independence, and if necessary to sacrifice myself for her. I harbored neither suspicion nor fears, neither resentments nor enmities. I sought to unite my efforts in those of her other .... began to present the country to the world in an attitude of dignity and to command respect. I came not to arouse nor to inflame the passions of Mexicans against Mexicans, nor to excite recollections painful for the country. But one though occupied me, and that was that there was still a foot hold left from which to fight, still a space where the war might yet be waged, and that the soil moistened with the blood of so many martyrs might again become the theatre of lofty prowess in which valor and patriotism could obtain their deserved reward.

Occupied exclusively with this idea, I gave notice to the government of my determination from Paris under date of the 17th June last. I made with all haste my preparations, for the voyage, and embarked at Southampton on the July ... I reached Vera Cruz on the 14th of August, and as I learned in Havana that the same packet would convey to the governor of Vera Cruz intelligence of my coming, was the first step to leap ashore, and changing my dress I had the good fortune to escape from he city, incognito, before the commandant of the enemy had time to take measures, consequent upon the betrayal of me by an unworthy man who had recognised me.

The precautions we had taken, and the promptitude with which I acted saved me, for five minutes had not elapsed before the gates of the city were closed, and an order given to the
cavalry outside the walls, to give chase and pursue me; but all their measures were fruitless, for I fled with rapidity, taking the road of La Soledad, and thence I continued my journey through a multitude of dangers such as they encounter who travel through a country overrun with evil doers. I proceeded to Cordova and Orriba, and at last reached Palmer, from which point I again addressed his excellency the minister of war, notifying him of my arrival, and offering services. Little regard was paid my overtures; my proffered services were contemptuously rejected, and not only were the good wishes which animated me disregarded, but a surveillance was ordered upon me. And directions were given to the governor of Vera Cruz to seize and reship me, and to the governors of the other states, including the commandantes generales, to conduct me a prisoner to Acapulco.

Fortunately these orders, dictated by a hatred the most concentrated, by an ignoble thirst for vengeance, by the most profound resentment, and, what is more criminal that all, by prior engagements which the head of the Mexican government had entered into with the United States, were rendered ... who could have executed these orders, and by whose sentiments of justice not yet extinct among Mexicans, and by the horror excited by the idea of converting them into the instruments of ... unworthy passions. They refused with honest indignation to execute those orders, well knowing, the shameless tyranny in which they originated. It was notorious that the president of the republic had no authority to issue them, for it was expressly forbidden by the third article of April 20th of this year to impose penalties upon Mexicans, notwithstanding the design of the decree was to invest him with extraordinary powers. It was an outrage, for it violated the most sacred guarantees. I had not lost my position as a Mexican; I was entitled to return freely to my country; there was no legal resolution, no measure passed in regard to me promoting my return. I was under the protection of the laws, and these are the reasons why these orders were ... which commanded at my re-embarkation, my seizure and imprisonment, orders directed against a man who, oppressed with infirmities and with affliction at seeing his country destroyed, her independence and nationality threatened with extinction, sought to die on her soul, and solicited any place whatever amongst the ranks of his countrymen to accompany him to the combat.

During this unjust persecution by the man who ... depth of that abyss in which we now see her, I received repeated requests from military chiefs to place myself at the head of the troops which they commanded; but I constantly refused, so as not to afford to my enemy by a division of the army an excuse by which he could palliate or gloss over the disasters caused by his want of skill, and stupidity, by his total military incapacity. Now that he has detached himself from the direction of the government by abandoning it, I await employment from the government which has succeeded him, should it be deemed proper, and should it be thought that my services may be of any use. I will never accept any command unless it be by the order of the government.

Here, fellow-citizens, have I written in a few words my sincerity and good faith, the history of my return to the republic, the conduct which I observe upon my arrival therein, and of the position which I now maintain. Let calumny, hatred and malevolence invent reports against me as they please, my actions will constantly give the lie to them.

I desire that you would seriously fix your attention upon the situation in which the country is placed. - It demands vast efforts and sacrifices. Its prostration is the fruit of divisions and exacerbation of passions, of political hatred, of rivalries and distrust, pushed to the greatest extremes. Let us repudiate our errors, let us detest our irregularities, and let the school of misfortune make us cautious for the future. Let not the lessons of experience be lost upon us; let us not be blinded by illusions. Let us apply a remedy to the ills of the nation, and recognizing its true ... trepidly driving back the enemy who has penetrated to the heart of the country, that so we may prevent the humiliation and annihilation of our country.

MARIANO PAREDES Y ARRILLAGA.

Tulancingo, Sept. 29, 1847

[NRR 73.217 Dec. 4, 1847 Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna's farewell address, items, Mexican force in the field, affairs from the capital]

SANTA ANNA'S FAREWELL ADDRESS. Headquarters, Huamantla, Oct. 16, 1847.

The general-in-chief of the army to his companions in arms;

My Friends: When we anticipated obtaining a triumph for the country over our invaders, according to the [illegible] in which you are no strangers, and while I was exclusively occupied in carrying on hostilities against the enemy as you well know, which object alone brought us
this way, I received surprising communication of Don Luis de la Rosa, minister of state and war, in which he informs me that by order of his excellency the president of the supreme court of justice, charged with the supreme executive power, by the appointment which I made to that effect in my decree of the 16th of last September, I am to deliver the command of this body of troops to this excellency, general of division, Don Manuel Rincon, or to Don Juan Alvarez, holding the same rank. Although against so strange a proceeding I could argue many objections, as I will do in due time before the nation, in order to preserve the dignity of the appointment which the sovereign constitutional congress made in my person as president ad interim, yet delicacy and patriotism induce me to obey without reply the individual who has just removed from my hands the power which the nation had confided to me, and when I merely relinquish in order to carry on the war against our unjust invaders. I do not wish to furnish a pretext to my implacable enemies to calummate me, nor to have it said that I avoided presenting myself to answer for my conduct as a public man.

From these motives I separate myself from you with the profoundest regret. You are my companions in misfortune, but you are the faithful servants of the nation. Your virtues are known to me, and you know that our intentions were to finish fighting for the most sacred of causes, or to snatch from fortune some important favor. I depart from you and the theatre of the war, perhaps to sacrifice myself to the vengeance of my enemies, or to effect an inglorious peace which I did not wish to grant, because it was repugnant to my conscience.

Soldiers! be faithful servants to your country! - Let me no misfortune intimidate you. Perhaps the moment is not far distant when conducted by another more fortunate chieftain, fortune will be propitious to you.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

[NLLW]

NNR 73.218 Dec. 4, 1847 liberty of the press restored in Mexico City

The liberty of the press has been entirely restored in this city, and in addition to seven Mexican and French papers at present published, we have two American papers. Both of the latter are well supported, especially the American Star, by the pioneer printer, publisher and editor, J.H. Peoples. I will send your files of both, if an opportunity ever presents itself. [RLLW]

NNR 73.222 Dec. 4, 1847 official report on the actions of the first regiment of US volunteers of New York in the storming of Chapultepec and the advances on Mexico City

Headquarters, 1st regiment U.S. volunteers of N.Y., City of Mexico, Sept. 16, 1847.

To Capt. F. N. Page, A. A. Adj. Gen.

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of the part taken by the 1st regiment U.S. volunteers of New York, in the affairs of the 12th and 13th instant.

In the absence of Col. Ward B. Burnett, who was still confined at the Hacienda Miquaque, from a wound received on the 20th ultimo, at Los Potalis, Lieutenant Col. Charles Baxter was in command of the regiment. The regiment after furnishing the different details that had been ordered for the storming party, light battalion and batteries, was reduced to 280 officers and men. We arrived at Tacubaya on the morning of the 12th instant, and were posted until about 8 o'clock on the morning of the 13th instant, on the right of the road from Tacubaya to the city, and near Capt. Drum's battery, to protect said battery.

About 8 A. M. on the 13th, as the division filed past the gate on the Tacubaya road, Col. Baxter received orders to advance and storm the castle. After proceeding about half a mile, he was ordered by the general to file to the left by a ranche through a corn field. Here we were received by a shower of grape, canister, and musket balls, when Col. Baxter fell severely wounded, gallantly leading the charge. I immediately took command, and in ascending the hill was struck by a spent ball, which disabled me for a few minutes, during which time I directed Captain Taylor to command the battalion.

Notwithstanding the difficult nature of the ground, intersected as it was by numerous ditches, and swept by a galling fire from the enemy, the regiment which I had the honor to command was the first at the ditch, the first in the enemy's works, and the first to place the national flag
upon the conquered castle. Gen. Bravo, commanding the garrison, surrendered himself a prisoner of war to Charles B. Brower, commanding company F. The castle having surrendered, I was ordered by the general to proceed with my command on the Tacubaya road, and was halted at the aqueduct, where the men refilled their cartridge boxes. After a short rest, we advanced towards the Garita de Belen, where the skirmishing parties under command of Captains Hungerford and Taylor, were detailed by order of Gen. Quitman, and rendered essential service in driving the enemy from the batteries at the Garita. A working party was also detailed to carry sand bags, fill ditches, and make a road under the direction of Lieut. Pinto, of company D. Capt. Barclay was then ordered to superintend the building of a breast work, and rendered the efficient aid as second in command, throughout the day. The acting adjutant Lieutenant Charles Innes, having been wounded about this time, I appointed Lieut. [illegible] of company K in his place, and assigned Lieut. Francis G. Boyle to the command of company.

At dusk a large working party was detailed from the N. York and Pennsylvania regiments, and placed under the command of Capt. Fairchild, in order to erect a battery in front of the Garita, as well as to strengthen our position in other respects. At daylight the following morning we marched with the rest of the division into the capital.

I feel that it is due to Doctors Edwards and McSherry of the marine corps, to thank them for their kind attention to our wounded during the absence of our surgeon, Dr. M. B. Halstead, who was ordered to remain in charge of the hospital at Misquaque. - Capt. Hutton comissary to the regiment, was left in command at Misquaque, and was active in forwarding supplies. Capt. Van Olinda was killed, gallantly leading his company to the charge, and Lieut. Mayne Reid severely wounded at the head of his company on the hill.

In closing my report, I must do justice to those gallant officers, by particular notice, whose assistance to me, both in the attack on Chapultepec and the advance on the city, added greatly to the brilliant results of the day. They were Captains Barclay, Taylor, Hungerford, Fairchild, and Pearson; the latter fell early in the engagement, severely wounded, Lieuts. Henry, whose gallantry deserves special notice, Miller, McCabe, [illegible], Brower, Griffin, Green, Boyle, Scannel, Farmsworth, Dorning and Doremus.

A list of the killed, wounded, and missing in the storming of the castle, and the subsequent battles on the road to Mexico, is herewith enclosed.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully yours, &c,

Signed] JAMES C. BURNHAM,
Lieut. Col. commanding U.S. regiment.

[RRWW]

NRR 73.222 Dec. 4, 1847 Gen. Joseph Lane's report on the relief of Puebla

REPORTS OF THE BRIGADIER GENERAL LANE

Puebla, (Mexico,) October 13, 1847.

SIR: I have the honor to announce to you the arrival of my command at this place on yesterday at 1 o'clock. Before entering this city, I had learned satisfactorily that Col. Childs had been besieged forty days, and that his position was becoming a very critical one, principally for the want of proper supplies. For the particulars of this siege I respectfully refer you to the report of Col. Childs himself. As my command [illegible] the city firing was distinctly [illegible] and feeling confident that my force was sufficient to enter the city at once, I directed Col. Brough, with the Ohio and Captain Heitzleman's battalion, to [illegible] with the Indiana regiment, to proceed by a street further to the east and left. Upon our approach, I found an enemy upon the house-tops and in the streets, firing occasional shots. The troops moved up toward the main plaza, driving the scattering forces of the enemy before them, and completely clearing the streets and city, and killing a few of the enemy. Immediately all was quiet and order restored. I should remark, also, that I found ten or twelve of Col. Child's men who had been killed by the enemy that morning, and but a short time before our entering the city. Col. Childs and command are entitled to the highest consideration from his government for the gallant defence they have made against the repeated attacks of the enemy during the long and serious siege.

My thanks are due to the whole of my command for the gallant manner in which they obeyed my orders, and attacked and drove the enemy.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully your most obedient servant,
SIR: I have the honor to make the following report of an engagement between a part of me force and the enemy, under the command of General Santa Anna, at the city of Huamantla, on the 9th instant:

After my departure from Vera Cruz, and when near the San Jose river, a party of guerrillas was observed near the hacienda of Santa Anna. Capt. Lewis' company of [illegible] volunteers was detached to pursuit; a portion of the command, under Lieut. Lilly, came upon the enemy, and had a smart skirmish with them. Lieut. Lilly behaved in the most gallant manner, rallying and encouraging his men under a most severe fire. Upon leaving Paso de Orejas, the rear guard was fired upon by a small guerrilla force, and I regret to have to announce the death of Lieut. Cline, who was shot in the affair. He is reported to have been a most energetic and efficient young officer, belonging to Capt. Lewis' company of Louisiana mounted volunteers.

At various points on the road [illegible] reached me that a large force was concentrating between Perote and Puebla. These rumors were confirmed on my arrival at the former place, and I also received the additional intelligence that Santa Anna in person commanded them, having about four thousand men and six pieces of artillery. No molestation occurred until my arrival at the hacienda of San Antonio Tamaris, at which place, through the medium of my spies, I learned that the enemy were at the city of Huamantla. Leaving my train packed at the former place, guarded by Col. Brough's regiment Ohio volunteers, Captain Simmons' battalion of three companies, and Lieut. Pratt's battery, my force consisting of Col. Wynkoop's battalion of mounted men, under command of Captain Samuel H. Walker, mounted riflemen, and five pieces of artillery, assisted by Lieut. Field, artillery. On arriving near the city, at about one o'clock P.M., Capt. Walker, commanding the advanced guard, (of horsemen,) was ordered to move forward ahead of the column, (but within supporting distance,) to the entrance of the city, and if the enemy were in force to await the arrival of the infantry before entering. When within about three miles, parties of horsemen being seen making their way through the fields towards the city, and it the enemy were in force to await the arrival of the infantry before entering. When within about three miles, parties of horsemen being seen making their way through the fields towards the city, Captain Walker commenced a gallop. - Owing to the thick maguey bushes lining the sides of the road, it was impossible to distinguish his further movements. But a short time had elapsed when firing was heard from the city. The firing [illegible], the column was pressed forward as rapidly as possible. At this time a body of about 2,000 lancers was seen hurrying over the hills towards the city. I directed Col. Gorman, with his regiment, to advance towards and enter the west side of the city [illegible] Colonel Wynkoop's battalion, with the artillery, moved towards the east side, Capt. Heintzelman's moving on his right, and Major Lally's constituting the reserve.

Upon arriving at the entrance to the city, Captain Walker discovering the main body of the enemy in the plaza, (about 500 in number,) ordered a charge. [illegible] hand to hand conflict took place between the [illegible]; but so resolute was the charge, that the enemy were obliged to give way, being driven from their guns. They were pursued by our dragoons for some distance, but the pursuit was checked by the arrival of their reinforcements. Col. Gorman's [illegible] on arriving at the entrance to the city about the same time as the reinforcements of the enemy, opened a well directed fire, which succeeded in routing them. With the left wing of his regiment he proceeded in person towards the upper part of the town where the enemy still were, and succeeded in dispersing them. Col. Wynkoop's command, with the batteries, assumed their position; but before they were within range the enemy fled in haste. The same occurred with Capt. Heintzelman's command. The enemy entering the town and becoming somewhat scattered, Major Lally, with his regiment, proceeded across the holds to cut off his rear and intercept his retreat. This movement not being perceived, I ordered him to advance towards the town: thus depriving him, unintentionally, of an opportunity of doing good service. Captain Walker's force had been engaged some three quarters of an hour before the infantry arrived to his support. He succeeded in capturing two pieces of artillery from the enemy, but was not able to use them, owing to the want of priming tubes, although every
effort was made. On this occasion every officer and soldier shaved with the utmost coolness, and my warmest thanks are due to them. Col. Gorman, Lieut. Col. Humont, and Major McCoy, of the Indiana regiment; Col. Wynkoop, Pennsylvania; volunteers; Major Lally and Captain Heintzleman, rendered me most efficient service by their promptness in carrying into execution my orders. To Surgeons Reynolds and Lamar the highest commendations are due joining us as they did in the charge of the cavalry. Surgeon Reynolds, side by side with Captain Walker, rushed on the enemy's lines, and, after the conflict was ended, rendered professional [illegible] of the wounded, promptly performing amputation and other surgical operations on the field of battle. Lieut. Claborne, mounted riflemen, captured a six pounder in a gallant manner; while Captain Fitzhuman, company C. mounted riflemen, captured a mounted howitzer. Corporal Tilman is highly spoken of by all. Lieut. Anderson, Georgia volunteers, succeeded in capturing Col. La Vega and Major Iturbide, narrowly escaping with his life. The cavalry were much exposed, and behaved with that daring which characterizes American soldiers on every occasion of danger. My thanks are due to the members of my staff present, for their promptness in serving me.

Capt. Besancon, with his command of (mounted) Louisiana volunteers, in following the command of Capt. Walker, was separated by a large body of lancers from the remainder of the squadron, but gallantly succeeded in cutting his way through them. Lieut. Henderson, Louisiana volunteers, was acting as one of my aids.

The colors of the Indiana regiment were planted on the arsenal the moment the enemy were routed. This victory is saddened by the loss of one of the most chivalric, noble hearted men that grace the profession of the arms - Captain Samuel H. Walker, of the mounted riflemen. Foremost in the advance he [illegible] the enemy when he fell mortally wounded. In his death the service has met with a loss which cannot easily be repaired. Our total loss is thirteen killed and eleven wounded. We succeeded in capturing one six pounder lance gun and one mountain howitzer, both mounted, together with a large quantity of ammunition and wagons, which I was compelled to destroy. The enemy's loss was about one hundred and fifty. I must beg leave to further mention Lieut. B.P. McDonald, 3d artillery, who was sent with an order into the town previous to my entry, accompanied by Mr. Bradley, of the quartermaster's department. He was surrounded by lancers, but succeeded in escaping.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

JOSEPH LANE, Brig. Gen.

To the Adjutant General, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C.

NRR 73.223 Dec. 4, 1847 Gen. Joseph Lane's official account of the engagement at Huamantla

BATTLE OF ATLIXCO.

Headquarters Department Perote,

Perote, October 22, 1847.

SIR: On the evening of the 18th instant learning that Gen. Rhea was in command of a considerable force of the enemy at Atlixco, about ten leagues from this place, I ordered a movement for the net morning at 11 o'clock. My force consisted of the 4th Ohio and 4th Indian regiments, Major Lally and Captain Heintzleman's battalions, Col. Wynkoop's battalion of four companies, (1st Pennsylvania volunteers) Captain Taylor's and Lieut. Pratt's batteries of light artillery, and a squadron of dragoons, commanded by Captain Ford, 3d dragoons - About 4 o'clock P. M., when near Santa Isabella seven leagues from this place, the advance guard of the enemy was discovered. A halt was ordered into the cavalry, which had previously been detached to [illegible] a hacienda, should arrive. The enemy with his accustomed bravado, came to the foot of the hill in small parties, firing their escopetas and waving their lances. On the arrival of the cavalry forward movement was made by the column. A large ravine appearing on the left of the road Lieut. Col. Moore, with his Ohio regiment, was ordered to flank it, Major Lally with his battalion leading the advance. Our column had scarcely commenced its movement, when signs of confusion were visible among the enemy. In consequence of which the cavalry was ordered to charge, follow them up and engage them until the infantry could arrive. - Lieut. Pratt with his battery was ordered to follow in rear of the dragoons at a gallop. Had this movement been performed, the whole force would have been ours. But by an order from Maj. Lally, Lieut. Pratt was taken from the place assigned him by me and in consequence detained until a greater portion of the ground, it was impossible for his battery to proceed with rapidity.

The cavalry pursued the retreating enemy for about a mile and a half, skirmishing with them.
On arriving at a small hill, they made a stand and fought severely until our infantry appeared, when they took flight. Our artillery fired a few shots as soon as it came up, but without effect, as by their rapid retreat they had placed themselves at long range. The dragoons were again ordered to follow and keep them engaged. After a running fight of about four miles and when within a mile and a half of Atlixco, the whole body of the enemy was discovered on a hill side, covered with a chaparral, forming hedges, behind which they had posted themselves. Our cavalry dashed among them, cutting them down in great numbers. So think was the chaparral that the dragoons were ordered to dismount, and fight them on foot. A most bloody conflict ensued, fatal to the enemy. Our infantry for the last six miles had been straining themselves to the utmost to overtake the enemy, pressing forward most arduously, notwithstanding the forced march of sixteen miles since 11 o’clock. Owing to the nature of the road, almost entirely destroyed by gullies, the artillery could only advance at a walk. As soon as the infantry again appeared in sight, the enemy again retreated. So worn out were our horses (the sun having been broiling hot all day) that they could pursue the enemy no further. The column was pressed forward as rapidly as possible towards the town; but night had already shut in, giving us, however, the advantage of a full moonlight. As we approached several shots were fired at us, and, deeming it unsafe to risk a street fight in an unknown town at night, I ordered the artillery to be posted on a hill near to the town, and overlooking it, and open its fire. - Now ensued one of the most beautiful sights conceivable. Every gun was served with the utmost rapidity; and the crash of the walls and the roofs of the houses when struck by our shot and shell, was mangled with the roar of our artillery. The bright light of the town enabled us to direct our shots to the most thickly populated parts of the town.

After firing three quarters of an hour, and the firing from the town having ceased, I ordered Major Lally and Colonel Brough to advance cautiously with their commands into the town. On entering I was waited upon by the ayuntamiento, desiring that their town might be spared. After searching the next morning for arms and ammunition, and disposing of what was found, I commenced my return.

Gen. Rea had two pieces of artillery; but as soon as he was aware of our approach, he ordered them with haste to Matamoros, a small town eleven leagues beyond. The enemy state their own loss in this action to be 219 killed and 300 wounded. On our part, we had one man killed and one wounded. Scarcely ever has a more rapid forced march been made than this, and productive of better results. Atlixco had been the headquarters of guerrillas in this section of country, and of late the seat of government of this state. From hence all expeditions have been fitted out against our troops. So much terror has been impressed upon them, at thus having war brought to their own homes, that I am inclined to believe they will give us no more trouble.

The cavalry under Captain Ford deserves my very warmest thanks. The services performed by them was of a most arduous and dangerous character, and nobly did they sustain themselves. To Capt. Lewis, Lieuts. Waters and Lilly, it is but justice to recommend the particularly to the notice of the department for their gallantry. Also Lieut. Martin, 3d dragoons, commanding for the time Captain Ford's company, behaved in a [illegible]. To the commanders of regiment [illegible], to Captain Taylor, 3d artillery, and Lieut. [illegible], 2d artillery, commanding batteries of light artillery, I am under great indebtedness. To Lieut. Sears, 2d artillery, acting A. A. G., for his promptness and efficiency throughout the day in carrying my orders, also my highest thanks are due Lieut. Henderson, Louisiana regiment, Lieut. [illegible] regiment, and Lieut. McDonald, assistant quartermaster, deserve my thanks for efficient service during the day. To my secretary, Mr. A. Phelps, my thanks are due. To Doctors Reynolds, Newton, and Lamar, I must tender my thanks.

On my return, when at Cholula, learning that two pieces of artillery had just been finished at Guexocingo, I determined to proceed thither, and took with me a portion of Col. Brough's and Col. Wynkoop's regiments, and a part of Captain Heintzeleman's battalion, and Capt. Taylor's battery - [illegible], 450 men. I made a thorough search of the town; the pieces had been removed, but their carriages were found and destroyed.

On my entry into the town, a party of the enemy were seen, but retreating precipitately.

The next morning, without interruption, I returned to Puebla.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,
JOS. LANE, Brig. Gen.

Hon. W.L. Marcy, secretary of war.

[RRLL]
ADDRESS OF ALBERT GALLATIN.

To the People of the United States, On the subject of the War with Mexico.

I. – THE LAW OF NATIONS:

It seems certain that Mexico must ultimately submit to such terms of peace as the United States shall dictate. A heterogeneous population of seven millions, with very limited resources and no credit; distracted by internal dissensions and by the ambition of its chiefs; a prey by turns to anarchy and to military usurpers; occupying among the nations of the civilized world, either physically or mentally, whether in political education, social state, or any other respect, but an inferior position, cannot contend successfully with an energetic, intelligent, enlightened, and united nation of twenty millions, possessed of unlimited resources and credit, and enjoying all the benefits of a regular, strong, and free government. – All this was anticipated; but the extraordinary successes of the Americans have exceeded the most sanguine expectations. All the advanced posts of the enemy (New Mexico, California, the line of the lower Rio del Norte, and all the seaports which it was deemed necessary to occupy) have been subdued. And a small force, apparently incompetent to the object, has penetrated near three hundred miles into the interior, and is now in quiet possession of the far famed metropolis of the Mexican dominions. The superior skill and talents of our distinguished generals and the unparalleled bravery of our troops have surmounted all obstacles. By whomsoever commanded on either side, however strong positions and fortifications of the Mexicans, and with a tremendous numerical superiority, there has not been a single engagement in which they have not been completely defeated. The most remarkable and unexpected feature of that warfare is, that volunteers, wholly undisciplined in every sense of the word, have vied in devotedness and bravery with the regular forces, and have proved themselves in every instance superior in the open field to the best regular forces of Mexico. These forces are now annihilated or dispersed; and the Mexicans are reduced to a petty warfare of guerrillas, which, however annoying, cannot be productive of any important results.

It is true that these splendid successes have been purchased at a price far exceeding their value. It is true that neither the glory of these military deeds, nor the ultimate utility of our conquests, can compensate the lamentable loss of the many thousand valuable lives sacrificed on the field, or the still greater number who have met with an obscure death, or have been disabled by disease and fatigue. It is true that their relatives, their parents, their wives and children, find no consolation for the misery inflicted upon them in the still greater losses experienced by the Mexicans. But if, disregarding private calamities and all the evils of the general nature, the necessary consequences of this war, we revert solely to the relative position of the two countries, the impotence of the Mexicans and their total inability to continue the war, with any appearance of success are still manifest.

The question then occurs: What are the terms which the U. States have a right to impose on Mexico? All agree that it must be an "honorable peace;" but the true meaning of this word must in the first place be ascertained.

The notion that any thing can be truly honorable which is contrary to justice, will, as an abstract proposition, be repudiated by every citizen of the United States. Will any one dare to assert that a peace can be honorable which does not conform with justice?

There is no difficulty in discovering the principles by which the relations between civilized and Christian nations should be regulated, and the reciprocal duties which they owe one another. These principles, these duties, have long since been proclaimed, and the true law of nations is nothing else than the conformity to the sublime precepts of the gospel morality; precepts equally applicable to the relations between man and man, and to the intercourse between nation and nation."

The sanctity of these commands is acknowledged, without a single exception, by every denomination of Christians, or of men professing to be such. The skeptical philosopher admits and admires the precept. To this holy rule we should inflexibly adhere when dictating the terms of peace. The United States, though they have the power, have no right to impose terms inconsistent with justice. It would be a shameful dereliction of principle, on the part of those who were averse to the annexation of Texas, to countenance any attempt to claim an acquisition of territory, or other advantage, on account of the success of our arms.

But in judging the acts of our government, it must be admitted that statesmen think a conformity to these usages which constitute the law of nations, not as it should be, but as it is practically, sufficient to justify their conduct. And by that inferior standard those acts and our duties in relation to Mexico will be tested.

II. INDEMNITIES TO CITIZENS OF THE U. STATES.
The United States had, and continue to have, an indubitable right to demand a full indemnity for any wrongs inflicted on our citizens by the government of Mexico, in violation of treaties or of the acknowledged laws of nations. The negotiations for satisfying those just demands had been interrupted by the annexation of Texas. When an attempt was subsequently made to renew them, it was therefore just and proper that both subjects should be discussed at the same time; and it is now absolutely necessary that those just claims should be fully provided for in any treaty of peace that may be concluded, and that the payment should be secured against any possible contingency. I take it for granted that no claims have been or shall be sustained by our government but such as are founded on treaties or the acknowledged law of the nations.

Whenever a nation becomes involved in a war, the manifestos and every other public act issued for the purpose of justifying its conduct, always embrace every ground of complaint which can possibly be alleged. But, admitting that the refusal to satisfy the claims for indemnity of our citizens might have been a just cause of war, it is most certain that those claims were not the cause of that in which we are now involved.

It may be proper, in the first place, to observe that the refusal of doing justice, in cases of this kind, or the long delays in providing for them, have not generally produced an actual war. Almost always long protracted negotiations have been alone resorted to: This has strikingly always been the case with the United States. The claims of Great Britain for British debts, secured by the treaty of 1783, were not settled and paid till the year 1803; and it was only subsequent to that year that the claims of the United States, for depredations committed in 1793, were satisfied. The very plain question of slaves carried away by the British forces in 1815, in open violation of the treaty of 1814, was not settled and the indemnity paid till the year 1826. The claims against France for depredations committed in the years 1808 to 1813 were not paid for till the year 1834. In all those cases peace was preserved by patience and forbearance.

With respect to the Mexican indemnities, the subject had been laid more than once before congress, not without suggestions that strong measures should be resorted to. But congress, in whom alone vested the power of declaring war, uniformly declined doing it.

A convention was entered into on the 11th day of April, 1839, between the United States and Mexico, by virtue of which a joint commission was appointed for the examination and settlement of claims. The powers of the commissioners terminated, according to the convention, in February, 1842. The total amount of the American claims, presented to the commission, amounted to $6,291,605. Of these, $2,026,140 were allowed by the commissioners of the U. States, rejected by the Mexican commissioners, and left undecided by the umpire, and claims amounting to $3,336,837 had not been examined.

A new convention, dated January 30, 1843, granted to the Mexicans a further delay for the payment of the claims which had been admitted, by virtue of which the interest due to the claimants was made payable on the 30th of April, 1846, and the principal of the awards, and the interest accruing thereon, was stipulated to be paid in five years, in twenty equal installments every three months! The claimants received the interest due on the 30th of April, 1843, and the three instalments due in April and July, 1844, before they had been actually paid by Mexico, the payment has been assumed by the United States and discharged to the claimants.

A third convention was concluded at Mexico on the 20th of November, 1842, by the plenipotentiaries of the two governments, by which provision was made for ascertaining and paying the claims on which no final decisions had been made. In January, 1844, this convention was ratified by the senate of the United States, with two amendments, which were referred to the government of Mexico, but respecting which no answer has ever been made. On the 12th of April, 1844, a treaty was concluded by the president of Texas, for the annexation of that republic to the United States. This treaty, though not ratified by the senate, placed the two countries in a new position, and arrested for a while all negotiations. It was only on the 1st of March, 1845, that congress passed a joint resolution for the annexation.

It appears most clearly that the United States are justly entitled to a full indemnity for the injuries done to their citizens; that before the annexation of Texas, there was every prospect of securing that indemnity; and that those injuries, even if they had been a just cause of war, were in no shape whatever the cause of that in which we are now involved.

Are the United States, justly entitled to indemnity for any other cause? This question cannot be otherwise solved that by an inquiry into the facts, and ascertaining by whom, and how, the war was provoked.

III. ANNEXATION OF TEXAS.

At the time when the annexation of Texas took place, Texas had been recognized as an
independent power, both by the United States and by several of the principal European
powers; but its independence had not been recognized by Mexico. Nothing can be more clear
and undeniable than that, whenever two nations are at war, if a third power shall enter a
treaty of alliance, offensive of defensive, with either of the belligerents, and if such treaty is
not contingent, and it to take effect immediately and pending the war, such a treaty is a
declaration of war against the other party. The causes of the war between the two belligerents
do not alter the fact. – Supposing that the third party, the interfering power, should have
concluded the treaty of alliance with that belligerent, who was clearly engaged in a most just
war, the treaty would not be the less a declaration of war against the other belligerent.

If Great Britain and France were at war, and the United States were to enter into such a treaty
with either, can there be the slightest doubt that this would be actual war against the other
party; that it would be considered as such, and that it must have been intended for that
purpose? If, at this moment, either France or England were to make such a treaty with Mexico,
thereby binding themselves to defend and protect it with all their forces against any other
power whatever, would not the United States instantaneously view such a treaty as a
declaration of war, and act accordingly?

But the annexation of Texas by the United States was ever more than a treaty of offensive or
defensive alliance. It embraced all the conditions and all the duties of growing out of the
alliance; and it imposed them forever. From the moment when Texas had been annexed, the
United States became bound to protect and defend her, so far as her legitimate boundaries
extended, against any invasion or attack on the part of Mexico; and they uniformly acted
accordingly.

There is no impartial publicist who will not acknowledge the indubitable truth of these
positions. – It appears to me impossible that they should be seriously denied by a single
person.

It appears that Mexico was at the time disposed to acknowledge the independence of Texas,
but on the express condition that it should not be annexed to the United States; and it has
been suggested that this was done under the influence of some European powers. Whether
this last assertion be true or not is not known to me. But the condition was remarkable and
offensive.

Under an apprehension that Texas might be tempted to accept the terms proposed, the
government of the United States may have deemed it expedient to defeat the plan, by offering
that annexation which had been formerly declined, when the government of Texas was anxious
for it.

It may be admitted that, whether independent or annexed to the United States, Texas must be
a slaveholding state so long as slavery shall continue to exist in North America. Its whole
population, with hardly any exception, consisted of citizens of the United States. Both for that
reason and on account of its geographical position, it was much more natural that Texas
should be a member of the United States than of the Mexican confederation. Viewed purely as
a question of expediency, the annexation might be commenced as beneficial to both parties. –
But expediency is not justice. Mexico and Texas had a perfect right to adjust their differences
and make peace on any terms they might deem proper. – The anxiety to prevent this result
indicated a previous disposition ultimately to occupy Texas: and when the annexation was
accomplished; when it was seen that the United States had appropriated to themselves all the
advantages resulting from the American settlements in Texas and from their subsequent
insurrection, the purity of the motives of our government became open to suspicion.

Setting aside the justice of the proceeding, it is true that it had been anticipated by those who
took an active part in the annexation that the weakness of Mexico would compel it to yield, or
at least induce her not to resort to an actual war. This was verified by the fact; that had
government remained in the hands with whom the plan originated, war might probably have
been avoided. But, when no longer in power, they could neither regulate the impulse they had
given nor control the reckless spirits they had evoked.

Mexico, sensible of her weakness, declined war, and only resorted to a suspension of
diplomatic intercourse; but a profound sense of the injury inflicted by the United States has
ever since rankled in their minds. It will be found, through all their diplomatic correspondence,
through all their manifestoes, that the Mexicans, even to this day perpetually recur to this
never forgotten offensive measure. And, on the other hand, the subsequent administration of
our government seems to have altogether forgotten this primary act of injustice, and in their
negotiations in have acted as if this was only an accomplished fact, and had been a matter of
course.

IV. – NEGOTIATIONS AND WAR

In September, 1845, the president of the United States directed their consul in Mexico to
ascertain from the Mexican government whether it would receive an envoy from the United States, entrusted with full power to adjust all the questions in dispute between the two governments.

The answer of Mr. De la Pena y Pena, minister of the foreign relations of Mexico, was; "That, although the Mexican nation was deeply injured by the United States, through the acts committed by them to the department of Texas, which belongs to his nation, his government was disposed to receive the commissioner of the United States who might climb to the capital, with full powers from his government to settle the dispute in a peaceful, reasonable, and honorable manner;" thus giving a new proof that, even in the midst of its injuries and of its firm decision to exact adequate reparation for them, the government of Mexico does not reply with contumely to the measures of reason and peace, to which it was invited by its adversary.

The Mexican minister at the same time intimated that the previous recall of the whole naval force of the United States, then lying in sight of the port of Vera Cruz, was indispensable; and this was accordingly done by our government.

But it is essential to observe that whilst Mr. Black had, according to his instructions, inquired whether the Mexican government would receive an envoy from the United States with full power to adjust all the questions in dispute between the two governments, the Mexican minister had answered that his government was disposed to receive the commissioner of the United States who might come with full powers to settle the present dispute in a peaceful, reasonable, and honorable manner.

Mr. Slidell was, in November following, appointed envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States of America near the government of the Mexican republic, and he arrived in Mexico on the sixth of December.

Mr. Herrera, the president of Mexico, was undoubtedly disposed to settle the disputes between the two countries; but, taking advantage of the irritation of the mass of the people, his political opponents were attempting to overset him for having made, as they said, unworthy concessions. The arrival of Mr. Slidell disturbed him extremely; and Mr. Pena y Pena declared to Mr. Black that his appearance in the capital at this time might prove destructive to the government, and thus detest the whole affair. Under these circumstances Gen. Herrera complained without any foundation, that Mr. Slidell had [illegible] that had been understood; he resorted to several frivolous objections against the tenor of his powers; and intimated that the difficulties inspecting Texas must be adjusted before any other subject of discussion should be taken into consideration.

But the main question was, whether Mexico should receive Mr. Slidell in the character of envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, to reside in the republic. It was insisted by the Mexican government that it had only agreed to receive a commissioner to treat on the questions which had arisen from the events in Texas, and that until this was done the suspended diplomatic intercourse could not be restored, and a residing minister plenipotentiary admitted.

Why our government should have insisted that the intended negotiation should be carried on by a residing envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary might have been discussed and settled as easily, fully, and satisfactorily by commissioners appointed for that special purpose, as by residing ministers or envoys. It is well known that, whenever diplomatic relations have been superseded by war, treaties of peace are always negotiated by commissioners appointed for that special purpose, who are personally amply protected by the law of nations, but who are never received as resident ministers till after the peace has restored the ordinary diplomatic intercourse. Thus the treaty of peace of 1783, between France and England, was negotiated and concluded at Paris by British commissioners, whom it would have deemed absurd to admit as resident envoys or ministers before peace had been made.

The only distinction which can possibly be made between the two cases is, that there was not as yet actual war between Mexico and the United States. But the annexation of Texas was no ordinary occurrence. It was a most clear act of unprovoked aggression; a deep and most offensive injury; in fact, a declaration of war, if Mexico had accepted it as such. In lieu of this, that country had only resorted to a suspension of the ordinary diplomatic relations. It would seems as if our government had considered this an act of unparalleled audacity; which Mexico must be compelled to retract before any negotiations for the arrangement of existing difficulties could take place; as an insult to the government and to the nation, which must compel it to assert its just rights and to avenge its injured honor.

General Herrera was not mistaken in his anticipations. His government was overset in the latter end of the month of December, 1845, and fell into the hands of those who had denounced him for having listened to overtures of an arrangement of the difficulties between the two nations.
When Mexico felt its inability to contend with the United States, and, instead of considering the annexation of Texas to be, as it really was, tantamount to a declaration of war, only suspended the ordinary diplomatic relations between the two countries, its government, if directed by wise counsels, and not impeded by popular irritation, should at once, since it had already agreed to recognise the independence of Texas, have entered into a negotiation with the United States. At that time there would have been no intrinsic difficulty in making, a final arrangement, founded on an unconditional recognition of the independence of Texas, within its legitimate boundaries. Popular feeling and the ambition of contending military leaders, prevented the peaceable termination of those unfortunate dissensions.

Yet, when Mexico refused to receive Mr. Slidell as an envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary, the United States should have remembered that we had been the aggressors, that we had committed an act acknowledged, as well by the practical law of nations as by common sense and common justice, to be tantamount to a declaration of war, and they should have waited with patience till the feelings excited by our own conduct had subsided.

Gen. Taylor had been instructed by the war department, as early as May 28, 1845, to cause the forces under his command to be put in a position where they might most promptly and efficiently act in defense of Texas, in the event that it should become necessary or proper to employ them for that purpose. By subsequent instructions, and after the people of Texas had accepted the proposition of annexation, he was directed to select and occupy a position adapted to repel invasion, as near the boundary line, the Rio Grande, as prudence would dictate; and that, with this view, a part of his forces should be west of the river Nueces. It was certainly to the duty of the president to protect Texas against invasion from the moment it had been annexed to the possession of Corpus Christi which, was the position selected by Gen. Taylor, there was nothing, in the position he had taken, indicative of any actual hostilities.

But our government seems to have considered the refusal, on the part of Mexico, to receive Mr. Slidell as a resident envoy of the United States, as necessarily leading to war. The secretary of state, in his letter to Mr. Slidell of January 28, 1846, says:

"Should the Mexican government finally refuse to receive you, the cup of forbearance will then have been exhausted. Nothing can remain but to take the redress of the injuries to our citizens and the insults to our government into our own hands."

And again:

"Should the Mexican government finally refuse to receive you, then demand passports from the proper authority and return to the United States. It will then become the duty of the president to submit the whole case to congress, and call upon the nation to assert its just rights and avenge its injured honor."

With the same object in view, the secretary of war did by his letter dated January 13, 1844, instruct Gen. Taylor –

"To advance and occupy, with the troops under his command, positions on or near the east bank of the Rio del Norte. * * * * It is presumed Point Isabel will be considered by you an eligible position. This point, or some one near it, and points opposite Matamoros and Mier, and in the vicinity of Loredo, are suggested for your consideration. - * * * * Should you attempt to exercise the right which the United States have, in common with Mexico, to the free navigation of this river, it is possible that Mexico would interpose resistance. You will not attempt to enforce this right without further instructions. * * * * It is not designed, in our present relations with Mexico that you should trust her as an enemy; but, should she assume that character by a declaration of war, or any open act of hostility towards us, you will not act merely on the defensive, if your relative means enable you to do otherwise.

The administration was therefore of opinion that this military occupation of the territory in question was not an act of hostility toward Mexico, or treating her as an enemy. Now, I do aver, without fear of contradiction, that whenever a territory claimed by two powers is and has been for a length of time in the possession of one of them, if the others should invade and take possession of one of it by military force, such an act is an open act of hostility according to the acknowledged law of nations only recognises a clear and positive fact.

The sequel is well known. General Taylor, with his troops, left Corpus Christi, March 8th to 11th, 1846, and entered the desert which separtates that place from the vicinity of the Del Norte. On the 21st he was encamped three miles south of the Arroyo, or Little Colorado, having by the route he took marched one hundred and thirty-five miles, and being nearly north of Matamoros, about 30 miles distant. – He had on the 19th met a party of irregular Mexican cavalry, who informed him that they had peremptory orders, if he passed the river, to fire upon his troops, and that it would be considered a declaration of war. The river was, however, crossed without a single shot having been fired.
In a proclamation issued on the 12th, Gen. [illegible] who commanded the forces of the department of Tamaulipas, asserts that the limits of Texas are certain and recognised, and never had extended beyond the river Nueces; that the cabinet of the United States coveted the regions on the left bank of the Rio Bravo, and that the American army was now advancing to take possession of a large part of Tamaulipas. On the 24th of March Gen. Taylor reached a point on the route from Matamoros to Point Isabel, eighteen miles from the former and ten from the latter place, where a deputation sent him a formal protest of the prefect of the northern district of the department of Tamaulipas, declaring, in behalf of the citizens of the district, that they never will consent to separate themselves from the Mexican republic, and to unite themselves with the United States.

On the 12th of April the Mexican General Ampudia required General Taylor to break up his camp within twenty-four hours, and to retire to the other bank of the Nueces river, and notified him that, if he insisted on remaining upon the soil of the department of Tamaulipas, it would clearly result that arms alone must decide the question, in which case he declared that the Mexicans would accept the war to which they had been provoked.

On the 24th of April General Arista arrived in Matamoros, and on the same day informed General Taylor that he considered hostilities commenced, and would prosecute them. On the same day a party of sixty-three American dragoons, who had been sent some distance up the left bank of the river, because engaged with a very large force of the enemy, and after a short engagement, in which about sixteen were killed or wounded, were surrounded and compelled to surrender. These facts were laid before congress by the president in his message of the 11th of May.

V. THE CLAIMS OF TEXAS ON THE [ILLEGIBLE]

From what precedes it appears that the government of the United States considered the refusal of Mexico to receive a resident enemy or minister as a sufficient cause for war, and the Rio del Norte as the legitimate boundary of Texas. The first opinion is now of not importance; but the question of boundary, which was the immediate cause of hostilities, has to this day been the greatest impediment to the restoration of the peace. I feel satisfied that if this was settled there would be no insuperable difficulty in arranging other pretensions.

The United States claim no other portion of the Mexican dominions, unless it be by right of conquest. The tract of country between the Rio Nueces and the del Norte is the only one which has been claimed by both parties as respectively belonging either to Texas or to Mexico. As regards every other part of the Mexican possessions, the United States has never claimed any portion of it. The iniquity of acquiring any portion of it otherwise than by fair compact, freely consented to by Mexico, is self-evident. It is in every respect most important to examine the ground on which the claim of the U. States to the only territory claimed by both nations is founded. It is the main question at issue.

The Republic of Texas did, by an act of Dec. 1836, declare the Rio del Norte to be its boundary. It will not be seriously contended that a nation has a right, a law of its own, to determine what is or shall be the boundary between it and another country. The act was nothing more than the expression of the wishes or pretensions of the government. Its only practical effect was, that, emanating from its congress or legislative body, it made imperative on the executive not to conclude a peace with Mexico unless that boundary was agreed to. As regards right, the act of Texas is a perfect nullity. We want the arguments and documents by which the claim is sustained.

On a first view the pretension is truly startling. – There is no exception: the Rio Norte from its source to its mouth, is declared to be the rightful boundary of Texas. That river has its source within the department, province, or state of New Mexico, traverses through its whole length from north to south, dividing it into two unequal parts. The largest and most populous, including Santa Fe, the capital lies on the east bank of the river, and is therefore embraced within the claim of Texas. Now this province of New Mexico was first visited and occupied by the Spaniards under Vasquez Coronado, in the years 1540 to 1543. It was at that time voluntarily evacuated, subsequently revisited, and some settlements made about the year 1583; finally conquered in 1595 by the Spaniards, under the command of Onate. An insurrection of the Indians re-entered it the ensuing year, and after a long resistance re-conquered it. This was an internal conflict with the Aborigines; but as related to foreign powers the sovereignty of the Spaniards over the territory was never called in question; and it was, in express terms, made the western boundary Louisiana and the royal charter of the French government.

The conquest of the province by Onate took place 5 and 20 years prior to the landing of the Pilgrims in New England, and 12 years before any permanent settlement had been made in North America, on the shores of the Atlantic, by either England, France, Holland, Sweden, or any other power, or that in Florida by any other than Spain herself.
I have in vain sought for any document, emanating from the Republic or state of Texas, for the purpose of sustaining its claim either in New Mexico or in the country bordering on the lower Del Norte. The only official paper within my reach, in which the claim of Texas is sustained by the president's messages of May 11 and December 3, 1846; and these refer only to the country bordering on the lower part of the Del Norte. The portion of the message of May 11, 1846, relating to that subject, is as follows:

"Meantime Texas; by the final action of our congress has become an integral part of our Union. – The congress of Texas, by its act of December 19, 1836, had declared the Rio del Norte to be the boundary of that republic. Its jurisdiction had been extended and exercised beyond the Nueces. The country beyond that river and the Del Norte had been represented in the congress and in the convention of Texas; had thus taken part in the act of annexation itself; and is now included within one of our congressional districts. Our own congress had, moreover, with great unanimity by the act approved December 31, 1845, recognized the country beyond the Nueces as a part of our territory, by including it within our revenue system; and a revenue officer, to reside within that district, has been appointed, by and with the advice and consent of the senate. It became, therefore, of urgent necessity to provide for the defense of that portion of our country. Accordingly, on the 13th of January last, instructions were issued to the general command of these troops to occupy the left bank of the Del Norte.

"The movement of the troops to the Del Norte was made by the commanding general, under positive instructions to abstain from all aggressive acts towards Mexico or Mexican citizens, and to regard the relations between that republic and the United States as peaceful, unless she should declare war or commit acts of hostility indicative of a state war. He was specially directed to protect private property and respect individual rights."

In his annual address of December 8, 1846, the president states that Texas, as ceded to the United States by France in 1803, has been always claimed as extending west to the Rio Grande; that this fact is established by declarations of our government during Mr. Jefferson’s and Mr. Monroe’s administrations; and that the Texas which was ceded to Spain by the Florida treaty of 1819 embraced all the country claimed by the state of Texas between the Nueces and the Rio Grande.

He then repeats the acts of Texas with reference to her boundaries, stating that –

"During the period of more than nine years, which intervened between the adoption of her constitution and her annexation as one of the states of our union, Texas asserted and exercised many acts of sovereignty and jurisdiction over the territory and inhabitants west of the Nueces – such as the organizing and defining limits of counties extending to the Rio Grande, establishing courts of justice, and extending her judicial system over the territory; establishing also a custom-house, post offices, a land officer, &c."

The president designates by the name of Texas the cession of Louisiana by France to the U. States; and he again calls the territory ceded to Spain by the Florida treaty of 1819 the Texas. He intimates that the claim of the United States to the territory between the Sabine and the Rio Norte was derived from the boundaries of Texas, and by claiming as far west as this river, the United States did recognize that it was the boundary of the Texas. I really do not understand what is meant by this assertion.

The United States claimed the Rio Norte as being the legitimate boundary of Louisiana, and not of Texas. Neither they nor France had ever been in possession of the country beyond the Sabine. Spain had always held possession, and had divided the territory into provinces as she pleased. One of these was called Texas, and its boundaries had been designated and altered at her will. With these the United States had no concern. If their claim could be sustained, it must be by proving that Louisiana extended the right thus far. This had no connexion with the boundaries which Spain might have assigned to her province of Texas. These might have extended beyond the Rio del Norte, or have been east of the Rio Nueces. There is not the slightest connexion between the legitimate boundaries of Louisiana extended the right thus far. The presumed identity is mere supposition.

It is not necessary to discuss the soundness of the pretensions to the Rio Norte, asserted by Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Monroe, since they were yielded in exchange for Florida, and some other objects, by the treaty of 1819 – a treaty extremely popular at the time, and the execution of which was pressed with great zeal and perseverance.

Whenever ultimately ceded to Mexico, that Republic fixed it boundaries as it thought proper Texas and Coahuila were declared to form a state, and the Rio Nueces was made the boundary of Texas. When Texas declared itself independent, it was the insurrection of only part of a state, for Coahuila remained united to Mexico; but the Rio Nueces was the boundary between the department of Texas and the state of Tamaulipas. The whole contested territory lies within the limits of Tamaulipas, which never was, under the Mexican government, connected in any
The question now under consideration is only that between the United States and Mexico, and in that view of the subject it is quite immaterial whether the acts of the United States emanated from congress or from the executive. No act of either recognizing a country beyond the Nueces as a part of the territory of the United States, can be alleged against Mexico as a proof of their right to the country thus claimed. Any such act is only an assertion, a declaration, but not an argument sustaining the right. It is, however, proper to observe here that the port of delivery west of the Nueces, erected by the act of congress "to establish a collection district in the state of Texas," was at Corpus Christi, a place which was in the actual possession of that state.

It must also be premised that in the joint resolution for the annexation of Texas the question of the boundary between it and Mexico was expressly reserved as one which should be settled by treaty between the United States and Mexico.

The only arguments in the president’s message, which sustain the right of Texas to territory beyond the Nueces, are contained in those passages in which it is asserted that the jurisdiction of Texas had been extended and exercised beyond the Nueces; that the country between that river and the del Norte had been represented in the congress and convention of Texas, had taken part in the annexation of itself, and was now included within one of our congressional districts.

But it is not stated in the president’s message how far beyond the Nueces the jurisdiction of Texas had been extended, nor what part of the country between that river and the del Norte had been represented in the congress and convention of Texas; and was then included within one of our congressional districts.

Now the actual jurisdiction beyond the Nueces never extended further than the adjacent settlement of San Patricio, consisting of about twenty families. That small district, though beyond the Nueces, was [illegible] to, and in the actual possession of Texas: on this account it might be rightfully included within the limits which we were bound to protect against Mexican invasion.

But what was the country between the small settlement of San Patricio, or between Corpus Christi and the Rio del Norte, over which it might be supposed, from the message, that the jurisdiction of Texas had been extended, so as he included within one of our congressional districts? Here, again Texans had erected that small settlement into a county called San Patricio, and declared that this county [illegible] to the Rio del Norte. This, like all other declaratory acts of the same kind, was only an assertion, not affecting the question of right. The State of Texas might, with equal propriety, have declared that their boundary extended to the Sierra Madre or the Pacific. The true question of right to any territory beyond the Mexican limits of the department of Texas depends on the facts: by whom was the territory in question actually inhabited and occupied? and had the inhabitants united with Texas in the insurrection against Mexico?

The whole country between the settlement of San Patricio and Corpus Christi, till with a few miles of the del Norte, is a perfect desert, one hundred and sixty miles wide by the route pursued by General Taylor, as stated by himself, and near one hundred and twenty miles in a straight line.

The only settled part of it is along the left bank of the del Norte, and but a few miles in breadth. – This belt was settled, inhabited, and occupied exclusively by Mexicans. It included the town of Loredo, and Mexico had a custom house at Brasos, north of the mouth of the river. Till occupied by the American arms it had ever been, and was at the time when invaded by Gen. Taylor, a part of the department of Tamaulipas, and subject to the jurisdiction of the prefect of the northern district of that department.

In the course of the war between Mexico and Texas, incursions had been occasionally made by each party into the territories of the other. A Mexican officer had once or twice obtained temporary occupation of San Antonio, within the limits of Texas; and the Texas had on one occasion taken Loredo itself, and more than once had carried their arms, not only to the left bank of the del Norte, but even beyond that river. In both cases the aggressive parties had been repulsed and expelled. The last Texan expedition of that kind took place in December, 1842, and terminated in their defeat at Mier.

That the country adjacent to the left bank of the river was exclusively in the possession of the Mexicans, was well known to our government.

When Gen. Taylor marched into del Norte he issued and order, (No. 30,) translated into Spanish, ordering all under his command to observe with the most scrupulous respect the
In Jun, 1845, Gen. Taylor had been directed to select and occupy, on or near the Rio Grande del Norte, a site as would be best adapted to repel invasion and to protect our western border. But, on the 8th July following, the secretary of war (Mr. Marcy) addressed the following letter to him:

“This department is informed that Mexico has some military establishments on the east side of the Rio Grande, which are, and for some time have been, in the actual occupancy of her troops. In carrying out the instructions heretofore received you will be careful to avoid any acts of aggression, unless an actual state of war should exist. The Mexican forces at the posts in their possession, and which have been so, will not be disturbed as long as the relations of peace between the United States and Mexico continue.”

On the 30th July, 1845, the secretary again addressed Gen. Taylor as follows:

“You are expected to occupy, protect, and defend the territory of Texas, to the extent that it has been occupied by the people of Texas. The Rio Grande is claimed to be the boundary between the two countries; and up to this boundary you are to extend your protection; only excepting nay posts on the eastern side thereof which are in the actual occupancy of Mexican forces, or Mexican settlements over which the republic of Texas did not exercise jurisdiction at the period of annexation, or shortly before that event. It is expected, in selecting the establishment for your troops, you will approach as near the boundary line, the Rio Grande, as prudence will dictate. With this view, the president desires that your position, for a part of your forces at least, should be [illegible].

The Mexican settlements, thus [illegible], are not those over which Texas did not claim jurisdiction, but those on the east bank of the Rio Grande over which Texas did not exercise jurisdiction at the period mentioned. The president had no authority to give up the territory claimed by Texas; but it is clear that at that time, when war was not contemplated, the administration was of opinion that, till the question was definitively settled, the occupancy by the Mexicans of the territory adjacent to the left bank of the del Norte ought not to be disturbed. – Neither the subsequent refusal by Mexico to receive a residing envoy nor the successes of the American arms have affected the question of right. The claim of Texas, whether to New Mexico or to the lower portion of the Rio Norte, was identical the same; as invalid and groundless in one case as in the other. Why a distinction has been made by the executive has not been stated. The fact is, that he has established a temporary government for New Mexico, as a country conquered, and without any regard to the claim of Texas; while, on the other hand, he has permitted that state to extend its jurisdiction over the country lying on the left bank of the del Norte, which, like New Mexico, had been conquered by the arms of the United States. Not a shadow of proof has been adduced to sustain the pretensions of Texas to that district; and justice imperiously requires that it should, by the treaty of peace, be restored to Mexico.

It so happens that the boundary which may be traced in conformity with this principle is a neutral one, and that, as a measure of expediency, none more eligible could have been devised. A desert of one hundred and twenty miles separates the most southwesterly Texan settlements of Corpus Christi and San Patricio from those of the Mexicans on the left bank of the del Norte, than which no boundary could be devised better calculated to prevent collisions hereafter between the two nations. It will be sufficient for that purpose to draw nominal line through the desert, leaving all the waters that empty into the Rio Norte to Mexico, and all those that empty into the Rio Nueces to Texas, together with such other provisions respecting the fortifications and military posts as may be necessary for the preservation of peace.

The line of the Rio Norte is one from which Mexico would be perpetually threatened, and from which their adjacent town on the eastern bank may be bombarded. Such an intolerable nuisance would perpetuate hostile feelings. With such a narrow river as the Rio del Norte, and with a joint right of navigation, repeated collisions would be unavoidable.

Among these, when there was nothing but a fordable river to cross, slaves would perpetually escape from Texas; and where would be the remedy? Are the United States prepared to impose by a treaty on Mexico, where slavery is unknown, the obligation to surrender fugitive slaves?

Mexico is greatly the weaker power, and requires a boundary which will give her as much security as is practicable. It is not required, either for the preservation of peace or any other legitimate purpose, that the United States should occupy a threatening position. It cannot be rationally supposed that Mexico will ever make an aggressive war against them; and even in such a case the desert would protect them against an invasion. If a war should ever again take place between the two countries, the overwhelming superiority of the navy of the United
States will enable them to carry on their operations as they please. They would within a month reoccupy the left bank of the Rio Norte, and within a short time effect a landing, and carry the war to any quarter they pleased.

Must the war be still prosecuted for an object of no intrinsic value, to which the United States have no legitimate right, which justice requires them to yield, and which even expediency does not require?

VI. RECAPITULATION

It is an indisputable fact that the annexation of Texas then at war with Mexico, was tantamount to a declaration of war, and that the comparative weakness of Mexico alone prevented its government from considering it as such. Under these circumstances, it was evidently the duty of the United States to use every mean to soothe and conciliate with Mexicans, and to wait with patience for an unconditional recognition of the independence of Texas, till the feelings excited by our aggression had subsided.

It has been shown that after Mexico had resorted, as a substitute for war, to the harmless suspension of the ordinary diplomatic intercourse, the attempt to make it retract that measure, before any negotiations for the restoration of harmony between the two countries could be entered into, was neither [illegible] by the acknowledged law of nations, nor necessary for any useful purpose, nor consistent with a proper and just sense of the relative position in which the aggressive measures of the U. States had placed the two countries. But that the refusal of Mexico to submit to that additional contumely should have been considered as an insult to the U. States betrays the pride of power rather than a just sense what is due to the true dignity and honor of this nation.

It has been demonstrated that the republic of Texas had not a shadow of right to the territory adjacent to the left bank of the lower portion of the Rio Norte; that, though she claimed, she never had actually exercised jurisdiction over any portion of it; that the Mexicans were sole inhabitants, and in actual possession of that district; that therefore its forcible occupation by the army of the U. States was, according to the acknowledged law of nations, as well as in fact, an act of open hostility and war; that the resistance of the Mexicans to that invasion was legitimate; and that therefore the war was unprovoked by them, and commenced by the United States.

If any doubt should remain of the correctness of these statements let them be tested by the divine and undeniable precept, "Do unto others as you would be done by."

If at this moment France was to contract a treaty of defensive and offensive alliance with Mexico, a treaty taking effect immediately, and pending the war between the United States and Mexico, and finding herself to defend it with all her forces against any and every other power, would not the United States at once consider such a treaty as a declaration of war against them?

If, in lieu declaring war against Great Britain in the year of 1812, the United States had only suspended the ordinary diplomatic relations between the two countries, and Great Britain had declared that she would not enter into any negotiation for the settlement of all the subjects of difference between the two countries, unless the United States should, as a preliminary condition, restore those relations, would not this have been considered as a most insolent demand, and to which the United States never would submit?

If the United States were, and had been for more than a century, in possession of a tract of country, exclusively inhabited and governed by them, disturbed only by the occasional forays of an enemy, would they not consider the forcible military invasion and occupation of such a district by a third power as open and unprovoked war commenced against them? And could their resistance to the invasion render them liable to the [illegible] of having themselves commenced the war?

Yet it would seem as if the splendid and almost romantic success of the American arms had, for a while, made the people of the United States deaf to any other consideration than an enthusiastic and exclusive hive of glory; as if, forgetting the origina of the war, and with an entire disregard for the dictates of justice, they thought that those successes gave the nation a right to dismember Mexico and to appropriate to themselves that which did not belong to them.

But I do not despair, for I have faith in our institutions and in the people; and I will now ask them whether this was their mission; and whether they were placed by Providence on this continent for the purpose of cultivating false glory, and of sinking to the level of those vulgar conquerors who have at all times desolate the earth?

VI. – THE MISSION OF THE UNITED STATES
The people of the United States have been placed by Providence in a position never before enjoyed by any other nation. They possessed of a most extensive territory, with a very fertile soil, a variety of climates and productions, and a capacity of sustaining a population greater, in proportion to its extent, than any other territory of the same size on the face of the globe.

By a concurrence of various circumstances, they found themselves, at the epoch of their independence in the full enjoyment of religions, civil, and political liberty, entirely free from any hereditary monopoly of wealth or power. The people at large were in full and quiet possession of all those natural rights for which the people of other countries have for a long time contended, and still do contend. They were, and you still are, the supreme sovereigns, acknowledged by all. For the proper exercise of these uncontrolled powers and privileges, you are responsible to posterity, to the world at large, and to the Almighty Being who had poured on you such unparalleled blessings.

You mission is to improve the state of the world; to be the "Model Republic;" to show that men are capable of governing themselves, and that this simple and natural form of government is that which confers most happiness on all, is productive of the greatest development of the intellectual faculties – above all, that which is attended with the highest standard of private and political virtue and morality.

Your forefathers, the founders of the Republic, imbued with a deep feeling of their rights and duties, did not deviate from these principles. The sound sense, the wisdom, the probity, the respect for public faith, with which the internal concerns of the nation were managed, made our institutions an object of general admiration. Here for the first time, was the experiment attempted with any prospect of success, and on a large scale, of a representative democratic republic. If it failed, the last hopes of the friends of mankind was lost or indefinitely postponed – and the eyes of the world were turned towards you. Whenever real or pretended apprehensions of the imminent danger of trusting the people at large with power were expressed, the answer ever was, "look at America!"

In their external relations the United States, before this unfortunate war, had, whilst sustaining their just rights, ever acted in strict conformity with the dictates of justice, and displayed the utmost moderation. They never had voluntarily injured another nation. Every acquisition of territory from foreign powers was honestly made the result of treaties, not imposed but freely assented to by the other party. The preservation of peace was ever a primary object. The preservation of peace was ever a primary object. The recourse to arms was always in defence. On its expediency there may have been a difference of opinion. That, in the only two instances of conflict with civilized nations which occurred during a period of 63 years, (1783 to 1846,) the just rights of the United States had been invaded by a long continued series of aggressions, is undeniable. In the first instance war was not declared; and there were only partial hostilities between France and England. The congress of the United States, the only legitimate organ for that purpose, did, in 1812, declare war against Great Britain. Independent of depredations on our commerce, she for twenty years carried on actual war against the United States. I say actual war, since there is now but one opinion on that subject; a renewal of that impressments of men sailing under the protection of our flag would be tantamount to a declaration of war. The partial opposition to the war of 1812 did not rest on a denial of the aggressions of England and of the justice of our cause, but on the fact that, with the exception of impressments, similar infractions of our just rights had been committed by France, and on the most erroneous belief that the administration was partial to that country and insincere in their apparent efforts to restore peace.

At present, all these principles would seem to have been abandoned. The most just, a purely defensive war, and no other is justifiable, is necessarily attended with a train of great and unavoidable evils. – What shall we say of one iniquitous in it origin, and provoked by ourselves – of a war of aggression, which is now publicly avowed to be one of intended conquest?

If persisted in, its necessary consequences will be a permanent increase of our military establishment and of executive patronage; its general tendency to make man hate man, to awaken his worst passions, to accustom him to the taste of blood. It has already demoralized no inconsiderable portion of the nation.

The general peace which has been preserved between the great European powers during the last thirty years may not be ascribed to the purest motives. Be these what they may, this long and unusual repose has been most beneficial to the cause of humanity. Nothing can be more injurious to it, more lamentable, more scandalous, than the war between two adjacent republics of North America.

Your mission was, to be a model for all governments and for all other less favored nations, to adhere to the most elevated principles of political morality, to apply all your faculties to the gradual improvement of your own institutions and social state, and by your example, to exert a moral influence most beneficial to mankind at large. Instead of this, an appeal has been
made to your worst passions; to cupidity, to the thirst of unjust aggrandizement by brutal force; to the love of military fame and of false glory; and it has even been tried to pervert the noblest feelings of your nature. The attempt is made to make you abandon the lofty position which your fathers occupied, to substitute for it the political morality and heathen patriotism of the heroes and statesmen of antiquity.

I have said that it was attempted to pervert even your virtues. Devotedness to country, or patriotism, is a most essential virtue, since the national existence of any society depends upon it. Unfortunately, our most virtuous dispositions are perverted, not only by our vices and selfishness, but also by their own excess. Even the most holy of our attributes, the religious feeling, may be perverted from that cause, as war but too lamentably exhibited in the persecutions, even unto death, of those who were deemed heretics. It is not, therefore, astonishing that patriotism, carried to excess, should also be perverted. – In the entire devotedness to their country, the people, every where and at all times, have been too apt towards other nations. It is against this natural propensity that you should be specially on your guard. The blame does not attach to those who, led, by their patriotic feeling, though erroneous, flock around the national standard. On the contrary, no men are worthy of admiration, better entitled to the thanks of their country, than those who, after war has once taken place, actuated only by the purest motives, daily and with the utmost self-devotedness, brave death and stake their own lives in the conflict against the actual enemy. I must confess that I do not extend the same charity to those civilians who coolly and deliberately plunge the country into any unjust or unnecessary war.

We should have but one conscience – and most happy would it be for mankind were statesmen and politicians only as honest in their management of the internal of external national concerns as they are in private life. The irreproachable private character of the president and of the members of his administration is known and respected. There is not one of them who would spurn who would spurn with indignation the most remote hint that, on similar pretences to those alleged for dismembering Mexico, he might be capable of attempting to appropriate to himself his neighbor's arm.

In the total absence of any argument that can justify the war in which we are now involved, resort has been had to a most extraordinary assertion. It is said that the people of the United States have and hereditary superiority of race over the Mexicans, which gives them the right to subjugate and keep in bondage the inferior nation. This, it is also alleged, will be the means of enlightening the degraded Mexicans, of improving their social state, and of ultimately increasing the happiness of the masses.

Is it compatible with the principle of democracy, which rejects every hereditary claim of individuals to admit an hereditary claim of individuals to admit an hereditary claim of individuals very properly deny that the son can, independent of his own merit, derive any right or privilege whatever from the merit or any other social superiority of his father. Can you for a moment suppose that a very doubtful descent from men who lived one thousand years ago has transmitted to you a superiority over your fellow men? But the Anglo Saxons were inferior to the Goths, from whom the Spaniards claim to be descended; and they were in no respect superior to the Franks to the Burgundians.

It is not to their Anglo Saxon descent, but to a variety of causes, among which the subsequent mixture of Frenchified Normans, Augevians, and Gascons must not be forgotten, that the English are indebted for their superior institutions. In the progressive improvement of mankind much more has been due to religious and political institutions than to races. Whatever European nations, which from language are presumed to belong to the Latin or Belavonian race, shall have conquered institutions similar to those of England, there will be no trace felt of the pretended superiority of one of those races above the other. At this time the claim is but a pretext for covering and justifying unjust usurpation and unbounded ambition.

But admitting, with respect to Mexico, the superiority of race, this confers no superiority of rights. Among ourselves the most ignorant, the most inferior either in physical or mental facilities, is recognised as having equal rights, and he has an equal vote with any one, however superior to him in all those respects. This is founded on the immutable principle that no one man is born with the right of governing another man. He may indeed, acquire a moral influence over others, and no other is legitimate. The same principle will apply to nations. However, superior the Anglo American race may be to that of Mexico, this gives the Americans no right to infringe upon the rights of the inferior race. The people of the United States may rightfully, and will, if they use proper means, exercise a most beneficial moral influence over the Mexicans and other less enlightened nations of America. Beyond this they have no other right to go.

The allegation that the subjugation of Mexico could be the means of enlightening the Mexicans, of improving their social state, and of increasing their happiness, is but the shallow attempt to disguise unbounded the cupidity and ambition. Truth never was or can be propagated by fire and sword, or by any other than purely moral means; by these, and by these alone, the Christian religion was propagated, in less than three thousand years, to conquer idolatry.
During the whole of that period Christianity was tainted by no other blood than that of its martyrs.

The duties of the people of the United States towards other nations are obvious. Never losing sight of the divine precept, "Do to others as you would be done by," they have only to consult their own conscience; for our benevolent Creator has implanted in the hearts of men the moral sense of right and wrong, and that sympathy for other men the evidences of which are of daily occurrence.

It seems unnecessary to add any thing respecting that false glory which, from habit and the general tenor of our early education, we are taught to admire. The task has already been repeatedly performed in a far more able and impressive manner than any thing I could say on the subject. It is sufficient to say that at this time neither the dignity of the nation are inseparable from justice. Pride and vanity alone demand the sacrifice. Though so dearly purchased, the astonishing success of the American arms have at least put it in the power of the United States to grant any terms of peace without incurring the imputation of being actuated by any but the most elevated motives. It would seem that the most proud and vain must be satiated with glory, and that the most reckless and bellicose should be sufficiently glutted with human gore.

A more truly glorious termination of the war, a more splendid spectacle, an example more highly useful to mankind at large, cannot well be conceived than that of the victorious forces of the United State voluntarily abandoning all their conquests, without requiring any thing else than that which was strictly due to our citizens.

VIII. – TERMS OF PEACE.

I have said that the unfounded claims of Texas to the territory between the Nueces and the Rio Norte was the greatest impediment to peace. Of this there can be no doubt. For if, relinquishing the spirit of military conquest, nothing shall be required but the indemnities due to our citizens, the United States have only to accept the terms which have been offered by the Mexican government. It consents to yield a territory five degrees of latitude, or nearly three hundred and fifty miles in breadth, and extending from New Mexico to the Pacific. Although the greater part of this is quite worthless, yet the portion of California lying between the Sierra Nevada and the Pacific, and including the port of San Francisco, is certainly worth much more than the amount of indemnities justly due to our citizens. It is only in order to satisfy those claims that an accession of territory may become necessary.

It is not believed that the executive will favor the wild suggestions of a subjugation, or annexation of the whole of Mexico, or any of its interior provinces. And, if I understand the terms offered by Mr. Trist, there was no intention to include within the cessions required the province of New Mexico. But the demand of both Old and New California, or of a seacoast of more than thirteen hundred miles in length (latitude 23° to 42°) is extravagant and unnecessary. The peninsula is altogether worthless, and there is nothing worth contending for south of San Diego, or about latitude 32°.

In saying that, if conquest is not the object of the war, and if the pretended calm of Texas to the Rio del Norte shall be abandoned, there cannot be any insuperable obstacles to the restoration of peace, it is by no means intended to assert that the terms heretofore proposed by either party are at this time proper. And I apprehend that the different views of the subject entertained by those who sincerely desire a speedy and just peace may create some difficulty. There are some important considerations which may become the subject of subsequent arrangements. For the present nothing more is strictly required than to adopt the principle of status ante bellum, or in other words, to evacuate the Mexican territory, and to provide for the payment of indemnities due to our citizens. The scruples of those who object to any cession whatever of territory except on terms sufficient for the purpose, and leave it in the possession of the United States until the indemnities had been fully paid.

Were I to listen exclusively to my own feelings and opinions, I would say that, if the propositions which I have attempted to establish are correct – if I am not mistaken in my sincere conviction that the war was unprovoked by the Mexicans, and has been one of iniquitous aggression on our part – it necessarily follows that, according to the dictate of justice, the United States are bound to indemnify them for having invaded their territory, bombarded their towns, and inflicted all the miseries of war on a people who are fighting in defence of their own homes. If all this be true, the United States would give but an inadequate compensation for the injuries they have inflicted by assuming the payment of the indemnities justly due to their own citizens.

Even if a fair purchase of territory should be covenant to both parties, it would be far preferable to postpone it for the present, among other reasons, in order that it should not have the appearance of being imposed upon Mexico. There are also some important considerations to which it may not be improper to call at this time the public attention.
Our population may at this time be assumed as amounting to twenty millions. Although the ratio of national increase has already been lessened from thirty three to about thirty per cent, in ten years, the deficiency has been, an will probably continue for a while to be, compensated by the prodigious increase of immigration from foreign countries. An increase of thirty per cent would add to our population six millions within ten and nearly fourteen millions in twenty years. At the rate of only twenty five per cent, it will add five millions in ten and more than eleven millions in twenty years. – That the fertile uncultivated land within the limits of the states admitted or immediately admissible in the Union could sustain three times that is indubitable. But the indomitable energy, the locomotive propensities, and all the habits of the settlers of new countries are such that not even the united efforts of both governments can or will prevent their occupying within twenty if not within ten years ever district as far as the Pacific, and whether within the limits of the United States or of Mexico, which shall not have previously been actually and bona fide occupied and settled by others. It may be said that this is justifiable by natural law; that, for the same reason which sets aside the right of discovery, if not followed by actual occupation within a reasonable time, the rights of Spain and Mexico have been forfeited by their neglect and inability, during a period of three hundred years, to colonize a country which, during the whole of that period, they held, undisputed by any other foreign nation. And it may, perhaps, be observed that, had the government of the United States waited for the operation of natural and irresistible causes, these alone would have given them, without a war, more than they want at this moment.

However plausible all this may appear, it is nevertheless certain, that it will be an acquisition of territory for the benefit of the people of the United States and in violation of solemn treaties. Not only collisions must be avoided, and the renewal of another illicit annexation be prevented, but the two countries must coolly consider their relative position; and whatever portion of territory, not actually settled by the Mexicans, and of no real utility to them, they may be disposed to cede, must be acquired by a treaty freely assented to, and for a reasonable compensation. But this is not the time for the discussion of a proper final arrangement. We must wait till peace shall have been restored and angry feelings shall have subsided. At present the only object is peace, immediate peace, a just peace, and no acquisition of territory, but that which may be absolutely necessary for effecting the great object in view. The most simple terms, those which will only provide for the adjustment of the Texan boundary and for the payment of the indemnities due to our citizens, and in every respect, restore things as they stood before the beginning of hostilities, appear to me the most eligible. For that purpose I may be permitted to wish that the discussion of the terms should not be embarrassed by the introduction of any other matter. There are other considerations, highly important, and not foreign to the great questions of an extension of territory, but which may, without any inconvenience or commitment, be postponed, and should not be permitted to impede the immediate termination of this lamentable war.

I have gone further than I intended. It is said that a rallying point is wanted by the friends of peace. Let them united, boldly express their opinions, and use their utmost endeavors in promoting an immediate termination of the war. For the people no other banner is necessary. But their representatives in congress assembled are alone competent to ascertain, alone vested with the legitimate power of deciding what course should be pursued at this momentous crisis, what are the best means for carrying into effect their own views, whatever these may be. We may wait with hope and confidence the result of their deliberations.

I have tried in this essay to confine myself to the question of the issue between the United States and Mexico. – Whether the executive has in any respect exceeded his legitimate powers; whether he is for any of his acts liable to animadversion, are questions which do not concern Mexico.

There are certainly some doubtful assumptions of power, and some points which explanations are necessary. The most important is the reason which may have induced the president, when he considered the war as necessary and almost unavoidable, not to communicate to congress, which was all that time in session, the important steps he had taken, till after hostilities, and indeed actual war, had taken place. The substitution of war contributions of an arbitrary and varying tariff appears to me to be of a doubtful nature; and it is hoped that the subject will attract the early attention of congress. I am also clearly of opinion that the provisions of the law respecting volunteers, which authorizes their officers, is a direct violation of the constitution of the United States, which requires no other land force than the army and the militia, and which vests in the president and the senate the exclusive power of appointing all the officers of the United States whose appointments are not otherwise provided for in the constitution of itself. (With respect to precedents, refer to the act of July 6, 1812, chap. 461, cxxviii, enacted with due deliberation, and which repeals, in that respect, the act on the subject of February 6, 1812.) [RLLW]
THE SECOND PENNSYLVANIA REGIMENT. Lieut. Rankin, of the 2d Pennsylvania regiment, in a letter to some friends at Pittsburg, mentions the ravages which war has made in that regiment. Of 900 men, who left Pittsburg but one year ago, 300 cannot now be mustered.

"REVELLING IN THE HALLS OF THE MONTEZUMAS."

A private, acting as clerk for General Pierce, writes:

"Our men are assassinated here in the city nightly by the Mexican renegades, who make a practice of killing all they come across who do not happen to have any arms about them. They do not always come out right, for last night one of our men was stabbed at the theatre, and the 2d dragoons turned out and killed about twenty Mexicans before they could be stopped. This is the state of things in the city at the present time.

"To let you know how battle and sickness have thinned the army now in Mexico city, I will state one instance of my own company, which consisted of ninety-five good men when we started from Toledo, but is now reduced to about sixteen men for duty, the remainder being either in the hospital or dead."

"Killed and wounded, Gulf Squadron"

Navy Journal.
List of naval officers who died in the gulf within the past year.
Midshipmen Wingate Pilsbury, drowned.
  " Edward Carmichael, fever.
  " T.B. Shubrick, killed at Vera Cruz.
  " Edward Storer, fever.
Passed Mid. John R. Hanson, drown'd.
  " Henry A Clemson, do.
  " Richard Allison, fever.
  " Charles Waddell, do.
  " Frederik W. Colby, do.
Lieutenant Charles W. Morriss, killed at Tabasco.
  " James L. Parker, fever.
  " Chas. W. Chauncey, do.
  " Spencer G. Gist, do.
Capt. Marines, Calvin Edson, do.
Surgeon John A. Kearny, do.
Passed Ass't Surgeon, Capt. J. Bates, fever.
  " J. Howard Smith, do.
Assistant Surgeon, Delaney, do.
Purser Andrew D. Crosby, killed at Laguna.

OFFICIAL - MILITARY CONTRIBUTIONS

Treasury department, November 16, 1847.

SIR: With a view to augment the military contributions now collected by the departments of war and of the navy, under your order of the 31st of March 1st, I recommend that the export duty exacted before the war by the government of Mexico be now collected at the port of exportation, by the same officers of the army or navy of the United States in the Mexican ports in our possession who are authorized to collect the import duties; abolishing, however, the prohibition of export established in certain cases by the Mexican government, as also all
interior transit duties; dispensing also with the necessity of any certificate of having paid any
duty to the Mexican government.

The export duty would then be as follows: on -
Gold, coined or wrought, three percent.
Silver, coined, six per cent.
Silver, wrought, with or without certificate of having paid any duty to the Mexican government, seven per cent.
Silver, refined or pure, wrought or in ingots, with or without certificate of having paid the Mexican government duty, seven per cent.
Gold, unwrought, or in the state or ore or dust, three per cent.
Silver, unwrought, or in a state of ore, seven per cent.

Where gold or silver, in any form, is taken from any interior Mexican city in our military possession, the export duty must be paid there, to the officer of the United States commanding; and his certificate of such prepayment must be produced at the Mexican port of exportation, otherwise a double duty will be collected upon the arrival of such gold or silver at the Mexican port of exportation. Whenever it is practicable, all internal taxes, of every description, whether upon person or property, exacted by the government of Mexico, or by any department, town, or city thereof, should be collected by our military contribution towards defraying the expenses of the war; excluding, however, all duties on the transit of goods from one department to another, which duties, being prejudicial to revenue and restrictive of the exchange of imports for exports, were abolished, by your order of the 31st of March last.

Yours, most respectfully,
R.J. WALKER. Secretary of the treasury.

To the President.

[LLW]

NNR 73.256 Dec. 18, 1847 account of troops in and around Santa Fe

SANTA FE - A number of recruiting officers have reached St. Louis on the 16th bringing Santa Fe dates to the 20th October. They suffered severely from cold and hunger along their way in. Their object is to obtain 800 recruits, necessary to fill up the ranks of the Illinois and St. Louis battalions, deaths having been daily of occurrence.

Col. Gilpin has arrived with his battalion. Col. Price was at Walnut Hills, and expected to reach Santa Fe about the 1st of December.

[LLW]

NNR 73.256 Dec. 18, 1847 American troops moving against Chihuahua or Mexicans at El Paso

Fifteen hundred American troops and 12 pieces of artillery were to be dispatched against Chihuahua, and three companies were already on the road, but had halted below Albuquerque waiting reinforcements, as it was rumored that the Mexicans had been concentrated at El Paso. The American troops will undoubtedly meet with a stubborn resistance either there or at Chihuahua.

[LLW]

NNR 73.260 Dec. 25, 1847 resolution of New Hampshire legislature on the Wilmot Proviso

Mr. Hale of New Hampshire, presented the resolutions of instruction adopted by the legislature of the state, relative to the Wilmot Proviso.

[LLW]

NNR 73.272 Dec. 25, 1847 Pedro Maria Anaya elected provisional president, his cabinet.

Gen. Anaya was elected president of the republic of Mexico on the 11th November to serve until the 8th January next, when the present term will expire. He was once before provisional
president, and is regarded as favorable to a peace. He has called Pena y Pena to the office of secretary of state, and Mora y Villamil to the war department. His inaugural address is received.

Santa Anna has issued a pronunciamento against the proceedings at Queretaro, but the story of his having under him ten or fifteen thousand men, is unfounded. He has scarcely a life guard with which he was to proceed for Queretaro on the 22d of November.

It is reported, that Generals Worth and Pillow and Lieut. Col. Duncan have been arrested by Gen. Scott.

Gen. Patterson's train left Jalapa, on the 25th ult.

Padre Martin (the second Jarauta) had been made prisoner while sleeping in one of the garitas of the city of Mexico.

Senor Otero brought forward his proposition in the Mexican congress for depriving the executive of the power to alienate any part of the territory of the republic by a treaty of peace. The proposition was rejected by a large majority, which is deemed a favorable omen.

WAR WITH MEXICO.

Arrivals from Vera Cruz bring dates to the 7th December.

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Gen Patterson's division left Jalapa, on the 25th ult. Before his departure he hung, on the 23d, two American teamsters, for having killed a Mexican by twelve years old. He caused also to be executed, the next day, the two Mexican officers, Garcia and Alcade (belonging to the 8th and the 11th regiments) who were taken prisoners commanding guerrillas, without having been exchanged. The people buried them in great pomp and ceremony, upon which Gen. Patterson sent to the alcade, who said that the funeral had been spontaneous with the people, and that he had not power to prevent it; besides he remarked that notwithstanding the great numbers who had attended the ceremony, order had not been disturbed in the slightest. [JNA]
### NILES' NATIONAL REGISTER

**Vols. 73-74, January-March and July-December 1848**

[Note: The Niles' National Register was not published between March and July 1848]

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NNR 73.338 losses among the Philadelphia Rangers
NNR 73.338 reduction in the corps of sappers and miners

NNR 73.338 resolution of Whig state convention of Iowa deprecating the war

NNR 73.339-73.340 a Mexican letter on excesses of the Americans

NNR 73.340 proceedings at Queretaro, a guerrilla affair, attack upon Lt. Walker’s detachment, rear of Col. Dixon Stansbury Miles’ train, their loss, operations on the route

NNR 73.340-73.341 Gen. Winfield Scott’s orders no. 395, levying contributions on Mexican states

NNR 73.341 orders licensing gaming houses, &c.

NNR 73.341 specie seized for duties
NNR 73.341 items

NNR 73.341 guerrilla attacks in lower California

NNR 73.352 rumors of Nicholas Philip Trist having sent project of a treaty to Washington

NNR 73.352 Army and Navy letters to Mexico free of postage

NNR 73.352 Gen. Caleb Cushing’s brigade sent to San Angel

NNR 73.352 detachment under Col. Jones Mitchell Withers sent to collect revenue in the mining district

NNR 73.353 insistence of California on being acquired by the United States

NNR 73.354 Charleston "Mercury" on relations with Mexico

NNR 73.354 Judge John McLean’s letter on the need for an end to the war

NNR 73.355 opposition of Gov. Albert Gallatin Brown of Mississippi to the Wilmot Proviso

NNR 73.357 order no. 373 re-organizing part of the Army in Mexico

NNR 73.357 order respecting licenses for selling tobacco, cigars, and playing cards

NNR 73.357 order no. 3 on a train for Mexico City
NNR 73.357 Lt. Bedney F. McDonald’s party attacked

NNR 73.357 Surgeon Alexander F. Suter’s obituary
NNR 73.357 dinner to Lt. Col. Dixon Stansbury Miles, Gen. David Emanuel Twiggs' toast

NNR 73.357 Padre Caledonio Domeco Jarauta and Col. Jones Mitchell Withers

NNR 73.357-73.358 California tranquil; rumors of Mexicans across the border

NNR 73.369 Gen. Franklin Pierce’s compliment to the officers of West Point

NNR 73.370-73.371 rejection of a direct tax to finance the war with Mexico; comment on Whig reluctance to vote for the loan

NNR 73.371 "moral treason"

NNR 73.372 guerrilla affairs, attempt to assassinate Capt. Bragg

NNR 73.372 Gen. George Cadwalader’s march to Toluca

NNR 73.372-73.373 insurrection at Mexico City detected

NNR 73.372 disease in Gen. William Orlando Butler's regiment

NNR 73.372 an affair in California

NNR 73.372 rumor of peace negotiations

NNR 73.372 Col. Jones Mitchell Withers reaches Real del Monte

NNR 73.372-73.373 Gens. Gabriel Valencia and Mariano Arista andCols. Torrejon and Minon captured

NNR 73.372 arrival of silver bars at Mexico City

NNR 73.372-73.373 Indians rumored to be volunteering to aid or fight the Mexicans

NNR 73.380-73.383 Albert Gallatin on war expenses

NNR 73.385 rumor relative to peace, James L. Freaner, bearer of the project of a treaty, arrives

NNR 73.385 project of a treaty of peace negotiated by Nicholas Philip Trist received at Washington; dissatisfaction with Trist

NNR 73.385 trains from Veracruz to Mexico

NNR 73.386 operations at Mexico; orders no. 14 and 15, conspiracy detected, and consequent orders

NNR 73.387-73.387 Col. McClelland, Gen. Joseph Lane moving on Orizaba; Col. Hays’ pursuit of Padre Caledonio Domeco Jarauta; Gen. George Cadwalader, "the rents," Orizaba taken, train arrives at Veracruz from Mexico; Manuel de la Pena y Pena succeeds to executive power; items, rumors relative to peace, Pedro Maria Anaya’s proclamation, conspiracy at Puebla, regulations at Tampico, congress at Queretaro

NNR 73.387 the capture of Gen. Anastasio Torrejon

NNR 73.387 extracts from Mexican journals

NNR 73.387 Col. Thomas Childs' proclamation on a conspiracy at Puebla

NNR 73.391 the democratic (old banker) New York state convention on acquisition of territory

NNR 73.392 letter of Vice-President George Mifflin Dallas on prosecution of the war with Mexico

NNR 73.392 Secretary of the Treasury Robert John Walker’s note about sustaining the war with Mexico

NNR 73.392 letter of Sen. Daniel Stevens Dickinson on the war with Mexico and the
coming election

NNR 73.392 John Adams Dix' letter about bringing the war with Mexico to a conclusion

NNR 73.392 notice of William Brown Maclay’s letter about the Mexican war

NNR 73.392-73.393 "the platform of the south"

NNR 73.394 response from Philadelphia to Lexington

NNR 73.394-73.395 the official correspondence about the transport of Gen. Mariano Paredes y Arillaga by a British mail steamer

NNR 73.400 comments on the defensive line of the Sierra Madre


NNR 73.401 remarks on the treaty

NNR 73.407 Gen. Joseph Lane’s expedition in pursuit of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna

NNR 73.408 Orizaba occupied, description, revolt at La Paz

NNR 73.409 items, peace announced at Queretaro

NNR 73.416 comments on the prospects of the treaty of peace apparently submitted to the Senate

NNR 74.002-74.003 transports for troops returning from Veracruz

NNR 74.003 proclamation of a treaty of peace with Mexico

NNR 74.004 Gen. Winfield Scott yields command on Army in Mexico to Gen. William Orlando Butler

NNR 74.004, 74.005 last general order announcing the end of the war

NNR 74.004 arrival of some troops at New Orleans, others awaiting transportation in Mexico

NNR 74.005-74.007 report on the Battle of Santa Cruz de Rosales

NNR 74.016 plans for an independent Republic of the Sierra Madre

NNR 74.017 account of support given by American deserters to the Mexicans

NNR 74.017-74.018 arrival of returning troops at New Orleans

NNR 74.029-74.030 letter of Albert Gallatin to Congressman Garret Davis on peace with Mexico and the acquisition of territory

NNR 74.033 warm welcomes to returning volunteers

NNR 74.033 amnesty for deserters during the war with Mexico

NNR 74.033 troops still awaiting departure from Mexico, number of troops so far embarked from Veracruz
text of the treaty between Mexico and the United States concluded at Guadalupe Hidalgo

act regulating position of officers and awarding extra pay to disbanded troops

arrival of troops from Veracruz at New Orleans

progress of American troops toward Veracruz for embarkation

further arrival of returning troops at New Orleans

rapid evacuation of American troops from Mexico along the Rio Grande

Paredes rebellion, complaints of the company of Saint Patrick

Veracruz surrendered to Mexican authorities

number of troops departing Veracruz in six weeks

Veracruz surrendered to the Mexicans, Jarauta made prisoner and executed, American deserters in Durango

voltigeurs arrive at Fort McHenry

arrivals of returning troops at New Orleans, at New York City

order respecting claims of volunteers

ceremony of the surrender of Veracruz-custom house returned, Paredes rebellion, contra-guerillero in prison

Anastasio Bustmante censured; Vera Cruz custom house returned to Mexican authorities

arrival of troops at Fortress Monroe

detachment of First Artillery reaches New York

comments of the "National Intelligencer" on the platform of the Buffalo convention

California quiet, Jose Castro promises to obey our laws

requisition for California volunteers to garrison Mexican ports, silver discovered

force of volunteers furnished by the several states

account of the soldiers of the disbanded Saint Patrick company

funeral for victims of the war at Mexico City

extreme destitution of the Saint Patrick deserters

the record of the Cyane in the war against Mexico

proceedings of citizens of Santa Fe in relation to duties on merchandise exacted

arrival of several companies at New Orleans
THE EXECUTION AT JALAPA - Is thus detailed by a correspondent of the N. Orleans Picayune:

I sent off an unfinished letter to you last night, and when interrupted by the information that a courier was on the point of starting, I was going on to speak of the intense feeling manifested by the most influential people in town in favor of Lieut. Alcade, who, with Adj't. Garcia, is to be shot to-day, at noon, for a violation of their parole honor. So deeply were my feelings wrought upon by the scenes of last evening - the crowds of supplicating women - the solemn but animated countenances of Mexican generals, priests, and dignified citizens, as they plead for their lives of those who had so basely forfeited them, that I dreamed of nothing else last night but executions, priests and crying women. The degrading confession, on the part of the most respectable Mexican citizens that it is considered no disgrace, no crime for a Mexican officer to violate his parole of honor while an enlarged prisoner of war, or even for him to join a band of cut-throats while yet a prisoner, and lie in wait to kill those to whom he owes his life and freedom - to whom, in fact, his life belongs, is enough to excuse us from putting any faith in future in the promises of Mexican officers. It is time, too, to give these individuals a few salutary lessons in the school of honor, and to cause them to hold inviolate the almost only barrier against wars of extermination viz: the soldier's parole.

The two criminals spent the whole of last night in the church with priests, a strong guard being placed over them. Their coffins have already been conveyed to the place of execution, and in less than an hour the two wretched men will die, as they hardly deserve to die, a soldier's death, and they will appear before a higher judge, who will decide whether it be wrong to take the life of a professional soldier for a violation of the most sacred and humanizing feature in civilized warfare. Yesterday the citizens of Jalapa witnessed an act of American justice; to-day they will see another.

Half past 12 o'clock. - The execution is over. The prisoners marched blindfolded to the plaza, a priest attending them. They were in full uniform, and behaved with as much firmness as could be expected of men under such circumstances. Each was supported by a friend at either arm, and were led to the side of the plaza and seated upon their coffins, near the wall of the barracks. They continued their devotions aloud, after embracing a few friends, until the word "fire!" The troops under Gen. Patterson were all paraded again, and not only looked very well, but behaved as they did yesterday, with propriety. The bodies of the executed officers were given over to their friends, and soon conveyed away in near coffins. Thousands of Mexicans flocked towards the scene, but were prudently kept out of the plaza. The excitement which prevailed yesterday among the inhabitants seems in a measure to have subsided to-day - but whether it yielded to a sense of justice or to awe, remains to be seen.

Every thing in the solemn ceremonies of yesterday and to-day was conducted correctly - Capt. Taylor, of Col. Hughes regiment, acting as provost marshal. The military commission before which all four of the criminals were tried, was presided over by Major Kenly, of Hughes' regiment, Lieut. Burnside, of the 2d artillery, acting as judge advocate. The members of the court proceeded in all the trials with great care, and offered to the prisoners every facility in their power as judges, to prove their innocence and to bring up palliating facts. They performed their duty like just and intelligent men, and true soldiers. Lt. Burnside, the judge advocate, has conducted himself throughout all the proceedings in a manner to call forth praise from all parties. His duties were arduous, and of the most responsible and painful character; but, although young (a recent graduate of West Point academy) he has done his duty kindly, delicately and faithfully. Col. Hughes, whose duty it was to approve or disapprove of the sentences, met the painful subject in the same unbiassed, decided manner. - The prisoners were legally condemned on the most clear and positive evidence, and he had but one course to pursue.
The colonel and captain (guerrilla officers) were sent up this morning to Perote, in charge of the 1st Pennsylvania and Georgia regiments, there to await their trial. It is more than probably that they, too, have broken their parole, but I really hope, for human decency sake, that they have not been guilty of so inexcusable and disgusting and offence.

We are off tomorrow morning; so farewell, or rather, au revoir. B. [RLLW]

NNR 73.276 Jan. 1, 1848 comments on the increase of the Army

INCREASE OF THE ARMY. The military commitment of the senate reported a bill, a few days ago, for adding new regiments to the present day twenty-five regiments of the regular army; and yesterday the same committee reports a bill authorizing twenty new regiments of volunteers. - When all these regiments shall be raised, the army of the United States, regular and volunteer, will amount to some sixty or seventy thousand men, at a cost of [ . . . illegible . . . ] of money, which it is at present impossible to estimate and fail to vindicate the personal consistency of President Polk. The ruinous consequences of this ill-starved Mexican war are rapidly approaching a point which almost blind follower of party will be unable to extenuate or uphold. [Nat'l Intd] [RLLW]

NNR 73.276 Jan. 1, 1848 correspondence between Lts. S. P. Lee and Simon Fraser Blunt and Secretary of the Navy John Young Mason on allegations of claims for prize money submitted for the capture of Vera Cruz

NAVAL JOURNAL

Washington, Nov. 30, 1847

SIR: Since our return from the home squadron we learn that the belief is entertained by many, that after the capture of Vera Cruz, a claim was made on the part of the squadron for prize money on account of the enemy's property which was, on that occasion captured by the combined forces of the army and navy. Having heard of no such claim during our service in the squadron, we respectfully inquire if any such claim has been presented or made known to the navy department, and, as an act of justice to the officers and men of the squadron, we respectfully inquire if any such claim has been presented or made known to the navy department, and, as an act of justice to the officers and men of the squadron, who may be injuriously affected by such a rumor, we respectfully ask permission to make your response public.

We have the honor to be, sir, with the highest respect, your most obedient and humble servants,

S. P. LEE, Lt. U. S. N.
SIMON FRASER BLUNT, Lt. U. S. N.

To the Hon. John Y. Mason, L
Secretary of the navy, Washington City, D.C.

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Navy Department Dec. 15, 1847

GENTLEMEN: I have received your letter of the 30th ult., in which you enquire whether any claim has been presented or made known to the navy department, on the part of the officers of the navy, for prize money on account of enemy’s property “captured by the combined forces of the army and navy” at Vera Cruz.

No such claim has been presented; and there is not, in any communication with the department, a single expression which can be tortured into a justification for such a charge. The only prizes or captures for which a claim of prize money has been made on behalf of the officers and men of the squadron in the gulf, are of vessels afloat, seized as enemy’s property, and which are clearly subject to sale if condemned, and the proceeds subject to distribution under the laws of the United States.
I am entirely ignorant of any circumstance which would justify the rumor to which you refer.

I am, respectfully yours, JOHN Y. MASON,

NNR 73.278 Jan 1, 1848 intelligence from the Army, &c.

Vera Cruz dates to the 5th December and city of Mexico to the 27th November, received at New Orleans, confirm the account of the arrests of Generals Worth and Pillow and Col. Duncan, by Gen. Scott. Gen. Twiggs was to have come down with the train which left the city of Mexico on the 2d December, but was detained in consequence of the arrest. [RLLW]

NNR 73.278 Jan 1, 1848 British minister protests against duties being levied on British subjects by the Americans in Mexico

By an arrival from Queretaro at Vera Cruz on the 4th instant, a communication was received from the English secretary of legation, Mr. Thornton, covering a protest from Lord Palmerston, the British minister of foreign affairs, protesting against the forcible levy of taxes on English residents in Mexico, for the purpose of aiding to support the war. These levies were made six months since and paid by the English residents under protest, since which they have appealed to their government for protection. [RLLW]

NNR 73.278 Jan 1, 1848 Gen. Anastasio Bustamante nominated chief of the Mexican Army

General Bustamente has been nominated by the supreme government general in chief of the army of reserve, and commandant general of the state. His predecessor, Gutierrez, is second in command, and Cortazar next. [RLLW]

NNR 73.278 Jan 1, 1848 Mazatlan taken

Nov. 23 – News had been received at Queretaro by express that the Americans had taken possession of the port of Mazatlan with four ships of war. – It appears to be generally credited, and El Monitor says it aggravates “in an extraordinary manner our desperate situation.” Government has issued a circular asking resources from the states. [RLLW]

NNR 73.278 Jan 1, 1848 demonstration on Guaymas

On the 19th ultimo, a corvette and frigate of the United States navy entered the port of Guyana, demanding a surrender of the place. The commander of the forces writes to the governor of Sonora that in order to prevent the bombardment he had concluded to remove his forces to Boccachicampo, out of reach of the guns, and there make a stand, although he does not seem to think it would be a successful one. [RLLW]

NNR 73.278 Jan 1, 1848 withdrawal of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna’s party from the Congress
Rumors were current in the city of Mexico that the partisans of Santa Anna had withdrawn from congress in compliance with the instructions of their chief, for the purpose of forcing that body to dissolve; not having a quorum. These partisans of Santa Anna all belong to the Puro party, and are for war to the knife. All the Puros however, are not Santa Anna men, and there are some persons here who assert that the reason they oppose the peace propositions is that they desire to keep the American army in the country until they can establish the government upon a firm basis. In fact, I have been told that many of the Puro deputies have written to their friends here, stating that this was their only reason for opposing a treaty of peace. [RLLW]

NNR 73.278 Jan 1, 1848 Gen. Winfield Scott announces that the Army will raise supplies from the Mexicans, his general order no. 368, relative to train from Veracruz, no. 368, levying contributions

A general order of the 25th November, issued by Gen. Scott from his headquarters in the city of Mexico, announces that, under instructions from the government at home, the army will, as soon as practicable, begin to raise the means of its support from Mexico.

GENERAL ORDERS – NO. 357

Headquarters of the Army,
Mexico, November 24, 1847.

Notice is hereby given, That a small train will leave for Vera Cruz about the 28th instant. Officers and soldiers desirous of forwarding letters by this conveyance, will leave them at the army post office, up stairs, in the same building with the city post office, on the street leading from the palace to the Alameda.

The general principles which will govern the general in chief, in permitting officers and enlisted men to leave this country, are laid down in general orders No. 318 and 322, as follows:

"No officer can be permitted to leave any part of the army, except on application to general headquarters, through the usual channels, beginning with a medical officer’s certificate – setting forth distinctly, that the applicant is not likely, for the reason given to be fit for duty in the next three months.

All wounded and sick officers, not likely to be fit for duty in the next three months, but who are able to travel, and desire to return home, will, upon the proper medical certificates, receive orders accordingly.

On arriving at New Orleans, or other port of the United States, the officers returning under this order will report, by letter, to the adjutant general’s office, at Washington, for (if able) the recruiting service.

Sergeants and other enlisted men who have become subjects for honorable discharge by wounds or otherwise, and who are able to travel, will receive their discharges and be allowed to accompany to first train to Vera Cruz, and thence receive a free passage to the United States.

Under circumstances, as above, officers and men, at Puebla and the posts below, will receive like orders from the respective commanders of departments; but only in the clearest cases; and each commander will make a special report, to general headquarters, to show the grounds for the exercise of the authority, especially delegated to this occasion only.

The 1st regiment of U.S. artillery will proceed to Vera Cruz, as a portion of the escort to the wagon train. Upon its arrival at Vera Cruz, this regiment will relieve the 1st infantry, now in garrison at that place, and the latter regiment will return with the train to this capital.

By command of Major Gen. Scott,

H.L. SCOTT, A. A. A. G.
The same paper furnishes the following orders touching the military contributions which Mexico is to be called upon to make:

General Orders – NO. 358

Headquarters of the Army,
Mexico, November 25, 1847.

Under instructions from the government at home, requiring that this army shall, as soon as practicable, begin to raise within the country it occupies, the means in whole or in great part of maintaining the expenses of the occupation until the federal government of Mexico shall submit terms of peace which the United States may honorably accept, it is ordered that no uncoined bullion, bars or ingots, either of gold or silver, shall be shipped from any port of Mexico, until the further orders of the government at home shall be made known on the subject, so as to give time for said government to fix the rate of export duty on such bullion, and perhaps a smaller duty on gold and silver coins.

At the beginning of the change of system intimated above, all rents for houses or quarters occupied by officers or troops of the army, in any city or village in Mexico, will cease as soon as contracts may permit, and absolutely, from and after the end of this month, wherever this order shall be received in time, and in future necessary quarters both for officers and troops, where the public buildings are insufficient, will first be demanded, as required, of the civil authorities of the several places occupied by the troops, so as to equalise the inconvenience imposed upon the inhabitants, and diminish the same as much as possible.

If the authorities fail to put the troops promptly in possession of such quarters, then the commanding officer, in every such case, following out the same principle of giving the least distress practicable to the unoffending inhabitants, will cause the necessary buildings to be occupied.

Subsistence, forage and other necessaries, for the army, will be purchased and paid for as heretofore; and the injunctions and penalties of the martial law order, dated February 10, 1847, originally published at Tampico, and republished several times since, with additions, will, as from the first, be strictly enforced, as also, in general, all the obligations of good morals and the most exact discipline.

By command of Major Gen. Scott,

H.L. SCOTT, A. A. A. G.

NNR 73.278-279 Jan 1, 1848 Gen Winfield Scott’s order on "echoes from home"

GENERAL ORDERS – NO. 349.

Headquarters of the Army,
Mexico, November 12, 1847.

The attention of certain officers of this army is recalled to the foregoing regulation, which the general in chief is resolved to enforce so far as it may be in his power.

As yet but two echoes from home of the brilliant operations of our arms in this basin have reached us: the first in a New Orleans, and the second through a Tampico newspaper.

It requires not a little charity to believe that the principal heroes of the scandalous letters alluded to did not write them, or specially procure them to be written, and the intelligent can beat no loss in conjecturing the authors – chiefs, partisans, and pet familiars. To the honor of the service, the disease – proficiency of fame, not earned – cannot have seized upon half a dozen officers (present) all of whom, it is believed, belong to the same two coteries.

False credit may, no doubt, be obtained at home, by such despicable self
puffings and malignant exclusion of others; but at the expense of the just esteem and consideration of all honorable officers who love their country, their profession, and the truth of history. The indignation of the great number of this latter class cannot fail, in the end, to bring down the conceited and the envious to their proper level.

By command of Maj. Gen. Scott;
H. L. SCOTT, A. A. A. G.

[RLWW]

NNR 73.279 Jan 1, 1848 Gen. Winfield Scott’s order no.329 for a court of inquiry on Gen. Gideon Johnson Pillow, proceedings and report of the court.

COURT OF INQUIRY IN THE CASE OF GEN. PILLOW.

GENERAL ORDERS – NO. 329

Headquarters of the Army,
Mexico, November 12, 1847.

Proceedings of a court of inquiry, of which Brevet Major Gen. W. J. Worth is president, convened at this place by the following order, viz:

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 219.

Headquarters of the Army,
Mexico, October 22, 1847.

At the instance of Major General G. J. Pillow, a court of inquiry will assemble at the palace, or such other place in this city, as may be designed by the president of the court, tomorrow morning, at nine o’clock.

The court will investigate and report the facts and circumstances connected with the removal of two small howitzers on the 14th of September, from Chapultepec – stating by whom removed, and whether with the knowledge of Major General Pillow, and also give their opinion upon the facts which may be developed.


Lt. R. P. Hammond, 3d artillery, is appointed the judge advocate of the court.

By command of Maj Gen. Scott,
H. L. SCOTT. A. A. A. G.

The said order being founded on the following communication from Maj. Gen. Pillow, viz:

1. Maj. Gen. Pillow to Capt. H. L. Scott, acting assistant adjutant general, as follows:

Mexico, Oct. 9, 1847.

Captain – On the night of the 13th I was instructed at Chapultepec that two small howitzers, which my command had captured in storming that place, had been taken from the carriages and were not to be found. Being myself unable from my wound to get out of bed I caused a strict inquiry to be instituted for them, and was informed late at night that they were found in my own baggage wagon, and found further that they had been placed there by Mr. Welch. This was done without my knowledge or authority. I immediately sent for Col. Howard and directed him to have them taken out, and directed them mounted and placed in battery for the defence of the place.

I never knew, until last night at 9 o’clock, that my order to take the pieces out of my wagon had not been obeyed. My aides-de-camp reported to me that
night, that there was no ammunition for those pieces, and therefore they could not place them in battery. I now learn from inquiry, that they were brought to the city in my wagon, and were taken from the wagon by Lieut. Rogers and Mr. Welch, and that they probably have one each. Mr. Rogers has retired from my staff, and he is now at the 'Sociedad.' Mr. Welch is in the city, but I do not know where he resides.

Regarding the conduct of those gentlemen as improper, I feeling it my duty not to suffer any persons protection, I felt it to be my duty, as the earliest [illegible], to give this information to the general-in-chief, for such action as he may think proper to take. But for my having been so disabled by my wound, I would have seen personally to the execution ...[ . . . illegible . . . ]...

4. It appears from the evidence, that on the nights of the 14th, when the garrison of Chapultepec was about being reduced in numbers, and whilst conversing with the staff about the defences of the place, Gen. Pillow ordered two officers of his staff to have these howitzers taken out of the wagon and remounted, with some other orders relative to the general dispositions for the defence of the work.

It was ascertained by his staff officers that no suitable ammunition could be found for the howitzers, and that they were therefore not used, not mounted, not removed from the wagon, and other arrangements for defence were made without them, and reported to Gen. Pillow.

The impression is strong and almost conclusive, that this order of Major Gen. Pillow, to his staff and officers, could not have indicated a desire on his part for a full and final restoration of these howitzers to their proper places, as public property – otherwise the mere fact of failure to find suitable ammunition for their immediate use could not justify the staff officers in failing to obey the order to remount the pieces – and it does not appear that the staff officers were censured for the omission.

5. That the two howitzers were brought to town on the 15th of September, in Gen. Pillow's wagon; that one was claimed by Mr. Rogers, and carried to his quarters under his direction, whilst the other was carried to the residence of Welch, and for him.

It does not appear that Maj. Gen. Pillow had any information of the actual fact that the howitzers were in the city of Mexico, until the evening of October 8, subsequent to the order of the general-in-chief, in relation to trophies, etc., when, and subsequently, he seems to have used all proper measures to have them restored.

And the court is of opinion that further military proceedings may be dispensed with.

The general-in-chief approves of the proceedings and the opinions of the court in the foregoing case.

The court of inquiry, of which Brevet Major Gen. Worth is president is dissolved.

By command of Maj. Gen. Scott,
H. L. SCOTT, A. A. A. G.

[RLLW]

NBR 73.279-280 Jan 1, 1848 President Pedro Maria Anaya’s inaugural

INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF PRESIDENT ANAYA.

After being sworn in as president and ad interim of the

Republic of Mexico.

Sres Deputies: I come to fulfil your wishes, taking in charge the supreme executive power of the union, for the short space of time that will elapse until the next constitutional period arrives. If the days be few, the difficulties present themselves numerous and appalling. The great misfortune of our land, is the sentiment that exclusively occupies the minds of all who know the meaning of the sacred word country.
In such circumstances, without the powerful concurrence of the nation, no government can undertake its defence. It belongs alone to the executive power to unite all efforts, direct them according to the national will, and remove all obstacles, that disconfidence has hitherto thrown in the way.

With the decision of an ancient servant of the country, I have sworn not to omit a single effort, nor to spare the most costly sacrifices in endeavoring to prove myself worthy of the confidence reposed in me by the national representation. To doubt of the cooperation of the Mexican people would [ . . . illegible . . . ] doubt of that valor and those high virtues which emancipated the country, which although disheartened and led astray by twenty-five years of dissensions, are producing even yet so many and such sublime sacrifices.

I declare that in the fulfillment of my oath just taken "of respecting and causing to be respected the fundamental institutions," I will act in accordance both with my duty and my profound convictions. The federal system is the only one calculated to save a people in a situation so dangerous as ours. To seek now a remedy in new systems, or in new revolutions, would be to give up the republic without defence and without remorse to the enemy who tore down our national flag from the palace where the victorious Iturbide planted it with his own hands.

The government relies upon the co-operation of the states, their good sense, and tried love of liberty and order. It will keep in harmony with them, for their efforts (the heroic capital of the republic being loss) are those that now must save us.

In a situation such as ours, individual privations are inevitable; the government far from increasing will endeavor to lessen them as much as lays in its power. The security of persons and properties will be sacred, taxes will be exacted proportionally, and the amount thereof distributed with honesty and economy.

It is the duty of congress, who also knows our necessities, to promulgate such wise laws as the country requires, and to diffuse life and encouragement throughout the republic. I will be the first to comply with them striving above all to united all the private efforts in the grand object, the salvation of our independence. For me, all our domestic broils, foolish enmities and dissensions will be henceforth secondary matters of consideration. My administration will not persecute any class or party. I call upon all without distinction to assemble around the standard of their country.

Without being deluded as to our situation, on the contrary fully aware and overwhelmed with its difficulties and ready to face new misfortunes, of which be our destiny, I have come to this place, with the firm resolution never to seal the dishonor of our native land. God alone can look into the future; as to public men; it suffices, that they know their duty and fulfill it. The nation is aware that I never deceived her, that my oaths are always loyal; and that my blood, my life, and my reputation belong to all situations that most contrary to my inclinations. May God bless and cause to be fulfilled the ardent desires of the man who has not and is incapable of entertaining any other idea than that of the liberty and honor of his unfortunate country. [RLLW]

NNR 73.280 Jan 1, 1848 the demonstration on Guaymas

Guaymas – We stated, in a recent paragraph, that several ships of the American navy had entered the port of Guaymas, and demanded a surrender of the place. By late advices we learn that on the 20th ult, the place surrendered to the naval force under Lavellette, commanding the naval force of the U. States, and the port is now in possession of the Americans. The frigates under his command were the Portsmouth and the Congress, which fired upon the place for about an hour. The terms which the place was subjected are very much like those granted in other places occupied by our forces, and we need not give the articles at length. W. A. Robinson had been appointed collector of the customs, and the duties were as follows:

"The duties of importation, until otherwise ordered, will be five per cent, per ton, and ten per cent ad valorem, the value in port to be determined by persons appointed for that purpose."

Until quarters shall be provided for the troops who were to garrison the place, the United States flag would be hoisted in some point in the bay from the U.S.
NR 73.280 Jan 1, 1848 Gen. Robert Patterson reaches Mexico with reinforcements of 6,000 men

General Patterson had reached the city of Mexico with 6,000 men, having left a garrison at Rio Frio, where a permanent depot is to be made. [RLLW]

NR 73.280 Jan 1, 1848 Gen. David Emanuel Twiggs leaves with train for Vera Cruz

A train left the city of Mexico on the 9th instant, for Vera Cruz, under command of General Twiggs. Gen. Pierce is coming down with it. [RLLW]

NR 73.280 Jan 1, 1848 Gen. William Orlando Butler with a train leaves Jalapa

General Butler left Jalapa on the 6th, for Puebla. The train which he commanded, has also left that city. [RLLW]

NR 73.280 Jan. 1, 1848 Money discovered, and guerrilla activity

A discovery was made on Thursday in the convent of San Domingo, in this city. Some of the troops who arrived with General Patterson were quartered there, and turning over an old desk that was left in one of the rooms, found it contained some $15,000 in silver and gold. This led to a further search, and in one of the cells a large quantity of clothing and ammunition was found, which was removed to the quartermaster’s department.

About 6 o’clock, on Saturday night, Mr. Doyle, the English charge d’affairs, arrived from Vera Cruz in the diligence, escorted by Captain Fairchild, of the Louisiana rangers, and about 36 men. They brought neither letter or papers, but last night the English courier arrived with a full budget. Capt. F. informs me that there cannot be less than twelve thousand men on the road up here, and that General Butler would be in Puebla yesterday (Sunday) with seven thousand men.

The Ohio regiment are encamped at Rio Frio, under Colonel Irwin, together with one company of Illinois dragoons, under Captain Little, numbering in all about six hundred men. There are seven companies of the Ohio regiment there, the other four being at Puebla. This encampment is doubtless intended to be permanent, as the men were building themselves houses.

I inclose you an order from Gen. Scott, issued today, of the most sever character, about the guerrilla parties, who are said to be gather in considerable numbers through the country. The concluding paragraph appears to favor the idea that the post of Rio Frio will be permanent. There is absolutely no news from Queretaro. Congress does not meet, and there is a rumor in town that Santa Anna has been proclaimed dictator there, but I cannot trace it to any reliable source. Every thing her appears to favor the belief that a movement will be shortly made for the interior.

What division of the army will take the lead, or who is to command it, I cannot say, but madame rumor points to the gallant Smith, the hero of Contreras, as the commander. Without doubt he would be an excellent man, but I do not see how he can be spared from his post here. His moderation, firmness and strict attention to business have endeared him to all the citizens, native and foreign, and they would feel his loss more keenly. Nous verrons. [JNA]

NR 73.280 Jan 1, 1848 protest against seizing church property, Gen. Persifor Frazer Smith’s orders in reply.
The Monitor, of Dec. 9, publishes a decree from Senior Ross, the minster of justice and ecclesiastical affairs, protesting against the sale of church property in this city, except for the benefit of the Mexican government and the church. You will recollect that a short time ago the civil and military governor prohibited the sale of any of this property, except by permission of the government of the United States, the effect of this prohibition. He, Rosas, pronounced all such sales invalid and of no effect, and speaks warmly on the subject. The Mexican people, or those who administer the government, appears to think that the result of the recent battles in this valley has be on just nothing at all.

The following letter order of Gen. Smith was, perhaps, aimed at the order of Rosa, mentioned above by our correspondent:

Office of the Civil and Military Governor,
National Palace, Mexico, Dec. 10 1847.

1. Any decree of the Mexican general government, affecting or modifying the political rights of those living in the territory occupied by the American army, is null, and any attempt to promulgate such decree as effective or to enforce it, without the consent and approbation of the American authorities, will be considered and punished as a direct opposition to them.

2. The people of the city of Mexico have the right to make their municipal elections without any interruption.

PERSIFOR F. SMITH.
Brevet Brigadier General and Civil and Military Governor.
By the Governor:

R.P. Hammond, secretary. [RLLW]

NNR 73.288 Jan 1, 1848 discussion of Gen. Winfield Scott with the Mexican archbishop on the release of Mexican prisoners

GEN. SCOTT AND THE MEXICAN ARCHIBISHOP

The correspondence between Gen. Scott and the archbishop of Mexico, on the subject of the release of the Mexican prisoners, is very interesting. The latter asks the favor for their liberation on the ground that their families are suffering in consequence of their confinement. He says the affection and respect which General Scott has always shown to the holy church, of which he is the head in this city, emboldens him to make this request, and instances the liberation of the French prisoners of [ . . . illegible . . . ] through the mediation of the archbishop of Argel.

The general replies at some length, citing the cases of the prisoners taken at Vera Cruz and Cerro Gordo, who were liberated on their parole, and had afterwards taken up arms against the Americans; that while at Puebla he asked the liberation of the American prisoners taken on the Rio Grande, who were to have been exchanged by an agreement between Santa Anna and Gen. Taylor, but that an evasive reply having been returned, another communication was sent on the 20th of July, the only response to which was found in the palace, after Gen. Scott had entered the city, folded, sealed, and directed to him under date of August.

Gen. Scott concludes by saying that if the archbishop will have the goodness to appoint some dignitary of the church to visit those men and explain to them that prisoners of war under their parole are always shot it found fighting against the same belligerent before being duly exchanged, and that if this dignitary gives also a solemn admonition of the church against the violation of their oaths, he will give them their liberty under its sacred authority.

The archbishop, in a subsequent personal interview with the commander in chief, [ . . . illegible . . . ] the decree of the Mexican government which prohibited all Mexicans from giving their paroles not to fight against the Americans, and the responsibility he would incur if the supreme government should disapprove the step, and thus the matter stands at present. [RLLW]
The message of Governor Smith of Virginia, sent to the legislature of that state, discusses at some length the question of what institutions shall be given to the new territory which may be acquired from Mexico. He regards the region to be opened to colonization from the present states of the union as a natural outlet for the superabundant slave population of Virginia and the other states of the south. He holds that in proportion as the population of a state grows dense, slave labor becomes less profitable, and that therefore room should be given in which it may diffuse itself so as to avoid that consequence; in short that it is a [illegible . . .] on which the south should insist, to open [illegible . . .] whether the planted may retire with his slaves when pressed by this potent and decreasing profits, and continue to make their labor productive. The following passage contains the [illegible . . .]:

"It is unquestionable true, that [illegible . . .] to be restricted to their present [illegible . . .] greatly diminish in value, and thus [illegible . . .] the fortunes of the owners, but [illegible . . .] humanity must mourn the [illegible . . .] toils and the regard for the health of the slave, which has characterized slavery in the south, and made it the most cheerful and happy [illegible . . .] to be found in the world. It is well known, that as the profits of labor diminish, so do [illegible . . .]. Many melancholy examples of this truth are to be found in the histories of the old world, and when the negro population multiplies in [illegible . . .] in value, whatever may be the humanity of the master, necessity will compel him to restrict the comforts of the slave, and reduce him to the smallest pittance upon which it is possible to live."
their instruments [ . . . illegible . . . ]... He asks:

[ . . . illegible . . . ] And if there be in his natural character the elements to make him a great and good man, it is hopeless to expect that they will ever be developed under our policy. The inhumanity then consists not in sending them from our state, but in retaining them among us. It is to me unaccountable how there should be a difference of opinion on this question. – Here the free negro is degraded by our policy – a policy which we cannot relax. And it is in our power to send him to other countries where education, society, and all the agencies that contribute to the advancement and improvement of mankind are within his reach, and we are to be deterred from this benevolent undertaking by the cries of those who affect and overwrought tenderness and humanity. I say to those who sympathize with the negro, who mourn his moral degradation, and look forward with hope to the day when he will be elevated in the scale of humanity, and placed on a footing of social equality with the white man, that their hopes, wishes and sympathies can never be gratified here. I consider, then, that it is cruel and in human not to send the free negro away. We are bound to do it as benevolent men, and as faithful guardians of the best interests of our good old commonwealth.”

It is therefore recommended in this message that a law be passed for sending the free negroes of Virginia out of the state, removing them by counties so that “no social or domestic tie may be broken,” and taking them in merchant vessels to countries where slavery does not exist, or to Liberia, if the authorities there will receive them.

We have given this abstract of that portion of the message which relates to the subject of slavery, in order that our readers may see what sort of destiny is contemplated for California, and to what consequences the peculiar institution of the south [ . . . illegible . . . ]. We make no comment now upon these plans of sending the negro slaves of Virginia, to a region where their labor will continue for a longer time to be productive, and the free negroes, degraded by the severe regulations which slavery is though to render necessary, to countries where no such [ . . . illegible . . . ] exists. They need no comment. Gov. Smith, although he faces the questions arising out of the subject without shirking, yet terms the views [ . . . illegible . . . ]. [RLLW]

NNR 73.293-295 Jan. 8, 1848 Lewis Cass’ letter on the acquisition of territory from Mexico and the Wilmot Proviso

LETTER OF MR. CASS

Washington, December 29, 1817

SIR: We have learned, through various channels, that a letter has been recently addressed by you to a distinguished citizen of Tennessee, declarative of your views on the subject of the Wilmot Proviso. – Having heretofore read with high satisfaction, what has emanated, in different forms, from [ . . . illegible . . . ] Bachman and Dallas in opposition to the Proviso, and believing that the promulgation of sound views from leading democratic statesmen cannot be without good effect at this time in facilitating the settlement of the momentous question alluded to, we take the liberty of requesting that you will if not disagreeable to yourself, allow your letter referred to, to be published in the “Union,”

We have the honor to be &c, &c,

J. THOMPSON,
W.S. FEATHERSTON, Mississippi
WILLIAM SAWYER, Ohio
THOMAS J. TURNER,
W. W. WICK, Indiana
JOHN L. ROBINSON, Illinois,
H. S. FOOTE, senator from Mississippi
HOWELL COBB, Georgia
ABRAHAM VENABLE, North Carolina
D. S. DICKINSON, senator from New York.

Honorable Lewis Cass.

Washington December 30, 1817
GENTLEMEN: Agreeably to your request, I place at your disposal a copy of the letter to which you refer.

With great respect, I am gentlemen, your obedient servant,

LEWIS CASS.

Hon. J. Thompson, W.S. Featherston, &c.

...[ . . . illegible . . . ]...It appears to me that the kind of metaphysical magnanimity, which would reject all indemnity at the close of a bloody and expensive war, brought on by a direct attack up in our troops by the enemy, and preceded by a succession of unjust acts for a series of years, is as unworthy of the age in which we live, as it is revolting to the common sense and practice of mankind. It would conduce but little to our future security or indeed, to our present reputation to declare that we repudiate all expectation of compensation from the Mexican government, and are fighting, not for any practical result, but for some vague, perhaps philanthropic object, which escapes my penetration, and must be defined by [ . . . illegible . . . ] assume this new principle of national intercommunication. All wars are to be deprecated, as well by the statesmen, as by the philanthropist. They are great [ . . . illegible . . . ]; but there are greater evils than these, and submission to injustice is among them. The nation, which should refuse to defend its rights and its honor when assailed, would soon have neither to defend; and when driven to war, it is not be professions of disinterestedness and declarations of magnanimity, that its rational objects can be best obtained or other nations taught a lesson of forbearance – the strongest security for permanent peace. We are at war with Mexico, and its vigorous prosecution is the surest means of the speedy termination, and ample indemnity the surest guaranty against the recurrences of such injustice a provoked it.

The Wilmot Proviso has been before the country some time. It has been repeatedly discussed in congress, and by the public press. "I am strongly impressed with the opinion, that a great change has been going on in the public mind upon this subject – in my own as well as others; and that doubts are resolving themselves into convictions, that the principle it involves should be kept out of the national legislature, and left to the people of the confederacy in their respective local governments.

...[ . . . illegible . . . ]...We may well repeat the existence of slavery in southern states, and wish they had been saved from its [ . . . illegible . . . ]. But there it is, and not by the act of the present generation, and we must deal with it as a great practical question involving the most momentous consequences. We have neither the right nor the power to touch it where it exists; and if we had both, their exercise, by any means in [ . . . illegible . . . ] might lead to results, which no wise man would will ugly encounter, and which no good man could contemplate [ . . . illegible . . . ] it anxiety.

The theory of our government presupposes, that its various members have reserved to themselves the regulation of all subjects relating to what, may be termed their internal police. They are sovereign within their boundaries, except in those cases where they have surrendered to the general government a portion of their rights, in order to give effect to the object of the Union, whether these concern foreign nations or the several states themselves. Local institutions, if I may so speak, whether they have reference to slavery or to any other relations, domestic or public, are left to local authority, either original or derivative. Congress has no right to say, that there shall be slavery in New York, or that there shall be no slavery in Georgia; nor is there any other human power, but the people of those states, respectively; which can change the relation existing therein; and they can say, if they will – We will have slavery in the former, and we will abolish it in the latter.

...[ . . . illegible . . . ]...and servant may be regulated or annihilated by its legislation, so may the relation of husband and wife, of parent and child, and of any other condition which our institutions and the habits of our society recognize. What would be though if congress should undertake to prescribe the terms of marriage in New York, or to regulate the authority of parents over their children in Pennsylvania! And yet it would be as vain to seek one justifying the interference of the national legislature in the cases referred to in the original states of the union. I speak here of the inherent power of congress, and do not touch the question of such contracts, as may be formed with the new states when admitted into the confederacy.

Of all the questions that can agitate us, those which are merely sectional in their character, are the most dangerous and the most to be deprecated. The
warning voice of him who, from his character, and services and virtue, had the best right to warn us, proclaimed to his countrymen in his farewell address – that monument of wisdom for him, as I hope it will be of safety for them – how much we had to apprehend from measures peculiarly affecting geographical portions of our country. The grave circumstances in which we are now placed, make these words words of safety; for I am satisfied, from all I have seen and heard here, that a successful attempt to engrail the principles of the Wilmot proviso upon the legislation of this government and to apply them to new territory, should new territory be acquired, would seriously affect our tranquility. I do not suffer myself to foresee or to foretell the consequences that would ensue, for I trust and believe there is good sense and good feeling enough in the country to avoid them, by avoiding all occasions which might lead to them.

Briefly, then, I am opposed to the exercise of any jurisdiction by congress over this matter; and I am in favor of leaving to the people of any territory, which may be hereafter acquired, the right to regulate themselves, under the general principles of the constitution. Because –

1. "I do not see in the constitution any grant of the requisite power to congress; and I am not disposed to extend a doubtful precedent beyond its necessity – the establishment of territorial governments when needed – leaving to the inhabitants all the rights compatible with the relations they bear to the confederation."

2. "Because I believe this measure, if adopted, would weaken, if not impair, the union of they states and would sow the seeds of future discord, which would grow up and ripen into an abundant harvest of calamity."

3. "Because I believe a general conviction, that such a proposition to succeed, would lead to an immediate withholding of supplies, and thus to a dishonorable termination of the war. I think no dispassionate observer, at the seat of government can doubt this result."

4. "If, however, in this I am under a misapphension, I am [ . . . illegible . . . ] shall not turn aside to seek it."

In this aspect of the matter, the principle of the U. States must choose between this [ . . . illegible . . . ]

5. "But after all, it seems to be generally conceded, that this [ . . . illegible . . . ]. The well known attributes of sovereignty, recognized by us as belonging to the state governors, would sweep before them any such barrier and would leave the people to express and exert their will at [ . . . illegible . . . ]...As to the course, which has been intimated, rather than proposed, of engrafting such a restriction upon any treaty of acquisition, I persuade myself it would find but little favor in any portion of this country. – Such an arrangement would render Mexico a party, having a right to interfere in our internal institutions in questions left by the constitution to the state governments, and would inflict a serious blow upon our fundamental principles. Few indeed, I trust there are among us, who would thus grant a foreign power the right to inquire into the constitution and conduct of the sovereign states of this Union; and if there are any, I am not among them, and never shall be. To the people of this country, under God, now and hereafter, are its destinies committed, and we want no foreign power to interrogate us, treaty in hand, and to say: - Why have you done this, or why have you left that undone? Our own dignity and the principles of national independence unite to repel such a proposition."

But there is another important consideration which ought not to be lost sight of, in the investigation of this subject. The question that presents itself is not a question of the increase, but of the diffusion of slavery. Whether its sphere be stationary or progressive its amount will be the same. The rejection of this restriction will not add one to the class of servitude, nor will its adoption give freedom to a single being who is now placed therein. The same number will be spread over greater territory; and so far as compression, with less abundance of the necessaries of life, is an evil, be mitigated by transporting slaves to a new country, and giving them a larger space to occupy.

I say this in the event of the extension of slavery over any new acquisition. But can be it go there? This may well be doubted. All the descriptions which reach us of the condition of the Californians and of New Mexico, to the acquisition of which our efforts seem at present directed, unite in representing those countries agricultural regions, similar in their production of the great staples, which can alone render slave labor valuable. If we are not grossly deceived – and it is difficult to
conceive how we can be – the inhabitants of those regions, whether they depend upon their ploughs or their herds, cannot be slaveholders. Involuntary labor, requiring the investment of large capital, can only be profitable when employed in the production of a few favored articles confined by nature to special districts, and paying larger returns from the usual agricultural products spread over more considerable portions of the earth.

In the able letter of Mr. Buchanan upon this subject, not long since given to the public, he presents similar considerations with great force. “Neither,” says the distinguished writer, “the soul, the climate nor the productions of California south or 36° 30’ [ . . . illegible . . . ] north or south, is adapted to slave labor, and besides every facility would be there afforded for the slave to escape from his master. Such property would be entirely insecure in any part of California. It is morally impossible, therefore, that a majority of the [ . . . illegible . . . ] rants to that portion of the territory south of 36° 30’, which will be chiefly composed of our citizens, will ever reestablish slavery within its limits.

“In regard to New Mexico, east of the Rio Grande, the question has already been settled by the admission of Texas into the Union.

“Should we acquire territory beyond the Rio Grande and east of the Rocky mountains, it is still more impossible that a majority of the people would consent to reestablish slavery. They are themselves a colored population, and among them the Negro [ . . . illegible . . . ] socially belong to a degraded race.”

With this remark Mr. Walker fully coincides [ . . . illegible . . . ] … “Beyond the Del Norte,” says Mr. Walker, “slavery will not pass; not only because it is forbidden by law, but because the colored races there [ . . . illegible . . . ] to the rationed ten to one over the whites; and holding as they do, the government and most of the offices in their possession, they will not permit the enslavement of any portion of the colored race, which makes and executes the laws of the country.”

The question, it will be therefore seen, on examination, does not regard to exclusion of slavery from a region where it now exists, but a prohibition against its introduction where it does not exist, and where, from the feeling of the inhabitants and the laws of nature, “it is morally impossible,” as Mr. Buchanan says, that it can ever re-establish itself.

It augurs well for the permanence of our confederation, that during more than half a century, which has elapsed since the establishment of this government, many serious questions, and some of the highest importance, have agitated the public mind, and more than once threatened the gravest consequences; but that they have all in succession passed away leaving our institutions unscathed, and our country advancing in numbers, power, and wealth, and in all the other elements of national prosperity, with a rapidity unknown in ancient or in modern days. In times of political excitement, when difficult and delicate questions present themselves for solution, there is one ark of safety for us; and that is an honest appeal to the fundamental principles of our Union, and a stern determination to abide their dictates. This course of proceeding has carried us in safety through many a trouble, and I trust will carry us safely through many more, should many more be destined to assail us. The Wilmot proviso seeks to take from its legitimate tribunal a question of domestic policy, having no relation to the Union, as such, and to transfer it to another created by the subject matter involved in this issue. By going back to our true principles, we go back to the road of peace and safety. Leave to the people, who will be affected by this question, to adjust it upon their own responsibility, and in their own manner, and we shall render another tribute to the original principles of our government, and furnish another guaranty for [ . . . illegible . . . ] permanence and prosperity.

I am, dear sir, respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEWIS CASS,

A. O. P. NICHOLSON, esq., Nashville, Tennessee. [RLLW]
The orders issued by Col. Hughes upon being appointed military and civil governor of Jalapa.

PROCLAMATION:

Department of Jalapa.
Office military and civil governor, Nov. 30.

The undersigned, having been duly appointed by the authorities of the United States of the [ . . . illegible . . . ] civil and military governor of the department of Jalapa, assuming the duties of his office, addresses [ . . . illegible . . . ] the inhabitants thus placed under his jurisdiction, and following proclamation:

1. The undersigned offers a general and perfect amnesty for the past to all persons within his [ . . . illegible . . . ] who, having under any circumstances borne arms against the United States, may within twelve days from this date, (provided that they do not reside within twenty miles of this city, in which case they will be limited to six days,) report to him in person and give them parole of honor not [ . . . illegible . . . ] to take arms against the United States urging this present war, and to interfere in any manner in the existing difficulties between the United States and Mexico.

2. All persons residing within twenty miles of this city who have given their paroles, are required within five days from this date to report in person at the office. The same class of persons residing in the city of Jalapa are referred to the second paragraph. Gen. Patterson's orders recently printed.

3. All persons who have heretofore borne arms against the United States, or who may now, at some future time, (while American troops occupy this post,) be found within the municipal limits of [ . . . illegible . . . ] unless with safeguards, paroles, or having been [ . . . illegible . . . ] changed, and who do not immediately report to the officer, will be regarded as spies and treated accordingly.

4. All persons who have given their parole [ . . . illegible . . . ] serve against the United States during the war, [ . . . illegible . . . ] may again be taken in arms within the limits of this department, (unless especial permission has been granted to retain weapons simply for the defence of their horses,) or who may at any time [ . . . illegible . . . ] giving of their paroles have both the arms against the United States and do not avail themselves of the honesty hereby effected, will be tried by a military commission, and if convicted of the crime, will be [ . . . illegible . . . ] without regard to the orders of the Mexican government or any of its functionaries.

The American authorities of this department have recently given an example of the summary [ . . . illegible . . . ] in which they will punish their own citizens when guilty of atrocious crimes, and also of the manner in which, they punish those more serious crimes, which violate the law of nations.

Ignorant and depraved persons may commit social crimes against society, and yet their [ . . . illegible . . . ] meet with the sympathies of the society which they have offended and outraged, for their acts are generally limited to individuals. But what [ . . . illegible . . . ] though of educated and intelligent gentlemen, [ . . . illegible . . . ] the military commission of their country, [ . . . illegible . . . ] have been convicted on their own voluntary [ . . . illegible . . . ] of having broken their parole of honor, [ . . . illegible . . . ] the most sacred obligations which a gentleman and soldier can make.

In the truly melancholy occurrence which has recently taken place in this city, the only excuse given by those unfortunate victims of the [ . . . illegible . . . ] and duplicity of certain Mexican officials before the military commission, (which extended towards them every possible indulgence,) was the fact that their government had offered to them the sole alter native of either violating their parole or serving in the ranks as common soldiers; and that, after taking the infamous proposition of the so called Governor Soto into consideration, for twenty-four hours, they at last "preferred (to use their own language) to run the risk of consequences to the certainty of the degradation with which we (they) were threatened."

Mexicans! the blood of these unfortunate and misguided young men rests mainly upon your political authorities.

The wise and humane of all civilized nations, anxious to mitigate, as far as
possible, the horrors of war, so revolting to the Christian and the true soldier, under the best of circumstances, have instituted the parole of honor – a chivalric code – by which the simply word of an officer may be taken that he will not again bear arms against the victors until legally exchanged; after giving which assurance he is permitted quietly to return to his family and friends.

Without this all wars must result either in the barbarous system of slavery or of ransoms of ancient times or the middle ages, or into one of utter extermination. With this view, and looking into the great interests of humanity, the civilized world has agreed to stigmatise a breach of the parole of honor as the most infamous crime that a soldier can commit, and to consign him to the most signal punishment, not from motives of vengeance, but because of the evils which his want of good faith is calculated to entail upon the human species.

Mexicans! in what light can you and the whole world regard the Mexican government, which thus imposes upon you such hard conditions, and which subjects its officers either to degradation at its own hands, or to the certainty of death if recaptured by their [ . . . illegible . . . ], for the perpetration of a grave crime against the laws of nations, in the preservation of which we are all alike most deeply concerned?

The government of the United States, anxious from the beginning to secure a lasting peace, based upon the true principles of mutual honor and interests, is throwing the immense force into your country, and you may rest assured that it will never submit to those gross violations of good faith which have so often occurred on the part of the Mexicans during the present war.

GEO. W. HUGHES, Colonel,
Civil and military governor of the city and Department of Jalapa.

[NRR]

NR 73.295 Jan. 8, 1848 the capture of Guaymas

THE CAPTURE OF GUAYMAS – El Monitor Republicano of the 27th ult. publishes the details of the [ . . . illegible . . . ] and capture of Guaymas. The frigate Congress, the sloop of war Portsmouth, and the brig Argo, belonging to Mr. John Robinson, U.S. consular agent there, composed our force. The Portsmouth anchored off the port the 16th October, and the Congress and the Argo the next day. On the 18th the Argo anchored between the islands of Almagre Gratide and Almagre Chico.

A mortar was planted during the day upon each Island. A small boat was then put off from the Argo, bearing Mr. Wm. Robinson, a relative of the consul, and came off to the town. Robinson was conducted to the governor and explained to him that the purpose of the Americans was to take the port, and he advised its surrender to prevent disastrous consequences. Mr. Robinson also explained that the had [ . . . illegible . . . ] in with the U.S. squadron, in the Argo. The next Mexican commandant replied that the surrender of the town was out of the question, being in [ . . . illegible . . . ] that of the aims of the republic. Mr. Robinson then returned to the Argo.

On the 19th the Congress and Portsmouth, took up their position to open their fire, the town was formally summoned to surrender, under pain of being fired into. The commandment still refused; the Americans did not open upon it until that day. The Mexicans allege that having no heavy artillery to annoy our squadron, the commandant evacuated the town during the night with his troops and took up a position at Boccachicampo, a league from the town, where he had previously placed a batter of fourteen guns to resist the Americans, should they attempt to penetrate the interior.

At 6 o’clock on the morning of the 20th, the Americans opened fire from both vessels of war and two mortars, and continued it for more than an hour. In this time they discharged upon a town 500 shot, among which were many shells. One English resident was killed, some houses were burnt and others ...[ . . . illegible . . . ]. [RLLW]
MEXICAN PRISONERS. – The effort made by the Archbishop of Mexico to obtain from Gen. Scott the release of his Mexican prisoners an General Scott’s reply, have effected something for them. – As soon as it became known that General Scott accused Mexican officers of violating their parole, and with the sanction of Santa Anna’s government, Senor Otero introduced into congress a bill to regulate the law of the country upon the whole subject. It provides that those only shall be regarded as prisoners of war who are taken by the enemy in the discharge of their military duty, either on the field of battle or in some place taken or surrendered on conditions.

It declares those to be deserters who voluntarily become prisoners of war, or in the same manner pledge themselves not to bear arms against the enemy, who shall lose their rights as citizens, be suspended from command from six to ten years, and shall not hold any public office. Another section is aimed at those who leave their residence for a town occupied by our troops, and thus surrender themselves as prisoners of war, and giver their parole, (as many have done at Monterey and Saltillo.) A like severe punishment is declared against them. And those who shall desert in the presence of the enemy, or leave the service on which they are ordered, are declared traitors.

The fifth article declares that in the case of capitulations, no stipulation for the liberty of the garrison shall be made upon the condition that they shall not again bear arms against the enemy, nor upon any other condition which excludes exchange or ransom; but in those cases where military rules permit the surrender of a place, an engagement may be entered into that the defenders of it will remain prisoners their world of honor. The sixth article provides that soldiers, having been made prisoners legitimately according to the first article, [ . . . illegible . . . ] pledge their parole, the first obtained upon a consideration of each case. The seventh and last article provides that the government itself shall take care that no prisoner, set at large on his parole, shall commit the offence of violating it. The bill was accompanied by a well written report by Otero. He defends the power of pledging one’s word of honor as a humane provision of national law which Mexicans should respect. The violation of it ought never to be tolerated and he thinks that Gen. Scott [ . . . illegible . . . ] have been misinformed in saying that any Mexican soldier had violated his parole. The bill was likely to become a law. [RLLW]

INDIANS IN MEXICO.--Our latest advices from Saltillo told of a conflict between the Texan Rangers and a band of Camanches. Upon looking over some late papers from the city of Mexico, we find several letters from San Luis Potosi describing actions between the Indians and Mexican troops. The savages had boldly approached within seventeen leagues of the city of San Luis. In one engagement the Mexicans had fifty infantry and thirty dragoons engaged. The party was completely cut to pieced, only eight of the dragoons escaping with their lives, and five of the being wounded.

Another engagement took place between the Indians and one hundred dragoons of the 4th regiment of cavalry, which were marching from Matehuala to join Gen. Avalos. The fight occurred at Mingole, and the dragoons were completely routed, seventy being killed, among whom were Col. Labastida and several other officer. The survivors of this fight at last joined Avalos. In a letter from this general, we have a report of an engagement in which the Mexican arms were more successful. With a force of about 400 cavalry, he writes on the 18th of November, that he that morning attacked a body of from 340 to 370 Indians in the hacienda of San Juan del Salada.

The action began at 5 in the morning and terminated at 2 in the afternoon, (the date of the general’s letter.) Only thirty or forty Indians were then left in the interior of the hacienda, who he says it will be necessary to destroy, as they refuse to surrender, and defend themselves savagely. All the rest, he says, perished, the very small number who fled, finding escape impossible on account of the difficulty of the country, the hills, &c.

The Mexicans recovered two thousand horses, and set at liberty over two hundred women and children who had been captured. The loss of the Mexicans was small, though several officers were wounded and General Avalos had his horse shot under him.
It is calculated that in their incursions into the state of San Luis over four hundred Mexicans have been killed, a great number of captives made, and numberless atrocities have been committed. [JNA]

NNR 73.296 January 8. 1848  Visit to the pyramid of Cholula
NNR 73.297 Domingo and his Mexico-Mexican Rangers

A trip to Cholula is one of the most agreeable jaunts around Puebla. By the road it is about 8 miles distant, and you may pass over a reasonably even road and cross a pretty little river, which is laid down in the map—but as the map is not here, I cannot recollect its name. This fashion we (ahem!) tourist have of nothing down names and incident plays hob with one’s memory in general.

About a week since General Scott, Twiggs and Shields, with an escort of dragoons and the 2nd and 7th infantry, made an excursion to the gate of the ancient Aztec city, and I joined it. About two miles from Puebla, a laughable incident occurred, though it well might needed in a tragedy. The infantry were ascending as easy slope, where two Mexicans came along with a powerful bull, which on of them held by a lasso over the house, while the other urged him along with a goad. The animal became resistive as the soldiers passed, and finally, breaking away from those who held him, charged and left flank, carving a soldier through the ranks on his horns, and landing him in the mud on the opposite side of the road. The two men finally got hold of the lasso again and were getting him along very well, when four of us civilians came along on horse. The he began to plunge and paw the ground, and one of the Mexicans who got in from t of the beast to bean him still, was tossed learn over the bulls. The infuriated creatures then pitched into the other, and throwing him in about two feet of mud and water, geared and ducked him for several seconds. All the horsemen rode up and succeeded in driving the animal from his prey, when he trued and put after us, more furious than ever. As we had no arms, and did not choose our horses ruined, there was some pretty "tall walking" for a short distance. The animal ran down the column till near the head of 7th regiment, and charred again, making a pretty wide breach in the ranks. After satisfying himself that the 7th was "no where" when he was about, he made a rush on the 2nd. The boys had time to fix their bayonets, whoever, and met our friend so coolly, that after receiving five or six bayonets wounds he hauled off and gave up the battle. In a few moments I saw him lassoed by a houseman and pulled along toward the city, bleeding profusely and looking quite crest fallen. He had evidently been deceived in his first charge, and seeing no bayonets, probably did not reckon on finding any on his second spurge. But he can (if the butchers have not killed him, which I strongly suspect,) console himself with the fact that he made more consternation among tow regiments of the U. S. infantry than a thousand two legged Mexicans could have done.

We met with no other interruption on our march. On both sides the land was well tilled and covered with corn in every stage, from the young sprout to the full ripe seed, tomatoes, peppers, etc. On one fine hacienda some men were ploughing, and I rode out to see them. The plough in use here is scarce a degree ahead of that used by the Arabians, and can only be of any effect in soft ground, being made entirely of wood. 1: is drawn by oxen, which ware goaded by a pike set in the end of a long pole. The Mexican holds his plough with one hand, and with the other stirs up the animals.

At the river the troops had stopped to wit for the generals and escort, and three friends, mind my self galloped on the pyramid, which we ascended mounted, and there had a fine view of the advancing column. All the Mexicans ran away to hear the drums. (a Mexicans will follow a single drum all day to hear the music.) and left us in possession of the pyramid, chapel, pulque, and all. We made the best of the room left us before the arrival of the troops, ascended the tower of the church, and examined the structure of the pyramid, &c. &c. In half an hour the whole parties were assembled in the little square fronting the church, the band playing music such as had never before echoed among the ruins of Cholula. Of all the tunes played., the inhabitants seemed most pleased with “Yankee Doodle,” probably from this lively nature. We were soon completely sun down by Indians, who brought fruit, bread, &c., from the market in the plaza below, and specimens of ancient pottery, broken idols, &c., &c. At first these curiosities were sold very cheap, but finding that we all wanted them, the rascals raided the price from on or two [. . . illegible . . .] to one and two rails, which very soon ruined the business, as they held on to their [. . . illegible . . .] and we go our money.

Cholula, at this day, presents little to attract the attention or claims the admiration of the traveler- its great pyramid sill stand, and it will stand a dozen centuries latter,
inn as good preservation as now. Young trees have over grown its sides, and run
dried brick on which it is con posed, have become a perfect solid. Its dimensions
([ . . . illegible . . . ]) are, "base 1440 feet, present height 179, area on the summit
45,210" Times and the heavy rains have considerable changed its general
appearance, and it is difficult to discern the different stories or steps, of which there
are three. The fist of these is a large bread platform, extending six or eight yards on
either side further than the square eight-yard o either side than the square mass,
which supported the temple of the Indians, and now the Catholic chapel. The second
platform is hardly discernibly.

The history of this pyramid varies with every book on Mexico, believe Brantz Mayer's
account to be as near to the truth as any that has been written before the flood,
tradition has it, this valley was inhabited by giants. After the great drought and
serve 1,400 years after the creation, one of these giants, called the Architect,
caused a great number of breaks to be made, and commenced building a pyramid,
placing men in files to pass along the bricks, in the same manner that fire buckets
are passed at a conflagration in a small village.- He had progressed very well, until
one find day the Great Spit sent down fire, killed the workmen, and put a veto on
the pyramid. From this time we hear no more of the giant, and I suppose he was
burned up with his workmen. Some time after this a great prophet came to Cholula,
who, from being able to cause rains to fall and do other miraculous things, was
chosen king of Anahuac. It is said that [ . . . illegible . . . ] corn grew so large that a
man had trouble in carrying one ear, and other grain and all manner of fruit grew in
similar enormous proportion. After several years resident this great and good
prophet removed the south and died. The pyramid was then begun and completed,
and coroneted to this great prophet, whose name I think was Quetzacooth, or the
"Good of air." There was a temple on the top where Indians were sacrificed to the
idols, and papas, or priests in great numbers gathered there.

It was here that the plot was forced against Cortez and all this followers by the
orders of Montezuma and which was entry discovered by Donna Martina, the
interpreter, and four or five Tlascalan friends of the conqueror. It is hardly necessary
to detail this in extension. Montezuma sent 40,000 men to lay in want for Cortez, in
ravines outside the city on the road to Mexico, and the caciques had deep ditches
made in the streets, filled with sharp pointed sticks, and covered over so as to
deceive the Spaniards. – They were also all armed and prepared with cords of hide
to tie the Spaniards when they were defeated. The papas were induced to join the
plot by a promise that twenty Spaniards should be given them to sacrifice. The
sequel is well known. Cortez invited all the caciques and principal men into a large
yard surrounded by a high wall, and after rebuking their treachery of signal of one
gun was given and the whole were put to death–some were cut down, some shot,
and some burned, to show the people that the gods of Cholulans could not aid them.
After some time two thousands Tlascalans entered the city, killed and made slaves of
a great many of the Cholula, and the travelers now sees nothing of the former city
except two mounds near the pyramid, and the streets, which are perfectly straight
and cross each other at right angles like those of Philadelphia. Many of the first
churches built by the Spaniards are in ruins and the remains of huts of sun dried
bricks are seen to miles around. Many think that these ruins are the remains of
Indian tenements, but I am of option that they are of recent origins, and of Spanish
construction. The town now contains, in its two miles square, about 2000
inhabitants, most of whom raise truck and make pulque for the Puebla market.
There is one fine church in the town, and a large female convent besides numerous
chapels. That on the pyramid is a very handsome one, with many rich ornaments,
chandeliers, crosses, &c. It has an organ about as large as New England "seraphim,"
which was the only thing about the whole that I noticed as cut of proportion.

The view from the pyramid is one of the grandest in Mexico. On the west tower the
high white peaks of Popocatapetl and Iztecuuhault; and on the southeast the gray
head of San Enarras, often whitened with snow. On the south and northeast, as far
as the eye can reach, lays the broad valley, dotted with villages and haciendas, and
teeming with verdure, and fruits of homely honest labor. Puebla seems almost
beneath one's feet, and a stranger looking on it for the first time from here, would
not suppose it contained more than then thousand inhabitants.

After passing a very agreeable hour on and around the pyramid, I rode through the
city and joined the advance of dragoons who were fast returning with the
commander in-chief to Puebla. But they rode too fast for me, and I pulled up and
drove on alone about a mile in advance of the main body. Presently a band of about
they mounted Mexicans came dashing up, and as they approached I noticed two of
our principal officers were with them. I joined the new comers, and learned that they
are no other than the famous Domingo and his band of rangers. This popular
captain, so notorious for his daring feats and bold adventures, out of gratitude to
Gen. Scott for his delivery from a durance brought upon him by his political options,
is now with his band engaged in scouting the country for guerrilla parties. He is a
handsome man, rather large for his century, and just the last person I should desire to meet in the wilds of Mexico as an enemy. Many of his band are men of good lineage, and great personal courage, and they will, I am told, scatter an hundred guerrillas in a very short time. Domingo's name, alone is enough to frighten half a dozen muchachos out of the self possession.

About five miles from Puebla, four of Domingo's men gave their arms to their comrades and dashed off into a field where a large heard of cattle were grazing. In a short time they selected a large black bull from the heard and gave chase. Two would get the animal well under way when a third, perhaps five rods in the rear, would rush up, seize the bull’s tail in his right hand, and throw his right foot over it, outside the hand. Then, spurring his horse, he could turn him suddenly with the left hand, and the bull cover and over. This they repeated several times. Sometimes the horseman was unsuccessful, and got his hand pretty well skinned, but that was nothing so long as he kept his horse. One man, on a little bay horse that [. . . illegible . . .] over the ground like the kind, threw a bull three times in succession. The first time the poor animal changed end for end a little quicker and the had ever done before, I'll warrant. The Mexicans escorted us into the city, and left on a scouting expedition, the result of which was the engagement and diconfigure of a large party of San Juan de los Llanos, by Capt. Rull of the mounted rifles.

But I have already exceeded the bounds so of a small later- so, adios,

TORY.

[LVW]

NBR 73.297 January 8, 1848 operations of British capitalists in Mexico January 8, 1948
NBR 73.297 British method to obtain the specie we send to Mexico, pressure in the United States as a result of the actions of the capitalist of London

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore American writes-

The drafts which are now drawn into Mexico upon the government are calculated to have some effect upon the money market. Two are now on the way from Mexico for half a million each. The specie is furnished at Mexico by agencies of English houses, who sell the bills in Mexico. When presented here, the specie is received, and at once sent to Europe- It is hardly possible that these repeated drafts, and repeated shipments of specie should not have [. . . illegible . . .] influence upon the money market of the country; and these drafts will continue to the end of the war- This tact alone, and the speculation it gives rise to, is calculated to have some influence upon the money market.

The claims before congress are multiplying. I hear of one of $400,000, which will be in anon for drafts drawn by Col. Fremont upon the government here.

We copy the following extracts from the N. York Herald:-

"This terrible devastations has been brought about by the action of the capitalist of London and the bank of England. They are still engaged in the same purpose-of diminishing the prices of cotton, corn and other staples, and also of throwing vast quantities if goods into the U. States for the purpose of drawing off our specie. In London it is expected that fifteen or twenty millions of dollars in specie will yet be taken from the United States.

"With this extraordinary course of policy among the capitalist of London, the position of financial affects in this country, in connection with the government and the banks, becomes doubly interesting.- Immense loans will be required by the Americans government, to continue the war in Mexico-for there is no prospect of peace. These loans will come out of the money markets of large cities, in funds furnished by capitalist who own deposits in the banks, and of course the banks will have ultimately to pay, and take these loans, at the same time that the dram of specie is going on from this country into England. Between two such influences it will be a miracle, as we have already stated, if the baking institutions of this country can maintain their solvency, and pay their deposits in paper and specie, according to law. There must be some relaxation somewhere. Either the American government must abandon the treasure system, which deals entirely on the principle of specie–
paying, or the banks must suspend. There is not alternative. We must look at it as two drains on the vaults of the banks- the one produced by the policy of the banks of England, and the other caused by the action of our government and the treasury department, to supply funds for the Mexican War."

[LVW]

**WAR WITH MEXICO**

By the arrival of the steamer New Orleans at N. Orleans on the 28th December, Vera Cruz dates to the 24th were received. She brought Gen. Pierce and a number of officers as passengers, and also the remains of Lieut. Cols. Dickinson and Graham, Cols. Butler, Martin Scott, and Ransom, Captts. Thompson and Taylor, Lieut. Williams, Clark, and Adams, Sergeant Madison, Dr. Slade, and privates [ . . . illegible . . . ] and Kennedy.

No later intelligence from the city of Mexico, than we had by any previous arrivals.

The barque Brail, Captain Bevand, which sailed from New Orleans come time since had not arrived nor been heard of at Vera Cruz up to the 24th. She is no doubt lost.

The train which left the city of Mexico on the 8th December, accompanied by Generals Twiggs and Pierce, reached Vera Cruz on the 23rd

Gen. Twiggs commenced his duties as governor of Vera Cruz on the 24th inst.

Col. Bank head was to leave immediately for the city of Mexico to join Gen. Scott.

Colonel Wilson was to leave on the 26th instant in the United States ship Germantown, for the north. During the skirmish of Gen. Lane with the Mexicans, Lieut. Ridgeley, of the artillery, and assistant adj. General to Gen. Lane, was killed.

The last sitting of the Mexican congress at Queretaro was held on the 25th ult, since which time no further sittings have taken place, in consequences of the absence of a quorum.

President Anaya has appointed Senor Cuevas, At instant and Co. to, as commissioner to go on to Washington to treat of peace, but it is not sure they will leave while Santa Anna is in the country

On December 6th, Maj. General Patterson arrived at Mexico with about 500 of Col. Hay's Texans regiment, one company of 2nd dragoons, and a small train. On the 8th, Gen. Cushing arrived with the Massachusetts regiment under Captain Webster, and 1st Pennsylvania regiment under Col Winkoop, and another detachment of recruits, and Maj. Gen Butler was on the way, as reported in Mexico, with 8000 more.

Col. Wright, of the Mass. Regiment, remains at Perote as its governor.

On Dec. 2nd, the guerrillas near Vera Cruz, wounded Lt. Gordon, of the rifle reg, and captured about 100 pack mules.
Lieut. O'Sullivan, promoted for gallantry at Palo Alto, and engaged in the late battles before Mexico, after throwing up his commission, has it said, accepted a colonelcy in the Mexican army.

On December 4th, the 1st artillery under Maj. Dinick relieved the 1stst infantry at Vera Cruz.

The U.S. frigate *Cumberland*, and sloop of war *John Adams*, were anchored under the castle of San Juan de Ulloa.

On the 27th ultimo, General Lane with detachment fought the Mexicans at a place named Matamoras, whipped them, and delivered several prisoners. [LVW]

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NNR 73.304 January 8, 1848 letter from Mexico about fractions among the Mexicans, Special Correspondence of N. Orleans Picayune

Mexico, Dec. 4, 1847.

The news from Queretaro since my last is extremely meager and uninteresting. The council of governors had at last broken up, and they have done nothing except pledging themselves to sustain the governments in providing the means to meet the expenditures in its branches. The question of peace or war was reserved for the notion of the general government. Well informed Mexicans do not hesitate to charge the [. . . illegible . . .] upon the partisans of Santa Anna, who have been unaccountably increased in Queretaro by the accession of nearly all of the Puros-Parias and one or tow others being the only exceptions.

This party (calling themselves Santanistas) are now said to be backing another revolution to place Santa Anna the head of the government and crush the hopes of the peace party, and this plot, it was believed would be indecision of the government. President Anaya issued a decree on the 25th that no election should be held to any part of the republic occupied by the Americans, but that they authorities now in power should continue to exercise the fractions. From present appearances this would be equivalent to giving the [. . . illegible . . .] of this and other place a life-lease of office a thing opposed to the democratic principle of "I don't know" and therefore not likely to be carried into effect.

The [. . . illegible . . .] notice appeared in the Star of Wednesday last-

"A call – The officers of the American army, the citizens attached thereto, Mexican citizens, foreigners and such other citizens as feel disposed, are invited to meet in to senate chamber, at the National Palace, Saturday afternoon next, December 4, at 4 o'clock P.M. for the purpose of settling the preliminaries and taking in a contemplated rail road between the city of Mexico and Vera Cruz and the intermediate points. Many of the citizens of the United States having indicated a determination to occupy the territory of Mexico, it is expected that the sprit of international improvement. Hitherto unknown in this country, will be called forth."

There were but few Mexicans present, but one of them stated that he was there to presented some four or five others, and pledged himself, should the security of the undertaking be manifested, to raise nine millions of subscription for the stock at once.

[LVW]

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NNR 73.304 January 8, 1848 John Pollard Gaines’ speech on his return home, criticism of the conduct of the war

Major Gaines at home-

The hon. John P. Gaines, member of congress from Kentucky, arrived at Covington on the 16th, and was received with distinguished honors. In returning thanks, Major Gaines took occasion to present a narrative of his entrance to Mexico, his imprisonment, his sufferings, his escape, the stories of Gen. Scott &c. The Cincinnati Atlas reports a sketch of his remarks, and adds:

[LVW]
"He said very little of political matter, but that little was full of meaning. In regard to the war, he re-vowed the opinion declared by him before he joined the army, that it was wrongfully brought about by our government, and he now added that the administration were quite as censurable for the manner of its prosecution as for its unjust origin. The army, he knew, from personal observation, had suffered for want of provisions, munitions, and men that need of furnishings all of which had been placed in the hands of the president by congress. Not only had the gallant solders suffered great personal privations owing to this delectation of the executive, but the war had been actually prolonged, and rendered much more bloody and disastrous than it would otherwise have been. Had the president employed the means at his disposal in reinforcing Gen. Scott, the city of Mexico would have been captured earlier, and, in his opinion, with a far less loss of life than actually marred from the inefficiency of the administration. - In these opinions respecting the failure of the executive to furnish provisions, munitions, and men to the army, and the mournful results of such inefficiency. Major Gaines said every man in the army, whatever his political predictions, emphatically concurred with him.

"He avowed his intentions to vote in congress the amply supplies for the army as long as the war legally exists; but he also avowed, with great emphasis, his decisive determination to oppose the annexation of any Mexican territory to the United states, or the incorporation of any portion of the people of Mexico with ours.

"He remarked that he ever found a Mexican in Mexico in favor of peace with the United States, and he had no hope of any treaty thought the instrumentality of Mr. Trist." [LVW]

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**NNR 73.304 Jan. 8, 1848** Killed and wounded

**WAR WITH MEXICO**

By the arrival of the steamer New Orleans at N. Orleans on the 28th December, Vera Cruz dates to the 24th were received. She brought Gen. Pierce and a number of officers as passengers and also the remains of Lieut. Cols. Dickinson and Graham, Cols. Butler, Martia Scott, and Ransom, Capt. Thompson and Taylor, Lieuts. Williams, Clark and Adams, Sergeant Madison, Dr. Siade, and privates Tressevent and Kennedy.

During the skirmish of Gen. Lane with the Mexicans, Lieut. Ridgely, of the artillery, and assistant adj. General to Gen. Lane, was killed

...On December 2d, the guerrillas near Vera Cruz, wounded Lt. Gordon, of the rifle reg. And captured 100 pack mules. [JNA]

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**NNR 73.305 January 15, 1848** Gen. Winfield Scott’s orders directing troops to positions throughout Mexico and ordering Mexican taxes to be collected for support of the American Army

**NNR 73.305 entertainment planned for Col. Dixon Stansbury Miles on his departure from Vera Cruz**

**NNR 73.305 Queretaro Congress plan not to meet again, suppression of monarchial movement**

**NNR 73.305 Lt. Bedney. F. McDonald and train carrying money attached between Puebla and Jalapa**

**NNR 73.305 dispersal of American troops in Mexico, letter on need for more troops**

**WAR WITH MEXICO**

By the schooner *Eleanor*, Vera Cruz dates to the 29th December are received.

General Scott had issued orders directing the army to take positions in different portions of the Mexican republic, and occupy them until the government sues for peace on terms which will prove acceptable to the U. States.

Numerous other orders have been issued requiring the taxes of all kinds heretofore paid to the government of Mexico to be paid hereafter for the support of the
American army. The orders enumerate the articles taxed, and prohibited lotteries.

Colonel Miles was about to leave Vera Cruz, and the regiment stationed there were making preparations to give him a sumptuous entertainment, as a mark of their respect for him as an officer and a man.

A Queretaro letter in the Moniteur, published in the city of Mexico, states that the present congress, in session at the place, will not come together again. Several deputies had left there, and the letter ads that new deputies an senators would soon be in the city. The government, in the letter further states, was silently taking measures for the suppression of intrigues in connection with the monarchial movement. In consequence of the governors of the different states not having fulfilled their promise to aid the government with such resources as they could command, it was much cramped for means.

Assistant surgeon Sutter died in the city of Mexico on the 15th ult. Full military honors were paid to his remains.

Lieutenant McDonald, of the 3rd artillery, and two other officers, with a small party, left Puebla on the 17th ult. For Jalapa, having in charge a considerable quantity of money, and were attacked by a band of fourteen robbers. Although only three of our countrymen were armed, they defeated the dragoons, and arrived safely at their destination.

The sloop of war Saratoga, arrived at Pensacola on the 6th instant, with Vera Cruz dates to the 27th ult. The accounts by her were not so late, but rather fuller. The new Mexican congress was to assemble at Queretaro early this month.

Most of the U. States troops in the city of Mexico, were, at the last accounts, about to depart for other portions of the republic, which are to be held until those who have the authority to act shall make satisfactory reparations to the U. S. government and enter upon negotiations for peace.

The New York Express, publishes the following extract of a letter which is mentioned as being from an intelligent officer that has been through all the campaign.

Mexico, December 2, 1848

" There is nothing new here since my last. Troops are daily arriving ; but not enough to effect much. - All those that are on the way here ought to have been on the ground before the last battles. We ought to have 75,000 men to-day, and proceed at once to take procession of the country. It is no merit of our government or infantry that we have not been destroyed before this. Our successes are all owing to the weakness of the enemy."  [LVW]
In these efforts he anticipates to be able to sustained by his troops, and especially his officers.

The people of the United States are anxiously looking in this direction for an honorable termination of the war. The victories so glorious to our arms at Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterey, Buena Vista, Vera Cruz, Cerro Gordo, Contreras, Churubusco and the city of Mexico, have failed to produce the desired results. Mexican armies, one after another, have been beaten and dispersed, and their capital taken; yet then Mexicans would continue the war. As peace, from all we can learn, appears far in the distance, we are called upon to prepare for coming events. Pleasure must give way to duty; our whole duty, and nothing but our duty, obedience, order, discipline an instruction must be rigidly enforced, which the interest, honor and glory of our country imperiously demand.

All orders hitherto issued by Major Gen Taylor, will be enforced until other wise directed.

The following officers are announced as chiefs of the staff attached t the army of occupation.

Bvt. Capt. Irving McDowell, assistant adjutant general at headquarters.
Capt. W. D. Fraiser, Chief of engineers, and aid-de-camp.
Maj. Lewis Cass, Jr., 3rd dragoons, acting inspector general.
Major P.M. Washington 31 artillery, chief of artillery, at Saltillo.
Capt. G. D. Ramsey, ordnance department, chief of ordnance at headquarters.
Col. Henry Whiting, assistant quartermaster general, chief of the quartermaster’s department at Matamoras.
Capt. E. S. Sibley, assistant quartermaster at headquarters.
Capt. T. B. Linnard, chief of the topographical corps at Saltillo.
Lt. L. Sitgreaves, corps of topographical engineers at headquarters.
Capt. A. B. Eaton, commissary of subsistence, chief of the commissary department at Brazos.
Captain J. C. Casey, co missionary of subsistence at headquarter.
Surgeon N. S. Jarvis, chief of the medical department at headquarters.
Major D. Hunter, chief of the pay department at Matamoras
Maj. W. A. Spark, payment master at headquarters.

[LVW]

NNR 73.305 January 15, 1848 Gen. Sterling Price’s arrival at Santa Fe

New Mexico—Santa Fe dates nineteen days later than previously give, are received.

Their legislator has assembled. Augrelly has been elected speaker of the house of representatives, and Sardival, president of the senate.

General Price arrived at Santa Fe on the 12th Dec., and constituted VIGIL governor of the territory, who sends a message according to usage, to the legislature. A bill has been passed authorizing the election of delegates to take into consideration the annexation of New Mexico to the United States.

Sixty-eight deaths have occurred in the fist battalion since they left Missouri. [LVW]

NNR 73.306 January 15, 1848 Rumors of the recall of Gen. Winfield Scott, other roomers of shifts in command

RUMORS OF THE RECALL OF GEN. SCOTT Without placing much reliance upon the rumors, the fact that it was quite current at Washington for some days, is undoubted. The Washi9ngton correspondent of the N. York Herald wrote on the 11th instant: "An important cabinet meeting was held to-day. The sitting was protracted until 4 o’clock this afternoon.- The discussion on the army were the principal subjects of deliberation. It as finally determined that Gen. Scott should be recalled, and a messenger will leave there on Thursday morning next, with orders to Gen. Scott from the war department, to return home as speedily as possible, and to report himself in Washington. The command of the army devolves on Major General Butler , as second in rank to Gen. Scott. The officers involved in the dissent ions in
the camp, will as matter of course, return home.

The Washington correspondent for the New York Courier, writes that: "The question whether General Scott, Worth and Pillow are to be recalled, was at full length debated in the cabinet meeting yesterday, and I believe they will be called home, were it but to give the army a lesson of obedience to the instructions and law of their country. All the heavy service being done and the heart of Mexico fairly in our possession, our militant generals will answer quite well for garrisoning towns an clearing the high roads of robbers and vagabonds, as Scott himself. After the recall of Scott, Worth and Pillow the command will devolve on Major General Butler, of Kentucky, who stands in the most intimate relation to the president, and who would carry out his views without the aid of a lieutenant general. If Scott, Worth, Pillow and Duncar come home, they will undoubtedly be court marshaled."

Subsequent letter say that a messenger was actually dispatched, with the orders for Gen. Scott's recall, but that the messenger was overtaken at Richmond, Va., by another messenger with instructions to return to Washington, the cabinet having determined to delay the order until Gen. Pierce who was said to be hurrying on the Washington immediately from the army, should arrive and report.

Another rumor has been for some days in circulation, which may as well be mentioned here, that is that General Taylor is to be ordered to return to Mexico and take command of the army on the recall for the officers about referred to.

Another important rumor there is another report current at Washington, among military men, and generally believed, that Generals Jessup and Twiggs have exchanged commissions, and that the latter will return to the U. S. as quartermaster general. The former an old brigadier is senior to every general officer in the regular army, except Scott. Taylor and Gaines, and will, doubtless, be assigned to command with his brevet ran, dating, we believe from 1824. This, in case of accident to General Scott, or his recall, would place the command of the army in Mexico in the hands of Gen. Jessup instead of one of the temporary officers. [NY Globe] [LVW]
"I regret that the Whig members should have assumed the responsibility of the concern, by voting more men or money than was required to protect Taylor, and withdraw from the disputed territory. - What can be more demoralizing than for legislators to vote money and arms, and then claim that they are not responsible, because legally, the president has no right to use the arms as he please? Shame on such logic an crouching to expediency Well may the preside say 'come my new logic blood hounds, give me more cash and powder."  [LVW]

NNR 73.306 Jan. 15, 1848 Spanish schooner captured while smuggling to Mexico

The Spanish schooner Renaissance, captured by the U.S. steamer Scorpion in the Gulf of Mexico while engaged in smuggling, arrived at New Orleans on the 5th instant in charge of Midshipman S.J. Bliss. [JNA]

NNR 73.311-312 January 15, 1848 the unhappy difficulty between Gen. Winfield Scott and Gen. William Jenkins Worth

THE CASE OF GENERALS SCOTT AND WORTH

The following letter, which we find in the St. Louise Republic of Dec. 20, over the signature of "Gomez" contains interesting information concerning the origins of the unhappy difficulty between Gen. Scott and Gen. Worth, which has since led, as our readers are aware, to the arrest of t the latter. The facts set forth appear reliable, as they are embodied I the official documents:

"To a correct understanding of the merits of the controversy, it is proper to remark, that the first cause of the complaint on the part of Brevet Maj. Gen. Worth, against the general-in-chief, was the municipal authorities of the city of Puebla, in his advance upon, and occupation of, that city. General Worth, it will be recollected, was directed by General Scott to act with his division as the advance corps of the army, until reading and occupying Puebla. As a matter of history, and for the purpose of permitting every man to draw his won conclusions of the justness or unfairness of Gen. Scott's disapproval of the terms of that capitulation, I deem it due to all concerned, to insert a copy of the capitulation itself. It is in these words:

"General: if, as is to be supposed, you are possessed of a true and ardent love of your country, it will not appear strange the that first sentiment which the municipality of Puebla manifests in your addressing you, be that of proud grief for the inevitable necessity it finds itself under of regulating wit the enemy of its nation, the terms last opprobrious for occupying the capital of this state, by troops of the United States of the North. It consoles itself, however, with the idea that its immediate sacrifice has only object in view, of saving, if not the same national rights- which, is beyond the possibility of the attempting- at leas the very dear interest of the unarmed populations which the municipality presents. Compelled, therefore, to this duty, truly very painful but inevitable, and stimulated by the proposal which you thought proper to direct to it from Nopalucan, that before arriving too near the city, you might enter into a conference with the civil functionaries, in order to concert with them the best and most secure measures in relation to the inters mentioned; now withstanding that some have been adopted anomalous to the present case already ,the municipality, the only political authority which as remained, in view of the defenses tale of the city, and in virtue of your announcement of thing to occupy it in a military manner, and argued that the commission from its body, which as the honor of addressing you, accept the guarantees offered in the following terms:

"During the occupation of the capital of Puebla by the troops of the U. S., they will invaluably respect the Catholic religion, which the national professes, the public worship and morals, the personas and poverty of all the inhabitants.

" The civil local authorizes will continue in the free exercise of their functions conformably to the laws of the country. In consequence, if the Generals of said troupes should consider any other measures necessary, besides these dictated heretofore, especially the maintenance of public order and tranquility, he will communicate his wishes to said subject to the above mentioned authorities respectively, according to their nature, and sustain and protect such measures.
"The custody of the prisoners and officers in charge of the municipality, will continue in charge of the force which the civil authorities has allotted for it, composed of forty men of the battalion of the free (liber) allowed to go free from Vera Cruz as a convict guard, unit it be relieved by that of the U. S., when said prison guard, will be allowed to retire with their arms.

Headquarters, Chichapa, May 14th, 1847. Approved and granted, (signed) W. J. WORTH, Maj. Gen. Com’g True Copy J. C. Pemberton, Capt. & A. D. C.

The second cause of the complaint on the part of Gen. Worth against the general-in-chief, was the disapprobation by the latter, of a circular addressed by the former to his division alone at a period when the entire force of the army including the general-in-chief, was garrisoned in the city of Puebla, with the exception of a small force left at Jalapa, under Col Childs. The circular purported to convey information to the first division, of which, Gen. Worth was the commanding officer, that a design was contemplated by the citizens of Puebla to position the fountains from whence our army drew their daily supply of water, and in that was destroyed us; and placing them on their guard against such inhumane and nefarious designs, if in reality there was any gourd of apprehension water, that such threats had been made, or if made, whether there was the slightest possibility of their being put in execution.

To the exceptions taken by the generals-in-chief at these two official acts of Gen. Worth, the latter became greatly incensed, and permitting his feelings to pervert his better judgment, became most violently and bitterly inimically to the general-in-chief. The result was, that every reflecting officer in the army most deeply regretting, a rupture in those friendly relations which for upwards of their years had existed between these two gallant and justly distinguish military chieftains.

The following order, published to a very limited extent by the general-in-chief, after the finding of this court of inquiry demanded by Gen. Worth, contains sufficiently explicit, all other facts material to a correct understanding of the affair by your readers. And by simply setting it out in hace veraba, we shall close this communication.

[General orders no. 196] HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY
Puebla, June 30, 1847.

Abstract of the proceedings of the court of inquiry, which convened at this place, by virtue of general order No. 168, headquarters of the army, and of which Maj. Gen. J A Quitman is president.

I. the said court of inquiry proceeded in due form to investigate the subjects embraced in the two papers herein cited, viz; First the general order No 186 headquarters of the army Puebla Mexico June 24 1847 as follows:

"At the instance of Brevet Maj Gen Worth, a court of inquiry will meet in the building called the palace of this city, at then o'clock tomorrow morning, it investigate certain matters in which that general officer convinced himself to have been injured by the general-in-chief of his army, viz; in the matter of the terms granted by the said Brevet Major Gen to the functionaries of this city, in the way of capitulation, as guaranties, at or about the time (May 15, 1847) of this entrance the advanced corps of the army into the city; and in the matter of a circular, June 16, 1847, published by the said major General to the officers of his division."

If there be other matters in the conduct of the said Brevet Major General which he may especially desire to have investigated by the aid court of Inquiry, he will submit them to the general-in-chief, through the recorders, for father orders in the case.

Detail.


Lieut. R. P. Hammond is appointed special judge advocate.

The court will give an opinion of the merits of all the matters investigated by it.

[signed] H. L. Scott A A A G

Second. A brief statement by Brevet Major Gen. Worth, of the matters in which he conceived himself wronged by the general-in-chief, and to which the investigation extended under the order instituting the court, in the following terms, viz;

In the matter of an interview had May 15th, at Chicpa, Mexico between Brevet major Gen. Worth, commanding 1st division of the army, and the civil authorities of Puebla, at the instance of said Brevet Major General- the general in chief has improperly, in manner and matter, characterized the proceedings at said interview, to the prejudice and wrong of said Brevet Major General.

In the matter of a circular, which as addressed by Brevet Major General worth; to the 1st division on or about June 16th, 1847 the general in chief verbally and in writing, has harshly and injuriously characterized said circular, and in a matter uncalled for, and in the underserved reproach of said inferior officer.

After an investigation of the above matters, the court made the following decision in the case:

Opinion

"That, regarding the remarks of the General-in-chief, dated June 17th instant, endorsed upon the translated copy of a letter from the Mexican Judge Duran, to major general Scott, dated the 16th of June, instant, hypothetically and applicable only to claims urged by the Mexican authorities which the General-in-chief at this time of his remarks, supposed to be 'without authority" and which brevet Maj. General Worth insists were not conceded by any of his official acts-the court can perceive nothing in remarks of the General-in-chief to which Brevet Major could properly take exception.

The court is further of opinion, that the terms of stipulations granted by Brevet Maj. Gen. Worth, to the functionaries of the city of Puebla upon his entrance with the advanced corps of the army into that city on the 15th of may last were unnecessarily yielded, improvident, and in effect, detrimental to the public service. And that the grant of these privileges was in con traction of the ninth a tenth paragraph of general orders no. 20 published at Tampico on the 19th day of Feb. last and was not warranted by the letter of instructions of the General-in-chief Gen. Worth.

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The court as required further declares its opinion that the circular published by Brevet Maj Gen Worth to his division dated June 16, 1847m was highly improper and extremely objectionable in many respects as especially as it might extend exasperation in the whole Mexican nation, to thwart the well known pacific policy of the us, and in view of the high sources from which it emended, to disturbed the friendly relations of our government with Spain, or at least give occasion to the power, to call for explains or apologies. The barbarous offence, against which he circular warned the soldiers of the first division if it existed at all, equally affected the whole army. The information obtained by Worth if worth of notice should therefore have been communicated the General that might have exercised his discretion on the means to be adopted to correcting the evil.

With these views of the circular alluded to , the court is of opinion that is called for the emphatic admonition and rebuke of the General-in-chief.

In conclusion, this court deems it material to make case, to express the opinion, that it is the right and the duty of the General-in-chief, and indispensable to the preservation of proper discipline in the army, that he should at all times possess the privilege of freely commenting upon disapproving or sensor the official acts of his subordinate officers."

II the general in chief approves the processing and opinion of the forgoing case

These orders will not be exceeded beyond the commanders of division and brigades, and the chief of the general staff.

The court of inquire, of which Major Gen. Quitman is president, is dissolved. By
command of Maj. Gen. Scott

(signed) H. L. Scott, A. A. A. G.

[NVW]

NNR 73.320 January 15, 1848 rumor of issuance of treasury notes to finance the war

MONEY MATTERS- Species movements. - The New York Herald says that the steamship Caledonia, from Boston for Liverpool, will take out about three hundred thousand dollars in species. This with the shipments made from New York and Boston since the first of Jan. will make an aggregated of about one million of dollars exported with the past twelve days. The exports for Dec., from these two ports was two and a half millions making, from the first December to the sixteenth of January, a total of there and a half million dollars. The drain commenced previous to December in November the export from New York was one and a half million and from Boston about one million making two and a half million in that month. Since the 1st of October, when the exportation to any extent commenced, the total amount of shipments had been to at least seven million dollars equal to more than one quarter of the aggregate importation 1847.

The N. Y. Tribune says:

The committee of ways and means are in correspondence with the leading moneyed men of the country of the purpose of collecting information regarding the best method of obtaining the money which will be needed by the government. An issue of treasury notes will not do, as they are paid at once into the custom house and it is doubtful if a larger loan would be taken at a fair rate unless the specie clauses of the sub-treasury first suspended. The banks could furnish no facilities for such a loan when it will cosset an immediate and large drain upon their vaults it is understood that the secretary will want about a million and a half per month. Several leading capitalist, have it is stated, been called to Washington from Boston, Philadelphia, and New York to discuss this matter.

The Philadelphia American says:

Treasury Notes- According to the last rumor from Washington, the secretary of the treasury has devised a plan for raising the were withdraw for carrying on the war, constituting of an issue of ten million of treasury notes in sums of not less than $50 bearing interest, - and a second issue of treasury notes in sums of not less than $10, not bearing interest. [LVW]


"The president has this day ordered a court of the inquiry for the purpose of investigation the charges against Gen. Pillow and Col Duncan, which have been preferred by Gen. Scott. After that investigation has terminated, the court is further discrete to inquire into the charges preferred against Gen. Scott by Gen Worth. The charges against Gen. Worth submitted by the commanding General, have been dismissed by the president.

The court is directed to assemble at Perote, at as early a day as the members can convince. It is consists of Gen. Towson, paymaster general, as president, and Gen. Cushing and Col. Butler, of Louisiana. Towson will start for Mexico on Monday.

The selection of Gen. Towson is an anomaly in court martial, and will doubtless lead to difficulty. His office of paymaster general-is a civil one, which might be conferred upon any individual in private life, and he holds no rank in the regular line of the army.
The command of the army in Mexico will necessarily devolve on Gen. Butler, of Kentucky, he being the officer next in rank to Gen. Scott, whose presence will be required at the court of inquiry.

The idea of recalling Scott is abandoned for the present, but it may be renewed."

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**NNR 73.323 January 22, 1848 another publication from Col. James Duncan**

**COL. DUNCAN. – Another letter.** The following letter from Col. Duncan, which originally appeared in the *North American Star*, published in the city of Mexico, after the arrest of that officer, indicates a highly exasperated state of feeling on his part towards the commander in chief. How far the tone and spirit of the letter may have been authorized by the article of which it is a reply, we know not, not having seen the article, or the "Tampico letter" referred to. [August Chron. & Sent.]

City of Mexico Nov. 17 1847.

To the editor of the *North American Star*:

Sir- An article that appeared in the *Ameri. Star* of this morning requires that my name should again most reluctantly appear in your paper:

Two considerations prompt me to notice the article referred to, firstly the semi-official character of the paper in which it appears; and secondly, the position of the writer, who is genially believed not to be the nominal editor.

The writer states, "in company with Mr. Kendall, of the *Picayune*, he saw the convent at Churubusco assaulted and carried by storm-carried while the guns of Col. Duncan's battery were playing upon the bridge-head.

"Mark how a plain tale shall set him down."

It is a fact susceptible of the most unequivocal proof, that Col Duncan's battery did not fire a shot at the bridge-head.

This battery was not put in position to fire at all, til from ten to fifteen minutes after the bridge-head fell.

Mr. Kendall stood by the side of Col. Duncan’s battery from the time it was put in position till the white flag was hung out from the convent.

Again the *Star* says: "The 6th and several other corps of infantry charged upon the enemy’s left, but before this charger could be productive of any beneficial results to our arms; the convent of Churubusco was carried, &c.

As before stated, the bridge-head had fallen from ten to fifteen minutes before Col. Duncan’s battery was put in position. Twenty-seven rounds were fired from one gun, which must have taken some time little time; the convent could not therefore have fall off the bridge instead of before as the *Star* states.

I do not wish the forgoing statement to be taken as mere random assertions. I am prepared to prove them by numerous disinterested eye witnesses of as higher standing as any officer in the army; indeed I entertain no doubt that I can ever convince the writer of the article in the *Star*, whose error of statement doubtless are only the result of mistaken impression.

The writer for the *Star* calls on general Pillow, Twigs, Shields, and Smith, as well as Cols. Ridgeley, Clark, and Garland to "testify" that "erroneous impressions were imbedded to be produced" by the Tampico letter. This is certainly appealing to high authority, and if these gentlemen sustain his appeal, it must be acknowledged that this part of his case is made out.

The *Star* further states that the Tampico letter tends to least discreet upon subsequent statesmen or other writers." It will be very likely to do so, if subsequent statements are written as incautiously as the article of this morning.

I refrain from making any comments on the tone and temper of the article in question; no good can come of it: it speaks for itself. The writer has followed an
exceedingly bad example- and I trust, when he has occasion to assail any body else, he will be sure of his facts and is temper, they are of infinite value to great men as well a little men.

And it is to be hoped that good taste as well as good policy, will prevent him again quoting from order No. 394. The army will not soon forget this order, and last of all will it be forgotten by its illustrations authors.

Very Respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Jas. Duncan, Bt. Lt. Col. USA

P.S.—Since writing the above, I have seen the Star of the 18th containing certificates from Mexican officers, (prisoners at the time they were given) in relation to the operations that produced the fall of the convent...Those prisoners are not released or doubtless a bundles of certificates might be produced from them, providing anything- even that they are brave and honest. The highest functionary of the men are little scrupulous about such small matters. The wonder is not that the Mexican officers gave certificates, but that they should have been asked or permitted to give them. Certificates from our own officers could be procured, telling quite a different story but I have no disposition to against this matter. So far as I am personally concerned, I care not a straw about it. Whether "my bow and arrow" killed "Cock Robin," or whether question for present discussion; that "Cock Robin" was killed by some body is quite clear.

J.D.

[LVW]

NNR 73.323 January 22, 1848 Secretary of the Navy John Young Mason’s official orders and pass for Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, Com. David Conner’s reply

Report of the secretary of the navy

Sir: In compliance wit the direction contained in your endorsement of the resolution of the house of representatives of the 6th inst, I have the honor of transmit herewith copies of all papers in this department, which it is believed, are within the purview of the resolution. A list of the accompanying papers is hereunto annexed.

I have the honor to be, very respectively

Your obedient servant

J. Y. Mason

To the President

US Navy Department, May 13 1846.

"Commodore: If Santa Anna endeavors to enter the Mexican ports, you will allow him to pass freely.

"Respectively yours,

GEORGE BANCROFT.

"Commander David Conner, Commanding Home Squadron.

COM. CONNER’S REPLY.

Princeton, Sacrificios, Aug. 16, 1846

Sir- The brig-of-war Daring, just about sailing from New Orleans, with dispatches from the English minister in Mexico, to Mr. Pakenham at Washington, allows me an opportunity, and sufficient time to inform you that Gen. Santa Anna and his friends have just now arrived at Vera Cruz in the English merchant steamer Arab, from Havana.
I have allowed him to enter without molestation, or even speaking the vessel, as here, Capt. Lambert, she carried no cargo, and would not be allowed to take any in return. In could easily have barded the Arab, but I deemed it most proper to not do so, allowing it to appear as if he had entered without my concurrence. It is now quite certain the whole country— that is, the garrison of every town and fortress— have declared in his favor. But unless he has learned something used in his adversity, and become another man, he will only add to the distractions of the country, and be hurled from power in less than three months. Respectfully yours, ob’t serv’t

D. CONNER

[NWV]

NBR 73.324 January 22, 1848 Gen. Winfield Scott’s order no. 376 for further conquest, debate in Senate relative there to

Conquest of Mexico- Execution of Tribute- Army of Invasion – General Orders No. 376.

Headquarters of the Army, Mexico Dec,15

This army is about to spend itself over and over to occupy this republic of Mexico, until the latter shall sue for peace in terms acceptable to the government of the United States.

On the occupation of the principal point or points in any states, the payment to the federal government of this republic of all taxes or dues will be demanded of the proper civil authorities for the support of the army of occupation.

The state and federal district of Mexico being already so occupied as well as the states of Vera Cruz, Puebla, and Tamaulipas, the usual taxes or dues, heretofore contributed by the same to the federal government will be considered a due and payable to this army from the beginning of the present month, and will early be demanded of the civil authorities of the states and districts, under lease and penalties which shall be duty announced and enforced.

Other states of the republic as the Californians. Now Mexico, Chihuahua, New Leon, &c, already occupied by the forces of the US through not under the immediate orders of the general in chief will conform to the prescription of this orders, except in which such states or states where a different system has been adopted with the sanction of the government at Washington.

The internal taxes or dues referred to are 1 direct taxes; 2 duties on the product of gold and silver; 3 melting and assaying dues; 3 rent of stamping paper; 6 the rest on the manufacture of playing cards; and 7 the rent of post offices.

The rest of national lotteries is abolished—lotteries being thereby prohibited.

Import and export duties at the ports of the republic will remain as fixed by the government of the US except that the exportations of gold and silver bars or igneous (plata y ono en pasta) is prohibited until the future intrusions of the government on the subject.

All imported articles, good or commodities which have once paid, or given sufficient security or the payment of duties to the US at any port of entry of the republic shall not again be burdened with any tax or duties in any part of this republic occupied by the forces of the United States.

The levying of duties on the transit of animals goods, or commodities whether of foreign or domestic growth, from one state of this republic to another or on entering or leaving the gate of any city within the republic will, from and after the beginning of the this year, be prohibited as far as the US forces may have the power to enforce the prohibition. Other and equitable means, to a moderate extent must be resorted by the several states and the authorities, for the necessities support of their respective governments.

The tobacco, playing cards, and stamped paper agents, will be placed for three, xi or
twelve months under contract with the highest bidders, respectively, to the several states: the state and federal district of Mexico being considered as one. Accordingly offers or bids for those rents, within each state, or any one of them are invited. They will be sent in as early as possible sealed to the headquarters of commanders of departments, except of the federal district and state of Mexico. For the two latter, the offers or bids will be addressed to the general in chief.

Further details for the execution of the foregoing system of government and revenue will soon be given in general orders.

By command of Major Gen. Scott

H.L. SCOTT, A.A.A.G.

[LVW]

NNR 73.324 January 22, 1848 Col. Dixon Stansbury Miles leaves Veracruz with a train
NNR 73.324 Gen. Thomas Marshall at Jalapa
NNR 73.324 John Reynolds hung
NNR 73.324 guerrillas under Mijares defeated
NNR 73.324 affair at Cholula
NNR 73.324 American prisoners sent for exchange, Col. Thomas Child’s reply

Vera Cruz dates to the 4th inst. are received.

Col. Miles with from 1000 to 1500 men and a heavy train, left Vera Cruz on the 2d, for the city of Mexico accompanied by the first infantry, under the command of Maj. A.S. Miller and E. Bakus. Gen. Scott was anxiously waiting their arrival.

Gen. Marshall was at Jalapa waiting for the arrival of Col. Miles’s train. When it came up he was to move off for the capital.

John Reynolds, a private in company D, 8th infantry, was hung in the city of Mexico on the 20th ult. for murdering a Mexican woman.

The Mexican papers mention a report that Santa Anna had embarked at Acapulco for the port of San Blas.

The Mexican government was doing all in its power to get the new congress together.

Advices from Mazatlan, 30th Dec., state the guerrillas under Mijares made an attack upon a body of Americans, and were completely routed. Mijares and a number of his followers were killed.

Another engagement with guerrillas, further north, resulted in a victory to the Americans.

On the night of the 21st ult. an expedition was sent to Cholula to apprehend some Mexican officers. A fight took place, in which three Mexicans were killed and three wounded.

A number of American prisoners, who had been taken by the Mexicans at various times, were sent from Seatlan, by the Mexican governor of that place, to Puebla, asking that Col. Pavon might be exchanged for them. If that request could not be complied with, the Mexican governor desired the liberation of an equal number of Mexicans. In case neither of these requests could be complied with, the governor wished it to be understood that he voluntarily restored the Americans to their freedom.—Col. Childs told the governor of Zacatan that he could not comply with either of his requests, as the Mexicans were already indebted to the American army for a number of prisoners liberated by its officers. He thanked the governor for his for the treatment of Mexicans who might be taken prisoner by him. [JNA]
"MANIFEST DESTINY" DOCTRINES.

Amongst the many journals published in our country, that boldly advocate the doctrine that is the duty of the people of this country to conquer and retain the Mexican republic, in order to compel that people to submit to such institutions as we choose to impose, none is more explicit than the New York Evening Post. In an argument upon the subject the editor says:

"Now we ask," whether any man can coolly contemplate the idea of recalling our troops from the territory we at present occupy—from Mexico—from San Juan de &8230;from Monterey—from Puebla—and thus, by one stroke of a secretary's pen, resign this beautiful country to the custody of the ignorant cowards and puritans who have ruled it for the last twenty five years? Why, humanity cries out against it. Civilization and Christianity protests against this reflux of the tide of barbarism and anarchy."

And again, "the aborigines of this country have not attempted and cannot attempt, to exist independently alongside of us. Providence has so ordained it; and it is folly not to recognize the fact. The Mexicans are aboriginal Indians, and they must share the destiny of their race."

The "destiny of the race" of "aboriginal Indians along side of us" has been extinction—rapid extinction—not subjection, as we all know. They never have submitted to become slaves. Is it then seriously contemplated that the seven millions of Mexican Indians shall not "exist independently along side of us"—and pronounced to be "a folly not to recognize the fact, that Providence has so ordained it?"

Numerous articles of the same import are gracing journals published in this free, this enlightened, this Christian country—this model republic?

Besides the tone of public journals, we have numerous letter from various directions, and especially from Americans with the army in Mexico, loudly calling upon government to hurry on to fulfil the manifest destiny of humbling and subduing the devoted race and of taking upon ourselves or rather of handing over to the tender mercies of the army, the fulfillment of the "purposes of Providence" in regard to these our next neighbors.

Added to the public journals and letter writers, we have speeches from eloquent orators and from men high in station and command—to the same purpose.

According to reported congressional proceedings of Wednesday, Senator Dickenson, in his speech advocating his own resolutions and the "annexation of all Mexico," which he considers a thing of fate, declared, as an evidence of the "inevitable destiny of the matter," that "had we never gone to war, Mexico would have become a portion of the great empire we have founded."

The most striking and direct to the purpose of those speeches that has fallen under our notice, we find in following extracts from a speech of Com. Stockton, delivered by him at the public dinner with which he was complimented at Philadelphia on the 30th ult. He regards the "destiny" which he thinks the people of this country are called upon to fulfil a solemn religious obligation, from which they may not shrink without having to answer not only to posterity, but to high heaven. [JNA]

NRR 73.336 January 22, 1848 sentiments expressed at Democratic supper at Washington (this article is extremely difficult to read on the microfilm)

At Jackson Hall, Washington City, took place on the evening of the 12th and was a splendid affair. Thomas Ritchie Esq. Presided supported on the rights by the Vice President of the US, Geo. M. Dallas Senators Dickerson and Cass, JE Dow esp. and where and in the left by Vice President C P SENGsACK Gen SHEILDS COL RICHARDSON of Ill. And the hon. CHARLES BROWN, and RICHARD BROADHEAD of PA, and the others. There were two hundred and fifty present, besides guest.

The company being seated, the presiding officer rose and in brief address, assigned the reason of his occupying the station that had been designed "it not an odder, certain a better solider in the cause, FRANCISC P. BLAIR" whose [ . . .
illegible . . . ] first [ . . . illegible . . . ] was occasioned by modest he regretted to learn since by indisposition. Somebody had to fulfil the [ . . . illegible . . . ], and Mr. R. was willing to the [ . . . illegible . . . ] to the cause."

The president then in a speech of some length, referred to the illustrious chief whose achievements [ . . . illegible . . . ] to commemorate, and from that topic [ . . . illegible . . . ] comment upon the condition of national affair and of party polices, ending up with a rally [ . . . illegible . . . ] party to stand together- union harmony [ . . . illegible . . . ] –everything to the cause and no [ . . . illegible . . . ] tight on in the full confidence of [ . . . illegible . . . ] but it deterred. [ . . . illegible . . . ]

"laid back [ . . . illegible . . . ], upon our ancient platform, rally around our republic in principles and fight the battle over again." He concluded by of it ring the following toast.:.... [LVW]

NNR 73.336 January 22, 1848 conflicting reports on the court of inquiry concerning the disputing officers in Mexico

GEN. SCOTT AND ARMY OFFICERS. If we may credit the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger, who is considered to be minute with the process of the cabinet there have been several changes in the decision of that body, with in a few days, in relation to the course to be pursed with the dispatching officers of the army in Mexico. Last week the writer alluded to stated in substance, that the cabinet had taken to the course I indicated in the letter which will be found on a preceding page, extracted from a letter of the Washington correspondents of the North American. Subsequently the Ledger (on the 18th) positioned a telegraph dispatch from the correspondents, saying:

"Gen. Townson has not left for Mexico. The difficulties in the army have been reconsidered in cabinet considered and General Scott has this day been suspended and ordered to Washington. Gen. Worth is released from arrest, by order of the president, and restored to his command as major general to the army"

The National Intelligencer of the 2oth, in contradiction of the above says "Last evening we learned authentically that Gen Towson, paymaster general, did set out on Monday night last to Mexico, where he is, in conjunction with Gen [ . . . illegible . . . ] and Col. Butler of the volunteer forces to form a court of inquiry or [ . . . illegible . . . ] by the President of the United States, on Gen. Scott.

The New York Courier says, that Col. Belknap, of the eighth infantry US army who has been on a brief visit to [ . . . illegible . . . ] in Newburg, N.Y. has been ordered back to Mexico to serve on the court of inquiry order to assemble at Perote. To investigate the charge against Gen. Pillow and Co [ . . . illegible . . . ] . [LVW]

NNR 73.337 January 29, 1848 Gen. Winfield Scott suspended from command of the Army in Mexico, a court of inquiry in his case to be held, Gen. William Jenkins Worth discharged from arrest, Gen. William Orlando Butler to command the Army

NNR 73.337 rumors prior to Gen. Winfield Scott's dismissal of his position with regard to the administration and that of Nicholas Philip Trist

DIPLOMATIC JOURNAL.

GENERAL SCOTT SUSPENDED. The thousand and one rumors that unhappy disputes amongst the officers of the army in Mexico have given rise to, as to the course determined upon by the cabinet, were all settled four the day, by the announcement of Gen. Cass, chairman of the committee on military affairs of the senate, who on Tuesday last in reply to questions put to him by Mr. Crittenden, stated, that orders had gone on for the suspension of Gen. Scott, from the command of the army, for the assembling of a court of inquiry in his case of Perote, and for the discharge of Gen. Worth from arrest. VOL. XXIII SIG 22.

Gen. Butler will be commander of the army.

On the 15th inst. The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger, wrote as follows:
"You will see by the last news from Mexico that Gen. Scott is faithfully carrying out the views of the administration, which are to obtain peace as quickly as possible by coercion, and not as Mr. Trist would imagine, by suing for it through an itinerant clerk in the state department. Mr. Trist has altogether transcended his orders, and it is probably for his reason that he is about to be dismissed from the state department, and Mr. Appleton, now chief clerk of the navy department, appointed in his place," &c.

The following paragraph in the same paper, was probably from the same pen.

"Gen. Scott- We learn from a respectfully source that Gen. Scott is not to be recalled as it is plain he carries out the views of the president. If he was to be recalled, it was for less for the quarrels of the generals than on account of his official correspondence with the war department. Now that he excludes orders there is no need for a change."

Amongst the rumors of the past week, one as given by a Washington letter writer, was that "In case the difficulties should increase on account of these feuds, it is said that General Scott, Worth, and Pillow, will be recalled and that a court martial will be held here, of which General Taylor will be president." [LVW]

NRR 73.337-338 January 29, 1848 rumors relative to the negotiation and signing of a treaty of peace with Mexico

Rumors relative to peace. The National Intelligencer of the 25th, under this head stated that, "There was a good deal of stir occasioned in the city yesterday, by sundry rumors received from the south by telegraphy, of a pacific turn to affairs in Mexico, even to an agreement to the basis of a treaty, on the conditions proposed last fall by Mr. Trist. The authority for the rumors was, however, too vague to inspire general confidence in it."

The next day the Intelligencer had following on the subject: "The rumors of peace, or rather of propositions for peace, which have floated in the atmosphere of our city for a day or tow past, yesterday assumed a more definite form. We ourselves receiver a letter from our respected correspondents at New Orleans, under date of the 16th instant, in which he says that he has received information from a source such as to leave little doubt on his mind of its correctness, that "Mr. Trist has signed a treaty, and that it will be received here (at New Orleans) by the next arrival."

Private letters from officers in Mexico mention rumors there which look to the result above indicated."

The Arco Iris, of the 7th Jan. published the following:

The treaty of the peace signed. - In a letter received by us yesterday from our correspondents at Jalapa, he informs us that an individual holdings a high position in the American Army, and whose assertions deserve entire credit, said publicly, and without the lease reserve, that from letters received from Jalapa from Puebla, on the 1st instant, it was positively known that a treaty of peace had been signed in Mexico. On being told that it was strange that this should be the case, as Mr. Trist had not power to give such treaty he answered that General Scott had taken it upon his own responsibility to sing the treaty; in consequences of which the treaty had been sent to Queretaro for the approbation of the Mexican government.

The Free American, putting no faith in the rumor goes on to reason on the subject as follows:

"It is very strange, indeed if this be true. Gen. Scott, if he is directed by his government not to be signing any treaty, would certainly not sign it. He is too well known for his obedience to superior orders to put himself in a post ion that his countrymen might not approve; he had to much at heart the friendlier feelings of those whom he serves.

The last annual message of the president assures us that Mr. Trist’s Power had been revoked, and that he was recalled. It is true that Mr. Trist has not yet left the city of Mexico; but this he may do to await further orders from his government relative to the propositions of peace lately made by the Mexican commissioner, to which he could certainly not have received any answer from Washington before the 1st of the
present month. The Mexicans could not have been in such a hurry to make the
peace, as they have always refused the proposition made by our envoy, and we are
certain that Gen. Scott is not so anxious for it as to grasp at the first shadow of an
opportunity. We wish to receive the news of peace from a better source before we
give credit to it."

The Washington Union thus speaks on the subject:

Washington is full of rumors about peace. But we cannot understand that any official
accounts have been received to justify these angina calculations.

The only thing which we have heard of any authentic character, is a letter from ma
distinguished officer, who writes from Vera Cruz, on the 3rd inst to a member of
congress reporting the arrival of the courier from the capital with rumors about
negotiations, and the option of the commander in chief that we should have peace at
no distant day.

We have no confirmation of these reports from official sources; though we should
not be surprised if Mr. Trist, without any instructions or authority, was receiving
proposals from the Mexican commissioners.

The tone of the foregoing paragraph would seem in some degree to countenance the
[acieration] of the Washington correspo9ndent of the Baltimore Patriot, who writes
on the 26th, that "The administration has sent some four or five special messengers,
with dispatches after Mr. Trist but they cannot find him or at all events they cannot
get him to come home."

The arrival at N. Orleans on the 18th, of the steamer N. Orleans, with Vera Cruz
dates on the 14th, without bringing any confirmation of the above rumors of peace
seems to terminate all hopes of there being any truth in the accounts. A letter from
an intelligent American at Vera Cruz, speaking of the news from the interior of
Mexico, says, "We find little said about a treaty of peace, but there were whispers at
Queretaro of an armistice of three months being on the tapis."

And yet the Washington correspondent of Baltimore Sun, who is well known to have
opportunities of acquiring information at headquarters writes:

Washington, Jan 26, 1848

"I have not time to write you a long letter, but will endeavor to make a few points.
First as to Mr. Trist, you may take it for granted, beyond cavil or dispute that Mr.
Trist has sent to Washington a project of treaty, (not treaty) and that the same has
been submitted to the president and discussed in cabinet council.

2nd. You may take it for granted that Mr. Trist had not direct and positive authority
to make a treaty, and that, consequently the whole thus far is a mere ex part
arrangement between Mr. Trist on one part, and Mexican commissioners, acting
without direct authority of congress, on the other.

3rd. That Mr. Trist and Gen. Scott co-operate with each other in these preliminary
arrangements; and that both are sanguine that a treaty on the basis contained in
the project may be ratified by the Mexican congress."

4th. That the administration will seriously consider the proposition, and that, in all
probabilities, the president will communicate it to both houses of congress.

The Mobile Register publishes a letter from a gentleman of high standing, dated Vera
Cruz, January 4, which says:-"An express got in yesterday from the city with the
dispatches from General Scott. The officer who brought them told me that seven
days since when he left every one in Mexico was talking of peace and that Gen. Scott
said to him that he did not doubt that we should have such a peace by April next as
would enable our government to withdraw the army. God grant it; but I do not think
so. We of the army are, I presume, at this time the most anxious advocates for
peace. The truth is, even the "Elephant" himself in disgust at being looking at for
such a length of time has left for parts unknown." [LVW]
Major Gen. Gains, reached Washington on the 17th instant from New York, where he is not stationed.

Brigadier General Pierce, reached Washington on the 16th instant, directed from the army in Mexico.

Maj. B. McCullough of the Texas Rangers, Capt. J. B. Magruder, and Capt. P. Kearny, (who has lost one arm in the war) have also reached Washington, as has also Major Bliss, assigned adjutant general, and chief of Gen. Taylor’s staff.

General Pillow, by an article in the American Star, published in the city of Mexico, denies all knowledge of the famous "Leonidas" letter, or of its author.

Troops for the war- The new packet ship Maid of Orleans was to sail from New York on Thursday last for Vera Cruz, with 400 US troops on board for the war in Mexico.

The fifth regiment of East Tennessee volunteers, numbering 684 privates, arrived at New Orleans on the 28th, and went on board the ships Tahmaroo and Mississippi, about to start for Vera Cruz.

Four companies of the Michigan volunteers (293 men) arrived at New Orleans on the 10th from Cincinnati, under the command of Col T B W Stockton, Capt. FW Curtennis, N Breasel, JS Rowland, and J Wittenmeyer.

Two more companies of the Michigan regiment, comprising of 251 men, under command of Maj. Buehl, arrived at New Orleans on the 11th instant, en route to Mexico.

The ninth regiment- A letter received by Ben. Wade, of Bangor, from his son who belongs to the 9th, which says that when they left Newport, R I, the regiment number 800 men, but that it has been reduced to 200..

The corps of sappers and miners- A correspondent of the Portland Advertiser, writing from Mexico, 24th November says: "the company now consists of less than their men on duty, out of seventy one that left West Point a year from last September. Three of that number have received a dishonorable discharge."

The Philadelphia Rangers one of the volunteer companies from Pennsylvania, now in Mexico, numbered on the 29th of October only 15 men. When they left Pittsburgh for the seat of war they munster 96 men. [JNA]

Honors- The senate of Pennsylvania has unanimously passed resolutions of thanks to General Scott and the army in Mexico; and a resolution directing the presentation of swords to Gens. Cadwallder and Patterson.

The New York papers contain descriptions of two magnificent gold mounted swords manufactured in that city. One of them was ordered by the common councils and citizens of Troy as a present to the General Wool; and the other is intended as a present from the citizens of Hudson and Kinderhook to Gen. Worth. The former cost $1000 and the latter $500. [LVW]
The senate. Thomas Hughes was elected president JB Russell clerk, and Mr. Rockwell assistant clerk. (all adm)

The house elected Gen. JB Brown (whig) clerk JS Palmer (adm) assistant clerk. Hawkins Taylor (whig) sergeant at arms Mr. Hedrick messenger.

Mr. Reynolds was the only member that was not in his seat on organizing the house.

A resolution was adopted appointing a committee to investigate the right of Mr. Kinsman to the seat he occupied. Other cases, it is probable, will be referred to the same committee.

The "democrats" have a majority of four in the senate, and the whigs had a majority of two in the house, when organized.

The administration party were confident that the result of the special election in Lee country would give them a majority in the house, and are uncertain of succeeding in electing US senators.

The democratic state convention was to assemble on the 8th January.

A whig state convention assembled on Iowa city on the 6th January. MD Browning of Burlington presided The convention was named as

Delegates to the wig national presidential convention Gen RP Low JW Grimes AB Porter and Jas McManus. They also appointed four substitute delegates.

A resolution was passed instructing the delegates to express a preference for Gen. Taylor as the presidential candidate. HW Starr, of Burlington, delivered a brilliant speech on the Texans question.

Resolutions were also passed condemning the present administration, the sub-treasury, tariff of '46, &c. [LVW]

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NRR 73.339-340 January 29, 1848 a Mexican letter on excesses of the Americans

ARMY OF INVASION

The American Star, published in Mexico, translates the following passage of a letter written In the city of Mexico, and published in the Republicano of the 16th of December.

"The American who have been expected have arrived after committing a thousand excesses in every place through which they have passed. In this city they have occupied by force the Covent de las Viscaines, and the houses of Echeverria and Teran, who they say are agents of the government. A body of Texans have arrived who flattered with the idea of avenging their brethren killed in 1836, are committing all kinds of evils and excess. This is no longer to be feared for that would be far better to have a legion of demons here than these criminal ferocious and atrocious men. For myself I intend to leave immediately with my father to go and live in the woods for it is much preferable living with wild beasts than with such fellows. The tiger Scott oppresses the proprietors because he supposes they will be influenced in bringing about a peace. I have neither time more temper to tell you that all illus...

[LVW]

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NRR 73.340 Jan. 29, 1848 Proceedings at Queretaro, a guerrilla affair

GUERRILLA AFFAIR. On the 3d January Colonel Miles left Vera Cruz with a large train, for the city of Mexico.

The Vera Cruz American of the 5th, says, for some cause, not understood here, a portion of the train was unable to leave their encampment near this city until this morning. In dragging through the heavy sand the train and pack mules, of which there was a large number, became much scattered, so that the rear guard, which
consisted of Capt. Ruff’s company of the regiment of mounted riflemen, under the 
command of 1st Lt. Walker, was thrown nearly seven miles in the rear of the main 
body of the wagon train. About 9 o’clock work was sent back that a guerrilla party 
at Santa Fe had captured some of the packs scattered along the road. Lt. Walker, 
leaving ten riflemen, with some wagons which had not been able to keep up, 
immediately moved up to Santa Fe, where he found the guerrillas drawn up. One 
statement makes them 400 string, another 250. They were immediately charged by 
the riflemen, and without attempting to stand or resist, they scattered keeping up a 
random and destructive fire upon Lt. Walker’s little party of 30 men; who, finding it 
impossible to send forward to the advance, sent a messenger to this city stating 
nearly as above. Subsequent messengers, two or three of whom are men of the 
company, and who were in the fight, state that Ruff’s company had been surrounded 
and nearly every man cut off; that Lt. Walker had been killed, and that some sixty 
mules had been driven off by the guerrillas. Another, who left still later, contradicts 
the death of Lt. Walker, but states clearly and positively that he was ordered in by 
Lt. W. to report to Gen. Twiggs--that the lieutenant had posted the company, or 
what remained of them, in a ravine, from which they continued to keep up a most 
destructive fire upon the Mexican lancers. A company of 1st dragoons, Lt. 
Gardiner’s, has been sent out, and also a mounted company of Louisiana volunteers.

Seven o’clock, P.M. A few soldiers just arrived from Santa Fe with dispatches to 
Gen. Twiggs.--Some of them report that an engagement had taken place between 
the guerrillas and Lieut. Walker, in which the former lost some 25 men, and the 
latter 5 men killed and wounded. One of the men who came says that there was 
only one American killed.

Further from Lt. Walker’s command--By express.--Just as we were going to press we 
received the following letter, written after the engagement:

Santa Fe, jan. 4--9 o’clock.

Here we are--we have lost about 300 pack mules--one hundred thousand dollars 
worth of property!

The guerrillas attacked us about 4 o’clock; we have lost about ten men out of thirty 
under Lieut. Walker, of the rifles. He was obliged to dismount his men in an open 
prairie, for at the first fire 17 horses broke from under their riders. Thirty men were 
not enough to protect a million worth of property.

We understand that some of the merchants who suffered from this loss of the mules 
taken by the robbers left the city for Orizaba, or Cordova, (we suppose) to enter into 
an arrangement with them.--We wish them success.

The steamer New Orleans, which reached New Orleans on the 18th, with Vera Cruz 
dates to the 14th January, brings further particulars.

The account says that the portion of the train cut off had incautiously lagged 
behind. Col. Miles could not wait for them to come up, but left a guard of 25 men 
behind, which was totally inadequate against the sudden onset of 400 guerrillas. 
The loss may have been exaggerated, and it will, moreover, fall principally upon 
foreign merchants, to whom the pack mules stolen belonged. One house is said to 
have lost property worth $54,000, and English firm. The French and Spanish 
merchants robbed were able to obtain the restoration of their goods by paying 
smartly, but no compromise could be made by English and American 
merchants. Their reliance now is upon Gen. Twiggs, who is expected to assess upon 
the district of Orizaba, whence the brigands came, the amount lost. In the skirmish 
it is supposed that three or four men of the mounted rifles were killed, and eight or 
ten of the Mexican muleteers. [JNA] 

NRR 73.340-341 January 29, 1848 Gen. Winfield Scott’s orders no. 395, levying 
contributions on Mexican states

General Orders No, 395

To support in part the military occupation of the Republic of Mexico by the army of 
the United States, the several States of the republic, already occupied and others as 
they shall become occupied are, or will be assessed by the year in dollars
This assessment is the quadruple of the direct taxes paid by the several states to their lateral government in the year 1843 or 1844. But, on the other hand all transit duties, heretofore payable at gates of cities and on passing the lines between states, have been abolished together with national lotteries. The tobacco monopoly will be abolished from and after the present year. The cultivation and the sale of that plant shall here after be free- save any duty that the US may have imposed or shall hereafter impose on the import of tobacco though the customs houses at Mexican ports occupied by this army,

The governors and members of the legislatures in different stats, and the collecting officers now in commission and theretofore charged with the collection of the federal dues of any kind, will be individually held responsible in their persons and property for the collecting and full payment of this assessment of the twelfth monthly at the usual state capitals respectively or other places or places within the same, as maybe by appointed by the US commander within each state.

The assessment on each state that may hereafter [ . . . illegible . . . ]...the first day of the month within which the occupation may take place in wonder to avoid all calculations founded on days less than a money. Hence no credit will be allowed a state for any payment previously made to the federal governed, or its officers, for nay part of a month within which the state shall have been occupied by the American forces. In the sate already so occupied the assessments will be considered as having commenced with the present month, and be demanded accordingly.

In payment of the money assessment any state may substitute at a fair valuation with the consent of the US commanding earlier therein such articles of subsistence and for are as many may be found convenient to the two parties.

On the failure of any state to pay its assessment of [ . . . illegible . . . ]...and their property seized registered reported and converted to the use of occupation in strict accordance to the general regulations of this army. No [ . . . illegible . . . ] or abdication of office by any of the said Mexican [ . . . illegible . . . ] obligations or beastliest.

If the forgoing measures should fall to enforce the regular payment, as above from any state the commanding officer of the US forces with the same will immediately proceed to collect in money or kind form the earthier inhabitants other than [ . . . illegible . . . ] friends within his reach the amount of assessment due fro the state taking care always to make the collection as equitable as saving as practicable and to report the [ . . . illegible . . . ] officer this army. Any waste of wanton injury committed in these operations, as well as fraud and corruption shall be vigorously prosecuted before a tribal of the army.

With a view to a vigorous accountability to receipts in payment of assessments wither in a [ . . . illegible . . . ].....or in kind will be assigned by some quartermaster commissary or payment of this army, named by the commanding officer within a state and be duly assisted by the latter, who will also keep a register of all such payments. The amount of those payments and of forced levees will be reported only to general headquarters, as well as to Washington [ . . . illegible . . . ]... both b the receivers and the atesting and commanding officers within the several states

The usual dues heretofore levied on the precious metals in the interior by the federal government of Mexico will be continued and collected of the military chest of this army. Commanding officers [ . . . illegible . . . ] will inquire and report to general headquarters on the subject; but until further orders the following tale will be exacted.

On production of both gold and silver three percent; on melting [ . . . illegible . . . ]... the mark of the ounces, on assaying, $1 the bar for bars of silver at $150 each for bars of gold pr of gold and silver mixed, and on coinage the percentages on both metals heretofore paid by the rains respectively; according to contract with the Mexican government. Those contracts in every case will be particularly examined. The one real per mark on both gold and silver, heretofore paid to the college of [ . . . illegible . . . ]...societies institutions, and may collect as usual.

It is understood that the collection of the dues on production, melting and assaying may b made at the assay offices, and they will be demanded and received accordingly. The tree per centage on cowage will be collected for this army at the main. At both places officers of intelligence and accordance habits of inspection will be appointed from time to time to giver the necessary attendance.
respect to dues on the precious metals as are prescribed in respect to dues on the precious metals as are prescribed above for other contribution in money or in kind, and the former will continue also at the same period and under take circumstances that is in the Mexican states already occupied by the American forces from the first instant and in other states from the beginning of the months within which the states shall be prospectively entered and occupied.

The American troops in spreading themselves over this republic will take care to observe the strictest disciplining and morals in respect to the persons and property of the country- purchasing and paying for all necessaries and comports they may require and treating the unoffending inhabitants with forbearance and kindness. The high honor of our country as well as the particular honor of this army, must and shall be maintained amongst the few instances in our ranks. The [. . . illegible . . . ]...be permitted to dishonor the whole mass of our citizens and soldiers at home and abroad. The miscreants must therefore be watched, and for every good officer denounce and sent before the proper tribunals for exemplary punishment. This required of every good officer and soldier. Men [. . . illegible . . . ]... maintain the honor of freemen when abroad. If they forget that they will degrade themselves to the level of felons and slaves, and may be rightfully condemned and treated as such for felons according to the laws of God and man, are slaves.

The laws of war will also be strictly observed towards all Mexicans in arms who respect those laws. For the treatment of these atrocious bands of guerilleros and armed rancheros, see general order No. 327, dated the 12th inst.

By command of Maj. Gen. Scott
HL SCOTT AAA G

[NIV]

NNR 73.341 Jan. 29, 1848 Guerrilla attacks in Lower California

Lower California. Advices from Mazatlan have been received to the 30th ult. The guerrillas under Mijates, made an attack upon the Cape, (Lower California,) and were completely routed--Majares and many other Mexicans being killed. Pa Paz, further north in the Peninsula, was also the scene of a sanguinary conflict between the guerrillas, under Captain Peneda, and the Americans. The place was reduced to ashes by the fire that took place between the combatants. The Mexicans were finally compelled to retire. There are rumors of other engagements, but nothing to be relied on.

The reported deaths of Mr. Cloud, paymaster, and Lieut. Miner, of the U.S. artillery, are confirmed. [JNA]

NNR 73.341 January 29, 1848 orders licensing gaming houses, &c.

Office of civil and military governor,
National palace, December 20, 1847

On and after the first day of January, 1848, three gaming houses will be licensed and recognized as lawful in the city of Mexico. Each of these will pay in advance, a monthly tax of $500, and all other gamin houses are positively prohibited.

After the specified date all personal property found in any house or place in which public gaming without license, is detected, and all money and property employed in such unlicensed public gaming house will be confiscated and the persons so detected will be subject to imprisonment for thirty days, and to be fined according to circumstances from fifty to two hundred dollars. By the governor

RP HAMMOND Sec'y, &c.

[NIV]
Army of Occupation

Brazos Santiago dates of Jan. 11, afford no recent intelligence from Monterey.

Col. Davenport left Matamoras on the 8th instant for the mouth of the river Brazos Santiago, on a tour of inspections.

The $90,000 in species which recently arrived at the Brazos, from Camargo was consigned to the SC Haiz II. U S consul. The duties amounted to $7,000 and the American collector was willing to receive a written promise from the consigned pledging himself to pay this sum on the demand. This the consigned would not consent to nor would be given information who where he had pleased the specie. Mr. Chapman, the collector then forced Mr. H' doors, found the silver and placed [ . . . illegible . . . ] ever it, which were not to be withdrawn until the duty was paid.

Notice had been given by a number of Americans that a meeting of the friends of education would be held at Matamoros, and the Mexicans were invited to attend, and take the lead in the arrangements.

Lower California. Avarices from Mazatlan have been received to the 30th ult. The guerrillas under Mijates made an attack upon the Cape, and were completely [ . . . illegible . . . ] (routed)- Mijates and many other Mexicans being killed. La Paz, further north in the Peninsula, was also the scene of a sanguinary conflict between the guerrillas, under Captain Peneda, and the Americans. The place between the combatants. The Mexicans were finally compelled to retire. There are rumors of other engagements, but nothing to be returned on.

The reported deaths of Mr. Cloud, paymaster, and Lieut. Miner, of the US artillery, are confirmed. [LVW]

Rumors had revealed Vera Cruz [ . . . illegible . . . ] last dates from thence, that a treaty had been concluded between Mr. Trist, and the Mexican commissioners. Vera Cruz papers placed no reliance upon the report but private letters from the city of Mexico have been received which contented such a result. Reports were current in Washington other beginning of this week, which looked to such an event. On Wednesday the National Intelligencer announced that they had themselves received a letter from their correspondent at New Orleans, dated the 16th inst. Giving information which he said was received from such a source as to leave little doubt on his mind if its correctness, that Mr. Trist has signed a treaty, and that it will be received here (N. Orleans) by the next arrival.[LVW]

Letters for the army and navy.- The postmaster general has decided that letters to the officers and seamen of the navy, as well as of the army in Mexico, and on the Mexican coast or the frontier are free of postage, under the law of the last session. [LVW]

Gen. Cushing's brigade comprising of the 1st and 28th Pennsylvania regiments, New York, South Carolina and Massachusetts [ . . . illegible . . . ] were sent to San Angel. [LVW]
NNR 73.352 January 29, 1848 detachment under Col. Jones Mitchell Withers sent to collect revenue in the mining district

A small command had been dispatched from the city of Mexico, composed primarily of the 9th infantry under Col Withers, for the [ . . . illegible . . . ] district of the Real del Monte, on the road of inwards Tampico, for the purpose of [ . . . illegible . . . ] the revenues [ . . . illegible . . . ]...Another was expected in a few days for Toluca, the capital of the state of Mexico. [LVW]

NNR 73.353 February 5, 1848 insistence of California on being acquired by the United States

CALIFORNIA.- The N. York Journal of Commerce has a letter from Monterey, under date of Oct. 10, which says-

The advance party of the emigrant column for this season, is already in California. We have ceased counting their wagons-and as for the emigrants, you might was well attempt to number the trees which wave over them. These emigrants would have settled the fare of California without any declaration of war with Mexico. They might perhaps have had a little fighting here between themselves and the natives, but their triumphs was sure, not only in their courage and skill, but in heir overpowering numbers.

Some of your politicians talk of giving up California. Why you can no more giver her up, than you can the soil on which you tread. You may say she shall go back to Mexico, but we won’ t go there; she will be a territory, and then a state of the American Confederacy, and nothing else. We don’t care a fig how you figure it out on your political maps; we have figured it out for ourselves and our work will stand, whatever may become yours. [LVW]

NNR 73.354 February 5, 1848 Charleston "Mercury" on relations with Mexico

Our Mexican Relations- The Charleston Courier published a communication of considerable length signed, "Lorondes." The writer, probably General Waddy Thompson or Mr. Poinsett coincides mail with the views of Mr. Calhoun, as recently set forth in the senate. The subjugation quotation must limit our extracts for the present.

"It has been said that in offering his resolutions recently in the senate, deciding it inexpedient to subjugate and hold Mexico, Mr. Calhoun is denouncing a purpose which no one entertains. It is strange that this should be said, when most of the leading democratic papers openly advocate that policy and the official organ itself does not disclaim it. I should not be surprised before the expiration of three months to see those who doubt its expediency denounced as guilty of moral treason. He must be blind to the signs of the times, and greatly ignorance of the progress of popular opinion, and the tendency of measures now in progress, who does no see that "to the completion it must come at last." For what other purpose is the large additional force required? Less than ten thousand men have achieved the conquest and occupation of the capital- we have been told, over and over again, that the occupation of the capital would be followed by a [ . . . illegible . . . ] for peace. In less that three months from that ever an before its efficacy has been tested, and led is maid for more troops- surely a force of more than 30,000men which is not here is sufficient to retain the possession of the capital, and all the country to Vera Cruz, if then thousand could conquer it. More especially now, when the Mexican army has not only been dispersed by annihilated and nearly all their arms and mutations taken in them- why send so large an additional force, for any other purpose that additional and permanent conquest? We have no reason to suppose that it will have any great indulgence in conquering a peace- we have already possession of the half of the republic and its capital- of several departments on the northern frontier- of California, and most of the ports and to us on the Pacific. If these conquests have wholly failed of the end desires, the anticipated uncertain efforts of further conquests can scarcely be worth the blood and treasure which they will cost. Besides the dishonest of repeated and humiliating details in sight of their capital, it is difficult to point out any very substantial injury which has been caused to Mexico by our occupation of the country. As to security of persons an property, she has not known so good, and so little is to be hoped, understand to be continue to be. The people
A LETTER FROM THE HON. JOHN MCLEAN.

The following letter was written to a gentleman in the state, and has been furnished us for publication. The opinions of our distinguished men, upon the war and the means of ending it should be known, Judge McLean occupied a high official position, and had been named and has many friends in the social states for the presidency.

[Cincinnati Gazette]

My dear sir: To all human appearance the termination of this miserable war with Mexico is more remote than when the first blow was struck. In my judgment it was unnecessarily and unconstitutional commenced by marching our army into disputed territory in the possession of Mexico; and I think that congress, who may questionable have the power, should be put an end to the war on just and honorable possibilities.

After agreeing upon thee terms on which a territory should be made, they should call upon the Mexican resolution to offer a peace to Mexico upon that suspended. If the president shall refuse to do the military appropriation bill the army should be conquered to take such positions as shall carry on the views of congress. These bills will presented and veto, and he would be bound by their inquires. This may be done by the house.

I hope congress will refuse to issue any more treasury notes. The notes demanded in addition to those already in circulation would flood the country with that description of paper. Such an emission would constitute a government bank, controlled and managed by a part of a party administration. We have new authority to issue five million notes more. I would not increase this circulation, a dollar but reduce it as much as possible. Such a system would be [...] and the public liberty than any other system of baking that could be devised.

To meet any deficiency of the revenue to pay the current expense of the war, I would authorize a loan for part of pay not more than six percent means of loans cannot be made at this relate, let the administration resort to a system of taxation. Noting short of this can show in addition to the sacrifice of life, what we pay for military glory. This was policy in the better day s of the republic.

The late war with England was nobly sustained by the people, not only in the field out by the payment of taxes. And they will sustain every just war which our country shall be involved. But I risk to think in saying that an attempt to adopt such a system of taxation would wind up this Mexican war to sixty days. And this shows that the war should be put an end to. This may be done by congress in ninety days, and I pray God that they may do it.

Very truly, yours,
JOHN MCLEAN

[NVR]
The Senate – Lipencomb, of Lowndes, was chosen president, Mr. Dezier, secretary.

The House – J.J. McRead, of Clarke county, was elected speaker and E. P. Russell, clerk.

Governor Brown’s annual message, [ ... illegible ... ] the recommendations of his former message in relation to the payment of Planters’ bank bonds.

Finances – Relative to the current condition of the financial affairs of the state the governor says: - "The treasury, having recovered from its embarrassments, has continued for two years past, without intermission, to pay all authorized demands upon it, and now contains a surplus of $115,755.41, exclusive of the two and three percent funds."

Federal relations – On the subject of the acquisition of territory he takes the anti-Wilmot proviso ground. [LVW]

NNR 73.357 February 5, 1848 order No. 373 re-organizing part of the Army in Mexico

Army of Occupation

General orders, No 373- Reorganization of this division of the army.


Brig. Gen. Cadwallader’s brigade- Capt. Deas. Assistant adjusted general; 4h artillery, 1at, 6th, 8th, 9th, and 11th regiments of infantry.

Bvt. Col Riley’s brigade- Capt Canby assistant adjutant general; 2nd regiment artillery, 2nd 4th and 5th regiments of infantry and voltigeur regiment.

The field batteries of Capt. Taylor, Dr. French, and Dr. Hung, will report and serve in the brigades as above seated.

Capts. Mackall and Hooker, assistant adjutant Generals, will report respectively to Maj Gen Patterson, and Brig. Gen. Scott

HL SCOTT, AAGS
[LVW]

NNR 73.357 February 5, 1848 order respecting licenses for selling tobacco, cigars, and playing cards

LICENCES.

Headquarters, Department of Vera Cruz
December 28, 1847.

Sealed proposals will be received at this office up to 2 o’clock on the 1st of January, 1848, for the contract, to the highest bidder, for the privilege of selling tobacco and cigars, and also the manufacture of playing cards for the moths of January, February, and March next.

By orders of Brig. Gen. Twiggs

WSH BROOKS AAAG.
[LVW]

NNR 73.357 Feb. 5, 1848 order no. 3 on a train for Mexico City
TRAIN FOR MEXICO

All persons not connected with the army (not including suters, but exclusive of persons referred to in the 2nd party of his orders,) desirous of placing themselves under the protection of the troops that will leave here with a train in a few days for the city of Mexico, must furnish their own transportation and subsistence, and report themselves to Capt. Gleason, for assignment to a place in the line of march, and obey such orders and regulations as may be authorized to give.

Merchants desirous of sending up to the city of Mexico wagons or pack mules, will immediately report to the lieutenant colonel commanding, the number of each, in order that he may assign to them a position in the line, and also appoint a conductor to take charge of the game.

It is recommended that the merchants appoint this conductor he reporting to the commanding officer for special instructions.

By order of Lieut. Col. Milers:
WL CRITTENDEN. 2nd Lieut.
1st inf. AA Adj General.

Lit. McDonald, of the 3rd artillery; Lit. Catinet, assistant quartermasters, and Mr. Rivers, interpreter, with a small part, left Puebla for Jalapa on the 17th ult. having a considerable sum of money in their charge. They were attacked on that night by some fourteen robbers, but although the three named were the only persons of the party who had arms, they defeated the landornes, and arrived safe at their destination. [LVW]

Feb. 5, 1848 Surgeon Alexander F. Suter’s obituary

Assistant surgeon Suter, U.S.A., died at the city of Mexico on the 15th inst., very justly and highly appreciated as a surgeon and gentleman. All honors were paid his memory by his brother officers.

[Amer. Star, Dec. 13] [JNA]

February 5, 1848 dinner to Lt. Col. Dixon Stansbury Miles, Gen. David Emanuel Twiggs' toast

Col, Miles- A public dinner was given to col Miles prior to his having Vera Cruz for the interior.

General Twiggs toast- At dinner given to Col. Miles the following toast was given by General Twiggs:

"Honor to the citizen soldier, who steps forward to battle for his country! Shame to the knaves at home who give and comfort to our enemies."

A question arises whether this hit was aimed at President Polk, or at those of the people of the US that have ventured to utter doubts of the property of the present war- whichever the shaft may have been armed at, the sentiment from an officer in their service, was insulting in the highest degree.

Padre Caledonio Domeco Jarauta and Col. Jones Mitchell Withers

We being to suspect that Gen. Patterson hurt the feelings of their reverend caption of guerrilleros, when he refused to make a treaty with him accepting his submission on some fanciful terms dictated by the padre's caution or high sense of honor. It is news to hear of him in arms again at the head of eight hundred men, in the valley of
Mexico and evening carrying his reconnaissance in person up to the gates of Guadalupe, almost a suburb of the capital. His presence there at the head of such a force his jaunt almost to headquarters, as in defiance and derision of the American army betoken the audacity and perhaps something more when we connect his movements with those Col. Withers and the rumors that prevailed in Mexico of disasters having appended to this detachment. - Col. Withers command left Mexico on the evening of the 26th December. Real del Monte lies northeast from Mexico on the Tampico road distant by a direct route only about forty-five miles, but by the ordinary road between sixty and seventy. We are told that on the 27th, Jarauta slept on San Juan de Teotihuacan, and on the 28th rode to Guadalupe, with an escort of only fifteen men, and thence continued on to Tlanepantla, on the Queretaro road.

New Teotihuacan— to shorten the name— is also northeast of Mexico but east of the Tampico or Real del Monte road which road, however is pursued from Mexico to San Cristobal by travelers going to Teotihuacan. San Cristobal is on the neck between the two lakes of Tezcuco and San Cristobal, and about twenty miles west of Teotihuacan. The rumor in Mexico was that Col. Withes command had been cut to pieces about 20 miles distant from Mexico, that is some five miles beyond San Cristobal, and as he started out on the evening of the 26th he may have made the twenty miles the next day. One the following day, the 28th Jarauta must have passed San Cristobal closed on his rear, and he must have been in a position to observe the colonel's march the preceding day from Teotihuacan.

From these facts several questions arise— Could Col. Withers have been so near to Jarauta, without knowing it? Would he have suffered such a force as threatening his flank or to get to San Cristobal on his ear? Would he not have taken steps immediate to rout and disperse it? Or finally supposing him ignorant of Jarauta's presence, pursing his way toward the miners is it not most probable that Jarauta, with his eight hundred men would rather have followed him dogged his march in the hope of finding some unguarded money to attach him with advantage than to ride in idle bravado towards the capital?

It does not seem easy to solve these riddles or explain the mystic and highly probable rumor of Wither's defeat. Only hypotheses we can venture on is to suppose that Jarauta did attack Withers or what is more likely was a sudden attack himself and his escort of fifteen cut off from the retreat to Teotihuacan, and obliged to escape by taking the former route to Mexico. It is certainly no the last obvious question if Jakarta had eight hundred followers at Teotihuacan, how did he happen to be rambling to Tanepantil west of the north task so far from his command. [N. American] [LVW]

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**NNR 73.357 February 5, 1848 California tranquil, rumors of Mexicans across the border**

**NNR 73.357-73.358 naval expedition to capture the western Mexican ports**

**Monterey, California, October 4th, 1847**

The affairs of California continue tranquil. Now and then a report reaches us of Mexicans having crossed the southern line of the territory; but these are idle rumors. The Mexicans have enough to do at home. We apprehend no outbreak here, the sober portion of the community would regard such a step as one of frantic folly; and even that restless class which is found in every country would shrink from the idea of its fearful issue.

The wild Indians give us some trouble. They come down from the Tulares, steal our houses and drive them into the mountains, where they kill and eat them. The prefer horse flesh to the finest [. . . illegible . . .]. We want in California for a few years some four hundred men, well mounted. They would repress any possible tumult, and protect property in the settlements from the depredation of the wild Indians. You send us out huge guns, which are of no more use than so many hollow trees. No instruments of war is of use here, unless it is invented with locomotive qualities.

The **Congress, Portsmouth, and Dale**, are on the Mexican coast. The **Preble** leaves tomorrow for Panama, where she is to receive Commodore Jones, and then return here. Commodore Shubrick goes at once with the Independence and **Cyane** to join the **Congress** and **Portsmouth**, and will then capture Mazatlan, San Blas, Guaymas and Acapulco. It is likely there may be hard knocks at the latter place; indeed, nothing could prevent this but the fact that a considerable portion of the troops have been sent to the city of Mexico. The commodore, I believe, intends to garrison Mazatlan. This is by far the most important point on the Pacific. What a stride four
our arms from the Atlantic to the Pacific—what treasures and blood it has cast. Now is the end yet. Think not of [illegible...]; it is an idle dream. There is no discharge in this war. There is no settled government or permanent party with which to make a peace. The leaders are all military chieftains, whose ascendancy depends on the continuance of hostilities. Peace would deprive them of their commands and of the subsistence.

Harvest this year are very abundant in California; wheat in the kernel is low, and the grinding commonly high. We want mills. Fortunes might be made by them here. The mustard however, but for by steam for we have but few water falls except in the north. We want also steam sawmills. We have fine forest trees for lumber and yet boards are fifty dollars a thousand and difficult to get at that much of the sawing is done by hand. Send us out a dozen good saw mills and men to manage them.

The Rev. Walter Colton is still with us exercising the functions of accolade. This gentleman has so far gained the confidence and esteem of the inhabitants that as soon as they heard he made application to be relieved from his accolade ship, the whole town of Monterey raised their voices demanding his reelection or appointment, when was accorded to the, and Mr. Colton has agreed to stay with us until the congress said for home.

Should Mr. Colton leave California before the war is over, we should be in but a sorry plight in Monterey. It will never due to let an ignorant man hold the accolade's staff in Monterey, after Mr. Colton—The lawyers now here would eat up both accolade and client. WG [Cor. N. American and US Gazette] [LVW]

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NNR 73.369 February 12, 1848 Gen. Franklin Pierce’s compliment to the officers of West Point

WEST POINT VINDICATED—In some remarks made in reply to a complimentary address at Concord, New Hampshire, on the 27th ultimo, General Pierce paid the following very explicit and manly tribute to the eminent utility of the Military Academy at West Point:

"Gen. Pierce proceeded to say he had to retract opinions he had formerly entertained and expressed in relation to the Military Academy at West Point. He was now of opinion that the city of Mexico could not have been entered in the way it was but for the officers of the old army, mostly from West Point. Services were rendered by the officers of the topographical engineers and ordnance, which could not have been rendered but by men who had received the most complete military education. The force of the Americans had been overrated. Over 7,500 effective men left Puebla to attack a city of 250,000 inhabitants, defended by 35,000 of the best troupes ever raised in Mexico, one hundred pieces of cannon, and the finest fortifications ever raised, in addition to the natural defenses of marshes and lakes." [LVW]

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NNR 73.370-371 February 12, 1848 rejection of a direct tax to finance the war with Mexico, comment on Whig reluctance to vote for the loan

[Transcriber’s note: A section of this article is missing, but most words are deciphered. Some misinterpretations may prevail.]

UNITED STATES FINCACES. In references to the vies of the authorities upon this highly important [illegible...], Washington Union for the 4th says, under [illegible...]

The new pretence—Direct Taxation. The clear as the [illegible...]...yesterday in disclaiming against directed taxation as mode of sustain the war. Who proposes any such thing? Certainly not the administration [illegible...]. They have presented their plan of financial and frankly assumed the responsibility by the of and success, ill adopted and of their approval by the people. The plan endorses a particular form of loan a temporary war of tax on [illegible...] and [illegible...], and wish regulation of their price of the people. In its main [illegible...], has already been tried with complete and unprecedented success. The form of loan proposed placed at the last session of congress, more than fifty million of capital at the disposal of the government above par. Presented in a time of war it lifted the cried of the treasury higher perhaps than it ever stood before even
in them of peace. [ . . . illegible . . . ] crated not the slight at embarrassment in the 
money wanted, on the most favorable terms, and it sent [ . . . illegible . . . ] . . . . It 
gave the treasury at once all the money it wanted on the most [ . . . illegible . . . ], 
away unaccepted. The government asks authorities to make a similar loan now for a 
similar purpose. The comment of ways and mean instead of granting the loan or 
recommending the small temporary duty [ . . . illegible . . . ] and tea and coffee, 
refuse both; present to the government a bill authorizing the issue of a naked six 
cent, such and then its entrapment gets up full of zeal to [ . . . illegible . . . ] direct 
taxation!

In this state of facts the case is plain. If the whigs [ . . . illegible . . . ] the house 
wish to finish supplies to the treasure [ . . . illegible . . . ] the country in the war 
they know how to do it- How to do it without embarrassment to the money [ . . . 
illegible . . . ] without burdensome taxation upon the people [ . . . illegible . . . ] out 
the slightest disparagement of the public credit [ . . . illegible . . . ] they no mean to 
furnish the supplies they mean to break down the war, and with tit break down their 
rights of character of the country, by their holding money from the government-
they lent them say soon openly and strictly. The ms do this sooner or later. So [ . . . 
illegible . . . ] [ . . . illegible . . . ] will on leave them from [ . . . illegible . . . ] war. And that the chapter 
of accidents they are [ . . . illegible . . . ] vote. He government the facilities which it 
asks and deems required for the supply of the treasury and the [ . . . illegible . . . ] of 
the public credit in view of the expenditures necessary to save the illustate of our 
army from [ . . . illegible . . . ] and the cause of our country against her enemy [ . . . 
illegible . . . ] failure and same?

They can by their votes answer the question [ . . . illegible . . . ] the negative, and 
then face their constituents on the responsibility upon the nomination and those 
[ . . . illegible . . . ] support it by passing this measure which the administration 
has already tried successfully and now [ . . . illegible . . . ] voting they take the 
responsibility away from the administration ,and assume it for themselves. In the 
[ . . . illegible . . . ] they will stain responsibility of it before the people. [ . . . 
illegible . . . ] the treasury is embarrassed, or the money market [ . . . illegible . . . ] 
...........The people will be tricked into a position of national failure and 
embarrassment it an discredit and dishonor- and they will see through the trick!

We put these vies on record now, because me men refer to them again, and keep 
them before the people. We warn the people that opinions whispers are already 
beginning to be heard among the whig leaders at Washington, to the effect that it 
will revere do it blew of the party [ . . . illegible . . . ]...loan measures, [ . . . 
illegible . . . ]...recommended by the [ . . . illegible . . . ]. That measure it is said in 
high who [ . . . illegible . . . ] ...of the country and far to favorable for the 
government to meet the views of our people [ . . . illegible . . . ]... Hence it is that 
the government plan of a loan is thus aside in committee to make way of the issue 
of once six per cent stock . hence it is that a monetary cry is up. Hence it is that the 
do-nothing policy reported on a larger scale, and ore than eight weeks to refer the 
president’s annual message. And once it is that the chairman of the committee of 
way and means gets up to thunder in the house against the react taxation which no 
one on behave o the administration has even suggested.

But none of these pretenses will avail the whigs before the country. The must meet 
the supply question boldly they must bear the mark. If they mean on principle and 
openly to refuse money of the war let them stand they can on that position before 
the people! But if indirection and [ . . . illegible . . . ] – by shame measures or half 
measures. Looking at once to the embarrassment of the treasury and of the country-
they mean to prevail the measures of the war and prolong it nuances we pledge 
ourselves that on our part at least no effort shall be [ . . . illegible . . . ] to put their 
factories ours in [ . . . illegible . . . ] like be [ . . . illegible . . . ] and we invite our 
brethren of the democratic press through the country to co-operate with in our work 
of just and [ . . . illegible . . . ] exposure. [LVW]

NNR 73.371 February 12, 1848 "moral treason"

[Transcriber’s Note: A section of this article is missing but most words are 
deciphered. Some misinterpretations may have occurred.]

The Union said boldly, (he might use a stranger phrase) that the opposing were 
impossible" words like these feel from the lips of the celebrated Mr. John Bell, a 
senator from Tennessee, in which is speech of yesterday. We repeat it boldly, and 
before the country, at they are responsible for the [ . . . illegible . . . ] of this war. 
Since we wrote our article of Tuesday night – since we heard the honorable senator's
each yesterday, the following letter dressed to a gentleman has been put into our hands. This ledger is [. . . illegible . . .] in our possession. It is from the pen of a gentleman who was once a whig member of congress from Pennsylvania, and is now in command of a company of volunteers, and the governor of the natural palace in the city of Mexico. We call upon a free and enlightened people to read this letter. We call upon the whigs to read it, and answer at the bar of their country to the transgressions of which they have been guilty.- [. . . illegible . . .] readers will see the writer abjures the whig city and denounces the conduct of its leaders as the burst worst kind of treason. Such are the changes which is treasonable conducts the whig leaders is daily producing in the mind of the patriotic men of their own need. To such men the democratic party should [. . . illegible . . .] the warm grasp of welcome. Let patriots come our of ranks, whatever may have been their former party relations. These times of shameless directions, men occupy high places call for the efforts of man who loves his country to put them down—democracy welcomes all who will join in the patriotic. Thee mortal traitors must be put down, and branded with the shame which their revolting treachery to interests and honor of their country deserves. They [. . . illegible . . .] the fate of the opponents of the revolution, and mortal traitors of the war of 1812. Let their doom [. . . illegible . . .] let their doom [. . . illegible . . .] of the moral traitors of 1847.

It seems that he condition of which may man can carry or aspire to nomination for the presidency of the whig, is [. . . illegible . . .] that he should publish himself to the world as a moral traitor in his feelings to his country be the judge. The supreme court, who has thrown off the enemies understand it, and hence he has taken the [. . . illegible . . .] and passed the ordeal. His letter, it he were a private person; would be a disgraceful production, but occupying the official position which he does, it is more and deserves impeachment at the bar of public opinion. Are those which are thus disparaging and degrading their country before the world extravagant enough to for the suffrages of a patriotic people for the highest of their gift? So it seems. Alas! What a liberal upon American Character does such a speculate presented we forbear But to the letter:

"I believe that there can be no peace. I have always believed this and my belief is confirmed by the occurrences of every day. Let there be decision to the [. . . illegible . . .] and them let us have vigorous decisions in the world.. ******** The whigs are mad. I hang my head in humiliates and same, when I think I have a number of their party. Mr. [. . . illegible . . .] (Webster’s) speech has been republished here by the Mexicans in every variety of form, as well as a synopsis of Mr. Clavis and they have been made the foundation of appeals to the faltering their hoes that one of the parties of our country will arrest the prosecution of the war, and put off forever, in my opinion all prospects of an amicable settlement of it. It seems to me that the whig leaders are guilty of the worst kind of treason I have discovered here that some on is the states who has had access to all the publics of the country has been in correspondence with the Mexicans and the Mexican cause I have in my possession nearly three hundred of these [. . . illegible . . .]. Many of theme are translated and republished here; and one of them an article from the "new Work Express." (an appeal to the Catholics of the US to opposes Mr. Polk’s administration, upon the ground that the war was a religious war- a crusader against the Catholic religion in Mexico) has not only been published in the Mexican papers, but published in the hand bills and thousands a at all the churches in the city of Mexico’s. Who can tell in views of facts like these who much of the blood that has been shed in their war is owing to the action of such publications [Union].

[LVW]

NNR 73.372 Feb. 12, 1848 Personal letter from soldier (listed in index as “guerrilla affairs, attempt to assassinate Capt. Bragg"

NNR 73.372 Gen. George Cadwalder’s march to Toluca

WAR WITH MEXICO

Gen. Cadwallader has arrived at Toluca. The following letter from a friend will give an account of the march, and their arrival at their place of destination.

Toluca, January 1848

My dear Mustang:--I promised to tell you what kind of a country we traversed in reaching this place. Hearing that the diligence is robbed every day, I have waited some other opportunity of writing, and now hear that the dragoons leave for Mexico in a few moments, which gives me little time.
After quitting Tacubaya, our road began to ascend the country continuing sterile and volcanic, like that around Contreras. Towards sunset we reached a hacienda, or inn, and encamped; the night closing upon us bitterly cold. The infantry encamped mostly around the brow of a hill adjacent, and few pleasant dreams, I ween, did the cold wind permit to them. Early on the 7th, we started again, the earth white with frost, and icicles hanging from the rocks, the road, if possible, harder and more finished than yesterday, and ascending always. Arriving at the highest point of the mountain ridge, we saw a number of crosses together, and were told that they commemorated a desperate conflict that cam off here some thirty years ago between the Spaniards and Mexicans. The first were attacked in position by the latter, and gained the day. One cross fastened into the solid rock marks the grave of the Mexican general.

At this point opened upon us one of the finest views I ever saw---the valley of Toluca. Stretched out in front and on either side it lay, studded with villages and haciendas, and just enough watered to give variety, while far away rose the snowy summit of Nevado de Toluca, with its wide crater. I thought to myself, had Tom Moore seen this, he had certainly written the "Sweet Vale of" Toluca, instead of that other.

The road now descended regularly, and we came upon Lerma, a small dirty village, every home filled with children, gaping women, and surmounted by a white flag--the only clean thing about the premises, and the prepared, no doubt, for this occasion only.

Before getting to Lerma, however, we passed a small bridge stream, the passage of which was defended by a sandbag fort, and the hills adjacent were also crowned by works--all made while we lay at Puebla and abandoned on the fall of the capital.--It is said that the fort at the bridge was carried by "Dutch Mary," certainly she was first there.

Capt. Thompson took his squadron on to Toluca this afternoon, in company with the alcalde, who had come out to meet the general.

At sunrise on the next day, (8th,) we started for Toluca, some ten miles distant, marching for some short distance on the edge of a marsh, where we perceived abundance of waterfowl, and promised ourselves some good sport &c&; The country on either side became more and more fertile: a superior cultivation to any we had seen in Mexico, obtained; fine haciendas, with American looking farm-yards and granaries; abundance of cattle, &c., &c.--all proclaiming a decidedly improved state of society.

We reached Toluca after a few hours march, and, as usual, were surrounded by a dense mass of wondering beings, and took our quarters--the soldiers in convents, &c., and many of the officers by billet. I have never seen a more pacific looking people in all our progress, not withstanding the preaching of father Jarauta, who was lately here. Some thousand troops, it is said, left here on our approach, with the government, for Morelia.

This town is capable of holding from 10,000 to 12,000 people, but at present has not so many. It is prettily built, is very clean, and is supplied with good water by an aqueduct. Nor have we felt the degree of cold for which it has a reputation.

Yesterday the 11th infantry were ordered to retrace their steps as far as Lerma, and occupy that place. Rumor says that the convention in which they were quartered suffered a few in the way of gold vessels, and the general thought it prudent to quarter the regiment where gold and silver are apparently unknown. [JNA, LVW]
Vera Cruz, Jan 20. An attempt has been made a insurrection in the city of Mexico, which failed.

Gen. Butler’s regiment is suffering with diseases.

A Guadalajara paper of the 17th ult. says that news had reached Mazatlan of an attack on the Americans at Lapane and San Jose, by 1500 California rangers, which resulted in the defeat of the Americans and the destruction of their houses. Three American vessels left Mazatlan on the 2nd ult. to render assistance to the Americans at the places named.

It was rumored in the city of Mexico that the Mexican commissioners had offered to enter into a treaty of peace based on the proposing made by Mr. Trist at Tacubaya, and that the treaty in question had been dispatched to Washington.

Col. Withers command concerning the safely of which there had been so much fear, arrived without any molestation at Real del Monte.

Col. Wynkoop, whilst in pursuit of Jarauta and Rea, captured generals Valencia and Arista. They are [ . . . illegible . . . ] subsequently set at liberty on parole.

Major Taliaferro had arrived at the Mexican capital fro Real Del Monte with one hundred and fifty thousand dollars worth of silver bars, bring part of the assessment levied by gen. Scott on the sate and federal districts.

Cols. Torrejon and Minon and guard were captured by the Mexican Spy Company in the service of the American army.

Gen. Cadwallader’s command left the city of Mexico for Toluca; and reached Lunia without interruption. The troops under general C. were in fine sprits.

Indians war on the Texas frontier. Galveston dates of the 22d January state, that the consequences of some of the Delaware Indians encroaching on the hanging ground of the Camanches, a bloody fight took place, in which the Delaware were defeated with the loss of twenty five warriors. A fierce war between those tribes will probably ensure, as Delaware are eager for revenge.

A party of Camanches have stolen several horses from the camp of Captain Gillett. Lieut. Cuzzzenx and twelve men went in pursuit, and came up with them on the ninth day, when a skirmish took place, in which seven Indians were killed. The stolen horse were recaptured with a number of others belonging to the Indians.

It is rumored that several tribes of Indians have volunteered to assist the Mexicans in carrying on the war- Late accounts, with more probability, say they offer to carry on toward against Mexico. There would be less danger on that side, which the Indians have sagacity enough to see! [LVW]

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NNR 73.380-383 February 12, 1848 Albert Gallatin on war expenses

I. There are in political economy many debatable, doubtful, and complex propositions, some which it may be impossible, most of which it would extremely difficult, to discuss a popular and generally intelligible manner. But there are some, which every member of the community may bring home to himself and clearly understand. Among these may be counted the acquisition and application of capital.

Every man who enjoys a certain income knows that he will grow poorer if he spends more, and richer if he spends less, than the amount of that annual income. In the first case, he loses part of his capital: in the other he acquires a new capital. Every man who earns his living be his industry and labor, whatever this may be, knows perfectly well that if he spends annually less than he earns, the difference is an acquisition of capital. The journeyman who in the course of the ([ . . . illegible . . . ])

In every instance capital is produced by labor, and is equal to the excess of that which is produced over and above the amount in which is consumed. It is obvious that, since this is true of every individual, it is equally true of the aggregate of individuals who compose the nation. The acquisition of capital, or increase of wealth, of the United States is, in any one year, equal to the excess of the value of the productive labor of the people, over and above the value of that which they have
consumed during that year. The whole capital of the United States has been
produced by the accumulated aggregate of that annual excess of value produced
over the value consumed.

However great this may be, it is generally been inadequate to the demand. In order
that land may be productive, labor must be applied to it. In the forest land, which
constitutes probably nineteen-twentieths of that which has as yet been cultivated, it
is in the first place necessary to clear the land of trees and to enclose it. The average
price of this amounts to four or five dollars per acre. It is clear that this first outlay,
the cost of the humblest dwelling, and of absolutely necessary agricultural buildings,
as well as that of horses and cattle, require a town and village, but throughout the
whole country. As a whole, the general result has been much less in proportion than
in New York, since during that period, the population of the United States at large
has only been quadrupled. It seems probable that the whole amount of capital
absorbed in the United States in that way, during that period of fifty years, does not
fall much short of fifteen hundred millions of dollars.

The whole of that capital, whatever its amount may be, has not been yet actually
expended, since the houses do exist; but it has been applied to an unproductive
object. It is clear that no man who lives in his own house derives any revenue from
it. It is a portion of that which he spends his own comfort, and which independent of
wear and tear, is equal to the interest of the capital laid out in the building the
house. If man lets a house, instead of enjoying it for his own use, he receives rent
equivalent to the interest. But the person who occupies the house, or part of it, and
who pays that rent does no derive any means of paying it from the house itself, but
from his own income or labor. Thus in every instance, though forming and important
and necessary portion of the fixed capital of the nation, dwelling houses are
unproductive, and a portion of consumption, and not of the income of the nation.

Taking all these facts into consideration, it will be easily understood why the
acquisition of circulating capital has been so slow in the United States, and why they
were obliged to depend so long on the and afforded by foreign capital. At the time
when independence was declared, and for more than thirty years after, America was
in debt to Great Britain. Even now the amount of accumulated capital is
comparatively small and inadequate to supply the ordinary demand for it. In almost
every instance, the funds necessary to carry into effect extensive plans of
improvement, whether rational or wild, have been borrowed abroad; and there is
now a large debt due to foreigners, principally to British subjects, die not by
individuals, but by several of the states. It is doubtful whether, pending the war with
Mexico, the government of the United States could obtain any considerable loan at
par for a six percent stock. Hence it is that the destruction of circulating capital,
caused by the war expenses, is sensibly felt.

A merchant, having full confidence in the probity and skill of a man who has no
property, sells him on credit merchandise worth five thousand; the goods are
delivered, and on the same day are burnt, or otherwise destroyed, by some
unforeseen accident. In this case there is no capital left which represents debt. There
remains only a promise to pay, from a man who has no property whatever. In order
to discharge the debt, he must, by his subsequent labor and frugality, acquire new
capital.

The same result attends war expenses, and for the same reason: the capital thus
expended has been destroyed.

The public debt of Great Britain may account to about eight hundred millions
sterling; and there is no existing capital which represents that debt. The creditors
hold only a promise to pay the interest of which they receive regularly. This payment
of interest and general confidence in the good faith of government, give current
value to the public stocks or promise to pay But the government has no capital
where with to pay either the principal or interest. In order to do either taxes must be
laid on the people at large. The people must by their own be industrious and create a
new capital destroyed by those wars, there must be added to the line of debt [ . . .
illegible . . . ]..all the war taxes raised and expended for the same purpose.

I do not perceive that any deduction can be made from the aggregate, other than
the profits of contractors, and in some cases those of persons employed in producing
or manufacturing that part of the supplied which is drawn from home.

But whatever may be the case in other countries, it does not appear that any
deduction should be made in the US on accounts of the moneys earned by mean
who may have been employed in furnishing certain supplies. There is in the US a
constant demand for capital and labor, to be applied to productive purpose. Ever
able bodied man, where laborer of the soil or laborer, can, in the US, obtain remunerating wages; and therefore every many employed in preparing war supplies, for instance in building war steamers or there vessels has been diverted from some analogous employment which would have been applied to productive objectives.

But the causes which had produced that state of things have, at least for the present, ceased to operate.

II The preceding observations are of a general nature. The first subject of special inquiry is the amount of the actual receipts and expenditures since the commencement of the war.

All the receipts, whether arising from revenue, loans, or any other source, are paid into the treasury, and therefore known to the secretary of that department. He is also responsible for the disbursements by his own department, the most important of which are those which relate to the public debt. But with respect to the money expectedly by the other departments the statements of the secretary of the treasury only show the amount received by each from the treasury. These never can exceed that for which appropriations have been made. The secretary is bound provided the receipts are adequate, to pay to each department the sum appropriate for its use and under the several heads of the respective appropriations have been made. The secretary is bound, provided the receipts are adequate, to pay to each department, the sum appropriated for its use and under the several head of the respective appropriations. But he is not degree responsible for the manner in which the moneys have been expanded by any other department than his own.

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FISCAL YEAR ENDING June 30TH, 1847.

As far, therefore, as may be inferred from the statements furnished it would appear that the total amount of expedited during the fiscal year ending June 30th 1847 for the army proper including both the regulars and volunteers.

Fiscal year ending June 30, 1848.

It appears to me impossible that the expense for that year should not be equal to those for the year ndg 30th June 1848, The secretary estimates them at only l 31,856,758 50, to which adding for navy and ordinance my estimation of two millions they would still amount to less than thirty four million.

The great diminutions is in the quartermaster generals estimate, which is reduced to $13187000, instead of $17914000 expended in the year ending 30th June, 1848. On this subject the quartermaster general writes to the secretary of the war department, under date of Nov. 18, 1847:

"Sir: the estimates which I submitted for your consideration on the 4th instant, for the service of the next fiscal year were made out from date depliance with your suggestions I have carefully examined every item; and in all , depending in any degree upon my own action, it that of the officer of the department I have made considerable reeducations. Whether those reductions be judicious time must determine. I would not have ventured to make them but for the fact that two sessions of congress will have terminated before he expiration of the fiscal year for which the estimates now submitted have been made. The sums asked for arrangements for the present fiscal year for which the estimates now submitted have been made. The sums asked for arrangements for the present fiscal year are not more I am persuaded, than will be required. I am however, making every effort to reduce expenditures for every description of the lowest point possible."

It is therefore clear that the estimate was underrated, contrary to the quartermaster generals;’ optional that be would not have made the reduction had he to relied on congress making up the defiance before the hole of the money was wanted; and that the attempt is now deliberately made to underrate the expenses which must necessarily be incurred.

CIRCULATING CAPITAL OF THE COUNTRY

It has already been observed that the causes which had theretofore prevented the
evils of the war from being left, had, at least for a while ceased to operate. A total
derangement has taken place in England, which appears to have affected almost
every brand of business connected with the commercial and manufacturing concerns
of thee country.- The causes generally assigned are, the extraordinary imports of
provision, and the magnitude of the investments in railroad, which have converted
calculating into a fixed capital not immediately productive. There may b other more
remote and recondite cause. Whatever these may be, the results are well known.
Most numerous are extensive failures have destroyed confidence, and caused a
general pressure, followed by a fall of species affecting almost every species of
commodity and by a great demand for specie.

The effects of that commercial catasophy were immediately felt in the US. There was
and still is reciprocal want of confidence. Hence the usual mode of consigning
produce to England, accompanied by bills drawn on the consigners for a large
portion of its value had been considerable impeded. The low prices of cotton abroad
influenced the planter to keep it back; and every arrival from England brought large
parcels of American Stocks ordered to be sold for what they would fetch. The
reaction took place in the early part of Nov. when it was manifested by its infallible
index, a rise in the rat of exchange and the consequent exportation of specie.

The amount of specie in the vaults of the banks of the city of New York was lessened
near two millions and a half of dollars during the moth of Nov. Yet it does to appear
to me that there is any great danger to be apprehended from a long continued
exportation. There was, in the course of the present crisis in Great Britain, in the
first place, a large exportation of specie principally to the US in any payment for the
articles of food she was obliged to purchase, and subsequently a great demand for
specie. This has been an ample supported, and for the present at lease, England
wants no more. If an continues to be exported there, this is principally die to the
want of confidence, and those other causes which created a scarcity of bills of
indubitable credit on Europe, and readied the price of these two per cent. Above the
true part.

There is yet scattered in the interior a large portion of the specie imported during
the proceeding year; and this naturally will always the case naturally flow to the
place or places where it is most needed. In point of fact, this hash hardly taken place
and notwithstanding the continued exportation, the amount of specie in the vaults of
the banks during the last tree weeks; been increased to several hundred dollars.

As soon as the internal navigation shall be open large quantities of maxi, pork, and
other articles of food will be exported to Europe; and cannot be held back much
longer. Thus for every thing is yet soundly but the high relate at which money is
borrowed on paper of [ illegible ] credit, would alone be sufficient to show
that great caution is required on the part not only of the banks but of all those who
are engaged to act business.

Notwithstanding the great increase of national wealth, there is still a perpetual
demand for capital. The circulating capital of the country I clearly the found out of
which the public revenues and loan must be raised; and the effects produced by a
demand of thirty million \ next six months requires serous consideration.

Five eighths of the revenue derived from customs are collected in New York; and
nine tenths is for or six Atlantic ports. These duties are payable the money the
merchandize is landed, or draw from the public warehouses. This [ illegible ] tuition of immediate payment, of the former system of bonds and
credit was as sacrifed away on commerce, the importance of which has not been
sufficiently apperceived. It has amount other effects, thrown a considerable portion
of the important business in the and of foreign to he prejudice of American house?
Still commerce, left to the operation of the natural laws of trade, knows how to
adapt to sell to the existing circumstances; and not withstanding this change things
went on s smoothly enough so long as peace continued.

The necessary effects of a war carried on in a foreign country, of our war with
Mexico, is that the money thus collected in a few seaports, an in fact advanced by
commerce, instead of being expended with some degree of uniformity in the
country, must be immediately transferred by the treasury department of the US to
the place where it is wanted an depended. The great mass goes to Mexico and New
Orleans, whence it does not return to New York or to another Atlantic seaport since
it is absorbed and destroyed by war expense.

In these transfers from the places where the revenue is collected. The secretary had
done nothing more than that which was absolutely necessary;- and he has done it
cautiously, skilled and with as much regard for local and is collected. But it has also
become the center of the great moneyed operation of the country. It is accordingly
to place also where a considerable share of the most disposable portion of the
circulating capital of the country is concentrated. This most disposable is that which
is deposited in the bank of the several states. And exclusively of the deposits due to
individuals the banks out of this city have easily a large amount of deposed in the
city banks. Including both items. It would seem fro the general returns from al the
banks that the amount deposed in those of the city of new York does not exceed one
farter part of the total amount deposed in all the banks of the US. But experts are
shown that, wit the exception of S. Carolina and of Louisiana, the deposits in the
banks of the southern and western states are available only for local purpose
continue to but very little to the loans which may be wanted by the US-. The same
observation is generally applicable to the deposits in the country banks of New
England, N. York and Pennsylvania. Those Atlantic reports, in which nine tenth s of
the revenue are collected are also the places which contribute in the same,
proportion to the national loans. Although varying from yet to year, the amount of
deposits in all the banks of the US which are truly available for general purpose may
be estimated at twice that which id deposited in the city banks of New York.
According to the last official report.

The deposits in the city banks consist of two items, those due to individuals and
those due to banks out of the city; that is to say, the difference between thee sums
due and from those banks, which on the [ . . . illegible . . . ] Nov. last amounted to
$8300000 and added to the deposits due to individuals more and aggregated of
more than thirty four millions. But is must be observed that these times, [ . . .
illegible . . . ]...But n considering the US at large the amount due from all the banks,
both items with disappear altogether, and do not constitute a real resource.

No official stamen of the situations of the banks subsequent to the month of Nov.
has as yet been published. Bt from accounts obtained from several of the most
respectable of the city bank, it appears that during the moths of Nov. and the first
weeks of Dec. the amounts of their deposits has lessened at least twenty percent.
This is in reference to the fiscal and commercial concerns of the national, the most
important and pregnant tact which has taken place since the commencement of the
war, to as much as it now [ . . . illegible . . . ]...manner to what extend to war
expense and the circulating capital of the country.

That the deposits in banks are the most disposable circulation capital of the US is
indivertible for the staple reason that they bear no interest.- the constitute,
therefore, evidently the most likely to support the means of subscripting to the loans
of the US. Is there any other [ . . . illegible . . . ]...any other amount of dormant
unemployed extend continue to the public loans? [ . . . illegible . . . ]

[ . . . illegible . . . ] paragraph

[ . . . illegible . . . ] paragraph

Since both the sub-treasury act and the obligation to receive treasury notes in
payment of debts due to the US cannot substitute together either of eh one or the
other should be repealed. This cannot be done with respect to the notes already
issued and outstanding, since it is privilege already granted a condition which the US
are bound in fulfill. But although the secretary of the treasury has a right to re-issue
an amount of notes equal to that which has been paid in for duties or their debts he
is under no obligation to di to. The fact is that in order to extricate the treasure from
the difficulties resulting from the incompatibility allude to it, is necessarily instead of
extending in contract the amount of notes in circulation.

Treasury notes never can become a currency unless they be vested with that
attribute. This could not be effected otherwise than by converting the treasury in a
ban insuring notes, bearing no interest, but building to pay the demand in gold or
silver. It is hoped that such a plan will not [ . . . illegible . . . ] a single advocate.

The attempts to borrow at a lower rate, by substituting treasury notes for stock is in
every respect impracticable; any effort to conceal the truth is in the people will
provide equally futile. The resort to any species of proper money, that is to say, the
at attempt to convert into currency a simple promise to pay at a future date, is
outrageous, liable to me grossly alludes wild calculated to datary confluence; for
whenever issued to an amount much greater than the demand for it, a bout may
arise where such promises to pay shall be actually discharged when they come to
infarct. That which has happened both in the countries and at home ay happen
against and immoderate issues have a tendency to endeavor a flood of redeemable
paper money. [LVW]
That the administration have become dissatisfied with the course perused by Mr. Trist, as commissioner charged with negotiating with the government of Mexico, is not only officially announced by the message of the president to the U. States senate, of last week in reply to their call for his correspondence, but is unmistakably implied in his being superseded in the office he held in the states department. A rumor is mentioned in the N. Y. courier, of orders having been sent to Maj. Gen. Butler, to have Mr. Trist arrested and sent home for trial under the act of January 1799, for the punishment of persons guilty of carrying on a correspondence with a foreign government, in relation to disputes &c, without the authority or permission of the government of the US which declares such correspondence to be misdemeanor punished by fine and imprisonment.

The president in his communication to congress explicitly denies having received any intelligence of treaty being negotiated by Mr. Trist. The union in noticing the communication appears to insinuate that something probably something not recognizable by the government may have been received. Speculation of course is busy in guessing what this informal something is. On suggesting is that the British bearer of dispatches from the city of Mexico, brought a project submitted through or by the new British minister at Mexico, of terms that might be agreed upon.

Another, the latest from New Orleans, is that Maj. Van Buren, paymaster USA who came down with the last train from Mexico, was bearer of the project of a treaty.

The most knowing of the Washington correspondents of Philadelphia and N. York papers that are regarded as semi-official organs, continue to write in the most confident language, that a project of treaty has been received at Washington, and has been gravely considered in cabinet council. [LVW]

The steamer *Elihu*, left Vera Cruz on the 20th and reached New Orleans on the 29th January with large number of passengers, army officers, &c. amongst them Brevet Colonel J. S. McIntosh. She brought also forty sick and discharged soldiers, two died on the passage, and the remains of a number of officers who fell in the campaign.

GEN. Scott’s GENERAL ORDER, No. 14, dated Mexico, Jan. 11th, names 16 officers, "sick, wounded, or reported supernumerary" who will proceed home, and on arriving at New Orleans report themselves to the adjutant general.

His ORDER, No. 15, same date, appoints Major J. L. Gardner "superintendent of the direct and indirect taxes for the support of the army on that portion of Mexico called the federal district," which includes the capital,--and specifies his powers and duties.

A CONSPIRACY, had been apprehended at Mexico, and measures were promptly taken to suppress it.--It probably gave occasion for the following:

*Office Civil and Military Governor,*

*National Palace, Mexico, Jan. 11, 1848.*

It is ordered that all officers of the Mexican army, all retired officers, as also those of the corps of National Guards, including certain regiments known as those of Independence, Bravo, Victoria, Hidalgo, Galeana, Mina, and the corps of Zapadores, who may now be in the city of Mexico, not on parole, shall present themselves at the office of the inspector general of the American army, between the hours of 10 A.M. and 3 P.M. on the 12th, 13th, or 14th instant.

It is also ordered that all officers of the Mexican army and of the above
named corps who may hereafter arrive in the city shall report themselves at the aforesaid office within twenty-four hours after reaching the city.

This order is rendered necessary by the highly improper conduct of certain officers of the Mexican army, known to be in the city; and any failure to comply with it will subject the offender to the most rigorous punishment known to the laws of war.

By the Governor:

R.P. Hammond, Secretary.

The steamer McKim left Vera Cruz on the 24th, and Tampico on the 31st. News from the city of Mexico to the 19th left all quiet.

A courier sent by Mr. Peoples, with copies of the president’s message for his paper in the city of Mexico,—the American Star,—was seized by guerrillas on his return, and taken into some bushes, by the roadside, where they first stripped and then shot him. This was done near Vera Cruz.

Col. McClelland, with three hundred infantry and two hundred mounted men, started up the Orizaba road to cut off robbers who were said to be on the main road to the National Bridge in large numbers.

It is positively asserted by merchants, who are usually well informed respecting affairs in the interior, that Gen. Lane was moving on Orizaba with five hundred cavalry.

There had been fifteen cases of small pox at Vera Cruz.

It was rumored that Mr. Trist had had frequent interviews with the Mexican commissioners, and that certain articles had been agreed upon, but nothing of an authentic nature transpired.

Col. Hays, with one hundred rangers, and a few Illinois volunteers, reached Teotihuacan on the 10th ult. In pursuit of Padre Jarauta. While reposing at an inn, with their horses unbridled and unsaddled, Jarauta and a party of Mexicans came suddenly upon Col. H. and his men, and a severe contest ensued. Eight Mexicans were killed. None of the Americans were injured. The horse of Jarauta was seen after the fight with blood running down his sides, and it is thought that his rider received several severe wounds.

Accounts from Gen. Cadwallader at Toluca, have been received to the 8th and 11th inst. He had dispatched the 11th infantry to Lerma, some five leagues this side of Toluca.

The rents.—A letter from Atlixco states that the citizens there—a meeting of the council and others having been held, to take the matter into consideration—had agreed to obey the order of Gen. Scott in regard to the payment of the public rents, in addition to those required for the support of their own government. A communication had been sent to Gov. Childs at Puebla, to make this representation to him.

Letters by this arrival are very contradictory as to the rumored treaty of peace.

The barque Archimedes arrived next, with Vera Cruz dates to the 26th. The Vera Cruz Free American of that date states, that Capt. Whipple had arrived from the city of Mexico, bringing news that Orizaba had been taken and was in possession of a body of troops dispatched from the capital for that purpose.

Next arrived that ships Napier and Danvers, with Vera Cruz dated to the 29th.

The train of 2000 wagons, with a strong detachment consisting of a squadron of cavalry, two companies of dragoons, a vol[[]]eur corps with 6 pieces, and some battalions of infantry, the whole under command of Major Cadwallader, of the vol[[]]eurs, left the city of Mexico on the 14th, and reached Vera Cruz on the 27th Jan. A number of the officers of the army came down with the train.
The train met Gen. Marshall and Col. Miles, with their respective commands, at Puebla, on the 17th ult.

The Vera Cruz American Star says that at the last accounts from Queretaro a quorum of congress was not in attendance. Gen. Anaya had been succeeded by Pena y Pena as president of the republic of Mexico, and a new one was to be chosen when congress assembled.

The brigade under Col. Riley, is at Tacubaya.

The brigade under Gen. Cushing is at San Angel.

No movement could be made for San Louis before the 1st February, for want of adequate clothing for the men, which Gen. Scott had sent twice to Vera Cruz after, without obtaining but a meagre supply, and had finally to set about a thousand men and women to work at the city of Mexico, at making them, and they could no be ready before the 1st of February. [TBW]

NNR 73.387 Feb. 19, 1848 Guerrilla attacks and sickness

R.P. Hammond, Secretary.

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NNR 73.387 Feb. 19, 1848 the capture of Gen. Anastasio Torrejon

CAPTURE OF TORREJON The Morning Star gives the following account of the capture of Gen. Torrejon and his companions.

"A little towards the left of Santa Fe, Col. Dominguez ascertained that there were some fifty or sixty guerrillas, under Col. Zenobia, hovering in the vicinity. He charged upon them and they dispersed without firing a gun. On the 6th, on the
plains of Salao, between Ojode Agua and Nopalucan the proprietors of the haciendas of St. Gertrude, Santa Clara, [][][[ requested aid of Col. Dominquez in their efforts to liberate themselves from the robberies of Torrejon and his party, composed of 150 cavalry and two American deserters. The Colonel, with his 70 men, charged upon them, and, after a slight brush, put them completely to route, taking Gen. Torrejon, Gen. Minon, Gen. Gauna and five other officers, prisoners, 50 Mexican cavalry, and the two American deserters--These were all placed at the disposal of Col. Childs at Puebla. It appears that Torrejon, when captured, was about proceeding to San Andres, to join the forces in that place, and march thence to Orizaba. Pursuing his course towards the city, the Colonel, upon entering the P[ ][][[][]][[], perceived a party of guerrillas on both sides of the road but was not attacked. On the 10th--that is the day before yesterday--near the Venta de Chalco, Padre Jarauta was seen with some 200 guerrillas.

A correspondent of the Delta, gives the particulars of the arrest of Gen. Valencia, as follows:

"ol. H. M. Wynkoap, of the 2d Pennsylvania volunteers, having learned by a Mexican friend, that Padre Jarauta and Gen. Rea were at Tlalnepanatla, about five leagues from the city of Mexico, applied to Gen. Scott for permission to take twenty men and capture them. Permission being granted, the Colonel set off on the 1st with thirty eight Texian Rangers, under command of Lieutenants Daggerts, Burkes and Jones. Upon arriving at and charging Tlalnepanatla, and finding no one there, they learned that Rea and Jarauta had left for Toluca a few hours previous to our arrival. Colonel Wynkoap here learned that Gen. Valencia and his staff were at a hacienda some six leagues distant. Admittance into the house was demanded by the gallant little party, but it was for a time refused, when Colonel Silea, a wounded Mexican officer on parole, opened the door and assured Col. Wynkoap that Gen. Valencia had departed that day for Toluca; but this was not credited, and lights were demanded to search the building. Colonel Silea then proposed to deliver Gen. Valencia the next day if the party would leave. To this the Colonel would not assent, and proposed to send an officer and eight men with him to await their return. This proposition completely non-plussed Col. Silea, and convinced Col. W. that Valencia was really in the house. Search was accordingly made, but nothing could be found of him--Col. W. declared that he would not leave the hacienda without him, and that if Valencia would give hive himself up he would be perfectly safe, but if he attempted to escape he would not answer for his life. At this moment a person stepped up and said, "I am Valencia." He then said that is was against the usages of civilized warfare to attack a man in the peace and quiet of his family in the dead hour of the night. The Colonel answered that it was the only way he could be captured. Col. A[[]reta was also captured in the same hacienda on that night.


NNR 73.387 Feb. 19, 1848 extracts from Mexican journals

The Delta makes the following extract from the Mexican journals:

The Noticioso, of January 12, contains the proclamation of President Anaya, dated at Queretaro, December 16, relative to the organization of the Mexican army.--The several levies amount to 16,000 men, exclusive of the troops already raised, whose ranks are to be filled up. The new levies are to serve for three years, unless sooner discharged. They are not to consist of malefactors or invalids, they must be at least five feet in height, and their age not to exceed forty years.

The disaffected population of Huasteca had made a pronunciamento against the Mexican army, laws and government, and valorously threatened to march against the city of Mexico in order to wrest it from the Americans.

Col. Gates, commanding at Tampico, has given notice that all gold and silver metals, or specie, must be left at the customhouse, when designed for exportation, where an exact account will be taken of it. The duty will be deducted therefrom and the balance returned to the owners for exportation.

A pronunciamento was put down at Queretaro, by President Anaya, on the 19th ult., by a display to military force which overawed the disaffected. They however, threatened to rise, after Anaya's term expires, which occurred on the 8th
The small sum allowed the Mexican officers and soldiers had disgusted many of them, according to the Noticioso, and a great many of the officers had petitioned for permission to resign.

The Anteojo, of Durango, hopes that peace will soon be concluded, or the war renewed with vigor.

The legislature of Durango had joined its vote to that of Jalisco, in favor of authorizing the Mexican congress to take measures to form a coalition between all the Hispano-American governments on the continent.

The Patriota of Aguascalientes, says it has received various communications on the existing state of the country. Some of the writers propose to call Santa Anna to the dictatorship, while others suggest a national convention, to deliberate whether peace shall be made or the war continued.

PROCLAMATION

Headquarters Dep't of Puebla

Puebla, Jan. 5th, 1848.

Whereas, a diabolical and bloody correspondence has been detected between Don Manuel Perez, and other (as yet unknown,) citizens of Puebla, with a person called Gen. Rea, a guerrilla chief, in which the said Perez and his confederates recommend the assassination of the person who styles himself the governor of the state of Puebla, as well as many of the peaceably disposed citizens, in order to "strike terror into the whole community," and then for the said Rea to pronounce against the state and general government, and declare himself dictator; this is to give notice to the inhabitants of the city of Puebla that so long as the troops of the United States of North America shall hold military possession of the city, any Mexican, or other person, not owing allegiance to the United States, corresponding with known guerrillas, or with any organised military body, in arms against the forces of the U. States, will be considered in the light of spies, and any attempt to furnish such armed bodies with supplies of any kind, will be deemed as a violation of good faith, and persons thus detected will be regarded as in open hostility against the forces of the United States, and treated accordingly. Citizens remaining in the city of Puebla during the military occupation by the U. States troops, enjoying protection of person and property, tacitly acknowledge such military authority, and any aid of theirs compromising their neutrality, is, by the laws of war, severely punished.

THOMAS CHILDS, Col. U. S. A.

Civil and military governor. [JNA, TBW]

Fellow-citizens, the war forced upon us by the aggression of Mexico is the war of our country.—He that will oppose it, or he that hesitates in the support of it, is not of the country. He is an alien in sentiment within it, and is unworthy of the association of Americans.

We are in favor of the acquisition of territory as compensation and indemnity. Those who profess to be in favor of the acquisition of territory, and insist upon the agitation of a subject which will prevent it, cannot very strongly commend themselves to the candid judgment of the intelligent. Those who openly advocate the no-territory doctrine are less to be feared, for they can be met in the open field of argument; the others are the more insidious and subtle foes, being in ambuscade.
Strongly as we are impressed with the propriety and justice of the acquisition of territory, we would despise ourselves if we were to avail ourselves of a conquest to secure that end, because the weakness of our enemy yielded to our strength. Such a motive is entirely repugnant to those principles of moral justice which are the life of the democratic faith and democratic practice. [TBW]

73.392 Feb. 19, 1848 letter of Vice-President George Mifflin Dallas on prosecution of the war with Mexico

Washington, January 25, 1848

Gentlemen:--I am honored by your invitation to be present at the mass meeting of democratic electors of the city of New York, held on Saturday evening next, "or the purpose of approving and sustaining the patriotic course of the administration of the general government in conducting the war with Mexico;" and I regret that my public engagements necessarily preclude its acceptance.

The war merits, at this moment, the almost exclusive attention of the American people. It is their present chief concern, and cannot too promptly nor too emphatically be made to receive a fresh impulse from their will. Heretofore embraced by them with enthusiasm, as necessary to their union, honor and interests, it has been characterized, at every stage of its progress, by their mingled traits of energy, courage, perseverance, and patriotism. Our armies rapidly emerged from our masses, and have been true to their representative mission. They have sought the enemy at every one of his posts; they have pursued him through wastes and deserts, in rocky gorges and marshy defiles, over mountains and rivers, within numberless forts, batteries and citadels; and they have achieved a triumph wherever they found him. They have finally planted our meteor flag on the highest turret of the Mexican capital; and, standing round that symbol of national strength, in the centre of seven millions of foes, they are prepared to proffer, serenely and sincerely, honorable peace of total subjugation.

Is there any other alternative reconcileable to the humanity, power, self-respect, conscious integrity, and superior institutions of the people of the United States? None is perceptible to me. This war, in my judgment, can have but one wise, natural and legitimate end--peace or subjugation.

Nor are we yet at liberty to consider peace--a firm, durable and cementing peace--altogether unattainable. Thus far we have sought in vain to elicit a just one from the central government of the Mexican confederacy, so long wielded by heartless military usurpers. But that is not the only government to which overtures of conciliation can be addressed. Out armies, indeed, in carrying out enlarged principles of beneficent reform, might be directed to overthrow and extinguish what has been so profligately perverted; and then, approaching a step nearer to the rightful sovereigns, the people themselves, we could treat separately with the respective states. The dissolution of the central authority, destroying nothing but a means of combined action, would at once give to each member of the confederacy the independent right of self-preservation, with the powers of peace and war. Nor should I feel averse to see as many treaties of amity as there are Mexican states, rather than be driven to the other branch of the alternative--subjugation. Such a course of proceeding, we have some reason to believe, would be acceptable to the best portion of the population: it must rekindle and invigorate the intercourse of trade, inspire the unknown sense of security as to person and property, diffuse correct sentiments of social liberty and order, and quietly as well as speechly prepare their several communities for the happy destiny of incorporation into our Union.

It, however, a moody obstinacy is everywhere to be substituted for political wisdom, and the forbearance of the American people, so strongly tempted by wonderful successes, is still to be outraged by gasconade and contempt, I do hope that, whenever and wherever multitudes of my countrymen shall assemble, they will manifest their usual and unabated spirit, their unshaken reliance upon the justice of their cause, and their manly faith in the capacity of their institutions to meet with safety all the emergencies and obligations of a national progress, which cannot be swayed without national disgrace. Let us not shrink from subjugating implacable enemies, when we know that by so doing we shall advance the great objects of civilization--when we know that we are sure to teach them the only true ways to liberty, self-government, prosperity and happiness.---Opposed as I am to receive permanently into the family of American freemen those who are unwilling to enter it,
I can yet discover in our noble constitution of government nothing not perfectly equal to the vast task which may be assigned to it by the resistless force of events--the guardianship of a crowded and confederated continent.

Thanking you for your obliging remembrance of me, I remain, very respectfully, your friend and fellow-citizen.

G. M. DALLAS [TBW]

To Wm. S. Conley, Esq., and committee.

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NNR 73.392 Feb. 19, 1848 Secretary of the Treasury Robert John Walker’s note about sustaining the war with Mexico

To Wm. S. Conley, Esq., and committee.

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, R. J. WALKER, in a brief note, acknowledges the invitation "to unite with the patriotic democracy of the great city of New York, in sustaining this war--the just, the glorious and heaven-favored cause of our beloved country," which continued indisposition prevents him accepting. [TBW]

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NNR 73.392 Feb. 19, 1848 letter of Sen. Daniel Stevens Dickinson on the war with Mexico and the coming election

Washington, January 27, 1848.

GENTLEMEN: I regret that indispensable engagements prevent my accepting your kind invitation to attend and address a meeting of the democratic republican electors of the city of New York, to be held at Tammany Hall, on Saturday evening next, for the purpose of approving and sustaining the patriotic course of the general administration in conducting the war with Mexico; for it would afford me high gratification to meet with and address those whose sympathies are with their country, and who believe the arm of the administration should be sustained and strengthened in the prosecution of a war provoked for years by robbery, spoliation, and every effort of insolence and disregard of faith, and finally commenced by shedding the blood of our people upon their own soil. I am aware that this war has been denounced as wicked, unconstitutional, and atrocious--as the war of the president, and not that of the people--as originating in base and ignoble motives, and prosecuted, not for any worthy or justifiable objects, but to minister to the cravings of a sordid ambition; that those who have periled their lives in the service of their country, and have displayed a bravery which has wrung unwilling admiration from an envious and invidious world, are classed, by some, with ruffians and Murderers. But the same malign spirit resisted the war of 1812, and then, as now, covered our gallant army with reproachful epithets, and shocked the moral sense of every true American by the declaration of their sentiments, which are now merely repeated, and have not the poor merit of originality.

A presidential campaign is approaching, and federalism has called together her magicians, astrologers, and soothsayers for the emergency. The country, too obstinate to submit to be ruined by a revenue tariff, is to make amends for the delay, and be thrice ruined by the prosecution of the war; and, least the picture should lack for sombre coloring, like the familiar spirit of Endor, she has raised from their political cemeteries her departed prophets, to mutter their antiquated solecisms over the injustice of the war.

But the American people are too wise to be betrayed by pretension, and too firm to be shaken in their purposes by these architects of ruin. They know, as the world knows; that on our part the war is eminently righteous--that it is not prosecuted against the Mexican people, but against their despoilers and aggressors, who, like Attila, the Hun, have been to that fair and fertile land the scourge of God. They know that, to these marauders, it is a mission of long deferred justice, and to the Mexican people an errand of humanity, civilization and peace. They demand that it be prosecuted with an energy and vigor becoming the American character, until an honorable peace, with adequate indemnity, shall be obtained, or until the last cowardly miscreant shall be dragged from his hiding place, and that deluded and oppressed people enjoy the protection of American citizens.
It has been left to the democracy to vindicate the integrity of their country against enemies abroad and monopolies at home, and the present moment demands, by all that is sound in their creed and endearing in their principles, one of their highest and noblest efforts. May they prove themselves equal to an emergency so interesting and fruitful of results, and by that devotion to their cherished faith, which has borne them through so many conflicts in triumph, and by harmonious counsels, achieve an abiding victory over foreign and domestic foes.

That such may be their happy destiny, is the sincere desire of none who regards with deep solicitude and lively sympathy all that concerns their interest and their welfare, and who has the honor to subscribe himself, with high consideration your fellow citizen,

D. S. DICKINSON. [TBW]

To WM. S. CONLY, esq. and committee.

U. S. SENATOR, JOHN A. DIX, in his letter, briefly acknowledges an invitation, which he says, "it would afford me great pleasure to accept, if I could with propriety absent myself from the city of Washington.--But my public duties require my constant attendance, and among them is that of sustaining in the senate the measures necessary to bring the war to a termination which shall be satisfactory and honorable to the country." [TBW]

THE HON. WM. B. MACLAY, in a long letter, reviews the whole history of the dispute with Mexico, and the annexation of Texas. The following is his concluding paragraph:

"am a believer in that destiny which contemplates the spread and success of free government over the face of this continent. There is a sympathy, a magnetic charm, in republican institutions, which, once kindled, spreads with the stride of electricity. Our revolution, more than any other cause, contributed to the events of '93 in France; and our onward march and miraculous achievements in the arts and sciences, in manufactures, and in all that makes a people happy and prosperous, have attracted to us the eyes of the civilized world, and made to tremble thrones that have stood the test of ages. Mexico, in making the election of this war, has hastened the work which inevitable destiny would some day have accomplished. It may be well for her--it cannot injure us. Her distinct idea of freedom may become enlightened under the wholesome restraints of our system, and may enable us to carry on the great work, until our standard shall wave in peaceful triumph over a free and happy people, with equal laws and equal rights.

Very respectfully,

W. B. MACLAY [TBW]

When we quoted some time ago the strong expressions of disapprobation used by the Charleston Mercury against Gen. Cass' views and those also of Mr. Buchanan and of Mr. Dickinson, on the subject of the Wilmot proviso, we intimated that there was difficulty in ascertaining precisely what ground the Mercury held on that point.
Gen. Cass has declared that he was opposed to any action by congress on the proviso question, and this announcement was regarded at the south, for a time, as very satisfactory indeed; Mr. Buchanan had said, in substance, the same thing; so had Mr. Dickinson. But these gentlemen had also said, in the way of a confidential whisper to the north, "the inhabitants of the territory that may be acquired will have the right to decide whether slavery shall have entrance upon the soil or not; and as the institution has now no existence there, and is regarded with great aversion by the people, there is no danger whatever that slavery will ever be permitted to advance beyond its present limits."

Upon consideration, our southern friends recalled the commendation which they had given quite lavishly to Messrs. Buchanan, Cass, &c. To leave to the territories themselves the absolute decision of the existence of slavery upon their soil, might do very well if slavery had been previously established there, as was the case when Louisiana was purchased, when Florida was acquired, and when Texas was annexed. But in the present case it would not do. The old formula must be changed. The long and fondly cherished doctrine of state sovereignty, so conveniently inchoate in a territory as the germ of a state--even that must be abandoned.

The legislature of Virginia had laid down the "platform of the south" according to the old recipe, when it declared by resolution, unanimously, "that the general government of the United States has no control, directly or indirectly, mediately or immediately, over the institution of slavery; and that, in taking any such control, it transcends the limits of its legitimate functions by destroying the internal organization of the sovereignties who created it."

This was the platform of the south less than a year ago--constructed according to the resolutions of '98. Surely those famous resolutions must afford a basis wide enough for all purposes. But it seems not. A case has arisen in which the south cannot find sovereign virtue in a denial of power to the general government. Strange, but true! A crisis has come at which state sovereignty itself must be disowned in order that no authority may be found in the embryo territory to shape its own internal system, preparatory to its entrance into the Union.

The south must have a new platform. The old one was scarcely demolished before another was put up, by the legislature of Alabama, in the form of resolutions declaring it "to be the natural and indefeasible right of each citizen of each and every state of the confederacy to reside, with his property, of every description, in any territory which may be acquired by the arms of the United States, or yielded by treaty with any foreign power."

"heir adoption," says the Charleston Mercury, speaking of the resolutions, which embody the foregoing proposition, "effects credit on the enlightened body by which they have been announced to the world; and because to Alabama belongs the credit of having, so far as the subject of these resolutions extend, constructed that platform on which all the slaveholding states will stand."

This platform, we take, is no better than the old one. What authority is to determine the meaning of the word "property," which forms so characteristic a feature in the new formula? Everything depends upon that. If the people of the territories are to decide they will say that "persons held to service" are not property. What decision would congress give? Whatever decision congress might give, it is plain that the new platform, instead of allowing no room for a discussion of the essential principle involved in the proviso, does in fact throw the door wide open to it.

This very question of personality and property--that is, how far slaves were persons and how far they were property--was thoroughly discussed in the convention of the United States; and the provisions of the constitution relating to slavery bear witness of the compromise made on that subject. The constitution does not designate slavery as property; it call them "persons," it provides that they shall be enumerated in the census and admitted, to a certain extent, in the basis of representation. In truth the constitution never uses the term "slave" or "slaves;" they are always designated as "persons," or "persons held to service." Nevertheless, with all this guarded phraseology, the constitution recognises the rights of property growing out of the institution of slavery, in those states in which it existed; and it protects those rights of property in the case of an absconding slave escaping into a state where slavery is not allowed.

We refer to these facts to show that the recently announced programme which designates, as the Mercury phrases it, "the platform of the south," does not really obviate a single difficulty pertaining to the question at issue.
To conclude upon this topic, we place before our readers another form which the proviso itself has recently taken. Certain resolution offered in the senate of the United States, last week, by Mr. Baldwin, of Connecticut, after announcing the proviso clause substantially went on to declare, "that in any extension of territory that may be acquired as the result of the war with Mexico, the desire of that republic, expressed by her commissioners, in their negotiation with Mr. Trist, to provide for the protection of the inhabitants of the system of human slavery therein, by a stipulation to that effect in any treaty that may be made, cannot, consistently with the rights of those inhabitants, or with the principles of justice and liberty which have been proclaimed to the world as the basis of our institutions, be disregarded or denied." [TBW]

**NNR 73.394 Feb. 19, 1848 response from Philadelphia to Lexington**

**RESPONSE FROM PHILADELPHIA TO LEXINGTON.**--The *Philadelphia North American* says: The thunders that broke from Lexington during the revolution, were echoed, peal for peal, from the heart of the entire land; and a fire was lighted up that no storm could extinguish until the country was saved. Another Lexington has spoken, in another crisis, and one almost as solemn; and its voice is given back from millions of sterling and patriotic hearts. Already we hear of preparations in various places to respond to the call made upon the people, in the Lexington resolutions, to meet, and speak and act upon the momentous question of the war. Philadelphia cannot be content to be second in the emulation of duty. We learn that a very considerable number of our first and best citizens, business men rather than politicians, but men whose intelligence, virtues, and patriotism are a guarantee of the sincere earnestness of their action, have already made arrangements for a great town meeting, to be held probably on Monday, for the expression of the sentiments of whig citizens of Philadelphia upon the great question, which forms the basis of the resolutions and speech of Mr. Clay at Lexington. [TBW]

**NNR 73.394-395 Feb. 19, 1848 official correspondence about the transport of Gen. Mariano Paredes y Arillaga by a British mail steamer**

**MAIL PROTEST**

*Official instructions of the secretary of state to the minister at London.*

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE,**

*Washington, September 14, 1848.*

Sir: I transmit you the copy of a letter, bearing date the 15th ultimo, from Colonel Henry Wilson, of the United States army, the acting governor of Vera Cruz, addressed to the war department. From this, as well as other information, it appears that Captain May, of the British steamer *Teviot*, although fully aware of the character of his passenger, brought General Paredes from Havana to Vera Cruz, and connived at, if he did not directly aid in his landing at that port in a clandestine manner, and contrary to the established regulations, requiring a visit from the proper inspecting officer before any passenger could be landed.

That the captain of the British steamer, by this conduct, has been guilty of a grave and serious violation of the duties of neutrality which Great Britain owes to the United States, can neither be doubted nor denied. It is known to the world that General Paredes, as president of Mexico, was the chief author of the existing war between that republic and the United States, and that he is the avowed and embittered enemy of our country. The British captain must have known that all his influence would be exerted to prolong and exasperate this war. It is, indeed, truly astonishing, that, with a knowledge of these facts, he should have brought this hostile Mexican general, under an assumed name, on board of a British mail steamer, to Vera Cruz, and aided or permitted him to land clandestinely, for the purpose of rushing into the war against the United States.--If any circumstance could aggravate this violation of neutrality, it would be the extraordinary privileges which this government has granted to British mail steamers ever since the commencement of the present war.

The president has not yet determined what course he will pursue in regard
to British mail steamers.--The great law of self-defense would, under such circumstances, justify him in withdrawing the privilege altogether from these steamers of entering the port of Vera Cruz, and thus effectually prevent the landing of enemies in disguise. He will not, however, resort at present to this extreme measure; convinced, as he is, that the British government will at once, upon your representation, adopt efficient means to prevent such violations of their neutrality for the future. In the mean time Colonel Wilson will be instructed to adopt the necessary means, under the law of nations, for the purpose of preventing and punishing similar outrages on our belligerent rights. British mail steamers cannot be suffered to bring to Vera Cruz either Mexican citizens or the subjects of any other nation, for the purpose of engaging in the existing war on the part of Mexico against the United States. A neutral vessel which carries a Mexican officer of high military rank to Mexico, for the purpose of taking part in the hostilities against our country, is liable to confiscation, according to the opinion of Sir William Scott, in the case of the Orozimbo--(6 Robinson’s reports, 430;) and this, even although her captain and officers were ignorant that they had such a person on board. That is their lookout. Such ignorance is no excuse, because it is their duty to inquire into the character of their passengers. The consequence is the same to the belligerent as if they had acted with full knowledge--"Otherwise (in the language of that distinguished jurist) such opportunities of conveyance would be constantly used; and it would almost be impossible, in the greater number of cases, to prove the knowledge and p[i]vity of the immediate offender."

You are instructed to make Lord Palmerston fully acquainted with the conduct of Captain May. I do not know whether he or any of his officers who may be implicated in this serious charge are officers in the British service. Should this prove to be the case then you will ask for their dismissal, or such other punishment as may clearly manifest that the British government has disapproved their conduct.

I am, &c.,

JAMES BUCHANAN.

GOEORGE BANCROFT, Esq., &c. [TBW]

NRR 73.400 Feb. 19, 1848 comments on the defensive line of the Sierra Madre

THE LINE OF THE SIERRA MADRE. It is known that Gen. Taylor, in his letter to Gen. Gaines, advocated the holding of the Sierra Madre range of mountains, as a defensive line, which would give us the whole valley of the Rio Grande, and by extension to the Pacific would also include California. There is no reason to suppose, from any thing known to the public, that Gen. Taylor has changed his views on that subject. On the other hand the inference is fair that he still adheres to the policy of a defensive line, as indicated by him—a defensive line of easy defence, marking a palpable separation of distinct geographical systems, and involving the acquisition of a territory, as indemnity or by purchase, bound by strong affinities to the Mississippi valley, of which, in fact, it forms a part, and yet containing so sparse a population as to present no difficulties to its gradual settlement by our people.

We observe in the Washington correspondence of some of the New Orleans papers certain allusions to Gen. Taylor in this connection, in which his position is spoken of confidently, as one maturely considered and deliberately held. The correspondent of the Courier says:

"From information lately received, I am satisfied that, by the time the canvass fairly opens, Gen. Taylor will show his hand upon the indemnity question. In this, if keeping to his present mind, he will advocate, first, putting down all the military factions in Mexico; next, retiring to a line to be drawn from Tampico to the gulf of California—that is, the line of the Sierra Madre, which, according to Mr. Calhoun and himself, will require the guarding of five passes; next, again, the establishment of territorial government over Tamaulipas, Chihuahua, California, &c., with the declaration that hereafter they are to be the property of the U. States."

The Picayune correspondent, referring to the same subject, calls the Sierra Madre "Old Zack’s line," and says: "This Sierra Madre line is so much better than that which Mr. Trist has been bargaining and begging for ever since he went to Mexico, that the democrats themselves will have to go for it, as an improvement upon the plan of the administration, which was willing to purchase California and take the Rio Grande for a frontier."

The assumption of this line, with fifteen thousand men to guard it, or twenty thousand at the most, would secure virtually an immediate peace. Ever since the
battle of Buena Vista, the force occupying it, under Gen. Taylor, and now under Gen. Wool, has not averaged probably more than six or seven thousand effective men. Yet the line has not been attacked. The trains from Camargo pass through to Monterey and Saltillo, without interruption; the whole valley of the Río Grande, from the mountain to the river, is quiet and undisturbed. The passes through the Sierra Madre are so few in number, and the positions which command them are so strong, that the business of defence becomes very simple, and is confined to definite and known points. The Mexican war, in all practical respects, need not last another month. It is hardly to be supposed, however, that Gen. Taylor's counsels will prevail, until he is placed in a position to enforce them himself.

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General orders, No. 2

War department, adjutant General's office,

Washington, Jan. 13, 1848.

The following order, received from the secretary of war, is published for the published for the information and guidance of the officers concerned:

War Department, Jan. 13, 1848.

By direction of the president of the US, a court of Inquiry, to constitute of Brevet Brigadier Gen. Caleb Cushing, and Col. E G W Butler, 3rd dragoons, members, will assemble in Mexico to inquire and examine into the charges an allegations preferred by Major Gen. Winfield Scott against Maj. Gen. Gideon J. Pillow, and Brevet Lieut. Col. James Duncan, Captain of the 2 regiment of artillery, and way of appeal by Brevet Major Gen. WJ Worth, Colonel of the 8th regiment infantry, against Major Gen. Winfield Scott; and also into matters connected with the same, as well as such other transactions as may be submitted to the consideration of the court; the facts in each case, thought with their opinions there on for the information of the president:

The court will convene on the 18th day of February next, or as soon thereafter as practicable in the Castle of Perote, in Mexico, where it will continue to hold its sittings, unless eh exigencies of the public service may require the place to be changed, in which case the court is authorized to adjourn from place to place, as circumstances may render necessary, in order that no embarrassment to the service may be occasioned by its sessions.

Should any of the members named in the order be prevented from attending the court will proceed to and continue the business, before, it ,provided the number of members present be within the limits prescribed by law.

First Lieut. Richard P Hammond, 3d. artillery, is appointed to act as Judge Advocate and recorder of the court.

In case the Judge Advocate and recoders should be prevented from attending or unable to discharge the duties, the court is authorized to appoint some other proper person or devolve the duties of recorder upon the junior member.

WL MARCHY Secretary of war.

By Order. R. Jones, Adj. Gen.

[LVW]

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**NNR 73.401 Feb. 26, 1848 Remarks on the treaty**

THE TREATY--So called.
The Union of the 24th, "respectfully suggests to (their) contemporaries the propriety of calmly waiting before expressing any conclusive opinions upon it" and refers to an editorial of the Baltimore Clipper and of the New York Herald, the latter of which intimated that the treaty is a sham-work a trick got up by the administration to aid in the negotation of the sixteen million loan. In this the Union says the Herald does great injustice to the president--[and so we should say.] The Clipper "cannot agree with the Herald,"--but goes on to infer that Mr. Trist's authority to treat could not have been withdrawn, or he would hardly have undertaken to negotiate. To this the Union replies.

"If the Clipper had only consulted the last message of the president, it would have seen at once the incorrectness of the supposition. Mr. Trist was recalled, and no additional conditions and no secret instructions were sent to him.

The Picayune of the 16th states, that a letter received by a mercantile house of high credit in that city, from its correspondent in Mexico, states that the Rothschilds had loaned to the Mexican government at Querataro, $2,000,000, to sustain itself till the ratification or rejection of the treaty could be ascertained. The writer concluded that Gen. Scott must have been consulted on the subject. The Picayune adds, "we see no reason to doubt that the United States government and senate will agree to the terms proposed. The government may feel chagrin at the result of Mr. Trist's pertinacious spirit of diplomacy, but will ultimately swallow its disappointment, and California and New Mexico, at the same time--this is our opinion."  [JNA]

NNR 74.002-003 February 26, 1848 transports for troops returning from Veracruz

New Orleans papers give a list of United States and chartered vessels which have been dispatched from that port by Maj. Tompkins, Q. M., to convey returning troops from Vera Cruz. The total number of vessels is 42, capable of conveying 16,175 men, of which 10 are U. S. vessels, and 92 chartered--16 steamers and 26 ships and barques.  [TBW]

NNR 74.003 February 26, 1848 proclamation of a treaty of peace with Mexico

By the President of the United States of America.

Whereas, a treaty of peace, friendship, limits and settlement between the United States of America and the Mexican Republic, was concluded and signed at the city of Guadalupe Hidalgo on the second day of February, one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight, which treaty, as amended by the Senate of the United States, and being the English and Spanish languages, is word for word as follows:

[Here follows the treaty.]  [See treaty below]

And whereas the said treaty as amended, has been duly ratified on both parts, and the respective ratifications of the same were exchanged at Queretaro, on the thirtieth day of May last, by Ambrose H. Sevier and Nathan Clifford, Commissioners on the part of the Government of the United States, and by Senor Don Luis de la Rosa, Minister of Relations of the Mexican Republic, on the part of that Government.

Now, therefore, be it known, that I, James K. Polk, President of the United States of America, have caused the said treaty to be made public, to the end that the same, and every clause and article thereof, may be observed and fulfilled with good faith by the United States and the citizens thereof.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed

Done at the city of Washington, this fourth day of July, on thousand eight [L. S.] hundred and forty eight, and of the independence of the United States the seventy-third.

JAMES K. POLK
By the President.

Agreeably to orders from the War Department, General Scott, on the 18th of February last, surrendered to General Butler the command of the army in Mexico, in a general order which reflects the highest honor on his discipline and soldier-like bearing:

Head Quarters of the Army,  
Mexico, Feb. 18, 1848.  
General Order, No. 39.

By instructions of the President of the United States, just received, Major General Scott turns over the command of the Army to Major General Butler, who will immediately enter upon duty accordingly. In taking official leave of the troops he has so long had the honor personally to command in an arduous campaign--a small part of whose glory has been, from position, reflected on the senior officer, Major General Scott is happy to be received by a General of established merit and distinction in the service of his country.

By command of Major General Scott,  
H. L. SCOTT, A. A. A. G.

The following is the General Order issued by Major General Butler, upon assuming command:

Head Quarters, Army of Mexico,  
Mexico, Feb. 19, 1848.  
Order, No. 1.

Pursuant to the orders of the President of the United States, and the instructions of Major General Scott, communicated in his General Order, No. 29, of yesterday's date, Major General Butler hereby assumes command of the army of Mexico. On entering upon the duties assigned him, General Butler cannot be unmindful that he succeeds a General familiar alike with the science and the art of war, and who has but recently brought to a glorious termination one of the boldest campaigns to be found in its annals. He feels however less diffidence in assuming the important and responsible command assigned him, from the conviction that he is aided and sustained by many of the talented and experienced officers who contributed nobly to our recent success in arms, and by a gallant army who have learned too well the road to victory easily to mistake it. The orders and instructions issued by Major Genera Scott, for the government of this army, will be sustained in force.

By order of Major General Butler,  
L. THOMAS, A. A. G. [TBW]

The following general orders have been issued by the Commander-in-Chief.

HEAD QUARTERS ARMY MEXICO,  
Mexico, May 29, 1948.  
[ORDERS NO. 122.]

I. Under a deep sense of gratitude to the Almighty, Major General Butler announces to the army under his command that the Mexican war is ended.
The great object of the campaign has been accomplished. A treaty of peace, just and honorable to both nations, has been duly ratified. It now becomes the pleasing duty of the commanding General to restore to a grateful country the gallant army which has so nobly sustained her rights and added to her renown.

The homeward march will be at once commenced, and it is expected that the most perfect order and discipline will be observed. Ample supplies of all kinds will be furnished at convenient posts, and there will be no excuse for the slightest depredations, which will be totally at war with the existing relations between the two countries.

II. In accordance with the foregoing, the troops in the valley of Mexico and at the surrounding posts will move to the rear in the following order on Jalapa, and encamp at some favorable place in its vicinity, or at Encero, until suitable transportation can be procured to transport them to the United States. 1st. The siege train under Lieut. Rayner, Ordnance Department, and Capt. Rowland’s heavy battery with a company of the 3d Artillery as an additional escort--this train to proceed on to Vera Cruz. 2d. First division of volunteers, commanded by Major General Patterson. 3d. Second division of volunteers commanded by Brig. Gen. Marshall.--4th. Third division of regular troops, commanded by Col. Trousdale, the senior colonel on duty with it, except the 9th Infantry, at Pachuca, which with the detachments at that place, will march via Opan and Perote. 5th. Second division regular troops, commanded by Brig. Gen. Kearney. 6th. First division of regular troops, commanded by Brevet Maj. Gen. Worth. Each division will have assigned to it at least on company of horse. The dragoons not assigned to divisions will receive special orders for their march.

The chiefs of the several departments, when not otherwise specially instructed, will accompany the head quarters.

III. The volunteer divisions on the march will be joined by such troops as may belong to them, at the points intermediate between the city of Mexico and Jalapa, which will leave sufficient guards of regular troops at Rio Frio, Puebla and Perote, to protect the supplies until the rear division comes up, when these small garrisons will march with said division--all attached men, including recruits, will in like manner join their respective regiments on the march.

IV. Ample supplies of forage and subsistence have been place in Depot at Puebla, Perote, and Jalapa, forage at Rio Frio; tents and shoes, it is expected, will be at Puebla, from which the troops requiring such articles can be supplied.

V. All ordnance and ordnance stores, and other public property in the city of Mexico, Chapultepec, Perote, Vera Cruz and elsewhere, which reverts to the Mexican Government under the 4th article of the treaty of peace, will be delivered to agents of said Government, duly authorised to receive the same.

VI. Such ordnance and ordnance stores, quartermaster’s stores and subsistence, not required for the troops, and which cannot by transported, or which on other accounts it may be advisable to dispose of, will be sold under the orders of the chiefs of the ordnance, quartermasters and subsistence departments respectively.

VII. Should it become necessary to transport any surplus stores or specie, the wagon train for the purpose will proceed to Jalapa with the first division of regulars.

VIII. Prisoners under-sentence of death, or to be dishonorably discharged at the expiration of the war, will accompany their respective regiments.

IX. All the volunteer troops will be transported to New Orleans, there to be mustered out of the service, and paid by officers specially assigned to that duty--except the troops from Georgia and South Carolina, which will be sent to Mobile for the like purpose. Major General Patterson’s division will proceed to advance.--Should other instruction be not received from the war department, all the regular troops in the order laid down in paragraph 2, will be transported to New Orleans, there to receive further orders from Washington. No troops will leave the camp from Jalapa until notified by Brevet Brig. Gen. Smith, commanding at Vera Cruz, that vessels are prepared for them.

X. Owing to the lateness of the season, and the difficulty of speedily procuring transportation for a large army, it may be impossible to transport horses. Troops must first be embarked. Officers entitled to forage--except general officers,
who are restricted to two horses--may take one horse each, if it can be done without
incommoding the troops. Battery horses will next be transported, then dragoon
horses will next be transported, if the number of vessels will admit of it.

XI. The commanding officer at Tampico will order the evacuation of that
place, according to the principles laid down in this order.

By order of
Major General BUTLER:

L. THOMAS
Assistant Adjutant General.

NBR 74.004 February 26, 1848 arrival of some troops at New Orleans, others
awaiting transportation in Mexico

The United States steamer Portland has arrived at New Orleans from Vera
Cruz, which she left on the 9th ult. The Portland brought over about 350 of the 13th
infantry, with some convalescents, discharged seamen, &c. The remainder of that
regiment had embarked on the ship Rhode Island, and was ready for sea when the
Portland left. Capt. Lee, engineers, and other distinguished members of Gen. Scott's
staff, also came passengers on the Portland, and Dr. Vanderlinden, former Surgeon
General of the Mexican army, who seeks America as an asylum.

The Orizaba garrison, about 1000 strong, under Col. Bankhead, and
consisting of the 13th infantry and Alabama battalion, arrived at Vera Cruz on the
morning of the 8th ult., and commenced embarking on the same day. The Alabama
battalion sailed on the 9th, in the brigs or schooners Heroine, Mopang, and
Massachusetts, for Mobile.

Gen. Patterson's division was expected in Vera Cruz on Monday, the 12th
ult., and General Marshall's on the following day. A letter from Mexico, dated the 3d
ult. Says, that General Kearney's division was ordered to leave Mexico on Tuesday,
the 6th ult., and Gen. Worth's on Wednesday, the 7th ult. The Michigan regiment
was shortly expected at Vera Cruz from Cordova.

Two thousand troops were encamped at Sierra Gordo, awaiting
transportation, and the arrival of detachments from the capital. The health of Vera
Cruz was improving.

The United States commissioners, Messrs. Sevier and Clifford, were
expected in the city of Mexico on the 3d ult. Mr. Sevier returns home with Gen.
Butler. [TBW]

NBR 74.005-007 February 26, 1848 report on the Battle of Santa Cruz de Rosales

We are indebted to the war department for the following full and very
interesting report of the military operations prior to and during the siege and capture
of Santa Cruz de Rosales, in New Mexico. It is praise enough to state that these
transactions are of a piece with the gallantry and the glory which have marked all
the operations of this brilliant war. They redound, like all the rest, to the honor of
the commanding general, officers and men of the army of New Mexico, and to the
glory of our country.

Headquarters, Army of the West,
Chihuahua, March 31, 1848.

GENERAL: I have the honor to submit a report of my operations from the
period of adopting the intentions expressed in my communication to the war
department, dated 6th February, 1848, to the present instant.

After making such arrangements both military and civil, as I deemed
essential for the security and tranquility of New Mexico, I took up the line of march
on the 8th of February, with one company of Missouri horse, for El Paso, where I had previously ordered a concentration of the following troops to operate against the State of Chihuahua, viz: three companies United States dragoons, commanded by Major B. L. Beal--one of which was acting as light artillery, under the command of Lieut. Love; six companies Missouri horse, under command of Col. Rolls; five companies Missouri infantry, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Easton; and Major Walker’s battalion of Santa Fe horse, three companies of horse and one of light artillery.

On the 23d I arrived at El Paso, distant from Santa Fe 340 miles, where measures were at once adopted for the intended operations; the peculiar characteristics and general features of the country, embracing the privations which must necessarily be endured on the road thus traveled, have been, I believe, already submitted to the department in former reports.

The additional information at El Paso confirming the many reports respecting the hostile intentions of the enemy supported by positive evidence as to the extended preparations in the fabrication of cannon and munitions of war, together with contributions of small arms from the adjoining states, induced me to change my original plan of operations, and adopt forced marches with my best mounted troops, for the purpose of striking a blow before the enemy could conceive my design. With this determination, I dispatched Major Walker with three companies of his battalion on the night of the 24th, to occupy the small town of Carrizal, distant from El Paso 90 miles, and so situated as to command all the passes leading to Chihuahua. This command has orders to reconnoitre the country: cut off all communication, by establishing strong pickets, and make every effort to obtain information respecting the designs and movements of the enemy.

On the 1st of March, after having been delayed by the non-arrival of my supply of trains, conducted as they were compelled to be by inexperienced officers, I resumed by march with four companies of Roll’s and two of Beale’s command, supplied with eight day’s subsistence, leaving orders for Love’s artillery, the remainder of Rall’s command, under Lieut. Col. Lane, and Easton’s infantry, with the exception of one company, which I designed as additional protection to the train, yet in the rear, to march on the 2d. Major Walker, at Carrizal, received no additional information, but succeeded in effectually stopping all communication with the enemy.

Thus far my march was successful, and continued so until the night of the 6th. When within sixty miles of Chihuahua, a small party of my advance unexpectedly came upon one of the enemy’s pickets, which, unfortunately, succeeded in escaping.

Aware, now, that my approach would be known on the following morning, I pushed forward my command until I arrived within six miles of the Sacramento, at a point termed Laguna, where I was met by a flag of truce from the general commanding the Mexican forces, protesting against the advance of my troops upon Chihuahua, upon the ground that instructions had been received from the Mexican government suspending hostilities, as a treaty of peace had been concluded and signed by commissioners on behalf of both governments. The evidence adduced on behalf of this assertion I did not then deem sufficiently satisfactory, and could not, therefore, comply with the proposition. Convinced of the uselessness of further conference, I was solicited to send in advance of my command two of my officers, to arrange the preliminaries of a capitulation. To this request I yielded, and immediately dispatched Capt. McKissick, of the quartermaster’s department, and Lieut. Prince, my assistant adjutant general, who were fully made acquainted with my views.--Fearful that dissimulation was the object of this interview, I determined to move my command upon Chihuahua that night, and accordingly proceeded with rapidity, when, in about an hour after the departure of my officers, I was met by some American citizens of Chihuahua, who informed me of the retreat, the morning previous, of the Mexican army, with their munitions of war. Anticipating events of this nature, I had, on the previous day, detached Beall’s dragoons, so that by a forced march over the mountains during the night, he would be able to intersect the Durango road, and possibly encounter the enemy in his rapid and confused fight. For his operations, I respectfully refer to the report herewith submitted. At 9 o’clock at night, my troops had possession of the city. On the following morning, (the 8th,) with portions of Rall’s, Beall’s, and Walker’s commands, (the majority mounted,) and numbering about 250 men, I pursued the enemy to the town of Santa Cruz de Rosales, where he had already strongly fortified himself—a distance of 60 miles from Chihuahua—where I arrived at sunrise the morning of the 9th. After a careful reconnaissance of the place, I determined to carry the town by storm, notwithstanding the immense fortified of the enemy in numbers, implements and munitions of war. Dismounting Rall’s (with the exception of McNain’s company) and Walker’s commands to operate as infantry, and posting Beall’s dragoons, now
augmented by one company of Rall’s regiment, to act either as a reserve or to intercept the flight of the enemy, in the event of success, I determined the attack on the west side of the town, with Rall’s command, and on the southeast angle of the same, with Walker’s command. These arrangements perfected, I dispatched Lieut. Prince, with a flag of truce, demanding an unconditional surrender of the town and public property. An interview upon this summons was requested by General Trias, which I readily granted for the reason adduced—viz: that official notice from the Mexican government of a treaty of peace having been signed by commissioners, on behalf of both governments, had been received, and the solemn assurance by General Trias that he himself had no doubt of the existence of the treaty; moreover, that he felt assured that confirmation of the same from his government would reach him by a courier (express) expected in three days. This declaration was supported by the honor of the Mexican general, and, under the circumstances, was regarded important. I therefore made the proposition contained in the subsequent correspondence, which I have the honor to submit herewith. That success must inevitably follow any course I might decree, I had not the slightest doubt. I was expecting reinforcements of my artillery and horse, and was willing, if human life could be saved, to withdraw for a few days my forces; though, at the same time, I considered it my duty to besiege the town, as I maintained the right to dictate such terms as I deemed consistent with American honor.

It will thus be seen, that a small American force, not exceeding 300 men in the aggregate besieged with success a strongly fortified town, containing over 900 troops of the enemy. Without tents, a scarcity of provisions, and suffering from the effects of forced marches beyond a parallel, my troops cheerfully performed the onerous duties of the siege day and night, and are entitled to the highest considerations of their government.

From the 9th instant to the morning of the 16th, nothing of importance transpired for the subject of my report, save the correspondence before alluded to, and the arrival of small detachments of the several commands, together with two 12 pounder howitzers, of Major Walker’s battalion, under the command of Captain Hassendeubel, whom I left at Chihuahua on the morning of the 8th.

Expecting daily a sally from the enemy, my troops were constantly in the saddle ever vigilant and cautious, each appearing to possess the individual interest, which belongs more properly to the commander. That the enemy exhibited supineness—that his every effort became paralyzed by the vigilance of my troops, is sufficiently manifested by his total inaction, although numbering near four times my own. With a battery of eight pieces of artillery (several heavier than any of my guns,) and nine wall pieces, no attempt was made, designs executed, or pickets forced, to remedy the evils which were the subject of complaint in his official correspondence.

About daylight on the morning of the 16th, my expected reinforcements arrived; they consisted of part of three companies of Missouri horse, under the command of Lieut. Colonel Lane, and Love’s battery.

They reports of these officers, which I have the honor to submit, evince a zeal seldom displayed, a rapidity of movement yet to be surpassed, and an iron energy of will which recognizes no limit, and convey to the department a record of their own merits.

Convinced now of the necessity of terminating a siege peculiarly burdensome to my troops, I determined at once upon an act. From several reconnaissances, I felt sure the enemy believed my main force would be directed against that portion of the town fronting my camp, as new batteries had been established, and an unusual degree of activity became apparent throughout the siege in that quarter. At seven o’clock, A. M., I broke up my camp, and with my entire force, excepting Beall’s dragoons, augmented by Captain McNair’s company Missouri horse, who were left to cut off a retreat on the Durango road, I proceeded round the southern point of the town, where I placed in position Walker’s battalion, protected from the enemy’s artillery by walls and houses, for the meditated assault. Continuing to the western side of the town, I then detached Lieutenant Colonel Lane, with two companies of the Missouri regiment, to support Love’s battery, which I ordered to take position within 500 yards of the town, on the road leading to Chihuahua, and commanding the principal plaza church, around and in which the enemy were strongly posted, reserving Rall’s remaining four companies as my centre, and so disposes as to afford timely support to the artillery under Love and Hassendeubel.

My final disposition made, Hassendeubel’s two 12 pounders having been put in battery on the west side of the town, supported by Rall’s command, I, at 10 1/2 A.
M., ordered my batteries to open, which, for nearly an hour, maintained a spirited and destructive fire, clearing the houses and church of the enemy; which latter, from its flanking position and strength of construction, became the stronghold of the enemy.

The fire of the enemy, during this time, from all his heavy guns and wall pieces, was incessant, but, from their position, without effect.--Observing that large gun of the enemy, which I afterwards learned to be a 9 pounder, had been brought to bear upon Hassendeubel's battery, and evidently with a view to silence it, Lieut. Dyer, of the ordnance, belonging to my staff, but who volunteered for duty with Love's battery, was ordered to reinforce Hassendeubel with a 24 pounder howitzer and a 6 pounder gun. This movement having been perceived by the enemy, his battery was reinforced, and an incessant fire of canister, grape, and round shot was opened upon our batter, but without doing material injury. Lieut. Dyer was soon in position, where he continued a direct fire upon this battery, placed in embrasure in one of the principal streets leading to the main plaza, as well as the church and a large building, upon both of which were stationed a strong force. For the upwards of an hour this battery was served with great effect, clearing the houses and church during which time it was exposed to the fire of the enemy's batteries, which, throughout maintained a most rapid firing.

I now ordered Lieut. Love, with a 24 pounder howitzer and a 5 pounder gun, (the remainder of his battery having been disabled in firing,) to advance upon the position occupied by Lieut. Dyer. Dyer, determined if possible, to silence the enemy's 9 pounder, which contributed, by the efficient manner in which it was served, greatly to our annoyance. Immediately thereafter I received information that my rear was threatened by a large cavalry force of the enemy, supposed to be about 900 strong, and intended as a reinforcement for the enemy within the town. I immediately withdrew my artillery to a commanding position about three quarters of a mile from the town, and in the direction of the Chihuahua road; ordering, at the same time the remainder of my command to the same point, for the purpose of attacking this supposed reinforcement. This movement was evidently regarded by the enemy as a prelude to a signal defeat.--Loud cheers arose from the town, the houses were again covered by the soldiery, a flag was immediately run up from an angle of the church, and the fire of the enemy's heavy guns became unusually brisk. I soon discovered the report of a large reinforcement of the enemy in my rear to be incorrect, and that only a small body of cavalry had threatened it, which I soon dispersed with the command under Lieutenant Col. Lane.

I now determined to storm the town, agreeably to the dispositions made at the commencement of the attack; and therefore gave orders for Ralls, Lane, and Walker to resume their former positions, dismount their men, and charge the town at the points assigned them, as soon as my batteries should re-open.

Lieut. Love was ordered to take up his former position. About 3 1/2 P. M., the action was resumed, and the fire of our battery returned with unusual briskness. Lieut. Love's battery at this time consisted of one 24 pounder howitzer, one 6 pounder, and one 5 pounder. For a more detailed report of this battery, and the efficient aid contributed by the officers who kindly assisted at it, I respectfully refer to Lieutenant Love's report, which I take pleasure in endorsing, from my personal observations upon that day.

For the particulars of the several storming parties, I must also refer to the reports of their respective chiefs, which I desire to be identified as a portion of my own. The charge of Ralls was commenced under my own eye, and in a manner which foreboded success. So soon as time would permit, I witnessed the persevering efforts of Major Walker's command, and felt confident of the result.

I would also refer to Major Beall's report for the duty assigned the squadron of dragoons, under the command of Capt. Grier. In affording protection to my battery on the 16th, in the judgment and activity displayed to intercept any attempt by flight of the enemy, and in the discharge of the highly important duties of the siege, I discovered talent and ability.

I feel confident that I cannot add to the known reputation of this command; for the second time has it shared with me the honors of victory. Although the first was at the sacrifice of its gallant and accomplished leader, (the lamented Burgwin,) yet I cannot refrain from according that tribute of praise which is due the distinguished services they have performed since forming a portion of my command.

Shortly after sundown the enemy surrendered. Gen. Trias and forty-two (42) of his principal officers were made prisoners of war; and eleven pieces of
Artillery, nine wall pieces, besides 577 stand of arms, fell into our hands. Our loss in the action was one lieutenant, two corporals, and one private killed; and nineteen privates wounded. The loss of the enemy—from the evidence of commanding officers herewith submitted—was two officers, and 236 non-commissioned officers and privates; the number wounded cannot be correctly ascertained.

In submitting to the consideration of the government the operations which have been performed by my troops, I feel anxious to exhibit that high degree of praise their conduct on this occasion so justly merits. The exceedingly onerous duties of forced marches, over a sterile and desert country of nearly 320 miles, without tents or transportation trains, with merely a few days' rations of subsistence, have been willingly, indeed cheerfully, endured by my gallant column. I feel a sense of pride in recording the distinguished bravery of all—regulars and volunteers; believing that feeling will be reciprocated by the war department, and cherished by the American people.

The distinguished conduct of Lieutenant Love—in the highly efficient manner in which his battery was served; in the rapidity of movement which characterized his conduct, when ordered to reinforce me, traveling night and day, going into battery four hours after his arrival, and his unceasing efforts during the entire day in working his battery—deserves especial notice; and I cannot refrain from expressing the strongest recommendation for that honorable gratitude from this country which the brave soldier acquires by his exploits.

To Colonel Ralls, to Lieutenant Colonel Lane, to Major Walker, and their brave officers and men, I must accord the highest honors; unflinching in the performance, they each and all vied, where duty called them, for the crowning result of success. Ralls, on the west, charged with animation and enthusiasm; Walker, on the southeast, stormed with daring and bold determination; Lane, on the northwest, with a small command, forces the enemy's barriers, gained the main plaza, but, overwhelmed by numbers, prudently withdrew, in good order, his small command. In this charge, the brave but lamented Lieutenant G. O. Hepburn, Missouri mounted horse, fell, leading the men gloriously, cheering and animating them to the last. His country has lost a valuable officer; his relatives and friends must look to his deeds, worthy of record upon the page of history, to console them for their loss.

From the officers of my personal staff, I have received the most important services and encouraging aid. Capt. McKissick, assistant quartermaster, Capt. Garrison, assistant commissary of subsistence, Maj. Spalding, pay department, and Lieutenant Prince, A. D. C. and A. A. General, served during the contest near my person, conveying my orders with promptness wherever necessity demanded.

Captain McKissick, suffering severely from sickness, resumed his position in the field, rendering valuable services throughout the action.

To the medical staff, conducted by Assistant Surgeon R. T. Simpson United States army, I have to express my acknowledgements. The attention and ability displayed by Assistant Surgeon Simpson to our wounded upon the field, as well as those of the enemy after the action, has won for him admiration and esteem from both armies.

I also mention, with pleasure, the services of Capt. Haley, Missouri horse, acting brigade inspector of my command, who voluntarily led his company at the storming of the town, under the immediate command of Colonel Ralls.

I also take great pleasure in recording the services of Messrs. James L. Collins, E. W. Pomeroy, and W. C. Skinner, American citizens, resident at Chihuahua, who volunteered their services as aids-de-camp upon that duty.

Of these gentlemen I must take particular mention. The valuable information received from the former upon my arrival at El Paso, as respects the condition of the enemy, a knowledge of the country and its language, together with his unremitting efforts to second my views in all that pertains to these occurrences, and the personal exertions of the two latter, in assisting me to remount my command at this place, with their services on the 16th, entitle them to my warmest thanks.

I respectfully transmit herewith a special field return of the forces engaged in the action of the 16th: a report of the killed and wounded; a list of officers paroled; a list of stores captured; a muster-roll of the enemy's forces, as furnished by Gen. Trias; and two topographical sketches of the town, showing the position of my several commands; prepared respectively by Captain Hassendeubel, of Maj. Walker's
battalion, and Assistant Surgeon Horace R. Wirtz, United States army.

I think proper to state here, that every exertion was made by Lieut. Col. Easton, commanding battalion of infantry, Lieut. Webber, commanding two sections of Captain Hassendeubel's artillery, and those officers who were necessarily absent with the trains, including Major Bodine, pay department, in charge of the public funds, to share the honor of the attack.

I would also inform the department that Gen. Manuel Armijo, late governor of New Mexico, surrendered himself to me as a prisoner of war on the 21st inst., and is now on his parole of honor; a copy of which together with that of Gen. Trias, I have the honor herewith to submit.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

STERLING PRICE
Brig. Gen. U. S. A. Comd'g.

To Brig. Gen. R. JONES,

NNR 73.407 February 26, 1848 Gen. Joseph Lane’s expedition in pursuit of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna

ARMY OF INVASION.

The New Orleans Picayune, of the 15th furnishes letters from their correspondent in Mexico, giving interesting details from the army, from which we derive the following:

His letter dated city of Mexico, January 17, 1848, is occupied in comments upon the papers received there from the U. States, and in giving his own speculations and opinions upon the policy which ought to be pursued. As it was written before the project of a treaty had been agreed upon, most of those speculations are superceded by certainties, and the opinions are no longer germane to the state of affairs. We confine our extracts to matter of fact.

Puebla, January 21.--I wrote on the 17th instant from Mexico, and informed you that I intended to accompany a secret expedition under the command of Gen. Lane, which, at the time, was supposed to be intended to scour the valley of Mexico in quest of guerrillas; and after giving it a thorough search, to march in the direction of Santa Anna’s residence for the time being. The expedition, consisting of two companies of the 3d dragoons, under the command of Capt. Duperu and Lieuts. Adde and Martin; company of mounted rifles, commanded by Lieut. Claiborne; and four companies of Texas rangers, commanded by Captains Roberts and Daggett and Lieuts. Tucker and Evans—numbering in all about 359 officers and men—left Mexico on the morning of the 18th, taking the Penon, or Vera Cruz road; Major Polk in chief command of the dragoons and rifles, and Colonel Hays in chief command of the rangers, accompanied the expedition, together with Major Chevalie, formerly of the rangers, Captain Crittenden of the rifles, and Lieutenant Butler, Dr. Hunt, of Kentucky, and Mr. Merriwether, of Indiana—the former aid, and the two latter volunteer aids of Gen. Butler, who followed the expedition as volunteers.

The expedition arrived at Puebla on the 20th and left on the 22d of January.

[TBW]

NNR 73.408 February 26, 1848 Orizaba occupied, description, revolt at La Paz

Orizaba, January 25, 1845.--We left Tehuacan for this city early on the morning of the 23d, after a rest of a day and a night; and a few miles from the town came to a hacienda of Santa Anna’s, at the base of a mountain, and at the entrance of a narrow valley.—The hacienda was thoroughly searched, but nothing subject to seizure was found; and the command proceeded for six or eight miles being rough and jagged, and over a naked lime-stone rock, as has been occasionally the case in the two preceding [ expand ] arc [ yes. It must not be inferred, however, that because the
This valley runs, say ten or twelve miles, in a northerly direction, and then, turning abruptly to the east, narrows into a mountain gorge, where there are numerous passes capable of successful defence by a small force against a larger superior one; but although we were warned to be cautious in marching through this gorge least the enemy should surprise us, we passed through it without meeting a combatant. The road is a continuous ascent. After traveling three or four miles through the gorge, we met, before us, and an occasional glimpse of Orizaba’s snow, much nearer than is pleasing to the imagination of a man accustomed to a warm climate, gave intimation that we were ascending a lofty mountain. At the top, governed by a single impulse, the whole column halts, and officers and men rush from the line to behold a scene, perhaps unequalled in the world for beauty and magnificence. Before us were two ranges of mountains, running parallel at a very short distance apart; the tops enveloped in clouds, as we were ourselves, were invisible, but the sun penetrating the mist gave to their barren sides an ashy whiteness; the numerous mule paths traversing them in every direction, appeared like so many fiery serpents; and beneath, the fields of grass, corn, and stubble, alternated with the regularity of squares of a checkerboard. The churches and haciendas on the plain, all white as snow, added, by the contrast with the green, in no small degree to the charm of the scene. I find myself guilty of the egotism of attempting a description of a scene that would baffle the most gifted pen or pencil, and can only offer as an excuse the unerasable impression it made upon my memory—an impression that would not brook neglect.

At the foot of the mountain the general was met by the curate and Ayuntamiento of the small village of Acalzingo, bearing a white flag. They accompanied us into the village, pointed out good quarters in the cleanest and best managed country inn I have seen in Mexico, and men and horses found a good night’s rest. The city was now but seventeen miles distant. From what had been heard on the road, it was expected a defence of it would be attempted; but, about 3 o’clock in the morning, a deputation came to the general from the Ayuntamiento, requesting to know what terms he would agree to, if the keys of the city were given up to him. The reply was, that they would know his terms when he had possession. With this the deputation returned; and at about five o’clock in the morning, the troops were on the last day’s march to Orizaba—350 men were on their way to take a city of 20,000 to 25,000 population. To cut the matter short, the Ayuntamiento, the principal clergyman, and many of the respectable inhabitants, met the command about three miles from the city, and after, at their own request, being informed of what the troops would want, a portion went ahead to provide for them, and the remainder, accompanying the general, on arriving at the gates gave up the keys of the city to him. On entering, we found a white flag displayed at every house, and the whole population seemed to have come out to witness our entry, and showed a degree of confidence that was decidedly complimentary. On conversing with some of the most friendly citizens, I found there were about 100 or 150 guerrillas here last night, who were ambitious of defending the city at the gate by which we entered, or who pretended they were. Whether they were sincere or not, is a matter of but little moment; but the citizens, desirous of avoiding those excesses which always will take place after a successful assault, wisely cleared the rascals out early in the morning.

Orizaba, Jan. 26, 1848.--We are now quietly and comfortably quartered here, and the inhabitants seem thus far to be satisfied with our presence. The general has appointed Major Polk, military and civil governor of the city; Co. Dumont, attorney general; and Col. Hays, commander of troops. Inquiries are about being instituted in relation to certain matters of importance, the nature of which will be revealed by the orders I enclose. As soon as these inquiries are concluded, you will be informed of the result. --You will find a correspondence between the
Ayuntamiento of Cordova and the general, requesting him to occupy their city. The people in this part of the country are generally peaceable, and all that was wanting to put down the guerrillas who have rendezvoused in the neighborhood, was the presence of a sufficient force to countenance and support the well disposed. The good conduct of the troops on the march, and since their arrival here, has assisted much in conciliating the people, and the durability of first impressions is proverbial.

Col. Bankhead, we learn, is on his way here with 1,000 or 1,200 men and several pieces of artillery, and is expected to arrive at Cordova to-night. If he does, he will be here to-morrow. This amount of well-conducted troops in and about here will be of great service in protecting life and property from guerrilla depredations, and in encouraging our friends to speak their sentiments boldly, be they what they may, for peace and or for occupation. We shall remain here until Col. Bankhead arrives; how much longer, I do not know. From this point it is probable the general will take the direct road to Puebla, and thence as rapidly as possible to Mexico, where it is expected the San Luis expedition will be preparing about the time we arrive. Should Rea or any of the guerrilla parties lie on the road, you may depend they will not be allowed much rest.

I will conclude this letter by giving you a copy of a memorandum furnished by a person in Puebla, in relation to the character and disposition of the people in the towns and villages we have passed through from Puebla to this place, and in like places on the direct road from here to Puebla. D.S.

CALIFORNIA--Revolt at La Paz.--An account is given of the revolt at La Paz in the New York Globe, in a letter dated La Paz, October 29th, (latest prior date Oct. 10,) which says:

"The inhabitants have risen throughout the country against us, obliging every one who has shown any friendship for us to flee to La Paz for protection.--One American (Mathew Davis) was murdered at Muhje, not having time to escape. At this last place the marines and sailors of the "Dale" had a skirmish with the inhabitants, and drove them from their town into the mountains. They are now collecting at various points in the interior, with the intention of obliging us to evacuate this place; but, although we are small in numbers, we are well fortified, and it will be no easy matter. I can hardly believe they will make a direct attack on us; they will be more apt to annoy us, by hovering about the neighboring farms, cutting off supplies, &c. We are too few to act on the offensive. The sloop of war Dale Igely in the harbor.

"All this difficulty is the result of not having a single vessel in the gulf since the beginning of last July, to prevent the transportation of arms, ammunition, and men then Guayamas to this coast. The English cruisers have been there all the stormy season."

Referring the taking of Mazatlan and Guayamas, the letter says:

"How they are to be retained and garrisoned I cannot well imagine; we have not a thousand troops from the forty-ninth parallel to Cape St. Lucas.--They are trying to make nondescript soldiers out the sailors, but it will be found much easier to garrison a man-of-war with such material, than a captured city with a densely populated back country."

A series of small fights and skirmishes on the Pacific coast of Mexico is reported by Mazatlan letters of Dec. 1st to the Express--the U. S. vessels Independence, Captain Shubrick, Congress, Cyane, and Portsmouth being then at anchor there. The Congress and Portsmouth bombarded Guayamas in October, and took possession after driving out the troops--800 in number. Com. Sellridge, of the Dale, landed at Sinaloa with 88 officers and men 17th Nov. and unexpectedly encountered a force of 400 men, with the aid of shot and shell from the ship. Com. S. was slightly wounded.

A body of near 200 California troops, with two 6 pounders, attacked Lt. Haywood, who was posted at San Jose, near Cape Lucas, with about 100 men, including 30 California volunteers, led by Mr. G]le]p]e, and American merchant, and one 9 pounders.--The Mexican leader, Majores, was killed with 20 of his men. A few days after Lt. Col. Burton, with 40 New York volunteers was assaulted at La Paz, on the Gulf side of the peninsula, by 300 Mexicans under Peuanda--who lost 50 men. Burton lost 1 killed and 2 wounded. In two days after, 25th November, attack was renewed. Burton having sent to Lt. Haywood at San Jose, 70 leagues off, for aid. No fears are felt for the result.
In a brisk skirmish near Mazatlan between Lieut. Halleck and Rowan and 160 men, a band of Mexicans were routed, with the loss of 1 man and 13 wounded on our side. Col. Stevenson, 7th N. York volunteers, commands the southern department at Los Angelos. [TBW]

NNR 73.409 February 26, 1848 items, peace announced at Queretaro

LATER FROM MEXICO.--The English steamer Dee arrived at Ship Island, below New Orleans, on the 20th instant, with advices from Vera Cruz to the 16th instant, four day later than previous accounts, and from Tampico to the 13th instant.

The Dee had five passengers on board for England, and five for Havana.

She also had on board $100,000 in specie.

The courier of the English legation had arrives at Vera Cruz with advices from the city of Mexico to the 13th. The American Star of the 11th, published in the capital, contains an official announcement that the treaty of peace had been concluded. Attached to the document is the signature of Senor Rosa, Mexican minister of foreign relations.

Intelligence from Queretaro, up to the 10th inst., states that there was still no quorum of congress.

A meeting of deputies was held on the 7th, at which twenty four were present. A majority of these declared in favor in peace.

Gen. Lane reached the city of Mexico from Orizaba on the 10th instant, without having met with any further adventures than have already been noticed.

Lieut. Gaston, of the Kentucky volunteers, died at the city of Mexico a short time before the courier left that city.

Lieut. Clark, with his command, was at Cuernavaca on the 9th. Gen. Alvarez was making an effort to cut off his supplies, but Lieut. C. had adopted every means to thwart his designs.

The American Star of the 12th says that Santa Anna had asked for a passport that he might leave the republic, and that he recommends his friends to favor peace, and sustain the existing government.

Pena y Pena has published a letter, which states that the government in Queretaro has resolved, in agreement with Gen. Scott, upon the imprisonment of Santa Anna, as the best means of removing the only obstacle to the conclusion of a peace.

There was much animation of Queretaro; commerce was reviving; and the general opinion there was that a peace would soon be concluded.

The American Star of the 16th inst, says it has been officially announced by the Mexican minister of foreign relations, at Queretaro, that a treaty of peace was signed at Guadaloupe on the 2d inst. Between Mr. Trist, on the part of the United States, and Senors Corto Cuevas, commissioners on the part of the Mexican government. [TBW]

NNR 73.416 February 26, 1848 comments on the prospects of the treaty of peace apparently submitted to the Senate

THE TREATY. It is understood that a message from the president reached the senate chamber the moment after that body adjourned in consequence of Mr. Adam’s illness on Tuesday. It was communicated as soon as the senate organized on Wednesday. Nothing of less importance could have detained that body in session on that day. The message and the accompanying project of a treaty with Mexico, it is understood was, during the secret session, referred to the committee on foreign relations.
A faint glimpse of the sentiments of some of the prominent members in the senate in relation to the treaty, may be obtained by noticing the proceedings of the body whilst they were in open session.

Of the disposition of the president and his cabinet in respect to accepting the proposed terms, very contrary opinions have been expressed. For ourselves, we took it for granted, that if the executive, with whom exclusively the constitution has reposed the initiatory treaty making duties, recognized the project so far as to submit it to the senate, that they of course waived all objections as to the authority by which it had been negatived, however informal.

And (notwithstanding a recent instance to the contrary) we further concluded, that those informalities would not have been waived in this case, if the president and his cabinet were not in favor of accepting and ratifying the treaty, which he submitted.

Of course we looked to the government organ at Washington for the most authentic intimations upon the subject. No announcements could reasonably be expected from thence in the present posture of affairs, but something may be gathered from the tone of their remarks. These so far as they go, leave little room to doubt the president's approval of the terms. The Union of Friday night, the 25th, has between two and three columns under its leading article "The treaty," most of which are extracts from other papers with their own comments. From the whole we gather a distinct approval of the project, at least so far as the territory acquired, is at issue. Relying upon it also, as they do, as conclusive proof that the president has no design to conquer all Mexico, implies his acquiescence in the treaty as submitted.

What chance there is of two-thirds of the senate advising its ratification, is another question, and is likely to involve that of the terms on which additional territory shall be admitted into the Union.

On the other hand, the project is admitted to have originated from the executive of Mexico, and will have to be submitted to the ratification of the Mexican congress. The cash consideration of some twenty millions is relied upon to win them over.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Courier, writes that there will be serious opposition to ratify the treaty, by the Wilmot proviso senators of the north, and by the Calhoun men of the south, Butler, Yulee, and Johnson, of La. Some urge the necessity of a military frontier, and suggest the Sierra Madre line, others object to the treaty as informally negotiated; other do not like its stipulations; "a very small portion, if any, advocate openly, the whole of Mexico." The writer upon the whole, however, for various reasons assigned, concludes that the influence of the executive will carry the ratification. The last of his reasons is, that congress will refuse money and men to carry on the war.

The three millions are to be paid down on the exchange of ratification, and our troops are to leave Mexico within three months thereafter. [TBW]

NNR 74.016 February 26, 1848 plans for an independent Republic of the Sierra Madre

REPUBLIC OF SIERRA MADRE.--A New movement in New Mexico contemplated.--From the New Orleans Bulletin we learn the following piece of intelligence of the contemplated formation of an Independent Republic of the Northern States of Mexico. The idea has been broached before, but it seems now to be seriously entertained.

"A gentleman of this city, who has very lately been in Tampico, and who came passenger in the Tay, informs us that reliable persons living in that place stated to him, that if peace was declared between the United States and Mexico, they would get up a revolution against the latter country, and declare themselves independent. Their scheme is to unite with the States of Tamaulipas, Coahuila, Zacatecas, and San Luis, and declare for a Republic--invite a few thousand Americans to join in with them, and by blocking up the mountain passes, beat off the foe at all points, and compel Mexico to acknowledge her as an independent nation. Their plan, though a wild one, has a host of supporters, who have even gone so far as to form a national flag, a fancy affair, with the letters of R. S. M., Republic of Sierra Madre, and to nominate General SHIELDS as President."
The New Orleans Delta of a late date, says: We learn from a gentleman who arrived yesterday in the steamship Portland from Vera Cruz--one who is well posted up in the matter--that a public declaration was to be made on the 13th June ult, by the leading Mexicans of Vera Cruz, in favor of separating that State from the present Mexican confederacy, in other words, declaring in favor of the contemplated Republic of Sierra Madre. [TBW]

Note: The Niles Register was not published again until July 12, 1848

NNR 74.017 July 12, 1848 Desereters

DESERTERS.--A writer in the New Orleans Delta states that since the commencement of the war there have been at least one thousand desertions from the American to the Mexican army; That numbers of them were recognized at Queretaro by their old comrades; and that they have been the main stay of the Mexican Government in repressing manifestations of mutiny and disaffection by the Mexicans against the administration of Pena y Pena. [JNA]

NNR 74.017-018 July 12, 1848 arrival of returning troops at New Orleans

RETURN OF THE VOLUNTEERS.--The Company of Sappers and Miners which went out to Mexico under Capt. Swift, has returned to New York, the first of the returned volunteers. There were a number of volunteers from Philadelphia in this company. When it left the United States it numbered 72 brave fellows. Twelve died from fevers and other diseases--two were killed in battle--one deserted to speculate in mining--two deserted and joined the enemy--twenty-four fell sick or were discharged at Vera Cruz, and thirty-three have returned in the steamship Crescent City. They bring with them a number of Mexican lances, side arms and accoutrements, as trophies of their bravery at Contreras, and other sanguinary battle-fields.--[Public Ledger.

The first arrival of troops from Mexico at New Orleans took place on the 16th ult., in the ship Russia, from Vera Cruz. She anchored off Slaughter-house Point, below the city, with the following companies on board: 


Since our last announcement the U. S. Steamer Fashion, from Brazos Santiago, arrived at N. Orleans with Brevet Lieut. Col. Bragg and other officers.

The Schooners Creole and Athos from Vera Cruz, and the James L. Day, Steamship, from the same port, have also arrived, bringing troops--the Creole with companies B, H, and K, numbering 148 men, of the New York Volunteers, under command of Major G. Dykeman; the Athos, with companies D, H, and K,--180 men, of the Michigan Volunteers; and the James L. Day, with 125 men of the Baltimore and District of Columbia regiment, under Col. Hughes.

The U. S. Steamships Alabama, and Massachusetts, the ship Edgar, the bark Florida, and the brig Winthrop, have also arrived.

A large number of officers and soldiers came over on these vessels, among whom were Major General Patterson and staff.

The Ohio steamer was to leave immediately after the Alabama, with troops, she arrived there on the 22d inst.
Lieutenant Jenkins, of the 2d Illinois Volunteers, and a private soldier, died on the Massachusetts on the passage.

The ship Sabattis, was to sail on the 24th with the remainder of the Illinois troops.

The Alabama brought up the Georgia mounted men, and the New Jersey battalion--eleven companies, in all 629 men--with their officers, twenty-three bodies in coffins, from Gen. Patterson’s command, and ten horses; Lieut. Col. J. S. Calhoun and 316 non-commissioned officers and privates of the Georgia Mounted Volunteers; Lieut. G. Anderson, and 28 men. Independent Georgians; Captains McDowell, Harrison, and Mickle, and 244 non-commissioned officers and privates of the New Jersey Battalion.

Passengers by the Massachusetts--Major Gen. Patterson and staff--six companies of the 2d Illinois Volunteers--325 men--under command of Col. Hicks:--Capt. Powell and 52 men; Capt. Moore and 53 men; Capt. Burnes and 46 men; Capt. Monaghan and 47 men; Capt. Stapps and 47 men.


Passengers by the brig Winthrop.--1st Massachusetts Regiment, under command of Major B. K. Andrews--255 men, companies F, G and H.

NUMBER OF TROOPS SHIPPED FROM VERA CRUZ, AND THE DAYS ON WHICH THEY SAILED.


June 3--U. S. ship America, 290 troops from N. Orleans, and Capt. Howes' Co. 2d Dragoons. Ship Russia, troops from N. York per America, 369.

June 7--Ship America, sick from Jalapa, 500. Brig Helen, Engineer, 36; convalescents from Vera Cruz 41--76.


[TBW]
ALBERT GALLATIN ON PEACE AND TERRITORIAL EXPANSION.--The Paris (Kentucky) Citizen has the following excellent letter from the friend and counselor of Jefferson on the prospect of peace with Mexico. It is addressed to an eminent Kentucky member of the last congress.

New York, Feb. 16, 1848.

Dear Sir: I feel highly gratified by the favorable opinion you expressed of my attempt to promote the restoration of peace with Mexico, on principles consistent with justice. The war cannot last much longer; but with regret, I am compelled to say, that most of the friends of peace care not what the terms of peace may be, and that many even of those who think the war unjust, and was provoked by the United States, are imbued with the notion that our victories and conquests give us a right to extort from Mexico a part of its territory. Even Gen. Taylor, whose military talents I admire, and whose character I respect, expresses a similar opinion in his letter to Gen. Gaines. Have we then, they say, fought, conquered, covered ourselves with glory, and all for nothing? even so, if you will be just you have won the glory and nothing else. Yet I do not despair; for I have faith in our institutions, and in the ultimate prevalence of truth. Indeed, even my essay (seed thrown to the wind, some of which may fructify,) has had a far greater circulation, and has met with greater approbation than I expected; and no one has attempted a direct refutation.

The lessons of history may not altogether be lost. Great Britain came out triumphant at the end of her long war against France, or rather the French revolution. She was covered with glory, added Malta, the Ionian Islands, as many Dutch and French colonies as she pleased to her dominion, dictated the conditions of peace, with her victorious army within the walls of her enemy's metropolis; and, for the sake of France, restored to her the legitimate dynasty. In the meanwhile she completed the conquest of an empire, of India. And what has she in reality gained? An addition of five hundred millions sterling to her former debts, which imposes an enormous weight of oppressive taxation on the people, and has already crippled her resources and her power. And the result of her apparent extension of her commercial monopoly has been to enrich the few, to impoverish the poor, and occasionally to throw one million of people out of employment.

What shall be said of a nation, of an empire, extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the north pole to the equator? of the destiny of the Anglo Saxon race, of its universal monarchy over the whole of North America? Now, I will ask, which is the portion of the globe that has attained the highest degree of civilization, and even of power? Asia, with its vast empire of Turkey, India and China, or Europe, divided into twenty independent sovereignties? Other powerful causes have undoubtedly largely contributed to that result, but this the great division into ten or twelve distinct languages, must not be neglected. But all these allegations of superiority of race and destiny, neither require or deserve any answer. They are but pretences under which to disguise ambition, cupidity, or silly vanity.

I would be much gratified by a personal acquaintance with one whose great merit is well known to me. As you express a hope to that effect, it must be by your visiting this city; for now in my 88th year, I travel no more. I would feel most happy to see you here, but it must not be deferred.

Please accept the assurances of my distinguished consideration and personal regard.

Your ob't and faithful servant,
ALBERT GALLATIN.

Hon. GARRET DAVIS, Paris, Ky. [TBW]
occasion of consecrating the tri-colored banner, by the patriarch of that city, in front of St. Mark's, the American consul is said to have been the only foreign diplomat invited to be present, and in the course of the ceremonies, the commander of the troops on parade exclaimed: "Attention! Honor to the flag of the United States of America!"—on which the dense mass burst forth in shouts of applause, with cries of "long live our sister republic!" The people of all classes and conditions, soldiers and civilians, threw themselves into the arms of the consul, embraced him, and kissed the "star spangled banner," pressed it to their hearts; while many, with moistened eye, stretching their hands through the dense crowd merely to touch it, could just but articulate "viva il console!—viva gli Stati Uniti—viva la gran republica!" And in the evening, at the theatre, there was a repetition of the enthusiasm, on the consul's entering his box, with his wife. [TBW]

NNR 74.033 July 19, 1848 Amnesty for deserters during the war with Mexico

A GENERAL ORDER (No. 25) from the Adjutant General, is published with the President's proclamation, dated July 6. It concludes as follows:

9. All deserters, enlisted for the period of the war, in confinement, or under sentence of Courts Martial, will be dismissed the service, the work "honorably" being erased from the face of the discharge.

10. "The President directs it to be announced in "general orders" that deserters from the army at large may peaceably return to their homes without being subject to punishment or trial on account of such desertion. No reward or expenses will be allowed for apprehending any soldier who deserted prior to this order; nor will any deserter be allowed to enter the army.

11. "The hair to be short, or what is generally termed cropped; the whiskers not to extend below the lower tip of the ear, and a line thence with the curve of the mouth; moustaches will not be worn (except by cavalry regiments) by officers or men on any pretence whatever."—Army Regulations. Sept. 215.

12. The non observance of the above regulation (tolerated during the war with Mexico) is no longer permitted. It is enjoined upon all officers to observe and enforce the regulation.

By order of the Secretary of War. [JNA]

NNR 74.033 July 19, 1848 troops still awaiting departure from Mexico, number of troops so far embarked from Veracruz

The total number of troops embarked at Vera Cruz, for the United States from the 30th May to July 2, inclusive, was 18,331; according to the Quartermaster's statement. [TBW]

NNR 74.043-045 July 19, 1848 text of the treaty between Mexico and the United States concluded at Guadalupe Hidalgo

Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo with U.S. Senate revisions and with 26 May 1848 Mexican protocols.

Also available online at http://www.azteca.net/aztec/guadhida.html

TREATY WITH MEXICO (February 2, 1848)

TREATY OF PEACE, FRIENDSHIP, LIMITS, AND SETTLEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES CONCLUDED AT GUADALUPE HIDALGO, FEBRUARY 2, 1848; RATIFICATION ADVISED BY SENATE, WITH AMENDMENTS, MARCH 10, 1848; RATIFIED BY PRESIDENT, MARCH 16, 1848; RATIFICATIONS EXCHANGED AT QUERETARO, MAY 30, 1848; PROCLAIMED, JULY 4, 1848.
IN THE NAME OF ALMIGHTY GOD

The United States of America and the United Mexican States animated by a sincere desire to put an end to the calamities of the war which unhappily exists between the two Republics and to establish upon a solid basis relations of peace and friendship, which shall confer reciprocal benefits upon the citizens of both, and assure the concord, harmony, and mutual confidence wherein the two people should live, as good neighbors have for that purpose appointed their respective plenipotentiaries, that is to say: The President of the United States has appointed Nicholas P Trist, a citizen of the United States, and the President of the Mexican Republic has appointed Don Luis Gonzaga Cuevas, Don Bernardo Couto, and Don Miguel Atristain, citizens of the said Republic: Who, after a reciprocal communication of their respective full powers, have, under the protection of Almighty God, the author of peace, arranged, agreed upon, and signed the following:


ARTICLE I

There shall be firm and universal peace between the United States of America and the Mexican Republic, and between their respective countries, territories, cities, towns, and people, without exception of places or persons.

ARTICLE II

Immediately upon the signature of this treaty, a convention shall be entered into between a commissioner or commissioners appointed by the General-in-chief of the forces of the United States, and such as may be appointed by the Mexican Government, to the end that a provisional suspension of hostilities shall take place, and that, in the places occupied by the said forces, constitutional order may be reestablished, as regards the political, administrative, and judicial branches, so far as this shall be permitted by the circumstances of military occupation.

ARTICLE III

Immediately upon the ratification of the present treaty by the Government of the United States, orders shall be transmitted to the commanders of their land and naval forces, requiring the latter (provided this treaty shall then have been ratified by the Government of the Mexican Republic, and the ratifications exchanged) immediately to desist from blockading any Mexican ports and requiring the former (under the same condition) to commence, at the earliest moment practicable, withdrawing all troops of the United States then in the interior of the Mexican Republic, to points that shall be selected by common agreement, at a distance from the seaports not exceeding thirty leagues; and such evacuation of the interior of the Republic shall be completed with the least possible delay; the Mexican Government hereby binding itself to afford every facility in its power for rendering the same convenient to the troops, on their march and in their new positions, and for promoting a good understanding between them and the inhabitants. In like manner orders shall be despatched to the persons in charge of the custom houses at all ports occupied by the forces of the United States, requiring them (under the same condition) immediately to deliver possession of the same to the persons authorized by the Mexican Government to receive it, together with all bonds and evidences of debt for duties on importations and on exportations, not yet fallen due. Moreover, a faithful and exact account shall be made out, showing the entire amount of all duties on imports and on exports, collected at such custom-houses, or elsewhere in Mexico, by authority of the United States, from and after the day of ratification of this treaty by the Government of the Mexican Republic; and also an account of the cost of collection; and such entire amount, deducting only the cost of collection, shall be delivered to the Mexican Government, at the city of Mexico, within three months after the exchange of ratifications.

The evacuation of the capital of the Mexican Republic by the troops of the United States, in virtue of the above stipulation, shall be completed in one month after the orders there stipulated for shall have been received by the commander of said troops, or sooner if possible.

ARTICLE IV
Immediately after the exchange of ratifications of the present treaty all castles, forts, territories, places, and possessions, which have been taken or occupied by the forces of the United States during the present war, within the limits of the Mexican Republic, as about to be established by the following article, shall be definitely restored to the said Republic, together with all the artillery, arms, apparatus of war, munitions, and other public property, which were in the said castles and forts when captured, and which shall remain there at the time when this treaty shall be duly ratified by the Government of the Mexican Republic. To this end, immediately upon the signature of this treaty, orders shall be despatched to the American officers commanding such castles and forts, securing against the removal or destruction of any such artillery, arms, apparatus of war, munitions, or other public property. The city of Mexico, within the inner line of intrenchments surrounding the said city, is comprehended in the above stipulation, as regards the restoration of artillery, apparatus of war, & c.

The final evacuation of the territory of the Mexican Republic, by the forces of the United States, shall be completed in three months -from the said exchange of ratifications, or sooner if possible; the Mexican Government hereby engaging, as in the foregoing article to use all means in its power for facilitating such evacuation, and rendering it convenient to the troops, and for promoting a good understanding between them and the inhabitants.

If, however, the ratification of this treaty by both parties should not take place in time to allow the embarcation of the troops of the United States to be completed before the commencement of the sickly season, at the Mexican ports on the Gulf of Mexico, in such case a friendly arrangement shall be entered into between the General-in-Chief of the said troops and the Mexican Government, whereby healthy and otherwise suitable places, at a distance from the ports not exceeding thirty leagues, shall be designated for the residence of such troops as may not yet have embarked, until the return of the healthy season. And the space of time here referred to as comprehending the sickly season shall be understood to extend from the first day of May to the first day of November.

All prisoners of war taken on either side, on land or on sea, shall be restored as soon as practicable after the exchange of ratifications of this treaty. It is also agreed that if any Mexicans should now be held as captives by any savage tribe within the limits of the United States, as about to be established by the following article, the Government of the said United States will exact the release of such captives and cause them to be restored to their country.

ARTICLE V

The boundary line between the two Republics shall commence in the Gulf of Mexico, three leagues from land, opposite the mouth of the Rio Grande, otherwise called Rio Bravo del Norte, or Opposite the mouth of its deepest branch, if it should have more than one branch emptying directly into the sea; from thence up the middle of that river, following the deepest channel, where it has more than one, to the point where it strikes the southern boundary of New Mexico; thence, westwardly, along the whole southern boundary of New Mexico (which runs north of the town called Paso) to its western termination; thence, northward, along the western line of New Mexico, until it intersects the first branch of the river Gila; (or if it should not intersect any branch of that river, then to the point on the said line nearest to such branch, and thence in a direct line to the same); thence down the middle of the said branch and of the said river, until it empties into the Rio Colorado; thence across the Rio Colorado, following the division line between Upper and Lower California, to the Pacific Ocean.

The southern and western limits of New Mexico, mentioned in the article, are those laid down in the map entitled "Map of the United Mexican States, as organized and defined by various acts of the Congress of said republic, and constructed according to the best authorities. Revised edition. Published at New York, in 1847, by J. Disturnell," of which map a copy is added to this treaty, bearing the signatures and seals of the undersigned Plenipotentiaries, And, in order to preclude all difficulty in tracing upon the ground the limit separating Upper from Lower California, it is agreed that the said limit shall consist of a straight line drawn from the middle of the Rio Gila, where it unites with the Colorado, to a point on the coast of the Pacific Ocean, distant one marine league due south of the southernmost point of the port of San Diego, according to the plan of said port made in the year 1782 by Don Juan Pantoja, second sailing-master of the Spanish fleet, and published at Madrid in the year 1802, in the atlas to the voyage of the schooners Sutil and Mexicana; of which plan a copy is hereunto added, signed and sealed by the respective Plenipotentiaries.

In order to designate the boundary line with due precision, upon authoritative
The boundary line established by this article shall be religiously respected by each of the two republics, and no change shall ever be made therein, except by the express and free consent of both nations, lawfully given by the General Government of each, in conformity with its own constitution.

**ARTICLE VI**

The vessels and citizens of the United States shall, in all time, have a free and uninterrupted passage by the Gulf of California, and by the river Colorado below its confluence with the Gila, to and from their possessions situated north of the boundary line defined in the preceding article; it being understood that this passage is to be by navigating the Gulf of California and the river Colorado, and not by land, without the express consent of the Mexican Government.

If, by the examinations which may be made, it should be ascertained to be practicable and advantageous to construct a road, canal, or railway, which should in whole or in part run upon the river Gila, or upon its right or its left bank, within the space of one marine league from either margin of the river, the Governments of both republics will form an agreement regarding its construction, in order that it may serve equally for the use and advantage of both countries.

**ARTICLE VII**

The river Gila, and the part of the Rio Bravo del Norte lying below the southern boundary of New Mexico, being, agreeably to the fifth article, divided in the middle between the two republics, the navigation of the Gila and of the Bravo below said boundary shall be free and common to the vessels and citizens of both countries; and neither shall, without the consent of the other, construct any work that may impede or interrupt, in whole or in part, the exercise of this right; not even for the purpose of favoring new methods of navigation. Nor shall any tax or contribution, under any denomination or title, be levied upon vessels or persons navigating the same or upon merchandise or effects transported thereon, except in the case of landing upon one of their shores. If, for the purpose of making the said rivers navigable, or for maintaining them in such state, it should be necessary or advantageous to establish any tax or contribution, this shall not be done without the consent of both Governments.

The stipulations contained in the present article shall not impair the territorial rights of either republic within its established limits.

**ARTICLE VIII**

Mexicans now established in territories previously belonging to Mexico, and which remain for the future within the limits of the United States, as defined by the present treaty, shall be free to continue where they now reside, or to remove at any time to the Mexican Republic, retaining the property which they possess in the said territories, or disposing thereof, and removing the proceeds wherever they please, without their being subjected, on this account, to any contribution, tax, or charge whatever.

Those who shall prefer to remain in the said territories may either retain the title and rights of Mexican citizens, or acquire those of citizens of the United States. But they shall be under the obligation to make their election within one year from the date of the exchange of ratifications of this treaty; and those who shall remain in the said territories after the expiration of that year, without having declared their intention to retain the character of Mexicans, shall be considered to have elected to become citizens of the United States.

In the said territories, property of every kind, now belonging to Mexicans not established there, shall be inviolably respected. The present owners, the heirs of
ARTICLE IX [modified by the Protocol of Queréretaro]

The Mexicans who, in the territories aforesaid, shall not preserve the character of citizens of the Mexican Republic, conformably with what is stipulated in the preceding article, shall be incorporated into the Union of the United States. and be admitted at the proper time (to be judged of by the Congress of the United States) to the enjoyment of all the rights of citizens of the United States, according to the principles of the Constitution; and in the mean time, shall be maintained and protected in the free enjoyment of their liberty and property, and secured in the free exercise of their religion without; restriction.

ARTICLE X  [Stricken out by the United States Amendments]

Article XI

Considering that a great part of the territories, which, by the present treaty, are to be comprehended for the future within the limits of the United States, is now occupied by savage tribes, who will hereafter be under the exclusive control of the Government of the United States, and whose incursions within the territory of Mexico would be prejudicial in the extreme, it is solemnly agreed that all such incursions shall be forcibly restrained by the Government of the United States whenever this may be necessary; and that when they cannot be prevented, they shall be punished by the said Government, and satisfaction for the same shall be exacted in the same way, and with equal diligence and energy, as if the same incursions were mediated or committed within its own territory, against its own citizens.

It shall not be lawful, under any pretext whatever, for any inhabitant of the United States to purchase or acquire any Mexican, or any foreigner residing in Mexico, who may have been captured by Indians inhabiting the territory of either of the two republics; nor to purchase or acquire horses, mules, cattle, or property of any kind, stolen within Mexican territory by such Indians.

And in the event of any person or persons, captured within Mexican territory by Indians, being carried into the territory of the United States, the Government of the latter engages and binds itself, in the most solemn manner, so soon as it shall know of such captives being within its territory, and shall be able so to do, through the faithful exercise of its influence and power, to rescue them and return them to their country, or deliver them to the agent or representative of the Mexican Government. The Mexican authorities will, as far as practicable, give to the Government of the United States notice of such captures; and its agents shall pay the expenses incurred in the maintenance and transmission of the rescued captives; who, in the mean time, shall be treated with the utmost hospitality by the American authorities at the place where they may be. But if the Government of the United States, before receiving such notice from Mexico, should obtain intelligence, through any other channel, of the existence of Mexican captives within its territory, it will proceed forthwith to effect their release and delivery to the Mexican agent, as above stipulated.

For the purpose of giving to these stipulations the fullest possible efficacy, thereby affording the security and redress demanded by their true spirit and intent, the Government of the United States will now and hereafter pass, without unnecessary delay, and always vigilantly enforce, such laws as the nature of the subject may require. And, finally, the sacredness of this obligation shall never be lost sight of by the said Government, when providing for the removal of the Indians from any portion of the said territories, or for its being settled by citizens of the United States; but, on the contrary, special care shall then be taken not to place its Indian occupants under the necessity of seeking new homes, by committing those invasions which the United States have solemnly obliged themselves to restrain.

ARTICLE XII

In consideration of the extension acquired by the boundaries of the United States, as defined in the fifth article of the present treaty, the Government of the United States engages to pay to that of the Mexican Republic the sum of fifteen millions of dollars.

Immediately after the treaty shall have been duly ratified by the Government of
the Mexican Republic, the sum of three millions of dollars shall be paid to the said Government by that of the United States, at the city of Mexico, in the gold or silver coin of Mexico. The remaining twelve millions of dollars shall be paid at the same place, and in the same coin, in annual installments of three millions of dollars each, together with interest on the same at the rate of six per centum per annum. This interest shall begin to run upon the whole sum of twelve millions from the day of the ratification of the present treaty by the Mexican Government, and the first of the installments shall be paid at the expiration of one year from the same day. Together with each annual installment, as it falls due, the whole interest accruing on such installment from the beginning shall also be paid.

ARTICLE XIII

The United States engage, moreover, to assume and pay to the claimants all the amounts now due them, and those hereafter to become due, by reason of the claims already liquidated and decided against the Mexican Republic, under the conventions between the two republics severally concluded on the eleventh day of April, eighteen hundred and thirty-nine, and on the thirtieth day of January, eighteen hundred and forty-three; so that the Mexican Republic shall be absolutely exempt, for the future, from all expense whatever on account of the said claims.

ARTICLE XIV

The United States do furthermore discharge the Mexican Republic from all claims of citizens of the United States, not heretofore decided against the Mexican Government, which may have arisen previously to the date of the signature of this treaty; which discharge shall be final and perpetual, whether the said claims be rejected or be allowed by the board of commissioners provided for in the following article, and whatever shall be the total amount of those allowed.

ARTICLE XV

The United States, exonerating Mexico from all demands on account of the claims of their citizens mentioned in the preceding article, and considering them entirely and forever canceled, whatever their amount may be, undertake to make satisfaction for the same, to an amount not exceeding three and one-quarter millions of dollars. To ascertain the validity and amount of those claims, a board of commissioners shall be established by the Government of the United States, whose awards shall be final and conclusive; provided that, in deciding upon the validity of each claim, the board shall be guided and governed by the principles and rules of decision prescribed by the first and fifth articles of the unratified convention, concluded at the city of Mexico on the twentieth day of November, one thousand eight hundred and forty-three; and in no case shall an award be made in favour of any claim not embraced by these principles and rules.

If, in the opinion of the said board of commissioners or of the claimants, any books, records, or documents, in the possession or power of the Government of the Mexican Republic, shall be deemed necessary to the just decision of any claim, the commissioners, or the claimants through them, shall, within such period as Congress may designate, make an application in writing for the same, addressed to the Mexican Minister of Foreign Affairs, to be transmitted by the Secretary of State of the United States; and the Mexican Government engages, at the earliest possible moment after the receipt of such demand, to cause any of the books, records, or documents so specified, which shall be in their possession or power (or authenticated copies or extracts of the same), to be transmitted to the said Secretary of State, who shall immediately deliver them over to the said board of commissioners; provided that no such application shall be made by or at the instance of any claimant, until the facts which it is expected to prove by such books, records, or documents, shall have been stated under oath or affirmation.

ARTICLE XVI

Each of the contracting parties reserves to itself the entire right to fortify whatever point within its territory it may judge proper so to fortify for its security.

ARTICLE XVII

The treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation, concluded at the city of Mexico, on the fifth day of April, A. D. 1831, between the United States of America and the United Mexican States, except the additional article, and except so far as the stipulations of the said treaty may be incompatible with any stipulation contained in
the present treaty, is hereby revived for the period of eight years from the day of
the exchange of ratifications of this treaty, with the same force and virtue as if
incorporated therein; it being understood that each of the contracting parties
reserves to itself the right, at any time after the said period of eight years shall have
expired, to terminate the same by giving one year’s notice of such intention to the
other party.

ARTICLE XVIII

All supplies whatever for troops of the United States in Mexico, arriving at ports
in the occupation of such troops previous to the final evacuation thereof, although
subsequently to the restoration of the custom-houses at such ports, shall be
entirely exempt from duties and charges of any kind; the Government of the United
States hereby engaging and pledging its faith to establish and vigilantly to enforce,
all possible guards for securing the revenue of Mexico, by preventing the
importation, under cover of this stipulation, of any articles other than such, both in
kind and in quantity, as shall really be wanted for the use and consumption of the
forces of the United States during the time they may remain in Mexico. To this end it
shall be the duty of all officers and agents of the United States to denounce to the
Mexican authorities at the respective ports any attempts at a fraudulent abuse of
this stipulation, which they may know of, or may have reason to suspect, and to give
to such authorities all the aid in their power with regard thereto; and every such
attempt, when duly proved and established by sentence of a competent tribunal,
They shall be punished by the confiscation of the property so attempted to be
fraudulently introduced.

ARTICLE XIX

With respect to all merchandise, effects, and property whatsoever, imported into
ports of Mexico, whilst in the occupation of the forces of the United States, whether
by citizens of either republic, or by citizens or subjects of any neutral nation, the
following rules shall be observed:

(1) All such merchandise, effects, and property, if imported previously to the
restoration of the custom-houses to the Mexican authorities, as stipulated for in the
third article of this treaty, shall be exempt from confiscation, although the
importation of the same be prohibited by the Mexican tariff.

(2) The same perfect exemption shall be enjoyed by all such merchandise,
effects, and property, imported subsequently to the restoration of the custom-
houses, and previously to the sixty days fixed in the following article for the coming
into force of the Mexican tariff at such ports respectively; the said merchandise,
effects, and property being, however, at the time of their importation, subject to the
payment of duties, as provided for in the said following article.

(3) All merchandise, effects, and property described in the two rules foregoing
shall, during their continuance at the place of importation, and upon their leaving
such place for the interior, be exempt from all duty, tax, or imposts of every kind,
under whatsoever title or denomination. Nor shall they be there subject to any
charge whatsoever upon the sale thereof. (4) All merchandise, effects, and property,
described in the first and second rules, which shall have been removed to any place
in the interior, whilst such place was in the occupation of the forces of the United
States, shall, during their continuance therein, be exempt from all tax upon the sale
or consumption thereof, and from every kind of impost or contribution, under
whatever title or denomination.

(5) But if any merchandise, effects, or property, described in the first and second
rules, shall be removed to any place not occupied at the time by the forces of the
United States, they shall, upon their introduction into such place, or upon their sale
or consumption there, be subject to the same duties which, under the Mexican laws,
they would be required to pay in such cases if they had been imported in time of
peace, through the maritime custom-houses, and had there paid the duties
conformably with the Mexican tariff.

(6) The owners of all merchandise, effects, or property, described in the first and
second rules, and existing in any port of Mexico, shall have the right to reship the
same, exempt from all tax, impost, or contribution whatever.

With respect to the metals, or other property, exported from any Mexican port
whilst in the occupation of the forces of the United States, and previously to the
restoration of the custom-house at such port, no person shall be required by the
Mexican authorities, whether general or state, to pay any tax, duty, or contribution
ARTICLE XX

Through consideration for the interests of commerce generally, it is agreed, that if less than sixty days should elapse between the date of the signature of this treaty and the restoration of the custom houses, conformably with the stipulation in the third article, in such case all merchandise, effects and property whatsoever, arriving at the Mexican ports after the restoration of the said custom-houses, and previously to the expiration of sixty days after the day of signature of this treaty, shall be admitted to entry; and no other duties shall be levied thereon than the duties established by the tariff found in force at such custom-houses at the time of the restoration of the same. And to all such merchandise, effects, and property, the rules established by the preceding article shall apply.

ARTICLE XXI

If unhappily any disagreement should hereafter arise between the Governments of the two republics, whether with respect to the interpretation of any stipulation in this treaty, or with respect to any other particular concerning the political or commercial relations of the two nations, the said Governments, in the name of those nations, do promise to each other that they will endeavour, in the most sincere and earnest manner, to settle the differences so arising, and to preserve the state of peace and friendship in which the two countries are now placing themselves, using, for this end, mutual representations and pacific negotiations. And if, by these means, they should not be enabled to come to an agreement, a resort shall not, on this account, be had to reprisals, aggression, or hostility of any kind, by the one republic against the other, until the Government of that which deems itself aggrieved shall have maturely considered, in the spirit of peace and good neighbourship, whether it would not be better that such difference should be settled by the arbitration of commissioners appointed on each side, or by that of a friendly nation. And should such course be proposed by either party, it shall be acceded to by the other, unless deemed by it altogether incompatible with the nature of the difference, or the circumstances of the case.

ARTICLE XXII

If (which is not to be expected, and which God forbid) war should unhappily break out between the two republics, they do now, with a view to such calamity, solemnly pledge themselves to each other and to the world to observe the following rules; absolutely where the nature of the subject permits, and as closely as possible in all cases where such absolute observance shall be impossible:

(1) The merchants of either republic then residing in the other shall be allowed to remain twelve months (for those dwelling in the interior), and six months (for those dwelling at the seaports) to collect their debts and settle their affairs; during which periods they shall enjoy the same protection, and be on the same footing, in all respects, as the citizens or subjects of the most friendly nations; and, at the expiration thereof, or at any time before, they shall have full liberty to depart, carrying off all their effects without molestation or hindrance, conforming therein to the same laws which the citizens or subjects of the most friendly nations are required to conform to. Upon the entrance of the armies of either nation into the territories of the other, women and children, ecclesiastics, scholars of every faculty, cultivators of the earth, merchants, artisans, manufacturers, and fishermen, unarmed and inhabiting unfortified towns, villages, or places, and in general all persons whose occupations are for the common subsistence and benefit of mankind, shall be allowed to continue their respective employments, unmolested in their persons. Nor shall their houses or goods be burnt or otherwise destroyed, nor their cattle taken, nor their fields wasted, by the armed force into whose power, by the events of war, they may happen to fall; but if the necessity arise to take anything from them for the use of such armed force, the same shall be paid for at an equitable price. All churches, hospitals, schools, colleges, libraries, and other establishments for charitable and beneficent purposes, shall be respected, and all persons connected with the same protected in the discharge of their duties, and the pursuit of their vocations.

(2) In order that the fate of prisoners of war may be alleviated all such practices as those of sending them into distant, inclement or unwholesome districts, or crowding them into close and noxious places, shall be studiously avoided. They shall not be confined in dungeons, prison ships, or prisons; nor be put in irons, or
bound or otherwise restrained in the use of their limbs. The officers shall enjoy liberty on their paroles, within convenient districts, and have comfortable quarters; and the common soldiers shall be dispose( in cantonments, open and extensive enough for air and exercise and lodged in barracks as roomy and good as are provided by the party in whose power they are for its own troops. But if any office shall break his parole by leaving the district so assigned him, o any other prisoner shall escape from the limits of his cantonment after they shall have been designated to him, such individual, officer, or other prisoner, shall forfeit so much of the benefit of this article as provides for his liberty on parole or in cantonment. And if any officer so breaking his parole or any common soldier so escaping from the limits assigned him, shall afterwards be found in arms previously to his being regularly exchanged, the person so offending shall be dealt with according to the established laws of war. The officers shall be daily furnished, by the party in whose power they are, with as many rations, and of the same articles, as are allowed either in kind or by commutation, to officers of equal rank in its own army; and all others shall be daily furnished with such ration as is allowed to a common soldier in its own service; the value of all which supplies shall, at the close of the war, or at periods to be agreed upon between the respective commanders, be paid by the other party, on a mutual adjustment of accounts for the subsistence of prisoners; and such accounts shall not be mingled with or set off against any others, nor the balance due on them withheld, as a compensation or reprisal for any cause whatever, real or pretended Each party shall be allowed to keep a commissary of prisoners, appointed by itself, with every cantonment of prisoners, in possession of the other; which commissary shall see the prisoners as often as he pleases; shall be allowed to receive, exempt from all duties a taxes, and to distribute, whatever comforts may be sent to them by their friends; and shall be free to transmit his reports in open letters to the party by whom he is employed.

And it is declared that neither the pretense that war dissolves all treaties, nor any other whatever, shall be considered as annulling or suspending the solemn covenant contained in this article. On the contrary, the state of war is precisely that for which it is provided; and, during which, its stipulations are to be as sacredly observed as the most acknowledged obligations under the law of nature or nations.

ARTICLE XXIII

This treaty shall be ratified by the President of the United States of America, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate thereof; and by the President of the Mexican Republic, with the previous approbation of its general Congress; and the ratifications shall be exchanged in the City of Washington, or at the seat of Government of Mexico, in four months from the date of the signature hereof, or sooner if practicable.

In faith whereof we, the respective Plenipotentiaries, have signed this treaty of peace, friendship, limits, and settlement, and have hereunto affixed our seals respectively. Done in quintuplicate, at the city of Guadalupe Hidalgo, on the second day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight.

N. P. TRIST
LUIS P. CUEVAS
BERNARDO COUTO
MIGL. ATRISTAIN

Article IX was modified and Article X were stricken by the US Congress. Here are the original articles.

In addition, there is an explanation or agreement of why the articles where stricken which is known as the protocol of Querétaro

ARTICLE IX

The Mexicans who, in the territories aforesaid, shall not preserve the character of citizens of the Mexican Republic, conformably with what is stipulated in the preceding Article, shall be incorporated into the Union of the United States, and admitted as soon as possible, according to the principles of the Federal Constitution, to the enjoyment of all the rights of citizens of the United States. In the mean time, they shall be maintained and protected in the enjoyment of their liberty, their property, and the civil rights now vested in them according to the Mexican laws.
With respect to political rights, their condition shall be on an equality with that of the inhabitants of the other territories of the United States; and at least equally good as that of the inhabitants of Louisiana and the Floridas, when these provinces, by transfer from the French Republic and the Crown of Spain, became territories of the United States.

The same most ample guaranty shall be enjoyed by all ecclesiastics and religious corporations or communities, as well in the discharge of the offices of their ministry, as in the enjoyment of their property of every kind, whether individual or corporate. This guaranty shall embrace all temples, houses and edifices dedicated to the Roman Catholic worship; as well as all property destined to its [sic] support, or to that of schools, hospitals and other foundations for charitable or beneficent purposes. No property of this nature shall be considered as having become the property of the American Government, or as subject to be, by it, disposed of or diverted to other uses.

Finally, the relations and communication between the Catholics living in the territories aforesaid, and their respective ecclesiastical authorities, shall be open, free and exempt from all hindrance whatever, even although such authorities should reside within the limits of the Mexican Republic, as defined by this treaty; and this freedom shall continue, so long as a new demarcation of ecclesiastical districts shall not have been made, conformably with the laws of the Roman Catholic Church.

ARTICLE X

All grants of land made by the Mexican government or by the competent authorities, in territories previously appertaining to Mexico, and remaining for the future within the limits of the United States, shall be respected as valid, to the same extent that the same grants would be valid, to the said territories had remained within the limits of Mexico. But the grantees of lands in Texas, put in possession thereof, who, by reason of the circumstances of the country since the beginning of the troubles between Texas and the Mexican Government, may have been prevented from fulfilling all the conditions of their grants, shall be under the obligation to fulfill the said conditions within the periods limited in the same respectively; such periods to be now counted from the date of the exchange of ratifications of this Treaty: in default of which the said grants shall not be obligatory upon the State of Texas, in virtue of the stipulations contained in this Article.

The foregoing stipulation in regard to grantees of land in Texas, is extended to all grantees of land in the territories aforesaid, elsewhere than in Texas, put in possession under such grants; and, in default of the fulfillment of the conditions of any such grant, within the new period, which, as is above stipulated, begins with the day of the exchange of ratifications of this treaty, the same shall be null and void.

THE PROTOCOL OF QUERÉTARO

In the city of Querétaro on the twenty sixth of the month of May eighteen hundred and forty-eight at a conference between Their Excellencies Nathan Clifford and Ambrose H. Sevier Commissioners of the United States of America, with full powers from their Government to make to the Mexican Republic suitable explanations in regard to the amendments which the Senate and Government of the said United States have made in the treaty of peace, friendship, limits and definitive settlement between the two Republics, signed in Guadalupe Hidalgo, on the second day of February of the present year, and His Excellency Don Luis de la Rosa, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Mexico, it was agreed, after adequate conversation respecting the changes alluded to, to record in the present protocol the following explanations which Their aforesaid Excellencies the Commissioners gave in the name of their Government and in fulfillment of the Commission conferred upon them near the Mexican Republic.

First.

The american Government by suppressing the IXth article of the Treaty of Guadalupe and substituting the III article of the Treaty of Louisiana did not intend to diminish in any way what was agreed upon by the aforesaid article IXth in favor of
the inhabitants of the territories ceded by Mexico. Its understanding that all of that agreement is contained in the IIId article of the Treaty of Louisiana. In consequence, all the privileges and guarantees, civil, political and religious, which would have been possessed by the inhabitants of the ceded territories, if the IXth article of the Treaty had been retained, will be enjoyed by them without any difference under the article which has been substituted.

Second.

The American Government, by suppressing the Xth article of the Treaty of Guadalupe did not in any way intend to annul the grants of lands made by Mexico in the ceded territories. These grants, notwithstanding the suppression of the article of the Treaty, preserve the legal value which they may possess; and the grantees may cause their legitimate titles to be acknowledged before the american tribunals.

Conformably to the law of the United States, legitimate titles to every description of property personal and real, existing in the ceded territories, are those which were legitimate titles under the Mexican law in California and New Mexico up to the 13th of May 1846, and in Texas up to the 2d March 1836.

Third.

The Government of the United States by suppressing the concluding paragraph of article XIIth of the Treaty, did not intend to deprive the Mexican Republic of the free and unrestrained faculty of ceding, conveying or transferring at any time (as it may judge best) the sum of the twelve [sic] millions of dollars which the same Government of the United States is to deliver in the places designated by the amended article.

And these explanations having been accepted by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Mexican Republic, he declared in name of his Government that with the understanding conveyed by them, the same Government would proceed to ratify the Treaty of Guadalupe as modified by the Senate and Government of the United States. In testimony of which their Excellencies the aforesaid Commissioners and the Minister have signed and sealed in quintuplicate the present protocol.

[Seal] A. H. Sevier
[Seal] Nathan Clifford
[Seal] Luis de la Rosa

[TBW]

NNR 74.049 July 26, 1848 act regulating position of officers and awarding extra pay to disbanded troops

The following is a copy of the Bill which passed both Houses of Congress on Tuesday, 18th inst., regulating the position of certain officers of the Army, and awarding three month’s extra pay to the disbanded troops:

AN ACT to amend an act entitled "An act supplemental to an act entitled 'An act providing for the prosecution of the existing war between the United States and the Republic of Mexico,'" and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the proviso of the first section of an act approved the eighteenth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, in the following words: "That when the war with Mexico shall be terminated by a definitive treaty of peace, duly concluded and ratified, the number of major generals in the army shall be reduced to one, and the number of brigadier generals shall be reduced to two; and the President of the United States is authorised and directed to select from the whole number which may then be in office, without regard to the date of their commissions, the number to be retained, and cause the remainder to be discharged from the service of the United States," be and the same is hereby repealed: Provided, That no vacancy happening in the grade of general officer shall be filled up until the number is reduced to one major general and two brigadier generals.
SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That so much of the existing law as requires the discharge, at the close of the war, with Mexico, of one additional major to each of the regiments of dragoons, artillery, infantry, and riflemen in the army of the United States, who were appointed or promoted under the third section of the act passed on the eleventh day of February, one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, entitled "An act to raise for a limited time an additional military force, and for other purposes," be and the same is hereby repealed.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That so much of said act, passed on the eleventh of February, one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, as requires the discharge, at the close of the war with Mexico, of two additional surgeons and twelve additional assistant surgeons, as authorised by the eighth section of said act: four quartermasters, and ten assistant quartermasters, as authorised by the tenth section of said act; and so much of the act of the third of March, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, as requires the discharge, at the close of the war with Mexico, of an assistant adjutant general, with the rank, pay, &c. of a lieutenant colonel of cavalry, and two assistant adjutants general, with the brevet rank, pay, &c. of a captain of cavalry, as authorised by the second section of the said act of the third of March, eighteen hundred and forty-seven; and the two deputy paymasters, as authorised by the twelfth section of the last mentioned act, and the two principal musicians allowed to each regiment of artillery by the eighteenth section of the said last mentioned act, be and the same is hereby repealed: Provided, That no vacancy happening under the provisions so repealed shall be filled up until further authorised by law: And provided further, That the ten additional paymasters appointed in virtue of the said foregoing act of the 3d March, 1847, shall be retained in service until the 4th day of March, 1849.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That all the officers of the old army who received appointments in any of the additional regiments raised for the war with Mexico shall be restored to their former regiments or corps and rank, as additional officers, of the respective grades to which they would have succeeded, and to which they shall now succeed, in virtue of their former commissions: Provided, That such officers so restored shall be reappointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate: And provided, That the next vacancy happening in such grade of such regiment or corps to which they succeed shall not be filled.

SEC. 5. And be it further enacted, That the officers, non-commissioned officers, musicians, and privates engaged in the military service of the United States in the war with Mexico, and who served out the term of their engagement, or have been or may be honorably discharged; and first to the widows, second to the children, third to the parents, and fourth to the brothers and sisters of such who have been killed in battle, or who died in service, or who, having been honorably discharged, have since died, or may hereafter die, without receiving the three months’ pay herein provided for, shall be entitled to receive three months’ pay: Provided, That this provision of this fifth section shall only apply to those who have been in actual service during the war. [TBW]

NRR 74.049-050 JJuly 26, 1848 arrival of troops from Veracruz at New Orleans

The N. O. Delta of the 6th inst., announces the arrival of the following:


Per ship Palestine, from Vera Cruz—4 companies of the 3d Kentucky Volunteers--300 men.

Per ship Suviah, from Vera Cruz—3 companies of Indiana Volunteers--285 men.


NNR 74.054 July 26, 1848 progress of American troops toward Veracruz for embarkation

By late arrivals from Mexico we learn that nearly all the Volunteers and the ten regiments had reached Vera Cruz, and were rapidly embarking on the transports bound for this and other ports of the United States.

The revolutionary attempt made by Paredes and Jarauta had not disconcerted the government, which appears confident of quelling the insurgents.

The Legislature of Tamaulipas had demanded two millions of dollars from the Federal Government as indemnity for the loss of territory beyond the Rio Grande by the Treaty of Guadaloupe.

The Mexican government has appropriated $300,000 to the relief of Yucatan. Paredes had addressed the States for aid to the 8000 Yucatanese who took refuge in Merida and Campeachy, to escape the Indians.

It is reported from Tampico, that the Mexican government had sent a force to take possession of Tampico, but that the citizens favor the revolutionary movement of Paredes and Jarauta. [TBW]

NNR 74.065 July 26, 1848 further arrival of returning troops at New Orleans

ARRIVAL OF TROOPS.--The following vessels arrived at New Orleans, on the 18th ult., from Vera Cruz, with troops:


Ship Masconomo, with six Companies of the 3d regiment U. S. Infantry--17 officers and 577 men.

Brig Milaudon, with two Companies 7th U. S. Infantry.

Steamer A. R. Hetzel, with two Companies of the Voltigeurs.

Barque Leonora, with 160 Quartermaster’s men.
Ship Suffolk, with five Companies 7th U. S. Infantry.

ARRIVAL OF TROOPS.--The Brig Tasso, Capt. Gray, which arrived from Vera Cruz on the 9th ult., at New Orleans, brought over sixty-seven men, rank and file, of the Ordnance Department, under command of Lieut. Gorgus; and also one battery of mounted howitzers. The following passengers came over in her:

Lieut. Reno, Ordnance Department; Lieuts. Walker, Leigh and Fry, of the Voltigeurs; Capt. Heagh, Q. M. Department; Asst. Surgeon Van Ever, and Passed Midshipman Townsend.

The Barque Pario, having on board three companies U. S. Artillery, (180 in number,) arrived in Hampton Roads on Wednesday evening from Vera Cruz. Seven of the troops died on the passage.

The James L. Day has also arrived and brought the following:


The steamship Jas. L. Day left at Vera Cruz on the 7th, barks Judah Touro, Bruno, and Leonora, and brig Mount Vernon, for this port on the 8th inst. Propellers Gov. Marcy and H. R. Thompson, and Stanton, and Steamers A. R. Hetzel, and Somers, uncertain.

The Steamship Alabama arrived at New Orleans on the 19th ult., with Maj. Gen. Worth, and several officers, of the Inspection, Quartermaster’s, Commissary and Surgeon’s departments, and 430 non-commissioned officers and privates of the 6th Infantry.

The Alabama reports that the 2d and 3d Artillery, sailed for the North direct on the 15th: 4th and 5th Infantry on the 16th for Pass Christian; 8th Infantry on the 16th, for Jefferson Barracks, via New Orleans.

The Steamship Virginia, also arrived on the same day with the Voltigeur Regiment. Also, the Steamboat E. A. Ogden arrived with one company of Alabama Cavalry, [74 men] from the Brazos, and 87 discharged soldiers and Quartermaster’s men.

The brig Tally-Ho, Capt. Elliot, from Brazos Santiago, arrived at Hampton Roads, on Saturday, with a portion of the North Carolina Regiment. [TBW]

NBR 74.068 August 2, 1848 From the Rio Grande, evacuation of Mexican territory

From the Rio Grande- The Schooner Maj. Barbour arrived on the 4d. inst. At New Orleans, from the Brazos. From the Delta, we take the following items of news brought by her:

In obedience to General Orders already published, our army is rapidly evacuating the Mexican territory on this line. On Wednesday, the 14th inst., the depot and encampment as Saltillo were finally broken up. The troops halted at Monterey, but the wagon train with stores and ordnance reached Camargo on the 18th inst. Monterey will have been evacuated before this time.

Two companies of the 1st Dragoons, under the command of Capt. Rucker, have left Monterey for Santa Fe, by way of Chihuahua.

Five companies of the 3d. Dragoons, under Col. Butler, left Mier on the 20th inst. For Matamoras, and will encamp at Palo Alto. Capt. Wilder’s Company, 10th Infantry, will remain at Mier until all the public stores can be withdrawn. Three companies of the 10th Infantry left on the 19th inst. For Matamoras.

A Court Martial convened at Mier on the 16th inst., for the trial of Capt. Petigru, of
the 3d. Dragoons, upon various charges. Lieut. Col. Norvell, 10th Infantry, President; Asst. Surgeon Abadie, Judge Advocate. The Court adjourned on the 16th. Result not known.

A Military Commission, for the trial of various offenders, met at Camargo on the 21st instant, Col. Norvell, President.

The Mexican authorities at Camargo have an order ready for promulgation, requiring all Americans intending to remain in the place to register their names and occupations. Several American merchants will remain permanently in Camargo, and several in Monterey.

It is said the 2d Dragoons will be stationed along the Rio Grande, at different points up to the Paso del Norte. Should Congress retain the 3d Dragoons in service, there may be a change of destination in different corps. [KAS]

NNR 74.096 Aug. 9, 1848 complaints of the company of Saint Patrick

MEXICO.--The New Orleans editors have received files of papers from the city of Mexico, to the 4th ult., inclusive. Nothing had been done by either Bustamente on one side, or Paredes on the other, to bring their respective forces in conflict, so as to decide the fate of the late revolutionary movement in Guanajuato.

Letters had been received by Herrera’s government from Bustamente, date the 29th ult., apprising the authorities that a junction had been effected between him and General Cortazar, which had raised the number of troops under his command to 3000 men. On the 27th, a messenger had arrived in Bustamente’s camp, from Paredes, making the former various propositions, tempting him, as it appears, from his loyalty.---The reply to them was, that Bustamente would not deviate an iota from the letter of his instructions, and that he was firm in his adherence to the government.

A private letter from Guanajuato, states that the movements of the rebels have been paralyzed by a tremendous fall of rain, which had deluged the roads, making them nearly impassable. They had not moved from the centre of the city, and Paredes had obtained no fresh accessions to his forces. The people of property at Guanajuato, feared that their houses would be pillaged by the leperos there, a considerable number of whom had been armed by the rebel officers. The letter adds that it is probable a collision had by that time, the 4th ult., taken place between the hostile forces, and expresses the hope, that he shall soon be able to announce the restoration of peace, order, and respect to the laws. Don Juan Cardenas, Deputy to the Legislature of Tamaulipas, has been appointed Governor of that State.

Lieutenant Tilden, who is in prison in the city of Mexico, for offences committed against the public peace, has attempted suicide twice---first by hanging himself, and after, by throwing himself out of the window. It is recommended that he be conducted to the nearest seaport and sent out of the country.

The Monitor says, we are aware that a resident Minister from the United States is in the capital, but has not presented his credentials; and it is inferred that they will not be verified until after an Envoy be nominated from Mexico to Washington.

The Company of St. Patrick have made grave complaints against their commanders, Schafino and Moreno, and as the Monitor observes, these men, deserving a thousand considerations at the hands of the nation, their grievances should be immediately redressed.

The Monitor expresses sanguine hopes that Paredes and Jarauta, between whom violent feuds exist, will soon be put down. The government is exhorted to punish them severely, in the event of their capture, and by the firmness and energy, thus strike a salutary terror into the breasts of all who meditate treason against the State. [TBW]

NNR 74.097 Aug. 16, 1848 Veracruz surrendered to Mexican authorities
New Orleans dates of the 6th and 8th inst., contain the following intelligence:

General Persifer F. Smith arrived on the 5th inst., in the Alabama, and was received on the 7th inst., by a grand demonstration of welcome.

The City of Vera Cruz was surrendered to the Mexican authorities on the 1st inst. Every thing passed off quietly.

The intelligence from Vera Cruz is to the 2d inst., and from Mexico to the 31st ult.

Paredes had still succeeded in eluding the pursuit of the officers of Government, who were endeavoring to arrest him.

The citizens of Mexico were urging Government to recal Gen. Bustamente, to institute inquiries as to why Paredes was suffered to escape.

The Cotton market was quiet, the Europa’s letters having been received--prices were full. Other articles remain unchanged. [TBW]

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**NRR 74.097 Aug. 16, 1848 number of troops departing Veracruz in six weeks**

According to an official statement published in the N. O. Picayune, the number of U. S. troops, quartermaster’s men, &c., which left Vera Cruz from the 30th May to the 14th of July, was 26,500 men. [TBW]

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**NRR 74.112 Aug. 16, 1848 Veracruz surrendered to the Mexicans**

FROM MEXICO.--Papers from New Orleans to the 2d, and telegraphic advices to the 6th, bring the following intelligence from Mexico.

The Steamer Alabama, from Vera Cruz, arrived on the 5th, bringing dates from the Capital to the 29th ult.

The city of Vera Cruz was fully surrendered to the Mexicans on the 1st inst. Gen. Smith and the rear guard of the army embarked on that day for the United States.

Gen. S. arrived at New Orleans in the Alabama, and a brilliant public reception was to be given to him on the 7th.

Official and private letters received in the city of Mexico by express from Guanajuato, announce that on the 18th ult. the troops of Bustamente gained an important triumph over the insurgents. Gen. Minon submitted a plan of attack, which was approved. The attack was made and the principal points, defended by the insurgents, carried.

Father Jarauta was made prisoner, and in obedience to orders of the War Department he was immediately shot. When he was apprised of his approaching execution, he demanded an interview with Gen. Minon, in which he represented to him that Paredes had in his hands several prisoners, all of whom would be shot were the life of his second in command to be taken. He tried other means of saving his life, but the orders of the Department were too positive, and were carried rigidly into execution. It is represented that this act of justice has entirely disconcerted Paredes and his followers, but this comes to us from a government source. The official dispatches mention that the scoundrel Jarauta partook of the last sacraments of the church prior to his death with extreme fervor. His remains were buried with the honors of war due to his rank.

Bustamente entered the city of Guanajuanto the evening of the 18th without encountering any resistance, as the forces of the insurgents were already dispersed, their leaders having concealed themselves as soon as they heard of the execution of Jarauta. A few prisoners were made but none of them of note, all the principals having escaped save Jarauta. The Government is urged to the most diligence to ferret out the fugitives, that they may be brought to strict account for their treason.
The latest dispatch from Bustamente is dated the 19th. In it he says that Paredes, with a few attendants, fled early in the action, and that he had dispatched troops in pursuit of him. A body of troops had been ordered to Lagos and another to Aguas Calientes, to arrest Paredes if possible, and to hold in check any who might be disposed still to assist his waning fortunes. Capt. Scott, of the Fanny, informs us that when he left Vera Cruz a report was current there that Paredes had been taken and would be shot.

We have before us Minon’s plan of attack and Bustamente’s dispatches, but our readers would derive little satisfaction from their perusal. They will be able to judge of the desperate nature of the conflict between the Government troops and the insurgents when we inform them that on the part of the former three men were killed and eight wounded.

The papers of San Luis give accounts of successes obtained over the insurgent Indians near the hacienda of Tapauco on the 12th ult. A body of 400 were defeated with a loss of of 30 killed in battle, and some prisoners were made who were immediately shot.

There is a letter in the Monitor from the Upper California, which represents that Territory as exceedingly flourishing, now that it has ceased to belong to Mexico.

The Number of Deputies to the Congress in Mexico not being sufficient to constitute a quorum, the Government had resolved upon the substitutes to take the oaths of office.

A letter from Durango, dated June 23d, says: “There are 800 soldiers here, and among them 300 or 400 American deserters. Gen. Urrea is commandant. There are 800 or 1000 Indians in the State who are inhabitants are much alarmed, the Indians having cut off communications by the road.”

The papers announce the death in the city of Mexico, on the 19th, of John Henderson, a British subject, who had resided there many years and accumulated a large fortune. [TBW]

NNR 74.114 Aug. 23, 1848 voltigeurs arrive at Fort McHenry

The Regiment of Voltigeurs arrived at Fort McHenry on Thursday last.

By the Palmetto, from Brazos at New Orleans, Capt. West, Capt. P. E. Connor, Lieut. Gardner, Dr. Talbot, all of the Watson Dragoons; C. Jenkins, Mr. Hughes, R. Watson, W. H. Gardner, Capt. Reed and lady, Messrs. Magee, T. Williams Colquhon, Eaton, Littleton, Staunouire, and 33 Watson dragoons, from Tampico, and 8 Quartermaster’s men. [TBW]

NNR 74.114 Aug. 23, 1848 arrivals of returning troops at New Orleans, at New York City

At New York.--The Maid of Orleans arrived yesterday from New Orleans, with companies A, D, F, G, and a part of company E, all of the Ninth Infantry, consisting of three hundred and nine men, rank and file. The M. of O. was bound to Newport, but owing to head winds, she put into this port to land the troops, who will be forwarded to Newport by steamboat.

The ship Rob Roy arrived last evening from Vera Cruz, having on board companies B, D, and K, of the 2d regiment of Artillery, numbering 226 men.--N. Y. Herald, 19th inst. [TBW]

NNR 74.115 Aug. 23, 1848 order respecting claims of volunteers

ORDER OF CLAIM
Where the letters testamentary or of administration are legally granted, such legal representative will have preference. Where the sum due exceeds one hundred dollars, it will be paid to the legal representative alone, no matter who may be distributee.

If the deceased died unmarried, payment will be made first to the father; second, to the mother; third to the brothers and sisters collectively, and lastly, to the heirs general; each class claiming where those preceding are dead.

If the deceased had been married, then following will be the order of claim--first, the widow; second, child or children, (if minors, the guardian;) third, the father; fourth, the mother; fifth, the brothers and sisters collectively; and lastly, their heirs general.

If there be more than one brother, or sister, or child, or heir general, should the money be due to one of those classes, letters of administration must in all cases be taken out.

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NNR 74.142 Aug. 30, 1848 ceremony of the surrender of Veracruz

FROM MEXICO.--In the New Orleans papers of the 18th July, we find news from the capital of Mexico to the 6th, brought by the propeller Massachusetts, which left Vera Cruz on the 11th. We copy from the Picayune.

The papers give no news of the military operations of the parties contending for power except that the forces of Bustamente and Cortazar had formed a junction and amounted in all to about three thousand wherewith to attack the insurgents in Guanajuato. Down to the 6th, neither the papers of the capital nor the government had received late dispatches from the seat of operations, and the government had complained of Bustamente’s remissness in keeping it informed, as he had been charged to do.

Bustamente had been also censured for holding the least parley with Paredes. To this he answered that on the 27th June an envoy from Paredes had presented himself and submitted certain propositions. Bustamente’s reply was that he would depart in no particular from the literal tenor of the orders of his government, or in words to that effect. These orders are that the insurgents must submit unconditionally or the laws must take their course. This language is the proper one for a righteous government to hold with rebels, and looks dignified and confident on the part of President Herrera; but the silence of Bustamente is ill-boding. The latest dispatch from him is dated June 29, and five or six days later were due. There was a rumor in the city of Vera Cruz on the 11th that news had positively reached there that Paredes had overthrown the army of the government and was in full march upon the city of Mexico. This was the town talk in all quarters, our correspondent writes, and was so confidently repeated that he should feel himself constrained to believe it, did he not suppose that his own advices from the capital were as late as those of other people.

Moreover he writes that on the night of the 10th inst. there did reach Vera Cruz positive news that Paredes was within one league of the city of Guadalajara, and that little or no resistance to his entrance there was anticipated. This seems extremely probable and is totally inconsistent with the other rumors, for Guadalajara is as far west of Guanajuato--the headquarters of Paredes--as the city of Mexico is east; the latter being about a hundred miles farther south than either of the others. Guadalajara is the capital of the large state of Jalisco, and is a rich and populous city. It was the former home of Paredes, and here he nursed the revolution by which a few years ago he entirely prostrated the power of Santa Anna, when the latter’s was at its height. If Paredes found himself yet unable to march directly upon the capital, and give battle to the governmental troops, nothing seems more natural than this retrograde movement upon Guadalajara. He would thus gain time, other discontented spirits would join his standard, and his resources would be increased rather than diminished, for the government has too many difficulties to contend with in other quarters to give him vigorous pursuit.

The custom-house at Vera Cruz was turned over to the Mexican authorities on the 11th inst. at noon. An order from the Mexican treasury department is published in the last number of the Arco Iris, the substance of which is as follows: As the ports are restored to Mexico, her revenue laws of 1845 will go at once into effect, and all vessels and cargoes arriving be liable to their pains and penalties. But
in consideration of the interests of commerce which may suffer by the sudden change, all vessels with lawful cargoes arriving at ports of Mexico with three months of the date of the order (June 14th) without proper manifests and other necessary documents, instead of being seized, shall be allowed to enter and discharge, giving bonds with sufficient security to Mexican commissioners, to pay all duties and charges and abide the decision of the department in each case. And further, all contraband goods arriving within said three months, instead of being confiscated, may be re-exported upon the same vessel, (or any other leaving sooner,) upon giving proper security that such exportation be actually made and no abuse committed.

The roads in Mexico, in every direction, seem to be swept by highwaymen. We open not a paper that does not record several scandalous robberies of coaches.

The famous contra guerrillero, Roque Miranda, is in prison in Mexico. The notorious robber, La Chince is also in the hands of the government.

The Titan sailed from Vera Cruz for Yucatan on the 17th inst. with $18,000, 500 guns, and 50,000 cartridges for the protection of the country from the Indians. The money was furnished by the Mexican government; the arms by a gentleman in Vera Cruz. [TBW]

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**NNR 74.142 Aug. 30, 1848 From Mexico, Bustamante censured for parley with Paredes, custom’s house in Vera Cruz turned over to Mexican authorities**

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ARRIVAL OF TROOPS.--The bark Hahnemann, of this port, Hallett, arrived at Fortress Monroe, on Saturday morning last, 31 days from Brasos Santiago, with companies I and C infantry and artillery, under the command of Majors Webster and Scott, and Lieuts. Bowen and Pattison. Surgeon,--Seneca.--Norfolk Beacon. [TBW]

The transport-ship IOWA, arrived at New York on Saturday from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the 1st inst., having on board a detachment of the First Regiment of U. S. Artillery, 246 men, commanded by Captain George Nauman. [TBW]

The National Intelligencer, in commenting upon the platform adopted by the Buffalo Convention, says:--“It cannot escape the observation of any attentive reader, that these resolution, very positive and dogmatical about abstractions of comparatively small or at least remote consequence, carefully avoid any commitment upon the actual practical issues between the two great parties of the country; making no allusion even to the Mexican war for the acquisition of foreign territory within which they contrive to build up their abstractions; to the Executive usurpations which have sprung out of it; to the lust of dominion which has engendered; to the untold millions of money which it will be necessary to raise to pay the debt which it has created; to the twenty thousand valuable lives which have thus been sacrificed to a bad ambition, &c. What shall we say of a political creed in which all these and many other equal enormities of mis-government count for nothing?” [TBW]

CALIFORNIA.--We have received information from a reliable source, that a large emigration from China may be expected here. The Chinese would be especially invaluable for the introduction and manufacture of silk in this country.

We are happy to be able to state that California continues to be perfectly quiet. Castro has returned and surrendered himself, promising to obey our laws. For more than a year no disorders have occurred. The native Californians are beginning to mingle with our people, and are gradually turning their attention to agriculture. [TBW]

Col. Mason, Governor of California, has issued a requisition for 1000 volunteers, to garrison Mazatlan and other Mexican ports in the South.

Rains have been abundant, and the prospect for good crops is cheering throughout the country.
One of the richest veins of silver are yet discovered, we are told, has been found in the valley of San Jose. [TBW]

NNR 74.193 Sept. 27, 1848 force of volunteers furnished by the several states

The following table comprises the force furnished by the several States on the call of the War Department, during the late war with Mexico:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>1 Regiment</td>
<td>930 men.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>2 do.</td>
<td>1,690 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>1 Battalion,</td>
<td>420 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>2 Regts. and 3 comps.</td>
<td>2,117 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>5 do., 3 do.</td>
<td>5,334 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>1 do., 1 do.</td>
<td>970 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana</td>
<td>5 do.</td>
<td>4,329 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>6 do., 1 do.</td>
<td>5,971 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>2 Companies</td>
<td>146 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iowa</td>
<td>3 do.</td>
<td>229 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryland and D. Columbia</td>
<td>14 do.</td>
<td>1,274 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia</td>
<td>1 Regiment</td>
<td>1,182 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>1 do.</td>
<td>895 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>1 do.</td>
<td>937 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>1 do., 12 do.</td>
<td>1,987 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>2 do., 13 do.</td>
<td>2,981 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>2 do., 1 bat.</td>
<td>2,235 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>7 do., 4 bat. &amp; 1 co.</td>
<td>7,041 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>5 do.</td>
<td>5,090 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>4 do.</td>
<td>4,694 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>69 Companies</td>
<td>6,441 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>16 do.</td>
<td>1,312 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>4 do.</td>
<td>288 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>99 do.</td>
<td>6,856 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>65,349</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of these, 43,213 men were from the States south of Mason and Dixon's line, and 22,136 from the free States; — difference in favour of the Southern States, 21,077 men, citizen volunteers. [TBW]

NNR 74.208 Sept. 27, 1848 account of the soldiers of the disbanded Saint Patrick company

COMPANY OF ST. PATRICK.—Many of the soldiers of the disbanded company of St. Patrick are wandering about the country, and live by begging, or extortion, when the former does not avail. A certain number of them have been embodied with Mexicans in another corps, but they do not harmonize well together, from their mutual ignorance of each other's languages. It is suggested that another exclusively American corps be organized. [TBW]

NNR 74.240 Oct. 11, 1848 funeral for victims of the war at Mexico City
On the 17th instant the funeral ceremonies of the victims in the late war with the United States, celebrated with great solemnity in the city of Mexico. [TBW]

NNR 74.240 Oct. 11, 1848 extreme destitution of the Saint Patrick deserters

We are informed that many of the San Patricio deserters are wandering about Vera Cruz in a state of extreme destitution, neither Americans nor Mexicans being willing to aid them. Lieut. Tilden was a passenger on the steamer. He had a passport for Havana from the Mexican Government, and took passage for that port, but refused to land there. He came on and landed at Pass Christian, and is supposed to have come to this city in the Mobile boat. [TBW]

NNR 74.243 Oct. 18, 1848 the record of the Cyane in the war against Mexico

THE CYANNE.--This sloop of-war, just arrived from Valparaiso, after a short passage of sixty-two days, has had an active and brilliant cruise. Her crew have been distinguished throughout the war. They assisted at the taking of Monterey, and were in the fights of Com. Stockton, at the Mesa and the Rio Gabriel. They destroyed the gun-boats of the enemy at Guaymas, cut up their shipping in the Gulf of California, blockaded the ports of San Blas and Mazatlan, and were with Com. Shubrick when he took that place. They were in several other engagements. Among the rest, it was the boats of the Cyane that cut out the enemy's brig Condor, in the port of Guaymas, under the fire of their musketry. They have been in seven fights on the shore, and their loss has been one officer and one man killed in battle, with a large number wounded. The Cyanne left the United States in August, 1845. [TBW]

NNR 74.259-260 Oct. 25, 1848 proceedings of citizens of Santa Fe in relation to duties on merchandise exacted

SANTA FE.--The Santa Fe Republican, of the 12th of August, contains the proceeding of merchants and citizens of Santa Fe, in relation to the illegal duties exacted on goods imported into New Mexico. Wm. S. Messervy acted as President, and Lewis D. Street, as Secretary. Samuel Weatherhead, jr., Sol. P. Sublette, Henry O'Neill, Robert Brent, and George H. Estes, were appointed a committee to report upon the subject before the meeting.

At this and subsequent meetings, a memorial was adopted, and signed by all the merchants and citizens of Santa Fe, in which they ask to be relieved from the payment of the onerous duty. The memorial embodies a resolution, in which the citizens declare "that since New Mexico is an integral portion of the United States, and was such at the time of the introduction of a portion of merchandise into said territory this year, that the recovery of six per centum ad valorem duty on such merchandise will be unjust, if not in violation of the spirit of the Constitution of the United States."

This duty was imposed by an order of General Price, in which an impost duty of six per cent. ad valorem was levied on all merchandise introduced into the territory of New Mexico from and after the 5th day of February, 1848. The memorialists, in their argument, claim that insomuch as there no longer exists a war to be supported, and the territory ceases to be an enemy's country, the duty cannot hold upon goods introduced into the Territory of New Mexico since May 26th, 1848, at which time it became an integral part of the United States. They ask, therefore, to be relieved from the payment of this unequal and unconstitutional tax.

To this communication, Brig. Gen. Price replies stating the circumstances under which the duty was imposed—that it was for the payment of the expenses of the civil government of the Territory—and subsequently submitted to, and approved by the President of the United States, with whom the matter now more properly belongs.

"With this view of the matter, the General is not dispose, however much his private feelings might wish it, to modify or abrogate the existing order; more particularly as it is at present a generally conceived opinion that arrangements have already been perfected by the Government of the United States creating a civil
governor for the country, who doubtless is vested with plenary powers for the extension and administration of the Constitution and laws of the United States over a territory which is believed to be an integral part of the United States."

[The expectations of General Price, as well as the citizens of New Mexico, in relation to a civil government for that Territory are, it is know here, doomed to disappointment.]

On the reception of this letter, another meeting of the citizens was called, and the correspondence submitted to them. Thereupon, the following preamble and resolutions was adopted:

WHEREAS all bonds given to the present acting authorities of New Mexico, for the payment of the six per cent. *ad valorem* on merchandize introduced into the Territory of New Mexico from the United States, after said Territory had become an integral portion of the United States Territory, were given in ignorance of the fact that the said Territory of New Mexico was at the time of the execution of said bonds, a part of the United States territory, and subject to the general laws, and under the protection of the Constitution of the same:

Therefore resolved, That, as American citizens, and on American soil, proud of our birthright, and conscious of our privileges, we will use all fair, and honorable means to resist the payment of what we believe to be unequal and unconstitutional taxation.--*St. Louis Rep.* [TBW]

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**NNR 74.306 Nov. 15, 1848 arrival of several companies at New Orleans**


Company E, second Artillery, under Captain Garesche, went, by request, up the Rio Grande on the Steamer Col. Hunt, to aid the civil authorities in arresting some gangs of desperadoes that have been infesting the upper counties, and committing serious depredations.

A company of the seventh Infantry, under the command of Major Gatlin, arrived at Baton Rouge, to be stationed there. Major Gatlin relieves Lieut. Dent from the command of that post--that latter going to Jefferson Barracks, Missouri.

The fifth Infantry, under command of Col Miles, encamped opposite Little Rock on the 19th ult. This regiment is *en route* to Fort Smith, where two of the companies will be stationed; the others are to be detailed to garrison the various military posts on that frontier.

The Fourth Regiment, Colonel Whistler commanding, is about to take post on our northern frontiers, head-quarters at Detroit. First Lieutenant Judah, with one company, will command at Oswego. We bespeak for the gallant Fourth, a warm welcome from all our citizens; they can inscribe on their colors the name of every battle field in Mexico, except Buena Vista, having been the first in and last out.

Late intelligence from Texas informs us that six companies of the third Infantry were encamped near Port Lavacca. The greatest trepidation prevailed at Lavacca previous to the arrival of the troops, lest the Indians should attack and fire the town. Twenty-six murders had been committed by the Indians to that time. [TBW]

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**NNR 74.316 Nov. 15, 1848 size of the force used by the United States in Mexico**

OUR ARMY IN MEXICO.--Few persons have a correct idea of the enormous military force called out by our Government for the invasion of Mexico.
The number of Volunteers called into service in the years 1846 and 1847, were in round numbers seventy-one thousand. Of these there were twelve companies of Ohio Volunteers, which were not marched to Mexico, and several regiments of Texas and Louisiana three months' volunteers, which did not get into Mexico. But more than sixty thousand volunteers were actually marched into Mexico, and shared in the invasion of that country. But if the number of volunteers was great, the number of regulars in proportion to the regular army was greater yet. In May, 1846, the regular army of the United States amounted, in round numbers, to 8,000. Of these 3,540 composed the army of Gen. Taylor on the Rio Grande. But from May, 1836, to January, 1848, 29,000 recruits were added to the army. Of the old soldiers about 6,000 were marched into Mexico; and of the recruits to fill the ranks of the old regiments or the new ones, 26,000 were marched into Mexico by January, 1848. There were in the regular army, enlisted soldiers from May, 1846 to January, 1848, 37,000 men. Of these 32,000 were marched into Mexico.

The whole number of Regular soldiers enlisted, and Volunteers called out, amounted in two years to the number of 107,000. And of these ninety-two thousand were marched into Mexico. Such was the tremendous physical array of men, arms and skill, which the Government of the United States called into action to crush its neighbor in the South.---*Atlas*.

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**NNR 74.384 Dec. 13, 1848 number of battles fought in the war**

There were sixty battles fought during the Revolutionary war; thirty-eight during the last war with Great Britain; and thirty-two, in all, during the later war with Mexico. [TBW]

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**NNR 74.386 Dec. 20, 1848 awards to private soldiers for distinguished service**

DISTINGUISHED PRIVATES.--The Adjutant General of the United States' army has published a list of private soldiers of the army, numbering 191, whose recommendations have been received since the publication of "General Orders" No. 32, of June 26, 1848, and on whom the President has been pleased to confer "certificates of merit," pursuant to the provisions of the 17th section of the act approved March 3, 1847, for distinguished services in Mexico, in the battles of Cerro Gordo, Chapultepec, Contreras, Molino del Rey, Churubusco, &c. The list includes privates of companies A, B, C, F, I, K, of 2d dragoons, company F of mounted riflemen, company H of 3d artillery, companies A, B, C, F, H, I, of 4th infantry, companies A, B, C, E, F, G, H, I, K, of 5th infantry, and Wendle Hull, Sap. and Miner engineers.

The extra pay of $2 per month, in virtue of the certificate of merit, will commence at the date of the battle or engagement in which the certificate was won, and continue while the soldier is in service, unless promoted to the rank of a commissioned officer. The certificates of deceased soldiers will be held for the benefit of their heirs, and of discharged soldiers, until claimed by them. A deserter forfeits all claim to certificate of merit. [TBW]

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**NNR 74.402 Dec. 27, 1848 regulars and volunteers in service at close of the war with Mexico**

THE U. S. ARMY.--The official report of the Adjutant General of the United States, shows the authorized number of troops of the line, consisting of cavalry, artillery, and infantry, (fifteen regiments,) to be 8,787 non-commissioned officers and men. The actual force in service, non-commissioned officers, and men, is 8,458--leaving a deficiency of 329 to be recruited. The number of commissioned officers is 865, without including seventeen military storekeepers. The number of mechanics and laborers belonging to the ordnance department, and now in service, is 495. The accompanying returns show the number of regulars and volunteer troops in service at the termination of the late war, as follows:

*Regulars.*

| Commissioned officers | 1,338 |

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Non-commissioned officers and men 22,695
Aggregate regulars 24,033

Volunteers.
Commissioned officers 1,527
Non-commissioned officers and men 21,590
Aggregate volunteers, 23,117
Aggregate regulars and volunteers, 47,150

Of the regular force in service at the close of the war, (enlisted men,) 9,418 were recruited for five years, and 13,277 for the period of the war.

[TBW]
January 1845

RE45v41i77p1c1, January 3, 1845: Foreign Intelligence, Later From Mexico and China
Mexicans started a revolution against Santa Anna and he was removed from the government.

RE45v41i77p1c1, January 3, 1845: Arrival of Mr. Crushing
Hon C. Crushing was on his way through Mexico when he was robbed of almost all of his news letters. Mr. Fletcher Webster is to arrive from England. Santa Anna was proclaimed dictator only to be reputed later that day.

RE45v41i77p2c5, January 3, 1845: To the Editors of the Enquirer
A letter from Mr. Bowden, a representative, states that he believes in the annexation of Texas, even though most of the Virginians (who are Whigs and Republicans) do not.

RE45v41i77p2c4, January 3, 1845: Letter to the Editor
Mr. Bowden's letter from Mexico seems to imply that Santa Anna has fallen from the political light.

RE45v41i77p2c2, January 3, 1845: Missouri Right Side Up, Action Reversed - Col. Benton Instructed by Legislature
[From the St. Louis Reporter, Dec. 23], House of Representatives passed the resolution to annex Texas. The people of Missouri expressed their hopes to annex Texas, despite their representative's, Colonel Benton, vote against the resolution.

RE45v41i77p2c6, January 3, 1845: Marine Journal
A report of the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Port of Richmond.

RE45v41i78p1c3, January 7, 1845: The Dangers of Procrastination - Again!
The article states that the Whig Party is slowing down legislation because they will not sway their vote to annex Texas.

RE45v41i78ip1c3, January 7, 1845: Texas
Questions whether the U.S. should wait until relations with Britain improve before the Congress decides to annex Texas.

RE45v41i78p1c1, January 7, 1845: House of Representatives
A record of the motions made by representatives in the House.

RE45v41i78p2c3, January 7, 1845: Resolutions of New Hampshire
The article argues that Texas has the right to join the United States because it is considered independent from Mexico.

RE45v41i78p2c6, January 7, 1845: From Washington
It is believed that the annexation of Texas will pass in the House by majority and the Senate with a small majority.

RE45v41i78p2c6, January 7, 1845: Extract from the New Orleans Bulletin (Whig) of the 28th December
The article implies that the annexation of Texas will be peaceful.

RE45v41i78p2c1, January 7, 1845: Richmond Grays
Information about the meeting held by the Richmond Grays to repair the Military Hall.

RE45v41i78p3c1, January 7, 1845: Marine Journal
A report of the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Port of Richmond.
RE45v41i78p3c1, January 7, 1845: River & Kanawha Canal
A report of the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Canal.

RE45v41i79p1c3, January 10, 1845: Proceedings on the Texas Question
The House of Representatives and Senate are to vote today. It is believed that the House will pass the resolution to annex Texas. It is also thought that the Senate will pass the annexation if some of the representatives change their position on the matter.

RE45v41i79p1c5, January 10, 1845: New Orleans, Dec. 13, Later From Texas
The schooner William Bryan, and Captain Moss arrived from Galveston bringing news from Texas. General Houston writes of the "prosperous" lands in Texas and President Jones expresses his opinions of the annexation.

RE45v41i79p1c6, January 10, 1845: Revolution in Mexico
[From the N.O. Picayune, 29th Dec.] Intelligence reports state "that Santa Anna's career is drawing to a tragic close."

RE45v41i79p1c6, January 10, 1845: Important From Mexico
A resolution broke out on the 3rd in the city of Mexico and Santa Anna has been removed.

RE45v41i79p1c7, January 10, 1845: House of Delegates
A report of the motions of the House of Delegates.

RE45v41i79p2c5, January 10, 1845: Military Convention
Meeting called to improve Virginia's Militia System throughout the state.

RE45v41i79p2c4, January 10, 1845: Signs From Texas
The Valedictory Address of General Houston and the Annual Message of President Jones.

RE45v41i79p3c1, January 10, 1845: Senate
A report of the motions of the Senate.

RE45v41i79p3c3, January 10, 1845: Texas, Part of Louisiana
An article from the National Intelligencer argues that we voluntarily set the line of the Sabine to form the state of Louisiana when we purchased the land from France. The idea seems to imply that Texas already belonged to the U.S.

RE45v41i79p3c4, January 10, 1845: Governor Briggs of Massachusetts
The new Governor Briggs opens the legislature of Massachusetts with the statement that if we annex Texas we "will bring the barbarians to our gates," like the fall of the Romans.

RE45v41i79p3c3, January 10, 1845: Letter to the Editor, The Question of Annexation [written by Mr. Dromgoole]
The article discusses Mr. Nile's bill to adopt a line of the Missouri Compromise in order to annex Texas. Texas threatens to reject the offer of annexation on such regulations. But there is still hope that a compromise will be made.

RE45v41i79p3c5, January 10, 1845: Washington City, Jan. 8, 1845
Mr. Dromgoole, the representative from the Petersburg District, presented a simple plan for the admission of Texas to the Union.

RE45v41i79p4c1, January 10, 1845: Marine Journal
A report of the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Port of Richmond.

RE45v41i79p4c1, January 10, 1845: James River & Kanawha Canal, Richmond, January 7, 1845
A report of the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Canal.

RE45v41i80p1c3, January 14, 1845: Monday Morning, January 13, 1845
The article states that the Whig Party misrepresented General Wallace and unfairly attacked the proposed annexation of Texas under the Treaty of Louisiana.

RE45v41i80p1c4, January 14, 1845: Hermitage, January 1, 1845 [written by Andrew Jackson]
Jackson argues that there are too many joint resolutions to consider and the Congress is just wasting time.

RE45v41i80p1c4, January 14, 1845: To the Editors of the Enquirer, Washington City, Jan. 10, 1845
The author warns that the annexation of Texas may spark a war with Britain and France.

RE45v41i80p1c2, January 14, 1845: House of Delegates, Saturday, Jan. 11
A report of the motions of the House of Delegates.
A report of the motions of the House of Representatives.

General Jackson warns Mr. Blair that Washington must act now or we may lose the chance to annex Texas.

Mr. J.P. Kennedy addressed the House of Representatives on Saturday and presented his opposition to the annexation of Texas.

The article accuses the New York Herald of focusing on "Northern principles" and "Northern democracy".

A report of the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Port of Richmond.

A report of the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Canal.

In the House of Representatives, Tuesday, Jan. 7; Committee of Foreign Affairs presents a resolution to the annexation of Texas.

A report of the resolutions adopted by the House of Delegates.

Congratulates the Senate of Virginia for passing the Texas resolutions.

An account of the proceedings of Senate.

The article promotes Mr. Dromgoole's bill to annex Texas.

The Senate changed the training camp for the officers of the 165th Regiment of Virginia Militia.

Mr. Burke of New Hampshire presents another resolution to annex Texas to the House of Representatives.

A report of the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Port of Richmond.

Mr. Yancey expresses his regret that the political parties can not agree on a joint resolution to annex Texas.

Mr. Pratt motioned that the Secretary of State report the amount of debt Texas owed to the U.S.

General Paredes' 8,000 troops turned on Santa Anna's 13,000 men. Santa Anna being deserted by many of his forces, fled to Puebla where he was defeated by Paredes.

The article states that the Whig Party will suffer in future elections if they do not change their perception of the annexation of Texas.

The article discusses the line of the Missouri Compromise and Mr. Foster's bill to annex Texas.
The majority of Republicans now support the annexation of Texas.

A report of the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Port of Richmond.

Some representatives state that England "forced slavery upon us." Britain wants Texas to become an abolitionist state if it is annexed. Southern representatives believe that Britain only wants Texas to be annexed as a free state so the U.S. can not profit from its annexation.

An election between two senators in New York will be held today. Both Republican candidates hold different views on the annexation of Texas. The outcome of the election may end up dividing the Republican Party.

Both Republican candidates hold different views on the annexation of Texas. The outcome of the election may end up dividing the Republican Party.

Mr. Allen, from the Ohio General Assembly, presented resolutions for the U.S. to take over the Oregon territory.

The House of Delegates voted to annex Texas but they want time to look over the resolutions before a definite decision can be made.

The letter questions whether the government had the right to annex a foreign territory.

The author begins his letter with the comment, "God bless the Whigs!" He argues whether or not the annexation is worth "consent of Mexico".

An update of the Senate's proceedings and an outline of the opinions of a few representatives.

A Washington Correspondent of the Baltimore American writes that he was disappointed with General Benton's address to the Senate. The editors stand up for Colonel Benton even though they do not favor his bill to annex Texas.

Congress consents to the new Texas state. The column outlines the articles that Texas must follow in order to join the union.

Although most of the Whigs and all of the abolition members opposed the annexation, the House of Representatives passed the resolutions.

The letter argues that the qualifications to become a representative require a citizenship of 9 or at least 7 yrs. The letter states that there can be no representatives from Texas as these requirements stand.

The Whigs were overwhelmed to find that they do not have control of the House of Representatives any longer.

The state of Louisiana has passed the resolutions to annex Texas in the House of Representatives.

The article warns that if the Whigs do not forget their loss in the vote to annex Texas, than they will lose more seats at election time.
A report of the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Port of Richmond.

The Madisonian quotes the "New Orleans Commercial Bulletin" stating that the Louisiana legislature should pass the resolution to annex Texas.

During a meeting of the Empire Club, Mr. Rynders read General Jackson's letter declaring that U.S. should annex Texas as soon as possible.

A correspondent (Agricola) sent a letter, from the North of Germany, warning the Whigs that they are threatening the principle of the United States.

The author considers the annexation the most important decision that is being discussed. He also promotes the annexation of Texas.

It is believed that the House of Delegates will pass the Texas resolutions.

The article states that it is believed that Mr. Robinson submitted an anti-Southern resolution to the House of Representatives. It is also believed that he wrote to Albany telling them to send anti-Texas representatives to the Senate.

It is believed that the House of Representatives passed the resolution submitted by Mr. Milton Brown, a Tennessee Whig.

The article states that the annexation of Texas can only be good for the United States.

There was some argument about the annexation of Texas in Virginia. Virginians fear that Texas will bring the Union into debt.

A report of the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Port of Richmond.

February 1845

The Texas Debate.

Issues concerning Texas.

Other States On Texas. Including Maine.

Texas, Mr. Kearny's Quibble.

Texas and Oregon

Proclamation From The President Of Texas

Information on Santa Anna
March

RE45i97p1c4, March 4, 1845: Joy! Joy! The Last Stroke Struck!
House of Representatives make Texas annexation official.

RE45i97p1c4, March 4, 1845: The Inauguration
Thousands flocking to Washington to watch ceremonies of the Presidential inauguration

RE45i97p1c4, March 4, 1845: To the Editors of the Enquirer
Victorious feeling of the senate on having Texas Annexation passed despite the Whigs.

RE45i97p1c7, March 4, 1845: High Authority
Assessment of the Whig reaction to Texas Annexation

RE45i97p1c4, March 4, 1845: Twenty-seven Guns were fired on Friday.
Guns fired in honor of Texas entering the union.

RE45i97p2c2, March 4, 1845: Twenty-Eighth Congress-2d Ses.

RE45i97p2c3, March 4, 1845: The Annexation of Texas
Annexation of Texas what Henry Clay predicted in 1820.

RE45i97p2c4, March 4, 1845: The Past And The Present
In the Past the Whigs were sure of the Election of Henry Clay, the Democrats were divided amongst various candidates. Henry Clay was in favor of Texas. Now the opposite is true.

RE45i97p2c5, March 4, 1845: Will the Whigs keep their word to-day?
The Whigs of the Howard Grove ceremony will meet again after deluding themselves into the belief that Henry Clay would be chosen president at their last meeting.

RE45i97p2c4, March 4, 1845: Clinging to the Last Straw!
Before Texas Resolutions passed, the National Intelligencer indulged a visionary hope, that the Whigs of the House of Representatives might still defeat the measure.

RE45i97p1c4, March 4, 1845: Mr. Merrick meets with no mercy or charity.
Mocking the Whig treatment of Mr. Merrick
March 4, 1845: Extract of a letter from a young and ardent friend.
Describing excitement around Washington that Texas will join the Union. Dated Feb, 28.

March 4, 1845: To the Editors of the Enquirer
Letter dated Feb, 28 describing events at the Senate surrounding the passing of the Texas Resolutions.

March 4, 1845: To the Editors of the Enquirer
Letter dated March 1. Author of the previous letter was rushed in describing the events at the Senate. This letter elaborates on the passing of the Texas resolutions.

March 7, 1845: Commend the Poisoned Chalice to their own Lips!
Whig predictions of what would happen if Polk were elected appear incorrect.

March 7, 1845: THE CABINET
The new cabinet members as reported from Wednesday's Globe. James Buchanan must superintend the final settlement of Texas.

March 7, 1845: ANTI-TEXAS WHIGS
The Whig presses of New York are taken all aback by the news of the annexation of Texas. "it appears to egg on Great Britain to war with us, on account of Texas"

March 7, 1845: For the Enquirer, signed Zen--
Commentary on two articles in the Richmond Whig, in reference to the correspondence between Dr. John R. Taylor and Col. Billups.

March 7, 1845: The Oregon Negotiation
Copied from the New York Courier and Enquirer of Thursday last. Reports of ongoing negotiations with Great Britain concerning Oregon.

March 7, 1845: Dispatches to Texas
The joint Resolution for the admission of Texas into the Union will be delivered to Maj. Donelson at Nashville to be taken to Texas.

March 7, 1845: Ho! For Texas!
One hundred guns fired in Baltimore in honor of admission of Texas into the Union

March 11, 1845: Mr. Baptist's speech
Note from the Enquirer that because of all the resent events of Texas, Mr. Baptist's speech on the election of the senator will be printed at a later date.

March 11, 1845: Mr. Merrick of Maryland
Defense of Mr. Merrick of Maryland who has been denounced by the Whig press as a traitor.

March 11, 1845: The Mexican Minister
From Phil. Spirit of the Times. "Signor Almonte, it is said, will demand his passports the moment the Texas Bill is signed, and Mexico will declare war."

March 11, 1845: Amusing
From Philadelphia Ledger. Whigs who had previously been against the veto power now think it is too conservative.

March 14, 1845: For the Enquirer. To Robert J. Walker, Esq,
Letter suggesting the secretary of Treasury dedicate as much time towards disposing the Tariff as annexing Texas.

March 14, 1845: Mr. Calhoun's visit to Richmond.

March 14, 1845: New Orleans, March 5. From Mexico
Santa Anna still in Prison, and is planning on send his defence in writing.

March 14, 1845: To the Senior Editor
Signed, A Friend. Quotes a letter addressed June 13, 1836 describing a conversation with Santa Anna on the future of Texas.

March 14, 1845: The Danger Averted!
Letters surfaced by the Texas National Register indicated that Great Britain had tried to persuade Texas against agreeing to annexation.
Mr. Elliott, British Envoy, to Mr. Jones, Secretary of State. Dated March 22d, 1844.

That Annexation would not be in the best interests of Texas, Mexico, France, or Great Britain.

The Enquirer allows the Whig Mr. Willoughby Newton to respond to recent accusations against him concerning his actions in the Senate concerning Texas.

Commentary on the behavior of Henry Clay at the Inauguration James Polk.

England's attempts to confine the United States

NY Journal of Commerce has published a letter declaring that at the time of Santa Anna's fall, a treaty was in progress, and nearly consummated, for the entire cession of California and New Mexico, to Great Britain.

Santa Anna still in Prison, and reports from Gazette of Tampico.

Learned from Maj. Andrew Jackson Donelson that the amount of Texas bonds and notes currently in circulation are acceptable.

The Baltimore American still clings to hope of defeating Texas Annexation by publishing the same letter of Mr. Elliot that the Enquirer published last week to show the danger the Whigs have incurred.

Commentary on numerous Whig headlines that insinuate Texas Annexation is still in doubt.

Article on certain 'free state' newspapers that consider the free states betrayed by the south.

Proclamation by Anson Jones, president of Texas, declaring that no vessel will be allowed to wage hostilities against Mexico.

Mr. Newton, a whig, suffereing from attack by both the Whig papers and the Enquirer


Actions by Whigs in congress against annexation

Enquirer printing remarks from "Augusta Democrat" on upcoming elections

Debate between Mr. Botts and Mr. Seddon campaigning for election to congress.

Debate between Mr. Botts and Mr. Seddon campaigning for election to congress.

Response to Mr. Newton's remarks against republicans

Encouraging Democrats to support Shelton F. Leake for congress. Signed, Rapid Ann
RE45i102p4c3, March 21, 1845: SPRING ELECTIONS
In the future the Enquirer will be printing the Democratic Central Committee's address.

RE45i102p4c3, March 21, 1845: OUR RELATIONS WITH MEXICO
Commentary on a letter published in the New York Herald by Caleb Cushing about his views on the present position of the Unite States and Mexico.

RE45i103p1c4, March 25, 1845: ANNEXATION
Response to Whig reports on annexation.

RE45i103p1c4, March 25, 1845: TO THE PEOPLE OF TEXAS
From the N.O. Bulletin. Advising Texans to vote in favor of Annexation

RE45i103p1c5, March 25, 1845: IMPORTANT MOVEMENTS IN ENGLAND
United States Government should eliminate Tariff

RE45i103p1c7, March 25, 1845: European Correspondence dated February 28.
Comments upon Sir Robert Peel's predictions in 1842 on relations between the United States and England. Signed Agricola

RE45i103p1c6, March 25, 1845: America Rivalling France!
Comparing France to Whigs

RE45i103p2c3, March 25, 1845: Which is the true version?
Commentary on Whig quotes about the effect of Annexation of Texas

RE45i103p2c3, March 25, 1845: Address of the Democratic Central Committee, To the People of Virginia!
Address to Virginians on how to defeat the Whigs and Why.

RE45i103p4c4, March 25, 1845: Anti-Annexionists-on both sides of the House
Contemplates if Whigs will continue to discuss Annexation

RE45i103p4c5, March 25, 1845: TEXAS
From the New Orleans Jeffersonian. Some Texans not pleased with the terms of annexation

RE45i103p4c5, March 25, 1845: From the Texas National Register
Should Texas reorganize their government at the bidding of the United States?

RE45i103p4c6, March 25, 1845: From the Galveston Weekly News
If Texas decides against annexation the powers of Europe will recognize the Texas Gov and end the war with Mexico.

RE45i103p4c7, March 25, 1845: For the Enquirer. TEXAS-John M. Botts
John M. Botts, a Whig candidate, refuses to enter into discussion on the Annexation of Texas.

RE45i104p1c6, March 28, 1845: A KEY TO THE ENIGMA
The Picayune has explained Mr. Archer's report which the Enquirer could not understand

RE45i104p1c6, March 28, 1845: From the New Orleans Picayune
Explanation of the Report by Mr. Archer

RE45i104p1c4, March 28, 1845: THE CITY CANVASS
Reply to the Whig Reply on the Enquirer's response to word in the Richmond Whig

RE45i104p1c5, March 28, 1845: THE IMPORTANCE OF UNION
Criticism of the Morgantown Mountaineer misrepresenting the Democratic Party

RE45i104p1c5, March 28, 1845: The Serfs of Angus McDonald
Article from the Romney Gazette against McDonald who could deliver New Hampshire to the Whigs.

RE45i104p2c3, March 28, 1845: British Intrigues
Concerns that Houston is on the British side against Annexation in Texas

RE45i104p2c4, March 28, 1845: From TAMICO
Extract from a letter published in the Mobile Advertiser, revolution in Mexico far from over.
Analysis of Whig Public meeting

Whig reports that Texas will refuse Annexation

April

Lyons consulted the Senior Editor of the R. Whig as to his ability of holding the post of Whig Elector or resigning it on account of his Texas leaning-information on Lyons stance on the Texas question

Whig reports that Texas will refuse Annexation

Approved the resolution of Congress to annex Texas and support Polk's stance on Oregon

"Texas and Disunion"

Judge Jay wrote a letter threatening disunion in case of the Annexation of Texas

Looking Ahead

Response to a Whig paper complaining the RE had given cause for the war to Mexico

Santa Anna has escaped, reported that he is now in New Orleans with a large sum of money; rumor of his escape as also reached Corpus Christi

Report on the upcoming Virginia Elections-Texas question will be a big issue-VA elections important because of the position the state holds in the Union

Quote from Northern Whig press about Mr. Dudley Selden's speech in NY-comments on the question of annexation, which according to Seldon is not settled

Report on a debate between Messers, Bolts, and Seddon-talk of various things including the tariff and annexation

Response to a Whig paper complaining the RE had given cause for the war to Mexico

Who should the Republicans vote for? The Whig, Mr. Lyons who is in favor of Texas

Woodbury in favor of the annexation of Texas, comments on the tariff

Mexican Minister and his family from New York in the Anahuac for Mexico; different speculations are formed about the results of US late measures in regard to Texas

Mr. Lyon's friends called a public meeting and all other candidates were invited to attend but declined because of the possibility of the Texas question coming up

Opinion of Gen. Almonte that since the decision to annex Texas was passed by so little a minority, Mexico will not think it necessary to start war

Gen. Houston has openly said he is against annexation; may expect some startling developments with regard to British policy and British intrigue

Schooner Fanny arrived from Vera Cruz; Mr. Shannon, the US Charge d'Affairs has retired to Tacubaya; trial of Santa Anna has been concluded; Minister of Foreign Relations in Mexico sees the annexation of Texas as call for war; warlike movements in regard to the government

Mr. Shannon to Senor Cuevas
Report that the US has annexed Texas; hope that the differences between the two countries can be peacefully settled; passes over in silence the accusation that the US has violated the treaty of friendship with Mexico; it is up to Mexico if things are going to be peaceful
REv41i113p2c1, April 29, 1845: Senor Cuevas to Mr. Shannon
Mexico breaking diplomatic ties with the US; US is not acting friendly towards Mexico with the annexation of Texas;

REv41i113p2c1, April 29, 1845: From the N.O. Tropic
Government banished several military chiefs for trying to free General Canaliz and Paredes; Cuevas spoke in length
to Congress about the annexation; journals condemn the tone of Cuevas as not being harsh enough; warlike
movement taken by the government; American squadron headed to Vera Cruz with Com. Connor in charge

REv41i113p4c2, April 29, 1845: From the N.O. Republican, April 17 Mexico
Mexico will try war and invade Texas compelling the US if it annexes Texas to begin hostilities; resolution passed in
the Mexican Congress making it high treason to acknowledge Texas as independent or part of the US

REv41i113p4c2, April 29, 1845: National Palace, Mexico
Protest against annexation of Texas by Cuevas

REv41i113p4c2, April 29, 1845: The general circular is as follows
More protest of US annexation of Texas

REv41i112p4c3, April 29, 1845: From the New Orleans Bulletin, April 17
Mr. Smith the Secretary of State in Texas has left his post; resolution having to do with the annexation of Texas-who
said yes and no

REv41i112p1c4, April 25, 1845: Whig Justice and Moderation
Comments on the Whig's anti-annexation stance

REv41i112p1c5, April 25, 1845: The Tactics of the Richmond Whig
Comments on the Richmond Whig's coverage of the annexation of Texas

REv41i111p1c7, April 22, 1845: New Orleans, April 11
Schooner Water Witch arrived; Santa Anna still prisoner; British sloop or war sailed from Vera Cruz to Galveston with
despatches for the British Minister in Texas; Mexican government will recognize Texas if the US doesn't annex;
comments on the press coverage in Mexico

REv41i113p1c3, April 29, 1845: The Spirit of the Whig Press
Comments on the Whig press coverage of the Texas question

REv41i112p4c2, April 25, 1845: Texas and Mexico
US has annexed Texas; what will Texas and Mexico say to annexation?-details about that question from various
papers; information on people coming to the US on annexation business; more comments on annexation; letters to
President Jones of Texas about annexation

REv41i112p2c1, April 25, 1845: Seven Days Later from Europe
Comments on Oregon-British stance compared and in response to US stance-response to Polk's speech

REv41i105p4c2, April 1, 1845: For the Enquirer-Congressional Canvass in King Williams
Report on speeches made by Messers, Hunter and Newton-discuss the Texas question and annexation

REv41i104p1c4, April 1, 1845: The Proceeding of her Republican Party Suggestion to the Republicans of Albermarle
Report on nomination of Hugh A. Garland; comments on Texas-government, interests

REv41i104p1c5, April 1, 1845: Annexation of Texas
Comments on the Whig party's stance on not annexing Texas

REv41i104p1c7, April 1, 1845: the Clam
What will Britain say about Texas and when?-speculations about

REv41i107p1c3, April 8, 1845: speech of Chesselden Ellis
Full speech by Chesselden Ellis on the annexation of Texas

REv41i108p4c3, April (cannot read date) 1845: Shall the Will of the People Prevail?
Comments on the Whig opposition to the annexation of Texas

REv41i108p4c6, April (cannot read the date) 1845: A Chapter in the Political Life of J. M. Botts
Opinion of Botts' stance on the Texas question

REv41i106p1c4, April 4, 1845: Almonte's Protest
Mexican Minister's late protest; comments on the annexation
Annexation of Texas
Passage in Texas of agreement of annexation; celebration of the annexation; predictions that Texas will be glad with the decision made

Annexation Meeting in the City of Galveston
Adoption of the resolution of annexation by the people of Galveston-details of the meeting

Comments about the National Register-trying to throw cold water on the annexation of Texas

Polk and cabinet to send Calhoun to Texas because of his difficulties with the annexation

Editor of the Lynchburg Virginians trying to get the people of Texas to refuse annexation; comments on state of Texas and what will happen if annexed

Comments about the National Register-trying to throw cold water on the annexation of Texas

Mr. Beton's plan for Texas annexation; comments on the Texas Tariff; rumor that despatches say that Mexico has recognized Texas as independent; Kauffinan appointed Charge to the US

Speech of Chesselden Elis
Full speech of Chesselden Elis on the annexation of Texas

An Editor Clashing with a Correspondent
Comments about information stated about Texas-Calhoun going to

Quote from the Savannah Republican which RE says is false

Article copied from the Boston Morning Post-Comments on annexation; report that British are trying to defeat annexation; Polk working to secure it

The Tariff
Comment on the fact that even though Texas is settled the tariff will remain in place

Will Texas Accept?
Report that Texans will accept annexation;-majority in favor of it

Col. Chester Ashley
Speech by Col. Chester which gives new ideas about Texas-speech published in last paper but comments are made in this article about it

By the Great Western
English opinions of Mr. Polk's inaugural address

Powhatan County
Comments about Mr. Seddon-spoke at the courthouse made attacks on Mr. Botts who does not want annexation; report of Mr. Botts speaking against annexation, author of the article relies the conversations between the two men about annexation

To the Editors of the Enquirer
Another person giving an account of the discussion between Mr. Seddon and Mr. Botts-again speaks of the annexation question

The Claims of Mexico-Our treaties with her-Chance of war
Comments on how annexation of Texas does not violate our treaties with Mexico-mentions articles from other papers that support this; comments on Mexico rushing into war-belief that it is against her own interests

Texas is no Province
Report on Senor Almonte publishing protests against the annexation of Texas

Cheering sign from Texas!
Article from a Texas paper that states that it believes Texas will accept annexation
Cheering from Texas!
Reports of confident hopes coming in about the annexation of Texas; passage of the Galveston agreement on annexation has been received; comments on how the Whigs made everyone believe that Texas might not accept the annexation.

A Due Compliment
Reprint of an article from New Orleans about Mr. Barton's view on the Texas question and how it is rumored that he is a speculator in Texas land.

To the Republicans of Virginia
Comments about how the Texas question is not settled yet and a call to not relax on the issue; comments about how and the Whigs think that the annexation of Texas is unconstitutional.

Messers, Hunter and Newton
Debate between the three men-including conversation about the Texas question.

The Issues in the Sixth Congressional District
More comments on the annexation of Texas and how it is a good thing, why it is legal.

Views of Annexation
Letter speaking of the views of annexation and comments about it-presents strong reasons as to why the US should annex Texas.

The Succession!
Comments on how it has been predicted that the next election will focus on how slavery will be extended into the Texas lands.

Federal Strategy
Quote from the Tribune about the annexation of Texas and comments about how the annexation of Texas will be fought.

Meeting in Chesterfield
Comments on the remarks made by Messers, Seddon and Botts about the Texas question-said to have been forcibly presented.

Messrs, Seddon and Botts
Mr. Seddon's comments on the tariff and Texas question at a debate yesterday-said that Seddon excelled himself.

British Views and Sentiments
Quotes other British newspapers giving the British point of view on Texas.

From the Galveston
French and English Ministers returned to the city today.

British vessels of war arrived in Vera Cruz with despatches from the government-comments on what those despatches might say and what this means for Texas.

A Very Novel Proposition
Urging Virginians to throw their weight behind the annexation of Texas.

To the People of Virginia
Article from the Cincinnati Weekly Herald that Whigs and abolitionist are and appeal the annexation of Texas.

To Rappahannock
Comments on England trying to defeat the annexation of Texas; Whigs turning on Mr. Newton when he voted for Brown and came out supporting annexation; comments on Whigs against annexation.

Important from Texas
Gov. Yell headed for Marmoro; Mr. Donelson has returned bring important despatches; comments on the drama surrounding Texas; resolutions passed at San Phillipe show a unity on annexation; annexation received in Houston; English and French Ministers left for Washington; Annexation meeting in Austin accepted the annexation of Texas.

Additional Accounts from Texas
More information-very detailed-about the situation in Texas-will they accept or won't they?; what will England say?-speculation on questions that do not have answers yet.

Further from Texas
Diplomatic relations have been ceased between Mexico and US; papers full of articles relating to annexation-reprint.
of an article expressing the desire for annexation; General Houston in favor of annexation law; British sloop of war
Eurydice is headed for Vera Cruz; rumors and suspicions attached to the sailing of the Eurydice

REv41i111p3c4, April 22, 1845: From the N.O. Jeffersonian Republic-Texas--Mexico
Comments on relations of Mexico to Texas; angry speeches made in the Mexican Congress; Santa Anna still has a
party even though he is a prisoner; Herrera wants to have a peaceful settlement with the US

REv41i111p3c4, April 22, 1845: From the Same-Havana--Mexico
Mexico has learned of the passage of the annexation of Texas and other information on the situation in Mexico

REv41i111p3c4, April 22, 1845: Texas
Comments on the progress of annexation; French and English Ministers have arrived in New York and have prepared
an offer to settle the Texas matter; results of a meeting held in san Augustin; Congress in Mexico has been insession
trying to figure out what to do about the annexation

REv41i111p3c6, April 22, 1845: For the Enquirer
Comments on the stance of politicians on the annexation of Texas

REv41i11103c6, April 22, 1845: To the Editors of the Enquirer
More comments on politician stances on the annexation of Texas

May

RE4i115p1c4: May 6, 1845: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS
Coverage of the democratic meetings in Philadelphia regarding Oregon.

RE4i115p1c6: May 6, 1845: OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS
As summarized by the Philadelphia Ledger.

RE4i115p1c7: May 6, 1845: HUGH A. GARLAND’S LETTER
From the Petersburg Republican. Signed Keith. Discusses the role Texas should play in party politics.

RE4i115p2c1: May 6, 1845: A CAUTION TO THE WHIG PARTY
From the Washington Union. Do not make Oregon a party issue.

RE4i115p2c1: May 6, 1845: IDLE SPECULATIONS
Oregon shows county is wild about rumors. from The Washington Union.

RE4i115p2c1: May 6, 1845: IN PEACE PREPARE FOR WAR
From the New Orleans Republican April 28. War with Mexico will be a war or privateering.

RE4i115p2c2: May 6, 1845: SCENES IN PHILADELPHIA
What effect do the events of Philadelphia have on national parties? From The Washington Union.

RE4i115p2c3: May 6, 1845: OUR RIGHTS TO OREGON
We don’t want war, but hope all will support it.

RE4i115p2c6: May 6, 1845: GOVERNOR OF OREGON
Halifax County Herald says “We have it upon good authority, that Sir George Simpson, a passenger in the Caledonia
for Boston, goes on as Governor of the Oregon Territory. If so, the question of right and possession will be brought
to speedy issue.”

RE4i115p4c1: May 6, 1845: MISCELLANEOUS

RE4i115p4c1: May 6, 1845: PROCLAMATION
Anson Jones. Texas legislature to meet June 16th.

RE4i115p4c2: May 6, 1845: THE OREGON QUESTION
Mr. Clay does not carry more weight than Polk.

RE4i115p4c2: May 6, 1845: ANOTHER NAIL IN THE COFFIN OF ANTI-ANNEXATION
Praises Jones proclamation.

RE42i1p1c6: May 9, 1845: OREGON AND ENGLAND
We are not alarmed by Whig war predictions.
May 9, 1845: THE OREGON NEGOTIATION
Negotiations aren’t over. from The Washington Union.

May 9, 1845: ARRIVAL OF THE HIBERNIA
From New York Express Extra, May 7. Latest news from Continent.

May 9, 1845: GOVERNOR OF OREGON
Suspensions regarding Sir George Simpson.

May 9, 1845: LATER FROM MEXICO
From the New Orleans Tropic, April 29th. Latest Bulletin.

May 9, 1845: LATE FROM TEXAS
Annexation immediately favored.

May 9, 1845: COTTON FOR CHINA
Need for Oregon explained by the market in China.

May 9, 1845: THE RIGHT SPIRIT OREGON!
Don’t make possible war with England over Oregon a party issue.

May 13, 1845: THE ENGLISH MISSION - OREGON
Northern fear that a Southerner will be granted the mission.

May 13, 1845: OUTRAGE UPON PROPRIETY
Censure of Whigs who turn Oregon into a party issue to undermine the administration.

May 13, 1845: LATER FROM TEXAS
Latest from the New Orleans Tropic, April 30.

May 13, 1845: THE WAR QUESTION
New York Herald reports the latest on British attitudes.

May 13, 1845: UNTITLED
From the Washington Union. We want peace, but it must be honorable.

May 13, 1845: BRITISH MOVEMENTS
Washington Union reports hints of troop movements from the London Times.

May 13, 1845: UNTITLED
There will be no war with England, for she has domestic concerns.

May 16, 1845: WHIG OPINION IN VIRGINIA
The role that Texas plays.

May 16, 1845: THE ENGLISH MISSION - MR. PICKENS
Discussion of who will be conferred with Mr. Pickens refusal. Van Buren would be Southern favorite

May 16, 1845: MEXICAN AFFAIRS
Refutes claims that Mexico has declared war.

May 16, 1845: THE STATES - CONNECTICUT
What Connecticut says about annexation.

May 16, 1845: LAST NEWS FROM MEXICO
No change in relations despite recent events in Vera Cruz.

May 16, 1845: THE JUSTICE OF OUR CLAIM TO ENGLAND ACKNOWLEDGED ABROAD
The Dublin Nation says England “cannot occupy Oregon without the consent of the United States.”

May 16, 1845: WAR FEVER IN BRITISH COLONIES
Toronto Globe advocates liberal policies over iron hand.

May 20, 1845: INTERESTING FROM TEXAS
Annexation process continues uninterrupted.

RE42i4p2c1, May 20, 1845: MISREPRESENTATION
Sorts out the confusion of rumors regarding the mission to England.

RE42i4p2c6, May 20, 1845: UNTITLED
Another Revolution in Mexico is said to be in contemplation. From New Orleans Republican.

RE42i4p2c6, May 20, 1845: OREGON
Could Arbitration work? From the Washington Union.

RE42i4p4c2, May 23, 1845: FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE NO. XLII. "OUR OWN COUNTRY" - "ARM, BROTHERS, ARM!"
A letter to the editor stating the reasons that Great Britain will not attack. Signed Agricola.

RE42i5p1c5, May 23, 1845: ACCUMULATED EVIDENCE
Absolute confidence that Texas will be admitted.

RE42i5p1c7, May 23, 1845: FIFTEEN DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE
Neither side will start a war.

RE42i5p2c2, May 23, 1845: IMPORTANT, IF TRUE
Texas Independence is too late.

RE42i5p2c3, May 23, 1845: A WORD IN EAR OF MR. POLK
- From the Punch.

RE42i5p2c4, May 23, 1845: PROPOSITIONS
Details from Washington Union on what each side has proposed regarding Oregon.

RE42i6p1c4, May 27, 1845: SHALL WE HAVE WAR?
Too many domestic troubles for Britain means probably not.

RE42i6p2c3, May 27, 1845: THE OREGON QUESTION
A Non-Virginian perspective.

RE42i6p4c6, May 27, 1845: MINISTER TO ENGLAND
Discussion of possible appointments.

RE42i7p1c5, May 30, 1845: EXCITING NEWS FROM THE SOUTH
Texas President Jones has been waiting to hear from Mexico before voting on annexation. From the New Orleans Republican, May 20 and 21.

RE42i7p1c6, May 30, 1845: PROPOSITIONS
Details from Washington Union on what each side has proposed regarding Oregon.

RE42i7p2c1, May 30, 1845: UNTITLED
News from New Orleans reports Texas debt at sixteen million. However, figures are questionable.

RE42i7p2c2, May 30, 1845: THE OREGON QUESTION
Details of Mr. Calhoun’s involvement in possible Oregon settlements.

RE42i7p2c3, May 30, 1845: MEXICO AND TEXAS
Discussion of Mexicans duplicity, i.e. their willingness to let Texas go. From the Mobile Herald & Tribune.

RE42i7p4c5, May 30, 1845: EXCITEMENT IN ENGLAND
War is unlikely.

June 1845

June 3, 1845 RE45v42i8p1c6 The Crisis in Texas

June 3, 1845 RE45v42i8p4c3 Mexico and Texas

June 6, 1845 RE45v42i9p2c5 The Mexican Installments

June 6, 1845 RE45v42i9p4c4 Mexican Commissions

June 10, 1845 RE45v42i10p1c5 Texas

June 10, 1845 RE45v42i10p1c5 The Mexican Installments

June 10, 1845 RE45v42i10p2c2 News from the South

June 10, 1845 RE45v42i10p2c2 Texas

June 13, 1845 RE45v42i11p2c5 The Navy Court Martial

June 13, 1845 RE45v42i11p4c1 Political Annexation of Texas

June 17, 1845 RE45v42i12p1c5 Another Act in the Drama

June 17, 1845 RE45v42i12p1c6 Six Days Later From Texas

June 20, 1845, REv42i13p1c6 A Diary about General Jackson

June 20, 1845, REv42i13p1c7 Texas

June 27, 1845, REv42i15p1c From Mexico, Santa Anna

June 27, 1845, REv42i15p4c6 Very Late From Mexico

January

Friday, January 3, 1845 RE41i77p1c1 207 words

Foreign Intelligence, Later From Mexico and China

Arrival of Mr. Cushing-Progress of the revolution-Santa Anna deposed as President-Gen. Herrera temporary President-A new Government organized, and Santa Anna at the head of the Army.

We learn, (say the New York Journal of Commerce) from Captain Briscoe of the marquee Hogenia, from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the 12th instant, that the principal towns, and almost the whole country, have pronounced against Santa Anna, who with a small force was a Queretaro.

The revolution passed of very quietly, no blood having been shed-the former revolution having been carried on by one party of military against another, resulting in much loss of life, but this movement, coming from the people as well as from the soldiery, makes the thing general and hence the little commotion of disagreeable nature. Santa Anna has but little chance of overcoming this movement, and it was a matter of conjecture, whether he would attempt to escape or deliver himself up. He will very probably endeavor to gain over the opposite General by bribery or similar means; but in this it is thought he will not succeed. In case that he is taken prisoner, the people will probably demand his execution, as they deem his liberty dangerous to the public safety.

[AMB]
Arrival of Mr. Crushing

Hon C. Cushing, late Minister [...] of the United States to China, who arrived in town this morning, in the [...] Eugenia, has communicated to us the following information-In passing through Mexico, Mr. Cushing was robbed of nearly all his private papers, but fortunately, the public papers were left [...] .

Mr. Fletcher Webster is expected to arrive by way of England in about a fortnight.

Santa Anna was proclaimed Dictator, and all seemed to go on well, but about midstream the troops barricaded in the [...] St. Francis and the citadel pronounced against Santa Anna and Canalizo. At the head of the movement was General Done Jose J. Herrera, President of the Council, who addressed the proclamation to the city, and the whole Congress immediately threw itself into his arms, who immediately took possession of the National palace without [...] shed.

The Congress constituted its session’s permanent. The Ex-Minister fled. Canalizo is in [...] rest at his own house.

The new authorities maintained perfect quiet.

The Chambers are occupied in [...] means to remedy the injury the country has [...].

On the 1st of November, 1811, the Departmental Assembly of Jalisco adopted and published what is called an Initiative, being an act published what is called an Initiative, being an act [...] for by the constitution, in virtue of which the Assembly submitted the proposition following.

“The National Congress will make [...] the responsibility of the Provisional Government to which it was subjected by the 6th of the [...] of Tacubaya, which it swore to and caused to be sworn to by the nation.” The four departments of Zacatecas, Aguascalientes, Sinaloa and Sonora [...] at once in the pronunciamento of Jalisco, and thus the [...] Northwestern departments were in arms at [...] against Santa Anna. Between these and Mexico, there intervene the two departments of [...] and Queretaro.

Paredes advanced to Lagos, on the Frontier of Jalisco, and the established his head-quarters, with an army of 1400 men, to await the progress of events. In the contiguous department of Guanajuato was General Cortazar, with 2000 men, on whom Paredes depended for support; but the rapid movements of Santa Anna himself prevented Cortazar from joining Paredes, if he had the intention, and compelled him, for the present, at least to declare for Santa Anna.

The Mexican Constitution provides expressly that the President cannot command in person the military force either by land or sea, without the previous permission of Congress. Santa Anna would have taken the command without even pretending to ask the counsel of Congress [...] in so doing, had himself performed a revolution an act quite as positive and serious as that of Paredes.

Nevertheless, on the 22nd he proceeded on his march to Queretaro, and on the same day, the Chamber of Deputies voted the impeachment of the Minister of War, Gen. Reyes. For signing the order under which Santa Anna held the command of the troops. Congress also voted to receive and print the procurements of the revolutionized department; in all this indicating a disposition, not to be mistaken, of hostility of Santa Anna.

On arriving at Queretaro, Santa Anna found that, although the military authorities were [...] in power, yet the junta department had pronounced for the institution of Jalisco. There fore he made known to the members, that if they did not re-pronounce in his favor, he would send them prisoners to Perote.

His position is now extremely critical, therefore. Everything he depends on whether his troops adhere to him against the Congress and the constitutional government. If they do, he becomes military Dictator of the country.

They refused, and three of them were immediately arrested by his order, and sent off under a strong guard in the direction of Mexico and Perote. When the report of these proceedings reached Mexico, the Congress summoned before it the Minister of War and of Government to [...] whether they had authorized General Santa Anna to imprison the members of the junta department of Secretary.

This subject occupied the Chambers on the 29th and 30th of November, and their attitude had now become so menacing that the [...] interino, Canalize, (after consultation with Santa Anna) took the high-handed step of deciding to close the session of Congress by force, and declaring Santa Anna Dictator of the Republic.

Accordingly, on repairing to the palace on the 1st of December the members found the doors shut against them and granted by soldiers and on the 2nd appeared the proclamation of Canalizo, the Presidente[...] declaring the Chambers dissolved indefinitely, and conferring all the powers of Government, legislative as well as executive, on
Santa Anna, as [...] the same to be exercised by Canalize Presidente interino, until otherwise ordered for Santa Anna.

For some days this forcible demolition of the constitutional Government by the creatures of Santa Anna, [...] without producing any apparent effect in Mexico. But on the very day when the news reached Puebla, Gen. [...] commandant-general of that department, in concert with the civil authority, pronounced against the Government, imprisoned Canalizo and his ministers-Congress re-assembled-the President, according to the Constitution, and new ministers were appointed the next day, whose authority was immediately acknowledged in Vera Cruz.

At the latest dates there from Vera Cruz [...] a departments of Sonora, Sinaloa, Jalisco, revolution and Aguascalientes were in a state of Paredes. [...] in the military possession of Gen Santa Anna. Santa Anna’s President [...] Congress had re-assembled, and a temporary [...] Government was installed there, composed as follows viz:

General Jose Joaquin de Herrera, President of the Council of Government, charged temporarily with the supreme executive authority.
D. Luis G. Cuevas, Minister of Foreign Relations, State and Police.
D. Mariano Riva Palacios, Minister of Justice Public Instructions and Industry.
D. Pedro J. Echeverria, Minister of Finance.
D. Pedro Garcia Conde, Minister of War.

And it was already known that the Departments of Puebla and Vera Cruz had declared their adhesion to the provisional Government, and there is no doubt that most of the other Departments will also support the Congress.

Meanwhile, Santa Anna, constitutional President of the Republic, but unconstitutionally in the command of the troops, is employed against Paredes. The new Minister of War has ordered him to give up his command.

Reports were current at Vera Cruz, that a part of his troops had already proclaimed him Dictator; that another part had declared against him: but, upon this point, no information in authentic form had reached the public ear.

If any [...] portion of troops adheres to him, to enable him to continue the war, still he is surrounded with difficulties, being in the very heart of the republic, with Jalisco and its concurrent departments to the Pacific against him [...] and Mexico, with its [...] Gulf against him on the [...].

[AMB]

Friday, January 3, 1845 RE41i77p2c5

To the Editors of the Enquirer

Gentlemen: The enclosed letter from Mr. Bowden to me, has been approved by such of our friends as have seen it, and they think it best to have it published. If you can find space in your columns, be good enough to give it an early insertion. Yours, respectfully,

ED. S. RUSSELL.

30th December, 1844.

Williamsburg, 28th Dec., 1844

My dear Sir: I observe in the country Whig, which came to hand this morning, that a writer, signing himself "Poquisin," has advanced the idea, that "neither any good Whig, nor any Republican who values the Right of Instruction, can consistently vote for Mr. Bowden." I have not the advantage of knowing who "Poquisin" is, nor would I venture to say whether his residence is in York, James City, or Williamsburg; but one thing I desire you to do for me, and that is to assure any of my constituents, with whom you may meet, that I fully acknowledge the right of the constituent body to instruct their delegate, and the duty of the delegate to obey or to resign; and I wish you to make this known as early and as widely as possible, and especially to the Whigs-- that they may [...] to be instructed, if the people desire to here and [...] I shall have it fully understood.

The Senatorias City.

The writer in the [...] is the subject on which [...] of instructions. [...] I design a [...] is not yet fixed: it will not [...] of that election sooner than the 20th of January; [...] take place remediate time, full opportunity will be the [...] my opponents to remove all doubts as to the [...] that my district entertains relative to the election of Senator, by obtaining from the people a direct and unequivocal declaration on the subject.

That the people whom I represent desire me to vote for an anti-Texas Senator-placed in Congress to thwart the measures of the Administration which the nation's will has so recently advanced to power, and to nullify the voice of
Virginia, pronounced by a majority of about 6,000 in opposition to the principles and policy which a Whig Senator would maintain—is what I shall never believe, until by some clear and manifest declaration from them all shadow of doubt shall be removed. Virginia, you must admit; is entitled to a Republican Senator—no matter in what aspect the subject may be viewed.—If you look to numbers alone, she is Republican by about six thousand majority. If you regard representation alone, and look to the compound basis, so as to give Eastern Virginia her constitutional weight in the election of Senator, how then stands the case taking the Presidential Election as a test? (and you will bear in mind, it is from that election my instruction to vote for a Whig is deduced.) Taking the Presidential Election as a test, the Whigs sustain a clear loss of eight or ten votes in the Legislature, which ensures the election of a Republican Senator. With this statement of facts staring them in the face, and ringing in their ears, if any people wish me to vote for a Senator to misrepresent Virginia, and to make this old Commonwealth support in the Federal Legislature the very measure which, in fact, she abhors and detests; if any people wish me to act in this manner, let them say so at once. I know full well what I shall do the instant such a request is authoritatively made. But, that my constituents—who were rocked in the cradle of Republicanism—who dwell on a soil consecrated by the earliest and most glorious achievements of Freedom’s votaries—who have ever regarded as a fundamental principle of our institutions, the right of the majority, when fairly expressed, to control the action of the Government, and to declare, within the limits of the Constitutions, what shall be the law of the land—that these constituents desire me to stifle the voice of the state, and to saddle her with a Senator who would oppose the wishes and misrepresent the interests of a legislative majority, backed by a popular majority of 6,000, would be to suppose them actuated by feelings and opinions which I believe have no place but with a lean and scanty minority—a minority which may fancy itself to speak as with the voice of the people, and which has caused its clamor so to resound through the press as to make the distant public believe that the whole district was in an uproar!

If the Whig party deem the Presidential vote a test—‘tis all well enough. If the members of that party, in the House, whose counties voted for Polk, regarding the Presidential Election as instructions, will vote for a Republican, I will follow their lead and vote for a Whig—not that I deem myself instructed. Many, who voted for Clay, want Texas; and some have told me to act as I please. But if the Whigs situated as above, will vote for a Republican, the Republicans will be perfectly willing that I should, by adopting such a principle, gain eight or ten legislative votes to the party—and the Whigs could not complain of my voting for their man.

You will find out, however, that whilst the Presidential Election is viewed as instructions to Democrats, the idea of its being considered instructions to the Whigs will be treated as perfectly absurd and ridiculous; though, on every fair principle, a rule the direct reverse of this should prevail—for every Republican must wish the administration supported—but every Whig does not wish it opposed. Many desire it to have a fair trial, and are unwilling to throw embarrassments and difficulties in its way—preferring rather to see the country prosper, by wise measures, successfully pursued, than to witness the triumph of their party, secured by the distress and ruin which a factious opposition might visit on the land, under the wisest and best administrations.

Do not fail to let my position be clearly understood—for, whilst the Senatorial, and all the other elections, belong to the people, it belongs to me, and to my friends, to see to it, that no charge of violated instructions should be urged against me, without arming myself with testimony wherewith to stop the mouths of my adversaries.

Remember me most respectfully and kindly to the family, and tender my respects and good wishes to such as consider me worthy of inquiry.

Yours, L. J. BOWDEN.

To Ed. S. Russell, Esq.,
Half-way House, York County.

[AMB]

Friday, January 3, 1845 RE41i77p2c4

Letter to the Editor

We invite attention to the powerful letter of Mr. Bowden and to the highly important news from Mexico, which seem to portend the downfall of Santa Anna. Will the Whigs of the Senate still persist, that we should ask the "consent" of Mexico to the annexation of Texas—when it is clear, that the former doomed country, a prey to intestine dissenions, cannot command her own ambitious and discordant spirits? At the present moment, Texas occupies a vastly higher moral position in the scale of nations, than her would-be mistress. In every sense, Texas is more independent than Mexico.

[AMB]
Missouri Right Side Up, Action Reversed - Col. Benton Instructed by Legislature [from the St. Louis Reporter, Dec. 23]

We announce with great pleasure the final passage of the Resolutions of Instruction, through the House of Representatives, on the 18th [...] by a vote of 55 to 25. They had previously passed the Senate by a vote of 3 to 1, except the 6th, which was opposed by five Democrats, under the apprehension that it would be seized on, as justifying efforts to embarrass the friends of [...], and might lend to the defeat of the [...], at the present session. The opposition to immediate annexation was confined to the Whigs-The five first resolutions received the unanimous vote of the Democrats in the Senate and on the question as to the passage of the entire series, every Democrat, present in the House, voted in the affirmative.

[The resolutions were published in the Enquirer a few days since.]

These resolutions clearly express the will of the people of Missouri. They instruct our Senators to vote for annexation at the earliest practicable period-by which the debate shows that the Democrats mean now, immediately, or at the present recession of Congress. They declare the Missouri regards Texas, as free and independent-capable of maintaining that independence-and possessing the indisputable right to transfer herself to this country; and that the right of the U. States to accept Texas, without that consent of Mexico or any other power, is equally unquestionable-They also declare that Missouri approves the arrangement as to the boundary agreed on in the treaty, and is opposed to the division of Texas into slave-holding and non-slaveholding States for territory. Thus, every objection urged by Col. Benton against the treaty, has been pronounced unfounded by the Legislature, representing the sovereign people of Missouri.

The Colonel, if he means to act as a Democrat, and with the Democratic Party, will cheerfully obey the foregoing instruction-drop his bill, and vote for the annexation of Texas, by joint resolution, in accordance with the views of the party and the State of Missouri.

We sincerely congratulate the Democratic Members of the Legislature on the result of their deliberations on the great issue of annexation. Though the 6th resolution shows that many of them naturally continued to repose confluence in the opinions and assertions of Colonel Benton, and, therefore, supposed Texas would offer more favorable conditions, and Mexico yield her consent to annexation-still, the five preceding resolutions are very explicit, and clearly instruct our Senators to vote for annexation on the terms and embraced in the treaty. The friends of Colonel Benton declare that he will most cheerfully obey the instructions given, and we hope their confidence may not be misplaced. For the sake of the country, to say nothing of the harmony of the party, we trust Colonel Benton will renounce his heresies at once, and faithfully co-operate with Judge Atchison in favor of immediate annexation.

Again we congratulate the Democrats in the Legislature. [...] have they proclaimed the sovereign will of the State, and thus shown that they understand our national interests, and [...] defend them. They are now with the party in other quarters of the Union-and if they cannot carry Col. Benton with them, it will be his fault, not theirs. They have shown that they will only follow when they believe they are correctly led, and that they adhere to the Democratic doctrine, that they representatives should obey the will of his constituents.

There is now an opportunity for the party to harmonize. On State issues there seems to be but little difference of opinion, as all now agree that we were right in advocating equal representation and the district system, and opposing bills of pains and penalties. On national questions, we are now united, and may remain united, in spite of the efforts of any one man.

The members of the Legislature have acted as Democrats should always act. The will of the people-of the party, has been boldly proclaimed, and should be obeyed. We can continue to agree on all great questions and, by resolving that we will not quarrel about non-essential, harmony may be restored and preserved!

[AMB]

Friday, January 3, 1845 RE41i77p2c6 24 words

Marine Journal

From the Port of Richmond, 10:00 a.m.

Arrived

[...] Curtis Peck, Davis Norfolk

Sailed

[...] Manchester, Worth, New York,
[...], Couster, Rogart, Jersey City.
Tuesday, January 7, 1846 RE41i78p1c3

The Dangers of Procrastination - Again!

If we were to believe most of the thousand and one rumors which reach us from Washington, we should not entertain a very sanguine hope of the results of the present session of Congress. Most of the Whig scribblers even ridicule the prospect of Annexation, or the reduction of the Tariff. But the strongest considerations are opposed to this miserable policy of delay. The country demands relief from the present oppressive Tariff. The manufacturers themselves demand stability in the imposition of duties. The present Tariff cannot continue. The South will never acquiesce in it. Is it not wiser, then, to regulate it at once, and thus avoid those agitations which we are otherwise destined to witness? Let some liberal system be adopted at once, which shall certainly but gradually relieve us from the oppressions of the Tariff, and we are willing to meet our Republican brethren in other quarters in the most conciliatory spirit.? We equally deprecate all procrastination in the acquisition of Texas. We are only satisfied by longer time and greater reflection that Immediate Annexation is our true policy. (Our last accounts from Washington are of the most cheering character. We understand, upon good authority, that the Republican Caucus have agreed upon the question of Annexation by a majority of 30 odd-and that, in case it passes the House by a respectable majority, there is a favorable prospect of its passing the Senate. It is said, Col. Benton will obey the instructions of the Legislature of Missouri.) - But why is not all the Republican press doing its duty on these great questions? Why are they not all making their boldest appeals to Congress? We earnestly request them all to speak out, and urge an immediate settlement of these two important subjects.

Tuesday, January 7, 1845 RE41i78p1c3

Texas

The best policy of the government, too, forbids any procrastination upon this subject. Everything shows that Great Britain is attempting to tamper both with Texas and Mexico to defeat any annexation with the U. States. Why incur the danger of losing this country? The people of the U. States have just decided in favor of the measure. Why run the risk and danger of any delay? Some of the Republican presses are not speaking out as boldly and as energetically as the country has a right to demand. They cant about delay.?They affect to say, that Congress will do nothing at the present session: and we must submit. - Shame upon this hesitating and equivocating language! Why do they not speak out-and call upon the members to act at once? If these presses and politicians were to speak out without any reserve, and instead of encouraging the lagging members to violate their duties, were to shame them into the fulfillment of them, then might the will of the people be respected, Texas be acquired, without war and without disturbance. It must be confessed, too, that some of our politicians are shivering in the wind. They are either slumbering at their posts, or sacrificing the interests of their country to the gratification of their own passions. But there are many other politicians and presses, who deserve the people's thanks for the energy with which they throw themselves into the cause of immediate annexation. We shall quote a few specimens of this class, as well to do honor to themselves, as that we may avail ourselves of the arguments which they are urging. - The first of these is Mr. Foster, one of the United States Senators of New York. The following is an extract of a letter which he addressed on the 25th December, to the Editor of the N.Y. Plebeian, in reply to certain questions of its Editor:

"I am in favor of the immediate annexation of Texas, and placing over the territory of Oregon the shield of our government. I believe that the resolution adopted at the recent Democratic National Convention, held at Baltimore:-"That out title to the whole of the territory of Oregon is clear and unquestioned; that no portion thereof ought to be ceded to England or to any other power, and that the re-occupation of Oregon and the re-annexation of Texas, at the earliest practicable period, are great American measures,' should be accomplished as soon as is compatible with national honor. That the re-annexation of Texas will not increase the evils of slavery, but will hasten its extinction in the slaveholding States; will in an especial manner, promote the agriculture, manufacturing and commercial interests of the Northern and Eastern States; will add to the security of the whole Union; and extend and perpetuate the benefits of our form of Government over one of the richest portions of the earth. I cannot present you with the details of a plan of annexation; but I hold that it can rightfully be annexed without the consent of Mexico. She has no right to interfere. Texas is really, as well as nominally, independent. She has maintained her independence for several years, and not a hostile force has entered her territory, without being compelled to retreat with more rapidity than it had advanced.

"The leading powers of Europe, as well as our own Government, have acknowledged the independence of Texas, and some of them have treated with her as an independent nation; and even the Congress of Mexico has recently refused to vote the supplies necessary to a further prosecution of her war with Texas. The only question, therefore, in regard to which Mexico is interested, is one of boundary; and that can as well be settled by negotiation with our Government after the annexation shall take place as with Texas, if she remains separate from us.

"I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
On the motion of Mr. PRATT, it was Resolved, That the Secretary of State be directed to communicate to this House such [ . . . ] as he may possess, or may be able to [ . . . ], of the whole amount of the debt of Texas the amount for which bond or scrip has been issued; and the present market value of [ . . . ] scrip or bond in Texas, in the United States, and in Europe; the amount in value of the exports from, and the imports into, Texas for the years 1843 and 1844, with the amount of revenue [ . . . ] and collected for the same years, with [ . . . ] expenditures for the same time; also, the present population of Texas, distinguishing in numbers between free and slaves; also, the quantity of acres of land, which it is supposed is covered in valid grants from the present and former Governments of that country; and the estimated quantity in acres of good and [ . . . ] land [ . . . ] for cultivation which remains [ . . . ] [ . . . ] the disputed and acknowledged limits of [ . . . ] as same existed prior to the year [ . . . ].

RE-ANNEXATION OF TEXAS

Mr. HAMMETT moved that the rules be suspended, that the House might resolve [ . . . ] into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

The motion was agreed to and the House went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. Hopkins in the Chair,) assumed the consideration of the resolutions to annex Texas to this Union.

Mr. Holmes, who had the floor from yesterday, commenced with some remarks [ . . . ] importance of the question which now [ . . . ] the attention of the committee. He contended that this was not a sectional, but a great [ . . . ] question; and to this complexion it has [ . . . ] at last; annexation or rejection now and [ . . . ]. And on this he based the proposition, and [ . . . ] to it the attention, not of a section, nor of a [ . . . ] but of every man who had in his [ . . . ] the [ . . . ] union and confederation,[ . . . ] Annexation[ . . . ] [ . . . ] was salvation or destruction to the [ . . . ] Atlantic States, to New England and to the manufacturing community, and be admitted, [ . . . ] the inevitable destruction of the South, and sustained his position by showing the [ . . . ] effect which would be produced on the producers and manufactures of the various sections of [ . . . ] country by Texas remaining independent and [ . . . ] commercial league with England, and in [ . . . ] of the guarantees promised to her [ . . . ] [ . . . ] A [ . . . ] on condition of her [ . . . ] government separate from ours. Her [ . . . ] [ . . . ] Great Britain would preclude exportation [ . . . ] our country to that republic, and under the restrictive policy our entire Union would be injured to [ . . . ] degree now not to be determined.

Mr. WM. J. BROWN was wedded to no particular plan. He was like the young man in his own native West with stout arms and [ . . . ] principles, who, when first sets out from his maternal home, gets himself a wife. When [ . . . ] to one whose smile serves the purpose [ . . . ] rainbow of hope and promise, he begins to [ . . . ] his cabin, and lay out his fields, until his horn of plenty is filled to overflowing. Just so with [ . . . ] he was first for his country, and next for Texas and, having obtained her, all things else [ . . . ] be added thereto. Let us then have Texas [ . . . ] and hereafter all the details could be settled. [ . . . ] as this question was decided in the late election, he called upon gentlemen to obey the will of the people.

Mr. GARRET DAVIS would not be displeased; on the contrary, he would be glad if Texas could be annexed without a violation of the Constitution, and our neutral rights, and with the general assent of the people. It was with a [ . . . ] to the distant future that he should desire the [ . . . ] of this measure. The natural [ . . . ] cities of Texas for the production of cotton and sugar rendered it of immense importance [ . . . ] Inhabitants of the United States. But his [ . . . ] to see Texas annexed was subordinate to other considerations. His attachment to the Union [ . . . ] existed, rather than endanger its [ . . . ] led him, nevertheless, to oppose annexation [ . . . ] every possible form. He spoke of the question as one of power-contending the legislature was not, by the Constitution, empowered to require foreign territory, &c.

Mr. BOWLIN next obtained the floor but The Committee rose, and reported progress, [ . . . ] The House then adjourned. Extract of a letter from Madison County,

"Mr. Goggin has declined becoming a candidate for re-election, as you have seen. The Whigs are awfully troubled about it here. [ . . . ] do not think there is the least doubt about the election of a Democratic member of Congress [ . . . ] this district, unless there be some discord in [ . . . ] Convention proposed to be held in Charlottesville to nominate a candidate."

[We will listen to no such apprehension. [ . . . ] take it for granted, that the Convention will be well attended, as it ought to be- fairly organized as it ought also to be- and that its [ . . . ] will meet the immediate and cordial [ . . . ] every Republican in the District.] [ . . . ]
Tuesday, January 7, 1845

Resolutions of New Hampshire

Missouri has adopted Resolutions instructing her Senators to vote for the annexation of Texas as early as practicable. The Granite State is also coming up to the rescue. The following Resolutions have just been passed by the House of Representatives of New Hampshire, by a vote of 136 to 61. Upon which, the N. York Plebeian says, "The Democracy of New England are unanimous on this great American question. There is no backing out, or denying the issue in that quarter."

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened, That the result of the Presidential election demonstrates that the people of this State and the U. States are in favor of the immediate re-annexation of Texas to the Union.

Resolved, That the usurpation of Santa Anna and his subversion by the sword of the compact under which Texas became one of the States of the Mexican Confederacy; the subsequent acknowledgement of her independence by the usurper, and by the great powers of both continents the maintenance of that independence for a long succession of years against every foe-all combine to absolve Texas from all further allegiance to Mexico, and to establish her independence in law and act and her prefect freedom to negotiate treaties and contract alliances with other sovereignties of the globe.

Resolved, That we regard it as an insult to the people of Texas, who have gallantly achieved their liberties by the sword of revolution, to make the consent of Mexico a pre-requisite to their annexation to the United States, and that an attempt to procure the assent of Mexico now convulsed with insurrection and torn with contending factions, each claiming to wield the rightful powers of Government, would be as fruitless as unnecessary, and uncalled for by the justice and law of the case.

Resolved, That the annexation of Texas is as constitutional and expedient as was the purchase of Louisiana by Mr. Jefferson, of which purchased territory, we believe the present territory of Texas constitutes a part.

Resolved, That the re-annexation of Texas, aside from its restoring to the Southwest its mutilated territory bargained a way by the treachery or folly of our diplomats, is found in the interest of every section of our country-the agriculture of the South and West, and the commerce and manufactures of the North.

Resolved, That we do not recognize the right of foreign nations to interfere in the negotiations upon this subject, and that the two countries consenting, and as against foreign nations, Texas should be re-annexed to the U. S., if need be, by armed occupation.

Resolved, That national honor and national policy alike forbid all further aggression upon American soil.

Resolved, That we believe with Mr. Clay, ‘that the re-annexation of Texas will add more free than slave States to the Union, and that it would be unwise to refuse a permanent acquisition, which will exist as long as the globe remains on account of a temporary institution.’

Resolved, That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives be requested, to use their exertions to procure the adoption of such measures by the General Government, as in their opinion shall be best calculated to effect the re-annexation of Texas to the United States, and to assert and maintain our rights to the territory of Oregon.

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be directed to furnish a copy of the foregoing resolutions to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress, and to the Governors of the several States and Territories of the Union."

[The above resolutions were unanimously adopted, by the Senate of New Hampshire.]

We understand, that Representatives of New Hampshire in Congress are unanimous for annexation-and that the cause, in fact, gaining ground in both Houses. It is hoped, that the measure will not fall through the multiplicity of projects-but that some scheme may be adopted in a wise and conciliatory spirit, during the present session. Let us seize upon the present golden opportunity, while it is in our power. We are much more indifferent to the details than to the great object itself. Strike whilst the iron is hot, and all will be well.

And shall Virginia slumber at her post? Shall Missouri and New Hampshire instruct their Senators, and shall she refuse to mingle her voice with theirs? Shall the largest State in the South shrink from her duty? No man, as far as we are advised, knows whether her two Senators will vote for the annexation. Their course at the late session of
In connection with this subject, with subjoin some very important information, which was give by Mr. C. Ingersoll to the House of Representatives, and to the world, on Friday last, and no doubt upon the highest authority.

"But now to speak a word with respect to these foreign superintendents of our affairs. On this point he should be very grief. And, first, in regard to Mexico: her right to interfere in this question had been too much urged in various quarters to require him to touch that question; but he was authorized by those who, he felt very sure, had not deceived him, (and he would assure the House and the country that in this declaration he was not deceiving them.) to declare here, in his place, and on his responsibility, that, whatever angry feelings might now prevail between us and Mexico, there was no reason to believe that any rupture with that Power would be consequence of annexation. On this point he had asked for information where he believed he was not deceived. There was a sinew of war, and the best and strongest sinew of it—he meant money—which would heal all our breaches in that quarter.

[Some laughter]

"And, in the next place, with regard to Great Britain. Some gentlemen might be surprised perhaps to hear him say, that in regard to her—"

["At this point Mr. I. was interrupted by a query from a member near him, which the Reporter did not distinctly hear, but which he understood to have reference to Mr. I.'s authority for making these declarations. Mr. I., speaking in reply, said he was not, he believed, authorized by the committee to go further in the way of exploration; but it must, he thought, be pretty obvious where his authority came from.]

"He was saying that with respect to Great Britain (and there might, perhaps, be those present who thought he regretted to make such a statement,) there was [...] as little reason to apprehend any rupture in that quarter.

"A voice. 'And respecting Oregon too?'

"As to Oregon that question was under negotiation, and he did not know what the exact state of it was; but in regard to Texas, he was authorized to state, that however, Great Britain might desire a more intimate connection with that power—however she would be pleased at seeing all the slaves in that territory emancipated—and how little, so ever she might wish that Texas should be annexed to the U. States, yet, there was every reason to believe that annexation, if effected, would be productive of no rupture.

"And, then, in regard to France—though there had been a suspicion, at one time, that she might take umbrage at it, the contrary had since officially been made known to both branches of Congress. The re-annexation, therefore, none proposed would be a peaceable re-annexation. Meantime, all we had to do was, to preserve peace at home, there was no danger of any quarrel or any coolness with any foreign power.

"As the South, he believed, was upon this subject nearly unanimous, he would now address himself to the Northern Democracy, or rather to the Northern States altogether.

["A voice. 'No, no; stick to the Democracy.' A laugh.]

"Well, be was willing to repeat the term, and he would now, then, address himself to the Northern Democracy, and would here recall one or two things to their recollection. Mr. I. understood that, in the commencement of our National Revolution, two of the distinguished leaders among the friends of freedom at that day—he meant John and Samuel Adams—were one day conversing together on the question who should be appointed Commander-in-Chief of the American forces, and, on comparison of views, they agreed in sentiment that it was most expedient he should not be an Eastern, but a Southern man; and they fixed upon Col. Washington, then comparatively young, and who had not yet displayed those magnificent attributes of character which afterwards rendered him so illustrious, as the suitable man, mainly because he was a Southern man. Again, the war of 1812 had begun with the complaints of the Eastern States, and it was entered into expressly with a view of vindicating Eastern rights and interests; and all must recollect with what a ready and devoted zeal the South and the West rushed forward to that vindication. Mr. I. insisted that all ought to now to imitate that patriotic example. To which he might add yet another; when, on a more recent occasion, an army of fifty thousand men, and the sum of ten millions of dollars, were by a vote of that House, put at the disposal of the Executive for the maintenance of our rights, then supposed to be a threatened by another Power. All we wanted was a display of the same national spirit now. Why were gentlemen sitting in the Hall? To make laws? No; he denied it; and always had denied it. They were there to prevent war, they were there to preserve peace, they were there, that all parts of the country might become acquainted with each other, that we
That Cuba will ever peaceably be England's knowing the people as we think we do, we can never believe."

England was mooted, clearly indicates the course that Cuba would hold-'It is not to be presumed that any white Government a few short years since; when the question of melding with slavery here at the urgent request of the case, the following significant language held by the first citizens and a portion of the authorities here to the home loose the hole she has upon Cuba, so long as she can by any possible means retain it; and when such no longer is strange one.  For our part we set this down as only another of vagaries of 'the old man eloquent.'  Spain never will States justly lose, the rights now supposed to be held by either, it strikes us that his idea of 'justice' is a very preposterous; and if Mr. Adams think that in the supposed event of England would justly acquire, and the United mighty rival from assuming this armed surveillance over one-half of their sea coast, seems to us rather unite under one Federal Government, and those Republics by thus uniting, would lose the power of preventing this England should force Spain to sell Cuba—for it would be nothing better than forcing-because two Republics choose to claws of England's colonial policy.  This latter event we imagine far more distant than John Q. Adams would seem to the Island, "every son of Cuba deeply feels how much better he is situated, than if he were under the merciless The Havana letter(of the date of Dec. 24)says, that not withstanding the present derangement of the finances of the Island, "every son of Cuba deeply feels how much better he is situated, than if he were under the merciless claws of England's colonial policy. This latter event we imagine far more distant than John Q. Adams would seem to think, if certain newspaper paragraphs that have lately been going the rounds in the United States are true. That England should force Spain to sell Cuba-for it would be nothing better than forcing-because two Republics choose to unite under one Federal Government, and those Republics by thus uniting, would lose the power of preventing this mighty rival from assuming this armed surveillance over one-half of their sea coast, seems to us rather prepersistent; and if Mr. Adams think that in the supposed event of England would justly acquire, and the United States justly lose, the rights now supposed to be held by either, it strikes us that his idea of 'justice' is a very strange one. For our part we set this down as only another of vagaries of 'the old man eloquent.' Spain never will loose the hole she has upon Cuba, so long as she can by any possible means retain it; and when such no longer is the case, the following significant language held by the first citizens and a portion of the authorities here to the home Government few short years since; when the question of melding with slavery here at the urgent request of England was mooted, clearly indicates the course that Cuba would hold-'It is not to be presumed that any white man will submit to so hard a fate; they will prefer to emigrate to foreign countries, to earn their livelihood and save the lives of their children, if they do not previously adopt the course which a state of desperation would prescribe.' That Cuba will ever peaceably be England's knowing the people as we think we do, we can never believe."
From Washington

Our last letter (4th January) says: "The opinion to-day seems to be, that the Annexation question will pass the House by a large majority, and the Senate by a small one. All the Democrats are now relied on, in voting in the affirmative in obedience to their own convictions, or the expressed wishes of their constituents. Several of the Whigs are spoken of as intending to vote for the annexation.

"On the other hand, it is said that the question of acquiring by law a foreign territory, could not pass the Senate; and it is even added, that the heads of the Report of the Committee of Foreign Relations are already written- and that the ground taken is, that it was unconstitutional. - Mr. Tibbats', (of Ky.) plan in the House of Representatives is, to provide for the admission of Texas as a state. It may yet become the favorite scheme, in order to meet the Whigs in their professions of constitutional scruples."

[AMB]

Extract from the New Orleans Bulletin (Whig) of the 28th December

The New Orleans Bulletin (Whig) of the 28th December says: "There is good reason to believe that an opportunity for peaceful Annexation is now presented for the last time-that an opportunity to restore the fair domain of Texas to this Confederation of States, with the good will and thankfulness of the Texian people accompanying the surrender of their sovereignty; and without giving even the color of excuse for the interference of European powers, is now for the last time offered to the acceptance of this country. Shall a mere factious spirit serve to thwart this master stroke of national-of American-policy?"

[AMB]

Richmond Grays

At a meeting of the Richmond Grays, held at Military Hall on Friday evening, January 3d, 1815, Lieut. Scott in the Chair, the following Preamble and Resolutions were adopted.

The Company of Richmond Grays having seen with gratification, that the Common Council, on the 30th day of last month, by Resolution of that body, appropriated the sum of 300 dollars for the repair of Military Hall, and hailing this evidence of liberality on the part of the representatives of the people of this city, as going far to remove the vulgar prejudice entertained by many, that there is nothing good in Volunteer Companies, and believing now that they take some interest in the prosperity and success of the Volunteer Corps of this city, we think it due to them and to ourselves to manifest our sense of the obligation and gratitude for the kindness they have shown. Therefore,

1st Resolved unanimously, That we tender our sincere and grateful thanks to the Common Council of the city of Richmond for the liberal donation which they have presented to the volunteer Companies of this city for the repair of Military Hall.

2nd Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing Preamble and Resolution, signed by the Chairman and Secretary, be delivered to the President of the Council.

3rd Resolved, That the city papers be requested to publish the foregoing Preamble and Resolutions. ROBT. G. SCOTT, Jr., Chairman.

S.T. Barclay, Secretary.

[AMB]
The article reports the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Port of Richmond.

High Water 2 1/2 P.M.

Arrived
Schr. Grand Island, Lecompt, Boston, sundries.

[AMB]

The article reports the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Canal.

Richmond, January 4, 1845.

Arrived
Canal Boat Farmer, E. Goodwin, master, with 44 1/2 tons merchandise from Lynchburg to Brown, Taylor & Tucker.
Experiment, S. Cox, master, with 35 tons merchandise from Lynchburg to Brown, Taylor & Tucker. Nancy
Perkins, George Cabell, master, with 30 ¼ tons merchandise from Midway Mills and Hardwicksville, to Brown & Deane,
B. Peyton, A.T. Harris.

Cleared
Flying Lucy, Jas Spiller, master, with 22 3/4 tons merchandise from Lynchburg.
Lynchburg, Wm. Miller, master, with 35 1/2 tons merchandise for Beaver Dam, Cartersville and Lynchburg.
Champion S. Guerrant, master, with 171 tons merchandise for Scottsville.
Wm. L. Lancaster, D. Couch, master, with 54 1/4 tons merchandise for New Canton, Scottsville, Howardsville and Lynchburg.
Highlander, Jas Byers, master, with 2 tons merchandise for New Market.

[AMB]

Proceedings on the Texas Question

The House of Representatives is in full blast on the great question of the day. No one can predict the length of the debate, nor the variety of [ . . . ] which may be submitted, nor the results to which they are ultimately arrive. We presume the annexation may pass the House in some form or other-and, if the Whig Senators from the South and West discharge their solemn duty to their country, strict of all insurable party ties, the measure will prevail, at the present session, in some form or other. If it cannot succeed in one form, it should be carried in another. In such a case, private preferences ought to yield to the high considerations of public good. No dogged adherence to a particular mode ought to defeat the great object which we ought all to have in view. Conciliation ought to be consulted. The friends of the measure, in both Houses should compare notes with each other, and fall upon some fair and honorable course, which can command the majority of both Houses. If Messrs. Ingersoll and McDullie cannot carry their resolutions, following out the form of the late rejected treaty, some other more available formula should be pursued. If Messrs. Weller and Douglass cannot carry their resolutions, for acquiring Texas in the territorial form, we see no reason at all why we should not fall back upon the propositions of Messrs. Tibbatts and Niles- bring her in as a State, subject to fair conditions, which will prevent Texas from being larger than the present
largest State in the Union, and will permit the extra territory to be carved up into as many other States as the
wisdom of Congress in the course of time may consider best for the whole Union. With this conciliatory spirit among
the friends of Annexation, we can see no insurmountable difficulty in the way. As for those, who love Henry Clay
more than their country-and would sacrifice her great interests to their party idol; nothing can be expected from
them. They will pursue Mr. Winthrop's course, and do nothing. They will trample upon the precedents of Louisiana
and Florida, and the negotiations of Adams and Jackson for the annexation of Texas. They are opposed to the
measure in every form in which it may be presented. No argument can convince them—no appeals can overrule their
idolatriy to Mr. Clay, or their idle and dangerous antipathy to the South. No conciliation can reconcile them to any
measure. We must act without them, or not act at all. It remains to be seen, whether the two Senators from
Virginia are so infatuated as to sacrifice themselves and their country to their prejudices—or, whether (as we have
some reasons to hope) they can rise superior to the [ . . . ] of party, and strike boldly for their glorious country.

It is impossible for us to publish the whole of this interesting debate; but we shall give as many speeches as we can.
We begin this day with Mr. C.J. Ingersoll's speech—and shall follow it up to-morrow with Mr. Belser's.

The Globe of Tuesday night sketches the debate of that day in the House of Representatives. It notices the
severe castigation which Mr. Yancey of Alabama, has administered to Clingman of North Carolina. It says, that "Mr.
Yancey, from Alabama, in his first speech in the House, distinguished himself by his severe sarcasm and fervid
eloquence. We did not hear his introductory remarks, but learn that they were made up of caustic for Mr. Clingman.
It is certainly a good maxim which teaches to take the beam out of our own eyes before we attempt to spy the mote
in another's, and this couching of the eyes of a Southern man, by a Southern man, was quite appropriate. We must
confess that we have seen with some regret, that a portion of our Southern friends have, for years, shown a
disposition to find fault with their distant political allies as not feeling that intense sympathy with them on political
matters which affected them locally, while they were inclined to spare their own men of the South, who sacrificed the
great interests of that region to its selfish Northern enemies. The Tariff discussion, the vital measure in regard to
which, at the last Congress, almost every Whig in the South gave up his often avowed principles—the known will of
the people he represented—their rights and interests, to foster a remote privileged class, and support its candidate for
the Presidency, furnishes an example of this. And yet the vials of wrath of the opponents of the Tariff in the South
were not poured out on these betrayers at home of the domestic cause; but on a few Northern Democrats, who
believed they represented the wishes of their constituents faithfully in opposing a change in the Tariff. Now this
mode of dealing with the [ . . . ] in our party conflicts does not evidence a feeling of political justice. Charity should
not begin at home for the betrayers of a cause; nor should vindictive persecution be attempted towards those who,
differing with political friends on a question of policy in regard to the interests of their constituents, resolve to
maintain the fundamental principle of our Government, of fidelity to the constituents, rather than the [ . . . ] of a
majority of their own party. We are led to these reflections from the reform which Mr. Yancey seems disposed to
introduce in the mode of treating the Southern enemies of the new Southern topic at present under discussion—the re-
annexation of Texas. If the shafts of invective are to be hurled against any in this new controversy, let it be against
the neighbors and kindred of the heroic men of Texas, who would surrender them to the tender mercies of military
government in Mexico, forgetful alike to the perfidy and atrocity under which Fanning and his brave men perished,
and of the magnanimity of Houston, through which Santa Anna and his army survive the wrongs which they had
perpetrated. Mr. Yancey did well to-day in [ . . . ] his spear at Mr. Clingman as among the first of the Southerners to
appear in the tournament against the South; and he did well, too, in the conclusion of his speech, to deal his blows
upon those in the North, who, from their hostility to the South and Southern institutions, would immolate the Union.
The Hartford Convention conspirators, and those who now harbor that infamous treason in their bosoms, deserve the
indignant animadversion with which he visited them," &c.

The Globe adds: "We heard the speech of Mr. Bayly of Virginia with great pleasure. It was a profound view of the
question debated, sustained at every step by an able constitutional argument. Mr. Bayly is a strong man; and if the
early promise holds, Virginia has gained much by his transit from the judicial bench to the floor of the H. of
Representatives."

"Such is the sentiment which every liberal and enlightened man expresses for Thos. H. Bayly. He is indeed "a
strong man"—and does honor to the District which he has the honor of serving in Congress."

The "Constitution," too, notices the argument of General Bayly in the following terms: "He proceeded, then, most
powerfully and ably to illustrate his views of the question. He demonstrated most conclusively that Congress had
the power under the Constitution to acquire territory by bill of joint resolution, as well as by treaty. He proceeded by
numerous and authoritative historical illustrations, to show the sinister, the aggressive and insincere policy of
England in regard to slavery and the slave trade. He also showed that her diplomacy had been brought to bear upon
this question, the result of which, if successful, would be to embarrass, if not to defeat annexation altogether. The
whole scope of his argument was most dignified, able and conclusive. When fully reported, as it will be with all its
illustrations, it will be found to be an argument fully sustaining our policy and purposes in regard to Texas. Posted up
to this point of time, we are happy to say to the friends of Texas, that the sum of the argument is immensely in
favor of annexation."

(General Bayly will prove himself, by his talents, worthy of filling the space of Wise.)

In the Senate, the debate upon Texas has not commenced. But they are not altogether standing still. On the
same day, Mr. Niles of Connecticut submitted the following bill, which is intended to introduce Texas as a State, (by
the vote of Congress,) rather than directly in the form of a Treaty:

Mr. Niles, pursuant to notice heretofore given, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following joint
Joint resolutions for the admission of Texas into the Union as a State, on certain conditions, and for certain purposes: "Whereas the Government and people of Texas have manifested a desire to unite their country with the United States of America, to constitute one or more States of this Confederacy; and whereas there are reasons to believe that a decided majority of the people of the United States are in favor of such union, and the same being regarded as highly conducive to the peace and best interests of both countries: therefore-

"Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Texas, with such territory and limits as rightfully belong to it, and with the restriction hereinafter provided, shall be admitted into the Union, upon an equal footing with the original States, to be called the State of Texas; and which admission shall be subject to the following conditions, and shall take effect when the said conditions shall have been complied with to the approval and acceptance of Congress:

"First. The citizens of Texas in such way and form as the Government may direct, to express their assent to this union, and according to the terms of these resolutions; said assent to be given before the first Monday of December, 1845.

"Second. The citizens of Texas, before the said first Monday of December, 1845, so to alter or modify their Constitution, as to make it in all respects confirm to the requirements of the Constitution of the U. States.

"Third. That the citizens of Texas prescribe the limits and boundaries of the State of Texas, Northernly and Westerly, so as not to embrace a greater extent of territory than that of the largest State in the union, and as one of the conditions of this Union, that the State of Texas, within one year from its admission in the Union, will cede to the United States all the right of sovereignty and jurisdiction belonging to, or claimed by it, over its whole territory, not included in the State of Texas; and the limits and boundaries of such territory, so far as the same may be in dispute with any foreign power; and also those of the State of Texas shall be settled and adjusted by the United States, with the foreign nation, or nations, interested therein: Provided, That if any portion of the territory so ceded shall, at the time of such cession, be in the occupation and under the actual jurisdiction and government of any foreign power; the cession, in respect to such portion of the territory which it may include, shall be held to be void, and the United States will not claim, or assert, any right or jurisdiction over the same. The several acts herein require to be performed, as conditions of the admission of Texas into the Union, shall be officially certified by the proper authorities of Texas, to the President of the United States, with a copy of the Constitution of Texas, as altered or modified, to be by him communicated to Congress as its next session, so that Congress may decide whether the conditions herein contained have been complied with, so as to entitle Texas to an admission into the Union, upon an equal footing with the original States.

"And be it further Resolved, That nothing contained in these resolutions, nor the admission of Texas as a State into the Union, nor the cession of its jurisdiction over the territory not included in the State of Texas, shall in any way impair or affect the private rights of the citizens of Texas, or those of the citizens of the United States having claims against Texas or the citizens thereof; nor in any way impair or affect the title or claims of individuals to lands, whether within, the State of Texas, or the territory ceded to the United States; nor in any way impair or affect the right which Texas may have at the time of her admission into the Union; in the soil in the public or unsold lands, whether the State of Texas, or the territory so ceded by her.

"And be it further Resolved, That, should it be desired by Texas, the United States will advance to her a sum not exceeding three hundred and fifty thousand dollars, to discharge the debt due from Texas to the executors of Frederick Dawson, late of Baltimore, and for the redemption of exchequer bills, which may be in circulation at the time of her admission into the Union, and which shall be reimbursed to the United States, by the State of Texas, from the proceeds of the sales of her public lands.

"And be it further Resolved, That, on the admission of Texas, as a State, into the Union, it shall be entitled to one Representative in the House of Representatives of the United States, until the next general census shall be taken by the authority of the United States.

"And be it further enacted, That the territory which may be ceded by Texas to the United States, shall be united to some existing Territory, or formed into a district territorial Government; and that the inhabitants who are, or may become residents therein, shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of citizens of the United States in other Territories West of the Mississippi; and that they shall be admitted into the Union as one or more States, as soon as, from their population and other considerations, Congress may deem it just and reasonable.

"And whereas, by the ordinance of one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, adopted in a spirit of compromise, it was ordained and established as a fundamental law, that slavery or involuntary servitude should not exist in the territory Northwest of the Ohio; and whereas, subsequently, in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty, the restriction of the aforesaid ordinance was extended and applied to the territory (excepting that embraced in the State of Missouri) which was ceded by France to the United States, under the name of Louisiana, which lies North of thirty-six degrees and thirty minutes North latitude; therefore

"Be it further Resolved, That the eighth section of the act entitled 'An act to authorize the people of Missouri Territory to form a Constitution and State government, and for the admission of such State into the Union on an equal footing with the original States, and to prohibit slavery in certain Territories,' approved the sixth day of March, 1820, shall be applicable to the territory which may be ceded by Texas to the United States, and so modified as that the restriction and prohibition contained therein shall extend to, and be in force in and over the whole of that part of the territory which may be so ceded, which lies west of one hundred degrees of west longitude, so long as the same may remain a territory of the United States."
On motion by Mr. Archer, the resolutions were referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, and ordered to be printed.

Upon a subject so deeply interesting to the whole U. States, it becomes proper for the press to speak out. We shall not enter into the comparative merits of the various forms of annexation by bill, resolution or acts of Congress—whether it be best to admit her as a Territory, or first as a State. We see no objection to the great State principle of Mr. Niles's bill; and if it be most acceptable to a majority of the friends of Texas, we see no reason why it should not be adopted. In this spirit, we hope all its friends will approach the subject. Where there is such a variety of opinions, and so many projects, there must be some conciliation shown, and some compromise effected. Nothing but the want of this spirit can defeat one of the most important measures of modern times.

"The Constitution," after reciting the substance of Mr. Niles's bill, adds: "We hail this proposition, coming from the quarter it does, with great pleasure. It is intrinsically valuable, and is entitled to the most favorable consideration. We have no fears from the multiplicity of propositions. It is by a candid discussion and comparison of the whole, that the best features of all [ . . . ] and unite all the friends of the great measure in its final support."

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Friday, January 10, 1845 RE41i79p1c5

New Orleans, Dec. 13, Later From Texas

The schooner William Bryan [ . . . ] are [ . . . ] to Captain Moss for the Galveston News of the 24th inst., three days later than received by the New York. The News contains a message from President Jones to Congress, conveying his views and opinions in regard to such measures connected with the public interests, as he deems proper to engage their attention. We have not space to give a synopsis of this document to-day, but will endeavor to do so to-morrow. The Valedictory message of President Houston, and the Inaugural Address of Vice President Anderson, are also published in the News. Of the latter of these documents, we have nothing to say. General Houston's Valedictory is well written, and suited to the occasion. He refers to the prosperous condition of Texas, to her rise and progress as an independent nation, and speaks with confidence of her future prospects. The following extract is interesting:

"When I look around me, my fellow-citizens, and see and know that the prospects of the Republic are brightening, its resources developing, its commerce extending, and its moral influence in the community of nations increasing, my heart is filled with sensations of joy and pride. A poor and despised people a few years ago, borne down by depressing influences at home and abroad, we have risen in defiance of all obstacles, to a respectable place in the eye of the world. One great nation is inviting us to a full participancy in all its privileges, and to a full community of its laws and interests. Others desire our separate and independent national existence, and are ready to throw into our lap the richest gifts and favors.

"The attitude of Texas now, to my apprehension, is one of peculiar interest. The United States have spurned her twice already. Let her therefore maintain her position firmly, as it is, and work out her own political salvation. Let her legislation precede upon the supposition, that we are to be, and remain, an independent people. If Texas goes begging again for admission into the United States, she will only degrade herself. They will spurn her again from their threshold, and other nations will look upon her with unmingled pity.

"Let Texas, therefore, maintain her position. If the United States shall open the door and ask her to come into the great family of States, you will than have other conductors, better than myself, to lead you into a union with the beloved land from which we have sprung—the land of the broad Stripes and bright Stars. But let us be as we are, until the opportunity is presented: and then let us go in, if at all, united in one phalanx, and sustained by the opinion of the world.

"If we remain an independent nation, our territory will be extensive, unlimited. The Pacific alone will bound the mighty march of our race and our empire. From Europe and America her soil is to be peopled. In regions where the savage and the buffalo now roam uncontrolled, the enterprise and industry of the Anglo-American are yet to find an extended field of development. With union, industry and virtue, we have nothing to apprehend. If left alone, we have our destiny in our own hands, and many become a nation distinguished for its wealth and power."

Intelligence has been received at Galveston, that John R. Kemper, of Victoria county, was lately murdered by a party of Caronkawa Indians, near his residence, some 10 or 15 miles below Victoria, on the West bank of the Guadeloupe River. The News says:

"The Indians afterwards made an attack upon his house, but the inmates, consisting of his wife, children and mother-in-law, saved themselves by escaping to the forest. The house was burnt, and much property destroyed or taken away by the savages. Captain K. was an old citizen of the West, and his death will be much regretted."
The Lagrange Intelligencer says that an engagement took place between some Lipan Indians and the citizens of Sequim, a few days since, which resulted in the death of two of the Indians. The citizens came off uninjured, having re-taken the property, stolen from Sequim, the evening before the fight.

Friday, January 10, 1845 RE41i79p1c6

Revolution in Mexico [from the N.O. Picayune, 29th]

The New Orleans Picayune of the 29th ult. brings one day's later news from Mexico. The baroque Eugenia, with Mr. Cushing on board, brought accounts from Vera Cruz to the 12th December. The schr. Fortuna, which brings the news to New Orleans, left Vera Cruz the next day, (13th.) The additional accounts are not decisive of the fate of Santa Anna. We shall content ourselves with giving a few paragraphs from the Picayune, showing the then desperate state of Santa Anna's fortunes. The Picayune infers from the various intelligence it has collected, "that Santa Anna's career is drawing to a tragic close. Unless some lucky chance has befallen him, his doom, ere this, has been as terrible as well deserved. The new Cabinet has not had time to develop its policy in relation to foreign matters. The disturbances are so violent in their nature, and important in their results, as to leave the authorities little time to attend to any other concerns than such as relate to the crisis wrought in the domestic affairs of the country."

Friday, January 10, 1845 RE41i79p1c6

Important From Mexico

By the arrival yesterday of the schooner Fortuna, from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the 13th December we have the important information that the revolution, started in Jalisco by Gen. Paredes, has finally extended almost entirely over the country, and that the complete overthrow of the tyrant Santa Anna is certain, although he is still in command of a few troops at Queretaro. In the city of Mexico the revolution broke out on the 3rd instant, and by the 7th all was quiet.-General Jose Joaquin de Herrera was in command at the last dates, with the title of Provisional President, while Canalizo and some of the chief minions of Santa Anna were in arrest.

On the 1st of December, fifty-five members of the House of Deputies issued a manifesto, protesting against the orders promulgated by President Santa Anna, and denouncing Government for not having had him removed from office. The next day, ten others, who were not able to get into the hall on the 1st, signed it. The Senate likewise adopted the same proceeding on the 2d of December-every member, save four, of that body signing the [ . . . ] of [ . . . ]. This action giving great offence to the Dictator, it seems that, on the 3d December, General Canalizo, by the express order of Santa Anna, issued a decree for the dissolution of Congress. The dictator was at that time at Queretaro, at the head of some 8,000 men, on his march against the revolutionists in Jalisco. No sooner was it known in Mexico, that the arbitrary decree had been promulgated, than an immense excitement was created among all classes. The Chamber at once made three protests, besides a proclamation to the citizens; but before they could have them printed, Canalizo issued a peremptory order that all printing offices, with the single exception of that of El Diario del Gobierno, Santa Anna's own paid organ, should be closed, and that publications of every description were expressly forbidden. When these tyrannical decrees transpired, the excitement rose to such a pitch, that all business was suspended, and groups of men collected in all quarters to talk over the obnoxious measures, and prepared to act as circumstances might dictate. Canalizo, in the mean time, seeing the affairs were coming to a crisis, and deeming himself unsafe, collected at the palace all the troops he could gather, (some 2,000 in number,) and shut himself up with them. Baranda, Rejon (the latter a name become familiar to the people of the United States) and Salas, three Santa Anna's minions, also took refuge in the palace at the same time.

During the 4th and 5th of December the excitement continued, with little or no abatement at any time. Early on the 6th large numbers of the inhabitants; comprising not only the lepers and middling classes, but all the most wealthy and respectable citizens gathered, with arms in their hands, at the Convent of San Francisco. Here the members of Congress, having been driven from Chambers, had assembled, amongst them being Generals Herrera, Garcia, Conde, and Cespedes. Previous to this the greater part of the troops in the garrison and in la Ciudadela had really pronounced in favor of the revolution. Generals Conde and Cespedes had come from the Ex-Acordada, where the movement was going on, and reunited themselves with the deputies in the Convent.

From this place, as we learn by some of the accounts, the entire body-members of Congress, citizens leperos and all- marched to the principal plaza in front of the palace, and ordered Canalizo to surrender-giving him two hours to reflect and no more. Thinking that his officers and soldiers would stand by him, Canalizo prepared to attack the citizens, and called upon his troops to make a sortie. At this crisis, one of his officers exclaimed that he was the soldier of no tyrant but of the nation, and then shouted, "Long live the Congress." This cry was taken up by the ranks stationed at the palace, when Canalizo at once fled in consternation to his apartments.
Here he was commanded to surrender, and in reply, he assented, on condition that his safety was guaranteed, and passports to leave the country were given to him, the four Ministers and the Commandant-General. What disposition was made of this demand, our accounts do not say; but it is certain that he was detained a prisoner in the palace, together with Salas, the Commandante General, as he is called. The Ministers of War, and of the Home Department, had been set at liberty upon giving security, while Rejon and Baranda had made their escape.

On the 7th of December, Gen. Herrera was appointed Provisional President of the Republic with a Cabinet, as follows; Don Luis G. Cuevas; Minister of Foreign Relations; Don Mariano Riva Palacios, of Justice and Public Instruction; Don Pedro Echeverria, of Internal Affairs; Gen. Pedro Garcia Conde, of War and Marine.

On the evening of the 6th and during the whole of the 7th of December the greatest rejoicings took place in the city of Mexico, accompanied by many acts which show the deep detestation in which Santa Anna was held. A number of his portraits in the public places were dragged through the streets, torn into fragments, and every lepero preserved a piece as a memento of their oppressor's downfall. The statue of Santa Anna in the plaza was tumbled down, broken in pieces, and the head borne in triumph through the city. It is also stated that the crowd, intoxicated with joy and frantic with revenge, afterwards proceeded to the monument where the leg of their Dictator had been buried with so much pomp a year or two since, broke it into atoms, and then kicked and dragged the embalmed limb through the plazas and principal thoroughfares. While all this was being enacted by the mob, the more prominent citizens were rejoicing heartily in the change of Government. Messages of congratulation between the triumphant Senate and House were interchanged, and the new President, Herrera, was waited upon by the crowds, who appeared most joyous in obtaining relief from the despotic ruler under which they have groaned since the downfall of Bustamente. Such were the scenes enacted in Mexico—great were the rejoicings all over the country.

The revolution against Santa Anna appears to be general, yet we hear of little bloodshed except at Jalapa, where a few persons were killed. At Puebla, the inhabitants rose as with one voice, tumbled down the statue of the obnoxious Tyrant, and tore his portrait into a thousand tatters.

Here we will insert an extract of a letter to a gentleman in this city, showing the completeness of the revolution. It is dated, "Vera Cruz, Dec. 11, 1844.

"As far as I can learn, no place holds out for Santa Anna. Jalapa, Perote, [Girzala], and [...] have pronounced, and the great man's fall appears to me inevitable. I do not see a loophole for him to creep out of, and I shall be glad if I am the first to give you this decisive news.

"This has been a revolution of public opinion. Not a sword has been drawn nor a drop of blood spilt; and, amidst all the apparent disorder of a revolution, and with no military to restrain the populace, no excess has been committed.

"Here Santa Anna's portrait was taken out of the Municipal Rooms and thrown to the populace, who tore it into a thousand pieces. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed; and, as I said before, in the midst of all this confusion, there is not a single instance of any excess having been committed. This is the triumphs of popular opinion over the force of arms, and is the commitment of a new era in the existence of the Mexican Republic.

"It is asserted, that the new government offers Santa Anna no terms short of his paying up the twelve millions of dollars of the public money he is charged with having uselessly squandered or appropriated to his own private purposes. This condition it can scarcely be possible to execute, and in default of complying with it, the disposed tyrant is threatened with death."

[AMB]

Friday, January 10, 1845

Mr. WITCHER moved to make the Report of the Committee of Elections on the Bath contested election, the order of the day for Friday next.

Mr. BOWDEN moved to amend by making it the order of the day for Monday next, which was lost-49 to 55.

The House then fixed the subject for Friday next.

Mr. BLUE moved a resolution, that the House will, with the consent of the Senate, proceed on Wednesday, the 15th instant, to the election of a Councilor of State.

Mr. STEPHENSON moved to fix it for the 22nd January, to which suggestion Mr. Blue acceded, and the resolution was adopted.
On motion of Mr. Smith,

Resolved, That the Committee on Banks inquire into the expediency of amending the first section of an act to establish the Band of Kanawha, passed on April 4th, 1839.

Petitions, &c. were presented and referred.

By Brown, a remonstrance of some of the stockholders of the Rivanna Navigation Company against the application of said Company to be released from the requirements of their charter, prescribing the dimensions of their improvement; also a remonstrance of citizens of Albemarle, to the same purport.

By Mr. Lacy, a petition of J.M. Ferguson, Sergeant of the city of Richmond, in relation to Sergeant's fees;

By Mr. McRae of Henrico, of John Robertson, G.A. Myers and B.B. Minor, committee of the Richmond Library company, for the [...] said company;

By Mr. Taylor of Norfolk Borough, of May Nester, widow of a Revolutionary [...] for an increased pension from the Cincinnati [...]

By Mr. Thompson of Dinwiddie, documents in relation to the extension of Centre Warehouse;

By Mr. Kidwell, a petition of Thomas S. Haymond, Commissioner of forfeited and delinquent lands in Monongalia, praying legislation in relation to the sale of a tract of 840 acres of land sold by him as such commission.

By Mr. Flood, of rurally citizens of Buckingham for a change in one of the precinct elections in that country;

By Mr. Ramey, of sundry citizens of London for a special road law for said country;

By Mr. Stephenson, of citizens of Tyler county for the right of way to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

The House resumed the consideration of the Southwestern Turnpike Road bill - Mr. Garnett's motion for indefinite postponement still pending.

Mr. Lee sustained and Mr. Witcher opposed the bill.

Mr. Preston replied at length to [...] of Halifax, and Witcher, and in support of the bill.

Mr. Rice opposed the bill.

The vote was then taken and the bill indefinitely postponed by the following vote:


On motion of Mr. Anderson, the House adjourned.
Wingfield appointed Secretary; and the following [ . . . ] and Resolutions were {...} adopted:

Whereas, it is believed that the Militia System of Virginia is radically defective, and not [ . . . ] to answer the purposes for which it was intended; and whereas, it is the sincere desire of the members of this meeting to see the system place, upon a better footing throughout the Senate, and also have an opportunity afforded them[ . . . ] no training the regiment in which they [ . . . ] commissions, as to render it an efficient and valuable force to the country, in time of danger; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we cordially approve of the resolutions recently adopted by our brother officers of the 87th regiment in the county or King William, and that we go heart and hand with them and all others who have pursued a similar course in their laudable efforts to reform the Military system of Virginia.

Resolved, That we heartily approve and [ . . . ] earnestly second their recommendation to the officers of the different Regiments throughout the State to hold meetings and to appoint delegates to the Military Convention proposed to be [ . . . ] in the city of Richmond on the first Monday in January next.


Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Richmond Whig and Enquirer.

And, thereupon, on motion, the meeting was adjourned. THOS. M. WHITE, President [ . . . ] M. Wingfield, Secretary

At a meeting of the [illegible] consider the reorganization of the militia is the State, Col. Spencer A. Mann was called to the Chair, and Lieut. Thomas E. Bottom appointed Secretary.

The object of the meeting having been explained, the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:

1. Resolved. That a well regulated militia begin essential to the security of a free State, and the present militia system in Virginia being extremely defective, we conceive it to be of paramount importance that it should undergo a material reformation.

2. Resolved. That we cordially approve the resolutions adopted by the officers of the 87th Regiment Virginia Militia, recommending to all the officers of the militia in the Commonwealth, [ . . . ] hold a Convention in the city of Richmond on the third Monday in January next for the purpose of devising some plan for the better organization and discipline of the militia of the State, by which military spirit, at present depressed and withering, may be revived and encouraged."


4. Resolved. That the Richmond Enquirer and Whig be requested to publish these proceedings. SPENCER A. MANN, President. Thos. E. Button, Secretary.

[AMB]
nation through her initiatory struggles, by exhibitions of favor and protection, not less obvious in the course of events, and in the connection of cause and effect, than the pillar and the flame, which absently proceeded and led his chosen people in their journey to the promised land.

"The fears of our friends touching the permanency of our institutions, and the misrepresentations of our enemies abroad, have no doubt heretofore had an effect greatly to lessen—the amount of emigration from other countries to this; but within the past year the [ . . . ] influence of these causes has been greatly mitigated, through doubtless not completely removed—This is apparent, from the tide of emigration, consisting of thousands of families, which, during the last few months, has flowed into the Northern, Eastern and other portions of our territory—so that the rich harvests and plenteous crops, which in those sections crowned the labors of the cultivator of the soil, have not sufficed to prevent a temporary scarcity of provisions, in a land hitherto overflowing with abundance."

General Houston notices the subject in very dignified and eloquent terms, as the reader will perceive, from the following extract which is contained in the New Orleans Tropic of the 31st ultimo.

The election of Mr. Polk over the ill-starred Clay seems to have been hailed with great pleasure in Texas. It has cheered the people, and encouraged them in the hope of annexation. A public meeting at Matagorda was held on the 7th, for the purpose of exchanging congratulations upon the result of the Presidential election in the United States. The "Texas National Register" (printed at the town of Washington, on the 21st) denies, that the new President has yet given any grounds to suspect him of any opposition to annexation.

Friday, January 10, 1845 RE41i79p3c1

Senate

Mr. McMULLEN, from the Committee on Internal Improvement, reported the bill amending the act appropriating a certain sum of money to the Cumberland Gap Road, which was on motion of Mr. CARTER, laid on the table.

Mr. WALLACE, from the Select Committee to examine the printed Journal of the Senate made a report, specifying certain errors discovered therein, which was agreed to, concluding with a resolution, which makes it the duty of the Clerk of the Senate to examine the proof sheet before printing.

Texas

Mr. WALLACE, from the Select Committee to whom was referred so much of the Governor's message as relates to the annexation of Texas made a report accompanied with the following resolutions which were laid on the table, and on Mr. SHINN'S motion, ordered to be printed.

Whereas, by the Treaty of Louisiana it was expressly [...] by the U. States that the inhabitants of said territory should be incorporated into the Union, and admitted as soon as possible, according to the principles of the Federal Constitution, to the enjoyment of all rights, advantage and immunities of citizens of the U. States and whereas, the people of that part of said territory known as Texas, have expressed their desire to be received into this Confederacy according to the terms set forth in said treaty:

1. **Resolved, Therefore,** That it is the rights of the people of Texas to be admitted into the Union, and the duty of the people of the U. States to perform in good faith all their of legations assumed by them in the purchase of Louisiana.

2. **Resolved,** That Texas should be admitted into this Union as soon as practicable.

3. **Resolved,** That the [...] from this Commonwealth in the Senate of the U. States be instructed to affect that object.

Mr. McMULLEN reported a lull concerning the Price's Turnpike, which was laid on the table.

Mr. PEYTON, from the Committee on Court of Justice, reported the bill from the House of Delegates which authorizes E. Dodson, of Mecklenburg, to qualify as High Sheriff at his own house, with a substitute to the same, which makes it a general law in all similar cases.

After some discussion among [...], PEYTON, WALLACE, SHINN, GALLAHER, THOMPSON of K. BAPTIST and McMULLEN, the bill was laid on the table.

Mr. NEWMAN, from the Select Committee, reported the bill authorizing William Jones of Brooke, to establish a ferry across the Ohio River—which, being ready, was passed.
Mr. THOMPSON, of K., from the Select Committee, reported the bill of changing the time of holding the Courts of Jackson county—which was read and passed.

Mr. THOMSPON, of K., from the Committee of General Laws, reported the bill apportioning the school quotas of Harrison, Barbour, Marion, and Taylor—which was read and passed.

Also, the bill to allow Cromwell Orrick further time to establish his Ferry—which was read and passed.

Also, a bill authorizing separate elections in Kanawha, Nansemond, Jackson, & tc. -which was read and passed.

Mr. DENNIS, from the Select Committee, reported that bill changing the time of holding certain Courts in the 2nd Judicial Circuit—which was on motion of Mr. D., laid on the table.

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Friday, January 10, 1845 RE41i79p3c3

Texas, Part of Louisiana

The National Intelligencer, true to its instincts, where the interests of a foreign State clash with those of the United States, comes forward in its last No. with an article under the head of a "Legal Definition of the bounds of Louisiana as by us purchased of France." The object is to prove that Texas was no part of Louisiana-that "we ourselves voluntarily adopted, on the side of Texas, the line of the Sabine-then and now the line of possession-as the real extent of our purchase from France, as the true Louisiana. All the rest, then—the subsequent claim to Texas—was but a diplomatic after-thought, skillfully employed to make Spain yield to us what we really then wanted-Florida." It also professes to quote the acts of Congress of October 1803, authorizing the President to take possession of the territory—and the act of March, 1804, erecting Louisiana into two territories—and the act of 1811, to enable the people of the territory of Orleans to form a State Government—as evidences, on part of Congress, "and the administration that made and sanctioned the Treaty," to show that they did not claim beyond the Sabine. "What, then, (says the Intelligencer,) becomes now of the proposed re-annexation, or of the proposition to admit the State of Texas into the Union?

This is indeed a desperate effort to cut us off from Texas. It professes to lay down a boundary to the territory acquired by Mr. Jefferson, which neither he nor any of his successors ever sanctioned. He, as well as the rest of them, in fact, contended for a line West of the Sabine—and the very act of cession of the territory West of the Sabine, to Spain, in lieu of Florida, shows that, in the opinion of Messrs. Monroe and Adams, at the time (in 1819) they were ceding what did belong to us, (West of the Sabine.) And the efforts of Messrs. Adams and Clay afterwards show, that they were anxious to reclaim what had been so improvidently ceded. We have rarely seen, indeed, a bolder effort made to deny the concurrent evidence of our historical documents, or to cloak a grosser effort to defeat the interests of our country by a misrepresentation of our records.

We shall first notice the facts upon which it relies—and then introduce other facts which it has carefully suppressed.

The Intelligencer confesses, that the act of 1803 furnishes no evidence on the point of issue. It is a simple authority to take possession of the newly-acquired Territory.

The act of 1804 divides the Territory into two portions—one which was called the Territory of Orleans—and the residue into another, called by the general name "District of Louisiana." The former is run West "to the Western boundary of the said cession."

The act of 1811 erects the territory of Orleans into a State, under the name of the State of Louisiana. Its Western boundary is here specified to be "the river Sabine" and, therefore, the Intelligencer argues, that the Sabine was regarded in the act of 1804 as the "Western boundary of the said cession." This is clearly a non \ldots~

But to show how completely the Intelligencer misrepresents the whole subject of the Western boundary, we subjoin the following interesting extracts from Mr. Walker's able letter, to show that Mr. Jefferson, who acquired the Territory, and the succeeding Presidents, never did confine themselves to the Sabine; but that they claimed beyond it to the Rio del Norte. These historical records are conclusive—and now we ask the N. Intelligencer whether we have
"Is it expedient (says Mr. Walker,) to reannex Texas to the American Union?-This is the greatest question, since the adoption of the Constitution, ever presented for the decision of the American people. Texas was once our own: and, although surrendered by treaty to Spain, the surrender was long resisted by the American government, and was conceded to be a great sacrifice. This being the case, is it not clear that, when the territory which we have most reluctantly surrendered, can be re-acquired, that object should be accomplished? Under such circumstances, to refuse the re-annexation is to deny the wisdom of the original purchase; and to reflect upon the judgment of those who maintained, even at the period of surrender, that it was a great sacrifice of national interest.

(illegible) as New Orleans itself: that it was a part of that region, is demonstrated by the discovery, by the great Basalle, of the source and mouth of the Mississippi, and his occupancy for France West of the Colorado. Our right to Texas, as a part of Louisiana, was asserted and demonstrated by Presidents Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, and John Q. Adams. No one of our Presidents has ever doubted our title; and Mr. Clay has ever maintained it as clear and unquestionable. Louisiana was acquired by a treaty with France, in 1803, by Mr. Jefferson; and in the letter of Mr. Madison, the Secretary of State, dated March 31, 1804, he says, expressing his own views and those of Mr. Jefferson that Louisiana "extended westwardly to the Rio Bravo, otherwise called Rio del Norte. Orders were accordingly obtained from the Spanish authorities for the delivery of all the posts on the West side of the Mississippi." And in his letter of the 31st January, 1804, Mr. Madison declares that Mr. Laussat, the French commissioner who delivered the possession of Louisiana to us, announced the "Del Norte as its true boundary." Here, then, in the delivery of the possession of Louisiana by Spain to France, and France to us, Texas is included. In the letter of Mr. Madison of the 8th July, 1804, he declares the opposition of Mr. Jefferson to the "relinquishment of any territory whatever Eastward of the Rio Bravo." In the letter of James Monroe of the 8th November, 1803, he encloses documents which he says "prove incontestably" that the boundary of Louisiana is "the Rio Bravo to the West;" and Mr. Pinckney unites with him in a similar declaration. In a subsequent letter-not to a foreign government, but to Mr. Madison-of the 30th April, 1805, they assert our title as unquestionable. In Mr. Monroe's letters, as Secretary of State, dated Jan. 19, 1816, and June 10, 1816, he says none could question "our title to Texas," and he expresses his concurrence in opinion with Jefferson and Madison: "that our title to the Del Norte was as near as to the island of New Orleans." In his letter, as Secretary of State, to Don Onis, of the 12th March, 1818, John Quincy Adams says: "The claim of France always did extend westward to the Rio Bravo;" "she always claimed the territory which you call Texas as being within the limits, and forming a part of Louisiana." After demonstrating our title to Texas in this letter, Mr. Adams says: "well might Messrs. Pinckney and Monroe write to M. Cavallias, in 1805, that the claim of the United States to the boundary of the Rio Bravo was as clear as their right to the island of New Orleans." Again, in his letter of the 31st October, 1818, Mr. Adams says our title to Texas is 'established beyond the power of further controversy.'

"Here, then, by the discovery and occupation of Texas, as part of Louisiana, by LaSalle, for France in 1685; by the delivery of possession to us in 1803, by Spain and France; by the action of our government from the date of the treaty of acquisition to the date of the treaty of surrender, (avowedly so on its face;) by the opinion of all our Presidents and ministers connected in any way with the acquisition, our title to Texas was undoubted. It was surrendered to Spain by the treaty of 1819; but Mr. Clay maintained in his speech of the third April, 1820, that territory could not be alienated merely by a treaty; and consequently that, not withholding the treaty, Texas was still our own. In the cession of a portion of Maine, it was asserted, in legislative resolutions, by Massachusetts and Maine, and conceded by this government, that no portion of Maine could be ceded by treaty without the consent of Maine. Did Texas assent to this treaty, or can we cede part of a territory, but not of a State? These are grave questions; they raise the point whether Texas is not now a part of out territory, and whether her people may not now rightfully claim the protection of our government and laws. Recollect this was not a question of settlement, under the powers of this Government of a disputed boundary.-The treaty declares, as respects Texas, that we cede to his Catholic majesty.1 Commenting on this in his speech before referred to, Mr. Clay says it was not a question of the power in case of dispute 'of fixing a boundary previously existing.' It was on the contrary, the case of an avowed cession of territory from the United States to Spain."- Although, then, the government may be competent to fix a disputed boundary, by ascertaining as near as practicable where it is; although, also, a State, with the consent of this government, as in the case of Maine, may cede a portion of her territory-yet it by no means follows that this government, by treaty, could cede a territory of the Union. Could we by treaty cede Florida to Spain, especially without consulting the people of Florida? and if not, the treaty by which Texas was surrendered was, as Mr. Clay contended, inoperative.

"By the treaty of 1803, by which, we have seen Texas was acquired by us from France, we pledged our faith to France, and to the people of Texas, never to surrender that territory. The 3d article of that treaty declares: "the inhabitants of the ceded territory shall be incorporated in the Union of the United States, and admitted as soon as possible, according to the principles of the Federal Constitution, to the enjoyment of all the rights, advantages and immunities of citizens of the United States; and in the mean time they shall be protected in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property and the religion which they profess." Such was our pledge to France and to the people of Texas, by the treaty of cession to Spain was not unconstitutional and invalid, it was a gross infraction of a previous treaty, and of one of the fundamental conditions under which Texas was acquired.

"Here, then, are many grave questions of constitutional power. Could the solemn guaranty to France, and to the people of Texas, be rescinded by a Treaty with Spain? Can this Government, by its own mere power, surrender any portion of its territory? Can it cut off a territory without the consent of its people, and surrender them and the territory to a foreign power? Can it expatriate and expel from the Union its own citizens, who occupy that territory, and change an American citizen into a citizen of Spain or Mexico?-These are momentous questions, which it is not necessary now to determine, and in regard to which I advance at this time no opinion. Certain, however, it is, that
with the consent of the people of Texas, Congress can carry out the solemn pledges of the Treaty of 1803, and admit one or more States from Texas into the Union.

"The question as to Texas is, in any aspect, a question of the re-establishment of our ancient boundaries, and the re-possession of a territory moat reluctantly surrendered. The surrender of territory, even if constitutional, is almost universally inexpedient and unwise, and in any event, when circumstances may seem to demand such a surrender, the territory thus abandoned should always be re-acquired whenever it may be done with justice and propriety. Independent of these views, we have the recorded opinion of John Quincy Adams as President, and Henry Clay as Secretary of State, and also of General Andrew Jackson as President, and Martin Van Buren as Secretary of State, that Texas ought to be re-annexed to the Union. On the 26th of March, 1825, Mr. Clay, in conformity with his own views, and the express directions of Mr. Adams as President, directed a letter to Mr. Poinsett, our Minister at Mexico, instructing him to endeavor to procure from Mexico a transfer to us of Texas and the Del Norte. In this letter Mr. Clay says, "the President wishes you to effect that object." Mr. Clay adds: "The line of the Sabine approaches our great Western mart nearer than could be wished. Perhaps the Mexican Government may not be unwilling to establish that of the Rio Bravos de Dios, or the Rio Colorado, or the Snow Mountains, or the Rio del Norte, in lieu of it." Mr. Clay urges, also, the importance of having entirely within our limits the Red river and Arkansas, and their respective tributary streams."

"On the 15th of March, 1827, Mr. Clay again renewed the effort to procure the cession of Texas in his letter of instruction, of that date, to our minister at Mexico, he says: "The President has thought the present might be an auspicious period for urging a negotiation at Mexico, to settle the boundary of the two republics." If we could obtain such a boundary as we desire, the government of the United States might be disposed to pay a reasonable pecuniary compensation. The boundary we prefer is that which, beginning at the mouth of the Rio del Norte in the sea shall ascend that river to the mouth of the Rio Puerco [sic]. thence ascending this river to its source, and from its source by a line due north to strike the Arkansas; thence following the southern bank of the Arkansas to its source, in latitude 42 degrees north; and thence by that parallel of latitude to the South sea. And he adds, the treaty may provide "for the incorporation of the inhabitants into there Union."

"Mr. Van Buren, in his letter, as Secretary of State, to our Minister at Mexico, dated August 25, 1829, says: "It is the wish of the President that you should, without delay, open a negotiation with the Mexican Government for the purchase of so much of the province of Texas as is hereinafter described." "He is induced, by a deep conviction of the real necessity of the proposed acquisition, not only as a guard for our Western frontier, and the protection of New Orleans, but also to secure forever to the inhabitants of the valley of the Mississippi the undisputed and undisturbed possession of the navigation of that river." "The territory, of which a cession is desired by the United States, is all that part of the province of Texas which lies East of a line beginning at the Gulf of Mexico, in the center of the desert, or grand prairie, which lies West of the Rio Nueces."

"On the 20th of March, 1833, Gen. Jackson' through Mr. Livingston as Secretary of State, renews to our minister at Mexico the former "instructions on the subject of the proposed cession. On the 2d of July, 1835, Gen. Jackson, through Mr. Forsyth as Secretary of State, renews the instructions to obtain the cession of Texas, and expresses "an anxious desire to secure the very desirable alteration in our boundary with Mexico." [Illegible] minister at Mexico endeavor to procure us, from that Government, the following boundary, 'beginning at the Gulf of Mexico, proceeding along the eastern bank of the river Rio Bravo del Norte, to the 37th parallel of latitude; and thence along that parallel to the Pacific.' This noble and glorious proposition of Gen. Jackson would have secured to us, not only the whole of Texas, but also the largest and most valuable portion of upper California, together with the bay and harbor of San Francisco, the best on the western coast of America, and equal to any in the world. If, then, it was deemed, as it is clearly proved, most desirable to obtain the re-annexation of Texas, down to a period as late as August, 1835, is it less important at this period?"

[AMB]

Friday, January 10, 1845 RE41i79p3c4

Governor Briggs of Massachusetts

The Legislature of Massachusetts is now in session, and the new Governor has sent in his Message. The Boston Morning Post analyzes its positions with its usual acumen, and remarks, among other things, that ""His Excellency say not a word of South Carolina, and has disapproved many in not declaring war against that State; but his is probably reserved for a special message.

"The main theme of the address is Texas, and on this the Governor revises the stale arguments which the people voted down in the last election, and shows that Massachusetts is now just as wise and just as liberal as she was when she opposed the annexation of Louisiana. We trust that the Democratic members of the Legislature will not be led from the only true position of the National Democratic Party by his Excellency’s twattle on this topic which he treats like a small caucus lecturer, rather than like a statesman. It seems to be small pickings for a Governor in a State paper to make as much as he attempts to do of Mr. Murphy’s Texas letters."
"His Excellency end his homily on Texas with a right solemn warning, that if we annex Texas, our Republic will turn out just like Rome, and that Texas will bring the barbarians to our gates, as love of conquest did to the gates of the eternal city; which proves satisfactorily, that his Excellency has read Goldsmith's History of Rome! You can find any quantity of the same sort of prophecy in the old Federal papers and messages about Louisiana."

Friday, January 10, 1845 RE41i79p3c3

Letter to the Editor, The Question of Annexation [written by Mr. Dromgoole]

We lay before our readers the following letter, received by yesterday's mail. It presents a new proposition from Mr. Dromgoole, which is entitled to serious attention, not only on account of the high source from which it proceeds, but from the character of its provisions.

The provision in Mr. Niles's bill, which adopts the line of the Missouri Compromise, excites much observation and some objection. It is said, at Washington, that Texas might reject the offer of Annexation, if it were coupled with such a condition, as to any part of her territory, which is cut off by 36 degrees, 20 minutes, by the Missouri Compromise line.

We cannot but confidently indulge the hope, that some wise and conciliatory compromise may be pursued by the friends of Annexation, before the expiration of the present session. The Globe, of Monday last, cheers us in this expectation. It says, that "It is well ascertained now that majority exists in the House, and probably in the [...] also, in favor of re-annexing Texas to the Union. The conditions alone remain to be adjusted."

The Globe further says:

"The Treaty scheme of last session, as presented in joint resolutions, it is understood will not pass in either branch. The proposition of recognising our obligations to Texas, under the Treaty of Mr. Jefferson in 1803, and entitling it to admission as a State at once, or as a Territory, with a view to subdivision, for admission in several States, with the principle of the Missouri Compromise engrafted, seems to meet with most favor. It is possible, however, that the act of the present Congress may take the shape of that under which Mr. Jefferson secured Louisiana, being an appropriation to enable the President elect to effect at once what he may be instructed to accomplish in some form or other; submitting the alternatives to his discretion, and the confirmation of the next Congress."

(We trust that Congress may adopt a more prompt and efficient measure than that--[Enquirer.)

Friday, January 10, 1845 RE41i79p3c5

Washington City, Jan. 8, 1845

To-day, another plan for the admission of Texas into the Union was submitted to the House. It was introduced by Mr. Dromgoole, the Representative from the Petersburg District. It was more brief and simple than any yet offered. It is not encumbered or embarrassed by questions of doubtful powers, and difficult constructions. Without complication, it rest plainly upon a single provision of the Constitution--"New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union." It gives in advance he consent of Congress to the formation of the new State, with the approbation of the existing Government and authorities of Texas, and with a Constitution to be framed and adopted by a Convention of People. It provides, that on a day certain hereafter (not immediately) the new State shall be received and admitted into this Union. It is understood, that Mr. Dromgoole relies for precedent and authority for this provision, admitting the State on a future named day, upon the act of Congress approved February 4, 1791, enacting and declaring that Kentucky should be received and admitted into this Union on the first day of June, 1792, more than one year after the passage of the act; and also upon the act, approved February 18, 1791, enacting and declaring that, on the 4th day of March, 1791, the State of Vermont shall be received and admitted into this Union, less than one month after the passage of the act. (See Laws of Congress, vol. 2, pages 191, 2, 3.)

The acts referred to are very short and simple; and it might perhaps be well to publish them in the Enquirer, for the information of your readers. It is worthy of remark, that all the States except Vermont, had ratified the Constitution, had thus adopted "this Union," and had thereby superseded the previously [...] articles of Confederation. Vermont was out of the Union. It is believed, that the Judicial system of the U. States adopted under Constitution, did not embrace Vermont. And the act of Congress of taking the census or enumeration of the inhabitants of the United State, approved March 1, 1790, did not embrace the inhabitants of Vermont. In this condition, Vermont applied for admission as a new State, and was so admitted by the act of February 18, 1790, and then, by an act approved March 2, 1791, effect was given to the laws of the United States within the State of Vermont, by extending the judicial system to the same, providing for taking the census, and for the application and enforcement of the act providing for the collection of duties.
Below I give you a copy of the bill introduced by Mr. Dromgoole. Your's respectfully.

A Bill declaring that consent of Congress that a new State be formed within the jurisdiction of the Republic of Texas, and admitted into this Union.

Be it [...] by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, and it is hereby enacted and declared, That the Congress both consent that a new State may be erected with the jurisdiction of the Republic of Texas, adjoining the States of Louisiana and Arkansas, and bounded also by the Gulf of Mexico, with a Republican form of Government, to be adopted by the inhabitants of said Republic, assembled, by deputies, in Convention, with the consent of the existing Government, in order that said new State may be admitted into this Union.

And be it further enacted and declared, That the foregoing consent of the Congress is given upon the following conditions, to wit: That the new State shall be formed, and its Government adopted, prior to the fourth day of July in the present year; and that the boundaries of the said new States, conforming to the outlines before stated, and containing an area not exceeding-thousand square miles, shall be defined by the Convention of deputies, and inserted in the Constitution or form of Government; and that the assent of the State shall also be inserted, to such boundaries of the remaining territory, property pertaining to Texas, and to be claimed and held by said new State on superseding the present Government, as may be settled and defined by the Government, as may be settled and defined by the Government of the United States by negotiation and treaty, or otherwise.

And be it further enacted and declared, That on the said fourth day of July, in the present year, the said new State, having been thus formed and defined by the name and style of the State of Texas shall be revived and admitted into this Union, as a new and entire member of the U. States of America.

[AMB]

Friday, January 10, 1845 RE41i79p4c1 82 words

Marine Journal

The article reports the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Port of Richmond.

High Water this day at 5 o'clock, P.M.

Arrived
  Steamer Curtis Peck, Davis, Norfolk.

Sailed
  Steamer Pocahontas, Hollingshead, Baltimore.
  Schr. Curlew, Stone, Baltimore.

Below
  Ship Louisiana, off Pagan Creek.
  Schr. Bergen, off James Town.
  Schr. Nahant, off Windmill Point.
  Schr. Lady Washington, off Watkins.
  Schr. Cora, in Dutch Gap.

[AMB]

Friday, January 10, 1845 RE41i79p4c1

James River & Kanawha Canal, Richmond, January 7, 1845

The article reports the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Canal.

Arrived
  Canal Boat Ohio, J. Gilmore master, with 403/4 tons merchandise from Lynchburg, to Deane & Brown, John
Maben & Co., S. J. Jones and J. R. Anderson.

Boat Metamora, George Newberry master, with 21½ tons merchandise from Cartersville, to Deane & Brown, Warwick & Barksdale, Fords & Woodson and B. Sheppard.

Cleared
Boat Virginia, Wm. T. Minor, master, for Scottsville, empty.
Boat Thomas M. Bondurant, E. Henry master, with 21¾ tons merchandise for New Canton.
Boat Exchange, D. Bland master, with 4½ tons merchandise for Lock No. 9 and Scottsville.
Boat Nanny Perkins, Geo. Cabell master, for New Market, empty.

[AMB]

Tuesday, January 14, 1845 RE41i49p1c3

Monday Morning, January 13, 1845

The Richmond Whig [...] is most [...] Northern Federal allies, in its bitter opposition to the annexation of Texas. It stigmatizes certain resolutions submitted to the Virginia Senate by General Wallace of Fauquier as "reprehensible, detestable and revolting," and full of "atrocity." Speaking of the proposed admission of Texas under the Treaty of Louisiana, the Whig thus grossly winds up its Article:

"Such a proposition is now unblushingly advanced, under the influence of Texas pecuniary interests, (not that we mean that Gen. Wallace is anything more than the cats-paw!) to the Senate of Virginia itself. We hope that honorable body, without the least regard to party, and in defiance of party influence, will spurn the proposition out of their hall, never before debased by a proposal so unjust."

It is a pity that this pure and disinterested Editor, whose sole weapon consists in attacking the motives of others, could not find other arguments against the great measure, than the pecuniary interests. Which he has so long and so childishly harped upon, and which some of the leading men of his own party have so scathingly refuted. The people are sick of such puerile attacks-without the least foundation, and unworthy of a manly discussion of important principles. The Whig has grossly misrepresented General Wallace. He is no "cat's paw" of any man or set of men. The able report and resolutions, (which he has submitted on the Distribution Resolutions,) as well as the report on the subject of Texas, are the fruits of his own vigorous mind and unbiased freedom of thought and of action. They speak the sentiments of Virginia and of the Union-and we are yet to see, if the representatives of the people will be bold enough to "spurn out of" either Legislative Hall, the popular will most clearly and undeniable expressed at the late election. The Whig is counting without its host, when it violates all decency and denounces in such gross language-a proposition which a great many independent men of its own party will glory in seeing achieved.

[AMB]

Tuesday, January 14, 1845 RE41i80p1c4

Hermitage, January 1, 1845 [written by Andrew Jackson]

My Dear Mr. Blair:-I cannot forbear, on this first day of the year 1815, to let you know that I am still in the land of the living, although, greatly afflicted and debilitated. My whole family join me in kind salutations to you and yours, wishing you the joys of the season. May you all live to see many happy New Years.

I observe that you have before Congress too many joint resolutions for the reannexation of Texas.-This argues want of unanimity in the Democracy upon this great national and most important subject. I have just received from Maj. Donnellson, a letter dated at Washington, in Texas, from which I would infer, that if Congress expects to annex Texas to the U.S., they must act speedily, or it will be found to be beyond our grasp. The rejection of the advances of Texas has given offence to some, and a handle to others to press the liberal propositions of England upon the Texians, together with the splendid view of Texas independent, growing into a vast Republic, in time to embrace not only the limits of Texas, but all the domain once Montezuma’s. This view, to ambitious aspirants added to the guaranties of England of her independence, and the loan of large sums for ten years, based upon a Treaty that English manufactures shall be free of duty, is gaining a party in Texas. General Houston is still the leading star; and his influence alone can be counted upon to resist the present influence of England and its increasing power. How long this influence of England can be successfully withstood in Texas, is becoming a very questionable matter. I have taken a view of the whole ground giving to all information it due weight, and I say to you, that, unless Congress acts upon this subject promptly, Texas will be beyond our grasp, and [...] to the United States forever, unless regained by the sword. What will be the situation of our country, with a British manufactures introduced duty free into Texas? Comment is unnecessary.

I hazard nothing in saying that, if the present Congress does not act promptly upon this subject, the next will not
I am exhausted; but, from Major Donnellson’s letter, and other sources of information, the danger of losing Texas seemed so imminent, that altho’ feeble, I could not forbear to say this much to you, that you might communicate it to my friends. May God bless you and yours.

[AMB]

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Tuesday, January 14, 1845 RE41i80p1c4

To the Editors of the Enquirer, Washington City, Jan. 10, 1845

Up to 4 P.M., nothing definite had been heard in this city, relative to the affair between [...] and [...]. At nine o’clock, A.M., one or both the parties were at Barnum’s Hotel, Baltimore.

I send you the following extract from the Houston City Telegraph, received here by the last mail:

“...it is probably known to many of our readers, that a proposition is now, and has been for some time, before this Government, to the effect that England and France conjointly, or England alone, [...] Mexico, and guarantee our independence, upon condition that we forever renounce annexation to the American Union. The proposition so naturally results from that trans-Atlantic policy which has been long avowed, both officially and by Government journals, that it now appears to be considered as a matter of course, by our best informed citizens. Our information on this subject is [...] from those in the confidence of that government.”

I can assure you that from a personal knowledge of the Editor of the Telegraph, as well as the standing of the Journal, (the first in Texas) that the paragraph is entitled to confidence. Thus it appears, that England has moved in the matter. Up to this day I had not feared that the failure to consummate re-annexation during the present session of Congress would endanger the chance session of Congress would endanger the chance session of Congress would endanger the chance session of Congress would endanger the chance of effecting it at the next, so far as Texas herself is concerned, because it seemed improbable that England would run the risks consequent upon a direct interference with our concerns. But as Texas has now the alternative of choosing between the chances of annexation on the one hand, and the certainty of absolute and unconditional freedom from Mexico on the other, with the almost certain prospect too, of advantageous commercial treaties with England and France, no rational man can doubt that she will choose “the bird in the hand” rather than the “two in the bush” that she will embrace the liberal offer of those European powers who see in re-annexation nought but additional strength for the institution [...] commercial resources of the United States, rather than take the alternative of a fourth of next March goes by without the consummation of the project, argues very little knowledge of human nature.

The lending politician of Texas is both [...] and skillful for, he has learned the diplomats art in a hard but sound school—that of adversity. I doubt if Houston’s superior as a diplomatist now lives. You may be surprised at this section, but one unacquainted with the numerous and carried difficulties though which he has guided the Texian bark of State for the last ten years, cannot imagine the trouble by which he has been surrounded. At this moment, [...] not President of the little Republic, he holds in his hands, not only its destinies, but to a certain extent those of the United States; and when he advises his Government that the chances of re-annexation are doubtful, it must move in the only line of policy left to secure certain and absolute independence of Mexico. As an Independent Government, its policy to arrive at national importance is too plain to be mistaken. It must form (as it how can at any moment,) a commercial treaty with England, reviving her manufactures either duty free or at the nominal Tariff, and securing in return the advantage resulting from a market in England, duty free, for her [...]. It must strive to make Galveston the depot for at least one half the manufactured goods consumed in the Mississippi Valley; to be transshipped and smuggled into the South-western States through the tributaries of the Mississippi river. One who can doubt that such will can be inevitable result of a failure to annex Texas this Winter, as her present relations with Britain stand, has neither eyes to see, ears to hear, nor mind to understand the simples and most natural consequences of national rivalry. A treaty which shall tender the provisions of the Tariff of 1842 inoperative against England, in the consuming half of the United States on the one side, while it makes the cotton of Texas worth per pound the amount of the English duty more than American cotton of like quality on the other hand, offers too great is temptation, both to England and Texas, to allow me a least to believe, that it will not be formed the instant the latter Government finds herself obliged to look out for her own interests, and for them alone. It is into this hazard that the spirit of Federalism is now driving our country.

[AMB]

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Tuesday, January 14, 1845 RE41i80p1c2

House of Delegates, Saturday, Jan. 11
A communication was received from the Senate, by their Clerk, stating that they had passed acts "Changing the times of holding the County Courts of Jackson County."

Barbour, Marion, and Taylor;"

"Allowing Cromwell Orrick further time to establish his Ferry;" and

"Authorizing a Ferry from the lands of William Jones, in the county of Brooke, across the Ohio River."

Petitions, &c., were presented and referred:

By Mr. FRAZIER, of Thomas Clarke and other citizens of August, for an increase of the Capital Stock of the Staunton and James River Turnpike Company, to enable them to McAdamize their road; also, of R.D. Hill and others to the same effect; also, another to the same effect; - also, of George Baylor, jr., and J.H. Evans, for the refunding of a sum of money to them;

By Mr. MARSHALL of F., of the President, &c., of the Fauquier and Alexandria Turnpike Company, for a suspension of the act of 1834, with regard to domestic lotteries;

By Mr. O'FERRALL, of sundry millers and farmers of Morgan county, and of mechanics, doctors, merchants, and farmers of Washington county, Maryland, against the right of way to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, except upon certain conditions.

By Mr. CAMPBELL, of citizens of Bedford and Campbell, for authority to religious and benevolent Societies to receive and hold requests;

By Mr. STURM, proceeding of the County Court of Barbour [illegible]

By Mr. VAN BUREN, proceedings of the Bath County Court, for a change of Court day;

By Mr. RAMEY, petition of citizens of Loudoun, for the call of a Convention;

By Mr. POULSON, of Thomas Underhill, for payment for services rendered during the late war;

By Mr. BOLLING, of J.C. Swann, John Pollard, and eight-two other citizens of Petersburg, asking an appropriation for him erection of a public depository of arms in said town;

By Mr. TOLER, documents relative to the petition of Amanda Crow, for a divorce; - also a petition of Sidney S. Baxter and Thomas H. Ellis, Committee of the Stockholders of the James River & Kanawha Company, for aid for certain specified objects;

By Mr. MOSELEY, a remonstrance of sundry citizens of Buckingham against the removal of the precinct election from Goodwyn’s Church, in said county?

By Mr. Fulton of August, a communication from the Superintend of the Western Asylum, for a geographical division of the State in relation to the Eastern and Western Lunatic Asylums;

By Mr. COOTES, a remonstrance of citizens of August against having the Staunton and James River Turnpike Road McAdamized; and

By Mr. TAYLOR of Norfolk Borough, a petition of citizens of Norfolk Borough for an amendment of their character.

By Mr. HOBSON, that the Committee of Propositions, &c., enquire into the expediency of establishing a warehouse for he inspection of tobacco, on the land of Edward W. Sims, in the town of Car Jar, in Cumberland county;

Also, that the Committee of Courts, &c., report a bill requiring the same forms in the transfer of personal estate, held by females before marriage, as are now required in the transfer of real estate;

By Mr. TAYLOR of Loudoun, that the Committee on Finance enquire into the expediency of abolishing the tax on writs.

A message from the Senate by Mr. BONDURANT, that they had agreed to the resolution of this House, for the election of the officers of the Capitol and Penitentiary Institution, with an amendment, changing the day from the
13th to the 22nd January, and including also the election of a Councillor [sic] of State.

The House resumed the discussion of the contested election from Bath—and continued the canvassing of the votes on Van Buren’s poll objected to by Cameron, the contestant.

Mr. STOLVALL moved to reserve the decision of the Committee, and declare legal the vote of James N. McGuffin, who voted upon a title-bond, executed him on the 22nd of October, 1842, for which he paid the money at the time. By the terms of the title-bond, a deed for the land was to be made by the 1st January, 1844, or at anytime he should call for it—“according to his best recollection.” Cameron admits that he has seen said title-bond, and that the deed was to be made on or before the 1st January, 1844.

This motion was sustained by Messrs., STOVALL, BANKS, LEAKE, and BOWDEN, and opposed by Messrs. STOTHER, WITCHER, FULTON of Wythe, EDMUNDS of Halifax, and LEE, and was lost, ayes 57 to noes 67—Mr. Fulton of Wythe having called the ayes and noes.

The vote of said McGuffin was then declared to be illegal.

Mr. BANKS moved to reverse the decision of the committee, and to declare the vote of Thomas Smith legal. That vote was declared illegal by the committee, as there was no evidence that said Smith was twenty-one years of age, it being objected by the contestant that he was not of age. Mr. B. thought the contestant should prove the objections raised by the contestant, viz: that the voter was not of age.

Messrs. STOVALL, DAVIS of Orange and CARSON sustained and Messrs. GARNETT, BROADDUS of Caroline, Taylor of N.B., BROADUS of Culpepper and STROTHER opposed Mr. Bank’s motion, which was lost, ayes 51, noes 71, Mr. B. living called the ayes and noes—and the vote of said Smith declared illegal.

At this stage of the proceedings, on motion,

The House adjourned.

[AMB]

Tuesday, January 14, 1845 RE41i80p1c2

House of Representatives

Mr. CHOATE presented a petition from Chas. T. Page and other citizens of Boston, against the annexation of Texas.

Mr. HUNTINGTON presented a petition against the annexation of Texas, (place not heard.) Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

One also, from the same place against the existence of slavery in the District of Columbia. - Laid on the table.

Mr. ARCHER presented a memorial from citizens of Pennsylvania, asking for an alteration in the naturalization laws. Also, one from Madison county New York for the same purpose. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. EVANS asked leave to introduce a bill providing for evidences of the public debt. Granted.

Mr. Johnson’s resolution in relation to the claims of persons residing on Homas’ grant, noticed yesterday, and asking the Judiciary Committee to inquire whether the Secretary of the Treasury acted in accordance with law in issuing patents to persons having no right to those lands, was taken up. Mr. Johnson spoke at considerable length in defense of his resolution in the competency of the Judiciary Committee to take cognizance of it.

Mr. DAYTON dissented from such a power being vested in the Committee, and offered an amendment giving the Judiciary Committee the right to report on the subject or not; if they should find, on examination, that the power to investigate the action of another department of the Government belonged exclusively to Congress, Mr. Johnson’s resolution should be adopted.

SMITHSONIAN LEGACY

Mr. CHOATE asked leave to withdraw a part of his amendment offered yesterday, by striking out the words beginning with the 24th line, in the first section, and after the word “provided.” It appeared, upon reconsideration of that proviso, that it made it peremptory on the board of managers of the institution to confine themselves to the purchase of a given description or kind of books. He did not wish to confine them to such narrow limits, but wished to give them a wider field for their operations. In lieu of the proviso was substituted the words “for the purchase of books on the arts, sciences and works in general,” but not to confine the purchase to books of this description
exclusively.

The question was then taken on striking out the proviso, and it was carried-26 in the affirmative, noes not counted,

Mr. CHOATE then asked to strike out the 7th section, and insert an amendment, to the effect that the managers of the institution should be empowered to employ a competent agent from time to time, to deliver lectures on the arts and sciences, and to pay him an adequate salary therefore; which was adopted. He also moved that the 8th section be struck out, which referred to the duties of professorships, which no longer existed in the bill, and substitute therefore a clause authorizing the purchase of a general assortment of books.

Mr. CRITTENDEN offered an amendment to this, designating such books to consist of those relating to the arts and sciences; which was negative.

Mr. NILES offered an amendment limiting the sum to $5,000 for such purpose.

Mr. BUCHANAN asked the Senate if by such an amendment, it was intended to make a library worthy of the age and nation in which we live? If so, he would oppose it on the ground of its inadequacy.

The amendment of Mr. Niles was also lost.

Mr. TAPPAN proposed the sum to be $91,000; which gave rise to a considerable debate, in which Messrs. Choate, Rives, Crittenden, Morehead, Bagby, Breese, and Niles participated. A compromise was effected finally, by an amendment of

Mr. MOREHEAD, adding $50,000 to the sum proposed by Mr. Tappan; and

On motion of Mr. PIERCE,

The Senate adjourned over till Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

ARMY AND NAVY.

Mr. McKay, from the committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill making appropriation for the support of the army for the year ending June 30, 1816.

Also, a bill making an appropriation for the support of the naval service for the year ending June 30, 1816;

Which were severally read a first and second time, referred to the committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

ANNEXATION OF TEXAS

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. Hopkins in the Chair) and resumed the consideration of the resolution for the annexation of Texas in the United States.

Mr. E.S. HAMLIN expressed his opinion that never had there been brought before Congress a question of such general interest as the one now before them. The question was, whether our ship of State, our ship of Zion, which had been preserved for many tears, should now be moved from her moorings, and started on a voyage on an unknown sea; but he desired to have wanted no change in any one of them. The first question which stared them in the face was, not has the President and the Senate the power to annex Texas, but had Congress? If so, where was it to be found? He cared not in what form it was presented—whether it stood on the Treaty or on the principles of the treaty of 1819—whether in the bills and resolutions for this purpose—no matter in what form, it amounted to this: a proposition on our part, to be accepted by Texas—which would amount to a contract with a foreign nation. It was in vain to say that Texas was a part of ourselves, "bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh"—for had we no acknowledged her independence—did we not acknowledge it every day, but keeping our Charge d’ Affaires located near that Government. Texas, he again asserted, was an independent nation—and he saw no where in the Constitution the power to make a contract, as annexation would be, between nations acknowledged to e sovereign and independent. He referred to the Alpha of this question, and quoted from the correspondence of Messrs Upshur and Calhoun to our Ministers to Great Britain, Spain, &c., to show that the measure had its origin in the endeavor to prevent the abolition of slavery in Texas, and to demonstrate that, it was alleged emancipation would be advantageous to Great Britain and injurious to all other nations of the earth. This stood forth on official papers, in the correspondence with foreign Governments, by speeches made in and out of Congress, in this House, and in the other end of the Capitol. But what if money had been appropriated in England to set the slaves free in Texas? Would to God, that money was heaped up, not only to set the slaves free in Texas, but in all lands! Why should this alarm us? He then stated his views in detail.
Mr. WELLER contended that this question was not one affecting the people of any particular section of our country, but was of a national character, affecting all the commercial, agricultural, and navigating interests. It was one, on which the Representatives from every section were called to deliberate and judge for themselves. For himself, he would be unwilling to vote for the measure, had not the people, in the late Presidential Election, declared in favor of Annexation. The consummation of this object would open for the West a market for her cattle and breadstuffs, and afford to the North, likewise, a market for her manufactures. If any section of the country should be injured, it was the South, for the rich lands of Texas would thereby be brought into active competition with her own. They were bound not, only to guarantee undisturbed security to the South, but to preserve the compromises and assurances of the Constitution. If it were even necessary to annex the Northern portion of Great Britain bordering on the United States, to give to Maine or Vermont their constitutional rights he would not legislate to give to such a proposition his support. He insisted, and argues, that the extension of our territory would not result in war with any foreign power, and he replied to several gentlemen in the opposition who had preceded him; and, in conclusion, he expressed himself as not wedded to the resolutions for annexation, heretofore submitted by him; but, on the contrary, he did not believe that any of the propositions would violate the Constitution which he, in common with others, had sworn to support, and, therefore, he could vote for any of the measure before the committee.

Mr. BRENGLE opposed the resolutions; and called upon gentlemen who were in favor of them to point to that part of the Constitution which conferred on Congress the power to acquire foreign territory. There was no provision in that instrument which would justify it. That Congress had power to admit new States was clear, but there was no example, no precedent, that would warrant the annexation of Texas in the manner proposed. The Constitution had power not found in it was now sought to be exercised for the first time.

He argued against the admission, ad labium, of new States, by a mere majority of Congress, as calculated to open the way for increasing the number of the representative body, without regard to population, and in violation of the wholesome, just, and constitutional principle, that representation and taxation should go together. If it had been intended to admit foreign territory into the Union, there would have stood in the Constitution a provision palpable and indisputable. So far as regarded Texas, she did not ask us to protect her, but we were exhorted to woo her, that she might protect us.

Mr. CAREY, of Maine, addressed the Committee in favor of annexation, and when he concluded his remarks,

The SPEAKER resumed the Chair, and the House adjourned.

IN SENATE

Friday, January 10, 1845

The Senate did not sit to-day, having adjourned over to Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. HALE asked leave to submit a proviso, which he said he intended to urge when the House should come to a vote on the various propositions for the annexation of Texas. He desired that it should take the usual course—be printed and referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union. [Cries of "Read, read."]

The Speaker informed the gentlemen that it could be received only by general consent.

It was however read for information, and provides in substance that immediately after the boundary between the United States and Mexico shall be definitively settled by the two Governments and before any State shall be equally divided and in that portion lying south and west of the line, there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude. This arrangement to be considered as a compact, and binding, and forever remain unalterable, unless by the consent of two-thirds of the States of the Union.

Messrs, McCONNELL, BURKE, and SLIDELL objected to the reception of the proposition; whereupon,

Mr. HALE moved a suspension of the rules prescribing the order of business, and asked for the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER said, that the motion could not now be made, in consequence of other business having precedence.

HOUR OF MEETING

The House proceeded to the consideration of resolution heretofore offered by Mr. Thompson, to change the daily meeting of the House to eleven o'clock, A.M., to which Mr. D. L. Seymour had proposed an amendment, as a substitute, that there be a daily evening session of the House, to commence at seven o'clock, P.M.

Mr. HOLMES moved that the resolution be laid upon the table, and
Mr. DUNCAN asked for the yeas and nays—which were taken, and the result was—yeas 78, nays 93.

So the resolution was not laid on the table.

The previous question was moved and seconded; and on the question, Shall the main question be now put?—being on the amendment—the yeas and nays were ordered and taken, and resulted in the affirmative—yeas 90, nays 86.

The amendment was then rejected; and, on agreeing to the resolution the yeas and nays were asked, but not ordered; and

The question was taken by tellers—ayes 72, noes 79. So the resolution also was rejected.

TEXAS AGAIN

Mr. HALE moved a suspension of the rules to enable him to introduce the proviso above referred to, that it might be printed and referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union; and he asked for the yeas and nays, which were ordered.

The proviso being again real, at the request of several gentlemen,

Mr. HALE repeated his object in moving for a suspension of the rules. [A voice: "No speech now;" and another, "We understand it very well." "Go on, go on with the call."]

The yeas and nays were taken, and the House by a vote of yeas 92, nays 82, refused to suspend the rules—not being two-thirds.

On motion of Mr. J.W. Davis, of Indiana, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union (Mr. Hopkins in the Chair) and resumed the consideration of the resolutions for the annexation of Texas to the United States.

Mr. SAMPLE opposed the measure, and especially the manner in which it was sought to be effected. Contracts and agreements between this and foreign nations could not constitutionally be made by the Legislature, but by the Executive or treaty making power. Suppose that were should now agree to admit Texas on certain terms, and those were acceded to and accepted by that Republic, and hereafter there should be a majority in both Houses adverse to the act, and should appeal it—what then would become of Texas? What cement would hold us to our contract or agreement? If, then, there was a power in the Constitution to annex Texas, or any other government similarly situated, the manner proposed in the resolution, there was certainly the same power to undo the act: and to what unfortunate results was the exercise of such an assumed power, in either case, likely to lead, should it be exercised! And in a country like ours, where public opinion was unstable, it was not improbably that a law passed by one Congress might be repealed by another. It was not designed by the framers of the Constitution, that any other territory than that acknowledged by the treaty with Great Britain in 1783, should be erected into States and admitted into the Union and he read various extracts from debates in Convention, etc., in support of his argument.

He argued that the position of the country, in its relations to the residue of the North American coast, would be infinitely safer without Texas than with it. In a military point of view, and every other, so far as the protection of the frontier was concerned, that nation, being independent, was a greater protection, than if she belonged to us—without subjecting us to the expense and trouble of fortifying the coast. He opposed the measure, further, that it was calculated to administer to the spirit of aggrandizement and conquest; for, it was observed by a gentleman from Alabama, the other day, that the "lone star" would, at some future time, float from the palace of the Montezuma's—and that, while it would "extend the area of freedom," as contended, it would, at the same time, extend the boundaries of slavery.

Mr. DEAN regarded this as the most important measure ever brought before Congress for deliberation. The question was had they the power, by the Constitution, to annex a sovereign State to the Union?—and this was, properly, the inquiry involved in the discussion. Gentlemen had insisted that the Constitution did not justify the acquisition of territory, but they had forgotten that in many of the States the Indian had receded before the force of the white man, and his hunting grounds converted into cities and fertile fields. Our march had been onward, and history demonstrated that our people had not rested contented with the narrow limits to which we were confined at the termination of the war of the Revolution. If this argument of the opposition were correct, how would we acquire Oregon? But he had no doubt whatever, that Congress had the power to admit Texas either as a Territory or as a State. The Federalists, under the cognomen of Whigs, denied it; for they were always on the wrong side, and never drew lessons of wisdom from the experience of the past, but they pressed on in the errors of their ways, with the tenacity of life, and with the same vigor that the miser clung to his gold.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the President of the United States, in answer to a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 4th of June last, requesting the President to cause to be communicated to the House a copy of the instructions of George W. Irving upon his appointment as minister plenipotentiary to Spain, in the year 1814, and afterwards during his mission to that court, which have not even heretofore made public. The report and the accompanying papers were very voluminous.
Mr. ADAMS moved that they be laid on the table, and printed; which was agreed to.

Mr. JENKS, from the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, reported a joint resolution authorizing and directing the accounting officer of the Post Office Department to inquire into, audit, and settle the claims of Alexander M. Cumming, late mail contractor. It was read twice and committed to the Committee of the Whole.

Mr. PRATT, from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, reported a bill making an appropriation for furnishing, painting, and repairing the Executive mansion, and for other purposes. It was read twice, and committed to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and was ordered to be printed.

The House then adjourned.

[AMB]

Tuesday, January 14, 1845 RE41i80p1c6

A letter from a Correspondent

The letter of our regular Correspondent form Washington, to whom we are indebted for so many valuable favors, is very able in the views which it takes, and interesting from the facts which it reveals. The quotation which it gives from the Houston Telegraph confirms the last, strong letter which Gen. Jackson has addressed to Mr. Blair. We must act- act, now-or we may lose Texas forever. NOW is the accepted time. We call upon our friends in Washington to hearken to these repeated counsels-to act with decision-and to adopt a conciliatory spirit, which must lead to success.

The signs are more cheering from Washington, in defiance of Hal[ . . . ] from New Hampshire. We are happy to hear that Col. Benton will give up his bill. Instructions are confidently expected from the Legislature of Maine to her Senators. The cause of annexation is gaining ground even in Massachusetts. It is thought that in a few days the members of Congress friendly to the measure will go into caucus, and adopt some available plan.

The Correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot thinks that Mr. Dromgoole’s scheme is the most popular. The correspondent of the New York News thinks it will prevail, perhaps with some modifications. The correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer (Whig) has changed his opinion, and is now fully convinced that an annexation proposition, in, some shape or other, will pass the House at this session. It is not at all improbable but that the measure may succeed in the Senate. I have this from the best authority. The chances now are that Texas will be annexed at this session of Congress." So be it.

We are sure it is unnecessary to call the public attention to the following manly and thrilling appeal from the Old Hero.

[AMB]

Tuesday, January 14, 1845 RE41i80p2c3

"It Is My Thunder!"

Mr. J P. Kennedy the Novelist of Swallow Barn and Horse Shoe took the floor on Saturday last, in the House of Representatives, in opposition to "annexation in any shape or form in which it may be presented.” He cut and slashed in every direction around him – just as boldly as if he had not written a very confident letter before the election, the predictions of which had all passed off in smoke. No Whig follows the footsteps of Mr. Clay more faithfully than the Representative of Baltimore. The moment the oracle pronounced the fiat from his tripod at Raleigh, Mr. K. determined to go against Texas, and he is now opposed to annexation in any form or phasis [sic] whatever. In his Saturday’s argument, he makes an allusion to a letter “he had recently seen from Washington to the Richmond Enquirer, which furnished evidence of the unanimity which prevailed in the Democratic party in relation to the question of annexation. The letter seemed to come from one who had become, by some means or other, well versed in the consultations on this subject. That letter was written before the holidays, and it announced the perplexities which prevailed at that time. It gave the names of parties to whom they had been referred for adjustment, and then prophesied that, by new year’s day, they would be brought into a state of harmony, and then they were to have some ‘thunder’ – Democratic thunder,” &c., &c.

If the anticipated harmony has not yet arrived, it is no reason why it may not yet take place. It is true, that many propositions have been made, (and Mr. K. notices most, and opposes all of them.) They have called forth much discussion among the friends of annexation; but in a spirit of harmony which promises the ultimate selection of some measure of annexation. There has been no want of “harmony” then, as our correspondent predicted – though as yet there has not been any unanimity of purpose. Our friends agree upon annexation – but not yet upon the best mode
of affecting it. Every day’s discussion, however, is shedding new light upon the merits of the subject and the opinions of the members – and we confidently trust, that a new consultation among its friends may, in the course of this week, strike out some plan of compromise, which may reconcile its provisions to the Constitution, as well as to a majority of House.

Mr. K. will confess that our Correspondent is fight in one of his predictions. They have “thunder” – and they are likely to have enough of it – not “Democratic thunder” alone, but the mock thunder of the Theatre – not only the explosion of the Jupiter Tonans of the Democratic party, but the mimic thunder of the Whig Salmoneus, who “used to drive his chariot over a brazen bridge, and to dart his burning torches on every side, as if to imitate the lightening.” But Mr. K. may depend upon it, that it will require more than his thunder and lightening to defeat a measure, which the best interests of the country so earnestly recommend to one adoption.

[AMB]

Tuesday, January 14, 1845 RE41i80p3c1

Debate on the Texas Question

Speech of Mr. Belser, of Alabama.

1. The House of Representatives, Jan. 3, 1845.

On the joint resolutions reported by the Committee on Foreign Affairs, proposing to annex the republic of Texas to the United States, and to the amendments offered thereto by Mr. Weller of Ohio and Mr. Douglas of Illinois.

Mr. BELSER having obtained the floor, rose and said that, in his opinion, a great error had accompanied most of our recent discussions. – He had scarcely heard an argument during the session, on any subject in which the speaker had failed to mention some incident connected with the late presidential election. Believing this to be the wrong, he had prescribed a rule for his guidance in future which was, that, whatever might be the topic finder consideration, he would endeavor to keep his vision bounded by the record. Arguments addressed to the popular ear were usually of a peculiar kind, well enough in then place, but when reiterated here they unfit the representative for correct thinking and were a waste of the public time.

The subject on which the House was now called to act had been before the people of the States in their primary assemblies; and without undertaking to say what had, or had not, been decided by them, he would say this: that a sufficient expression of opinion had been given throughout the United States to entitle this people, and the government of Texas, to action on this question. For some time past he had made up his mind in favor of it; and it on any occasion he had evinced an unnecessary zeal for its early consumation, be hoped that the fact would not be attributed to unjust motives. He was an American in feeling – a native of the sunny South – early taught to admire her institutions – to love her people; and under such circumstances; it was but natural that he should have the warmest, [ . . . ] for her prosperity. Having said this much in the way of introduction, he would next proceed to the examination of the interesting question before the committee.

The constitutional right of annexing a foreign republic to this Government, by a concurrence of the legislative power of both countries, presents for our consideration no common matter; and before such legislation is attempted, the ground on which we stand ought to be fully viewed Candor compelled him to admit, that, so far as his research had been extended, he had discovered no precedent embracing the exact point. Since the commencement of the present century, the Louisiana and Florida Territories had become portions of the United States, and out of the former several new States had been admitted into the Union; but these acquisitions to our national domain had, in the first instance, been obtained by the treaty-making power. There then being no legislative explosion which fully meets the question, we must, at a proper time, look into the character of our Government for its solution.

Some there are who contend that Texas cannot be constitutionally annexed to this Government, either by treaty, bill, or joint resolution. They assimilate the Union to a political firm, of which the States are members, and say that any contract of annexation made with Texas, without their entire assent, would be void. They entrench themselves behind the treaty of 1783, fixing the limits of the United States, and publish it as their opinion, that the power to admit new States vested in congress is to be confined to those limits. – They further declare, that slavery is a strain on our national escutcheon [sic], and that the authorities of the Federal Government have no right to increase it by the annexation of new slave territory to the Union: that, by virtue of the compact, it is limited to those States where it existed when the instrument was framed: that, under that compact, a single slave cannot be constitutionally brought into that Union; and yet, by the proposed annexation of Texas, all the slaves in that Republic are to be made to form a part of our population.

Those who hold these doctrines, with a few exceptions, are the abolitionists of the country – the men whose daily vocation is to slander and vilify, as far as they are able, the present administration. They hate the President and his Secretary. (Mr. Calhoun,) because these statesmen have foresight and firmness enough to counteract Great Britain – in a word, to be Americans. They are the same who once desired to see Louisiana remain a desert for howling where wolves to roam over, sooner than it should become a part of this Government. – Their direct influence in the councils
of the nation is limited; but still they hold the balance of power several of the largest States. They are never found in any political conventions except their own; and, by strategy in, are endeavoring to circumscribe our institutions. They have their friends on this floor – men of great talent – whose exertions should be reserved for a better cause; for if slavery be the evil of which they speak, they should recollect that Great Britain, with the aid of New England, entailed it on us; and, further, that not only our prosperity, but likewise our personal security is involved in the keeping of the two races separate and distinct.

There are others who, to a certain extent, disagree with those whom he had just adverted to. – They acknowledge the right of the Treaty making power to admit foreign territory into the Union, but deny that it can be done by the legislation of this Government and Texas. They maintain that the Treaty-making power must first incorporate the territory, before Congress can [. . . ] the new States. They say that, by the Constitution, the power of making treaties is vested in the President and two-thirds of the Senate, and, being thus conferred, that Congress had no authority over the subject; that such legislation, if permitted would supersede the written Constitution and substitute for it the omnipotent [sic] of the British Parliament. They further contend, that the United States, having recognized the independence of Texas, by the act made her a perfect nation that every compact between independent nations is a Treaty; and that every Treaty must be made by the President, and afterwards be adhered to the Senate for ratification.

If the views of either of these parties are correct, then the question is concluded; for neither the consent of all the members of the Confederacy, nor that of two-thirds of the senate, can be obtained for the measure; and hence it becomes our duty to examine, with care, their positions.

In the settlement of these difficulties, which have been so eagerly presented by the opponents of Annexation, there are three clauses in the Constitution of the United States to which a fair interpretation must be given.

1st. The legislative power of the Union, vested in congress, and to consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

2d. The Treaty-making power, vested in the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, two-thirds of the Senators present concurring in any Treaty which he may submit.

3d. The power of Congress to admit new States into the Union, under certain restrictions, intended to guard and protect the States.

From the reading of these several provisions, he interred that there could be but little difficulty in coming to a correct conclusion, provided the character of our government is kept clearly in view. All sovereignties of which history informs us are said to be based on three fundamental provisions executive, legislative and judicial. That mole in which these several powers are to be exercised, focus the main distinction between governments. In those which are unlimited, they are concentrated in a single individual. Sometimes they are lodged in a few select persons, and, when such is the case, it is denominated, an uncontrolled aristocracy. Our Government is unlike either of the foregoing. Sovereignty with us originally existed in the people of the State Governments. For the purpose of forming a more perfect union, a portion of it has been transferred by the Constitution to the Federal head. Congress, then, is the best exponent of the public will; for it is chosen by those who are, to a great extent, the original fountain of all legitimate authority.

The right of every nation to take care of itself, and to provide every thing which may be necessary for its preservation, is a principle too plain to be questions. The authority to incorporate foreign territory with our own is not expressly delegated to the President and Senate, but it attaches as an incident to sovereignty; and this sovereignty is more perfect in the law-making power, than in ay other department mentioned in the Constitution. It, then, sovereignty gives the right to acquire foreign territory, either by conquest or by purchase that right can be most properly exercised by that branch of the Government in which it most clearly exists. The language of the Constitution is, “new States may be admitted by Congress into the Union.” How can new States be admitted into the Union by Congress, composed of foreign territory? If to admit new States be a power expressly given to Congress, then all the means which are appropriate may constitutionally by employed to carry the same into effect; and the degree of its necessity is a question of legislative discretion. In such cases, the legislature can mould and model the exercise of its powers as its own wisdom and the public interests shall require. This power to admit new States is not to be found in the Articles of Confederation. Its origin is but coeval with the Constitution; still the debates on the adoption of that instrument clearly indicate, that those who made it a part of our national compact, did not intend to limit its operation to what was then considered the territory of the Union. They were for supplying the defects which manifested themselves during the existence of that confederation; and the task before them was a perilous and difficult one! They did not intend to provide merely for the exigencies of a few years, but they intended to act for posterity. Their design was not to confer an expanded territory on the Federal Government to be used entirely for its own purposes; but they intended to create a counterpoise to it in the number and independence of the States. Territory, according to their ideas, was made for mankind; and when incorporated into the Union, it was to be guarded by those needful rules and regulations which Congress might prescribe; and as soon as possible this right of guardianship was to cease, States were to be framed out of it, and then to be admitted into the American family. Every Government, then, in his opinion, which possessed the power of interesting its population, had also the inherent right to provide territory for its use.

Another ground, he said, had also been assumed, which was, as he had before stated, that every compact between independent nations is a treaty; and that, for this reason, Texas could not be annexed without the intervention of the treaty-making power. He observed that, since the adoption of the Constitution of the U. States,
many compacts by acts of legislation had been entered into between the Federal and State Governments, and also
between the former and foreign nations.

On the 4th of March, 1789, Congress assembled under the Constitution which, but a little while before, had been
ratified by eleven States. In November of the same year, North Carolina also acceded to it; and in May, 1790, the
assent of Rhode Island was likewise obtained. On the 2nd of April following, Congress passed an act accepting from
the State of North Carolina a deed of cession of he claims of said State to a certain district of western territory
therein named. This compact contained many weighty provisions, and was performed by joint legislation. – (See 21
vol. U.S. Laws, p.85.)

On the 24th April, 1802, a similar compact was formed between the General Government and the State of
Georgia, for an amiable settlement of the limits of said State, and for the establishment of a Government in the
Mississippi territory. But it Georgia ceded to the Government the country west of the Chattahoochie river. – (See 1st
vol. U.S. Laws, p. 488.)

He would here inquire whether these were contracts entered into by sovereigns for the incorporation of a territory
into the Union? After the ratification of the Constitution by eleven of the States, and while North Carolina and Rhode
Island were deliberating as to whether or not they would come into the Union. Congress taxed their trade the same
as it they had been foreign nations. – This early legislative exposition seemed to settle the character of the States
while out of the Union; and then admission into it afterwards, with, entitled them, in his opinion, to be considered
independent nations, while ceding their territory to the Government by acts of concurrent legislation.

After briefly examining these cases of legislative compacts between the Government and the States, be now
advert to certain legislative compacts with foreign nations; and whether they be for territory, trade, or
anything else, this cannot alter the principle, unless in cases where the object is controlled by the Constitution. He
observed that all of our intercourse with foreign patrons, to a certain extent, partook of this kind of legislation. From
time to time we had said to Great Britain, France, and other countries, if you will move certain restrictions on one
branch of trade, we will, upon the principle of reciprocity, do the same on another equally important. And what, he
asked, were these, but legislative compacts between independent nations? But a case more directly in point was the
establishment of the boundary between this Government and Texas a few years since – one of the highest acts of
sovereignty that could be performed by nations; a legislative compact of the greatest import, which, as soon as it
was agreed on, vested rights in the citizen of which he could not afterwards be deprived. He was assured that the
Senate passed this law of the House unanimously; but still it was not submitted to that body as a treaty, nor
legislated on as such by it.

And in his humble opinion, there was another ground on which the legislative power of this Union, with the
concurrency of Texas, or without it, could incorporate that country into our own. All writers on national law agree
that a weaker power, for the sake of protection, may verge its existence in a greater, and further, that the greater
power, to perfect itself, or to guard against danger, may lawfully receive the weaker, or, in certain contingencies,
take it by force. It was in pursuance, partly, of this last principle, that Congress, on the 31st of October, 1803,
authorized Mr. Jefferson to take possession of and occupy the ceded territory from France to the U. States,
embraced in the treaty of Paris; Mr. Madison, on the 15th January, 1811, to take possession of the country, East of
the river Perdido, and South of the State of Georgia and Mississippi territory; and again on the 12th of February,
1833, to take possession of another tract lying South of the Mississippi territory, and West of the Perdido. In his
opinion, the several classes of easies to which he had referred, settled the right of the legislative power of this
Government to annex Texas to the United States as a territory.

Mr. B. would here proceed to examine the various propositions before the Committee. He was prepared to
support any one of them; still he had a preference. He would take up that one which had been submitted by the
gentleman from Illinois, [Mr. Douglass]. He desired to inform the gentleman wherein he thought that his plan was
not the proper one. He objected, in the first place, to the preamble. He admitted that, in 1819, Texas had been
improperly par tee with. – What had induced our negotiators to violate the obligation given to that people in 1803,
we should perhaps never know. He presumed, however, that it was to obtain Florida, which, from her [ . . . ]
position, controlled in a degree the commerce of the Gulf, and the trade of the Mississippi. – This was the charitable
view of the matter. He further admitted that, according to the law of nations, there was but one case, in which this
Government would part with any position of its citizens, and that was a case of actual necessity; they could not be
traded away, like cattle, or other property. He also was advised that, wherein subsequent treaty is in conflict with a
prior one, the latter is void. But we had, by our own act, incorporated the people of Texas with those of a foreign
nation, afterwards recognized them as her own in our intercourse with her and with Mexico, while they are united to
the latter under the compact of 1821. He conceived that, on this point, we were estopped by our own act, so far as
that doctrine can apply to a Government.

Mr. Douglass, here asked leave to explain. – The resolutions he had offered did not proceed on the principle of
denying the validity of the treaty, as far as we were concerned the position he took was, that, though the treaty was
void in itself as it respected us, we were bound by it. We could not claim Texas under the treaty of 1803; but he
contended that Texas had a right, under that treaty, to demand admission at our hands.

Mr. Belser resumed. He was pleased to learn from the honorable gentleman that there was so little difference in
their views as to the treaty alluded to. He agreed with him, that we were still; he thought that the gentleman’s
preamble had a tendency to perplex the question.
He further contended, that when, by the treaty of 1819, the inhabitants of Texas were bargained away, it was at their option whether or not they would become citizens of Spain; and if they chose not to incorporate themselves with that government, and had been able to stand alone, they were as independent as any people on earth. These inhabitants of Texas never did become incorporated with any other form of Government, save the Mexican Constitution of 1824. When that Constitution was overturned by the strong arm of the military, and a central despotism, under Santa Anna, was erected in its stead, Texas was not bound by the new Government, and well did she refuse to submit to it. He then put the question on the ground of conquest. Texas had done, with respect to Santa Anna and his government, just as we had done, in the days of the revolution to England and her government; and she had achieved her independence and maintained it just as we did ours. This, he conceived, was the true basis on which the matter stood; and it was one established by the law of nations and maintained by common sense.

He had heard a great deal about an alleged violation of our Treaty with Mexico in 1832, as the inevitable consequence of Annexation. Now, what had been our stipulation with Mexico in that Treaty? It was this: that we would maintain perpetual amity and friendship with Mexico, and with all her territories. Very well; but Texas was now no territory of hers and, therefore, the stipulation of that Treaty did not in the least interfere with our exercising dominion over it. Further, the language of that Treaty was that there should be peace between the United States and the united Mexican States. Texas, at the time it was made, was one of those united Mexican States, and hence the guaranty extended also to her. Again: in that Treaty with Mexico, this Government did not say to her that, if the preservation of the Federal Union should require such a Treaty to be departed from, its authorities would not consult their own safety. No, that was a natural right inherent in nations that could not be surrendered by negotiation.

But he also objected to that position of the honorable gentleman’s proposition which introduced into this discussion the Missouri compromise. In his belief, that act had done more to unsettle American institutions than any other in the history of the Government. It had introduced into our councils a dangerous principle – to writ: that Congress had the right to legislate the subject of slavery. Abolition petitions, tracts, &c., were its fruits, and he feared that they were but the harbinger of worse measures. It was true, that there was but little said here on the subject of abolition now; but the silence which prevailed in regard to it; might prove to be like that which precedes the earthquake.

Mr. B. would next direct his attention to the resolutions of the gentleman from Ohio, [Mr. Weller]. He preferred them to those of the gentleman from Illinois, [Mr. Douglass;] still he thought that they were deficient in some things.

He believed that, as soon as Texas shall consent to become a member of our family, her government should cease; and further, that we should evince to Mexico a disposition to settle the question of boundary on just terms, and to cultivate a friendly intercourse in every other particular.

The original report, emanating from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, he thought also subject to the same objections which he had just urged against the plan of the gentleman from Ohio. – There were reasons, however, why it should be preferred, and a weighty one was that it had once been sanctioned by the representatives of both governments. We are not alone to be consulted about this compact. Texas is to have a voice in it, and, therefore, she should at this time be heard. To those who object to this report because the Senate has already rejected it in the form of a treaty, he had but little to say. If any were to be governed by such motives while a great national negotiation, involving agricultural, commercial, manufacturing, and mechanical interest was pending, those he would remind that the argus eyed people are watching our deliberations with intensity, and will no fail to discover our errors.

He had likewise read the bill and resolutions of his friend from Kentucky, [Mr. Tibbatts,] published in several of the papers, of proposing to annex as a State. He confessed he had more doubt as to the constitutionality of this scheme for annexation than of any other, but even if called on to vote for it, he would pursue the judicial rule, and when, in doubt, give effect to the legislative will.

Mr. B. had a proposition of his own, see appendix No. 1, which, like unto that of his friend from Kentucky, (Mr. Tibbatts,) was not yet before the committee, although it had been printed. He knew very well that men were apt to be fond of the children of their own creation, and he did not plead an exemption from the feeling; but this he could say, if he had ever given to any subject his earnest and undivided attention, it was this. His first resolution was for the annexation of the territory; the second authorized the President (as soon as jurisdiction was obtained by the consent of Texas) to erect therein a temporary government; the third was to settle the difficulties as to boundary, which might arise with Mexico; and the fourth guaranteed to Texas protection during the negotiation. It seemed to him that any true friend of annexation ought not to hesitate to vote for his, proposition. There were precedents to justify it – one of them to be found in the 3rd volume of the United States laws, page 502, [see appendix No. 2;] and another in the 6th volume of the said work, page 593, [see appendix No. 3.] He again declared that he was not wedded to any plan which had been submitted. He meant to vote for Texas, it he could. And if gentlemen are in doubt, he would say to them, with Hoyle in his treatise on whist, “When you are in doubt, take the trick.” [Great laughter.]

But, (said Mr. B.,) we are told by the opponents of Annexation, that our citizens settled in Texas; that the United States encouraged them in it; and that it is through their influence that the country has been wrested from Mexico, and consequently it would subject us to improper suspicions if we annex the Republic at this time. – Here arises a home view of this question. How was it that this Government had removed the Indians West of the Mississippi? When the first navigators from the Old World discovered this Continent, it was in the possession of independent nations or tribes. European powers were anxious to annex it to their own dominions, and nautical adventurers were found sailing along the coast, claiming for their rulers certain countries between the Atlantic and the Pacific oceans. –
Since then, in the arrangements of Providence, Indian possession had gradually given way before the advances of civilization. And so it must ever be. Gentlemen might talk as they pleased about their devotion to the thirteen original States - about prescribing limits to the American people. There were none - there could be none! They would go, and go, and still continue to go, until they reached the ultimate boundary which the God of Nature had set to the progress of the human race. He, for one, hoped that the day was not far distant when they would go a little farther. [A laugh.] He meant farther than the point at which his friend from Pennsylvania had fixed their ultimate boundary, when he had so eloquently described it as being marked “in the configuration of this Continent by an Almighty hand;” he was not, he hoped, so impious as to throw out the idea that they could transcend a point fixed for them, by the decrees of God.

After this continent had been discovered, we succeeded to the rights of Great Britain. We inherited the soil by the sword. The country was still ours. We could [. . . ] trade, in the neighborhoods of Jamestown and of Plymouth, the ancient track of the post boy, as we could, in the great West, the footsteps of the Catholic missionary and of the French soldier. The land was ours but where were the people? Where was that brave aboriginal race which once chased the deer and conquered the bear in its mountains, and valleys? They were gone, and we were in their places. And how had we obtained their country? Talk of cessions and Indian treaties; it was a farce. We had got their possessions by the strong arm of power. We removed these tribes from their hunting grounds, who did not cultivate the land, in order that we might accomplish the greatest amount of good to the human race. And has Texas done anything more than we did before her? No, sir! - no sir!

Let gentlemen look on those two figures which have so recently been erected in the eastern portico of this Capitol, (great laughter,) and learn an instructive lesson. Gentlemen might laugh at the nudity of one of them; but the artist, when he made Columbus the superior of the Indian princess in every respect, knew what he was doing. And when he likewise placed the ball in his hand, he intended further to represent the power of civilization and what were to be the effects of the discovery of that wonderful man.

And does the history of the past furnish no sight into the future? What is to become of our population in a half century or a century hence? According to a calculation derived from the best of sources, in fifty years it will number one hundred millions; and in double that period three hundred millions. Talk to him about confining the area of liberty! - it could not be done. Freedom's pure and heavenly, light was here, and it would continue to burn, with increasing brightness, till it had illumined this entire continent.

Why, what did gentlemen suppose was to become of the rising generation to the West? Did they think it was to stay there to vegetate like a plant and die on the spot where it grew? No, you had as well attempted to arrest Niagara. It would go onward and onward; it would fill Oregon; it would fill Texas; it would pour like a cataract over the Rocky Mountains, and, passing to the great lakes of the West, it would open the forests of that far distant wilderness to the light of the rising sun. And whoever should live and visit this continent at that day, might hear the voice of the American reaper on the far shores of the Pacific. The idea thrown out by President Houston, in one of his messages, that the lone star of Texas would yet one day float in triumph over the ancient place of the Montezuma, had been much ridiculed [sic]; but, in his apprehension, it was likely to be converted into somber fact.

Mr. B. then did not believe in limiting the spread of liberty, or in checking the migration of our people. Extension, in his opinion was the antagonistical principle of centralization. Our duration as a nation consists in our inestimable institutions, in our expansive territory, in the virtue of the people; and, combined with these, were our noble rivers, our internal communications, the abundance which we raise, and the certainty of bringing into requisition in the hour of need our physical force. On this branch of the subject he agreed with Gen. Jackson. That great man had been misrepresented by his enemies. They had charged him with a want of polish, with a lack of learning. It might be true, that he had not so much knowledge of books as many others less prominent in life; but he knew men, he read human nature, and had that kind of information which was worth more than that of all the bookworms in the country.

The inhabitants of the new States had entered Texas in large numbers with the hope of bettering their condition, and with an honest ambition to occupy elevated stations in the new Republic. This was the genius and spirit of the popular system which distinguished our country. And are we prepared to reject Texas again? In the language of one of her sons. - “What! Reject a proffered territory as extensive as four or five of our largest States, equal in fertility to the most favored, superior to most them in natural advantages; with a thousand miles of sea coast; from its position constituting an unseemly interference with our territory? What [. . . ] reject a compact which secures to Texas no advantages – save the solitary isolated one of nestling in the folks of the star-spangled banner.”

In conclusion, Mr. B. observed, that he had recently been reading a historical legend which afforded an exemplification of what he thought ought to be our national condition and character. When the city of Corinth was taken, sacked and burnt by the Roman consul Manlius, in the fusion of metals produced by the intensity of the heat, a mixed and compounded one was produced of far greater brilliancy and beauty than any of the materials of which it was composed. It was called Corinthian brass, and was held more precious than gold. He desired to see the day speedily come when our country will, so far as a spirit of brotherhood can exist, resemble just such a metal as was formed at Corinth. And that that Government, whose independence was first proclaimed by the Henrys, the Thompsons, the Adamses, the Middletones, the Rutledges and the Lees, will survive the ghastly glare of an unbridled fanaticism; and that some interceding spirit will yet rise up to check the now wide-spread flames. Long may our country prove itself the asylum of the oppressed. Let its institutions and its people be extended far and wide, and when the waters of despotism shall have inundated other portions of the globe, and the votary of liberty be compelled to betake himself to his ark, let this Government be the Ararat on which it shall rest.
Mr. Belser asked leave to introduce a series of joint resolutions for the annexation of Texas to the United States, in the following form:

Preamble and joint resolutions for the Annexation of the Republic of Texas to the United States of America.

In view of the present peculiar situation of the Republic of Texas, and the influence which she is destined, from her immediate location upon our Western borders, and her intimate connection with the territory, population, and resources of the United States, to have upon our national security, tranquility, and commerce, we, the supreme legislative authority of the American Union, in order to secure the blessings of peace and prosperity to ourselves, and safety, good Government, and liberty to the inhabitants of Texas, do hereby adopt the following resolutions, annexing the said Republic to the United States:

1. Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, with the consent of the authorities of Texas, so much of the territory as rightfully belongs to the said Republic be and the same is hereby annexed to the United States, and made one of the territories of the same, under the name of “the Territory of Texas.”

2. And be it further resolved, That as soon as jurisdiction over the territory of Texas shall be obtained by the United States, as herein provided, the President of the United States is hereby authorized and directed to take immediate possession of the same; and until other provision be made by Congress to establish therein a temporary Government upon the principles regulating other territories of the U. States, so far as the same may be applicable; and the military, civil and judicial powers are hereby vested in such authorities as he may establish in pursuance of this resolution for the protection and maintenance of the inhabitants of the said territory in the full enjoyment of their liberty, property, and religion.

3. And be it further resolved, That these resolutions are hereby declared to be the fundamental law of annexation between the United States and Texas, so soon as they shall be concurred in by both Governments; and that if any dispute shall thereafter arise with any foreign power respecting any boundary of Texas, the President of the United States is hereby authorized to open all necessary negotiations for the settlement of the same upon just and honorable terms, subject to the ratification of this Government.

4. And be it further Resolved, That if, during the pendency of these propositions, any attempt shall be made by any foreign power to occupy by Republic of Texas, or to harass or destroy her commerce, the President of the U. States is hereby authorized and directed to afford protection to the same; and for that end may employ such parts of the military and naval power of the United States as may be necessary.

5. And be it further Resolved, That as soon as these resolutions shall have passed the Congress of the United States, and been approved by the President, he shall forthwith transmit a copy of the same to the Government of the republic of Texas for its concurrence.

APPENDIX – No. 2.

An act to enable the President of the United States to take possession of the territories ceded by France to the United States, by the treaty concluded at Paris on the thirtieth of April last; and for the temporary government thereof.

SECT. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorized to take possession of, and occupy, the territory ceded by France to the United States, by the treaty concluded at Paris on the thirtieth day of April last, between the two nations; and that he may, for that purpose, and in order to maintain in the said territories the authority of the United States, employ any part of the army and navy of the United States, and of the force authorized by an act passed the third day of March last, entitled “An act directing a detachment from the militia of the United States, and for erecting certain arsenals,” which he may deem necessary, and so much of the sum appropriated by the said act as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated for the purpose of carrying this act into effect; to be applied under the direction of the President of the United States.

SECT. 2. And be it further enacted, That, until the expiration of the present session of Congress, unless provision for the temporary government of the said territories be sooner made by Congress, all the military, civil and judicial powers, exercised by the others of the existing government of the same, shall be vested in such person and persons, and shall be exercised in such manner as the President of the United States shall direct, for maintaining and protecting the inhabitants of Louisiana in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property, and religion. Approved, Oct. 31, 1803.

APPENDIX – No. 3.

Taking into view the peculiar situation of Spain, and of her American provinces; and considering the influence
which the destiny of the territory adjourning the Southern border of the United States may have upon their security, tranquility and commerce. Therefore,

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, under the peculiar circumstances of the existing crisis, cannot, without serious inquietude, see any part of the said territory pass into the hands of any foreign power; and that a due regard to their own safety compels them to provide, under certain contingencies, for the temporary occupation of the said territory; they, at the same time, declare that the said territory shall, in their hands, remain subject to future negotiation. Approved, 15th Jan., 1811.

An act to enable the President of the U. States, under certain contingencies, to take possession of the country lying East of the river Perdido, and South of the State of Georgia, and the Mississippi Territory, and for other purposes.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the U. States of America, in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorized to take possession of, and occupy, all or any part of the territory lying East of the river Perdido, and South of the State of Georgia and the Mississippi Territory, in case an arrangement has been, or shall be, made with the local authority of the said territory, for delivering up the possession of the same, or any part thereof, by any foreign Government; and he may, for the purpose of taking possession, and occupying the territory aforesaid, and in order to maintain therein the authority of the United States, employ any part of the army and many of the U. States which he may deem necessary.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That one hundred thousand dollars be appropriated for defraying such expenses as the President may deem necessary for obtaining possession as aforesaid, and the security of the said territory to be applied under the direction of the President, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That in case possession of the territory aforesaid shall be obtained by the United States as aforesaid, until other provision be made by Congress, the President be, and he is hereby, authorized to establish, within the territory aforesaid a temporary Government, and the military, civil, and judicial powers thereof, shall be vested in such person and persons, and be exercised in such manner as he may direct, for the protection and maintenance of the inhabitants of the said territory in the full employment of their liberty, property, and religion

Approved 15th January, 1811.

An act concerning an act to enable the President of the United States, under certain contingencies, to take possession of the country lying East of the river Perdido, and South of the State of Georgia and the Mississippi Territory, and for other purposes, and the declaration accompanying the same.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this act, and the act passed during the present session of Congress, entitled "an act to enable the President of the U. States, under certain contingencies, to take possession of the country lying East of the river Perdido; and South of the State of Georgia and the Mississippi Territory, and for other purposes" and the declaration accompanying the same, be not printed or published until the end of the next session of Congress, unless directed by the President of the United States, any law or usage to the contrary notwithstanding.

Approved March 3, 1811.

An act authorizing the President of the United States to take possession of a tract of country lying South of the Mississippi Territory and West of the River Perdido.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President b, and he is hereby, authorized to occupy and hold all that tract of country called West Florida, which lies West of the river Perdido, not now in possession of the U. States.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That, for the purpose of occupying and holding the country aforesaid, and of affording protection to the inhabitants thereof under the authority of the U. States, the President may employ such parts of the military and naval force of the U. States as he may deem necessary.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That, for defraying the necessary expenses, twenty thousand dollars are hereby appropriated to be paid out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise, appropriated, and to be applied, for the purposes aforesaid, under the direction of the President.

Approved, February 12, 1813.
New York Views of Annexation

Mr. "Horse Shoe Robinson" sneeringly points to Governor Wright's Message, as throwing a cold blanket upon the Annexation of Texas. – Mr. W. does not introduce the annexation by name – and Mr. Kennedy concludes that the Governor is dodging the subject. The New York Herald also relies upon his silence, and upon Mr. Stetson's speech as conclusive evidences of a disposition which the Herald is pleased to hatch from its own brains, on the part of the New York Democrats to cut the South – to unite the Northern Democracy upon Northern principles – and even to strike up something like a coalition between the Democrats and the Whigs. The whole appears to us to be a gratuitous suggestion – unworthy of the sagacity of its Editor – and scarcely less ridiculous than the fiction of the Richmond Whig, in its most novel and ingenious supposition, that Mr. Polk means to conduct his administration upon Whig principles. We must caution our friends in both sections of the country, against the unfounded visions of the press. We scout the idea of any movement on the part of Mr. Silas Wright, or of any of our Democratic friends in New York, or in the North against the broad interests of the Democratic party. We have an unshaken confidence in the principles and sagacity of Silas Wright – not as warm a friend to the Annexation, perhaps, as some in the South; but as true a friend of the Republican party as any one – and in the ability to serve cause, he is inferior, perhaps, to no man. One slight shade may have come over the brilliant disc of his superior mind – but it will be as slight and as evanescent as the cloud which comes over the sun, if he will only listen to the assurances of men, who were in April last almost as warm friends to Martin Van Buren's nomination as himself – and men, moreover, who would scorn to deceive him for any consideration upon the face of the earth. Let the political speculators, then, who view those events only through the medium of their prejudices, and count upon a division in the Democratic Party, banish such idle phantoms from their imaginations. The South will listen to no such voice. They will cherish heir long-living and deep-seated sentiment of union with their "natural allies, the Democracy of the North." In this region of the sunny South, we have no ambitious aspirations to indulge; no narrow and sectional purposes to promote. We go for a New York Democrat as ardently as a Southern – And we claim to have in the South as great and admirable statesman, as any of whom the North can boast. The one to whom the New York Herald alludes, under the name of "the Southern Statesman," is of this description. – We proved our feelings for a great Northern Statesman in 1836 and in 1840 – and when the Baltimore Convention nominated Mr. Polk, it was not under the intrigues, of the influence of any man. If Mr. P. did come from the South, it was because he was first nominated by the North. It was as in the case of Gen. Washington, when the motion to place him at the head of the army came from Massachusetts.

But we recommend to Mr. Kennedy's notice the following more emphatic article from the Albany Argus:

"OREGON AND TEXAS." – The subject of the occupation of Oregon and the re-annexation of Texas was brought before the Senate yesterday, by Gen. Clark, in a serious of resolutions, which will be found in our legislative report.

"It will be seen that they go for Annexation, 'at the earliest practicable period,' stripped of all embarrassing questions, direct or incidental. We do not doubt that they express the pervading popular sentiment of the State."

Yet if Mr. Kennedy is pleased to lay such stress upon the silence of the Governor's Message, will he turn to the Albany Argus of Saturday last? – He will find its accomplished Editor, (the State Printer,) and the friend of Governor Wright and Mr. Van Buren, calling the attention of its readers to "an interesting article (on the subject of Texas and Annexation) from the pen of an able writer and much respected citizen" – which originally appeared in "The Utica Observer."

It bears the title of "The Annexation of Texas, considered with reference to the justice of the measure, as respects foreign nations, and it effects on the U. States – by A. B. Johnson."

We have room only for the conclusion of the article – and it evidently bespeaks a master-spirit:

"Who that has a mind to comprehend these facts, and a heart to feel them, would wish to check this progression by suspicious fears? And especially while now, if such fears are well founded, we are sufficiently extended in territory and numbers, to fall a victim to these elements of destruction, if such they truly are. Nay, if imagination, must govern us, may we not rather suppose that diversities of local interests will be harmonized by the augmentation of our confederacy; just as the turbidness [sic] of separate streams is neutralized in proportion to the magnitude of the recipient river. Some statesman, men of no little acuteness and consideration in public affairs, maintain as the best policy, a species of free trade that would seem to require for its consummation that all the nations of the earth should constitute a single Government.

"But, aside from all geographical jealousies, many persons on principles of abstract moral repugnancy to slavery, oppose the annexation of Texas to our Union, for, if Texas be not annexed, she may be physically coerced by Mexico, or morally by Great Britain, to relinquish slavery. – I admit the contingency. A like result by means of a servile war or foreign interposition might follow the ejection from our Union of the existing slave States. To a man morbidly absorbed by one idea, the above contingencies may be sufficient to make him both reject Texas and repudiate Louisiana, though some persons believe that Texas will be instrumental in suppressing slavery in all our old States, by supplying a more profitable field of operation for the slaves; and that free labor flowing into fill up the vacuum, a state of society will be engendered destructive of slavery; and further, that slavery, thus concentrated in Texas, will, by the proximity of races in Mexico, kindred to the slaves, be gradually allured from Texas, and lost irreclaimably in
But abandoning hypothesis, I would invite such of our citizens as are disposed to balance the good and evil of any measure, and to be governed in their preferences by the preponderance of the good, to look at the certain benefits that must result from the acquisition of Texas. It is in size about equal to six times the dimensions of our Empire State, with a climate said to be salubrious, and giving us the monopoly of the finest cotton land, and of the finest cotton that the world produces an article which is yet in a condition of giant infancy, as relates to its commercial importance to our country and the world, and its many ministrations to the comforts of the poor, and the gratification of all classes. – Under the auspices of our Union, this immense country will become the home of millions of human beings; not drawn from other regions to depopulate them, but by the laws of nature a new growth of immortal, accountable, intelligent beings. In the birth of such an empire, with its ramified consequences to the end of time, land through eternity, can we see nothing but the naked, and perhaps temporary question of slavery? Is the addition nothing of such a territory to our home, such a member of our family circle, with whom we may interchange productions without the obstructions of conflicting nationally? The acquisition of these benefits seem to expand each one of us into something more than our present stature; and to give to every mechanic, manufacturer, merchant and cultivator of the soil, some source of additional activity and prosperity.

I know, however, that many persons believe our Union is already sufficiently large for strength; and that additional extent will only encumber us. If we examine this notion, we shall find it is founded on analogies that are not applicable to our condition. When an empire is composed of conquered nations, that are continually struggling to regain their lost independence, every new acquisition but divides the strength of the conqueror, and he becomes exhausted by the division. But our union is voluntary, and like an arch, constitutes a reciprocation of strength which all the members yield to each, and each yields to all. Such at least is the result of our system thus far; and the experience of half a century of peace and war is a safer indication of its nature, than the conjectures of any theory.

But are we willing that annexation shall be obtained at the expense of a war with Mexico, and perhaps with England? This question is best answered by ascertaining whether annexation is compatible with our duty as a moral and Christian people; for no nation is required to avert war, by any other means than to act justly.

Next April nine years will have elapsed since the capture of Santa Ann and his army, by the Texans, at the battle of San Jacinto. Mexico has ever since refrained from the subjugation of Texas, from a want of power or an abandonment of its exercise. In the war of our Revolution, the capture of Burgoyne by our troops, was alone deemed so vital a seal of Independence, that France forthwith treated us as an independent nation; though her obligations towards G. Britain, with reference to us, were doubtless as great as our obligations to Mexico with reference to Texas.

In the recent struggle between the provinces of Greece and the empire of Turkey, nothing occurred that will compare in decisiveness with the battle of San Jacinto, or the acquiescence of Mexico; still England and the other principal Governments of Europe decided that Greece had virtually freed itself from the authority of Turkey, and they assisted in consolidating her provinces into a separate kingdom. The same sovereigns at the subsequent revolt of Belgium from the authority of Holland, allowed the king of Holland a brief period to reduce to obedience his rebellious province, but prohibited him from continuing in vengeance efforts that were seen to be ineffectual for the purposes of subjugation; and Belgium was organized into an independent kingdom. These results differ from the incidents of remote history, but the difference is claimed by the Government of Europe as a triumph of justice over physical power, whose reign terminated with the overthrow of Napoleon. England, therefore, is mortally estopped by her own practices, from any exceptions against the independent volitions of Texas; and in the judgment of all Europe, as evinced by the foregoing cases; Mexico has no just cause of offense against us our disregard of her latent sovereignty.

We are apt to estimate the right of Mexico to Texas as identical with a man’s ownership of a chattel. The proprietary right in both cases is founded in resulting social benefits; but I deny that social benefits require that the rules of ownership which apply to the sovereignty of one nation over another. In the spirit of our Declaration of Independence, and nearly in its language, all Governments are instituted for the happiness of the governed; hence, the right of Mexico in a mere chattel is for the benefit not of the chattel, but of Mexico. We have the authority of the word of God for a still more restricted estimate of the proprietary right of all nations. The division of the earth into district sovereign ownership is a contrivance of man, instituted for his social benefits; but revelation declares that the earth is the Lord’s, and the use thereof is for man in common. In this enlarged sense, Texas, so far from being property of Mexico, is not exclusively the property of the Texans, except as their use of it quadrates with its usefulness to all men in common. On this Christian principle, and on this alone was justified the recent successful attempt by Great Britain to constrain the people of China to relinquish the exclusive monopoly which they have usurped for ages over the regions which they inhabit. On this principle alone, we can justify our forcible obstruction on the aborigines of America; and our compelling them to abandon to us such lands as they could not use themselves beneficially to the common rights of all – in thus acting, instead of being wrong doers, we are but fulfilling the command of Providence to multiply and replenish the earth, and subdue it.

Having thus shown that the natural right of Mexico to Texas is not inconsistent with the right of the Texians to change their allegiance, and that the conventional laws which regulate the intercourse of nations will not under existing circumstances be outraged by the exercise of this right in favor of the United States; I have accomplished all that I intended, having preliminarily shown, that the consequences of the act will produce results grateful to philanthropy every where, and profitable is particular to us, in all our great social interests; and finally all to be attained “without money and without price,” for even in a pecuniary view, (the lowest rational view that can be taken of such a question,) what are the millions more or less, that Texas will cost us, in comparison not with its civil advantages to us, or its military advantages, not with the extent of national domain that may be acquired with the
Tuesday, January 14, 1845 RE41i80p4c3

Marine Journal

The article reports the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Port of Richmond.

High Water this day at 8 o’clock, A.M.

Arrived
Schr. China, Small, Charleston, S.C., Rice to Davenport & Allen.
New York, Jan. 11. – arrived, Schr. Manchester, Worth, Richmond.

Tuesday, January 14, 1845 RE41i80p4c3

James River & Kanawha Canal

Richmond, January 13, 1845

Arrived


Friday, January 17, 1845 RE41i81plcl

POLITICAL DEBATE ON THE TEXAS QUESTION

In the House of Representatives, Tuesday, Jan. 7.

The house being in Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and having under consideration the joint resolution reported by the Committee on Foreign Affairs for the annexation of Texas to the United States.

Mr. BAYLY having obtained the floor, spoke as follows. The fate of the annexation of Texas will depend upon the decision of Congress as to its power to accomplish it by bill or joint resolution for it Texas is not annexed in this manner it will not be in any other. No one now hopes for a majority of two-thirds of the Senate in its favor. The great question, therefore, is can foreign territory be acquired by bill or joint [...] [unreadable word] of the two Houses of Congress? And I agreed at once (said Mr. B.) to the discussion of it.

Under our political system, there are two leading houses of powers conferred upon the General [...] [unreadable word] comment the one relating to our foreign, the other to our domestic relations. In all questions rising out of the former, the interests of the different sections of the country are inseparable. In our domestic affairs, they are as variant as the [...] [unreadable word] climate, productions, and pursuits of the people of the several States. In all that relates to the former, the statesmen of every part of the country are equally well informed. The latter are only understood by the people they immediately concern. In reference to the first, the National Legislature can legislate wisely. To the first it cannot, without certain mischief. Hence, in our wise system there is a plenary delegation of power to the General Government in all that concerns our external affairs, and a specified delegation in what relates to our domestic. A different mode of construction, therefore, ought to proceed as the power sought to
be exercised belongs to the class or the other—strict construction as the rule in the latter case, and a liberal
construction in the former. This distinction grows out of the character of the Constitution itself; was recognized by
Jefferson and Madison, and the propriety of it will not, I fancy, be questioned by any one. Bearing this in mind, I
proceed to point out the clauses of the Constitution in which the authority of Congress to pass the resolution before
the Committee may be found. In my opinion it may be found in two—in the clause authorizing Congress to declare
war, and in the one permitting the admission of new States into the Union, and also in the general power which I
shall show to exist, to make alliances and confederations. Let it not be said that, in referring the power to two
clauses of the Constitution, I make it ragrant and disprove its existence in either; for in the language of Chief Justice
Marshall, in the case of Gibbons and Ogden, "the idea that the time measure might, according to circumstances, be
arranged with different classes of powers, was to novelty to the framers of our Constitution. All experience shows
that the same measure or measurey, scarcely distinguishable from each other, may flow from distant powers.

It has always been admitted, in the administration of the Government, that the power to declare war carries
with it the power of doing whatever [...] [unreadable word] directly to prevent it. In the language of Chief Justice
Taney, in the Supreme Court, "Everything that concerns our foreign relations, that may be used to preserve peace or
wage war, has been committed to the hands of Congress." I do not say it carries with it the power to do everything
which a visionary might fancy would tend to prevent it; but it certainly does everything which immediately and
directly tends that way. It was in this manner the constitutionality of the embargo and non-intercourse laws, adopted
in advance of the late war, was defended. And the power is derived "in time of peace to prepare for war". Our
Southwestern frontier is exceedingly expected, as I shall hereafter show; and as far as our constitutional authority
goes, we might erect fortifications upon its whole extent. This no one will question. Such being the case, cannot be
with he consent of the people to whom the intervening territory belongs, extend our boundary to the Rio Grande,
which, "in connection with the mountainous desert which skirts it, forms the first class of military obstacles, and
which would affect us better protection from invasion in that quarter than a cordon of fortifications from the mouth
of the Sabine to our utmost Northern summits." The importance of Texas, as a means of military defense, and its
consequent intimate connection with the war power, I shall show [...] [unreadable word].

From the days of the Roman eagle, indeed as before them, to this time, the leading object of war has been to
acquire or defend territory. When the power was conferred upon Congress, all general terms, to declare war, it
carried with it all of its usual incidents; and it is impossible to believe that the framers of the Constitution meant to
withhold from the Government the power to accomplish by it what had been the great object for which most of the
wars with which the world [...] [unreadable word] been scourged, has been waged. I infer, therefore, that we can
unquestionably acquire territory by conquest. If this be true, the whole question is settled; for, if we may take the
territory of the Texans from them by force, surely we may do it peaceably, with their consent. If we can rob them of
it, surely we can take it as a gift. If we should march an army [tomorrow] to Texas for the purpose of capturing their
country, presume there would be no occasion for fighting, provided the Texans were willing that we should
accomplish our purposes without bloodshed.

Mr. Clay, in his celebrated letter from Raleigh, upon the subject of Texas, says:

"If any European nation entertain any ambitious designs upon Texas, such as that of colonizing, or in any
way subjugating her, I should regard it as the imperative duty of the Government of the United States to oppose to
such designs the most firm and determined resistance, to the extent, if necessary, of appealing to arms, to prevent
the accomplishment of any such designs."

If we might go to war to prevent Texas from falling into the hands of a foreign government, may we not still
more effectually provide against it, by her peaceable acquisition?

But the power of Congress to annex Texas by joint resolution may also be derived from the authority given
to Congress to admit new States into the Union. The power is general, without any other limitation than that "no new
State shall be formed or created within the jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the junction
of two or more States or parts of States, without the consent of the legislatures of the States concerned as well as of
Congress." The imposition of this limitation, upon the most familiar rules of construction, excludes the idea of the
intention to imply any other. I know an attempt is made to impose another by implication, and to continue the
power to admit new States to such as might be carved out of the territory within the limits of the United States at
the time of the adoption of the Constitution. But such a construction is contradicted by the plain import and obvious
meaning of the Constitution itself, and also by the history of its passage through the Convention which framed it.

"In the resolutions offered by Mr. Edmund Randolph, as a basis for the new Constitution, and which
contained the first propositions of that character which were submitted to it, the power in question was described as
follows, viz: "that provision ought to be made for the admission of States lawfully arising within the limits of the
United States, whether arising from a voluntary junction of Government or otherwise, with the consent of a number
of voices in the Legislature; less than the whole. In Mr. Charles Pinckney’s draught, it was proposed that "the
legislature shall have power to admit new States into the Union on the same terms with the original States, provided
two-thirds of the members present in both houses agree, leaving out the clause in respect to the character of the
territory. Mr. Randolph’s proposition, containing the restriction confining the power to States lawfully arising within
the limits of the United States, was at one time adopted in Committee of the Whole, and in that state referred with
others to the Committee of Detail, the article upon this subject contained the following propositions: 1st. That new,
States lawfully constituted or established within the limits of the United States, might be admitted by the Legislature
in this Government. 2d. That to such admission, the consent of two-thirds of the members present in each House
should be necessary. 3d. That if a new State should arise within the limits of any of the present states, the consent
of the Legislature of such State should also be necessary to its admission. 4th. That, if the admission was
consented to, the new States should be admitted on the same terms with the original States; and 5th. That the Legislature might make conditions with the new States concerning the public debt then subsisting. The 2d, 4th and 5th clauses were stricken out by the votes of the Convention; and after that had been done, the following was adopted as a substitute for the whole viz: ‘New States may be admitted by the Legislature into the Union; but no new State shall be erected within the limits of any of the present states, without the consent of the Legislature of such States, as well as of the General Legislature’ leaving out that part of the first clause which related to the domestic character of the territory; and this substitute was consequently revised and amended so as to make it conform in its phraseology to the section as it now stands in the Constitution. These proceedings show that the proposition to restrict the power to admit new States to the territory within the original limits of the United States, was distinctly before the Convention, once adopted by it, and finally rejected in favor of a clause making the power in this respect general.”

But it is unnecessary to dwell farther on this point. Mr. Clay, who embodies in himself, according to their own admission, the opinions of the Whig party, admits no such fanciful limitation. The President elect of the Democratic party scouts it. Mr. Van Buren’s argument against it makes a clear education of its absurdity impossible. And the repeated action of every department of the Government, in the most solemn form, settles the question forever.

It is insisted, however, that the power is to admit “new States,” and that it does not authorize Congress to acquire territory. That, it is said, can only be done by a national compact, which is a treaty, the power to make which is confided exclusively to the President and the Senate.

The first answer to this argument is, that authority for the admission of new States carries with it every thing which is necessary and proper to accomplish it; and Congress may take such initiatory steps as may be necessary, preparatory to the admission of the new State into the Union upon equal footing with the rest. There is nothing in the Constitution which shows that the framers of it supposed that it was indispensable that the new State should spring into the Union full armed, like Minerva from the brain of Jove. If they had they would have found no analogy for such proceeding except in heathen mythology. They certainly would not in the natural world, where everything progresses gradually from infancy to age. If we bring Texas under our jurisdiction as a territory by the passage of a bill, in which provision shall be made for its future admission into the Union as a State, what hereafter shall be done, each step in the proceeding, must be part and parcel of the same transaction and constitute but one act. Those who agree that we may admit a foreign State into the Union as a State, but deny that we may bring it in as a territory, involve themselves in an absurdity of maintaining that the lesser power is not included in the greater; and that, although we may exercise the last, we cannot the first.

If it be true that, under the power to admit new States, you may not first in the case of a foreign State, bring such State under our jurisdiction as a territory, then the whole clause authorizing Congress to admit them in practice would be nugatory. The Constitution of any foreign State, suited for its Government as an independent power, would, for that very reason, be unsuited for its Government as a member of this Confederacy; and with it unchanged, such State could not be admitted into this Union. And it is exceedingly improbable that an independent State would consent- as it is very certain Texas will not – to break up her form of Government and adopt a Constitution not suited for her Government as an independent State, upon the uncertainty which always attends all future legislation of her admission into the Union.

But it may be said, admitting this argument to be sound, yet it only proves that the foreign State must, of necessity, be brought under our jurisdiction as a territory preparatory to its admission into the Union; but it does not prove that this may be done by a joint resolution. On the contrary, it is insisted by the gentleman from Massachusetts, (Mr. Winthrop,) that this can only be effected, if at all, by an international arrangement, which is a treaty, the power to make which is exclusively vested in the President and Senate.

This argument is founded upon the assumption, that an agreement or arrangement can only be made between nations by treaty. If this shall turn out to be untrue, and we shall find that compacts and agreements are constantly made by legislation, the whole argument falls to the ground.

The idea of the gentleman from Massachusetts, that every agreement between nations is technically a treaty, is contradicted by the highest authority, and, in our case, by the Constitution itself.

The subject of international compacts is referred to in three distinct clauses of the Constitution. In the first clause of the 10th section of article 1st, it is declared that “no State shall enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation.” In the last clause of the same section, it is also declared that “no State shall, without the consent of Congress, enter into any agreement or compact with another State, or with a foreign Power.” In the second clause of second section of second article, the President is empowered, “by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two-thirds of the Senators present concur.”

It must always be borne in mind, in construing the Constitution that it is almost as remarkable for the literary execution as for the profound political statesmanship displayed in it. The meaning of every word seems to have been deliberately weighed: every word, therefore, must have its due weight and appropriate meaning, and not one can be rejected as superfluous. In the language of the Chief Justice of the United States, (in the case of Holmes vs. Jennison et al., 14th Peters, 571) concurred in by Messrs. Justices Wayne, McLean, and Story- the last two of whom, I presume, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Winthrop) will admit as authority:
"No word in the instrument, (the Constitution,) under consideration, after it has been adopted by us, would continue it an alliance, or confederation, or agreement, or compact. And surely it would be doing no violence even to technical language to call it either.

If it were necessary to fortify by precedent, what seems so plain, that Congress may make agreements and compacts with foreign nations, it could be done from every part of our commercial code. We have been constantly saying in our legislation, since the formation of the Government to foreign nations, if you will do particular things, we will do others. Examples may be found of this in the law regulating our intercourse with the British West Indies, and in our embargo and non-intercourse laws.

It is thus shown that, as far as our constitution authority is concerned, there is no obstacle to the annexation of Texas to this Union.

I proceed at once (said Mr. B.) to the next question which presents itself: Is Texas competent to assent to a union with this country by her own act, without consulting that of any other nation? When I can refer to the unquestioned and unquestionable fact, that she is a free independent and sovereign State, it does seem to me, that all argument upon the point is at an end. The independence of Texas has been acknowledged by England, France, and Holland — all the great Powers of Europe and ourselves. And all of these nations are clearly estopped from questioning her right to do whatever any sovereign State may of right do. But, it is said, this acknowledgment is of her independence "de facto," and not de jure." The conclusive answer to this is, the distinction between a Government "de facto" and a Government "de jure," in the sense in which it was originally used, is obsolete. In this nineteenth century there is practically no such distinction. It originated in the monstrous dogma that Kings rein by divine right and the expression "de jure" is but a contraction of "de jure divine." Since our Revolution, the will of the governed has ever been regarded as the only legitimate foundation of Government. And when, therefore, foreign nations find in any country an organized Government, in possession of the administration, with such evidences of stability and order as exclude the idea that it is the result of a mere temporary revolutionary eruption, such as would authorize them, according to the old notions, to treat with it as a Government "de facto," they are compelled to admit that it has the will of the people, the only rightful foundation of Government, as its basis, and it becomes at once a Government "de jure." And even where this distinction prevailed between a Government "de jure" and "de facto," I defy gentlemen to produce an instance where, under the law of nations all the contracts and engagements of the government "de facto" were not held binding upon all subsequent administrations of the same country. But in truth, sir, the doctrine in which this distinction between a government "de jure" and "defacto" originated was exploded long before our revolution. At the treaty of Utrecht, in 1713, the legitimacy of the English revolution of 1683 and the cause of the Stuarts was finally abandoned by France, and with it the principle of hereditary indefeasible right on which it was founded. When, therefore, we find such evidence, of stability in the Texan Government as authorizes foreign nations to treat with it as the Government "de facto" of he country, we find such as shows that it is founded in the will of the governed, and it becomes at once a Government "de jure." No one supposed that engagements entered into by Cromwell were not binding upon the English nation, because his was not, according to the notion I have referred to, a Government "de jure." Nor that France was not bound by those made by Napoleon, even after the Bourbons regained possession of the French throne. It is in this way only that our title to Louisiana is sustained. I could illustrate this argument but it would only consume my time, without perhaps making my position stronger. It is shown, therefore, that the Texan Government is independent "de facto" as well as "de jure," and that it may do whatever independent nations of right may do, and of course unite its destinies with ours.

It might be shown further, if necessary, that the present Government of Mexico never had any authority in Texas, and that if it had, it has acknowledged her independence in a manner obligatory upon it. But my time will not allow me to press this view of the subject. I state the position, and I shall adduce the proof of it in the full report of my remarks.

It is thus shown, that we are capable of acquiring Texas, and Texas of uniting with us. Is it desirable that we shall do so? This is the next question. Texas is a fine country, as everybody admits; it is as large as France, and is peopled by our race—by bone of our bone, and flesh of our flesh. Prima facie, its acquisition is desirable. Let us therefore, look to the objections to it. But, before I do that, I must be excused for interrupting the course of my argument for a moment to notice a remark of the gentleman from Massachusetts, (Mr. Winthrop.) I consider this due to the duties of private friendship and the memory of the dead. The gentleman was pleased to say:

"He could not help feeling some sympathy with the people of Texas under the precise circumstances in which they were now placed, betrayed, as they had been in so humiliating a posture by false pretences and false promises. Where has been the fulfillment of that promise which a President of the United States, speaking through his Secretary of State had dared to hold out to them: 'Measures have been taken to ascertain the opinions and views of Senators upon the subject, and it is found that a clear constitutional majority of two-thirds are in favor of the measure.' Mr. W. began to entertain some hope that the people of Texas would awake to some respect for themselves under the treatment they had received, and would no longer suffer themselves to be duped and trifled with either by Presidents or Congress.

Sir, said Mr. B., I knew the late Judge Upshur well. He was my neighbor, my friend. He was a man of honor, who, in the most immaterial transaction of life, would not have lightly given assurances which should regulate the conduct of others. And in so important a transaction as an official negotiation, to say nothing about the solemn dignity of the one in question, I am perfectly certain that he would not have given such an assurance as is referred to by the gentleman, unless he felt fully authorized by such information as would satisfy the most cautious man that he might with propriety do it. Indeed, he expressly says in the dispatch referred to, that every necessary step had been taken to procure accurate information of the disposition of the Senate. And, Mr. Chairman, if departed spirits
could be permitted to revisit this world, and the lamented Gilmer, by whom the duty of sounding the senate was
undertaken, as I am told, could appear among us again—if Upshur were here to explain a memorandum found
among his papers too meager to be understood by others, in which a list is given of Senators “certain for” and
“certain against” the former comprising two-thirds, perhaps it would be found that the small politicians of the country
were not the only persons who suddenly changed their position upon the Texas question after the appearance of the
Raleigh letter. The memorandum may not have referred to the Texas negotiation; but it is known that at the time,
the subject was uppermost in his mind, and absorbed all his thoughts. It was, I believe, the only negotiation he
was conducting at the time, and I do not know to what else it could refer. But, be that as it may, of one thing I am
certain, that however he or the President might have been deceived, I am certain both of them are incapable of
betraying others by “false promises and false pretences.” But to return from this digression from the regular course
of my argument, which I felt it due, as well to the living as the dead, to make.

It is said Texas is still at war with Mexico; and that by annexation we instantly adopt that war and make it
our own; and the gentleman from Pennsylvania, (Mr. J. R. Ingersoll) to excite the alarm of navigating interest of the
North, said, that in that event our commerce will be destroyed by the depredations of privateers commissioned by
the Mexican Government. The ready answer to this is, that, according to the law of nations, two-thirds of the crew of
a privateer must be citizens of the country which commissions it, or it becomes a pirate, and, in the event of
capture, liable to be treated as such. Now, I ask (said Mr. B.) where is the Mexican marine from which two-thirds of
the crews of enough privateers are to be found to harass seriously our commerce? Gentlemen know that there is
none such.

I deny, however, that by annexation, we adopt the war with Mexico, if any such exists. I deny that, in that
event, we will take our law from Texas. On the contrary, I insist she will take her’s from us. The United states are
not to be merged in Texas, but Texas in them. The United States are at peace: after annexation, Texas will be at
peace too. When we purchased Louisiana of France, France being at war, we did not assume the French war: on the
contrary, Louisiana, which was a part of the French territory, and as such at war with England, was at once placed at
peace. It is true, Mexico may regard, if she choose, annexation as an act of such unfriendliness as to make it the
pretext for [missing page].

[AMB]
on its passage, Mr. BOWDEN moved its indefinite postponement; which motion prevailed, ayes 68, noes not counted; and the bill was rejected. Afterwards the bill was reconsidered, on motion of MR. POULSON, who moved a ryder, providing that it should not apply to the county of Accomack. Mr. WITCHER moved to amend the ryder by striking out "Accomack," and inserting "the citizens of this Commonwealth."

Mr. YERBY opposed Mr. WITCHER'S amendment, as it was the law now, and was a dead letter; Mr. PITTS seconded the views of MR. YERBY. Mr. WITCHER'S amendment was then adopted.

On motion of Mr. YERBY, the bill was then recommitted.

The act providing for the payment of the interest upon certain lands guaranteed by the Commonwealth, and the semi-annual annuity due to the old James River Company, with the amendments proposed by the Senate, was taken up, and the said amendments agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. GARNETT, a Resolution from the Committee of Rads, &c., against the petition of Robert Faver for authority to erect a wharf on the Rappahannock river in Essex county, was laid on the table, not be called up this session.

The followed engrossed bills were read a third time and passed:

"To incorporate the Augusta Female Seminary;"

"Authorizing the County Court of Morgan county to re-build the Courthouse of said county, and for other purposes;"

"To incorporate the Virginia Collegiate Institute;"

"Incorporating the Good Spur Turnpike Company;"

"Incorporating the Buchanan and Clover Dale Turnpike Company;"

"Amending the act passed March 23d, 1843, concerning roads and bridges in Brooke county;"

"Concerning the commissions of sheriffs and other officers upon executions;" (Mr. HALL moved its indefinite postponement, which was lost, 43 to 67, Mr. STOVALL having called the ayes and noes- and the bill was passed;)

and

"Concerning the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad Company."

Many bills were read a first and second time,

On motion of Mr. NEWLON,

The House adjourned.

[AMB]

Friday, January 17, 1845 RE41i81p2c3

SENATORIAL ELECTION!

Snap Judgement!

In compliance, most probably, with the mandates of a Whig caucus, held in the Capitol on Wednesday night, a motion was made in the House, yesterday, to go into the election of U. S. Senator, on Wednesday, the 22nd of the present month. The Republican party opposed this resolution, for the very satisfactory reasons, that, 1st, there was no sort of reason for hastening the election, because some thirty or forty days, of the session would remain after the 22d, within which period, the election could be fixed on some more satisfactory day: 2d, Because some of the members were absent, and could not possibly receive notice in time to be here on the day of election. Though some of the absentees were Whigs, yet the Whigs stood in a different situation from the Democrats; for, the Whigs, being in the majority, and of course, taking the lead in the subject, knew beforehand that the movement would take place about this time, and could have sent notice to their members days ago, so as to insure their attendance by the time of the election: 3d. The day mentioned in the resolution was strenuously opposed on the following ground: The contested election from the county of Bath had been hastened to a decision by the Whig House, and the only Democrat whose seat had been contested had been ejected. The seats of two Whigs were contested- and the House had not only not decided the claims of the contestants, but the rights of all were still pending before the committee.
of Privileges and Elections. Should the election take place on the 22nd, the Whigs would enter the contest with the certainty of having every member to whom they laid any claim, and possibly two more than they were entitled to; whilst, on the other hand, the Democrats would be forced to join battle under the disadvantage of having the claims on their side unsettled— and, when settled, it might result in a decision, that two Whigs, whose votes had given Virginia a Senator, were not properly entitled to a voice in the election – and that one, and probably two, or more, Democrats had been denied the exercise of their rights by the haste with which the House seemed determined to have a Senator elected.

But these reasons produced no effect on the trained majority in the House, and the 22d was fixed as the day. Thus has it been decided by the Whig Party, that they would not only palm on the State a Senator to oppose, rather than to accomplish her will; but they have further decided, that in the perpetration of the deed, they would afford no opportunity to the representatives of the people, necessarily absent, from the city, to return and give a full expression of legislative Sentiment on this vital question; and they have proceeded further, to declare that this election shall be held without deciding the preliminary question, Who are the representatives of the people, and, as such, entitled to cast the votes which are to decide the momentous result? We are yet to see whether the people of Virginia will permit their rights to be thus trampled under foot by a party wielding the powers of an accidental majority, and exercising their little “brief authority” to advance the petty schemes of party, rather than the great interests and recorded will of the State.

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Friday, January 17, 1845

Twenty-Eighth Congress-2nd Ses. Wednesday, Jan. 15, 1845,

IN SENATE

Wednesday, January 15.

Eight bills were received from the House of Delegates, which were committed to their proper Committees.

Mr. McMULLEN, from the Committee of Internal Improvements, reported the bill concerning the Valley Turnpike Company.

Mr. McMULLEN explained the provisions of the bill.

Mr. STANDARD withdrew his opposition, and was in favor of the passage of the bill.

Mr. GALLAHER also spoke in favor of the bill. It passed –ayes 21, noes 8.

Mr. WALLACE moved to proceed to the election of Printer to the Senate, which had been delayed. Mr. W. nominated John Warrock, who received the unanimous vote of the Senate.

On motion of Mr. WILLIE, the bill incorporating the Broadmeadow Mining Company was taken up.

Mr. McMullen moved an amendment, which was opposed by Messrs. WALLACE, STANARD, COX and SHINN. Lost-ayes 12, noes 17.

Mr. POULSON brought a message from the House by Mr. Garnett, communicating the passage of a Joint Resolution

A message was received from the House by Mr. Garnett, communicating the passage of a Joint Resolution
Mr. STANDARD presented a memorial of the James River and Kanawha Company to the Legislature, asking for a re-investigation of its affairs, &c. Laid on the table.

TEXAS

The resolutions of Mr. THOMPSON of Kanawha, concerning the annexation of Texas, were taken up, on motion of Mr. McMULLEN.

Mr. THOMPSON of K. sustained the resolutions.

Mr. SHINN opposed them.

Mr. STANARD offered the following amendment:

"Having a due regard to the obligations of the Constitution, the internal peace and tranquility of the country, and the national faith and honor."

Messrs. WALLACE and McMullen opposed the amendment- and Messrs. STANARD and GALLAHER advocated it.

The amendment was lost – ayes 10, noes 19- as follows:


Mr. BONDURANT moved to lay the resolutions on the table. Lost-ayes 12, noes 17.

After some further discussion, Mr. BONDURANT moved an adjournment, which was carried.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Wednesday, Jan. 15.

Mr. Henry Frantz, the newly elected delegate from Roanoke county, took his seat.

On motion of Mr. TOLER,

Resolved, That the Committee on the Militia Laws enquire into the expediency of authorizing a majority of the officers of the three regiments in Campbell county to designate the places of training in said county.

Mr. TAYLOR of Loudoun moved a resolution, which was lost, instructing the committee on the Militia Laws to enquire into the expediency of dispensing with all music or military Paredes, except for the volunteer companies, and also of reducing their pay.

Mr. BOWDEN presented the Report of the Superintendent and Directors of the eastern Lunatic Asylum for the year 1841 watch, on his motion, was laid on the table, and 1000 copies ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER laid before the House the 17th Annual Report of the President and directors of the Western Asylum, which was laid on the table- and, on motion of Mr. FULTON of Augusta, 1000 copies were ordered to be printed.

Petitions, &c., were presented and referred:

By Mr. PARRIOTT, of citizens of Marshall county, for the right of way to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

By M. FULTON of Augusta, memorial of Robert Wade and other citizens of Augusta county against any change in the location of the contemplated McAdamized road from Staunton to James River, on that part of the road which lies between Staunton and Waynesborough.

By Mr. TAYLOR of Loudoun a petition of the officers of the 56th Regiment of militia, for the restoration of the office of Brigade Inspector;
By Mr. CAMERON, of citizens of Bath county for authority to James Paine to erect a dam across the Cow pasture river at McDonnell’s falls in said county.

On motion of Mr. SMITH, a joint resolution from the Committee on Courts, &c., was agreed to, for the protection of Virginia inspected salt against the inspection laws of other States.

On motion of Mr. FULTON of Wythe, the Committee on Claims was discharged from the consideration of the petition of Andrew Crolley, which was ordered to be laid on the table.

The House then proceeded to execute the joint order of the day, being the election of a Judge of the General Court and of the Circuit Court for the 3d Circuit and 2nd district to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Thomas H. Bayly.

Mr. POULSON, in handsome terms, nominated Geo. P. Scarburgh.

There being no other candidate, Mr. Scarburgh received in the House 103, Edward P. Pitts 12, and George W. Southall 1.

The joint vote with the Senate stood, Scarburgh 128, scattering 15. So Mr. Scarburgh was declared duly elected judge, &c.

On motion of Mr. TOLER,

Resolved, That the Board of Public Works report to this House as early as practicable, whether any, and if any, what contract, conditional or unconditional, has been entered into, or proposed to be entered into between the Winchester and Potomac Rail Road Company, and the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company, for the sale by the former to the latter, of their corporate rights and interests in their said improvement, and the terms and conditions of such contract or proposed contract: also, that said Board report at the same time to this, House a copy, or copies of any such contract, or other communication, made to them by said Winchester and Potomac Rail Road Company, touching the same, if any such has been made; also, whether the assent of said Board has been given, or promised to any such contract now made, or hereafter to be made; also, that said Board in like manner report the amount of the several debts now due from said Winchester and Potomac Rail Road Company to what person or persons, or body or bodies corporate, said debts are severally due, when they became due, and how and by whom, other than said Company, the same are secured to be paid.

On motion of Mr. STEPHENSON, the engrossed bill “Providing for taking the sense of the people upon the propriety of calling a Convention to amend the Constitution of the State,” was laid on the table, and made the order of the day for Thursday, 23d January.

The following engrossed bills were read a third time and passed:

“For the construction of a Canal from the North Landing to Elizabeth River.”

“Establishing the county of Gilmer of parts of the counties of Lewis and Kanawha.” (Opposed by Mr. EDGINGTON, and sustained by Messrs. HAYS, SMITH, JACKSON, and NEWLON.)

The SPEAKER laid before the House a communication from the President and Directors of the James River and Kanawha Company, enclosing a memorial; which was, on motion of Mr. ANDERSON, laid on the table.

Mr. ANDERSON then moved the following resolutions:

The President and Directors of the James River and Kanawha Company having presented a memorial to the General Assembly, requesting an investigation of the affairs of the said Company by a joint committee of the two Houses of Assembly.

Resolved, That a joint Committee be appointed, in conformity to the prayer of the said memorial, and that said Committee be charged with the duty of visiting the line of works, of examining the books and papers in the office, and of investigating the affairs and management of the Company, from the commencement of its operations to the present time; and that the said committee have full power and authority to send for persons and papers.

Resolved, That the said committee shall consist of --members from the House of Delegates, and -- members from the Senate.

After some conversation between Messrs. STEPHENSON and STROTHER, the resolutions were adopted; the first resolution having been amended, on motion of Mr. STROTHER, by striking out the words “of visiting the line of works;” and, on motion of Mr. GOODSON, by adding thereto, “and that said Committee report on or before the 25th instant;” and the blanks in the second resolution having been filled respectively, on motion of Mr. GARNETT, with “five” and “four.”
The following resolutions we adopted:

By Mr. FARLEY, that the Committee on Courts, &c., enquire into the propriety of allowing to witnesses, who travel more than ten miles within their county to the place of attendance, mileage.

By Mr. MARTZ, that the Committee on Privileges and Elections enquire into the expediency of so amending the election laws, in regard to the duties of commissioners or superintendents of elections, as to make it illegal for them to sub-duct or erase from the polls any vote or votes after they shall have been recorded.

By Mr. BLACKWELL, that the Committee on Courts, &c., enquire into the expediency of passing a law authorizing Orlando M. Smith, Committee of John N. Bell, of Lunenburg county, to sell certain lands belonging to said Bell.

By Mr. BOLLING, that the Committee on Courts, &c., enquire into the expediency of exempting from jury service, for a limited time, the jury now engaged in the Randolph will ease, pending in the Circuit Court for the town of Petersburg.

On motion of Mr. WITCHER,

The House adjourned.'

[AMB]

Friday, January 17, 1845 RE41i8lp3c3

PLANS FOR ANNEXATION

We published in our Wednesday's paper the plan of Mr. Foster, a Whig Senator from Tennessee. We hail the spirit which he displays, with great pleasure- and we concur with the Madisonian, in regarding it "as more just and practicable than some others which have been proposed- and if the regular propositions should not succeed, we should joyfully hail its adoption."

The bill of Mr. Dromgoole in the House of Representative is calculated to command great attention. It admits Texas, in the words of the Constitution, as a "new State" - allowing it certain dimensions not disproportionately large; and the residuary territory would, of course, belong to the "new State" until ceded by it to the U. States, in pursuance of the words of the Constitution: We are disposed to think, upon high and very respectable authority, that admission as a State is the only form in which it can pass Congress-and that if we are distracted by a diversity of views as to a compromise about slavery in this residuary territory, we may fail in the annexation- if not, that we shall succeed. "All (a correspondent writes us) depends upon this."

If this be the case, who can hesitate about it? What politician, who regards the great interests of his country, can pause for one moment amid the multitude of counselors, and the multiplicity of projects? Give us, then, Texas as a State, according to Dromgoole's plan. Let us have admission in its simplest form, and in conformity with precedents. We would not hesitate a moment about the measure. The views upon this matter are so strongly presented in the N. York Morning News of the 13th inst., that we lay them at once before our readers:

"ANNEXATION AT THIS SESSION.- We earnestly trust that the present Congress will not adjourn without settling this question. Constitutional obstacles are now out of the way, which stood before like a lion in the path, against the earlier forms which were proposed for the action of Congress. The admission of Texas as a "new State" into the Union, with stipulations as to her surplus territory, solves all that difficulty. This is the fundamental idea common to the three several plans of Mr. Niles in the Senate, and General Dromgoole and Mr. Tibbatts in the House of Representatives. We take it as pretty well settled now, that the action of Congress on the subject, in one form or another, must and will take this direction. Dromgoole's is the briefest and simplest of the three, and so far the most desirable- independently of the question of slavery. It makes no stipulation, indeed, in regard to the surplus territory of the new State to be admitted, though it proposes to fix certain limits to the dimensions of that State; leaving that surplus territory, of course, to the continued ownership of the State, precisely as some of our own original States, at the time of the formation of the Union, held vast tracts of Western territory, which they afterwards ceded to the Federal Government. It also leaves untouched the whole debt question. The United States assume no more liability for the debts of Texas than they now have for those of Pennsylvania or N. York. This feature is a capital recommendation of Dromgoole's plan. After the admission of the new State is consummated, it will be time enough to negotiate with her simultaneously about her lands, and the debt chargeable on them. Niles's plan is defective in this respect, that it provides for the cession of the lands without a corresponding assumption of the debt. Both, or neither, is but fair play. With General Dromgoole, we prefer the latter, decidedly. It simplifies the measure. It removes from it all semblance of that stock-jobbing character which is fastened upon it in the prejudices of many of its opponents. And it will leave time for a more deliberate survey of the whole ground of the questions we so often hear blindly mooted in the dark- How much is the debt? and, what is the extent and value of the unappropriated lands? There remains, then, but one serious difficulty in the way- the question of slavery. Mr. Niles's plan compromises that at once, like Col. Benton's, by making the 100th meridian of longitude a dividing line, on the East
side of which slavery may be allowed, and on the West side prohibited. This is about an equal division of the territory, though slavery gets all the coast. Corresponding to the natural laws of the climate and soil, this appropriates to Free Labor the portion less adapted to the negro race, and leaves to slavery the portion suitable for cotton and sugar culture. General Dromgoole’s bill leaves this question, like that of the debt, open for future adjustment.”

Friday, January 17, 1845

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Thursday, January 16, 1845

SENATE

James River and Kanawha Company

The resolution for the appointment of a Joint Committee to examine the affairs of the James River and Kanawha Company came up for consideration, upon which arose a lengthy and warm discussion, in which Messrs. McMULLEN, COX, NEWMAN and SHINN, in opposition, and Messrs. STANARD, CAPERTON, BONDURANT, WALLACE and GALLAHER, in favor, took part and passed, ayes 18, noes 11, as follows:


Noes- Messrs, Cox, Crawford, Willey, Spark, Baptist, Garrett, Piper, Penn, McMullen, Taylor, and Newman-11.

The SPEAKER announced the following as the committee on the part of the Senate, viz: Messrs, Stanard, Guerrant, Thompson of A., and McCauley.

A message was received from the House, by Mr. Broaddus, of Culpepper, announcing the passage of a resolution, fixing Wednesday, the 23d instant, for the election of a Senator of the United States from the 4th of March next.

Laid on the table, on motion of Mr. NEWMAN.

Mr. PEYTON reported a bill for the incorporation of the Virginia Collegiate Institute. Laid on the table.

Also, to incorporate the Augusta Female Seminary. Laid on the table.

Mr. SLOAN reported a bill authorizing the County Court of Morgan to re-build the Court-house. Passed.

Mr. CARTER moved an adjournment, Lost- ayes 12, noes 13.

TEXAS.

On motion of Mr. NEWMAN, Mr. THOMPSON’S – of Kanawha – resolutions in regard to Texas came up.

Mr. STANARD delivered an argument against the constitutional power of the Senate to originate the resolutions, concluding with the following substitute for the first resolution:

Resolved, by the Senate, That the annexation of Texas to the United States ought to be effected at the earliest period that may be practicable, consistently with the obligations of the Constitution, the internal peace and tranquility of the country, and the faith and honor of he nation.

Mr. THOMPSON of Kanawha replied.

Mr. McMULLEN also made some remarks.

After some further discussion, in which Mr. GALLAHER participated. Mr. STANARD moved to lay the whole subject on the table.—Lost –ayes 10, noes 19.

Mr. STANARD’S substitute was lost by the following vote:

NOES—Messrs. Scott, (Speaker,)  

The original resolutions were then passed—ayes 18, noes 7—as follows:


On motion of Mr. GARRETT.

The Senate adjourned at 5 ½ o’clock.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Thursday, January, 16, 1845

A communication from the Senate by their Clerk, that they had passed the acts, "Amending the act passed January 29, 1844, appropriating a sum of money to the Price’s Turnpike and Cumberland Gap Road;” and “To change the place of training of the Officers of the 165th Regiment of Virginia Militia;” and also the act “concerning Mary Battle of the county of Brunswick,” with amendments, in which the House concurred.

Petitions, &c., were presented and referred:

By Mr. FRAZIER, of Peter Moore’s administrator, (with accompanying documents,) for an appropriation to satisfy his judgment for half pay as a Captain in the Revolutionary war;

By Mr. TYREE, of Geo. Hughart of Fayette county, asking compensation for service as a private soldier of Virginia, in 1793;

By Mr. DENISON, two memorials of certain citizens of Shenandoah, against the formation of a new county out of parts of Rockingham and Shenandoah;

By Mr. POWELL, a petition of sundry citizens of Bedford and Amherst counties, that James River may be made a lawful fence from the upper end of Roach’s Island to the mouth of Otter Creek.

On motion of Mr. WATTS,

Resolved, That the Committee of Roads, &c., enquire into the expediency of authorizing all the creditors of the Portsmouth and Roanoke Rail Road Company to convert the debts due them from said Company into stock, and of making such further legislative provisions upon the subject as may be deemed necessary.

Mr. BROADUS of Culpepper offered a resolution, that this House will, by joint vote with the Senate, proceed on Wednesday, 22d instant, to the election of a Senator of the United States, to supply the vacancy to occur on the 4th March next, by the expiration of the term of service of Wm. C. Rives, Esq.:

Mr. LEAKE moved to lay it upon the table.

Mr. BROADUS of Culpepper asked for reasons for so doing.

Mr. LEAKE said, he made the motion to lay the resolution upon the table, so that notice might be given to all the members of this House, who felt any interest in the election. Some members were absent, and if the 22nd of this month was fixed on as the day for the election, they could not be here to represent their constituents. There was a plenty of business before the House for them to act upon, and much more than could be attended to between this time and the day selected by the gentleman from Culpepper. If there were not important matters before them claiming their attention, and some absentees, who would not be here at as early a day, he would not desire the delay of action on this subject. The gentleman supposing himself and party ready to proceed with the election, was for dispatch, whilst the Democrats had heretofore received no intimation of the necessity of getting ready speedily for the contest.
Mr. GOODSON hoped the gentleman would not force us into the election until we were ready. The Whigs had had their meeting last night and came here organized. It was known a meeting of the Democrats was to be held tomorrow night. He thought it reasonable to allow them to get ready in the same way - that was all he asked.

Mr. DANIEL of Prince George said, he would assign some additional reasons why the resolution should be laid upon the table at this time. He believed that it had been usual for the House to decide all the contests about elections of members, before they proceeded to such an important election as that of Senator of the United States. This had been the practice heretofore, and from which he saw no good reasons for a departure. There was now pending before this House a contest from Caroline county, which had not been disposed of; and also a memorial against the eligibility of the gentleman from Fairfax concerning which there had been no final action by this House. Until, therefore, this House had decided who were, and who were not, entitled to seats in this body, he thought the all-important election of Senator should be deferred.

Mr. BOWDEN enquired of the Chairman of the Committee of Privileges and Elections, whether the Committee had taken action upon the case from Fairfax.

Mr. WITCHER said they had not had a meeting since the last papers were sent to the Committee; but he believed, and the Committee also believed, that it was the business of the Attorney for the Commonwealth, in Fairfax, to proceed against persons violating the anti-dueling act. He believed that was the proper forum, and not this house. He thought the Committee would not change their opinion relative to this contest. He intended yet to look into that matter; - other business, and his own health, had, heretofore prevented the investigation: but, after examination, from what he understood, he thought the opinion of the Committee would be, that the delegate from Fairfax should retain his seat.

Mr. BOWDEN said he referred to the condition of the gentleman from Fairfax with pain; but he thought, until the House had decided his right, that he held at least a doubtful tenure - and he did not believe the election ought to be gone into until all the members had undisputed rights to their seats. All he asked was fairness; and he did not believe his opponents here would force us into the election until it was apparent that fairness could be attained.

Mr. EDMUNDS of Halifax said the member from Franklin was absent, and there was not time to write a letter to him and have it answered in time, or to get here after hearing of the election. He did not know that other members were in the same situation; but he knew the case of the member from Franklin, and he knew the distance to that county was such as to forbid the member's return in time.

Mr. WITCHER said he had not a shadow of doubt of the result in the Caroline case - he believed the member now in his seat would retain it. He explained why the Committee had not reported sooner. He knew, also, that there were two members on his side of the question absent; but there was time for all to be here. Perhaps if you postpone the election longer, some members who are now here may be absent forever. He knew that the members who had the seats, had all the rights of members until they were evicted, but he did not believe it possible to change the result by evicting those members.

Mr. EDMUNDS of Halifax said there was not the slightest probability of the member from Franklin getting here in time - he had gone home without expecting this election to be brought on so soon, and it would be wrong to hurry the election before information could reach him. The other members who were absent might get here.

The motion to lay on the table was [negative] [unreadable word?].

Mr. GOODSON moved to amend to Wednesday, the 29th inst.

Mr. BOWDEN called the ayes and noes.

Mr. McPHERSON of Page, asked the gentleman to withdraw his amendment. He saw the predicament in which his party would be placed. It would pledge the party to go into the election. He thought this House ought to strengthen the majority in the other House.

Mr. GOODSON withdrew.

Mr. STOVALL moved to amend, and go into the election on to-morrow, the 17th inst.

Mr. McPHERSON of Page, could not vote for the amendment. He would not indicate any disposition to go into the election at all. He was opposed to it entirely. The State of Virginia was decidedly Democratic, and if we went into the election, it was evident that we should be beaten.

Mr. GOODSON hoped the amendment would be withdrawn. And he would tell the gentleman from Page, that he thought him a very good General, but he did not see the necessity of telling the enemy exactly what he would do.

Mr. McP. said he only told what he was aware the enemy already fully knew.

The Resolution was then adopted by the following vote, Mr. EDMUNDS of Halifax having called the ayes and noes:


A bill "Concerning bail in civil cases was taken up on motion of Mr. STEPHENSON, and being amended on his motion, Mr. JACKSON moved its indefinite postponement.

Messrs. JACKSON and TAYLOR sustained and Messrs. LEE and STEPHENSON opposed the motion.

The bill was indefinitely postponed, ayes 62 to noes 52; Mr. JACKSON having called the ayes and noes.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a communication from the Governor, enclosing resolutions of the Legislature of New Hampshire, to the immediate re-annexation of Texas – also protesting against the imprisonment of Thomas Wilson Dorr of Rhode Island.

Mr. STEPHENSON moved to lay the communication on the table.

Mr. LEAKE moved to amend the motion and ordering it to be printed.

Mr. STEPHENSON hoped no member would agree to the printing of at least a portion of the resolutions – especially, if it was not expressly declared, that the House did not thereby meanly endorse them.

Mr. LEAKE said, that the printing would to amount a sanction by this House. At the commencement; of the session, the House had without objection, ordered the printing of resolutions from Massachusetts, protesting against the annexation of Texas, as being tantamount to a Resolution of the Union. The same course should be pursued now.

Mr. STEPHENSON meant no disrespect to a sovereign State. All that he desired was that the House might not be understood as endorsing, the course of New Hampshire.

Mr. PRESTON hoped all the resolutions would be printed; so that the House and the [c...][unreadable word] might understand them.

Mr. GOODSON thought a large number these of resolutions, as well as those from Massachusetts, should be printed for the information the people of Virginia.

Mr. Leake’s amendment was adopted and the papers ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. LANIER, the House adjourned.

[AMB]

Friday, January 17, 1845 RE41i8ilp3c5

ANOTHER VOICE FROM THE GRANITE STATE!

We lay before our readers another proposition on the annexation of Texas. It is offered by Mr. Burke of New Hampshire to the House of Representatives. It breathes a fine spirit, and we thank him for it. It breathes a spirit, which becomes the man, the State, and an American statesman.

Whilst on this subject, it is impossible for us to pass over another gentleman from New Hampshire, whose noble devotion to principle and to his country is on a par with his distinguished talents. The Tariff—Texas—all the great questions of the day, have been met by him like a man and like a statesman. Whom can we mean but Levi Woodbury, Senator of the United States? If the thanks of one humble Virginian—(one? – let us rather say of every Republican in Virginia,) be of any account in his eyes, they are justly his. He does not fritter away his strength in struggling with imaginary monsters. He does not higgle about little or factitious difficulties, but marches up to his object with the wisdom of a statesman, and the firmness of a man. He declares himself openly and boldly for Texas,
because he believes its acquisition necessary for the good of his whole country. He considers her independent, and is willing to receive her into our bosom, without asking the consent of any other power. If Mr. Woodbury had done no more, than stand up for the immediate annexation of Texas, he would have been entitled to the gratitude of the people; but combined with this question his luminous views and efficient services on the other great problem of the day, the Tariff, and we for one are willing to say, "Good and faithful servant, go on and do your duty."

But, to return from this digression to Mr. Burke's proposition. We have not the pleasure of his acquaintance; but we learn from those who know him best, that he is a Republican after our own heart. The Washington "Constitution of yesterday morning calls attention to his bill- the admirable "bill offered by Mr. Burke of New Hampshire. If we are not, greatly mistaken, this bill will be found to contain almost every good feature of each bill and resolution which has heretofore been presented. This is the point to be attained, and which we probably shall attain at last. This day's debate shows that the spirit of conciliation and harmony is rather increased than diminished; and, as we have said elsewhere, augurs the best results."

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Friday, January 17, 1845 RE41i81p4c1

MARINE JOURNAL

PORT OF RICHMOND, JANUARY 17.
High Water this day at 10 ½ o’clock A. M.

ARRIVED

Steamer Curtis Peck, Davis, Norfolk.
Brig Clarissa, Watts, New Orleans, sugar and molasses to Dunlop, Moncure & Co.
Schr. Martin L Smith, Wilson, Port Deposit, lumber.

SAILED

Schr. Hannibal, Parker, New York.
Schr. Heroine, Hollingshead, Baltimore.
Schr. Cora, Groves, Philadelphia.
Schr. Lady Clinton, Cramner, New York.

BELOW

Schr. Orator, off Wind-mill Point.
Schr. Arcade, at Dutch Gap.
Schr. General Washington, at the Ferry.
Schr. Celerity, at the Ferry
Schr. John Thompson, at Ward’s Reach

Baltimore, Jan. 15—arrived, schr. A. A. Penderzast Stephens, from Richmond

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January 17, 1845 RE45v41ip3c1

Mr. YANCEY commenced by expressing his regret that between the great political parties which divided our people, and which must ever exist under a free and popular Government, and animosities become so deeply seated, that what might otherwise have proved a blessing to the Government, by tending to guard and preserve its purity, had in fact proved its bane. Instead of estimating measures according to their bearings upon the best interests of the country at large, there were but too many who judged of them simply according to their probable effects on the party to which each belonged. That spirit, he lamented to see, had crept into this Hall, and he could not but give expression to his deep and unfeigned regret that the gentleman from Ohio over the way, (Mr. Vinton,) distinguished as he was in the possession of such keen and searching intellect, enlightened by so brilliant a wit, and graced by every accomplishment which could give lustre to a public station, should have lent himself to lower the character of an American Representative, which he was so well qualified to adorn. – The consequence of the prevalence of the spirit to which he had alluded was, that we were fast becoming, if we had not already become, a nation of partisans. It was under the influence of convictions like these that he had rejoiced at the fact, that now, at length, a great question had presented itself, a question of such momentous magnitude, and of such pure and noble associations, as were calculated to elevate the soul, to warm every patriot heart, and to crush beneath its unparalleled importance all the contemptible machinations of partisans – of men capable of knowing, of feeling, and appreciating nothing but the
mere bubbles which were ever found to float in the wake of party. Such a question was this of the annexation of Texas; a question so purely American, and addressing itself so directly to the honor and to the interests of the entire Republic, that all party feuds shrunk at its approach. Like that mysterious star which led the shepherds of old to the birth-place of the Savior of the world, this question was now culmination over the Republic, calling on all who loved their country to lay aside their wranglings, and arise and abet a cause whose spirit and whose tendencies were "peace on earth and good will to men." Mr. Y. thanked God, that there were still among us men whose hearts leaped and fluttered at the waving of a banner on which their country's honor was inscribed, and who like the ancient Jews, when their sacred trumpet sounded to arms, arose, and forgetting all party distinctions and party interests, girded themselves for their country's cause. Not so the member from North Carolina. With him the momentous associations of this question; its bearing on the interests of our entire country, on its commercial, agricultural, and manufacturing prosperity; its effects, for weal or for woe, on the present and on the future—effects which were now agitating patriot hearts upon two continents—had not in them sufficient worth or dignity to draw his mind from the question whether he did not dine with a distinguished politician in N. Y., and whether the sailors of the ship North Carolina voted in the city of New York, and not in Brooklyn. Such were the gentleman's views of a question which was agitating this entire Union, and which, more than any question which had been started among us for half a century, was calculated to string the nerves and agitate the bosom of every honest man.

We were all, said Mr. Y., in the habit of estimating the character of a person whom we had never seen, by reading his productions and by hearing from others what he said and did. Mr. Y., on such grounds, had formed an estimate of this gentleman; and he must confess that, for himself, he was not much surprised at the dimensions of intellect and qualities of heart which he now found the gentleman to posses. In that part of the Union which Mr. Y. had the honor to represent, that Representative was everywhere viewed as the betrayer of his country. He was looked on by every one as a renegade, recreant to the principles and the interest of that portion of the Union. With this estimate of him beforehand, even Mr. Y. himself was astonished when that gentleman got up to taunt his brothers of the South because their strenuous efforts and earnest and continued exertions had not been able to prevent the repeal of that rule of this House which prohibited the presentation of abolition petitions. The motives which he attributed to their conduct on that subject were such as could have been found only in the heart of him and going over to the ranks of the enemy, turned and flouted the colors of that enemy in the face of his own friends. Mr. Y. knew that such had been the estimate entertained by nineteen-twentieths of the men of the South respecting this gentleman; but he must confess his surprise when he rose in this House and bragged of what he termed the dishonesty and rascality of the State he had the honor to represent.

Mr. CLINGMAN here rose and wished to explain.

Mr. YANCEY: No, Sir; I want no explanations. Explanations elsewhere.

It was not for Mr. Y. to decide on the true character of such conduct: the people of North Carolina would decide that question. But surely it might have been supposed that every honorable heart would have paused and would have shrunken back within itself before it could consent to drag the disgrace of his own native State before the world. The unwelcome task, if it must be performed, should at least have been left for other hands. And well might North Carolina, thus wounded and gored by her native son, exclaim with the falling Caesar, "Et tu Brute!" Mr. Y. should pass no sentence on the gentleman; he should not undertake to pronounce what conduct like this deserved, but the Bible, [if the gentleman ever read that book] might teach him the fate of the man who forgot what was due to himself and his family. Let him look at the Patriarch Noah, betrayed in an unguarded hour and lying exposed in his tent. One of his sons saw his parent's shame, and went forth and ridiculed the spectacle before his brothers; but those brothers took a mantle and without daring to turn their eyes or to look for so much as a moment on a father so exposed, walked up backwards and cast the mantle—the broad mantle of filial charity—to cover his indignity from his wine and heard what his younger son had done, and, gifted with the spirit of prophecy by God himself, pronounced upon him a curse which had come down upon him, and upon his seed, and upon his seed's seed, to this every hour, witnessing and proving to all men the truth of the scriptures, "A servant of servants shall he be, and shall dwell in the tents of Japheth on his western shore. Oh, had the departing spirit of the pure, the wise, the patriotic Macon been hovering in these Halls and among these stately pillars, and here had heard a son of North Carolina utter language such as had fallen from that Representative, he might have stopped an instant to gaze in astonishment, but full quickiy would have descended in sorrow to the sepulcher:

Mr. Y. said he should be pardoned if, in taking these views of the subject which the Representative from North Carolina had discussed, or rather had avoided, and of the character which he had attempted to give to a debate otherwise eminently dignified and worthy of that Hall, he should not follow him into the dark purlieus of party with which that gentleman seemed so disgracefully familiar; but should now address himself to the great question before the House.

The first question to be settled was this: are the several propositions which have been presented for the annexation of Texas to this Union constitutional in their character? For himself, Mr. Y. preferred one of them which was not now immediately before the committee. He referred to the proposition of the gentleman from Kentucky, (Mr. Tibbatts) because it more exactly met Mr. Y.'s view of the Constitution. The reasons of his preference were these: that proposition confined itself to the very letter, as well as to the spirit of that sacred instrument. It would be remembered that, under the Confederation which held the States together previously to the adoption of the Federal Constitution, it was found in practice that too few powers were conferred on the General Government, and that those which were given were too limited and restricted to allow sufficient scope for the just action of the Government of so large a Confederacy. Remembering this state of things, (which had then become a subject of general complaint) if gentlemen would turn to the Articles of Confederation, they would find that the 11th article was in these words:

"Canada, acceding to this confederation, and joining in the measures of the U. States, shall be admitted into and
entitled to all the advantages of this Union; but no other colony shall be admitted into the same, unless such admission be agreed to by nine States.”

In this was found the origin of the present article in the Constitution, conferring on Congress the power to admit new States into the Union. — The article, it would be perceived, was specific in its terms, and yet it had compass enough to allow the Confederation to admit a foreign State by act of Congress. The spirit of that enactment of the patriot fathers had been preserved in the Constitution which they afterwards adopted, and was founded in the 4th article of the 3d section: “New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union.”

Now, what was the history of the transformation of this article? And how could it be shown that the general power then given was preserved in its new form? If gentlemen would turn to the 4th volume of Elliott’s Debates on the Constitution; they would find that, in the Convention which sat for the formation of the new Constitution, Mr. Randolph offered the following proposition:

“That provision ought to be made for the admission of States lawfully arising within the limits of the United States, whether from a voluntary junction of Government and territory. Or otherwise with the consent of a number of voices in the National Legislature less the whole.”

This proposition directly contravened the spirit of the previous article in the Confederation. — That allowed the admission of foreign States, this did not. And moreover, it was equally opposed to the whole view and purpose of the people, in calling the Convention and demanding a new Constitution, which was to augment the powers, and enlarge the scope of the Federal Government. And what was the fate of this proposition? Did the Convention approve of and adopt it? No. It was voted down. But, further, in page 163, it would be found that, in the draught of a constitution by a committee of five, which was reported on the 6th of August, 1787, the 17th article declared that —

“New States, lawfully constituted or established within the limits of the U. States, may be admitted by the Legislature into this Government,” &c.

This, too, was voted down, and in its stead the existing provision of the Constitution was adopted by a vote of six States to five. Now, when gentlemen went to the root of the matter, they would perceive that the original article, which specifically provided for the admission of one foreign State and left an open door for the admission of others, was in the Constitution finally adopted, so enlarged [...] to provide for the admission of new States generally. The phrase was indefinite, and who was he that had the authority to declare what were its limits? None could point them out; it had none but such as might be found in the good sense of the people, and in the guaranty, elsewhere given, that every new State should have a Republican form of Government. If this article was, as some gentlemen contended, confined to the reception of new States formed within the boundary of the Union, why was the proposition of Mr. Randolph voted down in the Convention? And why did that Convention adopt in its place a different article, more enlarged in its terms? Obviously it was intended that the power of congress to admit new States should be left an unlimited power.

The proposition therefore, of the gentleman from Kentucky, came up, as he had said to the very letter, and, what was better, to the very spirit of the Constitution. This prevision was inserted as one great means of providing for the common defence and the general warfare. And Mr. Y. preferred the proposition of the gentleman from Kentucky, because on that plan we could get possession of Texas by Texas ceding to us territory, just as Virginia and many of the other States had ceded theirs. This resolution provided for her doing the same thing, and that strictly within the purview of the Constitution. Mr. Y. would say to the friends of the measure on that floor that, however their partialities might incline towards some other of the several projects which had been presented, and however well convinced some gentlemen might be that congress now possessed the power to receive foreign territory into the Union, (and Mr. Y. entertained no doubt that by a long process of reasoning that position might be logically established,) they had still better adopt this proposition, because it effected the same purpose in a more direct manner, and more in conformity with the letter of the Constitution. Other plans might perhaps be plausibly objected to, but no man could so cut down the power contained in the words of the Constitution, that it would not apply to States lying confessedly without the existing boundaries of the Union.

Considering the cultivated mind, clear understanding, and enlarged views of the honorable gentleman from Massachusetts, (Mr. Winthrop,) Mr. Y. had been astonished to hear him say that the constitution adopted by our patriot fathers was by them intended to apply only to the territory then within the United States. This, surely, was too narrow-minded a view of things to be worthy of the mind of any true friend of our American liberty. The Constitution applicable only to what were the bounds of the Union when it was framed? Why were, then, must Louisiana, and Arkansas, and Missouri stand? At the adoption of the constitution, these were not within the limits of the United States. And would the gentleman from Massachusetts maintain that these three States were now unconstitutionally within the limits of the United States? Had the people of Louisiana and the people of Arkansas and Missouri not share in the guarantees of the Constitution? Did they possess no rights by it and under it? The gentleman would not say so. Yet these were States which lay, without and beyond the territory of the United States when the article was framed which empowered Congress to receive new States into the Union. They had come into the Union — they had received a cheerful welcome. And what Republican freeman would close the doors of this, our fellowship of freedom, to any who in a proper spirit came and knocked for admission?

It appeared very singular to Mr. Y. that there were only two instances in our history where treaties had been made by which foreign countries were allowed to diminish the extent of our territory. And the negotiators of both happened to come from the State of Massachusetts. Where ever our territory had been clipped, and privileges enjoyed by our citizens had been taken from them it had been done under the auspices of two gentlemen from
Statistics of Texas

On the motion of Mr. PRATT, it was

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be directed to communicate to this House such information as he may possess, or may be able to procure, of the whole amount of the debt of Texas the amount for which bond or scrip has been issued: and the present market value of subscript or bond in Texas, in the United States, as in Europe; the amount in value of the exports from, and the imports into, Texas, for the year 1813 and 1814, with the amount of revenue accruing and collected for the same years, with the expenditures for the same time; also, the present population of Texas, distinguishing in number between free and slaves; also, the quantity, acres of land, which it is supposed is covered by valid grants from the present and former Governments of that country; and the estimated quality in acres of good and arable land suitable for cultivation which remains ungranted with the undisputed and acknowledged limits of Texas as the same existed prior to the year 1831.

RE-ANNEXATION OF TEXAS.

Mr. HAMMETT moved that the rules be suspended, that the House might resolve itself into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

The motion was agreed to; and the House went into Committee of the Whole on the State the Union, (Mr. Hopkins in the Chair, ) and assumed the consideration of the resolutions to re-annex Texas to this Union.

Mr. HOLMES, who had the floor from yesterday, commenced with some remarks on the importance of the
question which now occupies the attention of the committee. He contends that this was not a sectional, but a great national question; and to this complexion it had [...] [unreadable] last; annexation, or rejection now and forever. And on this he based the proposition, and calls to it the attention, not of a section, nor of a part but of every man who had in his heart the loved union and confederation, viz: Annexation objection was salvation or destruction to the New Atlantic States, to New England and to the manufacturing community, and he admitted, [...] [unreadable word] the inevitable destruction of the South, and he sustained his position by showing the deleterious effect which would be produced on the productivity and manufactures of the various sections of the country by Texas remaining independent and commercial league with England, and in possession of the guarantees promised to her by [...] [unreadable word] Aberdeen on condition of her preserving her government separate from ours. Her treaty with Great Britain would preclude exportations [...] [unreadable word] our country to that republic, and under the [...] [unreadable word] policy our entire Union would be injured [...] [unreadable word] degree now not to be determined.

Mr. WM. J. BROWN was wedded to no particular plan. He was like the young man in his own native West, with stout arm and high principles, who, when he first sets out from the maternal home, gets himself a wife. When united to one whose smile serves the purpose of the rainbow of hope and promise, he begins to build his cabin, and lay out his fields, until his barn of plenty is filled to overflowing. Just so with him he was first for his country, and next for Texas and, having obtained her, all things else will be added thereto. Let us then have Texas [...] [unreadable] and hereafter all the details could be settled At as this question was decided in the late election he called upon gentlemen to obey the will of the people.

Mr. GARRET DAVIS would not be displeased; on the contrary, he would be glad if Texas could be annexed without a violation of our Constitution, and our neutral rights, and with the general assent of the people. It was with a view to the distant future that he should desire the consummation of this measure. The natural [...] [unreadable word] cities of Texas for the production of cotton and sugar, rendered it of immense importance to the inhabitants of the United States. But his wish to see Texas annexed was subordinate to other considerations. His attachment to the Union as it existed, rather than endanger its continuance led him, nevertheless, to oppose annexation in every possible form. He spoke of the question as one of power- contending that the legislature was not, by the Constitution, empowered to acquire foreign territory, &c.

Mr. BOWLIN next obtained the floor; but

The Committee rose, and reported progress; and

The House then adjourned.

EXTRACT of a letter from Madison county, Jan.

“Mr. Goggin has declined becoming a candidate for re-election, as you have seen. The Whigs are AWFULLY troubled about it here. I do not think there is the least doubt about the election of a Democratic member of Congress from this district, unless there be some discord in the convention proposed to be held in Charlottesville to nominate a candidate.”

[We will listen to no such apprehension. We take it for granted, that the Convention will be well attended, as it ought to be- fairly organized as it ought also to be- and that its nominate will meet the immediate and cordial support of every Republican in the District.] – Enquirer.

[AMB]

Tuesday, January 21, 1845 RE41i82plc3

LATER FROM MEXICO

By the arrival last evening of the steam ship New York, Capt. J. T. Wright, 42 hours from Galveston, we are in possession of later intelligence from Mexico. The progress of the revolution seems to be onward, and the star of Santa Anna appears to pale before his victorious foes.

We copy the following interesting particulars from the Galveston News, of the 7th inst.

By the arrival on Saturday last of the sloop H. L. Kinney, Capt. Lewis, direct from Corpus Christi, through the politeness of her commander, we have been furnished with letters from which we have gleaned the following, later and important news, in relation to the movements among the revolutionists.

From the latest official news at Matamoras, from the interior of Mexico, it appears that Gen. Paredes at the head of 8,000 men, marched against Santa Anna, who at that time had under his command 13,000 troops. On the approach of Paredes, Santa Anna immediately retired, great numbers of his soldiers deserting his cause. This retreat extended to the city of Puebla, where he was attacked by Paredes and defeated.
Gen. Santa Anna, who made his escape, was compelled to disguise himself and take conveyance in a common coach of the country. The particulars of this battle are not given, but we presume the victory was achieved by Gen. Paredes at great expense of life, as is usually the case in Mexican warfare.

In Northern Mexico the revolution has been general throughout the country. At the last accounts, Gen. Canales in conjunction with Gen. Arista, were marching at the head of a large force against Gen. Wool, who still held out in favor of centralism.

The revolution broke out in the city of Matamoras on the 19th ult. On the reception of the news in Matamoras, of the success of the Federal party, the citizens opposed to centralism and in favor of Federalism, assembled at the most public places and immediately denounced the Tyrant, and publicly proclaimed for the Federal cause. Great excitement prevailed in the city during the outbreak- Gen. Celia was seized, and imprisoned- the shout for liberty and down with centralism became general in all quarters, until the revolution became triumphant.

In Monterey the same scenes were enacted as in other cities, but of a more sanguinary character. The particulars we have not received, further than an account of the death of Gen. Jose Maria Ortega, Governor of the city of Monterey, who was publicly butchered for his faithful adherence to the cause of Santa Anna.

We are informed, says the same paper of the 7th inst., that on the 27th ult, upwards of fifty horses were stolen from Corpus Christi. It is not known by whom the theft was committed; but an expedition had been fitted out and sent in pursuit, who had not returned at last accounts. We also learn that the Caronkawa Indians have collected a large body and are committing depredations upon the property of the inhabitants surrounding Aransas Fay.

When the H. L. Kinney left, trade was considered at Corpus Christi, brisk. Several Mexicans were in from Mexico, but there was a great scarcity of goods, not an assortment sufficient to meet their demands.

From the seat of Government we received no papers, and the following from the News comprises all the information received:

The steamer Dayton arrived on Monday the 6th inst., but brought no mail from Washington; this is more to be regretted on account of several rumors which have reached us in relation to the movements at the seat of government.

The most important rumor afloat is in reference to Gen. Duff Green, the U. S. Consul at this place, who it is reported, has been harshly treated by the Executive. If so, Uncle Sam will have more difficulties to arrange besides those of a Mexican character.

We know nothing of the particulars thereof and shall calmly wait for further developments.

From what we can glean from private sources, we are led to believe that Dr. Jones is going to renounce Houstonism and come out strong in favor of western measures, provided the west will sustain him. The western people have never asked more than their rights – these have been denied them – protect them from the predatory incursion of Mexicans, and the repeated depredations of Indians – refit the navy and restore her noble commander, and Dr. Jones would soon become the most popular President in Western Texas.

Capt. Jacques of the brig Rover, arrived at Galveston on the 3d inst. From Havana, reported that when he sailed; a rumor had reached that city of the capture and imprisonment of Santa Ana at Vera Cruz.

Tuesday, January 21, 1845 RE41i82p2c3

THE TEXAS QUESTION

We trust that a majority of the House of Delegates will yet be found in favor of the Texas resolutions? As a party, the Whigs in Virginia and in the South have a deep interest in its adjustment. They have more to lose by it than we have. Indeed, they must lose by its suspension. We must gain by it. They lost by it considerably at the last Fall Election, and they will lose more by it in the Spring Elections. It is impossible to exclude it from the canvass, if it still be kept open. It will, indeed, be the prominent issue in the canvass, and will override every other. Every Republican candidate will take it in his hand, and will appeal to the people of Virginia for their support. It is in vain to deny the fact – but many able and honest Whigs are in favor of annexation – and if they do not assist the Republican Party, they can lend but a feeble assistance to their own party on such a question. Let us then unite, and strike it out at once from the party issues of the day. Every one for sees, that if the question be not settled at the present Congress, the question is only adjourned. It must come up again, unless Texas should slam the door directly in our faces. It will continue to mingle in our political struggles – rising every day into more gigantic consequence, so long as any hope exists of its permanent adjustment. We will not abandon the scheme, unless Texas does. But it is obvious, that delay only increases the danger – that Great Britain will multiply her intrigues, present more and more
seductive offers to obtain her independence, and form an advantageous commercial connection with our greatest commercial rival – and that there is a serious danger lest her people should become dissatisfied with our obstinate refusal, and turn to Great Britain for co-operation and succor. In that event, with Texas lost to us, except at a great sacrifice of blood and of treasure, whom will the Southern people hold responsible for its loss? The bolt will fall upon the Whig Party, and it must inevitably strike them down in the South.

[AMB]

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Tuesday, January 21, 1845 RE41i82p2c4

EDITORIAL

Will some member of Congress be kind enough to send us a copy of the map of Texas lately published? We wish to see the boundaries of the territory, &c., &c.

Meantime, we must frankly confess, that Mr. Haywood’s speech, ingenious as it is, has failed to convince us of the propriety of establishing the 34th degree of latitude as the new Compromise line between the slave and non-slaveholding States. The line of the Missouri Compromise was the 36 ½ degree. Even that line, we recollect, was very seriously resisted by many of the Southern people. They contended that such a restriction was contrary to the spirit of the Constitution - which permitted States to come into the Union without any restriction relative to slavery. They contend, too, that the line is unequal – because it allows the non-slaveholding States a much greater scope of territory, extending to the Pacific, and embracing Oregon, than what lays to the South of the line. It was also the established line of Texas at the time when the Florida Treaty was ratified, and when we exchanged that country for Florida. We humbly conceive, therefore, that we have a right to call upon our Northern brethren, if we are to abide by the Missouri Compromise in all future time, to respect its boundaries now when we are attempting to regain the territory which we possessed at the time of the ratified cession. For one, therefore, with all respect to the Senator from North Carolina, we object to his bill, because it relinquishes 2 ½ degrees of latitude which ought to belong to the weakest portion of the Union. We prefer Mr. Foster’s bill to Mr. Haywood’s which preserves the principle of the Missouri Compromise, which takes in Texas as a State without any delay – and which presents the proposition of annexation in a simpler form, and [stripped] of a variety of details which may perplex the judgment, distract the vote, and perhaps defeat the measure.

[AMB]

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Tuesday, January 21, 1845 RE41i82p2c4

EDITORIAL “ANNEXATION – MR. RIVES”

[from the Charlottesville Jeffersonian]

The Richmond Whig thinks that Mr. Rives will still oppose the annexation of Texas; that it is not to be imagined, that he so lightly made up his mind six or eight months ago, as to be prepared to change it. Who doubts if the question was put directly to the people of this Commonwealth, that an overwhelming majority of them would be for immediate annexation? Should not our Senators then vote for what they have every reason to believe the people of Virginia would instruct them to do?

Charlottesville Jeffersonian.

There is great force in the remark of the Jeffersonian. Will the senator carry out the acknowledged will of the people of Virginia? There was a majority of near 6,000, (and if the bona fide voters only had been counted, of at least 8,000, ) Republican voters in favor of Annexation. Will Virginia then, appeal to her Senator in vain? Why does the Whig talk about Mr. Rives changing his mind? He voted against the Treaty, it is true, and now the question will be about admitting a new State into the Union. He does not change his argument at all upon the general question of annexation. That argument still remains as a monument of his talents in favor of the Truth. He ought never to vote against Texas, until he is prepared to answer his own argument.

We cannot yet reconcile ourselves to the idea, that Mr. Rives will vote against the bill. We hope yet, that he will strike one blow for his country. He has complied with the supposed obligations of the letter in which he unfortunately pledged himself to go for H. Clay. He spoke and he voted for that candidate – and the deed is done. The scene has now shifted. Texas comes forward now under different auspices. The voice of party ought to be hushed – that of the country alone should be heard. Will Mr. Rives turn a deaf ear to her demands; and spurn Texas once more from that door, through which he has so irresistibly proved she ought to be admitted into the Union? Far better be in honorable retirement at Castle Hill, than strike such a blow against his own country. But if his retirement should be turned into banishment, by the Whig party, what consolation will soothe an exile which is preceded by a vote fatal to the South, mischievous to Virginia, and injurious to the whole Union? [Enquirer.]
Marine Journal

The article reports the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Port of Richmond, January 20th.

High Water this day at 11 o’clock, P.M.

Arrived

Schr. Whig, Scott, Philadelphia, sundries.

Newport, Jan. 14 – arrived, schr. Candace, Brightman, Fall River, from Richmond.

New York, Jan. 18 – Cleared, schr. Richard Thompson, Carson, Richmond.

Baltimore, Jan. 19 – Cleared, barque R. H. Douglass, Norville, Richmond.

Congressional, Debate on the Annexation of Texas

Speech of Mr. Bayly, of Virginia.

(Concluded.)

The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Winthrop) informs us that a hope is entertained by the Republican party, that the Northern Whigs would exhibit, on this occasion, their anti-slavery feelings to such an excess as to embarrass their Whig friends at the South in the coming elections; and from a remark he made at the opening of his speech, he seemed to think that such was my wish. I assure the honorable member, said Mr. B., that, as far as I am concerned, he is mistaken. But although he told us that such a hope would be disappointed, yet he could not refrain from saying that, upon the ground of slavery alone, he would oppose the admission of Texas now and always. It will remain to be seen whether the tender mercy shown for the Whig friends of the gentleman from the South – which is so great as to cause him at abstain from pressing a leading head of his argument, and the one which is known to constitute the principal objection to annexation with Northern men – will not be as injurious to those friends and allies, as if free vent had been given their anti-slavery feelings; whether the embrace of friendship will not be as fatal as the blows of hostility?

The honorable gentleman informs us, that the South, before the Revolution, remonstrated against slavery being forced upon them by Great Britain, and he expressed his surprise that we should now complain that she should express a desire to see slavery abolished among us. Does not the honorable gentleman know that the very fact he mentions is, in part, the ground of our complaint? When we were colonies of England, and she had an interest in the matter, she forced slavery upon us; but now, when we are no longer so – when we are rival of hers, and she is interested in our downfall – according to her own official declaration, she is constantly exerting herself to destroy the very institution which her cupidity forced upon us. Is it possible that there could be a stronger ground of complaint?

The honorable gentleman is mistaken in supposing, that Great Britain has gone no further than to express a wish “to see” slavery abolished in Texas. In the very despatch from which he quotes, Lord Aberdeen says: “It is well known, both to the United States and the whole world, that Great Britain desires, and the whole world, that Great Britain desires, and is constantly exerting herself to procure, the general abolition of slavery throughout the world; but the means which she has adopted, and will continue to adopt, for this humane and virtuous purpose, are open and undisguised. With regard to Texas, we avow that we wish to see slavery abolished there as elsewhere. But, although we earnestly desire, and feel it our duty to promote such a consummation, we shall not interfere unduly, or with an improper assumption of authority, with either party, in order to ensure the adoption of such a course.” Here is something more than the expression of a wish to see slavery abolished by the Government itself, that it is constantly exerting all of its tremendous power to compass this end.

But gentleman answer, although she is thus exerting herself, she does not mean to interfere unduly and by an improper assumption of authority. Now, sir, the meaning of these words depends upon the character of the person by whom they are used. What one might consider very proper another would think very improper. Paul Clifford,
designated as a sarcastic portrait of a British statesman, drawn by one of themselves, thought it not improper to
rob upon the highway, and doubtless would have assured, with cold impudence, an unfortunate traveller [sic], in the
very act of rifling with him unduly or by an improper assumption of authority. The probability is, the traveller [sic]
would have looked upon his conduct in a very different light. But we are not left to conjecture as to what England will
regard as proper means to effect the end she has in view. She did not consider it an undue means of effecting a
dissolution of this Union, an object which has ever been near her heart as the effectual means of destroying our
prosperity and power, to burn, in a vandal-like spirit, the Capitol of this nation. The heathenish act was not
understood at the accomplished by it, and the motive of it was not understood, until since the war. A publication
made since, by an English officer engaged in the expedition, explains it.

It was vainly hoped, at a moment when there was so much discontent between the different sections of the
country, that, if the Capitol were destroyed, when the proposition was made to rebuild it, a movement would be set
on foot to remove the seat of Government, and that, adding to the discontent already existing, would lead to a
dissolution of the Union. We shall thereafter see that, for the purpose of abolishing the slave-trade, with motives of
aggrandizement similar to those, which actuates her now, she did not hesitate to expend millions of money and cede
away important colonies. She does not consider it as an improper means of effecting her object to invite the
Abolitionists at the North to an agitation of the subject of slavery, with a view of its abolition here; nor in her World’s
Convention, as it was ambitiously called, held in her metropolis, to lay down the plan for their operation. In 1832,
prior to which time there was no agitation upon the subject of slavery in this Hall, no hue and cry about the right of
petition, there was raised in the British Parliament a committee to Mr. Ogden, the American Consul at Liverpool:

“To Mr. OGDEN: If you could suppose that the slaves of Louisiana were generally able to read, and that angry
discussions perpetually took place in Congress on the subject of their liberation, which discussions, by means of
reading, were made known to the slaves of Louisiana, do you think that with safety the state of slavery could endure there?”

The result of the answer to this question was seen in the World’s Convention. The Benefits as they were pleased
to call it, of the agitation of the subject of slavery on this floor, is thus explained:

“The interest which they themselves will take in the discussion. In spite of all precautions, the slaves will become
acquainted with what so deeply interests them; and so far as they do, self-respect will be generated – an excellent
and profitable sentiment for a free laborer, but ruinous to the slave. It was the testimony of the planters of Jamaica
before the British Parliament that their slaves became acquainted with all that passed in respect to them in the
mother country, and were thereby too much excited to [ . . . ] the places of slaves with slavish obedience.”

“The knowledge of the slave that a portion of the white are exerting themselves for his emancipation, upon the
ground that he is illegally held in bondage, will make him, they say impatient in his servitude. It will make him sullen
and moody. It will incite him to indulge dreams of freedom in another land which he can never enjoy in his own. He
will be reduced to a condition in which his master cannot rely upon his labor. He will be disposed to run away, and at
a time when his services can be least spared. – The master will be subjected to constant and heavy expense re-
capturing him. He will thus become to his owner a source of vexation rather than comfort, of trouble and expense
rather than profit.”

Another means which England will not consider as undue to effect her object, is to take advantage of the present
demand of the guaranty of her independence. At this time, when Texas is weak and threatened with invasion by
inhuman barbarians. England does not hesitate to take advantage of this sort of duress to force Texas to consent to
abolish slavery. As proof of this, I refer to a late article which I cut from a late number
before the British Parliament that their slaves became acquainted with all that passed in respect to them in the
mother country, and were thereby too much excited to [ . . . ] the places of slaves with slavish obedience."

“It is possible, that the intelligence of Mr. Polk’s election may suggest a more guarded course to the Mexican
General; but on the other hand, the vehement threats of annexation with which the Democratic party have brought
in their candidate, may induce the Mexicans to strike a blow in the next few months, before the new Government is
installed at Washington.

Under these critical circumstances, it is not unreasonable to contend, that the European powers which have
recognized the independence of Texas, are bound in good policy, as well as in good faith, to demand of Mexico, as
well as of every other Power, that this new State be acknowledged and un molested. If we had a sufficient interest in
this question to recognize Texas at all – if we, in common with other States of Europe, are prepared to resist the
annexation of Texas to the United States as an act of rapine, calculated to deprive us of a useful ally, to perpetuate
slavery, and to create a rival maritime Power in the Gulf of Mexico, it would appear to be no more than just to
maintain the independence of Texas against Mexico itself, and, above all, by a declaration of the principal States of
Europe to terminate this state of uncertainty and menace. Had Texas consented to abolish slavery, all her political
difficulties would long since have been terminated; and, instead of being an object of mingled contempt and desire to
the population of the U. S., she would have placed her whole social condition on a higher and more secure basis than
theirs, and would be prepared to play a conspicuous part in the history of the new world.”

Here it is distinctly enough admitted, that “had Texas consented to abolish slavery,” England would have
guaranteed her independence; for, how otherwise can we understand that that event would have terminated all of
her political difficulties, and placed her social condition on a higher and more secure basis than ours? And the zeal of
England for the abolition of slavery in Texas so great, she is willing to risk to attain it as is shown by her insisting
upon that condition, the loss of “a useful ally,” and the creation in the United States of “a rival maritime power in the
Gulf of Mexico!” The country will judge who probably understands the purposes of the British Government best – the
Whigs of this House, or the English Ministerial press.

But the honorable gentleman’s own argument impliedly admits that the institution of slavery is in danger, from the machinations of the British Government. He assures us, it is true, in the teeth of the fact, as is shown by the agitation of the subject on this floor by Northern men, and by none more than by members from his own State – he assures us, that Northern Statesmen do not desire to interfere with this institution in the States as it is, and that we have nothing to fear from them. If this be the case, and foreign nations let us alone, slavery is secure; for I assure him it is in no danger from ourselves. How, then, will the annexation tend to perpetuate it? It can only be by securing us against Great Britain, the only one of all the foreign nations which is agitating this question.

Having thus shown that England is exerting all her energies to abolish slavery in Texas, and that she will stop at no means to accomplish it, let me ask what is her object? Lord Brongham, one of her leading statesman in the House of Lords answers the question:

“The markets from whence they obtained their supply of slaves were Georgia, the Carolinas and Virginia, which States constantly sent their slave population, which would otherwise be a burden to them, to the Texan market. No doubt it was true, as has been stated, that they treated their slaves tolerably well, because they knew that it was for their interest to rear them, as they had such a profitable market for them in Texas. This made him irresistibly anxious for the abolition of slavery in Texas; for it were abolished there, not only would that country be cultivated by free and white labor, but it would put a stop to the habit of breeding slaves for the Texan market. – The consequence would be, that they would solve this great question in the history of the United States, for it must ultimately end in the abolition of slavery throughout the whole of America.”

And why does England desire the abolition of slavery in the United States? Sir, it is to cripple our prosperity; and the blow is aimed as much at the North as the South; as mush at that portion of the country which is her most formidable rival in commerce and manufactures, as at us, who are profitable consumers of her productions, and her rivals in but little.

If there are any here, who may be deluded by the idea that England is actuated by philanthropic motives, if he will attend for a few moments. I will show him that, so far from that, her purposes are the most selfish and heartless. A short recital of authentic historical facts, will establish this position.

We all know, that for more than two centuries, that African slave trade was carried on by the British nation under the patronage of the Government, and was protected by charters of monopoly and public treaties. Under the Stuart Kings, charters were granted endowed with exclusive privileges for carrying on the African slave trade, and they were sustained by all the power and patronage of the British Government.

At the celebrated treaty of Utrecht, in 1713, by which the Spanish succession war was terminated, the British nation obtained, by what was called the Asiento contract, the exclusive privilege of carrying on the slave trade for thirty years, at the rate of 4,800 slaves yearly; and Lord Brougham said in the House of Commons in 1815, the English nation had obtained “the whole price of the victories of Ramillies and Blenheim, in an additional share of the slave trade” and Mr. C. Grant, in 1818, informed us, that “she higgled at Aix la Chapelle for four years longer of this exclusive trade, and at the treaty of Madrid clung to the last remains of the Asiento contract.”

In consequence of the activity of the marine of England, and her own colonies. Desiring the monopoly of the securing it, and to prevent the supply of labor for the Southern colonies of other nations, she commenced agitation in favor of the abolition of the African slave trade. But it was only the African slave trade. It was necessary that the subject of it should have a black skin and a wholly head to enlist English sympathies. It is notorious, that slave fairs are regularly held in the regencies of Tripoli and Morocco, and they are transported thence up the Levant, where they are again in exposed to sale like cattle in the market. But these people did not come into competition with English colonies in the production of the rest articles of commerce, and of course they do not enjoy her disinterested philanthropy, which had its beginning and end in the profits of trade.

In the abortive attempt at negotiation for peace by Mr. Fox, in 1806, an effort was made to induce France to join in the abolition of the slave trade. The French Minister replied, “that England, with her colonies well stocked with negroes, and affording a large produce, might abolish the trade without inconvenience; but that France, with colonies ill stocked, and deficient in produce, could not abolish it without conceding to England the greatest advantages, and sustaining a proportionable loss.”

Upon the restoration of Louis XVIII to the French throne, (who acknowledged that he owed it to Great Britain,) his gratitude was appealed to abolish the slave trade; and that being ineffectual offers of sums of money and the cession of a West India Island were made but without success; the same answer being given substantially which had been given before. In August, 1815, England restored to the Dutch Government their colonies, excepting the Cape of Good Hope and Dutch Guiana, in consideration of the entire abolition of the slave trade by the latter.

During the negotiation of the treaty concluded at Madrid on the 5th of July, 1814, Great Britain attempted to prevail on Spain to prohibit to her subjects both the general slave trade and their importation into the Spanish colonies, and went so far as to offer to continue the pecuniary subsidies which the deplorable condition of the Spanish financiers made so necessary. But she failed, the Duke of San Carlos remarking that when the trade was abolished by Great Britain the proportion of negroes to the whites in the British colonies was as twenty to one, while in the Spanish colonies there were not more blacks than whites.” And he refused to take a step which “he considered
In January, 1815, Great Britain obtained from Portugal, for pecuniary equivalents, the prohibition to its subjects of the slave trade on the Western coast of Africa, North of the equator. Further than this Portugal would not go.

The island of Guadeloupe, conquered from France, was ceded by Great Britain to the Swedish Crown, upon condition of abolishing the slave trade; and at the treaty of Madrid, of the 22d of September, 1817, she purchased from Spain the immediate abolition of the slave trade North of the equator, and a promise to abolish it altogether, after 1820, for the sum of $400,000.

Up to this time, we had not heard a word about the abolition of slavery. Indeed, as late as 1824, Mr. Canning said in the British Parliament, "that, if he were asked which he would prefer, permanent slavery to immediate emancipation =, the incapacity of the negro to enjoy, from the want of mental and moral cultivation, the sweets of liberty; and "his duty to guard the interests of those who, by no fault of their own – by inheritance – by accident =, by encouragement of repeated acts of the legislature, find their property invested in a concern exposed to innumerable hazards and difficulties which do not belong to property of another character = such as, if they had their option, as their ancestors had, they doubtless would have preferred."

But, while these events were transpiring, a great change was taking place in the British empire. There was found in the counting house of the East India Company an obscure boy (afterwards Lord Clive) who turned out on of Britannia's gods of war. By the power of his genius, a small English trading post in India was expanded until it comprehended an empire of one hundred millions of souls.

In the mean time, great changes were going on in England. From being an agricultural produce by the inventions of the power loom and spinning jenny, the improvements in science and the introduction of the steam engine, she was converted into a great manufacturing nation. To sustain her great manufactures, a secure market was necessary for the productions of them. The same causes which had stimulated manufactures in England had also done the same thing in the United States and upon the continent of Europe. Besides, those markets, even if they were open, were not within the exclusive control of Great Britain. This was indispensable, and the desideration was found in India, if her people could be raised up to the condition of consumers. To do this it was only necessary to destroy all her rivals in the productions of the growth of the tropics. These rivals were the United States, the West Indies and Brazil. The staples of each of these countries were cotton, rice, tobacco, sugar and coffee. These were the staples of British India. England had seen the island of San Domingo converted, by the single act of the negro emancipation, from the most flourishing of all the West India Islands into the most unproductive; and the culture of the indigo plant, which was its staple, transplanted to the banks of the Ganges and Barrampooter. And it was at once inferred, that if African slavery could be abolished, British India would possess a monopoly in the production of the plants of the tropics, and her prosperity be established upon a secure basis. – England considered the sacrifice of her West India colonies but a small price for so great a good. The $20,000,000 which was appropriated for the indemnity of the planters amounted to nothing, as scarcely a dollar of it left London, it being received by British mortgages of West India plantations. And an agitation was at once commenced, in the hypocritical name of philanthropy, in favor of the abolition of slavery. And as soon as it was accomplished in the West Indies, the theatre of operations was transferred to this country in the manner I have very briefly noticed. – The fact that philanthropy had nothing to do in the matter is shown, if other proof were wanting, by the emancipation act of the British Parliament itself. By the 44th section of that act, it is declared that "it shall not extend to any of the territory in the possession of the East India Company, or the Islands of Ceylon or St. Helena." And yet this is precisely the country where slavery exists in its most horrid form, and where the British Government is itself the greatest slaveholder in the world, and hires out its slaves for profit.

"GOVERNMENT OF SLAVES IN MALABAR. – We know that there is not a servant of Government in the South of India, who is not intimately acquainted with the alarming fact, that hundreds of hundreds of his fellow-creatures are fettered down for life to the degraded destiny of slavery. We know that these unfortunate beings are not, as in other countries, serfs of the soil, and incapable of being transferred, and the pleasure of their owners, from one estate to another; No; they are daily sold like cattle by one proprietor to another; the husband is separate from the wife, the parent from the child; they are loaded with every indignity; the utmost quantity of labor is exacted from them, and the most meager fare that human nature can possibly subsist on is doled out of them. The slave population is considered without the pale of ordinary castes; and others who have been smuggled in from the coast of Africa, torn from their country and their kindred; and destined to amore wretched lot, and; as will be seen, to a more enduring captivity than their brethren of the Western world. Will it be believed that Government itself participates in this description of property; that it actually holds possession of slaves, and lets them out for hire to the cultivators of the country, the rent of a whole family being two farms, or half a rupee, (about $3.50, the hire of a slave and his whole family) per annum?

"But why dwell on these comparatively free slaves? The whole of Hindoston [sic], with the adjacent possessions, is one magnificent plantation, people by more than one hundred millions of slaves, belonging to a company of gentlemen in England, called the East India Company, whose power is far more unlimited and despotic than that of any Southern planter over his slaves; a power upheld by the sword and bayonet, exacting more and leaving less of the product of their labor to the subject race than is left under our own system, with much less regard to their comfort in sickness and age."

[Asiatic Journal for 1838, p.221.]
As startling as these disclosures are, the whole story is not yet told. England has not only engaged in a hypocrical crusade against slavery at the time she is herself the greatest slaveholder in the world, but she has absolutely made the act of her Parliament for the abolition of the slave trade the means of converting her national navy into slaves, as I shall show. For the following facts I am indebted to an article on the Southern Literary Messenger, written by Lieut. Maury, of the U. States Navy:

“We have the authority of Mr. Barreyer, of he French Chamber, who stated it in a recent speech, that in June of last year, the British Government issued an 'Order in Council' to authorise [sic] the importation into Demarara of one hundred thousand hired negroes from Africa. And, in confirmation of this statement, late arrivals bring us in the 'Semaphore de Marseilles,' the report of the master of the French merchantman who, not four months ago, saw in the river Gambia an English vessel of 500 tons take in a cargo of 500 Africans for the English colonies. – These poor ignorant creatures engage for they know not what, and ship for they know not where. Charmed with a hawk's bell, and dazzles with a string of glass beads, they are enticed away beyond the seas; and the ties which bind them to kindred and to country are as effectually severed, though, perhaps, not as rudely broken, as if they had fallen in the hands of the kidnapper. Being ignorant of their rights in a civilized land, they are liable to the most cruel wrongs; as slaves of the kinner won't have the self-interest to preserve them, his property, from wanton injury; nay more, with the master, who, in his conduct to his slaves, is governed by no higher motive, there are inducements of a pecuniary nature to secure that consideration in the treatment of slaves which will preserve their health so as not to impair their efficiency as laborers. But as bondmen and apprentices, the object of such an one, and there are many such, obedient to the mercenary disposition of man, is to get out of them all he can. What then is the condition of the hired savage during his long and cruel apprenticeship, many times worse than that of the slave? And, when he has cancelled his indenture, wherein is he better off? He has then but just made the last payment for the privilege of being brought over for hire in a ship crowded to suffocation. Our laws will not allow a ship to bring into the country more passengers than two to every five tons of measurement. But the humane 'Orders in Council' can find in a vessel of 500 tons, with more than half her room monopolized by her officers and crew, ample accommodation for five hundred wild Africans who have never known restraint. Tell us not that it is 'man's inhumanity to man' that moves that Government to action.

“To show that the motives which operate with the officers are no better than those ascribed to their Government, we subjoin an extract from a paper published in the last Maryland Colonization Journal. It is from the pen of Dr. Hall, an eminent philanthropist, who has been much on the African coast in connexion [sic] with the business of the Colonization Societies of this country. He tells what he saw:

“The late commandant of the station, Lord George Russell, was most of the time in a state of intoxication, consequently unfit for the transaction of any business; and with such a head it cannot be supposed that the under officers would deport themselves over correctly. The prize money received by the officers and crew, in case of a successful capture, operated as a strong inducement to seize whatever came in their way. The apparent object of all the officers of the squadron under Lord Russell was the making successful and rich captures, rather than suppression of the slave trade. An instance in proof came under our own observation. The commander of a cruiser (either the Forester or the Wanderer,) boarded a small schooner which lay at anchor near our vessel, and afterwards boarded us. He stated that the schooner had enough on board to condemn her, but she was old and would not pay him for taking her to Sierra Leone; he would wait and watch her until she had taken on board her slaves, which would much increase their prize money, and then capture her. She lay off for a day or two for that purpose, but in the night the schooner took on board her slaves, and went to sea. Our brig., the Trafalgar of this port, was boarded by a boat from the Forester, our papers examined, and a permit demanded for having on board oil casks. - We informed him, that our port regulations required no such permit. He disputed, and said, when the Forester came up, the brig. Should be captured and taken to Sierra Leone. It was thought best to leave the cruising ground of the Forester before she came up, and we accordingly put out. A few weeks after, on visiting that section of the coast again we discovered a vessel early in the morning, close in shore, getting under way. She soon made sail, headed for us and fired a gun. There being many vessels in sight, we were not sure the gun was for us, and being within three miles of our anchorage ground, and the light land breeze gradually dying away, thought best to keep under weigh, having hoisted our ensign. The vessel then passed an 18-pound shot directly under our main yard, within a few feet of the man at the helm. We then laid too until the officer boarded us. He again examined our papers, demanded the same permit for the casks which he had before informed him we were not required to obtain. He examined the hold, found one hundred bushels of rice, and declared the brig. a prize, the rice a sufficient evidence of her character as a slaver. The Forester came up, and the commander came on board, examined papers and hold likewise, and a council was held whether or not to declare the whole a prize. We stated to them the abundant evidence before them that we were the owners of the vessel, that we were well known as regular American trader, that we had been in an important public station on the coast to their knowledge, and they well knew from many sources other than the papers of the vessel that she was bonafide [sic] American property and engaged in lawful traffic. The answer was, we well know that; but the only question is, cannot we get her condemned on account of the rice?”

Now, (said Mr. B.) I assert, with a perfect knowledge of the subject upon which I am speaking, that this species of the slave trade, introduced by the English Government, in the form of apprenticeship, is the more profitable to the master, and more galling to the slave, than any which can possibly be imagined. Let us look at the operation of it. It has been seen from the publication made by Dr. Hall, that the English, in carrying on their slave trade, do not purchase the negroes, as other slavers do, but they capture them. Under the English act abolishing the slave trade, $7 is given to the captors for every slave taken. They are taken in and condemned, and then carried to Brazil and the West Indies, and sold as apprentices, for a term of seven years. These poor creatures are taken to a country whose laws they do not understand, and whose language they do not speak, and for a long time will be incapable of learning. Who is to see, during their apprenticeship, that they are treated well, and care taken of them in sickness? The master has no interest in them, but for seven years, and his object will be to get as much out of them as possible, in the mean time, and incur as little expense as possible in taking care of them. And, when the
We are now at the great crisis in this controversy. It is not enough that the Senate is sure to block any
rough or three days. The member of your House of Assembly, and which have occurred to me from observing what has passed here during
subject. My only purpose now is to throw out a few hints which I took the liberty to communicate to a friend, now a
about Texas. All those channels of information are now open to you, and I know you think and write rightly on this

Washington, Jan. 11, 1845.

PLAN TO DEFEND TEXAS, AND TO DIVIDE THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF NEW YORK

The election of two senators of the United States from the State of New York is to take place this day. The
contest among the candidates produces great excitement at Albany. The result is everywhere anticipated with great
anxiety. The fate of Texas materially, perhaps essentially, depends upon the selection.

It is impossible to shut our eyes also to the fact, that the Whigs are busily engaged in an intrigue, to employ
this question to divide the Republicans of New York. The following letter speaks for itself. We extract it from one of
the rankest. Federal papers in the Union – and the reader will see with what anxiety a Coalition is pressed between
the Whigs of the New York Legislature, and a portion of the Democrats, (whom he calls by the cant term of barn
burners,) for the purpose of electing “two Anti-Texas Loco” Senators. The objects of this movement are, 1st, to
defeat Texas in the Senate altogether, by substituting two Anti-Texas Senators instead of two friends of Texas; 2d,
to defeat Texas in the House, by encouraging the trimmers and Doctor Doubters in that body to go against it; and,
3d, and not the least desirable object to the Whigs, is to sow dissension and division in the Republican Party, and
prepare the way for their defeat in New York – and next in the Union, and usher in the thrice defeated, but only
“postponed,” Harry of the West, four years hence. But here is the significant letter – let it speak for itself:

[Correspondence of the New York American.]

“My dear Sir: -- I have seen no occasion thus far this winter to trouble you with any of my excogitations
about Texas. All those channels of information are now open to you, and I know you think and write rightly on this
subject. My only purpose now is to throw out a few hints which I took the liberty to communicate to a friend, now a
member of your House of Assembly, and which have occurred to me from observing what has passed here during
two or three days.

“We are now at the great crisis in this controversy. It is not enough that the Senate is sure to block any
game of annexation that may be played in the House. That they are certain to do. But two things are necessary to
ensure us a permanent triumph.

1st, the defeat of the measure in the present House; and 2d, the election of Young and Barker, or two men of
kindred opinions, for Senators from your State. The first I am most happy to believe will be accomplished; and
perhaps that will be enough. The Locofoco majority in the present House is said to be 65. I may over-estimate the
moral effect of a victory of the right against such a party preponderance as this, but I cannot but believe its effect on
the next Congress as well as on the party in the country will be tremendous,- most especially if the Legislature of
your State shall throw its weight in the manner I have indicated. The conclusion from these suggestions is, that the
Saturday, January 24, 1845

Twenty-Eighth Congressional, Thursday, Jan. 16, 1845, In Senate

THE SENATE

Mr. ALLEN presented resolutions from the General Assembly of Ohio, requesting the Government of the United States to take entire and immediate control over the territory of Oregon, and protesting against the surrender of any portion of that territory, by treaty or otherwise, to any foreign government; also one from the same body, against the annexation of Texas, which were read and ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

The bill for improving the Cumberland road, in the State of Ohio, came up from a third reading, which, on its passage, the yeas and nays being called for, resulted as follows: yeas 25, nay 14.

The bill making compensation to the State of Massachusetts for military services during the last war with Great Britain also passed: yeas 25, nays 18.

The bill for the relief of Joshua Shaw, granting him $25,000 for certain improvements in percussion caps, came up for decision, and was advocated by Messrs. CRITTENDEN and BUCHANANA, and opposed by Messrs. HENDERSON, BAGBY, and TAPPAN.

Mr. BAGBY moved that it be recommitted to the Committee on Patents, with instructions that they report it.

"Is there no such thing as a coalition between the Whigs and Barn Burners, by which two anti-Texas Locos can be chosen? If I were a member of the New York Legislature, it seems to me I would coalesce to elect the ---- himself, if he would go against annexation. The great thing is to cut the party cord which it has been feared would bind this issue to a Locofoco reign. The Locofocos from your State in the House are going to behave well with; at most I understand, some 5 or 6 exceptions – 18 at least are relied on. Will not this state of things here, when it comes to be understood at Albany; encourage the anti-Texans men of the party there, in standing out against the system of caucus dictation? Can it be, that there is any question of State policy that can weigh a feather, with the Whigs, in deterring them from any sort of affiliation for the time being, which may have the effect to throw rightly the weight of New York on this great national issue?

"I am uninstructed in regard to the state of feeling in your State, and these notions may seem very raw to you. Rely on it, however, that the crisis is at hand, and that New York is the great arbiter."

We shall not repeat the statements which are published in the New York Herald, in its letters from Albany. These too speak of intrigues which we cannot believe to exist. These profess to name distinguished men, who are to be open-mouthed in their hostility to the annexation of Texas, &c., &c., &c. We scout all such scandalous reports against some of the Democrats of New York. We will not believe that any of them will engage in any intrigues against Polk, or Texas, or the South. But that the Whigs are engaged in fanning the flame, as far as they are able, we have the evidence in the above letter from one of themselves at Washington, through one of their own accepted organs at New York.

We will not believe either, that the annexation can fall through this Winter by any intrigue or disaffection at Washington. But if it should fail, with a Democratic majority of more than 60 in the House of Representatives, what can the Southern Democrats think of such desertion? We have as much liberality for our brethren, as any man. We have as much confidence in the Northern Democrats, including those of New York, "the natural allies of the South," according to Mr. Jefferson, as any one can have. But if the present Congress should dissolve in empty air, nothing done for the annexation of Texas, nothing done for the modification of the Tariff of '42 we shall look to the future with some fear and suspicion. The South will then be reluctantly called on to ask herself, Is there no efficient union, between the Democrats of the South and the North? Have we nothing to expect from them at the next session? Is it thus that the solemn pledges of the Baltimore Convention are to be rendered naught? Are the grounds on which Mr. Polk was elected to be thus washed away by a halting and hesitating majority in Congress? Have we nothing to expect from the majority of our brethren of the North? Is it possible, that the mandate of a Legislature caucus is to be obeyed? Look at it. Your House has 128 members, I believe. Thirty-five is a majority of the party in caucus. These 35 nominate in caucus two Senators, and by the rule of that body they control the whole 128! Can it be that Silas Wright will permit the Legislature of your State thus to speak on the Texas question, if he has the power to prevent it?

whole matter now rests with New York. On her alone depends the great question of Texas or no Texas. Is it possible, that on a question of this magnitude, the mandate of a Legislature caucus is to be obeyed? Look at it. Your House has 128 members, I believe. Thirty-five is a majority of the party in caucus. These 35 nominate in caucus two Senators, and by the rule of that body they control the whole 128! Can it be that Silas Wright will permit the Legislature of your State thus to speak on the Texas question, if he has the power to prevent it?
back reducing the sum from $25,000 to 10,000.

The question was taken on referring it by ayes and nays, when it was decided in the negative by yeas 20, nays 23.

The question then recurring on its final passage, the both by ayes and nays stood as follows:-ayes 26, nays 16.

A message was received from the President of the United States by his private Secretary, John Tyler Jr., communicating certain information respecting the late treaty with China, and asking Congress for the adoption of such measures as may be calculated to cultivate future friendly relations between that country and the United States.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

The general orders were then taken up, the unfinished business of which was the further consideration of the bill for the establishment of the Smithsonian Institution. The question was, whether the bill, as amended in Committee of the Whole, should be further amended, having been reported back to the Senate, and the committee’s amendments having been confirmed.

Mr. TAPPAN submitted the following amendment; which was read and adopted:

At the end of the 4th section to add.

And all laws for the protection of public property in the city of Washington shall apply to, and be in force for, the protection of the lands, buildings and other property of said institution; and all prosecutions for trespass upon said property and all civil suits on behalf of said institution, shall be prosecuted in the name of the United States in any court having competent jurisdiction of the same.

The bill was then ordered to be engrossed and read a third time.

Other business came up, after which, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. WENTWORTH submitted the following resolution, which was laid upon the table:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War furnish to this House the proceeding and opinion of a court of inquiry convened by direction of the Secretary of War, in March 1841, at Fort Gibson, to investigate the conduct and character of Surgeon P. Maxwell, upon charges and imputations made against him by the Surgeon General in certain official papers, and all the correspondence and papers connected therewith.

Mr. DOUGLASS asked leave, in pursuance of notice given yesterday, to introduce a bill to establish a line of military posts through the territories of Nebraska and Oregon.

At the request of Mr. Adams, the bill was read. It authorizes the President of the United States to cause to be established such military posts in Nebraska and Oregon as shall be necessary to protect the commerce of the United States with New Mexico, and California, and afford protection to emigrants to Oregon from depredation; the troops of the United States to be employed wherever, in the opinion of the President, this can be done with a just regard to their other duties, and in such manner as he shall direct; one hundred thousand dollars are to be applied to accomplish the object of the bill.

It was read a second time, ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

TEXAS AGAIN

Mr. ROBINSON asked leave to introduce a bill providing for the annexation of Texas to the U. States.

Mr. McCONNELL and Mr. PAYNE(as the reporter understood) objected to the reception of the bill.

Mr. DROMGOOLE hoped the bill would be received, and to take the same course as other bills on this subject has taken-viz: to refer it to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

Mr. PRESTON KING moved a suspension of the rules, for the purpose of receiving and referring this bill.

A BILL to provide for the annexation of Texas.

to the United States
Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America as Congress assembled, That so much of Texas as may be embraced in an area not exceeding that of the largest State in the Union, and as shall be described in the Constitution to be adopted as hereinafter provided, shall, on the adoption of a Constitution by the people thereof as a State, be, in accordance with the Constitution of the United States and of the provisions of this act, and on the transmission of such constitution to the President of the United States, on or before the 4th day of July next, be and the same is hereby, upon the proclamation thereof, admitted as one of the States of this Union.

Sec. 2. And be further enacted, That such Constitution shall contain a provision ceding to the United States, the jurisdiction of the residence of the Territory of Texas, in which slavery shall not exist, unless Congress shall hereafter determine by law; and this act of admission shall not be construed to imply any assumption of or intention on the part of the United States to assume now or hereafter the debts or any portion thereof, of Texas, or to impair the right of said State to the soil of the territory so to be ceded, or he right of the State of Texas to determine whether slavery shall or shall not exist in said State.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, Until the next appointment of representatives among the States, the said State of Texas shall be entitled to two Senators and two Representatives in Congress.

Mr. STUART interposed his opposition.

And, according to the 116th rule, in such cases, the question was, "Shall this bill be rejected?"

A conversation ensued between Messrs DROMGOOLE and PAYNE, and the SPEAKER at the termination of which

Mr. GARRET DAVIS inquired whether it would be in order to introduce an amendment for the annexation of the United States to Texas?

The SPEAKER informed the gentlemen that it would not.

A motion was made to lay the bill on the table, but it was subsequently withdrawn.

Mr. DROMGOOLE inquired if the bill be not rejected, would it not be in order to follow up the second reading with a motion to refer the bill to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union?

The SPEAKER responded, that should the bill not be rejected, it would go to a second reading, and a motion would be in order.

The question being on the rejection of the bill.

Mr. HOUSTON expressed his opinion that the bill was wrong in its material provisions and important features.

Mr. PAYNE coincided in the views expressed by his colleague; and he took the occasion to say that he was hot only opposed to this, but to any other similar bill for the annexation of Texas, and hoped that it might be rejected. Nearly every proposition on this subject had for its object an interference with the institutions of the South-the direct abolition of slavery; and for that reason he objected to it. Considering the quarter from which the motion came, he would consider the vote to be taken as a test question.

Mr. SAUNDERS of North Carolina could not so regard it. He was disposed to receive all propositions which may be presented, and refer them with those herefore submitted to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, that consultation might take place on their relative merits.

Mr. DROMGOOLE said, that by voting against the rejection of the bill, he would by no means commit himself to the details of any one of the measures. He would do so, because he wished them all examined, discussed and moulded to such shape as the majority of the friends of annexation should desire.

Mr. STUART admitted that his object in opposing the bill, was to bring the House to vote on the question-and to see who were in favor, not of extending the cause of freedom, but slavery.

Mr. SEYMOUR, in the course of his remarks, although he did not believe that Congress had the power, by legislative action, to acquire foreign territory, said that he was willing that the bill introduced by his colleague should take the usual course, by being referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

Mr. PAYNE made a personal explanation in the regard to an observation which had been applied to him. He said that the bill was designed to demolish the Texas question, and, being friendly to annexation, he opposed the proposition before them, coming as it did from an unfriendly quarter. And he renewed the motion for the previous question (which had been withdrawn several times, to enable gentlemen to address the House.)
Mr. ATKINSON thought that his was rather unkind, for it cut him off from making personal explanation; and he was proceeding with his remarks when

Mr. PAYNE arose, and made an inquiry whether the gentleman had made a speech with required explanation?

Mr. ATKINSON said that he had made no speech, but it was important for him to explain his views for the information of his constituents.

The SPEAKER informed the gentleman that he was not in order, a motion having been made for the previous question.

Mr. ATKINSON asked to be excused from voting. [Several voices, "Now give your reasons."] And he was about to do so, but was prevented by the SPEAKER, who again reminded the gentleman that he could not, for the reason already stated.

The question was taken on seconding the demand for the previous question, but it was not sustained—ayes 71, noes 91.

Mr. ATKINSON now obtained the floor, and said that he was happy to find himself in possession of it by Parliamentary usage, without being indebted for it to the courtesy of any one man—He did not desire to inflict a speech on the House, but merely to set himself right before the people he had the honor to represent, respecting the question now pending.

Mr. A. had not troubled the House on this subject; not because he did not feel as lively an interest in it as those who had spoken, but because he found here that those who were highest one particular, stood the best chance. [A laugh. A voice: “What is the particular?” Increased laughter.] Mr. A. was poor at a scramble, especially at his time of life. He was opposed to this and to all bills and resolutions which declared that Texas should not come into the Union (as he hoped she would do before the present Congress adjourned) perfectly free as to her municipal regulations. He did not desire that when the question of Oregon should be raised here, the question of slavery should be raised also as a bugbear; he was for admitting all new States, with perfect liberty to adopt slavery, or prefer white labor, just as they pleased. He did live in a slaveholding State, but he should not raise the issue here whether slavery was a curse or a blessing: it was enough for him to know, that his people were guilty of no moral turpitude, or of any course which made slavery other than consistent with the happiness of the people; for them he should not argue the question here.

But, while he was opposed to the bill of the gentleman from New York, (Mr. Tobinson) because it proposed to restrict the admission of Texas, he would say to the gentleman from Pennsylvania, (Mr. Stuart) ‘Temo Danas, etdoma ferentes:’ he should not seek or take advice from an enemy; if he took any, it must be from those entertaining the same general views with himself. Now, suppose Mr. A. had been compelled to vote without any remarks in explanation? What might have been said of his course in his own district? If he voted for the rejection, he would be abused for refusing to the mover and friends of this bill the same courtesy which had been extended to her in the like circumstances; and if he voted against it, then he might be considered as in favor of imposing restrictions on Texas on the subject of slavery. Hence it was that he had desired the floor.

He agreed with his colleague (Mr. Dromgoole) in desiring that this proposition should have a fair opportunity of being made as acceptable as possible, and then he could judge whether he would go for or against it. After some remarks on the constitutionality of admitting Texas and other foreign States, he concluded with saying that, if it should turn out that they could not get Texas in without some restrictions, he hoped they would be as few as possible.

The bill was then read a second time and referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

TEXAS AND OREGON

Mr. TILDEN presented the resolutions of the Legislature of Ohio, in opposition to the annexation of Texas, and in favor of the Territory of Oregon; which were referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

TREATY BETWEEN CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES

A message was received from the President of the United States as follows;

To the House of Representatives

I communicate, herewith an abstract of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Chinese empire, concluded at Wang Hiya on the 3rd of July last and ratified by the Senate on the 10th instant; and which having also been ratified by the Emperor of China, now awaits only the exchange of ratifications in China; from which it will be seen that the special mission authorized by Congress for this purpose, has fully succeeded in the
accomplishment, so far, of the great objects for which it was appointed, and in placing our relations with China on a new founding eminently favorable to the commerce and other interests of the United States.

In view of the magnitude and importance of our national concerns, actual and prospective, in China, I submit to the consideration of Congress the expediency of providing for the preservation and cultivation of the subsisting relations of amity between the United States and the Chinese Government, either by means of a permanent Minister or Commissioner, with diplomatic functions as in the case of certain of the Mahomet an States. It appears by one of the extracts annexed, that the establishment of the British Government in China, consists both of Plenipotentiary, and also of paid Consuls for all the five ports on of whom has the title and exercises and functions of Consul General; and France has also a salaried Consul General; and the interests of the some representative in China of a higher class than an ordinary commercial Consulate.

I also submit to the consideration of Congress the expediency of making some special provision by law, for the security of the independent and honorable position, which the treaty of Wang Hiya confers on citizens of the U. States residing or doing business in China. By the twenty first and twenty-fifth articles of the treaty(copies of which are subjoined in [...]) citizens of the U. States in China are wholly exempted as well in criminal as in civil matters from the local jurisdiction of the Chinese Government, and made amenable to the laws and subject to the jurisdiction of the appropriate authorities of the U.S. alone. Some action on the part of Congress seems desirable, in order to give full effect to these important concessions of the Chinese Government.

Washington, January 22, 1845

ANNEXATION OF TEXAS

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union(Mr. Hopkins in the chair) and resumed the consideration of the joint resolutions for the annexation of Texas to the U.S.

Messrs. RATHBUN and POLLOCK spoke in opposition to the measure, and Mr. COBB, in its favor.

Mr. POLLOCK was the last to address the committee. When he concluded-

Mr. HARALSON was successful above many competitors in obtaining the floor; and, it being at a late hour, he moved that the committee rise.

The question was taken, and the vote stood-ayes 25, noes 42; no quorum voting.

Mr. ADAMS demanded that the committee rise and report hat fact to the House, which was accordingly done.

Mr. VINTON moved that the House adjourn.

Mr. D.L. SEYMOUR called for the yeas and nays, which were ordered.

The question was then taken, and decided in the affirmative yeas 46, nays 41, So the House adjourned.

[AMB]

Friday, January 24, 1845 RE41i83p4c6

Texas

Our latest date from New Orleans is Monday, the 13th, on which day the Legislature of Louisiana was to have taken up the Texas resolutions. Every press in the city seems to have its attention directed to the result of its proceedings. "The Tropic" (a decided Whig paper) deprecates any unnecessary discussion – says, that "every man has formed his opinion," and comes out frankly with the declaration, that, "If the people of Louisiana are opposed to annexation, let the legislature say so without further ado, and reject the resolution of Mr. Gayarre; but if, on the contrary, they are, as we believe, in favor of annexation, whenever it can be brought about in a constitutional manner, and without injustice to any one, the sooner it is adopted, the better. It is very clear to our minds, that a large majority of the people are in favor of annexation in some form, provided the measure can be consummated "without dishonor," and we see no reason in any portion of the Legislature thwarting that wish. At all events, let what is to be done be done at once, without useless and unnecessary procrastination. Action, and not speech-making, is what the people want."

This is precisely the case with our own General Assembly – and we respectfully recommend the advice of the "Tropic" to their consideration. If there cannot be the slightest doubt, that "a large majority of the people of Virginia, are in favor of annexation," why does not the House of Delegates declare it openly, frankly and promptly? Why all this idle delay – this "unnecessary procrastination." "Again, we repeat with the Whig Tropic," "Action, and not speech-making, is what the people want."
The “New Orleans Jeffersonian Republican” of Monday morning also calls for immediate action. It proclaims, that “The popular will has been sufficiently expressed. No man can mistake it. An overwhelming majority of the people, without distinction of party, demand from their Representatives an affirmative opinion in favor of immediate Annexation. (Just so in Virginia!) Our Senators in Congress expect it, and we feel satisfied they will act upon the expression of the opinion of the Legislature. (We understand that one, if not both the Senators of Virginia would act upon the instructions of our Legislature.) Such is the sentiment of many distinguished Whig gentlemen, with whom we have conversed. We repeat what we have heretofore urged, that there is no disposition to treat this any longer as a party question. Let both parties equally share the honor of accomplishing a measure essential to the whole Union, but especially to Louisiana. If these resolutions pass, our Senators will respect them, and their change of position will influence other Senators, and Texas will be annexed. But should be the Legislature of Louisiana refuse to act, the responsibility of the defeat of this great measure must rest here.”

In the name of the people, therefore, we call upon the House of Delegates to act, and to act at once. We call upon the Republican members to move the measure without delay – and to call up the resolutions of the Senate. If they are laid upon the table, then originate a new and strong resolution, and put it at once to the lest – who goes for Annexation? Who goes for his own country against Great Britain? Who goes for re-annexing to our Union that extensive and beautiful territory, which was acquired by our illustrious Jefferson as a part of Louisiana – which was unwittingly ceded away to Spain, not Mexico, in 1819 – which H. Clay declared at the time could not be ceded away – which every President and secretary of State, as Mr. Haywood proves, has since attempted to re-acquire – which now offers to throw itself into our arms – which is almost as essential to our military defence and general welfare, as the possession of the mouth of the Mississippi once was – which opens a field for the manufactures and shipping of the North – a market for the iron and other fabrics of the Middle States – and which is intimately connected with our own peculiar institutions, without adding one more slave to the Union, and which gives us simply the same opportunity of removing them from the James River to the Sabine, according to the terms of the Missouri Compromise, as applied to Texas at the period of the ratification of the Treaty of Florida, whilst the immense area from the Mississippi to the Pacific is spread out to the “free States,” to be carved up into as many States as will secure their preponderance in the Government of the Republic? Whilst annexation thus presents so many advantages to every section of our Union, why do we hesitate to admit her into the Union, and spread out so extensive and noble a theatre for the expansion of our free institutions? Why should we pause on this subject? Why should not the Delegates in the General Assembly, be they Delegates or be they Whigs, come forward at once, and proclaim their determination to stand by their country, and instruct our Senators to vote for annexation? We trust in Heaven, that all party spirit may be exercised for once, and that all party distinctions. But if not; it the Whigs will sacrifice their country to faction, why, “let the responsibility of the defeat of the resolutions rest here” – here upon them- and let the people of Virginia know the men to whom they are to be indebted for this enormous sacrifice of their interests.

But, as we trace these rapid remarks upon the paper, the Northern Mail arrives, and brings us the following cheering letters from Washington of Monday night – along with the newspapers, containing the interesting proceedings of that day in the House of Representatives. We congratulate the country on these signs, and trust that all will yet be well. But shall the other States act upon this great subject, and not we? Shall Virginia, the great Southern State, who is so deeply interested in this question, be found wanting in this crisis? Shall her Legislature now flinch, and dodge the question, because the Whigs have happened to carry a majority of the House of Delegates last Spring? – and now 6,000 majority declare in our favor!) – Shall Virginia, who has always been the first to speak out on all great questions, shrink from the office, which courts her responsibility? Shall she yield the palm to others? Shall she, who has hitherto yielded to none in firmness of purpose and integrity of principle, pause now – NOW, when the other States are coming forward to meet the question, with the dignity which suits the occasion? Pride – principle – patriotism – our ancient renown – every consideration of the most solemn and stirring character, alike forbid it!

[AMB]

Friday, January 24, 1845 RE41i83p2c1

Twenty-Eighth Congressional -2nd Ses. Wednesday, Jan. 22. In Senate.

Mr. ALLEN presented resolutions from the General Assembly of Ohio, requesting the Government of the United States to take entire and immediate control over the territory of Oregon, and protesting against the surrender of any portion of that territory, by treaty or otherwise, to any foreign government; also one from the same body, against the annexation of Texas; which were read and ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

The bill for improving the Cumberland road, in the State of Ohio, came up for a third reading, which, on its passage, the yeas and nays being called for, resulted as follows: yeas 25, nays 14.

The bill making compensation to the State of Massachusetts for military services during the last war with Great Britain also passed: yeas 25, nays 18.

The bill for the relief of Joshua Shaw, granting him $25,000 for certain improvements, in percussion caps, came up for decision, and was advocated by Messrs. CRITTENDEN and BUCHANAN, and opposed by Messrs. HENDERSON,
BAGBY and TAPPAN.

Mr. BAGBY moved that it be recommitted to the Committee on Patents, with instructions that they report it back reducing the sum from $25,000 to 10,000.

The question was then taken on referring it by ayes and nays, when it was decided in the negative by yeas 20, nays 23.

The question then recurring on its final passage, the vote by ayes and nays stood follows – ayes 26, nays 16.

A message was received from the President of the United States by his private Secretary, John Tyler Jr., communicating certain information respecting the late treaty with China, and asking Congress for the adoption of such measures as may be calculated to cultivate future friendly relations between that country and the United States.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

The general orders were then taken up the unfinished business of which was the further consideration of the bill for the establishment of the Smithsonian Institution. The question was, whether the bill, as amended in Committee of the Whole should be further amended, having been reported back to the Senate, and the committee’s amendments having been confirmed.

Mr. TAPPAN submitted the following amendment; which was read and adopted:

At the end of the 4th section to add,

And all laws for the protection of public property in the city of Washington shall apply to, and be in force for, the protection of the lands, building and other property of said institution; and all prosecutions for trespass upon said property, and all civil suits on behalf of said institution, shall be prosecuted in the name of the United States in any court having competent jurisdiction of the same.

The Bill was then ordered to be engrossed and read a third time.

Other business came up, after which, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SURGEON P. MAXWELL.

Mr. WENTWORTH submitted the following resolution, which was laid upon the table:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War furnish to this House the proceeding and opinion of a court of inquiry convened by direction of the Secretary of War, in March, 1841, at Fort Gibson, to investigate the conduct and character of Surgeon P. Maxwell, upon charges and imputations made against him by the Surgeon General in certain official papers, and all the correspondence and papers connected therewith.

NEBRASKA AND OREGON.

Mr. DOUGLASS asked leave, in pursuance of notice given yesterday, to introduce a bill to establish a line of military posts through the territories of Nebraska and Oregon.

At the request of Mr. Adams, the bill was read. It authorizes the President of the United States to cause to be established such military posts in Nebraska and Oregon as shall be necessary to protect the commerce of the United States with New Mexico and California, and afford protection to emigrants to Oregon, from depredation; the troops of the United States to be employed wherever, in the opinion of the President, this can be done with a just regard to their other duties, and in such manner as he shall direct; one hundred thousand dollars are to be applied to accomplish the object of the bill.

It was read a second time, ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

TEXAS AGAIN.

Mr. ROBINSON asked leave to introduce a bill providing for the annexation of Texas to the U. States.

Mr. McCONNELL and Mr. PAYNE (as the reporter understood) objected to the reception of the bill.

Mr. DROMGOOLE hoped the bill would be received, and to take the same course as other bills on this subject has taken – viz: to refer it to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.
Mr. PRESTON KING moved a suspension of the rules, for the purpose of receiving and referring this bill.

The bill was read for information, as follows:

A BILL to provide for the annexation of Texas to the United States.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That so much of Texas as may be embraced in an area not exceeding that of the largest State in the Union, and as shall be described in the Constitution to be adopted as hereinafter provided, shall, on the adoption of a Constitution by the people thereof as a State, in accordance with the Constitution of the United States and of the provisions of this act, and on the transmission of such constitution to the President of the United States, on or before the 4th day of July next, be and the same is hereby, upon the proclamation thereof, admitted as one of the States of this Union.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That such Constitution shall contain a provision ceding to the United States, the jurisdiction of the residue of the territory of Texas, in which slavery shall not exist, unless Congress shall hereafter so determine by law; and this act of admission shall not be construed to imply any assumption of or intention of the part of the United States to assume now or hereafter the debts, or any portion thereof, of Texas, or to impair the right of said State to the soil of the territory so to be ceded, for the right of the State of Texas, or to impair the right of said State to the soil of the territory so to be ceded, for the right of the State of Texas to determine whether slavery shall or shall not exist in said State.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, Until the next apportionment representatives among the States, the said State of Texas shall be entitled to two Senators, the said State of Texas shall be entitled to two Senators and two Representatives in Congress.

Mr. STUART interposed his opposition:
And, according to the 116th rule, in such cases, the question was, "Shall this bill be rejected?"

A conversation ensued between Messrs. DROMGOOLE and PAYNE, and the SPEAKER: at the termination of which

Mr. GARRET DAVIS inquired whether it would be in order to introduce an amendment for the annexation of the United States to Texas?

The SPEAKER informed the gentleman that [ . . . ] would not.

A motion was made to lay the bill on the table, but it was subsequently withdrawn.

Mr. DROMGOOLE inquired if the bill be not rejected, would it not be in order to follow up the second reading with a motion to refer the bill to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union?

The Speaker responded, that should the bill not be rejected, it would go to a second reading, and a motion would be in order.

The question being on the rejection of the bill,

Mr. HOUSTON expressed his opinion that the bill was wrong in its material provisions and important features.

Mr. PAYNE coincided in the views expressed by his colleague and he took the occasion to say that he was not only opposed to this, but to any other similar bill for annexation of Texas, and hoped that it might be rejected. Nearly every proposition on this subject had for its object an interference with the institutions of the South – the direct abolition of slavery; and for that reason the objected to it. Considering the quarter from which the motion came, he would consider the vote to be taken as a test question.

Mr. SAUNDERS of North Carolina could not so regard it. He was disposed to receive all propositions which may be presented, and refer them with those heretofore submitted to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, that consultation might take place on their relative merits.

Mr. DROMGOOLE said, that by voting against the rejection of the bill, he would by no means commit himself to the details of any one of the measures. He would do so, because he wished them all examined, discussed and moulded to such shape as the majority of the friends of annexation should desire.

Mr. STUART admitted that his object in opposing the bill, was to bring the House to vote on the question – and to see who were in favor, not of extending the cause of freedom, but slavery.

Mr. SEYMOUR, in the course of his remarks, although he did not believe that Congress had the although he did not believe that Congress had the power, by legislature action, to acquire foreign territory, said that he was willing that the bill introduced by his colleague should take the usual course, by being referred to the Committee of the
Whole on the state of the Union.

Mr. PAYNE made a personal explanation in regard to an observation which had been applied to him. He said that the bill was designed to demolish the Texas question, and being friendly to annexation, he opposed the proposition before them, coming as it did from an unfriendly quarter. And he renewed the motion for the previous question, (which had been withdrawn several times, to enable gentlemen to address the House.)

Mr. ATKINSON thought that this was rather unkind for it cut him off from making a personal explanation; and he was proceeding with his remarks, when

Mr. PAYNE arose, and made an inquiry, whether the gentleman had made a speech which required explanation?

Mr. ATKINSON said that he had made no speech, but it was important for him to explain his views for the information of his constituents.

The SPEAKER informed the gentleman that he was not in order, a motion having been made for the previous question.

Mr. ATKINSON asked to be excused from voting. [Several voices, "Now give your reasons."] And he was about to do so, but was prevented by

The SPEAKER, who again reminded the gentleman that he could not for the reason already stated.

The question was taken on seconding the demand for the previous question, but it was not sustain – ayes 71, noes 91.

Mr. ATKINSON now obtained the floor, and said that he was happy to find himself in possession of it by Parliamentary usage, without being indebted for it to the courtesy of any one man. – He did not desire to inflict a speech on the House, but merely to set himself right before the people he had the honor to represent, respecting the question now pending.

Mr. A. had not troubled the House on this subject not because he did not feel as lively an interest in it as those who had spoken, but because he found here that those who were lightest in one particular, stood the best chance. [A laugh. A voice: "What is the particular?" Increased laughter.] Mr. A. was poor at a scramble, especially at his time of life. He was opposed to this, and to all bills and resolutions which declared that Texas should not come into the Union (as he hoped she would do before the present Congress adjourned) perfectly free as to her municipal regulations. He did not desire that when the question of Oregon should be raised here the question of slavery should be raised also as a bugbear; he was for admitting all new States, with perfect liberty to adopt slavery, or prefer white labor, just as the pleased. He did live in a slaveholding State, but he should not raise the issue here whether slavery was a curse or a blessing; it was enough for him to know that his people were guilty of no moral turpitude, or of any course which made slavery other than consistent with the happiness of the people; for them he should not argue the question here.

But, while he was opposed to the bill of the gentleman from New York, (Mr. Robinson) because, it proposed to restrict the admission of Texas, he would sat to the gentleman from Pennsylvania, (Mr. Stuart) Times Danaus, et dona fetentes [ . . . ] he should not seek or take advice from an enemy, if he took any, it must be from those entertaining the same general views with himself. Now, suppose Mr. A. had been compelled to vote without any remarks in explanation? What might have been said of his course in his own district? If he voted for the rejection he would be abused for refusing to the mover and friends of this bill the same courtesy which had been extended to others in the like circumstances; and if he voted against it, then he might be considered as in favor of imposing restrictions on Texas on the subject of slavery. Hence it was that he had desired the floor.

He agreed with his colleague (Mr. Dromgoole) in desiring that this proposition should have a fair opportunity of being made as acceptable as possible, and then he could judge whether he would go for or against it. After some remarks on the constitutionality of admitting Texas and other foreign States, he concluded with saying that, if it should turn out that they could no get Texas in without some restrictions, he hoped they would be as few as possible.

The bill was then read a second time and referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

TEXAS AND OREGON.

Mr. TILDEN presented the resolutions of the Legislature of Ohio, in opposition to the annexation of Texas, and in favor of the Territory of Oregon; which were referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

TREATY BETWEEN CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES.

A message was received from the President of the United States as follows,
To the House of Representatives:

I communicate, herewith, an abstract of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Chinese Empire, concluded at Wang Hiya on the 3d of July last, and ratified by the Senate on the 10th instant; and which having also been ratified by the Emperor of China, now awaits, only the exchange of ratifications in China; from which it will be seen that the special mission authorized by Congress for this purpose, has fully succeeded in the accomplishment, so far, of the great objects for which it was appointed, and in placing our relations with China on a new footing eminently favorable to the commerce and other interests of the United States.

In view of the magnitude and importance of our national concerns, actual and prospective, in China, I submit to the consideration of Congress the expediency of providing for the preservation and cultivation of the subsisting relations of amity between the United States and the Chinese Government, either by means of a permanent Minister or commissioner, with diplomatic functions as in the case of certain of the Mahometan States. It appears by one of the extracts annexed, that the establishment of the British Government in China, consists both of a Plenipotentiary, and also a paid Consuls for all the five ports one of which has the title and exercises the functions of Consul General; and France has also a salaried Consul General; and the interests of the United States, seem, in like manner, to call for some representative in China of a higher class than an ordinary commercial Consulate.

I also submit to the consideration of Congress, the expediency of making some special provision by law, for the security of the independent and honorable position, which the treaty of Wang-hiya confers on citizens of the U. States residing or doing business in China. By the twenty first and twenty-fifth articles of the treaty (copies of which are subjoined in extenso) citizens of the U. States in China are wholly exempted as well in criminal as in civil matters from the local jurisdiction of the Chinese Government, and made amenable to the laws and subject to the jurisdiction of the appropriate authorities of the U. S. alone. Some action on the part of Congress seems desirable, in order to give full effect to see important concessions of the Chinese Government.

JOHN TYLER.

ANNEXATION OF TEXAS.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. Hopkins in the chair,) and, resumed the consideration of the joint resolutions for the annexation of Texas to the U.S.

Messrs. RATHBUN and POLLOCK spoke in opposition to the measure, and Mr. COBB in its favor.

Mr. POLLOCK was the last to address the committee. When he concluded –

Mr. HARALSON was successful above many competitors in obtaining the floor; and, it being at a late hour, he moved that the committee rise.

The question was taken, and the vote stood – ayes 25, noes 42; no quorum voting,

Mr. ADAMS demanded that the committee rise and report that fact to the House; which was accordingly done.

Mr. VINTON moved that the House adjourn.

Mr. D. L. SEYMOUR called for the yeas and nays, which were ordered. The question was then taken and decided in the affirmative, yeas 46, nays 44. So

The House adjourned.

[AMB]

Friday, January 24, 1845 RE41i83p2c3

Yesterday's Proceedings on Texas

Yesterday's vote in the House of Delegates was a close one. The resolutions on Texas were laid on the table by a majority of three only-This is no test of the final decision of the House. For some of the members said they wanted time for examination. Some declared that they would take them up before the end of the session. For our own part, we cannot see why they should be delayed one moment. To get some light [...] Washington, as our friends Strother says. Mr. Bowden truly replied, that it was our duty to send light to Washington, and communicate our wishes to the Senators of Virginia. How long would Mr. Strother delay action? The bill may be acted on at Washington before we can speak at all-and then the Whigs will say, [...] speak at all? Then, let us speak now-act NOW. Now is the accepted time-now is the only time to speak out if we wish to instruct our agents about the wishes of Virginia.
Two other Whigs took a still more extraordinary position—one, that he was opposed to instructing our Senators on Federal questions—the other made a still more sweeping declaration, that the House had no right to meddle with Federal politics. These are strange doctrines. It is contrary to the whole practice of Virginia, as well as to the course of many of the States on this very question. It conflicts, too, with the true theory of the rights of the State Legislatures. “The Federalist” holds, that “the State Governments may be regarded as constituent and essential parts of the Federal Government,” and even maintains that, in some case, the State Legislature may not only be the voice of the people, but “the arm of the public discontent.” When a question of transcendant importance to the whole Union, and especially to the South, comes up, the State Legislatures are bound to speak. On this very question, Massachusetts and Connecticut have spoken. They threaten dissolution, if the Federal Government acts in behalf of great national interests. Their resolutions are before the House. The Governor has placed them there officially. The Legislature is bound to notice their contents and to repel their threats.

We are happy to see the friends of this great question yesterday voting to take up the Resolutions in order to act upon them. We cannot doubt that the House will yet act upon them, and pass them. If they do not, the friends of Texas and the Resolutions must appeal to the People.

[AMB]

Friday, January 24, 1845 RE41i83p2c5

Letter to the Editor, Washington City, Jan. 20, 1845

The Senate were engaged to-day in the transaction of business uninteresting to your readers. In the House, ere the Texas question was taken up in Committee, Mr. Douglass of Illinois introduced his bill to establish military posts in Nebraska and Oregon. It directs the President to cause to be established such military posts as shall be necessary to protect our commerce with New Mexico and California, and the trade and immigration to Oregon. It further provides for the appropriation of $100,000 for the object, the work to be done by the United States soldiers, as in other cases.

Mr. Robinson of New York next introduced a series of resolutions relative to there-annexation of Texas. They provide, that she shall be admitted as a slave-holding or non-slave-holding State, as the inhabitants thereof may choose with prescribed limits, (not to exceed the State of New York in dimensions) that her public domain shall remain her own property, as a fund for paying her debts—that the rest of the territory shall be divided into States, of convenient size; and admitted into the Union, with or without slaves, as Congress may determine, whenever they shall have the requisite population to entitle them to admission.

The reception and reference of these resolutions were immediately objected to by Mr. A. Stewart, of Pennsylvania, and other ultra Federalists, avowedly with the purpose of distracting the friends of the measure, on the one hand; and on the other by Mr. Payne of Alabama, and other of our friends, who felt indignant, that a proposition so utterly inadmissible should originate with any portion of Democratic party. It created great confusing, and an hour’s debate-in which Messrs. Stewart of Pennsylvania, Payne of Alabama, Saunders of North Carolina, Garret Davis of Kentucky, Dromgoole of Virginia, Hopkins of Virginia, and Atkinson of Virginia took part. Finally upon Mr. Dromgoole’s suggestion—that though so exceedingly objectionable, no true friend of re-annexation could vote for it, yet it was no less the duty of the House to treat it with the respect accorded to all other propositions on the subject, by a reference to the Committee of the Whole. It was referred by a vote of 119 to 63. By reference to the list of yeas and nays on the question, you will perceive that it was no test vote—some of the friends and opponents of the annexation voting on either side.

Immediately on deciding this question, the House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, and Mr. Rathbun spoke his hour in steady opposition to Texas. He devoted the greater part of his time to an attempt to prove it unconstitutional to acquire Texas in any other manner than by treaty; yet, singularly enough, expressed his perfect readiness to swallow his long array of constitutional objections, provided Mr. Robinson’s project, which goes to divide the territory into one slaveholding and four or five non-slaveholding States, be accepted. In the course of his remarks, he stepped, as it appeared to me, rather out of his way, to administer you a rap or two over the knuckles, for the manner in which you have commented on the position and prospects of those Democratic members who refuse to sustain the party on the question. Nothing but the peculiar turn of the gentleman’s mind could have induced him to torture your comments into a threat about spoils, &c., as he did. His speech was a queer one, and will be read, as though the gentleman regarded the patronage to be distributed by Mr. Polk as the end and aim of the Democratic party in the contest.

Mr. Rathbun was followed by Mr. Cobb of Georgia, in favor of re-annexation; and the later, by Mr. Pollock of Pennsylvania, against it.

Yours, &c.

[AMB]
Letter to the Editor, Washington City, Jan. 18, 1845

Dear Sirs: "One more blow for Texas in the Enquirer," say its friends, and with your good leave, and with all my heart, one more blow say I; but God bless the Whigs! A heap of their rubbish so cumbereth my way, that I fear it will take days of initiative toil, before I can lay the main subject bear to the axe's edge. - Without farther ceremony, then, I shall at once grapple with two of the most notable bugbears of the Federalists, with which they essay to enlist men's sympathies or arouse their alarm at every angle of the debate now in progress in the House of Representatives. Be their removal, therefore, my task for to-day - They are, the one, Mr. Jefferson's opinions upon the constitutional power to acquire foreign territory - the other, whether the "consent of Mexico" be needed as a condition of annexation.

1. The Federalists in the present debate seem to deem it quite a poser, and altogether the thing, in this debate, to confront the Democracy with the private doubts of Mr. Jefferson upon the constitutional power of acquiring Louisiana. It is altogether refreshing, I own, to find in these our days the very "kith and kin" of those who reviled Mr. Jefferson through life for his imputed errors of judgment upon notable points of constitutional law, now opposing the weight of his single name, against the mightiest mass of authority, that ever was arrayed in support of any one controverted point in the Constitution. - Whatever may be the motive of this distinguished compliment, of this just mortem praise, I acknowledge at once, that there is none among the living or the dead, whose single authority, when he was possessed of all the opportunities to guide him to right judgment, is entitled to more weight than that of Mr. Jefferson.

2. In the present case, however, there are several things to be said: 1st. We have Mr. Jefferson's act of acquisition, standing out in opposition to his private doubts about his authority to make it. 2d. We have his example of acquiring territory, to justify its acquisition subsequently, in a similar emergency. 3d. Mr. Jefferson was never so persuaded of his want of authority, as to give his doubts the form of official notice, and recommending to Congress to take initiative measures for amending the Constitution and conferring the power. 4th. Mr. Jefferson's absence as Minister to France, from 1785 until 1789 [when he was recalled by President Washington to preside over the Department of State,] deprived him of all that personal, practical knowledge of circumstances precedent, attendant upon, and subsequent to, the adoption of important clauses of the Constitution - so useful as a help to just judgment, and which the general knowledge, which usually survives interesting events, but rarely and then very imperfectly supplies. 5th. There is no trace of any proofs, that Mr. Jefferson's scruples about the constitutional power, out-lived the year 1803 - his last letter mentioning the subject being that to W.C. Nicholas, (dated 17th September, 1803) - and it surely is not too strained an inference to conclude, that those discussions which wrought so through a conviction upon the national mind in admiration of the power of acquisition, was not without its effect upon the mind of great author who originated that measure. And 6th and lastly: Mr. Jefferson had not seen that graphic and secret conviction upon the national mind in admiration of the power of acquisition, was not without its effect upon the mind of great author who originated that measure. And 6th and lastly: Mr. Jefferson had not seen that graphic and secret history of the clause in relation to the admission of "New States" - so luminously set forth in the pages of the Madison Papers, and so plenary of the proofs of the purpose to confer the power in question, that one would think that even skepticism itself might be proselytized by that alone. That Mr. Jefferson knew of the existence of Mr. Madison's "Notes of the Debates of the Convention." I am aware, for he mentions them in one of his letters to Mr. John Adams; but, then, we know that Mr. Madison was so scrupulously nice of observance of his original purpose of never revealing those Debates to any one, (taken in Convention, while all its members were under injunctions of secrecy,) during his life-time, that we can hardly believe that Mr. Jefferson ever saw the MS., for, even in his great speech against the constitutionality of a Bank of the United States, during the administration of General Washington, he refrained altogether from a reference to his own racy sketch of the debates upon the subject, and purported to give mere traces of a recollection he had, that application had been made for such a power, and had been rejected by the Convention. So much for Mr. Jefferson's opinions. The full answer to his early objections belongs to another stage of the discussion, under my arrangement of the topics.

Let us now then proceed to the other bugbear of the Federalists.

2nd. Croakers there are yet remaining in the House, who, with their Crocodile lamentations, and in histrionic seeming, bewail this projected junction of these nations, without our first procuring the "consent of Mexico." But since the flood of light, which investigation in the course of the last 12 months has cast upon the nature of the connection and relations between Mexico and Texas, these objections are now urged but by few. "Consent of Mexico" indeed! Why, since the facts have been fully elicited, we all see, that Mexico has no more to do with it, and has no more right to be consulted, than has the Kingdom of Brazil, the Republic of Venezuela, or any other of the revolutionized Spanish-American Colonies. That the negotiations with Mexico for the acquisition of Texas, originating with Mr. Adams' administration, and followed up through that and the succeeding administration of Gen. Jackson, took their rise in true patriotism, and without a purpose or an expectation of giving umbrage to any other nation, cannot be doubted; but I do implicitly believe that the fact, that both administrations should have opened negotiations with a power who had never acquired the least title to Texas, will be regarded hereafter [ . . . ] one of the most remarkable events chronicled in the archives of diplomacy. In making this statement, so sure am I of my facts, and of their potency to silence, for aye, all this senseless jargon and factitious clam or about "national honor" and the "faith of treaties," that I have been tempted to marshal and epitomize them now; and so, without more ado, here they are:

1. In all time, Mexico and Texas were never under the dominion of the same European Government, for more than thirty-eight years. The Government referred to, was Old Spain - but she acquired those provinces or colonies by very different titles, to wit: Mexico by discovery and conquest - and Texas from France, by the Secret Treaty of
Fontainebleau, on the 3rd of November, 1762. So distinctive were the limits of each, both before and after that treaty, that they preserved throughout the last century those descriptive designations which pointed to the sources of their original titles – the one being called a part of New Spain, the other of New France. Spain sundered her joint dominion of them, by ceding Texas as part of Louisiana, (or New France,) to France, in 1800 – nor have they ever been united since, except by a Federation which I shall presently refer to.

2. Some date the Revolution of Mexico as far as 1810. Little was done, however, in the way of accomplishment, earlier than 1816 - when [the rest is illegible].

U.S. Senators [from the Albany Argus of Monday.]

On Saturday, pursuant to concurrent resolution, the Legislature of this State, in their respective branches and finally in joint Convention, appointed John A. Dix of the city of Albany and Daniel S. Dickinson of the county of Broome, U.S. Senators, to supply the vacancies occasioned by the resignations of Silas Wright and Nathaniel P. Tallmadge.

Gen. Dix is an able and clear-headed politician, and an accomplished and estimable citizen. He has been long known to the Democracy of the State, and has held various and high offices under the State government, the duties of which he has discharged with equal ability and approval. He takes the place filled so long and with such eminent distinction by Gov. Wright, and temporarily by one so well fitted for it, by high abilities and legislative experience, as Mr. Foster.

Lieutenant Governor Dickinson is not less, no less favorably known to the Democracy than his colleague. In his Senatorial character, as a Representative of the Sixth Senate District, and in the discharge of the duties of the second office under the State Government, he obtained a deserving eminence as an able Legislator, a courteous and impartial presiding officer, and as an inflexible and ready champion of the Democratic interests. Springing from the people, his sympathies and feelings are with the masses, and they have nowhere a truer friend or a more efficient advocate. As a leading member in the Baltimore Convention, he performed his duty to his State and its candidate with approved fidelity and effective zeal; and as a State Elector, he was not less prominent in the discharge of his duty to the Democracy of the Union. Indeed, in all the labors of the recent great campaign, he as well as Messrs. Foster and Dix, was among the foremost in valuable service.

Upon all the questions of national and public importance, which divide the Democracy from the Federalism of the day, the views of both are no doubt identical. Mr. Dickinson’s views of Annexation are before the public, and are explicitly in favor of the measure, and in accordance with those of the President Elect. The distinctive opinions of General Dix upon this question, have not as yet, we believe, been publicly avowed.-[Albany Argus]

(We understand, through a letter from a distinguished and respected source in New York, that Mr. Dix goes for Texas-[Enquirer].

Editorial

The Washington Correspondent of the Baltimore American notices Col. Benton’s remarks in the Senate on Monday-and says that he “disappointed all who heard it, on account of its brevity.” We confess, too, we are agreeably disappointed, by the tone of them-if we may trust the sketches in the National Intelligencer and Madisonian.-They are calm, unimpassioned, conciliatory –what they ought to have been. We regard them too as decided in their character-going for annexation, in a spirit of compromise, which must ensure it success in the Senate-not “carefully non-committal,”(as the Baltimore Correspondent intimates,) though they may “prove much more perplexing to his enemies than his friends.”-This, of course, is no objection to us-and we say once for all, that, though we did not approve Col. B.’s bill, nor the character of his speeches, yet, if he will carry out he calm and compromising spirit of his last Monday’s speech, and assist to secure us Texas, we will be the first to honor him.

[AMB]
Texas as a State of the Union

*Be it Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Congress doth consent that the Territory rightfully included within the limits of Texas be erected into a new State, to be called the State of Texas, with a Republican form of Government, to be adopted by the people of Texas, with the consent of the existing Government, upon the following conditions and guaranties, which, when adopted as aforesaid, shall be obligatory as well upon the people of Texas as upon the United States.*

*First.* That said State be formed, subject to the adjustment by the Government of the United States of all questions of boundary that may arise with other Governments.

*Second.* That the Constitution of said State of Texas, with the proper evidence of its adoption by the people thereof, be transmitted to the President of the United States, that the same may be laid before Congress at its next session.

*Third.* That Texas shall retain her public lands and other public property, and remain, as at present, responsible for her debts.

*Fourth.* That it, hereafter, with the consent of the Legislature of the State now proposed to be admitted, new States be formed within the jurisdiction of said State, said new States shall not exceed three in number, in addition to the said State; and such new States shall be admitted into the Union with or without the institution of slavery, as the people, in each one of said States respectively may, at the time of their application to Congress for admission determine.

Mr. DANIEL made a constitutional argument in favor of the power of Congress to annex.

Mr. STONE of Ohio, made a speech in favor of free trade and in strenuous opposition to a protective Tariff, which he considered as the root of all the opposition to Texas annexation.

Mr. MORSE of Maine, spoke in opposition both to the power and the expediency, and replied to several assaults which had been made on the character of New England.

Mr. ELLIS read a very finished speech on the policy of annexation generally, which he advocated with great warmth.

Mr. NORRIS next took the floor, and made a speech in favor of annexation. Mr. N. having concluded, the floor was assigned to

Mr. STEPHENS, but not being prepared to go on at this late hour, (half-past 7 o’clock.) A motion was made that the committee rise – which the Committee refused to do.

Mr. STEPHENS then yielded the floor, as he was unable to make his speech to-night.

Mr. DARRAGH obtained the floor, and spoke until 20 minutes past eight in opposition to annexation. When he concluded and took his seat,

Mr. STEPHENS again took the floor.

A motion was made that the committee rise; on this question a quorum did not vote. Whereupon

The committee rose and reported that fact.

And the House adjourned until to-morrow at 11 o’clock.

[Our own excellent correspondent gives us a sketch of Gen. Dromgoole’s argument, which will be found very clear and interesting.]
redeemed by generosity, and the kindness, hitherto withheld be paid with usury.

“There is nothing, in our opinion, to object to in the proposal voted by the House to-day, except that it is come back on the United States, asking the redemption of the pledge in the treaty under which the country was first faith, proclaimed their freedom, and, having maintained their independence against both Spain and Mexico, now into the Union to the despotism of Spain. But the people of Texas instantly put in a protest against this breach of treaty of 1819 was an abortion. It ceded the country and the people we were bound by solemn covenants to bring along and will secure for it a much higher sanction than that of diplomats and executives—the sanction of the disadvantage which resulted from this twice-condemned course of management, the force of the question has borne the policy which they held in their own hand. Rejection was its fate at the last session and at this; but in spite of the motives and its fate from the management, of those who were supposed to have personal views associated with looked own pretty sectional attempts to destroy the fraternal ties that hold it together as a nation. The spasmodic affections which may sometimes seize upon a particular State, will no more disturb the great body politic than the interests staked on the inviolability of its peace and security and the greater the mess of influence embodied to additional strength to the will of the existing confederacy to sustain. And it is thus that the expansion of the Union agitation, and establishes peace and good will between the different sections of our Union o firmly to be shaken by admission of Texas into the Union, is a preliminary step of vast importance to the Union. It is an extinguisher of the State, that a storm will not gather around their heads to sweep them into the retirement, which an enlightened people will pronounce to be their just reward? But we forbear for the present. The general results of this measure are forcibly explained in the following article from the Saturday’s Globe.-Yet we are almost tempted to strike out the second paragraph of the article. We regret that our friend of the Globe had not himself stricken it out of his brilliant article. We cannot sympathize with the positions which it takes. Our soul is too full of joy to indulge in censure or rebuke upon any one. But, called up, as we feel ourselves, by the republication of this paragraph, we feel bound to express our thanks to John Tyler, for the vigorous efforts he has made to secure the great object which he has so anxiously sought. His setting sun is about to sink beneath the horizon, amid the brightness which such a measure is calculated to she around it:

"Vote Reannexing Texas as a State-The vote in the House of Representatives to-day, providing for the re-admission of Texas into the Union, is a preliminary step of vast importance to the Union. It is an extinguisher of agitation, and establishes peace and good will between the different sections of our Union o firmly to be shaken by religious fanaticism or political phrenzy [sic]. It is the potent voice of the people calling in a new people to give additional strength to the will of the existing confederacy to sustain. And it is thus that the expansion of the Union will ever contribute to its power and perpetuity. The greater the number of States embraced in it, the greater will be interests staked on the inviolability of its peace and security and the greater the mess of influence embodied to sound our own pretty sectional attempts to destroy the fraternal ties that hold it together as a nation. The spasmodic affections which may sometimes seize upon a particular State, will no more disturb the great body politic than the turbulence of a little nil, swollen by a sudden gust, the great ocean into whose bosom it falls.

"The joint resolution which passed, is the legislative action which we suggested in the first article we wrote upon the subject of Texas before the Treaty was submitted to the Senate. If this measure had been carried at the last session of Congress, Texas would have been prepared at this time to enter the Union with Iowa. Mr. Walker, on of the most zealous and efficient advocates of re-annexation, urged the propriety of making it the work of the open and entire legislative councils of the country, instead of a hugger-mugger executive act, taking its complexion, from the motives and its fate from the management, of those who were supposed to have personal views associated with the policy which they held in their own hand. Rejection was its fate at the last session and at this; but in spite of the disadvantage which resulted from this twice-condemned course of management, the force of the question has borne it along and will secure for it a much higher sanction than that of diplomats and executives—the sanction of the people and their Representatives, the States and their delegations in the Senate of the United States. Texas will have something more than the faith of executive promises to rely upon. It will have the act of a representative body; which can grind the power of the Government and all its constituents to make it good.

"The act authorizes Texas to come in as a State, and this realizes at once the stipulations of the treaty of 1803, which bound the United States by France to perform this very act. The resolution of this day is, in fact, nothing more than the execution of Mr. Jefferson’s treaty, by which the territory of Texas was acquired. Mr. Adams’s treaty of 1819 was an abortion. It ceded the country and the people we were bound by solemn covenants to bring into the Union to the despotism of Spain. But the people of Texas instantly put in a protest against this breach of faith, proclaimed their freedom, and, having maintained their independence against both Spain and Mexico, now come back on the United States, asking the redemption of the pledge in the treaty under which the country was first settled by our citizens when all the world must admit the abrogation of the treaty through which intriguing diplomacy sought to exonerate the nation from its honest obligations, revives them in full force.

"There is nothing, in our opinion, to object to in the proposal voted by the House to-day, except that it is loaded with conditions which may form an obstacle to the acceptance of the overture by Texas. But this can, and we trust will be obviated by future legislation. If Texas come prepared to enter the Union, the next Congress will be just, and more than just to her. Wronged at first by a heartless repudiation, she will find that the injustice will be redeemed by generosity, and the kindness, hitherto withheld be paid with usury.
"The vote on the resolution carried to-day does not show the strength of the question of re-annexation. There is, we have no doubt, a majority of fifty in the House in favor of restoring Texas to the Union. Many members thought that the territory ought to be equally divided to provide for the introduction of two slave and two no-slaveholding States. This, we have little doubt, will be the effect of the act as it passed. -More than half the country is mountainous, or at least elevated, cold, and of a pastoral character. -If this country is ever to be settled, it must be by a white population exclusively. It will be the interest of the earlier admitted State to make it so; and it is left to the election of the States which hare to grow up in this high grain growing and grazing region to decide, on presenting themselves for admission, whether they will prohibit slavery or not. As this will be in the choice of the majority, who can doubt as to the result? -North of latitude 36 degrees 30 minutes slavery is absolutely prohibited.

"Upon the whole, we congratulate the Democracy on the vote of the popular branch of Congress. It is auspicious to the peace, prosperity and happiness of the whole continent."

To the Editors of the Enquirer, Washington City, Jan. 24, 1845

Dear Sirs: On yesterday my attention was called to the speech of Mr. Kennedy of Maryland in the Intelligencer, which I had not read before, and finding that he too has striven to cumber our journey's way, and clog our progress with some apt and ingenious sophistries, all manliness prompts that I should cast them out of our path if I can, rather than to make a fresh path among them, and thus increase the length of travel for those, who may come after us. His most imposing objection, relates to the qualification of terms of nine and seven years of American citizenship, prescribed by the Constitution for the Senators and Representatives in Congress &c. But I shall let Mr. Kennedy state his objection in his own way, and keep my skirts clear of all imputation of robbing the objection of one atom of its strength, if it has any, by any dexterous abbreviations of mine. He thus puts forth his objection:

"The Constitution requires of every member of the House of Representatives, that he shall have been seven years a citizen of the United States, and of every Senator to have been nine years a citizen. It is manifest, that these conditions cannot exist amongst the inhabitants of a Foreign State. Every citizen of Texas is at this moment a foreigner to the United States, even although he may have recently emigrated from this country. We avow the right of expatriation. Our citizens lose their citizenship when they change their allegiance. This is one of our cardinal principles. Now, it is true, that an act of Congress may convert the inhabitants of Texas into citizens of the United States, but it cannot make them citizens of seven and nine years standing. In contemplations of law, there can be no persons in Texas having these qualifications, &c. The deduction from this is, that Congress cannot make a new State from a foreign nation, without first acquiring the territory of the foreign nation, and holding it long enough for its citizens to become endowed with the requisites to make them a State-that is to say, with qualifications essential to give them a representation of Congress. This shows conclusively, if other arguments were wanting that the two powers of acquiring territory, and admitting a State, are separate and distinct."

This solemn gravity of style, which so strongly contrasts with other parts of the speech, indicates the author's estimate of the important aid he had thus contributed against the cause of annexation, and it is said, that his manner in its delivery very solemnly indicated that the annunciation of such a point was fully worthy of one of those "sensations," with which the French Chamber of Deputies sometimes reward commanding novelties and brilliant sentiment. Be this as it may, the expected "sensation," if it existed actually, only existed in the mind, and was altogether too shy and prudish to display itself in the manner; and though I may not commend this dogged discourtesy in the House, still the ungracious task devolves upon me to show, if I can, that its application, yet, that after all, "there was nothing in it." This reminds me of a band once occurring between Lord Avorimore and Mr. Curran. Lord A.'s only infirmity as a Judge was a provoking anticipation of what counsel meant to say, and "giving item" of its effect upon him. This annoyed Curran very much; and on one occasion, when addressing a jury before his Lordship, perceived that his Lordship attracted the jury's attention, by shaking his head in dissent, he gave him a ken home thrust of sudden, which his Lordship never forgot, by simply observing to this jury, "Don't be at all concerned, gentlemen, at what his Lordship had done. I know him much better than you do, and you may rest quite assured, that when his Lordship shakes his head, there's nothing in it."

Federal scepticism itself will hardly dispute but that the term "United States", wherever it occurs in the Federal Constitution, refers especially and exclusively to those States and those States only, who became and were united by that very Constitution into one and the same federative Government at the time it was ratified, with a capacity besides to be applied to any other States which should become united with them, under the same Constitution. The terms, as there used, apply to this Union and to none other, not to any Union that either preceded this Union, , nor to any Union which may be formed hereafter. When we speak therefore of a "a citizen of the United States," we have exclusive reference to the States thus united under that Constitution; and a fortiori, that Constitution itself, in using the terms "a citizen of the United States" must mean these United States, thus federated into one for National purposes, by that very fact of Union. The Constitution was formed in 1787, ratified in 1788, and went into full operation on the 4th day of March 1789, by the assembling of the President and both Houses of Congress on that day at the city of New York, their taking the oaths prescribed and entering upon their several duties.
Be our thanks evermore then, the dues of Providence, that Mr. Kennedy’s manhood and destinies were not cast with our fathers of that day and generation! What incalculable mischiefs, embarrassments, anarchies, (it may be) revolutions and civil wars, have we not thereby been spared! How so? How can this be? How can it be?—why, if Mr. Kennedy's position be good [...], it was always good, and of consequence was good, when the first Congress was assembled—What a bomb-shell then would have been this of Mr. Kennedy, to have been cast and exploded in their midst,还没 the Congress, bowing the Government to atoms, and as the Confederation had been dissolved, leaving the States without any common government to prosper, bind or protect them—leaving a perfect Constitution and a perfect Union, but without a man in States or Union, qualified for its administration! The convention who framed the constitution, and the States who ratified it, idiots that they were! Disfranchised and incapacitated themselves and every one from putting it in operation during the nuncupatur in annum. But could this have been so? I tell you it was inevitable; provided, mind ye, provided Mr. Kennedy is right—for, if the terms “a citizen of the U. States” applies exclusively to these United States formed by the Constitution under which we now live—and the term "citizen" there applies to equally to those who are native and to those who are adopted—what other possible consequence could have resulted? Not Senator or Representative in the first Congress could have had the constitutional qualifications, under this construction. Not one of them. Not one! For none of them had been citizens of these United States either nine years or seven—nine years, and for the very plain and irrefutable reason, that these United States themselves were not that old; nay, were in the very first year of their federative birth! No, no, Mr. Kennedy—this won't do. The Constitution was established in perpetuum. It was made for the unborn as well as for he living— and generations, rather than mere frail man or his fleeting measures, are profoundly interested in its meaning. Interpretations of it, that are true, are true in all times—its infancy, its manhood, and its old age—circumstances must be fashioned for it, and not for it for circumstances. An interpretation, therefore, which borne back to its early years, would have disfranchised from all functions of administration one every one of those it was framed for, during nine long years, we know cannot be true; because we know, from the Constitution itself, that it was impossible that such could have been the intention.

For the want of a patriotic observance of this safe and golden rule of interpretation, behold what meddling, fanatic Massachusetts is attempting at this very moment: to disturb the domestic tranquility of South Carolina and Louisiana, by foisting her colored inhabitants into their midst—and, under the pretense that they are citizens of Massachusetts, and as such “entitled to all the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States”—to coerce them to submit to this revolting and revolutionizing admixture! Massachusetts well knows—none knew better—that at the time the Constitution was formed, there was no, (nor for 50 years afterwards, not do I know that there is none,) in any one State in the Union, a single inhabitant of the African race who was, in any just sense of the word, a citizen. By citizen, I mean one who is capacitated in exercise and enjoy all the rights and privileges of which all other citizens in the same community exercise and enjoy; to have the right to choose and be chosen to any office; of intersuccession; seeing [sic] and being sued; witnesses for and against the other races, &c., &c. What then? Is it to be said, in this our day, that a class of persons, why, at the time of the adoption of the Constitution, could not procure citizenship in any one State in the Union—who were a degraded caste, and inferior race in all white men’s appreciation, in all the States—who, for a century before, and from the first moment they and their ancestor set foot any where upon these shores, had been laboring under fixed and degrading disabilities; and when there was not one of the States whose laws did not only tolerate the slavery of that race, but held them as slaves—what are these the persons on whom the Convention designed to confer those full rights of citizenship, which would make them the white man’s equal in all the States? There is not one man in the nation who believes it. There is not a State in the Union who either had the desire, or could have summoned the effrontery to desire, or could have summoned the effrontery, to make such a proposal to the Convention. Not a Southern Representative would have wished or dared to have remarked an hour there, after such a proposal had been received. There would have been no Constitution—there could have been none—least none that was common to the States who made and adopted it. No, sirs, no! The Constitution then made, was the type of the sentiments common to all the States at that day—and under their sovereign behests, the African race was then and there and evermore exorcised from all the rights and privileges it conferred and secured. We intend to stand for aye, by that citizenship which was privileged by the Constitution, and for no broader or other citizenship. It is not given to Massachusetts alone nor conjointly, with other, in this mode, to change either the Constitution or terms or their meaning. We insist upon the Constitution then, as it is written—as it was understood by those who framed it—those who adopted it—and by those who administrated it in its earlier days, ere fanaticism had tarnished it, with its vile characters abominations. But I forget—I keep Mr. Kennedy waiting—so a truce with episodes and "once more unto the breach,"—if, as yet, there be a breach!

It must be more gratefully remembered by every American, that persons of foreign birth largely contributed to the success of our great struggle for liberty and independence throughout the Revolution. Our gratitude was manifested in various ways in the early times. The power to pass uniform laws of naturalization was made one of the enumerated powers of the Constitution; and it Gen. Washington’s time, only two years residence was required to conferred and secured. We intend to stand for aye, by that citizenship which was privileged by the Constitution, and to acquire eligibility to the Senate and House of Representatives.

These marked favors would never have been bestowed, had we been left alone and unaided in our struggle, to fall or triumph as our fortunes should betide. In that case, it is quite probably, that all the higher offices would have been closed against adopted citizens—and then instead of the clauses of 9 and 7 years citizenship, as they now stand, we should have had a clause to this effect; "None but native-born citizens shall be eligible to membership in either House of Congress." If none but natives were eligible, it would have been quite preposterous to have assigned the 9 and 7 years limits to them—and most surely it would not have been done. Hence, the inference is irresistible, that the limitations referred to were intended to apply, and are to be applied exclusively, to the adopted citizens.
There was no necessity for it—nor has it any fitness of application to natives, who in the eye of the Constitution, are not merely citizens for 9 and 7 years, but citizens all their lives. I think Mr. Kennedy might have spared himself considerable pains, as I should have been spared this presented reply, if he would have given but a slight attention to this distinction; and the pages of either Judge Story or the Federalist, if consulted, would have afforded him quite a clear conception of the occasion of introducing that clause into the Constitution in the guise we find them. They were designed for cases of adoption, not for cases of nativity.

In the 52nd No. of the Federalist, Mr. Madison, speaking of the "Senatorial Trust," says that:

"Participating immediately in transactions of Foreign nations, it ought to be exercised by none, who are not thoroughly waned from the prepossessions and habits incident to Foreign birth and education. The firm of nine years seems to be a prudent mediocrity between a total exclusion of adopted citizens, and an indiscriminate and hasty admission of them, which might create a channel for Foreign influence on the National Councils."

It is thus evident, that he did not consider the clause, any more than the objections, applicable at all to Natives. He does not even mention them or allude to them. What "prepossessions and habits incident to Foreign birth" could operate upon Natives—or, how could they be supposed to "create a channel for Foreign influence on the National Councils?"

And Judge Story in his Commentaries on the Constitution takes precisely the same view of the object and application of the clause. He says:

Section 728—"The propriety of some limitations upon admission to office, after naturalization, cannot well be doubted. The Senate is to participate, largely in transactions with Foreign Governments, and it seems indispensable, that time should have adapted sufficient to wear a Senator from all prejudices, resentments and partialities, in relation to the land of his nativity, before he should be entrusted with such high and delicate functions. Besides, it can scarcely be presumed that any foreigner can have acquired a thorough knowledge of the institutions and interests of a country, until he has been permanently [...] into its society, and has acquired by the habits and intercourse of life, the feelings and duties of a citizen.

Not the first reference, nor an allusion is made to native citizens; but this matter in truth has been long ago, and repeatedly adjudicated by Congress. In my last Epistle, I think I made it pretty plain, that Rhode Island, North Carolina, &c., were Foreign States to the Union, until they were incorporated therein; for, if these were not—neither were England, France, India nor China. Neither the Constitution, nor any one of the laws of the Federal Government, had any force or authority in either of those States—not did any one of its officers exercise any functions, Executive, Legislative or Judicial thither; the shipments of either into any of the ports of the United States were subject to the like duties, as goods of the like kinds, imported from any foreign state, Kingdom or county are made subject to."

With acts of Congress like these staring us in the face, how is it possible for us to doubt, but that these States thus treated as Foreign States, were in fact Foreign States? If they were not, how dare the Congress of the United States, to withhold from them the protection vouchsafed in the 9th section of the 1st Article of the Constitution, which provides:

"That no tax or duty shall be [...] on articles exported from any State. No preference shall be given by an regulations of commerce or revenue to the ports of one State over those of another; nor shall vessels round to or from the State be obligated to enter, clear or pay duties in another."

Surely the State or country which is out of the protection of the Constitution of another—out of its jurisdiction-exempt from its own jurisdiction—subject to its imports at the ports of the other—its citizens not sharing in or subject to the administration of the other—and its citizens exempt from all allegiance thereto—with a perfect freedom to wage war or make peace, without and against the consent of the other—must be, to all intents and purposes, Foreign to each other. The man who would deny that is not to be reasoned with; he must be regarded as gone "clean daft," and the best that can be done for him is, to turn him over, forthwith, to "the tender mercies" of Mr. John Randolph's prescription: "A strait jacked, close confinement, water fuel and depletion."

Well, these Foreign States of North Carolina and Rhode Island, with all their Foreign citizens, afterwards entered the Union—the former in November, 1780, and the latter in May 1790—and their citizens thus, and then, became citizens of these United State for the first time; and according to Mr. Kennedy's argument, neither of hem
Surely, then, Texas cannot be more foreign than were those States; and, besides, these United States, as such, once owned every foot of the soil of Texas, and forty-nine fiftieths of her citizens "have been" citizens of the United States for more than nine years; and be it specially noted that the very language of the qualification clause refers in terms to those who "have been"—without a word in relation to when they were so. And be it specially noted also, that in the early times of the Constitution, we had not emerged from the thraldom of English jurisprudence and principles (nor have we yet) and that one of the principles that Government has ever maintained, and does yet, is, that the allegiance of its subjects is inalienable; and that too, has been the doctrine of some of our most eminent jurists—such as Judge Story, Chancellor Kent, &c.; though, (if I might say so) with Mr. Kennedy, I protest; that I do not all concur with them. But, then, the Convention most probably maintained the English doctrine of once a citizen, always a citizen, and in that event, it must have considered that native citizens once qualified by citizenship for Senatorial and Representative function, they could never destroy the qualification by voluntary expatriation, the abjuration of alliance to the U. States, and the plighting of fealty and allegiance to any other Government.

A number of additional answers to Mr. Kennedy’s argument on this point, throng upon me here; but this Epistle has already so far exceeded the bounds I had prescribed to it, that I must bring it rapidly to a close, and take but a passing glance at a few of them.

1st His objection does not extend at all to the acquiring of foreign territory, for the distinctly admits, that the territory can be acquired, and when held "long enough," may be admitted into a State, &c.

2nd His objection don’t apply to the admission of a new State—Not at all. But the apprehends that when admitted, she will be puzzled to find qualified citizens to represent her in Congress.—Don’t be at all alarmed; Mr. Kennedy, just bring her into the Union, and I’ll guarantee that Texas finds citizens to represent her, just as well qualified as you are to represent the Baltimore District.

3rd Congress may "admit new States." When? Nothing informs us. Is Congress bound to wait nine years? The Constitution does not say so. The power is unlimited. Discretion alone is the boundary of its exercise. When the State is admitted, for which the authority is undoubted, the Constitution further provides what the new State is further to do, to send Senators and Representatives, &c. She must be a State, and in the Union, before she can choose her Senators and Representatives.

4th Then, the power to admit being undoubted, and being admitted, the obligation to be represented being equally undoubted, supposed that she has no citizens of the requisite qualifications—Here is a conflict. Which is to prevail in such a conjuncture? If the clause that exacts the full citizenship—then, is Texas to be bound by laws which she has no share in making, and, in despite of the great principle which originated the Revolution, be taxed without representation; but if the clause that exacts representation prevails, no inconvenience whatever arises, for Texas will take good care to send natives of the United States in whom she can confide, &c.

5th But there is no conflict, nor need be any. Citizens of the United States residing abroad do not change their citizenship without adjuring their allegiance. There are thousands of our citizens residing in Texas in this predicament—inhabitants certainly, but not citizens of Texas. If Texas is admitted, what forbids any of hem from representing her in Congress? There are but three qualifications for a Representative in Congress. 1st. He shall be "25 years of age." 2nd. "Have been 7 years a citizen of the U. States." And 3rd. He shall be "when elected and inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen." Why these are a thousand American citizens who are inhabitants of Texas, who are fully eligible; for when Texas is admitted as a State, they will be inhabitants of the State in which they are chosen. But all her citizens are eligible, who, in the language of the clause, are 25 years of age—"Have been seven years citizens of the United States, and are inhabitants" of the State of Texas. So [...] Senators.

6th Why Mr. Kennedy himself could be qualified in a few weeks for that matter—He's of age—being seven years a citizen of the United States—and could in a week's time (for no residence is presorted) by his presence there [...]—or claiming his domicile, become—if not a citizen of Texas—Its inhabitant, and that is all which is required. Neither the citizenship of the State—nor even residence, beyond what is needed for inhabitancy—which implies domiciled rather than residence. The President is the only officer of worth residence is exacted, and even there it refers to the past; "he shall have been 14 years a resident within the United States."

But [...] I’ve scrawled you this harem sacrum epistle; written literally current calamo [sic] leisure nor patience—Besides, old Time with his noiseless tread has stolen a march on me and the I’ve not read it over—nor shall I—I’ve neither brought on his "small hours," and never was I better inclined than now, to yawn out, with Sancho Panza—"Blessed be the man who first invented sleep! It covereth one all over like a dunk."

[AMB]
The anti-Texas Whigs have been terribly dumbfounded by the majority of 22 in the House of Representatives. They had indulged the flattering hope, that the Whigs and the doe-face Democrats would constitute a decided majority in the House, and give the coup de grace to the measure. The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot denied, on Thursday last, that the Texas men could come up to their count, viz.: “105 out and out for the measure and then upon some 13 who will be somewhere in the skirmish.” But, instead of 118, the resolutions passed with 120. The Richmond Whig is quite chap fallen upon the matter-seeing how its confident calculations of defeat have been blown to the winds by the votes of the House, precisely as its certainty of Mr. Clay’s election was blown sky high by the voice of the people.

But of all the presses which are thrown most aback, is the National Intelligencer. In its yesterday’s No., it gives us its usual chapter on the transactions of the preceding week—this last gloomy chapter being on “The eighth week of the session.” It dwells on the vote of Saturday in the most melancholy style—objects to the acquisition of Texas, except by the forms of a Treaty—urges a new constitutional objection, “that Congress cannot make a contract with a foreign nation—that the legislative power never can do that which can be done by Treaty—and that what ever requires the consent of another nation, belongs to the Treaty power, and can only be regulated by it.” It then appeals to the Senate for protection against this gross outrage—tells “that august body, which has so often thrown its shield over the Constitution of the country, that to them is now presented the issue, whether they will give their consent to do that, by legislation, which can only be done by Treaty, and which they themselves have declared to be unwise and inadmissible in that more solemn form? Whether they will permit their constitutional rights to be stricken down, the public peace and the public faith to be compromised and the Union itself—this happy Union of the Old Thirteen, and their legitimate offspring—ultimately and surely, though it may be distant, rent asunder and those who are now brothers and members of the same glorious family, to become aliens and strangers by this ill starred vote of the Representatives of the People”—and winds up its melancholy diatribe, “We have not the heart at present to go any further into the particulars of last week’s doings.” “Death’s doings” they may be to the late sanguine hopes of the National Intelligencer!

It is strange, but yet most amusing, that like the poor Irishman’s back, you can never whip these men to their own satisfaction. Now they cry out for a Treaty. It can only the done by treaty. Like the currier, leather is now the only thing that is good for fortification—the Intelligencer, well knowing of course, that it has been tried, and cannot be acquired by Treaty—and that, according to his advice, of course, Texas would be forever lost to us. But it is most amusing to see, that in 1803, when Mr. Jefferson obtained Louisiana, the Federalists, and Mr. Ross at their head, maintained that the territory could be acquired by Legislative action alone—and not by treaty. Now, the wind blows the other way. Thus, the Federalists are consistent only in their inconsistency, by recommending that mode precisely which would not fail to defeat the great object in view. Surely the Intelligencer cannot have forgotten, that the Federal party tried to exclude Louisiana, by all the means in their power. They denied the power to admit her, and even threatened force to prevent it. They too, talked just as glibly of dissolution then, and war and blood, as the more modern disciples of the Federal School can do at the present time about Texas.

The N. Intelligencer, however, is so much occupied by its own notions about treaties, compacts, and “the joint action of the Senate with the Executive power,” to the exclusion of the power of the House of Representatives, that it entirely strikes out of the Constitution the clause which says that “New States may be admitted by the Congress into this Union”—(not by the joint action of the Senate with the Executive power,” mark ye! But by “the Congress”); Does the Intelligencer deny, that it does not require and understanding a contract, call it what you will, between the United States and the new States, before it is admitted? Why, that proposition would be absurd. Does it contend that none but “New States” can be admitted, which are carved out of the then existing territory of the U. States? Then, we ask the Intelligencer what becomes of that remarkable opinion of Mr. Madison (in the 14th No. of “The Federalist?”) “A second objection to be made is (on the objections drawn from the extent of country) that the immediate object of the Federal Constitution is to secure the Union of the thirteen primitive States, which we know to be practical; and to add to them such states as may arise in their […] bosoms, or in their neighborhoods which we cannot doubt to be equally practical.” And what becomes too, of the precedents of the news States of Louisiana, Missouri and Arkansas, West of the Mississippi, which have been carved out of newly acquired territory, not then in “our own bosoms, but lying in our “neighborhood?”

Pshaw! The argument cannot hold water. The whole article of the Intelligencer is a last and desperate effort to prevail upon the Senate to trample the interest of the whole Union under their feet, and lay the interest, the rights and he feeling of the South at the feet of the abolition spirit. If the Senate should be now so infatuated as to despise the will of the people and disregard the majority of 22 of their Representatives, God save the Whig party, say we!

[AMB]

Tuesday January 28, 1845 RE41i84p2c6

Another Example
Resolutions in favor of the annexation of Texas have passed the House of Representatives of Louisiana, by a vote of 38 to 16. They will probably pass the Senate. Thus, Louisiana can act upon the question of Texas. She can meddle with our Federal Relations. She can express her wishes to her Senators – but Virginia cannot, ought not. So say the Federal Whig Orators of our House of Delegates. Louisiana can freely express her wishes – but Virginia, the great Southern State, who has always spoken her wishes and declared her principles, must be tabooed – shorn of a portion of her sovereign power – because Mr. H. Clay was once infatuated enough to write very absurd letter at Raleigh. Freemen of Virginia, what do you think of the position, to which some of your Whig Representatives would degrade [sic] this “unterrified Old Dominion?”

Tuesday, January 28, 1845 RE41i84p2c6

A Feather in their Caps

We have always contended, that Texas should never have become a party question. It is really an issue between the U. States and Great Britain, much more than between the North and the South, (for, both an interested in it) – or between the Whigs and the Democrats, (for, both these parties are also deeply interested in the result.) We carried this feeling so far, that when it was proposed during the last Summer in the Shockoe Association to call a general meeting of the citizens friendly to Texas, we objected to it, lest it might be supposed to assume a party tinge, from the source from which it emanated. In the course of the campaign indeed, did become involved in the general melts. The Whigs, with some splendid exceptions, generally opposed it. The Democrats advocated it. But the campaign is over – the result known – and Texas, like Hope, remains at the bottom of Pandora's cup.

Can we not, then return to the position which this question should have originally assumed? Let the Whigs rest assured, that as this issue contributed more to their defeat than any other, so will it still shed its malign influence over their political prospects. If they do not bury the dispute about Texas, Texas will bury them, beyond the possibility of redemption. The issue will be again made before the people, under circumstances of more tremendous import against the Whigs. – The indignation of an insulted people will carry the measure and overwhelm its opponents.

But we are proud to see that some of the Southern Whigs are alive to the interests of the Union. With them, it is country first, and party afterwards. We are indebted to a Whig (Milton Brown) for the resolutions which have passed the House of Representatives of Congress. We are indebted to another Whig (Campbell) for the resolutions which have passed the House of Representatives of Louisiana. We are confident, from what we understand, that there are Browns and Campbells in the House of Delegates. Let them only come forth and take the lead as patriots superior to their party. If they will not, the Democrats must do their duty – call the question every day – appeal to the Legislature, and appeal to the people. This great question cannot, must not, will not, sleep.

We would address one word respectfully to the Senate of the United States. Let not the opponents of Texas, deceive themselves. Let not Crittenden play too deep. He knows the indomitable spirit of the Southern men – and he must know if he has the sagacity which usually marks his character (certainly not always) that if they reject the resolution of Milton Brown, or rather of 120 Representatives of the People, the question is not dead. It is of a character to stir up the feelings of every Southern and Western man, and it will rise like Artaeus from its temporary fall with renovated power. The whole Southern country will soon be in a flame, and the conflagration will spread over the prairies of the West. Reject it, and we return with fresh vigor to the charge – overturning all enemies, despising all obstacles. The spirit is irresistible. It will fill the North and the South, and it will upset the political demagogues and fanatical abolitionists who oppose its progress. The only danger is from the delay – lest Texas herself should become wearied and sick and disgusted with our equivocation and suspense – and yielding to the insidious and seductive overtures of our greatest commercial rival, seek out her own destination, and part with us, perhaps, forever.

[AMB]

Tuesday, January 28, 1845 RE41i84p3c3 65 words

Marine Journal

The article reports that ships that sailed from and arrived at the Port of Richmond.

High Water this day at 7 ½ o'clock, A.M.

Arrived

Schr. Meridan, White, Portsmouth, (N.H) sundries, to Rankin & Whitlock.
Schooner Richard Thompson, Carson, New York, sundries.
Schooner Highlander, Prine, Egg Harbour, ballast.

Sailed
Schooner Commonwealth, Trefethorn, Boston.
Schooner Velasco, Barnes, New York.
Schooner H. W. Gandy, Grandy, Fall River.

Tuesday, January 28, 1845 RE41i84p4c1

Editorial

The Madisonian quotes a very strong article in favor of annexation from the "New Orleans Commercial Bulletin," a Whig Paper, and does justice to the ability and principles of that paper. The Bulletin appeals to the Legislature of Louisiana for the immediate passage of decided resolutions in favor of Texas. It tells them that the fate of the measure in Congress "depends on the course which may be taken by the Senators from Louisiana. With their suffrages in its behalf there is scarce a doubt that the measure will succeed; with their voices against it, there is as little doubt that it will be definitely, irretrievably lost."

The Madisonian says that, "with the two Whig Senators from Louisiana in its favor, there can be no doubt of the success of the measure during the present session."

The fate of the measure will equally depend upon the two Senators from Virginia. Will the Legislature of Virginia refuse to instruct them? We trust there will be no evasion, no dodging, no laying upon the table; but that the issue may be met directly, and that we may know who is for Texas, and who against – who is, to all intents and purposes, (in effect we mean, not in design,) for Great Britain, and who for his own country.

Mr. Rowden pledged himself to call up the Texas Resolutions every morning, and why not ACT upon them, while the House have so little business upon their tables – and, in fact, when this question may be decided without interfering with any other business, and without wasting any portion of the time of the House. Surely no subject is so important as this – none so pressing – none, on which the voice of Virginia is more anxiously expected – none, on which the People themselves more imperatively demand the action of their servants – none, on which the public time and public treasure could be more usefully employed. Let us have Action, then, Action.

Thursday, January 30, 1845 RE41i85p1c1

Twenty-Eighth Congress-2d Ses. Monday, Jan. 20, 1845, In Senate.

Mr. EVANS presented the credentials of the Hon. John Fairfield, elected a Senator from the State of Maine for six years from the fourth of March next.

Mr. BENTON presented a series of resolutions from the Legislature of Missouri, in favor of the annexation of Texas.

In presenting these resolutions, Mr. BENTON remarked, that no State in the Union was more interested in the question of annexation than was the State of Missouri; and that interest was both special and general. It was undoubtedly the wish of that State, and of its Legislature, that Texas should be admitted Constitutionally, and upon such principles as should conduce to the peace and harmony of the Union. He hoped that, to accomplish this desirable object, all parties would unite in a spirit which was recommended by General Washington at the close of his public career, and which had conduced so much to the promotion of all the best interests of the country. In December, 1836, when the Texan Revolution was young, he (Mr. B.) had noted the causes which led to that event, and he had found that they ran a close parallel with those which induced our own. There was a similar long endurance of oppression; a similar indifference to remonstrance; a similar refusal of redress; and there was fortunately, a similar establishment of independence.

The sentiments expressed in these resolutions were not merely those of a large majority, but expressed the opinion of nearly all the people of Missouri. The sentiments, properly founded, and strongly felt ought to be successful in the result which they desired to accomplish. He concurred most fully in the desire expressed in the
resolutions, that their object should be accomplished as soon as practicable. The General Assembly of Missouri (said he) view this question in its most enlarged aspect. It is regarded as a great, a most important national question; and he (Mr. B.) had no doubt that through the operation of a spirit of compromise and mutual concession, the great object could not only be accomplished, but accomplished most auspiciously.

Mr. ATCHISON acknowledged, to the fullest extent, the right of the constituent to instruct, and the duty of the representative to obey. He admitted the great necessity for the exercise of a spirit of compromise, and agreed with the views expressed by his honorable colleague. The fourth resolution declared that no power on earth had a right to control, no power on earth had a right to be consulted on this question, except the Government of Texas and that of the United States. The sixth resolution states that the question of slavery need not now be stirred, but that it had better be left for settlement and adjustment when the different portions of the territory to be annexed applied for admission as independent States. He would leave this question to be settled in that spirit of compromise which he trusted would then, as well as now, govern the councils of the General Legislature of the Union. He concurred most fully in the spirit and the object of all the resolutions.

The resolutions were then referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

MEMORIALS AND PETITIONS.

The following were presented and referred, viz:

By Mr. BERRIEN: A memorial from the Chamber of Commerce of Savannah, asking all appropriation for the erection of a custom-house.

By Mr. UPHAM: A memorial from Vermont, numerously signed, remonstrating against the annexation of Texas.

By Mr. STURGEON: A petition from Pennsylvania, for a reduction of postage.

By Mr. BUCHANAN: A memorial from citizens of Spring Garden, Philadelphia, asking for a change in the naturalization laws, and praying that twenty-one years may be the time of residence for foreigners to be entitled to the rights of citizenship.

By Mr. CHOATE: A memorial from Middlesex, Massachusetts, remonstrating against the annexation of Texas.

By Mr. EVANS: A memorial from Windham, in the State of Maine, protesting against the annexation of Texas.

By Mr. ARCHER: A petition from citizens of Pennsylvania for a change in the naturalization laws.

By Mr. PORTER: Two memorials from Bedford, Ohio, remonstrating against the annexation of Texas.

By Mr. ALLEN: A memorial from the inhabitants of Pickaway and Ross counties, Ohio, for the immediate organization of the Oregon Territory.

On Presenting this petition, Mr. ALLEN observed that much of the phraseology of this was nearly the same as that of the petition from Fairfield county, which he had the honor of presenting a few days ago. This petition was signed by some hundreds of citizens, the greater part of whom were farmers but the desire expressed by [the rest is illegible]. [AMB]

Thursday, January 30, 1845 RE41i85p2c3

The Empire Club of New York

During a meeting of the Empire Club, Mr. Rynders read General Jackson's letter declaring that U.S. should annex Texas as soon as possible.

A great meeting of the Club took place on Thursday evening last, 16th instant. Mr. Rynders in Chair. He introduced the Annexation of Texas as the subject for their consideration. He read to the meeting the last letter of Gen Jackson, (to Mr. Blair,) and declared, that "The great anxiety expressed in his letter, written, as it were, on the very verge of the grave, by this great unerring friend of our country, is evidence that annexation is a subject of vital importance to the interest of our country. General Jackson recommends immediate Annexation, ere it is too late, and the United States lose the opportunity, of making a valuable and important acquisition to the land of Freedom. By annexing Texas, we gain a territory of rich, fertile, and productive soil—a country of abundant and almost inexhaustible resources, It is of immense importance, as a suitable and necessary location for a military or naval depot, which, if properly established, would have naturally the entire control of the Gulf of Mexico, our Southwestern Cost and Frontier, affording a constant and mercantile interests of our country. We shall extend the bounds of freedom, and add one more State to the Union, wherein the oppressed of all lands may find a home, and a country, the Native American doctrine to the contrary not withstanding; and I regret exceedingly that the people find it
necessary to give another expression to their will upon the subject of re-annexation, which was so clearly and
unequivocally decided by the election of James K. Polk, who was the strenuous advocate of annexation, over H. Clay,
who was said to be opposed to it. The question of annexation was one of the most important and legitimate issues in
the late Presidential election. Jas. K. Polk was emphatically the Texas candidate, H. Clay its opponent. On that
ground we battled with the Whig party for supremacy; with Texas for our rallying word, we raised an enthusiasm
which very materially assisted us in achieving a great political triumph in the state of New York. Our friends in the
South joined with us on the annexation question in the late bitter political contest. They have proved true to their
professions and faith; they have done as we expected, and are justly entitled to their full proportion, of influence in
our nation's councils; and shall the Democracy of the North prove recreant to our friends of the South? Shall we
prove false to the confidence and trust reposed in us? I trust in God, that when properly weighed in the balance we
shall not be found wanting. In the name of truth, justice, and honor, let us prove true to the cause we so warmly
advocated, and to which may be mainly attributed our success in the late political struggle; for, it was well known,
that there was not a political meeting or gathering during the Fall electioneering campaign, but what the lone star of
Texas was the prominent feature either displayed as a banner or among the principal devices. Not a speech was
made, but the annexation of Texas was the most effectual appeal that could be made to the feelings of the people. I
am astonished that there should be found one Democratic member of Congress from this State who would oppose
the re-annexation of Texas, after such decided expression of the will of the people of this State in favor of that
measure. The people of the United States have decided in favor of annexation, by giving a large and decisive
majority of their electoral votes to James K. Polk, the avowed Texas candidate—and, since the people are in favor of
annexation, I really trust that one members of Congress will speedily conform to the wishes of their constituents.”

The resolutions reported by a select committee and unanimously adopted by the Club, are of the strongest
character. Among them are the following:

1. Resolved, That the Empire Club, on its first Existence, and previous to the recent election, pledged itself to
forward in every manner, honorably, the proposition for the immediate annexation or Texas; that it was advocated in
the Democratic journals of the city, and deemed by this Club to have been the essential test question in the recent
election; that the issue was fairly placed before the people, and the result of their verdict was in favor of immediate
annexation; and that, if any doubt yet remain, it is the duty of the people to avail themselves of every opportunity
again to repeat their opinion in favor of the measure.

2. That in the opinion of the Empire Club, the immediate annexation of Texas is essentially necessary to the
interests of the country, and all portions of it, not only to preserve the States from British aggression, but also to
protect a most important portion of our common country; that to pause in the course of demanding annexation,
would be to break a solemn and well understood contract with the South—would be the violation of a pledge, and the
abandonment of a principle, for which we strenuously contended.

3. That in the opinion of this Club, the question of slavery ought to have no consideration in the question of
annexation of Texas; that, when admitted in the Union, her internal regulations should be guarantied all the
rights of Government and policy now enjoyed by the sovereign States.

4. That the interests of the South imperatively demand, not only the measure itself, but its immediate
passage; the people having voted for it, there can be no doubt of the duty of our Representatives at once to express
the wish of their constituents; and this Club will endeavor still, as they have done all along, to obtain the immediate
passage of a bill for the union of Texas with these States.”

The Club adjourned over till next Friday evening, then to unite with the Democracy of New York at Tammany
Hall, in a full and bold expression of their sentiments in favor of annexation.

Thursday, January 30, 1845 RE41i85p2c4

Letter to the Editor, A Warning to the Whig Party!

Our intelligent Correspondent (Agricola) writes from the North of Germany , four weeks ago, precisely as if he
were at this moment at our elbow, with the yesterday's proceedings of the House of Delegates, and Saturday's
proceedings of the H. of Representatives immediately under his eye. – Never was coincidence more striking – Never,
was a solemn lesson more appropriately addressed to the Whigs. Hear him:

"Partisan feeling, which I entertained to a limited extent at home, has utterly expired in my bosom; and I no
longer look upon "every difference of opinion" as 'a difference of principle.' – We must save the United States. This is
a duty – an imperative duty – one above all others; - and closely identified with it, in fact having an immediate
bearing upon the result, stands the annexation of Texas. If ever there was a question which should be decided purely
upon its own merits, it assuredly is this. In its adjustment, a party voice should not be raised, nor a party vote
recorded. – The Treaty should be regarded, as I am sure it will prove, if ratified, as one making the American
Republic the most independent and permanent of all the States and nations on the face of the globe."
For "Treaty" read the resolutions of Congress, (and "Randolph of Roanoke" dissipates in this day's paper all the trashy and hair-breadth stuff about treaties, compacts, &c,) and the lesson which "Agricola" reads in our ears is deeply impressive. But we beg the Whigs (at Washington and in Richmond) to read his whole letter in this morning's Enquirer.

Thursday, January 30, 1845 RE41i85p2c3

(Correspondence) Huntington, Suffolk Co. 21st Jan. 1845

Gentlemen: - I have your esteemed letter, inviting me to attend a meeting of our Democratic friends at Tammany Hall on the 24th inst., to promote the annexation of Texas. Concurring as I do in the object of his meeting, it would give me great pleasure to be with you; but an indispensable engagement will prevent my leaving home at that time.

I consider the annexation of Texas, in its permanent effects upon our national destiny, as the most important question which has been discussed since the adoption of our constitutional Union in 1787. Independent of the immense advantages of unrestricted commerce between the two countries, their political union is necessary for the common defence of our liberal institutions and to preserve the international peace of the continent. The existence of two rival republics would not only be injurious to both but dangerous to popular government. Frequent wars would check their growth and prosperity, and bring upon both countries the evils of monarchy. Had the Union of the old thirteen States been resisted upon the ground of the local institutions of some, our confederacy would never have been formed; and by this time we should have been a divided and powerless people. Our ancestors, actuated by a spirit of patriotism, and with a wise foresight, determined not to sacrifice the permanent interests of the whole, and formed our constitutional confederacy upon the basis of a compromise, which it is to be hoped will remain undisturbed. May those who represent us be animated with the spirit of the framers of the Constitution in 1788; for the same motives which induced them to bind the old thirteen States in one confederacy, should actuate us in extending our bond of Union to embrace our countrymen in Texas.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. C. CAMBRELING.


Thursday, January 30, 1845 RE41i85p2c4

Editorial

There was a long debate yesterday in the House of Delegates on the Texas Resolutions, for which see our necessarily meagre sketch. We presume the whole subject will be decided to-day, and we have strong hopes that a majority of the House of Delegates will be found expressing the voice of Virginia in favor of the immediate annexation of Texas. We sincerely trust, that the Whigs will not stave off a direct vote upon the question, by clogging it with useless amendments. Let us have a direct vote upon Mr. Bowden's proposition, and let the people know, that if the measure be now defeated, in the language of the Democratic speakers on yesterday, the responsibility will rest upon the House of Delegates.

Thursday, January 30, 1845 RE41i85p2c4

Editorial

What the New York Plebeian states as the report in New York, is the report here, as brought to us from Washington – that an influence was exerted from Albany to defeat the annexation of Texas. But with the Plebeian we trust believe that the report is exaggerated – perhaps altogether unfounded. It will be recollected, that Mr. Robinson of New York submitted resolutions to the House of Representatives altogether repulsive to the South. The report now runs, that this Mr. Robinson wrote on to Albany, that unless they sent entire anti-Texas men to the Senate of the
United States, Texas would be annexed, and its enemies defeated. Other reports are in Washington, in political
collection with this movement, bearing upon Mr. Polk which are too extravagant to be believed. True or not, Mr.
Polk knows what is due to himself – and so does the South know what is due to herself. If Mr. Robinson has written
any such letters, and his advice should gain credence, no good can come of it. The friends of Texas are not thus to
be it. The friends of Texas are not thus to baffled; nor do we believe that Mr. Dix or any of his friends can be made
an instrument to baffle the South, and to defeat a great national measure. He is a Republican of too lofty a
character, to countenance any intrigues which may be set on foot at Washington or elsewhere. The times never did
require more harmony and union among all the friends of the country – than now. The country have uniformly
looked to J. A. Dix with confidence – and they look to him NOW.

[AMB]

Thursday, January 30, 1845 RE41i85p4c3

The Texas Resolutions in the House of Representatives

We have stated, that the Resolutions adopted by the House of Representatives, on Saturday, were proposed by
Mr. Milton Brown, a Whig member from Tennessee. They are precisely the same with those which had been on a
former day submitted to the Senate by Mr. Foster, one of the Whig Senators from Tennessee. The whole
representation from Tennessee voted for them in the House, and, we trust, both the Senators from Tennessee
(Messrs, Jarnagin and Foster) will vote for them in the Senate. This would be a feather in the cap of Tennessee,
which would gracefully adorn her brow.

We have republished the jubilant article of the Globe upon the passage of the Resolutions. – We subjoin the
following extracts from the long article of the Madisonian on the same subject:

"But we bai with an unspeakable pleasure, the passage through the House of Representatives, for the annexation
of Texas to the Union, by the commanding majority of 22, of a measure the terms of which we hope will be entirely
acceptable to our sister Republic. It is none the less acceptable to us, because the ground-work of the measure has
been proposed by Mr. Milton Brown, a firm and determined Whig from the State of Tennessee. He and those of his
party who have acted with him, entitle themselves to the proud appellation of patriots. They have on a great national
question risen superior to the low and petty restraints of party, and have with eyes of statesmen, looked to the
lasting and enduring honor and glory of the American name. – There are some questions which are too high and too
noble and too lofty for party; or if there be a party in connection, it should be the American party – the party of the
whole country. We cannot but rejoice, however, in the fact, that a majority of the Democratic party, maugre [sic] the
sickly whinnings of a small minority, have come up nobly to the task, and responded heartily to the universal call of
the country. For our own part, we repeat, while we have deemed it best in every point of view, that the resolutions
of annexation should have passed in the very words of the Treaty, yet we respond heartily to the language employed
by the President in his message to the House of Representatives at the close of the last session. We care not for the
words or the form of the thing – give us the substance – annexation now, upon terms that will be acceptable to the
United States and Texas, and we are content.

"What will the Senate now do?" is on the lips of all. We answer that they will follow the example of the House.
The conscript fathers of the land – the Representatives of the Sovereign States, will add another bright and glorious
star to the galaxy. 'When was it since the great flood' that the Senate would lend itself for any length of time to
faction? When was it that Senators would long continue blind to the interests of America, or could fail to raise
themselves on tiptoe to espy in the future the great glory of the country? Let our fellow countrymen, then, prepare
to rejoice. They have already spoken forth in a voice of thunder from Tammany Hall, and the echoes will be caught
up by every hill and valley, until one universal shout of Welcome to Texas will resound over the land."

The Madisonian has some fear that Texas may not accept the terms, because not so favorable to her as the
treaty was; but in one respect, we regard it as more favorable. She pays her own debts, it is true, and thus removes
the scruples of some of our own politicians; but she keeps her lands, and at the additional valuation which they will
acquire by the annexation, she will have more than enough to pay her debt; and she will be able to devote a large
surplus, probably, to her own uses, to her schools, internal improvements, &c. &c. We know this was an object,
which her citizens had much at heart. The Madisonian, however, is "willing to run the risk, with others, of her
acquiescence in the terms thus tendered her, since it is apparent that those mutually agreed upon cannot be
ratified." And so are we.

[AMB]

Thursday, January 30, 1845 RE41i85p4c4

Editorial

We hail with great pleasure the following from yesterday's Compiler, (Whig.) We are sorry that we cannot give
yesterday. Attended its agitation at the North, and its passage through the House of Representatives on the day before. The peace, prosperity and constitutional rights of the South are directly involved. Nor do I doubt but that the Whig majority of Southern Whigs voted for it. It therefore appeals to the House of Delegates as an issue, in which the peace, prosperity and constitutional rights of the South are directly involved. Considered, as is proved by the fact that forty Northern Democrats voted against it, while three-fourths of the Southern Whigs voted for it. We see, then, with what rapid strides the spirit of abolition is becoming the paramount influence at the North. Indeed, the result of the late election teaches us that abolition is becoming the paramount influence at the North. – Is it not time, then, for the majority of the great State of New York, in Vermont, Connecticut and Ohio, and that in two or three short years they will be in the same position in Pennsylvania, Indiana, Massachusetts and Maine. – Is it not time, then, for the majority of the House of Delegates to act on this question, as the Whig members of Congress from Georgia and Tennessee have advanced to stop short of nothing less than a change of the Constitution, which shall deprive the South of the present system of representation in the House of Representatives, shall abolish slavery in Texas, and though it does not throw the balance of power in favor of either candidate of the two great parties. We see, then, with what rapid strides the spirit of abolition is becoming the paramount influence at the North. – Indeed, the result of the late election teaches us that great State of New York, in Vermont, Connecticut and Ohio, and that in two or three short years they will be in the same position in Pennsylvania, Indiana, Massachusetts and Maine. – Is it not time, then, for the majority of the House of Delegates to act on this question, as the Whig members of Congress from Georgia and Tennessee have unanimously acted on it? To strike for, the preservation of the constitutional rights of the South, which shall deprive the South of the present system of representation in the House of Representatives, shall abolish slavery in the District of Columbia, and, indeed, destroy each and every obstacle to the abolition of slavery in the South, whenever a controlling majority of the people of the North are ready to carry out that object.

In 1810, the Abolitionists voted 2,000 strong – in ‘44, 61,000 – aye, with double that number of sympathizers, too, who voted for either candidate of the two great parties. We see, then, with what rapid strides the spirit of abolition is becoming the paramount influence at the North. – Indeed, the result of the late election teaches us that great State of New York, in Vermont, Connecticut and Ohio, and that in two or three short years they will be in the same position in Pennsylvania, Indiana, Massachusetts and Maine. – Is it not time, then, for the majority of the House of Delegates to act on this question, as the Whig members of Congress from Georgia and Tennessee have unanimously acted on it? To strike for, the preservation of the constitutional rights of the South, which shall deprive the South of the present system of representation in the House of Representatives, shall abolish slavery in the District of Columbia, and, indeed, destroy each and every obstacle to the abolition of slavery in the South, whenever a controlling majority of the people of the North are ready to carry out that object.

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I cannot and will not treat this as a party question. In the House of Representatives it has not been so considered, as is proved by the fact that forty Northern Democrats voted against it, while three-fourths of the Southern Whigs voted for it. It therefore appeals to the House of Delegates as an issue, in which the peace, prosperity and constitutional rights of the South are directly involved. Nor do I doubt but that the Whig majority of that body will so consider it, and act accordingly, when they maturely reflect on the circumstances which have attended its agitation at the North, and its passage through the House of Representatives on the day before yesterday.
Yours truly,

[?]

Thursday, January 30, 1845 RE41i85p3c1 77 words

Marine Journal

High Water this day at 9 1/4 o’clock A.M.

Sailed, Schr. Tuscarora, Smack, New York.
Schr. James, Barrow, Charleston, S.C.
Schr. Condolence, Fall River.
Steamer Pocahontas, Hollingshead, Baltimore.

Cleared, Schr. Mariner, Kaowles, Norfolk, City Point, and Richmond.

New York, Jan. 27 – Cleared, Schr. Nassan Chester, Richmond.

Philadelphia, January 27 –, Arrived, Schr. Cora, Groves, Richmond.

Santa Anna a Prisoner.

The reader will perceive from the accounts which we have extracted from the New Orleans Tropic, of the 20th inst., that Santa Anna has been defeated, in a pitched battle, by Paredes and Bravo, and is a second time a prisoner in the hands of his enemies. He will be fortunate indeed, to escape from the resentments of the wronged and invaded Texans.

February

March

Tuesday, March 4, 1845 RE45i97p1c4 802 words

Joy! Joy! The Last Stroke Struck!

The die is cast—The House of Representatives have passed the resolutions, as amended by the Senate, by a majority of 56—and President Tyler has promptly signed them. Thanks be to him and his Administration for the services they have rendered to his country on this glorious event.—It shall never be said, that on this, the last day of his power, there was “none so poor” as to pay him respect. His Administration will hereafter be associated—his name and Calhoun’s, and the memories of Upshur and of Gilmer, with the brilliant name of the no longer “Lone Star!” Let others censure and abuse Mr. Tyler as they may. We will never refuse him this honorable but humble tribute—an in our “flowing cups” let “Texas and Tyler be freshly remembered.” Errors he has committed—gross errors perhaps—but, to say nothing of his vetoes, this is an act for which he deserves the gratitude of all his countrymen.

Is it not melancholy to reflect upon the cursed consequences of this party spirit? Wonderful to tell there was but one Whig who voted in favor of the amended resolutions, (Dellett of Ala..) whilst six of the others (Stephens of Georgia not in the House) who originally voted for Brown’s resolutions in the House, were mad enough, party-mad to vote against them in their amended form—a form, certainly, which neither affected their constitutional nor practical character. And among these six who ultimately turned their backs upon these six who ultimately turned their backs upon Texas, were Milton Brown himself! Of Tennessee, Gen. Clinch of Georgia, and Willoughby Newton of Virginia. They voted against it, and three others. Newton! Aye, our old friend Newton, whose forcible letter was, but the
other day, so much admired by the Democrats, and condemned by the Whigs. These men, it appears, could not withstand the screws of party operation, or the lash of the Whig press; and after a brilliant effort, they have returned to the vile affinities of party spirit.

But in spite of them, Texas is ours—with all its beauties—with all the glories of the achievement—with its new and splendid area spread open for the reception of our noble civil institutions. But we must forbear. We have no space this morning to devote to Editorial effusions. We have given this morning’s paper to the details of the measure, as they are exhibited in the proceedings of Congress, and in our very interesting letters. We will find room, however, for the following jubilant article, which we copy form the last Madisonian—as much for the admirable sentiments which it conveys, as in compliment to a journal which has done so much for Texas!

"TEXAS ANNEXED—The glorious victory in the House may be regarded as the consummation of this great measure, so far as the United States are concerned. We now see that the Democracy were in earnest in placing it on their banner in the late election; that consequently the charge of its being a humbug was equally futile and ungenerous. It, indeed, it were a humbug its adversaries acted with a Quixotic aberration of intellect in waging against it so fierce and persevering a war. Yet as such the Intelligencer treated it during the election; and even after it, exclaimed that it "had exploded and injured nobody but Mr. Van Buren." A measure exploded, which has passed the Senate, after the most untiring efforts to defeat it, and the House of Representatives by a majority of 561 This ever memorable vote stood—132 to 76. This vote is not greater, it so great, as the proportion of numerical support among the people.

"The United States have now obtained a boundary suited to their position and interests; the country a great security which it did not possess before; our commerce safety form machinations which might have very seriously injured it; our manufactures a market which, under the fostering operation of this act, will prove a very important addition to the great marts already accessible; the agriculture and cotton-growing, and sugar-raising States, extensive benefits.

"The idea that our possessing it will be severely adverse to British interests, is fallacious. It may serve, and will serve, as a new guarantee of peace with Great Britain; which can be no disservice to her, but precisely the reverse. It will extend our commerce with her; and it we be but true to ourselves, and exert ourselves to pay our debts to the extent of our means, it will invite additional capital from her to our shores. Her interests and ours are so entirely coincident, if each country views the matter rationally, that nothing as, between the two, can result from annexation but an augmentation of benefits to both. [MLD]
the passage of the joint resolution was taken, and proclaimed without the ayes and noes.

The crowd was immense—I never saw the like—yet not a whisper was heard—breathless silence prevailed throughout—and the remarks of Mr. Crittenden had such an effect, that not a feeling of triumph was evinced, nor word spoken aloud altho’nine-tenths of the spectators seemed to be delighted at the result. The amendments are all improvements to the House Resolution, provided they be concurred in; and the universal impression is, that no difficulty will be presented in the House.

Bagby excused himself by saying, the Joint Resolutions presented a constitutional mode of acquiring Texas. If it should be adopted, he would confirm the act; but if an unconstitutional mode should be adopted, he would oppose the confirmation hereafter. Of course, he will be required to give way to a less scrupulous man, if it be necessary hereafter.

The cannon from Capitol Hill is pealing its notes of rejoicing, and the streaming banners and merry music of the streets proclaim the cheering news throughout the city. [MLD]

Tuesday, March 4, 1845  RE45i97p1c7 171 words

High Authority

In Thursday's Whig there appears a letter from Il Secretario, the accredited organ of that anti-Texas paper, in which he describes the Annexation of Texas as an "infamous foundling of Tylerism, and bantling of Polkism appointed with public perfidy, private corruption, fraud, cowardice, shame, assumption, repudiation, the scorn of all policy, the abrogation of all law!"—The Whigs of the last Legislature were bound to admit that a large majority of the people of Virginia were in favor of this measure. On this fact, the Richmond Whig joins issue with his Federal friends in the General Assembly, and produces the high-toned and reliable Il Secretario, to aid that anti-Virginia paper in damning this vital and popular measure. The People of Virginia will see from the above extract in what light the great question of Annexation, admitted by all but the genius of the Whig to be an object of affection with a large majority of this State is treated by the especial organ of the Virginia Whig Party in this City. [MLD]

Tuesday, March 4, 1845 RE45i97p1c4 72 words

Twenty-seven Guns were fired on Friday (by Whigs and Democrats) in this City, upon the tidings being received from Washington of the Annexation Resolutions having passed the Senate. It is a great national question—and its friends thought it was due to its importance to celebrate it in this manner. The twenty-seventh gun was a compliment to the sister Star, which, it is to be hoped, is about to enter the Union. [MLD]

Tuesday, March 4, 1845 RE45i97p2c2

Twenty-Eighth Congress—2d Ses.

See Congressional Globe.

http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=llcg&fileName=015/llcg015.db&recNum=398  p383

http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=llcg&fileName=015/llcg015.db&recNum=399  p384

Tuesday, March 4, 1845 RE45i97p2c3 1123 words

The Past And The Present

With all his sagacity, the ablest man is a very blind animal. "Lands he can measure—terms and tides presage"—but in most other respects, he is as blind as a mole. He can calculate the motions of the largest bodies in the Heavens. He can foresee Eclipses of the Sun and Moon. He can even sometimes prognosticate the courses of the erratic Comet—but he cannot foresee the political movements of his own species in most of their most important elements. Upon the results of the late election, for instance, the wisest of us has been unable to see scarce beyond his nose.

View the landscape, as it appears this time twelve months ago. The Whigs were sure of the election of Mr. Clay. He had just been to New Orleans where he had addressed his sanguine followers, and assured them that the signs were
bright and almost decisive in every quarter of the Heavens. He was about to commence his grand Southern
electioneering tour, to make assurance doubly sure. All his friends sympathized with his feelings. They believed
the election was decided, and that he only wanted the forms of the Constitution, to declare him the President of the
United States. On the other side of the picture, behold the Democrats divided among various candidates.—
Buchanan, Cass, Johnson, all had warm decided friends. In Virginia, the struggle was going on with great spirit
between the friends of Van Buren and Calhoun. But look aloft, and you see a little "Lone Star" glimmering feebly on
the verge of the horizon. Many regard it—but no one is able to estimate the irresistible influence, which, as it wheels
on its solitary course, it is destined to exert upon the election, and, in fact, almost to control it.

Trace Mr. Clay on his mad and electioneering career. He arrives at Raleigh in April. He has reached an important
point in his journey, which, as Rousseau says of Pyrrhus, was only conducting him to that unfortunate tile, which
destroyed his life. Beware, Sir, of that ill-starred question, which is to be your ruin. Take not the advice of the
unfortunate counselors, who are thronging around you from Virginia and Washington. He listens not to the warning
of truth! He writes that ominous letter, which is to prove his ruin. He has, in an evil hour, and contrary to his own
solemn professions in his speech of 1820, touched the spring, which puts into motion the tremendous machinery,
that is to crush all his prospects. The mercury, (Green,) bears his celebrated anti-Texas Raleigh letter to his anxious
friends at Washington. They, as blind as himself, send it forth, and it returns, like curses, upon his own devoted
head. In vain, he struggles against it. In vain, he has sought to propitiate the Abolition vote. In vain, does he then
write letter after letter, first to remove the impressions in the South, and then to revive them in the North—the
mischief is done—and the rising hurricane drives his barque to pieces upon the shores of Texas.

On the other hand, a far more eminent and cooler statesman writes one of the ablest documents of the age.
He demonstrates in letters of light the constitutionality of the acquisition of Texas; but unfortunately hesitates about
the practicability of its immediate annexation. The same irresistible influence operates upon his destiny—and at
Baltimore, where Mr. Clay was but a few days before taken up amid the acclamations of the Whig Convention as
their candidate, only to be defeated—he, (Mr. Van Buren,) worthy of a better fate is superseded by another
individual, taken up without his knowledge, without even expecting it, and as it were, from the bosom of the people.
We shall not paint the violent struggles which ensued; and the shock of the extending hosts—We shall not describe
the blindness, and idolatry, and infatuation of the Whigs, who had not the courage to change their leader, but
followed him like a Will-o-the-Wisp, through all his blunders. We shall not pursue them through all their arts,
through all their follies, through all their humbugs-through all the infamous tricks, and amid all the thick darkness
which obscured their vision. Nor shall we describe the glorious struggles of the Republican party-their attachment to
principle, their contempt of humbugs, and their unflinching devotion to the fortunes of the Lone Star.

The results of the last twelve months' events are written in the proceedings of this day. Who could have foreseen
them twelve months ago?—Who among he sons of men was so highly gifted as a prophet, as to predict on the 4th
March, 1844, what should take place on this 4th day of March, 1845; and who is this day to be honored by the first
American constellation. On the very next day, (Saturday, the 1st of March,) two other new States, Iowa and Florida,
only on Friday last, the "Lone Star" of Texas has ascended to the zenith, and unites in all her glory with the
office in the world? Memorable day! Shift the scene to Washington on this remarkable occasion. What do we see?—
We are happy to see Mr. Tyler's Administration go out in a blaze of glory. Erroneous as his policy may have been in
People of Virginia! We call upon you to read these past records. Read the signs of the present times. Look to the triumph over you, and the Federalists would triumph over you, and the Federalists who attempted to intimidate you were to be churlishly told by this same Mr. Clay, and by his now deluded followers, “No, you shall not have it, when she would bring back into our bosom her ‘noble crew, consisting of our children, and our children’s children,’” her own free accord, with as full a right to contract alliances, as we or any independent nation can possibly possess—

And now, we repeat, when Texas would come back to us, with her valuable and fertile soil, her delicious climate, her harbors and her productions, her sacred temples, and hear independent people—now, when she would come back of her own free accord, with as full a right to contract alliances, as we or any independent nation can possibly possess—when she would bring back into our bosom her “noble crew, consisting of our children, and our children’s children,” we were to be churlishly told by this same Mr. Clay, and by his now deluded followers, “No, you shall not have it, She is not worth the having. And as for you, Southrons, you shall not have it, although the abolitionists would triumph over you, and the Federalists would triumph over you, and the Federalists who attempted to intimidate you about Louisiana, are now seeking to drive you from your purpose, by idle threats of dissolution.”

People of Virginia! We call upon you to read these past records. Read the signs of the present times. Look to the
future, and then act like men, like freemen, and like patriots. Stand up like the sons of the “unterrified Old Dominion,” despite of the fanatic abolitionists and the deluded Whigs.

But, all is well. The friends of Texas have adhered to their deliberate purpose. We have battled the fanatic Abolitionists, beaten the deluded Whig, (with some honorable exceptions in their ranks,) and Texas is ours. And now what confidence can we place in Mr. Clay or his followers, who would have stript us of Texas—although, in 1820, he had proclaimed a resolution to stand by “Louisiana unimpaired?” Now we have re-acquired it in spite of him—and now let us swear, and let us keep the vow sacred, to “preserve this sacred inheritance of posterity unimpaired.”

Thanks be to Tyler—thanks to Upshur and Gilmer—thanks to Calhoun—thanks to her friends in both Houses of Congress—thanks to her friends everywhere—we have recovered our "sacred inheritance"—and let us now faithfully “preserve” it. [MLD]

Tuesday, March 4, 1845  RE45i97p2c5 242 words

Will the Whigs keep their word to-day?

"Explanation.—The Whigs of Howard Grove, near Richmond, Virginia, held a meeting before the late election, and having deluded themselves into the belief that Henry Clay would be chosen President, adjourned to meet in Washington on the fourth of March. Since then, we believe, they have explained their meaning to have been something like that of Mr. Webster, when in ‘an after dinner speech.’ He recommended the occupation of the disputed North-East Territory on the fourth of July. He said he did not mean any particular forth of July; and they do not mean any particular fourth of March.”—N.Y. Morning News.

Such is the effect of “counting your chickens before they are hatched”—or, to use another adage, of “Counting without their host.” We remember this Howard Grove ceremony well.—We remember the live coon that we meant—and the multitude who assembled in that beautiful grove in the vicinity of our city—and the bold and arrogant tone of Mr. Rives, of which we heard—and the other humbug paraphernalia of the “swelling scene.” Where now is it all? Where are the living emblems of their idolatry? Where the boasting orator? Where the arrogant Idol of their faith? Where the adjourned meeting which the Convention was this day to have held in Washington? All gone—all vanished before the fiat of a free People—all, all dissolved—

“And like the baseless fabric of a vision, Left not a wreck behind.” [MLD]

Tuesday, March 4, 1845 RE45i97p2c4 1375 words

Clinging to the Last Straw!

We beg the Baltimore American to put itself entirely at ease. Texas will be satisfied with the terms of the Resolutions, and the whole work will be accomplished.

When the amended Resolutions passed the Senate on Thursday night, the National Intelligencer caught at a straw. It indulged a visionary hope, that the Whigs of the House of Representatives might still defeat the measure—that some rule of the House might cut them off from consideration—or, if they were taken up, that the Whigs might send them to a committee, where they might be smothered—or that outspeaking time in the Committee of the Whole, or by piling motion upon motion, and ayes and noes without end upon each other, they might contrive to vast the time and wear out the patience of the House. Unfortunate Whigs! Scarcely had the House met on Friday, when the Resolutions were taken up, all the maneuvers of the Whigs were defeated, every scheme was baffled, and the Resolutions were triumphantly passed by a thundering majority of 56.

The poor Whigs have still another straw to clutch at, in order to keep themselves from drowning. The “Baltimore American” catches up “one further contingency.” It is possible that Texas may decline the proffered annexation.” Yes, and we are sometimes told, that “the skies may fall,” and then, you know, according to the proverb, “we may catch larks.” “The bill as it passed the Senate (says the ‘American’) leaves the terms and conditions of annexation to be settled hereafter—that is to say, commissioners on both sides are to agree upon the terms of admission and cession which agreement is to be afterwards submitted to the Senate in the form of a treaty, or to both Houses of Congress in the shape of Articles of Agreement. In the former case, the sanction of two-thirds of the Senators will be necessary to perfect the arrangement; in the latter, it may be confirmed by joint resolution, requiring a majority of each House. It is left to the President to determine which of the two modes of confirmation shall be adopted. This is the first time, we believe, that President assumed to himself to enforce the Constitution as he understood it.—There is a possibility that the terms of agreement fixed upon by the commissioners may not receive the sanction of the Senate, or of the Congress, as the case may be. This, however, is a contingency upon which but little stress is to be laid.”

We beg the Baltimore American not to flatter itself with any hope from having so many strings to its bow. The terms and conditions of annexation are already settled by the resolutions. The House Resolutions have settled that question—for, as Col. Benton’s bill as a proviso, and proposed for the sake of compromise by Mr. Walker, it will be all
No tongue can tell, no pen describe the excitement and the elation which pervade the minds and hearts of our

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**Tuesday, March 4, 1845 RE45i97p1c4 179 words**

Mr. Merrick meets with no mercy or charity from the dis-contenteded, dis-appointed, dis-confited, (another epithet might send them to the region of Dis) Whigs. He has saved the magnificent territory of Texas, "with her fertile soil and delicious climate" (as Mr. Clay says,) from the death-struggle of party spirit—and if the Whigs curse him, why we must thank him. But I was reserved fro the most illiberal of the Whigish clan to suspect his motives. That most worthy and dignified scribbler, the "II Secretario" of the North American, says of him: "In the Senate, we have lost Merrick, whom all set down as simply bought, either with Texas scrip or with the promise of office." Does II Secretario draw from his own conscience? Does he suspect Mr. M. of doing what he would have done in a similar situation? Will Mr. Cost Johnson also coming for a share of Mr. Merrick's honors? Such are the beautiful ethics of the Whig school. Go for your country, and you are bribed. Go against your patriotism, and you are a patriot. [MLD]
friends in this city, at the prenon on Capitol Hill have announced it. The glad faces of every Democrat announce it. Two nights since, at this moment, every mind was anxious and fearful for the success of the measure; and the meandering speech of Mr. Bagby was listened to with more attention, than the ablest man of the nation could have commanded at the moment. Last night, the scene in the Senate was worth a visit to Washington. It required the intervention of the President to check the applause that was ready to burst out at Col. Benton's declaration against the enemies of Texas. To-day, the scenes in the houses were marked with a degree of interest rarely known. But how glorious the finale!—139 to 76. If you do not carry Virginia in April, after this, you had better surrender at discretion.

You will see the yeas and nays in the papers, or I would send you a copy. I have not time to write you more. Many inquiries are made after you, and surprise expressed about your not coming on.*

But I must conclude. No leakings out about the Cabinet. It is said the names will go into the Senate in a sealed paper, and not known till it is opened.

Even as I write, I fancy I hear the Texas guns going off in Richmond.

*We ought to be thankful to any of our friends for thinking of us, amid the very interesting scenes—the "high matters" (as Edward Burke would call them) by which they are surrounded. But as we wrote to Washington on Saturday, "It is no great matter whether I go or not. You will have great men enough—(we are sure enough, our good natured readers will excuse the jocular tone of the expression.)—to grace the ceremonial—much greater than I can pretend to be, men who have much served the country more efficiently, certainly not more zealously, perhaps not more honestly than I have done.—Be their's the pleasure—their's the pride. I will be content to send two—who naturally have some curiosity to witness the splendid scene, " &c., &c. But this is drawing the curtain too much of domestic life—and to use a favorite, diplomatic epithet of our late Whig friends of the Virginia Legislature, we “forbear.” One suggestion we beg leave most respectfully to submit to our friends in Washington, in this form, instead of presenting it in person;--The agitating question of Texas now settled, we have only one other great difficulty in our way. Of course, we mean the Tariff—and upon that great question the South will never "forbear"—never flinch—never desert the duty she owes to herself and to her country. Upon that question, we hope Mr. Polk will be true to the pledges, under which he was elected—pledges, as solemnly made at the Baltimore Convention, as they were made in regard to Texas. On this subject, we renew now, at this most important and accepted time, the pledge, and in the same spirit which was breathed in the sixth resolution of the Legislative Convention, "to raise the consecrated banner, and battle under it until we succeed." “Texas and the Tariff well settled,—to go on with expressions of our Washington letter)—with an honest and virtuous and able Statesman at the head of our affairs—surrounded by an accomplished Cabinet—who will not burn incense to the vanity of the office, but will boldly tell him the truth, and we shall have smooth seas for two years or more to come, until at least the question of the succession may come up. For one, I solemnly vow, that I will keep aloof from it as long as I can— as I earnestly advise you to do. Our country calls upon us to serve her now—not mere men.” These are the truths, the only truths which we would have expressed to our friends in Washington, if we were there, and if we could have ventured to interweave such grave reflections with the gay spectacle which is now exhibited among the thousands who throng the Capitol.

THE SENIOR EDITOR

MLD

Tuesday, March 4, 1845 RE45i97p2c6 542 words

To the Editors of the Enquirer

I write you this evening from within a few feet of the Hall of the House of Representatives, where the scene I anticipated in my letter of last evening is going on.

When the Senate re-assembled last night, they immediately took up the Texas Resolutions as amended, and the minority tried all possible plans to defeat them by motions for adjournment—yeas and noes on frivolous amendments, &c.

Among others, Mr. Miller of New Jersey proposed Mr. Benton's bill, by itself, as a substitute; when Mr. B. asked him "if he fancied he was out catching snow birds?" Mr. Miller then made a pathetic appeal to the Senator from Missouri not to kill his own child. Whereupon Mr. Benton with great warmth exclaimed aye, that "I will—kill it stone dead!—stone dead!"

The Federalists, seeing the futility of further attempts to defeat the wish of the majority, then submitted, and the Texas resolutions were carried by a majority of two votes. Every Republican, and three Whigs voting in favor of the measure.

In the House, when the morning hour had expired, all sorts of subterfuges were resorted to by our opponents to
prevent action on this question, but without avail. It was taken up in spite of them; and for the last two hours, Messrs. Barnard and Winthrop, backed by the elegant Mr. Washington Hunt of New York, and his "babashilie" Schenk of Ohio, are moving heaven and earth to stave off action on the question. Appeals from the decision of the Chair—motions to adjourn and calls of the House, on all of which yeas and nays are demanded, are the weapons applied by Federalism to defeat the will of the people on the question of annexation. I feel well satisfied that by midnight the resolutions as amended will have passed the House; for, at every succeeding call, the factionists are losing strength.

Our Democratic friends, to a man, are voting together. The are no divisions now. The party stand, as they should, shoulder to shoulder, under the broad banner of annexation. What a blow is this re-union to the hopes of Federalism!—"Like the last rose of summer," there prospects of breaking down Col. Polk’s administration "are faded and gone;" for they based those prospects on the probability of a split in our ranks.

HALF-PAST 6, P.M.

The Resolutions, as amended, have passed by fifty-six majority. What think you of that?—“Dick” Davis and Mr. Hale were the only men elected as Democrats who voted against them.—Davis is the person whose barber shop prophecies last winter (that Col. Polk could not get the vote of New York,) made such a noise. He has been consistently against us ever since. Mr. Hale has made so much noise in the House that all the world knows who he is. The Whigs voting with us on Brown’s Resolutions alone flew the track. Stephens of Georgia, however, was absent. Federalism had too strong a hold on them.

Guns are firing—Republicans are rejoicing—and those who secretly wished Britain success during the last war—who now would rather see her institutions than our’s the law of this land—alone mourn the consummation of annexation. Yours truly. –

[MLD]

Tuesday, March 4, 1845 RE45i97p2c6 1591 words

Washington City, March 1st

To the Editors of the Enquirer

I wrote you last night in a very hurried manner, giving a brief account of the proceeding son the Texas question up to the final triumph of the Republican party on its great measure of state—the House sat very late and passed the naval appropriation bill, on feature of which gives great offence to the very many junior officers of that branch of the service, who are daily to be found in the lobbies of Congress. It provides, that no promotion shall be made to the rank of Commodore, until the number in service shall be reduced to sixty-five—they now number ninety-five—and the candidates fear that twenty years will elapse ere the overplus die off. The House also worked half way through the army appropriation bill. The Senate sat late and were principally engaged on House bills. They concurred in the amendments made by the House to the Post Office bill. I have paid very little attention to-day to the proceedings of either branch of Congress, as, with the exception of a bill in the Senate “in regard to the claims of American citizens on Mexico,” little was done of interest to your readers.

The President of the United States has, in all probability, already signed the joint resolutions for the annexation of Texas; and, if Almonte has not asked his passports, it is generally believed he will do so on Monday. Where will he go? Not to Mexico, you may rest assured; for, the party in power there would ask no better fun than to put their hands on him. He is as odious at home as Rejon himself; for Santa Anna had no more reliable man than Senor Almonte. If he stays in Washington until after the 4th, and then travels that road, he will have to be the bearer of news to his Government even more unpalatable than those announcing the consummation of annexation; I mean of the passage of the bill before the Senate, to which I refer above; or of another, to the same effect, more prompt in its requirements, and decided in its character, if possible. This bill, after setting forth the delays and subterfuges to which Mexico has resorted to avoid paying claims acknowledged as just, demands that she shall at once come to a settlement as per her former agreement; and provides, that if she delays, the President of the United States shall appoint a Board of three Commissioners, to hold their sessions in Washington, for the adjudication of the claims; and then our Government hall forthwith proceed to force payment.

Both parties in the Senate will stand up to this bill, which the conduct of Mexico renders so necessary; you have doubtless seen a paragraph going the rounds of the Whig papers, upon the subject of payment of the last enstalment ($275,000) due from Mexico to our Government.—They say, that it was repaid to Santa Anna by our agent, as a bribe form this Government, to smother his opposition to annexation! Even the Intelligencer, with all its claims to propriety, truthfulness and fair dealing, copied it in such a manner as to impress its readers with a belief of the truth of the statement. Mind ye this was to work as spoke in Federalism’s wheel of opposition to Texas. The Editors of the Intelligencer can plead no fair excuse for their semi-endorsement of this their last, slander upon the Government of the United States; for in five minutes they could have obtained any information upon the subject form the State department, necessary to refute this story.
Here are the circumstances of the case, as they were told me to-day, by a gentleman upon whom I can rely. The firm of Harzons & Co., in Vera Cruz and New York, and Vosa & Co., in Mexico, are agents of our Government for receiving the money already stipulated to be paid by Mexico to the United States. Trigoeros, Santa Anna’s late Secretary of the Treasury, is a principal partner of these firms. With one hand, as Santa Anna’s fiscal agent he paid the last installment ($275,000) into the other, with which he wrote the receipt as agent of the U.S. Government. The money found its way into his own pocket, and he has absquatulated along with the rest of his master’s Ministers, whose heads are not safe on their own shoulders if caught within the Republic of Mexico. Santa Anna’s robberies of the Treasury of his own Government, furnished him with an illustrious precedent for this robbery of ours. Our Treasury suffers by this financial “operation” for you will remember he was sufficiently patriotic to give his own Government a receipt for the money as U.S. agent. This Congress will be forced to appropriate the sum stolen, the United States being responsible for it to the claimants.

The Federalists stared aghast, at the late vote, in both branches of Congress, on the Texas question. Notwithstanding the failure of all their previous attempts to produce disunion in the Republican ranks, they had fondly hoped that those who differed somewhat from the main body of the party, (as to the best terms for annexation,) would stand off, and become permanently estranged from their old political friends. They had hoped to profit by the “split,” to every great extent; and at this moment are not half so much distressed at the passage of the resolutions as at the “re-union,” which permits the President elect to begin the exercise of his functions with a party to sustain him, who stand most firmly knit together by a common devotion to the great principles inscribed on the banner of Democracy. At no time during the administration of Jefferson and Jackson were their supporters more of one mind on each and every important measure of State in issue between the parties—Nor were they ever more keenly alive to the importance of presenting an unbroken front to the enemies of the cause of liberal principles. This the Federalists here, see, know, and feel most deeply; for, they may be heard, in all public places about town, cursing roundly at the adhereness so natural to those who fight for great principles, and for these alone.

It is but due to Judge Bayly of Virginia to say, that to no man more than to himself, belongs the credit of having carried through this important measure in such a manner as not only to harmonize all bitterness and jealousy among our friends, but at the same time to guard and protect the momentous interests of the South therein. His bearing during the entire time the question was before Congress, now that it is so happily settled, receives much praise from almost every Republican of the Senate and House. His industry, caution, self-possession, firmness, and withal, his frank conciliatory spirit, as displayed during the late trying times, were the subject of conversation to-day among seven of the most distinguished of our friends in the House—with whom I chanced to be for the moment.

These gentlemen were from different sections of the country—no two from the same State. And in roaming over the attempts to distract the party, the heart-burnings arising from misconceptions of views and feelings, and the efforts once or twice made to drag our friends into submission, to the views of first one and then another—his prompt exposure of the tricks of our adversaries—his efforts to reconcile estranged political friends, and his manly resistance to distraction, form any and every quarter, were referred to, as having most happily contributed to the final settlement of the question, upon terms uniting the whole party in its support.

A lithographed picture—a beautiful thing—was received this morning at the Post Office of the H. of Representatives for distribution among those members who voted against the Annexation of Texas, on the ever memorable 25th of January, 1845. It was an abolition offering of praise and gratitude to those gentlemen who thereby had rendered such important services to the cause of Loyd Garrison & Co. Ishal not describe it minutely; but will mention that among the names of heroes, statesmen, and philanthropists, inscribed on the wreath, Santa Anna’s stood out boldly such important services to the cause of Loyd Garrison & Co. Ishal not describe it minutely; but will mention that among the names of heroes, statesmen, and philanthropists, inscribed on the wreath, Santa Anna’s stood out boldly. It was an abolition offering of praise and gratitude to those gentlemen who thereby had rendered such important services to the cause of Loyd Garrison & Co. It was an abolition offering of praise and gratitude to those gentlemen who thereby had rendered such important services to the cause of Loyd Garrison & Co.

When I came to the names of the Federalist of Virginia—Summers, Goggin and Chilton, and of those of North Carolina, Rayner, Clingman, Deberry and Barringer, my blood ran cold within me. It was too much to bear with any degree of patience. When these men return to their constituents, and attempt, with their lawyer cuteness at special pleading, to convince them that they have discharge their duties on this questions, as Representatives from the south, let this picture be held up before them, dedicated by the abolitionists as a testimony of their gratitude and respect, won by the course of these Southern men on a question of more vital importance to the South than any that has agitated the country since the admission of Missouri as a State.

Yours truly. [MLD]

Friday, March 7, 1845 RE45i98p1c7 1740 words

Commend the Poisoned Chalice to their own Lips!

The people of Virginia will remember, among the other numerous shameless humbugs of the Whigs, during the last Presidential Campaign, the Disunion Humbug. They attempted to ring as many changes upon it as the six bellringers, with their 42 bells. They attempted to intimidate the people with their panic notes, that South Carolina was bent upon the dissolution of the Union—that the Republicans of the Sough were embarked in the same conspiracy—that Colonel Polk was the selected leader of the traitors—and that his election would seal the fate of the Union. The
have quoted, however, deserves more than ordinary condemnation. If there is one thing more than another that
bitter language of opposition, if not zealously engaged in promoting their old plans of disunion. Such language as we
"The Federal leaders of to-day, on account of the expected annexation of a splendid territory, are using their old
combination, first to rule the whole, and if that should prove impracticable, to separate from the rest—has been so
ready to rally about such a banner? Are they ready to embark in open resistance to the LAWS OF THE LAND?
"But take the words as they stand, and what do they mean? They invite the people of Massachusetts to resist a law
made until the leaders think the pear shall be ripe?
"Does it mean that the people of Massachusetts, acting in their inherent right, shall throw off the Federal
Government? In other words, do what the Declaration of Independence declares a people have a right to do. That
they have the right to alter and abolish government whenever and wherever they please, is, unquestionably, the
doctrine of the revolution. If the Legislature mean to take this ground, or, is other words, to plant themselves on the
great national right of revolution, then another question comes up, whether the causes are sufficient to justify such a
movement. But this ground is disclaimer by the Whig party. While its every movement appears upon its face to
have been designed to effect a dissolution of the Union, it still repudiates such an intention. Is the disclaimer only
made until the leaders think the pear shall be ripe?
"But in all this the federalism of to-day but imitates the federalism of a former period. If it has been inconsistent in
argument, advocating and opposing one and the same doctrine, as the expediency of the time seemed to dictate, it
has been consistent in its purposes. These have been to gain political power at any end every hazard—to rule or
ruin. In 1798 it declared that if Jefferson was made President, the constitution, the country and the bible would
share the same fate. Facts show that all through hi administration, "certain leaders" did what they could to make
this prediction true. They declared the Louisiana purchase of no binding force, and negotiated to establish a new
confederacy. They declared the embargo laws of no binding force, and practiced open resistance to them—the federal legislature even going so far as to pass an act making the enforcement of some of the provisions of
this law criminal, and attaching penalties to a violation of this State act. They declared the requisition of the
Congress pass an act admitting Texas into this Union, such act "WILL HAVE NO BINDING FORCE WHATEVER ON THE
PEOPLE OF MASSACHUSETTS."
"Words are said to be things. The Whig majority of the Massachusetts Legislature have solemnly resolved, that if
Congress pass an act admitting Texas into this Union, such act "WILL HAVE NO BINDING FORCE WHATEVER ON THE
PEOPLE OF MASSACHUSETTS."

"THE TEXAS RESOLVES: ANCIENT AND MODERN FEDERALISM.

"Resolved, That there has hitherto been no precedent of an admission of a foreign State or foreign Territory into the
Union by legislation. And as the powers of legislation granted in the Constitution of the United States, to Congress,
do not embrace a case of the admission of a foreign State or foreign Territory, by legislation, into the Union, SUCH
AN ACT OF ADMISSION WILL HAVE NO BINDING FORCE WHATSOEVER ON THE PEOPLE OF MASSECHUSETTS."

"Does it mean that the Whig majority of the Massachusetts Legislature have solemnly resolved, that if
Congress pass an act admitting Texas into this Union, such act "WILL HAVE NO BINDING FORCE WHATEVER ON THE
PEOPLE OF MASSACHUSETTS." This language is either trifling, or it is disorganizing. But first, it is not to be
supposed that the men who compose the majority of this Legislature would pass a series of resolves to merely trifle
with their time or with the money of the people. If not trifling, then, secondly, these legislators have here done what
they could, and all they could, to raise a spirit of opposition to government that, hereafter, may not "down at their
bidding." Here the legally constituted authorities of Massachusetts have deliberately and solemnly declared, that if
the similarly constituted legal authorities of the Union shall enact a certain law, this law "will have no binding force
whatever on the people!" What does this mean?

"But take the words as they stand, and what do they mean? They invite the people of Massachusetts to resist a law
of Congress. Here men priding themselves on their conservative principles—men who have law and order eternally
upon their lips—men who are daily charging their political opponents with promoting anarchy; these men unfurl the
banner of resistance to a contemplated act of the supreme authority of the country. Are the people of Massachusetts
ready to rally about such a banner? Are they ready to embark in open resistance to the LAWS OF THE LAND?

"But in all this the federalism of to-day but imitates the federalism of a former period. If it has been inconsistent in
argument, advocating and opposing one and the same doctrine, as the expediency of the time seemed to dictate, it
has been consistent in its purposes. These have been to gain political power at any end every hazard—to rule or
ruin. In 1798 it declared that if Jefferson was made President, the constitution, the country and the bible would
share the same fate. Facts show that all through hi administration, "certain leaders" did what they could to make
this prediction true. They declared the Louisiana purchase of no binding force, and negotiated to establish a new
confederacy. They declared the embargo laws of no binding force, and practiced open resistance to them—the federal legislature even going so far as to pass an act making the enforcement of some of the provisions of
this law criminal, and attaching penalties to a violation of this State act. They declared the requisition of the
United States for its militia to defend the country of no binding force; and not only refused compliance with it, but to
embarrass the Democratic administration, endeavored to engage Connecticut and Rhode Island in a similar course of
disorganization—and, with shame be it said, the federal Judges even supported the federal Governor, (Strong) and
his factious legislature. Does anyone with to see the key to all this open opposition? John Adams has got it among
his papers. It was the aim of the federal leaders, he says, first to rule and if they failed, then to dissolve the Union.—
In a letter to Gov. Plumer, of New Hampshire, dated August 16, 1809, written on the banks of Newfoundland, Mr.
Adams says—

"The plan of a New England combination, more closely cemented than by the ties of the Federal Government—a
combination, first to rule the whole, and if that should prove impracticable, to separate from the rest—has been so
far matured, and has engaged the studies, the intrigues and ambition of so many leading men in our part of the
country, that I think it will produce mischievous consequences unless seasonably and effectually discountenanced by
men of more influence and comprehensive views."

"The Federal leaders of to-day, on account of the expected annexation of a splendid territory, are using their old
bitter language of opposition, if not zealously engaged in promoting their old plans of disunion. Such language as we
have quoted, however, deserves more than ordinary condemnation. If there is one thing more than another that
distinguishes a good citizen, it is obedience to law. If there is one thing more than another that deserves the severest condemnation, it is the inflammatory language that not only invites but commands disobedience to law. Such is the terrible language of these violent resolves.—They receive the most hearty welcome from the most fanatic abolitionists. They should receive the withering rebuke of every good citizen and true patriot.”

Now, people of Virginia, mark! Not a syllable have we seen escape any Whig Press, in reprobation of this disorganizing resolution from Massachusetts. If we attempt to defeat the Whigs in their unholy office of cramming an anti-Texas, a Tariff Whig, for six years down the thoughts of 6,000 majority of the people of Virginia, then it is we hear from their fiery lips the cry of our being “disorganizing, ” “revolutionary,” &c., &c.—But whenever their own cronies in Massachusetts threaten to withdraw from the Union, if Texas be annexed to it, why then, they are as “dumb as oysters.” Such are the humbugging Whigs!

Another Whig Humbug!

Our readers have not forgotten, of course, the British Gold Humbug—how it was circulated in every form—proclaimed in every Whig newspaper—announced by every Whig slangwhanger from the stump—thrown into an Election handbill, just before the election, by the “Sole Author,” (now honored by a seat in the Executive Council, from which John Rutherford was removed in compliment to his (Mr. Daniels) pretensions.) Well, what has become of that humbug? Dead as King Harry the 8th—almost hissed off the stage, after it had stalked its busy hour upon it. We proclaimed at the moment, that the statement form the London Times, on which it was erected, was a forgery and a fraud; but the true history of the transaction has just leaked out, to stamp its authors with additional infamy. One, who was then connected with “The Republic,” a New York newspaper, has come forward to certify that it was forged by one of the officers of a Clay Club in the city of New York, to humbug an enlightened people. Thanks be to a gracious Providence, and thanks be to a “sober, second though” people, all these humbugs were of no avail—and James K. Polk, instead of Henry Clay, was yesterday sworn into office as the President of the United States, by the voice of an enlightened people. Had Harry of the West been yesterday carried into power, we might well have trembled for the very liberties of the country. Power thus obtained, by a desperate party, and wielded by a bold and arrogant man, would have been certainly most grossly abused. The party, which acquires power by such abuses, is sure to abuse the power thus acquired. Never had the American people more cause for gratulation, than they have for the glorious events of yesterday. [MLD]
are devoted to the interests of the Republican party—and we trust, they will assiduously devote themselves to the support of its principles, and the best service of their country. They have our cordial wishes for their success—and Mr. Polk, our anxious hopes for the glory of his Administration.

The Washington Correspondent of the "Philadelphia United States Gazette," (Oliver Old school) refers in his letter of the 2nd instant to the difficulties which Mr. Polk must have had in organizing his Cabinet—and portrays some of the heart burnings, which it is pleased to imagine, among the friends of Messrs. Calhoun and Van Buren. E know not how this may be. We all have our favorites—and they (the Whigs) have been pleased to say, that we have ours. We are not ashamed to "own the soft impeachment." We were desirious to see one gentleman in that Cabinet, whose name we do not see there, because we believed him eminently calculated for the Executive service. But it has pleased Mr. Polk to select other distinguished men. But this we will undertake to say, that no man has been more efficient than he has proved to be in every service to which he has been called.—He would have adorned the highest possible post in the Cabinet—as he is a man of business, acquainted with both men and things, prompt in decision, energetic in action—who would scorn to burn incense to the vanity of the highest office, whilst he would dare to speak, what men in power, generally, so much want, the truth, even when it is the most unpleasant—As he proved himself the frank, enlightened, and efficient friend of General Jackson, so we had hoped that Mr. Polk would have found it consistent with his public duties to call him to his side. He has deemed it best, however, to make another disposition of the seals of office,—and we do not hesitate to say, that the gentleman in question will do his duty to himself, to his party, and to his country. [MLD]

Friday, March 7, 1845  RE45i98p4c6  309 words

ANTI-TEXAS WHIGS

The Whig presses of New York are taken all aback by the news of the annexation of Texas—It is impossible for them to conceal, or for us to describe, the agony of their disappointment. If, as the New York Express says, we "have been lifted out of the very cave of despair, into the perfect fruition of Paradise," we can only return the compliment by saying, that the Express has sunk into that cave from which we have been lifted—and that there is scarcely a "deeper Hell" into which it could possibly descend.

The New York Tribune adopts a still more reprehensible and disgraceful tone. It denounces one of its recent favorites, Merrick of Maryland, as "the purchased traitor of Maryland!" It has the folly to exclaim:

"Yes, the mischief is done, and we are now involved in war! We have adopted a war ready made, and taken upon ourselves its prosecution to the end. We are to furnish the bodies to fill trenches and the cash to defray its enormous expense."

With almost a traitor's spirit, it appears to egg on Great Britain to war with us, on account of Texas. Hear the maniac:

"If, therefore, Great Britain should see fit to stand up for the feeble and unoffending people on whom we are making war, she will be but obeying the instinct of self-preservation. By our proceedings in getting possession of Texas, we have declared ourselves the enemies of the civilized world, or only restrained from becoming such by the lowest considerations of self-interest. Surely, there must come a reckoning for this. If those who are driving us on to untold expenditure and carnage were themselves to pay the taxes and stop the bullets, it would be a different matter."

We leave such a journalist to the scorn and indignation of the country.

Friday, March 7, 1845  RE45i98p4c7  1054 words

For the Enquirer

Having seen two articles in the Richmond Whig, in reference to the correspondence between Dr. John R. Taylor and Col. Billups, I was somewhat surprised at the non-committal course pursued by Colonel Billups relating to the instructions received by that gentlemen from a majority of the legally qualified voters of the election district of Mathews and Middlesex, which [...] has the honor to represent, by the accidental [...]prise that I felt, was considerably heightened [...] the fact, that Col. B. last Spring expressed himself as believing in the right of instructions [...] as a matter of course, I concluded that he th[...], it the duty of the representative to obey, when [...] could do so without a violation of his constitutional oath, and, should his obedience conflict his mind with that oath, that then it was his duty to resign.

Until towards the latter part of the session of the Legislature, I was pleased with the vote given by our representative, and concluded that he would continue to carry out the wishes of both the Whigs and Democrats of Mathews and Middlesex, and regretted very much, that when the vote was taken upon the Senate's amendment of the resolution of the House, expressing the constitutionality of annexing Texas by a joint resolution of Congress,
Colonel Billups should have voted against the amendment, and thus by his vote, showing us he was opposed to the annexation of Texas, notwithstanding, before his election, he had declared himself in favor of Texas, and went so far as to pledge himself to vote against Henry Clay, should he come out against the annexation of that delightful country. After Mr. Clay's letters m[...] their appearance, Col. B. changed his grou[...] like the Richmond Whig, but he did not have the precaution to play non-committal with that ad[...]ness that he appears to have learned since he had been to Richmond, viz: in remaining silent [...] the request of the constituents of both gentlemen until after the Senate had postponed going in an election of United States Senator indefin[...]ly. An answer from Col. Billups, stating that he was willing to obey the voice of a large majority of his constituents, would have ensured us a Senator to carry out the wishes of the people of Virginia, as expressed last Fall by a majority [...] 6,000 freemen. But no; rather than throw an obstacle in the way of those two traitors to the South—Rives and Archer—the annexation of Texas must be defeated—although John Quincy Adams, and his Abolition friends of the Nor[...] were willing to go for it, but for strengthen[...] the Southern States—and thus give them a be[...] change to crush the institution of slavery, guaranteed to us by the Constitution—and then [...] glorious Union, whose flag ought to be waving over every sea, with the addition of the lone star of the sunny South, will be rent asunder by the chilling gales of Northern abolitionists, and [...] proud eagle of America will be trampled under the feet of the British lion, whose ambition is as insatiable as the ravenous vulture.

With these facts before us will it be believed that Col. John R. Billups would suffer party feeling, notwithstanding his previous pledges in favor of Texas, to cause him to do aught to defend the glorious consummation of the happy union that have ever existed form the creation of the world—whose stars, if united, would form a constellation whose refugene would illuminate the world, and guide mankind on to freedom[...] should they be hurled from the firmament, when they now shine so brightly, then will darkness and blood cover the face of the earth. Forb[...] Heaven! Forbid it, Democrats! You are the instruments in the hand of Omnipotence to rescue these noble Republics from the tyranny of abolitionism, Britain and Mexico. Rally in [...] your strength to the polls in the coming Spring elections, and sweep from our State and National councils every Whig or Democrat, if one [...] the latter can be found, who opposed the admission of Texas; unite-upon one of your strength and most popular men, and let your motto be "Union for the sake of Union”

We have dissensions now in our ranks, in [...] thews: two Democratic candidates in the field [...] This will never do. Let us try and harmonize and unite upon one man. The Whigs have but one candidate, and why should we have tow! We have 37 majority in the two counties; and shall we again be misrepresented by a Whig, [...] who has shown himself opposed to Texas? Ne[...] Capt. A.K. Shepard is the nominee of the Democratic party; he is a young gentleman of ab[...] and talent, and is calculated to do us honor [...] Legislature. Mr. John J. Hudgings, the [...] candidate, is a good man, of strong mind; b[...] he was not the nominee, his country and his cause call to him in thrilling notes, not only to withdraw, to support the choice of the party. Should both gentlemen hold on, our defeat is certain, and we shall probably have a Whig majority in the Senate of the United States, and every measure which we hold dear will thus be defeated [...] the administration of the people’s President [...] not this enough to arouse you, fellow Democ[...] and States Right Whigs, (for I will not appeal [...] Federalists,) to rally to the support of one man [...].

Before concluding this article, Messrs. Editors, permit me to pay a tribute justly due to our able and true Representative in the senate Doctor John R. Taylor, not only for his [...]delity in carrying out the will of his constituents, but for the firm, yet courteous and respectful manner, which characterizes his correspondence with Col. Billups; and also for making [...] public. Let the Whig vilify and abuse [...] Taylor, and try and justify the non-commitment of Col. Billups; yet I am much mistaken if [...] Democrats and Sates Rights Whigs are not sufficiently enlightened to appreciate the worth of Dr. Taylor, and condemn the course of Col. Billups, in endeavoring to defeat the annexation of Texas, and the election of a Senator in favor of Texas, and in accordance with the express will of a majority of his constituents.

ZEN[...]

[MLD]

Friday, March 7, 1845 RE45i98p4c5 191 words

The Oregon Negotiation

The following information, copied from the New York Courier and Enquirer of Thursday last, is highly interesting at the present juncture in public affairs—Nat. Int.

"We referred yesterday to the favorable account given in a recent message of the President of the amicable spirit in which this negotiation has been conducted.

"Since then we learn, upon authority entitled to the most implicit reliance, that, in the event of a failure on the part of the negotiators at Washington to agree upon the respective rights of the parties, the British Government have suggested the reference of the whole question to the arbitration of any European Sovereign, to be designated by the Government of the United States, agreeing to abide by his award.

"With such an offer this nation must close, unless we be prepared to assert our extremist claims at every hazard, without regard to the claims of others, and in utter contempt of the moral sense of the world."
"It must therefore be assumed as certain, that the Oregon question will be amicably adjusted, and that in no event, therefore, can any misunderstanding occur with England in relation to it."

Friday, March 7, 1845 RE45i98p4c5 66 words

Dispatches to Texas

Floyd Wagaman, Esq., will leave the city this afternoon to deliver to Maj. Donelson, temporarily at Nashville, the Joint Resolution for the admission of Texas into the Union, which was signed by the President of the United States on Saturday. Should it be found that our Charge has left Nashville, the bearer of dispatches has been directed to proceed immediately himself to Texas—Madisonian, March, 3.

Friday, March 7, 1845 RE45i98p4c6 35 words

Ho! For Texas!

At Baltimore on Saturday last, one hundred guns were fired from Federal Hill, in honor of the passage, by Congress, of the resolutions uniting the "Lone Star" to the glorious constellation of our happy Union.

Tuesday, March 11, 1845 RE45i99p1c5 67 words

Mr. Baptist's Speech, on the election of Senator, has been crowed out by more pressing engagements. The Legislature and Congress being now dispersed, and Texas, the all-engrossing question of the day, begin as we hope, settled, we shall have more sea-room for other communications, as soon as we have published two or three speeches, connected with that important subject. Mr. B's speech will receive the earliest attention. [MLD]

Tuesday, March 11, 1845 RE45i99p2c5 244 words

Mr. Merrick of Maryland

For yielding to the impulse of duty, above all party considerations, Mr. Merrick has been denounced by the Whig press as a traitor, bought and sold, to vote for Texas. It is unnecessary for us to defend him. He must despise the empty denunciation. Every one sees that it is the spiteful spirit of the baffled Whigs, which is attempting to wreak its vengeance upon him.—But there is at least one Whig press, which can do Mr. Merrick justice—and that is, the "New Orleans Bulletin," which holds the following language on the 3d inst.:

"Mr. Merrick, Whig Senator in Congress from the State of Maryland, on the 21st ult., made a bold and full declaration of his sentiments with regard to the annexation of Texas. Spurning all minor considerations, he came out like a true man and a patriot in support of the measure, as of national and paramount concern. We hail this noble and manly movement as an auspicious sign. Does it not warrant the hope that other Senators, whose votes have been thought to be doubtful, have been moved by the magnanimous example of Mr. Merrick, and that the country will be spared the anxiety and agitation of further deylay? Of course we cannot count on the Riveses, the Archers, the Berriens, or the Barrows, who have committed themselves irrevocably; but Judge Johnson surely will not follow the stupid lead of his colleague. We believe his vote may be reckoned on."

[MLD]

Tuesday, March 11, 1845 RE45i99p4c4 171 words

The Mexican Minister
Signor Almonte, it is said, will demand his passports the moment the Texas Bill is signed, and Mexico will declare war. That the Signor would return home was anticipated. His friend, Santa Anna, has involved all his faithful followers in his troubles, but we doubt the war portion of the rumor; unless, indeed, the invitation of our own citizens or journalists to Mexico go to war with us I deemed a sufficient warrant. If, without the shade of a shadow of cause, Mexico is induced to take that rash step, annexation with Mexico, Texas and the United States extends our republic over nearly the Whole of North America. A United States squadron will made its appearance in the Gulf in a few days, and every privateer under the Mexican flag cruising against our, commerce, the crew of which does not contain two-thirds of native born Mexican seamen, will be deemed pirates according to the law of nations and suffer accordingly. So we may safely say to all interested, “stand form under.”

Phil. Spirit of the Times.

Tuesday, March 11, 1845 RE45i99p4c4 135 words

Amusing

Besides abusing Mr. Merrick for voting for Annexation, the newspapers opposed to the measure, are also hurling their denunciations against Mr. Bagby, of Alabama, for giving his vote in its favor, though the people of his State decidedly approve of it, and made annexation one of the issues at the last election. The most amusing thing, however, is that fact, that those who, a year or two ago, argued strongly for the abolition of he veto power, as a most arbitrary and dangerous prerogative, have suddenly discovered that it is decidedly conservative, and urge President Tyler to apply it in the Texas business. Nothing is so likely to make men inconsistent as the abandonment of fixed principles, and suffering their views of Governmental policy and public affairs to be determined by their feelings.

Philadelphia Ledger. [MLD]

Friday, March 14, 1845 RE45i100p1c4 2085 words

For the Enquirer.

To Robert J. Walker, Esq, Secretary of the Treasury

Sir—I am your political, and I dare to add your personal friend, although I have scarcely the honor of your private acquaintance. In yesterday’s Enquirer, there is a rapid sketch on your life and your services, which is calculated to make a very favorable impression upon the public mind. I recognize in you one of the first champions, who brought Gen. Jackson to the public notice, as a candidate for the Presidential chair. I admire you especially for your devotion to the cause of Texas. Upon that subject, you have the highest claim upon the gratitude of the U. States as well as of Texas. If the Republic of the “Lone Star” voted you a statue in 1837, for your services in her cause, no man will dispute your pretensions as the present time. NO man has done more for her than Ro. J. Walker; no man has done more to bring her back into the Union, not even excepting the Hero of the Hermitage himself—no man better deserves your reward—and lo, you have it, in part, in the distinguished office which you have received in the Cabinet of Mr. Polk.

You are now the Secretary of the Treasury, and that important office calls you to the highest duties which falls within the scope of the Executive power. You have assisted in settling the question of Texas. But there is one of their important measure to adjust, and if you are equally successful in disposing of the Tariff, as you have been on the subject of Texas, you will again receive the thanks of your country. Mr. Polk will have, then, it is to be hoped, a smooth sea to navigate. The Republican Party will be better united, and the country more tranquil than it has been for several years past. But I will not disguise from you the fact, that the measurer is as difficult in itself, as the result may be glorious ot yourself. You must bring to its consideration as much firmness as discretion—as much correct theory as copious details—as profound a sense of what is due to the obligations of public faith, as to the interests of a suffering people. Are you prepared to do your duteies in this spirit, or to temporize away our rights, and fritter way your own character? As your friends and still more the friend of our country, I sincerely wish you every success and every qualification which could belong to a Gallatin or a McLane.

I would warn you against too much confidence in present appearances. The South is now seemingly quiet. But it is like Vesuvius, before the volcano bursts forth. She is indignant at the oppressions under which she is now laboring. She will never rest satisfied with the act of ’42.—She has it held her wrath, because she has been plunged in all the excitement of a Presidential Election. She has been struggling to elect a President, who would assist her in obtaining justice and relief. No sooner did she succeed in this object, than the great controversy about Texas came on—and though many of her sons demanded immediate action upon both these questions, yet it soon became obvious, that there was no time to carry both objects at the late session of Congress. The Tariff admitted of more delay than Texas—and to this last question, therefore, they ultimately concentrated all their exertions. But Texas now carried, you
may expect the Tariff cause to be called up from the docket—and the ablest advocates devoted to its prosecution. Even South Carolina consented to waive its rights, until the Presidency first, and then Texas, were decided. South Carolina, oppressed as she has been, betrayed by a violation of the public faith, as pledged in the Compromise act, was willing to pause for a time. But you cannot expect her to slumber forever. Virginia, and all the South, will unite with her in demanding justice at the hands of the next Congress.

I need not remind you, Mr. Walker, that the present "bill of abominations" was the illegitimate offspring of necessity. The Treasury was impoverished and in debt, and the friends of Mr. Clay refused to give any relief to the Government without severely taxing the South for the benefit of the Northern manufactures. You recollect the whole history of the odious transaction, and you manfully stood up on your place in the Senate, and voted against the bill of 1842. It was carried, you know, by a majority of one only. You heard Mr. Rives denouncing it as worse in many respects than the abominable act of '28, and as completely prostrating the Compromise Act of '33. In what spirit it was received by the Republican Party of the South, it is scarcely necessary for me to say. The following extracts from the Richmond Enquirer of August 26, and September 2d, 1842, may not, however, be altogether out of place:

"But this bill, this new 'Bill of Abominations,' is too oppressive to be borne. It is not a Revenue bill, but a Protective bill, and it therefore violates the spirit and intention of the compromise act of '33. It disturbs the 'public faith.' It infringes the 'treaty of amity and peace.' It cuts off many of the articles of importation on which duties ought to be laid, and revenue collected. It prohibits them for the benefit of the domestic monopolist, and revives the odious system of protection, in one of its most oppressive forms. It is, therefore, contrary to the spirit and principle of the compromise act; and, therefore, the whole South, the whole agricultural and commercial interest, should make war upon it, the moment it shall be thrust upon the Statute Book. The South must be roused, and Virginia will be the first to raise the standard of opposition to this fraudulent and iniquitous measure. We appeal to the Senate for assistance. We appeal even to the moderate Whigs for co-operation. Surely, the Southern Senators have not entirely forgotten the great lessons they have learned in days of yore. Surely they have not abandoned every principle which they once professed. Surely, they have their own consistency as much at heart, as the ambitious interests of their Federal leader."

"The Globe gives us a very copious Report of the very interesting Debate, which took place in the Senate on Saturday last on the Tariff bill—It occupies nearly one broadside of the Journal—but, extensive as it is, we shall attempt to lay it all before our readers, as giving the views of different Senators, and the reasons which compelled them to vote for the obnoxious measure, and as shedding some light on their future course.—The Tariff bill received the votes of four Democrats, viz: Messrs. Buchanan, Sturgeon, Wright, and Williams, (of Maine.) Without their vote, one or more of the Whigs, who voted against the bill, would have been compelled to show their true colors, and vote on the others die, to save the bill. If the vote of the Democrats had been withheld, and the bill had failed, we understand, that the bill would have enlisted more of the Whig votes on its behalf.

"The four Democrats voted for the bill with great reluctance—Three of them, (Buchanan, Williams and Wright,) with a protestando. The full report in the Globe gives us their speeches.—They will be found extremely interesting. Mr. Buchanan assigns the alternatives between which he had to choose—(the saving of the public lands the securing of a revenue to the Treasury with out litigation with the merchants, and the saving of certain manufacturing interests—and the voting for a bill which he does not approve, for which he says, he 'would not vote, were it not for the unparalleled condition of the existing law, the treasury and the country'—a bill, which he pronounces to be 'extravagant in the protection it affords and, in some instances, is all together prohibitory.' He 'accepts it now, as much the least of two evils, and looks forward with hope to better times for an adjustment of the Tariff, on a scale more consonant with the all great and various interests of the Union, without sections.'

"With every disposition in the world to threat with every liberality gentlemen who have hitherto distinguished themselves in the Democratic ranks, yet we beg leave most respectfully to say, that we shall hold them to the letter and spirit of their averments—that we shall never rest satisfied until this 'bill of abominations' is expunged from the Statute Book, or completely changed in its enactments—and that we shall count upon Messrs. Buchanan, Sturgeon, Wright, and Williams, to co-operate with us, and take the cross upon their own shoulders. Repeat! Repeat!! is now the word. We must get back to the spirit and the principle of the Compromise Act—to which the public faith is pledged—and which was in '33 the 'treaty of Amity and Peace'—or the South never will be satisfied—NEVER! It is in vain that Senator White, on the 27th August, congratulates the Whig Committee of Philadelphia 'on the passage by both Houses of a permanent Tariff bill.' Permanent it cannot be. Permanent, the revenues of the country will not permit it to be—Permanent, the interests of the manufacturers themselves will not permit it to be—Permanent, the interests for the agricultural and commercial interests—the rights of the whole South will not suffer it to be. Everything forbids it, except the factious purposes of he Clay Clique."

You, Sir, voted against the bill. It was understood, on all hands, during the last campaign, that Mr. Polk was vehemently opposed to its iniquities. He disclaimed it in his speech to the people of Madison and adjoining counties in April, 1843, and declared that “the difference between the Federal and the Republican parties is whilst they are the advocates of Distribution and a Protective Tariff—measures which we consider ruinous to the interests of the country, and especially to the interests of the Planting, States we have steadily and at all times opposed both.” I have no fear that Mr. Polk will not carry out the pledges under which he was elected. I cannot permit myself to doubt, that you will discharge your duties with an eye to these considerations.

The subject, however, is as complicated in some of its aspects, as it is important in others. May I then respectfully suggest, sir, the propriety of collecting information, as soon as possible, to assist you in guiding your course? Mr. McLane, your collect, was the Secretary of Treasury in 1832. The excitement was rising to its height in S. Carolina. Every body saw that something must be done to appease the public discontent. Gen. Jackson was the first to see it, and determined as far as he could to relieve the people. Congress was about to take up the subject.
A call was made upon the Secretary for a Tariff bill. He replied at once, Give me time, and you shall have one.

The delay being granted, Mr. McLane addressed a Circular to gentlemen in the most important points of the country, to obtain information on the trade and manufactures of all—to ascertain what articles would admit of reduction—what duties should be imposed. The mass of information he received in reply was extensive and valuable. Upon this species of statistics, he founded the bill, afterwards called Verplanek’s bill—Mr. V. being Chairman of the Committee on Finance. It was the prospect of passing this bill, by the force of Gen. Jackson’s name, that alarmed Mr. Clay into his celebrated Compromise Act—celebrated not more for the solemn pledges, which Mr. Clay gave at the time, than the shameless treachery with which he has subsequently violated them.

But I submit a similar course for your imitation. The mass of answers to Mr. McLane’s Circular is now in your Department. May I suggest to your consideration, that you hunt them up, examine them carefully, and send forth a similar Circular, to collect the same information—to direct your own course: and to enable you to report a similar bill, with the mass of statistics on which it is founded, to the next Congress?—Thus you will proceed with full information before you; and Congress will act with more promptitude decision and wisdom.

A FRIEND TO THE ADMINISTRATION

Friday, March 14, 1845  RE45i100p1c3 190 words

MR. CALHOUN

This distinguished gentleman reached Richmond in yesterday’s cars. He dined with some of his friends at the Exchange Hotel, and present the evening with one of his acquaintances. He leaves the city to-day in the mid-day cars for his home in South Carolina.

We were happy to see Mr. Calhoun in better health, with excellent spirits, and blessed with great equanimity of temper—and retiring with the most courteous feeling towards Mr. Polk and his administration. We rejoice to have met at the same table with Gen. Lamar, the Ex-President of Texas, who is on his way to that Republic—with the kindliest feelings towards the annexation of Texas. We can entertain little doubt, that Texas will come into the Union under the Resolution of the House of Representatives, and thus the Pandora’s box will be closed forever.

We understand that Mr. Almonte’s letter demanding his passports, had been received by our Government, and that probably the first letter which Mr. Buchanan had written, as Secretary of State, was in reply to Mr. Almonte—and that this letter does great credit to him in the new honors which he wears.

[MLD]

Tuesday, March 14, 1845  RE45i100p2c3 117 words

New Orleans, March 5.

FROM MEXICO

By the arrival at a late hour last night of the brig Abiona, Captain Doane, we have intelligence from Vera Cruz up to the 18th inst., four days later.

Verbally we learn that there was no news of importance stirring. Santa Anna was still in prison at Perote. Letters from the tyrant to different merchants at Vera Cruz, directing them not to give up any money of his in their hands, had been intercepted.

It is stated that the 24th of February had been fixed upon as the time of bringing on the trial of Santa Anna, and he is to send on his defense in writing instead of appearing in person before the Grand Jury.—Courier.

[MLD]

Friday, March 14, 1845  RE45i100p2c5 364 words

To the Senior Editor

I send you an extract of a letter you addressed me on the 13th of June, 1836. Amongst other things of interest is
the following passage, giving a curious anecdote, and showing that your predilection for the annexation of Texas is not of this day only: "I wrote to Mr. V. B. on Thursday about Texas. I gave him a long extract form a letter of T-------- ------ to--------. T. had just dined with Santa Anna on board the independence, and after dinner was left alone with Almonte. The Mexican Secretary had expressed a preference for an intermediate Republic between Mexico and the United States rather than an incorporation of Texas with the United States. But T. showed him, and very justly, too, that Mexico would be in less danger from us, with Texas t our heels, than from the Republic of Texas settling up for herself. The former was not ambitious of conquest; and the good sense of the whole American people would check completely the spirit of acquisition among the Texians themselves—whereas, if they were left to themselves, that active, and restless, and enterprising people would be invited by the mines and treasures of Mexico to new attacks, and would not rest satisfied until they had planted their own standard upon the Capitol of Montezuma. Almonte is said to have been shaken—and it was said, that a Commissioner would be sent to the United States to ask their aid as an umpire in the quarrel. I go for the annexation of Texas. Do not you? I consider it as but getting back the country which Jefferson claimed, and which Adams gave way."

Here is evidence that in 1836 you saw ahead, and made up your opinion—and it is now no after-thought to suit the times.

In the same letter you give Congress also a touch. You say, "Congress will adjourn about the 4th of July. The Surplus Revenue will haunt their last moments with a fearful struggle."—Pretty much as the Harbor and River Bill did the Senate and House, the week before last. Is it not time that this system of legislation should be arrested?

A FRIEND

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Friday, March 14, 1845  RE45i100p4c5 1627 words

The Danger Averted!

We have received the "Texas National Register," the official paper printed at Washington, the seat of Government in Texas, of the 8th of February. It contains a copy of the documents which were recently submitted to the Senate of Texas, by Mr. Anson Jones, the President of the Republic—embracing the correspondence which has passed between Messrs. Elliot (the British Charge d’Affaires,) and Jones, in March and April last—and also copies of letters which passed between Messrs. Jones and Howard, (Charge of the U.S.,) in August, 1844.—The same No. of this Journal contains some very interesting views of its Editor, upon "The Prospect" before them. We lay these remarks, and the first letter of Mr. Elliott before our readers to show the great responsibility which the Whigs would have assumed, by rejecting the resolutions for annexation. They would have incurred a risk, which might have entirely endangered the acquisition of Texas by the U.S. It appears form these and other document, as the Mobile Register truly remarks, that we were in serious danger of losing the country if the recent Congress of the United States had not acted as promptly as the inters of our country required. Suppose the Whigs had succeeded in defeating the resolutions, how then should we have stood? The Government of Texas would have been exposed to all the intrigues of the British Cabinet. Elliott was plying every argument and the commercial interests of Texas, to persuade them to decline Annexation, to secure their own independence, and pledging the powerful interference of Great Britain with Mexico to accomplish that object. He tells Mr. Jones, in his letter of April last, that it is "the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, that the preservation of his independence is the best security of the people of Texas for the ultimate prosperity, both political and commercial"—that never were there "better founded hopes of an early and honorable adjustment, than at the moment when, as Mr. Jones observes, the door to annexation to the Unites States was unexpectedly opened to the people of this country"—and that Texas need not look to the eminent and practical statesmen in that country for the annexation of Texas to that Union, either at all, or at least under any other condition than the consent of Mexico, peacefully obtained; neither does it seem doubtful judging form the same sources, that these opinions are shared by a large part of the people of that Confederacy."

There is no doubt, if our late Congress had adjourned without adopting the resolutions, we should have left Texas exposed to all the wiles and intrigues of British diplomacy—with her people partially soured by disappointment—and her leading men disposed to listen to the overtures of England. The "Mobile Register" refers to the Editorial article of "The National Register" as "a very significant exposition of the real wishes of President Jones, and hardly less of those of his predecessor, Gen. Houston, whose influences he represents. That Gen. Houston and Mr. Jones were originally opposed to the renewal of negotiations with the United States for annexation, and gave assurances to the British Minister in March of last year—Houston being President and Jones Secretary of States—of their hostility to annexation, is sufficiently apparent from the letter of Mr. Elliott of that date, which is now, for the first time made public. We find it copied into the Galveston News, from the Register, and republish it as an important item in the political history of the times. It will be seen that Capt. Elliott reminds General Houston, of satisfactory personal assurances for hostility to annexation, which have, by Houston's wish, been communicated to the British Ministry. It further appears, that Houston and Jones, both gave Mr. Elliott to understand, that the sending of a Texas Minister to the United States was dictated by a desire to avoid causes of irritation, and to explain that Texas would not entertain the subject of annexation at all.—This letter of Elliott defines what were the disposition of the late and present Presidents of Texas, at that time; and there is no roof that there has since been any real change in their desires.—Indeed the Galveston News, which is in possession of other official letters which we have not seen, says that in answer to Captain Elliott's enquiries about Gen. Henderson's mission to the United States—Houston excuses himself, by saying that he "only acted in obedience to the requirements of Congress." These proofs of the inclination of those
in authority in Texas, to reject annexation, for separate independence, under the protection of the British, give
to the pointed declarations of their newspaper organ.—The position is taken broadly, that unless annexation takes
place at the present session of Congress, it must be considered as finally defeated, and it will be necessary for Texas
to take immediate steps to secure her independence, and settle her relations with European powers. What these
relations will be, is indicated with sufficient distinctness. The 'Register' confirms plainly the rumors transmitted to us
from Galveston and published in this paper a couple of weeks ago.—France an England 'demand no concessions or
equivalents from Texas, but merely that she remains independent,' says the organ of the Government of Texas. 'It
is further understood that they will terminate the hostile attitude of Mexico forthwith, and compulsively, if it remains
independent. We have no doubt of these facts that Great Britain will yield every condition, and withdraw every
pretension, if Texas will but repudiate annexation and consent to owe the acknowledgement of her sovereignty by
Mexico to British interference. Neither do we doubt that if her government could devise any means of defending
itself against the real fanaticism at home, it would guarantee the existence of slavery, it required, as the condition
for keeping Texas form re-union with the United States."

(From the Washington, Texas, National Register.)

THE PROSPECT.—We believe it may be set down as certain, that annexation will not take place during the present
session of the American Congress thought prospect was becoming perceptibly less unfavorable. In consequence of
the apprehension created there, lest the people of Texas, wearied and disgusted with the dilatory and trifling course
pursued towards them, should contract other relations incompatible with annexation to the Union. Unless the
American Congress, foreseeing this consequence, shall act decisively, there is now good reason to believe that they
will, at their next session, re-enact the farce of the present and last sessions, and so continue to do for years, until
the admission of Texas shall no longer be a matter subject to their decision.—Since the election of Mr. Polk, they can
no longer allege that public opinion has not been made up and expressed, in that country. The proposed annexation
has been in point of fact before the American people for their consideration since 1836; though not at all times
submitted to the action of their Congress. Have we not now a right to demand respectfully, but authoritatively,
prompt and final action in regard to it? It is positively states, that no extra session of Congress will be called by Mr.
Polk. Is not this state of suspense, of all others, the most prejudicial to our interests? Does not this uncertainty
arrest European emigration of the best character, as well as that from our Northern neighbor? The fear of
annexation prevents the coming of those who would unite with us, were we certainly to remain independent. Others
abstain from emigrating to Texas, being unwilling to change their allegiance temporarily. Furthermore, are we not
grossly deluding ourselves in imagining that we have only to continue in the humor for annexation, in order
ultimately to attain it? We have been somewhat cajoled. Let us, therefore, examine carefully our position and
prospects.

Our relations with France and England are on the most friendly basis. These Governments clearly perceive the great
interests they have in our permanent independence, and are willing, it is understood, to lase our commercial
intercourse with them upon the most liberal footing.—They have, however, deferred taking any decisive steps herein,
pending the present measures for annexation. Should these measures fail, France and England will then act. They
ask no concessions or equivalents from Texas, but merely that we remain independent. For free and equal
competition for the commerce of Texas, unshackled by the American tariff, and from the advantages arising from an
independent country interposed between the U.States and Mexico, they can well afford to grant all that Texas would
ask; for it is further understood, that they will terminate the hostile attitude of Mexico forthwith, and compulsively, if
we agree to remain independent. The course of these Governments will be open. The United States have been
openly negotiating and attempting to legislate about annexation.—France and England will openly submit to the
consideration of our Government and people inducement. And we are assured that, in relation to Texas, as well as
on other subjects, the most cordial understanding subsists between the two cabinets, and that they will act, in
fulfilling our wishes, in perfect concert. The Government of Louis Phillippe, will also efficiently promote the speedy
negotiation of a treaty with Old Spain; the only obstacle to which has been the unsettled condition of Texas in
relation to annexation. A treaty with Spain opens to us Cuba, whose commerce will be highly advantageous.

We see it stated in the London papers received in this country since the return of the Hon. Ashbel Smith, that he had
a long interview with Lord Aberdeen previously to leaving London—What subjects were discussed at this interview, or
whether any of importance, has not yet transpired. [MLD]
To the Editors of the Enquirer.

Washington, March 4th, 1845.

Newton!—affinities of party spirit.” And what is his justification, for the erratic course in which he has pursued? Hear Mr. Willoughby Newton claims the privilege of reply to some remarks which we have recently made on his vote on his Excellency’s determination to sustain the independence of the Republic, and His Excellency’s confident hope that he people will uphold him in that course. Indeed, referring to the conference wish the undersigned had the honor to have with the President and Mr. Jones at Galveston, during last Autumn, he can suppose that he mission to Washington of the gentlemen in question, has been dictated by a wise desire to avoid any cause of offence or irritation to the Government of the United States, and to explain with Frankness, that the Government of Texas could not entertain the subject at all, even if all other obstacles were removed, after the former rejection of such an arrangement by the Government of the United States, and wholly without reason, to know that the Senate of the United States will ratify it now, or in future.

The Congress of Texas, however, has met and separated since the date of the communication to Her Majesty’s Government, to which the undersigned has referred, and the President will fell with force, that it is just and necessary, in the present appearance of circumstances, that there should be no room for the least uncertainty on the part of the Governments engaged on the behalf of Texas at Mexico; for, it is not to be supposed that they could continue to press the Government of Mexico to settle upon one basis whilst there was any reason to surmise that negotiations were either in actual existence, or in contemplation, proposing a combination of a totally different nature. It is manifest, on the other hand, that a distinct disavowal on the part of the Government of Texas, of any intention to consent to such a scheme, either now or prospectively, could not fail to strengthen the hands of the Ministers of their Majesties the Queen and the King of the French, at Mexico.

Confiding in the steadfastness of the people of Texas, to the pledges in the fundamental acts of their national existence, several of the great Powers have acknowledged the Independence of their Republic, and entered into treaties with it.—Whilst that confidence subsists, it may be depended upon, that the Government of Her Majesty will never relax in its friendly efforts to induce the Government of Mexico to adjust, on the policy so forcibly pressed on the attention of Her Majesty’s Government by the Government of Texas, not adopted without mature deliberation by Her Majesty’s Government, and in their judgment equally necessary for the security of Mexico, and the strength and prosperity of Texas. The undersigned takes this occasion to renew to Mr. Jones, the expression of the sentiment of regard and distinguished consideration with which he has the honor to remain,

His faithful and most obedient servant.

CHARLES ELLIOT

And now we ask the people of Virginia to consider these developments—and determine what wretched politicians these Whigs are—See to what a seductive influence they were about ot expose the Republic of Texas—and to what a serious danger of losing this magnificent country, they were willing to expose the people of the United States—to say nothing of the tremendous agitation into which they would have placed our own countrymen at home, from the risk of sacrificing Texas to the fanaticism of the Abolitionists. Are these the politicians you would trust? Is this the party worthy of your confidence? [MLD]

Tuesday, March 18, 1845 RE4Si101p1c3 2704 words

PRO AND CON!

Mr. Willoughby Newton claims the privilege of reply to some remarks which we have recently made on his vote on the amended resolutions, and we cheerfully grant it. The discussion must stop here; as, to use the classic language of Mr. Webster, we “have other (perhaps better) fish to fry.” We shall subjoin a few notes by way of commentary—but they shall be as brief as possible—and as little calculated, as we can make them, to call forth a rejoinder. We confess we were a s much disappointed and dissatisfied with Mr. N’s latter course, as we were please, accordingly to the President’s wish, to communicate to Her Majesty’s Government His Excellency’s determination to sustain the independence of the Republic, and His Excellency’s confident hope that he people will uphold him in that course. Indeed, referring to the conference wish the undersigned had the honor to have with the President and Mr. Jones at Galveston, during last Autumn, he can suppose that he mission to Washington of the gentlemen in question, has been dictated by a wise desire to avoid any cause of offence or irritation to the Government of the United States, and to explain with Frankness, that the Government of Texas could not entertain the subject at all, even if all other obstacles were removed, after the former rejection of such an arrangement by the Government of the United States, and wholly without reason, to know that the Senate of the United States will ratify it now, or in future.

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His faithful and most obedient servant.

CHARLES ELLIOT

And now we ask the people of Virginia to consider these developments—and determine what wretched politicians these Whigs are—See to what a seductive influence they were about ot expose the Republic of Texas—and to what a serious danger of losing this magnificent country, they were willing to expose the people of the United States—to say nothing of the tremendous agitation into which they would have placed our own countrymen at home, from the risk of sacrificing Texas to the fanaticism of the Abolitionists. Are these the politicians you would trust? Is this the party worthy of your confidence? [MLD]
In your leading editorial of yesterday, I find the following remarks:

"Is it not melancholy to reflect upon the cursed consequences of this party spirit? Wonderful to tell, there was but on Whig who voted in favor of the amended resolutions, (Dellet of Alabama) whilst six of the others, (Stephens of Georgia not in the House,) who originally voted for Brown’s resolutions in the House, were mad enough, party-mad, to vote against them in their amended form—a from, certainly, which neither affected their constitutional nor practical character. And among these six who ultimately turned their backs upon Texas, were Milton Brown himself, of Tennessee, General Clinch of Georgia, and Willoughby Newton of Virginia. They voted against it, and three others. Newton! Aye, our old friend Newton, whose forcible letter was, but the other day, so much admired by the Democrats, and condemned by the Whigs.—These men, it appears, could not withstand the screws of party operation, r the lash of the Whig press; and after a brilliant effort, they have returned to the vile affinities of party spirit."

These remarks, if not designed to do myself, and my noble Whig associates in the House of Representatives, through whose agency Texas has been permitted to come into the Union, willful injustice, by misrepresenting our conduct, and motives, are well calculated to do us an injury. How have we abandoned our position? In what have we turned our backs upon Texas? I challenge you to the proofs. Was it our duty to vote with Brinkerhoff and other Abolitionists of your party, for Benton’s amendment to our resolutions, which you yourselves have repeatedly denounced? (1.) Because your party in the House, for the purpose of consolidating itself must bow to the spirit of Abolitionism; and leave the question of slavery open, for future agitation, must we too follow their example, and vote for an amendment which we deemed very far from an improvement of our plan, and which a large number of the most intelligent of your party loudly condemned, even on the very night of its adoption in the Senate, and declared they would not vote for in the House. I speak advisedly; I know that a number of the wisest and best of your party looked with contempt upon the amendment of the Senate, as a paltry trick, designed to delude the country, and to bring to the support of the measure the "dough-faces" of the North. (2.) I hope we may not live to rue this concession; for Mr. Brinkerhoff, and others entertaining similar opinions, boldly avow that hey regard the slavery question as now open, and mean to make another desperate struggle for an equal division of the territory of Texas. (3.)

But what is the extent of our offence? Not that we voted against the proposition as amended but that we did not vote for the amendment, which was distasteful to us, and must be exceptionable to every true friend o the South. (4.) Notwithstanding my objections to the amendment, I am free to say, that if the question had been on the resolutions as amended, I should have voted in the affirmative, rather than a measure I had so much at heart should have failed. I knew full well, however, that the Democrats of the House had been whipped in by the lash of party, and that the amendment would be carried by a large majority; and even if rejected by the House, I had no fear that the measure would thereby be defeated; for, either the Senate would have receded from the amendment and failed back on the original resolutions; or, if the amendment was adhered to by the Senate, the House would have receded. So that our votes against the amendment, which we disapproved, could in no event endanger the main proposition.

I had hoped that my course in public life had satisfied all who have deemed it worthy of their attention—that I always endeavored to be governed by principle, and that I am not to be turned from the path of duty by the denunciations of a reckless press of my own party, or by the seductive influence of the flattery of my political opponents. I did not advocate the admission of Texas from any selfish considerations. I was well aware that I should incur the displeasure of some of my party friends, by doing what I deemed a duty; and on that account, if no other, I have a right to claim justice, at least, at your hands. I ask no more. And as that is denied to myself and my associates, by the men who, by our aid, have been enabled to achieve a great measure, I may be pardoned the seeming vanity of declaring, that without us, and, indexed, I may say, without my own humble efforts in the cause, the measure could not have been accomplished, at least, during the late session of Congress. In proof of this assertion, I might cite the evidence of distinguished and liberal men of your party, who are too magnanimous to deny their obligations to Whigs, in the accomplishment of a great national object, merely because it may serve to lessen the apparent triumph of their own party. (5.)

I do not deem it necessary or proper to reply to ordinary newspaper articles, but your notice of me upon this measure is so pointed, and your views so mistaken, if not designed to do me injustice, that my declining to notice them might be improperly construed. I have, therefore, to request, that you will do me the justice to assure you and the public, that my support of the proposition to admit Texas had its origin in a spirit of pure patriotism, which is not likely to be influenced by a desire to conciliate the favor of party hacks, on the one side, or to deprecate their wrath, on the other.

Yours, very respectfully,
WILLOUGHBY NEWTON

(1.) We preferred the original resolutions of the House, that is certain—as Mr. N. did. Bu we would always have taken Benton’s bill, as a proviso to the Resolutions, rather than lose the whole. When, however, we were advised, upon the best information, that the bill was only calculated to endanger the fate of the resolution, we washed our hands of it. It turns out, however, contrary to previous calculation, that there were more in the Senate, who would have voted for the amended resolutions, than for the original ones; and if we had to choose between the former, or none at all, as we verily believe, we should not have hesitated for one moment to vote for them. What is it to us, whether some few men like Brinkerhoff would have voted for them—under erroneous calculations? The great body of Abolitionists are wholly dissatisfied with the passage of the resolutions. They do not see out of Mr.
Brinkerhoff’s spectacles. What says the Boston "Liberator," edited by W.L. Garrison—which the New York Tribune says, is “the oldest anti-slavery paper in the country?” “In the last No. of his journal Mr. Garrison gives his views of the relative position and conduct of the Locofoco and Whigs parties on the Texas question, in the following emphatic and unequivocal terms:”

“In the name of Democracy has this frightful outrage been perpetrated. The Democratic party as such, has sold itself, body and soul, to the Demon of slavery, and with cannibal appetite is fattening upon human flesh and blood. All its professions of regard for the rights of man, of hostility to oppression, of attachment to the cause of liberty, are mendacious and hypocritical to an infernal degree, and indisputably shown by its acts. It is a party, from which escape by the virtuous and honest is to be made with the celerity that righteous Lot fled from Sodom. The friends of God and man are now called upon to unite their forces for it is overthrow—to put the brand of profligacy on the brow of every man who shall venture to uphold it—to unmask it as a monster of iniquity—and thus vindicate genuine Democracy, and peradventure save the country from ruin.

“To those members of Congress, whether Whigs or Democrats, who were ‘faithful among the faithless found’ in the trial hour, let the thanks of the friends of freedom be proffered for themselves, and is behalf of the three millions of our fellow-countrymen in chains. ‘Credit to whom credit—honor to whom honor.’ This impartial justice and genius magnanimity demands—Recreant to their duty in many other instances, in presenting an almost unbroken front to this scheme of annexation, the Whig party have done a noble work, and stood their ground with a firmness and fidelity far beyond our expectations. Teat of all the Southern Whig Senators, only three were found willing to go for the measure, surprises us. By their defection from the position assumed by the Whig party, the deed has been consummated; but the party itself stands nobly exhonorated from all responsibility in the case.”

Now, who is the best judge of the views of the abolitionists?—Brinkerhoff or Garrison? The latter does not consider the question to be left open—but the fate of it sealed, “the deed as consummated!” And Mr. Newton’s “Abolition Whig” friends are welcome to all the thanks of the abolition crew, which they have won by their votes.

(2.) Mr. N. has the charity to suspect, that this course was adopted for the “purpose of consolidating itself.” Why not equally suppose, that he and the other five Whigs in the House voted against the Senate resolutions for the purpose of consolidating themselves with their own party? The one supposition is as liberal, and not more extravagant than the other.

But is it true, that he question of slavery is “kept open,” and that we have “bowed to the spirit of Abolitionism”? We view that in a very different light. We are aware, that this is the only straw which the dough-face Whigs, and a handful of Abolitionists will seize upon; but they will find themselves mistaken notwithstanding. The addition made to the House Resolutions in the Senate will prove to be surplasive. Now, we have no idea that Mr. Polk will appoint Commissioners and open a new negotiation with Texas—Messrs. Newton, Brinkerhoff, or the N.Y. Evening Post, to the contrary notwithstanding. Mr. Polk has not recalled the instructions dispatched by Mr. Calhoun immediately on the passage of the Resolutions. They authorized Maj. Donelson to propose an immediate an admission of Texas, upon the terms of Brown’s Resolutions. Whether Mr. Tyler should have taken it upon himself to act, on the heel of the session, is one thing—but that he has taken the best alternative course under the resolutions, is another thing. We understand, that Mr. Polk will not probably adopt the other expedient. He will scarcely raise against he question between the Treaty and the Legislative powers—much less, keep open the battle between the Abolitionists and the South. We had the pleasure of conversing with Gen. Lamar, on his way to Texas, on this subject—and he has no doubt, that Texas will accept the terms, and that those terms will be adopted. We have not yet met with a Democrat, who does not approve this course, and who does not believe the whole question to be closed, and the last straw stricken from the hands both of the Whigs and the Abolitionists.

(3.) Mr. Brinkerhoff, like other wise men of his caliber, may be counting without his host.—He will scarcely have the opportunity of making “another desperate struggle” upon this field.

(4.) Pretty much like splitting a hair, between the North and the North-west side he, Mr. N. did not vote against the amended resolutions, but against amending the resolutions. By rejecting the amendment, what would have been the consequence? In the first place, the original resolutions would have been sent back to the Senate—There, it was understood, Mr. Bagby and others would not have voted for them. Indeed, it appeared from the very face of the transaction, that with the steady and dogged phalanx of the Anti-Texas Whigs, and the dissentients of the Democratic party, the resolutions would not have passed.—Why, then, send them back to the Senate? By this course, they were to run again the gauntlet in that body. One of the three Whigs might have flow the way. One of the Democrats might have been sick, or absent, or one of the "dough-faces" might have changed his position. The whole question might have been thrown overboard, in the enthusiasm of excited parties, and in the agonis of an expiring session, when so many other subjects were demanding attention, and some flimsy pretext might have been seized upon by the dough-faces on either side, to shuffle off the whole question. There was, at least, evident risk in throwing the question as a shuttle-cock, to be toast to and fro between the two Houses—at the very heels of the session—And why run the risk of voting down an amendment, and losing the whole question under such circumstances, when Mr. M. confesses, that, as amended, he should at last have voted for them? We need not say, we are sure, by the resolutions as they have passed, nor how much they would have exulted, if they had failed in the struggle between the two Houses.

Mr. N. has seen, that no one was more willing to do him justice for the course he originally pursued, than we were. Indeed, we carried our feelings further than many of our friends. It was only when he baulked at the last pinch of the hill, and with five of his Whig colleagues, pursued a course which might have kicked over the whole pail of milk, that we rebuke their apparent derelictions.—Whether this was to act the part of a wise statesman, or of a "party
The Scene of the 4th at Washington

"Of the numbers who attended the inauguration, we have seen none on whose brow there did not sit, as it appeared to our perception, weariness, disappointment, and, in some cases, disgust!"

"Exultation for the defeat of Mr. Clay had spent itself before, and Patriotism, we dare avouch, whispered in the ear of man y a one of them the question, 'What have you, what has your country gained by discarding that experienced statesman, that old public servant, that gallant spirit who, in her darkest hours, was ever that country's safest councilor and ablest defender, to elevate one who has rendered no service beyond a thousand others?' Tell us frankly, visitors to the Inauguration, did not such thoughts cross your minds sometimes, and did not conscience, in the flagging of party spirit, give an answer which you will not avow?"

Thus speaks the R. Whig, the leading Federal organ in Virginia. It was amusing to have seen this sapient Editor, and modern pupil of Lavater, craning his graceful neck and peering with a critic's eye, into the countenances of all who had returned from the Inauguration! With his keen "perception," doubtless, the wo-be-gone faces of the "numbers who attended the Inauguration," must have inspired his looks with the beams of pleasure and of pride. It were "sweet revenge" for this piteous mourner over the prostrate fortunes of Mr. Henry Clay, to witness the "weariness, disappointment and disgust" betrayed in the very looks of those who had contributed to bring about the overthrow of the "country's ablest defender," to use the language of Whig adulation! This clearly explains the distorted vision with which the Whig regards every thing connected with the solemn installation of a Republican President, and arrives at such remarkable conclusions. We (at least one of us) have just returned from a visit to Washington, and we have neither felt or witnessed such effects, as the piercing eyes of this watchful Editor have detected and portrayed to his gaping readers.—We, too, appeal to the consciences of those, who have recently visited Washington, for an indignant response to the question propounded to them by the Whig organ. Is there a single Republican who has left the City of Washington with regret for the honorable part which he took in raising aloft the Banner of the Constitution? The ceremonies of the Inauguration were simple, but imposing. There was a moral beauty in the spectacle, which should have touched the heart even of the most rabid Whig. A private citizen had been summoned from the bosom of retirement, and after an unprecedented struggle, had been raised to eh highest honor in the world. Many thousands, form all portions of the country, assembled to see their victorious champion, invested with the robes of office, and solemnly entrusted with the power to administer the affairs of twenty millions of People. In spite of the inclement weather, every avenue was filled with gay and happy crowds, and the moving mass of umbrellas brought o mind "Burnam wood come to Dunsinane." The immense multitude was not inspired by gaudy banners, nor martial music, nor bristling amour. It was deeper and purer feeling They felt that the Constitution, had been saved, the union preserved and the destinies of the nation pushed onward. How nobly does this imply installation of a Republican President contrast with the pomp and prestige of a similar ceremony in the old world!—There we see cohorts of armed men, arrayed around the titled tyrant, to guard his person against popular outbreaks. All is glitter, and form, and fear; and happy is the nation that escapes from apprehended violence from the oppressed and grumbling masses. In our own free and happy land, one President goes out of office, and his successor is invested with power. Thee transition is calm, and smooth, and secure. Our institutions are firmly stamped on the hearts of the people, and the true patriot who has received this free gift of great nation, enters upon his high duties, with a confiding trust in the affections of the people, and with a virtuous resolution to do all he can to guard the Constitution, and to push on the destinies of the country to the highest point.—Such a man we take Jas. K. Polk to be—and we have an abiding trust that he will not disappoint the hopes of the nation. We look confidently to his honesty of purpose, his public and private virtues, and his devotion to the country's good, and to his own fame, to carry out those great constitutional principles of which he is the selected and responsible agent. Let him but be true to his principles and to himself, and the difficulties that beset his path will banish before him, and his name will b enrolled high on the list of his country's benefactors.

But the "Whig" arrogantly asks, what we or the country have gained by discarding Mr. Clay and electing Mr. Polk? The answer is easily made, and cannot but be conclusive. The moral triumph in November has already achieved a momentous result. We allude to the annexation of Texas, with all its benefits to the South gained to the Union. Had Mr. Clay been elected, who will deny that a death-blow would have been given to that great measure, and the safety of the Union seriously periled? It was the Republican victory in November, and the election of Mr. Polk, the consistent friend of the "Lone Star, " that secured the annexation of Texas a the present time, and diffused joy through every portion of the Union. By this great measure, the fell sprit of Abolitionism has been stilled, and the Constitution, had been saved, the union preserved and the destinies of the nation pushed onward. How nobly does this imply installation of a Republican President contrast with the pomp and prestige of a similar ceremony in the old world!—There we see cohorts of armed men, arrayed around the titled tyrant, to guard his person against popular outbreaks. All is glitter, and form, and fear; and happy is the nation that escapes from apprehended violence from the oppressed and grumbling masses. In our own free and happy land, one President goes out of office, and his successor is invested with power. Thee transition is calm, and smooth, and secure. Our institutions are firmly stamped on the hearts of the people, and the true patriot who has received this free gift of great nation, enters upon his high duties, with a confiding trust in the affections of the people, and with a virtuous resolution to do all he can to guard the Constitution, and to push on the destinies of the country to the highest point.—Such a man we take Jas. K. Polk to be—and we have an abiding trust that he will not disappoint the hopes of the nation. We look confidently to his honesty of purpose, his public and private virtues, and his devotion to the country's good, and to his own fame, to carry out those great constitutional principles of which he is the selected and responsible agent. Let him but be true to his principles and to himself, and the difficulties that beset his path will banish before him, and his name will b enrolled high on the list of his country's benefactors.

While in the District, we seized an opportunity to quit the bustle and excitement of Washington, and pay a rapid visit
to Alexandria, in whose prosperity an interesting portion of our own State is interested. We arrived at an auspicious moment. By one of those energetic moves which often secure the fortunes of nations, as well as individuals.

Alexandria has achieve an object peculiarly calculated to promote her interests, in the opinion of her most intelligent citizens.—This was to obtain form the State of Maryland a bill to relieve the lien on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. The lower House ha passed the bill by a single vote, and the Senate's action would make it a law. At once, the enterprising Alexandrians' despatched a boat for the Senator of St. Mary's, who reached Anapolis just in time, on the last day of the session, to complete the law, as it passed the Senate by one vote only. The joyous news reached Alexandria during our visit, and the whole town openly demonstrated their cordial satisfaction. It secures the completion of the canal to Cumberland, and will pour, as it is confidently believed, rich treasures into the lap of Alexandria.

This fine canal seems to be well constructed. THE basin and four locks, forming the outlet at the Alexandria, are admirably built, and afford room for a vast business. The aqueduct across the Potomac at Georgetown, is one of the finest structures I the country. It is supported by four broad and solid stone piers, extending sixty feet through the water, and resting on a foundation of rock. The superstructure is of wood, galvanized by a solution of corrosive sublimate, so as protect it from decay. This noble canal will, it is through, soon be completed, and that result will restore this old town, once so thriving, and connected with so many agreeable associates of the past, to its pristine commercial prosperity.—IT is still the seat of elegant hospitality; the manners of its citizens are of the true Virginia stamp, and we hope, ere long, to see it enjoying the commercial advantages of "the most favored" city. In some of the mechanic acts, she vies with the largest towns. The epicure still looks to her famous wine-cellar for this choicest libations; and, why should not she regain her former high standing as a place of commercial importance? Ere we made our adieu, we thought we discovered a new spirit infusing itself into her people. If this be kept alive, and properly directed, the destinies of Alexandria may yet be as bright as her most zealous citizen may desire. [MLD]

Tuesday, March 18, 1845 RE45i101p2c1 576 words

Political.

From the Globe.

THE RIVAL NATIONS.

Carthage never-looked upon the growth and power of the Roman people with more envy and apprehension than England does on the progress of the American people. It is true, there is an ocean between the Old and the New World, where the modern rivals have the base of their Mediterranean did between Carthage and Rome Modern improvements in navigation bring England and the United States into close neighborhood. The growing commerce and power of the two people have literally made the home of both upon the deep. It is fear of the competition of this vast and rich continent with her island workshop, and of the danger that the new race of her own breed may obtain the ascendancy in agriculture, manufacture, commerce, and, consequently, in power upon the ocean, which has constantly actuated England in her encroachments upon this continent and the islands of the surrounding seas. The Court of Lilliput did not take great pains to pin down Capt. Lemuel Gulliver to the spot which his limbs covered in his sleep, than England has to confine the United States to the straights in which the royal charters bound them. The acquisition of Louisiana, of the Floridas, of Texas, all in turn have encountered opposition from England, not only as far as her foreign diplomacy could counteract, but as far as the active, daring treasonable agency of the party under her influence here could go in defeating it. Efforts to dissolve the Union were tried, which, if not successful in preventing the increase of the Confederacy on one hand, might, it was hoped, curtail it on another, or, at least, by civil war, bring on the decrepitude of he south American Republics—the victims of internal disension.

The Union has, however, outlived two wars with Great Britain, and grown beyond the limits assigned by the jealousy of its ambitious rival.—It is now only by environing the U. States by entrenched strength on both flanks—in front and in the rear—that the giant, whose power it is feared will invade English supremacy on the seas, is to be held in check. England on our front, Canada and the West Indies on our right and left, with to command the whole Western coast of our Continent, may be said to have placed the commercial power of the Union in a state of siege.— Whenever it threatens the British dominion of the seas—narrows British commerce or British conquests, then it will be assailed from all these points of vantage at once, which in time will be rendered impregnable to attack.

The people of the U.S. should comprehend fully the position they occupy. The view should not be confined to the attitude of things at the present moment, nor to an internal policy suited to the genius of a people like the Chinese, who have sought to live in the shell made by the coast and wall by which they are surrounded. The destiny of the people of this Union is not confined to this Continent. Their genius broods over every ocean and region of the earth; and influences deeply affecting the fate of the great Republic will every where exist requiring its vigilance. At this moment, England brings home to us the policy which is to be watched and repelled. The articles we annex from a New Orleans paper suggest the observations we have made. They will be found to contain facts worthy of meditation. [MLD]
Important Disclosure

The New York Journal of Commerce of the 20th ult., publishes a letter from Washington, which states, upon what the writer declares to be un questionable authority, that, at the time of Santa Ann’s fall a treaty was in progress, and nearly consummated, for the entire cession of California and New Mexico, to Great Britain, it only being defeated by the fall of Santa Anna.

It is further stated, that the United States Government has been informed that papers were found upon Santa Anna’s person, at the time of his capture, confirmatory of the suspicions which had been entertained from some time before, of the designs of England up on that section of the country. It is not astonishing, that Asana Anna should have kept about his person such documents as related to this astounding negotiation, as no one had greater cause than he to dread the exposure of such a purpose before its completion. Nor was he a man to place much reliance upon the fidelity of his cabinet; and hence the probability that, when he left the city of Mexico, he took with him the papers relating to this affair.

If this intelligence prove well-founded, (and there seems to be no good reason for doubting the main point it develops) Great Britain was securing for herself a more extensive and important acquisition whilst affecting a holy horror of American rapacity in seeking the annexation of Texas. She was for dismembering the Mexican empire by intriguing with a corrupt and falling dynasty, and against the consent of the people who inhabit the territory sought to be acquired, whilst the annexation of Texas can only be accomplished through the wishes of the people both of Texas and the United States, and its completion can do no wrong to any other power or people.

There would be more reason for questioning the disclosures now made, were it not known that Great Britain has cast a covetous eye towards that country for a considerable length of time.—More than twenty years ago, Mr. Ward, then British Charge to Mexico, pointed out to his Government the value of this territory, and the importance of her taking possession of it; and from that time till now, British Cabinets have looked amorously upon it. The possession of the bay of San Francisco, one of the finest harbors in the world, would give her the control of the commerce of the whole coast of the Pacific ocean, and enable her to hem in the Oregon as completely as her islands, the Canadas and New Brunswick do the Atlantic seaboard of the U. States.

In connection with this matter, there have been mercantile movements in Great Britain that have an awful squinting towards the issue involved.—Let those who think slightly of the influence of British merchants in coercing Government measures remember the China catastrophe; and such as would disparage their power in what concerns the acquisition of empire, ponder upon the fate of East India. We would call attention to the following extract of a Liverpool cotton circular which travels out of the legitimate province of such a writing to dabble in politics:

"If the United States be allowed to usurp (they call it annex) the Territory of Texas, the control of the cotton trade will fall into their hands. No cotton, save that produced in Texas, will stand in competition with Bowed and Orleans. The United States do not depend, in the same degree, on Great Britain for the disposal of their cotton, which Great Britain does on them for the necessary supply. Let any man make and try to sell fustians, or, indeed, almost any article of extensive sale, out of any cotton grown in Asia, Africa or South America, instead of Bowed and Orleans, and he will soon be made sensible of his error. In the tow last years, with every temptation, the British spinners have not dared to use more than one pound weight of East India against nine pounds of North American cotton; and they only used so much through being forced by the outrageous advance of the last kind. Cotton has been skillfully cultivated in Asia for thousands of years; and the result of all the exertions made by an ingenious and laborious people is, that they cannot produce cotton of the quality which is required.” [MLD]

Tuesday, March 18, 1845  RE45i101p2c1   334 words

From the New Orleans Courier, March 8.

Mexico

By the arrival of the brig Leopold, Captain Donnell, we have received Vera Cruz papers of the 17th February—they contain no news of a very important character.

Santa Anna was still detained in the prison of Perote, contrary to the intelligence received by way of Yucatan. It was the general opinion that he would not be put to death.

Mr. Gomez Farias left Vera Cruz for the city of Mexico on the 25th February: a favorable reception awaited him.

A circular from the minister of finance, Mr. Echeveria, dated at Mexico, February 14, announces that the conducta would leave the city of Mexico March 1, for Vera Cruz. It would be strongly guarded to protect it from the depredations of banditti on the route.

We find in the Gazette of Tampico of February 12, the following paragraphs:
The Junta of protection addressed on the 10th February, an appeal to the assembly of the department, praying the passage of a law of this tenor:

1. To make Tampico de Tamaulipas a port of entrepot like that of Vera Cruz, in conformity to the decree of April 11, 1837.
2. To reform the tariff now in force by adopting the principles of that of 1842, retaining whatever that tariff may contain in relation to the quantity and quality of goods.
3. To permit the free circulation of specie in the interior.
4. When foreign goods have once paid duties in one port they may be carried to any part of the Republic without being liable to the payment of further duties.

A proclamation dated Vera Cruz, Feb. 8, signed Jose de Amperan, prolongs to the 1st March the time fixed for foreigners to obtain their certificates of protection.

Generals Basadre and Canalizo have been transferred to the fortress of Chapultepec. It was believed that many persons attached to the army were ordered to confine themselves within the limits of certain districts in the interior of the Republic. [MLD]

Tuesday, March 18, 1845  RE45i101p2c1  258 words

Texas Money

We have been informed, by one of our most estimable and distinguished fellow-citizens, that Major Andrews Jackson Donelson, our Charge d’Affairs to Texas, assured him, that he had taken the necessary steps to ascertain the amount of Texas bonds and notes unredeemed at this time. The Major was satisfied that the amount now in circulation is not more than between five and six millions of dollars. For the correctness of this statement, ex-President Houston, than whom no one has better means of being accurately informed on the subject, gave the strongest assurance and vouched in positive terms. We presume, from this statement, that a great quantity of the Texas bonds and notes has been received by the Government in payment for lands—and hence the reduction of the debt of the Republic.

We have thought it an act of mere justice to make known the facts above mentioned, as we are informed interested persons, stock-jobbers and speculators are very busily engaged in propagating reports, that the public debt of Texas, including her paper money in circulation, amounts to thirty millions of dollars. The object of these people, manifestly, is to depreciate the current value of Texas bonds and notes, in order that they themselves may buy them up at the lowest prices. We venture to predict, that in six months from this day, Texas lands, now selling at fifty cents, will fine willing purchasers at five dollars an acre—and, that Texas Government paper will rise to eighty cents in the dollar, probably to par.—Ib. [MLD]

Tuesday, March 18, 1845 RE45i101p2c5  462 words

MORE STRAWS!

The "Baltimore American" still clings to the hope of defeating the annexation of Texas. Its last straw, to save itself from drowning, is the letter of Mr. Elliott, the British Charge, to Mr. Jones, Secretary of State, of March last, which we published last week, for the purpose of showing the danger which the Whigs would have incurred, from the seductive intrigues of Great Britain. The Baltimore American says: "It is evident that difficulties, which the urgent friends of annexation have thought lightly of, are threatening to defeat the consummation of that measure after all. The Texans Executive will have it in his power, if he chooses, to throw obstacles in the way of negotiations at every step, and if he continues resolutely bent on preserving Texas separate and independent, his means of attaining that object will be abundant." But the Texas Executive dare not now throw any obstacles in the way—since the Congress of the United States have opened their arms to the reception of Texas. The people of that country are too much attaché dot eh Union, especially since they have witness ed our anxiety to welcome her to our bosom, to permit her Executive to forbid the banns. The case would have been materially different, indeed, if the Whigs had succeeded in defeating the resolutions of the last session. Then, the pride of her people would have been touched—then, Messrs. Elliott & C. would have had another opportunity of playing their diplomatic game—then, the delay might have bred serious danger. As it is, we shall scarcely dread the interference of Great Britain—either her secret intrigues, or he open opposition—though we admit, that the sooner the question be settled, by closing in with the propositions of Brown's resolutions, the better for Texas, and the better for ourselves.

The "American" seems impatient to hear form Texas," and so are we. It says truly, and there, too, we agree with the Whig Editor of Baltimore that "If Texas should accede to the proposed terms, and consent to become a portion of the Union, the confirmation of the arrangement on the part of our Government would not be long withheld, we presume, notwithstanding the intimations to the contrary hear and there given out." Say, rather that if Texas should accede to our offered terms, (under the resolutions of the two houses,) we have nothing more to do than to agree to the Constitution proposed to our next Congress by Texas herself; and as these resolutions disembarrrass her movements entirely in regard to the slavery question—as in fact, they pledge the faith of our own Congress to adopt
her Constitution, whether with or without slavery, the confirmation on our part would be promptly and smoothly

effected. [MLD]

Still Catching at the Straw!

The following warning comes up form the “Baltimore American,” (Whig:)

"Will Annexation Be Consummated?—The ardent advocates of the annexation measure treat with ridicule the
supposition, that Texas may, by any contingency, fail to become a portion of the Union. We are not disposed to
speculate about it; but if the supporters of Mr. Polk’s administration choose to differ on the point, we may listen to
their reasonings.

"The New York Evening Post of Monday alludes to the conditions yet to be settled before annexation can take place,
and says:

"now it is possible—indeed, we do not hazard much in saying that it is probable—that many of those Democrats who
voted for the bill as recently carried, and who belong to the next Congress, will not vote for the final admission of the
new territory until the terms are adjusted to the satisfaction of all parts of the country.—We confess that we are
surprised to see this class of men consent to the passage of the bill, even as a preliminary measure; but our surprise
is somewhat diminished, yet not forgotten, when we reflect that they may have reserved an intention to act with
more boldness and decision when the proper time shall come.—how men who though the bill of Mr. Brown
unconstitutional, of who, to say the least, were anxious that some portion of the new territory should be rescued
from slave domination, could vote even with a mental reservation, to enter upon the President the right to enforce
that bill, we did not understand; it is possible, therefore, we repeat, that the question has yet to be determined."

"This has its significance. Mr. Polk’s Cabinet is now formed—not to the satisfaction, it would seem, of all his party.
Before the next meeting of Congress, the appointments will be mostly made, and the wielder of Executive patronage
will have parted with one strong means of control over the ranks of his partisans. If it should so turn out that Mr.
Polk does not satisfy the leaders of the party—if he should displease them, in fact, by declining to follow their
dictation, it is possible that the Texan bomb may be made again to explode. But we leave the whole matter to the
consideration of the Richmond Enquirer, which has taken the Texas business into its particular keeping."

And we cheerfully leave this "whole matter to the consideration" of Mr. Polk and his Cabinet.—He has now "the Texas
business in his particular keeping." He will see what the Whigs are counting upon as the last card they are to play.—
But Mr. Polk will ut them off from this last hope—for he will consummate annexation now, under the terms of
Brown’s resolutions. [MLD]

THE TONE OF THE WHIG PRESS!

The Philadelphia "U.S. Gazette" refers to certain signs in the North, and says that “the Texas question is not settled;
even though annexation should be regarded as accomplished, still Texas is to be rallying word, as effective in some
campaign, as was the shout of ‘Remember Paoli’ in another.”

It refers, as one evidence of the signs of the times, to the revelations of the "Boston Mercantile Journal, a staid,
respectable paper, of true Whig principles.” The Journal says, “the North has been betrayed”—

"Let us, then, trusting only to our own resources, and to the moral and religious character of the free States, prepare
ourselves seriously for the contest, now inevitable, and involving graver consequences than any in which we have
been engaged since our national Constitution was first formed. But, though, as we advance, we may not feel that
we can depend upon any part of the South for support, we still shall not feel that we want a safe foundation whereon
to plant ourselves, or faithful allies to cheer us on. We have the old principles of the Constitution of the country, and
whatever is true and venerable in justice and religion; to stand upon; and we have the voice of humanity, and the
sympathies of all Christendom to go with us, and bid us God speed. Nor shall we fail of success. For a body of
people, like that which fills the free States of this Union, contending earnestly in such a cause, was never yet brought
into a base subjection to the spirit of slavery, and never can be.”

Another sign!—The New York Tribune is volcanic upon the occasion. It asks: "What remains to be done? We say,
resist the consummation for the Annexation scheme to the last.—Let Connecticu, Rhode island, and other Free
States, do their duty in their Congressional Elections, and the mischief may be arrested in the next Congress; but if
not, we shall not yet give it up. We shall try, on one hand, to induce Texas to abolish Slavery, gradually, if not
immediately; and if Freedom is allowed to discuss the matter, we shall have great hopes of early success. Failing or
pending this, if any person in a Free State shall be claimed as a fugitive Slave from Texas, let his seizure be legally resisted, and the case carried up to the United States Supreme Court," &c. Pretty much in the Quincy style, this, upon the admission of Louisiana, "Peacably if we can, forcibly if we must!" Try to arrest the mischief in the next Congress! Will they indeed? It is easy enough to see what the Whigs and Abolitionists are after. They wish to keep the question open till the net session. For what purpose? To profit by the chapter of accidents—either to defeat the annexation altogether, or so to shape the annexation at the next session, as to obtain the largest proportion of Southern Texas, in fee simple, for the non-slaveholding States. And how do they expect to keep it open? By discarding the terms of Brown’s resolutions, and opening a new negotiation, under the alternative resolutions, so as to send a new compact to the Senate under the treaty-making power—or even to both Houses under the legislative power. All the anti-Texas Whigs go for this scheme.—All the abolitionists go for it. The Southern and Western friends of Texas see the game that these madcaps would play, and therefore they go for the scheme which is best calculated to close the Pandora box at once. [MLD]

Tuesday, March 18, 1845 RE45i101p4c6 86 words

THE TEXAS QUESTION IN INDIANA

Extract from a letter, dated Indianapolis, March 6.

"Speaking of the Hoosiers, I must tell you what one said on the Texas question the other day, as a good specimen of Hoosier eloquence:—Said one ------ "Colquitt, of Georgia, has made a Texas speech; and the way he skinned Barrow, of Louisiana, was awful.’ ’Sarved him right,’ said another—’a Southern man who would go against annexation, ought to be skinned, and have the wound dressed with Spanish flies and vitriol.” [MLD]

Tuesday, March 18, 1845 RE45i101p4c7 239 words

(From the Baltimore Republican)

FROM TEXAS

Galveston newspapers to the 2nd […]mo have been received in New Orleans.

The only item of news of any interest is comprised in the following official publication:

By the President of the Republic of Texas.

A PROCLAMATION

Whereas letters of marque and reprisal have been issued by the Government of the Republic of Texas, to authorize individuals to fit out vessels of war, and to wage hostility by sea against the republic of Mexico; and whereas it is deemed expedient to revoke all such letters of marque and reprisal, and all other commissions of like character heretofore issued by this Government:

Now, therefore, be it known, that I, Ansen Jones, President of the Republic of Texas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws, do, by these presents, revoke and recall, and declare henceforth null and void, all letters of marque and reprisal, and all commissions of what nature so ever, authorizing individuals, under the sanction of this Government to fit out and arm vessels of war or privateers, for the purpose of waging hostilities by sea against Mexico.’

In testimony whereof, I have caused the great seal of the Republic to be hereunto affixed.

Done at Washington, the eighth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-five, and of the Independence of the Republic, the sixth.

ANSON JONES

By the President:
ASHBEL SMITH, Secretary of State.

[MLD]

Friday, March 21, 1845 RE45i102p1c4 1766 words
WHIG TROUBLES

It is far from our intention to meddle with the family quarrels of the Whigs; but it will certainly not be considered intrusive to quote Whig authority, in order to exhibit to our Republican friends the state of the game in some of the Whig Districts. S to the Essex District, the situation of our poor friend Newton is truly pitiable. A Whig candidate for Congress, he is assailed by both Whig and Enquirer—and he must be a man o more than usual influence to stand up against this accidently conjoined attack. Whig as he was and is, of the most ultra Bank, Distribution and Tariff stamp, he had no favors to expect from this paper. True, we did honor his early course on the Texas question, when he boldly segregrated himself from the great mass of his party, and, by sustaining Milton Brown’s resolutions, gave evidence that he desired to attain a great national object, irrespective of the tyrannous behests of party. But when afterwards he relapsed into his party affinities, and, upon grounds the most flimsy and untenable, voted against the same resolutions, modified by an amendment which did not seriously affect the great object of annexation—satisfied, as he should have been, that if the amended resolutions had failed in the House, the question would have been lost forever, and his vote in the negative might have produced that fatal result; when he, at a most inauspicious hour, took this most unfortunate and ill-advised “back-track,” we felt that the credit which he had received for his former independence of party rule, had been entirely cancelled, and that he stood on the same platform with the rest of his anti-Texas Whig brethren, and should be treated in like manner. So much for our course towards Mr. Newton. We leave him in the hands of his Whig friends, and beseech for him a “safe deliverance” from their loving affection!

All the strictures of the Enquirer upon Mr. Newton’s course are light as a feather, compared with the loving comments of our neighbor of the R. Whig. We give a few extracts from the Whig again. Speaking of N’s course on the Texas question, the Whig says: [MLD]

“This gentleman finds himself in no enviable position: He has mortified his true and steadfast friends, or a very large portion of them; they who had stood by him at the crisis and placed him upon the summit he desired to reach, without conciliating his opponents! He went too far for the first, and not far enough for the last! He in his rabid support of the extremist Texas movement, without consulting the opinions of the vast and incalculable majority of the party with which he acted, from the Arostook to the Sabine, sinned against the first canons of party propriety, for in doing so, he made the great interests of this country, indissolubly united with the success of Whig principles, as he himself said a thousand time, and measures, subsidiary and subordinate to the immediate annexation of Texas, a measure which could be accomplished at any time whatever! He displayed in this course, an arrogant and concealed self reliance and self sufficiency over the assembled wisdom of the Whig party at Washington, and Whig opinion throughout the Union, which mark him for an unsafe politician – for one upon whose judgment little reliance can be placed in contingent and collateral questions, and who on such questions, is like a dollar pitched up, as likely to fall heads as fall tails.* *

“Without, that we have heard, any consultation with his District, or with the great body of the Whigs in it at least, Mr. Newton undertook to give THEIR vote for a measure of unconstitutional violence – we mean annexation of a foreign empire by joint resolutions of Congress, the very lowest grade of Legislation. That IT IS a measure of lawless and unconstitutional VIOLENCE we affirm, and we appeal to the CONSTITUTION itself, to sustain us in the assertion: We appeal particularly, to STATE RIGHT MEN! We ask them to show us and the People, the power of annexing old and foreign empires! As our neighbors of the Enquirer are wont to say, let them put their finger on the CLAUSE! And it is a sad reflection that this stab at the heart of the Constitution – this abrogation of all Constitution – is the work of vaunting, self proclaimed, exclusive, State Right men! [JS LLS]

The Whig thus sketches Mr. N’s course in voting against the amended Resolutions, quotes his explanatory letter to the Enquirer, and thus comments upon it: [MLD]

“The commentary of the Enquirer upon this cringing appeal, is such as it deserved. It by no means pardons the offender against Texas, and shows off, with force, the weakness of voting against Benton’s amendment, after Mr. Newton and the Texas Whigs had swallowed Brown’s resolutions. Its reasoning upon this point, is conclusive: It gives Mr. Newton no credit for changing his voted, on the score of principle, but intimates that it was quite as probably caused by a disposition to attend to his own interest in returning to his party.

“This letter of Mr. Newton we never read until yesterday (Monday): We read it under PROMISE to a friend, and with the sincere wish of being pleased with it. We lay it down with feelings of entire disgust, and with the conviction of the truth of what a distinguished, a most distinguished Virginian said, a year ago – he “will not be a Whig a year hence!” [JS LLS]

This is sharp enough, truly, from a Whig organ upon a Whig candidate for Congress; and there are stronger passages, which we omit. We come now to the concluding paragraph of the Whig’s biting comments. No one can read it without a thorough conviction that the Whig organ has given Mr. Newton’s claims to the winds. It substantially says to the Whigs of the District: “Let the Congressional canvass fall to the ground. Do nothing to sustain this Whig, who has been stained with the plague spot of Texas. We care nothing for his success—but we earnestly desire to see Whig Delegates to the General Assembly from the different counties of the District. Put Texas behind you, as a foul and polluting spirit, and, reckless of the Congressional contest, look alone to the counties.” But is the Whig sure that Texas will not “once cross the mind” of the voters, and will not “influence” their votes?” Our word for it, this great national question cannot thus summarily be disposed of.—It will, by its overwhelming importance, force itself into the canvass, and exert a commanding influence upon the next elections. It has been fatal to Federal supremacy in the last great canvass—and it will, at the present trial, go on conquering and to conquer. No candidate can stand before its triumphant march—and we appeal to the people to make it a test question in the next elections. We have the authority of the Whig candidate for Congress from this district, and the
Abolition fanatics, and partly by Whig infatuation. Garrison and John Q. Adams H. Clay and his deluded followers

Some sections of the country, however, have objected to the re-annexation. These have been actuated partly by patriotism. restoration of our ancient limits? Let us be where we were in 1803, would naturally seem to be the wish of every American, contended (in 1820) we had no right to cede away. We are surprised at the obsequious servility and dogged devotion of his followers, in pursuing his wandering footsteps. Above all, we wonder how it is, that any American, particularly in the South, should resist the re-possession of a country, which Mr. Jefferson acquired with Louisiana.

Every section of the Union was interested in it—the shipping and manufactures of the North—the manufactures and productions of the Middle States—the property and institutions of the south—every portion of the West had a stake in its acquisition. It was necessary to the defense of the whole Union—to round off our territory—to baffle the intrigues of our most formidable rival—and to bind the whole Confederacy together by the strong chain of mutual interests and feelings. When we recollect the physical advantages with which it is endowed, its rich soil, its delicious climate, its diversified and precious productions with the free trade markets which it throws open to all the citizens of the Union, we are astonished at the fatuity which has misled the Whig party. Can Whigs forget this so readily, and Whigs be expected to aid the election of one like Mr. Morton, who makes this the sole issue, and hopes, by its means, and Democratic votes, to ride down the Whig party itself? We hope no Whig will consent to such suicide.

This important question, the ruling measure of its day, which has done more to shape the election of President, to affect the interests of the country, and the condition of parties, than any other, has not yet exhausted the influence which it was destined to exert.

Friday, March 21, 1845 RE45i102p1c5 2684 words

THE ANNEXATION OF TEXAS


This important question, the ruling measure of its day, which has done more to shape the election of President, to affect the interests of the country, and the condition of parties, than any other, has not yet exhausted the influence which it was destined to exert.

Every section of the Union was interested in it—the shipping and manufactures of the North—the manufactures and productions of the Middle States—the property and institutions of the south—every portion of the West had a stake in its acquisition. It was necessary to the defense of the whole Union—to round off our territory—to baffle the intrigues of our most formidable rival—and to bind the whole Confederacy together by the strong chain of mutual interests and feelings. When we recollect the physical advantages with which it is endowed, its rich soil, its delicious climate, its diversified and precious productions with the free trade markets which it throws open to all the citizens of the Union, we are astonished at the fatuity which has misled the Whig party. We wonder at the infatuation which has eclipsed the judgment of Mr. Clay, in refusing to receive so magnificent a domain into our bosom, which he once contended (in 1820) we had no right to cede away. We are surprised at the obsequious servility and dogged devotion of his followers, in pursuing his wandering footsteps. Above all, we wonder how it is, that any American, particularly in the South, should resist the re-possession of a country, which Mr. Jefferson acquired with Louisiana.

In fact, who is not astonished, that any man should have been so led away by blind party spirit, as to object to the restoration of our ancient limits? Let us be where we were in 1803, would naturally seem to be the wish of every patriot.

Some sections of the country, however, have objected to the re-annexation. These have been actuated partly by Abolition fanatics, and partly by Whig infatuation. Garrison and John Q. Adams H. Clay and his deluded followers
have united in opposition—but thanks to the energies of the Republican Party, we have succeeded in carrying resolutions, which will secure the measure. Will the threats of the Northern fanatics and of Whig Legislatures be now carried into execution? We cannot believe it possible. Independently of the rashness of the attempt, of the dangers which would attend it, and the disgrace which would be stamped upon the authors of this new Hartford Convention Plot, we see in the very facts of the ease, the strongest evidence to believe that the popular sentiment will scotch down the infamous proposition. There are some curious statistics presented in the following article from the New Orleans Picayune, which is calculated to expose the folly of its perpetrators:

"THE TEXAS VOTE.—An analysis of the vote of the U.S. Senate upon the Texas resolutions will present some singular facts, which derive importance from the inflammatory manner in which the subject has been discussed in many portions of the country. Some of the more violent politicians and presses went the length of declaring that the consummation of annexation would be equivalent to a dissolution of the Union, and others avowed a willingness to see the Union broken to pieces rather than witness the failure of that measure. The principal topic employed to ferment popular excitement was the slavery question, which was infused with artfulness into the hustings upon too many occasions. It is in the respect to what has been urged upon this branch of the objection to annexation that the analysis of the final vote reveals important results—results, which show how idle it is to attempt to bias the opinions of men by threatening the stability of the Union, and which likewise prove the error of supposing that the slave question was the principal, much less the exclusive ground upon which the proposition was sustained.

"Of the 27 Senators who voted in favor of annexation, 13 (to wit: Fairfield of Maine, Atherton and Woodbury of New Hampshire, Niles of Connecticut, Dix and Dickinson of New York, Tappan and Allen of Ohio, Hannegan of Indiana, Semple and Breese of Illinois, and Buchanan and Sturgeon of Pennsylvania) were from the "free States;" and 14 (to wit: Merrick of Maryland, Haywood of North Carolina, McDuffie and Huger of South Carolina, Colquitt of Georgia, Lewis and Bagby of Alabama, Johnson of Louisiana, Henderson and Walker of Mississippi, Sevier and Ashley of Arkansas, and Benton and Atchison of Missouri,) were from the slave holding States.

"Of the 25 senators who voted against annexation, 15 (to wit: Evans of Maine, Choate and Bates of Massachusetts, Huntington of Connecticut, Upham and Phelps of Vermont, Porter and Woodbridge of Michigan, White of Indiana, Clayton and Bayard of Delaware, Dayton and Miller of New Jersey, and Francis and Simmons of Rhode Island) were from free States; and 10 (to wit: Pearce of Maryland, Archer and Rives of Virginia, Morehead and Crittenden of Kentucky, Jarnagin and Foster of Tennessee, Mangum of North Carolina, Berrien of Georgia, and Barrow of Louisiana) were from slaveholding States.

"Upon the final vote it will be seen, therefore, that in so far as the question of Southern institutions was at issue, it had no effect at all—the vote being as nearly divided, both in the North and South, as upon any other question of public interest.

"Again, of the 14 free States, 5 of them (New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Illinois and Pennsylvania) voted for annexation; 6 of them (Vermont, Massachusetts, Michigan, Delaware, New Jersey and Rhode Island) voted against it; and 3 (Maine, Connecticut and Indiana) gave a divided vote; whilst of the 12 slaveholding States, 5 (to wit: South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas and Missouri) voted in the affirmative; 3 of them (Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee) in the negative, and 4 (Maryland, North Carolina, Georgia, and Louisiana) gave a divided vote.—Upon what other question has there been so equal a division?

"There is another aspect of this analysis that exhibits a yet more striking result.

"By referring to the Census of 1840 it will be seen that the 5 free States which voted for annexation contain the following population:

New Hampshire 284,574; New York 2,428,921; Pennsylvania 1,724,033;

Ohio 1,519,467; Illinois 476,183 souls,

making a total of 6,433,178

The 6 free States that voted against annexation, are populated as follows:

Massachusetts 737,699; Vermont 291,498; Delaware 78,085; R. Island 108,830; Michigan 212,267; and N. Jersey 373,306 souls, making a total of 1,802,135

And the 3 free states that gave a divided vote, contain:
Maine 501,793; Connecticut 307,798;
Indiana 685,866 souls in all

On the other hand, the 5 slaveholding States which voted for annexation contain:

South Carolina 594,398; Alabama 590,756;
Mississippi 375,651; Arkansas
97,574; Missouri 383,702 souls, in all  2,012,041

The 3 slaveholding States that voted against it, contain:

Virginia 1,239,797; Kentucky 779,828;
Tennessee 829,210 souls, in all  2,848,835

And the 4 slaveholding States which gave a divided vote, contain:

Maryland 470,019; N.Carolina 753,419;
Georgia 691,392; Louisiana 352,411

souls, in all  2,267,241

If we divide the population of those States which gave a split vote upon annexation, the result will be:

Those Senators from the free States that voted for annexation represented a population of 7,231,996

Those Senators from the free States that voted against annexation, represented a population of 2,748,835

Those Senators from the slave States that voted for annexation, represented a population of 3,175,620

Whilst those Senators from the slave states that voted against annexation, represented a population of 3,982,455

If we add up the hole together, the following result is elicited:

The Senators who voted for annexation represented a total population of 10,407,657

Those who voted against it represented a total population of 6,583,408

In this calculation the population of the territories is of course left out, and in the slaveholding States the gross number is taken instead of the federal number. Were the first added, and the latter reduced according to the federal ratio, the difference would e yet greater on the side of annexation.

"To recapitulate:--The final vote in the Senate, upon the Texas resolutions, stood—yeas 27, nays 25.

"Of the 27 yeas, 13 were Senators from the free States and 14 from the slave States. Of the 25 nays, 15 were from the free States and 10 from the slaveholding States.

The thirteen Senators from the free states who voted for annexation represented a population greater than that represented by the fifteen Senators from the free states who voted against annexation by 4,631,043

And the ten Senators from the slaveholding States who voted against annexation represent a population greater than the fourteen Senators from the slaveholding States who voted for it represented, by 806,794

And the twenty-seven Senators who voted for annexation represented a majority of the whole people of the United States, of 3,824,249
"It would appear also that this majority is all from the free States—that in point of fact the slaveholding population opposed it. How absurd, then, do those people who talk of a dissolution of the Union in connection with this subject appear! When they try it, they will find their hands full at home. We have been minute in this analysis, as it proves that the great measure of the day has not been decided upon local or sectional grounds;--it has acquired a national character and this determined its fate."

The New Orleans Bulletin justly remarks, on the preceding statistics from the Picayune, that "Emphatically as the measure is there shown to have assumed an aspect essentially national and popular, those characteristics would have been apparent to a much greater degree, had the votes of all the States been cast according to the known sentiments of their citizens. The States of Maine, Michigan, Virginia, Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana and Louisiana gave but three votes in the senate in favor of the resolutions; whereas, had the public sentiment been represented, those States would have cast sixteen votes for the measure. It will be seen, therefore, that the popular majority, which ought actually to be set down in favor of the measure, is immense and in no respect sectional. Had it not been for the unhappy circumstances which brought the topic into the arena of party strife, there would probably have been no serious opposition to the measure, except in two or three of the New England States. True wisdom, and a regard for the public quiet would now dictate that the vindictive passions that have arisen in the struggle should be sought on all hands to be appeased and reconciled."

Were we even disposed to pursue these counsels, a large portion of the Whig press would not permit us to bury this question in oblivion. The rabidness as well as absurdity of the Richmond Whig on this subject shows still the spirit of the Whig party. Their presses are constantly harping upon the alleged mischiefs of the measure, abusing its friends, and still idly speculating upon some prospect of defeating it. They are in favor of keeping the question open, with a hope, that at the next session of Congress they may still be able to crush it. But is it right to throw entirely a veil over the conduct of the great body of the Whig Party? Must we forget the history of the Hartford Convention, because it has blown by? Must we cease to recollect the opposition of the Whigs to Texas? Is it not a material element in any calculation, which we are to form of the political character of that party? Were they statesmen in their course? Were they patriots? Must we send back to the councils of Virginia a party, who refused to act decisively in favor of annexation—a party, who would re-elect Mr. Rives to the senate of the United States?—a party, who effectually cheered on the two Senators of Virginia, in resisting the wishes of her people?

Extend the views of the "Picayune" and the "Bulletin," to this aspect of the case—change the statistics from sectional to party calculations, and statistics from sectional to party calculations, and how will the case stand? Out of the 28 Whig Senators, every one voted against the Resolutions, except three. Every Democrat in the Senate voted for them. A single Whig only in the House of Representatives voted ultimately for the amended Resolutions (Dillett of Alabama.)—And two Democrats only (Davis of N.York, and Hale of N. Hampshire.) voted against them. Now, analyze these Whig votes in the Senate, on the principle of the "N.O. Picayune," and it will appear, that in the slaveholding States, 1 Whig from Maryland—2 Whig Senators of Virginia, (aye! from Old Virginia, both Senators went against the great question of the South and of the day—both Messrs. Rives and Archer)—the Whig Senator of N. Carolina—the Whig Senator from Georgia—the two Whig senators form Tennessee (flying ultimately the true track)—one of the Whig senators of Louisiana—and both the Whig Senators from Kentucky;--thus, ten Whig Senators from the slaveholding States voted against us—and to the annoyance of old Virginia, let it never be forgotten that her tow Whig Senators voted against her wishes and her interests—and that the Whigs in her Legislature refused to express the wishes of Virginia, and support the principles of her General Assembly, lest it might "embarrass their Senators," and carry the great question of the times in favor of the United States, and especially of the South. Then mark! Citizens of Virginia, this other thing—that the Whigs are now moving heaven and earth to reelect their party to the next General Assembly for the express purpose of re-electing Mr. Rives, one of the anti-Texas Senators, to our public councils. And the Whigs now complain, that the Republicans of our State Senate would not permit them the other day to trample upon 6,000 majority of the Republicans of Virginia, and to thwart the wishes of the State, by fastening Mr. Rives around your necks for six years to come. What say ye, People of Virginia? Will you trust these politicians again? And will you subscribe to the outrage which they would have perpetrated at the last session, and they are now seeking to renew at the next, against your principles, against your rights, and against your wishes?

The Whigs are deceiving themselves and deceiving others. They would have us believe, that there is imbecility, incapacity, indecision in the present Cabinet. The Whigs are grossly deceived. "Mine is a working Cabinet," says Mr. Polk—and we have no doubt, they will prove themselves to be such. They are all setting in to the study of their respective duties. Mr. Buchanan is at home in our Foreign Relations. Mr. Walker is putting the best foot foremost, by collecting light form all quarters on the revenue and Tariff. Mr. C. Johnson is adjusting his arrangements and anticipating his contracts, as far as he can, to the new Post-Office law of next July. His Department requires energy and economy—and he is the man who will display both these qualities. Bancroft drops the Historian’s pen, for a time, to compass the condition and penetrate the recesses of the Navy. Messrs. Marcy and Mason are preparing for the new and important offices to which they have been called. Success to them all.

The Whigs even flatter themselves will the hope of distraction in the Cabinet. The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot affects to believe, that "there is already a division in Mr. Polk’s Cabinet—each party striving for the mastership in swaying and controlling the President." What wretched humbugs! We are advised upon good authority, that the Cabinet is now a unit—and that the President has rather too much pride to be controlled by any Secretary. They all tell him the truth; that is their duty.—They will give him advice; that is his right. Bu the will decide and act for himself. [MLD]
THE WHIGS STILL AGAINST ANNEXATION

The Whigs die hard. We had supposed that the annexation might have been consummated without much difficulty under the resolutions of Congress. The Whigs say, No. They mean to struggle to the last. They are determined, it would seem, to stir the embers of strife again next Winter, whenever the Constitution of Texas comes in under the House Resolutions, and much more, if the new compact is submitted under the resolutions of the Senate. Mr. Botts said on Monday last, in Goochland, that the question was not settled—that he was glad of it—and that he would fight to the last against the annexation. (See the two communications in to-day’s paper about the discussion in Goochland.) Mr. Winthrop, of the House of Representatives, told a Virginian the other day that they intended to make battle against the Constitution of Texas, when it came before the next Congress. If we believe these Whigs, therefore, the battle is not over, and they mean to oppose Texas again at the next session.

But there is another fact of much importance, which shows the desperate spirit in which they are acting. We request the reader’s attention to the following extraordinary move, made by the Whigs of the Senate of the United States, on the 10th instant:

From the National Intelligencer

In EXECUTIVE SESSION, March 10 1845

Mr. Berrien submitted the following resolution for consideration:

Resolved, That in executing the authority conferred by the joint resolution of Congress entitled “a joint resolution for the annexation of Texas to the United States,” the President of the United States will best conform to the provision of the Constitution by resorting to the treaty-making power, for the purpose of accomplishing the objects of that resolution.

Resolved, That the Secretary be directed to lay before the President of the U.S. a copy of this resolution.

March 11, 1845

Mr. McDuffie moved to lay the above resolution on the table, which passed in the affirmative by the following vote:


NAYS—Messrs. Archer, Barrow, Berrien, Thomas Clayton, John M. Clayton, Corwin, Crittenden, Dayton, Evans, Greene, Huntington, Jarnagin, Johnson of Maryland, Mangum, Morehead, Phelps, Simmons, pham, Webster, Woodbridge—20.

Here, too, we see the desperation of the Whigs. Every man of them but one, votes for the resolution of Mr. Berrien. They were put to sleep by the Democrats of the Senate. Here we see the Whigs attempting to place the annexation at the mercy of the treaty-making power, where two-thirds are necessary to carry it through the next session. That is to say, they sought to kill Texas by a side-blow. But what shows their desperation is this: that they attempt to direct the President, in virtue of their Executive (or treaty-making) character, how to construe a joint resolution of both Houses, adopted in their legislative capacity. How can these men pretend to talk of what “best conforms to the provisions of the Constitution,” when this very resolution of Mr. Berrien does not itself conform to the constitution, but flies in the face of the most obvious constitutional distinction, between the treaty-making and the legislative powers?—It is indeed a curious position which the Whigs occupy. After Congress have passed a joint resolution, one branch (the Senate) would assume the power of advising the President what it means, or rather, that it means something, which violates the Constitution! Such, however, is their eagerness to defeat Texas, that they will resort to any expedient, however desperate. People of Virginia, you see what you are to expect from these Whigs at the next session. We will baffle their designs, however, and secure Texas to the Union. [MLD]
but one candidate and concentrate the whole vote upon him is unworthy of the concentrate the whole vote upon him is unworthy of the confidence of the people

Away with him! “let no such man be hereafter trusted!”

"SPRING ELECTIONS.—The Spring Elections are rapidly approaching, and it behooves the Democracy of the State to be preparing for the contest. Important issues are at stake—questions vitally affecting the rights and interests of the people are to be passed upon. Our motto has ever been, “Principles, not men,” and we wish to see the Republicans standing up to the mark at the next Election. The success of Republican measures, and not the mere triumph of man over man, are we to fight for. We are to seek for the extension of correct principles and not the elevation of certain individuals, however valuable their services may have been heretofore. We are to strive for the triumph of measures, not men—the success of Republicanism over Whiggery—Democracy over Federalism, and the principles of Jefferson over the high-toned Federal notions of Hamilton. Will our friends throughout the State drown all minor difficulties, discard personal preferences, and make a united and determined effort to secure the triumph of our long cherished Republican principles? What will our friends in Harrison do? Will they suffer themselves to be distracted by commotions in our ranks, and thus fall an easy victim to our political enemies? We hope not. What will our friends to in the Scott Senatorial District? Will they not heal the apparent breach in our ranks, and rally to the support of our cause on principle, overlooking the claims of particular men, and the wishes of political aspirants? In every county and district in the State where dissensions exist where aspirants wish to gratify personal feelings at the sacrifice of our principles, or jeopardize the success of the party, we hope the people will take the matter into their own hands, and ‘rule off’ all such stubborn and headstrong partisans, and teach them wisdom by experience.—The man who will endanger the success of our party by pressing his personal claims, should be looked upon as a traitor to the best interests of his country, and receive the censure of all honest men. By such conduct he shows that ‘self,’ dear, precious self, is his first consideration, and all things else must bend to his desires. Mark such men—let them be known and treated as our enemies, enemies more dangerous because they nestle in our midst. We say, in conclusion, Republicans, arm for the conflict! Put on the whole Democratic armor and prepare for the contest! Let us have a majority of men good and true in the next Legislature, so that we may secure the election of a Democratic Governor, and be able to place a fair exponent of the wishes of our people in the U.S. Senate.”

"Democratic Meeting.—We have been requested by a number of our Democratic friends to give notice that there will be a meeting of the Republican party at the August a court-house, on the 4th Monday of this month, (court day.) A full attendance requested."

"Col. Hiner is a candidate for re-election to the House of Delegates from the county of Pendleton."

Such are the staunch men whom the people of Virginia ought to send into their next Legislature. [MLD]

Friday, March 21, 1845 RE45i102p2c4 949 words

MESSRS. BOTTS AND SEDDON IN GOOCHLAND

To the Editors of the Enquirer:

Goochland, Monday Night, March 17

The first encounter in this Congressional campaign was here to-day. The judgment, as to which champion had the better, will depend entirely upon what rule of judging a person adopts. Those with whom loudness of voice, confident and unconsidered assertion, and more than kingly loftiness (not to say arrogance) of look and manner, pass for strength of mind and correctness of though, must give the palm to Mr. Botts. Such as like sound, clear reasoning, carefully ascertained facts, all clothed in chaste and forcible words, uttered with becoming modesty,—will award the victory, beyond measure, to Mr. Seddon.

Never did I see a face, which assumes so much the appearance of absolute infallibility, as the face of Mr. Botts does in speaking. It swells and glistens with indignation, at the bare idea that nay one should be audacious enough to differ with him. Every feature, and every tone says, with all the eloquence of a Salt-river roarer, that he would chaw up, if he could, the man who dares to think differently form Mr.Botts. Pity but you could have heard his argument (as he would call it,) to prove that the annexation of Teas in the way that Congress has taken, is against the constitution! It consisted, almost entirely, of a whole thunder-storm of abusive epithets against the measure. You may have a pretty good notion of it, by turning to Swift’s Tale of a Tub, and reading the “argument,” by which Lord Peter proves a piece of dry bread to be good, fat mutton: “I say, this is Mutton! And if you were not a parcel of d—d fools, you would see that it is. And if you don’t take it and eat it as mutton, may G—d everlastingly d—n and confound you all!” (I quote only from memory)

To mention but one of Mr. B’s reckless assertions: He said, that the repeal of the 21st rule had produced no harm, nay, rather good to the Sough; for, that, since the repeal, he believed, not a single Abolition petition had been presented. Now, if you will look into last Saturday’s National Intelligencer, (for the country,) you will find a list of the petitions presented by Mr.B.’s particular friend, J. Q. Adams, during the session, regularly numbered, amounting to largely over 200; and of the four or five that I examined in the list, nearly all were Abolition petitions.
THE TEXAS QUESTION IS YET OPEN!—Its NOT YET SETTLED!

This was affirmed, and proved, by Mr. Seddon; and admitted, or I should rather say most positively asserted, by Mr. Botts.

Mr. S. said, that it was important to have in the cause in various ways the question might again come up from there, for the action of that body. Texas might accept our offer of union, but with some qualification, which of course have to be decided upon by our Congress. Or, a motion might be made there next winter, to repeal the joint resolutions, by which she is proposed to be annexed. In either of these cases, a member who believed the annexation unconstitutional, would be obliged to vote against it. Or, Mr. S. said, that when Texas, in pursuance of the joint resolutions, should frame her constitution as a State and offer it for the approval of Congress, some such embarrassing and exciting question might be raised about it, as was raised about the constitution of Missouri in 1819: when the Union trembled on the verge of dissolution. In such a juncture, all those who thought annexation itself unconstitutional, would, of course, vote for anything that would frustrate annexation. And in any of those cases, where would Mr. Botts be found? He who is opposed to our annexing Texas in any manner, but especially by legislative action, as being against both expediency and the constitution? The Texas question, therefore, is deeply involved in this contest.

Mr. Botts, in his reply, burst into that tempest of hard words, which I before attempted faintly to give you some idea of; denouncing annexation as every way monstrous—as unconstitutional, unwise, and un-everything. In short, I wonder he did not say with Dr. Syntax, that it “upset the categories, and overturned the predicaments.” He concluded that the Texas question was by no means settled: that if it should come before Congress in any form, (as come it must,) he, if a member, would oppose annexation.

My language is very tame, compared with Mr. B’s. I should vainly attempt a rivalry of his thunder-and-lightning style. For most of his epithets, however, see the R. Whig, passim; and especially the letters of Il Secretario—who, as I heard a Whig of high standing say the other day, is a very clever fellow; "but," added, he, "to talk of making him a Professor in the University, is the best joke that ever happened, except that of a man’s bequeathing five pounds to pay off the national debt of England.” The fluency with which Mr. Botts pours out his plentiful streams of invective, reminds me of that noisy and passionate blade in the Odyssey, who is sarcastically asked,

"What God to thy untutored youth affords Such headlong torrent of amazing words? May Heaven delay thy reign, and cumber late So bright a genius with the cares of State!” [MLD]

Friday, March 21, 1845 RE45i102p1c4 621 words

From Another Correspondent.

For the Enquirer,

Seddon and Botts met yesterday. Seddon, at Botts’ request, leading off in a speech of two hours. Seddon first touched on the Bank question, which he considered as for the present lifeless; but if there were any power which should hereafter revive it, he was ready to aid in again destroying its existence. He next took up the Tariff question, advocating a tariff for revenue only; and as to protection, such as was only a necessary consequence of a tariff, and equally apportioned among all the great interests of the country. He considered this to be the view presented in Polk’s Inaugural, and as such commended it. The Texas question he considered unsettled, either in he event of Texas acceding to Milton Brown’s resolutions, or preferring the plan of the Senate’s amendment. In the other, of course the whole matter still depended on negotiation.

In this connection, he spoke of the impropriety of sending to Congress a man, form whose associations in Congress such inferences might be drawn, as from Botts’. He spoke of Botts’ peculiar attachment to John Q. Adams—his selecting that gentleman to present his contesting petition—his invitation to the dinner given to Botts, &c.—Botts rose, as you may imagine, in a great rage. He said he had rather keep Adams’s company than such as Seddon kept, for which remark Seddon at once stopped him, when Botts declared he meant no personal indignity, &c.—He thought that a remark of dams’ which Seddon had quoted, was not only as Seddon called it, “fiendish,” but hellish—nevertheless, it arose from the old Puritan spirit, which could not brook finance. Adams was no Abolitionist—he knew him better than any body else—he would have considered it the highest honor for Adams to attend the dinner give to himself. He had requested Adams to attend the dinner given to himself. He had requested Adams to present his petition, because he thought the Whig members of Congress from Virginia were too young to manage it well. He could not trust the Democratic members, and Massachusetts was called long before Virginia in calling the States for Petitions. On the Bank and Tariff, he was ultra Federal, in his usual style of violent and empty declarations. He agreed with Seddon, as to the fact, that the Texas question was unsettled—he was very glad of it. He then went on
in a sort of half-mad half-scared style of scolding against Texas and all its friends. Calhoun and McDuffie were disunionists; Tyler was every thing that was villainous. Seddon admired Calhoun, and therefore Seddon was a disunionist, too. Polk was the best of the whole set; he had driven Calhoun and his friends from the councils of the nation. The Northern Abolitionists were better States Rights men than they were: he was a States Rights man himself. When he had finished his tow hours, you may very well imagine, from your knowledge of Seddon, the scorching rejoinder poor Botts received. His defense of Adams, and his attack up on the friends of Texas, as well as his absurdities in regard to the Tariff, were most glaringly exposed. Botts went on for another half an hour, with an attack on Mr. Calhoun, and then the meeting adjourned. Seddon is determined to vote every hour of his time to the canvass, and as soon as he has head form the different counties, will announce the places at which he may be expected." [MLD]

Friday, March 21, 1845 RE45i102p1c5 710 words

To the Editors of the Enquirer.

THE 8th CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.

It has been said that Republics are ungrateful—as amended by gallant Mr. Newton, Republicans are ungrateful—very! Because they have dared to question his infallibility, and dared to offer any opposition to him—dared to say that they do not entirely approve of his course. Vain and ungrateful men—How could you venture to doubt that he, "Honest W. Newton," is the wisest, the best, the greatest statesman whom this District ever gave birth to? Who, that listened to his great speech, yesterday, at Tappahannock, has the temerity to say, that Mr. Newton is not one of the "shining lights of the sunny South?" Of how I envied the man, when I heard him proclaim to his people, that, but for him, Texas—Texas would have been lost—lost forever to us—lost beyond the hope of recovery. The eight Whigs saved Texas—and he—honest and gallant Newton—influenced the eight Whigs; ergo, without his aid, Texas could never have been ours. Then let the glad tidings go forth—let the shouts of gratitude, from the Sabine to the Rio Del Norte, be heard—let Virginia and the whole South echo the shouts: Yes, "let the winds tell the tale"—the Representative of the eighth Congressional District has saved the country—saved the Union.—Now he might "die content;"—the measure of his country’s glory is filled by him—happy man.

Messrs. Editors: Newton and Hunter were here yesterday: each addressed the people. Need I comment? Would that you could have been here, in your native county—your native town—(God bless the old village!) Newton spoke first. I will not trust myself to give you a sketch of what he said, and how it was said. No—the Whigs may do that. But I will say, that a more arrogant, unsatisfactory and presumptuous effort, it has never fallen to my lot to listen to. He did not, however, forget to pay his respects to "Old Tom Ritchie."* Why is it, that the Federalists, in Virginia, always feel it necessary to attack "Old Tom Ritchie?"* I ask the question—but I can answer it: "Old Tom Ritchie" and the Federalists cannot live in peace and harmony in Virginia; hence the efforts of the latter to prostrate the former.

Gallant Mr. Newton addressed his peers about one and a half hours; but for the last half hour we (the Democrats) found it difficult to keep order; the Whigs seemed wearied. He, gallant man, had crossed the "Rocky Mountains;" he had gone to Oregon; and had gotten fairly in a fog on the Columbia river. He commenced under a cloud, and he ended in a fog, and in a fog let him stay.

Hunter arose bout five o’clock. When he appeared on the hustings, the old court-house seemed to shiver from top to bottom. The winds from the Heavens were howling loud and deep; but the people, the mighty people, proclaimed with one united voice, "We too must speak; we must be heard." Yes, and they were heard!

Again, Messrs. Editors, I must decline giving any description of Hunter’s speech. I could not do justice to his noble and eloquent effort. I will not attempt that. But never before did I so much envy (yes, envy) any man. When Hunter closed his speech, by an appeal to the South, I felt (and others, no doubt, felt it too) that I would sooner have been R.M.T. Hunter of Essex, than the "Emperor of all the Russias." This is no fancy sketch.

The mail is about to close, and I have only time to say that we shall do our duty to the cause, to the country, and to the "SOUTH"

Tappahannock, March 18.

*T.Ritchie is old enough to distinguish a "hawk from a hand-saw"—an ambitious Federalist from an honest Patriot—a politician who has changed his coat once or twice in the course of his mortal career, from a statesman who is true to Virginia and her interests. He is young enough, too, to feel sufficient energies in his nerves to defend his own principles, and to defy the whole Federal party, with "honest Willoughby Newton" at their head. [MLD]

Friday, March 21, 1845 RE45i102p2c7 628 words

For the Enquirer.
TO THE DEMOCRATS OF THE ALBEMARLE DISTRICT.

We are now at crisis in this district, which threatens a complete discomfiture in the Congressional contest. The apathy that pervades our ranks, arises from personal predilections, and the seeming injustice done to the counties of Orange and Greene, from the mode of voting in the Convention which nominated Shelton F. Leake. I regret much to say, that this spirit of discord is not confined to the rank and file of the party, but some of distinction, who heretofore have been faithful sentinels on the watchtower, announcing the approach of the enemy, have sheathed their swords, and retired to their tents. Among these, are some of my friends, and it renders it more mortifying to me, that I believe them to be enemies of their own political family. Yes, retired to their tents, when “the Philistines are down upon us,” and we, at such a time, are to be short of our strength by the compatriots of our Democracy. But let us inquire, is this a part of our duty, to become inactive, because the mode of voting in a Convention does not fill exactly our measure of justice? As one, I denounce the mode of voting in the convention as unjust. Further, I believe the delegates appointed by some of the counties were for the purpose of sustaining a nominee without a full exposition of the people’s preference.

But the die is cast, the enemy is fully arrayed against us; and it is wise, is it just, is it patriotic, to throw down our weapons, halt and inquire, how came we to be organized, or how were the officers appointed, or, like Cato before the Roman tribunal, when inquiring why he revolted, the bold exclamation was, “That the Romans, and not he, were the aggressors, since they had sent, instead of dogs and shepherds to secure their flocks, only wolves and bears to devour them.” This is not the language of a patriot, either political or military. But if we are desirous of a defeat, such a course will infallibly insure it. We all have our predilections for men and for modes. But is it not our duty to lay tem down on the altar of our country? And so long as the Democrats will assemble around that shrine, victory will rejoice to perch on her standard.

The Texas question is one that should awaken us to all our energy, independent of the decisive frown which should ever mark the Democratic brow towards the unhallowed waywardness of Federal croakers. But suppose we consider the Texas question as settled, should the Democracy, by their own act and deed, place the wreath of victory around the brow of J.K. Irving, who, in the last Presidential campaign, and in the contest now waging, opposed it upon the grounds of expediency? Inquire of yourselves, voters of the District, are you willing, by your apathy, to produce such a result? Are you willing, by your apathy, to reward by remaining at home, on the 4th Thursday in April next, J. K. Irving, for opposing and, along with them, the Lone Star, with its incalculable wealth?—Or, with the gratitude we owe to Shelton F. Leake, for the zeal, energy and ability employed in the last Presidential election, rally to his support? Is it not our duty to rise from our slumbers, shake off the discord that hangs about our skirts, call up the soul-stirring spirits and to sound the parting knell of disaffection? Let energy and conciliation be our watchword, and the eagle emblem of a Republican victory will perch on our banner, whilst the enemy’s will draggle in the dust, as a strict administration of justice.

RAPID ANN

Orange, March 14th, 1845[MLD]

Friday, March 21, 1845 RE45i102p4c3 1641 words

SPRING ELECTIONS—Organization

The Democratic Central Committee will public their Address, in the course of this week or early in the next, to the People of Virginia.—They will pay their respects, of course, to the late Address of the Whigs.

We lay before our readers, in this morning’s paper, the names of the country Committees, who were appointed by the Democratic Legislative Convention. They are earnestly and respectfully advised to meet forthwith, to organize themselves, to extend their number, and to spread their members in every part of their county. They are requested to exert themselves for the success of our Republican candidates—to rouse the people—to spare no efforts to carry their districts or counties—to concentrate the votes upon one candidate only, where there is but on Representative—and wherever there should unfortunately prevail too great a competition among the candidates, or nay schism in our ranks, to strain every nerve to rule off superfluous candidates, and restore the union, harmony and energy of our party. No time is to be lost, and we earnestly recommend it to our committeemen everywhere to be up and adoing.

We have some snarls in our party—some candidates too many for the demand, and too dogged to accommodate themselves to the true interests of the party. We respectfully recommend all such cases immediately to the consideration of our Country Committees. One of the cases to which we lately alluded, is the strong Republican county of Monongalia. Upon that subject, the Margantown Mountaineer of the 15th has the two following articles.

“A short time since, we borrowed the Richmond Enquirer, (as Father Ritchie has forgotten to exchange with us,) and observed a lecture to the candidates of this county especially, after a few faltering remarks upon us “in particular.” We intend to publish it for the benefit of the Republican party, but he paper has been mislaid, but we remember the substance of the appeal which was. “hold a convention, rule off all the candidates but tone, and if any man would dare to raise his voice against the nomination, throw him over the fence and let it be a lesson to all refractory spirits hereafter.”
"This is sound doctrine, and we most heartily endorse it; and coming as it does from Thomas Ritchie, the father of the press in the Union, the people of the county will en masse approve it.—They are already pursuing that course, n there will not be a dissenting voice to the nomination. The plan is not yet agreed upon, and thee is a general feeling to postpone the matter until March Court, when we can all meet, and in two weeks the nomination will be made, and Monongalia will be where she has been and always will be, leading the van. We will then bring out our chicken. It is a beautiful bird and Chapman shall crow."

Again—"It affords us pleasure to say to our friends at a distance, that everything is right in Monongalia. Discord has been banished, and all the candidates have but one feeling, and that is submission to a Convention. We heard tow of them say this week, that they would rather be defeated a thousand times by Convention than have a Whig elected. We pride ourselves in the ‘Old Vanguard’ on our stern Republicans; and when Monongalia is named in any part of the Commonwealth, she is classed with the ‘Tenth Legion;’ and shall our ancient character be lost? Not if all the candidates act in accordance with their pledges. We have confidence in them, one and all; we would be proud to battle for anyone in the thickest of the fight; if it would be necessary, we would traverse the whole country, and urge the people to the polls. But to be nominated, is to be elected without opposition; and we will support the nominee, whether he is our choice or not—and this is the feeling of ninety nine hundredths of the Democracy of the county."

(Our friend of the “Mountaineer” might very well have saved us the hit of “Father Ritchie,” or the complement of “the Father of the Press,” &c. But he shall no longer have to borrow our paper. It will be put upon our exchange list, as we supposed it had been done before. We shall be amply rewarded for any little service we may do him, by his telling us in the next Mountaineer, that all is peace and well in Monongalia.)

There is still some snarl in Harrison county. At least, the “Scion of Democracy” says, “we expect the Democracy of Harrison will do something on Monday with reference to their county candidate, and we hope also that the number of candidates for the Senate will be diminished. If it is not done, we shall endeavor to show that some gentlemen are more anxious for office than the success of the party to which they attach themselves. With regard to this Congressional canvass, we have only now to say, that if the Democratic party mean to carry the district, they must display more zeal, activity and energy than they seem disposed to do. May we tell them, emphatically, that the district is in danger? We will strive for success in the person of our candidate, and after the battle is fought, if we have any complaints to make about that candidate, we will make them then. If every member of the party will pursue that course, he will have the gratification of knowing that he was superior to the personal objections and differences.”

Organize, then, is the word! Organize everywhere. Let us beat the Whigs, and save the State from their misrule.

The New York Express, as most of the other Whig prints, which have spoken upon this question, is anxious to see the administration open the negotiation with Texas, under the amendment of the Senate. We confess, we prefer the other mode, if it be agreeable to Texas—and it seems to us sufficiently easy to ascertain that fact. We concur with the Glove, that President Tyler and his Cabinet ought not to have taken any action under those resolutions, on the very eve of its dissolution. The whole matter ought to have been turned over to the new President, who would have ample time to consider the subject, and to frame the instructions in whatever form and at whatever time he though the public interests require. We are free to say, that this was the course, which it was expected things would take. But it does not, therefore, follow, that Mr. Tyler had adopted the wrong alternative.

From the information which we have received, we incline towards the immediate settlement of the question, under the House Resolutions, if it be agreeable to Texas. We had understood that Maj. Donelson approved this mode of adjustment, and expressed the opinion that it would be acceptable to Texas. The N.Y. Morning News seems to state the fact differently. There is no difficulty, however, in consulting Texas upon the subject, in such a manner as not to cut off Mr. Polk from either horn of the alternative, which he and the Republic of Texas may prefer. A little frankness alone is necessary to ascertain that fact. It requires no diplomatic subtlety, no finesse, no double dealing in the matter. We have no advantages to gain over Texas. All that we want is to promote the interests of the two countries, which are fortunately not in collision with each other; but it is very desirable for us, to close the matter as quick and as easily as possible; to avoid all further agitation in our own country, and nay renewal of the controversy at the next session of Congress.

The N. York Express is offended with Mr. Yler’s course; and, moreover, informs its readers “that the Senate have passed a resolution calling upon the President for information as to the condition of our relations with Mexico. Mr. Allen wished the resolution modified, so as to leave the communication of the information asked for, to the discretion of the President; but she was defeated, his proposition obtaining only six votes.

“It is further proposed, we are told, to direct the President to take immediate measures for the revocation and nullifying of all proceedings in the premises, assumed by John Tyler, and now in the process of consummation; directing, also, that the President shall submit to the Government of the Republic of Texas the amendment of the Senate, to the Joint Resolutions of he House, as the plan for the Annexation of Texas.”

We should doubt the accuracy of this last piece of information, because we very much doubt, whether the Senate (through the Treaty making power) could understand to direct the President in carrying out a proposition, which did not emanate from the treaty making power, but was a Joint Legislative Resolution of both Houses of Congress. We should suspect, therefore, that the Express has probably made some mistake in the matter.
For our own part, we repeat, that we cheerfully leave this whole question with Mr. Polk. He has no inducements to swerve his judgment, and we cannot doubt that he will take the wisest course which circumstances require. The public creditors of Texas may not like the House Resolutions so well, because they would prefer their debts to be immediately paid; but, as was remarked to us the other day by a citizen of Texas, “let her come in now, and if it be found best hereafter for both parties, (for Texas and the United States,) that Texas make over her lands to the United States, and the United States to pay her debts (by founding them,) nothing would be easier to do it subsequently by a fair and honorable compact between them.” [MLD]

Friday, March 21, 1845 RE45i102p4c3 768 words

OUR RELATIONS WITH MEXICO

The New York Herald says: “we have seen a long letter published in some of the papers, written by Caleb Cushing, probably with a view to its publication, giving his views on the present position of the United States and Mexico, growing out of the annexation question. According to this gentleman’s opinion it is improbably that any difficulties will spring from the resolutions passed by the last Congress. He thinks that Mexico is in no position to make war against the United States when she was unable to carry on an offensive war with Texas alone. This is quite probable. He also states that there is no probability of Mexico issuing letters of marque and reprisal, because such a movement would be condemned by the European Governments as an act of piracy. He is probably right also in this opinion.” Right also for another reason—that, as the French Admiral did, we should feel ourselves authorized and compelled to do, viz: to hold every such vessel to be a pirate, which had not the greater portion of her crew of Mexican seamen—which, of course, she would be unable to supply. A few English crews, tucked up at the yard arm, would effectually end the letters of marque.

We need not be alarmed by this bugaboo humbug, which the Whigs are attempting to get up, of a war with Mexico. Great Britain, too, will not risk any interposition, at the hazard of involving herself in a war with the United States.

True, she is anxious enough to defeat the annexation of Texas. We hear it as a well-authenticated fact, that Mr. Packenham intended to have a great fete at Washington, in case the Resolutions were defeated—and, of course, his Whig guests would have been there, to chuckle over the defeat, and congratulate his Britannic Majesty’s Plenipotentiary on the success of tier opposition. But the firing of the one hundred triumphant guns on Capitol Hill apprized him of his disappointment, and dissipated his magnificent fete into thin air.

The Washington correspondent of the N.Y. Courier and Enquirer is probably behind the curtain in the secrets of the Green Room. He writes or the 9th as follows:

"Gen. Almonte, the Mexican Minister, at 3 o'clock yesterday, P.M., addressed a note to the State Department, complaining of the late act of congress, resolving to annex Texas, which he considered an act of hostility to the Mexican Government; and in conclusion demanded his passports. In the course of the Day, Gen. Almonte sent a formal letter, addressed to all the Foreign Ministers near our Government, remonstrate in the name of Mexico, against he resolutions of Congress for the admission of Texas.—the letter is written with some poignancy, and displays no little shrewdness. It is the intention of Gen. Almonte to sail from New York for his own country in the course of ten days.

"Last evening at a concourse of the Foreign Ministers, this subject was discussed. Though in some respects their opinions varied, in one they all agreed—that the men who now ruled the affairs of the Mexican nation had characters for intelligence and respectability. They are men of discretion and of experience; and though among the people of Mexico, there would be much exasperation and no little complaint of the conduct of our Government, still they thought that the administration would not recommend any hostile measure towards our nation. The most it would insist on, would be an indemnification from our Treasury for the loss of Texas. Satisfied with this, it would abandon any belligerent intention towards our Government. It may be taken for certain that the Mexican Government will grant no letters of marque—no licenses to afflict our embroiled with her in a naval warfare, with out implicating England, whose navigation would suffer as much as the American from such a state of things."

A Subsequent letter from Washington, to the N.Y. Courier and Enquirer says:

"It is understood that a reply has been made by our Government to the protest of General Almonte, and that it has been framed upon the precept that ‘a soft answer turneth away wrath.’ The Mexican Minister spoke of the annexation of a province of Mexico as ‘an unparalleled outrage;’ our Government passes by this harsh language, and seeks to smooth over the wrong, which no argument can justify."

"No argument can justify!” So says the Whig press—although Texas is as independent as Mexico is—as free to contract alliances—as “free, sovereign and independent,” as we were after the battle of York Town. [MLD]

Tuesday, March 25, 1845 RE45i103p1c4 669 words
The last New Orleans mail continues to express some doubts about the course of the Republic of Texas. "The Tropic," (a Whig press, which has feebly inclined, and only now and then, in favor of the measure,) comes forward on the 15th to state, that "The jubilations of some of the rampant annexationists may yet be dashed to the ground, and, what is worse, the blow may come from an unexpected quarter. If the outpourings of some of the Texas papers afford any indication of public sentiment in that Republic, the question of annexation is by no means settled."—If by "rampant," be meant ardent and devoted friends Texas, we cannot include "The Tropic" in that category. We should rather think it is now expressing its hopes, more than its fears.

But now so, with the New Orleans Bulletin of the same date, which, though Whig in its general principles, has always been true, like the needle to the pole, to the great cause of annexation. It has been ardent and devoted to the measure—firm in its purposes—just and enlightened in the means which it adopts. That respectable journal addresses the following manly letter to "The People of Texas." It is not only honest in its views, but what it says is enforced by the soundest reasons of State Policy. It breathes hopes, but is not destitute of fears. We cordially concur in its representations. We, too, claim to be the ardent friends of Texas—her friends, when immediately on the commencement of General Jackson's Administration, we pressed the re-acquisition of her country by the American Union—her friends, when she raised the Banner of her Independence—her joyful admirers, when she won the brilliant victory of San Jacinto—her friends, when at the instance of Mr. Memucan Hunt, her Charge d'Affaires, and others, we waited upon Gen. Jackson, on the morning of the 3rd of March, 1837, to beg him to grace the last day of his administration by recognizing the independence of Texas; and when the petitions of the other friends of Texas, concurring with his own enlightened views, induced him to nominate La Brance as Charge to Texas, within one hour of his close of his power—the friend of Texas, her unaltering, her anxious friend, when we urged the adoption of Mr. Tyler's Treaty, and form that day to this, have never ceased to devote our energies to her service. And now, when we were on the eve of annexation, as we all supposed, here come new signs of the times upon us, creating doubt and some uneasiness respecting the movements of her government. The official "Register" has urged grounds against an acceptance of our propositions, which, if they are allowed to prevail, are calculated to defeat annexation forever. The New Orleans Bulletin has answered these objections by irresistible arguments, in the following article. We adopt its positions. We respectfully urge its due consideration on the people of Texas. Let them be assured, that the United States do not mean to take any advantage of her. Let her accede to the terms which have been offered, and we pledge ourselves to co-operate with her in obtaining, by future compacts, any liberal or honorable terms, which may be compatible with the justice and character of the United States. Nothing will be easier, than to adjust, by such compact, any question which may arise about her boundaries, her division into her States, her Indians, her public debts, and her public lands. We give her citizens welcome to all the rights and privileges, to a full participation of the great power and the high character of American citizens. Let her be bone of our bone, and flesh of our flesh. The name of Virginia is as proud a one as that of Texas—yet, Virginia has become, and will continue to be, a proud sovereign member of the Confederacy of American States. To the same relation, we cordially invite the people of Texas: [MLD]

Tuesday, March 25, 1845 RE45i103p1c4 2093 words

From the N.O. Bulletin.

TO THE PEOPLE OF TEXAS

This journal having so long been regarded among you as your steadfast friend and advocate, in every vicissitude of your fortunes, and having suffered what, probably, no other journal in the United States has been subjected to, no little obloquy and reproach, on account of its unremitting efforts I support of your claims to admission into the Federal compact, and of the general policy, expediency and propriety of that measure; we trust it will not be considered officious or immodest, if we venture to address ourselves thus directly to you at a crisis so interesting and important as the present moment.

By the same conveyance that this will reach you, you will receive authentic intelligence, that the combination of adverse influences and circumstances which has so long operated to prevent your admission into the Union, has been at last overcome, the Legislative and Executive branches of our Government having united in a measure to give expression to the desire of the country, and provide for your restoration to the Republic.—Now it is anxiously feared by many of your friends, and exultingly hoped by your enemies, that the terms of this measure of Union will not be acceptable to you, but will be rejected by you, and thus the proposed measure of union, instead of being immediately consummated, be placed at greater hazard than before, if not forever defeated. We do no profess to share in those apprehensions, though the tone of your Government press is well calculated to awaken anxiety, and especially to grieve those who have relied on your attachment to your native country, and to the Federal Constitution, as the basis of their efforts to obtain your admission to the privileges and protection which the Union guaranties.

It is sure, that the bill which has passed through the forms of our Constitution, and acquired, as far as the assent of this country is concerned, the force at once of a law and a compact, is not without its points of objection. It may be true, that full justice is not without its point of objection. It may be true, that full justice is not done by it to Texas; and that it is not, in all respects, the magnanimous and liberal offer which it would become this great country is concerned, the force at once of a law and a compact, is not without its points of objection. It may be true, that full justice is not done by it to Texas; and that it is not, in all respects, the magnanimous and liberal offer which
it would become this great country, under all the circumstances, to make you.—Let us grant all this. Let us grant, that more is required of, and less guaranteed to you, than ought to have been proposed. Will that warrant you in declining the position which you have sought, and which you have sought, and which has been gained with so much labor and difficulty, through so much contumely, and with so sincere a desire for your welfare, in connection with that of our common and beloved country? We venture to respond to this query, most emphatically, No. If a participation in the advantages of this Union is desirable to you at all, it is desirable under the bill which has been adopted in Congress for your admission. Under that bill, you will attain an exact equality with the other States, and that is all you could reach under any circumstances. As to denuding your selves of your nationality, and sinking your separate existence, against which such earnest appeals are made to your pride, it is, of course, indispensable to a connection with this Government—and, indeed, is no more than every one of the original States of this Union did for itself, rightly considering that the advantages to be derived from a common and united government were infinitely above those fanciful considerations that were then held out to them and are now held out to you, and that, in fact, the greatness which would spring out of the union of the States would reflect more real dignity and character on its several members, than they could by any means attain to as petty sovereignties. The States of Virginia, with a territory as large as your own, and which now contain a population, numbered by millions, and divided into several distinct States, did not disdain to part with a portion of her sovereignty for the sake of the security and character to be gained by mean of the confederation. Neither did Massachusetts, nor New York, nor Pennsylvania, nor Connecticut, nor the Carolinas, nor Georgia, all having sufficient territorial limits, and existing as well formed and solid communities. Would any one of those States derive additional importance in the estimation of the world, or in any way consult its prosperity or dignity, could it withdraw, even in the advance and improved conditions to which they have all attained, and become a distinct sovereignty? No, no, there is no State in the Union, as familiarly as a dissolution of the sacred bond is sometimes talked of, which the other twenty-seven could drive from its portals, or which, being out, would not sin to a deplorable insignificance, and sue for re-admission.

The same circumstances that make it desirable for Louisiana or any other State of the Union to rest beneath its shadow, render it also desirable to you. We will not say that your country does not possess the elements of a distinct and commanding nationality; we will not say, that in the conflict for political power and for commercial and territorial superiority, which are springing up, you will find it impossible to maintain your independence. But we will say, that you cannot attain to the one, nor maintain the other, except through a painful and protracted effort; that you put at hazard all your political and social systems by the irritation of a population, which, whatever its merits, has habits, inclinations and interests incompatible with your present relations; that you cannot, as a distinct power, enjoy either the repose or the security necessary to a speedy development of the resources of your country, or of a realization of the hopes which led you to emigrate thither; that you cannot participate to nearly the same extent if the great changes which are now prosecuting and in anticipation, for the amelioration of commercial and social intercourse, and the general advancement of mankind, as if you were co-workers in this confederacy, and shared in its triumphant progress; that, as the population of your country and the opening up of your resources will certainly not be as rapid, so neither will your welfare be well secured, or be settled on as enduring a foundation; in short, that, in no imaginable contingency, can you attain, as Texians, the same prosperity at home, or the same estimation abroad, as you will at once reach, under that name of pride, of honor and renown, that is now offered you, and at the sound of which your bosoms has been wont to exult—that of AMERICAN CITIZENS. Let us not to be misunderstood. We mean no reflection on the Texian name. We have too often rebuked the revilers of your country, and called to mind the recollections of bravery and patriotism, and the unequalled act of magnanimity, which distinguish your annals, to be suspected of such a thought. But it is not undervaluing that name to say, that it cannot become an appellation of the same significance and estimation as belongs to the citizens of this Republic.

We need not remind you, the greater part of whom were so long familiar with the practical workings of our system of government, of the inherent difficulties that impede the consummation of such a measure as that of extending the confederacy in a particular direction of the prejudices the passions, the apprehensions, the jealousies which, under the most favorable circumstances, must be met and overcome. If you add to these the peculiarly unfortunate position which the question of your admission was made to assume in the conflict of parties, and the factious and vindictive opposition that was thus necessarily engendered, you may form an idea of the difficulties in the way of the friends which the incorporation of your country into the Union have contended and prevailed. Can you be surprised or chagrined, then, if, in the progress of the question, the friends of the measure found it expedient to yield some points which they had been glad on account of the United States as well as of Texas, to incorporate into the act of admission? The act which finally prevailed, to make way for your reception, was agreed upon in the same spirit as that in which our Union was framed, cemented and is maintained—the spirit which animates all our important movements, maintains the equipoise of the States, settles all internal disputes, and in which, if you would enter our great family, you must share—the spirit of compromise and conciliation. In that spirit you are invited to embrace the offer that is held out to you; and if it be not all that could be asked, not to take cautious exceptions to its terms, but to trust in the generosity and sense of justice of the people of the U. States after you are entitled to participate in their councils, and to address them by the endearing title of countrymen. Your confidence will not be misplaced. If you come into the Union under the resolutions which have been adopted, you will undoubtedly receive more favor and consideration at the hands of the country than in any treaty or bargain you could drive.

It has been represented in your public prints, that even after having complied with the terms of the act of Congress, disrobed yourselves of your nationality and dissolved your existing Government, you are still subject to the mortifying alternative of a rejection at the threshold of the union. This is not so. The act of union is complete when you signify your assent to its provisions—The formal acceptance by Congress of the Constitution your may adopt as a State, is indeed requisite under the Federal Constitution; but you become to all intents a part of the country—"annexed," since the term has become popular—the moment you have complied with the proposals moment you have complied with the proposals that have been sent to you. You are more secure in your position than a territory of the Union: because, in your case, the time is fixed for your admission, and the preliminaries settled; whereas the pleasure of Congress is the only law that is known to our territorial organizations, in regard to their admission as States.
We have not written this hasty and crude appeal to you, because we have any doubt of your disposition to come into the Union, or that you will cordially embrace the invitation that is held out to you, but because we know that the most powerful arts of persuasion and menace will be employed to induce you to throw away the opportunity, and we would assure you of the interest with which the course of events in your country is watched. We have advocated your incorporation into the Union, for the reason, that we believe your claim to admission to be founded in justice, and also that he welfare and renown of our common country will be advanced by the measure. The advantages, as we think, will be mutual, else we had never contended for the project.—Were your country assuming a place of less dignity and consequence, in exchanging its position as an inferior member of the family of nations, to become and important member of this overshadowing commonwealth of States, it would be with a poor grace that the invitation would be sent to you. Were our country, on the other hand, acquiring but a barren scepter, yielding no substantial benefits, and subject to be wrenched away by discord and discontent, what American so base as to endeavor to persuade his countrymen to so hazardous an enterprise? But the change will impart consequence, security and prosperity to Texas; while it will increase the prowess, give defense to the frontiers, extend the dominions, consolidate the interests, and, if there be any virtue in experiments fully tried, promote the harmony and strengthen the bonds of the Union. [MLD]

Tuesday, March 25, 1845 RE45i103p1c5 1439 words

IMPORTANT MOVEMENTS IN ENGLAND

Duties of our own Government

The Globe shows, by the late news form England, how that power is softening down in their policy towards the United States—in regard to our commerce, as well as on the claim of the right of search. The Globe says: "The reduction of the duties on cotton, and the discrimination in favor of the sugar raised in the United States over that produced elsewhere by slave labor, imports much; and the speeches in and out of Parliament, urging still further reductions in the duties on the agricultural products of this country, which, even under the existing Tariff, flow into England in vast quantities, promise, at an early day, the adoption, as the settled system of England, of that which the Democracy of the United States has urged as the only true financial and commercial principles, viz: trade unfettered by any other than a strictly revenue Tariff. The doctrine of protection for monopoly is alike abhorrent to the masses of both countries; and the effect of this feeling is evidently reaching both Governments."

"Even the London "Times," commenting on the Prime Minister's speech, admits, that "the present reductions are only the steps to a more comprehensive plan now under contemplation." And it concludes by stating, that "The freest possible exchange of commodities, and the imposition of taxes only for revenue, are made the basis of a scheme which we think it due to the financial acts of the ministry to publish even in its present imperfect shape." (These are indeed important revelations!)

"There is another national point, (says the Globe,) in which the policy of the Democracy has had a triumph over the diplomacy of Europe, aided by the treachery of some who, thank God, no longer hold power in this Government. We allude to England's pretension to the right of search, which she attempted to bolster by a Christian league of all Europe. This league was preached like a crusade against the United States, in the name of a war against the slave trade.—One of the last acts of Mr. Stevenson, while minister in London, representing he administration of Mr. Van Buren, was his bold, powerful, eloquent letter, exposing the design, and refuting the principle on which it was attempted to assert, under a new name, the usurpation of the right of search. General Cass, our minister in France and Great Britain. The last arrival brings us the result of the bold and patriotic resistance of which were betrayed at home by the Anglo-American power, installed in our Government by the unfortunate elections of 1840.

" Wilmer & Smith's European Times, of the 4th of March, has this notice of the changed aspect of this question:

"The right of search—that irritating surveillance of the high seas, which has proved of late years an endless source of annoyance to American shipping—is virtually at an end. The commission which has been appointed on the part of evil, may throw dust in the eyes of the Exeter Hall saints, but it will assuredly deceive no one else. For all practical purposes, the power is against the principle, that no ministry can withstand it; and some of the most clear-headed of English statesmen think, that not only does this obnoxious right of search constantly keep us on the confines of a collision with the U. States, but that, so far from mitigating the horrors of the slave trade, it has actually increased it."

The change in the tone of the British Cabinet on this subject, is justly supposed to have arisen from the late language of Mr. Guizot, the French Premier, to the British Government. He speaks of the "powerful ad formidable national sentiment" (in France) against this pretended right of search—and Lord Cowley, the British Minister in Paris, writes thus to Lord Aberdeen, on the 18th January last (1845):

"A great change had taken place in the opinions of the Chambers, as well as of the public generally, upon the
question of the right of search. It would be useless, he said, to enter into any examination of the causes which had led to that change; he would only say, that the prejudice existing throughout France against he exercise of that right was unconquerable, and was daily increasing.”

Whilst these changes are going on in England in favor of liberty of commerce and the immunities of our navy, it becomes us to do our own part. Our new Secretary of State is placed in a condition to distinguish himself. Not only is he called on to keep down Mexico and admit Texas into the Union, but to meet the overtures of England for free trade. If we are invited to adopt towards England “the freest possible exchange of commodities, and the imposition of taxes only for revenue,” then it will well become our Secretary to meet them more than half way. The present Administration has indeed most important duties before it. It will be in its power to give freer and more vigorous wings to our commerce, and to open new and more liberal markets for our productions. Look also to the North of Germany, to the Brazils, and to China for theatres of great and expansive development to our commerce and home industry. For example:

“The Washington Constitution regrets the non-confirmation of the Zollverein treaty, and the more, because ‘it is understood here,’ it adds, ‘that Mr. Pakenham has been invested with power for negotiating, upon reciprocal and equal terms, a treaty, by which there may be an exchange of the surplus products of both countries to the mutual advantage of each.’ The Baltimore American says: ‘If such a disposition to treat has been manifested by the British Government, the probability is that the Ministry begin to perceive the necessity of a reduction or the removal of the duty on American cotton; and for this measure of necessity, forced upon them by the demands of their own manufacturers, they would be happy to obtain concessions on our part, as though they were about to proffer us voluntarily a favor.’” (This remark was made by the “Baltimore American,” in anticipation of the news by the Cambria.)

But the suspension of the Zollverein gives our Secretary of State an opportunity of collecting the best information from the most intelligent agents we have in Germany, as to the best means to regulating that trade. Our commerce with the North of Germany, is susceptible of a vast augmentation, under proper regulations, and with a proper spirit on the part of our merchants.—An intelligent Correspondent wrote us the other day, that if we had a representative in Berlin from the South, who understood our tobacco interests, we might make arrangements for introducing 25,000 hhds. Of tobacco more per annum, than we now carry. The trade in that article alone (one of the staples of old Virginia,) has been on the increase for several years. For instance, we only shipped to Bremen in 1833, 75 hhds. Of stems; this increased in 1840, to 1,158 hhds. Of tobacco, and 876 stems; in 1842, to 4,573 tobacco, and 2,294 stems; in 1843, it fell off to 3,013 hhds. Tobacco and 1,534 stems. Judicious arrangements on our part, to collect the best information, in order to assist the next Congress in making the best regulations and laying revenue duties, would enlarge our commerce considerably in that important commercial region.

The Brazils, too, with her coffee, sugar and other productions, given in exchange for our flour and domestics, open another important field for the secretary of State to act in. And who shall set bounds to our commercial relations with China—with her teas and silks in exchange for our manufactured fabrics, and all sorts of notions?

Mr. Polk says, his is “a working Cabinet”—and we congratulate our friend, Mr. Buchanan, on the vast field which lies before him, for enlarging his won fame, and for extending the commerce, manufactures and agriculture of his country. Scarcely was there ever a more brilliant opportunity presented to any secretary to effect those objects.

The great movement of the age seems to be in favor of free trade. It becomes our duty, placed as we are in a young and free country, to set and example of this principle; and especially to encourage it, whenever other nations relax their restrictions and strike for greater freedom of trade. [MLD]
wool is unavailable, for the purposes of manufacture, and is necessarily waste, the duty, of course, presses with increased severity upon that portion of the whole amount, which is capable of being used for manufactures. It is estimated, and I believe the estimate to be a reasonable one, that we ought to add one-sixteenth more to the five-sixteenths, in order to calculate the full amount of duty paid upon the whole of the cotton wool that is actually manufactured in this country. Six-sixteenths, or three-eighths of a penny per lb. weight would, therefore, be the total amount of duty paid on cotton wool. Now, when the price of cotton wool is four pence per pound, on the average, three-eighths of a penny per pound, is a duty of nine per cent on the value of the raw material. If the price of cotton wool be as a duty amounting to not less than 12 ½ per cent. On the value of the raw material. This duty so levied falls with peculiar severity on the coarsest description of cotton—(hear, hear)—upon the fine muslins you can hardly estimate the amount of duty, it is so small; the coarser the fabric and the more it is in common wear, the higher is the amount of duty. It is in respect to the manufacturers of this country are exposed to the most formidable competition in South America and China, and even in our own colonies—(hear, hear.) Of course, in respect of the manufactured cotton of the United States, we labor already under great disadvantage from the ready access which the people of that country possess in the raw material, and they are formidable competitors of ours in all the coarser descriptions of cotton goods. * * * I know it will be said that this trade is now in a flourishing condition, but we must not disregard the formidable competition to which it is exposed, (hear, hear;) we must consider how materially this cotton manufacture has contributed to the strength of the country, (loud cheers)—how materially it aided in enabling us to go through successfully that great conflict in which we were some thirty years ago engaged, (cheers)—what thousands and tens of thousands of persons there are who are indebted to it for their occupation and subsistence. Seeing and considering these things—seeing the amount of duty imposed upon the coarser fabrics—seeing the extent of competition to which they are exposed—seeing the importance of this manufacture to the commercial greatness of this country, we are prepared to advise the abolition of duty on Cotton Wool—(loud and long-continued cheering.) The estimated loss to the revenue by the abolition of the duty on cotton wool—taking as a guide the amount received last year—will not be less than $680,000." A member asked how soon it was intended that this change should take effect. Sir Robert Peel replied, immediately.

Thus our great staple is a once, and voluntarily, to be relieved of the burden which it has been bearing in England; amounting recently to a no less sum than $3,400,000 per annum. This will, I am persuaded, be joyful tidings not only to the cotton planter, but to the entire agricultural interest in the United States. The stock of cotton in Great Britain, which is but little below 900,000 bales, is to receive no benefit whatever from this abolition of duty; and, therefore, prices must slightly improve in our markets. The producers of the article, in the present condition of the world, cannot reasonably expect what were heretofore regarded as high rates for their crops; but they may expect living and uniform ones. Let them continue to cultivate their fields faithfully, and they will assuredly, in a few years, drive their feeble competitors—Brazil, India, Egypt, &c.—entirely form the European markets. This advice I have repeatedly given them through the columns of the Enquirer, an time has tested its soundness.

The financial movement of Sir Robert Peel will fall with peculiar severity upon the manufacturing interest of the "German Commercial League." The manufacturers in the states composing it, could not sustain themselves against the competition of England, while they had no duty to pay; and what is to become of them, under the removal of the weight of duty with which the English manufacturer had to contend, amounting, as is show, form 9 to 12 ½ per cent., cannot be readily foreseen! Even while they were favored by such advantages, they never were able to make their own twist, or to enter into the first stage, successfully, of manufacturing from the raw material. In speaking of the absurdity of the provisions of the Wheaton Treaty, in my letter of 31st of March last, I said, "The chief object of the Germanic Association, at least, as far as expressed, is to foster the manufacturing establishment embraced within its boundaries. It would, then, be a suicidal policy for it to tax the raw material, which is to build them up, and give them permanent duration. It is, therefore, an absurd belief, to suppose that the Zollverein, either now or 'in future,' will lay an impost on raw cotton. The United States, on that score, have not the slightest favor to ask," &c., &c. Yet, strange as it may now appear, it was heralded over the country, in all directions, that the American Diplomat had achieved a mighty triumph in getting the Zollverein to concede that "no duty should be laid upon cotton." As I am speaking of the German Customs Union, I will take occasion to remark, that the United States have but one concession to ask of it in its Tariff of duties, and that is, to admit tobacco on the same terms as Hanover does—say at 69 cents on the 100lbs.—In return for this, under a general revenue act—to a differential treaty—I should be happy to see the duty on its various manufactures modified to 15 per cent. Ad valorem.

What will New England think? What will the world think now of British philanthropy?—Will it not henceforth be regarded in its true and proper meaning, which signifies, British interest? No one, however charitable in his feelings, can bestow upon it any other definition. Slave grown cotton, and slave grown sugar, have diametrically opposite meanings in John Bull's vocabulary, because, forsooth, "thousands and tens of thousands of persons" are indebted to the former for occupation and subsistence," and the "country for its commercial greatness," while the latter interferes with his West India plantations, &c., &c. The Abolitionists and manufacturers of the North must be incurably blind, if their eyes are not now opened. All Europe is shocked at the brazen effrontery of Great Britain, in urging the abolition of slavery as a measure of philanthropy, after this new development of her selfish policy.

The annexation vote has created no sensation on this side of the water. The British Press is unusually silent, both in relation to Texas and Oregon. The "London Chronicle," which was so fierce for a war on these questions a year ago, in a recent editorial dolorously remarks, among other things:

"Colonel Benton, on whose rivalry with Calhoun and whose opposition to slavery people counted, in order to divide the Democrats, and defer, if not defeat, annexation, has, on the contrary, declared for it, on the proviso, that Texas is to be divided into slave States and non-slave States. Such has been the compromise proposed by Missouri. And such is the nature of the resolution, which passed by 120 to 98." Speaking of Oregon, the same journal says: "The veteran Quincy Adams declared, with his wonted impetuosity, that the American claim was too manifest to be longer postponed, and consequently he would recommend his country to fly on, Macduff."
Let the people of the United States be true to themselves—Whig and Democrat uniting on questions concerning the durability and safety of Union—and they have nothing to apprehend from abroad. I am encouraged to believe, by my accounts per the Cambria, that measures were adopted by Congress, which would give us jurisdiction, or will at an early period, over Oregon and Texas. If this has been done, rely upon it, the nation will enjoy repose, hereafter, and be on better terms with G. Britain than it has since it had existence.

Yours truly,

AGRICOLA.

Tuesday, March 25, 1845  RE45i103p1c6  159 words

America Rivalling France!

Gaynor, Wood & Co., Druggists, have supplied our Toilette with soap and shaving cream, as white as snow, and delightfully flavored with bitter almonds. Our Barber, who is a thorough adept in the mysteries of his important profession, pronounces a high eulogy upon these beautiful compounds. They are manufactured in Philadelphia by Roussel, whose name indicates his French origin, and proves that, with all the evils that, in Whig assertion, flow from our liberal naturalization laws, the country receives much benefit from the accession of European talents and industry. We are glad to see, that in New York the Whigs are coming to their senses on this subject. What will now be the course of a certain Whig organ in this neighborhood, whose rabid attacks upon the poor foreigners almost equaled its bitter denunciations of the annexation of Texas? With Mr. Roussel’s fine soap, we shall keep our hands clear of all contact with such a monster as Nativism. [MLD]

Tuesday, March 25, 1845 RE45i103p2c3  247 words

Which is the true version?

A few days since, the Richmond Whig said that Texas had had “the effect of defeating Mr. Clay, and overwhelming the Whig party.” In its leading article of yesterday, it “devoutly wishes Texas was the other side of Cape Horn!” But, strange to say, in another article of yesterday’s Whig, the Editor professes to rejoice at the assumed gain of the Whigs of New York in their town elections, and adopts the language of the N.Y. Tribune, a most rabid anti-Southern journal. The Whig says: “The Texas iniquity (listen, people of Virginia!) has done it, and it is going to produce yet more extraordinary results!—They who compassed that national disgrace, if they live long enough, will live to repent it in sackcloth and ashes.” The Whig is right—but the “extraordinary results,” so far from ensuring to the benefit of the anti-Texas party in Virginia, will act with redoubled force against them; and will, again, in the language of the Whig, “overwhelm the Whig party,” that oppose a measure so heartily desired by a “large majority of the people of Virginia.” The Whig may rest assured, that, so long as Texas continues in the Gulf of Mexico, and be not removed, by some magic influence, to “the other side of Cape Horn,” it will be the fixed fulcrum whence to move the great American nation. This prominent question will work out its own end, and will crush the puny whiglings who may resist its powerful momentum. [MLD]

Tuesday, March 25, 1845 RE45i103p2c3  9,232 words

ADDRESS OF THE DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE, To the People of Virginia!

Another political campaign has commenced. The important considerations involved in the contest, make it the duty of the Democratic Central Committee appointed by the Legislative Convention, to address such remarks to its political friends in the states as may serve to explain the principles and conduct of the two great parties which divide the country. The course pursued by the Whigs of Virginia and the majority of the last Virginia Legislature, should also be placed in its true light before the people. When that is done, we hope that he Democratic party will require nothing more to stimulate its zeal, and lead to the adoption of such an organization as will make its action united, harmonious and efficient.

The victory of 1844 leaves much to be done before we are freed from the control and influence of misguided men. We still have foes to encounter, dangers to meet, and obstacles to avoid. Not only in our own State, but throughout the Union, we see a party formidable in numbers, and strengthened by the vast influence of incorporated wealth, directing all its energies against those rules of constitutional construction and principles of public policy, on which the freedom, happiness and prosperity of the country depend. However much the different portions of that party may vary, in the arguments by which they endeavor to justify their measures in the different portions of the country, it should be remembered that they strive for the attainment of a common object, and, that their successes to give a character to our Government in its practical operations, which the framers of the constitution could not have anticipated.
To avoid this consummation, the Democratic party has directed its whole energies. From an early period in our history to the present time, it has contended, that, from the nature of the compact which unites the American States, the General Government, created as an agent, and entrusted with prescribed powers, must confine itself strictly within the commission conferred by those who called it into existence. In every attempt to carry out this principle in the practical operations of the Government, it has met with formidable opposition. A considerable portion of the people acting at different times, under different party names, have contended for such a construction of the Constitution, as would empower the Federal Government to sit in judgment on the Constitution itself, to destroy its guarantees by implication, and perpetuate injustice by giving abiding force to precedent established by itself. This construction, predicated on the supposition that the people of the States of this confederacy were consolidated, by the adoption of our federative system, into one body politic, with a government acting as the representative of its sovereignty, is fraught with the most dangerous consequences. The doctrine, if fully established and carried out in practice, would convert our State into a mere district or department of the United States with its reserved rights under the control of the very Government to which it refused to surrender them, and all its domestic interests at the mercy of men responsible to a distant constituency for their public conduct.

The principles were once so alarming to the great body of our people, that the very name of the party which professed them became an epithet of reproach. But since the defeat of the younger Adams, which was thought a final overthrow, the principles of his party, aided by fortuitous circumstances, have been made more acceptable to the nation. All the elements of opposition to the administrations of Gen. Jackson and Mr. Van Buren were forced to act in concert with those who had supported Mr. Adams. Although the party thus formed was composed of such discordant elements that it could agree on no homogeneous system of policy, it found a powerful ally in the extreme distress and consequent desire for change produced by the derangement of our monetary affairs; and succeeded in electing Gen. Harrison to the Chief Magistracy of the Union; who had declared a National Bank to be unconstitutional, and stood pledged to regard the compromise of the Tariff as sacred and inviolable. The Whig party, which united its forces and gained the control of the government by professing the leading principles of the Republican faith, as soon as practicable, carried through Congress a Bank bill more objectionable than any which had preceded it—distributed the proceeds of the sales of the public lands from an exhausted treasury—violated the compromise of the tariff, and framed a scale of duties at war with those which both parties had solemnly pledged themselves before the country to support, as the permanent policy of the Government.

A common name and the labors of an arduous contest, had the usual effect of uniting those who had co-operated with each other. Party discipline and the well-known necessity of supporting a particular candidate for the Presidency, completed this consolidation, as far as it was practicable.—But, happily there were many over whom party names had no force and party discipline no control, who saw the tendency of the measures forced upon the Whig party by those who represented the incorporated wealth of the country, and resolutely opposed the party which had duped and deceived them. The Whig forces, consolidated by the process which we have endeavored to explain, were compelled to adopt the principles of a majority, sanctioned as they were by the concurrence of the man who stood most prominent as their leader.

The effective majority of the party being at the North, determined the course of the Whigs, not only on the Bank, Tariff, and Distribution questions; but, at a later period, succeeded in arraying it against the most important question which has agitated the country since the formation of the Government. The non-Slaveholding States, did not leave the reasons of their opposition to the annexation of Texas in doubt or obscurity. Hostility to the slave institutions of the south, and a determination not to allow their further extension, were boldly and unequivocally proclaimed to the world as the basis of their action; and the Abolitionists were distinctly invited, in the name of the whole Whig party to lend their aid in a common cause. It was not pretended, to our knowledge, that the rights of the North would be endangered, its interests compromised, or its prosperity impeded. The Whigs of the non-Slaveholding States thought themselves privileged to sit in judgment on the character of the South, and of making it the duty of the Federal Government to take, under its supervision, the domestic institutions of the high contracting parties who created it, as a mere agent, for other and far different purposes.

This issue was distinctly made, and it was to be hoped, that no Southerner would be induced by party consideration, however strong, to be wanting in his duty, when our rights were thus endangered, and our honor likely to be compromised. This hope was not fulfilled. The Whigs of the South, true in party discipline, co-operated with the Whigs of the North upon this vital measure. They endeavored to justify their conduct by such shallow arguments, that we were compelled to believe nothing, except party discipline, could have placed them in a position which they could but so impotently defend. Although Texas had maintained her independence for a number of years, and had been received into the family of nations by the leading powers of Christendom—although she was confessedly independent by the forcible destruction, by Mexico, of the only instrument which united her with that Republic—although she had been victorious in resisting a conquest, and not in effecting a revolution, it was contended that the U. States could not treat with her for territory, without committing an act of spoliation on a friendly power—a power which had attempted forcibly to subdue the country that we wished peaceably to annex to our confederacy. An ordinary treaty of peace and amity, was, contrary to the law of nations, made an insurmountable barrier to such a proceeding, while ideas of national honor, before unknown, were heard on every side form lips which uttered no word of reproach to Great Britain, though it was generally conceded that her Majesty’s Government was ready to perpetrate the alleged wrong on Mexico, by guaranteeing the independence of Texas against he world.

When opposition to a great measure is so badly defended, we must believe that some cause, not apparent on the surface, is at work. And when we see so many members of that opposition railing against the measure because of the influence it was calculated to have over the result of a political contest, all doubt vanishes. We are then convinced that party policy and party discipline have usurped that position which belongs to reason and judgment. The motives which regulated the course of the Northern Whigs, on the question of annexation, are
The necessity of uniting the party on a great question, if it would triumph, is equally plain; and the line of policy adopted by the Whigs, in consequence, as we believe, of that necessity, should be remembered by the people long after all agitation on this subject has finally ceased.

Before dismissing the question of annexation, we must call the attention of the people of Virginia to the action of the Whig members of the last Legislature. It becomes our duty to do this, since the resolution of the Legislative Convention, imputing to them a covert design to defeat the joint resolution brought forward by the Hon. Milton Brown, has been made the pretext of explaining their course on that and other occasions. The task of proving that the Whig members of the Legislature desired to defeat a Democratic measure, is indeed novel, and may serve to throw light on the character of the Whig party of our State.

It is well known, that the members of the last Legislature were elected without reference to this question. The elections took place before the Democratic party had selected its candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency of the U. States, and resulted in returning a decided Whig majority to the House of Delegates; the Democratic party maintaining its ascendancy in the Senate. The Legislature, thus elected, convened after the defeat of the Whig party in November, and then when the Texas question, in despite of the most strenuous exertions, was carrying every thing before it. During the whole canvass it was viewed as a purely party question, and had triumphed in Virginia by the election of Mr. Polk. We will not stop to discuss what course the Whig majority in the Legislature should have pursued. It is plain that they should have either considered the popular vote given in the State as instructions, and endeavored to obey them, opposing the annexation of Texas, should have used their best efforts to defeat the measure. They contend that they did not take the latter course. It only remains to be seen whether they endeavored in good faith to effect it, or endeavored to place obstacles in the way of proceedings which they did not wish to take the responsibility of defeating.

The first move in this question was made by the Senate. That body passed a resolution declaring, "That the annexation of Texas to the United States should be effected with no further delay than may be necessary for the accomplishment of that object by the constituted authorities of the two countries." Not a Whig member voted for it. This resolution simply says, that the sense of the Senate was in favor of immediate annexation by the constituted authorities of the United States and Texas. No constitutional question as to the mode of proceeding is either raised or decided. And, consequently, the Whig party of the senate were committed, by their party votes on that occasion, against the measure, independent of constitutional scruples. Of this fact the Whig Address makes no mention. The Whigs in the lower House laid this resolution on the table, and none of them made any effort to call them up. Two-thirds of the session of Congress had expired, and there was an ascertained desire on the part of the Whig members in our Federal Legislature to defeat the measure if possible. Three days afterwards, a member of the Democratic party moved to take up the Senate's resolution, when every Whig but there voted against it. Of this fact the Whig Address makes no mention. The three days after this unsuccessful attempt, another motion was made by a Democrat to take up the resolution, when every Whig but two voted against it; one of whom had received positive instructions—of this fact the Whig address makes no mention. Notice was then given that similar motions would be made daily until the end of the session, unless the Senate's resolution was acted upon. Then a Whig member brought forward a substitute to the resolution in these words:

"Resolved, That the annexation of Texas to the United States ought to be effected at the earliest period that may be practicable, consistently with the welfare of the State and the obligations of peace of the Union, and the faith and honor of the country; and, that this General Assembly, reposing entire confidence in the ability and patriotism of the Senators of Virginia, rely upon them faithfully to discharge all their obligations to the State and to the Union upon this question." The Senate's resolution simply sanctioned the annexation of Texas. The substitute, it will be perceived, does not—except upon certain contingencies, of which our Senators in Congress were to be the judges. Men are not swayed by doubts when their minds are determined—and hence the conditions indirectly destroyed the effect of the resolution; for they intimate, without asserting, that he General Assembly did not feel assured that annexation could be effected consistently with the welfare of the State or the obligations of the Constitution—consistently with the peace of the Union or the faith and honor of the country. In fact, solemnly enacting, that it was doubted by the General Assembly, whether it was expedient or constitutional, safe or honorable, to annex Texas to the United States. Would same men adopt such a course, in order to accomplish a desirable object? Was not this plan of mooting many questions and deciding none, equivalent to declining all action, and calculated to defeat annexation, without meeting the question presented in the Senate's resolution, fairly and candidly?

On the motion of a Democratic member, the resolution above recited was amended by an addition, stating that the conditions mentioned would be performed by the joint resolution adopted by the House of Representatives on the 25th of January. Pending the debate on the substitute and amendment, they were referred to a select joint committee. That committee could effect nothing, and was discharged. Both the resolution and amendment were withdrawn, and the senate's resolution was carried; thirty-four Whig members voting in favor of it, and thirty-one against it. That resolution, it will be borne in mind, mooted no constitutional question, but simply declared the sense of the Senate to be in favor of annexation. If the Whig members were originally in favor of that resolution, why did all those in the Senate vote against that body? If he members of the House of Delegates were in favor of it, why did they encumber it with implied doubts as to whether the interests of Virginia would be injured, the peace of the Union, the good faith and honor of the country be compromised? These questions cannot be answered on the hypothesis that the Whig members acted openly and in good faith, either to carry out or destroy the measure. And yet, in the face of these facts, we find that the authors of this Whig Address claim credit to their party for the motives which actuated them in referring the resolution to the House, and its amendment to a select committee, because it might lead to "the suggestion of a resolution which might receive a vote approaching as nearly as possible to unanimity, and which it was assumed, would for that reason carry with it greater moral public sentiment, as well as upon our Senators upon whom it was designed more directly to operate, than could possibly attach to a resolution, adopted, if adopted at all, by a strictly party vote, and by a bare majority." We will examine further into the history
of this matter to see if the members of the Whig party desired to give moral weight to, and influence public sentiment in favor of, a measure which had been so unanimously opposed in the Senate, and clogged with such remarkable conditions is in the lower House, by men who insisted on pretermittting the constitutional question by expressly raising it, for the purpose, it seems, of making known their doubts to the Senators.

After the adoption of the first resolution on this subject by the Senate, and before the action on it by the House of Delegates, information of the passage of the Hon. Milton Brown's joint resolution had been received; and it is but fair to presume, that the Whig members of the Virginia Legislature were informed of the position occupied by our Senators in Congress. Here, then, was some definite proposition to be acted on. No one could fear to commit himself to any particular mode of annexation, lest it should be the mode adopted by Congress; whilst the constitutional scruples of our Senators (Mr. Rives and MR. Archer) must have been known to their political friends in Richmond. Immediately we find the Senate's resolution, which the Whigs had twice voted against taking up, by a strict party vote, showing concert and arrangement, brought to the consideration of the House. After the proceeding the Senate's resolution was adopted. Before this period, no expression of opinion could be obtained for or against the constitutionality of annexation, in any manner. The information arrives, that Mr. Brown's resolution is the manner determined on in Washington, and immediately the opposition assumes a definite shape. The expediency of the measure could now be admitted, though denied previously by the Whig Senators. Hence forward, the joint resolution is the thing to be opposed.

As the next move, Mr. Gordon offered the following resolution: "That the admission of Texas on the conditions and guaranties set forth in the joint resolution passed by the House of Representatives on the 25th of January, 1845, and sent to the Senate for its concurrence, in the opinion of the General Assembly, is just and proper, and will be approved by the people."

This resolution which, like that of the Senate which had been adopted, made no mention of the constitutional question, would not suite the Whigs, although they had insisted on pretermittting that question and made that desire the basis of their opposition to the Democratic party. Accordingly, a leading Whig ember brought forward a substitute covering the whole ground of Mr. Gordon's resolution, with this addition: "This General Assembly, however, forbearing to express any opinion as to the constitutionality of annexation by the mode of a joint resolution of the two Houses of Congress."—This substitute, suggesting again the constitutional doubt, for the express purpose, it seems, of not deciding it, was adopted by a strictly party, vote; too Whig members only voting against it the one instructed, and the other virtually instructed. Does this look like a desire to influence public sentiment in favor of the measure, or a wish to make known to our Senators the fact than the General Assembly had doubts as to the constitutionality of the joint resolution, and wished to throw those doubts against the resolution? We will presently show that those doubts did not exist in the minds of those who wished to parade them before the world.

The substitute above recited was passed by a party vote, and a resolution was offered instructing our Senators to vote for the joint resolution which passed the House of Representatives on the 25th of January. This resolution was rejected by the Whig majority. The substitute which had passed the House with the constitutional doubt attached to it, was amended in the Senate: 1st, by declaring the joint resolution "lawful and constitutional;" and 2dly, by striking out the last clause which brought forward the constitutional question. The House refused to concur in those amendments. A committee of conference was then appointed by the two bodies. The committee of the Senate proposed to withdraw the first amendment, if the House committee would agree to the second. This course it will be seen would have led to the adoption of that resolution which would have made no mention of the constitutional question. But even this would not satisfy those who did not wish to commit themselves. They would only consent to it themselves. They would only consent to sanction this arrangement on condition that the fact that the General Assembly forbore to express any opinion, on the constitutionality of the joint resolution, should be stated in the report of the committees to their respective Houses—thus against in forming the country in terms that our Legislature was not prepared to sanction the annexation of Texas. This Senate's committee very properly rejected this proposition, which ended all action on the subject. It has generally been thought that legislative action was based upon the convictions of legislators. It was reserved for the Whig Legislature to encloud their functions by enacting what they did not believe.

It will be seen, from the sketch we have given of the legislative proceedings on this matter, that up to the time of the passage of the joint resolution by Congress, the Whig party in the Legislature had not given any opinion, even ads to the expediency of annexation. Every effort to bring up the question had failed. In the Senate, they were committed against it, even on that ground. But when the joint resolution was passed, the could safely yield the ground of expediency, and by reserving the constitutional question, allow the Virginia Senators in Congress to oppose the very measure, which, in their new born zeal, they pretended to admire so much.—But why reserve this constitutional question?—One would be led to suppose from the Whig Address, that the majority of the Legislature entertained some doubt on this head; yet the gentlemen to whom eth action o the Whigs on this subject was entrusted, has informed the public, through the public prints, that many members of his party in the Legislature agreed with the Democrats. Indeed, from his communication, he seems to doubt but they constituted a majority of his party. Be it remembered, that four Whigs, in addition to the two who voted with the Democratic party on the resolution instructed our Senators to vote for the joint resolution, would have been sufficient. What, then, but party drill, acting upon party subserviency, could have thus defeated the known wishes of a large majority of the members of the Legislature?—And why was this party drill used, if the Whigs really desired the annexation of Texas to the Union, and acted in good faith in voting unanimously in favor of the "conditions and guaranties" of the joint resolution? It taxes ingenuity beyond its power, to imagine any but "a covert design to defeat eth measure"—a design which was no where avowed, and which led to the rejection f the only effective action by a party vote, when many of that party were known to have no constitutional scruples whatever. The Whigs seem to have been driven, by political necessity, to oppose before the people a measure they wished to advocate, and were compelled, by public opinion, to end, by seeming to advocate a measure they wished to defeat.
The Whig Address, to which we have frequently alluded, after defending its party action on the resolutions touching the annexation of Texas, contains an attack on the Democratic members of the State Senate for not voting for a joint order for the election of an U. S. Senator on the 13th February. The Federal Constitution contains the following words: "The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof for six years, and each Senator shall have one vote."—Thus much of the Constitution the Whig address quotes in order to show that it was the imperative duty of he last Legislature to fill the vacancy that would be occasioned on the 4th of March by the expiration of the term of service of the Hon. Wm. C. Rives. "For," says that Address, "if this Legislature should refuse to make such election, then it is very clear that from and after the 4th of March next, the Senate will not be composed of two Senators from each State, for their will be but one Senator from Virginia; and that the successor to Mr. Rives will not be chosen as the Constitution requires he should be, for six years; but for such portion of the six years (counting from the 4th of March next) as may remain unexpired at the time when the election shall actually be made." These are the words which convey the whole argument of the Whig Address on this subject. The clause of the Constitution immediately following the one above recited, and which has a direct and important bearing upon the question, is omitted through accident or design. It is in these words "and if vacancies happen, by resignation or OTHERWISE, during the recess of the Legislature of any State, the Executive thereof may make temporary appointments until the next meeting of the Legislature, which shall then fill such vacancies."

This clause of the Constitution provides a mode by which its requirements can be fulfilled by the Executive, when the vacancy occurs, as the present vacancy did occur, during the recess of the Legislature. It was known that the General Assembly would adjourn before a vacancy occurred in our senatorial representation, and that an Executive appointment would fulfill there requirements of the Constitution, no matter how imperative they might be as to the number of Senators or their terms of service. Had the vacancy occurred during the session of that body, we contend, the Executive could not have made an appointment, the terms of the Constitution could not have been complied with, and our representation would have been, deficient according to the Constitution. Those who produced such a state of things might have been held responsible to the people for a dereliction of duty. But this is not the case; perhaps the vacancy was anticipated during the recess of the Legislature when the Executive was empowered to fill; the words by "resignation or otherwise" comprehending every possible mode by which a vacancy could occur. It was known to every member of the Legislature worthy of his seat in that body, that a case would happen which the framers of the Constitution had foreseen and expressly provided for. And we contend, that the mere fact that this event, thus foreseen and thus provided for, was allowed to happen, cannot be considered as contrary to the spirit and meaning of the Constitution, which had taken care of such an event, and expressly sanctioned the proceedings it might make necessary. The Whigs consider the first clause of the Constitution, touching this subject, to be imperative, making it the duty of each State to have TWO representatives in the Senate elected for six years. If this be so, then the second clause which recognizes the validity of Executive appointments to fill vacancies which may "happen by resignation or otherwise during the recess of the Legislature of any State," leads to the irresistible conclusion, that the command is obeyed, and the requirements of the Constitution complied with, both as to the number of Senators and their terms of service, if no contingency is made to happen, not provided for by the Constitution. Unless the second clause of the Constitution, cited above, is thus construed, and allowed to explain the first, then Mr. Rives had no right to a seat in the Senate, for he was not elected for six years; and, according to Whig doctrine, the Constitution was violated when he took his oath of office.

We frankly admit, that it is advisable to fill vacancies in the Senate of the United States by a joint vote of each Legislature, instead of an Executive appointment, even in those cases in which the Executive is empowered to act, and that nothing but grave considerations of public policy should lead to a different course. But we earnestly contend, that grave and adequate considerations of public policy sanctioned the course of the Senate. The Presidential election of November last had shown that the State of Virginia approved the principles of the Democratic party. A majority of the counties in the State had voted for the Democratic nominees; and it was a measure of the last importance that so decided a majority should not be misrepresented for six years in our national councils, when great measures were at stake. It was anticipated that all the leading questions which have agitated the country would be permanently affected the legislation adopted during those six years. An administration sanctioned by the people of Virginia, and of the Union, because it entertained certain principles, was about to take the reins of power. The Senate was nearly equally divided; and the election of a Whig Senator from this State might give the opposition the entire control of one branch of Congress, and thereby negative the expression of popular will in November, and endanger all those measures that popular will had so distinctly demanded.

Under this view of the position of the last Virginia Legislature, and under the true constriction of the Federal Constitution, we contend, that the action of the Democratic party was right and proper, and called for by the best interests of the country. Had the conduct of the Whig party been equally defensible, the Senatorial election would have caused but little difficulty. We believe, notwithstanding the views which the Whig Address promulgates, that party was willing to make the election of a Senator depend on party considerations, by showing a disposition to defeat an election, unless it was certain of success. It had selected the 22d of January as a fit and proper time to hold an election; and when he day arrived, the joint order agreed o both by the House and by the Senate, was evaded by an adjournment—thus leaving the performance of what they considered a high constitutional obligation to depend on future contingencies. True, this happened at an early period in the session; but it happened at an early period in the session; but it should be remembered, that the Whig party had determined that this was fit and proper time for the election. Yet, these men arraign the Democratic party for not contracting to do, the very thing which the Whig party would not do, when pledged by the concurrent vote of every one of its members on both branches of the Legislature. The matter of time being left out of consideration, they justify themselves for not performing what they conceived to be an imperative command of the Constitution, and arraign the Democratic party for taking a course sanctioned by that instrument. They justify themselves for thwarting the wishes of an ascertained majority of the people, by the strange plea that they wished the state to be fully represented, and arraign the Democratic party for taking a course which was calculated to place the whole matter before the people themselves at our Spring elections.
We will now examine the whole history of this matter. It should be remembered that at the commencement of the session neither party could command a majority on joint ballot in a senatorial election. At this period there were three contested elections—one from each of the counties of Bath, Caroline and Fairfax. In the contest from one of those counties a Democrat, and in the town last Whigs, had been returned. In the first case, the Whig Committee of Privileges and Elections reported in favor of the Whig contestant. This gave the Whigs a majority of tow on joint ballot. Having performed thus much, the committee rested from their labors for a reason.

In the contest from the country of Caroline, no report was made by the Committee, until after the attempt to make the senatorial election, and a few days before the termination of the session. The report then made, giving the seat to the Whig member, was never acted upon by the House, and the contest was never terminated. In the case from Fairfax, although the eligibility of the sitting member had been contested though te petitioning member had been contested: thought e petitioner had sworn to his belief of the charge submitted, and adduced testimony to prove it, the committee asked to be discharged from its consideration. Subsequently, another petition was presented, new testimony adduced, and the whole matter again placed before the committee. Notwithstanding this, without giving notice to the Democratic party of any intention to fix a day for the election of a Senator, on the 16th day of January a resolution was offered to proceed with the election in six days thereafter. This was more than six weeks before the expiration of the term of the present incumbent and when it was known that the contested elections, which might alter the character of the majority on joint ballot, could not possibly be decided, before the day fixed on for the Senatorial election. In addition to this, the Whig majority was distinctly informed that one of the Democratic members was absent, and that he could not be notified of the proposed proceeding in time to return to his post. The Whig party, knowing what day they would select, could have informed their absentees thereof, before any move in the House was made to notify their opponents of their intentions. The fact that members were absent, was held not to be a sufficient reason for delay in an important matter. Yet we will presently see that his is the only excuse made by the Whig address for the course of its party in breaking the joint order for holding the election.

Two days after this resolution was sent to the Senate, a motion was made by a Whig member of the lower House, to discharge the Committee of Privileges and Elections form the consideration of the case from Fairfax; and a motion was made to instruct the Committee to report either for or against the member. Even this reasonable request was rejected: every Whig but two voting against it. This saviors of injustice, and accords badly with the vaunted desire of the Whig Address to see the State fully and fairly represented. On the same day on which this unfair course was adopted, a motion was made by a Democrat, to enquire into the eligibility of the Whig member form the District of Wood and Ritchie counties, on the ground that he was the Commonwealth’s Attorney in the Circuit Superior Courts of those counties, and that he held lucrative office within the meaning of the Constitution, which provides that “all persons holding lucrative offices, and ministers of the Gospel, and priests of every denomination, shall be incapable of being elected members of either House of the Assembly.” A certificate was exhibited form the Auditor of Public Accounts, proving that the member referred to had received his compensation as Attorney long after his election to the Legislature. Although the law was thus plain, and although the current of decisions pronounced that and similar offices lucrative offices within the meaning of the Constitution, and persons holding them ineligible; and although sufficient evidence was adduced to sustain the fact alleged, the Whig majority would not allow the matter to be enquired into, without coupling with the motion an amendment, directing the Committee to enquire into the eligibility of every member in the House. This solemn trifling was not only unworthy the representatives of an intelligent constituency, but had the direct effect of a refusal to allow the inquiry to proceed, by rendering any report from the Committee impossible. As might have been foreseen, no report was made, and a few days before the close of the session the Committee asked to be discharged.

Notwithstanding these disadvantages produced by the utter disregard, by the Whig members of the dignity and responsibility of Legislators the dignity and responsibility of Legislators, the Democratic Senate concurred in the resolution for the election of senator on the day fixed by the Lower House. It is objected, that the Senate pursued an unusual course, by retaining the resolution, with out acting upon it, until the very day fixed for holding the election. But it should be remembered, that the same course has been pursued in other elections, and that there is nothing improper in such action. The House had suggested a day for an election. The members, it was to be supposed, had so fixed the day because it suited their convenience, and to have been aware that such would be the day, unless some other was suggested. The Senate, very properly, did not act upon the resolution at once. For, had it done so, the day fixed upon could not have been altered without the concurrence of the other branch of the Legislature, however desirable such an alteration might become. If the Whig party suffered any thing form this course, it only proves that its members did not believe that the Senate would going to the election at that time, and had not provided for an election when they fixed the day: the only rational motive for such conduct being a desire to entrap the Senate in an unpopular proceeding, while pretending to discharge a high constitutional duty. But, as we have before stated, the Senate agreed to go into the election on the day fixed by the House. In that body, not a Whig uttered his voice against it. Thus both Houses agreed to go into an election. But, the Whig party in the House of Delegates, finding that a Democrat would be elected, in accordance with the wishes of the people of the Commonwealth, determined to defeat the election, even after it was commenced by putting a Democrat in nomination; and, displaying a discourtesy to the senate, adjourned without giving that body any intimidation of its intention. And now we feel justified by the facts, in contending, that the failure to elect a Senator is properly chargeable to the disorganizing course of the Whig party, in breaking up a joint order, originated by the Whig party itself under circumstances which destroy the validity of c[...ly] pled they have urged in their behalf. Believing, as they contend, that they had to obey the command of the Constitution, they made their obedience depend upon contingencies unknown to that instrument. They pretend that the State was not fully and fairly represented, yet they wished to elect a Whig Senator for a Democratic State; and had refused, in effect, to decide the contested elections, which might have changed the majority on joint ballot. The Whig Address admits that the Whig party wished to avoid an election by adjourning, and endeavors to justify that course. Why, then, did not their members in the senate vote against going into an election? Did they wish to avoid the responsibility of opposing openly a
Having disposed of the Whig address, so far as it relates to the course pursued in the Virginia Legislature on the Texas Resolutions, and the election of a Senator to fill the vacancy in the Congress of the United States; we will give but a few words to the course of the Whig Party in receiving the land fund, and electing a Councilor, the other matters treated of in their address.

The question involved in the reception of the land fund, has long been familiar to the People of Virginia. In the last contest it was made a political question, and was decided by the voice of the State. The Democratic Party everywhere contended, that the act of Congress distributing the proceeds of the slaves of the public lands among the States, was in violation of the Constitution inasmuch as no sanction could be found in that instrument for such a proceeding; and the public domain was intended as a common fund, ceded originally to avoid the necessity of taxing the different States. The practical operation of the Distribution act, as well as the violence done to the Constitution, was a source of complaint. The Democratic Party could never consent to see Virginia, a stipendiary of the General Government looking with anxious eyes to the action that Government, to determine by its contribution what schemes of domestic policy the Common wealth might carry out. When the Distribution Law was passed, the Treasury of the Union was extinguished. The subject of revenue was of great importance; while the manner of raising that revenue had convulsed the whole country. The public domain was yielding a fund to the Government, which all parties agreed might properly to used to defray its expenses. With this fund at its control, about the use of which there could be no question, it was highly inexpedient in Congress to adopt such a line of policy as would deprive the Treasury of this source of revenue, and thereby create the necessity of raising an additional amount from a system of unjust and unequal taxation.

The consistency of the Democratic members of the last Virginia Legislature in sustaining in our Halls of Legislation the doctrines they advocated before the people, has been made a subject of complaint by the Whigs—indeed it is intimated that their action on this subject savors of a disposition to meddle with, and thwart the action of the General government in the legitimate exercise of its functions. T is utterly untrue. The Democratic party wishes at all times to see the Federal Government exercising, without [...] or hindrance, its legitimate powers, and eve[...] should that action be contrary to the Constitution and at war with the interests of the country with endeavor to seek redress in the constitutional modes. But, when an unconstitutional and impressive enactment is made, it will in no event tend its assistance, and give validity to a proceeding which, without that aid, would be inoperative.

Its proper to lay before the people an act of the Whigs on this subject, which their Address omits to mention. It is well known, that there have, throughout the country, endeavored to enlist the credulity of the people in favour of reciting the Land Fund. They have portrayed it glowing colors the benefits which it could effect the improvements it could create, and the blessings of education it could confer. The fund was represented as a Fortunatus’ purse, which would enlighten the ignorance of the State remove the barriers to the internal communication and which no public exigency could exhaust.—Knowing that this course had been adopted, the Senate called upon the Auditor of Public Accounts for an estimate of the amount which would be received by every white male over twenty-one years, if Virginia’s quota of the fund was distributed among them. The Auditor, in obedience to this call, stated that the sum received by each would be twenty-five cents and thirty-five one hundredths of a cent. After the adoption of the resolution to receive this fund by the House, a resolution to receive this fund by the House, a resolution similar to the call of the Senate was proposed by a member of the Democratic party, and was adopted. But the Whig party soon saw the fund on which they had declaimed so much would appear contemptible in the eyes of the people; while it was not prudent to oppose it directly. It remains to be seen whether the people will trust a party which seems to place so little confidence in them.

The next point to be touched on is the fact connected with the election of Councillor for the State. On this point we shall be brief. The character of the Democratic member who was ejected, requires no defense, for it has never been attacked. In his public and private relations even party hostility has never pretended that there was an assignable point. One would have supposed, that under these circumstances the Whig party, that under these circumstances the Whig party would not have adopted any doubtful little of policy, and that it would have declared open either for or against proscription, and, like me abide the consequences. Bu they did neither though they adopted very efficient action. They ascertained, that while the great bulk of the party wished to vote for a Whig, in the General government, a few would not consent; and without those few they could not succeed in the wishes. Hence they determined to withdraw their candidate, and reap the credit a course which they did not wish to pursue is useless to notice the objections to the re-election of Colonel Rutherfoord. The Whigs withdrawing their candidate and claiming [...] for forbearance, have declared to the world that they were not actuated by them. They have themselves declared they were not influenced by the dj[...]jy considerations which their ingenuity could discover, to justify their actions, while they contested they wee actuated by a motive which no enlightened body should for a member recognize. Indeed, throughout the whole of the session of the Legislature the professions and the conduct of the Whig party seem to have been utterly at variance—there seems to be some hidden spell upon them. Desiring to annex Texas, they defeated all effective action, though that action was sanctioned by a majority of the Legislature. In the efforts to elect a Senator, in receiving the land fund, in ejecting a Democrat from the office of Councillor, in their conduct on the contested elections—in short, in every matter of political concern, we find that indirect action which characterizes men who, with all the bitter feelings of partisans, do not wish to make a direct issue with tier opponents.

We have finished the examination of the course of the Whig party. All the facts are now before the people. It is for them to decide upon the conduct of their public functionaries. Important issues are still before the country. The victory of 1844 has not destroyed the Whig party.—It must be followed up and sustained, before it effects...
that the power should be exercised in one instance, and to a certain degree, we can see no

give, to that extent, a protective character to any scale of duties which contains such a discrimination.  If the

of the country.  We have the people with us; and if misrepresentation can be avoided, all will be well, and the fruits of the late arduous contest will be realized to

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Experience proves, that low duties, by increasing importations, afford the greatest amount of revenue, and,

With this vital question before the country—with the Joint Resolution for the annexation of Texas, not finally
determined—we call upon our friends every where to exert themselves in favor of the democratic principles—

the annexation of Texas is not yet completed.  The Tariff is not yet reduced to a revenue standard; and the next Virginia Legislature may defeat the tow leading measures of the

Democratic party, by placing the United States Senate in the hands of our adversaries.  We have the people with us; and if misrepresentation can be avoided, all will be well, and the fruits of the late arduous contest will be realized to the

nation.

That contest was decided in favor of the Democratic principles.  The voice of the people, in elevating Mr. Polk
to the Chief Magistracy of the United State, condemned a Protective Tariff, a National Bank, the Distribution of the Proceeds of the Sales of the Public Lands among the Sates, and that latitudinous construction of the Constitution on which those measures depend.  We have received the joint resolution for that annexation of Texas, as the fruit of the at victory; and the Tariff remains as the all-absorbing question now to be decided.  That resolution having been

compromised, and the compromise having been violated, must continue to agitate the country until one of th great parties shall be utterly vanquished.  One ‘Treaty of Peace’ having been destroyed, without scruple or hesitation, we can see no guarantee that any other will be observed, longer than policy might require.  Firmly resolved therefore to make hostility to protection a test of political faith, the Democratic Party must look with anxiety, and yet with confidence, to the action of Congress on this subject.  We look with reason to a Democratic president, sustained by a majority not only on the floor of Congress but throughout the country, for ample redress of our long sustained grievances.

The people of the agricultural and expecting States have suffered sufficiently long under a system, which forces them to bear an undue share of the burthens of Government, whilst they see their sister States enriched, because the Government is burthensome.  That duties on importations operate as a tax on consumption, was never, to our knowledge, denied, until a necessity existed to make a line of policy palatable to our people, which had been forced upon them against their earnest remonstrances.  That being conceded, it follows, as a necessary consequence, that the labor invested in any unprotected employment must pay whatever duties may be levied and collected on the articles which it consumes, whilst he domestic producer of those articles not only avoids the payment of the impost, but is enabled by those duties, to sell a portion of his products at higher rates than if no revenue as needed by the Government.  The exigencies of the nation are thus made a source of profits to the manufacturers; for protection not only shifts the burden of Government from the shoulders, but makes her trade more profitable than it would be, if there was no burthen to be sustained by the people.  This we hold to be so unjust and oppressive—so contrary to the legitimate functions of a good government—that nothing but an express recognition in the fundamental law could give such power to our Congress.  This recognition cannot be found in the Constitution.

We admit the power “to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for

the common defence and general welfare of the United States;” but deny it for any other purpose whatsoever.  To provide a fund to be thus expended, being the only object recognized by the Constitution, or consistent with justice, we hold it be evident that a Tariff should not be levied for any but revenue purposes; a principle which should be made to apply in levying every item of duty.  Although revenue and protection are incidental to each other, within certain limits, yet they are hostile in their natures.  Revenue depends upon the amount of importations which comes into the country;--while protection can only be afforded by excluding a part or the whole product of foreign industry.  If a desire to discriminate, with a design to afford protection, be allowed to fix and determine any item of duty, it gives, to that extent, a protective character to any scale of duties which contains such a discrimination.  If the degree of the protection thus afforded should not amount o prohibition, the mere fact, that revenue is incidentally produced, does not prevent its being a fraud on the Constitution, as well as an act of oppression towards the people.  A principle is thereby smuggled into the government, and allowed to prescribe and control the course of legislation, though hostile in its nature to the power form which it is implied, and destructive in its operation, to the pretext by which it is admitted.  Should this point be yielded, the whole question is surrendered.  Under the power to discriminate for purposes of protection, the revenue may be destroyed by prohibitory duties.  And if the interests of the country require that the power should be exercised in one instance, and to a certain degree, we can see no reason that it should not be exercised in every instance, and to any degree, which would not force the government to resort to direct taxation, as the only means of defraying its expenses.

experience proves, that low duties, by increasing importations, afford the greatest amount of revenue, and,

although protection to most articles of domestic manufacture be the necessary and unavoidable incident to any system of duties, yet we deny that this consequence is one co the Constitutional purposes for the accomplishment of which a Tariff should be framed.  It therefore becomes the duty of Congress to fulfill the expectations of the people by enacting a revenue bill, and, in framing the Tariff of duties, to make its purpose unequivocal by adopting the limit of the Compromise as the maximum duty.  The Democratic party having been once betrayed should not consent to further concession or longer delay, but ask all its energies to carry out the doctrine of free trade, sanctioned as it is by justice, and demanded by the people in the election of our chief Magistrate.  The convention which made him the candidate of the party in the late contest, by the same authority pronounced for the party against a protective system.  Having recently appointed the nation to his past history to make clear his present position, and enable us to foresee his future course, we feel assured that the president will obtain to the end that zealous support we have heretofore given him, by sustaining those views which made him the candidate of his party, and the Chief Magistrate of the Union.

With this vital question before the country—with the Joint Resolution for the annexation of Texas, not finally
determined—we call upon our friends every where to exert themselves in favor of the democratic principles—

principles which have been sanctioned not only by the State, but by the Union.  Every where to the North, we see the Whig and Abolition parties contending that it is lawful and desirable yet to defeat the annexation of Texas to the U.S. —and this unheard-of doctrine is sanctioned by many members of the Whig party of the South.  Under these circumstances, we earnestly recommend to our friends throughout the country, to discharge their whole duty to
The Compiler adds, that it “indulged the hope, the success of the measure, during the winter, would put the matter to rest, and allow the parties to fall back again upon the old issues which marked the lines between them. Our desire that the recent Congress should settle the question, has been gratified. But the end of the agitation of it, which we had anticipated would be a consequence, we have reason to fear, ‘is not yet.’ And why should we longer discuss annexation? The Democrats desire that we should; but shall Whigs gratify them? Are they united? Certainly not. They number among their ranks, and among their distinguished leaders, those who are for annexation by treaty, (the larger division)—those we thought joint resolution of Congress the proper mode—an those who were against Texas in any form and shape, and who though that the Constitution had no where vested the power of admitting a foreign State into the U. States. Of the last named is our own candidate for Congress, in whose election there is so much involved the interest of this District, this city, and the Whig party. Is it not apparent, then, that what ever issue is made, strikes at some portion of the Whig party?”

"With what reason or propriety can we, therefore, draw the question into the spring canvass? Have we men to lose? We were beaten upon Texas in the fall, and shall the largest or either of the smaller divisions attempt to read any one of the others out of the Whig church? Shall Newton be read out? Shall Botts be read our? Shall Lyons, and Witcher, and Strother? Or shall any Whig be read out? No!—say we!—not one. The Whig party cannot afford to make issues on Texas. If they could afford to do so; if they had the men to spare, it would be neither just nor wise to make any issue; for any that may be made strikes down Whigs—as gallant and true as ever breathed the breath of life. Let all issues, therefore, upon this vexed question be frowned down, here and elsewhere. Let us save all the Whigs we can, of whatever complexion of Texas views. In this city, by a badgering process, opinions on the subject have been extorted from candidates.—While a proper self-respect and manly candor would not allow a candidate to seem to avoid, from improper motives, an answer to questions propounded—the Whig public of this city can judge whether it is proper that questions so foreign to the canvass as that of annexation shall be dragged into it. The good and true Whigs who will calmly reflect on the consequences, will unanimously frown down any such agitation. Let not Whigs play into the hands of the Enquirer and its party—Let them bury Texas so far as they are concerned. Let them go with one voice to the polls to save all the Whigs they can. Let none assume to set up Whig opinions about Texas; for in the South there is not unanimity among the Whigs; and he is mad who thinks so. ANNEXATION IS COMPLETE—the Democratic papers (the Enquirer among them) have said so—and let the Whigs so regard it. Let them war for Whig measures and Whig men Forgetting personalities and minor divisions, and going heart and had for the ‘THE UNION OF THE WHIGS FOR THE SAKE OF THE UNION’

We cheerfully let he Compiler speak for itself—and we respectfully ask, if this question is again to be agitated, whose fault is it? Talk to us about our tact! Why, we never showed so little of it, if that were the quality to guide a statesman. If it had been our object to make capital of Texas for our Spring elections, we would never have said, as the Compiler has said, that the deed was done—the annexation consummated—the whole question settled. We said so, because we honestly believed so at the time. We had hoped, indeed, that the question would be buried. We supposed there was scarcely any doubt, that Texas would accept the terms of Brown’s resolutions—would then frame her Constitution, and that the Whigs of the next Congress would conceive themselves bound, by public faith itself, to accept her Constitution, whether with or without slavery. But when new facts are developed, which we did not then anticipate—when there seems to be some, even the slightest doubt about the consummation of this measure—we should show very little tact as a statesman, or very little public spirit as a patriot, if we did not say, upon the faith of these new revelations, that the danger is not yet quite over. As at present advised, we believe that Texas will be saved—that she will probably accept the terms of the House Resolutions—and that the efforts of the Whigs, at the next session to defeat her Constitution, will probably be themselves defeated. But on a question of such momentous importance, where the weal or woe of the whole Union is concerned—where such element as have been developed within the last few days are at work—where there may be many a slip between the cup and the lip, we should conceive ourselves wholly destitute of political tact or of common candor, if we did not say there is rather more doubt about this matter that we originally entertained. We cannot be certain o the ultimate result, and like
What says a most intelligent correspondent to us in a letter dated the 18th instant:

"I partook, in a high degree, of the joy felt at the passage of the resolutions for the annexation of Texas. The South has now, or will have when annexation be effected, a front which will shake abolition to its center, and quiet the abolition spirit for a long time, and in the general progress of events, the proposition of Texas will be, 'tis for the great God, who has directed the minds and hearts of the people on that subject, only to tell. From the first moment it was sprung upon public attention, I said, and often to you, that it must succeed. God drives it onward by a law of His Providence. Nothing else could have stupefied sagacious England, who had better have expended her millions on millions and her blood, to prevent it, then wage her war with Bonaparte. From the consummation of the act of annexation, we may date her decline. She is great in all the materials of a truly great nation, and her decline must be gradual, and for some time may be imperceptible, but decline under its influence, she must. It will double the richest staples which agriculture has ever produced; it will more than double our navigation, commerce, manufactures and navy, in all of which we are to exceed England. I must stop on this topic, for a sheet would not hold one-half of what ought to be said on it. You must, however, nurse it more, I will not say better, for that could not be. We may, and I fear will, have trouble yet in Congress, on the law for the introduction of Texas, although the United States are pledged.—On this account, we shall have an accession to our strength in the Southern vote; but as we are to ave a new Congress, we may lose in the North, although the anti-slavery feeling is pretty well stunned by what has been done. But it is never safe to trust the mere passions of men, and especially the passion for dominion or domination."

"We must nurse it more," says our sagacious correspondent. We ask the Compiler, does he, too, show a want of tact? We beg our neighbor to look around him, and see some of the signs of the times which are now glimmering upon the horizon. There are "Anti-Annexionists," unfortunately, on both sides of the house—in the United States, as well as Texas. There is no doubt of it. We hope and trust and believe, that we shall be able to carry Texas, in spite of all of them; but it is not the part of a wise statesman to fold his arms and repose in overweening confidence, so long as there is any doubt of success. We had supposed the last stroke was struck; but, although it is but a poor compliment to our own sagacity to admit it, yet new developments have turned up, which cast some doubt upon the consummation. Who was it said only on Monday last, that the question was not settled—that he was glad of it—and that if he were returned to Congress, he would continue an undying war upon Texas? It was Mr. Botts, the Whig candidate for the Metropolitan District. Who was it that declared the other day to an intelligent Virginian that "the enemies of Texas would make a desperate struggle against her admission, when her Constitution should be submitted to the consideration of Congress?" It was Mr. Winthrop of House of Representatives from Massachusetts. What said Mr. Wm. C. Rives in his speech of the 15th ult.?—that the Whigs of the next Congress might attempt to repeal the joint resolution, even though Texas had accepted the proposition. This assertion, startling as it is, was not known to us until yesterday, when we read the revise of our correspondent's communication in this day's paper. Do we find any disposition to acquiesce, in the resolutions of Congress, in that factious spirit, which appears in the denunciations of the N.York Tribune, and Boston Atlas? Are not these and similar organs of the Whig party determined to seize upon every inch of ground, every possible pretext on which to make battle against the annexation? Do we not read the same dogged determination in Berien's resolution before similar organs of the Whig party determined to seize upon every inch of ground, every possible pretext on which to settle it—the treaty or the Legislative power?—This is one knotty question. How shall the Southern Territory of Texas be disposed of—how much will the South receive for its proportion—and how much the North? Upon these two questions, the late battle may be fought over again—and the whole country once more agitated by the struggles of the Whigs and the abolitionists against Texas and against the South—and the true interests of the whole Union. In fact, we are not sure but that the importance of the subject, and the tone recently adopted by the official organs of Texas, and perhaps more or less countenanced by the President of that Republic, do not call for a graver negotiation—and, whether Mr. Polk would not find it to be our best interest to associate the ablest Minister he can obtain with Major Donelson—charged as he would be with the most deliberate views of the administration, as to the wisest course of proceeding under the Resolution s of the tow Houses. We have seen, that we have decided Annexationists at home, who have not yet grounded their arms—Now, let us look at the other side of the medal, and see whether there may not be a similar spirit in Texas herself.—Yesterday's Southern mail brings us some intelligence from Texas, that creates more doubt, than we had originally entertained, about there accepting the conditions which the House Resolutions may offer. General Lamar told us, that the terms would be acceptable, and would be accepted by Texas. But yesterday's accounts do not exhibit so certain a prospect. The New Orleans Bulletin of the 14th says: "By the arrival of the steamship New York, we have papers from Galveston to the 8th instant, and form other parts of Texas to corresponding dates. The bill of Annexation as it passed the House of Representatives, and Mr. Benton's bill in the Senate, formed the chief topic of discussion in the press. Neither project separately seems to suit our Texian contemporaries; by the next arrival we shall learn whether the two
together are relied any better."

But the "New Orleans Jeffersonian" of the same date gives us some important extracts from the Texas papers. We think it our duty to lay them before our readers, whether it may subject us to the suspicion of showing "a great deal of tact," or not. At all events, we will give the facts, and let our readers judge for themselves, whether it be wise in our people to send to the next Congress, any member who is not friendly to Texas: [MLD]

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Tuesday, March 25, 1845 RE45i103p4c5 287 words

From the New Orleans Jeffersonian.

"The news received last night form Texas, is rather of an unpleasant character, it must e admitted. We have neither space nor time at the moment to make those remarks, which suggest themselves upon the unexpected tone of the Texas press, regarding the annexation resolutions. We trust, however, that much of the hostility evinced against these resolutions, by the papers of Texas, will disappear, upon the arrival of the intelligence of their final passage in their present form. We believe further, that the opinions and views the Texas press, if preserved in, will not find the countenance or support of the Texan people.

TEXAS

"Papers from Galveston to the 8th instant, and from Washington (the Capital) to the 1st instant, have reached us by the steamship New York. It appears that some of the Texans are not at all pleased with the terms of annexation contained in the resolutions just passed. They look at the measure as a one-sided affair altogether, and that they would be sadly shortened by their big sister Republic, in their acquiescing in the sacrifice of their customs, dues, public property, &c., &c., as the price of their admission into the Union. The 'National Register' is really savage at 'the actual pit and grave of insignificance and infamy,' which these resolutions, as it states, would plunge the Texan Nation. The 'Register,' however, is the organ of the anti-annexationists, who are but an insignificant fraction of the people.

"The 'Galveston News' still advocates the cause of annexation.

"The general appropriation act of the last Congress authorizes the payment of $137,340, annual charge of the Republic.

"The export of provisions is becoming a leading feature in the commerce of Texas. [MLD]

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Tuesday, March 25, 1845 RE45i103p4c5 982 words

From the Texas National Register

"If the people of Texas choose to revolutionize their government, and institute some new and different republican organization, they may do so without the leave of a foreign Government, first had and obtained.' But the United States have acknowledged our title to be recognized as an independent nation, both de facto and de jure.—Should we adopt the course designated by their resolutions, we at once lose the benefit of that acknowledgment. We pass into a state of imbecile and hopeless dependence upon that power—to be annexed?—certainly never until their aspiring partisans shall cease to need the material we now furnish them for the manufacture of political capital. Our relations with other governments dissolved, and our own nationality renounced, the United States may consent to hold—as they shall have consented to place us—in a state of penultimate but unaccomplished annexation.

"But even this consent of the American Congress, meager and valueless as it is to the people of Texas, but for which we are required to give to the United State a lien upon our country's sovereignty—this worthless consent, as if begrudged to Texas, is eked out to her at a miser's usury, and is shackled with what lawyers call 'conditions precedent.' Passing by the required sacrifice of our right to adjust the boundaries of our territory, the consent of that Congress, even once more to entertain the Texas question, is coupled with the cold assurance, that if we are ever admitted into the Union at all, we must cede to the U. States, 'all our mines, minerals, salt lakes and springs, also all our public edifices, fortifications, barracks, ports and harbors, navy and navy yards, docks, magazines, arms, armaments, and all other property and means pertaining to the public defense.' We must also yield up our revenue and our capacity to raise one—which single item, under the financial regulations of our fostering step-mother, would bring into her treasury at least three hundred thousand dollars per annum; for which we have her kind permission to retain our public debts, and keep our public domain; subject, however to the payment of the debt, and circumscribed within such limits as she may, hereafter, be pleased to assign to our territory, in the exercise of her characteristic and far-stretching diplomacy, which once reached even to the western banks of the Sabine! We must, moreover, trounce to her pet Abolitionists, by obligating ourselves to prohibit slavery north of the parallel of 36 degrees 30 minutes, known as the Missouri Compromise line.
We have always been a warm and hearty advocate of the cause of annexation; but never did we dream that the approval of the people of Texas would be required to a proposition so absurd—so degrading as the one propounded by this resolution. Our space does not now admit of present elevated position, as a people secure in the respect and amity of the great enlightened nations of the earth; secure in the enjoyment of peace, and in the speedy acquisition of acknowledged independence; secure in the wealth which the commerce of Europe is about to our into our lap, and in the increasing value our lands, arising from extended occupation, and the investment of foreign capital; secure of becoming “the most favored” by those powerful and wealthy sovereignties, whom both interest and growth, that their markets may be supplied with merce will speedily render no less consistent than desirable, a great diminution of the present tariff, with the alternative presented by this resolution, of Texas divested of all these high privileges and advantages shorn of her attributes as a nation; crippled in her commerce, in her prosperity, in her domestic resources; depressed by the burdens of public debt and direct taxation; her land in consequence depreciated in value; and in the event of final annexation up on the proposed basis, our public domain not only razzed and mortgaged to secure the payment of our debt, but even eviscerated of its mineral wealth, to swell the federal treasury.

“This is, indeed, but a dim and totally inadequate view of the actual pit and grave of insignificance and infamy into which the House of Representatives of the American Congress have proposed to plunge this nation.

“‘Since he, miscalled he Morning Star,

Nor man nor fiend hath fail’n so far!’”

The following is from the Civilian and Galveston Gazette, in comment upon the foregoing:

“The article which we copy to-day from the National Register, affords gratifying evidence of a return, on the part of the friends of annexation in this country, to a proper sense of self-respect, and an understanding of the position which Texas may and out to assume in relation to the question. Our friends beyond the Sabine have lost sight of the homely adage that it takes two to make a bargain, and only studied how to shape measures so as to make the "reciprocity all on one side," until at length their utter selfishness and disregard of the respect due to Texas as an independent nation, which has thus far maintained her nationality, rights, and liberties, begins to produce the natural fruits of disappointment and aversion in those of our citizens who had looked to that quarter for a magnanimous and disinterested regard for our welfare and happiness. The helpless and perishing beggar may, without hesitation, accept the most humiliating conditions for, and agree to become the menial of, him from whom he receives the means of averting famine and death; but the sturdy yeoman, whose honest industry and strong arm afford him all the means of subsistence and protection requisite to his condition and habits in life, may well shun the banquet and the association, if invited into the society of the more wealthy and presuming, when his acceptance is to be coupled with acknowledgments of vassalage and inferiority." [MLD]

Tuesday, March 25, 1845 RE4S103p4c6 1744 words

From the Galveston Weekly News.

"THE PROSPECT.—We have already furnished incontestable evidence, that the British policy, in opposition to annexation, has so far succeeded, that Her Britannic Majesty’s Minister has obtained the pledge of President Houston, to use his best endeavor to defeat that measure.

"We are told, that upon condition of our renouncing the American Union forever, the monarchical powers of Europe will then terminate our formidable war with Mexico, ‘forthwith and compulsively.’ The same friendly promise has been made, from time to time, for the last seven or eight years, and its repetition just at this particular crisis, when the speedy success of annexation is beyond all reasonable doubt, is exceedingly well timed, in order to create a reaction in the public feeling of this country. We are not told whether the friendly mediation is again to be attended by another ‘Armistice’ as a necessary preliminary step, to be afterwards ‘improved into one of more convenient duration.’ We are, however, assured, that ‘France and England will openly submit to the consideration of our Government and people inducements for us to remain independent.’

Such information as this is usually confined to the chief agents of Government as a matter of State secrecy, and is rarely furnished to the public journals, except for the purpose of political influence and foreign counteraction. This announcement is made in the positive and unqualified terms of a negotiator, who has participated in all the Cabinet secrets and intrigues of both hemispheres.

“The public need not be surprised should this singular manifesto prove to be the harbinger of party organization, and f great exertions in this country, to counteract the labors of our friends in the United States, and to defeat this great measure here, after it has triumphed there. ‘We shall see.’”

We too have received “The Galveston Weekly News,” of the 8th inst., which ridicules all the positions of the "National Register.” It says:

“Just as we predicted! The National Register of the 22d ult., comes freighted with more than two columns of
maledictions against the joint resolutions of Mr. Brown of Tennessee for annexation, which passed the lower House of Congress. Annexation is now spoken of as a ‘prescribed revolution’—as depriving us of ‘every feature and lineament of nationality’—as ‘annihilating our identity and repudiating even our name.’ And ‘all these sacrifices and degradation, it is said, will not secure us annexation to the American Union.’ This seems to be an original view of these resolutions. The people of the United States in their simplicity, though those resolutions would, accomplish the measure, and the members of Congress voted for, or against, them accordingly. The Register professes to be a ‘warm and hearty advocate in the cause of annexation.’ We would like to see a ill for this purpose on his own plan. He would not certainly surrender any of our sovereignty, for that would deprive us of the ‘features and lineaments of nationality.’ He would not relinquish our style and title of ‘Republic of Texas,’ for that would ‘annihilate our identity, and repudiate our name.’ He would not permit our President and heads of Departments to retire from their dignities and resign their emoluments of office; for that would be humiliating and an act of self degradation. He would not allow our constitution to be superseded by that of the United States; for that would be voluntary submission to a ‘prescribed revolution.’ He certainly would not yield up the treaty-making power; for by doing so Texas would be ‘shorn of her attributes as a nation.” Would the Register consent, in his “warm and hearty advocacy of the cause of annexation,” to allow the Congress of the United States a control over our commercial relations? Certainly not; for this would possibly “cripple our commerce.” Would he allow the government of the U.S. to regulate our tariff and control our revenue, and appoint our custom house officers? By no means; for this would deprive our own government of a large amount of patronage and personal influence; and thus she would be “shorn of another important attribute of sovereignty.”—What plan of annexation can the Register, who is so “warm and hearty an advocate of this measure,” possibly devise, that may not impair “our present elevated position as a people,” and shut out “the wealth, which, he says, the commerce of Europe is about to pour into our lap,” if we remain independent. We have heard of lawyers arguing against the cause they were employed to advocate. The Register is certainly arguing against the cause he proposes to advocate, but it does not therefore follow that he betrays the cause he is employed to support.”

The New Orleans Tropic, (same date,) with the other New Orleans papers, says: “From the tenor of the articles (in the National Register) we should judge that the plan of procedure suggested by Col. Benton would be the most acceptable in Texas.” And if it be the only one accepted, then will it still become us to send no man to Congress, who is not thoroughly with the South on the annexation of this country. The question will then again be of this country. The question will then again be at sea—and nothing but the wisest and firmest counsels can secure her admission in to the Union. “We will not (to employ the just and elegant language of General Hamilton) reiterate in detail those estimates of the value of this vast national acquisition, on which we have so often dwelt. We will forbear to speak of it as a country which unites to the magnificence of the valley of our own august river, a pastoral region where the most luxuriant Pampas of Southern America are surpassed in beauty, fertility and health. We will not speak of it as a climate where the fecundity of the tropics is blended with the milder blessings that belong to the temperate zone. We will not dwell on the wide outlet and sphere which such a land, replete with all that can contribute to the subsistence, comfort, and civilization of man, offers to the invincible enterprise of our race: a country, destined in future ages to diffuse over solitudes now lost in moral darkness, our literature, philosophy, religion and laws; where Shakespeare, Milton, Newton, Sidney and Locke are to have new shrines erected to their mighty names! If we refrain from speaking with a becoming fullness of these things, it is because we are hurried on to the pressing consideration, that Texas may be lost to this country forever, if the new administration does not act with an energy the crisis imperiously demands.

“Recent advices make it eminently probable that Great Britain, in case Texas be not annexed at this session of Congress, stands ready, without requiring a single concession from Texas on the slave question, or a single discrimination at present in favor of her commerce, on the conditions alone that the mediated union between herself and the United States shall be abandoned, and her Tariff be reduced to a duty of ten percent. ad valorem, to guarantee the independence of Texas by Mexico, together with a firm and lasting peace between the two countries. This information may be relied on.

“The protection of Great Britain, thus given, places Texas unavoidably in the position on this side of the Atlantic that Portugal occupies in the circle of European powers—a condition almost of absolute dependence. To counterbalance the exclusion of the sugar of Texas from our markets, England will doubtless, hereafter, make discriminations against the introduction of slave sugars in her favor, and on the plausible pretext that much of this staple grown in Western Texas will be the product of free labor. This will lead, after a time, to the total abrogation of the duty on the import of Texian cotton into Great Britain, and, under the inevitable facile progress of the principle of reciprocity, terminate in the admission of British goods into Texas duty free. A gigantic free trade Republic will be thus built up on the frontiers of Louisiana, into which such amass of European emigrants will be thrown, that the political power of the slave holders in the alluvial portions of Texas must, of necessity, be transferred to the free laborers of the upper prairies, and slavery will be abolished in the country in less than twenty-years—a mere span in the life-time of a nation. We will not foreshadow the condition of this State with such a neighbor, or how long our won institutions of industry, founded on slave labor, could be sustained. Nor shall we dwell on the influence that such a free port as Galveston, would, under such circumstances, exert to the detriment of this great empire of the West, (New Orleans,) which, in the event of annexation, will be unquestionably, in ten years, the second commercial city in the world.”

The President of the U.S., of course, is advised of facts, of which we have no knowledge—and it may show very little “tact” in us to throw out such a suggestion—but unless he has much better information than the above extracts furnish, we should suppose that a new Commissioner might be immediately and advantageously associated with our present able Charge in Texas—to co-operate with him in one of the most important measures which has never engaged the attention of our Government. We simply throw out the suggestion for what it is worth. We are still persuaded that we shall succeed in the great object we have in view—but the problem may be more difficult of solution than we supposed three weeks ago.—The public creditors may interpose their claims, and complain of their not being paid. It may be proper to remove their objections by adequate arguments. We may satisfactorily
Tuesday, March 25, 1845 RE45s103p4c7 900 words

For the Enquirer,

TEXAS—John M. Botts

The late Whig Convention which nominated Mr. Botts as a candidate for Congress, appointed a Committee to address the voters of the District. The address of this committee signed by John H. Pleasants and eleven others, appeared in Wednesday’s Compiler. In their labored efforts to show that objection to Mr. Botts, on account of his opposition to the annexation of Texas, is “rather speculative than real,” they say:

“We enter into no discussion here of the question of annexation. The prescribed limits of this address forbid; moreover, the Whig party is not agreed in sentiment upon it. No position that could be taken with reference to it, could command the concurrence of this Convention. Upon it, we agree to differ—to merge its consideration in the more important questions of policy, which we regard as vitally affecting the interest and stability of our own country. But the remark is pertinent, that this question will, in all probability, cease to be a practical one before the successful candidates in the approaching election will take their seats in Congress. Or, if it does not, that the vote of our representative will be powerless to defeat the measure. No Whig, it is presumed, however anxious of the annexation of Texas in a proper mode, is willing to see that end attained, by any means unauthorized by the Constitution. The Whigs, if not entirely unanimous, are very nearly so, in believing, that to annex Texas by joint resolution of the two Houses of Congress, would be a palpable and gross violation of the Constitution. Should it be attempted in this mode, Mr. Botts being in Congress, he would most faithfully reflect your wishes by opposing it. And if attempted in any constitutional mode, he as a member of the House of Representatives, would not be required to cast a vote upon it at all. This objection to Mr. Botts, then, is rather speculative than real.”

Now, if I am correctly informed, Mr. Botts himself does not believe “that this question will cease to be a practical one” before the next Congress will convene. William C. Rives, and the anti-Texas party generally, do not so believe, and to this fact. I wish to call the attention of the Voters of the District. Mr. Rives, in his Texas speech, in the Senate, on the 15th of February last, published in the R. Whig of the 10th inst., holds the following language on this subject:

“Let us now, Mr. President, attempt to follow out in the vision of the future what was likely to occur, if, in the face of remonstrances of those who took their stand upon the plighted faith of the Constitution, this measure should be consummated by a mere majority of the two Houses of Congress. When the next Congress met, supposing the people of Texas to have accepted the terms proposed, what might happen? His friend from Pennsylvania had spoken of this joint resolution as pledging the faith of the nation. Mr. R. would ask, could an act of the Legislature so pledge the faith of this nation to a foreign power as to tie up the hands of a succeeding Legislature? Mr. R. did not so read the Constitution.—The same legislative majority which passed the joint resolution might repeal it. Who could answer for the changes that might take place in the great deep of public opinion? Who could say how future elections might turn out? What security had gentlemen that the next Congress, by their majority power, might not repeal the act of the present Congress, and, when Texas came for admission, the door be slammed in her face—what then?

“But suppose Texas to be admitted. The honorable Senator says he likes this joint resolution, because the slavery question is settled by it, and finally put on the basis of the Missouri compromise. Could the honorable Senator say, that there was any peculiar sanctity in this joint resolution that must exempt it from the power of future legislation? Might not a future Legislature, under the excitement produced by what they deemed a wanton invitation of the Constitution, rise up and declare that it had the same right to act upon this question as its predecessor; that a former Congress had no right to bind them; and, though a previous body had undertaken to stipulate the observance of the Missouri compromise in Texas, yet when a new State formed out of its territory should come knocking for admittance, it had the same right to prescribe conditions as those who had gone before them, and that it would not admit the new Texas States but upon condition of the perpetual prohibition of slavery? Could they not do so? Would they not have the power? And would not this Congress have furnished them a provocation, if not a justification, by their example in violating the Constitution!”

This is the language of Mr. Rives, and generally concurred in by the anti-Texas Whigs. Let no voter, therefore, cast his vote under the impression that this great and vital question to the south has “ceased to be a practical one.”

Gen. Almonte.—A letter from Washington says that the French Minter has interposed his good offices between this Government and the Mexican Minister, and advised him to remain here, until he receives advices and instructions from his Government. [MLD]
A KEY TO THE ENIGMA

When Mr. Archer’s report on the subject of the admission of Texas first appeared, as was our duty, we attempted to master it. The first column entirely foiled the attempt. The truth is, we never had a genius for riddles or conundrums, much less the deeper mysteries of oracles which employ language to render meaning inscrutable. —in such cases, we leave to time, or the happier ingenuity of some acute contemporary, the elucidation which we find beyond our Boeotian intellect. This was our course as to Mr. Archer’s report; and lo! The happy Picayune has made a discovery which should immortalize it. It came at a time to clear our vision, which greatly enhances its value. A drying, searching wind, of several days’ continuance, has filled our atmosphere with the clouds it seeps from the avenues, and glued our eyes with dust. The Picayune’s article has drawn tears to wash them clean, and enabled us to read and understand what before, without physical incapacitation, had proved too much for our faculties: [MLD]

From the New Orleans Picayune

"What may this mean?"—Hamlet.

The necessity under which editors of newspapers live of reading public documents, gives them some right to ask the manufacturers of this species of literature that they spin their lucubrations of a texture more palpable than the woof of a phantom’s ball-dress. We have had occasion, before now, to speak of Senator Archers’ report on annexation as rather a specimen of nebulous composition than a State paper; yet the subject matter of it demanded the plainest phraseology that the dictionaries could furnish. In perusing this document, we confess that we forgot all about Texas, annexation, war, treaties and protests, in getting at the philosophy embedded in such expressions as—

"Institutions have no exemption from this law of dispensation of inflexible rigor in all the possible modifications of contingency."

This sentence, read backwards, is quite as intelligible as when read forwards; for example:

"Contingency of modifications possible, the all in rigor inflexible of dispensation of law, this from exemption no have institutions."

Barring the Gallicism of the negation, the expression is quite as forcible and correct read either way. After a deal of examination into the hidden meaning of the author, it occurred to us to read it backwards, and we think we have discovered thereby the object of our researches. The Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations wished to inculcate the idea that, by a law of nature, "what goes up must come down;" and that if "institutions" are brought within the "rigor" of this "dispensation," that circumstance or "contingency" will not "modify" the "inflexibility" of the rule. The mode of enforcing this law, by laying it down in terms that read both ways, was ingenious in the extreme, as the return of "what goes up" through the very space before traveled, when it "must come down," is happily illustrated by turning "backward," and reading the same law of nature that is contained in the same sentence when read "forward." The perpendicular action of gravity is thus beautifully exemplified by horizontal exercises in reading.

After giving Mr. Archer all due credit for the admirable conceit of suiting "the action to the word," or rather of arranging his words so as to display the action of the great law of nature cited, we yet object to the propriety of his introducing such ingenious verbal exercises into a report of the character under consideration. We much question if one man in a hundred has found the key which opens the intent of the passage quoted; and documents of this sort are designed to impress public opinion and illuminate the masses. This style of composition is especially hard upon editors, as it is as much as they can do to read public documents forward, so voluminous have they become of late. To put a double labor upon them, and compel them to read them backwards, too, is a cruelty. It is a tyranny to force us to read such terribly long reports two ways.

"Insatiate Archer! Will not one suffice?"

The discovery of the Editor of the Picayune, that Mr. Archer’s report must be read two ways to be understood—backwards and forwards—not only does credit to the penetration of the interpreter, but redounds to the immortal honor of the author of this remarkable production. The learned diplomat—who, as chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, had held all Congress and the country, with suspended breath, awaiting, for months together, the report on the greatest and most interesting question of the times—who had worn himself to a tenacity in the effort, which made him look, on his return to the Senate, like the ghost of some metaphysical idea—was observed with somewhat of the suspicion which attended the knight of La Mancha, when the volume he heralded was found to be incomprehensible. —But what injustice was done to Mr. Archer on this first impression, is now seen; no man had ever a more difficult task to perform, and no man ever accomplished one with such a perfection of difficulty. Mr. Archer had, at the preceding session, laid down and established, with the most absolute logic, that the admission of Texas into the Union. By treaty, was, under the constitution, impossible—The purpose of his report to which he gave his
Again, Mr. Clay, whom it was Mr. Archer’s aim to vindicate and support, had declared, in one set of letters, his utter repugnance to the admission of Texas on any grounds of expediency; and in others, uncertain very possible contingencies, Mr. Clay declared that he would be glad to see Texas annexed upon the ground of expediency. These direct contradictions of Mr. Archer and the GREAT PROPHET of his party, it was the business of the report to reconcile; and how was this possible, but by a report which could not be understood if read in the ordinary way, but which, read backwards and forwards, brings out two negatives make a affirmative; and Mr. Archer, by his marvelous tissue of words, leading; when construed backwards and forwards, to a negative result, kills off the double contradictions in which he and his party and involved themselves, by the annihilation of all sense.

But there is another point of great importance to the Federal party, which Mr. Archer attains by his extraordinary document. IT is settled policy with them to have “no principles for the public ye.” Still, it is indispensable for a party which talks so much about principles to have principles, but to have them wrapped up, like the religion of Egypt, in hieroglyphics. All this is accomplished by Mr. Archer’s report. It is full of principles, but so high that no man can understand them.

We were astonished when twenty thousand copies of this book—which still remained a sealed book to the mind, though open to the eye—was ordered by the Senate to be printed for circulation among the people. We supposed it was only to put some $20,000 in the pocket of the Senates’ printer. But now that the key to the mystery is found, the country will think this money well appropriated to perpetuate the principles of Coonery. It is destined to become the wonder of this and all future ages—the most remarkable philological paradox that ever the press gave birth to—solving all contradictions with which it details, by its won contrary readings; and promulgating all the principles of a great party, and the leading—one that has no principles for the public eye—by rendering its whole creed incomprehensible.

Let no man hereafter say, that Mr. Archer is not the great oracle of Whiggery—the sphinx of modern times—a type of the enigmatical nature of coonite politics, as the ancient sphinx of the olden time was of the Egyptian theology.

THE CITY CANVASS

As we gave yesterday a bird’s eye view of the Whig camp in this city, we feel it incumbent upon us to follow up the narrative, and give a true history of the fruits of one day’s fermentation in the minds of the two wings of the Whig party here.

Yesterday we published copious extracts from the Richmond Whig, developing its strong opposition to the meeting last night, called to hear Mr. Lyons speak, and to which all the Whig candidates were invited. What we then predicted has been literally verified. The “Dictator” of the Richmond Whig published his edict, and, straightway, the “faithful”—those Whigs “who stand up to the rack, fodder or no fodder”—bow their humble head to the imperial behests. The candidates, with one accord, see the scepter of power, “air drawn,” in the Whig’s editorial, and, probably to keep on the strong side, firmly resist the meeting last night, the only effect of which they contend, with the Whig, will be to produce “uproar and confusion, and a row.” And this in a meeting composed entirely of Whigs, and in a city yclept “the Gibraltar of Whiggery!”

Mr. Brooke, who has written almost as many letters as “Old Harry” himself, comes out in the Whig under his name, and in a courteous card thus lays down his position:

“I can conceive of no good that can arise from such a discussion, (on Texas,) while I think I foresee much harm. If, unfortunately, there exist differences of opinion on this subject among the Whigs; and if, as is said, these differences are so indiscreetly referred to, as to be likely “to produce incurable discord” in our party, is it at all probable, that these differences can be reconciled, or this discord harmonized by a public discussion, in which Whig shall be arrayed against Whig, the passions of the speakers become excited, as is too likely to be the case, and that excitement by a natural sympathy communicated to the friends of each? I cannot think so. If anything could be devised better calculated than another to produce still greater dissensions among us, and to give to these dissensions a distinct organization, and a form and feeling of hostility, it is in my judgment the proposed discussion.”

The Whig speaks for the other candidates, and thus hits away at “the little clique:”

“We are authorized to say for Mr. Lancaster, that he too, entirely disapproves of that meeting, as calculated to do ham and not good. Mr. James, we feel convinced, and indeed we know, is of the same opinion; and, in
sincerity, we have no seen or heard of the first Whig (except the little clique who got the thing up) who did not
unqualifiedly reprehend the course proposed, of a Texas wrangle among the Whigs, in order to settle differences and
promote peace, as entirely absurd and farcical! These discussions, when they take place between hostile parties,
and the collective people being the auditory and the judges, are well enough; but when they are invoked to heal
family jars, are ridiculous. It is not by such means—means calculated to exasperate, and not to conciliate—that the
desired harmony can be restored, and we feel convinced as in point of fact the Whigs of Richmond know, that they
have been appealed to as a dernier and desperate resort by those who, having detached themselves from the great
Whig host, hope somewhere where they can lose nothing!" * * * * *

“These gentlemen, it seems, who, in the face of public opinion, as all but themselves think, are attempting
to force the election of Mr. Lyons—denounce us for what? For opposing him—for taking even any part? No—but for
simply opposing a meeting called to hear Whig denounce Whig, and a Texas Whig show up another Whig who is
opposed to annexing the U. States to Texas!

"This is dictation in us! It is most dreadfully wrong! But when these same persons day after day electioneer through
the streets for Mr. Lyons—THAT is no dictation! O, by no means! They may steal a coarse, but we must not look
over the hedge!

"Had we supported Mr. Lyons, no matter how warmly and zealously—were we to d it now, it would be no dictation
then. It is only dictation when we happen to think differently from those who would themselves dictate, if they
could. They (the people of Richmond) have known us for twenty years, and they have never known us in that long
tract of years, to try to dictate; NOR HAVE THEY EVER KNOWN US TO TRY TO PREFER AN DPROMOTE OURSELVES
AT HE EXPENSE OF THE PUBLIC CAUSE. If they trust us at all, as we hope they do, it is because they know that we
were candid and plain-sailing, and have no private schemes to serve by party.

"This is our shield and defense, and here we know we are impregnable, and defy the assaults of all. The People—the
Whigs of Richmond—must and will stand by us, because we have stood by them."

In the same paper we find a counter invitation from detachment of the “true” Whigs, as follows:

"PROPOSED PUBLIC MEETING OF WHIGS,

"For Wednesday, 8 o’clock, P.M.

"The Whigs of Richmond are invited sex to attend the proposed meeting of this evening, at 8 o’clock, at the
‘Odd Fellows’ Hall.’

"The meeting is announced, in order to enable one of the candidates to address the people upon a certain
subject. Now, as I do not think it proper to make any subject at this time an issue, calculated to produce discord in
the Whig ranks, I take upon myself the responsibility of inviting ‘the other candidates for the city’ nor to take part in
said discussion.

"AT LEAST ONE WHIG VOTER."

So much for one wing of the great Whig army: let us now give some of the views of the other branch. In the first
place, we find in the Whig the following additional trumpet call to the meeting of last night:

"The Whigs of Richmond are invited to attend a public meeting to-night at 8 o’clock, at the Odd Fellows’ Hall,
to hear the city candidates upon their merit, and not upon Texas, as the Editors of the Whig suppose.

"Come one, come all, as it is hoped every independent voter will attend, and judge for himself.

"MIDDLE WARD"

Again, in both Whig and Compiler there appears an article from some of the "Many Whig Voters" who called the
meeting, urging the Whigs to permit the editorial of the Whig to have no influence on their minds, and thus warmly
appealing to them:

"Come to that meeting. Hear the parties fairly, and judge for yourselves dispassionately.—There are great
interests at stake in the action of the next Legislature; interests of vital importance to the city of Richmond, as
affecting its general prosperity; interests which do not hinge upon any branch of political creed not common to all
the candidates, and to advance which you need a Representative who possesses that weight of character, and
personal popularity among the members of the Legislature, necessary to render him an efficient agent in carrying
them out. It is these things which render the election to be made an important one, and upon the Hustings alone
can we have these things properly discussed and set before you. Political differences have, properly, little to do with
this matter, and these issues, which it has been attempted to make, are prompted only as the means, which some
have thought the best, to carry out their own ends and advance their own purposes: They are none of our making,
and we regret that they have been made. Could we have selected the grounds of distinction in this canvass, political
creeds would have had little or nothing to do with it—though, even upon those grounds, we believe we can compare
favorably with any who may be opposed to us.”
They then hit back at the Editors of the Whig, who “find themselves reduced to such necessities to prop a falling cause and lengthen out an already decaying existence for a few days more.” Speaking of the R. Whig, they take this bold ground:

“It’s proscription will not render us the less able to maintain our position; and no community so intelligent and liberal as that of Richmond will seat themselves calmly at home when their best interests are to be discussed freely, because the Editor of a newspaper tells them they must not attend. Unused to dictation as they have ever been, there is little danger that they will submit to it now; and, following their own intuitive sense of what is right, they will act as citizens of a free country should.”

The Compiler, in a cool and sensible article, views the whole ground of interference of the Press in cases of party divisions, and, though no name is mentioned or particular fact referred to, it is evident that the Editor strongly disapproves of the course of the Whig organ. We subjoin an extract, and ask our readers to draw their own deductions:

“In such cases, the press, by the temperate exercise of its power, by remonstrance and argument, in general terms, may be efficacious; but when it attempts to drive and force men, they become determined and obstinate, and had consequences ensue. Suppose the denunciations of the press are sufficiently efficacious to leave ether denounced party in so meager a minority as to secure the election of the press endorsed candidate—why, even then, effects to be regretted often follow. The denounced gentleman and his friends are often dissatisfied and sore, they become sometimes indifferent bad party men, and again are driven over to the enemy; which last is sometimes fatal to a party in a closely contested district; for a vote transferred counts double. It is much the safest and best to leave the aspirant to their friends, who by proper conciliatory measures, can oftener heal divisions than can the press, with all its power.”

So much for this “strange, eventful history,” thus far! The meeting last night will throw new light on the movements of the contending fragments. We doubt not that it was numerously attended. The friends of free discussion and the opponents of an evident design to stifle deliberation and to muzzle thought and action, must have composed a large portion of the assembly. Then, again, many voters, who had not committed themselves to any candidate, must have gone, to listen to the views of MR. Lyons on the Texas, and on other questions which concern the internal interests of the city—in order to arrive at the proper selection of a candidate—though, from the course the other candidates have thought proper to pursue, the argument would be on one side—and the views of three named candidates will be left in the dark. Add to these the peculiar friends of Mr. Lyons, and a host of individuals, who will attend from mere curiosity; upon these supposed data we predict a numerous meeting.—We shall keep our readers advised, taking care, however, to furnish the facts and arguments of the different Whig sections themselves in support of their separate positions. In a squabble amongst the Whigs, where no Democrat is in the field, we shall not give our advice, and not venture our deductions from the premises. The Democrats of Richmond will watch the passing events, and every man decide for himself, as to the least objectionable Whig, upon whom to cast his vote.—The Whigs of the city have the power to choose whom they like, and it is unfair in the Richmond Whig to draw arguments against any candidate, from the assumed position of our party on this question. [MLD]
which may be open to Whig force or cunning.

It is all important that we should carry the Legislature this Spring. The eyes of the Union are upon us. Would it not be a lasting disgrace upon Virginia, that in November she should, by 6,000 majority, aid in the elevation of a Republican President, and, in April afterwards, should choose a Whig Assembly, and virtually elect a Whig U.S. Senator, to oppose and pull-down that administration?

Committee, do your duty? Aspirants, to your posts in the ranks, until the people, in their majority, summon you to the command! [MLD]

Friday, March 28, 1845 RE45i104p1c5 718 words

The Serfs of Angus McDonald

The Whigs of Hampshire county, after all, may be counting without their host. Their only chance of carrying the two Delegates and the Senator of the district, is by the aid of Angus McDonald’s spurious voter. We shall notice them again in due season—and especially an impudent correspondent of the Richmond Whig upon this subject. In the mean time, we are happy to see the Romney Gazette fighting manfully against this manufacture of McDonald. The following are extracts from the last No. of that paper:

“‘The Serfs of Angus McDonald.’—We observe in the last Intelligencer a communication, copied in that print from the Richmond Whig, dated ‘Winchester, Feb.27 1845,’ over the anonymous signature of ‘T,’ abusing in no measured terms the Richmond Enquirer’s article, headed with the above caption, (which we laid before our readers some weeks since,) and says, after giving a quotation from the Enquirer’s article, hat it was ‘on the authority of a little dirt dauber called the Virginia Gazette.

“We are not in the habit of noticing such contemptible and anonymous scribbler as ‘T;’ but when a write attempts, under an assumed veil to convey the idea that we have not stated the faces connected with the making of the McDonald deeds, we deem it necessary to give him a passing notice—and would say, that what has been set forth by us defies contradiction; as we have published a copy (certified by the clerk of this county) of the deeds, and therefore did not misrepresent them, as the above quotation was intended (to convey the idea) for, and make good the retreat of, Angus McDonald, and cover up the fraud which has been committed in the making of these deeds.

“Will ‘T.’ dare, in defiance of the constitution and laws of Virginia, to call the 297 voters made by Angus W. McDonald, ‘legal voters?’—If so, we brand him with the 297 ‘serfs.’ And a friend at our side knows this Mr. ‘T.,’ and says he was always a mere sycophant, ‘willing to crook the pregnant hinges of his knees, to lick the feet of absurd pomp, where thrift would follow fawning.’

“This writer then goes on to say, that those deeds are as good and lawful as those made by BOB HETERICK. Here is falsehood number one.—‘So much for the brand.’ ‘Take it!—Take it!—and BRAND YOUR FOREHEAD! For ho can the McDonald deeds be good and bona fide deeds, when everything that is valuable on the land is reserved to the grantor, and the land itself to revert back to the original owner after the death of James Gibson and John B. White?

“How dare this writer presume to blind the intelligence of an enlightened people with such false statements? The Heterick deeds were made without reserve or reversion—and we challenge proof to the contrary.

“As to the constitutionality of those deeds, which Mr. ‘T.’ dwells upon with much emphasis, we shall hereafter speak. In the mean time, will he or McDonald point out to us the place wherein this right is contained, to vote upon fifty acres of land, reversionary, reservedly and fraudulently deeded? We say, will they do it?

“The following is the oath the McDonald ‘serfs’ will have to take before they will be permitted to vote:

“‘I, A.B., do swear, that I do in my CONSCIENCE believe myself to be DULY QUALIFIED to vote for a delegate or delegates for the county of Hampshire, or for a Senator for the district of which the county of Hampshire is a part, to serve in the General Assembly of this Commonwealth: SO HELP ME GOD.’

“Query.—Can any of those fraudulent made voters, with a good conscience, and without perjuring themselves, ‘make oath on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God,’ that they believe that they are duly qualified (according to the Constitution of Virginia) to vote for delegates for the country of Hampshire, or for a Senator for the district of which the county of Hampshire is a part, to serve in the General Assembly of this Commonwealth, when it is expressly declared (by an act of the Legislature) to be in derogation of the Constitution and laws, and a misdemeanor and fraud upon the election laws.” [MLD]
The following letter, from a gentleman of intelligence and high standing, has given us no little uneasiness as to the stand which Texas may take upon the terms of admission tendered her by the United States. Most deeply do we regret to hear that Houston, the gallant victor at San Jacinto, is now “heading the English party” and tarnishing his laurels by such an affiliation. Has he lost all sympathy for the free institutions and noble associations of his native land, and is he, from rampant ambition, or some other sinister motive, about to destroy his fair fame, by turning his back upon his native and his adopted country, and surrendering the “Lone Star” to the intrigues and cupidity of Great Britain? What a short sighted policy does he pursue, if he hopes, by such a suicidal course, to push forward his own schemes of aggrandizement! Let him but take a retrospective glance at the vanity of Texas, by the plausible show if “independence,” and its consequent blessings; but a few years will demonstrate the treacherous nature of British possessions. When the public mind is flattered by rich promises, and, in the security of apparent prosperity, is blinded to the machinations of the wily mistress of diplomacy, England will stealthily introduce her subtle poison and her faithful agents into every corner of Texas, and by her intrigues and bribes and imported voters, will subject the country to her cunning policy, and reduce the people to the vilest subserviency. With her anaconda coils of treachery and artifice, she will enfold the young Southern Giant, and, when the proper season arrives, will crush the last vestige of liberty and national pride. The “Lone Star” will be lost from the grand constellation of independent nations; her glorious struggle with Mexican tyranny will be shrouded in oblivion, and her noble origin and valiant deeds will be forgotten, in the disgraceful event of being merged, as an humble and oppressed colony, in the overshadowing power of Great Britain. Is not this a true outline of what will necessarily ensue upon the success of the machinations of the “English party”? We appeal to Houston, not to sacrifice his own reputation, and the destinies of Texas, so gallantly rescued by his courage from Mexican oppression, to the still more fatal, though more insidious and cunning, tyranny of British diplomacy. We appeal to the people of Texas, “bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh,” to stand up for themselves, and hurl back upon Great Britain the insult which she offers to American born freemen. Upon the present experiment much depends. The grand question is to be decide, whether the gold and cunning of Great Britain are to succeed in spreading her indefinite dominion over he American continent, and gradually break in upon the sovereignty and safety of the States of the Union. What American can think of the fatal consequences of such an event, and not feel his blood boil with indignation? And yet the Richmond Whig “ardently hopes” that the annexation of Texas will be defeated by her own opposition, stirred up, as it appears, by British agents!

But admit that Texas is not enslaved by England, (a most unnatural supposition, in view of the glaring facts of her past history,) and continues an independent nation, who can rationally doubt the withering influence of that condition of affairs upon which the agricultural products of the latter, her cotton, sugar, indigo, and perhaps tobacco, will be introduced into England free of duty; and, in return, the manufactured goods of England will be brought into Texas also without duty. Can there be a reasonable doubt, that with these facts in view—and also the further fact, that smuggling will be successfully and fully carried on along our South Western frontier—a deadly blow will be given to our agricultural and industrial pursuits—the products of our soil will become drugs in the market—and the work shops of our manufacturers cease their hum of business? Mr. Lyons, in his speech at “the little clique” meeting on Wednesday night, portrayed all these consequences in an eloquent and logical manner. We hope he will excuse our “insidious and treacherous praise”—(see Richmond Whig of last year, passim)—when we add, that h placed in the clearest light the constitutionality of annexation by joint resolution of Congress.

Does it then become us, under the threatening aspect of affairs, to lie upon our oars and let the poison of British intrigue be infused into the heart of Texas, without the slightest objection on our part? Is it proper that we should, without remonstrance, allow Great Britain to defeat a measure which has been resolved upon by the American people, which has been solemnly sanctioned by an American Congress, and with which the best destinies of the nation are wrapped up? Some days since we ventured to throw our a few respectful suggestions to the President and Secretary of State on this subject. We advised, if there was no constitutional objection, the appointment of a new constitutional objection, the appointment of a new commissioner, who should carry the latest wishes of our Government, and should assist Major Donelson in urging and persuading the Government of Texas to accept our offer. Much good might be done by such a mission in explaining the views of our Government and our people, in setting forth the advantages to Texas of accepting the terms of admission specified in the joint resolution and looking to the justice and liberality of the United States in adjusting, hereafter, many questions of interest to Texas. We beg leave, again, respectfully to renew the suggestions, and invite the attention of the President to the new light furnished by the following letter:

“Gentlemen: Letters received by this evening’s mail, direct from Texas, and from those fully acquainted with the state of things there, leave not the least doubt, that an extraordinary struggle is going on in Texas, between the friends of annexation and the English party, headed by General Houston. Every possible inducement is held out by the English Minister and Agents, to the people of Texas, to reject the proffered terms. Magnificent offers are made, a reaction has taken place, and I feel warranted in saying that the issue is doubtful. I trust the President will heed your suggestion, or we may yet lose the country; and, if lost now, it will be lost forever. Mark it!”

The New Orleans papers contain no important news on this interesting question. We cut the following from the New Orleans Republican of yesterday week:

“We understand that Maj. Donelson, our Charge d’Affaires to Texas, will sail in the next packet for Galveston, by which time he supposes that the instructions, said to have been forwarded to him by the way of Nashville, will have arrived.

“We trust that the bill which has passed our Congress, in regard to annexation, will be ratified by the people
of Texas; and that the inferences to the contrary, derived from the tone of some of the newspaper publications in that Republic, will prove to be unfounded. If injustice has been done to Texas by the provisions of the bill, so far as they relate to the cession of her public property, salt lakes, minerals, &c., we have but little doubt that her citizens had much rather rely on the future legislation of the United States to restore what is proper and right, than hazard the loss of the measure by further delay. In no event can we anticipate that the advantages of union with us can be thrown away, in order to embrace an alliance with Great Britain, whose fixed policy is now declared to be the abolition of slavery, and whose interests, in other respects, will turn out to be adverse to those of Texas."

The Democrats, thus far, have nobly done their duty towards completing this grand acquisition. But circumstances may yet arise which will require all their energy and zeal. It is, therefore, highly important, that every effort be made to elect a Democratic Legislature this Spring, and to secure a Texas United States Senator next Winter. Let not our own dissensions, or lukewarmness, throw the State into the hands of the Whigs, and "glut the vengeance" of the Richmond Whig and J.M. Botts, the rapid enemies of Texas Annexation! [MLD]

Friday, March 28, 1845 RE45i104p2c4 64 words

FROM TAMPICO

An extract from a letter published in the Mobile Advertiser, dated Tampico, 23d February, says: "The revolution in this country is far from being at an end; in fact, we consider it as not yet fairly commenced. In a short time you may expect to hear of bloody work. We have merely got rid of one tyrant to make room for legions." [MLD]

Friday, March 28, 1845 RE45i104p4c4 2586 words

PARTY DICTATION

The Whigs of this "Gibraltar of Whiggery" are blessed with a slashing, magnificent, imperious organ. Whatever policy may be marked out by others, it must finally yield to the overshadowing influence of the master-spirit of the Richmond Whig. Who can forget the course of that paper last Spring, when its peculiar favorite, Mr. Stanard, was a candidate for Senator, and when all other aspirants were put down, at the command of the Whig, because they dared to cross the path of the Whig's candidate? Who has forgotten its insidious attacks upon Mr. Lyons, last year, because he refused to join in with the Whig and the Richmond Clique, in denouncing their fellow-citizens as "Disunionists and avaricious speculators," because they favored the annexation of Texas, which the Whigs of the last Legislature pronounced to be acceptable to a large majority of the people of Virginia? The bold stand taken by the Whig, last Spring, on the subject of a Convention to nominate a Whig candidate for Congress from this District, is familiar to all. It hooted at the idea; and when it had succeeded in frightening off opposition, it comes forward with a great show of forbearance and concession to the popular will, and graciously allows a Convention, whose feelings were known to be all on one side, and whose solemn mockery of deliberation consisted in the casting of the vote, for form's sake, for the Whig's favorite, Mr. J. M. Botts. Look, too, at its open warfare upon Mr. Morton, a thorough and consistent Whig, who is unfortunately tinged with Texas annexation. In the Essex District, with Texas annexation. In the Essex District, Mr. Newton is the sole Whig candidate—and yet, because he, claiming to represent the Texas feelings of his constituents, makes one step towards achieving the great measure, (though, afterwards, he lost all the credit by undoing what he had boasted of having achieved, almost as a "sole author,"") the Whig pounces upon him, and cruelly strips him of his feathers. One fierce attack is not sufficient, and he promises to redouble his blows upon the Whig who dares to avow himself in favor of immediate annexation. Through all these assaults, it is not difficult, even for an unpracticed eye, to discern insidious side-blows at the pretensions of certain Whigs in this vicinity, who are guilty of a Texas leaning. Yesterday's Whig throws the veil still further back and exhibits its true designs:

In the Whig and Compiler of yesterday there appears the following card:

"PUBLIC MEETING,
"On Wednesday, 8 o'clock, P.M.

"The Whigs of Richmond are invited to attend a Public Meeting, which will take place on Wednesday evening, at 8 o'clock, at the 'Odd Fellows' Hall.'

"The Meeting will be addressed by Mr. Lyons—and the other candidates for the city are invited to do so likewise.

MANY WHIG VOTERS.

"Monday, March 24th, 1845. [MLD]"
This call has been hitherto suspended by the absence of Mr. Fleming James. He is expected to return by Wednesday, and circumstances preclude a further delay."

This announcement is followed by a dispassionate communication, signed "Many Whig Voters," from which we make a few extracts, to show the object of the called meeting:

"We believe that every shade of opinion, which can be entertained on this subject, is consistent with entire fidelity and devotion to the Whig party. We believe, likewise, that a full and free toleration of our mutual differences of opinion on this subject, is indispensably necessary to prevent an incurable division in the Whig party."

"We moreover believe, that the most direct and positive—the clearest as well as the harshest—mode of making this separation, is by making any opinion on the "annexation" question, a test of eligibility to such offices of trust or honour, as may be at the disposal of the Whig Party. We, therefore, earnestly protest against the application of this test; and, differing greatly amongst ourselves upon the "Annexation" question, but agreeing in preferring Mr. Lyons, as the representative of this city in the next Legislature, to any gentleman hitherto named, we deeply regret to have seen his opinions upon that subject, treated, buy many Whigs opposed to his election, in a manner tending to produce incurable discord in the Whig party. We are also satisfied, that the whole question of "Annexation," as well as Mr. Lyon's opinion upon every branch of that question, and his more of treating it during the late Presidential canvas, is by many wholly misunderstood."

"For the purpose, therefore, of promoting harmony in the Whig party, in Richmond—the want of which, we are convinced, arises in a great measure, from misunderstanding each other,—we have joined in the above invitation to a public meeting on Wednesday night."

And how does the organ of Wiggery meet this appeal for harmony? Does he come forward in a spirit of justice towards those who are in favor of immediate annexation, though on every other question as good Whigs as the modest Editor for himself? Does he express a wish to sink the question of Texas, and to allow the Whigs to select who my best promote the interests of the city of Richmond? Far from it. He is of the city of Richmond? Far from it. He is more rabid than ever. He strikes down every Whig that has the independence to disobey his arrogant demands, to think for himself, and to favor the annexation of Texas, without the vile and slavish condition of obtaining the consent of Mexico, which every free-born American should indignantly repubrate. As well might the freemen of America ask the consent of Great Britain for permission to carry out any policy—for, Texas, on the fields of San Jacinto, acquired her independence as we achieved our own at the battle of Texas has been fully recognized by this county and all this great nations of Europe—and yet all Whig would have us slavishly to ask the "consent" of Mexico! But he comments of the Whig will speak for themselves. We make copious extracts, not only to show the high hand with which the Whig organ rules in the fiery spirits of the independent members of its own party—but as a beacon light to the friends of Texas in this District and throughout the State. They will see that the Whig has sworn eternal hostility to this great American question—for the conditions which it points out, never can be reasonably fulfilled, and consequently Texas never can be annexed. Of course, Mexico will always resist the annexation of Texas—and still the Whig makes this a grand condition and precedent to the achievement of this great measure. Can party madness go farther? Will Virginia, will this District, sustain the anti-American policy, pointed out by the Richmond Whig? Will party spirit throw its baleful influence over this question, and destroy all independence of thought and action? This experiment will shortly be decided.

But to the comments of the Whig, which in some cases we have italicized, for the benefit of the independent voters of both parties:

"How many authorize this call of 'Many Whig Voters,' we do not know, that part of the secret being kept secret."

"If we understand the position of things correctly, it is very different form that which the author of this communication seems willing to imply. No Whig that we know of objects to any other Whig that he is in favor of annexing Texas—at the right time—in a constitutional manner—and by the consent of the American, the Mexican and the Texan People! Present it in that shape, and few would be found, comparatively, (though some still would,) to dissent from it. —The vehement and indignant opposition to the immediate annexation of Texas, which animates the bosoms of thousands and hundreds of thousands of the purest patriots in the land, springs form the loftiest motives."

"This writer intimates that immediate and Joint Resolution Annexation Whigs are unacceptable to the Whig party, and opposed by them because they ARE such! Can it be at all wonderful that it should be so? Here is by far the most immense American question of the age—a question which, before it is ended may well change the whole frame work of American Society, and stain American soil with civil gore-decided against the solemn judgment of the Whig party, by the aid of a few self-willed Whigs, numbering among them Tyler and Merrick, and every other Whig traitor of the day! Can it, we ask, be wonderful, that the Whig masses look with coldness and distrust, upon these "immediate Annexation, Joint Resolution" Whigs, who, whether they intended it or no (as we know many of them did not) helped by that detestable question and the support they gave it, to overthrow Henry Clay and prostrate the Whig party in November? IS IT WONDERFUL—that startling under the effects of this odious Tyler and Speculator invention to ruin them—defeated by it, and deprived of that command of the Government to which they were entitled from their numbers, and defeated too by the indirect assistance of Whigs—the masses of the Whig party should for the present feel extremely lukewarm towards such Whigs, as in this great national and vital question, took part against them, and Henry Clay, and with "Polk, Dallas, and Texas"! We for our part, think that nothing can be more natural, reasonable, and proper! Let Polk, Dallas, and Texas elect them if they can, to the offices they want: Let them, like our friend Jeremiah Morton, appeal at once to that "Democracy" with whom they concur on this great
The Whig catches at the idea, and gives its "consent" to such a meeting, with the following conditions thus royally set forth:

"But in attempting to restore harmony, great discretion is indispensable, or it might result in widening the breach, instead of closing it. Every true Whig ought to resist and frown down any attempt to convene the people to hear the candidates spout. It cannot by possibility result in any practical good. * * * * * It will proceed in uproar and confusion, and it may very well end in a row—a row, which if it is congenial to the tastes of the white Eagle or Empire Clubs, is abhorrent to the conservative principles, and the law and order-loving spirit of the great Whig Party.

"For these reasons, we are opposed utterly to any spouting meeting, where Whig is to be arrayed against Whig, and brother against brother; and pledged as we are to neutrality—a neutrality, which we have endeavored strictly to preserve!!! We will depart from it, so far as to warn the Whigs of Richmond, (if it be a departure at all!) against a course which will create the nucleus of a permanent and dangerous split! We speak neither for nor against any candidate! We speak alone for the Whig Party, and its continued ascendancy in the Metropolis, so important as that is, to the ultimate and certain redemption of Virginia.

"There can be no objection to a voting meeting of the Whigs of Richmond. That will not inflame the feelings or exasperate the passions.—That can be attempted safely; and if it result, as it very probably may, in making no choice, it at least will not expose the Whigs to the hazard of more injury than they are now suffering."

Here the Whig publishes its "general orders" as to the terms of the meeting. It must be a voting meeting, and the ballots must be deposited "under the eye of a committee appointed for the purpose of seeing that no person deposits more than one ballot," intimating a fear, that the Texas Whigs might, in their "unconstitutional" haste, smuggle in more votes than they are entitled to—There must be no debate, no discussion. The proceedings must be as still as death—as dark as the Inquisition—and this is the kind of meeting, that the Whig allows to the independent, prudent, wise, intelligent and patriotic Whig voters of the Metropolis.

There must be no discussion, however calm and enlightened; not a single word spoken, for fear that "uproar and confusion and a row," may ensue! What a compliment to the prudence and the good manners of this Whig metropolis! The Texas and all other questions must be kept as dark as Erebus. The voters must "prepare" their ballots in advance, deposit them (and them only,) and leave the house, like so many ghosts! And all this, for fear that one word spoken or "spouted" might light up a blaze, that could not be extinguished!

Could a more appropriate plan be devised to stifle free deliberation and to muzzle thought ad action? It is for the Whigs themselves to agree to such tyranny. The Democrats will have no candidate in the field and will take no part in the contest; save that each man, we presume, will vote, if he votes at all, for that Whig, whom he may think best able to promote the public interests and the good of the City. [MLD]
and press it upon the people. Yesterday’s Whig thus warmly chimes in which the two Texas anti-annexation papers:

“It really would look, from the language of the Galveston Civilian, and the Texas National Register—the leading and most influential Journals of that Republic—as if Annexation, on the terms proposed, was going to be scorned and spurned by Texas!

“How ardently we hope this may prove true, we need not say, for it would in a great measure correct the dire mischief of the rash and unconstitutional legislation of the late Congress—a Congress destined to be opprobrious remembered in the annals of this country.”

The Whig, then, goes on to point out the selfish motives which have originated the “iniquity,” (bringing in, most stupidly, for the thousandish time, its stale list of “Texas speculators,” &c., for which its won party have so often and so sinfully rebuked it!) and winds up with the unwilling confession, that Texas, moved by “mercenary considerations, will be Whipped in.” The Whig will have to swallow the dose. We “ardently hope” and believe, that the movements of the politicians in Texas against annexation will be frowned down by the people, an Texas will soon assume her place in the American Union.

But what ought the friends of Texas in Virginia to think of the Richmond Whig, who has violently opposed the action of our Congress, and now “ardently hopes” that he measure will be utterly defeated by the politicians of Texas herself, and throw his influence (?) into the anti-Texas scale? It ought to teach us one lesson—that, as Mr. Botts admits, the Texas question is still unsettled, and the friends of Texas should take up the gauntlet boldly thrown down to them, and labor zealously to confirm the glorious action of the last Congress. The voice of Virginia, this Spring, will have much weight. Let us pres on the opponents of Texas the issue which they themselves have raised!

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April

May

Tuesday, May 6, 1845 RE41i115p1c4 225 words.

PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS

The Democrats of Philadelphia had two meetings on Thursday afternoon; a split and confusion having ensued, in attempts to organize by the selection of presiding officers, the favorites of the two sections. Both meetings, however, adopted strong resolutions, “approving and endorsing the patriotic declaration” of the President’s Inaugural, on the subject of Oregon. One of the meetings also passed a resolution complimenting Mr. Buchanan, as “a true exponent of his (Mr. Polk’s) sentiments, and a firm and determined supporter of all his patriotic measures to promote and extend our national prosperity and preserve our national honor.”

In Wilmington, Delaware, the Democrats passed a number of resolutions, from which we extract the following:

“That as Republicans it becomes us to sustain the Executive in the position which he has assumed; and believing that position to be correct, we trust he will adhere to the letter and spirit of his Inaugural Address.

“That if Great Britain determines, as her Prime Minister has already declared, ‘to maintain her (pretended) claims to Oregon;’ upon her own head be the consequences. She will find that the American Eagle has but commenced its flight. - That a triumph more brilliant and glorious than that of Yorktown awaits it; and, finally, that it will rest in peace upon the shores of the Pacific - the emblem of the greatest nation of the modern world.”

Tuesday, May 6, 1845 RE41i115p1c6 206 words

OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Washington Union, late the Globe, and now the official paper, has an article upon our foreign relations, in which it expresses surprise at the tone assume in the British Parliament on the Oregon question, and says: “One thing is certain - we cannot abandon the great interests of our country to their blunders, or even to their menaces. We shall have no anti-Oregon party. The North, as well as the South, will unite with the West on this subject. Let Great Britain
Tuesday, May 6, 1845 RE41i115p1c7 1,362 words.

HUGH A. GARLAND’S LETTER

[From the Petersburg Republican.]

To the Editors of the Enquirer:

I was surprised at seeing an article in your paper over the signature of a Republican of the Old School, containing a criticism and objections against the letter of Hugh A. Garland, lately published in the Whig. Surprised that your correspondent should so totally misapprehend the plain and legitimate meaning of that letter. As your correspondent admits that he only gave it a "hasty perusal," some apology must be given for his over zeal for the principles of our party. I can assure him, that they will find no warmer and more zealous supporter than in the person of Hugh A. Garland. Mr. Garland’s political consistency, his ardent attachment to the principles of our party, his ability and firmness in their defence, should have made your correspondent a little more cautious in attacking his letter, after giving it only a "hasty perusal." He is clearly at default, when he imagines that Mr. Garland is willing to sacrifice his political opinions, and to unite with our opponents. No such construction can be put upon that letter. No where in that letter can be found, either expressly or impliedly, that he is for a Bank, a Protective Tariff, or the Distribution of the Public Lands - such a construction (to use a trite expression) would puzzle a Philadelphia lawyer.

Your correspondent is "amazed," (he must be very timid,) at the following passage from Mr. Garland’s latter. "His (Mr. Polk’s) views on the Tariff are generally approved by both parties - that vexed question therefore, so far as principles are concerned, may be considered as settled. - When the present Tariff shall come to be remodeled as it unquestionably must be for the sake of revenue, now falling below the wants of the Government, there will be a scramble over its details; but the grounds upon which a Tariff of duty should be adjusted, taking care of all the great interests of the country, are now tolerably well agreed upon. The Tariff, therefore, constitutes no subject of party division."

How can this passage, by any and every ingenious sophistical twisting, be made to prove that Mr. Garland is an advocate of the "grinding Tariff of 1842?" I think the ancient problem, of how many angles could dance on the point of a needle, is not more difficult to be solved. This passage, instead of proving him an advocate of the "resent Tariff" shows clearly that he is its opponent; for his letter states, that "Mr. Polk's views are generally approved by both parties" - Mr. Polk is opposed to the "present Tariff" - Mr. Garland’s are the same - hence, he is likewise its opponent. And, therefore, when is letter states that the present Tariff, as far as "principles are concerned," is settled, he could only mean that it was settled by the Whigs, who through their different organs, have repeatedly declared, that Mr. Polk’s Tariff views, as set forth in his Inaugural, are the same as their own, and those of Mr. Clay. Settled, not by Mr. Garland, or his party defending the present onerous Tariff, not by "substantially surrendering one of the great issues between the parties," but "settled" by the Whigs' own confessions throughout the South, by their adopting Mr. Polk’s views as their own.

Certainly, Mr. Garland cannot be censured for stating that the Whigs are now advocating the principles of our party on this question. I trust that your correspondent will no longer "protest" against this small sin!

Your correspondent has fallen into another error, and is "amazed" at a part of the passage referred to. As the principles of the Tariff are settled by the Whigs’ own declarations, the "resent Tariff, unquestionably MUST be remodeled for the sake of revenue, now falling below the wants of the Government." Yes, your correspondent feels "amazed" to learn that the present Tariff falls below the wants of the Government. I am now myself amazed at his amazement. If he will just refer to the last number of the Democratic Review, page 404, he will find that the fact is no less strange to him than true. Among many passages proving the same fact, I only select the following: [fold] make good the estimates, 12,372,000 dollars must be received between November and July, exceeding the receipts of last year by over 2,000,000 dollars, whereas they are now running about 25 percent below last year. The result will be a deficit up to July of at least 4,500,000 dollars diminished customs, showing incontestably that the weight of the present duties is too heavy for a healthy state of trade. The deficit in the revenue will, in all probability, absorb the whole surplus - 7,857,379 dollars, which existed July, 1841 - before Congress again meets, when a modification of the Tariff will become imperative for purposes of revenue. This view of the case is already beginning to exert an influence upon the markets, and in the Fall will probably exercise a restrictive influence upon imports." In 1842, our entire party, on every occasion, declared and argued that the protective feature in the Tariff was so high on many commodities, that prohibition would be the sad result; that in proportion as the Tariff was restrictive, our revenue would be diminished - those opinions were defended by those of the most celebrated political economists, and the most distinguished statesmen. It is useless for me to enter into the causes of the late surplus in our revenue, for they are known to us all - not by the present Tariff.
As regards the Bank being "settled" question, I will only make an extract from Mr. Garland's letter to show the he is not its advocate. "The question whether the Bank of the United States should be established is also for the present an adjourned question, as a practical question indeed we may say indefinitely postponed. When our monetary affairs are in a tolerably sound and prosperous condition as at present - when all the great interests of Trade are gradually recovering from their[?] prostration, and steadily advancing in improvement, it would be folly to disturb so agitating a theme, and to throw all the departments of business into confusion, by a discussion which could only excite the fears of the capitalists, and cause the man of business to dread another commercial revolution. No practical and wise statesman, who tempers his abstractions by experience, could attempt such a thing without justly forfeiting public confidence by his rashness. - Besides, the President is known to be adverse to a Bank, and would for the next four years veto any such measure." No one can now say, but the "Distribution of the proceeds of the Public Lands is a mere temporary question, that cannot be made the basis of a permanent party question."

Hence, in the language of Mr. Garland, there is, therefore, only on subject before the people on which parties can divide, and that is the annexation of Texas. Therefore, Mr. Garland considered this the absorbing question of the day - other questions little and overshadowed by that vital one of the South. You, sirs have made it the burden of your editorials, the great and almost the only question of the day. Who, then, can censure Mr. Garland, when he says that he might vote for a Texas Whig for United States Senator? Such was Mr. Garland's obvious meaning, when he remarks that "he might vote for a Texas Whig."

In conclusion, I must express my surprise that your correspondent could have fallen into such errors even after a "hasty perusal of Mr. Garland's letter." Although Mr. Garland is the man and statesman to rise above the petty questions of party, when the interest of his country calls for its defence; yet, he holds as dearly and sacredly the doctrines of the Republican party as your correspondent, who has unfortunately entirely misapprehended the context and spirit of that letter. As the article of your correspondent has gone forth through the columns of the Enquirer, (through Mr. Garland's letter has not been so honored,) I ask, as an "antidote," that this article may find a place in your paper, from KEITH. [MSH]
man. He was called the "Little Hickory" during the late campaign; and he deserves the distinction, for he has the spirit of the "Old Hickory" in him. He will never sacrifice the honor of his country to any idle apprehensions of war, or, we beg leave to say, to the still more idle declarations of the statesmen of England, in the midst of the Imperial Parliament! Let not then, the peace of two great people, like those of England and the United States, be disturbed by any factious declarations of any of the Whig presses. - As the "Easter Argus" truly says, in its commentaries upon the effusions of the "Advertiser":

"Its chief delight just now seems to be that of picking flaws in our title to Oregon, denouncing the annexation of Texas, and ridiculing the idea of maintaining our right at any and every hazard. England may bully and swagger to her heart's content about her title to Oregon; may put forth her meddlesome hand to stay the annexation of Texas; and may strive by ever means in her power to retard the growth of her Western rival; but for her, our Federal editors have no sneer, no censure, no threats; while they are quick to find an earnest to denounce the least show of mainly opposition to her claims on the part of our people or our own Government. [fold] the war with her, the Advertiser might find subscribers, we doubt not in the British fleet.

"We agree with the Advertiser that President Polk will not be 'kicked into a war,' but we are equally certain that he will not be kicked into any surrender of American rights, or any neglect of American honor. Neither Great Britain nor her Federal allies will probably turn him aside a single hair's breadth from the straightforward path of firm and fair dealing which he has marked out for himself in reference to the foreign relations of our Government; and while he never intends, we are sure, to ask anything that is not clearly right, he is misnamed 'Young Hickory' if he will submit to any thing which is clearly wrong." [MSH]

Tuesday, May 6, 1845 RE41i115p2c1 456 words

IDLE SPECULATIONS

The question of Oregon is grave enough to excite some serious reflections in the country, without overloading it with absurd panics, or contemptible chimeras. We have already been long enough in Washington to know that it is pretty much like Athens in the days of Demosthenes, where, as the orator said, the controlling question was, "What is the news?" and where this extravagant curiosity was productive of still more extravagant curiosity was productive of still more extravagant reports in the metropolis. The atmosphere itself seems loaded with rumors. - These are caught up by the greedy letter-writers, who show a good deal of ingenuity in circulating them at a distance. But he cave of Cyclops is not confined to Washington. We have laboratories of artificial thunder and the idle panics established in other cities of the Union. It is amusing to see how many rumors this question of Oregon has already produced. It will be legion before it will be settled. For example, it was stated the other day, that Mr. Vice President Dallas has been called to Washington to consult with the Cabinet on our foreign relations. This was a mistake. Mr. Dallas was certainly in Washington the other day; but he was not invited hither by any cabinet consultation.

Again, we see the following paragraph in the Baltimore American of this morning:

"RUMORS FROM WASHINGTON - It is well known that previous to the fulfillment of any important measure by the Government of Washington, the annunciation of such intention is frequently made by letter writers to New York - somewhat after the fashion of feelers, to see how the matter is relished by the capitalists and politicians there - and thus the first intimations are given in that city long before the people of the District of Columbia are aware of the contemplated movement. A rumor, important in its character, is mentioned in the New York Commercial as having been quietly circulated in Wall street on Tuesday and Wednesday; but whether true or false, that paper does not pretend to say. It is that the result of the President's deliberations with his cabinet on the Oregon question, was determination to follow the example of the British Government on the Maine boundary affair, and send a special Minister to London. The special Minister mentioned is Mr. Van Buren."

We have a brief answer to all this. We understand that the mission to London has been offered to Mr. Pickens, of South Carolina; and this is the first time we ever heard the high name of Mr. Van Buren associated with such an appointment. We are satisfied that the report is unfounded, and that it can only tend to make improper impressions on the public mind. [Washington Union] [MSH]

Tuesday, May 6, 1845 RE41i115p2c1 372 words.

IN PEACE PREPARE FOR WAR

From the New Orleans Republican, April 28

The New York Courier and Enquirer of the 16th, has a very judicious article upon the very unprotected state of the country in the event of a war, and of the perfect confidence entertained by the people, the no harm can come from our existing relations with Mexico. We think it proper at this moment to place before our readers our opinions upon this subject. They may be erroneous, but they were based upon information of such a character as to compel us to give public expression to them. The war with Mexico - if any there be - will be a war of privateering; and it becomes
OUR RIGHTS TO OREGON

It is most extraordinary that the lynx-eyed Whigs could discern in the President's Inaugural no spec of war, until it had been to England and returned. The Inaugural was delivered on the 4th of March. The Whig press gave vent to their joy at it Whig character. They boasted that a Democratic President has yielded to the wisdom of Whig policy - and particularly that his Tariff notions quadrated exactly with Whig doctrines. They said nothing of his views on Oregon - they despaired in his declarations on that point no rash assumptions, calculated to produce war - and, by their very silence, sanctioned the language and the spirit of Mr. Polk's Inaugural. In the meantime, this excellent document, approved by Whigs and Democrats, receives the commentaries of British Lords, is by them declared to be full of "sound and fury," the bolts of war are contained in its fiery declarations - and straightway the Federal press of this country catch up the strain, denounce the recklessness of the President and stigmatize his declarations as "braggart and blustering" - (see Richmond Whig of yesterday.) We shall not enter into an analysis of these contradictory movements. We simply refer to the fact that the Whig press, with remarkable unanimity, now give to
As this is one of the great questions of the day, it may not be uninteresting to give a condensed and hasty view of the titles of the United States and Great Britain to the Oregon Territory, drawn from the imperfect sources of information to which we can have access. The British Lords in Parliament claim, by a "clear and indisputable title," a greater portion of the territory in dispute, than is allowed by our Government, and base their claims upon the discoveries of Drake and Vancouver, and on prior settlement by British subjects. Now, let us look at our title by treaties between the United States and other nations. By a Treaty entered into in 1819 between the United States and Spain, and ratified in 1821, at the time of Mr. Forsyth's Ministry at the Court of Madrid, the Southern boundary between our possessions and those of Spain, was a line drawn from the source of the Arkansas to the forty-second parallel of latitude, and thence along said parallel, westward to the Pacific, near Cape St. Sebastian, his Spanish Majesty surrendering all his rights and claims to any territories North of said line. In 1828, the same boundary was confirmed by a Treaty with the new State of Mexico. In 1824, it was agreed between Russia and our Government, that no establishment should be formed by ourselves North of the parallel of 54 degrees 40 minutes, and none under the authority of Russia South of that latitude. The Treaty of 1825, between Russia and Great Britain, also recognizes this line. The territorial claims of Great Britain extend southward from this parallel of 54 degrees 40 minutes, and those of the United States run northward from the parallel of 42 degrees - but no dividing line has been agreed upon - through a convention exists for the common occupation of the territory until twelve months notice is given by one of the parties to the other. Is it not clear, that if Spain had nay right to the territory conveyed to us by Treaty, we have an unquestionable title to the country, as far North as latitude 54 degrees 40 minutes?

But the British Lords claim a prior discovery by Drake in 1578-'80. The Washington Union examines this point, and thoroughly destroys all the deductions which the English may make from it, as calculated to give them even a pretended title, and brings forward the evidence of the Spanish navigators, Cibrillo and Ferrelo, having explored these coasts in 1542-'3, as far North as the 42d degree of latitude, and having landed in many places, "having erected crosses bearing inscriptions, and performed various acts, asserting the right of their sovereign to the country." In 1592, Juan de Fuca coasted along the Western side of America, Northward from Mexico, and found a passage between the 48th and 49th parallels, called the Strait of Fuca. In 1602-'3, the Spaniards, under Sebastian Viscaino again examined the Northwest coasts to the 43d degree North, as far as Cape / Blanco, which [fold] and European discovery. Nothing farther was done till 1770, when the Spaniards founded Monterey and other towns on the Western side of California. That nation then for the five succeeding years explored the whole coast of Oregon on the Pacific, including the mouth of the Columbia and examined the Western coast as far as the 58th degree, performing the ceremonies of taking possession.

In 1778 only did the English Captain Cook visit these shores, near the 43d degree of latitude - thence running along it to the Nootka Sound, in 49 degrees.

We extract from the Augusta (Ga.) Constitutionalist the following sketch of subsequent events, forming a complete chain of title on our part:

"So far the mouth of the Columbia river was not discovered. It was reserved for an American to make the discovery. The first voyages from the United States were those of the ship Columbia, Captain Kendrick, and sloop Washington, Capt. Robert Gray. Both vessels sailed from Boston, in Massachusetts, on the 30th of September, 1788; visited Nootka Sound (49 deg.) in Sept., 1788, and returned to Boston in August, 1790. - But, on the 27th September, 1798, Captain Gray, in command of the ship Columbia, sailed for the Pacific. He reached the coast a little to the Northward of Cape Mendoceino (40 deg.) Coasting along towards Nootka, he observed an opening in latitude 46 deg. 16 mins., discharging a current so strong as to prevent an entrance, although he remained nine days at hand in order to effect it. He sailed towards Nootka, fully convinced that he had discovered the mouth of a great river. In September, 1791, he made Clyoquot his Winton station, and build a house of strength off the shore, which he named Fort Defiance. Here, also, he build and launched a schooner called the Enterprise.

"Capt. Vancouver, with Lieut. Broughton, in the British ships of war the Discovery and the Chatham, were despatched from England in 1791, in order to receive from the Spanish authorities the surrender of a port at Nootka Sound, under the stipulation of a convention (averting an impending war) made between the two courts in 1790. As Vancouver was sailing along the coast towards his port of destination, on the 27th April, 1792, he passed by, with but a careless glance, the cape and seeming bay, so emphatically named by Meares Disappointment and Deception, and puts down, "not considering this opening worthy of more attention, I continued our course to the northwest," &c. Two days after, he met the Columbia, Capt. Gray, who informed him, among other matters, "of his having," in the words of Vancouver, "been off the mouth of a river, in latitude 46 degrees 10 minutes, when the onset or reflux was so strong to prevent his entering for nine days." Vancouver proceeded northward strong in his incredulity, while Capt. Gary again sought the mouth of the river. On his way he found and entered a harbor near the 47th degree, to which he gave the name of Bulfinch's Harbor, in compliment to one of the owners. Leaving Bulfinch's Harbor on the 11th of May after a few hours' sail he reached the mouth of the river, crossed the bar, and found his ship on a broad and rapid stream, the waters of which were so perfectly fresh that the casks of the ship were filled within ten miles of the Pacific. On leaving the river, Capt. Gary bestowed on it the name of his vessel; the Southern point of land he called Cape Adams, and substituted the name of Cape Hancock for that of Cape Disappointment. Neither Cape Hancock nor Cape Adams, have taken an assured place in the maps; and the name of Cape Disappointment remains, to preserve in remembrance for a time, probably short, the sagacity of the sponsor. The name of the good ship Columbia, it is not hard to believe, will flow with the waters of the bold river as long as grass grows or waters runs in the valleys of the Rocky Mountains.

"Sir Robert Peel, in his speech on the subject, calls frequently that river the Columbia, and very seldom the Oregon."
"Besides the above brief statement of the title of the United States by treaty and prior discovery of the Columbia river, we must state that Mr. John Jacob Astor, of New York, in 1810, made a settlement on the Columbia River, for a trade with the Indians for peltries. But during the war with Great Britain, this settlement which was named Astoria, was taken by the British, and called by them Fort George. After the return of peace in 1815, a demand was made by Mr. Monroe, Secretary of State, of the surrender of Astoria, at the mouth of the Columbia; but the surrender was effected only in 1818, but for reasons not well known, the American Government did not countenance the re-occupation of the place by its founder."

From the rapid outline, for the facts of which we are indebted to the Augusta, Constitutionalist and Washington Union, and which we thought well calculated to interest public curiosity, it will be seen, that the title of the United States to the most important portion of Oregon, whether directly, or derived by Treaty from another nation, is "clear and unquestionable." We sincerely hope, that the light of truth and experiences may dispel the gloom hanging over this subject, and that peace may be preserved. If England, however, still persists in her grasping claims, and will not compromise, without a sacrifice of our rights and honor, we hope that the whole people of the Union, of all parties, will stand ready to meet their responsible duties. [MSH]

Tuesday, May 6, 1845 RE41i115p2c6 43 words.

GOVERNOR OF OREGON.

Halifax County Herald says "We have it upon good authority, that Sir George Simpson, a passenger in the Caledonia for Boston, goes on as Governor of the Oregon Territory. If so, the question of right and possession will be brought to speedy issue." [MSH]

Tuesday, May 6, 1845 RE41i115p4c1 517 words.

MISCELLANEOUS

(From the N. O. Bulletin, April 26)

TEXAS - The steamship John S. McKim, Captain Lewis, arrived from Galveston last evening, whence she sailed on the 21st. President Jones has issued a Proclamation appointing the Congress to meet on the Sixteenth day of June, to consider the resolutions of the United States Congress for the annexation of Texas; previous to which, judging from the alacrity with which the British war vessels sail with despatches from Vera Cruz to Galveston and vice versa, it is expected the propositions of the Mexican Government and its ally or allies will appear in some tangible shape. The sentiments of the Texian nation can be best gleaned by a perusal of the resolutions passed at a meeting held at the town of Brenham, in Washington county - which were carried, although the Hon. Ebenezer Allen, Attorney-General of the Republic and acting Secretary of State, spoke in disapprobation of the same:

"Be it Resolved, That this meeting approves the Annexation of Texas to the United States on the basis of the joint resolutions passed by the Congress of that country.

Be it Resolved, That the Executive be requested to use all means within his power to effect the annexation of Texas to the United States, upon the basis of the join resolutions aforesaid, with the utmost promptness.

Be it Resolved, That inasmuch as the Government of the United States has given its ultimatum on this subject, secrecy on the part of the Executive tends only to embarrass this subject, without producing any beneficial effect.

Be it Resolved, That if the President of the Republic does not convene the Congress on or before the fourth Monday in June next, we, a portion of the people of Texas, recommend to the counties throughout the Republic, to meet as soon as practicable, at any point that may be designated, in Convention, to ratify said Joint Resolution, and for a State Constitution.

Be it Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting, it is the duty of the President of this Republic to consummate the measure of Annexation to the United States, without reference to the wishes or concurrence of any Foreign or European Power?"

The Houston Morning Star has the following intelligence, which is significantly hinted at in the above resolutions:

"We learn that our Government has recently received communications from General Arista, by way of Corpus Christi and Bexar, conveying assurances, that the new Government of Mexico is disposed to treat with Texas upon the basis of Independence. Similar dispatches, we learn, were received from Vera Cruz by the Eurydice about a fortnight since, and it is rumored, that the British Minister in Mexico will soon induce the Mexican Government to present definite propositions for the adjustment of all difficulties between the two countries. It is rumored, also, that our Government
Tuesday, May 6, 1845 RE41i115p4c1 290 words.

PROCLAMATION

By the President of the Republic of Texas

Whereas, since the close of the last session of Congress, a Joint Resolution respecting the Annexation of Texas to the United States has, by their Congress, been adopted, authorizing the President of the U. States to select the alternative of two certain propositions contained in the said Joint Resolution, as the basis for consummating the proposed annexation:

And, whereas, the President of the U. States has selected the first and second sections of the Resolutions as such basis, and notified this Government thereof.

[Here follow the Resolutions passed by the U. States Congress for the Annexation of Texas.]

And, whereas, the premises, requiring the solemn deliberation and action of the Representatives of the people, form an extraordinary occasion for convening the Congress of the Republic;

Therefore, be it known, that I, Anson Jones, President of the Republic of Texas, by virtue of the power vested in me by the Constitution, do by these presents, require that the Senators and Representatives to Congress of this Republic, shall assemble in special session, at the Town of Washington, in the County of Washington, on Monday, the sixteenth day of June next ensuing, then and there to receive such communications as may be made to them, and to consult and determine on such measures as in their wisdom may be deemed meet for the welfare of Texas.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the Republic to be hereunto affixed. Done at the Town of Washington, this fifteenth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-five, and of the Independence of the Republic the tenth. ANSON JONES

By the President: Enn’r Allen, Acting Secretary of State. [MSH]

Tuesday, May 6, 1845 RE41i115p4c2 1,182 words.

THE OREGON QUESTION

Many of the Whig presses pour out piteous lamentations, that Mr. Clay, instead of Mr. Polk, does not now fill the Presidential Chair. They argue, that the country will be inevitably thrown into a war with England, because of the rashness and incapacity of Mr. Polk - that Mr. Polk is so utterly ignorant in matters of State negotiation, so reckless in his positions, so weak-minded and inefficient, that war must ensue, and with it a rain of horrors. Now, what is the heinous offence committed by Mr. Polk, which has called forth the bullying menaces of John Bull, and rendered Mr. Polk the target of Federal attacks? In February, the House of Representatives asserted our "clear and unquestionable title" to Oregon. The news reaches England, and we hear of no unusual excitement produced in the British Court. But when Mr. Polk, in his Inaugural on the 4th March, re-echoes the sentiments of an overwhelming majority of the people's Representatives, and, indeed, repeats the very words "clear and unquestionable title" employed by the lower House of Congress, at once the British Lion utters a roar of defiance, and thinks to frighten us from our rights. Do we not see in this sudden effort to shake our firmness, an indication of the effects produced on the British mind by the course of the Whig press last summer? Did not that press lavish every deprecating epithet upon the head of Mr. Polk? Was he not universally denounced as a coward, a cipher, a disgrace to the Presidential honors? Is it not natural that the British ministry, who look to the Whig press of this country as their authority, should be influenced by the incessant misrepresentations of that press, and should, at the very outset of the new administration, attempt to take advantage of the supposed weakness and vacillation of the President, to alarm him into a recognition of British claims, or at least to a less zealous advocacy of the rights of the U. States? We doubt not that the course of the Federal press in the late canvass, induced the learned yet unprincipled Brongham to represent Mr. Polk as an "obscure individual," whom this country had the folly to elevate to the Presidency, though he was the popular choice. - This same changeling Lord, further, denounced the United States, because a portion of them "tolerate domestic slavery," and have no "paid their debts." Upon these considerations, he bases his violent and insolent philippic, and bravely appeals to British patriotism to stand more taxes, and to add new millions to the navy estimates. - But Mr. Polk will disappoint all these deluded gentlemen. He will prove himself worthy of the confidence of a nation of twenty millions of freemen. He will act upon the wise and saving principle - "Ask nothing but what is right, submit to nothing that is wrong." We look to his coolness sagacity, firmness and sound sense, to conduct this troublesome question in the proper manner. While he will leave nothing undone to secure an honorable settlement of the difficulty, we feel satisfied that he will, in no event, sacrifice the rights or the honor of the Union. - If Great Britain, in her
unquenchable thirst for new territory and unlimited power, should force us into a war, in which, according to the London Times, “no usages, however barbarous, are to be deemed unwarrantable, which is to expose our commerce to the privateers and adventurers of all nations,” in which great Britain is “to raise the standard of freedom among a population of slaves,” and to subsidize the savage Indians and the cruel Mexicans, however “repugnant it may be to the interests of civilization” - we trust that our whole people, or every shade of party, will be prepared to defend our rights, and, however “obscure” the President may be, to sustain him in his support of the country’s honor. Such a war will be repudiated by all civilized nations, and we confidently hope that their frowns may cause England to hesitate, and may avert the calamities of a bloody struggle. We most anxiously pray for a continued peace - but if hostilities are forced upon us, the people will be as zealous and united in resisting foreign insolence as in our past glorious struggles.

But suppose Mr. Clay were now President - would he not pursue a similar course to the “obscure” Mr. Polk’s? Would his friends or the country expect or desire a different tone? He could not do so without a violation of his public pledges, without a disgraceful surrender of American rights, and independence of action. Let our Whig friends read the following extracts from a letter of the intelligent Washington correspondent of the Journal of Commerce, and then, in their consciences condemn, if they can, the conduct of Mr. Polk, or desire that the declaration of the Inaugural had been witheld, or, in the slightest degree, modified:

"His (Mr. Clay’s) course during the late war, as the old Federalists well remember, did not savor much of the anti-American spirit of the present day; and, were he now President, it is my opinion, that he would disappoint his friends on this subject, and become almost as odious to John Bull as this terrible James K. Polk.

But Mr. Polk has never yet gone quite so far as Mr. Clay has in opposition to British pretensions to Oregon! Mr. Clay, in 1838, declared in the Senate that he considered the occupation of the mouth of Columbia river by the British as a contravention of the Treaty of Ghent!! This declaration appeared extravagant at the time, because, in virtue of the convention made afterwards a joint occupancy was stipulated for, and the country was open to the enterprise of both nations. - But the assertions lately made in the British Parliament prove that Mr. Clay was correct, and that the joint occupancy was a one-sided affair - It was Mr. Clay himself who introduced, in the Treaty of Ghent, the apt word "possession," which, as you have seen, now so much embarrasses the pretensions of Great Britain. He introduced that word as properly descriptive of the sort of hold we had upon the mouth of Columbia river prior to the late war. The mutual restoration of all possessions held before the war, stipulated for by the Treaty, was not affected by the sale and transfer to the British Company of the private establishment of Astoria.

The manner in which Great Britain has occupied the Territory of Oregon, whether in contravention of the Treaty of Ghent and the Convention of 1827, or not, has given much anxiety to our statesmen, and not without reason, as it now appears, for, as it was predicted in 1838, it is made a pretext of a title to the territory.

In 1838, Dr. Linn declared that, unless we asserted our title to the territory, the right to it would, in five years, pass from us forever, and he more than once gave it as his opinion, that Great Britain would never surrender it, without a struggle. It now seems that she never will." [MSH]
Since the above was penned, we have seen in the New York Journal of Commerce a positive contradiction of the report, that the Government of Texas is disposed to defeat the measure of Annexation. The editor of that paper has received his information from a gentleman from Washington, the capital of Texas, and on his authority remarks:

"It is not true that our Charge d’Affaires, May Donelson, on his arrival at the Texan seat of government, was treated with discourtesy or neglect. Information of his approach reached President Jones, (whose residence is about four miles out of town,) on Saturday afternoon. He accordingly remained in town during the evening and night, in order to receive him. Maj. Donelson, however, did not arrive until near noon on Sunday. He was soon after waited upon by the Secretary of State, who offered to present him to the President on that day, if such was his pleasure notwithstanding it was Sunday, and the President was unwell. It was finally agreed with the entire acquiescence of Major D., that the interview should take place on the following morning. Accordingly, as early as half past 10 o’clock A.M., on Monday, he was courteously received by the President. Everything went on pleasantly, and, so far as is known, to Major D.’s entire satisfaction.

The Journal says, that the duties of Mr. Smith the Texan Secretary of State, are performed by Ebenezer Allen, Esq., during his absence; and his visit to England, it is contended, may relate to objects entirely distinct from the subject of annexation. It denies, also, all that has been said in the New Orleans papers respecting the movements of the British and French Ministers, thus:

"It is not true that Messrs. Elliot and Saligny, the British and French Ministers, left Texas for the purpose of visiting Washington city. Mr. Elliot had no special object in going to the U. States, other than recreation. Mr. Saligny went only to New Orleans, where he is accustomed to spend the greater part of his time, making occasional visits to Texas, as circumstances require. - It is not true that Messrs. Elliot and Saligny visited the Texan capital (Washington) immediately on the arrival of the British frigate Euridice, with despatches from Vera Cruz. The despatches which induced them to visit Washington, were not brought by the Euridice, but came from England and France, by way of the West Indies. the despatches by the Euridice met them on their return from Washington to Galveston, and after opening them and partially reading them, they continued their course to Galveston, and had not again visited Washington when our informant left."

Friday, May 9, 1845 RE42i1p1c6 1,346 words.

OREGON AND ENGLAND

The Northern papers are filled with speculations in regard to the decided tone of the British Ministry on Mr. Polk’s Inaugural, which speaks of our right to Oregon being “clear and indisputable.” Many of the journals, especially of the Whig class, predict war. Now, we are not at all alarmed. England may bluster for a while - she may take advantage of our supposed collision with Mexico to embarrass the steady march of her powerful rival, the United States, and to push on her own fanatical crusade against our domestic institutions - she may desire to extend her grasping ambition, and snatch another portion of the American continent - but there is a strong hand at home, which will hold back her growling Lion. her Ministry know too well, that a war with this country will cut off her supply of cotton - and produce starvation, suffering and rebellion among her countless manufacturing classes. The first blow aimed at us will arouse, within the limits of Great Britain, a fierce and resistless opposition. The restless elements of discord and rebellion will, at once, assume a regular and alarming form - and her political fabric will be shaken from its foundations. The New York Herald presents the following new and interesting views:

"The ministerial organs in England, therefore, greatly misrepresent the popular sentiment of that country, when they declare that the anti-American feeling is universal. It is not so by any means. The Irish papers received by the 'Caledonia' are full of the most enthusiastic rejoicings at the passage of the Texas Annexation resolutions in our Congress, and express their most fervent wishes that Oregon also may be soon annexed to this republic. They are in ecstasies at the probable collision of the two countries, and anticipate, in the event, the most signal triumph of Democratic principles. And such is the feeling of thousands and thousands of the masses in England. But they have no organs. We do not hear any distinct and public expression of their opinions and aspirations. But, for all that, deep, strong and irrepressible in England is the swelling popular tide in favor of republican America - so strong; that it will sweep the tory Ministry from power before they could engage in any war with this country."

Whilst we would most earnestly deprecate a war with England, of which we see no prospect - we would not recede an inch from our national rights. If Oregon be ours, let us maintain it at all costs. Let, however, no rash proceedings mark the course of our Government. Let a wise, prudent, dignified and enlightened policy be pursued. Let all fair and honorable measures be resorted to, which, while they will maintain our rights will settle the controversy to the satisfaction of both nations, if it be possible. The world will no sustain England in an unjust and unrighteous war with the United States. Her own people will rebel against a Government that would shed the blood and waste the treasures of millions, to gratify the rampant ambition of their proud rulers.

While on this subject, it gives us sincere pleasure to render to a distinguished son of Virginia, the honor justly due for having advocated, at so early a period, our claims to Oregon. That sterling Democratic journal, the Wytheville Republican, contains the following interesting article:

CLAIM EVERY JUST HONOR
OREGON AND ITS EARLY ADVOCATES

"It is now many years since the Congress of the United States first deemed Oregon worthy of its special notice. The champion of that interesting question was the late Governor Floyd, of Virginia, then a very distinguished member of Congress from that State. He gathered an immense body of facts together, in support of our claim, and yearly pressed the subject upon the consideration of the House of Representatives of the United States. After he became Governor of Virginia, the late Dr. Linn, one of the Missouri Senators, was the ardent and able advocate of the Oregon question till his death.

The nation is deeply indebted to both of these gentlemen. Governor Floyd received a party of his education in this State. Perhaps on that account we feel a deeper interest in his fame. We learn that he had left a son behind him a young gentleman of high promise, who is now Secretary of the Territory of Wisconsin, appointed about a year since by President Tyler. Perhaps this gentleman may yet be settled in Oregon - a territory that the far reaching hand of his father was so anxious to keep a firm hold upon, for the benefit of our growing Republic."

The lamented John Floyd, late Governor of Virginia, resided within twenty miles of this village. He represented the adjoining district in the Congress of the United States for many years. It was at the Thorn Spring, in Montgomery county, now Pulaski, that his sagacious mind, far-reaching thought, and ardent love of country and her institutions - fiery zeal for liberty and its spread, philanthropic desire for the unlimited enlargement of the area of freedom, led him to look through the vista of time, and the far off future, and proudly to contemplate the grandeur, and glory, and power and magnitude of these United States - led him to imagine the swell of her territory the multitudes of her sons, the honor of her citizenship. At the Thorn Spring, by his own fireside, with forethought and right, he resolved to maintain and assert the right of these States to possess and occupy the far distant Oregon, the plains of the Columbia, the shores and harbors of the Pacific. Passing over thousands of miles of mountains of desert, and unexplored region, he would dwell on Oregon and the value of it - he would occupy and possess the country, bring it into the Union, grant to it the benefits of our Government and make it parcel of our dominion.

So indomitable was his temper, so ardent his hope, so fixed his judgment of the importance of action, and the utility of possession, that session after session he would bring his favorite project before the American public in Congress assembled. Such was his perseverance on the subject of Oregon, that he acquired to himself in this District, in his own District, and among many friends scattered through the States, the familiar title of “Old Oregon.”

What Gov. Floyd then saw at hand, but what the representatives of the nation looked upon as visions of the future, too distant to be worthy of present consideration, has, within eight years from his death, and within ten years of his last urging it upon the consideration of the Congress of the country, became a reality. - And now, Oregon! Oregon! Oregon! is the cry from the Atlantic in the Rocky Mountains; and thousands are wending their way to the Oregon, despite the want of governmental action and aid to comfort them in the enterprise.

As we said in the outset, “Claim every just honor,” so we claim for Virginia, ever generous, ever adventurous, ever dirining liberty to the nations, the honor of first understanding and asserting the value of the acquisition and the magnitude of the mighty question and empire just ahead - the Oregon question, the Oregon Territory. We narrow the claim - we come over the Alleghanies, and in their heartsome, life and liberty breathing bosom, we locate the claim of “FIRST ADVOCATE OF OREGON.” We go farther - we claim for Col. John Floyd, of Montgomery, within twenty miles of Wytheville, the honor, as foremost of all the men of all the Union, to start press, and forward into motion, the project of the “Occupation of Oregon.” The “Occupation of Oregon,” now one of the mightiest questions of the day. A question fraught with mighty consequences, for good or for evil, to the Republic, and the world. Hail for Oregon! Sacred be the memory of John Floyd. Hurrah for Polk, Dallas, Texas and OREGON!" [MSH]

OREGON AND ITS EARLY ADVOCATES

Friday, May 9, 1845 RE42i1p1c7 373 words

THE OREGON NEGOTIATION

The National Intelligencer of this morning, might very well have saved itself the necessity of reading its long homily to the administration and the people. We do not understand that the Executive of the United States has any intention of closing the door to any negotiation with Great Britain upon the Oregon question, and therefore, we might suppose that all the inferences which the National Intelligencer draws from the supposed "violent ground" that the United States (for instance) "will negotiate" upon such a course, leaving us the "alternative of submission or war" - and all the denunciations which it so gratuitously pours forth upon the "shocking absurdity," and the barbarous doctrine that we "ought not to negotiate," (which the National Intelligencer attributes to some of the Republicans,) and that thus we revive "that old umpirage of private rights - the wager of battle" - are entirely misplaced.

We certainly do not understand, that the negotiation about Oregon is at an end; or that our administration about Oregon is at an end; or that our administration is determined or willing to determined or willing to terminate it, or that there is no prospect of amicably adjusting the dispute, or that it must necessarily end in breaking up the peace of two great countries. We see no necessity, therefore, or analyzing the triple alternative, which the National Intelligencer is please to make out in its elaborate article of near one column and a half. We yet trust that "the case
Instead of giving its gratuitous and superfluous advice to our cabinet, we should have been better pleased to see the National Intelligencer coming out with the expression of its own opinions on the question itself. We should have been much better satisfied to have seen the National Intelligencer vindicating the just claims of our own country against the assaults and arguments of British tongues and British pens; and we still hope to see that journal thus employed, and not again, as in the case of Texas, counteracting the rights and the interests of our own country. [Washington Union] [MSH]

Friday, May 9, 1845 RE42i1p2c1 1,453 words.

ARRIVAL OF THE HIBERNIA

From the N.Y. Express, Extra, May 7

Fourteen days Later from Europe

The Steamship *Hibernia*, Capt. Kyrie, arrived early yesterday morning. She left Liverpool on the 19th ult. and her passage has been delayed by ice, by which she was so much obstructed, that, as we learn, on one day, she only made nine miles. She brings one hundred and five passengers.

In commercial matters there was not much change. Trade was dull in the manufacturing districts, and raw cotton had felt the influence of the dullness. The money market had been agitated by war rumors and the position of the ministry, but had acquired more firmness at a later period. The rate of discount was still between two and tree per cent.

The summary of Wilmer & Smith’s *European Times* alludes to the rumors that Texas had repudiated the annexation with this country, and observes:

“This intelligence has not proved unpalatable to the popular taste on this side of the water. It has excited some surprise, because it was unlooked for. Every one regarded the question as virtually settled when Congress adopted the annexation, and people had resigned themselves calmly to what they could not prevent. This hiatus has awakened fresh hope in the public mind that Texas will continue independent and that, by repudiating the alliance with the leviathan Republic, it may afford, irrespective of the United States a supply of cotton for the English manufacturer. The cotton-spinner and abolitionist took alike with hope to Texas, and they fix their faith in President Jones.”

The *Times*, however, does not put much faith in the rumors, and it foretells the consummation of annexation. We copy its remarks on the Oregon question and other matters:

“Another American topic - the Oregon - has attracted much attention since it was mooted in Parliament by Sir Robert Peel and the Earl of Aberdeen. The language of President Polk has, of course, been unsparingly condemned, and, in the same breath, the merits of the English, in contradistinction to the American claims, have been set forth and insisted upon. But this is not all - the dernier resort - war - has been pointed at unmistakeably in some of the most prominent and respectable journals, as a thing that is to be, that must be, unless the Americans lower their pretensions. When the public begins to dwell upon the hostile alternative for a length of time, war looses its horrors in the excitement which such a frame of mind produces, and thus is created a restless, morbid desire for the ‘fray’, in anticipation of the tortuous negotiations for diplomacy. By such means national antipathies are engendered, and the repose of the great family of nations is disturbed; first, by a bloody association of ideas, and next by the actual conflict itself. Surely, a great responsibility rests upon the heads of those, who, though indiscretion, or a passion for temporary popularity, risk the peace and happiness of nations. Whether wisely or not, English pride is always taking offence at what is regarded as American bombast, and the pugnacious feeling thus grows, like jealousy, by what it feeds on. - Americans are naturally and becomingly proud of the country, its institutions, its greatness, and its amazing strides in prosperity. This praiseworthy feeling, becomingly entertained or judiciously enunciated, would command, and its entitiled to respect. But when it is put toward offensively, as is too often the case, with, ‘We thashed you when we were three millions, we can the more readily do so now that we are nineteen millions’ - neither, the boast nor the inference is calculated to produce very pacific retorts. As to the Oregon itself, that appears to be the last matter regarded in the controversy. It is the manner, not the matter in dispute, that is offensive, and sheers are provoked neither pleasant nor complimentary. Let us hope that the storm will blow over; a hostile conflict between the countries would inflict deadly injuries on both. England would, probably, suffer most; for, at the outset, her manufacturing population would become paupers by the cotton trade being out off; and the commerce of America would be literally swept from the ocean. Fortunately, the papers which provide mental food for the public mind have had their attention distracted, during the last week of two, from this painful topic, by the events in Parliament and out of doors, connected with the great agitation respecting the Roman Catholic College of Maynooth.

The agitation is daily increasing. Meetings are everywhere called, strong denunciations are made and fierce resolutions are passed, respecting the increased grant to that seminary for the priests of Ireland, which Sir Robert
Peel has announced his intention of carrying. Since the Reform Bill has passed, the public mind has never been so excited. It is strange to see parties of the most dissimilar views agreeing and coalescing in opposition to the grant. The Dissenters, who advocate the voluntary principle, and the Episcopalians, who cling to an endowed establishment, are busily engaged in fighting side by side, against the proposed measure. What the upshot will turn, a few days will show. At present, the crusade is proceeding at railroad pace. The whole country, through its length and breadth, is stirring; and the discordant materials to which we have alluded, sinking their differences, work hand in hand in the common cause. Never did leader make followers 'knuckle under' as Peel does. His tergiversation is as palpable as it is offensive, and many of his followers are determined no long to 'march through Coventry' with him. But he will weather the storm, and triumph over it. He is a man of the most fixed and determined courage. Nothing daunts him, sustained as he is by the conviction that he is of more use to his party than his party is to him. If his friends and adherents discard him, they will be handed over to the tender mercies of the Whigs: 'out of the frying pan,' as the adage has it 'into the first.' He knows this, and acts accordingly.

Mr. O'Connell, anxious that the increased grant should pass, has come forward to express his hearty approval of it; but he has done this in a way the best calculated to embarrass Peel, not to assist him. What he gates is undeniably true, but it is not always discreet to speak the truth. If his object be to facilitate the passing of the measure, his tactics are the most likely to prevent that result. He says, in substance, that agitation has produced the ministerial measure, and that agitation will do more - it will cause Peel to introduce a bill for the Repeal of the Union! A fine handle this - and it has been adroitly seized - for fighting against a concession which is received in such a spirit. For Mr. O'Connell to crack his jokes and sustain the dropping spirit of his followers by such means, is more creditable to his sense of drollery than to his better judgement."

The sugar duties have been debated in the upper branch of the legislature, and the Lord Stanly figures amongst the orators; but all interest in the subject is at an end, as the object of the bill is attained - and for the rest all is "leather and prunella."

The other topics in Parliament may be briefly summed up. Another Post-office discussion, arising out of Mr. Duncomb's efforts to have the power taken from the Home-office of opening letters; a debate on the state of the Universities, introduced, with some telling truths, by Mr. Christie; and interment in large towns - all of which provoked talk, but led to nothing practical.

Mr. Everett, the American Minister, entertained a distinguished party of the nobility on Thursday. Amongst the number was Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston, Mrs. S. Rogers, Lord and Lady Denman, Lord Brougham, and Dowager Lady Holland.

The stock of American cheese on hand, in London, is equal to the whole stock of English cheese of every kind.

Mr. Templeton is about to embark for America where he intends giving a series of lectures on Scottish music.

In the Nisi Prius court, at the Hereford assize, there were thrity barristers and two cases.

We learn that Thomas Hood is seriously, if not mortally ill. The amount of money coined at the mint in twenty years, ending 1836, was upwards of sixty-seven million sterling, the cost of coinage £421,000.

Messrs. Alsopp, the great brewers of ale for the East Indies, whose place of business is at Burton, have failed, it is said, in the sum of £300,000.

John Benjamin Health, Esq., was elected Governor, and William R. Robinson, Esq., Deputy Governor, of the Bank of England, for the ensuing year, on the 15th. [MSH]

Friday, May 9, 1845 RE42i1p2c1 204 words.

GOVERNOR OF OREGON

The Halifax Herald says: "We have it upon good authority, that Sir. George Simpson, a passenger in the Caledonia, for Boston, goes out as Governor of the Oregon Territory - if so, the question of right and possession will be brought to a speedy issue.

[Baltimore Sun.]

We suspect there is some mistake in the above. Sir George Simpson has been acting as deputy, (or resident) Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company, the (Governor himself being in London,) and we doubt very much whether the Deputy Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company has not been mistaken for a Governor of Oregon. It is also a questionable problem, whether the Crown would, or perhaps could appoint, under present circumstances, a Governor of Oregon. But, if the above paragraph should prove to be correct, there remains to be shown how far this overt act of appointing a Governor of the Oregon Territory does not amount to a sort of livery of seisin; whether Great Britain is not claiming, of right, the territory over which she appoint an acting Governor; and whether the British ministry can property reconcile the objections which they making to the President's simple declaration in his Inaugural, to an
Later from Mexico

From the New Orleans Tropic, April 29th

By the arrival last evening, of the schooner Yucatan, from Vera Cruz, we learn that Gen. Almonte had arrived at that port, where he still remained when the Yucatan left. We also learn, that four American, two Spanish, one English, and one French, men of war were lying at Vera Cruz. We did not receive any letters or papers by this arrival, but thanks to the courtesy of our neighbors of the Bee, who received full files of Vera Cruz papers to the 21st and city of Mexico papers to the 17th April, we are enabled to lay before our readers the following particulars.

The Joint Committee of the Mexican Congress, to which had been referred the subject of Texas, reported at length on the 7th April. We have no space to devote to a description of the bombastic phraseology of this document, but at once proceed to give the concluding part, as furnished to us by the Bee. It recommends two projects, as follows:

The first, is preceded by a preamble, declaring that, whereas, the United States have resolved to annex the territory of Texas, and, whereas, such a mode of appropriating foreign Territory to which other nations lay claim, is a monstrous innovation upon the peace of the world and the sovereignty of other powers; and whereas, this act had long been in preparation, even while the U. States were professing peace and friendship for Mexico; and while the latter respected and observed scrupulously the terms of existing treaties between the two countries; and whereas, the said annexation is a violation of every conservative principle of society, an assault upon the rights of Mexico, an insult to her dignity as a sovereign nation, and menace her independence and political existence. Therefore, the Congress of the Mexican Republic solemnly declare, that the law of the United States for the annexation of Texas to the American Union, in no respect impairs the rights which Mexico possesses, and will maintain, to that department:

Furthermore, that the United States having disregarded the principles upon which are based treaties of amity, commerce and navigation, and more especially of boundary, Congress considers them violated by the U. States.

And finally, that the unjust usurpation of which it is sought to make Mexico the victim, makes it her duty to take up arms in her defence, to oppose such usurpation, and with the full and rightful determination to use all her resources and power to prevent the annexation decreed by the United States.

The second project consists of four articles, as follows:

First - The Mexican nation calls upon her sons to defend their national independence, threatened by the usurpation of the territory of Texas, which is sought to be consummated by a decree passed by Congress and sanctioned by the President of the United States.

Second - Therefore the Government will consider itself at liberty (prodra poner) to call forth its entire, permanent and active military force, agreeably to the authority given to it by existing laws.

Third - For the preservation of public order and the maintenance of her institutions, and, if necessary, as a reserve for the army, the Government, in virtue of the power granted to it on the 8th of December, 1844, may levy the troops to which said decree refers, under the name of defenders of independence and the laws.

Fourth - With a view to the efficient maintenance of the rights of the Republic the Government is authorized to procure all extraordinary resources which may be deemed necessary, making known to Congress the necessary steps to be taken, conformably to the Constitution.

We do not find any account of any action by the Mexican Congress on the foregoing projects. They have been laid before that body, and that is all we learn respecting them. It is clearly evident, that the Government and people of Mexico are decidedly indisposed to surrender Texas, and the tone of the public journals is exceedingly warlike; still, as long as the Mexicans confine themselves to making reports in Congress, and firing boring broadsides in their newspapers, there does not seem any immediate prospect of hard knocks. To be sure, it has been suggested that Mexico may undertake to annoy us by crippling our commerce in the Gulf, but while there are some of our floating batteries well manned and equipped, in the immediate vicinity of Vera Cruz, there appears to be but a slender chance for the Mexican flag to become distinguished on the high seas.

The agency for the payment of the Mexican debt to Great Britain, has been taken from the house of Lizardi, in London, and given to Schneider & Co.

We copy from the slip furnished to us by the "Bee," the following account of another earthquake in the city of Mexico on the 10th April. three days after the former one, and which appears to have been very destructive:

act of this description. - Union. [MSH]
ANOTHER EARTHQUAKE. - Our readers doubtless remember the details we published a few days since, of a frightfully destructive earthquake which was experienced at Mexico on the 7th inst. We have now to add a repetition of this awful disaster in the Capital on the 10th inst. An examination of the papers has failed to enable us to discover many details of the amount of ruin and desolation occasioned by this convulsion, but from the fact that the journals unite in describing its effects as terrific, we presume the destruction must have been great. The Diario of the 11th states, that the earthquake occurred about 10 o’clock, A. M., and lasted forty seconds; that it overthrew many new buildings and many other that had escaped the former visitation: that most of the inhabitants, stricken with terror, left their houses, and took refuge in the open fields and public squares, passing the night without shelter, and in the utmost consternation. The “Veracuzano,” of the 14th instant, states that private letters furnish a gloomy picture of the desolation that has fallen upon Mexico. The “Hesperia” of the 12th states, that the earthquake of the 10th completed the destruction of the cupola of Santa Teresa, and increased the damage done to the churches of Santo Domingo and San Francisco. But for the shortness of its duration, the entire city would have been laid in ruins. Mexico did not suffer alone. The shock was felt in a number of towns and villages within a radius of several hundred miles. At Puebla the earthquake was experience on the 7th about 4 o’clock, P.M., but its effects were comparatively slight. Several churches were injured, and many private edifices greatly damaged, though none were absolutely destroyed. At Acuartillo and Toluca the effects of the shock were more considerable. At Guadalajara, Morelia, and Vera Cruz, the earthquake was experienced both on the 7th and 10th, but on neither occasion was the business very serious.

[From the N. O. Bulletin, April 29.]

The press of Mexico continue their philippies against the United States, the journals of the Departments being even more violent than those of the capital. Many journals of the Departments being even more violent than those of the capital. Many journals of influence are also, very server upon the temper of Senor Cuevas’s memorial to the Chamber of Deputies, the fault alleged against it being, that it does not call loud enough for war. If the tone of these journals is to be taken as a manifestation of the public feeling, the whole country is panting for war, with an ardor that the most prudent Government could not resist. We apprehend, however, that a great part of the censure that is dealt out to the Secretary many be traced to party hostility, and that the martial spirit which makes so much display, is rather an effort of those who are opposed to the existing Government to raise a popular clamor, than an indication of any real desire for war. - The Government paper, we observe, maintains amidst the structures of the opposition, a guarded silence on the whole subject. [MSH]

Friday, May 9, 1845 RE42i1p4c4 613 words.

LATE FROM TEXAS

We yesterday received the Galveston News of April 26th. It is filled with notices of large and enthusiastic popular meetings, in favor of immediate annexation, on the terms of the joint resolutions. At a numerous meeting in Galveston, our worthy friend Dr. Levi Jones (in whose mirth-producing company we endured some of the hardships, and enjoyed the various pleasures, or a prairie lite in Texas, a few winters ago) brought forward a preamble, which, after regretting the call of an extra session for so late a day, winds up with a series of resolutions, some of which, unanimously adopted, we extract as follows:

*Resolved, That in our most deliberated and fixed opinion, the Government of the United States has practically demonstrated itself to the world, after an experience of more than half a century, as a system emphatically the most perfect ever yet devised by the wisdom of men, in any age or country, for securing the largest share of benefits to the largest number of those whole live under it; and, consequently, that the unreserved tender of the right of equal participation in all its advantages, constitutes the highest earthly boon which could be offered to the acceptance of any people. Therefore,*

Resolved, That, even with the unqualified recognition of our independence by Mexico, with the fullest boundaries ever claimed by the Republic, we should deem it equally desirable for us and our children, that annexation to the United States should be effectuated.

Resolved, That if any of the Governments of Europe have heretofore, during the long period of our manifold calamities, interested or exerted themselves in kind offices for Texas, with even an ostensible showing, in good faith, or a liberal and generous disinterestedness, we shall, upon the slightest proof of it, hold ourselves bound to award to them our most grateful acknowledgement; but at the present crisis we should be most grateful for an entire suspension of their agency in fixing our political destiny.
Resolved, That the general terms of annexation as tendered by the Government of the United State to Texas, we consider, in the main, just, and if not quite so definite and favorable as might be asked, yet when consummated, will place that Government rather in our power in relation to any details of arrangement which may afterwards become necessary, and, in voting upon which, we shall ourselves have a voice. And so far as our intercourse in this Republic has extended since their promulgation, it has been clearly apparent, that those men only who are in heart opposed to great measure, pretend to want further negotiations, & c., but that the wisdom of Solomon did not more unerringly ascertain the true friends of annexation, by the simple inquiry, "do you want any more, or any new negotiations?"

The News gives the following summary of public sentiment:

"Hitherto our primary assemblies have simply given an expression of public opinion upon the measure of annexation, in which they all so completely concur, that the various resolutions are in fact nearly identical. We have already seen the proceedings of nearly twenty meetings in as many counties; and at this moment there is probably not a county in the Republic which has not had its meeting, and expressed it concurrence in the overtures of the United States. They all (as far as heard from) not only desire annexation on the terms proposed, but they desire it immediately. They all deprecate delay as extremely dangerous, if not fatal, to the best interests of this country. They all express an earnest desire for action - for speedy and immediate action - and nearly all express a disapprobation of any further negotiations with foreign powers." [MSH]

COTTON FOR CHINA.

"The ship Farewell cleared from Mobile to Canton on the 23d ult., with 2784 bales of cotton on board - the first that has been shipped from that place to China. It is a Boston adventure." [N.Y. Evening Mirror.]

What a rich and magnificent market the China trade is about to open to our country! Give us Oregon and a speedy and commodious transportation across the Rocky mountains - and authentic travelers inform us that there is a natural Pass of a very slight elevation - and we shall distance all nations in developing the plentiful commercial treasures of the East Indies and China. Why do we want Oregon? is the cry of many timid reasoners. The answer is plain: We wish it, because it will carve our new opening for our commerce, agriculture and manufactures. The delusive "Home Market" is too confined for the impulsive energies of this great nation. If possible, we would have the whole world for our market - and we look, with confidence, to the enlightened action of our Government, to unfetter commerce and add a new impetus to all the industrial pursuits of our people. [MSH]

THE RIGHT SPIRIT OREGON!

We are glad to see the Lexington (Ky) Observer, (whig) published at Mr. Clay’s door, dropping its party character for the time, and though grumbling a little at Mr. Polk’s course, avowing its firm resolution to maintain the rights and honor of the nation, if unfortunately, all negotiations should fail. The Observer declares, that our right to Oregon "rests upon an indestructible basis." Mr. Polk conceives the same opinion, and why should he not express that opinion, in behalf of our rights?

"Whatever nay by thought of the propriety of the course pursued by Mr. Polk in his Inaugural Address, upon this subject, whilst it was still under negotiation, we are wholly at a loss to know how it is that Lord Aberdeen, Lord John Russell and Sir Robert Peel can state which such unqualified boldness, that their title to the Oregon is clear and indisputable. We do not profess to understand in full the various grounds of title as set up by both Governments; but so far as our examination goes, we have come to the conclusion, in which we believe we are fortified by every American statesman, of every party, that the claim of the U.S. is, beyond the reach of doubt or equivocation, paramount to that of Great Britain. Whether the claim is made to rest on ancient or modern discovery and settlement, or whether it rests upon treaty, we believe that it is susceptible of demonstration that the American title rests upon an indestructible basis. We will not at present, enter upon that examination. We still hope that an honorable adjustment may be effected, although from the tone of the debate in the British Parliament, so enthusiastically cheered and acquiesced in by the whole Parliament, it must be apparent to all that the peace of the country hangs upon a most precarious foundation.

We cannot say that we were unprepared for this, since the Great Western brought out the news as to the manner in which the annexation of Texas was received in England. How far that measure has operated to produce this warlike demonstration by the British Parliament, we know not; but unquestionably it has had its due weight in blackening with clouds the horizon of our Foreign Affairs. This, as we have before said, constituted with us one of the first objections to the mad and precipitate course of John Tyler, in the getting up and presentation of the question at the time he did. It was the doing of what no wise people ever permit - the making of a mere party question out of a grave foreign international subject.
But be the cause what it may, that has brought down upon us the united threats and denunciations of both Great Britain and Mexico, we very much fear acting in concert and co-operation; and be our confidence in those who are not at the head of affairs ever so limited, we deem it the duty of us all to imitate that policy which England has always pursued, and which is so strikingly developed in this very debate upon Oregon, and that is, to present an unbroken front as one people.

When the rights of the Nation are invaded, its territory attacked, or its honor violated, should all negotiation fail, (as we trust it will not,) and the sword be made to settle the dispute, we doubt not the present race will prove true to their revolutionary blood, and be found fully able to defend an maintain American soil and American honor, either by land or sea, against Great Britain and her almost unbounded resources.

Although we should have been glad to be spared this cup, and have had no hand in it, and although it now devolves upon those who sowed the whirlwind to direct the storm, yet upon questions like these and upon occasions like this, we must forget, if possible, the partisan, in that broad and ennobling patriotism, without which it makes but little odds where a man lives - in Europe or America - under a crowned head, or the stars and stripes of freedom." [MSH]

Tuesday, May 13, 1845 RE42i2p1c5 947 words.

THE ENGLISH MISSION - OREGON

Under this head the Charleston Mercury of Thursday gives the following seyere, though just, rap over the knuckles of the New England Federalists:

"The Boston Courier, copies the statement of the New York Herald’s correspondent, that the Mission to England had been offered to Mr. Pickens, and that if he declined, it would again be pressed on Mr. Calhoun. The Courier adds: 'If a South Carolina man is sent to England, there will be very little trouble about Oregon. The sovereignty of that almighty State care very little about adding any more free territory to the American Union.'

The Boston Courier, thought it could condense into a look the acerbity of half a century of New England Federalism, is not likely to trouble the conscience of the South, or even the 'almighty State' it holds in such honor. The acquisitions which the Courier's party have made to the free territory of the Union - where are they? We never heard of them. It is the acquisition of territory that has always trouble that body of patriots. They went into spasms about Louisiana, and the fit was repeated in the case of Texas. But these had an order of slavery. Well, what have they done for their own peculiar province of free territory? Mr. Webster was thought by many to have given away a good slice even of the sacred soil of New England, and Mr. Benton charged him on voluminous evidence, with yielding not a few swamps, &c., beyond Lake Superior. However that may be, it is certain that he never crossed the Rocky Mountains. He had perhaps the best opportunity that was ever presented of settling the Oregon question advantageously for the whole country, and he shrank from touching it. And what has Mr. Everett done for the acquisition of 'free territory?' We have not heard that our rights to the Oregon have received either new light or increased strength from him. We have reason to believe that his mission in England has been one of marked and especial imbecility - a few years of elegant idling, deserving rather to be chronicled as the travels of a Cambridge Professor, than the labors of an American Statesman."

The Mercury then takes a brief and rapid view of the Oregon question, and thus expresses its convictions as to the terms upon which the difficulty might properly be arranged:

"The claim of the United States attaches especially to the Southern part of the territory: - that of England to the Northern part. The 49th parallel would give us about there fifths of the whole country, - it would secure to us the whole valley of the Columbia river and its two great branches, and would carry through to the Pacific, the boundary of our territory this side of the Mountains. We have always believed that this boundary could be gained, and that we ought to be satisfied with it."

The next step is to determine the mode in which the negotiation is to be conducted. While there is more force in the following views of the Mercury, we are not satisfied of the correctness of the opinion, that no Southern mad should undertake the delicate duty. In a question, which vitally concerns the rights, honor, and welfare of the whole Union, nothing of a sectional character should be allowed to operate on our diplomatic arrangements. No fear of losing caste should, for one moment, deter any statesman, North or South, from lending his talents and his influence, at the call of his country, to an amicable and honorable adjustment of a contested point, on which the eyes of the whole nation are now eagerly bent. It is the part of a statesman and a patriot, to do his duty under all circumstances, and to leave it to the justice of a generous and enlightened people to award him the fame which his services truly merit. We know of no sounder umpire, no fairer or safer tribunal, than the moral engine of Public Opinion. Should, however, a special mission be resolved upon, and Mr. Van Buren be invested with the high trust which we consider not at all probably, we concur with the Mercury, as to his peculiar fitness for the honorable office - for it must be regarded by all as a source of honor and pleasure, to aid in securing the peace and defending the rights of twenty millions of freemen:

"But we did not set out to discuss the Oregon question, but to say, that we hoped no Southern man would undertake the negotiation of it. Let it be settled at Washington. Let Mr. Buchanan have whatever of glory or run is to be made out of it. No Southern man can manage this matter without either involving the country in a war, or loading himself
and his section with accusations, that will be multiplied and embittered just in proportion as they are undeserved. We trust, therefore, that if Mr. Pickens accepts the Mission to England, he will stipulate, that the Oregon kettle of fish shall be stewed at home. It is more than his or any Southern man’s reputation is worth, to carry it to London. If, indeed, it is to be dealt with elsewhere than at Washington, the proper step, in the present crisis of dispute, is to send an Extraordinary Ambassador, and we know of no man so fit for that office as the one already named by the newspapers - ex-President Van Buren. - The whole country would be satisfied with his moderation and address, and he is a proper representative of that section of the country which assumes to be alone interested in the acquisition of Oregon.” [MSH]

Tuesday, May 13, 1845 RE42i2p1c5 786 words.

OUTRAGE UPON PROPRIETY

Far be it from our wish or intention to evoke the spirit of party, when the condition of a national question, like Oregon, requires prudent and united councils and action, to adjust it satisfactorily. But many of the violent Whig journals have pursued such a hair-brained, improper course, in their attempts to pull down the new Administration, that justice and patriotism make it necessary to expose them to public censure. The most glaring instance we have met with, is in the Mobile Advertiser. Admit that the President committed a blunder in his Inaugural - a violent construction of his language, we maintain - does it become any editor or any party to raise a storm of public discontent against the Executive, with whom is entrusted the management of a delicate question, and especially by the unwarrantable and vulgar slang which characterizes the following extract from the Mobile Advertiser? Is it not the duty of every patriot, who has at heart the interests, the peace, and the honor of his country, to rally to the selected Executive agents the whole confidence of the people, in sustaining the action of the Government? Does not the Advertiser, substantially, give aid and encouragement to the enemies of our liberal institutions, and to those foreign nations, who, upon supposed claims, should think fit to originate offensive measures against the United States? Further comments are useless upon this wanton attempt to drag the President into the mire, by personal abuse. The article bears in itself its own condemnation. Its violence develops the improper spirit with which it was written, and rids the monster of its fangs. Let every one, Whig or Democrat, Greek or Trojan, read and reprobate it:

"Whatever may be the termination of this affair, the existence of the present difficulty is attributable to the imprudence, ignorance, asinine stupidity, or something worse, of Mr. James K. Polk. In his Inaugural, he stepped out of the way to make a thrust at England, and, in doing so, made a statement that cannot be sustained by facts. Such things might do on a stump, in the far west, but are disgraceful alike to himself and his country, when uttered in his Inaugural Address, as President of the United States. It was Polk’s Inaugural Message, then, we insist, that gave rise to this whole difficulty; and now how will he get out of it? Is there no way but to fight out? We shall see."

But mark the spirit of the concluding passage of the Advertiser’s article. See the parallel which he "draws between Mr. Polk and the British rulers - so disparaging to the President of our free people, who have selected him as the exponent of their wishes - so revolting to the patriotic sentiment, "Our country, right or wrong." This, too; we leave to the severe rebuke of public indignation:

"Should the Oregon question be amicably settled, no share of the merit will be due to Mr. Polk. He has done all in his power gratuitously, to throw obstacles in the way of such settlement. - He went out of his way to bully England, and it is well for the blood and treasure of both that country and this, there is not a Polk at the head of affairs on both sides of the water."

But the Advertiser will be forced to do justice to the motives and efforts of Mr. Polk, on this question. That journal seems to be so steeped in ignorance and fierce party spirit, that we take pleasure in enlightening the one and in mollifying the other. The last Union contains, at the end of a long article, the following passage, which is just what it ought to be:

"We thoroughly agree with the Cincinnati Commercial in the views which it takes about the interests of Britain, though the Minister might civilly inquire of us, what is that to us? But we may be permitted to judge of our own rights and interests; and we know that they point to peace, if it be perfectly compatible with the honor of the nation - otherwise, not. We are induced to hope that they may be fairly reconciled. We are inclined to think, too, that the Commercial leaps rather too much to the sombre view of the result. We cannot doubt, that the negotiations between the Secretary of State and the British Minister have been, or are about to be, resumed in this city, in some form or other; and we sincerely trust, that the negotiation will settle the differences, and secure the peace of these two great countries. As to the idea about the Extra Session of Congress, we have no hesitation in saying, that we have heard nothing of it here.” [MSH]

Tuesday, May 13, 1845 RE42i2p1c7 720 words

LATER FROM TEXAS.

From the New Orleans Tropic, April 30.
The steamship New York, Captain Wright, arrived here yesterday morning from Galveston, bringing papers to the 28th instant, inclusive. - There is very little news. Col. John A. Scott, of Woodville, Mississippi, Dr. F. A. Cunningham, member of Congress from the Second Congressional District of Ohio, and Mr. Herndon, United States Consul at Galveston, arrived at that port in the New York on her last trip.

In reference to the statement which has been industriously circulated by some newspapers, both in Texas and in the United States, calculated to create the impression that Major Donelson had not been received on his recent arrival at Washington, (Texas,) which the courtesy due to him, the National Register, says that it is authorized by Major D. to say that such statement is erroneous.

"He informs us," says the Register, "that he was presented by the Honorable Ashbel Smith, Secretary of State, the morning after his arrival, to his Excellency the President, who, although confined to his bed, received him kindly, and interchanged the civilities which are usual on such occasions. In that interview, we are also informed, that to a statement from Maj. Donelson of the proposals respecting annexation, which he was authorized to submit to this Government, he was frankly told by the President, that early steps would be taken to submit the whole subject to the people. The only doubt them in the President’s mind was as to the property of calling Congress; he stating, however, his impression that this step was necessary and proper."

That National Register notices a paragraph in the Houston Telegraph, in which it is stated, that Mr. Ashbel Smith, late Secretary of State, "has yielded his opinion on the subject of annexation, to the resistless current of popular enthusiasm now sweeping from one side of the Republic to the other." "We should be glad (says the Register) to be furnished with the evidence from which the conclusion is drawn, that he ever was opposed to annexation. Perhaps the editor of the Telegraph is in possession of it. The titles of the State Department will furnish none, but on the contrary, much to show that as our Minister in Europe he was ever faithful and true to American principles, and interests, and feelings, and more recently as our Secretary of State, the Friend of Annexation."

In reference to Gen. Houston's supposed opposition to annexation, the Galveston Civilian has the following:

"What despatch, document or letter informed the British Government of the facts, that he was pledged to oppose it? What were the words, or where are the facts to be found? We grieve to say, that the letter of Gen. Houston, to Gen. Jackson for instance, in favor of annexation, and assurances from high authorities - Maj. Donelson for example - that he is so, have been published; but for aught that we could ever hear or read, nothing of an opposite character from his tongue or pen has ever come before the public. We are sorry for it; but we are nevertheless confident that such is the fact. The influence of General Houston might have wrung from the U. States better terms than are now proposed, or have defeated annexation altogether; but he has not chosen to exercise it in such a way; and, so far as Texas is concerned, we fear that there is no impediment to the success of the measure under the 'conditions' and 'garanties' originating in the U. States House of Representatives."

The steamship New York brings accounts from Galveston to Saturday last. The papers contain little else than proceedings of large and enthusiastic public meetings held in the different countries in favor of Annexation. No public movement whatever has been made in opposition, while nearly every county in the Republic has either moved in behalf of the measure, or appointed a day for a public demonstration. In a number of counties, the Senators and Representatives are unconditionally instructed, immediately on the meeting of Congress, to take steps for signifying the acquiescence of Texas in the resolutions of Annexation, and for calling a convention to adapt the Constitution to the people. The only doubt them in the President’s mind was as to the property of calling Congress; he stating, however, his impression that this step was necessary and proper."

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Tuesday, May 13, 1845 RE42i2p2c1 201 words

THE WAR QUESTION

Speaking on the war question, the New York Herald shrewdly observes, that in the late "English papers there is a decided change of tone in the articles referring to the Oregon question, and the relations of Great Britain and the United States. The journalists speak in a much lower key than they did immediately after the declarations of Sir Robert Peel were made in the House of Commons." “The Morning Chronicle, the organ of the Whigs, and the Times, which speaks the sentiments of the popular masses, are now equally earnest in depreciating the idea of a war between England and this country, and they insist upon it, that the difficulty respecting Oregon will be amicably settled. Indeed, it is only in the movements of the government itself, that we can discover decided tokens of an apprehension of serious difficulty arising out of the Oregon question. It is very evident that the idea of war is not altogether scouted in that quarter. The bold and unexpected change in Peel’s Irish policy has been avowedly made in consequence of the anxiety of the minister to unite the energies of the empire against this country in case of the collision that is feared." [MSH]

Tuesday, May 13, 1845 RE42i2p2c1 165 words

UNTITLED
We want peace with Great Britain - peace with all the world; but it must be an honorable peace. We hope that the present administration will continue the negotiation: which was unfinished by the last. We trust that they will calmly discuss the subject with the British Minister - hear what he has to say - and adjust the difference, if it be possible, compatible with our rights and honor. - But it must be with a due regard to those categories. Such are our own opinions: and such were our opinions when, in 1811, we hoped that peace might be preserved with Great Britain by her doing us justice; and in 1812, when we presented and defended, to all a full meeting of the citizens of Richmond, decided resolutions calling up on Congress for war measures. These resolutions were adopted by the meeting - a fact which most of our friends in Richmond may have forgotten, but which is on record in the journals of that day.

- Washington Union [MSH]

Tuesday, May 13, 1845 RE42i2p2c1 179 words.

BRITISH MOVEMENTS

Just as our paper is going to press, we find the following as the concluding words to an article in the London Times of the 10th of April, which, coming from that source, may be considered as meeting attention:

"When we reflect on the difficulty of transporting even a party of settlers across the whole continent of America, on the impracticability of operating beyond the frontiers of the Union, either to the South or the West, and on the impossibility of reaching the Columbia by sea, except in time of peace, we are disposed to regard the actual anger of an attack on our settlements on the Oregon as purely illusory; and we have no doubt that, long before this intelligence reaches the forts on the coast of the Pacific, they will have been placed by Sir G. Sumner, and the squadron under his command, in an efficient state of defence."

We may add, that other intimations of the same nature are thrown out, though more obscurely, in other numbers of the Times, for the past month.

[Washington Union] [MSH]

Tuesday, May 13, 1845 RE42i2p4c5 141 words.

UNTITLED

The late foreign arrival proves that the fierce war-fever in England about Oregon had nearly passed off - and that the whole nation, both people and nobility, were in a terrible ferment at the success of a proposition of Sir Robert Peel to increase the grant for the education of Roman Catholic students in the College of Maynooth, Ireland. O'Connell boasts that the measure was produced by agitations, and avers his purpose to force the Premier to introduce a bill for the Repeal of the Union. As we predicted some days since, there is no danger of a war with England, because she has too many exciting interest and inflammatory questions at home, to engage her whole attention - and she cannot with a foreign nation, in the face of justice and right and the jealous frowns of the powerful nations around her.

[MSH]

Friday, May 16, 1845 RE42i3p1c4 638 words.

WHIG OPINION IN VIRGINIA

The Cincinnati Gazette, a few days since, refers to our election as follows:

"Last night's mail brought nothing additional from Virginia. Owing to the almost total absence of railways and other facilities, in this benighted State, the returns come in very slowly. The few that have been received, are so very imperfect, and unsatisfactory, that it is almost useless to publish them."

Virginia may not boast, as Ohio, of her copious "railway and other facilities," but at all events, she can well compare with her "Buck-eye" neighbor, in a sound and honest system of banking; and her finances are in quite as flourishing a condition. She may not teem with public schools, (of which Ohio, and Cincinnati in particular, has a right to boast,) and, as far as a general system of Education is concerned, she may be "benighted;" but, even with all her disadvantages, she may run the gauntlet with Ohio, in the virtue, moral condition and strong natural sense of her citizens. There is one point on which she cannot be said to be "benighted," and on which she is immeasurably before the Buck-eye State. She has always been upright in her political course. She has never swerved from the line of duty, marked out by the written Constitution of the United States. She has never lent her aid to the oppression of her sister States, in order to reap the benefits for herself. On the great political questions of the day, she has shown an enlightened and firm policy, and her influence has been felt throughout the Union. Can Ohio boast as much?
The Gazette of the next day gives the following information. It seems that the mails from "benighted" Virginia had received a few impulse - as a single had cleared up the "very imperfect and unsatisfactory returns" of the day before. That journal is right about the effect of the Texas question; but why did not the wise prophet, so learned after the news of the election had reached him, rid his mind of all doubt about the result which he so confidently, and upon such good reasons, "anticipated?" He gently raps the knuckles of the Virginia anti-Texas Whigs - always so inconsiderable in number, but now entirely swept away, like chaff before the wind. The Whig leaders of the last Virginia Legislature, such violent friends of annexation in profession, but by their acts using all their influence to embarrass and defeat its consummation, must have been amazed at the response of the people to their quibbling defence and fine-spun distinctions. They were willing to admit the propriety of the terms of admission of Texas, embraced in the joint resolution; but they insisted upon making a verbal declaration, that they would not touch the constitutional question - leaving it to the superior minds and statesmanship of Messrs. Rives and Archer, to manage the whole matter without regard to the wishes of "all parties in Virginia!" it would be a source of great amusement, to interrogate the quondam leaders of the last Assembly as to their present opinion of the Texas question. Do they still quibble and split hairs about the made, when the nation has swept their flimsy footing from beneath them? On this and many other subjects, they have been taught a lesson, which for their own good and the honor of the State, we hope they will never un-learn:

"As was anticipated, the election in Virginia has resulted in the defeat of the Whigs. It is known that all parties in Virginia are in factor of the project of Annexation, which will so much strengthen the representation of the slave power in Congress. Annexation is, as a matter of course, generally popular in Virginia - and we are surprised that the Richmond Whig should change their defeat to a split of the party in Richmond." [MSH]

Friday, May 16, 1845 RE42i3p1c4 453 words.

THE ENGLISH MISSION - MR. PICKENS

"It is known that the Hon. F. W. Pickens has declined the mission to London. We are not sorry, under the circumstances, to see the public men of the State avoiding the entanglement of Federal office, and are persuaded that they thus act more in accordance with the wishes of the people, than by accepting office. We wish well to Mr. Polk's administration, and desire to be able to give it a hearty support; but it is much better for us that the leading politicians of the State should be free." - Charleston Mercury.

We confess that we do not see the force of the above reasoning, especially as the Mercury, in a previous No., had said that it "saw no reason why Mr. Pickens should decline the Mission." As the State of South Carolina wishes to give a hearty support to the new Administration, we had hoped that her distinguished sons would have lent their talents and influence towards carrying out the principles on which Mr. Polk is pledged to conduct the Government. What better means can be adopted to secure the success of Republican measure, than by introducing into the active business of the nation men of ability and influence, and of true principles?

Mr. Pickens having thus positively declined, there is much interest to know upon whom the English mission will be conferred. We have not heard any new names mentioned. But we could, if our opinion was worth any thing, put our finger upon a man in every way qualified for the delicate and responsible trust - and Virginia would rejoice, if the office were conferred upon him.

If a special mission be rendered necessary by the turn up of events, we know of no man who could better discharge its high duties, than ex-President Van Buren; and many of our most intelligent friends here accord with us in opinion. While we are utterly opposed, on many grounds, to a repetition of the melancholy picture exhibited in the case of ex-President J. Q. Adams, leaving the dignified quiet of private life, and indulging warmly and rashly in the political fight - still there are some extraordinary occasions on which the rule may be wisely departed from, and the Oregon difficulty we look upon in that light. No American citizen, even though he may have attained the highest eminence on earth, could weaken his elevated position, or detract from the dignity and propriety of his conduct, by Yielding to the call of his country and accepting the commission, with the sole object of securing the national honor and peace, temporarily threatened by danger. One thing there can be no doubt about: the South will hail with pleasure the appointment of Mr. Van Buren. [MSH]

Friday, May 16, 1845 RE42i3p1c4 409 words.

MEXICAN AFFAIRS

Last Wednesday there was a rumor in Mobile, that Mexico had actually declared war against the United States, to take effect on the 15th June. The extracts below refute the story. Indeed, it appears that there is, at least, one man in the Mexican Congress who has the good sense and the firmness to express him views of the justice of the Texas cause.

Foolish and unsteady as we know the Government of Mexico to be, we cannot believe that she has reached such a
point of folly and madness, as o declare war, because the United States have agreed to admit Texas, an independent
nation, into our Union, upon certain conditions. How absurd would it be for Mexico to commence hostilities, before
any obligation is assumed by the United States, as possessors of the territory of Texas, or partners in the same
Government, and while Texas is still employed in deliberating whether she will or will not accede to the terms of
annexation! No positive engagement has been concluded - the whole matter is still under discussion - and Mexico
has not the most meager ground, upon which to array her valiant troops against us. The whole civilized world would
set their faces against such an impudent and ridiculous violation of propriety, justice and national law. The story is,
then, absurd in its very propositions - and is, moreover, contradicted by the last news from Mexico, as follows:

[From the N. O. Bulletin, May 7.]

By the schooner Creole, we have papers from Vera Cruz to the 23d ult., and private advices to the 23d inclusive.
There is, however, no intelligence of interest as the accounts from the capital are no later than before received. A
correspondent writes, that the arrival of the American squadron (consisting of the Potomac, the Falmouth, the
Somers, and the Lawrence,) off the port of Vera Cruz, created much excitement. - The sole topic of the day, he adds
continues to be "war with the United States. The people seem eager for it; but the Government hesitates."

[From the Crescent City, same date.]

A member of the Chamber of Deputies, Don Crescencio Boves, had raised a strong excitement and irritation by a
speech, in which he treated the Mexican Government with bitterness, and commented on their conduct in relation
to Texas, with energy. He declared they were unable to conquer Texas, and it was no longer theirs. A motion was made
to expel the plain speaking member. [MSH]

Friday, May 16, 1845 RE42i3p1c5 449 words.

THE STATES - CONNECTICUT

The Governor next touches upon that abominable measure of "iniquity," the Texas question. - Mark the serious and
savage tone in which he utters his views. The Federal State of Connecticut may do her worst to defeat a solemn act
of Congress, and violate our national faith, so fully and deliberately pledged, but the measure is in a state of rapid
consummation, and will son defy all opposition. We ask the particular attention of our readers to the misstatements
of facts and false reasoning in the following extracts, almost identical with the views presented by the anti-Texas
Whig orators of Virginia, and which were scattered to the winds by the popular whirlwind, on the 4th Thursday of
April. Save on the slavery question, opposition to Texas in Republican Virginia and Federal Connecticut is one and the
same thing. We have just shown what Virginia's views are on the question - and the next Congress will perfect the
will of a large majority of the nation, in spite of the threats and blustering of Connecticut:

"The subject of the proposed annexation of Texas to the Union, has acquired a deeper and more fearful interest since
the last session of the General Assembly, by the passage of a joint resolution of the two houses of Congress, with a
view to its accomplishment, and to the future admission of five new States from its territory, to extend and
perpetuate the system of human slavery, and add to its already predominant influence in the national councils. The
resolution has been passed not only in utter disregard of the remonstrances of Mexico, and of her earnest appeals to
the national honor for the faithful observance of our treaty stipulations, but in opposition to the clearly expressed will
of a large portion of the people of the United States, and for an object which they deem incompatible alike with the
spirit of the declaration of independence, with the compromises of the federal constitution, and with the great
purposes for which it is declared by the people to have been ordained and established. It has been passed, as I
firmly believe, by an usurpation of power never delegated by the people, but denied by the solemn resolutions, at
different periods, of nine of the thirteen original States.

"The object, however, is not yet consummated. - And I recommend to the General Assembly to guard against any
inference which their silence at this time might seem to justify, that a measure so unfounded in principle, so
dangerous as a precedent, and so destructive in its tendency, to the peace and prosperity of the country, and the
objects of our Union, can ever receive the sanction of the people of Connecticut." [MSH]

Friday, May 16, 1845 RE42i3p2c2 155 words.

LAST NEWS FROM MEXICO.

Letters have been received from the Home Squadron, dated at Vera Cruz, April 22. It appears that, on the 15th April,
Commodore Conner made the city of La Vera Cruz, but, owing to light and contrary winds, was not able to anchor
before the place until the 18th. At the same time, the barque Anahuac, from New York, with General Almonte on
board, anchored in the port.

The squadron communicated with the authorities at La Vera Cruz. The officer on shore was courteously
received, and the usual offers were made, of granting every facility to the squadron for attaining whatever it might be in want of. The Mexican flag was saluted, and an equal number of guns were returned by the fortress. Our minister has been informed that no further diplomatic intercourse can be allowed between the government of Mexico and the United States. With this exception, our relations with Mexico remains as before. [MSH]

Friday, May 16, 1845 RE42i3p4c3 124 words.

THE JUSTICE OF OUR CLAIM TO ENGLAND ACKNOWLEDGED ABROAD

The following is the concluding passage of a long article from the Dublin Nation, in which justice is done to our rights in Oregon, our capacity to vindicate them properly set forth, and England plainly told, that she “cannot occupy Oregon, without the consent of the United States.” In defiance of O’Connell and his fiendish machinations, it will be a difficult work for Sir Robert Peel to obtain the hearty co-operation of the gallant Irish, the compatriots of Montgomery, in an unrighteous war upon the United States:

"We do trust that Sir Robert Peel will reconsider his unjust and imprudent declaration; or that some sewer councilor will save the monarch from asserting by arms a claim so ill founded at a time so inopportune.” [MSH]

Friday, May 16, 1845 RE42i3p4c3 70 words.

WAR FEVER IN BRITISH COLONIES

Alluding to a war for Oregon, the Toronto (Canada) Globe says: - This is not the age when “Loyalty” goes by blind superstition; it is guided by discrimination. Nations are not to be ruled with a rod of iron; - but swayed by a wise and liberal policy. Let the Home Government reflect on the position of Canada, should a war unhappily arise between Britain and the United States." [MSH]

Tuesday, May 20, 1845 RE42i4p1c6 881 words.

INTERESTING FROM TEXAS

We are indebted to the Editors of the New Orleans Jeffersonian Republican for an Extra, issued on the 10th inst., from which we copy the following interesting intelligence from Texas: -


By the New York which arrived this evening, having left Galveston on the 3d, we learn that the progress of the annexation question, is steady and uninterrupted. All doubt, as to the decision of the Texan Congress upon the propositions submitted by the American Minister, Mr. Donelson, is at an end. The only hope of those opposed to annexation, was through the action of President Jones, who, it was at one time conjectured, would refuse to negotiate on the basis proposed by the resolutions of our House of Representatives, under the expectations that, in that event the President of the United States would resort to the Senate amendment offered by Mr. Walker. But the public will of Texas in favor of annexation on the terms proposed by our Minister, has been so strongly manifested, that the Executive does not hesitate to carry it out, and it may soon be said, that there is no opposition to the measure in Texas!

Great credit is due to our accomplished minister, for the successful consummation of this great event. His able correspondence with the Texian authorities - his personal exertions - and his great moral influence were sensibly felt, and his name must always be associated with this great movement.

Many contradictory rumors have been put afloat, relative to the views of Gen. Sam Houston, the most powerful man in the republic, who, it was known, had been strongly urged to support Mr. Walker’s amendment, for the purpose of obtaining terms held to be more satisfactory to Texas, than those offered by our Minister. But the old friend of Andrew Jackson was not to be caught in the same thus artfully spread by men in the British interest. He fully concedes the necessity of accepting the proposals just as they are, and relies on the United States, hereafter, to correct whatever injustice may have been done to Texas by the act of Congress. This is a decision worthy of the hero of Dan Jacinto, and highly complimentary to the magnanimity of our nation.

We may the congratulate our country upon the incorporation of Texas into the Union, as soon as the forms usual in the admission of new States can be compiled with. Texas herself has nobly resolved that nothing on her part shall be done to re-open the question in the U. States. - She will take the proposals offered by our Minister, as they are, without dotting an i or crossing a t. She will disregard the suggestions of false friends at home and abroad, and silence, by a more unanimous vote than has eve yet been given on a debated political question, all doubts of her
attachment to the American Union. Thanks to the people of Texas - thanks to the people of the United States - for this glorious result! A result worthy of both countries, and affording another brilliant proof of the wisdom of that sovereignty which in our system has been carefully withheld from both our Federal and State Governments.

We have seen the people of the United States take the annexation question our of party shackles, and demand its consummation in a voice which neither the Congress nor the President of the United States could disregard. We see, too, the people of Texas, by a movement equally decisive, telling their President and Congress, to give the finishing stroke to the great work, and no longer to enquire into what light it may be received by Mexico, or England, or France. What can be more sublime than such a spectacle! When was there ever before the union of two sovereignties, accompanied by a process so honorable to human nature? And yet there are those amongst us who would have changed the character of this spectacle, and denied to our glorious Union this evidence of its capacity to extend its blessings. But thanks again to the sovereign people of both the United States and Texas; neither the fanaticism of the abolitionists, nor the contracted views of the old Federal party, nor the wily diplomacy of Great Britain and France, have availed anything in defeating a result so essential to the fame; honor and security of our country.

We are gratified to find from the Galveston papers, that ex-President Houston is about to visit his native land, and spend the ensuing summer with his relations in the United States. It is said that he will proceed, soon after his arrival in this city, up the river to Nashville, to visit his old friend, the tenant of the Hermitage. Gen. Houston will find a cordial reception in the United States. His conduct at San Jacinto, and his successful administration of the government of Texas, but above all, his noble determination to restore Texas to the bosom of the republican family, entitle him to rank among the benefactors of the age.

Mr. Donelson and Gov. Yell of Arkansas - one of the most distinguished democrats of the West - arrived on the New York, and are now at Howlett's. [MSH]
kind friends, who have honored us with their confidence. But the Herald intimates, that, in proposing Mr. Van Buren as the depository of the high and responsible special mission to England, we have evinced a feeling of hostility towards Mr. Calhoun, and a desire to proscribe him from the public councils. Can anything be more unfounded? The history of our brief editorship disproves such an insinuation. There is not a public man in the Union whom we would sooner see honored than Mr. Calhoun, for his brilliant talents, pure character, lofty bearing and distinguished services. Even now, we should rejoice to see him invested with the high honor of negotiating the delicate Oregon question. But did not the Charleston Mercury, in explaining the refusal of Mr. Pickens to go to England, explicitly take the ground; which we deeply regretted, that none of the public men of South Carolina thought it expedient, under existing circumstances, to accept any office from the administration, or mingle in its councils? Could, then, Mr. Calhoun, after this avowal, be expected to accept the special mission? And did not the Charleston Mercury itself recommend the selection of ex-President Van Buren, as well fitted for the special mission, should it be resolved upon? Our course, therefore, sustained by the strong fact set forth, cannot be tortured into a disposition to "proscribe" Mr. Calhoun, and it must, strike the simplest observer with astonishment, that the Herald, out of such limited materials, has been able to make even a plausible defence of its position.

In common with the Charleston Mercury, we looked upon Mr. Van Buren as in every way qualified to discharge the difficult duties of a special mission, and to maintain the peace and honor of the nation. Moreover, we have the pleasure to know, that our recommendation of Mr. Van Buren meets with the sanction of some of the warmest and most intelligent friends of Mr. Calhoun in this city.

We know not whether Mr. Van Buren will have the honor of negotiating on behalf of the important interests of the United States; but we repeat our convictions, that his appointment will be an admirable one, and will be hailed with satisfaction by the whole country. [MSH]

Tuesday, May 20, 1845 RE42i4p2c6 111 words.

UNTITLED

Another Revolution in Mexico is said to be in contemplation. The "Morning Star" has information by a gentleman from Vera Cruz that Arista is dissatisfied with the new government, and that his partisans, especially the Northern Federalists, have evinced a desire to throw off the present government, under his lead, and establish a separate confederacy. This disposition for revolt is said to have been inflamed greatly by the severity exercised by Herrera's government towards the officers of Santa Anna. Gen. Reves, his late commander-in-chief, has been cashiered and sentenced to imprisonment; and General Woll is now in the city of Mexico, and expected to share the same fate. [N. O. Republican] [MSH]

Tuesday, May 20, 1845 RE42i4p2c6 78 words.

OREGON

The "New York Courier" suggests arbitration. We understand that Mr. Calhoun declined this proposition when made by the British minister - and declined it, it is said, upon grounds of the strongest character. We are content to wait for the publication of that document, with the general remark, that it is seldom, if ever, that the umpirage of a third power has been able to settle satisfactorily the controversy between two States in relation to disputed territory. [Washington Union.] [MSH]

Tuesday, May 20, 1845 RE42i4p4c2 249 words.

TITLE TO OREGON

England lays claim to a part of the Oregon territory, predicated upon the alleged discovery of the country by Sir Francis Drake, in 1579, and upon the cession by Spain, in 1790, to England concurrent jurisdiction with herself over the territory, to be made available only by actual occupation and settlement. The Albany Argus gives the following summary of the American title:

1. Discover of the mouth of the Columbia river by Capitan Gray of Boston, giving the name of his vessel to the river.

2. This discovery of the head of the same river by Lewis and Clark, under the authority of the United States.

3. The settlement of Astoria, under the auspices of Mr. Astor, an American naturalized citizen.
4. The Treaty of 1803 with the French Republic.

5. The Treaty of Spain of 1819, acquiring all rights of Spain to land North 42 degrees beyond the Rocky Mountains.

6. The Nootka Sound contest (1789) between England and Spain.

7. The Treaty of Utrecht (1763) between France and England, settling boundaries - this settlement becoming ours, as the successor of France in that part of her dominions.

8. The Treaty of Ghent 91815) restoring Astoria to the United States as American property.

9. American citizens were once in sole possession of the Columbia river region.

The same paper remarks, that “this question is evidently surrounded with complicated difficulties and embarrassments, growing too, in no small degree, out of the joint occupancy” by the United States and Great Britain. [MSH]

Friday, May 23, 1845 RE42i5p1c5 1,489 words

ACCUMULATED EVIDENCE

We have already presented to our readers public and private information, sufficient to satisfy the most sceptical, of the almost certain admission of Texas into our Union. Yesterday’s mail, however, brought us a letter from a most reliable source, which so plainly and so strongly marks out the course that things will take in Texas, that we cannot forbear to publish a few extracts. Moreover, it is pleasant to dwell upon this glorious winding up of a question, which has excited such an intense interest, and which, at one time, were we to believe the croakings of the Federal press, threatened the Union itself with dissolution. It were an instructive study, to look back at the mutilorm and vital effects developed in a single year of our national history. The Whig party were in the highest spirits - their leader, flushed with the hopes of an easy and brilliant triumph, waited only for the forms of the Constitution to be complied with, to ascend the Chair of State and promulge his lofty edicts. The Democratic party, on the contrary, were agitated by divisions, and a gloom hung over their councils, preparatory to the National Convention. At this critical moment the "Texas bomb" was thrown into the political battlefield. How different the effects produced upon the rival camps!

Mr. Clay, hitherto the warm advocate of annexation, saw danger to his prospects from the Northern Whigs, should he carry out his former opinions, and he issued a manifesto, substantially resisting all schemes for the achievement of the vital measure. Many of his friends, true to their past pledges, and true to the South, abandoned him instantly; but the large mass of the Whig Party blindly followed his tortuous course. - However conflicting the sentiments of his never ending letters, he was proclaimed to be consistent and manly. The enemies of annexation sustained his elevation, because his written views made it as clear as noon-day, that his triumph would be a death-blow to this "iniquity." The Texas Whigs on the contrary, and for exactly opposite reasons, foresaw in his success the crowning of their favor to measure. But could elements so contradictory, satisfy the American people? Could they heartily unite in raising to the highest honors a man who, however brilliant his oratory, and distinguished his talents, was found to be on both sides of the great issues of the day?

The result proved that the people were too intelligent, virtuous and immovable, to be hoodwinked by the most specious professions. The Democratic Party made Texas their prominent issue. In the North and in the South, alike, it was their watchword. There was no dodging or equivocation about them. Forced to set aside the superior claims of Mr. Van Buren, the eminent Statesman and wise President, because his views did not come up to the Democratic standard upon this question, they sacrificed all sectional feelings, and called from the quiet scenes of Tennessee the "obscure" and "unknown" James K. Polk; according to Whig logic, to represent their cause. On all the political issues, he was a true impersonation of the Jeffersonian creed. On the Texas question, he was unequivocal, firm and zealous. The line was at once distinctly drawn. The struggle waxed warm, but the Republican Party overcame all difficulties, and planted their standard upon the walks of the Constitution. The “Duck River Colonel” was promoted by the suffrages of a free people, to the position almost attained by the towering "Dictator." But, above all, the Lone Start was made to shine with new light - though it was far from certain, that political prejudices and anti-American feelings would so soon yield to the moral influence of the Republican triumph, or that we should now anticipate, with joy the early accession of so fair a member to our political family. The enthusiastic feeling for Texas, which had swept the popular masses, penetrated into the national council chambers, and a Whig Senate was compelled to record the voice of public sentiment.

In Texas itself, for a short time, some apprehension was felt for the efforts of foreign intrigue to defeat the wishes of the two countries. But, now, all fear is dissipated, and that gallant people eagerly await the moment of return to an association with their kindred and friends.

And how has all this been achieved? Calmly and peacefully, save here and there a discordant note of opposition from Northern fanatics or doomed politicians. The successful and glorious termination of this delicate question, furnishes
the most striking proof, that the bands of our blessed Union are not easily to be burst asunder - that the people of
the United States are not yet to be swayed by sectional feelings or by insidious traitors to the Constitution.

The annexation of Texas, fraught as it is with blessings to the whole Union; presents another feature of surpassing
beauty and value. It develops the fact, that an American feeling is still predominant with our people - that, when our
policy or our institutions are threatened by foreign intrigue and ambition, we are all our people, resolved to defend
our national honor and welfare.

We have received from our kind friends in Texas three copies of the National Register. Its leading articles sustain the
position advanced by our intelligent and valued correspondent:

To the Editors of the Enquirer:

WASHINGTON, TEXAS, April 23, 1845.

"Knowing your solicitude for the ratification by Texas of the conditions contained in the join resolution for her
annexation to the Union, and seeing that you have been led to express some apprehension of the result, I have
thought it not improper to state to you what may be expected.

President Jones having called Congress to meet on the 16th of June, has, of course, settled the question, so far as
the 'consent of the existing Government' was necessary. That body, known to be almost unanimous in favor of
annexation, will have nothing to do but to apportion the Districts for the election of deputies to a Convention, and to
fix a day for the meeting of these deputies who can make a Constitution and frame a provisional government in time
to elect Senators to our Congress, to take their seats as soon as the act is passed, declaring Texas a State.

The people of Texas have already, in public meetings throughout the State, expressed their approbation of the
provisions contained in the first and second sections of the joint resolutions, and would have been greatly
disappointed, had President Polk resorted to new negotiation, as contemplated under the third section, offered by
Walker, as an amendment.

You will see from the copy of the 'National Register,' herewith enclosed, that no opposition to the measure now
presented, as the basis of annexation, can be maintained. This was the only public journal relied upon to rally an
opposition; and he pulls down the flag with grace and kindness.

It was supposed, that the British and French Ministers here, obtaining from Mexico an unconditional recognition of
the independence of Texas, could weaken the popularity of the measure of annexation. They could doubtless obtain
this, and are now operating for this purpose, - but I have no idea they will present it, when they see it will be
ineffectual. If Mexico were now to do this, it would remove many difficulties that are in the way of a satisfactory
adjustment of the Western boundary: and it is not likely that Great Britain will wish to place us under obligations for
so great a favor.

Give yourself, therefore, no uneasiness about the decision to which Texas will come on this great and important
measure. She will ratify the terms of the joint resolution with a unanimity which has never been witnessed before on
any political question. The truth is, her citizens, brave, hardy, and intelligent, appreciate better than your own the
necessity which exists for the addition of Texas to the Union. They have been in closer contact with the foreign
influence which has sought to gain a foothold on their soil, and they have seen, that, if not resisted, it would acquire
not only a dangerous ascendency over Mexico, but wrest from the United States all use of Oregon and the Californias
on the Pacific. Proud may you be, therefore, of such a State, that has nursed, under so many adverse circumstances,
the love of liberty, and voluntarily brings the rich fruits of her success into the common treasury of free institutions -
that tells England, France and Mexico, that she wants no guarantees from them - that her highest ambition is to be
one of the sovereign members of the Federal Union, and to cultivate with them the means of securing to man the
highest amount of independence.

The great excitement which has prevailed here, grew out of the fear among the people that President Jones was
disposed to obstruct the measure. His call of Congress quiets this fear; and all therefore is calm." [MSH]

Friday, May 23, 1845 RE42i5p1c7 873 words.

FIFTEEN DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE

[From the New York Sun, May 20.]

Arrival of the Steamer Britannia

By the Steamer Britannia, at Boston, we have London and Liverpool files to 4th inst. inclusive.

The Steamer arrived yesterday morning, making the passage in 15 1\2 days.
The news may be summed up in brief: - Restoration of peace in Switzerland; Ireland asking for "more", and refusing to be satisfied with anything short of Repeal; a slight advance in Cotton, and feverish sensation in the London Money Market, both caused by apprehensions of a war for Oregon; English statesmen, declare that England will not give cause for war - she will act on the defensive - and as the United States Government say the same, we have a fair prospect of peace at least at present.

The Cotton market has been buoyant of late, and, in some descriptions, the improvement has reached a farthing a pound. The threatened rupture with America has cause this advance.

The ministerial measure for the endowment of the Roman Catholic College of Maynooth, has hitherto passed safely - we may almost say triumphantly - through its ever stage in the House of Commons; and its progress in the House of Lords, there can be little doubt, will be equally rapid and successful.

Trade continues to be exceedingly brisk in every department in England, and from the appearance of the weather there is a fair prospect that the crops of every description will be abundant.

Every account from the United States is most anxiously looked for, and will continue to increase until it is seen whether the little cloud in the West has grown bigger, or has disappeared.

Money is not dear, being called 2 3/8 to 3 1/4 per cent., and the Bank of England is tolerably liberal in its discounts.

Their is said to be soliciting favor at the French Court, and his absence of that hostility of England, which has been a primary stock in trade of the French journals lately, has almost disappeared - to the great comfort of the expectant Minister.

From the manufacturing districts accounts are generally favorable.

By the endowment of Maynooth, it is said the sovereign of England forfeits her title of "Defender of the Protestant Faith."

The serious illness of M. Guizot, whose life was said at one time to be in peril, has afforded food for the quidnuncs; and the anxiety of Louis Philippe about the safety of his able and accomplished Minister shows the danger to which he has been exposed.

On Friday, May 2d, there was a special meeting of the corporation of Dublin, for the purpose of proposing an address to her Majesty, inviting her to visit her loyal and faithful Irish subjects.

Rumors prevail that the Swiss federation is about to be divided into the Catholic and Protestant Cantons.

The Rev. Dr. Machale, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Tuam has written a long letter to the Premier, which is published in the papers. He compliments Sir Robert’s principles.

Some allusions have been made in Conciliation Hall to the probable effect upon the Repeal agitation of the state of the relations with France and America; and the Texas annexation and Oregon invasion have excited something like a feverish feeling, but the general impression seems to be that there will be no war.

Affairs in Switzerland are in state quo. The terms of the amnesty have been arranged, and Lucerne has promised to discharge her prisoners.

The excitement in England, Ireland, and Scotland, on the Maynooth question, is intense.

A meeting of the principal silk manufacturers of Lyons took place a few days ago in the city, to petition the Chamber of Peers against the introduction of Chinese silks into France.

The English stocks were very heavy on Friday May 2d, and the business transacted was not of a character to assist the market and give it support. The speculators still act upon the condition of politics in America.

Advices from the various ports of the United Kingdom from which emigrants depart, state that emigration to Canada and the United States is going on to a larger extent than ever before known. From Germany, also, it is equally large. The European Times says: "It is to be regretted that the authorities of New York, Boston, &c., do not establish protective societies, not in name, but in spirit, and secure the poor emigrant from the robbery and plunder to which he is subjected by the sharks who are allowed to board the ships on their arrival at their destined port."

Lord John Russell, leader of the Whig party, has presented a series of resolutions in the House of Commons, to test the strength of Sir Robert Peel’s Ministry. the resolutions are nine: - 1. To improve the condition of the laboring classes. 2. That protective duties impose unnecessary taxation. 3. That the present corn laws tend to check improvement, produce uncertainty, and hold out delusive prospects of special advantages to the farmer. 4. That the House will take said laws into consideration, and legislate there on as may be most beneficial to all classes. 5.
Friday, May 23, 1845 RE42i5p2c2 176 words.

IMPORTANT, IF TRUE

Should the following be true, there is no doubt that the proposition will come too late. The enthusiasm and union of the people of Texas are too decided in favor of annexation to the United States, to allow them for one moment to listen to the tendered bribe. News from the South will be looked for with intense interest:

LATE FROM MEXICO. - We learn, says the New York Journal of Commerce, from Captain Baker, of the bank Falmouth, which left Matanzas May 9th, that the English mail steamer from Vera Cruz arrived at Havana 7th instant, with despatches from Mr. Crawford, the British Consul, advising him that the boundary line of Texas had been defined and settled, and her independence guarantied by a Convention between England, France and Mexico. Accounts by the same arrival, state that Santa Anna has been reduced to the alternative of ten years’ banishment, or a trial for maladministration.

The above intelligence must have left Vera Cruz on the 2nd or 3d instant, which is ten days later than our previous advices. [MSH]

Friday, May 23, 1845 RE42i5p2c3 403 words.

A WORD IN EAR OF MR. POLK

From the Punch.

Hearken, Mr. Polk, President of the United States of America, to a friendly whisper of advice from Punch. You have been lately expressing an intention of seizing on the Oregon territory; and, in defiance of the British Lion, appropriating the lion’s share. You have thereby caused the said lion to wag his tail - be warned, and beware! Run not your head into the lion’s mouth. In other words, do not engage yourself in an contest with Great Britain.

In the first place, you want money to buy powder and shot, you have no national uncle, nor any body else to lend a sixpence, for those who lend sixpence to see them again.

Secondly, Mr. Polk, there is a circumstance on which it behooves you well to ponder. Among your glorious institutions, that of slavery is very conspicuous. You have a large negro population. That’s a fact, sir, as your countrymen say, a great fact. You will hardly venture to arm your negroes. You dare not trust your slaves with arms. It would not be against the friends of freedom that they would direct those weapons. Would you expect them to fight for their chains and drivers, and to defend the law of Lynch? Do you calculate they would rally round the shipping posts, and be faithful to their colors - the stripes?

On the contrary, does it no occur to you that England might present them with their freedom in cartouch boxes? We should need to send few men to Kentucky, if we sent plenty of muskets. Liberty, remember, is inscribed on the British flag; it would be awkward for you were we to hoist that flag in America.

You are yourself a slave owner Mr. Polk. What would be the effect of a proclamation of the O’Connell species, addressed to your “hereditary niggers?” Things of that, Master Polk. Nor sir; vapour, hector, bully, bluster, swagger, as much as please. Shake your fist, cock your chin, make faces, take sights across the Atlantic at the “Britishers,” and welcome. You will only diver us ourselves especially - by affording us subjects for jokes and caricatures. In a word, talk as long and as big as you like about going to war, but don’t do it. If you do, depend upon it; as Richard the Third says, “a black day will be for somebody,” and who that somebody will be, you may pretty particularly considerably well guess. [MSH]

Friday, May 23, 1845 RE42i5p2c4 1,741 words.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE NO. XLII.

"OUR OWN COUNTRY" - "ARM, BROTHERS, ARM!"

To the Editors of the Enquirer:
Dear Sirs: - In my numerous letters to you, whenever I have touched upon the subject, either directly or incidentally, I have expressed my belief, that under no conceivable circumstances would Great Britain wage a war with the United States. That opinion remains unchanged, notwithstanding the belligerent demonstration in Parliament on the evening of the 4th inst.

Mr. Polk, in his Inaugural Address, before he was President of the United States, remarked: - "Our title to the country of the Oregon is 'clear and unquestionable'" - quoting the latter words as used, if I remember right, by John Quincy Adams, in his "Lay on Macduff" speech in the House, a short time previous. This sentence is regarded of sufficient importance in England to demand special legislative action - and the steamer is detained beyond her regular day of sailing, expressly for the purpose of carrying out "the emphatic declaration of the Government," which was received with unanimous satisfaction in the House of Lords, as well as Commons, "that Great Britain has rights in Oregon, and is prepared to maintain them."

The glove has thus been thrown down, and the most intense solicitude prevails on the continent, to see whether our government will take it up - or whether it will continue the negotiations commenced with Mr. Pakenham - or begin them anew upon the question. As relates to the honor of our country, no alternative is left us: The period of diplomatizing has gone by. Indeed, we have trifled with our national character, in having postponed the occupation of Oregon so long, for every person who has investigated the matter, is decidedly of opinion, that our title to the whole country is "clear and unquestionable." We should waste no more words: "Our voice should be in our swords!"

For the sake of peace - and for the sake of PEACE alone - we have delayed from time to time the extension of our laws over the country beyond the Rocky Mountains. The claim of G. Britain never has been, and never can be, I fee very certain, recognized as just to any portion of it between the 42d and 54th degrees. If we had even been disposed to yield what was clearly our own, we cannot now do so, without derogating from our fame throughout the civilized world. I wholly mistake my countrymen if there is not universal indignation among them, regardless of party, at the spectacle to me, to behold the train of evils which will ensue to her from an attack upon the United States, and she for strength in the world's estimation. - As much as I despise her avarice and insincerity, it will be no pleasing the contrary, she would lose Canada, and possibly her other North American colonies, and forfeit her high position in the world's estimation.

While I am confident, Great Britain will "show the white feather," notwithstanding her vaunted power and greatness, it is the duty of the United States to prepare for the worst. If she should attack us, let us be in a position to defend ourselves as becomes freemen - as becomes Washington's sons. The God of battles will stand by us as he did during the revolution; for we have a just cause. We are actuated by no selfishness in securing Oregon: we want it only as a means of imparting liberty and happiness to the human family - of extending our political and religious institutions to the verge of the Western horizon. - If these are of that worth at which I estimate them, they are destined, like the light of Heaven, to cover the whole universe in coming time.

How proud I feel of such a country, (and who would not fight for it?) when I see the oppressed of Europe casting their eyes towards it as their last hope; when I see the industrious husbandman economizing in every imaginable way, in order to realize sufficient means to procure a home there for his wife and children! Ah! what blessings will not Oregon bestow, under our liberal system of government, on thousands of honest German peasants, who carry with them the most valuable of all treasure - an ability and disposition to develop the latent resources of the earth!

The impression is very general, that if hostilities commence between England and the United States, all Europe will ultimately be involved in war. France, it is thought, would not consent to see our ports blockaded, (a measure which would assuredly be attempted,) in the state of her commerce with us. She consumes as much of our cotton along, as we exported to Great Britain in 1825; and she would endeavor to extend the consumption of it, and thereby build up a rival interest in manufactures, to that of England. Germany, Russia, Spain, Austria, Holland, Belgium, Sweden, Denmark, each have large commercial intercourse with us, and would not permit it to be suspended by the interference of any power. Under no state of the case, could Great Britain come out of a war triumphantly; but, on the contrary, she would lose Canada, and possibly her other North American colonies, and forfeit her high position for strength in the world’s estimation. - As much as I despise her avarice and insincerity, it will be no pleasing spectacle to me, to behold the train of evils which will ensue to her from an attack upon the United States, and she cannot, without great want of foresight, seriously meditate a step so utterly suicidal.

If there is any thing calculated to mortify a genuine American abroad, it is the marvelous ignorance of person hailing from his country, relative to its true moral and physical condition. - Most of those I meet, with have been absentees from home for many years, and probably never will return - making their citizenship a mere convenience. They have imbibed, generally, British notions, and do us more injury than the subjects of Kings, who have been taught from infancy to detest our character. There are others, foreigners by birth and education, who have gone to the United States, made large fortunes, been naturalized, and return to Europe to pass the remainder of their lives. Some of them, particularly, in Germany, have sought and obtained Consul ships under our Government, without perhaps understanding our laws, or even having read the Constitution. The desire office for the consequence which it bestows, without receiving any fees, or performing any duties. One of these contemptible fellows ventured to remark to me, a day or two since, as though the thought was father to the wish: "Well, John Bull is going to give us a d - i of a licking." Another one, who had been in a very important consulate, and who had been forty years from the U. States, said to me: "I used to pride myself upon my country; but it has become so justly disreputable, that I am ashamed to hail from it any longer." I would sooner part with my right arm, than extend it to such creatures in a
spirit of brotherly regard. It is imperative upon Congress to enact a law, when it convenes, to compel absentees, who have been out of the country longer than five years, to return immediately, on pain of forfeiting their citizenship. Silly, blabbing magpies, should not be permitted to appear in the plumage of the noble bird of Jove.

None but bona fide citizens, and only those who are natives, should be appointed to offices, however important or however insignificant, abroad. At home no distinction should be made, when the qualifications are equal, between naturalized foreigners and natives, because they are under the immediate superintendence of the government: but abroad, the former assume airs wholly unbecoming Americans, and fail to command that respect which should attach to their position. Every day I see more and more to convince me that there should be a limited period for our Ministers, Secretaries of Legation and Consuls to serve - and that they should be ineligible to re-appointment to any post abroad. The term of a Minister should be four years, (unless recalled for satisfactory reasons, which should be made to appear,) but should not be permitted to extend beyond eight; Secretaries of Legation should continue in office the same length of time. Consuls, inasmuch as they are not salaried, and get no outfit, should be appointed for eight years, and made ineligible after twelve. We have Ministers in Europe who have been absent from home eighteen and twenty years - and Consuls who have been abroad thirty. They can have no more correct idea of what America is at present than the Emperor of Russia, who has never been there - and they have, consequently, no sentiments in common with the great body of the nation. Their feelings are alienated, and they cannot appreciate our true interests. Talk of Oregon and Texas to them, and they hold up their hands and exclaim, "We shall be involved in war! What use have we for so much territory? Great Britain won't suffer such things!" Send individuals fresh from the people, who have the firmness to take the bull by the horns, and the time is not distant when the slanderers of our fame would be effectually broken down in Europe.

You will see by the papers that the cotton market is somewhat agitated, with slightly advanced prices, and consols rather flat. This is occasioned by a belief, that the Great Western will bring any thing but pacific accounts from Washington. It is well to be prepared for the worst; but in closing this letter, I will not concern my conviction, that the proceedings in Parliament were nothing more than a display of words, to silence the clamor of the Whigs, and that the Ministry, by having manifested some spirit, will be enabled the more readily to reconcile the opposition to the relinquishment of all claims upon Oregon. Let the United States, more than at any period of their history, present an undivided front, and bear a steady hand, and they will dispel, without the loss of a drop of blood, the last speck of war which will probably ever be seen upon the horizon. It will be recollected, that Great Britain assumed high ground in relation to Texas; yet, as soon as the resolutions pass for its annexation, she lowers her pretensions, and says it is a question over which she has no control.

Yours truly, AGRICOLA

[MSH]

Friday, May 23, 1845 RE42i5p4c3 879 words.

AGREEABLE INTELLIGENCE

Ex-Governor Yell of Arkansas passed through this city on Monday, directly from Texas. He reports that every newspaper in Texas is now friendly to annexation - and that there is no doubt of the acceptance of the terms of admission into our Union, specified in the joint resolution. The "Union" of Monday night repeats the same convictions. Our readers, we know, will thank us for extracting from the Union, the following pleasant details furnished by the correspondence of that paper. This vital question, which has occupied so large a space of public attention, which has so potently wielded the destinies of our great Republic, is now about to attain a glorious consummation, and the people of the United States will watch with interest every thing connected with a neighbor, soon to become our fair sister.

"A private letter is received, from a high quarter at Galveston, May 6th, which uses the following language: 'There is now no division upon this question. In my future communications I may confine myself more to a statement of facts in relation to the physical and other resources and advantages of this country, under a belief that, when I tell you that Texas will accept the terms, and that promptly, and that she will have, on the 1st Monday in December next, knocking at the doors of Congress, two Senators and two Representatives with a good Constitution in their hands, I have told you all on this subject which you desire to hear.'"

Another letter from New Orleans of the 11th, states that Major Donelson and Gov. Yell had arrived the evening before, in the New York, from Texas. It announces the very agreeable intelligence, that General Houston had assured Major Donelson, by letter, that he shall interpose no obstacle to the union, nor does he believe that any impediment to the effectuation of the measure will arise 'on the part of the government of people of Texas.' He compliments Major Donelson in the most frank and friendly terms on the success of his mission, and says to him, that there is no gentleman in the United States, under whose auspices, or by the force of whose talents, he would rather see the measure successfully accomplished, than the American Charge's. With this brilliant prospect of success, and under a sense of the most delicate feelings with regard to General Houston and President Jones, Major Donelson had thought it his duty to retire for the time from the scene of action. His conduct will be duly appreciated by every man of sensibility.

Another letter from Galveston, of the same date, enters into a variety of particulars, all of them interesting, but over
Tuesday, May 27, 1845 RE42i6p2c3 1,022 words.

FRUITS OF TEXAS ANNEXATION

which, under present and probably circumstances, it is best to throw a veil. Whatever may have been the views of Captain Elliot or Mr. Satigny, or the plans of Mr. Ashbel Smith when he left Texas, or even our own country, they are now all dissipated by the voice of the people, and by the action of the Government and the concurrence of General Houston. - The public sentiment had been aroused by some suspicions as to the course of the President; and the writer is convinced that, had not the President ordered a convocation of Congress, revolution and violence might have usurped the place of the 'sober, determined purpose which he is please to see now manifest on the part of the people to await the meeting of Congress on the 16th of June, when they will have their will in favor of annexation expressed by that body, and the mode and manner of calling a Convention to ratify the same, and to form a Constitution, prescribed. The subject of the terms of annexation, or of the result of the measure when Congress meets, no longer constitute the topics of conversation among the people. They speak of it as a subject settled. The all-engrossing topic among them is the provisions of their Constitution to be accepted.' Upon this subject, the writer expresses himself 'gratified to listen to the views and opinions of many intelligent men. The deep interest they feel in the result of such a constitution, which shall secure to Texas and her citizens the blessings of a good Government and social order, gives high hopes of their future destiny. I undertake to predict, that you yourself will be surprised, when you shall see their constitution emanating from a people of whose disorder so much has been idly said.' The writer says, that 'he finds the terms of the resolutions, as they passed the House of Representatives, to be entirely acceptable to the people; and he has no hesitation in saying, that they will be agreed to by Congress, and by the convention of Texas, without any amendment, addition or alteration. The language of every intelligent man with whom he had conversed - of every public meeting, (and they have been held in every country in the Republic,) is, that 'these terms are good enough; and if they are not, or if objections should afterwards be discovered,' we will trust to the justice and liberality of the States to remedy any defects and to do their brethren of Texas full, ample, and complete justice. We want to be citizens of the United States again." [MSH]

Tuesday, May 27, 1845 RE42i6p1c4 639 words.

SHALL WE HAVE WAR?

We think there is no danger of it. Great Britain has too many domestic troubles to muster energy and power to attack a formidable rival. The bait thrown out by Sir Robert Peel to Catholic Ireland in the shape of the Maynooth grant has served only to arouse the Irish blood and to encourage her bold spirits to wring more and more from the unwilling grasp of England. O'Connell, like a tiger, is only infuriated by the few drops of blood which he has tasted, and will "agitate" with new zeal and violence. The concession made by Pell to Irish demands, has raised a storm among the Protestants of England and Scotland, that it will require all his firmness and vigor to resist. A war with the United States would, by stopping the supply of cotton, throw out of employment thousands of operative, and no one can expect that, disappointed as they would be, they could join heartily in a crusade against a people, who has supplied them with the means of earning their daily bread. These and other potent causes will throw embarrassments into the movements of British rulers at the very outset. But the following vigorous passage from and English Journal, the "Non-Conformist," the organ of the dissenters, is full of truth and meaning. Its view cannot escape the keen eye of British Diplomacy. The "fixed facts" therein presented, will prove resistless stumbling blocks in the path of British ambition and territorial aggrandizement:

"We have Ireland not well affected, and she is one-third of our physical force; but doubtless Sir Robert, by mounting their priesthood on our shoulders, giving us both Sinbad and his mother to carry, thinks he has quieted them, choked off O'Connell, and satisfied the English by requiring them to carry double, because he has taken the duty off divi dixi, and allowed butter to come in when it has been tarred and turned into grease, that the people may not eat it. We will not enter into this hallucination, it would lead to too wide a departure from our present point - the impolicy, not to say wickedness, of war with America, for a territory which we could not manage if we had it.

We have a national debt six times that amount of that which our glorious rulers had incurred for us before the commencement of the American revolutionary war. It was one hundred and twenty-eight millions in 1775 - it is eight hundred millions now; and that people have an organised government, are free from national debt, and only need such a war to induce them to submit to the taxation necessary to raise largely the munitions of war; and, whatever danger they may be threatened with from our raising their black population against them, they will discern the absolute necessity of a seaboard: they see the value of it now. Our seamen, managed by severity and flogging; will not fight with the spirit of old; for the spirit has been changed, and cannot be aroused in the same degree by such means, and the means have not been changed. Temptations will be held out to our soldiers to desert, and the balance of evil will be largely against us. If successful, what should we gain? A country we could not people with the rapidity necessary to maintain it; whilst the Americans have an advancing population suited to the climate, and ready of choice, to struggle with difficulties of settlers. If we would give freedom to commerce, that country would be a good customer as a nation, but as colonists they would be an almost inexhaustible drain upon our resources. A war on the subject would involve a waste of blood and of life, to win a millstone; besides that, such a collision would lead to blockades, and blockades produce a European war." [MSH]

Tuesday, May 27, 1845 RE42i6p2c3 1,022 words.

FRUITS OF TEXAS ANNEXATION
In advocating, with our whole zeal and power, the re-union of Texas to the United States, we have always looked at the question in a national point of view. It is true, that we endeavored to do our first duty to the South. We contended, that annexation was vitally necessary to the South, as a barrier against foreign intrigue and assaults upon our peculiar domestic institutions. Had Texas consented to yield to the bribes of England, and exist as an independent State in name, she would have been over-run by hordes of Europeans, who, in a few years, would have controlled her policy, enslaved her to foreign powers, and raised up a legion of fanatics, to assist our own intestine enemies, in their fiendish operations against the slave States. This was an essential element of Southern advocacy of annexation. - But there was another important motive at work. Had annexation, so leniently sanctioned as it was by the voice of the people last November, been defeated, that defeat would have been clearly traceable to the efforts of Northern plotters against Southern institutions and traitors to the Union. had, then, the people’s Representatives been swayed by this fierce anti-slavery spirit and dashed to the ground the hopes of the friends of the Union, the most fatal consequences to the peace and safety. By yielding to the dark influence of Abolitionism in this clearly defined issue, the South would have made a complete surrender of their rights and property to the misguided fanatics. - Here, then, an important principle was to be settled. Most fortunately for the Union, it was settled in favor of the Union secured. Upon these high considerations, we warmly sustained the annexation of Texas, which is now on the eve of accomplishment, peaceably and honorably, and with the sanction of the whole people of the United States and of Texas - for the disaffected in both countries are powerless, and their disorganizing efforts dead for ever.

But it was not alone as affecting the interests of the South, that we assisted in giving an impulse to the question. We looked at its beneficial effects upon the people of the West and of the North. A new and growing market would at once be thrown open for the staple products of the great West, and for the expansive operations of Northern commerce and manufactures. Texas, independent, could have made a treaty with Great Britain, by which the manufactures of the latter could be admitted free into the ports of the former, and the cotton of Texas received by Great Britain free of duty. This would have been fatal to the manufacturers of the North, as well as the planters of the South. It would, moreover, have materially cut off our commerce. The following extract from the Boston correspondence of the New York Herald shows how the gratifying news of the speedy annexation of Texas was received by the Boston merchants, so well known for their intelligence and devotion to their true interests. When it was proposed to purchase Louisiana, the same cry of opposition was raised from the same quarter, as at present. But when the glorious deed was consummated, and the teeming staples of the South offered rich rewards for commercial enterprise - when the heavy exports of cotton threw into the hands of Northern commerce a vast carrying trade, and new markets were opened for the manufactures of the North - then the voice of disaffection was hushed, for it was too clear, that the interests of the whole country were essentially advanced by this noble fruit of Mr. Jefferson’s statemanship. So will it be with Texas. Her admission into the Union will abound in rich blessings to all parts of the country - and, in a short time, the bitter opposition to its achievement, will be universally regarded as most futile and unpatriotic.

Many contend that this extension of our territorial limits will be fatal to our Union and prosperity. We can see no such dark prospect ahead. Under our confederative system, the different sections and different interests will check each other in their attempted invasions of the Constitution - and, like a well-balanced machine, our beautiful system will move on successfully - save, now and then, a few jars, which will serve to show the solid materials of which it is composed. Unless our memory betray us into error, Montesquieu, in his “Spirit of Laws” ably contends that a Confederative Republic, like our own, will admit of any extension - and becomes stronger and more durable, the wider the territory. At all events we augur no bad effect from the extension of our limits, where we have territorial rights. We must do our duty to ourselves and the world, and leave the rest to Providence.

Some apprehend hostile movements on the part of Mexico. The history of her imbecile and contradictory policy should banish all such fears. Even now we have rumors of revolution among her disaffected leaders. She will have her hands full of her own domestic troubles, and can not spare the time, the men or the money, to make an ineffectual grasp at the fair prairies of Texas:

“The late news from New Orleans concerning Texas, puts our merchants in fine glee, for they see before them long vistas of rich markets, fat frigates, and so on, all to be realized by the annexation of the lone star republic, and the securing of its trade and commerce to this country. - Mexico is in a queer position about Texas, anyway. In the first place she cuts off all diplomatic intercourse with the United States, and threatens to declare war, because we purpose to annex Texas to this country; and in the second place, she agrees, in conjunction with France and England, to guarantee the independence of Texas. With one hand she hurls the gauntlet of defiance at the United States for treating with Texas and with the other she signs a guarantee of Texan independence. Truly, she obeys the Scripture in practice, and lets not the right hand know what the left hand doeth, but after a most original fashion. Don’t you think so?” [MSH]
according to Whig prophecy, would shake our government to its centre, produce a revolution in Texas, and raise up the
world in arms against our plundering policy and cowardly avarice; it was monstrous, they said, that such a
momentous question should be decided by a simple ipse dixit of a nisi prius Judge of Alabama!

The Alabama papers gave full rope to the play of the monster, and quietly enjoyed the fun. The Mobile Register,
however, thoroughly satisfied with the laughable results of the mistake, comes forward in the following article, and,
by a single stroke of its spear, breaks up the magic. It will be amusing to see this reversal of the decision of Judge
Bragg traveling its slow and tortuous path through the newspapers. Though we never published the original, either
as a fact or as a joke, we set this ball in motion today:

"We thought our contemporaries of the press a little too sagacious to circulate the report, that Judge Bragg, of our
Circuit, had decided that Texas is a part of the United States, and required a Texas citizen to do duty here. It is all a
joke. No such decision was ever made by Judge Bragg.

The fact is, we understand, to be, that 'an old resident of this city asked to be excused from serving on a jury,
because he had been in Texas and taken the oath of allegiance there. His excuse was disallowed, and he was
ordered to take his seat in the box. The Judge merely remarked to a by-stander jocosely, that it could make no
difference any how - Texas was annexed! Out of this casual remark has grown the story, that the Judge had formally
made the decision reported.” [MSH]

Tuesday, May 27, 1845 RE42i6p4c6 584 words.

THE WEST - THE OREGON

The sentiment in the West with regard to the Oregon controversy seems strongly bent upon immediate and decisive
measure to make good our rights to that territory. In Missouri, all distinctions of party appear to be forgotten in the
overpowering comprehensiveness of this question.

It was to be supposed, that the impulses of the West would tend as above stated. The sympathies of the Western
people are with the Oregon settlers; their eyes are turned towards the Pacific, to which they look as to the
termination of their progress.

We copy two extracts below - one from an Administration paper, the other from a Whig journal. The first, the
Missouri Reporter says:

"The language of the different speakers in the British Parliament, on the Oregon question proves that we have
nothing to expect from negotiation. There is but one step now for our Government to take, and that is, to pass a bill
for the immediate occupation of that Territory, and provide the means of defending the occupants from all
aggression. This course should have been adopted long ago. Some papers speak of leaving the settlement of this
question to an arbitration. Such a step would be unwise in the extreme. We know our rights, and must maintain
them. The declaration of President Polk was correct; its spirit and boldness were in accordance with popular
sentiment. The high position taken by him must not be relinquished. If England is determined to make another
struggle to prevent the ascendancy of free principles on this Continent, it will be as well to fight her on the Oregon as
on any other question. We do not believe, however, that she will voluntarily engage in a contest by which the
Canadas will be endangered.

Since the British Parliamentary orators have taken exception to President Polk’s Inaugural, it is his duty to reiterate
the sentiments contained in it, in his message to Congress next winter, accompanied with a recommendation that
the Oregon bill he passed immediately, and such additional measures adopted, as will place us in a position to carry
out our policy at all hazards. We look to him for continued boldness, zeal and energy. No half-way measures will
answer in the present crisis.”

The extract which follows is from the St. Louis Republican, a Whig paper. It alludes to the suggestion made in
several quarters, that it would be best to leave the settlement of the question to time and to the process of
emigration, and declares that such advice is unjust towards the settlers, and evinces an ignorance of the actual
condition of affairs in the Oregon territory. “It is true,” says the Republican, “that thousands of the citizens of the
West have and are removing to Oregon. - They go there, believing that they are simply removing from one portion of
the U. States territory to another - that they are still under the laws and protection of the U. S., and that any
grievances they may be forced to submit to will be repaired by their Government. Those who have gone, and those
who go out this season start with the firm conviction that a territorial government, will all the requisite officers and
functions, and with ample powers to secure them in their settlement rights, will be established at an early period of
the next session of Congress.”

The Republican then proceeds to comment upon the dangers to which American settlers would be exposed from the
Hudson Bay Company, if left unprotected by their Government. [Baltimore American] [MSH]
MINISTER TO ENGLAND

We notice that the New Hampshire Democratic prints, very unanimously are recommending the appointment of Hon. Levi Woodbury, as resident minister of the Court of St. James. We cut the following from the Coos County Democrat, one of the ablest papers in the State:

"HON. LEVI WOODBURY - It has been for sometime rumored, that this gentleman would be the successor of Mr. Everett, as Minister to England. That his appointment, would give general satisfaction, we have no doubt. We want a statesman of heavy caliber at the Court of St. James, at this time, and Mr. Woodbury is just the man."

If this appointment be on that is not to be confined to the South, we know of no better selection that could be made, or one more gratifying to the North. He is our own “rock of New England Democracy,” able in council, firm and self-possessed of mind, neither to be moved from his country’s position by threats, intimidation of flattery; knowing his duty, he would ever maintain his position, and no one could better sustain it by enlightened experience, profound intellect and great ability. Such an appointment would redound to the honor of the Administration and be acceptable to the whole country. [Boston Times.] [MSH]

EXCITING NEWS FROM THE SOUTH.

The information contained in the New Orleans papers received yesterday morning, which we should have received a day earlier, is of so interesting a character, that we make most copious extracts. It will be seen that the Government of Texas have been playing a deep and unworthy game. The reason, why the Congress of Texas was summoned at so late a period as the 16th June, seems now to be fully explained. President Jones must have desired to hear from Mexico, whether the recognition of Texas would be agreed to, and the intrigue to defeat annexation prove successful. We submit the news without comment. When it reaches Texas, it must produce a great ferment. We are still most firmly convinced, that Texas will reject the bribe, whether it come from Mexico or England. She will reunite herself to the American Union. Her people are stirred to the centre, and will insist upon Annexation to the United States.

[From the N. O. Jeffersonian Republican, May 20.]

IMPORTANT NEWS.

MEXICO - HAVANA. - By the brig Titi, Captain Brown, arrived here yesterday morning, 8 days from the Havana, we have dates from that city to the 10th inst., inclusive.

The British steamer Thames, from Vera Cruz and Tampico, in 5 days, had brought dates from Mexico to the 28th, and from Vera Cruz to the 30th ult.

The Mexican journals inform us that overtures had been made lately by the Texas government to the President ad interim of Mexico, for the entering into negotiations, whose object should be the recognition by the latter of Texan independence, on a basis honorable to the two republics. The proposition had immediately been submitted to the Mexican Congress by Herrera, through Cuevas, the Foreign Secretary, whose remarkable communication we publish below.

This gave rise to a debate on the 21st ult., - Cuevas urging on Congress the good policy of authorizing the President ad interim of Mexico, for the entering into negotiations, whose object should be the recognition by the latter of Texan independence, on a basis honorable to the two republics. The proposition had immediately been submitted to the Mexican Congress by Herrera, through Cuevas, the Foreign Secretary, whose remarkable communication we publish below.

This gave rise to a debate on the 21st ult., - Cuevas urging on Congress the good policy of authorizing the President to open the negotiation requested by Texas, in order to learn what were the terms of the project, and if such as to satisfy the honor and credit of the nation to place them before the Texan Legislature for their approval:

Mexico, April 21, 1845

"Gentlemen: The affairs of Texas are so important, and so imperatively claim the consideration of Congress and the Executive, that we can not without incurring heave responsibility, postpone the resolution we have taken, to prepare for a denouement which shall reconcile at once the honor and interests of Mexico. The Executive having assembled a considerable number of troops on the frontier, and made use of all the resources in its power to accomplish the desired object, and being occupied with the business to be laid before Congress, for its part sees no other course but that of persisting in maintaining the Republic in the position becoming her power and sovereignty."
But circumstances have arisen which render in not only proper, but necessary, to enter upon negotiations, which may prevent the annexation of Texas to the United States. Think, in the first place, of war, which must inevitably break out between Mexico and the American Republic, for which Mexico is not prepared, and reflect on the evils which such a rupture would bring upon us. Texas has made the first advance, and his Eminence the President, 'ad-interim,' deeply penetrated with the importance of his duty, and the weight of a unanimous resolution on this subject, is of opinion that the executive should adopt no final determination without the concurrence first obtained of the Congress - he is of opinion, that under these circumstances he cannot exercise the powers conferred by the constitution for conducting negotiations with foreign nations.

The government always faithful to its duties and anxious to submit its acts to free discussion, convinced also that these national questions ought to be treated with a pure patriotism and a conscience that spurns all assaults and all prejudices, is of opinion that in the present situation of affairs he cannot decline the offer of negotiation, without violating his obligation to avoid the deciding on so delicate a point without submitting it to Congress. If he could make the arrangement that would satisfy the national honor, he would with pleasure submit it to Congress; and if that object could not be attained, the same executive, anxious for peace, would be the first to decide upon war, which would be the more just as all our exertions had been used to avoid it.

The preliminary proposals of Texas are of a character honorable and advantageous to Mexico, and the Executive, without deciding upon them, has not hesitated to receive them as the commencement of the arrangement desired by Texas. To refuse them peremptorily, would inevitably annex Texas to the United States, and Congress will perceive at once that so ill-considered a measure would lay a terrible weight of responsibility upon the Executive.

To refuse to hear proposals which may lead to a satisfactory conclusion, advantageous to Mexico, would be part of a fanciful patriotism. But, when we are compelled to foresee and consider the evils of a frightful and ruinous war, let us try to avoid such misfortunes, and not brave them, except in a crisis which involves our honor.

If, in view of the act for annexation of Texas to the United States, the Executive had followed the impulse of its own sentiments, Congress would have understood the importance of its conduct, in adopting a course which would have been gloriously sustained by the patriotism of all Mexicans. It is a great sacrifice for the President ad interim and his Ministers, to solicit the authorization at the end of this communication, but he owes this sacrifice to his ardent devotion to the Republic, and to the certainty that in making all honorable concessions for peace, if war would follow, it will terminate in a manner worthy of the national arms and of the claims of justice against the power that provoked it.

Wherefore His Eminence, the President ad interim, in full council of his Ministers, and with their unanimous concurrence, had charged me to submit to Congress the following resolution:

'The Executive is authorized to receive the proposals of Texas, to form arrangements, and to conclude such a Treaty as they may deem honorable to the Republic, the same to be submitted for the examination and approbation of Congress.'

With the highest consideration, I am, gentlemen,

LUIS C. GUEVAS.

God and Liberty

To the Secretaries of the Chamber of Deputies."

It is stated in one of the Mexican prints, that Cuevas, the Foreign Minister, had published a memorial advocating the acknowledgment by Mexico of the independence of Texas, declaring that such might be done without shame or disgrace. England, it is surmised, has dictated this course to the Executive and the Foreign Secretary, with a view to prevent annexation.

General Almonte is in the city of Mexico.

In one of the Havana prints, "the Diario de la Marina," we find it stated that an amnesty bill has been passed, and would be approved on the 16th instant, allowing Generals Santa Anna and Canalizo to quit the Mexican Republic - eight days are allowed them to move off the soil. - They are to be banished for ten years. Their pecuniary liabilities are excepted.

The Mexican Congress has thought proper to accept Santa Anna’s abdication of the Presidency.

There are two bills before the Mexican Congress, relative in Texas, consequent on Senor Cuevas’ communication. First - The resolutions of the United States Congress regarding the annexation of Texas, do not, invalidate the rights of Mexico over that portion of her dominions, it simply breaks the treaty relative to boundaries between the United States and Mexico - the latter will meet the attempted usurpation by an appeal to arms. Second - The whole of the Mexican male population are called to arms, and the President is directed to call out the militia, to array the army, and to pursue other measure that may be necessary at this critical juncture.

The late earthquake on the 7th and 10th ult., have done considerable damage throughout Mexico; in the city, terrible
devastations have been caused by them, and the thieves in the metropolis have taken advantage of the confusion to plunder. The village of Rio Blanco, as is stated in a letter from Guanajato was engulfed during one of these concussions. The earth opened, and swallowed up a great number of the inhabitants. A cavern was seen there 400 feet long by 13 wide. One individual who had lost two children by the awful phenomenon of nature, says that upwards of 60 persons were destroyed at the same time, at Rio Blanco. There were two chocks felt on the 10th, in the city of Mexico, which lasted two seconds. Prayers and processions of the clergy had taken place to avert the anger and to propitiate the favor of Heaven, since these earthquakes.

In the roads at Vera Cruz, there was a squadron of United States vessels of war, consisting of a trigate, a sloop of war, and two brigs.

[From the N. O. Jeffersonian Republican, May 21.]

MEXICO - MORE IMPORTANT INTELLIGENCE.

The Mexican schooner Relampago arrived at this port yesterday, in ballast, from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the 10th inst. The vessel, it appears, was chartered for the sum of $1,000, to carry despatches from the Mexican government to their Consul in this city, and to take as passenger Mr. Frederick Johnson, bearer of despatches from the British Minister at Washington. Mr. Johnson forthwith proceeded on his way to the North by the Mobile mail boat.

The few letters and papers brought by the Relampago were intended for private hands, and delivered accordingly. We have, nevertheless, been enabled to obtain some information of an important nature, brought by this vessel, the correctness of which may be relied upon.

A short time after the arrival of this vessel, the rumor became current, that Mexico had declared war against the United States. The quarter in which this report originated, together with the circumstances which were stated as attending this hostile demonstration, strengthened for a time the general impression of its correctness. The information which we have since received, induces us to believe that Mexico has not declared war, and that the authors of the report inferred such a result as the cause for the sudden despatch of letters and messengers, by extraordinary means. The reason for this was, that both branches of the Mexican Congress have authorized the President to enter into treaty negotiations with the Texans. In other words, that the measure, having for its object the acknowledgement of Texas independence by Mexico, which, as stated in our paper yesterday, was recommended to the favorable consideration of the Mexican Congress by Minister Cuevas, has been adopted. Of this, we have positive information. The enemies of annexation are making the most of their time in the desire to promulgate the news. Capt. Elliott, it is said, was waiting at Vera Cruz, for his despatches from Mexico, prior to his departure for Texas in the frigate Eurydice.

It is also stated, that commissioners on the part of Texas had subsequently left Vera Cruz in company with Capt. Elliott, bearing with them an acknowledgement by Mexico of the independence of Texas, providing the latter rejected the measure of annexation.

A favorable report, upon the request of the Mexican Government, for permission from Congress to open negotiations with Texas, had been adopted by a vote of 41 to 11, a day or two previous to the passage of the bill having that object in view.

An act of amnesty to Santa Anna, which we alluded to yesterday had been really passed. It is stated on grounds less reliable, that he had been released from prison, and placed at the head of the Mexican army.

Some alterations have been projected in the Mexican tariff, the question being in debate in the Congress now sitting.

Some time ago we mentioned that trouble had broken out in California. It appears, by a communication in the Constitutional Monitor, received from Mazatlan, that California had become independent, the insurrection there against the Mexican General, Michael Torenn, having been crowned with complete success. No particulars are given of the cause, or the progress of the outbreak.

On this subject, the New Orleans Bulletin of the 21st makes the following sensible remarks:

We have carefully inquired after all that is to be learned, and we can assure our readers that the aspect of affairs has not materially changed since the date of the advices published yesterday, which came to hand via Havana. A committee of the Chamber of Representatives have reported favorably on the application of the President to be invested with authority to receive the overtures of Texas. The bill of amnesty for Santa Anna and his Ministers, as proposed by the Government, has been adopted in the Chamber of Representatives. Beyond this, we do not learn that there is an item of intelligence worth repeating. The despatches brought, relate (all but those for our own Government,) we venture to say, to but a single object, namely, to forestall the action of Texas on the resolutions of Annexation. To this object the functionaries of Great Britain and Mexico are bending their entire attention, and, we are sorry to add, to all appearance aided and abetted by the functionaries of Texas. But these efforts, whether with or without the assistance of the Texian Administration, must totally fail. The people of Texas have already entered their judgment in favor of annexation, and they will carry out the measure without regard to opposition. - The information which will reach them in a few days, that they have been presented by their Government as suppliants before the unstable and imbecile Government of Mexico, will but tend further to arouse their indignation at the
miserable chicane which is attempted to be played upon them." [MSH]

Friday, May 30, 1845: RE42i7p1c6 442 words.

PROPOSITIONS

The Washington Union gives to the public the subjoined information concerning the propositions heretofore made by the Government of the United States to that of Great Britain, for the adjustment of the Western boundary dispute:

"The proposition first made by the U. States was, that the 49th parallel of latitude, which had been adopted as the dividing line between their territories and those of Great Britain, from the vicinity of the Lake of the Woods to the Rocky Mountains, should be continue Westward as far as the possessions of the two nations extended in that direction - thus offering to resign their right to what lay farther North. This being rejected, it was agreed, that, as neither party claimed a perfect title to any portion of the country, the whole should be left free and open to the people of both for ten years.

Within those ten years, the title of Spain to all North of the 42d parallel was surrendered to the United States; and Russia engaged to make no settlements South of the latitude of 54 degrees 40 minutes. The American government thereupon proposed an agreement, by which Great Britain should make no settlements South of the 51st parallel, and the United States should make more North of that line, substituting afterward the 49th parallel for the 51st; and then, in 1824, came the first definite proposition from Great Britain for a partition of the territory. The line of separation was to run along the 49th parallel from the Rocky Mountains to a large branch of the Columbia, down which, and down the main stream, it was to be continued to the sea. Great Britain was to have all North and West of this line, except that the United States should possess a small detached territory in the angle formed between the Pacific shore and the Southern side of the Strait of Fuca, comprising one harbor for small vessels on the ocean, and one for large vessels on the strait. Upon this the negotiation ended.

In 1826, the United States, for the first time, proposed the 49th parallel, as the definite line of boundary, from the Rocky Mountains to the open Pacific; to which the British replied by repeating their proposition as above stated. Neither party would yield more; and so, after formally withdrawing their respective offers, by which each declared that it was in no wise to be considered bound thereafter, they renewed the agreement, to leave the country open to the people of both, for an indefinite period, subject, however, to be terminated after a year's notice of such Intention by either to the other. That agreement still subsists.” [MSH]

Friday, May 30, 1845: RE42i7p2c1 449 words.

UNTITLED

The regular correspondent in New Orleans, of the National Intelligencer, in his late letter, says he was informed by a member of the Texian Congress, that the public debt of that State amounts to about sixteen millions of dollars. The same member of Congress, according to the letter writer, admitted there are no authentic records that show positively how much the debt it, but only after a long investigation, and getting every possible kind of information on the subject, he made it out at the sum just mentioned. The truth is, speculators are very busy in this vicinity to deprecate Texas funds and stock as much as they can in order to profit by the artificial ab?sement. If they can make the world believe that Texas owes sixteen millions dollars, when, in reality she only owes six, her stocks and evidences of debt may be purchased for a song. - Here we see a member of the Texian Congress conjured up to say, what nobody in Texas or in N. Orleans believes, that she owes about three times as much as she really does owe. Who in this member of Congress, quoted anonymously by an anonymous letter writer - anonymous but well known? The authority may be good, or it may not; and we trust our fellow citizens both in this State and in the State of Texas, will give no attention to his surmises and fancied and fanciful calculations, until his name shall be made known. What! sixteen millions of dollars owed by Texas? The assertion bears improbability on its face - and it is in fact unworthy of belief; it is discredited by official statements to our Government last Winter, which made the public debt of Texas amount to something like six millions of dollars, if our memory be accurate.

W know individuals in New Orleans who own large amounts of Texas paper money, and countless acres of Texas land, who are so anxious to get more money and more land, that they are eternally decrying the one and the other in order to render them dog cheap. We are far from meaning to intimate that the writer of the letter in the Intelligencer is one of these; but perhaps he has some friend who does belong to the tribe of speculators, and who may have deceived the letter writer into a belief that the State of Texas, like Hob in the will, is up to the neck in embarrassments; when, in truth, her public lands, so soon as the measure of annexation goes into effect, will suffice to redeem all her debts and liabilities if they were ten times greater than they are.

[N. O. Courier, May 12] [MSH]
THE OREGON QUESTION

In some remarks offered in a previous communication, it was observed that, in all probability, if Mr. Calhoun had closed the Oregon negotiation, he would have accepted the British proposition, in 1826, to make the Columbia the boundary from where the 49th parallel strikes that river. This on our own part, was entirely inferential. It was a conclusion drawn after the perusal of his speech in the Senate, during the Oregon debate in 1843. We have since understood that his correspondence with the British Minister will show, if ever published, that Mr. Calhoun contended for the whole of our claim to 50 deg. 40 min., according to the line adopted in the convention with Russia. How much less he would have finally consented to receive, is, of course, entirely conjectural. It is supposed, in well-informed quarters, on what data we are unable to determine, that the British Government will admit our claim to the 49th parallel, but that the chief matter in controversy is the South end of Vancouver's island, which that parallel would intersect, the island lying between 48 and 51 north latitude. In this island, which is divided from the main land by the magnificent strait De Fuca, is Nootka Sound, so celebrated in diplomatic history. The island contains a number of fine harbors, objects, of course, very attractive to a maritime power like that of Great Britain. A line at the 49th parallel, if carried from the Rocky mountains to Vancouver's island, if it leaves that island, must consequently pass round it about one degree to the south of 49. We know not the foundation of the presumed British concession. It is, however, contrary to the uniform tenor of their communications with our Government. - [Charleston Courier.] [MSH]

MEXICO AND TEXAS

The new aspect of affairs occasioned by the extraordinary scenes in Mexico, which we yesterday laid before our readers, presents a rich field for a speculation as to the effects likely to ensue to Texas, and to ourselves. We have before us the strange spectacle of a President of a constitutional Republic, the creature of a free people, at one time exerting his influence against the admission of the people of his country into an intimate union with their old friends and brethren - At another time, we see him forced, by the sweeping torrent of public opinion, to convene the Congress in order to deliberate upon so vital a subject; deferring, however, popular action until a period so late as to justify fears of intrigue or sinister motives on his part. Finally, the scene shifts from Texas to the Palace of the Montezumas - the mystery is solved - the world is informed by the high authorities of Mexico, that this same President has appealed to Mexico for a recognition of Texas independence, on condition that the overtures of the United States he rejected. his duplicity is exposed - his intriguing policy, under the influence of British cunning and avarice, is laid bare to his own people, and to the civilized world. - But will this unworthy attempt to defeat a measure, so dear to the hearts of the United States' succeed? We have no fear - though we are surprised to see in the "Mobile Herald & Tribune" different sentiments entertained. That paper says:

"The Mexican news this morning is both important and interesting. It appears from this that the President of Texas (doubtless in a covert manner,) has been making propositions to Mexico for the acknowledgement of the independence of Texas. What the condition of these propositions is does not appear, but we know of none that would be entertained by Mexico, unless based on a rejection by Texas of the recent overtures of our own Government.

The diplomatic style of the Mexican Minister for foreign affairs betrays, through its coyness, a most eager desire to accept the proposition of President Jones, and no doubt his Government will snatch at it, as the only means of saving itself from national degradation.

The question now is - will Texas approve of the action of its Executive officer? We, indeed, think there is much probability of it. Unquestionably, inasmuch as the ministers of thare of the great powers of Europe have interfered to bring about this consummation, other advantages have been offered to Texas. England alone has the power to make her a great country; and these advantages, represented with skill to her Congress, are likely to effect the end they are intended to accomplish.

If we were a citizen of Texas, we should oppose annexation. Her interest, with independence and commercial immunities, lies directly hostile to ours. She produces what we produce, and for this produce England is the great market. We may be injured immeasurably by the jealousy of foreign powers, and all this injury would inure to the benefit of Texas. Here is a temptation irresistible to a rejection of the proposition for annexation, and this temptation, doubtless, will be arrayed in its most plausible and seductive garb."

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We are as strongly persuaded as ever, that there is no force in the views presented by the Mobile Herald. We are thoroughly convinced, that no inducements, however great of plausible, with France, England and Mexico can hold out to Texas, will make her doubt or waver in the least about embracing our offer. Natives of the same soil, breathing from their childhood the same pure air of freedom, cheered on by the same associations of past glory and the same broad flag with their brethren of the United States, from whom they have been temporarily estranged. - We regard as utterly delusive the argument, that "England alone can make Texas a great country." With the examples of British oppression and tyranny before her eyes, Texas will scarcely understand the weight of this position. She will dread the fatal embrace of British diplomacy and ambition. She will shake off the intrigues, by which foreign influence will seek to infuse itself into her bosom, and ultimately enslave her to the worst political,
social and commercial systems. Let the present intrigue of President Jones and Great Britain be successful, and Texas necessarily becomes a mere colony of Great Britain swayed by her rulers and oppressed by her artificial policy. - She will be over-run by foreign settlers, imported expressly to control her American sentiments and she will fall to the rank of the humblest vassal of British power. She sees and feels all these inevitable consequences. She has watched with an unwinking eye the glorious progress of the American States; she has seen and loved to observe, the high position which our Republic has, in so few years, assumed by the side of the greatest nations of the Earth - marching on with a firm and rapid step to the highest eminence, both political and commercial. Experience has proved conclusively, that under our liberal institutions, under the protection of our flag, her resources would be amply developed and the rights and safety of her people thoroughly protected - Could she desire more? Will she accept less? - When she has presented to her a certain prospect of honor and prosperity, under our shield, will she rush to the embrace of foreign intrigue and diplomacy, which history has demonstrated to be so fatal to the happiness and liberty of its misguided victims. But it is almost idle to argue on such a question.

The American blood of the citizens of Texas has already been aroused, and circulates with new warmth and rapidity. Her people have, in a clear and thrilling voice, spoken defiance of foreign and domestic intrigue. Her numerous public meetings, marked by all the enthusiasm and fire of a young and vigorous people, eager for the blessings of liberty, attest the united wishes of the whole country. We fear not in her the least hesitation or doubt, as to embracing our overtures. There is a deep and fixed sentiment in favor of annexation, which cannot be shaken by any bribes, however plausible or tempting. She has solemnly resolved to be a portion of our glorious Confederacy, and nothing can prevent it. All that we dread, is the excitement against her constituted government, which the double-dealing course of President Jones may engender, on the arrival of the news from Mexico. Badly as he has acted, we trust that all violent feelings will be subdued, all symptoms of disaffection be quelled. Let the people prepare for the consummation of this glorious measure of annexation, and they may, thereby, most powerfully rebuke their own treacherous rulers, and the cunning intrigue and grasping ambition of foreign nations.

The New York Journal of commerce, in the following brief but cogent article, expresses our sentiments most thoroughly:

"DISSOLUTION OF THE UNION. - The U. Sates are now exhibiting the most wonderful spirit of conquest which ever appeared in the world. - They conquer, not as other nations have done, by fire and sword, killing one half the people and desolating the country for the sake of conquering it, but simply by establishing so good and useful a government, that the neighboring nations ask the privilege of becoming subject to it. All the inducements which France, England and Mexico can hold out to Texas, will not make her doubt or hesitate one moment about accepting our proposal. Independence, commercial treaties, special privileges, she counts as cross, that she may win annexation. Certainly an alternative so utterly rejected by Texas cannot be desired by any State already in this Union. A force so irresistibly centripetal cannot throw off fragments. When Mr. Garrison, or Mr. Phillips, has, by the power of his eloquence, persuaded a moving body to float up stream, then there will be some danger that the same power will dissolve this Union. - Suppose some one of our twenty-seven States were to fall out of the Union, what is the first, thing it would do? Why, ask to be annexed."

If matters come to the worst - if war should ensue, as is hinted at in the following letter from Vera Cruz on the 8th inst., and published in the New Orleans Picayune, whose Editors fully vouch for the words of the author, ours will no be the fault - and we can appeal to the God of Battles with a clear conscience. We have committed no offence against the sovereignty of the honor of Mexico. We have made a compact of annexation with a Republic which has been recognized by the first nations of the earth as independent, not only of Mexico, but of the whole world. This is all we have done, and in every way in which the question can be viewed, we had a perfect right to do it, regardless of the action of Mexico, or of England and France, who are said to have guarantied the acts of the two Governments in their treaty for the independence of Texas, provided she reject annexation to ourselves. We have acted throughout according to the laws of honor and justice - and, if the peace of the American Continent be broken, we shall not be liable to blame:

"Elliott and the Texan Commissioners are about leaving this [Vera Cruz] in an English frigate for Galveston, with the treaty acknowledging the independence of Texas. But they little dream of their reception at Galveston. These people [the Mexicans] think that the acknowledgement of the Texian independence will prevent Annexation, and thereby they will get clear of declaring war, as they had threatened. They swear, however, that if Texas prefers Annexation to acknowledgement, they will declare war." [MSH]

Friday, May 30, 1845: RE42i7p4c5 923 words.

EXCITEMENT IN ENGLAND

As an evidence of the deep feeling which agitates the public mind of England on the subject of the Maynooth grant, we publish an interesting article from the New York Albion. The Oregon ferment has given place to the violent convulsions of a religious struggle, which will spread over the whole Kingdom with increasing fierceness. Ireland, encouraged by the meagre offering, will never rest till she obtains all she craves. England, aroused by her bitter hostility to the Catholic cause, will be agitated to her centre, on account of the concession wrung from her ministers by Ireland. These two elements, in themselves, are enough to occupy the thoughts and efforts of British rulers. They will be very willing to "ease off" with the Oregon question, in order to concentrate all their energies upon their own discordant factions. To secure peace at home, they will be forced to keep on the best terms with foreign nations:
"By the people of England the measure is not received with so much favor; the opposition out of doors is most formidable. Five thousand petitions, it is said, cover the table of the House of commons imploring that body to resist the inroads of popery. Sir Robert Peel is branded with deception, and with deserting his party, his friends, and the people. Nor do those who support him in Parliament fare better, but are daily receiving the phials of wrath poured upon their heads by their constituents. Few of these men will ever be again returned to Parliament. The question has certainly split up and divided parties even more than the Catholic Emancipation measure, which was also, everyone remembers, carried by the Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel in opposition to the wishes of their party, and to a great mass of the people of England. The division lists present the most curious and anomalous appearance. Members sitting on the Government side of the house are seen voting against the Government, and some of the most uncompromising opponents of the Government are voting with a cabinet they affect to despise. Among this latter number is seen Mr. Macauley, known in this country for his celebrated articles in the Edinburgh Review. He attacks the cabinet with all his characteristic fire and vehemence, and assails the Premier with gross personalities - yet he votes with him! We have given one of his speeches to-day; the concluding part, especially, is in his best style, because it is a piece of pointed censure and expression of political hate - feelings which always bring forward the entire energies of Mr. Macauley. He seizes his victim and growls over him as he tears him to pieces with the savageness of tiger and the strength of a lion.

"Sir Robert Peel, whose speech in reply we also copy, made a good defence, and also set himself right with the public in regard to his speech on the Oregon question, delivered on a former night. He showed most satisfactorily, that the Maynooth grant was not wrung from him in consequence of the supposed hostile attitude assumed by this country, since the measure was determined on many moths ago, and long before Mr. Polk took his seat in the Presidential chair. He also cleared himself from the suspicion of tampering with Mr. O'Connell, and demonstrated that the Maynooth question is nothing more than a party of his policy, and would have been adopted if Mr. Polk had never been elected, and if Mr. O'Connell were at the bottom of the sea.

Mr. Ward's resolution, which was to the effect that the grant to Maynooth should be paid out of the funds of the Protestant Church of Ireland, was, was are happy to say, by a very large majority, for only 143 could be found to vote with him out of a house of nearly five hundred members. To take Protestant funds and give them to the Catholics, would, indeed, be an additional firebrand in the present excited state of the Protestant mind of the country. The Maynooth grant must be paid from the national resources."

The New York Albion, ably edited by a native of England, does not seem to apprehend a difficulty between the United States and Great Britain. - We give his views, to which much weight is due, in consideration of his position and his intimate acquaintance with British politics. We presume that the negotiations are now going on, and trust that they may terminate satisfactorily to both countries. We deprecated war, unless it be necessary to vindicate the honor and the rights of the nation:

"The public sentiment in regard to the Oregon question is much less excited than at the former dates, and the public press has, in a great degree, passed on to other topics. The London Times, however, forms an exception to this remark, but, it must be borne in mind that the Times is a paper in fierce opposition to Sir Robert Peel, and therefore cannot be depended on as speaking the sentiments of the British Cabinet. We entertain the opinion that as soon as the mild tone of the articles lately published by the government paper at Washington, the Union, is known in London, the public mind will be much tranquilized. The danger of a rupture between the two countries is certainly much lessened by the appearance of the explanations on the part of the official journal. We hope and believe that the negotiations with Mr. Pakenham have been resumed, and that the discussions are going on favorably." [MSH]

June

June 3, 1845, REv42i8p1c6, The Crisis in Texas

The following from the New Orleans Cenriet of Saturday Evening. May 21, (illegible) to confirm the views expressed buy us, that the people of Texas will not listen, for a moment, to any thing but a tender of our annexation, and will insist upon that, and that alone:

We are indebted to Captain Hoffman, of the barque "William Ivy" from Matagorda, for the Weekly dispatch, of that place, of May 3.

It is filled with animated expressions of the public voice, in favor of annexation.

It contains the proceedings of a meeting of the inhabitants of Matagorda county-Seth Ingram in the chair, and Thomas Harvy Secretary.

In pursuance of resolutions adopted at a previous meeting, the Representative and Senior in Congress from the county of Matagorda, were appointed delegates to meet the delegates from the other counties, in convention as the seat of Government, on the 3rd Monday in May, in order to adopt such plans as they may deem most proper to obtain the action of the people throughout the resolutions adopted (illegible) lowing.

"Resolved, that we have heard with astonishment and indignation of the appointment and embarkation of a Minister from this Government to England and France, which, in conjunction with the delay used by the Executive, in calling
The volumes of the Despatch are toll of severe but justly merited invective against President Jones for his unreasonable delay in invoking congress for the purpose of deliberating on the propositions of our Government relative to the admission of Texas into the Union. Mr. Jones received those propositions on the 20th March; his proclamation for the meeting of Congress was issued only on the 13th April and he has fixed the day at assembling on the 16th of June. The dispatch says (illegible) The public feeling is forced to its utmost tension to tolerate this and liberal institutions under which they desire to live, or not to live at all. [BJM]

The Despatch contains also a letter from Mr. Richard Roman. Senator from the Matagorda district, in the Annexation Corresponding Committee, which expresses, says the Despatch, the sentiments of nineteen twentieths of the people of Western Texas. In this letter, Mr. Roman declares that ever since the commencement of the Texan Revolution, he had an abiding hope that annexation that annexation to the United States was the ultimate destiny of Texas. Such was then, and has ever since been the general conviction of the people. He goes on to state that the hope of its consummation was so strong in 1836, that the existing Government at that time submitted the question to the people simultaneously with the Constitution. The people were unanimously in favor of the plan. He says the present government of Texas was instituted for temporary purposes only. Mr. Roman concludes with expressing a firm resolution to promote the measure of annexation on every occasion—and if it fail, he will think that Texas has struck a blow for liberty in vain and he will feel the humiliation of defeat.

The people of Texas were indignant when they heard that President Jones had dispatched Ashbel Smith as Minister at the Court of Paris and London, for the purpose of completing his private, secret, dirty negotiation: to prevent, if possible, the Republic of Texas from joining our confederacy. It turns out, that Smith, instead of going to Europe, went to Vera Cruz, and is now in the City of Mexico, with Elliot, the British Minister to the Republic of Texas, This Fact is positively asserted by the Picayune of this morning and the assertion is based on information undoubtedly authentic, transmitted to the editors of that paper by their correspondents in Mexico. These two individuals, it was, unquestionably, who made the proposals to the Mexican Government, which induced it to acknowledge the independence of Texas. This recognition as the Picayune justly observes, is conducted “under the auspices of England, its object being to check the progress of this country, cripple her influence, and battle the will of the American people.”

Whatever may be the determination of our government under the state of things that now presents itself, we have no apprehension but that they are prepared, and ready to defeat by force of arms any conspiracy, of foreign enemies with domestic traitors, that has for its object to disappoint the wishes of the people of the United States and of Texas, for the junction of the latter confederacy. We entirely coincide with the Picayune, that our government is bound by a regard to the honor and safety of the country, and by the sacred obligation of good faith to the people of Texas, to interpose its whole power, in order to save them from falling under the domination of traitors, whom they abhor, or of England, which from their infancy they have been taught to look upon as the sworn enemy of those free and liberal institutions under which they desire to live, or not to live at all. [BJM] [BJM]

June 3, 1845, REV42i8p4c3, Mexico and Texas

The New Orleans Bulletin, a paper that, early in the Texas struggle, broke its party vassalage, and, with a manly and patriotic spirit, threw itself into the front rank of the friends of annexation, and by its zeal and ability contributed greatly to the realization of the great measure, takes a view of the crisis, similar to what we have rapidly sketched off. We should be glad to republish the whole if its powerful article- but must content ourselves with pretty long extracts, bearing upon questions vital not only to Texas, but to the United States, It is a very severe, and justly so, upon the double dealing policy of President Jones, who at the very “of Texas, has shown himself to be the tool of British machinations against a policy, so dear to the American people, It eloquently exposes the designs of Great Britain, and points out the course which our Government should pursue. Upon this latter point, which is presented with much force, we are not yet prepared to go with the Bulletin, Let us await the action of the Texas Congress on the 16th June- and when the compact shall have been solemnly sanctioned, then we shall be ready to devise and adopt such measures to sustain the rights and honor or Texas, as well as our own, as the crisis may require. Then, it may become our duty to assume a stane, which may practically rebuke the traitors in Texas, and the plotters of foreign nations. The people of the United States will not tolerate the interference of foreign powers with our internal policy- and should events consequent upon the actions of the Congress of Texas make it necessary, the whole
"We are at length reluctantly compelled to express our unqualified belief, that the chief members of the Texian Cabinet, including, of course, the President of the Republic, have coalesced with the transatlantic emissaries who have so long sat as an incubus on the energies of that country, and are endeavoring by covert and dishonest means to circumvent the declared will of the Texian people and to defeat the projected union with this confederacy. The recent advices from Mexico leave us no loop to hang a doubt upon Mr. Jones’s conduct admits of no other possible explanation. Not only has he, through the intervention of a British functionary, and with a secrecy and stealth that of themselves stamp the transaction with fraud, placed his country, at the instant it was offered by the United States the most perfect and honorable guaranty of independence, in the humiliating position of a suppliant to Mexico, and dispatched at the same time the principal member of his cabinet on a mission (only announced after the ambassador was far on his journey) the most idle and profitless that can be imagined, if the purposes of it were indeed legitimate and honest; but he has also consented with others to the wretched imposition played upon the public by the announcement that Elliot, the Britannic Minister, had sailed for Charleston, when in fact he had departed as a go between from Jones to the Government of Mexico, with proposals that, carried out, would place Texas at the feet of Mexico and Britain, and rob her of all independence and dignity. Mr. Ashbel Smith, too, and, it we were not in error, M. Saligny, also, helped to spread this gross and unmanly deception, which must hereafter taint the character and transactions of every one engaged in it.

By the opportune discovery of the secret overtures of Jones to the Mexican Cabinet, and the betrayal of the falsehood circulated in relation to the destination of Elliot’s journey from Galveston, we are let much farther than before into the diplomatic (and we fully believe, mercenary) plot of which Texas is proposed to be made the victim and the United States the dupe. The games is even deeper, bolder, more complicated and far less scrupulous, than we had at any time suspected, and involves the Texian Administration to an extent that must be sincerely lamented. Being thus aware, however, of the strength and unscrupulousness of the combination that is to be encountered, the friends of annexation and of American principles can better prepare themselves for the crisis. The people of Texas have now the Great part to play. To their alertness, firmness, and patriotism must mainly be trusted the issue of the struggle. Deserted—ought we not to say, betrayed? By their Government; the sport of foreign intrigues carried out on their own soil—likely to be subjected, themselves and their Representatives, to the severest temptations from without, and the most insidious persuasions within—there might well be apprehensions for the result, had we not had so many proofs of the loyalty of the Texians to their native country and their proper appreciation of the advantages and blessings of the Union. With these recollections before us, however, we have not fears that as far as the Texian people are concerned they will perform their part of the work of annexation, over-riding, if need be, all sorts of internal opposition, and in defiance of dictation or temptation from abroad.

"It is not to the people of Texas alone, however, that the extraordinary proceedings that are coming to light in Mexico and Texas, address themselves. The Government of the United States, in view of them, has conspicuous duties to perform. In truth, what are the end and object of this Royal express establishment between Galveston and Vera Cruz, and of the dispatches and couriers which it is errand to convey? - The whole scope of the procedure is to defeat an avowed purpose of the United States. The government of Great Britain, through its agents on this side, has undertaken, by a series of secret communications, operating on the fears, interests, and prejudices of third parties, to forestall and defeat a law of the United States, having reference to no other American concerns. This is not only consistent with comity and good neighborhood; it is ipso facto an act of enmity, and would not be endured by or from any other country. It is not only petty intermeddling; it is grossly insulting to the United States, and calls for an indignant and unequivocal remonstrance. What would be thought and said, were the United States to send emissaries into India to stir up insurrection and discontent, and check the progress of British domination in that quarter of the World? Yet here are emissaries of Britain engaged with every appliance of artifice and cunning, in exciting animosity against this Republic for the declared purpose of defeating a friendly arrangement which it is endeavoring to consummate with a neighboring state, and of supplanting its influence and checking its progress.

"We ventured to express the opinion, some time since, that in a certain contingency, it would become the duty of the United States, (of the President of the United States, In case Congress was not in session) to solve this Texan question, as Mr. Madison solved the question of the Perdido line, namely, by a military occupation of the century. Our neighbor of the Picayune, with some caution and a material qualification, assented to this proposition; and thus mutilated, it has been the subject of considerable animadversion with that class of public prints with consider the quality of submission the only one that the American Government ought to exercise in its foreign intercourse. We think the present a proper occasion to reiterate that proposition, with the full extent and meaning of our former argument. We take this broad ground, that the United States would be derelict to every principle they are bound to maintain: would forfeit their character, dignity and self respect, and subject themselves to perpetual insult and injury, were they to suffer the Annexation of Texas to be defeated, by any means, whatever, through the intervention of an European Power. This option may be easily manifested by reference to examples in our previous history, as well as by the doctrines held by all our early statesmen and politicians, whose names are now held as authority.

The Bulletin here cites the celebrated Raleigh letter of Mr. Clay as justifying the action of our Government, under the present circumstances and relics, for a full explanation of the principles on which its opinion is founded, to Mr. Clay’s eloquent and triumphant speech in defense of Mr. Madison’s seizure of Baton Rouge and Mobile, pending the dispute with the Spanish Government concerning the Western Boundary or Louisiana, and also to Mr. Monroe’s manifesto of 1820, setting forth the rights and duties of this Government as the leading power of the West. On the example of Mr. Madison and on the two State papers and on the two state papers to which we have referred, we hope Mr. Polk will have the courage and decision and firmness of character to take his stand and maintain the position and the rights of the country"
The question has, indeed, assumed a new and deeply interesting phases. But we have no fears of the result. We are convinced that the people of Texas are too brave, honorable, intelligent and American, to yield for one moment to the bribe of its own Executive, acting as the tool of Great Britain. We have yet seen nothing to make us doubt the success of the grand measure of annexation. The Richmond Whig is destined to be disappointed in his hopes of seeing annexation defeated. The whirlwind of popular indignation will sweep off every cloud which the intrigues of President Jones and his British conspirers may have thrown over the fate of Texas. Refined by the ordeal through which they have passed, her citizens will be better prepared to breathe the pure air and enjoy the genial influence, of the American Union.

June 6, 1845, REv42i9p2c5, The Mexican Installments

After we publish in yesterdays paper the paragraph stating that a case had not been made out to authorize the president of the United States, under the appropriation of Congress, to pay the two installments alleged to have been paid by the Mexican Treasury to the agent of the U. Stages, the Northern mail brought us the New York Journal of Commerce, with a letter from its Washington correspondent, of the 31st May. It reads in the following manner:

"A letter was received from a most reliable source in Mexico,(by the Eugenia, I believe;) stating, that the two first installments of the Mexican indemnity have been paid! The writer states that he had acquainted Mr. Walker-the secretary of the Treasury- of the fact. Here then is the tardy confirmation of the statement made in august last by our Envoy, Gov. Shannon, that the installments had been paid by Mexico to the agents of the United States authorized to receive them. Six installments of the indemnity are now due, and not a copper has ever been paid to the claimants. Two installments have been paid by the Mexican Government and embezzled by agents of the United States! This is a most extraordinary state of facts; and our surprise is not lessened by the circumstance that not explanation of the matter has ever been maid to our Government by our Minister, Mr. Shannon , thought he must have been apprized on the calls made by the Senate for information, and of the action of that body, based on the supposition that the money was embezzled, and must, indeed, have been asked for some explanation by the Executive. A gentleman who left New York in the ‘Anahuac’ for Mexico in April last finally obtains the information. Another singular fact in connection with this matter is, that by the 'Somers' which Capt. Conner dispatched with important intelligence for our Government, not a word was received from Gov. Shannon; andletters to inform us that he has communicated nothing to Capt. Conner. This untimely reserve certainly needs some explanation. It is time that this mystery, which has been thickening for twelve months, should be cleared up, at least as far as this Government and its agents are concerned, Is it true that the Government, not satisfied with the contradictory statements of Mr. B. Green and of Gov> Shannon as to the payment of the installments, sent out a special agent to enquire into the matter? If so, what circumstances rendered it expedient or necessary to seek information through sources other than our own Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary?"

We know nothing of the details of the recent transactions-the "special agent"- or why it is that our minister Plenipotentiary did not make the necessary inquiries, although we all know that his intercourse with the government of Mexico has been very much embarrassed, if not entirely interrupted. But this we know, that the main fact upon which the correspondent of the Journal of Commerce relies does not exist. We have sought the necessary information upon that point only, and here is the explicit answer:

We are authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury to say, that he has received a letter from a reliable source in Mexico; but it does not contain the intelligence that the money was ever paid to an agent of the Government of the United States.

We further understand that a private letter has just been received, direct, by another distingguished member of our Government from Mexico, which states that our agent in Mexico for the amount of the two installments9and had probably receipted for it,) but that, on presenting the drafts to the treasury, they were not paid-most probably for want of means-[Union][BJM]

June 6, 1845, REv42i9p4c4, Mexican Commissions, Letters of Marque

We learn by a gentleman from Havana, now in this city, that numerous commissions from Mexico have already been issued to persons in Havana, to take effect immediately in the event of war. Our informant states that there are such commissions now in this city, and that one of them has been offered to one of our citizens.[BJM]

June 10, 1845, REv42i10p1c5, Texas

We have received the Galveston News, of the 24th May. It states the excitement at Galveston to be intense, on the receipt of the news that President Jones, with the aid of Elliot, had made a treaty with Mexico, for the independence of Texas, if she should decline annexation. The rumors were not, however, considered perfectly authentic; the News considers annexation certain, in spite of every obstacle. It gives the following information:
The U.S. Squadron—We learn that Com Stockton will shortly leave Galveston, for the purpose of cruising to the Southward, with the view probably of communicating with the balance of the Gulf Fleet off Vera Cruz. A rumor of the approach of a British squadron, has been in circulation, though too vague and indefinite to merit much attention. Another report, without any very reliable authority, has represented that the Mexicans are concentrating their forces upon the Rio Grande. The instructions of Commodore Stockton are undoubtedly to guard the whole coast of Texas and to report whatever hostile movements may be in operation. He is expected to return in a few days, and will probably make Galveston his headquarters for the balance of the year. [BJM]

June 10, 1845, REV42i10p1c5, The Mexican Installments

Great mystery seems to hang over the question whether these installments have or have not been received from Mexico by the United States agent. The last Washington Union gives the following version, which seems to us to present the probable state of the question:

"We have been favored with the following statement from a gentleman who has derived it, as he thinks from the best authority:

"Mr. Voss received from Trigueros, Minister of the Treasury, drafts upon the treasuries of different interior departments- to wit: Guadalajara, Guanajuato, and Zacatecas. These drafts he placed in the hands of Jaylem, Jamison & Co., one of the firmest English Commercial houses in Mexico, requesting that they should be sent on for collection. They were sent on, and accepted conditionally, to be paid as soon as there should be any money collected, and coming into those treasuries, wherewith to pay them. It was expected that the four millions of dollars levied for the Texas war would be collected and that these drafts would be paid therefrom. But the revolution put a stop to the collection of all taxes, and the drafts are still unpaid." [BJM]

June 10, 1845, REV42i10p2c2, News from the South

The following extracts confirm the accounts of British Intrigues in Texan affairs, and give us a glimpse of the terms of the bargain. It moreover seems, that the Texan or English commissioner, "the man with the white hat," was to be conveyed in a French brig of war. We do not like this sign. It does not look much like the 'neutrality' promised by the courier des Etas Unis.

Regarding the treaty between Texas and Mexico, the Mexican Government finds itself in a dilemma which precipitate action might render dangerous. They have raised a war spirit, which they discover they cannot quell, and which even to conciliate appears to be hazardous. Notwithstanding the large majority, which the treaty, or the authority to treat, obtained in the Mexican Congress, having passed the Chamber by a vote of 43 to 13, and the Senate by 30 to 6, the measure is exceedingly unpopular with the people.

No attempts are made in Mexico to disguise the deep and active interest: which Great Britian takes in every thing calculated to prevent the effectuation of the annexation measure. It is said that to accomplish her ends she offers to pay the debts of Texas, and to assume for Mexico ten millions of her English Bonds guaranteeing independence to the one, and security from the inroads of the United States to the other.

Captain Elliot and the officers of the trig ate who came up, are stopping at the St. Charles hotel.

The Texas or English Commissioner, "whose name is never heard" was to leave Vera Cruz on the 23rd inst for Galveston in the French brig of war Penur. Governor Shannon arrived a few days previous to the sailings of the
Euridice at Vera Cruz and would leave in a short time for the United States. Business in Vera Cruz is very dull. This is attributed almost wholly to the prohibitory tariff regulations now in force. It is confidently asserted that Congress will adopt a new tariff before it adjourns. The necessities of the Government will require an alteration which will encourage trade and bring more money to the treasury.[BJM]

June 10, 1845, REv42i10p2c2, Texas

The steamship McKim arrived yesterday morning from Galveston, We have it intelligence from that place to the 28th ultimo.

Nothing of any material importance has transpired since our last accounts from Texas.

The United States squadron had left Galveston the 27th on a cruise; The St. Mary had been dispatched to Vera Cruz by Commodore Stockton. (Illegible) It was rumored that Commodore Stockton would look in at corpus Christi, Brazzos Santiago, and other places.

The citizens of Galveston had behaved in the most hospitable manner- feting and entertaining the officers of the squadron- and intend on their return, to give them a special ball. The beautiful and accomplished ladies of Galveston appear to have been extraordinarily kind in those attentions, which none but the refined of the fair sex know how to bestow; the officers speak of them in raptures.

By this arrival, our friend Kendall, of the Picayune, came passenger, together with the party, which left here sometime since, on a hunt. The Picayune of yesterday says they found plenty of buffalo, deer and antelope, on the small streams between the San Gabriel and Little River, and were highly successful. We are glad to find Mr. Kendall looking so well, and apparently recovering from his late illness, that hat will be quite the rage.

President Jones seems to have been successful in calling a Convention of the people on the subject of annexation. His recommendation meets with general fervor. There is no longer cause for any fear about the Lone Star being added to our bright galaxy, for the feeling in favor of annexation gains daily strength throughout that Republic.

The McKim brought dispatches form Com. Stockton to the secretary of the Navy, which are now on their way to Washington.

The Houston Star of the 24th inst., seems to have received intelligence which, if well founded, seems to be of much importance. We extract from that paper the following.

"Within a few days we have received intelligence from a respectable source that these troops have approached the Rio Grande, and that it is now currently reported in Mexico that they are to be stationed East of the river. It is said that the Mexican Government is determined to take possession of the corridor west of the Nueces, and when the measure of annexation is consummated, she will appeal to the world and declare that as the territory West of the Nueces is in possession of of her troops, the claim of Texas to it is void. Information has recently been received at Corpus Christi that indicates that Mexico is playing a deep scheme of treachery. We are happy to state here, that arrangements have been made to obtain accurate information of the movements of the Mexican forces, and it is believed that our Government will be prepared to repel any incursion of Mexican troops into the disputed territory."[BJM]

June 13, 1845, REv42i11p2c5, The Navy Court Martial

After the Court met, the examination of the Rev. Mr. Jackson, the chaplain of the frigate was concluded. His testimony chiefly related to a conversation between the commander of the Argentine squadron, Commodore Filton, and Captain Voorhees, on board of the Congress, in which the latter disclaimed all knowledge of, or connection with, the conduct of the San Cala, which did not belong to his squadron; and stated that the difficulty might have been prevented if Capt. Voorhees, instead of attacking him, had requested an explanation.

Soon afterwards, Capt. Voorhees released the Argentine Officers, and ordered Commodore Filton to resume his command, which he refused to do, and retired to his vessel under a protest.

Mr. Black, the boatswain, and Mr. City, the gunner of the congress, were next examined, but did not give any material additional testimony.

Midshipman McCorkle was also examined- He proved an order from Capt. Voorhees, which he carried to the prize master on board each of the Argentine Vessels, to release all the Montevideo prisoners and prizes which might be found in their custody. He was, himself, the prize-master of the San Cala, and one of the officers who captured her. His testimony was mainly in corroboration of that Lieut. Porter. It appeared that neither of the witnesses nor any one on board the Congress, saw the alleged firing of the San Cala upon the American bark Rosalva.
A series of documents were also presented as testimony by the judge advocate, being a correspondence between the United States Consul, Capt. Voorhees, and General Oribe, tending to prove that Captain Voorhees knew and admitted the right of General Oribe to use the Montevidean flag; for wearing which by the San Cala, under authority from General Oribe he had pronounced her a pirate. The counsel for Captain Voorhees objected to the admission of this documentary testimony, but they were received by the court after argument. The judge advocate offered in evidence as the confessions and admissions of the accused, his official report of the transactions of the 29th of September, made on that day and sent to Commodore Turner, and by him to this Government; but on objection the court rejected the same, After which they adjourned.[BJM]

June 13, 1845, REv42i11p4c1, Political, Annexation of Texas

Hon. J. C. Calhoun

Dear Sir: At a Democratic meeting held in this city on the 14th instant, the undersigned were appointed a Committee “to express the cordial approbation of the meeting of your public conduct, their gratitude for your services, and to offer to you on the part of the meeting such other manifestation of their respect and esteem as we might think proper”

In carrying out the purpose of this resolution, we beg leave to assure you of the high sense felt by your Democratic fellow-citizens of this place of your distinguished public services. And especially of the wisdom, firmness and patriotism that marked your conduct as Secretary of State, under the late administration.

Grateful as this duty is to us, we fear that we can but lamely express the admiration left for those talkers that have lifted you so high in the world’s regard, and the devotion of which to the public interests has tender so much to a right understanding of our peculiar form of Government and reflected such lasting glory upon the Country.

It is to your public efforts that your fellow citizens are mainly indebted for a true exposition of the relative powers and duties of the State and Federal Governments.

From you they have learned the Great truth, that the harmony of all can only be preserved by each one’s confining its action within the allotted sphere, and that the rights of the people and the States can only be properly secured by carefully guarding against the centralizing tendency of our Federative System. It was made especially our duty to thank you for the manner in which as Secretary of State, you conducted the negotiations for the re-annexation of Texas. You were chiefly instrumental in effecting the settlement of that great question, upon which national prosperity and the security of the South so much depend. In your official papers is to be found a noble vindication of the character and rights of the Southern people; and our gratitude is due to you for the rescue of that rich section of your continent from fanatical influence and European domination. And now, when every indication promises the addition of Texas to our family of states, thus affording security to the Southern seaboard, and opening a wider field for the March of Republican institutions, permit us to assure you of our grateful sense of your agency in effecting this great result.

Many very many, of your fellow-citizens in this quarter of the Union, earnestly desire to see and hear you and shake you by the hand; and for them we would press you to gratify their wishes.

As an evidence of their approbation of your public and private life, we are instructed to tender you a Public dinner, to be given in this place at such time as you may designate.

We have understood that it is your intention ere long, to visit this State, and we trust that you will extend your journey to Mobile, and afford us an opportunity of manifesting the sincere regard in which you are held by

Your friends and fellow citizens,  
PERCY WALKER, THOS, HOL ANS. THOS MCGRAN, JA CAMPBELL, WR HALLET. Committee.

Fort Hill, 15th May, 1845. Gentlemen:- From some delay in the mail, I did not receive, until a few days since, your letter of the 21st April, informing me that at a Democratic meeting held in the city of Mobile on the 11th of the same month, you were appointed a committee to express the copilot approbation of the meeting of my public conduct, their gratitude for my services, and to other, on the part of the meeting, such other manifestations of their respect and esteem as you might think proper.

I will not attempt to express the deep gratitude I feel for the warm approbation of my public conduct and services expressed by the meeting in their resolutions, and the very acceptable manner in which you have performed the duty entrusted to you.

In performing it, you have alluded with particular approbation to my conduct and services in reference to State Rights, and during the period I filled, for a shirt time, the State Department under the late administration.
To no part of my public life do I look back with greater pleasure, than the devoted to expounding and maintaining the relations between the Federal and State Governments, on which the doctrine of State Rights depends and it is a great conclusion for me to think it has not been in vain.

The Federal Government, regarded in its federative character, in which the State, and not individuals, are its continuants, is the most remarkable ever formed; and promises, if carried out honestly and tacitly as such, a higher degree of prosperity and happiness, than has ever fallen to the lot of any people. On the other hand, regarded as a National Government, in which individuals and not States are the constituents, it has nothing novel or remarkable about it, Instead of a great Federal Republic, as it is, it would be in that character a huge unwieldy Democracy, destined to be torn into fragments by hostile and conflicting interest, and to terminate in convulsions. Such being my coniveiorn, I felt it to be my duty to maintain the Federal character fo the Government against the national or consol dative, at any sacrifice and hazard, and shall continue to do so long as it shall please the author of my being to spare my life.

The services I rendered during the period I filled the State Department, were performed under great difficulties and embarrassments. Nothing indeed, but the magnitude of the questions involved in the negotiations in reference to Texas and Oregon, with the difficulties and embarrassments encircling them, and the unanimous call of the country to take charge of the negotiations, could have induced me to leave my retirement and return to public life, Besides those that were intrinsic, there were many that were of an extraneous character.

Among others, the administration was literally without a party in Congress, and very freely supported by the people; and the presidential question was pending, which experience had taught me overruled in a great measure all others.

The negotiation in reference to Texas first claimed my attention, because it was the most depressing and could not be delayed without haard, In order to avoid the difficultes and embarrassments which I apprehended from the Presedential election. I resolved to keep entirely form the party politics fo the day, and especially from questions relating to the election, and to use my effort to induce the candidates not to commit themselves against annexation. I had little apprehension that Mr. Van Buren would, as a great majority of his friens, with General Jackson at their bead, had declared for it. The Position of Mr. Clay was different, The masses of his friends in the North opposed it, which I learned would sway him, In order to prevent it it possible, I saw some of his most prominent friends with whom I was on friendly terms and used every argument I could with them, to exert their influence to prevent him from coming out against it.

It was all in vain. His letter in opposition soon after appeared, and Mr. Van Buren’s followed shortly after, most unexpectedly to me.

Their effort was great. Mr. Clays friends were rallied against it almost to a man, although the great body of them in the West and South, were strongly disposed to support, and not a few of the prominent, openly committed in its favor.

It was different with Mr. Van Buren’s. the great body of his supporters remained frim in its support; but an active, influential and not an inconsiderable number adhered to his course, Indeed, the stand tken by the selected candidates of the two great prties, with the influence of the presidential question and the feebleness of the Administration in Congress and the country, seemed, for a time, to reneder the prospect of success almost hopeless.

To these causes of opposition, there must be taken into consideration another, to realize the difficulties and embarrassments that stood in the way of the success of the measure, I allude to Abolition, IT may, indeed be truly regarded as the main spring which put the others in motion.

The Abolition party in the North and West had taken an early and decided stand against it, and had gone so far as to adopt measures to influence the party in Great Britain, and through them, the British government to oppose it as the most effectual means of abolishing slavery in Texas as the most certain means of doing so in the United States and that of doing it throughout the continent. To consummate this grand well laid scheme, it was indispensable that Texas should be prevented from being annexed to our Union while the only possible way to defeat it and prevent the mighty consequences which would flow from it, was the annexation of Texas.

The course of the British Government at an early stage of the negotiation, made it manifest that it had warmly and fully embraced the scheme, the declaration made by its Minister at Washington to our Government before it had fairly commenced (a copy of which was left at the Department of State after I had entered on its duties) left not a doubt on that point. It indeed as well as avowed it by declaring that Great Britain desired to see slavery abolished in Texas and throughout the world, and that she was using constant efforts to effect it, and by inference, that she was using her influence and diplomacy with Mexico to agree to recognize the independence of Texas, on condition that she should abolish slavery.
I saw in this declaration, thus formally made to our Government, a confirmation of what I believed to be her scheme of policy in connection with Texas, from other but less conclusive evidence in my possession. I also saw clearly, that whether it would succeed or not, depended on the fact whether Texas should or should not be annexed; and that, if succeeded, its inevitable consequences would be the final consummation of her great and deep design, to be followed by the desolation of the South, the prostration of the commerce and prosperity of the continent, with a monopoly on her part: of the great tropical products of sugar, coffee, rice, tobacco and cotton, which are almost exclusively as far as this continent is concerned, the result of slave labor.

Seeing all this, the question presented to me was, how shall the declaration of the British Government be met? Shall it be silently passed over, leaving annexation to be urged on other and different grounds, or shall it be directly and boldly met and exposed?

It is not in my nature to hesitate between such alternatives. My conviction is deep, that truth, honesty and plain dealing is the true policy on all occasions in the management of public affairs. Including diplomatic and I resolved, without hesitation to take them as my guides on this memorable occasion. The defeat of this deep-laid scheme. The success of annexation. As man now be almost certainly said, the vindication of the great institution on which our safety depends and the rescue of the commerce of the continent from the grasp of commercial monopoly, have been the result, and, I may add, as far as I am individually concerned, your approbation, that of the meeting you represent, and , if I may judge from indications, nearly of the whole country now of my course.

But at the time the approbation was not so unanimous, denunciation then, loud and deep, fell on my head.

I was charged with introducing a new local subject of little importance into the Texan Issue, where the base design of injuring the prospect of one of the Presidential candidates, and of dissolving the Union! And many, who did not go so far, even southern men whose all was at stake, thought that I acted injudiciously in introducing the slave question, and giving it such prominence; that it was calculated to have a bad party effect and to drive off some of the party who were not sound on the subject of Abolitionists. But I bass them by without remark or comment now, when time and experience and the approbation of the country sanction the wisdom of the course I adopted.

The absorbing character of the negotiation in reference to Texas, did not so engross my attention as to neglect that of Oregon. As soon as the former was sufficiently dispatched, and the business of the department brought up, I entered on that. I left it in an unfinished state; and as it is still pending, I am not at liberty to speak of the course I took in reference to it; but I trust, when it comes to be made public, it will not be less successful in meeting your approbation and that of the country generally, It is a subject not without great difficulties, and I feel assured I shall be conducted by those to whose hands it is entrusted to finish the negotiation, as to bring it to a successful and satisfactory termination, and thus to avoid an appeal to arms. Neither country can possibly gain any thing by such an appeal, or can possibly desire it if it can be honorably avoided.

In conclusion, I assure you, and through you those you represent, that it would afford me great pereaure to partake of the public dinner you have tendered me in their name and of forming the personal aquaintence of my numerous friends in your city; but it is not now in my power. It is probable, however that I shall be happy to meet you and all of my friends.

With great respect, yours truly

J.C. CALHOUN

[BJM]

June 17, 1845, REv42i12p1c5, Another Act in the Drama

Were it not for the deeply interesting consequences of the present crisis in Texas upon the welfare of our own country and the cause of liberal institutions everywhere, we might well laugh over the ludicrous farce enacted by some of the leading politicians of Texas. President Jones has proved himself to be the veriest proteus that we have ever read of. He almost comes up to his great original. His deeds have been immortalized by Homer. When men Claus seized this Sea God, and held him till he disclosed means of relief from the distress of himself and his suffering crew, Protenus turned himself into a lion; a serpent; a leopard, a boar, water and a tree. At length finding he could not escape he resumed his own form and revealed to Menelaus the remedy for his distress. So with President Jones, It is in vain for him to assume so many changing shapes—at one time in favor of annexation, and then leagued with Mexico and Great Britain against the solemn action of the United States. He will finally be compelled to return to his natural form, and yield to the clamorous demands of the people of Texas for a relief from Mexican oppression and British intrigue, in the arms of the American Union.

This Dr. Jones, who is from Massachusetts we believe, is full of mystery. We cannot, for the life of us unravel the motives of his contact. The last accounts from Texas, which will be found below, now represent him as a warm friend
or annexation, and as having never made proposals to Mexico, to obtain an acknowledgement of her independence. This, sustained as it apparently was by the evidence of the American Naval officers, and by a number of corroborating circumstances is not semi officially denied by the Houston Telegraph, the organ or President Jones, That paper says "We have been assured by Colonel Allen, our secretary of State, That President Jones has made no proposals to Mexico, and authorized no agent to proceed to Mexico with proposals.” The same paper alleges, that there was “fraud” at the bottom of the affair; that the great seal of Texas had been forged, for the purpose of imposing upon the Mexican Government—By whom was this forgery committed. All seem to admit that Captain Elliott has had a finger in the business and has succeeded in consummation a treaty on the part or Mexico, a participation in which has been ascribed to president Jones. Moreover, there is no doubt that Captain Elliott arrived at Galveston on the 30th from Vera Cruz in a French vessel of War, ans set out for the seat of Government immediately—and the papers state that he was the bearer of propositions from Mexico, acknowledging Texan Independence. If, then, the great seal of Texas has been forged, and Mexico thereby induced to agree to a treaty, upon whom must the guilt lie? Can it be possible that the accredited agent of the great British Government, the pink of honor, good faith, and glorious ambition, has stooped to so criminal a proceeding, as to counterfeit the seal of a nation, in order to cheat the people of that nation out of their dearest rights or else involve themselves and their allies in a fierce war? These things are all strange mysterious incomprehensible. They furnish texts for a thousand versions of the conduct of President Jones, the British Agents. An air of romance is thrown over the whole proceeding. The Gordian knot will remain unraveled, until the Congress of Texas, representing as we doubt not, the wishes of the people, shall assemble on the 16th instant, today, and looking to but one leading object, annexation to our Union solve all difficulties by a decisive blow.

But strange as may be the conduct of President Jones, his organ plainly asserts, that he is now friendly to annexation, and intends, we presume, to throw no impediments in the way of the people of Texas. At all events, he must be now convinced that in affairs of the mighty importance which it has been his lot to conduct, a frank straight forward honest course is always the best. A man placed in his responsible position ought to deal frankly with his own people and with foreign nations. His vacillating shuffling movements have lost him the respect of fellow citizens, have weakened the moral force of Texas in the rank of Nations, and have cast a shadow over the destinies of the Republic. And there we would remark that we cannot concur in the “coquettish” policy of General Sam Houston. He may have a thorough knowledge of the workings of human passions, and his fame may be the true one in an Affair of the heart but we are sure that he has misapplied it in his attempt to get the advantaged of as cunning of a diplomat as Great Britain, represented as she was by Elliott, the man of China and Opium noriety. In his maneuver to excite the jealously of the United States and by that means to induce her to warmer acknowledgement of the suit of Texas, we fear that Gen H has stimulated the hopes of Great Britain, and caused her to involve herself so deeply in the game of advance and ambition, that she cannot, without losing her own self respect and sinking her honor, avoid giving some trouble to Texas as well as to ourselves. Our sincere impression is, that the unfortunate steps or Gen Houston, taken in connection with his leaving the country at this critical movement, though it were for the noble purpose of taking a final leave of his old companion in arms at the Hermitage, will not gain him much favor, either from the people of Texas or the United States. One thing seems to be certain—Texas will agree to annexation. But strange as may be the conduct of President Jones, the British Agents. An air of romance is thrown over the whole proceeding. The Gordian knot will remain unraveled, until the Congress of Texas, representing as we doubt not, the wishes of the people, shall assemble on the 16th instant, today, and looking to but one leading object, annexation to our Union solve all difficulties by a decisive blow.

The Events in Texas and Mexico furnish a picture full of strange features and most extraordinary combinations of light and shade, Our readers will compare the interesting news below with what we have already furnished them, and will have a find opportunity or exerting their faculties, in giving form to the chaotic elements:[BJM]

June 17, 1845, REv42i12p1c6, Six Days Later From Texas

By the steamship New York, Captain Wright, which arrived yesterday afternoon, we have received dates from Galveston to the 3d inst. The New York had a pleasant passage, and brought over 25 passengers.

Mr. Henderson, U.S. Consul at Galveston, and Judge Baldwin, of New York were among the passengers.

Soon after the arrival of the New York, a letter from a source entitled to the most unlimited confidence was placed at our disposal. From it we make the following extract:

"Look out for war with Mexico—Since Elliott’s arrival from Vera Cruz this is all the talk. IT is said , too, that Mexico is congregating a large force at the Rio Grande, which is to move against Texas if she rejects Elliot’s treaty. I believe war will be the effect of the steps recently taken by the British Government.

"Elliott has a set of proposals for the independence of Texas if she rejects annexation. These proposals will be rejected. Of course the initiation of war is thrown back upon Mexico: but in my judgment, Elliott will contrive to send secret intelligence to the Mexicans on the Rio Grande, and that they will not wait for new orders from the Mexican Capital.”

The U.S. Squadron under command of Com. Stockton, were lying off Galveston when the New York Left. No British Ships of war were in sight.
Captain Elliott the British Charge D’Affairs had arrived in Galveston with a treaty from Mexico, acknowledging the independence of Texas and set out for the seat of government immediately. The Galveston News on this subject says: The purpose of the treaty according to Elliott’s Statement to a friend or ours, is simply the recognition of our independence, without regard to limits, upon the condition that we renounce annexation to the United States, leaving us at liberty to be annexed to England or any government and comments very strongly against the meddling of this officious minister.

On the other hand the ethical organ denies that President Jones has sent or authorized my permission to go to Mexico and treat for the independence of Texas, and affirms that he is favorable to the measure of annexation.

This is News attacks in the following manner:

“The Telegraph has for several weeks past been endeavoring to convince the public that President Jones is a sincere and ardent friend of annexation. We have been accustomed to judge of public men by their acts, rather than their professions. Nothing would afford us more pleasure than to be able to concur in the opinion with the Telegraph. But this inference of Dr. Jones friendly disposition towards annexation is certainly not drawn from any statement of existing facts, but directly in the face of them. The Telegraph makes this announcement, as it were, ex cathedra, and officially. We have heard it suggested that the Telegraph has superseded the Register, and is in the confidence of the President. If this be the case, it would be rash to contradict its statements and disclosures. In relation to these strange proceedings, the Telegraph says: We have been assured that President Jones has made no proposals to Mexico and authorized no messenger to proceed to Mexico with proposals, and then suggests that all these negotiations have originated in fraud, and a forgery of the great seat of the Republic. This, to say the least of it, is a most extraordinary mode of explanation, and challenges no small share of credulity especially as at this moment Captain Elliott is in Washington, and probably again in secret conclave with the President. How they will accommodate matters, it passes the powers of conjecture to imagine. Can they succeed in making some irresponsible third party the scapegoat of all those impostumes? We can find no trace of him here. Has the Englishman this Mr. Smith, this man in the with hat, shuffled himself off, and kindly relieved all other parties from responsibility?”

In other respects we find but little of interest. Every preparation throughout the Republic was making to push the election for delegates to the Convention on with vigor and from all appearance any proposition, save that of re annexation of Texas to the United States would be rejected with scorn and indignation by the people who are unanimous upon that subject.

Major Donelson, and General M. B. Lamar arrived in Galveston on the 25th ult.

A shark attacked Mr. Wells, the well-known dancer, on Saturday last, while bathing in the gulf. His side was cut, much bruised, and two ribs broken. At last accounts he was getting better.

The Picayune of June 7th mentions the receipt of verbal news to the effect that the Mexicans are really concentrating a large force on the Rio Grande. Preparatory to war, should Texas agree to annexation? The information is further the feeling in Texas is thoroughly warlike all are eager for a brush with Mexico, and moreover the propositions of England and Mexico will promptly be rejected.

Many think, says the Picayune, that the movement of the Mexicans towards the Rio Grande is instigated by England, but let who will be at the bottom of it, our government ought at once to march an efficient force to the frontiers of Texas.

June 20, 1845, REv42i13p1c6, A Diary about General Jackson

My Dear Sir: Aware of your desire to know the condition of the patriot of the Hermitage in the closing scenes of his life, I write down from day to day, during the short visit I make him what occurs of interest.

On my arrival, I found ex president Jackson more comfortable than he had been, although his disease is not abated, and his long and useful life is rapidly drawing to a close. He has not been in a condition to lie down during the last four months. His feet and legs, his hands and arms are very much swollen with dropsy, which has invaded his whole system. Bandages are drawn tight around the parts most affected to prevent, as much as possible, the increase of the water, He has scarcely any use of his hands. The bandages are removed several times in the 24 hours and the parts rubbed severely to restore animation and the circulation of the blood. He has no sleep except by opiates. His left ling was ruptured many years ago during the Seminole campaign In Florida, and is entirely destroyed, and the other much diseased. When the dropsy commenced, the couch was extremely severe, and expectoration profuse. The symptoms, which had continued for years, now gradually gave way and almost entirely ceased. This was followed by a loss of appetite and constant nausea and prostration. This change took place early in April and about the first of May a diarrhea commenced which seemed to threaten an immediate dissolution. This continued for a few days with great suffering but fortunately reduced the swelling of the whole system. The abatement of the diarrhea was succeeded by the swelling in all parts, with violent pain and extreme difficulty breathing, when nature would again relive itself as above described.
Thursday, May 29—Gen Jackson is rather more comfortable having obtained sleep from opiates. This day he sat a while to Mr. Healy who had been sent by Louis Phillip to paint his portrait. Mr. Healy told me that it was the Design of the King of the French to lace his portrait by the side of that of Washington, which it already hangs in its gallery. The most celebrated and interesting historical gallery in the world, and to surround them with the pictures of the most eminents of American generals and statesmen. Mr. Healy is commissioned by the king to paint the portraits of some twelve of the most distinguished revolutionaries patrons, to surround those of Washington and Jackson, the greatest and best men our country has ever produced. Also some of the most prominent living politicians of the day, Messrs. John Quincy Adams and Henry Clay were named by Mr. Healy to me. Mr. Healy was enabled to make much progress in his work to day, and, as usual the General received visitors, more than thirty, All were admitted from the humblest to the most renowned to take the vererall chieftain by the hand and bid him farewell. Among the visitors was General Jessup, an old friend and companion in arms. The meeting of these most faithful and gallant soldiers and servants of the republic was deeply interesting and affecting. A reverend gentleman called to inquire in regard to General's Health, his faith and future hope. The General said: "Sir I am in the hands of a merciful God. I have full confidence in his goodness and mercy. My lamp of life is nearly out, and the last glimmer has come. I am ready to depart, when called. The Bible is true. The principles and statutes of that holy book, have been the rule of my life, and I have tried to conform to its spirit as near as possible. Upon that sacred volume I rest my hope for eternal salvation, through the merits and our blesses Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." Nothing further was said upon the subject.

Friday May 29. The General passed a bad night, no sleep, extremely feeble this morning.

Mr. Healy, with considerable exertions on the part of the General, was enabled to finish the portrait on which he labored with great care. It was presented to the General. After examining it for some time he remarked to Mr. Healy, "I am satisfied, Sir, that you stand at the head of your profession; if I may be allowed to judge of my own likeness, I can safely concur in the opinion of my family; this is the best that has been taken. I feel very much obliged to you, Sir, for the great labor and care you have been pleased to bestow upon it." The family was all highly gratified with its faithfulness. I consider it the most perfect representation I have ever seen, giving rather the remains of the heroic personage, than the full life that made him the most extraordinary combination of spirit and energy, with a slender form, the world ever saw.

At 9 o’clock, as is the custom, all the generals family—except the few who take their turn to watch by his side—took their leave of him. Each of the family approached him, received his blessing, bid him farewell, hissed him as it would seem an eternal good night, for he would say, my work is done for life. After his family retires, it is touching to witness this heroic man who has faced every danger with a unyielding front, offer up his prayers for those whom Providence has committed to his care, that Heaven would protect and prosper them when he is no more, praying still more fervently to God for the preservation of his country, of the Union, and the people of the United States, from all foreign influence and invasion, tendering his forgiveness to his enemies, and his gratitude to God for his support and success through a ling life, and for the hope of eternal salvation through the merits of our blessed redeemer.

The General exerts himself to discharge every duty, and with all his anxious care that is possible, but his debility, and the unremitting anguish he suffers, has almost extinguished every power except that of his intellect. Occasionally his distress produces spasmodic affections, yet in the midst of the worst Paradoxes of pain, not a murmur, not even a groan escapes from his lips. Great and Just in life, calm and resigned to death.

Saturday, May 30. The General passes a distressed night, no sleep extreme debility this morning, attended with increased swelling of the abdomen, and all his limbs and difficulty of breathing. He said "I hope God grant patience to submit to his holy will; He does all things well and blessed be his holy and merciful name." His bible is always near him; if he is in his chair, it is on the table by his side, when propped up in that bed, that sacred volume is laid by him and he often reads it. He has no power, and is lifted in and out of his sitting posture in bed to the same posture. The General exerts himself to discharge every duty, and with all his anxious care that is possible, but his debility, and the unremitting anguish he suffers, has almost extinguished every power except that of his intellect. Occasionally his distress produces spasmodic affections, yet in the midst of the worst Paradoxes of pain, not a murmur, not even a groan escapes from his lips. Great and Just in life, calm and resigned to death.

June 1, "this Day" the general said "Is the holy Sabbath ordained by god and set apart to be devoted to his worship and praise, I always attended church service at church when I could but now I can go no more. He desired his family to go and charged them to continue to educate the poor at Sunday school. This new system of instruction he said with blended the duties of a religion with those of humanity, he considered of vast importance, and spoke with an emphasis which showed his anxiety to impress this upon his family. Mrs. Jackson and her sister Mrs. Adams regularly attend to their instruction on the Sabbath. A part fo the family went to church, The General looked out of the window, and said, "this is apparently the last Sabbath I shall be with you. God will be done, He is kind and merciful” The Generals look is often fixed with peculiar attention to his granddaughter Rachel, named after his wife so beloved and whose memory he has so tenderly cherished, The young Rachel has all the lovely and admirable characteristics for which the elder Mr. Jackson was so remarkable.

Monday June 2- The General passed a bad night. No sleep. An evident increase of water on the chest. He read many letters as usual some of them were from persons of whom he had no knowledge, asking for autographs and making other requests. The letters were opened by some of the family, Mrs. Jackson or Mrs. Adams were almost constantly with him He looked over them, those of importance were opened and read. Among them was one from Major Donnellson, Charge de Affairs to Texas gising an account of the almost incredible proceedings of the British agent, Elliott, to prevent the annexation of Texas to the United States. The General said "we have made a disgraceful sacrifice of our territory, an important portion of our country was given away to England without a shadow of title on the part of the claimants has been shown by the admission of the English Ministers on referring in Parliament, to the Kings map, on which the true boundaries were depicted and of tic they were appraised when urging their demands.
Right on the side of the American People, and firmness in maintaining it” he continued “ with trust in God, alone, will secure to them the integrity of the possessions on which the British Government would now deprive them. I am satisfied that they will assert and vindicate, what justice awards them and that no part of our territory or country will ever be submitted to any arbitration of the cannons mouth

He felt grateful to a merciful Providence, that had always sustained him through all his struggles, and in the defiance of the continued independence and prosperity of his beloved country, and that he could now give up his stewardship, and resign his breath to God, who gave it with the cheering reflection, that the country was now settled down upon a firm Democratic basis that the rights of the laboring classes were represented and protected (for he adds it is from them that the country derives all its prosperity and greatness) and for them we must ever look to defend our soil when invaded. “ They have never refused, no sir, and and never will. Give them an honest government, freedom from monopolies and privileged classes and hard money, not paper currency for their hard labor and all will be well.

At 2 o’clock P.M. his distress became suddenly very great, and the water, increasing to an alarming extent. An express was sent to Nashville, twelve miles for surgical aid. An operation was performed by Dr. Easley with success, much water was taken from his abdomen, which produced great relief, although extreme prostration.

Tuesday, June 3rd—Much distress through the night. Opiates were freely administered but sleep appeared to have passed him. Calm and perfectly resigned to the will of his Redeemer, He prayed to God to sustain him in his hour of dissolution.

At 10 am, Mrs. Robinson and Walters arrived from Nashville. Dr Esleman having remained with the General throughout the night, a consultation was held and all that was done was approved, and all that could be done was to conform to the Generals temporary wants.

At 1 pm, I left his house for home. He expressed great solicitude in my behalf but I was silent, the scene was too affecting, and I left this aged soldier, statesman, and Christian Patriot with all the pious and hospitable inmates of the Hermitage, without the power of saying farewell.

Yours Truly, WILLIAM TYACK

June 20, 1845, REv42i13p1c7, Texas

“Jones now is determined to reject the Mexican treaty as soon as presented by Elliott; and in advance, the government organ of Texas denies that President Jones ever authorized any person to negotiate on the part of Texas with Mexico. If Elliott, ex parte, had negotiated this treaty, he has placed his government in a most incredulous position, and so clearly in the wrong in the eyes of the World, that he has disgraced himself as a negotiator and tarnished the honor of Great Britain”

June 27, 1845, REv42i15p1c , From Mexico, Santa Anna

By the arrival yesterday of the fast sailing packet brig Titi, Captain Brown from Havana, we have dates from that city up to the 11th inst. Fro files of papers, in addition to those received at this office, we are indebted to a commercial house of this city.

A correspondent of the Havana Diario do la Marina, writing from the city of Mexico under date of the 27th of May, says. “With Reference to letters written from Perote, it is said that Santa Anna was well pleased on receiving the passport granting him permission to leave the Republic. Canalizo, on the contrary, is said to have remarked, when he was informed that the amnesty was proclaimed, and that he could leave the country “that he would prefer death at home to starvation among strangers.”

In Regard to Texas, the same correspondent has the following. We translate from Dariode la Marina:

“It is said that the propositions which have been made, in relation to Texas, to the Mexican Senate, are the following:

“Recognition or independence.

An Indemnification of $20 000 000- $5000000 to be paid at once and 15 000 000 to be paid at some other time.

The settlement of boundaries.

The agreement of Texas not to annex to the United States, to be guarantied by France and England.
"I am not sure that this is all true, but it is certain that persons well informed, who converse daily with the president and members of the Cabinet, assure us that we shall have no war. I believe we shall not; and what renders it more certain, is the fact, that, up to this time, we have seen no preparations made for offensive operations.

"If these happened to be the real facts in regard to the propositions of annexation made in Mexico- our private advices, however, lead us to discredit altogether the stipulation about the $20,000,000 as well as to doubt the appearance of the guaranty of England and France upon the face of the treaty—the proceedings of Captain Elliott and the man with the white hat, are of a piece with the other exploits of the great and little functionaries that have figured in this business. This indemnification of twenty millions will make our Texan friends open their eyes—even though it be understood that credit is do be given on fifteen million of it to the day of judgment. It is thought by some of our Texan friends that the "man in the white hat" was hired by Elliott to mystify the Mexican People, whilst he conducted the negotiations alone, Full powers were given to Elliott to negotiate and the "white hat" was paraded through the streets of Vera Cruz and Mexico for effect, and palmed off upon the public as a Texan agent. Be this as it may. Elliott was agent enough and has powers sufficiently ample and the production of a phantom Texas agent was in character with his deception in telling everybody in Texas that he was going to Charleston for his family, when in fact he was on the eve of embarking for the city of Vera Cruz in the double character of British Diplomat and Texan intriguer. We know divers amusing incidents in the career of Queen Victoria's Ambassador to Texas. When the matter is ended they shall be forthcoming, but as we do not feel mirthful enough to relate them. [BJM]

June 27, 1845, REv42i15p4c6, Very Late From Mexico

The barque Anahuac, Capt. Wilson, arrived at New York on Saturday morning in twenty-two days from Vera Cruz. Gov. Shannon, our late minister to Mexico, came passenger, Capt. Wilson, with Mr. Shannon and his passengers and letter bag, came up, says the Express, in the eight o'clock boat from quarantine. The political condition of things was very unsettled. It was the general belief that there would soon be another revolution in Mexico. The Government was very poor, and unable to pay the army and nave with any degree of promptness. The general belief among all classes, in Mexico, was that Texas would not accept the terms offered by the Congress of the United States and that consequently the country would not be annexed. There was a very hostile feeling against Americans and the people believed that should Texas be annexed, a declaration of war would follow.

Mr. Shannon represents that the drafts on the Mexican Treasury, received by the American agent for the two installments due, had not been paid for the want of funds. James M. Joralmon, of New York, also came passenger in the same vessel. He was robbed on his way from Mexico to Vera Cruz with nine other coach passengers who together lost some 1500 dollars. Mr. J's loss in money and clothing did not exceed 100 dollars. The country continued in the most unsettled state, and war is confidently anticipated, if the annexation of Texas is completed.

Murders and robberies are constantly occurring and on the most public roads and in the most public places.

The Joint committees of Congress on the affairs of Texas came to the following conclusion: That Mexico is at liberty to authorize its government to enter into a specific negotiation with Texas, which may arrange their differences, or lead to a treaty, convenient and honorable to the Republic, subject to the approval of Congress. So the members of the committee regard it almost with unanimity, hot doubting that the unilateral steps taken by the government are conformed to the soundest policy."

It appears that Tampico was in such a state of alarm on the 10th of May, that a public meeting was held to allay the agitation of the people.[BJM]
**July 1845**

**REv42n16c6p1 July 1, 1845 Magnetic Printing Telegraph**
A printer allows for the better efficiency of the telegraph in regards to transmission of information over the telegraph lines.

**REv42n16c1-2p2 July 1, 1845 Editorial**
Editorial by George Dallas about how the death of Jackson will help to catalyze the support for the Oregon territory and that his death should be a reminder to continue expansionism.

**REv42n16c5p2 July 1, 1845 Navy Department - Orders &c.**
Information regarding service orders for Navy personnel in the Richmond area.

**REv42n16c4p3 July 1, 1845 War**
Article concerning the involvement of the British in the conflict with the Mexicans and that the British involvement would mainly focus on the areas of Oregon and California.

**REv42n17c1-2p2 July 4, 1845 Patriotic Spirit and Refined Taste**
Editorial from the Boston Morning Post pertaining to their view that Texas was a wasted expense and that such actions could justifiably provoke secession.

**REv42n17c4p2 July 4, 1845 This Glorious Day**
News out of New Orleans proclaimed by the Democrats regarding the decision of Texas to be annexed to the United States.

**REv42n17c5p2 July 4, 1845 Disgraceful Sentiments**
Editorial article bashing the Whigs over their apparent lack of support for the issue of Texas among many other issues that the Democrats see as disgraceful.

**REv42n17c1p3 July 4, 1845 Marine Journal**
Information pertaining the arrivals and departures out of the Richmond port.

**REv42n18c7p1 July 8, 1845 From Mexico**
News report of the Gulf Squadron being sent into the Gulf of Mexico to protect interests should a conflict result.

**REv42n18c5p2 July 8, 1845 If it's you, Captain Scott, Don't Shoot I'll Come Down**
Editorial by the Enquirer slamming the Whig and other newspapers for their lack of support for the Texas annexation issue.

**REv42n18 July 8, 1845 Mr. Shannon**
Report from the ex-minister to Mexico that Mexico was in fact in late terms of payment of the agreed installments.

**REv42n18c1p3 July 8, 1845 By Last Evening's Mail**
Information on how the announcement of Texas's annexation was being accepted enthusiastically in the North.

**REv42n18c2p3 July 8, 1845 Important and Glorious News**
Announcement of Texas agreeing to annexation to the United States and procedural processes.

**REv42n18c2p3 July 8, 1845 News, Extra President Jones Message &c.**
President Jones of the formerly independent Republic of Texas addresses Congress concerning Texas’ decision to accept an offer for annexation.

REv42n18c4p3 July 8, 1845 Address to A.J. Donelson
A report to Mr. Donelson concerning the numbers of the Mexican forces in the general area of the Rio Grande.

REv42n18c4p4 July 8, 1845 The Lone Star glistening in the American Firmament
Editorial article relating the announcement of Texas and it’s uniting with the United States as a grand event. Subsequently the decision to join was manifested by a higher power.

REv42n19c1p2 July 11, 1845 The Glorious Measure of Annexation
Democratic response to the announcement of annexation.

REv42n19c1p2 July 11, 1845 The Balance of Power
Article announcing that with the addition of Texas that the U.S. was one step closer to becoming a world power by refusing to share the continent with European interests.

REv42n19c1p2 July 11, 1845 Marine Journal
Information pertaining the arrivals and departures out of the Richmond port.

REv42n19c1p2 July 11, 1845 Military Disposition in Texas
A report of the military readiness in the new U.S. state.

REv42i19p3c1 July 11, 1845 Marine Journal

REv42n19c2p3 July 11, 1845 Will Mexico Declare War?
Columnists speculate on what the future will hold, whether the U.S. would face G.B. or Mexico.

REv42n19c2p3 July 11, 1845 French Squadron
Report that the French had positioned a ship to prove aggressive intentions towards Mexico after some altercation between the Mexicans and the French.

RE42n19c2p4 July 11, 1845 Texas (The Richmond Times)
Instead of attacking the Whig this time the Enquirer is counter attacking the Times after it allegedly criticized the paper for its response to the annexation of Texas.

REv42n19c2p4 July 11, 1845 The Whig
A derisive article pertaining to the Richmond Whig and its opposition to annexation.

REv42n19c2p4 July 11, 1845 Singular Dispatch
Report that no new aggressive action was undertaken by either G.B. or Mexico.

REv42n20c5p1 July 15, 1845 More Treason
A scathing attack on the New York Tribune concerning their lack of support for the annexation issue.

REv42n20 July 15, 1845 Echo of the Sentiment of the Whole Nation
Report on the state of popularity of the populace towards the annexation of Texas.

REv42n20c1-2p2 July 15, 1845 Latest and Interesting from Texas
Article containing information on the association of Texas with the United States and the states of affairs between the U.S. and Mexico.

REv42n20c3p2 July 15, 1845 The Heat of War
Report stating that the U.S. will defend all its interests against hostile action, or if Mexico had decided to reclaim Texas.

REv42n20c7p3 July 15, 1845 Marine Journal
Information pertaining the arrivals and departures out of the Richmond port.

REv42n20c3p4 July 15, 1845 Whig Press on Annexation
An attack on the Norfolk Herald for opposing the actions for annexation.

REv42i20p4c5 July 15, 1845 Singular Coincidence

REv42i20p4c5 July 15, 1845 California
REv42n21c6p2 July 18, 1845 Marine Journal
Information pertaining the arrivals and departures out of the Richmond port.

REv42n21c2p3 July 18, 1845 Official, Navy Department (Orders)
Assignments for local Navy personnel.

REv42n21c2p4 July 18, 1845 The Mexican Navy
A report composing of an assessment of the Mexican Navy and its capabilities.

REv42n21c3p4 July 18, 1845 The Approaching Crises
An editorial piece describing the conditions that existed since the annexation of Texas and the possible military conflict that could occur.

REv42n21c5p4 July 18, 1845 Later from Texas
Information about a report that was being sent to Mexico between the Texans and Mexicans about a possible peace settlement.

REv42n22c6p1 July 22, 1845 Warlike Enough
Predictions by the Enquirer that any action would be minute and of little consequence for the U.S. but disastrous for Mexico.

REv42n22c5p1 July 22, 1845 True to Texas
An appeal to the Senate for the body to carry through the legislation that would bring Texas into U.S. folds.

REv42n22c6p3 July 22, 1845 Marine Journal
Information pertaining the arrivals and departures out of the Richmond port.

REv42n22c4p4 July 22, 1845 France
Article relating intelligence about the desire for citizens of Texas and Oregon to join with the U.S. and not with any European powers.

REv42n22 July 22, 1845 U.S. Troops
Announcement that some of the first steamboats set sail for Texas with troops.

REv42n23c7p1 July 22, 1845 Arrival from Texas
Article announcing the arrival of the British charge d'affaire into New York.

REv42n23c5p1 July 25, 1845 Mr. Polk's Position
A tirade against the president by the Whigs is refuted by the Enquirer and endorsed whole-heartedly.

REv42n23c7p1 July 25, 1845 Back Again
Announcement of arrival of Secretary of State from Texas.

REv42n23c6p2 July 25, 1845 Marine Journal
Information pertaining the arrivals and departures out of the Richmond port.

REv42n23c1p3 July 25, 1845 By Last Evening's Mail
Report that Mexican authorities received word of American worries about hostile action and were considering such action.

REv42n23c1p3 July 29, 1845 The Glorious Consummation
News from Texas that unanimous assent for joining the Union was obtained and that critics would have been wise to listen to the populace.

REv42n24c2p1 July 29, 1845 The Mystery Solved
Report that a British ship finally showed up after it was feared that it was on a covert mission.

REv42n24c3p1 July 29, 1845 Latest from Texas
General News from the new acquisition.

REv42n24c5p2 July 29, 1845 Marine Journal
Information pertaining the arrivals and departures out of the Richmond port.

REv42n24c4p4 July 29, 1845 Look on this picture, and then on that
A statement slamming the Whigs on their policies of trying to keep Texas from joining the Union.
August

REv42n25 August 1, 1845: An Ordinance
Congress has passed resolutions for the Annexation of Texas.

REv42n25 August 1, 1845: Mexico
Mexico is silent on the topic of Texas.

REv42n25 August 1, 1845: Persecution of American Citizens already commenced in Mexico.
Difficulties by American Citizens in Mexican Territory.

REv42n25 August 1, 1845: Legation of the United States
Editorial in regard to Texas.

REv42n26 August 6, 1845: Fruits of Annexation
Editorial.

REv42n26 August 6, 1845: Circular
Collectors and Customs regarding Texas

REv42n27 August 8, 1845: Moral Treason
Abolitionist views towards annexation.

REv42n27 August 8, 1845: Extraordinary confusion of the mails
Mail service has failed for three days from Texas, but now news from the Convention.

REv42n29 August 15, 1845: Important Movement in Texas-The other Lone Star
A convention to make Texas two states and talks on planting the American flag for the first time.

REv42n29 August 15, 1845: Editorial
Editorial on Oregon and Texas

REv42n29 August 15, 1845: The True Spirit
The Process of Annexation

REv42n29 August 15, 1845: The Crisis At Last
The crisis in Mexico regarding Texas

REv42n29 August 15, 1845: Office of War and Marine
The United States has consummated the perfidy against Mexico

REv42n29 August 15, 1845: Important From Mexico
It seems Mexico will commit some kind of folly by taking action against the United States.

REv42n29 August 15, 1845: Poetry
Poetry for Annexation

REv42n30 August 22, 1845: The Seat of War
There is nothing to report from Mexico, not even a rumor.

REv42n30 August 22, 1845: Very Late From Vera Cruz
There is no declaration of war yet; the Waterwitch has arrived- and crisis is to come.

REv42n30 August 22, 1845: Miscellaneous
The Gulf Squadron is more than ample for any crisis in their quarter.

REv42 August 29, 1845: Editorial
War with Mexico is to come.

REv42 August 29, 1845: The Capital Hit
The war with Mexico.

REv42 August 29, 1845: Military
The Battalion of Artillery ordered from Fort Monroe to join the army in Texas.
September 1845

September 2, 1845: INSULT UPON THE COUNTRY
Statements about how the U.S. is treating Mexico

September 2, 1845: ASHBEL SMITH OF TEXAS ONCE MORE
Letter from Ashbel Smith discussing the annexation of Texas

September 2, 1845: FOREIGN VIEWS
Wilmer and Smith’s European Times and their comments on Texas and Oregon

September 2, 1845: TO THE EDITORS OF THE ENQUIRER
Letter to the editor about the Mexico

September 2, 1845: MEXICAN INDEMNITY
From a private letter dated Mexico, July 26th, 1845

September 2, 1845: TEXAS
Ship Suviah arrived from Aransas

September 2, 1845: MOVEMENT OF TROOPS
Troop movements to Texas

September 2, 1845: WAR OR NO WAR?
Numbers of Mexican troops on the Rio Grande down to 400

September 2, 1845: TEXAS
Troops moved to the mainland of Texas from St. Joseph’s Island

September 5, 1845: (no title)
Information regarding Mexico’s financial situation

September 5, 1845: NO WAR YET
No news of conflict

September 5, 1845: LATEST FROM TEXAS
Information gathered from letters

September 5, 1845: TEXAS NEWS
Information on Mexican troop numbers at Matamoras. From the Galveston Civilian

September 5, 1845: LATE DISPATCH
General Taylor’s army in good health and spirits

September 5, 1845: WAR WITH MEXICO
Information regarding Mississippi and the War with Mexico, from the Mississippian

September 5, 1845: NAVAL
From the Bunker Hill Aurora, naval ships being prepared in Massachusetts

September 5, 1845: RICHMOND FAYETTE ARTILLERY: “MARCH TO MEXICO”
From Richmond Whig September 2nd, attempt to ridicule the patriotic movements of the Fayette Artillery

September 5, 1845: (no title)
"It was established by Captain Fremont in his Exploring Expedition, that there is no river of any navigable size which has its outlet directly into the Pacific, and communicated with the Western slope of our continent, except the Columbia, between fifty degrees Northern latitude, and the Gulf of California"

September 5, 1845: MEXICAN CRUELTY
Against Whig views explaining Mexico is in fact cruel
From the *New Orleans Bulletin*, discussion on whether or not the President should call a special session of Congress

"*Three of the Schooners of War* built for Mexico by Brown & Bell, in New York, still remain there, in consequence of the inability of the Mexican Government to pay for them. Three others were paid for a few months ago, and taken to Mexico."

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REv42n35p4c5 September 5, 1845: (no title)

REv42n36p1c4 September 9, 1845: MEXICO-THE WHIG PRESS

About the whig presses trying to weaken the Republican Administration.

REv42n36p1c5 September 9, 1845: AN IMPORTANT QUESTION

Discussion of land claims inside the state of Texas

REv42n36p2c1 September 9, 1845: THE TEXAS QUESTION IN EUROPE

Europeans' views on the United States and Mexico

REv42n36p4c3 September 9, 1845: TEXAS PUBLIC LANDS

About Texas' public debt and if the lands of Texas will satisfy that debt

REv42n37p1c4 September 12, 1845: FURTHER FROM MEXICO

*The Baltimore Republican* letters from Pensacola

REv42n37p4c3 September 12, 1845: WHAT IS MEXICO ABOUT

News from Mexican Ministers and an address by the Mexican General Arista

REv42n37p4c6 September 12, 1845: THE ARMY-PROMPT MOVEMENT

Troops to move from Lexington to Texas

REv42n38p2c2 September 16, 1845: MEXICO

Statements that the threats of Mexico's Ministers and Generals are empty threats

REv42n38p2c3 September 16, 1845: OFFICIAL-INTERESTING

Information from General Taylor's headquarters in Corpus Christi

REv42n38p2c4 September 16, 1845: VERY LATE FROM MEXICO

Information from the Mexico that the war fever has subsided

REv42n39p4c5 September 19, 1845: LATER FROM TEXAS

"The brig *Maria Spears*, Felte master, arrived yesterday from Galveston, whence she sailed on the 3d instant. We received no papers by her, but learn verbally that the Convention had not adjourned on the 1st inst."

REv42n40p4c3 September 23, 1845: THE TRUE AND ONLY COURSE

Statements from the *Norfolk Herald* in defense of the countries actions with Mexico

REv42n41p2c1 September 26, 1845: AS WE EXPECTED!

Discussion of Whigs and their views of Polk and Mexico

REv42n41p2c2 September 26, 1845: OREGON-BRITISH FLEET

Information regarding Britain's experimental squadron

REv42n41p4c2 September 26, 1845: CLAIMS UPON MEXICO

Discussion of the Whigs attacking the administration for the administration treatment of Mexico

REv42n42p1c6 September 30, 1845: THE CONSTITUTION OF TEXAS

Some of the peculiar provisions of Texas' new constitution

REv42n42p4c3 September 30, 1845: LET JUSTICE BE DONE

About Whig attacks on the administration and Mexico

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**October**

REv42n42p1c3 October 3, 1845: Texas Emigrations

Ad calling for settlers to obtain free land to be given to settlers by the Texas Association {front page ad repeated in almost every edition of paper}
October 3, 1845: Cotton: the Great Escape
Article in favor of annexation of Texas because it will be good for cotton expansion.

October 3, 1845: Ten Days Later From Texas
Information about troop enrollment and arrival. Also talks about government election results in Texas.

October 3, 1845: Latest From Mexico
Letter from soldier about Mexico

October 7, 1845: 2 excerpts from London Papers
Refering to the U.S.-Mexico dispute and the "Oregon question"

October 7, 1845: French Coverage of the U.S.-Mexico Dispute
Thoughts about what will happen if U.S. and Mexico go to war

October 7, 1845: Foreign News
Irish views about U.S.-Mexican War. Says Irish vessels are being fitted and Irish might serve as privateers in war.

October 7, 1845: Reprinted letter from Nashville Whig
Thoughts about war Mexico. Wonders if U.S. should take aggressive or defensive stance.

October 7, 1845: From the Norfolk Herald
Thoughts about what President Herrera might do.

October 7, 1845: Montreal Times
Canadian view about annexation of Texas and what it would mean to balance of power in North America.

October 10, 1845: Description of Oregon
Small paragraph extolling all the good virtues of the Oregon Territory.

October 10, 1845: Dispatch from a ship
Dispatch from a steamship bound for Vera Cruz. Rumors that the ship contains a secret overture to Mexico with regards to Texas.

October 10, 1845: Letter from John C. Calhoun
Letter from John C. Calhoun discussion the annexation of Texas.

October 10, 1845: Texas border Disputes
Argument about where U.S. boundary with Mexico truly lies. Argues that it should be the Rio Grande as part of an old treaty and Louisiana Purchase.

October 14, 1845: Copy of Santa Anna Treaty
Copy of secret treaty that Santa Anna signed to save his own life and preserve his army.

October 14, 1845: Papers of Gen. Austin
Agreement between Santa Anna and President Burnet of Texas. Sights specific articles of treaty.

October 17, 1845: Letter from Californian
Letter calling for California to break away from Mexico. [reprint from The Union]

October 17, 1845: Update of Texas-Mexico Relations
Thinks Mexico will give up hope of reclaiming Texas.

October 17, 1845: News from steamship Cincinatti
News from ship arriving in Texas [reprint from N.O. Bullitín]

October 17, 1845: News from Vera Cruz
News from Vera Cruz prediction another revolution in Mexico. [reprint from N.O. Republican]

October 21, 1845: Argument about annexation of Texas
Article argues against the British denouncing the annexation of Texas.

October 24, 1845: Texas and Annexation
Texas correspondent of N.Y. *Tribune* gives review of annexation questions.

**REV42i49 October 24,1845:** Letter saying Polk should Annex Texas
N.Y *Journal of Commerce* correspondent saying Polk should Annex.

**REV42i49 October 24,1845:** Article discussing probability of War
Says probability is low, discusses the tariff issues

**REV42i49 October 24,1845:** French Papers view of Mexico-U.S.
Thinks that Mexico would be best not to try to fight U.S.

**REV42i49 October 24,1845:** Later From Texas
News about crops, Indian problems, and Gen. Taylor’s activities

**REV42i49 October 24,1845:** News from Vera Cruz
Applauds U.S. building up forces. Speculates about the Mexican intentions.

**REV42i50 October 31,1845:** O'Connells and America
Opinion column that addresses the Oregon Territory.

**REV42i50 October 31,1845:** Letter from Mexico
Letter from Mexico's Consulate General

**REV42i50 October 31,1845:** Important if True
Special U.S. agent has been dispatched to Mexico to demand back payments due for a 1831 Treaty.

**November**

**REV45v42n52p1c1 Monday, November 3, 1845** Anti-Texas Fanatics

**REV45v42n52p2c2 Tuesday, November 4, 1845** From Lima - The Brig *Hope Howes*

**REV45v42n52p2c4 Tuesday, November 4, 1845** An old friend in the army writes

**REV45v42n52p2c5 Tuesday, November 4, 1845** Naval

**REV45v42n53p4c3 Wednesday, November 5, 1845** England and California

**REV45v42n54p2c4 Tuesday, November 11, 1845** Latest from Vera Cruz

**REV45v42n55p1c4 Thursday, November 13, 1845** Very Considerate

**REV45v42n55p1c5 Thursday, November 13, 1845** Mr. Webster on Oregon

**REV45v42n55p2c2 Friday, November 14, 1845** From Corpus Christi

**REV45v42n55p2c5 Friday, November 14, 1845** Very late from Texas

**REV45v42n55p2c5 Friday, November 14, 1845** California - Mexico

**REV45v42n56p1c3 Monday, November 17, 1845** Whig Annexation

**REV45v42n56p1c3 Monday, November 17, 1845** English Annexation

**REV45v42n56p1c3 Monday, November 17, 1845** One of the last acts of Legislature

**REV45v42n56p1c7 Monday, November 17, 1845** Mexico - The Washington correspondent

**REV45v42n56p2c5 Tuesday, November 18, 1845** The schr. *Creole*, arrived

**REV45v42n57p1c7 Thursday, November 20, 1845** Later from Texas

**REV45v42N58p4c1 Tuesday, November 25, 1845** Later from Mexico
December

REV42i60p2c1, December 2, 1845: Annual Message of the Governor of Virginia
The people of the US have approved the annexation of Texas

REV42i60p4c3, December 2, 1845
Remarks about the Baltimore Convention; declared US entitled to all of Oregon and in favor of annexing Texas

REV42i60p4c4, December 2, 1845: From Texas
Description of a dinner to Gen. Houston

REV42i60p4c4, December 2, 1845: From Tampico
Every apprehension of a war with the US has vanished in Mexico; US fleet on Mexican coast has done economic damage

REV42i61p1c1, December 5, 1845: Message of the President of the US
Remarks about annexation of Texas; relations with Mexico; attempted peace with Mexico about Texas; increasing emigration to Oregon; remarks about Oregon being apart of the US

REV42i61p2c1, December 5, 1845: Congress
Report on documents relating to Oregon in the Senate

REV42i61p2c1, December 5, 1845: From Mexico
Letter received from Vera Cruz; rumors that there is another revolution within the state

REV42i61p2c2, December 5, 1845: From Washington City
Remarks about the horrors of a war over Oregon

REV42i61p2c4, December 5, 1845: The President's Message
Remarks about the President's speech--comments on his statements about Oregon

REV42i62p1c2, December 9, 1845: The Message
Article from the Union about the President's address; annexation of Texas important for the country; remarks about Mexico and how the US has tried to maintain peace; history of the Oregon negotiation given by Polk--termination of the treaty allowing for joint occupation of Oregon

REV42i62p1c5, December 9, 1845; The course of the Whig Press
Quotes from articles from different Whig newspapers about the President’s speech and Oregon

REV42i62p1c7, December 9, 1845: to the Editors of the Enquirer
Remarks about Oregon

REV42i62p4c2, December 9, 1845
More remarks about how the Whig press has dealt with Mexico, Texas and Oregon

REV42i63p1c3, December 12, 1845: Report of the secretary of Treasury
Annexation of Texas has added money to the Treasury

REV42i63p2c4, December 12, 1845; Correspondence of the Richmond Enquirer
Remarks about the debate in the Senate over slavery in Texas

REV42i64p1c2, December 16, 1845: Correspondence of the Richmond Enquirer
Comments about the annexation of Texas; how the annexation covered in the newspapers

REV42i64p1c5, December 16, 1845: Extension of True Principles
Resolution that are happy with the prospects of the re-annexation of Texas; resolution to sustain Polk in his declaration to the US’s right to Oregon

REV42i64p2c3, December 16, 1845: Newspapers are divided on the question of war for Oregon

REV42i64p4c1, December 16, 1845
Report on the possible establishment of an Oregon memorial

REV42i65p1c2, December 19, 1845
Remarks about the issue of slavery in Texas; allowing slavery in only half of the state
REv42i65p1c6, December 19, 1845: twenty-ninth Congress
Remarks about the probability of war in the Senate

REv42i65p2c3, December 19, 1845
Letter to the Enquirer; comments about the Texas question--what should be done, what has been done; remarks about US relationship with Mexico

REv42i66p1c6, December 23, 1845
Remarks about how the Whigs believe that annexation of Texas is unconstitutional

REv42i66p2c3, December 23, 1845
More remarks about the annexation of Texas--population of Texas; comments about the joint resolution

REv42i66p4c1, December 23, 1845
Remarks about Texas, and Mexico but hard to read because paper is not a good copy; something about the annexation of Texas

REv42i66p4c3, December 23, 1845; Public Sentiment
Reactions to Polk's statement about Oregon in his address; some fear war, others agree

REv42i67p1c2, December 25, 1845:
Senate voted to affix the seal to the final annexation of Texas

REv42i67p1c2, December 25, 1845: Correspondence of the Richmond Enquirer
Remarks about the Senate's passing of the annexation of Texas; description of the proceedings

REv42i67p2c7, December 25, 1845: Twenty-ninth Congress
Resolved that the committee on commerce be instructed to report the Senate a bill extending the revenue laws of the US over Texas

REv42i68p2c6, December 30, 1845: The Question Settled
Comments about both Texas and Oregon; remarks about Whig stances on the issues and how the Whig press covers them

REv42i68p4c4, December 30, 1845
Conclusion to statements made about the two sides that have been formed in regards to the Oregon question

REv42i68p4c7, December 30, 1845: Texas Land Agency
Advertisement

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July

REv42i16p1c6 July 1, 1845 Magnetic Printing Telegraph

If we may believe the New York Evening Post, a magnetic telegraph is now in actual operation in that city, which actually does its own printing with the letters of our English alphabet, and in a clear, legible manner. It is executed at one end of a magnetic wire, through a direction given at the other. It is true, as incredible as the statement may seem to be, that a man might, if the wires were laid, now sit at New York, and with more print at New Orleans a letter or dispatch in the ordinary letter of our language. In a few days this invention will be made more generally known. At present, arrangements are making for the perfection of the patents here and in Europe.

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REv42i16p2c1-2 July 1, 1845 Editorial

Such was the hero we mourn! With a constitution undermined by privations incident to his military labors, and a frame shattered by disease, he had retired to the seclusion of the Hermitage, long and patiently awaiting the only and final relief from suffering. It came to them on the evening of the 8th instant, in the centre of his home's affectionate circle, while his great mind was calm and unclouded, and when his heart was prepared to welcome its dilatory messenger. Yes! Yes!—he, on whom, for half a century, his country gazed as upon a tower of strength—on whom she never called for succor against the desolating savage, without being answered by a rushing shout of "onward, to the rescue!" who anticipated her invading foes by destroying them ere their footprints on her soil were cold—he, the iron warrior, the reproachless patriot, has ceased to be mortal, has willingly made his single surrender—the surrender of his soul to its Almighty claimant! It may almost be said that General Jackson was constituted of two natures, so admirable and so distinctly were his qualities adapted to their respective spheres of action. I have portrayed, hurriedly and crudely, his public character—let us, for an instant, see him, on one or two points at least,
in the other aspect; and perhaps we may thence catch the secret of his sublime and beautiful death. The rugged exterior which rough wars in our early Western settlements would naturally impart, was smoothed and polished in him by a spirit of benevolence deeply seated in his temperament. In social intercourse, though always earnest, rapid, impressive and upright, his friendship was marked by boundless confidence and generosity; while in domestic life a winning gentleness seemed to spread from the recesses of his heart over the whole man, filling the scenes around him with smiles of serenity and joy, No husband loved more ardently, more faithfully, more unchangeably—no parent could surpass the self-sacrificing kindness with which he reared and cherished his adopted children—no master could be more certain of reciprocating fondness than he was when, as expiring, he breathed the hope of hereafter meting in the Heaven to which he was hastening, the servants of household, "as well black as white." The truthfulness of this picture is attested by all who were admitted to the sanctuary of his home—precincts too sacred, even on an occasion equally sacred, for more than this brief intrusion. But there was a crowning characteristic, from adverting to which I must not shrink, though the presence in which I stand. General Jackson was fervently, unostentatively, and submissively pious! Wherever he might be, and whatever his absorbing pursuit—wading heavily through the swamps of Florida, on the track of Hillishago; speeding, with the swoop of an eagle, to grapple the invade Pakenham; careering, at the head of his victorious legions, through throngs of admiring countrymen; in the halls of the Executive mansion; or at his hearth in the Hermitage; there and then, ever where and always though not ostensible, and never obtrusive, his faith was with him. But it was most closely and inconspicuously with him as dissolution approached—it was with him to brighten the rays of his heart, to take the sting from his latest pang, and to give melody to his last farewell! The dying hour of Jackson, bears triumphant testimony to the Christian's hope, Such was the Hero; such the Man we mourn! Come then, my countrymen! Let us, as it were, gather round the depository of his remains! From those who knew him, as it has been my lot to know him, the frequent tear of cherished and proud remembrance must fall.

[MSM]

REv42i16p2c5 July 1, 1845 Navy Department


REv42i16p3c4 July 1, 1845 War

In the Atlas of the 16th was a communication, occasioned by some remarks in a letter from England to the effect that a war with the United States would be popular with the British nations, "as a war against the slave power of the world." The writer of that article, after speaking of the probabilities of war, on account of our position in reference to Texas, Oregon, and California, one or all," makes some very appropriate remarks concerning the evils of war, and the influence which should be exerted to avert it; but he closes with a proposition to the people of Massachusetts, that should find no favor with them, or any other Americans. The probable cause of war with England is Oregon—neither Texas nor California.

And can any one tell us what the question of our right, or the right of Great Britain, to Oregon, has to do with slavery? If slavery is brought into the question, about which we may possibly fight, by the British, are Northern Americans, who are opposed to slavery, to be counseled to stand back and not countenance such a war, or not defend their country against foreign a attack? If Northern men are to be so advised, and they listen to such, any nation, who desired to humble and ruin us, might seek to cause for quarrel, and then, covering that quarrel with the name of "a war against the slave power of the world," turn the North against the South, or, at least, produce an inaction and opposition to defence in one portion of the people, which would prove the ruin of all. Such is not the course for Northern Americans to take. If we are to have a war, and our enemies to falsely call it a war against slavery, let us stand by our country—though we, too, are opposed to some of her institutions. Ay, even if the war is to be on account of Texas, and we know e are brought to it by the slave power of the South, struggling perpetuate itself, let us not turn our backs upon our country, commit treason against the Constitution, and suffer a foreign for; if he chooses, to subjugate us, or dictate his own terms of peace. Other nations know not our State lines; we are to them one people, under one government; and a war against that government is meant to be and is, a war against the whole people. Any internal dissensions would be used by an enemy, if possible, for the ruin of all; and while we foolishly thought we were punishing our brethren from whom we differ, we should be ruining ourselves also. The North has much more to lose by any war than the South. By a disastrous war, the North has infinitely more to lose. Shall we, are opposed to some of the institutions of the South, forgetting what we have in common? No: let us tell Britain that it is not for her, and such as she, to call a war with us a war against slavery, nor to endeavor, under the garb of philanthropy, to destroy a rival. Let us how the world a peaceful but united front, and endeavor within ourselves to remove the curse of slavery. The duty is ours—foreign powers cannot effect it, save by the ruin of everything else.

If war could be averted by the course proposed in the article referred to, it might be good advice. Circumstances unforeseen, and unknown to the public, often determine the course of governments, (though I am far from denying that our present government has bee, and may be precipitate and reckless;) and a pledge signed by a portion of the nation—and it certainly would be a small portion—that they will not support their country, cannot avert war. It would only serve to increase the disasters, and inflict a punishment upon the whole people deserved only, or mostly, by those who thus prove recreants. Far distant by the day of war! Far distant we may reasonably hope it is; but, if the
over our country. We have confident hopes that the firmness and moderation of our Government may avert such a
portions of the globe. Out of this and the Oregon question may spring a cessation of the peace which now, hovers
None will fail to rejoice at the diffusion of free and well regulated institutions over one of the most interesting
a look of satisfaction down the vista of the future, and see the temples of religion, the academies and schools,
feeling—and they will be swept, like chaff, before the whirlwind of popular indignation. It would be out of place for
they call it, on account of the annexation of Texas; but these Arnolds are as few in number as they are recreant in
their resolution, and taken a pledge, not to aid their mother land, in case she be forced into an unrighteous war, as
True is it, that some of the Northern fanatics, treacherous alike to the Constitution and the country, have avowed
civilization and liberty, will for one moment find it in his heart to raise a voice or hand against its final completion.
authorities have given their sanction to it, and no man, who is a friend to national faith and honor, to the cause of
flowing cups remembered.” We look upon it as no longer a party question. The public voice decreed it; the public
done; and we hope that the “Lone Star,” now a bright element of our strength and greatness, will be, to-day, “in our
day, that the Texan Congress had sealed the contract of annexation, no rational man can doubt that the deed is
“consummation” for, though the New Orleans mail yesterday disappointed us in the reception of the news for this
misfortune comes, let no “anti-slavery-peace pledge” make traitors of any citizens of Massachusetts.

**REv42i17p2c1-2 July 4, 1845 Patriotic Spirit and Refined Taste**

The *Boston Morning Post*, of Saturday last, says that, “on Thursday evening, June 26, in the Common Council
Chamber of this city, upon the question an appropriation of $500 to defray the expenses of the solemnities in honor
of the memory of the hero of New Orleans, William Hayden (editor of the Boston Atlas) rose in his place, and made
the following brief remarks, viz: ‘Mr. President, as it cost the city some $15,000, a few years since, to receive
General Jackson, if we can now get rid of him for $500, I have no objection.’ General Jackson declared that “the
Union must preserved.” Now, this Whig editor, who published the other day the anti-war pledged without a word of
comment, follow up the blow the following outrageous declaration from own pen: “We look upon that measure
(Texas) as the most flagrant and outrageous violation of the Constitution which has ever been brought forward or
attempted since our Constitution was adopted. It ought to be resisted, to the utmost, by every citizen who has the
good of this country at heart. If it is finally consummated, it will be such a violent infractions of the solemn contract
of union, as will, in our deliberate judgment, entirely absolve the several States from the force of that contract. And
if Massachusetts or any other State of this Union, should see fit, on the ground of annexation to secede from the
Union, she will be amply and entirely justified in so doing. This is our opinion of the matter, Sir, and you are at
liberty to make the most of it.” Is it wonderful, then, that the author of this treasonable declaration, should have
coldly insulted the memory of General Jackson in the Council Chamber of Boston? The whole is in character.—(Union.)

**REv42i17p2c4 July 4, 1845 This Glorious Day**

In accordance with a time honored custom, we once more lay before our readers the immortal Declaration of
Independence. We invoke a new and thorough appreciation of its principles and its spirit, which made us a free and
happy people, and which must be preserved, in all their purity, if we desire to reach the high destiny which Heaven
seems graciously to have intended for us. The present anniversary of our deliverance from foreign thralldom, comes
around to us with peculiarly interesting associations. Since the last celebration, the nation has passed through a
heated and angry political excitement. From one end of the Union to the other, the two contending parties struggled
zealously for the mastery; but, to the honor of the American people be it said, no bloodshed, nor even personal
violence, stained the annals of our history.

By the simple and solemn agency of the ballot-box, millions have give effect to their wishes, and when the public
voice was clearly ascertained, and announced the elevation of those men who are for four years to wield the destiny
of the country, the people, lately so much excited by party feeling, quietly and with praiseworthy resignation,
submitted to the national award, and retired to their fields, their workshops, and their posts of honorable labor. All
was once more peace. All, or nearly all, while taking a deep interest in passing events, and resolved to stand by
their country "for better or for worse," returned to their daily occupations, with the firm determination to judge fairly
the conduct of those in power, and on the revolution of four years, again to express at the ballot-box their
approbation or condemnation of the manner in which their high and responsible duties and beautiful spectacle be
presented, of a free and powerful nation calmly electing the Governors, according to the form and spirit of a written
Constitution, and, by their dignity of bearing and faithful adherence to the dictates of true liberty, transmitting to
posterity a moral influence which must perpetuate our institutions! What a bright contrast to the threes and
convulsions that mark the change of rulers in the old world, where the people play the part of mute actors in the
drama, and see their lives and dearest privileges placed at the at the disposal of men, in whose selection they bear
no part! But there is another striking event, which has impressed the past year with peculiar interest.

The world has seen, with wonder and admiration, the successful consumation of the union of two congenial
Republics, for many years segregated, but now brought together by peaceful and indissoluble bonds. We say
"consummation" for, though the New Orleans mail yesterday disappointed us in the reception of the news for this
day, that the Texan Congress had sealed the contract of annexation, no rational man can doubt that the deed is
done; and we hope that the “Lone Star,” now a bright element of our strength and greatness, will be, to-day, "in our
flowing cups remembered.” We look upon it as no longer a party question. The public voice decreed it; the public
authorities have given their sanction to it, and no man, who is a friend to national faith and honor, to the cause of
civilization and liberty, will for one moment find it in his heart to raise a voice or hand against its final completion.
True is it, that some of the Northern fanatics, treacherous alike to the Constitution and the country, have avowed
their resolution, and taken a pledge, not to aid their mother land, in case she be forced into an unrighteous war, as
they call it, on account of the annexation to Texas; but these Arnolds are as few in number as they are recreant in
feeling—and they will be swept, like chaff, before the whirlwind of popular indignation. It would be out of place for
us to set forth the many advantages to all portions of our Confederacy, which this great measure is destined to
extend. But surely, no American can refuse on this day of universal rejoicing over the blessings of Freedom, to cast
a look of satisfaction down the vista of the future, and see the temples of religion, the academies and schools,
which, fostered under the extended blessings of our Union, will dot the beautiful prairies and fertile valleys of Texas.

None will fail to rejoice at the diffusion of free and well regulated institutions over one of the most interesting
portions of the globe. Out of this and the Oregon question may spring a cessation of the peace which now, hovers
over our country. We have confident hopes that the firmness and moderation of our Government may avert such a
calamity. But if foreign ambition or avarice should force the issue, can it be doubted, that the people will stand by
their “country, right or wrong?” Can a better occasion offer than the present day of our national nativity, to
approach the country’s altar, and, while breathing a prayer for honorable peace, make a vow of undying attachment
to our soil and our institutions, and a pledge of unshrinking zeal in support of those who have been called by the
nation to protect its interest and its honor? Millions of freemen will to-day offer up their thanks for the peace and
prosperity which they enjoy. To Virginias the day should bring deeply interesting reflections. While, from a series
of circumstances, Virginia has not moved onward in the cause of improvement with the same zeal and success as her
younger sisters, we are gratified to think that a new light has dawned upon her fortunes—that the noble cause of
Education and of moral and intellectual reform, and the development of her vast resources, and the welding
一起, by one bond of interest and affection, the most distant portions of the old Commonwealth, have engaged
the cordial attention of her people. Let then every Virginian, whilst, on this day, be rationally and soberly enjoys the
delightful associations which it calls up, look steadily to the future, and pledge himself never to despair of the
Republic, but to devote his thoughts and his energies to the extirpation of vice and ignorance, and to the
establishment, on a firm basis, of the blessings of Education and social improvement. When the evening’s gun shall
announce the winding up of the festivities, let every one retire to his home, a better man and a more patriotic
citizen, and let his noble motto be, in the last words of the lamented Jackson, “My God and my Country!”

[MSM2]

REv42i17p2c5 July 4, 1845 Disgraceful Sentiments

No more fitting occasion can present itself than this anniversary of the vindication of our liberties and national
existence against foreign tyranny, to denounce treason in whatever quarter and under whatever shape it may rear
its hideous crest. Of such character we regard the following from the New York Tribune, a journal of ability and
influence, but so steeped in the bitter waters of party and fanaticism, that it stands prepared to sacrifice the country
to its own peculiar arrogant notions of right and wrong. Some weeks since, that print, in its violent crusade against
slavery, endorsed the pledge of the fanatic Channing, not to aid the country in a war on account of the annexation
of Texas, because that measure was “in violation of right,” and in direct opposition to the fiendish designs of
Northern Abolitionists. In the following, it will be seen the Editor takes the same treasonable position, and, what
is worse, endeavors to base his reasons upon a hypocritical appeal to our Holy Religion. He shamelessly repudiates
the noble sentiment of Decatur, “our Country, right or wrong,” which every patriot, we feel, is resolved to stand by. Had
many such mean-spirited and prejudiced lived in the days of the Revolution, we should not now assemble around
the national altar, to give thanks for the blessings of liberty—because the same mind, which would now hesitate on
the ground of “right,” to rally to this country’s standard, would, in the days of the Revolution, have refused to shake
off the letters imposed by those claiming the “Divine Right of Kings.” But to the passage, which is enough to fire the
indignation of every Freeman and patriot: “Our Country, Right or Wrong.’ The New Orleans Bee, a journal which
always propounds its own opinions with dignity, and treats those of others with fairness, in the course of a mainly
just and pertinent rebuke of the Locofofo hurrah about Oregon says: “Whenever the U. States determine on war,
the course of her people is a simple one. They will not pause to enquire into the right and wrong, the pros and cons
of the quarrel, but will with one common accord, rally around the standard of their country. With few and
inconsiderable exceptions, we are persuaded that this is the universal sentiment of the American people. ‘We differ
from the Bee with reluctance, but though it is possible the “universal sentiment’ is correctly indicated by that paper,
we cannot doubt that it is a mistaken criminal, God-defying sentiment. ‘Thou shalt not Kill,’ is a command which we
cannot find any good authority for disobeying; but if we are to be made partners in the orphan manufacture at all,
we insist that there shall be right on our side. To sin ships, burn towns and butcher human being, without asking
whether the cause for which we fight is right or wrong, we dare not. That is the elder law, and He the more
authoritative lawgiver, who thunders ever in our ears, ‘Thou Shalt Not Kill.’” From such a print we might well expect
a revival, over the ashes of Jackson, of the coffin-band-bill traductions of his name. The Tribune, at the present
solemn pause over the grave of the soldier and patriot, exhumes the buried slanders of the Arbuthnot and Ambrister
affair. It denounces the execution of the former, by order of a Court Martial, as a “fool and cruel murder,” and thus
aims its poisoned arrows at the departed Hero, and at those who have honored his virtues and his services: “Not on
our soul should it rest for all the power of the Presidency, the trappings of the White House, the honeyed mouthing
of venal and pampered orators, the sickening slaver of self-seeking journalists, and the applauding huzzas of
ignorant or reckless thousands. God be merciful in their extremity, even to those as merciless as the authors of that
cruel slaughter!” To such a source it is natural to look for sentiments so revolting to human nature, so treacherous
to the nation; for, the man who would insult the ashes of the patriot dead, would not hesitate to give aid and
couragement to the enemies of his country.

[MSM2]

REv42i17p3c1 July 4, 1845 Marine Journal

Port of Richmond.
Arrived.

Schr. Jno. Simmons, Small, Boston, sundries;
Schr Eliza Messerole, Rigmore, New York, Ballast;
Schr. George Klots, Rogers, Gall River, ballast;
Schr. Wm. Thompson, Baker, Fall River, ballast;
Schr. Rival, Carvon, N.C., shingles and wheat;
Schr. *Hero*, Hooper, Fredericksburg, sundries.
* Sloop *Sally Ann White*, G. Whortney, sundries.

Sailed,

Schr. *Roscoe*, Eaton, Boston, Coal; Philadelphia,


Cleared, schr. *Chas. P. Brown*, Jones, for Richmond.

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We are indebted to the courtesy of Dr. Saunders so the N. Orleans Bee, who arrived here yesterday from Pensacola, for the following items of news: The United States West Indian or Gulf Squadron, under the command of Com. Connor, namely, the frigate Potomac, flag-ship, the ship Falmouth, and the brigs Somers and Lawrence arrived at Pensacola on Tuesday, the 24th instant, having sailed from Sacrificios, the man of war anchorage at Vera Cruz, on the 12th instant. The officers and crews of these vessels were all well. The squadron visits Pensacola for the purpose of getting supplies of provisions and water having been for some time on rather short allowance. The only foreign vessels of war off Sacrificios at the time of the sailing of our squadron, were the French brigs Mercurio and Grillon. The vomito or yellow fever was prevailing to a considerable extent in Vera Cruz. Another revolution broke out in the City of Mexico on the 7th inst. It was led by a General whose name the Mexican papers do not mention. It commenced with one of the Regiments of Grenadiers, who entered the palace and made prisoners of the President and three of this Ministers. The rebellion, however, was soon quelled and order restored—the citizens by rallying promptly to the rescue, evincing their adherence to the new Government. The General in command of the revolters made his escape but the Colonel of the Regiment and fort of his men were instantly tried and shot. In connection with this revolt, it is mentioned that previous to the departure of Santa Anna from Mexico, the troops stationed at Vera Cruz were marched several leagues below the city in order to prevent all tampering between the friends of the fallen tyrant, and the officers and privates of the army. This was done in consequence of a rumor, that another revolution was underway in the city of Mexico, the object of which was to re-instate Santa Anna in power. The steamer that conveyed him away from his country, we so learn, took him on board at a place called Pirote Landing, several leagues this side of Vera Cruz. Gomez Farias has been elected Senator in place of Don Sebastian Comacho. The Government of Mexico was raising an army of 2,000 men, ostensibly for the purpose of being sent to the Californias; but it is the belief of several intelligent American citizens there that this force is destined to march secretly to the frontier of Texas. (Mobile Advertiser, June 27th)

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Now, that the Annexation of Texas, denounced by the Whig and New York Tribune as "a measure of iniquity," and the fruit of the corrupt motives of "land-robbers, avaricious speculators and disunionists," has virtually been achieved, with the unanimous voice of Texas, and amid the deep-toned rejoicing of the whole people of the United States—it is amusing to see how the physic works upon the various Whig parties. The R. Whig thus despairingly and grudgingly announces the result: "The 'long agony is over,' and Texas has been annexed to the United States. As anything we might say could not undo what has been done, we copy from the Union of the 4th the latest news from the no longer 'lone' Star. Let those that can rejoice do so, but take care their rejoicing do not turn to sorrow." We are glad that the Whig means to throw no more useless obstacles in the way. It certainly evinces more sound policy and patriotism, than its quondam anti Texas ally of the N. York Tribune, who is determined to resist to the last, and even refuses to aid his country, if war be the effect of this "slavery crusade." The Times and Compiler which, by the by, was not a "sound trout" on this Texas question, rejoices at its consummation, and at the consequent removal of a heavy stumbling block from the path of Whiggery. Hear it: "This event we here looked upon as one that would of course follow the passage of the joint resolutions by Congress. Regarding Texas as an American settlement, or rather as a settlement of Americans, we felt convinced, from the beginning, that no temptation or inducement could be offered by Mexico or England, or France, or all united, that would be superior to their enthusiastic desire to be incorporated with our Union, and come under its laws and institutions. As strong as we supposed this desire to be, the result has shown it even stronger—the proceedings of the Texan Congress were characterized by an unanimity we were not prepared to anticipate. This unanimous aversion to the Mexican treaty, negotiated by President Jones, which, it will be seen, was unanimously rejected. "So the Texas question is settled at last!" The energy of the last short sentence indicates that the editor took a long breath, and thanked his stars that
The annexation of Texas so strengthens the slave power, that it is not probable there ever will be another Democratic President from the free States. This is a great consolation, we think; for, whenever what calls itself Democracy is to have the Federal power, we much prefer it from the meridian and air of South Carolina to Tammany Hall or Albany. "If we had our way, therefore, our Whig Northern friends would, when Congress meets, enter their simple protest against the annexation of Texas, as a resolution in the Government, and a change in the Constitution, and then let the matter drop. They may spend four of the session in debate; and sow the seeds of discord more and more among the Whigs of the South—but the debate will end as it begins—in smoke.

"To the miserable and ferocious clique of Abolitionists (and yet in numbers contemptible) are we indebted for this extension and perpetuity for the slave Government of this country. If they repent for a thousand years, and wait all the while in sackcloth and ashes, they never can atone for the injury they have inflicted upon mankind and upon their country."

We hope it will not here be out of place, to allude to the famous prediction of Senator Rives, that Texas would not come in. That same gentleman, last summer, hoped that annexation would not take place, as, in case of Polk's election, he wished to quit the United States, and go to Texas.

That retreat being cut off, he will be forced to remain at home. We are glad that the cause of Agriculture will be graced and improved by his undivided labors. The Virginia principles which he once illustrated, he has abandoned. We wish him more success in his Agricultural Essays for which he is said to have a turn.

If things continue as they have begun, the New York Tribune and Boston Atlas will soon be left alone to their glory of agitation and opposition to the Government and people: "A pro forma resistance may now be made to the annexation of Texas, but it will be all in vain. The two Senators from Texas will walk into the Senate Chamber next winter, and there is getting them out by violence or revolution. We have made up our minds to submit. Submission is preferable to resistance and a consequent dissolution of the Union. The Whig members of congress from the South will go with the Loco Foco members from the South north, on this question; and as Northern Democracy has given in, and consented to be governed by Southern slave-ocracy, the only consolation we Whigs, have is, that the slave power, extended and fortified by Texas, will rule and restrain its rabble allies in the free States of the Union. Through their monied leaders here, we trust it will govern them hard when it has the federal power, and so preserve us from the radicalism that threatens and surrounds us. For out part, we had rather be lorded over by the slave owners than by the Empire Club gangs that rule much of "the Democracy of the North."

"The annexation of Texas was "settlement at last!" The Alexandria Gazette, while admitting that Texas may "almost be now regarded as an integral part of the United States," adds: "The event is an important one—and fraught with consequences of the deepest interest to our country. There has been much in the inception and conduct of this business, which we have condemned, and which may yet produce results which all must lament. Bu, now, that the matter is settled, we shall be among the first not only quietly and peaceably to submit to the law, but even to hope for the best. The friends of Annexation have drawn the most flattering picture of the good that will ensue. We certainly never believed that all their promises would be realized—but, we shall not, on that account, look at the dark side of the picture, or anticipate the worst that might happen. What is done, in this matter, cannot be undone. The fiercest opposition to it, could not effect a change back again. We must take Texas, with all the acknowledged evils of it Annexation, lest with an ardent desire that Providence, in its kindness, will counterbalance them, by blessings which may flow from the measured of Annexation." This is the true spirit. It behooves every patriot to submit to the popular voice, and to unite in upholding the honor and interest of the Union. Let public indignation, without distinction of party, be concentrated upon the heads of those Northern fanatics, who would betray their county in the hour of peril. The annexation of Texas as will, like the admission of Louisiana, work out its own triumph over the judgments of its strongest opponents, and the whole country will soon award to the Democratic party the highest credit for this peaceful and brilliant achievement, fraught as it will be with blessings to every portion of the nation. We conclude with a passage from the New York Express, written before the receipt of the conclusive news by the Princeton. It is peculiarly savage upon the "miserable and ferocious clique of Abolitionists," whom it longed to have as its allies in the late Presidential canvass. They, however, failed them at the pinch, and now all the honeyed words of the Northern Whig prints and orators are converted into curses. The last sentence is important, as showing that, If Mr. Clay had been elected by the Abolitionists, (and their votes alone could have saved him,) Texas and her friends of the United States would have whistled for many years, before they would have had the smallest hope of spreading the wings of the American Eagle over the lovely plains of Texas. Let then the Democratic Party have full credit for their unprecedented victory last November. Its moral influence has been powerfully felt, and will continue to stomp with benefits the future destinies of our great country. We thank the Express for its consideration and kindness in eschewing "resistance and a consequent dissolution of the Union!"

Mr. Shannon, ex-Minister to Mexico, has published in the Union a letter to the Secretary of State, in which he confirms, substantially, the account heretofore given by Mr. B. E. Green, of the non-payment of the Mexican instalments. [MSM2]
But few papers and no news. The celebration of the 4th, in Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, and Boston, went off most happily, without disturbance or accident, and with remarkable sobriety. The Texas news was received in the Northern cities with great enthusiasm. Everybody is now for Texas. Even the National Intelligencer is “mum” at the startling intelligence.

The following sporting information in Sunday’s New York Herald, is all the news we find: "The Greatest Piece of Pedestrianism ever Performed. A foot race came off on Friday, in the neighborhood of Stonigton, Conn., in which Maj. Champlin performed a mile in the astonishing and almost incredible time of four minutes and nineteen seconds. He now challenges to run any man in the U.S. one mile for one thousand dollars, or upwards, to come off over the Union or Beacon Course, any time between this and the first of August. The challenger can be heard of, or seen, at the American Hotel, Stonigton. It is not unlikely but that he will be accommodated."

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REv42i18p3c2 July 8, 1845 Important and Glorious News

On the eve of the great day which is consecrated to the independence of our country, we hail the re-union of Texas with the United States. We will now tread the road of freedom and greatness together. This news comes to us by the Princeton steamer, which arrived at Annapolis to-day at 2 o’clock.

Dr. Wright brings the dispatches from Annapolis. He left Washington, Texas, on the 21st June, and arrived at Galveston on the 23rd—on which day the Princeton left that place. We are favored by the Doctor with the following memoranda: "The United States ship Princeton, Commodore Stockton, arrived at Annapolis, from Galveston, Texas, after the short passage of nine days, having consumed only 93 tons coal. She steamed against head winds, with the exception of only 36 hours, when she was assisted by her sails.

No Atlantic steamer has ever made so good an hourly average, with the same economy of fuel; and considering all the circumstances, it may be regarded as an unprecedented passage. The news brought by the Princeton is of the most interesting character. Both houses of the Texan Congress have unanimously consented to the terms of the joint resolution of the United States.

The Senate had rejected the treaty with Mexican by a unanimous vote. Capt. Wagaman had arrived at Washington, Texas, to select posts to be occupied by the United States troops, and to provide for their subsistence. A resolution was introduced into both houses of Congress, requiring the Executive to surrender all posts, navy-yards, barracks, &c., to the proper authorities of the U. States.

The joint resolutions were introduced into both houses of Congress on the same day, and were almost identical in their tenor. The resolutions passed the Senate on the 18th of June, and were sent to the House; the House laid them on the table, and passed their own resolutions unanimously, and sent them to the Senate on the next day. In the mean time, considerable jealousy arose as to which branch should claim the honor of the paternity of the resolutions; and it was finally settled that the House should take up the resolutions of the Senate, and amend them in the third section. The House then passed them in their present form, and sent them back to the Senate, which body concurred in the amendment. The President is pledged to give full and immediate effect to the will of Congress, so far as depends upon himself."

This important intelligence has just reached the President of the United States, [this evening, half past 8] Dr. Wright brings copious dispatches from our able charge Major Donelson; but they are written prior to the adoption of resolutions of the Congress of Texas. He also brings newspapers, embracing the National Register, printed at Washington, of the 19th June, three days after Congress assembled. We must confine ourselves principally to the contents of the Galveston News Extra of the 23rd June. The National Register contains the correspondence between Major Donelson and the Government of Texas, from March 31, 1845, down to June 11th, accompanying President Jones’ message to Congress.

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REv42i18p3c2 July 8, 1845 News, Extra President Jones Message &c

We are indebted to Mr. Briggs for the following interesting documents, which we hasten to give our readers. Verbally we learn from Mr. Briggs, that the propositions for our independence have been submitted to the Senate. They are not yet made public; but it is understood that they are highly objectionable, and will be promptly rejected.

Executive Department. Washington, June 16, 1845.

Gentlemen of the Senate and of the House of Representatives: I am happy to meet you, on this interesting occasion, as the representatives of the people, again assembled in the discharge of your high and important duties. The call of an extraordinary session of Congress at the early day, but the Executive, was not made without the most
mature, deliberation, and a due deference to the great crisis which has arisen since your late adjournment, in the affairs of Texas as well as the almost unanimous expression of public will which took place throughout the country in regard to the same. The Executive has now the pleasure to transmit to the honorable Congress, for such action as the may deem suitable, the propositions which have been made on the part of the United States to this Government, for the annexation of Texas, and its incorporation, as a State, into that great and kindred Confederacy, together with the correspondence between the two Governments, which has arisen out of the same. This correspondence, entering, as it does, very fully into the views and sentiments of the Governments in question, renders in unnecessary for the Executive to add [for the information or consideration of Congress] but little thereto in reference to the proposed union, render those terms much more acceptable than they would otherwise have been. The state of public opinion, and the great anxiety of the people to act definitely upon the subject of annexation, by a convention of deputies, as prescribed in the resolutions of the United States Congress, induce the Executive to issue his proclamation on the 5th of May, ultimo. Recommending an election for sixty one deputies, to be held in the several counties throughout the republic, on the 4th of the present month, and to assemble in convention, at the city of Austin, on the 4th of July next. This recommendation has met the sanction of the citizens of Texas generally, and the deputies in the several counties; so far as heard from, having been elected upon the basis proposed, it is confidently expected the convention will assemble at the time and place fixed upon. To this convention, the question of annexation, and the adoption of a State constitution, will probably belong; and they will determine the great question of annexation, and they will determine the great question of the nationality of Texas, as to them seem most conductive to the interest, happiness, and prosperity of the people whom they will represent. It is important that the "consent of the existing Government" should be given to their exercising the powers which have been delegated to them, in order to comply with a requirement to that effect in the resolutions on the subject of annexation, passed by the American Congress. For this purpose, the present extraordinary session of the Congress of the Republic of Texas has been convoked, and to its wisdom, as a co-ordinate department, the Executive now submits the determination of the matter. The services to be performed by the Convention will be arduous and will probably engage it for a considerable period of time and the Executive would respectfully recommend to Congress the propriety of making a suitable appropriation for the payment of its members, as well as the officers it may find occasion to employ. The Executive has the pleasure in addition to presenting Congress the proposition concerning annexation, to inform them that certain conditions, preliminary to a treaty of peace, upon the basis of a recognition of the independence of Texas by Mexico, were signed on the part of the latter, at the city of Mexico, on the 12th of May last, and were transmitted to this Government of the 2d instant, by the Baron Alleye de Cyprey, minister plenipotentiary of his Majesty the King of the French, at that court by the hands of Capt. Elliot, her Britannic Majesty's Charge d' Affairs near this Government. In consequence of the signing of these preliminaries, the Executive believing it to be his duty, in the recess of Congress, to make the fact known to the people of Texas, and to declare and proclaim a cessation of hostilities between Texas and Mexico, until the same could be communicated to, and acted upon, by Congress and the Convention about to assemble. A proclamation for this purpose was consequently issued on the 4th instant, a copy of which is herewith transmitted. The preliminaries being in the nature of a treaty, will, with all the correspondence in relation thereto, be forthwith communicated to the honorable Senate, for its constitutional advice, and such action as, to its wisdom, the same shall seem to require. The alternative of annexation or independence will thus be placed before the people of Texas, and their free, sovereign and unbiased voice will determine the all important issue and so far as it shall depend upon the Executive to act, he will give immediate and full effect to the expression of their will.

His situation in regard to the important subjects now communicated to Congress, has, since their late adjournment, been one of great delicacy and embarrassment. Questions of much difficulty have been presented for this determination, upon which the fate and welfare of the country depended and. Without precedent or constitutional guide for his governance, he has been obliged to assume, in consequence, great and severe responsibilities. He trusts, however, that Congress will approve the course he has adopted, and, by their enlightened counsels, relieve and direct him in the course hereafter to be pursued in relation to those questions. The Executive is happy to announce to Congress, that Texas is at peace with the world; that with all foreign powers with whom we have had intercourse, friendly relations are maintained. The different tribes on Indians on our borders, with whom treaties exist, have continued to observe the same with good faith; and within the last few days, information has been received, that the only band of Comanches within our limits, who had maintained until then a hostile attitude towards Texas, have sued for peace, and expressed a wish to be permitted come to Bexar celebrate a treaty of friendship, which, on the part of this Government has been complied with. The arrangement made you regular session, for additional companies of rangers to be mustered into service, have been carried into full effect, and have afforded adequate and very efficient protection to our frontiers. The receipts into the treasury have been sufficient to meet various expenditures of the government. A specie currency has been maintained without difficulty; and all the exchequer bills which were in circulation at the period of your late adjournment, have been redeemed and withdrawn from circulation; and the Executive is happy to congratulate the Congress and the country upon a state of peace, happiness, and prosperity, never before experienced by Texas, and rarely, if ever, equaled by so young a nation. It only remains for the Executive to express an assured confidence in your individual wishes to sustain the best interest of Texas, and the fervent hope the He, who holds the destinies of me and nations in his hand, may crown your deliberations with his richest blessings. Anson Jones [MSM2]

REv42i18p3c4 July 8, 1845 Address to A. J. Donelson

To A.J. Donelson, Charge d’ Affaires of the U. States.

It is believed that the Mexicans were occupying two positions—in what force does not appear.
We find the following article upon the subject in the National Registry of the 19th: Corpus Christi.—The trade of Corpus Christi has been remarkably brisk within the last four or five weeks, and the town is now rapidly improving. Several large parties of traders from the Rio Grande have visited the place; and they expressed great confidence that the difficulties between the two countries would soon be adjusted. They report that large bodies of Mexican troops have recently arrived in the provinces east of the mountains from the interior, but they did not state that any larger body of these forces had crossed the Rio Grande. We are inclined to believe that the forces east of the mountains have overtaken by the spies of Captain Hays. We do not believe that the whole number of troops at all the positions east of the Sierra Madre exceeds three thousand. The whole number of troops in Matamoros is estimated at only three or four hundred. (Telegraph)

[MSM2]

REv42i18p4c4 July 8, 1845 The Lone Star glistening in the American Firmament

We were again disappointed on the morning of the 4th, by not receiving in the New Orleans papers positive information of the union of Texas and the United States, through the Congress of the former. But, before the setting of the sun, the glorious news was brought to the Northern cars, in time to enable the Artillery Company, in their evening salute, to fire one loud, clear and ringing gun for Texas, the newly recovered Pleiad, that for a time, had wandered from its political sphere. This news, which is destined to be received throughout the Union with the most thrilling emotions, will be found in full in another column, as taken from the Union. So impressed were we with its importance, that on Saturday morning we issued an Extra containing the joyful tidings. It is unnecessary for us to comment upon the scenes in the Texan Congress, which themselves speak so eloquently. We defy the world to produce a brighter instance of a people, by an unanimous vote, resisting alike the bribes and frowns of powerful nations, and, with a calm dignity and honorable devotion to principle, uniting itself to the destinies of the only free Government on the earth, resolved to share the glory and the fortunes of its adopted ally. From her tyrannical oppressor, Mexico, Texas had received the kindest and most beneficial offers; but, true to her American blood and high principles, she eschewed the tender, and, with one voice, sheltered herself beneath the Stars and Stripes of the American Union, “bone of her bone and strength of her strength.” In taking this critical step, she incurred the hazard of those “contingencies” to which her vacillating President had so earnestly alluded, and fearlessly crossed the Rubicon of her Fate. She has, thereby, perpetuated her principles, and given evidence to the world, that she is worth of all praise. What will these dreadful “contingencies” amount to? We confidently think, that they will prove to be as unsubstantial as air. The Government of Mexico, however it may desire to catch the popular favor by indulging its fancy for retaliatory measures, on account of the supposed insult upon its honor and national rights, will seize the earliest occasion to let the bitter cup pass, and to “ease off” the unpleasant difficulty on the best terms. It must feel conscious of its own excessive weakness. The last accounts tell us of an attempted Revolution in Mexico, and every thing proves that the Government and people are bound to each other by a rope of sand. While they are unable to keep peace at home, and to rally the people to the aid of the authorities, would it not be the extreme of folly to originate hostilities against the United States, strengthened as they are by the area and hearts of Texas? From Mexico, therefore, we apprehend no trouble. Should she be mad enough to resist the course of events, her effort will be like the attempt to dam up the ocean with a bulrush. Poor Captain Elliott, foiled in all his arts and tricks—stripped of his wardrobe by his “loving cousins” of the Mexican mountains, and robbed of all the diplomatic reputation which his odious opium transactions in China had won for him with the intriguers of the Old World; we can well understand how, his feelings chafed, his vanity mortified, and his bright visions of success and promotion dissipated, he may endeavor to avenge himself upon the people of the United States, now including Texas, and to that end endeavor to stir up the passions of England. But he will fail.

That nation has, at the present moment, “other (and more important) fish to fry.” Her hands are quite full enough of troublesome questions, and she will have no inducement to endanger her own safety and power, by further intermeddling with our affairs. As to France, our first and valued ally, much as we regret to see the part she has played in the discreditable intrigues, in direct contravention of the declaration of M. Guiznot to Mr. King, we cannot by think that she will soon become ashamed of her Paul Dry game, and will be far from disposed to incur our displeasure by further violations of courtesy and good faith. The news by the Acadia, since received, show that M. Guiznot, as the organ of the French Government, has disclaimed any intention to meddle with annexation, though she would refer to see Texas independent. From abroad, it will be observed, we apprehend no mischievous “contingencies.” Will our own land raise up traitors enough to stab our honor, national faith and welling greatness? We have no such fears. There sill scarcely be found in the broad limits of the Union a handful of men like the Editors of the New York Tribune, Boston Atlas, and other Northern fanciers, who have taken the pledge not to aid their country in a foreign war, should it ensue upon the annexation of Texas. The miserable remnant of humanity may endeavor to stir up disaffection and rebellion to the solemn action of our government and people, but they will be frustrated by public sentiment. The Convention in Texas, which assembled on the 4th of July, will frame the Constitution of the new State of Texas—and nothing can prevent the first achievement of the most brilliant event of the age.. In all sincerity, we believe that this measure, which once arrayed parties in such bitter hostility to each other, will now be hailed with joy by the whole Union. We are not disposed to mar the thrilling pleasure that must be produce by the rapid circulation of this joyous intelligence. We would willingly let “by-gones by by-gones.” But as the conductors of a free press, we cannot conscientiously let this subject pass, without an allusion to the ridiculous and improper bearing of President Jones, throughout this whole affair. It will be recollected, that a member of the Texan Cabinet denied positively, that President Jones had interfered at all with the treaty for independence. It now seems, from the memoranda brought by Dr. Wright, that the preliminaries, were agreed upon by Ashbel Smith, Jones’s Secretary of State, that the Mexican Minister, Cuevas, acknowledged “the receipt of those preliminaries, through the intervention of Baron Alleye de Cyprey,” that the national Congress had “consented that Mexico will accede to the preliminaries proposed by Texas, as the basis of a formal treaty;” and that President Jones had written a letter to Baron Cyprey, “acknowledging his kind offices in bringing about the negotiation.” If this series of facts does not
show, on the part of Jones, a zealous desire to defeat annexation, and to violate the wishes of the people of Texas, there is no connection between cause and effect. His wretched apologies and shuffling professions will avail him nothing. The extraordinary conduct of the man will open the eyes of the people of the Union, and we hope never to see the name of “Anson Jones” connected with any of the offices of the State of Texas. The public have bad enough of the services of such men as Jones and Ashbel Smith. It can well afford to see such eminent patriots and candid and bold functionaries consigned to the shades of retirement!

[MSM2]

REv42i19p2c1 July 11, 1845 The Glorious Measure of Annexation

The Charleston Courier of the 8th inst. Welcomes the news from Texas in the following brief but emphatic and joyous remarks. This is the spirit which will animate the whole country, as the intelligence is rapidly conveyed over the great mail routes, and gradually finds its way into the obscure recesses of our valleys and mountains. Here and there, may be a few croakers who will coldly look upon it as an unimportant business transaction of every day life, but the mass of the people will regard it as the most interesting event of the age, and will applaud its consummation as full of blessings to the Union, and as giving new evidence of the power and influence of this great nation. A new era is about to open in the destinies of our Southern neighbors, and we feel confident that they are made of materials, to build their high and reasonable duties, as members of a great and happy confederacy. The annexation of Texas, moreover, has proved the death knell to the machinations of Northern fanatics. In vain did they appeal to the prejudice of the North to oppose this scheme of “slavery.” The judgment and patriotism of the people prevailed over all their devices—and annexation was fully secured by the November Election.

The South was confirmed in her constitutional rights—the compromises of the Federal compact were guarded from violation, and the friend of Union and justice rejoiced at the happy event. Now that one more decisive step has been taken; now, that Texas had added her strength and influence in the South, we may well deny the fiercest assaults and most insidious movements of Northern fanaticism. But, at the same time that we rejoice at the realization of the union and safety of the South against domestic traitors, we wish it to be distinctly understood, that we do not in the least falter in our regard for the blessed Union, or hint at a national schism. This very measure of annexation has done much towards confirming the bonds that unite the different States. While it adds to the scale of the South an important element of power and influence, it throws open a wide and rich field for the productive industry of the North and the West. It appeals to the different sections, in the name both of patriotism and self-interest, to stand by the Union and its blessings. As a great national benefit, therefore, the whole country should rejoice at the triumph of the measure. Time will develop its fruitful sources of strength and prosperity. No longer regarded as a party question, all will be glad to enjoy its benefits, and to share the honor it will shed upon the nation.

“Annexation of Texas.—Yesterday was a fort of gala day in our city. The bells of old St. Michael’s rang their merry peals the live-long day; the vessels in our harbor wore their gayest colors; flags streamed from windows, and across our streets; and at 12 meridian, one hundred guns, from a volunteer detachment of Col. Kanapaux’s Artillery, thundered a loud welcome to Texas, as a member of our glorious Union and Republican family. Every body, we believe, was either please, or at least reconciled with the event. It has relieved suspense; settled a moot question, put end to dispute, and it only remains for all true patriots whether original friends or foes of the measure, to join in the honest endeavor to make it work for the good of our country, It has extended our domain—the domain of freedom and happiness—it has increased our population, and will bless and enrich the new citizens it has added to the Republic—and we hope too, it will tend to increase the felicity, as well as the extent, and the resources, even of the great and happy nation of which the new State has now become an integral part. We cordially respond to the public meeting should be called to tender a warm welcome to Texas, the candle of our political sisterhood.”

[MSM2]

REv42i19p2c1 July 11, 1845 The Balance of Power

The success of annexation among its numerous benefits, will break up the conjoined effort of European powers to control Republican power to this country, and to effect the wings of free institutions. The National Intelligence contains an interesting letter from its Paris correspondent (Mr. Walsh,) which throws new light upon the movements of England and France. It turns out to be, that the French legations in Texas and Mexico received the same instructions as the British, and that the instructions of the French Cabinet to their diplomatic agent in Texas passed through the hands of Lord Aberdeen. We make a few extracts from the letter of Mr. Walsh. His views merit the attention of every American patriot. “The debate raised on the whole foreign policy is worthy of all attention, as it is reported with signal accuracy and plenitude in the Moniteur of the 11th inst. It seems to me that Billaut and de Beaumot, who spoke for the Opposition, had decidedly the advantage in the points of fact, national sentiment, and sound reasoning. The valetudinary Minister (Guirot) was not less intrepid, rhetorical and plausible than ever, he could not in the end, deny the allegations his adversaries that the instructions of the French Cabinet to their diplomatic agent in Texas passed through the hands of Lord Aberdeen, and that he had fully co-operated with the British Government is endeavoring to prolong and fix the independence of that region. He broached a theory and scheme of a balance of power for the American continent, which means nothing more than the limitation of the agrandizement of our Union—a general check and control of Republican power—by means of Great Britain for offensive or primary antagonizes to the United States in Canada, she can be only on the defensive. Oregon is too remote and precarious for material operation for a general or viral nature. Several of the Paris editors have shown
how chimerical in itself and how inexpedient for France, is this unexpected, far-fetched theory. La Presse
(Conservative) says: “We don not find n this opinion any marks of the (ostencity ?) which distinguishes M. Guiznot.
The interest of France is not to favor the breaking up into pieces of the American continent, and the creation of a
crowd of little States, possessing neither vitality nor real independence.

That is the interest of England, not ours—to would be better for us, and for American herself, that Texas, on which
we have no claim, should be protected, defended and fortified by the only Power of that cast continent having
strength and good purposes, than that it should remain under the dominion of anarchy, foreign intrigues, and all the
causes of destruction and ruin which act so deplorably on most of the other independent republics of the New
World.” It is cheering to see such wise and liberal views taken by the Pairs press. Mr. Walsh refers to other sources
of good feeling toward the United States on the Texas question, and, among the rest, to “an able inquiry by the
Deputy Monsieur Duvergier de Hauranne, into the Present Relations of France and England, and the Re-
establishment of the Alliance. He severely and minutely criticizes the doctrines and measure of the Soult-Guizot
Cabinet. He dwells on the superior importance for France of the best understanding with the United States; their
ultimate cause, he argues, is the same; independently of all positive concert or league, the greatness of France is
strength for the United States, and vice versa.

"Until lately,” he adds, ‘I could not believe that our legations in Texas and Mexico received the same instructions as
the British; but the language of M. Guizot. On the 10th instant, has set me right and determined the fact. And after
this incredible, infatuated proceeding, the Minister orates to us of, I know not what equilibrium to be maintained in
America between the United States and Great Britain. He wants three balances of power—one in Europe, another in
Asia, the third in America! And, forsooth, Mr. Guizot would throw the weight of France in American into the British
scale, for, as Mr. De Beaumont and Mr. De Lasteyne said, in the debate, Texas must be virtually either British or
American; she cannot be really independent. This question will doubtless recur in the Chambers, and the Opposition
will do their duty; France cannot, without repudiating all common sense and fore-sight, become the ally of England
against the United States.” With these glaring facts before the world, can there be an American who does not rejoice
at the defeat of foreign intrigues against the supremacy and influence of our free institutions! Here a crusade
against the swelling greatness of our Union is openly avowed by the crowned hosts of Europe. But their schemes will
be defeated. Texas, “the last stake of Great Britain for offensive or primary antagonism to the United States,” is now
secured to us, and British cunning and ambition is baffled. The annexation of that country, in spite of the
opposition of France and Great Britain, through their diplomatic agents, is, indeed, a triumph of the Republican
spirit. It will secure our country from foreign intrigue, and will strike the world with an irresistible moral power. It
will warn the rulers of the old world that there is a force and influence in free institutions, which will secure their
onward march against all opposition. The young giant of the West has broken the fetters of foreign diplomacy, and
will pursue its quiet and steady march towards the high destiny, which has been marked out for it. While America
will carefully abstain from interference with other power, she has just demonstrated that no foreign nation can check
or control her movements, or safely meddle with her own rights, and her duties to herself and to the cause of
Liberty.

Well, then, may every patriot rejoice at the response which will be conveyed across the Atlantic to the shuttling
intrigues of European rulers. The subject is full of clustering thoughts and associations. It opens a new and a bright
picture in the history of the world, and places the American Union on a foundation of strength and influence, at
home and abroad. Me. Walsh further transmits to his countrymen the following gratifying information: “In the final
debate of the Deputies, on the bill fro the modification of slavery in the French possessions, Heryer, the great orator
of the Legitimiss, paid, in a splendid harangue, some high compliments to the sagacity and trank energy of Mr.
Calhoun’s letter to Mr. King, and to the discernments and talents of American Statesmen in general.”

[MSM2]
Port Walthall. July 9- Arrived,

Steamer *Chesapeake*, Capt. Z. C. Gifford, having in tow three square rigged vessels, viz:
Barque *Eunomus*, Mansfield, from N. York with cargo and ballast to Haxall, Brothers & Co.
Barque *Stephen Brewer*, Farraud, from New York in ballast to Warwick &


Baltimore. July 8- Cleared, brig *Selina*, Jackson for Richmond.


Philadelphia,

Cleared, schr. *Catherine Amanda*, Teal, for Richmond, and barque *Yarmouth*, Garwin, for Norfolk.


Cleared, schr *Tuscarosa*, Dearborn, for Norfolk.

Boston, July 7- Arrived, schr. *Extio*, Robinson, from Richmond:

Cleared, schrs. *Henry Lee* and *Narrageanseti*, for Richmond.

Norfolk, July 9- Arrived, Schr. *Independence*, Kirwan, from Baltimore, bound to Richmond.

[MSM2]

REv42i19p3c2 July 11, 1845 Military Disposition in Texas

Gov. Yell, of Arkansas, has arrived from Texas, and informs the editors of the *Intelligencer* that a cordon of forts will be thrown from Fort Washita to the Rio Grande—Fort Washita to remain—a fort to be established on the head waters of the Trinity or Colorado, and one to be located on the Rio Grande. San Antonio will be the place of headquarters. Three regiments will be ordered there.

[MSM2]

REv42i19p3c2 July 11, 1845 Will Mexico Declare War?

Politicians here differ about the course which Mexico will pursue. Gov. Shannon and Capt. Stockton incline to the opinion that her clamorous and infatuated people will hurry the Government on to hostile measures. Other politicians here will not believe that England will permit Mexico to declare war. They say, that it is her interest to keep her at peace, and that England has peace or war in the palm of her hand. A few days must now decide the question. Unless England is blindly intent on war with the United States, and she may think it the time to strike at us, she will urge upon her ally to keep the peace. (Union.)

[MSM2]

REv42i19p3c2 July 11, 1845 French Squadron

A French squadron is reported have arrived off Pensacola, destined to act against Mexico. The Mexicans have certainly behaved bad towards the French Minister and French inhabitants, and they seem to have forgotten the lesson they once received at Vera Cruz. If the French take possession of the Castle and City, they will not be disposed to surrender them. (N.Y. Sun)

[MSM2]

REv42i19p4c2 July 11, 1845 Texas, (*The Richmond Times*)

It is very cruel in the *Times* to rebuke our heartfelt rejoicings over the triumph of annexation. It was a matter which
has been marked by no little difficulty and for which this paper has sedulously labored, for sometime. We had a right, then, in this free country, to rejoice at the consummation. And the rebuke as particularly ill-timed, when it comes from a journal which, to say the least, has been neutral on this question. Even its yesterdays oburgatory article does not clearly inform the world what its opinions are, or what course it would have taken, had the settlement of the question rested in its hands exclusively. We quote it for the study of our readers:

“We are entirely disposed to acquiesce in the decision of the American people that Texas is to be a part of our Union, and believe that the annexation independently of constitutional considerations, will be of advantage to the country, though now without injury in many respects.” We hope, then, that the Times will let us rejoice at the results in our own way. The Editor, in another portion of his columns informs us that he was “fresh from the schools” of the University. It was natural, therefore, that he should indulge in verbal criticisms, and play the Censor over our language. We excuse the province he has assumed; for words are but of little avail, when used to announce important events. But we must protest against the attempt of the Mentor of the Times to convict our language of inconsistency. All have admitted that, for the few past weeks, annexation was certainly to be expected. The public opinion of Texas irresistibly ran that way and, on the morning of the 4th, we announced the consummation as having actually taken place: for “no rational man could doubt the fact.” But, for a long time after the action of our Congress, much doubt hung over the result. Indeed, an intelligent citizen of Texas has very recently assured us, that at one moment the question was full of gloom and many thought our Resolutions would be rejected. The opposition of the leading authorities and many distinguished citizens, the cunning and assiduous diplomacy of Great Britain, her immense resources, her honeyed promises, the threatened dangers of war, the conjoined action of the French Minister. (contrary, we hope, to the instructions of his Government) the direct commercial advantages held by G. Britain, and the artful appeals to the vanity of Texas to maintain an independent and prominent rank among the nations of the earth these and other facts form the “contingencies” in which we allude and which many patriots feared would defeat annexation. The Time has therefore, misconstrued our language, when it makes us refer to the vote of her Congress as “the critical step.” That vote was but the final consumation of the public opinion, which had, some time before, taken “the critical step,” and had put down all the difficulties which we have grouped above. We agree with the Compiler, that there was no “hazard” in concluding an arrangement, when these “contingencies” had been neutralized; but we contend that there was hazard in taking those critical steps which led to the grand result. The Times looks coldly upon annexation as common “matter of bargain and sale.” It says: “We might think it very well for the United States to add a few more cotton plantations on the Southern border; especially if they could get them for nothing; (this is a direct contradiction to the Whig’s argument) but we must confess we see nothing exceedingly glorious in it, on one side or the other. It seems nothing “glorious” in the diffusion of the light of education and religion over a most lovely portion of the globe; the extension of the rich blessings of liberal institutions and enlightened civilization; and the strengthening of our own bonds of union, and the multiplication of resources of all the great interests of the country. All we have to say is, that the Times does not look at this grand and “glorious” spectacle with the same eye that a majority of the people of the old and the new world will regard it. The final achievement of this measure, we venture to predict, will create more excitement, and call up more admiration, than any event which has transpired for many years. We insist upon calling it “glorious.”

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REv4219p4c2 July 11, 1845 The Whig

The Whig can hold in no longer about annexation. Yesterday’s No. is full of “President-making” and private rapacity, impurity of motive, avarice, injustice, and iniquity, “and such other delicate compliments to the friends of annexation and they turned out not to be few! Time will gratify the anxious wishes of the Whig, and will dispel that cloud of “woe,” which it seems certainly to apprehend. As a foreign State, Texas would have been more dangerous “rival” of the cotton and sugar States, than she will now prove, as a member of the same confederacy, governed by the same laws and subject to the same burdens. It is now too late to re-argue that point. It was made perfectly clear by the “Whig” delegate James Lyons, Esq., in the late canvass. For the benefit of the Whig we re-publish the following from the London Morning Herald: "Mr. Calhoun reproaches us with opposing the annexation of Texas, because we wish to destroy slavery first in Texas, then in the United States. We avow it frankly, and invite our friends of France to avow it with us. We desire to abolish slavery in the United States from philanthropic and commercial, and still more from political reasons. As long as the United States preserve the monopoly of cotton, they hold the manufacturers of Europe in check and dictate laws to them and they will preserve the labor of the blacks. If, on the contrary, England were to prevent annexation she might at some future day, with India and Texas, (mark Indian and Texas afterwards) ruin the cotton trade of the United States, and in her turn dictate laws to all the manufactories in the world." The Standard, a paper in the confidence of the of Prime Minister says: “The Republicans of American seem to be little concerned about slavery; but, it must be admitted that, without the labor of the blacks, they could not produce cotton—that cotton which plays so important a part in their exports. Jin just recompense to her disinterestedness, England might soon render the cotton producing labor of the slaves useless, and thus abolish slavery by transporting the production of cotton through the aid of free blacks, to another hemisphere.”

[MSM2]

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REv4219p4c2 July 11, 1845 Singular Dispatch

Everything goes to prove that late voyage of the Princeton from Galveston to Annapolis one of the most remarkable on record. She passed the Capes of Virginia last Wednesday nigh, and Tuesday morning, the good people of N.
Orleans, so much nearer the scene of action, had not heard a word of the decisive action of the Texan Congress. The New Orleans Bulletin, of Monday, gives information from the seat of Government of Texas up to the 15th June, the day before the meeting of Congress. The general impression was, that the "unanimity would prevail" upon the annexation question. The Bulletin presents the following views, which may enlighten the minds of some to the Whigs as to the chances of war. Many of them, we learn, are now pleased with the result, though, with their usual croaking, they profess to apprehend a breadth of the peace. On that point our mind is at ease. "So soon as the measure of annexation passed the Congress will authorize the President to make a requisition on the United States for a sufficient military force to be marched to the Rio Grande, to repel the encroachments of Mexico on that line of boundary. Ere this, no doubt, the question of annexation is settled in the affirmative. An United States army may now be moving to occupy its position of the Eastern bank of the Del Norte. It remains to be seen, whether Mexico will dare dispute the boundary. She has an army assembled on the Western bank, and if a collision takes place at all, it will be on the line of the Rio Grande del Norte. A few days more will tell the result, and furnish us with the last scene in the grand drama of which Texas has been the theatre during ten years past."

REv42i20p1c4 July 15, 1845 More Treason

The course of the N.Y. Tribune continues to be marked by the most violent temper, and an utter disregard of national faith and honor. It would wreak its vengeance for political disappointments, upon the fair name and dearest rights of the country. The spirit of fanaticism is at the bottom of all its fierce movements. It is the duty of the people to point the finger and scorn at every man who would thus sacrifice his native land to the unhallowed schemes of mischievous party. We, therefore, make further extracts from the columns of the Tribune, in order that all patriots, of whatever political party, may know the schemes of some of the leading journals, and may prepare to prostrate the spirit of disaffection to our national cause, wherever and however it may spring up. Many Whigs, who were conscientiously opposed to annexation, have sunk their party feelings, and looking alone to the country’s faith and honor, and to the avowed policy of European nations to check the growth of Republican strength, and to establish an odious and absurd "balance of power," have nobly come to the rescue, and stand ready to defend and preserve our rights in Texas, at all hazards. Not so, the New York Tribune and its associate fanatics. The look upon Annexation as a triumph over their mad schemes, and unblushingly avow their determination to resist it, in every manner. We have no idea to what extent this feeling may pervade the Northern States. It is true, that the Tribune is the leading Whig paper in New York, and, from its large circulation, has been selected as the depository of the Post Office advertisements.

But we cannot believe that the anti-American feelings, which taint its columns, can, to any extent, affect the masses. It is particularly gratifying to know, that all the other Whig journals in New York have bowed to the popular will and surrender their objections to the completion of a measure which the United States are bound in honor to effect. The Tribune may call upon its fanatical clans to undertake a new and angry crusade against Texas—but its labors will be in vain. The mercantile and manufacturing classes begin to discover the benefits which they will derive from the new acquisition, and will be eager for the fruit. The Abolitionists will be staggered by the astounding victory over domestic and foreign intrigue and fanaticism, and will cower beneath the concentrated strength of the South, aided by the true friends of the Union in every State. Public sentiment is being rapidly and universally aroused to the vast importance of Texas, like Louisiana and Florida, to be safety and welfare of the Union. We have to fear of the threats of such traitors as are arrayed against annexation. The whole nation will laugh at the absurd and impotent menaces of the Tribune, as we now give them to our readers. Speaking of the passage of the joint resolution of our Congress, it says: "Yet this was not a efficient humiliation for the Representatives of the States and of the people before Presidential power. There must be farther usurpation.

The House Resolution, which could not pass the Senate, becomes a law contrary to the will of our branch of the Legislature, has new conditions attached to it by the 'magnanimous views' of our President, which if submitted to the Representatives of the people, would have absolutely prevented its passage through the House. And that, is the abominable combination of fraud, usurpation, and robbery that we are now called upon to support and extol. Do the successful manipulations and cunning of the pickpocket, or the daring villains of the highway robber become (not readable) by success? Or is it incumbent on honest men to coincide in the iniquity quietly, when the deed is done? No! Crime and iniquity are the same, whether successful or not; and he who aids or abets, or ceases to condemn and resist, becomes a participator in the wrong and infamy. Neither the money gained in the rise of Texas Scrip, nor the wealth acquired from old grants of what are now Texas lands, can make wrong right, or sanctify the most disgraceful drama of fraud and crime on record."

[MSM2]

REv42i20p1c5 July 15, 1845 Echo of the Sentiment of the Whole Nation

Among the toasts drunk on the 4th at Martinsburg, Virginia, we find the following capital one. It will turn out that we were not singular in styling annexation as a "glorious" achievement: "By Charles James Faulkner. The 4th of July. The Anniversary of the dawn of American, and of the close of Texian Independence. As a Nation the Republic of Texas will this day cease to exist; but the light of her extinguished Star will re-appear with increased luster with in the circle of our own effulent Constellation; and henceforth the glories of Yorktown and of San Jacinto will be the common inheritance of one free and united people."

[MSM2]
The Executive has been polite enough place in our hands the following correspondence between Major Donelson and the Government of Texas, along with a printed document, communicated to the Congress of Texas, and comprising some of the mysteries of the Treaty with Mexico. It implicates Mr. President Jones in the extraordinary transactions. We hasten to lay them before our readers. This ridiculous negotiation, at which the courts of England and France will have some cause to blush—every way ridiculous, as well on account of the scheme itself, as of the conduct of its agents. (Elliot and Saligny.) and of its unqualified and unanimous rejection by the Senate of Texas, will reflect some light on the absurd and new-fangled doctrine of M. Guizot, about the balance of power on the American continent. How ridiculous, that after all this scenery, machinery, and doctorations—after all this elaboration of machinery—all this working of the wires—all these trips of the Eurydice back wards and forwards—the Mexican Treaty should have been unanimously rejected. The whole drama, indeed, is more ridiculous than any farce which was ever played upon the French or English stage. The papers, which we here lay before our readers, were received in this city last evening. They were to Galveston by Col. Samuel H. Marshall of Nashville, Tennessee, the brother-in-law of Judge Catros, who died at Galveston of a fever caught from exposure to the sun in the prairies on his way to that place. They were brought from Galveston by Captain Foster, in the revenue cutter Woodbury, who arrived at New Orleans on the 4th of July, and a letter from New Orleans, which encloses the to our Government, states, upon the authority of Captain Fowler, a report which had reached Galveston, that Major Donelson was seriously ill; but "I hope, (says the New Orleans Correspondent.) that the report is without foundation." The Congress of Texas was to adjourn, by resolution, on the 28th June. Department of State Washington, June 23, 1845.

The undersigned, Attorney-General of the Republic of Texas, charged ad interim with the direction of the Department of State, by order of His Excellency, the President, has the honor of transmitting to the Hon. Mr. Donelson, Charge d’Affaires of the United States, near this government, the enclosed copy of a joint resolution, Department of State, by order of His Excellency, the President, has the honor of transmitting to the Hon. Mr. The undersigned, Attorney-General of the Republic of Texas, charged ad interim with the direction of the resolution, on the 28th June. Department of State Washington, June 23, 1845.

The undersigned charge d’affaire of the United States, has the honor to acknowledge communication the Hon. Mr. Ebner Allen of this date, transmitting an official copy of the joint resolution which has been adopted by the Congress of Texas, on the 21st of March ultimo, and this day received and approved by the President, declaring the consent of the existing government of this Republic to the terms of the proposition for annexation, tendered by the United States, through the Hon. Mr. Donelson, on the 31st of March ultimo, to the government and people of Texas.

To all true friends of the great cause of annexation, and especially to the Hon. Mr. Donelson, whose energies and talents have been so ably and faithfully devoted to the success of that cause through the several stages of its recent triumphant progress, it must be peculiarly gratifying to observe the harmony and unanimity with which this resolution has passed the two houses of Congress, and received the Executive approval. Rejecting the idea of separate nationality, although commended to their choice by the proffered recognition of their independence by Mexico, and the countenance of powerful European sovereignties, the people of this country have thus evinced, by most decided manifestations, their strong by natural preference for the advantages of a voluntary incorporation into the American Union, and their strong attachment to the free institutions of that great and glorious Republic. Among the features of the resolution, it must be gratifying to the Hon. Mr. Donelson and his government to observe that provision, whereby the acts of the convention, to meet on the 4th proxima, are clothed with all the sanctions which can result from the concurring approval and consent of the executive, and the representatives of the people; and not less gratifying, the undersigned trusts, will be the assurance necessarily resulting from the premises, that the various steps yet to be taken on the part of this republic to perfect, so far as depends upon her, the measure of annexation upon the proposed basis, will be adopted with the same promptness and fidelity which have distinguished her preceding movements in the great cause, and to that confiding spirit of firm reliance upon the magnanimity and generosity of the United States, which has ever characterized the policy of her government and the dispositions of her people. The undersigned renews to Mr. Donelson, the assurance of his high regard, and remains his most obedient servant.

Ebner Allen.

Hon. A. J. Donelson.
Charge d’affaire of the United States.

The undersigned charge d’affaire of the United States, has the honor to acknowledge communication the Hon. Mr. Allen of this date, transmitting an official copy of the joint resolution which has been adopted by the Congress of Texas, giving the consent of their existing government for her admission as State of the federal Union and also giving the same consent to the steps which had been previously taken by this Excellency the President, to obtain from the people the requisite sanction for the measure on their part, on the terms offered by the United States. That this measure should be so acceptable to the existing Government and people of Texas a high proof of its wisdom; and its consummation in the manner described the Hon. Mr. Allen is no less honorable to the two countries than it is auspicious of the success and perpetuity of the principles of the Federal Union. The undersigned will value it as the most fortunate event of his life, to have been associated, as public agent, with the preparation and maturity of the steps which were necessary to the accomplishment of the measure; and he recurs therefore, with a just sensibility to the responsibility devolved upon him, to the flattering assurance he has received from this Government of the manner in which he has performed his duty. With equal sincerity, the undersigned bears testimony to the early determination of his Excellency, the President, to refer the proposals offered by the United States to the Congress
and people of Texas, and to execute faithfully their decision upon them. And he also bears testimony to the uniformly kind and courteous manner in which the Hon. Mr. Allen has conducted the negotiation on the part of his Government. And the undersigned renews to Mr. Allen assurances of the high regard with which he continues.

His most obedient servant, A. J. Donelson.

Hon. Ebenezer Allen Attorney General of Texas and Acting Secretary of State.

Correspondence. Relating to a Treaty of Peace between Mexico and Texas, upon the basis of an acknowledgement of the Independence of the latter.

Executive Department. Washington, June 18, 1845.

To the honorable the Senate: The Executive herewith respectfully transmits to your honorable body, for its constitutional advice and action, the “conditions preliminary to a treaty of peace between Mexico and Texas,” signed on the part of the (not readable) at the city of Mexico, on the 19th of May, ultimo, together with an addition declaration made by the Government of Mexico, of the same date, in connexion with these conditions. The correspondence connected with the above is also transmitted for the information of the Senate. The Executive requests the Senate to return the original the original papers so soon they shall have received its examination and action. Anson Jones. [Translation] Legation of France in Mexico.

Mr. President, I am happy be able to announce to your Excellency, that the Mexican Government, after having obtained the authorization of the two Chambers of Congress, has acceded to the four preliminary articles which the Secretary of State of Texas had remitted to the Charges de Affaire of France and England hope your government, and which these last had transmitted to me, and to the minister of G.B.M to be presented to the Executive power of Mexico. The act of acceptation, clothed with the necessary forms, will be handed by Mr. Elliot to the Secretary of State of the Texian Government and your Excellency will thence find yourself in a situation to name commissioners to negotiate with Mexico the definitive treaty between Mexico and Texas. The success, which has crowned our efforts has only been obtained by much management of susceptibilities.

But I should say that the dispositions of the Executive power have never appeared doubtful to me, and that they give the hope of a solution proper to satisfy the two parties, and assure their reciprocal well-being. If, in the course which must be given to this affair, I can contribute to the wise views and sound policy which animate your Excellency, I shall lend myself to it with so much the more zeal, that it relates to the accomplishment of a work useful to humanity; and if the result answers to our hopes I shall consider the results which I have taken in it as one of the deed for which I may most applaud myself in my diplomatic career.

Receive, Mr. President, the assurances of the high consideration with which I am your Excellency’s very humble and obedient servant.

Baron Alleye De Cyprey.

Mexico, 26th May, 1845.

His Excellency Mr. Anson Jones.
President of the Republic of Texas, & c.

The foregoing is a correct translation of the original.
Stephen Z Hoyle. Translator.

Conditions preliminary to a treaty of peace between Mexico and Texas.

1. Mexico consents to acknowledge the independence of Texas.
2. Texas engages that she will stipulate in the treaty not to annex herself, or become subject to any country whatever.
3. Limits and other conditions to be matter of arrangement to the final treaty.
4. Texas will be willing to remit disputed points respecting territory and other matters to the arbitration of umpires.

Done at Washington (on the Brazos) the 29th March, 1845.
Ashbel Smith Secretary of State.

[Translation]
The undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the King of the French, and
Minister Plenipotentiary of Her Britannic Majesty, certify that the above copy conforms with the original, which has
been presented to them by Mr. Elliott, H.B.B Charge d’Affaires to Texas.

Baron Alleye de Cyprey,
Charles Bankhead,
Mexico, 20th May, 1845.

The above is a correct translation of the original.
S.Z. Hoyle Translator.

[Translation] The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Government of the Mexican Republic has received the preliminary
propositions of Texas for an arrangement of definitive treaty between Mexico and Texas, which are of the following
tenor: Conditions preliminary to a treaty of peace between Mexico and Texas.

1. Mexico consents to acknowledge the independence of Texas.
2. Texas engages that she will stipulate in the treaty not to annex herself, or become subject to any
country whatever.
3. Limits and other conditions to be matter of arrangement to the final treaty.
4. Texas will be willing to remit disputed points respecting territory and other matters to the arbitration
of umpires.

Done at Washington (on the Brazos) the 29th March, 1845.
Ashbel Smith Secretary of State.

The Government of the Republic has asked, in consequence, of the national Congress the authority which has
granted, and which is of the following tenor:

The Government is authorized to hear the propositions which Texas has made, and to proceed to the
arrangement or celebration of the treaty, that may be fit and honorable to the Republic, giving an
account to Congress for its examination and approval.” In consequence of the preceding authority of
the Congress of the Mexican Republic, the undersigned, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Government,
declares: That the supreme Government receives the four articles above mentioned as the
preliminaries of a formal and definitive treaty, and further, that it is disposed to commence the
negotiation (as soon as) Texas may desire, and to receive the commissioners which she may name for
this purpose.

Luis G. Cuevas
Mexico, May 19th, 1845.

The above is a correct translation of the original.
Stephen Z Hoyle. Translator. [Translation]

Additional Declaration.

It is understood, that, besides the four preliminary articles proposed by Texas, there are other essential
and important points which ought also to be included in the negotiation, and that if this negotiation is
not realized on account of circumstances or because Texas, influenced by the law passed in the United
States for annexation, should consent thereto, either directly or indirectly, then the answer which
under this data is given to Texas by the undersigned Minister for Foreign Affairs, shall be considered as
null and void.

Luis G. Cuevas,
Mexico May 19, 1845.

The above is a correct translation of the original.
Stephen Z. Hoyle, Translator.

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Executive Department. Washington (Texas) June 6, 1845

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency’s letter of the 20th ultimo; which, together with
the official documents referred to in it, and be which Mexico has given Texas, upon the basis of an acknowledgment
of the independence of the latter, were handed me by Mr. Elliot, Charge d’Affaires of her Britannic Majesty near this Government, on the 2d inst. For your kindness and courtesy in transmitting these interesting and important papers, as well as for your valuable services in producing the result which they announce to me, and the offer of a continuance of the same good offices whenever they can be useful, I beg you to accept my best thanks. Should the result be the establishment of a good understanding, and a lasting peace between the Governments of Texas and Mexico, with the concurrence of their people, the cause of humanity will assuredly be greatly indebted to your efforts, in its behalf. I have the honor to transmit you, herewith, for such disposition as you may think proper to make of them, certified copies of the proclamation issued by me on the 4th inst. Announcing to the people the agreement of Mexico to the preliminaries of peace, and the consequent cessation of hostilities between the two countries. The Congress of Texas will assemble on the 16th of the present month, and a convention on the 4th of July proximo. These bodies have been convened to consider the propositions made by the government of the United States on the subject of annexation. The subject of our relations with Mexico will also be present to them, and their decisions will necessarily govern my (more action in reference to the same.) Accept, sir, the assurances of high consideration and respect with which I remain, your Excellency’s most obedient servant.

Anson Jones.

To his Excellency.
The Baron Alley de Cyprey &c., &c.

[MSM2]

REv42i20p2c3 July 15, 1845 The Heat of War

By yesterday’s Southern mail, we received the N.O. Tropic of the 7th inst., from which we extract some interesting intelligence from Mexico. It seems that the Congress have passed, and the Executive sanctioned, a decree full of warlike sound, earnestly invoking all her “children” to the defence of the National Independence, and alleging that “the Government will put under arms all the force of the army” and “use all her resources and power to resist said aggression (the annexation of Texas) to the uttermost” This looks very formidable on paper, but, as we are assured at the same time, that the Mexican finances are very low, and that the Government officers have great difficulty in getting one-fourth of their salaries, it may and will be presumed, that her “resources and power” are in the most wretched condition, and that “all the force of the army” must be trifling indeed, without the resources to pay the necessary expenses of a campaign. When we reflect, moreover, that revolutions are daily breaking out, and that the river Nueces and other water course in Texas are so swollen by rain as to be impassable, and will probably remain in that situation for some months, so as to prevent an invasion by the Mexicans from that quarter, we may put our minds at ease, as to an early commencement of hostilities for the “unjust despoliation” of Texas, which Mexico herself had agreed to recognise as an independent Republic. For appearance sake and to appease the rabid partisans of Santa Anna, the Mexican Government may talk of war and may issue fearful decrees, but they have not the courage, nor the means to force hostile measures upon the United States; armed as the latter are with the weapons of liberty and justice, and united as they will be in opposing foreign invasion, from whatever quarter it may come. But should “madness rule the hour,” and a skirmish ensue, (for such an equal contest would not deserve the name of war,) our people will be gratified to know, that their Government have adopted wise and energetic measures to meet the worst state of things that can ensue. The Tropic has the following “Military Movements. The steamboat Yazoo arrived here on Friday evening from Fort Jesup, with five companies of the 4th regiment U.S. Infantry, which proceed immediately to the Barracks below the city. The steamboat Rodolph arrived yesterday bringing from the same Military Post, the staff officers of the 3d and 4th Regiments of Infantry, and three companies of troops which also proceeded to the Barracks. The 1st Regiment of U.S. Dragoons, commanded by Col. Twiggs, has proceeded by land from Fort Jesup for the Rio Grande.

“Military. We learn that Company “E,” 3d regiment U.S. Artillery, left Charleston on the 57th ult. on board the brig Hayne, under the command of 1st Lieut. Braxton Bragg, accompanied by 1st Lieut. George H. Thomas and 2d Lieut. D. H. Hill, destined for New Orleans. As soon as the Joint Resolution was sanctioned by our Government, instant steps were taken by the Executive to project the people of Texas, in the new contingency in which they were placed and now, that Texas is virtually an integral part of our country, the people will commend the whole course of the Administration for their prudent and efficient arrangements to secure the new response against all hazards at the same time taking no step to violate existing Treaties, or, unnecessarily, disturb the amicable relations between the two nations. But to the last news.

[From the New Orleans Tropic July 7.) From Mexico. The schooner Creole, Capt. Frank, from Vera Cruz arrived here yesterday, having sailed on the 24th ult. An accident occurred on board the Creole during her voyage; which proved fatal to the steward and endangered the safety of the vessel. A casket of spirits took fire whilst the steward was in the act of drawing off some for use; the cask burst; and it was with great difficulty the fire was subdued—the injuries received by the steward caused his death. He was buried at the Balize. Capt. Frank reports that Gen. Bustamente arrived at Vera Cruz on the 17th ult.; and offered his services to sustain the integrity of the Mexican territory and the dignity of the Republic. He was rather coolly received by the Government and it is reported that he refused the military honors rendered him on his arrival. It was believed that his return was not invited by any party, and that he had no desire to meddle in public affairs. The people generally were quiet, and not at all alarmed, not withstanding the war cries made by the Federalists and the partisans of Santa Anna, who are loud in denouncing the Government for want of energy. The state of the finances was presumed to be pretty low, as the officers in the employ of the government found great difficulty in obtaining one fourth of their salaries. Business was very dull. The publication of the new tariff law was daily anticipated. The vomito, or yellow fever, was prevailing to a very
aggravated extent at Vera Cruz. Capt Frank reports that the French sloop of war La Perouse arrived at Vera Cruz on the 24th, from Galveston, with intelligence of the action the Texan Congress, on the Annexation question.

Mr. Jon Cumminger, of this city, bearer of dispatches to the U.S. Government, came passenger in the Creole. We submit the following letter from our Vera Cruz correspondent:

[Correspondence of the Tropic.] Vera Cruz, 22d June, 1845.

Dear Sir: I had the pleasure of receiving by the schr. Creole, from your part, several copies of the Tropic, for which I am obliged. Here every body is anxiously expecting news from Texas, as to whether it will be annexed to the United States.

The Senate has returned to the Chambers the Dictamen respecting the new Tariff, but whether in favor or against mercantile interests is not yet known. The Ex-acting President, General Canalsio, and Ex-Minister of War, General Basadre, not accepting the propositions made them by Government, to be expatriated for ten years, have been imprisoned for the same term, the former in the castle of Perote, and the latter in that of San Juan de Ullon. On the 7th inst, an attempt at revolution was made in the Capitol, at the head of which was General Rangel, who made prisoners of Herara, president ad interim, and some of his Ministers, but it was put an end to in less than an hour by the discomfiture of the revolutionists; some 20 persons lost their lives between citizens and soldiers. Rangel escaped, has since been taken, tried, and condemned to lose his military honors, and to ten years' imprisonment. I am afraid this country will never a state of tranquility. General Tornel has been dispatched to Matamoras, as although he took no active part in the fray, yet he is considered a malcontent, and likely to assist any revolutionary project against the present Government. A decree has been passed by the Congress, and sanctioned by the Executive, the substance of which is:

"That the National Congress of the Mexican Republic, considering that the Chambers of the United States, sanctioned by a decree of the Executive, have resolved to incorporate the Territory of Texas to the American Union, and that this mode of appropriating foreign territories, of which other foreign nations are the rightful owners, introduces a monstrous novelty of great importance to the peace of the world, and detrimental to the sovereignty of nations. That this usurpation, thus consummated to the prejudice of Mexico, has been insidiously preparing for a length of time, whilst the most cordial friendship has been proclaimed, and whilst this Republic has scrupulously respected the existing treaties between her and the United States.

"That the aggregation of Texas to the United States tramples under foot all the conservative principles of societies, attacks all the right that Mexico posses on said territory, is an insult to her dignity as a sovereign nation and threatens her independence and political being. That those principles which served as the basis to the treaties of friendship, commerce, and navigation, and especially that of the precise limits even in treaties previous of 1830, been threatened on the part of the United States are considered violated by that nation. "And finally, That the unjust defoliation of which she wishes to make the Mexican nation the victim, constitutes a just right to use all her resources and power to resist said aggression to the uttermost.

Decrees.

1st. The Mexican nation convokes all her children (hijos) to the defence of the National Independence threatened by the usurpation of the territory of Texas, which is included to be carried into effect by the decree of annexation passed by the Chambers and sanctioned by the President of the United States.

2nd. In consequence of which the Government will put under arms all the force of the army, conformably to the authority conceded by the existing laws—and for the preservation of public order, sustaining the Institutions, and if necessity requires, to serve as a reserve to army; the Government using the faculties conceded on the 9th December, may raise forces, of which the said decree speaks, under the name of Defenders of the Independence and of the Laws.

Mexico, 4th June.

The U.S. schr. Onkahie arrived here the 19th inst., and left again on the 20th, but I have not heard that she brought any news. The U. States squadron left here some seven or eight days ago for Pensacola. Business is very dull, both here and in the interior; nothing at present is selling, nor can a revival be expected until the new Tariff is known, which, it is to be hoped, will be soon, as merchants will not shop until the new Tariff is known, which, it is to be hoped, will be soon, as merchants will not ship until they are certain what duties will be levied.

It is also hoped that a good many prohibited articles will again be allowed to come in. The treasury is in a most miserable state of poverty; employees, soldiers, sailors, etc., receiving scarcely any pay, all the engineers of the steamers have come on shore, as on board they could not even get provisions, they are determined not to return until they are paid—and, as the Mexicans say; "quien sabe" when that will be, as but few goods are coming, or will come, for some months. The Conducta from Mexico arrived here on the 18th inst. Bringing about $430,000. Without further to add,
I remain, respectfully, your obedient servant.

June 23d.

Since writing what precedes, we have had two arrivals today. The French man-of-war La Perouse from Galveston, which, it is said, brings the purport of which is, however, not yet known, and a schooner from Tabasco, which brings the news of that place having pronounced for Federalism. British Consistency. However strenuously Great Britain may have exerted herself to interfere with our policy and prevent the annexation of Texas, it seems that she has had no scruples in making appropriation to herself of rich and valuable countries—While her great intriguier, Capt. Elliot, who turns out to be the identical "man in the white hat," a creature as mysterious as the celebrated "man with the iron mask," was floating from Texas to Mexico, in the absurd hope of defeating annexation; that grasping nation, and arrogant "Mistress of the Seas," fertile in resources, has had other intriguers in different portions of the world successfully engaged in promoting annexation for her own benefit. In the proceedings of the British Parliament, we see that Mr. Chas. Buller made an able speech, and characterized "the annexation of New Zealand" as a work congenial with the British national temperament and character, and urgently imposed upon Great Britain by the conditions of unnatural existence, of which the objects are, "to extend the employment of our shipping and our seamen—to secure new sources of supply for the raw materials for our Manufactures,“ and open markets independent of the policy of other nations—to provide the destitute with a home, where honest labor may insure a subsistence, to augment the influence of the British name, and to spread over the farthest ends of the earth our language, our arts, and our institutions." It is all right in Great Britain to aggrandize herself by the annexation of these Islands, of such vast commercial and political importance, and so full of beauty, productiveness and salubrity; it is, on her part, most honorable and proper to extend her power over the most distant portions of the earth, and to plant her heavy foot upon those islands, by means of simple colonization. All this is noble and just in Great Britain.

But when the United States welcome to her Union a Republic of kindred character—one that has been declared independent by Great Britain and other great nations, and is necessary to us, in order to check the invasion of foreign influence and ambition—then the tune is changed. Our people are represented as stimulated by a wild and lawless spirit of self-aggrandizement; Great Britain arrogantly interferes, throws into the question her most finished intriguier, and actually humbugs our oldest ally, France, into a support of British policy. England may, if she choose, annex New Zealand, or even Patagonia, the land of Giants, as we learn by the last accounts, we shall not interfere. Upon the same principle, we expect her to act towards us. She has made a ridiculous failure in her late diplomacy—and we trust that she has become nauseated with the whole Texas question. We can scarcely believe, that she will take the responsibility of tampering with our rights in Texas, now so near completion.

[MSM2]

REv42i20p3c7 July 15, 1845 Marine Journal

Arrived.

Steamer Columbus, Parrish, Baltimore, sundries.
Steamer Jewess, Sutton, Norfolk.
Schr. Olympia, Hubbard, from below, corn to W. Anderson.
Schr. Independence, Kerwan, Baltimore, sundries.
Schr. Lenity, Smith, Boston, plaster.
Brig Nancy Jane, Godfrey, New York, salt to Davenport & Allen.
Brig Josephine, Robinson, Boston plaster to Haskins & Libby.

Sailed.

Schr. Susan Ludwig, Corling, Boston
Schr. Eliza Ann, Tyler, Elkton.


New York,


Cleared, schr. Elizabeth, Beaston, for Richmond;
ship Minerva, Hagar, and schr. Orson, Henderson, for City Point.

July 13.—Cleared, brig Louve, Von Hagen and
schr. Sea, Hart, and Elmyra, Salters, for Richmond.

Boston, July 11—Arrived, schr. Wave, Berry, from Richmond.

[MSM2]

REv42i20p4c3 July 15, 1845 Whig Press on Annexation
The Norfolk Herald, alluding to the question of annexation, says: "Our mere party opposition to the measure is removed, and, on the scope of national policy, we offer no objection; we believe it will ultimately be found to be of necessity to the welfare and defence of the country as the acquisition of Florida and Louisiana, (of which it is claimed to be a part.) There are strong arguments against it, we admit. There is no specific power in the Constitution to cover the ground." The Herald, at the same time, lashes the anti-slavery people of the North for not having "secured the election" of Mr. Clay, who, according to the Herald, would have exerted all his influence to defeat annexation. His known opposition to it, and his election by the Abolitionists, would have so far influence the Whigs of Congress, as to exclude Texas forever. And yet the Whigs in Virginia urged the election Mr. Clay as the surest means of securing Texas. Is it not a source of pleasure, to every Republican, that, by voting for Mr. Polk, he not only vindicated the true cause, but rendered annexation certain, and without qualification? Look at another wing of Whiggery, and see what savage threats are made by the New York Tribune. So far from surrendering, that journal is for "war to the knife." His mutterings of wrath are terrible: "We tell them again, that the adversaries of annexation have not given up the contest, as they assert, and will not give it up while we have a gun which can be brought to bear. We shall make a stand in Congress on every inch of holding ground—on the consummation of the gigantic inequity, directly, on the slave clause of the constitution of the new State; and on the admission into the Union of each new slaveholding State which may be formed from Texan territory.

Petitions from the people against admitting Texas with a constitution guaranteeing eternal slavery, will pour into the next Congress with a million of signatures. A case will probably be made up for the Supreme Court, to test there the validity of an act which even the Courier declares a violation of the Constitution. Of course, it has not a shadow of rightful force; and we may fairly presume, that the Supreme Court will pronounce it null and void. Conspirators! You have won an advantage over us by treachery and deceit! But do no calumniate us by saying we have laid down our arms—Come and take them!" Conspirators!" would better suit the character of such men as the editors of the Tribune, & c., who have taken a pledge not to aid our country in a foreign war, forced upon us by annexation. We shall not pretend to answer the budget of arguments brought forward by the tribune; we find it well done by another Whig ally, the N.Y. Express—in whose views we fully concur. The cool manner in which the Express cuts up all the assumptions of the Tribune, must grate on the ear of the latter gentle, passionless editor. "The 'guns,' and the 'stand,' and the 'Petitions,' too, will all be in vain. There will not be more than ten or twelve Senators in Congress voting now against the annexation of Texas. The Southern and Southwestern Whigs deem the question settled, and will agitate against it no more. It is only a sectional question now, and the weaker section is rent in twain, one great party going with the South. There is no doubt, too, that the active interference of England and France to prevent annexation, has swollen the strength of those who, in this country, have desired to see it brought about.: The N.Y. Courier says: "Our firm belief is, that the whole country will be greatly benefited by that eve, while, instead of weakening, it will add greatly to the strength of the Union. Sub we know, were not the opinions of most of the Northern people some months since, but time and reflection, have opened their eyes measurably to the true merits of the question.

[MSM2]

REV42i20p4c5 July 15, 1845 Singular Coincidence

- The good people of New Orleans received, by the sloop Cutter, the news of the annexation of Texas, on Thursday evening, July 3d—the same day that the intelligence by the Princeton reached Washington City. It came just in time to give a new zest to the celebration of the 4th. As an evidence of the joyous feeling produced by the reception of the news, we quote from the Picayune of the 4th July.

"This should indeed by a day of jubilee for the citizens of Louisiana. The news of the annexation of Texas reached us last evening, as if in swell the triumphant shouts with which all will hail the dawn which ushers in our independence. We regret that the news did not reach here at an earlier day, so that millions instead of thousands might raise their voices on so grand an anniversary in admiration and applause of the triumph achieved over European arts and diplomacy—Here at least as bumpers shall be quafed to the "The Day we Celebrate," and the memory of those who have made it immortal, the health of those whose influence effected this grand national achievement will not be forgotten." There is not much information in addition to what we have already. We cul from the Picayune a few items: "From the foregoing, it will be seen how signaliy have failed the intrigues and machinations of Elliot, Jones, Saligny & co., to prevent the Annexation of Texas. Speaking of Elliot, the Galveston News says, that 'the people of Texas are under obligations of gratitude to him for surely if any one man has done more than another to advance the cause of Annexation, he is the cone.' Complimentary, very. 'The news of the passage of the Annexation resolutions caused not a little excitement at Galveston. Salutes were fired, and other demonstrations of rejoicings were given."Jose Antonio Navarro, who was an long confined a prisoner in Mexico, has been elected a delegate to the Convention from Bexaf. Volney E. Howard, formerly of Mississippi, has also been elected from the same county. "Two vessels have arrived at Galveston from Bremen, having on board 185 German emigrants. "More trouble is anticipated from the Camanches.

Some of them who have recently bee in at Torrey's Trading House, did not receive as many presents as they desired, when the hostile looks and muttered threats of man of the warriors showed that they are yet by no means disposed to bury the hatchet. The United States Dragoons, we have little doubt, will set these savages right. "Mr. Gardner, ex-sheriff of Fayette county, was killed in a duel at La Grange a few days since. "The accounts of the crops in every section of Texas are very flattering "All appeared to be quiet on the frontiers." "We learn that Gen. Taylor, in command of the troops at Fort Jesup, has received orders from the War Department to the following effect: the

3d and 4th regiments of Infantry are to move immediately to some point in the neighborhood of this city, there to
wait until the action of the Texon Convention, which meets today at Austin, is known, when they will probably move by water to Corpus Christi, or some other place in that neighborhood.

The 4th regiment, it is thought, will reach the barracks below our city today or tomorrow. "The 2d Dragoons, under Col. Twiggs, will be ordered to proceed to the Rio Grande by land at the same time the infantry starts by water. The Department, we have heard it rumored, recommended the dragoons to march on foot, probably deeming that there would not be sufficient forage for their horses. The officers in command, however, and very wisely and justly to our thinking, have resolved not to dismount this valuable command, knowing that the portions of Texas to be traversed offered the most ample subsistence. "Since writing the above, we learn by the De Soto, that the steamboats Yazoo, Cote Joyeuse, Rodolph and De Soto, have been chartered by the Government to convey the two infantry regiments mentioned above to this city. When the De Soto left Grand Ecore, the troops were marching in preparatory to the embarkation."

[MSM2]

REv42i20p4c5 July 15, 1845 California

-The Washington correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce says that Governor Shannon, late Minister to Mexico, has made a full communication to the State Department, on the subject of the results of his mission, the present condition and policy of Mexico, and the character of our relation with that Government. The letter adds: Mr. Shannon fully confirms the truth of what had been strongly surmised before, that the British Government had got some hold upon the Californias. She has taken a mortgage upon them to secure the payment to her subjects of debts to the amount of twenty six millions of dollars. Our Government has, I learn, official knowledge of this transaction. That Great Britain will foreclose the mortgage, in due time, I have not the least doubt. The fine bays and harbors of that region are of immense importance to her—vastly more so than the Oregon territory. In the even of a war between the United States and Mexico, the Californias would become ours unless Great Britain herself mingled in the strife, and, under present circumstances, she would hardly hazard an unnecessary war. Her policy is manifestly to make a peaceably acquisition. She may, moreover, secure a lasting peace with this country by yielding her claim to Oregon, as she may well afford to do, if she is to have the undisturbed possession of the Californias. [MSM2]

REv42i21p2c6 July 18, 1845 Marine Journal

Arrived.

Streamer Curtis Peck, Davis, Norfolk.
Schr. Catharine Martha, Dazy, York River, corn, to Jones & Winston.
Schr. Santa Maria, Keane, below, wheat, to Gallego Mills.
Schr. Heroine, Hollingshead, Havre de Grace, coal.
Schr. May, Hubbard, Baltimore, sundries.

Sailed.

Schr. Richard Thompson, Townsend, West Point.
Schr. Evelina, Peterson, Sandwich.

Cleared.

Ship Pontiac, William Parker master, for Havre, tobacco, by James Gray.
Ship Louisiana, George Dewherst master, for Brazil, flour, by Warwick &

Barksdale. Below—Bound Up,

Ship Marathon, off Newport’s News.
Brig J. A, Lancaster off James Town.
Barque Alabama, at Bermuda Hundreds.

New York, July 16.—Sailed, ship, Brooklyn, for Richmond.

Baltimore, July 17.—Cleared, schr. Virmadela, Welsh, for Norfolk, Petersburg and Richmond.

[MSM2]

REv42i21p3c2 July 18, 1845 Official Navy Department (Orders)

Naval Intelligence.—The United States rig Porpoise, ordered to Washington with the news of annexation, but
anticipated by Commodore Stockton, was met in the bay, on the 14th inst., by an order from the Department; and
immediately put about for Norfolk, where she will take in provisions.—[Union] Reports have prevailed for some time,
that Mr. Buchanan would not remain in the Cabinet—but we do not place reliance upon those rumors. [Alexandria
steam ship Princeton, and put on special duty. Commander Frederick Engle, to the command of the steamer
Princeton. Commander James M. McIntosh, ordered as inspector of provisions, & c., at New York. Boatswain William
steam ship Princeton, and put on special duty. Commander Frederick Engle, to the command of the steamer
Gazette.

REv42i21p4c2 July 18, 1845 The Mexican Navy

The Vera Cruz Siglo Diez y Nueve, of the 9th ult., furnishes force composing the Mexican Navy at Vera Cruz. It is as
follows:

Steamer Guadalone, 778 tons, two 68 pounders amidships, four 12 pound carronades, and one mortar.
Steamer Montezuma, 1100 tons, one 68 pounder amidships, two 32 pounders for carronades, and one mortar.
Brig Mexicana; one 12 pounder amidships, and fourteen 18 pound carronades.
Brig Vera Cruzano Libre; one 32 pounder amidships, six 18 pounder carronades, and two 12 pound
carronades.
Brig Zempoalteca, six 12 pound carronades.
Schr. Aguilas; one 32 pounder amidships, and eight carronades.
Schr. Libertad; one 12 pound amidships.
Gaff topsail schr. Morelos; one 12 pounder amidships.
Five gun boats, each carrying a 24 pound amidships.

After giving the above list, the Siglo Diez y Nueve (this expatiates on their condition: “The greater part of these
vessels, except the two steamers and the three new gun boats, are in a very bad state, and require great repairs so as to
unreadable). All of them without one exception are in want of men, of rigging, and other indispensable
necessaries to fit them out for sea in order to do some service.”

REv42i21p4c3 July 18, 1845 The Approaching Crises

had hoped that the croaking note of disaffection to the country’s honor and rights, on account of annexation, would
have been confined to the New York Tribune, Boston Atlas, and a few of the fanatical crew. We did not think it
possible, that in the vast West, full of an active and rapidly improving population—occupying the middle ground
between the land established society of the Atlantic States, and an extensive wilderness roamed over by the red
men of the forest alone—and, form their very position, calling for a vigorous and united action of the whole country,
for the maintenance and strengthening of the national power—we did not think it possible, that there we should hear
a voice raised, or a doubt whispered, as to the solemn obligation of every American to meet the crisis, which may
yet arrive. But we ‘were deceived.’ The Cincinnati Atlas of the 9th July, in its undisguised horror at the addition of
the new slave States to the Union by the admission of Texas, is carried away into an assertion of principles, abhorrent to
the feeling of a patriot. It contends that, by the action of the Texan Congress, “we are at this moment virtually at
war with Mexico.” Alluding to the prospect of England and France aiding and abetting Mexico in her resistance to our
“aggressions,” the Atlas draws a picture, not too gloomy, of the horrors of war, and lays down the correct doctrine
that, “in a case of self-defence, or where our rights and liberties are wantonly invaded, we hold, that whatever the
calamities attendant on war may be, they should be promptly encountered, and with the united energy of a whole
and mighty nation, a terrible example should be set to all tyrants and wanton invaders of the rights of others.” Here,
his patriotism is exhausted and looking with the jealous eye of anti-slavery upon the accomplishment of the “inequity” of Texas annexation; it thus pours forth its revilings upon the acts and motives of the friends of that
great measure, so gloriously concluded: “But un an unjust cause, in a war where we are the aggressors—in a war
where one part of the Union seeks to obtain an undue and odious advantage over another part—where the black
standard of Slavery floats in the breeze and calls upon their country to rally under it—will they obey the call? In such
a war would he North—the real bone and sinew of the Nation—freely furnish men and munitions to fight the
disgraceful battles of Slavery? Would they forsake their manufactories, their ploughs and fireside, in this Southern
crusade for Slavery, and help to rivet upon themselves and their children the ascendancy of the Slave power in the
Councils of the Nation, to render the free labor of their own hands, and of their descendants subservient to slave
labor, and to the capricious policy of their Masters! In such a war, we should anticipate nothing but dishonor,
discomfiture and disgrace. It would naturally fail with most severity upon those who provoked it. It might terminate
in the total extinction of Slavery—or in a dissolution of the Union.” If these doctrines be carried out, what an easy
prey would this great and beautiful land be to foreign ambition! The people of the free States, actuated by a dislike
of slavery, would refuse to assist their Southern neighbors in the defence of their domestic institutions, guaranteed
to them by the Constitution, whose broad holds envelope the whole country. By a similar argument, and with similar
feeling, the people of the South, indignant at the Government monopoly extended to the free States, at the sacrifice of
Southern interests, might withhold their aid to their Northern neighbors, assailed by a foreign foe. In either event,
our country would be overrun by foreign armies, and the American Eagle droop his wings forever. Does not the Atlas
perceive the absurdity, the wickedness, the treason of its views.] But it has grossly misstated the merits of the
question. Should Mexico, even with the aid of European powers, force us into a hostile attitude, our cause would be “unjust,” and we should not be the “aggressors.” Texas was acknowledged to be independent by the greatest nations of the earth.

Her true glory and permanent offer a test to her to seek an alliance with the American Union. We embrace the offer, because it was all important that we should interpose and effectual barrier against foreign aggression, in an otherwise defenceless quarter; and, moreover, the connection was clearly calculated to benefit all sections of our Union. Experience had proved, that Mexico was powerless, as far as she aimed to control the growing energies of Texas. Where, then, was the “aggression” on our part! The achievement of annexation is stained by no violation of justice or honor, save in the eyes of the Mexican tyrants, and such narrow spirited creatures as the Cincinnati Atlas. The question, after having been violently though vainly opposed by a great political party, principally on anti-slavery grounds, at length signally triumphed. From Maine to Louisiana the people enthusiastically sustained it, and it is now a national question, and will be defended by the masses, upon its national merits. It is in vain for the Atlas to excite the jealousies of the north by its fanatical appeals—it is in vain to invite foreign interference and assault by meanly and treacherously assailing the honor and patriotism of the Northern masses, and representing the real “bone and sinew of the nation” as willing play the traitor to their country in the hour of peril. That journal miscalculates the feelings of the people. North and South, the masses will rush to the defence of their country’s rights and honor, and none but a few vile fanatics will be seen to stand back, when the struggle shall begin. The Atlas may “anticipate,” nay, may desire “dishonor, discouragement and disgrace” if such a contest—but there also will it be disappointed. No rational man can doubt, that such a war, thus forced upon us, will shame the tyrannical power of the invaders, and add new strength to our own system and to the influence of liberal institutions. But far be it from our wishes or expectations, that such an evil should arise. We have supposed the case, in order to hold up to public indignation the miserable want of patriotism avowed by the Cincinnati Atlas, and a few kindred prints. We do not think it likely, that Mexico can collect the men and means, or even the courage, to wage so unrighteous a war upon this nation. Bluster she may for a while, but time and reflection will bring her to her senses, and she will yield to the desires of fate, with the best grace possible under the circumstances. Should war, however, come, we are sure that it would not “fall with severity” upon men like the Editor of the Cincinnati Atlas—for, with the narrow spirit he has show, it would “naturally” be expected that he would keep as far as possible out of harm’s way. The South will bear their share of the battle, as they have always done—and we shall be grossly deceived, if the Northern people do not stand up to their high duties.

[MSM2]

REv42i21p4c5 July 18, 1845 Later from Texas

The New Orleans Bulletin of the 8th, received yesterday, announces the arrival on the day before of the steamship McKim, which left Galveston the 3d instant. It contains the correspondence relating to a treaty of Peace between Mexico and Texas, upon the basis of an acknowledgement of the independence of the latter.

This correspondence we gave in full yesterday. After the unanimous rejection by the Senate of the Treaty of Independence between Mexico and Texas, Senator Wright introduce the following resolution, which was adopted by the Senate: Resolved, That the President is respectfully requested to inform the Senate if any other propositions than those confided to this body, have been made by Mexico; and the Senate ask that such propositions, if any, with all correspondence upon the subject, be laid before the Senate; whether any Texian agent, or officer of other description, was employed in negotiating the conditions preliminary to a Treaty with Mexico, now before the Senate; and if so, the person, rank and instructions under which he acted, To which the Secretary of State replied, as follows: Department of State, Washington, June 23, 1845. Sir—In answer to the resolution of the Honorable the Senate, adopted on the 21st inst. And referred to this department, requesting to be informed whether any Texian agent or officer of any other description, was employed in negotiating the conditions preliminary to a Treaty with Mexico now before the Senate; and if so, the person, rank, and instructions under which he acted; I have the honor to reply, that no propositions other than those now before the Senate, have been made by Mexico to this government, and that with these propositions, all correspondence upon the subject, has already been submitted to the Senate. In relation to the request contained in the latter part of said resolutions, I reply respectfully, but categorically, that no Texan agent or office of any description, was employed by this Government in negotiating with Mexico the conditions of that preliminary treaty. I the honor, etc.,

Eben’r Allen,
Act’g Secretary of State

To His Excellence the President
Of the Republic of Texas.

We find the following additional items of news:

The President vetoed the bill passed by Congress, to reinstate Commodore Moore to his rank in the Navy. The veto had not been published. Congress passed the subjoined resolutions in relation to this subject, after the President’s veto had been communicated:
Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Republic of Texas, That it is the opinion of this body, that the trial of Post Captain E.W. Moore, under a joint resolution, approved February 5, 1844, by the Special Court Martial convened under that resolution, and the finding of said Court fully entitles Post Captain E.W. Moore to continue in his position as Commander of the Navy of this Republic.

Resolved, That the thanks of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Texas are justly due to Commodore E. W. Moor and those under his command in the service of the Navy of said Republic.

Resolved by the Senate, That it is the opinion of this body, that the trial of Post Captain E.W. Moore, under a joint resolution of the Congress of this Republic, approved February 5th, 1844, by the Special Court Martial convened under said resolution, was final and conclusive.

On the 21st the Senate adopted a resolution declaring that John Tyler, Ex-President of the United States of the North, the zealous and untiring advocate of annexation, the official mover and supporter of the measure, is entitled to the lasting gratitude of the citizens of the Republic.

Throughout Texas, wherever the death of General Jackson had become known, funeral obsequies were in preparation to commemorate the event. Previous to his decease being known at the seat of Government, the following resolutions were adopted unanimously both House of Congress: Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Texas, in Congress assembled, That in the name and in behalf of the people of Texas, we hereby tender to General Andrew Jackson, the unfeigned gratitude of the nation. Be it further resolved, That the President of the Republic of Texas is hereby requested to transmit to Gen. Jackson, to this Excellency the President of the United States, and to the Governs of each of the States and Territories of the American Union, a copy of this joint resolution.

The N.O. Jeffersonian gives the following details:

Congress adjourned on the 28th ultimo. The following is a list of the acts and joint resolutions, passed during the session:

- Joint resolution giving the consent of the existing government to the annexation of Texas to the United States.
- An Act, requiring the Commissioner of the General Land Office to issue patents in certain cases.
- Joint Resolution, acknowledging the claim of L.S. Hargone and other.
- Joint Resolution, for the relief of T. Jefferson Chambers.
- An Act, to establish certain mail routes therein named and for other purposes.
- An Act, making appropriations to defray the expenses of the Convention, and granting the members thereof the franking privilege.
- Joint Resolution tendering to General Andrew Jackson a nation’s gratitude.

In reference to the Ashbel Smith negotiation with Mexico, the Telegraph of July 2d remarks: "We did not receive a copy of the propositions made by our Secretary of State to the Mexican Government, until Thursday morning last. We bitterly regret to say, that they are more disgraceful and dishonorable to Texas than we had anticipated. Although they are dated at Washington on the Brazos, we still hope, for the credit of our Government, that they were concluded at Galveston, and that the Executive and his Cabinet knew nothing of them until a copy was sent by Dr. Smith to Washington.

Better would it have been if the hand that signed there had been paralyzed, ere the disgraceful act was consummated.” The Houston Telegraph states, most positively, that neither President Jones, nor any member of his cabinet, with the exception of Mr. Ashbel Smith, was aware of the nature of the negotiations with Mexico, which the latter set on foot, and that the President stated to the Editor, immediately after these negotiations became known in him, “that he considered there was but one measure of policy for the Government to carry out, and that was Annexation.”

REv42i22p1c6 July 22, 1845 Warlike Enough

What will the New York Tribune, Boston Atlas, and their associate anti-slavery fanatics say, to the following bellicose language of the N.Y. Express? They will surely, reprobate it as the ravings of a madman, or as the savage outpourings of a murderous spirit, in behalf of the vile cause of the “slaveocracy”! The Express seems wrought up to the highest war-note. Not satisfied with defensive measure on the soil of Texas, it is for making a “rapid” and decisive attack on Mexico—for summoning Volunteers from California and Coahuila —and for “crushing Mexico, if we can, at the start.” If war should ensue, which we cannot sufficiently believe in Mexican stupidity or madness to expect, the measure advised by the Express will follow as natural consequences. Mexico will not only lose the pearl of Texas, (for it has just slipped through the fingers of her tyrants,) but the splendid palace of the Montezummas, the
rich mines of Mexico, the magnificent province of California, with its spacious harbors and glorious climate, & c., will be in danger of falling into the possession of the adventurous Yankees. To us, we are convinced, it will be a “little” war—but to Mexico it will prove full of disaster and end in annihilation. We cannot think, that England and France, anxious as they may be to swell their possessions and to check the spirit of Republican Government by the absurd “balance of power,” will rashly rush into a struggle which will set the whole world in arms, and cause he heated elements of disaffection at home to ferment with new violence. But let the worst come, we shall have right and justice on our side, and shall achieve another glorious triumph, that will protect us, for many long years, from foreign interference and embarrassment.

But to the Express:

“Well then, suppose war comes, what are we to do? Prosecute it with all our might to a rapid end, we say, submitting as we to the Joint Resolutions for annexing Texas, and yielding obedience to the laws of our country, even when we do not approve them, we repeat, let Mr. Polk exert all the constitutional powers he has to make this a rapid war, and to precipitate into an end, and if he is not clothed with power enough, let him summon Congress to an extra session forthwith. Let him concentrate all our disposable naval forces in the Gulf of Mexico, and on the Mexican shores of the Pacific. Let him push forward all of the arm he can spare to the Rio Grande, or land them at Vera Cruz, and threaten Mexico. Let him summon volunteers from California.

Let him concentrate all our disposable naval forces in the Gulf of Mexico, and on the Mexican shores of the Pacific. Let him sound the tocsin by Coahulia. If we are to be cursed with the calamities of a war, let it be a war worthy of our power, and our name, one that will, therefore, end as soon as it is seriously begun. We can, no more than Great Britain, afford to have a little war. Our commerce is too widely scattered, too important, to allow us to have it endangered long. The dangers of collision with foreign harbors through blockading squadrons, and by other means, is too imminent, to allow us to be along time in bringing Mexico to terms. She will court England, court France, court all the world to enlist them against us, and her voice will be heard too with the philanthropists among all mankind. We must therefore crush Mexico, if we can, at the start. Our own safety may depend upon our nipping this war in the bud.” The Express cannot let so good an opportunity escape without pummeling, once more its “loving friends,” the abolitionists. Can language contain a more withering anathema than the following? We rejoice to see the Whigs and Abolitionists thus fighting “like cat and dog.” It augurs well for the good of the country, the safety of the Union.

Last year, the Northern Whigs, from Daniel Webster down to the conductor of the pettiest Whig press, openly courted the “sweet voices” of the abolitionists for Henry Clay—they great opponent of annexation. The fanatics were not, however, conciliated, and most of them voted for their own man. That the “head and front of their offending.” Mr. Polk was elected—annexation triumphed—and the Whigs now consign to the lowest depths of infamy the men, upon whom, before the election, they lavished the sweetest smile. There is, the, double cause for rejoicing in the Democratic ranks—first, that, through the union and zeal of our friends, a great measure was achieved, for the safety of the South and the lasting benefit of the Union; and, secondly because one glorious effect of Annexation has been to set the Northern Whigs and the Abolitionists by the ears, and, thereby, to strip the latter of all power of doing mischief.

From the Democrats they expected nothing but rebuffs. United with the Northern Whigs, as at one time it seemed fearfully probable, they might have shaken the Union. Now, they are cast aside by their old friends “as unclean”—and are thus doomed to the most cruel fare by one of the leading Whig presses: “While urging even these summary measure, however, we shall have cause to shower down imprecations upon the heads of the loathless, and the fanatics of our own country, the real authors of this war. If Birney and his accursed clans were hung on the topmost crags of the Codilleras or hurled alive into the burning craters of Potocatepet, they would but be receiving the fate their foul treason to humanity deserves.”

The Charleston Mercury thus introduces a letter from its Washington correspondent: “Our Washington correspondent starts a point that cannot fail to interest the people of Virginia and Mississippi, and we are persuaded that, whatever choice they may make for the Senate, they will take care that there be no doubt that they elect men who will in good faith carry out the annexation of Texas.” This correspondent throws out a doubt lest in Mississippi and Virginia, U.S. Senators may be elected, who may be disposed “to throw obstacles in the way of the completion of annexation”—either by reviving a “proposition for a division of the territory into slave-holding or non-slave holding States”—or by “mixing it up with some other question” or by “refusing to receive Texas until her boundaries are fixed with Mexico”—or by “insisting upon having Oregon come in with Texas.” The correspondent urges “the importance of men being elected Senators, who are known to be true on this question.” We are satisfied, that the correspondent does injustice, though unintentionally, to the views of a distinguished Virginian who has been named for the high office of Senator.

No man, we are convinced, rejoiced more sincerely over the late glorious action of the Congress of Texas—and, while we have abstained fro any expression of opinion as to the claims of an of the candidates, it will not be traveling beyond our rule to say, that, should he be selected, we should have no tears for the cause of Texas in his hands. Indeed, no man, who will not “In good faith carry out the annexation of Texas,” will stand the smallest chance of promotion before the next Democratic Virginia Legislature. That is a question, upon which the hopes and anxious wishes of Virginia have been poised. It has been intimately connected with the political and personal
sentiments of the State, and we sincerely believe that the whole people of Virginia, with but few exceptions, will rejoice at its final achievements. The Mercury and its correspondent may rest at ease upon this point. There is no fear that a Senator will be elected from Virginia, who will not press eagerly for the admission of Texas at once, and free from all embarrassing conditions. It would be a source of mortification, truly that Virginia, who has done as much as any other State for the origination and advancement of this vital measure, should see her high hopes cut down, in the moment of triumph, by one of her own sons. We cannot guess what course will be pursued by Mr. Archer, but we can boldly say, that next Winter, Virginia will have one Senator who will go as far as the farthest to completing this national blessing.

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**Arrived.**

Steamer *Columbus*, Parrish, Baltimore, sundries.
Steamer *Jewess*, Sutton, Norfolk.
  Schr. *Mary Ann*, Jenks, below, wheat, to Haxall’s Mills.

**Sailed,**

Schr. *John Simmons*, Small, Boston.


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The general impression continues to be, what I have before described it, viz. that spite of the threatened war with Mexico—spite of the united hostility of England France—and spite of the lukewarmess of Texan authorities, the great majority of the Texan people are in favor of the annexation, and that therefore it will take place beyond a doubt. With respect to Oregon, it is said that American citizens are pouring into the country—that the American President is dallying as much as possible the negotiations with England; and that these two circumstances will eventually, render the possession of the whole of Oregon by the United States a certainty.

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Yesterday the steamboats *De Soto* and *Cote Joyeuse* arrived with the 3d Regiment of Infantry, under command of Col. Hitchcoch, en route for Texas. Gen. Taylor, who is to take command of the army for that destination, is hourly looked for. The 2d regiment of Dragoons will leave Fort Jesup for Texas, via the Sabine, on the 15th instant, having been delayed by the receipt of fresh horses, which required some rest before starting. The Troops now here are all at the Barracks, below the city, and it is expected will move as soon as Gen. Taylor arrives. (N.O. Republican, July 10)

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We understand that the immortal Capt. Elliott, the English charge d’affaires to Texas, “the man with the white hat,” is at Mansion House in Brooklyn. (N.Y. Herald)
REv42i23p1c5 July 25, 1845 Mr. Polk’s Position

The Whig press denounced the President as weak, hypocritical and grasping—severe charges, truly, and which a proper public sentiment will require to be sustained by clear and strong evidence, before they will be entitled to credit. On one point the Whig papers seem to unite in their attacks upon Mr. Polk. They take as their text the language of Major Donelson, in his Correspondence with the Texian Government, on the subject of the cession of the public lands of Texas in trust to the United States, with an obligation to apply the proceeds in the extinguishment of the public debt of Texas.

The language of Maj. D., on which the Whigs lay so much stress, is as follows:

"Such a proposition, the President of the United States has empowered the undersigned to say to this Government, if adopted separate and apart from the question of her admission into the Union, and not as a qualification of her acceptance of the terms capitulated in the first and second sections of the joint resolution, shall receive his cordial support, and shall be earnestly recommended to the favorable consideration of Congress."

For this position of the President, he is boldly assailed, as transcending his powers, and deceitfully usurping his authority. A calm review of the history of the Texas negotiation will remove all blame from the President—nay, will show, that a different course would have been a palpable violation of the state's duties to the country. The people of the Union had spoken in a clear and loud voice for the annexation of Texas;—the Congress of the United States had sanctioned it, and had instructed the President to carry out their wishes in achieving this great measure. As was his duty, the President gave such instructions to our charge as were calculated to ring the negotiation to a successfully result. He was well advised of the artful appeals made by England and evinces to seduce Texas from an alliance with the United States.

To counteract these movements, whose sure effect would be the defeat of annexation, the favorite object of the American people, the President, with an energy and propriety which will be sustained by the country, instructed our Charge to the effect, that he should, under his undoubted authority, by the Constitution, to “recommend” to the consideration of Congress “such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient,” bring before them the Texas land and Indian questions, which from motives of interest and justice, ought to be brought under the same system with our own instead of clashing with each other by their separate existence. This is the head and front of his offending.” It was his duty to recommend the measure referred to and it was his duty to inform our Charge of the fact. But, at the same time, he takes care not to pledge our Congress to and action over which he has no control. Congress may adopt or refuse his suggestions as they think best. They are not bound to sustain the views which it is his duty to recommend to fair consideration. For this discharge of his duty, and for securing the union of the two countries, which Congress and the people clearly demanded, the President will be triumphantly sustained. If this be an usurpation of authority, let the Whigs "make the most of it."

[MSM2]

REv42i23p1c5 July 25, 1845 Back Again

The Hon. Ashbel Smith, Secretary of State of Texas, and Texian Charge to Great Britain and France arrived, arrived in New York by the Great Western. He has made a short stay abroad.

[MSM2]

REv42i23p2c6 July 25, 1845 Marine Journal

Steamer Curtis Peck, Davis, Norfolk.
Schr. Union, Hughes, Philadelphia, sundries.
Schr. Harriet, Chase, Boston, sundries.
Schr. Lady Clinton, Cramer, N. York, ballast.
Schr. Constitution, Melton, Fall River, ballast.
Schr. Madawaska, Blen, Boston, plaster.

Cleared.
Brig Selina, Jackson for Pernambuco and a market, with flour.

Below.
Brig Henrico, off Pagan creek.
Brig Erie, off Point Shoals.

New York, July 23—Arrived, schr. R. Thompson, Corson, from Richmond.

Norfolk, July 23.—Arrived, schr. Providence, Kirwan, from Baltimore bound to Richmond.

In Hampton Roads

Ship Richard Anderson, Bennet, from James River for Liverpool.
Brig Erie, Gunby, from Baltimore, went up James River this morning;
Ship Brooklyn, Richardson, from New York on Monday.
Ship Rob Roy, Drummond, from Havre for Virginia, was spoken June 21st, lat. 43, long 38.

REv42i23p3c1 July 25, 1845 By Last Evening’s Mail

War with Mexico.—The New York Sun says that rumors of war with Mexico have reached that city, and that the Mexican Congress have advertised hostile measures against the United States.

REv42i24p2c1 July 29, 1845 The Glorious Consummation

No words of ours are necessary to call attention to the very interesting news from Texas. It will be seen that the assent of the Texas Convention to the terms of the resolution for the Annexation was given on the immorl 4th of July, and that there was not one dissentient voice; for, though Mr. Bache voted against the ordinance, be on the same day signed it, with the other members of the convention. Thus, by the firmness and patriotism of two great Republics, now united into one harmonious whole, have foreign intrigue and ambition been redbuked, and domestic faction and treason prostrated. Full of inspiration as may be theme, it would be a work of supererogation to dilate upon the benefits of this, the greatest even of the age. No arguments are, now, necessary to demonstrate the policy of annexation. The whole country, of all parties, with a few miserable exceptions, have been convinced of the great advantages to flow from it and the question now is, not "who is for Texas," but "who is against Texas." Never have we witnessed a more rapitd change in public sentiment. Not many months ago, the measure was denounced as "an inequity," as originating from motives of ambition and avarice, as the creature of "disunionists" and avaricious speculators,; and as certain to be followed by disunion and war. Now, we hear not a single whisper against it, though the "iniquity" has been consummated. Disunion has hung its head in defeat and shame—Abolition cowers beneath popular execration and the increased solidity of Southern institutions. The whole country is convinced of the immense benefits to be derived from the measure, and thousands of determined opponents, who were carried off by Mr. Clay’s equivocal and mysterious letters, have now returned to their first love, and are warm and ardent advocates of the measure. But war was one of the monsters predicted by the Whigs, as a certain consequence of annexation. We cannot yet believe, that Mexico will be so mad or silly as to risk herself, single-handed, against the American power, strengthened as it is by the stout hearts and strong arms of Texas.

That contingency we look upon as of no consideration. If hostilities be threatened, it will be only a feint, on the part of the Mexican authorities. To ingratiate themselves with the people, and to secure themselves in power, will be their leading motive. That attained, they will be very willing to slip back into their shells, and submit with the best grace possible, to the destiny which they cannot ward off. There is an important question, affecting our revenue, which is now being agitated.

A letter in the Union, dated Galveston, June 23, says that some of the "Importers in Texas are making terms with French and English houses for extensive importations under the present low tariff of Texas, with a view to reshipment to the United States, free of duty, when that (our) government has excluded her revenue laws over the country." The letter goes on to advise that the government of the United States, "by timely prohibitions and arrangements with Texas, should prevent the contemplated frauds, which can be of no use to the people of Texas at large, but will accrue to the sole benefit of the foreign houses." The New Orleans Courier contends, that the only chance of preventing this serious injury to our revenue, is for the Convention of Texas to "insert a clause in their Constitution, to adopt forthwith the present Tariff law of the United States, to be binding on the custom-houses of Texas." We hope that the Convention have been induced, by their duty to themselves and the United States, to adopt such a policy. It would solve the whole difficulty. The Union, examining the question, informs us, that this delicate point has engaged the vigilant attention of our government, and that every legal step will be taken to prevent the glaring mischief threatened. We quote its language: "We deem it our duty to advise capitalists both foreign and domestic, to look well to the consequences before they embark in these perilous speculations or they may find, when it is too late, that they have lost something more than their anticipated profits. The attempt is to
evade our revenue laws, by bringing goods into Texas not for the legitimate purpose of consumption there, but for
transshipment free of duty, after annexation, into the United States. We can only say, that, for months past the
Secretary of the Treasury has had his attention directed to this most important subject, and that the whole power
devolved upon him by the constitution and the law will be exerted to defeat these speculations, and protect the
revenue, and, as the goods cannot be imported here from Texas free of duties, until after the formal admission of
Texas as a State, by the next Congress, that body, will no doubt feel called upon, by special legislation, to guard, to
the full extent of its great powers over this subject, against these contemplated evasions of our revenue laws. We
say, the, to these speculators,--Beware, the revenue laws cannot be evaded in this manner with impunity." Without
pretending to speak positively on the subject, we are inclined to think that since the completion of the contract of
annexation, which cannot be recalled without the consent of both the parties contracting. Texas now stands towards
us in the light of a territory, applying for admission into our Union, with her Republican Constitution in her hand, to
be criticized and canvassed by the U.S. Congress. All admit that we have a right to take possession of the country
and defend it with an armed force. Consequently, our troops are now on the soil, prepared to resist invasion from
any quarter. Now that Texas is already annexed, by virtue of the acceptance of our joint resolution, have we not a
right to establish a system of police as to the revenue, upon the same principle that we take military possession of
the country,—And, if so, has not the President the power to send officers to see to the execution of our revenue
laws? We throw out these hasty suggestions, though we are not satisfied of their correctness. But of one thing, we
feel certain and that is, that our Congress will have the power to enact laws, looking back to the present period of
virtual annexation, and providing against any violation of our revenue law, through importations into Texas, while
the latter was virtually a portion our confederacy. We presume that it is to this point that the Secretary of the
Treasury is looking, as intimated by the Union.

It is much to be desired, however, that the Texas Convention has already done what was right in throwing our
revenue laws around Texas. That would remove all difficulty, and save an immense deal of future annoyance and
controversy.

REv42i24p1c2 July 29, 1845 The Mystery Solved

It turns out that the British steamer "Unicorn," which arrived at New York from Halifax, was not employed for any
deep affairs of States, and had no connection with the critical condition of things between Mexico and Texas. The
quidnunes are taken a-back. The Unicorn was brought to New York on a voyage of speculation. The Tribune says,
that she has been sold for fifty thousand dollars to a company of Spaniards and Americans, whose intention it is to
place her on the line between Havana and New York. She will also touch at Vera Cruz and Carthagena —supplying
the heretofore deficient link in this great chain of steamship inter-communication between England and the Western
world.

[MSM2]

REv42i24p1c3 July 29, 1845 Latest from Texas

Annexation Ratified—Death of Vice President K. Anderson—Incursions and Depredations of the Indians—General
News.

By the arrival of the brig Hope Howes, Capt. B.G. Shaw, from Galveston, yesterday, we are apprised of the glorious
and gratifying fact, that the question of Annexation has been finally consummated. Thus, by the honest and
unwavering conduct of a free people, have the machinations of traitors at home, and enemies abroad, been foiled
and frustrated. Honor to the Republicans of Texas for the part they have taken in the achievement of the purpose.
We give our worthy correspondent’s letter, which embrace a clear and succinct narration of the proceeding of the
Convention, up to the latest period at which it were possible to receive Austin news:

Austin, July 7, 1845.

The Convention assembled on the morning of the 4th, and unanimously elected General Rusk to preside over its
deliberations. On taking the Chair he made a short address, which was well delivered, and suitable to the occasion.
A committee of fifteen was soon after appointed, who reported by their Chairman, Judge Lipscomb, an ordinance
assenting, on behalf of the people of Texas, to the terms of Annexation proposed by the United States Government.
It was adopted with one dissenting voice—but five member absent. It was engrossed, and signed by all the member
present.

It is not a little singular, that the only dissenting voice was Richard Bache, the father-in-law of your Secretary of the
Treasury, and brother-in-law of the Vice President. After the necessary resolutions were passed for the transmission
of the ordinance to the United States, a resolution was offered by Col. Love, and unanimously adopted:

“That the wear crape on their left arm for one month, as a testimony of regret for the decease of General
Jackson.”

Whatever differences of opinion may exist, as regards his political acts, elsewhere, Texas owes him a debt of
Smith has been recalled from England. Speaking of this, the Galveston News of the 12th says—“We should like to
command is published in the Galveston News of the 12th. The reason assigned for the veto are, first, relative the
Com. Moore to his command in the Navy, and to allow him pro rata pay since he has been removed from his
Commercial Bulletin
) President Jones’s veto of the joint resolution passed by Congress to restore
(From the N.O. Commercial Bulletin) President Jones’s veto of the joint resolution passed by Congress to restore
Com. Moore to his command in the Navy, and to allow him pro rata pay since he has been removed from his
command is published in the Galveston News of the 12th. The reason assigned for the veto are, first, relative the
removal of Com. M, that the verdict of the court by which he was tried and fully sustained by the testimony
adduced, and that dismissal from the service was the slightest punishment the law permitted for the offence of which he was found guilty. That the Executive is the only department, and therefore that Congress has unconstitutionally assumed a function not belonging to the legislative department. “The sympathies of Congress and the Executive might indeed be invoked in his individual behalf.” Says President Jones, “but it might well be refused, unless Antonio Lannois, James, Hodgins, Isaac Allen and Wm. Simpson who were executed at the yard arm of the Ship Austin, by hanging for one hour, and until dead, for a similar offence, by order of Capt. Moore, while under arrest himself, could be restored to life and partake of its efficacy. Could the deep give up its dead, and the sympathy claimed be made general in its operation, the Executive would listen to its dictates. But he can never sanction a rule which hangs the poor sailor, and rewards his officer for offences of congenial character.” To the allowance of pro rata pay it is objected that Com M. Stand indebted the Treasury of the Republic to the amount of $50,875.30, which he has drawn since June, 1842, and has not accounted for, besides an amount standing to his debit in the Auditor’s books at Austin, and claims $20,00 for debts contracted by him, making an aggregate for which he is held accountable, of between seventy and one hundred thousand dollars; and that, should the joint resolutions become law, he would be virtually release from all responsibility to refund or account for this amount, and besides that the allowance of pay which was proposed, “could only be viewed as a reward for disobedience and insubordination to the laws and authorities of the country.”

Col. W. G. Cooke, Secretary of War, left Washington on the 29th ult., with the intention of proceeding to Bexar for the purpose of effecting a treaty with the portion of the tribe of Comanche Indians known as Santa Anna’s party. The National Register states that the place of meeting is on the Pierdanales, in Bexar county. This Santa Anna is a noted marauder, at the head of a party of about fifty Indians detached from the main tribe. The scene of his depredations has chiefly been our Rio Grande frontier. We learn that a general council of the Comanche tribe will be held in the month of September, on Tahuacana creed, about Torrey’s trading house, for the purpose of celebrating a general treaty of peace.

REv42i24p2c5 July 29, 1845 Marine Journal

Arrived.

Steamer Jewess, Sutton, Norfolk.
Brig Henrico, Paine, Boston, sundries.
Schr. Fountain, Wellsby, Norfolk, light.
Schr. Cecil, Travers, Baltimore, tobacco, to S. Winfree.
Schr. Pastory, Creighton, Baltimore, tobacco, to S. Winfree.
Schr. H. Ingram, Phillips, below, wheat, to Gallego Mills.
Schr. Santa Marie, Keane, below, wheat, to Gallego Mills.
Schr. J.R. Dunbar, Powers, below, wheat, to Gallego Mills.
Sloop Mary Miller, York river, corn and wheat to Wortham, McGruder & Co.
Schr. Providence, Kerwan, Baltimore, sundries.
Schr. Vermadela, Welsh, Baltimore, sundries.
Schr. Navigator, Pointer, N. York, sundries.
Schr. Augusta, Godfrey, Boston, plaster.
Schr. J.B. Urquhart, Burrows, York river, corn, to Royall & Morgan.

Sailed.

Schr. J.W. Smith, Parker, New York.
Brig Josephine, Robinson, Boston.
Schr. W. Mowry, Albertson, Greenwich.
Schr. J. Rosleys, Lewis, Sandwich.
Schr. Aid, Vinal, Boston.

Baltimore, July 28th

Cleared

barque Active, Foxwell, for James river;
schr. Telemachus, Kirwan, Norfolk, Petersburg and Richmond;
schr. Catharine Martha, Travers, Petersburg;
schr. Eliza Ann, Tyler, Norfolk;
schr. Wm. Applegard, Canon, Petersburg and Richmond.

New York, July 26 - Barque Phoenix, Bush, of Richmond, for St. Thomas in 3 days.

[MSM2]
Our readers will recall to mind the charge of disunion made against the Republican party, during the excited canvass of last year. Texas annexation was charged to be an iniquitous scheme, for the promotion of private avarice and ambition, and disunion was, in Whig logic, the dearest object of the friends of that great measure. They will further remember how the Republican party warded off the unjust assault, and charged upon the lading Whigs of the North a direct avowal of a determination to dissolve the Union, if Texas should be admitted. The famous letter of John Q. Adams and eleven other members of Congress was cited, in which these distinguished Whigs declared that annexation would not only have the effect of dissolving the Union, but would “justify” the dissolution. It now turns out, that there were braggart words, intended to frighten the South from her propriety, and to manufacture capital for the Whig cause, by raising up chimaeras dire, as the certain effect of annexation. With some few disgraceful exceptions, the Northern Whigs seems disposed to make the best of the bargain, and to soothe their indignant feelings by the pleasing prospect of realizing immense commercial benefits from the opening of a rich market for their industry. Finding all opposition to the wishes of the nation to be inefficctual, they have wisely and properly concluded, that annexation, after all, is not such a monstrous violation of right and justice—especially as it affords to private enterprise a new and bountiful field of action. Their interest and their patriotism are made to harmonize in beautiful proportions. Above all, Abolitionism finds itself force to cower beneath the increased strength and consequence of the Southern States. But has this same John Quincy Adams always expressed a holy horror for the extensions of our boundaries? Has he always professed to believe that the addition of a rich territory would produce, and should justify, disunion? Far from it, Mr. A. once acted with the Democratic Party, and wore its honors. When Minister at St. Petersburg, in 1811, he wrote to Elbridge Gerry, then Governor of Massachusetts, a letter which did honor to his patriotic, and broad and liberal views. In this letter he attacks the Federalists for their “readiness for a dissolution of the Union,” the very offence for which he was himself so glaringly responsible, not a year ago. He charges them directly with this grave offence, for he says, “I have known, now more than seven years, the project of the Boston faction against the Union,” and winds up with the following emphatic languages: “If that party, (the Federalists) are not ultimately put down in Massachusetts, as completely as they already are in New York, and Pennsylvania, and all the Southern and Western states, the Union is gone.

Instead of a nation of coextensive with the North American continent, destined by God and Nature to be the most populous and powerful people, ever combined under one social compact, we shall have an endless multitude of little insignificant clans and tribe at eternal war with one another for a rock or a fish pond, the sport and fable of European masters and oppressors.” How well he here draws his own picture! What a thorough change has come over him since he deserted the Democratic Party, and united his fortunes with “the Boston faction”—nay, became their leader! He no more thinks of, or advocates his country, “as co-extensive with the North American Continent,” but, upon the miserable grounds of fanaticism, resists the admission of a beautiful region, which was once ours, and which is so necessary to the safety of the Union and to the permanent prosperity of the Nation. He is now completely identified with the “Federalists,” whom he once denounced, in their anti-American, unpatriotic opposition to the acquisition of Texas.

It is this same spirit which opposed the last war, and which sympathized with Tories of the Revolution. But we rejoice to know, that “the project of the Boston faction against the Union” has been gloriously “put down” by a free and generous people, and that liberal institutions will rapidly spread over one of the finest portions of the globe. This onward march of civilization and moral improvement will be realized, in peace and safety, without, for one moment, disturbing the harmony of the Union—and John Q. Adams, “the Federalist,” will have the pleasure or the pain, of seeing the glowing visions of John Q. Adams, the Republican, fully and brilliantly verified.

[MSM2]

**August**

Friday, August 1, 1845, RE45v42i25p1c2 Words 665

An ordinance

Whereas, the Congress of the United States of America has passed resolutions providing for the annexation of Texas to that Union, which resolutions were approved by the President of the United States on the first day of March, one thousand eight hundred and forty-five: and whereas, the President of the United States has submitted to Texas the first and second sections of the said resolution, as the basis upon which Texas may be admitted as one of the States of the said Union: and whereas, the existing government of the Republic of Texas has assented to the terms and conditions of which are as follows:

"Joint Resolution for annexing Texas to the United States.

"Resolved by the Senate and the House of the Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress doth consent that the territory properly included within, and rightly belonging to, the Republic of Texas, may be erected into a new State, to be called the State of Texas, with a republican form of government to be adopted by the people of said Republic, by deputies in Convention assembled, with the consent of the existing government, in order that the same may be admitted as one of the States of this Union.

"2d. And be it further Resolved, That the foregoing consent of Congress is given upon the following conditions, and with the following guarantees, to wit:
"First, Said State to be formed, subject to the adjustment by this Government of all questions of boundary that may arise with other Governments; and the Constitution thereof, with the proper evidence of its adoption by the people of said Republic of Texas, shall be transmitted to the President of the United States, to be laid before Congress, for its final action, on or before the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six.

"Second, Said State, when admitted into the Union, after ceding to the United States all public edifices, fortifications, barracks, pots, and harbors, navy and navy-yards, docks, magazines, arms, and armaments, and all other property and means pertaining to the public defence belonging to the said Republic of Texas, shall retain all the public funds, debts, taxes, and dues of every kind, which may belong to, or be due and owing to the said Republic; and shall also retain all vacant and unappropriated lands lying within its limits, to be applied to the payment of the debts and liabilities of said Republic of Texas; and the residue of said lands, after discharging said debts and liabilities, to be disposed of as said State may direct; but in no event are said debts and liabilities to become a charge upon the Government of the United States.

"Third. New States of convenient size, not exceeding four in number, in addition to said State of Texas, and having sufficient population, may, hereafter, by the consent of said State, be formed out of the territory thereof, which shall be entitled to admission under the provisions of the Federal Constitution. And such States as may be formed out of that portion of said territory lying South of 36 deg. 30 min. North latitude, commonly known as the Missouri Compromise line, shall be admitted into the Union, with or without slavery, as the people of each State asking admission may desire. And in such State or States as shall be formed out of said territory, North of said Missouri Compromise line, slavery or involuntary servitude (excepts for crime) shall be prohibited."

Now, in order to manifest the assent of the people of this Republic, as required in the above-recited portions of the said resolutions:

We, the deputies of the people of Texas in Convention assembled, in their name and by their authority, do ordain and declare, that we assent to and accept the proposals, conditions and guarantees contained in the first and second sections of the resolution of the Congress of the United States aforesaid.[JM]

Friday, August 1, 1845, RE45v42i25p2c2 Words 507 Mexico

The Mexican brig Delfine, 14 days from Vera Cruz, brings advices to the 3d inst., from that place, and to the 28th ult., from the Capital.

The Mexican papers are unusually silent on the subject of Texas and the position she holds at present towards the United States, although the intention of the U.S. Government to send troops to the frontier of Texas was known in the Capital on the 10th ult. The Mexican Government had made a new division of the Republic into ten military departments – the fifth comprises Nueva Leon, Coahuila, Tamaulipas, and Texas- there-by intimating that she still intends to provide for the Texians as citizens of the Mexican Republic.

The Diario del Gobierno announces the entire peace establishment of the Mexican army, to consist of about 30,000 men, viz:- 19,000 foot, 8,500 cavalry, 2,200 artillery, and 1,300 sappers and miners, etc., some portion of which are at present engaged on the frontier against the Indians.

The candidates for the presidency are engaging the attention of the public journals, and judging from their tone, Gen. Herrera seems to be the favorite- though, had Gen. Bustamente arrived earlier in the country, his friends might have made some demonstrations in his favor. Of the latter, the Vera Cruzana says, "We know that he has offered his sword to the nation in defence of her rights over the territory of Texas, and we believe the Supreme Government will accept this noble offer." The support of so great a military character as the vuanquished of Puebla by the renowned prisoner of San Jacinto, can hardly give courage to the Mexican forces destined to be employed on the occasion.

The President has convoked the Congress for the consideration of various internal improvements, affecting the Tariff, etc., and also to place, before them the proceedings taken by the Government on the Resolutions concerning Texas, passed the last session. These resolutions empowered the President to make terms with Texas on any conditions, save her annexation to the United States. We shall now see what effect the consummation of this act will have on the Chambers.

A new military movement has taken place in the organization of the militia, under the title of "Defenders of the Laws."

Gen. Rancel, the leader of the last attempt at a Revolution, has been sentenced to ten years' imprisonment, loss of rank and pay, and General Basadre, the associate of Canalizo, has been removed to the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa.
The Hesperia says, it has been understood, that Santa Anna has received the Grand Cross of Charles III of Spain, and calls on the Government of information on this particular; as in such case he has forfeited his right and title to the pension allowed him by Mexico, as well as that of a Mexican citizen.

Vessels are permitted to enter Tobasco in ballast when they freight with dye-woods. The Tobasquenos have petitioned for the free entry of flour. The two war steamers are still lying at Vera Cruz in an unfit state for sea.

Friday, August 1, 1845, RE45v42i25p2c2 Words 732 Persecution of American Citizens Already Commenced in Mexico.

On the 18th inst., considerable excitement was caused in this place, occasioned by a body of artillery marching through the principal streets towards the custom house. On their arrival at that place, the officer in command received orders from the Collector of the Aduana Terrestre, to accompany one of the clerks of the said office with Sestigos, and lay a forced embargo at the point of the bayonet on the property of the only two American houses in the place, Parrott & Co. and Mott, Talbott & Co., to satisfy a demand for duties caused by a law of the State of Sinoloa, 1834, which law was annulled in 1837 by the Tariff of that year, and from that date up to a few days previous to the date of this, the custom-house had never demanded from any house such duties.

The house of Parrott & Co. of course was embargoed, on property to the amount of $45,000, to satisfy the claim, only amounting to about $4,000; after which the troops were marched to the house of Messrs. Mott, Talbott & Co., with the object of laying an embargo on their property, but Capt. Hope, of H. B. M. frigate Thalin, interfered and prevented the embargoes being laid, one of the partners of the said firm being a British subject.

Mr. Parrot, who, for many years, has been our Consul at Mazatlan, suffered with much patience the indignity to his person, and as the diplomatic relations between the United States and Mexico are suspended, he has no resource in seeking redress from the Mexican Government, and very properly called in the French Consul to witness the proceedings, which are illegal and unjust from the commencement, as no judge or competent authority in the place had passed sentence or judgment, in any shape or form, on the proceedings. Mr. Parrott has gone before the French Consul and made out his protest, and will submit it to his Government, to be settled with the other difficulties now pending with Mexico. There are at Mazatlan nearly a dozen importing houses, and notwithstanding not a single demand has been made by the Collector against them for duties, having, as it appears, determined to take his revenge out to the Americans.

Many respectable citizens seeing these scandalous proceedings, have used their influence to conciliate matters. It is proper to remark, that, in the year 1834, this State passed a law imposing a duty on foreign goods imported, of one-eight part of the import duties, to defray the expenses of the State. This duty was paid up to 1837, when the tariff of that year took effect, and the Central System of Government was established, the State Governments were abolished: the General Government abolished all the rights of the States to make and enforce laws. It appears that all the duties have long since been paid, agreeable to the tariff of 1837, which was a general disposition of the Supreme Government.

APRIL 24th.- The Prefecto of the Port has addressed a letter to the Governor of the State, complaining in strong terms against the violent and unjust proceedings against the Americans, and very properly pointed out that they were caprices of the Collector, and from the concourse of people who were present; it was sufficient to disturb the peace of the port, and bring on the country a war.

APRIL 25th.- The embargo on the property of the American Consul has not been raised, notwithstanding a meeting has taken place to that effect. The consul is determined to resist the payment and suffer his property to be sold. A military force was again demanded for laying the embargo on Mott, Talbott & Co.’s property, but it was wisely refused. Overtures have been made to the consul, that if he would address a letter to the Gefe Superior de Bacienda, his property would be released, but he has refused and is determined to let the matter take its course.

Other outrages will follow. Yours in haste,

X., Y. Z

Two-thirds of all the claims of American citizens were laid before the Board of Commissioners, were caused by the arbitrary laws of the States of Mexico, and this was one of the motives why the central system of government was established- as the States had always the General Government in difficulties.

[JM]
accepting the proposals, conditions and guarantees contained in the first and second sections of the joint resolution of the Congress of the United States for the admission of Texas as a State of the Union.

This ordinance shall be immediately forwarded by a special message to the President of the United States, who will receive it with the gratification its dignity and importance are so well calculated to produce in every patriotic heart. – Texas has thus manifested to the world, with a unanimity unparalleled in the disposition of a debated political question, her preference of an association with the Republican States composing the Federal Union, over all the advantages, real or imaginary, that were held out to her as a separate nation. With a discrimination quickened by her contact with foreign influences, she has learned in the battle fields, and In her civil experience, the necessity of union among the votaries of freedom; and, in voluntarily agreeing to take her place hereafter as a sovereign member of the American Confederacy, she has paid a tribute to the cause of popular government, which will command the admiration of the world.

From the date of this ordinance, Texas will have acquired a right to the protection of the U. States; and the undersigned is happy to inform you, that the President of the U. States has taken steps to afford this protection in the most effective manner, against future Mexican and Indian invasion.

That the deliberations of the convention, thus far distinguished by calmness and prudence, may produce a constitution for Texas, as perfect as her trials in the achievement of her independence.

Wednesday, August 6, 1845, RE45v42i26pc1 Words 383 Fruits of Annexation

Our readers will sustain us in the position that the Enquirer has advocated the Annexation of Texas upon national grounds. We watched the movements of the Northern fanatics on this question. We heard it clearly announced on the floor of Congress, that all opposition to it progress was based on anti-slavery grounds; no one, therefore, could doubt, that if the measure of annexation failed in Congress, it would be virtually a triumph of abolition over the domestic institutions of the South, a signal that all Southern interests must bow to the dark spirit of Northern fanaticism. Great cause was there, then, for joy, when the joint resolutions were carried through. They came, with healing on their wings, to announce to the South, that her rights were yet safe in the hands of the confederacy- that the people's representatives were yet willing to respect the guarantees of the Constitution, and that the links of our blessed Union were strengthened and brightened. As a safe-guard for the South against domestic foes, and as a barrier against the intrigues and Pharisajical philanthropy (1) of foreign nations, we hailed the admission of Texas among the States of the Union. The first duty of the South was to...

The South ought to feel grateful for the kind sympathy of the U.S. Gazette in her assumed losses by annexation. She has advocated the measure, not only for the safety of her domestic institutions, but, also, to protect herself from the oppressive effects of having a rich neighbor, who would supply foreign markets with cotton free from duty, and thereby prove a most injurious competitor. But it is not necessary to dwell on this point. The South is perfectly content with the admission of Texas, and is willing to abide the consequences. We have shown from Whig evidence that New England will promptly seize the benefits to be derived from the measure- and we may safely assert, that the whole Union is pleased with the great event. There is no danger of disunion, because all the great interests of the nation will be benefited- and, before many years have rolled round, the whole country will applaud the noble Democracy for having defeated Mr. Clay, and thereby secured the greatest national blessing, since the acquisition of Louisiana.

Wednesday, August 6, 1845, RE45v42i26pc Words 1,061

To Collectors and Officers of the Customs.

The President of the United States has received official intelligence that the convention... last, for the admission of Texas as a State of the union.

By the 24th section of the act of the Congress of the United States of the 30th of August, 1842, it is provided: "That it shall be the duty of all collectors and other officers of the customs to execute and carry into effect all instructions of the Secretary of the Treasury relative to the execution of the revenue laws; and in case any difficulty shall arise as to the true construction or meaning of any part of such revenue laws, the decision of the Secretary of the Treasury shall be conclusive and binding upon all such collectors and other officers of the customs." In conformity with this provision of the law, it becomes my duty to communicate the vies and instructions of this department upon various important questions arising out of the new relations between Texas and the United States.

A similar question arose in relation to exports from Florida into New Orleans in 1819, when it was decided by the Treasury Department, "that all goods which have been or may be imported from Pensacola before an act of Congress shall be passed erecting it into a collection district, and authorizing the appointment of an officer to reside
thereat, for the purpose of superintending the collection of duties, will be liable to duty."

If, then, as is apprehended, imports should now be made from foreign ports into Texas, with a view to introduction here free of duty from Texas, upon her formal admission by Congress as a State of the Union, such exemption from duty, in conformity with the decision before quoted in relation to Florida, could not be permitted "before an act of Congress shall be passed erecting it (Texas) into a collection district." When Congress shall pass such an act, ample provision can be made therein, to prevent the sacrifice of our revenue by the evasion of our laws, as is now believed to be contemplated.

2d. In all cases where application is made to enter goods with the privilege of draw-back of duties on exportations into Texas, before granting the debenture certificate, you will diligently inquire into the circumstances of the case, with a view to ascertain whether this exportation is ... where the goods are really designed for consumption within our limits, is a manifest fraud on our revenue laws, which will be prevented by all the lawful means within the power of this Department.

After the acquisition and occupation of Louisiana, by an order of the Treasury Department, the collector at new Orleans was directed to " consider Baton Rouge, and other settlements now in possession of Spain, whether on the Mississippi, Iberville, the lakes, or the seacoast, as foreign ports." In the same order it was declared, "in no instance are you to allow draw-backs for goods which have been landed, and may afterwards be exported to such places." This order was issued by one of my predecessors, (Albert Gallatin,) and was sanctioned by Mr. Jefferson, then President of the U. States.

By the 80th section of the act of Congress of the 2d of March 1799, it is provided, "That the Collector aforesaid may refuse to grant such debenture or debentures, in case it shall appear to him that nay error has arisen, or any fraud has been committed; and, in case of such refusal, if the debenture or debentures claimed shall exceed one hundred dollars, it shall be the duty of the said Collector to represent the case to the Comptroller of the Treasury, who shall determine whether such debenture or debentures shall be granted or not." An entry for drawback, with a view to re-importation, free of all duty, into the United States, is a fraud within the meaning of this act; and in all such cases it is the duty of the collector to refuse the debenture certificate. In all cases where the debenture shall not exceed one hundred dollars, the Collector will judge for himself whether such fraud as is before designated is contemplated; and, in the language of the law, "if the debenture or debenture claimed shall exceed one hundred dollars, it shall be the duty of the said Collector to represent the case to the Comptroller of the Treasury, who shall determine whether such debenture or debentures shall be granted or not."

By the 76th section of the act of 2d March, 1799, it is provided as follows: "And the said exporter or exporters shall likewise make oath that the said goods so noticed for exportation, and laden on board such ship or vessel previous to the clearance there of, or within ten days after such clearance, are truly intended to be exported to that place whereof notice shall have been give, and are not intended to be relanded within the United States; otherwise, the said goods, wares, and merchandise shall not be entitled to the benefit of drawback."

If, then, in point of fact, the goods thus exported to Texas are intended "to be relanded within the United States," they are not entitled to draw-back; an, if relanded, are subject to seizure and forfeiture; as well as the vessel in which they are thus introduced.

Great vigilance will be required in obtaining ample security upon all export bonds, as those bonds may not be cancelled in any case of exportation of goods to Texas with the privilege of drawback, until the numerous and important questions arising under such bonds shall have been finally adjudicated.

You will in no case omit to publish in the newspapers, as now required by law, the names of all persons who shall be found guilty of the violations of the revenue laws therein prescribed, as well as to seize for forfeiture the goods, vessel, tackle, apparel, and furniture, in all such cases.

As the speculations referred to would diminish the revenue, and affect injuriously the interest of the people of the United States, and of Texas, as a part of the Union, the utmost vigilance and the most cordial co-operation are expected from all officers of the customs, in carrying these instructions most fully into immediate effect.

Very respectfully, R. J. Walker
Secretary of the Treasury

Friday, August 8, 1845, RE45v42i27p1c Words 1015 Moral Treason

On the 1st August the Abolitionists at the North celebrated the Anniversary of Emancipation in the British West Indies. The Tribune gives a minute description of the proceedings at Boston. On that occasion, the notorious William II. Channing, the right-hand-man of the Tribune, indulged anew in his slanders upon the South and his treasonable assaults against the Constitution. To show how strongly his sympathies lean towards British intrigue and ambition, to the sacrifice of all the holy ties of love for his native country, we extract a few sentences:
“Well may Great Britain rejoice this day at the noble work she has accomplished. But while she rejoices we should hang our heads in shame, unaffected shame, at our own inaction.

“one avowed-object of the annexations of Texas I aid to slavery; and the counteraction of Great Britain’s efforts against slavery.

“This nation has announced to the other nations of earth the annexation of Texas to this Republic! A base and fraudulent act for an impious purpose! What can we do, as true men and children of God, to avert the consequences of this act?”

After this shameless imprecation of the honor of his own country, and servile flattery of Great Britain, this fanatic proceeds to point out the course that Massachusetts should pursue, and here it is:

“The Bay State has been the abode of freemen! Whether it shall still be so must be decided this day.

“Massachusetts has said in Faneuil Hall that the annexation of Texas is an infraction of the Constitution. Let her not retract this next winter, and folding her hands, say, the will of the Lord, be done. Such inaction would be accomplishing the will of the devil.

“The duty of Massachusetts is to stand by her principles: in deeds to acknowledge that her words were right. Let her declare, in the assemblies of her people, that she meant what she said, and let her now say distinctly, The Constitution is broken by Slavery in the Annexation of Texas! The Constitution has been tried, and porved but an instrument of slaveholding usurpation. Let her the recall her Representatives and Senators from a Congress disgraced by voluntary association with Texas, and say let her sister States. We are asolved from the Constitution. We will never receive Texas as a sister State- and we appeal for our justification to God, to the nations of the earth, and to the consciences of all free men. Let her take his position and keep it. Therein she will not be false, but true, to what really constitutes this nation.”

Can madness farther go! But we are not at all alarmed at the impertent ravings of this handful fo fanatics, this unblushing avowal of sentiments, which would disgrace the infamous proceedings of the Harford Convention. Last year, when the Texas question was in embryo, we exposed to the indignant reprobation of the people of Virginia similar sentiments from the lips of John Quincy Adams and eleven other members of Congress. The voice of patriotism then prevailed, not only in the South but throughout the Union. The disunionists were prostrated, Texas was decreed to be a portion of our glorious Confederacy, the rights of the Sought were respected, and the Constitution declared not to be a nose of wax in the hands of Abolitionists, for the accomplishment of their nefarious schemes. As it was then, so will it be now- but with this stronger fact- that how the faith of the nation has been solemnly plighted- that it is matter of undisputed proof, that foreign nations have arrogantly interposed to arrest our freedom of action, and to interfere with our rights- and that the monstrous proposition of “a balance of power,” has been impudently thrust into one face. For these and other reasons, the national pride has been aroused, and many who were bitter enemies to the extension of our flag over the “Lone Star,” are now zealous for the completion of the measure, as a rebuke of foreign intrigue and ambition, and as a signal proof of the establishment of our national rights on an impregnable basis.

Again, in the very midst of these howling fanatics of Boston, we have seen many gallant spirits arise, who will do their duty to their country and guard her honor from violation. All will remember the noble toast of Mr. Winthrop, who went for his whole country, however bounded.- He, doubtless, represents the views of many Massachusetts Whigs- who will resist the disorganizing and infamous proposition of Channing and others. Moreover, the commercial advantages of annexation, will operate with force upon the self-interest of a large class in Boston- and they too, will unite in sustaining the plighted honor of the nation. We, therefore, have no fear of the fiendish anatemas of a few Massachusetts abolitionists. They will be prostrated by the whirl-wind of public sentiments- and we may safely venture to predict, that the Bay State, so far from flying off from the Union and nullifying its laws, will cheerfully acquiesce in a measure, which to them is destined to prove so beneficial.

In connection with this subject, we take great pleasure in re-publishing from the Martinsburg (Va.) Gazette an eloquent communication, in view of the final union of the two Republics. It was written before the action of the Convention was known- but it shadows forth the true effects of the convocation of the people’s delegates.- From the signature and the locality, we are fully warranted in the opinion, that is from the pen of a Whig, formerly a distinguished State Senator; whose toast on the 4th July we were proud to publish with commendation. From the main bearing of such Whigs as Winthrop and F, we have no fears for a disruption of the Union, in consequence of the extention of liberal institutions. The few traitors in Boston and New York, may attempt to shake the Union with their hideous threats- but their impotence is equal to their malice. Their names will be hung upon the pillory of the fugitives.

[JM]

Friday, August 8, 1845, RE45v42i27pc Words 63 Extraordinary Confusion of the Mails!

Our New Orleans mail has failed for three days. But the Union of Tuesday-night contains news from Texas, and we made a few extracts. Our Southern papers must have passed us by without condescending to stop and are, doubtless, wandering over the regions of the North. We shall be thankful for the capture and restoration of the fugitives. [JM]
It has been proposed in caucus, and by this time probably agitated in full Convention at Austin, Texas, to bring two Texian States into the Union- one East of the Brazos, and a new one West of that river, to be called Austin. Our correspondent, who is near, though not on the field of operation, thinks the affair was planned by the Hon. W. L. Cazneau, who is celebrated in Texas and the Southwest for his adroit management as the leading representative of the Western interests in the Texian Congress. By dividing Texas at the Brezos, there will be just enough population on each side to elect a representative, and thus meet the requirement of the United States Constitution. If, by this device, the Hon. Gentleman secures, at the very outset, four Senators in Congress, he will deserve all the credit our Matagorda correspondent gives him for ability and good management in making the most of Texas.

The Baltimore Republican and Argus comes to us in an enlarged and improved form. We congratulate this spirited champion of Democracy upon its increased means of usefulness and ability to contend with Whiggery, and we wish it a new and a glorious triumph at the coming election.

In reply to the enquiries of the Illinois Register and other journals, in regard to the negotiation now understood to be pending between the United States and Great Britain, on the Oregon question, the Union of Wednesday night employs the following language. The last sentence expresses the sentiment of the whole nation:

“We answer frankly, and in the same respectful spirit in which the 'State Register' has spoken to us, that all negotiations between nations, during their pendency, have at all times been confined to the parties conducting them. In reference to the Oregon question, as must be the case in all negotiations, the President and his constitutional advisers are the only persons who can know what is transpiring. Why, then, call on the 'union' to declare what has been done, or what will be done, on this subject? At the meeting of Congress, the President will doubtless lay before them all that has occurred, or may occur, as far as the same can be properly communicated, compatibly with the public interests. Of one thing we may confidently assure the Register, and all others who have been pleased to propound these question to us; and that is, that the administration will firmly assert and maintain all our rights to the Oregon territory, and that they will preserve and uphold the sacred honor of their country.”

(Whig) is a severe rebuke upon the absurd and unpatriotic position of the New York Courier & Enquirer, that the administration is liable to censure for sending troops, at the request of the people of Texas, to protect that country against foreign invasion. It is strange to us, that any man of ordinary capacity should object to a course, dictated by the soundest discretion and the plainest right:

“The process of annexation itself has been somewhat anomalous. It would, doubtless, have been better if Congress had made special provision for the defence of Texas in the event of the acceptance of the annexation resolutions, inasmuch a there were abundant reasons for apprehending hostilities on the part of Mexico. But because that duty was neglected, it does not follow that the President should neglect his. The compact of annexation has now the force of a law; and the requisition of the Constitution which binds the Executive to see that the laws are faithfully administered, is his warrant for securing to this law of annexation its full force and validity.

“If the machinations of Great Britain to defeat annexation, which gave a new aspect entirely to that question, had been direct and decided enough to endanger the final consummation of the measure, we should not have been disposed to find fault if the President had occupied Texas before the meeting of the Texan Congress. In matters of this sort, decision and energy are every thing. Responsibility must be taken when emergencies arise.”
The N. O. Republican thinks it probable that England will be a party to the war with Mexico. We must have strong evidence, to make us hope for such a result. She has too much staked upon her swelling commerce, to expose it to the attacks of our gallant navy. A war with us would cut off her supply of cotton—...bosom would spring up deadly enemies who, maddened by the want of break, would require a mighty force to subdue their fierce...—Her colonies, groaning under British avarice and oppression, would welcome the signal for their redemption from her galling chains and would strike for their independence. In a word, in the first moment of war, England would find herself surrounded by numberless obstacles, that would cripple her power in every direction—For these reasons, we cannot think, that she will have the folly, to involve herself in a war, which will break up her commerce, stop her factories, and probably wrest from her many of her rebellious colonies.

But, suppose she should rush madly into the melee, what would be the consequence? It will be admitted that it would be almost exclusively a maritime war, and in review of our early naval operations will show how such an one would result at the present time. The New Orleans Republican examines this point, and we make use of the facts furnished by that excellent Journal. In the Revolution our Navy consists of about twenty-five vessels of all descriptions. In 1798, small as it was, the ocean was covered with its glorious achievements. The first Lord of the British Admiralty, in his official report, stated that the Americans had captured seven hundred and eighty-three vessels, the loss of which, he estimated at twelve and a half millions of dollars—but it was subsequently ascertained to be nearer twenty millions. In a single cruise Paul Jones captured sixteen prizes! Before the close of the war, 175 fighting vessels, carrying 2,500 guns and 11,000 seamen, sailed under American colors. They secured both the great oceans, moved over the British Channel, and laid siege to castles and towns even on the British Isles. Bristol, the great commercial city in England, was shattered by the spoliations of our cruisers.

So much for the glorious deeds of our Navy in the infancy of the Republic. It would be easy to calculate what could now be done by our excellent Navy commanded by able and skillful officers, and thoroughly disciplined men. We have all the means and experience to fit out a formidable naval force. The numerous steamers which cover the Mississippi and Ohio, could soon be made valuable instruments of attack and defense—and we should have no cause to dread even the boasted Marine of England. For a brief period we might...but in a short time, we should be fully prepared to cut up British commerce, and tame her arrogance.

The Picayune thus shadows forth the probable course that Mexico will pursue:

"That she will issue letters of marque and reprisal—attempt to turn loose a set of foreign privateers upon our commerce—has been hinted at, and with good show of reason. There are not sailors enough, put them all together, in her contemptible marine to man a single sloop of war effectively, and we trust that our Government will at once declare every vessel engaged under Mexican colors, without the lawful complement of natives on board, a pirate, and string up every foreigner to the yard arm...The pages of Vattel may not afford such authority, but Vattel knew but little of Mexico when he wrote, and strong cases require prompt and forcible arguments—On land, the course of the United States is plain enough. With the regular troops now in Texas and the volunteers ready to start at a movement's warning, we have a force sufficient to crush any miserable apology of an army Mexico can concentrate between San Luis Potosi and the Rio Grande for three months to come—it would be an act of charity to take the entire army of our...neighbors prisoner. To save them from the starvation that has long been preying upon them. Possession of the harbors of California—a matter which a frigate and sloop of war could easily effect—might also be taken, and if all these plans are carried out, we shall have the enemy at our gates suing for peace before a year is over their heads."

The N.O. Courier contends that, even the closing of the ports of Mexico to American Commerce would, by
the law of Nations, be tantamount to a declaration of war, and holds, that the United States should act accordingly
and not wait until it should please Mexico to remove the embargo. The Courier cites the example of France, against
whose commerce Mexico closed her ports- after France had wasted years in vain attempts to enforce the rejected
claims of her citizens for indemnity. France at once blockaded the Mexican coast, seized upon the fort of San Jean
de Ulna, held Vera Cruz as a hostage and forced Mexico to render full and perfect satisfaction.

The *Courier* urges our Government to pursue the same rigid course- or it is evident that, annexation being
accomplished, the right of Mexico to Texas was destroyed- indeed the failure of Mexico to reconquer Texas
amounted to a renunciation of all her claims. Moreover, contends the *Courier*, Mexico never had any just claims
upon Texas- as both treaties and ancient maps prove that Louisiana, as ceded to this Republic, extended to the
western banks of the Rio Grande, and, in fact, Texas never belonged to Mexico.

Friday, August 15, 1845, RE45v42i29pc Words 62 Important from Mexico

It seems that, after all, Mexico is about to commit some folly and either declare war, or an embargo. From
such a people, under such rulers, no course, however mad or suicidal, ought to excite astonishment. We have only
time to give the cream of the New Orleans papers received yesterday- so that our readers may make their own
deductions.

Friday, August 15, 1845, RE45v42i29pc Words 191 The Annexation of Texas

'Tis finished now- the holy deed
By favoring Heaven’s will decreed:
Blessed with propitious fortune’s smile,
Despite of threat and lure and wile,
Two kindred nations clasp their hands,
And join their hearts in happy bands.

No streaming blood- no wasting fire;
Confusion wild- nor carnage dire,
Hath stained that union, fair and just,
Of nations, who may boldly trust
Their cause to God, and their own might,
To prove it, and defend it, right.

Proud Yorktown’s deeds of glorious fight,
And San Jacinto’s records bright,
Together stamped on History’s page,
Shall be rehearsed in every age;
While dark Paoli’s funeral wail
Shall echo red Alamo’s tale.

The men of Texas- well may we
Salute them brethren, bold and tree,
Blood of our blood, bone of our bone-
A round one common altar-stone,
Shalt meet wit us, and worship there
In freedom’s faith, with freedom’s prayer,
No longer lone, the Texian star
Shall shine in peace, and gleam in war,
A mingling ray of that bright beam
Which from the Eagle’s Flag doth stream,
And, from the land of freedom’s birth, Expands it radiance o’er the earth.

Friday, August 22, 1845, RE45v42i30pc Words 391 The Seat of War

It is strange- but we have no further news from Mexico-not even a rumor. The American schr. Water Witch,
was to have left Vera Cruz on the 28th. She had not reached N. Orleans on the 12th inst. This prolonged voyage of 15 days has given rise to sundry speculations. Some think she has been seized by the Mexican authorities, as in a State of war. Another and more probable opinion is, that she has waited to bring home our Counsel and citizens resident at Vera Cruz, in the expectation of a declaration of war. The public excitement on the subject of the warlike demonstrations of Mexico seems to have subsided.

P.S. We have since received further news from Mexico, in the Union of Monday night. It will be found in another column. It seems that on the 26th July, there was no declaration of War, thought the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cueras, had addressed a fierce and flaming paper to their Congress, recommending active War, as soon as they should officially hear of the acceptance of Annexation by Texas. In a previous address of Cuevas to Congress, on the 16th ult. This terrible Minister employed the following language, far from just or gentle. Our cabinet; no doubt, feel much mortified at this formidable blow:

“But Texas, degrading herself, and losing all consideration for those nations who, by a happy policy, hastened to recognize her as an independent people, has at length succumbed with shame and opprobrium to the usurping and perfidious policy of the American Cabinet. Such conduct deprives her of the rights upon which she might claim her independence, and the Republic will now be enabled to commence her struggle with a justice which will excite the sympathies of the whole world and will merit a result the more glorious, as its aspirations have always been in favor of peace, and of the principles of civilization and humanity. As time rushes in, the United States will discover in this usurpation a fatal error; the good faith and honesty of every nation will condemn her, and she alone will be responsible for the evils of a war which she will have provoked.

“The report concludes with another flourish about the loyalty and good faith of Mexico, and the perfidy of the United States.”

[JM]
And they will shout and huzza over victories which will fill the land with a few vast, unearned fortunes, and send their own children hungry and hopeless to miserable lairs. Such is the way of the world.”

Friday, August 22, 1845, RE45v42i30pc Words 115 A Capital Hit

The war with Mexico- As soon as the Richmond Whig carried to country readers the striking idea that none but annexationists ought to bleed or pay for the war which Mexico threatens us with, its language was caught up everywhere and from every genuine “Whig” might be heard the witty, profound, and patriotic remark addressed to Democrats-

“Well now you’ve got... Texas, I supposes you Locos are going to do all the fighting and paying – won’t you:”

An honest countryman, in reply to this threadbare piece of second-hand banter, retorted-

“O, no- We got Texas- that was our part. You Whigs must do what’s necessary now, to keep it!” – the Whig sloped.

Friday, August 22, 1845, RE45v42i30pc Words 391 Movements of Mexican Troops

The steam schooner Augusta, Capt. Giller, arrived here yesterday from Matamoras, which place she left on the 12th inst. We have gleaned some items from a letter written by a resident of Matamoras to captain Gillett, on the day he sailed.

The letter, speaking of the movements of troops in the vicinity of Matamoras, says, it was known positively that all the points of the Rio Grande would soon be covered; that General Arista had about 3,000 men within one days’ march of Matamoras on the 12th; that Gen. Pardeds was on his march to Monterey with 4,000 or 5,000 men, that Gen. Gaona was also on the march with 3,000, that Gen. Bustamente was going to New Mexico. The letter then says- Notwithstanding these preparations, I believe that hostilities are not so immediate as it might be thought as first.”

It seems that no General in chief had yet been appointed and that there are no contracts for the necessary supplies of a campaign or for serious invasion of Texas.

The letter states further that “the Mexican Government says to Congress, that in its opinion, there is no need of waiting for the delay stipulated in the treaty (between Mexico and this country) for a declaration of war, (if declared) because notices enough have been given to the United States Government months ago.”

The letter further says: “Some person, generally well informed, think that the government needs money much, and wants to hold up the prospect of a war to get their loan approved. The hope that foreign intervention will soon put an end to difficulties seems to be at the bottom of the ideas of this government, which, on another side, is threatened with a new revolution, according to some letters from the capital.” It, is also stated, that, according to the official papers of Mexico, the $15,000,000 had been negotiated- but this is doubtful.

By a dispatch of the Mexican Consul, then here, the General commanding at Matmoras had been advised of the shipment of troops from this port to Corpus Christi and Bexar.

The letter concludes thus: “The next mail will probably have the debates of Congress on the loan and war bills. We may perhaps better see into the future than now.”

We do not see much war in all this.

September

RE43n34p1c4, September 2, 1845: INSULT UPON THE COUNTRY

Most gladly have we chronicled the numerous evidences of patriotic spirit by the peculiar state of our relations with Mexico. In ever portion of the Country, an American feeling has been aroused, and gallant volunteers
and thus left Texas to pursue, without molestation, such policy as we might deem best.

The signing of the articles in question removed all pretext for the renewal of hostilities by Mexico, First—

for the following considerations:

Texas Secretary of State would first affix his signature. It appeared proper to accede to this overture from Mexico,

I received assurance on which I could rely, that the Mexican Government would sign these articles, provided the

"My signing, with Senor Couevas, articles preliminary to peace with Mexico, has been severely condemned. I

received assurance on which I could rely, that the Mexican Government would sign these articles, provided the

Texas Secretary of State would first affix his signature. It appeared proper to accede to this overture from Mexico,

for the following considerations:

"First—The signing of the articles in question removed all pretext for the renewal of hostilities by Mexico,

and thus left Texas to pursue, without molestation, such policy as we might deem best.
Second—It was in fact a relinquishment, sub mode, by Mexico, of all claim of sovereignty over the territory of Texas, thereby facilitating rather than impeding Annexation.

"Third—It was the only way by which the overture from Mexico could be presented to the representatives of the people of Texas, to whom alone the decision of so grave a matter as this, of peace or the risk of a renewal of hostilities.

"Finally—it was of great importance, in the event that any untoward circumstance should prevent the accomplishment of Annexation.

"Was the administration of Texas authorized, of itself; to reject ultimately, this friendly overture? Was it not bound to submit this matter to the people? There are facts in my possession which I shall at a proper time make known to the people of Texas, to convince them of the extreme importance of our coming to a pacific arrangement with Mexico at the period of signing the articles with Senor Cuevas, though that arrangement was temporary. The individuals who, in 1842, supplied Mexico with the facilities for procuring vessels of war to attack Texas, and whose machinations were then baffled by my activity, were ready in 1845 to advance means to equip the Mexican army for the purpose of waging active war against Texas, with the same ultimate design as formerly upon one of our institutions. Are we sure, I would ask, that some Northern or Western Senators might not have been found in the American Congress friendly to peaceful Annexation, but opposed to receiving Texas with a war on it lands? Were we not sufficiently told, too, that what a resolution of Congress had done, a resolution might undo? And is the importance of a single vote—Senator Bagby’s for example—forgotten?

It has been falsely asserted that I signed the articles with Senator Cuevas, without the knowledge of the Executive. I know my duty better. In all my official conduct, I have acted under instructions from his Excellency the President. A different course would have rendered me liable to impeachment.

"My general silence in April last on annexation, may have given rise to an honest misapprehension of my opinion on this subject. I had then just signed the articles of arrangement with Mexico. It is clear, that had the Texas Secretary gone about making public declaration in favor of annexation, the Mexican Government would have refused to sign these articles, notwithstanding the assurances previously made. A discreet silence seemed the proper course for me to pursue. But to avoid future misapprehension, I then wrote explicitly my opinion on this subject to General Houston, to General M. Baker, to Colonel Barnard E. Bee; I expressed the same opinion, in unequivocal language, to Colonel Thurstun, Mr. J. Temple Doswell, Mr. Henry F. Gillet, Doctor Bowers, Dr. Kelhum, Colonel M.B. Menard, General Charles Fenton Mercer, and some other gentlemen in Texas; and I had declared the same opinion to Hon. J. C. Calhoun, the Hon. Alcee Labranche, M.C. of Louisiana, the Hon. T.H. Seymour, M.C. of North Carolina, and numerous other gentlemen in the United States. I now authorize the publication of the above letters, and all other letter written by me, however confidential, wherein allusion is made to annexation. They will not be found to contain one adverse or discrepant word. Were I opposed to annexation, I should avow it fearlessly." [BRM]

RE43n34p1c6, September 2, 1845: FOREIGN VIEWS

We are glad that Wilmer & Smith’s European Times have, in some degree, made the amende honorable for its insults upon the American character, on the Oregon question. The following extract, received by the Hibernia, shows a liberality of feeling and expanded views, which do credit to that paper. It is a pungent hit at some of the European politicians, who have advanced absurd and intolerable theory of “the balance of power.”

"ANNEXATION OF TEXAS.---The annexation of Texas which may now be regarded as consummated, is too important an event in the history of nations to escape the lynx-eyed vigilance of the press in this quarter of the globe. It has been freely commented on since the arrival of the Acadia, last week, which brought the resolutions of the Texan Congress. The annexation is not, of course, palatable to John Bull, which is perhaps, the best reason why it should be popular on the Western shores of the Atlantic. The leading organ of the late Government, the Morning Chronicle, makes it the subject of a bitter attack on the foreign policy of the present Cabinet, which might, and ought, it contends, to have prevented the catastrophe. It is ridiculous to hold such language. The Ministry could not have prevented the annexation, if they had strained every art which diplomacy suggest.---The policy of Mexico, ever since Texas wrested her freedom from that imbecile power, has, step by step, accelerated the event at which the latter is now so chagrined. The ungrateful, not to say pitiful, conduct of Santa Anna, in constantly keeping in “hot water,” and actually making war upon the people who first defeated, and then, with a generous heroism, gave him liberty, cause Texas to be attracted, as sympathetically as the pole attracts the needle, to the United States. The citizens of that country were in feeling, as they now are in name, citizens of the great Republic---one common sympathy of country, and kindred, and institutions, animated alike the minor and the major Republic. The "star-spangled banner" has increased another stripe, and has baffled the policy of European statesmen---those long headed personages, who fancy that, like Joshua, the sun ought to stand still at their bidding.

"What has taken place was inevitable in the nature of things, and has long since been anticipated by all who could read the signs of the political horoscope. But American aggrandizement, they say, will not stop here. This large slice of decrepit Mexico may feed, but will not satisfy, greedy Republicans. Yearnings after California are already apparent. Oregon, nah, Mexico itself, may be swallowed up speedily by the energetic Anglo-American race, now spreading over the Northern Continent. Such are the fears of the rulers of the old world, fears which are participated in, to some extent, by many who ought to know better, in our own island."
TO THE EDITORS OF THE ENQUIRER

Gentlemen: Since Mexico has arrayed herself in a somewhat threatening and belligerent attitude I have seen it stated on several occasions in your paper, and, it I mistake not on some of them editorially, that in the event of a Declaration of War against the United States by Mexico, and the issuing on her part of letters of marque and reprisal, that it would be proper, and justifiable on our part, to take any foreigners found on board the commissioned vessels, as a portion of their crew—treat them as pirates, and dispose of them by the summary process of hanging—and, by some example of this kind, a speedy check would be given to privateering. Indeed, in your paper of this morning, you have a long editorial on our relations with Mexico, headed, “The Crisis at Last,” in which you adopt, as a portion of your article, an extract from “The New Orleans Picayune,” a portion of which is in these words: “We trust that our Government will at once declare every vessel engaged under Mexican colors, without the lawful complement of natives on board, a pirate, and string up every foreigner to the yard arm.”

If Mexico should, in her wisdom, decide for War, I am for giving her, as can be done, without much trouble, and genteel dubbing; but then I am for doing so, clearly upon the principles recognized by international law, which governs nations. Now I would like to be informed, in what work on international law, from Puffendorff to Wheaton, the doctrine is laid down, that a vessel regularly commissioned with letters of marque and reprisal by Mexico, to operate against her enemies in War, constitutes the foreigners, who may be a portion of such vessels, pirates, and punishes them with death, by hanging at the yard arm. If any authority recognized by nations exist for such a procedure, I have yet to find it. How can our Government, assuming that she will not prescribe an arbitrary rule of action for herself, “at once declare every vessel engaged under Mexican colors, without the lawful complement of natives on board, a pirate and string every foreigner to the yard arm?” It is not our own legislation, I believe, that is to be the authority or umpire in such proceedings, but the established doctrines of internal law. And what may be the consequences of a departure from them; or the adoption of such a course of conduct as appears to be sanction by you?

Should war come, (which Heaven and mercy avert, for I am emphatically a man of peace,) I want the duration of his grim visage to be as short as possible; and certainly it will be so, if our fighting is confined to the Mexicans, (and we have no reason to believe we will be engaged with any other nation;) but this will depend chiefly on ourselves; for, rest assured, should our Government attempt to carry out the doctrine sanctioned by you, and were it once put into execution, British subject the sufferers, nothing would save us from a conflict with her. We know the vigilance with which she protects her citizens wherever they may be. We know too, how extremely sensitive she has been on this Texas question; and, under the influence of that feeling, associated as the provocation would be with this very question, war would, indeed by inevitable. How calamitous would be such a result! Vanquish her, we certainly could; but consider the loss of blood and treasure, and all the miseries following in the train of a long and sanguinary conflict. Would not France, too, our old ally, take fire at such a procedure, were her subjects the sufferers? And why place ourselves in a position to arouse the ire of our faithful friend, should war ever come upon us from the combined powers of European potentates? Remember, the French Eagle and the American Eagle can again lead the way to victory, glory and independence.

INVESTIGATOR.

August 15, 1845.

[We think our clear-headed correspondent errs in stating that we have “adopted,” or “sanctioned,” the principle which he so warmly reprobrates. We have seen it strongly commended by able and leading journals—but our impression has been, and still is, that it is indefensible. We have not had time, however, to look into the learned authorities. In no even will it be necessary to resort to its employment against Mexico.—Enq]

MEXICAN INDEMNITY

From a private letter dated Mexico, July 26th, 1845, received by a gentleman in this city, we derive information that, on the 31st inst., a motion was made in Congress to call off the Secretary of the Treasury for a written report on the subject of the payment of the two missing instalments of the indemnity, which produced a very animated and lengthy discussion.—Mr. Trigueros, the late Secretary of the Treasury, and Mr. Voss, the Agent of the United States, were handled very unceremoniously; and the Ex-Minister of the United States, Mr. Shannon, was likewise subjected to some critical remark. The motion was finally carried by a vote of 27 to 26, and we are now likely to get possession of the leading facts in this hitherto mysterious affair.—[N.Y. Express]
The ship *Suviah*, Capt. Gibbons, arrived here yesterday from the bay of Aransas. She left the anchorage at that place on the 16th. Noting has transpired of any interest since our last accounts from that point. Previous to the vessel’s sailing, the steamer *Monmouth* came off and reported that war had been declared. How the news reached our force on the main land, we are not informed. It may be that Gen. Taylor had received recent intelligence to that effect from the frontier; and then again it may have been repetition of the menacing news received here a short time since.

Capt. Gibbons confirms the news of the loss of the *Swallow*. The greater portion of the cargo was lost.

Gen. Taylor, with his command, had left the neighborhood of St. Joseph’s, and established himself at San. Petrucio.

No further intelligence has reached us regarding the movements of the Mexicans.

The Capt. Of the *Suviah* reports, that, on the 18th, he saw the schooner *E.S. Lauden*, bound for Aransas, with Government stories. On the 30th, 100 miles West of S.W. Pass, aw the schooner *Mary Wilkes*, also for Aransas, with government stories.---[N.O. Jeffersonian, Aug. 25th.

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RE43n34p2c4, September 2, 1845: MOVEMENT OF TROOPS

We have from every quarter intelligence of the movements of troops and munitions of war, but it will not be necessary to give the details, except some which may occur in our own immediate neighborhood. The *Cleopatra*, of the Norwich and Worcester line, came in yesterday with upwards of 800 passengers, of who were three Companies of United States Troops, two from Boston, and one from Portsmouth; they are ordered to Texas, and will proceed thither in the United States Storeship *Lexington*, from this port. Four-fifths of the United States Army will be shortly in Texas—a force, which will render any hostile demonstration on the part of Mexico almost a farcical affair. At the Navy Yard, say a Brooklyn paper of yesterday, a schooner has arrived with a cargo of boxes on top of each was marked, in bold letters, “20 rifles, Galveston, Texas, per United States ship *Lexington*.” They were immediately put on board said ship, and last evening she was pronounced ready for sea—two and a half days only having been occupied in fitting out. She will receive her troops on board, we learn, this morning, and proceed to sea during the day.—[New York Morning News.

[BRM]

RE43n34p4c2, September 2, 1845: WAR OR NO WAR?

It will be seen by the arrival from Texas, that the 3 or 4,000 Mexicans on the Rio Grande have dwindled down to about 400 at Matamoras. At the same rate of reduction, the formidable army of 10 or 11, 000 Mexicans, that were said to be marching upon General Taylor, will turn out to be little more than a thousand. “Men in buckram’ are not confined to Sir John Falstaff’s day.

It is gratifying to know, that the gallant soldiers under General Taylor, are in fine health and spirits, and not in immediate danger of being devoured by the yellow-skins.

But we have no faith in Mexican appearances. Her cunning and revenge may by plotting some great stroke against the united States, and we have done well to be armed at all points. Of one thing we are satisfied, that if war be avoided, it will mainly be owing to the wise, prompt and energetic measures which our Government have adopted. The best way to put down a bully is to meet him promptly, and expose his bragadocio. Mexico and the world will see that we are prepared to sustain our rights, and she may well hesitate about taking the suicidal step of declaring or making war.

[BRM]

RE43n34p4c2, September 2, 1845: TEXAS

By letters received yesterday from Texas, via Pensacola, as late as the 14th from Aransas, and the 15th from Corpus Christi, we have been put in possession of some additional information from these quarters. The U.S. troops had left St. Joseph’s Island, and had encamped on the main land. The officers and men were in fine health and spirits, and the fine breezes and cool atmosphere about the camp left no room for fear that any sickness would appear.
No accounts of the Mexican army of invasion reached the camp as late as the 14th. A courier had been dispatched to Matamoras and returned; he brought no news of Arista or any other Mexican General, and reports the force at Matamoras as not exceeding 400 strong.

On the 12th inst., the schr. Swallow, Capt. Miner, in attempting to cross the bar at Aransas, stuck on the North breakers, and went to pieces the day following. The schooner left here about two weeks since with 600 bushels of coal, some stores and clothing belonging to the 3d regiment of Infantry. The captain and crew reached the land in safety, saving nothing but the vessel’s papers and letters, and a portion of their clothing. A part of the cargo was recovered in a damaged state. [N.O. Jeff. Republican, Aug. 23.

To throw some light upon the ultimate designs of Mexico, we give a sketch of the views of the Amigo del Pueblo, (“Friend of the People,...”) published at Mexico, on the 26th July. This journal states that Senior Luis de la Rosa, the Minister of Finance, was last October a member of the Chamber of Deputies, and opposed a loan of ten millions—on the ground that, if the loan could possibly be obtained, it must complete the ruin of the Republic, in the horrid financial condition of the country. The foreign debt of Mexico is more that fifty millions of dollars—for the payment of which, one hundred millions of acres in California, Chihuahua, Senora, New Mexico and Texas are mortgaged. In consequence of the depreciation of Mexican bonds to 33 per cent. In London, and most probably 25 per cent., if the loan be made, it would require an addition of forty millions to realize the ten millions required.

In view, then, of the utter ruin of the nation, the loan of ten millions was rejected in October, 1844, at the instance of Luis de la Rosa—who, strange to say, as Minister of Finance, is now warmly urging the Congress to grant power to raise the “ruinous” loan of fifteen millions, by extraordinary means.

The Amigo asserts that the annual army appropriations amount to twelve millions of dollars, and that, even should the loan of fifteen millions be effected, Mexico will be in no condition to reconquer Texas or keep it in subjection.

“The ministry,” says the Amigo, “talks of war, but has no intention of making it. The opposition is regarded by it as much greater evil than the loss of Texas; and its own displacement as the heaviest calamity with which Mexico can be afflicted.”

Thus speaks a Mexican Journal. Our readers, taking all the facts into view, must judge for themselves of the resources of Mexico and whether we may soon expect to hear the war-trumpet of our troublesome neighbor.

We throw together all the interesting news we find in the N. Orleans papers, touching our troops on the Mexican frontier, the movements of our warlike neighbors and the proceedings of the Texas Convention. It seems that as yet, nothing is to be apprehended from the Mexican army on the Rio Grande. The concentration of American forces under Gen. Taylor will inspire the Mexicans with so much respect, that they will not be in a hurry to break lances with the Americans. [From the N.O. Picayune, Aug. 27]

The steamer Undine arrived here yesterday morning, bringing us Galveston papers to the 23d inst. The following communication from Capt. Grice embraces the latest news from Corpus Christi, with a narration of any thing of interest which occurred on the voyage. It will be seen, that up to the time when the Undine left Corpus Christi there was nothing there of war but the rumors.

"On Board Steamer Undine,}  "Ascending Mississippi River, Aug. 25, '45} "We left Corpus Christi on the 18th inst. All is quiet at the United States encampment. Hen. Taylor had succeeded in removing all the troops of the 3d and 4th regiments of Infantry and a large proportion of the public stores to Corpus Christ, where his head-quarters are at present established. A breastwork of earth had been thrown up and nearly completed. A few pieces of ordnance, procured in the worn, were brought into requisition. No certain information concerning the advance of the Mexicans had been received; but it was rumored, that Arista was
assembling a large force at Matamoras and along the Rio Grande. The U.S. Dragoos, under command of Col. Twiggs, had crossed the Colorado, and were on their march to Corpus Christi—all well. A company of Mexican traders were expected in the next day. The location of the encampment is salubrious and pleasant, being immediately upon the beach of the bay, and open to the sea breeze. The health of the camp was good.

“We left Aransas Bay at 6 o’clock, on the evening of the 21st. The Schr. Florinday, with coal, &c., from New Orleans, had just arrived; schr Rosella, Shipman, was preparing for sea, to leave in a few days; steamer Monmouth, repairing at St. Joseph’s Island. The wreck of the schr. Swallow, on Aransas bar, had been stripped of her masts, sails, rigging, &c., and some of her cargo saved. A sale was to take place on the 22d inst.

“We arrived at Galveston the 23d inst, replenished wood and water, and left at noon on the 24th. The steamship John S. McKim was in port, and advertised to leave at 3 o’clock that afternoon. The ship Constellation, Capt. Jackson, and the brig Reaper, Capt. Bretton, were also in port—the former loading for Genoa to sail in five days.

“At 5 o’clock in the afternoon of the 24th isn’t., when about forty-five miles East of Galveston, we experience a very small squall of wind and rain from the South-east, accompanied by vivid flashes of lighting and a constant roar of thunder, which continued for the space of fifty minutes. This was followed by a dismal night and a heavy sea; however, we received no injury.

"On the morning of the 24th, at 10 o’clock, we passed the S.W pass of Vermilion Bay. We saw a steamer at anchor near the light-house, which was supposed to be the White Wing bound for Aransas, although no smoke nor signs of moving were discernable.

"Nothing off the S.W. Pass of the Mississippi river bound in."

The latest news which we see from Austin is to the 13th inst. The Convention was still in session, but it was anticipated that their labors would close on the 23d inst., Saturday last.

The Houston Telegraph of the 20th contains the letter of E. Allen, acting Secretary of State, to the Hon. Ashbel Smith, informing him of the rejection by the Senate of the preliminary propositions to negotiate a treaty with Mexico on the basis of the separate independence of the Republic, and telling him, that, under such circumstances, it is unnecessary for him any longer to continue to discharge the duties of Minister to the European Governments. Why, we though that Ashbel Smith had told the editors of the New York Journal of Commerce that the purpose of his very hasty, but every mysterious visit to England, was, not to carry on, or keep open diplomatic relations, but to close them in a becoming manner; although it now appears he was "driving away," or in the more polished Honstonic phrase, coquetting with those European Governments, until advised by his locum tenens that he might come home, as all future labor to defeat Annexation would be but labor in vain.

News of the arrival of the Dragoons, under the command of Colonel Twiggs, at San Antonio, had reached Galveston. They performed their march at the rate of twenty miles per day, and with very little sickness among their number—450. They are expected to join the army at Corpus Christi under General Taylor.

A Committee of Convention, to whom the subject was referred, state that the expenses of the new State Government for the first year will be 44,500 dollars. They estimate that the nett revenue for the year at $47,492.25; and by raising tax on land, which they suggest, from one-tenth of one per cent., thus equalizing it with the specific tax, they estimate that the yearly revenue will be 65,492 dollars and 52 cents.

The idea of annulling the present Constitution, and forming a Provisional Government, until Texas assumes its position as a State of the Union, which was bruited by many, has not been entertained by the Convention; nor do we hear anything of the formation of the territory into two States, about which some of our Northern contemporaries seemed to be so very much troubled.

[BRM]
understand Mexican braggadocio by and by.

So much in regard to, the desire for war on the part of Mexico. Now, in regard to the mean.—*El Siglo* says that the way department alone now costs the Government 23 millions of dollars per annum, while the revenues of the nation amount only to eleven millions. It is not probable that such an exhibition of the resources of the country and the demand upon them, in time of peace, will dispose capitalist to invest very freely in the fifteen million loan to carry on a way, which must both lessen the ordinary revenues and increase expenses of the nation to a very great extent.

Some of the New Orleans papers published on the receipt of the last news from Vera Cruz, the statement that ten thousand Mexican troops were on the march for Texas. But no foundation could be found for the report.

D.H. Klaener, Esq., has been recognized by the President of the Republic of Texas, as Consul for the Hanseatic City of Lubek, for Galveston.

By our last accounts from the Convention we learn nothing further relative to the project of attempting to establish a provisional Government and annulling out present Constitution, prior to the completion (ratification by the people and acceptance by the U. States Congress) of the Constitution of the State. From the opposition to the plan, shown wherever discussed, throughout the country, we infer that it has been abandoned.—It was opposed at the outset by Messrs. Henderson, Van Zandt, and other leading members of the Convention, and discountenanced by Major Donelson so soon as it came to his knowledge. So there is every reason to believe that wise and temperate counsels have again triumphed over the desire for novelty and rash experiments.

[From the Austin Correspondent.]

Convention Hall, Austin, Aug. 6, 1845.

To the Editor of the Civilian: it appears, as far as I can collect the opinions of the Convention, that they all desire that taxation shall be equal and uniform throughout the State, but much difference of opinion exists about what articles, if any, should be exempted; and, it appears, that some of the members wish to hold a controlling power over future Legislatures, and are unwilling to let them exercise entire control over the subject.

The question has just been taken on the subject, which passed in the following words:

"Taxation shall be equal and uniform throughout the State. All property in this State shall be taxed in proportion to its value, to be ascertained as directed by law, except such property as two thirds of both houses of the Legislature may think proper to exempt from taxation. The Legislature may think proper to exempt from taxation. The Legislature shall have power to lay an income tax, and to tax all persons pursuing any occupation, trade or profession. Provided, that the term occupation shall not be construed to embrace the right to persons farming, or the exercise of any mechanical trade." Ayes 50, nays 3.

The section which says that "no corporate body shall hereafter be created, renewed or extended, with banking or discounting privileges," passed. Ayes 46, nays 7.

Thursday, Aug. 7th, 1845.

The Convention met, and had under consideration the 28th section, prohibiting banking institutions. Carried.

A motion was then made to authorize the chartering of banks, provided two thirds of the Legislature should agree at two successive sessions.---Rejected.

The section, as it originally passed, was then adopted.

After this question was settled a debate arose upon the 31st section, in which no part was retained but these words:

"The aggregate amount of debts hereafter contracted by the Legislature shall never exceed the sum of 100,000 dollars, except in case of war, to repel invasion or suppress insurrections."

Many amendments have been offered and rejected, to supply the remainder of the section, and the one under consideration, when the house adjourned, to prohibit the State, in any event, from pledging the faith of the State for money obtained on loan. What will be the fate of this amendment I can hardly say, but I am rather inclined to think it will carry.

Saturday, Aug. 9, 1845.

Since my last Convention has been engaged with the report of the committee on General Provisions, and have arrived as far as the Schedule.
The thirty-third section was stricken out, and one introduced by Mr. Bache, which was referred to the
Judiciary committee, authorizing the Legislature “to erect four new States, in addition to the State of Texas,
whenever sufficient population may hereafter entitle them to admission into the Union, under the Constitution and
laws of the United States.”

The provisions for amending the Constitution were so changed as to render it necessary, after the majority
of electors had decided upon amendments proposed, that they should pass ordeal of two thirds of the Legislature,
before they could be incorporated as part of the Constitution. I do not, however, consider this mode of amending
the constitution as definitely settled. Many delegates are in favor of any alteration being made by a convention to
be called by the people.

This morning Mr. Ocheltree offered the following resolution:

Resolved, that the Judiciary Committee be instructed to examine Decree No. 308 of the laws of Coahuila
and Texas, by which Samuel M. Williams, as Empressario, is authorized to create a bank to be called the
“commercial and Agricultural Bank,” and to report to his committee whether in their opinion, unless prevented by a
Constitutional provision, the said bank will be authorized to be established.

NEW YORK and GALVESTON PACKETS.— Messrs. Brower and Neilson have formed and advertise a regular
line of packets to sail monthly between New York and Galveston. Their names and times of departure from New
York are as follows:

Brig *Empire*, 1st September,

Ship *Star Republic*, 1st October,

Brig *G. B. Lamar*, 1st November,

Brig *Mary*, 1st December.

We publish to-day the Circular of the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, the object of which is
to prevent the shipment of debenture goods from the U. States to Texas, with the view of re-shipping the same back
to the present limits of the U. States.

Frequent allusion has heretofore been made to this subject, and the novel and important question involved
in it; and the Circular of Mr. Walker bears additional evidence of the difficulties and uncertainty attending the whole
matter. Questions of importance to the United States have arisen where the laws are silent, or operative only
construction. The Secretary says that “until further action of the Congress of the United States upon this subject
and instructions founded thereon from this department, you (collectors of customs) will collect duties as heretofore
upon all imports from Texas into the United States.” As a necessary consequence, the present tariff of Texas will
continue to take effect upon goods of the united States imported into this country.

The Circular in question will, very probably, have in a great degree the effect intended—-to prevent the
shipment of the debenture goods to Texas, with expectation of reintroduction into the other States of the union,
after annexation shall have been completed; though we doubt seriously whether there is any existing law which
might not be eveaved under the prevailing habit of “mental reservation” in relation to “custom house oaths.”
Debenture goods in quantities sufficient to supply the markets of Texas for the next five years, might be shipped to
Texas, “no intended to be relanded within the United States,” and kept for sale in the markets of this country, to
whom ever desired to purchase. It would require some new law of the United States to prevent those who might
purchase here from reshipping these good to other States of the Union.

We have no doubt that this view of the sub. will be adopted to a considerable extent, by the merchants in
Texas, though the Circular will probable defer many United States merchants from entering into the speculation who
might otherwise have done so. This is probably the chief object of the Circular, for it makes no new regulation or
application of law, but only impresses increases vigilance in the execution of existing provisions.

In connection with this subject, may be mentioned the fact, that entries of the U. States goods have been
made under protest in the custom-house here—-the parties intending to try whether they are liable to duty upon the
questions whether Texas is not now a part of the U. States.

[BRM]
August, from Galveston. Recent accounts had been received from General Taylor's camp. They are in good health and spirits. The artillery have provided themselves with some pieces of cannon which they wanted, and were mounting them in their intrenchments. The intelligence from Matamoras represents the Mexican troops as fortifying themselves, and expecting reinforcements.

"Col. Twigg's dragoons arrived at Austin on the 8th August, where the Convention of Texas was assembled. It was calculated that he would join Gen. Taylor about the 18th of the month. The dragoons had borne their journey to Austin well, and their horses were in excellent order.

"Their junction would increase Gen. Taylor's force to more 1,500, and the daily accessions they were receiving would place our troops out of a possible casualties from aggressions of the advancing Mexicans."

In the event of a war with Mexico, it is probable that a requisition will be made on his State for a part of the necessary force. Governor Brown, looking to this fact, has addressed a letter to the Secretary of War, on behalf of our people, requisition that, as Mississippi did her part of voting to acquire Texas, she may be permitted to do some part of the fighting, to retain possession of that province. He desired that Mississippi might be permitted to furnish volunteers, there being no necessity for a draft. Major General John M. Duffield, and Brigades General A. G. Bennett, have tendered their services to the Governor, in the vent a call is made upon Mississippi for men. This fact, so honorable to those officers, has been announced by the Governor to the War Department. [Mississippian, 20th August.]

According to the "Bunker Hill Aurora," a considerable degree of activity prevails at the Navy Yard at Charlestown, Massachusetts, where several vessels are being put in readiness for sea. The Aurora says:

"The sloop of war Marion, Commander Lewis E. Simonds, destined for the Gulf, will be ready for sea about the last of next week. She has been in the dry dock for examination and came out yesterday. She has been furnished with an entire new armament from Alger's foundry, and is now waiting for a few of her gun-carriages. She will proceed from this port Norfolk with recruits.

"The United States brigantine Boxer is not yet commission. She has been thoroughly overhauled and repaired in the dry dock, and has now got her yards up, and is nearly rigged. The Boxer will be ready in about ten days.

"The frigate United States was taken into the dry dock this morning and will be thoroughly repaired and got ready for sea. An entire new armament has also been received at the Navy Yard for this vessel."

In yesterday's Whig we find the following attempt to ridicule the patriotic motives which induced the Richmond Fayette Artillery to offer their services to the secretary of War, as developed in the Correspondence we published yesterday:

"RICHMOND FAYETTE ARTILLERY.

"MARCH TO MEXICO

"We find in the 'Union, (Mr. Polk's organ) or Saturday, the following warlike correspondence.

"The spirit thus manifested by the Artillery, we have little question would be that of the whole country was really considered in any danger by a singly human being. But as it is, we can scarcely believe that any rational man regards the 'attitude' of Mexico, whatever gasconade her Governors may employ, or the national habits of that people familiarly resort to, as implying the slightest danger to any Anglo American thing of life, from a man to a musquetoe! And talking of musquetoes, we regard them at present, and we believe the ladies of Richmond most heartily concur with us in opinion, as far more annoying and troublesome than the Mexicans, whom those ladies, if need were, flog themselves. They (the musquetoes) worry the children of nights, and the ladies themselves,
effect? from the of Monday night, should turn out to be true, and the measures therein specified be carried into
Union say, to the offer of the Richmond Fayette Artillery, if the following important intelligence, Whig exigency warrant the acceptance of your offer, the President will most readily avail himself of it.'" "Should the President by authorized to take into the service of the United States volunteers, and should the public
Artillery to its public spirited and patriotic motives, and says:
contains a correspondence between Capt. Thomas H. Allis, of the Artillery, and Mr. Marcy, Secretary of War, with regard to the tender of its services to the Government by the Artillery. Mr. M. justly compliments the
Of War, We are happy to quote from our other Whig neighbor, the Times, the following liberal tribute to the Artillery:
We are as fond of a good joke as any man—but it should be consistent in itself and rest upon some foundation. But, when a public journal, in direct contradiction of its own expressed opinions, attempts to throw ridicule upon a
gallant corps, whose readiness and efficiency no one can doubt, and whose spirit in the present cave all must
approve, it evinces, to say the least, a want of good taste and proper justice.

Even in the same No. of the Whig, which ridicules the move of our Artillery Corps, we find the following passage, which really does no look as if, in the opinion of that journal, all danger had blown over:

"Mr. Polk's errors committed, and in the very to be committed, have all grown out of this sensitive repugnance to an extra session of Congress. Yet, as Congress is the war-making and the war-providing power in our system, nothing is or can be clearer, than that Congress ought to be in session when war is to be denounced by this country, or AGAINST THIS COUNTRY."

We are happy to quote from our other Whig neighbor, the Times, the following liberal tribute to the Artillery:

"The last Union contains a correspondence between Capt. Thomas H. Allis, of the Artillery, and Mr. Marcy, Secretary of War, with regard to the tender of its services to the Government by the Artillery. Mr. M. justly compliments the Artillery to its public spirited and patriotic motives, and says:

"'Should the President by authorized to take into the service of the United States volunteers, and should the public exigency warrant the acceptance of your offer, the President will most readily avail himself of it.'"

P.S.—What will the Whig say, to the offer of the Richmond Fayette Artillery, if the following important intelligence, from the Union of Monday night, should turn out to be true, and the measures therein specified be carried into
effect?
Letters have been received in this city, by the Ann Louisa, arrived at New York, from Vera Cruz. One of these letters is dated at Vera Cruz on the 2d August; and although not so late by two days as the accounts to which we referred on last Monday evening, yet the information which it gives is some importance. It certainly varies the appearance of matters in Mexico from what the other accounts of the 30th would represent them. The following is an extract from the letter of the 2d August, which was yesterday received in Washington:

"I deem it my duty also to state, that I have just seen a letter from the British Consul, sent to his house here, wherein he observes that orders had been issued, and approved by the war committee, for the troops on the frontier to take p their position ten leagues in advance of the Rio Bravo; and, if attacked, to defend themselves," &c., &c.

"Should Mexico carry out this scheme, we ask whether there be a man, with an American heart, in his bosom, who would not put forth an arm to arrest the invader. The National Intelligencer may hesitate to defend our rights and our honor; but, fortunately for those rights and that honor, that paper is considered rather in the light of the organ of foreign influence that of American feeling. Let the day come when it may, that the Mexican banner dares to pass our honor; but, fortunately for those rights and that honor, that paper is considered rather in the light of the organ of foreign influence that of American feeling. Let the day come when it may, that the Mexican banner dares to pass the Rio Grande, we are satisfied that the great body of the Whig party will come manfully forward to the support of the national honor."

RE43n35p4c3, September 5, 1845: MEXICAN CRUELTY

Many of the Whig presses, carried away by their hostility to Democratic measures, and especially the annexation of Texas, have evinced towards Mexico a tender sympathy which is far from being justified by the conduct of that tyrannical and barbarous nation. Some of these journals contend that the United States have exhibited an infamous desire to oppress a weak nation like Mexico—that the latter has fully complied with all her obligations to us, and that we are justly liable to the indignant reprobation of the civilized world for the meanness of taking advantage of her weakness in plundering her property and maltreating her citizens.

Mortifying as it is to read there unpatriotic attacks of Americans upon their native land, the grossness of their conduct is heightened by the fact, that there is no the slightest foundation for their miserable ravings. The history of the few past years amply proves, that we have received from Mexico numberless injuries and insults, which we have borne with too much lenity.—Had we shown the same energy and sense of pride, that marked the conduct of France, we should have taught Mexico a lesson, which might have saved us much trouble and annoyance at this particular moment. In a message of the 6th February, 1837, General Jackson wrote to Congress, "The length of time since some of the injuries have been committed, the repeated and unavailing applications for redress—the wanton character of some of the outrages upon the property and persons of our citizens—the officers and flag of the United States—indecent of recent insults to this Government and people by the late extraordinary Mexican Minister, would justify, in the eyes of all nations, immediate war." It is true, the claims of that date were submitted to Treat action afterwards—but the conduct of Mexico, in reference to that very treaty, would justify, more than the claims it was intended to close, war. We have not time even to sum up the wanton violations of faith shown by Mexico sufficient to stamp her character with a more than Punic infamy. This has been admirably done by the able series of "C," in the Washington Union. She has been shown to be equally faithless in the fulfillment of her treaty engagements, and of the obligations imposed by the law of nations and by the code of personal honor. Her highest functionaries have been guilty of an open disregard of truth—and the archives of the Board of Commissioners fully established her official and national turpitude.

We cannot stop to record the glaring instances of her outrages upon American property and citizens—her violation of the most solemn pledges to satisfy the claims of our citizens—nor the forcible seizure and imprisonment of American citizens. But we this morning are enabled, by the kindness of the friend from whose journal we extracted a few leaves on Monday, to adduce one of the most damning proofs of the barbarity and cruel tyranny of this semi-savage nation.—What American can read the following horrid details of the outrage, take from the same journal, without a thrill of indignation at the mean villainy and cruelty of Mexicans? We defy the records of history to produce a more revolting instance of cold-blooded cruelty and oppression.—This alone would be of itself cause enough for a vigorous punishment of Mexican infamy by our arms. But add to it the numerous insults and injuries yet unexplained—the withholding of the acknowledged claims of our citizens—and we run up a catalogue of outrages, which, independently of the insolence of Mexico on account of annexation, would fully justify the most vigorous measures of Government. We trust that when Congress shall assemble, they will at once call upon Mexico for a full and ample apology for her many insults upon our Government, and wrongs done our fellow citizens.

Anxious for peace as we are with all the world, we cannot agree much longer to submit to such overbearing and arrogant conduct as Mexico as shown. Self-respect, national pride, the good opinion of the world, and our own safety and welfare, imperatively demand, that we should settle all our difficulties with Mexico, peaceable if it can be
And yet we see American (?) journals hurling insult at the head of their own country—sympathizing with and sustaining the outrages of Mexico—and, at the same time, charging their own people with "meanness, infamy and plunder." Out upon such traitors, who, in the broad light of truth and history, desert their own native land, and take shelter under the wing of Mexican tyranny and infamy! Thank Heaven, there are but few such miserable apostolate of Mexico! Public sentiment will soon sink them to a still more degraded position than that which they now occupy. The present insolence of Mexico will attract the eyes of all America to her gross outrages upon our nation—and the few traitors, who may be found taking sides with her, will be gibbeted upon the pillory of public opinion. The following thrilling sketch is but one of the money instances of Mexican villainy which stain her history. It would be no glory to conquer such a nation—but it would confer a benefit upon the civilized would, to break up such a nest of robbers and malefactors:

Mexico, July 5, 1840.

*** Early in April last, a verbal order was issued by the Governor of Upper California to the Alcaldes of that Department, commanding them to arrest all foreigners within their respective jurisdictions. On hundred and eleven were, in consequence, immediately arrested. They were taken from their fields or workshops— forbidden to carry with them clothes, passports, or papers—dragged through the country, some of them hundreds of miles, lashed with hides and beat with swords during the day, and at night thrust into the loathsome dungeons of the Catholic missions, commonly used to subdue turbulent Indian converts. As soon as they were arrested, the soldiers who made the arrest, robbed their houses, seized their arms, cattle, horses, and other property, and distributed them among themselves and their friends. On the arrival of the prisoners at Monterey, between fifty and sixty were put into a prison room nineteen by twenty feet square, with no means of ventilation, save one small grated window, at which they stood, alternately, to catch a breath of air. The ground under them was so damp, that their feet sank in it. For three days and nights they were with out food or water. They were forced to yield to the necessities of nature in the same apartment, until the atmosphere became so fetid, that at times, during the heat of the day, many of them became frantic, or stupid with suffocation. At the end of three days, some humane gentlemen obtained permission of the Governor to have the prisoners separated, and to be allowed to send them provisions; but he refused to let them send planks for the sufferers to sleep on, or to permit them to take the air, or to make an inventory of the property they had left behind. On the 22d of April, they were all marched between files of soldiers, from the prison to the front of the Governor’s house, where they were seated on the ground in the middle of the street, and then called in, one by one, and questioned before a tribunal of justices as to their names, where they came from, and if they had passports. They were then compelled to sign the justices’ record, without understanding what it contained, or being permitted to have any other interpreter than a Californian, who, they say, cannot hold the most ordinary conversation in English. They were then remanded in prison.

On the 23d, forty-seven of these prisoners, (the rest, it was said, being left for another vessel,) were marched in irons to the beach, and there put on board of a Mexican barque, under a strong guard. When on board they were sent below; some chained to long bars of iron fastened to the lower deck; others two together, others singly in handcuffs and fetters. On the passage from Monterey to Santa Barbara, they were no allowed to go on deck for any purpose—only one small hatchway was allowed to be opened at a time—and a soldier stood always in that, threatening, by order of his commander, to shoot the first man who spoke. They had little food, and less water—were under a tropical sun, confined to one position, not allowed to stand, and with no place to attend to the calls of nature, except where they lay, and ate, and slept. On the 25th, they arrived at Santa Barbara; there they were driven, in chains, over the side of the vessel, into a small boat, loaded to the water’s edge, and carried through a heavy surf, at the imminent risk of their lives. On landing, they were marched to the prison of the mission of Santa Barbara, where they lay upon the wet ground three days without food, save what the Indian women of the neighborhood brought them, and a part of that was always stolen by the officers of the guard as it passed it on the prison: here, one man, a British subject, died. After this, they were let out in front of the prison, and permitted to wash themselves—being first time since they were taken prisoners. They were then again put on board of the same vessel, in the same manner as before, and carried to San Blas. They represent their passage of eight days thither as fully as uncomfortable as was that from Monterey, except that they were once or twice permitted to go on deck, and had buckets furnished to them for the purposes of nature; but that the horrid stench, the pain caused by their irons when the ship rolled, the burning thirst, and the unceasing cruelty of the guard, were the cause of the sufferings which they cannot describe. Moreover, the guards that stood in the hold of the vessel among the prisoners, had always in their hands drawn butcher’s knives, and as the ship pitched, they being unaccustomed to the sea, would fall about, to the great danger of the prisoners’ lives. They arrived at San Blas on the -----day of May—were there put in prison, remained two days, and thence marched on foot to Tepic, a distance of 60 miles; driven under a blistering sun, beaten with clubs and muskets and swords, and fainting from the want of food. On their arrival at Tepic, the British and American Vice Consuls received them as if they had been brothers—procured them comfortable prison lodgings, furnished them with food and clothes, and, in short, did everything practicable to relieve the wretchedness of their situation. They are yet there. The party consists of 23 American citizens and 23 British subjects.

These men have had no trial: they declare that they are without crime, and that the do not know even of what they are accused.

The Governor, by whose orders they were arrested, charges them with a design to conspire against the authorities of California. We have seen no evidence that gives the slightest color of truth to such a charge—and there are many circumstances opposed to it. Few of the prisoners no at Tepic were acquainted with each other until they were assembled under arrest at Monterey. They had had no communication with each other. They were
scatter over a territory more than seven hundred miles in extent. A number of them were seamen, who had been 
discharged from an American vessel but a few days before, in consequence of her sale and transfer to a citizen of 
that port. Other were men whose good characters are vouched for, established in the country, wealthy and 
industrious.

When news of this occurrence reached Mazatian, Captain French Forrest, commanding the U.S. sloop of 
war, St. Louis, immediately sailed for Monterey to enquire into the circumstances. And he swore that if they should 
prove to be as represented, and he could lay his hands on his Excellency Don John the Baptist Alvarado, Governor of 
Alta California, he would bring him to San Blas, in irons, at the risk of his ship and commission.

RE43n35p4c5, September 5, 1845: MEXICO

There is considerable force in the following statements of the N.O. Bulletin of the 26th ult. That very nearly express 
our own views:

"Some of the papers North are urging upon the President they expediency of immediately calling and Extra 
Session of Congress. We doubt very much the necessity of any such step, so far as our relations with Mexico are 
concerned.—There has been, as yet, no declaration of war, and whether there will be one or not, is just as uncertain 
now as it was two weeks ago. The probability is, that the state of uncertainty may last for months to come. Our 
opinion is, that Mexico, conscious of her impotence and entire inability to carry on active hostilities, will put herself 
in the attitude of quasi-war. By threatening and bullying and such warlike preliminaries, she will strive to make the 
world believe there is to be war, and thus she will impede our commerce, harass and vex our Government, and as 
effectually stop all trade and intercourse with our citizens as could be done by a promulgation of war or an 
embargo. Indeed it must be obvious to every one, that the continuance of the present dubious aspect of 
international relations for six months longer, will work much greater injury to us than could any belligerency, waged 
by our puny neighbor. The policy is one, too, which Great Britain is disposed to favor. The expulsion of American 
traders from Mexico, and the stoppage of American commerce, and the exclusion of American manufactures will be 
great gain to her, for then she monopolizes the Mexican market; whereas, a breaking out of hostilities might result 
in political changes very unfavorable to British ascendancy in Mexico. We think, then that the settled policy of 
Mexico will be to threaten war and keep up a constant state of alarm, without any over declaration of hostilities. 
Under such circumstance, no necessity exists, for the present, for the call of an Extra Session. The Executive is 
vested with adequate powers to meet every emergency. In the meanwhile, let us quietly await the progress of 
events, and the development of Mexico's intentions. And if Mexico continues to maintain the same menacing, quasi-
bellicose attitude when our Congress meets, in December, then will it be the duty of our President to recommend 
the adoption of measure to coerce our neighbors into decent behavior—a compliance with the usages of 
civilization, and an obedience to the laws of nations."

[BRM]

RE43n35p4c5, September 5, 1845: (no title)

"Three of the Schooners of War built for Mexico by Brown & Bell, in New York, still remain there, in consequence of 
the inability of the Mexican Government to pay for them. Three others were paid for a few months ago, and take to 
Mexico."

[BRM]

RE43n36p1c4, September 9, 1845: MEXICO-THE WHIG PRESS

The Whig presses are put to great trouble, to weaken the confidence of the present Republican Administration. Their eagerness to condemn betrays them into the most ridiculous inconsistencies. At one time, 
they denounced the annexationist for having outraged the rights and honor of Mexico—and for having given just 
cause for war to Mexico. They then condemn the Administration as not having prepared for war as a necessary 
consequence of annexation, and as exposing the citizens of the U. States and Texas to the furious troops of Mexico, 
and the vessels of our merchants to be plundered by Mexican privateers. When convinced, against their will, that 
wise and vigorous measures have been adopted to defend the soil and people of Texas, now our own, Mexican 
aggression, and to protect our commerce by an efficient fleet—they turn round and denounce the Executive for 
having wasted the public money in preparations for war, which had not happened, and no one looked for—
forgetting, short-sighted creatures, that these very preparations had shown to Mexico that we were no to be trifled 
with, and had prevented a hostile explosion on her part, should war indeed not come upon us.

Indeed, nothing seems to satisfy the Whig press. If no preparations had been made by the Executive to 
protect the soil and people of Texas, and by this negligence Mexico would have induced to overrun Texas, slaughter 
her citizens and take temporary possession of a territory virtually our own, there would have been no end to the 
fierce denunciations of the "heartless neglect and wretched imbecility" of our Government. Like the wise statesmen
and faithful officers, the administration have promptly and thoroughly organized these necessary precautionary measures—and at once, the Whig press turn upon the Executive, and impugn their motives for having lavished the public money upon useless arrangements, in order to play into the hands of a corrupt speculator. This is the consistence, the justice, the decency of a portion of the Whig press! The country, however, rightly appreciate the patriotic and salutary measures of the Executive, and, whether we have or war or peace, will sustain the enthusiastically. The last news from the seat of operations, to be found in another column, shows that all is right with our gallant little army in Texas, and that there is no apprehension of immediate hostilities in that direction. But we cannot yet predict what course Mexico may adopt.

For the benefit of the Whigs, who profess to be so familiar with Artillery movements, an, indeed, for the information of our readers, to whom the subject is new, though full of interest, we quote the following from the Union of Thursday night:

“The Artillery----Seening that certain newspapers are commenting upon the fact, that Gen. Taylor’s artillery in Texas were “without guns,” we have taken pains to ascertain the following facts: Our artillery regiments are not armed as field artillery, and were never meant to be, in the whole, so armed. They are armed, [the regiments, except one company in each,] and always have been, as infantry serving in the fortifications with heavy guns. They are called artillery in the law, and are meant for garrisons to the seacoast fortifications. We have four regiments of this artillery, or forty companies. If these were all field artillery, they would require 240 field pieces, guns, and howitzers—field artillery sufficient for an army of 240,000 men, according to the rule which prevails modern armies. This, though a preposterous force of artillery, if armed as field artillery, for any army the United States can ever maintain or send into the field, is much too small for complete garrisons of our forts on the sea coast and lake frontiers. These forts, which completed, are estimated to mount 6,800 heavy guns. The four regiments of artillery contain, rank and file, as we see from the Army Register, 2,168 men—less that 1 man to 3 heavy cannon. In time of war, this force would be increased; but it is not meant ever to garrison the forts entirely with regulars. The militia would, in great part, be employed for that purpose; and it is certainly the best and most useful employment for that force. We shall, however, have in each garrison a disciplined, well instructed body of artillery, of the more difficult duties at the guns and horses. Four such companies have been ordered to Texas. The other 12 artillery companies sent thither, are armed and instructed as infantry; and, of course, are without ‘guns’—that is, ‘field cannon.’ The newspapers which have commented upon this matter, may now understand it.”

[BRM]

RE43n36p1c5, September 9, 1845: AN IMPORTANT QUESTION

Many of our citizens have become proprietors of lands in Texas, and are, of course, solicitous as to the manner in which the various land titles of that country will be affected by the transfer of the supreme jurisdiction from her courts, on the final consummation of annexation, to the highest court known to the laws of the United States. In the Texas Convention, the question was referred to a committee of legal gentlemen of distinguished ability. After a full and critical examination, the committee made an able report through their Chairman, Judge Hemphill, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Texas—who is said to be one of the first jurists in the Southwest. We find the report, said to be from the pen of Judge H., in Galveston News of the 23d—and would be glad to transfer it entire to our columns—but are forced to confine our extracts to a few paragraphs, which, however, contain the cream of the learned and conclusive argument:

"Should, then, a controversy arise between the citizen of this country and a citizen of another State, who, subsequent to our incorporation into the American Union, might acquire a claim to lands within this State, either by inheritance, devise, or purchase, and should sit be prosecuted for the same in the federal courts the rights of the parties would be decided by the same laws and rules by which they would be determined in the courts of the States.

"Whether the laws, customs, and usages of Spain, the decrees of Mexico, or those of Coahuila and Texas, or the laws of the republic of Texas, or all together, affected the rights in controversy—to each and all of these laws would the courts of the Union give their just force and effect; and by no other laws or principles, deduced from other systems of jurisprudence, would questions at issue be determined.

"Neither the Constitution, treaties, nor laws of the United States, can change, alter, or modify the rights of individuals to real property, as established by the existing law of the Republic.—Both the Federal and State Courts will be restricted, in their decisions on those rights, to the provisions of the laws under which those rights originated, or by which they have been affected; and, should rights have arisen under that portion of our Constitution and laws, which, as being repugnant to the Constitution and laws of the United States, will become null and void, yet the rights thus created will remain undisturbed.

"All controversies which may arise between citizens of this State, and aliens authorized to sue, will be determined by the same rules and laws which will guide the Courts in the decision of cause between the citizens of different States.

"Your committee have confined themselves to deductions drawn entirely from the Constitution, laws, and judicial decisions of the United States. These afford the most solid grounds of assurance that the rights of individuals to property will be guarded with the most jealous vigilance, by the Courts of the United States, and determined on the same principles of law which constitute the rules of decision in the tribunals of the State.—The establishment of the Federal Courts within the limits of the State, and their cognizance of disputed claims to lands,
From the foreign news by the Caledonia, we gather the opinion that the Governments of both France and England, thwarted in their arrogant attempt to control the free action of the United States by the famous "balance of power," and defeat the annexation of Texas, seem now disposed to let American and Texas settle the Texas question in their own way. Unless, therefore, there may be some deep game of diplomacy on foot, we are inclined to believe that Mexico will not receive any direct aid or countenance from these European powers in her proposed struggle for the re-possession of Texas. And here we would quote a very amusing passage from the London Times:

"The mediation of these powers between the incapacity of the United States and the debility of Mexico was ineffectual, from the moment the leaning of Texas herself was peremptorily declared. But that mediation was the only dignified and consistent course which could be pursued by the great European powers. The fact that it was jointly tendered sufficiently demonstrated that neither France nor England had in view any exclusive interest of their own upon that part of the continent of North America."

This is too absurd to gull even the most credulous. No one can doubt, that it was the policy of these two powers, by the defeat of annexation, to obtain the perfect control of Texas, and to deal a heavy blow at our agriculture and manufactures, by admitting from Texas her cotton and sugar at a low duty, on condition that the latter should receive the cotton and other manufactures of England and the silks and wines of France, also at a low duty. All interest, then, should rejoice that this mischievous policy has been so gloriously defeated by the wisdom and promptness of our Government.

For the amusement of our readers, we give the substance of some of these editorial ravings.—The London Times says:

"The world views the annexation of Texas, if the whole history of the transaction, from the first to last, be dispassionately surveyed, as one of those basest frauds and most unwarrantable acts of spoliation ever perpetrated by any nation. In the present state of public opinion in Europe, such an aggression on the territories of a weak state by a powerful neighbor would be impracticable. It can only be compared to the policy of Russia towards the Turkish empire—a policy which Russia herself is not bold or bad enough to avow, and which she has allowed the other powers of Europe to arrest by their interference and co-operation in the affairs of the East. As far as public opinion in Europe concerned, annexation has done for the political character of the Cabinet of Washington what repudiation had already done for the financial credit of the United States; infamy of repudiation rests upon some of the States only, and that of annexation is the result of deliberate and determined policy of the American people and their rulers."

The following extract from the Times exhibits the disgraceful fact, that our foreign enemies base their assault against our honor and virtue upon the arguments of our own citizens—upon the rabid and unpatriotic sentiments of Abolitionist and Dissolutionist of New England. What will be said, which this foreign embodiment of hostility to the progress of American institutions, thus lands the leaders of the Whig Party, and grossly assails Messrs, Calhoun and Polk and the Democratic Party?

"Not for Texas alone, but for the principles which she has basely violated, and indignant protest is sent forth by Europe, and we only re-echo the stern rebuke of the wisest and best of her own citizens, if, indeed, me are still willing to be called American citizens, when they must in that capacity sustain the burden of a transaction which the
have themselves denounced as shameful and fatal to the true principles of their country. What says New England to those things? What is thought of them in the cultivated and intellectual society of Boston, which latterly possessed in Channing and eloquent defender of Christian morality, and still boasts in Story an unrivalled expositor of law and justices? The pride of the American people used to consist in the traditions bequeathed to them by the purity of Washington and the integrity of his illustrious companions; it is now stimulated by the artifices of Mr. Calhoun, and the aggressions of Mr. Polk. They used to boast of a superiority of Europe in their exemption from those political errors and crimes which have so often deluged the ancient world with blood; but whilst civilization among us daily consolidates the general peace by a firm observance of public duties and international rights, the American continent seems destined to witness the fatal consequences of an eruption of those passions and follies which a wise Government and a virtuous people do most studiously repress.---Henceforward, the passion which has been roused, principally for the purposes of an unprincipled party, must at all hazards be satisfied. Me like Mr. Calhoun or Mr. Polk, who subsist by stimulating and serving that passion, are the successful rivals of men like Mr. Webster or Mr. Clay, who aspire to the nobler task of controlling it. The same spirit is no altogether wanting in other free countries; in England it has one representative, in France it has many: but these are men thrown into opposition by the loss of the confidence of their Sovereigns and their country men, whilst the Government steadily pursues an opposite course. In the United States, on the contrary, the ascendency of the restless, unscrupulous party of the Democracy is complete, and with such men in power, directing the passions of the people to aggression of foreign States, no limits can be assigned to the wanton excesses which may be anticipated from such a Government. It is vain to conceal, it is impossibly to overlook the fact, that the possessions of the crown of England, and the relations of this country with the United States; are constantly and especially menaced by this detestable party."

This is beautiful language for a country whose enormities and oppressions in all Asia have aroused the indignation of the whole world! Indeed, taking into view the course of Russia towards Poland Circassia, and of France in Algeria, Europe has completely estopped herself from saying a word as to assumed aggressions of the rest of the world.

The Liverpool Mail says: "It becomes a question whether, if Mexico is unable to cope with the grasping ambition and military strange of the American Union, it will not be the duty of the powers of the old world to come forward to her assistance."

It is not almost incredible that, in this age of American progress and intelligence, and respectable journal would have ventured to send forth such miserable stuff as the following which we find in the same London Standard?

"It were invidious to compare the intelligence, the honor and honesty of the present United States generation with those of its British, German or French contemporaries. Nothing can be more certain that the extraordinary morel advancement of the population of the Old World during the last 50 or 60 years. Has there not been a corresponding retrogradation in the U. States? Now, should this be the case, as we acknowledge, with pain that it is, the interest of mankind will suffer nothing by the dissolution of a system so little favorable to the moral elevation of our race; and, therefore we can contemplate with indifference at least, that breaking up of the commonwealth of which the annexation of Texas and the Mexican war are so obviously commencement."

This paper then counts confidently upon the refusal of the Northern and Eastern States to submit to taxation to support a "long and difficult war for an object really opposed to their interests, and outraging their political and religious principles, for the war for Texas is a war against the abolition of slavery." England and Mexico will have found out before this, that all such calculation upon our dissensions are based upon entirely false principles. Even the few domestic traitors amongst us have been put down by public opinion.

The Liverpool Mercury belabors the Ministry in the following terms: "Such a war will, of course---whether Great Britain, so shamefully fooled both by Texans and America, shall take part in it or not---lead to the immediate blockade of all the ports, and consequent annihilation of our commerce with Mexico, another boon, for which our merchants will have to thank the bungling of Sir Robert Peel's administration. It is quite certain that, but for underhand encouragement and promises of support, Mexico would long ago have made better terms with Texas, by timely concessions, than she will now be able to procure by an appeal to arms, of which, unassisted, the most likely termination will be the loss of California as well as Texas, and still further dismemberment of the territory of the Republic."

In the same key the London Morning Chronicle says: "Our interference for Texas in these latter days has been most unfortunate. It was plainly the duty and the policy of the British Government to interfere, if that interference had the prospect or even the chance of being effectual. But to interfere without the slightest chance of success, to force the Mexicans to bootless sacrifice, and to irritate the Americans by idle meddling, was on of those acts of absurdity which stamp a Government as Imbecile. That a British Minister should be so mistaken, so helplessly ignorant, and so utterly misinformed, as to go on moving heaven and earth to prevent a resolve by the Texas, which they, or both powers, soon after unanimously took, is, perhaps, on of the most gross samples of blunder, and ignorance, and incapacity, that even the Tory Foreign Office ever committed. Not only have we irritated the Americans, but "we have destroyed the character of European ability and influence in the New World."

The French newspapers are pretty nearly unanimous in the opinion, that the war with Mexico, if that war there be, will soon be terminated, the immense power of the United States enabling them to impose silence, as soon as it pleases, upon its diminutive and bellicose antagonist.---Even the Journal des Debaus, which, as a Government organ, views the annexation of Texas with any thing but favor says---the only comment it makes on the matter: "In the present condition of Mexico, no one can attach any great importance to such a declaration of war." The Constitutionnel thinks neither Mexico nor American can do great harm to each other, and that the business will be
settled after Mexico shall have seized a few American vessels, and America sent a few bombs into Vera Cruz. The 
Presse contemptuously designates the declaration of war as “fanfarnade” that no one can regard seriously. The 
Commerce declares, that war will be suicidal to Mexico, and condemns the partaken by the French and English 
Governments in opposition to the annexation of Texas. The National, the republican organ, contends that partaken 
by the French and English Government in opposition to the annexation of Texas. The National, ant that, therefore, 
denunciations of the Mexican Government, in its proclamations, are unfounded. While it thinks that England has 
more interest in Mexico making war upon the United States that Mexico itself, it declares that, not even with the 
assistance of England, can she carry on a successful campaign. On the whole, the Texas policy of M. Guizot is 
severely handled in Paris—and that Minister must now be convinced, to his sorry, of the ridiculous blunder he has 
made, in the celebrated doctrine of “a balance of power.” We rejoice, that the spirit of the French people is with us. 
It should sill be more warmly encourage us to stick to the rights, and to maintain our supremacy at all hazards.

RE43n36p4c3, September 9, 1845: TEXAS PUBLIC LANDS

So much stress has been laid by the Whigs upon the enormous public debt of Texas, which it is doubtful, 
they say, whether her lands will be able to satisfy, that we are glad to have it in our power to furnish official 
information on the subject. The Texas Convention, now in session, has taken up the subject, and the result seems 
to be of a very favorable character.

An important document from the Land Office at Austin, has been laid before the Convention.—From it we 
learn that the superficial extent of Texas, as comprised within the limits defined by statute of the first Texas 
Congress, comprises in round numbers, 397,00 square miles, or 254,284,166 acres; that the total amount of land is 
issued by the various Boards of Land Commissioners, is 43,543,970 acres; that the total amount of the above, 
recommended as good and lawful claims, is 19,212,206 acres; issued by the Department of War, as bounty and 
donation claims, 6,300,000 acres; Land script sold by the Texas Government, 368,787 acres; amount of legal claims 
to lands issued by Texas, 25,880,993 acres; amount issued, and supposed to be fraudulent, 24,331,764 acres; 
issued by the authorities of Mexico, a portion of which is supposed to invalid, 22,080,000 acres; and that the total 
amount of public domain, subject to location and unsurveyed, is 181,991,403 acres. The officer of the Land Office, 
in communicating the above statement, says that he has no means of knowing the whole amount of script that has 
been issued by the Texas Government, but thinks the amount yet out, is about 4 of that shown to be in his office, 
and that the same is the case with reference to bounty lands.

RE43n37p1c4, September 12, 1845: FURTHER FROM MEXICO

The Baltimore Republican of Tuesday evening contains a letter from Pensacola of August 31st, received by 
the U.S. Ship Saratoga, which says:

“Congress has authorized the Executive to borrow fifteen millions of dollars, and to raise twenty five 
thousand troops. The policy of the Mexican government has undergone a change: The cease to speak to the United 
States as the party with whom the are to wage war, and have taken ground that they are arrayed only against their 
revolted province of Texas, which is to be subdued at once. This they have to effect by a sudden and vigorous 
vigorous invasion, before a sufficient force can be opposed to them. For this purpose, General Paredes has marched to 
Matamoras, on the Rio del Norte, with eight thousand men—The are equipping their Navy, and increasing the 
number of their gun-boats. Troops have been sent to Tampico in the steamer Montezuma. Mexico is convinced that 
England has persuaded her to take a false step, in offering to acknowledge the independence of Texas; and that no 
aid is to be expected from the quarter. The Saratoga exchanged salutes with Vera Cruz, and a little better feeling 
than could have been expected, grew our of the observance of that courtesy, though the newspapers continue to be 
abusive.”

The writer does not vouch for the truth of his intelligence, but only for the directness of the channel through 
which it comes. He is induced by many circumstances to doubt the important parts of it, such as Paredes’ army, &c.

Strange, this writer announces that Almonte is the new Secretary of War, and expects to be Secretary of 
State. This must be an error, as all other accounts represent Pedro Areaya as the Minister of War.

The Union of Tuesday night gives the following official papers received by the Saratoga at the Navy 
Department. The conduct of Mexico is covered with mystery and no one can predict what another turn of the cards 
may exhibit. We may expect, at the next arrival, to hear of strange events at the Mexican Capital. The exchange of 
civilities with out United States vessels, and the hinted disposition to resume negotiations with us, look pacific—but 
are neutralized by the large bodies of armed me, said to be on their march to reconquer Texas. We feel satisfied, 
that the new Government will see the folly of incading Texas, and, in order to concentrate all its power and attention 
at home, will consent to arrange all her difficulties with us upon a permanent and honorable footage. This is all our 
Government desires——nothing else, we are sure, will the submit to:
Extract of a Letter from

PENSACOLA, September 1.

The Saratoga arrived here last evening, having left Vera Cruz on the 18th ult. An opinion prevailed very generally at Vera Cruz, that Mexico would not formally declare war against the United States. We have a letter, also, which states the belief that the government would be able to realize but a very small portion of the loan, if any. The report of the advance of 25,000 men, to make a rush upon Texas, I regard as sheer fable. Gen. Herrerra has now obtained the supreme power. He will careful of placing in the hands of any man in Mexico a force sufficient to overthrow his government, by one of those sudden revolutions to which his countrymen are so much disposed.

Extract from a Letter, dated

Off Green Island, 
(Near Vera Cruz,) Aug. 18.

I avail myself of the sailing of the United States schooner Flirt, to inform you that the Saratoga anchored here on the 14th inst.

The mail of to-day, from the city of Mexico, brings information of the election of Gen. Herrera to the Presidency, the resignation of the old Cabinet, and the formation of a new one, consisting of Manuel Pena y Pena, (Minister for Foreign Relations,) Pedro Ayreaya, (Minister of War,) and Fernandez del Castillo, of Hacienda, (or of Finance.)

Congress has voted a loan to enable the government to prosecute the war against Texas; but at so low a rate of interest, that great, if not insuperable difficulties, will be found in effecting it.

--------in a communication of this day's date, informs me that he had seen, in a letter from a source which he knew could be depended upon, that the Mexican Government will, or are, collecting a force of 25,00 men on the frontiers of Texas; and that, with no declaration of war, they mean to make a rush at a moment when the U. States are not dreaming about it; and that the time talked of is September. He remarks: "Now, this is so much in character with the Mexicans, that I believe it to be true. It is true, they will not be able to get the loan of fifteen millions, but they will get enough to get them into a war; and. Mexican-like, they don't care how the are to get out."

--------told me, a day or two since, that it had been intimated to him, that a Minister from the U. States would, no doubt, be received with pleasure by the Mexican Government.

The Saratoga exchanged salutes yesterday morning with the batteries, and she has been tendered by a captain-general with the civilities of the port.

The officers and crew of the Saratoga are in the enjoyment of good health.

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(COPY.)

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
VERA CRUZ, August 16, 1845.

Sir: Considering the present state of affairs between this republic and that of our own country, I deemed it prudent to call, myself, on the captain-general, before presenting Lieutenant Hunter.

I am happy to say, that this gentleman was received with more than ordinary civility, and the tender of gun for gun offered, with repeated assurances that it would be done with no common pleasure----at the same time tendering yourself every offer of hospitality the city can afford.

The time for the salute is 8, a. m., to-morrow morning.

I have the honor to be, sir,

With great respect,

Your obedient servant,

F.M. DIMOND.

COM. T. SHUBRICK,
U.S. ship Saratoga, off Green Island.

[BRM]
We have, at last, news, 12 days later, from our bellicose neighbors of Mexico. The most important item is the resignation of those fierce war-breathing Ministers, Cuevas, Conde and De la Rosa—produced, it is supposed, by the dilatoriness of Congress to accede to all the war demands of the administration. There seems to have been no action of Congress upon the fifteen million loan. The withdrawal of these Ministers, and the non-action of Congress, may certainly be regarded as pacific signs. But, on the other hand, the following bombastic and fiery address of Gen. Arista to his troops, which we find in the N.O. Courier, looks like war, though we begin to think it the safest plan to regard Mexican boasts as meaning exactly the reverse of what they say. This address we extract from the N.O. Courier:

"Comrades: The Supreme Executive has sent to me, by express, the news that the United States, in pursuance of their ambitious views, having taken possession of the Department of Texas, he had demanded a declaration of war from the Congress against that unjust nation.

"The time to fight is come. We must prepare with the ardor, inspired by duty and patriotism, when an attack is made upon the soil, the honor and pride of the nation.

"I am sure, comrades, that those presumptuous Americans will be greatly disappointed when they find that our soldiers not so contemptible as they thought, and that the cannot conquer them.

"I address you under the influence of a lively enthusiasm. All fanciful doubt is vanished; the question is decided; and we are about to commence the most righteous war that we ever waged. Laurels await us! To arms! It is the only means of avenging our honor, insulted by a nation that boasts, of it liberality and civilization.

"Arms are the only arguments to use against banditti and men without good faith. Let us hope for that justice which is invoked by all society and the decision of the civilized world.

"Our lot will be envied by the rest of the army—we are nearest the theatre of war—we are the first to avenge the outrages on our country, and to ravish the usurpers the object of their rapine.

"Large bodies of troops are on their march—they will soon be here to share our dangers, and repulse the enemy.

"The veterans of the North have given proofs of their valor and constancy—they are accustomed to conquer this presumptuous race. I know your worth, and how dearly you love to serve your country. It is for this that I am pleased to command you and lead you to combat, in which you comrade and best friend will be proud to follow your example.

"MARIANO ARISTA"

The re-election of Herrera as President, is stated as only rumor current at Tampico. In regard to the Mexican troops on the Rio Grande, the New Orleans Bulletin contains the following rumors:

"Capt. Gormez reports, that it was rumored that Gen. Herrera was elected President, and that there had been seven emissaries sent from Mexico to Texas, for the purpose of the negroes of Texas in the war; that one of the emissaries had returned to Mexico, and stated that they had succeeded in their mission. It was also rumored, that 1,500 men were marching from the interior of join Gen. Paredes, who had under his command 2,000 men, making his force 3,500; that they were on their march to Monterey. Those who had faith in the truth of this rumor thought that they were to take that route to Texas, for the purpose of making an attack on Galveston. Another rumor was in circulation, that there were about 5,500 men under Gen. Arista, at or near Matamoras, who would certainly attack Gen. Taylor on the Rio Grande."

The previous information, that the Yucatecos had peremptorily refused to comply with the requisitions of the Mexicans upon them for troops to assist in the threatened war against the United States, is fully confirmed. The Picayune says:

"The reiterated demands of Mexico upon the Yucatan, for troops, have received one uniform response—that, if Mexico chose to engage in war with the United States, she must bear the brunt of it; that the Yucatan, as a Department, would not contribute any quota of troops; but that, if any of her citizens chose to volunteer, they were at liberty to do so."

To judge from the delightful condition, in which the following, from Vera Cruzana, published by the Courier, represents the province of Tobasco, we should think it not probable that Mexico could get much assistance from that quarter:

"Passengers, arrived yesterday, report that the department was in a complete state of anarchy.——The commandant, Gen. Martinez, was broke and in prison. Col. Bruno held the reins of power, and, no doubt, would soon share the fate of Martinez. The insurgents knew not what to do. Many persons were leaving Tobasco, and many others had sought refuge on board a schooner bound to this port."
On the whole, things look very peaceable for us. But there are elements of internal dissension visible in the heart of Mexico. The next news may unfold some strange events.

P.S.—The following interesting intelligence from Mexico, and our army in Texas, which we take from Monday night’s Union, goes to confirm the impression, that there will be no immediate hostilities with Mexico. The election of Herrera, as President, over the war-loving Almonte, the bitter enemy of the United States; the withdrawal, whether forced or voluntary, of the rabid Ministers, and the almost certain failure to realize the loan, are pretty strong symptoms of peace. We trust that Mexico will awake from her fit of insanity, and agree to settle all her difficulties, and renew her intercourse, with us upon liberal and honorable terms. It will be seen, that the wise and vigorous measures of our Government have probably had the effect of preventing a hostile explosion:

“LATEST FROM MEXICO.—Just as our paper was going to press, letters were put into our hands from Pensacola, of the 1st September, and containing despatches from Vera Cruz of the 18th and 21st August. We have only time this evening, to state the substance of the information they convey. An opinion very generally prevailed at Vera Cruz, according to the last accounts that Mexico would not formally declare war against the United States, and that the Government would be able to realize but a very small proportion of the loan, if any, which had been authorized—so low was the rate of interest. It was said, that in lieu of a declaration, Mexico would carry on hostilities vigorously against Texas; and they talked of making a rush upon her with 25,000 men; but this was generally considered as sheer fable.

“The mail of the 18th had brought news from the city of Mexico of the election of General Herrera to the Presidency, and the formation of a new cabinet, consisting of Manuel Pena y Pena, Minister of Foreign Relations, Pedro Areaya, Minister of War, and Fernandez del Castillo, Minister of the Treasury.

“On the 16th August, Capt. Shubrick, commander of the United States ship Saratoga, exchanged salutes with the batteries of Vera Cruz.”

FROM THE ARMY OF OBSERVATION.

[OFFICIAL]

“Despatches from General Taylor, as late as the 26th of August, have reached the War Department by express. The troops ordered to Texas, to compost the ‘army of occupation,’ are rapidly arriving, together with an ample supply of munitions of war. Colonel Twigg’s regiment of dragoons were at San Patricio on the 24th, in excellent condition, having well sustained their long march, and finding, through the whole route, a plentiful supply of water, provisions, and forage. The horses are in a fine condition, and fit for immediate active service, should there be occasion to put them to it. This regiment was expected to be at Corpus Christi on the 27th of August. General Taylor has, at no time since his arrival at Aransas bay, felt any solicitude for the safety of his command, or the necessity of calling for auxiliary force, even from Texas. The two gallant companies of artillery, which, with such promptness and patriotic spirit, volunteered to go to Texas from New Orleans, under the belief that their country stood in need of their services, have arrived at General Taylor’s camp. As there has not been, and probably will not be, any emergency requiring them, they will not, probably, be long detained from their homes. It is the general’s intention to discharge them as soon as a few more regular artillery, no on the way to Texas, shall have arrived—unless things on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande shall assume a more threatening aspect.

“The most reliable accounts represent that there were, near the middle of August, only about five hundred regular Mexican troops at Matamoras, and that General Arista was to leave Monterey on the 4th of that month for the former place, a distance of three hundred miles, with fifteen hundred more troops, five hundred of them cavalry; but there was no news of his arrival at Matamoras. It is not known, or believed, that there are regular Mexican troops at any other point on the Rio Grande. It was probably the original intention to employ these troops in carrying out the threat of Mexico to take possession of Texas; but the presence of the United States army, and the preparations in Texas to meet and repel their advance, have caused this design to be abandoned for the present, at least. The regular troops of the United States now in Texas, and those on the way there, are deemed sufficient to keep in check the Mexican forces assembled, or likely to be assembled, on the Rio Grande. General Taylor’s attention has not been exclusively confined to the Mexicans. He has had an eye to the Cumanchers, and taken measures to guard the country of their incursions.

“ The accounts of the climate at Corpus Christi are very favorable. Generally speaking, the troops are in fine health—better, it is supposed, that they would have been at the posts from which most of them were removed.”

[BRM]
Orders were despatched from the War Department on the afternoon of the 23d of August, for the concentration of seven companies of artillery at Fort Columbus, New York harbor, thence to embarked in the United States ship *Lexington*, for the army in Texas. Five of the companies were drawn from Frankford Arsenal, Pennsylvania; Boston; Portsmouth, New Hampshire; and Portland, Maine. The detachment from the most distant station (Portland) reached New York the morning of the 30th, when the whole command of 408 officers and men, under Major J. Erving, 2d regiment of artillery, with all their supplies and equipments for service, were in perfect readiness to embark. The promptitude with which the orders of the War Department were executed is highly creditable to the service. [Union [BRM.]

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RE43n38p2c2, September 16, 1845: MEXICO

The very late and interesting news from this country, of bombast and mock valor, will repay a perusal. All of the threats and violent ranting of her Ministers and Generals, seem literally to be---

“Sound and fury, signifying nothing.”

From a comparison of the intelligence received from Texas and Mexico, it may be fairly predicted that no war will take place. Our gallant army in Texas is in a fine condition—and the Mexican horizon has been almost purified of the dark clouds which threatened us with an explosion.

The Administration deserve much credit, and the hands of the people, for this satisfactory state of affairs. To the wisdom and efficiency of the measures they have adopted, to guard against every contingency, must mainly be attributed the “better part of valor,” the discretion of Mexico. This view is forcibly presented by “Pike,” Pike in the *Union*, whose papers show him to be a statesman and a scholar. He ably reviews the extraordinary and arrogant position of M. Guizot, the Minister of France, as to the famous “balance of power” on this continent. He shows, from the late work of M. de Mofras, published under the auspices the conversion of Mexico into a Monarchy, to be wielded by a Catholic Prince, that Louis Philippe has an eye to the extension of French power in America, by placing on of his own sons on the new throne—and he solemnly and eloquently appeals to the President to follow the example of Mr. Monroe, and take strong ground against foreign interference with affairs of this continent. The concluding passage speaks nothing but the truth, and re-echoes, we doubt not, the sentiments of the nation:

"As the reflections I have been obtruding upon you, Mr. Editor, have a close connection with our acquisition of Texas, I cannot conclude without congratulating you upon the seemingly auspicious state of that question at present. Up to the moment when I am writing, everything would seem to promise a peaceful result. At this I greatly rejoice. We shall owe it to the forecast and energy of the administration, in concentrating sufficient land and naval strength at all proper points, to deter Mexico from string a rash blow at Texas, now that it is ours by the highest and best of human titles; the voluntary consent (for I take leave to repeat it from my first communication) of two independent countries deliberately and solemnly expressed. It, happily, the result be peaceful, President Polk will not stand on a lofty eminence when meeting Congress in December. He will have laid a good basis for future fame, on the very threshold of his administration, whatever present party spirit may say. To have overawed Mexico by present wisdom, is better than to have gained twenty battles. On the other hand, had our forces, through any accidents, been at all discomfited by Mexico at the onset—and let us not be lulled by an over-confidence even yet----the calamity would have been, that the feelings of national pride in the bosoms of Americans would have been so lacerated, that nothing could have removed the main but an amount of retribution, that might have bordered upon undue vengeance—to have been more deplored than easily prevented."

[BRM]

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RE43n38p2c3, September 16, 1845: OFFICIAL-INTERSTING

Information from General Taylor’s headquarters in Corpus Christi, has been received as late as to the 30th of August. Since his last despatch, 7 companies of the 7th regiment of infantry have arrived at his camp. The General speaks in commendatory terms of the battalion of artillery from New Orleans, under the command of Major Gally.

The gallant Texans are determined to do their duty in defence of their State. President Jones has notified Gen. Taylor that he has taken preparatory steps to organize one thousand men for service if necessary.

General Taylor has communicated to General Gaines his wish not to have any more militia force sent from New Orleans to him, not apprehending that there will be any occasion for their services. He states that there is no new from the Rio Grande. Some idle rumors are occasionally brought in from that quarter, but the accurate information he possesses so entirely discredit them, that he does not think them even entitled to repetition.-- [Union. [BRM]
From the N. Orleans Topic, Sept. 8.

RE43n38p2c4, September 16, 1845: VERY LATE FROM MEXICO

VERY LATE FROM MEXICO

Vera Cruz dates to the 30th ult.---City of Mexico to the 26th ult.

NO WAR---NONE PROBABLE

Yesterday morning, we issued the following Extra:

SUNDAY MORNING, 11 O’CLOCK.

Sept. 7, 1845.

At about 9 o’clock this morning, the Mexican schooner Geraldo, Captain Herrera, arrived here from Vera Cruz, which place she left on the 30th ult. She brings Alexander Holmstrom, Esq., bearer of despatches to this Government, and to Com. Conner, commanding U. States squadron, now at Pensacola.

By this arrival, we have dates from the city of Mexico to the 27th ult. The papers contain nothing important, except that all was perfectly quiet. The war fever, both at Vera Cruz and Mexico, had subsided. It is now certain there will be no declaration of war.

We are indebted to Mr. Holmstrom for the following items of intelligence: It was reported at Vera Cruz, that the French Minister had demanded his passports in consequence of old difficulties. Business was exceedingly dull at Vera Cruz. There had been no arrival except the regular British Mail packets for fifteen days.

Only a few Americans were there, and they were satisfied that war had ceased to be among the probabilities.

The regular New York Packet, Petersburg, was the only vessel in port. She was advertised for the 5th, but would not probable leave before the 12th or 14th.

The Castle was nearly in complete repair, and the fortifications had been enlarged. Vera Cruz was healthy. The Vomito has disappeared.

We have looked over El Siglo from the 19th to the 26th, inclusive. Texas matters are not discussed; in fact, scarcely mentioned. This is pretty conclusive evidence that the Mexicans are in no way prepared, even if disposed, to commence hostilities. Don Julian Gonzalez Guiterrez has been appointed Spanish Vice Consul for the city of Merida, and Don Joaquim Moralez for the port of Sisal, both in the Department of Yucatan. Spanish Vice Consuls had also been appointed in the Departments of Aguas Calientes, Sonora and Chihuahua.

Don Valentin Rios, commanding the companies of the First Brigade, had written a communication to the Minister of War, in which he states that the different officers under his command were ready to defend their country against the perfidious aggressions of the United States, and to chastise the ingratitude of the Texans.

Don Luis Perez and Don Jose Maria Otahegui, commissioners from General Parades, had arrived in the city of Mexico, and it was presumed they had come to treat on the late events which had occurred at San Luis Potosi.

An election was held for President and Vice President of the Senate, when el Sr. Pizarro was elected to the first, and el Sr. Ramirez to the second.

Efforts were being made to organize a militia, but they were merely abortive. In the city of Mexico, which contains 200,000 inhabitants only eleven recruits were found enlisted.

Gen. Filisola, full of indignation, had thrown up the command of the division, which had caused the scandalous proceedings in San Luis Potosi, and had determined to return to the city of Mexico. It was stated, that the leaders of this act of insubordination had sent a record of their proceedings to Government, and measures were being taken to inflict the necessary penalties. Santiago Vasquer, who left Durango on the 28th July, for Chihuahua, carrying with him all the correspondence from the city of Mexico and the interior, was assassinated on the road on the 21st. The Collector of Cerro gordo went in search of him, and after two days of diligent search, only found his corpse in the middle of the road.

A decree fro the regulation of the departmental treasury has been published---the office is to pass from the Government to the Department, and the post of Collector of all departmental incomes it to be given by the
Assembly, which, it is stated; reserves the situation for one of their own body.

The Department of Zacatecas appears to be in a great state of excitement, in consequence of the annexation of Texas. She offers her resources in order to carry on the war, and the inhabitants appeared desirous to march to the conquest of that territory.

The Ministry is composed of the following persons: Don Manuel de la Pena y Pena, Department of State; Don Jose Bernard Couto, Justice of the Ecclesiastical Affairs, Don Pedro F. del Castillo, Treasury Department; and General Pedro Mario Anaya, Minister of War and Marine.

The Manillon of the evening of the 22d ultimo, states that General Bustamente had been named as Commander-in-chief of the army to [illegible] against Texas.

New reached the city of Mexico on the 23d ult., from Matamoros, that 3,000 Texans and Anglo Americans were encamped at Corps Christi, forty leagues from Matamoros. Our readers are aware that our troops now at that port, do not number quite 2,000 men.

There is an article in the "Siglo Diez y Nueve" of the 26th ult, which bears heavily on the difficulties to be undergone by the Mexicans in the campaign against Texas. It asserts that during the eight years they have been making war against Texas, they have never made a single step which could enable them to conquer that territory, and not even to prevent it's extending and increase and power. The previous funds intended for the campaign, which would have been sufficient to have carried it on, were wasted in another way so that troops on the Matamoros have been obliged to become mechanics in order to gain a livelihood. There was no money to pay the army. The imposition of any new contribution will meet with powerful resistance. The Mexicans have acted like a prodigal and ill-advised heir, they have lost their credit, and wasted their wealth, and they have consequently arrived at that state of poverty which is almost incurable. The article in question states that it will be difficult to carry on a war with Texas; that the insubordinate movement in San Luis Potosi, shows the disorganize state of the country, and that the United States will laugh and gain confidence from the fact that Mexico is in a disturbed state. From the general tone of the Mexican papers, and form the almost utter impossibility for Mexico to organize an army, we are under the impression that there is little or no probability of any hostile proceedings on the part of that power.

FROM TAMPCIO.

The Mexican schr. Yucateco, Captain Pras, arrived here on Saturday from Tampico, which place she left on the 30th ult. We received to papers by her. The Picayune of yesterday publishes news from that place to the 27th, and from the city of Mexico to the 19th, not so late as furnished since Geraldo. The Picayune say: "El Gejen, a Tampico paper, states that it is reported that the disaffected portion of the army has incorporated itself with the forces under Gen. Paredes; that the latter refuses to obey the Government; that the third division of the army, which is under his command, is disposed for a pronunciamento, and it is even whispered, that the object of it will be to proclaim a Consul. El Gejen, is more than half inclined to believe all this.

We take the following items from the Picayune.

The House of Lizardi & Co. is again bitterly censured for its mismanagement of Mexican finances, but the controversy on this subject has been carried on in London, and is not, of course new here.

Gen. Paredes has become involved in a violent newspaper controversy with Sr. Boves, a Deputy who so discomfitted the late Ministry.---The President has expressed to the General his enduring confidence in his fidelity and patriotism.

General Arista, too, is quarrelling through the papers with General Wull—defending himself and accusing Woll of insubordination, &c. We note the affair only to show how the military leaders of Mexico are divided amongst themselves.

On the 23d ult., the Mexican steamer Guadaloupe was expected at Tampico, with from 800 to 1,000 tents for the troops of the Army of the North.

There were no American vessels at Tampico when the Yucateco sailed, nor does the captain bring any important verbal news. Rumors, however, abound, for which we have not room.

Advices to the 11th August have been received at Mexico from Guatemala. An effor is making to re-establish the bonds of confederation between the States of San Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. For this purpose, the two former States have appointed Commissioner to meet at Zonzonate, to deliberate upon conditions. Guatemala has also named a Commissioner to ratify a treaty of peace with Honduras, and another of commerce with San Salvador.

The Constituent Congress of Guatemala has also passed two decrees, one introducing some very strict measures of economy, and regulating the order in which the public creditors shall be paid; the other, providing that the products of Mexico introduced into that State should pay the same duties as if the proceeded from another foreign country.
From the contents of the papers, we learn no declaration of war has yet appeared, or is at all likely to appear—that the whole country is in a dreadful state of insubordination, and crimes are committed daily which pass unpunished—The military forces under orders for the frontier of Texas, and commanded by Paredes, had refused to march beyond San Luis Potosi, without being paid their arrearages, three months' pay in advance, and being supplied with ever necessary for the campaign. Paredes, it is stated, has reduced this military mutiny to something like order, but it is strongly suspected that he had done so for personal motives and by personal influence. He lately applied to the Government for the permission to come to Mexico, for the purposes of explaining his proposed plan for the campaign, but it was refused, it is thought, from fear that his presence might create a counter revolution in the capital. Such an event is openly reported in Tampico as about to take place at San Luis Potosi—where he is in sole command of the troops—Gen. Flisola having thrown up his command in disgust, after being informed of the mutiny. General Bustamente, it is believed will be sent as commander-in-chief by the Government.

The French Minister, not having been satisfied with the course taken by the Government regarding the insult offered him at the Baths, has demanded his passports, which adds another embarrassment to many which the Executive has now to encounter.

RE43n39p4c5, September 19, 1845: LATER FROM TEXAS

"The brig Maria Spears, Felte master arrived yesterday from Galveston, whence she sailed on the 3d instant. We received no papers by her, but learn verbally that the Convention had not adjourned on the 1st inst." [N.O. Picayune, Sept 9.]

RE43n40p4c3, September 23, 1845: THE TRUE AND ONLY COURSE

Whatever the National Intelligencer and other Whig prints may say, in order to embarrass the Administration and invalidate our rights, we are proud to see the Norfolk Herald, Whig, take the side of its country, in the following manly emphatic language. The Rio Grande is the true boundary, and the country will sustain the Administration on this clear point—based upon every principle of justice and honor:

"WHENCE OUR RIGHT.

"In a series of resolutions passed at a meeting held in the town of Nantucket, (Massachusetts.) were the following, which we found our right to annex to our Union the Territory of Texas, from the Sabine to the del Norte, without violating any legal or equitab'e claim of Mexico.

"Resolved, That the recent annexation of Texas to these States is nothing more than the resumption of our own territory acquired in the purchase of Louisiana—a purchase, which gave to the United State the territory bounded on the South-west by the Rio del Norte—a boundary proved by John Quincy Adams, and claimed by Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, and even by Mr. Clay; the latter having declared, in 1820, that our title as far as the Rio del Norte was well founded, as it was to the Island of New Orleans; and having in 1844 asserted, in a letter to the citizens of Raleigh, that by the purchase of Louisiana acquired a title to the country, bounded on the South west by the above mentioned river.

That even if this claim of right territory be waived, this country had an unquestionable right to make a Treaty with Texas for her annexation—as she had been acknowledged an independent nation by the powers of Europe, as well as ourselves, and had been, in fact, independent since the battle of San Jacinto, in 1837.

"That Mexico having, therefore, no just cause of complaint against the action of our own country in regard to Texas, it is our duty not only as lover of right, but as Americans, to sustain the course of our Government; even to the last extremity."

[BRM]

RE43n41p2c1, September 26, 1845: AS WE EXPECTED!

Whatever Mr. Polk may do some of the Whigs will attempt to make political cut of it. Their only hope is in our dissensions—and all their energies are bent to the great game of "divide and conquer." The appointment of Mr. Woodbury to the important post of a seat on the Supreme Court Bench is an undeniable instant of what we assert. Whether appointed or thrust aside, we felt assured that the Whigs would seize upon the occasion to blow up a flame
of discord between the members of the Democratic party. Had Mr. W., who had been for some time named as a prominent candidate for the his office, been set aside by the President, the whole Whig welkin would have rung with the charge that the President had shown an utter want of respect for the "Calhoun wing" and the cause of Free Trade, by rejecting the claims of Mr. Woodbury, an able champion of a Revenue Tariff. But this pretext for attacking the administration and its Republican policy, was struck from under the Whig managers by the appointment of Mr. Woodbury. Look at the reverse of the picture--look at the attitude of some of the Whig politicians in the present state of the case. Mr. Woodbury has been appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court, to the satisfaction of nearly the whole country. Do all of the Whigs render justice to his motives? Far from it--The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot, foiled by the appointment of Mr. W., takes the other tack and appeals to the Southern friends, of a revenue Tariff, to look upon this appointment as a signal of the President's treachery to the South on this question! Hear what the correspondent says.---Speaking of the 'coalition' (which no true Republican believes,) between Mr. Benton and the Administration to "put down Mr. Calhoun and his friends," the writer says: "One of the best means to aid him (Mr. Benton) in defeating the Free Traders on the Tariff question, is the transfer of Levi Woodbury from the Senate to the Supreme Court. The batteries of one of Mr. Calhoun's ablest allies are thus [illegible] muzzled! How the organ will profess to regret Mr. Woodbury's withdrawal from the Senate!"

And it is by such stuff as this, that this Wing scribbler vainly hopes to excite the distrust of Mr. Calhoun's friends, and alienate them from the support of an Administration which is honestly and zealously devoted to the Republican cause, and resolved to carry out the principles avowed by the Democratic party at Baltimore.---The humbug is too transparent to deceive a single Republican. The trick is too bungling to cause any other feeling but ridicule in the mind of every friend of the Republican cause. Much as we regret [illegible] the valuable services and distinguished ability of Mr. Woodbury form the Senate of the United States at this trying moment, we are proud to know that he has been transferred to a theatre, where his fidelity to the Constitution will prove beneficial to the country---and, though New Hampshire may not be able to furnish a son as well known and able as her favorite champion, yet she has still within her borders many true soldiers in the Republican cause, able and willing to represent her sovereignty, and give voice to her long cherished love for a strict construction, and for the rights of the States. More over, if we are to believe current reports, the great statesman of the South—a host in himself---will probably, at a great sacrifice, take his seat in the Senate, and throw all his power and eloquence into the contest for equal laws and equal rights.

It is not evident, that whether Mr. Woodbury had been appointed or laid aside, the same attack upon the administration would have proceeded from some of the Whig press the same insidious design set on foot excite jealousy and distrust in the Republican party? But we are confident, that the wretchedly botched-up scheme will fall still-born to the ground.

At all events, let the President continue to do his duty, irrespective of threats or flattery. Let him plant himself firmly on the principles which brought him into power, and, acting with a sole regard to a solemn requirements of the Constitution, and to honor and welfare of the country, feel the proud reflection, on laying down the reins of office on the 3d March, 1849, that he had been true to the Constitution and to himself. Let him but pursue the outline sketched by the following article to the Union, as we doubt not he will honestly do, and the whole country will applaud the purity of the man, and the fidelity, statesmanship, and elevated bearing of the officer.

"PROMPT ACTION."

"Under this caption the 'Hartford Times' does justice to the administration to the following sketch which it portrays of their recent movements in regard to Mexico, and it might equally have embraced its measures respecting Texas. We have no doubt that the same energy, with equal circumspection, will be extended to the other great measures of the administration. In the reduction of the Tariff, the same decision will be displayed—the same, indeed, in carrying out all the resolutions of the Baltimore Convention, under whose principles of Mr. Polk was elected—by whose pledges he is bound. The President has hitherto been bold, decided, yet prudent in his course.—The spirit of 'Young Hickory' will continue to animate him. There is no quality so necessary in an Executive Officer as firmness. First discover what is right, then adhere to it. Let him take his course with wisdom, then promote it with firmness. 'Be strong, and you will be strong,' is one of the great secrets of success. By firmness, without passion, a President confirms his friends. He rallies them all directly around him. He determines the doubting me to come to his assistance. He, moreover, impresses his opponents with a certain degree of respect for shi own decision, which insensibly softens and effects their own conduct towards him."

[From the Hartford Times]

"There is nothing that the American people, more heartily approve of than prompt and energetic action on the part of those who administer the Government upon matters of public interest. They want no wavering. It was the bold, open honest, energetic course of Gen. Jackson's administration, that tended to give him such unbounded popularity as he possessed. The people admired his prompt action; they loved his honesty of heart; and their need of praise, their approbation, and their support will always be given to those who act with equal energy in the administration of public affairs, and with equal honesty of purpose.

"In the management of our affairs with Mexico, connected with the Texas question, President Polk's administration has acted with a promptness and energy worth of Andrew Jackson himself. The rapid movements of the army and navy—the quick preparation—the decided stand taken—the efficient course marked out, so far as we know that course—all reflect high credit upon the President and his cabinet. There has been no weak, inefficient, child's play about this matter, but a spirit and an energy have been evinced, calculated to prevent aggression on the part of Mexico, where threats alone will e put forth, when they see what the consequences of more rash steps would
lead them to. In the prompt action of the administration, a desire to promote American interest and honor has been evinced, and American freemen will sustain it."

[BRM]

**RE43n41p2c2, September 26, 1845: OREGON-BRITISH FLEET**

The *New York Commercial Advertiser* says, the British fleet seen by the ship *London, Ross*, from Liverpool on the 12th ult., in latitude 45 degrees, 56 minutes, longitude 15 degrees, 20 minutes, was the experimental squadron which left Spithead a short time previously, to try the sailing qualities of the different ships composing the squadron—the Bay of Biscay being the most proper place for that purpose.

Upon which, the *New York True Sun* remarks: "The fleet, in question, was undoubtedly that referred to by the Commercial Advertiser.—Of the character and purpose of this fleet, we have received some information, since our notice of it, above quoted. It consists of two 104 gun ships, four frigates, and three steamships.—Under the guise of an experimental squadron, it is, in fact, a squadron of observation; sailing with sealed orders, and having a full regiment for Oregon, should their landing be deemed advisable; and, also, a governor for the territory, should circumstances warrant his assuming that position to carry out the instructions under which he has been sent.

"Such, we learn through a gentleman directly from England, and who was at Spithead at the time of the sailing of the squadron, was well understood among the officers of the squadron to be the object of the mission on which they were about starting."

[BRM]

**RE43n41p4c2, September 26, 1845: CLAIMS UPON MEXICO**

Many of the Whig papers, in their anxious desire and determination to pull down the administration, *per fas cut nefas*, have actually crossed the line, and are now fighting on paper the battles of Mexico. They contend, that the United States have heaped insult and injury upon the head of unoffending Mexico—that all the provocation has come from our side—that we have been guilty of treachery, wanton injustice, robbery and plunder. They deny that we have the least cause to complain of the conduct of Mexico.—Now, all this may be sheer ignorance, or political chicanery. If the former, we would recommend to their perusal a series of Nos. by Richard S. Coxe. As a specimen of the style, and to show the character of the publication, we extract a few passages. The facts stated are drawn from official sources, and exhibit, on the part of Mexico, a Punic faith and disregard of national obligations and honor, worthy only of the darkest ages of barbarism. They announce to the world the lenity and forbearance which our own Government has exhibited towards her weak but treacherous neighbor, and point out, in out, in strong and conclusive language, the propriety and necessity of prompt and vigorous steps, to unravel they tangled skein of our difficulties with Mexico, rather, to cut the Gordian knot, and secure the claims of our injured citizens, and establish permanently the peace and honor of the nation:

"The causes of complaint have been a long standing, and of an irritating nature. The amicable feelings which once bound the two nations together, have been obliterated. Mutual estrangement has succeeded, and terms of recrimination have been exchanged, rousing on either side the angry passions of the respective parties. It is not possible much longer to postpone the adjustment of these controversies. They must be terminated through the instrumentality of a war, or by amicable arrangement. The number and character of reclaims of the United States, for the remuneration for alleged infractions of their rights of person and property, cannot be estimated at a smaller amount than ten millions of dollars. The character of the outrages in which these claims originated, have imposed upon the Government the imperative obligation to demand, and, if necessary, to enforce, their liquidation. Every day swells the amount of compensation to which the parties are entitled, and increases the incapacity of Mexico to provide for their payment. They must either be adjusted and paid, or tamely relinquished. The latter alternative involving a renunciation of every national pledges, cannot, for a moment, be anticipated. It may be assumed as a positive certainty, that the payment must be voluntary made, or enforced by all the power of the nation. It is unnecessary to say that voluntary payment by Mexico, in any form, or to any extent, is utterly hopeless.

"If these papers—which, so far as regards the form which they assume, have been written 'currente calame' amid other engrossing occupations——shall be instrumental in vindicating, in the eyes of our own citizens, our common country from the aspersions so falsely or ignorantly cast upon it, as instigated by a reckless spirit of agrandizement to perpetrate injustice upon a neighboring community——of urging demands upon it, which have no foundation in justice——of asserting claims which have no substantial existence; if they shall have exhibited in their true colors and just proportions the character of Mexico, and the imperative obligations which rest upon this government to persist in every claim which we have asserted, until Mexico shall either voluntarily engage, or by the application of the whole power of the nation, he compelled to atone for multiplied wrongs she has inflicted, to compensate for the grievous injustices which one citizens have suffered at her hands, to atone for their insults she has offered to our flag and to our government, the object sought to be attained will have been fully accomplished. The honor of the country, the outraged rights of our people, demand imperatively that these results shall be attained; and the government will be recreant to its own duty and its own character, if it shall fail to obtain them all." [BRM]
THE CONSTITUTION OF TEXAS

We have neither time nor room to make an analysis of the new Constitution, but will briefly advert to some of its peculiar provisions, at the risk of repeating ourselves. We need not say that the instrument is modeled upon the theory of most of our own State Constitutions.

Every free male person, twenty-one years of age, who shall be a citizen of the United States, or who is, at the time of the adoption of the Texan Constitution by the Congress of the United States, a citizen of the Republic of Texas, and shall have resided in the State on year next preceding an election, and the last six months within the district, county, city or town in which he offers to vote, (Indians no taxed, Africans and descendants of African expected,) is to be deemed a qualified elector.

The term of the office of members of the House is two years, and the sessions of the Legislature are biennial. To be eligible to the House, one must be a citizen of the United States, or, at the time of the adoption of the Constitution, a citizen of the Republic of Texas and an inhabitant of the State for two years next preceding his election, and the last year thereof, a citizen of the county, city or town for which he shall be chose, and have attained the age of the twenty-one years at the time of his election.

The term of the Senators is four years, and they are to be divided into two classes, so that one-half may be chosen biennially. The additional qualification for Senators is, to have been an inhabitant for three years, and to be thirty years of age.

No Minister of the Gospel or Priest is eligible to the Legislature.

The Executive is to nominate the judges of the Supreme and District Courts, and with the advice of two-third of the Senate, commission them for six years.

The Attorney General is appointed in the same manner, and holds his commission for two years.

The Governor is to hold his office for two years, and shall not be eligible for more than four years in any term of six years. His other qualifications are like a Senator’s. The salary of the first Governor is to be $2,000, and no more. He can hold no other office or commission, civil or military.

No Minister of the Gospel is required to perform military duty, work on roads, or serve on juries.

The oath of office is so formed, that in addition to the usual provisions, one must swear, that, since the adoption of the Constitution, he has not fought a duel within or without the State; nor sent or accepted a challenge; nor any way aided or assisted any person thus fending.

And all who shall offend, (by fighting a duel, accepting a challenge, &c.) after the adoption of the Constitution, shall be deprived of holding any office of trust or profit.

In all elections by the people, the vote is to be by ballot, till the Legislature otherwise directs; in elections by the Senate of House, (except of their own officers,) the vote shall be viva vice.

No members of Congress, nor person holding office under the United States, or either of them, or a foreign power, is eligible to the Legislature, or can hold office under the State.

The laws are to be revised five years after the adoption of the Constitution, and published; and the same repeated every ten years thereafter.

No lottery can be authorized by the State, and the buying and selling of all tickets is prohibited.

No divorce can be granted by the Legislature. All property, both real and personal, of wife owned or claimed by her before marriage, and that acquired afterwards by gift, devise or descent, shall be her separate property; and laws shall be passed more clearly defining the rights of the wife, in relation as well to her separate property, as that held in common with her husband. Laws shall also be passed, providing for the registration of the wife’s separate property.

All claims, locations, surveys, grants, and titles to land, which are declared null and void by the Constitution of the Republic of Texas, are, and the same shall remain forever null and void.

No corporate body shall be created, renewed or extended, with banking or discounting privileges.

No private corporation shall be created, unless the bill creating it shall be passed by two-thirds of both houses of the Legislature; and two-thirds of the Legislature shall have the power to revoke and repeal all private
corporations, by making compensation for the franchise. And the State shall not be part owner of the stock or property belonging to any corporation.

The Legislation shall prohibit by law individuals from issuing bills; checks, promissory notes, or other paper to circulate as money.

Most ample provisions are made for education, but we have not room to enter further upon the Constitution to-day.

The vote upon the adoption of the Constitution is to be *viva voce*. Should it appear from the returns to have been adopted, the President, on or before the second Monday in November next, is to issue is proclamation, directing and requiring elections to be held on the third Monday in December next, for the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and members of the Senate and House of Representatives of the State Legislature, in accordance with the appointment of representation directed by the Constitution.

Upon receiving intelligence of the acceptance of the Constitution by the U.S. Congress, the President is to convene the State Legislature, when the votes for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, &c., are to be counted, and the persons elected at once installed.

The Legislature shall proceed as early as practicable to elect Senators to represent the State in the Senate of the United States; and also provide for the election of Representatives to the Congress of the United States.

The President of Texas, immediately after the inauguration of the Governor is to deliver to him all the records, public money, documents, archives, and public property of every description whatsoever, under the control of the Executive branch of the Government; and the Governor shall dispose of the same in such manner as the Legislature may direct.

The first general election for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and members of the Legislature, after the organization of the Government, shall take place on the first Monday in November, 1847, and shall be held biennially thereafter on the first Monday in November, until otherwise provided by the Legislature; and the Governor and Lieutenant Governor elected in December next, shall hold their offices until the installation in office of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor, to be elected in the year 1847.

*From the N.O. Picayune, Sept. 20*

THE CONSTITUTION OF TEXAS

We glanced at some of the peculiarities of the new Constitution of Texas yesterday; to-day we must conclude the subject by mentioning a few other provisions. In its grand outline, as well as its details, it is too much like the Constitutions of the old States to need elucidation.

The proposed Constitution provides that the ordinance passed by the Convention on the 4th day of July last, assenting to the overtures for the Annexation of Texas to the United States, shall be attached to the Constitution, and form a part of the same. This must be continually borne in mind, as the creation of new States is therein provided for.

The city of Austin, is assigned as the seat of government until 1950, after which it is to be located by the people, by a vote to be taken in march, in a mode pointed out.

The Supreme Court has appellate jurisdiction only; the District Courts have jurisdiction both in law and equity; and in all cases in equity, either party may claim a trial by jury.

The pardoning power is vested in the Executive, except in cases of treason and impeachment. The governor possesses the veto power, qualified, however, as in the United States Constitution.

In no case can the Legislature authorize the issue of Treasury notes, or paper of any description, to circulate as money.

The Legislature has power to protect by law, from forced sale, a certain portion of the property of all heads of families. The homestead of a family not to exceed two hundred acres of land-(not included in a town or city,) or any town or city lot or lots, In value not to exceed 2,000dollars, shall not be subject to forced sale for any debts hereafter contracted; nor shall the owner, if a married man, be at liberty to alienate the same, unless by the consent of the wife, in such a manner as the Legislature may hereafter point out.

Taxation is to be uniform throughout the State; the Legislature may pass an income tax, and it may exempt from taxation 250 dollars worth of household furniture, or other property belonging to each family in the State.

The Legislature cannot contact debts to exceed in the aggregate the sum of $100,000, except in case of
General Taylor’s letter is dated at Corpus Christi, September 14th:

"All actual settlers shall be entitled to their lands as colonists, not exceeding 640 acres to the head of a

In conclusion, we copy entire the provisions of the proposed Constitution in regard to slaves:

SEC. 1—The Legislature shall have no power to pass laws for the emancipation of slaves, without the consent of their owners, nor without paying their owners, previous to such emancipation, a full equivalent in money for the slaves so emancipated. They shall have no power to prevent emigrants to this State, from bringing with them such persons so deemed as slaves by the laws of any of the United States, so long as any person of the same age or description shall be continued in slavery by the laws of this State: Provided, that such slave shall be the bona fide property of such emigrants: Provided, also, that laws shall be passed to prohibit the introduction, into this State, of slaves who have committed high crimes in other States or territories. They shall have the right to pass laws to permit the owners of slaves to emancipate them, saying the rights of creditors, and preventing them from becoming a public charge. They shall have full power to pass laws, which shall oblige the owners of slaves to treat them with humanity; to provide for them necessary food and clothing; to abstain from all injuries to them, extending to life or limb; and, in case of their neglect or refusal to comply with the directions of such laws, to have such slave or slaves taken from such owner, and sold for the benefit of such owner or owners. They may pass laws to prevent slaves from being brought into this State as merchandise only.

SEC. 2—In the prosecution of slaves for crimes a higher grade than petit larceny, the Legislature shall have no power to deprive them an impartial trial by a petit jury.

SEC. 3—Any person who shall maliciously dismember, or deprive a slave of life, shall suffer such punishment as would be inflicted, in case the like offence had been committed upon a free white person, and upon like proof, except in case of insurrection of such slaves.

[BRM]
family, and 320 to a single man.

“The legislature is prohibited from extending any contract for settling a colony, and from relieving any contractor from the failure of the conditions, or forfeiture accruing from non-fulfillment of contract.

“The Constitution is signed by the President and Secretary of the convention, as adopted in full form Aug. 27, 1845. The election for its adoption or rejection by the people is to be held on the second Monday of next October, and if approved, the election for state officers shall be held on the 3d Monday of December.” [BRM]

October

Friday, October 3, 1845 REv42i43p1c3 Texas Emigration; Words: 765

The subscriber offers, on behalf of the Texas Association, 320 acres of land, the one moiety of a section, to be surveyed by the Association, for $8, to any family who may settle thereon from any part of the United States or Europe, by the first day of July 1846; after which time, but 200 acres will be given to each family.

A title to the land may be obtained, at any time after settlement, from the Texan Government, on condition of building on it a comfortable cabin and enclosing and cultivating not less than 15 acres for three years. A failure to comply with these conditions will occasion a forfeit of the title of the emigrant to the government. A family is required to consist of not less than a man and his wife; a widow, or widower, with two children; or two single men, each above seventeen years of age.

The above lands lie on both sides of the Trinity above the mouth of Cedar Creek, and embrace the mouth of the Bois d'Arc, or East fork of the river. They are bounded to the West by the Brazos River, above the mouth of Aquila Creek; to the South, by a line from the mouth of Cedar Creek, the second large creek below Richland, to the mouth of Aquila Creek. The Eastern boundary commences 50 miles South of Red River, and runs East 48 miles from the Eastern boundary of the prior grant to the Texas Emigration and Land Company, who have, already, more than five hundred families colonized on their grant, between the country inhabited by the Indians, and the grant of C.F. Mercer and his associates. More than two hundred and twenty families have already been introduced and settled by the subscriber, and his associates, on the lands. Five dollars, in money, labor, or materials, will be exacted, hereafter, of each family, for the erection of schoolhouses.

Provision is making for the erection of a town on the Trinity, below the East Fork, and on has been already established in the Western Colony, at Dallas, three miles below the mouth of the West Fork. The Trinity is expected to furnish the best navigation of any river in Texas, and its navigation is susceptible of improvement at a moderate cost. Steamboats now ascend the Trinity to the vicinity of Fort Houston, and will, when its commerce is extended, as readily pass above, through the entire grant before mentioned- the first obstruction being a raft immediately below Dallas.

The present growing crop of corn within the colony, and its vicinity, now nearly matured, promises to be most abundant; and the late harvest has manifested the ability of the soil, upon and near Trinity, to produce abundant crops of wheat, rye, and oats, as well as cotton and tobacco. The tract of land here offered for settlement lies between latitudes 31 deg., 30 min. and 33 deg., 30 min. North; is interspersed with prairies and woodland, and unsurpassed in its capacity for grazing. Cattle and sheep need no food or protection from human labor, at any season of the year. Much of the above country is well watered, and cannot fail, especially the rolling prairies, with which it abounds, to prove healthy. Emigrants may reach the settlements already formed by the Arkansas River, the Land Carriage, from Fort Gibson to the Trinity,, being about 200 miles, or by the Red River, always navigable to Shreveport, within 200 miles, and between the Autumnal and Spring rains., to Fulton, within 60, and Piney Bluff, within 50 miles. From Galveston, when a steamboat can be had, the voyage to the new town of Fenton, within the granted lands, may be preformed in less than two and a half days. Galveston is a flourishing town on the West of the Gulf of Mexico. Food for horses and cattle abounds on the prairies, and may be procured free at no cost.

Dr. Daniel Rowlett, residing on the Red River, East of the Trinity, at Lexington, near Bonham, is the sub-agent of the Texas Association, for the lands East of the Trinity; and Col. E.L. Ripley Wheelock, of Wheelock, in Robertson county, for the part of the above grant West of the river. Their respective Post Offices are, Bonham, in Fannin county, and Wheelock, in Robertson County. Both have deputies to represent them in person, or by letter (post paid,) and further intelligence may be had that may be desired.

Charles Fenton Mercer
Original Grantee of the Chief Agent of the Texas Association
New Orleans, September 26, 1845

[JKM]
The English experiment in the East has signally failed. It was made under the most favorable auspices in different parts of India. It has succeeded in none of them. It was made under the eye of ten experienced planters from the cotton region of the United States, with the best American cotton-seed; but it has failed. Nature forbids any serious competition between the cotton of the East Indies and that of the United States. The Southern portion of our country stands unrivalled in the production of a staple which constitutes the basis of the most important manufacture both in Great Britain and on the continent. Well might England struggle to baffle us in the annexation of Texas, for there she would have platted her lever. By her aid, and by her cotton plantations, Britain would have attempted to make herself independent of the United States—throwing her manufacturers into Texas, upon terms that would have defied the competition of our own fabrics; and receiving the raw materials in return, upon better terms than she could have obtained the growth of our Southern cotton-lands. The acquisition of Texas, therefore, foils the most anxiously policy of Great Britain. It gives us every advantage in competition with her. It gives us wealth in peace, and power in war; because, how can Great Britain continue to persecute a desperate and continued war, which is destined to starve her own manufacturers? The acquisition of Texas thus puts us in possession of almost all the best lands in the world for the growth of Cotton; and this is decidedly one of the most important staples; in every respect, that can be cultivated by man. If we do not hold the monopoly of the article, yet we produce it of better quality, and in greater quantity, than any other country. We may safely defy all rivalry in its production. Thus is becomes a source of wealth and abundance—of prosperity in peace and power in war.

Let us further add, that the acquisition of Texas is not only of great value to the South, but it is destined to shed incalculable advantage upon the North. Let the Whigs oppose it as much as they please, or let the Abolitionist threaten even dissolution of the Union. Not many months will pass away, before our Eastern brethren will appreciate and confess the benefits which they receive. Is it nothing to them, that a growing trade is thrown open to their shipping? Is in nothing, that a market is opened for the consumption of their manufactures free of all duty, whilst the British fabrics are subjected to the requisitions of our revenue laws? Is it nothing, that our own manufacturers have the advantage of enjoying free trade in Texas, with 25 to 30 per centum in their favor, over the rival manufacturers of England of other continent? But enough for the present. The remarks of our correspondent supersede the necessity of any further reflections on our part, and we recommend the valuable statistics, as well as his general conclusions, to every reader and every editor in the country.

[JKM]
which there raised the standard of hostile opposition to the Central Government, claims to be Federal, and declares the Government is too feeble and impoverished to vindicate its own supremacy even in this little province. The party undergoing investigation at the seat of Government, the result of which may be shortly expected. The department of this disaffection with the view of bringing about another revolution. The whole affair, however, is at this moment is of Mexico. General Paredes, the commander-in-chief of the troops at San Luis Potosi, is suspected of conniving at allegations as the cause of their conduct, their destitute and neglected condition. General Goana, who commanded insubordination. On the 9th of August, a division of troops, under orders to the Texan frontier, refused to march, means to replenish its empty coffers. Her army is disorganized, disaffected and destitute, and manifest much it is connected with policy and prudence, we might say there will be none. Her treasury is bankrupt, and there is no war or not remains for Mexico to determine; and if we might draw a conclusion in reference to her course so far as nations, in all our respects the usual courtesies are shown from on to the other reciprocally. Whether there will be when they enter the Mexican ports; so that, notwithstanding all diplomatic intercourse has ceased between the two respecting a corresponding action on their part. The customary national salutes are exchanged with our men-of-war of Mexican honor and valor, and a corresponding amount of abuse of the Americans. This, however, only evinces the United States are not perfectly amicable, is an occasional paragraph in the newspapers filled with high-flown praises of Mexican honor and valor, and a corresponding amount of abuse of the Americans. This, however, only evinces the Dr. Ashbel Smith attracts a good deal of attention from the press of Texas. His long letter is copied at length, but elicits comments in the most unfavorable to the doctor’s purpose. It is a singular fact, that men of sense in this part of the country, and a large portion of Texans, do not believe in the sincerity of Ashbel Smith’s assertion, that he was, and is, in favor with the Annexation of Texas.

The following are names of members elect to the Tenth Texas Congress: Archibald McNeil for the county of Montgomery; Dr. C. McAnelly for Harris; Gen. W.S. Fisher for Galveston; J.P. Hudson for Fayette; R.M. Williamson for Washington; and S.W. Perkins, and W.B.P. Gaines, for Branzoria.

The National Register of the 11th, publishes a translation of Arista’s Proclamation to the Mexicans, which was received at Washington overland from Monterey, and comments as follows:

"The chivalry and patriotism of all Mexico are to be participants in the glorious work, which is to make every valley and mountain from the Rio Grande to the isthmus, verdant with never-fading laurels. The veterans of Santa Fe, accustomed victors, and the invincible battalions of the South, are on the march. Horrible to relate, the perfidious and rapacious Anglo Saxon, whose home is in Texas, or who comes from the land of the many stars, is to be overwhelmed, and swept from the fact of the earth. The honor of Mexico has been insulted - the property of her children threatened, and the integrity of the nation itself menaced. The sword must now do its work- and a glorious work is to be for the army of Arista. The world will look on with wonder and amazement; and after it is all over, will hardly believe that the soldiers of our Republic have been really vanquished by those of the other. But it must be so. General Arista has said it; and who will be bold enough to contradict him? The history of Texas-the battles of Valesco, Anahuac, Gonzales, Bexar, and San Jacinto, attest to the invincibility of the Mexican arms. General Taylor should make a ‘retrograde advance’ in the double quick time. As is certain that he will be ‘used up’ if he remains in his present dangerous position, we would insist, for the sake of humanity, that he place himself, with the whole of his command, at once beyond the reach of General Arista and his veteran hosts.”

“We tremble for the fate of the American Flag.”

[JKM]

Friday, October 3, 1845  REV42i43p4c1  Latest From Mexico  Words: 864

We have been kindly furnished by a friend with the following. From it we should judge that the services of our Artillery company will not be needed.

Extract from a letter, written on board the United States Ship Princeton, off Pensacola (Florida) Sept. 20, 1845

“We have just reached our anchorage here, after a passage of four and a half days from Vera Cruz, off which place we arrived on the 10th instant, having taken thither a special message messenger from Com. Connor to the American Consul. We have found the Mexicans quietly pursuing their usual avocations, free from all excitement or apprehension of war. In fact, the warlike feeling which was lately discoverable in Mexico, has almost entirely subsided. Was is scarcely alluded to, and the only this to remind on that the relations between that country and the United States are not perfectly amicable, is an occasional paragraph in the newspapers filled with high-flown praises of Mexican honor and valor, and a corresponding amount of abuse of the Americans. This, however, only evinces the characteristic fondness of the people for gasconade, and affords no proper grounds for drawing an inference respecting a corresponding action on their part. The customary national salutes are exchanged with our men-of-war when they enter the Mexican ports; so that, notwithstanding all diplomatic intercourse has ceased between the two nations, in all our respects the usual courtesies are shown from on to the other reciprocally. Whether there will be war or not remains for Mexico to determine; and, if we might draw a conclusion in reference to her course so far as it is connected with policy and prudence, we might say there will be none. Her treasury is bankrupt, and there is no means to replenish its empty coffers. Her army is disorganized, disaffected and destitute, and manifest much insubordination. On the 9th of August, a division of troops, under orders to the Texan frontier, refused to march, alleging as the cause of their conduct, their destitute and neglected condition. General Goana, who commanded them, together with about 20 officers who had refused to join the malcontents, was compelled to return to the city of Mexico. General Paredes, the commander-in-chief of the troops at San Luis Potosi, is suspected of conniving at this disaffection with the view of bringing about another revolution. The whole affair, however, is at this moment is undergoing investigation at the seat of Government, the result of which may be shortly expected. The department of Tobacco, is still in possession and under the entire control of the leaders in the recent revolution there; and the Government is too feeble and impoverished to vindicate its own supremacy even in this little province. The party which there raised the standard of hostile opposition to the Central Government, claims to be Federal, and declares
in favor of the Constitution of 1824; yet the Federal party in the other departments refuses to acknowledge it as a part of itself. The public mines are mortgaged for debts, which it will require many years to pay,- and forced loans and exactions have vitally impaired the ability of the people to lend, and entirely destroyed their confidence in the faith and credit of the Government. The loan of twelve millions of dollars recently granted by Congress will be of no avail, from the utter impossibility of getting it negotiated. Moreover, there is a system of internal duties and imposts which cripples the enterprise of the energetic and industrious, and which is kept up notwithstanding it barely pays its own expenses. The Mexican Navy too, is inefficient in every respect, there not being a single vessel fitted for sea, nor has the Government the ability to fit out one, as it was desirous of doing for the purpose of sending it down to Tobasco. Lastly, the French minister has demanded his passports, in consequence of the recent difficulty arising from his arrest, and there is reason for apprehending a rupture with France. In view of all these considerations, can we suppose that Mexico will be guilty of the folly of drawing upon herself the calamities of an invasion from the United States, by striking, with her public arm, the first offensive blow.

"Gen. Herrera is certainly elected President, and the cabinet which he had down to the period of election, has resigned, and the cause of their resignations is said to have some connection with the unsuccessful result of the negotiations in reference to Texas affairs. Of this, however, I am not definitely informed.

"The Yellow Fever had disappeared from Vera Cruz, but had just made its appearance on board a Spanish and an English man-of-war, both of which were laying off the island of Sacrificios. The health of our squadron is good- no case of Yellow Fever has as yet appeared in it, and we hope to escape it altogether, every precautionary measure being taken by our Commodore to prevent the introduction of it into such of our vessels as touch at places infected by it.

"Our vessels are kept in constant readiness for immediate service, so as to need no preparation when required for actions."

A."

[JKM]

Tuesday, October 7, 1845   REv42i44p2c1  Untitiled  words: 533

Liverpool, Sept. 19 – The present excited state of affairs in the United States, arising out of the Mexican dispute, and the feeling which, for no wise or pacific purpose, has been evoked there to prevent a speedy and satisfactory adjustment of the Oregon question- these combined causes are said to have determined the Government to increase materially our forces in Canada and the North American colonies. Such is the current rumor of the day.

London, Sept. 18th (Evening) – We have already referred to the extraordinary warlike preparations that are making at the naval yards of the kingdom; betokening some indications of an anticipation that peace may be interrupted. We now find, from another and distant quarter, a further confirmation of the apprehensions on the part of the Government. The several governors of the West India colonies have received instructions from the office at home to re-embODY the Colonial Militia, which, for some years past, have been in abeyance; and as there is noting in the internal condition of these colonies to render such a force necessary, the inference is that this precaution is required by some darkening clouds in our foreign relations. France and America are the only two countries by which the West Indies could be assailed. With which of these powers are we likely to come into collision; or, is there a chance that we may have them both on our hands at the same time? The extraordinary exertions that are making to equip steam-vessels of considerable power and force, leave the particular enemy uncertain. Steam vessels in a war with France would be indispensable, both for offensive and defensive operations, but, above all, for the protection of our trade. Again; steam vessels are just that description of force that could be most effectually brought into operation in a war with America. They are the class of vessels best suited for the rivers of that country; they could carry war into the very heart of the United States; they could keep every town and village in a constant state of alarm for its safety. Steam-ships, then, would apply equally to France and America, and nothing can be decidedly inferred from their equipment. But the block ships- these, as we have shown in an article yesterday, can only be intended to resist a French invasion. They could not be made available in America, or in any other distant quarter; they are a Channel and not a trans-Atlantic armament- a defensive, not an offensive force. Our speculations, we admit, may be visionary, but they are speculations which we have a right to entertain. The equipment of the advanced ships may have no intention that the putting the country into a state of maritime preparation which we have always contended is indispensable to her position as a great naval, commercial and colonial empire. Still, there is an earnestness and a haste in bringing them forward that would betoken something more than a mere formal matter of routine- a mere concession to public opinion; while the connecting links- the block ships and the Colonial Militia- appear to indicate a want of confidence in our present pacific relations with other countries.

[JKM]
Paris, September 16 – Mexico and the United State have again occupied much of the attention of the Parisian journalists; but all that has been said may be summed up in one line- either that there will be no war at all, or that, if a war, the United States will completely crush their puny adversary. The recent arrivals from Mexico have caused some little surprise, for they show that England is desirous that peace be maintained, whereas it was though that she would not only incite Mexico to hostilities, but supply the means for carrying them on.

Comments have been made by the leading journals on the documents relative to the external commerce of the United States, lately published by order of the American Government. The general feeling appears to be surprise at the gigantic growth of the commerce of the country of “Young Democracy;” and one or two of the journals draw the conclusion that, in course of time, America will succeed in completely breaking down and usurping the vase trade carried on by Great Britain with every country in the world. On every other question, as well as this, the French press affects to think that the decadence of Great Britain draws nigh, and that the United States will be the most active contributors towards, in no the sole authors of, he humiliation and ruin.

Tuesday, October 7, 1845  RE.42i44p2c3  Foreign News  words: 259

We devote a large portion of our paper today, to the foreign intelligence received at Boston per the Cambria. The Cotton market appears to have improved a little, and commercial aspects are favorable. The most important item however, which we notice, is the fitting out of vessels on the coast of Ireland, to be employed as privateers in the Mexican service. The impression abroad seems to be, that there will be a war between Mexico and the United States- in which event it is certainly to be expected; that any movement calculated to injure the growing commerce of this country, will be entered into with spirit by the opponents of Republican Government. On this subject, we extract the following from the Dublin Mercantile Advertiser:

"The last accounts from Mexico show, that however much the Mexican Government may be disposed to war against the United States, they sorely lack the means. It is by the issue of letters of marque to privateers, that any serious annoyance can be given to the trade of the United States. We have learned, that a number of vessels have proceeded to Mexico, to be employed as privateers. The Shamrock, which has been for some years a revenue cruiser on the Irish station, and has been known at Kingston as one of the fastest boats in the squadron, was sold by the government some months since. She subsequently proceeded to Liverpool, whence, two or three weeks since, she sailed from Mexico, the owners intending to take out letters of marque for the privateer service."

Tuesday, October 7, 1845  REv42i44p4c1  Untitled  Words: 419

[Excerpts from article in Nashville Whig]

There has been speculation as to what kind of war it becomes this nation to wage against Mexico, in case of hostile demonstrations on her part- whether we should content ourselves with acting on the defensive and sparing her as much as possible, or “carrying the war into Africa.” And strike an effective and decisive blow? On this point, the Washington Union, which no doubt speaks the views of the Administration, says:

" If Mexico then advances to the verge of hostilities- if she declares war upon us, or strikes at us without any declaration, she may feel the blow recoil with tremendous force upon her own head. We would spare her in her weakness, if we could. But it is high time for us to settle our differences with her- to demand atonement for her aggressions- to secure justice for our injured claimants- and to enjoy an honorable and permanent peace. We desire this. We expect no honor in a contest with a power so comparatively weak as Mexico is. But if we can have no honor in beating, we should suffer the more disgrace in being beaten by her. In case of war, therefore, we must put forth our whole strength, that we may have a short war, and a lasting peace. And, acting in this spirit, we have no doubt the Executive will exert all the resources which the laws come together to unite their Constitutional power with his own.

We concur entirely in the propriety of the course here pointed out. In is high time that our differences with Mexico should be settled. She has no just cause of war against us. She has assumes a belligerent attitude, and through her Executive proclaimed her intention of declaring war. How long is this declaration of hr intentions to be held up by her and endured by us? If she does not act speedily, on way or the other, we shall be in favor of the adoption of summary measures on the part of the Government, to bring her to a settlement of the existing difficulties between the two countries. She has assumed an attitude which she should not be suffered long to maintain. With a strong military force on the Western frontier of Texas, and a fleet before Vera Cruz, let her be offered the alternative of War or Peace. We have a right to demand of her an explicit declaration of her intentions, and to strike the first blow, unless the demand be complied with. [JKM]
It is supposed and not without good ground, that President Herrera, in view of the proneness of the Mexicans to revolution, and aware of the ambitious aspirations of his generals, will not be likely to trust either of them with a command sufficient to make demonstrations upon Texas with, lest, instead of marching against Texas, they should march against him and revolutionize the country. Everything indeed, tends to convince us that Mexico does not intend to declare war- and dare not attempt to invade Texas, though ridiculously claiming it as part and parcel of the Mexican domain. But, in the meantime, by keeping us in suspense as to what she intends to do, she is forcing us to incur as heavy an expense for preparation as if war actually existed. This is not what our Government should be willing to submit to; and the sooner the question is brought to a close, the better. Let our army advance to the Rio Grande, and take possession of the "disputed territory," and leave her the alternative of immediate war or negotiation. The latter would be better for both parties. It would save the City of Mexico from the fate of the cities of Canaan, which would inevitably betide it if she went to war with us; and it would stop a vast expenditure of treasure by our Government; which would save twenty-five millions at least, by paying fifteen or twenty millions to Mexico to relinquish her claim to all the territory north of the Rio Grande. Indeed, we would greatly prefer to pay Mexico twenty millions for Texas to the Rio Grande, than to wrest it from her by conquest for half the money. We have a sort of superstitious dread of acquiring territory by conquest. It is counter to all our notions of morality and justice, from the principles of which one departure will but lead to another, until the character of our republic and the genius of our people are radically changed, and the fabric of our liberties overturned.

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The Montreal Times, in noticing the success of the project of the annexation of Texas by the United States, makes the following remark:

"The balance of power has become a laughing-stock to the politicians of this enlightened age; but there can be no doubt that there is great danger in permitting any country to become so strong as to enable it to dictate its own terms to neighboring nations. Great power, if unchecked, will always be abused, whether wielded by the despotic sovereigns of France or Austria or Russia. Or by the despotic Democracy of the United States of America."

Whatever may be thought of the policy of annexation, which is a fair subject for difference of opinion, we apprehend that there is not a solitary man in this country who would tolerate for an instant the attempt, on the part of any or of all the nations of the world, to check the growth of the United States, on the plea that they were becoming "so strong as to dictate their own terms to neighboring nations."

Whether the interference with our affairs, for the purpose of retarding our growth, and so preserving the "balance of power" on the Western Continent, by made by Great Britain, or by France, or by both, we take it for granted that it would meet the determined, and, if need be, forcible resistance to every man of man of every party in the Union. [-New York Courier and Enquirer

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To the editors of the Enquirer:

Camp of the 2nd U.S. Dragoons, West bank of the Colorado River, opposite "Le Grange," Aug. 14, 1845

Gentlemen: I wrote you a hurried account of the movement of the Regiment from Jesup, under date of the 24th ult., supposing that the information would be of interest to you. We are now exactly three hundred miles from Fort Jesup, which is just twenty-five from the Sabine River, which forms the line between the United States and Texas. By rapid and forced marches, this distance has been made, notwithstanding one or two occasions of delay at several at several intermediate points. This morning, an express arrived from General Taylor, who is at "Corpus Christi," on the coast, with the 3rd and 4th Regiments of Infantry. The orders received by the express, indicate an entirely different route for this Regiment from this point, from what was generally supposed to have been the destination of this portion of the command. Instead of moving in a North-Westerly or Westerly direction to Austin and San Antonio, as everybody hoped and expected, we proceed from this place in a Southerly direction, towards the coast, tomorrow morning, with all speed, for the old frontier settlement of San Patricio; which arrangement, it is supposed, will be only temporary, and that the Dragoons, or a portion of them, will ultimately be stationed in the neighborhood of Austin. Nothing of particular interest has transpired on the march, which thus far, all things considered, has been an exceedingly fortunate one. The people are all enthusiastic in their manifestations of delight at the presence of the U.S. troops, and are generally a much better class, in every respect, that they are generally supposed and represented to be.
It is strictly true, that no one is to be found, who is opposed to the great measure, so nearly consummated, except the Officers of the Government; and, indeed, not all of them. As to the general face, character and appearance of the country, I think that by far the better portion of it, thus far, is in the extreme Easterly section. The country is, however, improving in appearance the farther we go West, and that high up on this river, is represented to be exceedingly beautiful and abundant. For a week past, we have been crossing a succession of small prairies, beautifully interspersed with clumps of trees and skirts of wood, that mark the course of every little stream; but it is from this point only that the broad expanse of the grand prairies commences. The appearance of the country frequently peculiar, interesting, and sometimes even beautiful; but to the eye of a Virginian, it wants the sublimity of mountain scenery, to entitle it to the extravagant praises often bestowed. In accordance with my volunteer promise, heretofore given, I will improve every occasion for sending you accounts of whatever takes place of any interest. How and whether this will reach you at all, I am at a loss to say; but you may take it at a venture for what it is worth, and place the whole to the credit of OLD VIRGINIA

[JKM]

Friday, October 10, 1845  REv42i45p2c1  Untitled  words: 73

The territory of Oregon contains 360,000 square miles, which is extent enough to form seven States as large as New York. It extends 800 miles along the Rocky Mountains of the east, 300 miles along the Snowy Mountains on the south, 700 miles along the Pacific Ocean, and 240 miles along the possessions of Russia and England on the North. Some of the islands on the coast of the Pacific are very large.

[JKM]

Friday, October 10, 1845  REv42i45p2c4  Untitled  words: 231

(Correspondence of the Mobile Herald and Tribune)

Pensacola, Florida  Oct. 1, 1845

The U.S. steamship Princeton sailed yesterday morning with important (as it is conjectured) dispatches. Her immediate destination is Vera Cruz, whither she is directed to proceed to proceed with all possible celerity. The dispatches came by mail in ten days Washington, accompanied by an order to proceed with them without an "hour's delay." They were received at sunset and at sunrise the steamship was under way. It appears she has thus long been detained here for this purpose by a special order from the Navy Department; and it was also supposed she would carry our a special messenger.

There is a rumor afloat, that these dispatches contain a conciliatory overture to Mexico with regard to Texas. The manner in which it will be received by the Mexicans, is intended when laid before our next Congress, to show that body the spirit by which these people are actuated towards us, as also to demonstrate our Government the be as forward with offers of peace, as it has shown itself prompt with preparations for war.

The U.S. brig Lawrence will sail today, (the wind permitting,) and join the squadron. She would have sailed yesterday, but was detained by foul weather.

The frigate Potomac still lies at her anchorage her box or false bow is not yet fitted in a satisfactory manner.

[JKM]

Friday, October 10, 1845  REv42i45p2c5  Letter from Mr.Calhoun  words: 353

[from the Washington (Texas) Register]

LETTER FROM MR.CALHOUN

Fort Hill, 12th August 1845

Dear Sir: I am in the receipt of your letter, conveying a certified copy of a series of resolutions of your convention, unanimously passed, approbatory of the course of the late President and his administration in reference to the annexation of Texas, and communicated by its direction.

I accept this highly honorable approval of the distinguished body over which you presided, of the part I
performed towards the consummation of this great measure, with sincere pleasure and gratitude.

Taken altogether, it is one of most memorable events of our history; and I am proud to have my name associated with it. One of its most striking circumstances is the unanimity and enthusiasm with which the people of Texas returned into our great and glorious Union, in spite of every obstacle thrown in their way, and every seduction presented to influence their decision. It speaks a volume in favor of their intelligence and patriotism; and is, at the same time, the highest eulogy ever pronounced in favor of our free, popular institutions; and will be so felt throughout the civilized world. This high evidence of the devotion of her sons to the land of their birth, and its institutions, gives assurance that she will shine as one of the brightest stars in our brilliant constellation.

I avail myself of the occasion to tender to you my congratulations at the high honor conferred on you by the convention, in selecting you to preside over its deliberations. It is, indeed, a striking, and, to me, a gratifying coincidence, that an old acquaintance, and a native of the district I reside in, should be called to preside in the convention which, on the part of Texas, consummated this great measure; in reference to which, it has been my fortune to take not an undistinguished part; and that another old acquaintance, and law student of mine, and native of the same district with myself, should be the chairman and organ of the committee by which it was consummated.

With great respect, yours truly
J.C. Calhoun

Friday, October 10, 1845     REv42i45p4c1   Miscellaneous   words: 936
(from the regular Correspondent of the Union)

The defense set up by the “National Intelligencer” in favor of Mexico’s right to territory east of the Rio Grande, is most extraordinary.

It is well known that our Government, under every administration prior to the acquisition of Florida, considered our purchase of Louisiana extended to the Rio Grande del Norte.

At the time Mr. Livingston and Mr. Monroe purchased Louisiana from Bonaparte, the stipulations for which were concluded in Paris, they had a map of the country before them, which could no doubt be found in the archives of the French metropolis. This map, no doubt, would show the Louisiana extended to the Rio Grande.

This is not all. Gen. Lamar, in his inaugural address, several years ago, defined the boundaries of Texas, and claimed the Rio Grande. When ministers were sent to France and England to obtain the acknowledgement of Texas independence, they were instructed to claim boundary to the Rio Grande. I have been informed, on the highest authority, that when the proposition of acknowledging independence of Texas was submitted to the English minister in London, he called upon the Texas envoy to explain the boundaries of his country; whereupon the Texan defined its boundaries, according to the instructions of his Government- at which her Majesty’s minister expressed some surprise, but made it no bar to the acknowledge of Texas independence to the extent of the soil she claimed.

France acknowledged her independence, under the same circumstances.

It seems to us, that if these powers had succeeded in inducing Mexico to acknowledge the independence of Texas, their own previous acknowledge of the same to the Rio Grande del Norte would, or ought, to have induced them to adhere to the same boundary in their intervention with Mexico. But all this aside, the simple fact that Texas has maintained her independence for years, and by force of arms, over the soil to the Rio Grande, is conclusive of our right, through her accession, to the same. Never has a Mexican force passed the Rio Grande into Texas, for the day, of her independence but it has been considered and treated as an invasion, and measures adopted to expel them.

A case and point occurred in arranging our boundary with old Spain.

It seems that when we purchased Louisiana in 1803, Spain never doubted our right to all Texas under the purchase from France, extending to the Rio Grande del Norte; but she disputed our right to go east of the river Perdido, a small stream entering the Gulf of Mexico, between Pensacola and Mobile which we contended formed the eastern boundary of Louisiana; while Spain contended that the line should be drawn west of Mobile, and between it and New Orleans. While this dispute was going on, Spain held Mobile. She had troops strongly garrisoned there, apparently prepared to defend and maintain her title, of which she was in actual possession. She so remained in possession for ten years after our purchase, or from 1803 to 1813, till after the declaration of war. It was found that no negotiation could induce Spain to abandon her occupancy. Finally, Mr. Madison ordered Gen. Wilkinson, in 1813, to march upon Mobile, take possession of the fort, and erect our authority and flag over the country- from Louisiana east to the Perdido river.

We do not know where the Intelligencer stood in that day. If in existence, to have acted in accordance with
its present unenviable position, it ought to have opposed Mr. Madison in his movement, and joined the Spaniards in declaring it was an invasion of Florida, and ought to have justified the declaration of war against us. That Louisiana did not extend East to the Perdido, but that Mobile, with the country, far West of stream, was Spanish territory; which, after allowing ten years’ occupancy on their part, we had forcibly entered, and expelled their troops from the country, pulling down the colors of Ferdinand the 7th, ruling “by the grace of God,” and hoisting the broad, glorious, bright stars and stripes of a free people. Where was the National Intelligencer then, that it could not have mingled its groans and tears of sympathy with his Catholic Majesty, the King of Spain and India?

How stands the case now? Between New York and the Rio Grande there is not a Spanish garrison. No regular for, no respectable body of troops have occupied a foot of the soil for years- almost every inch being under the exclusive control of the Texas Government, now merged into our territory; yet, because the President has sent our troops there to occupy it, the Intelligencer raises the greatest possible “hue-and-cry” for political effect.

From the date of the boundaries defined by the old bishopric of Louisiana, up to the present time, the Rio del Norte has formed the Western boundary of Texas.

Mexico never acquired any territorial right to Texas, unless Mr. Adam’s cession of it to Spain in exchange for Florida, in 1819, gave her some sort of claim; but at the period of this transfer, Mexico herself was not independent of old Spain. She never conquered Texas. The only connection formed subsequently, was her union under a confederacy, which could be dissolved by the gross violation of the compact on the part of Mexico; which was the fact. And leaving the Mexican confederacy, she, by permission, united herself to another confederacy, transferring the sovereignty of her soil West to the Rio Grande, to the confederation to which she had united herself; and all the powers of earth cannot wrest it from us.

Tuesday, October 14, 1845   REv42i46p4c1   Secret Treaty   words: 370

The Rio Grande

The secret treaty, which Santa Ana formed with the authority of Texas, by which he obtained his own liberty and preserved the army of Mexico, has just been published by Texas. We copy both the private and public treaties from the columns of the Galveston News. It appears from both these instruments, that the Rio Grande was at that time designated as the Western boundary of Texas! [Unum]

Secret Treaty

Antonio Lopez de Santa Ana, general-in-chief of the army of operations, and President of the Republic of Mexico, before the government established in Texas, solemnly pledges himself to fulfill the stipulations contained in the following articles, as far as concerns himself:

Article 1: He will not take up arms, nor cause the to be taken up, against the people of Texas, during the present war of independence.

Article 2: He will give his orders, that, in the shortest time, the Mexican troops may leave the territory of Texas.

Article 3: He will so prepare matters in the Cabinet of Mexico, that the mission that may be sent thither by the Government of Texas may be well received; and that, by means of negotiations all differences may be settled, and the independence that has been declared by the Convention may be acknowledged.

Article 4: A treaty of commerce, amity, and limits, will be established between Mexico and Texas. The territory of the latter not to extend beyond the Rio Bravo del Norte.

Article 5: The prompt return of General Santa Ana to Vera Cruz being indispensable, for the purpose of effecting his solemn engagements, the Government of Texas will provide for his immediate embarkation for said port.

Article 6: This instrument being obligatory on one part as well as on the other, will be signed by duplicate, remaining folded and sealed until the negotiation shall be concluded, when it will be restored to his Excellency General Santa Ana - no use of it to be made before that time, unless there should be an infraction by either of the contracting parties.

Port of Velasco, May 14, 1836

David G. Burnet
Antonio Lopez de Santa Ana
Tuesday, October 14, 1845 REv42i46p4c1 Farewell of Gen. Santa Ana to the Texas Army  Words: 60

My friends! I have been a witness of your courage in the field of battle, and know you to be generous. Rely with confidence on my sincerity, and you shall have no cause to regret the kindness shown me. I beg to receive the sincere thanks of your grateful friend—farewell.

Antonio Lopez de Santa Ana
Velasco, 1st June, 1838

Tuesday, October 14, 1845 REv42i46p4c1 Papers of Gen. Austin  words:576

Papers of Gen. Austin- Copy of an Agreement- Articles of agreement entered into between his excellency, David G. Burnet, President of the Republic of Texas, of the one part, and his excellency, Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Ana, President and General-in-chief of the Mexican Army, of the other part.

Article 1: Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Ana agrees that he will not take up arms, nor will he exercise his influence to cause them to be taken up against the people of Texas during the present war of independence.

Article 2: All hostilities between the Mexican and Texas troops will cease—immediately, both on land and water.

Article 3: The Mexican troops will vacate the territory of Texas, passing to the other side of the Rio Grande del Norte.

Article 4: The Mexican Army, in its retreat, shall not take the property of any person without his consent and just indemnification, using only such articles as may be necessary for its subsistence, in cases when the owner may not be present, remitting to the Commander of the army of Texas, or to the commissioners to be appointed for the adjustment of such matters, an account of the value of the property consumed, the place where taken, and the name of the owner, if it can be ascertained.

Article 5: That all private property, including cattle, horses, Negro slaves, or indenture persons of whatever denomination that may have been captured by any portion of the Mexican army, since the commencement of the last invasion, shall be restored to the commander of the Texain army, or to such where persons may be appointed by the government of Texas to receive them.

Article 6: The troops of both armies will refrain from coming into contact with each other; and to this, the commander of the army of Texas will be careful not to approach within a less distance of the Mexican army than five leagues.

Article 7: The Mexican army shall not make any other delay on its march than that which is necessary to take up the hospitals, baggage, etc., and to cross the rivers. Any delay not necessary to these purposes, to be considered an infraction of this agreement.

Article 8: By express, to be immediately dispatched, this agreement shall be sent to Gen. Vicente Filisola, and to Gen. T.J. Rusk, commander of the Texan army, in order that the may be appraised of the stipulations; and, to this end, they will exchange engagements to comply the same.

Article 9: That all Texan prisoners, now in possession of the Mexican army, or its authorities, be forthwith released, with free passports to return to their homes, in consideration of which, a corresponding number of Mexican prisoners, rank and file, now in possession of the government of Texas, shall be immediately released. The remainder of the Mexican prisoners that continue in the possession of the government of Texas, to be treated with due humanity; and extraordinary comforts that may be furnished them to be at the charge of the government of Mexico.

Article 10: General Lopez de Santa Ana will be sent to Vera Cruz as soon as it shall be deemed proper. The contracting parties sign the instrument for the above-mentioned purpose, by duplicate at the port of Valesco, this fourteenth day of May, 1836.
[JKM]

Friday, October 17, 1845   REv42i47p1c7   Untitled   Words:  225

[from the Union]

California- We have seen another letter from New York, which occurs with the one that was addressed to ourselves, and published in the "Union" of Friday evening. This second letter also speaks (with some specification, which is not proper for us to publish) of a scheme now projected to make California independent of Mexico. It says that "Americans and other foreigners are connected with the movement. It is positively asserted that England and France are to recognize and aid in completing this design, upon the express condition that no connection or union is to be formed with the United States."

This information is said to come from a gentleman of high standing and character. Nor do we doubt the respectability of the source, though we cannot vouch for the accuracy of the information.

The "Boston Advertiser" gives the following as "an extract from a letter from Peninsula of California, dated "San Francisco, June 29"

"The country is in a lamentable state of confusion, and entirely without law. 1,800 Mexican troops already expected, under the command of an officer who was educated in England, and is said to be a man of great capacity and character. Attempts are making to excite the Californians to oppose the landing of the troops, which will not probably succeed, and we shall be again under Mexican rulers."

[JKM]

Friday, October 17, 1845   REv42i47p2c1  Almost an Entire Surrender   words: 1141

In the last few weeks, public curiosity in relation to the affairs of Texas and Mexico, has wonderfully cooled down. In another column we give a summary of the last news from these two countries. Texas is now so closely associated with us in every particular, that we look upon her as part and parcel of ourselves- and the events of her history are regarded with not much more interest that the actions and doings of the older States. It will be seen, that everything is moving on quietly and prosperously. An excellent Constitution framed and submitted to the people- flourishing crops in all directions- the selection of the proper State officers to administer her affairs and wield her destinies- and the organization of political societies, based upon the party divisions of this country, preparatory to her entrance into our Union- these are some of the features of the stirring events now transpiring in the new Republic, which is so soon to take her stand by our side, and to share with us the honors and responsibilities of an independent and rapidly progressive nation. In one short year, what magic results have been achieved by this great question! In our own country, it swept away all opposition, and covered with gloom the brilliant prospects of the proudest politicians. A little more then a year ago, the triumph of the Texas candidate was a the sure guarantee of one of the most extraordinary events that history has recorded- the peaceful and voluntary union of two great Republics- in spite of the frowns and oppositions of the mighty nations of the Old World. For a time, treason reared its hateful crest; but it was crushed by popular indignation. And, now everything is moving on in peace and beauty- full of promise of honor and prosperity to the expanding Republic of the New World.

In Texas, too, a wonderful moral revolution has been effected. Stripped of the apprehension of attack from without, she has set to work and organized a Government, worthy of the spirit of the age. Agriculture is developing the rich resources of her soil. Education is about to throw its magic influence over her people and her Government. Upon the testimony of the Rev. Mr. Blair, of Victoria, Texas, as reported by the Watchman and Observer of this city, "We are gratified to learn, that, in a religious point of view, the prospect is encouraging- that the general character of the people is not of that rude and lawless violent cast which many suppose, but peaceful and orderly and well disposed, and prepared not only to receive the gospel, but to aid in its extension- that even the native Mexicans, tho' professed Catholics, are inclined to listen to the truth- and some of them are procuring Bibles and other religious works in the Spanish language, which they not only read themselves with interest, but are, in some measure, distributing them even in Mexico- that the attention of the people in many sections of the country is directed to the establishment of schools; and they would, were they able, make ample provisions for the education of the rising generation. What is greatly needed are more ministers of the Gospel, intelligent, prudent, zealous, and prepared to 'endure hardness as good soldiers of Jesus Christ'- men who would follow in the footsteps of those..."
pioneers of the Gospel in the earlier settlements of the States- and who would not only preach, but teach- become
the founders of academies and of colleges, the influence of which is incalculable upon a rising population. Connected
with the Presbytery of Brases, there are now seven ministers, and they will probably be very soon united with our
General Assembly. But the number ought to be greatly increased, and ample means should be prepared for their
support. The question then arises, who will go? And who will give? It is important that what is done should be done
quickly. The Macedonian cry from that quarter of the great field, Come over and help us, seems to us in the
providence of God to be clear, and distinct and emphatic- and therefore we invite to it the attention of the churches."

As for Mexico, she is bowed to the ground, and is now meeting, in sackcloth and ashes, the heavy penalty
for her past tyranny, and her public and private perfidy and vice. Her new President, Herrera, is already threatened
with revolutions; her treasury is exhausted, and her credit gone; her army, penniless and starving, breathes
discontent and rebellion. All is anarchy and confusion, and there can be found no patriot of strong mind and courage
to seize the helm of State, and, by firmness and energy, save the vessel from the impending storm. At the recent
installation of President Herrera, he pronounced an address, wherein, after deploring the utter insufficiency of the
revenues of State, whereby the powers of Government are completely paralyzed, and after demanding the prompt
and energetic cooperation of the legislative body, to remedy the evil, he makes the following ominous prediction:

"The army cannot move; territory usurped, will remain usurped; and the hope of recovering it
being once lost, the usurpation will be successively and gradually continued until it embraces the whole
Republic, and (I shudder to confess it,) Mexico, with so many elements of abundance and of greatness,
will disappear from the number of present nations."

Painful and forced as the confession was, it is true in the fullest extent, "Territory usurped will remain
usurped"- or, to speak more in accordance with truth and reason, "Texas annexed by lawful and peaceful means,
and in consonance with every principle of justice and international law, will remain annexed." Whether the remaining
clause of his melancholy prophecy will be verified, rests within the discretion of Mexico herself. As long as she does
us justice, the United States will respect her rights and leave her territory inviolate.

If any one doubts that Mexico has surrendered all hope and design of reconquering Texas, the following
extract from a paper in the interior of Mexico, will solve the difficulty. Speaking of the arrival of Gen. Gaona's
division at Matamoras, the journal exclaims: "Heaven grant that it may be true, and that it may not be composed of
more officers than soldiers, and that items carried with it the means of subsistence; because if it comes to die of
hunger, as had been almost the case with the troops now there, instead of improving, it will only aggravate our
condition." The article goes on in this heart-broken strain; proving that the troops near the frontier are almost
totally disorganized, for want of the necessary resources.

Mexico has no power to assail us. Her domestic troubles are sufficient to engage all her attention. Indeed,
ye threaten her very existence as a nation. [JKM]
A Texas correspondent of the N.Y. Tribune, who strongly battled against annexation, but when it was completed, went out "to see what could be done there," described the natural resources of the new State in the following glowing tints. He makes it out to be a perfect El Dorado and "no price could have been to large for its acquisition." As a large majority of the people of the United States are convinced that it has been annexed without the least "violation of our Constitution or sacrifice of our national power," we ask all Whigs, who may still doubt the value of the acquisition, to read the strong testimony of a Whig eye-witness and give the proper praise to the Democrats for having secured a splendid national prize:

"Capital and Labor find a good market in Texas. The cotton planter will possess decided advantages over his competitor in the States. The soil is more cheaply and easily prepared for the plant and will produce more to the acre; the season is longer, and early frosts do not prevent the planter from picking all he can raise. From the Sabine to the Rio Grande, Cotton may be cultivated with the greatest facility."

"The capacities of Texas for the culture of the Sugar Cane can scarcely be overrated- the Brazos river alone and its tributaries afford more and better Sugar lands that is watered by the Mississippi, and this does not embrace one-fifth of the Sugar lands of Texas!"

"All the grains of the North may be grown in this country. I have seen Sugar cane, Cotton, Wheat, Corn, Rye and Pulse growing in the same locality in Western Texas, and it would seem difficult to say to which the soil seemed best adapted. Tobacco and Indigo succeed well, and will one day become articles of export. The culture of Silk in the region of San Antonio, was successfully tested by the Spaniards. For grazing and stock raising of all kinds, you can scarcely go amiss- the whole country is perennial, self sustaining pasture."

"Slavery, except in name, can never extend to Northern and Western Texas- if for no other reason, because it can never become in those parts a profitable investment."

"The people of Texas as a body, are law-observing, peaceable, intelligent and hardy. You must not judge of them from the turbulent and unworthy few who came here in earlier times- many of these have passed away. Fifty peaceable citizens come here and settle; no note is made of it- one notorious scoundrel flies from justice, takes up his abode here, and every paper in the Union heralds the fact."

"From this time forward the trade from Texas will go North- to New York and Boston; for there will be the consumption and outlet of her staple productions, and thence will be mainly derived her supplies. Indeed, considering the capacities of this country for the culture of the great staples of sugar, cotton, and wool, no price could have been too large for its acquisition, save that of a violation of our Constitution and a sacrifice of our national honor."

Friday, October, 24, 1845   REv42i49p2c1  Just Tribute    words: 535

The following extract of a letter, from the intelligent and reliable Washington Correspondent of the N.Y. Journal of Commerce, presents, in a condensed and luminous view, the true effect of the wise and energetic conduct of the President, in carrying out the wishes of the people of this Union, for the annexation of Texas. Mr. Polk boldly cut the Gordian knot, and all difficulty at home and abroad was at once settled. The threatened war with Mexico is now merely a subject of curious speculation- and the fiery wrath of the Abolitionists, and other anti-American fanatics, has been softened down to smothered mutterings of opposition at a few public meetings in Massachusetts. We doubt much, whether any serious resistance will be made in Congress to the consumption of the union of the two countries. It is certain, that he who attempts to thwart public sentiment in this favorite measure, takes upon himself a fearful responsibility. Whatever be the present views of his constituents, such a factious and anti-American interference will be regarded as a violation of national faith and honor, and will consign the mischievous agitator to inglorious obscurity.

After rendering to Messrs. Calhoun and Tyler the proper tribute of praise for their consistent and brilliant labors, in giving life and success to the glorious work, the writer proceeds:

"This promptness of action and directness of policy encourage Texas, paralyzed Mexico, astounded the political drivellers of the old world, who were always prating about our inefficiency, and, forever, silenced all factious opposition at home."

"It belong to foreign and anti-American interests, properly to appreciate the statesmanlike action of Mr. Polk on this subject. The praise grudgingly spared to the President by his friends at home, is willingly, but maliciously, accorded, by his enemies abroad. Witness the following paragraph from the London Examiner:"

"President Polk has, however, defeated the purpose of his own Senate; he has out-promised and out-maneuvered England, cajoled the Texians into a vote of annexation, and acted there on promptly by the dispatch of ships and regiments to the Rio Grande. Polk has shown himself in this a worthy son of Jackson; indeed, an improvement upon Old Hickory, since he has avoided the violence and bloodshed which accompanied the General's seizure of the Floridas. The question now is, whether
the British Government, and that of France, having failed, will be content to refrain from all further interference. Will they give up their treaties with Texas? Will Englishmen give up their claims upon Texas, as a portion of Mexico, for the 60,000,000 dollars due to the settlement?"

"The action of the present Administration has put at rest all "further interference," either at home or abroad. Foreign Governments- i.e. the British Governments, have yielded all their hopes, all their interests, all their treaties, all their mortgages, all their pretensions- everything that can stand in the way of Texan annexation."

"The fact, then, seems to be, that Texas, already a territory of the Union, is about to become a State- as soon as Congress can meet and accept the State Constitution. This statement of the question above referred to as so puzzling at public dinners, and in some public papers, seems to unriddle the whole matter.

Friday, October 24, 1845    REv42i49p4c1   Untitled    words: 139

France- Paris, Sept. 30- Much attention has been paid in this capital, both by the press and the public, to the recent arrivals from the United States, with respect to Mexico. The probability of war or no war has been discussed; but all journals and all parties are unanimous in thinking that it would be the very height of folly for Mexico to attempt hostilities.

The tale of the Times of London of the finding of slave shackles in the wreck of the noble American Vessel, the Missouri, has been received in Paris with varied feelings of contempt, disbelief and indignation. All our journals, without a single exception, designate it as a falsehood; many characterize it as a most infamous calumny; and some think it a lie so monstrously stupid; as not to merit the honor of an answer.

Friday, October 24, 1845   REv42i49p4c5   Later From Texas   words: 180

By the schooner Florinda from Galveston, we have received papers of that place:

It appears the crops are very favorable. It is believed that the exports will exceed those of any preceding year.

The newspapers express a good deal of mistrust in the friendship of the Indians, and call upon the Government of the United States to remove them.

A great Democratic meeting was held at Galveston on the 2nd. Inst. for the purpose of organizing the party for the approaching election. The resolutions express great satisfaction at the annexation of the republic to the United States, and declare, what is very true, that it is a Democratic measure, carried in effect by the Democracy of the country.

It is stated that General Taylor arrested several Mexicans as spies, and although he had strong evidence against them, yet he permitted them to go at large, under the impression that their reports of the condition of his camp would do no harm.

There are Mexican emissaries among the Negroes on the Colorado, who have shown a spirit of insubordination.- [NO Courier

Friday, October 24, 1845   REv42i49p4c5   From Mexico   words: 288

From Mexico- We have seen a letter from a very intelligent source, dated the 25th ult. at Vera Cruz. The letter is full of rumors and speculations, most of which are not new. The writer has no idea whatever, that Mexico will fight, but applauds the preparations on the part of the United States upon the frontiers, inasmuch as the Mexicans are a treacherous race, and have too much Indian blood in them to be trusted, however peaceable they may seem.

It is said that the Mexican Government recently obtained a loan of $200,000 of the foreign merchants, in anticipation of accruing duties, and that the money was at once dispatched to the armies of Gens. Paredes and Arista. A rumor is mentioned that the church was willing to advance $15,000,000, if they could thereby prevent the inroads of heretics into the country- but this looks like moonshine.

An order arrived at Vera Cruz on the 24th ult. for all the women to leave the castle of San Juan d’Ulua; and
on the 25th, news came that the State of Tabasco had returned to her allegiance to the existing Government.

The writer does not believe that a single letter of marque has been issued by the Mexican Government for future use, and he is very likely to know. The Mexican steam vessels of war are hauled up under the protection of the castle, prepared for nothing but *Northers*.

The fears of an internal revolution were so decided, that the very day was named for an outbreak of what is called Santa Ana’s party. But it is the more idle to give mere speculations, as we shall doubtless have later and explicit news within a few days.- [N.O. Picayune

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Friday, October 31, 1845   REv42i51p2c3   The O’Connells in America   words: 498

No feelings of gratitude of sympathy in a common cause of resistance to tyranny, can restrain the “Agitator” and his son John from lavishing their abuse upon this country. The elder O’Connell is now on his walk of political agitation and never loses a chance of hurling his slanders at our head. In a repeal speech at Kerry, speaking upon the Oregon question, he uttered the following absurd and infamous expressions:

“While American has the canker worm of Negro slavery working at her heart’s core—while a remnant of slavery exists in America, she never can be strong or prospering in war, or able to hold her own against a hostile nation. There is within her the plague spot of slavery, and God forbid that any country should ever be permanently powerful, that is tainted with that infernal system.”

His hopeful son John seems resolved to follow in the footsteps of his father, and to rival him in gross and mendacious assaults upon American character. In a late speech he entered into a history of the Annexation of Texas, remarking, that “the slave-owners on the Southern States had, for their own base purposes of spreading and fostering the slave system, and, what was for worse, of slave breeding, annexed Texas, in order, by the addition of a few more Southern States, they might be able to outvote the Northern, who are opposed to slavery. He also characterized the proceeding as a ‘bare-faced’ wrong and a ‘notorious swindle’.”—He was not, however, suffered to proceed in his false statements, uncontradicted. There was in the body of the hall one individual of truth and courage, who stepped forward and rebuked the imprudent speaker for his misrepresentations. He boldly told him that he was better acquainted with the States that he, Mr. O’Connell, could be. He said, and with truth, that the object of annexing was not the purpose of promoting slavery, but to prevent England from ever having the power of making a successful attack upon American independence. Many thanks to this gentleman, who, despite the frowns and clamors of the Agitator’s party, was manly and virtuous enough to vindicate the name of a distant Republic.

The violence of the O’Connells is received with disapprobation even by a portion of the people in Ireland. Already we see a wide breach between “Young” and “Old” Ireland, and the establishment of a paper under the latter title, intended to represent the O’Connell section of the Repealers, will only increase the disaffection. The Dublin “Nation” is the able organ of the “Young Ireland.”

Warm as are our sympathies for the cause of Repeal, the course of the O’Connell and his intimate friends is well calculated to produce a reaction of felling in this country. No people can hear their character vilely aspersed, and still hold out their hand of friendship to their public revilers. A more moderate and liberal bearing would lose to O’Connell and Repeal fewer friends, both at home and abroad.

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Friday, October 31, 1845   REv42i51p2c3   Untitled   words: 166

Mexican Tariff- One of the reasons for believing that Mexico mediated to declare war against this country, was the formal manner in which the Mexican Consul at New Orleans closed his official labors and returned to his country. The following which we yesterday received from the Mexican Consul in this city, places a very pacific face on the matter.

[New York Sun]

CONSULATE GENERAL OF MEXICO

The understanding in fulfillment of the instructions of his Government, hereby informs the merchants engaged in the Mexican trade; that the Mexican Government have authorized a new tariff to be in force, on and after the 1st February next; that he has received a extract of it which contains the principle alterations, and in order that they may be enabled to make their calculations in accordance, and to give it all possible publicity he has had it reprinted with the object to distribute gratuitously to them, on application at his office, No. 95 Wall Street

John Granja
Mexican Consul General
The Washington Correspondent of the N.Y. Journal of Commerce, writing under date of the 26th October, says:

"I learn that the Executive has, at length, determined to dispatch a special agent to Mexico for the purpose of making a formal demand upon the government for the payment of the indemnity due to us, under the Treaty concluded on the 5th of April, 1831.

"It is somewhat surprising, that public attention has not been called to the 34th article of that treaty, under which this demand is about to be made, though at so late a day in this business.

"The article is as follows:

"Thirdly- If (what indeed cannot be expected) any of the articles contained in the present treaty shall be violated or infracted in any manner whatever, it is stipulated that neither of the contracting parties will order or authorize any acts of reprisal, nor declare war against the other, on complaints of injuries or damages, until the said party considering itself offended, shall first have presented to the other a statement of such injuries or damages, verifies by competent proofs, and demanded justice and satisfaction, and the same shall have been either refused or unreasonably delayed."

"This demand has probably been withheld by this Government, upon the supposition, that Mexico was about to carry into execution her threats of a declaration of war against the United States. An appeal to war would, of course, set aside all treaty stipulations. But, as the present administration of the mock Government of Mexico is supposed to be, in fact, of a pacific disposition, whether from preference or from helplessness, it becomes necessary and proper for our Government to make this long withheld demand."

[JKM]
# The Mexican-American War and the Media, 1845-1848

Richmond Enquirer  
January-June 1846  
Missing months: April, May, June

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From the *New York Evening Post*, Thursday: items, Notice Resolution and comment from London, March 8; note: also includes coverage on England's war in India
RE46v42n99p4c5 Tuesday, April 14, 1846: No title, from Texas

RE46v42n99p4c5-6 Tuesday, April 14, 1846: Twenty-Ninth Congress, April 9, Senate; House of Representatives; Friday April 10, Senate; House of Representatives
Oregon issue

RE46v42n100p2c2-3 Friday, April 17, 1846: Texas and Mexico

RE46v42n100p2c5 Friday, April 17, 1846: Twenty-Ninth Congress, Wednesday, April 15, Senate

RE46v42n100p4c3-4 Friday, April 17, 1846: No title
Senator Wescott (Florida, Whig) on the Oregon question

RE46v42n100p4c4 Friday, April 17, 1846: The London Times in Oregon

RE46v42n100p4c4-5 Friday, April 17, 1846: Later from Mexico and Texas - Eight Days Later
From New Orleans Picayune, April 8: Return of the Hon. John Slidell and W.S. Parrott, Esq.; His Final Rejection by the Mexican Government; The War Feeling in Mexico; March of General Taylor's Army; Engagement with a Party of Mexicans, and their Retreat; Burning of the Customs House at Point Isabel, etc.

RE46v42n100p4c5-6 Friday, April 17, 1846: Twenty-Ninth Congress, Monday, April 13, Senate; Tuesday, April 14, Senate; House of Representatives

RE46v42n101p1c2-3 Tuesday, April 21, 1846: The Notice
Comments and extracts of Crittenden (KY, Whig speech on origins of the Oregon question

RE46v42n101p1c3-4 Tuesday, April 21, 1846: Important Correspondence
Slidell correspondence

RE46v42n101p1c4 Tuesday, April 21, 1846: As We Expected
Letter to editors of Charleston Courier, dateline: Havana, April 8, comment on Santa Anna,

RE46v42n101p1c5-6 Tuesday, April 21, 1846: Resolutions Adopted
The Notice Resolution to Great Britain, the debate, and successful amendments

RE46v42n101p1c6 Tuesday, April 21, 1846: Late and Important From Mexico
From New Orleans Tropic, Extra, April 11

RE46v42n101p1c6-7 Tuesday, April 21, 1846: Foreign Intelligence. Eight Days Later From Europe
From New York Tribune, Extra, April 18: from Wilmer and Smith's European Times on the Oregon question

RE46v42n101p2c1-4 Tuesday, April 21, 1846: From Mexico. Important Correspondence
From the New Orleans Jeffersonian, April 9, the diplomatic correspondence between Slidell and Castillo, the Meican foreign affairs minister

RE46v42n101p2c4-5 Tuesday, April 21, 1846: The Oregon Question
From Great Britain, extracts from the House of Lords, March 17

RE46v42n101p2c6 Tuesday, April 21, 1846: Mr. Polk's Policy Vindicated by His Opponents. Editorial

RE46v42n101p2c7 Tuesday, April 21, 1846: No title
Notice Resolution, Owen's Resolution vote

RE46v42n101p2c7 Tuesday, April 21, 1846: No title, About a Mexican claimant

RE46v42n101p2c7 Tuesday, April 21, 1846: No title
Brief item, Taylor along the Rio Grande

RE46v42n101p2c7 Tuesday, April 21, 1846: No title
Editorial comment on the Oregon vote

RE46v42n101p2-3c7-1 Tuesday, April 21, 1846: No title
Item on a House of Representative bill to protect the rights of americans west of the Rocky Mountains

RE46v42n101p4c2 Tuesday, April 21, 1846: Letter to Enquirer, signed One of the Forty-Niners
Oregon boundary issue

RE46v42n101p4c5 Tuesday, April 21, 1846: Will England Continue to Glory in Her Shame? Signed JEFFERSON.
Territory of Oregon

RE46v42n103p1c4-5 Tuesday, April 28, 1846: Editorial on Oregon

RE46v42n103p1c5-6 Tuesday, April 28, 1846: Editorial
Injustice of Whigs to charge Polk with equivocation and vacillation on Oregon question; and correspondence from New Orleans Bulletin

RE46v42n103p2c3 Tuesday, April 28, 1846: For the Enquirer, Signed JAP
Dateline Columbia (Texas), April 4, 1846

RE46v42n103p2c6 Tuesday, April 28, 1846: Later From Texas
From New Orleans Picayune, April 19

RE46v42n103p4c1-2 Tuesday, April 28, 1846: Congressional Remarks of Mr. Pennybacker of Virginia Senate, Thursday, April 16, Oregon question

RE46v42n103p4c2 Tuesday, April 28, 1846: Rule of Three

RE46v42n103p4c3 Tuesday, April 28, 1846: Settled at Last

RE46v42n103p4c3 Tuesday, April 28, 1846: "Free Trade and Peace"

RE46v42n103p4c4 Tuesday, April 28, 1846: No title
National Intelligencer on Pennybacker

RE46v42n103p4c4 Tuesday, April 28, 1846: No title
Paris, France Journal des Debats on Oregon

RE46v42n103p4c6 Tuesday, April 28, 1846: Twenty-Ninth Congress, Thursday, April 23, Senate and House of Representatives; Friday, April 24, House of Representatives

May

RE46v43i1p1c1, May 1, 1846: Messrs. Ingersoll And Webster.

RE46v43i1p1c6, May 1, 1846: Thursday Morning, April 30, 1846.

RE46v43i1p2c2, May 1, 1846: To the Hon. Edward Burleson, President of the Senate of Texas:

RE46v43i1p2c4, May 1, 1846: Further Items By The Great Western.

RE46v43i1p2c4, May 1, 1846: Oregon.

RE46v43i1p2c3, May 1, 1846: Washington, Saturday, April 25.

RE46v43i1p3c2, May 1, 1846: From the N.Y. Journal of Commerce of Wednesday. The Oregon Controversy Settled.

RE46v43i1p3c2, May 1, 1846: Twenty-ninth Congress. Wednesday, April 29. Senate.

RE46v43i1p3c2, May 1, 1846: House of Representatives.

RE46v43i1p4c2, May 1, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i1p4c3, May 1, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i1p4c2, May 1, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i1p4c3, May 1, 1846: Mexico and the U. States.

RE46v43i1p4c3, May 1, 1846: From the N.O. Delta, April 21. United States and Mexico.

RE46v43i1p4c2, May 1, 1846: No title.
RE46v43i1p4c3, May 1, 1846: Still Later-Important!

RE46v43i1p4c3, May 1, 1846: From Mexico.

RE46v43i1p4c5, May 1, 1846: Twenty-Ninth Congress. Monday, April 27. Senate.

RE46v43i1p4c4, May 1, 1846: Vera Cruz, April 5th, 1846.

RE46v43i1p4c4, May 1, 1846: No Title.

RE46v43i1p4c4, May 1, 1846: From Texas.

RE46v43i1p4c5, May 1, 1846: Tuesday, April 28, 1846. Senate.

RE46v43i1p4c6, May 1, 1846: House of Representatives.

RE46v43i2p1c2, May 5, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i2p1c2, May 5, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i2p2c4, May 5, 1846: Later From Mexico.

RE46v43i2p2c6, May 5, 1846: Captain Winslow Foster.

RE46v43i2p2c7, May 5, 1846: New Work on Oregon.

RE46v43i2p4c1, May 5, 1846: Congressional. Speech of Mr. Seldon of Virginia, In the House of Representatives, April 15th, 1846.

RE46v43i2p4c6, May 5, 1846: Saturday Morning, May 2, 1846.

RE46v43i2p4c7, May 5, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i3p1c2, May 8, 1846: What will the Whigs do?

RE46v43i3p1c5, May 8, 1846: Later.


RE46v43i3p1c4, May 8, 1846: From the N. Orleans Delta, Extra, April 29. Later from Mexico.

RE46v43i3p1c4, May 8, 1846: From Texas-War Begun!

RE46v43i3p1c4, May 8, 1846: From the Galveston Gazette, April 25th. From the Army.

RE46v43i3p1c5, May 8, 1846: The General in Chief of the 4th Military Division to the in habitants of the Frontier.

RE46v43i3p1c5, May 8, 1846: From the “Eagle of the North,” April 8th, 1846.

RE46v43i3p1c6, May 8, 1846: Blockade in the Mexican Gulf.

RE46v43i3p1c6, May 8, 1846: Matamoras.

RE46v43i3p1c7, May 8, 1846: The Earl of Aberdeen to Mr. Pakenham. Foreign Officer, March 3, 1846.

RE46v43i3p1c6, May 8, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i3p1c6, May 8, 1846: England and the United States-The Oregon Question.

RE46v43i3p2c4, May 8, 1846: From Mexico.
FROM THE ARMY OF OCCUPATION

Correspondence of the New Orleans Picayune. Camp Opposite Matamoras, Texas, April 18th, 1846.

Correspondence of the New Orleans Picayune. Camp Opposite Matamoras, April 19.

Col. Cross.


House of Representatives.

Notice Sent to Great Britain.

From the Army!

Coin in Texas.

To the Editors of the Enquirer.

"To Arms! Texans, To Arms!"


From the N.O. Picayune, Extra, May 2.

Further Extracts.

Correspondence of the New Orleans Tropic. St. Joseph's Island, Texas, April 28th, 1846.

Correspondence of the New Orleans Tropic. Brazos, St. Iago, April 27.

General Worth.

Departure of Volunteers.

For the Enquirer.

The Army

Vega, of the Mexican Army—held on the right bank of the Rio Grande, 28th March, 1846.

RE46v43i4p4c3, May 12, 1846: Correspondence of the New Orleans Picayune. Austin Texas, April 20, 1846.

RE46v43i5p1c1, May 15, 1846: President’s Message. To the Senate and House of Representatives:


RE46v43i5p1c3, May 15, 1846: House of Representatives.

RE46v43i5p1c5, May 15, 1846: From the Senior Editor. Washington, May 12, 1846.

RE46v43i5p1c5, May 15, 1846: Extracts of a letter from New York dated May 12.

RE46v43i5p1c6, May 15, 1846: The Mexican Steamers.

RE46v43i5p1c6, May 15, 1846: No title.

Large public meeting in Richmond

RE46v43i5p1c6, May 15, 1846: No title

RE46v43i5p1c6, May 15, 1846: Army Movements.

RE46v43i5p1c7, May 15, 1846: The Mexican War.

RE46v43i5p1c7, May 15, 1846: The Commander-in-Chief of the Mexican army to the English and Irish under the orders of the American General Taylor.

RE46v43i5p2c1, May 15, 1846: Twenty-Ninth Congress. Interesting Debate. Tuesday May 12, 1846. Senate.

RE46v43i5p2c4, May 15, 1846: House of Representatives.

RE46v43i5p2c6, May 15, 1846: Friday Morning, May 15, 1846.

RE46v43i5p2c6, May 15, 1846: From New Orleans.

RE46v43i5p2c7, May 15, 1846: From the New Orleans Times. The cry to Arms!


RE46v43i5p2c7, May 15, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i5p2c7, May 15, 1846: Remarkable Coincidence.

RE46v43i5p2c7, May 15, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i5p2c7, May 15, 1846: Recipe For Conducting A short War.

RE46v43i5p2c7, May 15, 1846: Volunteers for Texas!

RE46v43i5p2c7, May 15, 1846: Texas!

RE46v43i5p3c2, May 15, 1846: By Last Evening’s Mail. By the President of the United States of America. A Proclamation.

RE46v43i5p4c7, May 15, 1846: Wednesday Morning, May 13, 1846. From the Senior Editor.

RE46v43i6p1c1, May 19, 1846: From the Second Edition of the Enquirer, of May 16th. From the Seat of War. Defeat of the Texan Rangers

RE46v43i6p1c2, May 19, 1846: Public Meeting in Richmond. Volunteers For Texas.
RE46v43i6p1c3, May 19, 1846: Monday Morning, May 18, 1846. A Proposition To Form A Virginia Legion.

RE46v43i6p1c2, May 19, 1846: Volunteer Meeting.

RE46v43i6p1c4, May 19, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i6p1c4, May 19, 1846: Extracts From the Debate.

RE46v43i6p2c1, May 19, 1846: Important News! Matamoras Destroyed! 700 Mexicans Killed! Gen. Taylor At Point Isabel!!!
From the Second Edition of the Enquirer, of May 18th.

RE46v43i6p2c1, May 19, 1846: Arrival of the Alabama.

RE46v43i6p2c1, May 19, 1846: Troops For The Rio Grande.

RE46v43i6p2c1, May 19, 1846: The Legion Volunteered.

RE46v43i6p2c1, May 19, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i6p2c5, May 19, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i6p2c6, May 19, 1846: The War.-The Course of the United States.

RE46v43i6p2c6, May 19, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i6p2c6, May 19, 1846: Military Arrangements.

RE46v43i6p2c7, May 19, 1846: A Pregnant Admission.

RE46v43i6p2c7, May 19, 1846: Twenty-Ninth Congress. Saturday, May 16. House of Representatives.

RE46v43i6p3c1, May 19, 1846: By Last Evening's Mail.

RE46v43i6p3c1, May 19, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i6p3c1, May 19, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i6p3c1, May 19, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i6p4c1, May 19, 1846: Twenty-Ninth Congress. Debate on the War Bill.

RE46v43i6p4c5, May 19, 1846: Twenty-Ninth Congress. Senate. Wednesday, May 13, 1846.

RE46v43i6p4c6, May 19, 1846: The Spirit of the People.

RE46v43i6p4c6, May 19, 1846: Headquarters, 5th Regiment V.I., Baltimore, May 12, 1846.

RE46v43i6p4c6, May 19, 1846: Gen. Scott.

RE46v43i6p4c7, May 19, 1846: Well Done Richmond!

RE46v43i6p4c7, May 19, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i6p4c7, May 19, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i6p4c7, May 19, 1846: Naval.

RE46v43i6p4c7, May 19, 1846: Texas Election.

RE46v43i7p1c2, May 22, 1846: "War" and a "State of War"-The Difference.

RE46v43i7p1c7, May 22, 1846: Twenty-Ninth Congress.
RE46v43i7p1c7, May 22, 1846: House of Representatives.

RE46v43i7p1c7, May 22, 1846: Tuesday May 19, 1846. Senate.

RE46v43i7p1c7, May 22, 1846: House of Representatives.

RE46v43i7p2c1, May 22, 1846: The Course of the Whigs.

RE46v43i7p2c2, May 22, 1846: Has Mexico Any Allies?

RE46v43i7p2c3, May 22, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i7p2c3, May 22, 1846: Alabama in a Blaze.

RE46v43i7p2c4, May 22, 1846: From the Washington Union. Mexican Admission of Boundary.

RE46v43i7p2c3, May 22, 1846: For the Enquirer. The Richmond Volunteers.

RE46v43i7p2c4, May 22, 1846: Headquarters of the Army of the North, Mier, June 20, 1844.

RE46v43i7p2c4, May 22, 1846: Mobile, May 15. Volunteers.

RE46v43i7p2c4, May 22, 1846: On Their Own Hook.

RE46v43i7p2c4, May 22, 1846: Mexican Privateers.


RE46v43i7p2c5, May 22, 1846: More Mounted Volunteers.

RE46v43i7p2c5, May 22, 1846: The Germans.

RE46v43i7p2c5, May 22, 1846: Hon. Baile Peyton.

RE46v43i7p2c6, May 22, 1846: The Right Spirit.

RE46v43i7p2c6, May 22, 1846: Col. Marks.

RE46v43i7p2c6, May 22, 1846: Capt. Walker-The Texas Rangers.

RE46v43i7p2c6, May 22, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i7p3c1, May 22, 1846: By Last Evening's Mail. Requisition Upon The Governor of Virginia.

RE46v43i7p3c1, May 22, 1846: Twenty-Ninth Congress. Wednesday, May 20. Senate.

RE46v43i7p4c3, May 22, 1846: From the New Orleans Picayune, April 12. Further from the Army.


RE46v43i7p4c4, May 22, 1846: Surprise and Surrender of Capt. Thornton's Command.

RE46v43i7p4c4, May 22, 1846: Correspondence of the Picayune. Point Isabel, May 5, 1846.

RE46v43i7p4c5, May 22, 1846: Items of the War.

RE46v43i7p4c7, May 22, 1846: No title. House of Representatives, May 12, 1846.

RE46v43i7p4c7, May 22, 1846: No title.
Correspondence of the *Baltimore American*. Washington, May 18, 5½ P.M.

Military Meeting.

Requisition on Maryland for Two-Thousand Troops.

Virginia Legion.

Capt. Walker.

Glorious News from the Seat of War! The Mexicans Twice Routed!!! 1200 Mexicans Killed! Enemy's Guns Carried at the Point of the Bayonet!

From the *Richmond Enquirer, Extra*, May 23.

Correspondence of the *Tropic*.


From the *Mobile Advertiser, Extra* May 18.

Still Later From the Army! The Galveston Arrived!!

From the *N.O. Tropic*—Third Edition, 1 P.M.

The Fort.

Party Spirit.

The News Confirmed.

The Empire City For Ever!

Mexican Navy.

Is There "War?"

Simple Justice.
RE46v43i8p2c4, May 26, 1846: Army.

RE46v43i8p2c3, May 26, 1846: From the Seat of War.

RE46v43i8p2c3, May 26, 1846: Point Isabel, May 12, 1846.

RE46v43i8p2c4, May 26, 1846: Three Days Later From Mexico!

RE46v43i8p2c5, May 26, 1846: Twenty-Ninth Congress. Saturday, May 23. House of Representatives.

RE46v43i8p2c6, May 26, 1846: By the Governor of Virginia. A Proclamation.

RE46v43i8p2c6, May 26, 1846: General Orders. Adjunct-General's Office, Richmond, May 23, 1846.

RE46v43i8p2c6, May 26, 1846: Form of Enrollment.

RE46v43i8p2c6, May 26, 1846: Uniform of the Infantry. Field Officers.

RE46v43i8p2c6, May 26, 1846: For Company Officers And Privates.

RE46v43i8p3c1, May 26, 1846: By Last Evening's Mail.

RE46v43i8p3c1, May 26, 1846: Correspondence of the *Baltimore American*. Washington, May 22, 51/2 P.M.

RE46v43i8p4c1, May 26, 1846: Miscellaneous. The Geography of Mexico &c., From the Battle Ground.

RE46v43i8p4c1, May 26, 1846: Castle of San Juan De Ulua.

RE46v43i8p4c1, May 26, 1846: General Taylor in his Tent.

RE46v43i8p4c1, May 26, 1846: Capt. Samuel H. Walker.

RE46v43i8p4c2, May 26, 1846: Organization of Volunteer Corps for the U.S. Service.


RE46v43i8p4c3, May 26, 1846: House of Representatives.

RE46v43i8p4c2, May 26, 1846: From the *Petersburg Republican*, May 20. Texas Volunteers.

RE46v43i8p4c3, May 26, 1846: Friday May 22nd, 1846. Senate.

RE46v43i8p4c2, May 26, 1846: Texas Meeting.

RE46v43i8p4c4, May 26, 1846: Nothing Like the Empire City!

RE46v43i8p4c5, May 26, 1846: Mr. Madison's View of a Casus Belli.

RE46v43i8p4c4, May 26, 1846: Great War Meeting in the Park.


RE46v43i9p1c1, May 29, 1846: House of Representatives.

RE46v43i9p1c1, May 29, 1846: Tuesday, May 26, 1846. Senate.

RE46v43i9p1c2, May 29, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i9p1c1, May 29, 1846: House of Representatives.

RE46v43i9p1c2, May 29, 1846: No title.
Letters from Commodore Conner to the Secretary of the Navy

RE46v43i9p1c6, May 29, 1846: "All’s Well That Ends Well"

RE46v43i9p1c7, May 29, 1846: For the *Enquirer*.

RE46v43i9p2c1, May 29, 1846: Twenty-Ninth Congress.

RE46v43i9p2c1, May 29, 1846: In Senate-Tuesday, May 12, 1846.

RE46v43i9p2c2, May 29, 1846: Interesting and Late Extracts From Mexico.

RE46v43i9p2c2, May 29, 1846: Tribute of Respect to Capt. May.
From the *New Orleans Picayune*, May 21.

RE46v43i9p2c2, May 29, 1846: Departure of Gen. Worth.

RE46v43i9p2c2, May 29, 1846: Transmission of Arms.

RE46v43i9p2c2, May 29, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i9p2c2, May 29, 1846: Campeachy.

RE46v43i9p2c3, May 29, 1846: Bombardment of Fort Brown.

RE46v43i9p2c3, May 29, 1846: Camp Opposite Matamoras, May 13, 1846.

RE46v43i9p2c4, May 29, 1846: Horse and Sword to Captain Walker.

RE46v43i9p2c4, May 29, 1846: Never Right.

RE46v43i9p2c5, May 29, 1846: Did the President Begin the War?

RE46v43i9p2c5, May 29, 1846: No title, Whig Presses.

RE46v43i9p2c5, May 29, 1846: No title, Louisiana Legislature

RE46v43i9p2c6, May 29, 1846: No title.*

RE46v43i9p2c5, May 29, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i9p2c5, May 29, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i9p2c5, May 29, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i9p2c6, May 29, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i9p2c6, May 29, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i9p2c6, May 29, 1846: No title.

RE46v43i9p2c7, May 29, 1846: For the *Enquirer*. Texas; or “New Estremadura.”

RE46v43i9p2c7, May 29, 1846: Texas, March 20th, 1846.

RE46v43i9p3c1, May 29, 1846: Correspondence of the *Alexandria Gazette*.

RE46v43i9p3c1, May 29, 1846: Twenty-Ninth Congress. Wednesday, May 27. Senate.

RE46v43i9p3c1, May 29, 1846: House of Representatives.
Our Relations with England.

No title.

No title.

No title.

Items of War.

A Good Hit.

No title.

No title.

No title.

Official.

Headquarters of the Army of Occupation, Point Isabel, Texas, May 7, 1846.

Headquarters of the Army of Occupation, Camp at Palo Alto, Texas, May 9, 1846.

Headquarters of the Army of Occupation, Camp at Resaca de la Palma, 3 miles from Matamoras, 10 o'clock, P.M. May 9, 1846.

Headquarters of the Army of Occupation, Resaca de la Palma, May 11, 1846.

Headquarters of the Army of Occupation, Point Isabel, (Texas, ) May 12, 1846.

Headquarters of the Army of Occupation, Fort Polk, Texas, May 12, 1846.

United States Ship *Cumberland*, Off Brazos Santiago, May 13, 1846.

A Chapporal.

No title.

By the Governor of Virginia. A Proclamation.

General Orders. Adjunct-General’s Office, Richmond, May 23, 1846.

Form of Enrollment.

Uniform of the Infantry. Field Officers.

For Company Officers And Privates.

*June*

From the Brazos

From Vera Cruz -Mexican Treachery

Prospects of Peace

Late From the City of Mexico
The following, which we take from the New Orleans Delta of the 98th ult., received Saturday morning, will explain the rumor circulated in Washington, of Mr. Slidell's having been murdered. It now seems to be clearly ascertained that our Minister has not been received – though a renewal of diplomatic relations had been invited by the late brittle Mexican Government. To preserve our rights, and to ward off the evils of a devastating war, our Government should adopt the most prompt and efficient measures. Its course, we doubt not, will be materially influenced by the dispatches received by this last arrival from Mexico. We anxiously await for further developments.

By the arrival of the Pario, from Vera Cruz, which place she left on the 13th inst, we learn verbally – for she brought no papers that we can hear of – that President Herrera has resigned; that Paredes has been elevated to the Presidency by a sort of popular election, but whether by the leperos of Mexico alone, or with the assistance of their brethren in the other Departments, we cannot ascertain; that Almonte, the friend and counselor of Santa Anna, is Secretary of State; and that the military, such as it is, is in possession of the Government.

On the assension of Paredes, our Minister, Mr. Slidell, (probably after demanding to be recognized, and the demand refused.) asked for his passports, but was informed that as he had never been received as Minister, no passport in that quality, could be given to him; he then requested that the Government would give him an escort to Vera Cruz, which was peremptorily refused. Upon the news reaching Vera Cruz, seven officers of the United States brig Somers, which arrived at that port on the 6th inst., started for Mexico, well armed, to escort him through the country.

Such is the information which we have received. Whether it be true or not, we cannot avouch – but, if not true, it is very truthlike. It corresponds exactly with what might be expected from the Mexicans, from the Minister, and from the ardent and fearless officers of the Navy.

Since the above was written, we have conversed with a gentleman who had read a letter from a well informed source dated at Vera Cruz, the 12th inst, and who had conversed with the only passenger who arrived here by the Pario. Both – the letter and the passenger – concur in stating that Paredes has been proclaimed President; that Almonte has been appointed Secretary of War, not of State, as public report has it; that Mr. Slidell is at Puebla, (at the previous advices he was at Jalapa,) awaiting the further instructions of the Government. Everything was perfectly quiet in the capital and in the country. This letter says not a word, nor does this passenger, of Slidell's being ordered to leave the country – not a word of an escort being denied him – and not a word of the officers and men of the brig Somers arming themselves and going on to Mr. Slidell, with the view of forming his bodyguard through the country to Vera Cruz. This much of the verbal reports, which circulated through the city so freely yesterday, may therefore be put down as being doubtful.

The Pario brought dispatches for our Government at Washington.

We are indebted to the editor of the Bulletin for the following extract of a letter, dated:
VERA CRUZ, January 13th, 1846.

“The new President, Gen. Paredes, has established his Ministry, viz – Gen. Almonte, late Minister to the United States, Minister of War; Luis Parres, of Finance; Joaquin Maria del Castillo y Lanuzas, of Foreign Affairs; and Bishop Becerra, of Justice. These gentlemen appear to inspire general confidence. The American Minister has demanded his passports, having failed in the object of his mission.”

[SDW]

REv42n79p2c2, February 3, 1846: MEXICAN AFFAIRS

We have always thought that the European powers, following the lead of Mr. “Balance-of-Power” Guizot, were busily intriguing in the internal concerns of ill-fated Mexico. Baffled in the Texas affair, by the wisdom, foresight and energy of our Government, they have cunningly thrust themselves into Mexico, and by artful appeals to the anti-American feelings of that country, have succeeded in putting down an administration which was supposed to have a desire of settling amicably the difficulties with the United States. That the powers of Europe have had a finger in this matter, we are confirmed in the belief by the following paragraph in the *Memorial Historico*, published in Mexico under the eyes of the new authorities:

“By way of Havana, it is known that Spain, France and England have entered into an alliance to place in Mexico and Guatemala a stable and liberal Government, for which purpose each power will furnish a quota of men; at the same time, it is assumed that England has already at sea thirty ships of the line, which are on their way to the Gulf of Mexico.”

The Yucatan *Imparcial* so far corroborates this view, by expressing its opinion, that the three powers possess means to give effect to the projected movement.

In proof of the deep-seated hatred of many Mexicans for the people of the United States, we may refer to the proceedings of the Assembly of Notables; wherein a motion was made by Gen. Bustamente that a clause should be added to the oath to be taken by the President, compelling him to swear “to repel the invasion of the United States.” After a long debate, this motion was voted down upon the ground that the oath demanded by Gen. Bustamente would be equivalent to a declaration of war, and that the Assembly had no power to declare war.

The oath finally taken by the new President, Paredes, is as follows:

“You swear to God to sustain the independence and integrity of the national territory against any foreign aggression whatever; and the Republican, popular, representative system; and the plan of administration of the Republic, agreed to by the Act of the Army on the 2d of January.”

The General Bustamante, (says the New Orleans Picayune, ) who took part in this assembly, was not the Ex-President of that name. Both he and General Herrera were invited to take a part in the proceedings, but indignantly refused.

No one can doubt that the monarchists of Europe are attempting, from the fulcrum of Mexico, to wield the lever of the monarchical principle upon the future destiny of the American continent. The safety of our own territorial rights and of our Republican institutions demands from our Government firm and decided measures. This quasi was should not be allowed longer to continue. Mexico should be made to show her hand. If she is for peace the controversy can not be too soon settled. If war be her policy, let us have it over at once. The present state of affairs is dangerous to our rights and to the permanent peace of the country.

[SDW]

REv42n80p4c5-6, February 6, 1846: MEXICO

Monday night’s Union sets forth Mr. Slidell’s position in Mexico in rather a different light from what most of the New Orleans press represent it. It says:

We perceive that the accounts received on Saturday evening from New Orleans are not confirmed by the official accounts. The “Picayune” reports as one of the pieces of intelligence brought by the brig *Pario*, that “a letter written at Vera Cruz on the 13th ultimo, the day on which the *Pariosailed*, simply says "Mr. Slidell demanded his passports, having failed in the object of his mission." We do not understand that Mr. Slidell has yet demanded his passports, or that he has received any thing like a definitive answer from the Government. A letter has been received from Jalapa on the 12th January, which states that Mr. Slidell was expected to arrive in that town via Puebla on that or the following day.

There is too much reason to apprehend, that the mission may not be productive of the success which there was some reason to anticipate. The access of Almonte and Tornel to the existing administration is no very flattering...
Some rumors are still afloat of a design on the part of Great Britain, France and Spain to place a European prince on the throne of Mexico. We cannot couch for the correctness of so extravagant a report.

[SDW]
treaty? The merchant will not trust a merchant without a guaranty, after his bond is once broken – neither can a
already in existence are, and have been, no protection to Mexico, of what use will it be to her to enter into any other
Mexico can enter into no new treaty of boundary with the United States. The treaties of boundary and amity
an individual intimately associated with Gen. Almonte in this country, and well acquainted with his views:

The New York Herald publishes the following "Ultimatum of Mexico," which, it says, has been furnished by
San Luis Potosi, Dec. 15th, 1845

"Mexico can enter into no new treaty of boundary with the United States. The treaties of boundary and amity
recent and solemn trial, sedition itself, covered with the shield of impunity. Our agriculture is perishing for want of
proper protection and security, while our commerce, already exhausted, threatens to abandon altogether our coasts,
which it formerly promised to cover with rich and populous cities. This sad picture of our condition is unfortunately
not exaggerated. It is a faithful account of what all observing men see and feel. Consider what we were 23 years
ago, and what we might have been with 24 years of peace and prosperity, and then contemplate the picture here
drawn. – In the vain hope of remedying these evils, every day has witnessed more revolutions. These revolutions
having been the offspring of private interest, have brought us no relief. Congress and Presidents have been changed
buy the evils under which we labor have remained the same – the same abuses and corruptions continue to eat up
the substance of the Sate. No movement hitherto made has been more popular than that of December last. The
nation rose up as one man to overthrow a degrading dictatorship. But has our situation been improved? Have not
rather these evils been increased? The demagogue has but grasped at the power let fall by Gen. Santa Anna. But
little satisfied with the important concessions of the Government, he has preached up war to strengthen his party,
while he has been laboring hard to destroy the army. Hiding under the cloak of ultra federalism his well known
projects of vengeance and his love of anarchy, he cares little for the interests of a country which he is bound by no
ties, and whose ruin even he [illegible] his adherents could fatten on the spoils. Governed by a set of partisans
whom he frats, he travels from concession to concession. Defamation, calumny and threats extract from his
weakness the most pernicious measures, whilst anarchy is daily organizing its forces to overthrow the nation anew.
The army has at length determined to save the country and put a stop to the precarious and insane state in which it
has existed for some time past. I, who have had the honor of combating for the independence of my country; I, who
have had the honor of being the first to raise the standard of insurrection in Jalisco against a hateful tyranny, feel
myself called upon to carry out the grito which the nation raised on that occasion. Mexico has not beaten down one
tyrant to elevate others in his stead. She has not overthrown a soldier to deliver herself, bound hand and foot, to the
demagogue. If such had not already been my conviction, the entreaties which I have received from my countrymen,
and the spontaneous election of the army, to put myself at the head of the present movement, would be sufficient to
inspire me with them.

While marching upon the capital to crown the glorious enterprise entrusted to my care, I declared in the
most solemn manner, in presence of the whole nation, that we do not go, simply to effect a change of persons in the
Government but that we aspire to a more noble object. We have not undertaken to usurp the Presidency, and to
change the members of Congress. Our object is, to call upon the nations, in order that, without the fear of turbulent
minorities, it may embody its will in a set of representatives, who will raise a barrier against the dissolution which
threatens us – prevent the administration from falling in the hands of factions who will bring disgrace upon the
nation. Our object is to restore to the productive classes the wealth and influence which they have lost, and to give
to the industrial and laboring classes the position which belongs to them in the Government. The nation, tired of
living amid eternal broils, cries aloud for some guaranty of peace and tranquility. For this reason I have decided and
the army have decided with me, to make a new revolution, in order that it may be the last and that we may at
length commence, beneath the shade of peace and internal tranquility, to develop those resources with which we
have so abundantly been blessed by Providence. As for myself, I desire no place, no power. Those ephemeral
dictatorships, which have heretofore served only to heap ill-gotten wealth upon their possessors, hove no illusions for
me. On this point my opinions are well known, and they have been proved more than once during my arduous career.

The army has at length determined to save the country and put a stop to the precarious and insane state in which it
has existed for some time past. I, who have had the honor of combating for the independence of my country; I, who
have had the honor of being the first to raise the standard of insurrection in Jalisco against a hateful tyranny, feel

San Luis Potosi, Dec. 15th, 1845.

(Signed) MARIANO PAREDES Y ARRILLAGA

[SDW]
nation. If the United States, through a friendly power or powers, shall offer regret and reparation for the injury done, and that regret and reparation prove satisfactory and be accepted by Mexico – Mexico will, in that case, enter upon the subject of a new boundary, to be guaranteed to her by Spain, France and England. A new treaty of boundary, without such a guaranty Mexico can, in no case (excoriated as she is by the citizen and governmental perfidy of the United States) enter into or put faith in.

"Mexico cannot view annexation as the simple act of two independent nations. Annexation, in the eye of Mexico, commenced when Gen. Jackson’s friend, Sam Houston, went to Texas to ‘raise a flag of revolt therein,’ after the former found his earnest offers to purchase Texas would not be acquiesced in by the government of Mexico. Annexation, in the view of Mexico, progressed when the U.S. government, by ‘masterly inactivity,’ permitted its citizens to make war upon a neighbor with whom, for itself and citizens’ the United States had entered into a treaty of ‘perpetual amity.’ Mexico has claims, therefore on the United States for her public lands in Texas and for the expenses of the war in vain attempt thus far, to establish the national authority lost therein, solely by the aforesaid ‘masterly inactivity,’ of the United States, in respect to curbing its own citizens.

"Mexico denies that Texas was estranged from her rule by Mexicans. The government and citizens of the United States are solely responsible for all the evil brought upon Mexico by the Texas revolt.

"Under these circumstances, to send a message into Mexico to make offers for a still larger territory than even Texas, cannot but be viewed by her other than an additional insult to her nationality; especially as the presses of the U. States are advocating the like emigration to that larger territory (California) where with to re-enact the Texan wrong. Whether Mexico accede or not to the offers of purchase by the United States, then the territory in question must, by United States’ accounts, be lost to Mexico. The independence of Mexico thus jeopardized by a stronger republic she has no alternative but to throw herself under the protection of powers stronger than the United States – unless, as we have above shown, the U. States proffer ample reparation, and a new treaty of boundary, guaranteed by Spain, France and England, settle all differences between the two governments.

"The first aggressive movement of the U.S. fleet in the Gulf, or the U.S. army at Corpus Christi, will be the signal for Mexico to throw herself on the protection of Spain, France and England. The navies of these powers concentrated at Havana, will then sail to Vera Cruz and there intimate the fact to the commander of the United States squadron. If the latter, in defiance of this intimation, proceeds to a demonstration against Mexico, the combined fleets will proceed to capture it, in much the same way as the Turkish fleet was captured at Navarino.

Last summer, we became so accustomed to these valorous threats, this bruim fulmer of Mexican arrogance, that we can, with but little difficulty, credit the above terrible revelations. – Every one knows that the United States have no more bitter and uncompromising enemy than Gen. Almonte, the fierce master-spirit of the present revolutionary Administration of Mexico. – He is a man of powerful intellect and burning ambition – and he will spare no means to thwart the progress of the United States.

We should not be surprised, were he seriously to count upon the aid of France, England and Spain to put down our power. We cannot yet believe that these European nations are willing to thrust themselves into the controversy, and break up the peace of the world. We have done no injury to Mexico, and therefore have no “regrets or reparation” to make to her. It is Mexico herself who has been guilty of bad faith, and of wanton mischief and insult, to our citizens and to our nation. She talk of violated treaties! The notion is absurdly false. It was her own bad faith which forced the people of Texas to rise up in defense of a broken Constitution, and to demand the restoration of their rights. True, they had been our citizens, but they had gone to Texas, in good faith resolved to live under the Mexican confederation, but as soon as the Constitution which bound the States together had been violated by Mexico, the Texans rose up and declared their independence of Mexican tyranny. Many of our citizens went over, as individuals, to push on because of liberty. Our Government had no right nor power to prevent their emigration, and it is the flimsiest pretext in the world to make it responsible for the acts of its citizens, which it could not restrain.

Before Mexico demands reparation of us, let her do justice to our own injured and insulted citizens. The annexation of Texas is justified by every law of justice and right. She was forced by the perfidy and tyranny of the Central Government to stand up for herself. She was recognized as free and independent by the great powers of Europe, and by the voluntary consent of the two Republics she was made an important element of our Union of States. If we have done wrong, we have been justified in it, by the acts of Mexico’s sympathizing friends, England and France, who, in conjunction with us acknowledged the full and perfect independence of Texas, to do whatever she thought right.

Mexico, under the sinister influence of Almonte, may call in the aid of France, England and Spain to sustain her extravagant hopes. – It is needless to say, that these threats will have no other effect but to urge our Government to take prompt and wise measures to meet the crisis. We ought to know from Mexico her real designs, whether for peace or for war. And if she persists in her arrogant bearing we will be prepared to defend our just rights, we will be prepared to defend our just rights, even though all the powers of Europe be arrayed to put down the progress of Republican institutions. Would it not be wiser, however, for Mexico to summon some of her European allies to keep together her own rebellious provinces? Already has Yucatan raised the flag of independence. Others will follow her example, and fly off from the central power. Mexico will have enough to employ her at home, and without rushing into a desperate encounter with us. But in any event, it is the duty and policy of our Government to maintain our rights and to reserve peace, by prompt and firm measures.

[SDW]
REv42n81p2c2, February 10, 1846: GEN’L PAREDES’ PRONUNCIAMENTO

In the critical condition of our relations with Mexico, our readers must take an interest in every thing connected with that ill-fated, but arrogant nation. We shall, therefore, publish on Monday the “Pronunciamento” of Gen. Paredes, the newly installed President – before whose victorious march Herrera, the constitutional President, fell without a struggle. It is ably and eloquently written. It sets forth the wretched and crumbling condition of that country – but, true to the characteristic boasting and arrogance of Mexicans, it flaunts the flag of war in the face of the United States.

We have no fear of any alarming assaults by these vaunting Bobadils. In the excitement produced, last Summer, in consequence of our bloodless victory in annexing Texas, we learned how lightly to treat the “raw head and bloody bones” threats and denunciations of Mexican Generals and statesmen. We have no more fears of their present vaporings. Nor would we declare war upon them, or send our vessels of war to bombard their towns, because they have thought proper to refuse to receive our Minister, whom a previous Government had specially invited, or because our name and conduct had been traduced by their Chief. All must admit, however, that our relations with Mexico have continued too long in a nervous and uneasy state. Though we had the power to cut the Gordian knot, and dispel the excitement, we have, in our generosity, suffered this state of quasi-war to be kept up too long. We trust that our Government will promptly take the matter in hand, call upon Mexico for specific information as to her real intentions towards us, and whether she is for peace or for war. When we shall know the true grounds which she means to assume, we can then take our own course finally – a course in which we shall be justified in the eyes of God and of man. We would not crush Mexico in her weakness. We would not wield against her a giant’s strength, because we have the power, and she is on the brink of annihilation. But a due regard to our own interests, safety and quiet demands that we should break up the present entangling state of affairs and that, while we are generous to a weak people, we should be just to ourselves. No one can say whether the rumored intrigues of England, France and Spain, to place a French Prince on the Throne of Mexico, may not, if things are suffered to remain as they are, ere long become matters of history. No one can say, that a vacillating course on our part towards Mexico may not, in itself, induce European powers to thrust themselves into the controversy, and secretly to give practical effect to their famous doctrine of the “balance of power.” For the sake, then, of our future peace, and for the protection of Republican institutions against the insidious movements of the monarchists of Europe our Government should call upon Mexico for a clear and unequivocal exposition of her designs touching the unsettled difficulties between her and the United States.

The dark outline drawn by Paredes of the condition of Mexico, is applicable to nearly every one of the Spanish-American Republics. Alternate anarchy and tyranny characterize each and every one of them. As Paredes most justly and mournfully remarks of Mexico, these various States seem constantly on the verge of disruption. How different has been the progress of our own Republic. We have been peacefully extending our bounds to the South and to the West, and increasing our strength and durability by adding rich and fertile regions. Our policy and our practice have been to enlarge the Union of the States. Mexico and her Spanish American neighbors, on the contrary, since they repudiated the Spanish yoke and set up for themselves, have continually split up into crumbling and disjointed fragments. Anarchy and revolution at home, and threatened invasion from abroad, have marked their tottering career.

Doomed though Mexico may be, we would have our Government to treat her with anything but harshness. But in being charitable and generous towards Mexico, we should take care to be just to ourselves. The safety of our own institutions should overrule every other consideration.

[SDW]

REv42n83p2c5, February 17, 1846: MOVING TO TEXAS

News that Virginians are leaving for Texas and the expressions of general good wishes to those people.

The last Clarksville, Mecklenburg, Herald speaks of the great excitement in that country, produced by a projected movement to the new and fertile State of Texas. While we regret to see the citizens of Virginia, and from such a Democratic region too, quitting in a body their native State, to establish a new colony in a distant portion of our wide Republic, we must confess that the Herald advances some good reason, why they should turn their faces towards the great Southwest. We hope that it will not always be so. We trust to see the day, when the abandoned fields of Virginia will be cultivated with industry and success – and when the footsteps of our wandering citizens shall be turned back to their reinvigorated native State. But if our brethren of Mecklenburg will leave us for a richer soil and a more genial climate, we wish them “God speed” in their pilgrimage.

The Herald say:

“Some of our citizens are busy in forming a company for the purpose of journeying to the sunny South. We know several men of families who have pledged themselves to join the expedition – and we think they are entitled to much praise for their wise determination. This country in which we live have claims upon us scarcely to be resisted. We have friends – we have relatives – who are near and dear to us; but there is another friend for whom all others must be sacrificed – SELF. The rich landholder, whose situation is already that of plenty, would be much to blame to quit this country for any other; but we whose fortunes lie just in the palms of our hands – we, who, by the sweat of
our brow, but barely receive enough to stop the mouths of our children, should better our condition if possible. It is a hard task, truly, for a man to 'make both ends meet,' who rents lands and negroes, and pays an enormous price. Such cases, when compared to our vast population, are few; but when together would, of themselves, make a nation. We learn that it is the determination of the projectors of this enterprise to settle a town in Texas, and to accomplish their object, a committee is to be appointed to proceed to Texas to hunt out a suitable site and purchase the same. There is to be a country meeting on the subject at an early day, of which due notice will be given."

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**March**

**April**

**May**

RE46v43i1p1c1, May 1, 1846: MESSR. INGERSOLL AND WEBSTER.

As we wish to furnish to our readers an insight into the merits of the personal controversy now being waged between these two gentlemen, involving moreover important and delicate questions of State policy, we go back a few days, and first present the remarks of Mr. Webster delivered in the Senate on Wednesday, the 22d April, immediately after the reception by the H. of Representatives of the President's message, declining, for proper reasons, to make public the information called for in regard to the secret service fund—and at the same time stating, that the papers could be exhibited to a Committee of the House:

Mr. Webster rose and said: I have a few, and but a few, remarks to make on the President's message in answer to the resolution of the House of Representatives, calling for an account of the disbursements during the period in which I had the honor to be Secretary of State, out of the fund for the contingent expenses of foreign intercourse.

In the first place, Sir, I am happy to say, that I entirely approve the course of proceeding which the President has adopted. In my judgment, he could not have acted otherwise than he has done, without the violation of law and of his own duty. Sir, as I know that not a dollar was disbursed from that fund without the sanction of the President, and as I am conscious that every disbursement was made for a proper and necessary public purpose, it might be thought that I should desire the publication of the papers, in order that every body might see what they are, or what they show. But this is a matter of so little concernment to me, (and I presume it is of as little to the late President, ) that I certainly would not wish to see an important principle, and an important law, violated and broken for any personal convenience in that respect. I am not at all apprehensive that the country will suspect either President Tyler, or me, acting under his authority, of any thing improper in the disbursement of a few hundred or a few thousand dollars, in a case in which the law reposes confidence in the President, and gives him a discretion as to making the expenditure public.

Sir, a President of the United States, or the head of a Department acting by his authority, must think but poorly of his own reputation and standing with the country, if he is afraid of being suspected of having violated his duty and his oath in a matter of so little moment. I will add, that a person who entertains such a suspicion, without reason, of any public man, may himself be well suspected of having held a no very complimentary dialogue with himself.

Sir, we all know that the head of a Department cannot touch a dollar of this fund except with the President’s sanction. The whole power and the whole responsibility is with the President. The President's Message states this so fully and clearly, that I need not dwell upon it. I will say, in the first place, that no expenditure, improper in itself, or improper in its amount, was made to my knowledge, judgment, or belief. And I will say, in the next place, that the late President of the United States, in all things respecting the expenditure of the public moneys, was remarkably cautious, exact and particular.

And I here say, Sir, that all declarations, averments, statements, or insinuations, made any where, or by any body, which impute perversion, misapplication, or waste of the public funds, committed or made by me while Secretary of State, are utterly groundless and untrue. And I will conclude with one remark, the bearing of which, I shall leave to the Senate and to the country.

Whoever charges me with having either misapplied or wasted the public funds, while in the Department of State, has either seen the papers, or has, in some other way, obtained knowledge on the subject, or he has not. If he has seen no papers, and has no knowledge, then his imputations are purely wanton and slanderous. If he has seen the papers, or has any knowledge, then he would be sure to state what he knows, if he knows any thing to sustain him in his charge. Silence, under such circumstances, is conclusive that he knows nothing, because he is under no obligation of secrecy, and, in absence of all other proof, he would, of course, tell all he knew, if he knew any thing which could, in the slightest degree, bear him out. The charge, therefore, was either made in utter ignorance of any facts to support it, or else with the knowledge that the facts which do exist would, if made known, entirely disprove it. As to the
source of this miserable vituperation, I have nothing to say. I am afraid I shall be thought to have paid too much attention to it already. Sir, I leave the author of these slanders where he is—I leave him in the worst company I know of in the world—I leave him with himself.

Last Monday, in the House, Mr. C. J. Ingersoll made the follow remarks, by way of personal explanation:

Mr. Speaker: When Mr. Webster, in virulent terms, in Senate, assailed my truth, concerning transactions of which proofs ought to be in the Department of State, I went there in search of them for my vindication. As member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for some years, I have some freedom of access there, though probably none which any other member of Congress is not entitled to.

Searching for proofs, not to expose him, but vindicate myself, I fell most unexpectedly on others which led me next day, to denounce him as a delinquent.

When the President’s answer to the resolution of the House of Representatives refused certain documents, I repeated, in general assertion, the fact of his delinquency, and added that it is easily susceptible of proof. My friends advised me to go no further, supposing that Mr. Webster would challenge investigation.

Not having done so, but having again, with opprobious language, in Senate, charged me with slander, and called on me to substantiate my accusation of him, I now submit a short statement, which may be tested as to truth.

There are three charges of delinquency:

First. Unlawful use of the fund appropriated for the contingent service of foreign intercourse, commonly called the secret service fund.

Secondly. Misapplying part of that fund to corrupt party presses.

Thirdly. Leaving the Department of State in default to that fund.

First. Congress appropriates annually a small sum, commonly 30,000 dollars, for the contingent expenses of foreign intercourse; the disbursement of part of which is sometimes usefully clandestine, but never, as has been erroneously supposed, corrupt. Whenever, in the President's opinion, it would be wrong to make public how any part of it is disposed of, he so certifies, and, by act of Congress, his mere certificate is sufficient voucher at the Treasury for the required settlement.

These funds have, for the last sixteen years, if not always, been in the hands of a clerk, called, by acts of Congress, the disbursing agent of the Department of State, who kept them in banks, as agent. The official routine is for the President, on the requisition of the Secretary of State, to authorize the payment of the money from the Treasury to the disbursing agent of the State Department. The disbursing agent is debited at the Treasury with the sum drawn into the Department of State, keeps it to his credit as agent, in bank, and gives checks as required by the Secretary, for payment to any person he may designate.

In this way, the first check I saw, when I went to the department, was drawn by the agent for the service at New York in McLeod's case, 1,000 dollars.

But shortly after President Harrison’s death, and before Vice President Tyler was at home in chief magistracy—in April, 1841—Mr. Secretary Webster began an entirely novel method of dealing with the secret service fund. Instead of directing the disbursing agent to pay any third person, Mr. Webster required the money to be paid to himself.

In this way he drew to himself from the disbursing agent twelve thousand dollars during the first nine months of Mr. Webster's incumbency as Secretary, about 1,300 dollars a month, in 1841, and 3,000 dollars more early in 1842.

Thus he took into his own hands 15,000 dollars in his first twelve months. The President, there is written evidence in the department to show, never authorized this, knew nothing of it, and when first apprised of it, more than fourteen months after it had been going on, to the large amount of fifteen thousand dollars, refused it his sanction.

It was not till July, 1842, as the evidence in the department shows, in Mr. Webster's handwriting, that he got a President's certificate for four thousand four hundred and sixty dollars, ($4,460.).

That President's certificate, of which I took a minute, dated 19th July, 1842, is—.

To J. J. Crittenden, for expenses of journey to New York, $100.

To F. O. J. Smith, for services connected with the North eastern Boundary, 2,000.

To Alexander Powell, for journey to, and stay on the frontier in 1841, on the subject of disturbances, 1,000.
With several other items.

The first item in this short account concerning McLeod, will show how I was led from that to other objects; and some of the other items will show the agents whom, as Secretary of State, Mrs. Webster employed. Both houses of Congress, if not the public at large, have not been left in ignorance of the characters of some of those on whom the Secretary of State bestowed large sums of public money, if their receipts correctly vouch what they got.

In a memorandum of payments to Mr. Webster, by authority of the President, there is a minute dated June 23, 1842, "By cash returned, $5,000."

After drawing $15,000 to himself during fifteen months, during which period there is no trace of what he did with those large sums, he appears to have returned one-third of the amount withdrawn. Why return it, if taken for any public purpose? Where he it been kept? If in any place of deposite, was it separate from Mr. Webster's private funds? funds? Did he use it?

These $5,000 were returned ten days after, according to the published correspondence, his negotiation with the British Envoy Extraordinary, began by conversational and confidential intercourse, without protocols or other usual records of such transactions.

In 1843 Mr. Webster took to himself $2,000 more, making altogether $17,000.

On closing his account, crediting the $5,000 returned, and various other sums, there remained a balance against him of $2,290 of the secret service fund. One of his credits against it was for $1,400, published in House document, report No. 29, first session, 28th Congress—report of Mr. Rogers, for maps, charts, surveys and expenses of bringing them to the seat of Government, and for copies of transcripts, and for various agencies to procure information connected with the boundary treaty.

This inarticulate and comprehensive mixture of many incongruous items, without specification of prices, dates, or any apparent test of rectitude, Mr. Secretary Webster certified himself as a proper credit for himself and deducted from his debit to the secret service fund. Without that credit his default to that fund would have been $3,690, instead of $2,290, which it was when he was removed from office.

The $17,000 were in his hands, contrary to the uniform usage; if used by him contrary to the sub-treasury act. Whether so, is for him to make appear. The burden of proof is on him.

Secondly: Application of the secret services fund to corrupt party presses. The Ashburton treaty bears date the 9th August, 1842. Congress were then in session; and as Mr. Adams has charged me lately, and I confess I did what little I could as one of a small minority in the House of Representatives (we had forty votes, I think, under the previous question) to resist a treaty which Mr. Webster has lately stated in the Senate granted near half a million of dollars from the treasury of the United States to the people of Maine and Massachusetts, I then desired to contend, when put down by the previous question, that the House of Representatives had a constitutional right to pass on such a treaty.

What I am now enable to add, of revelation from the Department of State, will prove that my instincts of aversion to the treaty were even truer than reason.

In the Department of State there is now a letter signed F. O. J. Smith, marked private, dated Portland, the 12th of August, 1842, addressed to Mr. Webster, Secretary of State, substantially as follows:

It begins by congratulating Mr. Webster on his settlement of the Maine boundary question by a new mode of approaching the subject, after forty years of diplomacy without which new mode another forty years of diplomacy would have come to nothing.

[Mr. F. O. J. Smith seems to have suggested the boast with which his correspondent, Mr. Webster, hugged himself in his elaborate vindication in Senate.].

Mr. Smith informs Mr. Webster by this letter, that he had occasion to resort to services and influences, in order to adjust the tone and direction of THE PARTY PRESSES, and through them of public sentiment, to a purpose so desirable of accomplishment under Mr. Webster's administration.

Mr. Smith, therefore, submits a claim or account, if I recollect right, in blank for Mr. Webster to fill up, of which he calls for payment out of the contingent fund. Mr. Smith presumes that the contingent fund will be ample, and Mr. Webster's control of it complete, to do whatever he may think just.

The sums Mr. Smith vouches as got by him from Mr. Webster are $2,000 for services connected with the North-eastern boundary, and two years after he vouches $500 more, as will be shown.

Thirdly: Leaving the Department of State in debt to the secret service fund $2,290.
The records of the department show this default beyond all denial or question.

They show, furthermore, that it was neither paid or accounted for during nearly two years after Mr. Webster's removal from office.

They show several letters sent to him by President Tyler's direction, urging payment, and evasive letters of excuse from Mr. Webster for non-payment.

At length, a peremptory letter that exposure would or might be the consequence of more delay, produced reimbursement. But settlement did not take place until the 1st February, 1845, ten days before President Polk arrived in Washington to be inaugurated, when Mr. Webster produced another voucher from Mr. F. O. J. Smith for an additional $500, and other vouchers, one from George Smith for $500.

George Smith, since dead, denied that he had ever been paid or vouched more than $150, to which sum Mr. Webster reduced the $500 at first demanded, as his agent now in Washington will prove.

Granting all the vouchers Mr. Webster produced, there was nevertheless a balance of about 1,200 dollars due from him, at all events, when he left the department. That sum he was in default to the secret service fund, after crediting every thing in the way of repayment, offset or voucher that he claimed.

In all I have said in this affair, no allusion has been made to any private aggravation. Regretting the exposure forced from me, having afforded Mr. Webster several opportunities to meet the charges in his own way, that which he chose left me no alternative but this forbearing justification of myself.

A resolution, or committee, which I cannot institute, will soon test the truth of my statements.

On a question by Mr. Hunter of Virginia, Mr. Ingersoll said that he had received no information or intimation of any sort on this subject from Mr. Trist, who was then acting Secretary of State; and on a question by Mr. Bayly of Virginia, Mr. Ingersoll repeated that he had disclaimed imputing to Mr. Tyler, late President of the United States, any fault in reference to the abuses that had been committed in this fund.

We continue a sketch of the proceedings to the end, omitting the points of order raised and decided, in endless confusion.

Mr. Ashmun of Massachusetts said, I was very confident, Mr. Speaker, that the sense of justice that prevails in this House would not preclude me from an opportunity of replying to the member from Pennsylvania. After the repeated, deliberate cold-blooded ebullitions of that gentleman here—.

The Speaker interposed to order. The gentleman from Massachusetts must avoid personalities.

Mr. Ashmun. Well, I suppose it was perfectly in order for the member from Pennsylvania to utter all sorts of abusive epithets about an absent gentleman, and that a senator, calling him by name too, and yet it is not strictly parliamentary to impute any bad motive to—.

The Speaker. The Chair has no power between present and absent gentlemen, but he has power between present gentlemen, and it must be exercised.

Mr. Ashmun, (resuming.) I intend to keep myself strictly within the rules of order. I was saying, that I was sure, after the repeated deliberate, premeditated assaults, which the member from Pennsylvania has made on the distinguished member from Massachusetts, this House would not refuse to hear a word or two in reply, and the vote of the House, just taken, has not disappointed me. I think the House, as the nation, are not only surprised, but are mortified at the scenes which have been exhibited here. The House has been denounced abroad in the press, and by the people, for its wanton violation of good taste and good manners, but I think an offence has been committed here higher than that against good taste and good manners. I think an offence has been committed against society, as well as against the reputation of this House.—Is it not a matter of mortification that this House should be the vehicle of such repeated vituperation as we have heard and witnessed? Is it not a matter of astonishment, pure and unmingled astonishment, that a member, who has lived so long in public life, and who ought to know what reputation is worth, (if indeed it is worth any thing to him,) should be willing so often, repeatedly, with words written down, to come into this House and attempt to destroy the fame of a distinguished man—a fame which is a part of the property of the people of the United States?—If he was a young member, just entering into political life, who desired to gain some fame by connecting his name with the name of the high and distinguished individual whose character he was endeavoring to traduce, it would not be so strange. The member from Pennsylvania told us the other day, that he first met Mr. Webster in public life thirty odd years ago. Well, from that time to this, has he ever received the slightest cause of offence from Mr. Webster? I appeal to the whole nation to say that, however strongly Mr. Webster has spoken of parties or of principles, all his speeches have been free from personalities. I do not believe, or know, that any, the slightest, cause of offence has been given by Mr. Webster—unless it may be that one that may rankle in his bosom; that he (Mr. W.) has left him alone, that he has fathomed enough of his character to know that it was not worth while for him to say anything about him. Sir, he has never attacked him. Why then, why then, I ask, on the 9th of February, when we had been discussing great and grave questions, involving peace and war, why then did the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, when permitted by common consent to make
Mr. Ingersoll was understood to say, that he had not said that it was paid by the Administration as a fee for the counsel of McLeod.

... and a solemn gravity that impress this House with the importance of his communication, with having written a letter...—Sir, tradition tells us of the withering, blasting attack of Mr. Stockton, in reply to the slander of that day; and that the man who uttered this slander left this hall crying like a whipped schoolboy; and I should wonder that that lesson had ever been forgotten. At least it has taught him one thing—never again to utter an attack upon a gentleman in his presence. And I believe now, as was intimated by my colleague the other day, that, sooner than he would have made this attack upon Mr. Webster, if present, he would have bitten his tongue off. But Mr. Webster is not here. He relies on his name, character, the fame of his public life, and the weak efforts of a few friends here to defend him.

Sir, this attack is but a continuation of that course of vituperation that commenced with Mr. Stockton, that followed upon Judge Marshall and the Judges of the Supreme Court, in a charge of corruption in their decision on the question of the extending of the charter of the Bank of the United States. That course of vituperation has lived till now.

The gentleman the other day, with the most bold simplicity—I might say with audacious simplicity—said that whatever thing had been said of him, he never knew before that his truth had been called in question. Now I beg to say, that the gentleman must either be very deaf or very blind, for that is the precise question that all the world make in relation to this matter. It is the truth of the charges—the slander, the vituperation, the villification which has been poured upon great men from the same course.

Sir, he is the accuser and the witness in relation to Mr. Webster. It becomes us, then, to know who the accuser is, and what is the character of the witness. He has brought us here, from the secret recesses of the State Department, certain memoranda, letters, and documents, and we are expected to take them on the credit of his veracity—his truthfulness—for no otherwise can we judge in relation to it. The President of the United States says the seal is too safe to allow him to break it, even upon the call of this House; and yet, with boldness that is unparalleled, the member from Pennsylvania stands up and says he has found out a way to get into these secret archives, and he comes here and asks us and the nation to believe he has told the truth in relation to this matter.

Now, what, then, says the accuser and the witness in this case? Why, on the 9th of February, he made five or six specific charges against Mr. Webster. He charged him in the most imposing manner, and with a shake of the finger, and a solemn gravity that impress this House with the importance of his communication, with having written a letter marked “private” to the Governor of New York, with certain contents; with having sent it by express. And he said the next step taken by the administration, of which Mr. Webster was a member, was to procure to be employed, as counsel for McLeod, a gentleman who was lately removed from the office of district attorney in New York, and that a fee of five thousand dollars was put into his hands for that purpose.

Now, these were specific charges. All of them have been proved false. It is true that a private letter was sent; but not by express. Why, then, did the gentleman get up here and declare the circumstantial manner in which this letter was sent in order to make the House think it a matter of great importance?.

Mr. Ingersoll, (in his seat.) Did I say it was sent by express?

Mr. Ashmun. I think so.

Mr. Ingersoll. I remember I did not.

Mr. Ashmun, (continuing.) And when he says, with that child-like simplicity, that he never knew his truth called in question, that is an excellent consideration to be looked at in this connexion.

Well, he did state that a fee of 5,000 dollars had been put into the hands of the gentleman, late district attorney. Has that not been proved false?.

Mr. Ingersoll, (in his seat.) True.

Mr. Ashmun. “True!” Sir, there is not one word of truth in it. On the contrary, if the gentleman undertakes to bolster up his former statements by the evidence produced this morning, it entirely fails to show that any money was paid by the Administration as a fee for the counsel of McLeod.

Mr. Ingersoll was understood to say, that he had not said that it was paid by the Administration.
Mr. Ashmun. I am not afraid of this interjectional conversation; for the more this matter is stirred, the more truth will be elicited.

The gentleman says he did not say that it was paid by the Administration. I put it to the honest sense of this House, if it was not so stated as to be understood that it was paid by the Administration?

Mr. Ashmun. I did not put it to you. I put it to the honest sense of this House.

Well, he says that a note was written by Mr. Webster to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a minister to go to Great Britain to settle the Oregon question. Well, if he did so, I think the 51 degrees 40 minutes men should be glad that he moved so early. But this is only important as to the matter of truth. Mr. Webster says that he did not send a note. It is true that a verbal communication with Mr. Adams, or Mr. Cushing, or both took place. So far I admit the statement, and give the member from Pennsylvania the credit of having told one truth in the whole. And it reminds me of an ancedone of an Indian, who came by a farmer's house, desirous of getting something to drink. Knowing that the farmer was rather surly and tight-fisted, he told the farmer that he had just come by the bend of the brook, where was a tree, and that a deer was feeding by that tree.—"and now," says he, "give me something to drink for this information.” The farmer now complied with his request, and was off with his rifle after the deer. He got there and found the tree, and the bend of the brook, but no deer.—Upon coming back he denounced the Indian for deceiving him. "Well," says the Indian, "did you not find a brook and a tree? Well, did I not tell you two truths to one lie?" Now the gentleman gets up here and says—although I know the word "lie is not parliamentary—.

Mr. B. Martin rose to a point of order.

Mr. Ashmun resumed. I did not intend to apply that term to the gentleman from Pennsylvania. His were mistakes and if he has one accuracy to five mistakes, it is doing pretty well.

Well, these charges were denounced as false, and proved, as I said, false. There was no attempt on the part of the gentleman from Pennsylvania to prove them to be true; and the gentleman says under these circumstances he went to the State Department in search of further materials. Well, sir, it was very natural, if he had the free run of the State Department, that he should go there; that, following the bent of his inclination, he should get all the means in his power to traduce Mr. Webster.

But now the question comes before this House and the nation—and it is an important question in judging of the witness and the accuser—by what means, foul or fair—how has this pretended information been extracted from the secretary-chives of the State Department? Why, Sir, the House made a solemn call by a majority of this body upon the President to furnish this information from the State Department. The President of the United States, in a solemn message addressed to this House, refused to communicate the information. The President stated, that the laws and the Constitution, and the oath he had taken, imposed upon him a duty which forbade him to expose to any eye any thing contained in that Department. He said there was a seal of confidence upon it that he could not break; that this House could not require him to break, unless it was in a case of impeachment; and yet the member from Pennsylvania stands up here, with a boldness most admirable, and says he has been prowling there, that he knows what is there, and that he has got there all this information which he has communicated to this House. Now, I want to know how he got there. The President says there is a seal of obligation, of confidence, upon this Department. Who broke that seal? He exempts the Secretary of State and the President, he says. I exempt them. I have no idea that the honorable men had any thing to do with that transaction. Was it some underling in that Department, that has been a pander upon this occasion? If assisted by anybody, it must have been by an underling, for I say no honorable man would have any connection with the subject.—Who furnished him with a key? Or did he take one from his own picket? Or did he pick the lock to ascertain what was contained in the secret archives of the Department? Who was the guilty man? If the gentleman does not reveal him, the responsibility is upon him, (Mr. I.)—He broke into the State Department where he had no right to go—knowing that he had no right to go. Has there been anybody removed from office in the State Department for breach of confidence? Has the gentleman, as a member of the administration party communicated to the Executive the foul agent? No, he takes the responsibility; he chooses to shield the conspirator, if there is any; it is upon him. And he admits he has gone and broken in where the President says he had no right to go, and where this House has no right to go. Now the gentleman states, this morning, that these documents are in possession of one of the clerks of this Department.—Dare the gentleman rise in his place and state who that clerk is? Was it he?

Well, the gentleman described to us how he “stumbled upon this information to his entire amazement.” And for my life, I could not but think it was like a man who has feloniously broken into a house for one thing and stumbles upon another, and, after laying his hands upon all he can get, decamps and sets fire to the house. It did seem to me so stealthlike, groping about where he had no right to be, doing injury, and lighting upon information which he says surprised him.

I have something important (he continued) in relation to the character of the witness. Well, it is by these means he avows before the world he has procured the means of uttering this accusation against the distinguished Senator from Massachusetts. Now, in judging of the character of the witness and accuser, you must always take into consideration, to some extent, the position he has assumed upon the trial. He has brought against the Senator from Massachusetts...
Mr. J. R. Ingersoll interposed (Mr. Ashmun yielding the floor) and said: I regret the necessity which constrains me to take any part whatever in this proceeding. From the beginning it has been to me a cause of much pain; and I have carefully refrained from everything in connexion with it, except when duty has required that I should give a vote. I have voted, and I have done no more. In relation to the particular statement now made, I am not at liberty to preserve silence. Thus far the controversy has been one in which my feelings of affectionate relationship were alone concerned. A different situation is now created. I was counsel for the district attorney in the suit with the U. States. On the trial of the cause, I was his only counsel. I know, Mr. Speaker—I well know—the facts connected with the case. They were such as did not, for a moment, that I have ever heard, excite a suspicion of official or personal delinquency on the part of the individual concerned in them. He had lone held the office of district attorney. Very large sums of money had, during a course of years, passed through his hands. It was interesting to himself, and, as might have been supposed, it was scarcely less interesting to the government that his accounts should be settled. He endeavored repeatedly, and for a length of time, to bring about a settlement. His efforts were fruitless. No adjustment was made. He could not, in the nature of the thing, bring suit against the Government, or otherwise compel what he so much desired, and so anxiously sought. He, therefore, with the advice of counsel, gave notice to the proper department that he had some funds in his hands, and that he would require suit to be brought against him as the only means of effecting a full and final settlement, and that in the mean time the fund should be invested for the benefit of the United States. Suit was brought. An account of items was exhibited, amounting to more than a million of dollars, which had been officially required to exhibit voucher for the payment of them to the proper
authority. He did so with entire clearness, and to the satisfaction of the judge and jury. A balance of between three and four thousand dollars remained, and a verdict was found accordingly. The conduct of the district attorney during the whole transaction was, in my estimation, perfectly honorable, and I have never, that I recollect, until this moment, heard a suggestion from any quarter to the contrary.

It has been in a collateral manner only—one known especially to myself—that I have felt myself at liberty, and under an obligation, to interpose. It is my intention, from motives that will meet with unhesitating response—motives of peculiar delicacy—to refrain as much as possible in the future, as I have done in the past, from taking any part in this controversy.

Mr. Ashmun resumed. I yielded with the utmost cheerfulness to the gentleman from Pennsylvania, whose near relation to the other gentleman from Pennsylvania entitles him to be heard, and whose high and honorable character entitles him to belief, as far as he states facts. So far as his opinions may be influenced by the delicate position in which he stands to the other gentleman, I leave for the House to decide.

But, in relation to these facts, I agree that the gentleman from Pennsylvania did urge time and again a settlement—a suit to be commenced—and, when that suit was commenced, its result was, that judgment was rendered against him for nearly 4,000 dollars, and that balance was not paid up until two years afterwards. The gentleman says, in his opinion, his whole course was highly honorable. I leave it for the House, for the world, to judge in relation to his bringing 651 cases out of one transaction—out of which he sought to accumulate a monstrous amount as an offset to the charges of the treasury against him.

Mr. C. J. Ingersoll (in his seat.) Did you read the printed testimony in that document? Mr. Ashmun. It is of two students in the district attorney’s office. A certificate furnished years afterwards by the foreman of the grand jury. Did not every lawyer know that the grand jury were directed, instructed, counselled in their course by the advice of the district attorney?

But I leave this matter, with the facts of the gentleman from Pennsylvania, which are all true, and with the opinions he has pronounced; and I ask the House and the world to pronounce upon these facts. Sir, for what was it that on the immediate accession of General Jackson to office, this district attorney was tumbled head and heels out of office? Gen. Jackson scented it out; his keen sagacity hit upon it, and he was immediately displaced.

Well, now, under such circumstances, and from such a source, these charges come. What are the charges? Charges of peculation—charges upon Mr. Webster of the personal use of this fund. Now, no proof has been produced to sustain the truth of his charge. It has not been sustained by one particle of evidence that the gentleman has undertaken to state to the House, that that secret service fund was taken possession of by Mr. Webster. The House knows that it is utterly impossible, that it cannot be true; that that fund is under the direction and control of the President, and can only be obtained on the certificate of the President, and when I saw the little by play by which the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. Bayly] called upon the gentleman from Pennsylvania to exempt Mr. Tyler from any connexion with this transaction, I understood it perfectly well, and I know equally well that Mr. Tyler has said, and now says, that not one dollar was expended but under his direction. And I know, further, the insidious efforts that have been resorted to, to get Mr. Tyler to take ground on this subject against Mr. Webster.

Mr. C. J. Ingersoll. By me? Mr. Ashmun. Yes.

Mr. Ingersoll. It is utterly false.

The Speaker rapped to order.

Mr. Ingersoll (still standing and continuing his sentence.) It is a lie; the lie of a coward.

Mr. Ashmun (resuming.) Yes, the aged Pennsylvanian—.

Mr. Ingersoll (interposing.) I am quite young enough.

Mr. Ashmun. Yes; the aged Pennsylvanian comes here to use language towards me which he supposes can provoke a personal conflict. I come from a section of country where they neither believe in duelling, bowie-knives, nor pistols. We are neither afraid of them nor do we use them.

Mr. C. J. Ingersoll (in his seat.) Nor of getting drunk?.

Mr. Ashmun (continuing.) The member from Pennsylvania supposed by using that phrase he would disturb my equanimity. If he chooses to try whether I am afraid, let him try and he will find out.

I stated that insidious efforts have been made to induce Mr. Tyler to take ground on this subject against Mr. Webster. I believe when the gentleman first found he was to be disappointed in the proof, that efforts were made by him, or at least with his connivance, for this purpose. And it has been stated in the public papers that certain
gentlemen were requested to do so. I will not vouch for all that is said in the papers; but when I have seen the means resorted to—that the secret archives of the Government have been broken into for obtaining the means of
detracting, I am at liberty to state all I know in relation to other efforts.

I come back, Mr. Speaker, to the charge that Mr. Webster has used the public funds. The gentleman says seventeen
thousand dollars.—Where is the proof? It rests entirely upon the gentleman from Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania. He
says he has obtained it; and in so saying, he admits his own shame; that he has been were he has no right to be. He
professed to read what he called a letter. How much of that was his own comments, and how much the true letter we
do not know.—It purports to be fore the corruption of the press.—Well, I beg the gentleman to answer how much
money it will take to buy up the Democratic press of Maine. Even if a thousand or two of dollars had been used by
Mr. Tyler and Mr. Webster for the purpose of circulating information among the people of Maine, so as to bring them
to agree upon a conventional boundary, of the justice of which they were satisfied, Mr. A. considered it no worse
than the giving the public printing to editors of the political press. But was this corrupting the public press? It is all
idle, said he. There is not the slightest evidence of it, except the mere statement of the member from Pennsylvania.
How much that is worth, I leave the House to decide.

Sirs, this embraces substantially all the charges made by the member. It have not time to go more particularly into
details. He has again written a communication on this subject, which will probably receive notice elsewhere. I have
said all I intended to say. I have endeavored to discharge what I conceive to be my duty—to hold up this odious
slander before the community for their disgust and their contempt. And although I know, until humanity is somewhat
purified, there will be some that will countenance the member from Pennsylvania in the avaricious vilification he has
pursued, yet I do believe that men of all parties—gentlemen of honor—high-minded gentlemen who hold the
character of our public men to be part of the public property, will do full justice to all parties in relation to this
accusation; that they will fix upon its author the mark of reprobation and condemnation which will stand uneffaced
until repentance—long, deep and sincere—shall have claimed mercy for him.

Mr. Schenck offers the following resolution;

Whereas this House, on the 9th day of April instant, passed a resolution, which is in the words and terms following:
"Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to cause to be furnished to this House an account of
all payments made on President's certificates from the fund appropriated by law through the agency of the State
Department, for the contingent expenses of foreign intercourse since the 4th day of March, 1841, until the retirement
of Daniel Webster, from the Department of State, with copies of all entries, letters, receipts, vouchers,
memorandums, or other evidence of such payments, to whom paid, for what, and particularly all concerning the
North Eastern Boundary dispute with Great Britain. Also copies of whatever communications were made from the
Secretary of State during the last session of the 27th Congress, particularly February, 1843, to Mr. Cushing and Mr.
Adams, members of the Committee of this House on Foreign Affairs, of the wish of the President of the United States
to institute a special mission to Great Britain. Also copies of all letters on the books of the Department of State to
any officer of the United States, or any person in New York, concerning Alexander McLeod. Provided that no document
or matter is requested to be furnished by the foregoing resolution, which, in the opinion of the President, would
improperly involve the citizen or subject of any foreign power," which said resolution was communicated to the
President of the United States: And whereas, the President, on the 20th day of April instant, communicated to this
House his reply to said resolution, in which he declined to disclose, or furnish any information in regard to the
expenditure of the secret service fund, assigning, among other reasons, the following: that if the President may
answer the present call, he must answer similar calls for every such expenditure of a confidential character, made
under every Administration, in war and in peace, from the organization of the Government to the present period;
that to break the seal of confidence imposed by law, and heretofore uniformly preserved, would be subversive of the
very purpose for which the law was enacted, and might be productive of the most disastrous consequences, and that
the expenditures of this confidential character, it is believed, were never before sought to be made public, and he
should greatly apprehend the consequences of establishing a precedent which would render such disclosures
thereafter inevitable.

And whereas Charles Jared Ingersoll, a member of this House, and one of the representatives from the State of
Pennsylvania, has this day declared to this House, in his place here, that he is in possession of, or has had access to,
the information in relation to the expenditure of the secret service fund which was asked for in said resolution, and
refused to the House, or of some portion thereof, with proof and documents in relation thereto, and has disclosed the
same to the House and to the public, and the said Ingersoll avers that he found or procured the said information
from the Department of State, therefore.

Resolved, That a Select Committee of five members to be appointed to inquire how the seal of confidence imposed
by law, heretofore uniformly preserved in relation to the expenditure of said secret fund, has come to be broken; and
how the said Charles J. Ingersoll has obtained the information which he has communicated to this House and to the
public, and through whose agency such information has been procured; whether by the act of said Ingersoll himself,
or by any officer of any department of this Government: And if by a member, then, whether he does not deserve, by
such conduct, punishment by the House, and whether in such transaction there has not been an offence committed
against the dignity and privileges of the House: And that the said Committee have power to send for persons and
papers; and the they report to the House as soon as practicable the result of their investigation.

Mr. Pettit moved to amend the resolution by adding thereto the following:

"And that another select committee of five be appointed, to inquire into the truth of the charges this day made in this
House by Mr. C. J. Ingersoll against Mr. Daniel Webster, with a view to founding an impeachment against said Daniel
Mr. Pettit’s amendment was agreed to, and the resolution adopted—so that two select committees will have to be appointed.

RE46v43i1p1c6, May 1, 1846: Thursday Morning, April 30, 1846.

The Whig papers, aroused by the unexpected gains in a number of Democratic counties, and our divisions, raise the cry that the Whigs have gained ground, and the Democratic party is losing the confidence of the people—that Mr. Polk’s course on the Oregon question, the proposed modification of the Tariff, and Sub-treasury, have operated upon the public mind of Virginia, and produced a reaction.

The reverse may justly be said to be the case. It is not our weakness, but our strength, which has perilled our success. In November, 1844, the Democracy swept the State so victoriously—last Spring, they wrested from the Whigs so many doubtful counties, that they were tempted to try experiments with their luck. Instead of organizing and concentrating their strength upon single candidates in the Northwest, they divided their votes upon several candidates, and the most thorough Democratic counties will have the mortification to be misrepresented by Whigs. Aided by these foolish antics in our ranks, and by the double-voting which has secured them several counties, the Whigs have run us much closer than they themselves had any idea of, or than we expected—for we have, all along, feared the effects of a want of concentration, especially in the West. The Whig paper in Raleigh, referring to the Virginia Elections, said it expected a defeat, for Virginia had never “gone right,” (that is, voted for the Whigs,) save “by accident.” It was this “accident” alone that we feared. We felt, and we now feel, that Virginia is more strongly Democratic than ever. At the late elections, had the parties been fairly arrayed against one another, even with the disadvantage of double votes and the general apathy, we should have carried the Legislature by as large a majority as last year. Eastern Virginia has done her duty. It is in the North-west that we have lost so many counties, because our friends were so strong, that they cut up their forces, and were captured by the enemy. They have learned a lesson, we hope, which will cause them hereafter to act with an unbroken front. In that case, they are invincible.

RE46v43i1p2c2, May 1, 1846: To the Hon. EDWARD BURLESON, President of the Senate of the State of Texas:

SIR—I cannot leave the seat of Government of your State, without returning my most grateful and respectful acknowledgments to the body over which you preside, for the very distinguished honor they have done me, by adopting with an unanimity which greatly enhances its value, a resolution expressive of the gratitude of the people of Texas for my early friendship to the country, my defence of the character of its people in the Legislature of South Carolina, and (as the Senate is pleased to say,) for my ability and success in procuring a recognition of your independence by some of the principal powers of Europe.

With whatever ability my negotiations may have been conducted, I will not be guilty of the absurd affectation of saying that I do not feel that I have a just claim to the residue of the applause which you have so generously accorded. Yes, sir, I was your early and fast friend when you Star rose over the surface of these verdant prairies, full of the light reflected from your arms.—South Carolina had just emerged out of the fearless struggle, which single-handed she waged, against the whole Union, in defence of the Constitution of the United States, as expounded by him who drew the Declaration of Independence, and those principles of free trade which are at once the vital element and just reward of human industry.

I confess that I flung myself, without scarcely a moment’s relaxation, from the toils of a distinguished post, which I had occupied in my own State, with an irrepressible enthusiasm in your cause. Independently of the just sympathy I felt in your heroic struggle, I could not but venture to anticipate that what we had contended for in South Carolina was to be realized in the auspicious fortunes which were dawning on your country.

My purse, pen and tongue, in the exercise of all the faculty of speech with which God had endowed me, were dedicated to your service. My arm would not have been wanting (feeble as it may have been) if the reapers whom you sent down to the harvest of death, at San Jaeinto, had left a single enemy to subdue or a single garland to be won. But valor had left nothing for ambition to glean.

Of the events connected with my civil and foreign services to the late Republic, I am admonished both of the propriety and delicacy of my being brief. Such as they were, they were rendered with fidelity and zeal. The recognition of your independence by Great Britain gave you the sovereign faculty of making the compact of annexation which you have consummated with the Government of the United States. You, are, doubtless, aware that many millions of your public domain had been mortgaged by the Government of Mexico to the British bond holders; and but for the recognition of Great Britain of your power in contract treaties and form alliances, some very delicate questions might have risen, or some new or complicated points of public law, which the sword alone could have solved.
And here you will permit me to offer some explanation of an apparent inconsistency that I, who had been so strenuous an advocate for the recognition of your sovereignty and independence by other nations, should subsequently have been an ardent champion for their being merged (at least in a qualified sense) in the government of this confederacy.

I have never had an opportunity of giving this explanation. I will now do it briefly and explicitly. On my visit to Europe in 1842, after I had ceased to have any official connexion with your Government, I satisfied myself, from the course of public opinion there, that Texas, *independent*, would soon become the fulcrum on which the lever of European politics would be planted; that our of the Union the vast preponderance of European emigrants coming into her territory would separate her in sympathy and affection from the people of the United States; that in less than a quarter of a century, her interests would be played against those of our now common country, and that she would soon become the Flanders of the North American States, at once an object and theatre for the struggles, ambition and policy of other States. On my return from Europe, passing through Washington in the autumn of 1842, I communicated these views to PresidentTyler, and found they had been anticipated by his own patriotism, sagacity and just ambition. Now that annexation has been consummated, and the grave has closed over the bright and unfinished labors of the lamented and highly gifted Upshur, I may say, without violating the semblance of confidence, that my private correspondence with the gentleman on this subject, would more entirely sustain the opinions which I have thus ventured to give you a hasty sketch. These opinions may not have belonged to the comprehensive views of a statesman, who looks far into futurity, but I believe they will find a response in every American bosom.

In reference to the subject of my pecuniary negotiations for your Government, I have but a few words to say: Money is undoubtedly a very pleasant thing to possess, but it is rather a stale and flat subject to write about. It is sufficient to say, that I never negotiated a loan for your, except at par, when your paper was at a heavy discount in the stock market of the United States, and what is far better, I have, in obedience to your order filed my accounts with the Comptroller of your Treasury, accounting for every farthing I ever received. My contract with Messrs. Laffite & Co. of Paris, in 1841, has been grossly misrepresented by those who never read that contract. It was a financial projet, drawn, as I have reason to believe, out by James Laffite, that valiant champion of liberty, and distinguished Banker, to convert, eventually, 37 millions of money certificates into land warrants, at seven francs per acre. This measure was defeated by the perfidy and injustice of the French Minister of Finance, without, as I have the best reasons to think, consulting his Government, and I believe, with the regret of the enlightened King of the French, and his highly accomplished Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Guizot, of whom nothing more need be said, than that his great public and private virtues are on a level with his distinguished genius. But enough of this subject.

It has given me infinite pain to appear before your Legislature, holding and representing, as I do, large claims against your Government. In reference to the former, if the interests of others were not involved, I do not know that, in the self-sacrificing affection of my children, I would not have found a justification so entirely in harmony with my own inclination in abstaining from presenting them. But in reference to the claims of others, whom I induced, in the darkest hours of your fortunes, to adventure their money in your service, I have a higher duty to perform—a duty which I could not neglect, without infidelity to them and dishonor to myself.

That Texas has both the willingness and the ability to pay every debt, which a fair and equitable examination can be justly brought against her, cannot be doubted by those who have any knowledge of her intelligent population and of her public resources; and as the best means of meeting the legitimate demands of her creditors, permit me (who like yourselves is a land holder, free holder and tax payer in Texas) to suggest the policy of transferring your public lands to the Government of the United States upon such terms as would place the character and credit of your State upon lofty grounds, and secure to her an immediate prosperity. The public domain now an inert mass, far too unwieldy for the State Government to handle, would become, under such arrangement, a source of value and beneficial usefulness to yourselves and the whole Union.—Their purchase by the United States, is a great measure of national policy, which has no more to do with the assumption of State debts than the purchase of Louisiana from France, necessarily involved an assumption of her revolutionary assignats.

It is wholly immaterial what ordinances of annexation the United States may have passed, they cannot take your Custom Houses, appropriate to themselves its revenues, with all the attributes which belong to the sovereign faculty of indirect taxation, without providing for debts, *for which those very revenues were pledged*; when, therefore, you propose to surrender your domain for the purpose of paying your public debt, you make a gratuitous concession to the sacred object of your public faith equally creditable to your honor and integrity.

With a renewed assurance of my gratitude to your honorable body for the distinguished compliment they have paid—I am, with greatest respect, your ob’t serv’t, JAMES HAMILTON.

[BWP]
PARLIAMENTARY. Three months have nearly elapsed since the tariff was introduced, and the measure still lingers in
the House of Commons. It was vehemently opposed on its introduction by the enemies of free trade, and respective
of extraneous delays, the protectionists showed anxiety enough to procrastinate its final triumph.

The fight about the tariff ceased, and the still more fierce wrangle about the "Curfew Bill" commenced. In this humor
the House separated, ready, with renewed arder, to begin the conflict when it meets again. Sir Robert Peel states
that the Irish Bill will be taken up again on the re-assembling of Parliament, and passed to a first reading.

Arrived at that stage, the Corn Bill, which stands committed to Monday week, will be once more on the tapis, ,
presse to a third reading, and sent to the Lords for acceptance or rejection. Had it not been for the
fastidious deterence to the Peers, which induced Sir Robert to shelve his pet measure of Commercial Reform, for the
purpose of discussing the odious Coercion Bill, the former healing measure would, ere this, have passed through its
legislative formulas in the lower House, and the Peers would have been in a position to say aye or not to it.

ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES.

We repeat most emphatically that the only line of conduct to be feared by England is the plausibilities involved in the
laissez aller system. The clear perception of this has made us true prophets, and Mr. Calhoun a formidable antagonist.

It is the right policy for America. It was so from the first. It was only exceptionable on the score of its being
unintelligible. When first promulgated the feelings of the people and the prejudices of the people were
against it. The North was distrustful, the West ambitious. A change has since come upon them. Action has
engendered re-action—that is one thing. Free Tariffs have engendered commercial interests—that is another.

The true appreciation of the apparently pacific position of England has engendered a valuation of the chances of war,
as well as of the blessings of peace—this is the third and best point.—One with another, these elements in American
calculation are beginning to make Mr. Calhoun intelligible, even in Ohio and Missouri.

The only policy formidable to England is Mr. Calhoun's; and it is formidable simply because it encourages the natural
nonchalance of Great Britain. The Hudson's Bay Company is a strong company; so strong that it consists of the
stronger sex only.

The American squatter takes his wife with him. The child follows. The different character of the immigration will make
all the difference ten years hence.—Leave it till then. So says Mr. Calhoun; and for a Malthusian American he says
rightly.

The sine die policy is Mr. Calhoun's. Can we in England meet it? At present we are the strongest within the Oregon;
or, illustrating the distinction within rules, the constabulary is stronger than the thievedom.

But let the thieves multiply—what will happen then? Just what Mr. Calhous reckons on—an unequal battle ten years
hence. The sinc die doctrine, if ever admitted in England, must be met with an antagonistic one—the pari passu
policy. What they do in the way of immigration, let us do likewise.

The 54-40 doctrine is a mere stalking-horse. Facilis descensus—a imaginary point of right, created for the
occasion of making the appearance of a descent. By letting themselves down from a fictitious position, the Americans
take the credit of making concessions.

Mr. Calhoun's speech has had the effect of reducing the question to it generalities. The sense of the country, (so
says the press,) "will be taken upon the latitudes 49 and 54 40." Latitude enough. On the question itself, however,
there is no sense to be taken.

Pending, however, the processes of reasoning, which the country undergoes in making up its mind between the two
parallels, (between the impossible whole and the equitable half) negotiations are to cease. So much the better,
always assuming the pari passu system on the side of England.00[Morning Chronicle.

RE46v43i1p2c4, May 1, 1846: OREGON.

The article in the last number of the Quarterly Review, on the subject of Oregon, is beginning to attract attention,
now that the hubbub, arising out of the Indian victories, is fast subsiding. The gist of the article is to promote a
compromise, and the reviewer would be content with the 49th parallel.

We have contended from the first that any fair settlement of the dispute would be hailed with avidity by the English
people, in order to avoid the horrible consequences which an appeal to force would produce; and the semi-official
color of the article to which we allude, embodying the feelings of the great Conservative party on the subject, is
cumfermatory of our views.
The arrival at Havre with New York papers to the 18th ult., brings the debates in Congress, on this subject, three weeks later than the previous packet. The ultra Oregon men appear to be losing ground, and the general feeling of the country, as well as of Congress, leaves little to apprehend now from belligerent results. Indeed, it is generally believed here that the dispute is virtually settled. We sincerely hope that this is not an assumption, but a fact. Wilmer & Smith’s European Times.

RE46v43i1p2c3, May 1, 1846. [Correspondence of the N. Y. Journal of Commerce.] WASHINGTON, Saturday, April 25.

It will be the fault of the British Government, if a treaty be not made on the Oregon question in sixty days from this time. If it is wise, it will avail itself of the ebb tide here, and offer terms at once, while they can be accepted. Whatever terms may be offered, the President will submit for the advice of the Senate. If they are too exacting, the Senate will show an undivided front in opposition to it; and, after that, there will be but one party to the question in this country.

If the British Government wait, after the Notice, for the action of Congress on the Oregon bill—if, for any reason, they continue their reserve, they may lose the opportunity of a pacific and liberal adjustment. The present unexpectedly moderate policy and measure of the Senate, on this subject, cannot be expected to continue beyond the present session. The temper of the people would not permit it.

The Senate would now undoubtedly advise that the country be divided by forty-nine and the Straits of Fuca; and they might even be willing to consent to concede to Great Britain the navigation of the Columbia river for half a century.

There are some reasons, as it is understood, for the opinion that the British Government will make an overture, or accept one of a reasonable kind.

The President, it is understood, will send out the Notice by the packet of the 1st of May. He will not make an overture, but he will accompany it with an expression of his wish for an amicable and speedy adjustment of the question, repeating, perhaps, the assurance on that subject which he gave through Mr. Buchanan, in the last correspondence with the British Minister.

RE46v43i1p3c2, May 1, 1846: From the N. Y. Journal of Commerce of Wednesday.

THE OREGON CONTROVERSY SETTLED.

By Last Evening’s Mail.

By last night’s mail we received no New York papers, but find the following in a P. S. of yesterday’s Baltimore American. While we do not put great confidence in its statements, we learn from Washington that the news by the Great Western is regarded as pacific. We give it for what it is worth—expressing our surprise that the Journal of Commerce, generally a coop paper, should speak with so much warmth and confidence. There may be some probability of the prospective realization of the settlement described:

Letters by the Great Western, from high sources, say that the Oregon question is settled, and give the details, viz: latitude 49 to the Straits of Fuca, and thence through said Straits to the Pacific, leaving the whole of Vancouver’s Island to Great Britain, the navigation of the Columbia for a term of years, &c. We understand the fact to be, that the arrangement made through the medium of several gentlemen in Washington, and which we announced perhaps two months ago, but which was retarded by the uncourteous manner in which the offer of arbitration was rejected, has now been recognized and confirmed. The forms of diplomacy will be gone through with at Washington, as we presume—for the formal negotiation has never by our Government been committed to Mr. McLane, though the generous confidence existing between him and Lord Aberdeen has doubtless enabled him to render important aid in bringing the controversy to a favorable issue.

The President, we have reason to know, is ready and will be prompt to accept the terms stated above, and the Senate not less prompt in confirming what he does. Let the dogs of war bawl and go to 54 40—the prey has escaped them. The "national heart" needs not now to "be prepared for war."

The paragraph from a Liverpool paper of the 11th, mentions the above intelligence as having been rumored on Change, but does not speak confidently of its correctness. Our regular correspondent writes us, under date of the 10th instant, that the war party in England, as well as here, was completely down; but he does not appear to have been aware that the terms of an arrangement had been agreed on.

[BWP]
A communication was received from the Secretary of War, transmitting the information recently called for, in relation to the copper mines on Lake Superior.

Mr. Jarnagin, in pursuance of notice, introduced his joint resolution to establish a home board to adjust the claims of our citizens against Mexico. It was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

The preamble to the resolution, after setting forth the conduct of Mexico, says that our Government has now no other alternative but to make a peremptory demand for settlement.

On motion of Mr. Morehead, the Committee on the Library was instructed to inquire into the expediency of distributing the copies of the American Archives belonging to the Government among the Literary Institutions of the country.

The Senate then took up the bill granting alternate sections of the public domain to aid in the completion of certain works of Internal Improvement in the State of Michigan.

Mr. Calhoun said it was not only the right, but the duty of the Government to afford aid to works running through the public lands, by which the value of those lands would be enhanced.

Mr. Niles opposed the bill and expressed his surprise at the new doctrine to which the Senator from South Carolina had so recently become a convert.

Mr. Calhoun denied that he had become a recent convert to any new doctrine, but that he had acted upon the principles he now declared upon many occasions.

The debate was continued by Messrs. Cass, Niles, Breese, Westcott, Archer, J. M. Clayton, Woodbridge, and Benton.

The bill was then ordered to be engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. Speight gave notice that he should offer a bill of a similar nature to-morrow.

The Senate then adjourned.

The House went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Burt of S. C. in the Chair, and resumed the consideration of the bill to establish the “Smithsonian Institution.”

Mr. Hamlin, of Me., addressed the Committee in favor of the bill, and in opposition to the substitute offered by Mr. Adams. He had no doubt about the constitutional power of Congress to accept the trust, and he hoped the present opportunity would not be suffered to pass, without some steps being taken to carry into effect the expressed design of the testator. Mr. H. contended that the money should properly be considered in the Treasury, and that it could not rightfully be any where else. He suggested some modifications of the bill, but would support any measure that would give a start to the noble design of Mr. Smithson.

The debate was continue by Messrs. Wood of N.Y., Giles of Md., and Wick of Ia., until the expiration of the hour, when the Committee proceeded to vote upon the various amendments which had been offered.

After spending some three hours in acting upon the amendments, the Committee finally adopted a substitute for the whole bill, proposed on the 21st inst. By Mr. Hough of N.J., with some modifications, and reported the same to the House.

The bill as amended was then passed—yeas 85, nays 76.

The House then adjourned.
In order to bring about a perfect and secure confidence of a speedy settlement of the Oregon question, the N. Y. Evening Post suggests that the Government should “despatch to England some able man enjoying the confidence of the country, such a clear-headed, persuasive and universally acceptable envoy, for example, as Silas Wright, charged with the mission of adjusting the dispute on such a basis as would be satisfactory to the mass of the American people.” The same paper makes the following additional remarks. While we would perhaps go with the writer in allowing to British subjects certain commercial privileges for a term of years, we cannot see the propriety or the necessity of our Government making the first overture. The British Government must be satisfied, through the representations of Mr. Pakenham, that no party in this country would consent to a surrender of an inch of territory South of the 49th degree. On this platform the most fiery advocate of war and the most timid friend of peace, stand, side by side, ready to draw the sword, rather than yield an inch farther. The declarations of the British press indicate that Great Britain is willing to take the first step in the renewed negotiation. She knows our views, and will probably tender such terms as she thinks we can honorably accept. Our position will be sensibly weakened, if, under the circumstances, we exhibit too anxious a desire to settle the question, by making the first offer. The giving the “notice,” will be evidence, strong enough, that we wish a speedy and amicable adjustment. That step taken by us, the first offer will come with propriety from Great Britain:

“The notice will, we suppose, be given promptly. The President has the consent of the Senate, that the time and expediency of giving the notice shall be left to his discretion, and the desire of the House of Representatives, a body in closer relation to public opinion than the Senate, has been expressed by its vote that he should give it immediately.

“The giving of the notice will make an early adjustment of the dispute necessary. For that purpose, negotiations must be renewed, and it matters very little from whom the first overtures come. Nor is it necessary, in our view, that the settlement of this dispute should be made to depend merely on the right of territory. The Hudson’s Bay Company has drawn from their trade in furs, now carried on in Oregon, a prodigious revenue, the desire to retain which perhaps, as much as any other cause, has made Britain slow to consent even to a partition of the territory. But this trade must gradually decline, and in a few years come to an end, as the animals who are hunted for their furs decrease in number. It is probable that if we were to allow British subjects certain commercial rights in the territory for a term of years, the difficulties in the way of a settlement would be considerably diminished.

“This view of the matter might furnish, we venture to suggest, an opportunity on our part of re-opening the negociations, without receding one inch from the ground our Government has taken. That the British Government does not desire to go to war with us for Oregon, is manifest enough, not merely to those who reflect on the consequences of such a step to herself, but to those who have observed the manner in which the subject is treated in quarters, to which we look for an indication of the intentions of that Government. A certain amount of bluster and insolence must always be expected in British journals, whenever there is any collision of interests, apparent or real, between their own country and any other; but from this, no inference can well be drawn, one way or the other. But the article in the Quarterly Review, to which we alluded the other day, as well as other indications, seems to show that the British Government is no3w prepared to assent to a settlement of the dispute, on terms considerably short of its previous demands.”[BWP]

RE46v43i1p4c3, May 1, 1846: No title.

The following is the substance of a report made by the Select Committee of the House of Representatives of the Texas Legislature, on the subject of the public debts and public lands of Texas. It had not been finally acted upon, and was expected to produce a violent discussion. It is said that Gen. J. Hamilton has recommended the measure:

Resolved, That our delegation in Congress be requested, and authorized forthwith, to open a negotiation with the Government of the United States, in such form as they may think fit, for the cession of the public lands of Texas to the United States, for an adequate consideration, to enable Texas to pay her public debt; and negotiation to be subject to the ratification of the Legislature of the State of Texas, according to the ordinary forms of legislation.

The following are the classes of debts incurred by the Republic of Texas, included in the bill to be entitled, "An act to ascertain and establish the public debt, and to define how the same is to be paid.".

1. All bonds issued by her authority, for which she received par in gold and silver, or its equivalent, together with the interest stipulated to be paid on the face of the bonds, shall be paid at par.

2. All bonds issued under special contract for munitions of war, vessels of war, and naval supplies, which continue in first hands, or have not been assigned at a discount, shall be paid at---with the interest stipulated on the face of the bonds, at whatever rate they might have been taken, provided such bonds can be traced to have originated under such special contract, and can be clearly authenticated and identified.

3. The bonds of the Consolidated Fund of Texas, having been funded when the Treasury notes and audited papers were at an average of less than 33 ½ cents on the dollar, shall be paid at 33 ½ cents on the dollar, with the interest on the same stipulated to be paid on the face of the bonds from the date of said bonds to the day of payment.

4. All other certificates of stock under the seal of the Treasury, shall be paid at 30 cents on the dollar, with interest from the date of issue to the date of payment.
5. The average value of Treasury notes and 8 per cent bonds, having been from the date of their issue less than 25 cents on the dollar, they shall be paid at 25 cents on the dollar, with the interest called for on their face; and when no interest is stipulated to be paid on the promissory notes, then with five per cent interest from the 1st of Feb'y, 1842, to the day of payment.

6. All audited certificates issued by the Republic for public service or supplies at par, shall be paid at par with interest at five per cent per annum from date; and all issued at less than par at the rate at which they were issued with similar interest.

7. All debts or open accounts charged at par, for services or supplies, ascertained and declared valid by law, shall be paid at par, with an interest of five per cent, or if charged at the rates of paper currency, shall be paid at the par rates equivalent.

The Mexican artillery is of a very poor description, it is said, and they have no field train. It appears that shortly after Gen. Taylor pitched his camp, a battery was with much labor constructed commanding it. Our gallant countryman quietly looked on, until all was finished when he quietly struck his tents and removed his camp a little further up the river, quite out of range of the Mexican battery, which is therefore entirely useless. This is the explanation of the story regarding Gen. Taylor’s moving away from the vicinity of the Mexican army, which went the rounds of the appears a week or so back.

To the Editors of the Enquirer:

NEW ORLEANS, 5½ o'clock. P.M. April 20, 1846.

The long agony is over—It has come at last. War is declared by Mexico, and her ports are blockaded by our fleet.

This morning about 6 o'clock, while the steam boat Alabama, from Galveston, was lying off the Balize waiting for a pilot, the United States steamer Col. Harney, direct from “Brassos St. Jago” came along side, and reported the above news. The Harney doubtless has despatches for our government, and will reach here probably to-night, or in time in the morning for slips to be sent off by the 11 o’clock mail. But as she may be detained by fogs or some other cause, I shall forward this. The city is in a state of great excitement, and the fever is getting up to "54 40."—Perhaps by the morning it may be beyond that point. I write in great haste. Yours, &c. J. A. P.

April 21.—The “Harney” arrived last night, and I send you the "Delta: containing the news brought by her. It does not fully confirm the report as annexed. I also send you the Galveston Gazette, of the 18th. Yours, Yours, J. A. P.

FROM MATAMORAS—
The Army—The schr. Wm. C. Preston, Capt. Taylor, left Matamoras on the 3d. inst. Capt. T. reports that Gen. Ampudia arrived at Matamoras, at the head of 3000 troops, on the 28th ult., from Monterey; and that volunteers continued to be brought in daily in small numbers.

Gen. Taylor was encamped opposite Matamoras, and it is said has full possession of the two ferries on the west bank of the river, running to the city.

The Mexican forces at Matamoras number about 4000 men. Capt. T. reports that the difficulties between the two countries had been amicably settled. They had not yet heard at Matamoras of the departure of Mr. Slidell.
The *Galveston News*, speaking of the proclamation of the Mexican General Mejia, says;--“Capt. Foster, of the Woodbury, informed us that this warlike document was sent by a messenger to Gen. Taylor when he was within a few miles of the Rio Grande. Upon reading it Gen. T. threw it back to the messenger, saying that he might tell Gen. Mejia, in answer, that his army would encamp on the banks of the Rio Grande that night, which was accordingly done, regardless of the fearful threat of the manifesto, that the banks of the Rio Grande shall be witness of the ignominy of the haughty sons of the North, and its deep waters shall be the sepulchre of those who dare approach them.”

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By the arrival last night of the U. S. steamer "Col. Harney," Capt. Wood, from the Brazos San Jago, whence she sailed on the 16th inst., we received late and interesting verbal news from that point. We learn from a passenger that Gen. Ampudia arrived at Matamoras on the 11th inst. With 2000 troops, 1000 cavalry and an equal number of foot, which increased the Mexican force to about 5000 men. Gen. Ampudia, immediately after his arrival, notified Gen. Taylor that if he did not abandon the position that he then occupied, he should consider it as equivalent to a declaration of war.

On the 12th, Gen. Ampudia fortified himself opposite to Gen. Taylor’s position. Gen. Taylor also raised breast-works on the bend of the river, so as to command the river and the works raised by the Mexicans. So advantageously was Gen. T. situated, that it was evident no possible force at the command of the Mexican General could dislodge him; and on the 13th Gen. Ampudia notified Gen. Taylor that he would not act further until he received definite instructions from his Government.

It is reported that Gen. Taylor, hearing that there were two vessels off the mouth of the Rio Grande from this place, with provisions for the Mexican army at Matamoras, despatched Lieut. Renshaw, of the U. S. brig Lawrence, with the revenue cutter St. Anna to cut off all communications with that place.

The army was in good health and in fine spirits ardently wishing for an opportunity to give the Mexicans a lesson.

[The report in circulation in the city during the afternoon of yesterday, of a declaration of war on the part of Mexico, evidently grew out of Gen. Ampudia’s message to Gen. Taylor on the 12th—his decision of the 13th not having been made public. After the Mexican General’s declaration, Gen. Taylor was certainly justified in taking the precaution to cut off his supplies.][BWP]

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By the barque *Clermont*, Captain Lermond, we have received Mexican papers to the 1d April, from the City of Mexico. Although the *Clermont* sailed from Vera Cruz on the 6th, there is in the papers nothing of local interest, not even a report of the revolution which was to have taken place on the afternoon of the 3d, according to the information brought by the barque *Mandarin*.

The papers we have perused are all filled with warlike clamors of the editors, and they all say that a war could not be long deferred now, as Mr. Slidell had been driven out, and the Mexicans, including the President himself, were all disposed to fight the Americans. Paredes had given a manifesto, in which he stated, that he will always defend the Republic, and shed the last drop of his blood to preserve a Constitutional and Republican Government in Mexico. The journals that opposed the doctrines of *El Tiempo*, seem to be quite delighted with this disclosure.

We have neither time nor space to translate all the rhodomontades of the Mexican press in relation to their affairs with this country. We give but one specimen.

*El Monitor Republicano*, of the 2d instant, in speaking of the United States and Mexico, and war between the two nations, says the departure of Mr. Slidell, on account of his not having been received as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States, and the manifesto of his Excellency the President, *ad interim*, which we publish to-day, are sufficient to authorise us to believe that the moment has arrived when the justice of the question between the two nations must be decided on the field of battle. All the public writers, and among them ourselves, have demonstrated that the Mexican Republic has been seriously injured by our neighbor of the North; that to their intrigues is owing the first separation of Texas and its final annexation to the American Union; that their ambition, not satisfied with the rich territory of Texas, now contemplates by force new usurpations. We will not stop to prove the justice of the Mexican position in the struggle which is to follow. It must be apparent to the eyes of all the world, and there is not a Mexican that will not endure the hazards, horrors and disasters of war before he will succumb to the shameful humiliation of consenting to abandon one point of national honor. Terrible is war! Great are the calamities which it causes. causes. Humanity is horrified at its outrages; but more terrible still is the duty of a people to avenge its injured national honor. The greatest calamity that a nation can suffer is to see itself humiliated by the
advances and usurpations of another nation; and it is a thousand times preferable to acquire glory in the field of battle, fighting for independence, than to secure life by ignominy and slavery. Mexico in this case must meet one of two extremes, and its selection cannot be doubtful. It must be that which will sacrifice everything to free its country from the yoke which is now attempted to be imposed upon it and to preserve the independence which it heroically achieved twenty-five years ago.

Mexicans! We have arrived at the solemn moment in which we must show to the world that we are worthy our name, in which we sink all other interests in the great and sublime interests of the country—that we prefer a glorious death to a life covered with reproach and ignominy; and that in truth we can imitate the sublime virtues of our fathers—shedding our blood to preserve the independence which we enjoy as the fruits of their heroic sacrifices. Mexico will assert the integrity of its territory; it will transmit to its descendants a name pure and without stain; or it will succumb with honor and glory in the present war; but it will never in the slightest degree compromise its honor or its nationality.

El Monitor Republicano, of the same date, contains an extract from a letter from Mazatian, of the 21st March, containing information that that port was blockaded by the American vessels of war.

The Monitor of the 27th ult. Complains bitterly, and with much apparent reason, of the efforts made by the government to restrain the free expression of opinion by the press; declaring, besides that it seems to be the intention of the government, through the intervention of its spies, to regulate the private affairs of every citizen of Mexico.

Although Paredes has declared in favor of the Republican form of Government, yet the discussion is continued in the city and provinces of Mexico, upon the propriety of establishing a monarchical Government, and calling a Spanish Prince to the throne; and the monarchical party embraces the men of wealth and influence in the nation; but such is the firm hold which Republican ideas have taken on the minds of the Mexicans, and so vivid is the remembrance of the wrongs which they and their fathers endured from the Spanish Monarchy, that the very name of King is too hateful to them to permit us to believe for an instant that they could, under any circumstances, tolerate the thing.

RE46v43i1p4c5, May 1, 1846: TWENTY-NINTH CONGRESS. Monday, April 27. SENATE.

During the morning hour, numerous petitions were received and referred.

Among the reports from committees was one authorising Mr. Powers to execute certain Statues for the Capitol.

Several unimportant matters having been disposed of, the Senate resumed the consideration of the bill providing for the settlement of claims for French Spoliations prior to 1800.

Mr. Dix having the floor, made a long speech in reply to the remarks of Mr. Clayton, and in opposition to the bill.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

As soon as the journal was read, Mr. CX. J. Ingersoll rose and asked leave to make a personal explanation.

Objection being made, the rules, by a vote of 102 to 25, were suspended.

Mr. Ingersoll then read a statement in reply to the speech of Mr. Webster in the Senate, relative to the charges of official misconduct, etc.—The substance of it is as follows:

Mr. Ingersoll commenced by observing that, having gone to the Treasury Department to procure proof of what Mr. Webster had denied, he there fell upon proof of more serious matters, the charges of which he had intimated to the House. He did not proceed to furnish the proof at that time, because his friends were of opinion that Mr. Webster, himself, would demand an investigation. No such investigation having been demanded, but abuse having been substituted therefor, he (Mr. Ingersoll) now felt bound to bring forward his proofs. He then went on to state that there is undeniable evidence in the State Department to show that, shortly after Mr. Webster commenced drawing upon the secret service fund, he suddenly changed his plan, and for the first time since the formation of the Government, began to draw the money out of the Treasury, payable to his own order, so that no one but himself could tell what disposition he made of the funds.

In this way more than fifteen thousand dollars in about fifteen months were drawn out. At a subsequent period, five thousand dollars were returned by Mr. Webster. Now the question was, where had these five thousand dollars been deposited all the time. Had it been placed to the private and personal credit of Mr. W., or where? where? After further remarks on this branch, Mr. Ingersoll said that there was evidence to show that this mode of procedure on the part of Mr. Webster, was not sanctioned by the President, but was disapproved by him.

Mr. Ingersoll next went into the proof of the alleged unlawful use of the fund in bribing the party press. He referred
to letters in the department from Mr. F. O. J. Smith, which spoke of a “new and effectual” mode of settling the N. E. boundary question, by acting upon and giving a tone to public opinion.

In the last place, Mr. Ingersoll said there was written and undeniable evidence in the department to show that when Mr. Webster left the Department, after deducting all he claimed, he was a defaulter to the amount of about two thousand three hundred dollars. There was also evidence in the Department to show that President (Tyler) had caused him to be written to time after time to refund the money, but without success. At length, on the writing of a letter by the President in very strong language, informing Mr. Webster that unless the amount was made up forthwith, and expose must ensue, a considerable portion of the money was refunded, but it was not till within ten days of the inauguration of Mr. Polk, that the amount was made up in the shape of another voucher from Mr. H. Smith, of Maine, of five hundred dollars. Mr. Smith, however, having stated that the whole amount of his claim was only one hundred dollars, and this fact being mentioned to Mr. Webster, the amount of the voucher was reduced by him, on the first application, to one hundred dollars, instead of five. This could be proved by an agent now in this city. In the concluding remarks of Mr. Ingersoll, he was understood to disclaim attaching any blame to Mr. Tyler.

Mr. Ashmun of Mass., desired to reply, but as objection was made, the House, by a vote of 135 to 22, suspended the rule.

Mr. Ashmun then took the floor, and in a very severe manner, proceeded to comment upon the course of Mr. Ingersoll in this assailing Mr. Webster. He contended, that had Mr. Webster been present, and a member of the House, Mr. Ingersoll would not have dared make the attack. He went on to ask how it was that Mr. Ingersoll had obtained his information, after the President had refused to answer the resolution of the House upon the ground that the seal of secrecy could not be broken. Had any of the underlings been corrupted, or had Mr. Ingersoll entered the Treasury and with a key of his own opened the desk?—After further remarks, of a very severe and personal character, Mr. Ashmun said it ill became Mr. Ingersoll to talk about “peculation” etc., when he himself had been turned out by General Jackson for peculation of the public money.

[Here there were loud cries of order, but the chair decided that as all rules had been suspended, it was a difficult matter for him to decide what was in order or what was not, provided improper and personal language was avoided.]

After considerable noise and confusion, Mr. Ashmun proceeded. He referred to a document for the purpose of showing that Mr. Ingersoll when removed from the office of U. S. District Attorney in Pennsylvania, had been sued by the Government as a defaulter, and that he had not paid the amount of the verdict found against him for several years.

Mr. Joseph R. Ingersoll here rose. He said that, as a matter of delicacy, it was proper that thus far he should have abstained from taking any part in this matter, but now he was placed in a different attitude, for, upon that trial, he was counsel for his brother. He then stated, on the word of a gentleman, that Mr. C. J. Ingersoll had, at the time referred to, been trying in vain for a long period to bring the Government to a settlement of his accounts as District Attorney. Attempt after attempt was made, but without success. At length, Mr. Ingersoll, having a sum of money in his hands, and being anxiously desirous of a settlement, proposed to the Government that the matter should be settled by a jury. This was finally agreed to, and the trial was had, when the whole matter was honorably settled to the satisfaction of all.

Mr. Ashmun resumed his remarks, and contended that the charges of Mr. C. J. Ingersoll, upon Mr. Webster, were totally false, and that the respectable portion of the community would be disgusted with them. Mr. A. then proceeded to assert, that an insidious attempt had been made to induce Mr. Tyler to break ground on the subject, and to disavow that he sanctioned the disbursement.

Mr. C. J. Ingersoll.—By me, Sir? By me?.

Mr. Ashmun.—Yes, Sir; by you, Sir.

Mr. Ingersoll.—It is false! It is a lie!.

[Here a great uproar ensued, with loud calls to order, during which Mr. Ingersoll again rose and denounced Mr. Ashmun as a liar and coward.]

Mr. Ashmun said, if the member thought to provoke a personal quarrel by using such language, he was mistaken. He (Mr. A.) came from a part of the country where they did not fight duels. duels. He came from among people who did not use pistols, daggers nor bowie knives, neither were they afraid of them.

Mr. Ingersoll. And where they never get drunk. [Understood to be an allusion to Mr. Webster.].

Mr. Ashmun went on to say, that although he was not duellist, if any one doubted his courage, let them try it. He spoke of Mr. Ingersoll as the aged member from Pennsylvania.

Mr. Ingersoll. Plenty young enough, sir—plenty young enough.

Mr. Schenck rose to a question of privilege. He desired to offer a Preamble and Resolutions, setting forth, that after
the President had declined to answer the resolution of the House touching this matter, Mr. Ingersoll states, that he has had access to the department, &c; therefore, that a Select Committee of Five be appointed to ascertain by what means the said Mr. Ingersoll obtained the information—said Committee to have power to send for persons and papers.

After various ineffectual motions to lay the whole matter on the table, and decisions upon points of order, Mr. Petit moved to amend the resolution of Mr. Schenck, by providing that a Committee be also appointed to inquire into the truth of the charges made by Mr. Ingersoll against Mr. Webster, and that the Committee also have power to send for persons and papers.

The resolution thus amended was adopted, and here the matter for the present terminated.

After an ineffectual attempt to fix a time for the termination of the debate on the Smithsonian Bequest Bill, the House adjourned.

RE46v43i1p4c4, May 1, 1846: VERA CRUZ, April 5th, 1846.

Dear____: I would send you news if I had any, but, bless me, I am like the needy knife grinder—“I have no story to tell.” We had a fair prospect for a little revolution here some days since, which was to recall Santa Anna, establish the republic, make peace with the United States, and hereafter go on swimmingly and prosperously. But the segar-smoking, mustachioed dons of the billiard rooms, like all this talking, bragging nation, end their acts like their segars—in smoke.

The Government of Parades, however, has no stability; he is looked upon with distrust by all parties. The monarchists—few here—dislike him for his proclamation in favor of republicanism; the real republicans—fewer still—hate him as an usurper and a hypocrite; and the partisans of Santa Anna, the strongest and best organized, are ready for a revolt whenever they re assured of the presence and assistance of their chief.—One thing is certain—the government of Paredes must fall.

I do not pretend to be deeply versed in the politics of this country, but I cannot, from my intercourse with the citizens, come to any other belief than that the recall of Santa Anna and the establishment of permanent peace with the United States, is the dearest wish of their hearts.

We have heard of the advance of Gen. Taylor, on the Rio Bravo, but as the movement was long expected it has caused no particular excitement. The only fear is, that on the arrival of Mr. Slidell in the United States, our ports may be blockaded, and the army so increased as to justify an advance upon this side of the river. Believe me, however, that even Paredes has no intention of fighting, and you will find that your Yankee legions will have no chance of reaping either glory or securing booty on the Mexican soil. Put that in your pipe and smoke it.

At the anchorage are the American ships of war Cumberland, Potomac, John Adams, St. Mary’s and Falmouth; others, however, as I learn, are soon expected. The merchant vessels are the Clermont and Mandarin, up for your port; and the Ann Louisa for New York. Yours. &c.

RE46v43i1p4c4, May 1, 1846: No Title.

In addition, we gather from the Courier of last evening, “that Mr. Slidell’s demand for his passports and his departure appeared so hostile to the Mexicans that they were making all the preparations in their power for war, which they thought inevitable, but which they would not begin themselves. The Mexican papers are filled with official orders and circulars, from the Executive Departments, for the speedy organization of the army and its march to the frontier of Texas.

In one of the papers we find a passage from a circular of the War Minister, as follows:

"The army is called upon to defend the country, and it should triumph or perish with glory.—It should triumph by great deeds over the calumnies circulated by its enemies, and acquire a monument and imperishable title to public affection. Inculcate in your subordinates the important duties which they have to discharge—tell them the President, in the name of the nation, will reward their valor and punish all who shall misbehave.

"The President ad interim expects that the rights of the nation will be defended with energy, and that the officers will prevent and punish all attempts to commit disorder, and take all proper measures to maintain the public tranquillity. —Understanding the wishes of the President, you will see that they are complied with in your orders, and justify your country’s confidence."
By the arrival of the steamship Alabama, Capt. Windle, arrived at this port yesterday, in 36 hours from Galveston, we are in receipt of late papers.

We have no further election news, (says the Civilian of the 18th,) except from passing reports from Jackson, Victoria and Robertson counties. These leave scarcely a doubt of Col. Williams’ election.

The Galveston News publishes a letter from General Hamilton in relation to his connection with the Texan Government, diplomatic and financial. It appears a Joint Committee of both Houses was raised, to whom was referred the memorial and claim of General James Hamilton, against the Republic of Texas; they refused to act upon the claim, (says the Austin Democrat,) referring the claimant to the Auditorial Court, which the Legislature contemplates establishing; but reported to their respective Houses a resolution of thanks to General Hamilton. The resolution passed the Senate, but was rejected by the House, upon the grounds, as urged by gentlemen who spoke on the occasion, that it is connected with the General’s claim—was an expression of opinion favorable hereto, or at least recommendatory, and might be construed into a partial approbation of the claim, which the House felt unwilling to give.

The News says that they have good authority for stating that the 90 emigranis, wrecked on the Pauline, (near St. Joseph Island) were actually robbed of a large part of the property saved from the wreck.

The Legislature has passed a law for the establishment of free schools in the city of Galveston. It authorizes the corporation of that city to levy and collect a tax on real estate for their support.

A “Bachelors’ Ball” is announced to come off at Galveston this evening, (the 21st) in commemoration of the battle of San Jacinto.

Petitions were presented by Messrs. Archer, Ashley, Breese, Speight and others.

Mr. Miller presented the resolutions of the Legislature of New Jersey, against a repeal of the Tariff of 1842; also, in favor of the erection of a light-house at Turker’s Beach, or Absecom, New Jersey.

A number of private bills were reported.

Mr. Jarnagin gave notice, that on to-morrow, or on some convenient day, he would introduce a joint resolution to authorize a home board for the purpose of adjudicating the claims of our citizens against the Government of Mexico.

The resolution heretofore offered by Mr. Sevier, requesting the Secretary of the Treasury to transmit to the Senate a supplement to the synopsis of instructions from the Treasury with regard to the revenue laws from 1789 to the present, coming up in order, gave rise to a slight debate, in which Messr. Archer, Benton, Sevier, Allen, Davis and others took part; after which the further consideration of the resolution was postponed until Thursday.

The bill for the relief of Nathaniel Goddard and others coming up on its third reading, Mr. Turney addressed the Senate at length in opposition to the bill.
Mr. Thurman said he should be under the necessity of leaving the city to-morrow or next day, at farthest, and he therefore asked to be excused from serving upon the committee on which he had been appointed. The request was granted.

Mr. Giles offered a resolution, which was adopted, granting the use of the Hall, after the adjournment to-day, for an exhibition of the pupils from the Institutions for the Blind, of Boston, Philadelphia and Virginia.

The Speaker announced the Smithsonian Bill to be the first subject in order.

Mr. J. R. Ingersoll hoped the House would first take up and act upon a very important bill, in relation to certain Treasury notes which were purloined from the Custom House at New Orleans, and had fallen into the hands of innocent holders, who were suffering from the neglect of Congress to provide for their relief.

The Speaker said the Smithsonian bill being the special order, it would require the unanimous consent of the House to take up any other.

Mr. Owen moved to go into Committee of the Whole, which motion prevailed, and (Mr. Burt of S. C. in the Chair,) the consideration of the Smithsonian bill was resumed.

Mr. Sims of S. C., spoke briefly against the constitutionality of accepting the trust devised by Mr. Smithson, and hoped that the fund would be returned unimpaired, and in the meantime be considered as in the Treasury of the United States—and the States of Arkansas, Illinois and Michigan deemed indebted to the Treasury to the amount of their bonds in which this fund was invested.

Mr. John Q. Adams advocated the substitute which he had offered for the bill. He wished to catch the bear before we sold the skin. He denied that the fund was in the Treasury, and it would be necessary to collect the bonds before we could establish this institution.

Mr. Sims said, that in a report made by the honorable member from Massachusetts a few years since, he had taken the ground that the bequest should be deemed to be in the Treasury, and that the States whose bonds were held, were to be taken as debtors to the Treasury, and not to the fund.

Mr. Adams said, that since that report was made, he had had some experience which had taught him that the money was not in the Treasury.

[Mr. Adams was here interrupted by a message from the President of the United States, stating that he had yesterday approved and signed "a joint resolution concerning the Oregon Territory."].

Mr. Adams. A very auspicious interruption, Mr. Chairman—a very auspicious interruption.

Mr. A. then went on to argue, that the money was not in the Treasury, and that it must first be got there before it could be expended.

Mr. Thurman said he had heard it stated that this fund had been invested in the bonds of Arkansas, &c., without any authority in law, and he respectfully requested the gentleman from Mass to enlighten him on the point.

Mr. Adams replied that the fund was not invested without authority, and that before its arrival in this country proposals were invited from capitalists and others by public advertisement to take the money upon interest. The offer of the Arkansas bonds was accepted for the greater portion of the amount, but as to the particular reason which led to the selection, he must refer the gentleman to a certain Senator from Arkansas, who knew more about it than any one else.

Mr. Adams was opposed to most of the provisions of the present bill, and particularly to the Normal School. He was in favor of collecting an extensive library.

Mr. Rathbun thought the delay that had taken place in executing the trust was a disgrace to the country, and he maintained that we were under the obligation, both in law and morality, to make good the fund if we had either wasted it or misappropriated it.

The debate was continue by Messr. Jones of Tenn., Ficklin of Ill., and others.

The debate was continue until half past three o’clock, when the Committee rose, and the House, after adopting Mr. Hopkins’s resolution, to terminate the debate in one hour after going into Committee, adjourned.

[BWP]
As we expected, the emphatic and confident announcement by the *Journal of Commerce*, of the “Settlement of the Oregon Question,” wants confirmation. However flattering the prospect of a pacific adjustment, no definite steps have yet been taken to close the question. It is not likely that any proposition will be made, until Great Britain hears of the final action of Congress on the Oregon Question. The notice has probably gone out by the steamer of Friday, and it may be a month and a half, or two months, before we receive a response from Great Britain. The Union says:

“The New York editor may spare his rebukes upon “our government journals,” for we can hear nothing of this settlement in England, or of these despatches by the Caledonia. In fact, we have no reason to believe either of them. It is further our impression, that Great Britain will make no offer until she hears of the disposition of the question of notice by Congress. The procrastination which has marked our counsels has probably had its effect upon the British policy.—If Congress had passed the naked notice in December last, we might by this time have witnessed a much more decided and cheering state of our relations with England. There is no knowing how far she expected the resolution of notice to be defeated, or how much she calculated on our divisions. As at present advised, we hear of nothing to justify the statements in the ‘Liverpool Mercury,’ or in the ‘New York Journal of Commerce.’”[BWP]

The Whigs boast of their triumph over the Administration on the Oregon Notice. They confidently assert, that but for their amendment of the form of the notice, the country would have been plunged into war. But which is the greater triumph? The form or the substance? The Whigs originally denounced the notice as the cause of ruin and war. Have they not retreated from that position, by unanimously endorsing and recommending the notice as the most efficient means of peace? They may have the form. We never attached very great consequence to that, as we felt satisfied that Mr. Polk was, as he avowed himself to be, in favor of an honorable peace. And even now the Whigs admit that the President holds in his hands the issue of peace or war, and they have given him full “discretion” in the matter. We believe that we shall have a pacific adjustment, but the same result would have occurred had the notice been given in the form as it came from the House of Representatives. The President is now, as he has ever been, for an honorable peace. He can now, as well as if the naked notice had been authorized, break up the pacific relations with Great Britain. Where, then, is the great triumph of the Whigs? *The Baltimore American*, Whig, says;

"In any form in which the 'notice' could be passed, unless it were accompanied by a definite naming of the boundary in Oregon, the President would retain in his hands the power of defeating any compromise arrangement, if he should be so determined. The preliminaries of negotiation are under his control; he could reject every proposition offered by England; he could withhold all proffers, on his own part, except such as she would reject. True, the sentiment of both Houses, expressed in the language of the resolution of notice, may impose, and doubtless will impose upon him, a strong obligation to seek an amicable adjustment of the grave question in dispute. Still he has, in point of fact, a great, and, we may say, a decisive power of control over the issue.”[BWP]

There was an arrival at New Orleans on the 24th ult. from Vera Cruz, bringing a few days later accounts than were before received. Nothing had occurred to change the aspect of affairs in the country. We copy from the Picayune the following items:

"We perceive that the Government is determined to be ready to meet Santa Anna, should the ex-President determine to return, as we have no doubt he will do. It may be known that criminal proceedings were instituted against Santa Anna for his transactions just prior to the revolution which hurled him from power. The proceedings in the case have been published by order of the Supreme Court, and they make a pamphlet of 130 pages. A general circulation of these may, it is thought, have some influence on the minds of people, and prepare them for any measure of severity which the Government may take against Santa Anna.

"The *Puritano* of the 2d April publishes two letters from Santa Anna to Senor Tornel, the first written in May last, when Santa Anna was about to retire from the country. The other is dated in Havana, on the 9th March, congratulating Tornel on his appointment as Secretary of War, and exhibiting much satisfaction with Paredes administration for its liberality in appointing many of his (Santa Anna’s) friends to office.

*La Reforma* of the 28th March says that orders have been given to the administrator of the mails from Jalapa and Vera Cruz, that any extraordinary courier from the latter port to the capital should be strictly detained at Puebla; and the drivers even are enjoined to preserve silence as to what may transpire at Vera Cruz. This may be an invention of La Reforma, but it shows what men are thinking about in the capital, and that Paredes knows well from what quarter danger threatens.

It is mentioned in the papers that the President has increased very considerably the detachment assigned to guard his residence, as if he were not without apprehension of difficulties in the city of Mexico.
The Mexican papers now deny the blockade of Mazatlan, and tell a long story to show how the rumor was started.

Mention is also made of an ineffectual attempt of the Incians in the South of Mexico, to get up an insurrection for purposes of rapine and plunder.

The press in the Department of Durango still complain of Indian outrages, such as robbery and murder, and suggest that the only remedy for the evil is the re-establishment of the old presidial guards.

The papers abound with more than usual complaints of the insecurity of the public roads for travellers.”.

From the New Orleans Delta of the 25th April, we copy the following additional particulars:

By the arrival yesterday of the Mexican schr. Ventura, Capt. Dorantes, at this port, 12 days from Vera Cruz, we are in receipt of later Mexican dates.

The political news is unimportant. The contest between the monarchists and republicans still continues, and it would seem from El Monitor, that the government has at last fairly embraced the principles of the monarchical party, for in its number of the 4th April, it remarks that El Tiempo is but a second edition of El Diario del Gobierno; so much so, that it advised the subscribers of the two papers not to fatigue themselves by looking at both, as the reading of one will answer the same purpose as the reading of the other.

It has been announced in several of the papers, that the government has assembled a junta of several members of the liberal party, for the purpose of taking such measures, agreeable to them, as will prevent a revolution. The editor of El Monitor, however, thinks this is something of a fiction.

We copy the following items from El Monitor of the 4th April. According to the Diario oficial, the government has received advices that the brigade under the command of Gen. De la Vega had effected a junction at Matamoras with the command of Gen. Mejia; and that the division of Gen. Ampudia had departed on the 1st April from Monterey; from which it was naturally concluded that the whole Mexican army would shortly be concentrated in front of the enemy, who had advance to Santa Isabel. The regiment of cavalry of Oaxaca, and the battalion of Jamiltepec, had march to Jalapa. A considerable quantity of munitions of war, particularly artillery, had been despatched to Vera Cruz.

On the 3d of April the President and all the principal officers of the Government visited the powder manufactory of Santa Fe, and after a minute examination of all its departments, made such arrangements and alterations in the administration of the manufacture, as it was deemed necessary to secure a speedy and constant supply of this first element of war.

The advices from Mazatlan are to the 23d of March, and they state that the report that that city is blockaded, is, as we well knew, false, although the American squadron is laying at anchor in front of that place.

The Department of Sinaloa is, for a wonder, perfectly quiet, and has submitted to the control of Paredes. The troops under the command of Col. Telles have left Guadaluara for Tepic. The South of Mexico is covered by a respectable body of troops under the command of General Guzman, and tranquillity is perfectly established. The remainder of the army is being equipped with the utmost activity.

We learn from El Espectador, that, on the 19th of March, a party of some forty Americans entered the town of Monterey and disarmed about twenty men in a garrison, and arrested Capt. Cavazos, whom they soon set free, however. They demanded corn, meat, and other provisions. The civil authorities armed the inhabitants against these barbarians, and finally defeated them. The good people of Monterey appeared to think them the advanced guard of a Texan General named Ges, of whom we never heard before.

In a late number of La Hesperia, the editor remarks that the Senate of the United States is proceeding with great caution in the consideration of the Oregon question—an opinion very prevalent in our own country.

The Mexican Government has prosecuted two newspapers and two officers of the army. The Reforma and the Contra-Tiempo, journals in the interest of Santa Anna, have been seized, and Cerecero, editor of the former, and Luis Espino, of the latter, have been arrested. General Lino Alcoria has been ordered to proceed to Oaxaco—Capt. Schiafino has been ordered to San Juan de Ulloa.

The Reforma and Contra-Tiempo advocated openly and boldly the restoration of Santa Anna.

[BWP]
Secretary of the Treasury, about five weeks ago, for Capt. Foster to yield up the command of the cutter to the next officer in rank to him, on board at the time of his receiving such notice, and to prepare himself for an examination into the charges against him on arrival at New Orleans. Lieut. Nimmo, the bearer of these despatches, from Washington, intercepted the Cutter on her late return from Brazos St. Jago, delivered his instructions, and on arriving at the South West Pass, the Captain complied with the Secretary’s orders yielding up the command to Lieut. Benson. Yesterday Captain Foster appeared before Mr. A. A. Cohen, the United States Commissioner, for an examination, at which Mr. Prieur, the Collector and the officers of the Cutter were present, but it being deemed necessary to have the assistance of the United States District Attorney, the Court of Inquiry was adjourned until to-morrow at twelve o’clock. The charges embrace tyrannical conduct to his officers and crew, ungentlemanly behavior, and withholding portions of the wages of the seamen, under frivolous pretensions and without just cause.

N. O. Delta, April 24.

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RE46v43i2p2c7, May 5, 1846: New Work on Oregon.

Oregon Territory, its History and discovery including an account of the Convention of the Escurial; also the Treaties and Negotiations between the United States and Great Britain held at various times for the settlement of a boundary line; and an examination of the whole question in respect to facts and the laws of nations. By Travers Twiss, D. C. L, Professor of Political Economy in the University of Oxford. I vol. 12m.

In this impartial examination of a most important question, Dr. Twiss has industriously collected from every available source, a vast amount of information bearing on the respective claims of Great Britain and the United States to an exclusive right to the Oregon Territory. In the course of his inquiries he was lead to investigate "the records of ancient discoveries and other matters of history connected with the Northwest coast of America, ” commencing with the . . . [illegible] . . . of Ulloa in 1539.

We particularly admire Dr. Twiss' volume for the lucid manner in which he has arranged the quantity of materials he has collected, and for the impartial mode in which he has conducted the inquiry. [Westminster Review].

This work aims to establish by documentary evidence that on the two strong grounds of prior discovery, and prior possession, the claim of Great Britain to the river Columbia is clearly proved.


Narrative of the U. S. Exploring Expedition to Oregon and North California. By Capt. J. C. Fremont, 8vo. Paper cover 25 cts. For sale at the Bookstore of DRINKER & MORRIS. May 5 97 Main Street.

RE46v43i2p4c1, May 5, 1846: CONGRESSIONAL. SPEECH OF MR. SEDDON OF VIRGINIA

In the House of Representatives, April 15th, 1846.

On the bill to protect the rights of American Settlers in the Territory of Oregon, until the termination of the joint occupation of the same.

The House being in Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union—.

Mr. SEDDON rose and addressed the committee as follows:

Mr. Chairman: In much that I had intended to say, glad I succeeded in obtaining the floor at an earlier period, I have been anticipated by the able gentlemen who have preceded me, and especially by the honorable member from Ohio, [Mr. Vinton, ] who so forcibly addressed the committee on yesterday in support of the amendment offered by himself. But for being so anticipated, I should myself have offered a similar amendment; for so important and essential in its character do I deem that amendment, that my own ultimate vote upon this bill must be determined by its acceptance or rejection. It proposes to limit the operation and effect of the bill to the period during which the existing convention between the U. States and Great Britain for the joint occupation of the Oregon territory, shall continue in force. The bill, as reported, Mr. Chairman, will operate in two very different and distinct states of our relations with reference to the Oregon territory. Ostensibly, judging from the title of the bill, which is for the protection of American settlers until the termination of the joint occupancy, and from most of its provisions, its aim and purpose were simply to provide for the extension of the laws and jurisdiction of the United States over our citizens in Oregon during the continuance of the convention at present subsisting; but in actual operation and effect without the limitation proposed by the amendment, being indefinite in duration, it must extend beyond the continuance of that convention and have an application and efficacy far exceeding, as I presume, the contemplation and purpose even of those who reported and now sustain it.
Mr. James Thompson here rose, and (Mr. S. giving way for explanation) said that the gentleman was mistaken. The effect of the bill, after the termination of the convention, had been contemplated and intended by those who reported it, and they had now come to the determination, when the proper time arrived, to propose to amend the title so as to make it read, "A bill to protect the rights of American settlers west of the Rocky mountains."

Mr. Seddon resumed. Well, sir, I must be permitted to express both my surprise and regret, if such effect was designed to be given to the bill, that it should have been reported with a title so incorrect and delusive. From the title as reported, and even a cursory examination of its leading provisions, members might readily have been misled to believe its operation was designed to be limited to the duration of the convention and be determined with it; and thus the House might have been betrayed, through misconception, into the heedless adoption of a measure repugnant to its sense of policy and justice. I am happy that, though late, such delusive guise is to be cast aside, and that the bill is to be made to avow on its face its real purpose and extent.

The bill, then, Mr. Chairman, is to have a double operation, and, as I have said, under essentially different circumstances. It is first to operate during the convention, and while our rights are determined by treaty stipulations, and then after the proposed and expected determination of that convention, it is to continue active in the assertion of our pretensions as maintained under the law of nations independently of that convention. I shall proceed to examine it with reference to each state of circumstances separately.

In its operation during the continuation of the Convention, I confess, Mr. Chairman, I see no just objections to its provisions; but, on the contrary, deem it with the saving clause embodied, which protects all the rights and privileges of Great Britain and her subjects under the Convention, salutary and just. During that period, it but extends the jurisdiction of the laws of Iowa, so far as applicable, in entire subserviency to the Convention, and with an express saving of all rights secured by it to British subjects over the territory West of the Rocky mountains belonging to the United States. Such extension is consistent with the rights, while it is demanded by the honor and obligations of the Government. We have citizens settled already in considerable numbers in the territory West of the Rocky mountains, and they are daily, by emigration and otherwise, increasing and multiplying. They have gone, and are going to the remote territory under the invitation and inducements of our Government in both its branches, Executive and Legislative. They are without laws, under no competent jurisdiction, and destitute of all regular government. Their exigencies have so imperatively demanded the sanctions of law and government, that they have been driven to the feeble substitute of self-constituted associations, and an appeal to general acquiescence in their decrees. They have appealed to this Government for the redemption of its obligations, impliedly at least given for their security and protection, and in evoke the aegis of our laws and jurisdiction over them. We have no exclusive ownership or jurisdiction under the Convention over the territory so occupied by them, it is true, but we have certain admitted rights and privileges there as defined and ascertained by that Convention itself. Coextensive with such rights and privileges, may our jurisdiction be most fully carried; and so far as we may, I humbly conceive we should not under the circumstances, hesitate, by the extension of our laws, to give the security and protection demanded.

The eloquent gentleman from South Carolina, [Mr. Holmes,] who addressed the House yesterday, urged that the extension of jurisdiction as contemplated by this bill would violate the provisions of the joint convention. I am generally proud to concur with that gentleman, but from this view I must be permitted wholly to dissent. During the convention, the bill is made to operate in subserviency to it, and all the rights and privileges of Great Britain and her subjects are expressly saved and excluded from its action.—How, then, can it violate or contravene the provisions of the convention? Is the objection that urged with zeal by the gentleman from Tennessee, [Mr. Brown,] that our laws should be extended over persons only, and not be made to operate on property, or "territorially," as this bill does?—I hold, Sir, that our laws, in their application, should be made coextensive with the rights and privileges ascertained and secured by that convention to our citizens, and sufficient for the protection and guarantee of those rights and privileges. Now, under the convention, have we not something more than the mere right of entry to our citizens? The eminent domain is indeed in abeyance; exclusive sovereignty is not to be claimed or exercised either by the United States or Great Britain; but our citizens are not merely free to enter; they may take their effects and property; they may trade and hunt; may build, settle, and even occupy the land, enjoying the usufruct, though not holding the absolute or exclusive title. We may, then, by our laws, do more than guard mere personal immunities; we may protect the property and effects of our citizens, and secure them in the peaceable possession and usufruct of their temporary settlements—nay, more, as among our own citizens on their acknowledging allegiance to the Government of the United States in that territory, having complete jurisdiction, we may regulate their claims and rights in regard to the lands settled or occupied temporarily by them as well as all other matters of right or contract. We may then legitimately, during the convention, legislate not merely over persons, but (as it has been called,) "territorially" likewise. We have done nothing more in extending the "laws of Iows, as far as applicable," over the territory West of the Rocky Mountains; and to exclude the possibility of misconstruction, we have inserted an express saving of the rights secured to Britain and her subjects. Such saving was not, indeed, of absolute necessity, and might, perhaps, with safety, have been omitted. We could not, if we would, by legislation, violate the convention; for, under the constitution, treaties constitute a part of the "lex legum"—the supreme law—and under judicial construction, the full effect of the saving clause, even if omitted from the bill, would have been secured, and all enactments in violation of the convention would be annulled and vacated. Still the insertion of the saving clause was wise and just, because we owe it to ourselves and the honor of our government that even the seeming of bad faith, or an equivocal purpose in our legislation, should be avoided and disclaimed.

Satisfied by the reasoning I have used, I, for one, do not need, in the extension of our jurisdiction as contemplated by this bill during the convention, the precedent and sanction of English example; nor is it my wont to guage by such measure the extent either of our rights or obligations. Yet, if such additional warrant for the extension of our jurisdiction under the convention be required, I insist, notwithstanding the argument of the gentleman from Tennessee, [Mr. Brown,] it is afforded by the British legislation of 1821, to which reference has been frequently made.—That act of the British Parliament, I submit, is in equal sense, and to the like extent with the present bill,
the power substantially of making war, and employing the military force of the Union, is intrusted to the discretion,
States, to the dispossession of Great Britain, as of all other nations; and that, for the accomplishment of such result,
that, in the assertion of jurisdiction, it goes at least as far, if not farther, than do the provisions of this bill. But the
gentleman from Tennessee [Mr. Brown] argued that this act of the British Parliament must be held to have been
superseded by the subsequent convention of 1827, which is the one now subsisting in relation to the Oregon
territory, and, therefore, was not now in force.—The validity of this argument cannot be admitted. The convention of
1827, so far as it relates to the rights and privileges secured to the citizens of this country and Great Britain
respectively, is identical with that of 1818, which was in force at the very time the English statute was enacted. If
that statute was enacted, and operated during and under the joint convention of 1818, how could the renewal of the
identical convention in 1827 (with no other change than its extension indefinitely, with a provision for its termination
on twelve months’ notice in lieu of a specified term of years) annul and supersede the provisions of the statute?—
Such effect cannot be ascribed to the renewal of the convention in 1827; but even if it could, and the British act were
really non-existent, still the full effect of the British precedent would remain. For by that act, passed in 1821, after
and during the convention of 1818, a clear manifestation is afforded that, according to the understanding and
construction of the convention by the British Parliament, provisions for the extension of jurisdiction, as in that act,
(like unto those in the bill before the committee, ) were not in contravention or violation of the joint convention.

This precedent, Mr. Chairman, may suffice to relieve the scruples of such members as would not wish, in legislating
under the convention, to give ground of complaint to Great Britain that it had been violated. But if apprehensions on
this score are still entertained by any, they must, I think, be dissipated, by reference to the despatch of Mr. Gallatin,
who, as minister of the United States, negotiated the convention of 1827. In that despatch he states the conferences
had between the British negotiators and himself, in relation to the powers which might be exercised by the
Government of the U. States under the convention. He says:

"The establishment of a distinct territorial government on the west side of the Stony mountains, would also be
objected to as an attempt to exercise exclusive sovereignty. I observed that, although the Northwest Company
might, from its being incorporated, from the habits of the men they employed, and from having a monopoly with
respect to trade, so far as British subjects were concerned, carry on a species of government without the assistance
of that of Great Britain, it was otherwise with us. Our population there would consist of several independent
companies and individuals. We had always been in the habit in our most remote settlements, of carrying
laws, courts and justices of the peace along with us. There was an absolute necessity on our part to have some
species of government. government. Without it, the kind of sovereignty, or rather jurisdiction which it was intended
to admit, could not be exercised on our part. It was suggested, and seemed to be acquiesced in, that the difficulty
might be obviated, provided the erection of a new territory was not confined exclusively to the territory west of the
mountains; that it should be defined as embracing all the possessions of the United States west of a line that should
be at some distance from, and east of the Stony mountains."

In pursuance, probably of this very suggestion, the present bill has been so framed as to include within its operation
undoubted territory of the United States lying east of the Rocky mountains, viz: "the intermediate country west of
the Missouri river, between the 40th and 43d parallels of north latitude." The acquiescence of the British
commissioners must apply to this bill, and preclude objection on the part of their government, that it is violative of
the joint convention.

I trust, Mr. Chairman, to have now established that, so far as this bill operates during the continuance of the
convention of 1827, its provisions are needed; that they are just in themselves, not violative of the convention, but
only commensurate in the protection afforded, and authority exercised, with the rights and privileges ascertained and
secured by it; that they have the sanction of English precedent and example, and are only in conformity with
suggestions received and acquiesced in by the British government through its commissioners, at the negotiation of
the treaty.—So far the bill has my approbation and support.

Before proceeding, Mr. Chairman, to consider the bill in its further, and, to my mind, most objectionable operation
after the termination of the Convention, allow me, the more especially as it will have a material tendency to elucidate
such subsequent operation, to ascertain with precision and certainty the limit of territory or latitude to which,
during the Convention the jurisdiction of the United States is by the bill to extend. The object of the bill, during the
continuance of the Convention, is to protect and secure all the rights and privileges ascertained to belong to our
citizens by its stipulations, and consequently, to effect that end, its operation must be commensurate, as to limits,
with the territory in which such rights and privileges exist. It will then cover the whole territory embraced by the
Convention of joint occupancy; and as that territory unquestionably extends to the Russian line—to the utmost limit
of 55 degrees 40 minutes North latitude—the operation of the bill must be to that extent likewise. On this point
there can surely be no question; (here several members around expressed acquiescence aloud, and Mr. S. added)
and I am happy to hear the position admitted by honorable gentlemen of all parties around me. I shall proceed on
such admission.

I come now, Mr. Chairman, to the consideration of this bill in the more important view of its purpose and operation
after the termination of the Joint Convention. What, then, will be its aim and effect? I maintain, with entire
confidence, they will be to extend over the whole territory of Oregon, to the utmost limit of 54 degrees 40 minutes
North latitude, or the Russian line, the absolute and exclusive jurisdiction of the laws and government of the United
States, to the dispossession of Great Britain, as of all other nations; and that, for the accomplishment of such result,
the power substantially of making war, and employing the military force of the Union, is intrusted to the discretion,
The bill is indefinite in duration, and no distinction whatever is made in the language prescribing the limits to which jurisdiction shall extend before and after the convention. The phraseology is loose and vague, viz: "over all that portion of the territory of the United States which lies west of the Rocky mountains;" and after, as before, the termination of the convention, the proper construction to be given to the bill must be determined by the officers to administer it, or by judicial interpretation, as I have already established, Mr. Chairman. The object of the bill, during the pendency of the convention, being to assert jurisdiction coextensive with the rights ascertained by its stipulations to belong to us and they extending to 54 degs.40 minutes, the necessary construction of the phraseology of the bill, both in common understanding and judicial interpretation, will be to extend jurisdiction to that extreme limit. To precisely the same language must not, after the termination of the convention, this necessary interpretation, previously ascertained, be continued and enforced? With nothing in the bill to limit or restrict such construction, the meaning, once ascertained and affixed to the phraseology, identical both before and after the convention, must remain unchanged.

Precedent and common understanding as to the interpretation before, will extend after the termination of the convention. Could the stringency of such previous interpretation fail to conclude in the construction of the law, the result would probably not be changed. In the administration of the law, after the convention shall be terminated, the construction of the vague phraseology, to which I have alluded, must devolve on the executive of Iowa, or the Indian agent and officers to whom, by the bill, the executive power over the territory is given. With the feelings and influences operative on such functionaries, can it be doubted they will hold "the territory owned by the United States, West of the Rocky Mountains," to extend to the utmost limit of 54 deg. 40 min. Or should they hesitate, and submit the matter to judicial construction? It will fall under the decision of the United States judges, or the justices of the peace, resident in the territory of Oregon, to be appointed under this bill.—Think you not, Mr. Chairman, that they will carry our jurisdiction to the utmost extent of 54 deg. 40 min.? From position and the appliances to which circumstances would expose them, such would assuredly be their determination. Indeed it is worthy of the consideration of grave jurists, whether they would not, in judicial decision, be bound so to do; whatever may be the real title, the just rights, according to the law of nations, of the United States in Oregon, its government throughout all administrations, have asserted claims and maintained pretensions to the whole territory up to the Russian line. In the absence of any conventional stipulations to overrule, would not the courts of the United States, and the justices acting under the appointment of the Executive, be bound to maintain and respect the claims so asserted? I incline to think their duty would so constrain; but whether it did or not, no practical man can doubt but that, in fact, they would so decide and act. After, then, as before, the termination of the convention, it may be safely affirmed the jurisdiction to be exercised under this bill would extend over the whole of Oregon to the extreme limit of 54 deg. 40 min.

Then, Mr. Chairman, comes the grave, the all-important inquiry, what is the character and degree of jurisdiction you will thus extend after the termination of the convention? Absolute and exclusive must it not be? As was on yesterday ably shown by the learned gentleman from Ohio, [Mr Vinton,] we shall then be remitted to our rights as claimed under the law of nations, and to the assertion of the only sovereignty known in the absence of conventional arrangements—a sovereignty over the eminent domain; or, in other words, to the assertion of exclusive dominion over the territory. I will not attempt to add to his view, which was full and complete, of the assumption of title, and consequent obligations, which, under the law of nations, would result from the position in which, by this bill, we would be placed. But I may refer to the words of the bill, only glanced at in his more general view, as compelling the same conclusion. The language of the bill already quoted is: "The laws of the Territory of Iowa, as far as applicable over all the territory west of the Rocky mountains owned by the United States." No treaty will exist to limit the applicability of the laws of Iowa. Some mere local enactment for bridges or court-houses may not apply; but all the general laws of Iowa will be extended to, and operate over, the whole territory. Those laws, as over Iowa, maintain exclusive and absolute jurisdiction and sovereignty; so, likewise, must they do over the whole of Oregon. They are to be operative over it as territory owned by the United States in the absence of any treaty to limit or define that ownership. Who ever heard of a divided or limited jurisdiction on the part of an independent nation over the territory owned by it? The laws of Iowa assert over its exclusive jurisdiction—maintain the eminent domain, and exclude all pretensions to sovereignty or jurisdiction on the part of all other nations. Extended to Oregon, as territory owned by the United States, they must have no less efficacy and exclusive operation.—It might as well be contended that Great Britain, or her subjects, have rights of sovereignty, or are entitled to exercise jurisdiction over the spot on which we stand, in this, the Capital of the Union, as they will have any such rights or title recognised or respected in any part of the Oregon territory after we shall have extended the jurisdiction of our laws and government over it as territory "owned by the United States." It surely is not necessary to elaborate this view. The simple statement of the terms of the law is conclusive to show that after the convention shall, by its termination, have ceased to restrict the applicability of the laws of Iowa, their extension over the whole territory of Oregon involves the claim of entire sovereignty, and the exercise of exclusive jurisdiction, to the complete ouster of the sovereignty and jurisdiction of Great Britain and all other nations.

The exclusive character of the sovereignty and jurisdiction to be exercised under this bill, after the termination of the convention, having been thus ascertained, it remains to enquire, Mr. Chairman, by what means, and with what consequences, such jurisdiction and sovereignty are to be enforced.

The executive of Iowa, or the mere subordinate agents to whom this bill intrusts the execution of its provisions, will be bound immediately after the termination of the convention, to extend our exclusive jurisdiction, and take possession of the whole territory, dismantling all forts or other establishments in which the flag of a foreign sovereignty waves, closing and abrogating all tribunals in which a foreign jurisdiction is exercised, and ejecting all companies, settlers or traders, who will not acknowledge allegiance to the Government of the United States, and submit to accept the protection of its laws. The powerful Hudson Bay Company, with its army of agents and
employees, and its tribes of savage auxiliaries, will be in the possession of much of the territory and most of its
strongholds. Numerous British subjects, settlers, or traders, will be in different parts, relying on the asserted rights
of their nation, and her pledged faith to protect and defend them. Great Britain having asserted, with singular
unanimity on the part of her leading statesmen, that she has rights in the territory, which, at all hazards, she will
maintain, and placed by such legislation in a position when to yield would be dishonor and the violation of the most
sacred engagements of a nation to her subjects, must and will sustain her claims to the utmost of her power. At the
first attempt, then, on the part of the Executive of Iowa, or this new Oregon territory, to enforce the provisions
of this act, he must and will resist with the strong hand. The whole military force at his command and
subsequently at that of the Executive of the Union, must be invoked, under his clear obligation to extend and
maintain jurisdiction over the territory declared by clear enactment to belong to the United States. And this, Sir, will
be war—nothing but war—the beginning of a dire contest, the end whereof no man can know.

This bill, Sir, has been regarded, in its application to the state of affairs after the termination of the Convention, as
rickety and imbecile. Certainly but little foresight or sagacity has been manifested in framing provisions for the
exigencies which will then demand much wise and cautious legislation. But, Sir, it is anything else but imbecile—for
mischief, it will be found all-potent. It will render hostile collision of inevitable necessity, and will place at the
discretion of the Executive of a remote territory, or to the petty officers to be appointed in Oregon, the issues of
peace and war, with the full power of compelling the support of the whole military force of the country. Is the House
prepared thus, in anticipation, to part with the dread power reposed in Congress alone, of declaring war? And if even
so, are they so infatuated as to intrust it to the discretion of some distant territorial Executive, or petty ministerial
officer in Oregon? I cannot believe it, while I retain respect for its wisdom or patriotism.

In view of the operation of this bill after the termination of the convention, in extending over the whole of Oregon
collision and war, I feel that I may appeal, with entire confidence, to all such members as have thought our title
limited to the 49th degree or thereabouts, or as entertain such conscientious scruples about the extent of our rights
as to have been unwilling to assert absolute title to 54 deg. 40 min., to array themselves in form opposition to its
passage, without the amendment limiting it to the duration of the convention. They cannot, without abandonment
of their fixed opinions and ascertained positions, give it their support, and they are too wise not to see it.

But is there not even a more numerous class to whom this bill, without the amendment, must be repugnant? I refer
to those who boast of entire concurrence in this Oregon question with the President, and manifest a peculiar desire
to comply exactly with all the recommendations of his message, in all our legislation on the subject. The language
and spirit of the message are clearly opposed to legislating now for the period after the termination of the
convention, and the exigencies that may then exist. His recommendations are for the adoption of measures to
protect our emigrants and conciliate the Indian tribes during the intermediate time before the abrogation of the
convention. I will not detain the committee by reading the passages in the message which, during this debate, have
been already exhibited, showing the nature of the executive recommendations. They all refer to the "mean time"
before the termination of the convention, and contemplate only provisional legislation. The President, in this respect,
acting wisely and prudently, so far from recommending ulterior legislation, has even abstained from developing his
opinions as to the measures which should, after the termination of the convention, be adopted, or to what extent,
and in what degree, exclusive sovereignty and jurisdiction should then be asserted in Oregon. He has, indeed,
intimated his opinion of our title; but in reference to the position of things after the expiration of the convention, he
has contented himself with saying that we shall then have "reached a period when the national rights in Oregon
must either be abandoned or firmly maintained;" and that they cannot be abandoned without the sacrifice of national
honor and interest. No intimation is given what specific measures will then be necessary; and much less does he advise
legislation now for that period. Should not, then, his peculiar adherents on this matter of Oregon abstain
where he has abstained, and shrink from legislating where he has not ventured even to advise?

To all, Sir, it must be a consideration of no little moment, that such premature legislation may most seriously
embarrass and involve the relations of the country in the pending negotiations. They are already in a situation of
delicacy and embarrassment, and a further element of offence or difficulty should not be cast in by improvident
legislation. From the first, the notice has been strongly presented and advocated by its friends as a peace measure.
That being stipulated for by the Convention, and given in pursuance of an undoubted right, expressly reserved, it
could afford no just cause of offence, while it must tend to bring both countries to a settlement of their conflicting
claims. We were told, repeatedly, that by the notice there was no manifestation of hostile intent, or of a purpose to
invade the rights of Great Britain. That we would not even be committed to the assertion of our rights over the
territory one inch further than, according to the conscientious convictions of the majority of this House, our title
should be clear and unquestionable. In giving the notice, would any, even the most infatuated 55 degrees and 40
minutes men, (as they are here styled,) have dreamed of accompanying it with the declaration or intimation that, at
its expiration, we meant to take possession of, and maintain exclusive sovereignty over the whole Oregon territory to
the Russian line? Who does not see that to have done so would have excluded the idea of a purpose to induce and
expedite amicable settlement?—would have implied a most offensive menace to Great Britain, and have rendered
negotiation impracticable, and hostilities inevitable? Yet if by contemporary legislation, we not merely declare such
purpose, but actually provide for its execution, the course is not materially different, and scarce less dangerous. We
are probably now warranted by what has proceeded from various influential quarters in England, in concluding that
the mere notice, being but the exercise of a privilege reserved by Treaty, will not be regarded as war measure; but if the "quo animo," the intent to follow it up by taking and holding exclusive possession of the whole country be thus
plainly stamped on our present legislation, how can the notice, thus explained, be regarded otherwise than as most
offensive and aggressive? I have heretofore shown that the practical operation of the bill, on the termination of the
Convention, would be direct collision and war. But is there not the most serious reason to apprehend that such dread
result may more speedily, nay, even immediately ensue? Would Great Britain be liable to the censure of the civilized
worlds, if, with an unequivocal manifestation of our purpose to seize and appropriate the whole territory, and in view
of legislation formally enacted for the dispossessions of her subjects and her complete expulsion, she should not wait
the termination of the Convention, but waiving notice, and availing herself of her superior state of preparation, strike at once a fearful, if not decisive blow. Whether thus near or more remote, war by our reckless course will be made almost certain. And what, Mr., Chairman, must be the nature and probable consequences of such a war?

Under any circumstances, Mr. Chairman, war is a great evil, perhaps the greatest which can befall a nation, except dishonor. Between two such nations as Great Britain and the United States, each of bravery unsurpassed, possessed of immense resources, and aided in the work of mutual destruction by the inventions and improvements of modern science, the conflict would be frightful and the devastation shocking. I wish not to dilate on the mere horrors of war. But, Mr. Chairman, if from the dreadful aggregate of misery, anguish, and death which must result from even a single field of carnage, we could segregate and individualize to the minds’ full conception each case of the wounded or the dying, with all its attendant suffering, and its mournful result to the home of the bereaved—to the widow and the orphan—we must have hearts more savage than that of the bloodiest despot who ever outraged humanity, it holding in our power the blessings of peace, without the most palpable necessity, we should “cry havoc, and let slip the dogs of war.” To my mind, the character of the Duke of Wellington is not more illustrated as a conqueror in the annals of history by the decisive victory of Waterloo, than as a man in the view of enlightened humanity, by his simple answer to a friend who, congratulating him on his glorious achievement, expressed wonder at the absence of all elation on his part. “Be not surprised, (he said,) for, in my view, save a defeat, the greatest of all calamities is a glorious victory.” He was right, Sir, and the noble moral of his sentiment is of peculiar applicability to us.—For, if assured—as we are far from being—of triumph in war beyond our sanguine anticipations, of what profit would it be compared with the destruction of human life, the outpouring of treasure, the devastation of property, the jeopardy to our institutions, and the retardation of our progress in improvement and happiness by which its blood-stained laurels would be gained?

The genius of our institutions are essentially peaceful, and it is the glorious privilege of our position on this continent that we are most surely aggrandized as a nation by the noblest instrumentalities, the culture and peopling of the earth. Our Government is admirable adapted for the development and prosperous display of the individual energy and industry of its citizens; and in every form of human effort—in agriculture, in commerce, and in manufactures—we have thriven and prospered in a manner wholly unexampled in the annals of mankind. Many a hoary head is yet seen amongst us, whose possessor, having seen our nation emerge from colonial vassallage, has witnessed its progress with scarce a check, till now, by the acknowledgement of the first statesmen of Europe, it ranks among the greatest of the earth. For the conduct of war I will not say our government is incompetent, for on the sufficiency of its energies for every want, I have great confidence; but certainly in its capacity for the concentrated executive efforts essential for war it contrasts less favorable with the monarchies and aristocracies of Europe, and especially with the government of Great Britain, than in its adaptation to inspire incentives to industry and secure the triumphs of peace. There have been frequent manifestations on this floor of feelings hostile in England, and as if to incite to resentment and vengeance. We have had paraded in vivid array all the crimes and atrocities alleged to have been perpetrated by her for ages back in all quarters of the world, and have listened to fervid appeals in behalf of the groaning and down-trodden millions of her subjects, who, it is said, write under the oppression of her boasted aristocracy. Sir, if we are to be animated by such national Quixotry, or be betrayed into a crusade for the deliverance of those who desire not our sympathy and would spurn our proffered aid, let me say, that in my opinion, they would greatly err who would resort to war for vengeance or redress. The most certain means for us to overthrow English power—to avenge the past and remedy the present ills of her inflicting—is by our peaceful progress, by successful competition in commerce and manufactures, on her superiority in which rests the main staff of her dependance. Our agriculture of course exceeds hers; our commercial marine is fast approximating to hers; in many branches of manufacture, for which our country with our artificial stimulants is ripe, we are underselling her in the markets of the world. Let us but await our growth, and time and peace will, in a few years, do more to gratify such national antipathy, if it unfortunately exists, than present war could by possibility accomplish.

By, sir, what would be the probable consequences of war, should it come, in relation to this disputed country of Oregon? It has been well remarked, in a leading English journal, “What can England justly dread in that territory, when she has command of the seaboard and the interior—of the forts and the Indians?” Her resources there would be far greater than ours, and her facilities of access superior. Between nations, at least kindred in valor and skill, these advantages would seem decisive. Elsewhere we might, and probably would, obtain indemnities, especially in the Canadas. But, after all, the great struggle must be on the oceans, and for nothing short of the supremacy of the seas. Immense present odds must there be against us; yet, for one, if the conflict begin, I should not despair of at least an equal result. With all our national energies roused, and our immense resources fully directed to naval ascendency, the God of battles could along foresee and award the ultimate issue. But against conflict so doubtful, and consequences as dire as must ensue, every patriot should strive while honor will permit.—Such I confidently believe to be the feeling of them who have the honor to represent this floor. Prepared as one man to breast the shock of arms whenever necessary, they are too sagacious not to perceive that in the ways of peace their true honor and interest lie, and too conscious of real valor to dread the idle imitation of timidity in adopting the counsels of prudence and wisdom. In their name, humble as I am, I protest against and denounce the folly and madness which, by such improper legislation as this bill proposes, would expose them and the country to the hazards and sacrifice of a needless war.

To the grave objections which have been urged to this bill without the restriction of the proposed amendment, one answer, having sufficient plausibility to require notice, has been given. It is, that the English legislation applicable to this Oregon territory is co-extensive with the proposed operation of this bill; and that in adopting it we but follow the precedent and example of Great Britain, who will consequently be precluded from complaint. Now, Mr. Chairman, I am not disposed to cavil and technicalities, or quibble on the precise construction to be given to some of the clauses of the English act of 1821. I am inclined to admit that the general phraseology of that act may be justly susceptible of the construction contended for. But it must be remember when that act was passed, and with what assurances it was followed. The enactment was as far back as 1821, after the adoption of the convention of 1818, and when it was
prudence, not international obligations, feel that prudence, not international obligations, withheld, and that we would
present state of preparation to nurse our wrath and delay an immediate outbreak of hostilities, but all would feel that
dehemed most significant of hostile intent, and the prelude to certain war? We might indeed deem it wise in our
Columbia, we would not indignation deep and intense be kindled in all American hearts? And would not such course be
citizens and exclude all claim on our part to jurisdiction or sovereignty in any portion of the country even south of the
provide by actual legislation immediately thereafter to take possession of the whole territory, and dispossess our
abrogation of the existing convention, and her Parliament were contemporaneously not merely to show an intent, but
adjustment of the conflicting claims of the two nations, the government of Great Britain were to give us notice for the
adopted by Great Britain, would excite.

government, and to bring home to our own breasts the thoughts and emotions which conduct like that we propose, if
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foolish and criminal. It is no fair test of the wisdom or safety of passing this bill to compare its provisions with the
termination of which was not contemplated. But now thoughtlessness or recklessness in our legislation would be both
proposed had it been brought forward when the English act passed, serious objection might not have been
present circumstances, possess peculiar significance and convey most offensive menace. To such a law as now
proposed in direct reference to the termination of the convention, and in full contemplation of the ulterior state of
give notice, and not doubting the concurrence of the other branch of the legislature in some form, our legislation is
England was in contemplation of, and in subservience to its provisions. Now, having already in this House voted to
the greatest imaginable difference. There was then no reference beyond the convention, and the legislation of
that in the time and circumstances of the English legislation, as contrasted with those or our proposed bill, consists
construction to be given to its mere words, let the matter be viewed practically and substantially. Candor must admit
of the rights of our government or its citizens. Instead of ferreting out this musty act and wrangling on the exact
and on the undoubted fact that its application has been to British subjects alone, and never extended to the invasion
and

[Here Mr. Jacob Thompson, of Mississippi, interrupted Mr. Seddon with the remark: “But in the English act, what
savings in favor of American citizens exist? Are there any others than the simple right to hunt?”]

I have stated, sir, (resumed Mr. Seddon, ) my inclination with entire candor, to admit that the general words of the
English statute may admit of a construction which would be less favorable to our citizens than under the convention
they would have been entitled to expect. But to the existing convention, in view of which the act was passed, top the
full assurances given in explanation of it, and to its practical operation for so long a time, I refer with confidence, to
demonstrate the real character of that law, and to show that it was personal to British subjects and their possessions
—not injurious to our citizens.

[Here Mr. McDowell, of Va., who was sitting by, handed to Mr. Seddon a book containing the English act, and desired
him to read to the committee in this connexion, and in answer to the remark of the gentleman from Mississippi, the
clause in that act in which the jurisdiction of the courts of Canada is extended to the Indian country, but so as not to
apply to any part under the civil government of the United States, &c.].

Mr. Seddon proceeded. My honorable colleague, whose opinions are entitled to the highest deference, has obligingly
handed me the English act, and desired me to read one of its sections. Feeling the utmost respect for his judgment, I
do so. [Here Mr. S. read the section.] From its language it is apparent that the authority of the government of the
United States is not meant to be injuriously invaded.

[Here Mr. James Thompson interrupted Mr. Seddon with the inquiry, whether, at the time of the passage of the
English act, there was any civil government of the United States in the Oregon territory, or any part of it, and
whether the jurisdiction established by the English act could be ousted by any subsequent establishment of the civil
government of the United States in it?]

Mr. Seddon resumed. I wish, Mr. Chairman, to deal with this subject in no spirit of mere partisanship, or for seeming
triumph in argument, but with perfect candor and frankness. I therefore do not hesitate to reply to the gentleman,
that there was not, to my knowledge, at that time, any civil government of the United States in Oregon, and that the
law may probably be held to apply to the countries as they were. Opinions, however, as to the construction of the
law differ; and, as I have stated, I have read this clause in deference to the wish of a respected colleague whose
judgment is of more worth than my own. At least, on any construction, the clause proves that more respect was
shown to American citizens than merely to save their right of hunting, since all under any civil government of the
United States at the time are excluded wholly from the operation of the act. As I have said, however, I am not
disposed to controvert the view taken by gentlemen of the mere language of the act. My argument is based on
the time and circumstances of its passage; on the assurances which were solemnly given of its intended operation,
and on the undoubted fact that its application has been to British subjects alone, and never extended to the invasion
of the rights of our government or its citizens. Instead of ferreting out this musty act and wrangling on the exact
construction to be given to its mere words, let the matter be viewed practically and substantially. Candor must admit
that in the time and circumstances of the English legislation, as contrasted with those or our proposed bill, consists
the greatest imaginable difference. There was then no reference beyond the convention, and the legislation of
England was in contemplation of, and in subservience to its provisions. Now, having already in this House voted to
give notice, and not doubting the concurrence of the other branch of the legislature in some form, our legislation is
proposed in direct reference to the termination of the convention, and in full contemplation of the ulterior state of
affairs when no treaty stipulations are to exist.—Bills, in general words of which, if adopted soon after the convention
was entered into, or while it was indefinite in duration, would have been of little moment and no danger would, under
present circumstances, possess peculiar significance and convey most offensive menace. To such a law as now
proposed had it been brought forward when the English act passed, serious objection might not have been
entertained. I might myself have voted for it without note or care for its operation beyond the convention, the
termination of which was not contemplated. But now thoughtlessness or recklessness in our legislation would be both
foolish and criminal. It is no fair test of the wisdom or safety of passing this bill to compare its provisions with the
mere phraseology of the English act. The true touchstone is to reverse the attitudes of Great Britain and our
government, and to bring home to our own breasts the thoughts and emotions which conduct like that we propose, if
adopted by Great Britain, would excite.

Suppose, in the absence of any cause of irritation on our part, in the course of a pending negotiation for amicable
adjustment of the conflicting claims of the two nations, the government of Great Britain were to give us notice for the
abrogation of the existing convention, and her Parliament were cotemporaneously not merely to show an intent, but
provide by actual legislation immediately thereafter to take possession of the whole territory, and dispossess our
citizens and exclude all claim on our part to jurisdiction or sovereignty in any portion of the country even south of the
Columbia, would not indignation deep and intense be kindled in all American hearts? And would not such course be
deemed most significant of hostile intent, and the prelude to certain war? We might indeed deem it wise in our
present state of preparation to nurse our wrath and delay an immediate outbreak of hostilities, but all would feel that
prudence, not international obligations, feel that prudence, not international obligations, withheld, and that we would
be warranted, so soon as by vigorous efforts we should adequately prepare, to seek the ultimate resort of nations.—In the reverse of positions, we find an admirable admonition to forbear from the rashness and aggression this bill unamended would exhibit; for what we would not endure, we may justly expect Great Britain—a nation as potent and sensitive to honor as our own—will promptly resent.

A strong additional argument, Mr. Chairman, for limiting this bill by the amendment proposed is afforded by the unanimity which will then be secured to its passage. This is a consideration which should be strongly felt by those honorable gentlemen, its immediate advocates in its present objectional form, who have been so solicitous and clamorous for unanimity—cordial and united action in our measures about Oregon. We have been stunned by honorable members here, till we scarce heeded the no less frequent appeals of the press, with assurances of the mighty influences to be exerted at home and abroad by the moral effect of united action and harmonious cooperation of all branches of the Government in relation to Oregon. Now, surely, if union and harmony constitute such potent levers whereby to move the world on this subject, they cannot be less essential on the manifestation of our purpose to encourage and protect our settlers in Oregon, than in the form in which the notice to terminate the convention is to be given.

There will scarce by any dissent in the provisions of the bill for these objects; whereas, by extending its operation to the dispossession and exclusion of Great Britain, after the convention is terminated, from the whole territory, the bill, it passed at all, can be carried only by a meagre majority. I appeal to gentlemen, on their own arguments, to meet us fairly, and accord, where all may agree, and not to legislate as if the isolation of friends, rather than the attainment of ends common to all parties and sections of parties, were their real object.

All considerations of prudence and policy conspire, Mr. Chairman, to dissuade us from legislating now for the exigencies which are to exist after the termination of the convention. There is certainly no occasion for Congress to anticipate events so far. far. Another session must occur before the convention can expire, and then, with much fuller lights, and in view of all intermediate events, we may adjust our legislation to the necessities of existing affairs. Should a settlement be effected in the intermediate time, your present legislation would be intercepted and overruled. Should conflict prove inevitable—and by that time the development of events will probably allow a correct decision—many members, who are now averse to the assertion of exclusive sovereignty and jurisdiction, would be prepared to go for the whole. If flight the nation must, then let it fight for all that the fate of arms can bestow. But now our negotiations are pending—our relations in a doubtful and embarrassing condition. We are on the eve of events to be decisive of our future course in relation to this whole Oregon matter. How, then, can we prudently or wisely legislate in advance, when we literally “know not what a day may bring forth.”

*The same clause has been heretofore quoted.

[BWP]

RE46v43i2p4c6, May 5, 1846: Saturday Morning, May 2, 1846.

Let the President do what he may, he will be denounced by some of the Whig press. If, under the obligations of his oath, he lay before Congress his solemn convictions of our rights to the Oregon territory, and recommend the adoption of measures for the ascertainment of those rights, and the permanent security of the honor and peace of the nation, the Whig press assail him for wantonly invoking a war, to subserve his own personal ambition. But no sooner has this Oregon storm blown over, quelled by the firm, yet dignified and moderate stand of our Government, than some of the Whig journals turn around and denounce the administration for want of courage and energy in its bearing towards Mexico. The Philadelphia North American, that once shuddered with horror at the shadow of British power, and shrieked with fear when it was announced that the people of the United States would be ready, if forced to do so, to vindicate their rights and honor against Great Britain, has suddenly changed its dove-like note, and raises a warlike cry against weak and unfortunate Mexico. It calls for the most stringent and uncompromising measures. It would no longer give quarter to our Southern neighbors, but would at once sweep them from the face of the earth. We give a few passages of its bellicose article:

"Our country is made by the Mexican government the subject of the most dishonoring vituperation; a quasi war is declared against us; our Minister is discarded; and, in short, we are subjected to more of humiliation and wrong than we have endured since the Tripolitan war. Where is the Executive? All that was characterized by the President as demanding national resentment, has occurred. The insults we have invited, by sending our Minister we have received. What new dishonor is necessary to arouse our Government to action? And why is it that the administration, which so anxiously seeks to embroil us with Great Britain in relation to an abstract question of title to a disputed territory, submits to be kicked and cuffed, wronged and dishonored by a power like Mexico? It is true, that, as the stronger party, we may, without shame, exercise a magnanimous forbearance; but there are limits beyond which submission to a wrong is a sanction, and tameness and invitation to fresh injury.—What government in existence would have borne what we have borne from the Mexicans, if not conscious that it was in the wrong?.

"Is this the secret of the inertness of the Administration? The acquisition of Texas seems to have cowed the better part of man in our Government. Its sword is glued in its scabbard; and while it protest against the wrongs and insults which are showered upon its head, a shrug of the shoulders is the only response. Now, the act, whatever it be, has been adopted by the nation: it is too late to debate about it. The reputation of the country is at stake—not merely
its reputation for honor, but the credit of possessing the strength and courage to protect our commerce abroad—and it
is necessary that should be vindicated, or we may expect that every petty power, whether despotic or anarch, will
conclude that it is safe to prey upon our people. It is an insult so deliberate, a wrong so profound, that to endure it is
to invite, from the meanest of the communities of the earth, indignity and oppression.—Our duty is plain. We should
erather retrace our steps or go on. To stand still and permit Mexico to treat us and our citizens as robbers of her
territory, and, therefore as unworthy of recognition under the laws of nations, is a degradation that cannot be
endured.

"War is a great evil; but there are greater evils. The issue between this country and Mexico has reached a point
where there is no room for turning. Our government should act with promptness and decision, and upon a scale
worthy of the republic. The police force now on our borders is wholly inadequate; and it is doubted whether our
squadrin is of sufficient strength. There will, we apprehend, be no action until the administration shall have received
the sanction of Congress; but it should then be backed by a force sufficient to close the war by a blow. The country
anticipates, and with anxiety, early and earnest action upon this subject."

Now let us suppose the reverse of what is actually the case. Let us assume that, instead of pursuing the forebearing
but dignified and vigilant measures which have been taken, Mr. Polk had drawn the sword of war——d directed
General Taylor to cross the Rio Grande, attack and destroy the Mexican army, and had ordered our fleet to bombard
Vera Cruz, and blockade the other ports of Mexico. This we would have been justified in doing, on account of the
various insults thrown out by Mexico, her repeated declaration of war by her Presidents, Generals, &c. But had this
been done, the Whig press would have come out against the "wanton, bloody war," which Mr. Polk had waged
against weak, unoffending and powerless Mexico! The acquisition of Texas, instead of being said to have "cowed the
better part of man," as sneeringly charged by the North American, would at once have been paraded, as inflaming
the Southern blood of the President against a wretched and unprotected nation. Texas, as now, would be made the
scape-goat for all the offences imputed to Mr. Polk.

But, no; the Administration, while it has practised a praiseworthy forbearance towards Mexico, has vigilantly
consulted the honor and interest of the United States. Gen. Taylor has been stationed on the banks of the Rio
Grande, not to assail the Mexicans, but to guard our own rightful territory. Our fleet is in the Gulf, in striking distance
of the scene of action, and ready to act at the first signal. Mr. Polk would willingly avoid, if possible, violent measures
towards Mexico; but we are satisfied that he has at heart, as sincerely as the North American, the honor and
interests of this country. He is certainly better acquainted with all the points of the case, and will, at the proper time,
recommend what he thinks is necessary and politic, to settle all our difficulties with Mexico. He will do his duty,
regardless of the sneers or assaults of his opponents. We have no fear that he will recklessly take any step which
may endanger the peace or dim the honor of the nation.

The Union says that the Administration "has the Mexican case under its best consideration, and will act in its own
good time, without waiting upon Santa Ana, or for a new revolution, or play9ng at all the part of what Walter Scott
calls 'a waiter upon Providence.'"[BWP]

While we differ from some of the views in Mr. Seddon’s speech, on one of the Oregon bills published to-day, we
cannot suffer it to go forth without referring to the talent and powers of amendment which it displays. His
constituents will be pleased to see the distinguished part which he has taken in the proceedings of Congress.
[BWP]

The question "What will the Whigs do?" frequently suggests itself to our mind. Their old weapons are all broken or
taken away from them—and, although they excel particularly in manufacturing, yet they used up nearly all their raw
materials in '44, and what little was then left has since been consumed in vain attempts to create war panics,
currency panics, and every other imaginable panic, since the commencement of the present session of Congress. The
Oregon question is in a fair way to be amicably and honorable settled—the Tariff will doubtless in a very short time
be reduced to the revenue standard, yielding a sufficient amount to meet the economical wants of the Government—
the Independent Treasury bill will soon become the law of the land—and Texas has already been peaceably brought
into our sisterhood. Then, we repeat, what will the Whigs do? All of their predictions have proved erroneous, and
their hopes of the dismemberment of the Repulican party have wofully deceived them. The Democratic party have
come out of every contest since the election of Mr. Polk with their brows crowned with victorious laurels—and the
Whig party have met with nothing but defeat and discomfiture.

But we must remain united—the little germs of discord must be crushed. Every man who expects to rise should be
ever willing to submit his claims to his party, and if selected by them, the others should forget their own personal
aspirations, think only of the success of our common principles, and assist in the elevation of their successful rivals.
Let the aim of each and all of us be, to excel the other in the perpetuation of the glorious doctrines of the Repulican
party. Let all heart-burnings and jealousies be banished from our councils. Remember the losses which we sustained
during the recent elections, on account of the refusal of some of the candidates to submit their claims to the
conventions of their party; and, above all, remember that “Union is strength, and that division ensures defeat.”[BWP]

RE46v43i3p1c5, May 8, 1846: LATER.

The steamship Telegraph arrived here on Thursday evening, bringing accounts to Tuesday. The only additional intelligence is as follows: Just before the Telegraph sailed, news arrived that Lieut. Porter and a detachment of 10 men, who had been sent out on duty not far from Gen., Taylor’s encampment, had been fired upon by 50 Mexicans, killing Lieut. P. and three of his men. The others succeeded in making their escape and returning to camp. Whether the party which made this attack were soldiers or robbers, is uncertain; but we believe the Mexican officers say the latter. These officers had already said to some of ours, that every thicket was infested with banditti who would kill a man for 50 cents or his blanket, and that the Mexican commander could not think of holding himself accountable for any accident which might happen to detached parties venturing incautiously too far from camp.

Gen. Ampudia denies all knowledge of the fate or whereabouts of Col. Cross, but, as the country in the vicinity where he disappeared has been thoroughly searched, and no information of him obtained, it is suspected by many that he has been sent a prisoner into the interior of Mexico, instead of having been murdered.

Impressions as to the probability of a battle are very much divided. It seems highly probable that the Mexican army does not contemplate a general attack, inasmuch as it has allowed favorable opportunities for making one to go unimproved; and in the present position and situation of his forces, Gen. Taylor is much stronger than at any time since his removal from Corpus Christi. He has finished mounting his heavy artillery and fortified his camp completely, so that an attack from the enemy would doubtless be the most welcome event that could happen to our army.

[BWP]

RE46v43i3p1c5, May 8, 1846: PROCLAMATION OF AMPUDIA.

[From the Extra of the Galveston News.]

The General-in-Chief of the 4th Military Division, to the inhabitants of the interior departments of the East.

Fellow-Citizens: My most ardent prayers are fulfilled, and propitious fortune grants me the pleasure of returning to these departments for which I have so much sympathy.

In entering the East, the greatness of the enterprise which the supreme National Government has thought worthy to confide to my poor abilities does not deter me; for your patriotic virtues and your courage are doubtless superior to the audacity with which the stranger insults us.

Since the cabinet of Washington removed the hypocritical mask which covers its treason to support with effrontery the usurpation of Texas effected by her ungrateful inhabitants, our colonists, my heart possessed with a sacred fire, like that which every good Mexican ought to experience, inspired me with a lively desire to avenge so great an insult by chastising the aggressor, and in March of the last year, I placed my desire in form before the administration of that time, in order either in my own grade, or that of the private soldier with musket upon my shoulder, I might be permitted to make that campaign.

If it be well then that publicity was given to that proposition through the journals, it is much more gratifying to renew it at a time which finds me among you, and that at your side I shall joyously sacrifice my life upon the altars of the country, if, for the happiness of this country, so near to me, my existence may be the victim which destiny shall mark out.

Neither by any motive shall I be brought to forget, nor shall I pass in silence the occasion which is presented to me, to offer a grateful remembrance as a tribute to the inhabitants of Tobasco for the honorable demonstration of their esteem for my person, and the extraordinary efforts which they made that I might remain permanently there; but to the country every thing is due, and for its interest every other thing ought to be postponed; the reason why I am not still in the society of those estimable fellow citizens.

The worthy Chief Magistrate has conceived my poor services important to the nation, and I came with the greatest pleasure to bestow them upon you, for the affection, indeed, which you inspire in me; also, indeed, for the noble and patriotic sentiments to whose influence our enemies can oppose no resistance; they who, as you know, to the scandal of the Christian world, assist barbarous Indians with arms and munitions, in order that they may ravage our people. This ferocious enemy shall be also corrected, and we will chase him from our frontiers with the greatest possible brevity.

My heart has felt the most grateful pleasure in witnessing the public demonstrations of joy and general satisfaction with which the heroic people of Saltillo have received the division which marches under my orders; and no one ought to doubt that the brave men who compose it, united to our comrades, who do-day are entrenching themselves on
the field of battle, will know how to give a convincing lesson to the enemy who dares to insult you; making him know
the rights and power of a great and warlike people, highly offended in its honor and integrity.

Long live the Mexican Republic! Long live the Departments of the East and its intrepid defenders!!!!
(signed, ) PEDRO DE AMPUDIA.
    Saltillo, March 27th, 1846.

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    Saltillo, March 27th, 1846.
The General in Chief of the 4th Military Division to the Inhabitants of the Frontier.

My Friends: I left the village of________, sick, to come and participate with you in the labors and glories to which the hypocritical and daring North American usurpers invite us, and I instantly longed to find myself upon the banks of the Bravo, to salute them with all the effusion of my soul. I arrived yesterday in this city with the brigade which the brave General Don Anastasio Torrijon directs. At this moment the second is entering, and notwithstanding the necessity which exists for my remaining in this city, to adjust interesting matters, I advance, with a body of cavalry, by forced marches; for, indeed, you know me—I cannot have a moment of tranquility while I am not with you. In the meanwhile, let the sacred fire of your country burn as always in your hearts, and I will answer you with victory.

(Signed, ) PEDRO DE AMPUDIA.

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We have seen with the greatest satisfaction the manifesto given to the nation by His Excellency the President ad interim, in regard to the correspondence relative to the subject of Texas, held between the Supreme Government and the Envoy Extraordinary of the United States. This document is as satisfactory as could be hoped for after the sincere offers made at San Luis Potosi by the chief of our destinies; in it we see explicitly treated the difficult question which for ten successive years has been the pretext for civil discord, and in it we have a safe guarantee that the existing energetic Government will fulfill without delay the obligations which it contracted with the nation in giving the programme, which unites all divisions, which makes opinion unanimous upon independence, the calumniating point of our social exigencies.

It is true war is not precisely declared in the manifesto referred to, and this will not readily satisfy the anxiety of those who are menaced by the ironically called colossus of the North; but in addition to their being in the expressions of his Excellency, the President, marked indications of a desire for the campaign so long a time talked of, a matter which has no little force in the mouth of the Chief Magistrate of a people, it is also therein expressed, as a fundamental basis, that the forced occupation of our territory by the U. States, and the appearance of their squadrons upon the coasts of Mexico, are regarded as a real aggression; such is the language proper for governments which desire to uphold dignity and decorum; nevertheless, there will not be wanting some malevolent spirits to charge us with not having finally declared war, as if such an act were not for some time between himself and one or two other officers.

The number of the Mexican troops at and near Matamoras is not known with any degree of accuracy, but we cannot learn of any considerable augmentation. Indeed, the impression appears to be, that they have been diminished of late, in consequence of the difficulty of obtaining supplies.

The two armies are encamped on opposite sides of the river, in view, and within some two hundred yards of each other, and both have thrown up fortifications, and added to the strength of their positions.

The steamship Telegraph had arrived from N. Orleans with 200 additional troops for the army under General Taylor. She struck on the bar in going in and drifted over without sustaining any injury worthy of note. She is expected here daily.

The weather has been exceedingly tempestuous off the coast, and fears are entertained that damage has been done to vessels in the vicinity.

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The brig Equity, Capt. Place, arrived yesterday, brings information that when off Matamoras, with the intention of entering, on the 17th inst, she was overhauled by the U. S. brig Lawrence and ordered off the coast. [N. O. Jeffersonian, April 29. [BWP]
As this is the anticipated battle ground, opposite which General Taylor is encamped, the following description of the city, from a correspondent of the New York Tribune, may prove interesting:

Matamoras is an old Spanish City, containing about 7,000 inhabitants, and is beautifully situated on the Southern bank of the Rio Grande, within its folds so that its front and rear are both on the river. Seen from the American side, it has every appearance of being an American town. The streets intersect each other at right angles, and appear to be lined with many varieties of shade trees, which give the town an air of coolness, and render its appearance very inviting. Many of the buildings are built of brick and in the modern style of architecture. The Cathedral, market, and buildings occupied by the military, are among the finest. The dwellings of the poorer classes are constructed with canes, brush, mud and the like materials, and are essentially Mexican. The town formerly contained double its present number of inhabitants, and was a place of some importance. This rapid decline is owing to their internal commotions, and the growing indolence of the people. The citizens are all under the rule of the military, and are obliged to provide for them. The military is supreme, and the orders of their General, Mejia, are law.

The city has several fortifications, armed with guns of different calibres, and a force of 500 or 600 men is kept in them constantly. Since our arrival they have increased their force to nearly 3,000 men, and have been working night and day upon the defences of the place. They have thrown up several batteries which bear upon our camp, and we are quietly waiting for them to give us a ball. Should they favor us, we shall return the compliment with a series of them, for the Spanish are very particular in matters of etiquette. Our camp is directly opposite the town, and 800 yards from their batteries. We are engaged in throwing up a field work, constructing gun batteries, and taking such precautions as are necessary to enable us to maintain our position. This seems important since our intercourse with them is entirely prohibited by the Mexican authorities, and their attitude decidedly hostile.

RE46v43l3p1c7, May 8, 1846: The Earl of Aberdeen to Mr. Pakenham. FOREIGN OFFICER, March 3, 1846.

Sir: I have much satisfaction in conveying to you the entire approval of Her Majesty’s Government of the steps which, as reported in your despatch of the 29th of January, you took, and of the letter which you addressed to the American Secretary of State, for the purpose of ascertaining clearly and authoritatively, whether the United States Government would be disposed to admit the application of the principle of an arbitration of the Oregon Question on any other terms than those which they had already rejected.

In thus acting, you have, in a most judicious and satisfactory manner, anticipated the instructions which I was preparing to forward you on this subject.

We have now nothing to do but to await Mr. Buchanan’s reply to your appeal to him, although I collect from your despatch that your proposal will certainly be refused. Should that reply, however, be of such a nature as to give any ground of hope that the matter in dispute may be brought to an amicable issue by means of direct negotiation, I shall gladly avail myself of such an opening. If not, it will then be for Her Majesty’s Government to consider what measure it may be expedient to adopt, in order to meet any emergency which may arise. I am, &c., [Signed, ]

ABERDEEN. The Earl of Aberdeen to Mr. Pakenham. FOREIGN OFFICE, March 3, 6 P. M., 1846. Sir: Since my preceding despatch of this day’s date was written, I have received your despatch of the 5th of February, with its inclosure, by which you put me in possession of the final rejection by the U. States Government of our proposal of a reference of the Oregon question to arbitration.

There is, of course, no time before the departure of the mail of this evening for the consideration of so serious a question as that which is involved in the President’s decision as now announced. I am, &c.,

(Signed, ) ABERDEEN.

[BWP]

RE46v43l3p1c6, May 8, 1846: No title.

The Oregon question continues to be a fruitful source of discussion with the British journals.—The speech of Mr. Webster, and the propriety of settling the dispute upon the basis of 49 degs., were much commented on. The London Times, by some called the organ of Lord Aberdeen, tho’ it is more probably the mouth-piece of the Hudson’s Bay Company, is as bitter as ever in deriding and opposing the American title North of Columbia river, and states that latitude 49 was as far as the original claim of the U. States extended, and that line had never been conceded by the British statesmen. If conceded now, the Times claims the freedom of the Columbia, the whole of Vancouver’s Island, and the Straits of Fuca, with full indemnity to the Hudson’s Bay Company for resigning their posts.

The London Examiner say England loves peace, but is ready for war.

[BWP]
England and the United States—The Oregon Question.

The *Times* says the accounts from the United States by the *Hibernia*, to the beginning of April, have excited a good deal of attention. The message of Mr. Polk to Congress is not considered warlike. Indeed, some of the public sureties profess to see the best guaranty for the continuance of peace, in the expense to which the country would be put by arming for a conflict.—Seventy millions of dollars bestowed upon putting the army and navy on a footing for commenting the emergency of the case, would induce every man to contribute this quota to that astonishing sum to inquire into its necessity.

The following extracts from an article in the London *Times*, of the 18th ult., show that that paper does not look upon the line of 49 degrees even as a certain line of agreement, and gives also the latest opinion which we find on this question:

* * * In the whole course of these negotiations, that which has changed moist completely, is the claim set up by the Americans. In 1818 and 1826, the territory in dispute was expressly asserted, and clearly understood, to be comprised between the 42d and 49th degrees of latitude. As for the more Northern tract, between 49 and 54 40, we are not aware that the paramount claims of Britain to that part of it, were then called in question. The proposals of it for partition, ranged between the mouth of the Columbia and the 49th degree, but not beyond; and the American Plenipotentiaries unsuccessfully claimed the whole of that region, but no more. Since that time, and in their more recent discussions, they have raised their demands; they have laid claim to the whole country; and then, as if it were the farthest limits of condescension and concession, they revert to their former offer, the very same which they before rejected. * * * *

They have raised a claim to the whole of Oregon, not with any expectation of acquiring the entire province, but in order to reconcile us to terms we have before declared to be admissible.

[JP]

FROM MEXICO.

Yesterday’s Southern mail brings us a few additional items of intelligence from this excited country. The latest dates received at Vera Cruz from Matamoras were of the 2d inst.; they state that General Mejia had not attacked General Taylor on account of the retreat of the latter. Those from Mazatlan were of the 1st—and in “El Locomotor” of the 22d, we find a list of the American vessels of war which had blockaded that port; they consisted of the frigate *Savannah*, 60 guns; do.*Constitution*, 50; sloop of war *Portsmouth*, 34; do.*Levant*, 34; and schr.*Shark*, 12 guns.

A revolution had taken place in the Southern Departments of Mexico, where Gen. Don Juan Alvarez had published the Federal Constitution, and advocated the return to power of Gen. Santa Anna. No further particulars had been received about the revolution, but it was confirmed from several sources.

According to the “Locomotor” of the 20th ult., the American squadron laying at Sacrificios set sail on the 18th, and returned on the third day. It is believed that these movements were caused by slight fevers, which had prevailed among the crews of said vessels during those days, and that they went to sea in order to get a cool and pure air.

The news of the death of Signor Don Maximo Garro, late Envoy to the King of the French, had reached Vera Cruz, and this is supposed to have detained at Havana Gen. Almonte, who sent his secretary back to Mexico by the British steamer of the 9th.

The said journal of the 18th states, that it was reported that the Mexican government had entered into agreements with the Spanish government for the sale of the steamers of war *Montezuma* and *Guadalupe*, for the sum of $80,000; and it suggests that under the actual circumstances, it was not proper for the Mexican government to enter into any such arrangements with Spain, but to offer the said steamers at public sale, and dispose of them to the highest bidder. It has been reported, and it is stated in some private letters, that the steamers have been bought by the English house of Manning, Marshall & co., for the sum of $640,000, and that they were to proceed to Havana immediately. We cannot credit the latter rumor, for we have seen both steamers, and are well acquainted with their force, build and other circumstances, which are not enough to make them worth half the amount which it is said has been paid for them; and there is too great a difference between that sum and the one which the Locomotor states had been offered for them by Spain.

[JP]

FROM THE ARMY OF OCCUPATION.

Below we give farther extracts from the New Orleans papers relative to the U. States troops now stationed on the Rio Grande, under the command of Gen. Taylor. Gen. Worth, Cols. Coffin, Waite, Fisher and Treadwell, Majors Van Ness and March, Captains Duncan, Whitehead and McLellan, and several other officers of the army, arrived at New Orleans
on the 30th April, in the steamship New York.

The iron steamer Hunter was off Galveston bar on the 27th April, having lost her smokepipe, and being short of provisions. She was then eleven days out from Brazos Santiago.—Some of her passengers were transferred to the New York.

The schr. L. M. Hitchcock, Captain Wright, arrived at Galveston on the 23d April, from Brazos Santiago, having sailed on Sunday, the 19th—three days after the Colonel Harney—but she brought no news of much interest. The rash attempt of Lieut. Deas to discover the fate of his friend Col. Cross, whereby he fell into the hands of the Mexicans, is fully detailed, with its unfortunate issue, in the letters below from correspondents of the New Orleans Picayune. The remaining intelligence by the Hitchcock has been anticipated by the arrival of the Col. Harney.

About fifty of the American army had deserted, and swarm the river for the Mexican camp; but a number of them were shot as deserters while in the water. The whole number of American troops is estimated at between two and three thousand, and they are said to be in excellent discipline, and eager for an engagement with the enemy. Ampudia’s forces are reported at between three and four thousand. It reported, that Arista is about to supersede Ampudia in the command.

RE46v43i3p2c4, May 8, 1846: Correspondence of the New Orleans Picayune. CAMP OPPOSITE MATAMORAS, Texas, April 18th, 1846.

The two opposing armies are within five hundred yards of each other—both busily engaged in entrenching themselves and throwing up fieldworks. The most perfect non-intercourse is established. Thousands of reports are in daily circulation with regard to the probable time at which we are to be eaten up, and frequently news reaches us that the Mexicans are crossing the river at some point above or below us, when some unlucky devils [whose detail it happens to be] are detached on a scout for the whole night.

The last report is, that Gen. Arista has taken command of the Mexican army, and that all hostile operations are to be suspended until next June, in order to give the two Governments an opportunity of negotiating peaceably—or, in other words, giving the Mexicans an opportunity of backing out with some show of decency. Take my word for it, we are to have no fun, unless we lead off the dance.

Many of our officers assemble daily on the banks of the river, and gaze with longing eyes at the houses, streets and signoras of the beautiful city of Matamoras. In the course of a week our fortification will be finished, when we may safely defy the whole Mexican army. It is said that Arista is the rival and enemy of Paredes, and will therefore be disposed to favor the American Government.

Col. Cross, our Quartermaster-General, has doubtless been taken prisoner by a party of rancheros, and taken over to Mexico. Lieut. Deas, of the 4th Artillery, concluded, very strangely, the other night, that he would swim over to Matamoras and get information about Col. Cross.—He swam over in his uniform; and yesterday when Gen. Taylor made a demand upon the authorities for Col. C., they returned an answer that he was not there, but that they had Lieut. Deas, whom they held as a prisoner of war. Deas he not [have] permission from Gen. T. to go, so I suppose he will have to get back the best way he can. There is no apprehension but that these gentlemen are safe--Deas at Matamoras, and Col. Cross at some place in the interior.

I have not time to say more to you this morning, except that there has been a very severe fog here for two days,
which has brought the mud to about ancle deep. Yours truly.

[BWP]

RE46v43i3p3c2, May 8, 1846: COL. CROSS.

A private letter received in Philadelphia, says the Times, from an Officer at the Camp of Occupation, states that the Mexicans have acknowledged the capture of Col. Cross.—He had rode a distance of about two miles outside of the advanced pickets, when he was surrounded, and captured by about twenty mounted Mexicans. He had been conveyed across the river, and some distance into the interior, but the enemy declare that no harm is intended to him.

[BWP]

RE46v43i3p3c2, May 8, 1846: TWENTY-NINTH CONGRESS. WEDNESDAY, May 6. SENATE.

The Committee on Finance made a report in favor of agreeing with most of the amendments of the House to the bill providing for deficiencies in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1846, and recommending that the Senate recede from some of its amendments and insist upon others.

The report was read and adopted, and the bill as amended ordered to be returned to the House.

On motion of Mr. Lewis, the Senate took up the Fortification bill, and after the adoption of one or two amendments, it was passed over informally at the request of Mr. Yulee, who wished to obtain some further information relative to the proposed fortifications upon Florida reef.

Mr. Johnson of La., on leave, introduced a bill for the relief of the Mexican Railroad Company.

The resolution offered by Mr. Speight yesterday, to change the hour of meeting to 11 o'clock, was taken up and rejected—ayes 16, noes 22.

The bill to provide for the settlement of the claim of New Hampshire against the General Government, which was rejected sometime since, and afterwards agreed to be reconsidered, was taken up.

Mr. Atherton explained the merits of the bill at some length.

Mr. J. M. Clayton moved to postpone the bill until Monday next, owing to the thinness of the Senate.

Mr. Allen opposed the postponement, and said a few words in behalf of the bill.

Mr. Mangum was in favor of the postponement, not on account of the thinness of the Senate, but on account of the necessary absence of one or two Senators who are conversant with the whole subject. He moved to postpone until Monday week, and make it the special order.

After some remarks from Mr. J. M. Clayton, Mr. Atherton, and others, the motion was lost.

The question then recurred on ordering the bill to be engrossed for a third reading, and it was decided in the affirmative—yeas 22, nays 13.

A message was received from the House, stating that the House had resolved to insist upon its disagreement to the 3d and 9th amendments of the Senate to the deficiency appropriation bill.

Mr. Haywood moved to recede from the third amendment (to pay Dr. Thomas P. Jones some $3,000 for making experiments relative to steam boilers.).

Mr. Evans hoped the Senate would not recede. There were only two amendments in dispute between the two Houses, and he hoped that the amendments would be insisted upon, and Committee of Conference appointed, who could doubtless soon settle these differences.

After some remarks, the question was taken upon receding from both amendments, and the Senate agreed to recede, by a vote of 17 to 12. The bill therefore only requires the signature of the President to become a law.

The French spoliation bill was made the special order for next Monday.
The bill to establish Federal Courts, &c., in the State of Florida was next taken up in order.

The House went into Committee of the Whole—Mr. Boyd of Ky. In the Chair—and took up the special order, being the bill "to repeal that part of the act of the 30th August, 1842, (Tariff act) which imposes a duty of 20 per cent., ad valorem on Java Coffee, and to refund the discriminating tonnage duties levied on Spanish vessels (except those from Cuba, and Porto Rico) by the act of 13th July, 1832."

Mr. Winthrop, of Mass. Opposed the bill on the ground that Java Coffee was by it made an exception to the coffee imported from every other part of the world. The motive assigned for bringing in the bill was the alleged violation of some treaty. Some skillful Dutch diplomatist had convinced the Chairman of Foreign Affairs of this fact, and by a Treasury circular discriminations had been made in favor of Coffee imported into the U. S. in Dutch vessels.

Mr. W. argued that there had been no violation of the treaty between the United States and Holland. Secretary Bibb had violated the law during nearly the whole term of his office by the circulars he had issued, and the present Secretary of the Treasury had done nearly the same thing for a year past. The treaty which it had been alleged was violated, has not been violated, in point of fact, at all. This treaty, indeed, afforded no advantage to us. An export duty of 25 per cent was laid upon all coffee exported in foreign vessels, and this discrimination was extended to 50 per cent. Against the United States merchants. It was therefore impossible for our merchants under this heavy export duty to compete with the coffee imported from Java in Dutch vessels. In 1830 there were thirty ships employed in the Java trade, and now there were but three or four. It was now proposed in the bill to make a further discrimination against the United States. This was the reciprocal free trade proposed by the bill and defended by the friends of free trade, in the House. It was a discrimination against American vessels, both by the Dutch government and the American government.

Mr. W. said he regretted that the Executive Government had given so little heed to this subject. He had reason to know that it had been brought to his notice of the Treasury Department, and important information laid before it, but thus far without any attention being paid to it.

Mr. Seaborn Jones moved an amendment to the first section, so as to confine the benefits of the bill solely to coffee imported in American vessels. At this stage of the proceedings,

Mr. Dromgoole of Virginia moved that the Committee rise, as he wished to submit a question of privilege to the House.

The Committee rose accordingly.

Mr. Dromgoole then offered a resolution, that any member summoned as a witness before the Circuit Court of the United States for this District, should have leave to attend the Court.

Mr. Winthrop moved to add a proviso, that the member should attend when summoned, if he thought proper to do so. He contended that the Courts of law had no power to require the attendance of members.

Mr. Dromgoole concurred in this opinion, and accepted the proviso.

Mr. Thommason, of Ky., and Messrs. Holmes and Sims, of S. C., debated the propriety of adopting the resolution as one of privilege, and, therefore, one of a very delicate character.

Mr. Gordon, of N. Y., moved to lay the resolution upon the table.

Mr. Dromgoole called for the yeas and nays—and the motion was lost—yeas 44, nays 117.

Mr. Hunter of Va. offered a proviso that the leave granted should not be regarded as waiving any privilege on the part of a member, and that they should be exempt from attachment if summoned to attend.

Mr. Adams was desirous that the courts of law and the member of the House should not come in collision with each other. His own practice had always been to attend as a witness when summoned, and he never supposed that he violated any privilege by doing so. A new motion was made to lay upon the table and lost. The previous question was then seconded upon a substitute offered by Mr. Burt, of S. C., giving leave to George W. Hopkins of Va. To obey the summons of the Circuit Court. The resolution was adopted in this form.

The House insisted upon the amendments to the arrearage bill.

Several Executive communications were then received, one in relation to the slave trade, and one in answer to the
call as to the deserters of the army. The Adjutant General states that two men have been shot while deserting, and four drowned.

The communications were laid upon the table, and the House then went into Committee of the Whole, upon the bill in relation to Java coffee.

A motion was made to strike out the first section, which was lost by a vote of 59 to 55.

The second section was agreed to, when the committee rose and reported the bill to the House, which was ordered to be read a third time, and passed. After which the House adjourned.

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RE46v43i4p1c3, May 12, 1846: NOTICE SENT TO GREAT BRITAIN.

It is understood, says the Newark Advertiser, though not officially announced, that Mr. Buchanan, by direction of the President, sent despatches by the steamer which sailed from Boston on the 1st instant, addressed to Mr. McLane, in London, directing him to give Lord Aberdeen the year’s notice providing for the termination of the joint occupation of the Oregon territory. Mr. Buchanan, it is also said, has given official information of the fact to Mr. Packenham. The form in which the notice was sent, embraces, the understanding is, the preamble and resolution as it passed Congress.

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RE46v43i4p1c3, May 12, 1846: No title.

Some ultra Whigs, ever watchful for an occasion to condemn the acts of the Administration, have pounced upon the first unfavorable news from the army, to charge the President with neglect of duty, in not ordering to Texas a force sufficient for any contingency. He the President carried out their views, as now expressed, who doubts that these same Whigs, long ere this would have been loud in charging the President with a profligate waste of the public money, &c. But we make a short extract from Saturday night’s Union, which places this matter in its true light.

“'It should be understood that General Taylor has been for several months authorized to call for any auxiliary forces from Texas, Louisiana, and some other of the Southwestern States—in fact, for such reinforcements as he might deem it necessary for him to possess. But, like a gallant officer, believing his force adequate to meet any enemy which might present itself, and to overcome every danger, he omitted to exercise the authority with which he has been intrusted. His sense of security has overcome every other consideration; and he has not made his call in time to secure himself against all contingencies. There is no doubt entertained that this sense of security was increased by the communications from the Mexican General, from which he had a right to conclude that no hostilities would take place on this side of the river till the meeting of the new Congress.”[BWP]

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RE46v43i4p1c4, May 12, 1846: FROM THE ARMY! LATE AND IMPORTANT FROM RIO BRAVO!

General Taylor’s Camp Surrounded by the Mexicans—Capture of two Companies of Cavalry—Lieut. Cain and thirteen Men Killed!—The Enemy on American Soil!

From the Second Edition of the New Orleans Bulletin, of May 2d, we take the following highly important news from the Army of Occupation:

By the arrival at 5 o’clock, this morning, of the steamship Galveston, Capt. John T. Wright, we have been put in possession of the Extras of the Galveston News and the Civilian, of the 30th ult. The News says: "On Thursday morning, 23d, a Mexican came into Gen. Taylor’s camp and reported 2000 Mexicans crossing the river some 20 miles above. That afternoon Captains Hardee and Thornton were sent with two companies of cavalry, 63 men in all, to reconnoitre. On Friday morning, they fell into an ambush of the enemy, when Lieut. Cain and 13 men were killed, Capt. Thornton missing, and Capt. Hardee and 46 men prisoners. On Saturday afternoon the Mexicans sent in a wounded man, who made the above report. These Mexicans, it is stated, were commanded by Canales and Carabajal. After the fight, the Mexicans on this side of the river were largely reinforced and have surrounded General Taylor’s camp, cutting off all communication with Point Isabel, at which place is the train and all of the stores belonging to the army—Gen. Taylor not having over ten days’ provisions. There are at Point Isabel 90 artillery men, 20 dragoons, about two hundred and fifty teamsters, and about a hundred and fifty citizens and laborers; and the entrenchments not half finished.

The steamer Monmouth, landed Mr. Catlett on the night of the 28th, at Port Labaca, with despatches from Gen. Taylor, calling on Gov. Henderson for forty companies of riflemen, 60 men each, 20 of the companies to be mounted men, to rendezvous at Corpus Christi. When they will be mustered into service and supplied with provisions. The foot
companies will rendezvous at Galveston, where transportation will be furnished. The steamer *Augusta* was to have left the Brasos St. Iago on Monday night for New Orleans, with Gen. Taylor’s call on the Governor’s of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama, for 8000 troops. Should immediate relief not be sent to Point Isabel, it will most probably fall into the power of the enemy, with all the army stores, and the destruction of the whole army may follow.

Gen. Taylor’s works in front of Matamoras would be completed on the morning of the 28th, at which time it was expected the fire would be opened on the city. Troops should not await the call of the Governor, as it will be a week before it can reach this place, but hurry to the relief of Point Isabel, as by saving that place only will we have it in our power to render the army timely assistance. Texans! You have now at last a glorious opportunity of retaliating on these perfidious Mexicans the many injuries they have done you, and of carrying that war into the heart of their own country, the cruelties of which they have so often made you feel.

We are indebted for the above to Mr. Benjamin S. Grayson, who has just returned by the *Monmouth*. He informs us that Capt. Catlet left the army on Sunday night with a Mexican guide, and, passing down the river, reached Point Isabel on Monday morning, with Gen. Taylor’s despatches to the Governor of Texas. The *Monmouth* was unable to leave until Monday morning, in consequence of having to discharge, and take in provisions to be sent in to Corpus Christi for the volunteers as fast as they arrive. These were left at St. Joseph, whence the White Wing is now taking them to their destination.

The *Galveston* reports that on Friday, the first of May, she fell in with the schooner *Augusta*, from Brasos St. Iago, and took on board Colonel Doane, bearer of important despatches from General Taylor.

It will be seen by the following (says the *New Orleans Commercial Bulletin*, ) that our brave fellow-citizens of Texas are already mustering to the rescue. We do not know whether the Governor of Louisiana has been called on for volunteers, but with or without a requisition, we know there are thousands in our city ready and eager to avenge their countrymen and chastise the invader. We have no doubt, however, that requisitions have been sent to Gov. Johnson.

*From the Galveston Civilian—Extra*.

The steamer *Monmouth* arrived off the bar yesterday evening, and came into port this morning, with late and exciting accounts from the army.

A company of 60 dragoons, under Captain Thornton, have been taken by the Mexicans.—They were out a short distance from camp—saw a few Mexicans reconnoitering, pursued them, and shortly found themselves surrounded by 1,000, (as is reported, ) Mexican infantry, who fired upon them, they turned to retreat, but found themselves surrounded by cavalry, and within the range of four pieces of artillery. They saw the Captain leap the fence enclosing the Mexican camp, and think he escaped. This information was obtained at General Taylor’s camp by a wounded man sent in by the Mexicans, for the benefit of our hospital. There were 13 or 14 of Captain Taylor’s Company killed.

General Taylor’s camp is said to be surrounded by a vastly superior Mexican force, and cut off from his supplies at Point Isabel, where there are but 400 men, liable at any time to be taken. Arista is in command of the Mexican forces, which he assumed on the 22d. He says he wishes to carry on the war in the European and Christian style.

General Taylor has called upon the Governor of Texas for forty companies of volunteers; the infantry to leave Galveston by steam; mounted men to rendezvous at Corpus Christi. Gen. Taylor is said to have but ten days' rations in his present position, which is a strong one, and capable of being defended against a greatly superior force; but it is feared he will be cut off from his supplies unless reinforced.

These are all the main facts which are in our possession as yet.

Gen. Hunt will leave for the seat of war this evening, and land, and wishes to be joined by those who are ready.

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RE46v43i4p1c3, May 12, 1846: COIN IN TEXAS.

A correspondent of the *New York Journal of Commerce*, writing from Austin (Texas) on the 13th of April, says:

“The currency here is gold and silver, the people relishing nothing else. They count by ‘dimes,’ ‘half-dimes,’ ‘bit’ (one shilling,) and dollars.—If a stray bank note makes its appearance, it is examined closely; and 'tis not strange, for they have been badly . . . [illegible] . . . If a merchant is going East or North, he finds no trouble in purchasing a bill of exchange on New Orleans, at which place he can obtain drafts on any point. I am inclined to think that the provision of the constitution prohibiting banking, is well for this new country.—There are so many extremely smart men always on the *qui vive* for obtaining bank charters, that Texas might have suffered by their financiering; if she had not, she would have been luckier than most of the new States have been.”[BWP]
To the Editors of the Enquirer:

WASHINGTON CITY, Saturday night, 1 o’clock.

"The news produced a great sensation and some little alarm, at first. I saw Gen. * * * and Mr. * * * to night. They seem to think that there is no danger of the army’s being cut off. I hear that Gen. Worth, who had tendered his resignation, on hearing the news this evening, with a promptness and patriotism which do him great credit, asked that his resignation should be suspended. He will to-morrow or next day return to his post in Texas. A great many persons seem to be pleased that we shall now have an opportunity of bringing our affairs with Mexico to a speedy settlement; that we have shown forbearance long enough, &c."[BWP]

TO ARMS! TEXANS, TO ARMS!

"The U. States Army under Gen. Taylor, is surrounded by the Mexican enemy on American soil. Gen. Taylor has called on the Governor of Texas for 2,400 troops; let Galveston show the world that they are always ready for the defence of their country.

ORDERS
Head Quarters,
Galveston Volunteer Batallion,
30th April, 1846.

The commissioned and non-commissioned officers of the companies composing the Galveston Volunteer Battallion are requested to meet for consultation at 10 o’clock this morning, at the Galveston Artillery Armory, at Mr. Crawford’s store. The country needs our services! No time should be lost in immediately organizing the several corps of this battalion. The commandant of the battalion has the fullest confidence in the patriotism and zeal of the citizen soldiers of Galveston! He is sure they will not hesitate in this emergency! They have always desired an opportunity of showing their prowess to their Mexican enemies!

That opportunity has now arrived! It is expected the young men of Galveston will immediately rally as volunteers, nor wait for their services to be required by draft.

A rendezvous will be immediately opened for volunteers, to increase the ranks of each of the volunteer corps of the city, and also to organise and additional company of Infantry or Riflemen. A prompt attendance of the officers is expected at the time and place appointed. By order of C. G. BRYANT, Major Commanding Galveston Volunteer Battalion.

If 150 or 200 men, with the proper officers, can be raised by to-morrow morning, at 8 o’clock, they will be supplied with arms and accoutrements, and will take passage on board the steamer Monmouth, now bound for Point Isabel. N. KINGSBURY, Lieut. U. S. Army.

[From the New Orleans Bulletin, Extra, May 2].

The news in our second edition this morning, is regarded as of much importance.

Letters from authentic American sources in Matamoras state that the Mexican forces are at least 8,000 men, well equipped, with an excellent part of artillery.

The Governor of this State has issued his requisition for twenty-five hundred volunteers, and the soldiers are already in the Street, and making the most active preparations for departure. They will leave in the course of twenty-four hours.

The Legislature of this State with a patriotic promptitude, worthy of all praise, have already passed a bill appropriating 100,000 dollars for the service. The measure passed by acclamation.

[From the N.O. Picayune, Extra, May 2].

The Legislature has just passed, by acclamamation, a bill appropriating ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS to equip and forward Volunteers from this place to Point Isabel, or at whatever point they may be required.

The city is in great excitement. Guns are being fired from the Public Square, and drums and flags are paraded
through the street. Louisiana will do her duty in this crisis![BWP]

RE46v43i4p1c5, May 12, 1846: FURTHER EXTRACTS.

In addition to the foregoing, which was published on Saturday last in a second edition of the Enquirer, the New Orleans Picayune has received an extra from the office of the “News,” at Galveston, where the intelligence was received by the steamboat Monmouth, with Capt. Catlett on board, a bearer of despatches from Gen. Taylor to Gov. Henderson, of Texas, calling upon him for aid. We give the letter to the Galveston Committee in full, as it best shows the urgency of the call for reinforcements:

LETTER OF CAPT. CATLETT TO THE PEOPLE OF GALVESTON.
ON BOARD STEAMER MONMOUTH,
Off St. Joseph’s, April 28th, 1846.

Gentlemen: I am the bearer of a communication from Gen. Taylor to Gov. Henderson, requesting to be immediately reinforced by twenty companies of foot Riflemen. My destination is Victoria, and thence to Austin. I was instructed by the General to send an express from the former place by land to your city, with communications to Lieut. Kingsbury, and at the same time to spread the information through the country.—But it having been left discretionary with me, and the Monmouth being available, I have determined to send the communications by her, and also to write to you, in order to facilitate as much as possible the sending on of troops. Gen. Taylor is in a very precarious situation at his camp near Matamoras, and an attack is feared on the post at Point Isabel. I believe that a reinforcement of two hundred men would save that place. This is vastly important, as a large amount of commissariat and ordnance stores are deposited there, and, if that place should fall, Gen. Taylor will be left without resources of any kind.

I was instructed by Gen. Taylor to send out from Victoria expresses in such directions as I might deem most advisable, so as to have all the men possible on their march to his relief without awaiting the orders of the Governor. You will have it in your power to send to the Lower Brazos, Houston and Montgomery, sooner than an express can go from Victoria. I therefore leave that to you, knowing that it will be promptly attended to. I shall send to Matagorda, Texana, Richmond and San Felipe. If you have an opportunity, please send to Washington. Washington. I shall send there from La Grange.

The place of rendezvous for the foot companies is suggested by the General at Galveston; that of the mounted men at Corpus Christi; at which place there will be provisions and forage. No party less than 400 should think of going through on the direct road to Matamoras, as there is a large force of Mexicans on the Aroyo Colorado, for the purpose of cutting off reinforcements in that direction. Small parties can cross from Corpus Christi on to Padre’s Island. Arrangements are made for crossing from the lower point of the Island to Point Isabel.

If two hundred men could be raised even temporarily at Galveston, I am decidedly of opinion that it would be better to send them forth with by the Monmouth; the security of Point Isabel is of the last importance.

From the best information we could obtain, the force of the Mexicans is set down at seven thousand certain, and reports go as high as twelve thousand.

All communication is now cut off between the camp and Point Isabel, except by running the gauntlet. I came out in the night of the 27th with a guide, and was prowling all night through chaparral, swamps and lakes.

Capt. Baker will be able to give you all the particulars of what has happened, the situation of Point Isabel, &c., &c.

The old General is as cool as a cucumber, and has so strengthened his position, that I am of opinion nothing can move him but starvation. In haste, your obedient servant, W. G. CATLETT.

Messrs. Williams and others.

[BWP]

RE46v43i4p1c6, May 12, 1846: [Correspondence of the New Orleans Tropic.] ST. JOSEPH’S ISLAND, April 28th, 1846.

Mssr. Editors: By the arrival of the steamer Monmouth, this day, intelligence has been received at this place of the army of occupation being surrounded by 10,000 Mexican troops. The Mexican army passed the Rio Grande in the night. Capt. Thornton, 2d Dragoons, in attempting to cut his way out with his company, was killed. Also, two subalterns and 13 privates—the remainder taken prisoners. Gen. Taylor on this day, 28th, engages with the enemy. His whole force of fighting men will not number 3,000—his motto is, “conquer or die!” The U. S. troops are eager for the fray.

[BWP]
By the Augusta I sent you some of the items now transpiring around this interesting spot—The opinion is fast gaining ground here, that the inebriety of the Mexicans has been greatly overrated. This is the theatre of real war, not paper squabbles, but is the seat of the commencement of sanguinary conflict, and one it is feared of more importance and longer duration that has been anticipated; but the farce is at an end, and the curtain has risen midst blood and carnage, the opening of a drama almost unexpected, and our country already mourns the loss of some of her finest and bravest officers. On Thursday, the 23d, General Taylor received information that a body of the Mexican Army had crossed the Rio Grande some distance above the encampment.—Early the following morning, Captains Thornton and Hardee, of 2d Light Dragoons, with a Company of 70 men, were dispatched by Gen. Taylor to reconnoitre above, and Capt. Kerr, of the same regiment, with a Company to reconnoitre below the Encampment. The latter returned without having made any discovery. The former detachment fell in with what he considered to be a scouting party of the enemy, but which proved to be the advanced guard of a strong body of the enemy, who held a situation in the chapparel immediately in the rear of Gen. Taylor’s camp. Capt. Thornton charged upon the guard contrary to the advice of his Mexican guide, and on following the enemy Capt. Thornton found his command surrounded by the enemy, who fired on him, killing, as is supposed, Capt. Thornton, Lieuts. Kane and Mason, and some 26 of the men, and taking Capt. Hardee and the remainder of the command prisoners.

The Mexican commander sent in a cart to General Taylor’s camp with a soldier badly wounded, with a message that he had no travelling hospital with him and could not give him the assistance his situation required. There is no doubt the detachment of the enemy east of the Rio Grande consists fully of 2,500 men commanded by Colonels Carasco and Carrajabal, bold and intrepid officers of experience and ability; and were the whole army officered by such men as Carasco, as I know him personally, we should not be upon an unequal footing. There is no doubt their object is to cut off all communication with Point Isabel, this being the general depot of provisions for the American army; they have succeeded, and consequently placed the American army in a precarious situation. It will be utterly impossible for Gen. Taylor to force his way along the dreary chaparels in which the enemy are strongly posted. His command cannot exceed 2,300 men.

Gen. Taylor has an excellent position in the rear of Matamoras; and can hold his position against the whole Mexican army combined, and his batteries can raze the city in an hour. Most of the citizens have left Matamoras, and Gen’l Taylor has said, that when the regular soldiers of Mexico were seen on the East bank of the river, he would destroy the city. His batteries are to be ready on the 27th, complete. General Taylor has in camp full rations for 15 days, which he thinks can be made to last 30, by which time he is in hopes to receive large reinforcements from the States of Texas and Louisiana, upon each of which States he has made a requisition for the equipment and transmission to Point Isabel of four full regiments of militia.

It is thought by the superior officers of General Taylor’s army, that 20,000 men will be required within a very short period, as it is well known that the Mexican army is daily receiving large reinforcements from the interior. It was supposed by the American officers that General Arista reached Matamoras on the evening of the 22d, with a large Brigade, but up to the period of my informant leaving the camp, no communication had been received by General Taylor from General Arista. On the 22d, General Taylor received from General Ampudia, by the means of a flag of truce, a communication in very offensive terms, complaining of having blockaded the Rio Grade. To which he replied, that he General Ampudia, had been the cause of the blockade, he having expressly declared that, unless General Taylor commenced his retreat beyond the Neuces, within twenty-four hours after his displaying his flag upon the banks of the Rio Grande, he would consider War as being declared, and should act accordingly. General Taylor furthermore stated that he would receive no further communication from the Mexican Government, unless couched in language more respectful towards the Government and people of the United States. At Point Isabel, great fears were entertained of a night attack, which, from the exposed situation of that Point, could not be otherwise than successful, if conducted with energy.

The post is defended by Major Monroe, with a detachment of 80 artilleries. There are also at the post about 200 armed waggoneers, and 50 laborers under the orders of the Quarter Masters; some 100 citizens, furnished with arms by the United States Ordnance officer, organized under the command of Capt. Perkins, and denominated the Sumpter Guards. A company of 50 Mexican cavalry was seen on the night of the 26th, within five miles of Point Isabel., They were supposed to be a corps of observation. The body of Col. Cross was found on the 21st ult. About three miles from camp, frightfully mutilated and entirely divested of clothing.

The body of Lieut. Porter, who was killed by a party of banditti, under the command of Romero Flacon, had not been found. The principal officers, known to be in command of the Mexican forces, are Generals Arista, Ampudia, Mejia, and Canales; and Colonels Carasco and Carrajabal are men of talent. I am indebted for the above information to the politeness of Col. Doane, who is on his way to New Orleans in the Augusta.

P. S. A Messenger has just arrived, after severe toil and much danger, owing to the proximity of the troops and the state of the prairie. From him I learn, that Arista communicated politely to Gen. Taylor, that he had assumed command of the Mexican Army.

[BWP]
This distinguished officer passed through Richmond on his way to Texas on yesterday afternoon, to resume his command. On hearing of the probability, if not certainty, of a war with Mexico, he asked that his resignation should be returned to him.

The Fayette Artillery, Captain Thomas H. Ellis, were on parade yesterday, and on hearing of the arrival of General Worth, immediately repaired to the Petersburg Depot, and fired a salute in his honor, as the cars moved off for the South.

We understand that he says there is no doubt but that President Polk sent in a strong War Message to the two Houses of Congress on yesterday, and that the services of at least twenty thousand Volunteers will be required.

There never was a more righteous war than this which the United States now find themselves obliged to wage against Mexico, nor ever one into which a powerful country was so literally forced as this country has been into this. It ought, therefore, to engage the hearts of the entire people, to be prosecuted with a vigor and spirit corresponding with the forbearance and unwillingness to engage in it that have hitherto been manifested. It can be no difficult matter to invest the entire western coast, and that we take it will of course be done. The ports on the Gulf, all except Vera Cruz, will fall an easy prey. That strong hold, however, is very important, and if a sufficient force can be concentrated before the summer months set in, it ought to be reduced. If not, the remainder may be taken and a strict blockade maintained at Vera Cruz till the approach of winter. As for land attacks and invasions, the northern departments are already ripe for revolt, and far more attached to the American States than to Mexico, which they only know through its exactions and oppressions; these departments would no doubt hail an American invasion, as not intended to devastate but to liberate. Yucatan would of course eagerly seek the opportunity to confirm her independence, and no doubt give all the aid possible to the United States. The central departments would probably be more difficult. Their entire submission, however, dictated from the capital of the country, is the least that ought to be listened to.

That the war, if prosecuted with the least spirit, will lay the foundation for, if it do not immediately produce, the entire overthrow of Mexico, and its incorporation into the Federal Union, hardly admits of question. For that reason, therefore, if for no other the least possible violence ought to mark the progress of the army; and the people be conciliated rather than exasperated, wherever they do not make any hostile manifestation. [New Orleans Bulletin.]

A Company of Volunteers, numbering fully one hundred, left here last evening on the steamboat Fashion, for New Orleans, whence they will proceed with all possible despatch to the American Army on the Rio Grande. Before leaving, the Company elected Gen. Robert Desha Captain, and Capt. Thos. Adrian Lieutenant. Gen. Desha, immediately took charge of the Company and departed with it last evening. He is a gentleman of great energy, of undoubted bravery and has "seen service." A better man could not have been selected to take command of the Mobile Volunteers.

For an hour before their departure last evening, the wharves in the vicinity were lined with spectators, and as the boat shoved off the air resounded with the shouts and cheers “three times three, ” of the assembled thousands, in honor of the gallant and patriotic Volunteers who so nobly and promptly responded to their country’s call. May the God of battles protect them! [Mobile Daily Advertiser, May 5.]

The following American vessels of war, and perhaps others which we do not now recollect, are at present in the Gulf, and , we may suppose, are in communication with Gen. Taylor, and will proceed to blockade the entire Gulf coast, on learning that the Mexicans have commences hostilities, viz: the flag ship Cumberland, Com. Connor, the Potomac, Raritan, John Adams, St. Mary’s, Lawrence, steamer Mississippi, and schooner Flirt.—There is also quite a strong naval force on the Western coast of Mexico; quite sufficient, we think, with the aid of American settlers in California, to take possession of that entire line—very probably too, with the free consent of its inhabitants. We trust our vessels in the Gulf did not allow the Mexican steamers of war, recently pretended to have been sold to a mercantile house in Havana, to leave the ports of Mexico. There is scarce a doubt that the sale was a ruse, intended to get the vessels out of port without opposition, in order to fit them for privateers. [New Orleans Bulletin.]
RE46v43i4p2c3, May 12, 1846: For the Enquirer.

The news last received from the Rio Grande is such as leaves great scope for speculation.—The ablest Mexican Generals are in the field. The little Texan Republic, it seems, has only angered this huge Spanish bull—we have infuriated him. By the union of Texas with the United States, he lost forever a portion of territory which he claimed, (though unjustly;) and now he is fighting to sustain himself. How his sides swell, and his mouth, how it foams! He is noble in his madness, and it is a great pity his means are not equal to his valor. He may loss about as much as he chooses, for that is all he can do; and, to my thinking, it gives him a little fatigue, and us no great alarm. Poor fellow, he will not see the ground presently for his blood; but not until he shall have gored some one. The overthrow of Capts. Thornton and Hardee's companies is deplorable in one sense, which will presently be shown. I think Point Isabel is already taken.—I think the enemy have attacked Gen. Taylor. If they have not done so, Mexican ingenuity is not a forerunner of Mexican foresight and ability. If the first blow be not followed by a last and general one, the Mexican war will be of short duration. It is their policy to drive Gen. Taylor's forces to destruction, and that is what they may do. If they do it, the war is only begun. With an advantage to the skill of Mexican generalship and the arms of their forces, there will come out of this affair more than is looked for. If we play with Mexico, England will fight with us—and thereby lose more lives and more glory than if we were to crush her at once.

No man cares much about defeats and victories who is far removed from them; nor even much about a war that is about to break out just under his nose. He only cares when he sees it begin, and begins with it. If there shall be found cause of mourning in the conflict of the two armies on the Rio Grande, we will be the first to find it. But the poor Mexicans, as they will be the first to find cause of rejoicing, so will they be first to lament the haste and imprudence of their proceedings. How can they expect to govern others who cannot govern themselves? Or how expect to show the treachery of others, when they are so treacherous themselves? I will await the issue of this conflict, satisfied that the valor of our arms will achieve a great and decisive triumph. But those of our army who are already in the field, I am afraid will never more return to their homes. They must fall, or I have little confidence in the foresight of the ablest of the Mexican generals. I hope all will yet be well; but I fear a few days will tell us an unwelcome tale. JONATHAN FORESIGHT.

RE46v43i4p2c5, May 12, 1846: No title.

No later information has been received from the army on the Rio Bravo than was published in our second edition of Saturday morning. We have seen, however, a number of private letters, which give a clearer insight into the state of affairs. From the best information we can get, we do not anticipate any serious disaster to the main body of the American army. The camp of Gen. Taylor is so well situated and entrenched that letters from himself and other officers of the army evince no apprehensions whatever. We infer that it is entirely impregnable except to an assault by greatly superior numbers. We do not remember any instance in which the Mexican soldiery have attempted to carry a stronghold by a coup de main; and, although we are far from placing the low estimate that is usually put on the character of the Mexican forces—we do not believe they have the degree of discipline, courage or resolution required to storm a breastwork in the face of a heavy cannonade. We doubt not therefore that Gen. Taylor will be able to keep his encampment, at least, if he do not find it expedient to match our and attack the enemy.

Every, however, that reinforcements are delayed serves to render the position of American troops more precarious; and, moreover, the occupation of our territory, and especially the besieging of our army on our own soil, are highly disgraceful, even should no branch of the service meet with a serious disaster. [New Orleans Bulletin, May 4.]

RE46v43i4p2c5, May 12, 1846: Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun. WASHINGTON, Sunday, 5, P.M.

Since the arrival of the mail last evening, fearful apprehensions have been entertained in every circle, that our brave little army on the banks of the Rio Grande have suffered loss from its sanguinary foe.

The President and Cabinet are at their posts; and the Clerks of the Navy and War Office have been busy during this whole Sabbath in preparing despatches for the Seat of War.

In the Capitol, the Committees on Military and Naval Affairs have been closely engaged all day. I learn that the
On to-morrow, President Polk will transmit a message to Congress, recommending certain measures, which will doubtless, he promptly responded to by both branches of Congress. Immediately on receipt of the news last evening, General Worth called on the Secretary of War, and inquired whether any action had been taken on his resignation? He was replied to in the negative, as he then withdrew it, and volunteered to return to the camp. He will leave here to-morrow morning. The mail is not yet in. The excitement increases as the moment of arrival approaches. Democrats and Whigs, Natives, and adopted citizens, are now all one family.

The officers of the Government.

This city is intensely excited by the recent news from the Rio Grande, and the general impression is, the President will send to Congress to-morrow an earnest recommendation to exert, promptly, the whole energies of the Government, to repel the insolent attacks of the Mexicans, and to avenge the blood of our citizens, which has been shed upon our own soil. As war does actually and avowedly exist no formal declaration may be recommended;
although the raising of a large . . . [illegible] . . . and the appropriation of the most ample means will probably be urged.

Mexico has declared the war—it will be for us to say, as Gen. Worth said to Gen. Viegas, when peace shall be made. Not only Matamoras, but Vera Cruz, Pampico and the City of Mexico, will feel the force of our avenging arm, and before peace will be restored, indemnity will be required for past offences, as well as for all the expenses of the war. Some members of Congress have expressed the expectation that a bill will be passed at once, for raising 25 or 50,000 volunteers for 12 months, if their services shall be required for long. But I will not attempt to anticipate the result of the important deliberations of to-morrow.

We were rejoiced to find, by the enclosed letter that the gallant Capt. Thornton and Lieut. . . . [illegible] . . . have, in all probability, escaped the doom of the lamented Cross, Porter and Kane, and the other brave men who have fallen with them in their country's service. This, you will see, is the very latest intelligence.

Gen. Worth returns to-morrow to the Camp, which he expects to reach in eleven days. The moment he heard last evening of the disasters that had occurred, he addressed a letter to the Government, requesting leave to withdraw his resignation, and to be restored forthwith to his recent command. The same delicate sense of honor which prompted him to tender the resignation of his commission, which he valued more than his life and less only than his . . . [illegible] . . ., induced him to tender his services to Gen. Taylor, in any and every shape or form that might be desired. Gen. T. wrote him that there was not the remotest probability of a conflict with the Mexicans, and that he need not remain a moment on that account. In the confidence of the truth of this opinion he came on here, but upon the instant of hearing that hostilities had commenced, he withdrew his resignation, and waives all consideration in regard to himself, till the question between his country and her enemies shall be settled. This spontaneous, prompt and voluntary act harmonizes with the chivalry of his character, and all are delighted who have heard of it. No man in the army possesses more of the confidence of the country. I have heard several anecdotes about him, that show an enthusiasm and ardor of temperament, which, combined with his known intelligence and heroism make him the man for the crisis. When that part of the letter I now send you, relating to Captain Thornton's cutting his way through the enemy with his own hand, was read to him, he exclaimed, "That was my sword—I knew it would never disgrace its country in that noble fellow, Thornton's, hand. As I left the camp, he asked me for it. I buckled it on him, and nobly and gallantly has he used it"—his manner, much more than his language, indicating the generous warmth of his feelings.

I have also been much interested in another incident in his history. As his brigade approached the Colorado of the West, he was warned by the Mexicans not to cross—that they would regard the attempt as a declaration of war, and fire upon them instantly. He replied, he had been ordered to take a position on the Rio Grande, and should do so, regardless of consequences. Many of the Mexicans lined the Western banks, and a larger body was represented to be in the rear. Gen. W., in speaking of it to a friend of mine, said, "I never saw a brigade display a finer spirit; yet I knew but few of them had ever been in action, and that the bravest were often appalled when first going into battle; I knew the importance of avoiding the slightest disaster, and that it would have a good effect for an officer of rank to set the example. I bad the men to follow me, and took to the water. The brave fellows followed in perfect order, with their cartridge-boxes tied to their heads, and their muskets raised above. The best troops of Europe could not have acted better. But as we took to the water, the Mexicans took to their heels." "Yes," as his Aid subsequently repeated the story in his absence, "he directed us to carry orders to a remote point of the brigade, and then, on his fine charger, plunged into the water—we soon saw his object was to send us out of danger, while he placed himself in front of it, and of course we soon returned to him."

I confess this little incident has added much in my eyes to the beauty of this gallant officer's character, and unless I am much mistaken, you will not reproach me for this detail, imperfectly and tediously given as it is. I got most of it from his interesting Aid, who will pardon me, I trust, for sending it to you. In great haste, W. F. R.
Thornton was sent out with a squadron of Dragoons four days since. Observing a party of Mexicans, he ordered the charge, when, to his astonishment, he found that it was a trap laid for him, and he was actually surrounded by about two thousand men. Thornton, nevertheless, cut his way through them with his own hand.—Lieutenant Mason and himself were the only two who passed through the ranks of the enemy. Captain Hardee, with forty men, were captured. Lieutenant Kane was killed in the charge. None have yet returned to Camp, save one wounded man, sent in by the Mexicans.—Thus, you see, the ball has opened at last.—Gen. Taylor despatched a messenger to this place last night. The steamer Monmouth will leave this place in half an hour with a requisition for ten thousand volunteers. Three thousand Mexicans are on this side of the river. Their object is no doubt to cut off the supplies from General Taylor’s Camp. Lieut. Montgomery informs me that there is but ten days’ provisions with the army. If so, I am afraid that they will be compelled to fight very hard for their “grub.”.

I sincerely hope that Gen. Worth’s friends have persuaded him to withdraw his resignation. We cannot lose him in our present situation—particularly so, when I tell you that, out of seven regiments, there are not six field officers with the army, army. Write me, my dear_____, and let me know what Gen. W. has done. I write you in haste, as the Monmouth is now firing up.—With my kindest regards to the General, whom I hope I shall have the pleasure of seeing soon among us. I remain, very truly, &c.

RE46v43i4p4c2, May 12, 1846: LATER FROM THE ARMY.

Colonel Cross Murdered—His Body Found.

The brig Apalachicola, Capt. Smith, which arrived at New Orleans on the 1st May, from Brazos Bay, whence she sailed on the 24th ult., reports that on the 22d she left Point Isabel, where Major Thomas, the acting Quarter Master, informed Capt. Smith that the body of Col. Cross had been found about four miles from Gen. Taylor’s camp on the Rio Grande. From the wounds upon the body it seems evident that he was killed by a lance. It was further reported that a person in Matamoras had acknowledged that he was the murdered, and had the watch and clothing of Col. Cross in his possession; and, also, that Gen. Taylor had made a formal demand for the murderer.

All open communications were permitted to pass by the commandant at Point Isabel between that post and Matamoras. The Mexican schooner Juanita, from New Orleans for Matamoras, was taken into Brazos Bay on the 22d ult. by the pilots—no doubt by permission of the blockading force.

We have the Galveston papers to the 29th, from which the following extracts are gleaned:

The Legislature will probably adjourn on the 5th proximo.

R. D. Johnson, Esq., has received the appointment of Postmaster, at Galveston, from the United States Government.

Daniel J. Toler, Esq., has been appointed special Agent of the Post Office Department in Texas.

Col. James Love, of Galveston, has been nominated and confirmed, as Judge of the District, including that city.

The Brazoria Planter of the 17th April, informs us that the Brazos has risen to within six feet of the top of the bank, but adds that it was then beginning to fall rapidly.

Verbal accounts state that the country has been nearly impassable in consequence of a long and quick succession of rains, which have extended from the Sabine to the Rio Grande. So much cloudy and wet weather has probably never been known in Texas, as has prevailed during the last six months.

The following is an extract of a letter, dated, Galveston, 27th April:

"The schooner Luda, Capt. Hunt, is supposed to be lost, with all on board; and the sloop Orange Branch, it is feared, is gone also; but this is not so certain. There are two other vessels wrecked, supposed to be from N. Orleans. Parts of vessels and bodies, have been picked up along the shore, from St. Joseph’’ island to the Brasos Santiago. It is feared that there has been great loss of life and property.

RE46v43i4p4c2, May 12, 1846: From the New Orleans Picayune, May 1st. STILL LATER.

The schr. Cornelia, Capt. Stark, arrived last evening from Brazos Santiago, whence she sailed on the evening of the 24th ult. She reports that about three hours before she sailed an express arrived from Gen. Taylor, stating that the commander of the Mexican forces had made a formal declaration to General Taylor that if he did not move his army
from the position he then occupied within thirty-six hours, the Mexican batteries would be opened upon them.

The same express also stated, that at that time a body of 2,000 Mexicans had crossed the Rio Grande near Boretta—a small town about eight miles below Matamoras, on the West bank of the river—and taken up a position between Point Isabel and General Taylor’s camp. The design of this movement is evidently to cut off the American troops from their supplies. A private letter was also received last evening from an officer in General Taylor’s camp, confirming in part the above report of the Mexicans having crossed the river, but stating the number at 1,000 only. There had previously been so many rumors to the same effect in the camp, that little reliance was placed upon this one, which was first communicated by a Mexican, who was prudently detained by order of Gen. Taylor.

The accounts by the Cornelia confirms the melancholy news given above as to the fate of Col. Cross. He was found entirely stripped and wounded as before stated.

We have a letter from an officer in the camp, dated the 21st ult., the postscript to which states, what we had not doubt of that the Americans “had not retired one foot from the bank of the river, nor does the General mean to do anything that can look like it” “Our flag waves over the waters of the Rio Grande, and we have a fixed battery of 18 pounders, that can ‘spot’ anything in Matamoras.”

While upon the subject of the army, we may state that the steamer Col. Harney, which left here on Wednesday for Brazos Santiago, took with her a battery of ten long twelve pounders, and a quantity of munitions of war, and that she was to take in more at Galveston for the same destination. The New York, which sailed yesterday for the same point, had a detachment of 180 men on board for the army, under the command of Lieut. McPhail. Four companies of infantry are expected here in two or three days, who will be despatched immediately for the same destination.

The steamer Gen. Worth, twelve hours later from Brazos Santiago, and bringing, it is said, one day’s later intelligence from Gen. Taylor’s camp was in the river late last night, eight or ten miles below the city, waiting for a tow. It is said a bearer of despatches from Gen. Taylor was on board. Colonel Hunt immediately despatched a boat to bring her up. Mr. Marks, attached to the American Consulate at Matamoras, is on board the Gen. Worth. There was a rumor brought by one of the schooners last night, that our Consul at Matamoras, apprehending imprisonment from the Mexicans, had left his post and repaired to Gen. Taylor’s camp.

[BP]
It was stated through an interpreter—Mr. Mitchell—that a general officer of the U. S. Army had been sent by his commanding general, with despatches, to the commanding general at Matamoras, and to the civil authorities; and that an interview was requested.

After some conversation explanatory of the above, the Mexican party recrossed the river, to report in the commanding general at Matamoras, and return with his reply. An open note for the American forces wished a conference with the commanding general of the Mexican forces, it would readily be acceded to; but as a junior to the commanding general, on the part of the American troops, had requested a conference, General Mejia could not entertain such a proposition; but that an officer of corresponding rank and position, in the Mexican forces, would be ready to receive any communication sent by Gen. Taylor.

It was perceived that the relation of the parties was misapprehended, they supposing that a conference was requested; this was corrected immediately, and it was reiterated that Gen. Worth was merely the bearer of despatches, with authority to relate verbally certain matters of interest to the commanding general at Matamoras.

The proposition of Gen. Mejia was then acceded to, with the remark that this was a mere question of form, which should not be permitted to interfere with any arrangements necessary to the continuance of the friendly relations now existing between the two governments.

The Mexican party recrossed to the right bank, and after a short absence returned, stating that Gen. Romulo Vega would receive Gen. Worth on the right bank of the river—their own selection—for the reception of any communication which Gen. Worth might have to make from the commanding general.

Gen. Worth then crossed the river; accompanied by Lieut. Smith, aid-de-camp; Lieuts. Magruder, Deas and Blake, attached to his staff, together with Lieut. Knowlton as interpreter. On arriving at the right bank of the river, Gen. Worth was received by Gen. Vega with becoming courtesy and respect, and introduced to the "authorities of Matamoras," represented in the person of the Licenciado Casares. On he Mexican part were present, Gen. Vega, the Licenciado Casares, two officers represented as cavalry officers, and interpreter, with a person names Juan N. Garza, Official de Defensores.

After the usual courtesies on meeting, it was stated by Gen. Worth that he was the bearer of despatches from the commanding general of the American forces to Gen. Mejia, and to the civil authorities of Matamoras. A written and unsealed document was produced, and Gen. Vega desiring to know its contents, it was carefully read, and translated into French by Lieut. Knowlton, and afterwards translated into Spanish by the Mexican interpreter. Gen. Vega then stated, that he had been directed to receive such communications as Gen. Worth might present from his commanding general; going on to say, that the march of the U. S. troops into a part of the Mexican territory, Tamaulipas, was considered as an act of war.

Gen. Worth.—"I am well aware that some of the Mexican people consider it an aggressive act, gut [interrupted by the Mexican interpreter, and after a slight discussion of the international question on the part of Gen. Vega] Gen. Worth repeated the above remark, adding that it was not so considered by his Government; that the army had been orderethere by his Government, and there it would remain; whether rightfully or other wise, that was a question to be settled between the two Governments. Gen. Vega, still disposed to argue the merits of the case, was told by Gen. Worth, that "he came to state facts, not to argue them."

Gen. Worth then stated that he had been sent with despatches from his commanding general to Gen. Mejia; that Gen. Mejia had refused to receive it from him personally, adding, with emphasis and some degree of warmth—"I now state that I withdraw this dispatch, having read it merely as an act of courtesy to Gen. Vega; that, in addition to the written despatch to Gen. Mejia, I am authorized to express verbally the sentiments with which the commanding general proposed to carry out the instructions of his Government, in which he hoped to preserve the peaceable relations between the two Governments, leaving all questions between the two countries to be settled between the two Governments; and if hereafter Gen. Mejia wished to communicate with Gen. Taylor, he must propose the means—assuring Gen. Vega that, should Gen. Mejia present himself or send his communications by a subaltern officer, in either case, he would be received with proper courtesy and respect. The question of right of territory was again opened by Gen. Vega, who asked how the United States’ Government would view the matter should the Mexican troops march into or occupy a portion of the territory of the United States. Gen. Worth replied, that Gen. Vega might probably be familiar with the old proverb, "sufficient for the day is the evil thereof." And that "it would be time enough to consider such matters when the act was perpetrated.”.

This proverb did not appear to have been translated by the Mexican interpreter, but was received by General Vega with a smile and slight shrug.

Gen. Worth.—"Is the American Consul in arrest or in prison?".

Gen. Vega.—"No.”.

Gen. Worth.—"Is he now in the exercise of his proper functions?".
Gen. Vega, after apparently consulting with the Licenciado Casares for a moment, replied that he was.

*Gen. Worth.*—"Then, as an American officer, in the name of my Government and my commanding general, I demand an interview with the Consul of my country."

No Reply.

*Gen. Worth.*—Has Mexico declared war against the United States?"

*Gen. Vega.*—"No.".

*Gen. Worth.*—"Are the two countries still at peace?".

*Gen. Vega.*—"Yes.".

*General Worth.*—"Then I again demand an interview with the Consul of my Government in Matamoras—in presence, of course, of these gentlemen, or any other that the Commanding General in Matamoras may be pleased to designate."

General Vega reiterated that he was in the proper exercise of his functions—that he was not in arrest, nor were any Americans in Matamoras in arrest; that he would submit the demand to General Mejia, adding that he thought there would be great difficulty. This demand was repeatedly made, in the most emphatic manner, and a reply requested. General Vega stating that the Consul continued in the exercise of his functions, and that the demand would be submitted to General Mejia.

Here the interview was suspended, while the Licenciado left the party, to submit, as we understood, the demand for an interview with the Consul to General Mejia. While engaged in friendly intercourse, General Worth stated to General Vega, in an informal manner, as an evidence of the good faith, intentions and dispositions of his Commanding General, that he was well aware of the importance of Brazos Santiago to the commerce and business community of Matamorast—that he would respect their laws and customs, and freely grant entrance and exit to all Mexican and other vessels trading with Matamoras on the same terms as before its occupation by the United States, leaving all questions arising therefrom to be settled hereafter by the two Governments. At the expiration of about a quarter of an hour, the Licenciado returned, and reported that General Mejia would not accede to the request for an interview on the part of General Worth, saying nothing, however, relative to the question of the Consul.

Gen. Vega was then again informed that the despatches intended to be delivered to Gen. Mejia by Gen. Worth in person would be returned by him (Gen. W.) to his commanding General, considering any other disposition of them as disrespectful to him, repeating that they had been read to Gen. Vega in courtesy to him, and that Gen. Mejias must take his own means of communicating with Gen. Taylor; that whether Gen. Mejia sent a superior or subaltern officer to Gen. Taylor, at all times accessible, he would be received with becoming courtesy and hospitality, presenting at the same time a written and sealed document for the civil authorities of Matamoras, which was received by Gen. Vega and immediately transferred to the Licenciado Casares.

*Gen. Vega.*—"Is it the intention of Gen. Taylor to remain on the left bank of the Rio Grande?"

*Gen. Worth.*—"Most assuredly; and there to remain until directed otherwise by his Government."

Gen. Vega remarked that "we felt indignation at seeing the American flag placed on the Rio Grande, a portion of the Mexican territory.—Gen. Worth replied, "that was a matter of taste; notwithstanding, that, there it would remain."—The army had been ordered to occupy its present position by its Government; it came in a peaceful rather than belligerent attitude, with a determination to respect the rights and customs of those on the right bank of the Rio Grande, while it offers protection to all on the left bank within their own territory.

No reply having been received from Gen. Vega relative to the demand for an interview with the American consul, the question was again introduced by Gen. Worth, and the demand for the last time reiterated.

Gen. Vega promptly refused to accede to the demand, replying, without waiting for the interpretation, "No, no."

*Gen. Worth.*—"I have now to state, that the refusal of my demand to see the American consul is regarded as a belligerent act; and in conclusion I have to add, that the commanding general of the American forces on the left bank of the river will regard the passage of any armed party of Mexicans, in hostile array, across the Rio Grande, as an act of war, and pursue it according."

The interview here terminated, and General Worth and staff returned to the left bank of the river.

The above contains the substance of the interview between Generals Worth and Vega, and, as far as possible, the exact words and expressions used on the occasion. Lieutenants Knowlton and Magruder, of the 1st Artillery, Lieut. Deas, of the 4th Artillery, Lieut. Blake, of the Topographical Engineers, and Lieut. Smith, of the 8th infantry, were present at the interview.
The establishment of the seat of Government here, has completely "resurrected" the place.—Last year at this time the only denizens of the houses were hogs and fleas—now every one is filled, and they are even building more. So far as regards news, I have not a word to give, other than what you will find in the papers. I have been told, since my arrival here, that the public debt of Texas, which does not amount to more than $8,000,000, will be repudiated—one person tells me that they will not give even a league of land to cancel it.

We are off this afternoon for the scene of the treaty which Governor Butler is endeavoring to form with the Indians of Texas, and are told that the buffalo are to be found in immense herds between here and that place. G. W. K.

The following intelligence from the Army of Occupation, though not so late as the above, contains considerable of interest at the present time:

"On the morning of the 10th ult., when Gen. Taylor found himself exposed to the enemy’s fire, with his right and left unprotected in consequence of the peculiar bends of the river, he ordered one division of his army to take position in the bend above and the bend below the town, while with the main army he maintained his first position, where he still remains. Gen. Taylor has used all diligence to strengthen his position by throwing up breastworks, by intrenchments, fortifications, &c, and the Mexican General, Ampudia, has been equally industrious in fortifying, the town, defensively keeping his soldiers employed night and day.

"Gen. Taylor’s heavy ordnance of eighteen pounders are said to be situated within point blank shot of Gen. Ampudia’s house in the middle of the city, at a distance of 300 yards. Thus the two armies have been situated for upwards of two weeks up to our present dates, neither having committed any positive act of hostility upon the other." [BWP]

RE46v43i5p1c1, May 15, 1846: President’s Message.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

The existing state of the relations between the United States and Mexico, renders it proper that I should bring the subject to the consideration of Congress. In my message at the commencement of your present session, the state of these relations, the causes which led to the suspension of diplomatic intercourse between the two countries in March, 1815, and the long continued and unredressed wrongs and injuries committed by the Mexican Government on citizens of the United States in their persons and property, were briefly set forth.

As the facts and opinions which were then laid before you were carefully considered, I cannot better express my present convictions of the condition of affairs up to that time, than by referring you to that communication.

The strong desire to establish peace with Mexico on liberal and honorable terms, and the readiness of this government to regulate and adjust our boundary, and other causes of difference with that power on such fair and equitable principles as would lead to permanent relations of the most friendly nature, induced me in September last to seek the re-opening of diplomatic relations between the two countries. Every measure adopted on our part had for its object the furtherance of these desired results. In communicating to Congress a succinct statement of the injuries which we had suffered from Mexico, and which have been accumulating during a period of more than twenty years, every expression that could tend to inflame the people of Mexico, or defeat or delay a pacific result, was carefully avoided. An envoy of the United States repaired to Mexico with full powers to adjust every existing difference. But though present on the Mexican soil, by agreement between the two governments, invested with full powers, and bearing evidence of the most friendly dispositions, his mission has been unavailing. The Mexican government not only refused to receive him, or listen to his propositions, but, after a long continued series of menaces, have at last invaded our territory, and shed the blood of our fellow-citizens on our own soil.

It now becomes my duty to state more in detail the origin, progress, and failure of that mission. In pursuance of the instructions given in September last, an inquiry was made, on the 13th of October, in 1845, in the most friendly terms, through our consul in Mexico, of the minister of foreign affairs, whether the Mexican government "would receive an envoy from the United States intrusted with full powers to adjust all the questions in dispute between the two governments;" with the assurance that "should the answer be in the affirmative, such an envoy would be immediately despatched to Mexico." The Mexican minister, on the 16th of October, gave an affirmative answer to this inquiry, requesting, at the same time, that our naval force at Vera Cruz might be withdrawn, lest its continued presence might assume the appearance of menace and coertion pending the negotiations. This force was immediately withdrawn. On the 10th of November, 1845, Mt. John Slidell, of Louisiana, was commissioned by me as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States to Mexico, and was intrusted with full powers to adjust both the questions of the Texas boundary and of indemnification to our citizens. The redress of the wrongs of our citizens naturally and inseparably blended itself with the question of boundary. The settlement of the one question in any correct view of the subject involves that of the other. I could not, for a moment, entertain the idea...
that the claims of our much injured and long suffering citizens, many of which had existed for more than twenty years, should be postponed, or separated from the settlement of the boundary question.

Mr. Slidell arrived at Vera Cruz on the 30th of November, and was courteously received by the authorities of that city. But the Government of Gen. Herrera was then tottering to its fall. The revolutionary party had seized upon the Texas question to effect or hasten its overthrow. Its determination to restore friendly relations with the United States, and to receive our minister, to negotiate for the settlement of this question, was violently assailed, and was made the great theme of denunciation against it. The Government of General Herrera, there is good reason to believe, was sincerely desirous to receive our minister, but it yielded to the storm raised by its enemies, and on the 21st of December refused to accredit Mr. Slidell upon the most frivolous pretexts. These are so fully and ably exposed in the note of Mr. Slidell of the 24th of December last to the Mexican minister of foreign relations, herewith transmitted, that I deem it unnecessary to enter into farther detail on this portion of the subject.

Five days after the date of Mr. Slidell’s note, Gen. Herrera yielded the Government to General Paredes without a struggle, and on the 30th of December resigned the Presidency. This revolution was accomplished solely by the army, the people having taken little part in the contest; and thus the supreme power in Mexico passed into the hands of a military leader.

Determined to leave no effort untired to effect an amicable adjustment with Mexico, I directed Mr. Slidell to present his credentials to the government of Gen. Paredes, and ask to be officially received by him. There would have been less ground for taking this step had Gen. Paredes come into power by a regular constitutional succession. In that event his administration would have been considered but a mete constitutional continuance of the government of Gen. Herrera, and the refusal of the latter to receive our minister would have been deemed conclusive, unless an intimation had been given by Gen. Paredes of his desire to reverse the decision of his predecessor.

But the government of General Paredes owes its existence to a military revolution, by which the subsisting constitutional authorities had been subverted. The form of government was entirely changed, as well as all the high functionaries by whom it was administered.

Under these circumstances, Mr. Slidell, in obedience to my direction, addressed a note to the Mexican minister of foreign relations, under date of the 1st of March last, asking to be received by that government in the diplomatic character to which he had been pointed. This minister, in his reply, under date of the 12th of March, reiterated the arguments of his predecessor, and in terms that may be considered as giving just grounds of offence to the government and people of the United States, denied the application of Mr. Slidell. Nothing, therefore, remained for our envoy but to demand his passports, and return to his own country.

Thus the Government of Mexico, though solemnly pledged by official acts in October last to receive and accredit an American envoy, violated their plighted faith, and refused the offer of a peaceful adjustment of our difficulties. Not only was the offer rejected, but the indignity of its rejection was enhanced by the manifest breach of faith in refusing to admit the envoy, who came because they had bound themselves to receive him. Nor can it be said that the offer was fruitless from the want of opportunity of discussing it: our envoy was present on their own soil. Nor can it be ascribed to a want of sufficient power: our envoy had full powers to adjust every question of difference. Nor was there room for complaint that our propositions for settlement were unreasonable: permission was not even given our envoy to make any proposition whatever.—Nor can it be objected that we, on our part, would not listen to any reasonable terms of their suggestion: the Mexican Government refused all negotiation, and have made no proposition of any kind.

In my message at the commencement of the present session, I informed you that upon the earnest appeal both of the Congress and convention of Texas, I had ordered on efficient military force to take position "between the Nueces and the Del Norte." This had become necessary to meet a threatened invasion of Texas, by the Mexican forces, for which extensive military preparations had been made. The invasion was threatened solely because Texas had determined, in accordance with a solemn resolution of the Congress of the United States to annex herself to our Union: and, under these circumstances, it was plainly our duty to extend our protection over her citizens and soil.

This force was concentrated at Corpus Christi, and remained there until after I had received such information from Mexico as rendered it probable, if not certain, that the Mexican government would refuse to receive our envoy.

Meantime, Texas, by the final action of our Congress, had become an integral part of our Union. The Congress of Texas by its act of December 19th, 1836, had declared the Rio del Norte to be the boundary of that republic. Its jurisdiction had been extended and exercised beyond the Nueces. The country between that river and the Del Norte had been represented in the Congress and in the convention of Texas, had thus taken part in the act of annexation itself; and is now included within one of our Congressional districts. Our own Congress had, moreover, with great unanimity, by the act approved December 31st, 1845, recognised the country beyond the Nueces as part of our territory by including it within our own revenue system; and a revenue officer, to reside within that district, has been appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. It became, therefore, of urgent necessity to provide for the defence of that portion of our country. Accordingly, on the thirteenth of January last, instructions were issued to the general in command of these troops to occupy the left bank of the Del Norte. This river—which is the South-western boundary of the State of Texas—is an exposed frontier. From this quarter invasion was threatened; upon it, and in its immediate vicinity, in the judgment of high military experience, are the proper stations for the protecting forces of the government. In addition to this important consideration, sever others occurred to induce this movement. Among these are the facilities afforded by the ports at Brazos Santiago and the mouth of the Del Norte
for the reception of supplies by sea, the stronger and more healthful military positions, the convenience for obtaining a ready and a more abundant supply of provisions, water, fuel and forage and the advantages which are afforded by the Del Norte in forwarding supplies to such posts as may be established in the interior and upon the Indian frontier.

The movement of the troops to the Del Norte was made by the commanding general, under positive instructions to abstain from all aggressive acts towards Mexico, or Mexican citizens, and to regard the relations between that Republic and the United States as peaceful, unless she should declare war, or commit acts of hostility indicative of a state of war. He was specially directed to protect private property and respect personal rights.

The army moved from Corpus Christi on the 11th of March, and on the 28th of that month arrived on the left bank of the Del Norte, opposite to Matamoras, where it encamped on a commanding position, which has since been strengthened by the erection of field works. A depot has also been established at Point Isabel, near the Brazos Santiago, thirty miles in rear of the encampment. The selection of his position was necessarily confined to the judgment of the General in command.

The Mexican forces at Matamoras assumed a belligerent attitude, and on the 12th of April, General Ampudia, then in command, notified General Taylor to break up his camp within twenty-four hours, and to retire beyond the Nueces river, and in the event of his failure to comply with these demands, announced that arms, and arms alone, must decide the question. But no open act of hostility was committed until the 24th of April. On that day, General Arista, who had succeeded to the command of the Mexican forces, communicated to General Taylor that "he considered hostilities commenced, and should prosecute them." A party of dragoons of sixty-three men and officers were on the same day despatched from the American camp up the Rio del Norte, on its left bank, to ascertain whether the Mexican troops had crossed, or were preparing to cross the river, "became engaged with a large body of these troops, and after a short affair, in which some sixteen were killed and wounded, appear to have been surrounded, and compelled to surrender."

The grievous wrongs perpetrated by Mexico upon our citizens throughout a long period of years, remain unredressed; and solemn treaties, pledging her public faith for this redress, have been disregarded. A Government either unable or unwilling to enforce the execution of such treaties, fails to perform one of its plainest duties.

Our commerce with Mexico has been almost annihilated. It was formerly highly beneficial to both nations; but our merchants have been deterred from prosecuting it by the system of outrage and extortion which the Mexican authorities have pursued against them; whilst their appeals through their own Government for indemnity have been made in vain. Our forbearance has gone to such an extreme as to be mistaken in its character. Had we acted with vigor, in repelling the insults and redressing the injuries inflicted by Mexico at the commencement, we should doubtless have escaped all the difficulties in which we are now involved.

Instead of this, however, we have been exerting our best efforts to propitiate her good will. Upon the pretext that Texas, a nation as independent as herself, thought proper to unite its destinies with our own, she has affected to believe that we have served her rightful territory, and, in official proclamations and manifestoes, has repeatedly threatened to make war upon us for the purpose of reconquering Texas. In the mean time, we have tried every effort at reconciliation. The cup of forbearance had been exhausted, even before the recent information from the frontier of the Del Norte. But now, after reiterated menaces, Mexico has passed the boundary of the United States, has invaded our territory, and shed American blood upon the American soil. She has proclaimed that hostilities have commenced, and that the two nations are now at war.

As war exists, and, notwithstanding all our efforts to avoid it, exists by the act of Mexico herself, we are called upon, by every consideration of duty and patriotism, to vindicate, with decision, the honor, the rights, and the interests of our country.

Anticipating the possibility of a crisis like that which has arrived, instructions were given in August last, "as a precautionary measure," against invasion, or threatened invasion, authorizing Gen. Taylor, if the emergency required, to accept volunteers, not from Texas only, but from the States of Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee and Kentucky; and corresponding letters were addressed to the respective Governors of those States. These instructions were repeated; and in January last, soon after the incorporation of "Texas into our union of States," Gen. Taylor was further "authorized by the President to make a requisition upon the Executive of that State for such of its militia force as may be needed to repel invasion, or to secure the country against apprehended invasion." On the 2d day of March, he was again reminded, "in the event of the approach of any considerable Mexican force, promptly and efficiently to use the authority with which he was clothed to call to him such auxiliary force as he might need." War actually existing, and our territory having been invaded, Gen. Taylor, pursuant to authority vested in him by my direction, has called on the Governor of Texas for four regiments of State troops—to be mounted, and two to serve on foot; and on the Governor of Louisiana for four regiments of infantry, to be sent to him as soon as practicable.

In further vindication of our rights and defence of our territory, I invoke the prompt action of Congress to recognise the existence of the war, and to place at the disposition of the Executive the means of prosecuting the war with vigor, and thus hastening the restoration of peace. To this end I recommend that authority should be given to call into the public service a large body of volunteers to serve for not less than six or twelve months unless sooner discharged. A volunteer force is, beyond question, more efficient that any other description of citizen soldiers; and it is not to be doubted that a number far beyond that required would readily rush to the field upon the call of their country. I further recommend that a liberal provision be made for sustaining our entire military force and furnishing it with supplies and munitions of war.
The most energetic and prompt measures, and the immediate appearance in arms of a large and overpowering force, are recommended to Congress, as the most certain and efficient means of bringing the existing collision with Mexico to a speedy and successful termination.

In making these recommendations, I deem it proper to declare, that it is my anxious desire not only to terminate hostilities speedily, but to bring all matters in dispute between this government and Mexico to an early and amicable adjustment; and, in this view, I shall be prepared to renew negotiations, whenever Mexico shall be ready to receive propositions, or to make propositions of her own.

I transmit herewith a copy of the correspondence between our envoy to Mexico and the Mexican minister for foreign affairs; and so much of the correspondence between that envoy and the Secretary of State, and between the Secretary of War and the General in command on the Del Norte, as are necessary to a full understanding of the subject.

JAMES K. POLK.
Washington, May 11th, 1846.

RE46v43i5p1c3, May 15, 1846: TWENTY-NINTH CONGRESS. MONDAY, May 11, 1846. IN SENATE.

The journal having been read—.

A Message was received from the President of the United States by Mr. Walker, his private Secretary, which was read by the Secretary of the Senate.

Mr. Sevier moved to refer the message and accompanying documents to the Committee on Foreign Relations, with leave to sit during the sessions of the Senate, and that they be printed.

Mr. Davis called for the reading of the documents.

Mr. Speight moved to print 20,000 extra copies.

Mr. Calhoun said that we were placed in a position calling for solemn consideration, and which it might take years to terminate. He hoped that the Senate would act with that calm deliberation which became so important a subject, and meet the crisis firmly and in a proper spirit. He hoped the printing would be confined to the usual number, and the Committee of Foreign Relations could then determine upon the propriety of printing an extra number. He was opposed to any precipitation.

Mr. Speight said he offered his motion to print at the suggestion of Senators around him. He approved of the views of the Senator from South Carolina, but as the documents would be spread before the public in the newspapers, he could see no impropriety in printing an extra number.—He approved of the message, which did not ask for a declaration of war, but merely for the means of repelling invasion.

Mr. Allen advocated the printing of an extra number of copies. The Senator from Mississippi had stated that the President asked no declaration of war; but he forgot to mention the important fact which the President communicated, that war already exists. Mr. A. asked for the ayes and noes, on the motion to print an extra number.

Mr. Sevier inquired whether his motion to refer the message and documents, and to print the usual number of copies, had been carried?.

The President said the question had not been put.

Mr. Sevier asked that it should be put, before the question was taken on the motion to print an extra number.

Mr. Calhoun pointed out the distinction between a state of war and a state of hostilities.—According to the Constitution, war could not exist without action on the part of Congress. The President may repel invasion, but cannot make war without the advice of Congress. Mr. C. said his objection to the motion to print was made with a view to prevent any precipitate action, or by the printing of so large a number, to give the endorsement of the Senate to the sentiments of the message.

Mr. J. M. Clayton moved to refer to the Committee on Military Affairs. War existed, and the message called upon us for troops and money. The Military Committee was therefore the proper Committee to refer to.

Mr. Morehead regretted that he could not concur in the motion of reference made by his friend from Delaware. He
thought the Committee on Foreign relations was the proper Committee to which the subject ought to be referred. He agreed with the Senator from South Carolina, that there was a distinction between a state of war and a state of hostilities, and that war could not exist, according to the Constitution, without the action of Congress.

Mr. J. M. Clayton said the Military Committee was, in his opinion, the proper one to refer the subject to. The President had informed us that war existed, and he was not going to pause to enquire whether we were at war according to the Constitution or not, but to vote the supplies of men and money at once, and by so doing he did not indicate any approval of the course of the President in bringing about such a state of things. Our first care was to adopt measures to defend the honor of the country, and inquire into causes afterwards.

Mr. Archer opposed the reference to the Military Committee. He was surprised that his friend from Delaware had not discovered the distinction pointed out by the Senator from South Carolina. He did not understand the message as saying that war actually existed. It could not exist legally and constitutionally. If we recognise the assertion that war did exist, we placed it in the power of our Military commanders on the frontier to involve the country in a war at their pleasure.

He would remind the Senate that an American vessel was destroyed a few years since in our own waters by an authorized force of Great Britain. Did that constitute a state of war between this country and Great Britain? Certainly not, and neither did the attack of the Mexican troops.

Mr. Benton said that two distinct questions were presented in the message. One involving the voting of supplies and recognizing the call made for volunteers, and the other in reference to the political relations between the two countries. He moved to refer so much of the message as related to the former subject to the Military Committee, and so much as referred to the latter to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. Sevier accepted the modification.

Mr. Cass said he approved highly of the sentiments expressed by the Senator from Delaware. They were sentiments which did honor to him as a man and as a Senator. In reference to a state of war, he said that it took but one country to make a war, although it took two to make peace. There were recent occurrences in Europe which showed that war could take place, without a formal declaration on either side.

After some further remarks from Mr. Allen and Mr. Calhoun.

Mr. Morehead expressed surprise that the Senator from Michigan should have taken occasion to congratulate the Senator from Delaware for the expression of sentiments, patriotic and honorable in themselves and beautifully expressed, but which he ventured to say were the sentiments of every member upon the floor. Mr. M. said that if we were at war in the proper sense of the term, the President had the power of bringing about a state of war without the action of Congress.

Mr. Cass said he certainly could not have been understood, in congratulating the Senator from Delaware upon the expression of his sentiments, as intending to cast any imputation upon any other Senator. He repudiated any such idea and said that he was satisfied that there was not a Senator upon that side of the chamber who would not go as far as he (Mrs. Cass) would in defending the honor of his country.

After an interesting debate, in which, Messrs. Sevier, J. NM. Clayton, Allen, Calhoun, Crittenden, and others, took part, the resolution of Mr. Sevier, as modified by Mr. Benton, was adopted with a division.

The motion to print 20,000 extra copies was also adopted.

The bill to increase the rank and file of the Army was taken up, slightly amended, and passed.

The bill from the House to retrocede the county of Alexandria to the state of Virginia, was read twice and referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

Mr. Archer moved a reconsideration of the vote by which the bill to increase the rank and file of the Army was passed. The motion will come up to-morrow.

After an Executive session, the Senate adjourned.

RE46v43i5p1c3, May 15, 1846: HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Long before the hour of meeting the galleries commenced filling, and the members were gathered in groups upon the floor, discussing the important matters about to be brought up.

As soon as the journal was read, the rules were suspended in order to receive reports from committees.
A bill was reported from the post office committee to amend the act of 1845, regulating the rates of postage. It was twice read and referred to a Committee of the Whole. A great number of private and local bills were also reported.

An ineffectual attempt was made to introduce all orders which have been given to General Taylor since he has assumed the command of the army on the frontiers of Texas.

On motion of Mr. McKay the House then went into Committee of the Whole, and took up the bill making appropriation for the support of the Military academy at West Point.

The usual motion to strike out the enacting clause of the bill, was made and rejected by a large vote.

Mr. Sawyer having given the Senate a scorching rebuke for its tardiness in passing the Oregon bills, to the great amusement of the Committee, was still upon the floor, when the private Secretary of the President of the United States appearing at the bar, the Committee immediately rose, and the Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Message was then received, and read by the Clerk amidst breathless silence, after which Mr. Haralson, the Chairman of the Military Committee, moved that the Message, with the accompanying documents, be laid on the table and printed. On that motion he moved the previous question, alleging as a reason the importance of prompt action.

Messrs. G. Davis and Schenck warmly advocated the reading of the whole of the accompanying documents before the House should be called upon to vote on the printing.

After a sharp skirmish upon various points of order, the previous question was insisted upon, and a division of the question on the laying on the table, and printing ordered.

The motion to lay on the table having been carried, and the motion to read the papers having been negativated, Mr. Schenck rose, and with some warmth held a controversy with the Chair, relative to certain points of order.

The resolution of Mr. Schenck differing from that of the Chair, Mr. S. exclaimed that the question of peace or war involved the honor of the Speaker.

The Speaker promptly replied, that a question of peace or war involved the honor of the country, and not of the Speaker.

Finally, in the midst of great confusion, during which it was very difficult to hear, Mr. Schenck moved a reconsideration of the vote by which the House had refused to have the papers accompanying the message read. This motion was laid on the table by a vote of 116 ayes . . .[illegible] . . .

Mr. Haralson then, amidst great uproar and calls to order, succeeded in explaining that the only motive he had in objecting to the reading of the papers at this time, was in order that the House might have the benefit of them in Committee of the Whole. After further remarks, he moved that the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole, for the purpose of taking up the bill reported from the military committee some weeks ago, authorizing the President of the United States, in case of invasion of any portion of the United States, to accept the services of volunteers, &c.

The motion to go into committee was carried without a division, whereon the House went into committee and took up the above bill.

As soon as it had been read through by the Clerk, on motion of Mr. Brinkerhoff, the committee rose, in order that he might offer a resolution to the effect that all debate on the bill, when next taken up in committee, shall cease in two hours.

A motion was made to lay the resolution on the table, but without success.

The resolution was then adopted, after which the House went again into Committee of the Whole, and resumed the consideration of the bill.

All the documents accompanying the message having been read, Mr. Brinkerhoff, a member of the Military Committee, moved to amend the bill, so that, in conformity to the wish of the President, the actual existence of war might be clearly recognized, and the means given at once to the Executive to prosecute it with vigor, so as to bring it to a speedy termination.

Mr. Brockenbrough moved to amend, by authorizing the President of the United States to retaliate upon Mexico, and to take as much as possible of the Mexican Territory, with a view of holding it until the conclusion of an honorable peace.
Mr. Isaac E. Holmes made an appeal to the Committee, and warned members not to be too precipitate in their declaration of war. He reminded them that it was possible that the Government of Mexico might disown the act of her Commander; and, if so, in what a situation should we be placed by a premature declaration of war? He denied that any information received warranted the belief that Mexico has declared war. If, therefore, we shall declare war, he knew that in several quarters letters of marque were in readiness to be given to vessels which, under Mexican colors, would sweep our merchantmen from the seas.

With a view of preventing his disastrous result, and of allowing time to our merchants to recall their vessels, he was in favor of waiting until we could get more information, and ascertain whether the Congress of Mexico would recognize the act of the Commander, etc. The noise and confusion at this period was so great that it was utterly impossible to hear the conclusion of the gentleman’s speech.

Mr. Rhett gave his views, after which Mr. Haralson, the Chairman of the Military Committee, took the floor. He was for no timid or halfway measures. He wanted firm and decisive measures. If energetic measures were not adopted, the cost and trouble of prosecuting the war, and of sustaining our right and honor, would be increased twenty fold. Would members refuse to authorize the President to send troops into the Mexican territory, after the Mexicans had come over upon our soil, and shed the blood of our citizens?

Here the time allotted for debate expired, and the Committee commenced voting on the amendments.

A slight amendment having been made to the first section of the bill, Mr. Burt moved that the committee rise and he desired to give his reasons, but it was not in order. The question on rising was then rejected by a large majority.

Mr. Tibbatts moved to amend the 1st section of the bill by authorizing the President to employ the naval and military forces of the country in invading Mexico. This was rejected without a count.

An amendment was then offered, to the effect that the President be authorised to employ the naval and military forces of the country in the vigorous prosecution of the war now existing between this country and Mexico.

Tellers being ordered, the amendment was rejected, ayes 58, noes 91.

Mr. Holmes of New York moved to amend by providing that the first section of the bill shall not apply except so far as it may relate to the removal or rescue of our army from the Rio Grande. Tellers being had, the amendment was rejected, ayes 8, noes 122.

Mr. Chipman moved to amend by a declaration of war against Mexico for her misdeeds, and tried to get in a little speech, but he was called to order. His amendment was rejected.

Numerous other amendments of a similar character were also rejected.

The question was then taken by tellers on the amendment of Mr. Brinkerhoff, recognising the actual existence of war, &c., and it was rejected ayes 80, noes 82.

Several other propositions to amend having been negatived, at 4 o'clock, Mr. J. R. Ingersoll moved that the committee rise, but without success.

Mr. Boyd moved to strike out the first part of the bill and to insert a substitute for that portion, which was agreed to.

At a late hour the committee rose and reported the bill to the House as amended.

The question then was on concurring in the amendment of the committee.

The question was first taken on the amendment of Mr. Boyd, striking out the first part of the bill and inserting a substitute for the same, in substance as follows: “Whereas, the recent acts of Mexico have caused a state of war to exist between the government of Mexico and the government of the United States, be it enacted, etc., that with a view of prosecuting the war and bringing it to a speedy termination, the President is authorized to employ the Naval and Military forces of the United States, and to accept the services of sufficient number of volunteers not exceeding fifty thousand, who will serve for twelve months, or to the termination of the war, unless, sooner discharged.

"Also, that the sum of ten millions of dollars be appropriated out of any money in the Treasury, or which may come into the Treasury, to carry the provisions of this act into effect.”.

This substitute was agreed to by a vote of –yeas 123, nays 67.

The third section provides that the volunteers shall furnish their own clothes, and of cavalry, their own horses, and when mustered into service to be armed and equipped at the expense of the United States.

The other sections are unimportant.
The bill as amended, of Mr. Haralson, was then passed by a vote of 174 ayes to 14 nays.—Those who voted in the negative are Messrs. John Q. Adams, Ashmun, Cranston, Culver, Delano, Giddings, Grinnell, Hudson, D. P. King, Root Severance, Strohm, Tilden and Vance.

The House then adjourned.

[BWP]

RE46v43i5p1c5, May 15, 1846: FROM THE SENIOR EDITOR. Washington, May 12, 1846.

Another deeply interesting day in the history of the country. From 12 o'clock till half past 4 P. M., I listened to the most engaging debate in the Senate which it was ever my good luck to enjoy. The great question of peace or war was in agitation. The subject was the bill from the House, recognizing the existence of war with Mexico, and investing the President with the power to raise 50,000 volunteers, and putting ten millions of dollars at his disposal. As in the House, the main debate was confined to the proposition to strike out those passages declaring that war was in existence, and limiting the operation of the bill to the repelling of the invasion of Mexico. The leading men of the Senate took part, and it is unnecessary to say, that it was able and profound. I rejoice to add, that it was, as the solemnity of the occasion required, cool, unimpassioned and dignified. I shall not attempt to sketch any part of it. It you will find it well and fully reported with the votes, &c., in the City papers, and I am sure that you can find nothing more interesting to occupy the columns of the Enquirer.

Mr. Calhoun was, as usual, bold and ingenious; but he was far from convincing me that war did not really exist with Mexico. He denied the truth of this proposition so strongly and so solemnly, that on the passage of the bill he did not find it consonant with his deep convictions to vote for the bill. It is needless for me to add, that he did not find it in his heart, like Davis of Massachusetts ("Honest John") and Thomas Clayton of Delaware, to vote against so important a measure. I regret that a statesman so distinguished for his talents and virtues, was compelled by circumstances to remain neutral upon so momentous a question. I cannot do justice to the forcible and eloquent speeches in favor of the bill as it came from the House—and shall, therefore, not attempt to give even an outline of them. Suffice it to say, that they all managed the great question in a masterly style, and carried conviction to their hearers. As a Virginian, I feel proud at the stand taken by Senator Pennybacker. Pennybacker. He was the first to march up to the exposition of the leading doctrines of the law of nations and by apt quotations from the great writers on the subject, clearly demonstrated that war could exist, without a prior declaration, and that, in the present case, there could be no doubt of the existence of war with Mexico. It was a strong and able argument, and, as I heard a gentleman remark, such an one as would be listened to with interest by men of sense. He to-day showed himself to be a Senator worthy of the Old Dominion, and of the glorious Tenth Legion.

Mr. Archer expressed himself as free from doubt as to the existence of war, but he voted for the motion to strike out, to enable gentlemen to deliberate upon the important question. His matter and his manner were very creditable to him. The motion to strike out was lost—20 to 26—and the bill was passed by the overwhelming vote of 40 to 2, after having been amended by reducing the pay from $10 to $8 per month, (a proper modification, placing the volunteers on the same level with the regular army, ) and by giving to the States, instead of to the President, the right of appointing the officers. The House had taken a recess, to re-assemble at half past 7, P. M., when they promptly agreed to the amendments, and the bill is now the law of the land.—Is it not most gratifying spectacle, to see the two Houses of Congress boldly seizing the subject, and with almost entire unanimity adopting the promptest and most vigorous measures for the defence of the country? Rely upon it, the action of yesterday and to-day will go very far to inspire the respect of foreign nations for our national power and courage, and to secure the peace of the country. Had Congress hesitated to sustain the recommendations of the Executive, we might have looked with dread to the unfavorable impression produced abroad. Now, the world will see that we are willing and able to defend our honor and our rights, when assailed—and other powers will be satisfied of the policy of doing us justice, and thereby keeping on good terms with us.

Before the meeting of the Senate I enjoyed an hour in the House, listening to a most extraordinary tirade from Joshua R. Giddings. Extravagant as my notions were in regard to the stupid frenzy of this chief of the Abolitionists, his effusions to-day far out-topped my expectations. The bill under discussion was to organize a company, amounting to 100, of sappers, miners and pontoniers. It came from the Senate. Strange to say, they have in the army no such useful elements of military organization. The object of the bill was to form a nucleus for the diffusion of such valuable intelligence and skill throughout the army. Giddings embraced the opportunity to pour out his bile upon the annexation of Texas, the slaveholders, &c. If ever man was guilty of moral treason, by giving aid and encouragement by words to the enemies of his country, this madman to-day brought himself fully under the ban. He denounced his fellow-citizens for all that was mean, and exalted the Mexicans to the skies. He said that Heaven was on the side of the Mexicans, and that they never could be conquered by the grasping and guilty Americans. In a word, he openly trampled upon the American flag, and raised his voice in favor of the triumph of Mexican arms. Had not this fanatic sunk himself so low by his ridiculous and treasonable exhibitions, I might have felt my Southern blood grow warm under his coarse and brutal attacks. But all he wants is notoriety, and I rejoice that no Southern man gratified him by a reply, and that G. was passed over with the silent contempt he deserved. I did not envy the feelings of the Southern Whigs, when Giddings referred to them as "my political friends."

A very good hit was made at him by Mr. Martin of Ky. Mr. Brodhead of Pennsylvania called G. to order; when Mr. Martin rose and said, that the gentleman (Giddings) was perfectly in order, in defending his friends who had deserted from the American army across the Rio Grande!
But I must stop—it is very late, and I feel exhausted by the excitement of the day. I have just returned from a brilliant and most picturesque "May Ball" at Carusi's, celebrated by the pupils of Mr. Labbe. Hundreds of lovely little girls, decked with flowers, and their youthful partners, arrayed in uniform costumes, went through every variety of graceful fancy dances. I shall not trust my pen to write of the beautiful ladies, who graced the scene. Many distinguished men of our own and foreign nations were also there. Upon the whole, it was a grand affair, and I shall be much disappointed if I do not to-night enjoy many "rosy dreams." But enough. W. F. R.

RE46v43i5p1c5, May 15, 1846: Extracts of a letter from New York, dated May 12.

The excitement in this City in relation to the Mexican news, continues to rage, but it is mingled with an intense anxiety to hear further accounts from the seat of war. Stocks have rather rallied to-day. They will no doubt go up and down for some time to come.

Public sentiment is decidedly in favor of a vigorous prosecution and speedy termination of the war. The measures of Congress are approved, and a disposition manifested to sustain the Executive, except by some presses which are noted for being arrayed against the cause of the country. On yesterday a hand of volunteers, preceded by music, &c., paraded the streets.

RE46v43i5p1c6, May 15, 1846: THE MEXICAN STEAMERS.

The New Orleans Tropic of the 5th inst. says: "We noticed some two weeks since, that we believed the announcement of the sale of the two Mexican war-steamer a sham, and that they would appear, in case of hostilities with Mexico, as privateers. We are still of this opinion, and we have a fear that the harbor of Havana will contain our worst enemies. A United States 74 should be stationed off the mouth of the harbor, to watch with great care what comes out of it. It will be recollected, that in 1835, the Mexican armed brig Montezuma lay off the Sabine and captured the American schr. Julius Caesar, and others, filled with emigrants bound for Texas, and carried them into Matamoras. The vessels conveying soldiers from our city to the seat of war should be provided with two or three pieces of heavy artillery. They might be intercepted by the way."

RE46v43i5p1c6, May 15, 1846: No title.

The New Orleans Tropic of the 6th instant states, that there are foreign emissaries in that city who hold correspondence with the enemy; and the Tropic suggests that a public meeting be called at once to devise means to circumvent the betrayers.

RE46v43i5p1c6, May 15, 1846: No title.

The two companies of artillery now at Fort McHenry, will leave in a day or two, for the seat of war under the command of Lieut. Col. Belton. It is stated that the Ship Merman will take them to their destination, and will stop at Old Point Comfort for four more companies.

RE46v43i5p1c6, May 15, 1846: ARMY MOVEMENTS &c.

News from the army in Texas is now looked for with intense anxiety—but we have received no later accounts than those published in our second edition of Saturday last.

The news of the defeat of Capt. Thornton's detachment seems to have revived the war spirit of '76. At New Orleans, in the course of two days, about 1200 volunteers had already enrolled themselves for service on the Texan frontier; though it is said the enrollment had not progressed as rapidly as could be wished, owing to the nonpayment hitherto of the volunteers who come time ago went from that city to Corpus Christi. Next morning, however, notice was given that the troops would be paid off on that day, and that no such delinquency would be suffered to occur in future.

The Governor of Louisiana has also issued his proclamation, offering ten dollars bounty and a month's pay in advance to each volunteer.—On the 2d inst., about forty printers gave up lucrative situations in New Orleans, enrolled
Gov. Johnson of Louisiana has complied with the request of Gen. Taylor and has appointed Gen. Persifor F. Smith to the command of the troops to be raised for reinforcing Gen. Taylor.—The Governor has also appointed the following gentlemen as his Aides-de-camp: Cassimer Lacoste, Quarter Master General; John Winthrop, Henry A. Lyons, Charles T. Steward, Emilie Wiltz, J. Watson Keene and H. W. Palfrey.

The Brigadier General has informed the Governor of the State, that he believed volunteers enough would be found to fill up the call on the State, without having recourse to drafting any portion of them from the militia.

Commodore Moore arrived at New Orleans on the 4th inst., and left immediately in the steamship New York, for Texas. It is thought that the bill for the increase of the Navy will be passed by Congress, and that Commodore Moore will be reinstated. The steamer New York had on board 180 troops, destined for the defence of Point Isabel.

The steamer Diamond arrived at New Orleans on the 3rd inst., with twenty-five 18 pounders and 1,000 balls, destined for the army in Texas.

When the news from the frontier via New Orleans, reached Pensacola, Commodore Saunders, of the U. S. ship St. Mary's, was ordered to get under way immediately for Brasos St. Iago, to render all assistance in his power to the forces at Point Isabel. The steam frigate Mississippi, Capt. Fitzburgh, was ordered to start for Vera Cruz at 4, P. M., on the 4th inst.

Several of the New Orleans papers publish engravings of the position of Gen. Taylor's camp. The Tropic says it extends about four miles along the river bank—two miles above, and two below Matamoras. The entrenchment to erect it required twenty-three hundred men for thirty days. It is made of sand, and covered over with twigs, woven together like basket-work, surrounded by a very wide and deep ditch. The walls of the magazine, in the interior of the fortification, are formed of pork-barrels filled with sand, seven tiers thick, four tiers high, covered over with timber, on which sand is piled ten or twelve feet. Twelve heavy pieces of ordnance are so placed as to command the town of Matamoras. Five hundred men could defend the fortification against any force the Mexicans could bring against it at present.

The Tropic publishes a letter from Gen. Taylor to a friend in New Orleans, from which the following is an extract:

"Strong guards of foot and mounted men are established on the margin of the river, and thus efficient means have been adopted on our part to prevent all intercourse. While opposite to us their pickets extend above and below for several miles, we are equally active in keeping up a strong and vigilant guard to prevent surprise, or attacks under disadvantageous circumstances.—This is the more necessary, whilst we have to act on the defensive, and they at liberty to take the opposite course whenever they think proper to do so. Nor have we been idle in other respects; we have a field work under way, besides having erected a strong battery, and a number of buildings for the security of our supplies, in addition to some respectable works for their protection.—We have mounted a respectable battery, four pieces of which are long eighteen pounders, with which we could batter or burn down the city of Matamoras, should it become necessary to do so. When our field work is completed (which will soon be the case) and mounted with its proper armament, five hundred men could hold it against as many thousand Mexicans."

As an evidence of the spirit which animates all classes of the citizens of New Orleans, the Courier of that City publishes the following anecdote, which, indeed, reflects great credit upon the individual concerned:

A gentleman names Addie, who served with honor during three years of the Florida War, is raising a Company of Volunteers to join General Taylor. He went to the store of Messrs. Layton & Col., hardware merchants on the Levee, for the purpose of purchasing a flag. Mr. Layton answered that his were all disposed of, but directed one of his clerks to go to a neighboring store and buy one; and said to Captain Addie, "I present this flag to your Company as my own offering for the defence of the country." Mr. Layton also told the Captain that when the Company was complete, he would furnish each man, gratis, with a plate, knife, fork, spoon and other accoutrements of the same kind; and also said he, "If you should want a few hundred dollars to purchase other conveniences for your men, apply to me, and you shall have the amount."[BWP]
be show, that, while we are ever anxious to be at peace, we are not afraid of war, come from what quarter it may. Let our deeds proclaim, that the patriotic fire of Liberty, which lighted on to victory the heroes of the Revolution, still burns with unchaged brightness in the bosoms of their sons. Let the war be carried on with the utmost vigor. To borrow the language of the *New Orleans Picayune*—"a tiny, Lilliputian affair will be tarnish our arms. To end the campaign as becomes the honor and dignity of the Republic, " it may be necessary that "an American General should dictate the terms of peace in the city of Mexico".

A call has been made upon all foreigners (by the Mexican Commander) to come to the aid of Mexico. Indeed, it has been fully understood that the Mexicans have been sustained in their hostility to the United States by foreign emissaries residents of Mexico. It is stated that the Mexican fort of San Juan de Ulloa is filled with foreign engineers; and that the army now on this side of the Rio Grande is accompanied by French, English and other artillery men. This statement, no doubt, is based on the following document, translated for the *N. O. Picayune*, and which that paper states Ampudia has found the means of distributing in the American Camp. In connection with other circumstances, it will doubtless shed some light upon the secret movements of the Mexican army, and the machinations at the bottom of the present enterprise.

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**RE46v43i5p1c7, May 15, 1846:** The Commander-in-Chief of the Mexican army to the English and Irish under the orders of the American General Taylor:

Know ye, that the Government of the United States is committing repeated acts of barbarous aggressions against the magnanimous Mexican nation; that the Government which exists under "the flag of the stars," is unworthy of the designation of Christian. Recollect that you were born in Great Britain; that the American Government looks with coldness upon the powerful flag of St. George, and is provoking to a rupture the warlike people to whom it belongs, President Polk boldly manifesting a desire to take possession of Oregon, as he has already done of Texas. Now, then, come with all confidence to the Mexican ranks, and I guarantee to you, upon my honor, good treatment, and that all your expenses shall be defrayed until your arrival in the beautiful capital of Mexico.

Germans, French, Poles, and individuals of other nations! Separate yourselves from the Yankees, and do not contribute to defend a robbery and usurpation, which, be assured, the civilized nations of Europe look upon with the utmost indignation. Come, therefore, and array yourselves under the tri-colored flag, in the confidence that the God of Armies protects it., and that it will protect you equally with the English.

PEDRO DE AMPUDIA.
FRANCISCO R. MORENO,
Adjutant of the Commander-in-Chief.
Head Quarters, upon the Road to Matamoras, April 2, 1846.

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**RE46v43i5p2c1, May 15, 1846:** TWENTY-NINTH CONGRESS. INTERESTING DEBATE. TUESDAY, MAY 12, 1846.

SENATE.

As soon as the journal was read, a message was received from the House, to the effect that the bill authorizing the President to prosecute the war against Mexico, had been passed by that body, and asking the concurrence of the Senate thereto. Also, that the House had concurred in the amendments of the Senate to the bill increasing the rank and file of the army, making an addition to the present regular army of about 7,000 men.

The bill to enable the President to prosecute the existing war with Mexico, was then taken up by the Senate and read twice.

Mr. Allen moved to postpone the prior orders in order to go on with the consideration of the bill.

Mr. Calhoun was opposed to any hasty or precipitate action on so important a measure. On looking at the first section of the bill, it would be seen that it involved a declaration of war.—He had carefully examined the documents, and he was fully satisfied that other Senators who had nay doubts on the subject should be allowed a full opportunity to examine them. He repeated, therefore, that he was opposed to any hurried action.

Mr. Allen adverted to the fact that the news from the army arrived in this city on Saturday evening, at 5 o’clock, and that in one hour afterwards the Executive Government was at work, devising the necessary steps for the rescue of the army. Now, however, all depended on Congress. The case was with them, and active and prompt measures were necessary. What was to be done must be done at once. A delay of 48 hours might have the effect of protracting the war for twelve months.

After some remarks touching points of order from several Senators, Mr. Mangum took the floor. He denied that there is any evidence to show that war, in its proper sense, actually exists, as is set forth in the preamble to the bill.—If
the political question could be separated from the question of expediency, he would cheerfully vote for any amount of men and money to rescue the army and maintain the honor of the country. But he for one was not willing to assume that war actually exists. Suppose, said he, that the Sovereign Government of Mexico should disavow the act of her Commander in crossing the Rio Grande, who would then say that war existed between the two countries? He hoped that a bill would be reported from the military committee separated from all extraneous matter, and confined solely to measures for the raising of men and money to meet the present exigencies without any reference to the question as to whether war exists or not.

After some explanatory remarks from Mr. Benton, which were not heard,

Mr. Calhoun again took the floor. He asked what reason there could be for refusing to strike out the objectionable preamble of the bill, in order to satisfy those who have doubts as to its propriety? He did not wish to delay the bill, but rather, in the absence of all information, he would vote for such a preamble, recognizing the existence of a war, he would plunge a dagger into his breast. The doctrine of assuming that there is actual war between two nations, merely because there had been a collision on the frontier, was monstrous.

If carried out, it will place it in the power of a corporal’s guard to involve two great nations in a war. He repeated that we have no knowledge that Mexico has decided upon war with us, and it was, therefore, wrong for us to assume the fact until we shall have further information. For his part, he did not wish to delay the bill if it were pressed, but he would not vote upon it. He would not vote “No,” because he could not; and he would not vote “Aye,” because he wanted information. He would not make war upon Mexico, by making war upon the Constitution, for he held, that by passing such a bill in the present state of things, and in the absence of proper information, the Senate will be making a much greater war upon the Constitution than upon Mexico.

Mr. Clayton of Delaware following on the same side. In addition to this, he considered the bill as too loose and indifferent. He desired, for instance, that the bill should specify what portion of the ten millions was to be appropriated to the land forces, and what portion to the navy. He hoped the bill would be referred to the Military Committee. He made that motion.

After further remarks, the question was about to be taken on the motion to refer, when.

Mr. Benton, the Chairman of the Military Committee, said that in anticipation of such a motion, the Committee met at an early hour this morning, and had authorized him to report the bill with sundry amendments. These proposed amendments were then read for the information of the Senate. One of them proposes to strike out the preamble to the bill.

Mr. Allen, the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations reminded the Senate, that the portion of the message relating to the political re-(unreadable) red to that Committee. And he would state, that the majority for he Committee were of the opinion that the first section of the bill was correct, and that war actually exists. He therefore hoped that the motion to refer this bill to the Military Committee would not prevail.

[Here several messages from the President of the United States were received.].

Mr. Allen proceeded to explain that the views of the Committee on Foreign relations were in full accordance with the first section of the present bill. In reply to a question of Mr. Clayton, as to whether the Committee had the documents accompanying the message before them, Mr. Allen said that the Committee did have the manuscript documents before them, but they could not shut their eyes to the glaring fact that war actually exists.

Mr. Clayton then moved to strike out the first section of the bill.

Mr. Benton read an extract from the recent message of Parades to the Mexican Congress for the purpose of showing that in the opinion of the latter, the conflict between us and Mexico is going on, etc.

Mr. Clayton, with a view of affording time for consideration changed his motion so as to strike out of the first section the words “prosecution of said wear” and to insert the words “with a view of enabling the Government of the U. S. to repel invasion, the President be hereby authorized to employ the naval and military force, “ &c.

Mr. Calhoun made another appeal. He said that even if the President of Mexico had declared war, that of itself did not constitute a declaration of war, for, as with us, the Congress of Mexico had to decide such questions. If the Presidents of the two countries should both declare war without the consent of their respective Congresses, it would amount to nothing.

Mr. Houston declared it was this solemn conviction that war actually exists. Mexico had been at war with Texas for ten years, and now it had become apart of the United States, that government has in effect assumed the position of Texas without regard to a Mexico. There was, therefore, nothing but war existing between the two countries. He went on to urge the necessity of chastising Mexico for the wrongs committed by her upon us. So long as she was capable of injuring us she ought not to be regarded with pity. We ought to chastise her for her injuries.

Mr. Archer rose, and after alluding to the assertion of the Senator from Texas that war had existed since the annexation of Texas, said he maintained that doctrine when the question of annexation was presented. In that view
he might be supposed to vote against the motion of the Senator from Delaware to strike out. They must, as he had before said, draw a line between war de facto and de jure. The circumstances brought to their knowledge satisfied him that war ought to be declared against Mexico, and by the act legalize the acts that have ensued and annexation of Texas to the United States. He would be entirely willing to vote for such declaration then, because he could not see the rectitude of granting large sums of money without a full recognition of its necessity and propriety by government. He wished, in relation to that and every war in which his country might be involved, to see it prosecuted with vigor and unanimity. Many gentlemen thought that such a state of things is not existing between this country and Mexico as would authorize a declaration of war by the United States.

Mr. Calhoun (after ascertaining that the allusion was to him,) said he had not used any such expression. He could not take on him to say in the absence of necessary information, how far the present state of things would justify the government in declaring war; but what he said was, that there could be no state of war—no declaration of its existence made, but by the constitutional authority—the Congress of the U. States.

Mr. Archer continued to say, that on yesterday he spoke of war not existing de jure, or in the legal acceptation of the term; but a state of war de facto did exist; and the question to be presented in a few days would be, were they prepared to make that war de facto a war de jure? He would vote for the motion of the honorable Senator from Delaware to strike out the word "war," but he could not do so without that avowal of his opinion to go before the people of the United States. He was willing to wait for advices from Mexico, and learn what was to be the termination of the present state of things; and if it was to be war, he was for prosecuting it with promptitude and energy. He would not consent that any officer, military or civil of the United States, should make blockades, throw up fortifications in sight of a foreign nation, and exercise, in truth, all the powers of war, and impose all its expenses all its commitments, with foreign nations. In that state of things he would not consent, unless sit got a legal coloring from the United States. The Senators on the other side, in this view of the question, and for the sake of unanimity, ought to defer to the suggestion made on his side for delay, and see the necessity of deliberation before they put themselves in this position before the world.

Mr. Johnson of Louisiana called attention to the fact, that on several occasions the Mexican Government has repeatedly informed our Government that the annexation of Texas would be considered by them as a declaration of war. This fact was incontrovertible, and there could not be a doubt of the existence of actual war.

Mr. Pennybacker next addressed the Senate at some length. The principal aim of his argument was to show that a formal declaration was not essential to the existence of war. In support of this he cited a number of instances from modern history, and quoted from Vattel, from Judge Kent’s Commentaries, and the decisions of the English Admiralty, to the same end. After settling this point, the honorable Senator argued that, in the absence of a declaration of war, it was competent to judge from hostilities enacted, whether war existed or not. Admitting that, he proceeded to review the relations between Mexico and the United States, the successive events that had led to the present state of things all which proved that war actually does exist between the two countries, and that although it might be dispensed with a declaration of war was desirable by the United States, that the people might all know their position; that neutral nations might conduct themselves suitably; and that there might be an open and palpable occasion shown for the voting of the supplies necessary to its energetic prosecution.

Mr. Cass objected to the motion to strike out. He did not believer that a Mexican army could have crossed our frontier without the orders of the Mexican Government. What else could we want? Did we want a certificate from a Mexican justice of the peace to certify that war has commenced? What further evidence could we want? Suppose an American fleet should bombard the city of London, would the British take our Constitution and say, "Look here, your Constitution does not authorize you to make war without the consent of Congress?" No! they would look to the fact, and act upon it. He had proceeded to give several laughable illustrations of the ridiculous attitude in which we should be placed, if we should carry out the principle that we must first wait for a formal declaration of war from the Government of an invading army.

Mr. Berrien at some length and with much point controverted the positions assumed by Messrs. Pennybacker and Cass.

Mr. Crittenden was in favor of voting for any amount of funds which might be deemed necessary to repel invasion, by which he meant, not only the driving the enemy beyond the river, but in pursuing him, and beating him down, so that the borders should no longer be in danger of a repetition of the offence. He would be satisfied with this until we should have had time to ascertain whether the Mexican government would sanction the act of their commanding officer.—But if we were forced to have war, he was for making it as short as possible, by sending an overwhelming force at once. He would have the army carrying peace in one hand and war in the other, so that we might end the war at once upon the least desire from the enemy. He was opposed to the preamble to the bill. There was no necessary for it. There was no preamble to the declaration of war in 1812.

Mr. J. M. Clayton rose to reply to the Senator from Michigan, [Mr. Cass.] He appealed to the opposite side, and asked them to wait at least till the evidence transmitted by the President was printed. The Senator from Michigan said he was satisfied of the fact. But he was satisfied without evidence—with nothing but newspaper reports. He was willing to go it blind. He then proceeded that there was no evidence before them to enable them to make up an honest opinion on the subject. He hoped that the majority would not exercise a power which they would not desire to be employed against them. Let them recollect that the day might come when the majority would be on his side of the chamber. It might be that after examining the documents he (Mr. C.) would be willing to vote a declaration of war. But he could not assent to that without examination—without a fair opportunity of forming a judgment.
Mr. J. M. Clayton replied that authentic evidence of the fact that the hostilities had been sanctioned by the Mexican authorities, would satisfy him. But there was no such evidence before them now. It was a common thing for the Mexican Government to disavow the acts of their Generals. A General committed an act to-day which was disavowed to-morrow. It, after a declaration of war, or a recognition of a state of war by the Congress of the United States, intelligence should be received of the fact that the Mexican Government had disavowed the act of their military officers on the Rio Grande, how mortified would they all be, and how much would they regret that they had not waited until they themselves had decided, after deliberate ...[illegible] ... rushing on in a declaration of war.

Mr. Westcott said that calm and cool reflection had convinced him that it was his duty to vote for this bill, although he did not entirely approve of its phraseology. He was not disposed to throw upon Mexico, (as this bill seemed to do,) the commencement of this war. He preferred that this Government, instead of the declaration that "war existed." And "by the act of Mexico," should make an independent affirmative, positive and unequivocal declaration of war against that Government. The past conduct of Mexico towards the United States would fully justify such a declaration. If the soldiers of Mexico had not invaded Texas during the last month; if they had not murdered Col. Cross; if they had not killed Lieut. Porter; if they had not attacked Hardee and Thornton; nay, if her present rulers were now to apologise and atone for these acts, there is ample cause for our declaring war against her, to be found in her past conduct towards us. Mr. W. was in favor of a declaration of war, because he did not believe that hostilities could be as efficiently, as effectually, as successfully carried on by the Executive without it. Mr. W. concurred in the opinion advanced on this point by the Senator from Virginia, Mr. Pennybacker, and other Senators.

Mr. Crittenden hoped that the emergency would not be found so pressing as some Senators appeared to suppose. He had great confidence in the officer commanding the forces on the Rio Grande, and was pretty confident that, in eight and forty hours after the date of last advices, it would be found that the General commanding had whipped the Mexicans, driven them across the river, and was in the town of Matamoras. — He might be wrong, but that was his speculation. Still he admitted that they were not to get under such a supposition. They were to act with the least possible delay consistent with order and propriety. He was to a great extent prepared to vote for the supplies— but indeed so advisedly as he would have desired. One thing was certain, that there had been, to some extent, a conflict on the Rio Grande between the troops of the two countries. To whose fault that was to be ascribed he could not now say, but he feared that when the matter was investigated, it would be found that he would not be able to regard with entire approbation the conduct of the Executive. He saw no reason for the advance of the troops to the Rio Grande— for the hazarding of those consequences which every sensible man must have foreseen. It was not for a moment to be imagined that the angry armies of two angry and quarrelling nations should day after day face each other with cannons pointed at each other, and only a fordable river between them, and conflict not result. It was conceded that this was disputed territory. What right had the U. States to take possession of it? Had not the other disputing claimant an equal right? But he would not prosecute that view of the subject at present. He was willing to consider the exigency as urgent as they pleased, and to make adequate preparation. As it was the wish of some Senators to rest with that in the meantime, he should be entirely content with that course, but he did not know that he would be willing to limit the government to repelling invasion. Perhaps he would be satisfied with an expression of what he meant by repelling invasion. He meant by that, pursuing, beating down, till the borders were freed from danger of a repetition of the invasion.

A Senator. That would be war.

Mr. Crittenden. No; there was a shade of difference—a very perceptible one. He believed it was indispensable policy to make the war as sharp and short as possible. If it lingered one year it would not be a Mexican war. With a straw, you could kindle a fire to burn down a city. In this connected condition of the world, war was felt everywhere. War could not be made with Mexico without touching the interests, and exciting the jealousies of all nations trading with us. Great consequences might be involved in that war. war. He would, therefore, make it as compendious as possible delay consistent with order and propriety. He was to a great extent prepared to vote for the supplies—but indeed so advisedly as he would have desired. One thing was certain, that there had been, to some extent, a conflict on the Rio Grande between the troops of the two countries. To whose fault that was to be ascribed he could not now say, but he feared that when the matter was investigated, it would be found that he would not be able to regard with entire approbation the conduct of the Executive. He saw no reason for the advance of the troops to the Rio Grande— for the hazarding of those consequences which every sensible man must have foreseen. It was not for a moment to be imagined that the angry armies of two angry and quarrelling nations should day after day face each other with cannons pointed at each other, and only a fordable river between them, and conflict not result. It was conceded that this was disputed territory. What right had the U. States to take possession of it? Had not the other disputing claimant an equal right? But he would not prosecute that view of the subject at present. He was willing to consider the exigency as urgent as they pleased, and to make adequate preparation. As it was the wish of some Senators to rest with that in the meantime, he should be entirely content with that course, but he did not know that he would be willing to limit the government to repelling invasion. Perhaps he would be satisfied with an expression of what he meant by repelling invasion. He meant by that, pursuing, beating down, till the borders were freed from danger of a repetition of the invasion.

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A Senator. That would be war.
moment war was declared privateering commenced, and swarms of privateers were let loose upon our extended commerce. And more than that any mode of adjustment was set aside except that by a treaty of peace. Why, in the name of all that was reasonable, he asked, could they rush at once to the ultimate resort? Suppose this turned out to be a case in which war ought to be declared, after examination of all the documents. Let the declaration be made in due form and with becoming dignity—not in this side-way, as if they were afraid to do it. Let them show a front to the world, such as was becoming the character of the nation. In the present condition of the world war was a tremendous thing. The whole sentiment of the civilized world was turning stronger and stronger against war. And let us not, (said Mr. C.,) for the honor of our country—for the dignity of the republic—be the first to create a state of war.—Mortal man cannot see the end of it. When I look on and see that we are rushing upon the most tremendous event, I am amazed. I am more than amazed; I am in a state of wonder and deep alarm. This is not the tone of character to go into war. They who go into war in this manner—as if seeking a decisive course—cannot expect to succeed. It is a hasty, thoughtless course. I do not wish to use any words in an offensive sense—but with all possible emphasis, I exhort you to avoid the appearance of precipitancy, or want of that deep reflection and profound meditation, which alone can guide you to a successful issue.

After some further remarks, (principally on points of order,) by Messrs. Allen, Johnston of Louisiana, Crittenden, Calhoun and Mangum, the question was taken on the motion of Mr. Boyd, to strike out the words "prosecute said war to a speedy and successful termination," so as to make the preamble read, "that for the purpose of enabling the Government of the United States to repel the invasion, the President is hereby," &c., and decided in the negative as follows:

YEAS Messrs. Archer, Barrow, Berrien, Calhoun, Thomas Clayton, John M. Clayton, Corwin, Crittenden, Davis, Dayton, Evans, Huntington, Johnson of Maryland, Johnson of Louisiana, McDuffie, Mangum, Morehead, Simmons, Upham and Woodbridge—20.

NAYS Messrs. Allen, Ashley, Atchison, Atherton, Bagby, Benton, Breese, Bright, Cameron, Cass, Colquitt, Dix, Houston, Jarnagin, Jenness, Lewis, Niles, Pennybacker, Rusk, Sevier, Speight, Sturgeon, Turney and Yulee—25.

So the motion to strike out was not agreed to.

Mr. Crittenden expressed a desire that the ground taken upon this subject by the minority should be recorded upon the journal, and for this purpose he moved to strike out from the first section of the bill the words, "to prosecute said war to a speedy and successful termination," and insert "for the purpose of repelling the invasion, the President is hereby," &c.

The President was of opinion that this renewal of a motion to strike out a sentence which the Senate had already refused to strike out, was not in order.

Mr. Crittenden explained, and contended that the motion to strike out and insert was in order.

After a short discussion upon the point of order between Senators Calhoun, Mangum, and Berrien, the objection was withdrawn.

Mr. Crittenden asked for the yeas and nays; which were ordered.

The question was then taken, and the result was—ayes 20, nays 26. Same as the preceding vote, except that Mr. Westcott’s name was added to the nays.

Mr. Huntington moved that the preamble to the bill be stricken out; and proceeded to make a few remarks in support of the motion, in the course of which he animadverted strongly upon the course of the administration in relation to the difficulties with Mexico, in sending the troops of the United States upon disputed territory.

Mr. Morehead said that the subject of boundaries was expressly . . . [illegible] . . . in the discussion on the annexation of Texas, and was referred to in the annexation resolution itself. The 2d section of the resolution says:

"Sec. 2. And be it further Resolved, That the foregoing consent of Congress is given upon the following conditions, and with the following guarantees, to wit: First. First. State to be formed, subject to the adjustment by this government of all questions of boundary that may arise with other governments."

The question which we are now called upon to determine he understood to be, whether the war declared to exist has been caused by Mexico.—Whether it is waged by the authority of Mexico may depend on circumstances. We have not had an opportunity to investigate the subject. The question may hereafter present itself in a different light from that in which we now see it; and yet, under these circumstances, we are called upon to declare that this is a war authorized by Mexico.

Mr. Johnson, of Maryland, said that Mexico claims the whole of Texas. We cannot go to Mexico, therefore, to ask about our boundaries. She denies the existence of such a State as Texas. Texas. We go to Texas to inquire about the boundary.
Mr. Berrien said, that in the debates on the annexation of Texas the question of the true boundary was one of much
doubt and difficulty. It was difficult to understand whether the Nueces of the Rio Grande was the boundary between
Texas and Mexico, and the section referred to was added by the Senate for this very reason.—It was to settle this
disputed boundary that the amendment referred to was made.

Mr. Archer said the bill to be reported by the Committee on Foreign Relations would probably contain the same
preamble. Why, then, refuse to strike out the preamble from this bill, thereby securing a full vote? This would not
prevent the adoption of the same preamble in another bill, which would amount to the same thing. This preamble
properly belongs to a bill to be reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations declaring war.

The yeas and nays were then taken on Mr. Huntington’s motion to strike out the preamble, which was decided as
followed:

YEAS__Messr. Archer, Barrow, Berrien, Calhoun, Thomas Clayton, John M. Clayton, Corwin, Crittenden, Davis,
Dayton, Evans, Huntington, McDuffie, Mangum, Morehead, Simmons, Woodbridge, Yulee—18.

NAYS__Messrs. Allen, Ashley, Atchison, Atherton, Bagby, Benton, Breese, Bright, Cameron, Cass, Colquitt, Dix,
Houston, Jarnagin, Jenness, Johnson, of Maryland, Johnson, of Louisiana, Lewis, Niles, Pennybacker, Rusk, Semple,
Sevier, Speight, Sturgeon, Turney, Upham, Westcott—28.

No other amendment being proposed, the bill was reported to the Senate from the Committee of the Whole.

The amendments made in committee were then agreed to.

The bill, as amended, was then ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Several senators called for the immediate third reading of the bill, and no objection being made thereto, it was so
read.

The President then proceeded to put the question “Shall this bill pass?”.

Mr. Crittenden hoped that the question might be so put as to divide the preamble from the bill. The question might
first be taken on the passage of the bill, without the preamble, and the preamble could be voted for separately. This
would secure a large vote for the passage of the bill.

Mr. Sevier said the preamble was only the title of the bill.

The President said, it is the opinion of the chair that the preamble is a part of the bill, and that it cannot be divided.

Mr. Crittenden said, now I want to vote for the bill, and I trust that by unanimous consent of the Senate the question
may be taken on the bill and on the preamble separately.

Mr. Calhoun would not vote for it, with or without the preamble. It is a solemn declaration of war to Mexico and to
the world. This was taking a step which he could not approve. When his name should be called, therefore, he would
remain silent.

Mr. Upham wished to vote for the bill, but he could not vote for the preamble. He had not information to enable him
to vote for the preamble, and he could not vote what he did not know.

Mr. Dayton made a similar statement.

Mr. Crittenden said the question might be put, "Shall the bill pass?" Make that the question without the preamble,
and he was willing and anxious to vote for it. He would not vote for the preamble.

Mr. Breese said that if the question could not be divided unless by unanimous consent of the Senate, he would object.

Mr. Mangum asked the President whether he and other senators could vote for the bill with a protest against the
preamble, and whether that protest would be put on the journal.

Mr. Speight said that were was a precedent for entering a protest on the journal.

Mr. Crittenden appealed to the senator from Illinois [Mr. Breese] to withdraw his objection. After a pause, Mr. C.
asked, does the senator yield his objection?

Mr. Breese said it might endanger the passage of the bill if it should pass first without the preamble.

Mr. Crittenden pledged himself that he would move to reconsider, if there was any danger like that which the senator
from Illinois apprehended.
Mr. Breese then withdrew his objection.

The President then stated that, by unanimous consent of the Senate, the question would be, Shall the bill pass without the preamble?.

Mr. Bagby could not consent to have the question put in this way. He could not vote for the bill without the preamble.

Mr. Crittenden suggested to the Chair, that the question might be put somewhat differently from the form in which it had been stated.

Mr. J. M. Clayton saw no difficulty in voting for the bill itself, first, without the preamble, and then for the preamble.

Mr. Bagby said, if it was put in this form, he would have to vote against the bill, while he wished to vote for it.

Mr. J. M. Clayton thought that the Senator from Alabama might vote for the bill without the preamble, and vote for the preamble afterwards.

Mr. R. Johnson said that the Senator from Alabama could have not more difficulty in voting for the bill and the preamble separately, than he could have in voting for different sections of the bill separately.

The yeas and nays were called for and ordered.

Mr. Morehead suggested that the question might be taken without the yeas and nays. There was evidently a large majority for the bill, and it would be better not to have the nays recorded.

Mr. Mangum had made up his mind to vote for the bill, but he entered his most solemn protest against the hasty declaration of the preamble, about the existence of the war, and he would ask the Senate that that protest might be entered on the journal.

Messrs. J. M. Clayton and Dayton entered similar protests.

The question, "Shall the bill pass?" was then put, and resulted as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Allen, Archer, Ashley, Atchison, Atherton, Bagby, Barrow, Benton, Breese, Bright, Cameron, Cass, John M. Clayton, Colquitt, Corwin, Crittenden, Dayton, Dickinson, Houston, Jarnagin, Jenness, Johnson of Maryland, Johnson of Louisiana, Lewis, McDuffie, Mangum, Morehead, Niles, Pennybacker, Rusk, Semple, Sevier, Simmons, Speight, Sturgeon, Turney, Upham, Westcott, Woodbridge and Yulee—40.


[Senators Berrien, Calhoun and Evans, being in their seats, did not vote. The other members, whose names are not recorded above, were absent.]

When Mr. Crittenden’s name was called, he votes "aye, except the preamble." So also did Mr. Upham.

The bill was then read by its title and passed.

And the Senate adjourned.

[Revised]
the genius of our free institutions, and we had recently had proof of its abuses in the occurrences upon our frontiers.

He alluded to the act of shooting down deserters, which he regarded as a monstrous violation. Another of the fruits of a Standing Army was the invasion of a foreign country. Our Government had been guilty of this, and Mexico had been to all intents and purposes invaded. The excuses of the President laid before Congress yesterday were a series of palpable misrepresentations of facts.

Mr. Broadhead contended that this was not in order, but the Chair decided that Mr. G. was not out of order.

Mr. Broadhead, amidst cries of “let him go on,” persisted that the gentleman was out of order.

Mr. Giddings went on and complained of the attempts made to gag him down, and to cry him down, but returned at once to the charges of misrepresentation against the President in his Message. The main falsehood was the declaration that our soil had been invaded by Mexico. He denied this, and said that the camp of General Taylor was now in the Department of Tamaulipas, while a part of the territory claimed by the United States was in the Mexican Department of Cohahuila. If Texas had claimed to the Rio del Norte, she had never maintained that right. It had never been acknowledged by Mexico.

Mr. Giddings said that the result of this Mexican business would be the surrender of all our rights in Oregon North of the Columbia river;--54 40 would be cut down to the North bank of the Columbia.

Mr. G. went into the slavery question, and denounced the proceedings against Mexico as an act to bring more fellow beings into bondage. At this point he was cut off by the expiration of his hour.

The Committee then rose and reported the bill to the House. It was read a third time and passed;--ayes 153, noes 9.

A motion to reconsider was put and lost.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, and took up the bill for the support of the Military Academy.

Mr. Sawyer made a violent speech against the Institution, and against the Army and Navy.

Mr. Tibbats and Mr. Darragh spoke at length upon the state of Mexican affairs, and a little of Oregon.

Mr. Gordon obtained the floor, and on his motion the Committee rose.

After more than an hour spent in attempts to adjourn, the House took a recess until 7 ½ o’clock, P. M.

On re-assembling at 7 o’clock, a message was received from the Senate returning the bill of this House providing for the prosecution of the existing war between the United States and the Republic of Mexico, passed with amendments.

The House proceeded to consider these amendments: they were read.

Mr. Haralson moved the concurrence of the House, and, at the same time, moved the previous question; which was seconded, put, and carried; and, under its operation, all the amendments were concurred in except that which strikers out $10 per month as the pay of privates, and allows mounted volunteers forty cents per day for the use of horses, instead of $20 per month pay for themselves and the use of their horses.

On this amendment Mr. Gentry asked for the yeas and nays. They were ordered; and, being taken, there were for the amendment 116, against it 53.

And so the amendments of the Senate were concurred in, and the bill was passed by both Houses.

And, to clinch the matter, Mr. Haralson moved to re-consider the votes agreeing to the amendments; but the House refused to do so, and the bill stands passed.

The Senate, then, at 6½ o’clock adjourned.

The following is a corrected copy of the bill as passed by both Houses, and since signed by the President:

AN ACT providing for the prosecution of the existing War between the United States and the Republic of Mexico.

Whereas, by the act of the Republic of Mexico, a state of War exists between that Government and the United States:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representative of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That for the purpose of enabling the Government of the United States to prosecute said War to a speedy and successful termination, the President be, and he is thereby, authorized to employ the militia, naval and military
forces of the United States, and to call for and accept the services of any number of volunteers, not exceeding fifty
thousand, who may offer their services, either as cavalry, artillery, or riflemen, to serve twelve months after they
shall have arrived at the place of rendezvous, or to the end of the war, unless sooner discharged, according to the
time for which they shall have been mustered into service; and that the sum of ten millions of dollars out of any
money in the Treasury, or to come into the Treasury, not otherwise appropriated be, and the same is hereby
appropriated, for the purpose of carrying the provisions of this act into effect.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted. That the militia, when called into the service of the United States, by virtue of this
act, or any other act, may, if in the opinion of the President of the United States the public interest requires it, be
compelled to serve for a term not exceeding six months, after their arrival at the place of rendezvous, in any one
year, unless sooner discharged.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the said volunteers shall furnish their own clothes, and, if cavalry, their own
horses and horse equipment; and when mustered into service, shall be armed at the expense of the United States.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That said volunteers shall, when called into actual service, and while remaining,
therein, be subject to the rules and articles of war, and shall be, in all respects, except as to clothing and pay, placed
on the same footing with similar corps of the United States army, and in lieu of clothing every non-commissioned
officer and private in any company who may thus offer himself, shall be entitled, when called into actual service, to
receive in money a sum equal to the cost of clothing of a non-commissioned officer or private (as the case may be)
in the regular troops of the United States.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That the said volunteers, so offering their services, shall be accepted by the
President in companies, battalions, squadrons, and regiments, whose officers shall be appointed in the manner
prescribed by law in the several States and Territories, to which such companies, battalions, squadrons, and
regiments, shall respectively belong.

Sec. 6. And be it further enacted, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorised to organize
companies so tendering their services into battalions or squadrons; battalions and squadrons into regiments;
regiments into brigades, and brigades into divisions, as soon as the number of volunteers shall render such
organization in his judgment expedient; and the President shall, if necessary, apportion the staff, field, and general
officers among the respective States and Territories, from which the volunteers shall tender their services, as he may
deem proper.

Sec. 7. And be it further enacted, That the volunteers who may be received into the service of the United States, by
virtue of the provisions of this act, and who shall be wounded or otherwise disabled in the service, shall be entitled to
all the benefit which may be conferred on persons wounded in the service of the United States.

Sec. 8. And be it further enacted, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized forthwith
to complete all the public armed vessels now authorized by law, and to purchase or charter, arm, equip, and man
such merchant vessels and steamboats as, upon examination, may be found fit or easily converted into armed
vessels fit for the public service, and in such number as he may deem necessary for the protection of the seaboard,
lake coast, and the general defence of the country.

Sec. 9. And be it further enacted, That whenever the militia or volunteers are called and received into the service of
the United States, under the provisions of this act, they shall have the organization of the army of the United States,
and shall have the same pay and allowances; and all mounted privates, non-commissioned officers, musicians and
artificers, shall be allowed 40 cents per day for the use and risk of their horses, except of horses actually killed in
action; and if any mounted volunteer non-commissioned officer, musician, or private, shall not keep himself provided
with a serviceable horse, said volunteers shall serve on foot.

[BWP]
liberality towards Mexico, and has suffered this state of things to exist until forbearance has ceased to be a virtue. We do not believe that, in the attack upon our troops, and the murder of our citizens Mexico is influenced by patriotism alone. We believe she is used by foreign governments as the cat's paw for the prosecution of their own schemes.

We moreover believe, that unless this spark, which is now being kindled up on the Rio Grande, shall be speedily and effectually extinguished, it is possible that it may spread to the remotest borders of our Union.

Shall it then be said that Virginia, if her services are needed, will be dilatory? Shall the reproach rest upon her Metropolis, that she cares nothing about the welfare of our common country? Baltimore and Philadelphia, another cities, are a rousing themselves for action. We are all Americans; and shall Virginia sit passive as the lamb when our enemies are in the field murdering our citizens, and killing our troops? No—no. When we see our own soil crimsoned with the blood of our citizens, the motto of the gallant Decatur should be the motto of every man: "Our country, right or wrong." We hope that, in the event of troops being desired from Virginia, every true-hearted son will at once rally around the standard of our country, and show that the deeds performed by our fathers in '76—the Revolutionary sires—can be equalled by their descendants in '46.

Let not any one hug to his bosom the thought, that Mexico alone is our enemy. Let him look behind the curtain—doubtless he will observe the emissaries of Foreign Governments busily employed in controverting the efforts of our Government to protect the rights of our citizens and obtain justice from Mexico.

[BWP]

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RE46v43i5p2c6, May 15, 1846: FROM NEW ORLEANS.

By the arrival, at New Orleans, on the 7th May, of the steamer Telegraph from Galveston, papers have been received from that place up to the 2d May. From the Galveston Civilian of the 2d inst. We learn that the United States schr. Flirt was endeavoring to get over the bar into the Brassos Santiago, in order to co-operate more effectually in the defence of the depot and position at the mouth of the river. Captain Symptom of the Alert, was assisting in the accomplishment of this object, having taken off some of the Flirt's guns, in order to reduce her draught of water. The steamer Monmouth left Galveston on Friday, the 1st instant, for Brassos Santiago, with a number of volunteers for the army under Gen. Taylor.

The New Orleans Times of the 7th May, states that recruits were rapidly filling up the companies destined for the army of occupation. A considerable number have been enlisted at the head-quarters of all the companies throughout the city, and seven other companies were in barracks below the Third Municipality, whose numbers are complete, averaging seventy men each. The following is the order in which they were mustered into the service: No. 1 company, Capt. I. Stockton; No. 2, Capt. Smith; No. 3, Capt. Hunt; No. 4, Capt. Breedlove; No. 5, Capt. Head; No. 6, Capt. Tobin; No. 7, Captain Glenn. These, in round numbers, make about 500 men. The companies which are nearly complete but not yet mustered, viz: Capt. Crevon's, Capt. Dessomme's, Capt. Soniat's, Capt. White's, and Senator Mark's, will probably reach in the aggregate 400 more; making in all 900 men. The Times says:

"There are a few more companies in process of formation, scattered in different localities, which will be filled up, it is expected, by Saturday, when they will be en masse a body of 1200 men. Gen. Smith expects the First Regiment to be ready to proceed to the scene of action on the Rio Grande, on Saturday. It will be under the command of Col. Walton. We hope certainly to see them off before the week closes, as much depends on the celerity of their movements at this critical juncture. Indeed, since the principal object is to reinforce Gen. Taylor at once, we are unaffectedly of opinion that it would be better to send them off, even one hundred at a time, as soon as ready. They could easily be formed into regiments and be brigaded, after the first pressing want has been relieved. We should imitate the Mobile people herein; they sent off the first available force at a moment's warning."

We make the following extracts from the New Orleans Delta, of May 7:

We understand that Company A., Regiment Louisiana Volunteers, have filled their ranks, and will be mustered into the service of the United States this morning, for the purpose of proceeding immediately to the aid of Gen. Taylor; with the other volunteer corps already formed.—The above company is commanded by the following young men: A. F. Rudler, Captain; Lieutenants J. L. Jordan and R. F. Tupper; and Sergeants John D. Berry, J. D. Patter, E. F. Williams and J. D. Stordorff.

Besides Maj. Marks, of the Senate, Messrs. Lyons and Fountain, of the House of Representatives, have joined the volunteers. There are three vacancies created for persons ambitious of Legislative honors.

HURRA FOR MOBILE!—Lieutenant Lovell, of the United States Army, left in the Creole yesterday for Mobile, for the purpose of mustering into the service of the United States nineteen companies of Volunteers, which are expected to be ready on his arrival.

This is the spirit such as the occasion calls for, and responded to in a manner which sustains the already well deserved praise which the chivalric Mobilians have hitherto obtained. No petty differences or trifling questions of who shall command them? Have interfered to prevent them from volunteering promptly. promptly. They heard that Texas
had been invaded by the wily Mexican—that General Taylor was likely to be surrounded—and that Point Isabel, containing his supplies, was in imminent danger of being taken. This was enough—ambition and distinction were forgotten, and each vied with the other as to who should be the first in the field. Well may the welkin ring again with the shout—Hurra for Mobile!—Hurra for Alabama!

REQUISITIONS FOR RATIONS, CLOTHING, &c.—In consequence of hearing some murmurings that the companies of the Volunteers which had been mustered into the service of the United States, and sent to the Barracks, found neither rations nor uniforms there, we made inquiries of Col. Hunt, the U. S. Deputy Quarter-Master-General, as well as Capt. Grayson, U. S. Commissary, and found that no requisitions had been made upon them. In order to prevent disappointment in these particulars with those who are not already mustered, we are requested to suggest that these matters should be attended to the first thing by Commanders of companies; and if so, that they will be promptly attended to.

DEMURRAGE.—In consequence of the volunteers not having been ready to start on Tuesday, on board the steamship Galveston, which has been chartered to convey them to Point Isabel, she received demurrage at the rate of $500 per day from Tuesday evening last.

[Text continues with various articles and letters, discussing events and announcements related to the war with Mexico, volunteers' preparedness, and public meetings for raising volunteers.]
RE46v43i5p2c7, May 15, 1846: RECIPE FOR CONDUCTING A SHORT WAR.

One of the ablest Whigs yesterday treated the Senate with a new discovery in the art of war. He was for making a short war with Mexico, and he contended the best way was, first, to give her a blow, and then to hold out the hand of peace to her; and thus, first by the shut fist, and then by the open palm, to drive and win her alternately to peace. And this he recommended as the method of making a short war of it. Now as the Mexicans are the most loquacious people in the world, dealing so much in words, pronunciamientos, and the like, it is apprehended that the Senator's tactics would spin the contest into a long war. They would take it for granted, that immediately after a blow, we should offer them the olive branch; and thus, between two blows they would have time to breathe and to talk, and to collect their forces—whilst our forces might be . . .[illegible] . . . in their supplies, and the time would gradually melt away. We confess, we prefer the old-fashioned way of carrying on the war.

RE46v43i5p2c7, May 15, 1846: VOLUNTEERS FOR TEXAS!.

It will be seen by the annexed appeal, that an effort—we have no doubt it will be a successful one—is about being made in this city to raise Corps of Volunteers to tender their service to the President, in conformity with the provisions of the bill, which was before this time probably became a law, authorizing him to receive 50,000 men in the public service.

RE46v43i5p2c7, May 15, 1846: TEXAS!

PATRIOTS! Your country calls—obey! Glory awaits you! Virginians! Be ever as ready to blast treachery as to trample on tyranny! Let us gain the prize banner of the Union for our ready devotion, and wear it proudly by matchless deeds. Let Virginia be like her matchless . . .[illegible] . . .—"first in war, first in peace," and first in the . . .[illegible] . . . of States! Let our ranks be filled with "brave and freely be our banners flung to the breeze.—From the Rio Grande let us plunge freely in the tide of war, and know no stop or hindrance until our flag waves first on the walls of Mexico.—Let it at least never be furled, until our country men, who have fallen by the hands of treachery shall be avenged—until expectant nations shall see how free America can right her injured honor!

RE46v43i5p3c2, May 15, 1846: By Last Evening’s Mail. BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, the Congress of the United States, by virtue of the constitutional authority vested in them, have declared by their act bearing date this day, that, “by the act of the republic of Mexico, a state of war exists between that Government and the United States:”.

Now, therefore, . I, JAMES K. POLK, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the same to all whom it may concern; and I do specially enjoin on all persons holding offices, civil or military, under the authority of the United States, that they be vigilant and zealous in discharging the duties respectively incident thereto: and I do moreover exhort all the good people of the United States as they love their country, as they feel the wrongs which have forced on them the last resort of injured nations, and as they consult the best means, under the blessing of Divine Providence, of abridging its calamities, that they exert themselves in preserving order, in promoting concord, in maintaining the authority and the efficacy of the laws, and in supporting and invigorating all the measures which may be adopted by the constituted authorities for obtaining a speedy, a just, and an honorable peace.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents. Done at the city of Washington, the thirteenth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and forty six, and of the independence of the United States the seventieth. JAMES K. POLK. By the President: JAMES BUCHANAN, Secretary of State.

RE46v43i5p4c7, May 15, 1846: Wednesday Morning, May 13, 1846. FROM THE SENIOR EDITOR.

WASHINGTON, Monday Night, May 11. The Capitol was thronged with anxious listeners to the proceedings of
From the Second Edition of the Enquirer of May 16th.

The anxiety of our readers to hear from the seat of war, induced us to issue a second edition of the Enquirer this morning, containing later intelligence from Texas and from Mexico.
By the arrival of the schooner *Ellen and Clara*, Capt. Griffin, from Brazos St. Jago, we have accounts from Point Isabel to the morning of the 29th ultimo. The news is only one day later and of course not very definite or satisfactory. The fact, however, that no communication had been had for three days between Point Isabel and the Camp of Gen. Taylor, is alone sufficient to keep anxiety on tip-toe.

We learn from Captain Griffin, and Doctor N. Briggs, a passenger, who has been several months with the army, that Capt. Walker, formerly of the Texan revenue service, who has been stationed between Point Isabel and General Taylor’s Camp, with a body of twenty-four volunteer Texan Rangers, found several of the teams which had started from the Point for the Camp were returning, and reported that the Mexicans were on the road. He started from his camp on the 28th, with his whole force, to reconnoitre, and, if possible, open a communication with Gen. Taylor. He had proceeded as far as about midway between Point Isabel and the Camp, when an overwhelming Mexican force appeared very suddenly. A portion of his troops were raw—these he instructed to keep on his right, and gave orders to the whole to retire under cover of a chapparel in view.

But his raw troops, panic-stricken, scattered in confusion, and the Mexicans advancing in overwhelming numbers, he was compelled to retreat. He was followed by the Mexicans until within a mile of Point Isabel, where he arrived with only two of his men. Six other subsequently came in.

Capt. Walker estimated the number of Mexicans he encountered at 1500, and he supposed that at least 30 of them fell, during the fifteen minutes which he engaged them. This force is supposed to be a portion of that which had at the last accounts crossed the Rio Grande some 20 or 25 miles above Matamoras, and which is estimated at 3000 men. It is believed that they had arrived at the position they occupied by taking a circuitous route on the Eastern side of Gen. Taylor’s camp.

It is believed that the Mexicans have possession of an Island at the mouth of the Brassos, which commands the entrance. If so, it is apprehended that the troops by the New York will not be able to get in. The island is laid down on some of the maps as Brassos Village. It is a natural fortification.

A small schooner, the *Aurora*, sailed from Point Isabel on the 28th, for this port, with despatches. The weather has been very severe on the coast and it is feared that she has been driven ashore.

**IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO!**

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**From the New Orleans Bulletin, Extra, May 9.**

**From the New Orleans Tropic, Extra, May 9.**

**Two Days Later From Mexico.**

The brig *Josephine*, from Vera Cruz, brings us the following letter from our correspondent, dated April 25th, two days later than the last, and papers from that city of the same date:

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**[Correspondence of the Tropic.] Vera Cruz, April 25, 1846.**

Gentlemen: By the mail steamer *Tweed*, last evening from Tampico, we have intelligence from Matamoras down to the 15th.

A gentleman informs me that he has seen a letter from the British consul at that city, to the British consul here, from which he give me an extract.

This letter indicates a degree of familiarity between the Mexican General and the writer, that would justify the conclusion, that upon him has fallen the mantle of the “man with the white hat.”.

He says, Ampudia showed him the letter warning General Taylor off the banks of the Bravo, before it was forwarded, and intimates, without asserting it, that nothing prevents an attack from the Mexicans but want of boats. He also says that “General Taylor has plenty of Thirty-two Pounders pointed at the town,” which is of course an exaggeration.

The excitement here regarding the Yankee Fleet has subsided somewhat, as the ships have not been seen since the 20th. We hope they have moved into the neighborhood of our little army, as the tars would form most valuable auxiliaries in case of collision. From what I have seen and heard of sailors, I believe they would fight even better on land than on board ship. They would make excellent Artillerists, and first rate Riflemen.

I see by the Capital papers that the American squadron were at Matzatlan, on the first instant, in the following force:

Frigates—*Savannah* and *Constitution*.

Sloops of War—*Portsmouth* and *Levant*, and the schooner *Shark*—the latter of which, in company with the
Portsmouth, sailed that day. Official information had been given to the merchants, that, from the 2d. of April, no more business would be done in the Customhouse. This was surely a very silly step, and I presume will cost the Collector his commission, as not blockade had been declared, and could not reasonably be feared.

Every body carps at the proceedings of the Government. Paredes’ nomination of Governor of the Department of Mexico, in the place of Bravo, who was sent here, has brought the Departmental Assembly “down upon him.” They demand the appointment of a Senor Gorospe, and refuse to confirm that of the contestant, Chavarri. I have learned nothing else of interest from the capital.

The call for exact lists of all the naturalized citizens of the Republic, is evidently intended to have an effect upon American emigrants, particularly. Whatever the object may be, I regard the measure as an impolitic one, and as evincing a meddlesome disposition that could not belong to a decent government.

A new edict ids said to be preparing, by which master printers are to be made responsible for whatever may be published from their offices or establishments!

The only American vessel left here by the Josephine, will be the ship Suviah, of your city.

"El Judicador“ of this city of the 22d mentions a meteorological phenomenon, which may have been simultaneously observed farther North, and, therefore, worth transcription. The Observer says:

"Last night at eleven minutes past seven, our attention was attracted by a very brilliant red light at the Northwest, which upon examination proved to be caused by a luminous meteor passing to the Northward, and apparently falling into the sea. By a paralactic calculation, we estimated it to have reached a height of 1700 or 1800 varas, at which elevation it followed a right line for 3 seconds, when it began its descent. We regard this as a prognostic of extreme heat."

There is nothing of importance in the papers. Gorostiza, Minister of the Treasury, has resigned, it is positively stated, in consequence of the Government’s policy towards the press. The Minister of Foreign Relations occupies his place for the present.

The latest information received in Mexico from Matamoras assigned to Gen. Ampudia a force of 7,000 men. The Locomoter says that Ampudia had “compelled the American Consul and his countrymen to march into the interior, to Victoria!”

The 3d Regiment of Infantry had left the city of Mexico for Vera Cruz, and another was to follow immediately.

The Locomoter denounces the Government for its recent decree against the press, as particularly impolitic under the existing relations with this country. "It is only, “ says that paper, "by exciting and pleasing the people, that they can be brought to struggle with a powerful nation. The resources employed by the Government are pitiful and mean.”.

The military at Vera Cruz were active in their preparations for war. The Castle is said to be in excellent condition.

The John Adams was off Vera Cruz.

Extract of a letter under date of 26th ult., from Vera Cruz, received by a commercial house of this city:

"Gen. Alvarez has pronounced in the South in favor of the Federalists—and in the meantime calls for a triumverate composed of Santa Anna, Herrier, and Rincon, who are to govern this country, until a free election can take place for a President; but we have so many of these pronunciamentos, that they do not amount to anything.—On the 20th inst., the editor and proprietor of the Monitor, in Mexico, was imprisoned and sent to San Blas.”.

Important from Mexico!!
GRAND REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT IN THE SOUTH.
Glorious News from Yucatan.

By a vessel at this port (says the New York Sun of Thursday, ) which sailed from Havana on the 1st inst., we have private letters from intelligent correspondents in Merida, Yucatan, to the close of March, with private advices from parts of Southern Mexico to the middle of April, conveying the gratifying intelligence that people of Southern Mexico, in imitation of the patriotic example of Yucatan, were concentrating their efforts, in unison with the Congress of Yucatan, then in session, for a grand revolutionary movement against the military despots of the centre. The Congress of Yucatan had refused to entertain any propositions from Paredes, and a courier, whom he had sent to Merida, to request only three hundred troops, narrowly escaped with his life. We translate a few of the principal political views of our Mexican corresdonents, remarking that we place confidence in them:

"Having nothing to hope from Paredes but a monarchy in its worst shape, or a central power usurping the independence of the Departments and of the people, we again unfurl the banner of liberty, inscribing upon its folds—no compromise with the chieftains of Monarchy! History bears witness to our struggles for liberty. We have perilled our lives in its defence, as have our brethren of Texas and of the other gallant States of the great Northern Union."
Men of America, brethren by the holy ties of human liberty, we shall rise in a few days in these Southern Departments, hoping to rescue our beautiful Mexico from the hands of Europe’s minions. Brethren of the North; we respect you for your noble example of self-government, which shines upon the nations. In return we ask your sympathy. You have our confidence—give us yours. We know that we can have your co-operation. But if the central Junto, incited by another power, should war against you for receiving and protecting our sister Texas, you shall find us prepared to greet you in the Halls of the Montesumas.”.

These noble sentiments are much more beautiful in the original Spanish of our correspondents. We give their spirit. Such patriotism demands, and will receive a cordial response from the freemen of America. The revolution had, as we already know, commenced in the south of the department of Mexico, which was not known to our correspondents, although expected, at the time of writing. The Congress of Yucatan consists of twenty three members, representing five departments.

RE46v43i6p1c2, May 19, 1846: PUBLIC MEETING IN RICHMOND. VOLUNTEERS FOR TEXAS.

In answer to the call through the morning papers, a large number of citizens assembled at the City Hall on Thursday evening, 14th May, at half past seven, the hour appointed.

Mr. G. A. Porterfield was called to the Chair, and in a few appropriate remarks explained that the object of the meeting was to inquire into the propriety of raising a Company of Volunteers from the city of Richmond, who should tender its services for the prosecution of the existing war with Mexico.

The Chairman then introduced to the meeting Mr. Edward C. Carrington, who offered a series of resolutions, which he supported in a most spirited and eloquent manner. He addressed himself principally to the young men of the city. He said that the call of the country was addressed to them; that the present welfare, the past glory, and the future destiny of the country, were in their keeping, and that it would be dishonorable to refuse the responsibility or prove recreant to the trust. He said that the call was addressed to them as Virginians, and asked if Old Virginia should sleep while her sister States were aroused, and their sons on the march to the aid of our brethren in Texas. He then asked in what portion of the Commonwealth this spirit could so well display itself as in this city, the heart and capital of the State.

This is but an imperfect sketch of Mr. Carrington’s remarks—in fact, not a full synopsis of what he said.

The following are the resolutions which were read to the meeting:

Resolved, that it is now known through the length and breadth of our land, that war is actually raging on our borders, and we are in daily expectation of intelligence of the most momentous import.

Resolved, That under such circumstances, every generous American youth naturally asks himself, what am I to do, and what do the honor and interests of the country demand of me?.

Resolved, That we, the young men of Virginia are determined to associate ourselves together for the formation of one or more volunteer companies, and offer our services forthwith to the General Government, to do battle for our country, when and where they may think proper to order us.

When Mr. Carrington had concluded, Gen. E. C. Carrington was called upon to address the meeting. He spoke about twenty minutes in the most patriotic spirit—declared that there were none present too young or too old to do battle for the country. He made a feeling vindication of the country against the imputation of degeneracy. He did not doubt that the spirit of the Revolutionary fathers was alive with their sons.

Robt. G. Scott, Esq., was called, and addressed the meeting with his usual ability. He did not consider this proceeding as rendered necessary by the situation of Gen. Taylor’s army—its fate was already sealed. Our object was to carry the war into Mexico, in order to chastise this nation of semi-barbarians into better manners.

Mr. S. urged the adoption of the resolutions.—He said they embodied his sentiments, and their object met with his entire concurrence.

The resolutions were adopted by acclamation.

Col. John D. Munford was called upon, and made a stirring speech. He invoked the aid and countenance of the community; and concluded by offering this resolution, which was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That a committee consisting of five persons, be forthwith appointed for the purpose of taking immediate measures to raise by voluntary contribution, of the citizens of Richmond, the necessary funds to uniform and equip the corps of volunteers proposed to be organized in this city, destined for the service of the United States, in the existing war with Mexico.
Potosi, the key to the rich treasury of the Mexican mines, where the two forming an union, they may come down Matamoras upon Leona Vicario, falling upon Zacatecas, let the detachment from Tampico march upon San Louis continent. Let our forces then be sent to both Vera Cruz and Tampico, and while Gen. Taylor advances from under Gen. Barradas in 1829, when they made their last attempt to regain their possessions on the American d'Ulloa fell under their bombardment. Tampico was chosen by the Spaniards for the landing of five thousand troops any foreign supply. Vera Cruz was selected by the French for their attack in 1837, when the Castle of San Juan the Gulf of Mexico, and the only points, except the very unimportant one of Tuzpan, through which Mexico receives the invasion of Mexico, we understand that it is necessary to pass through a section of country in certain points very rugged and difficult of passage, in other points reach the more commanding and valuable portion of Mexico, after leaving the Rio Grande, we understand that it is necessary to pass through a section of country in certain points very rugged and difficult of passage, in other points exceedingly mountainous, with extensive plains beyond, much exposed to drought;--the whole inhabited by a hardy population, who may be said to live on horseback, who are familiar with every pass and defence, who have been accustomed to the excitement and trials o revolutions, and who, by driving their herds of cattle before them, would leave an invading army entirely dependant upon their own supplies, to carry which, for so great a distance, would in itself be an immense labor and expense. We do not doubt that the President of the United States has full information upon all these points. There are intelligent men now in Washington, connected with the Government, who have enjoyed a long experience in Mexico, and who, if we presume, be called upon to furnish what they may for the public good. It occurs to us, that William S. Parrott, Esq., formerly U. States Consul in the city of Mexico and late Secretary of Legation to that country, would be particularly available in this respect. He owned at one time, we learn, a hacienda in the vicinity of Leona Vicario, and for some years was in the habit of travelling through the barrancas dangerous defiles on the other side of the Rio Grande. The Government can derive from him much valuable intelligence as to the nature of the country and the habits of the people.

We have every reason to believe that a well-advised, not less than a prompt and vigorous plan of operations will be adopted by the Executive; and it strikes us as probable, reasoning from circumstances, that a part of this plan may be, to send attacking forces by sea to Tampico and Vera Cruz. These are the two great and important points on the Gulf of Mexico, and the only points, except the very unimportant one of Tuzpan, through which Mexico receives any foreign supply. Vera Cruz was selected by the French for their attack in 1837, when the Castle of San Juan d'Ulloa fell under their bombardment. Tampico was chosen by the Spaniards for the landing of five thousand troops under Gen. Barradas in 1829, when they made their last attempt to regain their possessions on the American continent. Let our forces then be sent to both Vera Cruz and Tampico, and while Gen. Taylor advances from Matamoras upon Leona Vicario, falling upon Zacatecas, let the detachment from Tampico march upon San Louis Potosi, [the key to the rich treasury of the Mexican mines, ] where the two forming an union, they may come down
These suggestions are thrown out after an inspection of the map with a friend who has given greater attention to the subject and has had better opportunities of appreciating the locale than ourselves. We are utterly ignorant of the plan of campaign which may have been agreed upon by the Executive. We only know that prompt and vigorous measures have been set on foot by all the departments of the Government. These suggestions are designed merely to show the probability of a more extended scale of operations than many perhaps anticipate—and, consequently, to commend to a more favorable consideration our proposal for the formation of a Virginia Legion.

In view of the probable loss of life from the climate, to which volunteers taken from this portion of the country, accustomed to regularity of lodging and abundant subsistence, may be exposed, if carried into camp at an unhealthy season of the year, in a climate fatal to strangers, it is not improbable that the President may, for the present, decline to send volunteers from Virginia—but their “turn” will certainly come, if we are not mistaken in our apprehensions of the duration and extent of the war. They may be now regularly enlisted, and may be ordered to the garrison at Old Point, where, under the training of efficient officers of the regular army, they may take the place of the regulars, and be ready, at a moment’s warning, for service in any point of the Union. The South may not be the only seat of war. Circumstances may arise, which may transfer operations to different and not less important points.

Let, then, a Virginia Legion be formed, constituted of men who will touch arms as brothers—who will be animated by the pride of name—who, moved by the spirit of brave Nelson at York-Town, when he ordered his own house to be battered down because it protected the enemy, will leave their business and their interests, and go forth to emulate an ancestry, who are as yet, in the world’s history, without superiors, in all that constitutes high-souled honor and devoted patriotism.

[REW]

RE46v43i6p1c2, May 19, 1846: VOLUNTEER MEETING.

A large and enthusiastic meeting was held this morning (Friday, the 15th,) at the Military Hall, for the purpose of organizing a volunteer corps to aid in defence of Texas. The meeting addressed by Mr. E. C. Carrington in a spirited manner. The meeting then adjourned to the room of one of its members, and Mr., John D. Warren having been called to the Chair, he explained the intention of the meeting, that its object was to get a sufficient number of volunteers, and proceed as early as possible to its organization.

The requisite number being soon enrolled, the meeting proceeded to the election of officers. Mr. Edward C. Carrington was unanimously elected Captain of the Company; Mr. G. P. Porterfield, 1st Lieutenant; Mr. Carlton Munford, 2d Lieutenant; Mr. John D. Warren 3d Lieutenant; and Mr. Htomas G. McKenzie, 4th Lieutenant; Hermon Carlton, 1st Orderly Sergeant, and J. Richard Lewellen, Colour Sergeant.

The meeting then adjourned, to meet again at the Exchange Concert Room at eight o’clock.

The meeting met at the appointed hour. A motion was made, that the Captain and some of the officers should go on to Washington as soon as practicable, and offer their services to the General Government. The motion was unanimously adopted.

The meeting then proceeded to the appointment of a committee to draft a constitution, and to perform such other duties as may be requisite to complete the organization of the corps.

On motion, the meeting then adjourned. E. C. CARRINGTON, Pres’t. HERMON CARLTON, Sec’y.

[In compliance with a resolution, in the above proceedings, Capt. Carrington and Lieutenant Warren left this city for Washington on Saturday morning last, with the view of tendering to the General Government the services of this new and spirited corps of volunteers.] [BWP]
Mr. Douglass next took the floor. Several members proposed that the committee rise, that he might proceed with his speech in the morning. He declined to avail himself of their courtesy, as he had but a few remarks to make, and those principally in reply to the gentleman from Ohio, who had just taken his seat, [Mr. Delano.] The gentleman from Ohio (said Mr. Douglass, ) has been so kind as to herald my advent before my arrival, and announce that I was about to follow him in the debate. I suppose that he drew this inference from the fact, that I took a seat near him, and listened to his speech with the most respectful attention. Acting upon this suggestion, he has addressed a large portion of his speech to me, and invited an answer from me especially to the principal points in his argument. I propose to gratify him in this respect; and while I shall speak with freedom and boldness of his positions and arguments, I trust I shall observe the same respectful courtesy towards my opponents which has characterized his effort. I commend the patriotism, if not the morality of the sentiment which he quoted at the beginning, and repeated several times in the course of his speech: “I go for my country, right or wrong.” I fear, however, that this sentiment, once so much approved by our countrymen, is about to be brought into disrespect and contempt by the use which the gentleman and some of his coadjutors are now making of it. They “go for their country right or wrong;” but they insist that their country is, and has been all the time in the wrong. They say that they will support the war, but that, in their opinion, “the war is unholy, unrighteous and damnable.”. His arguments, moreover, went to destroy all the sophism and misrepresentations of the Whigs in the two Houses of Congress, in regard to the marching of our troops across what is declared to be Mexican soil. He leaves them not an inch to stand upon.

Mr. J. W. Houston. Who made use of that expression? Was it any gentleman on this side of the House?.

Mr. Douglass. Yes, sir. The gentleman from Ohio [Mr. Delano] who has just taken his seat, made use of the identical words, and repeated them several times with great emphasis in the course of his speech, while the great body of his political friends listened with the most profound respect, and gave every indication of approbation and encouragement, by expressions, looks and nods of assent. I see the venerable gentleman from Massachusetts before me now nods his approval of the sentiment.

Mr. Adams. Yes, sir. Mr. Chairman, I approve and endorse every word and syllable of it.

Mr. Douglass. So I supposed, from the marked indications of approval which that gentleman and his friends gave to every attack upon the right, interests, and honor of his own country. What reliance shall we place on the sincerity of gentlemen’s professions, that they are for the country right or wrong, when they exert all their power and influence to put their country in the wrong in the eyes of Christendom, and invoke the wrath of heaven upon us for our manifold national crimes and aggressions? With professions of patriotism on their lips, do they not show that their hearts are against their own country? They appeal to the consciences and religious feelings of our countrymen to unite in execration of our Government, army, citizen soldiers, and country, for prosecuting what they denounce as an
I will now proceed to examine the arguments by which the gentleman from Ohio, and those with whom he acts, pretend to justify their foreign sympathies. They assume that the Rio del Norte was not the boundary line between Texas and Mexico—that the Republic of Texas never extended beyond the Nueces—and consequently our government was under no obligation, and had no right, to protect the lives and property of American citizens beyond the last mentioned river. In support of this assumption, the gentleman has referred to the dispute which he says arose between the provinces of Coahuila and Texas, and the decisions of Almonte and some other Mexican General thereon prior to the Texan revolution; and while those provinces constituted a state of the Mexican confederacy. He has also referred to Mr. Hasting's History of Texas, in which we are also informed that the same boundary is assigned to the Mexican province of Texas. I do not deem it necessary to go back to a period anterior to the Texan revolution to ascertain the limits and boundaries of the republic of Texas. But if the gentleman has so great a reverence for antiquity as to place more reliance upon old authorities, which have become obsolete and inapplicable, in consequence of the changed relations of the country, I will gratify his taste in that respect, by directing his attention to the various maps, records, histories and authorities—Spanish, English and French—by which it is shown that the Rio del Norte was the boundary line between the French province of Louisiana and the Spanish provinces of Mexico. The gentleman can satisfy himself on that point, if he will take the pains to read a despatch (I might with propriety say a book, from its very great length,) written by the American Secretary of State, John Q. Adams, to the Spanish Minister, (Don Onis,) in 1819. He will there find the authorities all collected and reviewed with a clearness and ability which defies refutation, and demonstrates the validity of the American title under the treaty of 1803, to the country in dispute, together with the expression of his opinion, by the venerable gentleman from Massachusetts, [Mr. Adams,) that our title to the Del Norte was as clear as to the island of New Orleans. This was the opinion of Mr. Adams in 1819. It was the opinion of Messrs. Monroe and Pinkney in 1805. It was the opinion of Jefferson and Madison—of all our Presidents, and all administrations from the day of the purchase of Louisiana, in 1803, to the fatal treaty of relinquishment to Spain in 1819. I give the gentleman the opinions of these men in opposition to the opinion of Almonte and his brother Mexican General, and then leave the question of boundary prior to the Texan r evolution. Will he tell us, and his constituents, that those distinguished statesmen, including his friend from Massachusetts, [Mr. Adams,) as well, as Mr. Polk and the American Congress, were engaged in an unholy, an unrighteous and damnable cause, in claiming title to the Rio del Norte?

But, sir, I have already said that I do not deem it necessary to rely upon these old authorities for the full and complete justification of our government in defending possession of the country on the left bank of the Rio del Norte. There is better and higher evidence than this. The republic of Texas held the country by a more glorious title than can be traced through the old maps and musty records of Spanish and French courts. She held the country by the same title that our forefathers of the revolution acquired our territory and achieved the independence of this republic. She held it by virtue of her declaration of independence, setting forth the inalienable rights of man, by men who had hearts to feel and minds to comprehend the blessings of freedom; by principles successfully maintained by the irresistible power of her arms, and consecrated by the precious blood of her glorious heroes. These are her moments of title to the empire which she has voluntarily annexed to our Union, and which we have plighted our faith to protect and defend against invasion or dismemberment. We have received the republic of Texas, with her entire territory into this Union; as an independent and sovereign State, and have no right to alienate or surrender any portion of it. This obligation the gentlemen of the opposition admit, so far as respects the country to the northeast of the Nueces, but deny both the obligation and right to go beyond that river. I should have felt myself under peculiar obligations to them, if they would have condescended to inform us upon what grounds they assume the Nueces to have been the boundary line of the republic of Texas, and draw a distinction between our rights to the country on the opposite sides of that stream. I know nothing in the history of that republic from its birth to its translation, that will authorize any such assumption.

In order that I might be certain of the accuracy of the facts, to which I am about to refer, I have taken the precaution, with in the last few minutes, to have them authenticated by the testimony of the two most distinguished actors, one of whom I now recognize in my eye) of those thrilling and glorious scenes of the Texan Revolution. Before this high authority I assert, that as early as the campaign of 1835, there were soldiers and officers too in the Texan army, who resided in the country between the Nueces and the Del Norte. These same heroic men from the west side of the Nueces, or so many of them as had not been butchered by the Mexican soldiery, were present at the battle of Jan Jacinto, on the 21st of April, 1836, when Santa Ana was captured, and the Mexican army annihilated. Although few in number, and from their residence, exposed to more of the barbarities of the Mexicans than any other portion of Texas, they were faithful to the cause of freedom, and constant in their devotion to the cause of the Republic throughout its existence. Immediately after the battle of San Jacinto, Santa Ana made a proposition to the commander of the Texan army to make a treaty of peace, by which Mexico would recognize the independence of Texas, with the Rio del Norte as the boundary. In May, 1836, such a treaty was made between the Government of
Texas and Santa Ana, in which the independence of the Republic of Texas was acknowledged, and the Rio del Norte recognized as the boundary. In pursuance of this treaty, the remnant of the Mexican army were ordered by Santa Ana to retire beyond the confines of the Republic of Texas, and take their position on the west side of the Rio del Norte, which they did in conformity with the treaty of peace.

Mr. J. W. Houston. I wish to ask of the gentleman from Illinois, was that treaty ever ratified by the Government of Mexico?

Mr. Douglass. I will answer the gentleman’s question with great pleasure. That Treaty was never ratified on the part of Mexico by any body, except Santa Ana, for the very good reason that, in the year previous, Santa Ana had usurped the Government of Mexico, had abolished the Constitution and the regularly established Government, and taken all the powers of Government into his own hands. To give stability to the power which he had usurped by the sword, he called a Congress around him, composed of his own adherents and followers, and had himself formally proclaimed dictator of the Republic of Mexico, and, as such, clothed with all the powers of Government, civil and military. In this capacity, he marched his armies into Texas, for the purpose of reducing those people into subjection to the despotism which he had established, and exterminating the last vestige of freedom which remained in all his dominions. While engaged in his work of desolation with fire and sword, committing butcheries and barbarities unknown to civilized warfare, he fell into the hands of the heroic Houston and his gallant little army—a captive to those whom he was striving to reduce to captivity. Then it was, . That the tyrant became the suppliant—a suppliant for his life and liberty—at the hands of those he had designed as his victims. There the dictator bent the knee in prayer for mercy, offering to recognise the independence of Texas, with the Rio del Norte. Subsequently the Treaty was entered into in due form, as I have already stated, and the Mexicans evacuated Texas in pursuance of its provisions, retiring to the West side of the Rio del Norte. This Treaty was entered into by the Government of Mexico de facto, Santa Ana combining in his own person at that time all the powers of the Government, and as such was binding on the Mexican nation.

Mr. John Quincy Adams. I desire to inquire of the gentleman from Illinois if Santa Ana was not a prisoner of war at the time, and in duress, when he executed that Treaty?

Mr. Douglass, in reply. Santa Anna was a prisoner of war at the time, and so was the entire government of Mexico, he being the government de facto, and clothes with all the powers of government, civil and military. The government was a prisoner at the time, and in duress. But will it be contended that that circumstance rendered its obligation less obligatory? We are now at war with Mexico. Our armies will soon march into the heart of that country. I trust they will penetrate as far as the capital, and capture the army, people and government—make them all prisoners of war, and keep them in duress until they shall conclude a treaty of peace and boundary with us, by which they shall not only recognise the Rio del Norte, but such other line as we shall choose to dictate or accept. Will the gentleman from Massachusetts contend that a treaty made with us under those circumstances would not be binding, because, forsooth, the government was a prisoner at the time? How is a conquered nation ever to make peace, if the gentleman’s doctrine is to prevail? They refuse to make peace before they are conquered, because they hope for victory. They are incompetent to do so afterwards because they are in duress! Surely an unfortunate and defeated belligerent would be in a most lamentable condition. Too imbecile to resist, disarmed, conquered, still incompetent to make a treaty of peace, and adjust the matter in dispute on such fair and equitable terms as a magnanimous foe shall propose, because the war of aggression which they commenced has resulted disastrously, and made them captives! I fear that if this doctrine shall prevail, these gentlemen will soon find their Mexican friends in a most pitiable condition. Perhaps, if that government should be reduced to captivity, these gentlemen would require that our armies should retire within our own territory, and set the government at liberty, before negotiations for peace could be opened. This may be their view of the subject, but I doubt whether it is the view which the American government or the American people will deem it their duty to act upon. Our crude notions of things may teach us that the city of Mexico would be the most suitable place to form a treaty of peace.

Mr. Adams. Has not that treaty with Santa Ana been discarded by the Mexican government since?.

Mr. Douglass. I presume it has, for I am not aware of any treaty or compact which that government ever entered into that has not either been violated or repudiated by them afterwards. And our treaty stipulations with them furnish ample ground for this presumption. I have not deemed it necessary to inquire, therefore, what particular acts of disavowal have been since adopted by the Mexican government. It is sufficient for my purpose that the treaty was entered into and sanctioned by the government de facto for the time being. The acts of a government de facto are binding on the nation as against foreign nations, without reference to the mode in which that government was established, whether by revolution, usurpation, or rightful and constitutional means.

Mr. Adams. I deny it—I deny the proposition.

Mr. Douglass. I do not intent to enter into a discussion of the law of nation with the learned gentleman from Massachusetts. I will only say that I understand all writers on the law of nations to lay down the principle as I have stated. Certainly the practice and usages of all civilized nations sanction it, of which history furnishes us innumerable examples. Mexico herself was nothing but as government de facto, in the strict legal sense of the term, at the time of the Texas revolution. She had revolted from Spain in 1821, and had successfully maintained her national existence; but her independence was not recognized by the mother country until December, 1836.—Yet we had recognized her existence as a government de facto in the meantime and had entered into treaties of commerce, as well as of boundary. These treaties were made with the existing government for the time being, whether a constitutional republic, a military despotism, or a dictatorship. We never pretended to inquire into the question whether the government had been rightfully formed or not; it was sufficient for our purposes that it was the existing government.
de facto. So it was with Texas. She became independent de facto in 1836, and we recognized her independence as such immediately afterwards; and so did England, France, and most of the great powers of the globe. All other nations formed treaties with her as a government de facto without inquiring who had been right and who in the wrong in her revolutionary struggle. We purchased Louisiana from Napoleon, a usurper at the head of a military despotism.—Does the gentleman deny the validity of the acts of the British Government during the times of Oliver Cromwell, because it was a mere government de facto, established in blood, in violation of the British constitution? Many of the most important treaties, affecting the destinies of Europe, were made with the British Government during that period. Who ever thought of denying their validity because they had been made by government de facto, which had been reared on the ruins of the British monarchy? The doctrine of the gentleman from Massachusetts is a novel one—it finds no sanction in the books, and no examples in history. The universal doctrine is, that the acts of the government de facto are binding upon the nation as against other nations, from the consequences of which it cannot release itself by a subsequent revolution. It is immaterial, therefore, whether Mexico has, or has not, since repudiated Santa Ana’s treaty with Texas. It was executed at the time by competent authority. She availed herself of all its benefits. By virtue of it, she saved the remnant of her army from total annihilation. Under it she was enabled to remove in peace and security all her soldiers, citizens and property beyond the Rio de Norte. The question is, had she a moral or legal right to repudiate it, after she had enjoyed all its advantages? But the right of Texas to the country West of the Nueces does not rest on this treaty and the preceding acts alone. She has had legal possession of, and exercised jurisdiction over it from that day to this. When the people of Texas assembled in 1836, to form the constitution of the republic, the inhabitants residing between the Nueces and the Rio del Norte had their representative there. James Powers, a citizen and resident of that part of Texas, was a delegate in that convention. Colonel Renny, formerly a citizen of my own State, has for many years resided West of the Nueces, and represented that county in the Texan Congress. He was a member of the convention which formed the constitution of the State of Texas, preparatory to her admission into the Union, and is now a member of the Senate of that State. Besides all these facts, Texas has had counties organised, and courts established there for years, and has successfully maintained her jurisdiction, not only against the Comanche Indians, but against all the marauding parties that Mexico has been able to send across the Rio del Norte.

There is still another item of information which I can give the gentleman, to show that Mexico has, at a recent date, recognised the Rio del Norte as the boundary. The members of the last Congress will recollect that much was said in debate on the Treaty and resolutions for the annexation of Texas, about an armistice which had been entered into between Texas and Mexico, for the cessation of hostilities. The proposition was proposed and accepted; and in the proclamation of the President of Mexico announcing its existence, the Mexican troops were directed to retire from Texas to the West bank of the Rio del Norte, and did so in pursuance of that armistice. Here we find a clear and unequivocal recognition of the Rio del Norte as the boundary by Mexico as late as 1843. What stronger evidence could we have of the establishment of a boundary line than this train of facts, reaching back as far as 1835, and all tending to two points—first, that Texas has always claimed the country West of the Nueces, and exercised jurisdiction over all sections of it occupied by her people—and secondly, that Mexico has, on all occasions, recognized the Rio del Norte as the boundary?.

Mr. Adams. I wish to ask the gentleman from Illinois if the last Congress did not pass a law regulating commerce and trade to the foreign province of Santa Fe?

Mr. Douglass. I believe there was an act passed regulating trade between Independence, Mo., and Santa Fe. I do not now recollect its exact provisions. Nor is it important, inasmuch as that was before Texas was annexed to this Union. Of course Santa Fe was foreign to us at that time, whether it belonged to Texas or Mexico. But as the venerable gentleman from Massachusetts has called my attention to an act of Congress which he supposes bears upon the point at issue, I will reciprocate the compliment by asking his attention to one for which he voted at the present session. Will that gentleman inform us why he voted at the present session of Congress for a bill establishing a collection district in Texas, and in it included the country between the Nueces and the del Norte, and in the bill itself provided for the establishment of a port of delivery west of the Nueces, and the appointment of a surveyor of the port to reside there, and to superintend the execution of the United States revenue laws over the very country which he now asserts belongs to Mexico? The present Congress has passed such a law. It is now in force over the country in dispute, and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Adams, ) and if my recollection serves me right, every gentleman of this House who is now denouncing the President for sending the army there voted for that law. My friend from Ohio, who sits nearest to me, says that the gentleman from Massachusetts made a speech for it—a fact which had escaped my recollection. A surveyor at that port has been appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, and, I am informed, has been engaged for some months in the performance of his duties under the law for which all these especial guardians of Mexican rights voted. Now, sirs, I ask in all fairness and candor, what right these gentlemen have to abuse the President for sending the army into that country to protect the lives of our citizens, after they had voted to take legal possession of it by the extension of our laws? They had asserted our right to the country by a solemn act of Congress; they had erected it into a collection district; the constitution required the President to appoint the officers, and see the laws faithfully executed. He has done so; and for this simple discharge of duty, under a law for which they voted, he is now denounced in the coarsest terms known to our language, as having done an act unholy, unrighteous, and damnable.

And this denunciation is endorsed by the gentleman from Massachusetts, who, in 1819, declared that our title to the Del Norte was as perfect as to the island of New Orleans.

Mr. Adams. I never said that our title was good to the Rio del Norte from its mouth to its source.

Mr. Douglass. I fully understand the points of the gentleman’s denial. He denies that he claimed the Del Norte all the way to its source. I know nothing of his mental reservations. He claimed the Del Norte as the boundary, without specifying how far it extended up the river. He will not deny this fact, for I have the official evidence over his own
Mr. Adams. I wrote that despatch as Secretary of State, and endeavored to make out the best case I could for my own country, as it was my duty. But I utterly deny that I claimed the Rio del Norte in its whole extent. I only claimed it as the line a short distance up, and then took a line northward, some distance from the river.

Mr. Douglass. Was it above Matamoras?

Mr. Adams. I never specified any particular point.

Mr. Douglass. I have heard of this line to which the gentleman refers. It followed a river near to the gorge of the mountains; certainly more than 100 miles above Matamoras. Consequently, taking the gentleman on his own claim, the position occupied by General Taylor opposite Matamoras, and every inch of the ground upon which an American soldier has planted his foot, were clearly within our own territory as claimed by him in 1819. I am not now to be diverted from the real point at issue by tracing the line beyond which our army has marched. My present object is to repel the calumnies which have been uttered against our government for the purpose of putting our country in the wrong in the existing war. I have exposed these calumnies by reference to the acts and admissions of our accusers, by which they have asserted our title at least as high up as we have taken possession. The President had ordered the army no further than Congress had extended our laws. I have shown that the country in dispute has constituted one congressional election district in Texas since 1836; that its citizens engaged in the war of the revolution; that they participated in the convention which formed the constitution of the republic, and also the State constitution; that the same country is within a senatorial district for the State of Texas, and has a senator residing within it; that it forms a part of one of the districts for electing members to the Congress of the U. States; and that it is included in out revenue districts for the collection of tariff duties, and has officers of the customs residing within it.

In view of all these facts, I submit to the candor of every honest man whether the President did not do his duty, and nothing but his duty, when he ordered the army to the Rio del Norte. Should he have folded his arms, and allowed our citizens to be murdered, and our territory to be invaded with impunity? Have we not forborne to act offensively, until our forbearance is construed into cowardice, and is exciting contempt from those towards whom we have exercised our magnanimity? We have a long list of grievances—a long catalogue of wrongs to be avenged. The war has commenced, and he who is not on the side of our country, must necessarily be a traitor to it. I had trusted and hoped that there would be no anti-war party after war was once declared. But I am particularly mortified to see one of those who were ready to go to war for Oregon, arraigning himself on the side of the enemy, when our country is invaded on the southern side of the Union for our own country, and all its parts are one and indivisible. I would rally under her standard for the defence of one portion as soon as the other—the South as soon as the North—for Texas as soon as Oregon. And I will here now do my Southern friends the justice to say, that I firmly, and never doubted, that if war had arisen out of the Oregon question, when once declared, they would have stood shoulder to shoulder by me as firmly as I shall by them in this Mexican war. When the Oregon issue comes, I have no fears of the result.

Mr. Adams. I thought I understood the gentleman, some time ago, to be for 54 degrees 40 minutes, and to tell his Southern friends that he wanted no dodging on the Oregon question.

Mr. Douglass. Sir, I was for 54 deg. 40 min., and am as ready to fight for that line as the Del Norte. My patriotism is not of that kind which would lead me to go to war to enlarge one section of the Union out of mere hatred and vengeance towards the other. I know of no sections in this respect; and while I did complain of some of my southern friends on the Oregon question, I never doubted their patriotism when war was actually declared. But, since the gentleman from Massachusetts has referred to the Oregon question, I wish to call his attention to one of his wise sayings on that subject, and see if he will not apply it to Texas as well as Oregon. He told us that he went for the policy of the great Frederick in regard to Silesia. He was for taking possession first, and negotiating afterwards. Afterwards. According to the gentleman's own showing, that is precisely what Mr. Polk has done in regard to the country on the Del Norte. He certainly ought not to blame the President for acting over one of his own maxims. The President has taken possession, and has offered to negotiate, and gone so far as to send a minister to Mexico for that purpose. For this he is a bused also. He is condemned alike for using the sword and the olive branch. —His enemies object to his efforts for amicable adjustment as much as to the operations of the army. All is wrong in their eyes. Their country is always wrong, and our enemies in the right.--It has ever been so. so. It was so in the last war. Then it was unbecoming a moral and religious free people to rejoice at the success of our arms. We were wrong in their estimation in the French indemnity case—in the Florida war—in all the Indian wars, and now in the Mexican war. I despair of ever seeing my country again in the right, if they are to be the oracles. Mr. Douglass's hour here expired.

Mr. Washington Hunt asked why, if that was the case, this government had offered compensation for the grant of the Rio Grande as the boundary?.

Mr. Douglass did not know (he said) that such an offer had been made.

Mr. Hunt said the offer was made by Mr. Shannon.
Mr. Douglass said it was a secret that was not intrusted to the friends of the administration.

Mr. Hunt. Then the gentleman denies it?

Mr. Douglass. Certainly not. I know nothing about and care nothing about it. I neither deny nor affirm things as to which I have no knowledge. The gentleman from Massachusetts did not deny that we had some claim to the country west of the Nueces.

Mr. Adams. If the gentleman refers to me, I deny the fact.

Mr. Douglass. I can prove it, sir, from the gentleman’s words, though they are not in his hand-writing, being in print. In his letter to Don Onis, he says: "We might Mr. Monroe and Mr. Pinkney assert that our title to the Rio Grand del Norte was as good as to the Island of New Orleans;" and this assertion the gentleman not only made but proved by a great number of authorities. The gentleman from Massachusetts had said, in relation to Oregon, that he would take possession first and negotiate afterwards; and he would certainly not now blame Mr. Polk for following his advice in regard to Mexico.

Mr. Adams here made a remark, intimating that he was afraid the President would give up Oregon.

Mr. Douglass hoped, he said, for the best. He stood out for the whole, and believed that we should get it; and if for no other reason, because the British title had been demonstrated so clearly here that the demands based upon it would not be acceded to by the American Congress. But whatever become of Oregon he would stand by Mexico, and he believed his country to be in the right.

The gentleman from Ohio has spoken of the expense of war. He (Mr. D.) was not cold-blooded enough to sit down and count the money which it might cost; nor would it be of any use, because we were now in the war. The object in holding out an exaggerated idea of the expense of the war was to destroy the credit of the country, and to paralyze its efforts. For the same reason it was denounced as an unholy and damnable war.

Mr. Payne here asked whether the money which had been appropriated for the object was not already in the treasury?

Mr. Douglass said there was money enough in the treasury to meet the present emergency.

Mr. Payne said he so understood it, and he wished the fact to be known to the country.

[BPW]

RE46v43i6p2c1, May 19, 1846: From the Second Edition of the Enquirer, of May 18th.

IMPORTANT NEWS!
MATAMORAS DESTROYED!
700 Mexicans Killed!
GEN. TAYLOR AT POINT ISABEL!!!

By this morning’s Southern mail we have received late and important news from the Army, which we hasten to lay before our readers in a second edition.

From the New Orleans Picayune Extra, May 11.Important from the Rio Grande—General Taylor at Point Isabel—Attack on his Camp—Repulse of the Mexicans, and Destruction of Matamoras!

The steamship New York, Captain Windle, arrived in port on Sunday evening, having left Brasos Santiago the afternoon of Wednesday, the 6th instant. Her news is important, and of the most gratifying description.

Our last previous accounts came down to Wednesday the 29th ult. Captain Walker, of the Texas Rangers, having come into Point Isabel on the evening of the 28th ult., from his desperate encounter with the Mexicans, had volunteered to carry despatches to General Taylor. We now learn by the New York, that in that desperate attempt—so desperate as to be thought fool hardy—he fully succeeded. General Taylor learned from him the critical situation in which Point Isabel was placed, and the imminent danger of its being carried by an overpowering force of the Mexicans. He promptly determined upon a movement which should protect Point Isabel, and re-establish his communication with his supplies. Accordingly the evening of Friday, the first instant, he left his camp, opposite Matamoras, with the main body of his forces, determined to cut his way through, leaving behind him for the defence of the works, opposite Matamoras, between 700 and 800 troops.

This movement of General Taylor upon Point Isabel was effected without encountering a single Mexican. In place of molesting him, they concentrated their troops about the camps which he had just left.
On the morning of the 3d. Gen. Taylor despatched Capt. Walker back to the Camp for intelligence. The gallant Ranger executed his commission with success, returning to Point Isabel the afternoon of the 5th. He reported that the Mexicans, taking advantage of the supposed weakness of the camp, commenced an attack up on it in front the morning of Sunday, the 3d, with all their batteries from the opposite side of the river, and simultaneously with a detachment of their forces on this side the Rio Grande, in the rear. The Americans hotly returned the fire.—The attack in the rear was immediately repulsed, and in less than thirty minutes the Mexican batteries were silenced, and the city of Matamoras battered down. The loss to the Mexicans in the action is variously set down. While no account makes it less than 200, the latest report in regard to it, which we find in the Galveston news, carries it as high as 700. The Americans lost but a single man, it is said, who was killed by a shell. None were wounded—so admirable was the state of the works before Gen. Taylor left them. The town of Matamoras is a complete ruin; there are scarcely houses enough left standing to serve as hospitals for the wounded.

The attack and repulse, however, is considered but the opening of the campaign. Cannonading was distinctly heard at times, down to the hour of the departure of the New York. General Taylor set forth on the 6th instant to return to his camp with ample supplies. The Galveston News states that when he left Point Isabel, there was not the slightest doubt entertained that he would have to cut his way to his entrenchments through vastly superior numbers of the enemy, who were known to be posted in large forces among the almost impassable thickets of chaparral on the road, with a determination to cut him off, if possible, in his attempt to regain his other forces. The number of the Mexicans is entirely vague and uncertain, though all the statements agree in estimating them at not less than ten thousand, while many accounts put their number at 15 or 20 thousand. All accounts agree also in stating that the Mexican forces were rapidly flocking in from all quarters. How many crossed the river could not be told, though the News thinks it would be reasonable to presume that a large part of their forces would be brought into requisition to dispute the march of General Taylor. They could not but see the importance of cutting him off, and would doubtless employ all their advantages of local knowledge, skill in horsemanship, and all their acknowledged resources in stratagem to accomplish their object. Gen. Taylor anticipated a formidable and desperate opposition to his march, but determined to accomplish it or perish.

Thus reasons the News, and accordingly anticipates intelligence of a decisive general action. We are greatly inclined to doubt whether the Mexicans would venture to attack Gen. Taylor’s whole force, although they so outnumber him; but should they do so we are confident that we shall have a glorious victory to recount.—One account before us states, however, that Gen. Taylor had not left Point Isabel, and probably would not leave there before the arrival of further re-inforcements, he having full confidence in the ability of the troops left in camp to maintain their position against any odds.

The arrival of the New York at Point Isabel was most opportune. It will be recollected that she had nearly 200 regular troops on board, under Lieut. McPhail, as well as several field pieces. These were all safely landed. Even without the arrival of further reinforcements, the post at Point Isabel must have been so strengthened as to place its safety beyond reasonable doubt. Martial law has been proclaimed there and at Santiago, and every man pressed into the service. But ere this, further support has reached Point Isabel from this city and Pensacola.

The accounts from Texas in regard to volunteers are by no means satisfactory. The greatest apathy seems to prevail throughout the country.

Col. Hays, of the Rangers, with his force of about 400 men stationed in the San Antonio country, determined to march at once for Gen. Taylor’s camp, as soon as he learned that it was in a critical situation, not would it surprise us to hear that Col. Harney, with his dragoons, had done the same thing.

While Gen. Taylor was at Point Isabel he despatched a schooner to Vera Cruz, with intelligence of the proceedings upon the Rio Grande. We presume that Com. Connor will at once formally blockade every Mexican port on the Gulf.

With great pleasure we see it mentioned in the Bulletin that the commander of the U. S. schooner Flirt having observed a small encampment of Mexicans on the island at the mouth of the Brazos Santiago, and knowing the great danger of the point at the entrance of the harbor being in possession of the Mexicans, landed with his men and dispersed the camp. The reader will recollect that the utmost fear was felt that the Mexicans might fortify a position here which would command the approach to Point Isabel.

[End of passage]

RE46v43i6p2c1, May 19, 1846: ARRIVAL OF ALABAMA.

The steamship Alabama left Galveston on the morning of Saturday, the 9th, about twelve hours after the new York, and arrived early Monday morning. She brings nothing whatever later from the Rio Grande, there having been no further arrival from Brazos Santiago.

[End of passage]

RE46v43i6p2c1, May 19, 1846: TROOPS FOR THE RIO GRANDE.
Since our last publication the Telegraph and James L. Day have left with troops for Brazos Santiago. The Galveston got off on Saturday night, before midnight; the Telegraph followed the next morning; and James L. Day left at about 2 o’clock this morning. Upon these boats the several companies of the Washington Regiment, under Col. J. B. Walton, and one company of Col. Marks’ “Jackson Regiment” have taken passage.

[WP]

RE46v43i6p2c1, May 19, 1846: The LegionVolunteered.

The extra Picayune gives the official proceedings of the Louisiana Legion, in which, on Sunday, the 10th inst., they volunteered their services in a body, for service in the war on the Rio Grande.

[WP]

RE46v43i6p2c1, May 19, 1846: No Title.

An extra from the New Orleans Bulletin says: Capt. Walker. Of the Texian Rangers, who, it will be remembered, gallantly offered to carry communications from Point Isabel to Gen. Taylor, succeeded in his desperate enterprise.

"Gen. Taylor immediately on being made acquainted with the condition of affairs, determined with a part of his army to march to Point Isabel, and accordingly on the evening of the 1st, left his intrenchments with from a thousand to twelve hundred men, cavalry, artillery and infantry.

He arrived at Point Isabel on the morning of the 2nd, without having encountered a single Mexican. On the morning of the 3rd, having heard the firing of artillery in the direction of Matamoras, Capt. Walker was again dispatched immediately to ascertain the cause.

This brave man again succeeded in reaching the camp, and on his return on the 5th reported that the Mexicans finding Gen. Taylor absent from his camp and his forces divided, took the opportunity to open their battery at Matamoras on the camp, and those on the eastern bank of the Rio Grande, at the same time made an attack in the rear.

The four gun battery in our camp was immediately opened upon Matamoras. The Mexican battery was silenced in thirty minutes, a number of the houses in Matamoras destroyed, and the enemy of the American side of the river compelled to return.

But one American and none wounded. What number of the enemy was killed or wounded, is not known to any degree of certainty. It is reported that 700 were killed, and that a sufficient number of houses were not left standing in Matamoras to afford shelter to the wounded.

The ultimate result is yet to be known, how- * * * *MISSING PAGE* * * * [WP]

RE46v43i6p2c5, May 19, 1846: No Title.

Tuesday Morning, May 19, 1846.

We had hoped that the news received on Saturday of the defeat of the Texas Rangers, under the intrepid Capt. Walker, would have produced in the bosom of no man any other feeling than sorrow for the fate of the brave fellows, and anxiety for the threatened safety of Point Isabel. – But we were disappointed. The following article in yesterday’s Republican shows that that paper seized the melancholy intelligence as a fit subject for coarse jesting and unjust assaults upon the American Government:

"By the Southern mail of Saturday, we learned that Capt. Walker’s company of 75 men, who had volunteered and were on their way to join Gen. Taylor, had been cut to pieces, the captain and four men only surviving to arrive at Point Isabel. These are the ripe fruits that stupid military order which sent General Taylor to the banks of the Rio Grande, to plant his cannon in the very suburbs of a Mexican city, without any reserve or military support, with nothing to fall back upon, and with no safe means of communication from any source of supplies of men and provisions. As a specimen of generalship, it entitles the Duck River Colonel to a second term as commander-in-chief of the land and naval forces of the United States; and as to Mr. Secretary of War Marcy, he deserves the distinction of at least having a new pair of breeches, in addition to having the old ones patched.”.

"It is true it may be said, that no one thought Gen. Taylor’s position so hazardous, until facts demonstrated it to be so! – But the ready answer is, that people at large gave no thought, and had no reason to think anything about military positions. They expected all the consideration, and care, and skill necessary, from those to whom these
Can any object of party justif... at a time when our fellow citizens are coming forward and offering their services to the Executive, what excuse can there be in a party journal attempting to run down our government in the eyes of our people? If such assaults have any influence with it's own party friends, if in making them believe that the President and the Secretary of War are such contemptible personages as the republican strives to make them out, will not this party movement have the natural effect of cooling the patriotic ardor of those who have volunteered their services in the cause of their country? All must admit the mischief and injustice of such a proceeding – all must condemn such ill timed jests and attempts at ridicule, when war is raging on our frontier, and when it is of vital importance that parties should sleep, and that every heart should beat with patriotic emotions for the cause. At the present moment, to ridicule and assail the Government who have destines of the nations in it's hands, it is but little better than to damp the ardor of the people and cripple the power of the nation. When our gallant soldiers shall have achieved a glorious victory, and when peace once more reigns throughout the land, party journals and orators may arraign the Administration, and the nation will pass judgment. But it is far from a patriotic course to condemn the Executive at this time, when all it's energies and moral force are required to bring the war to a speedy and satisfactory termination.

It is scarcely necessary to refute the sweeping and unfounded charges brought by the Republican against the administration. When the facts shall have been weighed by the people, we feel convinced that they will triumphantly sustain the Executive for what is now denounced by the Whig press as an unpardonable sin, viz: the moving the army to Rio Grande. A few words will be sufficient to blow up this Whig babble.

For fifteen years we have submitted to every species of indignity and insult on the part of Mexico. The lawful claims of our citizens have been repudiated, and some of our citizens have actually been incarcerated. Mexico has wantonly violated her treaty stipulations. stipulations. She has driven one of our ministers out of the country and refused to receive another, though she had thereto solemnly pledged her faith. We bore all these insults and injuries with remarkable forbearance and charity. Conscious of our own strength and right on our side, we have conceded much to her weakness and imbecility. But when this last and crowning insult was offered to us – when our own ambassador, who had been by herself invited to negotiate, was indignantly refused, a moment had arrived for decided, yet calm and moderate action. Not until the rejection of Mr. Slidell did the American army take up it's position upon our own territory, on the banks of the Rio Grande – and then with strict orders to make no attack upon Mexican soil, but simply to protect our own from invasion. Mexico had at divers times put forth the most violent proclamations of her intention to cross the river and win back, by blood, the whole of Texas, which had been, as she said, so wrongfully wrested from her. Was it not our duty then, to march up to the very line of our boundary and defend our soil and the lives and property of the people of Texas, our own fellow citizens? Suppose the President had, after all the threats and movements of Mexico, kept the army quiet, and allowed the Mexican forces to overrun and take possession of the Texan soil, would not the Whig press have poured out ceaseless denunciations of his want of energy and foresight? He could do nothing else but order the army to the Rio Grande, there to remain at peace and in quiet, to make no attack upon the soil or the citizens of Mexico, but solely to guard our own from invasion. Can any one blame for thus having discharged his simple duty?

But, say the Whig presses, he deserves reprobation for marching so small an army and placing it in so unfortunate a position. Not only the Secretary of War, but Gen.Worth, one of the most intelligent and skillful officers of our army, that the army was safe, that only a few days before the commencement of hostilities, he left for Washington city, sanguine that all was right.- Moreover, to make assurance doubly sure the President fully authorized Gen. Taylor to make a requisition upon the adjoining States for volunteers, provided he found that the force under his command was insufficient to protect our own soil. Had he at once ordered to the Rio Grande a large force, say 10,000 men, how loudly and violently would he have been assailed by the Whig presses for his folly and extravagance, and for the basest personal motives, to be attained by a fierce and extended war! Take it in any view, the administration have managed the affair with all the efficiency and prudence which the peculiar circumstances of the case justified.

But are the disasters, which occurred in the beginning, really ascribable to the location and weakness of our army on the Rio Grande? In any event, the Mexicans would, doubtless, have crossed the river and the same partial, though painful losses, might have occurred.

The lamented deaths of Cross, Porter and the other brave soldiers occurred in their small scouting parties, and is the President, 3,000 miles off to be held responsible for them?.

The cheering news received yesterday morning of the brilliant result of the first great blow struck by Gen. Taylor and his army, show that he is able to meet the crisis. Several hundred Mexicans left dead on the field of battle-Matamorras, a strong Mexican town reduced to ashes-Point Isabel relieved and the Mexicans driven from their lodgment on the island that commands ***missing info.
"The War.—The Course of the United States—In a national point of view, it is impossible to suggest anything more appropriate, patriotic and consistent as adapted to the present emergency, growing out of our disturbed relations with Mexico, than the course pursued by the President, and Congress of the United States. The disposition of that man is something more than querulous—it is mischievous—who cannot unite in the warmest commendation of that prompt, vigorous, and decisive action of the executive and legislative authorities of the nation, whereby it is proposed to relieve and succor our gallant little army in the South, and prosecute the war into which the United States has been reluctantly—for certain honorable reasons—reluctantly inveigled. War was in existence; and not to recognise the fact would have been to peril every thing, and render the restoration of peace a much less probable and more remote event than it is now likely to be. The message of the President is a document eminently calculated to enhance and confirm the public confidence in his individual capacity and self reliance so essential as qualifications for the chief magistracy of this republic; while the dignity of style, patriotism, resolution and philanthropy of purpose which characterize it, are honorable to the nation as well as the man. The liberal provision and promptitude of Congress, in reporting and adopting the war bill, also challenge the admiration and approbation of all classes of our fellow citizens. Such action as this at the head of the government is always desirable, to give tone and unanimity to that ardent public feeling which must inevitably develop itself throughout this Union, whenever the tidings of invasion and bloodshed penetrate the public ear. And with such unanimity of feeling and purpose throughout the departments of the Government, and all the ramifications of society, war will be relieved of its repulsiveness, its progress will be effectual and expeditious, and its termination successful and speedy."

RE46v43i6p2c6, May 19, 1846: No Title.

The most animated movements are going on at New Orleans. The detachment of the U.S. Infantry lately arrived from Jefferson Barracks, under command of Lieut. Col. Wilson, and Captain J. Stockton’s and Capt. Tobin’s companies of volunteers belonging to the Washington Regiment, left the Barraeks on the evening of the 9th in the steamship Galveston for Point Isabel.—Five more companies of volunteers—the Orleans Cadets, Captain Glenn; Old Hickory Riflemen, Capt. Bryce; Kentucky Volunteers, Capt. R.C. Stockton; Louisiana Greys, Capt. Breedlove, and Orleans Guards, Capt. Breeding, and Orleans Guards, Capt. Soniat—numbering altogether some 400 men, also left on the steamship Telegraph for Point Isabel. Altogether about 800 men, regulars and volunteers, went in the Galveston and Telegraph. Three other companies started on the same day in the steamer James L. Day, viz: the Clinton Guards, the Washington Guards, and the Orleans Invincibles. They were expected to reach Point Isabel about the 13th instant. The Johnson Guards, 93 strong, a fine looking set of fellows, have arrived at N. Orleans from East Feliciana. Other parishes are expected to move in the same spirit. In addition to the two companies of Infantry which have volunteered from East Feliciana, 200 men have enrolled in a Regiment of Mounted Gun-men, under Gen. Lafayette Saunders, who intends to raise 1000 men to rendezvous at Alexandria, and proceed overland via Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande. General S. is an old campaigner, and served under Gen. Jackson at the battle of New Orleans, being then a member of Gen. Coffee’s brigade. This description of troops did efficient and gallant service in the last war, and in the Creek nation, and will answer admirably in the Mexican campaign. Very nearly 2000 volunteers have been mustered into service at New Orleans, and volunteering is still going on with unabated interest. It is thought that it will not be necessary to resort to a "draft." As some evidence of the glorious spirit which animates the gallant Louisianians, we refer to the two additional members of the House of Representatives of Louisiana, Messrs. Ogden of Rapides, and Regan of Caldwell, who have obtained leave of absence, and have volunteered to join the army on the Rio Grande. As far as they are concerned, the adage is true, "Inter arma silent leges."

Mississippi, too, is wide awake. Natchez is about to put forth her strength—and Vicksburg has offered her two gallant companies of the “Southrons” and "Volunteers," which we have often admired as almost equal to the fine volunteer companies of our own city.

But we cannot begin to keep up with the movements in every section of the country. Public meetings are held in every direction—patriotic sentiments and pledges are freely given, and Europe will see, with astonishment if not pain, that when danger calls, any number of citizen soldiers can be mustered into service.

[BWP]

RE46v43i6p2c6, May 19,1846: Military Arrangements.

As everything connected with the Mexican campaign will be read with deep interest, we lay before our readers all the items on the subject we can gather. The following from the Union proves that the Administration will adopt the promptest, fullest and most vigorous measures to meet the crisis. The appointment of Gen. Scott to the command of the Southern Army is eminently wise and proper. He may be looked for every day on his way to the scene of action. Some important intelligence is furnished in regard to the probable disposition to be made of the Volunteers who have tendered their services.

"During the week the most active preparations have been made to give effect to the measure of Congress for a vigorous prosecution of the war with Mexico. We do not doubt that the large discretion given to the President will be found to be in safe hands. While the public may rest assured that the utmost care will be used to consult economy,
and to secure a force competent to the protection of the national honor, and to a speedy termination of the war, we do not apprehend that half the authorized number of troops will be immediately mustered into service. True economy and a due regard to the highest national interests, however, make it indispensable that a force shall be at once put into active service, extraordinary for us in point of numbers, and so large that officers of the highest rank will of necessity be in command. From the mixed character of the corps – partly of regular troops, and more largely of volunteers – it seems natural that the General-In-Chief of the army should take the field – and we presume that General Scott will, as a matter of course, assume the command.

“We understand that the volunteer troops to be immediately called into service will be taken from the States nearest to the scene of operations, and for them the necessary orders have been issued. Measures have also been taken to have the residue of the authorized force organized, to be called into the service of their country at the shortest notice, if the public exigencies require. We understand that portions will be called for from each State and Territory, so that an opportunity will be afforded to all her gallant sons to participate in the defense of their country. [BWP]

RE46v43i6p2c7, May 19, 1846: A Pregnant Admission.

The news received on Saturday opened the eyes of many of the Whigs who had assailed Congress for recognizing the existence of the war on the part of Mexico, and who dwelt with great emphasis upon the nice distinction between the "hostilities" and the "war." By the following passages in the in yesterday’s Whig, the leading Whig organ in Virginia, it will be seen that Congress and the President were not so far out when they declared that the war with Mexico actually existed. The wisdom of their course in striking a decisive and vigorous blow, and in showing to the world at large that we are ready, at a moment’s warning, to defend our soil and our honor, will be appreciated by the whole country: “These repeated assaults upon the American forces dissipate the doubt which had previously existed as to the real purpose of the Mexican commander in crossing the Rio Grande, and satisfy us of his deliberate purpose to BEGIN THE WAR long since threatened the Mexican Executive – a threat which had been treated with derision by all parties, as but another specimen of that braggart spirit characteristic of the people of that country, and which it was supposed would evaporate in words.”[BWP]

RE46v43i6p2c7, May 19, 1846: Twenty-Ninth Congress. Saturday, May 16.

The Senate was not in session to-day. House of Representatives.

Mr. Daniel, of N.C. moved a suspension of the rules to enable him to offer a resolution to make it one of the standing rules of the House, that upon any vote being taken in Committee of the whole and no quorum voting, the Clerk shall call the role and the members answer aye, or no which vote shall be recorded as the vote of the Committee, and the Clerk shall make out a list of the absentees and certify the same to the Speaker, who shall deduct from the pay of said absent members the sum of $8 for every vote so taken, unless a satisfactory excuse be given.

The House refused to suspend the rules – Ayes 72, Noes 70 – two thirds being required for that purpose.

A message from the Senate disagreeing to the amendment of the House to the bill to raise a regiment of riflemen, which requires officers to be selected from the line of the army, was taken up, and a motion made that the House receded from its amendment, on which the previous question was demanded, and yeas and nays ordered.

The House receded from its amendment – Ayes 96, Noes 69.

Mr. King of Ga., on leave, offered a resolution calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury for a statement of the number of vessels in the Revenue service, number of officers, &c, was adopted.

Mr. C. J. Ingersoll offered a resolution to print 10,000 extra copies of the Message of the President in relation to Mexican and the accompanying documents.

Mr. Rathbun moved to amend the resolution so as to print 10,000 copies of the message and 3,000 of the documents.

The previous question was demanded an Mr. Ingersoll’s resolution and it was adopted, 72 to 42.

Mr. Brodhead offered a resolution calling upon the Secretary of State to communicate to the House the sums paid to Benj. E. Green, late Charge to Mexico, and William M. Blackford late Charge to Bogata, respectively, and also copies of all accounts presented by them.

Mr. Adams moved to amend by adding to the resolution ”specifying what items have not been allowed,” and as amended, the resolution was adopted.
The House then went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Foote of Vt, in the Chair, and took up the private calendar, which consumed the remainder of the session.

RE46v43i6p3c1, May 19, 1846: By Last Evenings Mail.

Maj. Gen. Scott did not arrive last evening as was expected, on his way to take command of the Army. He will probably be here to-day.

The *Baltimore Sun* says:

"Gen. Scott has been appointed to the command of the army of occupation in Texas, with orders to proceed immediately to the scene of war. The is to consist of 30,000 men, that number to be at once ordered to join the American forces now under Gen. Taylor; the whole being subject to the command of General Scott."

A gentlemen just from Washington informed us that Gen. Perry has been appointed to the command of the Fleet in the Mexican Gulf – Com. Conner having been placed over the Ordnance Department; and that it is most probable that none of the Volunteers from the Atlantic States will be sent at present to Texas. They will be received and disciplined, and held ready for action.

RE46v43i6p3c1, May 19, 1846: No title.

The insurance offices insert a war clause against Mexico alone. They ask three percent on insurance against Mexican privateering. This our merchants decline submitting to, especially those running vessels direct to Europe; and those engaged in the West India trade, &c, say it will be cheaper to arm their vessels for self-defense.

The New York pilots just informed me that they have addressed a letter to the President, offering their whole corps and marine force to the service of the government, consisting of the following material – thirteen boats, eighty pilots, and seventy sailors to cruise in the Gulf of Mexico or elsewhere. Hurrah for the Jack tars, they are the boys. It is said they offered their services to Gov. Tompkins during the late war. The American feeling is up, and no mistake. So look out for hard knocks and severe squalls. (NewYork correspondent of the *Union*.)

RE46v43i6p4c1, May 19, 1846: Twenty-Ninth Congress. Debate on the War Bill.

In yesterday’s *Enquirer*, we gave quite a lengthy report of the proceedings in the Senate on Tuesday last, on the War Bill. The remarks, however, of several Senators, were necessarily omitted. We now proceed to supply the omission:

Mr Benton thought that for purposes of information, it would be proper to read a paragraph from a recent proclamation of the President of Mexico *ad interim*. Mr. B. then read an extract from a proclamation of the 21st March, in substance, that the President of Mexico had no power to declare war, but the commander of the Mexican army had been directed to take a position in which he would be able to repel invasion, and to take the initiative, (ie., strike the first blow,) and to roll back the injury with which they had been threatened; their intention was merely to defend themselves. Mr. Benton remarked that he had read this extract for the purpose of showing that the door was apparently open for a peaceful termination of the existing state of things. So far as he could see, the government of Mexico had not created war. Hostilities had broken out, but the door was not closed against a peaceful issue.

Mr. Clayton said he certainly drew the same inference from the portion of the proclamation read by the Senator which he had deduced. Hostilities were not necessarily war. There was no treatise on the law of nations, which did not recognise the distinction. Hostilities, such as defensive operations, did not amount to war. Reprisals were not war unless general. Measures of defense were not war. However, he did not make these remarks with a view to prejudge this great question whether there was or was not war. All he desired, as he had said again and again, was to obtain time for deliberation on that question, and the man who voted with him did not affirm that there was not war. In order to ascertain the sense of the Senate, he would move to strike out the words "prosecute said war to a speedy and successful issue," and make it read "that for the purpose of enabling the government of the United States to repel the invasion, the President is hereby, “ &c. If that motion were successful, he would follow it up by another, so as to make the bill what he desired.

Mr. Calhoun rose and said, that he now appealed to the Senate if there was a man who could believe upon the only document which they had – how authentic he knew not – that there existed war between the two countries? Even if the two Presidents had declared war, the nations could disavow the act; and he called upon the Senate to
Mr. Houston then rose and said, that he did not wish to trespass on the time of the Senate; but he rose simply for the purpose of expressing his apprehensions in relation to their position with regard to Mexico. He contended that they were actually in a state of war; that war had virtually existed for ten years between Mexico and Texas; that Texas had been annexed in the face of a declaration on the part of Mexico that she would regard it as an act of war. The United States; in annexing Mexico, had assumed the responsibility not legible.

The United States, he argued, now occupied toward Mexico precisely the same attitude which the state of Texas had maintained for the last 10 years. On his conscience he could not resist the conviction that war actually existed. He then went on to point out the folly and danger of delaying proper action till the question as to a formal declaration of war should be decided. That might be discussed for months in that chamber, whilst their troops, exposed to all the rigors of a Southern climate, were doomed to inactivity, and daily wasting away. He eloquently contended that Mexico should be chastised at once for her outrages and insolence and showed that Mexico had the right to the territory on this side of the Rio Grande, that she held no post on it, and that the invasion was evidently sanctioned by the Mexican Government . . . [illegible] . . . and habitual deception he warned the Senate. He did not regard the Mexican government as a systematic political organization at all. All. Were they to wait for the action of that government as though it were regularly consistent? Not at all. The Mexican people were kind, generous and hospitable, but they were ruled with a redhot iron, by a set of tyrants, brigands, usurpers and land pirates. This people, if left to themselves, would never desire nor go to war with this country. The men who are brought into the field against the United States would rather stay at home, and it was not they but their drivers, who had offered insult to American citizens and indignity to the American flag. The Mexicans, then, had committed aggressions under order of their rulers, and he would ask, if they had not produced a state of things in which war was as perfectly existing as it would be after its declaration by that honorable body? The declaration by Texas of war was clear and emphatic, and her action was correspondent; and the question now was, whether the Senate of the United States would sustain them. He did not wish to waste time of the Senate, but he could not omit giving his opinion that war existed. He would vote for the bill.

Mr. Magnum arose and said, the evidence given by the Senator from Texas, in the course of his remarks, of the existence of war, was not the American idea, nor did it agree with the views taken by Senators, in the debates which occurred in the second session of the Congress of the United States; and it seemed not to be the idea of those who held political power in this country now. It would be recollected well, that in the discussions on the Texas question, there was nothing which seemed, in the opinion of that body, as so much to be repudiated and shunned, as the most distant possibility of this country being involved in war through annexation. And, he apprehended, it was not the opinion of the Mexican Government. He thought the proclamation which had been translated by the honorable Senator from Missouri (Mr. Benton) was conclusive on the point. Did not the head of the Mexican Government assume that there was peace between the two countries? He disclaimed the power of the Executive head to put Mexico into a state of war with the United States, and refers to the assembling of Congress as that period when war as to be declared. With the views of the Senate, then, he had offered those of the Mexican Government, to which might be added the opinions of the highest political characters in the nation, that war had not existed by virtue of those acts of hostility committed on the Rio Grande - The question, then, was reduced to the injury, whether, from the existence of that state of hostility, as far as they had evidence of it, they were to admit an existence of a state of war. There was no need of repeating that war was the emanation of the will of the sovereign power. He would thank the chairman of the committee on foreign relations to say in what document (for he of course had read them all) was the evidence contained that the sovereign power of Mexico had assented to a state of war. If there was any doubt as to be declared. With the views of the Senate, then, he had offered those of the Mexican Government, to which might be added the opinions of the highest political characters in the nation, that war had not existed by virtue of those acts of hostility committed on the Rio Grande. - The question, then, was reduced to the inquiry, whether, from the existence of that state of hostilities, as far as they had evidence of it, they were to admit the existence of a state of war. There was no need of repeating that war was the emanation of the will of the sovereign power. He would thank the chairman of the committee on foreign relations to say in what document (for he of course had read them all) was the evidence contained that the sovereign power of Mexico had assented to a state of war. If there was any such evidence, he (Mr. M) was uninformed of it. But, he had arisen for the purpose of asking his friend from Delaware to withdraw his motion to strike out and insert, because in that form the question was indivisible; but if it were drawn in the form "to strike out, " the modification might be in any form to suit the sense of the Senate. And he was frank enough to say, that although utterly repugnant to the thought of considering the country in a state of war, yet he was prepared, if it were thought expedient, that the Executive should determine the question; and if Mexico should make no denial by the Mexican Government of a state of war, that the Executive should act in that...
...an army under such circumstances. But suppose there should be a disavowal of...not readable...by the Mexican Government, in...[illegible]...should they place themselves by...not readable...the existence of war now, which would be to all intents and purposes a declaration of war. But if such a state of things as the want of a disavowal by Mexico, or a continuance of our relations as they are, then the American troops shall pass the boundary, and, if it be necessary, march to the seat of empire, and there dictate peace; and they were willing to provide money and men for that purpose. He hoped his honorable friend would withdraw his amendment; and if it should be the sense of the Senate to strike out, that it adopt some form to answer all purposes.

Mr. Clayton expressed his willingness to make the change suggested, if any gentleman on the other side wished it. If not, he would press the motion.

Mr. McDuffie said he considered it would be in order to strike out the pramble first. There was no rule of that or any legislative body which sought to prevent an amendment of any part of a bill. He thought it an important proposition, and it would have his vote. He would, however, move simply to strike out that part expressing a state of war between the two countries.

Mr. Clayton said that was the motion he had made.

Mr. Reverdy Johnson said he had not been able to examine the documents laid before Congress, and wished, therefore, to inquire whether the Mexican Government, in this correspondence with the United States, had not on several occasions declared that they would consider the annexation of Texas a declaration of war, and repeatedly declared that, in consequence of that act, they considered war as existing between the two Governments; and he was rather inclined to think that the Congress of Mexico, either before or since the annexation of Texas, had declared that it was a declaration of war. He was under that impression. He would like to have an opportunity to examine the documents. In the meantime, he would be happy to learn from the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations whether he was right in his opinion. At any rate, he did consider war existed de facto, and Government was bound to adopt all necessary measures, not only to repel invasion, but to carry on that war. It was not necessary, in his opinion, to declare war; but if it was, he would vote for a declaration under the existing state of things.

Mr. Cass said: I do not rise to detain the Senate long, nor to enter into any protracted discussion of the subject now under consideration. I have but little to say, and I shall say that speedily. In the first place, sir, I desire to answer the appeal which has been made to this side of the chamber by the honorable senator from Delaware, [Mr. J. M. Clayton.] He desires that portion of the bill which asserts the existence of a war between the United States and Mexico, brought on by the aggression of the latter, should be passed by for the present, and that we should now confine ourselves to a consideration of the measures necessary for the defence of the country. For my own part, I should be happy to take the course indicated by the senator from Delaware, and which he asks us to adopt, were I not prevented from doing so by higher considerations. If we appropriate money and raise men for the mere purpose of repelling an invasion, we place ourselves in the very position which the honorable Senator from South Carolina, [Mr. Calhoun,] deemed yesterday the proper one, and to which I then expressed, and yet feel, insuperable objections. A Mexican army is upon our soil. Are we to confine our efforts to repelling them? Are we to drive them to the border, and then stop our pursuit, and allow them to find a refuge in their own territory? And what then? To collect again, to cross our frontier at some other point, and again to renew the same scenes, to be followed by the similar immunity? What sort of a condition of things would this be; sir? The advantage would be altogether on the side of the Mexicans, while the loss would be altogether ours. Their army is maintained at any rate, and it would cost them little more to renew and continue these border contests than to keep their troops in their cantonments, while we must spread troops along our border, and hold them in readiness to meet these invasions at whatever point they may be attempted. Now, sir, no vote of mine shall place my country in this situation. And besides these Mexican hostilities will not be confined to operations by land. Are we to suffer their privateers to spread themselves over the ocean, to capture our sailors and vessels, and to run in our commerce? This state of things. I, for one, am disposed to meet with promptitude and energy. Mexico has attacked the United States—has placed herself in a belligerent attitude. And now let her take the consequences of her own aggression. For these reasons, sir, while we provide for the defence of the country, I am for making the defence effectual by not only driving off the enemy, but by following them into their own territory, and by dictating a peace even in the capital, if it be necessary. But, sir, why does the honorable Senator from Delaware ask the separation, and request us to postpone our decision upon the relative condition of this country and Mexico, while we provide only for driving the invaders from our soil? He says, sir, that he desires time to examine the documents which the President has submitted to us, before he can decide whether there is a state of war between the United States and Mexico. I cannot conceive, sir, that any delay can be necessary for this purpose. The main facts are indisputable. They are before the Senate, before the country and before the world. A Mexican army has passed our boundary, and is now upon the soil of the republic. Our troops have been attacked, captured and killed. Our army is surrounded, and efforts are making to subdue them. Now, sir, no documents are necessary to establish these facts, and these facts, it seems to me, are all that can be necessary to justify the statement of the President of the existence of war, and our concurrence in his recommendation. If, indeed, the object be to examine the conduct of the Executive, to ascertain whether this condition of things is to be attributed to him, then, undoubtedly, a careful examination of the documents would be necessary. And from indications already given, I presume that such an investigation will be entered upon. For one I am prepared to enter into it, and I will venture to predict that the more severe it is, the more unreadable...for the administration will be the result. But that subject may well give way to...[illegible]...Let us postpone that inquiry till we are provided for the defence of the country and the vindication of our honor.—That course seems to me to be equally indicated by duty by policy, and by patriotism. And now, sir, permit me to advert to another branch of this subject. Strange doctrines have been heard yesterday and to-day, such as have been presented, neither by the history of our own country, not that of any other. Among those who oppose the course of the Executive, there seems to be an important difference of opinion on some of the principles which should regulate our conduct. By some it is
contended that the invasion of the Mexican army is not an act of war, because we have no proof that it was committed by order of the Mexican Government. While others, and among them the distinguished Senator from South Carolina, maintain that no act of another country can create a state of war with this unless such war be declared by Congress.—Now, sir, it seems to me that this pretension is equally dangerous in its conclusions, and unsound in the reasoning by which it is supported. If I understood the honorable Senator yesterday, he considers there are three conditions in which our country may be placed with relation to another. A state of peace, of war, and of hostilities. This to me, sir, is a new division of the principle of intercommunication between different countries.

War I understand; and peace I understand, and the rights and duties which they bring with them. But a state of hostilities, as contradistinguished from these relations, is a new chapter in the law of nations to me. Our Constitution is equally silent upon the subject. I supposed, therefore, that if we were not at peace with a country we were at war with it. I had to learn that there was an intermediate state creating new rights and duties which I am afraid it will be difficult to find unless a new Grotius starts up upon the occasion. The Senator from Missouri [Mr. Benton] has correctly stated that there may be war without hostilities, and hostilities without war. Belligerent operations may be temporarily suspended, and there may be acts of aggression, which may be called hostilities, which may be committed without the authority of a government. Rencontres, for instance, between ships-of-war, or predatory incursions across the boundary of a country. But there can be no hostilities undertaken by a government which do not constitute a state of war. War is a fact, Sir, created by an effort made by one nation to injure another.

One party may make a war though it requires two parties to make a peace. The Senator from South Carolina contends, that, as Congress alone have a right, buy the Constitution, to declare war, therefore, there can be no war until it is thus declared. There is here a very obvious error. It is certain that Congress alone have the right to declare war. war. That is, there is no other authority in the United States, which, on our part, can change the relations of peace with another country into those of war. No authority but Congress can commence an aggressive war. But another country can commence a war against us without the cooperation of Congress. Another country, at its pleasure, terminate the relations of peace with us, and substitute for these the relations of war with their legitimate consequences. War may be commenced with or without a previous declaration. It may be commenced by a manifesto announcing the fact to the world, or by hostile attacks by land or sea. The Honorable Senator from Virginia (Mr. Pennybacker) has well stated the modern practice of nations upon this subject. He has referred both to facts authorities showing that acts of hostility with or without a public declaration constitute a state of war. It was thus the war of 1756 was commenced. It was thus, I believe, was commenced the war between England and France during our revolution. The peace of Amiens was terminated by an act of hostility, and not by a public manifesto.

The capture of the Danish fleet was preceded by no declaration of the intentions of the British Government. Our own war of 1812 was declared on the 18th of June. The manifesto of the prince regent, declaring war against us was not issued until January 10th, 1813. And yet, long before that, our borders had been penetrated in many directions, an army had been subdued and captured, and the whole Territory of Michigan had been overrun and seized. All these facts prove conclusively that it is a state of hostilities that produces war, and not any formal declaration. Any other construction would lead to this practical absurdity. England, for instance, by an act of hostility, or by a public declaration announces that she is at war with us. If the view presented by the Honorable Senator from South Carolina is correct, we are not at war with her till Congress has acted upon the subject. One party then is at war, while the other is at peace, or, at any rate, in this new intermediate state of hostilities, before unknown to the world.

Now, Sir, it is very clear that Mexico is at war with us, we at war with her. If she terminates the peaceful relations between the two countries, they are terminated whether we consent or not. The new state of things thus created does not depend upon the will of Congress. The two nations are at war because one party has chosen to place them both in that attitude. But, Sir, it is contended by some of the Senators that, in the present case, there is no evidence that the invasion of our territory has been authorized by the Mexican Government; and until that authority is shown, the act itself does not constitute a state of war.

I have already said, Sir, that there may be accidental or unauthorized rencontres which do not therefore constitute war. The case of the "Little Belt" was of the description. But the nature and circumstances of an aggression sufficiently indicate its true character and consequences. A Mexican army invades our territory. The President calls upon Congress for the necessary means to repel and punish this act of aggression. And we are met forsooth at the very threshold of our proceedings, that it does not appear that this invasion has been committed by the authority of the Mexican Government. Why, Sir, what evidence is required under such circumstances? circumstances? Do you want such as is required by a County Court in investigating a claim for fifty dollars? Must we have a certificate from a justice of the peace of Mexico, that the President of the Republic has directed this attack upon our territory? And whatever evidence is required, how long are we to wait for it? How far may the invaders march before we are satisfied that we are at war with Mexico? Why, Sir, such a state of things must be judged by moral evidence, by the circumstances attending it. It might be enough to say, that the invasion itself throws the responsibility upon the Mexican Government and is a sufficient justification for us in holding that Government accountable. The negative proof is not upon us. The moral presumption is sufficient for our action. But, Sir, there is much more than the bare fact of invasion to justify the conclusion that we are at war with Mexico.

The Government of that country has protested ever since the first project of the annexation of Texas, and has announced its completion as a casus belli. They have withdrawn their minister from the United States, and broken all diplomatic relations with us. They have refused to recognise, and have treated with contumely our minister charged with full powers to adjust all matters in dispute, and whom they solemnly promised to receive. They have collected an army upon our frontier, and have sent to assume its command one of the first military officers in the republic. He summoned Gen. Taylor to retire, or that war would immediately commence. His summons being disregarded, he commenced the war by crossing in force into our territory, or by attacking our troops, and by surrounding our army. Now, sir, I appeal to every Senator on the other side of the chamber, if he does not believe that all this has been done by order of the Mexican government. I presume there is not a man within the sound of my voice, who will not say that, in his opinion, the Mexican general has acted under the direct instructions of the Mexican government. And
Mr. Berrien replied: If it were true, as had been stated by the Senator, that the destiny of this country for a century depended on this question, surely that was not by argument against due deliberation. It is too untruly presented today, to justify me in recording my vote in silence. If the bill provided for a declaration of war, the argument of the gentlemen might be quite pertinent and proper. But that is not the question. No declaration of war is proposed by the bill – It proposes to recognize the existence of an antecedent state of war. I oppose the bill, first, because inconsistent with the truth; and, secondly, because it involves consequences not to be properly hazarded by the exigency of the case. We are according to the bill, in a state of war without the constitutional action of either government. How then? then? Must it not follow that the President of the United States and the President of Mexico have power to declare war? Is that true? You have it from both the gentlemen (Messrs, Pennybacker, and Cass) that the power to declare war is vested in the Congress of both nations. They have failed in showing that any modification of the law of nations justifies their assertion that war does actually exist. There was no analogy in the case put by the Senator (Mr. Cass) of the bombardment of an English port by the United States fleet. We deny that war exists – we admit the existence of hostilities – the power that this Government to repel them. But whether those hostilities are the act of the Mexican nation, or even of the Mexican President, we are utterly uninformed. The Senator (Mr. Cass) states truly the law of nations with the regard to hostilities. They are to be repelled at once. A formal declaration of war is not necessary. necessary. Suppose the Mexican General did not act under the authority of the constituted authorities of Mexico; would war exist even on the supposition of the Senator from Michigan? Certainly not. But he says the Mexican army has crossed the boundary of the United States? Is he prepared to show that the Del Norte is the boundary?

Mr. Cass explained. His idea was, that the Mexicans had no right to attack the United States troops on that side of the river.

Mr. Berrien. The proposition of the Senator is, that war exists. How does he prove it? – Why, by the presence of a Mexican army around the United States army. Does he not thus decide the question of boundary? No. I beg to ask how that possession was acquired, and by whom? whom? It was by the march of the United States army into the territory. If conceding that it was a disputed territory, the right of Mexico was equal with that of the United States to enter the territory. If our possession was derived from marching our army there, cannot Mexico exercise the same right? Does priority in an act of hostility vest a national right? right? The argument of the Senator is, that the march of the Mexican army was an act of hostility. If so, I have demonstrated that the march of the United States army was an equal act of hostility. War does not then exist by an act of the constitutional authorities, in whose hands alone is the power to create war. In every aspect of the subject, the proposition of the Senator is unsustained, and we are not subject to the imputation of maintaining the ridiculous position, that we are not competent to stop at the Rio Grande, and refrain from repelling invasion. The question, whether the hostilities committed by the Mexican army against our army are to be repelled, is another and different question. I hold that there is nothing clearer, than that such invasion may be repelled by the most powerful means, by the pursuit of the invaders, and by all possible and necessary means to make the repulsion effectual, and for the purposes of chastisement.

A declaration of war is not necessary for the purpose of arming us with all necessary power to repel the invasion, and punish the aggression. If recognized by the Government of Mexico, then war does exist – if not, the hostility will have been committed by an officer of the Mexican army, and no war will exist between the two countries. Now I ask what will be the consequences of a recognition of a state of war? The Senator has alluded to the withdrawal of the Mexican minister, and the rejection of ours. But has not our commerce with Mexico been undisturbed? The presumption of the Senator then is refuted by the continuance of the discharge of the functions of our consuls – The rejection or withdrawal of a minister is no evidence of the existence of any war – it affords no presumption of such a state of war. But I was about to allude to the consequences of a recognition of a state of war. At once an end would be put to the subsisting treaties – Most conveniently for Mexico, the accumulated claims of our citizens would be obliterated; the property and lives of our citizens in Mexico would be at her mercy. It is said that Mexican privateers may be already on the seas. That cannot be, unless the hostilities have been recognized by the Government. The evidence thus far is otherwise. The Mexican Government will be answerable for every aggression upon our commerce, if made before a declaration of war. And for what are all these consequences to be incurred? Why that we may chastise the Mexican army, and Mexico in all her parts and portions if she avows the act. But in the absence of all evidence that his is the act of Mexico – with evidence looking the other way – it is proper, it is wise, it is justifiable in us to make a premature declaration that war does exist?

Mr. Westcott said had he been called upon to vote on this bill on yesterday, he believed he should have voted against it. But calm and cool reflection since then had convinced him it was his duty to vote for it. He did not entirely approve of the phraseology of the bill. This was, however, no time for verbal criticism. Immediate, prompt, decisive action was demanded. demanded. His objection to the bill was not that which had been urged. It was entirely different. He was not disposed (as this bill seemed to do) to throw upon Mexico the commencement of this war. He preferred that this government, instead of the declaration in this bill that "war existed" and "by the act of Mexico, “ should make an independent affirmative, positive, and unequivocal declaration of war against that Government. He felt assured that the past conduct of Mexico towards the United States, ever since Mexico had claimed to be a distant nation, if fairly exhibited to the civilized world would fully justify such declaration. Yes, Mr. President, (said Mr. W., ) if the soldiers of Mexico had not invaded Texas during the last month – if they had not murdered Colonel Cross – if they had not killed Lieutenant Porter – if they had not attacked Hardee and Thornton; nay, if her present rulers were now to apologize and atone for these acts, there is ample cause for our declaring war against her, to be found in her past courses towards us. Sir, we have been most forbearing towards Mexico. We have allowed our feelings, for a neighboring sister Republic, to restrain us from demanding and enforcing long ago reparation for her insults and outrages.
Mr. President, I coincide fully in the distinction maintained on yesterday by the honorable Senator from South Carolina [Mr. Calhoon] between mere hostilities and war, according to the meaning of the Federal Constitution. No hostilities can be recognised as war by this government, unless they have been declared by Congress to constitute war. I hold, too, that it is important this distinction should be maintained; as otherwise the acts of the Executive may create war, and the wise constitutional provision placing the power of declaring war exclusively in Congress will be a dead letter. I am, however, for Congress in this case exercising its constitutional power. power. As I have before said, I should, after calm deliberation on the subject, prefer an affirmative, unequivocal declaration of war; but I am not disposed to be fastidious as to the mode. I should prefer a manifesto, stating our grievances to the world. But I care not if the military chief who has usurped the reins of power in Mexico – I care not if its congress should disavow the acts of Gen. Ampudia and Arista – if it should disgrace and punish these officers for their recent acts in the State of Texas – still, causes which would weigh with me as sufficient to justify this declaration, were not removed. Doubtless her rulers are instigated by the emissaries of other governments inimical to us. Their influences cannot be concealed. They are manifest. They will not deter me in the least degree from pursuing the path that I believe the honor of my country requires me to follow.

Mr. W. said he was in favor of the declaration of war, because he did not believe that hostilities could be as efficiently, effectually and successfully carried on by the Executive without it as with it. I concur (said Mr. W.) in the opinions advanced on this point by the honorable Senator from Virginia, (Mr. Pennybacker)and other Senators.

Without it, and without the express authority of Congress, the President cannot issue commissions to privateers—issue letters of marque and reprisal—cannot authorize the blockade of the Mexican ports—cannot authorize the capture of the Mexican vessels on the high seas as prizes of war. Without such declaration, Mexicans taken in arms, after defeat in attacking our citizens or soldiers, cannot be held by the Executive authority as prisoners of war—treason in aiding all, without it the observance of the duties of other nations towards us, the duty of neutrality, so likely to be violated, could not be properly enforced. Without such declaration, Mexico may be supplied with arms, ammunition and munitions of war by other nations; and if captured, they would not be liable to forfeiture as ‘contraband of war.’ The declaration of war will in every way strengthen the Executive arm in this contest – at home, abroad, on the field of contest, and in these halls. It will increase the efficiency of the supplies of men and money we propose to give, three-fold. It will convince the world we are in earnest in this matter. Other nations may profit from the information.

The American people would not have submitted to the indignities they have patiently endured from Mexico, from any other Government on God’s earth. They would have risen as one man to repel them years since. This forbearance has emboldened Mexico to farther wrong. Her rulers have mistaken our sympathy for her difficulties and misfortunes, and our consideration of her weakness for pusillanimity! It is time they should be undeceived. The world has been imposed upon with respect to the true causes of difference between Mexico and the United States. The recent occurrences are but a drop in the bucket. Mexico has artfully sought to create the impression, that what she calls the “spoliation” of Texas, is the origin and cause of these difficulties. Sir, (said Mr. W.) before the Texas Revolution, she had outraged our flag in her own ports, and on the high seas in the Gulf. She had robbed and imprisoned our citizen; and even our diplomatic and consular agents in her jurisdiction, were outraged and insulted in a manner which, by the acknowledged laws of nations, afforded to us just cause for declaring war against her. But we forbore to resort to this mode of redress. We negotiated a Treaty with her, by which she engaged to indemnify our citizens. She plighted her faith as a nation to do them justice - to pay for her spoliations of their property and violation of their rights. Has she done so? No, Sir! No, Sir!! She has ignominiously violated her plighted faith to them and to this Government. She has dishonorably withheld the debt she engaged to pay for their benefit. The President, in his Message, states that these spoliations claims amount to upwards of 6,000,000 of dollars. I believe, Sir, that several millions of dollars would not indemnify those American citizens who have suffered from the wrongs and outrages of that Government. She ought in justice, pay that amount, and this Government should compel her to pay it. Without referring to her insults to our flag – the insults to our diplomatic consulate agents, or even the imprisonment of some of them and other American citizens, we can find in her course with respect the indemnity of these spoliations, and in the gross indignity cast in the teeth of the American people, in the treatment of its accredited minister (Mr. Slidell) this winter, after her invitation to send him, as all christendom will say, just cause for an affirmative declaration of war against her. Sir, said (Mr. W.) I am not for temporizing, for any half way measure. I am in favor of such declaration; and, without reference to recent occurrences, should be in favor of it. I care not if the military chief who has usurped the reins of power in Mexico – I care not if its congress should disavow the acts of Gen. Ampudia and Arista – if it should disgrace and punish these officers for their recent acts in the State of Texas – still, causes which would weigh with me as sufficient to justify this declaration, were not removed. Doubtless her rulers are instigated by the emissaries of other governments inimical to us. Their influences cannot be concealed. They are manifest. They will not deter me in the least degree from pursuing the path that I believe the honor of my country requires me to follow.

Even if this matter with Mexico should be settled in a month, the money we expend in war-like preparations may not be spent unprofitably. If war is formally declared, the contest with Mexico must be carries on by the rules of civilized warfare – by the acknowledged rules of war. I prefer this to the quasi practical Indian contest, which it will otherwise become. The rules of civilized war are well known. known. In this age every nation must obey them. them. If war is formally declared and Mexico should, by its favorable fortune to her arms, have the power to perpetrate a repetition of the atrocities of the Alamo and Goliad, she dare not do so in the face of the civilized world. I repeat, therefore, that I shall go for this part of the bill, and am prepared to sit here till it is passed. Alteration will make delay, and expedition is all-important.

I do not approve of that part of this bill which gives the President the power to select the principle officers of the volunteer militia. Was it a new question, I should be inclined to regard the constitutional objection raised to it as a very serious one; but I am disposed to yield to the precedents of 1812 and 1813 in its favor. I should be better satisfied. They will be jealous of officers of federal appointment. But this objection I will forego for the purpose of securing immediate action on the bill, that troops may be sent forthwith to the field, and the honor, and interests, and rights of the country maintained.
Several letters from General Taylor, but of a prior date to those accompanying the message, were received and ordered to be printed.

Resolutions of the Pennsylvania Legislature instructing the Representatives from that State to vote against the new tariff bill, were presented and ordered to be printed.

Resolutions of the New York Legislature in favor of a reorganization of the militia, were also presented and ordered to be printed.

Among the bills reported from the committees, was a bill relative to the transportation of the mail between the U. S. States and foreign countries.

Numerous private and local bills having been reported, the prior orders were postponed for the purpose of taking up the old fortification bill from the House, as amended by the Senate committee.

The first question was upon increasing the appropriation for the Florida reef from $100,000 to $200,000.

Mr. Evans made some objection to the increase of the appropriation until further and more detailed information could be received.

Mr. Yulee eloquently advocated the increase, and went on to show the importance of fortifying that portion of the coast where our commerce was so much exposed. In his opinion half of a million dollars would not be too much.

Mr. Westcott also strenuously advocated an increase of the appropriation. In view of the contest in which we are now involved, especially if Mexico should get any foreign aid, the fortification of that point was of the highest importance.

Mr. Lewis, of the Military Committee, next advocated the proviso and intimated that the war department had recommended $250,000. He hoped the amendment would prevail.

The question was then put, and the amendment was agreed to.

The next amendment was one empowering the President to make use of any of the appropriations at any time after the passage of this act.

After some remarks from Messrs. Evan and Johnson of Louisiana, Mr. Lewis explained that this bill makes appropriation for fortifications already commenced; and that there is a new bill yet to come from the House, providing for new fortifications.

Mr. Johnson, of Maryland, after some remarks relative to the fortification at Sollers’ Point Flats, moved to amend by inserting 30,000 for that purpose.

Some explanations having been made by members of the Military Committee, Mr. Johnson said he would withdraw his amendment so far as it concerned this bill.

The amendment authorizing the President to use the appropriation at any time, was agreed to; after which the bill, as amended, was passed and returned to the House.

The Senate then adopted a resolution offered by Mr. Berrien, requesting the Judiciary Committee to report on the expediency of legislation for carrying into effect the 11th article of the treaty with Spain in 1795, the object of which is to prevent the fitting out of privateers under Mexican colors from the Island of Cuba.

The Senate then took up the Indian appropriation bill from the House.

After a long discussion upon sundry proposed amendments, the bill was, at 4 o’clock, passed over informally, and the Senate went into an executive session.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
The Speaker signed the bill authorizing the President to prosecute the existing war into Mexico, and the bill to increase the rank and file of the army. They were then sent to the President.

Mr. Holmes presented a letter from the steamers now under construction for the revenue service, which are progressing rapidly towards completion and stating that it is desirable that some action should be taken upon the bill in relation to promotions and appointments of officers in that service.

The letter having been read, on motion of Mr. Holmes, the House took up the bill to regulate promotions and appointments of officers in the revenue service.

After some debate, on motion of Mr. Rathbun, the bill was re-committed to the Committee on Naval Affairs, with instructions to strike out all after the enacting clause, and to report a bill providing, "That all vessels now engaged in the revenues marine service of the United States, or now building for the same, and under the control of the Treasury Department, be transferred to the control of the Navy Department, for public service, and subject in all respects to the regulations thereof, as established by law."

At 2 o’clock a message was received from the President of the effect, that he had approved and signed the War Bill, and the Bill increasing the rank and file of the army. (The increase is about 7,000 men.).

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, and after debating the West Point Academy Bill for ten minutes, laid it aside to be reported.

On motion of Mr. McKay, the committee then took up the bill making appropriation for the support of the Army for the year ending 30th of June, 1847.

Several amendments having been agreed to, Mr. Black moved an additional section to pay the non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates, attached to the regiment of riflemen, infantry and artillery, eight dollars a month instead of seven. He said the dragoons received eight dollars, and he desired to equalize the pay.

After the amendment had been advocated by Mr. Hamlin and others, Mr. Brockenbrough opposed it on the ground that no additional pay was necessary to stimulate our soldiery to patriotic action.

Messrs, Gordon, Root, Severance and Delano severally gave their views upon the propriety of the recent measures of the President relative to Mexico.

Mr. Douglas then took the floor and made a very animated speech in defense of the President, and of the course of the 54-40 Oregon men in general. In reply to Mr. Adams, he reminded that gentleman, that he, when speaking on the Oregon question, had advised that the President should take possession of the territory and negotiate afterwards. Now, said Mr. D., surely the gentleman and his friends could not blame the President if he had followed their rule in regard to Texas?

When Mr. Douglass concluded, the committee rose, without coming to any conclusion on the bill, and the House adjourned.

During the debate, it was elicited that there is at the present moment abundance of money in the Treasury to defray all the expenses of the war measures.

RE46v43i6p4c6, May 19, 1846: The Spirit Of The People.

The Government, (says Thursday night’s Union) is “assuming (to use Mr. Madison’s celebrated language) the armour and the attitude demanded by the crisis.” The President and his Cabinet are now actively engaged in organizing its military and naval forces under the recent act of Congress. He is in constant communication with his Secretaries and in frequent consultation, night and day, with his Cabinet. Arrangements are making which will be announced in due session; and we entertain little doubt that they will be found satisfactory to the country. The plan of the campaign will develop itself.

The country is rousing up. “Westward, HO!” is becoming the rallying sign. The newspapers are coming to us charged with the rising excitement of the people. Meetings are called – meetings are held – companies organizing – military equipments are preparing. In twenty days after the fiery torch is passed through the land, we shall have 50,000 volunteers offering to take the field. Those who live near the scene of action, will probably be first called out; but the more distant volunteers will be held in reserve to bide their time, if they are wanting.

We understand that offers are pouring in upon the President. Among them, that we can call to mind, is a regiment from Pennsylvania, under the command of Gen. Sherwood; a brigade from New York, under Gen. Gibbs McNeil. Offers of service in various forms are made. Among the offers received by the President is the following from the patriotic and monumental city.
RE46v43i6p4c6, May 19, 1846: Headquarters, 5th Regiment V. I., Baltimore, May 12, 1846.

At a special meeting of the officers of the regiment, held at the Colonel’s quarters, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That Colonel Hickman, in behalf of the Companies composing the 5th regiment volunteer infantry, attached to the first light division, M.I., be authorized to inform Major General G.H. Stewart, that the services of said regiment are at the disposition of Major General Stewart to Garrison Fort McHenry, whenever it may be deemed expedient to remove there from the United States troops; and that the commanding general be respectfully requested to apprise the War Department of the readiness of the 5th regiment to perform with alacrity the service referred to.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant, N. Hickman, Colonel 5th regiment Volunteer Infantry, Major General G. H. Stewart.

RE46v43i6p4c6, May 19, 1846: GEN. SCOTT.

– A Washington correspondent of the Alexandria Gazette states, that a cabinet meeting held on Thursday evening last, it was determined to send Gen. Scott to command our troops in person, and that he will leave for the seat of war forthwith.

RE46v43i6p4c7, May 19, 1846: Well Done Richmond!

We publish to-day the interesting proceedings of the enthusiastic meeting on Thursday night. The addresses were stirring and in capital taste and a fine spirit animated the immense crowd. – The next day, with the drum beating and the flag flying, quite a number of volunteers marched through the streets. The intelligence on Saturday morning, which we then published in an extra, announcing the disastrous defeat of Capt. Walker’s Texas Rangers, and the imminent danger of Point Isabel, produced an intense interest, and encouraged more vigorous exertions. Early in the day, the whole complement of the company was made up – 100 privates and 12 officers. On Saturday, Capt. Carrington and Lieut. Warren proceeded to Washington city to tender their services and to ask to be conveyed with the troops from Fort McHenry, which will be immediately shipped from Baltimore to the seat of war direct. The promptness and alacrity of the whole movement do honor to the patriotism of our city.

It has been stated in the Enquirer, that Samuel Harcum was elected in Northumberlands over Edward Nelms. This is a mistake. We are informed by undoubted authority that Edward Nelms is elected over Samuel Harcum by the casting vote of the High Sheriff, and has the return. They are both Democrats.

In the debate on the War Bill, published yesterday. An error occurred in the in Senate proceedings, where it is stated that Boyd moved to amend by striking out a portion of the preamble to the bill. It will be seen by reference to the full report in another column of today’s paper, that the amendment was proposed by Mr. J. M. Clayton of Delaware.

There was a report circulating through the streets today, (says Thursday night’s Union) which produced some surprise and excitement viz: that Mr. Packenham had protested against our troops crossing the Rio Grande. As the rumor may have flown by this time half way to New York, and may effect the price of stocks, it were not even designed to effect that object, we deem it our duty to say at once that the story so far as we are advised, without any foundation. Certain it is, our Government has not yet heard any such protest; and deeply indeed should we regret the movement. We never expressed any sentiment more honestly in our lives, than that we desire to preserve our amicable relations with Great Britain, if it be compatible with our rights and favor. There are no two nations on the many people globe who can contribute to each others prospective more in a state of peace, or injure each other in now in a state of war. But we are perfectly assured that any measure of the description would so deeply complicate our relations with Great Britain and to make a crisis probable, perhaps inevitable. We profess to be as thoroughly acquainted with the character of our countrymen as any one else; and we are satisfied that their public spirit, and sturdy pride which characterizes the Anglo Saxon race, and which in our countrymen is as great if nor greater, than what belongs to John B. and would not permit our people to tolerate any such intervention on his part with impunity.

The Richmond papers (says the Union) inform us of the death of a distinguished man – Robert Stanard, Esq., a Judge of the Court of Appeals in Virginia. "He was struck down by paralysis, while engaged in the preparation of an
opinion in his office on Monday night, and lingered until 3 o'clock Wednesday night. He was in his 67th year. He was one of the most eminent jurists of the country – At the Bar, in the General Assembly, and in the Virginia Convention of 1830, he was distinguished by his great and commanding abilities.

Mr. Archer, in the Senate on Friday, submitted a resolution, which was agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the propriety of providing by law for a change in the time of holding the Spring terms of the District Courts of the United States, holden at Richmond and Norfolk in the State of Virginia, so that he former instead of commencing on the 13th day of May, may commence on the 2nd Monday in April of each year; and the latter, instead of being held on the 30th day of May, may commence on the 2nd Monday of June each year.

RE46v43i6p4c7, May 19, 1846: Naval.

The U. S. brig Perry, Lt. C. Blake, will sail today for Chagres. Great fortitude has been used in getting the Perry ready for sea, under orders received yesterday from the Navy Department.

We learn that orders have been received so to fit out the U. S. sloop of war Decatur for service, and that a few more men have been taken into the Navy Yard to finish the order given some time since in relation to the frigate Brandywine, and also for using the utmost diligence at the rendezvous here in enlisting recruits for the naval service. – (Norfolk Beacon on May 16th).

RE46v43i6p4c7, May 19, 1846: Texas Election.

D. S. Kauffman is undoubtedly elected to Congress from the first (Eastern) district. It is uncertain whether Williams of Pillsbury is elected in the second. All the Counties except Colorado and Brazos, give Williams 1,077, Pillsbury 1,094, Cooke 995.

RE46v43i7p1c2, May 22, 1846: “War” and a “State of War” – The Difference.

Under this captain, on Saturday last, our neighbors of the “Times” undertook to carry on the “State of War” which has existed for some time on their part towards the Administration. – They commence their article with the grave questions – “Are we really at war with Mexico, or are we not?” “Are the relations of the two countries subject to all the incidents of war?” “Are neutral nations to act towards each other as though war had been formally declared, and was actually pending?” “These are questions which, strange to say, admit serious speculation.” – And they add: “The verious tyro in politics needs not to be informed that mere hostile collisions between the citizens or the armies of two nations do not necessarily constitute war. Invasion, without a declaration of war, may be cause of war but not war itself. It is an act which may be peacefully atoned by negotiation.”.

We have been at a loss to perceive the difference ourselves between war and a state of war. Our neighbors seem to think that there can be no war without a formal declaration. Invasion, without a declaration, is not war itself: this, then, in their minds, must be the state of war. According to the writers upon the law of nations, “War is that state in which a nation prosecutes its right by force.” The act, therefore, of prosecuting right by force is a state of war. There are at least two sides to every contest. Each nation may consider itself right, ; and each may prosecute that right , or imaginary right, by force. It is not necessary that both should make a formal declaration of war. The aggressive nation generally declares war – the defending generally contents itself with making resistance to agression.

According to the distinction attempted to be drawn, a nation might not only invade another, but if it have the power might overrun it, and the nation thus invaded might make all the resistance in its power, and this might continue for an indefinite period, and yet, if no declaration of war be made by either party, war would not exist, but it would be merely a state of war. So say our neighbors. “The recent conduct of a portion of the Mexican army, in crossing the Rio Grande, capturing an American company, and threatening the whole army of Gen. Taylor, may be deemed sufficient cause of war, but is not, of itself, war, and cannot induce the condition of war.” And by parity of reason, the same Mexican might not only cross the Rio Grande, but the Nueces and the Sabine, and penetrate into the very heart of the United States, capturing armies, bombarding cities from Texas to Maine, meet with resistance everywhere, and bring in their train all the horrors and evils of war, and because the nation of Mexico did not see fit to declare war, and the United States did not deem it necessary formally to announce to the world, in an instrument setting forth their injuries and their rights, that war was delcared, it would not induce the conditions of war. These distinctions are too metaphysical for us. But they were taken by our neighbors, and they might have some ground for cavil, and in order to give them an opportunity of casting a shell into the White House. The reason urged in
vindication of this splitting of hairs is a rare specimen of the same powers of ratiocination; “It is (they say) a just occasion of surprise and regret that the Congress of the United States should have been content to assume, immediately in the preamble to a bill granting supplies that these proceedings on the Texan frontier have placed the country in a state of war. The assumption was neither warranted by the law of nations, nor sanctioned by our own Constitution. It is expressly prescribed by the instrument to which the Federal Government owes all its powers, that Congress shall have power to declare war. If war, then, existed before the passage of the late bill, it was not by the authority of Congress, but simply by the will of President Polk, who dispatched an army to the banks of the Del Norte, and thereby induced the present state of affairs. It has come then to this, that the President has usurped the most important prerogative of Congress, and taken the war making power into his own hands, whilst Congress has tamely submitted to the usurpation, and asserted the war which he made to be an actual war.”

Here, forgetting that they were maintaining that Congress declared the country to be in a state of war, they conclude by stating that “Congress has tamely submitted to the usurpation, and asserted the war which he made to be an actual war.” But, aside from this inconsistency, do not our neighbors perceive that though Congress asserts that a state of war exists, no declaration having been made by them according to the Constitution that this may be true, and yet it may be waged by Mexico, without the President having usurped the most important prerogative of Congress, and taken the war making power into his own hands? If an army invades the territory of the U.S., is the President, the Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, to permit them to devastate our country and make no defense until Congress declares war? Congress might no be in session – it might be impossible to convene them in time. If in session, party spirit might rage to such an extent as to keep them wrangling for months about the propriety of making the formal declaration. But it is expressly laid down by Vattel, that “He who is attacked and makes only a defensive war, need not declare it; the state of war being sufficiently determined by the declaration of the enemy, or his open hostilities.” And again, in treating of the declaration of war and of the formalities incident to it, it is laid down that, “These formalities consist in the demand of a just satisfaction and in the declaration of war at least on the part of him who attacks, defensive war requiring no declaration, nor even on urgent occasions, so much as an express order from the sovereign.”

Mexico, we contend, both by open hostilities and by declaration, has determined the question of war. It will not be forgotten, that her late Envoy, in a formal note to the Secretary of State, declared that, should Texas be annexed to the United States, Mexico would consider the act a declaration of war on our part, and would proceed accordingly. Texas was annexed, in disregard of the threat, and Mexico proceeds to carry out her design. In various official documents, if we mistake not, emanating directly from the Mexican Government similar declaration is made. And more recently, when our army occupied the left bank of the Nueces, the Mexican General declared, in the name of his Government, that if the forces of the United States crossed that river, he would consider that also a declaration of war. Our troops did cross, and Mexico gathers a powerful force to attack them. Finally, a General coming immediately with the instructions of the Mexican Government, and superceding the officer who made the declaration last referred to, gives deliberate notice to the officer commanding our troops, then on the left bank of the Rio Grande, that if he does not forthwith remove from that position, Mexico will consider it a declaration of war, and will thereupon advance with her arms. Our General maintains his position, and the result is an attack upon our troops. If such conduct does not authorize Congress in stating that “by the act of the Republic of Mexico, a state of war exists between that Government and the United States,” nothing that a Government can do by her officers of agents would justify it.

The question recurs, is not the act of Congress itself a declaration of war? The Constitution provides that Congress shall have power to “declare war.” A nation having received injuries from another which she deems sufficient to justify her in waging war against another, may declare that she is about to engage in it. This she may do by a formal bill, or manifesto, or proclamation, or as it was done by the ancients, by sending a herald to the borders of the enemy’s country and proclaiming it with a trumpet. She may not only declare it beforehand, but, exercising her forbearance and her disposition to maintain peace, she may wait until it is declared by her enemy or waged without such declaration and then content herself by declaring the fact, that a state of war exists. The latter has been the course pursued by Congress, and by doing so the Constitution has been vindicated, and Congress has not yielded up its power by acknowledging the existence of a war created by the President alone, but it has assumed the responsibility of declaring that “by the act of the Republic of Mexico, a State of war exists between that Government and the United States.” And if we had no other cause for war than the boundary of Texas, and if that boundary was a doubtful one, yet we have acquired a right of having recourse to force by the refusal of Mexico to receive our ambassador charged with powers to discuss and agree upon all matters in dispute between the two nations. Vattel lays it down clearly, that “in things doubtful and not essential, if one of the parties will not listen, either to conferences, and accommodation, a negotiation or compromise, the other has only the last resource for the defense of himself and his rights; the means of force—and his arms are just against so untractable and adversary.”

But we are untold by our neighbors that “Mr. Polk has determined that a war we shall have, and as congress has called the President state of affairs a state of war, he seizes the occasion to spring upon the country this insidious proclamation.” Let us see how just is this charge against Mr. Polk, and whether he would discharge his duty to our own countrymen, and to the rest of the world, if he were to neglect proclaiming so important a fact. Congress declares that a state of war exists by the act of Mexico. How is this fact to be made unknown to our vessels of war in every sea? How is it to be made known officially to our merchantmen in every part of the world? Is he to send ships to hunt up our tars, and make them acquainted with the fact, and warn them of the danger they may encounter? Or, is he to proclaim it to the world, that they may obtain the intelligence at every port into which they may enter? Is it to hunt up our tars, and make them acquainted with the fact, and warn them of the danger they may encounter? Or, is he to proclaim it to the world, that they may obtain the intelligence at every port into which they may enter? Is he to send ships to hunt up our tars, and make them acquainted with the fact, and warn them of the danger they may encounter? Or, is he to proclaim it to the world, that they may obtain the intelligence at every port into which they may enter?
country.

But the President is charged with having created the war, by sending our army to the banks of the Rio Grande. Is this charge founded in justice? The State of Texas was an integral member of the Mexican Confederacy, not of the State of Mexico. It was an independent State, and united itself with Mexico and other States in a Confederacy after the plan of our Federal Union, and with the rest adopted a Constitution for the government of the whole. When this Constitution was violated by the Mexicans and their military rulers, the Texans did not choose to submit, but declared themselves independent; asserting, at the same time, their willingness to abide by the Constitution which had been agreed to, and return into the Union whenever the other States should adhere to the government to which all had assented. The State of Texas never constituted an integral part of the State of Mexico—each State possessed separate territory and separate boundaries—Texas claiming as its boundary the Rio Grande. They nobly sustained their independence, and were recognised as a distinct nation by the United States and several of the most powerful nations of Europe. Subsequently, by the voluntary act of both States, they have become united. In their Constitution they proclaim the Rio Grande as their boundary. The people between the Nueces and the Rio Grande took part in the formation of the Texan State, voted for delegates to the Convention which framed the Constitution, voted upon the ratification of the Constitution, unite in sending delegates to the State Legislature, constitute a revenue district in the State Legislature, constitute a revenue district in the State, and were looked upon by the people of Texas as a component part of that state. The United States, in annexing Texas to the Union, reserve however the right to settle the conflicting rights of boundary. An Ambassador is sent to Mexico to treat of all matters in dispute between the two nations, embracing boundary as well as other claims. The Mexicans indignantly refuse to receive our Ambassador, or to treat with us upon any terms; and claim not only the country between the Rio Grande and the Nueces, but the whole of Texas to the Sabine. They not only set up this unjust and illegal claim, but they proceed to concentrate troops on the frontier. The Constitution provides that “full faith an credit shall be given in each State to the public acts, records and judicial proceedings of every other State.” Is the President to give less credit to such acts than the States themselves are required to give? Texas by her Constitution maintains her boundary to the Rio Grande. Had he done so, he would have violated every obligation to the Constitution requiring him to defend the territory of the States; he would have violated the just expectations of the Texans when they entered into our Union, and he would have been justly chargeable with neglect of duty and would have incurred the just censure of those who now denounce him for the opposite course. He was bound to advance such troops as were at his disposal into the disputed territory and not permit an inch of it to be taken possession of, so long as force could prevent it, such force as was placed within his power by the laws of the Union. "If a nation," says Vattel, "is obliged to preserve itself, it is not less obliged carefully to preserve all its members. The nation owes this to itself, since the loss of even one of its members weakens it and is injurious to its own preservation. It owes this also to the members in particular, in consequence of the very act of association; for those who compose a nation are united for their defence and common advantage; and none can justly be deprived of this Union, and of the advantages which flow from it, while he on his side fulfills the conditions. The body of a nation cannot then abandon a province, a town, or even a particular person, who has done his part, unless obliged to it from necessity or unless it is made necessary by the strongest reasons, founded on the public safety.”.

If even a nation was engaged in a war which was every way just and righteous, such is the war in which this nation is now engaged. We...no more info.

Mr. Evans, from the Finance Committee, reported a bill to remit the duties on railroad iron in certain cases.

On motion of Mr. Benton, the Military Committee was instructed to inquire into the expediency of increasing the number of officers of the general staff of the army, rendered necessary by the increase of the rank and file; also to provide for the more effectual organization of the volunteers.

On motion of Mr. Benton, 1,000 extra copies of the report of the court of enquiry held at Springfield, Mass., were ordered to be printed.

The bill to repeal the proviso in the naval appropriation bill, so as to make it comport with the provisions of the war bill; was read a third time and passed.

The bill to adjust the suspended pre-emption land claims in the several States and Territories, was, after a long and tedious debate, passed with an amendment authorizing the commissioner of the land office to adjudicate the claims, and issue the patents, requiring him, however, to report his decisions to Congress.

The Indian approbiation bill was returned to the House with sundry amendments.

After a brief discussion, the report of Mr. Semple, relative to a post road across the Isthmus of Panama, was recommitted to the post office committee.

On motion of Mr. Fairfield, the bill authorized the construction of ten war steamers was recommitted to the naval committee, with a view to some amendments.
Several unimportant matters having been disposed of, the Senate resumed the consideration of the bill providing for the appointment of assistant Paymaster General and three Paymasters. After some uninteresting discussion, it was passed.

The bill for the relief of Amos Kendall was also passed.

The remainder of the day was devoted to Executive business.

RE46v43i7p1c7, May 22, 1846: House of Representatives.

On motion of Mr. St. John, a resolution was adopted, calling on the Secretary of War to communicate the result of the examination of the Board of Engineers of Sandusky Bay, on Lake Erie; also the plan and estimate for placing the river in a state of defence.

Mr. Reed made an ineffectual motion to suspend the rules, for the purpose of offering a resolution providing that hereafter the daily hour of meeting shall be ten instead of eleven o’clock.

On motion of Mr. Thompson the bill regulating intercourse with the Indian tribes in Oregon, was postponed till the 1st of June.

Mr. T. assigned as a reason, that by that time it would be seen what the Senate would do with the Oregon jurisdiction bill, after which the Indian bill might be made to conform to it.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, and resumed the consideration of the bill providing for the pay of the army.

Two amendments were pending, one to equalize the pay of the army to $8, and another to $10 per month.

Mr. McKay reminded the committee that last week two bills were passed, one to increase the rank and file of the army, and another to raise a regiment of mounted riflemen, and when in order, he gave notice that he would move an amendment of two millions of dollars to carry these laws into effect.

The debate on the general merit of the bills was continued by...Chipman and others, until the committee rose.

On motion of Mr. McKay, a resolution was adopted, which provides that all debate on the bill shall cease in committee to-morrow at two o’clock.

RE46v43i7p1c7, May 22, 1846: Tuesday May 19, 1846, SENATE.

Among the memorials were several praving that Pittsburg and Wheeling may be made ports of entry.

Mr. Benton, from the Military Committee, reported an act supplantary to the act for prosecuting the war with Mexico.

The bill providing for the adjustment of suspended land claims in the several States, was read a third time and passed.

The bill from the House, making appropriations for the Post Office Department, was next taken up.

Mr. Speight, although he said he would not vote against the bill fired a broadside at the cheap postage system. He said it was an oppressive act, and was the forerunner of one still more oppressive viz the tariff. Which was the grinding down of the people in one section for the benefit of the other.

Mr. Niles, in reply, intimated that the Post Office Committee had not deemed it necessary to make any change in the bill. After further remarks, he expressed his astonishment at the sweeping denunciation of the bill by the last speaker.

The debate was continued by Messrs. Calhoun, Servier and others, after which, with a view to a revision, the bill was informally laid aside.

The remainder of the day was devoted to the consideration of the French Spoliation bill.
As soon as the journal had been read, the House went into committee of the Whole, and resumed the consideration of the bill providing for the pay of the army.

Mr. Tibbatts offered an additional amendment, giving non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates three dollars per month, in addition to their present pay, and 100 acres of land to each volunteer who shall serve to the end of the war. He supported the amendment by a speech, in which he argued that humanity calls upon us to adopt measures for a speedy termination of the war. To commence the war with a view of saving money was niggardly policy. On the contrary, it was our duty to offer every reasonable inducement for the enlistment of good soldiers, so that a decisive blow might be struck at once. He said he had offered his amendment as an act of justice to those engaged in the war, and not from any selfish motive. He congratulated Congress and the country upon the glorious news received from the army last evening, and eulogized Gen. Taylor to the skies.

Mr. Dromgoole made a scorching reply to those members who had complained that they had not been allowed time to discuss the war bill. He referred to previous acts of Congress in cases of emergency with even greater dispatch was manifested. He also defended the course of the President relative to Mexico. After proving that we have been drawn into war by the act of Mexico herself, he caused to be read by the clerk, the proclamation of Ampudia appealing to the English and Irish, and inviting them to join the Mexican army, promising them kind treatment and good pay.

In answer to a question from Mr. Ashmun, Mr. Dromgoole admitted that the proclamation was not among the papers communicated by the President, but he said that Ampudia was no less guilty on that account. Ampudia was guilty of what the laws of nations termed "man stealing," and the only thing to be done now, was to have a Court of Inquiry, and make him forfeit his life. (Laughter).

Mr. Hunt of New York condemned the course of the majority in a fixing a preamble to the war bill, declaring in advance the existence of a war with Mexico.

Mr. Cocke spoke till the expiration of the time allowed for debate.

The amendment of Mr. Tibbatts was ruled out of order. The committee then voted upon numerous proposed amendments, and then reported the bill as amended to the House.

The House concurred in all the amendments. Among them was that of Mr. McKay, inserting an additional section, appropriating about two millions for carrying into effect the act for the increase of the rank and file of the army, and to raise a regiment of mounted riflemen. Also, an item of 100,000 of dollars for the purchase of gunpowder.

The whole amount of appropriation is near seven millions of dollars.

The bill as amended, was then read a third time and passed. Years 191, nays none.

After a great uproar occasioned by several members endeavoring to squeeze in bills and resolutions, the House adjourned.

We have already alluded to the injurious effect of the policy pursued by the opponents of the Administration in denouncing the President as having usurped the power of declaring war, and in assailing the war itself as fraudulent, unjust and unwarrantable. We have avowed our opinion, that such a state of things was well calculated to cool the patriotism of the volunteers and thereby throw embarrassment in the way of a vigorous and speedy prosecution of a war into which we have been forced by Mexico. With how much less spirit would our citizen soldiers rally to the field, if they are induced, upon the rally to the field, assertions of the Whig press, to believe that the President is a selfish and reckless usurper, that their country is in the wrong, (and when did the Whigs ever say that their country was in the right, in its difficulties with foreign powers?) and that the war in which they are engaged, is unjust and unrighteous in itself, and that they therefore incur the vengeance of Heaven? Would not such feelings unnerve the arm of the stoutest soldier, and cause his spirit to cower? The consciousness of right on his country's side is the strongest incentive of a Republican champion. The Whigs would, by their party denunciations of the Government, strike away this incentive and weaken the moral force of our Republican army.

We do not speak at random, and in proof of our position, we shall group together various extracts from Whig journals.
The Charlestown (Va) Free Press says: "But the rights and power of Mexico have been uniformly despised in our whole proceedings, and war has been precipitated, without the authority of Congress, and without the shadow of necessity."

[From the Providence Journal].

We are already engaged in a war—in an unnecessary and unrighteous war—undertaken for an unjustifiable object, and not necessary even to accomplish the object for which it was undertaken. Every step in this Texas iniquity has been taken equally in disregard of all the principles of justice and of right, and in defiance of all the dictates of prudence, discretion and common sense."

[From the New York Tribune].

Ten days ago, if a Baltimore clipper had overtaken a Mexican trading ship at sea, captured and plundered her, it would have been piracy by all law, and the perpetrators must have swung for it. Now that same act would be pronounced laudable by our Courts, and the Mexican vessel and cargo a lawful prize to the captors. But can any man imagine that the distinction made by our courts is respected in the Chancery of Heaven? No! No! never! never! Abhorred be this war, its authors and abettors! abettors! "O my soul come not thou into their secrets—unto their assembly, mine honor, be not thou united?"

[From the Philadelphia U.S. Gazette].

Let the public at all times hold the administration responsible for the position we are now in, and let Mr. Polk and his ministry have the blame of all the disgrace we are suffering, and all the occurrences of a war which they have causelessly brought upon the country. There was not the least necessity for the trouble in which the nation now is—not the least.

[From the Cincinnati (Ohio) Gazette].

There is no language, in our opinion, too severe to be applied to the conduct of the administration in the management of our Mexican affairs.

A war with Mexico cannot but do us injury where we would have our name respected—degrade the national reputation in the world’s estamation, which might otherwise have been honored and respected. It is vain to deceive ourselves. It is all idle and wrong through passion to blind the public to the disgrace which must follow our ... comparatively, dividend to the verge of civil war, no man, no people, looking on upon the contest, can help sympathizing with the broken power of Mexico, and uniting on uttering a better condemnation against our Government.

What the President could have been dreaming about in ordering the army to the position it now occupies, we are at a loss to conceive. Was there any danger of invasion from Mexico?—That is not pretended. Did we intend to invade her territory? This is expressly denied. Why, then, put our soldiery, and plant our cannon, in the face of one of her cities, and upon her own territory! There is but one explanation to be given of this conduct, and that is, that mad politicians in power had resolved, and gentlemen loafers out of office and employment, had united with them, to provoke a war at all hazards.

American arms must be brandished upon disputed territory, and the Mexican defied on his own soil. And now the treasure and blood of the nation are to be spent and spilt to make good this reckless, this inhuman action! For both, the President of these United States, and the men in authority under him, are responsible. For the blood already shed—for the murders of the gallant Cross, Porter and Thornton, and their brave comrades, literally brought about through this direct instrumentality, they will be held responsible before God and man.

'Tis no idle matter, or indifferent theme, this Texan, Mexican trouble. For annexation, the whole country has been driven to suffer and to do, what never would have been suffered or done, if the people had not been made mad by party, and then betrayed by those whom they had elevated into power. Heretofore the nation, as a nation, was clear of soiling its hands with slavery. But by that act she clutched hold of it to defend, extend and perpetuate it. And soon, in addition, there will be a demand for millions upon millions to pay her debts, to fortify her coast, and to feed the soldiery at present in her borders. As if this was not enough, and more than ought to be tolerated, the possession of a strip of disputed territory is to be made cause of war, and the floodgates of a freebooting spirit thrown wide open, that politicians may thrive, and loafers parade in epaulettes, or have a chance to plunder, while the labor, industry and character of the country shall be heavily taxed to support them.

[From the Washington Correspondent of the N.Y. Commercial Advertiser].

After some five years clamor for war, war—for the sake of war, after making war the theme of every oration in Congress or on the stump, and the main issue at every election, the Democracy have, at last, stumbled upon the object of all their wishes.

The imbecility of their administration has done for them more than they could have expected from the energy of any...
other.

We have got into a war, through Mr. Polk, from which a Caesar or Bonaparte would have shrunk—an offensive war with Mexico and all the powers of the world sympathizing with her, and upon an issue made by Mr. Polk himself—a war for acquisition or seizure of a portion of Mexican territory.

[From the New York Express].

This mean, miserable and contemptible administration, --we mean just what we say—is as imbecile in vindicating American honor and American arms, as it is braggart in mouthing over them. It bullies England, orders fleets off Mexico, then proposes to razee the navy, and sends a handful of twenty-five hundred gallant men into the heart of a Mexican population, to flog the whole Mexican nation.

We have, we trust, given extracts enough to show the gross injustice of the Whig presses in denouncing their own Government and the free and intelligent people of their own country. All that the Administration has aimed at has been to protect American territory, to take possession of what has become our own and by as clear a title as that of Mexico. It had the right to do so, and for this simple act our citizens have been murdered on our own territory.

The Boston Post rebukes these factious prints with just severity, when it says:

"With a certain party and class our country is always in the wrong—never in the right. It was wrong when it renounced the British allegiance of 1775; wrong when it acquired Lousiana; wrong when it contended for the freedom of the years in 1814; wrong when it took possession of Florida, wrong when it annexed Texas; wrong on Oregon, and is now wrong in the matter with Mexico. If this party has been pretty consistent in the work of condemnation, they have been equally as consistent in accounting for this continuity of error; with them it is the error of the Democracy. The false step was taken in discarding monarchical institutions. Our soil, our free republican soil, from the first, was too extended, and this toryism has begrudged every inch of extension. Let it rave on! Its grumbling is impotent of stay the onward march of this glorious people."[BWP]

RE46v43i7p2c2, May 22, 1846: Has Mexico Any Allies?

We have been strongly inclined to the belief that Great Britain has been mixed up in some way with the recent movements in Mexico. We all recollect the vaunting pronunciamentos of the Mexican Presidents and Generals, and the threats of vengeance upon us for the annexation of Texas. We moreover bring to mind how all these braggart words passed off in smoke. She could find no means, foul or fair, to replenish her Treasury and reinforce her armies. But this year, she has made new and vigorous effects, and has succeeded in assembling a numerous army, led on by skillful officers, many of them, it is said, from Europe. Who has furnished this money and these officers? Who has spurred her up to a conflict with our powerful nation? The mystery needs unravelling, and some of the letterwriters have proceeded to do so.

The Washington correspondent of the N.Y.Tribune writes in the following deliberate and emphatic manner.

"After much thought I cannot dispossess myself of the belief that England is concerned in this movement of Mexico. I am in possession of evidence that the last reinforcements of the Mexican Army were not ordered to be concentrated at Matamoras until about the middle of April, after the receipt of intelligence from Great Britain, which had been so anxiously looked for, and that not till then were the operations undertaken with spirit and vigor. I should be glad to be deceived on this point, but fear I shall not be again. The remarkable alliance between France and England must have ulterior objects in view; and may not the latter, to block up the progress of the United States, and to raise a counter government on our frontier, have agreed to establish a Monarchy in Mexico in the person of the Duke De Montpensier, the young son of Louis Philippe?...In the present juncture, the probability is more plausible.

The Washington correspondent of the N.York Commercial Advertiser writes with still more confidence, though it is proper to add, that the Editor attaches no faith to his opinions. The letter says:

"I have no doubt that Paredes is himself an English agent, and that he was provided with the means for assuming the position he holds by England. France will not be backward to avail herself of the occasion to illustrate her principle of a balance of power.

"We are at war not only with Mexico, but with the whole world, and by the act of the President, not the act of Mexico, as the declaration of war assumes."

The New York Albion, conducted by a British subject, says:

"This state of things does not surprise us; we predicted that difficulties would ensue whenever the American army occupied the belt of land between the Nueces and the Rio Grande, because the Mexicans always contended that that strip of territory never formed any part of Texas. An invasion of that, they held, would be an invasion of Mexico itself, and they would treat it accordingly. This determination was perfectly well known many months since at London, in the city of Mexico and certainly in New York, for we announced it on the best authority in the Albion."
“The question is constantly asked, what will England and France do? We reply, nothing, as tat as hostile measures are concerned. They will no doubt offer their mediation, and prevail on Mexico to do all that is right and proper; with this they will expect that the U. States will be satisfied; but it should appear that the U. States will not rest satisfied, when all just demands be conceded, M. Guizot will then have an opportunity of reverting to his balance of power policy."

While we are far from denying that the United States will be satisfied with what is "right and proper, “ we are clearly of the opinion that she will not admit the interference of England and France, as to what terms she should accept. The quarrel is between the United States and Mexico and no power has a right to meddle with our honor or interests which are involve. Our sense of justice alone will be the arbiter which is to decide upon the propriety of a settlement with Mexico. We will manage our affairs in our own way, and fatal and dark will be the day, when the nations of Europe shall venture to bring to bear upon our conduct their odious "balance-of-power" policy. The zeal and enthusiasm which move the whole country at the present crisis, show how formidable our national power may be made in the hour of danger. While we respect the rights of other nations, we will not brook the least interference with our own.

But, whatever England and France may have done, or intend to do, we conscientiously believe that the moral spectacle now presented throughout our country will go very far to secure the respect of Europe, and produce a long and lasting peace.

[BWP]

RE46v43i7p2c3, May 22, 1846: No Title.

At a large public meeting in Washington City last Saturday to raise Volunteers, Col. R. M. Johnson presided and spoke with enthusiasm. Three members of the House of Representatives also spoke Messrs. Martin and Stanton of Tenn., and Mr. McConnell, of Ala.—A Mr. St. John of Buffalo, and Lieutenant Porter of the Navy also addressed the meeting, the latter with some touching allusions to his brother Lieutenant Porter of the Army, who has been killed upon the frontier by a party of Mexicans. He had received, he said, as the sole bequest of his father, a sword with which he would avenge his brother's blood or die in the attempt to do so; and from his Spartan mother a letter which told him to come not to her, but to go where his brother fell to avenge his death and defend his country. There were 35 names down for volunteers when the meeting broke up, another meeting will be held tomorrow. In a few days it is expected that a full company will be obtained and their services will be at once tendered to and accepted by the President. We gather the above facts from the Baltimore American.

[BWP]

RE46v43i7p2c3, May 22, 1846: Alabama in a Blaze.

"The whole Southwestern country is in a high state of excitement on the subject of the "Mexican war, “ and great anxiety is expressed on all sides for Gen. Taylor in his present critical position—far from the resources of his own country, and on the borders of a nation whose rule, in all her previous conflicts with our Texan brethren, has been to promise quarter, but to deal cruelly and treacherously with prisoners, few of whom have returned to tell the tale of the hottors of their captivity. Montgomery has sent forth a company to the relief of Gen. Taylor of 83 men, and two more companies are about to be organized. No formal requisition has been made upon our Governor as yet, but he has published a Proclamation, under the impression that many troops will be speedily required on our Mexican frontier, authorizing and advising the organization of companies of volunteers to the number of two thousand men, who are directed to proceed to Mobile and report themselves to the officer in command of the Southwestern Division of the U.S. Army at that place, and pledging the credit of the State of Alabama for all necessary expenses incurred by them, should they not be required by the U.S. Government. The greatest enthusiasm prevails throughout the country, and all parties are united as one man in calling loudly for signal vengeance on the foe who has dared to send a hostile army on the soil marked out as our own, by the sacred symbol of the Stars and Stripes. I am gentlemen, very truly.

[BWP]

RE46v43i7p2c4, May 22, 1846: From the Washington Union. Mexican Admission of Boundary.

The charge against the Administration, which some of the Whig journals are sending all over the country, is this: that the Del Norte is not the boundary of the State of Texas, and that the President had no right under the Constitution to send troops to repel an invasion on this side of that river.

Mexico herself has not only admitted, but she has time and again affirmed, and she still affirms the exact contrary. She maintains that the land on the East bank of the Del Norte is Texas, and that it is not Mexico any more than all Texas is Mexico. This we will now prove, documents in hand. If we prove it, there is an end to the whole charge against the President of violating the Constitution, by sending General Taylor to the Del Norte, under orders to
prevent and repel invasion on this side of that river.

On the 20th June, 1814, General Woll, then commander-in-chief of the Mexican army on the Northeastern frontier, issued, in pursuance of a decree of the Mexican Government, bearing date 17th June, 1843, the following general orders. The document is, just now, worth pursuing... [See Woll's document below.]

[BWP]

RE46v43i7p2c3, May 22, 1846: For the Enquirer. The Richmond Volunteers.

Messrs. Editors. A card in some of the papers of this morning states, that a full account of the deputation to Washington, on the part of the volunteer corps which has been lately raised in this city, will be given at the proper time. That time has already arrived, and we will state in as few words as possible the result of this application.

We went to Washington on Saturday last, and immediately on arriving there, had an interview with the Secretary of War and Gen. Scott – We learned from them; that the President had made no requisition for troops upon any Atlantic State North of Georgia, and that volunteers who wished their services accepted by the General Government, should be first organized, equipped and drilled, and their officers commissioned by the State Governor; so that, in the event of a requisition on the State, their claims might entitle them to preference. Gen. Scott remarked, that the Secretary of War would only communicate with the State Executive in enlisting companies of volunteers – meaning that no troops would be accepted unless by requisition on the Governor.

Under these circumstances our first determination was to return to Richmond the next day; the design being to make another, and more formal tender of our company, after obeying more minutely the requirements of the law; than we had done with regard to its organization. We were advised, however, not to leave without consulting the President: so, Monday morning, having already written tender of our services to the Secretary of War, we called on the President, in company with Gov. McDowell, Judge Pennybacker, Gen. Chapman and Mr. Hopkins, members of the Virginia delegation of Congress, and our fellow townsman Thos. Green, Esq. – The President received us with great courtesy, expressed satisfaction at the patriotic zeal of the country, and particularly applauded the prompt and decided action of the citizens of Richmond. We then went a second time to the War Department, accompanied by the distinguished gentlemen we have just mentioned. The Hon. Secretary gave much the same answer he did at the former interview- only he gave us greater encouragement to hope that we might at least be ordered to Fortress Monroe, there to be drilled for six weeks or two months, and then to be ordered to the scene of action, if the exigency of the service demanded it.

We returned to Richmond last evening to advise the Company to complete their organization, to have their officers commissioned according to law, then to offer their services to the Governor of the State, to obey any requisition of the President. They should also press the claims which they have upon the Department, and which we have the assurance of the Secretary of War, will not be forgotten. We were advised to this course by the distinguished gentlemen whose kindness we have already mentioned, and also by a distinguished friend of our enterprise, whose attentions to us, and spirited efforts on our behalf, as the representatives of the corps, we are pleased to have an opportunity of acknowledging – We allude to Mr. Ritchie. Let the Citizens and Volunteers persist in their purpose. If there should be no demand for their services, we will all rejoice that our country has no need of them, or, if so, has worthier sons to execute them. – Our candid conviction is, that a requisition will be made on Virginia.

ED. C. CARRINGTON, Capt.
JOHN D. WARREN, Lieut.
Richmond, May 20th, 1846.

[BWP]

RE46v43i7p2c4, May 22, 1846: “Headquarters of the Army of the North, ‘Mier, June 20, 1844.

“I, Adrian Woll, General of Brigade, &c., make known –

“1. The armistice agreed on with the department of Texas having expired, and the war being , in consequence, recommended against the inhabitants of that department, all communication with it ceases.”.

“2. Every individual, of whatever condition, who may contravene provisions of the preceding article, shall be regarded as a traitor and shall receive the punishment prescribed in article 15, title 10, treatise 8, of the articles of war.”.

“3. Every individual who may be found at the distance of one league from the left bank of the Rio Bravo, will be regarded as a favorer and accomplice of the usurpers of that part of the national territory, and as a traitor to his country; and, summary military trial, shall receive the said punishment.”.
“4. Every individual who may be comprehended within the provisions of the preceding article, and may be rash enough to fly at the sight of any force belonging to the supreme government, shall be pursued until taken or put to death.”.

“In consideration of the situation of the towns of Lareda and Santa Rita de Ampudia, as well as all the farm houses beyond the Rio Bravo, in which remain all the interests of the inhabitants of the line committed to my charge, I have this day received from the supreme Government, orders to determine the manner by which those interests are to be protected; but, until the determination of the supreme Government be received, I warn all those who are beyond the limits here prescribed, to bring them within the line, or to abandon them; as those who disobey this order will infallibly suffer the punishment here established.

“ADRIAN WOLL”.

Now this document shows:

1st. That Mexico holds the territory on the East bank of the Del Norte to be Texas;

2nd. That, as Texan territory, she was resolved to make it the scene of a war of extermination; and.

3rd. Some light is thus thrown on the propriety and constitutionality of sending an American force to defend it against armed invasion by such foes, after it had been made a congressional and revenue district of the United States by act of Congress.


No More Wanted- we learn from an authentic source that the requisition made by Gen. Taylor on Louisiana has been fully complied with without a draft, and that there are even more volunteers than can be received. Several companies have been already refused; and offers are beginning to pour in from the interior, which will all be rejected until further requisition from the proper authorities is made.

The intelligence was brought here yesterday by Maj. Chase of the U.S. Army, who declined accepting the services of the gallant volunteers from Montgomery under Capt. Elmore, now quartered in this city, to the very great mortification of Capt. E. and his brave associates.

RE46v43i7p2c4, May 22, 1846: ON THEIR OWN HOOK.

We understand that our gallant and patriotic friend, Col. Platt, commenced yesterday the raising of a company of Volunteers to proceed directly to Point Isabel, “on their own hook” to “take stock” in the Mexican war. Some thirty or forty enrolled their names last evening, and the requisite number will be made up this morning. They propose chartering a vessel here, and will leave probably tomorrow for the Rio Grande. (Mobile Advertiser, May 15.)[BWP]

RE46v43i7p2c4, May 22, 1846: MEXICAN PRIVATEERS.

The treaty with Spain, by which it is engaged on both sides, that he citizens of neither nation shall engage in the service of privateers against the commerce of the other; would be somewhat difficult to execute as far as our own case is concerned in a war with Mexico. The principle difficulty would lie in meeting the distinction between Mexicans and Spaniards. Adventurers from Cuba when caught in their vocation of plunder on the seas, would claim to be Mexicans, of course, and the identity of their languages and personal appearance would make it impossible in the majority of cases, to detect the falsehood.

RE46v43i7p2c4, May 22, 1846: Still They Come.

A full company of volunteers, commanded by Captain Galbraith, arrived yesterday on board the North Alabama from the Parish of Concordia. There arrived also two hundred and fifty volunteers – fine fellows – from the parishes of Assumption and Lafourche Interior, commanded by Captains E. F. Nicholas and Williams. [BWP]
RE46v43i7p2c4, May 22, 1846: More Mounted Volunteers.

We understand that Capt. M. I. Box, of Texas, who is now in this city, is about raising a company of Mounted Volunteers, to be attached to Col. Lewis’ Regiment. Capt. Box is a noble specimen of a frontier man, the greater part of whose life has been spent amidst the perils of savage warfare, and such, we take him, as would lead his followers to death or glory.

[BWP]

RE46v43i7p2c4, May 22, 1846: The Germans.

Hurrah For The Teutonic Chivalry – Our fellow citizens of German origin have evinced the most laudable zeal in the present crisis. Several companies have been formed by them, in that noiseless, unostentatious way, which is so characteristic of their race – Calm, cool, reflecting, yet determined, they are a rampart of iron, on the defense, an avalanche on the attack. There were about 500 of them in barracks yesterday, waiting for embarkation.

Three more companies of Colonel Marks’ Regiment departed this morning in the steamer Sea. The requisition is almost complete, and the balance will be sent off as soon as transports can be furnished.

[BWP]

RE46v43i7p2c4, May 22, 1846: Hon. Bailie Peyton.

We learn that our friend Mr. Peyton, in the true spirit of the heroic race from which he sprung, has volunteered as a private for the Rio Grande. Many gentlemen have called at our office today, and expressed a desire that he should raise a regiment. We hope so. We know of no man whose name would rally the right sort of men around him, sooner than Bailie Peyton.

We do not hope the next mail from Washington will bring authority from Government to prosecute this war on the proper scale. Not upon milk and water principles – not by half way measures – not by entrenchments, and baggage wagons, and bush fighting – but marching forthwith into Mexico, with sufficient force to defend every step we take.

Since writing the above, we learn that Gen. Gaines has authorized Col. Peyton to organize a regiment, and he has commenced the work with characteristic energy.

Our life for it, his regiment will not be the last to enter the city of Mexico.

[BWP]

RE46v43i7p2c4, May 22, 1846: The Right Spirit.

Our respected fellow citizen, Gen. Dunlap, of Madison, in an eloquent speech on Tuesday evening, announced his intention of going beyond the Rio Grande, and said his parish was ready to march there with him.

[BWP]

RE46v43i7p2c4, May 22, 1846: Col. Marks.

We understand Col. Marks will leave this evening for the Army, with the remaining companies of his regiment. He goes with the best wishes of this whole community. A Senator in the Legislature, on the first news from the frontier, he enrolled himself as a private, and gave a stimulus to the recruiting spirit, which was felt throughout the city. He is a brave and experienced officer. Success and honor to him.

[BWP]

RE46v43i7p2c4, May 22, 1846: Capt. Walker-The Texas Rangers.

The Texas Rangers – It has been determined by a few of our leading men to set on foot a subscription to purchase a sword, to be presented to this intrepid man, which whose exploits with the Texas Rangers, and his daring
expedition from Point Isabel to the American entrenched camp lately, the public are acquainted. The list is with Mr. Bravo, of The Commercial Exchange Reading Rooms. In an hour or so, forty five dollars were subscribed, in small sums. Who next throws in his contribution of gratitude and admiration?[BWP]

RE46v43i7p2c6, May 22, 1846: No title.

We presume the physician alluded to below by the Union is Dr. Parrott, to whose intimate acquaintance with the climate, country and habits of Mexico, we yesterday referred. [A friend is of opinion, that the physician alluded to is Dr. Davis.] His testimony will go far to relieve the fears of many whose friends have gone off to the war, and who seems to apprehend more danger from the climate than from the Mexican arms:

"We are informed by an intelligent physician who was a native of this city, but who resided for several years to the West of the Rio Grande, who married a Mexican lady, who was an U. States Consul, practised physic several years in the vicinity of Matamoras, and is intimately acquainted with the climate, as well as the habits of the Mexicans, that although at a certain season of the year it is unhealthy at Matamoras, and on the immediate borders of the river, yet that several miles from it the ague and fever is unknown.—The climate for several miles beyond, away off to the West, is remarkably healthy, and no such humbug ought to prevent the troops of the United States from visiting this interesting region of the earth."[BWP]

RE46v43i7p3c1, May 22, 1846: By Last Evening’s Mail. REQUISITION UPON THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

We understand that Governor Smith has been called upon by the President of the United States for three regiments (30 companies, 2,310 men,) of infantry, to be composed of volunteers, enrolled, and held in readiness to muster in the service of the United States. Each company, we learn, will consist of 64 privates only, not over 45, nor under 18 years of age, and in full physical strength and vigor.

Full particulars will doubtless be announced officially in a few days.

It is stated in the New York papers, that a number of British sailors have deserted from British ships now ion that port, from fear of being pressed into naval service upon their return to England in the event of a war with this country. [BWP]

RE46v43i7p3c1, May 22, 1846: TWENTY-NINTH CONGRESS. WEDNESDAY, MAY 20. SENATE.

Mr. Evans, from the Finance Committee, re-(unreadable) the West Point Academy bill, with . . .[illegible] . . . amendments.

On motion of Mr. Turney, a resolution was adopted, instructing the Military Committee to report on the expediency of limiting the term of service of the officers of the army to sixty years.

Mr. Sturgeon presented the proceedings of a great meeting at Easton, Pa., in reference to the war with Mexico.

Mr. Woodbridge presented resolutions of the Legislature of Michigan, against the leasing of . . .[illegible] . . . lands in Lake Superior.

After a discussion between Messrs. Webster, . . .[illegible] . . . Cass and others, the resolutions were ordered to be printed.

The House bill regulating the value at which certain foreign coins shall be received at our custom house, was taken up, the amendment con-(unreadable) and the bill passed.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of the French Spoliation bill.

Mr. Morehead having the floor, resumed and concluded his remarks.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The Indian appropriation bill, as returned upon the Senate, with amendments, was referred . . .[illegible] . . . Committee on Ways and Means.
Mr. Smith from the Committee on Roads and Canals, reported a bill for surveying and constructing a military road from Fort Howard, in Wisconsin, to Fort Wilkins, in Michigan. It was twice read and committed.

This being the day set apart for the consideration of territorial business, a resolution was adopted, postponing the special order till the 2d of June.

Mr. Andrew Stewart moved a suspension of the rules to enable him to offer a resolution instructing the military committee to report a bill increasing the pay of volunteers from seven to ten dollars per month, and granting to those who serve to the end of the war, or who may die in the service, 160 acres of land.

The motion to suspend was negatived—yeas 70, nays 75.

Some unimportant matters being here disposed of, Mr. Butler King, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill making appropriation for twelve iron war steamers and one frigate. It was twice read and committed.

The first section provides, that immediately after the passage of the act, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Navy, after advertising, etc., to contract for the construction of twelve war steamers, to be built of iron, of not less than 1200, nor exceeding 1600 tons, the boilers to be . . .[illegible] . . . so far below the water line, and the machinery so arranged as to be secure from an enemy's shot; that they shall have a speed of at least fifteen miles and hour in ocean navigation, in ordinary weather; that they shall be furnished with engines of not less than 1,000 horse power each, and capable of carrying an armament of at least six of Treadwell's wrought iron guns, of not less than twelve inches calibre, and from two to four smaller guns of the same manufacture, with at least 15 days' fuel under a high pressure of steam.

The second section provides for the construction of one frigate, to be built of iron, capable of carrying an armament of 60 heavy guns, with the necessary accommodations for the officers and crew of such ship.

The third section provides, that one of the steamers shall be built upon Ericsson's plan.

The fourth section provides, that another shall be built upon the plan of Messrs. Schuyler.

The fifth section appropriates five millions of dollars for the purpose of carrying the bill into effect.

A long an very interesting report accompanied the bill. The reports goes into a long and elaborate description of the merits of iron over wood for war ships, and brings the clearest evidence in favor of iron. The plan of uniting sails with steam is also examined and condemned.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, and took up the civil and diplomatic appropriation bill.

After some discussion relative to the item providing for meteorological observations, the bill was, for the present laid aside, and the committee rose.

Numerous bills from the Senate was received, read twice and appropriately referred.

The resolution of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, relative to the Tariff and the Sub Treasury were presented and ordered to be printed.

The House then adjourned.

RE46v43i7p4c3, May 22, 1846: From the New Orleans Picayune, April 12. FURTHER FROM THE ARMY


The steam schooner Florida, Capt. Clift, arrived at this port last evening from Brazos Santiago, whence she sailed on the 5th instant. Although her dates are not so late by one day as the New York’s they contain fuller and more authentic details of events on the Rio Grande, and put quite a new aspect on affairs.

The reader will be delighted to hear that neither Capt. Thornton nor Lieut. Kane was killed in the affair of the surprise of Capt. Thornton’s Dragoons. We give below a minute account of the surprise and action, of the accuracy of which we have not doubt. It will be read with universal interest.

The Florida brought over official despatches from Gen. Taylor for the Government. Col. Whistler came passenger on the Florida. A gentleman, who also came passenger on the schooner, has furnished us with the following narrative of Gen. Taylor’s march from his camp to Point Isabel and of the subsequent attack upon the camp. It differs from the accounts received by the New York, via Galveston. The reader may repose entire confidence in the following, as it
On the 1st of May the main body of the army of Occupation marched from the camp on the Rio Grande, leaving as a garrison in the field-works opposite Matamoras, the 7th Regiment of Infantry and two companies of Artillery, commanded by Capt. Lowd and Lieut. Bragg—the whole commanded by Major Brown, 7th Infantry.

On the 2d the army encamped at Point Isabel. Early on the morning of the 3d a heavy cannonade was heard in the direction of Matamoras, which was continued during the day, and at intervals through the night and during the day of the 4th. Owing to the difficulty of communicating with the fort, no intelligence was received at head quarters respecting the result of the cannonade until the morning of the 5th, when a party sent forward to communicate brought a despatch from Major Brown, announcing the particulars, a brief statement of which follows:

At 5 o’clock on the morning of the 3d, a fire was opened upon the fort from one of the Mexican batteries, and was continued with seven guns. The fire was immediately returned, and the battery silenced by our guns in thirty minutes—two of the enemy’s guns supposed to be dismounted.

The enemy then commenced firing from the lower fort and mortar battery—a brisk fire of shot and shells was kept up, but without damage to the fort or garrison.

A deliberate fire was now kept up by our eighteen pounders upon the enemy’s guns and the city of Matamoras, the consulate flags being respected.

The fire of the enemy was kept up without cessation until half past 7. At 10 it was temporarily suspended, but recommenced and continue at intervals until 12 at night. Although it is believed that some 1,200 or 1,500 shot were fired by the enemy during this period but one casualty occurred—a sergeant of B Company 3d Infantry being killed. Not one of our guns was dismounted, though the enemy’s fire was concentrated for some time on the 18 pounder battery, and the shot frequently struck the embrasures. At 5 o’clock on the morning of the 4th, the fire was resumed by the enemy, continued for twelve or fifteen shots, and kept up at long intervals during the day, but without effect.

The amount of damage done to the enemy, beyond silencing their batteries, cannot yet be correctly known.

Our informant assures us that it was understood to be Gen. Taylor’s intention to remain at Point Isabel until that post should be perfectly fortified, and a large accession of troops should arrive; but he further gives us every reason to encourage those enrolling or who may desire to enroll themselves, to believe that Gen. Taylor will lead them at once into active service—that it is his firm intention to “carry the war into Africa.”.

We proceed now to lay before the reader an account of the surprise and subsequent surrender of Capt. Thornton’s command. Though not official, we have it from a gentleman familiar with the circumstances of the case, and upon whom all reliance may be placed. We do not know when we have published anything which has afforded us such sincere pleasure. It will cheer hearts that have been wrung with all the bitterness of grief, and make the nation glad.

On the evening of the 23d ult., Gen. Taylor’s spies brought in intelligence to the effect that about two thousand five hundred Mexicans had crossed the Rio Grande to the Texas side above the American Fort, and about fifteen hundred of same had crossed below. Gen. T. immediately dispatched a squadron of dragoons to each place of crossing, for the purpose of reconnoitering them and ascertaining their position. The squadron ordered below was in command of Capt. Ker, the one above was commanded by Capt. Thornton, and composed of Capt. Hardee, Lieuts. Kane and Mason, with sixty-one privates and non-commissioned officers. The former commander, Capt. Ker, on arriving at the point where it was supposed they had crossed found that the report was false, that they had not crossed there but had all crossed above, which was afterwards proved by Capt. T’s. command being surprised, in which Lieut. Geo. Mason with nine men were killed and two wounded. The wounded were sent to Gen. Taylor’s camp; the army having no hospital in the field. Capts. Thornton, Hardee and Lieut. Kane, miraculously escaped, together with the balance of the non-commissioned officers and men, but were captured, and are now prisoners of war in Mexico.

The circumstances which led to the surprise are these: After Capt. T.’s command had proceeded up the Rio Grande about twenty-four miles, and as was supposed, to within about three miles of the Mexican camp the guide refused to go any farther, and stated his reason that the whole country was infested with Mexicans. Capt. T. however proceeded on with his command about two miles when he came to a farm house, which was enclosed entirely by a chaparral fence, with the exception of that portion of it which bordered on the river, and this was so boggy as to be impassible. Capt. T. entered this enclosure through a pair of bars and approached the house for the purpose of
making some enquiry, his command following him. So soon as his command had all entered the enclosure, the enemy, having been concealed in the chaparral, about two thousand five hundred in number, completely surrounded him and commenced firing upon his command. He then wheeled his command thinking that he could charge through the enemy and pass out where he had entered, not however without a considerable loss. This he attempted but did not succeed, the enemy being too strong.

At this instant, Capt. Hardee approached him for the purpose of advising him how to extricate themselves. The firing of the enemy still continuing, Capt. Thornton’s horse, having doubtless received a shot, ran away with him and leaped the chaparral fence and plunged over a precipice, where he fell, with Capt. T. under him, where the latter remained insensible for five or six hours. This casually placed Capt. Hardee in command, who attempted with the residue to make his escape by the river, intending on arriving at its margin to swim it. In this he failed, finding it so boggy that he could not get to it. He then returned, taking the precaution to get out of distance of musketry, dismounted and examined the arms of his men, determining to sell their lives as dearly as possible. Before he had succeeded, however, in the inspection of his arms, a Mexican officer rode up and asked him to surrender. Capt. H. replied that he would surrender on one condition, which was, that if the Mexican General would receive them as prisoners of war, and treat them as the most civilized nations do, he would surrender, but upon no other conditions. The Mexican officer bore this message to the General commanding, and returned with the assurance that he would. Capt. H. then surrendered. Capts. Thornton and Hardee, with Lieuit. Kane and the residue of the non-commissioned officers and privates of Capt. T.’s command are now prisoners of war ion Mexico. The enemy treat them remarkably well.

Lieut. George Mason was a fine young officer, and his death is much regretted. His sabre belt was recognized among some articles that were subsequently captured from the enemy.

So lively is the curiosity to learn every particular of the actions of the 3d and 4th inst., that we annex hereto a letter from an officer at Point Isabel, written more for our private eye than for the public, but which cannot but interest all our readers.

RE46v43i7p4c4, May 22, 1846: [Correspondence of the Picayune.] POINT ISABEL, May 5, 1846.

Gentlemen—When the express came in this morning, I hurriedly pencilled down the gratifying intelligence which it brought us, expecting the boat would leave in a few minutes. It now only awaits for Gen. Taylor’s official despatch, which is being prepared for Washington. Having heard the official report from Major Brown read, and having a letter before me from there, I will give you further particulars accordingly.

On the morning of the 3d, at reveille, the Mexicans opened their batteries upon the work, throwing balls and shells without intermission until sunset, finishing with half a dozen extra ones at tattoo for a lullaby.

At reveille, on the 4th, they opened again, sending a few shots and shells, which compliment was repeated at noon. Our artillery silenced the fort opposite ours in half an hour after the firing commenced on the 4th, and knocked three embrasures into one. This caused them to stop firing there for a considerable time, to repair damages. Our artillery also dismounted several of their guns, and from appearances must have killed many men. On our part, but one sergeant, of the 7th Infantry, was killed—being shot in the head with a three pound ball. He was carried to the hospital, when strange to say, a shell fell and blew the remainder of his head off. Some twenty men were standing around the hospital when the shell burst; several were knocked down, but none injured. One artillery soldier was slightly wounded by a piece of a shell, and many have made narrow escapes. We only kept up our fire for about two hours—saving our ammunition whilst theirs was being thrown away.—From their having thrown from 1,500 to 2,000 shots and shells, and killing but one of our men, and wounding another, you may judge they are none of the best artillerists, and that we had good defences. Their shot rendered a good many of our tents unserviceable, but all our men are in good spirits, and anxious to come to close quarters.

Our piquet guard is now firing at a party of Mexican soldiers, about a mile below the fort.—The Chaparral between this and the fort is like a bee hive, so full is it with Mexicans. It is thought they will make an assault on the rear of the fort, and try and repel the march of the troops from this place returning. Gen. T. leaves as soon as a reinforcement arrives here, which will enable the work to be defended without the force which he brought down from above.

In haste, yours, S.S.F.

[BWP]

RE46v43i7p4c5, May 22, 1846: ITEMS OF THE WAR.

In another column will be found a circumstantial and deeply interesting sketch, from the Picayune, of the recent gallant exploits at Matamoras. It bears a semi-official stamp, and may be relied upon. It must have, indeed, been hot
work during one whole day. Is it not extraordinary, that the Mexicans should have fired some 12 or 1500 cannon shot, and only a single one told fatally upon a poor sergeant? Our cannons seem to have been directed with fearful accuracy.—Very few balls could have been wasted. It will be seen, that this account places the command of the forces left in the camp under Maj. Brown; the intelligence published yesterday assigns Maj. Ringold to the command. Whoever conducted the perilous and gallant, but successful defence, has shown himself to be a master of artillery, and will deserve honor at the hands of his country.

Gen. Taylor was to leave Point Isabel for the camp on the 7th inst. He expected to encounter warm opposition, and this morning’s mail may bring us momentous intelligence. Reasoning from what has been done, we look for a glorious and decisive victory in the pitched battle expected between Gen. Taylor and the Mexican army.

Though disappointed in the hope that our own gallant Thornton had escaped safely into our camp, we are still pleased to know, that he is alive, though a prisoner of war in Matamoras, with his brave associates. His adventures are deeply tinged with romance. In some characteristics his exploits remind one of the Irish hero, Charles O’Malley.

Virginia will mourn over the fate of Lieut. Mason, of the Gunstin (Fairfax) family. He was brave and intelligent, and has lost his life nobly in a noble cause.

The N. O. Bulletin has no fears of a "disastrous battle" between Taylor and the Mexicans; expressing its belief that Gen. Taylor would not only leave Point Isabel secure, but would be able to make his way through any force the Mexicans could bring across the river. As for the camp opposite Matamoras, the same journal furnishes the following interesting and gratifying particulars:

"It is a regular bastion intrenchment fortification of five sides, very strong, and well supplied with guns. It has a force of about 550 men, with provisions, as we are informed, for thirty days, and abundance of ammunition except for the 18 pounders, which is accordingly husbanded. The enemy’s artillery, we infer from the little effect of his cannonading, is not so perfect or else not so well served as was supposed. The place may, therefore, we think, be counted free from danger except by assault. There was reason to think that an attempt to storm it was in contemplation by the Mexicans, and their irregular fire kept up for the purpose of fatiguing the garrison in advance. Maj. Brown, however, whom Gen. Taylor left in command, is represented as a very cool and prudent, as well as brave officer, and there is no fear that he will be found at fault; and as a successful assault upon a battery requires so much greater a degree of discipline and resolution than have ever been exhibited by the Mexicans, no attack they can make is likely to be successful."

The Picayune relates the following anecdote of the gallant Texas Ranger, Col. Hays, and vouches for its authenticity. We have often heard of the bravery and military "cunning" of this fine officer, in baffling the pursuit of large bodies of Mexicans, and we doubt not that he will be equal to the present crisis. Hancock Chevallie of this city, a fearless horseman and famous "Indian fighter, " is attached to Hays’ company—young though he be, he has acquired a highly favorable reputation in the Texas Campaign. There is a "touch" of the chivalry of the Middle Ages, in the challenge and acceptance between the two proud chiefs:

"Col. Canales, a Mexican chief, at the head of a large body of cavalry, sent word to Col. Hays, then at San Antonio, to the effect that he, Canales was at the head of 1,200 Mexican cavalry upon the Arroyo Colorado, and should be very happy to receive there Col. Hays and the Rangers.

"To this Col. Hays promptly responded by the same messenger, that it would give him pleasure to pay his respects to Col. Canales, and that he would accordingly wait upon him for that purpose with 400n Rangers on Wednesday morning, the 6th inst.

"Should this interchange of courtesies take place—and we have no reason to doubt it, for Hays is determined to cut his way to General Taylor's camp—we shall assuredly hear of warmer work than any which has yet been reported."

The N. O. Tropic thinks that Vera Cruz is probably bombarded. The steam ship Mississippi, which sailed from Pensacola on the 4th with the news of the commencement of war between this and the Mexican government, probably arrived at Vera Cruz on the 9th. "Ere this we doubt not that the ‘Yankee Commodore, ’ has opened his battery on St. Juan d’Ulloa. He has the victorious example of Prince de Joinville before him, without any of the Prince’s advantages in attacking the Fort—Com. Connor will have to contend against heavier batteries, and better engineers; and the Mexicans will not let him take the position they did the French Prince in the attack. If our surmises are correct, our American tars are triumphant."

The French schooner Gironde, Capt. Pontele, has arrived at New Orleans. She was from Liverpool, bound for Matamoras, but was ordered off from the mouth of the Rio Grande, on the 1st instant, by the U. S. Brig Lawrence.

The volunteers are being collected at New Orleans with new spirit. The Louisiana Legion, an admirable disciplined brigade of citizen soldiers, has offered its services. It will be commanded by Gen. Lewis.

Gen. Gaines has made the following requisitions, and Gov. Martin, of Alabama, has published his Proclamation, calling upon the people to comply with the call:
Reg’s Infantry (700 each) from Kentucky, 2,800.
4 " do. do. Tennessee, 2,800.
2 " do. do. Mississippi, 1,400.
2 " do. do. Missouri, 1,400.
2 " do. do. Alabama 1,400.

9,800

Louisiana has furnished 2500
Gen. Saunders’ Mounted Gun Men, 1,000.
Texas will furnish 4 Regiments Infantry, 2,800
U. S. Troops now in Texas, 3,000.

Total to be in the field, 19,000.

Every paper we open contains some call for a public meeting, or a notice of an organization of volunteer companies for the Mexican campaign. We could have no better proof that the people are ready for any emergency.

As an indication of the proper spirit animating the nation, we refer with pleasure to the fact, that, in New Orleans, William Debuys, Esq, who recently held the rank of Major General, has entered the ranks as a private in the Orleans Guards. To the same effect is the following compliment, in the New Orleans Commercial Times, to the disinterested conduct of the merchants of the Crescent City:

“We stated yesterday, a case of high-minded patriotism in the merchantile class of the city, with respect to their employees. We have since learned an additional fact, which highly redounds to the individuals the prominent characters therein. One of our largest trading houses offered their young men to continue them in their situations, and to allow them half their salaries, if the chose to volunteer for Texas, in defence of the integrity of their glorious country.”

On the 12th instant, at the French Theatre in New Orleans, the Orchestra was to execute between the 2d and 3d acts of Donizetti’s celebrated Opera of Les Martyrs, the March of General Taylor, composed and dedicated to the Rio Grande Army, by Mr. Prevost. The public mind seems to be aroused to the highest excitement by the exploits on the fields of Texas.

That the war will be most vigorously prosecuted no one can doubt. We have forborne long enough. We have been covered with insults, indignities and outrages. Such a peace as we had with Mexico was utterly delusive. It was a quasi-war, and uncertainty, embarrassment and gloom hung over our Southern frontier.----It was time that the affair should be brought to a head. head. Mexico capped the climax of madness, by killing our own citizens on our own soil, and we are called upon to punish her insolence, and by one blow to settle all our complaints against her. This is no war of cupiduty or plunder on our part. It is in self-defence, and to avenge the most glaring wrongs, that we have drawn the sword; but we must not sheathe it till we have forced from her a satisfaction of our numerous just claims, and secured a permanent and solid peace. We may pursue her army into the interior—we may capture her rich cities and fertile provinces—and we should hold them as pledges of her respect and good behavior, and thorough compliance with all her promises, express and implied. Our ambition extends no farther. A Washington correspondent of the New York Tribune, doubtless, speaks the truth when he says—.

"On hearing of the action of the Senate last night, the President remarked, I shall now give you [peace—I have the power; there is no friend of his country but desires such a consummation as rapidly as possible, and on terms of magnanimity, to an inferior and comparatively impotent adversary."

Such we feel assured is the spirit which animates the President. He would pursue the War promptly and decisively, not to crush a fallen though once insolent foe, nor to strip her territory and wealth, but to obtain justice from her, and to establish a peace upon impregnable grounds. Can any American, however he may deplore the horrors of war, dispute the propriety of such a position?

A CHANGE OF FRONT.—The Southern Recorder, a prominent Whig paper in Milledgeville, Georgia, has boldly come out for the bill of the committee of Ways and means, which de-destroys the “Whig Tariff of 1812,” and proclaims it a good Southern Whig measure. It says, "Southern Whigs will find no difficulty in the way of a cordial support of the measure.” Is not this flat treason to the Whig cause? Will the Whigs of Virginia run up the same flag, or will they gibbet this deserter from their ranks? Is Georgia Whiggery different from that of Virginia? The question is an important one. However it may be, we rejoice that one Whig journal of the South has come out in favor of a principle, which, a few years since, was with a few exceptions, advocated by the whole South.

[BWP]
Gentlemen: Having observed in the Union of the 11th inst., that in giving the vote on the bill which passed yesterday, entitled "An act providing for the prosecution of the existing war between the United States and the Republic of Mexico," you omitted my name in favor of the bill, and placed the vote for the bill at 173; whereas, on the journal, it is stated to be 174. This omission and inaccuracy doubtless was accidental.—As the bill is one of great importance, and having voted in favor of the measure, I wish my vote to be placed fully and fairly before my constituents. So, therefore, you will oblige me by inserting this note in your next paper.

Most respectfully, EDMUND W. HUBARD.

To Messrs. RICHIE & HEISS.

A detachment of the Richmond Artillery Company turned out yesterday evening to receive General Scott—But he did not arrive.—They wished to salute him in military style, and cheer on the soldier in the arduous and honorable duty in which he will soon be engaged.

An immense meeting has been held at Harrisburg, Pa., in favor of sustaining the war with Mexico.

A Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia North American says that the 50,000 volunteers are all to be called out, and 23,000 to be marched into the field as soon as they can be concentrated. The requisitions sent on last Friday, were as follows: "3 regiments from Indiana, 3 from Illinois, 3 from Kentucky, 3 from Tennessee and others. The residue of the 50,000 will be kept as a force of reserve, and be mustered in the service, so as to be ready for orders at a moment's warning. Mark me, this will be a successful war and a short one!"

This brave soldier has acquitted himself with so much gallantry, that if he gain no more renown, he deserves, and must receive, the most honorable praise from his countrymen. We learn that he once lived in this city a cabinet-maker. If he have to boast many more deeds of valor, he may, some day, in virtue of the military prestige, so powerful in this country, be employed in a cabinet-making of a different kind. [Yesterday's Times]

The last arrivals confirm the account of the loss sustained by Capt. W.'s command in their fight with a large body of Mexicans, though he had only 24 men, instead of 75, as was stated in one narrative. We are glad to hear that but six of his men were killed, the remainder making their way into Point Isabel.

The Times may not be far out of its reckoning, in regard to the probable political honors of the gallant captain. A New Orleans paper already designates him as the future Governor of Tamaulipas. Such services deserve ample reward—and we are pleased to learn that Richmond was once his head quarters.

At a meeting in Washington city last week for the purpose of forming a volunteer company. Col. R. M. Johnson was loudly called for, . . . addressed the meeting in his usual style of oratory. He said he was not for stopping on the Rio Grande, if he had his way. He would march into the interior of Mexico, and cut their departments
right and left. He was not desirous of a war, but the time had arrived when forbearance had ceased to be a virtue. He spoke of cutting off California from the Republic of Mexico, and if the people desire it, he was in favor of annexing California to our country. He said the present war was only a wedding and a dinner compared with the last struggle for our independence. He concluded by saying he was for acting not speaking; which was responded to with three hearty cheers of approbation from the multitude.

We are so much delighted with the true spirit, eloquence and justice of the following resolutions, unanimously adopted, on motion of Mr. Richardson, by the City Council of the Monumental city, that we give them entire. Baltimore is always in the lead, when the honor of the country is at stake:

Whereas, The peace of the civilized world has been broken by the military authorities of Mexico, and the soil of the United States has been invaded by a portion of her army, and whereas, these acts of defiance and outrage upon the United States, have been preceded by a systematic and long continued course of a faithlessness, falsehood and insolence, upon the part of the government of Mexico towards this country; and whereas, it is the duty of the General Government to extend its care and protection over every citizen of the Union, and over every foot of its soil, therefore.

Resolved, By the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, that we fully approve of the whole course pursued by the administration, in the annexation, occupancy and defence of Texas; and that we have entire confidence that the interests, the honor and the glory of the country will be protected, preserved and increased by the triumphant issue of the contest forced upon us by the invasion of our soil on the part of Mexico.

Resolved, That the prompt and decided action of both houses of Congress, upon the announcement that war had been commenced by Mexico, meets with our hearty approval, and will be hailed with enthusiasm by the patriotism of the country.

Resolved, That the city of Baltimore is prepared, whenever occasion may demand it, to show that the blood of the Old Maryland Line still courses in the veins of her sons, and that they are now, as were their fathers in the revolution, ready to stake “their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor,” in defence of their country and their country’s rights.

Resolved, That the Mayor of the city, with such assistants as he may deem necessary, be empowered and directed to have all the public arms now scattered throughout the city collected and properly repaired, and placed in some suitable and safe position, ready for service.

Resolved, That the sum of one thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be, and the same is hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury, or to come into the treasury, for the purpose of carrying out the above resolutions, to be paid by the Register upon the draft of the Mayor.

We understand from the Washington Union that, on Saturday last, the following vessels were ordered to repair forthwith to the seat of war.

Steamers Spencer, McLane and Legare.

Schooners Ewing, Woodbury, Morris, and (unreadable)ward, with an aggregate force of two hundred and fifty men and thirty-five guns of from thirty-two to twelve pound calibre.

We would call the attention of the Volunteer Corps, who may be disposed to unite in the formation of a Virginia Legion, to the resolution adopted unanimously by the Artillery Company on Tuesday night. If action is to be had we think that the present is the auspicious moment. We hope to see delegates from all the Volunteer Corps, who may be able to reach this place by the 29th May.
At a meeting of the Richmond Fayette Artillery Company, held at Military Hall on the 19th May, 1846, on motion of Lieut. Ritchie, it was unanimously.

Resolved, 1. That, in the present condition of our relations with Mexico, it is proper that every citizen should hold himself in readiness to . . .[illegible] . . . whatever issue may arise.

2. That his Company is still actuated by the same impulse of duty which occasioned . . .[illegible] . . .der of its services to the President of the United States in the summer of last year, and ready now, as it ever has been, to obey any call which may be made upon it in consequence thereof.

3. That still further to promote the efficiency of the Volunteers who may respond in Virginia to the call of the country, this Company . . .[illegible] . . . with high gratification the proposition for the formation of a VIRINGIA LEGION.

4. That this Company invites the officers of or delegates from other companies which may be willing to unite in the formation of a Virginia Legion, to meet it at its Anniversary, on 29th of the present month, to devise measures successfully to carry out this design.

5. That the Captain of this Company be requested to apply to the Governor of Virginia for tents and camp equipage for this Company with a view to the formation of an encampment during the summer, or for the use of the Corps in case it is sooner called into service. THOS. H. ELLIS, Captain. E. RAUS, Secretary.
The *Washington Union* of Tuesday night says the President continues to receive numerous offers of service from Volunteers.

Governor Shunk of Pennsylvania has issued a Proclamation called upon the citizens of that State to hold themselves in readiness promptly to meet and repel the enemies of the Republic, and to preserve the rights and honor and secure the perpetuity of the Union.

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**RE46v43i7p4c7, May 22, 1846: No title.**

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**RE46v43i8p1c1, May 26, 1846: From the Richmond Enquirer, Extra, May 23.**

**Glorious News from the Seat of War!**

**THE MEXICANS TWICE ROUTED!!!**

1200 Mexicans Killed!

THE ENEMY’S GUNS CARRIED AT THE POINT OF THE BAYONET!

The Southern cars came in this morning with flying colors, and brought us joyful tidings from the seat of war. The N. Orleans *Picayune* and the *Advertiser* of the 18th inst. furnish the news, the substance of which is given below. No slips were forwarded to Richmond. But a passenger supplied the editors of the *Republican* with one, and we are indebted to that office for favoring us with a copy:

There have been two engagements between General Taylor and the American Troops. The first occurred on the 7th instant, when General Taylor was returning from Point Isabel to his Camp, opposite Matamoras. In this the Mexicans, from 5,000 to 7,000, were repulsed, our army sleeping on the field of battle, on which next day were found 200 Mexicans dead, several pieces of artillery, stores, &c. Maj. Ringgold died subsequently from the wound in this action.

Of the second battle we can only give the following particulars from the *Picayune*:

The U. S. Steamer *Col. Harney* arrived this morning, just as our paper was going to press, from Brazos Santiago, having left on the 13th inst. Her news is glorious to our arms.

She brings official accounts of a second battle between the Mexican and American forces, which took place on the 9th, commencing at half past 3 o’clock, P. M., within three miles of Camp Taylor. The action was upon the edge of a ravine, and one mile from the chapparal, which was here about 12 miles in width.

The Mexicans commenced the action with their artillery, which was posted so as to sweep the narrow pass by which Gen. Taylor was advancing; there being a swamp on either hand, Gen. Taylor immediately ordered a charge in the teeth of the enemy’s destructive fire, and the troops promptly responded, and carried the enemy’s guns at the point of the bayonet.

So sudden and impetuous was the attack, and so successful, that Arista had not time to save his papers, which, with all his correspondence, fell into the hands of General Taylor.

The action lasted one hour and a half, in which some 600 Mexicans were either killed or wounded, and the Americans took 800 prisoners and eight pieces of artillery. The American loss in this action was but sixty-two, killed and wounded.

Among the killed were Colonel McIntosh, Lieutenant Cochran, Colonel Brown, (by the bursting of a shell,) Lieutenant Eng, and one or two others, whose names are not given. Colonel Payne, Lieutenants Gates, Burgank, Hooe, Luther and others, were wounded.

We regret to say that Maj. Ringgold, who was so severely wounded in the action of the 8th, died on the 10th inst., and was buried next day with the honors of war.

The total loss of the Americans in the two actions of the 8th and 9th, was at least 1200. The Mexican force amounted to at least 6000 men, while that of the Americans on the ground did not exceed 1600 men.

An exchange of prisoners took place between the two armies subsequent to the action, by which Capts. Thornton and Hardee and Lieut. Kane have been returned to the army. Lieut. Deas was not demanded, and still remains a prisoner.

—Among the prisoners taken by Gen. Taylor, was Gen. Vega. For him two American officers were offered in exchange, but it was declined to give him up, save in exchange for an American of equal rank, whenever one should
be taken.

Gen. Vega and two Mexican lieutenants were sent over by Gen. Taylor on the Col. Harney as prisoners of war. Gen. Vega was allowed to be accompanied by one of his aides, a Lieut. Colonel, as a friend.

The Mexican army was so confident of victory that every preparation had been made to celebrate it; but all their preparations fell into the hands of the Americans. In their flight, many of the Mexicans took to the river and were drowned in their attempt to swim.

Gen. Taylor reached his camp the afternoon of the action. Leaving there his whole force, he started the next morning for Point Isabel, and arrived there the evening of the 10th without molestation. The morning of the 11th he started back for his camp opposite Matamoros. We need not say that he and his army are in the highest spirits.

Credible information had been received, that the American Consul, and all the American citizens at Matamoros, had been arrested and sent to Saltillo, a small town about 130 miles back of Matamoros.

The friends of Capt. Thornton will be gratified to learn that he is still living. Letters had been received from him in the camp, announcing that he had been captured by the enemy, and was held a prisoner at Matamoros.
the Mexicans were in the edge of the Chapparal. A council of war was held by Gen. Taylor, and it was agreed that one Brigade should advance up to the Chapparal in hopes to draw the Mexicans into a renewal of the fight, but the more the troops advanced upon them the more they want there—the Mexicans having retreated leaving three pieces of artillery, and quantity of ammunition—from FOUR to SIX HUNDRED DEAD upon the field, and God only knows how many wounded that they took away. One Mexican, who was stationed at one of their batteries, says every body but himself at the batteries was killed—says the guns beat any thing they ever dreamed of, they were so quick. One of the Mexican officers in trying to rally his men, found he could not hand commenced to cut them with his sword, when his troops shot him dead.—We had 11 killed, and about ten mortally wounded.

Capt. Page, of the 3d, had all the lower part of his face shot off with a cannon ball—it is thought he will recover, though horribly mutilated. Maj. Ringold had the fleshy part of both his legs shot through, and horse killed—none of his bones broken, which is wonderful. Our informant says the field of battle was strewed with the dead, and they could hear the groans of the Mexican wounded all night at Gen. T. ’s camp. The Mexican’s were commanded by Gen. Mejia. Mejia. There is no doubt they have retreated across the river. When the volunteers arrive you may depend you will hear of them “revelling in the halls of the Montezumas,” or “peace and good will” will be whipped into those bombastic Mexicans. It is a matter of surprise that so few were lost on our side.

The monotony of this place has been relieved the last two days by the drilling of "Uncle Samuel’s” “web-feet” or "barnacle-backs” that came here from the Squadron. You would be surprised to see with what dexterity and precision they go through their evolutions with muskets, and no one could resist a laugh to hear some of their sayings. One old salt said this morning “Damn and blast my eyes! here is a ship ashore, and poor Jack on his beam ends.” This speech was addressed to himself, when looking on the tent that had been pitched, and was of sufficient dimensions to hold about fifty-two.

One third of the whole number of the men from the Squadron are Marines, the balance Tars. I should picture to myself a soldier, riding horseback on a cow, as soon as that I should see four or five hundred sailors going into war with muskets on their shoulders; but you could not restrain them from going against the Mexicans with only a knife and fork, if you would only show them a chance, for they are all "eager for the fray." Yours, &c.

[Revised by T. P. Washburn, with changes to spelling and punctuation.]

RE46v43i8p1c1, May 26, 1846: LATEST NEWS, From the Mobile Advertiser, Extra May 18.

Triumph of the American Arms!
GEN. TAYLOR AGAIN VICTORIOUS!!

(Correspondence of the New Orleans Tropic.) BRASOS SANTIAGO, May 13.

At the receipt of the news of the first battle I wrote you a short account—the result of the second is now on hand; and it is most decisive. It now appears that the Mexicans had only 5,000 men in the field at the first battle, and 4,000 stowed away in the chapparel near the battle-ground. It was their intention to have made but a slight attack the first day, but, being so closely pressed, they were obliged to fight in order to make good their retreat to where the 4,000 were on the chapparel. In the first fight a general officer had his head shot off: it is not yet ascertained who he was, as his body could only be recognized by his dress as he lay upon the field.

Gen. Taylor advanced the morning of the first battle into the chapparel, then sent 800 picked men, under the command of Capt. McCall, to reconnoitre. He advanced unmolested until near . . . [illegible] . . . P. M., (the army following at a distance) when Capt. McCall sent word to Gen. Taylor that he had received a charge of grape from the enemy, and lost two men. The army was then deployed, and Capt. May, 2d Dragoons, ordered to charge the battery that had thrown the grape, and to take it, if he lost every man. He obeyed orders, took the battery of four guns and lost but one man. The battery was commanded by Gen. De La Vega, who was taken prisoner.

Our little army of an army then rent the air with their huzzas, and rushing shouting upon the enemy, committed the most dreadful havoc among them, taking eight pieces of artillery, 155,000 rounds of cartridge, and 500 packed mules. Gen. Arista’s camp bedstead contained all his private and public baggage papers, which latter will be of great value, as we now have the key to the whole campaign, which will enable Gen. T. to form his plans so as to entirely defeat their designs.

We took all and everything they had, four hundred prisoners, and the army baggage. The enemy had between 8 and 9,000 troops in the two battles but we with 1,800 troops completely routed them.

We exchanged prisoners—got Capts. Thornton, Hardee, and his little band. Our officers while prisoners were well treated, having lived with Ampudia ever since they were taken. Gen. Taylor would not exchange for Lieut. Deas as a prisoner of war, as it would be sanctioning his crossing the river, which he did not, having reprobated his crossing in the severest manner.

In this second and glorious battle, we lost about the same number of men as in the first, but had more officers wounded. Capt. Walker with his heroic band of Rangers, was the last that fired at the Mexicans; the army left him and his comrades on the bank of the river shooting them as they attempted to cross.
To-morrow Gen. Taylor leaves here to make an attack on Matamoras, in connection with Com. Connor, who has sent a boat expedition up the river.

I forgot to mention that Gen. Taylor arrived here yesterday with all our wounded, between 50 and 60, with Gen. Romulus De la Vega, one Mexican Captain and two Lieutenants, who go with this letter in the Col. Harney.

The Augusta from New Orleans arrived last evening. The mules from Matamoras, some 500, were sent in to-day, as well as the Mexican wounded.

I should not forget to mention that all the shell, ball, and grape shot of the Mexicans are made of brass or copper. This letter I must close, with details of glory enough for one day!

In the decisive battle Gen. Taylor lost about sixty killed and wounded, among whom there were three officers, viz: Lieut. Inges, of the Dragoons; Lieut. Cochran, of the 4th Infantry, and Lieut. Chadburn, of the 8th Infantry. Among the wounded are Col. Maintosh, of the 5th Infantry; Lieut. Col. Payne, 4th Artillery, and Capt. Hooe, 5th Infantry—most of them slightly, and none supposed mortally.

Major Ringgold, well known as the commander of the Flying Artillery, also died on the 11th, from wounds received in the action of the 8th.

Captain Page, who was wounded in the same engagement, we are happy to state, is rapidly recovering. Lieut. Luther, also slightly wounded, is convalescent.

STILL LATER FROM THE ARMY!

THE GALVESTON ARRIVED

The Galveston is just in, having left Brassos Santiago on the evening of the 13th. We hasten to lay the news by her before our readers. We have the following from the Galveston Civilian of the 15th:

On the morning of the 13th, Gen. Taylor and his staff, with the guard that had brought down the rain, &c., started for his camp. He was met by an express a few miles from Point Isabel, informing him that 8,000 fresh troops had arrived in Matamoras, 2,000 of which had crossed over, and 1,100 more had crossed the Rio Grande at Barrita, near the Bocachica, not more than eight miles from Point Isabel. Gen. Taylor returned to Point Isabel at once, and made preparations to leave next day with such forces as were arriving. The steamship Galveston landed 450 Infantry, (Regulars and Volunteers;) the Augusta landed about 250; Capt. Price arrived via Padre Island from Corpus Christi, with his company of 70 mounted Rangers. They all reached the Point on the 13th. The Telegraph and James L. Day will doubtless land their troops, amounting to upwards of 800, at Point Isabel on the 14th. Great credit is due to Captain Jeremiah Smith of the steamship Cincinnati, and Capt. R. McBaker of the Monmouth, for the skill, energy and promptness shown in management of their boats in transporting troops and supplies across the Bay at the Brassos Santiago.

General Paredes is at the head of 15,000 troops, on his way to Matamoras. It may possibly be, that the fresh troops arrived at Matamoras, in the advance division of his army. No doubt the enemy were fully advised that General Taylor had left for Point Isabel, and their plan is to try and capture him on his return, whilst a strong force, crossing above, is to come down upon his army. General Taylor appeared highly pleased with the intelligence; for since the war has opened, and no mistake, the excitement and activity attending operations, opens a new era to his vigorous achievements, and all have marked how much better he looks than when confined to the “masterly inactivity” of the Corpus Christi Campaign.

THE FORT.

The Mexicans have continued their firing into the Fort opposite Matamoras, nearly ever since General Taylor left the works.

The brave and gallant Maj. Brown died on the 10th, from a wound received in his thigh by the explosion of one of the enemy’s shells. His wound was not considered dangerous, but as he was placed in one of the bomb-proof burrows, mortification ensued, from the want of fresh air. His death is deeply deplored by the army; his intrepid conduct in foiling every attempt of the enemy to reduce the Fort prepared them in a measure to anticipate the result of these conflicts with our brave army. The strength of the Fort and skill with which it is defended, is incomprehensible to the Mexicans, and indeed well it might be, for they have thrown upwards of fourteen hundred shot and shell into the
the Fall of the Alamo, and is a brave and accomplished officer. Gen. Vega, is the Col. Vega that was captured by the Texan forces at the Slaughter of San Jacinto. He was also at the mouth of the river, where there is a military force.

It is stated that an expedition is to be sent by boats of the squadron to take the town of Barita, 16 miles from the mouth of the river, where there is a military force.

Gen. Vega, is the Col. Vega that was captured by the Texan forces at the Slaughter of San Jacinto. He was also at the Fall of the Alamo, and is a brave and accomplished officer.

RE46v43i8p1c5, May 26, 1846: PARTY SPIRIT.

In the present crisis, we would cheerfully drop the character of partizans, and until the storm of war be past, unite with all political parties, whatever be their hue, in devising measures for the vigorous prosecution and termination of the war with Mexico. We have never, for party effect, claimed any great honor for the Administration in the management of the difficult questions before it. We have contended that the President had done his duty and nothing but his duty. We have been willing to wait until peace is restored, for a fair and full trial of the Administration upon the merits of the Mexican affair. If for party purposed we quarrel among ourselves, how can we expect to see union at home, or secure the respect of foreign nations? The Whig press, with some few exceptions, have, in our judgment, exhibited a most unpatriotic and improper spirit in this matter. They have denounced the President as the most miserable culprit, and have assailed the criminality of the war, as invoking the vengeance of Heaven.

As conductors of a free press, we have been forced to hold up to public condemnation many of the Whig journals for their violent course in regard to the Mexican war. We to-day make a few extracts from journals of the same party, and show that in their spirit and their assaults upon the Government, they have given this cue to some of the bitterest opponents, in a Foreign Government, of our political institutions and national rights. As good party-men, they may feel conscious of doing their whole duty—but they show themselves to be poor patriots. The New York Express continues its furious attacks upon the Administration, upon Congress, and upon the virtue and intelligence of the American people, embracing a large majority of its own party:

"There is an utter and complete revolution in our country, and a conversion of our Republic into a despotism, if the one-man power, the Executive of it, can declare war. We vain Republicans, if this be the fact, are only cheated by a name, and we are not better off then the subjects of the Amocrat Nicholas, or of the Emperor of Austria. When a despot orders war, subjects obey. Is this our case? Let us see.

"Mr. Polk has not ordered war, it is very true, but he has made war inevitable, and upon this evasion, it is attempted to get him off. The one-man power of government, in imitation of the one-man power of governments over sea, as Commander-in-Chief of the army and navy, directs the invasion of the State of a neighboring republic, and without the then useless formality of a declaration of war, war necessarily ensues—that is, a war created and declared by one man, and only one man, in which from love of country, from sympathy, and from the laws of self-defence, a whole nation of subjects follow.

"Now, it is just as easy for Mr. Polk to involve us in a war with Great Britain, as in a war with Mexico, and precisely upon the same principles. Thus, what has been hitherto considered of some importance, in responsible monarchies, viz: the declaration of war, is to become a mere empty nothing, in our so called, but, if Mr. Polk is right, misnamed, responsible Republic. The Executive here in America, we see, enacts war, just as the Executive in Europe, Asia, or Africa.

"The highest, most august, and awful exercise of human power, is in the creation of war. But this high and mighty power of sovereignty, this semblance of the prerogative of the Divinity, a chance elected President of ours, whom the spasms of only a party ejected into place, clothes himself with, and when the country is at peace, happy and quiet, he secretly and clandestinely whispers a decree, that creates all the horrors of a war between two formerly friendly, and once sympathising Republics. He degrades us in the eyes of Philanthropy, and Constitutional Liberty, from the August pedestal of Peace, on which for thirty years we have stood, and confuses us with the rabble of ever-warring and butchering Spanish American Republics, that disgrace the name of liberty.

"The mournful moral of this picture is not, however, that one man has dared to do such a thing, as that a great party can be found so infatuated, so blind, so forgetful of their duty to Constitutional Liberty, as to sustain him! The sting of the reflection is, that even we Americans love a party more than we love liberty! The idolatry, we see, and we tremble as we see, that disgraces the Hindoo, and makes him unfit for freedom or Christianity, disgraces too many even among us, the only difference being that they worship images of things and creatures, and we worship a party!"[BWP]
The Southern mail of Sunday confirmed, to a great degree, the glorious intelligence received on Saturday, of the double defeat of the Mexicans: which news came on so rapidly by express, that many persons gave it not credit. From all accounts we gather, that in the first battle (of the 8th,) 200 Mexicans were killed, and in the second battle (9th inst.) from 400 to 600 were found dead on the field—to say nothing of those who were wounded or drowned in the river. One account states that 2400 Mexicans were missing. We find in the N. Orleans Delta the following striking anecdote of the first battle:

“When Gen. Taylor came in sight of the enemy, their number appeared so large that he exclaimed, ‘Friends, we must vanquish or die!’—saying which he ordered the dragoons to charge on the Mexican Artillery. They immediately obeyed their commander’s order, and made such an onslaught on them that they were compelled to abandon nine field pieces and seek their safety in flight.”

The New Orleans Picayune gives a detailed account of the engagement of the 8th. We deplore the death of our gallant officers and soldiers. We are pained to hear that our old friend and school-fellow, Lieutenant Joseph Selden, is among the wounded:

“Gen. Taylor left Point Isabel on the 7th inst., with 2,000 men and 250 wagons loaded with stores, for the fort opposite Matamoras. On the 8th, came in sight of the Mexican army, and when quite near, both armies commenced firing with their artillery. The Mexicans, from 7,000 to 10,000 strong, surrounded Gen. Taylor, but those on the rear were soon compelled to retreat. The battle commenced at noon, and a constant roar of cannon was kept up until dark, when all was quiet. The Mexicans retreated, but the American army slept on the battle field in battle array. About 200 Mexicans were left dead.—The American firing was so destructive that the Mexican officers could not bring their men to a charge.

“On the 8th, three frigates, one sloop and two brigs of war arrived off the Bar, from Vera Cruz, and came to anchor; and, on hearing the roar of cannon, sent five hundred men to Point Isabel, to protect our depot of stores, or reinforce Gen. Taylor, if necessary. They were all well armed, and anxious for a fight with the Mexicans.—While the battle was being fought, two companies of Mexican artillery came down to Cross, Bocha Chica, and marched up the beach to take possession of our vessels with stores, which were obliged to anchor very near the Point. Our flag ship Cumberland got under way and ran down towards them—seeing which, the wheeled and returned back.

“By the official report of the action, it appears that Colonel McIntosh is not killed, but desperately wounded. Major Brown, not Colonel, as we stated, was killed in command of Fort Taylor by the explosion of a shell. The following is as complete a list of the officers killed and wounded on our side, in both actions, as we have been able to obtain:

**Killed.**—Major Brown, 7th Infantry—wounded in Fort Taylor—died on the 10th; Major Ringold, 3d Artillery, wounded on the 8th, and died on the 10th; Lieutenant Inges, 2d Dragoons; Lieutenant Cochrane, 4th Infantry; Lieutenant Chadburne, 8th Infantry.

**Wounded.**—Lieutenant Colonel McIntosh, 5th Infantry; Lieutenant Colonel Payne, 4th Artillery; Captains Page, (in the action of the 8th, ) Hooe, Montgomery; Lieutenants Luther, (in the action of the 8th, ) Gates, Selden, McClure, Burbank, Jordan, and Fowler.

“The Mexicans killed, wounded and missing, cannot be easily ascertained. General Taylor sent over on the 10th permission to General Arista to send over Doctors to assist in taking care of his wounded—they came over last night, and reported forty-eight of the Mexican officers missing, while we lost but three. The Americans are all doing well, says a letter from an officer.”

Some of the ammunition taken from the enemy in the first engagement was used upon them in the second.

The following Mexican officers were taken prisoners: Gen. La Vega, Lieuts. Prada and Velez, Lieut. Col. Martines, Aid-de-Camp to Gen. La Vega, accompanied the Gen. voluntarily. They arrived at New Orleans on the 17th May, on the Col. Harney, in the charge of Lieut. J. J. Reynolds of the 4th Artillery.

Gen. Ampudia is reported to have been taken prisoner.

In addition to the accounts of these glorious exploits of the army, we learn by the steamer Galveston, that President Paredes, with 15,000 men was marching to Matamoras. If this be so, it is a very good thing. Gen. Taylor with his forces reinforced to eight or ten thousand, will be enabled by one blow to cut down the Mexican power, and put an end to the war. But we hope that no time will be lost in marching into the interior of the country, say as far as Saltillo, (130 miles, ) and forcing Mexico to a full acknowledgement of all our demands. By this means alone can we hope to obtain a solid peace.

Louisiana has covered herself with glory. See what the Delta says of the patriotic conduce of her Legislature:
Resolved, That a Committee of Safety, consisting of twenty-five citizens, be appointed by the Chair, with authority to

Resolved, That for the purpose of anticipating any requisition that may be made upon the city and county of New

Resolved, That it is the public expectation that this government will be prompt, vigorous and extensive in its

Resolved, That this meeting cordially approve of the authority given by Congress to the President of the United

Resolved, That the avowed and multiplied wrongs to which our country has been subjected by the authorities of

Resolved, That this meeting cordially approve of the authority given by Congress to the President of the United

Resolved, That it is the public expectation that this government will be prompt, vigorous and extensive in its

Resolved, That for the purpose of anticipating any requisition that may be made upon the city and county of New

Resolved, That a Committee of Safety, consisting of twenty-five citizens, be appointed by the Chair, with authority to
collect such information, and make such suggestions to the National Government as the interests of the country and the city of New York will seem to require.

Be it further Resolved, That the thanks of the citizens of New York be, and they are hereby presented to General Taylor, and the officers and soldiers under his command, for the consummate skill and undaunted courage displayed by them on the 3d instant in an engagement with and defeat of the enemy before Matamoras, which has decked with fresh laurels the gallant General and his brave officers and soldiers, and covered the American arms with unfading glory.

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded by the presiding officer of this meeting to General Taylor, with a request that the same may be communicated to the officers and soldiers under his command.

Resolved, That a copy of the proceedings of this meeting, signed by the officers, be transmitted to the President of the United States and to both Houses of Congress.

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RE46v43i8p1c7, May 26, 1846: MEXICAN NAVY.

A Mexican paper publishes the list of vessels to which, by order of the President Paredes, the Mexican navy should be reduced. It is as follows:

For Vera Cruz—brigs Veracruzana, Libre and Mexicana, and a gun boat, with 62 men in each of the two brigs.

For Tobasco—schr.Aguila, with 53 men, and schr.Libertad, with 30 men.

For Tampico—gun boats Queretana, Poblana, and Victoria, with 30 men each.

For Matamoras—gun boats Guerrero and Union, with 30 men each.

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RE46v43i8p2c1, May 26, 1846: IS THERE "WAR?"

We presume that no one will now dispute this proposition. The Savannah Republican (Whig) refers to the Proclamation of President Paredes, as "amounting to a Declaration of War against the United States, though it is not issued in that form." But the stirring scenes on the Rio Grande put the matter beyond all doubt. We not only see the flower of the Mexican army, under its most distinguished and able Generals marching into our territory and assailing our army, though with dreadful loss—but the last accounts state, that the President of Mexico himself is on his march to Matamoras, with 15,000 men, to make one grand and decisive blow—though that he will be cut to pieces, no American can doubt. Is it necessary, then, to enter into protracted arguments to prove the existence of the war? The events which have crowded themselves into a short space speak for themselves, and declare, in language not to be mistaken, that war exists, and did exist, at the time when President Polk announced the fact to Congress. The country has approved of the vigorous and wise course of the President and Congress. No other would have suited the strong exigency of the case. See with what cordial approbation the action of the President is hailed by the N. O. Commercial Times, a neutral paper:

"Simultaneously with the arrival of the interesting details of the exploits of our gallant little army on the Rio Grande, information reached us of the action of President Polk and the Cabinet at Washington, on the receipt of the news of a status belli existing on the Texan frontier.

"We are happy to congratulate our fellow citizens on the promptitude displayed by the Executive at this momentous juncture. He has proved himself equal to his mission, as the head of this great Commonwealth. Henceforward, action, action, action, will be the motto of the Government, in relation to Mexico. We shall not have a little war, and the United States will reveal her resources to her enemy, so as to bring the conflict to an issue with that rapidity which her greatness, as well as the cause of humanity, demands.

"With regard to the Army of Occupation, it has deserved well of the Republic, from the intrepid and skilful veteran who has thus led the way to victory, to the humblest soldier, who wields a sword or carries a musket, in the ranks. We deplore the loss we have sustained in the death of the brave men who fell in the battles of the 8th and 9th, but we derive a consolation in the reflection that in filling the patriot-warrior’s grave, their memories will ever be hallowed in the page of their country’s history.”.

We shall now see whether the Whig press will come forward to do justice to the President. They have charged him with recklessness and imbecility in sending so small an army to the Rio Grande, which would surely fall a prey to the overwhelming forces of Mexico. Now this little army, without the aid of Volunteers, has itself achieved the triumphs, which are ringing through the land. In throwing up fortifications to defend the troops, and in meeting and
overthrowing the enemy in the field, our officers have shown consummate prudence and skill. The little army has been found equal to the occasion; and though the country has lost some of its bravest and noblest spirits, it was the fortune of war, and could not have been controlled by any human power. All are struck with astonishment that such brilliant triumphs should have been attended by such a limited loss of life on our side.

As, then, the Administration has been so grossly and wantonly denounced in advance for this Mexican War, is it not just that it should have some little credit for the favorable results which have been heralded throughout the nation? As is well said by the Augusta (Georgia) Constitutionalist, in exposing the unjust assaults of its Whig neighbor upon the President:

"We honor too highly the laurels so nobly won by the gallant Gen. Taylor, in the righteous can honorable war in which he is so zealously engaged, to desire to pluck a leaf from the chaplet. But we will remark, by way of parenthesis, that the 'blunders' of this same 'blundering Administration,' as the Chronicle is so fond of designating them, have enabled that gallant General to win at once unfading laurels for himself, and of reflecting immortal lustre upon American arms. In spite of the sneers of the Chronicle, and its few sympathising sneerers, if the blundering Administration will commit a few more such blunders, it will be one of the most famous, most illustrious and triumphant, of all that have signalised the history of our country." [BWP]

To prevent all misconstruction of the notice taken by us of Greys' tender, of services to the Governor, we will state that on Saturday morning Capt. R. G. Scott, Jr., offered to Gov. Smith the services of his company (63) for the Mexican Campaign. We presume that the Gov. will make the selection of the 30 companies under the requisition of the General Government, as soon as sufficient time shall have elapsed for the offer of volunteers from different portions of Virginia. [BWP]

It is said that Gen. Arista commanded the Mexican army, and was present at the late battle near Gen. Taylor's camp. A friend has given us some striking anecdotes of the honesty, intelligence and simple bearing of Gen. A. For some years he resided at Cincinnati, and carried on the tinning business. In the city of Mexico he worked industriously in his little tin-shop.—Under the garb of modesty and poverty he concealed an ambitious spirit. His very simplicity of life saved him from the effects of jealous and domineering rivalry; but, in the excitement of war, he was called forth to take command of the Mexican Army. He is said to be a man of qualities vastly superior to those of his countrymen. [BWP]

Gov. Smith's Proclamation will speak for itself. Though brief, it is to the point, and will arrest the attention. We doubt not hat in a short time the services of a sufficient number of Virginia volunteers will be tendered to meet any emergency which they may be called on to encounter. [BWP]

The Officers of the United States Army of Occupation have raised a purse of 1,000 dollars, as a compliment to Capt. Walker, the gallant Texan. [BWP]

Our attention has been called to an erroneous representation of the remarks made by our eloquent friend, Robert G. Scott, Esq., at the public meeting of the 14th instant, to raise a Company of Volunteers. The published statement represented him as saying, that "the fate of General Taylor's army was sealed." Strange to say, Mr. Scott affirmed directly the opposite. He said, on the contrary, that he had not doubt General Taylor's army was safe—that he was a gallant and noble old officer, who knew what he was doing. Mr. Scott further avowed the opinion, that all General
Taylor’s movements had been marked by a wisdom, prudence and foresight, worthy of all praise—and he predicted, that the next authentic accounts would bring the gratifying intelligence that he had soundly “thrashed” these semi-barbarians. We take great pleasure in placing Mr. Scott on the true ground. His predictions have been gloriously realized. We only regret that, even for a short space, the published statement of his remarks should have thrown the least doubt over his usual judgment and discrimination. The public will not know what he did say, and how his views have been verified to the letter.

RE46v43i8p2c4, May 26, 1846: ARMY.

Gen. Taylor arrived at Point Isabel on the 2d inst., with a part of his command, numbering 1,800 men, to assist in placing the Point in a proper state of defence. The works were completed on the 6th, and on the next day at 3 P. M. he took up his line of march for his camp opposite Matamoras, and came to a halt for the night at the water hole about 8 miles distant from Point Isabel. The next morning the spies and scouts came in and reported that the Mexican force, believed to be all their army, had taken up position in the chaparral, about nine miles distant, and had thrown works a cross the road, which was well fortified with cannon.

General Taylor sent back a part of his wagon train, as he could not well afford a sufficient guard to protect it all. His entire force consisted of 2,300 men. The Mexican force, from all that could be learned by our scouts and spies for some days previously, was believed to be between 5,000 and 6,000 men; 1,800 of which was composed of cavalry and Rancheros, the latter being considered the most effective troops in Mexico.

Gen. Taylor put his army in motion, and on reaching the enemy, it was found they were occupying the chaparral, and had thrown up breast works along the road, with several pieces of cannon planted so as to sweep the road. No time was lost in arranging the order of battle, and advancing upon the enemy, the latter opening their artillery, which was speedily returned by our forces. The Mexican cavalry undertook to charge our lines under cover of the smoke—the 5th regiment of Infantry having formed a square, received them with a deadly fire. Maj. Ringgold and Capt. Page had his lower jaw shot off.

The battle was now principally confined to artillery on both sides. The Mexicans aiming too high, which prevented much loss on our side.—Our Flying Artillery was very destructive to the hopes of the enemy; the rapidity and despatch with which it was brought to bear on different points of the enemy’s line created great havoc. Maj. Ringgold received a shot through both his thighs, killing his horse under him. Capt. Page had his lower jaw shot off.

The cannonading continued from about 3 P. M., until sun-down, and could be heard distinctly at Point Isabel. The Mexicans retreated and left one piece of cannon on the field. Several prisoners were taken. The latter were asked, why their cavalry did not charge? They answered it was impossible to get them to do so after the first repulse; the firing was too hot; the men could not be kept to their arms, but would break and run; the order to charge was repeatedly given; a few of the cavalry would advance, but not finding themselves supported by their comrades, would fall back again to the main body. They stated, that one of the officers of the cavalry was so indignant at his troops disobeying his orders that he rushed in among them, cutting right and left, and that one of this men drew his pistol and shot him dead.

We lost some 45 in killed and wounded.—They left about 130 in killed and wounded on the field—a large portion of the latter being carried off.

The next morning Gen. Taylor left with the train a few pieces of artillery and a guard to protect themselves and the wounded, and pushed or with 1800 effective men in pursuit of the enemy. He found they had retreated some eight miles off and taken up a position a few miles below the camp, opposite Matamoras, occupying some of the trenches which had been thrown up by our forces previous to their marching to Point Isabel.

The battle commenced by heavy cannonading on both sides. Gen. Taylor, in passing his lines, accosted Capt. May, of the 2d dragoons, and told him: “Your regiment has never done anything yet—you must take that battery.” He said nothing, but turned to his command and said: “We must take that battery—follows!” He made a charge with three companies—at least with the remainder of three companies—supported by the 5th and 8th regiments of infantry. They cleared the breastwork, rode over the battery, wheeled and came through the enemy’s line, whilst the fire of the infantry was so deadly in its effect as to carry all before it. Capt. May made a cut at an officer as he charged through—on his return, he found him standing between the wheels of a cannon, fighting like hero. He ordered him to surrender. He was asked if he was an officer. Capt. May answered him in the affirmative, when he presented his sword, remarking: “You receive Gen. Vega a prisoner of war.”

Capt. May gave him in charge of one of his sergeants, who had lost his horse in the charge, ordering him to conduct him to Gen. T. out of the lines.

Lieutenant Inge, a brave and gallant officer of the 2d Dragoons, fell in this charge. A complete panic and route ensued on the part of the enemy; they fled in every direction for the river; many were drowned in attempting to cross. Eight pieces of artillery fell into our hands, and innumerable quantity of small arms, munitions, baggage, camp equipage, military chest, containing a large amount of gold; Gen. Arista’s carriage, baggage, port-folio, with all his
official correspondence with the Government, with full plans of the campaign, and instructions from the Mexican government, authorizing him to send Gen. Taylor and his army, when taken prisoners, to the city of Mexico; to treat General Taylor and his officers with such care and attention as becomes the magnanimity of the great Mexican nation.

—Four or five hundred head of mules, etc., with a large number of stands of colors.

The plan of the campaign, and the instructions from his government, ordered him to take possession of Point Isabel; this was to be the brief act of hostility; he was to fortify it as strongly as as possible. He was likewise ordered to take possession of the mouth of the river and fortify it at once.

After the route Gen. Taylor dispatched Capt. Carr, of the Dragoons, with a guard, to convey the intelligence. They bore so many of the enemy’s colors with them, that they presumed in the Fort that it was the Mexicans coming up to make an assault, it being dark, and the Fort fired upon them, but fortunately injured no one.

Some 400 Mexicans were buried at our last accounts, but doubtless hundreds are lying dead in the chaparrel, and in the river.

Captain Walker and his Rangers pursued up the enemy, and gave a parting salutation to many in the river.

We lost in killed and wounded about 62. Capt. Hooe lost an arm.

Capt. May’s charge is spoken of as being one of those splendid efforts which would have adorned the brightest feather in the plume of Murat in the palmiest days of his glory. It cost him some 18 horses, with a few of the gallant riders.

This victory entirely belongs to the U.S. Army—no volunteers having arrived in time to share in the honors of the day. It will convince our country that West Point affords the material of exhibiting the courage and bravery of the American soldier!

I trust we will hear no more of dismounting our gallant Dragoons; the affair of the 9th shows them to be the arteries of our defence.

Their conduct on both occasions speaks highly to the credit of their gallant commander, that old "War hoss” and time worn veteran, Col. Twiggs.

Maj. Ringgold died on the morning of the 11th, at Point Isabel, much regretted by all; his bravery and gallant conduct endeared him to the whole army.

The redoubtable hero, Gen. Ampudia, commanded the 2d Division of the Mexican army. It is said he was the first man to make good his escape to Matamaoras, where he reported that Arista had betrayed the army.

As soon as Gen. Arista arrived in Matamoras he sent at once a flag to exchange such prisoners as he had in Matamoras. He showed great anxiety to get back Gen. Vega, offering to exchange two or three officers for him; but Gen. Taylor had sufficient to make the exchange without giving up Gen. Vega. It has been said Gen. Taylor offered the latter his parole of honor, which he declined accepting, on the ground that if he returned he would be forced to bear arms again by his Government.

[BWP]

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RE46v43i8p2c3, May 26, 1846: FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.

The mail of yesterday morning brought nothing later; but we find in the new Orleans papers clear and circumstantial and satisfactory details of the stirring events of the 8th and 9th, which we know that our readers will appreciate. We ask particular attention to the chivalrous charge of Capt. May on the Mexican batteries. History does not furnish a more brilliant example of courage and skill, than marked the conduct of our officers and soldiers in the apparently desperate conflict. As the N. O. Bulletin says:

"The accounts are brilliant beyond the most sanguine expectations; the triumph of the American arms is complete; a vastly superior force is routed through a series of actions as splendid as any on record, displaying in our brave handful of troops and their illustrious commander, the very highest points of military courage, skill and knowledge."

The same paper publishes the subjoined letter from "a highly intelligent gentleman on the ground."[BWP]

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RE46v43i8p2c3, May 26, 1846: POINT ISABEL, May 12, 1846.

By the last departure I wrote you briefly of the operations of the army up to that time; of the bombardment of the
fort opposite Matamoras, and the movement of Gen. Taylor with the main body to this place for the purpose of strengthening its defences. Having effected this, he marched without waiting for reinforcements, on the evening of the 7th, and on the 8th at 2 o’clock, found the enemy in position, in front of a chapparel, which lies opposite to the timber of a stream called Palo Alto.

The train was closed up, the troops filled their canteens, and Gen. Taylor promptly formed his line of battle as follows: on the right was Ringgold’s battery, 5th and 3d Infantry; then two eighteen pounders; then the Artillery Battalion. The left was composed of the 4th and 8th Infantry, and Duncan’s Battery. A daring reconnaissance, by Capt. J. E. Blake, showed the enemy’s line to be of nearly twice the strength of ours, with heavy reserves in the chapparel. The Mexicans opened the action with their artillery, the range of which was moving slowly forward, and soon we got into the thickest of their shot and halted. Their fire was returned from all of our batteries and I venture to say that no field of battle ever displayed such skill, or rapidity of fire and evolution.

The first and only important movement attempted by the enemy was a detachment of their cavalry to make a detour around a clump of chapparel on our right, and attack the t rain. Capt. Walker, of the Texas Rangers, promptly reported this, and the 5th Infantry was detached to meet it, which it did handsomely, receiving the lancers in square, and driving them by a well delivered volley. The Mexican cavalry then pushed on again for the train, and found the 3d Infantry advancing in column of divisions upon them.—They then retired, and as they repassed the 5th they received a fire from Lieut. Ridgeley’s two field pieces, which had arrived at the nick of time. Two field pieces of the enemy, which were following his cavalry, were also driven back with them.

Meanwhile the enemy’s left was riddled by the 18 pounders, which slowly advanced up the road—Duncan’s battery on the left neglecting the enemy’s guns, threw their fire into the Mexican infantry, and swept whole ranks. The 8th Infantry on the left suffered severely from the enemy’s fire. The grass was set on fire at the end of an hour’s cannonading, and obscured the enemy’s position completely, and an interval of three quarters of an hour occurred. During this period, our right, now resting on the 18 pounders, advanced along the wood to the point originally occupied by the Mexican left, and when the smoke had cleared a way sufficiently to show the enemy, the fire was resumed with increased rapidity and execution. Duncan divided his battery on the left giving a section to Lieut. Roland to operate in front, and with the other he advanced beyond the burning grass, (which was three feet high, and the flames rolled ten feet in the strong breeze, ) and seized the prolongation of the enemy’s right, enfiling that flank completely.—Night found the two armies in this position.

On the 9th, the General packed the heavy train, collected the enemy’s wounded in hospital, buried their dead, arranged our own wounded, (among whom we have to regret the sudden death of Maj. Ringgold and Capt. Page, ) and moved on in pursuit of the enemy on the Matamoras road. They had taken post in the chapparel the second time, occupying the bed of a stream called Resaca de la Palma, with their artillery on the road at the crossing.. I have not time for details of this affair. The General brought up his troops by battalions, and posted them, with brief orders to find the enemy with the bayonet, and placed the artillery where they could act in the road.

The dragoons were held in reserve, and as soon as the advance of our line had uncovered the Mexican batteries, Gen. Taylor told Capt. May that his time had come—“Here’s the enemy’s battery, sir; take it, nolens volens.” May dashed upon it with his squadron, losing one-third of his number; but he cleared the battery and captured its commander, Gen. Vega, in the act of raising a port-fire to fire a piece himself. May took his sword and brought the General off. The enemy re-manned the guns, and lost them a second time to the 5th Infantry. Capt. Barbour, of the 3d Infantry, with his single company, and a few men from the 5th, who joined him in the chapparel, threw his back against a clump of bushes, and received and gallantly repelled a charge of cavalry. Capt. Duncan, with his battery, did terrible execution—he is a most promising officer. Lieut. Ridgeley was also among the foremost. In truth it was a series of brilliant skirmishes and heavy shocks, in which 1500 fighting men met 6000 hand to hand, overwhelmed them with the precision of their volleys, and the steady coolness of the bayonet, and drive them from the field with the loss of their artillery, baggage, pack mules, fixed ammunition, and near 2000 stand of muskets.

The Fort, meanwhile, had been summoned, with true Mexican duplicity, to surrender, and told that Taylor was flying. The Matamoras newspapers and official bulletins called him a cowardly tailor. In answer to the summons, the officers plunged their swords into the parapet, and replied “to the hilt.” Up to the evening of the 9th, 1500 shells and 3000 shot had been thrown, and the only loss was that of the brave commander, Major Brown, and one serjeant and one private killed, and ten wounded.

The General returns to the army to-night and will cross the river to-morrow or next day. The fort will be increased in guns, and especially provided with mortars, which will bring the town to terms at once. The Navy will cooperate at the mouth of the river, and steamboats shortly begin to carry supplies by that route.

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Gen. Taylor has just given Gen. Vega a letter to Gen. Gaines, and a letter of credit on his factor. The officers here, and in the main body of the army, vied with their commander in delicate attentions to a brave and accomplished enemy, who won their admiration on the field, and was taken, like a soldier, in full harness, and fighting gallantly to the last. Our loss about 30 killed, and 140 wounded. wounded. In haste, H. M.

Mexican loss at Palo Alto, set down by themselves at 450; at Resaca de la Palma 200 missing. Since the battle out Dragoons have been exchanged, grade for grade, and the Mexicans wounded sent over to Matamoras. By the next arrival you will hear of the fall of the town, and probably an offer from them to receive Mr. Slidell in any capacity.

It ought to be mentioned that none of our regiments are full, and two of them have only about 300. Many instances
occurred, of men handing their canteens to the wounded Mexicans, and turning from them to fire upon others. There was not a single occurrence of cruelty towards the enemy. The morale of the army is at its highest—it can now accomplish anything, and they would die for a commander who does not ask them to go where he is not willing to lead, and in whose judgment they fully confide.

The New Orleans Commercial Times furnishes the following additional items of interest. We cannot devote too much space to the noble exploits of our gallant little army. While the country will rejoice at the laurels which our soldiers have won, they will drop a tear for the fate of the officers and men who have shed their blood in repelling invasion from American soil:

The following full details of the glorious actions between the hostile armies, on the 8th and 9th inst., we find in the Galveston papers of the 15th. They were furnished by an eye witness—an actor in the scene—Capt. Jas. J. Tod, late of the Texan navy.

RE46v43i8p2c4, May 26, 1846: THREE DAYS LATER FROM MEXICO!

By the bark Mandarin, arrived this morning from Vera Cruz, says the (N. Orleans Commercial Times of the 18th inst., ) which port she lett on the 7th inst., we learn that the U. S. Squadron sailed from Vera Cruz on the 4th inst. On getting under way, the guns of the Castle were all manned, matches lighted ready to fire into them, if any disposition was made towards it. It was generally believed that as soon as it was ascertained that hostilities had commenced on the frontiers, Com. Connor would make an attack on the town and Castle; but a larger force would be required than was there.

When the Mandarin sailed, the U. S. ship Falmouth was the only vessel in port. The Commodore, it was reported, had gone to the Brazos, to assist the army, if needed. Every preparation was making at Vera Cruz for its defence, and the of the Castle; heavy guns were being taken over every day. The weather had become very hot. The thermometer standing at 96 in the shade. The Vomito had made its appearance.

RE46v43i8p2c5, May 26, 1846: TWENTY-NINTH CONGRESS. SATURDAY, MAY 23. The Senate was not in session today. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

A motion was made to reconsider the vote of the House, yesterday, agreeing to the amendment reported by the committee on Naval affairs to the bill from the Senate, “to repeal a part of the act making appropriations for the Naval service for the year ending 30th June, 1846”—and the consideration of the motion was then postponed until Monday.

Mr. Haralson, from the committee on Military Affairs, reported the bill from the Senate, making a change in the pay department of the Army without amendment, and with a recommendation for its immediate passage.

Mr. McKay moved to refer the bill to the Committee of the Whole, and on this motion the yeas and nays were ordered, and resulted as follows: ayes 111, noes 36; so the bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Stanton asked leave to report a resolution for the committee of Naval Affairs, to print 5000 extra copies of the report of the Committee on Naval Affairs, accompanying the bill for the construction of twelve iron war steamers and one iron frigate. It was objected to. A motion to suspend the rules for the purpose of receiving the resolution was decided in the negative.

An ineffectual effort was made to suspend the rules for the purpose of introducing a resolution to change the hour of meeting to 10 o’clock.—Ayes 83, Noes 80.

The remainder of the session was devoted to the consideration of private business.

RE46v43i8p2c6, May 26, 1846: BY THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA. A PROCLAMATION.

The Congress of the U. States having, by an act approved on the 13th May, 1846, declared that a state of war exists between the Republic of Mexico and that of the United States; and the President of the United States bring by said act authorized "to call for and accept the services of any number of volunteers, not exceeding 50,000, for the purpose of enabling the Government of the United States to prosecute said war to a speedy and successful termination;” and having called upon the Executive of this State, under date of the 19th instant, "to cause to be
enrolled and held in readiness for muster into the service of the United States three Regiments of Infantry, “to be composed of volunteer corps—Now, therefore, I, William Smith, Governor of Virginia, by virtue of the authority with which I am invested, do announce to my fellow citizens my readiness to receive, for the purpose aforesaid, a tender of the services of thirty companies of volunteers, to be formed into regiments when mustered into the service of the U. States. These companies must have the organization of the army of the United States, and in their rank and file must consist of 64 men. Not over 45, nor under 18 years of age, and of full “physical strength and vigor.” Existing volunteer companies, tendering their services, will be permitted to retain their existing uniform; but all new companies must strictly conform, in their uniform, to that prescribed by the general order of March, 1834.

No officer of militia, no matter what his grade, will forfeit his commission by entering into the proposed volunteer service.

For the information of the public, the uniform before referred to, as well as the company organization of the army of the United States, will be found in the subjoined general order.

The call to arms has, upon the generous and the brave, a magical effect. To the Virginian it has never been made in vain. Other States are rushing to fields of danger and of glory; and the sons of the Cavaliers will not be outstripped in this noble race of patriotism and duty.

Given under my hand, as Governor, and under the lesser seal of the Commonwealth, at Richmond, this 23d day of May, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and forty-six, and of the Commonwealth the seventieth. WM. SMITH.

RE46v43i8p2c6, May 26, 1846: GENERAL ORDERS. ADJUTANT-GENERAL’S OFFICE, Richmond, May 23, 1846.

The following organization of Volunteer Corps for service under the requisition of the President of the United States will be observed:

A company of Infantry will consist of
1 Captain,
1 First Lieutenant,
1 Second Lieutenant,
4 Sergeants,
4 Corporals,
2 Musicians, and
64 Privates.

Thirty companies are required to constitute, when called into service, three Regiments of Infantry—each Regiment to consist of.

1 Colonel,
1 Lieutenant Colonel,
1 Major,
1 Adjutant, (a Lieutenant of one of the companies, but not in addition),
1 Sergeant Major,
1 Quarter-Master Sergeant,
2 Principal Musicians, and
10 Companies, according to the organization above.

Volunteer Corps now in commission tendering their services, and all new corps which may be raised for this service, will send to this department, with the tender of service, a written engagement, signed by all the members, to serve for twelve months after they shall have arrived at the place of rendezvous, or to the end of the war, unless sooner discharged—at their discretion.

Old corps will retain the uniform now worn by them; new corps will uniform according to the pattern prescribed.

No man under the rank of a commissioned officer will be received, who is in years apparently over forty-five or under eighteen, or who is not in physical strength and vigor.

Commandants of regiments within which volunteer corps for this service shall be raised, will superintend the enrollment, the election of officers, inspect the company, and certify the whole to this department. Commissions for this special service will then be issued to the officers of all new corps. Existing corps will be inspected in like manner and sign the enrollment.

Companies, when enrolled and commissioned, will hold themselves in readiness for muster into the service of the United States when called for; but it is recommended to the members not to abandon their ordinary occupations in the mean time, further than to give such attention to training as may be convenient. By command. WM. H. RICHARDSON, Adj't Gen.
RE46v43i8p2c6, May 26, 1846: FORM OF ENROLLMENT.

We, the undersigned, do hereby engage to service in a volunteer company of infantry to constitute a portion of the three regiments required for the service of the United States, according to the terms of an act of Congress "providing for the prosecution of the existing war between the U. States and the Republic of Mexico," approved the 13th May, 1846—and to hold ourselves in readiness for muster into the service of the United States, when called upon by the Governor of Virginia.

RE46v43i8p2c6, May 26, 1846: UNIFORM OF THE INFANTRY. FIELD OFFICERS.

Coat—Dark blue cloth, single breasted, three rows of buttons on the breast, ten in each row, at equal distances; the distance between the outer rows and the centre row to be four inches at top, and two at bottom, measuring from the centre or eyes of the buttons; blind button holes of black twist or narrow black braid, from the centre buttons to the corresponding buttons in the outer rows; stand-up collar, to meet in front with hooks and eyes, and rise no higher than to permit the free turning of the chin over it; to be edged all around with gold lace, three quarters of an inch in width, with two straps of the same lace, four and a half inches in length on each side, running back from the front, terminated by a button each. Cuff, three inches deep, with four blind button holes, of black twist or narrow braid, extending from four buttons, placed across on each, and two small buttons at the fastening. Skirts to reach to the bend of the knee, with blue turn-backs, or turn-backs marked with cord; the bottom of the skirts not less than three and a half, not more than five inches broad, with a star of silver at the connecting point of the turn-backs on each skirt; two hip buttons to range with the lower buttons on the breast, two buttons at the opening of the pocket of each skirt; collar and cuffs of blue cloth, plain or embroidered at pleasure.

Buttons—Silver or plated—convex—with the arms of Virginia on them.

Sword and Scabbard—Straight sword, silver hilt and white gripe; scabbard, steel or plated; sword knot, silver cord and tassel; sword belt, black leather, to be worn over the coat.

Sash—Scarlet silk net, with bullion fringe ends; sash to go twice around the waist, and to tie on the left hip; to be worn under the belt.

Epaulets—Silver.

Hat—Cocked, without binding; fan or back part eleven inches; the front or cock nine inches, each corner six inches; black ribbons on the two front sides. Loop and cockade—Navy blue silk cockade, six inches diameter; loop, silver, eleven inches long, ornamented, with the arms of Virginia in silver.

Plume—White cock feathers, falling from an upright stem, eight inches long, in a silver socket.

Tassels—Silver, with worked hangers.

Cravat or Stock black.

Trowsers—From 1st October to 30th April, dark blue cloth or cassimere; from 1st May to 30th September, white linen or cotton.

Boots worn under the trowsers.

Spurs—Silver or plated.

Gloves—White.

RE46v43i8p2c6, May 26, 1846: FOR COMPANY OFFICERS AND PRIVATES.

Coat—Dark blue cloth, single-breasted, three rows of buttons on the breast, ten in each row, at equal distances; the distance between the outer rows and centre row to be four inches at top and two at bottom, measuring from the centre or eyes of the buttons; blind button-holes of black twist, or narrow black braid, from the centre buttons to the
corresponding buttons in the outer rows; stand-up collar, to meet in front with hooks and eyes, and rise no higher than to permit the free turning of the chin over it. For officers, to be edged all round with silver lace, three quarters of an inch wide, with two straps of the same lace, four and a half inches in length on each side, running back from the front, terminated by a button. Non-commissioned officers and privates to wear white worsted lace instead of silver. Cuff three inches deep, with four blind button-holes of black twist, or narrow braid, extending from four buttons, placed across on each and two small buttons at the fastening. Skirts to reach no lower than the middle of the thigh, with four blind holes of black twist, or narrow braid, on the pocket flaps, to correspond with the buttons.

Trowsers—From the 1st October to 30th April, dark blue cloth or cassimere; from 1st May to 30th September, white linen or cotton.

Cap—Black leather, round, with bell-crown, plated or silver scales and eagle.

Pompons—White, in silver or plated socket.

Buttons—Silver or plated, convex, seven-eighths of an inch diameter, the Arms of Virginia.

Wings—Silver scales and bullion for officers. For non-commissioned officers the same as for officer, except the bullion. For privates, white metal seals. Non-commissioned officers to wear white worsted lace instead of silver.

May 26—cw3w.

[RE46v43i8p3c1, May 26, 1846: By Last Evening’s Mail.]

We understand that prompt measures have been taken by the Secretary of the Navy to protect the exposed commerce of the Gulf of Mexico by an adequate naval force cruising between Cuba and the Coast of Florida.

[RE46v43i8p3c1, May 26, 1846: [Correspondence of the Baltimore American.] WASHINGTON, May 22, 5½ P.M.]

A bill has passed the House, giving the President power to call into the service any number of seamen beyond the 7,500 limited by the bill of 1845. The bill is an amended bill of the Senate. The Naval Committee of the Senate have reported a bill to build ten war steamers, the Executive having a discretionary power, both as to the number up to ten, and as to the character of the steamers.

A Bill extending the Drawback System, allowed by the Bill of the last Congress, was also passed in the House, the object of which is to allow all goods imported for foreign provinces to be re-exported with an allowance for Drawback for all goods sent into a foreign country. The only limitations are, that the goods shall be re-exported within one year after the original importation, and the goods to be transported (in their original packages) and under regulations to be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury.

[RE46v43i8p3c1, May 26, 1846: MISCELLANEOUS. THE GEOGRAPHY OF MEXICO &c., FROM THE BATTLE GROUND.]

The New York Sun contains the following description of Mexico from Matamoras to the Halls of the Montesumas, which cannot but prove interesting at the present time.

The U. S. army is posted on the left bank of the Rio Grande, opposite Matamoras, at a distance of 90 miles from the coast by the circuitous channel of the river, but only 30 or 40 miles by the route to Point Isabel, a harbor on the coast of Texas, about ten miles north of the Rio Grande. The latter river is the boundary between Texas and Mexico, as claimed by the United States.—Mexico contends that the river Nueces is the boundary, and that river was the boundary of the former State of Texas before the Revolution.—But Texas claimed to the Rio Grande as the people of that district joined her in defending the Mexican Constitution of 1824, and in the war of independence, which they waged so successfully against the despotism of Mexico. From Matamoras to the city of Mexico there is good road, with five or ten military posts along the route.

“An American army of fifty thousand men, crossing the Rio Grande at Matamoras, could readily march through the country to the city of Mexico. Yucatan, to the South, is already in arms against the military despot governing at the Capital; and the people of Vera Cruz and other States of Central Mexico are clamorous for the recall of Santa Anna, (who is now in Cuba,) and the restoration of the Republic. The facilities for intercourse with our army and with the Mexican people, are favorable to the rapid execution of military operations. From Galveston to Point Isabel is 320 miles by water. New Orleans to Point Isabel 802 miles. New Orleans to Vera Cruz 1,500 miles. Yucatan to the city...
of Mexico 900 miles. The population of the city of Mexico is about 180,000. High mountains rise in the distance on all sides of the city, but the location although under the Tropic of Cancer is remarkable for its salubrity, and in summer the extreme heat is less severe than in New York or Philadelphia.

The city is approached by excellent roads which branch out in every direction, and on which are transported the silver ores and bullion from an hundred of the richest mines in the world. The magnificence of the principal edifices—some being furnished with gold and silver ornaments valued at many millions, and containing rich treasures hid away by the avaricious—has excited the admiration of all travellers. Yet, with all her riches, Mexico is poor. Her people are kept in ignorance by the tyranny of a few, and their wealth is carried off to other lands, to swell the gains of trade and commerce, which they are not permitted to enjoy. The poor Mexican crawls listlessly over neglected silver mines, lost in the contemplation of his own abject condition. The iron hand of despotism is upon him.

RE46v43i8p4c1, May 26, 1846: CASTLE OF SAN JUAN DE ULUA.

The N. Y. Courier gives the following facts, in order that an opinion may be formed as to the probable result of an assault upon Vera Cruz.—Certainly nothing can be done until a much larger force is concentrated there than is at present in the vicinity:

"The fortress of San Juan de Ulua would resist a very heavy attack—one certainly much more serious than that of the French, to which it yielded a few years since. The French squadron then consisted of three large frigates and four bomb vessels: the former anchored but little over point-blank distance from the eastern face of the castle, and the bomb vessels but little further.—There were mortars in the castle, but none in use, and not more than seventeen guns could be brought to bear on a single ship, and on the whole squadron only twenty-six, some of which were carronades.

"Of the French vessels, the Cyclops had two mortars, and in two hours she threw one hundred and eight shells. The others did their share, --One of the bombs lodged in the magazine, which was blown up, and about two hundred men destroyed. After about six hours'fighting the Mexicans yielded. Since that time the fortress has been thoroughly repaired; a new water battery has been added; thirty-two and forty-two pounders have been mounted in place of the twelves and eighteens; from twelve to twenty heavy mortars have been introduced, with several Paixhan eight-inch guns, and every thing is in the very best condition to resist an attack.

RE46v43i8p4c1, May 26, 1846: GENERAL TAYLOR IN HIS TENT.

A correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer, writing from the Brazos de Santiago says:

"On the 26th, a friend of mine visited General Taylor in the camp of Point Isabel, where he had established his depot for stores in the army. On landing, the scene presented was quite a wild one, and reminded one of the accounts we have received of an Arab Encampment. There were three or four hundred dragoons in the camp with their horses picketed about; besides an immense number of wagons, mules and oxen. On stepping ashore, an officer conducted my friend to the General's tent. He was introduced to a very plain shabbily dressed old gentleman, of rather small stature, about sixty years of age, and who looked by his hardy appearance, as if he had been camping out all his life.

"This was the commander-in-chief of the army of occupation. He has been 38 years in service on the frontiers of our country. One of his officers remarked that "old as he is, he bears the fatigues and privations of the campaign better than any one under him." His tent was no larger and no better than those of the other officers, and his table was his camp chest, in which he carried his cooking utensils, &c. His plates were tin pans, and his cups (no saucers of course) tin pannikins. A small supply of brown sugar was kept in a tin canister, and not a piece of crockery was to be seen. A party of six was thus entertained in homely style, and they all seemed to enjoy it abundantly."[BWP]

RE46v43i8p4c1, May 26, 1846: CAPT. SAMUEL H. WALKER.

This officer is one of those rare spirits which a state of war will bring out from our citizen soldiers.—His late unequalled conflict with the Mexicans, in which he lost nearly every man under his command, and his daring heroism in cutting his way to Gen. Taylor's camp, have excited in the public mind a strong desire to know more of him. He is the same gentleman so frequently and honorably spoken of in Gen. Green’s journal of the Mier expedition. He is a native of Washington City, from whence he went into the Florida war, where in several campaigns he distinguished himself by his intrepid bravery. In 1842, he went to Texas, and during the invasion of that Republic, by Gen. Woll, he was marked for his bold and daring conduct. After the Mexican General had retreated from San Antonio, and when he lay upon the Rio Hondo, Walker and Capt. McCullough crawled through his camp one night and spies out his position, and the next day with the gallant Hays, led the attack upon his rear-guard. He then joined the celebrated expedition against Mier, and on the morning of that sanguinary battle, he, with three others—being the advanced
scout of the Texans—was taken prisoner, and carried with his hands tied behind him to the head quarters of Gen. Ampudia. The Mexican General questioned him as to the Texan forces, and when Walker informed him that The Texans had only three hundred men, Ampudia pompously replied: “Does that audacious handful of men presume to follow me into this strong place and attack me?” “Yes,” says Walker, “make yourself content upon that subject, General; they will follow you into hell and attack you there.” He was, with his comrades, then marched a prisoner to the city of Mexico.

At Salado, with the lamented Capt. Cameron and Dr. Brennen, he led the attack upon the guards, overpowered them, and marched for Texas, when, after eating up all their horses and mules, and living for days upon their own urine, surrendered to the Mexican Generals, Mercier and Ortago. He was a gain marched to Salado, where, with his comrades, he was made to draw in the celebrated black bean lottery, and every tenth man was shot. Those that remained of the Texans were marched to the Castle of Perote and the city of Mexico. Here, while working on the streets in that city, he was struck by a Mexican corporal for not working faster, when with his spade he knocked down the corporal, which caused the guards to beat him nearly to death. His life was a long time despaired of, and upon his recovery, he with two companions scaled the walls of his prison after nightfall, and made his way to Texas, over a distance of more than a thousand miles. Before, however, they got out of the country, they were twice more imprisoned, and each time effected their escape.—When he had reached Texas again, he joined Capt. Hays, who, with fifteen others, armed with Colt's repeating pistols, fought 96 Comanches, and defeated them, leaving 36 killed upon the ground. Here Walker was run through the body with a Comanche spear, and his life again despaired of. We now hear of him, with 70 Texans, attacking 1500 Mexicans, and all perishing in battle but himself and six others; and then, to crown his wonderful life of daring, he cut his way, single handed into Gen. Taylor's camp from Point Isabel.—

**New York Globe.**

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**RE46v43i8p4c2, May 26, 1846: ORGANIZATION OF VOLUNTEER CORPS FOR THE U. S. SERVICE.**

With a view of obtaining the requisite information as to the government of the volunteer corps now organizing under the late Act of Congress, a letter was written a few days ago by Major Gen. Steuart to Washington, making all needful inquiries on the subject. The reply of the Secretary of War is annexed. It appears to contain every necessary direction, and, if extensively circulated, will save a vast deal of trouble to all parties interested. It will be observed by the accompanying memorandum that no provision is made for a company of Artillery:

**WAR DEPARTMENT, May 19, 1846.**

Sir:--In reply to the inquiries contained in the letter of Maj. Gen. Steuart's and in other communications, submitted by you to this Department, I have the honor to inform you that the rule adopted, is to call for volunteers that are required from any particular State, through the Governor.—This is an act of respect to the Executive of the State, due as well to his position, as to his generally superior knowledge of the character and efficiency of volunteers throughout the State, the sections from which it is most advisable to take them, and which of them can, with the greatest facility and least expense, be embodies for the service for which they may be required. Circumstances may, however, occur to render it expedient to accept offers of service direct, without the intervention of the Governor when an application to him might cause delay. Applications of companies, regiments, &c., to enter the service may therefore be made direct to this Department.

The law, a copy of which is enclosed, provides that the officers of volunteers shall be appointed by the proper State authority, in the manner prescribed by the State laws; and the accompanying memorandum shows the number of officers, non-commissioned officers and privates, and the organization of companies and regiments.

The law also requires that the volunteers furnish their own clothing, and, if cavalry, their own horses and horse equipage. Such as are already uniformed need not change; such as are not, and contemplate uniforming, are at liberty to adopt such as they think proper; but it is advisable that all who may be called into the service adopt their dress, as nearly as the circumstances will permit, to the nature of the service that may be required of them, and to the character of the country and climate where they may have to serve. Those that shall be accepted will be armed and equipped at the expense of the United States, and will be inspected and mustered into the service by an officer of the army, or by one appointed by the Governor, at such times and places as will be specified when their services are called for.

Very respectfully, your obd's serv't,


W. L. MARCY, Secretary of War.

*Memorandum of the Organization of Volunteer Corps, under the act of 13th May, 1846.*

A company of Cavalry, or mounted men, will consist of:

1 Captain,
1 First Lieutenant,
1 Second Lieutenant,
4 Sergeants,  
4 Corporals,  
2 Buglers,  
1 Farrier and Blacksmith,  
64 Privates, as established by order of the President.

A regiment of Cavalry, or mounted men, will consist of:
[field & staff officers]
1 Colonel,  
1 Lieutenant Colonel,  
1 Major,  
1 Adjutant, (a Lieutenant, in addition to the Lieutenant of Corps)
[non-commissioned staff]
1 Sergeant Major,  
1 Quarter Master Sergeant,  
1 Principal musician  
2 Chief Buglers, and,  
10 Companies, for the organization of which see above.

A company of Infantry (or Riflemen) will consist of:
1 Captain,  
1 First Lieutenant,  
1 Second Lieutenant,  
4 Sergeants,  
4 Corporals,  
2 Musicians, and,  
64 Privates, as established by order of the President.

A regiment of Infantry, or Riflemen will consist of:
[field & staff officers]
1 Colonel,  
1 Lieutenant Colonel,  
1 Major,  
1 Adjutant, (a Lieutenant of one of the companies, buy not in addition)
[non-com'd. staff]
1 Sergeant Major,  
1 Quarter-Master Sergeant,  
2 Principal Musicians,  
10 Companies, for the organization of which see above.

Baltimore American.  
[BWP]

Mr. Ashley, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill to change the time of holding the Spring Courts of the United States in Virginia and Tennessee.

Mr. Semple presented a remonstrance from citizens of the District of Columbia against the retrocession of any part of the District. Referred to the Committee on the District.

Mr. Yulee offered a resolution, which was adopted, instructing the Committee on Naval Affairs to inquire into the merits of Capt. R. F. Lopers' plan of building iron steamers.

On motion of Mr. Rusk, the Military Committee was instructed to inquire into the expediency of purchasing 200 of Colt’s patent rifles.

The Committee on Territories, to which the subject had been referred, reported that it was not expedient to move in the matter of a territorial government for Oregon at this session.

Also, that they have been unable to come to an agreement upon the various matters contained in the bill from the House for extending out laws over the territory of the U. S. lying west of the Rocky Mountains, and for other purposes, and asked to be discharged from its further consideration.
Mr. Wescott gave notice that when the report came up to-morrow, he should move to postpone the whole subject until the 1st Monday in December.

Mr. Benton. At what hour to-morrow does the Senator intend to make the motion?

Mr. Wescott. At one o'clock.

Mr. Benton. Perhaps I shall have a word or two to say then.

On motion of Mr. Johnson of La. The Senate took up the bill to amend the act providing for the adjustment of land claims within the States of Missouri, Arkansas, and Louisiana, and parts of Mississippi and Alabama.

After some discussion and the adoption of sundry amendments, the bill was postponed until Monday next.

The French spoliation bill was then taken up, and after sundry amendments were offered to the bill, which were ordered to be printed.

Mr. J. M. Clayton addressed the Senate at some length in reply to the speeches of Mr. Dix and Mr. Colquitt, and after a short Executive session the Senate adjourned.

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RE46v43i8p4c3, May 26, 1846: HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Rathburn, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill making copies of papers certified by the Secretary of the Senate or Clerk of the House, legal evidence. It was read twice and passed.

Mr. Payne asked that the Committee of the Whole should be discharged from the consideration of a bill for extending the right of suffrage to the people of Washington. The motion prevailed.

Mr. Payne moved the Previous Question, upon the bill, which was not seconded.

Mr. Hunter of Va. moved an amendment according to the recommendations of a majority of the inhabitants of the city, tax-payers and non tax-payers.

The previous question was again moved and seconded, and the yeas and nays ordered upon Mr. Hunter's amendment, which was rejected by a vote of yeas--, noes 99.

The bill was then engrossed and passed by yeas and nays—yeas 119, nays 5.

The House then went into committee of the whole upon the state of the Union, and took up the Civil and Diplomatic Bill, Mr. Hopkins of Va. in the Chair.

A debate arose upon an amendment to strike out a clause of $1,000 for the archives in Florida. The debate had not proceeded far when the Committee rose for want of a quorum.

A motion was made to adjourn—yeas 44, nays 85.

The House again went into Committee of the Whole, and were in a few moments found to be without a quorum.

The Committee then rose, and at ten minutes before two o'clock the House adjourned.

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RE46v43i8p4c2, May 26, 1846: [From the Petersburg Republican, May 20.] TEXAS VOLUNTEERS.

There was a very large and enthusiastic meeting of the citizens of our town, at the Courthouse, on Monday night last, to take measures for the formation of a company of Texas volunteers. The large number of persons present made it necessary for the crowd to adjourn into the square in front of the Court-house. The meeting was addressed with considerable ability and eloquence by Capt. H. A. Garland and R. K. Meade, who agreed in the propriety of taking steps towards the formation of a Regiment of Infantry, to be called the "South Side Regiment," and to be placed at the service of the General Government, to go to Mexico, or elsewhere, as they should be ordered. To this proposition the crowd responded with manifestations of the most enthusiastic applause. Resolutions to this effect were adopted, and a number of names, as we understand, were added to the list of names already obtained for the purpose of entering the service at once.
Col. Swan presided on the occasion, and appeared to be highly gratified at the patriotic spirit which seemed to pervade the 39th, which he has commanded for so many years.

RE46v43i8p4c3, May 26, 1846: FRIDAY May 22nd, 1846. SENATE.

Mr. Dix, from the Committee on Commerce, to whom had been referred the House bill making appropriations for harbors and rivers, reported back the same with sundry amendments which were ordered to be printed.

Mr. Fairfield, from the Naval Committee, reported back the Senate bill authorizing the construction of ten war steamers of iron, with sundry amendments; one of which authorizes the President to purchase ships instead of having them built, provided it can be done to advantage.

Mr. Mangum having stated some objection to the above amendment, inquired on what day Mr. Fairfield proposed to call up the consideration of the bill.

Mr. Fairfield answered the objections to the amendment, and said he would call up the bill on Monday next.

Mr. Woodbridge introduced a resolution relative to the boundary between the U. S. and the British province, as fixed by the Ashburton treaty.

On motion of Mr. Allen, a resolution was adopted, calling for copies of correspondence relative to treaties between England and France and Texas, when the latter was an independent State.

Mr. Westcott then called up the report of the committee on Territories made yesterday, asking that the committee may be discharged from further consideration of the Oregon jurisdiction bill.

Mr. Allen gave his views, and in the course of his remarks asked if the committee intended to leave our citizens in Oregon unprotected and without a government, after the expiration of the year’s notice.

Mr. Westcott reminded him that the people of Oregon have already established a government of their own.

Mr. Benton then took the floor, and at great length gave his views on the 54 40 question. The subject was then laid over till Monday.

RE46v43i8p4c2, May 26, 1846: TEXAS MEETING.

Pursuant to a previous call, a meeting of the citizens of Petersburg was held at the Courthouse, to take into consideration the war now existing between the United States and Mexico, which was numerously attended.

Col. J. C. Swan being called to the Chair, and Wm. McGowan appointed Secretary, the Chairman, after a brief and happy expose of the purpose of the meeting, announced that they were now ready to proceed to business. The Chairman introduced to the meeting Capt. Hugh A. Garland, who was arrested in his address by a loud call to move the stand to the Court Square, that the numerous attendants might be better accommodated—one half of the audience not being able to get in the house. On motion, the assembly repaired to the front of the court-house, where Capt. G. entered into a happy exposition of the causes which have led our government into this extremity, and was loudly applauded during the delivery of his speech; after Mr. G. had concluded Mr. R. K. Meade being loudly called for, appeared, and in a happy strain of eloquence, which caused every heart to leap as the impassioned manner in which he pourtrayed the history of our wrongs and forbearance, begged leave to introduce some definite plan of action, which will appear in the annexed proceedings, and which were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, our country is now engaged in war with a foreign nation, and has called upon her citizens for support and assistance, and it is the duty of a free people at all times to obey the call of their country: we, the citizens of the town of Petersburg, do therefore Resolve,

1. That we will serve our country with our lives and fortunes.

2. That we will use our best exertions to raise a regiment of infantry on the South side of James river, to be called the South side Regiment of Volunteers, to serve during the war.

3. That a committee of five be appointed to be called the Central Committee, who shall correspond with the officers of the militia on the South side and others, and use their best endeavors to procure enlistments in the
proposed Regiments, and do all other acts necessary to the organization thereof.

4. The said Regiment, when organized, shall offer its services to the President of the U. States, to be called out at such time and on such duty as the President or other authorized officers shall appoint.

5. The Central Committee shall appoint five or more to procure recruits in the town of Petersburg and adjoining counties, who shall make returns to said committee weekly or oftener.

6. The Central Committee shall correspond with citizens of other towns and counties on the South side of James River, and urge them to organize committees in their respective towns and counties, to promote the object of this meeting, and encourage the enlistment of soldiers, and said Committee may also appoint proper persons to enlist recruits in any town or county on the South side.

7. Whenever six hundred and twenty-five men shall enroll themselves to serve as volunteers, the Central Committee shall confer with the Governor of Virginia and the President of the United States, and under their advice shall appoint a time and place for the meeting of such volunteers, who shall then proceed to elect their officers, and organize themselves into companies and battalions, to constitute a regiment under the act of Congress, passed 13th day of May, 1846.

8. The Central Committee shall, if expedient, correspond with the Governor of Virginia and ask for such facilities as he may lawfully give in forwarding the object of this meeting.

9. Any citizen of the United States may enlist as a volunteer in said Regiment.

10. A Committee of five be appointed to procure funds by subscription to be placed with the Central Committee to pay the expenses of correspondences, and of such recruiting officers as may be sent out of the corporation on that service.

11. That we will cheerfully unite in the race of patriotism with companies raised by our fellow citizens on the North side of James River, so as to form a brigade of Virginia Volunteers.

On motion of the Secretary, it was.

Resolved, That the Chairman, assisted by Capt. Garland and Mr. Meade, appoint the respective committees recommended in the resolutions, and notify them of their appointment.

Resolved, That these proceedings be published in the papers of Petersburg and Richmond.

The audience were then informed that a meeting would be held at the same time and place on the next evening, for the purpose of organizing those already enlisted, into a Volunteer Corps.

On motion, the meeting then adjourned. J. C. SWAN, Chairman. WM. McGOWAN, Secretary.

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To the Editors of the Enquirer:
NEW YORK, May 21st, 1846.

Gentlemen: I can hardly trust myself to describe to you the great War Meeting which was held in the Park last evening. I never witnessed such an assemblage animated by such thrilling enthusiasm. Its numbers are uncounted. For more than three hours, the dense mass stood and heard and responded to the patriotic sentiments addressed by popular speakers from three platforms. The action of our Government, and the conduct of its gallant army, were warmly approved and commended. One feeling only was manifested—that of repelling invasion and redressing the wrongs of our common country. Most loudly did the assemblage respond to the sentiment, that the United States would never permit European interference in the affairs of this county. The moral effect of such a meeting as this must be great. As was remarked, could the Mexicans have witnessed the spectacle, their military tyrants would have taken to flight, and their armies have ceased to prosecute the war. Several speakers alluded to our differences with England; some expressed the belief that the present attitude of affairs with Mexico was brought about by English influence, and the probability of a war with that power was freely spoken, and as heartily responded to. I have seen many mass meetings in New York, (although never one so large as this,) and I know something of the temperament of the people; but I confess that I was rather surprised to find the war sentiment—I mean a war with England—so strongly re-echoes from the vast masses who were assembled. I know that you hope and trust with me, that a war with England may be averted, and our country spared the calamities of any long war; but, nevertheless, if that war which we so little desire should come upon us, I think that this matter with Mexico, and the preparations made for carrying it on, will be of eminent service to us. The expenditure during a war with Mexico will be a cheap preparation and inuring of our forces for any greater war which is to follow.
The scene—the coup d’oeil—presented by the “sea of upturned faces,” to quote a phrase of Mr. Webster, was animating beyond description. I witnessed it from the platform, immediately in rear of the Mayor. They were a densely wedged mass, intent upon hearing what was said, and expressing their approval or condemnation, as the proceedings went on. No disorder occurred. The meeting was opened with music, a large brass band performing in company with a chorus of vocalist. At dusk, the assemblage was cheered by the radiance of a Drummond light stationed in the presence of a number of ladies on the balcony of the City Hall. During the evening fire works were exhibited, and frequent discharges of artillery were heard booming over the meeting.

During the morning of yesterday, I visited the Navy Yard at Brooklyn, and went on board of some of the vessels there placed. Active preparations are making, in order that they may be despatched to sea. It had been said that the Secretary of the Navy was not pushing forward the equipment of the Navy as he should, and that only a few additional workmen were engaged. I made enquiry of the officers on duty, and was informed that there were at work as many persons as could be employed to any advantage, and that the preparations were fast progressing.

But to turn from warlike thoughts and narratives. I cannot close my letter to you, without mentioning the solemn and impressive spectacle which, for about four hours, I witnessed to-day.—This (Ascension) day was set apart for the consecration of Trinity Church in Broadway, opposite the head of Wall Street. The grand and imposing ceremony accordingly took place in the presence of congregated thousands. I was fortunate enough to obtain a ticket of admission.—Bishop McCoskry of Michigan, now acting here, a man of fine voice and personal appearance, and somewhat resembling the present Bishop of London, performed the dedicatory offices. The sentence of consecration appeared to be quite long, and was drawn up with all the technicality of a complicated law instrument. The procession of the Clergy, in surplices, about 200 in number, entering the Church, amid the swelling notes of a splendid organ, was most solemn and sublime. I cannot speak adequately of the musical portion of the service. The various chants and anthems occupied near two hours. The sermon was preached by the Bishop, and lasted 32 minutes only. A portion of the morning prayer was read by Mr. Southard, a son of the late Senator, &c. He is the same young man who refused the assistant Rectorship of this Church, worth $5,000 a year, and preferred to remain in his present parish, with a small salary. He was an object of general interest on the part of the Church where I sat. The architecture of this magnificent edifice is unsurpassed in the United States. Indeed, it is a Church which can vie with the palatial temples of Old Oxford. I will endeavor to give you some account of it soon.

I have no more time, before the mail, at a very inconvenient hour, closes. Your Friend,

G.

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RE46v43i8p4c5, May 26, 1846: MR. MADISON’S VIEW OF A CASUS BELLII.

To those who are troubled about the propriety of an act of Congress recognizing a war with Mexico and preparing to meet it, we offer the following precedent, (says the Union.) We suppose no man will deny that the case of Mexico now is quite as bad as was the case of Algiers in 1815:

Confidential Message of Mr. Madison, February 23, 1815.

"To the Senate and House of Representatives of the U. S.

"Congress will have seen, by the communication of the consul-general of the United States at Algiers, laid before them on the 17th of November, 1812, the hostile proceedings of the Dey against that functionary. These have been followed by acts of more overt and direct warfare against the citizens of the United States trading in the Mediterranean, some of whom are still detained in captivity, notwithstanding the attempts which have been made to ransom them, and are treated with the rigor usual on the coast of Barbary.

"The considerations which rendered it unnecessary and unimportant to commence hostile preparations on the part of the United States being now terminated by the peace with Great Britain, which opens the prospect of an active and valuable trade of their citizens within the range of the Algerine cruisers, I recommend to Congress the expediency of an act declaring the existence of a state of war between the United States and the Dey and regency of Algiers, and of such provisions as may be requisite for a vigorous prosecution of it to a successful issue."[BWP]

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RE46v43i8p4c4, May 26, 1846: GREAT WAR MEETING IN THE PARK.

Pursuant to a call issued by the Mayor and Common Council, (says the Sun of Thursday,) the citizens of New York met in the Park last evening to deliberate on the best method of aiding the government to secure a speedy, honorable and triumphant termination of the war with Mexico.

Hon. A. H. Mickle, Mayor of the city, having been called to the chair, briefly addressed the assembled multitude. It is estimated that fifty thousand persons attended. Four large platforms were erected, from which different speakers addressed the meeting. Addresses were delivered by Messrs. Shepherd, McKeon, Wells, Barnes, Schieffelin, Dixon, Whitney, Tannis, Capt. Rynders, and, many others.
But one spirit animated the orators and the vast concourse—a spirit of Patriotism. The honor and defence of the country; the importance of union and harmony among ourselves; the readiness of New York to put forth all her energies, if necessary, in defence of the Union; and the necessity of prompt and vigorous action, were eloquently set forth by the speakers, and heartily responded to by the meeting.

Resolutions to this effect having been passed unanimously, a national salute was fired and rockets let off. The Park and the streets around it were brilliantly illuminated by a Drummond light on the City Hall, and another on the American Museum. The gallant proprietor of the latter also caused his splendid edifice to be illuminated. The meeting adjourned about nine o’clock.

RE46v43i9p1c1, May 29, 1846: TWENTY-NINTH CONGRESS. MONDAY, MAY 25. SENATE.

Mr. Dickenson presented the proceedings of an immense meeting in New York city, in reference to the war with Mexico.

He accompanied their presentation with some eloquent remarks, commending the patriotism of those proceedings. The proceedings were then ordered to be printed.

The previous orders were then suspended, and the Senate took up the Texas mail route bill.

Mr. Rusk remarked that a joint resolution relative to this matter had been passed by other House, but the Postmaster General did not feel warranted to act under it. The bill was then read a third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Dix, the Senate took up the bill supplemental to the “war bill.” It provides for the appointment and creation of two additional Major Generals, four Brigadier Generals, &c.

Mr. Atchison moved to amend the bill by providing that the additional officers shall be dismissed at the termination of the war, or three months thereafter.

Mr. Dix, at some length, opposed the amendment on the ground that the recent increase of the rank and file of the army, rendered such additional officers necessary.

Mr. Westcott followed on the same side. He contended that it would be an act of great injustice to the officers promoted under this act. For instance, if General Taylor should be promoted at the end of this war, he would necessarily fall back to his former rank.

Mr. Atchison defended his amendment. He said the number of officers was already too great for a peace establishment. Besides, no injustice would be done to the officers, because they would know the conditions under which they were promoted.

On motion of Mr. Mangum, the bill was for the present laid on the table.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of the Oregon jurisdiction bill, as reported back by Mr. Westcott from the military committee, with a motion that the committee be discharged from its further consideration, on the ground that it is inexpedient at the present time to pass such a bill.

Mr. Benton having the floor, resumed and concluded his remarks from Friday last upon the question of title, and in favor of the 49th parallel.

RE46v43i9p1c1, May 29, 1846: HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Brinkerhoff moved a suspension of the rules to enable him to submit a joint resolution, . . .[illegible] . . . forth that the thanks of Congress are due to Gen. Taylor and his army, and that the President be empowered to allow them one month’s extra pay in consideration of their gallant conduct.

Mr. Winthrop thought the motion rather premature. He thought the better plan would be to wait until the arrival of the official dispatches from the army. He said he would unite most cordially in any testimonial of gratitude to Gen. Taylor and the army, but he was convinced that the true parliamentary course would be to wait until the President should have communicated the official account to Congress.

Mr. Brinkerhoff said, that in case the rules should be suspended, the resolution might lie over until the official
accounts should be transmitted.

The question being then taken, the rules were suspended.

On motion of Mr. Preston King, the resolution was then referred to a Committee of the Whole.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, and resumed the consideration of the civil and diplomatic appropriation bill.

Mr. King of Mass. moved to amend by inserting $25,000 for sick and disabled seamen.

Mr. K. said he had offered the amendment at the request of the Secretary of the Treasury.—He then contended that it would be cruel and unjust to deprive the hardy sailors of the benefit of the fund exacted from their honest earnings.

Mr. McKay opposed the amendment on the ground that if all the money due from seamen were collected there would be a sufficiency without this appropriation.

Mr. Holmes, of S. C., eloquently advocated the amendment.

Mr. Winthrop followed on the same side. He contended that the government was bound to make a proper application of the funds collected from seamen and that it ought not to be diverted from its original purposes.

After further debate, the amendment was agreed to. Ayes 79, Nays 45.

Several other amendments having been discussed, the committee rose.

Several communications in answer to resolutions of enquiry were presented, after which the House adjourned.

RE46v43i9p1c1, May 29, 1846: TUESDAY, May 26, 1846. SENATE.

Mr. Dix presented a petition in reference to the extension of Morse’s Magnetic Telegraph to New Orleans, which was referred to the Committee on the Library.

On motion of Mr. Pearce, the Committee on Military Affairs was instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing for the distribution of public property captured during the war, among the officers and soldiers engaged in the war.

Mr. Pennybacker, on leave, introduced a bill to authorize the Clerks of the Courts of the United States, in the Western District of Va. to appoint deputies, and for other purposes.

Mr. Bagly introduced a bill to cede to the State of Alabama all the public lands lying in that State which may remain unsold on the 1st of Jan'y 1817.

The Judiciary Committee reported a bill to change the time for holding the U. S. Courts in the District of Ohio, which was read three times by unanimous consent and passed.

Mr. Berrien, from the Judiciary Committee, made a report, accompanied by a bill, in re(unreadable) to the clause in our treaty with Spain of 1795, respecting letters of marque, which were ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Johnson, of La., the bill to provide for the adjustment of land claims in the states of Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, &c., was taken up, and,. after being amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The Senate then proceeded to the special order, and took up the bill supplemental to the act providing for the prosecution of the existing war with Mexico.

[The bill provides for the appointment of two additional major generals, and four brigadier generals, to call into the service, when necessary, general officers of the militia, &c.].

Mr. Dix briefly explained the necessity for the increase of generals proposed in the first section, and opposed the amendment offered yesterday by Mr. Atchison, requiring their dismissal as soon as the war shall terminate.

Mr. Morehead very briefly opposed the first section as it stood. He was unwilling to give the President power to place citizens who have never seen service over the heads of officers who had devoted a life time to it—over such men as Gen. Taylor. Mr. M paid a high tribute to “old rough and ready” as Gen. T. is sometimes called. If the increased
number of Generals proposed by the bill should be authorized, Mr. M. was in favor of requiring the President to
appoint them from among those who had or should distinguished themselves in the war.

Mr. Miller moved to amend by striking out the amendment, and inserting in lieu thereof a proviso that the officers
shall be selected from the Army.

Mr. M. supported his amendment in an appropriate speech.

Mr. Allen followed in opposition to both amendments. He seemed to think it necessary to harmonize the soldiers of
the regular army and the citizen soldiers, by selecting some of the Generals from the army and some from private
life.

Mr. Mangum made a zealous speech, and agreed that there was no necessity for the proposed increase. The brevet
Generals already in service were fully equal to the command of any army that was likely to be brought into the field.
The volunteers would be officered by the States, and the war would give an opportunity to discover the military
talent which they might possess. The government could then take care not to permit this talent to be lost to the
country.

Mr. Cass sustained the bill.

A long and warm debate upon the amendment of Mr. Atchison continued until a very late hour, and the question was
informally passed over.

This evening’s southern mail (says the Union) brings the following letter from a gallant son of Washington to his sister. We are obliged to the family for a copy of it:

"POINT ISABEL, Texas, May 13th, 1846.

"By the time you receive this, you will have heard of the two great battles that have been fought by our army against
the Mexican forces. We had but 2,400 men, and the Mexicans had 6,000. The first day they did nothing but fire
artillery at us, which we returned, and killed some hundred of them. They tried several times to break our lines by
charging us, but they were repulsed.—This day Major Ringgold, of the artillery, was killed by a cannon ball, which
took off both his legs; and some sixty of our men were killed and wounded. Our squadron of dragoons (Captain
May's of Washington) was under fire the whole time, and we lost ten or fifteen horses killed, and the same number of
men wounded. Several shot passed near me and over my head, and one went between my horse's legs, but did not
hit him.—That night the Mexican force fell back and took up a position in a dense chapporal, or thicket, that borders
the Rio Grande, and is seven or eight miles through. I was one of the advanced guard, and was within sixty yards of
the enemy when they fired grape shot upon us; and, singular as it may appear, not one of my men were struck.

"The General then ordered us to allow the infantry to pass up and engage them; they did so, and also our light
artillery. They had been engaged a bout an hour and a half, when OUR squadron was then ordered to charge the
enemy’s batteries. We did so, took one of their batteries, and General la Vega prisoner, while in the act of pointing a
gun. Lieut. Inge, of the dragoons, was killed in the charge; Lieut. Lucket had his horse shot under him, and many of
the men and horses were killed and wounded. Gen. la Vega surrendered his sword to Capt. May. It was a desperate
affair, and was as gallantly performed as any action of our revolution.

"I had four men killed at my side. I cut one Mexican down, and then rallied the men that were left, when the enemy
broke and run, and left everything in our possession. The plunder was great—600 mules, 9 pieced of cannon, some
20 standards, and a large amount of money in gold, besides all their equipage. Seventeen officers were taken
prisoners, and hundreds of men. An exchange of prisoners has been made, and our officers and men whom they
took in a previous affair are now restored to us. Henry, Crezet and your friends were in the action, and behaved like
men. Piper was not in the action, and is almost crazy about it. I am safe and sound, although, when I think over
what I have gone through, I involuntarily shudder at my escape. Gen. Taylor has gone up to the army to day, and
we start to morrow. We brought the wounded down here. Several of our officers were killed, and a large number
wounded, but nothing in comparison to the enemy.” [BWP]

Mr. Hunt, of Michigan, from the Committee on (unreadable0 Lands, reported back the bill from the Senate granting
alternate sections of the public domain to aid in the completion of works of internal improvement in the State of
Michigan.
Mr. McKay moved that the House go into Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

The motion prevailed, and Mr. Hopkins of Va. having taken the chair, the Civil and Diplomatic Appropriation Bill was taken up.

Mr. Brinkerhoff of Ohio, moved to lay the bill aside for a short time, for the purpose of taking up the resolutions of thanks, &c., to Gen. Taylor and his army, introduced by him yesterday.

Mr. Haralson, chairman of the Military Committee, suggested to the member from Ohio the propriety of delaying action upon his resolutions until the reception of a message from the President, which would probably be received today, transmitting the official accounts, and the House could then act understandingly upon the subject.

Mr. Brinkerhoff acquiesced and withdrew his motion.

The consideration of the Civil and Diplomatic Bill was then resumed, the question being upon the amendment of Mr. Boyd of Kentucky, to insert an appropriation for a Marine Hospital at Paducah, Kentucky.

Mr. Crozier of Tennessee advocated the amendment, and in the course of his remarks alluded to the River and Harbor Bill, and assailed the inconsistency of the Democratic Party upon the question of Internal Improvement.

Mr. Houston of Alabama replied to the remarks of Mr. Crozier on the Internal Improvement question, which, he said, had been so improperly dragged into his debate.

Mr. Stanton of Tennessee followed in reference to the improvements of Tennessee river, and the probably veto of Mr. Polk, had that river been included in the River and Harbor Bill.

Mr. Crozier rejoined in reply to the remarks of Mr. Houston and Mr. Stanton, and after some remarks from Mr. Davis of Kentucky, the amendment prevailed—yeas 69, noes 46. Mr. Darragh, of Pa., proposed a Marine Hospital at Pittsburg, and a member from Mississippi, one at Natchez. Both of the amendments were agreed to.

Mr. Farran of Ohio, proposed $1,500 for the hospital at Cincinnati.

Mr. Grover of N. Y., moved to strike out the appropriations for all the hospitals—and defended it in a speech denunciatory of the Democratic party for violating its promises. He was amazed at the legislation he had seen in the House, and at the indifference with which members of his party ran their arms into the Treasury up to their elbows.

Mr. Payne, of Ala., was delighted with this speech, and made an argument to prove that marine hospitals were alms houses. He desired to know whether Congress was to act upon the revenue system, and the people desired to know something about it. Six weeks ago a revenue bill had been reported, but it slept most quietly in committee of the whole. He hoped the question was not to be passed over in silence, and that the apathy which prevailed upon it would be removed. The Baltimore Convention had been mentioned in previous debates, and if a Convention was to settle the legislation of the country, then the Tariff should be acted upon, and the revenue system modified. Mr. P. stated the part he had taken in the canvass of 1844, and maintained that the party were bound to modify the Tariff and reduce the duties. He called upon the party to reduce the Tariff and to redeem their pledges.—Mr. P. denounced the National Fair and the protective policy.

Mr. Jones of Ga. said that the Tariff could not be acted upon if members were to make speeches like those he had heard.

Mr. Payne complained of the rebuke, and said he knew his rights.

Mr. Cobb, of Ga., moved that the Committee rise, which was agreed to.

A resolution was then offered providing that all debate on the bill, in committee of the whole, shall cease at three o’clock to-morrow.

A motion was made to amend by striking our three o’clock to-morrow, and inserting “four o’clock to-day.”

Mr. Winthrop moved to lay the resolution on the table. This motion was rejected—yeas 73, nays 92.

The question was then taken on the amendment to insert four o’clock to-day, and it was rejected.

The original resolution, modified by inserting “1 o’clock,” was then adopted, after which the House adjourned.

[BWP]
We give extracts, (says the *Union*,) from the official despatches of Commodore Conner, showing the gallant and well-judged promptitude with which the excellent officer, in pursuance of his general instructions from the Navy Department, has brought his valuable aid to the scene of action. We had not supposed it probable that his squadron could have been concentrated there so soon after the Mexican attack commence.

Extract of letters from Commodore Conner to the Secretary of the Navy, dated:

**U. S. SHIP CUMBERLAND,**
Off Vera Cruz, May 3, 1846.

The decided tone of the Manifesto of the President of the Mexican Republican, in connexion with other indications, seems to leave no doubt that orders have been given to General Arista to attack the American army on the Del Norte, should a favorable occasion offer. Under the belief that an attack is contemplated, I have considered it advisable, and have determined to sail to-morrow morning for the Brazos Santiago with the Cumberland, Raritan, Potomac, John Adams and Somers. The Falmouth will be left here to protect our interests, and to watch the course of events. The appearance of the squadron at that place, with a knowledge of the considerable reinforcement it can afford to our army, will, I think, cause the Mexican Generals to pause, if not altogether to abandon their design of attacking General Taylor. All accounts concur in stating the Mexican army to amount to nearly eight thousand men. I feel assured the Government has not the means of maintaining this force for any length of time in the field; indeed, there is not, even now, a dollar in the Treasury. Hence delay will either cause the army to disband, or another revolution to take place; either of which events, it is believed, cannot be otherwise than favorable to the wishes of our Government in bringing about an amicable settlement of our difficulties with Mexico. The latter would undoubtedly contribute to that end, as it would place in power men wholly opposed to the policy at present pursued.

Considerable activity has prevailed at this place since my arrival, in improving and strengthening the defences of the castle and the town of Vera Cruz. As far as I am able to ascertain, there are now nearly, if not quite, two hundred guns mounted in the castle of San Juan de Ulloa, and as many as fifty in the two forts and walls of the city commanding the anchorage. These guns are all new, and of heavy calibre, most of them being thirty-two and forty-two pounders, with a number of eight and ten-inch Paixhan guns. There are said to be nearly two thousand men in the fortress, and about the same number in the town.

I am,
Very respectfully, Your obedient servant,
D. CONNER,
Commanding Home Squadron.

HON. GEORGE BANCROFT,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

**U. S. SHIP CUMBERLAND,**
Off the bar of Brazos Santiago,
May 8, 1846.

Sir—As stated in my communication of the 3d, the squadron left the roads of Sacrificios on the morning of the 4th, and has just anchored off the bar of Santiago, where I have just been apprised that hostilities have actually taken place some days since.

As the opportunity by which I send this communication cannot be detained, I have only time to add, that after communicating with Gen. Taylor, and ascertaining the situation of affairs at Matamoras, I shall remain here no longer than the presence of the squadron may be required, after which it will be necessary for this ship, the Potomac, and John Adams to repair to Pensacola to replenish their provisions and water. In the mean time orders will be given to carry into execution your instructions in relation to the blockade of the Mexican coast, and to meet and repel, in the most decisive manner, the hostilities of the Mexican nation. Some more small vessels are required, also one or two small steamboats of a draft of water not exceeding eight feet. These vessels will be necessary to enforce a strict blockade of the coast.

I am, very respectfully, &c.
D. CONNER,
Commanding home squadron.

Hon. GEO. BANCROFT,
Secretary of the Navy.

[BWP]
a Democratic President must be assailed for doing wrong. Although our army has triumphed, and our frontier been
saved from devastation, yet a Democratic President who committed the unpardonable sin of ousting Mr. Clay from
the Presidency, must be held up to public condemnation for having put this army in a position to check the Mexican
invasion, and save from pollution the soil of Texas, which is as much American ground as the streets of our own city.
The Times could not have seized a more unpropitious moment to attack this Administration. The paper denounces
the action of the Government as the “weakest policy which was ever adopted by the public authorities of a
country.” It, then, proceeds to berate the Administration for sending such “a small army to the farthest limit of the
disputed territory, and under the orders from the Department, the General erected batteries, with their guns
perfectly commanding the town of Matamoros, acknowledged to belong entirely to Mexico. Had such an act been
attempted in the case of the Maine boundary—had a British town been thus menaced, he would have been
considered demented who did not think the result would be immediate war, and the President would have been
deemed a madman or a traitor, who ordered only 2500 men of the regular army to enforce the measure. Every body
would have protested against an act of such consummate folly, and the Administration would have been held
responsible for the safety of every officer and every private, whose safety it had so recklessly put in jeopardy.”.

An escape from the fatal consequences of this “weakest policy,” says the Times, is “entirely due to the perfect
discipline of our men and to the skill of our officers.” In another place the Times says:

“The two victories of Gen. Taylor will give the country confidence, that our cause is in the hands of able and
courageous officers, who perfectly understand their position, the character of the enemy with whom they are
contending, and the means of resisting them with efficiency. Gen. Taylor himself has exhibited in his despatches, and
in all his arrangements, a coolness of judgment and a firmness of purpose, which may well remind us of the Duke of
Wellington, whilst in action he has shown an intrepid courage and a promptness of decision which have never been
surpassed.”.

These quotations in themselves are the strongest refutation of the unjust assaults upon the Government. Has not
this “small army,” unaided, vanquished our enemies, and covered itself with glory? Has it not been found to possess
the means of resisting them (the Mexicans) with efficiency? If Mr. Polk be chargeable with “an illegal usurpation of
authority,” in sending a force to defend our own American soil, has he not done every thing that was necessary to
meet the crisis? Did he not send there perfectly disciplined men and skilful officers, and have they not proved
equal, nay, superior to circumstances? While the country mourns the loss, and will do honor to the memory of the
few who died bravely in their country’s cause, do sit not rejoice at the brilliant triumph of our arms? Where, then,
is this “weakest policy” to be found? Texas came under our protection by our own consent. Her territory extended
to the Rio Grande, by her own laws and buy the recognition of the great powers of Europe. Would it not have been
base and cowardly in the United States to abandon her people and her soil to the ruthless havoc of foreign invaders?
In that matter, Mr. Polk has done his whole duty, and he could do nothing else. He sent a noble army, and most
gallant and skilful officers, not to make the attack, but to defend our soil. The result is written in glowing characters,
and the nation will sustain him to the very letter.

The correspondent of the N. Y. Evening Post writes:

“The late events prove the sagacity and efficacy of all the arrangements of the Executive and the War Department in
regard to this rupture with Mexico. General Taylor was provided with three thousand excellent regular troops, and
invested with full authority to call for ten thousand militia, if he was likely to need them. Commodore Conner was
also provided with instructions to go to the assistance of the land forces in a certain contingency. All things have
come out right.

“Gen. Taylor has called for militia, but whipped the Mexicans before a single company arrive; and the fleet reaches
the point of danger on the very day of a decisive battle, to be in readiness to render the most effectual aid to General
Taylor, in case the fortune of the day had been adverse. The course of things proved that the whole exigency of the
case was appreciated in the councils of the administration, and that it was provided against, and that no more than
was necessary to be done was done.”.

To the same effect speaks the N. Orleans Jeffersonian:

“The most extraordinary feature of the information from Washington, is the surprise that seems to be evinced at the
removal of the troops from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande. General Scott professes to have had no knowledge of it,
and the correspondent of the Baltimore American says the movement is universally condemned at Washington. We
presume, of course, General Taylor acted under the directions of the War Department. Upon that Department rests
the responsibility, and if the Secretary of War never had done anything else to establish his reputation, his wise
forecast in ordering this important charge of position would be sufficient. The brilliant achievements of the army will,
we presume, silence the croakers at Washington.”.

So much for the partizan assaults of the Times, which destroy themselves. The last Union points out the probable
course which will be adopted for the prosecution of the war. Its wisdom and justice must be approved of by the
whole country, including the Times, who generally sees in the Administration nothing but to condemn. It strikes
down all the misrepresentations of the Whig press, who charge Mr. Polk with “getting up” this war for his own selfish
end.—Never had we a more righteous war, and, our word for it, it will be conducted with a moderation and liberal
spirit, worthy of all praise. As the Union says, “we war for peace and not for plunder.” Can a nobler motive animate
any Government?

“The moral effect of this great triumph upon the country, will be as irresistible as its result upon the battle-field was
While we perfectly agree with the following suggestions, as to Mexico being compelled to pay the whole expenses of the war, which we believe to be a most righteous one, but which many of the Whig prints stigmatize as "the President's War," forced by him upon Mexico, we are anxious to know how the advice will be received by those Whig journals which t' aunt the Government with "truculent and pernicious designs of invasion and conquest!"

The Washington correspondent of the Journal of Commerce says:

"In the mean time the Government have taken a step which is quite as decided and important as a march to the Mexican capital. The American squadron, under Commodore Stockton, have orders to take possession of St. Francisco and Monterey, and to hold those places against all opposition. I know this to be a fact.

"Taking possession in California, the United States will never relinquish the foothold in that country until Mexico has not only paid all the indemnities due to our citizens, but . . .[illegible] . . . paid the expenses of the war."[BWP]

"What now have they contrived to find out in him?"

Shall we never look into a Whig paper without meeting the most pitiful accusations that the malice of an enemy can suggest? Without finding some half-way, milk-and-water talk the propriety of this or that policy? Whoever yet in a public emergency has given complete satisfaction to his friends even? Shall I say to his enemies? Instead of every patriotic citizen suggesting the best means for the defence of the country, and the prosecution of the war in which we are now engaged, a press like the Times of this city is endeavoring to show a want of foresight and judgment on the part of the Administration, when the commonest observation is aware that these two qualities have been displayed in the commencement of hostilities, and the victories of our arms. If the army on the Rio Grande had been cut up, horse, foot and dragoons, such another clamor against the Administration would have been raised by these partizans, sufficient almost to overwhelm and drive it from power; as now, when we are victors, it has received, I venture to say the applause and congratulation of the country, and the esteem of its rivals a broad. Because the . . .[illegible] . . . means, however, have been found equal to the emergency; the cap is neither too large nor too small; it fits the conqueror well, and he wears it well; the target has been struck, so as make the national pulse throb with pride and emotion; and yet there are cavillers who esteem their own violent prejudice above the fact and argument of the controversy. This is what may be called murdering one's own reputation—falling into one's own ambushade—digging one's own grave. Mark this! this! Experience has added little to their foresight. They blundered in their opposition to the Annexation of Texas—they are falling now into the same snare. Let them beware. The editors of the Times are not too wise. What they call the "weakest policy," is the very strongest. Every one knows this. Years hence, also, when Mexican representatives shall sit like brothers in our Congress halls; and Yankee enterprise shall have pruned the weeds which grow like grass on Mexican soil—when Mexicans themselves shall bless us for ridding them of those who have led them about like sheep in consternation and affliction, and this Union shall have compassed the flower of the Western world, both Whig and Democrat, both high and low, as they love their country, its institutions and its administrators, will look back with pride upon the glorious events of 1846. The Times may blush when it grows older and wiser. Such remarks falling from such lips, are apt to assist the storm, as in the "Tempest." If nothing can be done, nothing should be said. One should not be too humane in war, nor too valorous in peace for often. --------In their distress They call a spirit up, and when he comes, Straight their flesh creeps, and quivers, and they dread him, More than the ills for which they called him up."

A REPUBLICAN.

[BWP]
We ask attention to the lucid and able remarks of Senator Pennybacker, on the bill for the successful prosecution of the Mexican war. He handles the subject, in connection with the law of nations, with tact and force. We had the pleasure of hearing Mr. P., and were pleased to see what a favorable impression he produced upon the Senate and the audience. [BWP]

RE46v43i9p2c1, May 29, 1846: IN SENATE—TUESDAY, MAY 12, 1846.

Mr. PENNYBACKER said, as the question was one of great importance, he would assign very briefly the reasons for his vote.

It is not necessary (said Mr. P.) to the existence of a state of war, that war should be declared by both, or by even either of the contending parties. There is the highest authority on national law for the support of this position.

Bynkershoe (says Chancellor Kent, in his Commentaries on American Law) has devoted an entire chapter to this question, and he maintains that a declaration of war is not requisite by the law of nations, and that, though it may very properly be made, it cannot be required as a matter of right. The practice rests entirely on manners and magnanimity, and it was borrowed from the ancient Romans. All that he contends for is, that a demand of what we conceive to be due should be previously made. We are not bound to accompany that demand with threats of hostility, or to follow it with a public declaration of war, and he cites many instances to show that, within the two last centuries, wars have been frequently commenced without a previous declaration. Since the time of Bynkershoe (continues he) it has become settled, by the practice of Europe, that war may lawfully exist by a declaration which is . . .[illegible] . . . only, or without declaration on either side. It may begin with mutual hostilities. Since the peace of Versailles, in 1763, formal declarations of war of every kind seem to have been discontinued, and all the necessary and legitimate consequences of war flow at once from a state of public hostilities, duly recognised, and explicitly announced, by a domestic manifesto or State paper. In the war between England and France, in 1778, the first public action the part of the English Government was recalling its Minister, as a breach of the peace between the two nations. There was no other declaration of war, though, each Government afterwards published a manifesto in vindication of its claims and conduct. The same thing may be said of the war which broke out in 1793—though a solemn and formal declaration of war, in the ancient style, was made in June 1756—vigorous hostilities had been carried on between England and France for a year preceding. In the war declared by the United States against England in 1812, hostilities were immediately commenced on our part as soon as the act of Congress was passed, without waiting to communicate to the English Government any notice of our intentions.

To the same effect (said Mr. P.) is the authority of Sir W. Scott, one of the most distinguished judges who ever presided in the High Court of Admiralty in the Kingdom of Great Britain. He says: says: “But it is said that the two countries were not, in reality, in a state of war, because the declaration was unilateral only. I am, however, perfectly clear that it was not less a war on that account, for war may exist without a declaration on either side. It is so laid down by the best writers on the law of nations. A declaration of war by one country only, is not, as has been represented, a mere challenge, to be accepted or refused at pleasure. It proves the existence of actual hostilities on one side at least, and puts the other party also into a state of war, though he may perhaps, think proper to act on the defensive only.

From these authorities (said Mr. P.) it is clear that war may exist, though there may have been no declaration of it.

Now, if this be so, it follows necessarily that the existence of a war may be proved by evidence other than a declaration of it. A declaration of war, to be sure, is the best evidence of a state of war, for it is conclusive upon the subject, and leaves nothing to presumption; but, as war may exist without such declaration, it follows, of course, that it may be proved by other evidence.

What is the evidence, then, before us, that war exists between the United States and Mexico?.

It will be remembered by the Senate, that, for years long past, Mexico has entertained hostile feelings towards the United States. She has charged our citizens with wrenching from her the territory of Texas. Nay, she has charged our Government with conniving at it, if not in fact instigating it. She protested against the annexation of Texas to the United States, and gave formal notice to the Government here, that, if the point resolutions should be passed by Congress, admitting Texas into the Union, she would consider that an act of war. On the passage of the (next line unreadable) Government withdrew his passports and indignantly withdrew from the country, breathing vengeance against the United States. In return, our Minister at Mexico was refused all official intercourse with that Government, and was in effect driven from their country; thus terminating, by the acts of Mexico, all diplomatic intercourse between the two countries. Afterwards she occupied a hostile attitude towards the United States, marshalling and organizing armies, issuing proclamations, and avowing the intention to make war on the United States, either by an open declaration of war, or by invading Texas. These are matters of history, (said Mr. P.,) and would be evidence in a court of justice, and must more are they so in a political body.

Notwithstanding these things (said Mr. P.) the President of the United States, actuated by a strong desire to establish peace with that country on the most liberal and honorable terms, actually sought a reopening of diplomatic relations between the two countries, and sent a Minister there; and how was he treated? He was refused to be received—not
only once but twice, and he was thus compelled to leave the country. These acts of hostile character were followed up by a concentration of military forces on the right bank of the Rio del Norte, in the town and vicinity of Matamoras, on the immediate boundary between the two countries. Our troops were ordered to that boundary to repel the threatened invasion, and they posted themselves immediately opposite the enemy on the American side of the river.

—The Mexican general in command notified the American general to break up his camp with 24 hours, or war would be the result. Nay, he notified him to retire beyond the Neuces river, and in the event of his not complying, arms would decide the question. Why was this demand made if war was not intended? Did he expect to intimidate the American forces and cause them to ingloriously flee? No; no one can believe that. Why was the demand made then? It was made because the law of nations required that it should be made before there could be lawfully a resort to arms. I have already said that Bynkershoek contends that, though a declaration of war is not necessary to justify aggression, yet "a demand of what we conceive to be due should be previously made." Here was the demand made; and it was conceived to be due by the Mexican General that our troops should decamp and retire beyond the Neuces.

In a short time after this (only a few days) the Mexican General was changed and another appointed in his place—that was Gen. Arista, the most skilful and accomplished of all the Mexican Generals. He informed Gen. Taylor "that he considered hostilities had commenced and he should prosecute them accordingly." On that day his forces were sent across the river into the territory of the United with the avowed purpose of prosecuting the war and on that very day the hostile parties met and sixty dragoons of the American army, including officers and men, were killed and taken prisoners. Is not this war? What evidence will be required of the existence of war? If Mexico is not bound to make a declaration of war before war can properly be said to exist, what other evidence can possibly be expected of the existence of a state of war. To Mr. P.'s mind the evidence was complete to show that state of war actually existed.

But gentlemen say war can only be made by the sovereign authority of the two nations, and that in this case it does not appear that portion of the two Governments which represents the sovereign power, quoad this thing of making war, has assented to the hostilities existing. Why, how is it, so far as we are concerned? Our territory has been invaded, and we have been solemnly informed "that the question between the two nations can only be settled by arms." Now, the Constitution declares that "the President of the United States shall be the Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States." If the country be invaded, what is his duty? It is to defend it. His duty as commander-in-chief requires him to defend it. When he does defend it, therefore, does he act without authority from the sovereign power of the States? He acts but in pursuance of his constitutional duty, and when he so acts he represents the sovereign power of the State.

But, more than this, (said Mr. P.) the Constitution empowers Congress "to provide for calling forth the militia to suppress insurrection and repel invasion;" and they have executed this power by passing laws upon the subject. They have authorized the President, "whenever the United States shall be invaded, or be in imminent danger of invasion from any foreign nation or Indian tribe, to call for the such number of the militia of the State or States most convenient to the place of danger or scene of action, as he may deem necessary to repel such invasion, and to issue his orders for that purpose to such officer or officers of the militia as he shall think proper." Now, when the country is invaded, and he acts under this law, does he not act by the authority of the sovereign power of the nation? Has not the power so to act been delegated to him by the sovereign power itself?

So far as the United States are, then, concerned in repelling invasion, the President acts as the representative of the nation; and this without a formal declaration of war by Congress, to enable him to do so. Such declaration of war is unnecessary to enable him to do so. He has already the power to do so; and the Constitution makes it his duty to exercise it. Indeed, under the law of nations, a declaration of war was never necessary in a case of defensive war. Vattel says: "he who is attacked, and only wages defensive war, need not make any hostile declaration; the state of warfare being sufficiently ascertained by the enemy's declaration, open hostilities. In modern times, however, the sovereign, who is attacked, seldom omits to declare war in his turn, whether from an idea of dignity, or for the direction of his subjects." It is only in the case of offensive war, or the commencement of war on the part of the United States, that Congress is called upon "to declare war," before the state of war can properly exist.

Then how is it with Mexico? (said Mr. P.)—It is said, that it does not appear that the sovereign power of Mexico has authorized these hostilities; that the nation may disclaim the acts of the General; and that in that case there would be no war. Now, can a y one in view of the whole conduct of Mexico, suppose for a moment that this possible? The General was changed in the face of our troops, and by whose authority was this done? Does not this look like as if the finger of the Government was in this matter?—There is no need of a declaration of war, on the part of Mexico, to prove that war does actually exist. They are not bound to furnish us with evidence that the war does exist. exist.

How, then, can we determine upon what they have resolved to do, except through the acts of their legally appointed officers? We are not bound to wait until they furnish us with evidence of their intent to strike before we can say that war exists. Every presumption of law, and of common sense, is in favor of the idea, that so much military parade and preparation, and such fearful responsibilities, were never made and assumed without the direction of the proper authorities in the Republic of Mexico. We must hold nation bound for such acts of their officers, or otherwise there would be no security for the peace of the world.

War then exists, and shall we not say so? The highest consideration of policy and justice require us to do so. It is necessary that we should do so to apprize our own people at home and abroad of their new relations and duties, growing out of this state of war. It is necessary that we should do so to apprize neutral nations of the fact, to enable them to conform their conduct to the rights belonging to the new state of things. And it is necessary that we should do so, in order to obviate all difficulty, when we come to treat of the right to seize certain things which neutral persons are carrying to the enemy, and of what is termed contraband, in time of war. Entertaining these opinions, Mr. P. said he was opposed to all amendments which should be offered to the bill, having for their objects the striking out of any portion of the bill which asserts, most truly, that war does exist and he should vote accordingly.
RE46v43i9p2c2, May 29, 1846: INTERESTING AND LATE EXTRACTS FROM MEXICO.

We are indebted to our friends in this city (says the *Union*) for various interesting extracts from their correspondence. Among these are the following letters just received from Mexico.—They are entitled to attention from their authenticity as well as importance. Mexico is determined to wage the war against us with all her vigor. And for this purpose, she has laid her hands upon the duties arising from imported goods; and this confiscation must be highly displeasing to the British capitalists, to whom the amount had been made over, for the purpose of discharging what was due to them by the Government. This source of revenue must, however, be considerably abridged, if not entirely arrested, in a short time, by our own squadron blockading her ports.

RE46v43i9p2c2, May 29, 1846: (From the New Orleans Picayune, May 21.) TRIBUTE OF RESPECT TO CAPT. MAY.

We take great pleasure in stating that the gallant Capt. May, of the U. S. Dragoons, who led as brilliant a charge as was ever made on any field of battle, and with his small but brave squadron carried the enemy's battery and captured their general on the 9th inst., has been remembered by his fellow-citizens. Capt. May is a native of Washington, D. C., and some of our citizens from that district yesterday raised a subscription and purchased for their brave countryman a sword and belt, which was despatched to him last night. The sword has the following inscription upon it: "Presented to Captain Charles May, of the Second Regiment of United States Dragoons, by his fellow-citizens of New Orleans from the District of Columbia, as a token of their sense of his gallantry displayed in the battle with the Mexican forces May 9th, 1846."

RE46v43i9p2c2, May 29, 1846: DEPARTURE OF GEN. WORTH.

The General left this city yesterday, on board the *Col. Harney*, to rejoin the army, and we shall soon hear of his distinguishing himself.

RE46v43i9p2c2, May 29, 1846: TRANSMISSION OF ARMS, &c.

Yesterday, 2,500 stands of muskets, with bayonets, belts, cartridge boxes, and a large quantity of fixed ammunition, including grape and canister, were taken from the Arsenal in this city, and shipped for the South, for the use of the army in Texas.—*[N. York Journal of Commerce, May 27]*

RE46v43i9p2c2, May 29, 1846: CAMPEACHY.

The Yucatan schooner *Ventura*, Capt. Pratt, from Campeachy, arrived at New Orleans on the 20th, having sailed on the 13th.

Congress was still in session, and would no doubt confirm the declaration made some time since of the separation of the State of Yucatan from the government of Mexico. The news of the blockade of the mouth of the Rio Grande had been received at Campeachy, but they had not heard of the actual commencement of hostilities. The Yucatacos are said to be opposed to rendering any aid to Mexico in case of a war with the United States.

Some disturbances had taken place in the Department of Tobasco about the 1st inst., headed by Bruno; the result was not known at Campeachy when the *Ventura* sailed.

RE46v43i9p2c3, May 29, 1846: BOMBARDMENT OF FORT BROWN.

We have no where else (says the N. O. *Picayune*) seen so circumstantial and interesting an account of the bombardment of the camp opposite Matamoras as is contained in the following letter. It is due the author to state that it was written exclusively for the gratification of "a select few" of his friends—not for the Public eye. The reader will on this account excuse the air of levity with which serious matters are discussed. Under all this exuberance of fun and humor, we do assure the reader that the writer bears a heart which beats with every generous and manly
Since the evening of the 9th nothing has transpired here. You may know, ere this, that we gave the Mexicans “jesse” on the 8th and 9th.—Gen. Taylor, after establishing his little sand fort here, right opposite the town, left the 7th Infantry and two Artillery companies in it, with instructions to defend it to the death; he then left with the remainder of his force for Brazos Santiago for supplies, and with the hope that the two mortars (which he had ordered six months ago) had arrived from Washington, and also to bring up ammunition enough for our 18-pounders to batter down Matamoros. Gen. T. and command left on the 1st of this month. On the morning of the 3d, at daylight the Mexicans opened their batteries on our fort, or rather our grand entrenchments; from that moment it was right hot work until 12 o’clock, when both parties had ceased until their guns would cool. Were you ever shot at in front with a 12-pounder, in the flank by a 6-pounder, and a shell directed to burst over your head? If not try it, just to properly enjoy a brandy toddy after the gun cooling begins. Well, after the refreshments the ball continued, varied only by a little more ‘vindictate looseness’ and wild-colt, comet-like flying of shells. It was only 23 minutes after we commenced our fire before one of our 18 pound shot struck their 12 pound cannon directly in the muzzle, and knocked it head, back and stomach into the air about 20 feet, and it was accompanied by legs, heads and arms. Seven Mexican officers were wounded, and eight privates, who were around their piece, killed. We have not heard from their 12-pounders since, and so hot was the little fort in which it had been placed, that they were compelled to abandon it. When the first fire came, I rushed into my tent and jerked up my rifle, and as I stepped out, a 9-pound shot struck my tent at the head of my bed, ranged the whole length of my bed, cut off the back upright pole, passed out the back part through two other tents, and then buried itself in the parapet. I’m glad I was not “caught napping.”.

In the first half hour a Sergeant of Captain Lee’s company was killed; he was carried over to the hospital tent, (full of sick,) and directly after he was laid on a bed, a bomb shell was thrown through the top of the tent, hit near the bed burst and blew the dead man’s head off without injuring any one else. On Wednesday, the 6th May, and 3d day of the bombardment, Major Brown was struck on the leg with a bomb-shell, and his leg had to be amputated—he died on the 9th. These are the only two we have lost during the whole of the bombardment, which commenced on Sunday, the 3d, and lasted, with little intermission, day and night until the next Saturday at dark. During this time the enemy had thrown about 3500 shots—solid and shell-amongst us. It is incredible that the damage should have been so slight. Finding we could not dismount their mortars—they being sunk in the ground, with thick embankments in front—and having only about 400 rounds of ammunition to our cannon, we went to work to throw up a kind of temporary bombproof shelter, by taking our barrels of pork, laying sticks of wood across them, and throwing up six feet of earth upon that. These we built at points in the fort where they would be convenient for the men; and when we saw the smoke from their guns, every one would fall from the parapet and “hole.” When we would see a shell coming we would fall upon the ground, as the explosion generally takes place upwards. The Mexicans thought they had killed nearly all of us, as they were under the impression that all who fell were shot.

It was very disgusting to stand and be tired at all round, and not be able to return it “in full force and virtue,” but knowing our ammunition was scarce, we reserved it till the death struggle should come one. We were in hopes that, after a reasonable time of bombarding, the enemy would attempt to storm us. Two or three teints were made, but they could not be brought to the scratch. Five mortars were playing on us at once, from every point of their works. General Taylor’s orders to us were to maintain this post, and not pretend to make any sally, or risk in the least his position here; but in case we were surrounded after he left, that signal guns should be fired at certain intervals, which would notify him of the fact. This notice was given to the General as they heard all our guns at Point Isabel. Isabel. On the 8th, the General commenced his march with the train of provisions, and when about twelve miles from here, he saw the enemy in position. He immediately “walked into their affections.” We heard the firing of cannon on both sides, and distinctly the volleys of musketry. We knew well that it was the General poking it into a 12-pounder, in the flank by a 6 pounder, and a shell directed to burst over your head? If not try it, just to properly enjoy a brandy toddy after the gun cooling begins. Well, after the refreshments the ball continued, varied only by a little more ‘vindictate looseness’ and wild-colt, comet-like flying of shells. It was only 23 minutes after we commenced our fire before one of our 18 pound shot struck their 12 pound cannon directly in the muzzle, and knocked it head, back and stomach into the air about 20 feet, and it was accompanied by legs, heads and arms. Seven Mexican officers were wounded, and eight privates, who were around their piece, killed. We have not heard from their 12-pounders since, and so hot was the little fort in which it had been placed, that they were compelled to abandon it. When the first fire came, I rushed into my tent and jerked up my rifle, and as I stepped out, a 9-pound shot struck my tent at the head of my bed, ranged the whole length of my bed, cut off the back upright pole, passed out the back part through two other tents, and then buried itself in the parapet. I’m glad I was not “caught napping.”.

But wait, I forgot one thing: On the first Wednesday, after the bombardment had lasted three days, the enemy “sounded a parley.” Major Seawell and Lieutenant Britton were ordered to go out and see what they wanted. They did so, and the Mexicans demanded the surrender of the fort “for humanity’s sake.” They gave us one hour to surrender, or they would put us all to the sword. They brought us a letter from General Arista to our commanding officer. The commanding officer, Capt. Hawkins, (Brown had been shot just before,) had a council of war called, and said he presumed we were unanimous on such points, but that he would put the matter to vote as to their feelings. The vote of the youngest member was taken first and so on throughout. This was the unanimous vote:—“Defend the place to the death.” Gen. Arista was in thirty minutes replied to as follows: That we had received his humane communication, but not understanding perfectly the Spanish language, we were doubtful if we had understood exactly his meaning; but from all we could understand, he had proposed that we give him possession of this place, or we would all be put to the sword in one hour; if this was the proper understanding, we would respectfully decline the proposition, and “took this opportunity to assure his Excellency of our distinguished consideration.” After the reception of this by his “Excellency,” it just rained balls. The different mortars kept two pair of “saddle-bags” in the air all the time, varied only by their 6 and 4-pouonders. But in the midst of all the storm the Star spangled Banner still floated on our breast-works, at the point where they directed their strongest efforts; and we took out our two regimental colors and planted them on different parts of the wall. This fire was kept up all night, while their musketry...
played on us from the rear, at the distance of five hundred yards. We ordered our men not to fire a shot until they came within eighty yards—but they did not approach. Their object was to exhaust us in ammunition. They knew from deserters that it was scarce, and Gen. Taylor had gone for a supply. Supply. They are fond of fighting at long distances, but they can’t stand the cold steel.

Now for where I left off on the night of the 8th. Gen. Taylor and the Mexican army were 12 miles from here-between this and Brazos. The batteries at Matamoras and around us, and in our fort, kept up a constant firing until dark, when all ceased. We had no communication from the General, but that he had to lick ’em or die! The sound of arms had not retrograded, but advanced; besides, there was not ringing of bells in the city, or sings of rejoicing, therefore, we judged they had not the first cause for jolification. That night was the first sound napping that had been done in the fort for six nights. He next morning at daylight the enemy’s batteries opened on us as usual, we laying low, as our cannon ammunition was nearly exhausted, giving them now and then a “crowder,” to let them know that the “degenerate sons of Washington” were not all dead yet. At 1 o’clock we heard Gen. Taylor open again, and from that till 4o’clock the battle raged with fury, and coming closer almost every shot. The General was driving them before him in the chapporal at the point of the bayonet.—About half a mile in our rear we saw their cavalry retreating for the ferry, to recross the river to Matamoras, and they were in utter confusion; we turned one of our eighteen pounder to bear on the mass, and gave them a “blizzard” to help them along.

Then you should have heard the loud huzzas that went up from this little spot. I sprang upon the walls near our regimental flag and requested silence. Every thing was as still as death. Says I, ”three cheers, all together, for the star spangled banner.” It was given in full blast; Matamoras heard the shout; and then, and not till then, every gun from the enemy ceased its fire.

The enemy say they had 6,000 in the fight, but from the returns of the regiments which we have found on the field there must have been 7,153 of them. We had 1,500 engaged in the battle, about 500 forming the reserve. All Gen. Arista’s papers and baggage have been taken, silver plate in abundance. The loss [taken, wounded and missing] of the enemy amounts to about 2,000; among the prisoners were Gen. La Vega and 17 officers. Nine pieces of cannon were taken.—7 out of the 9 were loaded; this shows you how tight it was. Gen. T. captured more muskets from the enemy than we had in the fight against them—the biggest pile of ammunition you ever saw; 400 splendid mules, and baggage of all kinds enough to load the steamer “Harney.” We have lost about 150 killed and wounded—44 officers killed, 9 wounded. Gen. T. left day before yesterday for Brazos to bring up his mortars, which we understand have arrived. He will also organize the volunteers expected. We look for him to-night and so soon as he arrives we shall commence operations against Matamoras, and we will have it or faint in our traces.. It is my opinion that we have crippled them so by the loss of their cannon, muskets, and ammunition that they will be forced to retreat to Carmargo [60 miles from here,) or Monterey, [108,] but from indications they may be fortifying the city and preparing to give us a street fight; let it be so—we are prepared for any event. The Anglo-Saxon never can acknowledge the corn to the cross of Negro and Indian. Some of us will get our pates cracked, but it is our profession. Nevertheless, mark what I say—unless everything we demand is granted our banner will in a few days wave from the walls of Matamoras.

RE46v43i9p2c4, May 29, 1846: HORSE AND SWORD TO CAPTAIN WALKER.

The sword for the brave Walker (says the N. Orleans Courier) was carried out to Point Isabel in charge of Gen. P. F. Smith. A suitable inscription is engraved upon it—and it is accompanied by an appropriate letter written by Mr. Bravo, in behalf of himself and the other citizens at whose cost it was purchased. The Alabama also took out a noble charger for Captain W., presented to him by some of our fellow-citizens. These testimonials to the valor and zeal of the gallant Texan are highly creditable to N. Orleans, and they will not be with good effect in future.

RE46v43i9p2c4, May 29, 1846: NEVER RIGHT.

There is a class of people in this country—a small class, indeed—(says the New Orleans Delta) who always find fault with the policy, more particularly the foreign policy, of the Government. They were the Tories of the Revolution—the Federalists of 1812; but have no distinctive local habitation or name now, that we know of, although their existence is unquestionable. On the debate in the Senate, in reference to the recent message of the President, Mr. Sevier, of Arkansas, in a spirit of sarcasm, alluded to them by saying—.

The Americans were certainly a very unfortunate people. He never knew them to be right in the whole course of his life. They were wrong, ten years ago, in the case of France; wrong lately with Great Britain; wrong in the Seminole war; and now, wrong again with Mexico. He had hoped to see his country right once in his life, but he was to be disappointed.
The Whigs call the war with Mexico “the President’s war,” and assert that Congress, as the “tool” of the President, stated what was false, in recognizing the existence of war. Events have proved the foresight and wisdom of the President and Congress in adopting, at the outset, the fullest and most vigorous measures. Many of the Whigs, even, are coming out in justification of the bold and thorough action of Congress.—Mexico, beyond all doubt, struck the first blow in the war. So far from disavowing the outrages of her Generals on the Rio Grande, her President has proclaimed the act of war to the world. The Washington correspondent of the Boston Courier (Whig) says:

"Mexico, you will learn before the receipt of this, preceded the United States, in the declaration of war, by two or three weeks. This intelligence was received last night by an arrival directly from Vera Cruz to the Department of State. It was communicated to the President, last evening, in a copy of the Declaration translated at the State Department, and a brief extract from it went north this morning in the official paper.—War, it is now certain, exists, and by the action of both Governments. The Mexicans declare it to be a defensive war, and, moreover, aver that it was provoked by the United States, in the seizure of Mexican soil. This, however, is not a question to be settled now, and the declaration of that Government preceding our own materially changes the aspect of public affairs."[BWP]

The course of some of the Northern Whig presses, in regard to our Mexican difficulties, brings forcibly to mind their factious and detestable conduct on the subject of Annexation. It is more criminal now, because we are in actual war, and the assaults upon our Government are calculated to encourage Mexico and other nations in their designs upon the country. The following specimen from the New York Tribune surpasses any denunciation that may be found in Mexican writings. It exhibits the fierceness of party-spirit, when it causes a journal calling itself American, thus to betray its own country, and more than endorse the curses and vituperation of enemies, in open warfare with us. Could the Editor of the Tribune act with much more criminality, were he to cross the Rio Grande and take service in the ranks of the bloody Ampudia?.

Of all wars ever fomented, we remember none more nefarious in its origin, more wanton and atrocious, than that in which we are now plunged by our rulers, and the land-jobbers and slave-jobbers, whose money, exertions and lies, have made those instruments of their cupidity our rulers. The bloody villainy of some wars was measurably redeemed by the daring evinced in commencing them; but this war is as cowardly as it is wicked. A wealthy, enlightened, and powerful Republic of twenty millions of people is attempting to humble and despoil an ignorant, enfeebled, distracted nation of seven millions, and these in good part semi-barbarous Aborigines of this continent! The giant who should beat a cripple, would be a hero in comparison.[BWP]

A curious and interesting scene took place in the Louisiana Legislature on the 19th. The Governor entered the Hall and asked leave to address the House. He said:

"Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen: I have called on you this morning to state a circumstance of peculiar nature, and to ask you to become my witnesses and endorsers in reference to it. On my visit to the Barracks last evening, presuming that the additional appropriation of 200,000 dollars would become a law this morning, I promised that the five companies about to proceed to the Rio Grande should be paid immediately. On (unreadable sentence) made some amendments that would somewhat delay the passage of the bill, and that I should be obliged to forfeit my word to the troops, unless I could obtain the money immediately. I made application to Mr. Benj. Story, of the Bank of Louisiana, and asked for 9,000 dollars, to be re- (unreadable sentence) letting me have the amount. I then made application to Mr. Burke, President of the Canal Bank, who, without any hesitation, immediately placed to my credit the sum of 9,000 dollars, and declared his willingness to let me have any amount needed. Gentlemen, I ask you to be witnesses and endorsers in this matter."

The Governor retired from the House amidst the cheers of the Representatives.

The House instantly took up the appropriation bill, just received from the Senate, and passed it by acclamation—and immediately afterwards passed a bill, empowering the Treasurer to pay into the Canal Bank the said sum of $9,000, thus liberally advanced.

It was then resolved, "that the Canal Bank of New Orleans shows the fact, that all corporations are not destitute of patriotic feeling, and its prompt action in furthering the views of the country, by the late loan to the Governor, deserves the thanks of the Legislature."

This Mr. Benj. Story, of the Bank of Louisiana, had been lauded to the skies, for offering half a million to the State of Louisiana, to meet the Mexican crisis. So far from this being true, he refused to make the small loan of $9,000, under the peculiar circumstances. Mr. S. "catches it" from all the New Orleans papers.
A public meeting was held at N. Orleans, May 20th, which was addressed by S. S. Prentiss, Esq., with his usual glowing eloquence, on the subject of the noble exploits in Texas. After the adjournment, the multitude, arranged in two regiments, *en masse*, went to the residence of Mr. Benjamin Story, President of the Louisiana Bank, (who refused to loan the Governor $9,000 for the volunteers to Texas,) and gave him three tremendous groans; after which they waited on Mr. Glandy Burke, of the Canal Bank, and gave *him* three cheers.

When the glorious Mexican war intelligence was received in this city by Saturday’s Southern mail, no credit was given to it by many persons. It came too rapidly, they said. The mystery is now cleared up. The news was brought though *night*, by express from Blakely to Montgomery, Ala., *one hundred and ninety miles*, in 13 hours. This great and almost unequalled feat of horsemanship was performed by one person, young Frederick Tyler, a fearless and expert rider. The most extraordinary circumstance is that he had to saddle all the horses himself, as he was not expected, and all were asleep at the stations. The citizens of Montgomery have made up a purse for him. The Augusta Constitutionalist hopes that the Government will employ this Express, which would gain 48 hours on the regular mail from Mobile to Atalanta.

Our old friend, Captain William M. Fulton, a native of Richmond, and late of the United States Army, has been authorized by General Gaines to raise a Regiment for the Army of Occupation on the Rio Grande. He served through the whole Florida war as Captain ofDragoons. The New Orleans Tropic says: "He is an able and experienced officer, and we trust his regiment will soon be filled, and on its way to the battlefield.”.

The Jeffersonian described Colonel Fulton as "a brave and experienced officer, who distinguished himself in the Florida war.”

The reported death of the gallant McIntosh, of Ga., from the wounds received in the action of the 8th, is disproved by a letter from his son, dated at Point Isabel, on the 13th, stating that though he has suffered severely from two wounds, in the neck and arm, which was broken, he is now doing remarkable well. The Colonel was also wounded in the neck during the last war. He entered the service as a Lieutenant, in the war of 1812.

On the 20th, (says the correspondent of the *Charleston News*,) 900 men left the N. Orleans barracks for the Rio Grande, on board the steamer *Mary Kingsland* and ship Ondiaka, of Philadelphia. The *Col. Harney* has also set out, carrying Gen. Worth, Col. Davis and staff, T. B. Thorpe, Esq., editor of the *Tropic*, and bearer of despatches, and Capt. Doanne's company of volunteers. Mr. Thorpe carries despatches from Gen. Gaines to Gen. Taylor, and a sash worn by Braddock at the time of his death, which is presented by Gen. Gaines to the Commander of our forces on the Rio Grande.

The *Baltimore Patriot* protests against sending another and a higher officer to the Rio Grande, to take the command in chief:

“To do that now would be but rank injustice (missing sentences) given the highest of all evidence of his ability to command—success. Other equally gallant and able officers there are in the Army, who, had they been in his place, would have done all he has accomplished. But none could do more. He has met the enemy—he has conquered them—and driven them from the country. Our letter say that the fighting is over—that there are now no more laurels to win. It is very likely. The news of the battles of Gen. Taylor will not fail to strike terror into the hearts of the Mexican people—they will have "no stomach" to renew the fight with him again. Let, then, all the glory of the commanding
And yet, it was for sending this fine officer and his gallant army to defend our soil on the Rio Grande, that the Whig press lavished their abuse upon the President as for an act of imbecility, recklessness and unpardonable sin. Gen. Taylor has won his laurels nobly and he wears them well.—His services have been appreciated by the Administration, in conferring on him the high rank of Major General. To judge from the past, it is natural to infer that no General can "do more."

We have received no news from the Army since last Sunday morning—every day we look for interesting intelligence, announcing that Major General Taylor has attacked Matamoras and Barita and must probably set his foot upon Mexican soil. We should not be surprised that, when the news of the Mexican disasters travels through Mexico, a revolution should spring up, forcing Paredes to abandon the helm and substituting a new President, who will be disposed to ask for peace, in return for a full recognition and satisfaction of all our demands. The heavy blows on the Rio Grande must have "broken the spirit" of boastful Mexico, and she may sue for any terms.

The sketch of the bombardment of Fort Brown from the N. O. Picayune, is full of interest.

We are indebted to the N. O. Picayune for a handsome diagram clearly showing the positions of the different American and Mexican troops, on each side of the river, at Matamoras. The Mexican fortifications, &c., are from official drawings. Officers of our Army furnished the particulars of the arrangements of the American camp.

We received no Union last night—but a friend who saw one says, that it announces among others the appointment of Gen. Zachary Taylor as Major General by brevet; of "Capt. Walker of Texas" as captain in the mounted regiment, and Stephens Thompson Mason as Captain in the same Regiment.

As it is my design to give as full and impartial an account of Texas as it is in my power to do, I have availed myself of the four letters, which will follow from the pen of a friend, (the author of "Prairiedom," a new and interesting work recently published,) who has frequently and recently visited that portion of Texas, which I have not seen. My own letters will appear after those which have been so kindly handed me shall have been published. Yours, J. A. P.
regions of the west. I was as wet as a sea-dog, but happy as—myself. We stopped for the night at an Indian camp of our old friends, the Lipans who were anchored on Onion creek, so called from the quantity of wild onions that grow upon its margin, some of which they had already gathered, and were cooking them when we arrived. We turned our horses to grass, and quietly camped for the night. The moon was bright above, and myriads of stars sparkled in the sky, like gems in as bride’s bosom. I lay gazing upon them in the open air, thinking upon home and heaven, till I sank to sleep. Suddenly I heard great commotion in the camp of the Indians. On calling out to know what was the matter, "mucha aguaventa" was the reply and in a twinkling every squaw was busy in changing the position of the wigwams, turning them round and placing them upon more elevated ground, to protect themselves more carefully from the approaching norther and the rain.

The first indication we had of it was a flash of lightning in the north. Presently the wind came booming onward, and the thunder rolled, and the lightning flashed, and the rain poured upon us in torrents. It passed almost as quick as it came, and in a moment, as it were, all was again clear and still. I ensconced myself in one of the wigwams, and, protected by a buffalo robe and blanket, endeavored, amid the howl of Indian dogs and the loud laugh of the squaws, to while away the balance of the night in dreams. At daylight we were again moving and before night compassed 35 miles-reaching the German settlement of Newbraunsfels in time to see the village, eat a cold supper and sleep on a hard bed. The following day we passed in our ride the head waters and springs of San Marcos, a beautiful stream, with rich lands adjoining and passed the Guadaloupe at Newbraunsfels by ferry, just at the mouth of the Comal, a lovely little creek, on the borders of which the village is built. It is a few months old only, and has about two hundred families already settled, and as many houses to shelter them from the weather. They are generally a very industrious and enterprising people, and seem pleased and contented in their new abode. This is a lovely spot for farming, and a town.

The Comal is a beautiful little bayou that empties into the Guadaloupe at this place, and as a bathing spot, all the year round, equals the Warm Springs of Virginia. We found the temperature 76 deg. Feb., while the thermometer in the open air indicated a temperature of only 50 degrees. It was the only place where one could keep comfortably warm during a norther.

From Newbraunsfels, or Princeville as it is often called, we rode on 25 miles to San Antonio. We passed through a lovely country, and when about half the distance, over a lofty eminence called Buena Vista, from whose summit we enjoyed one of the widest and loveliest prospects that we have seen in Prairiedom. It commands a view of at least 300 miles in circumference. The whole scope of country, indeed, from Austin to San Antonio, is extremely beautiful, and we defy any one to ride that distance and that route, and say he ever saw a lovelier region. In truth, a lovelier region is no where to be found.

"There eternal Summer dwells,
And west winds with musky wing,
About the cedared alley fling,
Nard and cassia’s balmy smells;
Iris there with humid bow,
Waters the odorous banks that blow,
Flowers of more ming’ed hue,
Than her purfled scarf can show,
And drenches with Elysian dew,
(List mortals if your ears be true,)
Beds of hyacinth and roses,
Where young Adonis oft reposes,
Waxing well of his deep wound."

[BWP]
The bill to provide for the adjustment of land claims in the States of Louisiana, Missouri and Arkansas, and parts of Mississippi and Alabama, was read a third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Mangum, the Sergeant at Arms was authorized to employ the necessary force to work the ventilator on the dome of the Senate. This was very refreshing to the reporters.

Mr. Benton said it was important to pass the army bill, and he would therefore defer the balance of his Oregon speech until to-morrow. On motion of Mr. Dix, the bill to increase the number of Generals in the Army, &c., was then taken up as the unfinished business of yesterday.

Mr. Atchison withdrew his amendment, requiring the discharge of the others at the close of the war.

Mr. Mangum also withdrew his motion to strike out the first section.

Mr. Dix offered several slight amendments to the details of the bill, which were agreed to.

Mr. Benton also presented one or two amendments, which were adopted.

Mr. Westcott offered an amendment to give the President the authority to select officers for the volunteers from the Militia of the States, instead of leaving it to the Governors of the States. Rejected.

The bill was then ordered to be engrossed, and was subsequently, by consent, read a third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Johnson of Md., the prior orders were postponed and the French Spoliation was taken up.

Mr. Sevier said that the bill would give rise to some debate, and he hoped it would be passed over informally.

Mr. Johnson of Md. said he was under the impression that there was to be no debate but merely the vote taken. If, however, any Senator intended to debate it, he had no objection to its being passed by.

Mr. Speight intimating an intention to debate it, the bill was informally passed over.

The bill for building ten war steamers, was made the special order for Monday.

Several messages having been received from the President, the Senate at 1 o’clock, on motion of Mr. Sevier, went into Executive session.

Mr. Haralson, of Ga., offered a resolution calling upon the President of the United States for copies of the official letters of Gen. Taylor, giving an account of the battles of the 8th and 9th inst. The resolution was agreed to.

Mr. McKay moved that the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole. The motion prevailed, and the debate was resumed as in committee upon the Civil and Diplomatic Bill. The pending motion was to strike out the sum of $50,000 proposed for the Marine Hospital of the country. The debate had little reference to the amendment.

Mr. McClelland gave notice of several amendments to be introduced by him from the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. Collamer of Vermont, replied in part to the speech of Mr. Payne of Alabama, who yesterday made a warm anti-Tariff speech. He asserted in answer to an assertion made yesterday, that protective duties, without a single exception, had reduced the prices of goods. The facts would prove this, and if gentlemen would not strangle discussion when the Tariff Bill came up, the fact would be abundantly proved. He hoped a liberal discussion would be allowed, and that debate would not be strangled.

Mr. Stewart of Pennsylvania replied more minutely, and in much detail to the argument of Mr. Payne. The exhibition of American goods in the city, he maintained, demonstrated the national independence, skill, ability, and economy of the country. Prices had been reduced by the Tariff, and there were no exceptions to this great fact.

Mr. Stewart was stopped in the midst of his remarks by the hour for closing the debate.
A motion to increase the sum for marine hospitals from $50,000 to $85,000 was rejected.

A motion to strike out $50,000 was made and carried—yeas 79, nays 77.

Mr. Winthrop moved to amend, by inserting $18,000 for a special minister to Mexico, whenever the President of the U. States shall have ascertained that the government of Mexico will receive one. This was rejected, ayes 50, nays 81.

The next hour was occupied in offering miscellaneous amendments to the bill, but few of which were agreed to by the committee.

At 3 o'clock, without getting through with the amendments, the committee rose.

A message was received from the President of the United States, in compliance with the resolution of this morning, communicating copies of all despatches received from Gen. Taylor.

Without reading, they were referred to the military committee and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Haralson, from the military committee, reported a bill providing for the distribution of certain military books among the volunteers. It was twice read and referred to a committee of the whole.

The House again went into committee upon the civil and diplomatic appropriation bill.—Many amendments were acted upon, but finally there was no quorum to vote, and the committee rose and the House adjourned.

RE46v43i9p4c1, May 29, 1846: OUR RELATIONS WITH ENGLAND.

But little is said in the British papers by the last steamer in regard to the Oregon question.—It had not been named in Parliament nor much discussed in the newspapers. Some of the English journals represent the disposition to settle the question, if possible, on the basis of the 49th parallel, as gaining ground on the other side of the Atlantic.

Unless England should make a handle of the Mexican war to exact more rigid terms of settling the Oregon question, we do not despair of a pacific arrangement. We have already expressed our inability to understand from what sources a Mexico has been enabled to raise so large a sum of money, and equip so fine an army. We have suspected England to be at the bottom of it—but there is no direct proof to that effect. On the contrary, Mr. Reverdy Johnson says, almost oracularly, that England desires a certain arrangement, the Mexican war may be soon closed by a triumph of our arms.

What gives us some uneasiness, is, lest England and France, in their attempt to mediate between Mexico and the United States, may lay down certain conditions, as the basis of an arrangement, which we could not accept. They have no right to interfere between us and Mexico. They may indeed advise—but, should their advice not be compatible with our views, and should they, then, attempt to enforce their odious “balance of power” doctrine, a general war will be inevitable—and, if it is to be forced upon us, it will come at a time when our people were never so well prepared to meet it.

The enthusiastic spirit of the whole country will exert a fine moral influence over the powers of Europe, and go far to secure peace, by making them acquainted with our union, harmony strength and energies, when the honor or rights of the nation are assailed.

The monster meeting at New York seems to have impressed the Editor of the Albion, the organ of British feeling in that city, He says:

“A public meeting on an exceedingly large scale took place in the Park of this city on Wednesday. It will be observed that resolutions, in favor of the war, and pledges of unbounded support of it, were adopted; and it will be further observed, that among the Vice Presidents of the meeting were some of the first persons in the city. The sentiment everywhere adopted is, that the country is in danger, and right or wrong must be supported. All this calls for deep reflection—Here is a case of war brought on by marching a military force into a disputed territory; which many persons contend was unnecessary; yet, unnecessary as it is represented to be, the whole nations rises up to support it.”

He, however, sees much peril to peace in the movement, and adds:

“We most earnestly implore every lover of peace, and every good man, to reflect on this state of affairs. We urge them, one and all, to exercise their influence in calming excited feelings, and in endeavoring to bring about a speedy arrangement of the difficulties with England, lest before we are aware of it, the two countries may be plunged in deadly strife. It is for public opinion, and for the leading men of England and America, to avert this terrible calamity. The danger we think is imminent, and they should be up and doing. Fifty thousand men have been voted by
Congress. Gen. Taylor says five thousand will be sufficient to bring matters to a conclusion on the Rio Grande. To what use then is this large force to be applied? To make a conquest of Mexico, or to threaten England? Far be it from us to impute to the government of the country any unwarrantable desire for war; but when the elements of strife are abroad, and the means of engaging in them are so copiously given, we cannot conceal our fears as to what may happen. We know how much opposed the common sense of the two nations is to war; we know the horrors and miseries it would inflict on both; let us use then all our might in keeping such a fell calamity at a distance, by striving to bring all points of difference to a settlement. A great career of prosperity is before us; a profitable trade is springing up in articles unknown to English markets heretofore, which promises to be of exceeding value. The provision trade it unmolested will be immense, and will at once enrich the merchant, the shipbuilder, and the farmer, and of course the whole of this country. Civilization is extending everywhere, opening new markets to the industry of both nations. Let us then hold fast to these advantages, and cherish the great and manifold blessings which peace secures to us and which war would infallibly destroy.

Here the Albion misrepresents the motives of Congress. Their object was not to extend the war, but to set on foot a prompt and vigorous military organization, to end the war by one strong and decisive blow. Congress designed to prepare for the worst contingencies. The extensive hostile preparations of Mexico called for the fullest action on our part, and it was important not only to a peace with Mexico, but with the whole world, that no time should be lost, and no effort spared to end the war at once. While Gen. Taylor, with 6,000 additional troops, might subdue opposition upon the Rio Grande, no one could say positively that Mexico would not continue to send in reinforcements, and make it necessary on our part to push into the interior of Mexico, and even penetrate the City of Mexico itself, and by seizing her rich towns and provinces, compel her to do us justice for her many wrongs and injuries towards us. For this purpose, a large army was indispensable, and Congress acted providently and wisely in authorizing a large force to be organized. Again, in view of the extraordinary interposition of England and France in the Annexation of Texas, we could not be sure that the powers of Europe might not interfere in our Mexican relations, and to make "assurance doubly sure," it was most important to be armed at all points, and ready for any contingency. In making out large preparations, therefore, we consulted not only our own safety, but the peace of the world. Our object was not to provoke hostilities, but to give notice to the world that they should keep their "hands off."

We can tell the Albion how we may avoid the horrors of a war with England. If (unreadable0dent) abstain from interference with our Mexican relations, and at the same time exhibit a disposition to meet us half-way on the Oregon question, and conclude a speedy settlement upon just and proper terms, we doubt not the result will be a permanent peace, the blessings of which we appreciate as highly as the Albion does. A contrary course may lead to war, but that war will be in no degree referable to the preparations which we have now set on foot, to punish an insolent and aggressive foe, and at the same time guard against the improper interference of other nations. All that the United States desire is, to preserve their rights and honor unharmed. Hat end secured, we shall be ready to affix the seal to a permanent contract of peace with all the world.

RE46v43i9p4c1, May 29, 1846: No title.

The Washington Correspondent of the *Baltimore Patriot* learns that the officers of the new Regiment of Mounted Riflemen have been appointed—that the command has been conferred on General Smith of New Orleans, who distinguished himself in the Florida war, and who has now gone with troops to the aid of Gen. Taylor, on the Rio Grande. The Lieutenant Colonelcy has been conferred upon Lieut. Fremont, now in the Rocky Mountains.

He also states that a bill has been prepared by the Military Committee to create two more Major Generals and three Brigadier Generals. It will pass—and it is thought that Gen. Taylor and Gen. Saml. Houston will receive the two highest commissions.

RE46v43i9p4c2, May 29, 1846: No title.

The Louisiana Legislature, as her people, have acted nobly throughout the present crisis. On the 18th inst., both houses made a further appropriation of $200,000 to fit out the Legion for the seat of war and to forward the residue of the four Regiments raised under requisition from Gen. Taylor.

The Legion is completed. It comprises Maj. Gally’s Battallion of Artillery and seven companies of Artillery, in all 880 rank and file. Col. Bailie Peyotn’s regiment is filled up by the volunteers from the country, leaving three companies over. The number of Louisiana Volunteers is thus swelled to 4,443 rank and file! file! Gen. Gaines regretted that he had no authority to take the Legion into service at present. He hoped soon to receive instructions from Washington to accept their valuable services.
Gen. Worth reached Mobile on the 17th, with instructions and directions for Gen. Gaines at New Orleans and General Taylor on the Rio Grande. He will go directly to Point Isabel.—The Collector of the port of Mobile offered a cutter for the immediate use of Gen. W., but he was forced to go to New Orleans, where he will take the swiftest conveyance west. Every where he is welcomed on his road to honor.

RE46v43i9p4c4, May 29, 1846: ITEMS OF THE WAR.

The *James L. Day*, from Brazos Santiago on the 16th, has arrived at New Orleans, bringing three days’ later intelligence from the Army. A sort of pause seems to have succeeded the stirring scenes of the 8th and 9th, but we have a hint of events in embryo, which promise to produce most important results.

[From the New Orleans Picayune, Extra, May 18.].

Gen. Taylor left Point Isabel on Thursday, the 14th, for his camp, with about 600 men only.—On the 15th two companies of volunteers, under Captains Desha and Stockton, with some regulars—in allamounting to about 1,000 men—marched under command of Col. Wilson for Barrita.

On Saturday, the 16th, intelligence was received from Gen. Taylor that he intended crossing the Rio Grande, just below his camp, by making a bridge with his wagons. So far every thing looked favorable to his design. The fleet had sailed from off the Brazos to the mouth of the river, and were to send up detachments to cooperate in the attack upon Barrita.

Another account says that Gen. Taylor, ere the departure of the *James L. Day*, opened his communication with his camp. It will be seen that two companies of artillery reached Point Isabel on the 14th from Pensacola. The annexed letter gives details of the arrival of volunteers, &c., and of the movements of the troops from the Point:

CAMP AT POINT ISABEL, BRASOS ST. JAGO, May 16, 1846.

Gents:—The Volunteer Companies under command of Col. J. B. Walton of the Washington Regiment, on board the steamer *James L. Day*, arrived here on Thursday morning the 14th inst., after a very pleasant passage of three days, and those by the *Telegraph* arrived on the 15th and went immediately into camp. Gen. Taylor left here on the morning of the 14th for his camp, with a large train of wagons, and quite a formidable train of artillery, dragoons and infantry, amounting to some six or eight hundred. There was an arrival from the upper camp this morning which passed him yesterday on his march; he has in all probability ere this reached his camp.

On the morning of the 15th, regulars enough to swell the amount to about one thousand embarked on board the steamers *Neva*, *Loo* and *Cincinnati*, and at 1 o’clock were landed at the Brazos Santiago, and took up their line of march for the Rio Grande, all under the command of Colonel Wilson; their march is for Barita, situated some fifteen miles up the river, where it is stated the Mexicans are collecting considerable forces.

The United States fleet, consisting of the *Mississippi*, *Cumberland*, *Raritan*, *Lawrence*, &c., which have been here for some days, have run down to the mouth of the river and come to, and with their boats will cross the troops under the command of Colonel Wilson to the South bank of the river. The steamers will be in readiness at Barita to assist in the transportation of arms and ammunition. Colonel Wilson’s command have with them two days’ rations, and scarce a blanket, with no tents nor any baggage train. At dark they had crossed Cocachita, and were on their march for the river. This morning, the 16th, the sea is very high, and the weather squally, so that the steamer Neva cannot get to the sea, and if it continue so, must create some distress in Colonel Wilson’s camp for provisions and blankets.

On the 15th, the steam schooner *Augusta* sailed for the Island of St. Joseph, with all the wounded that were able to be transported, taken from the battle of the 8th and 9th instant.

Men of war lying off the Rio del Norte: *Mississippi*, *Potomac*, *Lawrence*, *St. Mary*, *Cumberland*, flag ship; *Raritan*, *Somers*, and the armed schooner *Santa Anna*, under command of Lieutenant Renshaw.

We learn that about 175,000 rounds of musket cartridges, 500 packed mules, with their saddles and camp equipage, were taken in the action of the nineth inst. The American soldiers drank the Mexicans’ liquor, smoked their cigars, eat their bread and beef, which they were just in the act of cooking when the engagement took place.

CAMP OPPOSITE MATAMORAS, May 14, 10 o’clock at night.

Gentlemen: I would like to write a detailed account of all that has occurred since the 8th inst., but I have a hope of getting a few hours’ sleep to-night, for to-morrow I fancy we shall have some thing to do. A report is going around camp to-night, that we will go over and take possession of Matamoros to-morrow or next day.
Gen. Taylor returned to-night from Point Isabel. A party of Dragoons since his arrival have swam over and brought a boat from the opposite side. The sentinel over this boat left in haste.—All the prisoners whom we had in Matamoras were exchanged day before yesterday, besides which, we gave our enemy 97 wounded men by way of La Narp.

Yours, N.

During the engagements of the 8th and 9th about 1000 sailors and marines from the Fleet at anchor off here were landed and were a formidable set of men to keep the place while the soldiers were absent. They are now on board their respective vessels and will not be called on again till a similar occasion may demand their services.

Major Ringgold was buried with all the military honors.

Another letter dated the 15th, 10 P. M., winds up thus:

"We have no news from General Taylor's camp to-day, and I expect the first news you receive of any active measures, will be the crossing of the American troops over the Rio Grande.

"Captain Griffin (of the James L. Day) heard nothing whatever of the report that Paredes was marching to Matamoras with 15,000 men, nor was there any certainty that the Mexicans had been reinforced; the general opinion, however, was, that they had been."

An officer thus describes the military arrangements of General Taylor—he wrote before the late engagements—and yet this is the "small and inefficient" army, which, in the opinion of the Whigs, the President had so wantonly sent to the Rio Grande to be sacrificed:

"Every movement of his army has been as perfect as a piece of machinery, and although the enemy have watched him incessantly with the design of attacking him, they have never seen a false move that they could take advantage of. There never has been a time, by night or day, that his whole force would not have been in readiness, and in the best possible position to sustain the shock of an attack, in three minutes after the tap of the drum. All this has been done too with a large portion of the command daily at work, first in the throwing up temporary defences and batteries, and subsequently upon a large fort designed for permanent occupancy, which was commenced as soon as the necessary reconnoisances and surveys could be made by our engineers."

RE46v43i9p4c3, May 29, 1846: A GOOD HIT.

The N. O. Tropic inserts the figure of a "Runaway," and adds:

Gen. Ampudia, the great Mexican hero, who cut off the heads of our citizens in Tobasco, and boiled them in oil, in running away from the battle of the 9th, opposite Matamoras, got wounded low down in the back. This information is authentic. We hope that when Gen. Taylor takes Matamoras, that Gen. Ampudia will be left behind as a rich prize. There are those in the American ranks who want him.

RE46v43i9p4c3, May 29, 1846: No title.

We have heard much talk of the apparent apathy of the people of Texas in raising troops to defend their own soil. We are glad to see a new face put upon affairs by the last arrivals. The Austin New Era, of the 2d may, in speaking of the requisition for troops says, "it is gratifying to see the joyous excitement prevailing among all classes of our citizens at the prospect offered them once more of meeting the Mexicans in the battle field. Many of our most prominent and cherished citizens are enrolling themselves as private soldiers in different companies, vieing with the young men in promptness and alacrity. It is with difficulty that a quorum of the Legislature can be kept together. Some of the most fiery spirits have already left for the Rio Grande.—It was supposed that the 200 United States Dragoons stationed at Bexar, and the 60 near Austin, would join Colonel Hays, and all proceed to the Rio Grande in a body. The entire force would not be less than five hundred most efficient troops, admirable mounted."

RE46v43i9p4c3, May 29, 1846: No title.

The N. O. Picayune gives further items of news from the Mexican by the Mandarin:

A letter was received at Vera Cruz from Tampico on the 7th inst., which announced the death of Col. Cross of our army, the circumstances of his cruel fate are detailed. "He was taken by an armed party of Rancheros, and hung immediately to a tree."
In the official journal we find the documents by which the manifesto of Gen. Paredes of the 23d ult. was accompanied, and upon which it was based. They consist of the Mexican reports of events occurring on the Rio Grande down to the 14th of April, with the correspondence between Generals Ampudia and Taylor.

In regard to the revocation of Gen. Almonte’s commission, *El Tiempo* supposes that it was made either because the Government had obtained proof of his implication in revolutionary projects, or were distrustful of his sentiments towards the Administration. At any rate, he was ordered to remain at Havana.

*El Locomotor* is extremely gratified by the prompt preparation which was made in the Castle of San Juan de Ulua to give Com. Connor’s squadron a warm reception. The wind was such that the squadron in setting sail approached somewhat towards the Castle. Thereupon the guns were manned, matches lighted, and every preparation made for repelling an attack. But the squadron sheared off and pursued its course.

The editor of the same paper speaks in the highest terms of the state of the fortifications in the Castle. Since 1838 a barbet battery has been erected upon the glacis of the Castle, mounting 40 or 50 mortars of an immense size. That the cannon and powder are good within the Castle we have not doubt, for they were obtained from the United States! In this connection we may add, that a gentleman arrived here, yesterday from Vera Cruz, who comes over for the express purpose of making large purchases of powder for the Mexican Government. We suppose it will be shipped from New Orleans—“in a horn.”

*El Locomotor*, having made inquiries, is satisfied that Com. Connor had assured the Government at Washington that it would require twenty vessels of the largest class to take the Castle, fortified as it now is; but that the Government had replied to him that he must abide by the instructions before given him—that having 300 guns in his squadron at Sacrificios, he should only wait to hear that hostilities had commenced on the frontier and then proceed to attack the Castle. We presume that Com. Connor needs not to be enlightened in the premises.

The Mexicans remote from the seat of war were universally confident of victory upon the Rio Grande. They founded their hopes purely upon their numerical superiority. They set down the number of their own troops at 10,000 at the least, and that of Gen. Taylor’s at less than 3000.

A gentleman who has just arrived at New Orleans from Havana, says the *Picayune*, talked freely with Santa Anna upon the Mexican affairs. He deprecated the war with the United States, as sure to be disastrous to Mexico. He spoke of the monarchical projects in Mexico as destined to certain failure; he believing that a majority of the people would prefer even annexation to the United States to the rule of a Spanish Prince. Santa Anna had, it is said, no intention of returning to Mexico at present, and has recently rented a new house.

Gen. Almonte regards the insurrectionary attempt of Gen. Alvarez as one of great moment and very difficult to be put down.

We have received, at an hour too late for any special remarks upon them, (says the *Union*, of Monday night,) the official despatches from the War and Navy Departments. We lose no time in laying them before our readers. It will be seen that they confirm substantially the accounts already published.

Sir: I respectfully report, that I shall march this day with the main body of the army, to open a communication with Major Brown, and throw forward supplies of ordnance and provisions. If the enemy oppose my march, in whatever force, I shall fight him. Occasional guns are heard in the direction of Matamoros, showing that everything is right in that quarter.

Yesterday, the recruits under Lieut. McPhail arrived here. After filling up the companies of the permanent garrison, (A
1st arty. And G 4th arty.,) the remainder of the detachment, with its officers, was placed under Maj. Munroe's orders to assist in the defence of the depot. The men are yet too raw to take the field, though efficient for garrison defence. They will be permanently assigned as soon as practicable.

The four companies of the first infantry are hourly expected, and will be a seasonable reinforcement. The first shipment of volunteers from New Orleans may also soon be looked for. Their arrival will enable me to open the river and free our communications.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obd’t serv’t,
Z. TAYLOR,
Brevet Brig’r Gen. U. S. A. Com’g.

The ADJUTANT GENERAL of the Army, Washington, D. C

RE46v43i9p4c5, May 29, 1846

HEAD QUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,
Camp at Palo Alto, Texas,
May 9, 1846.

Sir: I have the honor to report that I was met near this place yesterday, on my march from Point Isabel, by the Mexican forces, and after an action of about five hours dislodged them from their position and encamped upon the field. Our artillery, consisting of two 18 pounders and tow light batteries, was the arm chiefly engaged, and to the excellent manner in which it was manoeuvred and served is our success mainly due.

The strength of the enemy is believed to have been about six thousand men, with seven pieces of artillery, and eight hundred cavalry. His loss is probably at least one hundred killed. Our strength did not exceed all told twenty-three hundred, while our loss was comparatively trifling—four men killed, three officers and thirty seven men wounded, several of the latter mortally. I regret to say that Major Ringgold, 3d artillery, and Captain Page, 4th infantry, are severely wounded. Lieutenant Luther, 2d artillery, slightly so.

The enemy has fallen back, and it is believed has repassed the river. I have advanced parties now thrown forward in his direction and shall move the main body immediately.

In the haste of this first report, I can only say that the officers and men behaved in the most admirable manner throughout the action. I shall have the pleasure of making a more detailed report when those of the different commanders shall be received. I am, sir, very respectfully.

Your obedient servant,
Z. TAYLOR,

The Adjutant General, U. S. Army, Washington, D. C.

RE46v43i9p4c5, May 29, 1846

HEAD QUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,
Camp at Resaca de la Palma,
3 miles from Matamoras,
10 o’clock, P.M. May 9, 1846.

Sir: I have the honor to report, that I marched with the main body of the army at 2 o’clock to-day, having previously thrown forward a body of light infantry into the forest, which covers the Matamoras road. When near the spot where I am now encamped, my advance discovered that a ravine crossing the road had been occupied by the enemy with artillery. I immediately ordered a battery of field artillery to sweep the position, flanking and sustaining it by the 3d, 4th and 5th regiments, deployed as skirmishers to the right and left. A heavy fire of artillery and of musketry was kept up for some time, until finally the enemy’s batteries were carried in succession by a squadron of dragoons and the regiments of infantry that were on the ground. He was soon driven from his position, and pursued by a squadron of dragoons, battalion of artillery, 3d infantry, and a light battery, to the river. Our victory has been complete. Eight pieces of artillery, with a great quantity of ammunition, three standards, and some one hundred prisoners, have been taken; among the latter, General La Vega, and several other officers. One General is understood to have been killed. The enemy has recrossed the river, and I am sure will not again molest us on this bank.
The loss of the enemy in killed has been most severe. Our own has been very heavy, and I deeply regret to report that Lieutenant Inge, 2d Dragoons, Lieutenant Cochrane, 4th Infantry, and Lieutenant Chadbourne, 8th Infantry, were killed on the . . . [illegible] . . . Lieutenant Colonel Payne, 4th Artillery, Lieutenant Colonel McIntosh, Lieutenant Dobbins, 3d Infantry, Captina Hooe, and Lieutenant Fowler, 5th Infantry, and Captain Montgomery, Lieutenants Gates, Selden, McClay, Burbank, and Jordan, 8th Infantry, were wounded. The extent of our loss in killed and wounded is not yet ascertained, and is reserved for a more detailed report.

The affair of to-day may be regarded as a proper supplement to the cannonade of yesterday; and the two taken together, exhibit the coolness and gallantry of our officers and men in the most favorable light. All have done their duty, and done it nobly. It will be my pride, in a more circumstantial report of both actions, to dwell upon particular instances of individual distinction.

It affords me peculiar pleasure to report, that the field work opposite Matamoras has sustained itself handsomely during a cannonade and bombardment of 160 hours. But the pleasure is alloyed with profound regret at the loss of its heroic and indomitable commander, Major Brown, who died to-day from the effect of a shell. His loss would be a severe one to the service at any time, but to the army under my order it is indeed irreparable. One officer and one non-commissioned officer killed, and ten men wounded, comprise all the casualties incident to this severe bombardment.

I inadvertently omitted to mention the capture of a large number of pack mules left in the Mexican camp.

I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. TAYLOR
Bt. Brig'r General U. S. A., Com'g.

The ADJUTANT GENERAL of the Army, Washington, D. C.

RE46v43i9p4c5, May 29, 1846: HEAD QUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION, Resaca de la Palma, May 11, 1846.

1. The Commanding General congratulates the army under his command upon the signal success which has crowned its recent operations against the enemy. The coolness and steadiness of the troops during the action of the 8th, and the brilliant impetuosity with which the enemy's position and artillery were carried on the 9th, have displayed the best qualities of the American soldier. To every officer and soldier of his command, the General publicly returns his thanks for the noble manner in which they have sustained the honor of the service and of the country. While the main body of the army has been thus actively employed, the garrison left opposite Matamoras has rendered no less distinguished service by sustaining a severe cannonade and bombardment for many successive days. The army and the country, while justly rejoicing in this triumph of our arms, will deplore the loss of many brave officers and men, who fell gallantly in the hour of combat.

2. It being necessary for the Commanding General to visit Point Isabel on public business, Col. Twiggs will assume command of the corps of the army near Matamoras, including the garrison of the field-work. He will occupy the former lines of the army, making such disposition for defence, and for the comfort of his command, as he may deem advisable. He will hold himself strictly on the defensive until the return of the Commanding General.

By order of Brig. Gen. TAYLOR:
W. W. J. BLISS, Acting Adjutant General.

RE46v43i9p4c5, May 29, 1846
HEAD QUARTERS, ARMY OF OCCUPATION,
Point Isabel, (Texas,) May 12, 1846.

Sir: I am making a hasty visit to this place, for the purpose of having an interview with Commodore Conner, whose squadron is now at anchor off the harbor, and arranging with him a combined movement up the river. I avail myself of the brief time at my command to report, that the main body of the army is now occupying its former position opposite Matamoras.—The Mexican forces are almost disorganized, and I shall lose no time in investing Matamoras, ands opening the navigation of the river.

I regret to report, that Maj. Ringgold died the morning of the 11th inst., of the severe wounds received in the action of Palo Alto. With the exception of Capt. Page, whose wound is dangerous, the other wounded officers are doing well.
In my report of the second engagement, I accidentally omitted the name of Lieut. Dobbins, 3d Infantry, among the officers slightly wounded, and desire that the omission may be supplied in the despatch itself. I am under the painful necessity of reporting that Lieut. Blake, topographical engineers, after rendering distinguished service in my staff during the affair of the 8th inst., accidentally shot himself with a pistol on the following day, and expired before night.

It has been quite impossible as yet to furnish detailed reports of our engagements with the enemy, or even accurate returns of the killed and wounded. Our loss is not far from 3 officers and 40 men killed and 13 officers and 100 men wounded; while that of the enemy has in all probability exceeded 300 killed; more than 200 have been buried by us on the two fields of battle.

HEAD QUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,
Fort Polk, Texas, May 12, 1846.
[ORDERS No. 60.]

As a mark of respect to the Chief Magistrate of the Republic, the work constructed at this place, to cover the main depot of the army, will be known as “Fort Polk,”.

The Commanding General takes this occasion to express his satisfaction with the dispositions made for the defence and protection of this point, so vitally important to the efficiency and security of the army. To Maj. Monroe, the commanding officer, Captain Saunders of the Engineers, Majors Thomas and MacRee, and Captains Sibley and Hill of the Quartermaster's department, Captain Ramsey of the Ordnance, and Lieut. Montgomery of the Subsistence departments, credit is especially due for their zeal and activity.—The General returns his thanks to the numerous citizens who volunteered their services in the defence of the depot. Their assistance added materially to its strength, and to his confidence in its ability to resist an attack. The reinforcement from the brig "Lawrence," under Lieut. Renshaw, and the large force of seamen and marines so promptly furnished by the squadron on its arrival, require a special acknowledgment to Commodore Connrer and Commander Mercer of the navy. The army is deeply grateful for this support and co-operation from a kindred branch of the public service.

By order of Brigadier General Taylor,
W. W. J. BLISS, Acting Adjutant General.

HEAD QUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,
Point Isabel, Texas, May 12, 1846.
[SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 62.]

1. General la Vega and the other Mexican officers, prisoners of war, will be conducted to New Orleans, under charge of Lieut. J. J. Reynolds, 4th Artillery, who will report on his arrival to Major General Gaines, for further instructions. The quartermaster's department will furnish a steamer for the transportation of the party.

2. As many of the sick and wounded now at this place as may be indicated by Surgeon Wood, will be sent in suitable transports to St. Hoseph's island.

Assistant Surgeon Byrne will accompany the detachment, and will return with the convalescents that may be in condition to leave the general hospital. The quartermaster's department will furnish the proper transportation.

By order of Brigadier General Taylor,
W. W. J. BLISS, Acting Adjutant General.

Sir:--The arrival of the squadron at this anchorage, of which the department was informed, in my communication of yesterday, was most opportune. To obtain a supply of provisions from the depot at Point Isabel, Gen. Taylor after leaving Major Brown with five hundred men in charge of the works at Matamoras, marched for the former place with
the remainder of his forces, consisting of two thousand men. On his return, when within twelve or fifteen miles of Matamoras, he encountered the enemy in considerable force, estimated at from six thousand to seven thousand men, with a large portion of cavalry—An engagement took place about 10 o'clock yesterday morning, which lasted until night. A pilot in the employment of the United States at this bar, who visited the army to-day, informs me that our loss amounted to sixty killed, and that Gen. Taylor had offered the enemy battle again to-day, but that it was declined. From the rapid and incessant firing, particularly of artillery, throughout the day, I should infer the loss of the enemy must have been very considerable. No further particulars have reached me. Shortly after the action commenced, I received a communication from Major Munroe, commanding Point Isabel, requesting a reinforcement from the squadron, for the defence of that post, where it appears all the supplies for the army are deposited. In the course of yesterday afternoon and this morning, five hundred seamen and marines under the command of Captain Gregory, of the Raritan, were landed from the squadron—a force, it is believed, sufficient to defend it against any attempt that the enemy can make. A reinforcement for the army is hourly expected from Galveston and New Orleans.

I am, very respectfully yours, your obedient servant,
D. CONNOR,
Commanding Home Squadron.

Hon. GEORGE BANCROFT,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

UNITED STATES SHIP CUMBERLAND,
Off Brazos Santiago, May 13, 1846.

Sir: In my communication of the 9th inst., of which a duplicate is enclosed, the department was informed that a battle had been fought on the day previous, between the American and Mexican forces near Matamoras. On the 9th, Gen. Taylor continued to advance towards his works opposite that place, the Mexican army under General Arista falling back before him until within two and a half miles from the American works, when it made a stand, and a general action ensued, which ended in the complete rout of the enemy. All his artillery, several standards, nearly all his baggage, ammunition and stores, with a large number of prisoner, among whom were Gen. La Vega, and other officers of rank, were captured. The enemy maintained his position bravely, and did not abandon it, without very severe loss. Our loss is stated to be about sixty, killed and wounded. So signal has been the defeat, that it is not believed the enemy will be able to assemble in any force for a considerable time. This event, with the arrival to-day of nearly one thousand volunteers from New Orleans, has placed the army in perfect security. It is my intention to dispatch such vessels of the squadron as are not in immediate want of water, to blockade the Mexican ports—leaving the Lawrence to cruise in this neighborhood for the protection of the vessels engaged in furnishing the army with supplies.

I am, very respectfully,
D. CONNOR,
Commanding Home Squadron.

Hon. GEORGE BANCROFT,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

D. S. Kaufman, Esq., member of Congress from Eastern Texas, left New Orleans for Washington city on the 19th. His majority is 1,009.—It is yet uncertain who is elected from Western Texas. The last accounts place Williams 9 votes
The Congress of the U. States having, by an act approved on the 13th May, 1846, declared that a state of war exists between the Republic of Mexico and that of the United States; and the President of the United States being by said act authorized "to call for and accept the services of any number of volunteers, not exceeding 50,000 for the purpose of enabling the Government of the United States to prosecute said war to a speedy and successful termination," and having called upon the Executive of this State, (unreadable) date of the 19th instant, "to cause to be enrolled and held in readiness for muster into the service of the United States three Regiments of Infantry," to be composed of volunteer corps—Now, therefore, I, William Smith, Governor of Virginia, by virtue of the authority with which I am invested, do announce to my fellow citizens the readiness to receive, for the purpose aforesaid the tender of the services of thirty companies of volunteers, to be formed into regiments when mustered into the service of the U. States. These companies must have the organization of the . . .[illegible] . . . the United States, and in their rank and file must consist of 64 men, not over 45, nor under 18 years of age, and of full "physical strength and vigor." Existing volunteer companies, tendering their services, will be permitted to retain their existing uniform; but all new companies must strictly conform, in their uniform to the prescribed by the general order of March, 1834.

No officer of militia, no matter what his grade will forfeit his commission by entering into the proposed volunteer service.

For information of the public, the uniform before referred to, as well as the company organization of the army of the United States, will be found in the subjoined general order.

The call to arms has, upon the generous and the brave, a magical effect. To the Virginian is has never been made in vain. Other States . . .[illegible] . . . rushing to fields of danger and of glory; and the sons of the Cavaliers will not be outstripped in this noble race of patriotism and duty.

Given under my hand, as Governor, and under the lesser seal of the Commonwealth at Richmond, this 23d day of May inst., [SEAL.] the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and forty-six, and of the Commonwealth the seventieth.

WM. SMITH.

The following organization of Volunteer Corps for service under the requisition of the President of the United States will be observed:

A company of Infantry will consist of.

1 Captain,
1 First Lieutenant,
1 Second Lieutenant,
4 Sergeants,
4 Corporals,
2 Musicians, and
64 Privates.

Thirty companies are required to constitute when called into service, three Regiments of Infantry—each Regiment to consist of.

1 Colonel,
1 Lieutenant Colonel,
1 Major,
1 Adjutant, (a Lieutenant of one of the companies, but not in addition.),
1 Sergeant Major,
1 Quarter-Master Sergeant,
2 Principal Musicians, and
10 Companies, according to the organization above.

Volunteer Corps now in commission tendering their services, and all new corps which may be raised for this service, will send to this department, with the tender of service, a written engagement, signed by all the members, to (unreadable) for twelve months after they shall have . . .[illegible] . . . at the place of rendezvous, or to the end of the war, unless sooner discharged—according to their discretion.
Old corps will retain the uniform now worn by them; new corps will uniform according to the pattern prescribed.

No man under the rank of a commissioned officer will be received, who is in years apparently over forty five or under eighteen, or who is not in physical strength and vigor.

Commandants of regiments within which volunteer corps for this service shall be raised, will superintend the enrollment, the election of officers to inspect the company, and certify the whole to this department. Commissions for this special service will then be issued to the officers of all new corps. Existing corps will be inspected in like manner and sign the enrolment.

Companies, when enrolled and commissioned will hold themselves in readiness for muster into the service of the United States when called for but it is recommended to the members not to abandon their ordinary occupations in the mean time further than to give such attention to training as may be convenient. By command. command.

WM. H. RICHARDSON, Adj't. Gen.

RE46v43i9p4c7, May 29, 1846: FORM OF ENROLMENT.

We, the undersigned, do hereby engage to serve in a volunteer company of infantry to constitute a portion of the three regiments required for the service of the United States, according to the terms of an act of Congress "providing for the prosecution of the existing war between the U. States and the Republic of Mexico," approved the 13th May, 1846—and to hold ourselves in readiness for muster into the service of the United States, when called upon by the Governor of Virginia.

RE46v43i9p4c7, May 29, 1846: UNIFORM OF THE INFANTRY. FIELD OFFICERS.

Coat—Dark blue cloth, single breasted, three rows of buttons on the breast, ten in each row at equal distances; the distance between the outer rows and the centre row to be four inches at top and two at bottom, measuring from the centre of eyes of the buttons; blind button holes of black twist or narrow black braid, from the centre buttons to the corresponding buttons in the centre rows; stand-up collar, to meet in front with hooks and eyes, and rise no higher than to permit the free turning of the chin over it; to be edged all around with gold lace, three quarters of an inch in width, with two straps of the same lace four and a half inches in length on each side, running back from the front, terminated by a button each. Cuff, three inches deep, with four blind button holes, of black twist or narrow braid, extending from four buttons, placed across on each, and two small buttons at the fastening. Skirts to reach to the bend of the knee, with blue turn-backs, or turn-backs marked with cord; the bottom of the skirts not less than three and a half, not more than five inches broad, with a star of silver at the connecting point of the turn-backs on each skirt; two hip buttons to range with the lower buttons on the breast, two buttons at the opening of the pocket of each skirt; collar and cuffs of blue cloth, plain or embroidered at pleasure.

Buttons—Silver or plated—convex—with the arms of Virginia on them.

Sword and Scabbard—Straight sword, silver hilt and white gripe; scabbard, steel or plated sword knot, silver cord and tassel; sword belt, black leather, to be worn over the coat.

Sash—Scarlet silk net, with buillon fringe ends; sash to go twice round the waist, and to be on the left hip to be worn under the belt.

Epaulets—Silver.

Hat—Cocked, without binding; fan or back part eleven inches; the front or cock nine inches, each corner six inches; black ribbons on the . . . [illegible] . . . front sides. Loop and cockade—Navy blue silk cockade, six inches diameter; loop, silver, eleven inches long, ornamented, with the arms of Virginia in silver.

Plume—White cock feathers, falling from anupright stem, eight inches long, in a silver socket.

Tassels—Silver, with worked hangers.

Cravat or Stock black.

Trowsers—From 1st October to 30th April dark blue cloth or cassimere; from 1st May to 30th September, white linen or cotton.
Boots worn under the trowsers.

Spurs—Silver or plated.

Gloves—White.

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RE46v43i9p4c7, May 29, 1846: FOR COMPANY OFFICERS AND PRIVATES.

Coat—Dark blue cloth, single-breasted, three rows of buttons on the breast, ten in each row, at equal distances; the distance between the outer rows and centre row to be four inches at top and two at bottom, measuring from the centre of the eyes of the buttons; blind button holes of black twist or narrow black braid, from the centre buttons to the corresponding buttons in the outer rows; stand-up collar, to meet in front with hooks and eyes, and rise no higher than to permit the free turning of the chin over it. For officers, to be edged all round with silver lace, three quarters of an inch wide, with two straps of the same lace, four and a half inches in length on each side, running back from the front, terminated by a button. Non-commissioned officers and privates to wear white worsted lace instead of silver. Cuff three inches deep, with four blind button-holes of black twist, or narrow braid, extending from four buttons, placed across on each and two small buttons at the fastening. Skirts to reach no lower than the middle of the thigh, with four blind holes of black twist, or narrow braid, on the pocket flaps, to correspond with the buttons.

Trowsers—From the 1st October to 30th April, dark blue cloth or cassimere; from 1st May to 30th September, white linen or cotton.

Cap—Black leather, round, with bell-crown, plated or silver scales and eagle.

Pompons—White, in silver or plated socket.

Buttons—Silver or plated, convex, seven-eighths of an inch diameter, the Arms of Virginia.

Wings—Silver scales and bullion for officers. For non-commissioned officers the same as for officers, except the bullion. For privates, white metal scales. Non-commissioned officers to wear white worsted lace instead of silver.

June

June 1, 1847, REv64i9p2c1, From the Brazos

U.S. Steamer Trumbal arrived on Saturday from the Brazos. We have received by this arrival the Matamoras Flag of 15th, and the Saltillo Picket Guard of 3d.

The following passengers came in the Trumball: Capts. Webster, and Crowenshields, Mass, Volunteers; Captain Claiborne of U.S. steamer, Col. Cross; Capt. Lansing, U.S.A.; Rev Mr. McElroy, Chaplain, U.S.A; Lieut. Frost, U.S. Voltiguers; M. Field, Mr. Coolridge, Mrs. Field, and 40 deck passengers, principally discharged volunteers.

The Picket Guard contains the following result of the court martial in case of Gen Lane and Col. Bowles:

INQUIRY IN THE CASE OF GEN. LANE.

Facts. –That at the battle of Buena Vista, on the 22d February, Gen. Lane commanded the 2d and 3d Regiments of Indiana Volunteers; that on the 23d he was in immediate command of the 2d Regiment of the Indiana Volunteers, and three pieces of artillery under the command of Lieut. O'Brien, and that the 2d Indiana Volunteers retreated from the field without any orders from Gen. Lane, on the 22d of February; but through the exertions of Gen. Lane and other officers from one hundred and fifty to two hundred men of the 2d Regiment Indiana Volunteers were rallied and attached to the Mississippi Regiment and the 3d Indiana Regiment, and remained with them on the field of battle during the remainder of the day.

Opinion. –The court are of opinion that during the whole period of the 22d and 23d of February, 1847, Brig. Gen. Lane conducted himself as a brave and gallant officer; and that no censure is attached to him for the retreat of the 2d Regiment Indiana Volunteers.

INQUIRY IN THE CASE OF COL. BOWLES.
Facts. – In reference to the first charge, it appears from the evidence, that Bowles is ignorant of the company, battalion or brigade drills, and that the maneuver of the evening of the 22d February, indicated in the third specification of that charge, was indicative of an ignorance of battalion drill.

In relation to the second charge, it appears from evidence before the court, that Colonel Bowles gave the order, "cease firing and retreat;" that Gen. Lane was present, and that he had no authority from Gen. Lane to give such orders.

It also appears that Col. Bowles retreated after having given the aforesaid command; but that he did not shamefully run away from the enemy, nor did he hide himself in any ravine from the enemy or from his regiment.

It appears, too, that Col. Bowles dismounted from his horse in rear of his regiment; but there is no evidence to show that he did so to protect himself from the enemy.

The court find that the fact of Col. Bowles having given the order above mentioned, did induce the regiment to retreat in disorder.

Col. Bowles gave this order with the intention of making the regiment leave its position; but the court does not find that he had been particularly ordered to maintain and defend it.

Opinion. – With reference to the first charge, the court is of the opinion that Col. Bowles is ignorant of the duties of the Colonel; but the court would remark that ill health, and absence on account of ill health, have, in some degree, prevented him from fitting himself for the duties of that office.

The court is of opinion that, at a time Col. Bowles gave the order "retreat," he was under the impression that the artillery had retreated, when, in fact, that battery had gone to an advanced position, under the orders of Gen. Lane, which orders had not been communicated to Col. Bowles.

And, in conclusion, the court find that throughout the engagement, and through the whole day, Col. Bowles evinced no want of personal courage or bravery; but that he did manifest a want of capacity and judgement as a commander.

[From the Matamoras Flag, May 15th.]

General Cadwallader, and staff, are at the camp of instruction, (Palo Alto,) fourteen miles below this place. Also, Col. A. C. Ramsay; Pennsylvania regiment; Lt. Col. Fay, 10th regiment; Major Morgan, 11th do; Major Talbott, 16th do.; Captains Carr, Lyberg Moore, Irwin, Waddell and Cummings, 11th regiment. Tow companies of dragoons, Captains Butler and Merrick. Five companies of voltiguers, Captains Bernard, Biddle, Howard, Edwards and Churchill. Tow companies of the 16th regiment, Captains Hendricks and Brennan –three companies of the 10th, and Captain Pitman's company of the 9th. These troops will remain at Palo Alto under strong discipline, and from thence, it is rumored, transferred to Vera Cruz.

Col. Humphrey Marshall; s Regiment of Kentucky Cavalry were in Camargo at last accounts on their way home. They will probably reach here in a day or two, and not be disbanded until they arrive at New Orleans.

It is stated in the Monterey Pioneer, upon the authority of a gentleman from San Luis Potosi, that but a few hundred effective troops were in that city and that the hospitals were filled with the sick an wounded, who were (illegible) of attention. A report (illegible) there that Gen. Taylor was within three days march of the city, which caused hundreds of the inhabitants to ramos with their property.

The Monterey Pioneer thinks that an advance upon San Luis is designed by Gen. Taylor, as unusual activity prevails in all the departments, and four trains, loaded with subsistence stores, have recently arrived at that place.

Lieutenant Waters, of the Alexandria company, Virginia regiment, died, a short time since at the town of China.

ESCAPED. – A young man named John Davis (an American we believe) was confined in prison Tuesday, charged with selling arms and ammunition, to Mexicans. Through the insecurity of the prison, or the carelessness of the sentry, he effected his escape during Thursday night last.

Romano Paz, a notorious Mexican robber and murderer was captured in the vicinity of Old Reynosa, by Captain Reid of the steamer Corvette, and brought down to this city on Wednesday last, where he is now imprisoned. It appears that he holds the rank of captain under Canales, and visited the settlements near Reynosa, for the purpose of inducing or forcing the Rancheros to join his standard. The people were not disposed to join him, and sought an opportunity to place him in the hands of the Americans. This was effected by informing Captain Reid of his whereabouts and designs, who collected a force from the boat, and made him prisoner, at a ranchero where he had been quartered for several days.

Gen. Urrea has issued a proclamation to the citizens of Cadareyta, very similar in tone to that of Santa Anna. He calls upon the town for a contribution towards supporting the war, and also orders under arms all the able bodied bales between ages of 16 and 45. Immediately after having issued this proclamation, he set off for the city of Mexico.
We understand that Mr. Simonds, beef contractor, well known to the army here, was attacked a few days ago, while on his way to Monterey, by some Mexican robbers. He was shot through the knee, so that the limb had to be amputated. One of the robbers was killed in the encounter. They made nothing that haul.

We regret to see, by the following letter, that there is a report of the defeat of Col. DONIPHAN. It comes, however, through Mexican sources, and we sincerely hope, will prove to be unfounded:

Special Correspondence of the Picayune.

CAMP WALNUT SPRINGS, (Near Monterey,) May 2, 1847.

There is a report here, derived from pretty good authority, from Col. Doniphan’s force, and of a very unwelcome character. It is derived from an attaché of the army as Silenas, a small town within about forty miles of this place, and he obtained the information from Mexicans who had just arrived. It is to the effect, that Col. Doniphan’s force had been attacked at a pas called Sierra Gordon, about half way between Saltillo and Chihuahua, by a Mexican force from Durango under Gen. Reiz –of whom I never recollect of hearing before –and that a Col. D. had been defeated with severe loss, and all his artillery captured. There may be some truth in this report, as the Col. was once on route to join Gen. Wool’s command at Saltillo. All we can do, is hope that the reported is unfounded, and await authentic information. The train will be off in a few moments, and I have not the time to write more.

J. E. D.

The Picket Guard of the 3d, however, makes no allusion to any report of this kind, and the only notice we see in it relative to Col. D., is the following:

‘Col. Doniphan must be within a few day’s march of this place. This may truly be called the marching command. But they have not hurt themselves much by it, if Mexican stories are believed, according to which they were not very scrupulous as to whose mules they took on the way, and infantry as well as cavalry were all mounted. They have not received a cent of pay since they loft home, nor clothing from the Government, so that, as far as outward appearances are concerned, they must be a shabby looking set. It appears they are generally clothed in buckskin. There is no doubt, however, they are some in a fight. Some English gentlemen, who arrived yesterday from Durango, report Col. Doniphan to have started from Chihuahua on the 1st of April for this part of the country, by way of San Jose del Parral. On the route they saw Gen. Garcia Conde on his way to Durango with about 150 men, having as prisoner General Heredia, who commanded at the battle of the Sacamentos. He is accused to treason, and of being fond of American gold. All the rest of the troops had dispersed for their homes. Durango was in a great state of alarm, dreading the arrival of Gen. Wool, which was expected by them daily. Mr. James Magoffin was a prisoner, with the city for his prison limits, but well treated by the Mexicans. Everything was quiet in California, the whole country in possession of the Americans, and a very great influx of families and settlers from Oregon.’

[BJM]
We take from the *Eagle* the following account of the recent surprise at Santa Fe:

MEXICAN TREACHERY. –One of those bloody and brutal acts which seem to be characteristic of the lower order of the Mexican people, was committed at Santa Fe, about 8 or 9 miles from this city, on Wednesday night last. It appears that a detachment of seventy-odd dragoons, belonging to the command of Col. Harney, left Jalapa some days since in command of Lieut. Hill, with the intention of visiting this city to procure a further supply of horses. On arriving at Santa Fe, nine of the men were left behind in consequence of illness on their part, and the fatigue of their horses.

Lieut. Hill and his command continued on, feeling that those who were left behind were perfectly safe, and soon afterwards reached this city, where he has been detained, although it was his expectation that he would have returned the next morning. Nothing further was heard from the men until Thursday morning, when news reached here informing us that a large party of Mexicans had attacked and literally cut them to pieces in a most shocking manner. One of them was killed on the spot, and five others were mutilated in such a manner as to strike any one with horror at the sight. Means of transportation were furnished, and the survivors brought to the city as soon as possible. One of the number, however, died on Thursday night, and two others were reported last evening, by the surgeon, as unable to survive their wounds during the night. The hand of one was cut off above the wrist. The abdomen of another was cut in such a manner as to allow his bowels to protrude. Another has several sabre cuts on his head, and the arms and bodies of others are hacked and mangled to as to render the description almost incredible. Captain Walker left this city on Thursday morning, accompanied by his Mounted Riflemen, in search of the murderers, and encountered a large body of Mexicans, whom he attacked and succeeded in killing four. A yet, we believe there has not been anything received of a positive nature in regard to the number killed. However much this kind of warfare is to be deprecated by us, we can see no other alternative than to fight them in their own way, if they will no fight us fairly. We still trust that some measure will be discovered by which this cowardly system of butchery may be obviated, and that when American blood must flow, it may be in open and honorable combat; the enemy in front, instead of sneaking behind the back.

The editor of the "Picket Guard" very vigorously defends the two Indiana regiments. He says:

"The plain truth of the matter is, that the 2d Indiana regiment, under the command of Gen. Lane and Col. Bowles, 'opened the ball' on the (illegible) of the 23d on the extreme left, in an advanced position, where they met the concentrated force of the enemy, their line raked from left to right by grape (illegible) from one sic and two (illegible) and rear exposed to the enemy's infantry, who were engaged with the riflemen in the mountain. Here they stood unmoved, until they had the enemy, when they were ordered to cease firing and retreat.

"It is due to Indiana to say, that they four rifle companies from the two regiments of that brigade opened the fight on the mountain on the 22d, that the 2d regiment opened the fight on the morning of the 23d; that the 3d Indiana lost the last man that was killed on the field, Capt. Taggart, of company E., and occupied, in conjunction with the 1st Illinois, the advanced position on the night of the 23d, when the enemy drew off."

MAJOR GENERAL PATTERSON. –In the General Orders of Gen. Scott, directing the manner of march of the first body of the volunteers, returning home to be discharged, he says:

"Maj. Gen. Patterson, rendered for the moment, supernumerary with this army, will accompany the returning volunteers of his late gallant division, and render them such assistance, on the way as he well knows how to give. He will report, in person, as Washington, or by letter from New Orleans, for further orders from the War Department.

"This distinguished general officer will please accept the thanks of the General-in-Chief for the gallant, able and efficient support uniformly received from the second in rank of this army."


RETURNED VOLUNTEERS. –Brig *Russell*, from Vera Cruz, with three companies Tennessee Volunteers, and Regiment, and 1 company of Kentucky Volunteers.

Brig *Billow*, with 140 of the 2d Illinois Regiment.

Ship *Pharsalia* arrived yesterday, with about 280 of the 1st Tennessee Cavalry, with Colonel Thomas, Maj. Waterhouse, Capts. Cooper, Newman, Haines and (illegible); Lieuts Richardson, Brownlow, McCabe, Leftwich, Chambliess, Kirk, Donnelly, Allen, McKnight, Johnston, Woodson, Gossett, Bell, Allen and Anderson; Surgeon Alsop, and Assistant Surgeons Walker and Donoho. –*[N.O. Bulletin, May 24]*

*BJM*

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*June 1, 1847, REv64i9p2c4, Prospects of Peace*

Of the charges most bitterly urged against the Administration by the Whig press, is that of boundless "lust of dominion," and the most immoderate conditions required of Mexico in the negotiation of a peace. It has over and
over again been asserted, that the President would be satisfied with nothing less that the acquisition of the whole of Mexico. This wholesale denunciation has been fully met, but the Whig papers still keep up the cry. We are, however, glad to see that one of them has the firmness to represent the Administration as not an uncompromising "land robber," or as a monstrous Ogre, voracious enough to swallow the whole of Mexico one meal. A letter from Washington in the N.Y. Courier refers to the statement in the New Orleans papers, that Mr. Trist had arrived at Vera Cruz, armed with authority to negotiate a peace with Mexico, in co-operation with Gen. Scott; that he (Mr. Trist) had held long and confidential conversations of such importance as to justify the belief that "Mr. Trist is the government in Mexico." So much only of this "important mission," says the Washington writer, had publicly transpired at N. Orleans; and he proceeds to supply, upon the authority of a "well informed correspondent" of that city, the following additional particulars, which, if true, are important enough. —We have been so often deceived buy the "signs of the times" in regard to the operation of cause and effect in Mexican policy, that we shall not now express an opinion as to the result. The statements, however, reveal the fact that, in the view of one Whig at least, the Administration is anxious to close the war upon terms which ought to be entirely satisfactory to Mexico. If, therefore, Mexico shall madly refuse to negotiate after the magnanimous and liberal conduct on our part, the whole world will hold our Government free from blame for the continuance of the war:

"That Mr. Trist had communicated from Vera Cruz with Gen. Scott at Jalapa; that, in all probability, Mr. Trist would proceed with the next train to Jalapa; and that the negotiation might, perhaps, be brought very suddenly to a favorable conclusion. This is not absolutely certain; but from the diplomatic survey of Gen. Scott, and a reconnoitering officer in Mexico, the exceedingly strong probability now is that we shall soon have peace. Buena Vista was a more brilliant affair than Cerro Gordo; but the results of the latter are likely to be of incalculably more importance. —If Scott, after conquering the army of Mexico in the field, should now, in conjunction with Mr. Trist sign a treaty of peace in "the Halls of the Montezuamas," he will have achieved glory enough, even although he should never be President.

"Rest assured, there was a perfect understanding with Scott and the Administration, and that the terms on which both coincide in the opinion are" Upper California and New Mexico, and no other or greater portion of territory; and the right o the way across the Isthmus if it can be obtained —These terms are so much more moderate that were anticipated by Mexico, that whenever they are promulgated it is believed that the popular voice of Mexico will be clamorous for peace. --Unless, then, the Mexicans are more besotted than Hottentots or Esquimaux, we must have peace."

[BJM]

June 4, 1847, REV64i10p1c5, Late From the City of Mexico

We received on Monday evening papers from the city of Mexico to the 8th inst., forwarded by Mr. Kendall. They are a week later than any papers before received. We were too crowded yesterday to make much use of them, and now recur to them, as they contain some news of the importance, yet more rumors, and relate many facts which serve to illustrate the state of affairs in the interior of Mexico.

The Mexicans seize upon the slightest pretext of rumor for believing they have inflicted injury upon our forces. It was reported and believed at Puebla on the 9th inst., that the guerrillas of New Leon and Coahuila had attacked and gained possession of a supply train, at the same time wounding Gen. Taylor.

Another rumor, credited both in Puebla and the city of Mexico, is that Gen. Scott was ill at Jalapa with dysentery, and that for this reason and the want of troops he would defer his advance upon Puebla. There is no foundation for the rumor of his illness, we are happy to say.

Another Mexican story was that Gen. Urrea was threatening Tampico, if he had not already taken it; and yet another story was to the effect that a party of guerrillas had seized $60,000 in gold belonging to the Americans. By such miserable rumors the people of the capital are continually deluded. It serves to feed their false hopes, to keep in circulation idle reports of this kind.

A Puebla paper of the 9th instant says, that the President Substitute has at last ordered General Santa Anna to be supplied with men, muskets, heavy ordnance, and, more than all, with money. There would appear to have been some difficulty between General Bravo, "the commander of the Army of the Centre," and Anaya, before the demands of Santa Anna were complied with. From the intimations thrown out, we infer that Bravo was reluctant to spare any means from the capital.

In our last, we alluded to a letter from Durango, dated the 26th of April. If is so important and significant, that we give it entire:

"Blessed be God, we are now relieved from the fear which the coming of the4 Yankees had spread amongst us, as they have returned to Chihuahua, in as much as a general massacre has been attempted by the conquered New Mexicans and Pasenos, joined with a tribe of Navajoe Indians —all led on, as is said, by the few padres who serve in New Mexico. The insurrection, as it has been described to us, was so decisive, and made with such effect, that even the women flew at the throats of our Texas neighbors, the number killed by them being very considerable. They say also that the New Mexicans encouraged by their triumph, are coming to avenge the outrage upon Chihuahua. God grant it may be true!"
The insurrection here alluded to is doubtless that which has already been effectually quelled. Our advises from Santa Fe, via St. Louis, are to the 19th of April, when all was quiet there, and the officers of justice were meeting out punishment to those engaged in the murderous insurrection. If anything were required to justify the measures of severity which have been taken at Taos by American authorities, we think the spirit of the letter we have just given is of itself sufficient.

The Legislature of the powerful State of Jalisco has appropriated the revenue derived from tobacco in the State, diverting it altogether from the use of the Central Government. It is well known that the government derives a large portion of its income from this source. The Republicano reproaches the authorities of Jalisco with this diversion of funds, and adds: "If the Union is to be deprived of these general revenues, and if obstacles are to be opposed whenever an attempt is made to create new sources of income, let us ask the authorities of the States in what manner can the war be carried on?"

The same paper mentions that the office for the administration of the tobacco revenues, with all the attaches thereto, is to be removed from the capital, with an escort of military for its protection. This, says the Republicano, strikes us as very strange, for if the office is to seek a place where it cannot be attacked by the enemy, for this very reason the military and the battalions of the Guard ought not to go there.

There is a great destitution of arms, as is already known, throughout the country. It having been reported that there were six thousand muskets for sale at Guadalajara, the authorities of the State of Guanajuato dispatched Gen. Alcayaga thither at once to buy them all up for the State. It turned out that there were none to be had, but the incident gibs color to the idea that the individual States are now looking to their own defense rather than relying upon the General Government for safely on contributing their means to the Central Government.

The decree suppressing the liberty of the press within the Federal District of Mexico, mentioned in Mr. Kendall's letter which we published yesterday, is dated the 5th inst., and was promulgated the following day. By it the press is forbidden to engage in political and military discussions, or to express censure upon the supreme authorities, or in any way to throw discredit upon the army or its commanders. The preamble alleges that the abuse of the liberty of the press has been scandalous; that the papers have promoted dissensions, reciprocal distrust and disunion, whereby the foreign enemy is indirectly protected and the defense of the country rendered every day more difficult.

El Republicano of the 7th inst. comes out in a noble article rebuking the Government for this measure. It makes an earnest appeal to the conscience and understanding of President Anaya to retrace the false step. In the course of the article the army comes in for a large share of the indignation of the Editors, and some wholesome truths are told to Mexicans on the subject. --"Would to God," says the (illegible) army had been brought into disrepute by the press, instead of by a series of inglorious defeats, which in the course of a single year have covered with shame the name of Mexico, and increased (illegible) of the well-organized armies of Europe." And again the Republicano reproaches the army with having cost the country the enormous sum of three hundred millions of dollars since its independence was achieved; and yet, from want of discipline, it has never been able to maintain any established order of things; it has been torn by incessant civil wars; it now supports officers enough for an army eight times more numerous that the Mexican army numbers, and promotions in it have been gained by distinctions in civil war alone. Moreover, to support (illegible) country (illegible) been crushed with an immense foreign debt and involved in a frightful bankruptcy. Under such circumstances the army should respond with something more than a series of disgraceful routs. We only indicate the tone of the article in the Republicano towards the army. That paper has no further faith in it, and relies solely upon guerrilla warfare for the salvation of the country. It seems strange that a paper which reasons so powerfully upon the freedom of the press --we would reproduce the article were it not several columns long--and which appreciates so perfectly the desperate state of the country and the enormous burden of a licentious soldiery, should still be the steadfast advocate of the continuance of the war. But looking to the future of Mexico, it is gratifying to see such a paper as El Republicano pointing out to its countrymen the insupportable grievance of such a military establishment as that Mexico now supports.

Our readers will be interested to know what measure have been taken in the capital to defend it upon the approach of our troops. We cannot do this more effectually than by giving the whole of a proclamation promulgated by Gov. Trigueros on the 7th inst:

PROCLAMATION

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the Centre yesterday addressed me the following decree:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE CENTRE.
Mexico, May 6, 1847

The Federal District of this State being declared in a state of siege, it becomes my duty to comply with the 6th article of the law of the 26th of April last; and in order to meet the anxious wishes of the patriotic citizens of this city to arm themselves to repel our unjust invaders, I hereby, in conformity with the powers in me vested, ordain:

1. That all Mexican citizens of the age of fifteen to sixty years, residing in the Federal District, will present themselves for enrolment at the place in their quarter or section which may be designated by
the municipal authorities.

2. The Selectmen of the city, and those who in the other settlements of the district exercise their functions, will, on receipt of this decree, designate in their respective quarters or sections the place where the enrolment is to be made, presiding over them either in person or by substitutes.

3. The same functionaries will, within six days from the publication of this decree, deliver unto the chief of the staff a register, containing in regular order the age, profession or occupation, residence, and whether single or married, of all Mexicans of the ages of fifteen to sixty years, who may reside in their quarter or section.

4. In conformity with these returns, the persons enlisted will be divided into two classes—one class containing the unmarried and the widowers without children, from the age of fifteen to forty years, the other class the married men and the widowers having family, and also bachelors from forty to sixty years.

5. Form those enlisted will be formed as many battalions of each class as there may be in each quarter or section. Should any remain over, there may be formed into one or more companies or squadrons, according to their number.

6. The force of these battalions is to be in accordance with the law of the 12th of June, 1846.

7. The General-in-Chief will appoint the person, who, during the state of siege, in which this district may find itself, shall command the battalions and companies formed by this decree, and whose functions shall cease as soon as the siege is raised.

8. Every enlisted citizen shall receive a certificate proving his enlistment, signed by the commander of the corps to which he may be attached and by the corps to which he may be attached, and my the Selectman of his quarter or section, and countersigned by the chief of the staff of the General-in-Chief.

9. Of the bodies which may be formed in each quarter or section there will be created, according to their number, one or more brigades, to be commanded by a person to be designated by the General-in-Chief.

10. All citizens will attend daily drill, and will perform such other duties as may be ordered, under the penalties established by law.

11. Whoever, at the approach of the enemy, the heat of the drum or at the sounds of any other signal calling to the common defense, shall not present himself at the place to which he may be ordered, or shall show cowardice, lukewarmness or indifference, or shall abandon the post in which he may be places as guard or sentinel, fail in respect to his superiors, or commit any other military crime, shall be punished according to the ordinances.

12. Whoever shall, in order to escape enlistment, conceal his age, either by exaggerating or diminishing it, shall be look upon as a traitor, and will be punished accordingly.

13. The authority or person who shall in any manner cover or aid in concealing the crime specified in the preceding article, will be subject to the same punishment.

14. Whoever shall hide himself and shall not have the certificate mentioned in Article No. 8, will be enrolled in the regular army.

15. The bodies created by the decree are destined solely and exclusively to repel the invaders and to maintain order, and will render services to that effect according to the law of 26th April last.

16. All who are enrolled and perform active duties as members of the National Guard, or who may be serving in garrison, will be exempt from serving in these bodies.

17. Owners of hotels, inns and boarding houses must make a daily return of the persons who enter their houses, and of those who leave, under the penalties established by law.

18. All of which I communicate in your Excellency or speedy publication in this capital and settlements in this district. God and Liberty.

NICHOLAS BRAVO

[BJM]
June 4, 1847, REv64i10p2c1, Important from Mexico

Gen. Worth at Puebla –Advance of the Army – Herrera Elected President of Mexico –Capture of (illegible)

At an early hour this morning (says the N.O. Delta, May 27) the steamship Palmetto arrived from Vera Cruz bringing dates from that city to the 22d and from Jalapa to the 21st. We are in receipt of our full correspondence, but have only time to give the following brief extracts, at this late hour.

Our correspondent "Mustang," writes from Jalapa, under the date of the 21st inst. –"We have positive information of the arrival of Gen. Worth's command at Puebla. On the approach of our army to the city Gen. Santa Anna, who was there at the time supplying his troops with some necessities, sent out a detachment to engage Gen. Worth until he could procure his supplies but the encounter was soon over, and Santa Anna and his army compelled to fly. In the skirmish there were four Mexicans killed –our loss none. He has retreated towards the city of Mexico. One report says he is at Santa Martin, a town about 28 miles from Puebla, but it is generally conceded that his main force, upwards of 12,000 men, have gone to Rio Frio, where he is preparing for another engagement. –The latter place is said to be a naturally strong point, and can be made to offer strong resistance, but if Cerro Gerdo could not resist the brigade of Gen. Twiggs, what position can avail the Mexican chieftain?

"The train looked for the past few days has arrived, together with Capt. Walker and Ruft with their commands. The army here will move four miles on the Perote road to-morrow evening, and on Sunday take up its line of the march. No stop will be made at Perote. If we should not halt at Puebla, to hear the result of some more propositions of peace from the American government, you may soon expect to receive my letters dated at capital of the Republic."

JALAPA, 11 o'clock, A.M., May 21, 1847

Eds. Delta: -The "diligence" is about leaving –I write to give you the latest up to departure. The Mexicans have a report here, which is credited by the Americans generally, that Herrera is elected President of Mexico, and that he is disposed to treat for peace. The "diligence" from Puebla is looked for momentarily, which will give us the correct position of affairs at the Capital. –If it should arrive in time to overtake the line towards Vera Cruz, I will send an express to overhaul it. The reason assigned by the Mexicans for Herrera being willing to make peace with us is that he desires to prevent our taking possession of the Capital of the Republic, which he says will be the inevitable result if the Mexicans do not come to terms. Shall we be delayed by soothing promises and friendly professions, or shall we march on, conquering and to conquer? I hope the word will be "Onward!" and not wait until they have placed the Capital in a proper state of defense, and then bid us defiance. "Delays are dangerous," and may cause us to lose many gallant officers and soldiers. Herrera, no doubt, is favorably disposed; but can he control the factions? Once in possession of the City of Mexico we can treat on what terms we please.

The Army is under marching orders for tomorrow evening at 3 o'clock. Gen. Twiggs’ column will move at that hour, if no unforeseen circumstances intervene. Nothing further from Gens. Worth and Quitman, except that they were resting from the fatigues of the march in Puebla.

Gen. Shields had an attack of pleurisy two nights ago, but is recovering from the effect of it, and also his wound, He expects to be able to leave for the United States about the 10th of next month.

Capt. Walker is encamped with his recruits close to the town. It was generally supposed he would be arrested for the course he pursued in reference to a guerilla party he came in contact with. But I understand his course is approved of. The Alcalde of Santa Fe, who had been harboring the bandit, and in whose possession the property and clothing of the murdered dragoons were found, had to share the same fate as those who committed the murder. Served him right.

JALAPA, May 21, 12o'clock.

Eds. Delta –The Diligence has arrived from Puebla, but nothing official had arrived from the capital previous to its departure. The passengers state that it was current at that place Herrera had been elected President. I received a letter from Puebla, of which the following is an extract:

"We entered this place on the 15th inst. The of the men, and have killed two. We were attacked in Amasoc by Santa Anna, with about 1500 cavalry –he lost 3 killed and 7 wounded. –The old codger took a fir of leaving for Mexico, (illegible).

I have seen another letter, from an intelligent source, to a gentleman in this place, which says that Santa Anna retreated from Puebla to San Martin, and subsequently left for the city of Mexico, also that we are to be met on the road, somewhere, with 10,000 men, under one General, whose name I don not recollect, and 4000 under Minon. So mote if be –the more the better. No doubt buy the time we meet them, their force will be augmented to double the number. We also learn that murders and robberies are being committed on the road daily, both by horsemen and footmen. (illegible).

Our correspondent at Vera Cruz, under date of the 22d inst., writes us as follows –just as the Palmetto was leaving:
“One hundred and twenty Quartermaster’s mules, loaded with four and pork, on their road to rendezvous at Santa Fe, were attacked late last evening, three miles from here. The muleteers were fired upon, but I cannot learn whether any were killed. Most of the muleteers have just returned and report that the entire train was captured. This is no rumor. I have facts from the Quartermaster here.”

THE PENNSYLVANIA REGIMENTS. –We learn from the American Star, published at Jalapa, that a part of the 1st and the whole of the 2d Regiments of Pennsylvania Volunteers will remain at Jalapa, and with the 3d Artillery form the garrison of that town under Lieut. Col. Childs.

June 4, 1847, Rev64i10p2c2, Later from the Brazos

The brig Henry, Capt. Cole arrived last night from the Brazos, having left there on the 20th May, (says the New Orleans Delta.) By this arrival we have dates from Matamoros to the 19th, and from Monterey to the 9th May. There is no news of any importance of Gen. Taylor’s column. The Monterey and Matamoros papers are principally filled with extracts taken from the New Orleans papers. We clean from the Matamoros Flag, of the 19th inst., the following items:

Carabjal still keeps himself in the vicinity of (illegible) is about sixty miles from there, on the San Fernando road. The force under his command is small –not exceeding fifty men –but sufficient to plunder all treading parties coming in or going out from Matamoros.

Capt. (illegible) has already been made in our columns, died from the effects of his wounds on the 17th inst. Capt M. was a partner and not the Clerk of Mr. Sinclair, as previously stated. The assassin has been placed in close confinement.

CAUGHT A TARTAR. –Between Camargo and Mier, a short time ago, three Mexicans were waylaying the road to rob a Mexican merchant of Matamoros, who they knew was coming down from Mier with a large amount of money in his possession. The merchant had three men with (illegible) the spot where the robbers had posed themselves that three Texan Rangers, who had been out on a scout, struck into the road a short distance ahead of him, pursuing their way down to Camargo. –It was after dark, and the robbers mistook the Rangers for the merchant’s party. They ordered them to halt and deliver, and the Rangers did halt and deliver, but they delivered bullets instead of money, and left not a robber to carry off his load –all were killed, and the merchant passed down in safety.

The mule train which left Matamoros about the 12th inst. For Camargo, under an escort of Massachusetts Volunteers, commanded my Capt. Walsh, reached there in safety. The report about their being attacked, and the mules stampeding turned out to be incorrect.

The 9th, 11th, 12th, 14th and 15th Regiments of Infantry, and the Regiment of Voltiguers, had been ordered to Gen. Scott. The 10th, 13th, and 16th Regiments of Infantry and the 3d Dragoons, had been ordered to join General Taylor.

It was reported in Matamoros that Lieutenant Colonel Randolph, of the Virginia Regiment, had, with a portion of his command, captured, on the 5th instant, 40 of Canales’ men, at China.

The 1st Mississippi Regiment under Colonel Davis, was to have left Cerralvo on the 20th May, for the month of the Rio Grande. Colonel Davis was fast recovering from his wounds.

The health of General Taylor’s army was generally good. The smallpox, which at one time created considerable alarm among the troops and the Mexican inhabitants in Saltillo, had nearly disappeared.

The remains of Lieutenant R. L. Moore, of the 1st Mississippi Regiment, who was killed at the battle of Buena Vista, were brought over from the Brazos on board the brig Henry, under the charge of Colonel C. E. Smeads and J. E. Tappen.

We make the following extracts from Kendall’s letters at Jalapa, in an Extra Picayune:

JALAPA, Mexico, May 20, 1847

There is no mistake that General Scott’s proclamation which went directly home to every reflecting Mexican, is doing a great deal of good.

We are still without farther positive news of General Worth, and it is now almost certain that his dispatches are cut off. He would hardly enter so rich and populous a city as is Puebla without sending an official account of it to General Scott –at least such is the impression.

The Mexicans here have news from the city of Mexico, which we cannot get hold of, their own couriers doubtless running regularly. One of the men told me last night that fifteen battalions of the National Guard have been
thoroughly organized at the capital, that fortifications are already in process of construction at or near Rio Frio, that the hells have been run up into cannon, and that the owners of an iron foundry at the city of Mexico, Englishmen, have been compelled to cast balls on the promise of remuneration hereafter. Understand, distinctly, that I get all this from a Mexican, and that it must be taken with allowances; but that there is now a prospect of another fight, and a hard one, is considered certain my many. To my thinking, it will depend much upon the result of he election of President, news of which has not as yet reached the Americans here. If Herrera had been chosen, and there certainly was a party in his favor, it may be put down as a guaranty that peace measures will prevail. On the other hand, if Santa Anna had been elected, or a friend of his, the struggle may be protracted, and another stand made this side of the capital. It is now certain that Santa Anna was not at the city of Mexico to control the late election in person, although his approach with an armed force may have had some effect upon the States of Puebla and Mexico.

The four individuals I spoke of yesterday as having been guilty of robbery, received a portion of their sentence last evening and the rest this morning. A most disgraceful figure did they cut, marching through the street with their heads shaved, the word 'robber' pinned upon their backs, and a band of music playing the "Rogue's March" immediately in their rear. Their names were Henry Reed, Hugh Duane, and Benj. Potter, of the 4th Artillery, and the D. F. Revalon, of the 2d Pennsylvania Volunteers. The latter was found guilty of horse stealing; the three former of breaking twice into a house of the same Mexican, and the threats and violence robbing him of everything he possessed. Hard and degrading as was their punishment, everyone says it was deserved.

June 4, 1847, Rev64i10p2c4, News from the Army

In another column we give some very interesting intelligence from the Delta. We extract a few additional particulars from the Picayune. –We deeply lament the death of Capt. Stevens T. Mason. He was brave and generous and beloved by all.

The reported election of Herrera (the friend of peace) as President of Mexico (Gen. Scott, in his late Proclamation refers to him as the former "virtuous and patriotic President," the flight of Santa Anna from Puebla, and the capture of that populous and wealthy city by generals Worth and Quitman, form new elements of calculation as to the probabilities of peace of continued war.

We take great pleasure in recording the capture of a party of guerillas to the number of 40, but L. Col. Randolph of the Virginia Regiment. We are glad that our "boys" have had a little "chance."

Gen. Worth entered Puebla on the afternoon of the 15th, after a short skirmish with a party of lancers sent out to delay his advance.

Santa Anna was in the city at the moment, but at once left, and pushed on towards the Capital.

It was reported that Gen. Valencia was between Puebla and the capital at the head of fourteen thousand men to resist our further advance but this is doubtful.

The result of the presidential election was not known. Santa Anna, Elloriaga and Herrera were candidates among others.

Santa Anna is said to have had a considerable force with him when he passed through Puebla –variously estimated form 1,500 to 10,000. It is shrewdly suspected that he intends to use his force to maintain his personal position and secure the Presidency.

Capt. Mayo, of the navy, Governor of Alvarado, started on the 13th May from Talascoya. –The town surrendered to him without resistance. On his return he was fired upon and Passed Midshipman Prigle and five seamen were badly wounded.

D. Barton, Surgeon U.S.A. has been appointed President of the Board of Health at Vera Cruz.

A party of guerillas has been surprised and taken close to Vera Cruz –fifteen in number. We have not room for particulars, but it is not yet mentioned that they have been hung.


Gen. Shields continues to improve slowly –Capt. Mason, of the Rifles, we are pained to learn, died on the 15th.

The U.S. sloop-of-war St. Mary’s, John L. Saunders, esq., commander, anchored in Hamton Roads on Monday night, 21 days from the Gulf of Mexico. She has done good service in the campaign. She brings as trophies of war, thirty pieces of cannon captured at Vera Cruz –ranging from 6 to 32-pounders. The most of them are brass, and from their inscriptions must be very similar to the beautiful guns in our Armory Yard. They were made in France, Spain and a
few in England. The Norfolk Beacon hopes that they will be deposited at Fort Monroe.

The *Union* says: Capt. Sands, late of the U. States steamer *Vixen*, cruising in the Gulf of Mexico, arrived in town today with the dispatches from Commodore Perry for the Navy Department. He brings with him a number of flags taken from the enemy at Tuspan –also those of the *Truxton* which were recaptured. Capt. S. is also in charge of some beautiful brass ordnance taken from the castle of San Juan de Ulloa, brought as trophies to be put at the disposal of the government. They are now on board the U. S. ship *St. Mary’s* arrived at Norfolk on Monday last.

**June 4, 1847, REv64i10p4c1, Late from General Scott’s Army**


By the arrival of the schr.*Eleanor Stevens*, Captain Hall, from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the 15th May, we have letters from Jalapa to the 14th May, -three days later than our previous advices, (says the N. O. Picayune.)

The movement of Santa Anna upon Puebla is mentioned in Mr. Kendall’s letter below. –Hopes are entertained that Gen. Worth may be so fortunate as to encounter him. The probable motives of Santa Anna are conjectured by Mr. K. Gen. Worth left Perote for Puebla on the 10th with his own and Gen. Quitman’s divisions. He was expected to enter Puebla on Sunday, the 16th. It is supposed the authorities of the town will come out to meet him and escort him in.

All will be glad to learn that Gen. Shields is mending, though slowly, and that Gen. P. F. Smith has reported for duty.

Gen. Scott is still detained at Jalapa. The reasons for his detention are mentioned by Mr. Kendall. It will also be seen by his letter that Mr. Trist has arrived at the general’s head-quarters.

The last number of the *Star* informs us that rumors were right on the 12th May, that the troops at Orizaba had pronounced against Santa Anna, and made him prisoner. The *Star* is incredulous, and Mr. K.’s letter of the 14th does not confirm the news.

Col. Childs is governor of Jalapa, and will remain there with 2,000 picked troops when Gen. Scott moves on to Puebla. The city of Jalapa is entirely quiet and orderly. No rows or disturbances have occurred there.

We have a paper printed at Puebla on the 9th May. It announces positively that Gen. Taylor had left Saltillo and marched wither upon Zacatecas or San Luis Potosi. One report says with 4,000 men upon the former State, and 6,000 on the latter. Would that he had the force to do so.

The Yankee, or “foreign legion,” organized by Santa Anna from deserters from our armies, has been disbanded and ordered out of the city. Their immorality and insubordination are assigned for this proceeding. Their manners, the Mexicans say, are not at all adapted to their society.

A letter from Durango, dated the 26th of April, states positively that Col. Doniphan’s forces had fallen back upon Chihuahua, instead of advancing upon Durango. We think that there can be no doubt of this fact, and consequently that Col. Doniphan has not been defeated. The insurrection in New Mexico is assigned as the cause of his return.

*Editorial Correspondence of the Picayune.*

**JALAPA, MEXICO, May 14, 1847**

For two or three days there has hardly been an item of news worth recording –not even a rumor of the least movement; but last evening and this morning reports have come in which are entitled to some little show of importance.

It is now confidently asserted that Santa Anna has moved from Orizaba, and in the direction of Puebla and the city of Mexico. The *administrador de las diligencias* –general stage agent I suppose he might be called in the vernacular –left yesterday for the capital on business for the line, but this morning he returned with more speed that he went. He reports having met at Cerro de Leon, near Perote, with a force of seventy armed Mexicans, whose appearance he did not at all like. From stragglers he learned that Santa Anna, with a large force, and passed on toward Puebla; that he roads were filled with robbers and brigands, and that it would not be prudent for him to go on –so the administrator de las diligencias returned without effecting the object of his mission.

Last night an intelligent Spaniard informed me that he had seen two letters from Orizaba, one dated the 6th and the other the 7th inst. ON the first day the letter stated that the first brigade or division of the Santa Anna’s army started en route for Puebla, and on the 7th the other division marched in the same direction. His entire force was put down at 2,500, the most of them indifferently armed and under little or no discipline.
It Santa Anna has moved towards the capital, and there certainly is good reason to believe that he has, his intentions are doubtless to control the election for President, which takes place tomorrow. He cannot certainly have the temerity to even think of attacking Gen. Worth, whose division could put to light 10,000 of the best Mexican troops that ever bore arms; so that the conviction is irresistible that he intends having a hand in the coming election. One would naturally think that, after his many disgraceful reverses, he would either attempt to leave the country, or else hide himself in an obscure part of it; but the cowardly tyrant loves lower and place too well, and will cling to them as long as there is a dollar, a musket, and an open road, on which to run, left in the Republic.

Mr. Downie, sutler of the 2d Pennsylvania Regiment, arrived here yesterday. It may be recollected that he had a large sum of money stolen from him at Vera Cruz by a Mexican, a short time since, that he pursued the rascal to Cordova, and that he succeeded in recovering the most of his money. So far, so good; but the worst of it has yet to be told. Mr. D. came out with the permission of the Alcalde and authorities of Vera Cruz in search of the robber of his money, found him, and succeeded, as is said above, in recovering the most of his treasure; but just at this moment a worse robber got hold of him in the shape of Santa Anna; poor D. was cast into prison as a spy, all his money again taken from him, and the only way by which he could obtain his liberty was to acknowledge himself as a spy in writing! This Santa Anna insisted upon as an excuse for robbing him of his money; but, on the other hand, Downie insisted as well in putting a protest at the bottom of his confession, stating that all he had said above was false! The way in which Downie now speaks of Santa Anna is anything but complimentary.

*The long wagon train is now coming into the city from Vera Cruz, and has met with no opposition on the way.* There are between three and four hundred wagons, and between eleven and twelve hundred pack mules in the train—quite a long string, you would think, were you to see them all together. Capt. Grayson, the stirring and most popular commissary, is along with the train, and I am pleased to learn is going on towards certain halls named after the elder Montezuma.

The foreigners in the city of Mexico area all extremely anxious for the arrival of Gen. Scott. It is said that a heavy sum has already been subscribed for a grand Fourth of July dinner—one individual, an Irishman, having put down his name for no less than $800. The war has been most disastrous to all the foreigners, breaking up the business of many entirely. The only advantage it has been to any has been the depreciation if has caused in the value of real estate. Houses in the city of Mexico, belonging to the church, and which have been sold under the hammer, have been bought in by the English and other merchants at prices far below their real value.

You will doubtless learn with pleasure, as will doubtless his numerous friends in New Orleans, that Gen. P. F. Smith has again reported for duty. For no less than a month he was unable to put his foot to the ground, to such a degree was his ankle inflamed. I am also happy in being able to state that Gen. Shields is still mending, although slowly. The saving of his life may be put down almost as a miracle. I saw him but a sort time after he received his dreadful wound, and no one then thought that he could live even twenty-four hours.

Gen. Scott's proclamations, which I sent off to you two or three nights since buy an express rider, has been read here by all the Mexicans, and in a large majority of cases with excellent effect. It is a most able document, and goes home to the feelings of the people. By this time it has been circulated at Puebla and the city of Mexico, and will doubtless turn the minds, at least of the honest and reflecting, towards peace.

I have been much amused at reading accounts in some of our papers at home of the road between Vera Cruz and the city of Mexico. One writer, who "talks like a book," says that there is a stream ten miles from the frontier city which is crossed in scows! We did not come that road. Again, the same writer says that the Puente National is a wooden bridge! Wooden! Whew! It is the best imitation of stone I have ever seen, and as durable as the rock of ages at that.

Mr. Trist arrived here this morning from Vera Cruz. His business I do not know, but I suppose he goes on with the army. Gen. Scott, owing to the non-arrival of all the train, will not be able to move for two of three days to come. – Capt. Walker, with his Rifles, is on the way up, guarding another smaller train. I trust there may be wagons enough to carry on the little baggage our officers now possess. For want of sufficient transportation heretofore they have been compelled to leave carpet bags here, trunks there and boxes elsewhere, until nearly everything has been lost. The Government most certainly should make allowances for sacrifices which have been unavoidable on the part of its officers. Yours, &c.,

G. W. K.

P.S. With not a little trouble and expense I have been enabled to procure the very latest dates from the city of Mexico, and also from Puebla. You will see that the freedom of the press has been suspended, but not until the editors had lied most lustily about us miserable Yankees. The letter about Gen. Scott’s destroying Encerro, and offering a reward for Santa Anna, it would puzzle the father of lies to beat. On the contrary, a safeguard was placed upon the house of Santa Anna, and not a stone of it has been moved.

The report that Santa Anna has gone towards the capital receives additional confirmation. –We hear nothing of Gen. Worth, but every one hopes he has fallen in with Santa Anna.

A Mexican officer, Capt. Velasquez, died yesterday from a wound received at Cerro Gordo, and was buried with military honors. Lieut. Shelby Johnson, of the 4th Illinois volunteers, also died yesterday, and was buried with
A work has been thrown up near this place which completely commands the city. It was constructed under the superintendent of Capt. Beauregard, a native of Louisiana, who enjoys a high reputation in the army.

June 4, 1847, REV64i10p4c3, Captain Tuttwall

We find in the N. Orleans Delta, the following interesting letter from the fallarit commander of the famous "Mosquito Fleet," which has come so much execution in the Gulf of Mexico. It is but just to Com. Conner, that the public should be made acquainted with the sentiments of his brave and experienced brother officers in regard to his character and conduct. TheDelta most properly remarks:

"Certainly the dissatisfaction expressed by a propel, justly fold of the renown of our noble Navy, at the difficulties and disasters encountered by our squadron in the early part of the war, ought to give way to admiration of the magnificent debarkation of our troops at Vera Cruz, so skillfully effected under the direction of Com. Conner. Many of the arrangements in regard to the investment and bombardment of the city and castle were also made by Com. Conner, who, from the same morbidity sensiveness and pride to which we have referred, readily gave up to Com. Perry the command of the squadron, at a time when he might have been justified by the rules of the service in retaining it until the capitulation of Vera Cruz had been effected."

Who Capt. Tattnall is, the country is well informed by his brilliant and untiring services in the Gulf. We subjoin a very neat outline of his late achievements from the Delta. On reading his letter, we were reminded of an anecdote related to us by a gallant naval officer, who was himself the present at the bombardment of Vera Cruz. The fierce little Spitfire was in the lead of the "mosquito fleet" in attacking San Juan, and, amidst the showers of bullets from the Castle which fell around the vessel without wounding any one, Tattnall strode the deck with marked, impatience, and, with a vehemence of manner, cried out, "Will no one get killed or wounded? There is no honor to be won otherwise. Will no body be killed?" He himself afterwards was wounded in the wrist at Tuxpan; his wished were gratified and the "honor," already secured by his previous conduct, heightened by the peculiar means which he himself had so empathetically indicated. Not satisfied, however, with the distinction he had won, but anxious to enlarge his contracted field of operations, he obtained leave to be detached from the Spitfire and to join General Quitman's force on land. We regret that his wound will prevent him from expanding the "honor" won upon the sea:

"Of Capt. Tattnall's incessant and successful exertions to sustain the high reputation of the service, of which he is a bright ornament, we cannot adequately express the admiration and gratitude we feel. From the commencement of the blockade he has planned and executed the curious difficult and perilous enterprises on the dangerous reel, and against the well-defended towns of the Mexican coast, which have excited so much admiration, and contributed so much to the success of our occupation of the towns in the Terra Caliente. On the gallant he has led every attack, constituting on all the occasions the advanced-guard of the squadron. At the bombardment of Vera Cruz, he commanded the fleet of small vessels, which approached within a few hundred yards of the Castle of San Juan de Ulua, and opened up on the is famous fortification, sustaining a constant fire from its two hundred guns. At the last achievement of our Navy in the attack of Tuxpan, the Spitfire again led the attack, and was exposed to a heavy fire from a concealed fort, by which several of our brave officers were wounded –among them the gallant Captain himself received a wound in the arm, from which he is now suffering. The necessity of returning to this country to improve his health and heal his wound, withdraws Capt. Tatnall from the scene of warlike operations just as he was preparing to join Gen. Scott in his march to Mexico."

June 8, 1847, REV64i11p2c1, General Taylor and the battle of Buena Vista

–We are the authorized to say, (says the New Orleans Bulletin,) that General Taylor never used the expression, which has obtained such general currency through the public press, that "if there had been only regulars in the battle of Buena Vista he would probably have lost the day, as the Mississippi volunteers were whipped three times without knowing it." This he considers is doing great injustice to the regular army.

This letter, under which we make the above statement, continues, and says "so far from entertaining such a sentiment, the General lamented nothing more strongly than his entire want of regular infantry, as a brigade, or even a strong battalion would have enabled him to carry the enemy's artillery, and to have entirely destroyed his army."

We are further authorized to deny the report, that the officers next in rank, were opposed to giving battle, which is entirely untrue, and it calculated to injure those officers if allowed to circulate uncontradicted.
U.S. FRIGATE RARITAN, off Tabasco, May 16.

Gentlemen –We expect the Raritan will leave Anton Lizardo, bound for Boston, about the 1st of June. She will take home some of the older officers of the squadron, who have been jaded by long service, and also the sick from the different vessels. I am happy to say that these are not numerous.

An American flag is now planted at Frontera, at the mouth of the Tobasco river, and it is supposed that a custom house will soon be established there. The city of Tobasco, seventy miles up the river, is still in possession of the Mexicans, who have occupied a point about seven miles below, called the “Devil’s Turn,” with a force of at least one, and some say tow thousand men, indifferently provided with small arms and muskets, but having a commanding battery of three 24-pounders.” I don’t know that Com. Perry will deem it advisable to attack Tobasco, inasmuch as we now hold the mouth of the river and sixty miles of navigation. For my own part, I can see no reason for such a proceeding, although I should be very glad of a fight. The navy had had too little to do in that line for its own interest.

Capt. Van Brunt is at present discharging the functions of Governor, by order of Com. Perry.

Com. Perry arrived here in the Mississippi yesterday, accompanied by the Vixen and Scorpion steamers. He soon afterwards got under way with the Scorpion, and proceeded to Laguna and Sisal. It is said that Capt. Mackenzie is to be charged with some negotiations with the Government of Yucatan.

Goatzacoalcos has been taken, or rather occupied in consequence of surrender.

In case we have a fight here, I will give you the particulars.

P.S. May 19. –The commodore returned to this anchorage last evening, and will leave for Vera Cruz this evening.

The steamers Vixen, Scorpion, Mississippi, McLane and the sloops Decatur, John Adams, Albany and Germantown and frigate Raritan are now assembled here.”

June 11, 1847, The Mexican Pirates

THE MEXICAN PIRATES. –The Princeton to be sent to the Mediterranean. –The President has issued orders directing the steamship of war “Princeton” to be go ready for sea, to proceed to the Mediterranean, in quest of the Mexican privateer “Unico,” and any other vessels that may be insulting our flag there. The matter was formally laid before the President on Monday morning my Mr. Buchanan, and his action thereon was prompt and decisive. The Princeton is to be made ready to sail on or about the 15th of the present month. –[Baltimore Sun.

June 11, 1847, Important from Mexico

We received yesterday a copy of El Republicano from the city of Mexico, wit a requenst fo ran exchange, (says the Mobile Herald.) It is dated the 16th of May.

In this number of El Republicano we find an important document which a friend translates for us as follows. None of the New Orleans papers contain any allusion to it:

Official letter of his Excellency, the General in Chief, (Santa Anna) accompanying some intercepted documents of the enemy

HEADQUARTERS,
Puebla, May 13, 1847.

ARMY OF OPERATIONS. –Excellent Sir: -The commandant of the flying revenue guard of tobacco of Orizaba, the Colonel D. Juan N. Caraveo, whom I left with his command near the National Road, between Perote and Nopalucan, to observe the movements of the enemy, and to harass him when the opportunity might offer, has remitted to me the accompanying documents which were taken from the enemy’s mail which left Jalapa for Col. Worth’s camp.

Among them you will find the General Scott’s proclamation of the Mexican nation, which from its style appears to
This proclamation of Scott’s is written with the most refined hypocrisy and with the most infamous perfidy. It is the greatest insult yet offered to the Mexican people, whom it has attempted to lull (a quien se pretende adormecer) to make it the victim of the ambition of that nation which is the enemy of our race, when, in another place, it feels no embarrassment in proclaiming by the press and in official documents, that it carries on against us a war of conquest and that this war must be made at the cost of the blood and treasure of the unfortunate country.

Your Excellency will note in one of the accompanying intercepted letters, that Scott, the Inspector General of the United States Army, considers the above proclamation well adapted to aid the views of the invaders.

You will observe, that this letter harmonizes with others which have been lately published in this capital, and which with reason have been regarded by all well disposed Mexicans as more prejudicial for the venom (ponzona) which they conceal than the loss of a battle.

But in the midst of the malevolence (encona) which General Scott shows he has against me, he does me too much honor when he says that they had been deceived as to my real intentions, and that on account of this mistake his Government permitted me to pass to my country. Indeed, most Excellent Sir, the United States did deceive when they dreamed that I was capable of betraying my country. Before this should happen I would prefer to be consumed by fire and my ashes should be scattered that not a single atom be left.

Would to God the Mexicans would open their eyes to discover the poison in the golden chalice that the perfidious Scott proffers them, and that (illegible) of universal indignation against the invaders of our soil. Let a war be made against these without period, that when we may no longer be able, because Providence may have decreed the subjugations of this unfortunate country, there may remain to our children or grand children, when the wrath of the Omnipotent shall have passed, the noble work of revenging the outrages committed by the republic of the United States on (illegible)

God and Liberty!

To his Excellency the Minister of War and Marine.

[BJM]

June 11, 1847, REv64i12p2c6, The Mexican tariff

The manufacturing class seem determined to regulate the tariff for Mexico, as well as for our own country, to suit their particular interests. –These people and their paid advocates seem to act as though the country belonged to them, and all the other interests were but to support a home government and conquer foreign ones for their advantage. Not satisfied with upwards of 30 years protection at home, ranging from 30 to 200 percent., they now claim the exclusive right to supply all Mexico. What do these manufacturers contribute to support this government? Not one cent. They receive millions in tribute, and pay nothing. The higher the revenue, the greater their profits – and they unanimously refused to pay anything on tea and coffee to support the war, because to that extent they would have been compelled to contribute with others to that object.

When with the money of others, we have got possession of Mexico, and mean to make them pay part of the expense, these men reproach the Secretary of the Treasury, because foreign goods are admitted also. Modesty unparalleled! If then millions of dollars are to be paid by Mexicans in the price of their goods, these gentlemen claim it, though they have never paid one cent towards the war! Nor is that all: for, were they to have the exclusive right, the demand for Mexico and the United States together would be so great that these American goods would be enhanced 25 to 50 percent in value, and our own citizens, after paying for the war, would be made to pay the manufacturers extra price for all their domestic articles. These modest gentlemen own the whole country, excepting only their stipendiary, and are to incur no other expense.

Did Great Britain make discriminating duties when she conquered China? Is such conduct compatible with the independence of any country? Did we make war with Mexico in order to exclude others and to sell our goods to them? But the hue and cry is up from Vera Cruz to the Aroostock –and Mr. Walker is denounced because his Mexican Tariff is intended to obtain money from Mexico, and not to benefit a few thousand people in the United States who have refused to pay in any shape towards the war.

FREE TRADE.

[BJM]

June 8, 1847, REv64i11p4c7, June 8, 1847, From General Taylor’s Army

OFFICIAL.
The following "orders," issued by Gen. Taylor, have been transmitted by him to the War Department. In laying them before our readers, [says then Union] we hardly deem it necessary to allude to the pitiful falsehoods circulated by the Federal press, to the effect that the administration had neglected to notice in suitable terms the glorious achievement of American arms at Buena Vista. A calumny so foolish and so mean, must needs recoil upon the heads of its authors.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,
Camp near Monterey, May 6, 1847.

[ORDERS No. 46]

Under the instructions of the Secretary of War, the commanding general had the gratification to publish to the troops of his command the following communication, received by him from the War Department:

"WAR DEPARTMENT, April 3, 1847.

"Sir: Your communications of the 24th and 25th of February, and the 1st of March, announcing the brilliant success of the troops under your command at Buena Vista, against the forces of the enemy vastly superior in numbers, have been laid before the President; and I am instructed to convey to you his high appreciation of the distinguished services rendered to the country by yourself, and the officers and soldiers of your command on that occasion.

"The victory achieved at Buena Vista, while it adds new glory to our arms, and furnishes new proofs of the valor and brave daring of our officers and soldiers, will excite the admiration and call forth the gratitude of the nation.

"The single fact that five thousand of our troops, nearly all volunteers, who, yielding to the impulse of patriotism, had rallied to their country's standard for a temporary service, were brought into conflict with an army of twenty thousand, mostly veteran soldiers, and only withstood and repulsed the assaults of this numerous host, led by their most experienced General, but, in a protracted battle of two days, won a glorious victory, is the most indubitable evidence of the consummate skill and gallant conduct of our officers, and the devoted heroism of the troops under their command, It will ever be a proud distinction to have been in the memorable battle of Buena Vista.

"The general joy which the intelligence of this success of our arms has spread through the land, is mingled with regret that it has been obtained at so great a price –that so many heroic men have fallen in that sanguinary conflict. They died in the intrepid discharge of a patriotic duty, and will be honored and lamented by a grateful nation.

"You will cause this communication to be published to the troops under your command.

"I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)
"W.L. MARCY,
"Secretary of War."

By order of Major General Taylor:
W. W. S. Bliss,
Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,
Camp near Monterey, May 8, 1847

[ORDERS No 47]

The commanding general has the satisfaction of announcing to the troops of his command at other decisive victory achieved by the American forces under Major General Scott, on the 18th of April, and Cerro Gordo, in the State of Vera Cruz. The Mexican army; under the immediate orders of Gen. Santa Anna, President of the Republic, is known to have been entirely routed with the loss of all its artillery and munitions of war.

The army of occupation will hail with joy this brilliant success of the Americans arms.

By order of Maj. Gen. Taylor
W.W.S. BLISS
Assistant Adjutant General.

[BJM]
June 11, 1847, REv64i12p4c1, Very Late from the City of Mexico

By the way of Tampico, we are placed in possession of a file of El Republicano from the city of Mexico down to and including the 19th of May –eleven days later than our previous advises.

The election of President for Mexico was to have taken place of the 15th of May. As the election was made by the Legislatures of the different States, it is even yet quite too soon to know the result, which is likely to disappoint all expectations. In the State of Mexico, Angel Trias, the Governor of Chihuahua, received the vote. Upon the first ballot Trias received 9 votes, Gen. Alvarez 7, Gen. Almonte 2, and Senor D. Melchor Ocampo 1. Upon proceeding to elect between Trias and Alvarez, the former received 10 votes and the latter 9.

In the State of Queretaro there was a tie between Senor Almonte, and Senor D. J. Joaquin Herrera. Lots were cast between the two, and the chances favored Senor Herrera, who thus secured the vote of that State. If we recollect aright, this is not the ex-President.

The State of Puebla gave its vote of Senor D. Melchor Ocampo. The particulars of the voting are not given. Some time will elapse before we shall have the result of the election.

The Republicano of the 19th announces that Gen. Santa Anna had left the command of the army of the East to assume the duties of President of the Republic. He was to make his entry into the capital the evening of the 19th. He had issued a manifesto to the nation, but we regret that we have no copy of it. It was to be published in El Republicano on the 20th, which is a day later than we have received.

We have two letters from the valorous General, giving an account of his military operations. The first is dated May 9th, and in it he tells the Secretary of War that since his arrival at Orizava he had been organizing guerrilla parties, both infantry and cavalry, in the vicinity of Orizava, of Cordova and Vera Cruz; that he had collected the scattered remains of his Cerro Gordo forces; improved the brigade from Oajaca under General Leon; reinforced and remounted a cavalry force, which he had stationed at San Andreas; and lastly, fitted for service seven pieces of artillery, which are at Orizava and Cordova. The result of all these labors is, according to him, that guerrilla parties are already at work between Jalapa and Vera Cruz; three battalions, organized with 1,470 men of those dispersed at Cerro Gordo; more than 200 horses collected; a quantity of infantry equipment prepared; and, finally, 4,500 men, with seven pieces of artillery, put in movement, who would enter Puebla on the 12th May.

He tells the Secretary that he had left in command in the tierra caliente Colonel Cenobio; in the district of Cordova, D. Tomas Marin, who commanded at Alvarado when Com. Conner attacked it; in Huatuxco, General Hernandez; and in Orizava General Teran. He announces that he himself was on his march to Puebla, compelled to that course by his extreme destitution. He has only had 25,000 dollars to do all he has done, and thinks he could easily have ten or twelve thousand men under arms if the Government would give him means.

If this letter shows some energy and spirit, the second letter is replete with evidence of a contemptible, bragging soul. He would then prepare the way for his entry into the city of Mexico like a hero and conqueror. To enable the reader to verify this, we annex a translation of the letter, written on the 15th May, from San Martin Tesmelucan, seven Mexican leagues beyond Puebla, towards Mexico. The town of Amozoc, so often mentioned in it, is four leagues this side of Puebla:

ARMY OF OPERATIONS OF THE EAST,
Headquarters of the General-in-Chief,
At San Martin, Tesmelucan, May 15, 1847.

His Excellency, the Minister of War: -I communicated to your Excellency, in my dispatch of the day before yesterday, at 9 o’clock, P.M., that the enemy would pass the night at Amozoc, and that I was preparing to establish myself yesterday in this place, with the troops under my command. The infantry and artillery marched in reality for this place, but I retained the cavalry, with the intention of surprising a convoy of about 200 wagons, which was proceeding under a very feeble guard to join the first (illegible) of the enemy’s army, and also of challenging the enemy, to induce him to march forth from Amozoe to a convenient ground for giving battle. The convoy to which I refer passed the night at Nopalncan, and I calculated that, although it might start early, I would meet it on this side of Acajete, at a point where the ground would be favorable for the manoeuvering of cavalry; but no doubt the smallness of his force induced the commander, from motives of precaution, to start at midnight, so that, at half-past 8 o’clock in the morning, (the hour at which I was flanking Amozoc in order to gain the public road,) the convoy was already very near to the village, and in a narrow lane, covered on both sides by trees, which protected it against the attack of my troops. The enemy, fearing, notwithstanding, that the convoy might be captured, sent immediately a force of 1,000 infantry, with six pieces of cannon, to its assistance. The troops immediately opened a fire on my column, which fearlessly continued its march within one league of Amozoc, at which point I determined to
countermarch to Puebla, where I arrived at half-past 4 o’clock in the afternoon, in the best order.

The whole population of this beautiful city was in motion at the entrance of my division, and gave signs of the most ardent enthusiasm. I could hardly walk from being surrounded by thousands of citizens, who were hurrahing for independence and for the Republic, and giving utterance to their hatred of our invaders. In these moments my heart was agitated my different feelings as I looked upon an enthusiastic people calling upon me for arms to defend themselves, giving the most signal proof of their love for liberty of their country, and as I reflected upon the responsibility of those who having the means had neglected to take advantage of the good dispositions of these people. The only want in this city, your Excellency, was proper men to move in the defense of the national cause.

Resuming the thread of my military report, I will inform your Excellency that, although our guide having missed the road, brought us within grape shot distance of the village of Amozoc, we completely flanked this village, showing the enemy by this bold movement the contempt in which we held him. He appeared, however, determined not to leave his stronghold after having saved his convoy, and both myself and my officers rode off with the conviction that the enemy dared not accept our challenge in the open field.

The loss we have deplore in this feat of arms is three soldiers killed and wounded, and four horses killed.

Although I was aware that the enemy was to move very early on Puebla, I ordered the division of cavalry to pass the night in the city, and at daybreak this morning it commenced its march for this place, where I also arrived this morning.

May it please your Excellency to submit this report to his Excellency the President Substitute, and to receive the assurances of my consideration and esteem. God and Liberty!

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA

His Excellency the MINISTER OF WAR.

El Republicano of the 19th announces that Gen. Bravo has proposed to the Supreme Government that the American prisoners should be sent off “successively and with due security” to Tampico to be released, inasmuch as Mexican prisoners taken at the Angostura and Cerro Gordo had been released without condition. This is the first mention of those unfortunate prisoners which we recollect to have seen in the Mexican papers.

The Republicano is again endeavoring to arouse the fears of the Mexicans against the machinations of a monarchical party. It copies, with this view, a long letter from Paris published in a Madrid journal, indicating that monarchy is the sole salvation for Mexico. The Republicano intimates that the agents of such a party are still secretly at work in Mexico, and that some traces of their operations have lately been discovered in Puebla.

The same number of this paper announces that Congress had completed its work of forming a constitution, and congratulates the country upon the termination of the great work. The constitution is described as not so much a novelty and an innovation as a modification and improvement of the old constitution of 1824.

In the same paper of the 18th, it is announced that a new opprobrium was about to fall on their unhappy country, in consequence of a dissolution of Congress which some extreme partisans of the Pures section were determined to force on. Congress was compelled to adjourn on the 17th for want of a quorum, four members having purposely withdrawn to bring about this result. —There were twelve deputies pledged, according to the Republicano, to pursue a like course, to percent there being a sufficient number of members present to promulgate the new constitution, which had been adopted by a large majority. Rather than submit to the indignity of being thus rendered powerless, it was said that the majority of Congress had resolved to dissolve and publish a manifesto to the nation. How this affair was settled the papers do not tell us, but the disgraceful dissension in the chief legislative assembly of the nation shows the country in no state to resist a foreign foe.

The Mexicans says Gen. Worth entered Puebla with 5000 infantry, 200 cavalry and a train of 400 wagons; and that Gen. Scott left Jalapa for the same destination with 2000 men and a considerable train of artillery.

Before entering Puebla, General Worth addressed a note dated the 12th to the municipal authorities of the city, announcing to them his intention of entering on the 15th and taking military possession. Should no opposition be intended, he desired an immediate conference with the authorities, to take measures in concert for the security of persons and property. At the same time he promised that their religion should be respected in all its forms and observances, and that he would support the civil authorities in administration of the laws.

The authorities replied by offering to refer the letter to Santa Anna. This General Worth refused. Santa Anna punished the prefect of the city for the course he took in the business, one little worthy of a Mexican, it is said. We presume he thought it better that General Worth should enter quietly, and that the citizens should be protected, rather than make a futile sham resistance.

Senores Gutierrez and Iriarte have resigned the portfolios of War and Justice. The former is succeeded by General Alcorta; the latter by D. Luis de la Rosa. Senor Baranda remains Minister of Foreign Affairs.
A new State has been created, to be called Guerrero, after the general of that name. The assent of the States of Mexico, Puebla and Michoacan, from whose territory it is formed, is necessary to the completion of the project. Acapulco is within the limits of the new State.

Our Pacific squadron is busy upon the western ports of Mexico. On the 28th of April a squadron of six or eight vessels was of Mazatlan, and a thousand men were disembark to take the town. Letters from Mazatlan say they were making their every preparation for defense, but if the decent is made in a great force as is represented, they can make no defense of much account. Other accounts say that the port of San Blas, too, was menaced by our squadron, and that it was the purpose of the Americans to land and take the town.

The Mexicans believe that the property seized by the Gens. Urrea and Romero, on the route from Camargo to Monterey was worth over $200,000 but in the hands of their commissioners it brought less that $20,000. The peculation is denounced as especially reprehensible, as the troops who seized the booty are represented as suffering extreme privations.

June 11, 1847, REv64i12p4c2, Prospects of a Speedy Peace

PROSPECTS OF A SPEEDY PEACE. –The most important item of news by James L. Day, (says the New Orleans Times,) is the prospect of a speedy peace, which really seems from what is announced as having lately transpired in the interior of Mexico, to be not divest of something like probability. On the 24th April, intelligence reached Vera Cruz from the Capital, that General Herrera had been elected President on the 15th May and that the cause of his success over his competitors was the desire, generally felt by the thinking portion of the Mexican population, to open negotiations with the United States, for a renewal of friendly relations. It was stated, also, that the new President would not be hampered with any restrictions in his efforts to make peace. The only drawback on this agreeable intelligence is, that it does not come in an official form, although almost universal credence is given to it in Vera Cruz; and men's minds are becoming more and more soothed, as the real character of the Americans becomes known to the people in the Interior, and particularly in the populous cities. General Worth's visit to the Bishop at Puebla, has wrought immensely in favor of the invaders; while the scrupulous honesty, and high feeling of honor displayed by all ranks of the army, with a few inconceivable exceptions, in their intercourse with the inhabitants of the large towns, have quite undeceived their expectations, which counted on cruelty and rapacity, as our distinguishing characteristics. We shall impatiently wait for the next arrival, which must realize or dissipate this pleasant vision of peace. One fact, however, we gather from these advises, which is, that the tumult of passion into which the Mexican population were thrown, by the dispersion of Santa Anna's army at Cerro Gordo, has considerably subsided. There is nothing yet said of the progress, or the issue of Mr. Trist's mission.

[Correspondence of the N. O. Commercial Times.]

The Palmetto did not go, as I expected her to do, and I may consequently get another scrawl on board before she puts off in the morning. I avail myself of the chance to say, that the details of the news from Puebla and Jalapa, are even more interesting than was the resume which I today give you. Very few of the people left the city, and the interchange of courtesies between the citizens and our officers has been marked with an unexpected degree of cordiality. The early visit of Gen. Worth to the Bishop had a good effect in all quarters; and the orderly bearing of the troops, and the gentlemanly qualities of the officers, naturally increased the good will thus generated. General Scott was to move forward on the 20th –yesterday. Santa Anna himself led the troops which were to attack the baggage and provision train of our army, but it is said he had only five hundred, instead of a thousand men with him – all guerillas. There was no vulnerable point in flank or rear to be observed, and he took the prudent part of withdrawing without firing a musket. It is hard to tell what Santa Anna's position is at this moment. All accounts agree in representing him as without the confidence of any considerable party, while by a large number –say by a large party –he is denounced in turn as a traitor, a coward, and, at least, a humbug. He certainly does not wish to bring matters to a crisis, or he would have returned to the capital, ere this, and demanded his seat –a seat which, in my opinion, he will never again occupy.

May 22. –I have a few minutes, before the Palmetto leaves, to say that the diligence is in from Jalapa with further news from Puebla, none of especial interest, except so far as connected with affairs at the Capital. For this part of it, I am indebted to the gentlemanly and able Prussian Counsel, who has a letter from a high source in Puebla, teeming with hopes of an early peace. Santa Anna and Anaya being equally unavailable as President, in point of success, a new appointment is to be made at an early date. The general voice calls upon Herrera, the President deposed by Parades, and it is supposed he will accept the nomination this accorded. In that event, there is but little doubt of his election.. I am told that Santa Anna has rushed to Mexico to defeat this movement, but it is believed that he has no longer the power to prevent it. It is also believed that Herrera has the power, and the moral courage to carry the object through. God grant that these suppositions are correct!

May 24. –We this morning have agreeable intelligence from the Capital, which, though not quite so authentic as I could wish, is so strongly supported by probabilities, and so well conforms to the public expectations, that it obtains general credence. The election for President is said to have taken place on the 15th instant, and Herrera, the former incumbent of the chair, was again chosen, it is also said that he is not hampered with restrictions in regard to the
The steamer *New Orleans* arrived this morning, followed within a few hours by the ship *Sophia Walker*, both filled with troops. This looks more like doing business, and proves the Adjutant General and the editor of the *Union* to have been more nearly correct than I gave them credit for being. But in order to meet their promises, we have yet to receive within the coming month, nearly ten thousand troops. Who believes that half that number will reach Vera Cruz before the 1st of August? I do not.

The troops not arrived, will proceed at once with a train, for the field of operations, and I suppose will continue their march directly to Puebla, which is now the headquarters of General Scott.

Since I commenced writing a most disagreeable report has reached me, which I have now confirmed, beyond question. The Jalapa stage has been beset, the passengers ill-treated, if not murdered, the driver beaten nearly to death, and the carriage, luggage, mails, etc., burned. The driver has just arrived in town, and reports the details of the affair as far as his fright, and the treatment would allow him to observe them, but is strangely ignorant, or confused upon the points of the greatest interest. The attack was made near la Riconada, a few miles beyond the National bridge. The ruffians engaged in the affair were rancheros, in all probability acting without authority, and perhaps indeed, they are only common robbers. It is thought that none of the passengers have been killed, but of this there is not certainty. If they were released, some of them will probably be in town tomorrow.

**June 11, 1847, REV64i12p4c5, News from Mexico**

We lay before our readers copious extracts from the New Orleans papers. On one point, the election of President, the reports in the *New Orleans Times* and *Picayune* conflict—the former being confident of the election of Herrera, the peace candidate—and the latter, upon data which look to us more authentic, leading us to believe that the result will not be known for some time, and that the Herrera spoken of I not the President who was willing to receive our Minister of Peace, and who succeeded by Parades. As to the prospects of peace, our readers may judge as well as ourselves, from the elements before them. They are not as bright, however, as we had been led to expect.

We are deeply pained at the report in the *Picayune*, of bloody and fatal duel between the two lieutenants of the Virginia Regiment. Mahan, the only one named, was third Lieutenant of Capt. Bankhead's Caroline Company, and was from the city of Philadelphia, which furnished a large proportion of said company. –Captain Bankhead, we learn, was promoted to the post of one of Gen. Scott's aides; and 1st Lieutenant Garnett, (of Westmoreland,) and 2d Lieutenant Coleman, (of Caroline,) being on the sick list, 3d Lieutenant Mahan was in command of the company. These facts have been narrated to us, and may furnish a clue to the desperate and lamentable combat. On the streets yesterday, we heard the name of several officers of the Virginia Regiment mentioned as the other Lieutenant killed whose name is not given—but being vague rumors, we think it improper to chronicle them.

The *New Orleans Courier* reviews the address of the Tennessee officers, impugning the conduct of General Pillow and his utter want of military skill at the battle of Cerro Gordo, and imputing to him an untrue statement made to General Scott. We have room but for the following extract:

"We are told that General Pillow informed General Scott that he had reconnoitered the enemy's position, and was sure it was defended by only one or two guns. Well, every work of this disclosure to General Scott was true. General Pillow did reconnoiter the enemy's work, and he found it weak, as he reported it to be. But by some means or other, (perhaps by a deserter,) the enemy was apprised of General Pillow's reconnaissance, of his report to the commanding general, and of the intention to assault the batteries. This information was conveyed in the night of the 17th—the enemy immediately set to work, added five or six guns to the batteries, marched upwards of two thousand men to sustain them, and placed strong detachments of infantry, with some light pieces of cannon concealed on the flank of the route by which our troops were expected to advance. We are told this fact is well understood in the army; if it came to the knowledge of the officers who signed this address to the public against the Brigadier General, they ought to have mentioned it.

These officers say that General Pillow was not at the head of the regiment when it advanced—that he neither led nor followed it. Who has asserted that he did lead or follow the regiment in its advance? Surely the General himself asserts so such thing nor, to out knowledge, have any of his friends made such an assertion. But we know it to be true—that that when the General was wounded he was very near the right of the regiment: This information has come to us from a gallant officer who was on the ground, and an eyewitness of what took place. Why was not this fact stated in the Address of the officers to the Public? This address to the public, from the officers of the 2d Tennessee regiment of volunteers has but been provoked by anything said or done by General Pillow. ON the contrary, in his official letter, he bestows high applause upon the regiment and its officers for the steady and gallant manner in which they bore themselves in the attack. If any part of the General's conduct deserves censure—and if the intimations of this address are well grounded, he is unfit for his station—if he deserves censure, it would be more proper in a military point of view, and more consonant to usage, to have preferred charges against him to the Commander-in-Chief, in order that his conduct might have been investigated and the real truth brought to light. It is a serious matter to
June 15, 1847, REV64i13p1c3, Spanish Opinions on Mexican War

In the total absence of news from any quarter, we lay before our readers a striking extract from El Heraldo of Madrid, of the 26th April. We find it in the N. O. Delta, which describes its speculations as the "ideas of an intelligent Spaniard, upon the probable fate of an offshoot of his once powerful and still proud race. The editor for gospel of English and Mexican accounts of the battle of Buena Vista."

This article is particularly interesting, in that while it grossly misrepresents our government as aiming at "nothing less than the destruction of Mexican nationality" and our people as inclined to appropriate the church property of Mexico without ceremony, it renders a forced and a proud tribute to the resistless energies of our free people. Our progress, which the Spanish organ seems to regard with so much horror as to invoke the arm of European monarchies, is not the fruit of blood or violence, but of the genial influence of liberal institutions, gradually melting away the prejudices and ignorance of the nations of the earth, both in the new and old world. What may be the fate of Mexico, we shall not pretend to investigate -- but all we ask of her at present is a just respect for our rights. Our desire is to see her establish an enlightened, liberal Republican form of Government, to assist us in keeping off the encroachments of the Old-World monarchists -- And, whatever partisans may say of the origin of the war, it cannot reasonably be denied that it will essentially benefit Mexico, in liberalizing and civilizing her people by the influence of American example. The acquisitions of territory we have already made have been based upon the highest principles of law and morality -- and to the powers of Europe, should they dare to interfere with the exercise of our lawful privileges! The article of El Heraldo shows the mighty place our young nation holds in the eyes of the world:

"The latest news from Mexico announces a triumph of the arms of the republic, which would be gratifying to us as Spaniards, as united to the people of that country by so many ties and so many traditions in common, if we thought it could decide, in favor of Mexico, the present desperate struggle between the Spanish and Anglo-Saxon races. But unfortunately it is not so. We see that after prolonged disasters, after infinite defeats, operating in a country the thinness of whose population makes war most difficult, the Mexicans found it necessary to unite the flower of their army, in number fourfold superior to that of the Anglo-Americans, to achieve a triumph exceedingly doubtful, attended with losses which rendered any new operations impossible.

"This victory, it is true, has somewhat re-animated the spirit of the country so far as least as a nation whose people are not homogeneous, are susceptible of being re-animated; but in exchange for this advantage, it has deeply wounded the pride of the Anglo-Americans, and if they determine to employ all their resources, the conquest of Mexico is inevitable.

"Let it be considered that the Mexican troops have been obligated to make a Herculean effort to gather a few trophies from one of the divisions of the enemy -- that this effort is almost a defeat, as it has left them exhausted -- and that there were remain in the country three or four divisions of the enemy, against which nothing can be opposed -- and it must be confessed that this victory of Santa Anna will only serve to precipitate the feeble nationality of Mexico, down the declivity which leads to the precipice.

"For ourselves, we believe that Mexico is already virtually blotted out of the lest of independent nations. What can be expected of a nation, distracted by revolutions and contests for ephemeral power, when the enemy is at its fates, and that no common enemy, but one which aims at nothing less that the destruction of its nationality? -- What can we expect of a nation, where the clergy -- the richest Catholic clergy in the world -- refuse the smallest sacrifice in favor of the country, and prefer the precarious possession of the worldly goods to the salvation of the land?

"The army without resources, even without food -- the rickety politicians of the capital conspiring to overthrow the established order of things -- the clergy occupied in secreting their valuables, and in exciting the fanatical opposition of the people against the sale of their property, without considering whether the Anglo-American will not appropriate it with less care than the only fortress -- a great part of the country occupied by an army highly-disciplined, composed of men whose energy is proverbial, and abundantly supplied with every kind of munitions: what can result from all this? We look upon the consequences as inevitable. Enthusiasm will be re-awakened in the United States. An irresistible torrent of volunteers will inundate Mexico. And it will not be long before the Eagle of the Union will light in triumph upon the ancient capital of Montezuma.

"We, as Spaniards, cannot be but lament this result. The last remnants of the magnificent work of Hernan Cortes are about to disappear, and one of the most brilliant pages in our history will be bound, so to speak, in the volume of the stranger. Sorrowful effects of revolutions! Of demagogical tendencies prematurely ingrated on a nation without stamina to support the effects of an unholy ambition! Thirty years of independence have not sufficed to make the Mexicans a nation, notwithstanding they have held in their hands the richest elements that Providence ever placed within reach of the human family. And why? -- Because they have strayed from the proper path; because they desired to form a republic with the materials fit only for a monarchy; because they concerted, by a simple decree, the ignorant and oppressed Indians, the dregs of the population, ignorant until then even of the language of their lords, into free citizens, possessing all the rights which a free nation could give. We now behold, though too late, the
unavoidable evils which this error drew after it.

"And now, is it not permitted to ask what the nations of Europe think of the indefinite extension which the American Union is acquiring, and which it carries forward with as much safety as rapidity, sometimes by arms, sometimes by money, sometimes by emigration, without ever appearing to consider the morality of the means which it employs? Will they permit it to absorb, successively, the whole continent of America, and so form a nation by the side of which the most powerful states of Europe would appear as ridiculous pigmies? Will they consent that it shall consolidate its rich conquests, and make them the base of operations from which to invade in succession the states of Central America, where are to be found some of the most magnificent harbors in the world? Will they permit it, without obstruction, to reach the Isthmus of Panama –its golden dream –and thus yield to it one of the principal keys to the commerce of the globe?

"Time alone can answer these questions; but the history of the past affords us but little comfort for the future. Within this century the Union has acquired, successively, the Floridas, Louisiana, and Texas, and it is now about to acquire the Californias and some of the richest provinces of Mexico. Who shall fix limits to the power of the active race which peoples it? Let it once extend to Panama, and its might will be irresistible. It will hold the dominion of the seas; it will monopolize the commerce of the whole earth. And when the English language is spoken on all the shores of the Mexican Gulf, what human power will be sufficient to prevent the Island of Cuba and the English Antilles from falling by their own movement, and impulses of irresistible attraction, into the arms open to receive them?”

June 15, 1847, REv64i13p2c1, Later from Mexico

The steamship New Orleans, Captain Wright, has arrived from Vera Cruz, having left there on the 1st June. She touched on the 4th at the Brazos.

Gen. Shields is doing well, we are most happy to hear, and was shortly expected at Vera Cruz.

General Scott left Jalapa on the 23d May for Puebla, at the head of nearly 6,000 troops. We have the following brief note:

PUEBLA, MEXICO, May 29, 1847:

The division of General Twiggs entered this city today, all well. There were rumors in the morning that Generals Bustamente and Leon were advancing to attack General Scott with an immense force, but so far we have heard nothing confirming the reports. Almost everyone thinks that the Americans are to have another grand battle, but where no one can divine.

The diligencia does not run between this and the city of Mexico, and so far I have found it impossible to lay hands upon any papers.

No one as yet knows what General Scott’s intentions are as regards his future movements, yet small as his force is, many think he will advance upon the capital. We shall know in a day of two.

G. W. K.

The news from the city of Mexico by this arrival is most important. Our intelligent correspondent from Vera Cruz has furnished us with the annexed extracts from letters written at Mexico, and from the best sources of information. The resignation of Santa Anna is an important event in the history of the war:

Extract of a letter dated:

"CITY OF MEXICO, May 29, 1847.

"From here I have nothing worthy of notice to communicate except that Santa Anna yesterday resigned the presidency, but it is not known yet whether Congress will admit of it. –He was induced to take that course from the opposition he meets in his views of carrying on the defense of the city, and from some defamatory writings which appeared in the public papers against his past conduct. It is generally expected that the Americans will be here about the 15th of next month, and, considering the state of things in the capital, I may say that they will meet with but slight resistance on the part of this government."

Through the same channel we have received the following brief extract from another letter of the same date:

"Last week Santa Anna commenced fortifying Guadalupe, Penon and Mexicalzingo, near the suburbs of the city; but unusual disapprobation was the result, and hence his reason for offering his resignation. It is supposed it will be accepted, and that Herrera will receive the nomination. There are only about 3,000 troops in the city.”
We have an exciting rumor from Puebla, mentioned in letters from Vera Cruz, that the citizens of Puebla had risen upon Gen. Worth, and cut off six or seven hundred of his men. The rumor was in every man’s mouth at Vera Cruz and much credence given to it. We are happy to say that our correspondent in Vera Cruz puts little faith in the rumors.

[Correspondence of the New Orleans Picayune]
VERA CRUZ, May 23, 1847.

Gentlemen: After several days of anxiety and suspense, occasioned by the capture of the diligence by a band of guerrillas, and the well-known dangerous state of the road, another train has arrived at last from Jalapa bringing us news from the army and the events that have occurred on the road during the last six days, the most important of which is the murder of Col. Sowers, and seven of his escort of eight dragoons, and Lieut. McDonald, of the Rifle Regiment.

Col. S arrived here about a week ago with dispatches from Washington to Gen. Scott. He left this city last Saturday for Jalapa, and was murdered three miles beyond the National bridge. From all appearances, the party must have been an ambush very near the road, and by a well-directed volley brought them all to the ground at once, without giving them the slightest opportunity for resistance. Thus it is again that dispatches, probably of no little importance, have fallen into the hands of the enemy, and perhaps may be used to good purpose against us. The bodies of three of the party were found near the road, partially covered with sand, and the others had been dragged into the chaparral. One American house was found shot near the place where the party was assassinated.

A gentleman from the city of Mexico, who was one of the American prisoners captured by Urrea between Camargo and Monterey, came down with the train, having been liberated by the English Minister, he having claimed British protection. He reports all the American officers that were prisoners of parole.

A wagon master by the name of Parker and a quartermaster’s clerk by the name of Lathrop, both captured on the road from Camargo to Monterey, and who were supposed to have been killed, were in prison in Mexico.

The diligence, the capture of which has caused so much excitement, it appears, was robbed on its way, its village being partially destroyed and plundered of every thing if contained.

Gen. Shields was doing well and may be expected here on his way home in the course of ten days.

Strong suspicions were entertained at Jalapa of an attempt to retake the place, but Col. Childs is always wide awake for anything of that kind, and will do then up brown if the attempt is made.

Some Mexicans also came down yesterday from Jalapa, having been robbed on the road of everything they had of value; but the highwaymen showed their generosity and kindness to the unfortunate afterwards, by returning them twenty-five cents each to pay their expenses to his place.

The force of the (illegible) etc., on the road, is estimated at 500 men, disposed of as follows 300 men near the road, and 100 on each side of it, ranging at a sufficient distance to prevent small parties from taking the by-paths.

Gen. Scott left Jalapa from Puebla on the 23d inst., at the head of about 6,000 men.

I cannot hear of any later news than what has been forwarded to you, from Gen. Worth’s column at Puebla.

The train which came down was escorted by about sixty men, mostly discharged soldiers and some of the wounded at Cerro Gordo, in charge of Capt. Whiting. They saw frequently on the route men on the heights, and in the distance men on the lookout.

As for local news I have none to give you. —The rainy season has, it is thought, fully commenced, as we have had a sample of it during the last three days.

I have seen a private letter from Jalapa, which states that Col. Lawrence, bearer of dispatches, and one of his escort, were killed on the road, but no doubt the writer was mistaken in the name, and that the rumor emanated from the murder of Col. Sowers.

We regret to say that Maj. R. Hammond, Paymaster U. S. Army, died on board the New Orleans, at sea, on the 2d inst., on his passage from Vera Cruz.

[BJM]
army of Gen. Taylor. The letter of our correspondent below announces the arrival of a portion of Col. Doniphan’s command at Saltillo, after a short encounter with a body of hostile Indians.

We have a copy of the Matamoras Flag of the 2d inst. The individual found murdered below Reynosa, as before mentioned by us, turns out to have been a private in Capt. Paul’s company of Massachusetts volunteers. A company of Massachusetts men, under Capt. Walsh, escorting a train to Carmargo, passed the spot a few days since, and identified and buried the body. –Capt. W. demanded of some Mexicans residing near the scene of murder to produce the murders or he would burn down their ranches. The threat had the desired effect, and three incorrigible scoundrels were handed over to him –one of whom was killed in endeavoring to make his escape, an the other two are imprisoned at Reynosa. The clothes of the murdered man were upon the Mexican who was killed.

From the Flag we learn that Lieut. Col. Abbott, with four companies of Massachusetts volunteers, escorting a wagon train and a number of artillery horses, took up the line of march for Cerralvo on Saturday, the 29th ult. Col. Wright, with the remaining six companies, was to proceed by boat to aCarmargo, thence to Monterey, as soon as transportation could be had.

The troops remaining at Matamoras after the departure of the Massachusetts Regiment will be three companies of the 3d Dragoons –Hagan’s, Butler’s and Merrick’s. These dragoons companies are not yet furnished with horses, and it is uncertain when they will be mounted –probably (says the Flag) not until they are called into active service, without affording an opportunity to drill. We copy the following from the Flag:

Murder. –A Mexican, Joseph Maria Lara, a carpenter by trade, who has a shop near the lower end of Comercial street, was found about ten o’clock on Saturday last lying dead on the floor of his house, having been stabbed in the breast. It has not yet been ascertained by whose (illegible) he was killed. His wife represents that she left him in the house in conversation with a (illegible), and when she returned he was found as described. Circumstances tend to a belief that she committed or instigated the murder herself, and we understand that she has been imprisoned until the matter can undergo investigation.

Col. Curtis, of the 3d Ohio Regiment, has received the appointment of Assistant Adjutant General to Gen. Wool.

The Matamoras Flag of the 20th May records the following:

STEAMBOAT DISASTER –The steamer Lama, Captain Ferguson, on the upward trop to Camargo, collapsed a (illegible) on Saturday last, in consequence of which she is detained a few miles below Reynosa. No one was injured, and a new boiler having been procured, Captain Ferguson expects to have her in trim again in a few days. The Lama was under Government charter, and freighted with army stores.

The steamer Gazelle, also under Government charter, bound up the river with stores, sank on Monday last about sixty miles above here. Boat a total loss, the current having broken her up, and swept off cabin and hull.

The Sabine, Captain Sterrit, freighted with private merchandise –her first trip up the river –struck a snag on Tuesday last, about thirty miles below Reynosa, and was run into shallow water, where she sand. The principal part of her cargo was saved without injury, and the boast, it is said, will soon again be afloat.

The steamer Big Hatchee lies high and dry between here and the mouth of the river, having grounded during the late rise, and the river receded from her. A rise of four feet will put her again in her element.

At the election of officers in the Massachusetts regiment, Lieut. Col. Wright was chosen colonel; Maj. Abbott, lieutenant colonel; and Capt. Webster chosen major.

[BJM]

June 15, 1847, REv64i13p2c3, General Scott’s Proclamation

The Union publishes an authentic copy of Gen. Scott’s proclamation to the Mexican people. –Having already laid before our readers the same remarkable document, translated from the Spanish, we deem it unnecessary to copy the official paper, which, though more polished in form and perfect in context, gives no better idea of the views and arguments of the author than the translated copy. In relation to this paper the Union says:

"There are not many parts of it which do not meet with our cordial approval, and on these we do not now propose to make any comments. –With some few qualifications, we unhesitatingly pronounce it an able and patriotic paper, credible to its author –General Scott –and well calculated to produce favorable impressions upon the Mexican people. That such is its true character, is evinced by the fact that it has drawn forth the bitter invectives of Santa Anna and then editors of the National Intelligencer. Gen. Scott has many friends among the Whig party and we do not doubt they will at once step forth and vindicate him from his allied assailants –General Santa Anna and the National Intelligencer.

"We publish, along with the proclamation, Santa Anna’s letter in reply to it, and we refer our readers to the
The robbery was no doubt the work of Mexican banditti. We come now to a more atrocious act by the same

Verbally we learn that the Mexicans were busy fortifying the pass at Rio Frio, between Puebla and the City of Mexico. Having left there on Sunday forenoon, the 30th ult.

"The address of General Scott, to the Mexicans, dates at Jalapa, is a document which does him honor, and at the same time does no more than justice to the American character. It breathes the most noble and chivalrous sentiments, and is distinguished by an elevated and magnanimous tone of morals. We behold an American army invading a foreign country in the course of a war, defeating the armies of the enemy, taking their towns, not only without committing a single act of violence on the defenseless, but scrupulously regardful, in the minutest particular, of individual immunity, excepting in cases purely accidental, or unavoidably consequent on military operations. The moment the battle is fought, and the victory won, our soldiers are seen rendering the most touching offices of humanity to the wounded enemy, as if they had been comrades. How different from the Mexican practice of killing the wounded and stripping the dead! Such is the mildness and humanity of the American victors, that their thousands of prisoners feel themselves at once in as perfect security as if they were in the midst of their own people. Their wants are liberally supplied, the little boy and his pet lamb, and the little girl and her pet dove, are spoken to with kind and soothing words, by those who just before were fighting with armed men, and with the fierceness of lions. It is not any wonder that such traits should excite admiration, or that the multitude of captives, who have been set free, have been forbidden by their own despotic rulers to enter the cities, on account of what they are in the habit of relating, not only of the courage and prowess of the Yankees, but still more of their strange and unaccountable humanity and generosity.

"In the cities occupied by the American troops order is immediately restored, and measures taken to command the most perfect security to the inhabitants, man, woman and child. Scarcely a day has passed by, when all classes, excepting the assassin and plunderer, feels a degree to security hitherto unknown. No one is molested in his house, no one fears to go forth into the streets, while their places of worship are held sacred, -Everything is as safe as in one of our own peaceful towns. This certainly is to divest grim-vi-saged war of its worst terrors. Gen. Morales, who had seen the conduct of our army after the taking of Vera Cruz, advised the people of Jalapa to remain quiet at their homes, and look upon the Americans as their best protectors, and for this he has been denounced by the military anarchists of the country as a traitor. Notwithstanding the slanders of the war party in Mexico, a party interested in making the war interminable, there is little doubt that the inhabitants of Puebla and the capital will hail the arrival of the Yankees, as that of deliverers, from the cut-throats and robbers, brought to the surface by the fermentation and disorganization of their own society. One mighty effort will shorten the war, and, even, save expense. If there be no central government in Mexico capable of forming treaties, we must raise up and treat with separate States and confederacies, taking care to secure sufficient guaranties for their fulfillment. We often see the expression, 'Stop the war –stop the war.' It is for Mexico to stop the war; she can do it at any moment, but it is not in our power. We may submit, we may renounce all our demands, we may leave all matters unsettled and consent to remain, no in a state of doubtful peace, but unavoidable and unending warfare, consequent on having no definite settlement of differences, or regulation of intercourse. Two nations in this situation are always at war, because always in collision. Suppose we withdraw our armies, is there any rational man who can suppose that, in thus implicitly confiding in Mexico, we can obtain a treaty of peace, or that she will renounce her pretension to the Sabine as her boundary? One of her very last pretensions, is a claim for indemnity for the loss of Texas, and all expenses of the war in that country since the year 1836! If we should lose the grasp we now have, she would laugh us to scorn, and treat us with contempt."

June 15, 1847, REv64i13p4c2, Later from Vera Cruz

The steamship Fashion, Capt. Ivy, (says the N. Orleans Delta, June 4,) arrived at this port yesterday from Vera Cruz, having left there on Sunday forenoon, the 30th ult.

Verbally we learn that the Mexicans were busy fortifying the pass at Rio Frio, between Puebla and the City of Mexico.

Gen. Scott, with the rear of the army, was to have left Jalapa on the 29th ult., and would arrive at Puebla on the 4th inst., where it is presumed he will await the arrival of the reinforcements being forwarded to him, before he advances farther.

We have heard a rumor that Herrera has been elected President, but cannot trace t to a reliable source, and we think the result of the election could scarcely be known at the capital so soon.

From the American Eagle we learn that the diligence which left Vera Cruz for Jalapa on the 22d ult., without passengers, but with three trunks filled with very fine dry goods, was stopped two miles beyond the National Bridge and robbed, and then burnt and destroyed. The driver and postillion who accompanied it were released and made their way to Jalapa. The diligence which should have come into Vera Cruz on the 24th ult., only came down to where the other had been destroyed, and at once returned. This, it is feared, will put an end to the use of diligences on the road. The robbery was no doubt the work of Mexican banditti. We come now to a more atrocious act by the same
“HORRID. –It is with pain mingled with a desire for vengeance that we undertake to relate another massacre of our countrymen in the most cruel and brutal manner. In our paper of last Saturday (only one week) we announced the fact that Col. Sowers was in this city as a bearer of dispatches to Gen. Scott, and today we are called upon to inform the public of his horrid death—not with his enemy in front to oppose him, but cowardly shot by those who dared to show themselves.

“It appears that he left this city on Saturday last with an escort of five men and Lieut. McDonnell of Capt. Wheat’s company, expecting to find the captain at Santa Fe, or at the most a very short distance the other side. They arrived at Santa Fe and lodged there during the night, finding that Capt. Wheat had left: in the morning, anxious to push forward although it was ascertained that Capt. W. was some thirty miles ahead) with an addition of two more to the escort Col. Sowers set out for Jalapa. The next that we know of this little party is buy the arrival of one of the men, who returned and reported its surprise and destruction. In consequent of the falsity of the greater number of similar stories, Col. Wilson, our Governor, had the man arrested as a deserter. Thus matters stood until yesterday, when developments were made by an arrival from Jalapa—the first that has reached us for a week—tending to confirm our worst fears.

“We conversed yesterday with a gentleman who arrived in the morning, and he informs us that at a point about two miles on the other side of Puente National, he saw the ruins of the diligence, underneath which was a human body stripped, with the exception of a part of drawers, and mutilated in the most beastly manner. This is supposed to be the body of Col. Sowers. Near him lay another perfectly naked and likewise dreadfully mangled. Our informant was assured that five other bodies lay in some thick chaparral a short distance from the road. Now, the number of killed, with the man who escaped, exactly corresponds with that of the party which accompanied the unfortunate Col. Sowers, and leaves no doubt in out mind of its destruction.”

Our readers will recollect a party of Mexican robbers recently captured near Vera Cruz by a party of amateurs, under Col. Banks. Ten of them have been tried for robbing, secreting arms and ammunition, &c. Five have been acquitted and five convicted. The latter were sentenced to four and a half months’ work upon the public streets and thoroughfares in chains. Tow more yet it remained to be tried. We hope this example may be salutary.

The Eagle informs us, that on the 28th a party of six Mexicans, coming into Vera Cruz from Santa Fe, were attacked by some of their own countrymen, and robbed of all they had about them.

The ship Zenobia arrived at Vera Cruz from New York on the 28th May, having on board 193 troops, principally of the 4th and 5th Infantry, under command of Captain J. H. Whipple, of the 5th, 1st Lieutenant H. Price of the 4th Infantry, and 2d Lieutenant J. W. Lendrum of the 3d Infantry. Fourteen of the men were recruits for several regiments.

We note the (illegible) to Vera Cruz. They have published instructions to the unacclamated, full of good sense.

June 15, 1847, REv64i13p4c3, Conditions of Peace

The Whigs will find fault with the Administration, whatever it may do. At one time they hurled the most bitter anthems on the President, because, as they wantonly alleged, his design was to push this "war of conquest" and ruthlessly to annex the whole of Mexico to our Union. Beaten from this position, and compelled by facts too stubborn to be overcome, to admit that the Administration is willing to close a peace with Mexico upon terms which a large majority of the American people regard as most liberal and magnanimous on our part, they change their tone, and argue that, had the same spirit of moderation been evinced by the Administration, this bloody and unnecessary war would have been avoided, and the heavy loss of American blood and treasure been averted. Yesterday’s Whig quotes the following passages from the leading article in the Democratic (illegible) upon “the State of the Country,” and remarked, that if the writer “correctly delineates the policy and purposes of the Administration, we must confess that the terms upon which it is willing to make peace with Mexico, though not at all to our liking, are less harsh and exacting than, from intimations proceeding from other high sources, we had preciously supposed.” We, of course, do not attach very great importance to the correctness of the writer’s expositions, but are willing, for the present, to assume them to be authentic:

“We believe, in the first place, that the administration is willing to make to Mexico every possible concession in point of form, and to allow the defeated party in the war to prescribe its own rule of diplomatic etiquette in settling the preliminaries of peace. It has, for this purpose, clothed Gen. Scott, the commander-in-chief of the American army, with power to treat with the authorities he may find in Mexico, and sent Mr. Trist, the second officer in the State Department, down to aid and instruct him in carrying out the views of the President. Nay, should the Mexicans desire, or consider it a special mark of attention, Mr. Buchanan, the distinguished Secretary of State, will himself go down and negotiate in the city of the Aztecs.

“As to the cession of territory demanded of the Mexicans, the administration will not claim it as a forfeit, but offer to pay for it, so as to acquire it by purchase. We want a clear title to it; and the administration considers purchase the very best of all titles.
"The expense of the war we will not claim from the Mexicans, and the indemnity which she owes our citizens will be assumed by the government of the United States. We shall then claim no money of Mexico in any shape, and are willing to accept land in payment of our just demands.

"As to the territory to be ceded or sold to us by Mexico, we are of opinion that it will no comprise more than Upper California and New Mexico, and that our government will not insist, as a condition of peace, on the right of way across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec; but rather make this a subject for subsequent friendly negotiations between the two sister republics."

As to the first proposition, the Whig asks "if Mr. Polk is now willing to permit Mexico to 'prescribe her own rule of diplomatic etiquette,' for example, at this time, why was he so ignignant at her refusal to permit him to prescribe that rule, when he sent her, in the person of Mr. Slidell, an Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, to negotiate upon all the subjects in dispute between the two countries, instead of the Commissioner, to adjust the question of boundary, whom alone she had agreed to receive?"

The official documents expressly contradict the position here taken by the Whig. As soon as the resolutions annexing Texas were passed by Congress, Almonte, the Mexican Minister at Washington, demanded his passports, declaring that the action of our Government would justify war. The Administration, however, resolved upon doing everything to conciliate Mexico and terminate the difficulty amicably, instructed Mr. Black, the American Consul at the City of Mexico, "to ascertain from the Mexican Government whether they would receive an Envoy from the United States, entrusted with full power to adjust all the questions between the two Governments, though Mr. Pena y Pena, agreed to "receive a Minister from the United States in the Capital of Mexico, with full power from his Government to settle the dispute in a peaceable manner." Mr. Slidell was sent as such Envoy; but, on arriving at the City of Mexico, was objected to by the Secretary of State. Two weeks afterwards, his mission was annulled by an official vote from the Mexican Secretary, requiring him to produce special powers, from the settlement of the Texas question alone. This gross violation of an express agreement was, no doubt, attributable to the public excitement raised against President Herrera for wishing, as it was alleged, to bargain away the Mexican territory, embraced in Texas. The fact is, a few days after, the Government of Herrera was overthrown, and General Paredes, a military usurper, succeeded to power, pledging himself to recover Texas by force. Mr. Slidell, who had retired to Jalapa, repeated the proffer of peace to the new Mexican Secretary of State, Mr. Castillo y Lanzas, stating that the President was sincerely desirous of preserving peace between the two countries. A few days after Mr. Slidell (illegible) rejected, his passports were sent to him, and he returned to the United States.

Is it not evident that the objection to Mr. Slidell, as a full Minister, was a mere quibble to disguise a gross violation of an express agreement, and that, in the excited state of the public mind on account of the Annexation of Texas which led to the overthrow of Herrera, no change in policy in our diplomatic intercourse would have induced the Mexican rulers to enter upon a negotiation, even of the boundary question alone? Paredes was hoisted into power, pledged to wrest the whole of Texas from the "Northern invaders," and he would not therefore listen to any proposition, however "conciliatory or complying." This is demonstrated by his orders to the commanding General on the Rio Grande, before he could have possibly heard of the march of General Taylor from Corpus Christi, to cross the river and take "the initiative" in making hostilities. His cry was for war, and not for peace—and any argument that the war was brought on by our Government stickling for diplomatic etiquette, is refuted by history.

In reply to the Whig's assertion, we contend that the President has, from the first clash of arms, been ready and willing to make peace with Mexico. We shall not now go into the question of the march of our army to the Rio Grande. It is enough to know, that the war was recognized by Congress as the act of Mexico, and the President was fully provided with men and money to prosecute it vigorously. Not a work was then raised against the pursuit of the insolent foe into his own territory, to punish the murders of our citizens, and other wrongs inflicted upon us. The cry of "lawless invasion," "war of conquest," was not then heard. With the full acquiescence of the nation, the army crossed the Rio Grande. It is enough to know, that the war was recognized by Congress as the act of Mexico, and the President was fully provided with men and money to prosecute it vigorously. Not a word was then raised against the pursuit of the insolent foe into his own territory, to punish the murders of our citizens, and other wrongs inflicted upon us. The cry of "lawless invasion," "war of conquest," was not then heard. With the full acquiescence of the nation, the army crossed the Rio Grande and victory after victory received the applause of our whole people. Still the President was not neglectful of the great object we had in view, the establishment of a permanent and honorable peace. Proffers of negotiation were again made, in the midst of our triumphs, but they were again rejected with scorn. Could the President have done more to effect a pacific settlement of the difficulty or, rather, was he not imperatively required, by the action of Congress and the people, to push on the war, so as to weaken and humble Mexico, and compel her to listen to a negotiation of peace? That this desirable end has not been attained, is not the fault of the President nor our gallant officers and men—but is mainly attributable to the factious partisan course of Whig presses and politicians, whose assaults upon their own Government are eagerly caught up by the war party in Mexico, as conveying sympathy for their blind and infatuated perseverance in hostilities. The Administration, we have no doubt, is now, and ever has been, willing to make peace on fair, equitable and liberal terms. What more can the country, or even the Whig party, demand?

The Whig attempts to show up the inconsistency of the proposition attributed to the President, viz: to obtain Mexican territory, not by conquest but my purchase and asks, "why conquer it first, in order to buy it afterwards?" How does the Whig know that the purchase of territory was not embraced in Mr. Slidell's mission, which was so insultingly rejected, under the influence of the war spirit? And is it not a matter of record, that in the summer of 1846 the President by special message called upon Congress for a certain amount to assist in arranging the terms of peace with Mexico; and that at the last session of Congress, after we had "conquered" a large portion of Mexico, a sum of money for the same purpose was placed at the President's disposal by Congress? The attempt, then, of the Whig to present this matter of "purchase" as a new question, is not sustained by facts.
We shall not undertake to discuss the propriety of the Whig's parallel between our course towards Mexico and "the partition of Poland and the extinction of its nation existence, by then usurping triumvirate of Russia, Austria and Prussia." It is sufficient to chronicle such assertions as indicative of how far party spirit will blind the judgement. To use the language of the Whig, we believe that the Administration did "exhaust every effort to effect its object by peaceable means, before it unsheathed the sword," and that since the sword has been drawn, it has left untried no plan, consistent with the honor and interests of the nation, to bring the war to a close.

We do not profess, however, to be acquainted with the designs of the Administration in regard to the conditions of peace. All that we ask is indemnification for the past and security for the future. We would put away every notion of annexing Mexico to the United States, as has been most wantonly charged upon the Administration by the Whigs; nor would we do anything to denationalize that Republic, which we yet hope to see, under the influence of our free institutions, acquiring stability and strength, and acting as a barrier against the progress of monarchical principles. To secure the object we have in view, however, it may be necessary for us to hold the country to levy duties sufficient to pay the expenses of our armies of occupation, and to protect the peace party, who may be willing to organize their Government on sound principles and consummate a solid and honorable peace with us. Money she has none, and we must therefore take a reasonable portion of her territory, of no real value to Mexico, as a moderate equivalent for the sacrifice of life and the heavy expense which has been forced upon us. –It is our policy, as it should be the aim of our Government, to see established in Mexico a literal, permanent civil government, with whom we may cultivate a friendly and generous intercourse in trade and commerce, -exchanging with one another the blessings with which Nature has endowed each country. In a word, we fully sanction the following views of the N. Y. Globe:

"The original declaration of war against us by Mexico, without any justifiable cause, has been punished by a series of victories, which has placed that country at our disposal; another movement directed by a proper force, will give us possession of her capital, she is in every point of view a beaten, conquered and humiliated nation; and what adds to her humiliation, she has brought into the field one against us, and yet she has been vanquished in every flight; she has not gained a single victory, or achieved a single exploit, but with characteristic obstinacy, she insists upon a farther prosecution of the war. We have gained all that we hoped for in defending ourselves against these aggressions, and now we have an example to set to Mexico and to the world, an example of reason, of moderation, of forbearance. We conquer not for occupation, but for defense. We conquer for peace not for territory, and beyond our just claims to a safe boundary reaching to the Pacific, it is not our interest or our desire to occupy any more territory owned by Mexico."

June 18, 1847, REv64i14p1c7, Important to Discharged Soldiers

IMPORTANT TO DISCHARGED SOLDIERS. –By an act of the last Congress, approved 2d March, 1847, (says the New Orleans Delta,) $500,000 was appropriated to provide for the comfort of discharged soldiers, who may be landed at New Orleans, or other places within the United States, so disabled by disease or by wounds received in the service, as to be unable to proceed to their homes. This sum is to be applied under the direction of the Secretary of War. On the 20th of May Gov. Johnson addressed a communication to Gen. Brooke, calling his attention to the wise and humane provisions of this act of Congress, and inquiring whether, under the direction of the Secretary of War, he had been empowered to apply any portion of the sum appropriated at this point, and what arrangements, if any, had been made for carrying into effect the provisions of that act. Gen. Brooke, with his usual promptness, immediately wrote to the authorities at Washington on the subject, which was as promptly responded to in the following letter from Adjutant General Jones:

ADJUTANT GENERAL’S OFFICE,
Washington, May 28, 1847.

General: Your letter of the 20th, on the subject of discharge volunteers who are sick and in want, has been received, and I have the pleasure to inform you that the fund appropriated by Congress for their relief (500,000 dollars) is now available. Your requisition on the (illegible) at New Orleans for any funds that you may think necessary to be placed in the hand of Assistant Surgeon McCormick, in fulfillment of the object of the law at New Orleans, will be promptly met. I am, General,

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
[Signed,]R. JONES, Adjutant General.

To Brig. General GEORGE M. BROOKE,
Commanding Western Division,
New Orleans, Louisiana. [BJM]
The following is the dispatch from Gen. Santa Anna to which allusion was made in our last paper:

ARMY OF OPERATIONS OF THE EAST,
Ayoltla, May 18, 1847.

From the moment that I arrived at this place, I learned with deep regret, through channels worthy of all confidence, that my approach to the capital with the Army of the East had spread the greatest alarm among its inhabitants, caused by the idea that it was intended to defend the city within its own walls, as also by the agitation of party interest, which putting party passions in motion, appear in this instance to have made common cause with the enemies of honor and of the independence of the nation. Alarmed by this intelligence, which, if left to its natural course, would not only rob me of the only property remaining to me in this world –my honor –but would also decidedly endanger the sacred cause which we defend, I have thought it to be my duty to suspend my march, in order to render an account to the Supreme Government of my conduct and intentions, trusting that the loyalty and candor with which I shall explain them will prevent the last and most fatal calamity which could in our present position befall our country, “distrust and discord among those who are called upon to save it.”

When I commenced the march to this city it was in obedience to a resolution adopted by the Committee of War, of which I informed your Excellency in my dispatch of the day before yesterday, in which it was determined that the salvation of the capital was not only necessary and advantageous for the ulterior operations of the war, but might be sufficient to bring it to a happy and honorable conclusion. Although fully convinced of the utility of this measure, I had notwithstanding, resolved to submit the same question, on my arrival at the capital, to another and more numerous meeting, presided over by the older general in the army, determined to respect its decision and even to resign my military power, which I also manifested to your Excellency in my above named dispatch. Such were my designs, in which I protest most solemnly not a thought of personal aggrandizement or ambition had a part. The nation has seen that since my return to the Republic I have passed my time in the field without thinking of the supreme power, until a majority of the Representatives of the nation urged me to put an end to the civil war which was destroying the heart of the nation.

Not even this complete self-denial, nor the numerous and severe sacrifices to which I have submitted, have been sufficient to destroy old prejudices. Calumny and suspicion have added fresh wormwood to the already bitter cup of my life, and under what circumstances? At a moment when I was leading to the defense of the capital an army drawn from its ruins, and when I asked of my country no other favor than to be allowed to die in its defense. Although this unexpected and undeserved return ought to absolve me from all engagements, furnishing me an opportunity to escape with honor from the extremely difficult position in which I find myself placed, yet I will not voluntarily take such a step, nor shall it ever be said that the man to whom the nation entrusted her salvation did not have the recourse to every sacrifice, including his self-love and even outward appearances, before he retreated from before the enemy, and that if ever this should happen it will be due to invincible obstacles; and finally because he had been repudiated by his countrymen.

As in my person are at this moment united two kinds of representations, both supreme—one military and the other political—which especially claim the fulfillment of peculiar duties, it is necessary that I should satisfy both. I will do so as clearly and succinctly as the straitened position in which I am placed will admit. The first requires that I should state freely and explicitly my opinion respecting the military operations under my charge and these re, that the war must be continued until we shall have obtained ample justice from our unjust aggressors; and that, to arrive at this result, it is necessary to save the capital should be occupied without resistance, the spirit of the people will be broken, and the complete submission of the country will be inevitable.

My duty as the first magistrate of the nation, at present shamefully censured and suspected by unjust and artful detractors, requires that I should remove a pretext invented by perfidy and pusillanimity in order to neutralize the generous efforts which the good citizens are disposed to make for the salvation of its independence and honor. In order to (illegible) it is (illegible) to which I have previously alluded, and of which I now repeat the following two points: First, to carry on the war on the basis before indicated, and, secondly, to (illegible) the salvation of the capital as indispensable. Being determined to admit any compromise on either of these points, I communicate the same to your Excellency, that you may impart the same to his Excellency, the President, and, should he decide against me, you will at once tender my resignation as commander-in-chief and first magistrate of the Republic, and forward my passports to retire to wherever may be most convenient for me.

It might happen, that although there may be an obsolete conformity with my ideas, it may be thought that I would be an obstacle to carrying them into due effect. I have already stated that these circumstances would be very propitious for me to escape from the critical position in which I am placed in an easy and honorable manner by a prompt dismissal from service, but I have too high an opinion of my duty. I know the obligation I contracted with the nation when I was placed at its head, and when it confided to me its precious defense. I shall never betray this trust, and a voluntary separation from the affair would make me believe myself guilty of a dishonorable desertion. My country finds me at her side, and I am determined to fulfil the mission that has been confided to me to the very last extremity, and my dearest interests and my very existence are staked on the altar of liberty and independence of my country. But as I wish to hear and to respect the sound opinion of the nation, I should with that the Supreme Government, speaking to me loyally and with candor, should make known whether I should separate myself from the nation. But as I wish to hear and to respect the sound opinion of the nation, I should with that the Supreme Government, speaking to me loyally and with candor, should make known whether I should separate myself from the nation. But as I wish to hear and to respect the sound opinion of the nation, I should with that the Supreme Government, speaking to me loyally and with candor, should make known whether I should separate myself from the nation. But as I wish to hear and to respect the sound opinion of the nation, I should with that the Supreme Government, speaking to me loyally and with candor, should make known whether I should separate myself from the nation. But as I wish to hear and to respect the sound opinion of the nation, I should with that the Supreme Government, speaking to me loyally and with candor, should make known whether I should separate myself from the nation. But as I wish to hear and to respect the sound opinion of the nation, I should with that the Supreme Government, speaking to me loyally and with candor, should make known whether I should separate myself from the nation. But as I wish to hear and to respect the sound opinion of the nation, I should with that the Supreme Government, speaking to me loyally and with candor, should make known whether I should separate myself from the nation.
blood for my country, and standing by her in the moments of her affliction. Senores Don Manuel Barande, Don Ignacio Trigueros and Don Jose Fernando Ramirez, who are here on a friendly visit, are commissioned to be my interpreters near the Supreme Government, and I have requested them to enlarge upon these ideas, as they have listened to them from my lips.

May it please your Excellency to communicate this note to his Excellency, the President, requesting him to favor me with an answer in the shortest delay possible, to enable me to form any ulterior determination. God and Liberty!

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

To his Excellency the MINISTER OF WAR.

To this letter the following reply was immediately made by the Government through the Minster of War:

DEPARTMENT OF WAR AND MARINE,
Mexico, May 19, 1847.

June 18, 1847, REV64i14p4c1, Prospects of Peace

The intelligence in the N. O. papers is of a contradictory character, in relation to the election of President. The Bulletin says that Herrera had been elected President, and the clergy were in favor of peace; and that Herrera would immediately make a public declaration to that effect. –The same paper says that a late letter from an officer in Gen. Scott’s army and whose situation was highly favorable for obtaining correct information, states that peace would shortly be made:

"The news, on the whole, we think, in favorable as regards peace, or at least of a disposition on the part of the enemy to make it, if the terms should be admissible."

On the other hand, it is stated positively, that the enemy were actively engaged in fortifying the Río Frio Pass.

The N. O. National has the following article on the same subject. We trust that its expectations may be as well founded as its reasoning is sound:

"We have had the pleasure of conversing with one of our gallant officers, just returned from the seat of war, and we have reason to believe that the prospect of peace with Mexico is not altogether chimerical. –The British residents of Mexico begin to speak of such a thing as necessary, and they no doubt represent the feelings of their government; and the British nation, having great interests to look after in Mexico, can exert influence that will greatly facilitate a peace, if it choose to do so. Before the taking of Vera Cruz, the British residents of that city were very incredulous about our conquering Mexico. The battles of Buena Vista and Cerro Gordo have forced them to acknowledge the thing as done, and they now speak of the Mexican nation as no longer competent to carry on a civilized warfare.

"Again, the most intelligent native citizens of Vera Cruz and Jalapa, and the intervening country, agree that the war should no longer be carried on. They acknowledge that the Mexican arms cannot prevail; that the resources of the people are exhausted. The people are hourly becoming reconciled to the Americans. The destruction of the enormous tariffs, and annoying tolls upon the roads, has facilitated internal commerce, and destroyed the monopolies that every where weighed down the laboring classes.

"Lastly, the clergy of Jalapa, among whom are many of the most intelligent in Mexico, openly avow their desire for peace. They have learned that we are not making war upon religion, but upon the military despots that have reduced Mexico to its present degradation; of course their sentiments will have an extended influence.

"Although our reasons for expecting peace may appear at first-sight somewhat superficial, still we find more substance on which to ground a hope that the war is nearer at an end that has heretofore been presented to us."

[BJM]

June 22, 1847, REV64i15p1c2, The President and Santa Anna

Not long since we took occasion to review some of the prominent scenes in the military life of Santa Anna, and to show that, as a General, his career has been marked by nothing but cowardice, unmilitary conduct and defeat. We further contend that if Mexico had empowered the President to select a General to lead her to battle, he could not have chosen one who, with the resources at his disposal, would have met such inglorious defeats from our gallant and skilful officers and troops. The Whig thinks we have underrated the ability as well as bravery of the Mexican Ex-President, and quotes the opinion of Colonel Baker, of Illinois, who has returned home, and is reported to have said: that Santa Anna is a great man, and that no other Mexican could control the population of that country, raise armies,
These opinions, certainly, ought not to outweigh the stubborn facts with which the country is familiar. Santa Anna, we admit, is a man of talents and ready pen; his beautiful and glowing pronunciamientos are worthy of the days of Roman virtue and self-devotion; though he has, on every occasion, with marked hypocrisy and cowardice, falsified his heroic words. But that he has not the qualities to excite a popular enthusiasm, or the skill or courage to lead armies on the field, his ceaseless defeats and pusillanimous flights have thoroughly convinced us.

We, too, can quote the weighty opinions of others in defense of our position. We find the following article in the New Orleans Commercial Times:

"GEN. MINON. –This officer, whom Santa Anna denounced for a want of skill and courage an Buena Vista, has published in the Republicano a regulation of the charge brought against him –He declares that he assertion by Santa, of the want of provisions and water in the army, is a falsehood. He states that he himself had cattle to the number of 600 head, besides maize and flour, of which he apprised Santa Anna. He further asserts that the latter's retreat was unjustifiable; that the manner of it was still more so –moving off in the darkness of the night, and leaving hundreds of his poor wounded soldiers to their fate on the field –more like a fading hiding from his enemy, than a general retiring to recruit his forces. It was to prevent these facts from being made public, that he, Gen. Minon, was persecuted, imprisoned and denied communication with his friends. Truth will but, it appears, and Santa Anna will shrink into a pigmy, by and by, from the inflated dimensions he gave himself, as the Napoleon of the West."

A writer in the Union, who has been in Mexico, presents the following strong and interesting facts and sound views in regards to the return of Santa Anna to Mexico. The extract is long, but it is marked with a calm and patriotic spirit, which gives it much weight. History and observation satisfy us of the correctness of the views we have formed of the character and ability of Santa Anna; and until we see reason to change our opinion, we shall continue to believe that the return of Santa Anna has been (illegible) country's cause, instead of a fatal and reasonable movement, as the Whigs allege:

Hoping and believing that my countrymen, whatever their alliance of party, can as patriots look upon national measures independent of the one-sided views presented by partisan presses, I venture to lay before them a few facts and observations in relation to a prominent incident in the Mexican war. I allude to the consent of the government to the admission of Gen. Santa Anna into Mexico. There is no act for which the President has been more censured and ridiculed; yet there is none in the conduct of the war which could have shown a more correct estimate of Mexican character, or of the military character of Gen. Santa Anna himself. The results have in many respects, if not in all, justified that estimate.

To those whose lot has been cast in Mexico, it is often amusing, and sometimes painful, to witness among our own people the false reasoning, based upon false impressions, applied to the Mexican population, institutions, and officers. –It is natural. We reason from those of our own country to theirs; and it is difficult for a citizen of this Union to imagine, or to understand when laid before him, the degradation of Mexico; and in making up a Mexican hero, he would never take into account the vices which are essential to the character. None have professed so much by these difficulties of judgement as Gen. Santa Anna, who has, with us, been gratuitously endowed with the character of a gallant, if not that of a chivalric, chief; whereas, at home, he is known as a chief from his pre-eminence in the national vices, and for years the inconstancy of his courage has been the subject of popular talk. From the battle of Talome, at which he was defeated, (I think in 1832,) down to the present time, he has never, even among his own people, gained a battle, excepting when he has been enabled to purchase a part of the opposing army. Going before more recent events, we know the result of San Jacinto, and we know his conduct when captured there; we also know the fate of the last battle of his contest with Paredes, after which he fled his country. Then why is he a military chief? Because, as such he is known as a leader of a horde of banditti, which, receiving no pay from a government having no revenue, is necessarily thrown upon robbery for the means of support. –By such of the Mexican people as are not in some way connected with the military, he is detested; and is, perhaps, the only politician who, in the event of a decided overthrow at home, runs the risk of losing his life. Nothing could exceed the enthusiasm of hate by which he was forced to fly his country at the time of his late exile. Happening at the time to be in one of the remote provinces, I saw people running to each other's houses with congratulations at his overthrow, and exulting in the hope that he would yet be caught and shot. They repeated doggerel rhymes, in which the "one-legged scoundrel" was his most flattering epithet. Now whom did the admission of Santa Anna expel from the country? General Paredes. He fled, not from the Mexican people, but from Santa Anna, whom he knew better than did the unfortunate officer over whose name I write. A more gallant spirit than that of Paredes never existed. He is too brave a man to be long a Mexican leader. Plunging into the hottest of the fight himself, he gives his followers no excuse for retreating. His small person is now covered with scars of desperate wounds, and of one of his arms but a fragment remains. Single-handed, he has had then energy and courage to quell the mutiny of a Mexican garrison. His wife, equally brave with himself, has been by his side in some of his most desperate fights. Although it is not probable that the general result would have been changed, fighting Mexicans with Paredes, of even his wife at their head, would have been a very different thing to fighting them under that "very best General" whom the President had the INDISCRETION to give them. It is pretty certain Paredes never would have set the example of flight at Buena Vista.

Although the acts of the administration, as those of all human beings, may be assailed for erroneous judgement, doubts of the integrity of motive of the clearness of judgement which prompts the censure must arise in the minds of
all independent citizens, when they see suggested, as a motive of policy, a want of patriotism among the chief officers of the republic. To this allegation every honest man’s heart involuntarily gives the lie. No citizen, appealing to his own bosom, can believe that the President of the United States and the members of his cabinet desire the defeat and disgrace of their country. On the contrary, he must feel that, as citizens and men, they are, equally with any alive to its interests and to its successes in our present contest with an ever vicious and faithless neighbor; while, as the agents of its policy, they have an additional interest in all that concerns its glory and renown. Yet do we daily see hostility to the success of the war charged upon the administration. Such charges are too much for the credulity of the most violent, though honest opponent of the administration, and are evidences of the spirit and judgement with which the administration is measured.

FANNINO.

[BJM]

June 22, 1847, REV64i15p2c1, From the Army of General Scott

From the New Orleans Picayune, Extra June 14.

FROM THE ARMY OF GEN. SCOTT.

The steamship Telegraph, Capt. Auld, arrived Sunday evening having left Vera Cruz on the 4th inst., Tampico on the 7th and Brazos Santiago on the 9th inst.

The Telegraph brought over the following passengers from the Brazos:


[Editorial Correspondence of the Picayune.]

JALAPA, Mexico, May 22, 1847.

It seems that the affair with Santa Anna’s lancers took place at Amasoique, a small place about three leagues this side of Puebla. The number of the enemy was variously estimated at from 1500 to 2000. They charged up within cannon range with great apparent resolution, so much so that a regular movement was made to receive them; them all scampering off as fast as their animals would carry them, leaving ten men and seven horses dead on the field.

The better classes at Puebla appear well enough disposed towards the Americans, although they perhaps do not altogether like the idea that a force of 3000 men should enter a city of near 100,000 souls, and without resistance. The lower orders –the ladrones and leperos, with which Puebla abounds –are evidently but ill disposed towards us. One of Gen. Worth’s men has already been assassinated, but fortunately the murders were immediately arrested. On the alcades telling Gen. W. that according to their laws, a year and a half would elapse before the case of the assassins could be settled in the courts of Puebla, he was informed that an American tribunal would render them full of justice in a day and a half! The miscreants are now where they never will commit another murder.

It seems that supplies of all kinds can be readily obtained at Puebla. The wheat crop has just ripened and is now most abundant.

The news now is that the Mexicans have abandoned the idea of fortifying at the Rio Frio, but intend constructing a line of works at El Penol, a position about nine miles this side of the city of Mexico. Perhaps they only intend this as a show of resistance, for the sake of saving their credit; again, they may hope to raise men enough to give a regular battle to the Americans. They can collect nothing, however, but an undisciplined rabble, and these our regulars can disperse like a chaff. The more they have to contend with of (illegible) the quicker a (illegible) be created among them.

Santa Anna, after the dispersion of his cavalry, did not stop even at San Martin or Rio Frio, but kept on with all speed to the city of Mexico. Our knowledge of the state of affairs at the capital, since Santa Anna’s arrival, is limited, but it was currently reported at Puebla on Wednesday last, that on the previous day the two parties –the Polkas and the Puros –were fighting like cats and dogs. Some new revolution has without doubt broken out, but the leaders are at present unknown.
Gen. Scott's last proclamation has been generally circulated at Puebla, and it is said with most excellent effect. No less than three editions of it had been printed, and still the inhabitants were calling for more. The demand for it alone would show that its effects have been salutary. The numberless horde of military drones and all the employees and hangers-on of the Government, are doubtless doing all they can to put down its circulation and deaden its influence upon the masses; but they cannot keep it out of the hands of the middle and better class of citizens, the laborious and thinking artisans, nor prevent them from perusing and pondering upon its contents.

In a letter I sent you yesterday by the diligencia I believe I states that Gen. Valencia was coming out with 14,000 men to meet the Americans. The report is that of this number 4000 are Pintos, or Indians of the South under Gen. Alvares. They are called Pintos from the fact that after they come to manhood their faces, from some cause or other which I have not heard explained, become spotted —yellow and red. They are of little account as soldiers, and it is probable that Valencia's men, if he has the number given him by rumor, are nothing but raw recruits. If they stop to be fired at once they will not do it a second time.

There is much speculation in the army as to what is to be the result —as to what is to be the winding up of this war with Mexico. I can see no other result than the subjugation of the country entirely, -or at least in bringing it under the protection of the United States. As a nation, Mexico is blotted out of the list; the candle of her independence is burnt down to the socket. If left to herself she would in a few months, from her utter inability to govern herself, be torn and divided by intestine commotion. No protection whatever could be given either to life or property; there are no men in the country who could make headway against the torrent of abuses that would at once creep into every department; there is no money or means with which to establish a new and stable government. What then is she to do? This is a question for wise heads to answer. Too utterly helpless to be left to herself, I repeat that the better plan would be to take her at once under our protection. Let some honest and well-meaning man —there may be a few of them left —let someone be chosen or selected as President, and give him the assistance of a few thousand men to keep down revolutions, and awe the hungry horde of leeches, who have so long preyed upon the country. If they raised a grito or pronunciamento, put them down by the bayonet; pronunciamentos would soon become unfashionable if the precious blood for those who started them was brought in jeopardy. Give but one of their revolutions a tragic turn —they have been costly farces heretofore —and the people would soon become sick of them.

These remarks have been hastily thrown together, but they may possibly be as good as any speculations that can be offered. He who thinks that a lasting and beneficial peace can be made with Mexico, or believes that the American troops are soon to be withdrawn, is someone who has not bee over the country; he starts in his belief from false premises, and judges a race of people by the ordinary rules which govern human nature, while it is notoriously a fact that they have long since thrown all ordinary rules at defiance. The Chinese, when they painted hideous faces upon their walls to frighten off the English invaders, were not a whit behind these people when they get up their tremendous proclamations, and flatter themselves into the belief that what they say in them is all true —that they really area a great people, and able to contend with those whom they profess to despise. Yours,

G. W. K.

[BJM]

June 22, 1847, REV64i15p2c1, From the Army of General Taylor

From the Brazos, by the arrival of the Telegraph, our news is later.

From the Flag of the 7th inst., we learn that Col. Doniphan, with a portion of his command, passed down the Rio Grande on the 5th inst. The Flag thus speaks of them:

The unshorn beards and goat and deer skin clothes of many of them reminded us of descriptions we have read of the inhabitants of some of the countries of the Russian Empire. They stopped in town a couple of hours. Col. Doniphan is a stout, rough-featured, good-natured-looking sort of a man. He brought along with him Clark’s battery, and ten pieces of cannon captured at Sacramento. The sick, &c, forty or fifty wagons, with several hundred mules, were turned over to the quartermaster.

A private belonging to this command fell off the steamboat on the 5th inst., and was drowned.

Capt. Rice Garland’s company of Rangers has been dismissed at Matamoras, some difficulty about mustering them into the service having occurred.

The Massachusetts volunteer put in prison for killing a man who refused him whisky, has made his escape. One of his companions has killed a woman in Matamoras for the same offence. The Flag loudly denounces these outrages.

A private in the 1st Indiana Regiment is also denounced for a brutal assault upon a Mr. Stip, an aged French silversmith, with whom he had a slight difficulty.

Brig. Gen. Hopping has arrived at Matamoras, and occupies Gen. Cushing’s former quarters there. By Lieut. Tidball,
of the 3d Ohio Regiment, the editors of the *Flag* learn that a short time since a party of about one hundred Camanches, in all the panoply of war came suddenly across a small party of volunteers, who were chopping wood in a neighborhood of Parras. Instead of a fight, as was naturally expected, the Indians gave tokens of peace, and stated that the game they were after were Mexicans. They partially escorted the volunteers into town, to whom they seemed much attached. Lieut. T. is on his way home.

[Special Correspondence of the Picayune]
SALTILLO, MEXICO, May 21, 1847.

A short time after my last letter closed the town was thrown into a fever of excitement by the arrival of Gen. Wool’s camp of two Mexican officers from San Luis Potosi, charged with dispatches for Gen. Taylor. They professed to be ignorant of their contents, but to believe that they had come from the city of Mexico and contained the intelligence that an armistice had been granted, and that negotiations for peace were under discussion between Gen. Scott and Santa Anna. Ecstatic was the joy of many who are “in for the war” and pine for the day when they shall rejoin their friends and families. The dispatches were immediately forwarded to Gen. Taylor by Lieut. Franklin, and the Mexican officers treated with the most marked courtesy by our officers at this post. They professed ignorance of the character of the dispatches, but believed that they above was their purport. Singular to say, this idea was generally believed; for myself, I have so little confidence in anything Mexican that I believed it to be a paper from the Department of San Luis—a remonstrance against the advance of Gen. Taylor, or something of that character. Private letters received from San Luis by citizens here, brought by the Mexican officers, announce that the inhabitants were in a state of excitement from the expected approach of our army from this quarter, which was looked for by the 28th inst. The dispatches arrived here on Tuesday and were immediately forwarded, and the protracted absence of the bearer, Lieut. Franklin tended to excite the curiosity felt to be apprised of their contents.

About 1 o’clock today he returned. And lo! The bubble burst! The important dispatch was a communication from the Governor of San Luis Potosi, announcing that he had heard of the intended approach of the American army, and begging to inquire whether it was the intention of the commanding general to conduct the war according to the usages of civilized nations, of according to the manner adopted by the Camanches. What reply Gen. Taylor will make to a question and communication of so insulting a character I cannot say, but I am told his usually even temper was considerably ruffled upon reading it, and he is said to have remarked that he should think the Mexicans had become pretty well acquainted with (illegible) conducting war before this. If they have not it is certainly no his fault, for he has tried hard enough to beat it into them. There is no doubt that we shall march upon San Luis at a very early period, as soon as a sufficient number of troops arrive from below, and from San Luis to the city of Mexico. A communication received from Gen. Scott by Gen. Taylor a few days ago, giving a brief account of the battle near Jalapa, directs Gen. T. to move at once, or as early as possible, from San Luis, where he expected the letter would reach him, to the city of Mexico. So that Gen. Taylor will not probably remain any time at San Luis, unless he receives orders there, but leaving garrison for the lace, will proceed with the residue of his command to the city of Mexico. The command will probably never retrace its steps this way, as there will be no occasion for it. I have, therefore, a fair prospect of “reveling in the halls of the Montezumas,” as well as some other people, as if I live through the campaign and return via Vera Cruz, I shall have seen quite as much of the country as I care about.

Speaking of health, Saltillo appears to be a very healthy place, and the temperature is really delightful. The mornings, evenings and nights are cool, and a good breeze prevails through the day, rendering the atmosphere pleasant and agreeable in the shade—in the sun I confess it is hot. And yet there is now a great deal of sickness among the Mexicans mostly children, and the number of funerals of the latter are really quite alarming.

Col. Doniphan with the residue of his command arrived at camp this morning and reported to Gen. Wool. It is thought that this artillery companies under Capt. Weightman, attached to this command, will consent to remain during the war, but I hardly think such will be the case. —The regiment is under orders to march on Sunday, the 23d, for the Brazos, there to be discharged. The two Illinois regiments will march from here on the 30th or 31st inst., and the Arkansas cavalry on the 1st June. The two Indiana regiments, 2nd and 3rd, will proceed on Monday. The troops then of the old stock, will all be gone, except Ben McCulloch’s company of Texan Rangers, now commanded by Lieut. Tobin, and not a company will go on to San Luis, except the artillery batteries, that have been in any of the hard fights with Gen. Taylor. Well, let us hope that the new regiments will stand up to their work quit as well as the old, and if an opportunity occurs, distinguish themselves as their predecessors have done. We cannot doubt them. It is scarcely probable that there will be any resistance, at San Luis, yet the Mexicans may make a stout one. An order has just been received from Gen. Wool, by the two Mexican officers who brought the despatchers from San Luis, to report to him tomorrow morning, at 8 o’clock, for an answer to their despatches.

[BJM]

June 22, 1847, REv64i15p2c2, Important from Mexico City

We have received by the way of Tampico, (illegible) the Capital as late as the 29th of May. This is a week later than the papers received last week by the Oregon, and full as late as the private advices from the Capital.

Santa Anna’s letter of resignation, which we gave on Friday last, is published in the papers of the 29th May, but we know nothing of the action taken by Congress on the subject. We find also a long manifesto addressed to the nation by him a few days earlier, which we have not time to translate before the mail goes, if it be work a translation.
In the city of Mexico everything is manifestly in a state of confusion, and almost unlicensed anarchy. General Bravo has resigned not only his command of General-in-Chief, but also his commission of general of division. General Rincon is said to have done the same thing. More of the causes in our next.

It is true that General Almonte is under arrest though the causes of his imprisonment are not avowed. He is confined in Santiago Tlaltelolco.

The death of General Scott was for several days reported in the city of Mexico, and generally credited. The error was discovered, however, prior to the latest dates.

Gen. Ampudia has been directed to wait further orders at Cuernavaca. What suspicious thing he has done or contemplated, we are not informed.

Gen. Valencia and Gen. Salas were ordered to leave the city of Mexico on the 24th ult., for the city of San Luis Potosi, to take command of the army of the North.

The accounts we find in the Mexican papers of the disaffection in Zacatecas confirm those we published a few days since. The official paper of the State publishes wrong representations made against Santa Anna and in favor the Americans-Gen. Scott’s manifesto among the latter. The latter document is also given in all the papers of the capital.

Gen. Arista has refused to resume his military functions until his conduct should be investigated by a military tribunal. He demands that his trial may take place at once, in order that he may take part in the defense of the country.

The Legislature of Durango voted for Seno D. Francisco Elloriaga for President. Upon the first ballot, Elloriaga received eight votes, and Santa Anna six. Elloriaga was the former Governor of the State, and it will be recollected ran Santa Anna hard for the Provisional Presidency, in the last election by Congress.

The Sate of Tamaulipas has voted for General Almonte for the Presidency and Zacatecas for Senor Jose Maria Lafragua.

The Legislature of Oajaca, (which has been denounced by the revolutionary party in that State, voted for General Herrera. The new Legislature voted for General Santa Anna for President.

If this last vote be allowed to General Herrera, the result of the election so far will stand thus: General Herrera 4 votes, Angel Trias 3 votes, Senor Ocampo 1 vote, Senor Elloriaga 1 vote, General Almonte 1 vote, and Senor Lafragua 1 vote. Give the vote of Oajaca to General Santa Anna, and you have the seventh candidate for the unenviable station of the President of Mexico.

June 22, 1847, REv64i15p2c2, Latest from Vera Cruz

By the arrival of the steamship Fanny at New Orleans, on the 21st, the editors of the Delta have received Vera Cruz papers to 5th of June. The following items are copied from the Vera Cruz Eagle of the 5th June:

We regret to say that it is not in our power to congratulate our citizens upon their good health: it pains us to say that there appears to be some increase in the number and virulence of cases of fever, and we feel it a duty to add our own to the warnings of the Board of Health. Avoid exposure to the rays of the sun between the hours of 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.; and when overheated and suffering profuse perspiration, be cautious, in your anxiety to be cool quickly, not to seek a strong current of cold air, thereby checking the perspiration, and compelling Nature to suspend an amusement she seems much to delight in—this vexes her so much that she usually relapses into more of less fever.

A very large train leaves his place this morning for Puebla, under the special command of Col. McIntosh. It carries out a mail, (the first, we believe, for nearly a month,) and Major A. G. Bennett, Paymaster, in charge of about three hundred thousand dollars. This train is escorted by a large force of soldiery, composed of companies F. of the 4th Infantry; B, of the 5th Inf. G of the 7th Inf.; I and K, of the 15th Int.; and D, G and K. of the 3rd Dragoons—in all about 800 men.

The steamship Mary Kingsland reached this port yesterday, having left New Orleans on the 30th. She brings 458 teamsters, 113 horses, and Lieut. Scott, 11th Infantry; W. Hammond, G. W. Armstrong, and L. Gill, as cabin passengers.

The thermometer has ranged between the degrees of 87 and 92, day and night, for the last ten days in this city. In the sun, it has been as high as 130 degrees, yet it appears to be much warmer than indicated.

The steamship Massachusetts, Capt. Wood arrived at this port on Thursday last, with a detachment of the Voltigeur

SANTA ANNA - - The Clergy, and the Capital- We find in the Patria of yesterday,(says the N.O. Times) a very interesting letter from the city of Mexico, dated the 22nd ult. The writer says that everything was in the greatest state of confusion at the Metropolis. The men at the head of the Government knew not what was to be done, nor in whom to confide. Santa Anna, in an evil hour for his own popularity, persecuted an evil hour for his own popularity, persecuted a Minon; the latter who does not seem to be a man who will be trodden upon with impunity, wrote a defense of himself, which was published in the Republicano of the 16th and 17th. Ult. We gave a summary of Minon’s countercharges against Santa Anna, in the Commercial Times of the 11th inst. Their evident truth forcibly struck the minds of all, and on the Dictator’s arrival on the 19th, the leperos, or mob of the metropolis, assailed him with the foulest epithets. “Death to the traitor, who has sold us to the Yankis!” was shouted on all sides; and he was most ignominiously pelted with stories, by the very population that had formerly almost idolized him. The writer says he (Santa Anna) had taken his precautions, which enabled him to avoid a misfortune, which would have proved a blessing the hapless Mexican Republic. By the (illeg.) being killed by the infuriated leperos. Santa Anna escaped their vengeance, and shut himself up in his palace, the guard at which had to be considerably reinforced to prevent a successful attack. There he remained up the date of the letter secluded from all.-It was this unpopularity, no doubt, which led to his tendering his resignation of the Presidency- the place had suddenly become too hot to hold him.

THE PRESIDENCY.- The writer of this letter says that it is confidently believed in the metropolis that Gen. Herrera will be elected President, and that he will forthwith open negotiations with the Yankis.

June 22, 1847, REv64i15p2c3, Letter from Mexico, The duel

The following letter appears in the Philadelphia Ledger.

CHINA, MEXICO, MAY 21st, 1847

My Dear Sir- An express is just starting for Camargo, and I avail myself of it to communicate to you, as a friend of Lieutenant Mahan, the information which will probably reach you before this, of the fatal meeting between him and Lieut. Munford, of the same regiment. I was present on the ground as the friend of Lieut. Mahan, and a more honorable meeting never took place.- They fought with muskets-advancing as they chose, they fired when within thirty yards of each other, both falling seriously wounded. Lt. Munford cannot survive, whilst Lieut. Mahan, although he received three several balls, is not considered mortally wounded, and is doing very well. A statement of the whole affair will appear in a short time, prepared by myself, and signed by all the parties on the field. I have only time to add that Lieut. Mahan has acted with a firmness and resolution which do him great credit, and his friends have nothing to fear, either for his character of for his life, as he is doing very well. They met on the 20th inst. At 6 p.m. Break this sad news to his family, and assure them that he shall receive every attention in my power to bestow; that he wants for nothing, and so long as he is with us shall not. He is now in my quarters, and my 1st lieutenant being a physician, every advantage is taken of any favorable symptom. Tender to his family and friends my assurances of sincere sympathy, and also of my determination to allow him to want for nothing which can add to his comfort or conduct to his speedy recovery. Do not allow any misstatement of this affair to become public, but, if necessary, show my letter to contradict them. By the first opportunity, I will write to his father, and forward to him and to you a statement of the whole affair, from which you will discern that Lieut. Mahan ha only acted as a gentleman, and as a man of honor is compelled to act when placed in such trying circumstances. He does no suffer any great deal of pain, and the Lieut. apprehends nothing very serious.

In great haste, your obliged friend.

[BJM]

June 22, 1847, REv64i15p4c1, Important from Mexico

Santa Anna’s letter of resignation.

The schooner Zenobia, Captain Brown, arrived yesterday from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the 3rd June. The steamer Telegraph was to sail from Vera Cruz I two of three days.

By this arrival a copy of the American Eagle of the 2nd June was received in town, and through the kindness of a friend we have obtained the use of it. It contains Santa Anna’s letter of resignation, which we give below, as
translated by the editors of that paper. Congress had not acted upon it at last accounts.

The *Eagle* says that this resignation was followed up by that of General Bravo, as Vice President. There is probably some confusion in this. As we understand it, the Vice Presidency was abolished to get rid of Gomez Farias, and has not been re-established. General Bravo, was recently in command at Puebla, and yet more recently was at the head of what is called the "Army of the Centre." He may have resigned this post.

The *Eagle* says that the election for President will take place on the 15th June, By this we presume is meant that the votes will then be officially counted, and the result declared. We have no further returns by this arrival, but the *Eagle* thinks Generals Herrera will be President.

General Scott reached Puebla on the 28th May, the day before General Twiggs arrived there. Everything was quiet in the city, our soldiers and the inhabitants being apparently on the best terms.

A small reconnoitering party of our troops had been met some twenty miles beyond Puebla, -They had encountered no enemy so far. The Mexicans are erecting works a short distance this side of the capital, but the *Eagle* treats them as unimportant and no likely to be completed.

The *Eagle* gives it as a report that Gen. Almonte is a prisoner, on an accusation of holding correspondence with General Scott.

Benj. Thomas, sergeant major of the 1st Infantry, died on Sunday, the 30th ult., in Vera Cruz, and was buried on Monday morning with military honors. The sergeant was a valuable officer, say the Eagle, and his demise was regretted by all who knew him.

It has been ascertained that only one man was killed with Col. Sowers. The imprudence of the colonel in venturing ahead of his party cost these two lives.

The report we have of the health of Tampico is very unfavorable. Many cases of yellow fever had occurred and they were on the increase. It is said, though we hope this is an exaggeration, that on the morning of the 2nd inst. Only one sergeant and two men out of Company E, Louisiana Volunteers, reported themselves for duty, the rest being sick.

A naval expedition against Tabasco, under then commodore in person, was talked of at Vera Cruz as about to start at once. The following vessels were mentioned as likely to compose it: The frigate *Raritan*, sloop of war *John Adams*, ship *Germantown*, the (illegible) the *Spitfire* (do,) the *Scorpion*, and the gunboats *Bonita* and *Mahoncse*. Should the sloop of war *Albany* arrive in time she would probably join in the expedition.

We will not detain the reader longer from the letter of Santa Anna:

MEXICO, May 29, 1847.

Your Excellency: Since my return to the Republic I have had but one grand and sacred object in view, which has solely occupied my mind –for which object the nation recalled me: it was the defense, the integrity, the independence of my country. My efforts were unlimited, and I worked incessantly for this object. On my arrival I found nothing –neither army nor resources. I succeeded in my exertions, finally, and procured both.

I gave the nation to understand that I was taking charge of its government, in a manifesto published on the 22d inst., in which I related the successes which have attended our arms up to my arrival in this capital, and also the motives which moved my return, and the benefits that might result from it. Arrived at the head of only part of an army, in the greatest destitution and disgrace, in order to reinforce this garrison, and entered with the full power to obtain everything that was necessary for its defense. So successful have I been that I can now with pride say, that the city of Mexico is provided with means of defense to resist all the efforts to subdue it which the enemy can now command.

I have always refused supreme power, except in cases of emergency, whereby the interests of the nation might be endangered. At present, circumstances require from me a sacrifice of all I possess, which sacrifices is even attended with danger and a gloomy prospect, besides disgrace attached to it: this is no less than the consecration of myself, by marching forward and setting at defiance the calumny and perfidy of my enemies, and with deeds of valor revenging myself against them for their venomous imputations. –This I am ready and willing to perform, if in any way the result thereof can benefit my beloved country. I am fearful, however, that such will not be the result, and I have come to the conclusion, that by holding the seat of the chief magistracy I will be fomenting impediments against the attachment of my most ardent wishes.

The enemies of my country have emissaries in every part of the Republic, whose artifices mislead and create distrust and calumny to such an extent that it is impossible to convince the Mexicans other than that I am an insuperable barrier to my country’s welfare, and particularly that my love of power will ever be a curse to its tranquility.
It is easy to perceive the reason why they spread such reports to my detriment—men who are afraid to defend the country which for peace, and are fearful that they will not enjoy it as long as I am at the head of the Government. They are well aware that my determination has been to put down the different parties which have endeavored to destroy one another, which, even now, have entirely forgotten the common danger, in order to be benefited by such division, hoping that a change may place them in power, and free them from their responsibility to the nation. The foreign enemy’s policy is to foment such a division; in order to obtain it, they have selected me as the most probably person by the ruin of whom it may be obtained. I am consequently a target for the shafts of all parties. Therefore, my position is full of danger; but I do not fear it. The difficulty lies in preventing me from doing what I could to save the Republic. The intrigues of a revolution are well known. On that account, the enemy are now advancing towards Puebla and Mexico, as they have been given to understand that a revolution would take place in the capital. With on act alone I can stop such a revolution, which I consider is the most important service I can render the Republic—that act is my present resignation as President pro tem. Of the Republic, with which my nation has honored me. I am fully persuaded that this resignation will save the country. I respectfully request the Sovereign Congress to accept immediately my resignation, and to declare its session, in order to appoint a person well qualified to discharge the above responsible office. I have discharged my duty towards my country as far as in my power. I have dedicated myself to it—my fortune and that of my family, as well as my own reputation—my blood has been spilt and my limbs lost in its defense; and now with pride I forever resign my public career, without fear of disgrace, and conscious that my services have been faithful and patriotic. I any part of the world where lot may place me, I can raise my head with pride, and with satisfaction carry a name that has never been stained with shame—but, on the contrary, they will see me a faithful and patriotic Mexican, who, in all his actions, has striven for the honor of being instrumental in elevating his nation to prosperity and honor.

Your Excellency will report the same to the Sovereign Congress, in order that it may accept of my resignation, for which I will remain yours respectfully, with the highest consideration. God and liberty.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

To their Excellencies the Secretaries of the Sovereign Congress.

June 22, 1847, REV64i15p4c3, The Army in Mexico

The Whig press have been filled with assaults upon the Administration, because, as they say no arrangement was made to supply the vacuum left in the armies of Mexico, by the withdrawal of the discharge volunteers. These bitter partisans have indeed gone so far as to charge that the design of the President was to leave General Taylor with a miserably small number of men, so as to confine him to a mere guard duty and deprive him of all opportunity of winning more laurels. It is to be regretted that the construction of the law in regard to the discharge of the volunteers should have given rise to such much embarrassment. It has been construed by the commanding generals in Mexico to require a discharge so long before the expiration of the twelve months enlistment as to insure to the volunteers abundant time to reach the United States within the period. The other, and to us more reasonable construction is, that the volunteers should be discharged at the end of the twelve months. This, we learn, was the construction put upon the law of enlistment by Washington and Jackson, and by the Administration which based upon construction is, that the volunteers should be discharged at the end of the twelve months. This, we learn, was the construction put upon the law of enlistment by Washington and Jackson, and by the Administration which based upon it their plans and estimates. Had the law been carried out under this view, the volunteers could have been retained in Mexico until their numbers could have been more that supplied by the new recruits.

But even as things are, the Whig press have attached so much importance to this point, and have dwelt so zealously upon the curious misrepresentations of the truth, that we deem it proper to re-publish the striking facts set forth in the Union:

Our attention has been called to an article published in the New York Courier and Enquirer of the 14th instant, in which it is charged upon the “Union” that it has misstated the amount of force of the armies under Major Generals Scott and Taylor, and that the actual strength of their columns will be much less than represented, &c.

It was stated in the “union,” that when the reinforcements which have been ordered my the War Department for Major Generals Scott and Taylor should all have reached their destination, those generals would have under their command—the former nearly 20,000, and the latter nearly 10,000 troops. On inquiry at the Adjutant General’s office today, we are confirmed in the correctness of the statements heretofore made in reference to the troops which have been provided for the armies in the field. The force under the orders of Major General Scott—exclusive of the twelve-months’ men, say 3,500—amounted, on the last of March, to upwards of 11,000 aggregate. Since that date, reinforcements of regulars (old and new regiments) to the number of 5,000 must, it is believed, have reached the seat of war in that quarter; which number, by the last of June, will be still further augmented by some 3,500-making the aggregate to: under the orders of Gen. Scott at that date, say 19,500; which includes the garrisons of captured towns, and is subject to a deduction on account of the casualties of the service during the last two months. On the other hand, however, Gen. Scott will be further reinforced by the quota of volunteers under the April calls, assigned by his command—some 2,000; and by further accessions of regular troops—say 2,500. The force provided for the main army in Mexico will not, we have reason to believe, be less than 20,000.

The measures taken by the War Department to reinforce the army under Gen. Taylor, we have said, will provide a force of at least 10,000, which, we have every reason to believe, will be realized.
Regular Troops

Fourteen companies, old regiments, (nine of artillery and five of cavalry) 1,200
10th regiment of infantry (10 companies) 866
13th regiment of infantry (6 companies) 469
16th regiment of infantry (10 companies) 1,097
3rd regiment of dragoon (5 companies) 400

When these regiments are completed to the establishment, the regular infantry will be increased to more than 3,000, which will make the regular force assigned to the "army of occupation" at least 4,500 men, old and new regiments.

Volunteer forces

The four regiments of volunteers from Massachusetts, Virginia, North Carolina, and Mississippi, when mustered into the service during the past winter and spring, amounted to 3,469; which no doubt, from what we can learn, has been considerably reduced by sickness and other causes. Deduct, say 15 per cent.-which would make that force now, probably, not to exceed 2,949, this, added to the regulars above, would make the present force under General Taylor 6,981.

The volunteers called out in April, assigned to the division of the army under Gen. Taylor, equal four regiments and two companies, which ought to give a force of at least 3,700 men. The regiments from Indiana and Ohio will soon be en route for the seat of war, as the call was promptly met in the quarter. The strength of the volunteers being raised, added to the present force, makes an aggregate of 10,508.

The above is exclusive of the Texas volunteers now in service, which it is known amount to more than 1,600 men. It will, therefore, be seen that the aggregate force under the command of Major General Taylor will be considerably beyond 10,000.

We know not, nor is it for us to say, what portions of the forces in the field will be fit for duty as the phrase is; and it is far from our purpose to magnify the strength of the army. We may say-what it is supposed everybody must know-that great allowance ought always be made, on account of sickness and other casualties, always incident to an army in the field, especially in a southern country like Mexico, during the unhealthy season of the year.

We lay the preceding statements, which we have derived from the highest official source, before our readers. Let us add, in justice to that source, that it states the truth, without regard to politics. Upon many points we are unfortunate enough to differ with the head of that bureau; but we have every confidence in his honor, his integrity, and his truth. In fact, there are the records in his possession; here are the muster rolls. He neither would nor can change their character. We may take up tomorrow the charges which have been made against us, for our past expositions of the strength of the army by the correspondents of the "New York Courier" and of the "Picayune," and the remarks made by their editors. Meantime, what must we think of the recklessness which charges us with misrepresentation, when this writer from the camp (in the "New York Courier and Enquirer") says thus?

"The twelve-months men being now about to be discharged, there will remain with Gen. Taylor, and under his command, the following troops:- 2,300 volunteers, 300 mounted Texans, and ten companies of regulars-making the whole number about 3,200 men. There have been allotted to him four of the new regiments, and a few of these troops are daily expected to arrive at Matamoras. Admitting that these regiments are full and here, it would then only make the force on this line about 6,100 men, and you can safely say, that 30 per cent of the new arrivals will be sick and unavailable."

Look at this statement about the Texas volunteers alone. We understand, from the best authority, that the force of Texas volunteers, now serving under Maj. Gen. Taylor, is composed as follows:

Six companies of twelve-month men, whose term of service does not expire until September and October next. Strength of the six companies, say 400.

[BJM]

June 25 1847, REv64i16p2c1, Later from Vera Cruz

Attack on a wagon train by a Mexican Guerilla Party-Thirty Americans supposed to be killed-Forty wagons destroyed-Death of Major Bosworth, Paymaster, U.S. Army.

The U.S. ship Massachusetts, Capt. Wood, arrived last evening from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the evening of
the 11 inst. The Massachusetts brings over 155 sick and wounded soldiers, under charge of Dr. Tudor, besides the following passengers: Mr. Joseph Harrod, Dr. Tudor, U.S.A., Purser Bryan, of the navy, and Mr Bosworth and two servants.

The following deaths occurred on the Massachusetts:

C. Gaines, of the Mounted Rifles, and John Drew of company 1, 7th Infantry, died on board before the Massachusetts left Vera Cruz, and were sent on shore for interment on the 11th June. One the 1wth June, John Pope, of the Mounted Rifles, and John Smith, of company C, 7th Infantry, died at sea. On the 13th, J. F. Carson, South Carolina Volunteers, died. On the 14th, D. Scurry, South Carolina Volunteers, and H. Heck, 2nd Dragoons. On the 15th, L Grover, company E. Mounted Rifles

The vomito is represented as on the increase at Vera Cruz. We regret extremely to say that Paymaster Bosworth, who sailed from here only on the 18th ult. sickened and died in Vera Cruz of the vomita. His remains were brought back on the Massachusetts in charge of his brother.

Quite the most important intelligence brought by this arrival relates to an attack upon a large train by the Mexican guerrillas, which has been partially successfully. By the Fanny we learned that a train was to leave Vera Cruz on the morning of the 5th inst. for Puebla, under command of Lieut. Col. McIntosh. The train had in charge $225,000 in specie, of which sum one hundred thousand belonged to the Paymaster's Department, the remainder to the Quartermaster's. One hundred and twenty-five wagons and six hundred pack males were in the train, which was escorted by 800 troops.

The train left Vera Cruz on the night of the 4th inst. and Sunday the 6th, when it had advanced about twenty-five miles, it was attacked by a large party of guerrillas. The place was well selected for the purpose by the Mexicans, being represented as a defile broad enough for a single wagon only. It is said, too, that slight works had been thrown up by the Mexicans to obstruct our advance. The attack was made upon each extremity of the train and upon the centre at the same time, the principal point, however, being the wagons, which were supposed to contain the specie.

Private accounts represent that the attack was so far successful that forty of our wagons were destroyed, though not those containing the specie-two hundred mules loaded with subsistence were taken, and thirty of our men killed. The American Eagle of the 9th says our loss is variously estimated at from four to twenty, but private accounts, from responsible sources, give the loss as we have done, at thirty men.

The check was so severe that Col. McIntosh determined no to hazard an advance without reinforcements.- Our troops accordingly entrenched themselves behind their wagons, and despatches were sent off to Gen. Cadwalader at Vera Cruz. The general left on Monday evening, the 7th inst. With a force of about five hundred men and four howitzers.-Private accounts say further that on the 10th a part of the voltigeurs also left, with four howitzers, to join the train.

The Eagle represents that our troops received the attack with the utmost coolness, and that the enemy, being repulsed, fell back towards the Puente Nacional, which some suppose they may attempts to defend. No later news from the train had been received the morning of the 11th, the day the Massachusetts left. On the 10th a large mail was despatched to this port on the propeller Washington, which may be hourly expected.—Her letters may bring us further details.

No later news had been received from the army of Gen. Scott. The reason is obvious, for the present, at least, the communication has been entirely cut off. We do not regard this as at all alarming, for General Cadwalader will no doubt open a passage to Jalapa at once, but it indicates a necessity for some cavalry force upon the line to clear away the brigands which infest it, and who must have mustered in a greater force than had been anticipated to attack a train guarded by 810 troops.

But the audacity of these guerrillas does not stop here. They are entering Vera Cruz and stealing our horses. For several nights alarms had been created in the city by these predatory attempts. Private letters say that 60 horses were stolen from one pen in the immediate vicinity of the town. A regiment of Texas Rangers, it seems to us, would find ample scope for employment in the vicinity of Vera Cruz.

The steamers Palmetto and . . . (illigible) . . . arrived at Vera Cruz on the . . . (illigible) . . . inst. The schooner General Worth had also arrived with one company of . . . (illigible) . . . have arrived from New Orleans in search of a runaway slave. Her pursuit is represented as successful.

We await anxiously our letters by the Washington.

[BJM]
A new paper, called La Guerra, (The War) has been started in opposition to El Razonador, and it advocates Santa Anna’s principles strongly.

In El Republicano on the 28th May there is an article upon the defence of the Capital, and the propriety of removing the seat of Government into the interior. The editor urges upon the authorities to defend the capital to extremities, and says, that the work of erecting fortifications is going on actively. But this part of the article is not in his usual bold strain. From the tone of it, and from private letters from the Capital, which we have seen, we feel persuaded that little opposition to General Scott’s entrance into the city will be made. El Republicano urges strenuously that the seat of Government should at once be transferred. Then, should the Capital fall, it urges the Government will still exist, and form a centre of union and a rallying point. The Editor urges the point with such force, that we are persuaded he anticipated formidable opposition to General Scott’s advance.

In an earlier article upon the subject of the defence of the Capital, El Republicano sets down the troops available for the purpose as follows:
The garrison then in the Capital, (the 26th of May,) was not far from 10,000 men, while they were to arrive, says the Editor, from the State of Guanajuato 3,000, from Michoacan, 2,000 and from Queretaro 1,000. We infer from allusions made to an article in El Razonador, that the latter paper ridicules the idea of making any defence of the city.

About 4,000 men, volunteers or national guards, quartered at the barrack of San Domingo, belonging to Gen. Urage’s command, were ordered to return to their occupations until they would be instructed otherwise, as the Government had not the means to support them.

The Liberal Verdadero, of Guanajuato, says that great preparations are going on there to supply the army with several pieces of artillery, from 4 to 12 pounders. All other arms were undergoing repairs and tailors and women were active in the arrangement of uniforms.

An American prisoner in Mexico writes on the 28th, that Gen. Scott was expected to enter the Capital within eight days, and he did not anticipate any formidable opposition. Gen. Worth found in Puebla a large quantity of tobacco belonging to the Government.

Whilst exercising supreme power, Santa Anna, on the 22nd ult. directed that every prosecution against military persons should be at once set at large. The services of such men are thought to be of sufficient importance to the Government to justify this clemency. It looks like an attempt of Santa Anna to strengthen himself with the soldiery.

It is thought that the resistance anticipated at Rio Frio has been much exaggerated, as the Mexican papers say nothing of it. And speak only of the fortifications in the immediate vicinity of the capital. They also state that an advance party of Gen. Worth had reconnoitered the road as far as Rio Frio.

Five hundred infantry, perfectly armed and equipped, arrives in the city of Mexico on the 24th ult. from Queretaro. They belonged to the National Guard of that state and were sent to aid in the defence of the capital.

The “valiant” Ampudia has published an address to the nation, vindicating is conduct at Monterey.

We are at a loss to understand (says the Picayune) the various movements among the military chieftains of Mexico. We have the resignations of Santa Anna, Bravo and Rincon and the arrest of Almonte, all within the space of eight or ten days, and the departure of other generals to remote points and Santa Anna during the time was exercising full sway, and extending every indulgence to the soldiery. It looks as though parties were marshalling their forces for a struggle for power among themselves, rather than to defend their country against a foreign foe.

June 25 1847, REv64i16p4c3, British Opinions

The great battle of Cerro Gordo has furnished new food for the London press. Of course, borrowing their arguments from the Whig journals here, they continue to denounce our country for “the slight cause for which this war was entered upon by the authorities at Washington”- the “trivial pretext” upon which an “immense amount of misery has been inflicted upon an unoffending people,” for the “severance of the province of Texas” by U.S. agents, which engendered hostilities in the hearts of Mexicans- and for “the brigandage of unauthorized attack” which no excuse “can convert into a legitimate war.” But we do not intend to refute these comments upon the causes of the war. As long as our own Whig press takes sides against their own Government, it is not to be wondered at that British journals, in their jealously and dread of Republican progress, should seize the occasion to vituperate and depreciate our conduct in the eyes of the world. But we do mean to refer to the tribute which the London press if forced, by the brilliant events of the war, to pay to American military skill and valor. It is not long since we quoted the remarks of the London papers, sneering at the puny efforts of our “rabble militia” to assail and conquer the myrmidons of Mexico. The rapid succession of victories, however, capped with the triumph of Cerro Gordo, have forced the London critics to swallow their words of disparagement, and extorted from them a compliment to American power and
military energy.

... (illegible)... can campaign as one in which "conquests bring no particle of credit, and fighting no prospect of peace, and in which it is equally impossible to applaud the victors or commiserate the vanquished," it is compelled to confess that "there is not much doubt, but that the Americans can march to Mexico, and could have done so long ago."

"The Americans have already got all the sea coast, the customs the chief forts, and the chief towns, and while we write, they have probably got the metropolis of their victims. They have dispersed their armies, captured their generals and destroyed their materials, but it is confessed that "the war seems about as far from its close as when it started and it is now to be seen what force will be brought to bear against a people whose self-sufficiency suffers by no discomfiture, whose delusions are dispelled by no defeats, and who can dispense with a government, a capital, or a coast, as easily as with character or credit."

The London Chronicle speaks still more emphatically of the triumphs of American prowess and military skill:

"As far as the success of their military operations is concerned, nothing more conclusive can be conceived than the late movements of the United States generals against the forces that the Mexicans have been able to oppose them in the field. It is impossible to read the accounts of these successive actions without something like a feeling of contempt for the beaten party, so strong an effect do the triumphs of military prowess exercise on the mind. Almost despite of the claims of justice, and of compassion for the countless and unoffending thousands whose fates are inextricably bound up with those of the beaten troops, one is tempted to exclaim, that they who know so on how to defend a country are not worthy to possess one... The prize of empire-so all history tells us-bears inscribed upon it the legend... (illegible)...

They (the Mexicans) forget "in their imaginative gallantry" that a thousand Bayards could never break a modern square of infantry, nor resist a modern charge, if they had not themselves passed through the hands of the drill-sergeant. They will not trust to their best allies, their deserts and their yellow fever, but must needs fight great battles, which invariably terminate in one result-disgrace and defeat. The courage displayed by the Anglo-Americans throughout the action is unquestionable, and yet it does not appear to have been a bloody one on either side."

In the following passages, the Chronicle pays the highest compliment to the energy and foresight of General Scott, and the enduring valor of his army:

"The opinion entertained by the United States officers of the powers of resistance of their opponents may be inferred from General Scott’s orders issued to the various Generals of division on the day preceding the action. Never, in the directions issued by any of the greatest European commanders, do we remember to have seen a greater confidence manifested in what must be the result of his operations. Success is assumed on every point, and the direction to be taken by each division, after forcing each point of the Mexican entrenchment’s, is as clearly marked out as though the result had already taken place. We are bound to say, that the unlimited confidence placed by General Scott in the troops under his command, has been justified by the event. His victory at Cerro Gordo appears to have been by far the most brilliant affair of the war. He describes himself as being absolutely embarrassed with the results of his own success-prisoners of war, heavy ordinance, small arms and accoutrements. Undoubtedly, if military resistance be the only obstacle to be apprehended by the Anglo American Generals in their advance upon Mexico, we shall expect shortly to hear of the fall of that city, as we have just heard of that of Vera Cruz."

The London press profess to feel an anxious hope for the termination of this "disastrous war," which, if the conquest of the country be aims at, "this generation will not see accomplished."

However, we may reprobate the charges brought against us, of extravagant designs of dominion, we cannot deny that there is some force in the following remarks of the Chronicle. If the Whig press had taken the same reasonable view, and not given hopes to the public enemy, peace would long since have been established:

"Perhaps the best thing to be wished for in the interest of the Mexicans themselves, is that the success of the United States Generals should be still more rapid, and decisive than it has hitherto been, in order that they may be driven to make terms at once, and by a definite sacrifice purchase the retreat of their invaders."

[BJM]

June 29 1847, REv64i17p2c, Highly Important from Mexico

Arrival of the Steamship Galveston.

... (illegible)... Fights with the Guerrillas-One hundred Mexicans killed and wounded, and forty or fifty Americans-General Cadwallader attacked by a large party-Battle at the National Bridge.

The following highly important intelligence was communicated to us by Lieutenants Floyd and McWilliams, of the 2nd Pennsylvania Volunteers, who came over on the steamship Galveston, this morning at 6 o'clock. On the 8th a small recruiting party, together with some citizens and disbanded soldiers, in number about 150, with 75 armed men, and
thirty mounted, left Puebla for Vera Cruz. This party was under command of Captain Bainbridge of 3rd Artillery. On leaving Jalapa, and getting near Cerro Gordo, this party was informed that it would not be prudent to go through the pass as there were about 4,000 Mexicans in the chaparral along the pass. Previous to this, two officers who had gone to the rear of the train were fired at from the chaparral. At the mouth of the pass, the party was organized and marched through without meeting an enemy. Arrived at the Bridge that evening. Whilst they were bivouacked on the other side of the bridge, being so fatigued that they were unable to furnish a guard, they were informed that some persons were barricading the bridge. A guard was then stationed between the bridge and the encampment, to prevent the party being surprised. At this time signal lights on the ridges and cliffs were distinctly seen.

Before daylight, the sick and wounded of this little party were removed to Santa Anna’s hacienda, a quarter of a mile from the bridge. A scouting party was then sent out, and also a party to clear the bridge, which was done without any opposition. The main body of the army then passed over the bridge. Every thing appearing then to be safe and all danger being passed, Lieut. McWilliams and Mr Frazer . . . (illegible) . . . side of the bridge. Just as they were entering the bridge, a party of about twenty-five Mexicans appeared on the ridge, and fired several volleys on them. The wagon master and four others who were passing the bridge, were fired on and the whole five were killed and a wagon was captured of no great value.

After the fire had ceased a party of lancers appeared on the bridge and seemed to be preparing to charge, but seeing that Captain Bainbridge’s party were preparing to receive them, they wheeled their horses and galloped off.

Captain Bainbridge resumed his march in good order, followed by 400 or 500 of the lancers, who hung upon his rear and flanks for four or five miles, but at a respectable distance. Thus hemmed in, this little party pursued its way until it arrived at the Pass of La Volta, where Col. McIntosh had encamped with his large train. The Mexicans who had attacked Bainbridge’s party were the same who had compelled Col McIntosh to halt and wait for reinforcements. The party remained that night in McIntosh’s camp, and during the whole time the Mexicans kept a continual fire on the camp, approaching with great boldness very near . . . (illegible) . . .

On the next day Capt. Bainbridge’s party resumed its march to Vera Cruz, being joined by Capt. Duperu’s dragoon, who were sent back to get their horses. This company with its gallant captain, had behaved very handsomely in the attack on McIntosh’s camp. Its gallantry was the theme of universal praise and admiration in the army. Indeed, it was generally admitted that Col. McIntosh’s command was saved by the gallantry of Duperu’s party. Bainbridge’s party continued their march to Vera Cruz, where they arrived in safety. In the meantime, Duperu’s party, having a long return train to guard, and being threatened by a large body of lancers, halted at Santa Fe, where they were charged by a greatly superior force, which they gallantly repulsed, killing many of the enemy, and suffering no loss themselves. It was said, however, that some of our wagons were cut off and the drivers taken prisoners. Capt. Duperu arrived safely in Vera Cruz, having lost three killed and three wounded.

On the day Capt. Bainbridge’s party left McIntosh’s camp, Gen. Cadwallader had arrived, with a force of 800 men and two howitzers. The two commands were then joined, making, in all, about 1600 men, with two howitzers, under command of Gen. Cadwallader, and pushed on towards the National Bridge.

On approaching the bridge Gen. Cadwallader occupied the heights commanding the bridge from which the enemy had fired on Capt. Bainbridge’s party, where he was attacked by a large force of the Mexicans, posted in the ridges and chaparral, and some hard fighting was carried on for several hours, the Mexicans losing more than 100 men, and Gen. Cadwallader losing some 15 killed and some thirty or forty wounded. The Mexicans were repulsed the bridge was successfully passed by Gen. Cadwallader, who was on . . .(illegible) . . .

There is a great deal of dissatisfaction in the army, respecting the conduct of the command which had charge of this train. There will be a court of inquiry into the subject.

The garrison at Jalapa has been broken up, by order of Gen. Scott, and all the sick and Government stores have been sent to Perote castle, so that this line of communication is entirely closed. Gen. Scott has had a road opened from Perote to Taxpan, the distance being less than one half that from Vera Cruz to Perote, and Taxpan being a healthier place.

The success of the attack on McIntosh’s command has given great confidence to the guerrillas, who are swarming in great numbers through the country, and attacking all our parties, large and small.

It was chiefly owing to the gallantry of Major Bennett, the Paymaster, that the specie wagons in McIntosh’s party were saved. He was I one of them himself when the wagon was attacked, and fought like a tiger.

We are pained to hear that the fine charger sent out by the citizens of New Orleans to Col. Harney was captured by the Mexicans. Their daring was so great that they even lariated a woman who was in the wagon, but she was rescued by our men after some hard fighting.

There are about 1000 men in camp at Vera Cruz.

Gen. Shields was at Jalapa and was about to leave for the U. States, when he received an order from Gen. Scott to join him at Puebla.
There are no preparations to defend any point between Puebla and the Capital. All the odds and ends of the army are collected in the city, about 20,000 in number, but poorly armed, and of miserable material. There was a small . . . (illigible) . . . at the City of Mexico, which was easily put down by Gen. Bastamento. It was got up by factions of the peace party and of Gomez Farias party. Their cry was “down with Santa Anna!” but the President still maintains his power and influence. Congress has refused to accept his resignation.

We have about 6000 men at Puebla, under command of Worth and Quitman.

Gen. Scott will remain at Puebla until he is reinforced. Gen. Bravo is in command of the army at the Capital.

Santa Anna has published quite a flaming account of the affair between him and Gen. Worth, at Amozoque. The truth is that he had a large force of cavalry, which was attacked by Col. Duncan’s battery and Maj. Bonneville of 6th Infantry. He did not wait to receive more than one volley, from which, however, he sustained a heavy loss, and then fled in the wildest disorder towards the Capital.

Since the above was written, we have learned that, in the affair between Ge. Calwallader and the Mexicans, at the national bridge, the company of Lieut. Blaky, (of Richmond Virginia) of the newly raised voleigruers, with two howitzers, charged the barricades and swept them with a few discharges from the howitzers. In passing through, however, Lieut. Blakey received a heavy fire from the enemy on the ridge which commands the bridge, by which he sustained a loss of one killed and four wounded, the Lieutenant himself being wounded in the leg. They also lost several horses. The heights were then charged on the right and left of the road and gallantly carried, the enemy flying from before them in great confusion. When Gen. Cadwallader had passed the bridge, he was attacked by a large party of guerrillas, who kept up a continued fire on his men for a long distance. At Cerro Gordo it was thought, from the reports of heavy firing, that the enemy had made a stand in great numbers, though no apprehension was entertained for the safety of Gen. Cadwallader’s command, who was moving in a bold and steady manner, the only way to deal with the Mexicans. Capt. Gates company of 3rd dragoons being sent by Gen. Cadwallader to the rear, to reinforce the guards of the train, were attacked by a large force of Lancers, whom they repulsed with considerable loss.

There is much sickness at Vera Cruz, but very little in the Castle. Col. Wilson publishes a card in the Eagle pronouncing the statement of Col. Mata, that La Vega had been confined in the guard-house of the Castle, to be false.

The little party, who cut their way from Jalapa to Vera Cruz, and so narrowly escaped the many perils that surrounded them express themselves under the greatest obligations to Capt. Bainbridge, Mr. Karns and Adj. Dutton for their coolness, prudence and judgement in conducting them in safety through their many dangers.

Gen. Cadwallader is much praised for the energy and promptness of his movements to the rescue of McIntosh and for the bravery and skill with which he scattered the swarms of guerrillas, grown confident by the success of their previous enterprise.

Gen. Scott was at Puebla at the last accounts. The editors of El Arco Iris had received dates from the Capital up to the 23 of June, Santa Anna had a second time sent in his resignation of the Presidency. Congress had not, however, up to that time, accepted it. He had also made a formal renunciation of his office as Commander-in-Chief of the army; which, like his resignation of the Presidency, remained in abeyance-Congress not having acted upon either.

Rejon, and five other generals, whose names are not given, had been arrested and sent to the different States for confinement.

The gallant Capt. Walker has commenced his work of retaliation on the guerrillas. On the morning of the 8th inst. He started with his command from Perote on an expedition some distance into the interior. During the expedition, he succeeded in capturing nineteen guerrillas and an alcalde. He has employed them in cleaning the streets and sinks.

A letter had been received in Vera Cruz on the 15th inst. previous to the sailing of the Galveston, direct from the headquarters of Gen. Scott, stating that Gen. Scott had issued orders for the removal of the Government from Vera Cruz to Tuxpan. This change was said to be, in part, owing to the sickness I Vera Cruz, and because communication could be more easily kept up between Tuxpan and Puebla than between the latter place and Vera Cruz. All the public stores in Vera Cruz would, in that case, be removed to Tuxpan, and troops, only sufficient to garrison the place, left at Vera Cruz. The activity displayed among the different vessels in the harbor of Vera Cruz, in shifting the cargoes from vessels having but small portions of Government property on board, into other nearly full, with the evident intention of a move, would go far to confirm the rumor of a change in the base of operations.

June 29 1847, REv64i17p2c2, Later from Vera Cruz

Threatened attack on Tampico-Arrival of General Scott at Rio Fria-Proposals for Peace.

We issued an extra on Sunday, giving the exciting news of which we were put in possession . . . (illigible) . . .
June, touching at Tampico on the morning of the 17th, and Brazos St. Jago on the afternoon of the 18th.

On the night of the 12th June, a demonstration was made by the Mexicans in Tampico to rise. The American authorities, however, had timely information of the contemplated movement, and to suppress it, if attempted, called out the troops, who lay on their arms all night. There was then no demonstration of revolt made.

On the 15th inst. a party of Mexicans lancers attacked the outposts at Tampico and drove the sentinels into the city. On the 16th a party of rancheros attacked the pilot station and were greeted by a discharge from half a dozen muskets, when they retreated.

The barque, Mary of Baltimore, put into Tampico on the 16th inst. for supplies and repairs.-She was bound for Vera Cruz with 200 volunteers, which she landed at Tampico.

The most important part of the intelligence brought by this arrival is the flattering prospect of peace. Capt. Wood, of the Jas. L. Day, informs us that information had been received at Vera Cruz before the Day left, that Gens. Scott and Worth, with the main body of the army, had advanced as far as Rio Frio, without opposition, and were met at that place by a deputation from the capital, with propositions for peace. The exact tenor of the propositions were unknown; they were, however, of such a nature, that Gen. Scott refused to accept them, and was determined to push on his forces to the capital. From the deep anxiety felt by the new government, if the term government can be applied to any party or power in Mexico, to stay the march of our forces on the capital, it was thought that further concessions would be made to Gen. Scott before he took up his line of march from Rio Frio.

BY THE SOUTHERN MAIL

(From the New Orleans Picayune, June 18)

The towboat Mary Kingsland, which arrived yesterday from Vera Cruz, touched at the Brazos and left there on the 13th inst. She brought over Capt. Conner, of the Texas Volunteers, Capt. Wm. B. Archer and Lieut. Pegram, of the Virginia Volunteers; Lieut. Phaw, of the North Carolina Volunteers; Mr. Atwood, the artist; and the following officers of the 2nd Indiana Regiment, with six companies of the same, making 360 men:

Col. Bowles; Lieut. Col. Hadden; Majors Cravens and Mooney; Capt. Sanderson, Dennis, Davis, Briggs, Rousseau, Kimball, Graham and Young; Surgeon Walker; Lieuts. Rice, Loud, Tele, Rose, Cagle, Shanks, Haggatt, Burwell, Stropes, Davis, Schoonover, Kemple, Hostet, Beerfield, Erwin, Pennybacker, Pennington, Payntle, Epperdon and Hagan.

Mr. H. W. Pierce also came passenger on the Mary Kingsland, having in charge the remains of three of the first Mississippi Regiment.

By this arrival we learn something more of the deplorable duel in the Virginia Regiment which we published in our paper of the 1st inst. Since which time we had not till now been able to learn a word more of the affair. The parties engaged in it were Lieut. Mahan of Capt. Bankhead’s company, and Lieut. Munford, of Capt. Carrington’s company. The latter died immediately, being shot through in several places. Lieut. Mahan was alive at last accounts from him, but it was thought could not survive, having been shot directly through the body. Further particulars are given in our correspondent’s letter.

The Flag of the 9th inst. gives, upon the authority of Capt. Benedict, of the schooner Madonna, which had just arrived at the Brazos, the following account of the wreck of the brig Mobile, bound from New York for Brazos Santiago, with 180 troops of the 10th Regiment U.S. Infantry, under Capt. Andrews, of Buffalo, N.Y.

During a strong breeze from the Southward, on the night of the 23rd ultimo, the above-named brig was driven ashore on Orange Keys, Florida coast—her masts were cut away, and every exertion made to ease her, but she soon bilged and settled down, the sea making a complete breach over her. About forty of the troops took to the boats and reached the Keys—the boats were dashed to pieces, which cut off all further communication between the vessel and Keys, rendering the condition of both parties extremely dangerous. Such was the situation of the wreck on the morning of the 21st, when the schooner Madonna, Captain Benedict, bound from Philadelphia to the Brazos with Government stores, discovered it, and at the risk of losing his own vessel Capt. B. bore up to the rescue. At imminent peril and with great exertion, he succeeded in reaching and rescuing the men who were on the Keys, and was proceeding to render what assistance he could to those on the wreck, when the bark Alabama, from Liverpool to Havana, hove into sight, and by hoisting signals and firing guns, she was induced to come to anchor about five miles off. The troops, with their arms, ammunition and supplies, were then taken from the wreck by Captain Benedict, and placed in safety on the Alabama, which vessel proceeded with them to Havana, whence they will doubtless be reshipped to their destination.-The Madonna was got under way, and reached the Brazos on Friday last, (the 4th inst.,) 15 days from New York.
This detachment of troops has since reached the Brazos from Havana and encamped near the mouth of the river.

Col. E. G. W. Butler, of the 3rd Dragoons, arrived at Matamoras on the 10th inst.

The *Flag* corrects its statement that Capt. Rice Garland’s company of Rangers has been disbanded.

We have several acts of brutality recorded in the *Flag*. In one case a party of miscreants-Americans, we are pained to say—insulted a Mexican woman in her own house, and killed her husband, who interposed to save her. One of the party is in custody.

The proprietor of the Resaca House in Matamoras was robbed of 1,500 dollars on the 10th May.

A man by the name of Simmons, in the employ of the Quartermaster, was shot on the 7th May by the guard, who interposed to save Simmons’s wife from a beating by her husband.

*List of deaths in the General Hospital at Matamoras, Mexico during the month of May, 1847—May 1, Jackson Rodgers, 1st North Carolina Volunteers, 6th, Miles Boyce and Thomas Wegrines, do; 7th, Samuel J. Spooner, 1st Virginia Volunteers, 6th, James L Barnes, 1st North Carolina Volunteers, and Gurgen H. Shultz, 1st North Carolina Volunteers, 9th, Joseph Proctor, do, and Henry Walters, U.S. Voltigeurs; 10th Caleb G. Patterson, 11th Infantry; 11th, Amzi Campbell, 1st Tennessee Cavalry; 13th, Hudson Cooper, Voltigeurs; 19th, William Downie, 10th 10th Infantry; 20th, J. C. Devone, 16th infantry, and Bennet Thompson, 3rd Dragoons, 22nd Reece Carroll, 3rd Infantry; 23rd, Benjamin Little; 1st North Carolina Volunteers; 28th, William Abrams, do; 29th, Emmanuel Myers, Voltigeurs; 30th, Charles H. Gray, 3rd Dragoons.*

GEO. H. DENTSTON, Ward Master.

*(Special Correspondence of the *Picayune*.)

Monterey, Mexico, May 30, 1847

When I wrote you last, we were all full of the expedition to San Luis, and active preparations were making for a march at an early period, but now everything is knocked in the head. General Scott has thrown a bombshell into this division of the forces, which will utterly preclude the possibility of General Taylor’s advancing for many weeks, and probably will put an end to the expedition. Seven of the ten regiments have received orders to repair to Vera Cruz and join General Scott.

The 2nd Mississippi Regiment and Capt. Fairfax’s company of Virginia volunteers probably entered Saltillo this morning. I passed them in camp about ten miles this side of that place yesterday afternoon, the men all pretty well beat out by the march, the road, being a terribly hard and rough one. Two companies of North Carolina volunteers and one of Virginia volunteers, Capt. Harper’s left last night for Saltillo, and the 2nd Battalion of Virginians, who are expected up from China in a few days, will immediately proceed to the same place, I regret to be compelled to state that a most unfortunate and bloody affray has occurred in that battalion between Lieuts. Munford and Mahan. A quarrel occurred which resulted in a challenge from Lieut. Mahan, which was accepted and each party left to the selection of his own weapons; the meeting to take place in one hour after the challenge was received. The parties met, accompanied by friends, and were armed with muskets, loaded with buckshot, and pistols. The distance agreed upon was one hundred yards, each party to advance and fire at will. Each man advanced about ten yards and took aim, but recovered and advanced about fifteen paces further, when both parties fired at the same moment and both fell, mortally wounded. Lieut. Munford died very soon after, and no hopes were entertained for the recovery of Lieut. Mahan. There was also a disturbance occasioned by some of the men refusing to obey orders and be placed under arrest, in which some of the officers were roughly handled, but they succeeded in reducing the ruffianly fellows to subordination. Mescal was the cause.

There is a good deal of sickness here, but not of a serious character, and but few deaths have taken place.

*Adios, J. E. D.*

MONTEREY, JUNE 1, 1847.

Although we cannot advance upon San Luis, it is thought there may be some skirmishing on the road from here to Camargo, Urrea having again plucked up courage, become tired of masterly inactivity, and being now at the head of a large force of lancers. It has been reported that he was at Tula, but the report was not credited; but I was yesterday informed at headquarters, that positive information had been received that Urrea was at the head of 4000 cavalry this side of Victoria. It is probable that the force is over estimated. If the gentleman should show himself, I suspect the old general will make another push to take him. A few days ago he might have made a very pretty little speculation, as a large amount of specie was brought up.

Talking of specie, and American, who has been doing business in Zacatecas for some years, arrived here a few days ago with $160,000 in Mexican dollars of this year’s coinage. He converted his property into hard cash, and succeeded in smuggling it out of the country. Here he obtained drafts on New Orleans from Paymaster Hunter.
I wrote you on the 30th ult. and my letter stated that Col. Hays was on his way hither with a full regiment of Texas Rangers, but upon inquiry, it turns out that he only has five companies of the same regiment that Henry McCulloch came out with, and as they were enlisted for six months only and came out under Col. Curtis's 50,000 call, of course he cannot be received. The Missouri volunteers did not succeed in forming the company of cavalry they expected, the sound of home being too sweet. They had the positive assurance of G. H. Taylor that he would gladly receive as many as were disposed to re-enlist but they backed out. There may be two companies raised out of the Arkansas cavalry, but I very much doubt whether it can be done.

Four companies of the first battalion Virginia volunteers marched into town from China this morning, Capt. Bankhead's company being left behind to take care of a few sick to rejoin the regiment as soon as possible. Lieut. Mahan, who was shot in the duel which I mentioned in my last, was still alive but no hopes entertained of his recovery. A short time since a party of about thirty armed Mexicans were brought in by a company of Virginians, and after undergoing an examination were disarmed and released, the alcalde giving security that they should no again be found under arms. There are about one hundred and thirty of the regiment on the sick list, but there are few of them dangerously ill. About twenty of them are to be discharged and will go home under charge of Lieuts. Allen and Pegram, who go home on recruiting service. A volunteer named Daniel Harmon, of Capt. Preston's company, Virginia volunteers, died day before yesterday.

The abandonment of the San Luis expedition on account of the withdrawal of the troops, is still the topic of conversation and a cause of universal regret. I believe Gen. Taylor freely admits the necessity of Gen. Scott's having more troops and speedily, and can only regret that a sufficient number of troops have not been forewarned. Now the very commencement of the campaign the troops have been sent out in dribbles and operations of a vigorous character prevented from this cause. Well, we shall see what we shall see. The impression seems to prevail here, to some extent that Mexico is disposed for peace. It all grows out of the statement in N. O. Delta, that the British Minister had received an application for mediation on the part of his Government from the Mexican Government. There is no news at all here.

(From the New Orleans Delta)

Further particulars of the attack on the wagon train—Murders daily committed by the Mexicans with impunity—Election of Herrera to the Presidency considered almost certain—Church party in his favor—A strong Mexican force stationed at Tabasco to oppose the advance of Com. Perry.

VERA CRUZ, MAY 9TH, 1847

Eds. Delta: The train which left here the day before yesterday for the army, with an escort of 800 men, was attacked five miles from the walls of Vera Cruz by 1,500 lancers and rancheros—several men killed and 90 mules captured, in face of the whole detachment. The train was stretched out so long that it was impossible for so small a body of men to protect the whole line, assailed as it was on the extreme rear by a compact body of 1,500 lancers. An express came I the same night to Gov. Wilson for reinforcement. One hundred and fifty dragoons started out to their relief, they had hardly got out of sight of Vera Cruz before they in their turn were assailed by a large troop of lancers. They succeeded, however, in cutting their way through to the train, after suffering some little loss. These fellows had undoubtedly been apprized of the starting of this train and the $300,000 which goes with it. The/They have become so daring now that they actually come within sight of the city. Murders are committed within sight of the very walls, and no means whatever are adopted to bring the criminals to punishment. No example has been made to strike terror into them. Affairs are managed badly here, I am afraid. Energy—energy—we want, but energy we have not.

Some of the officers from Anton Lizardo have just arrived in the steamer Vixen. From them I gather this information: They left Alvarado yesterday morning; the old priest of that place had, a few moments before their leaving received a letter from his brother in the city of Mexico, which he read to them, to the effect, that Herrera's election would take place on the 20th of this month; the issue is peace or war; he is supported by the united Church party in Mexico. The letter states, that a continuance of the war will be 'the downfall of the Church'; that the enemy have cut off all sources of revenue to the Government; that it cannot be carried on without a sacrifice of the Church property, and it behooves them to unite with the peace party and put an end to the war; that immediately on Herrera's accession to power, propositions of peace will be made to our Government, and the writer doubts not but that peace will be concluded in a short time afterwards.

The writer of this letter is a priest of great distinction, and I place more reliance on this news than any that has yet reached us, as the officers inform me that the information they have received from him, from time to time relating to the affairs of the capital, have, in all cases, proved correct. Since the first occupation of Alvarado, to the present time, they have kept up a constant communication with the City of Mexico, and have ever found information through this source to be most reliable. Again I assure you that I pace great confidence in this news.

The squadron had all . . . (illigible) . . . Tabasco. A French merchant had arrived at Tlacotalpam, from Tabasco, just before the Vixen fell, who reports that they had determined to station forces all along the banks of the river, and fire at the Americans as they go up. They have about 2000 good troops (i.e. for Mexicans.) Com Perry will land about 1000 sailors and marines to oppose this force. The old Commodore will lead the storming party in person. He leaves behind the two old captains this time; he thinks, I suspect, that he can get along better with the young commanders as leaders of detachments. The young officers have every confidence in the old Commodore as their leader. He cares no more for bullets than does Old Rough and Ready.
The officers speak in high terms of the gallantry of some of the Commanders of the squadron.

There are some dashing fellows among them. Buchana, Breese, McKenzie, McCluny, Adams, and Bigclow—where can you find a nobler set of fellows? And the younger ones are the boys to follow, and go ahead, too, if they find their leaders are all laggard. Success to them all.

Yours truly
J.D.J.

[BJM]
**Richmond Enquirer**  
**July-December 1846**

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**July**

Poem published July 3, dedicated to the patriotic volunteers.

**August**

August 4, 1846 REv43i28p2c1 Two Days Later From Mexico  
Information from Mexico on current events happening in the political and military areas.

August 4, 1846 REv43i28p2c2 A Proclamation  
Document written by Zachary Taylor describing a state of war aimed to the Mexican government, officially recognizing the war.

August 4, 1846 REv43i28p2c4 A Small Mistake  
A clerical mistake attributed to the Richmond Enquirer that was erroneous.

August 4, 1846 REv43i28p2c4 A Gallant Virginian  
Information on the court martial of a Virginia native Capt. Thornton in Mexico.

August 4, 1846 REv43i28p2c7 Marine Journal  
Information about arrivals and departures at the Richmond docks.

August 4, 1846 REv43i28p4c1 Norfolk Whig  
Article containing arguments against Senator Webster’s efforts to end hostilities with Mexico.

August 4, 1846 REv43i28p4c3 To the Editors  
Editorial article concerning a private citizens hope for a speedy war.

August 4, 1846 REv43i28p4c4 Later from the Army  
Information from Mexico telling the citizens that Camargo had been taken.

August 4, 1846 REv43i28p4c4 The Court of Inquiry  
Article containing the information on the trial of General Gaines.

August 7, 1846 REv43i29p1c3 Gen. Patterson  
Information relating to command of a regiment.

August 7, 1846 REv43i29p1c4 Adjutant General Jones  
Article informing readers on court proceedings in a military.

August 7, 1846 REv43i29p1c4 Ex-Governor  
Information on troop command.

August 7, 1846 REv43i29p2c2 South Western Virginia  
Information pertaining to Southwest Virginia’s commitment to the war in Mexico

August 7, 1846 REv43i29p3c1 Proposition for peace with Mexico  
Article relaying thoughts of some members of Congress on settling the issue with Mexico amicably.
August 7, 1846 REv43i29p4c7 Arrival of the Steamer Hibernia
Information on the settlement of the Oregon treaty and aversion of a third U.S.-British conflict.

August 11, 1846 REv43i30p1c2 Twenty Ninth Congress
Informed the senate of the agreement between the U.S. and Great Britain.

August 11, 1846 REv43i30p1c5 Later from the Army
Information on the happenings of the troops in Mexico.

August 11, 1846 REv43i30p1c5 General Order
Order given by Gen. Taylor retaining troops past their service time.

August 11, 1846 REv43i30p1c6 The Oregon Treaty
Message from the President sent to Congress about the details of the new treaty with G.B. on the issue of Oregon.

August 11, 1846 REv43i30p1c5 Editorial
Information on the happenings of the troops after the victory at Camargo.

August 11, 1846 REv43i30p2c1 The Oregon Treaty
Information gathered on the specifics of the treaty.

August 11, 1846 REv43i30p2c3 Interesting Statement
Article on the deaths of privates in some localized conflicts throughout Mexico.

August 11, 1846 REv43i30p2c4 The Latest From the Army.
Information on troop arrivals in Galveston destined for action in the Mexican theatre.

August 11, 1846 REv43i30p2c7 Marine Journal
Arrivals and departures from the port of Richmond.

August 11, 1846 REv43i30p4c2 Medals for the Subalterns
Article concerning the dispersion of medals of recognition to Non-Commissioned Officers.

August 14, 1846 REv43i31p2c3 Later from the Rio Grande
Information on the arrival of additional troops.

August 14, 1846 REv43i31p2c2 Disbanded Volunteers
Article detailing the events leading the disbandment of some La. and Al. regiments under Taylor.

August 14, 1846 REv43i31p2c3 The Mexican Question
Article regarding Whig opinions on the Mexican war.

August 14, 1846 REv43i31p2c7 Marine Journal
Arrivals and departures out of the Richmond port.

August 14, 1846 REv43i31p3c1 United States and Mexico
Article concerning the current political scene between the United States and Mexico.

August 14, 1846 REv43i31p4c7 Sword to Captain Duncan
Article on an award to an officer for bravery at the battle of Palo Alto.

August 18, 1846 REv43i32p1c1 Defence
Article pertaining to the court martial of Gen. Gaines.

August 18, 1846 REv43i32p2c1 Proceedings of the Senate
Information on the state of affairs between Mexico and the U.S.

August 18, 1846 REv43i32p2c3 Mexican Items
General interest article about anti-war sentiment in Mexico.

August 18, 1846 REv43i32p2c6 The Mexican Question
Article proclaiming Polk's expert leadership in his handling of both Oregon and Mexico.

August 18, 1846 REv43i32p3c1 By Last Evenings Mail
Information on happenings in Mexico.

August 18, 1846 REv43i32p3c1 Marine Journal
Arrivals and departures from the port of Richmond.
August 18, 1846 REv43i32p4c4 The Peace Project
News that a delegation was attempting to purchase the land the U.S. desired and to pay Mexico whatever to avoid war.

August 21, 1846 REv43i33p1c2 A letter in the Union
Article blasting other newspapers for not fully endorsing the war effort.

August 21, 1846 REv43i33p1c3 From California
Information on events and independence being claimed in California and an American flag being raised.

August 21, 1846 REv43i33p1c4 Message of the Governor of Oregon
Message from the new governor of Oregon on the recent treaty between the U.S. and G.B.

August 21, 1846 REv43i33p2c1 The Louisiana Volunteers
Reference to the regiment of volunteers from Louisiana.

August 21, 1846 REv43i33p2c4 Battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, Texas
Excerpts detailing events from the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma.

August 21, 1846 REv43i33p3c1 Later from Vera Cruz, By way of Havana
Article describing conditions in the army stationed at Vera Cruz.

August 25, 1846 REv43i34p2c1 The Mexican Crisis
Information on the progress of peace talks with Mexico.

August 25, 1846 REv43i34p3c1 Latest from the Army
Information from Camargo and troop morale.

August 25, 1846 REv43i34p4c2 Highly Important from Havana and Cuba
Article relating Santa Anna’s departure to Vera Cruz and likely battle.

August 25, 1846 REv43i34p4c4 Captain Vinton’s command
Information on troop movement into Mexican territory.

August 25, 1846 REv43i34p4c7 Departure of Gen. Taylor
Article pertaining to Gen. Taylor’s movement to Matamoros.

August 25, 1846 REv43i34p4c5 Message to Mexico
Letter advising readers to the movements of naval forces.

August 28, 1846 REv43i35p1c4 From the Union
Information on the trial of Gen. Gaines

August 28, 1846 REv43i35p1c6 Additional Mexican Items
Intelligence on Santa Anna and his troop movements.

August 28, 1846 REv43i35p1c6 Act of the Garrison of Vera Cruz
Information on events taking place in Vera Cruz.

August 28, 1846 REv43i35p1c7 Letter in the New Orleans Times
Article expressing opinion war will not break out.

August 28, 1846 REv43i35p1c6 On Tuesday
Article talking about troop quantities.

August 28, 1846 REv43i35p2c3 Mexico
Information on governmental affairs in Mexico

August 28, 1846 REv43i35p2c3 Still Later from Mexico
Article relating to Santa Anna’s restoration to power.

August 28, 1846 REv43i35p3c1 Marine Journal
Arrivals and departures from the port of Richmond.

August 28, 1846 REv43i35p4c1 Familiar History of the Campaign on the Rio Grande.
Parodies on the events taking place within the Polk administration as well as Mexico.
August 28, 1846 REv43i35p4c5 Louisiana Volunteers
Information on the treatment of returning soldiers by the citizens.

August 28, 1846 REv43i35p4c5 News from Santa Fe
Information on Kearney and the latest exploits to the west coast.

September

REv43i36p1c3, September 1, 1846: The Administration and the Whigs
Comments about how the Whigs have unfairly bad-mouthed the president for protecting Texas; comments about how peace will come with Mexico

REv43i36p1c5, September 1, 1846: Political John Jones's
Comments about how the Whigs do not like people just because of their stance on annexation and the war with Mexico

REv43i36p1c6, September 1, 1846: Later From Mexico-The Arrival of the Mississippi
News about Vera Cruz is confirmed; yesterday got to Alvarado for the purpose of attacking it; news about the movement of Santa Ana; City of Mexico has called for Santa Anna

REv43i36p2c2, September 1, 1846: Arrival of Santa Anna
The steamer Arab arrived off Vera Cruz on the 16th of August with Santa Anna on board

REv43i36p2c1, September 1, 1846: The Crisis in Mexico
Report that Paredes has been taken prisoner in Mexico City and Santa Anna is in full power

REv43i36p2c2, September 1, 1846: Important from Mexico
Letters from Com. Conner's squadron; revolution in favor of Santa Anna has extend to the city of Mexico; Mexico presently without a government because of the overthrow of Paredes

REv43i36p2c2, September 1, 1846: Later from Texas
New towns have been taken and the army about to move on towards Monterey; comments about Col. Clark, Capt. W. L. Ball, Col. Jack Hays and Lieut. Col. Walker, Maj. Gen. Butler; China in the hands of the Americans-details on how they did it; Taylor talks of moving to Monetery; grand parade of all regular troops last evening; steps towards Monterey are to be taken tomorrow; city of Guenero has pronounced in favor of the US government; expedition left for the interior; liquor has been banned in several occupied cities

REv43i36p3c1, September 1, 1846: Later from Santa Fe
Extract from a letter sent from Santa Fe; expected approach of Gen.Kearney; Indians have been annoying

REv43i36p4c3, September 1, 1846: Navigation of the Colombia
Comments about the rejoicing after the signing of the Oregon Treaty; comments about the agreement

REv43i36p4c1, September 1, 1846; The Mexican Army
Now volunteers in Mexico to form Paredes' command who will march to met American troops; new regiment composed of members of the lowest classes in Mexican society

REv43i36p4c1, September 1, 1846: The Grave of Ringgold
Cutter, Esq, who was an officer in one of the volunteer companies in Mexico recently visited the grave of Ringgold

REv43i36p4c5, September 1, 1846
Quote taken from the Baltimore Sun about the movement of American troops

REv43i37p1c3, September 4, 1846
Comments about comments made by the Whigs about Scott's prediction for delay in troop movement

REv43i37p1c5, September 4, 1846: Mexican Natural Antipathies
Mexicans have a holy horror of the Texans

REv43i37p1c5, September 4, 1846: Trophies of Resaca de la Palma
Documents found by our army in the camp of Gen. Arista; some show the instructions given Mexican military officials; extract from Tornell's direction for the plan of campaign dated city of Mexico and addressed to Gen. Don Mariano Arista; extracts from a letter of President Pareds to Gen. Arista

REv43i37p1c4, September 4, 1846
Col. Hairston called the regiment together to see if a volunteer company could be raised to offer their services to the Executive

REv43i37p1c5, September 4, 1846: From Mexico-Advice from the Gulf Squadron
Comments from Com. Conner about the accident that befel the Cumberland; British ships have lost men to fever; Mississippi was detained; Santa Anna on board the English steamer from Havana; rumors that a Mexican privateer has been seen of the Havana; Mexico announced it would adhere to the plan of Vera Cruz; strong party within the state opposes Santa Anna

REv43i37p1c6, September 4, 1846: Meeting in Fairfax County
Call for Virginia volunteers has gotten a slow response; comments about how the Rio Grande is the true boundary of Texas; gives a lists of resolution made at the meeting

REv43i37p1c6, September 4, 1846
Information received at Alvarado makes it appear that the Californians were not taken by the squardon of Com. Sloat; Americans and Mexicans in the area combined and declared themselves independent; this news confirmed by a Spanish letter (printing of the letter); Commodore gotten news that a new ministry has been formed against Paredes; list of ships comprising the American fleet

REv43i37p2c4, September 4, 1846: Interesting from California
Company of William L. Todd reached Fort Hall without problems; reports of California having more advantages than Oregon; comments about the traveling of Todd—where he is going, what it is like etc. - gives a very long description; Todd is the son of Dr. Todd who lives in Richmond

REv43i37p2c3, September 4, 1846: Correspondence of the Charleston Evening News
Steamboat McKim sails immediately for New Orleans; Gen. Taylor gone to Camargo; US Schr. Ewing is here; Van Buren and Howard have gone to Vera Cruz; steamers and transport are busily engaged in carrying provisions up the river to Camarge; troops are health

REv43i37p2c3, September 4, 1846: Important if Authentic
A US officer from Gen. Taylor's camp brings important despatches to the government; Gen. Paredes in charge of 15,000 men and is approaching Saltillo; Gen. Santa Anna has been made prisoner by Com. Conner

REv43i37p4c3, September 4, 1846: Old "Rough and Ready" in Europe
First General of Europe has commented on the military actions of Taylor

REv43i37p4c4, September 4, 1846
Rumor that Santa Anna is a prisoner of war

REv43i37p4c5, September 4, 1846
Major Thomas T. Fauntleroy has been promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in the second regiment of Dragoons in the Army

REv43i37p4c5, September 4, 1846: Vindication of Secretary Marcy and the Louisiana Volunteers
Secretary of War not to blame for the discharging of the Louisiana Volunteers; he did not make an offer of re-enlistment to the men and why it was not done is a mystery

REv43i37p4c5, September 4, 1846: Important from Santa Fe
US troops under Gen. Kearney push forward with great speed to arrest Mr. Speyer and seize his goods; Speyer has escaped all his pursuers and reached Santa Fe

REv43i38p1c5, September 8, 1846: The Disbanded Volunteers
The editor of the Clinton Floridian, a disbanded volunteer himself, replies to the malignant clamor against the Secretary of War

REv43i38p1c6, September 8, 1846: Capt. A. S. Mackenzie
Rumored to be placed in command of a steam frigate in the Gulf

REv43i38p1c6, September 8, 1846: Important if Authentic
A US officer from Gen. Taylor's camp brings important despatches to the government; Gen. Paredes in charge of 15,000 men and is approaching Saltillo; Gen. Santa Anna has been made prisoner by Com. Conner

REv43i38p1c6, September 8, 1846
Received yesterday a letter which states that Taylor will move from Camargo to Monterey; believes another battle is at hand

REv43i38p1c6, September 8, 1846: From Texas
Cotton crop in Texas is unfavorable; time for the congressional elections in Texas;
Mr. Habersham has been bearing letters of Mr. Buchanan to Commodore Conner and the Mexican Secretary of War, he has been detained here waiting for a ship headed to Vera Cruz.

Appears to be a general belief in the army that a large force of Mexican was concentrating about Monterey and that Paredes would have twenty thousand men at that place; heave intelligence from Vera Cruz of the revolutionary rising against Paredes.

Letter received from Capt. N. G. Coste that he has on his ship a man with despatches for Vera Cruz.

Report of troop movement; report on the number of enemy gathering near Monterey; comments on the health of the army.

Comments on the movement of ships.

Report on the outbreak that occurred at Valladolid.

Comments about the remarks made about Gen. Worth's supposedly ill-treatment by the President.

Taylor expressing is gratitude for the resolution passed in NY to allow more troops for the army.

Comments made by a Whig paper about the peace treaty terms-RE is proving that there comments are a contradiction to what has really been agreed to.

Don Juan Morales to take possession of the citadel; Gen. Paredes marching towards the northern frontier is in favor of Santa Anna; two or three vessels of war at Sacrificios.

Brig Saldana leaving for Brazos Santiago and she carries troops from Fort McHenry.

Texas delegation arrived with intelligence papers of the loss of Midshipman Pillsbury.

Preparations to meet Gen. Kearney; 7,000 Mexican troops said to be in reserves; report on Mexican spies; exposed condition of American supplies; Indians attacking Government wagons and trading parties; volunteering against the Americans.

Peace with Mexico-terms settled with Santa Anna at Havan.

Report that Gen. Kearney took Santa Fe without the firing of a gun.

Loss of the fine brig Truxton; mystery of Santa Anna's movements; belief that the Mexicans will not reject US peace.

Details about the loss of the brig Truxton and her crew being taken as prisoners of war-gives the reports of the incident from several different papers.

Failure of the St. Mary's of Tampico; more comments about the loss of brig Truxton.

Regulars have departed for the interior with the exception of one regiment; Taylor still at Camargo; Twiggs moving to Monterey; Worth continuing his march to Monterey.
REv43i40p2c3, September 15, 1846: Gen. Twiggs Command
Comments on who Twigg has under his command

REv43i40p2c3, September 15, 1846: Gen. Worth’s Command
Comments on who Worth has under his command; comments also on the movement of the Mexican troops

REv43i40p2c5, September 15, 1846: Latest Intelligence from the Army
Report of the happenings from the Rio Grande; news from Col. Hay’s regiment; riot and bloodshed amongst the volunteers on a steamboat laying at an encampment opposite Burita; particulars of the blowing up of the Enterprise—list of killed and wounded

REv43i40p3c1, September 15, 1846: News from the Army of the West
General Kearney left Bent’s Fort; comments about how the Mexicans are trying to fortify

REv43i40p4c3, September 15, 1846
Citizens of Baltimore have presented to Lieut. Randolph Ridgely of the Flying Artillery a sword for his gallant performance on the Rio Grande

REv43i41p1c3, September 18, 1846: Vindication of Mr. Secretary Marcy and the Louisiana Volunteers
Secretary of War was not to blame for the matter of discharging the Louisiana volunteers

REv43i41p1c4, September 18, 1846
Particulars the correspondence of the Journal of Commerce about the loss of the brig Truxton; extract from a letter received here about the loss of the Truxton

REv43i41p1c5, September 18, 1846: State of Things in Mexico
Much depends on the course of action Santa Anna will take; summary of the manifesto of Gen. Santa Anna; Santa Anna left Vera Cruz on 18th of August for Mexico City; letter of Gen. Ampudia addressed to the Mexican Secretary of War speaks of Gen. Gaines march upon Monterey; Paredes prisoner in Mexico City

REv43i41p1c6, September 18, 1846: Major General Gaines
Character letter to the Baltimore Patriot that General Gaines has selected NY has his headquarters of the Eastern Division of the Army

REv43i41p1c6, September 18, 1846: From the Army
Gen. Wroth established a new depot in Serralvo; comments about the movement of other troops; rumor that Paredes has been taken prisoner confirmed;

REv43i41p1c7, September 18, 1846: Revolution in Tabasco
Garrison stationed at San Juan Bautista declared against the Government of Paredes and in favor of Santa Anna; quote of a document by the commandante General of the Department of Tabasco to its Inhabitants—hoping for no violence or disorder

REv43i41p1c7, September 18, 1846: From the Camp
Despatches have been received about the movement of the army; no allusion is made to Col. Harney; seems Taylor is better acquainted with his movements than the Mexicans; Taylor sent forces forward

REv43i41p2c2, September 18, 1846
VMI has furnished several officers of volunteers for the Rio Grande

REv43i41p2c4, September 18, 1846
No shadow of blame rests upon the commander of the Truxton for the loss of the vessel

REv43i41p2c4, September 18, 1846
Com. Perry is on his way to the Gulf to take command of the squadron in place of Com. Conner

REv43i41p2c3, September 18, 1846
Remarks made by Boston Whig leaders—how will southern Whigs take such comments?

REv43i41p2c6, September 18, 1846: Well Merited Honors
G. W. Reeder has gone to Headquarters to gives medals to non-commissioned officers who have distinguished themselves in the battles of the 8th and 9th of May; medals given to Taylor by Mr. Reeder in the presence of several general officers

REv43i41p4c1, September 18, 1846: The War and San Juan de Ulloa
Not likely that attacking Vera Cruz will be successful; armistice is asked for by the Mexican Government; how can Mexico can continue with this war? ; Santa Ana made a speech to the citizens and soldiers of Vera Cruz
Army Medical Board in session in NY has recommended a list of people for appointment to the medical staff—lists the names of those suggested.

Event are bright on the coast of California; Monterey is certainly taken, and Guimas and it is certain that the Yerba Buena was summoned by Capt. Montgomery and is believed to have been taken without resistance troops were being paid off some months in advance and that they would sail for the Pacific.

Two of Capt. S. T. Mason’s Company of the Mounted Regiment have sailed from Fort McHenry to the seat of war; violent carried the vessel of course.

Report from a letter about the rich fields of Mexico for lovers of entomology and natural history.

A ready response has been given to the President’s proposal of peace; comments about Santa Anna’s ability to bring about peace; believe peace is at hand.

A new Mexican Ministry has been formed—list of who has what position; Mexico making no preparations to carry on the war; squadron are blockading Vera Cruz; more details about the crew of the Truxton and their surrender; comments about the squadron after the loss of the Truxton.

US Frigate Potomac arrived here on Wednesday; capture of a Bremen Brig by the US Schr. Flirt; Mexico agreed to received a minister and treat; doubt the correctness of the Pensacola in relations to the capture of the Bremen Brig.

Lieut. Gilhem of the US Army accepted a professorship at VMI; he was in the battles of May 8th and 9th on the Rio Grande.

Report on the movement of ships; letter received from the Capt. Of the Truxton; abortion of the plan for Alvarado; court martial onboard the St. May’s convened for trying a seamen for striking a first Lieutenant.

Gen. Worth on movement for Serralvo; Duncan a hero for the battle of Palo Alto; comments about the Mexican army. Taylor has despatched orders to stop Col. Harney.

No truth in claim that Santa Anna had a passport which allowed him to land at Vera Cruz; government of the US can hardly wait until they hear the response of the Mexican government about the letter of peace sent to them.

Gen. Gaines appointed to be in charge of the Eastern Division of the Army.

Letter published which gives comments about Taylor’s wish to advance on Monterey; comments about the inhabitants of Monterey.

Mexican government has rejected the offer of peace comments taken from other newspapers about this; hope the war to carry on with vigor.

Citizens of Howard District resolved to present a sword to Lieut. Ridgely for his conduct on the Rio Grande.

Mexican government refuses peace.

Nothing has occurred since the arrival of Santa Ana; reported that the Mexican government has refused peace with US.
General Almonte, Crescencio Rijon and Crescencio Boves have arrived in Mexico City; summary of an address given by Santa Ana; believed Santa Ana will put his troops in motion; no mention of Paredes

No matter what stance Polk takes on the war the Whigs will complain

Brief sketch of past Mexican presidents

Polk elected to annex Texas and settle the Oregon question and these things he has done

General opinion is that Mexico must listen to US offer of peace

US will pursue a path of vigorous war

Report of the capture of California—details

Polk elected to annex Texas and settle the Oregon question and these things he has done

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Report of the capture of California—details

The reply from Mexico that she would seek English mediation if US withdrew from its territory was rejected

Officer on the Princeton with despatches for Com. Sloat—this was reported but a mistake; no counter orders have been given to Com. Sloat;

Comments made in the House of Commons about the conflict between the US and Mexico

Puzzled by the Mexican reply to the offer of peace; she rejected it but then sent a messenger with despatches to Washington; comments about the movement of ships; Santa Anna in Mexico City; comments about the demands made by Mexico

RE has expressed its' respect for General Taylor, which is a response to an article quoted from the Philadelphia north American

Volunteer jumped overboard; gale caused the schr. Edward Tilletson to blow ashore near the Sabine; colonel Harney has been arrested and charged with disobeying orders; Taylor crossed the San Juan; number of US troops between Camargo and Monterey; number of sick; Gen. Patterson in command of all the country from Camargo to the mouth of the river; Gen. Butler in command of the lower country; Mexicans not allowed to barter with Americans; Taylor left Camargo for Monterey

Comments about the current negotiations with Mexico; what should happen now that they have refused peace

Horse taken to Rocky Mountain for the purpose of being sent to Taylor as a present from Col. William Winn of Arkansas

Chap. 16 an act providing for the prosecution of the existing war between the US and Mexico; Chap. 17 act providing for the increase of the army; Chap. 20 act providing for the fortification of certain areas

Resolved to support the annexation of Texas; settlement of the Oregon question with England has been most favorable for the US; support for the war with Mexico because of Mexico's transgressions against the US; also listed other resolutions decided upon by the democrats at the meeting

Arrival of the Prize Ship
More details about the loss of the Truxton from Lieut. Berryman who was on the brig

REv43i44p4c4, September 29, 1846
What benefit would mediation bring in the situation with Mexico; the US is able to address her own problems

REv43i44p4c4, September 29, 1846
The US army should continue the vigorously if it wants to come to terms with Mexico; so far the US has been to nice about things; our military should enforce the rules of war

REv43i44p4c3, September 29, 1846: Arrival of US Brig Washington
List of men brought on the ship from the Rio Grande

REv43i44p4c4, September 29, 1846: A Touch of Romantic and Transcendental
Comments about remarks made by Whigs about the War with Mexico and how it is a sore for the administration

REv43i44p4c4, September 29, 1846: British Mediation
Reprint of an article from the Union about British Mediation; if England can bring Mexico to negotiations why should the US object to it, since the US has failed to be able to do so; but England cannot intervene because the US knows its rights and wrongs and can address them and we must be left to ourselves to judge

REv43i44p4c5, September 29, 1846: Affairs in Mexico
Gen. Paredes still a prisoner; Gen. Bravo is treated by newspapers with much regard; Gen. Sales as stated that he did not do his will but only what was needed at the time; Gen. Morales named commandant in California; various proclamations have been issued to encourage people to take part in the war; number of states which have declared revolution; Santa Ana sends troops towards Monterey, New Mexico and California and summons the Congress; reprint of the address given by Santa Ana to the army at Vera Cruz

October

REv43i45p2c1-3, October 2, 1846: Latest from the Army
News, military correspondence, and letters

REv43i45p2c3, October 2, 1846: The Mexican News

REv43i45p2c4, October 2, 1846: The Seat of War
News about Monterey

REv43i45p4c6, October 2, 1846: Rumored Capturer of Santa Fe - Indian Outrages

REv43i46p1c4, October 6, 1846: Major General Jesup left for Mexico

REv43i46p1c5-7, October 6, 1846: Capture of Santa Fe!
Detailed account and story of the capture of the city

REv43i46p2c4, October 6, 1846: General Kearney's proclamation
Annexation of New Mexico

REv43i46p2c4, October 6, 1846: Our Mexican Relations in Europe

RE43i46p4c1, October 6, 1846: Dragoon's Song: Dedicated to the Brave Captain May(poem)

REv43i46p2c4, October 6, 1846: General Kearney
Description of the General and his career

REv43i46p4c2, October 6, 1846: Mexico - California
Course of war and California territory

REv43i46p4c2, October 6, 1846: Mexico
News

REv43i46p4c2, October 6, 1846: From Yucatan
Claiming its independence

REv43i46p4c5, October 6, 1846: Santa Fe Taken
Brief article

REv43i47p1c4, October 9, 1846: Civilization in Santa Fe
Concerns over General Kearny overstepping his boundaries and threatening the presidency.

The Charleston Mercury.

Troops for Mexico

Rejoicing over the annexation of Texas

Later from the Army - Capture of Monterey

General Taylor's capture of Monterey

General Kearney and New Mexico

Last Evening's Mail - Glorious News from the Army! Capitulation of Monterey after Three Days Fighting

Account of how Major Brown was wounded

Our Army in Monterey

Description details troop movement and Taylor's orders

Old Rough and Ready

Defending the actions and character of Zachary Taylor

Troops for Mexico

The Battle for Monterey

Lieut. Col. Duncan

Very Important News from Mexico

Latest intelligence from the army

Captain Thornton, US Dragoons

The Victory at Monterey

From Yucatan

Pressure on General Scott for Progress in Mexican War

Important from New Mexico

The Laws of War

On the rights of the conquest

Incidents at Monterrey

Excited Attack at Vera Cruz

Changing Places

Later from Vera Cruz and Brazos Santiago

Late from the Battlefield

Lithograph map/picture of Monterey city - description of Battle

Viva La Bagatelle

Commenting on Kearney's address to Santa Feans

News from the Army
Troop movement and activity

October 30, 1846: Eleven Days Later from the Army
The Capitulation; Captain Walker; The Relative Forces, Losses; Matamoros; Captain Bragg's Battery; Terms of Capitulation; Evacuation of Monterey; From the Pacific

October 30, 1846: Last Evenings Mail

October 30, 1846: The Storming of Monterey

October 30, 1846: Miscellaneous - Late and Interesting from Our Pacific Squadron, United States Calvary

October 30, 1846: Siege of Monterey
Letters and accounts from the battle

November

November 3, 1846: The Enquirer, Richmond VA. Letter to the Editor Monday Morning, November 2, 1846 (by Superior Court-Judge P.N. Nicholas)
Calls for support of the President and Country during the Texas-Mexican War.

November 3, 1846: Letter to the Editor
Santa Anna is using his own wealth to fund the War. Troops begin to fortify the City of Mexico against the U.S. Reports from Vera Cruz say that Ampudia resigned from the army command.

November 3, 1846: From Mexico, News from Vera Cruz
The first brigade of cavalry left Mexico City on September 24th headed for Monterey. Santa Anna followed with the National Guard the next day.

November 3, 1846: Capture of a Mexican Brig of War
Malek Adhel, the Mexican Brigadier General of the war, was captured at the port of Mazatlan.

November 3, 1846: Hancock Expedition
An 11th infantry was raised to stop the mob in the city of Nauvoo. The troops elected Colonel Robert Allen as Captain. John Connelly and R.W. Diller were elected 1st and 2nd Lieutenant.

November 3, 1846: Letter to the Editor, Washington, Oct. 30, 1846
There have been no new dispatches from the army, the only correspondence the media has been able to obtain are personal letters from the soldiers. These letters seem to support the rumor that the Mexicans are preparing for another battle.

November 3, 1846: General Taylor and General Butler
A regular officer just returning from Monterey gives an interview concerning the rumored problems between General Taylor and General Butler. The officer states that he supports both Generals and he is not aware of any discord between them.

November 3, 1846: Richmond, VA, Tuesday Morning, November 3, 1846
Article argues against the New Orleans Tropic (a Whig newspaper) for stating that General Taylor would be superseded and General Butler would be appointed the chief commander of the army.

November 3, 1846: The Siege of Monterey
Accounts from the capture of Monterey and a depiction of the landscape.

November 3, 1846: The Siege of Monterey (From the Baltimore Patriot)
Includes letters from the Baltimore Battalion and an update of the wounded and killed.

November 3, 1846: The Destructive Storm in the Gulf (From the Union) Key West, Oct. 14, 1846
Tornado hits the town of Key West.

November 3, 1846: Late F[r]om Havana
Description of the "disastrous hurricane" that hit Havana.

November 3, 1846: Marine Journal
A record of the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Port of Richmond.
Correspondence states that peace has been achieved in Mexico but he expects that there will be another call for troops. On no terms will the U.S. Government give back Upper California and New Mexico.

General Taylor anoints Captain Miles, of Baltimore, as acting Governor of Monterey.

Commodore Sloat arrives from the Pacific bringing news from Havana.

The steamship, Galveston, was to leave November 2nd for Brazos Santiago by orders from General Taylor.

Commodore Sloat condones Commodore Jones' actions at the Rio Grande.

The steamship Massachusetts leaves with troops for Brasos.

An account of the wrecking of the revenue cutter Morris during the hurricane.

News from the steamship Perry from Vera Cruz.

Troops at Fort Moultrie were detained from their march to Mexico in order to acquire a shipment of clothing.

Arguments against the government policy of conciliating, stating that the procedure allows Mexicans to spy on U.S. military.

Expressing personal opinions of the war and the support for the military leaders begins to spark the act of dueling.

Barbour was actually from the 3rd regiment of infantry.

An account from General Worth's division at Monterey.

Article argues against an article published by the Whig press, stating that General Taylor marched on the City of Mexico in a despite attempt to fight off the determined Mexicans.

A record of the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Port of Richmond.

A record of the ships that sailed from and arrived at the James River Canal.

Colonel Burr travels to Paris with useful information for invading Mexico in hopes that France will aid the U.S.

The Editor of the Courrier des Etats Unis stated he had seen a letter stating that Santa Anna left Havana with several officers including Narciso Lopez, a distinguished Christino officer.

Several officers were invited to the White House, where they were entertained by Mrs. Polk.
REv43i55p4c3, November 6, 1846: The Army of Chihuahua [from the New Orleans Picayune, Oct. 27]
General Wool spits his army. Half of the army left San Antonio for Presido. The other half were divided up under Colonel Harding and Colonel Churchill. A few companies were also left to defend Bexar.

General Butler describes the battle at Monterey and the hardships the soldiers had to overcome.

REv43i55p4c5, November 6, 1846: The Mexican War
The article argues against the Republican Party for calling the Texas-Mexican War "unjust."

REv43i55p4c6, November 6, 1846: Capt. Stewart [Baltimore Sun]
Captain Stewart is promoted after the death of Colonel William H. Watson.

REv43i55p4c5, November 6, 1846: Et Tu Brute!
The Article attacks the Whig press for not expressing outrage against Brigadier General Governor Kearney's actions.

REv43i55p4c5, November 6, 1846: Washington, 1st November 1836 [Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun]
General Kearney's dispatches have been received. Kearney finds the people of New Mexico willing to cooperate and excited about being U.S. citizens.

REv43i55p4c3, November 6, 1846: The Army of Chihuahua [from the New Orleans Picayune, Oct. 27]
Major M.C.M. Hammond's interview provides news from the Rio Grande after his arrival.

REv43i56p1c4, November 10, 1846: Monday Morning, November 9, 1846, Maj. Gen. WM. O. Butler
The article attacks the N.O. Delta for not defending General Butler against his charges. General Butler was charged with exposing his troops to Mexican fire and overstepping his bounds by storming the enemy.

REv43i56p1c4, November 10, 1846: Deaths of Col. WM. S. Fisher and Capt. Francis S. Early
Colonel William S. Fisher and Captain Francis S. Early both died at Galveston, Texas on October 26th of disease.

REv43i56p1c7, November 10, 1846: Letter to the Editor, From Vera Cruz [from the N.O. Picayune]
General Santa Anna is about to leave Mexico for San Luis Potosi, there he plans to take over the command of the troops. Mexicans are constantly worried about funding the War.

REv43i56p1c7, November 10, 1846: Letter to the Editor, From Mexico [from the New Orleans Delta, Nov. 2]
The Diario del Gobierno states that if wealthy Mexicans do not contribute to the funding of the war citizens know where they live and will obtain the money themselves. The clergy consented to mortgage their property for $2,000,000 in support of the war.

REv43i56p1c7, November 10, 1846: Later From Monterey [from the New Orleans Tropic, Oct. 31]
The arrival of the steamship Palmetto, Lewis brings news from Galveston.

REv43i56p2c5, November 10, 1846: English Views of the Mexican War [from the London Spectator]
Britain fears the U.S. theology of Manifest destiny and calls for defense of Mexico.

REv43i56p2c6, November 10, 1846: Marine Journal
A record of the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Post of Richmond.

REv43i56p2c1, November 10, 1846: Marine Corps
Lists the money supplied by the government for certain items for Marine Corps.

REv43i56p3c1, November 10, 1846: Poetical
A poem dedicated to the memory of the soldiers that fell at the Rio Grande and Monterey.

REv43i56p3c1, November 10, 1846: Miscellaneous, Latest From Havana
An update of the hurricane that struck Havana on the 10th and 11th of October.

REv43i56p3c1, November 10, 1846: Miscellaneous [from the Charleston Mercury]
Accounts of the conquest of California and New Mexico, as well as an update of the positions of General Wool and General Taylor.

REv43i57p1c4, November 13, 1846: Northern Democrats and Northern Whigs
Accuse the Whig Party of being based on Northern principles and questions the arguments of abolition.

REv43i57p1c6, November 13, 1846: General Ampudia's Address
General Ampudia's address following Mexican defeat at Monterey.
REV43i57p1c7, November 13, 1846: From the Camp at Monterey
Dispatches from General Taylor from the 6th, 11th, 12th, and 13th of October.

REV43i57p2c5, November 13, 1846: General Butler [from the Union]
An account from a former soldier, who assures that the rumor of discord between General Taylor and General Butler, is false.

REV43i57p2c4, November 13, 1846: Yucatan [N.O. Commercial Times]
Santa Anna persuaded the Yucatan Legislature to rejoin Mexican territory but the people did not fall for his trick.

REV43i57p2c6, November 13, 1846: Attacks on Gen. Butler
The article attacks the Whig press for condemning the actions of the government and the army.

REV43i57p2c1, November 13, 1846: Later From the Army! [from the N.O. Picayune, Nov. 3]
The article provides accounts of the battle of Monterey and provides information about the officers that lost their lives during the battle.

REV43i57p4c1, November 13, 1846: Monterey, Mexico, Oct. 16, 1846

REV43i57p4c1, November 13, 1846: Intelligence from the Army [from the American Flag]
Intelligence from Matamoras says that the armistice at Monterey continues.

REV43i57p4c2, November 13, 1846: Naval Attack on Alvarado!
An attack on Alvarado was planned for the 11th and 12th.

REV43i57p4c2, November 13, 1846: The death of a Naval Officer and An Amiable Man [from the Union]
Commodore John Nicholson dies of apoplexy at Mrs. Ulrich’s home.

REV43i57p4c4, November 13, 1846: Gen. Lamar
General Mirabeau B. Lamar has been appointed the civil and military Governor of the Texas Frontier.

REV43i58p1c4, November 17, 1846: Very Late from Mexico
Santa Anna arrives at San Luis Potosi.

REV43i58p2c5, November 13, 1846: General Vega
General Vega and other Mexican Officers were released in exchange for Captain Carpender and the men of brig. Truxton.

REV43i58p2c5, November 17, 1846: General Vega
General Vega and other Mexican Officers were released in exchange for Captain Carpender and the men of brig. Truxton.

REV43i58p2c5, November 17, 1846: Operations of Captain Fremont in Upper California
Accusations of Fremont’s actions during his occupation of California.

REV43i58p4c1, November 17, 1846: The Sufferings of the Soldiers
A volunteer of the Kentucky regiment gives an account of the three days fighting at Monterey.

REV43i58p4c1, November 17, 1846: Important From Santa Fe [from the St. Louis Republican, Nov. 7]
General Kearney leaves for California and appoints officers to govern the Mexico area.

REV43i58p4c2, November 17, 1846: Seizing of the Yucatan schooners, Ventura and Joaquina.
The schooners, Ventura and Joaquina have both been captured by the U.S. Marshal.

REV43i58p4c5, November 17, 1846: Late From the Squadron! Second Abortive Attack on Alvarado! Expedition Against Tobasco. [from the New Orleans Picayune, Nov. 7]
The Commodore fails to attack Alvarado.

REV43i59p1c6, November 20, 1846: The Mexican War
The article argues against the Whig position of the war.

REV43i59p1c7, November 20, 1846: New Mexico and New Leon
The article states that the war with Mexico is good for Americans because it provides the citizenry with a good sense of geography and exposes them to a new culture.

REV43i59p2c6, November 20, 1846: The Call For Troops [from the Union]
The article lists the places for rendezvous of the new volunteer regiments.
Provides information obtained from the Mexican press.

Call for volunteers to join the Richmond Grays.

Calls upon the men of the city of Richmond to join Captain Carrington's company of volunteers.

A record of the ships that sailed from and arrived at the Port of Richmond.

General Ampudia reports his casualties.

An update from the U.S. ship Cumberland off the coast of Vera Cruz.

The schooner, Virginia brings news from Monterey. General Taylor remembers Captain Ridgely.

An account from a letter written by Lieutenant Colonel Garland about the battle of Monterey.

Captain Ridgely was thrown from his horse and crushed at Monterey.

Detailed report of the operations at Monterey.

General Taylor's dispatch of the army's position and operations.

Captain Scott will visit the county of Hanover in pursuit of volunteers.

Calls for volunteers from Virginia.

Captain Robert G. Scott will travel to Tayorsville, Hanover court-house, Cold Harbour, and Louisa court-house in search of Virginia volunteers.

News about the crisis between U.S. and Mexico relations.

General Kearney has arrived at Monterey. Colonel Doniphan is to make a treaty with the Navajos and recover the stolen land from them.

The State of San Luis Potosí denounced the Presidency of General Salas.

Captain Carrington calls upon volunteers from the city of Richmond.

The large numbers of patriotic volunteers from Alexandria are used as a model county for the rest of Virginia.

Mexican Letters were taken from Vera Cruz to Havana where authorities intercepted them.
Commodore Conner plans to attack Alvarado again.

**REV43i61p1c5, November 27, 1846: Departure of Maj. Gen. Scott for the Seat of War**
Washington, November 24, General Scott and his staff are ordered to Mexico to lead the military.

**REV43i61p1c5, November 27, 1846: Capture of Tabasco**
Official Dispatches from Commodore Conner and the capture of Tabasco.

**REV43i61p1c5, November 27, 1846: Richmond in the Field!**
Captain Carrington's company of volunteers is increasing in size and plans to leave for Mexico sometime soon.

**REV43i61p2c2, November 27, 1846: Official Despatches from General Wool**
General Wool crosses the Rio Grande.

**REV43i61p3c1, November 72, 1846: Death of Major Lear**
Major W.W. Lear died at a camp near Monterey from a wound received during battle.

**REV43i61p4c7, November 27, 1846: First Regiment Called Out**
A regiment of volunteers from New York are called to leave for Mexico.

**REV43i61p4c1, November 27, 1846: From Monterey, Official Despatches From Gen. Taylor**
General Taylor's update on the army and its position.

**REV43i61p4c6, November 27, 1846: Naval Operations in the Pacific**
The U.S. vessel Cyane bombs the town of Guaymas and burns a Mexican ship in the harbor of that city.

**December**

**REV43i62p1c4, December 1, 1846: Troops Eastern Virginia**

**REV43i62p1c5, December 1, 1846: U.S. and Mexico**

**REV43i62p1c6, December 1, 1846: Capture of Tampico**

**REV43i62p1c6, December 1, 1846: Troops for Tampico**

**REV43i62p1c6, December 1, 1846: Ordnance for Tampico**

**REV43i62p1c6, December 1, 1846: Commodore Perry**

**REV43i62p1c7, December 1, 1846: Later from Havana**

**REV43i62p1c7, December 1, 1846: Later from Mexico**

**REV43i62p2c1, December 1, 1846: General Scott. Bygones**

**REV43i62p2c5, December 1, 1846: Letters of Marque**

**REV43i62p4c1, December 1, 1846: Poem: Monterey**

**REV43i62p4c3, December 1, 1846: United States Seizure**

**REV43i62p4c4, December 1, 1846: Tabasco**

**REV43i63p1c4, December 4, 1846: Pursuing Reflection**

**REV43i63p2c1, December 4, 1846: The War**

**REV43i63p2c2, December 4, 1846: Volunteers from Petersburg**

**REV43i63p2c5, December 4, 1846: Tampico**

**REV43i63p3c2, December 8, 1846: Determination for War**
Far be it from our intention, we assure the Republican to avow the doctrine that the President “can do no wrong,” or that his acts should not be rigorously enquired into. But, now that we are engaged in war, and that it is of vital importance to its successful prosecution and to a speedy and permanent peace, that the whole public mind would be cordially united, and that the whole nation should have but one heart and soul for its glorious termination, we contend, that these fierce assaults upon the justice and policy of the war, these charges of “weakness and wickedness” upon those who are by the Constitution clothed with its management, are ill-timed and mischievous, and in the strong language of the able and philosophic “Pike,” in the Union, are “a blow at the nation itself, while grappling in deadly strife with its foe. It is a decided encouragement to that foe for prolonging the conflict, and going on with his efforts […]. The one course cannot be pursued without endangering the other. The separation is impossible; and it this be the liberty of the press, it only shows how an engine of great good may be turned to public evil.”

It is not now for the first time, that the causes of war have been denounced by the Whig press. All remember the violent struggle that occurred upon the passage of the war bill – how the Whigs assailed the President as having himself produced the war, for the most miserable personal or political objects – how it was stigmatized as the “President’s war.” Still, the law was passed, by a majority of Democrats and Whigs, recognizing the existence of the war, not as produced by the President, but as having been begun by Mexico herself. The whole country acknowledged the justice and wisdom of the measure, and volunteers flocked by thousands to the standard of their country. This in itself is the strongest proof that the Administration had not brought on the war in the opinion of the American people.

But, says the Republican, “will the Enquirer deny that it was the march to that point [the Rio Grande] which provoked hostilities, the invasion of a territory which the Mexicans considered their own, and which, at the best, must be admitted to be debatable ground? If the American forces had remained at Corpus Christi, it is probable that not a single hostile gun would have been fired, that millions of treasure would have been saved, and hundreds of valuable lives, more precious than gold, been preserved to their country and their homes. Was the order to leave that point, and plant our banners on the Rio Grande, doing every thing to ward off the evil day?”

We dissent entirely from such conclusions. – We are satisfied that the Mexican rulers had resolved upon the reconquest of Texas, long before the march of our troops to the Rio Grande and commented the war, not because we occupied what the Republican calls “at best, debatable ground,” but because we had dared to form an union with Texas – a republic which had exhibited, in the languaged [sic] of Mr. Webster, (an authority not to be contemned by the Republican,) “from the time of the battle of San Jacinto, in April, 1836, to the present moment the same external signs of [….] quite as much stability of government – practically free and independent, acknowledged as a political sovereignty by the principal powers of the world, no hostile foot finding rest within her territory for six or seven years and Mexico her self refraining for all that period from any further attempt to re-establish her own authority over that territory.”

We know that the Whig press looked upon the annexation of Texas as a “gross usurpation of the Constitution,” and as giving sufficient justification to Mexico to make war, and the result shows that Mexico followed the advice. But whether Texas was rightfully or wrongfully annexed, the great measure was achieved by the American people, an the young State came under the wing of the American Eagle. We received her “ for better, for worse;” she consenting to share with us the blessings and the dangers of the Union, and we giving to hr a solemn pledge, that we should preserve and protect her in her full power and extent, against “a world in arms.” Even putting aside,
against the historical fact that Texas originally extended to the Rio Grande the circumstance that she had solemnly
fixed her limits by legislation at that river, and that she had been recognized with those metes and boundaries as a
free and independent State, by the great nations of Europe and ourselves, imperatively demanded of us that we
should throw our protection over her whole soil and citizens, as claimed by herself. Most treacherous and cowardly
would it have been for us to have violated the conditions "nominated in the bond" of union, and suffered her territory
to be overrun and her citizens and property to be murdered and desolated by her bitter foe. The Mexican rulers had
vowed vengeance against us- had declared their intention to regain by conquest the whole of Texas up to the Sabine
– had refused to negotiate a peace with the United States, and had marched an army to the Rio Grande. Would it
not have been absurd and criminally negligent in our Government to have suffered that army to cross over into
Texas, seizing our soil and murdering our citizens, without the least resistance on our part? Opposed as we are to
war, we cannot see how our Government could have acted differently, and not justly incur the charge of
dishonorable and guilty apathy.

But admit the truth of all the Whig press say in regard to the causes of this "flagrantly unjust, unreasonable and
destructive war" – admit that the President had himself waged war for his own wicked purposes – admit that it is an
"unholy, damnable, abhorred, accused and infamous war," in the chaste and patriotic words of the Whig Ohio
Congressmen Delano, and the Whig New York Tribune; or, in the language of the National Intelligencer, that our
gallant officers and soldiers are "lawless men" engaged in "rapine" – admit all this, and we ask what good purpose
can be attained by the constant iteration of assaults upon the Administration, and upon the justice an policy of the
war? Truly, the president has already been abused roundly enough, and the war itself stigmatized in sufficiently
violent terms. Let us first fight it out, gain our just demands, and an honorable and substantial peace – and then the
Whig press may, with some show of propriety, let loose their amathemas. Then will be the time to scrutinize the
conduct and motives of the Administration – then the Representatives of the people may order a searching
investigation of the whole subject, and we mistake the President if he does not manfully meet the ordeal, and lay
before the world the reasons and motives for all that he has been called upon to do, in obedience to his aworn
obligations to the Constitution and the people.

Can any one doubt the impolicy [sic] and mischief of the daily assaults upon the justice of the war, and what the
Whigs call, the "imbecility, weakness and wickedness" of the Executive? Can any one fail to see that such
proceedings are calculated to arouse in the Mexican rulers hopes of success from divisions among ourselves? Not
long since, Mr. Curtiss of Boston, Whig, in a speech in defense of Mr. Winthrop's vote on the war bill, according to
the report of the Boston Courier, Whig, said:

"It was well understood in Mexico, that a party existed in the United States, soradically opposed to this
war upon principle, an so firm in their condemnation of the President for placing Gen. Taylor where he
then was, that it was believed he would not be rescued. The Mexican government counted upon him as
their certain prey, from this circumstance."

Upon which the New Harvest Register well remarks:

"The Whigs had better not shed any more tears over the 'poor Mexicans killed at Palo Alto,' as it seems
they were induced to cross the Rio Grande and attack Gen. Taylor, from what they read in the Whig
newspapers. They supposed our brave little army would 'not be rescued,' because the Whigs were
abusing the President! And they counted confidently on another Alamo massacre of our little army!
There is little doubt but such would have been the result, had Taylor been defeated. 'It was well
understood in Mexico' that the Whigs were opposed to the war, and that they would 'not rescue him.'
Who then is responsible for the lives of those Mexicans, who, like many others, have been deceived by
the Whig panics and promises? And what would be thought of members of Congress, who, with the
belief that Gen. Taylor would be defeated, refused to vote supplies, and would have left their brave
countrymen to the fate of Crocket and Fanning? In all our difficulties with foreign governments, this
same factious spirit has hindered negotiation, weakened the influence of our government abroad and
encouraged the enemy."

But our past history shed a much light upon this point the virtuous Madison was denounced in the same way by
the Federal press for having caused the war of 1812, also for its mismanagement. As a specimen, we give the
following language of the Woroeser [Mass.] Spy, of [...]:

"We hope, and believe, the people will soon be convinced that Mr. Madison is totally incompetent to
hold the reins of government. This wanton waste of property, this perverse neglect of duty, is sufficient
to band any administration with eternal infamy."

What a remarkable parallel between this language and what we see daily in the whig press! If Mr. Madison could
not escape such denunciations of his opponents, for party effect is it to be expected that Mr. Polk should, in the
discharge of his responsible duties, pass the ordeal untouched, when a similar game of party is to be played?

We do not doubt the patriotic motives of the Republican – but we contend that the course pursued by it and the
affiliated Whig press, is calculated to encourage the enemy and prolong the war. And to show how such proceedings
were viewed during the last war, we quote from the National Intelligencer of that day. Then it fearlessly and
honorably sustained the war and the Government. Now, for a party object, it denounces the Administration as "weak
and wicked," sneers at the present war as "rapine," and our officers and soldiers, fighting our battles, as "lawless
men." See how its ethics of an earlier day contrast with its present course, and how conclusively it answers itself. On
the 18th of August, 1812, it employed the following language, which is now quoted with strong effect, by the Union:
"It is impossible to read the federal papers at the present crisis – we mean the most of them, and particularly some in New England – without astonishment at the falsehood, the malice, and the following which their polluted columns are daily disgorging. If the declaration of war did not produce an unison of opinion in all the States it was at least to be expected, that some decency and come bounds would have been observed in a candid portion of our own citizens are seen openly to enlist an active and a wicked zeal in the cause of the public enemy, not merely shielding it of its enorunites [sic] but making it out to be the best, and at the [...] nation with labels and abuse, in a spirit still more vengeful, acrid and turbulent, it is calculated to excite in the bosoms of the sound and patriotic millions of the country, who are doomed to witness such baseness, sensations of the strongest and most unqualified HORROR, mixed with the deepest LOATHINGS OF DISGUST!"

"These are the pure, the select, the self-made, bloated patriots, who can bawl out from the highways and the housetops 'tyranny,' 'tyranny!' 'proscription!_' 'proscription!' 'fettered tongues, fettered presses!' While their own language and their own acts are marked by an audaeity [sic] in false assertion, piling up in a black, stupendous heap, slander upon slander, one base invention upon another base perversion; here a misrepresentation an there a lie; one day a false rumor, the next a false charge; always mixing the deadliest [sic] gall with the foulest defamation. These are the men who see everything right in the conduct of the enemy, and everything not simply wrong but atrociously wicked in the measures of their own country. These are the men who, in their most deliberate resolves, brand with the epithets of mad men and fools, all those who legitimately hold the powers of the nation, and who, under the most awful responsibilities, and at the hazard of all the dearest stakes, have legitimately exercised them. – These are the men who, from sanctified lips, can [...] about rights; who invoke the law and the constitution; who have at last fixed it in their own belief that they are all Gen. Washington’s own sons, &c., &c.

[AMB]

Tuesday, November 3, 1846 REv43i54p1c4 109 words Letter to the Editor

The Mexican papers laud Santa Anna for having disposed of his person a credit and his own private funds, in order to facilitate the speedy march of his Division to Monterey. The National Guards were the only troops that would remain to form the garrison in the Capital. All the other brigades would follow Santa Anna.

We have been informed on good authority, (says the New Orleans Courier,) that the Mexicans are fortifying the City of Mexico with great care – to defray the expenses of which, the Government had levied a forced contribution.

It was reported at Vera Cruz, that General Ampudia had resigned the command of the army.

[AMB]

Tuesday, November 3, 1846 REv43i54p1c7 224 words From Mexico, News from Vera Cruz

[From the N.O. Bulletin]

The Editor of La Patria has received Havana papers containing the news from Mexico by the British steamer, which left Vera Cruz on the 1st Oct., and he has courteously permitted us to look over them.

The most important part of the news is, that the first brigade of cavalry left the capital on the 24th Sept. for Monterey, and Santa Anna was to have followed the next day at the head of the National Guard, which had been organized, and the other troops at the capital. The strength of his force is not stated, but he seems to have been actively engaged in raising and equipping men. A meeting of the merchants and other men of wealth residing in the capital, was held on the 17th Sept., to devise the means of supplying the Government with funds to carry on the war; but although the dates from that city are to the 24th, the result of their deliberations is not mentioned. A meeting for a similar purpose was held at Vera Cruz on the 23rd, but we are left in equal ignorance as to the result.

The Governor of Chihuahua has been informed of the intention of Gen. Wool to march on that department, and the Legislative Assembly had authorized him to raise $5,000 by disposing of the privilege of selling tobacco.

[AMB]

Tuesday, November 3, 1846 REv43i54p1c7 Capture of a Mexican Brig of War

From a letter published in the city of Mexico, (says the N. Y. Journal of Commerce,) it appears that the Mexican brig of war Malek Adhel was captured in the port of Mazatlan by one of our vessels, supposed to be the sloop of war
Warren. The Warren being outside, dispatched five launches, well armed, to capture the Mexican then at anchor in the bay. The officers and crew on board the brig, unprepared for an attack, took to their boats in great confusion on the appearance of the Americans. Two officers, named Zerega and Cililio, and several sailors, were taken prisoners. The moment the “Yankees” found themselves masters of the vessel, they cut her cables and made sail for the frigate.

Tuesday, November 3, 1846 REv43i54p1c7 204 words Hancock Expedition

[From the Illinois State Register, Oct. 23.]

Pursuant to the proclamation of Gov. Ford of the 12th inst., published in our last, a company of volunteers, to the number of 411, was raised in this city to be sent against the mob now infesting the ill-fated city of Nauvoo. The company elected Col. Robert Allen their Captain, and John Connelly and R.W. Diller their 1st and 2nd Lieutenants. Two brass 6 pounders, well appointed and manned by skillful artillerists, accompany the expedition.

As soon as the troops were enrolled [...] for their departure were [...] most despatch [sic], and they left town on Tuesday last abent [sic] noon. They will unquestionably receive large accessions of volunteers on their route. Ample provision has been made for arming and equipping such as may join them. The Governor hears the expedition in person, and it is his determination to put an end, at all hazards, to the violence and outrages that have brought disgrace upon the State.

His force will undoubtedly be, by the time he reaches the theatre of action, amply sufficient for the purpose, and the public sentiment will sustain him in resorting, it necessary, to last extremity in restoring the supremacy of the laws and vindicating the character of the State.

Tuesday November 3, 1846 REv43i54p1c7 268 words Letter to the Editor

Washington, Oct. 30, 1846

[Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun.]

No dispatches have arrived from the Army, except those, the contents of which have already been communicated through the medium of the Southern papers. Private letters, received here by gentlemen connected with the military department, lead us to suppose that the Mexicans are preparing for another fight, still more sanguinary and obstinate than that of Monterey. We cannot hope to make Mexico sue for peace until we have gained the basis of a line of military operations, which, at the same time that it renders us powerful for attack, shall enable us to remain military masters of the conquered territory.

Such a line of operations, it is believed, would be obtained, by taking possession and strongly fortifying Rincanado, Linares and San Francisco. By the terms of the capitulation of the troops under Ampudia, at Monterey, the Mexicans were to fall back on Rincanado; but they were allowed to keep possession of it. Rincanado is but thirty miles from Monterey, just half way on the road from Monterey to Saltillo; and here military men expect the Mexicans to make another desperate stand. The terrain is favorable to them, as that town, (with about 12,000 inhabitants,) is situated in a defile of the mountains, so as to form the key either to Monterey of Saltillo.

In regard to the manoeuvres contemplated in the Gulf of Mexico, nothing but surmise and rumors have as yet reached the people who are in a habit of “listening at the doors.” The members of the Cabinet would ill execute their trust if the intentions of the Government could be made known to the letter-writers.

Tuesday, November 3, 1846 REv43i54p1c7 152 words General Taylor and General Butler

A writer in the Washington Union, in some remarks upon the report about General Butler, says: A gallant regular officer who has just returned from Monterey, in the capture of which he bore his part, in relation to the charges against General Butler, says, explicitly, “that if there was any complaint against General Butler, on any account, in the army, he had never heard of no angry words or difficulty of any kind between Generals Taylor and Butler; nor did he believe that there had been any. The officers of the regular army had the greatest respect for Gen. Butler as well as for Gen. Taylor, and had all been to visit the former after he had received his wound.”

He also says, “the kindest feelings exist in the army between the regulars and volunteers, and that the former considered the latter as having shown extraordinary steadiness and efficiency for raw troops.”
Richmond, VA, Tuesday Morning, November 3, 1846

We have already dwelt upon the mischievous effect of the course pursued by the Whig press in regard to the Mexican war. It is calculated to depress the ardor of our own men, and elevate the hopes of the enemy. We deem it our duty to refer once more to a particular case, which clearly demonstrates the impolicy [sic] of such reckless proceedings.

The New Orleans Tropic, for party purposes, published a statement that General Taylor was to be superseded, and General Butler to be appointed to the chief command of the army. – This news reaches the camp, and is received as "Gospel truth." It produces immense excitement among the volunteers, public meetings are held, &c. We had no doubt that this was a fabrication of a Whig brain, intended to throw odium on the Administration. As we predicted, the Union comes out and refutes the whole story. There never was the least foundation for a rumor, which was near producing fatal consequences upon the harmony and efficiency of our army. We trust that this will be a useful lesson to the Whig press, not to indulge in such assaults for political effect, when their country is engaged in war.

The Union refers to the "idle and unfounded rumor, which had prevailed in the camp for a brief period, that General Taylor was about to be supersede from the command of the camp at Monterey; but it was soon exploded, as appears by the letters themselves, before they were sent off."

"We beg leave most respectfully to say, that the press ought to be more careful in arraigning distinguished officers before the bar of the country, and ascribing designs to the administration which have no existence. We regret this censorious spirit in the journals; as we also deeply regret the feuds and quarrels and rencontres [sic], if they too have any foundation, which have been lately reported to exist in to cases between two of the officers of the army."

[AMB]

Tuesday, November 3, 1846 REv43i54p2c2 THE SIEGE OF MONTEREY

We know that our readers cannot hear too much of the thrilling scenes of this great event in our history. The success of our arms has proved that while we have the finest army in the world, our citizen-soldiers are always ready to defend their Country's rights and honor with as much efficiency as zeal and courage. Thanks to our free institutions, which make every citizen feel and act, as if he was specially commissioned by his Country to uphold her honor and maintain her rights. How nobly do they contrast with the hireling troops of European monarchies, who fight like automatons, well-organized, it is true, but wanting that fire of liberty and free thought and action, which animate our troops.

In another column will be found a letter wiping off the stain which was attempted to be cast upon the gallant Baltimoreans. We add here a letter which we find in the Cincinnati Advertiser. It will be seen that Ohio is vindicated by her own bravemen. We feel proud in the conviction that all the volunteers have won green laurels at Monterey, and we trust that no cavilling or unworthy jealousy will attempt to deprive them of a single leaf.

September 25, 1846
Head-Quarters, Army of Occupation, before Monterey.

Dear Brough: My last advices to you were dated Cerralvo, 14th inst. What I then told you has proved true. The ten days have passed, a dreadful battle has been fought and Monterey is ours. We arrived at our present encampment from three to four miles from town, about noon the 19th inst. That day and the night of the 19th were occupied in reconmomerating perhaps one of the strongest possible natural positions; made apparently impregnable, by batteries, bastions, barricades and castles; absolutely coverd with heavy artillery, and defended by at least ten thousand men. The town is situated at he foot of the chain of hills called the "Sierra Madre," or the mother chain, and commands the pass upon the Saltillo road, and is, in fact, the key to the whole plain from here to the gulf; and if defence has been successful, no further inroad could have been made by the army of "Occupation" into the interior of Mexico from this direction.

The west end of the town is defended by what is called the Bishop's Palace, on a hill of several hundred feet in height, and mounted with 18 pounders, commanding the town, and the entire plain in front, within reach of its metal. This castle was in turn defended by three batteries in its rear, on successive elevations, sweeping the hill side in the only direction where aproach was possible, and commanding the Saltillo road. The town itself was a fortification, or defended by a succession of forts, running through the whole town, from east to west, and so arranged that all could range upon each one east, as they by chance should fall into our hands, while each of them could command the plain in front. The whole of these defended by the "Bishop's Castle." Batteries were literally placed at every street corner, sweeping the streets in every direction by cross fires. You discover, therefore, the impossibility of knowing the resistance your infantry would meet with in the town, after having passed two miles
The first step therefore, was to take the "Bishop's Castle." That once in our possession would enable us, effectually, to attack each fort in succession, upon the most vulnerable and least protected front - as the enemy no doubt had regarded that as totally impossible, fully believing the only attack, with the remotest hope of success, would be from east to west - and not from west to east. To accomplish this task, Gen. Worth was assigned, with about two thousand infantry and a couple of pieces of Duncan's six-pound artillery. He commenced his march from camp about 12 o'clock at noon of the 20th, so as to effectually obtain the point in the rear of the hill before dark, and in the night to take up his position on the hill side. On the morning of the 20th, the remaining regular infantry and all the volunteers of Gen. Butler's Division, were led to the attack upon the east end, thus to divert the forces of the enemy, for the relief of Gen. Worth. Both attacks were made about the same time in the day, say about 9 o'clock, A.M. of the 20th. The conflict was awful beyond conception. Our whole force of infantry were contending with muskets only against stone walls, batteries and forts, from morning till night. Dreadful was the havoc. The officers in the engagement of the 8th and 9th pronounced it nothing compared with the horrors of this dreadful day. I do not yet know the loss, but it was at least six or eight hundred, in my opinion. The 1st Ohio Regiment was in the hottest part of the fight all day, but did not suffer as much as the Tennessee and Mississippi Regiments. Col. Mitchell is wounded severely in the leg, by a two ounce ball passing through it below his knee; he is doing well. Adj't Armstrong, of the Cadets, a noble and gallant fellow, has had his leg amputated. Capt. George of the Butler Boys, was slightly wounded, and about thirty or forty of the regiment killed and missing; the names of whom I cannot give you, but some officer of the regiment will of course give them all. In my hurry, however, to inform you of our immediate friends, I have digressed from the general engagement.

On the night of the 21st, our men, exhausted and worn out with labor, returned to camp, leaving sufficient force only to keep possession of two batteries and two forts, and to throw up a defense in the night - while on the morning of the 21st, General Worth sent a despatch that he had possession of all the batteries of the enemy, and was using them upon him, commanding the Bishop's Palace, and would soon have it - that he had met them in open field, and dispersed them with great slaughter. Our troops therefore again marched to the conflict, and did what they could, while Gen. Worth went on with his work. About 2 o'clock in the afternoon was discovered, by the aid of the glass, a general scramble of troops for the Castle - an indiscriminate scramble of Mexicans and Americans, all going in together. In about twenty minutes THE SPANISH FLAG WAS DOWN, and the Stars and Stripes were waving! - the Castle was ours!

Worth lost in all this - the greatest achievement of modern times - about thirty men.

The infantry in the East end of the town seeing this, renewed their courage and energy, while Worth lost no time in running his forces down the hill into the west end, with tremendous havoc. Each division thus in possession of opposite ends of the town, and in possession of strong holds, closed the second day's work of horrors. In the mean time Duncan had his battery in town, going from house to house, advancing half a square every fire, and driving the enemy from post to post, into the Palace and Public Square, into the midst of which shells were continually thrown, exploding with awful effect. During the night our mortar was placed upon a hill commanding the Cathedral, or what the officers call the "black fort," which itself, it is said, cannot be taken, except by regular approaches. An eighteen pounder, thrown from the Bishop's Palace into the ditch, was raised, and placed in a most effective position, during the second night, or before the third morning. Our positions now all manifested. On the third morning our great demonstration was to be made. Just as the fire was opening, a white flag appearing, negotiations for evacuating the town were commenced, and last night were closed. The town and all munitions of war are ours. The enemy have seven days to leave it in; they march out with all their small arms, and one small piece of artillery. The troops not again to serve during the war, and we are not to pass a certain point between this and Saltillo in sixty days.

This is a brief and imperfect sketch of what is no doubt one of the greatest military efforts of the century in which we live. Errors of detail will be found perhaps, when you see the official history of the affair. I had forgotten to tell you that all the armed positions are to be put into our hands today.

Old Medicine regrets his jokes upon poor Mitchell, as there is too much reality in the matter. The gallant Colonel, however, lays upon his back, with his leg swung to the top of his tent, swearing that Chamberlain shall cure his leg without the old saw, and seems to worry at the loss of his horse, given him by his friends of the Cincinnati Bar, more than the wound of his limb. Adj. Armstrong says he don't care for his leg, so we have the town; but I fear it will go hard with him. The ability with which he attended to the duties of his regiment has won for him the highest esteem from Col. Mitchell, and the entire respect of all the officers and men. Though a long resident of Cincinnati, I only became acquainted with him here. He certainly is capable of high enterprises. I am in the midst of business, and the camp full of confusion. I cannot devote you more time at this moment.

Gen. Butler was wounded in the leg early in the engagement, and the command of course devolved upon one of Ohio's favorites - General Hamer. His coolness and deliberation is the theme of general remark. The boys call him our "Sledge Hammer." During the 21st, Dr. Chamberlain was the only surgeon in camp, and all the cases of wounded that came in, were thrown upon his hands. His labour was incredible.
Tuesday, November 3, 1846 REv43i54p2c3 Siege of Monterey

[From the Baltimore Patriot]

THE SIEGE OF MONTEREY

Very Interesting Details - the Killed and Wounded of the Baltimore Battalion.

The following letter from a soldier of the Baltimore Battalion is one of the most interesting yet published. It has been furnished to us for publication by the gentleman to whom it was addressed:

Monterey, 26th sept., 1846.

My dear sir - The American arms are once more victorious after one of the most glorious contests on record. The enemy fought us five days and surrendered yesterday. The city of Monterey, with all its public buildings and records; its Cathedral, armed to its dome, its plaza, a complete net work of masonry - in some places eight feet thick; its distilleries and an yards, all turned into forts and in our hands impregnable; besides five regularly built forts of the strongest kind, all are ours, 42 pieces cannon, mortars, howitzers and 18-pounders; small arms and ammunition innumerable, together with a large number of prisoners are also ours. Monterey, the place where Mexico has heretofore been invulnerable - the spot where she once defeated the combined forces of Old Spain and France, 17,000 strong, has fallen into our hands. The regular and voluntary infantry fought like lions, charging in several instances right up to the fort walls, six feet thick; jumping and wading the dykes and ditches; climbing the walls and shooting the cannoniers at their guns, without any support from artillery whatever. Such a thing was never heard of before. Our Battalion charged upon the city with three forts pouring a continual cross Fire upon us, while every roof, window and door sent forth one uninterrupted stream of musket and rifle balls; bomb-shell, 18, 24-pounders, grape, canister and round shot of all sizes fell around us and passed over us in millions, and many a gallant heart that beat high on the glorious 21st September lies cold around and within the city of Monterey. Honored be their memory. The brave and chivalrous Col. Watson, after making two different charges on the city, after the 3d Infantry Regiment of Regulars and Flying Artillery had retreated as ordered, on his return to the eastern section of the city, and while again charging on a fort tannery and distillery, fell mortally wounded with a musket ball passing through his neck and separating the jugular vein. He never spoke but died in three minutes, and lies buried in a grave with officers of the army, forty feet from the upper fort. It was reported that our gallant captain, now Colonel Stewart, had fallen early in the action, [...] in the thickest of the fighting, while death was claiming many around him, alternately leading and urging on his own men and others (for we were all huddled together) to another charge, or directing and pointing out the best shelter a mud hole, hedge, fence or sapling would afford. He made a gallant stand after we were ordered to retreat, kneeling with his own hand an officer and driving back, with a few more, a large body of Lancers who were charging upon the volunteers. He succeeds to the command of the Battalion by seniority and with, I may say, the universal approval of the officers and men, and Governor Pratt would do great injustice to the son of an old defender, to a brave and cool officer and warm-hearted gentleman, were he to entertain for one moment the idea of commissioning any other person as Colonel. Captain Boyd of the Chesapeakes was also reported to have fallen early in the action, but I saw him soon afterwards bravely leading his men up to the cannon's mouth, followed by volunteers from other regiments. Captain Kenley bore himself gallantly in the fight, also pressing into the very thickest of the fray; and Captains Piper and Waters both behaved well. Captain Bronaugh's company were on guard and not in action. The 1st sergeant in Captain Waters' company. (orderly Truscott, a man about 42 years of age) and whose place is at my elbow in line, had his head blown about 40 feet in the air by a 12-pound shot. There are eight men in my mess. Wm. P. Alexander, one of them, has not been recognized since the action of the 21st. The Lancers killed all the wounded and I fear he has been buried without being recognized. Robert Caples, another, was mortally wounded, I fear in the groin - the ball was taken out of the back.

Malcolm Wilson, another, was wounded in the arm by a musketball. Three out of eight killed or wounded; besides, W. G. H., another was in the first fort taken all night, and R. W. R., another, after charging on the fort once, and down town twice, was cut off and taken prisoner but succeeded, two hours after the Americans had retreated, by the aid of a Mexican officer, in making his escape, running the gauntlet of three batteries without receiving a scratch. After being forced into the little shelter which a small hole in an open field, raked by three forts, afforded, raising my head a few moments after, I found forty Lancers within one hundred yards of my right, and 5 or 600 between me and the American army. Knowing that their mode of warfare is to show no quarter, and cut the throats of the wounded you may know I did not feel comfortable, and was glad to see Gould and Freburger, the only two of our company then on the field. I feel grateful to God that my life was spared amid such hopeless circumstances, and a general feeling of gratitude to the Almighty God of Battles seems to pervade our men. We had to run near three miles in making the different charges. Poor Watson said to me a few moments before he fell, "Who will dare say now that American volunteers cannot be depended upon in any fight?" They were the last words I heard him utter, being separated from him when wounded. Albert Hart, our color sergeant, has lost an arm, and the flag-staff of the banner presented to the brave Steuart, by the ladies of Baltimore, through the Old Defenders, has a wound upon it, from the same ball. That flag was the first and only one that floated gallantly in the breeze yesterday from the first fort taken from the enemy. Joseph Files has lost an arm, and Wm. Lee was wounded slightly in the abdomen. I merely mention the killed and wounded in our company, knowing you will see an official list. Gen. Worth, with two brigades, was led around by a secret pass behind the town, (by a Mexican, to save his neck,) and coming into the Saltillo road, cut off the enemy's supplies and utterly surprise him by a brisk cannonading and bombardment in his rear. Unfading laurels are due to Worth for his scientific, soldierlike and highly praiseworthy part in the bloody battle of Monterey. The fight commenced, on our part, Monday morning early, and ended late Wednesday night. They had fired upon us, however, for three days before, but with little success. Our glorious little battalion has covered itself
with honor, and, with the exception of a very few, who will be duly reported, every individual seemed to think the result depended on him. All in Captain Steuart's company not here mentioned as wounded, escaped unhurt and are well. An armistice has taken place for eight weeks, and we hold this whole country as security for the expenses of the war. It was the said enemy were 14,000 strong at least, and our force in the field was less than 6,000. I had forty odd wounded Mexicans placed under my charge by Col. Stewart night before last. Miserable objects of compassion some of them are and they and the stench of the dead lying around, the damp, the dirt and the want of food for almost eighteen hours, almost overcame me. Monterey is the strongest place naturally I ever saw with the eye or in print. There is an open plain, three to four miles long and four or five wide in front, except a range of hills, about forty feet high, behind which the town lies. In the rear, and on the right and left, the mountains back right up to it, and rise several hundred feet high abruptly and almost perpendicularly, while the only pass is through a mountain-gorge directly in its centre. I was within ten feet of General Taylor in the town on the 21st. He was as cool as a cucumber and ordered us to pass into the city and break open the houses. "God knows how any of us got out."

R.

The following is an extract of a letter from an officer in the Baltimore Battalion, to his parents.

CAMP NEAR MONTEREY,
September 25, 1846

We arrived here on the 20th [...] and when within three miles of the city we were sluted by a brisk cannonading from the enemy's batteries- they fired upon our advance Guard and General staff. We of course countermarched, and encamped within sight if the city. On Sunday we went on, but returned without doing any thing, the enemy firing upon us- not a shot returned. Early on monday all the troops were assembled in battle array. I cannot picture the horrors of the day to your mind, and am thankful that an Altwise Providence has spared me the fate that many a noble heart has met with -Four officers belonging to the army fell very near to me, among [them] [sic] Col. Watson, for whom a nation might mourn. He is no more.

In a desperate charge against one of the Mexican forts, he fell mortally wounded. He handed his sword to Lient. Bowie, and died with a smile on his face, that indicated more than tongue can tell. He died a brave man and a gallant soldier. The last words which he uttered were:- "MEN! YOUR GENERAL LEADS YOU- WHO WOULD NOT FOLLOW?". These words were uttered, seeing an officer pass, who, it is presumed, he in the expiting agony of death, took for Gen. Taylor.

I deeply regret that Col. Watson was not spared to enjoy the victory with us. Poor fellow, he is gone, and I hope his country will take care of his wife and children. It will be a great loss to them. So hot was the battle, that we were unable to take the body of our lamented Colonel from the street, until nearly 48 hours had elasped. We buried him in a brick house within about 400 yards of where he first made a charge with the battalion. A very singular circumstance occurred while the man was in the act of preparing the grave: a ball came and took his head off; and instead of burying one, we had to have another - dirge for the poor soldier.  Such is war.

We have lost a number of men, but nothing appears so horrible to me as those men who have their arms and legs taken off. I never before imagined what a battle-field was - never thought it like this. We have some noble fellows in our battalion- instead of being privates they should be generals. They charged three forts and succeeded in taking them, but many who were foremost are now numbered with the dead. We passed the forts on Monday, and got into the city. I left my ten determined to surmount every obstacle. I know we had eyes looking upon us that had jealousy in them, and we determined to lead the leaders.

You would not suppose that any one could live in this lane or street where we were fighting. -

[AMB]

Tuesday, November 3, 1846 REv43i54p2c4 THE DESTRUCTIVE STORM IN THE GULF

(From the Union)

KEY WEST, Oct. 14, 1846

Sir:- It is my painful duty to report to you a dreadful calamity which has befallen this place, and every thing connected with the Florida ref, so far as heard from.

The town of Key West is now a heap of ruins of about 400 houses, large and small; there are not more than 10 or 12 left standing or in habitable condition, and those much shattered, whilst the general confusion and distress can hardly be realized. On Sunday, 11th Oct, we were visited with a fearful hurricane, accompanied with torrents of rain. The gale commenced about 5 A.M., from the Northeast, and continued to increase during the day, when at between 3 and 4, P.M., the wind veered to the southeast, and the storm became a tornado. At this time commenced a scene which defies description. The houses in town, (stone as well as wood,) were torn piecemeal and scattered away like chaff before the wind, tendering it dangerous to move about - which last was indeed impossible as a foothold could not be maintained. The wind gradually changed to the south, still blowing with the same strength, and finally to the
is wrecked to the Eastward. The United States brig Perry small vessels lying there dismasted. We have just this moment heard from the Tortugas. Garden Key is safe, though the lighthouse is much injured, and now only this brief outline, to avail of a special messenger about to depart for Charleston. Point I shall submit my views to the department as soon as possible, and a more full report of the disaster, giving perhaps the department may deem some change in the mode of construction necessary since this event. On this case rose on the west side of the island about three feet higher than known before. It was wholly a wind tide. That we commence de novo. No storm like this has been known on the island since its settlement. The water in this is, it will require that to make us good again, or put us in the same state we were in before the hurricane, supposing soon as possible, to re-establish the wharf. The loss to the Engineer Department cannot be less than $50,000; that found, and to the erection of a temporary carpenter shop and other fixtures for doing work, and shall proceed, as much injured. At the present time, I have turned my attention to the collection of the public property that can be we were nine months ago. A large quantity of lumber may be recovered, and some tools: pile-driver and two scows at the angles. But in this general wreck, and loss of all the property on hand. We are put back to the position where we were were nine months ago. A large quantity of lumber may be recovered, and some tools: pile-driver and two scows much injured. At the present time, I have turned my attention to the collection of the public property that can be found, and to the erection of a temporary carpenter shop and other fixtures for doing work, and shall proceed, as soon as possible, to re-establish the wharf. That loss to the Engineer Department cannot be less than $50,000; that is, it will require that to make us good again, or put us in the same state we were in before the hurricane, supposing that we commence de novo. No storm like this has been known on the island since its settlement. The water in this case rose on the west side of the island about three feet higher than known before. It was wholly a wind tide.

Perhaps the department may deem some change in the mode of construction necessary since this event. On this point I shall submit my views to the department as soon as possible, and a more full report of the disaster, giving now only this brief outline, to avail of a special messenger about to depart for Charleston.

We have just this moment heard from the Tortugas. Garden Key is safe, though the lighthouse is much injured, and small vessels lying there dismasted.

The United States brig Perry is wrecked to the Eastward.

I have the horror to be, respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. DUTTON,
Captain of Engineers.

To Col. J. G. Totten, Chief Engineer, Washington, D.C.

In addition to the above, we are favored with the following letter from Commodore Sloat to the Secretary of the Navy:

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 23, 1846.

Sir:— I have the honor to inform the Department that I arrived at Havana on the evening of the 7th instant from Charges, in the English mail steamer, and not finding any vessel to sail for any southern port of the United States. I embarked on board the U. S. brig Perry, and sailed on Saturday, the 10th, directing Lieutenant Commandant Blake to land me at Charleston, or any port south of that, from which I could reach Washington without delay. During the night it commenced blowing a gale, and on Sunday it increased to a tremendous hurricane, such as has never before been witnessed in those seas. During the whole day and Sunday night the brig was driven before it at the rate of twelve or thirteen miles per hour, and no one on board expected her to live from one moment to another. About two o’clock on Monday morning, she struck on the Florida reef, about forty miles East of Key West, a kind Providence directing her to a part of the reef where the tremendous high seas carried her over, striking several times very hard, and breaking the rudder from the stern post. The masts were immediately cut away, to prevent the vessel going to pieces, that the lives of those on board might have some chance of being saved. She finally stopped in comparatively smooth water. At daylight we found we were within mile of one of the Baya Honda Keys, and several wrecks near us. On board of one, not half a mile from us, twenty lives were lost out of twenty-one. One was saved by a boat from the Perry. On Tuesday two small wreckers came alongside, and Lieutenant Blake employed them to take on board the guns, shot and other heavy articles to lighten the brig, in hopes to get her off, as she remains quite tight. On Thursday I left her in one of those vessels to land the cargo at Key West, and the next day took passage in a small schooner from New York bound to the Brazos St. Jago, the captain agreeing to land me at the Balize, where I arrived yesterday.
Everything will be saved from the brig, and I think she will be got off and taken to Key West, and probably she may be got to Norfolk under jury masts. The department may rest assured that Lieutenant Blake will do everything that can be done for the interest of the United States. It is impossible to speak in too high terms of the noble, cool, and judicious conduct of Lieutenant Blake, his officers and men, on this most trying occasion; and I am most happy to state, that no life has been lost, or any accident happened to anyone on board. Lieutenant Blake will send a detailed report to the department by the first opportunity. He had not time to send one by me, as I did not determine to leave until five minutes before the wrecker left the brig.

The destruction of life and property by this hurricane is immense. Forty or fifty vessels were known to be on shore before [...] nearly all the wrecking vessels are destroyed; the town at Key West is entirely in ruins; not more than five or six houses remain uninjured. Of the light-houses at Key West and Sand Key not a vestige remains; Sand Key is washed away, so that the sea flows over it. Fifteen persons were lost at the light-house at Key West, and six at that on Sand Key. Many other lives were lost in the harbour [sic] and town of Key West. The revenue cutter Morris is a wreck, lying in two feet water; the custom-house is blown down, and the marine hospital unrooted, and otherwise much injured; the preparations for building the forts are entirely destroyed. The barracks escaped with less damage than any other buildings, but they have been slightly damaged. Some stores, wagons, &c., for the army, have been wrecked in the harbour [sic]; and as near as I can judge, the loss of public property at Key West will not fall short of two hundred and fifty to three hundred thousand dollars.

Most respectfully I have the honor to be your obedient servant, & c.,

JOHN D. SLOAT,
Commodore.

To the Hon. John Y. Mason,
Secretary of the Navy
Washington, D.C.
[AMB]

Tuesday, November 3, 1846 REv43i54p2c5 LATE F[R]OM HAVANA

Terrific Hurricane -Great Loss of Property- Unparalleled Destruction of Shipping.

By the brig Cybele, Capt Merrill, which arrived at this port yesterday from Havana, whence she sailed on the 20th inst., we have been placed in possession of a great mass of particulars in regard to the disastrous hurricane which occurred on the 10th and 11th inst.

During the hurricane, walking in the city was dangerous from large sheets of lead and tilepots, blown down from the tops of the houses; these lay about in every direction, and were in many instances carried by the wind to a great distance. The beautiful Palmetto and other trees, which adorned the Governor's square, were broken and torn down - even the lamp posts, &c. The wind was strongest about nine o'clock, at which time it shifted suddenly to the N. W. , and blew with terrific violence-the air was filled with dense clouds of "spoon drift", or salt spray, which made it impossible to face it. This spray was carried for half a league into the country and deluged the houses, entering every crevice and flooding the streets. The surf and spray was seen to dash high over the lantern of the lighthouse on the Moro Castle. Many houses were blown down or unroofed, among them the Tacon Theatre, which was partly unroofed and received other damage. The streets were nearly deserted, except by occasional detachments of soldiers, ordered to different posts to give assistance where it was needed. The beautiful Passao, the fashionable drive and promenade of the citizens, suffered in its shrubs, trees and plants, and after the hurricane many persons were forcibly detained to assist in removing the rubbish and ruins from the street. An occasional pedestrian might be seen flying faster than he appeared willing to go, borne by the irresistible force of the wind, which swept through the long narrow streets with incredible fury. But the wharves presented the most disastrous spectacle. Ships, barques, brigs, and schooners, some crowding on top of each other, three tier deep-sunk, wrecked, disastered [sic], or totally crushed to pieces with the owners, Captains and sailors, gazing in amazement upon the scene of destruction.

Some vessels, known to have been in the harbor before the hurricane, have disappeared and their fate was left to conjecture, as nothing could be seen a furlong's length, owing to the showers of spray and drift which filled the air; and as the wind blew nearly into the habor, they could not have gone out: but the sad spectacle of mast's spars, yards and pieces of wrecks, crowding the harbor, proved that they must have drifted into each other and sunk or gone to pieces. The numerous men-of-war were driven on ashore and dismayed. It is not known how many lives were lost, but bodies were seen floating in the harbor in the different dresses of seamen in the merchant and naval service. The brig Mohawk, from Newfoundland, went ashore at the Punto Fort, and was exposed to the heaviest part of the hurricane. The crew escaped by lines being let down from the fort to the wreck, by which they ascended to the walls of the fort.

Men from the interior stated that the sugar crops were very much injured, and in many instances ruined. A continuance of fine weather, might restore such as were not totally lost. The coffee plants were also seriously damaged.
The gale towards Cardenas was not so violent. Fears were entertained regarding several vessels which sailed the
day preceding the hurricane.

The Governor had issued permission to such as had their houses damaged to rebuild with wood -a privilege
heretofore denied under such circumstances.

His Excellency was seen riding with his suite the day following the hurricane to ascertain the damage done. He was
everywhere received with marks of respect by the citizens.

The captain of an English brig died on the 13th from wounds received during the hurricane.

The hurricane commenced about 12 o’clock on the 10th, and was at its height at 9 o’clock on Sunday, the 11th.

Capt. Merril reports the following vessels sunk, ashore, dismasted, &c., in Havana, in the hurricane of the 10th:

The barque Rapid, of New York, sunk at her anchors, has been got up, and would load in a few days for New York.

Barque Iowa of Baltimore, went ashore, was got off after discharging with little injury.

Ship Madiline, of and from New York, arrived on the 9th, sunk next day- would be sold.

The ship Childe Harold, Crosby, of N. York from Guayaquil, badly damaged; was repairing and taking in a cargo of
sugar for New York.

Ship Mudara, of New York, will be a total loss. She was a new ship, about sixteen months old.

Ship Madeline, Shankland, of Philadelphia, just arrived from New Orleans-sunk.

Brig Echo, of Newport, Smith-sunk.

Brig Lisbon, of Newport, injured about $1,000.00.

Brig Mohawk, Crocker, sunk; cargo and vessels total loss; sold for $100.00.

Brig Millinoket, of Boston, badly damaged, having had her stern knocked off; probably would be condemned.

Brig Oak had been ashore on the rocks, and lost her fore-mast and main-top mast.

Brig Titi, badly damaged, has her side stove in and lost top-mast; was repairing, and would sail in a few days for
New Orleans.

Brig Cumberland, of New York, Hadley, badly injured, and was condemned.

Schr. Planet, Jacobs, sunk, condemned and was sold for $10.00.

Schr. Merchant, of Charleston, Keare, dismastered.

Brig Venezuela, Fower, lost both masts close to the deck.

A French frigate went ashore, but will probably be got off with considerable damage.

A French sloup-of-war was driven ashore on the morning of the 11th, and will be a total loss. Also, a French man-of-
war steamer, much damaged, being dismasted, & c.

A Spanish man-of-war brig sunk at her anchors- one went ashore, and three were slightly injured.

The steamers Montezuma and Guadaloupe are ashore.

The Havana Prices Current of the 18th Oct., in summing up the disasters of the shipping, gives the following
result: ships sunk 11, dismasted 4, much damaged 8, safe 4 - total 27. Brigs sunk 19, dismasted 12, much damaged
14, safe 4- total 49. Schooners sunk 7, dismasted 3, much damaged 2, safe 1 - total 13. Steamers lost- Natchez,
Tacon and Villeneuva. Coasters sunk upwards of 15.

The brig Maria L. Hill, of Dennis, Mass., Capt. Chase, from Georgetown, D.C., bound to Kingston Ja., went down in a
gale of wind on the 16th Sept., in lat. 30, lon. 72. Captain and crew were taken off by Capt. Sprague, of the brig
Smyrna and carried to Havana.
"Havana, Oct 17th. - We have to announce, with deep regret, that we have again been visited with a terrific hurricane, far more destructive in its effects upon the shipping in harbour [sic] than that of 1844; it commenced on the evening of the 10th, and lasted until 11 o'clock the next morning. Out of 104 sailing vessels, steamers, and vessels of war in our port, all but 12 have been sunk, wrecked, dismasted, or otherwise seriously injured; besides which 40 or 50 coasting vessels were destroyed.

"In the city and environs, the injury to the buildings and trees, & c. has been immense, and many lives lost. The accounts from the country are, as yet, incomplete, in the information afforded, and vary a good deal. In some districts, the damage, both to the sugar cane and buildings on the estates, has been immense, in others it has been somewhat lighter.

"The total diminution of the crop in consequence of this calamity will no doubt be very considerable; though we have not data enough as yet to make an estimate- much will also depend on the weather we have for some weeks to come.

"The greater part of the coffee crop has perished, and almost all the Plantain trees have been rooted up and fields of Rice destroyed, whereby much suffering will be occasioned and imports of provisions from abroad will be required to a great extent.

"Our Government have published an order permitting small foreign vessels, suited for the coasting trade, to be transferred to the Spanish flag. Such vessels should be of light draft with a good capacity of storage.

"No announcement has yet been made of any reduction of duties upon articles of necessity, and it is doubtful if any relief will be afforded in that way."

[AMB]

Tuesday, November 3, 1846 MEv43i54p3c1 126 words Marine Journal

Port of Richmond.

High Water this day, at 3 o'clock, P.M.

Arrived,

Steamer Columbus, Parrish, Baltimore.


Schr. Meridan, Talcot, Portsmouth, N. H.

Schr. Cambria, Mitchell, Norfolk.

Schr. Blackhawk, Yeaton, Portsmouth, N.H.

Sailed,

BALTIMORE, Nov. 1. – Arrived, schr. Eliza Ann, Graham, from Richmond.

NORFOLK, Nov. 1 – Sailed, brig Sidi Hamet, Crane, for Richmond.

[AMB]

Tuesday, November 3, 1846 MEv43i54p3c3 189 words Evening Mail

By Last Evening's Mail [Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun.] Washington, Oct. 31, 1846

You may expect shortly to hear of a further war. Peace is to be conquered, and such a blow struck upon Mexico as
will induce her Congress, now about to convene, to sue for terms. In no case will our Government be disposed to
give back Upper California and New Mexico; though it is hardly to be supposed that Mexico will insist on such a
condition.

Commodore Sloat, who was in the terrific gale in which the *Perry* was driven ashore, who was left to command, will
soon be relieved by Com. Shubrick, now on his way to the Pacific on the raze Independence.

The sloop *Boston*, Lieut. Pearson, commander, and the splendid sloop *Albany*, lately launched in New York, Captain
Breese, both of the first class, will be ready in a few days to join the squadron in the Gulf.

The *Brandywine* frigate, now at Norfolk, will probably replace one of the frigates, perhaps the *Cumberland*.

The *Germantown* sloop, now at Philadelphia, is also destined or the Gulf, but may eventually sail for the Pacific.

The sloop *Decatur* (Norfolk,) is nearly ready for the same destination (Gulf.)

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**Tuesday, November 3, 1846**

**REv43i54p3c3 38 words An Honored Baltimorean**

We learn, says the *Baltimore Sun*, that intelligence has been received by the friends of the gallant Capt. Miles, of
Baltimore, that he has received the appointment from Gen. Taylor, and is now acting as “Governor of Monterey.”

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**Tuesday, November 3, 1846**

**REv43i54p4c1 832 words Miscellaneous**

Miscellaneous [from the *New Orleans Picayune*, October 23.] Arrival of Commodore Sloat

We had the pleasure of greeting Com. Sloat last evening, just arrived from the Pacific in company with his son. The
*Princeton* had apprised us of his arrival at Chagres. He would have retuned to the United States in the *Princeton*, but
that vessel was short of coal and it was determined to return home in an English steamer by the way of Kingston and
Havana. Arrived at Havana he there found the U.S. brig *Perry*, Lieut. Blake, and took passage on her for Charleston.

In another column we have told of the gale which the *Perry* encountered. The gallant Commodore told us last night
that he had followed the sea now for nearly forty-seven years, and thought he knew what a storm was, but that he
never before had seen it blow. We need not detail his very interesting description of the gale and the almost
miraculous preservation of the ship and the lives of those on board. From the wreck of the *Perry* he reached Key
West, and thence went on board a schooner bound to Brazos Santiago, which put him aboard a pilot boat, so that he
reached this city last evening by a towboat.

The Commodore’s health is somewhat impaired and he has been suffering for several months, but from recent
exposure his appearance indicates no sign of indisposition or infirmity.

We are indeed to the Commodore for various information on different topics, frankly communicated to us, but make
but little use of it at this time. Duplicates of his despatches [sic], brought over by the *Princeton*, have already gone
on to Washington. His arrival at Chagres at about the same time as the *Princeton* was most opportune on every
account, and will prevent any confusion or trouble from the non-arrival or failure of messengers.

The Commodore was at Mazatlan on the 7th of June. The evening of that day he received news of the battles of the
8th and 9th of May – not formal reports or authorized accounts, but straggling extracts from private commercial
letters. The moment was critical; there was no time to delay. The Commodore decided “to take responsibility,” and at
8 o’clock next morning he set sail for Monterey, and on the 7th officially planted in California. Not till the Commodore’s
return to Mazatlan, after the middle of August, did he receive the communications from his Government which
justified the wisdom of the step he had so promptly taken.

The flag of the United States was hoisted at Monterey, Upper California, on the 7th of July, 1846. On the 9th, it was
displayed at San Francisco, Sanoma, and Bodega, and a few days after at Sutter’s Fort on the Sacramento. On the
12th, a flag was furnished at the request of and was hoisted by the foreigners, (principally American and English,) at
the Pueblo of San Jose. – On the 16th, the mission of San Juan, about forty miles from Monterey, was garrisoned and
fortified. On the 26th, the corvette *Cyrane* sailed with a battalion of riflemen, to take possession of San Diego, and
cut off the retreat of General Castro, the Commanding General of Upper California, into Lower California or Mexico.

When Com. Sloat left Monterey on the 29th of July, all Upper California, North of Santa Barbara, was in the full and
quiet possession of the American forces, apparently very much to the satisfaction of all the inhabitants, who have
been long desirous of seeing their country under some stable government.

The gallant an adventurous Fremont commands the refleuten who went down on the Cyane to San Diego. His men are animated with the bitterest feelings of hostility towards Castro for his conduct towards their expedition before the war.

The Commodore graphically describes the mode in which justice is administered now in California. In some cases, surgeons and pursers are converted into magistrates, and admirable magistrates do they make. The people at first stood aloof, but they have found that true justice rather than Mexican law is now administered, and that it costs nothing. This has surprised them and is working its natural effect in conciliating them. – Were the flag of the United States now to be hauled down in California, it would not be replaced by that of Mexico. The inhabitants of California will never submit to the rule of their old masters.

Lower California, too, will probably succumb to our arms if the war continues. Representations of its value to our commerce will be made to the Government, and of such a nature as to induce prompt action unless Mexico speedily sues for peace. The next news from the Pacific will probably be to the effect that the ports of Mexico on that coast have been blockaded. Mazatlan has been spared as a measure of policy. It is now an American and English port rather than a Mexican one.

At the late hour at which we write, we can but thus indicate few points of interests upon which the Commodore touched.

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**Tuesday, November 3, 1846**

**REv43i54p4c2 90 words Miscelaneous**

**Miscellaneous, The Galveston**

This fine steamship left, or was to leave, at a late hour last night, for Brazos Santiago. Maj. Graham goes on her with despatches [sic] for Gen. Taylo. Lieut. Kearney’s company of dragoons go over on her. We learn, too, that some of the Kentucky Regiment, who arrived on the Day from Lavacca on Wednesday, seized this opportunity of reaching Matamoras. Of these some are low in health, but their spirits were superior to bodily infirmities, and they would not lose the opportunity of reaching the field of active service.  

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**Tuesday, November 3, 1846**

**REv43i54p4c2 167 words Miscelaneous**

**Miscellaneous, Good Reasoning [from the N.O. Bullentin]**

Commodore Sloat, (says the N.O. Bullentin,) on receiving information of the battles on the Rio Grande, was placed in quite a dilemma, having the unfortunate example of Commodore Jones before his eyes to warn against any extra responsibility; and on the other hand, the shocking dereliction of duty that would be charged on him, should it turn out that war in fact existed, and he failed to act. He argued, however, that it was better to be condemned for doing too much, than for too little; that if the country on the east of the Rio Grande belonged to the United States, it was plain that Mexico had invaded our territory, and he had a right, being in the public service, to retaliate, and invade hers. It on the contrary, the disputed limits belonged to Mexico, it was plain that our Government had invaded Mexico, and he had a right to follow the example of Government. And on that hint, came California under the star spangled banner.  

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**Tuesday, November 3, 1846**

**REv43i54p4c4 Reinforcements**

**Baltimore, October 29, 5 P.M.,**

**REINFORCEMENTS**

The United States steamship Massachusetts went to sea on Tuesday with troops for the army in Mexico, which she will land at Brasos. They have been enlisted for the 4th, 5th, 7th, and 8th infantry, and are under the orders of officers, most of whom were engaged at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. The whole number of recruits is about 580.  

[AMB]
Loss of Revenue Cutter Morris

An officer who was on board the Morris during the gale has kindly furnished us with some hasty memoranda relating therein. He writes us: “It is very doubtful if we ever get the Morris off, as she is about one and a half miles from the main channel. Capt. Walden is busily engaged in discharging the ballast, and will make every effort to get her off.”

We make liberal extracts from his letter:

Gentlemen – I have the unpleasant duty of informing you of the wreck of the revenue cutter Morris in a hurricane. It commenced on the morning of the 11th, and continued until mid night. We were lying about one mile from Key West when it commenced, and immediately sent down the yards and made every preparation for the gale. At 1:45, P.M., the schooner was riding with 130 fathoms of chain out in an ugly cross sea. Owing to the violence of the current, which was running twelve knots by us, and the vessel laboring very heavy, we battened down the main hatches, and all bands passed through the wardroom.

At 2 o’clock, blowing a gale from the S.E., and our lee rail under water, cut away mainmast or the safety of the vessel and lives on board, which carried with it the foretopmast in the cap.

At 4, p.m., the starboard chain parted, the schooner dragging boardside to the wind and sea which was making a complete breach over us, both pumps going an bailing from ward-room and berth deck, and with great difficulty kept the vessel free.

At 4:15, the water gaining upon us and the upper works seeming to work, cut away the foremast, when a sea struck us, staving away the larboard boat, cranes, bulwarks, quarter-house, swinging boom and everything moveable off the deck. The sea continuing to make a breach over us, and the schooner on her beam ends, hove the two lee guns overboard.

At 5, P.M., we struck on a shoal, at this time unknown, the compasses flying around in such a manner that it was difficult to tell which way we were going when the larboard chain parted, and the vessel continued to strike heavily on the shoal for some time.

On Monday morning, the 12th, we ascertained that the vessel had drifted about three miles, and was on the northwest shoal, in two feet of water. Around us lay vessels of all descriptions; not one rode out the hurricane in safety.

One ship near us on her beam ends, the Eben Preble, of Boston: two brigs and three schooners dismasted and ashore in about the same depth of water as we have. One hull of a vessel sunk, and four vessels bottom up. Our decks were covered with sand, and the bottom appeared to be in motion during the hurricane.

[AMB]

From Havana

Before the Perry, left Havana, the steamer arrived there from Vera Cruz. Gen. Paredes, the late President of Mexico, was a passenger on her.

Great apprehension is expressed to us by Com. Sloat, whether the British steamer for Vera Cruz, which left about the 9th inst., could survive the late gale, if she were unfortunately caught in it. The accounts given in another column do not realize the Commodore’s description of the violence of the gale.

[AMB]

The U.S. troops at Fort Moultrie, ordered some time since to proceed to Mexico, have been detained by order, to await the reception of clothing. The clothing having arrived, the ship South Carolina has been chartered, and the troops – about 250 in number – are now embarked, and the vessel is to leave, we understand, to-morrow. The men are mostly recruited within a few months past, in the upper parts of this State and Georgia, and are said to be as fine a body of soldiers as any in the service. With good drilling, under the experienced officers that have them in charge, it may be expected that they will give a good account of themselves.

[AMB]
Miscellaneous, Conciliating the Enemy [from the New Orleans Times, Oct. 21]

The Matamoras Flag of the 10th contains a sensible article in regard to the conciliating policy of the United States Government. This policy, the editor says, serves but to make the Mexicans more insolent, and offers them stronger inducements to continue the war, for it is enriching them at the expense of our own citizens. The enemy are enjoying privileges denied to our own people! They accept our favors – laugh at our stupid policy, and assassinate us at the first opportunity. – But make them suffer the evils, instead of the blessings of war, by making them support our army, instead of supporting theirs, and then they will probably soon sue for peace. It ridicules the "liberal policy." As it is called, towards the enemy. During the suspension of hostilities they have a first-rate opportunity to prepare for another brush. "Their officers are allowed the freedom of our camps. They can come to any of our posts, examine our strength and means of defense, lay plans for their capture an incite their countrymen to resistance."

Tuesday, November 3, 1846 REv43i54p4c4 174 words Conciliating the Enemy

Miscellaneous, Duels, Affairs of Honor

We are sorry to find that some difficulties have broken out amongst a few of our officers connected with the army at Camargo. – It is a pity that any American blood should be spilled by American hands, in an enemy’s country, and after events so glorious to our arms. – The Galveston News, of the 16th contains the following:

AFFAIRS OF HONOR. – We learn that Gen. A. S. Johnston, and others, would have came by the Galveston, but were detained in Camargo by an unfortunate occurrence. A misunderstanding has risen between Col. Marshall, of Kentucky, and Col. Bailie Peyton, of New Orleans. The former, we learn, had very freely censured Gen. Taylor for what he deemed to be bad generalship or culpable neglect. He was defended by Col. Peyton. The language finally became so warm that a challenge was given and accepted, and the parties were to meet with their friends the next morning (last Sunday) and settle the difference by combat, Gen. A. S. Johnston acting as the friend of Col. Marshall. The officers now here left Camargo on Saturday evening before the duel was to be fought between Capt. Shivors, who was mustered into the services from Texas, and Capt. Mousson, of New Orleans. The cause of this is said to be the insulting deportment of Mousson towards Shivors’ company. It was supposed that Mr. Kendall, of the Picayune would act as the friend of Mousson, and Lieut. Jacobs, as the friend of Shivors.

Tuesday, November 3, 1846 REv43i54p4c6 MAJOR P. N. BARBOUR

[N. O. Delta]

The Cincinnati Times says that "Maj. P. N. Barbour, one of the gallant officers killed at Monterey, was not - -as we stated yesterday from the N. O. Delta- of the 5th, but the 3rd regiment of infantry.- Capt. Macrae, of the same regiment, commanding at Newport, writes us of Maj. Barbour, that 'his virtues as a man, and his fame as a soldier, are proud monuments, which his regiment will ever claim as its heritage.' Most men are aware of, though scarcely [sic] any fully appreciate, the esprit du corps which is one of the strongest feelings of a soldier; added to which, the kindly sympathies of close social communion and common danger, form a bond of union, second to none other in strength. We are pleased to see these attentions to accuracy, for the soldier's wealth is his honor, and his fame his children's inheritance!"

This brave officer distinguished himself in the battles of the Rio Grande. An intelligent correspondent, and a kinsman of Major Barbour, writes us, from personal knowledge, that he was "a young man of the highest worth and of great promise. He was the son of Mr. Mordecai Barbour's youngest brother, Philip Barbour, of Culpepper, who moved to Kentucky with his father in 1799. The mother of this young man consigned him, in 1828, to Messrs. Mark Alexander and John J. Barbour, of Virginia. They put him to school in Georgetown, District of Columbia, and in 1829, obtained a cadet's warrant for him. His father was then dead; he lost his life in the campaign of 1813, with Gen. Harrison, where he commanded a regiment at the Thames, and where he contracted the disease which, a year or two after, ended his life. The father was a great favorite of Mr. Madison, and he was in the habit of relating many anecdoted [sic] of him, some years ago." [Union.

Tuesday, November 3, 1846 REv43i54p4c3 THE STORMING OF MONTEREY
The following account of the operations of Gen. Worth's Division at Monterey and defense of Baylie Peyton, of this city, (says the New Orleans Picayune):

Monterey, Sept. 25, 1846.

My Dear Sir: After a most obstinate and sanguinary conflict, which was continued from day to day for five days, Gen. Ampudia capitulated this city on the 24th inst. Our loss in killed and wounded has been extremely severe, not less than 500, amongst whom are some of the most valuable officers of the regular army, as well as volunteers.

The 1st Regiment of Tennessee volunteers, commanded by Col. Campbell, suffered more severely, perhaps, than any other which was engaged during the siege, having had twenty-seven killed on the field, and seventy-seven wounded, some of them mortally, and many of them seriously, and this out of a force of only 379 men. Not withstanding this tremendous loss, the regiment charged under the lead of its gallant colonel and other officers, and was the first regiment which stormed the fort, mounted the breast-works, and unfurled the stars and stripes upon its walls, amidst a perfect hail-storm of balls, which was pouring upon it.

These Mexican towns and fortresses are incredibly strong, and few men fight better from housetops, and behind stone walls, or are more adroit in the use of stationary artillery than the Mexicans. In these actions Gen. Taylor had, all told, about 5,000 men; while Gen. Ampudia's force consisted of 10,500 infantry and cavalry, besides militia, rancheros, &c. Gen Taylor had eighteen pieces of artillery, of which seventeen were field pieces; while Gen. Ampudia had forty-four pieces; thrity-eight of which, with two standards of colors, are now in our possession.

Our Army arrived before Monterey the morning of Saturday the 19th inst., and about half-past 8 o'clock, while reconnoitering the out-works of the city, a ball, discharged from a 12 pounder, struck near Gen. Taylor and staff, and bounded with terrible velocity over his head, at which the old hero did not change a muscle or even bat his eye. This day, the 19th, was spent in making reconnoisances [sic] of the place, and its various outposts, amidst a good deal of firing on the part of the Mexicans, from cannon and a short gun called an escopette, which carries a large ball to a distance of 500 or 600 yards.

On Sunday, the 20th, Gen. Worth was detached by Gen. Taylor, in command of the 2d division of the regular Army (about 1500 strong) and Col. Hays's regiment of Texas Rangers (consisting of 400 men) with a view of turning the city and occupying the Saltillo road, for the purpose of cutting off the enemy's supplies and reinforcements, which were daily expected under Gen. Santa Anna. The division performed the march making a road, filling ditches, &c. - a distance of about six or seven miles, and reached the vicinity of the enemy in the evening, about 5 o'clock, when the General, with an escort from Col. Hays's Rangers, was fired on by the batteries placed on the heights, and also by a corps of the enemy's light troops, who were sent through a corn-field to cut off his party.

From this time until the appearance of the white flag, on the evening of the 24th, the division of the Army commanded by Gen. Worth was incessantly engaged, and was ever successful- never for one moment hesitating or faltering- putting to route the enemy's cavalry on the plains, driving his infantry through the chaparral and from the house-tops, scaling immense heights, capturing guns, and storming fortresses which were not only deemed impregnable but which seemed to be almost inaccessible. And, best of all, these brilliant exploits were performed with the loss of fourteen killed and fifty-six wounded; and during the four days' contest there occurred not the slightest error or mistake on the part of the commanding General, nor was there at any time the least faltering or hesitancy on the part of the officers and men- regulars and volunteers in executing his orders. Indeed, it is difficult to determine which is most worthy of admiration, the wisdom and energy displayed by the able and accomplished commander, or the gallantry and ardor with which he was sustained by those under his command.

When the difficulties and apparently insuperable obstacles are considered, I venture the assertion that the series of successes obtained by the division under Gen. Worth's command, in the recent operations against Monterey, will bear a favorable comparison with the proudest achievements of the American arms. He was opposed by a greatly superior force, which was well served with artillery and posted upon the highest peaks of the Sierra Madre. He stormed heights, took three pieces of artillery, turned them on the enemy, and with these and the aid of one of his own pieces- which he contrived to place upon the summit which commands the famous Bishop's Palace, eight hundred feet above the base of the mountain- united with the inestimable [sic] services rendered by the dauntless and invincible spirits who stormed these heights, he reduced that stronghold of the enemy and drove him into the city, upon which he turned the guns he had captured. He bivouacked his force for the night on the bleak mountain, and the next day, after bombarding the town, he conducted his forces into the streets amidst a shower of balls discharged at his person. He was seen everywhere, directing everything, driving the enemy from his batteries forcing him from street to street and house to house, until night ended the conflict. He maintained his position in the city, placed a ten-inch mortar in one of the strongly fortified squares, to direct which he placed that gallant and [skillful] [sic.] officer, Maj. Munroe, with instructions to fire a shell, (weighing ninety pounds.) every half hour during the night. This duty was performed with terrible effect, almost every shell falling in the plaza, where the enemy's forces were collected he number of 7000 or 8000 men. He had made every necessary preparation for pursuing his advantages the next day, even to placing some of his artillery on the tops of high buildings, which would command and sweep the house-tops from which the enemy fought.

Such was the state of preparation when Gen. Ampudia capitulated the city, reflecting equal honor upon the military skill of the head which conceived, and the indomitable energy of the gallant spirits who executed the plan of operations.
Our most serious loss occurred on the 21st, when Gen. Taylor only intended to make a diversion in favor of Gen. Worth, who was engaged in the attack on the other side of the town, but owing to the ardor and impetuosity of the troops, they very soon became involved in a general engagement, which Gen. Taylor felt bound to sustain. This excess of courage involved melancholy consequences, but it is surely a most excusable weakness, if it be a weakness, to display an excess of ardor in the field of battle.

The volunteers from the different States behaved in the most handsome manner. They have won for the citizen soldier the admiration and applause of the officers and soldiers of the regular Army, who speak of their conduct in the highest terms of approbation and eulogy. Amongst the volunteers none have shown more conspicuously than the 1st Regiment of Texas mounted riflemen, commanded by that Chevalier Bayard, Col. J. C. Hays, better known as Jack Hays. This corps, from the Colonel to the private, has fully sustained its former reputation. In the first affairs in which Gen. Worth's division was engaged on the morning of the 21st, Col. Hays, with several companies of his mounted riflemen, were thrown forward to open the ball, which he did most beautifully, encountering and shooting in the presence of the General the Colonel of dragons who commanded the enemy's forces. In scaling heights, storming batteries, and clambering over walls and house-tops, the voice of the gallant Colonel and the reports of the unerring rifle of the Ranger, were ever heard in the van. The courage and constancy, and subordination of this corps, is the theme of admiration in the Army.

But my object is narrative and not eulogy. It is not necessary for me to go into detail in relation to the terms accorded to the Mexican Army in the capitulation, as you will have seen the articles, or the substance thereof, published in the newspapers ere this reaches you. If anyone not acquainted with the facts of the case should object that our commanding general has granted terms too favorable to the retiring army, it be remembered that our invincible little army had already suffered severely in baring the bosoms of our best citizens, and bravest officers and soldiers, to the batteries of an unseen foe; that the city was still immensely strong in its defences [sic]; that the Mexican army was double that of our own; this army was in possession of the strongest part of a city, each house of which is a fortress within itself; that each remaining street was barricaded, and most of them defended by cannon; and that, when driven from the city, the Mexican army possessed a fortress called the Citadel, of immense capacity and great strength, to which the whole army could have retired. To have taken this work, without a siege train, as we were, by assault, would have cost us very dearly. Independently of these considerations, our provisions were growing short, and our ammunition was quite limited. We were far removed from our supplies and reinforcements—while the enemy might have been reinforced at any moment. And lastly, the policy avowed by our Government does not inculcate the idea that this is to be a vindictive or exterminating war against the people of Mexico, but on the contrary to conquer a peace, or in other words to whip Mexico to her own satisfaction, obtain our just rights, and conclude a peace upon terms such as would be becoming in a great and magnanimous nation towards a weak and distracted Government. All this has in my opinion been accomplished in as full, complete and ample a manner by the course pursued in the capitulation, as if we had stormed the citadel and put their whole army to the sword. This is, in my judgment, the last battle which will be fought in the Mexican war. Gen. Ampudia, in urging a pacific course on Gen. Taylor, stated repeatedly that he knew that Gen. Santa Anna was disposed to peace; that he was well assured that the course adopted would lead to peace between the two countries; that his object was to save the effusion of blood and the honor of his Government. But if the war is to be prosecuted, we are in the possession of one of the strongest, most healthy and beautiful places in Mexico; from which, when our reinforcements and supplies arrive, our army cannot be expelled by any force which Mexico will be able to send against it. We have taken arms and ammunition with which we can act offensively or defensively, according to the course of events and the policy of the government. If it be the policy of our Government to extend our boundary beyond the Rio Grande, then the line of the Rinconada, agreed upon as that beyond which the Mexican troops are to retire, is the most eligible which can be indicated by the geographical features of the country.

Gen. Ampudia and his army left this morning for Saltillo. He was treated with courtesy and respect by General Worth, whose quarters are in the city, and who accompanied him to the limits of the town. In fact, all of our troops displayed that forbearance which always marks the conduct of brave and magnanimous men towards those whom the fortune of war has placed in their power. You will observe that, in my narration of the events of the battles, I have confined myself to the operations of that division of the army which was commanded by General Worth. I have done so because I was with this command, near his person, saw what occurred, and know that which I have stated to be substantially correct. You are not to infer that I mean to intimate that the main army, under the command of General Taylor, did not perform feats equally worthy of the applause and admiration of the country. Other well informed as to the facts, and much better qualified for the duty, will no doubt give a detailed account of the operations of this portion of the army. Take the army altogether, and I doubt whether a superior body of men ever fought under the flag of our country.

Very truly, yours, & c.

BALIE PEYTON

[AMB]

Friday Morning, November 6, 1846  
REV43i55p2c1 Whig Justice

The most barefaced misrepresentation we have yet seen in the Whig press, is a charge in the Georgia Journal that the object of the administration is to involve a gallant army in difficulties impossible to surmount! It says that “the game is to be, an assault upon the gallant old Taylor and his inetitorious [sic] army,” and adds:
"General Taylor, then, is to garrison Monterey, and advance upon the city or Mexico with the remainder of his army. It not re-enforced, his advance will be a perilous one, and it re-in forced by one-half of the remaining troops in Mexico, his peril will be very little less. Some idea of the preparation made to meet him, may be gathered from an account, in another column, from the intelligent correspondent of the New Orleans Tropic, at Vera Cruz, under date of the 24th September.

"These preparations are making under the direction of Santa Anna, and all accounts agree that the Mexicans are rallying to the was, with renewed ardour. And it is under these peculiar circumstances, with an army diminished in numbers, and daily diminishing, that he is ordered to advance upon the city of Mexico itself. Do not Mr. Polk and his advisers expect more than "[...] of arms"- more than wonders from the old hero? - or do they intend to make a sacrifice of him, from the most selfish, the meanest ambition?"

Can anything be more wantonly absurd than the above? The Whigs say that this is "the President's war," forced upon the country for personal objects! Yet this liberal and far seeing Whig Editor actually charges the President with the design of placing this army in a position where it must be cut to pieces! It the army be designedly, does not the President willfully destroy all hopes of "glory" and personal advantages, which the Whigs charge him with having exclusively in view? But it is useless to dwell upon such an absurdly suicidal argument.

Let us look at another Whig speculation. In the Baltimore Patriot we find the following:

"If it shall turn out, as we cannot believe it will, that Gen. Taylor and his army, cut off from all communication with the rest of the army, have been or will be entrapped, so that disaster shall fall upon him or his soldiers, the responsibility of such disaster and the loss of life that it may involve, will be laid to the charge of the Administration, who have hurried Gen Taylor on to Monterey, without furnishing him with adequate supplies, and have left him there without providing the means of keeping open the communication between him and the forces on the Rio Grande.

"But we trust no such disaster has befallen the gallant General or his gallant army. We have full confidence that they will be able to maintain their position against any force that may be brought against them, though we cannot help sharing in the apprehension that they may be exposed to get privation and dangers, from an attempt of the enemy to cut off his intercourse with the Rio Grande, from which he must get his supplies."

So anxious is the Whig editor to throw odium upon the Executive, that it imagines a disaster, and in the same breath "cannot believe it will" happen- at the same time it has "full confidence" in any event, that the army "will be able to maintain its position against any force that may be brought against them." Was there ever so strange a device to make political capital?

Again, hear the N.O. Tropic-

"We have no fears of the indomitable Taylor. His victory at Monterey is a perfect guaranty for the future. It, however, reverses [sic] should be his fortune, we shall hold the Government responsible for the faux pas of sending him forward with so small a force, into the midst of a swarming enemy, and in the face of an opposing army whose legions may hardly be numbered."

In the first place Gen, Taylor is "indomitable," and will plant the victorious Eagles of the Union wherever he goes. But "it reverses should be his fortune," the Government is to be held responsible for "reverses of fortune," as if, in the language of the N.O. Courier, Mr. Polk had the fickle goddess under bond and security to do just as he pleases. There are [acc......] [...] human energy or prudence can prevent. Brave and efficient armies have been foiled and defeated by circumstances, which sprung from the merest accident, such as false information, the combination of the elements, or other "reverse of fortune"-yet, in such a case, the Government is to be held responsible.

We have not been chary of our praises of old "Rough and Ready". We have taken pride in expressing our confidence in the man and the soldier, and we still believe that he will do his whole duty, and again disappoint the Whig predictions of his defeat. But, at the same time, it must be admitted [sic] that he is necessarily clothed with a high responsibility, and that much is to be left to his judgment and discretion. He will, of course, take every means of concentrating his forces, and we are satisfied that he will be able to prepare himself to meet and overthrow any Mexican force that may oppose him. But the battle is not always to the strong; and it is within the range of possibility, that accident or a "reverse of fortune" may lead to disaster. Is it fair that, while the Administration are to have no credit for the brilliant victories of our army, it should be held responsible for all the accidents which human energy and prudence could not prevent?

But, we feel assured, that our brave officers and soldiers will once more throw to the winds the cavilling and grumbling prophecies of the Whigs. Even the Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Express, while charging the War Department with gross inefficiencies, refers to an expected battle at San Luis Potosi with the new army of Mexico concentrated under Santa Anna, and declares unequivocally [sic] "The result will be as certain a victory to our arms as that a battle shall be fought. Let the Mexican army, therefore, be what it may, in point of numbers, there can be no danger of defeat."

Let the Whig press have no fears that the Administration will fail to do justice to Gen. Taylor. Everything shows that the Administration regard him with kindness and grateful confidence. Is it too much to ask of the Whigs, to extend to the Administration common justice,- and not condemn it in advance, upon the flimsiest pretexts manufactured for
the occasion? The President has every reason to hope for the continued triumph of our arms and a speedy and permanent peace. Did he harbor the designs imputed to him by his political opponents, he would be acting in direct opposition to the dictates of human nature and common sense— to say nothing of more elevated feelings, which we shall not ask the Whigs to concede to him.

[AMB]

Friday, November 6, 1846 REv43i55p2c6 MARINE JOURNAL

PORT OF RICHMOND
High water this day, at 5 1/2 o'clock, P. M.

ARRIVED,

Brig Pactolus, Boston.
Schr. Hart, Baltimore, via Norfolk.

NORFOLK, Nov. 4 - Sailed, schrs. Thomas H. Thompson, Wixon, and Joy, Bartlet, for Richmond.

[AMB]

Friday, November 6, 1846 REv43i55p2c6 JAMES RIVER CANAL

Richmond, November 5

ARRIVED,

Boat Pig Iron, J. Spiller, from Lynchburg and Elk Creek, with produce, to L. D. Crenshaw, Bros. & Co., Lee & Tinsley, and Wortham, McGruder & Co.

Boat Pennsylvanıa, G. H. Walton, from Lynchburg, with produce, to B. Peyton, and Webb, Bacon & Co.


Boat James Madison, W. Tompkins, from Lynchburg, with produce, to Haxall, Brothers & Co.


Boat Log Cabin, F. Bland, from Scottsville, with produce, to B. Peyton, R. Parrish, and Warwick & Barksdale.

CLEARED

Boat John Randolph, W. T. Minor, with 56 1/2 tons mdse., for Scottsville.
Boat Thomas M. Bondurant, S. Guerrant, with 4 1/2 tons mdse., for New Canton.
Boat Lynchburg, R. S. Fields, with 20 1/2 tons mdse., for Lynchburg.
Boat Exchange, D. Bland, with 34 1/2 tons mdse., for Scottsville.

[AMB]

Friday, November 6, 1846 REv43i55p3c4 TO THE EDITOR OF THE UNION

I send you an article that appeared in the "Telegraph". It is curious that the papers referred to have never seen the light. Publish the [...] [one line illegible]. New York, Oct. 7. (From the N. Y. Telegraph)

MEXICO. -Every information that can be obtained in regard to Mexico, at the present time, is desirable, and anxiously sought for and published. The Department of State at Washington, if the files are examined, are in possession of a great deal of information in regard to Mexico, which might be useful at this time.
Under the impression that, in consequence of the rapid and constant changes of clerks and officers in the department, which have taken place, the present clerks may not know of the existence of the papers to which I refer, I beg leave to refresh their memories, by stating the following circumstances:

After the arraignment, trial and acquittal of Col. Burr, it is well known that gentlemen went to France; that, long prior to his going, he had very assiduously searched for and obtained all kinds of information that was deemed useful or necessary to a successful invasion of Mexico, which he had long contemplated.

These papers and documents he took with him to France. Whilst at Paris, Colonel Burr requested an interview with Bonaparte, proposing an invasion of Mexico, and offering to take a command in the proposed expedition. Bonaparte [....][one line unreadable] the Secretary of War, Col. B. was informed the emperor would receive any written communication he was disposed to make. After some deliberation, and a delay of three months, Col. B. sent in a proposition, accompanied by a voluminous memoir, detailing all the advantages to be derived by an invasion of Mexico. This memoir contained an accurate description of its geographical position, military resources- its roads, rivers, mountains, defiles and points suitable for defence [sic]. The mode and directions in which it was to be attacked- the routes to be avoided- the places proper to secure and fortify- the resources for sustaining the army- the use that might be made of the mines- their relative position, condition, production and every other matter useful and necessary to be known and understood by an invading General.

After the "memoir" a proposition was received. The government of France deliberated upon it, and referred it to a "council of war." In the meantime General Armstrong, our minister then resident at Paris, by some means "got wind" of what was going on, and had tact enough to acquire a thorough knowledge of Colonel B.'s plans. By his remonstrances [sic] Bonaparte was induced to decline their acceptance or adoption. And in the sequel General Armstrong frustrated all the arrangements of Col. Burr, who was in consequence obliged to leave France. At all events, he deemed his longer stay in Paris unnecessary.

After Colonel B.'s departure, copies of all these papers, maps, plans, and documents presented to Bonaparte, were obtained by General Armstrong and transmitted to the Secretary of State at Washington, where I have no doubt, if search be made for them, they may be found.

I have never seen any notice or allusion to these papers, in any work or document published in the United States. Mr. Gallatin probably saw them, and may remember something about them.

The writer had his information from the late Count St. Seari d' Angely, the former attorney general of France, and once, and at the time alluded to, the confidential counsellor and devoted friend of "Napoleon," (who resided during his exile many years in this city.) I respectfully suggest to the Secretary of War the propriety of causing a search to be made for these papers, satisfied they will be found useful and important to him, in conducting the present war with Mexico.

M.

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Friday, November 6, 1846 REv43i55p3c4 LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The editor of the Courrier des Etats Unis has seen a letter from Havana which says Santa Anna took with him from Havana a score of Spanish officers of acknowledged ability, among whom was Narciso Lopez, a Christino officer, who has played a distinguished part in the late civil wars of Spain. The Courrier thinks they will prove very useful auxiliaries for the Mexican Generalissimo.

[AMB]

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Friday, November 6, 1846 REv43i55p3c4 AN EVENING VISIT TO THE WHITE HOUSE

To the Editors of the Enquirer:

AN EVENING VISIT TO THE WHITE HOUSE

Gentlemen: If you will kindly allow me a part of one of your well-filled columns, I will give your numerous readers a little sketch of a casual visit to the White House on Friday evening last. We were met by Mr. Walker, the Private Secretary, (I should remark the President was absent when we entered) with much politeness, and received by Mrs. Polk in the kindest, and, at the same time, most graceful manner. It may be said with truth, she is a lady of commanding dignity at all times, and her conversation, generally of the most agreeable character, is always happily directed. In my judgment, at no period in our history have we seen the hospitalities and ceremonies of the White House more handsomely dispensed, or displayed with greater Republican simplicity, than at the present time. If my observation be correct, no invidious or improper distinction seems to be made in the circle of visitors. There is no
imposing movement or extra formality exhibited when a Secretary or some other high officer of Government presents himself. The quiet and unheralded citizen receives a polite and cordial salutation, as well as the haughty millionaire, or some proud Minister of State. And this is precisely as it should be—a just and beautiful commentary, alike upon our noble institutions and the charming social qualities of the President and his family.

I was struck, not only with the easy and fascinating manners of Mrs. Polk, but equally with her patriotic sentiments and feelings. A gallant Lieutenant, just from the bloody but glorious conflict at Monterey, was there also, and as Mrs. P. gracefully carried back his thoughts to the distant field of his early fame, he caught the inspiration at once and dwelt briefly, for her entertainment, upon some of the thrilling incidents of those scenes. In the course of this animated conversation, (to which I was a favored listener,) the modest young officer remarked, in a playful manner, that something, (I do not now recollect what,) was rather too Democratic; to which Mrs. Polk replied, that "whatever sustained the honor and advanced the interests of the country, whether regarding as Democratic or not, she admired and applauded." the sentiment was truly a noble one.

I will conclude, gentlemen, by wishing our Republican President and his honored household, increased happiness and great "length of days," and yourselves eminent success in the glorious cause of Democracy.

A VIRGINIAN

[AMB]

Friday, November 6, 1846 REv43i55p4c3 The Army of Chihuahua

[from the New Orleans Picayune, Oct. 27]

From Maj. M.C.M. Hammond, U.S.A., who arrived a day or two since from Port Lavacca and San Antonio, Texas, we obtain the following information:

One half of Gen. Wool's army left San Antonio for the Presidio on the Rio Grande on the 20th of September. The General went in person on the 29th. The remainder, consisting of sixteen companies of Illinois infantry and four companies of Arkansas cavalry, were under command of Col. Churchill, Inspector General U. S. A. Between the 5th and 8th of October eight of these companies marched, commanded by Col. Hardin; and Col. Churchill was to have conducted the remainder on the 14th, leaving one or two companies in garrison at Bexar, to protect supplies and furnish [sic] escorts.

Gen. W. expected to reach Presidio in twelve days. He will establish a depot at that point, until it is ascertained whether steamers can ascend the Rio Grande to a position more suitable for his operations. His army will cross the river on a flying bridge, boats for which were constructed at San Antonio, under the direction of Capt. Fraser, engineer, and were transported in wagons. The river at the crossing is said to be near 400 yards wide, from 50 to 100 of which are swimming, and with a rapid current of six miles the hour. If opposed by a considerable force, the passage would be exceedingly difficult and could not be effected without great loss.

Col. Harney's command, in July, were compelled to swim about sixty yards, and the stream so scattered them, that 100 resolute men, as asserted by some of his officers could have prevented their landing.

As soon as supplies are received to enable him to advance, Gen. Wool will press on to Chihuahua, taking Santa Rosa and Monclova in his route. The former town is garrisoned with regular troops, and is said to be capable of strong resistance. This line of operations is longer than might be selected, but it has the advantage of turning the mountain passes- of abundance of water and some provisions- and runs within 70 or 80 miles of Gen. Taylor's, when co-operation can be readily elected if necessary.

Gen. Wool has exhibited great activity and energy in preparing for the march. On arriving at San Antonio, on the 14th of August, he was far in advance of his army and his supplies and met with innumerable obstacles in procuring wagons, teams, forage and provisions. He moved his forces at the earliest practicable moment, with so limited a number of rations as scarcely to justify his advance.

It is found impossible to transport supplies by water to the Presidio or other point on the Rio Grande whence to furnish the army, it will be necessary to haul all their provisions from Port Lavacca, by way of San Antonio, a distance to Chihuahua of nearly 800 miles, and through a country in rainy seasons almost impassable for heavy wagons. It will be seen that this enterprise is gigantic, and its accomplishment will be an achievement more arduous and more creditable than a brilliant victory.

The command consists of the following officers and troops:

STAFF:

Capt. Lee and Fraser, Corps Engineers,

Capt. Hughes, and Lieutenants Sitgreaves and Franklin, Topographical Engineers.

Lieutenant Kingdbury, Ordnance Corps.

Major Thomas, Quarter Masters Captains Cross, Wall, Chapman and Chilton, Assistant Quartermasters.

Dr. Hitchcock, Medical Director; Drs. Simpson, Levely, and several Volunteer Surgeons.

LINE:

1 Company Light Artillery;
2 do. 1st Dragoons;
2 do. 2d Dragoons;
1 Regiment Arkansas Cavalry;
3 Companies 6th Regular Infantry;
1 do. Kentucky Infantry;
2 Regiments Illinois Infantry.

The Kentucky Regiment of Cavalry left Lavacca on the 13th October for Matamoras. About forty of them had died, fifty to seventy had been discharged, and one hundred sick were sent to Matamoras by water. At one time it was said that three hundred men were on the sick report. The Tennessee Cavalry followed the Kentucky Regiment on the 16th.

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Friday, November 6, 1846  REv43i55p4c3 Letter From General Butler

LETTER FROM GEN. BUTLER- PARTICULARS OF HIS CHARGE -HIS WOUND-BRAVERY OF HIS TROOPS - ABANDONMENT OF HIS ATTACK. & c.

The following are extracts from a letter of Gen. Butler to a near relative in Louisville, Ky. The General says, in the same letter that it is the opinion of those Mexican officers who have been taken prisoners by our army, that their Government will at once offer to ours terms of peace:

MONTEREY, SEPT. 25, 1846

Monterey is ours, but not without a heavy loss, and my division has probably sustained more than one half of it. I am myself wounded, but not badly. I was struck by a musket ball below the knee; it entered in front, grazed the bones without injuring them, ranged round through the flesh and came out on the opposite side.

I became faint from loss of blood, and was compelled to leave the field after having been in it under a heavy fire of grape and musketry for three hours. I have been required by my surgeon to keep perfectly still, ever since the battle.

I was in the act of leading the Ohio Regiment to storm two of the most formidable batteries in the town, flanked by a stone wall, ten feet high, with a deep ditch in front, and covered by a strong musketry force in the rear, under complete shelter. There were two other batteries of grape-shot discharged, that swept the ground continually.

Col. Mitchell, who commanded the regiment of Ohio volunteers, was wounded about the same time that I was, and we then prudently abandoned the enterprise, as we became convinced that our loss would have been, probably, at least one hundred more men, had we persevered.

I hope you will not think I acted rashly. I know that I am often rash where I involve myself alone; not so, however, when the fate of others is at stake.

The condition in which we were placed fully justified, if it did not positively require us to make the attempt. The peculiarity of our situation I cannot now explain without going into greater detail than I am able to do.

The battle commenced about 9 o'clock A. M., and continued without intermission, with various degrees of intensity for eight hours.

I had almost 1000 men in the battle, (the Louisville Legion having been left to guard our mortars.) and of the number we lost in killed and wounded about 250.

We took one battery and a house fided [sic] up as a fortification, and assisted the regulars in taking a second. Gen
Worth, with great gallantry and equal success, and with far less loss, carried on his operations on the opposite side of the town.

The loss of the regulars who acted with us, was nearly proportional to ours, as I learn, though I have not seen the official returns.

Under all these circumstances, the terms of the capitulation are favorable to us. There are still several strong forts in the hands of the enemy, which we would have been compelled to take by regular approaches or with heavy losses. The plaza is of itself an enormous fortification of continuous houses, with thick stone walls, and all the streets leading into it strongly fortified and filled with guns.

They admit that they will have at least 8,000 fighting men, whilst on our part we cannot muster 5,000 for duty, and have only a few heavy guns, and them we took from them.

Never, I believe, did troops, both volunteers and regulars, behave with more calmness and intrepidity, and I do not believe that for downright, straightforward, hard fighting, the battle of Monterey has ever been surpassed.

Friday, November 6, 1846 REv43i55p4c5 THE MEXICAN WAR

The Republican pronounces our war with Mexico as "flagrantly unjust" being produced entirely by the reckless policy of marching an army to the Rio Grande, and occupying territory which was, "at best, debateable [sic] ground." We on the contrary, look upon the war as founded upon as just and righteous grounds, as far as we are concerned, as any that History records. It was forced upon us, against all our endeavors for peace, and while we were defending our own soil, which it would have been highly criminal to abandon to foreign invasion.

While, then, we have no hope of convincing the Republican of the justice of the war, we deem it proper to recapitulate the grounds upon which we base our claim to the territory between the Nueces and the Rio Grande, which General Taylor was ordered to hold and protect.

First, the Treaty between Houston and Santa Anna, by which the Rio Grande, throughout its whole length, was made the boundary between Texas and Mexico, and this boundary was also recognized by the Texan Congress of 1836. Indeed the territory between the Nueces and the Rio Grande, was represented in the Convention in Texas, and in the Texan Congress, and called San Patricio. After the Annexation of Texas, the United States' revenue laws were thrown over it, and provision made for a superintendent or inspector, South of the Nueces.

It was part and parcel of the ancient province of Louisiana, ceded by France to the United States, for a valuable consideration. Jefferson and Madison recognized the Rio Grande as the true original limit of Louisiana, and contended that Spain never had a right to any possession beyond that river.

We admitted Texas with that territory into the Union, and as such, she was previously recognized as an independent nation by England, France and Holland.

In sending our army, then, to protect that territory, which was clearly a part of the U. States, the President acted in exact conformity to his solemn oath.

But, says the Republican, had Gen. Taylor remained at Corpus Christi, (itself beyond the Neues,) there would have been no conflict of arms. This theory is disproved by the fact, that despatches [sic] from the Mexican President to General Arista were intercepted, in which instructions were given to the latter to cross the Rio Grande, which was accordingly done, and the first act of war consummated on the part of Mexico. For our lives, with these facts before us, we cannot see the "flagrant injustice" of this war, as far as our country is concerned.

Friday, November 6, 1846 REv43i55p4c6 CAPT. STEWART

[Baltimore Sun]

We learn (says the Baltimore Sun,) that Gov. Pratt received on Saturday, from Gen. Taylor, an official announcement of the death of Lieut. Col. Wm. H. Watson, also informing him that Capt. Stewart had been promoted by seniority, as well as by the "unanimous" voice of the officers of the Baltimore battalion, to the vacancy thus occasioned. Gov. Pratt immediately forwarded the document to the President of the United States, with the recommendation that Capt. Stewart be officially confirmed as Lieut. Colonel of the battalion, and we have no doubt that his commission is now enroute to the "seat of war". [AMB]
The Whig has utterly failed to raise a storm from the Whig press against the "gross outrage" and "unwarrantable usurpation" carried out in "Brigadier General Governor Kearney's" Proclamation, "annexing" the whole of New Mexico, in violation of the Constitution and of international law! Some of its Whig associates are not only "mute," but actually sanction the "despotic" proceeding! What will the Whig and National Intelligencer say to the following remarks of the Whig Herald of Norfolk? "Speaking of guns," have those horror-stricken journals ever informed their readers that this "Proconsol of the President"- this "Brigadier General Governor Kearney"- is a Whig?

"It is wrong to bring in question the politics of those who fight their country's battles. For our part, without knowing or caring to know, the politics of Gen. Kearney, when we read his proclamation we saw no reason to censure his course. For the present, his proclamation may serve a good purpose; but unless ratified by the higher powers of the Government, it can only prove a mere brutum fulmen."

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[Correspondence, Baltimore Sun]

Washington, 1st November 1846

IMPORTANT - Despatches have been received from General Kearney, who is hale and hearty at Santa Fe, fortifying it according to the most approved rule of Vauban, and erecting a Fort which, in honor of the present Secretary of War, he has called "Fort Marcy."

General Kearney finds the people of New Mexico in excellent spirits, and delighted with the prospects of becoming citizens of the United States. It is as if their property, their lives, and their prosperity had been insured to them, and they were now permitted to draw the first free breath of life.

Our troops throughout received nothing but the kindest treatment from the inhabitants, and were well pleased with their vocation. Their wants were liberally supplied by the hospitable people of that province, and they were treated not as enemies, but as deliverers of the country.

The General made an excursion South, about one hundred miles to the village of Tome, without meeting any resistance, and it is probable the Mexican Government entertains no idea of disputing us the quiet possession of that country. It has certainly provided no means for its defence, and alienated the affection of the people, whom it only plundered by the appointment of some military favorite as Governor.

General Kearney will probably effect a junction with our forces on the Pacific, in order to take possession of California. It is thought he will arrive there in November, consequently quite in time for the anticipated movement of our troops. He may for that purpose take the Southern route down the Del Norte, follow the Gila, cross the Colorado, and take up his march along the Pacific. Quivivra, verra.

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[Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun]

Friday, November 6, 1846

From the Maj. M.C. M. Hammond, U. S. A., who arrived a day or two since from Port Lavacca and San Antonio, Texas, we obtain the following information:

One half of Gen. Wool's army left San Antonio for the Presidio on the Rio Grande on the 26th of September. The General went in person on the 29th. The remainder, consisting of sixteen companies of Illinois infantry and four companies of Arkansas cavalry, were under command of Col. Churchill, Inspector General U. S. A. Between the 5th and 8th of October eight of these companies marched, commanded by Col. Hardin; and Col. Churchill was to have conducted the remainder on the 14th, leaving one or two companies in garrison at Bexar, to protect supplies and furnish escorts.

Gen. W. expected to reach Presidio in twelve days. He will establish a depot at that point, until it is ascertained whether steamers can ascend the Rio Grande to a position more suitable for his operations. His army will cross the river on a flying bridge, boats for which were constructed at San Antonio, under the direction of Capt. Fraser, engineer, and were transported in wagons. The river at the crossing is said to be near 400 yards wide, from 50 to 100 of which are swimming, and with a rapid current of six miles the hour. If opposed by a considerable force, the
passage would be exceedingly difficult and could not be effected without great loss.

Col. Harney's command, in July, were compelled to swim about sixty yards, and the stream so scattered them, that 100 resolute men, as asserted by some of his officers could have prevented their landing.

As soon as supplies are received to enable him to advance, Gen. Wool will press on to Chihuahua, taking Santa Rosa and Monclova in his route. The former town is garrisoned with regular troops, and is said to be capable of strong resistance. This line of operations is longer than might be selected, but it has the advantage of turning the mountain passes of abundance of water and some provisions and runs within 70 or 80 miles of Gen. Taylor's, when cooperation can be readily effected if necessary.

Gen. Wool has exhibited great activity and energy in preparing for the march. On arriving at San Antonio, on the 14th of August, he was far in advance of his army and his supplies and met with innumerable obstacles in procuring wagons, teams, forage and provisions. He moved his forces at the earliest practicable moment, with so limited a number of rations as scarcely to justify his advance.

If it is found impossible to transport supplies by water to the Presido or other point on the Rio Grande whence to furnish the army, it will be necessary to haul all their provisions from Port Lavacca by way of San Antonio a distance to Chihuahua.

From the *The Enquirer*, Richmond, VA

Monday Morning, November 9, 1846,

**MAJ. GEN. WM. O. BUTLER**

In justice to this distinguished and gallant officer, and as a refutation of the charges of an infuriated party press, we give place to the following, from the *New Orleans Delta* of the 30th October. These charges, conflicting as they did with each other, were, first, that General Butler rashly exposed his troops to the destructive fire of the Mexicans, and secondly, that he exhibited a [word unreadable] of nerve in storming the enemy's batteries. We were confident that the charges had their origin in partisan feelings, and so expressed ourselves. We are glad to see that several Whig papers, and among others the *Louisville Journal*, have stepped forward to do justice to the reputation of a gallant officer. But to the article from the *N.O. Delta*:

"The statement of a letter-writer, published in the *Baltimore Sun*, in regard to an alleged difficulty between Generals Taylor and Butler, on the occasion of the desperate charge which proved so fatal to Col. Garland's brigade, causing the death of Col. Watson, of the Baltimore volunteers, and many other distinguished officers, is, we are assured by good authority, **totally untrue**. Col. Garland's brigade was detached, and had orders to advance under the direction of Maj. Mansfield of the Engineers, and if he encountered a battery to take it. The brigade, however, advanced nearer to the town than was prudent, and was suddenly opened upon from three distinct forts, of the existence of which neither General Taylor, Maj. Mansfield, nor Col. Garland, had any idea at the time of the advance. **Gen. Butler had nothing to do with this command; it acted under the express orders of Gen. Taylor.**

[AMB]

The Southern mail of Saturday morning brought us the painful news of the death of two distinguished officers, viz: Col. Wm. S. Fisher, formerly of Richmond and son of the late Mr. James Fisher - and Capt. Francis S. Early; both of whom died at Galveston, Texas, on the 26th of October. Mr. Kendall, one of the Editors of the *N. O. Picayune*, writing from Galveston on the 27th of October, says:

"From Monterey to Matamoras, among both Americans and Mexicans, a great deal of sickness prevails - chills and fevers and intermitting fevers. I have come in for more than a full share of both, but am now on the mend. I regret to state that two able officers died here last night and are to be buried this afternoon- Col. Wm. S. Fisher, who commanded the noted Mier expedition, and Capt. Francis S. Early, who commanded the Washington company of Texas Rangers at the battles of Monterey. The former had just married a young and accomplished wife; the latter was hourly expecting his family to meet him at this place."

[AMB]

From Vera Cruz

Tuesday, November 10, 1846 REv43i56p1c7
FROM VERA CRUZ

We have nothing of importance from Mexico by way of Havana but have been admitted to make an extract from a commercial [sic] letter of a late date. It is from a [ . . . ] to all respect:

Vera Cruz, Oct. 1, 1846.

Dear Sir:- There is very little news worth reporting. The present government is trying to render itself popular by a series of rather liberal measures, and appears willing to recommence the campaign more rigorously. Gen. Santa Anna is about to leave Mexico in order to assume the generalship in chief of the troops concentrated in San Luis Potosi; but we confess to have the very worst opinion of the Mexican army, and do not believe that they will make any vigorous resistance to the American troops. The main difficulty will be, moreover, the entire want of money, as in the coffers of the treasury there is not even enough wherewith to pay the most necessary and urgent exigences, and the credit of Government is very much shaken indeed. It is true that the clergy will guarantee a loan of some millions of dollars, but we do not believe that this amount will be procured, and even if it were undoubtedly the largest part will consist in Government paper, which is very difficult to realize in this moment.

[AMB]

Tuesday, November 10, 1846 REv43i56p1c7

Letter to the Editor

[from the New Orleans Delta, November 2]

LETTER TO THE EDITOR FROM MEXICO

By the brig. P. Soule, from Havana, we have received our files of Mexican papers. The dates from the capital are to the 26th September.

We find nothing in the later numbers about the departure of Santa Anna towards Monterey. So far from that, he was still in the capital mustering his forces for the contemplated expedition.

The Diario del Gobierno says that all the rich people of Mexico would do well in following Santa Anna's example - contributing liberally towards the support of the war- or else the mob would go where they knew the money was, and take it to the soldiers who defended the country. Then it adds, that the Clergy had consented to mortgage [sic] their property for $2,000,000; that the merchants and wealthy citizens of Mexico would deliver to the Government on the 25th September $500,000 for the purpose of the war; that the same amount would be delivered on the 5th October, and equal sums would be paid every month.

Senor [Gomez de] la Cortina had made himself a loan of $50,000, without any conditions as to premium or time of reimbursement.

[AMB]

Tuesday, November 10, 1846 REv43i56p1c7 LATER FROM MONTEREY

[from the New Orleans Tropic, Oct. 31]

The steamship Palmetto, Lewis arrived last night, in 36 hours from Galveston. Among the passengers, were Dr. Conrad and Lieut. Nichols, U. S. A.; Lieuts. Dorfendorf, Price, (reported dead,) Smith and Smedes, of the Mississippi volunteers, and Lieut. Read, of the Texas Rangers, with 41 volunteers.

Lieut. Col. McClung was rapidly recovering from the effects of his wounds. One of the officers of his Regiment informs us that the gallant Colonel was the first man that showed himself on the first fort stormed by General Taylor's Division, and that he received his wounds whilst waving his sword aloft, and cheering on his men, shouting "Victory!". The musket ball struck him on his left hand whilst holding his scabbard to his hip, and cut off two of his fingers, glancing from the scabbard and entering his abdomen, fracturing, in its course, the bone above the hip-joint.

General Ampudia has issued another proclamation since his retreat from Monterey, calling upon the Mexicans to flock to his standard to repel the invaders of their soil. His excuse, in the proclamation, for defeat at Monterey, and the surrender of that city to our troops, is A WANT OF AMMUNITION! The utter falsity of this statement is well known, for any quantity of ammunition was found at Monterey after the capitulation.
WHAT CAN BE DONE FOR MEXICO? - It is high time that we in England should take into serious consideration the question, What can be done to save the miserable and impotent Republic of Mexico from extinction as an independent nation? Apart from all the problematical evil consequences of its absorption into the United States- and they are momentous- the fate of Mexico has an immediate practical importance for all classes of men in this country, being inseparably identified with that of a vast amount of British capital. Expunge Mexico from the list of nations, and with the same blow you put out the fires on thousands of English hearths. Already we have suffered enough by the waste and decay of the wealth we have invested in that country the annihilation of what remains would scatter bankruptcy among our merchants, paralyze our industry, disorder all the functions of our national life and spread starvation among our working classes. And this is the conclusion to which events are tending in a rapid and accumulating flood, that must inevitably bear down all such flimsy barriers as Santa Anna's countrymen can set up against it.

That the United States are bent on seizing the whole Mexican territory, is a fact they scarcely condescend to disguise. The manner in which they intend to effect their purpose is also apparent; it is the same as that by which they have already secured Texas; the same piratical system as that by which they had begun to possess themselves of Louisiana, before they had the opportunity of acquiring it in the more legitimate way of purchase. The present petty warfare they are waging on the frontier is but an episode in the great plot. Gen. Taylor's force is but the precursor of the real army of invasion- the squatter and backwoodsman men in whom it is a hereditary and invincible instinct always to depart from before the approach of civilization, to avoid every spot where law has become established, and never to feel themselves thoroughly at home except on debatable ground. [By men like these, coming by two and threes, then by scores and hundreds, and finally in multitudes, like carrion birds to the quarry, the Northern provinces of the Republic will be overrun; and thence the process will be continued until the whole territory is filled and mastered by these unprincipled and desperately energetic immigrants.] Already many of the provinces have shown a willing alacrity to meet the destiny they foresee; not from any affection they bear to their encroaching neighbors, but because they are weary of anarchy, hopeless of relief from their own wretched nominal Governments, and eager to accede to the blessings of law and order from any power strong enough to secure them.

Mexico must be tranquilized, and her strength consolidated by good and stable government, or she is lost. This has long been felt by her allies; and they have even suggested and indirectly urged the adoption of the means that seemed to them most likely to bring about the desired result. The proposed panacea was the conversion of the Republic into a Monarchy, the sceptre [sic] of which should be swayed by some European Royal cadet. It is needless to discuss the abstract inherits of this plan, since it is a mere figment of political speculation, at present beyond the scope of any practical discussion.

There is but one sure way to save Mexico, and that is to transfer fresh, healthy blood into her languid veins; to colonize a portion of her magnificent territory with a people worthy to occupy and able to defend it. If Mexico were to mingle a portion of the Ango-Saxon element with their population, she might venture to cope with the moiety of that indomitable race that now threatens her existence. In our paper, last week, on the project of cutting a ship-canal through the great American isthmus, we pointed out the admirable opportunity now offered for peopling the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, and realizing the incalculable natural advantages of one of the most eligible commercial [sic] sites on the face of the globe. That majestic region teeming with boundless wealth, washed by two oceans, traversed through half its breadth by a navigable river, which offers at its mouth the finest harbor in the Gulf of Mexico, may now be secured by Englishmen. Will they refuse to accept a region which was selected by the sagacious mind of the great conqueror Cortez to constitute his own private domain If so, the French will be delighted to grasp the prize we disdain.[AMB]
Schr. *Independence*, Kerwan, Norfolk.
Schr. *Iowa*, Travers, Baltimore.

**CLEARED,**

French barque *Olympe*, Raoult, for Havre with tobacco and slaves.
Brig *Keying*, Flanders, for Liverpool, with tobacco, flour, corn, meal and apples.

[AMB]

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**Tuesday, November 10, 1846 REv43i56p2c1 MARINE CORPS**

For pay of officers, non commissioned officers, musicians, privates, and servants, serving on shore, and subsistence of officers two hundred thousand seven hundred and seventy-one dollars: Provided, That no payment shall hereafter be made to the Colonel, or any other officer of said corps, by virtue of a commission of brigadier general by brevet;

For clothing, forty-six thousand seven hundred and eighty seven dollars and fifty cents;

For provisions, forty-five thousand seventy dollars and twenty cents.

For military stores, repair of arms, pay of armorers, accoutremen's, ordnance stores, flags, drums, fifes, and musical instruments, two thousand three hundred dollars.

For transportation of officers and troops, and for expenses of recruiting, eight thousand dollars;

For repair of barracks and rent of temporary barracks, six thousand dollars;

For contingencies, viz: freight, ferriage, toll, wharfage and cartage; compensation to judge advocates; per diem for attending courts martial and courts of inquiry; per diem to enlisted men on constant labor; house rent where no public quarters are assigned; the burial of deceased marines; printing, stationery, forage, postages, and the pursumt of deserters; candles and oil; straw, barrack furniture; bed sacks, spades, axes, shovels, picks, carpenter's tools, and keeping a horse for the messenger, seventeen thousand nine hundred and eighty dollars.

Sec 2. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Navy, on the conclusion of the existing war with Mexico, to reduce the number of petty officers, seamen, ordinary seamen, landsman, and boys, herein provided for, to seven thousand five hundred.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Navy, in the expenditure of the appropriations made for the navy yard at Memphis, to confine the same to the construction of a rope walk.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That of the money appropriated in this act for "pay of the navy,":

[AMB]

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**Tuesday, November 10, 1846 REv43i56p3c1 POETICAL.**

A fair friend has sent us the following beautiful lines as appropriate to the present moment.- All will appreciate their spirit, when applied to the brilliant victories of our army, but which cost the country much of its best blood. Let the solemn dirge be chanted in memory of the gallant soldiers who fell on the Rio Grande and at Monterey- and let martial strains swell upon the air in honor of the living heroes of those hard-fought fields. It would be cruel and heartless to desecrate such thrilling associations by mingling them with the light and frivolous amusements or enjoyments of the hour:

*On seeing the "Waterloo Waltz" in a list of Music.*

A moment pause, ye British fair,
While Pleasure's phantom ye pursue,
And see if dance or sprightly air
Suit with the name of Waterloo!

Glorious was the victory,
Chasten'd should the triumph be;
Midst the laurels she has won,
Britain weeps for many a son.
Veil’d in clouds the morning rose,
Nature seem’d to mourn the day
Which consign’d, before its close,
Thousands to their kindred clay.

How unfit for court or ball,
Or the giddy festival,
Was the grim and ghastly view,
Ere they closed at Waterloo!

See the Highland warrior rushing,
First in danger on the foe,
Till the life-blood warmly gushing,
Lays the plaided hero low;

His native pipes' accustom’d sound,
Mid war's infernal concert drown'd,
Cannot soothe his last adieu,
Or wake his sleep on Waterloo.

Crashing o'er the cuirassier,
See the foaming charger flying,
Trampling in his wild career,
All alike, the dead and dying:

See the bullets through his side,
Answered by the crimson tide;
Helmet, horse, and rider too!
Roll on bloody Waterloo.

Shall sounds like these the dance inspire?
A wake the enliv'ning sounds of mirth?
Oh! shivered be the recreant lyre
That gave the base idea birth.

Other sounds I ween were there,
Other music rent the air,
Other waltz the warrior knew
When they closed at Waterloo.

Forbear, till Time, with lenient hand,
Has heal'd the pang of recent sorrow,
And let the picture distant stand,
The soften'd tone of years to borrow.

When our race has passed away,
Hand unborn shall wake the lay,
And give to joy alone the view.
Of Britian's fame at Waterloo.

[AMB]

Tuesday, November 10, 1846 REv43i56p3c1 Latest From Havana

By the packet brig. P. Soule, the New Orleans Delta has received its regular files of Havana papers to the 24th October. They are filled with accounts of the hurricane of the 10th and 11th Oct. On the 10th, (being the Queen's birth-day,) the city, and particularly the port, presented the most gay and pleasant appearance- every vessel in the harbor flaunting its colors at its mast-head. The next day all was desolation and ruin. Dead bodies, fragments of vessels, bales of goods, produce, &c., were seen scattered in wild confusion over the angry surge. Over 1500 houses were razed to the ground in Havana and neighboring cities!

About 90 persons had already been found dead among the ruins of the city, and many more were expected to be found. The Havana papers say the gale of 1844 was slight compared to this. Property to a considerable amount had also been destroyed in Matanzas, Cardenas, and some 30 or 40 of the neighboring towns. There were 160 vessels lost and injured in the port of Havana- among them were 16 American merchantmen. The packet ship Mudara, arrived from N. York on the 10th, was nearly lost. The Government had issued orders for supplying the destitute with the necessaries of life. The "Principal" Theatre, one of the finest public buildings in Havana, was destroyed.

[AMB]
Tuesday, November 10, 1846 REv43i56p3c1 Miscellaneous

[FROM THE CHARLESTON MERCURY]

There is one feature in the extracts we yesterday published from Mexican Papers, that deserves to be noticed. There is no more of the old-fashioned, bragging and blustering. Their tone is despondent, and in their humility, they allow the truth to escape- that the Government is without means, the provinces without courage or preparation, and they are beset by a determined, active and powerful enemy. The bloodless conquest of California and New Mexico- the advance of Gen. Wool upon Chihuahua with as little prospect of serious opposition- the rapid march of Gen. Taylor upon Monterey- were events that singly were exciting enough; but, all together, they overwhelmed the Capital with terror and amazement. At the time these extracts were written, there remained one hope of safety to the Republic, in a successful defence [sic] of Monterey. The following letter from a Mexican, written a day before the arrival of Gen. Taylor, shows how much was expected from the preparations at that place:

"To-day, if the attack we every moment expect from the Yankees is realized, there is not a doubt but the cause of the people will triumph. - Our army has just received a most opportune reinforcement of five thousand men, with sixteen pieces of cannon of the very best quality, so that our whole available force is thirteen thousand seven hundred and fifty regular troops, besides the assistance we may reasonably expect from the inhabitants. Immediately on the arrival of Gen. Ampudia, the city was declared under martial law, but although we are thus deprived of perfect liberty temporarily, we are thankful that we shall soon be recompensed for the deprivation by a great triumph over the enemy.

"Gen. Taylor is at Ceralvo, detained by a scanty supply of mules, but determined to march upon us with his present force of about three thousand men, thinking the city is not guarded. We shall give him a glorious reception indeed, and when the news of his fool-hardiness returns to his countrymen, they will know that the glory of the Mexican flag is not to be sullied without a struggle. - Our troops are at work day and night barricading the houses, mounting cannon and doing everything to render the city impregnable. A soldier was shot by order of General Ampudia, charged with treason, and a proclamation of death to any engaged in traffic with the Americans, has been issued by our brave Gen. Ampudia."

What a joyous and triumphant spirit breathes through this letter! And yet the anticipations of the writer were really moderate. Doubtless Ampudia had given an exaggerated estimate of his own force and a greatly diminished one of the enemy, for the sake of encouraging his troops; but he could not have deceived them so far as to multiply seven thousand into thirteen thousand. There were certainly not less than ten thousand regular troops in the city, with probably five thousand new levies- and these with the advantage of a powerful artillery and strong fortifications. Gen. Taylor's force was six thousand five hundred men, one half of whom had never seen a battle, and his artillery force was feeble. With such enormous disparity in men, in guns and in the advantage of position, it would have been very strange if the Mexicans had expected anything but a decisive victory, and those who underrate the character of Gen. Taylor's success, do injustice to one of the most brilliant achievements in the annals of war.

If we may judge from the tone of the Mexican journals- humbled and despondent, - before the capture of Monterey, that event is likely to extinquish [sic] their last hope of successful resistance, and to lead at no distant day to the conclusion of a durable peace. The rumor that Santa Anna was at Saltillo before the end of September with a strong force, is alike destitute of proof and of probability. Still, having accepted the command of the army, he will doubtless try to do something. -

His hopes of the Presidency must rest upon his conduct for the next two months, and hence we look for a show of military operations and perhaps some substantial fighting; but what is done hereafter will be merely in the way of making terms for a peace. All idea of maintaining the war with the United States, as nation against nation, must have ended with the battle of Monterey.

[AMB]

Friday, November 13, 1846 REv43i57p1c4 NORTHERN WHIGGERY AND ABOLITION

The blindest must see that the course pursued by the Northern Whig press and Whig public meetings, is far from producing thatcordial feeling of union between the different sections of the country, which Washington so solemnly and so strongly enforced. With but few exceptions, they denounce the South for selfishness, for aiming at despotic domination, and for shaping her policy so as to sacrifice the rest of the Union to her "slaveholding monopoly." The South cannot support any question of great national benefit- it cannot advocate any system of just and equal laws, but the Whig journals and politicians of the North assail her motives as steeped in selfishness, and as looking alone to the extension of slavery. Fired with this wild notion, they raise [...] [missing line(s)]

"We regard such a measure as dangerous to the purity of the elective franchise. We regard the Negroes, as a class, as incapable of self-government. Such is their physical organization, that it is impossible for the whites to associate with them in any relation of life, and that amalgamation with them would be unmitigated degradation. It is impossible that two races, so radically and essentially unlike, can ever harmoniously co-operate in administering a
Countrymen: The Supreme Government being anxious to attend to the defence [sic] of the rights and the integrity of our beloved Republic, against the enemies who have invaded it, has thought proper to appoint me, General-in-Chief of the brave troops destined to that holy purpose in the North. I immediately flew with enthusiasm [sic] to this section, my desire to sustain the rights of the people being notorious, and at the commencement of the present month I was in Monterey, dictating and ordering all the measures in my power to repel the advance of our enemies. Thinking, however, that an immense weight was imposed upon me, and feeling my inability, I entreated that his Excellency the Gen. Don Juan Nepomuceno de Aimeonde, should come and take the command, supposing that the illustrious conqueror of Panuco would, on his arrival in Mexico, assume the reins of the National Government.

The enemy on the 19th inst, made his appearance near my headquarters at Monterey, and encamped in the wood of Santo Domingo, their encampment being three miles in length, and about nine in circumference. I gave orders to observe diligently all their movements, and to harass them as much as possible, all the generals and chiefs under my command being determined to fight sooner than retire. The citadel or fort of the Monastery, aimed some good shots at the enemy, who employed the day in reconnoitering and preparations for their attack.

They commenced their attack on the 21st with a formidable mass, composed of the greater part of their regular troops, upon the bridge of the Purisima and the forts of Rincon del Diablo and Teneria, but they were victoriously repulsed by our valiant veterans, causing them a positive loss of 1500.

On the 22d, in the morning, Gen. Taylor directed his columns of attack upon the Archbishop's hill, a point commanding the city, and although in their first advance, the enemy suffered severely, they again came to the charge with a brigade composed almost entirely of regular troops, and two of our largest guns and one howitzer (obuss [sic]) were unfortunately blown up. Not withstanding that misfortune, I sent a reinforcement of infantry with two light pieces of artillery, as soon as I was informed of the event. They arrived to late the enemy were already in possession of the position and works. This accident compelled me to concentrate my forces in the Plaza, to enable me to offer a more vigorous defence [sic] to the invaders, and repel, as we did, their attacks upon the streets and possession of the position and works. This accident compelled me to concentrate my forces in the Plaza, to enable me to offer a more vigorous defence [sic] to the invaders, and repel, as we did, their attacks upon the streets and
houses of Monterey. Under these circumstances, our ammunition and provisions were getting scarce, and not
withstanding the valor and energy with which all our combatants, veterans and auxiliaries were animated, I
proposed to the General of the enemy to open a conference, by which the national honor, that of our arms and of
the particular division under my command, with their arms, equipments and baggage were saved.

This is a true relation of the operations of the campaign up to the 24th inst; and although the scarcity of means,
materials, and other circumstances, have compelled us to such a result, we should not for an instant lose our
courage, as the Republic will bring into action all its great elements, and with one victory, which we may, shall and
must obtain, the problem will be definitively solved in favor of our arms.

People of the East! The alternative that was taken at Monterey is of no great consequence particularly when you
bear in mind that in a short time the favorite general of the Mexicans, his Excellency Don Antonio Lopez de Santa
Anna, will personally direct the campaign. In the meantime let the sacred flame of love for your country burn in your
bosoms, and we shall without doubt, triumph over our enemies.

PEDRO DE AMPUDIA

at Saltillo

September 29th, 1846)

[AMB]

Friday, November 13, 1846 REv43i57p1c7 FROM THE CAMP AT MONTEREY

Last evening the War Department received despatches [sic] from General Taylor. They were writing on the 6th,
11th, 12th, and 13th October. But the detailed official letters on the operations before Monterey did not accompany
them - much delay having occurred in making out complete returns from the various subordinate commanders of the
army. The despatches [sic] which were received last evening are brief and comparatively unimportant in their
character.

In his letter of the 6th of October, Gen. Taylor states that he had mustered out of service the entire force of
mounted Texas volunteers. One company of Texas foot volunteers, which has rendered excellent service in the
campaign, was then on the march to Camargo, there to be mustered out of service.

The General states, that a small force is to be stationed at Laredo on the east bank of the Rio Grande, for the
purpose of protecting that frontier of country from Indian depredations, and enabling the Government of Texas to
extend its jurisdiction with more facility to the river. With the advice of Governor Henderson, he has authorized
General Lamar, ex-President of Texas, to raise a mounted company of eighty men for this service for twelve months.
As a very small force is now in service from the State of Texas, he trusts that this step will be approved by the
department.

The second infantry, with some of the artillery companies left in the rear, and an additional volunteer force, has been
ordered forward to Monterey, together with a heavy battery train.

No credible intelligence has been received from the interior at the date of this letter. General Ampudia, at the last
advices, was at Saltillo, probably with the whole or greater part of his army. [ But subsequent accounts, in private
letters, report that Ampudia had retreated from Saltillo, and would make San Luis de Potosi his rallying point. He
was expected to make a stand there, and perhaps to be joined by Santa Anna, in case Gen. Taylor should extend his
advance in that direction.]

The General states, that he had been unable as yet to prepare his detailed official report of the operations before
Monterey - the last report from his subordinate commanders having been at that moment received. Our loss in
killed, wounded, and missing, will vary very little from 500 - 400 of which was sustained in the attack on the lower
part of the city on the 21st.

Lieut. Dilworb 1st infantry had died of the [...] [missing words].

In his last letter, Gen. Taylor deeply regrets the necessity of reporting the death of the brave Robert H. Graham, 1st
Lieut. of 4th Infantry, who died, on the previous night, of the wounds which he had received in the engagement of
the 21st September. - [Union of Wednesday night.

[AMB]

Friday, November 13, 1846 REv43i57p2c5 GENERAL BUTLER

[from the Union]
We had the pleasure of conversation with an officer today, who camp at Monterey, which he left on the 5th of October. He engaged in the memorable action of the 21st, in the Staff of General Quitman, and of course, was one of the gallant band who suffered most severely on that day. He states that he was frequently near General Butler during this action, until he received his wound—saw much of what passed on that occasion—but saw or heard nothing to justify the idle rumors which have been in circulation respecting any difference between General Taylor and General Butler. He added further, that if any such circumstance occurred, he must have heard it from the persons with whom he associated; but that he heard nothing about it before he left the camp, nor until he reached the United States. He cannot entertain a doubt that the whole rumor is gratuitous, and without foundation. [Union.]

Friday, November 13, 1846 REv43i57p2c4 YUCATAN

[N.O. Commercial Times]

Arrived here yesterday, the Mexican schooner Joaquina, from Campeachy and Laguna, loaded with logwood, etc. From what has recently occurred, we presume she will be seized as an enemy's property. It is intended, we are informed, to make an appeal to the authorities at Washington, for an exception to the usual way of proceedings in the case of crafts from a hostile country, in favor of Yucatanese vessels. Among other reasons to be assigned, is the fact that Santa Anna induced the Yucatan Legislature to re-annex that country to Mexico, by declaring that all differences between the latter and the United States had been settled. The trick having been discovered, the people of Yucatan, within the last few weeks, have again abandoned the connection, and they are determined to preserve their independent sovereignty. We are assured that a proclamation has been lately issued by the governing powers in Yucatan, to the inhabitants, announcing this resolution. The Captain of the Joaquina, it is stated, brought a copy of it hither.

Information has reached the city from Laguna, that it was the general report there, that all the ports of Yucatan, above all Campeachy, would be blockaded by the U. S. vessels of war. [N. O. Commercial Times.]

[AMB]

Friday, November 13, 1846 REv43i57p2c6 ATTACKS ON GENERAL BUTLER

It has afforded us no pleasure to comment upon the course which a great portion of the Whig press has pursed with respect to the Mexican war, from its inception down to the present day. Although we condemned the manner in which they have spoken of the measures of the Government and the movements of the country's army; yet we hoped that when blows were struck—when our brave men were in gallant action—no voice of censure or defamation would have been heard. Not so, however! The fangs of party violence have been outstretched and pierce the heart and wound the reputation of the brave soldier even when performing his duty in the thickest of fight. But the mark is illustrious and intangible! He will defy and outlive all calumny.

Major General Butler is no soldier of yesterday. He is no volunteer for love of adventure—no officer for want of employment. He has been familiar, in past years, with service, and he has seen battles long before he ever reached Monterey. He was the honored and admired of Andrew Jackson until his death—of Jackson who was not to be deceived about a matter of personal courage. Let his detractors—his partisan defamers—go on and make the most of their idle undertaking. He will stand before the country as he did before, high in reputation, unblurred in honor—even though some event during the present war do not vindicate him.

In the meantime, we are glad to republish the following from a political opponent, The Martinsburg, Va, Gazette:

"We have been exceedingly pained to observe the papers generally of the country teeming with accounts from the army, derogatory to the military character, skill and bravery of Major General Butler. We have never for single moment believed that there was one word of truth in any of them, and as to angry words, & c., passing between him and Gen. Taylor, we are almost positively certain that no such occurrence ever took place. It is true the division under Gen. Butler suffered very severely, but it was from no fault of his that we can see his position was a trying one, and the very fact that he led his men to the charge amid so much danger, and amid so merciless, constant and destructive a fire as he did— at once places the lie upon the charge made against him of a want of courage. That he lacked prudence, might perhaps have been the case, but where is the evidence of it? Does Gen. Taylor say so in his despatches [sic] to Government? No, on the contrary, he returns his thanks especially to Maj. Generals Butler, Henderson, and Brig. Gen. Worth, for the gallant and [em...][unreadable word] services rendered to him. Do any of the leading officers, in their accounts of the battle, make any charges against him? None—None, that we can see. Let the country then beware what confidence they place in the newspaper correspondence which they see from Monterey, or any other point of the army. In justice let us remember our gallant officers and men who are now perilng their lives and the all in their field of battle, and surround them with the good wishes and prayers of our whole hearts. Let no man be condemned upon rumors. In our comments upon the conduct of the army, let us wait for official dispatches. We care not what may be the political complication of the officers and men of our army— it is not our business to inquire now— they are our countrymen—that is enough for us. We know that Major General Butler is a prominent Democrat, and very strenuous in his opinions and course—but what of that?—is he not our countryman?— and engaged now in the defence [sic] of our common country? Surely, most surely, then, is he
entitled to the regard and affection of his countrymen, until he does something to forfeit that regard. Were General Butler now a candidate for political office or preferment in this country, we should vote against him, because we know the doctrines of his political creed, and we do not believe in their truth or adaptation to the glory and prosperity of our country. But as a man we like him as a soldier we honor him, and the page of history bears honorable testimony to his gallantry in the last war; and now at Monterey he has again sealed his bravery and his devotion to his country with his blood. we are glad to learn that the gallant old soldier is recovering from his wounds, and hope he may live to do signal service to his country, and brand the lie upon his revilers."

We also annex the following from the *N. Orleans Bulletin*, (Whig):

"GENERAL BUTLER - We regret to see that some of the Northern papers are publishing letters from the army, reflecting on Gen. Butler's conduct in the recent affair at Monterey, the tenor of them being that, contrary to Gen. Taylor's orders or intentions, he had converted what was intended to be a feint into a real attack, by which his command was unnecessarily exposed in street fighting with the Mexicans in the houses or protected by parapet walls, and that a greatly increased loss of life on our part was the consequence. We do not so much blame the writers of these letters as we do the recipients of them, as they were probably only meant for private information, and not intended for publication. The American people, however, will not be particularly disposed to find fault with any one for a little extra display of gallantry in action, though we think it rather hard for General Butler, that he should, in any way, be censured on the present occasion, when we recollect that no fault or information of the kind has been furnished by the Commander-in-chief, but who, on the contrary, speaks in high terms of him in his official dispatches."

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**Friday, November 13, 1846**  REv43i57p2c1 LATER FROM THE ARMY!

[from the *N.O. Picayune*, Nov. 3]

By the arrival of the Galveston, Capt. Wright, we are placed in possession of our correspondence from Monterey from the 1st to the 16th of October. The letters of Mr. Haile contain the first announcement we have seen of the death of Lieut. Graham, of the 4th Infantry. He died on the evening of the 11th of October, universally lamented. The wounded generally are doing well. Hopes are entertained that Maj. Lear, of the 3rd Infantry, may recover, although so terribly wounded. We are sorry to learn that fever and ague is beginning to prevail extensively in the army. The accounts we have from the troops in the valley of the Rio Grande are truly distressing.

In the Matamoras Flag we have portions of a correspondence between Gen. Taylor and the Governor of Monterey, in which the former gives an indication of the policy to be pursued in regard to the subsistence of the army. We will no longer detain the reader from the interesting letters of our correspondent:

Monterey, Mexico, Oct. 1, 1846

Gentlemen- The weather begins to admonish us that winter is not far off. The mornings are quite cool, rendering overcoats, and even fires, very comfortable. Everything begins to assume a quiet aspect in this region. The troops are entering into quarters for the next two months- the wounded are receiving every attention from the surgeons, and are placed in excellent rooms- the ammunition is nearly removed from the Cathedral, (a magnificent building outside and in.) and religious services will soon be performed in it. The ships, billiard-rooms, eating houses and mechanic shops are opening again. Families are returning, confidence is taking the place of distrust towards us with the Mexicans, and I believe that a majority of the best people here are glad that our army has driven off Ampudia and his thievish soldiery. Gen. Taylor has published his order of congratulation- one of the most chaste and perfect documents of the kind I ever saw- but you can judge for yourself, for I sent you a copy.

[A copy of these orders has already appeared in our columns]

The following order has been published in the 2d Division. Gen Worth may well exult over the achievements of his division, for he has been immortalized by them.

Orders No. 39  
HEADQUARTERS, SECOND DIVISION  
Monterey, Sept. 28, 1846

The Commanding General of the Division seizes the first instant of leisure to tender to the officers and soldiers of his command the expression of his thanks and admiration. During the three day's operations, down to the final capitulation of this important position, until after they have seen nearly twice their numbers defile before them in retreat- whether on the fatiguing march, in combat in the valley or on the mountains, on the house-tops or in the streets, this noble Division has given an exhibition of courage, constancy and discipline above all praise, and a generous and manly forbearance towards fallen and humiliated foes, which bear comparison with the proudest achievements that grace the annals of their country.

The General feels assured that every individual in the command unites with him in admiration of the distinguished
gallantry and conduct of Col. Hays and his noble band of Texas volunteers - hereafter they and we are brothers, and we can desire no better guarantee of success than by their association.

To Brigadier General Smith, commanding 2d Brigade: Lieut. Col. Staniford, 1st Brigade; Lieut. Col. Childs, Army Battalion, Maj. [ ...illegible . . . ]

Capt. Miles, 7th Infantry; Capt. Smith, 2d Artillery, commanding light troops; Capt. Seriven, 8th Infantry; to Capt. Blanchard, Louisiana volunteers; Lieut. Col. Duncan and Lieut. Mackall, he tenders all thanks and respect. To the gentlemen of the staff, Maj. Munroe, Chief of Artillery; Capt. Saunders, Military engineer; Lieut. Deas, Division Quartermaster; Lieut. Daniels, Division Commissariat: Lieut. Meade, Topographical Engineers; Lieut. Pemberton and Wood, Aids-de-Camp, his special thanks are due, for the alacritiy, zeal and gallantry with which they have performed every service. To Col. Peyton, Louisiana volunteers, who did im the honor to tender his very acceptable services as Aid-de-Camp, he feels under especial obligations for his valuable counsel and splendid exhibition of courage.

To the General himself, the highest and proudest gratification is, that such fortunate results have been attained with comparatively so small sacrifice of the precious blood of the soldier.

By order of Brig. Gen. WORTH:

J. C. PEMBERTON,
1st. Lieut. and Aid-de-Camp.

The wounded are doing well, better than was at first expected. Maj. Lear, who was so horribly wounded through the mouth, the ball coming out at the back of the neck, shattering the jawbone and palate, will, it is hoped recover. His son, a young gentleman of twenty, is fortunately with him. Lieutenant Richard { l. Graham, of the 4th Infantry, died of his wounds last night. Gen. Butler, who was shot through the leg, is recovering fast, and begins to attempt, in his impatience, to be on his legs again, to hobble about his room.

Gen. Taylor keeps his own counsel respecting the nature of the instructions received from Washington. The Washington letter writers probably know more about it than a majority of the officers under Gen. Taylor at this moment. Something is brewing, however, and I can see that some movement is soon to be made, though none has yet been ordered.

The Bishop's Palace and heights back of the town are not garrisoned; the troops having been withdrawn into town, and there is no piquet stationed on the Saltillo road in that vicinity.

I send you by this mail a list of the killed and wounded, with all the remarks, which I have complied from the official returns. This list has cost me considerable time and labor. Several of the corps only returned the number of killed and wounded, and it was only after I commenced seeking for the names, etc., that they were sent in: and even now, all the names have been gathered the Kentucky Regiment not having sent in any, and some other corps having failed to report the names of those killed and wounded after the 21st. My list, however, is complete, with the exception of two killed and eleven wounded. My object in collecting these names will be appreciated by the friends of the brave men who have fallen, as well as by those who will be relieved from anxiety by reading over the list.

H.

[AMB]

Friday, November 13, 1846  REv43i57p4c1 Letter from Monterey

MONTEREY MEXICO, Oct. 16, 1846

Gentlemen- A chance offers to send a line which I must write in haste as the gentlemen who takes it will be off in a few moments. Gen. Wool crossed the Rio Grande 13 days ago, on his way to Monclova. A train of 1500 mules arrived from Camargo a day or two since, with provisions. Two thousand mules have been hired at this place for the use of the army at 37 1/2 cents per day each.

Lieut. Graham's remains were followed to the grave, three days since, by Gen. Taylor and nearly all the officers.

No news yet from the first mail that was captured by the enemy. Another large mail started from Camargo a few days ago, (the 5th instant,) which shared the fate of the first. This makes two important mails that have been captured from us within a month. The last was taken out of the mule train.

Santa Anna is at San Luis Potosi, but is doing nothing. He sustains Ampudia in his late conduct. The fever and ague is spreading through the army at a fearful rate.

H.
Friday, November 13, 1846  REV43i57p4c1 INTELLIGENCE FROM THE ARMY

[from the American Flag]

We make the following copious extracts from the American Flag published at Matamoras:

Although several persons have called at our office within the last two days direct from Monterey and intermediate posts, yet not one word of news do they bring not before published, except that preparations for future hostile operations on our side are rapidly progressing. By the time the armistice shall have expired, everything will have been completed to insure success in future engagements or movements. Of the doings of [...] lines unreadable] with Gen. Taylor, Gov. Morales proposes that their future correspondence shall be carried on in French, and he flatters old "Rough and Ready" thus:

"With satisfaction it is known to the Government of this State, that your Excellency is perfectly versant with the French idiom. This government has a proficient interpreter in this language, and wishes (to be better understood) that all future communications from your Excellency be made in this idiom.

"With profound respect, God and Liberty!

"Francisco De P. Morales.

"To Z. Taylor,
"Commander-in-Chief Army of Occupation, Monterey Sept. 29, 1846."

On the 1st of October, Gen. Taylor addressed the following reply to these two last notes of Gov. Morales:

"The communication of your Excellency, dated 29th ult relative to excesses committed by volunteers in the city of Monterey; was duly delivered. Some delay has occurred in answering it, in order that I might communicate with the commandant of that post.

"It is with sentiments of regret I learn your just cause of complaint, founded upon the grounds stated by your Excellency. Your Excellency must be aware that it is no easy task to keep such men in subjection, and although my great desire is to maintain good order, yet excesses have been committed, but I believe, none of grave character.

"The volunteers now in the city will be removed in a few days, and by their absence I hope all cause of further complaints will cease. In the meantime, Brig. General Worth will use all efficaciots [sic] measures to maintain order in the city. He is now invested with orders to this effect. Your Excellency must be aware that my desire is to comply with the guarantees I have given in the name of my Government, relative to the security of persons and property.

"I take the liberty, at the same time, to add, that your Excellency has been misinformed in regard to my possessing a knowledge of the French idiom, and in consequence, you will please hereafter, as heretofore, receive my communications in English."

[AMB]

Friday, November 13, 1846  REV43i57p4c2 NAVAL ATTACK ON ALVARADO!

We have a letter from our correspondent "Indicator" who is yet in Pensacola, advising us that the U.S. schr. ship Relief, Bullus, Lieut. Commanding, arrived there on the 30th ult. 20 days from Vera Cruz. His letter is dated 31st ultimo He writes "The only intelligence by her of interest regards the projected attack on Alvarado, which Commodore Conner intends to lead in person. Capt. Fitzhugh came a passenger in the Relief, having been detached from the steamer Mississippi, and his place supplied temporarily by Commander Adams, heretofore second in command. Commodore Perry has hoisted his red broad pennant on board the Mississippi, and of course, is to be regarded as a Commodore, not as a Captain. The attack on Alvarado was to take place on the 11th or 12th at furthest. The steamer Mississippi arrived as the Relief was coming out. There is nothing sure worth communicating. The Princeton sailed this morning for Vera Cruz. The John Adams was to leave to-day." [N. O. Tropic.

[AMB]

Friday, November 13, 1846  REV43i57p4c2 THE DEATH OF A NAVAL OFFICER, AND AN AMIABLE MAN
We have to announce, with profound regret, the sudden death of Commodore John Nicholson, of the United States Navy, who died last night at Mrs. Ulrich's in this city, under an attack of apoplexy. We have known Com. Nicholson for more than forty years. He was a printer by profession, in Richmond, in 1804-our near and respected neighbor-but his genius led him into a different destination, and his merits, gallantry and skill raised him to a high rank in the service, and made him many friends and numerous admirers. In several actions, he was distinguished for his extraordinary coolness and bravery. We deeply lament the loss of such a man to his country, his family and his friends.

Friday, November 13, 1846 REv43i57p4c4 GEN. LAMAR

Gen. Mirabeau B. Lamar has been commissioned by Gov. Henderson to act as a civil and military Governor of the Texas frontier. He is to make his headquarters at Laredo, a Mexican town on the Texas side of the Rio Grande. To enable him to extend his jurisdiction, he is authorized to raise and have under his command a company of 100 men. The required force was raised from among the disbanded Texans, and Gen. Lamar is now on his way to Loredo, to fulfill the duties of his new appointment.

Tuesday, November 17, 1846 REv43i58p1c4 VERY LATE FROM MEXICO

[From the New Orleans Picayune November

Through the same channel by which we received the intelligence given in another column from the Gulf squadron, we also received papers from Vera Cruz as late as the 29th of October. The intelligence is interesting and important.

In the first place we may say, in general terms that in no paper which we have opened do we find any token of submission on the part of the Mexicans in their conflict with this country. Every paragraph breathes threats of vengeance. Their losses are enumerated in detail, to found thereupon more urgent appeals to the patriotism of their citizens to give up everything from the support of the war. It is not too much to say that there is the warmest enthusiasm [sic] apparent in all that we read, whether in editorial remarks or the military addresses with which the papers are crowded. The spirit of all is "War to the knife." But this shows the surface of affairs only. We shall have occasion to note incidents, which lead us to suspect the country is by no means so united as the crisis in her affairs would seem to demand.

We enter into the details of the news without much attempt at arrangement or time for revision; but this will be excused. And first of Santa Anna.

The news of his arrival at San Luis Potosi which we gave the other ay, was at least premature. He did not reach there till the 8th of October. As every thing in regard to his movements is sought after, we annex his letter announcing his arrival:

LIBERATING ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

Headquarters, San Luis, Oct. 10, 1846.

Most Excellent Sir:- On the evening of the 8th inst. I arrived at this capital, accompanied by my staff, and established therein the headquarters of the Army of Operations, destined to repel the unjust invasion made upon the Republic by the Army of the United States of the North.

I have the pleasure of saying to your Excellency, that my entrance into this State was made amidst the congratulations of a magnanimous people, who have not ceased to bestow upon me profuse marks of consideration, and the same remark will apply to the authorities and public functionaries of all classes.

Oblig me by communicating these facts to his Excellency, the General charged with supreme executive power, and accept assurances of my consideration and esteem. God and Liberty!

Antonio Lopez De Santa Anna.

To the Secretary of War.

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One of the first acts of the wily general Issimo [sic], was to supply himself with funds. This he did very effectually,
by seizing upon a conducts of specie, thereby getting hold of two millions of dollars. His pretext was, that it was unsafe to forward this large amount of money to the seacoast in the present state of affairs. He gave receipts for the money, and his individual bonds for its restoration. It must be confessed that this mode of supplying his coffers is infinitely more expeditious than advertising for a loan, and more acceptable to the people at large than a forced loan from the clergy. The accounts we give of this great financial stroke, we do not derive from Mexican papers, but we have entire faith in the facts. We trust they will be satisfactory to English merchants and be accepted as an earnest of the security of the money they loaned Mexico on the mortgage of the Californias [sic]. We find Santa Anna's letter, of the 10th ult, in the latest paper before us. We regret to say, that the papers give us no clue to his plan of operations.

But while Santa Anna was on his way to San Luis, he wrote back from Queretaro, on the 3rd of October, as follows: "The disaster which we encountered at Monterey is not so great as I at first thought. Our troops have left for Saltillo and have already occupied the principal points of the Sierra. So far from the troops having become demoralized, I am assured that great enthusiasm prevails among them. Their success has cost the enemy, according to incontestable evidence, more than fifteen hundred men. Our artillery was well managed, and it is said that the enemy believe it was served by French officers- - - - - - I am now about to unfold all my character, with the energy which is habitual to me, and the Americans will very soon succumb, or I shall cease to exist." Upon copying this effusion of Santa Anna, the Diario breaks forth: "May Heaven crown with the most brilliant results the patriotism of this illustrious child of his country, whom we ardently desire to see return to the capital covered with glory."

We now for the first time learn what fruits the Mexicans derived from the seizure of our mails near Martin, intended for Gen. Taylor at Monterey. Among the multitude of papers forwarded by Ampudia to Santa Anna and the Government, we find a letter from our Secretary of War, Mr. Marcy, to Gen Taylor, revealing the design upon Tampico and San Luis Potosi. The letter is dated Washington, Sept. 21st, and through our account of the contents of the letter will be an old story at Washington, we may say here, that the design of the Secretary's letter is to obtain Gen. Taylor's opinion, rather than to dictate a line of proceedings for him. He is told what the Government has thought of doing, and asked what he thinks about it.

[AMB]

Friday, November 17, 1846 REv43i58p2c5 GENERAL VEGA

Col. T. F. Hunt, U.S. A., on Saturday, notified officially to Gen. Vega, and other Mexican officers, prisoners in this city, that they have been exchanged for Captain Carpender, and the crew of the brig *Truxton*. They were informed that they could proceed to Pensacola, as soon as possible, whence they would be taken on board one of the U. S. men-of-war, to Vera Cruz. It was, however, left to the discretion of Gen. Vega, and the other gentlemen, to return to their country by the way of Havana. The communication containing this information was dated Washington, the 28th ult, and signed by Gen. Winfield Scott. [*N. O. Commerical Times*].

[AMB]

Friday, November 17, 1846 REv43i58p2c5 OPERATIONS OF CAPT. FREMONT IN UPPER CALIFORNIA

*Letter from Senator Benton to the President*

Sir: - In the absence of official information on the subject of Lieutenant Colonel (then Captain) Fremont's operations in Upper California, I deem it my duty to lay before you the private letters which I have received from that officer, showing you his actual position at the latest dates; the unwilling manner in which he became involved in hostilities with the Mexican authorities of that province before he had heard of the war with Mexico; and especially to disprove the accusation officially made against him by Governor Castro of having come into California with a body of United States troops, under the pretext of a scientific expedition, but in reality to excite the Americans settled in that province to an insurrection against the Mexican government. This accusation is of the gravest character, most seriously implicating, the good faith and honor of our government and officially made by Governor Castro, in a despatch [sic] to the minister of war and marine, under date of the first of April last, and published in *El Monitor Republicano*, in the city of Mexico, by the order of the Mexican government, on the 10th of May last. A copy of this paper was sent to Mrs. Fremont, my daughter, by the Hon. Mr. Slidell, and an English translation of it is herewith presented.

When Capt. Fremont left the U. States to complete his scientific labors beyond the Rocky mountains, it was with a full knowledge of the political as well as personal difficulties of the enterprise. He knew that the relations of the United States were critical both with Mexico and Great Britain - that he was going through the territories of the one, and among the settlements of the other - that jealousy would attach to his movements, and all his acts be referred to his government; and he was perfectly determined to use the utmost circumspection in all his conduct, confining himself wholly to his scientific pursuits, and carefully avoiding as well the appearance as the reality of either a political or military mission. With this view, and after having traversed the desert, and crossed the Great Basin which lies between the Rocky Mountains and the *Sierra Nevada* of the *Atta California*, he left men upon the frontier, an hundred miles from Monterey, and went alone to that city to explain his objects and wishes in person to Gov. Castro. He did this in the most formal and official manner, in company with the U. States consul, Mr. O'Larkin, (at whose house he stopped,) and conforming to the whole detail of Spanish ceremonial, he not only called on the governor but
if attacked, under the flag of their country, four thousand miles distant from their homes, was an act of the highest
the circumstance of the case; and the noble resolution which they took (refusing the aid of their countrymen) to die,
country. To my mind, this entrenching on the mountain and raising the national flag, was entirely justifiable under
that hour of danger, as a warning to the approaching assailants— as a bond of union and devotion among
a standard of insurrection, or as a sign of contempt to the Mexican government, but as the symbol of honor and
and leave it to their country to avenge their deaths. All they did was in self-defence [sic]. The flag was raised, not as
the country— that if attacked they would defend themselves, and die to the last man under the flag of their country,
that his situation was most critical and dangerous. The consul sent a special messenger to warn him of his danger;
the American settlers below offered to join him; but he utterly refused their assistance, because he would not
compromise them. But he did what honor and self-preservation required, and what the courage and fidelity of his
men enthusiastically seconded; he took a position, and waited the approach of the assailants; and that position
was nearer to them, on the summit of the Sierra, overlooking Monterey, at thirty miles distance and whence, with
their glasses, they could plainly see the troops, with their artillery, which had crossed the bay (of Monterey) to San Juan,
on their way to attack him. The Governor, with these troops, and with all his threats, after coming towards the camp
on the Sierra, did not come to it; and Captain Fremont, faithful to his design to avoid collision, if possible, finding
himself not attacked, determined to retire, and proceed to Oregon on his intended route of the valley of the
Sacramento, the Tlamat lake, and the valley of the Wahlamath river. Accordingly, about the 10th of March, he left
his position on the Sierra, descended into the valley of San Joaquin, and commenced his march by slow and easy
stages, of four and six miles a day, towards Oregon.

It is of his encampment on the Sierra, that Governor Castro makes particular complaint in his despatch [sic] to
Minister of War and Marine, as an evidence of hostile intentions, and where the American flag was raised, a
fortification built, and the American settlers called in for its defence [sic] . Unhappily we have no letter from Captain
Fremont, detailing the events of these days; but the want of such a letter is well supplied by the official
communications from the American Consul at Monterey to our Secretary of State, and by Captain Fremont's brief
note to the consul, (written in pencil) while expecting the attack of Governor Castro, and which has been heretofore
published in our papers. Mr. Buchanan furnished us, as soon as they were received, with copies of these dispatches,
which are herewith laid before you, and from which it will be seen that Governor Castro's accusations against
Captain Fremont are entirely unfounded; that so far from having excited the Americans to revolt, he absolutely
refused to receive those who offered to join him; and more, that when after leaving this position, and granting
discharges to five or six men, he refused to fill their places from the men in the country, so determined was he to
avoid as well in appearance, as in fact, the smallest act offensive or injurious to the Mexican authorities. The same
 correspondence shows the entire falsehood of all the superlative gas-conade which Governor Castero put into his
official report about the spoils of the camp – the dispensor [sic] of Fremont and his men- their fight into the
bulrushes, and through the desert—his suffocation in the cradle of a dangerous conspiracy, & c., with all which
imaginary exploits his official despatch [sic] was filled, while Fremont, with sixty-two men and two hundred horses,
were slowly retiring in a body, almost in his view, and utterly abstaining from any act of offence to the province or
its authorities. It was no doubt this false report to his Government, that led to his subsequent operations in May, to
exterminate Fremont's party and all the American settlers on the Sacramento.

On return from the evacuated camp on the Sierra, the governor also put forth a proclamation, in the vein of his
report, and even worse, styling Fremont and his men a band of highway robbers, plundering the consul took the
trouble to investigate, and found to be a very trivial offence of manners (not of law or morals) which the injured
party valued at five dollars, and for which Captain Fremont gave ten. For the rest, the consul, after all this, declares
the inhabitants of the country to be well pleased with Captain Fremont, and that he might walk the streets of
Monterey the next day alone, if he chose. The only truth in Governor Castro's despatch [sic] is, that Captain Fremont
took a military position, entrenched it, and raised the American flag: but these events were the consequence, and
not the cause of Gov. Castro's movement against him; and this is fully shown in that brief, but heroic note, written
in pencil, in answer to the consul's warning, in which Capt. Fremont after refusing the aid of the American settlers,
declared for himself and his sixty-two men, that they had done nothing wrong to the authorities or to the people of
the country— that if attacked they would defend themselves, and die to the last man under the flag of their country,
and leave it to their country to avenge their deaths. All they did was in self-defence [sic]. The flag was raised, not as
a standard of insurrection, or as a sign of contempt to the Mexican government, but as the symbol of honor and
patriotism., which was entitled to respect from others to defence [sic] from them—and which they had displayed in
that hour of danger, as a warning to the approaching assailants— as a bond of union and devotion among
themselves- and as an appeal and invocation (if they should be destroyed) to the avenging spirit of their far distant
country. To my mind, this entrenching on the mountain and raising the national flag, was entirely justifiable under
the circumstance of the case; and the noble resolution which they took (refusing the aid of their countrymen) to die,
if attacked, under the flag of their country, four thousand miles distant from their homes, was an act of the highest
heroism, worthy to be recorded by xenophon [sic], and reflecting equal honor upon the brave young officer who
commanded and the heroic SIXTY-TWO by whom he was supported.

[AMB]
A volunteer in the Kentucky regiment (Robert Hardin) writing to his father after the battle of Monterey, gives an account of three days' fighting. He says:

On Monday night the Mexicans were in high spirits. They had lost but few men. All night they threw up sky rockets. At night the firing ceased. The left wing of the Kentucky regiment, to which I am attached, marched into the fort taken by us, to hold it during the night. As we moved in, we were in point blank shot of one battery, and raked on our right by another. They both belched fire the whole time we were marching in, a distance of one mile. Such a night as I spent that night, I hope never to spend again. We had eaten nothing since daylight. We had no shelter-no fire. We laid down in the mire and blood, among dead men and horses, and cold rain fell on us all night. I had no coat on, having gone into the fight in my shirt sleeves.

I never heard balls whistle before. Two cannon balls passed within two feet of me, and many more within a short distance. As we left the fort on Tuesday evening, which we had been holding as stated before through Monday night we were ordered to scatter, as the best means of protection against the two batteries which raked our line. I had got away from the company about 50 yards to myself, when a whole load of grape shot were discharged at me alone. I heard the shot and stooped in the bushes, when on both sides and above me the shot fell like hail. We lost three of our men with these fires this morning.

The dead were awful sights to look upon- some shot with cannon balls, and some with small shot- some with their heads shot off- some with their legs off- some with their bowels scattered on the ground. We had no time until yesterday, to bury the dead. The heavens were full of carrion birds, and the air with stench. I have not time to write at large- am in fine health, unhurt: without a scratch for which I am truly thankful.

Friday, November 17, 1846 REv43i58p4c1 IMPORTANT FROM SANTA FE

[from the St. Louis Republican, Nov. 7]

By the arrival at Fort Leavenworth, on the 30th October, of Lieut. Col. Ruff of the Missouri Volunteers, we learn that Gen. Kearney left for California on the 25th of September, taking with him companies B, C, G, K and I, 1st U. States Dragoons - - in all about 400 men, mounted on mules. The route of this small command was considered by many of the oldest and most experienced mountaineers and traders, as one of great hardships and suffering, if not absolutely impracticable- being down the Rio Grande to Socoro, (an old Spanish town, formerly of much importance from the large garrison stationed there.) about two hundred miles South of Santa Fe; thence West to the "Gila," (pronounced Hela;) thence down the Gila, to within one hundred and fifty to two hundred miles of the head of the Gulf of California, into which the Gila empties itself; thence Northwest to Monterey, on the Pacific. This route is called and known as the Copper Mine route.

The Colonel reports that everything was tranquil at Santa Fe when he left, (September 27th,) though a very current rumor existed that the Army family would endeavor to incite the population to open resistance as soon as Gen. Kearney and the regular troops of the United States had left that part of the country.

This report was not believed, however, or, if true, would have caused no uneasiness.

General Kearney, by printed proclamation, dated September 22, 1846, announces that, being duly authorized by the President of the United States, he appoints the following named persons the executive and administrative officers of the laws and government of the Territory of New Mexico:

Governor-Charles Bent
Secretary of the Territory- Don Aduciano Vigil
Marshal- Richard Daltam.
U. S. District Attorney- Francis P. Blair.
Treasurer- Chas. Blummer.
Auditor Public Accounts- Eugene Leitensdorfer.

And Jacob Houghton, Antonio Jose Otero and Chas Baubie Judges of the Supreme court.- These appointments were regarded as the best that could be made out of the material present in Santa Fe. The appointment of Gov. Bent appears to give general satisfaction.

The troops left in Santa Fe and vicinity are Major M. Lewis Clark's battalion of horse artillery and part of Col. Price's regiment, together with Capt. Augney's company, (from Cole) and Capt. Murphy's (of Platte) company of Infantry.

Col. Doniphan's regiment had obtained permission of Gen. Kearney to march to Chihuahua and effect there a junction with Gen. Wool, U. S. Army. Indeed such a movement was necessary, as owing to some mismanagement, provisions were very scarce, the Army being obliged to subsist from Bent's Fort (some time in July) up to the last of September, without sugar or coffee, and on half ration of flour (ground wheat.)

It was the universal belief at Santa Fe that General Wool would meet with no resistance at Chihuahua. Constant
communication was had between the traders at Chihuahua and the traders at Santa Fe, and the trains of Connelly & Glasgow, Owens & Anulu, Doane & Co., Huffman & Mayoffins, left for Chihuahua about the 20th of September expecting to find General Wool in possession of the city. In this they will be very much mistaken, however, as he had not then left San Antonio.

[AMB]

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**Friday, November 17, 1846 REv43i58p4c2 SEIZING OF THE YUCATAN SCHOONERS**

We were led into an error yesterday morning, by copying a paragraph from the *Evening Bulletin* of Monday, stating that the *schr. Ventura* had not been seized by the U. S. Marshal. Both the schrs. *Ventura* and *Joaquine*, and their cargoes, have been seized by the Marshal—the latter vessel yesterday morning, as will be seen by the monitions in our advertising columns. Of the 7000 dollars of specie on board the *Ventura* 1500 dollars have been taken possession of by the proper authority; 5500 having been sent from the vessel before her seizure. A portion of her cargo, fruit, &c., perishable articles, will be sold today. [N. O. Delta, Nov. 5.]

[AMB]

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**Friday, November 17, 1846 REv43i58p4c5 LATE FROM THE SQUADRON**

**Second Abortive Attack on Alvarado!**

**EXPEDITION AGAINST TOBASCO.**

[from the *New Orleans Picayune*, Nov. 7]

By the arrival of the pilot boat at the Balize we are in the possession of late advices from the squadron. We have only time to give the annexed letters and save the mail. If the Commodore has failed in his attack upon Alvarado, it is owing to no want of gallantry or skill on his part or that of his officers. The difficulties he has had to surmount have been insuperable so far; but he will yet prevail. He will in a few weeks renew his attempt at all hazards: [Correspondence of the *Picayune*]

OFF ANTON LIZARDO}
October 13, 1846 }

Gentlemen— We are on the eve of another attack on Alvarado. At 5 o'clock this afternoon Com. Conner issued orders for the sailing of the squadron (frigates *Cumberland* and *Raritan* excepted) for the mouth of the Alvarado river. The Commodore takes command of the expedition in person, making use of the steamer *Vixen* as his flag ship for the occasion. One o'clock tomorrow morning is the hour fixed for getting under weigh, and already the streamers *Mississippi*, *Vixen* and *McLane* are firing up. Besides these vessels the force consists of the revenue cutter *Forward*, schrs. *Reefer*, *Petrel* and *Bonito* and prize schooner *Nonata*. This latter vessel was recently captured from the Mexicans, and was formerly the American schr. *Belle* out of your port. She now mounts 4 42 pound carronades. For the past month we have been drilling our men as infantry upon small island here; and Jack is so anxious for a fight that he marks time with a good grace, and every one appears pleased that at last we are to have a chance at the enemy.

At the mouth of the river the Mexicans have a ten gun battery, and we know of a brig of war and two gunboats being anchored inside. A number of their small merchantmen have taken refuge in the harbor, and there must be a smart sprinkling of prize money in store for us.

October 16– Our sailing orders for the morning of the 14th, were countermanded, in consequence of us blowing too fresh for operations—occasioning a delay of the expedition for twenty-four hours. We sailed, however, at 1 o'clock, A. M. yesterday; but I regret to say, that we are all at anchor again today, and Alvarado is yet in possession of the Mexicans.

You were pleased to call the former attack on Alvarado an abortion, and I suppose you will not be sparing of hard names for the present failure; but I trust that when you examine the facts of the case, you will understand that it is owing to the inefficiency of the means at the disposal of Commodore Conner, and to the natural elements of the place itself, that we have not been successful, rather than to any want of skill or courage on his part, or lack of spirit and support by the officers and men under his command.

We were within ten miles of the mouth of the river at daylight, and stood slowly into shore, it being dead calm— the *Vixen* and *McLane* towing the schooners. The *Mississippi* anchored at long-shot distance, and commenced her fire. Up to this time everything appeared highly favorable for the success of the expedition. There being a heavy swell on the bar, the pilots declined taking the vessels over. The Commodore leading in the *Vixen*, with the rest of the force following, passed by the fort, each vessel firing her broadside as she ranged ahead, with but little effect, however, owing to the distance. A long eighteen in the *Forward* sent a shot directly into the fort; this movement was repeated with better success, the distance being lessened, and again the *Forward* made a most beautiful shot. In the
the volunteer companies, who may desire to enlist under the new terms of service, (during the war,) to come, in another column will be found an appropriate proclamation, which governor smith promptly issued, calling upon, let the whigs rave as they may, the nation is convinced of the justice and righteousness of the war with mexico, and predicted that the government could not raise money to carry on the war. This public confidence, the Whig press untimely appeals to party will utterly fail to keep down the rising patriotism of the nation. At the risk of destroying sentiments, at a moment when we are actually engaged in war, with an insolent and phrenzied foe. All these gravelling selfishness of the "yankee" character in calculating the "cost of the war." The Whig press may re echo his mind. Mr. Webster may disgrace himself and his country by appealing to what he falsely conceives to be the denial, that the vigorous movements set on foot by the government will meet with a cordial response in the popular. There remains one way to take this alvarado, and, mark my words, it will be done before many weeks; meanwhile we must expect to be severely handled by the newspapers at home, and by people who expect us to accomplish impossibilities and gain glory on a field where none is to be won- although no man, with two ideas in his head, who witnessed our recent defeat, can attribute blame to any one.

October 25,—on the night of the 16th instant, the three steamers, cutter forward, schooners bonito, reefer and nonata, under command of commodore perry, left anton lizaro for an attack on tabasco. on the morning of the 17th, the mississippi made a prize of the american barque coosa, captain hickling, off alvarado river, and sent her into this place upon suspicion of her being about to land her cargo on the mexican coast. this vessel was cleared from new orleans on the 3rd instant for havana, by messrs. wylie & egana, with 1,600 bales of cotton, put up in 200 pound bales, and there appears good reason to suppose that it was intended for mexico. she will sail for your port on the 27th, in charge of passed midshipman barrett, son of one of your former collectors.

today another prize, the Yucatan schooner "El Telegrafo" arrived from the tabasco expedition on the 23rd, and reports the fleet standing off the land waiting for weather to go into the river.

the following vessels are here discharging coal for the steamers; barques ever and morgan dix; brigs abrasia and Juan Cartagena schooners Regina Hill and Sarah. The latter vessel having lost her rudder on her passage from New orleans to brazos santiago was blown down here, and her coal has been made use of by commodore conner. also, schooners Portia from New orleans, and Titus from New haven, with supplies for the squadron.

Yours,
B.A.

[AMB]
forward at once. We doubt not, that they will respond with a promptness and patriotism worthy of the good old state.

We learn that several applications have already been made for appointments in the new Regiment, and that Governor Smith has accepted the services of the Richmond Greys, Capt. Robert G. Scott, Jr. and of the Rangers, the new volunteer company formed in this city last Spring, on the first breaking out of hostilities, under Capt. E. C. Carrington. Robert Porterfield is 1st Lieutenant, and Carlton Munford 2d Lieutenant of this new corps. We are requested to call upon the members immediately at the office of Messrs. Carrington & Hughes.

The Whig press predicted that the Government could not raise money to carry on the war. This mischievous attempt to clog the wheels of Government, has been put down by the successful loan of five millions just effected by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Let the Whigs rave as they may, the nation is convinced of the justice and righteousness of the war with Mexico, and will cordially aid the administration in bringing it to a glorious end.

The present war brings us better acquainted with the country which we have conquered. It shows us the habits of the people, the producing capacities of their soil, its rivers, its mountains and the routes by which commerce is hereafter to shed its blessings upon the land. How many were acquainted with the beauties of Monterey for example: of which one of the first officers of the army gives us the following picturesque description under date of October 10th.

"The brave division of General Worth has fought six distinct and separate battles and so often conquered superior numbers and [...] [unreadable word] the vallies [sic] and the mountains, the streets and the house-tops with the enemy’s dead. We have gained a series of glorious triumphs, and we hope the government and people will be satisfied. This valley and surrounding scenery would seem to have set to Johnson’s Rasselas. Nothing can exceed its fertility, beauty or grandeur. As its climate, it seems to be a resolution of all the fine elements. In the same enclosure you [...] [unreadable word] the tropical and the northern fruits - the [...] [unreadable word] and pomegranate blended with the apple, pear, and cherry of the north- all growing in rich and harmonious luxuriance. The mountains seem to stretch to Heaven and kiss the land of God in thankfulness for his blessings. " Indeed, all for the face of man is divine."

If we turn from New Leon to New Mexico we are struck with its new features and resources. The letter of Lieut. Abert, with which we have been favored, opens upon the mines of precious metals which that province produces.

EXTRACT of a letter from Lieut. Abert, corps of Topographical engineers, dated Santa Fe Oct. 7, 1846

If we turn from New Leon to New Mexico we are struck with its new features and resources. The letter of Lieut. Abert, with which we have been favored, opens upon the mines of precious metals which that province produces.

THE CALL FOR TROOPS

The following (says the Union) are the places of rendezvous for the nine regiments called for in yesterday's orders by the Secretary of War:

One regiment from Louisiana, New Orleans

- Mississippi, Vicksburg
- South Carolina, Charleston
- North Carolina, Wilmington
- Virginia, Guyandotte
- Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh
- New York, City of N. Y.
- Massachusetts, Boston
Texas. The Governor is authorized to designate the place of rendezvous, and to report the same to Gen. Taylor.

The troops are to serve during the war, and are estimated to amount to from 6,500 to 7,000 troops.

This movement appears to be little in conformity with the policy, latterly assigned by the Federal press and its scribes, of "masterly inactivity."

A scribe in this morning's "Baltimore American," says we either do not know, or will not tell the plan of the war. He is welcome to take whichever alternative pleases him best. And so of the destination of these troops, or of any others which are now in the service.

November 20, 1846 REv43i59p2c5, Extracts From Mexican Papers

[Portions Unreadable]

The same vessel which brought the dispatches [sic] to the Navy Department, that we publish this evening, (says the Washington Union, November 17th,) brings with it also a file of the Vera Cruz Locomotor, from the 9th to the 19th of October inclusive. Most of the articles of importance or interest which they contain, are furnished in the extracts from the New Orleans papers, that we this evening lay before our readers. A decree, with a long pramble, was issued by the Government on the 21st of October, requiring from all holders of town property within the Republic, whether belonging to individuals, convents, societies or institutions, a contribution equivalent to a months rent, to be devoted exclusively to the support of the war, to be paid in four monthly installments. Tenants and sub-tenants are required to contribute a sum equal to the fourthpart of a month's rent.

The Monitor of the 8th of October says: "We know that the Secretary of the Treasury has proposed to the venerable Clergy of this diocese a mode by which they can contribute abundant means for the support of the war, without diminishing in any manner the value of ceclesiastical [sic] property, and without prejudice to the rights of individuals.

The Secretary attended to-day [sic], at the ecclesiastical [sic] session, a deliberation upon this important matter; but it appears that the venerable Clergy postponed their decision, and that they are not impressed with[...][missing] the Government for [gr....][missing] save the independence and [unreadable] co."

The Monitor of the [?th] known in a positive manner has received proposals for a [ . . . ]ty millions of dollars and substantially [sic] upon a [ ... ] of the clergy, without [ ... ] demands of [.....][.....] The Republicans of the

"We know that Great Britain agreed seriously to [p...][up] the acceptance of these [m...]ences which exist between purpose of putting an end to have so unjustly [...][...]

If any confidence is to be articles in their newspapers voluntary contributions to increasing, and [...] [...] the people. [...] are [...] contrary. The commerce? [ ... ] Cruz to raise [c....] consequence of the [d...] [...]lon of business, they [...] able to raise more than [...] A number of ladies in [...] services to the Government the soldiers, &c. Ampudia's official papers[ ... ] wounded at Monterey [to][...]
killed, 23 officers and [...] A letter from a [...] Saltillo, September 27th, a[ ... ]

[AMB]

Monday, November 20, 1846 REv43i59p2c6 ATTENTION GRAYS!

Attend a meeting of your company at Military Hall, this evening, at 7 o'clock.

ROG. SCOTT, Jr., Captain

Volunteers desirous of enlisting in the company of Richmond Grays, whose services have been accepted by the Governor of Virginia, under the late requisition made by the President of the United States, for a regiment of infantry from the State, will report themselves to Robert O. Scott, Jr. Captain of the company, immediately. The company will be pleased to see at [...] [unreadable word] meeting, to night, those persons who feel an interest in their success.

The places of rendezvous will be Swan Tavern, [...] [unreadable word] Hill, and [ ... ] Military Nov. 20

[AMB]
ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS!

Captain Carrington's company of volunteers are hereby notified to rendezvous forthwith in the city of Richmond. The company is now organizing anew, in accordance with the recent instructions of the Secretary of War, and will march as soon as its organization shall be completed. The term of enlistment will be during the continuance of the war with Mexico. The new requisition raises the number of privates in the company to EIGHTY instead of SIXTY-FOUR, as before required. Several vacancies have been occasioned by the removal from the city of some of the original volunteers, and by other causes - so that the whole number of vacancies to be supplied is not less than thirty. Volunteers in the country, whether members of the original company or not, are recommended to repair to the city as soon as practicable. Applications for enlistment should be made to the Captain at his office, corner of 11th and Bank Streets. By order of the Captain.—Nov. 20

MARINE JOURNAL

PORT OF RICHMOND

High Water the day, at 5'o'clock, P. M.

ARRIVED

Schr. Gen. Irvin, Wilson, Havre de Grace

SAILED

Schr. Greenway, Couch, New York
Schr. Mary Miller, Bateman, Philadelphia
Schr. Herald, Hudgins, Baltimore.

Baltimore, Novenber 18- Cleared Home, Edmondson, for Norfolk, Petersburg and Richmond.

Charleston, Nov. 16. - Arrived schr. O.O.F., Dow, from Richmond

New Orleans, Nov. 12- Arrived, bargue, Phoenix Boush, 13 days from Norfolk, VA.

Arrived at Gravesend, Nov. 1, ship Rob Roy, Drummond, from Richmond.

MISCELANEOUS

(From the N. O. Picayne, Nov. 10)

FURTHER MEXICAN INTELLIGENCE

We recur to-day to our files of Mexican papers, which are full of interest. Somewhat at random, we plunge at once into their contents.

We have a report from Gen. Ampudia, written from Saltillo on the 4th, of October, giving the killed, wounded and missing in "the division under his command" at Monterey, from the 19th to the 23rd of September, in their different encounters with the Americans. The list embraces 5 officers and 117 privates killed; 23 officers and 221 men wounded; 1 officer and 8 men injured or "confused" and 63 wounded. This gives a total of 438. We know this to be far below the true number of casualties, unless Ampudia intends to confine this, as his words my impart, to his own immediate command, independent of that under other general officers, and the irregular troops.

To keep alive the enthusiasm which has been aroused throughout Mexico, and thereby forward the organization of the National Guard, General Salas, the nominal head of the Government, has allowed himself to be named Colonel of a new battalion raised in the City of Mexico. Don V. Garcia Torres, the editor and printer who was persecuted by Paredes but who is again at large, has made an attempt to form another battalion, and with every prospect of success.

We find denunciation [sic] in the papers against a class of Mexicans who are said to be withdrawing privately from the country, taking with them the wealth which they have amassed, as is alleged by speculating in the funds, and
The press is very bold, too, in its denunciations of the clergy, who are accused of opposing the measures of the Government. An attempt is made to throw odium upon the church, and as we judge, with the view of justifying measures watch the Government may feel compelled to take to make the church contribute from its hoards to the necessities of the government. It is well known that when Gomez Farias was in power many years since, he had courage to propose... "laying hands upon the property of the church, and Farias is assuredly one of the master spirits in the present Government of Mexico.

Gen. Cortina, before resigning his post as Governor of the district, signed an order for the disarming a battalion of the Naional Guard. It led to an immediate commotion. The discontented flew at once to Gomez Farias for relief, and through his influence the order was rescinded. Cortina in the business is accused of acting under the influence of the Modcrads or Conservatives; and although this party is in the minority, and Cortina has been compelled to resign, we inter from the continual denunciations of which it is the object, that is formidable, and my embarrass the Government whenever a favorable opportunity occurs.

The troops stationed in the city of Morelia, received orders on the 3rd of October to march forthwith under General Cela, and join the army of Monterey. The call for these troops reached that city at the same time as the news of the disaster at Monterey and produced an immense excitement. So far from being depressed, the people came forward with contributions to support the war, and provide resources for the garrison to set out upon its march.

The press is very bold, too, in its denunciations of the clergy, who are accused of opposing the measures of the Government. An attempt is made to throw odium upon the church, and as we judge, with the view of justifying measures watch the Government may feel compelled to take to make the church contribute from its hoards to the necessities of the government. It is well known that when Gomez Farias was in power many years since, he had courage to prop[...] "laying hands upon the property of the church, and Farias is assuredly one of the master spirits in the present Government of Mexico.

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Gen. Rincon, a distinguished [sic] officer in the Mexican service, died on the 16th, ult. at Jalapa.

In a paper of the 7th October, published at Puebla the following pointed allusion is made to the defenseless state of Matamorcas:

"What are three hundred Anglo-Americans, who form the garrison of Matamorcas, to subdue the ten thousand inhabitants of that town? What! are several or eight thousand adventurers under Gen. Taylor to conquer the State of New Leo? What! are the one hundred or two hundred thousand adventurers, who my be sent out by the presumptuous Government of Washington, to enslave eight millions of Mexicans?"

The writer then goes on to answer the question he thus asks, and in a very patriotic strain. We meet continually in our papers with sneers at the inadequacy of the forces which we are employing against Mexico, but more especially do we find them touching upon the small number of troops left for the defence [sic] of Matamorcas. It was at one time boldly proclaimed in this country, prior to the fall of Monterey, that they true point of attack for Santa Anna was to fall suddenly upon Gen. Taylor's line of communications near the mouth of the Rio Grande. This was before our Government was known to have conceived a design upon Tampico, and of course before the Mexicans had their attention directed to the defence [sic] of that [...]. [words unreadable] publication of Mr. Marcy's letter to Gen. Taylor of the 21st September. It certainly is not less worthy of consideration now, to look well to the strength of our position on the lower Rio Grande, when it would best suit the purposes of Santa Anna to take the initiative and divert us from the dreaded attack by threatening our communications.

In our paper of Sunday, we endeavored to give an idea of the tone of public feeling in Mexico, and the efforts made by the Government to stimulate popular animosity against this country. In pursuance of the same purpose, we translate an article from the official journal of Mexico, which throws much light upon the state of the public mind in Mexico, and states some facts or alleged facts, in regard to our occupation of Monterey. We have no belief in the extent of the excesses said to have been committed by the volunteers, and those which have been committed are to be attributed to a small number of lawless fellows, camp followers and others, rather than soldiers; but we allow the Mexicans to tell the story in their own way. Incidentally, the reader may derive knowledge of many interesting facts from the translation of such documents.

(From the El Diario del Gobierno, of the 8th October)

Everything we asserted a few days since, when we inserted the address to the inhabitants of New Mexico made by the American commander who occupied that capital, in regard to the barbarous conduct observed towards Mexicans by the enemy, notwithstanding his flattering promise in regard to religion, life and property, is confirmed in the letter which we append hereto written by a person worthy of credit in Monterey to another in Saltillo. By this we can see what fate the invader is preparing for the inhabitants of the republic, and how civilized they show themselves who in the name of civilization seek to extend their domination over us.

The blood freezes in our veins as we think upon our brothers at Monterey under the American yoke, compelled to seek an asylum against the barbarity of these savages of the North to secure the honor of their daughters ad wives, and to save lives threatened every moment by the ferocity of the conqueror- abandoning their homes and fortunes. Such is the mode in which the laws of humanity are respected by these men, who would present themselves as models to us; who would seduce us into treason by promises which can deceive no one, because their acts, more
eloquent than words, reveal to us the insincerity of their professions. And if the vandalism of our enemy presses now upon our countrymen at Monterey, upon our enemy shall recoil in the eyes of the whole earth the indelible stain of the infamy with which these atrocities cover their authors.

All true Mexicans will see the fate which awaits us if we fall into the hands of this ferocious foe; and if our duty to our country, our sense of honor and dignity as citizens, were not sufficient to compel us to chase back the enemy, at the cost of every possible sacrifice, still we must do it if we would not see ourselves treated as our brothers at Monterey have been since the victory.

It was indeed appalling to our enemy, when, full of fear at seeing the conquered city abandoned by its ancient inhabitants, they comprehended, contrary to their expectations, that Mexicans were not disheartened by their calamity, and that, far from inspiring dismay, the triumphs of the Americans did but animate public spirit, enkindle the liveliest enthusiasm, and make of every Mexican a hero to repel an enemy whose cowardice is capable of abusing his triumph against defenseless citizens.

The war is necessary; it is indispensable. It will be the only means of restraining the enemy, and of avenging the outrages committed upon our countrymen, and the blood shed in battle. Fortune will not always prove adverse. When we deserve her favors by our sacrifices and our virtues, she will station herself on our side, and our triumphant arms will dictate law to the conqueror.

Monday, November 20, 1846

Extract of a letter from Commodore Conner to the secretary of the Navy:

"U.S. Ship CUMBERLAND "OFF VERA CRUZ, October 17, 1846

"It is with feelings of deep mortification that I apprise the Department of the failure of another attempt to enter the river of Alvarado.

On the morning of the 15th, a little after sunrise, I reached the entrance of that river, with the steamer Vixen, the three gunboats, the prize schooner Nonata, mounting four guns, and the revenue vessels, schooner Forward and steamer McLane, accompanied by the Mississippi, Commodore Perry. It was intended the latter should cannonade the battery, while the smaller vessels crossed the bar. It was found, however, she could not approach near enough to make any impression on the work with her shells. This battery mounted seven guns; and immediately behind it, on an elevated knoll, was a platform, on which was a mounted pivot-gun. Knowing the small power of the steamers on which I depended to tow the small vessels over the bar, and up the river, I was desirous of having a favorable wind to assist them. For this purpose, I delayed moving until nearly two o'clock, but seeing no prospect of the usual sea breezes setting in, I determined to proceed. The first division, composed of the Reefer and Bonita, in tow of the Vixen, got under way, and was followed by the second division, consisting of the Nonata, Forward and Petrel, towed by the McLane. As they approached the bar, the current became stronger, causing the steamers to steer badly, and lessening their progress to not more than a mile, or a mile and a half, the hour.

"The first division continued to advance steadily, and had been some time engaged with the battery, when I had the mortification to see the McLane aground on the bar, and the vessels she had in tow, foul of each other, in the greatest disorder.

"As it was evident no support could be expected from the second division for some time, if at all, and as the three vessels composing the first were wholly inadequate to prosecute the attack, even it they could pass the battery with which we were engaged, I was constrained to order the Vixen to be put about, and repass [sic] the bar.

"It may be as well to observe here, that besides the battery at the entrance of the river, there is another at the town, one-and-a-half miles distant, of three guns, with two brigs, each mounting nine guns, a schooner of seven guns, and two gunboats, each carrying a long 24-pounder—all so disposed as to command the channel. By the time the Vixen joined her, the McLane was again afloat, without having sustained any material injury. It was obvious, however, her draft (ten feet two inches) was too great to pass the bar in its present state. Generally, there are from thirteen to fifteen feet on it, and my information led me to believe I should find that depth now, but the late floods have probably lessened it, as on sounding, previously to entering, there were barely twelve feet. The Vixen struck twice in going over, through drawing only seven feet. The current was also stronger in the river than I expected, even if she could pass the bar, I felt convinced the power of the McLane was inadequate to make head against it with any vessel in tow: These considerations- and the day being far spent- induced me, however, much against my present to enter the river.

[AMB]
The steam schooner Virginia, from Brazos Santiago, arrived yesterday at this port. E. Solomon, Esq., a gentlemen connected with the Paymaster's department, returned in the Virginia, and to his politeness we are indebted for many items of interest from Monterey.

Mr. S. left Monterey on Monday, the 26th ult., and he fully confirms the melancholy intelligence of the accident which befell the gallant Captain Randolph Ridgely, an account of which we gave in our last number. On the day of leaving, there were four physicians in attendance upon Captain Ridgely. He continued wholly insensible, and his medical attendants entertained little or no hopes of his recovery. General Taylor was greatly afflicted by this sad casualty, and expressed himself in relation to it in the most feeling manner. He declared in the presence of several, that Captain Ridgely was an invaluable officer, and that his place could not be filled.

The strength of the forces of the United States at Monterey does not exceed five thousand men, and the whole number of troops, from the mouth of the Rio Grande to Monterey, does not exceed thirteen thousand. It will require five thousand men to garrison the town already taken, and General Taylor thinks it would be injudicious to leave Monterey for San Luis Potosi with less than fifteen thousand men.

Lieut. Armstead, bearer of despatches from Washington to General Taylor had arrived. It was understood at Monterey that they directed Gen. Taylor to proceed to Tampico if he thought proper. The next movement of the army will be towards Linares, a town about one hundred and twenty miles from Monterey on the route to Tampico. Gen. Worth is of the opinion that there will be a severe fight there. Saltillo is entirely deserted by the enemy, their forces being concentrated at San Luis Potosi. General Taylor will leave a small force at Saltillo. An express from General Wool reached General Taylor on the 25th ult., informing him he had fifty days, subsistence, and was within six days' march of Moncova. He was hastening his marches to unite with General Taylor at Monterey.

Major Lear, who was wounded similarly to the late Captain Page was still ill. There were hopes of his recovery but his wound was of the most distressing character. Lieut, Col. McClung was rapidly recovering. Col. Marshall's regiment of Kentucky mounted men were encamped near Camargo, and the Tennessee mounted regiment was encamped near Matamoras.

The Mexican citizens of Monterey were returning to the city, resuming their usual avocations, and seemed to be satisfied with the new order of things.

A party of Mexicans and Americans under the command of the daring Capt. Jack Everett, formerly of Mobile, had gone in pursuit of the Comanche Indians who had been committing depredations upon the property of and murdered several Mexicans.

The U. S. steamer Spitfire left the brazos on Thursday last for Tampico. The object of the trip had not transpired.

The health of the troops was generally good, with the exception of some cases of ague and fever and diarrhea.

Among the property left by the enemy when he evacuated Monterey, was 30 to 40,000 choice cigars, about the same number of bales of tobacco and 20 to 30 bales of officer's uniforms, of the finest fabric, elegantly decorated, which must have cost large sums.

General Worth reports that 460 Mexicans were killed in his division of the army 130 of whom were buried at Mount Gillespie, the part of the city so called in honor of the brave and lamented officer, whose honored name it bears, and who was interred at that spot.

Great harmony and good feeling exists between General Taylor, Worth, Butler, and all the other officers, from which we conclude the letters received in the States stating that unpleasant words had passed between Generals Taylor and Butler were without foundation.

All the troops in Camargo are ordered to Mier, Seralvo and Pontaguida, the latter place is suppose to be the quarters of Canales. This will leave but one regiment from the mouth of the river to Matamoras, and two regiments at the latter place.

The city of Monterey is represented as a most delightful place of residence, and the country around it beautiful beyond description. Oranges, Lemons, Grapes, Pomegranates and indeed all the tropical fruits of the most delicious quality are most abundant.

Gov. Henderson had left the encampment with the official account of the siege and capture at Monterey. It was not known whether he would proceed himself to Washington.

A number of wounded officers and privates were passengers in the Virginia.
Capt. Harney's dragoons left here yesterday for Monterey. We have advices from Monterey as late as the 26th ult. The troops are suffering some from the chills and fever, and the diarrhea. The Mexicans here in Mataoras have a report that Tampico has been taken by our fleet, and they generally credit it. You may recollect that last June I wrote you that a report was in circulation amongst them here, that a fight had come off between some of our gunboats and theirs, which subsequently proved true, and I give you this rumor in the same way, thinking there may be some grounds to build it upon. The Tennessee Cavalry are expected here today from Lavacca. Health of the soldiers still improving.

P.S. - Gen. Wool has arrived at Monclovia, from which place he will send a part of his forces to Chihuahua and join Taylor with the balance at Monterey. This I get from Major Shields, who arrived here last evening. He also says that Taylor will move upon Tampico for reinforcements.

CORPORAL

Friday, November 24, 1846  REv43i60p4c4 JUSTICE TO A BRAVE VIRGINIAN

We have hitherto failed to re-publish, which we now do most cordially, the following high compliment to Lieutenant Colonel Garland, contained in a letter in the New Orleans Commercial Times from Monterey. Colonel Garland is a son of Hudson M. Garland, Esq, the distinguished Ex-Representative of the Albemarle Congressional District. He has more than once nobly upheld the honor of his native State, and we hope to have the pleasure of recording the honors won by many more of the sons of Virginia, before the termination of the war:

"On the left, the fighting was of a different and more sanguinary character than on the right. It was there the enemy had their heaviest force, and every point could be reinforced promptly. Nearly every house was a fortress, and shot were flying in every quarter from invisible enemies. It was in the lower part of the town, and on the plain, four-fifths of our men were killed and wounded. There Colonel Garland led the first division into the fight, and commanded all of it that was in the town on the 21st of September, and whilst officers and men were falling by scores around him, displayed that species of cool and undaunted courage, so rare, that enables the man to overcome his warmest feelings of friendship, and carries the officer on to his duty, and to face the storm of battle, when his judgment tells him he gains nothing by the contest, and when he is repulsed, to again return with the same unflinching nerve to the charge."

[AMB]

Friday, November 24, 1846  REv43i60p4c5 MELANCHOLY CASUALTY – CAPT. RANDOLPH RIDGELY

This gallant officer, who has won so many laurels in the war, is supposed to have lost his life at Monterey, about three weeks ago in a most melancholy manner. Our information, as derived from John Deshon, Esq., one of the owners of the steamship Sea, and who came passenger in the ship Uncas which arrived here from Brazos yesterday, is to this effect. Capt. Hill, U. S. Quartermaster at Brazos, informed Mr. Deshon that an express had just arrived from Monterey, communicating the sad intelligence, that Capt. Ringely, being on an unruly horse, and riding down a steep hill, was thrown, the horse falling upon him, and shockingly mangled. At the time the express left Monterey, Captain Ridgely was wholly insensible, the brains oozing out of his ears, and no hopes were entertained of his recovery. The Uncas spoke the steamship Virginian about twenty five miles from the S. W. Pass, on her way from Brazos to this port. On board of the Virginian was a bearer of despatches [sic] from Monterey for Washington, who will probably arrive today. From him we may expect full particulars of this terrible catastrophe. We must hope that Capt. Ridgely will yet be spared to his country, which cannot afford to lose so brave and chivalrous and meritorious an officer. [New Orleans Tropic, Nov. 13.

[AMB]

Friday, November 24, 1846  REv43i60p2c1 FROM MONTEREY

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES FROM GEN. TAYLOR

HEADQUARTERS FIELD DIVISION VOLUNTEERS
MONTEREY, September 30, 1846

Sir: Pursuant to the instructions of the Major General commanding, on the 21st inst., at about 8 o'clock, A.M., I marched my division (with the exception of one company from each infantry regiment, left to guard the camp) and placed it in order of battle, under cover, immediately in rear of the mortar and howitzer battery, my left resting on the main road to Monterey. I had been in position but a short time when I received the General's further orders to move as speedily as practicable with three regiments to the support of General Twiggs' division, then engaged in an attempt to carry the enemy's first battery on our left. To expedite this movement I marched the three nearest
The division, under Gen. Hamer, on whom devolved [sic] the command, moved to a new position near the captured fort, within supporting distance of our field batteries on the left. The troops remained in and near this position, and under fire at the enemy's batteries until late in the day. For details of the after proceedings of the day, I refer to Gen. Hamer's report.

It is with no little pride and gratification that I bear testimony of the gallantry and general good conduct of my command. Were proof wanting, a mournful one is to be found in the subjoined return of the casualties of the day. That part of my division properly in the field, did not exceed eleven hundred, of which number full one-fifth was killed or wounded. The fact that troops for the first time under fire should have suffered such loss, without shrinking, in a continuous struggle of more than two hours, and mainly against a sheltered and inaccessible foe, finds but few parallels, and is of itself an eulogy to which I need not add. That there were some more prominent for skill and gallantry than others, even in a contest where all were brave, there can be no doubt; and I leave to those better qualified from their situations than myself, the pleasing, though delicate task of reporting upon their respective merits.

Of my brigadiers, however, it is proper that I should myself speak. General Hamer was placed in a situation where nothing brilliant could be achieved, but which at every moment imperatively demanded prudence and clam, unbending courage. It is but justice to him to say that I found him equal to the emergency.

General Quitman had before him a field in which military genius and skill were called into requisition, and honors could be fairly won, and I but echo the general voice in saying that he nobly availed himself of the occasion.

My special thanks are due to Major L. Thomas, assistant adjutant general; General A. Sidney Johnston of Texas, acting inspector general, and Lieut. G. W. Lay, aid-de-camp, who not only displayed great gallantry and coolness, but by their professional skill, activity and energy, rendered valuable service throughout the action. After my withdrawal, they remained with the troops in the field.

Surgeon R. P. Hunt, my volunteer aid-de-camp, also evinced great coolness, and conveyed promptly the orders confided to him.

On the way back to camp I found the Kentucky regiment, under command of Col. Ormsby, drawn up in fine order to repel a threatened charge from a large body of Mexican cavalry then in view. Though necessarily kept from the field of action proper, they occupied a most important position, and had two men wounded in defending it.

I make no mention of the movements of Capt. Webster's howitzer battery, which was withdrawn from my division and placed under charge of the chief of artillery.

Enclosed are the reports of Brig. Gens. Hamer and Quitman of the operations of their respective brigades; also, a statement in detail of the loss sustained by the division.

I am, sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

W. O. BUTLER,

Maj. W. W. S. Bliss
Asst. Adj't General

Head-Quarters Army of Occupation,
Monterey, Mexico.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION VOLUNTEERS,
Camp near Monterey, Sept. 28th, 1846

Sir:— I have transmitted to Maj. Gen. Butler a report of the operations of the first brigade of this division on the 21st inst; but it becomes my duty, as commandant of the division, to send you a account of the movements of both brigades during the remaining days of our attack upon Monterey.

For a full statement of the points occupied and the services rendered by the 2d brigade, I respectfully refer you to the report of Brig. Gen. Quitman, who accompanied the brigade, and whose communication to me is herewith sent. I was not with tem to witness their gallantry; but from the general's report, they are entitled to great credit for the courage, energy, and zeal displayed n the 23rd, in pushing their attack so far into the city, and sustaining themselves under the galling fires of the enemy, who had such decided advantages over them in their barricades and other fences.

On the morning of the 23d, the first brigade was ordered out in front of the city, and took a position near the infantry of Gen. Twiggs' command, where we remained until late in the afternoon. Whilst on the plain, we could distinctly hear the discharges of small arms, occasionally, between Gen. Quitman's and Gen. Henderson's command and the forces of the enemy in the city. When they were ordered to retire from the city and return to camp, the first brigade was directed to march to the town and occupy the fort taken on the 21st the one above it, "El Diablo", which had been abandoned by the enemy on the previous evening, and the tannery between them. We obeyed, the order, approaching them under a fire of balls and shells, which fortunately did us no injury.

Capt. Webster's battery formed part of my command, and after stationing the brigade, I directed him to throw a couple of shells from his 24lb. howlizers [sic] into the plaza, where it was understood the principal force of the enemy was collected. He did so; and, as far as we could discover, with great precision and considerable effect. Subsequent information confirmed our opinions in regard to the injury and alarm produced by these shells. During the night, Gen. Worth threw several in the same direction from the batteries on the Western side of the city, proving to the Mexicans that they were assailable in this form both flanks.

Through the whole night the enemy threw up rockets from the plaza and from the citadel; no doubt expecting a night attack, and adopting this method to discover the approach of our troops.

Early on the morning of the 24th, we had made every preparation for renewing the attack upon the city, when we were suddenly arrested by a bugle with a [...] [unreadable word] of truce, approaching the forts. It was accompanied by Col. Marino, one of Gen. Ampudia's aids, bearing a letter to the General-in-Chief. He was conducted to me by Lieut. Col. Rogers, from the upper fort, and I furnished him a horse and escort to Maj. Gen. Taylor's quarters in camp. The firing on both sides was suspended until a conference could be held. This led to the capitulation by which the city was surrendered.

I have in my former report expressed my opinion in regard to the coolness and gallantry displayed by the officers and men under my command; and have only to add, that their conduct from the firing of the first to the last gun, was of the most meritorious character, richly deserving the approbation of their superior officers, and the gratitude of their countrymen.

Very respectfully, your obd't serv't
T.H. L. HAMER
Brig. Gen. Comd'g 1st division volunteers.

Major W. W. S. Bliss,
Assistant Adjutant General.
[AMB]

Friday, November 24, 1846 REv43i60p2c4 General Taylor's Dispatch

TUESDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 24, 1846

General Taylor's dispatch of the army's position and operations.

We surrender our columns today to the long official despatch [sic] of G. Taylor, which will be read with deep interest.
It is a lucid, dignified and modest narrative of one of the most brilliant achievements which history records. It shows that this able officer not only does his whole duty in the field, but what it almost as difficult, clearly portrays the whole facts to his admiring countrymen. Some one was not far out, when he declared that Gen. Taylor's despatches [sic] would proudly compare with Caesar's commentaries upon his great deeds of arms. Of course our readers will devour every line, and will need no prompting or guidance from us. We deem it just, however, to a gallant and injured officer, to call particular attention to what Major General Taylor says of Maj. Gen. W. O. Butler, of Kentucky. An attempt has been made, for party effect in some instances, to assail his fair reputation, first by charging him with cowardice, and then, in a most contradictory manner, with imprudence and rashness [sic]. Mark how the following passages, taken in connexion [sic] with the regular narrative it Gen. Taylor's dispatch, utterly put down these wantonly malicious and baseless tales. It appears, moreover, that Gen. Butler acted throughout, under the immediate instructions of Gen. Taylor:

"I take pleasure in bringing to the notice of the government the good conduct of the troops, both regulars and volunteers, which has been conspicuous throughout the operations. I am proud to bear testimony to their coolness and constancy in battle and the cheerfulness with which they have submitted to exposure and privation. To the general officers commanding divisions- Major Generals Butler and Henderson, and Brigadier Generals Twiggs and Worth - I must express my obligations for the efficient aid which they have rendered in their respective commands. I was unfortunately deprived, early on the 21st, of the valuable services of Major General Butler, who was disabled by a wound received in the attack on the city."

The rest of the interesting despatches [sic] shall appear very soon.

[AMB]

Friday, November 24, 1846  REv43i60p2c5 TO ARMS!

In order to help along the good cause, we republish the following spirited appeal of the two gallant young captains of this city. We cannot doubt that recruits will flock to the standard of their country. We learn that Capt. Scott will today visit the county of Hanover; and that himself or representative will be at Goochland Court-house on Thursday. Will not the people of Eastern Virginia turn out to do their duty? Already companies have offered their services from Lynchburg, Alexandria, Jefferson and Berkeley counties, and two from this city. The moment for action has arrived. Let the sons of Virginia see that she win the honor of having the first Regiment in the field. Through the term of enlistment be "during the war," we cannot believe that it can continue more than a year. The finest spirit prevails in this city. Let the country catch the inspiration, and bring forward her sons, proud of the distinction of serving their native land.

[AMB]

Friday, November 24, 1846  REv43i60p2c5 VOLUNTEERS OF VIRGINIA!!

Your country calls for your services. Virginia, who never yet faltered in the hour of peril, is required to furnish a Regiment of Infantry. We have engaged to enroll two Companies as a part of the Old Dominion's quota. Come, then, young and gallant men, of this time-honored Commonwealth, and gallantly sustain her high reputation for patriotism and devotion to the Union.

We have opened places of rendezvous in this city, where enrolments can be made and full explanations furnished. The service will afford opportunity for all of winning the highest distinction.

Quarters will be furnished to all at once who come from the country, and every comfort provided. Apply to either of the subscribers.

R.G. SCOTT, JR.
E. C. CARRINGTON,
Richmond, Nov. 21, 1846.

At a meeting of the Committee appointed by the Chairman of the meeting of citizens on Saturday, November 21st, 1846, to obtain subscriptions from our citizens for furnishing uniforms and supplies for the volunteers now being enrolled for the Mexican war, held at the office of Robert G. Scott, on the morning of Monday the 23rd of November, 1846, the following resolutions were proposed and adopted:

Resolved, That each member of the committee stand pledged to use his best efforts to promote the enrollment of volunteers.

Resolved, That a committee of eight from each ward be appointed to take around subscription lists and procure contributions from our citizens for furnishing clothing and supplies for the volunteers.

Resolved, That all contributions when received be paid over to John H. Cook, Esq., at the Farmers' Bank of Virginia, who is hereby appointed the Treasurer of the committee, and that he disburse the same, on the orders of the
Resolved, That the Ward Committees be, and they are hereby earnestly requested, diligently to perform the duties required of them, and make report to the Committee, on Saturday next, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Resolved, That the committee now adjourn, to meet at the office of Robert G. Scott on Saturday next, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

ROBERT G. SCOTT, Chairman

Committee appointed under the second resolution:


[AMB]

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**Friday, November 24, 1846  REv43i60p2c5 VOLUNTEERS FOR MEXICO**

Captain Robert G. Scott, or some member of the Corps of Volunteers, will attend at Goochland Court-house on Thursday next; also, at Taylorsville, Hanover Court-house, Cold Harbor, and Louisa Court-house to receive the names of volunteers. The list is rapidly filling up, and no doubt can now be entertained that the two hundred will be obtained from this Congressional District.

[AMB]

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**Friday, November 24, 1846  REv43i60p2c3 LATEST FROM MEXICO**

[from the *N.O. Jeffersonian, Extra*, Nov. 16]

IMPORTANT NEWS!

Another Revolution!!- By the brig. Havne, just arrived from Havana, we have been put into possession of Havana papers to the 6th instant. Their contents, which we condense, will be found important at this crisis of our Mexican relations.

The English steamer- (name omitted) arrived at Havana from Vera Cruz on the 6th after a passage of four days. She brought 102 passengers- the principal part of whom were Mexicans who had left Mexico on account of the prosecution of the war.

Our dates from Vera Cruz are to the 31st ult:

On the 27th October, M. Pacheco Minister of foreign relations, and Don Crescencio Rejon, Minister of Mercy and Justice, threw up their commissions. Their resignation was accepted by the President *ad interim*, and Don Jose Maria Lafragna and Don Joaquine Ladron de Guevara had been appointed to their stead.

The Department of San Luis Potosi has declared against the Presidency of Gen. Salas, and the people of that Department have declared their opposition to entrusting the affairs of the government either to Santa Anna, or any other person whom he may select. The confidence which previous advices seemed to have placed in Santa Anna by the people of Mexico, appears to have been without foundation.

Santa Anna is reported to have arrived with his handful of troops at San Luis Potosi on the 8th October, and established his headquarters. He immediately commenced a correspondence with General Salas, expressive of his confidence in his administration, and pledging him his support in any endeavor to sustain him. This, too, in the very face of the expression of the people against Salas, by the people at San Luis Potosi. Verily, Santa Anna is playing a deep game, which time alone will expose.

The dates from the city of Mexico are the 25th and 26th October. From these we learn that Don Felix Rivas, charged by the executive of Mexico with a special commission, the contents of which have not transpired, left the capital on
the 24th for Vera Cruz, with instructions to make his way to Havana with all dispatch. We heartily hope that our fleet will intercept him, and keep up a stricter blockade than that which is represented as being kept up at present.

Gen. Salas having had his life threatened, left the palace on the 28th October, and made his way safely to Gacubaya, where he was received very cordially by don Flores. The President ad interim took with him in his flight some of the best troops which garrisoned the capital.

It is reported that Santa Anna has expressed his approval of Lafragua and Guevara.

It is rumored that the U. S. steamers off Green Island are short of coal, and the crews suffering from scurvy.

The Mexican papers estimate the expenses of the war thus far, on the part of the United States, at seventy-five millions of dollars. This is Mexican calculation. The Mexican papers think that to continue the war will prove highly advantageous to the Mexicans, as the advances of the foe should be met by light skirmishes and other embarrassments, until the Americans shall be expelled from the country.

Extract of a letter dated Vera Cruz, Oct. 12th:

"Commodore Connor yesterday addressed a letter of thanks to the General commanding this place, thanking him for the courtesy and kindness shown to the officers and crew of the Truxion.

"An attack on the Castle of San Juan d' Ullca and the town of Vera Cruz was expected to take place this week. The enthusiasm and valor which was displayed by the Mexicans at Monterey, will not fail here."

"The National Guard are approaching Vera Cruz by forced marches."

Several private letters from the "Army of the North," state that Santa Anna had ordered all the troops at Saltillo to San Luis Potosi.

Most of the foregoing information is derived from extracts of private letters received at Havana, and expressive only of Mexican views.

[AMB]

Friday, November 24, 1846  REv43i60p1c3 SANTE FE

[from the Independence Expositor]

From the Independence Expositor we glean the following items of news: Gen. Kearney will proceed to Monterey in California. Col. Doniphan is to recover the stolen property from the Navagoes, force them to make a treaty, or punish them. If he can then procure supplies, he will advance with his Regiment to Chihuahua. The companies under command of Capt. Waldo and Stevenson are stationed at Taos, under Major Gilpin.

[AMB]

Friday, November 24, 1846  REv43i60p1c4 LATER FROM MEXICO

[from the N.O. Jeffersonian, Extra]

In another column will be found an Extra from the N. O. Jeffersonian, with some interesting news. We have before us an Extra Picayune of the same date, which says that the State of San Luis Potosi has pronounced against the Presidency of Gen. Salas, demanding that Gen. Santa Anna should assume the Executive functions, or some one named by him. This latter version is different from the Jeffersonian's account. The Picayune thinks that Santa Anna is determined that Gen. Salas shall not obtain to absolute an ascendancy- it being reported that Salas is honest enough to attempt to carry into effect all the guaranties of the revolution of Jalisco and the citadel. Santa Anna is playing a deep game. On the 23rd Oct. he addressed the following letter of professions to Salas:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE LIBERATING ARMY,

In Campaign,}

Most Excellent Sir:  Ry the Circular of your Excellency of the 19th inst., I have learned with deep concern that the foreign enemies of the country, by means of their secret agents, circulated malicious reports on the night of that day, with a view to produce an impression that there was a plan on foot to deprive of power his Excellency, the General charged with supreme Executive authority, which reports led to most serious alarm, that might have produced lamentable consequences had not the artifice been very opportunely discovered.
I rejoice exceedingly that tranquility and public confidence have been re-established, and agreeably to the wishes of the Supreme Government, I shall take care that these great blessings are not disturbed in these States, and especially in the army under my command. I assure your Excellency that this army shall not entertain any other idea than that of struggling against the foreign enemy, fulfilling its duties towards the country, and scouting the suggestions with which it is sought to divert it from such noble aims. I have the honor of reiterating, & c.

God and Liberty.

Antonio Lopez De Santa Anna.
October 23rd, 1846,

To the Secretary of War.

An influential Mexican paper says, that Santa Anna will withdraw the troops from Tampico and Saltillo, and concentrate a large army at San Luis, and then make an offensive attack.

To show the policy of Mexico and the vast importance of a most active and vigorous prosecution of the war on our part, we quote a Vera Cruz paper, which, after stating that the war has already cost the United States the sum of sixty-five millions of dollars, adds: "To prolong it is..." [unreadable line].

[AMB]

Friday, November 24, 1846  REv43i60p3c6 ATTENTION VOLUNTEERS!

Captain Carrington's company of volunteers are hereby notified to rendezvous forthwith in the city of Richmond. The company is now organizing anew, in accordance with the recent instructions of the Secretary of War, and will march as soon as its organization shall be completed. The term of enlistment will be during the continuance of the war with Mexico. The new requisition raises the number of privates in the company to EIGHTY instead of SIXTY-FOUR, as before required. Several vacancies have been occasioned by the removal from the city of some of the original volunteers, and by other causes - so that the whole number of vacancies to be supplied is not less than thirty. Volunteers in the country, whether members of the original company or not, are recommended to repair to the city as soon practicable. Applications for enlistment should be made to the Captain at his office, corner of 11th and Bank Streets. By order of the Captain.—Nov. 20
[AMB]

Friday, November 24, 1846  REv43i60p4c2 ALEXANDRIA IN THE FIELD!

Saturday Morning, November 21, 1846 [from the Enquirer]

At the moment of our warmly advocating the "re-annexation" of Alexandria to the Old Dominion, we predicted that her sons would do their duty as good citizens - having entered into the alliance "for better for worse," prepared to enjoy the benefits and share the responsibilities of the new connexion [sic]. The following from the Alexandria Gazette shows that we did not misconstrue their character. At the first call of their country, they step forward as citizens of Virginia to meet her engagements. We do not know what may be the decision of Governor Smith, but if it be compatible with his opinions and duty, we should be glad to see these "harden young Virginians" enrolled among the troops from the State:

"A PROMPT RESPONSE- We are informed that immediately upon the receipt of intelligence that the War Department had made a requisition upon the State of Virginia for one regiment of infantry, to serve during the was against Mexico, the Alexandria Volunteers of this place, under the command of Captain M. D. Corse [sic], made a tender of their services to governor Smith, to form a part of the regiment thus called for. As our town is now de facto a part and parcel of the State, we see no reason to doubt that the offer will be accepted as promptly as it was made. This is the second time that the "Alexandria Volunteers" have tendered their services since the commencement of the war, and it reflects the highest credit upon their patriotism and public spirit. The ranks of the company, we learn, are not at this time quite filled up but they, doubtless, will be as soon as it shall be made known that their services have been accepted."

We are glad to see from the Standard that in our own city the worthy and spirited young Captains Scott and Carrington are recruiting for the Mexican service under the Virginia requisition [sic], with every prospect of success; their ranks fast filling up. We renew the request made to the Standard, which is, to state that, to a certain extent, uniforms have already been provided, and, as far as they go, will be furnished gratis to Capt. Carrington's recruits.

We look forward confidently to a prompt and efficient organization of the regiment from this State. Virginia never was backward, when the country needed her services. Many of her brave sons have hitherto panted for an opportunity of distinguishing themselves. It is now presented under most auspicious circumstances. The season of the year is most favorable, those fond of adventure and travel will be delighted with the natural beauties of a country blessed by Heaven but cursed by the wickedness and vice of man, and, unless we mistake the signs of the times, the new recruits will be saved all the ennui and irritations of inactive life in camp, and will have an opportunity
of meeting danger and reaping honors in the field. We cannot think it necessary, but duty impels us to make an earnest appeal to Virginia pride of character, and to invoke her young men to come forward promptly and enthusiastically. Let not the slur be cast upon the Old Dominion, that her sons, who, last summer, so cordially enrolled their names, should now be backward in meeting the new state of circumstances when their services are really required. Is there a Virginian who could tamely bear the disgrace of seeing a draft put in operation? In a short time, we doubt not, we shall have the pleasure of recording the fact, that the Virginia Regiment has been made up of zealous and efficient men, who freely offer themselves to serve until the termination of the war shall announce the chastisement of an insolent foe and his ample reparation for the many insults and injuries inflicted upon our country and our fellow-citizens.

We understand that Gov. Smith has suggested to the Secretary of War the importance of fixing the rendezvous for the troops from Eastern Virginia in this city or Old Point. We think it probable that a proposition, so desirable, will be acceded to. We also hear, that Gov. Smith has directed that quarters and rations for the recruits collected here, be provided at the State Armory.

Monday, November 27, 1846 REv43i61p1c6 MEXICAN LETTERS OF MARQUE

IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO

Information has been received in this city of the fact that the steamer Tay, in its last trip from Vera Cruz to Havana, took out three hundred letters of marque, with naturalization papers conferring the rights and privileges of Mexican citizens upon all who would sail under them. This information comes in an authentic form. It was expressed from Mexico on the evening of the 30th ult., and reached Vera Cruz in time for the Tay, the vessel in which the letters of marque were mailed, by which it was taken to Havana, and thence it was brought here by the late arrival.

A letter from Havana, has also been received announcing the arrival there of those letters of marque. The writer was of the opinion that the Spanish Government would not permit the letters to be used in the port of Havana, but adds, as naturalization papers offering extraordinary privileges accompany them, it is probable some of them may slip out upon our commerce despite of the vigilance of the authorities.

Monday, November 27, 1846 REv43i61p1c6 THIRD ATTEMPT UPON ALVARADO

A letter from the Gulf Squadron says that Com. Conner informed the Captains of the several ships that he again intended to attack Alvarado with 2,000 men. The following ships he intends to anchor off the fortress at the mouth of the river for the purpose of bombarding it:

Frigates Cumberland, Raritan. Potomac and steam frigates Mississippi and Princeton. The steamers Vixen and McLane with the gunboats Reefer, Forward, Petral and Bonita, will proceed directly up the river, and attack the fort.

Monday, November 27, 1846 REv43i61p1c5 DEPARTURE OF MAJ. GEN. SCOTT FOR THE SEAT OF WAR

Washington, November 24

General Scott and his Staff are ordered to Mexico to give additional spirit and direction to the Army. This new movement is the result of the recent communications and conferences of which I made mention in my letter of this morning, and has grown out of recent events in Mexico, and advices from the headquarters of the army.

Gen. Scott was to leave in the mail boat this morning, and has probably gone. His destination is Tampico, but with large additional powers to control his actions when upon the ground.

From both the Navy and War Departments, I learn that every preparation is making for an attack upon Tampico. The force command by Maj. Gen. Patterson will march from Matamoras down by the coast through Tamaulipas.

Monday, November 27, 1846 REv43i61p1c5 CAPTURE OF TABASCO

Tuesday night's Union contains the official despatches [sic] from Commodore Conner. We have room today but for
the following letter of Com. Conner. The other despatches [sic] of this great and successful achievement shall appear tomorrow. We rejoice that the Navy have had an "opportunity" of winning the praise and admiration of the whole country:

U. S. SHIP CUMBERLAND,
Off Vera Cruz, Nov. 5, 1846.

Sir: Herewith is transmitted a copy of a letter from Com. Perry, accompanied by copies of other communications, giving a detailed account of his operations with a detachment of the squadron in the river Tabasco. The objects of the expedition have been fully accomplished, and by the destruction or capture of all the enemy's vessels, a check has been given to a commerce, by which munitions of war were, no doubt, introduced into Mexico from the neighboring province of Yucatan. Much praise is due to Commodore Perry for the skill and judgment manifested throughout the whole expedition.

The department will learn with regret the death of Lieut. Charles W. Morris, which took place on the 1st instant, on board the Cumberland, from a wound received at the town of Tabasco on the 26th ult. He was an officer of great promise, and his loss is a most serious one to the service.

I am, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant
D. CONNER,
Commanding Home Squadron.

Hon. JOHN Y. MASON,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

The Union says:

At a late hour this evening we received the official reports from the squadron, which we lay before our readers in another column. They add another most brilliant and successful incident in the official records of the war, and in this instance it is our gallant navy that triumphs. The attack of Commodore Perry appears to have been admirably planned and executed. We have had time as yet only to give a passing glance to the dispatches, and we must reserve more extended comment upon them till tomorrow evening.

The country will learn with profound sorrow that this achievement, full of success and honor as it is, has yet cost our nation and our naval service the life of one of its most gallant and accomplished young officers, Lieut. Morris, bearing a name already eminently distinguished in the triumphs of our navy. He has given to that name, in his death of heroic duty and devotion, a new and more sorrowful renown. His countrymen will mourn his fate, while they remember his patriotic valor with gratitude and pride.

CAPTURE OF TABASCO!

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES

A detailed account of the Proceedings of the Expedition, under my command along the Eastern Coast of Mexico

I left the anchorage at St. John Lizardo on the evening of the 16th of October, with the steamer "Mississippi", having on board a detachment of 200 officers, seamen and marines, under command of Captain French Forrest, and in tow, the steamer "Vixen", and schooners "Bonita", "Reefer", and "Nonata," respectively commanded by Commander Sands, and Lieutenants Commandant Benham, Sterrett and Hazard, and the schooner "Forward," and steamer "McLane," commanded by Captains Nonces and Howard, of the revenue marine.

The next morning at daylight I captured, off the bar of Alvarado, the American barque "Coosa", found in treasonable communication with the enemy; and the same day the "Vixen" chased and boarded the American schooner "Portia". The "Coosa" was despatched [sic] to this place as a prize, and the "Portia" was permitted to proceed, her papers having been endorsed. From the day of our leaving Alvarado [the 17th] up to the 22nd, we had a succession of very bad weather, which gave me much trouble in keeping my little command together. During the interval, however, we captured and sent (in the Mexican schr. "Telegraph")

On the 23rd, all the vessels, with the exception of the "Reefer," (previously separated in a gale,) reached the bar of the river Tabasco; and having determined on attacking the commerical [sic] town of Frontera, at the mouth of the river, and the city of Tabasco, situated 74 miles higher up, I placed myself on board the "Vixen", leaving the "Mississippi" in command of Commander Adams at anchor outside, and taking in tow the "Bonita" and "Forward", with the barges containing the detachment under command of Capt. Forrest, I crossed the bar, the "Nonata" following under sail.

The "Vixen" with this heavy drag steadily ascended the stream against a four-knot current, and arriving near to Frontera, I discovered two steamers (of which I had received previous information) firing up, doubtless in the hope of escape, but we were too close upon them. Casting off her tow, the "Vixen" proceeded ahead, followed by the other vessels and barges, and at once the town, the steamers, and all the vessels in port were in our possession,
excepting only the schooner "Amado", which vessel, attempting to escape up the river, was pursued by Lieut. Commandant Benham in the "Bonita", and captured.

Desirous of reaching Tabasco before they would have time for increasing their defences [sic], the detachment under Captain Forrest was placed on board the largest of the captured steamers, the "Petrita", and she, with the "Nonata", the "Forward," and the barges in tow, and the "Vixen" with the "Bonita", left Frontera at halfpast 9 the next morning; Lieut. Walsh being left in command of the place.

After steaming all night, and encountering various incidents arising from the rapidity of the current and circuitous course of the stream, we arrived at 9 the next morning in sight of fort Aceachappa, intended to command a most difficult pass of the river. On our approach, the men employed in preparing the guns for service fled, and we passed it unmolested, but I was careful to cause the guns to be spiked.

Anticipating serious resistance at this place, arrangements had been made for landing Capt. Forrest with his detachment a mile below the fort, to march up and carrying it by storm.

At noon, all the vessels anchored in line of battle in front of the city at half-musket range, when I immediately summoned it to surrender, the boats meanwhile being employed in securing five merchant vessels found at anchor in the port.

To my summons sent by a flag with Captain Forrest, a refusal to capitulate was returned, with an invitation to me to fire as soon as I pleased. Suspecting, as I did, that this answer was given more in bravado than in earnest, and being extremely reluctant to destroy the place, I entertained the hope that a few shots fired over the buildings would have caused a surrender. Accordingly, I directed the guns of the "Vixen" alone to be fired, and at the flag staff, sending an order to all the vessels to avoid, so far as possible, in case of general fire, injury the houses distinguished by consular flags.

At the third discharge from the "Vixen", the flag disappeared from the staff. On seeing it down, I ordered the firing to cease, and sent Captain Forrest again ashore to learn whether it had been cut down by our shot, or purposely struck; the reply was, that it had been shot away, and the city would not be surrendered.

I now directed Capt. Forrest, with the force under his command, to land and take a position in the city, commanded by our guns. This movement brought on a scattering fire of musketry from various parts of the city, which was returned by the flotilla.

Perceiving towards evening that the enemy did us but little injury, though openly exposed on the decks of the small vessels, and their balls passing through our slight bulwarks, and apprehending, from the proverbial business of sailors, that should they and the marines be attacked in the narrow streets after dark, they, would be cut off by sharp-shooters from the houses, I ordered the detachment to be re-embarked.

In this position the vessels remained all night, the crews lying at their quarters ready to return the fire of the artillery of the enemy, which it was supposed they would have had the courage to have brought down under cover of the night to the openings of the streets opposite to our vessels, but they left us undisturbed.

Learning that the merchants, and other citizens of the city were desirous that a capitulation should be made, but were overruled by the Governor, who, regardless of consequences, and secure himself against attack, was content that the city should be destroyed rather than surrendered, I determined from the motives

of humanity not to fire again, but to pass down to Frontora with my prizes.

In the morning, however, the fire was recommenced from the shore, and was necessarily returned, but with renewed orders to regard the consular houses, so far as they could be distinguished. In the midst of the fire, a flag of truce was displayed on shore; on perceiving which, I caused the firing again to cease, and Captain Forrest was sent to meet its bearer, who submitted a written communication addressed to me; a copy of which with a copy of my reply, marked B and C, will be found enclosed.

As an assurance of my sincerity, I now hoisted a white flag, and directed the prizes to drop down the stream, intending to follow with the flotilla; but in violation of the understanding implied in the before mentioned correspondence, the enemy, in discovering that one of the prizes had drifted ashore in front of the city, collected a large force within and behind the houses in the vicinity, and commenced a furious fire upon her. Lieut. Parker, of this ship, in command of the prize defended her in the most gallant manner, and ultimately succeeded in getting her again afloat, having one of her men killed and two wounded.

It was in carrying an order to Lieut. Parker, that Lieut. Morris was wounded. He had been of infinite service to me from the time we left Lizardo, and conducting himself during the bombardment with remarkable deliberation and coolness, he approached the prize in a line to cover his boat, and, though apparently regardful of the safety of the officer and men of the boat, who were seated, he stood erect himself, and the ball struck him in the throat. No one can deplore the fate of the very valuable young officer more than myself. His loss is irreparable to the service and to his family.
It may well be supposed that on perceiving the attack upon the prize, I reopened upon the city which again silenced their fire. I now proceeded with the flotilla and prizes down the river. One of the prizes, a small schooner of little value, having grounded in a dangerous pass, and knowing that it would be difficult to extricate her without causing inconvenient delay, I ordered her to be burned.

We arrived safely at Frontera on the evening of the 26th, the "Vixen" having towed down the river five vessels and several barges.

From Frontera I despatched my prizes to this place; and after destroying all the vessels and craft found in the river of little value to be manned, I proceeded on the 31st to rejoin you, leaving the "McLane" and "Forward" at anchor opposite Frontera to continue the blockade of the river, and to afford protection and shelter to the neutral merchants, residents of the place, who professed themselves in apprehension of violence from the Mexican soldiery should they be left unprotected.

On our way to this place the prize steamer Petrita, in company and in sight of this vessel, captured the American brig "Plymouth," found engaged in landing a cargo upon the enemy's coast.

M.C. PERRY.

Monday, November 27, 1846 REv43i61p1c5 RICHMOND IN THE FIELD!

From the Company order in another column, it will be seen that Captain Carrington's Company of Volunteers for Mexico will be fully organized on Saturday next- the number now enlisted, leaving no doubt that it will be full at that time. We rejoice at the success which has attended Captain C's energetic and spirited exertions.

We are equally pleased to hear that Captain Scott is rapidly filling up the ranks of his Company of Greys. Yesterday morning he had enrolled about fifty recruits. The remainder, we doubt not, will be promptly made up. He deserves high credit for his ind... zeal in meeting the emergency.

Monday, November 27, 1846 REv43i61p2c2 OFFICIAL DESPATCHES FROM GENERAL WOOL

HEADQUARTERS, COAHUILA, MEXICO
Near Presido, 14th October, 1846

Sir: I have the honor to report that I arrived with about 1,300 men at the Rio Grande on the morning of the 8th instant, and crossed the river on the 9th, 10th, and 11th instant, without any serious accident, and encamped three miles west of the Presidio, and nine miles from the river, which, at the time of the crossing, was four feet three inches deep. By unloading and raising the articles a foot in the wagons, we were enabled to cross the ford. The Infantry crossed in the boats prepared at San Antonio.

Colonel Hardin, with eight companies of the 1st regiment of Illinois volunteers, came up on the evening of the 12th. Yesterday he crossed the river, and will join us in the course of an hour. We have been compelled to delay a few days to repair our train, 170 wagons, carrying fifty five days' rations, and to recruit our horses and mules; much reduced by a long march, without anything but prairie grass to feed on.

A part of the train had traveled from La Vaca, three hundred and thirty miles, without a day's rest. We shall resume our march with about 1,800 men, on the morning of the 16th instant, after leaving a company to take charge of the boats, and the ford of the Rio Grande, until the rear of my column under the direction of Col. Churchill arrives, which is expected in the course of ten days.

Unfortunately the quartermaster's department is without specie. Treasury notes are of no use to us, as the Mexicans will take nothing but gold and silver. With private means, and borrowing, we shall be able to pay for half rations of corn during our stay at this place. Whether I shall be able to succeed as well at other towns is doubtful. My route to Chihuahua will be through San Fernando, Santa Rosa, and perhaps Monclova. At this point I will endeavor to open a communication with General Taylor, which it would seem, will be necessary on account of supplies. As soon as the wet season commences our communications with San Antonio and Presidio will be, in a great measure, cut off- the route in many places, independent of the streams, will be impassable. Hence, I will be compelled to establish a depot of supplies at Monclova, or some other point in the interior, and on a route leading to General Taylor's army, or depot of supplies. The supplies in the country are limited. A partial amount of flour and corn, and full rations of beef, can be obtained. I have ordered the quartermaster's department to forward, as fast as possible, all the subsistence he could obtain between this and the middle of November, when it is thought we may have our communications interrupted by wet weather.
Brigadier General shields arrived yesterday, and confirmed the previous intelligence of a hard-fought battle between Gen. Taylor and Ampudia, and also of the capitulation. This morning I was informed by an intelligent Mexican, that Santa Anna had arrived at Saltillo with 13,000, and with those of Ampudia, making a force of 16,000 men. It is also stated that the government had called out 60,000 militia. In a few days I shall know the truth of the rumor. I herewith send you a copy of an order issued on the arrival of the troops on the Rio Grande. Also, a report of Lieut. Kingsbury's, of the route and days' march from San Antonio to this place.

I am, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
JOHN E. WOOL,
Brigadier General.

To Brigadier Gen. Jones,
Adjutant General United States Army.

[ORDERS.- NO.89]
HEADQUARTERS CAMP ON THE RIO GRANDE,}
Near Presidio, 9th October, 1846                      }

Soldiers! - - After a long and tedious march you have arrived on the bank of the Rio Grande. In the performance of this service, the commanding General has witnessed, with the greatest pleasure, your patience, good order and perseverance [sic], under many deprivations and hardships. All have done their duty, and in a manner that reflects the highest credit on both officers and men. From this remark he would not except his staff, who have actively and zealously devoted themselves to the service, whilst Captain Cross had been eminently successful in forwarding his long train of supplies, without delay or serious accident.

Tomorrow you will cross the Rio Grande, and occupy the territory of our enemies. We have not come to make war upon the people or peasantry of the country, but to compel the government of Mexico to render justice to the United States. The people, therefore, who do not take up arms against the United States, and remain quiet and peaceful at their homes, will not be molested or interfered with, either as regards their persons or property; and all those who furnish supplies will be treated kindly, and whatever is received from them will be liberally paid for.

It is expected of the troops that they will observe the most rigid discipline and subordination. All depredations on the persons or property of the people of the country are strictly forbidden; And any soldier or follower of the camp, who may so forget his duty as to violate this in junction will be severely punished.

By command of Brigadier Gen. Wool.
JAMES H, PRENTISS,
Assistant Adjutant General

[AMB]

Monday, November 27, 1846 REv43i61p3c1 DEATH OF MAJOR LEAR

We have received (says the Union) from the office of the Adjutant General of the Army the following copy of the order issued by General Taylor, announcing the death of this brave and lamented officer:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION}  
CAMP NEAR MONTEREY, Nov. 1, 1846 

The melancholy duty devolves upon the Commanding-general of announcing to the army the decease of Major W. W. Lear, 3rd infantry, who expired yesterday of the wound received while gallantly leading his regiment in the action of the 21st September.

A long and creditable service, commencing in the war of 1812, has thus been sadly but nobly closed. Kind and generous in his private relations, and though feeble, from the ravages of protracted disease, faithful, zealous and efficient in the discharge of duty, the relatives and friends of the deceased major, and the service at large, have sustained in his death no ordinary loss.

The deceased will be interred at 4 o'clock, P. M., this day with the honors due to his rank. All officers off duty are respectfully invited to attend his funeral at the headquarters of his late regiment- the 3d infantry.

By order of Major General Taylor.

W. W. S. Bliss,
Assistant Adjutant General

[AMB]
Monday, November 27, 1846 REv43i61p4c7 FIRST REGIMENT CALLED OUT

Gov. Wright on Friday received the President's requisition for a Regiment of Volunteers, to serve, during the war. It was left with him to designate the Regiment, and he selected the first. The following is a list of the officers of the Regiment:

Ward B. Burnet, Colonel

James C. Burnham, Major

The Lt. Colonel resigned a fortnight since, and his place has not yet been filled.


All the companies, with their officers, are located in the city of N. York. They will be immediately put in readiness for embarkation. It is understood, if any further requisitions are mustered, that Gov. Wright will take the Regiments in their order. [N. Y. Journal of Commerce

[AMB]

Monday, November 27, 1846 REv43i61p4c1 FROM MONTEREY

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES FROM GEN. TAYLOR

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION
CAMP NEAR MONTEREY, Oct. 9, 1846

Sir: I have now the honor to submit a detailed report of the recent operations before Monterey, resulting in the capitulation of that city.

The information received on the route from Cerralvo, and particularly the continual appearance in our front of the Mexican cavalry, which had a slight skirmish with our advance at the village at Ramas, induced the belief, as we approached Monterey, that the enemy would defend that place. Upon reaching the neighborhood of the city on the morning of the 19th of September, this belief was fully confirmed. It was ascertained that he occupied the town in force that a large work had been constructed, commanding all the Northern approaches; and that the Bishop's Palace and some heights in its vicinity near the Saltillo road, had also been fortified and occupied with troops and artillery. It was known, from information previously received, that the Eastern approaches were commanded by several small works in the lower edge of the city.

The configuration of the heights and gorges in the direction of the Saltillo road, as visible from the point attained by our advance on the morning of the 19th, led me to suspect that it was practicable to turn all the works in that direction, and thus cut the enemy's line of communication. After establishing my camp at the "Walnut springs", three miles from Monterey, the nearest suitable position, it was, accordingly my first care to order a close reconnoissance [sic] of the ground in question, which was executed on the evening of the 19th by the engineer officers under the direction of Major Mansfield. A reconnoissance [sic] of the Eastern approaches was at the same time made by Captain Williams, topographical engineers. The examination made by Major Mansfield proved the entire practicability of throwing forward a column to the Saltillo road, and thus turning the position of the enemy. Deeming this to be an operation of essential importance, orders were given to Brevet Brig. Gen. Worth, commanding the second division, to turn the hill of the Bishop's Palace; to occupy a position on the Saltillo road, and to carry the enemy's detached works in that quarter, where practicable. The first regiment of Texas mounted volunteers, under command of Col. Hays, was associated with the second division on this service. Capt. Sanders, engineers, and Lieut. Meade, topographical engineers, were also ordered to report to Gen. Worth for duty with his column.

At 2 o'clock, P.M., on the 20th, the second division took up its march. It was soon discovered by officers who were reconnoitering the town, and communicated to Gen. Worth, that this movement had been perceived, and that the enemy was throwing reinforcements towards Bishop's Palace and the height which commands it. To divert his attention as far as practicable, the first division, under Brigadier General Twiggs, and field division of volunteers under Major General Butler, were displayed in front of the town until dark. Arrangements were made at the same time to place from the enemy's main work, the citadel, two 24-pounder howitzers, and a 10 inch mortar, with a view to open fire on the following day, when I proposed to make a diversion in favor of Gen. Worth's movement. The 4th Infantry covered this battery during the night. Gen. Worth had in the meantime reached and occupied for the night, a defensive position just without range of a battery above the Bishop's Palace, having made a reconnoissance [sic] as far as the Saltillo road.
Early on the morning of the 21st, I received a note from Gen. Worth, written at half-past 9 o'clock the night before suggesting what I had already intended, a strong diversion against the center and left of the town, to favor his enterprise against the heights in rear. The infantry and artillery of the 1st division, and the fields division of volunteers were ordered under arms and took the direction of the city, leaving one company of each regiment as a camp guard. The 2d dragoons, under Lieut. Col. May, and Col. Wood's regiment of Texas mounted volunteers, under the immediate direction of Gen. Henderson, were directed to the right to support Gen. Worth, if necessary, and to make an impression, if practicable, upon the upper quarter of the city. Upon approaching the mortar battery, the 1st and third regiments of infantry, and battalion of Baltimore and Washington volunteers, with Capt. Bragg's field battery--the whole under the command of Lieut. Co. Garland- were directed towards the lower part of the town, with orders to make a strong demonstration, and carry one of the enemy's advanced works, if it could be done without too heavy a loss. Major Mansfield, engineers, and Capt. Williams and Lieut. Pope, topographical engineers accompanied this column, Maj. Mansfield being charged with its direction, and the designation of points of attack. In the meantime the mortar, served by Capt. Ramsay of the ordnance, and the howitzer battery under Captain Webster, 1st artillery, had opened their fire upon the citadel, which was deliberately sustained and answered from the work. Gen. Butler's division had now taken up a position in rear of this battery, when discharges of artillery, mingled finally with a rapid fire of small arms, showed that Lieut. Col. Garland's command had become warmly engaged. I now deemed it necessary to support this attack, and accordingly ordered the 4th infantry and three regiments of Gen. Butler's division to march at once by the left flank in the direction of the advanced work at the lower extremity of the town, leaving one regiment [1st Kentucky] to cover the mortar and howitzer battery. By some mistake, two companies of the 4th infantry did not receive this order, and consequently did not join the advance companies until sometime afterwards.

Lieu. Col. Garland's command had approached the town in a direction to the right of the advanced work (No. 1) at the northeastern angle of the city, and the engineer officer, covered by skirmishers, had succeeded in entering the suburbs and gaining cover. The remainder of this command now advanced and entered the town under a heavy fire of artillery from the citadel and the works on the left, and of musketry from the houses and small works in front. A movement to the right was attempted with a view to gain the rear of No. 1 and carry that work, but the troops were so much exposed to a fire which they could not effectually return, and had already sustained such severe loss, particularly in officers, that it was deemed best to withdraw them to a more secure position. Capt. Backus, 1st Infantry, however, with a portion of his own and other companies, had gained the roof of a tannery, which looked directly into the gorge of No. 1 and from which he poured a most destructive fire into that work and upon no.1, and contributed largely to the fall of that strong and important work.

The three regiments of the volunteer division under the immediate command of Major General Butler, had in the meantime advanced in the direction of No. 1. The leading brigade, under Brigadier General Quitman, continued its advance upon that work, preceded by three companies of the 4th infantry, while general Butler, with the 1st Ohio regiment entered the town to the right. The companies of the 4th infantry had advanced within short range of the work, when they were received by a fire that almost in one moment struck down one-third of the officers and men, and rendered it necessary to retire and effect a conjunction with the two other companies then advancing. General Quitman's brigade, though suffering most severely, particularly in the Tennessee regiment, continued its advance and finally carried the work in handsome style, as well as the strong building in its rear. Five pieces of artillery, a considerable supply of ammunition and thirty prisoners, including three officers, fell into our hands. Maj. Gen. Butler, with the 1st Ohio regiment, after entering the edge of the town, discovered that nothing was to be accomplished in his front, and at this point, yielding [sic] to the suggestions of several officers, I ordered a retrograde movement; but learning almost immediately from one of my staff that the battery No. 1 was in our possession, the order was countermanded, and I determined to hold the battery and defences [sic] already gained. Gen. Butler, was with the 1st Ohio regiment, then entered the town at a point farther to the left, and marched in the direction of the battery No. 2. While making an examination with a view to ascertain the possibility of carrying this second work by storm, the General was wounded, and soon after compelled to quit the field. As strength of No. 2, and the heavy musketry fire flanking the approach, rendered it impossible to carry it without great loss, the 1st Ohio regiment was withdrawn from the town.

Fragments of the various regiments engaged were now under cover of the captured battery and some buildings in its front, and on the right. The field batteries of Captains Bragg and Ridgely were also partially covered by the battery. An incessant fire was kept up on his position from battery No. 2, and other works on its right, and from the citadel on all our approaches. General Twiggs, though quite unwell, joined me at this point, and was instrumental in causing the artillery captured from the enemy to be placed in battery, and served by Capt. Ridgely against No. 2, until the arrival of Capt. Webster's howitzer battery, which took its place. In the mean time, I directed such men as could be collected of the 1st, 3d, and 4th regiment, and Baltimore Battalion, to enter the town, penetrating to the right and making the 2d battery if possible. This command under Lieut. Col. Garland, advanced beyond the bridge "Purisma" when finding it impracticable to gain the rear of the 2d battery, a portion of it sustained themselves for some time in that advanced position; but as no permanent impression could be made at the point, and the main object of the general operation had been effected, the command including a section of Captain Ridgely's battery, which had joined, it was withdrawn to battery No. 1. During the absence of this column, a demonstration of cavalry was reported in the direction of the citadel. Captain Bragg, who was at hand, immediately galloped with his battery to a suitable position, from which a few discharges effectually dispersed the enemy. Capt. Miller, 1st infantry, was despatched [sic] with a mixed command, to support the battery on this service. The enemy's lancers had previously charged upon the Ohio and a part of the Mississippi regiment, near some fields at a distance from the edge of the
Upon occupying the city, it was discovered to be of great strength in itself, and to have its approaches carefully and
first dispatch.
the material of war, with certain exceptions, in our possession. A copy of that capitulation was transmitted with my
headquarters, to which I soon repaired. In the meantime, General Ampudia had signified to Gen. Worth his desire for
Early on the morning of the 24th, I received, through Col. Moreno, a communication from Gen. Ampudia, proposing
his headquarters. In the proceeding night, except Captain Ridgely's company, was relieved at mid-day by Gen.Quitman's brigade.
Bragg's battery was thrown under cover in front of the town to repel any demonstration of calvary in that
quarter. At dawn of day, the height above the Bishop's Palace was carried, and soon after meridian; the Palace itself
was taken and its guns turned upon the fugitive garrison. The object for which the 2d division was detached had thus been completely accomplished, and I felt confident that with a strong force occupying the road and heights in his rear, and a good position below the city in our [...], the enemy could not possibly maintain the town.

Desiring to make no further attempt upon the city without complete concert as to the lines and mode of approach, I
instructed that officer to suspend his advance until I could have an interview with him on the following morning at
his headquarters.

Early on the morning of the 24th, I received, through Col. Moreno, a communication from Gen. Ampudia, proposing
evacuated nearly all his defences in the lower part of the city. This was reported to me early in the morning of the 23d by Gen. Quitman, who had already mediated an assault upon those
men, by working parties during the night, under the direction of Lieut. Scarritt. Engineers.

The main object proposed in the morning had been effected. A powerful diversion had been made to favor the
operations of the 2d division, one of the enemy's advanced works had been carried, and we now had a strong foot
hold in the town. But this had not been accomplished without a very heavy loss, embracing some of our most gallant
and promising officers. Capt. Williams, topographical engineers; Lieuts. Terrett and Dilworth, 1st infantry; Lieut.
Woods 2d infantry; Capts. Morris and Field, Bvt. Maj. Barbour; Lieuts. Irwin and Hazlitt, 3rd infantry; Lieut. Hoskins,
4th infantry; Lieut. Col. Watson, Baltimore battalion; Capt. Allen and Lieut. Putman, Tennessee regiment; and Lieut.
Hett, Ohio regiment, were killed, or have since died of wounds received in this engagement, while the number and
rank of the officers wounded gives additional proof of the obstinacy of the contest and the good conduct of our
troops. The number of killed and wounded incident to the operation in the lower part of the city on the 21st, is 394.

The 22d day of September passed without any active operations in the lower part of the city. The citadel and other
works. I immediately sent instructions to that officer, leaving it to his discretion to enter the city covering his men by
the houses and walls, and advance carefully as far as he might deem prudent. After ordering the remainder of the
troops as a reserve, under the orders of Brigadier General Twiggs, I repaired to the abandoned works, and
discovered that a portion of Gen. Quitman's brigade had entered the town, and were successfully forcing their way
towards the principal plaza. I then ordered up the 2d regiment of Texas mounted volunteers who entered the city
Bragg's battery was also ordered up, supported by the 3rd infantry; and after firing for some time at the cathedral, a
portion of it was likewise thrown into the city. Our troops advanced from house to house, and from square to square,
until they reached a street but one square in rear of the principal plaza, in and near which the enemy's force was
mainly concentrated. This advance was conducted vigorously but with due caution, and although destructive to the
enemy, was attended with but small loss on our part. Captain Ridgely, in the meantime, has served a captured piece
in battery No. 1 against the city, until the advance of our men rendered it imprudent to fire in the direction of the
principal plaza. I was now satisfied that we could operate successfully in the city, and that the enemy had retired from the
lower portion of it to make a stand behind his barricades. As Gen. Quitman's brigade had been on duty the previous
night, I determined to withdraw the troops to the evacuated works and concert with Gen. Worth a combined attack
upon the town. The troops accordingly fell back deliberately, in good order, and assumed their original positions.
General Quitman's brigade being relieved after nightfall by that of Gen. Hamer. On my return to camp, I met an
officer with the intelligence that Gen. Worth, induced by the firing in the lower part of the city, was about making an
attack at the upper extremity, which had also been evacuated by the enemy to a considerable distance. I regretted
that this information had not reached me before leaving the city, but still deemed it inexpedient to change my
orders, and accordingly returned to camp. A note from Gen. Worth written at eleven o'clock, P. M., informed me that
he had advanced to within a short distance of the principal plaza, and that the mortar (which had been sent to his
division in the morning) was doing good execution within effective range of the enemy's position.

Desiring to make no further attempt upon the city without complete concert as to the lines and mode of approach, I
instructed that officer to suspend his advance until I could have an interview with him on the following morning at
his headquarters.

Upon occupying the city, it was discovered to be of great strength in itself, and to have its approaches carefully and
strongly fortified. The town and works were armed with forty-two pieces of cannon, well supplied with ammunition, and manned with a force of at least 7,000 troops of the line, and from 2000 to 3000 irregulars. The force under my orders before Monterey, as exhibited by the accompanying return, was 425 officers and 6,220 men. Our artillery consisted of one 10-inch mortar, two 24-pound howitzers, and four light field batteries of four guns each - the mortar being the only piece suitable to the operations of a siege.

Our loss is twelve officers and one hundred and eight men killed; thirty-one officers and three hundred and thirty-seven men wounded. That of the enemy is not known, but believed considerably to exceed our own.

I take pleasure in bringing to the notice of the Government the good conduct of the troops, both regulars and volunteers, which has been conspicuous throughout the operations. I am proud to bear testimony to their coolness and constancy in battle, and the cheerfulness with which they have submitted exposure and privation. To the general officers commanding divisions - Major Generals Butler and Henderson, and Brigadier Generals Twiggs and Worth - I must express my obligations for the efficient aid which they have rendered in their respective commands. I was unfortunately deprived, early on the 21st, of the valuable services of Major General Butler who was disabled by a wound received in the attack on the city. Major General Henderson, commanding the Texas volunteers, has given me important aid in the organization of his command, and its subsequent operations. Brigadier General Twiggs rendered important services with his division, and, as the second in command after Major General Butler was disabled. Brigadier General Worth was intrusted [sic] with an important detachment, which rendered his operations independent of my own. Those operations were conducted with ability, and crowned with complete success. I desire also to notice Brigadier Generals Hamer and Quitman, commanding brigades in General Butler's division. Lieutenant Colonels Garland and Wilson, commanding brigades in Gen. Twiggs' division. Colonels Mitchell, Campbell, Davis and Wood commanding the Ohio, Tennessee, Mississippi, and 2d Texas regiments, respectively and Majors Lear, Allen and Abercrombie, commanding the 3rd, 4th and 1st regiments of infantry; all of whom served under my eye, and conducted their commands with coolness and gallantry against the enemy. Colonel Mitchell, Lieutenant Colonel McClung, Mississippi regiment, Major Lear, 3rd infantry and Major Alexander, Tennessee regiment, were all severely wounded.

Captains Bragg and Ridgely severed with their battles during the operations under my own observation, and in part under my immediate orders, and exhibited distinguished skill and gallantry. Capt. Webster, 1st artillery, assisted by Lieuts. Donaldson and Bowen, rendered good service with the howitzer battery, which was much exposed to the enemy's fire on the 21st.

From the nature of the operations, the 2d dragoons were not brought into action, but were usefully employed under the direction of Lieut. Col. May as escorts, and in keeping open our communications. The 1st Kentucky regiment was also prevented from participating in the action of the 21st, but rendered highly important services under Col. Ormsby, in covering the mortar battery, and holding in check the enemy's cavalry during the day.

I have noticed above, the officers whose conduct fell under my own immediate eye or is noticed only in minor reports which are not forwarded. For further mention of individuals, I beg leave to refer to the reports of division commanders herewith respectfully transmitted. I fully concur in their recommendations, and desire that they may be considered as part of my own report.

I must express my particular obligations to Brevet Major Mansfield and Lieut. Scarritt, corps of engineers. They both rendered most important services in reconnoitering the enemy's positions, conducting troops in attack and strengthening the works captured from the enemy. Major Mansfield, though wounded on the 21st, remained on duty during the following day, until confined by his wound to camp. Capt. Williams, topographical engineers, to my regret and the loss of the service, was mortally wounded while fearlessly exposing himself in the attack of the 21st. Lieut. Pope, of the same corps, was active and zealous throughout the operations. Major Munroe, chief of the artillery, Maj. Craig and Capt. Ramsay of the ordnance, were assiduous in the performance of their proper duties. The former superintended the mortar service on the 22d, as particularly mentioned in the report of Gen. Worth, to which I also refer for the services of the engineer and topographical officers detached with the second division.

Surgeon Craig, medical director, was actively employed in the important duties of his department, and the medical staff generally were unremitting in their attention to the numerous wounded - their duties with the regular regiments being rendered uncommonly arduous by the small number serving in the field.

I respectfully enclose herewith, in addition to the reports of division commanders, a field return of the force before Monterey on the 21st September - a return of killed, wounded, and missing during the operations - and two topographical sketches - one exhibiting all the movements around Monterey - the other on a larger scale, illustrating more particularly the operations in the lower quarter of the city - prepared respectively by Lts. Meade and Pope, topographical engineers.

I am, sir, very respectfully, Your obedient servant, Z. TAYLOR

The ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE ARMY
Washington, D. C.
[AMB]
Extract of a letter, dated
MAZATLAN, Oct. 13, 1846.

"The United States ship Cyane has burned a Mexican vessel in the harbor of Guaymas, and afterwards bombarded the town. She has returned to Mazatlan, and with the Warren is blockading the port. On the arrival of the Commodore, an attack on it is expected."

Extract of a letter, dated
VERA CRUZ, Nov. 1.

Although the American Government has made overtures for peace, we fear the obstinacy of these people will refuse a settlement.

[AMB]
January

RE47v43n71p1c2, January 1, 1847: LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
Tuesday, Dec. 29th, 1846. Bills passed concerning the volunteers.

RE47v43n71p1c3, January 1, 1847: From the Pennsylvanian. THE MESSAGE.
Commentary on the President's message.

RE47v43n71p1c5, January 1, 1847: THE AUGUSTA VOLUNTEERS.
Results of the meeting of the Augusta Volunteers held in Richmond. Signed, D.A. Stofer

RE47v43n71p1c6, January 1, 1847: Correspondence of the New York Mirror
Merits of newly promoted Captain Wallace.

RE47v43n71p1c7, January 1, 1847: PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEERS.
Pennsylvania volunteers departed in front of immense crowds.

RE47v43n71p1c6, January 1, 1847: COURT SQUARE, Dec. 18, 1846.
Congratulations to a young Virginian who spoke well at a meeting. Signed Charles L. Woodbury

RE47v43n71p2c1, January 1, 1847: Still harping on my daughter
"Richmond Whig continues its work of defaming the Tenth Legion."

RE47v43n71p3c1, January 1, 1847: Report of the Secretary of the Navy.

RE47v43n71p4, January 1, 1847: Wreck of the Brig 'Somers' GREAT LOSS OF LIFE

RE47v43n71p4c5, January 1, 1847: COMMODORE STEWART
Letter from Charles Stewart to the editors of the Pennsylvanian refuting a past quote

RE47v43n72p1c1, January 5, 1847: COLONEL OF THE LOUISIANA REGIMENT
Maj. Louis F. De Russy elected Colonel of the Louisiana Regiment of Volunteers

RE47v43n72p1c1, January 5, 1847: ENTHUSIASM OF THE COUNTRY
Pennsylvania and Mississippi have each already filled up the requisition for a second regiment of volunteers.

RE47v43n72p1c1, January 5, 1847: Correspondence of the Journal of Commerce.
Monterey, Sep 19th, 1846. Author elected magistrate of the area, and thinks the area requires a new judicial system. Signed W.C.

RE47v43n72p1c2, January 5, 1847: Correspondence of the N.O. Picayune, Havana, 12/13/46
Capt. Araujo remains, rumors circulate that Mexico has sold two Men-of-war to the French.

RE47v43n72p1c2, January 5, 1847: LATER FROM THE ARMY.
From the New Orleans Picayune, Dec. 25. Reports learned from the arrival of the Massachusetts. News from Tampico

RE47v43n72p1c5, January 5, 1847: THE WAR DUTY ON TEA AND COFFEE
Argument in favor of a tax on tea and coffee to support the war. Unsigned.
Picayune disputes reports in Galveston News that Col. Riley was recently surrounded by 5,000 Mexicans under Gen. Urrea.

News from departing troops, speeches delivered, meetings held.

Currently under formation

Mr. Bayly's SPEECH
In the future Mr. Bayly will mostly likely respond to the sketch of him in the Union, that speech will be printed in the Enquirer.

Steamer Alabama left New Orleans for the Rio Grande with companies

From the N. Orleans Mercury, Dec. 28th Steamer Fashion arrived from Brazos Santiago with reports from the Army

From the Wheeling Argus.

During War the Enquirer has attempted to be impartial, but is impossible considering the Whig actions

Battalion of Volunteers reached Old Point, one man drowned in steamer accident.

Trial of Edgar Barziza, member of Capt. Scott's Volunteers, postponed.

Glad to here second company from Petersburg completed in a few days.

Commentary on a Whig article in the Hagerstown News angry that a celebrated citizen would waste his talents on the war.

Brigadier General Thomas L. Hamer, renowned lawyer of Ohio, died in Camp at Monterey.

Letter concerning the death of Gen. Hamer

Letter concerning the death of Gen. Hamer

Reply to the Whig reply to the Enquirer's remarks on the Whig remarks about the Tenth Legion.

Eight swords to each of the officers of the two Richmond Companies of Volunteers.

Remarks from the Baltimore Patriot and the Union on what should be done about the war.

Government dispatched two officers to the Pacific.

Thrilling narrative of Mrs. Chase, the heroic wife of our consul at Tampico.

The recommendation of Secretary of War to create ten more regiments will probably not occur.
List of events of the past year in chronological order.

N.Y. Herald reports that a party of our troops in Santa Fe lost five hundred horses, and in return captured sixty-eight Indians of the Appache nation.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States from the President of the United States. Read in the Senate.

Capt. Walker is unable to get 1000 revolving pistols for his rifle regiment because of the high demand. Capt. Brown reports Santa Anna is within 4 days of Saltillo with 15,000 troops. Other news.

Report of a Democratic meeting in Lynchburg.

Robert Greenhow presents Col. Hamtramck with four copies of his *History of Oregon and California*.

Commentary on the Whig supposition that the majority of the Virginia volunteers are Whigs.

Events of a dinner in Rocky Mount held on behalf of a newly appointed Major of the Virginia regiment of volunteers

The company of volunteers raised in Norfolk was not accepted by the Executive because Virginia's complement has already been made up.

All patriots deeply regret the question of slavery introduced into the discussions of Congress; it is premature.

*Enquirer* endorses the views that a Virginian should lead the brigade formed by VA, SC, and NC. Letter signed, ROANOKE.

Reported in *Raleigh Standard* a Cherokee chief gives thanks to NC House of Commons for voting him 300 acres.

Much to our disappointment, no later news from the South, the mail having failed three times.

Extract of letter from a member of Capt. Scott's company of volunteers to his father. Written from Fortress Monroe.

Citizens planning to present a sword to Lieut. Col. Fremont.

DR. C.J.F. Bohannan, of Richmond, appointed by President as Surgeon of the first regiment of VA volunteers.

Narrative of the siege and capture of Monterey printed in the *Portsmouth Tribune*, written by an editor of that paper who commands a company of the Ohio Volunteers

From the N.O. *Picayune*, Jan 21. Santa Anna within three days march of Saltillo; letters from Mr. Lumsden will report on events at Tampico.


FROM TAMPICO
Letter to Gen. Taylor stating Mexican congress declared they wouldn't consider peace until the Americans had vacated their territory.

RE47v43n74p4c2, January 12, 1847: For the Enquirer
Refuting that a tariff the Enquirer supported has increased the price of salt. Signed, Telemachus.

RE47v43n74p4c2, January 12, 1847: FURTHER NEWS FROM NEW MEXICO
Rumored defeat of sixty dragoons by the Navajo Indians.

RE47v43n74p4c3, January 12, 1847: THE GULF SQUADRON AND PENSACOLA DRY DOCK
The gulf squadron needs a dry dock closer than Norfolk. Pensacola would be a good place.

RE47v43n74p4c3, January 12, 1847: Petersburg makes arrangements for creation of a second company of Petersburg Mexican Volunteers.

RE47v43n74p4c4, January 12, 1847: No News
Enquirer didn't receive a Union, or Intelligencer, so can't give a full report of events in Congress, but Messrs, Archer, and Crittenden came out in favor of the war.

RE47v43n74p4c4, January 12, 1847: Reports of a case concerning an "infant" between the ages of twenty and twenty-one, who enlisted as a volunteer against the wishes of his father.

RE47v43n74p4c4, January 12, 1847: Quote from the Union supported by the Enquirer including suggestions for congress to handle the war.

RE47v43n74p4c4, January 12, 1847: Resolutions by the city council of Richmond, presenting of swords.

RE47v43n75p1c6, January 15, 1847: MORE "AID AND COMFORT"
In the Massachusetts legislature, a resolution to appropriate funds to the support of the Mass. Volunteers turned into a forum for discussion of the war. Includes discussion by the Boston Times.

RE47v43n75p1c6, January 15, 1847: LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
Tuesday Jan. 12-Wednesday, Jan. 13. Sen. and House of Delegates, speakers include Mr. Bocock & Mr. Harvey.

RE47v43n75p1c3, January 15, 1847: CLOTHING FOR THE VOLUNTEERS
A letter signed JNO. F. Hamtramck, THOS. B. RANDOLPH, and J.A. EARLY, asking for supplies for the volunteers, addressed to WM. Smith, Gov. of Virginia. And a letter signed W.M Smith addressed to the General Assembly of VA, asking for more supplies.

RE47v43n75p1c4, January 15, 1847: INTERESTING FROM CAMPEACHY
Troops to Campeachy to compel Gov. of Merida to succumb to pronouncement of Campeachy.

RE47v43n75p2c1, January 15, 1847: LATE AND IMPORTANT INTELLIGENCE FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.
From N.O. Times, reports regarding the advance of Santa Anna have been premature; there was some cause for the rumor. Troop movements. 500 troops have taken quiet possession of Victoria.

RE47v43n75p2c1, January 15, 1847: LATEST FROM MONTEREY
Gen Taylor on the move to Victoria. Santa Anna planning to attack Saltillo and have the Mexicans of that location rise up simultaneously.

RE47v43n75p2c2, January 15, 1847: Speech of Mr. Bedinger in vindication of the Mexican war.

RE47v43n75p2c2, January 15, 1847: Twenty-Ninth Congress. Sec. Sess. Wednesday, Jan.13. Senate didn't begin until 1 PM because of the funeral of Judge Pennybacker. House of Representatives, comments by Mr. Bocock and Mr. Floyd

RE47v43n75p2c4, January 15, 1847: THE NEWS FROM THE ARMY
More on Gen. Worth being deceived. Reports of the advance of Santa Anna upon Saltillo untrue. Includes comments from the Union.

RE47v43n75p2c5, January 15, 1847: HONORS TO THE DEAD
Citizens of Richmond unite in prayers for the officers reported dead, delivered to N.O.

RE47v43n75p2c5, January 15, 1847: Gen. Butler's command extends to all the posts from Monterey to Camargo.

RE47v43n75p2c5, January 15, 1847: CAPT. W.B. ARCHER'S COMPANY
Presented to the Governor

RE47v43n75p2c7, January 15, 1847: N.O. Picayune contains Mexican account of transaction at Los Angeles in California.

RE47v43n75p4c1, January 15, 1847: STILL LATER-HIGHLY IMPORTANT NEWS!
Advances of Santa Anna with a large force upon Saltillo.

RE47v43n75p4c1, January 15, 1847: Correspondence of the N.O. Picayune
Tampico, Dec. 23, Mexican congress decided the war shall not cease.

RE47v43n75p4c1, January 15, 1847: Reports from the Picayune
Santa Anna should be successful at Saltillo; the plan is for Gen. Gonzales to attack Tampico.

RE47v43n75p4c1, January 15, 1847: Correspondence of N.O. Delta
Dec. 11, U.S. Army of Invasion, Monterey. Mexicans advancing to Saltillo. Questioning how the Mexican soldiers stay supplied.

Bill to raise additional forces. Speech on Tuesday by Mr. Archer.

RE47v43n75p4c4, January 15, 1847: NEWS FROM THE SEAT OF WAR!
Knowing the anxiety of the public in regard to rumors of war at Saltillo, the Enquirer has attempted to collate the intelligence accounts in the N.O. papers received yesterday.

RE47v43n75p4c4, January 15, 1847: LATER FROM MEXICO.
Reports that Mexican congress had decreed to continue the war until the Americans left were premature. The Congress had not acted.

RE47v43n75p4c5, January 15, 1847: Letter received from the Picayune from the army indicates Santa Anna had left for the capital and not Saltillo.

RE47v43n75p4c5, January 15, 1847: Bill to increase army passed. Officers of the S.C. regiment.

RE47v43n75p4c5, January 15, 1847: Words from the Union on what Congress should do.

RE47v43n76p1c2, January 19, 1847: LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
House of Delegates Mr. Daniel speaking. Friday Jan. 15. Sat Jan16, Mr. Bocock and Mr. Patrick.

RE47v43n76p1c4, January 19, 1847: Commentary on Mr. Hunter's election to the Senate.

RE47v43n76p1c4, January 19, 1847: LATER FROM MEXICO
Congress should cease squabbling and bring the war to a speedy close. News from the Union, Mexican Congress exasperated.

RE47v43n76p1c4, January 19, 1847: Congress has received a map of Mexico, Texas, and parts of United States, including California
Published by S.C. Hayes of Philadelphia.

RE47v43n76p1c4, January 19, 1847: To the Editors of the Enquirer
The Enquirer should print the applicants for field appointments, signed Quaester. The Enquirer replied those records are sealed.

RE47v43n76p1c7, January 19, 1847: APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT
Filling vacancies created by death, and appointment of more surgeons.

RE47v43n76p1c7, January 19, 1847: Letter to a member of the Senate printed by the Union, from Matamoras, Jan. 1.
Unsigned. Movements of army.

RE47v43n76p1c7, January 19, 1847: JAMES A. SEDDON OF VIRGINIA
Praise by the N.O. Jeffersonian on the speech delivered in Congress on Dec. 10 by Seddon.

RE47v43n76p3c1, January 19, 1847: THE MONTGOMERY VOLUNTEERS
Arrived at Lynchburg, received honors. Lists officers.
FROM THE U.S. CALIFORNIA EXPEDITION.
IMPORTANT FROM SOUTH AMERICA. News from Alto California and news of war between Brazil and Argentine.

THE NATIONAL FINANCES.
Excellent article found in the Charleston Evening News. Supports slight duty on tea and coffee.

VOLUNTEER MOVEMENTS IN WESTERN VIRGINIA.
Probably formed too late to be accepted.

For the Enquirer.
Congratulations to cadets of Virginia Military Institute for responding to call for volunteers.

Twenty-Ninth Congress. Second Session.

A GALLANT VIRGINIAN

John W. Stevenson's remarks at the monument to the memory of Major Barbour.

A VOICE FROM CASTLE HILL
Article discussing the Whig candidate for congress, Mr. Wm. L. Goggin.

Lieut. Col. John Garland also appointed Military Governor of Monterey.

INDIAN BATTLE
Battle between Sioux and Omaha Indians, sixty Omaha killed.

CAPTAINS IN THE VIRGINIA REGIMENT
Response to articles in the Whig papers unhappy with the distribution of rank in the army.

RUMORS IN WASHINGTON
Gen. Taylor recalled to Washington; Ulua not to be attacked. Ultimatum of Mexico

From the Houston (Texas) Register, Dec 21
Future base of operations will be Tampico

General Orders, No. 2
War Department, Adjutant General's Office, Washington, Jan. 8, 1847. Order to encourage enlistments in the regular army.

THE POLICY OF THE SOUTH
Congress should not allow discussion of slavery to enter into wartime decisions.

LOUISIANA
Annual message of Gov. Isaac Johnson, of Louisiana, largely concerns Mexico.

Secretary of War to Adjutant General of Massachusetts Regiment must be ready for embarkation by 15th of this month.

News from the Yucatan, from the N.O. Commercial Times.

MEXICO
Article from the Picayune concerning the administration of Mexico

VISIT OF COL. HAMTRAMCK
Petersburg Republican reports on visit by that colonel.

Reuben Davis, elected Col. of regiment of Mississippi Volunteers.

Gen. Taylor will remain at Tampico, and Gen. Scott will go there and assume command of 7,000 of Taylor's troops.
RE47v43n78p1c1, January 26, 1847: Twenty-Ninth Congress. 2nd Session.

RE47v43n78p1c3, January 26, 1847: Every arrival from Mexico goes to prove the Whigs wrong in their predictions.

RE47v43n78p1c3, January 26, 1847: The Legislature of N.C. appropriated $10,000 to the equipment of their regiment of volunteers.

RE47v43n78p1c4, January 26, 1847: Reports of Gen. Taylor being recalled are untrue

RE47v43n78p1c4, January 26, 1847: New York legislature voted against appropriations for their soldiers. This is not surprising.


RE47v43n78p2c7, January 26, 1847: For the Enquirer, BRIGADIER GENERAL Writer hopes Maj. Walter Gwynn, will be appointed to command the VA, NC, and SC, regiments.

RE47v43n78p2c6, January 26, 1847: A confidential letter from Gen. Taylor will be published soon.

RE47v43n78p2c6, January 26, 1847: A SOLDIER'S LIFE Extract of a letter from a member of Captain Scott's Company, who embarked for the war.

RE47v43n78p3c1, January 26, 1847: IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO From the Baltimore Sun, Santa Anna demands funds from Mexican congress.

RE47v43n78p4c7, January 26, 1847: Reports on mischievous effects of Whig politicians, letter from Cuba.

RE47v43n78p4c7, January 26, 1847: To the editors of the Enquirer, signed A VIRGINIAN The name of "the Colonel - the 1st Regiment of Virginia Volunteers" should be shorter.

RE47v43n78p4c1, January 26, 1847: LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA Jan. 20 Election of U.S. Senator. Mr. Woolfolk offers joint resolution


RE47v43n79p1c1, January 29, 1847: LATER FROM THE ARMY. Battle soon expected in the vicinity of Saltillo

RE47v43n79p1c2, January 29, 1847: WHIG PARTIZANSHIP Correspondence from the Richmond Whig against Gen. Taylor

RE47v43n79p1c1, January 29, 1847: FROM MEXICO Picayune reporting that the present administration of Mexico will not be able to withstand their embarrassments.

RE47v43n79p1c2, January 29, 1847: THE SAILING OF THE VOLUNTEERS Virginia Volunteers sailed for Mexico on the Mayflower

RE47v43n79p1c3, January 29, 1847: Correspondence from the Picayune Dispelling rumors that a battle had occurred at Saltillo

RE47v43n79p1c6, January 29, 1847: IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO N.O. Commercial Times reports that Mexican congress will not submit.

RE47v43n79p1c7, January 29, 1847: VERA CRUZ, ALVARADO Mexicans not at all inconvenienced by the blockade at Vera Cruz. From N.O. Times

RE47v43n79p1c7, January 29, 1847: IMPORTANCE OF A DEMONSTRATION BEFORE VERA CRUZ Incomprehensible leaving Vera Cruz in the possession of the enemy for so long. From N.O. Times

RE47v43n79p1c5, January 29, 1847: To the Editors of the Charleston Courier, St. Louis Hotel, N.O.
Troop movements in and out of Mexico through N.O. Signed ANON.

**RE47v43n79p1c6, January 29, 1847: GEN. TAYLOR’S LETTER**

Tomorrow Gen. Taylor's letter will be published. Extract from the Union regretting the publication in the New York Express of a private letter.

**RE47v43n79p2c1, January 29, 1847: CONGRESSIONAL**

U.S. Senate Jan. 25. Mr. Benton speaks.

**RE47v43n79p2c3, January 29, 1847: LETTER FROM GEN. TAYLOR**

Copied from N.Y. Express, dated Nov. 9 1846. Monterey, Mexico.

**RE47v43n79p2c5, January 29, 1847: THE TRUE SPIRIT**

Congratulations to the House for refusing to suspend the rules in order to allow resolutions to be introduced requesting the president withdraws all troops to the east of the Rio Grande.

**RE47v43n79p1c6, January 29, 1847: Comments by Mr. Lewis in the Senate to show operation of the Tariff.**

**RE47v43n79p1c6, January 29, 1847: Bill to increase pay of army and volunteers passed.**

**RE47v43n79p1c5, January 29, 1847: THE "SINEWS OF WAR"**

Loan Bill has passed both Houses of Congress; proves that repealing Tariff a good idea, contrary to Whig belief.

**RE47v43n79p4c1, January 29, 1847: VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

Thursday Jan. 21. Sixth Ballot

**RE47v43n79p4c6, January 29, 1847: ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER HIBERNIA, IMPORTANT FROM EUROPE.**

President Polk's message assailed by the whole English press.

**February**

**RE47v43n80p1c1, February 2, 1847: THE ORIGIN OF THE WAR**

Special order of the Day to consider the origin of the war. Introduction to Ridgely article.

**RE47v43n80p1c2, February 2, 1847: For the Enquirer, "ORIGIN OF THE WAR-THE MESSAGE REVISED."

Dated Jan. 6, 1847. Very long article on origin of the war. Signed Ridgely.

**RE47v43n80p1c7, February 2, 1847: TRIBUTE TO FEMALE PATRIOTISM.**

Ladies of Richmond intend presenting Mrs. Chase of Tampico, with a beautiful service of silver.

**RE47v43n80p1c7, February 2, 1847: APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT**

Appointments to Military service, Quartermasters, and Medical Department.

**RE47v43n80p2c1, February 2, 1847: PATRIOTISM OF MASSACHUSETTS WHIGGERY.**

Massachusetts House of Representatives refused to appropriate funds for the volunteers of that state.

**RE47v43n80p2c2, February 2, 1847: To the Editors of the Enquirer:**

Asking questions of the Whig party in regards to their views on the war.

**RE47v43n80p2c2, February 2, 1847: The Remains of Col. Watson.**

Also brought back Lieut. Mills.

**RE47v43n80p2c6, February 2, 1847: FROM SANTE FE**

St. Joseph's Gazette publishes rumor that the Spaniards have poisoned the flour used by the troops. The St. Louis Reveille places no reliance in this rumor.

**RE47v43n80p2c4, February 2, 1847: VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE Jan. 30th**

Motion of Mr. Gresham

**RE47v43n80p4c1, February 2, 1847: The Enquirer questions why each Whig General is attacked. Blames Gen. Gaines because he gave the letter for publication.**

**RE47v43n80p4c2, February 2, 1847: Court case in which a minor enrolled in a company of volunteers without parental permission.**

**RE47v43n80p4c1, February 2, 1847: From the Union, Petition from the People for additional Taxes to Support the honor of the country. Small tax on tea and coffee.**
RE47v43n80p4c2, February 2, 1847: SENTIMENT ON THE TOP of the BLUE RIDGE
Rockfish Gap, VA.
Supports zealous prosecution of the war

RE47v43n80p4c3, February 2, 1847: TWENTY-NINTH CONGRESS 2nd Session
Jan 28th SENATE  Memorial of D. V. Quenandon

RE47v43n80p4c6, February 2, 1847: NEWS FROM TAMPICO
Enquirer places little reliance in this news. Reported in the N. Orleans Delta that Gen. Urrea is observing Taylor's
operations. Mexican papers speak of other troop movements. Includes correspondence signed CHAPPARRAL

RE47v43n80p4c5, February 2, 1847: LATER FROM THE ARMY
Mexican and American troop movements in Mexico.

RE47v43n80p1c1, February 2, 1847: Reports in the Norfolk Herald that resolutions for terminating the war were
brought forth by Democrats is reported untrue by the Union, both are Whigs.

RE47v43n81p1c1, February 5, 1847: VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
House of Delegates

RE47v43n81p1c2, February 5, 1847: Twenty-Ninth Congress. 2nd Session.
SENATE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Mr. McClelland.

RE47v43n81p2c1, February 5, 1847: Whigs determined to make an issue between the Administration and Gen. Taylor

RE47v43n81p1c7, February 5, 1847: DEATH OF LIEUT. BOTTS
The enquirer regrets to hear of the death of the son of John Minor Botts.

RE47v43n81p2c1, February 5, 1847: Twenty-Ninth Congress. 2nd Session.
SENATE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Feb. 3rd.

RE47v43n81p2c2, February 5, 1847: LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
SENATE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Feb 4th.

RE47v43n81p2c5, February 5, 1847: To the Editors of the Enquirer, THE PRESIDENTS MESSAGE AND IT'S REVIEWERS.
Though criticism was expected, the Whig response has been extreme.

RE47v43n81p2c4, February 5, 1847: Union says that Gen. Gaines admits the letter of Gen. Taylor's was written to
him.

RE47v43n81p4c2, February 5, 1847: The Tarboro Press prints a scathing article upon the gross injustice committed
by the Whig Governor of the state in selection of the Field Officers of the N.C. Regimen of volunteers for Mexico.

RE47v43n81p4c2, February 5, 1847: MEXICAN PLAN OF THE WAR
La Patria, the Spanish paper in New Orleans publishes a supposed letter of Gen. La Vega containing a supposed plan
for the war.

RE47v43n81p4c3, February 5, 1847: THE MEXICAN WAR, For the Enquirer,
Is this war justifiable? Rest of article answers its own question in the affirmative.

RE47v43n81p4c2, February 5, 1847: The Union comments on Sec. Of the Treasury's reply to the resolution of Mr. Cameron

RE47v43n81p4c4, February 5, 1847: MEXICAN PROPOSITION FOR PEACE
Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun from Saltillo, Dec. 21, signed, D.

RE47v43n81p4c4, February 5, 1847: GENERAL TAYLOR FOR THE PRESIDENCY
Washington Fountain reports to have come from both houses of congress.

RE47v43n81p4c1, February 5, 1847: THE PEACE RUMOR
Union reports Mexico concluded to accept offer of Peace, Washington reports disagree

RE47v43n81p4c1, February 5, 1847: APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT
FIRST REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY
Capt. W.M. Robinson's company set out for Old Point

Yucatanese have entirely thrown off the Mexican yoke. Report from N.O. Commercial Times.

Matamoras Flag received information that the rear guard of Col. May was cut off, in reconnoitering a pass.

Legislature of Virginia Feb. 5-6th

Senate, House of Delegates

The Vermont Resolutions

Resolutions passed in Vermont against the war, and against any new slave state being added.

Aid and Comfort to the Enemy

Article from the Philadelphia ledger on anti-war actions in Boston

For the Enquirer, Fault-Finders.

Candidate in Bedford gave a speech virulently against the war, the administration, and the president.

Enquirer apologizes because they have no room to comment upon the Whig's efforts to prove the inconsistency between Democratic professions and principles.

House of Delegates yesterday

Resolution to give thanks to Gen. Taylor

To His Excellency, the President of the United States.

Signed, Democrat. Asking the president to appoint a Virginian Brigadier General.

The prospects of peace

To what terms Mexico should surrender.

Massachusetts's legislature has postponed indefinitely a vote of thanks to Gen. Taylor.

Twenty-Ninth Congress 2nd Session

Senate, House of Representatives, Feb 4-6th

Remarks by Mr. Bondurant

Enquirer prints from the times the remarks in the House of Delegates of Leake, and Lee, in support of the resolution of thanks to Gen. Taylor.

Mysterious course of the Whig party upon the Mexican war. Article from the New York Express.

Rumored assassination of Santa Anna. La Vega promoted.

Correspondence of the New Orleans Picayune.


Mr. Cass speaks in favor of prosecution of the war.

Washington should be presenting an unbroken front, but very much distracted by obstacles

The opposition intends to abandon all idea of solid indemnity from Mexico, abandon California.
RE47v43n83p3c1, February 12, 1847: VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
Feb. 11th. Mr. Wallace speaks.

RE47v43n83p4c1, February 12, 1847: NEWS FROM THE SOUTH
Reports that Santa Anna had been shot by his own troops may be untrue.

RE47v43n83p4c1, February 12, 1847: THE ARMY BILL
Bill to raise ten regiments may be defeated.

RE47v43n83p4c2, February 12, 1847: PEACE WITH MEXICO
Enquirer was much disappointed not receiving further details from inside city of Mexico. Prints the Bulletin article which puts doubt in the rumored assassination

RE47v43n83p4c1, February 12, 1847: Gov. Smith will visit Fortress Monroe

RE47v43n83p4c2, February 12, 1847: Correspondence of the Washington Union

RE47v43n83p4c4, February 12, 1847: HIGHLY IMPORTANT! From the Picayune, Feb 2nd
Letters from Anton Lizardo that report the Mexican congress authorized the sale of church lands to raise funds.

RE47v43n83p4c3, February 12, 1847: THE VERMONT RESOLUTIONS
To the editors of the Enquirer, signed John S. Gallaher, defending his abstaining from the vote on the Vermont resolutions

RE47v43n83p4c3, February 12, 1847: REMARKS OF MR. GALLAHER
Responding to the letter by Mr. Gallaher

RE47v43n83p4c4, February 12, 1847: LATE FROM THE RIO GRANDE
Troop movements, and Santa Anna's address.

RE47v43n83p4c5, February 12, 1847: TWENTY NINTH CONGRESS 2nd Session
SENATE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RE47v43n84p1c1, February 16, 1847: TWENTY NINTH CONGRESS 2nd Session
Feb. 11th. Vice President laid before the senate a communication from Sam Houston

RE47v43n84p1c3, February 16, 1847: WAR ON THE LIBERTY OF THE PRESS
Editor of the Union expelled from Congress

RE47v43n84p1c4, February 16, 1847: DEMOCRATIC MEETING IN RICHMOND
Report of the democratic meeting, for the war, for the Tariff. Signed Joel B. Bragg

RE47v43n84p1c5, February 16, 1847: LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
SENATE, HOUSE OF DELEGATES Feb. 12th

RE47v43n84p2c1, February 16, 1847: LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
Feb.15th, Mr. Floyd from the committee on roads

RE47v43n84p2c4, February 16, 1847: TWENTY NINTH CONGRESS 2nd Session
Resolution to change the hour of meeting to 11 adopted.

RE47v43n84p4c1, February 16, 1847: MEXICAN LETTERS OF MARQUE
News from London includes list of cases in which captures can be made.

RE47v43n84p4c3, February 16, 1847: THE TRUE POLICY
The only way to secure a speedy peace is to push on the war with utmost vigor

RE47v43n84p4c4, February 16, 1847: Swords presented to officers

RE47v43n84p4c3, February 16, 1847: New York Courier, Whig, against the proposition of Sen. Berrien to publicly declare the war not carried on in conquest.

RE47v43n85p1c1, February 19, 1847: LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
Feb 16th HOUSE OF DELEGATES
Madmen of the North have numbered the days of the glorious Union

Convened to be against the expulsion of the editor of the Union from the Senate chamber. Signed John Rutherford

Response to an article in the Whig against the Richmond Public meeting

To the Editors of the Enquirer, Reviews the charge against the president of being the sole cause of the war. Signed, NUECES.

New Jersey Legislature voted swords to officers; Resolutions in the Illinois senate to outlaw slavery in any newly acquired territories rejected.

Tax on Tea and coffee moving through congress.

Received from the President by the Senate. Covers prosecution of the war, organization of volunteers, and revenue. Signed James K. Polk

Correspondence of the New York Express on the condition and treatment of the Volunteers in Mexico

Gov. Smith's speech to the Volunteers during the presentation of the Flag to Col. Hamtramck

Coverage of an incident in the senate between the Whigs and General Wallace. General Wallace corrected the Whigs by saying it was not, 'Mr. Polk's War'.

Defense of the appointment of the Surgeon to the Virginia Regiment of Volunteers. Signed, VINDEX, Response to the article signed, A JEFFERSONIAN DEMOCRAT

Article from the Petersburg Republican

Review of the causes of the existing war with Mexico, signed AMICUS

Report on the meeting, signed, J.E. COX

Resolutions that the war should be prosecuted with utmost vigor.

Contrary to the Whig report that had our army remained at Corpus Cristi; all hostilities would have been avoided. Cites correspondence from N.O., one is signed, I.D. MARKS
In every direction people are against stopping vigorous prosecution of the war.

President has commissioned many officers, some are Virginians.

Happy that Congress will be reconsidering the tax on tea and Coffee, signed AMICUS.

LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA

To the Editors of the Enquirer,

To the Editors of the Enquirer,

LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA

Mr. Boak presents petition. Feb.20th

VERY INTERESTING FROM MEXICO LATEST

Includes extracts of a letter reporting ominous conditions in Mexico. Mexican Congress on the verge of another resolution.

LATER FROM HAVANA AND YUCATAN

Troop movements, newly arrived packet brig brings no local news.

INTERESTING FROM TAMPICO AND THE ARMY

Encampments of troops, possible capture of Col. May's rear guard.

From the N.O. Picayune. SANTA ANNA

Reply of Santa Anna to the Mexican Congress.

Col. Hamtramck, arrived at Fortress Monroe.

Correspondence of the Mobile Herald and Tribune

Anton Lizardo, Jan. 21. Mexican prisoners arrived there, rumor of the assassination of Santa Anna.

TWENTY NINTH CONGRESS 2nd Session

Discussions on the size of Texas. SENATE Feb. 18th

Proceedings of meetings held throughout the war published in this paper prove the true spirit of Patriotism.

TEXAS

From N.O. Times. Many German emigrants arriving in Texas.

FROM TEXAS

From Charleston Evening News. Large number of Indians, Lepan tribe, Apaches, taken up quarters within the limits of Texas.

NAVAL

Yucatan pretends to be neutral.

COURT OF APPEALS OF VIRGINIA

Appeal of the case in which a minor enlisted without the permission of his parent.

ON BOARD BARQUE MAY FLOWER

Extract of a letter from one of the volunteers of Capt. Archer's company to his father.

TWENTY NINTH CONGRESS. 2nd SESSION

Feb.22nd SENATE, Vice President laid before the Senate a letter from John P. Heiss.

VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

SENATE, HOUSE OF DELEGATES. Feb.23-24th.

REPORTED BATTLE

Capture of Chihuahua. The people around Tampico so hostile they will not sell their beef to the army.

Tampico, Feb 6th.

Letter from Chihuahua, quartermaster inspecting wagons left at the post.

Appointments by the Gov of Virginia.

List of appointments.
LOSS OF THE SHIP ONIAKA.
Four companies of Louisiana volunteers on board all saved.

RE47v43n87p1c3, February 22, 1847: THE CAUSE OF THE WAR
Cause was not the President's nets.

RE47v43n87p1c4, February 22, 1847: APPOINTMENT BY THE PRESIDENT
Highlights of the list

RE47v43n87p2c1, February 22, 1847: LATEST MEXICAN NEWS
From the N.O. Delta, Fighting at Tamascalitos. Letter from Santa Anna on the Sale of Church lands

RE47v43n87p2c1, February 22, 1847: LATER FROM VERA CRUZ
From the N.O. Picayune, Rumors of assassination of Santa Anna unfounded. Gen. La Vega commandant general of Vera Cruz, other news from inside Mexico.

RE47v43n87p2c2, February 22, 1847: LATER FROM TAMPICO
From the N.O. Delta, Capt. Miller surround by a Mexican force from Tuspan.

RE47v43n87p2c2, February 22, 1847: IMPORTANT MEXICAN NEWS
Santa Anna still alive, confirmation of the great Battle of Chihuahua

RE47v43n87p2c3, February 22, 1847: TWENTY NINTH CONGRESS 2nd Session.
Feb. 24th SENATE. Remarks on the three million bill

RE47v43n87p2c4, February 22, 1847: REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION!
Republican party news, resolutions in support of the war.

RE47v43n87p2c6, February 22, 1847: To the Editors of the Enquirer, Signed, VIRGINIANS
Upset a Pennsylvanian selected to lead the volunteers

RE47v43n87p2c7, February 22, 1847: RE-NOMINATION OF J.W. Jones
Meeting of Republicans of Chesterfield County. Resolutions passed in support of the war.

RE47v43n87p3c1, February 22, 1847: LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
HOUSE OF DELEGATES Feb. 26th. Mr. Robinson's resolution.

RE47v43n87p4c2, February 22, 1847: COLONEL HAMTRAMCK
Completed arrangements for the embarkation of his regiment

RE47v43n87p4c3, February 22, 1847: Extract of a letter from a distinguished republican,
Dated Richmond, Feb. 18th. Condemning the Senate for expelling the editor of the Union

RE47v43n87p4c3, February 22, 1847: Enquirer is confident the Wilmot proviso will be defeated.

RE47v43n87p4c4, February 22, 1847: From the Warrenton Flag of '98
Condemning the Senate for expelling the editor of the Union

RE47v43n87p4c7, February 22, 1847: PUBLIC MEETING
Resolutions against expulsion of the editor of the union from the senate, resolutions supporting the war.

RE47v43n87p4c7, February 22, 1847: TREATMENT OF PRIVATEERS
British House of Commons, Mexican letters of marque

March

RE47v43n88p1c1, March 2, 1847: TWENTY NINTH CONGRESS 2nd Congress
SENATE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Feb. 25-27th

RE47v43n88p1c3, March 2, 1847: LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
Message received from the House by Mr. Stephenson. Feb. 26th-27th

RE47v43n88p2c1, March 2, 1847: Response to Whig claims of injustice in the war.

RE47v43n88p2c3, March 2, 1847: TO THE EDITORS OF THE ENQUIRER,
J.C. Calhoun's actions have lost him many friends in this part of the country.

RE47v43n88p2c2, March 2, 1847: Enquirer upset over the loss of the proposition to place a tax on tea and coffee

RE47v43n88p2c1, March 2, 1847: Response to comments in yesterday's Whig about the president's appointment of four hundred officers

RE47v43n88p2c2, March 2, 1847: R.T.L. Beale selected for congress, rode on both sides of the Texas question.

RE47v43n88p2c3, March 2, 1847: For the Enquirer, Against Calhoun, 'the monarch of South Carolina'

RE47v43n88p2c4, March 2, 1847: LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
Resolution allowing claimants of Revolutionary land bounty further times to present their claims.

RE47v43n88p2c5, March 2, 1847: MARSHALL COUNTRY DEMOCRATIC MEETING
Resolutions passed supporting the war, and Wm. G. Brown

RE47v43n88p2c6, March 2, 1847: Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun
Mexicans a treacherous, cunning people, must have Col. Benton to lead.

RE47v43n88p2c7, March 2, 1847: LATEST FROM TAMPIOCO
From the N. Orleans Commercial Times. Ondiaka burned, troop movements, Includes Correspondence.

RE47v43n88p4c1, March 2, 1847: AFFAIRS IN MEXICO
Deplorable condition of Mexican finances

Cassius M. Clay captured.

RE47v43n88p4c3, March 2, 1847: KING WILLIAM COUNTY
Public Meeting. Prepare for the upcoming battle against Whigs, Signed WM. P. Braxton

RE47v43n88p4c4, March 2, 1847: NELSON COUNTY
Meeting of Democratic Party, resolutions supporting the war, thanks to Shelton F. Leake

RE47v43n88p4c5, March 2, 1847: REPUBLICAN MEETING
Lynchburg republicans. Resolutions supporting the war and against the expulsion of the editor of the union from the senate.

RE47v43n88p4c6, March 2, 1847: NORFOLK CITY
Democratic Republican Party, resolutions passed against any attempt to prevent southerners from moving into any acquired territory with their property.

RE47v43n88p4c7, March 2, 1847: For the Enquirer, Against factionalism within the party concerning disagreements over appointing Generals for the Army. Signed, WALKER'S CREEK

RE47v43n89p1c1, March 5, 1847: TWENTY NINTH CONGRESS 2nd Session
SENATE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 1st-2nd

RE47v43n89p1c2, March 5, 1847: LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
Motions from Missouri laid on the table

RE47v43n89p1c3, March 5, 1847: Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun
Message from the president laid on the table yesterday, most likely concerns Gen. Taylor

RE47v43n89p1c4, March 5, 1847: To the Editors of the Enquirer,
Enclosed is a letter responding to accusations that Capt Archer deserted, signed W.P.B, includes Letter signed, S.B. Downing.

RE47v43n89p2c1, March 5, 1847: PROCEEDINGS OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEGISLATIVE CONVENTION
Resolutions supporting the war and party solidarity.

RE47v43n89p2c2, March 5, 1847: TWENTY NINTH CONGRESS 2nd Session.
Evening session march 2, March 3

RE47v43n89p2c3, March 5, 1847: INTERESTING FROM THE SOUTH
Due to the length of the Democratic proceedings, news from the south is condensed. List of Captured Americans, troop movements, includes an address by Santa Anna

RE47v43n89p2c5, March 5, 1847: Extract of a letter from officer of the navy from Vera Cruz to Tampico

RE47v43n89p2c5, March 5, 1847: For the Enquirer,
Criticism of John Calhoun’s speech given in the Senate, signed, ALPHA

RE47v43n89p2c7, March 5, 1847: LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
Right of Way railroad discussion. March 3rd-4th

RE47v43n89p4c1, March 5, 1847: LATEST FROM SANTA FE
Trouble with Indians, cold.

RE47v43n89p4c1, March 5, 1847: Americans may have abandoned Carmen, in the Yucatan

RE47v43n89p4c2, March 5, 1847: Whig convention at Harrisonburg a failure

RE47v43n89p4c2, March 5, 1847: Description of the island of lobos

RE47v43n89p4c3, March 5, 1847: Gen. Armstrong will be given command of new regiments for Mexico

RE47v43n89p4c3, March 5, 1847: The Last of the Virginia Volunteers
Ship Sophia Walker departed from Hampton Roads on Monday for Point Isabel

RE47v43n89p4c6, March 5, 1847: INTERESTING REPORT
Whigs blame administration for advancing from Corpus Christi; report from committee on Foreign Affairs proves the president was acting on the advice of others.

RE47v43n89p4c5, March 5, 1847: DEMOCRATIC MEETING
Resolutions, including during a war Americans should not discuss the impropriety of its origins. Signed, Timberlake

RE47v43n89p4c5, March 5, 1847: NAVAL
U.S. ship departs for the Gulf

RE47v43n89p4c5, March 5, 1847: DEPARTURE OF THE STEAMSHIP ORLEANS
Carried stores for the gulf, lately chartered by the government

RE47v43i99p1c1, March 9, 1847: LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
Much discussion on railroad right of way issue

RE47v43i99p1c4, March 9, 1847: Enquirer regrets congress did not create a tax on tea and coffee

RE47v43i99p1c4, March 9, 1847: Metaphysical politicians who contend that a war does not exist, that we are engaged in 'hostilities' only.

RE47v43i99p1c4, March 9, 1847: N.Y. Times article reporting that the Yucatan is again an independent republic

RE47v43i99p1c5, March 9, 1847: SEARCHING REVIEW OF MR. Calhoun's SPEECH
Reaction to the speech, Signed, AMELIA

RE47v43i99p1c6, March 9, 1847: For the Enquirer, LOOK TO THE SENATE
Fairfax should have a separate delegate. Signed, FAIRFAX

RE47v43i99p1c6, March 9, 1847: INFORMATION FROM THE ARMY
Santa Anna has moved to attack Saltillo

RE47v43i99p1c6, March 9, 1847: FROM THE ARMY
Santa Anna threatens Matamoros and Saltillo.

RE47v43i99p1c7, March 9, 1847: Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun
Government may avoid the three million dollar bill by completion of the war.

RE47v43i99p1c7, March 9, 1847: List of presidential appointees confirmed by congress

RE47v43i99p2c1, March 9, 1847: IMPORTANT FROM TAMPICO
Santa Anna withdrawn from Vera Cruz, Gen. Orders from Gen. Scott.
Gen. Scott left for Tampico; Gen. Worth will depart soon, captured Americans,

Maj. Gen. Butler arrived from the Brazos with sick and injured troops. Vera Cruz must be speedily captured.

Col. Doniphan to Chihuahua, Trouble with Indians.

Gen. Worth promoted to Maj. General

Report from the New York Herald article detailing the plan of attack upon Vera Cruz

LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
March 8th, SENATE, HOUSE OF DELEGATES

TWENTY NINTH CONGRESS, 2nd Session
SENATE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 3rd.

DEMOCRATIC MEETING IN POWHATAN
Purpose of reorganization of the party.

LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
March 9th-10th, SENATE, HOUSE OF DELEGATES

To the Editors of the Enquirer,
ASPEN WALL, CHARLOTTED. Va. Signed, UNUS POPULI. Commentary on remarks of Mr. Bocock.

Lieut. Alfred Crozet, song of Col. Claude Crozet murdered by the enemy two miles outside Camargo.

Letters of Correspondence from the N.O Delta, which give rumors of a battle between Taylor and Santa Anna. Signed, CHAPARRAL

Brazos Island, Feb. 13th
Gen. Scott's plan.

Brazos Santiago, Texas, Feb. 29th
Regiment of Virginia Volunteers arrived

ISLAND OF LOBOS
Includes correspondence of the New Orleans Times, Feb 16th
Three Mexicans arrested as spies.

MEXICAN NEWS

From the N.O. Picayune, FROM TAMPAICO,
Letters from Mr. Lumsden, Signed F.A.L.
Rumors that Gen. Taylor is in a very tight place.

FROM MEXICO---THE ARMY
From the N.O. Delta, Gen. Taylor in Saltillo, Heat of weather, Signed, CHAPARRAL.

THE REPORTED BATTLE AT MONTEREY
N.O. Times. Rumors of battle.

GEN. BUTLER OF KENTUCKY
Sword to be presented on behalf of the people of Kentucky to Gen. Butler. N.O. Atlas

FROM THE ARMY

REVENUE STEAMER POLK
Built by Virginians, article on the steamer's creation.
RE47v43i100p2c4, March 12, 1847: Graphic narrative of a brave Virginian
Letter from John Garland, Lieut. Col. Details of Fighting

RE47v43i100p2c5, March 12, 1847: Reports of the death of Lieut. Crozet may be unfounded

RE47v43i100p2c5, March 12, 1847: SURGEON TO THE VIRGINIA VOLUNTEERS
Appointment by the President

RE47v43i100p2c5, March 12, 1847: LIST OF DEATHER AMONG VOLUNTEERS AT OLD POINT
From diseases not of a local character.

RE47v43i100p2c6, March 12, 1847: BROOKE COUNTY
Resolutions of confidence in President Polk, JOHN MILLER

RE47v43i100p2c6, March 12, 1847: LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
HOUSE OF DELEGATES, March 11th

RE47v43i100p4c1, March 12, 1847: LATER FROM CAMPEACHY
Loss of the Steamer Tweed, sixty lives lost.

RE47v43i100p4c3, March 12, 1847: Volunteers arrived at the mouth of the Rio Grande

RE47v43i100p4c3, March 12, 1847: Enquirer hails the passage of the Three million bill.
Includes the three million bill

RE47v43i100p4c6, March 12, 1847: PUBLIC MEETING IN CHESTERFIELD
Resolutions in support of President Polk and the war.

RE47v43i100pc7, March 12, 1847: CAUTION!
Caution to the Democrats, the coming election demands vigilance. Signed, A SPARTAN

RE47v43i100p4c6, March 12, 1847: To the Editors of the Enquirer,
Signed, WASHINGTON. Thousands of applicants for commissions.

RE47v43i100p4c7, March 12, 1847: CAPTURE OF EL PASO
Revolution in Santa Fe by the Mexicans failed because of betrayal by Mexican women who reported on the leaders to American authorities.

RE47v43i92p1c1, March 16, 1847: LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
SENATE, HOUSE OF DELEGATES, Mr. Mullen moves that Mr. Cox be added to the committee.

RE47v43i92p1c6, March 16, 1847: THE RECENT DISCOVERY
Mr. Calhoun has declared he was the author of the annexation of Texas, Includes Mr. Walker’s reply

RE47v43i92p1c6, March 16, 1847: ADDITIONAL MILITARY APPOINTMENTS
Portion of the list of presidential nominations to senate.

RE47v43i92p2c6, March 16, 1847: IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO
New York Sun received news from Havana, distress of the Mexican army.

RE47v43i92p4c1, March 16, 1847: VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE, continued

RE47v43i92p4c4, March 16, 1847: PRIVATE ADVICES FROM MEXICO
Clergy in Mexico whose property is threatened has decided to show influence on the side of peace.

RE47v43i92p4c7, March 16, 1847: From the Union,
Introduction to two letters b Benton refusing appointment to the army includes reply from the president.

RE47v43i93p1c1, March 19, 1847: LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
SENATE, HOUSE OF DELEGATES, March 16th-17th Presentation of Swords

RE47v43i93p1c4, March 19, 1847: POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS
Democrats pleased with Gen. Chapman's account of the stewardship.

RE47v43i93p1c6, March 19, 1847: LATER FROM VERA CRUZ
N.O. Bulletin reports, movements to Vera Cruz, abandoned by Mexicans.
ADDRESS OF THE REPUBLICAN CENTRAL STATE COMMITTEE
Dated March 18th

IMPORTANT FROM NEW MEXICO
Mexican insurrections at Taos. Santa Fe had only 500 effective men.

LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
SENATE March 17th, HOUSE OF DELEGATES, evening session.

LATER FROM TAMPICO
Two thousand troops sailed for Lobos, Gen. Scott in good health.

FROM GALVESTON
Indians giving much trouble

FROM HAVANA AND MEXICO
No news as to the loss of Tweed. No mention of the loss of Vera Cruz.

LATER FROM TAMPICO
Gen. Scott arrived, more troops to Lobos, Correspondence from the Picayune

PROCLAMATION OF SANTA ANNA
Success in spite of tremendous obstacles

THE TWEED
Those suspected on board the lost, Tweed.

NEWS FROM THE SOUTH
Gen. Taylor fatigued from Santa Anna's masterly inactivity. Vera Cruz believed to be abandoned. Va. Volunteers at the Rio Grande

Caleb Cushing expected in Richmond

For the Enquirer, to the Voters. Vacancy will occur in this district. Signed MANY DEMOCRATS

IMPORTANT FROM TAMPICO
From the New Orleans Delta Extra, Battle fought between Taylor and Santa Anna From the Matamoros Flag, perilous situation of Gen. Taylor's Army, spy shot

MOUTH OF THE RIO GRANDE
Correspondence of the Delta
CAMARGO, Gen. Taylor attacked at Aqua Nueva
MONTEREY, troops were sent to assist Gen. Taylor, Signed D. da P.
MONTEREY, battle is daily expected between Gen. Taylor and Santa Anna Signed H.
MONTEREY, All sorts of reports of a battle at Aqua Nueva, signed, T.

STILL LATER
MONTEREY, Gen. Taylor fallen back to Saltillo

Union learns no official intelligence of a battle received from the war department.

EXCITING NEWS FROM THE ARMY
Summary of news from the Picayune. Estimation of troops on either side, estimation of strategy.

FROM THE BRAZOS STILL LATER
From the Delta, Gen. Taylor falling back towards Monterey, includes correspondence signed R.S. Gen. Taylor fallen back to Saltillo.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS
Letter from Samuel R. Curtis to the Gov. of Louisiana asking for ten thousand men.

FROM TAMPICO
Editorial correspondence of the Picayune, TAMPICO, arrival of troops, Signed, F.A.L
FROM GALVESTON AND THE RIO GRANDE another company of volunteers formed at Matamoros

RE47v43i94p2c1, March 23, 1847: Correspondence of the Picayune
CAMARGO, Santa Anna sees Gen. Taylor left weak
FORT HARNEY, absence of authentic information, some very unpleasant rumors

RE47v43i94p2c3, March 23, 1847: Gen. Brooke willing to muster troops

RE47v43i94p2c3, March 23, 1847: NEWS FROM THE SOUTH
Analyses of how safe military posts on the Rio Grande are from enemy attack

RE47v43i94p2c4, March 23, 1847: STRANGE MYSTERY
From the N.O. Commercial Times, Captain Henrie reports he left Gen. Taylor on the 23rd and there was nothing unusual stirring

RE47v43i94p4c1, March 23, 1847: LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
SENATE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 16th-19th

RE47v43i94p4c4, March 23, 1847: VIRGINIA VOLUNTEERS
Will disembark at the Rio Grande and head for Monterey

RE47v43i94p4c4, March 23, 1847: N.Y. Journal of Commerce presents interesting facts
Three million bill will obtain a speedy peace.

RE47v43i94p4c5, March 23, 1847: Sorry to hear of unfavorable actions of the House of Delegates, not raising enough volunteers

RE47v43i94p4c7, March 23, 1847: NEW MEXICO FURTHER PARTICULARS
Danger in that country, revolutionaries. Mexican women married to Americans giving information.

RE47v43i94p4c7, March 23, 1847: LOSS OF THE TWEED
From the N.O. Bulletin, FROM YUCATAN, catastrophe appears to have caused intense feeling in the Mexicans.

RE47v43i95p1c4, March 26, 1847: No news by southern mail yesterday
From the Delta further intelligence on Col. Curtis request for volunteers, and Gen. La Vega ready to march with four thousand men.

RE47v43i95p1c5, March 26, 1847: Bill recognizing a state of war between Mexico and United States.

RE47v43i95p2c1, March 26, 1847: LATE FROM TAMPICO, From the Picayune
All troops headed south sailed for Tampico, Gen Taylor fallen back, Correspondence declaring Taylor has defeated Santa Anna's advance, rumors.

RE47v43i95p2c2, March 26, 1847: LATER FROM MEXICO
Proclamation by Mexican Gen. Valentin Canalizo
Revolutionary attempt in Mexico, Plan for new government.

RE47v43i95p2c2, March 26, 1847: TROOPS FOR MEXICO
Volunteers in Norfolk given word to immediately prepare for Mexico

RE47v43i95p2c3, March 26, 1847: DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FOR THE SIXTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WALTER D. LEAKE OF GOOCHLAND.
History of Leake, why he is such a good candidate.

RE47v43i95p2c5, March 26, 1847: FROM THE SOUTH
Revolution in the city of Mexico

RE47v43i95p2c5, March 26, 1847: FOR THE ENQUIRER, To the Republicans of the Fourth Congressional District.
Struggle between republicanism and federalism. Signed SENEX

RE47v43i95p4c1, March 26, 1847: From the Southern mail new of victory by Gen. Taylor, Senate of Louisiana will be raising troops.

RE47v43i95p4c1, March 26, 1847: THE MEXICAN WAR
Response to Whig press reaction to war.

RE47v43i95p4c3, March 26, 1847: To the Editors of the Enquirer,
Excitement in New Orleans waiting to hear news.
RE47v43i95p4c4, March 26, 1847: Extract of a letter received by a Charleston resident from a member of the Palmetto Regiment, from the Isle of Lobos. Will soon meet the troops under Gen. Scott.

RE47v43i95p4c4, March 26, 1847: GENERAL WORTH Brazos, bound for Lobos

RE47v43i95p4c6, March 26, 1847: THE LATEST OFFICIAL ACCOUNTS FROM THE ARMY
Taylor's Headquarters changed to Aqua Nueva, dated Feb. 7th
Gen. Wool arrival, dated Feb. 14th

RE47v43i95p4c4, March 26, 1847: LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
HOUSE OF DELEGATES, March 22nd establishing free schools.

RE47v43i96p1c2, March 30, 1847: DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FOR THE SIXTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, WALTER D. LEAKE OF GOOCHLAND
Fixing the responsibility, views on the troops

RE47v43i96p1c2, March 30, 1847: Nothing from the army by Saturday's Southern mail.
Indian troubles in California.

RE47v43i96p1c6, March 30, 1847: IMPORTANT NEWS!!
Following includes all the reports by the southern mail, many conflicting views; we cannot believe the large amounts killed on both sides.

RE47v43i96p1c6, March 30, 1847: VICTORY!-VICTORY!-VICTORY!
GOOD NEWS FROM GEN. TAYLOR.
Gen. Taylor has Whipped Santa Anna

RE47v43i96p1c7, March 30, 1847: From the Delta
Mouth of the Rio Grande, 4,000 Mexicans dead, Santa Anna driven back. Signed, S.

RE47v43i96p1c7, March 30, 1847: From the Picayune
Untold number of rumors circulating impossible to tell what happened.

RE47v43i96p1c7, March 30, 1847: New Orleans Atlas
FROM MEXICO, Gen. Taylor and Santa Anna have fought either three battles or one battle of three days.

RE47v43i96p1c7, March 30, 1847: INTELLIGENCE FROM THE SECOND OHIO REGIMENT
Battle will be fought at Aqua Nueva, dated Feb. 24th

RE47v43i96p2c1, March 30, 1847: THE TENTH LEGION
Quote from the Rockingham Register, war is not at all unjust.

RE47v43i96p2c2, March 30, 1847: To the Editors of the Enquirer,
View of the events in the field and at home concerning the war in Mexico, signed, DAVEZAC.

RE47v43i96p2c4, March 30, 1847: For the Enquirer,
A Net Spread to Catch Calhoun's Birds. To Willoughby Newton. Accuses him of unfulfilled campaign promises.

RE47v43i96p3c1, March 30, 1847: LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES, PASSED AT THE SECOND SESSION OF CONGRESS.

RE47v43i96p4c1, March 30, 1847: "AID AND COMFORT"
Whig press professes to be shocked at the idea that attacking politicians and policies inspires Mexico.

RE47v43i96p4c1, March 30, 1847: THE REPORTED BATTLE
N.O. Courier publishes, Tampico, March 5th. Gen. Taylor has had another battle with very small losses to himself, killing 400 Mexicans.

RE47v43i96p4c1, March 30, 1847: From the Republican,
Santa Anna's report to the ministry of war

RE47v43i96p4c1, March 30, 1847: Picayune reports overthrow of Vice President Farias

RE47v43i96p4c3, March 30, 1847: From the Washington Union, March 25 LATEST FROM GEN. TAYLOR'S ARMY. OFFICIAL AND AUTHENTIC.
Received from the war department, from Feb. 21 Aqua Nueva, New arrivals will relieve Matamoros. Co. Morgan’s regiment will concentrate at Cerralvo.

RE47v43n98p3c1, April 6, 1847
Report of injury to General Taylor

RE47v43n98p3c1, April 6, 1847: THE FALL OF VERA CRUZ AND THE CASTLE
Leitnent Chaddock heard from General Scott about the fighting at Vera Cruz

RE47v43n98p4c1, April 6, 1847: BATTLE OF BUENA VISTA
Report of the battle of Buena Vista

RE47v43n98p4c1, April 6, 1847: From the New Orelans Delta
Report of actions taken by Santa Anna

RE47v43n98p4c1, April 6, 1847: Monterey, Mexico, March 4, 1847
Extract of a letter dated Saltillo, Mexico, March 1, 1847

RE47v43n98p4c1, April 6, 1847: Late from Gen. Taylor
Lieutant Crittenden arrived with dispatches from General Taylor
Information about General Taylor’s position

RE47v43n98p4c2, April 6, 1847: From the City of Mexico
Report from special correspondent at Anion Lizardo about Mexican affairs

RE47v43n98p4c2, April 6, 1847: Republican Liberating Army
Letter from Santa Anna to General-in-chief

RE47v43n98p4c2, April 6, 1847: From the N.O. Delat, March 26. Colonel Yell
Colonel Yell was killed

RE47v43n98p4c2, April 6, 1847: Colonel Curtis adn General Urrea
Story about Gen. Urrea’s defeat by Cols. Curtis and Drake

RE47v43n98p4c2, April 6, 1847: Items. From the Matamoras Flag of the 17th March
Information about attacks on a wagon train

RE47v43n98p4c3, April 6, 1847: North Carolina Regiment
Information about the position of the North Carolina Regiment

RE47v43n98p4c3, April 6, 1847: Virginia Regiment
Information about the position of the Virginia Regiment

RE47v43n98p4c3, April 6, 1847: Massachusetts Regiment
Information about the position of the Massachusetts Regiment

RE47v43n98p4c3, April 6, 1847: Mississippi Regiment
Information about the position of the Mississippi Regiment

RE47v43n98p1c1, April 6, 1847: Letter from the Secretary of Tresaury
Letter about tariff imposition in Mexico

RE47v43n98p1c2, April 6, 1847: Official Despatches. From our Squadron off Vera Cruz
Information about positions of troops and supplies

RE47v43n98p1c3, April 6, 1847: Official Despatches. Squadron in the Gulf
Report of naval forces and guns in possession

RE47v43n98p1c3, April 6, 1847: Assistant Adjutant General's Office
List of those killed and wounded at Buena Vista

RE47v43n98p1c4, April 6, 1847: Memorandum of Facts transmittedto Washington from Vera Cruz and received last
Report about the people and military in Oaxaca uprising against the government of Senor Arleaga

RE47v43n98p1c5, April 6, 1847: Hard Push
Opinion about General Taylor

RE47v43n98p1c5, April 6, 1847: The Imbecility and Inefficiency of the Administration
Accusation about the reporting of Whig papers. Information about the landing at Vera Cruz

RE47v43n98p1c6, April 6, 1847
Editorial of the Union about the letter of the President and the report of the Secretary of Treasury about the military contributions raised in Mexico.

REvXLIII98p1c6, April 6, 1847: The Kentucky regiment an Incident at the Battle of Buena Vista
Report about the battle of Buena Vista

RE47v43n98p1c7, April 6, 1847: Battle of Buena Vista
Information about the battle of Buena Vista

RE47v43n98p1c7, April 6, 1847: Interesting From Mexico
Report about the uprising in Mexico City between the government and insurgents

RE47v43n98p2c1, April 6, 1847: Later from Brazos
Collection of reports about Santa Anna, Matamoras, Buena Vista, Women and the Virginia Regiment—information about positions, activities

RE47v43n98p2c1, April 6, 1847: Later from Vera Cruz
Information about position and activities of the troops at Vera Cruz

RE47v43n98p2c2, April 6, 1847: Battle of Buena Vista
Description of General Taylor’s provision, battle of 23rd February, information about troop positions and those killed and wounded

RE47v43n98p2c3, April 6, 1847: Mexico
Report about the uprising in Mexico City and information about the activity of Gen. Vega’s troops

RE47v43n98p2c4, April 6, 1847
Reply to comments made by a Whig newspaper

RE47v43n98p2c5, April 6, 1847: Interesting Rumors
Information about the City of Vera Cruz and Castle of San Juan d’Ulloa, also a reply to comments made by the Savannah Rep.

RE47v43n98p2c5, April 6, 1847
Information about the uprising in Mexico City

RE47v43n98p2c5, April 6, 1847
Letter from an officer in the Virginia Regiment

RE47v43n98p2c6, April 6, 1847
Extract from a letter from a member of Captain Scott’s company of Virginia Volunteers

RE47v43n98p2c6, April 6, 1847: To the Republicans of Virginia
Rebut about the Texas Question and defense of Polk’s actions to move troops below the Nueces River

RE47v43n99p1c7, April 9, 1847: Later from Vera Cruz
Information about the siege at Vera Cruz, report about naval movements

RE47v43n99p1c7, April 9, 1847: Another Great Battle in New Mexico
Letter about the defeat of two thousand Mexicans

REvXLIII99p4c5, April 9, 1847: Naval Department, April 3d, 1847
Report that directions were sent to naval forces in the Pacific Ocean

RE47v43n99p4c5, April 9, 1847: Naval Department, April 3, 1847
Instructions about commercial activities

RE47v43n99p4c6, April 9, 1847: From our Army at Vera Cruz
Despatches received at the War Department
Information about naval activities

Report of General Scott receiving a letter from the Consul of Spain residing Vera Cruz

Return of the Steamer Polk because of the discovery of a small leak—was headed for Mexico

Report of a battle involving Col. May

Information about troop movement

Report of activities at Vera Cruz—communication coming from the Governor of Vera Cruz

Information about hostile activities at Vera Cruz

Report about the battle at Vera Cruz from Winfield Scott

Reponse to Winfield Scott by Juan Morales

Report about the battle at Vera Cruz from James Bankhead

Report about the battle of Vera Cruz from James Bankhead

Report about the battle of Vera Cruz

Update about the battle of Vera Cruz by Winfield Scott

Report about naval activities at Vera Cruz—cutting off of communications

Update about the battle of Vera Cruz—American flag over the castle of San Juan de Ulloa

Proposition for the appointment of Commissioners

Request by Consuls of England, France, Spain and Prussia to let the innocent families leave Vera Cruz

Plans for US commissioners to meet with Vera Cruz commissioners to work out the surrender of the city

Jose Juan de Landero names commissioners for the delegation to meet with US commissioners

Instructions for the surrender of Vera Cruz

List of demands from the Mexicans regarding the surrender of Vera Cruz

More demands from Scott to the Mexicans and encouraging the commissioners to meet again to work out the surrender of Vera Cruz

Terms of the surrender of Vera Cruz

Announcing the arrival of US Steamer Mississippi at Vera Cruz
Flag ship Mississippi
Information about the naval activities outside of Vera Cruz

List of killed and wounded of the detachment at the naval batteries on the 24th and 25th
list of killed and wounded in the naval batteries outside Vera Cruz

United States ship Potomac
Information about a naval battle involving the stateship Potomac

List of officers of the detachment
List of officers in the detachment with J.H. Aulick of the stateship Potomac

List of killed in the battle involving the stateship Potomac
List of those killed in the battle involving the stateship Potomac

List of wounded in the battle involving the stateship Potomac
List of those wounded in the battle involving the stateship Potomac

United States Steamer Mississippi
Report from the Steamer Mississippi about the battle of Vera Cruz

List of officers engaged at the naval battery on the 25th March
List of offices engaged in the naval battery on the 25th of March

US Steamer Mississippi
Report of the loss of Steamer Hunter

United States Steamer Mississippi
Report about the ship facing a very bad northern

U.S. Flag Ship Mississippi
Report that Vera Cruz and the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa have been gained by the US

Within the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa
Report from M.C. Perry from inside the San Juan de Ulloa castle

Rebut to comments made about Mr. Sheddon's belief regarding the war with Mexico
Comments about Whig candidate Mr. Bott regarding his position on the war with Mexico
Comments about the Whigs and their belief dealing with the war

News from the Army
Details about the battle at Buena Vista taken from the New Orleans papers

N.O. published a list of those from Kentucky who died in the war

The storming of Vera Cruz
Correspondent from the N.O. writing about the landing at Vera Cruz

Important if True! Latest from Mexico
Extract from a letter about Santa Anna recommending to sue for peace

Very Interesting from Both Armies
Dispatches from General Taylor, list of dead and wounded, position of US forces and Santa Anna

From the Union Important Documents
From the President—said that because Mexico would not negotiate they should have to pay for the war

From Gen. Taylor's Camp
Report from Taylor about the movement of his troops

Translation—Summions of Santa Anna to General Taylor
Santa Anna asks Taylor to surrender

Taylor rejects Santa Anna's offer to surrender
RE47v43n98p4c7, April 16, 1847: Headquarters Army of Occupation
Report of Taylor’s troops at Agua Nueva—still holding position, exchange of prisoner agreement between Taylor and Santa Anna, list of number of those killed and wounded on the US side.

RE47v43n98p4c7, April 16, 1847: Headquarters Army of Occupation
Update from Taylor that his troops still occupy their position at Agua Nueva

RE47v43n100p1c7, April 13, 1847: Capture of Vera Cruz
Report of the capture of Vera Cruz

RE47v43n100p1c7, April 13, 1847: For the Enquirer
Opinion about comments made for the war

RE47v43n105p2c1, April 30, 1847: The Federalists and the War
Opinion about the war with Mexico

RE47v43n105p2c1, April 30, 1847: The 10 Peans of the Fanatics
Comments about a candidate, Mr. Botts, and his stance on the war with Mexico

RE47v43n105p2c2, April 30, 1847
Intelligence information published in the N.O. papers

RE47v43n105p2c4, April 30, 1847: Results of the War
Correspondent of the New York Herald lists the results of the war so far

RE47v43n105p2c5, April 30, 1847: From the Union the Course of the Federalists Towards Gen. Taylor and the Mexican War
Comments about an article written in the "Boston Post"

RE47v43n105p2c5, April 30, 1847: From the Boston Post, April 21 The Mexican War
Report on the Massachusetts Legislature and its stance on the war and Gen. Taylor

RE47v43n105p4c3, April 30, 1847
Comment about an excerpt from a federal sheet about Taylor and Santa Anna

RE47v43n105p4c3, April 30, 1847: Another Presidential Hero
Comments about Gen. Scott and the next presidential election

RE47v43n105p4c3, April 30, 1847
Comments about mistakes made by the Union regarding the war

RE47v43n105p4c4, April 30, 1847: The Causes of the War
Extract from the Democratic Review about the justification of the war

RE47v43n105p4c5, April 30, 1847: Arrival of More Troops
Announcement of the arrival of more US troops headed for Point Isabel and Monterey

RE47v43n105p4c5, April 30, 1847: Prospects in California
Report about the insurrection in California

RE47v43n105p4c1, April 30, 1847: Later from Vera Cruz
Orders from Gen. Scott for the march—Gen. Twiggs and Gen. Quitman moved their commands upon Jalapa

RE47v43n105p4c1, April 30, 1847: Two Days Later from Mexico
Resignation of Vice President Farias
Union of Santa Anna and the Church Party
Affairs at Vera Cruz and movement of troops

RE47v43n105p4c2, April 30, 1847: Progress of General Kearney-Battle of San Pasqual
Letter from a man with General Kearney describing the encounters of the General and his men as they moved through California

April 30, 1847 not legible

RE47v43n105p1c6, April 30, 1847
Announcement of a death in the war
RE47v43n104p3c1, April 27, 1847: Volunteers Wanted
AD requesting volunteers to go and fight in the war

RE47v43n104p3c1, April 27, 1847: Late and Important from Mexico
Announcement of new of the capitulation at Mexico
Santa Anna's address to his men
Preparations to meet Gen. Scott at the National Bridge
Santa Anna to take command

RE47v43n104p4c5, April 27, 1847: From the New Orleans Tropic'
Comments about the political views of Gen. Jackson regarding the war

RE47v43n104p4c6, April 27, 1847: From Vera Cruz
Report about the actions of Gen. Scott at Vera Cruz

RE47v43n104p4c6, April 27, 1847: From the Capital
Report about the end to the conflict in Mexico City

RE47v43n104p4c6, April 27, 1847: From the Union's Baltimore Correspondent, April 22
Important from California
Report of the naval activities in California-information on battle

RE47v43n104p4c1, April 27, 1847: Letter from General Taylor
Private letter to General E. G. W. Butler from General Taylor giving information about troop movement

RE47v43n104p4c2, April 27, 1847: Gen. Taylor-Mexican Banditti
Order from General Taylor referring to a Mexican banditti on the private and public property on the route from Camargo to Monterey

REvXliii104p4c3, April 27, 1847: Capture of Alvarado-Return of General Quitman to Vera Cruz
Letter to the Secretary of Navy from commodore Perry about Perry and Scotts' plans to take Alvarado

RE47v43n104p4c3, April 27, 1847: from the N.O. Tropic
Information about the troops with Taylor and Wool and their positions

RE47v43n104p4c4, April 27, 1847
Comment about the war and acquiring territory and what should happen to that territory in regards to the slavery question

RE47v43n103p2c5, April 23, 1847: Fruits of the War
Comments about Whig beliefs on the war and an extract from the New Orleans Picayune which speaks about the future of the acquired land

RE47v43n103p2c6, April 23, 1847:
Extract from the Sun about an illumination in Baltimore created in honor of the men fighting in Mexico

RE47v43n103p2c6, April 23, 1847: The Late Col. Clay
Letter from General Taylor to Elon H. Clay about the death of his son

RE47v43n103p4c5, April 23, 1847
Comment about why the Philadelphia Spirit did not illuminate their office on account of General Taylor's victory

RE47v43n103p4c6, April 23, 1847: The Battle of Buena Vista
Comments about a column from the N.O. Bulletin about the war-information about the conduct of the Indiana and Arkansas volunteers, information about other regiments as well-Kentucky, Mississippi

RE47v43n103p4c6, April 23, 1847: Battle of Buena Vista
Report on first of the enemy at Buena Vista and a story about the Mississippi Regiment

RE47v43n103p4c6, April 23, 1847: Correspondence of the N.O. Tropic-the way General Taylor inspires his soldiers
Report on General Taylors actions during the battle

RE47v43n103p4c6, April 23, 1847: Whipped without Knowing it
Story about the conduct of the Mississippi Regiment during the battle at Buena Vista

RE47v43n103p4c6, April 23, 1847: Correspondence of the New York Sun
Report about Santa Anna-leaving his men and returning to Mexico City which is in the middle of a rebellion
Extract from the New Orleans Delta about the Whig nomination of General Taylor for President

Report that information has been gained from file published at Monterey and Upper California-mention of insurgence.

Correspondence of the Journal of Commerce
Report that war in California is over

Comments on how those in California want to become part of the US, report on US naval activity

Arrival of the US Ship Independence

Report on the conflict near the Pueblo de los Angeles between US forces under the command of Com. Stockton and California forces under the command of Gen. Flores

Letter from Commodore Stockton about the battle that took place on the march to Pueblo.

Announcement that two more companies of volunteers have been called to serve in Mexico

Report of the number of cannon capture by US forces in Mexico and where they were taken

The clergy in favor of peace
Report from the NY Sun's correspondent that the clergy in Mexico favor peace and are willing to give up territory to gain it, they wish the army dissolved and a guarantee that the laws and constitution will remain in place.

Report that Trist has left for Mexico with important dispatches

Prospects of Peace, Revenues of the Mexican tariff, Santa Anna's boundary change, Col. Price's Victories, National Salute and Illumination

Report about Secretary Walker's system of military contributions, comments about how the loss of the castle will cause people in Mexico to desire peace

Letters from General Taylor and Col. Price giving details about the achievements of the army

General Scott's orders upon the capture of the city and also the Tariff of Duties instituted by General Wool

Extract from the Republican about the arrival and inauguration of Santa Anna, reports on the new governments plans for peace, info on the Mexican army, information on the movement of US troops and extract from the Picayune from their correspondent at Vera Cruz-info about the city, inhabitants, damage done to it

The True Issues Before the People
Comments on how the Federalist leaders are trying to make the Mexican war a very important topic—all other topics are unimportant.

RE47v43n103p1c1, April 23, 1847: Official Despatches
Detailed report of the Battle of Buena Vista.

RE47v43n103p1c4, April 23, 1847: Later from Vera Cruz
Surrender of Alvarado and the taken of the city, interview with Lieutenant Barton and Brasher.

RE47v43n103p1c4, April 23, 1847: Later from Vera Cruz
Report on the movement of naval ships and army, and report on the suspected movement of Mexican forces.

RE47v43n103p1c4, April 23, 1847: Editorial Correspondence of the Picayune
Fall of Alvarado, rumors from Mexico about Santa Anna putting down the rebellion in the city, report on the movement of the army.

REvCLIIIi103p1c4, April 23, 1847: Vera Cruz, Mexico
Report from a man who left Mexico City about the fighting taking place within the city, American deserters within the city, suspected movement of the Mexican forces.

REvCLIIIi103p1c5, April 23, 1847: Vera Cruz, April 6, 1847
Report on movement of American forces and Mexican forces, rumors of attack on captain Thorton's Company, arrival of a group to perform in the theater in the city.

REvCLIIIi103p1c5, April 23, 1847: Headquarters of the Army, Vera Cruz, April 3, 1847
General Orders-number 19 from General Scott.

RE47v43n103p1c5, April 23, 1847: Gen. Houston-The Mexican War
General Houston's address to the people at San AugustineTexas.

RE47v43n103p1c6, April 23, 1847
General Taylor's letter printed in the Picayune makes comments about the battle at Buena Vista and Taylor being named a presidential candidate.

RE47v43n103p1c7, April 23, 1847: Arrival of Troops
Arrival of the steamboat Dominion from Pittsburg, list of those aboard.

RE47v43n103p4c1, April 23, 1847
Report on the opinion of the Whigs, Federalists etc. think about the war, results of a Democratic Republican General Committee meeting dealing with the war.

RE47v43n103p2c1, April 23, 1847: Official Despatches From New Mexico
An account of the "revolution" that occurred in New Mexico.

RE47v43n103p2c2, April 23, 1847: Extract of a Letter dated Santa Fe, New Mexico, Feb 17, 1847
Letter about US troop movement and encounters within the New Mexican territory.

RE47v43n103p2c3, April 23, 1847: Latest from Saltillo and Monterey
Extract from the N.O. Delta about the battle of Buena Vista, information on troop movement, confirmation on statements made about men dying.

RE47v43n102p1c2, April 20, 1847: Tariff in the Mexican Port
Response to Whig comments about the President imposing a tariff on conquered areas on Mexico.

RE47v43n102p1c4, April 20, 1847: From the New Orleans Delta, April 9th, Details of the Actions which occurred on the 22 and 23.
Report on troop actions and movement on the field of Angostura, also has information on Mexican troop movement.

RE47v43n102p1c7, April 20, 1847: Trade with Mexico
Report on the first vessel to initiate trade in Vera Cruz.

RE47v43n102p2c1, April 20, 1847: Latest from Monterey and the Rio Gande
Information brought by passengers on different boats about the events in Mexico—report of a fight between Gen. Taylor and Gen. urea and Canales proves false, arrival of the Ohio Volunteers, future plans for Gen. Taylor, excerpts.
from the Flag of the 3d inst.

RE47v43n102p2c1, April 20, 1847: From Vera Cruz
Announcement of the arrival of the ship Louisville, a newspaper as been started at Vera Cruz, comments made by Gen. Scott on behaviors of the soldiers, orders from Gen. Wool, treatment of the Mexicans and Mexican reaction to Americans

RE47v43n102p2c2 April 20, 1847: Correspondence of the N.O. Picayune
All is quiet at Vera Cruz, arrival of a British steamer, movement of troops

RE47v43n102p2c2, April 20, 1847: Important from Santa Fe
Letter to Robert Clay from John Black about details concerning a massacre at Taos and the battles that followed and were fought by the US

RE47v43n102p2c3, April 20, 1847: Great Democratic Meeting in the City of Norfolk
Resolutions passed at the meeting dealing with Gen. Taylor and Scott

RE47v43n102p2c4, April 20, 1847: "Save me from my friends, I will take care of my enemies"
Comments made by Mr. Botts about Santa Anna, exchange of prisoners, movement of forces-and opinion on Mr. Botts comments

RE47v43n102p2c5, April 20, 1847
Comments about the opinion of the Whigs regarding the war, including excerpts from Whig papers

RE47v43n102p2c7, April 20, 1847: For the Enquirer
Urging voters to vote for a candidate that supports the war

RE47v43n102p2c7, April 20, 1847: More Troops to be Raised
Quote from the Washington Union calling for more volunteers to go to Mexico

RE47v43n101p2c3, April 16, 1847
Report on a response by Richard S. Coxe to a speech by "Lone Star" Pendleton where Pendleton tried to destroy the validity for the war with Mexico

RE47v43n101p2c4, April 16, 1847: Pro Patria
Editorial defending Polk, the tariff, and the war

RE47v43n101p2c4, April 16, 1847: Extracts showing the conduct of the Federalists of 1812 &c.
Quotes about going to war with Mexico, speaking out against the government to go to war

RE47v43n101p2c4, April 16, 1847
Comparing the behavior of the federalists during the war with Great Britain to the behavior now of the Whig party

RE47v43n101p2c5, April 16, 1847: To Willoughby Newton ESQ., and his Lieutenant "Themistocles"
Pointing out contradictions between the words of Willoughby Newton and Themistocles with regards to the war and their actions-words are different from their actions

RE47v43n101p2c6, April 16, 1847: Appointments by the President
Announcement of promotions/appointments made by the President to Brigadier General Gideon J. Pillow, Brigadier General John A. Quitman and Colonel Calbe Cushing

REvXLIII101p2c7, April 16, 1847: For the Whig, Enquirer, Republican and Complier and all others who it may concern "Mr. Bott on the Willmont Provision-Important Development."
Expresses questions about the extent of the Willmont Provision in the newly acquired Mexican territory, speaks of how the South doesn’t want Mexico or any more land, debates slavery issue

RE47v43n101p3c2, April 16, 1847: Important from Mexico
Speaks of the Capitol during the Revolution, fall of Gen. Farias and the Anti-Church Party, the prospects of restoration with Santa Anna

RE47v43n101p4c1, April 16, 1847: Late from the City of Mexico
State of the Revolution in the city, the fall of Chihuahua, Santa Anna’s progress to the capital, Mexican reports on battles
Correspondent from the Picayune writes about the defenders of Vera Cruz and American forces—gives comments on bravery, skill, etc.

Response to a Whig report about the comments made by Mr. Leak about General Taylor, and the war.

Extract from the Picayune about troop movement, who has control of what land, and other general military operations information.

Incidents at Vera Cruz: Despatches excluded from yesterday’s paper about Vera Cruz, gives the number killed, the amount of ammunition used by US forces, actions of General Scott, praise of the performance of the Oracandia, quote from a Navy officer about the operation at Vera Cruz; account of Col. Harney’s run in with Mexican horses, which had apparently been exaggerated.

"Growing Beautifully Less": Letter from Mexico city printed in the Tampico, which speaks of Santa Anna’s arrival, and the anticipation of.

The Approaching Election—The Mexican War &c. to the voters of the 6th congressional district: Comments about remarks made by the Whigs regarding the war with Mexico—reasons why it couldn’t have been avoided etc., President Polk, points to the differences between Mr. Bott and Mr. Leake in their stances on the war.

Battle of Buena Vista: Letter printed in the Union from Lt. Colonel Mansfield to another officer in the city. Gives a detailed account of the battle at Buena Vista, listing some of those killed, troop actions etc.

Triumph of American Arms: Reports of despatches that give the news of the surrender of Vera Cruz and the castle. Extract from the Union about the incident; gives the opinion that now the Mexicans would sue for peace; speaks against the Whigs and their lack of faith in the war.

To the Editors of the Enquirer: Opinion about and account of the surrender of Vera Cruz; speaks of "Virginia boys" with Taylor.

The Approaching Elections: Call to uphold an administration that supports the war in Mexico.

Commemoration of the Victory: New flag at the Richomond Fayette Artillery in honor of the victory in Vera Cruz.

To the Editors of the Enquirer: Response to Whig claims that Virginia is against the war and other remarks said about the war by Whigs.

Glorious News: Report about the surrender of Vera Cruz and the Castle of San Juan d’Ulloa.

Capture of Vera Cruz: Details about the surrender of Vera Cruz.

From the New Orleans Delta, April 2 From Vera Cruz: Report on the bombardment of Vera Cruz.

Later from the Brazos: Letters from Santa Anna about the lose, troop movement.

Public Meeting in Richmond: Report on resolutions passed by the legislature dealing with the war.

Opinion about the Whigs stance on nominating Taylor for president when he is fighting a war that the Whigs do not support.

RE47v43n101p1c3, April 16, 1847
Report on the future movements of General Scott

RE47v43n101p1c3, April 16, 1847: The Discussion
'Debate between Mr. Botts and Mr. Leake mentioning their stances on the war

RE47v43n101p2c1, April 16, 1847: The Coming Struggle
Report on the upcoming election and the issues that will play a large role in the campaigning-war is one of them

RE47v43n99p2c3, April 9, 1847: Texas Sugar
Article about Whig opinion on the annexation of Texas and comments given in its defense-economic reasons-sugar

RE47v43n99p3c2, April 9, 1847
Confirmation on the massacre at Taos

RE47v43n99p3c2, April 9, 1847: From the Camp
Article about a letter sent from General Taylor to his troops on the battle field after they won

RE47v43n99p4c1, April 9, 1847:
Reponse to a Whig comment, about the President, made in the N.Y. Express

RE47v43n99p4c1, April 9, 1847
Report about a dinner held for Col. Cushing who felt due to pressure that he needed to join his men in Mexico

RE47v43n99p4c1, April 9, 1847
Article from the N. Y. Herlad about the President and his administration-succes of Taylor, loss of men, desire for peace

RE47v43n99p4c2, April 9, 1847
Letter from the first Company Petersburg Volunteers-sightings of the Mexicans, building of fortifications, Virginia Regiment leaving for Monterey, excellent rations, general opinion is that war is almost over

RE47v43n99p1c1, April 9, 1847: Good News from the Northwest
Article about support for the war; Whig non-support for the war; nominations for democratic candidate-Taylor

RE47v43n99p1c2, April 9, 1847
Resolutions adopted by the people of New Orleans dealing with the war-about Buena Vista, Taylor, loss of men

RE47v43n99p2c1, April 9, 1847
Report on Taylor's nomination as presidential candidate for the Whigs

RE47v43n99p2c2, April 9, 1847: The Tariff for Mexico
Reponse to Whig opinions and actions taken with regard to the tariff

RE47v43n99p2c5, April 9, 1847: Messrs, Leake adn Goggin at Charlottesville
Point of view of a spectator at the disscussion between Messrs,Leake and Goggin-speak of victories in the war, debat about claims to the territory below the Nueces River

RE47v43n99p2c5, April 9, 1847; To the Editors of the Enquirer
Gives views of Mr. Bocock and Irving on the war, territory, and what should be done

RE47v43n99p2c6, April 9, 1847: Correspondence of the N. Orleans Picayune
Report on the revolution in Mexico City

RE47v43n101p1c5, April 16, 1847
Discussion about arguments used between the candidates who are campaigning for the upcoming election

RE47v43n101p1c5, April 16, 1847: To the Editors of the Enquirer: The Discussion
Discussion about a candidate and his view on the war, and Texas

RE47v43n97p1c2, April 2, 1847
Letter extract from Lieutenant Porterfiled of the Virginia Regiment of Volunteers-news of Gen. Taylor, position of the first Battalion of Virginia Volunteers

RE47v43n97p1c2, April 2, 1847: The Victory Confirmed
Confirmation of the win at Buena Vista; defeat of Santa Anna; position of troops during battle
Win at Buena Vista against the odds; no despatches have been received; defeat confirmed by documents from Mexico.

Questions concerning Leake's stance on the war and the controversies that it has caused.

Strong statements about the Whigs' stance on the war.

New of the battle of Buena Vista; the triumph of American forces; General Taylor's victory and Santa Anna's defeat; number of loss on both sides.

An official despatch from Santa Anna to the Minister of War, originally printed in the Sentinel; gives details about losses, the retreat back to Agua Nueva.

Information about officers wounded and the movement of officers; Santa Anna's defeat; length of battle.

More details about the battle of Buena Vista; losses on both sides; details about the fighting, troop movement and officers.

Information received about Mexican forces; newspapers claiming Santa Anna's glory and positions taken; a letter talking about the defeat of the Mexican army and the devastating situation among the troops-hungry, cold etc.

List of those killed and wounded on the American side; Information about Taylor's position; arrival of Col. Morgan at Monterey; capturing of US wagons by the Mexicans; escape of a lady.

Account of a doctor escaping Monterey and talking to a correspondent about the battle; gives details about the battle.

Information gained from an arriving boat that the US did win the battle; despatches have not reached port yet; report of many dead.

Column about the victory; comments about losses, movement of Virginia regiments, Whig opposition to the war.

Comments about reports in Whig papers and the triumph of the army.

Information about volunteer regiments; many upset that they had been ordered to Taylor before Buena Vista; volunteers were ready for the fight.

Information about a company formed and headed by R.W. Heath; information about Heath and his military performance.

Information about regiments to be formed; where they will be sent and how many.

Printing of an act that will raise for a short time additional military forces.
RE47v43n97p2c1, April 2, 1847: Important from Vera Cruz
Information about the successful landing of troops at the city and how US forces have cut off supplies and water from the Mexicans

RE47v43n97p2c1, April 2, 1847: Lates from Vera Cruz!
Detailed information about the landing at Vera Cruz from a correspondent; information about boat locations; troop movement-moving to shore and landing; information about the shooting; information about the number of Mexican troops present; movement of troops around the city to surround it

RE47v43n97p2c4, April 2, 1847: Democratic Candidate for the 6th Congressional District Walter D. Leake
Opinion about the Whig stance on the war, election, blame on the President; contains excerpts from despatches from the Secretary of War

RE47v43n97p3c3, April 2, 1847: From the New Orlean Times March 23
Information about the landing at Sacrificios; reports of Mexican troops; small fighting between the US and Mexicans; report of Col. Curtis in chase of Gen. Urrea-retreat of Mexican forces, disappointment of US forces; report of ships acting as transport ships for the military

RE47v43n97p4c5, April 2, 1847: Eight Days Later from Saltillo
More information about the battle of Buena Vista; arrival of Dr. Turner; Despatches from Col. Curtis; general orders issued by Santa Anna

RE47v43n97p5c6, April 2, 1847: Further Particulars
Reinforcement of Taylor's troops and status of those men; prediction of another battle even though Santa Anna has retreated; communication has been opened between Monterey and Saltillo which will help Taylor

RE47v43n97p6c6, April 2, 1847: Rough and Ready
Information about a past battle fought by Taylor, which afterwards he was named Major-battle occured in 1812

May

RE44i1p1c4, May 4, 1847: FROM GEN. SCOTT'S CAMP
A brief letter from General Scott dated April 8, 1847 discussing possible advance to Jalapa. Printed in the Baltimore Sun and in the Union.

RE44i1p1c5, May 4, 1847: A LETTER WITHOUT AN ANSWER
A letter to General Taylor by 22 gentlemen of Philadelphia requesting his acceptance of a nomination for President.

RE44i1p1c6, May 4, 1847: APPOINTMENTS IN THE ARMY
From the Times. A list of recent Presidential Military Appointments.

RE44i1p1c7, May 4, 1847: EXTRACTS OF A LETTER FROM COL. HAMTRAMCK
To the Editors of the Republican from Camargo Mexico, March 29, 1874.

RE44i1p2c1, May 4, 1847: LATEST FROM SALTILO AND MONTEREY
From the N.O. Delta of April 24. From the steamship Trumbull just arrived from Brazos. Nothing further is known about Gen. Taylor's future movements. The Flag reports of violence and robbery.

RE44i1p1c4, May 4, 1847: UNTITLED
Lays out the standards for the Whig party's presidential nominee. One requirement being that he be opposed to the acquisition of Mexican territory west of the Rio Grande.

RE44i1p1c4, May 4, 1847: UNTITLED
Nothing new from Gen. Scott. Last report on April 11th contained arguments for the advance to the capital.

RE44i1p1c5, May 4, 1847: INTERESTING LETTER
A letter dated April 1, 1847 coming from a highly respectable and reliable source which presents the most intelligent
view of affairs inside Mexico. Reprinted from the New Orleans Delta.

RE44i1p4c1, May 4, 1847: LATER FROM VERA CRUZ
From the Picayune April 23. Covers Intelligence, American Advances, Santa Anna’s preparations of defence, and the supposed battle fought on April 15th. Correspondence from Vera Cruz dated April 13 and 14, and from Camp at San Juan dated April 14. Proclamation to the good people of Mexico from General Scott.

RE44i1p4c2, May 4, 1847: SUMMARY JUSTICE
Gen. Scott says that Americans will not abuse power that war has given them. As reported from the Vera Cruz Eagle of April 14th.

RE44i1p4c2, May 4, 1847: OFFICIAL
Washington Union reports that letter have just been received at the War Department from Gen. Taylor. Most recent bears date of 28 March. From camp near Monterey.

RE44i1p4c3, May 4, 1847: THE WAR – VOICE OF MASSACHUSETTS
N.Y. Tribune reports that a resolution proposed by Mr. Keyes has passed the House of Representatives of Massachusetts, condemning the war.

RE44i1p4c3, May 4, 1847: UNTITLED
A letter from a young Virginian in Santa Fe details the bravery of all Americans.

RE44i2p1c5, May 7, 1847: DESPATCHES
The Washington Union printed recently arrived despatches from Gen. Kearny explaining his first encounter with Mexican troops, his junction with Commodore Stockton and their joint engagement with the Mexicans on the 8th and 9th of January, and his arrival in San Diego.

RE44i2p1c7, May 7, 1847: BRILLIANT EXPLOIT OF COL. JEFFERSON DAVIS
From the Matamoras Flag of March 31. Details the heroics of the 1st Mississippi Regiment under Davis’ command.

RE44i2p2c1, May 7, 1847: CALIFORNIA AND GEN. KEARNY’S LETTERS
Kearny’s letters dated Dec. 12 and 13, 1846 from San Diego and Jan. 12 and 14, 1847 from Los Angeles to the War Department. Col. Doniphan’s Letters from Chihuahua dated March 4 and 20, 1847.

RE44i2p2c4, May 7, 1847: THE Isthmus of Tehuantepec
Editors make clear their position on building a canal across the Isthmus that would link the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. While they have not officially lobbied Congress for such construction, they have urged the importance of acquiring the “right of way” to do so.

RE44i2p4c2, May 7, 1847: FROM THE RIO GRANDE
From the New Orleans Delta, April 27. General Taylor is still at Walnut Springs and does not intend to leave there for some time. Contains excerpts from the Matamoras Flag or the 18th of April and the Monterey Pioneer of the 12th.

RE44i2p4c7, May 7, 1847: HONOR THE BRAVE

RE44i3p1c1, May 11, 1847: BATTLE OF CERRO GORDO
From the Picayune May 1. Further details from G.W. Kendall writing from Plan Del Rio on April 16 and 17th, 1847.

RE44i3p1c4, May 11, 1847: UNTITLED
Reports from the New Orleans Courier which provide an extensive discussion of the many attempts by the United States to close the war with Mexico. No matter what the Whigs say, War could not be avoided.

RE44i3p1c5, May 11, 1847: ISTHMUS OF TEHUANTEPEC
Reports from the N.O. Delta that a topographical survey is to be made of the area.

RE44i3p1c6, May 11, 1847: OFFICIAL
Inspector General’s report from Vera Cruz dated March 5, 1847. Signed E.A. Hitchcock. Illegible.

RE44i3p2c1, May 11, 1847: IMPORTANT MEXICAN INTELLIGENCE
From the Picayune, May 2. Covers Suppression of the Vice Presidency in Mexico, a new plan of Government, Election of Anaya as president substitute and his inaugural address, and Santa Anna’s address to congress.

RE44i3p2c3, May 11, 1847: LATER FROM VERA CRUZ
From the New Orleans Picayune Extra, May 3. Details concerning the Capture of Tuspan. Correspondence of the Picayune from Vera Cruz dated April 23, 1847.
May 11, 1847: THE ILLUMINATION OF WASHINGTON
From the Washington Union, May 8. The White House was brilliantly illuminated to commemorate the first anniversary of the battle of Palo Alto.

May 11, 1847: UNTITLED
Massachusetts refuses to vote thanks to General Taylor and his army.

May 11, 1847: THE GREAT WEST
The Washington Union presents its preferred route for a transcontinental railroad, rejecting the idea of a canal across the isthmus of Tehuantepec.

May 11, 1847: OFFICIAL
Despatch from General Scott. From Plan del Rio, 50 miles from Vera Cruz. Dated April 19, 1847.

May 11, 1847: IMPORTANT INTELLIGENCE!
Another Glorious Victory at the Battle of Cerro Gordo. From the Picayune Extra, April 30. Santa Anna again defeated in a pitched battle by General Scott. Six thousand Mexican prisoners taken. 500 casualties. General La Vega once again a prisoner. All Correspondence by G.W.K.

May 11, 1847: A JUST TRIBUTE
Polk Administration should be given the credit it deserves for running an excellent despite all the opposition.

May 11, 1847: UNTITLED
Praise for General Scott from the Philadelphia North American.

May 11, 1847: UNTITLED
Louisiana State Legislature gives thanks to General Taylor and his troops.

May 11, 1847: UNTITLED
Regret to see names of Virginians on wounded list from Cerro Gordo.

May 11, 1847: FROM MONTEREY
Reports of inhumane murders which General Taylor resolved to punish.

May 14, 1847: UNTITLED
The Vera Cruz Eagle looks to the probably necessity of the military occupation of Mexico in case she should refuse to enter into a negotiation for peace.

May 14, 1847: OFFICIAL
Singular brief dispatch received at the Navy Department concerning the capture of Tuspan. From the Flag Ship Mississippi at sea 20 miles north of Vera Cruz. Dated April 24, 1847. Signed M.C. Perry.

May 14, 1847: UNTITLED
The Houston Telegraph contradicts the report that General Lamar and his corps had been surrounded and cut off by the Mexicans. (Full Text)

May 14, 1847: LATEST FROM CHIHUAHUA
Col. Doniphan reports to General Taylor.

May 14, 1847: THE CAPTURE OF TLACOTALPAM AND ALVARADO
The trial, Defense, and Reprimand of Lieutenant Charles G. Hunter, before a Naval Court Martial.

May 14, 1847: DESCRIPTION OF THE ROAD FROM VERA CRUZ TO MEXICO
From the Washington Union, by Robert Greenhow.

May 14, 1847: LATE FROM MEXICO
Summary of papers received from Mexico revealing the state of internal affairs.

May 14, 1847: FROM SANTA FE
Body of Col. Burnshead found in ravine.

May 14, 1847: LATEST FROM GENERAL TAYLOR'S ARMY
General Taylor is still at Walnut Springs. He has heard of his nomination from several people. He appears chagrinned but will not communicate why.

May 14, 1847: LATER FROM GENERAL SCOTT'S ARMY
From the Picayune, May 6. Covers the following: Jalapa surrendered, Perote in the the possession of U.S. Army, Advance of the Americans towards Puebla, Movements of Santa Anna, Mexican Version of the Battle of Cerro Gordo, Guerilla War, State of the Capital, Popular feeling in the country, British offer if of Mediation, American Prisoners,

RE44i4p2c4, May 14, 1847: WHO BROUGHT ABOUT THIS WAR?
General Scott and the Nashville Whig say Mexico.

RE44i4p2c5, May 14, 1847: SANTA ANNA "MR. POLK’S GENERAL"
Editors admit that Mr. Polk allowed Santa Anna to return to Mexico and maintain that it was a stroke of genius on his part.

RE44i4p2c5, May 14, 1847: INTERESTING FROM MEXICO
Scott’s proposed movements as described in the N.O. Delta.

RE44i4p2c6, May 14, 1847: THE MARCH TO MEXICO
Puebla is the only place of possible resistance to General Scott on his way to Mexico City.

RE44i4p2c6, May 14, 1847: UNTITLED
Reports given to the N.O. Delta say that General Taylor has succeeded in communicating with General Scott.

RE44i4p2c6, May 14, 1847: UNTITLED
Casualties from Cerro Gordo will be above 400. New Orleans papers will publish names immediately.

RE44i4p4c1, May 14, 1847: THE BATTLE OF CERRO GORDO
As told by Captain Hughes of the Topographical Corps in the N.O. Delta. Further Particulars include the American Loss, the Mexican Loss, the fortitude of the Americans contrasted with the weakness of the Mexicans, Surgical operations, and Capt. Mason. Dated May 4.

RE44i4p4c6, May 14, 1847: TAYLOR AND HIS GENERALS
A book illustrated with engravings that costs 25 cents.

RE44i4p4c7, May 14, 1847: GENERAL PILLOW
Praise from the Mobile Register for his efforts at Cerro Gordo.

RE44i5p2c1, May 18, 1847: OFFICIAL DESPATCHES
From the U.S. Flag Ship Mississippi. April 19-24, 1847.

RE44i5p2c2, May 18, 1847: LATER FROM MEXICO
Prospect of Peace. Peace is likely because destruction is the only other option.

RE44i5p2c2, May 18, 1847: LATER FROM MEXICO

RE44i5p4c1, May 18, 1847: FROM THE CITY OF MEXICO
Includes information regarding: Battle of Buena Vista, Santa Anna’s oath against peace, Morales and Landero under arrest, Generals appointed to fortify the towns, Nuns of Santa Clara, Fire in Monterey, Mexican accounts of American Oppression, revolution in New Mexico, and Tampico.

RE44i5p4c3, May 18, 1847: MAJORS GAINES AND BORLAND AND CAPT. CLAY
Arrival at Saltillo and the exchange of prisoners. From the Cincinnati Atlas, May 7.

RE44i5p4c3, May 18, 1847: UNTITLED
Union refutes claims that Gen. Scott has been ordered to stay at Jalapa.

RE44i5p4c3, May 18, 1847: UNTITLED
Union says efforts of the Mexican Diario in Washington are futile.

RE44i5p4c3, May 18, 1847: VOLUNTEERS
Recent troop movements.

RE44i5p4c3, May 18, 1847: NEW BRIGADE FROM MARYLAND
To be commanded by General Smith.

RE44i5p4c3, May 18, 1847: ILLUMINATION OF NEW YORK
From the Pennsylvanian. New York commemorates the battle of Palo Alto.

RE44i5p4c3, May 18, 1847: ILLINOIS VOLUNTEERS
Troops to serve in New Mexico.
Casualties from Cerro Gordo as reported by the Picayune. 44 killed, 263 wounded. One Virginia dead.

Mr. Bennett of the N.Y. Herald gives an amusing picture of the moral effect of our wonderful “progress” upon the people of the old world.

Louisiana legislature honors many involved with war.

An editorial questioning the motives of other papers.

Union says actual reports from Mexico are not as favorable as New Orleans papers make them out to be.

Picayune reports on the conditions of imprisoned officers.

Boston Atlas reports that Massachusetts did not vote to thank Gen. Taylor because such a vote could be mistaken as an approval of war.

Mr. Black, former American Consul in the city of Mexico, comments to Picayune who within Mexico is for war and who is for peace.

The Republican questions if one can support Houston, who adamantly speaks out against all Whigs including Gen. Taylor, and yet praise Taylor and Scott for their great accomplishments.

Battle of Cerro Gordo.

Excerpts from letters printed in the New Orleans Southerner and the Matamoras Flag.

Whig press and politics impress false impressions on Mexico.

Picayune reports that Mexican General La Vega does not treat American prisoners with the same respect he received when he was a prisoner.

800 with serve for up to 10 years and then settle in California.

Loudoun country honors Capt. Stevens T. Mason who lost his leg at Cerro Gordo.

From the N.O. Delta, May 11. Includes coverage of: General Scott’s army pushing to capital, Puebla Surrenders, necessity of reinforcements, and Santa Anna in the Mountains.

Discussion of the attempts being made to discredit General Pillow.

Mexicans call upon British to mediate. Peace looks promising.

Secretary of War received many dispatches which contained details of Cerro Gordo. As reported by Washington Union.

Continuation of the dispatches which have been received at the war office, accompanying Gen. Scott’s last letter about the battle of Cerro Gordo.
RE44 i7 p1 c5, May 25, 1847: LATER FROM TAMPOCO
From the N.O. Times, May 15. Correspondence from Tampico, where writer has access to letters from Mexico.

RE44 i7 p1 c6, May 25, 1847: THE LAST ATTACK IN THE REAR
From the Boston Post. War pays no respect to Religion’s ordinances.

RE44 i7 p1 c6, May 25, 1847: UNTITLED
Regarding charges of cowardice brought against the Indiana Regiments at Buena Vista.

RE44 i7 p1 c7, May 25, 1847: AMERICAN PRISONERS IN MEXICO
A list of prisoners in Castle of St. Jago furnished by the N.O. Times.

RE44 i7 p2 c6, May 25, 1847: WESTERN INTELLIGENCE
Colonel Benton’s Speech at St. Louis. Began with the subject of Oregon and then moved onto Texas.

RE44 i7 p4 c1, May 25, 1847: FURTHER EXTRACTS FROM THE FOREIGN PAPERS RECEIVED BY THE STEAMSHIP BRITANNIA
Foreign papers praise American victories.

RE44 i7 p4 c1, May 25, 1847: UNTITLED
Promotion of Jefferson Davis to brigadier general in place of Pillow.

RE44 i7 p4 c2, May 25, 1847: FROM GENERAL TAYLOR’S ARMY
Correspondence of the N.O. Picayune. Near Monterey. Dated April 25, 1847. signed J.E.D.

RE44 i7 p4 c2, May 25, 1847: GUERILLA WAR ON THE RIO GRANDE

RE44 i7 p4 c4, May 25, 1847: UNTITLED
Memphis Monitor pays tribute to Gen. Dromgoole.

RE44 i7 p4 c5, May 25, 1847: THE BATTLE OF CERRO GORDO

RE44 i7 p4 c6, May 25, 1847: WHAT GENERAL SCOTT HAS DONE
In 6 weeks Scott has taken 2 cities, 2 castles, and 10,000 arms.

RE44 i8 p1 c1, May 28, 1847: FROM GENERAL TAYLOR’S ARMY
Official dispatches that relate principally to the details of the battle of Buena Vista.

RE44 i8 p1 c5, May 28, 1847: LATE FROM VERA CRUZ
Steamship Mary Kingsland arrives in New Orleans with seven companies of Illinois Volunteers.

RE44 i8 p1 c5, May 28, 1847: ILLUMINATION OF CINCINNATI
Took place on May 20 to honor the glorious achievements of our armies in Mexico.

RE44 i8 p1 c6, May 28, 1847: GENERAL TAYLOR’S POLITICS
From the N.O. Delta.

RE44 i8 p1 c7, May 28, 1847: THE WAR
Mexico refuses peace despite the fact that entire war has been waged in the most lenient manner.

RE44 i8 p1 c7, May 28, 1847: GEN. SCOTT’S POSITION
Picayune reports that return of 3,000 volunteers forces Scott to hold off on marching immediately upon Mexico City.

RE44 i8 p2 c1, May 28, 1847: LATER FROM GEN. SCOTT’S ARMY
Letters from Jalapa and Vera Cruz.

RE44 i8 p2 c2, May 28, 1847: LATER FROM THE BRAZOS
Summary of the Matamoras Flag from May 8th.

RE44 i8 p2 c3, May 28, 1847: THIRD DRAGOONS
Picayune reports change in orders for half of the 3rd Regiment of Dragoons. No longer will they be joining Gen. Taylor.

RE44 i8 p2 c5, May 28, 1847: GENERAL TAYLOR AND THE PRESIDENCY
Extracts from a letter Gen. Taylor wrote to a citizen of Louisiana. Published by N.O. Bulletin.
May 28, 1847:

**UNTITLED**
Matamoras Flag reports Virginia regiments in fine appearance.

**LATER FROM GEN. SCOTT’S ARMY**

**UNTITLED**
Praise to Illinois from the Union for turning out new regiments.

**FROM MEXICO**
Reports on the locations of Generals, both American and Santa Anna.

**UNTITLED**
A letter in the *Picayune* from Mr. Kendall regarding Gen. Scott’s reduction of Gen. Taylor’s armies.

**UNTITLED**
Death of Lieut. Benjamin G. Waters of Alexandria.

**June**

**From the Brazos**

**From Vera Cruz -Mexican Treachery**

**Prospects of Peace**

**Late From the City of Mexico**

**Important from Mexico**

**Later from the Brazos**

**News from the Army**

**Late from General Scott’s Army**

**Captain Tuttwall**

**General Taylor and the battle of Buena Vista**

**From General Taylor's Army**

**Operations of the Gulf Squad**

**The Mexican Pirates**

**Important from Mexico**

**The Mexican tariff**

**From General Taylor's Army**

**To Arms**

**Very Late from the City of Mexico**

**Prospects of a Speedy Peace**

**News from Mexico**

**Spanish Opinions on Mexican War**
Friday, January 1, 1847 1304 words

LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA

Tuesday, Dec. 29th, 1846.

THE VOLUNTEERS

Mr. Stephenson referring to the publication by Capt. E.C. Carrington, Jr., (made in the Times and Compiler of this, Tuesday, morning) said that it exhibited a strange difficulty which had arisen between the Executive and that officer, which he thought ought to receive the attention of the House, and in order to bring the matter before it he offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Virginia be requested to furnish this House with a copy of a correspondence between himself, as Adjutant General, and Captain Carrington, in relation to the expenses incurred by said Carrington’s company of volunteers.
Mr. STEPHENSON said, as he understood the difficulty, Capt. Carrington had incurred expenses for clothing his company before it was mustered into the service of the United States, and that the Governor had refused to pay these expenses out of the fund appropriated by the Legislature. He understood that the Governor refused on the ground that the appropriation was for provisions only, and not for clothing. The Governor had taken ground not designed by the Legislature, and throw on Capt. Carrington the burthen of a debt which he ought not to be forced to pay. It was not his design, nor did he believe it to be the design of this House, that any such responsibility should be thrown on any of the officers of the new regiment. He had coated for the bill, as he believed the House did, with the design that all expenses, whether for provisions or anything else necessary for the volunteers, were to be paid out of the appropriation. It would be hard, indeed, if a young man, who had by his exertions raised a volunteer company, should be compelled to pay for their clothing. For the information of the House, he stated that, in a conversation for the volunteers would not exceed a thousand dollars;--so that the refusal to pay the bill for clothing did not result form a want of funds, but from something else. He offered the resolution to get the correspondence before the House, so as to relieve Capt. Carrington from his embarrassment.

The resolution was then adopted.

Mr. DORMAN, soon after the adoption of Mr. Stephenson’s resolution, arose, and, after referring to it, expressed the opinion that the difficulty referred to by M. Stephenson, could be easily settled by the House. He had no doubt that it was entirely the result of a misconstruction.—He felt satisfied that the Governor had acted conscientiously, according to his construction of the law. But he believed it to be a misconstruction. He felt assured that it was the intention of the Legislature, in making the appropriation, that all legitimate expenses for those things necessary for the comfort and wants of the volunteers were to be paid. But he was convinced this matter could be all settled to the satisfaction of the Governor and Capt. Carrington; and the resolution he would now offer, he believed would have that effect. He would have made it a joint resolution; but the senate was not in session, and would not be possibly until too late to meet the emergency, as the volunteers were probably soon to be ordered on their way to Mexico. He proposed the following resolution:

Resolved, by the House of Delegates, That it be certified to the Governor of this Commonwealth, that this House, in passing the law appropriating ten thousand dollars for the relief of the Virginia regiment of volunteers, intended to embrace all proper expenses incurred by the officers in charge of the several companies; and that a liberal construction out to be given to said law in disbursing the appropriation aforesaid.

Mr. STEPHENSON said the resolution met his concurrence. He was prepared to vote for it, and hoped the House was. If it wee adopted, it would do away with the necessity for the resolution he had introduced.

Mr. BOCOCK was not prepared to vote for the resolution. He had not red the correspondence, and did not know what construction the Governor had placed upon the law. The resolution, Mr. B., said, was a strange one, and presumed to say what the Legislature meant in passing a law. He contended that it was beyond the power of the House of Delegates to construe a law for those who had to execute it. It could neither construe nor change the law. It presumed to say what the Legislature meant in passing a law. He contended that it was beyond the power of the House of Delegates to construe a law for those who had to execute it. It could neither construe nor change the law. It may be the Governor had construed the law properly; if so, the Legislature could not change his construction, and nothing less than the Legislature could change the law. Mr. B. said the resolution proposed a novel proceeding, and he preferred to await to see the true nature of the difficulty and learn whether it would be more reluctant that he to involve a young man in a responsibility which did not properly belong to him; but he could not consent to depart form the fundamental principle that it takes both the House of Delegates and the Senate to act in the matter of changing and defining a law.

Mr. Jones of Chesterfield, confessed himself to be in a situation like that of the gentleman from Buckingham, (Mr. Bocock.) He had not seen the correspondence alluded to. He was nevertheless included to believe form what he had heard among the members of the House, that the construction of the law by the Governor was different form that he (Mr. J.) intended in voting for it. But he could see no advantage from the adoption of the resolution. What would the Governor do were it sent to him? He might declare that he concurred in the sentiments of the resolution, but adhered to his opinion, that his construction had been the proper one—that it had been just and liberal. He might, too question the right of the House to construe the law for him. Mr. J. though it better not to adopt such a resolution.

Mr. DORMAN said he would cheerfully acquiesce in the scruples of gentlemen, and consent that the resolution be laid on the table, to give time to examine the correspondence, He moved that it be laid on the table.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. BOCOCK suggested the propriety of obtaining additional information to that called for by Mr. Stephenson’s resolution, (to be added at the end,) which Mr. S. accepted; and, as amended the resolution was adopted:

"Also, with a copy of the claims, which have been preferred for payment under the act of the 9th of December, stating the reasons which have prevented the payment of such as have been rejected."

On motion of Mr. NEWMAN—Resolved, That the Auditor of Public Accounts be requested to report to this House—1st, the annual expense of the Public Guard from its organization, showing the whole amount expended to the end of the last fiscal year;—2d, the annual expense incurred in building and keeping in repair the Armory of Virginia, with the cost of the lot of ground on which it is situated, so as to exhibit the whole amount to the end of the
last fiscal year;--3d, the annual expense of making and repairing arms at said Armory, with the whole cost to the end of the last fiscal year;--4th, the annual amount of money paid out by the State for water rent for the use of the Armory; and, also, the amount received by the State annually for water rent, in such way as to exhibit the amount of balance paid out by the State to the end of the last fiscal year;--and, 5th, the nature of the existing leases, and the purposes for which any part of the lot on which the Armory is erected is let out, and to whom.

Friday, January 1, 1847 RE47v43n71p1c3; 346 words

From the *Pennsylvanian*.

THE MESSAGE.—The last Courrier des Etats Unis, [N.Y.,] (which, to please M. Guizot and his master, never pretermits any opportunity of twitting the administration on account of the Mexican war,) is forced thus to speak of the President’s message:

“Taken together, this state paper is a remarkable production. It cannot be denied that he side of America—to defend which was its great object—has been stated and sustained in it with a rare ability. The rights of the United States against Mexico are taken up in it above, and pleaded, point by point, with a method and logic that might make the reputation of a statesman, and most certainly, that of a perfect man of business. The President reviews minutely all the facts appertaining to the quarrel, from the separation of Texas to the date of the first collision; and all these historical events are so interlinked and so clearly arranged as to cause the United States to emerge form the imbroglio as white and pure as snow.”

Again, alluding to the discussion of the question of the boundary of the Rio Grande, the Editor says: “All this portion of the message is handled with the hand of a master. It will reverse the judgment of the tribunals of Europe, and restore the cause of America before it, as two of the principal Federal journals of New York have frankly admitted—we mean the Courier & Enquirer and the Commercial Advertiser. And this admission, and the sincerity with which it is made, do honor to tier conductors. It is to us a source of pleasure to behold the cause of the country put beyond the scope of political passions and interests.”

The message is spread at length, in almost excellent French version, before the patrons of this journal; and no doubt will be copied form it into the columns of most of the journals published in the same language in Europe, as it will be no little thing for foreign publishers to have the document ready translated to their hands.

[MLD]

Friday, January 1, 1847 RE47v43n71p1c5 243 words

THE AUGUSTA VOLUNTEERS.

At a meeting of the Augusta Volunteers, held at their rendezvous in the city of Richmond on the morning of 30th December, 1846, Daniel A. Stofer was appointed Chairman.

The object of the meeting having been explained by the Chairman, in a few pertinent remarks, the following resolutions were offered, a vote taken upon each, and the whole were unanimously adopted:

- Resolved, That his company will at all times observe that strict regard to subordination and discipline that becomes good citizens.
- Resolved, That in volunteering our services to our country as soldiers, we will not forget what is due to the civil authority as citizens,
- Resolved, That this company will discourage all disorderly conduct in any member composing it; and that it will endeavor, while in this city, and elsewhere, to maintain a character or orderly and genteel deportment.
- Resolved, That in our intercourse with each other, we will indulge those amicable and friendly feelings which ought to possess the breasts of men who expect to serve their country together, in a foreign land.
- Resolved, That we will meet our fellow volunteers from other portions of this State, in a spirit of perfect amity and cordiality.
- Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be handed to our Captain, with a request that he have them published in one or more than one newspaper in this city.

D.A. STOFER, Ch’n

Geo. W. Allen, Sec’y

[MLD]
Correspondence of the *New York Mirror*


A pretty good anecdote is told of Capt. Walker, so well known for his daring acts in the present war. When the bill creating the mounted regiment of riflemen was before Congress, last year, with a probability of its being passed into a law, regular officers of the army, now in Mexico, gave him letters, recommending him to the President for the post of Captain of one of the companies. The President nominated him, and he was confirmed without hesitation by the Senate. A month ago, to-day, he was sworn in by a magistrate of this city. Before the battle of Monterey, in which he fought with the Rangers, as Lieutenant Colonel, the regular officers told him he ought to join his company of rifles, as Captain, and incidentally mentioned that they had given him letters to the President. He replied that he was under great obligations to them; but that he had safely stowed the letters away—they were at his quarters! When he came to Washington, the President informed him that no secondary influence had induced the appointment. It was made on the ground of real merit.

PENNSYLVANIA VOLUNTEERS.—The First Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers departed form Pittsburg on Tuesday last. The scene was witnessed by immense crowds. The Gazette of that city says: "What added greatly to the interest of the occasion, was the departure of two Pittsburg companies, the Blues and Grey. Ties of relationship, of friendship and acquaintance bound these two hundred men to thousands of others, and the rude shock of separation, when the prospects of re-union were so uncertain to all, and when to many it was an eternal farewell, caused deep feeling and a very general excitement. Sons parted form fathers and mothers, husbands from wives, fathers from children, brothers from sisters, and, in some instances, all these ties were centred in one individual, and had to be sundered. The scene was also in the highest degree animating, and was well calculated to increase the military ardor among the youth of our city, already sufficiently excited on this subject. Cheers upon cheers rent the air, while the different boats left the wharf, and many a poor fellow put on a cheerful countenance, and waved his cap, and shouted with the loudest when his heart was full and his eyes overflowed."

"COURT SQUARE, Dec. 18, 1846.

"Dear Sir: You will pardon me for addressing you in this manner for the first time. But when last evening the duties of my position, as presiding officer of the meeting at Faneuil Hall, permitted me to look around, for the purpose of claiming your acquaintance, I was unable to find you on the platform. Permit me then, Sir, in this rather formal manner, to present to you my congratulations on your most happy and eloquent debut as a public speaker, and to assure you that the sentiments of pleasure and pride which your address last evening inspired, were not confined to myself alone, but were cordially felt and frankly acknowledged by the whole assemblage present. For myself, I must say that my satisfaction at your address was more deep perhaps than that of others, from the circumstance, that much the greater portion of my life has been passed in different sections of the southern country, and that the most of my warmest and closest social ties of friendship have been contracted at the South, and with the people of the South. I felt, then, most warmly and sincerely, that your appeal should have been made, regarding that bone of contention between the two sections of our country, in a way so happy, so firm, and so just, and the cordial response of the masses who listened, renewed in me the conviction, that the people of our country are still true to the integrity of the Union, and that the efforts of fanaticism merely affect the scum on the surface, and have not touched the vials of our country. Permit me, Sir, the pleasure of forming your personal acquaintance at your convenience, and if I can be of any service to you, I hope you will feel that you have a friend in your obedient servant,

Charles L. WOODBURY.

"Mr. AYLETT, Cambridge, Massachusetts, Law School."
Still harping on my daughter

The Richmond Whig continues its work of defaming the Tenth Legion. Not content with sneering at its sturdy Democracy in time of peaceful political contest, it now endeavors to blacken it's patriotism in time of war. Again, and again has the Whig alluded in terms of derision to the fact that no company of volunteers ahs been raised in that region; and, yesterday, it expresses regret that the War Department should have declined to call for another battalion, and thus have deprived “the Tenth” from contributing its quota. Why are these reprehensions so continually courted out against the people of that section? Why should their patriotism be impugned and their character ridiculed before the other portions of the State? Is it a reproach to any county not to have raised a company? If so, why does not the Whig speak out in relation to other counties besides those composing the Tenth Legion? We can specify many of the strong holds of Whiggery which have not raised their quotas; but we would not do so in order to reproach them. Where is Loudoun, one of the Whig Gibralters? Where is Wheeling? Where is Lynchburg, which can send such a cloud of Whig votes to the surrounding counties?—Where is the unfaUtering Whig county of Rockbridge, the seat for the Military Institute? These and other places, high in the estimation of the Richmond Whig, have not furnished their quotas. But we are not the persons to impugn their patriotism, on that account. We love our whole Commonwealth too well to throw out jests and jeers upon the public spirit of any portion of it.

The truth is, that the volunteer companies thus far raised have all been collected in large towns, and where great thoroughfares pass. Between some counties the means of intercommunication are far greater than between others, and young men are enabled to flock to the standard with far greater facility. It would be doing Richmond city more than justice to say that three companies have been raised form amongst her population; and it would be doing the surrounding counties (so easily reached by railroads and steamboats,) great injustice not to mention that many of the young men enrolled here came in from the country.

Our State has done more than her duty. She has raised more than the regiment called for. She has done more than the Whig States of Massachusetts and North Carolina have yet accomplished. We therefore see no reason for any one section or any one party to be taunting another with negligence or deficiency in patriotism.

Report of the Secretary of the Navy

NAVY DEPARTMENT, Dec. 5, 1846.

Sir: Since the last annual report, no naval force has been maintained in the Mediterranean. Under the earnest request of the Spanish authorities, the depot at Port Mahon has been broken up, and measures taken to remove the stores and withdraw the officers in charge of them. It is proposed in the coming year to send a suitable force to that station.

After exchanging with the proper officers the ratifications of the treaty between the U. States and China, in December last, Commodore Biddle, with the Columbus and Vincennes, the ships under this command, has visited various important points in the China seas. In the month of May or June, he sailed for Japan, and expected to extend his cruise to Kamschatka.

There is no reason to doubt that he will render the valuable service to be expected from an officer of his experience and judgment, by making our country, its resources, and its friendly disposition towards the people inhabiting these remote regions, more favorably known. He has probably returned to Macao about this time, and in the month of January or February, the Columbus and Vincennes will commence their cruise homeward, by way of the North Pacific.

On the 6th of January last, orders were sent from this department to Commodore Biddle, to proceed with the Columbus to the northwest coast of America, and assume the command of the naval forces of the United States on that station.—No acknowledgement of the order has been received, and there is no reason to doubt that he had left Macao before it reached that place, or that he will promptly obey it on its reaching him.

Commodore Skinner was relieved in the command of the squadron on the coast of Africa in the month of June last, by Commodore Read.—Our naval forces on that station have been actively and successfully employed in the humane duty of suppressing the slave trade. The squadron consists of the frigate United States, 44; sloop Marion, 16; brigs Dolphin and Boxer, 10 each; and storeship Southampton, 6 guns.

The judicious measures adopted have secured to the officers and men an extraordinary degree of health in that inhospitable climate. Its effects are, however, so injurious that the cruises have not been, and ought not to be, so long on that as on other stations. The prizes captured and condemned will contribute some thousands of dollars to the navy pension fund.
On the Brazil station, the squadron under Commodore Rousseau has been reduced by the return of the frigate Raritan, Captain Gregory, and of the sloop Plymouth, Commander Henry, and the detachment of the sloop Saratoga, Commander Shubrick, for the Pacific. The frigate Columbia and brig Bainbridge remain on the station; and although this force is small, it has secured protection to American commerce within the limits of its operations.

The frigate Constitution, Captain Percival, has returned to the United States, having made a voyage around the world. The special duty assigned to Captain Percival has been satisfactorily performed.

In the Pacific ocean the naval forces of the United States, under command of Commodore John D. Sloat, consisted, on the first of July last, of the frigate Savannah, sloops Portsmouth, Levant, Warren and Cyane, schooner Shark, and store-ship Erie.

They have been reinforced by the frigate Congress, the sloops Saratoga, Dale and Preble, and the raze Independence. The sloop Levant is on her return home, and authority has been given to send home the Savannah and Warren, the time for which the crews of these vessels enlisted having expired. Commodore W. Branford Shubrick went out in the Independence to relieve Commodore Sloat, under orders issued in August last.

In confidential instructions dated on the 24th of June, 1844, the Secretary of the Navy called Commodore Sloat’s “attention particularly to the present aspect of the relations between this country and Mexico. It is the earnest desire of the President to pursue the policy of peace, and he is anxious that you and every part of your squadron should be assiduously careful to avoid any act of aggression. Should Mexico, however, be resolutely bent on hostilities, you will be mindful to protect the persons and interests of citizens of the United States near your station; and should you ascertain, beyond a doubt, that the Mexican Government has declared war against us, you will at once employ the forces under your command to the best advantage.” “The great distance of your squadron, and the difficulty of communicating with you, is the cause of issuing this order.” The officer who was thus instructed, observed the line of conduct prescribed to him with such intelligence and fidelity, that no complaint has ever been made of any unauthorized aggression on his part.

On the 7th of June, 1846, at Mazatlan, Commodore Sloat received satisfactory information, through Mexico, “that the Mexican troops six or seven thousand strong, had, by order of the Mexican government invaded the territory of the United States north of the Rio Grande, and that the squadron of the United States were blockading the ports of Mexico on the Gulf. He properly considered these hostilities as justifying his commencing offensive operations on the west coast” and, on the 8th of June, sailed in the frigate Savannah “for the coast of California; to carry out the orders of the department on the 20th of June, 1845. He arrived at Monterey on the 2d of July, and on the 7th demanded a surrender of the place. This was evaded, and an adequate force landed from the squadron, took possession of the town and raised the flag of the United States without opposition or bloodshed. On the 9th, Commodore Stockton, of the sloop Portsmouth, under the Commodore’s orders, with like success, took possession of Francisco, and that part of the country, in the name of the United States. On the 17th, he sent Purser Faunteroy with a detachment as far as the Mission of St. Johns, to hoist the flag of United States, and to recover cannon and munitions which had been buried by the enemy. On his arrival he found that the place had been captured an hour or two previously by Lieut. Colonel Fremont, of the United States army, with whom he returned to Monterey on the 19th.

On the 15th of July, the frigate Congress arrived at Monterey, and Commodore Stockton reported to Commodore Sloat for duty as a part of his squadron. On the 23d he was ordered to the command on shore, and on the 19th, Commodore Sloat found his infirm health so enfeebled by his arduous duties, that he determined to avail himself of a permission which had been given him in his discretion, to assign the command to Commodore Stockton, and sailed for Panama on his return home. After encountering much peril and hardship, this gallant and meritorious officer, arrived at the seat of government early in November last.

On the 25th of July, the Cyane, Captain Mervine, sailed from Monterey, with Lieut. Col. Fremont and a small volunteer force on board, for San Diego, to intercept the retreat of the Mexican Genera Castro. A few days after, Commodore Stockton sailed in the Congress frigate for San Pedro, and with a detachment from his squadron of three hundred and sixty men, marched to the enemy’s camp. It was found that the camp was broken up, and the Mexicans, under Gov. Pico and Gen. Castro, had retreated so precipitately that Lieut. Col. Fremont was disappointed in interpreting him. On the 13th, Com. Stockton was joined by this gallant officer, and marched a distance of thirty miles from the sea, and entered, without opposition, the Cuidad de Los Angelos, the capital of the Californias.

And on the 22d of August, the flag of the United States was flying at every commanding position, and California was in the undisputed military possession of the United States.

The conduct of the officers and men of the squadron in these important operations, has been characterized by activity, courage and thoughtful discipline, and entitles them to the thanks of the department. Efficient aid was rendered by Lieutenant Colonel Fremont and the volunteers under his command. In his hands, Com. Stockton informs the department, he will leave the military government, when he shall leave California in the further execution of his orders.

In the novel situation, in which both the commanders of our naval forces have been played, without instructions to regulate them in the detail of their conduct, they have adopted measures to preserve social order and maintain our authority, and to withhold from the enemy any advantages from the conquered territory which are believed to be warranted by the laws of war.
The conduct of both commanders has been marked by discretion, a spirit of conciliation, and a sacred respect for private rights, while the military movements have been ably conceived and brilliantly executed.

On her outward voyage, the Congress touched at Honolulu, and landed Mr. Ten Eyck, the commissioner of the United States to the Sandwich Islands. It was the good fortune of commodore Stockton to contribute largely to an amicable adjustment of an unhappy misunderstanding between our former agent and the King’s Government, which threatened injury to our commercial interests.

The home squadron on the 13th of May last, consisted of the frigates Cumberland, Raritan, and Potomac; sloops Falmouth, John Adams, and St. Mary’s; steamers Mississippi and Princeton; brigs Somers and Porpoise, and schr. Spitfire and Vixen; brigs Perry and Truxton; schrs. Reefer, Petral and Bonito; and storeship Relief.

During the last two years, the menaces of hostilities on the part of Mexico have made it necessary to confine the operation of the squadron principally to the Gulf of Mexico.

On the 29th of March, 1845, the acting Secretary of the Navy, in a confidential dispatch, informed Commodore Conner “that the President of the United States is impressed with a belief that it is a possible contingency that the Government of Mexico may resort to acts of hostility against the United States, and has direct me to order the other vessels of the home squadron under your command to join you at Vera Cruz. The disposition f the President is to maintain the most friendly relations with the Mexican Republic, and to meet any belligerent movement on the part of that Republic in the most decisive manner. You will, therefore, so dispose of the force which now is or may be placed under your command, as will give the most effectual protection to our citizens and commerce. You will be cautious not to violate the rights of others, but to resist and punish any aggression on ours. If a public declaration of war shall be made by Mexico against the United States, you will so conduct your operations as to show to her and to the world that, while ready to do justice and maintain peace, we are prepared to vindicate the national honor, and to visit upon our enemies the utmost severities of the war thus provoked. If, without such an open declaration, hostilities shall be commenced on her part, you will meet and visit them with the utmost promptness and energy;” and on the 16th of August, 1845, it was again impressed upon him by the Secretary of the Navy, “that the policy of this Government is the preservation of peace if possible.”

In the extremely delicate circumstances in which he was placed by the menaced hostility on the part of Mexico, Commodore Conner fully sustained his reputation for sound judgment in the performance of his duty.

On the 3d of May, 1846, he received the intelligence at Vera Cruz, which left no doubt on his mind that orders had been given by the Mexican government to General Arista to attack the American army east of the Del Norte with the forces under his command. On the 4th the Commodore sailed with the principal part of his squadron for the Brazos, been given by the Mexican government to General Arista to attack the American army east of the Del Norte with the

During the last two years, the menaces of hostilities on the part of Mexico have made it necessary to confine the operation of the squadron principally to the Gulf of Mexico.

On the 16th of October, Commodore M. C. Perry, with the steamer Mississippi and the small vessels, left the squadron at Lizardo, and sailed for Tabasco. On the 23d he arrived off the bar, and with great judgment and gallantry
composed the Texan Navy were ceded to the United States. On the eleventh day of May last, Hiram G. Runnels, Esq,

By the terms of the annexation of the Republic of Texas as one of the States of our Union, the public vessels which
desire than to exchange it for some active and useful enterprise, however hazardous or difficult of execution.

harassing duties of a blockade have performed their dull and heavy task with out a murmur, and with no stronger

permitted to engage in the most perilous enterprises against the enemy; while those engaged in the irksome and

grades, in prompting them to seek active service against the enemy, and to offer, with the most anxious desire, to be

It gives me pleasure to bear testimony to the chivalrous patriotism which has animated the officers of the navy of all

they could be provided to the limited extent which has been reached.

efforts to supply these means have been made, and will be continued; but some time has necessarily elapsed before

useless except to prosecute hostilities in her waters. Since the necessity arose, and authority was given, vigorous

The outlets of the rivers emptying into the Gulf are protected by bars, which afford but small depth of water, and the

navigation of this confined sea is exposed to dangers for many months in the year by storms, sudden and violent; so

The political condition of the State of Yucatan had induced a course of conduct towards her which exempted her from

the evils of war. Having received information which justified the belief that this generous course on the part of the

United States had been abused, on the 16th of October last. I instructed the Commander of the squadron that “the

President has given to the new position in which Yucatan is placed by the pronunciamento of Merida; a careful

consideration and directs me to inform you that the State must be regarded as an integral part of the Mexican

republic, and her people as a portion of the public enemies with whom we are at war, and you will act towards other

portions of Mexico.”

These instructions will be carried into effect.

During the past season, the brig Truxton has been lost, and the brig Perry wrecked; but has been, by great exertions

of Lieutenant-commanding Blake, go to Key West, and will be brought to Norfolk for repair. The officers and crew of

the Truxton became prisoners to the Mexicans. An inquiry will be had as to the causes of both disasters—a

proceeding due to the officers and to the service.

No general cartel has been established between the two governments to regulate the exchange of prisoners during

the existing war. A proposition of the Mexican government to exchange the officers and crew of the Truxton against

General La Vega and the officers who accompanied him, prisoners of war in the United States, was by your direction

acceded to, and the exchange has been carried into effect. Our officers and men were placed on board our squadron

and sent home; and the Mexican officers, being at full liberty, have been offered a free passage in one of our public

vessels, and, I have reason to believe, have sailed from Pensacola for Vera Cruz.

In concluding my report of the operations of the Naval forces in the Gulf of Mexico, I deem it but an act of justice to
call your attention to some considerations which must be borne in mind, when forming an estimate of the results
accomplished. The navy of the United States is designed for the protection of our commerce in the most distant

seas. The vessels composing it are authorized by law, and have been so constructed, in size and draft of water, as to

navigate the ocean with safety.

The outlets of the rivers emptying into the Gulf are protected by bars, which afford but small depth of water, and the

navigation of this confined sea is exposed to dangers for many months in the year by storms, sudden and violent; so

that a vessel, constructed with a draft light enough to cross the bars, encounters considerable risk in keeping the

sea. When hostilities with Mexico commenced, no such vessels belonged to the navy—they would have been almost

useless except to prosecute hostilities in her waters. Since the necessity arose, and authority was given, vigorous
efforts to supply these means have been made, and will be continued; but some time has necessarily elapsed before
they could be provided to the limited extent which has been reached.

It gives me pleasure to bear testimony to the chivalrous patriotism which has animated the officers of the navy of all
grades, in prompting them to seek active service against the enemy, and to offer, with the most anxious desire, to be
permitted to engage in the most perilous enterprises against the enemy; while those engaged in the irksome and
harassing duties of a blockade have performed their dull and heavy task with out a murmur, and with no stronger
desire than to exchange it for some active and useful enterprise, however hazardous or difficult of execution.

By the terms of the annexation of the Republic of Texas as one of the States of our Union, the public vessels which
composed the Texan Navy were ceded to the United States. On the eleventh day of May last, Hiram G. Runnels, Esq,
appointed agent for that purpose, received at Galveston, from the Texas authorities, the sloop-of-war Austin, brigs Wharton and Archer, and the schooner San Bernard. The sloop Austin has been brought to Pensacola, and will be rebuilt, and form an interesting accession to the Navy of the United States. The two brigs and schooner, after survey, were found too much decayed to justify their repair, and have been ordered to be sold. The proceeds of sale will be paid into the Treasury of the United States.

Under orders from their government, certain officers of the Texan navy were in charge of the vessels in ordinary when the delivery was made, and continued in that employment at the request of our agent. They could not be paid as officers of the Navy of the United States; but, believing it to be just and proper, directions have been given to make them compensation for taking care of the property of the United States, at the rate of pay which was allowed them by Texas at the date of its incorporation into our Union.

Beyond this, I have not considered that the laws of the United States authorized me to make payment to any one because of his having been an officer of the Navy of Texas.

The estimates for the naval services for the next fiscal year have been prepared by my direction, and transmitted to the Secretary of the Treasury, according to law.

I have the honor to present here with the reports from the several bureaus, and estimates in detail for the several branches of the naval service. They are based on the employment, pending the war, of ten thousand men, as allowed by law, and a number of vessels in commission to give them employment. A statement of the classes of vessels, with their rate and number is marked E in the papers accompanying the report from the Bureau of Construction. No estimates are presented for the construction of vessels as permanent additions to the navy. I deem it, however, my duty to suggest, that authority of building at least four sea steamers, capable of bearing an armament sufficient for their own defence, would essentially promote the interests of the public service. The great utility of such vessels in the squadrons in the Pacific, and the China seas, on the cast of Africa, and on the Brazil station, is established by the experience of other nations who employ them.

The importance of Pensacola as a naval station, with the necessary facilities of repairing and refitting ships of war, has for many ears been pressed on the consideration of Congress. —But at no period has the public interest so imperiously required that improvements should be made at that place as at this time. A large naval force is employed in the Gulf of Mexico, exposed to injury from tempests, and engaged in hostile operations. If any of our vessels become materially disabled, they cannot be repaired with out leaving the station, and coming as far north as Norfolk; and in the voyage the most serious disasters may befall them.

A dock with sufficient capacity to receive vessels of the largest class, is an indispensable improvement at Pensacola, and I earnestly recommend that an appropriation may be made or that purpose.

A fever of most malignant form has prevailed in the hospital at Pensacola during the past season. I herewith transmit a copy of a report of a joint board of army and navy surgeons, who were directed to investigate the causes. Their opinion is, that the place will be restored to its former salubrity, by removal of local causes of disease. Estimates are submitted for this purpose.

By the act of Congress of August, 10, 1846, the appropriations for the navy yard at Memphis for the current year, are to be confined in the expenditure to the construction of a rope walk. Proper measures have been adopted to conform to this restriction. The estimates are prepared with this view. If it shall be deemed advisable to make this yard a place of construction, and in view of its great advantages in the building and outfit of steamers, I may hope that the original purpose of the establishment will not be abandoned; it will be advisable not to continue the restriction on the appropriation for the next year.

The piece of ground called "St. Helena," opposite to the navy yard at Gosport, has been bought by virtue of authority given in the act of 10th of August last. When the State of Virginia shall have consented to the said purchase, an estimate will be submitted to make the improvements which were contemplated when the authority to make the purchase was given.

The supply by which clothing is furnished to the navy has realized the expectations of those who devised it. The supply is abundant, of excellent quality, at a cheap cost; and no appropriation is asked for the next year; or, without some great disaster, will ever be required again.

In supplying our squadrons abroad, depots or stores in which provisions are collected in anticipation of the wants of the vessels, are indispensable. I concur in the recommendation of the chief of the Bureau of Provisions and Clothing, that the act of June 17, 1844, requiring the Secretary of the Navy to order commissioned or warrant officers of the navy to take charge of the naval stores for foreign squadrons, ought to be modified. The compensation allowed would command the services of competent and experienced persons in civil life. It is a duty which but few officers desire, or are qualified for, and it does not appear proper to require of an officer to enter into and to perform duties...
under orders. From the experience had of its operation, I have no doubt that money would be saved by allowing the appointment of civilians, with the advice and consent of the Senate, and thus enlarge the sphere of selection.

The act of March 3d, 1843, requiring supplies for the navy to be procured by contract, on advertisement, with the lowest bidder, has not been construed to affect contracts executed prior to its enactment.

Contracts for the supply of cheese and butter for five years were in a course of execution at the date of the passage of this law, and will expire, one in December, 1846, and one in May, 1847. The result of a careful examination made at the bureau is, that economy has been promoted, and the quality of the ration greatly improved by this mode of contracting. I respectfully invite attention to the recommendation on that subject.

The naval school, during the past year, has been continued under the judicious superintendence of Commander Franklin Buchanan, and gives renewed promise of usefulness to the service. At the last session of Congress, it was made the subject of no special appropriation; but permission was given to apply a limited sum ($28,500) from the existing appropriations to "instructions, improvements and repairs at Fort Severn" This moderate provision has enabled the department to make some necessary additions to the accommodations of the school, and has been found sufficient for its economical support. It is hoped that a similar provision will be adopted for the ensuing year. The propriety of affording to midshipmen the means of acquiring that knowledge which is essential to the skilful discharge of their professional duties has been long recognized by Congress in its annual appropriations for instruction on board our ships of war. In the prosecution of a like purpose, a naval school, it is believed, will be found to add little to the cost of the present defective system, while it cannot fail to be attended with the most important benefits to the navy.

Connected with the Bureau of Ordnance and Hydrography is the Observatory. Besides conducting an extensive series of astronomical observations, it is the duty of that office to construct charts, prove nautical instruments before purchase, rent chronometers, and supply our armed cruisers with the nautical books, instruments, maps and charts necessary to their safe conduct at sea. The arrangement is such as to promote economy and to give assurance that these indispensable aids to give assurance that these indispensable aids may be relied on. The observations made and published are exclusively the work of naval officers, and are highly creditable to their scientific attainments. There can be no doubt that, with the facilities of the Observatory, we might produce our own nautical ephemeris, for which we are now dependant on foreign nations, and without which our ships that are abroad could not find their way home, nor those at home venture out of sight of our own shores. A small appropriation would be sufficient to accomplish the object; and it may well be anticipated that the expenditure would be returned by supplying our merchant vessels with the American nautical almanac at cost.

I invite attention to the report from the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. The authority to appoint a small number of assistant surgeons is necessary to the public service. Under existing circumstances it has been found necessary to employ citizen physicians in some of our smaller vessels. The commandant of the marine corps has prepared estimates for the number of officers and marines as fixed by law. I am strongly impressed with the opinion that an increase of the rank and file of the corps would great promote the efficiency of our ships in their operations against Mexico. With light pieces prepared as field artillery on board each ship, the expedition which must include operations on shore would derive important aid from increased guards of marines.

The act of August 4th, 1842, provided that, until otherwise ordered by Congress, officers of the navy shall be increased beyond the number in the respective grades that were in the service on the 1st day of January, 1842. This restriction has been construed to apply to warrant officers, other than midshipmen. The number of officers, boatswains, gunners, carpenters and sail makers happened to be small for the wants of the service at the date fixed. Embarrassment is often felt for want of authority to add to the number. It is a power which has never been abused; and as such appointments are rewards of meritorious seamen or mechanics, it appears to me that the restriction might be removed without detriment to the public interest or danger of abuse.

I cannot conclude this report without inviting attention to the operation of the act of Congress of March 3d, 1845, in regard to the appointment of midshipmen. The justice of the principle established is unquestionable, and its application has given general satisfaction. Previously to its passage, appointments were made without regard to residence, and resulted in inequalities which it will take many years to remove. The law forbids any appointment from a State having more than its proportion. Some applications for midshipmen's warrants have recently been made in behalf of sons of officers who have fallen in battle, which could not be granted, on account of their residence in States not entitled. I recommend that the restriction of the law may be so far removed, that one out of five or six vacancies, as they occur in the grade of midshipmen, may be filled at large, irrespective of the place of residence, in the same manner as a portion of the cadets at West Point are now annually appointed. Cases of peculiar merit occasionally presenting themselves, might thus be provided for under the direction of the President.

I have the honor to be very respectfully your obedient servant.

J.Y. MASON.

To the PRESIDENT.

[MLD]
Wreck of the Brig 'Somers' GREAT LOSS OF LIFE

By the arrival yesterday morning of bark Morgan Dix, Capt. Hamilton, we have received dates from the squadron at Anton Lizardo to the afternoon of Sunday, the 13th Dec. The full particulars of the melancholy loss of the U. S. brig Somers will be found below. Among the passengers on board the Morgan Dix were Purser L. Washington, Jr., of the Mississippi steam frigate, with his clerk, G. Hutchinson—both on their way to the North. The following account of the loss of the Somers, was furnished to the Picayune by one of their attentive correspondents:

U.S SQUADRON, ANTON LIZARDO
December 9th, 1846.

Gentlemen—I have been requested to make a statement of the circumstances attending the melancholy loss of the U. States Brig Somers, while maintaining the blockade off the harbor of Vera Cruz. The writer of this was a witness of most of the occurrences detailed, and the narration may be regarded as every way authentic.

On the evening of the 7th inst. The Somers had taken shelter under Green Island, there being the usual appearances indicating a norther.—Early in the morning of the 8th, a sail was reported from aloft. Capt. Semmes got under way to chase, and stood out some miles, until he made out the John Adams, being on her return from Tampico. We hailed her appearance with great satisfaction, as Com. Perry had already informed us that she should relieve us from the blockade as soon as she came in.

As the wind had already hauled to the north, and the weather was threatening, Capt. Semmes at once ran back to Green Island, intending to anchor as soon as he could regain his former berth, which we had proved in the previous gales to be safe and comfortable, besides enabling us to maintain our station upon the blockade.

On approaching the anchorage another sail was discovered, apparently standing down for Vera Cruz through the passage between Green Island and Blanquilla Shoal, with the intention, as was supposed, of running the blockade. Apprehending that the stranger vessel might succeed in her design, Capt. Semmes was induced to change his purpose and run by Green Island, standing across the passage to intercept her, making short tacks between the reefs. The winds was then freshening from the north west, but Capt. Semmes hoped to be able to maintain his position until the suspicious vessel approached, and to cut her off from Vera Cruz. To effect this object it was necessary to press the Somers with canvass, in order to avoid falling to leeward upon the reefs, and finally to fetch Green Island anchorage.

The Somers was exceedingly light, having on board only fourteen barrels of provisions, an about six hundred gallons of water. After standing across the passage, the vessel was tacked and ran back towards Green Island, and as we approached our berth, Captain Semmes said he would anchor; but as there was a lull at the moment, and the weather rather softened, he determined to hold on a little longer, and wore round and stood across the passage again. As we neared Pajanos reef, we tacked and stood for the Northern point of the Green Island reef. The strange vessel in the meantime came down rapidly, but showed no colors. While at this point, about half past nine o'clock, A. M., while Captain Semmes was standing in the ice arm chest, observing the reef with his glass, the officer of the deck, Lieutenant James L. Parker, reported the appearance of a squall. The brig was then on the larboard tack, under topsails, courses, jib and main trysail. Captain Semmes immediately crossed to windward, and ordered the main sail to be hauled up, followed upon the instant by the order to brail up the trysail. The main sail was hauled up, but the trysail took against the lee rigging, and was in par brailed up with great difficulty, at the same time the helm was put hard up. The squall now pressing her, the order was given by the officer of the deck to let go the lee main topsail sheet, and on the next instant to cut away all tacks and sheets. Finding she would not pay off, Captain Semmes ordered the helm to be put down, hoping to bring her to the wind. It was, however, all unavailing. From the moment she commenced careening, she continued to go over with great rapidity, and in thirty seconds was on her beam ends. In less than ten minutes she sunk. The puff of wind was much more violent than could have been expected from the appearances of the weather. The accident is, however, mainly due to the extreme lightness of the vessel. One or two minutes after she was over, most of the men and officers had gained the side of the vessel or the tops. Dr. Wright and Lieut. Parker, first to reach the main chains. They were followed by several men, and an attempt was made, with such means as were at hand, to cut away the main rigging, the men and officers using their pen knives and sheath knives for the purpose.—Capt. Semmes, who had been dashed on the ice side, was now drawn from the water, and as soon as he gained the side directed our exertions. The first lieutenant, the master, and passed midshipman Hynson, with a large number of men, had by this time reached the side of the vessel, and were making strenuous exertions to relieve her of her masts; but it was a fruitless effort, for upon the weather rigging. The small larboard quarter boat was in the meantime cleared away and dropped carefully round leeward, and manned by her usual complement of five oarsmen.—Midshipman Clarke, who had gained the main top by swimming from the steerage hatch, was ordered by Capt. Semmes to take charge of the boat. Finding that there was no chance of saving the brig, and that she was fast sinking, Captain Semmes ordered Mr. Clarke to shove off with Dr. Wright and seventeen men, besides Purser Steele, (who reached the boat by swimming as she as clearing the wreck, first inquiring if there was room in the boat for another,) to pull for Green Island, about half a mile distant, an immediately to return if possible and save more lives. This order was at once executed, but not until some of those in the boat had solicited, by name, each of the officers left on the wreck to come with them. These officers resolutely declared that they would wait and take their chance with the brig. Passed midshipman Hynson, who had been partially disabled by a bad burn received in the firing of the Creole, was particularly implored to go into the boat. A lad by the name of Nutter jumped out of the boat and offered his lace to Mr. Hynson, and a man by the name of Powers did the same thing. Mr. Hynson, refusing both offers, those men then declare that others might have their places, and that they would abide on the brig with Mr. Hynson. Capt. Semmes, who was in impaire health, was also entreated to go, but refused. Lieut. Parker answered a similar solicitation by saying he would drown with the brig.
Lieut. Claiborne and Acting Master Clemson held the same language. It is a remarkable circumstance that three of the officers and all the men who acted thus nobly are saved. When the boat shoved off, the gale was blowing with great violence and a heavy sea running, so that for some moments it as a matter of doubt whether the boat would live. Purser Steele at one time proposed to leave the boat for a fish-davit he saw floating by. The boat, however, reached the island in about twenty minutes.

As soon as the men were landed, Mr. Clare, disregarding the most strenuous entreaties, resolutely shoved off again with a volunteer crew at the imminent hazard of their lives. Less than three minutes after the boat left the brig, Capt. Semmes, finding the vessel settling under them, gave an order for every man to save himself. All simultaneously plunged into the water, and grasped the posts, gratings, scars, coops and other floating objects at hand. Many must have gone down from the want of any support whatever: others struggled on frail floats to be finally drifted on the reefs and dashed into pieces. Some were driven to sea to be heard no more, and others encountered the worst fate which could be apprehended in being devoured by sharks. Of near sixty who plunged from the wreck, only seventeen escaped.

Through all of this appalling scene the greatest composure was observed by men and officers. There was no appearance of panic, no exhibition of selfishness. Those who could not swim were particularly enjoined to go in the boat. A large man by the name of Seymour, the ship's cook, had got into the boat. Lieut. Parker commanded him to come out, in order to make room for two smaller men, and he obeyed the order, but was afterwards directed to go in the boat, when it was found he could not swim. Capt. Semmes and Lieut. Parker were picked up by Mr. Clarke from a grating, and Jacob Hazard, yeoman, was rescued swimming near them. Those who survived have told of many instances of heroic self devotion. The acting master, Henry A. Clemson, was struggling on a small steering sail boom with five others, two of whom could not swim. He found that all could not be supported and he left and struck out alone and unsupported. He was seen for the last time upon a sky-light, and probably perished in the surf. The five men he left were saved, the two who could not swim being supported by their comrades, Amos Colson and John Williamson. This completes the history of our own efforts; but with grateful hearts we have yet to mention the daring and devoted exertions of the foreign men of war. There were lying at Sacrificios, about two miles to leeward of the wreck, H.B. M. ships Endymion and Alarm and the brig Daring, commanded respectively by Capts. Lambert, Franklin and Matson; the French brigs Pylade and Mercure, Capt. Deubut and La Voyaire; and the Spanish corvette Louisa Fernanda, Capt. Puente. As soon as the accident was discovered, the boats of all these were simultaneously sent to our relief.

The crew of the Endymion to the number of two hundred came aft and volunteered. There was the most noble emulation as to which vessel should use the greatest expedition and persevere in the most strenuous exertions. The violence of the gale was such at that time that none of the boats could pull against it, and it was with the deepest regret that Capt. Lambert and others in authority felt it to be their duty to make signals recalling their boats. An hour or two afterwards, when there was a slight abatement of the gale, they again put forth at the peril of their lives, and succeeded in saving fourteen persons and bringing from Green Island those who had landed there. The first lieutenant of the Endymion, Mr. Tarleton, rescued the first lieutenant of the somers from Pajaros reef, which he succeeded by a miracle in reaching safely, but where his situation was most critical. The most gallant and well-directed efforts were made by the officers and crew in the boat of the Mercure. She rescued ten men at sea to leeward, on a spar. One hardly knows which to admire most, the fore-thought or the daring of this noble adventure. The risk was incalculable. Five boats, representing each of the foreign vessels, reached the island, and took off 23 persons to their respective vessels, where they were received with a degree of kindness and delicate consideration which I cannot adequately describe, but which none of us will ever forget. They gave us refreshments and supplied us with clothes. I regret that I do not know the names of all the generous and brave officers who were in charge of the boats of the different vessels. I cannot, however, forbear mentioning such as I have learned, viz: Lt. Wood and the gunner of the Endymion, and Midshipman Jaliz, of the Pylade.

The strange vessel proved to be the Abrasia, bound for the squadron at Anton Lizardo. She passed very near the Somers, but the catastrophe was so sudden that she failed to discover it. As soon as the boat landed at Green Island, Dr. Wright took the colors and had them hoisted in the most conspicuous place, in order to attract the attention of the Abrasia, so that the accident might be reported to the squadron. We were, however, to-day, the bearers of our own sad story.

The Mexicans saw the accident from the mole, and cheered and exulted for a long time. The brig had been for a long time engaged in the blockade, and had done more to interrupt the commerce of the port than almost all the other vessels. Within the last fortnight both town and castle had been kept in a state of constant alarm by the burning of the Creole and other demonstrations, which I presume you will hear of in due time. I have no doubt the Mexicans were relieved when they saw her sink into the ocean. I append a list of the lost and saved—37 men saved—37 lost. One officer, Mr. Rodgers, Passed Midshipman, and one man, John G. Fox, were captured by the Mexicans two days before, while reconnoitering an important point, in company with Dr. Wright, the latter escaping to witness the catastrophe of the brig.

J.H.W.

List of officers and men lost in the Somers.

List of Those Saved.


Friday, January 1, 1847 RE47v43n71p4c5 350 words

COMMODORE STEWART.—We publish the following letter from Commodore Stewart with pleasure (says they Pennsylvanian.) The brave veteran talked with all the blunt frankness of his nature, and does justice equally to the president and himself. We do not know who the correspondent was that made the use of Commodore Stewart’s name, in the matter alluded to—but we recollect that his story was told with all that oracular assumption of authority which is so characteristic of many of the Washington letter writers, and especially those belonging to the Federal press. These writers are forever finding mare’s nests, and Christopher Columbus himself was a fool to man of them for grave discoveries. They smell a bit of news afar off, and scene the object of the cabinet meeting in the breeze—predicting things that never happen, and staking their reputation for the truth for the worst of scandal. The coolness and solemnity with which these things are uttered, are only excelled by the impudence with which they meet the contradiction. To this class of writers Com. Stewart administers a general rebuke:

To the Editors of the Pennsylvanian:

I am glad to find by your paper of the 22d instant, that the Union, of Washington City, has very properly rebuked the licentiousness of the Washington letter-writer, in relation to the chief magistrate of this nation and myself. I concur with the Union, that there is not a word of truth in the statement of the letter-writer alluded to, in regard to what passed at the interview, which the President did me the honor to give me, on the occasion of my being in Washington lately. I trust I have been an officer too long and to better purpose, than to address the Commander-in-chief in the style the letter-writer has assumed. The President well knows all his own responsibilities, and will always be found equal to their encounter, in preference to their imposition on others and they, the writers, will find the President as free from the dread of responsibility, as he is from the dictum of the Washington letter-writers.

CHARLES STEWART

MLD]

Tuesday, January 5, 1847 RE47v43n72p1c1 151 words

COLONEL OF THE LOUISIANA REGIMENT.—Major Louis G. De Russy has been elected Colonel of the Louisiana Regiment of Volunteers, which has recently been mustered into the service of the United States. The election was conducted in strict accordance with law—thirty-nine commissioned officers voting. There were three competitors for the office, and the vote stood as follows: For Louis G. De Russy 21 votes; S. F. Marks 14; ------ Moone 4.

No choice was made for the stations of Lieut. Colonel and Major. Capt. Theodore Lewis received, on the first ballot, the highest vote for the first, and Capt. Francis Girault the highest vote for the second named office; failing to get a majority of the whole number of votes, there was no election. The law provides, in such cases, that the appointments shall be made by the Governor—but it is optional with him to order a new election.

[MLD]

Tuesday, January 5, 1847 RE47v43n72p1c1 260 words

ENTHUSIASM OF THE COUNTRY

Pennsylvania has with a promptness and patriotism which do her all credit, already filled up the requisition for a second regiment of volunteers for the Mexican war. The regiment is composed of the following companies, which will be mustered into the service of the United States at Pittsburg about the 5th January:

Reading Artiller, Capt. Loeser; Cameron Guards, (Harrisonburg,) Capt. Williams; Columbia Guards, (Danville,)
Capt. Wilson; German Greys, (Pittsburgh,) Capt. Gutzweiler; Fayette County Volunteers, Capt. Roberts; American Highlanders, (Cambria County,) Capt. Geary; Cambria Guards, Capt. Murry; Westmoreland Guards, Capt. Johnston; Philadelphia Rangers, Capt. Naylor; Stockton Artillerists, (Carbon County,) Capt. Miller.

Mississippi, too, is again ready for the field with her second regiment. Her sons, many of whom we are proud to know personally, covered themselves with honor in the storming of Monterey. The new regiment, we are sure, will exhibit equal efficiency and gallantry on the plains of San Luis Potosi, or under the walls of Vera Cruz. The following companies, making up the second regiment, will rendezvous at Vicksburg, between the 1st and 5th of January. Mississippi is desirous to have the first regiment of “fighting boys” subject to the orders of Gen. Scott at New Orleans:


Mississippi is desirous to have the first regiment of "fighting boys" subject to the orders of Gen. Scott at New Orleans:


Tuesday, January 5, 1847 RE47v43n72p1c1 850 words

Correspondence of the Journal of Commerce.

Monterey, (California,) Sept. 19th, 1846.

I now date from shore instead of the frigate Congress, because my duties are on land. The citizens of Monterey elected me on the 15th inst. Alcalde, that is chief magistrate of this jurisdiction. I had been performing the duties of the post under an appointment of the commander-in-chief of the American forces here. This commission expired on the 15th, when I was elected by the suffrages of the people. The vote polled was a very large one, though no officer or seaman, connected with our squadron, went to the polls. I mention these facts as an evidence of the good feelings which prevails here toward our Flag. Any hostility must have defeated my election. The office is a one which I do not covet; it is full of labor and responsibility. It covers every question of civil police in Monterey, and reaches to the lives and fortunes of the inhabitants, though and immense jurisdiction.

The Congress s here form her trip to the South. Her sailors and marines with Commodore Stockton at their head forced General Castro out of California. He might have infladted the march of the Commodore from San Pedro to his camp and made the forces of the congress wade through their own blood. But he remained in his camp, fulminating paper missiles, till they were near his lines, then suddenly broke up and fled with a small band to Mexico. His officers and men have returned to their homes, and signed a parole not to take up arms against the authority of the United States, or say or do anything to disturb the tranquility of the present Government.—This puts an end to all further war in California. In deed there is no disposition here among the people to offer resistance. The masses are thoroughly with us, and right glad to get rid of Mexican rule. Had it been otherwise, they would never have elected me to the chief magistracy of Monterey. We are all regarded more in the light of benefactors than victors. Their friendship and confidence must never be betrayed. California must never be surrendered to Mexico. If that country has still good claims to her, let those claims be liquidated by an equivalent in money. But it would be treason to the lives and fortunes of the best inhabitants to surrender the province itself. Let Congress at once annex her to the Union as a territory, and establish a civil government.

We require here a new judicial system; the present one throws all the responsibility on the Alcalde. I broke through the trammels of usage a few days since, and empanelled the first jury that ever sat in California. The first men in Monterey were on it. The case involved a large amount of property, and the allegation of a high crime. No one man should decided such a case. The verdict of the jury was submitted to, without a murmur from either of the parties, and the community seemed much gratified with this new form of trial. They think, and very rightly took that twelve men are less liable to partiality, prejudice and corruption, than one. It was the establishment of trials by jury here, that probably lead to my election as magistrate.

Mr. Semple, an emigrant printer, and myself, have established a small paper here, the first ever published in California. It is issued every Saturday. Its appearance made quite a little sensation. We found the type in the forsaken cell of a monk, and the paper is such as is used here for segar wrappers, and was imported for that purpose. It is printed in English and Spanish. We are going to send at once to the United States for larger paper and a fresh font of type. With this new engine of power we are going to sustain the genius of American institutions here.

Three thousand emigrants from the United States, it is understood, have just arrived at San Francisco, in two companies, one commanded by Capt. Hastings, and the other by Capt. Prussel, and ten thousand more are on their way.

The frigates Congress and Savannah are here, also the Eric. She takes the present bearer of dispatches with our letter bag to Panama, on her cruise down the coast. The Congress and Savannah leave to morrow for the Bay of San Francisco, which they are going to fortify. The U. S. ship Portsmouth is now there. The Cayane and Warren are off Acapulco or Mazatlan; both these places will be captured, and all other ports of any importance in Lower
California. The Savannah will soon return home; she has now been out over her time, and will have been absent all of four years before she gets home. Stir up Congress to send us a steamer out here. We are waiting for the arrival of the Potomac. The fort here is nearly finished. It is defended mostly by large brass pieces captured here, and which are provided with copper balls—rather expensive ammunition.

Yours truly,

W.C.

Tuesday, January 5, 1847 RE47v43n72p1c2   248 words

Correspondence of the N.O. Picayune

Havana, December 13, 1846

Gentlemen—Capt. Aranjo is still here with his three hundred privateer licenses and letters of citizenship. He has not been able to dispose of a single one as yet. The price asked of each is $1000, with the corresponding letters of citizenship. It is probable he will take them all back with him to Mexico. It is supposed a man by the name of Juan Nepo Pereda has been dispatched to Colombia on business of a similar kind.

Information has been receive here form Mexico, that he Mexican Government had sold or delivered over to a Frenchman by the name of Ribaud, well known in New Orleans, the two Mexican men-of-war at Alvarado, called the Santa Anna and Mezicano, and that Ribaud had left at sea under the French flag, take them round Cape Horn and cruise against our commerce in the Pacific and east Indies. It is said that Ribaud holds a commission as captain in the Mexican Navy, yet it is not probable he will be able to accomplish his purpose.

The splendid new sloop of war Albany Com’r. Breese, is here, to sail to-morrow for Pensacola. While off this port the Albany fell in with a schooner, on passing the Moro, hauled down the English colors and hoisted the Mexican flag, much to the astonishment of every body, and turned out to be a schooner from Yucatan, with a very valuable cargo of cochineal and indigo.

[MLD]

Tuesday, RE47v43n72p1c2, January 5, 1847: LATER FROM THE ARMY.

From the N.O. Picayune

See Richmond Whig Volume 24, Issue 2, January 5, 1847: Page 4, Column D

The annexed criticism upon the operations of the Army in Mexico is from the pen of a gentleman who is every inch a soldier. Its temper is unexceptionable, and its reasoning is deserving of the most serious consideration. Whatever opinions may be entertained respecting the conclusions to which the writer has arrived, it will be conceded that he scrutinizes the past with a military eye and predicts the future with the boldness of a mind convinced of the accuracy of its deductions.

In regard to the advance of Gen. Wool upon Chihuahua, the views of the writer are in accordance with opinions we have time and again expressed. The uselessness or impracticality of that expedition became apparent to Gen. Wool himself, as he abandoned it without accomplishing anything. The consequences of this military mistake are discussed by our correspondent. Whether all the results contended for would have been attained had the disposition suggested by him been made of Gen. Wool's army, is in some measure a matter of speculation; but he gives good reasons for his opinions, whilst the failure of Gen. Wool to achieve the objects contemplated in the formation of that army shows that its destination was a military error.

It is very probable that the opinions of our correspondent as to the future begin to prevail in high quarters. His views as to what should be done are given with that same distinctness as his observations upon what has already transpired. It is to be hoped that the Government will not be deterred, by fear of the cost, from putting the next campaign upon the most ample basis in regard to all the appointments necessary to its efficiency. Whatever is required in this behalf will be conceded by Congress and the country with alacrity. The carping of those, who "count the cost only" in considering military events, should not be heeded, as they would make the same ado if the war cost fifty cents or fifty millions. In nothing is it so true as in military operations, that parsimony is the worst kind of extravagance.

But enough of introductory. We again invite attention to the subjoined letter, which deserves the more consideration as it is firm and candid in tone without a particle of the complaining irritability which too often imparts to writings upon this subject the character of fault-finding strictures against the Government.
In writing of the operations of the campaign, I beg that I may not be classed among the “scribblers from the army,” who write only to trumpet forth their own fame and that of their corps—doing justice to none, injustice to many, and blinding the people as to the operations of the Army. Such letters are read with deep regret, for they are disparaging to the reputation and good name of the American soldiery. I suppose the people are, and indeed ought to be satisfied with the achievements of the Army. We have accomplished a great deal under many difficulties and trammels, and having done so much we must claim the privilege of pointing out those difficulties and trammels, of showing cause why they never should have existed, and proving that had they not existed we should be much further advanced in attaining our object—advantageous peace.

The fundamental principle in war it “to operate, with superior forces, a combined movement on a decisive point,” and no plan of campaign can be promptly successful unless framed on this principle, particularly where it is the intention to act entirely on the offensive. Unfortunately for our Government this principle did not enter as an element in the present plan of campaign, and all operations growing out of it are necessarily directly opposed to it. Had we met an enterprising enemy, this defect in the present plan of campaign would have been rendered much more apparent, and its failure much more signal by defeat in detail. Suppose Gen. Wool, with his force and enormous supply of transportation and subsistence, had been concentrated on Gen. Taylor, would the latter have marched on Monterey with on 6000 men, not having more than enough transportation to carry subsistence for that number, and having to leave behind him his battery train on that account? Gen. Taylor had not sufficient transportation, with a depot as near as Cerralvo in his rear, to transport with his Army of 6000 men a supply to subsist it longer than two days after the 24th, (the day of the capitulation,) and had during the engagement to dispatch his train back to Cerralvo. Had this concentration been effected, Gen. Taylor would have had with his army before Monterey one month's supplies, when he could have enforced an unconditional surrender of the town and forces, or followed on their rear in retreat and eventually have captured or massacred Ampudia's entire army.

Had not the Chihuahua expedition been planned, and had the force and supplies of that army been promptly concentrated on Gen. Taylor, we would have been before Monterey eight weeks sooner, when it might have been taken without firing a gun. And why was this Chihuahua expedition a portion of the plan of campaign? Was it not reasonable to suppose that after our victories before Matamoros, our enemy would occupy and hold, as strategic points, Monterey and Saltillo, covering the strongest passes in the Sierra Madre and having San Luis Potosi as a base of operations? San Luis should then have been in the plan of campaign, the objective point, and all of our energies should have been exerted on this line. As it turns out, Gen. Kearney takes New Mexico without firing a gun, and after the battle of Monterey Gen. Wool arrives at Monclova, and reports his advance on Chihuahua as useless, whilst our enemy, whipped at Monterey, abandons Saltillo and concentrates at San Luis, which he never could have done had Gen. Wool's army been promptly united with Gen. Taylor's. Owing to this error in the plan of campaign our enemy not only gained time to fortify and fight at Monterey, but as a natural consequence from it, he also gained time to concentrate at San Luis. With the combined material of the two armies the objective point, San Luis, might have been gained, and, by a decisive action with Ampudia's forces alone, at that point, the campaign might have ended, and probably the war. These are some of the difficulties under which we have labored, and but for which our Army could have done much more for the country. By these Gen. Taylor has been trammeled in his operations, and has not had an opportunity to display to the world what he could have done, had the plan of campaign been framed on military principles.

But let us look a little further into the difficulties growing out of and caused by the present plan of campaign. What is the relative position of our own and the enemy's forces at this time? Santa Anna has beyond doubt concentrated at San Luis 37,000 men; he holds a central position which, with his force, cannot be approached from this direction even by superior forces, owing to the scarcity of water, which, on a large portion of the route, is held in tanks, and entirely at the disposal of the enemy. He holds himself invincible at that point, relying on the strength of Vera Cruz to resist attack, which must be taken before we can approach him by gaining his rear.

The number of Gen. Taylor's army is very far overrated, even by the Union, which seems to estimate it at the actual volunteer force sent into the field and the regular force prescribed by law, without any allowance for the diminution of his force from casualties and sickness, which has far exceeded what might have been reasonably anticipated under the most unfavorable circumstances. Whatever may be thought of the strength of our force in Mexico at this date, I assert, and without fear of contradiction, that not more than fourteen thousand effective men could be brought into action to-morrow morning out of the whole army in the field. Now, what disposition of this inferior force necessarily results from the plan of the campaign? San Luis cannot be approached from this direction, and to go at our enemy we must approach him on another line. But the all important passes in the Sierra Madre must be held, to prevent our enemy from gaining our rear; and our forces, although inferior to the enemy in numbers, are necessarily scattered, whilst Santa Anna can operate en masse on any point. Thus we find ourselves compelled to operate on multiple lines, on an extended front, with an inferior force, whilst our enemy holds a single line of operations, and an interior one. This immense advantage to the enemy results entirely from the defective plans of campaign, and the only remedy is to form a new one, by which an increased force of 30,000 men must be concentrated on some decisive point. Vera Cruz and San Juan de Ulloa must be taken; then, and not till then, will Mexican generals and soldiers begin to think that their arms are not invincible, and not till then will the Mexican people mistrust the prowess of their army. The fall of Vera Cruz and San Juan de Ulloa may be a strong inducement to cause them to sue for peace, but I confidently believe that we will even then have to advance and fight the enemy at whatever point he may select. The Mexicans have no idea of making peace— even the private families in this town teach their children to hate Americans, and to lisp the name of Santa Anna as the saviour of their country, who is to whip the Americans whenever he meets them. It is absurd to think of peace unless our Government will take prompt and efficient measure to strike some decisive blow. Our force must be increased, the necessary substitution of military
operations to the measure of supplies must be better considered, and the plans of campaign must be in strict accordance with military science. Then will our general in the field show to the world that he is not the man to win a battle and lose its advantages.

Yours truly, N.

[MPR]

Tuesday, January 5, 1847 RE47v43n72p1c5  478 words

THE WAR DUTY ON TEA AND COFFEE.

We are pleased that the Secretary of the Treasury has adopted the wise and manly policy of addressing the following frank and emphatic letter to the Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Dec. 21, 1846.

Sir:--Permit me most respectfully to call your attention to the views submitted in my last annual report, in regard to imposing duties on tea and coffee.

These duties were suggested in view of the necessity of obtaining the loan therein proposed, and this Department feels bound to communicate the opinion entertained by it, that, in the absence of these duties, it will probably be wholly impracticable to negotiate the loan on such terms as would be permitted by Congress.

Most respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
R.J. WALKER,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Hon. James J. McKay,
Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means.

The country is engaged in war, which to bring to a speedy and satisfactory issue, it is necessary to raise a certain amount. This loan cannot be effected upon terms honorable to the credit of the Government, unless the trifling tax proposed for war purposes upon tea and coffee be laid, so as to place the finances of the country on a firm basis and to give a guarantee to the world that the Government is willing and able to meet all its responsibilities. Under these circumstances, it was to be hoped that no impediment would be thrown in the way of a temporary measure demanded by the highest motives of patriotism and national interest. But he Whig press has already raised its voice of clamor and complaint. They substantially declare that they will do nothing to relieve the pressure upon the Treasury; nothing to feed and clothe our gallant volunteers and army; nothing to push on the war to a vigorous and permanent settlement—unless the tariff of '46 be repealed, even before trial, and their own precious bantling of 1842 be restored in all its hideous proportions. The war with Mexico, they say, was produced by the Democratic party—that party has destroyed the tariff of '46, and unless the Whigs have the full protection contained in that act they will resist the adoption of a temporary measure to effect a loan, for the successful conduct of the war. But in this, we believe, they misrepresent the sentiments of the great body of the Whig party. A few days since, we heard on of the staunchest and most prominent Whigs declare, that Congress ought at once to lay the duty on tea and coffee, so as to elevate the credit of the Government, and enable it to raise the money necessary for the war; that the tax was so inconsiderable, and would fall so equally upon all classes, that the country would cheerfully support it, especially at a time so commercially prosperous as this.

[MLD]

Tuesday, January 5, 1847 RE47v43n72p1c5  1,003 words

LATER FROM THE SOUTH

The steamer Palmetto, from Galveston, to N. Orleans, in the midst of a heavy gale, took fire, producing the utmost possible alarm among the passengers—but it was soon subdued by the coolness of Capt. Smith.

There is a story in the Galveston News, told by a teamster recently from Mexico, to the effect that Col. Riley was recently surrounded at Mlos, by 5000 Mexicans under Gen. Urrea, and that there was no hope of Col. R.'s escape.

The Picayune does not believe a word of it.
The military and civic authorities of Tabasco have published a pronunciamento, renouncing their allegiance to the Federal Government of Mexico, as that Government had failed to send them aid and succor. Senor Traconis was appointed as the head of the revolution, in consideration of his heroic defence of the State from the invitation of the American squadron in the month of October.

In Campeachy, Senor Domingo Barret published an address on the 8th November, in which he presents himself as the chief of the glorious revolution which was that day commenced, and swears to discharge his duty with loyalty and purity. This may be a new outbreak of the spirit before manifested in Campeachy, to sunder entirely all political connection with the Government of Mexico. We have no accounts of how it has resulted.

The Picayune gives accounts of the loss of the Somers off Vera Cruz.

An extract of a letter to the British consul at Tampico, written by the captain of the British frigate Alarm, describes the accident, speaks of the 37 men saved by the joint exertions of the French and English; but explicitly gives to the Frenchmen the credit of the most efficient service.

A letter from Tampico says it is expected Herrera will be elected President of the republic and that overtures for peace will be immediately made to our Government; but it is thought probable that as soon as Santa Anna hears of such an occurrence, he will proceed to the capital and depose the President elect.

The Eco del Tampico of the 12th contains the correspondence between General Taylor and Santa Anna, which is of some importance or an expression for Santa Anna. General Taylor's letter is dated from Saltillo, November 20 in which he acknowledges Santa Anna's courtesy in releasing seven prisoners, and quotes from the armistice of Monterey a passage in justification of our government against a reflection of Santa Anna. He concludes with expressing a hope that the Mexican Congress will accept the offers of the United States for the termination of hostilities.

Santa Anna replies from San Luis Potosi, November 24. He supposes Gen. La Vega to be still in New Orleans, and concludes with the following passage which we find in the Picayune:

"I will conclude this note by assuring you that I entertain the hope that the sovereign National Congress, which is immediately to be installed, will act as shall be most conducive to the interests of the Republic; but I believe that I do not deceive myself in assuring you, that neither the Congress, nor any Mexican, will ever be able to listen to overtures of peace unless the national territory be first evacuated by the forces of the United States, and the hostile attitude of their vessels of war be withdrawn. This must be without a doubt the preliminary of whatever negotiation may be opened; and it may be permitted to me to declare to you, that the nation, moved by a sentiment of patriotism, and determined to defend at every hazard and inch by inch its territory, will never cease to qualify as it deserves, and as the world has already qualified it, the conduct of the United States; and it will do whatever it can and ought honorably to deserve the title which it bears of independent and free." [MPR]

This (says the N.O. Courier) is certainly hostile language, on the part of the Mexican chief, mixed with the usual quantum of characteristic bravado. An interview on the plains of San Luis Potosi will perhaps bring him to reason.

Col. Gates, at Tampico, has published an order prohibiting the landing of spirituous liquors at that place.

Col. Hays has arrived from New Orleans, at Galveston, and gone to San Antonio, to have his regiment in complete and speedy organization.—He reports that Gen. Scott was on his way to Tampico, "where he will take command of one division of the Army, and will of course be the Commander-in-chief hereafter, from whom all orders must proceed."

There are rumors of an expected attack upon Tampico (where there are 800 Americans) by 3,000 Mexicans.

A letter dated Monterey, Dec. 4, in the Delta says:

"Although I stated in my last that there would be no immediate movement of the army, there is to be one in less than ten days, but it will be something on the retrograde order. Gen. Taylor has either been informed of the concentration of a Mexican force at Victoria, or designs opening a communication with Tampico, for he moves on to the Capital of Tamaulipas, with two Regiments, if not a whole Division, in little more than one week’s time. Orders to this effect have been read to the 1st Regiment of Infantry, with whom the Baltimore Battalion acts, and the Georgia Volunteers. As yet, none others have been notified, though it is thought that the entire Division, with probably the 7th infantry, will move.

"Gen. Hamer’s remains were consigned to the grave to-day.

"Santa Anna still continues to impress the natives with the belief, that he will shortly show himself in front of Monterey. The last extraordinary express reached here this morning, by which he sends in word that he has made eight days of the journey from San Luis de Potosi to Saltillo, and that the people of Monterey need not fear but that they will be able to celebrate the December fiesta out of sigh of the ‘perfidious Americans.’ “
On Saturday morning, we learn, the Rev. Dr. Plumer delivered an eloquent and impressive address at the Union Hotel to the volunteers, who are about to embark for the seat of war.

Yesterday morning at ½ past 6 the Richmond companies, commanded by Captains Scott and Carrington, the Alexandria company, Capt. Corse, and the Caroline company, Capt. Bankhead, too passage on the steamer "Curtis Peck" for Fortress Monroe. The were [...] Morris Commanding. Dr. Wm. A. Patleson and Lieut. Morris made some touching remarks, which were feelingly responded to by Capt. Scott. We understand the scene was a most interesting one, thousands of anxious spectators crowding the wharf, &c. At City Point these companies would be joined by Captain H. Archer's Petersburg company, which will make up the first battalion. Three companies now remain in this city, viz: Captain Wm. B. Archer's 3d Richmond company; Capt. Alburtis' Berkely company; and Captain Herper's Staunton Volunteers.

On Saturday evening first Lieutenant Cooke reached this city, to tender the services of Captain J.P. Young’s company of Portsmouth volunteers just raised. We know not if they have been accepted.

From the following notice of the Petersburg Republican, it will be seen that the gallant “Little Cockade” will soon have another company in the field. Indeed, we heard on Saturday night, that the company had been accepted, with Wm M. Robinson, Esq., as their Captain:

“A portion of the second Company of Petersburg Volunteers, now numbering about fifty men, left town yesterday morning for the purpose of visiting one or two public places in the country to obtain recruits. They will be at Hicksford next Monday, court day, where they expect to fill up the list. It has been reported to them that a gentleman in Dinwiddie has obtained the names of 15, and one in Sussex has ten, thus making their whole number 75. If they are as successful in Prince George and Greensville as they anticipate, they expect to go to Richmond on Thursday next to be mustered into the service of the United Stats, and, judging from those that we have seen, the Regiment will not be able to boast of a finer looking set of men. Indeed, they will be worthy of being commanded by the best graduate that WestPoint can produce.”

From the Lynchburg papers we learn that Major Early succeeded, after great exertions, in enrolling 55names, 40 of whom were from the county of Franklin. He was to be in Lynchburg on Saturday, and hoped to make up the full number in that quarter—if not, he would conduct all now enrolled to his city, where they may join some company. (The great difficulty in organizing a company in that region of the State seems to be the want of a suitable place of rendezvous.)

For the information of the Richmond Whig and other Whig papers we extract from the Harrisonburg Register the following good news from the “Tenth Legion.”

ROCKINGHAM VOLUNTEERS.—Two companies of volunteers are now in process of formation in this county. We understand that one company in the 116th regiment is nearly full, and will proceed to the election of their officers on-to-day, (Saturday.) The roll in Harrisonburg is, we learn, filling up; and with a little extra exertion on the part of our young friends, both companies will soon be ready to take the field under the new requisition.

The Charlestown Spirit of Jefferson says

“The company from Jefferson, under command of captain John W. Rowan, are awaiting marching orders. The minimum number has been obtained, but the Captain has a [...] ority to increase his list ten or fifteen more. Those who purpose joining must decide immediately, or the company will be under way for Richmond.

An election was held on Thursday last, under direction of Colonel Francis Yates, of the 55th regiment of V.M., for the commissioned officers of this company, and resulted as follows:

"John W. Rowan, Captain.
John Avis, Jr., First Lieutenant.
Lawrence B. Washington, first second Lieutenant.
William McCormick, second second Lieutenant.”
MR. BAYLY’S SPEECH

We have read with great interest the Union’s sketch of this gentleman’s able and conclusive speech, on the 23d December, upon the Mexican war. The “hour rule” prevented him from elaborating the important points which he so clearly laid down and briefly but strongly argued. We presume that he will prepare his remarks for publication, when we shall lay them before our readers. In the mean time, as an act of justice to a Virginian, who always speaks with force and learning and clearness of argument, we extend the following compliments to his well-earned reputation.

The Washington Correspondent of the Ohio Statesman, under date of Dec. 23d, writes:

"Washington Hunt, of New York, an excellent fellow, and quite a handsome man to boot, (as I mentioned last night,) who wears elaborate shirt ruffles, and bores the House almost into fits with twaddle, spoke, not on , but at the question, for the first hour to-day. He was followed by Gen. Bayly, of Va, whose speech well maintained his reputation as one of the first constitutional lawyers of the country. He discussed at length the right conferred by conquest; maintaining that it was not only the right, but the duty of the conquering power to establish temporary civil government in territory thus acquired, while held by force of arms. While he was referring, in the course of his arguments, to precedents in our own history, occurring during Madison’s administration, when similar proceedings were had in reference to the establishment of temporary civil governments, he remarked that, in the old party strife of those days, when impeachment was threatened from the same quarter, and indeed form the same city, (Boston,) it never entered into the heads of any one that the proceedings referred to, (Harrison’s proclamation, &c,) were part of the grounds to sustain the impeachment. He had yet to learn that these proceedings were complained of. It was reserved for later, and, he feared, not better days—for the advocates and apologists of Mexico, in similar proceedings, to find ground for impeachment."

In the Weekly Union we find the following notice of Mr. B.’s remarks, in the Congressional synopsis:

"Mr. Bayly followed in an able and eloquent vindication of the administration and the war, replying with irresistible force to the following grounds of assault upon the administration, viz: First, that the President has unnecessarily brought on the war by refusing to treat with Mexico, as it is alleged she wanted us to d, in regard to the question of boundary alone; and by insisting upon not separating that question from our other causes of quarrel with Mexico. Second, that he precipitated a war by marching our army to the Rio Grande, within the disputed territory. Third—and it was a new ground taken by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. Davies)—that the President was guilty of treason, in permitting the return of Santa Anna to Mexico. Lastly, that he has been guilty of usurpation in the establishment of civil government in the territory which we have conquered: the argument made by the honorable gentleman in replying to the latter point, was peculiarly clear, and added new lustre to his already brilliant reputation as a lawyer and statesman.

"Mr. Stanton followed on the same side, adding lien upon line, and precept upon precept to the arguments of his predecessor, his own abilities losing naught by the comparison.

[MLD]

MILITARY MOVEMENTS.—In the steamer Alabama, which left New Orleans on the 23d ultimo for the Rio Grande, and on board of which Gen. Scott and his Staff were passengers, there were also embarked five companies of the United States Mounted Riflemen, as follows: Company A, Capt. Loring and Lieut. Morris and Palmer; Company B, Capt. Sanderson and Lieut. Gordon; Company D, Capt. Pope and Lieuts. Claiborne and Hawkins; Company E, Capt. Crittenden and Lieut. May; and Company G, Capt. Simonson and Lieuts. Russell and Gibbs, all destined for Tampico—the whole under the command of Major Sumner, Major Burbridge being compelled to remain at New Orleans in consequence of illness. Lieuts. Newton, Tipton, Taylor, Lindsay, and Ewell, with a detachment of men, were also left behind for some days, to superintend the shipment of the horses belonging to the companies, which are to be dispatched at the earliest possible moment.

[MLD]

LATER FROM THE ARMY

The steamer Fashion arrived last evening from Brazos Santiago, which place hse left on the 24th inst. To Capt. Yeatman, of the third regiment of Tennessee Volunteers, a Volunteer Aid de Camp of Gen. Wool, who left Parras, the head quarters of Gen. Wool, on the 10th inst., and passed through Saltillo, Monterey, and camargo, e are indebted
Gen. Wool has received orders from Gen. Taylor to take up his winter quarters at Parras, and had seized two thousand barrels of flour and several thousand bushels of wheat, and other government store. Parras is one hundred and fifteen miles directly west of Saltillo, and the position being farthest in advance, the first and second regiment of Indiana Volunteers had been ordered from Camargo to reinforce Gen. Wool. This would swell his command to about four thousand five hundred men. Gen Worth, at Saltillo, was also to be reinforced by four companies of Kentucky cavalry, ordered to Monterey which would bring his command up to about 1,700 men.

Gen. Patterson had received a private letter informing him of a rumor that Santa Anna was advancing upon Saltillo from San Luis Potosi, but Captain Yeatman attaches no credit to the rumor, as he traveled from Parras an Saltillo to Matamoras as rapidly as possible, and when he left those places he heard nothing whatever of it. The Generals in command at both points have cavalry parties scouting in the direction of San Luis Potosi, and the scouts of Gen. Wool are at least seventy-five miles from his camp, so that he would be likely to be apprised of any movement of Santa Anna as early as possible.

Gen. Taylor left Monterey on the 15th, with an escort of cavalry, for Victoria. Gen. Twiggs and Col. P. F. Smith, with their respective commands, were at Victoria, and previous to the departure of Gen. Taylor from Monterey, Gen. Quitman with his brigade had left for that point. Gen. Taylor, in a conversation with Captain Yeatman, expressed the opinion that it would be impossible to march upon San Luis Potosi form the northern extremity of his liens until the rainy season sets in in June next. The report that Santa Anna had cut off the water tanks between him and the American ports is not true, but the country is almost destitute of water unless during the rainy season, and in one part of the road there is even in that season a distance of ninety miles to be marched without the possibility of finding any.

Six American teamsters were killed recently at Ramos, a ranche of Canales, by a detachment of his rancheros.

Gen. Butler was in command at Monterey, with about two thousand men; Col. McKee, with six companies of the Kentucky regiment of cavalry, at Ceralvo; Capt. Willis, with two companies of the same regiment at Mier; and Gen. Marshall at Camargo, with about nine hundred men.

Col. McClung was fast recovering from his wounds.

A gentleman who arrived last night from Tampico, and left there on the 16th, states that a body of Mexican cavalry, estimated at about 7,000 had appeared in the vicinity of that place, and, coming within range of the artillery, were fired upon and driven off. The garrison there had been reinforced by the Alabama regiment of volunteers and the second regiment of artillery, and Gen. Patterson was to have marched from Matamoras, on the 23d, with Col. Thomas's regiment of Tennessee cavalry, for that point. Gen Shields was in command at Tampico, but would be superseded by Gen. Patterson, when he arrived.

Great exertions have been making by Mexican officers to raise men in the small towns along the Rio Grande, and with some success.

Capt. Stone, with a detachment of seventy men, lately captured a party of two hundred Mexicans in a Ranche about thirty-seven miles up the San Juan, together with Capt. Cantova, by whom they had been recruited, and he and the men were taken as prisoners to Camargo. Fifty stand of arms, ammunition, etc., were taken at the same time. On the evening of the 16th a Mexican was taken by the guards at Camargo attempting to enter the powdered magazine, with a design, it is supposed, of blowing it up.

The troops under Gen. Wool, Capt. Yeatman also informs us, are in the very highest state of discipline, and regard their commander with respect and affection. Patras, he says, is a most delightful place. It is situated about seven miles west of the great San Luis Potosi road, and he terms it the vineyard of Mexico. The climate is unexceptionable, and the soil fertile; the grape is cultivated there, and the wine extracted from it is delicious.

Captain Yeatman is absent from the army on furlough.

The Fashion stopped off Matagorda Bar and Galveston—left about fifty vessels in Brazos harbor. A schooner sailed next day for Tampico with seventy-five volunteers, and one for Vera Cruz with Mexican prisoners; schooner Sea to sail same day for New Orleans. The steamer Eudora, lightening to go in over the bar. The Palo Alto was wrecked on the South breaker [...] is full of water. The schooner Vanderbilt was wrecked fifteen miles north of the bar, on Padre Island. Steam schooner [...] Washington and Pharsalia, with several other vessels, were in the offing, waiting to be lightened.

The fashion brought up eighty discharged volunteers, with nineteen cabin passengers; also the remains of young Allison of Nashville, who was shot a Monterey. One of the Indiana volunteers died and was buried at sea thirteen miles north of Brazos Island.

[MLD]
THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.—A few days ago we gave a synopsis of this able document, and regret that its length—the limits of our columns and the pressing matter before us—preclude its full publication in the Argus. But, we must be permitted to speak of its qualities; and whilst we pronounce it a bold and an able production—clothed in language plain, chaste and forcible, showing the author, not only to be a scholar and an orator, but a Statesman, it is nothing more than we anticipated.

True, we have no personal acquaintance with Gov. Smith; we have never seen him; but as a politician, he has long been familiar to us. We have met with those who have known him for many years, and heard those speak of him, who served with him in the councils of our State, who represented him as a bold, fearless, energetic politician, and an amiable man. And we have met with those who have denounced him as a demagogue;—we have heard him assailed by his political enemies with bitter denunciation, and we have heard him defended by his friends in terms most laudable.

Let any man, of any party, read this message; let him divest himself of party, and he will say, that William Smith is no demagogue, or that if he ever practiced it he has discarded it on the present occasion.

Statesman-like, he has looked to Virginia as she is—taken hold of her great interests, and presented them with a boldness and a force, peculiar to the man, and the statesman.

The political fame of William Smith became familiar to every Virginian in the canvass of 1840. It not only spread through our own borders, but throughout the Union. When we heard of any great discussion, or pitched-battle, in the State, William Smith was there. We heard from him in the North, the West, the East and the South, doing battle against the champions of Whiggery, and the renegades from the ranks of Democracy. And where was he heard from, that we did not hear of his doing signal service.

Who amongst us has forgotten the exciting times of 1840—when the returns of the Presidential election were coming in—when State after State had gone over to the Whigs, and all eyes were anxiously turned to Virginia, to see how she had braved the storm. Finally the news came that Virginia was safe—that the old Dominion had proved impregnable, and that the banner of Democracy still waved triumphantly over her borders. Who then received the credit for saving the State? ’Twas William Smith. Many bold, fearless and eloquent champions had battled in the cause—the wreath was awarded to Wm. Smith. He had earned it, and no man doubted that he was entitled to it.

And now, that offices of distinction, honor and trust are to be disposed of, by the representatives of the democracy, is this faithful democrat—this distinguished orator and statesman—this man of the people, who has labored so long, so zealously and so effectually—to be thrown aside, and the mantle of honor bestowed upon some one who in the hour of danger, was not found in the front battle? Is the edict to go forth, that the ‘Laborer is no longer worthy of his hire?’ One thing we feel justified in saying: if the great mass of the democratic party, in the good old commonwealth, was consulted, seven-tenths would say that William Smith should be United States Senator. The voice or the wishes of the people should be obeyed. The district has on a former occasion, through their representatives, honored him with a unanimous vote, regardless of party; in doing so the wishes of the majority were carried out, and we trust this district will do so again. We further hope to see the democracy from a neighboring district coming up to his aid, as a small debt of gratitude for services rendered in the trying time of 1840, when Parkersburgh was made the great theatre of action in the West, and hundreds were halting between two opinions, until William Smith, met the great Ajax of whiggery, exposed their principles, and sustained the principles of the democratic party in language too plain and too convicting to be long doubted.

[MLD]

THE MEXICAN WAR

We have always maintained it to be the true course of patriotism and sound policy to sink every party feeling, when the nation is involved in war. In such a crisis, we ought to look first to united and harmonious action to vindicate the national honor and secure a satisfactory peace—and then to a searching scrutiny into the causes of the war and to its conduct by those constitutionally empowered to carry it on. At the very first blast of the war bugle, the voice of party should be hushed, and every American rally around the national standard, without muttering discontent with the course of its own government, the natural effect of which its to encourage the hopes of the enemy and prolong an evil, which all alike deplore.

Such was the policy which the Democratic party was anxious to see put into practice. They showed no mean spirit of jealousy at the laurels won by Whig officers or men. Though the contrary has falsely been asserted by some of the more violent Whig press, no portion o the American people rejoiced more cordially than the Democrats at the gallant and brilliant deeds of Taylor, Worth, Kearney and other members of the Whig party. They rejoiced, because of the heroism or our troops redounded to the honor and welfare of the whole country, and because in cowing with laurels the brows of these brave commanders, Whigs though they be, they but brightened the good name and glory of our common country. We contend, then, that the Democrats are blameless, if the least bitterness of party feelings
Tuesday, January 5, 1847 RE47v43n72p1c3   135 words

The Battalion of Volunteers, under the command of Capt. Ro. G. Scott, jr., reached Old Point on Sunday night, in the Curtis Peck. We learn that nearly every man was present at the roll-call on Sunday morning—a few only being unprepared for the trip.

We are pained to hear that—McNulty, one of Capt. Carrington's company, was accidentally drowned at City Point, when the boat stopped to fake in the Petersburg company of Capt. Archer. It seems that the unfortunate man...
with a brother volunteer, John Bull English, were in the small boat of the steamer, which was suspended at her side, rocking themselves in sport, and in the violence of the vibration were both thrown into the river. One was saved, but the other lost, in spite of every exertion to rescue him.

Tuesday, January 5, 1847 RE47v43n72p1c3  55 words

The case of Edgar Barziza, a member of Capt. Scott’s company of Volunteers, charged with the “murder,” by stabbing, of William Sharp, on the night of the 28th December, came up before Mayor. Lambert yesterday; but was postponed till to-day, in the absence of the witness. Robert G. Scott Esq. is counsel for the accused.

Tuesday, January 5, 1847 RE47v43n72p1c3  243 words

MORE VOLUNTEERS.

We are glad to hear that the Executive have accepted the services of Captain John P. Young’s company from Portsmouth.

The second company from Petersburg, Captain William M. Robinson, will be completed in a few days, and will no doubt be accepted.

The Kanawha Republican fears a failure to raise a company of volunteers in that Senatorial district, from the want of some person “of the right qualifications to go ahead in the business.” It is too late now, it thinks, the requisite number from the State having offered their services. The Kanawha Republican speaks as follows of the laudable patriotism of two citizens of Kanawha:

“Two noble young men, Mr. B.D. Fry and J. L. Kempter, members of the Kanawha bar, burning for distinction on the battlefield, left this place week before last to join one of the companies in Richmond. We regret that they had not remained here a little longer; they might have raised a company and been placed in its command, to which their qualifications so eminently entitle them.”

We understand that these two young men, who have received a thorough military education, were about to enroll as privates in a company here; but, at the instance of some of our citizens who were struck with their manly conduct and fine qualities, they proceeded to Washington, with a view to procuring commissions in the new regiments of the army probably to be raised. We wish them success.

Friday, January 8, 1847 RE47v43n73p1c4  1556 words

MORE “AID AND COMFORT,”

The Hagerstown News contains the following article:

Thompson Mason, Esq., late a citizen of this place, and a member of the Hagerstown Bar, has, as we learn from the papers, join the Virginia regiment of Volunteers. Alas! That talent such as his should be prostituted to the wickedness of war! Even should he come back crowned with laurels, a mind so sensitive, cultivated and discriminating as his, will not fail, in old age, to reproach him with the wrongs and miseries he now, by example, is helping to fasten upon the world, by giving his sanction to legalized murder. How much more glorious would it be, were those talents devoted to the cause of humanity: to the putting of the human family upon the railway of advancement—instead of helping to sink the world in the darkness of barbarous heathenism. We wish him a safe return and a peaceful mind in the future.”

It is because the Democratic press expose such enormities in our public journals, that they are assailed by the Whigs as truckling to Executive power, as aiming a blow at the freedom of speech and of the press, and as putting in practice the odious doctrine, “that the King can do no wrong.” Will the most rigid stickler for the liberty of the press fail to condemn such mischievous and factious views as the above? Every newspaper is supposed to exert a certain influence, though in a limited sphere. Is it now, then, plain to the dullest intellect, that such articles as the above are calculated to throw odium upon the war in which we are engaged, and which we are bound to fight out, if we desire to secure peace and an honorable reparation for the wrongs done us by Mexico? The Editor pays a just tribute to the talents and to the cultivated and discriminating mind of Mr. Mason, who has engaged in the glorious service of his country—and yet, in the same breath, in its party madness, presents’ him as “giving his sanction to legalized murder,” and as “prostituted to the wickedness of war.” Do not such articles tend to give “aid and comfort”
to the enemy, in raising the impression on the Mexican Government, that a large party in this country is bitterly opposed to the war, and would rejoice to see our army withdrawn, to the dishonor and disgrace of the nation? And is note the Democratic press fully justified in holding up to public indignation such sentiments, whether they come from leading men or public journals? Can any patriot observe, with complacency, the extraordinary course of Mr. McGaughey, a Whig member from Indiana? After characterizing, as an intruder in this House, Col. Baker, the Whig member from Illinois, whose statements he did not regard much, Mr. McG. Denounced the war as a Presidential war altogether, and as one only of the fruits of Texas annexation, and he asked no share in the glory of such a war:

"Believing, then, that the war was wholly wrong, he would not vote for any additional appropriations, except to settle up the debts already incurred. Believing that the shortest way to attain peace was to retire, he would vote against the bill which proposed to increase the army. It was not at all necessary for the interests and honor of the country to prosecute the war. If it were a holy and just war, its history would redound to the national glory. But it was far otherwise in this case, and the retrospection would be anything but honorable or gratifying. It was said that here were Whigs who were in favor of the war. He did not belong to them; and, if that was true, there must be more classes of Whigs than he knew of, and Whiggery had come to be as chameleon-like as Democracy:

...What is all this but rendering aid and comfort to the enemy? And yet, according to Whig doctrine, it is a crying usurpation to expose such factious and treacherous views uttered in a time of war.

Mr. Own of Indiana followed in a masterly, eloquent and far-searching vindication of the justice of the war. We have no room for his conclusive argument, which goes to the very marrow of the question. We cannot, however, forbear from laying before our readers his thrilling peroration. It is full of patriotic sentiment, sound advice, and burning sarcasm upon those who, for miserable party capital, openly encourage our treacherous foes:

...And now, in conclusion, will gentlemen on the other side of the House suffer me to address to them a few not unfriendly words. That which is spoken in this hall remains not here. It is published to the world. It goes to our enemies as well as to our friends. When members of an American Congress assert that the war in which their country is engaged is unholy, unrighteous, damnable; the President’s war, who ought to be arraigned as a usurper for making it; every word they speak may be read—in all human probability is read, and with avidity—in the national palace of Mexico. When members of an American Congress declare that Mexicans, or their manly resistance in such a war, are to be honored and applauded, they speak, as it were, to the very men they praise and encourage; even in the ears of Santa Anna and his advisers. Words that are strengthen the hands and cheer the hearts for the public enemy should be well weighed, before they are uttered. I condemn no man, who speaks, from the depths of his heart, his honest thought. It is his right; and not the less his right, because of the consequence, be that what it will. If those who put Mexico in the right and her President in the wrong, speak as they are prompted by the love of truth and justice alone, their language, no matter whom it may aid and comfort, shall pass unproved by me. But if, with this indignant zeal for justice to Mexico there mingle one motive less pure than truth, one lurking thought of party profit in an approaching contest at home, how stands the matter then? Not national treasure and national honor only, human lives are at stake in their war. They who drag it, as an element of advantage, into the arena of party strife, play with human lives! If any man, with even a glancing thought in his mind towards the presidential succession, use words, put forth arguments, of which the tendency is to nerve the arm of the enemy, and thus protract the war, he sacrifices, on the prostituted alter of party, his country’s treasure, honor, well being—yes! And the blood of her bravest sons. And such a man, thus placing obstacles in the way of negotiation, thus retarding an honorable peace, is the enemy alike of his country and of civilization. The spirit of war is fast departing from the earth. One feels, in these modern days, when engaged even in the most justifiable war, as may some participant in a disreputable brawl, reluctantly dragged into it by chance and bad neighborhood. The necessity of the thing cannot blind one’s eyes to its barbarism. A man, or a nation, meriting to be called civilized, seeks the first pause in the combat, to hasten its termination. But what chance of terminating he war while the enemy is daily fed with hopes, that, divided in feeling and distracted in council, we cannot, for any length of time, conduct military operations with vigor, or prosecute them with success? To dispose Mexico to peace, she must see us united, harmonious, conscious of the justice of our cause, ready to put forth all our strength. Then, and thus, may she be brought to terms. Then, and thus, may this appeal to arms, the last, I trust, in which American shall ever be forced to engage, come to a close, and the period at last arrive, when we may turn our swords into ploughshares, and study war no more."

But to return to Mr. Mason, who is now in this city, a member of Capt. Alburtis’ fine company of Berkeley Volunteers. The Hagerstown News speaks in just and proper terms of Mr. M.’s excellent personal qualities—but, at the same time, does him great injustice, in referring to the causes which should affect his peace of mind. We can assure the News that Mr. M.’s conscience is entirely at ease, in regard to the war in which he is about to engage. Like a true patriot, he feels that his country has received wrongs at the hands of Mexico, which deserve to be avenged. Under such conviction he has given up his home and friends, and has enlisted in the ranks of the country’s defenders. In such a cause can any true American suffer the least shadow to cloud his conscience? On the contrary, what more ennobling thought can animate a patriot, than to risk his all for his native land? Mr. M.’s heart is in the right place, and we shall be much mistaken if he does not do his whole duty. At all events, his mind will be peaceful, because he feels that he is engaged in a glorious cause.

[MLD]
DEATH OF A GREAT MAN

The whole country mourns the untimely decease, in his brigade camp at Monterey, on the 2nd Dec., of Brigadier General Thomas L. Hamer, of Ohio—the profound lawyer; the eloquent and sound statesman; the civil, brave, and generous soldier, and the amiable and philanthropic citizen. He was, perhaps, the first man in Ohio, having been covered with honors by that State, from an early age. At the recent State election, Gen. Hamer was elected to the next Congress, almost without opposition; having been nominated for that office by the enthusiastic vote of a Democratic Convention. In the beautiful language of the Union, "As a man his career has been brief; but, limited as it has been, death kindly withheld his hand until the manly brow of the gallant Hamer wore a wreath of laurel, plucked by his won brave arm, in the midst of fire, carnage, groans, and death, in the bloody streets of Monterey!!"

As proof of the firm hold which he had upon the affections of his State, we quote the following tribute, unanimously adopted by the Legislature of Ohio, on the 31st. ult:

Whereas, the mournful intelligence has reached us that Gen. Thomas L. Hamer, the accomplished civilian and devoted patriot is no more: therefore,

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, That in the death of Gen. Hamer, our State has lost a favorite son, the United States a useful citizen and officer, and mankind at large a benefactor. Therefore,

Resolved, That the members of this General Assembly deeply sympathize with the bereaved widow and children of the deceased, in their grievous affliction.

Resolved, That the Speakers of the two Houses procure a suitable person to pronounce a eulogy upon the life and character and public services of the deceased, before the members of this General Assembly and the citizens generally, at some convenient season to be fixed by themselves.

Resolved, That the body of the deceased be brought from Mexico and interred in the soil of Ohio, at the expense of the State.

Let us now turn to the camp in Mexico, and we see that there also the death of General Hamer produced intense feeling, and that the most touching honors were paid to his memory. From a letter in the New Orleans Delta, we extract the following interesting particulars:

Friday, January 8, 1847

Monterey, Mexico, Dec. 10, 1846

Dear Sir: Until to-day I had nothing to communicate of interest. On the 2d instant, the prisoners belonging to Colonel Hays' regiment, (Messrs. Lyons and Tufts,) captured at China, arrived from San Luis de Potosi. They informed me that Santa Anna had thirty three thousand men embodied at that place, undergoing the strictest discipline, and were throwing up a breastwork around the entire town, with a wide ditch on the outside, DIFFERING SOMEWHAT FROM THE CAMARGO FORTIFICATIONS—that the artillery of this army were few, but the cavalry amounted to eight thousand, all fully imbued with GREAT VALOR AND PATRIOTISM, and more than ready and willing to drive the BOLD AND DARING INVADERS BEYOND THE SABINE, and some even thought that they MIGHT MARCH TO WASHINGTON CITY. These gentlemen left San Luis on the 10th November.

On the day previous an express courier arrived from Mexico, giving the information of the revolt of that city and State, and that on the day they left, Santa Anna had detached seven Regiments of the line to quell it. Mr. Lyons also told me that he saw 47 of our deserters at San Luis, in a most deplorable condition. Santa Anna would have nothing to do with them, and had ordered them to his rear—to the province of Guadalaxara. Many of these men had been enticed away under the promise of commissions in the army, and bounties. When in San Luis they were raged, suffering for common wants, and destitute of every comfort; they bitterly repented their false, dishonorable step in deserting the American standard, and would readily return with any sacrifice.

Gen. Taylor is making preparations to break up his camp here; next week he moves with all the regulars and apart of the volunteers, leaving Gen. Butler in command; destination as yet unknown—but of his I'll tell you next week. I enclose you Gen. Taylor's order in relation to the death of Gen. Hamer:

Friday, January 8, 1847
Camp near Monterey, Dec. 3d, 1846.

With feelings of profound sorrow, the commanding General announces to the troops the decease of Brig. Gen. T. L. Hamer, of the Volunteer service, who expired last evening, after the short but violent illness.

The ability and judgement displayed by the deceased General in the exercise of his military command, and the sterling qualities which marked his private character, endeared him justly to the army and to his many personal friends.

By the army in the field, and by the citizens of his own State, his loss will be severely felt; to those connected with him by closer ties, it will be irreparable.

The deceased will be interred at 10 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow, with the honors due to his rank. Brig. Gen. Quitman, commanding the Volunteer Division, will conduct the funeral ceremonies, and command the escort, to be composed of one regiment of Volunteer Infantry, one company of Cavalry, and two pieces of Artillery. The Cavalry and Artillery of the escort will be designated by Brig. Gen. Twiggs from his Division, and will report to Gen. Quitman at 9 o'clock to-morrow.

All officers off duty are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from the Head Quarters of the Kentucky and Ohio Brigade.

W. W. S. BLISS, Ass't Adj. Gen.

The funeral of Gen. Hamer was magnificent and imposing. The escort was composed of a Kentucky Regiment of Volunteers, under command of Maj. Shepherd; then a company of Dragoons, under Capt. Graham; then a section of Light Artillery, commanded by Lieut. Thomas, followed by the corpse and pall bearers; then the General's horse and Aid-de-Camp, Lieut. Hooker, followed by the General's Brigade, with side arms; then officers of the Volunteers and of the Army on foot; then the mounted officers of the Army. The whole procession must have reached, in length, near a mile.

[MLD]

Friday, January 8, 1847 RE47v43n73p1c5  879 words

The Richmond Whig has replied to our strictures upon its course towards the Tenth Legion. We will not dispute about the epithets we have applied to its conduct. We deem it unnecessary to resort to the lexicons of our mutual language in order to be able to define our several positions. The Whig appears to be willing to admit that it did not intend to defame or to slander the patriotism of the Tenth Legion; and, therefore, we say let it pass as to that. Let it be known to the State, and let the people of the Tenth Legion themselves understand, that the Richmond Whig does not intend to defame or slander them in any thing it has said!

But, excuse it for everything like defamation and slander, and libel, there remains yet a charge for which it must answer. When, in time of war, a journal undertakes to array sections and parties against each other, the reprehensions of a patriotic community must fall upon it. At present, men of all parties, and some from all sections, are rushing to the standard of their country; the general thought seems to be, who can first reach the battle field; still, the Whig casts about to examine faces, to see who is and who is not in the Virginia Regiment; and it endeavors, out of whatever it may glean, to make capital for the party in Virginia.

It is like the celebrated character portrayed by Patrick Henry, (John Hook,) who, in the midst of a revolutionary struggle for liberty, cried out, "Beef, beef, beef," whilst the whole country was desirous of avenging this wrongs upon a foreign enemy. When the desire of the community is to have the regiment immediately completed and installed in honorable service, the Whig, although it participates in this desire, endeavors to impress the public with belief that the strongholds of the Democratic party have been derelict to duty, and have not contributed what patriotism required.

The entire logic of the Whig is intended to show that this is a most unjust, a most absurd war, made by the President, without the co-operation of the nation; but, nevertheless, one which the Whigs (so far as Virginia is concerned) mainly have to fight out. The magnanimous Whigs have to do the fighting of the country, whilst the Locos—especially the Tenth Legion, which did so much to elect Mr. Polk, and therefore "ought to fight out this war"—stood back and refuse to volunteer! Most modest assumption!

We have said before, that we did not desire to think of the regiment in any party aspect. We had hoped to look upon them all as Virginians, springing from a common mother, and animated by a common object. We wished, as we known many of our Whig friends did, that party feeling should be extinguished. We were glad to coincide in the propriety of the sentiment uttered by Col. Baker, of Illinois, that there should be no party feeling in the army. But it seems we are to be disappointed in this so far as our own regiment is concerned. The Whig is determined to signalize, if not to stigmatize, those who do not appear.
Whilst the Whig engages itself so busily in taunting Democratic communities with not furnishing their proper quotas for the war, it might as well recollect that the best position in the regiment are held by Whigs. Both the Colonel and the Major (who are indebted to the liberality of a Democratic Governor and Council for their appointments) are Whigs. So is the Adjutant. The ‘fat offices’ are nearly all held by men of that party. Not so, however, in the ranks. Go there, and Democrats will be found, plentiful as the Whig itself can desire. The Berkeley company, coming from a country where the Whigs have a preponderating influence, is composed almost entirely of Democrats. We have heard it said that there are but five Whigs in it. The Augusta company, for which so much admiration has been expressed, and about which the Whig has boasted so much, contains, we learn, a majority of Democrats.

Much as has been said about the Whig city of Richmond having furnished three companies, we venture to say (whilst we do not in any manner disparage her patriotism) that she has not furnished fifty men. The rendezvous is here, and the enrollments have been made here; but the bone and sinew came from the country. The same thing is true of all the other companies formed in towns, of which the Whig and its correspondents boast so much. And as to the Tenth Legion, the latest accounts inform us that it has raised two companies, without the important aid of large towns and thickly settled population, has raised two companies, without the important aid of large towns and thickly settled population, in which to recruit. The people of that section, and the Democracy generally, will understand the game the Whig is playing. It pursues now, as then, to fail in its object.

Friday, January 8, 1847

We are gratified to announce, that the Common Council last evening voted eight Swords, (to cost $30 each;) one to each of the officers of the two Richmond companies of Volunteers, under the command of Captts. Scott and Carrington.

Friday, January 8, 1847

In relation to the “General Officer” whose appointment the President recommends in his message on Monday, the Union makes the following remarks. Upon the propriety of such a proposition, we suspect there will be some difference of opinion. We observe that some of he Whigs are in favor of the plan. The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot writes:

"Unless something of the kind is done, many sensible men here, and some of them officers of the army, think the war will last two years longer; and, if so, that it will be hard work to find the troops as well as the money to carry it on successfully; for the volunteers, they say, will never, can never be induced to stay there through another summer campaign, and it will be hard, when they return to their homes, to get others to take their places. The fact is, the war can only be ended by the annihilation of the Mexican army. This must be done, and the quicker the better."

Here are the Union’s comments:

"The President makes another suggestion which is calculated to command the most respectful attention. He refers to the miscellaneous composition of our forces now in the field, made up a they are of regulars and of numerous volunteers; and he recommends a more efficient organization of our army by placing at their head a general officer, who, or course, may be acquainted with the qualities of both species of forces, and calculated to give the combination the greatest degree of efficiency. We have no doubt the proposition will be duly and deliberately weighed, without regard to individuals, an with a dingle eye to the more efficient and successful organization for the whole army. The President regards this appointment as only provisional—to continue only during the war, and to be dispensed with upon the reduction of the army to a peace establishment.

The message presses early action upon Congress in carrying out these suggestions. Actuated by a desire to prosecute the war with the greatest vigor, and to obtain a prompt and honorable peace, he desires Congress to act as soon as possible, “before the present favorable season for military operations shall have passèd away.” Action is necessary here. Action is necessary in Mexico. Santa Anna has repeated, in his last letter to Gen. Taylor, his insolent demand for us to withdraw all our troops from Mexico, and all our squadrons from her waters. And if an experienced statesman, who has studied the Mexican character, be correct in telling us to-day, that the Congress of Mexico may repeat this demand, as preliminary to any negotiation for peace, we ought to put all our armor on, meet the crisis, and strike boldly for peace.”

The above should have appeared yesterday.—By yesterday’s mail we learned that in House, on Tuesday, a report from the Committee of Military Affairs was agreed to, asking to be discharged form that portion of the President’s message recommending the appointment of the “General Officer.” Many of the papers speak of this
action as sealing the fate of the proposition in the House. It is further said that only one of the nine members of the Committee was in favor of the measure.

Friday, January 8, 1847 RE47v43n73p2c1 272 words

DESPATCH OF THE PUBLIC BUSINESS—NAVY DEPARTMENT,--In Nov. last (says the N.Y. Evening Post,) the government had occasion to dispatch two officers, express, to the Pacific. Col. Mason, of the first Regiment of U.S. Dragoons, and Lieut. Watson, of the Navy, were designated for this duty. The Navy Agent of this port was required to procure a fast sailing vessel and dispatch her with these officers to Chagres. On Saturday evening, November 7th, the brig Benjamin L. Swan was chartered. The same night, at midnight, Col. Mason arrived. Sunday intervening, nothing could be done till Monday A. M. Col. Mason had his three years’ outfit to procure—clothing, arms, and equipments of all kinds—all his private wardrobe and equipments at St. Luis.

The brig had her crew to ship, her stores and ballast to be taken in, and clearance to make. On Tuesday at 3 P.M General Vetmore, the Navy Agent, reported her ready for sea. At 5 o'clock the passengers were on board, and the steamer took the brig in tow; thus in one day and a half, during the whole of which time the weather was bad, the expedition was prepared for sea. The brig was anchored on Tuesday night under the bar; and left the next morning wind favorable. In thirteen days she entered the port of Chagres, and in fifteen from the day the officers left New York, they were on the shores of the Pacific. If fortunate in finding a conveyance up the coast from Panama, they are now at San Francisco. An instance of greater dispatch has rarely been known in any similar undertaking.

Friday, January 8, 1847 RE47v43n73p2c2 605 words

A MODERN JOAN D’ARC

Our readers, we know, will thank us for devoting so much space to the simple but beautiful and thrilling narrative of Mrs. Chase, the heroic wife of our consul at Tampico. Were not the facts substantiated by history, we might look up on the narrative as a stirring piece of romance. But this case corroborates the saying that "truth is stranger than fiction." It has been a matter of wonder why the Mexicans, without apparent reason, evacuated a town which was so strongly defended as Tampico. The mystery we now find solved by the fortitude, courage, perseverance and remarkable diplomacy of a woman. But for her devices and cool self-possession, the important post of Tampico could not have been taken without a loss of American life. Through the skill and courage of this brave, generous woman, the town fell into our possession without a blow.

In many respects there is a striking parallel between Mrs. Chase and the famous "Maid of Orleans." In fearless perseverance and high spirited intrepidity of soul, they much resemble one another. But, in many particulars, the parallel does not run. The latter filled the humble situation of maid in the inn of her native village; and her nerves had become strengthened and her frame hardened by the active duties of her life, and especially by the management of horses, which she rode with grace and ease. In her eyes, moreover, the peculiar character of Charles “the Victorious,” who was so strongly inclined to friendship and affection, naturally rendered him the hero of that sex whose generous minds place little bounds to their enthusiasm. Above all, she mistook the impulses of passion for heavenly inspiration, and, declared that she had seen visions and heard voices exhorting her to re-establish the throne of France.

Mrs. Chase, on the other hand, is a lady delicately brought up and educated in the accomplishments which soften he character. She was inspired by no supernatural visions, but was animated to her fearless deeds by her love of country and her contempt and disgust for the faithless Mexicans.

Joan d’Arc was surrounded by her friends in the fortified city of Orleans, who encouraged and cheered her on. Armed cap a pic and mounted on horseback, she was triumphantly presented to the people as the messenger of Heaven, and, carrying in her hand a consecrated banner, sallied forth against the English assailants. In their engagement he was wounded by an arrow in the neck.

Mrs. Chase was alone in the midst of her enemies, and yet she, too; raised the ‘consecrated’ start-spangled banner of her country, and hailed the American forces. Though closely watched by the subtle Mexicans and threatened by them in various ways, she eluded their designs and succeeded in placing an important town in the hands of the Americans.

The death of Joan d’Arc was the result of the cruel, treacherous conduct of those whom she had so heroically served. Mrs. Chase yet lives to receive the praise and honors from a grateful country. What more fitting tribute to the gallant deeds of this noble woman, man that Congress should place in one of the niches of the Capitol some representation of this lady standing by the American colors, in defiance of the hostile population of Tampico!

But we shall not detain our readers from the interesting narrative. Much as we all respect and idolize the
"MY ESTEEMED FRIEND: A great change has come o’er the spirit of my dream – at least within the last month – so that I almost doubt the evidence of my own senses, we having at this moment some twenty sail of vessels in the river Panuco – steamers passing and repassing, the sight of which pays me, in part, for my six months’ solitude and suffering. I am not a believer in purgatory, but I think I have passed through that ordeal by residing in an enemy’s country alone; not only hostile in feeling, but subtle and unprincipled.

"My dear friend, I scarcely know how to reply to your friendly solicitude towards me and mine especially. In beginning my imperfect narrative, one great misfortune seems to accompany me – my pen can never keep pace with my feelings. You will have been aware of Mr. Chase’s expulsion, agreeably to the decree of the 12th of May last, and in compliance with the act he had only twenty four hours’ notice to embark, or eight days to retire twenty leagues into the interior. He prudently chose the former, and embarked forthwith on board of the St. Mary’s the blocking vessel off the bar of Tampico, leaving some eighty thousand dollars in his store with no other protection than such as I could afford, and two clerks, one of whom was a Mexican; and he, in accordance with the true spirit of Mexican chivalry, commenced robbing me. In fact my annoyances were so numerous that I cannot give you them in detail, but merely sketch an outline, knowing the sympathy you feel for my perilous position in this new drama. In the nest place, Inez de Primera Instancia, by order of the commanding general, passed me a notice that my privileges ceased as that of the American consul, and my store must be closed. I replied to him in the most decisive manner, that I was not only his wife, but also his constituted agent – in addition to this I was a British subject, and, as such, neither the judge nor the general could deprive me of my natural rights, as the English law admitted of no annexion – stating that any infraction on it prerogative would be hastily chastized by that government; and in confirmation of my assertion, referred the learned Inez to the law of nations.

Thus defeated and exasperated, I was not allowed to send an open note to my husband, then off the bar. But, thank God, who ‘tempers the wind to the shorn lamb,’ He directed me, and I concerted a plan which again defeated their hostile purpose, and sent by strategem nine letters in eight weeks, and through the same means received replies. But those things were daily making inroads upon my health and spirits, which I most carefully concealed from my good husband, knowing the intensity of his feelings for his government, and particularly for my welfare.

"I, in the meantime, drew a plan of the city and river, and had it sent to Com. Conner and Captain M’Cluney of the John Adams, with a correct description of all the forts, the number of guns, a list of the troops and how they were posted, and every political movement, so that through Mr. Chase and his agent, they knew every important movement in this section of the country.

"They abused and insulted the American name and nation to such an extent that it often caused me to retire and pray God for the day of retribution – With the exception of my faithful Amelia, I had but little human sympathy, as all the English influence was against our national cause.

"I am, perhaps, a little prosy, but I well know the sensitive heart to whom these lines are addressed, and so continue. I daily watched, not very christian-like, for the moment of retaliation, hoping to be able although alone in the combat, to "square accounts" with my fierce debtors, and, if possible, place myself and party on the credit side of the entangled account.

"Santa Anna recommended to the government of Mexico the confiscation of all American property in order to carry on the war, and that all Americans residing in this country should be make prisoners of war, as a fatal stroke of those usurping pirates – the gentle name generally applied to them – and that this garrison should be reinforced with some 3,000 more troops. When I read this article in one of the flaming periodicals, it was rather grating to me in my isolated condition. I determined, however, upon the old Roman motto –

"Who would be free, himself must strike the blow,’ or in other words, my case was at best helpless, and now even desperate, and required a desperate remedy.

"Two spies came daily to my house, always under the guise of friendship; and on one occasion, one of the wretches believe that I was possessed of items concerning American movements, I represented him that 30,000 troops were to join Gen. Taylor at Matamoros, 30,000 more had been despatched to capture San Juan, &c., and closed with remarking that I would be compelled to close my house within a day or two as a force of 25 to 30,000 troops was coming against this place – which bit of romance so frightened my poor Amelia, that she thought the general here would call me to account for it.

"Next day I had a call from the captain of the port who wished to know the truth, and inquired if Mr. Chase had written to me to that effect; and soon after some other of the high functionaries discovered me to be an important character, in their daily rounds. In a conversation with the father in law of the general, I recommended to him an early retreat, as the wisest course to be taken; and that same night a private post was despatched to San Luis Potosi upon the strength of the information so received, through me; the town of Tampico was ordered to be vacated on the appearance of this large force off the bar; scouts were sent in every direction, to procure muleteers, for the conveyance of property to the interior; and two schooner loads were shipped to the city of Panuco; six hundred
stand of arms were sunk, the cannons were removed from the fort, and the troops evacuated the place. I then despatched to Com. Connor an account of the state of things, and in triplicate to Havana, under different covers to my husband, urging his return forthwith. These were sent by an agent, who supposed them mere letter conveying a wish to my husband to meet me at Vera Cruz, to accompany me to Havana. I spent a restless night and morning, but it has certainly brought its reward. My letter to the commodore was dated October 23d; he received it October 27th, and immediately called a meeting of his senior officers and laid my despatch before them. It had due weight.

Provisions were brought from Point Isabel and distributed among the squadron, and on the morning of the 13th have in sight, twelve sail off the bay of Tampico. I was so confident of the coming of the squadron, that in anticipation of their coming, I had a flag staff made one week previous, and had it erected upon the house-top, in order to raise the first American flag hoisted as a right over Tampico. On my first sight of the fleet, my pent up feelings gave way and I wept as a child for joy, seeing that God had brought deliverance to the captives, and in anticipation of soon seeing the object of my affection, and also in gratitude to Him who is mighty to save, and that my feeble efforts had wrought so strange in our national welfare.

Here I must pause, and say I cannot pretend to describe my feelings at that time. Fortitude seemed to give way, and in the midst of this emotion, I again saw the squadron nearing to the bar, the boats managed and the line passing, (they standing their own pilots over their intricate passage.) and broad pennant flying at two mast heads – the blue and red. My faithful Amelia and myself ran to Mr. Chase's office, and in solitude offered up a prayer, then pulled the flag down and alone rushed to the house-top. I carried it up and tied it on the line with my own hands, and we – Amelia, myself, and Mr. Uder – hoisted it, myself giving the first pull. Thus we defied the whole town of Tampico. I sent for some Americans, but not one possessed courage or national spirit enough to lend a hand.

In thirty minutes the Ayuntamiento called upon me and ordered me to haul it down. I replied it was raised as a right of protection. They said I had no such right as I rejoined that that it was a matter of opinion in which we could not agree. They said it was a burlesque upon their nation – a lady taking the city – and what would the supreme government of Mexico say? I replied very laconically, 'Quien sabe!' and offered them wine under the new banner. They threatened the house. I ran to its top, and asked Mr. Uder if he would stand by me. He replied, "Yes." "Then," said I, "the flag must remain, or all of us sent over the house-top, as I shall never pull it down or suffer any Mexican to sully it by his touch." I had been robbed, - my store entered and pillaged of more than two thousand dollars, in the dead of the night; and when the regiment from Puebla entered this city, they entered my store and carried off my goods, and I had no redress and still less sympathy; and although alone, the God of the just was my captain general, and I had nothing to fear from all Mexico. And now the house of redemption was at hand. I expected they would either fire upon or storm the house. I rested with my right arm round the flag staff, the banner waving in majestic beauty, and the squadron nearing the city, where they saw the flat. It was like lightning to pilgrims to know from whence it came, but soon the officers saw two female forms standing by it, and gave three cheers in front of the city, and then came to my house, which had been now nearly six months as if proscribed by some crime or plague, and my fault was that of being the wife of an American. Commodore Perry and the municipal authorities came to my house on arrival, also Commodore Conner. My despatches have been sent to the state department, and I have letters of thanks from the officers commanding, who have changed the name of Fort Libertad to Fort Ann, in compliment to me. They arrived on the 16th. Forty eight hours after came Mr. Chase, crowning all my happiness.

"You will no doubt have heard part of my story previous to this reaching you, knowing the interest you feel; and this unlimited friendship evinced by you, I thus have taken the liberty to give as far as practicable in detail, and have extended my account far beyond my intention, and at the same time trusting that you will give at least a reading to this imperfect scroll, and may never feel the pangs of mental affliction, as felt by me.

"You very kindly inquire if the existing war has injured us in a pecunary point? It has very materially, but that loss has not in the least allowed my spirits to flag. My trust is in Him, who can withhold and best. We have suffered in mind, in person and pocket, but with feelings of interest toward our beloved country and duty to the cause, and like the widow I was writing to contribute my might for the honor of the country he had so long represented, and as a dutiful wife to follow him in weal or woe, according to the pressure of misfortune, and in impending anger, the break blasts of adversity should not chill my ar Dor, in following his advice and his cause and trust to God.

"We will lose nearly one half of our stock goods. No doubt the U.S. government will indemnify Mr. Chase at a future day.

"Our house will be turned into a garrison, and three field pieces will be placed upon it. I am willing to stand by my husband at a gun until we both die or are victors.

"I have been trying to keep a journal of the beauties of the drama, in rather a rough form, and may place it in your hands at a future day.

[RLK]

Washington, Jan. 5, 1847.
The fate of the ten Regiments to be raised, according to the recommendation of the Secretary of War, is as yet doubtful. I think the bill will be amended so as to substituted volunteers for soldiers. In that case the President is probably ready to send in another message asking for something else. He desires prompt action, and he is right. Any one acquainted with the President, and with his sincere wishes to serve the country faithfully, and to the utmost of his ability; will readily acquit him of ambitious motives. President Polk is a patriot in the loftiest sense of the word, and whether Congress agree with him in this or that measure which he proposes, or not, is a matter of utter indifference to him, so Congress at last agrees to what will serve the wants to the country.

Mr. Walker is still awaiting the resolutions of the committee on finance, before recommending some other measure for raising revenue; I have no doubt but that the fertility of his rich mind will yet hit upon some expedient which will satisfy Congress and the country.

[MLD]

Friday, RE47v43n73p4c1, January 8, 1847: 869 words

THE EVENTS OF THE PAST YEAR

The year which has just rolled by has been big with events connected with our national character and destiny, and a retrospect cannot but be refreshing and instructive. We select from the New York papers the following summary of the most important incidents. No single year of our national existence has developed more momentous results, or done more to elevate our national character and establish the great destinies of our Republic and the march of free principles on both continents:

January 1st—The Province of Yucatan declared herself independent of Mexico, on the ground that the Central Government had violated the compact.

February 9th—Resolutions for terminating the Joint Occupation of Oregon passed the U. States House of Representatives, 164 to 54

28th—British House of Commons sanctioned, by a large majority, Sir Robert Peel’s measure for reforming the Corn Laws.


April 16th—Resolutions to terminate the Joint Occupation of Oregon passed the Senate, 40 to 14.

24th—Capt. Thorton’s command taken by the Mexicans.

May 3d—The Mexicans opened their batteries on Fort Brown, opposite Matamoras. The cannonade was kept up without intermission for seven days, and returned with effect. During the siege, Major Brown was killed by falling shot.

8th—The first general battle was fought with the Mexicans at Palo Alto. The American force under Gen. Taylor was 2,288; the Mexicans, under Arista, numbered twice as many. American loss, 9 killed and 44 wounded; Mexican loss in killed and wounded supposed to be about 400.

9th—Battle of Resaca de la Palma, in which the Mexicans were completely put to rout, with a loss of about 6000-killed and wounded. American loss, 39 killed and 83 wounded. Among the officers killed in these two engagements were Maj. Ringgold, Capt. Page, Lieuts. Inge, Cochrane and Claiborne.

12th—War with Mexico recognized by both Houses of Congress, and a bill passed authorizing the reception of 50,000 volunteers.

June 1st—Pope Gregory XVIth died at Rome, having served more than fifteen years.

18th—The U. S. Senate ratified the Treaty for the division of Oregon.

21st—Cardinal Mastai Ferreti was inaugurated at Rome, under the title of Pope Pius IXth.—He is 54 years of age.

July 3rd—The new Tariff passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 114 to 95.

6th—Com. Sloat took possession of Monterey, California, without serious opposition.
17th—Ratifications of the Oregon Treaty were exchanged at the Foreign Office in London.

28th—The new Tariff bill passed to a third reading in the U. S. Senate by the casting vote of Vice President Dallas, and as finally passed by a vote of 28 to 27.

August 3rd—President Polk vetoed the River and Harbor bill.

6th—Another Revolution took place in Mexico in favor of the exiled chief Santa Anna, The troops of Vera Cruz and its vicinity first declared in his favor, and were soon followed by those at the Capital, who deposed and imprisoned Paredes, and proclaimed in favor of Santa Anna and the Constitution of 1824.

8th—President Polk vetoed the French Spoliation bill.

10th—Congress adjourned, after the longest session ever held except that of 1841- 2

15th—U.S. brig Truxton went aground on the bar of Tuxpan river, and two days after was abandoned by Capt. Carpenter, officers and crew, who went ashore and surrendered themselves as prisoners of war. They were subsequently exchanged for Gen. La Vega and his associates.

17th—Commodore Richard F. Stockton declared California a Territory of the U. States, proclaimed himself Governor, and issued a code of laws for the government of the Territory, &c.

18th—Gen. Kearney, at the head of about 3,000 troops, took peaceable possession of Santa Fe, the capital of New Mexico.

September 19th—Gen. Taylor arrived before Monterey at the head of about 7,000 men, and, after a siege of three days, forced the Mexicans, under Ampudia, to capitulate and evacuate the city. American loss in killed and wounded, a trifle less than 500; Mexican loss not known, but supposed to be about 1,000. Their force is said to have been 11,000. Among the Americans killed and mortally wounded was Lieut. Col. Watson, of Baltimore.

22nd—Steamer Great Britain, Capt. Hosken, went ashore on the coast of Ireland. No lives lost.

October 11th—A terrible gale occurred in the Gulf of Mexico. Key West, Florida, was almost entirely destroyed.

22d—Commodore Perry captured two Mexican steamers, and several other vessels, at Fontna, mouth of the river Tobasco.

23d—Captured Tobasco after a slight resistance.

30th—Gen. Wool took peaceable possession of Monclova, the capital of Coahuila.

November 14th—Tampico was taken possession of by Commodore Conner, without opposition

December 1st—The new Tariff goes into operation

8th—Congress convenes, there being a quorum in both Houses.

9th—President Polk’s Message is received and published.

30th—Death of hon. Alexander Barrow, at Baltimore, a distinguished Senator of the U.S. from Louisiana.

31st—Intelligence of the total wreck of the U. S. brig Somers, and the loss of many of the officers and crew.

[MLD]
the 15t ult, that news had just reached there from Santa Fe, that a party of our troops at that place had lost five
hundred horse, and in return had captured sixty-eight Indians, without losing a man. It is supposed that hey were of
the Appache nation.

Friday, January 8, 1847 RE47v43n73p4c3

INCREASE OF THE ARMY

To the Senate and
House of Representatives of the United States:

In order to prosecute the war against Mexico with vigor and success, it is necessary that authority should be
promptly given to Congress to increase the regular army, and to remedy existing defects in its organization. With
this view, your favorable attention is invited to the annual report of the Secretary of War, which accompanied my
message of the 8th inst, in which he recommends that ten additional regiments of regular troops shall be raised to
serve during the war.

Of additional regiments of volunteers which have been called for from several of the States, some have been
promptly raised; but this has not been the case in regards to all. This existing law requiring that they should be
organized by the independent action of the State governments, has, in some instances, occasioned considerable
delay; and it is yet uncertain when the troops required can be ready for service in the field.

It is our settled policy to maintain in time of peace as small a regular army as the exigencies of the public service will
permit. In a state of war, notwithstanding the great advantage with which our volunteer citizen soldiers can be
brought into the field, this small regular army must be increased in its numbers in order to render the whole force
more efficient.

Additional officers as well as men, then, become indispensable. Under the circumstances of our service a peculiar
propriety exists for increasing the officers, especially in the higher grades. The number of such officers who, from
age and other causes, are rendered incapable of active service in the field, has seriously impaired the efficiency of
the army.

From the report of the Secretary of War, it appears that about two-thirds of the while number of regimental field
officers are either permanently disabled or are necessarily detached from their commands on other duties. The long
enjoyment of peace has prevented us from experiencing much embarrassment from this cause; but now in a state of
was conducted in a foreign country, it has produced a serious injury to the public service.

An efficient organization of the army composed of regulars and volunteers, whilst prosecuting the war in it is
believed would require the appointment of a general officer to take command of all our military forces in the field.

Upon conclusion of the war, the services of such an officer would no longer be necessary, and should be dispensed
with upon the reduction of the army to a peace establishment.

I recommend that provision be made by law for the appointment of such a general officer to serve during the war.

It is respectfully recommended that early action should be had by Congress upon suggestions submitted for their
consideration, as necessary to insure active and efficient service in prosecuting the war before present favorable
season for military operations in the enemy’s country shall have passed away.

JAMES K. POLK.

Tuesday, January 12, 1847 RE47v43n74p1c3  358 words

TERRIBLE ARM OF OFFENCE AND DEFENCE

Capt. Walker left New York a few days since for Washington, having, while in New York, among other things,
made a contract for 1000 revolving pistols for the new mounted Rifle Regiment, which is to serve in Mexico. From
the New York Express we gather the following particulars:

"This regiment is to be armed with a pair of these weapons, besides rifles. It was found impossible to obtain
any number of these pistols in this city, such as, of late, been the demand for them for soldiers and others going to
Mexico.

"It is a fact worth noting, that the German who has been the principal mechanic or manufacturer of these revolvers, has recently left us, and suddenly for Mexico, with his chests of tools and machinery. It is pretty well ascertained that he has had most liberal and rich rewards from the government of Mexico, which have tempted him to leave New York, in order to begin the manufacture of that deadly weapon in a foreign country.

"Capt. Walker is very anxious that the War Department should order for the mounted Riflemen, Wesson’s improved Rifle, which will carry the all with unerring precision 400 yards and over. The rifle is light, and well adapted for such services as it will find necessary."

The New Orleans Delta, of the 2d of January, says that Capt. Brown, of the schr. Rob’t Mills, was informed by Capt. Todd, of the U.S. army, that Santa Anna, at the head of 15,000 troops, was on his way and within four days of Saltillo, and that Gen. Worth, unable to maintain his ground against such overwhelming numbers, was slowly falling back in the direction of Monterey; and that Gen. Taylor, in anticipation of an attack upon that city, was fortifying it at every assailable point. For further particulars, see the extracts from the Picayune.

We are gratified to announce that the Secretary of War has agree to accept two more companies (making in all twelve,) to be armed with rifles and bayonets, and to act as flankers to the regiment. Virginia will thus furnish a fine Legion.

[MLD]

Tuesday, January 12, 1847 RE47v43n74p1c6  484 words

To the Editors of the Enquirer

LYNCHBURG, 3d Jan., 1847

Messrs. Editors:--We had a glorious meeting of our citizens, of all parties, few evenings since, to raise funds, and otherwise prepare for the reception, entertainment, and paying the expenses of the Franklin volunteers to Richmond—expected last evening; but, owing to the appointment of their Captain, Jubal A. Early, as Major, most of them have disbanded, and only some dozen have as yet arrived; and, I suppose, will be about the number that will volunteer from this county, so that our funds remain unspent, for the benefit of Capt. Preston’s Company from Montgomery, daily expected.

Can you tell why it is, that the Editor of the Richmond Whig is so anxious for the Tenth Legion to raise a Company for Mexico? Is it because he would like to get as many Democratic voters out of the State for the Spring campaign as possible? Or, is it his great patriotism? If so, let him ask why it is that his long abiding place, and strong hold of Whiggery, Lynchburg, has not done anything. Perhaps his influence, if exerted, may do something to arouse the yet dormant patriotism of Lynchburg, and excite them to action. But the Tenth Legion will look to some other quarter for counsel and kind wishes than to the Richmond Whig. Here, in his strong-hold of Whiggery, there are to be found individuals who are so much opposed to the Administration, that they are not willing to contribute out of their pockets, and vote against the contribution, in Common Council, of funds to feed volunteers for Mexico. But I am proud to say, these are like the great constitutional expounder, Mr. Lanier of Pittsylvania, "Lone Stars" of Whiggery. The great majority of the party are for a vigorous prosecution of the war, although opposed to it. Can he find such in the Tenth Legion? Our faithful representative in Congress, E. W. Hubard, having declined being a candidate here points to Willis P. Bocock as his successor; but a Convention will be recommended at our January Campbell Court, to bring out our strongest man—and, if that is done, Whiggery will be defeated, as usual. Who is to be elected Senator on the 15th? Is the anxious inquiry of every Democrat. Give us Jones, Smith, Hunter, or any sound Democrat, elected by Democrats, but don't let Whiggery choose our man for us. Show me a Democrat that is unwilling to go into caucus to nominate a candidate, and I will show you a man who looks to Whiggery to support his favorite; and such a course out to be repudiated by every good Democrat. Let union, concession and harmony prevail, and all will be well.

A DEMOCRAT.

The meeting above alluded to was eloquently addressed by Wm. M. Blackford, Esq., Editor of the Virginian, and James Garland and John M. Speed, Esqrs.

[MLD]

Tuesday, January 12, 1847 RE47v43n74p1c7  341 words

INTERESTING CORRESPONDENCE

WASHINGTON CITY, JAN 2, 1847
Sir: I have requested my brother, M. Washington Greenhow, to present you four copies of my History of Oregon and California, of which I hope you will do me the favor to accept one for yourself, and to give the others, with my respects, to the Lieutenant Colonel, the Major, and the Adjutant of your Regiment.

Being unable to contribute effectively, to the service in which you are engaged, I can only testify my respect for yourself and the other volunteers of my native State, by presenting these volumes, relating in part to the countries in which you are destined to act; with the hope that they may afford some interest to yourself and your officers, during the voyage to Mexico, or in those periods of tedious inactivity, so often occurring in military expeditions.

With the sincere wish that your regiment may have many occasions to display those qualities in the field which Virginians have never yet been found to want, I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, you ov't. serv't.

ROBERT GREENHOW

COL. HAMTRAMCK, Commander of the Regiment of Virginia Volunteers.

RICHMOND, Va., January 4, 1847

Sir: I have just received your letter and four copies of your History of Oregon and California, which you are pleased to say are presented to the Field Officers of the Regiment, in testimony of your respect for the volunteers of your native State. The distribution your desire shall be made, and I doubt not the work will prove a source of much pleasure to all, as both officers and men will find it in a vast among of information peculiarly calculated to please at the present juncture of affairs.

For the gilt, and your kind wish, I beg you to accept of my grateful thanks, that we may fulfil the latter is my prayer, and that a field commensurate with the expectation of Virginia, and the desire of the men, may be afforded, is the hope of

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN F. HAMTRAMCK.

ROBERT GREENHOW. ESQ. WASHINGTON CITY.

[MLD]

Tuesday, January 12, 1847 RE47v43n74p2c1  619 words

While all eyes are anxiously watching the movements of our gallant army in the South, and while Virginia comes forward to participate with her sister States of the North, South, East and West, in the glory of sustaining the honor and rights of he nation, in a contest with a foreign and aggressive power, we had anxiously hoped that the demon of party spirit would cordially co-operate in bearing the American flag to honorable triumph, until full justice be done and a permanent peace secured from the infatuated and misguided Mexican Government. But in this it seems we are doomed to disappointment. The Whig press are constantly throwing out intimations that an overwhelming majority of the Virginia Regiment of Volunteers are Whigs. John S. Pendleton, Esq., (the "Lone Star," and the representative in Congress from the Fauquier District,) it seems could not let the occasion pass on Saturday, while the House of Representatives were engaged in the discussion of the Army bill, without lugging in the supposed political opinions of the officers and men composing the Virginia Regiment of Volunteers. Mr. P. is reported to have said "he reminded the member who had cast a slur upon the Whigs, that of the 18 companies volunteering in Virginia, all of them were from Whig counties and cities, and all mustered into service had been from Whig towns or counties." Mr. Shelton F. Leake, of the Albemarle district, humorously replied that "he happened to be traveling on board a steamboat, where he heard a man say of the Berkeley company that he would not join such a d—d set, because there were but seven Whigs in it."

We have not counted noses—we wash our hands of such dirty work; but since the question has been mooted by the Whigs, we have been credibly informed that a majority of the men composing the Regiment are Democrats; and that a majority of the men coming from two of the strongest Federal counties in the State, (Augusta and Berkely,) are also Democrats. Where is Mr. Pendleton’s own District? As he is so much disposed to boast of the chivalry of the Whig party, why is it that in his own district—with old Federal Loudoun and Fauquier—Loudoun, with her heavy majority of upwards of one thousand for Clay—has not come forward and responded to the call "To Arms!" and furnished a company for the Mexican war? Atkinson’s, Dromgoole’s, Hubard’s, Seddon’s, McDowell’s, Bedinger’s, and Chapman’s Districts, now represented on the floor of Congress by Democrats, have come forward and responded to the call made upon this State, while the District represented by Mr. Pendleton has not furnished a single company—no, not one. Very well; let it be so. We only refer to this subject because the gentleman in his zeal for the Whig cause has made assertions which he ought first to have ascertained to be correct before he stated...
them, and which ew do not believe are justified by the facts of the case. While some delay has occurred in the formation of the Virginia Regiment, owing to the extent of our territory and the sparseness of our population—yet more companies tendered their services to the Governor than the quota required by the President from this State. Indeed, recent events prove that northern Regiment could be speedily obtained, if the Government would accept their services.—Men of all parties and of every locality have shown great zeal and alacrity to enter the service, regardless of their opinions as to the origin of the war. They do not stop to enquire, "Is our country in the right or in the wrong?" but they say "Our country, right or wrong."

Tuesday, January 12, 1847 345 words

The Lynchburg Virginian, of the 7th instant, contains a correspondence between John J. Griffin, chairman of a committee on behalf of the citizens of Salem, Roanoke country, and James F. Preston, Captain of the Montgomery company of volunteers, inviting the company to make that place one of their stopping places, and accept of accommodations which would be provided for them. Capt. Preston accepts the invitation and expected to reach Salem on his route on Thursday the 7th of January, with from 80 to 90 men, about five four horse wagons, and twenty of the above number of men mounted on horses. The company expected to reach Lynchburg on Sunday, and may be expected here in a few days.

A large number of the citizens of Franklin county assembled together at Rocky Mount on the 31st of December, to partake of a complimentary dinner to be given to Jubal A. Early, Esq., the newly appointed Major of the Virginia Regiment of Volunteers. Judge Norborne M. Taliaferro presided at the festive board, the Hon. N. H. Claiborne, Major M. G. Carper, and Colonel Robert T. Woods, of the Va. Senate, acted as Vice Presidents, and N. C. Caliborne, Esq., Secretary. After the cloth was removed, Judge Taliaferro, in a feeling address, called the attention of the company to the objects of the meeting, and concluded by offering the following sentiment:

“Our guest and friend, Major Early: At the call of the State, we give and commend him to her service, and trust her honor to his keeping in a distant country. His character and tried valor need not our assurance that neither will suffer in his hands.”

Which was drunk by the whole company, and responded to by Major Early in a manner long to be remembered by those present; many other sentiments were offered and drunk by the company, expressive of their high esteem for and warm attachment to their friend and fellow-citizen, Maj. Early, and of the regret with which we all part with him, and many others of a character usual on such occasions.

Tuesday, January 12, 1847 306 words

We sincerely regret that the fine company of volunteers raised in Norfolk by Captain O.E. Edwards, and ready at a moment’s call for Mexico, could not be accepted by the Executive: Virginia’s complement having been made up. We learn that the members of this company are the very men to stand the climate of Mexico, a large number of them being from the Bay Shore, well acclimated by the bilious and ague fever, and accustomed to stand up to their waists in the water on the coldest days, shooting ducks, &c.

To the Captain’s credit we would remark, that he had only been elected about ten days when he tendered the services of his company. At that time the company numbered about thirty. He now musters seventy-two as fine looking men as can be seen. The company was raised, mustered into barracks, and supported at his own expense. These men are still in barracks, and if they could be accepted, we doubt not that they would do every thing in support of their country’s cause.

We again express our regret that circumstances prevented their being enrolled in the service of their native State. On Wednesday evening last the following officers were elected: O.E. Edwards, Captain; J. F. Lewis, first Lieutenant; J. H. Sale, first second Lieutenant; and J. B. Minton, second second Lieutenant. After the election, Colonel J. S. Millson addressed them in an eloquent manner, which called forth shouts of applause. The company, then, unanimously resolved, that the Captain be empowered to offer their services to the Executive of North Carolina, should they be rejected by the Governor of Virginia. Should our neighbors of North Carolina be disposed to accept the aid of Virginia, we are sure that they will find in Captain Edwards’ company as gallant and efficient corps as the Union can boast.

Tuesday, January 12, 1847 327 words

All patriots will deeply regret to see the question of slavery introduced into the discussions in Congress. It is premature and mischievous. If, to secure an indemnity against Mexican outrages, it be necessary to acquire any new
territory, what possible good can be attained by raising the question of slavery at the present time? It will be time
enough when Congress shall be called upon to admit this territory as States into the Union. But since the North has
sprung the issue, it behooves the South to stand firm upon the compromises of the Union. This is a question in which
not only her property, but the safety of her people, may be concerned. Let her yield now, and no one can fix a limit
to the evil. As the Union says, if "the attempt be made to put one portion of the confederacy under the ban, it will
produce only excitement and mischief. The elaborate and able speech of Mr. Seddon of Richmond spoke the same
language. So strong is this feeling, that we deem it highly probable no treaty of peace can pass two thirds of the
Senate if it should depart from this principle."

Our duty now is to fight out the war with Mexico, by uniting all our energies and resources, and not waste our
strength by idle quarrels among ourselves upon a domestic question, which never should have been forced into the
political arena. The Missouri compromise has been sanctioned by the judgment and feelings of the whole country.
The South is willing to stand by it. Will the North abandon the principle, and force us to the brink of disunion? We
are glad to see a cheering sign in Thursday night’s Union, which says “We are happy to discover that a more
harmonious and liberal spirit prevails to-day throughout the Hall; and we cannot doubt that either the previso will be
dropped, or a liberal compromise be substituted in its place.”

We cheerfully endorse the following views, based upon such sound reasons, in favor of Virginia’s having the
honor of furnishing the Brigadier General, to command the three Regiments from North Carolina, South Carolina,
and Virginia.

We call the attention of the Virginia delegation in Congress to this important matter, and feel satisfied that
they will do all that is necessary to secure for Virginia what she so fully deserves:

For the Enquirer.

SOUTHERN BRIGADE

We notice that efforts are being made by the Legislature of South Carolina, aided by the Governor, to obtain
for a citizen of that State, the command of the brigade to be formed by the Virginia, North Carolina, and South
Carolina regiments. Now we may ask if Virginia is not entitled to this honor? She has now eighteen companies ready
for the field, and although the General Government has declined the proffer of but one regiment; yet, the fact that
double that number have enrolled themselves, and are ready at a moment’s notice, would seem to us to entitle the
Old Dominion to a claim for that distinguished honor.

It cannot be said she is deficient in material for this command, for no State in the Union can claim better or
more; then will not Virginia’s representatives in Congress press this matter? Or, is a soldier of the Palmetto State to
have the undisputed honor of marshalling Virginians on the battle-field? This was not wont to be; then why now? We
have as gallant a regiment on its way to do battle for its country, as ever took the field; should not a Virginian sound
the charge?

ROANOKE.

[MLD]

The Raleigh Standard refers to an interesting incident in the North Carolina Legislature. In this case, no one
can with truth say, “Lo, the poor Indian:”

“On Thursday, Yunaluskee, the Cherokee chief, appeared first before the Senate, and then before the House
of Commons, to return his thanks to the Legislature for their kindness to him in voting him three hundred acres of
land in Cherokee and one hundred dollars in money—Mr. Hayes, the Commoner from Cherokee, acting as his
interpreter. He said it was the first time he had had the honor of appearing before the Grand Council of North
Carolina; that, at the age of thirty-three, he had joined the white people, and that, in his youth, he had helped them
to win their battles; that, as he had fought for the white man in his youth and manhood, so the white man had been
good and kind to him in his old age, in relieving his present necessities, and in giving him a home in the land of his
fathers; that he never expected to look upon the Grand Council of the State again, but the should remember them
always, and he tendered to them, and to the white people, his everlasting thanks.”
[MLD]
Tuesday, January 12, 1847

Much to our disappointment, we have no later news from the South—the mail having failed twice. If it be true, as stated by some of the last accounts, that Santa Anna was marching upon Saltillo with 15,000, or even 20,000 men, and Gen. Taylor would concentrate 10,000 men at that point, we see no reason for the fears expressed by many. On the contrary, we predict another victory for old "Rough and Ready."

[MLD]

Tuesday, January 12, 1847

EXTRACT of a letter from a member of Capt. Scott’s Company of Volunteers to his Father in Chesterfield, written the 5th inst., at Fortress Monroe:

“We left Richmond last Sunday morning, and arrive here at 7, P.M. We have good quarters here, but rather rough provisions. I did not expect to live in camp as I did at home. This is in fact better than I expected to have. Captain Scott is taking good care of his men, and we all love him as a father.”

[MLD]

Tuesday, January 12, 1847

HONOR TO THE BRAVE—A number of the citizens of Charleston, being desirous of presenting a Sword, or other suitable testimonial to Lieut. Col. Fremont, as an evidence of the high estimation in which his distinguished services and gallant conduct in Oregon and California are held, by his fellow townsmen, a subscription list is now circulating among the citizens—Subscriptions to be limited to one dollar.

[MLD]

Tuesday, January 12, 1847

DR. C.J.F. Bohannan, of Richmond, has been appointed, by the president of the United States, Surgeon of the first regiment of Virginia volunteers.—{Alex. Gaz.

[MLD]

Tuesday, January 12, 1847

THE CAPITULATION OF MONTEREY.—The editor of the Portsmouth Tribune commands a company of the Ohio volunteers now in Mexico, and was present at the siege and capture of Monterey, of which he has written a narrative for his paper. We copy the following interesting account of the capitulation:

“The cannonading and bombardment continued until Thursday morning, when a flag of truce was sent to Gen. Worth, and another; borne by Col. Moreno, to Gen. Taylor, with proposals for a surrender. The negotiation was opened that day: on the next the articles were duly signed; and on Saturday they surrendered in fact, and retired from their powder-blackened dens of destruction, from which bolts of death were driven upon our brave troops who marched in and hoisted the stars and strips with hearty and prolonged cheers. The ceremony was a deeply interesting spectacle, as I am told by those who witnessed it. I rode through several of the streets that afternoon.—The whole place was marked by indications of universal mourning. The inhabitants were busily engaged in moving into their homes. A deep gloom had settled upon their swarthy countenances. The officers, many of whom are Castilians of high rank, education and fortune, were dressed in mourning, and moved about with a dispirited air, with their heads covered with crape, apparently overwhelmed with affliction. The ladies seemed all nuns, for black mantillas and sorrowful visages were all the fashion on that woful day. I was not surprised at this exhibition of feeling, knowing the confidence in absolute security that had been inspired by the extensive preparations for defence.

“Many a battle has been fought under the walls of Monterey, and et it was never taken. It withstood a regular siege of fourteen days, in the last revolution against Spain, and the republicans held the place unharmed. And then it is a beautiful city, surrounded by the lofty peaks of the Sierra Madre, with a spacious valley, fertile as any portion of the earth, and full of all that wealth and luxury command to make life pleasant. A canal of crystal water gurgles through the cool shade, supplying an abundance of pure cool water, fresh from the mountain side. The houses are all white,
the streets well paved with limestone pebble, and stretch out for miles, filled with multitudes, hurrying to and fro in confusion. The soldiers of both armies meeting silence, and pass with mute but courteous salutes. Ill-repressed smiles of triumph light up the countenances of the Americans, and contrast with the somber saddening expression resting upon those of the Mexicans. There is much here I would like to write of, and some day may describe for too long deferred the details most interesting to every reader, concerning the fate of the members of our company and regiment, as ascertained after the battle.”

[MLD]

Tuesday, January 12, 1847 RE47v43n74p4c1

ARRIVAL OF THE VIRGINIA AND EMPRESARIO.

From the New Orleans Picayune, Jan. 2.

The steamer Virginia, Capt. Smith, arrived last evening from Tampico, via Brazos Santiago, having left the Brazos on the 27th inst. The brig Empressario, Capt. Collins, which sailed from Tampico on the 26th, also arrived last night. By these vessels we have received letters from Mr. Lumsden, at Tampico, some of which we give below. They contain all the intelligence brought from Tampico, and clear up some points in the accounts previously received which appeared obscure.

We have conversed with a gentleman who came passenger in the Virginia from Brazos, and who is direct from Monterey. He has kindly furnished us with the following information, which is highly important, if there be no error in the accounts. They were fully credited at eh Brazos, and are confirmed by Capt. Brower, of the schooner Robert Mills, who arrived last evening from that port.

An express from Gen. Worth at Saltillo, arrived at Monterey on Wednesday, the 16th of Dec. It brought the news that Gen. Worth had learned through his spies that Santa Anna was within three days march of Saltillo, at the head of an army of twenty or thirty thousand men. The express bore a call upon Gen. Taylor for reinforcements. General Taylor and his staff had left Monterey on the 15th ult.- the day before the express arrived- fro Victoria, to join his command, which was two days march in advance of him.

Gen. Butler, in command at Monterey, immediately sent of dispatches to Gen. Marshall, at Camargo, and to Gen. Patterson, at Matamoros, to send forward without delay all the troops they could spare from their commands.

Gen. Patterson had left Matamoros only the day before the news reached that place. It was at once forwarded to him, and upon learning its purport our informant states that he immediately started on his return with the view to proceed to Monterey.

It was reported at Tampico on the 25th, as will be seen from the postscript to Mr. Lumsden’s last letter, that a portion of Gen. Patterson’s command had entered Victoria, but it is not mentioned that the General himself had arrived, so that we cannot judge how far the news from the two sources may conflict.

The express reported at Matamoros that the road from Moterey to Camargo was lined with troops- regulars and volunteers- on their march to Monterey, having been previously ordered up. Our informant says there were four regiments upon the road. The route from Monterey is infested by predatory bands of rancheros, by which the traveling is rendered insecure. Our train had been attacked a few days before our informant passed over the road, as had also several small parties, and some few men had been killed and wounded.

We need not say that this news possesses the highest interest. As we write we have only verbal reports in regard to it, but hope to receive this morning our correspondence from the army. There is no intrinsic improbability in the news of Santa Anna’s movements, and if he possesses the energy and skill claimed for him, nothing appears more likely than that he should fall like a thunderbolt upon some point in our extended line and hope to crush us. But we have every confidence in the vigilance of General Worth, and his ability to hold the enemy in check until Gen. Wool and Gen. Taylor arrive to his support. We await further intelligence with the utmost interest.

[MPR]

Tuesday, January 12, 1847 RE47v43n74p4c1

Editorial Correspondence of the Picayune.

Tampico, December 19, 1847.

Gen. Shields takes formal command here to-day. He is energetic, thoughtful, and intelligent, and is in every respect fitted for his station. One of the last acts of Col. Gates, previously in command of this post, was to remove a fellow named Labruere from his office as auctioneer, for refusing to take up arms and turn out with the citizens the other day when they had the alarm of which I informed you yesterday “Served him right.”
Lieut. R.P. Hammond, 3d Artillery, aide-de-camp to Gen. Shields, is appointed Acting Assistant Adjutant General of the Command at Tampico.

In obedience to instructions from Maj. Gen. Patterson, Capt. Hunt, 4th Artillery, with his company now here, is ordered to Camargo to relieve the garrison there.

We have various rumors of the movements of the Mexicans in the interior, but nothing of apparent correctness enough to tell you of.

Tampico, December 23, 1846.

The British mail steamer Dee, Capt. Griffith, which has been some days off the entrance to this place, sailed yesterday morning for Vera Cruz. I learned she carried a considerable amount of specie. The officers of the Dee, with one or two of whom I became acquainted here, are very polite and pleasing, free, frank and gentlemanly in their bearing.

The brig Hallowell arrived here three nights ago from Brazos Santiago, with all the remaining Alabama troops but one company. These are the only volunteer troops here. They are, for the most part, a hardy set of men, orderly and quiet in their deportment, and will, no doubt, if an opportunity occurs, show that they are made of good metal.

Except the Ewing, the vessels belong to the U.S. Squadron, mentioned in my last as being here, have not yet sailed, but they will soon be off. What is to be their point of destination I do not certainly know; but I have gathered enough to assure me that Tuspan is to be looked in upon. The steamer Spitfire, [... Tattnall, is certainly to run in by way of a reconnaissance, if nothing more. The officers are all most anxious for something to turn up, giving them a fair chance to do something, and I sincerely wish they may have a chance.

Tampico is a fine little place. I am becoming more and more pleased with it. It is being Americanized very rapidly. At present there are but few of the better classes of the former citizens here; but those few are becoming, apparently, quite satisfied with the new regime. The police regulations are excellent, and every thing goes on quiet. But of this more anon.

I visited , a day or two since, the line of works building by our forces, under the superintendence of Capt. Barnard, of the U.S. Engineers, and I must say it is most beautiful, so far as it is progressed. More substantial defensive works I have seldom seen. They are superlatively grand, in comparison with those constructed by the Mexicans heretofore, and most indubitably must they command all the approaches to the city by land, however large the number of troops advancing. The greatest scientific skill appears to have been displayed in the strength and construction, as well as proper locations of these works. In a word, they will, when completed, be impregnable— at least to Santa Anna's whole army!

Hart has taken a very nice house here, which he is fixing up as a theatre. In the meantime he gives a series of concerts, Mrs. H., Miss Christian and others appearing in songs, and Wells executing dances, &c. The idea of an American theatre in Tampico is rather novel, but nevertheless we are to have one, and I almost venture to prophecy its success.

I could write you pages about Mrs. Chase, the excellent lady of our worthy consul here; but you have been furnished with the details of her unshrinking, noble and daring conduct, as well as in defending herself and home while her husband was in exile, as in furnishing the most important information to our squadron in the Gulf— information which saved Tampico and made it an American possession! I need, therefore, say no more than this— which I must say— that Ann Chase is a great woman! I have had the honor of being presented to the lady, and confess that I lack words to express my admiration of those attributes in her which make woman great, and render her the heroine of a glorious incident in the history of America!

I have nothing to add, but shall keep you informed by every opportunity of what may be interesting.

Yours, &c. F. A. L.

Tampico, Dec. 25, 1846.

I wish you all a merry Christmas. There is every appearance of there being a merry one here— such as Tampico never saw before. Eggs are very plenty and very cheap, and lots of egg nog to be drunk, The “boys” are bound to do it.

The vessels of the squadron mentioned in my last are still here. The prize schooner "Belle,” under command of Acting Master Perry, (of the Cumberland,) will sail tomorrow for Anton Lizardo. The steamer Spitfire, schrs. Reefer and Nonato (prize) will remain here until the forces are reinforced— then look out for something in the shape of a fight at Tuspan. I have a little information— authentic— about Tuspan, which I will give you. Gen. Cos, commander of the place, has refused to obey the order of Santa Anna to evacuate the town. He has a force under him of from four to five hundred troops of the line, and a large body of Indians whom he has called in from the mountains of Mazantla and Papantle— two or three thousand in number— but indifferently armed. At Tuspan there are three conical hills— the
town lying in the valley. These heights are all fortified with six pieces of artillery each, besides having a strong picketing formed of heavy chijal posts. There is no defence at the Mouth of the river, but about half way from the bar to the town- six miles- there is a battery of 24-pounders. The water in the bar is now about five feet only. Some of the guns are the Truxton’s, captured by the unfortunate loss of that vessel under Captain Carpender.

It is thought here by the most intelligent persons, that the only way to successfully attack Tuspan would be by troops, as the town is so situated that a vessel in the river can only bring her guns to bear on two different points, while the guns on the heights not only command the town entirely, but the river also. The most feasible way to attack the place would be to send a force to be landed at the south of the bar [Tuspan being on the north,] abreast of the town, and distant about twelve miles, and proceed to bombard the place at once, when no doubt the third or fourth shell falling in their midst would cause the Mexicans to display a white flag in a very short time.

Now a little but about Tula, or Tamaulipas. The garrison of this place, [Tampico,] when it evacuated the city, went to Tula. This garrison consisted of the battalion of Tampico, 12th Regiment of Infantry, Permanentes de Tampico, Veteranos de Tampico, a small company of artillery, the remnant of the 6th Regiment, left from the memorable actions of Palo Alto and Resaca, and a small force of cavalry. At present there are in Tula, distant about 180 miles from this place, on the route to San Luis Potosi, some three or four thousand men of various arms, under Gens. Valencia, Carvajal and a half dozen others, who are fortifying the place against an apprehended attack from the American forces at this place.

Private letters from the city of Mexico are in this city, stating that it is expected there will soon be a revolution there against the ministers, who the people say have proved themselves incompetent to manage the affairs of the nation in a proper manner. In fact it is said that everything is in confusion- no money, no credit, and plenty of dissatisfaction.

The people here in Tampico- except those who formerly held office- look upon us as their deliverers, not as enemies. It is well known that the Governor of this State [Tamaulipas] is ready, on the first approach of the United States forces towards Victoria its capital, to surrender, in the name of its Congress, the whole territory to us.

The police regulations here are most excellent. By the following orders you will see that certain classes of people needn't come here:

Headquarters Tampico Troops,
Orders No. 3.,
Tampico, Mexico, Dec. 22.

I. All persons occupying houses in Tampico or in its vicinity are hereby strictly prohibited from allowing any species of public gambling within the same.

II. All houses or other places kept for the purpose of public gambling will be closed, the persons found gambling in them arrested, those attached to the Army punished, and those who are not, banished.

III. All personal property found in any house or place kept for gambling, and all money or property employed in gambling will be confiscated, and the proceeds thereof appropriated as a hospital fund for the relief of the poor and indigent in Tampico.

IV. Major N. Williams, 4th Artillery, is specially assigned to the superintendence of the police and good order of the town. He will charge himself particularly with carrying the provisions of this order into immediate execution, and with the prevention and suppression of any species of riot, disturbance and disorder whatsoever. And the better to effect this, he is authorized to call upon the commander of the troops in town for any assistance which may be necessary. By order of Brig. Gen. Shields:

R.P. Hammond, A.A. Adj’it Gen.

This is about all I have for you at the present writing.

Yours, &c. F.A.L.

P.S. I have just heard that a portion of the troops under Gen. Patterson have reached Victoria, and there was no fighting. F.A.L.

FROM TAMPICO.—The brigs Millundon, Capt. Welsh, and C.H. Rogers, Capt. Wilson arrived yesterday from Tampico,
Every night was perfectly quiet at Tampico on the 25th ult. No Mexican troops had been seen in the vicinity
for eight days, and all felt perfectly secure from an attack from the enemy.

The whole number of troops at Tampico on the 25th December was 1,800, and we hear of no sickness among
them. The remainder of the Alabama regiment that arrived from Brazos Santiago with one company of U.S. Artillery
and the guns belonging to it. If this be true, we do not understand the movement.

We have been favored by a commercials house of this city with the following interesting extract of a letter
received by the Ewing. It contains the first intimation we have seen of the action of the Mexican Congress, which,
justifies the anticipations of Santa Anna, expressed in his late letter to Gen. Taylor:

TAMPCIO, Dec. 17, 7 A.M

I was interrupted at 3 A.M. yesterday, from closing this letter, by a call to arms. I obeyed it immediately of course.
After having organized my company (No. 1 or A.) I was ordered to the arsenal, where I remained till late in the P. M.
The reports which occasioned this alarm proved exaggerations; and we were discharged, holding ourselves ready for
any future emergency.—When more at leisure, I will tell you how gallantly our Yankee Captains and their men
manifested the spirit of the Revolution.

Advises via Vera Cruz were received last evening of the action of the Mexican Congress. They declare that
they will not think or treat of peace until every hostile foot has cleared Mexican soil, and every vessel that lines our
coast is withdrawn. I consider the war now commenced in real earnest, and I prophecy that Tampico will become an
American town.

[MLD]

For the Enquirer:

Messrs. Editors: In the Whig of the first of January, the Editor has edified us with a “Chapter on Salt,” He says that
since he new Tariff has gone into operation, salt has risen in value. I believe that the Whig will agree that prices are
chiefly regulated by demand and supply, rather than by the duty which may happen to be levied; for, whether the
duty of ’42 or ’46 be regarded, both are too trivial to affect the price of the article materially; and so if there be an
increase of the price, it must be attributed rather to almost any other cause than the one referred to by the learned
yet obstinate Editor. Does he not know that the foreign article is always cheap, and that the price varies not so much
with a slight change of duty as with the state of commerce? When commerce is languid, salt is high; but when any
thing transpires to stimulate commerce, and render it prosperous, salt will be sure to rise in value; for it is one of the
most unprofitable articles of merchandise that our merchants would think of dealing in as a return load; hence that
has been given to trade, showing a profitable interchange of other commodities. Let commerce again be dull, so that
salt would be brought as ballast from foreign countries, and down the price would go, whether the Tariff of ’42 or
that of ’46 was in operation. We all know it is paradoxical to contend that a high rate of duty would diminish the
price; if so, our manufacturers, who certainly know their own interests would not a ways be clamorous for increased
duties. Why should they be so anxious for the adoption of a policy which they contend is so detrimental to them? If
the argument of the Editor in his “Chapter on Salt” be universally or even generally true, that high duties make
cheap goods, then in contending for that policy, if he could bring his convictions to bear, he would inflict a direful
injury upon the friends he is so zealous to serve. But although they contend for the absurdity, the inconsistency of
their conduct shows plainly that whenever the paradox occurs, other and probably various causes combine to
produce a result at war with common sense and the plainest dictates of our understanding. Why did this sagacious
Editor sound the tocsin of alarm in regard to the probability that Polk’s Administration would be driven to the
necessity of imposing a tax on tea and coffee, it by so doing we could derive the double advantage of revenue and
low prices? How easy it is to convict a sagacious Editor either of inconsistency or insincerity! Does he think that one
hundred “Chapters on Salt” would establish a theory, the bare incompatibility of which carried its own refutation to
the simplest minds? Will he tell us whether the high duty imposed by the English Government on American tobacco
makes the price low to the consumer? The duty certainly enhances the price; and if to high duty there be added
increased demand and inadequate supply and other co-operating causes, all tending to the same result, then the
price will be exorbitant. If the duty alone operates with a fair demand and regular supply, we should see something
like stability in prices. But supply sometimes being exorbitant and often times inadequate, the prices fluctuates
accordingly—rate of duty and other causes at the same time having their comparative tendency either to aggravate
or to control in some way the price of commodities. If a high rate of duty should cause over production, and there
should be a superabundant supply, or what we call a glut in the market, then the Whig parodox will apply that high
duties make low goods. But suppose in such a contingency there was no duty, is it not obvious that the goods would
still be lower? Surely, surely; then why should the Editors of the Whig attempt an imposition on common sense? “I
have lived, I have seen, I know,” and in my youth I read.

TELEMACHUS

[MLD]
FURTHER NEWS FROM NEW MEXICO

We copy the following from the St. Louis Republican of Wednesday, 30th ult.:

A gentleman of this city, connected with the army, has furnished us with the following extract of a letter received from Ft. Leavenworth, by the last mail. It true, the news is painfully important. The letter says:

"We have dates from Santa Fe to November 15. Capt. Burgwin, with the dragoons, and also three companies of Col. Doniphan's regiment, have gone below to the assistance of the traders. There is a rumor that sixty dragoons have been defeated by the Navajo Indians. Lieut. Noble, of the dragoons, writes that 'he fears and believes the rumor is true.'"

THE GULF SQUADRON AND PENSACOLA DRY DOCK

We had hoped to see an early movement in Congress in regard to a Dry Dock in some harbor of the Gulf for the use of our ships. A large number of our vessels are there, and although peculiarly liable to injuries of various kinds to their hulls, no examination even can be made without sending them as far North as Norfolk, exposing them to still greater peril, than a voyage from any of our Atlantic ports to Europe. This ought not to be. All seem to agree in that; and also, that Pensacola is the most suitable place.—The papers of the North are filled with articles on the subject. They dispute about the different kinds of dry dock—most of them seem against the stone dock as too costly and tardy in construction, while some think it utterly impracticable at that place within any reasonable limits of expenditure. Some scientific opinions are advanced that a good foundation could not be had at a less cost than at Brooklyn, where half a million has been spent in vain, according to the Tribune, in the effort to obtain a foundation. We humbly think the effort to obtain a stone dock should not be preserved in at this time of pressing need, even if it shall be contemplated here after. While the subject is under discussion, either of the floating docks could almost be finished, whereas many years would probably be consumed in the erection of the stone dock.

If one of the floating docks be adopted, in a few months any of our vessels of war, under suspicion of damage, could be examined, and if necessary, repaired and returned to her blockading position.

As to which of the floating dry docks the preference should be given, we have but little to say—and would be satisfied with the decision of competent officers of the Navy, or scientific civilians appointed for the purpose, if Congress be unwilling to determine the question. We see some of the papers, that formerly preferred the sectional dock, have changed their opinions, and are now in favor of the balance dock. The great distinguishing feature between them appears to be this. The former is composed, mainly, o a series of large water-tight tanks or camels, which are sunk, or placed under the vessels intended to be raised, and, by pumping out the water, the lifting power is obtained. The other, or balance dock, is composed of one large structure, like the hull of a large ship, or floating lock, closed by gates at one or both ends. When the gate is open, the dock sinks to the required depth—the ship is introduced, the gates closed, the water pumped out, when it is suspended, as on the stocks originally.

The sectional dock has more light, but requires greater depth of water, (as the whole thickness of the tank or camel has to be accommodated below the keel of the ship,) and, when the ship is raised, it is more liable to be turned over, the weight being on the top. The friends of the balance dock say it has light enough, and certainly as much as a stone dock—that it requires very little more depth of water than is necessary to float the ship—that a vessel in it cannot be hurt—that gales and storms cannot affect it—that it is cheap, stronger, and ore durable, and has almost every conceivable advantage of the stone dock, without many of its disadvantages—that they have built a great number of them, which experience ahs fully tested, and that the result has been uniformly satisfactory.

From the statements in the Northern papers, it seems these balance docks have been built at nine or ten different ports in Europe and this country, for national and commercial purposes, and at each with triumphant success. This decision of the public would seem to have settled the question of relative value, and we certainly concur in it; but why hesitate about building both, if doubt be still entertained on that point? The cost is literally nothing, in comparison with the advantages to the nation under existing circumstances. The injury from one year's delay may greatly exceed the cost of both kinds—(one at Philadelphia and the other at Pensacola)—to say nothing of the loss of reputation to the nation, if one of her national ships should be lost, in consequence of the difficulty of getting to a dry dock. We hope the subject will attract the attention of Congress.
The following resolutions have been unanimously adopted by the City Council, on motion of John S. Caskie, Esq.

"The Council of the City of Richmond, in consequence of the movement for individual subscriptions and the State appropriations, not having as a body, yet had an opportunity of making the same exhibitions of interest and respect for the Volunteers of Richmond, that has been made by the corporate authorities of some other towns in the State, and esteeming it due to their own feelings and those of the city they represent, to offer a public manifestation of the affection and pride with which Richmond regards the gallant men enrolled from her people for the Mexican war, unanimously adopt the following resolutions:

1. Resolved, That swords be presented in the name of the city, to the Captains and Lieutenants of the Richmond Grays and Richmond Rangers, companies belonging to the Virginia Regiment, raised under the late requisition from the President of the United States.

2. Resolved, That a committee of three members be appointed to purchase suitable swords, request their acceptance by the above named officers, and make all arrangements for their presentation.

A committee was accordingly appointed of Messrs. Caskie, Wickham and Carrington. On motion of Mr. Wickham, the President of the Council was added to the committee.

We yesterday received no Union or Intelligencer, and are, therefore, without a full report of the interesting proceedings of Thursday. We, however, see in the Baltimore Sun that Messrs. Archer and Crittenden came out in favor of the war and its vigorous prosecution. "They probably did not wish to be outdone by Harry Clay at New Orleans," who spoke in manly terms of the patriotic duty of all to punish "the wrongs done to this country by Mexico." With the Sun we say, "would that other Senators and members were to follow the honorable example;"—and, we add, would that many of the Whig papers and politicians would, like Mr. Clay, take the side of their own country, and not, on all occasions, justify and defend the course of Mexico, and virtually declare that she is in the right, and their own country in the wrong.

In the Baltimore American we find the following notice of Mr. Crittenden's remark:

"He was very anxious to see an end to this war. The best mode would be to adopt such means as were now proposed.

"There was another way, and that was to fall back upon some portion of the territory which we have taken, and let the Mexicans make war upon us. But this would leave it in doubt when the war would be ended. He wished he could be convinced that this was the most effectual mode. But however deplorable was the continuation of the war, he must say that, in his opinion, the only way to obtain peace was to carry on a vigorous war—to adopt the fullest measures, and to vote for the most ample supplies of men and money."

The Petersburg Intelligencer reports the decision of Judge Gholson upon a Habeas Corpus sued out at the relation of the father, directed to the defendant, Captain Archer, of the Petersburg Volunteers, commanding him to bring up the body of George B. Lipscomb, an enlisted volunteer in his company. The infant, (between twenty and twenty-one years of age,) in answer to questions by counsel, expressed a wish to be discharged, in consequence of the distress of his mother.

The case was argued by J.S. Edwards, Esq., for the petitioner, and by Thomas Wallace and Wm. T. Joynes, Esqs., for the defendant, Capt. Archer. Judge Gholson delivered a learned and lucid opinion, in which he examined the rights and capacities of infants at common law, on whose principles, he contended, this case was to be decided. He said, that the mode of enlistment ought to be distinctly declared by statute before it shall be allowed to change or impair private rights under the common law. The act of 18th May, 1846, said Judge G., did not contemplate the binding enlistment of infants—and he could find no case or authority which holds that a voluntary enlistment in the service of the United States is a contract so clearly beneficial to the infant as to be absolutely binding upon him at common law. The Judge stated, in conclusion, that if the application had rested on the petition of the father alone, without the concurrence of the minor, he should probably have remanded the prisoner. But as, in this case, the minor concurs in the petition of the father, (a fact which distinguishes this from some of the cases in the books, which otherwise have some resemblance to it,) he must therefore discharge him—which was accordingly done.
The Union holds the following cheering language upon two questions which now engage the attention of Congress and the Country:

"We warn the 'National Intelligencer' and its allies not to deceive themselves. The country is in war. The people demand that it should be prosecuted with vigor and terminated with honor. Their representatives cannot refuse the necessary supplies of men, money, and means. The bill for organizing ten additional regiments will pass in some form or other, and, what is most desirable, in the form proposed by the secretary of War and recommended by the President.—Why change it? Why convert it into a bill for volunteers, when the 50,000 volunteer bill is not yet exhausted, and a member form New York admitted to-day that there were 17,000 volunteers who might yet be called out under that bill?—We want, also, a species of force more allied to the regular service, to act on a different principle, and to give the greatest possible efficiency to our combination of troops. This addition to the regular force besides, will, b the very terms of its enlistment, expire at the end of the war.

"Money and loans will also be provided for; whether by taxing tea and coffee, or all the free list, or in some other ode of taxation, we know not; but we doubt as little, in spite of the temporary exultation of the National Intelligencer, that, if the exigencies of the war require it, the representatives of a patriotic and enlightened people will waive their own prejudices, and lay an adequate duty upon tea and coffee, and other articles of the free list. The honor of the country will demand the supplies; and an administration which is faithful to its trusts, an nobly doing its duty, and carrying on a war which Congress recognized and sanctioned in May last, must receive; as it deserves, the support of its democratic friends, and, indeed, of every patriotic member."

Petersburg still continues her good work of contributing to the country's cause. On Wednesday afternoon, a large meeting of the citizens was held, to make arrangements for furnishing an equipping the second company of Petersburg Mexican Volunteers, Capt. Wm. M. Robinson.

The gallant veteran, Gen. D. C. Butts, was in the chair, and Wm. R. Drinkard, Secretary. After eloquent and patriotic addresses from Messrs. Wm. Robertson, S., T. S. Gholson and Tim Rives, a resolution was unanimously adopted, requisition the Common Hall to appropriate two thousand five hundred dollars to equip this second Company.

On the same evening a special meeting of the Hall was held, and this liberal and spirited appropriation was made.

We regret that we have not room for the Petersburg Republican's graphic sketch of the interesting scenes, which took place on Saturday evening and Sunday morning last, on the occasion of the departure of Capt. F. H. Archer's company of volunteers for Old Point. On Saturday evening, the ladies of Petersburg, through their organ, Judge James H. Gholson, presented to the Petersburg volunteers, commanded by Capt. Archer, a beautiful flag, with the Virginia coat of arms inscribed on one side, and on the other the motto "From the Ladies of Petersburg to the Petersburg Mexican Volunteers." This sacred deposit, this "talisman to cheer them in the hour of peril and inspire them in the moment of fierce and deadly conflict," was conveyed to the patriotic volunteers under the most touching circumstances. All the military companies of the town were present, with hundreds of ladies and gentlemen, who eagerly watched the imposing scene. The accomplished Judge performed his duty in the happiest style:

"Eloquent, touching, impassioned, burning words, tell from his lips, and went immediately to the hearts of his sympathizing and captivated audience; and the gushing fear o'er many a fair and many a manly cheek gave strong assurance that his sentiments and emotions were but common to all who heard him. The flag was received by Captain Archer, who returned thanks for the compliment to himself and company in a very few but very appropriate remarks."

Mr. William Robertson, Sr., then presented to Captain Archer a splendid sword, belt and sash in the name of the members of the Bar of Petersburg. John W. Syme, Esq., next arose, and in the name of the following gentlemen, viz R. B. Bolling, Benjamin Jones, Robert Leslie, Joseph Bragg, J. V. Willcox, John Rowlett, A.G. McLwaine, William E. Hinton, David Dunlop, D.W. Bragg, J. Branch, Goodman Davis, B. H. May, John L. Mertens & Co., James Orr, Moses Paul, and A.L. Smith, presented to Lieutenants F. Pegram, D.A. Weisiger and P.A. Peterson, each, a most beautiful sword, belt, sash and epaulettes, as tokens of their unwavering confidence and esteem. "Mr. Syme's Remarks were characterized by even more than his usually eloquent and impressive manner, and were admirably suited to the occasion, and the pleasing but melancholy circumstances by which that occasion was surrounded. Each of the gallant Lieutenants made a short and appropriate reply, which closed the ceremony. The volunteers were then escorted through the principal streets to the town to their Barracks, by the different military companies, under the command
of Captain Garland of the artillery, and night fall found many returning form that rare but interesting scene bowed
down under the influence of mingled emotions of pride and grief.”

The parting scene next morning was full of touching incidents. We are compelled to omit, the beautiful
reflections of the Petersburg Republican upon the scene, and to content ourselves with the following. “About seven
o’clock the volunteers, escorted by all the military companies of the town, arrived at the depot. Captain Archer
arranged his men in double ranks, the front rank facing the rear, in open order, through which the military and
citizens, commanded by Captain Garland, passed, shaking hands with every man of the volunteers, and, amid a
torrent of scalding tears, asking God to bless them, in such terms as tumultuous hearts and almost palsied tongues
would allow. The prayers offered to Heaven on that occasion are no doubt recorded on high, and will avail in behalf
of those young men, for there was a multitude of hearts ‘that agreed touching one thing.’ They prayed for the
blessings of God to rest upon the young volunteers.

“They are gone, for a foreign land—far, far from their homes and friends—they have departed. They have
pledged their lives and their honor in defence of a holy and a just cause. May the God of battles bless, preserve and
protect them—Amen and Amen!”

Friday, January 15, 1847 RE47v43n75p1c6   444 words

MORE “AID AND COMFORT”

In the Massachusetts Legislature, a few days since, Mr. Caleb Cushing asked leave to introduce a resolution
appropriating the sum of 20,000 dollars for the equipment and support of the Massachusetts volunteers for the
Mexican war. He stated that he wished to have the resolution received and referred to a select committee.

Mr. Keyes of Dedham said he should vote to refer the resolution, but sooner than vote any money which
would go to maintain the “infamous war with Mexico,” he would cut off his right hand.

Mr. Bird of Foxboro’ also spoke of the “infernal slave holding Mexican war,” got up by our national
administration.

The whole subject was then laid on the table by the Whig Legislature, 171 to 61. And it is because the
Democratic press denounce such unreasonable language and infamous proceedings, that the Whigs clamor about “a
violation of the freedom of speech.” The Boston Times reviews the subject with scathing severity as follows:

"It seemed as though a bomb shell were thrown into the House, and the Whig zealots were on the floor at once. Mr.
Cushing was only desirous of its reference to a special committee, so that a report might be had. Some of the Whigs
were liberal enough to favor this course, but the majority showed themselves cowards and enemies of their country.
A motion was made to lay the whole subject on the table, and such was its disposition by the majority. The yeas and
nays were however taken, and we have the pleasure of presenting to the State and Nation the names of these
recreants to the country in time of war.

"They will become marked men, and their names will go down to posterity for the slow, unmoving finger of
scorn to point at. They will be placed on the same record as their prototypes—the federalists of the last war—who
favored the enemy’s cause, and voted that it was unbecoming a moral and religious people to rejoice at victories
gained over a British foe. Our Whig Representatives seem to have a desire to be placed in the same category. They
agree ready to aid and comfort the enemy by their voice and action, but are not ready to aid and comfort the brave
and chivalrous volunteers who have come forward of their own free will and accord, to fight the enemies of their
country.

"Gentlemen Whigs of the majority!—Your names are on the record for history, and we leave you to your
unenviable immortality!"

The next day the Whigs, cowering under the castigation of public opinion, took "the back track," and the
resolution was referred.

[MLD]

Friday, January 15, 1847 RE47v43n75p1c6   501 words

LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA.

Wednesday, Jan. 13

SENATE.
A communication was received from the House announcing their concurrence in the amendments made to several unimportant bills by the Senate.

Mr. WALLACE, from the committee on General Laws, reported the two following bills, each with several amendments: "An act to facilitate the transfer of stock in joint stock companies in this State"—(Passed)—and "An act authorizing a loan by the Winchester and Potomac Railroad, and for other purposes"—(On motion of Mr. McMULLEN, laid on the table.)

The CHAIR appointed the following joint committee to enquire into the "arrangements" of the Richmond and Fredericksburg Railroad Company, and others: Messrs. Ambler, Woolfolk, Stanard, Cox and McMullen.

Mr. GARRETT moved to reconsider the vote upon the bill authorizing the transfer of money or property to trustees appointed by the Courts of other States.

This motion was sustained, and then, upon the further motion of Mr. GARRETT, the bill was recommitted to the Committee on General Laws.

Mr. CRUMP offered a resolution, requesting the House to return to the Senate the bill changing the Rifle Greys of King William county to a company of light infantry. Agreed to.

A communication was received from the House, embracing a series of resolutions in regard to the death of Isaac S. Pennybacker. Resolutions agreed to.

Mr. DENEALE then rose and addressed the Senate, as follows:

Mr. Speaker: In accordance with a long established custom in this House, and under a full conviction of my incompetency to the task, I rise, not for the purpose of entering into a lengthened eulogium on the character of the late Isaac S. Pennybacker, whose death we are now called on to lament—but with the intentions of making a few remarks in regard to his exalted worth and integrity. Coming as he did from my Senatorial District, I should feel that I did injustice to his memory were I not to advert, however briefly, to some of his numerous virtues. As a man, his talents and integrity have always secured him the respect of all who have been honored with his acquaintance; as a father and a husband, he was most kind and affectionate; as a neighbor and a friend, his conduct was such as to dear him to every one whose privilege it was to reside in his section of the country. Not only have our State and the family and friends of the deceased suffered an irreparable lose, but the U.S. Senate has lost the assistance and counsel of one of its most able and intelligent members—a loss which will be long and seriously felt. Since it has pleased Almighty God, in his wise providence, to remove from amongst us our meritorious friend, let us endeavor to emulate his virtues and cherish in our families an undying respect for his memory. And when we shall have been called from this world, may we spend with him a glorious immortality in Heaven.

On motion of Mr. DENEALE,

THE Senate adjourned.

[MLD]

Friday, January 15, 1847 RE47v43n75p1c3  1210 words

CLOTHING FOR THE VOLUNTEERS

The following communication from the Governor was laid before the Senate of Virginia on Tuesday last. On motion of Mr. Wallace it was read, and referred to the Committee on the Militia:

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT,
Jan. 11, 1847

To the General Assembly.

I communicate here with a letter from the Field Officers of the Regiment of infantry Volunteers, now nearly ready to embark for Mexico, in regard to further supplies of clothing, which I beg leave earnestly to commend to the immediate attention of the General Assembly.

Should it be deemed expedient to supply the clothing for our volunteers in the manner suggested, the State may be reimbursed by receiving from the General Government the commutation allowed for clothing the Volunteers, or so much thereof as may be requisite—or may leave it to be paid for by each man as the clothing is received by him—for which purpose it may be necessary to appoint an agent on the part of the State unless the necessity thereof can be obviated through the agency of some of the departments of the U.S. Army.
The plan herewith suggested for keeping our Regiments well supplied, I deem important to the health, comfort, and military appearance of the men.

Very respectfully,

WM. SMITH.

City of Richmond, 8th Jan., 1847.

Sir; The undersigned, the field officers of the 1st Regiment of Volunteers infantry, beg leave respectfully to represent to your Excellency the propriety of some adequate provision for supplying the non-commissioned officers and privates of the Regiment with clothing, after the present supply shall be exhausted. It is unnecessary for us to inform your Excellency of the great suffering which the volunteers now serving in Mexico have undergone, for want of proper clothing. Their fate shows us what must be that of the men composing the Virginia regiment, unless steps are taken in time to avert the evils that attend service in a distinct and hostile country, where supplies of clothing cannot be procured.—It is true that the United States government has made such provision as, under the circumstances, it was practicable for it to make. It has allowed to the volunteers commutation for the clothing to which soldiers are entitled, the volunteers being required to provide their own clothing; but your Excellency will readily perceive that it will be impossible for them to supply themselves, in a foreign and hostile country; although they may receive pay enough for that purpose, if the supplies were at hand, and could be procured at reasonable prices, a thing that is not the case in Mexico.

The volunteers are dependent upon the sutlers for any article of clothing they may need, and from the information we have received, only the most inferior articles are furnished by them, and those at the most exorbitant prices; in fact, some little experiences on other occasions have given us an opportunity of knowing the utter impossibility of a volunteer soldier's being able to supply himself with anything like a sufficient amount of clothing, out of the commutation paid him, when he is left to the extortions of those who hover around a camp, for the purpose of pouncing upon the poor soldier's pittance to the moment he receives it.

The Virginia regiment has been supplied, or will be supplied, before its departure, with as comfortable clothing for six months as the circumstances of the case would permit; but unless the war is speedily closed, the men in a very few months will require summer clothing, which they have not now; and there are many casualties attending a campaign that might deprive some of the men of the clothing with which they go provide, and leave them in a state of utter destitution, that it would be impossible to remedy.—With a full knowledge of the difficulties and privations that are before us, we cannot depart without doing all in our power to have such provision made for the men entrusted to our command, as may be necessary for their comfort and health, so far as these may be secured in a camp.

We are aware of your Excellency's earnest desire to send into the field a regiment that shall be creditable to Virginia, and we cordially acknowledge your zealous efforts to make it such. It is, therefore, with pleasure that we appeal to you to call the attention of the Legislature to this subject, and ask that it take the matter I hand, and adopt such measures as its wisdom may prompt. We have made out an estimate of the clothing which will be required by the men during the next Summer and Winter. From that estimate we have discarded everything intended for display, and we ask nothing for ourselves or the commissioned officers of the regiment.

It will require an appropriation of thirty-thousand dollars to carry out the plan proposed by us, which is to have the clothing of the men made by contract, and sent through the Quartermaster's Department, to such point as may be necessary, and issued to the men in the quantities named in the estimate, which is herewith submitted; and that a donation of it be made to them; or, that it may be sold to them at costs and charges. There are many considerations which recommend this plan; it will enable the men to obtain a certain supply of comfortable clothing at reasonable prices; the regiment would present a uniform appearance; its distinctive character would be preserved; its efficiency increased; and the assurance that their comfort was cared for at home, would keep alive in the hearts of the men that love of their native State, which would stimulate them to deeds that might place her among the foremost of her sisters who have gathered laurels upon the fields of Mexico.

We mean to cast no imputations upon the Government of the United States; we acknowledge that it has done all that it was practicable to do in this matter. Having no control over the uniform of the volunteers, it could but pay them commutation for their clothing, which is sufficient for the purpose, provided it could be laid out to advantage.

But we think we will not ask in vain, when we call upon Virginia to extend her fostering care to her sons who go from her bosom to his field of battle, to die, if need be, for the honor of their glorious mother; and we feel assured that, to Virginia, her name, and the honor of her sons, are dearer than money.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servants,

Signed,
To his Excellency Wm. SMITH,
Governor of Virginia.

INTERESTING FROM CAMPEACHY

An arrival this morning puts us in possession of accounts to the 22d ult. A letter of that date states that Campeachy has positively dispatched a force of 2500 men, which was joined by 500 on the road with 12 pieces of artillery all well equipped, with a view to compel the government at Merida to succumb to the pronunciamento of Campeachy of 8 December. The object of the pronunciamento and of this movement, is declared to e to maintain the neutrality of the peninsula as between the United States and Mexico, and put down the government which they say ahs wed the country to Santa Anna. The people of Campeachy have elected Don Domingo Barret Provisional Governor.—N.O. Mercury

Friday, January 15, 1847 RE47v43n75p2c1

LATE AND IMPORTANT INTELLIGENCE FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.

By the arrival here yesterday of the U.S. Transport Steamer Alabama, Capt. Windle, which left Brasos on the 3d instant, we have received intelligence from the several divisions of the army up to a late date.

It appears that the reports which have been in circulation regarding the advance of Santa Anna on Saltillo have been entirely premature, and the statement that was published of his being, at the date of our last advices from that place, within three days’ march of it, is entirely without foundation. There was, however, some cause for the rumor, of which the following are the particulars:

General Worth on the 16th ultimo received information from two scouts that the Mexican General-in-chief had left San Luis Potosi, at the head of a body of 15,000 cavalry, with the intention to fall on the American division at Saltillo, which he imagined he could easily crush. After this, he proposed attacking General Wool, and if similar success attended him, to repair to Monterey and capture or destroy the magazines and public stores which lay there. General Worth, without attaching more importance to the report than it seemed to merit, forthwith dispatched expresses to Generals Taylor, Wool and Butler, acquainting them with what he had heard, leaving it entirely to them to act in the premises. The express overtook Gen’l Taylor a short distance from Monterey, on the rout to Victoria. He immediately returned to his old encamping ground near Monterey, with the whole of his division, and then awaited further advices. After remaining three days, during which he received information of the improbability of the report of Santa Anna’s advance on Saltillo, he again took up the line of march, and proceeded onward to Victoria. Meanwhile, General Wool, who had been informed of the rumor current at Saltillo, called in all his detached commands, and at the head of his division, 3000 strong, quitted Parras on the 18th ultimo, and by arrangements previously made, was to enter Saltillo on the 23d at farthest, pushing forward with all practicable speed. General Butler had previously reached Saltillo from Monterey. During this time the intelligence of the reported advance of Santa Anna had reached other more distant points of the line of occupation; and troops, already under orders to march toward Monterey, hastened their progress onward.

It appears that Generals Taylor and Worth, on mature reflection, readily discovered the improbability of the report of Santa Anna’s advance on, and near proximity to, Saltillo, from the following facts: 1st. The distance between San Louis de Potosi and Saltillo was too great to admit of the possibility of the march of so large a body as 15,000 men, without timely notice being afforded to the American General to prepare for his reception. 2dly. The ground between the two cities is extremely bare of verdure or other means of sustenance for man and beast- 90 miles of which, as is well known, being an arid desert, divest of fountain, running stream, or any other source of water, besides affording not the least chance of getting food or fodder, being almost uninhabited, throughout its wide extent. The report of the Mexican scouts, however, is said to have been corroborated, by information received at Saltillo, in a letter from an English merchant at San Louis de Potosi, who stated that Santa Anna had positively left that city, at the head of a numerous body of cavalry. Even now, in those parts of Mexico, occupied by our troops, it is admitted that Santa Anna is out with a considerable mounted force, but with objects far different from those attributed to him, by scouts. It was stated in the letter above alluded to, that the Mexicans’ intention were to hurry forward, and occupy the only practicable pass in the mountains lying between the divisions of Generals Worth and Wool, thus intercepting their communications. After realizing his anticipated success against them, by cutting them up in detail, he was then to
advance on Monterey, &c. These announcement are now proved to be premature, and things are proceeding in their former train, accelerated a little by the alarm which has just subsided.

For much of the above information we are indebted to Major Butler, [a passenger by the Alabama,] Paymaster U.S. Army, attached to the division of Gen. Wool, who visits this city on business, which will detain him here about a week, when he returns to head quarters. Major Butler left Parras on the 17th ultimo, where General Wool’s division then lay. He states that the troops were in excellent health and spirits, no casualty of moment having occurred for some time. The inhabitants of the country which the troops had traversed from San Antonio, had manifested the greatest good feeling towards the Americans; not a symptom of that hostility which the population of the valley of the Rio Grande had so frequently exhibited, had been observed.

Brasos.- We are under many obligations to Gen. Jessup for his politeness in communicating some interesting particulars regarding the feelings observable amongst the Mexican population, at different points on the Rio Grande. It seems that a species of moral barometer exists there, if we take the trouble to study their character. On the eve of any great event, (the battle of Monterey, for example,) a considerable falling off in the numbers of Mexicans seeking employment takes place. At each new success of the American arms, the applications for service redouble. With the denunciation of the Mexican government staring them in the face, they are afraid to work for the invaders; but as time rolls on, and our conquests seem to be consolidated, their confidence returns, and they are anxious to join us heart and hand.

Monterey.- Major Butler was in Monterey on the 23d ult, at the time Gen Taylor was encamped there. Col Harney was in that city, on his way to Saltillo. Everything seemed satisfactory, regarding the conduct of the inhabitants, as to peace and tranquility. One regiment, it is presumed, will be sufficient to form its garrison.

March of Troops, &c- On his way from Monterey to Camargo, Maj Butler met the Kentucky mounted riflemen, with Gen Marshall at their head, and on of the Ohio regiments- both corps on their way to the former place.

General Scott- On the 1st inst, on his way down the Rio Grande, a days’ distance from Camargo, Gen Scott was met proceeding upward, on the steamboat Corvette.

At Matamoros, Point Isabell and Brazos, things were in statu quo.

The remains of the following officers were brought over on the Alabama:

Col. Watson, Baltimore Regiment.
Capt. Isaac Holmes, Georgia Regiment.
Capt. Ridgely, Flying Artillery.
Capt. Gillespie, Texas Regiment.
Lieut. Graham, Infantry.
Mr. Thomas, Texas Rangers.
Mr. Pierson, Texas Rangers.

Passengers- General Jessup, Quarter Master General and suite; Majors Butler, Boyd and Comstock; Captains Long, Hoyle; Lieut Armstrong; Messrs H McQueen, Mills, Clark and Robinson, and 240 sick and discharged soldiers. Messrs Mills and Robinson are the committee from Baltimore to conduct thither the remains of Col Watson, Capt Ridgely, and Lieut Graham. Lieut Boyle, of the Baltimore battalion, died on the morning of the 6th inst, on board the Alabama, while coming up the river.

Tampico- Who are very much indebted to the gentleman who has so kindly placed at our disposal the following items of intelligence from Tampico. In a letter dated Tampico, the 26th ult., the writer states that a report was current that a body of 500 American troops had taken quiet possession of Victoria, the capital of the department. Indeed the whole of the inhabitants of Tamaulipas are prepared to throw off the yoke of the central Government, provided the United States will guarantee them permanent protection. A letter has been received there, dated San Luis de Potosi, the 23d November, which stated Santa Anna’s force at that time did not exceed 7,000 men- this was from a most reliable source, but the date of the letter is rather distant. Col. Riley, and Gens. Quitman and Pillow, were rapidly advancing on Victoria. The 500 men above alluded to, are no doubt part of the force of Col. Riley.

Saltillo- Major Butler passed through Saltillo on his way hither. Here he found Generale Butler, whose severe wound in the leg was slowly healing. It will be a satisfaction to his numerous friends to learn that he is again able to mount his horse, and in a very short time, will be, in all respects, “himself again.” The two Generals, Butler and Worth, were of opinion that Santa Anna was too astute to risk himself in a field fight; he would patiently await the unfolding chapter of accidents, behind the fortifications of San Luis de Potosi, confessedly, even by our own topographical engineer officers, the strongest place in Mexico, after San Juan de Ulloa.

[MPR]
Santiago, which she left on Sunday, the 3d instant. Among her passengers are General Jesup and staff, and thirty others in the cabin, and two hundred and forty sick and discharged soldiers. Lieutenant Mills of Baltimore has kindly furnished us with the following memoranda.

All idea of an immediate engagement has past over, and it would now seem that Santa Anna is only to be met in San Luis Potosi, where it appears he means to stand the hazard of the die.

General Taylor, as we had been previously advised, countermarched when on his route to Victoria, and was approaching Saltillo when he met Colonel May and his squadron, who had pressed on in advance of him, returning to Monterey. Colonel May being informed there of the actual state of things at Saltillo, he returned and recommenced his march to Victoria. It turns out that the alarm originated thus: General Worth intercepted a letter from the Governor of New Leon to a partisan Mexican General, whose name our informant could not recollect, telling him to advance and attack on Saltillo on a certain day, and that he had so arranged it that the Mexican inhabitants would rise, join them, and defeat the American forces. Add to this, a large cavalry force was reported on the advance from San Luis Potosi. With reference to the letter, General Worth enclosed it to the author, telling him that if again detected in any such proceeding he would be shot. The advanced cavalry turned out to be a foraging party, pretty numerous to be sure, but nothing more.

The forces at Saltillo have been considerably strengthened. The Kentucky and Ohio Regiments under Gen. Butler, have marched on there, and the Kentucky Cavalry were to march for that point on the 23d ult. Monterey too, under command of Col. Garland, is considerably reinforced. The two Indiana Regiments, the Kentucky Mounted Cavalry, and about 700 of the recently enlisted regulars were on their way to Monterey. Col. Morgan of the 2d Regiment of Ohio volunteers who has command of Camargo, is engaged in fortifying the place.

General Wool's column had reached a point within nine mile of General Worth's division at Saltillo.

General Taylor, with all of his disposable force, left Monterey on the 23d December for Victoria.

Victoria is to be the point for the concentration of all the forces of our army.

General Scott, we learn from a source entitled to all credit was to proceed to Victoria or wherever General Taylor could be found, to confer with him as to the best plan of conducting the campaign.

Friday, January 15, 1847

We occupy much of our space this morning with the eloquent and patriotic remarks of Mr. Bedinger, in vindication of the Mexican War.—His rebuke of the factious and mischievous course of those politicians who decry their own country, and denounce a just and righteous war, which has been forced upon us, will be read with interest, and cannot but exerts a sound influence upon the moral tone of the community. Mr. B. speaks the sentiments of Virginia, and of the country.

See the Congressional Globe, Januray 13, 1847, pp. 84-85.

http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=llcg&fileName=018/llcg018.db&recNum=691

Friday, January 15, 1847

To the surprise of nearly everyone, yesterday's Southern mail informed us that the recent reports of the advance of Santa Anna upon Saltillo with 20 or 30,000 men, were without foundation, and that Gen. Worth was deceived in his information. By the extracts from the New Orleans papers in another column, it will be seen what data he proceeded to call for reinforcements. The following article from the New Orleans Bulletin sets forth the inconveniences consequent upon this false alarm, in deranging and retarding the operations and movements of the army. This is to be regretted—but the occurrence shows how promptly and successfully, in case of an emergency, our troops can be put in motion and concentrated against the enemy. This fact is important, in proving the skill and energy of our officers and troops, and in urging the necessity of constant vigilance:

"Gen. Worth forwarded the information to Gen. Worth, who broke up his encampment and started forward, by forced marches, to his relief. Gen. Butler moved forward, in like manner, from Monterey, with his whole force; and so pressing was the danger considered, that the large depot of stores and provisions at Camargo were left with but a slight protection, and all the available force there was also sent forward. But the most unfortunate result was..."
with the army under Gen. Taylor. He had advanced seventy miles on the route to Victoria, and had retraced his
steps, with all his troops back to Monterey, on his way to Saltillo. He would, however, again move forward twenty
days, and destroyed the combination of his movements with other detachments that were ordered up to Victoria,
particularly that under Gen. Patterson, from Matamoras.”

Some of the accounts state, that it was reported at Saltillo that Santa Anna was making every exertion to
bring about tan adjustment of the difficulties between the two countries—and, moreover, that the Mexican Congress
had accepted our overtune of peace, and had agreed to send us an agent to negotiate. We put no confidence in the
latter—but we have always been of opinion that Santa Anna was at heart favorable to peace, and would, if possible,
bring over the Mexican people to the same sentiments. His “brave words” may sound otherwise—but his acts
certainly do not show him to be an uncompromising enemy of pacific negotiations.

The Union of Wednesday night, though not furnished with the news received by us yesterday morning, does
not attach much consequence to the “alarming rumors” which had excited so much anxiety. It quotes a letter from
an officer at Brazos Santiago, on the 28th December, which expresses the opinion that “a sufficient force was,
doubtless, collected at Saltillo to meet the emergency; and if Santa Anna’s movement was anything more than a
fiend, he has unquestionably been repulsed.”

The Union says:

“A letter from Major General Scott, now commanding all the land forces in Mexico, dated December 28, from
Brazos Santiago, states that he should leave the next day via Matamoras and Camargo, in search of official news, by
which he should be governed accordingly. Referring to the reports of the movement of the enemy, he states that, in
the meantime, events may take him to Monterey; and that, “if Santa Anna be on the offensive, he must be
repulsed,” &c.

“One of the letters we have seen from the Rio Grande of so recent date as December 28, (the latest,) expressly states: "We are here without accurate information, and the General-in-chief, now commanding all the
forces in Mexico, has determined to move rapidly forward, with the view of ascertaining facts upon which he can
rely. We should have been off to-day, but for the difficulty of landing our saddle horses form the steamer yesterday.”

The Union also publishes an interesting letter from Gen. Taylor at Monterey, Dec. 8, giving a sketch of the
position of his forces. We shall publish it hereafter. He had no apprehension of the movements of Santa Anna.

We repeat that there is now no danger of a fight at Saltillo. Santa Anna is either anxious for peace, or he is
too cunning and prudent to risk a battle with the American army. Some accounts state that his force at San Luis has
been much exaggerated—it not exceeding 10,000, with daily desertions.

Friday, January 15, 1847 RE47v43n75p2c5  216 words

HONORS TO THE DEAD

The mortal remains of the following brave and lamented officers and soldiers were brought to the city of New
Orleans, on the 6th inst., by the steamship Alabama, from the Brazos Santiago Lieut. Col. Watson, Lieut. Raham,
Herman Thomas, George W. Pearson, Capt. G Gillespie of the Texas Rangers and Capt. Holmes of the Georgia
Regiment. On the arrival of the steamship guns were fired from the Place d’Armes and Lafayette Square during the
day and the flags in public places worn at half mast.—Meetings of the Common Council of the city and the
Independent Order of Odd Fellows, (of which some of the officers were prominent members) were held, and
resolutions adopted appointing a committee of seven to take charge of the bodies of the dead, to convey them to the
Municipal Hall, there to remain till the 8th, when a grand military and civic procession was to be formed for the
purpose of conveying them on board the steamboat Declaration. The remains are to be conveyed to the city of
Baltimore and may be expected to pass through this city in a day or so. Will not the citizens of Richmond unite in
paying a proper tribute of respect to these gallant soldiers who fell in defence of their country?

Friday, January 15, 1847 RE47v43n75p2c5  107 words

By a recent order, Gen. Butlers command extends to all the posts from Monterey to Camargo, and from thence o the
mouth of the Rio Grande. Lieutenant Colonel Garland, of the third infantry, is to be Governor of Monterey.

In less than two hours after the receipt at Camargo of the news of Santa Anna’s rumored attack upon
Saltillo, Brigadier General Lane’s command (Indiana Regiment) was on the march; and in less than twelve hours he
was followed by Brigadier General Marshall, with the Kentucky Cavalry and Captain Ker’s Company of United States
Dragoons, intending to reach Monterey by forced marches. This is American energy and Spirit.
CAPT. W.B. ARCHER’S COMPANY.—Capt. Wm. B. Archer’s company of Volunteers were presented on Wednesday to the Governor. Mr. Tunstall, of Pittsylvania, made the presentation speech, and a very happy one it was. Gov. Smith responded in a style, the felicity and originality of which was to be admired when we consider how his store-house of patriotic figures has been drawn upon by the very numerous speeches of the kind it has been his task to make. Capt. Archer made a brief speech, pledging his men to the service, and promising that the flag which the State is to present to the Regiment, shall not be tarnished while there is a drop of blood in their veins.—Yesterday’s Times.

The Whig says this third company of volunteers organized in this city, (though many of its members came from other parts of the State,) has been organized, under the name of the “Marshall Guards,” by the appointment of Wm. B. Archer, of Richmond, as Captain; L. M. Shumaker, of Franklin, 1st Lieutenant; R.H. Keeling, of Richmond, 1st 2d Lieutenant; John M. Blakey, jr., of Richmond, 2d 2d Lieutenant. The non-commissioned officers are not yet appointed.

The New Orleans Picayune contains the Mexican account of the transaction at Los Angeles in California. Instead of 150 Americans seamen being massacred by the Indians and Mexicans under Gen. Flores, it appears that not one was killed—but that 27 were made prisoners under capitulation, and 3 were wounded; one Mexican was killed. The capitulation allowed the Americans to go on board their ships, with their arms and private property. The Mexican account stated that 300 men were afterwards landed from their ships, and took possession of the town, of what they intended to retain permanent possession—This is the Mexican version of the affair, as the Picayune observes.

STILL LATER

From the N.O. Picayune, Jan. 3.

By the arrival at a late hour last night of the U.S. steamer Edith, Capt. Couillard, we have three days’ later dates from Brazos Santiago. She left Brazos on the 30th ult and brings confirmation of the reported advance of Santa Anna with a large force upon Saltillo. It was reported that the Mexican army was nearly 30,000 strong.

When Gen. Worth’s express reached Monterey, General Taylor had only gone six or eight miles on his march to Victoria, and the troops under Generals Twiggs and Quitman were but 12 miles in advance. Orders were immediately issued to this division to retrace its steps and proceed to Saltillo.

Gen. Butler, who was left in command of Monterey, had already marched with all the troops he could collect to join Gen. Worth at Saltillo.

Before the express reached Camargo Gen. Lane had started from Saltillo with his command- this was the 20th-Gen. Marshall set out next morning, taking with him the remainder of the forces, with the exception of Capts. Hunter and Swartwout’s commands which were left to protect that point. The troops from Camargo were on a forced march, to reach Saltillo in time for a battle, reports having prevailed for several days before positive advices were received of the movements of Santa Anna.

Gen. Wool was ninety miles from Saltillo at the last advices from him, and it was supposed he would join Gen. Worth at Saltillo.

There was a rumor that Santa Anna had thrown a body 17,000 men between Gen. Worth and Gen. Taylor, to prevent a junction of the American forces. This report was not credited, nor does it seem probable that it is true, as the main road to Monterey passes through Saltillo. There is a circuitous mountain road which avoids Saltillo, but it is not favorable to the march of an army, and is impracticable for ordnance.

It was the impression of gentlemen who came passengers in the Edith, and with whom we have conversed, that a battle was fought about the 25 ult. It was thought, however, that Gen. Taylor had reached Saltillo before that time, and also Gen. Twigg’s, Gen. Quitman’s, Gen. Butler’s and Gen. Wool’s commands. It was likewise hoped that the troops from Camargo would also arrive at Saltillo in good season. If these expectations were realized, Gen. Taylor had about 7000 men to oppose Santa Anna. Our informants think Santa Anna’s army was overrated; but no positive
knowledge was had of his exact numbers.

The whole valley of the Rio Grande was in a state of great ferment. Apprehensions of an attack were entertained at Camargo, Matamoros and other points, from the rancheros under Canales. The withdrawal of so many troops from the river left the valley exposed to danger. At Matamoros, Col. Clark had called upon the citizens to enroll themselves for service, and at the Brazos Gen. Jessup had done the same thing. Both these points were sadly deficient in both men and arms. It was thought Canales had 2000 men under him, and that the large supply of goods at Matamoros, and the exposed condition of that city, might quicken his courage.

Gen. Scott arrived at the Brazos in the 28th ult. The following day he preceded to the mouth of the Rio Grande and was yet at the point when the Edith left, waiting the arrival of the horses belonging to the regiment of mounted riflemen, when it was understood he would proceed immediately up the river to Camargo.

Capt. Wayne has been transferred from the staff of Maj. Gen. Jessup to that of Gen. Scott, and was to accompany him on his tour of observation.

The news leaves a painful anxiety to learn the progress of events. The impression amongst the passengers that a battle had been fought was so strong that we have almost imbibed the belief.

Friday, January 15, 1847 RE47v43n75p4c1 257 words

Correspondence of the N.O. Picayune

Tampico, Dec. 23, 1846

Gentlemen—The unexpected detention of the packet till this late hour, enables me to give the following important information, just received by me from a reliable source. The information is contained in a letter to a commercial house here, and is dated Mexico the 16th inst.

The substance of it is, that the Mexican Congress have decided that the war shall not cease, nor will they receive commissioners to treat for peace until every hostile foot has left the soil of Mexico and every ship that lines the coast is withdrawn. They have further resolved that they will accept of no foreign intervention whatever to bring about a peace.

The letter further states that the $500,000 loan guarantied by the clergy is exhausted, and no new loan is yet authorized, nor does the writer know where it is to come from.

This action on the part of Mexico will at once determine the public action of our Government, and we may now look out for a protracted and perhaps bloody war. I predict it will end in the conquest of all Mexico north of the base of this city—the line extending west to the Pacific—and that this will become an American town. If so, this will be a great place for business, and a safe one for investments in property. The resources of the country north of this are inexhaustible.—When more at leisure I will refer to what these resources are.

Yours, very truly, &c.

[MLD]

Friday, January 15, 1847 RE47v43n75p4c1 147 words

We yesterday conversed with a gentleman from Tampico: he left there on the 27th ult. A letter dated the 8th ult., at San Juan de Arosa, had been received by a merchant in Tampico—The writer, who was his partner in business, informed him that Santa Anna’s force at San Luis de Potosi was then 37,000. On the 10th, two days subsequently, 7,000 of them—cavalry—under the command of Col. Gonzales, were to leave—for the direction of Victoria, it was supposed. If the contemplated attack on Saltillo, by Gen. Santa Anna, should be successful, then an attack would be made on Tampico by Col. Gonzales. The bitter hostility of the whole people of the country is now aroused against our army, and they pant for an opportunity to carry it into execution. It is one which we hope will soon be given them.—

N.O. Delta.

[MLD]

Friday, January 15, 1847 RE47v43n75p4c1 615 words

Correspondence of N.O. Delta
U.S. Army of Invasion, MONTEREY,

December 11, 1846.

Gentlemen: It is now near the middle of December and still we have nothing in the shape of weather to indicate that the year is passing away; ad should some Rip Van Winkle of a fellow walkup here now, he would be looking for Mayday rather than Christmas, so April-like does everything seem around. For mild and pleasant weather this place of Monterey is hard to beat.

A gentleman came in from Saltillo last night, having left on the morning of the 8th. The Mexican cavalry, of whom mention was made in a previous letter, as advancing, had reached the Salado, within about fifty leagues of Saltillo. Their numbers were reckoned at full five thousand, under the command of Gen. Gonzales, and a fair proportion of them rancheros. There had arisen some doubts at Saltillo as to their intentions, and many speculations were advanced. Some were of opinion that in their orders to reconnoiter the country, in anticipation of our advance, they were instructed to proceed as far as the Salado, and no further. Others seem to think it is grass, and not he Americans, they are after, as the banks of the above named stream are said to afford excellent grazing. A third party, however, attach more importance to the movement, and express the opinion that their destination is Saltillo, and their object that the dislodgement of Gen. Worth. Some of the principal Mexican families in that place are of a like belief, and have hinted to the General the propriety of taking an advantageous position beyond the city. Gen. Wroth is perfectly easy in the meantime, and, whilst every precaution is taken against surprise, sleeps well.

Something later form San Luis Potosi—per Mexicans—8,00 men had left that place for Victoria, without artillery or wagons, and would be enabled to reach I in a short time, by going over a light chain of mountains.

In looking at the Mexican army as it was in San Luis a short time since—over 30,000 strong—the question arise, what is to be done with these men? How can a government, without money or credit, sustain them in the field for any length of time?—30,000 mouths are difficult to feed, at all times, by countries whose resources are boundless in comparison to those of Mexico; and for her to make any advantageous move, she must do it quickly, else even the magic name of Santa Nana will fail to keep discord from their ranks. It is out of the question to keep so large a body of men, and the number daily increasing, at or even near one point; and either a forward or retrograde movement must be made in a very few days. As I said before, if, with overpowering numbers, the General thinks he can successfully assail some weak post in our extended line, he will do it; but if no such opportunity presents itself, it is a difficult task even to conjure up a movement for him, unless a man would recklessly say, that he'd countermarch his troops to the capital of his own country, and then assume and maintain himself in dictatorial power. If it be true that troops have left San Luis for Victoria, I cannot believe they will fight Taylor there, nor do I for a moment suppose that gen. T. anticipates such a thing himself. There is one thing that I am well convinced of in these speculative times: unless the Mexicans open the ball, there will be no dancing to the music of cannon for several months to come, unless it be on the seaboard.

[MLD]
being within four days march of Saltillo, is probably incorrect—for his battering train of heavy artillery, without which he certainly would not attack Saltillo, would embarrass and retard his march.

The Picayune has no doubt that advices have been received from General Worth, announcing the march of a large Mexican force towards Saltillo. Its correspondent doubts the practicability of General Wool forming a junction with General Worth. The Picayune says:

"It would seem good strategy on the part of the enemy to throw a large force between Saltillo and Parras, make a diversion with a portion of the troops against Gen. Worth, while the main body of the army falls upon Gen. Wool. Apprehensions that such may have been the case are discernible in our correspondence. If Santa Anna had any of the spirit and capacity of the great military commander to whom he vaingloriously likens himself, he would have done some such thing long before this. Here is the letter:

CAMARGO, Mexico, Dec. 19-12 at night.

By an express last night from Gen. Worth, which arrived at half-past, 1 o'clock, we learn that Santa Anna is advancing upon Saltillo and Monterey, as is said, with 30,000 men; and all the available force from this place and vicinity is ordered up to those points with the least possible delay. At the same time a requisition has been received for a large supply of ammunition to be forwarded immediately. The express form Saltillo arrived at Monterey on the evening of the 21st. Gen. Worth, en route to Monte Morales, on his way to Victoria. He had probably made thirty miles from Monterey with his army, intended for the occupation of Victoria, but this intelligence will do but cause a counter movement to sustain Monterey and Saltillo.

I do not speak certain, but think Gen. Taylor can meet Santa Anna with 6,000, and not more, as a portion of his force, under Generals Patterson and Pillow has been withdrawn from here to hold Tampico. I know nothing of the defences at Saltillo, but Worth is there, and what any man can do, he can and will.

It strikes me that if Santa Anna has the force which is reported, that it would not be policy to bring on a decisive action now at Monterey, but by surrounding the place, cutting off supplies and communications, and detaching a portion of his force to attack the depots and connecting links with the Gulf—which must be left weak by the draining off supports for Monterey and Saltillo—that such would be his best chances for success.—This depot, for instance, which is the one from which the army draws its supplies, is without defences, and I am told is to be left with one company of artillery, one company of dragoons (not mounted,) and one regiment of Indiana volunteers; and there are "sinews of war" enough here to make "the game worth the candle."

From last reports Gen. Wool had not yet formed a junction with Gen. Worth; and it is thought by some problematical whether he would be able to form one, in consequence of the advance of the enemy placing themselves in a position between these two forces. I am not advised of the route these two forces. I am not advised of the route Gen. Wool's column will take from Parras, and therefore can give no opinion as to the accuracy of his reasoning; but one thing is certain—we are on the eve of important events, and I think by the next arrival I shall chronicle to you matters of stirring interest. We will see what we will see.

Yours truly, &c.

On the contrary the Union contains a letter from Gen. Jessup, dated Brazos San Jago, December 25th, which considers the story of Santa Anna's march upon Worth as "mere gossip;" thinking that Santa Anna would hardly follow Gen. Worth, with Gen. Wool on his flank.

Upon the whole review of the subject, we feel satisfied that the first mail from the South may bring us news of some stirring events in the neighborhood of Saltillo. Many think that the movement of Santa Anna will be a false one, and as great a failure as his disastrous assault upon Gen. Houston at San Jacinto in 1836. For ourselves, we feel no fears for the success of our arms, should Santa Anna be so bold as to come within the range of Gen. Worth's guns. If he (Santa Anna) be beaten now, he will be forced to retreat most ruinously across a desert and rough country. If so, we trust that Gen. Taylor will follow him up, and make the victory a decisive one.

A Captain of the U.S. Army, just from Camargo, passed through Richmond yesterday morning and informed a friend that he had no doubt of Santa Anna's approach; that Generals Taylor and Wool would certainly join Worth, and that the American force would amount to 10 or 12,000 men. He had no fear of defeat—his only apprehension was that the Mexican General would be too cautious to engage in a contest and thereby prevent a decisive blow from our arms. In the very worst aspect of affairs, this officer said, Gen. Worth could retreat safely and without loss.—While, then, we look for a victorious result, we await with anxiety the next intelligence.
the news received by way of Tampico, that the Mexican Congress had decreed not to listen to negotiation until all
our forces and vessels were removed, was premature. According to these last accounts, it appears that up to the 11th
December, the Mexican Congress had not acted upon our overtures of peace. Had they done so, it would in all
probability have been known in the squadron or noted in the Mexican papers. Lieutenant Bowers states that he had
heard nothing of it up to the 21st, when he had an interview with some English officers, who are usually well
informed as to the course of events in the Mexico.

The Congress of Mexico was duly installed on the night of the 5th December. The prominent members of the
important committees were Senores Rejon, (the lately dismissed Secretary of State, who has quarreled with Salas
and Santa Anna,) Gomez Farias, (the leader of the pure Republicans, and the friend of Rejon,) Otero, (late proprietor
of a liberal journal, conducted with ability, who was so grossly affronted by the French minister, Baron de Cyprey, in
the theatre,) Ex-President Herrera, Godoy and Riva Palacio. Gomez Farias is the chairman of the committee on
finance, and Herrera of that war and the navy. These names show that the liberal statesmen appear to be in the
ascendant in the new Congress.

The Secretary of the Treasury has submitted a project for the conversion of the foreign debt.—Two important
propositions have been introduced and referred to committees—the first declaring the constitution of 1824 in force,
with suitable amendments—the second, for the appointments of a committee to embody the principles entertained
by the Congress, and which will be the foundation of its action in the present war. This last is the only portion of the
proceedings of Congress which touches upon the war.

On the 11th a committee of five, with power to increase it to seven, was appointed to act upon the
Constitution—(Rejon was a member.) The following propositions were then offered for the consideration of Congress:

"That all the officers appointed by the General Government since the 4th of August, of whatever class, should
be subjected to the approval of Congress, and those who should not receive the same should not be entitled to their
pay hereafter.—That whatever person or community should, by act or deed, directly or indirectly, make an attempt
against the existence or the freedom of the deliberations of the Congress, should be considered a traitor. That the
Executive should contract a loan to provide the States with the arms necessary to repel foreign aggression; and
finally, that collectors of the revenue should make no payments save upon orders sanctioned by certain prescribed
forms."

There is an item of news, which we commend especially to those Whig journals and politicians that are in a
habit of denouncing the war and their own Government. The Mexican papers copy freely from the journals in the
United States opposed to the war, evidently with the view to create the belief that our country is rent by divisions on
the subject of the war. Through the Havana papers the Mexicans are kept constantly well informed of what is done in
the United States.

The Mexican papers seem to contain no denunciation of the "audacious north Americans" and the like stuff,
which not long since filled their columns. This may indicate that they are more occupied with internal difficulties than
with the war with us. The locomotor of the 14th appreheads an extraordinary attempt is intended by our navy, and
puts the authorities of Vera Cruz and Alvarado on the qui vive.

From Chihuahua there is some later news: [MLD]

"A dispatch is published from Governor Angel Trias, dated the 20th of November, in which he announces that
on the day previous, a body of 480 troops, part infantry and part cavalry, with four light pieces of artillery, left
Chihuahua for El Paso del Norte under the command of Lieut. Col. Cuilty; with provision, &c. for one month. These
forces were to join at El Paso 600 men, previously raised, and the whole were to proceed and make an attempt to
surprise Gen. Kearney, who was then with a small force at Cobra, nearly two hundred miles north of that point. All
classes of the citizens took part in celebrating the departure of these troops, and Governor Trias issued a
proclamation on the occasion, for which we will endeavor to find room on another occasion." [MPR]

The late revolutionary attempt at Tobasco is highly ridiculed.

Commodore Perry had gone on an expedition to Laguna, and Com. Conner is said to contemplate another expedition
against Alvarado, or at least a reconnaissance.

A letter of the 2nd December, form Anton Lizardo, from an officer of the Navy, gives intelligence which conflicts with
other accounts, in regard to the position of Santa Anna:

"It is the prevalent opinion at Vera Cruz, as I learned from the English officers yesterday, that Santa Anna intended
to march from his present quarters upon the Capital, and to strike for a dictatorship. In that case, it is supposed he
will be sustained by the regulars and opposed by the militia, and that a battle will probably ensue between the two
parties.

"If Santa Anna succeeds in becoming dominant, we have a guaranty of peace, as no administration in Mexico can
support the burden of a war. He is much inclined to prefer diplomacy to fighting. I hope our Government will not
relax its strong arm, nor permit itself to be cajoled by this wary diplomatist.
"We understand that the McLane and a gun boat are to Winter at Tobasco, and the Vixen and a gun boat at Laguna. This will keep all quiet in that quarter."

The gun-boat Union, taken at Tampico, was wrecked at Anton Lizardo, by running on the reef near Green Island. The officers and crew saved by the John Adams, which was near at hand.—The Mexicans sent off to the wreck and burnt her.

On the 13th, one of our frigates entered the harbor of Vera Cruz under a flag of truce, with a view to supply some of our shipwrecked sailors with money and clothing, and probably to attend to the ease of Passed Midshipman Rogers, captured in reconnaissance of a powder magazine at Vera Cruz, while he was in the undress uniform of his rank. He is now treated, as a prisoner of war instead of a spy. The officer in the boat with the flag of truce, found nobody to receive him, and had to find his way to the Palace in the best manner he could. This proves the negligence of the Mexican service on that situation.

Friday, January 15, 1847

A letter received by the Picayune from the army gives some interesting particulars. According to this account, Santa Anna had left for the Capital, and not for Saltillo:

"Taylor's light battery and Lieut. Kearney's company of the 1st Dragoons, had arrived at Saltillo. Kearney's company started out on a scout on the 13th December.

"The same letter, which is from a responsible source, says that a Mexican who arrived from San Luis on the 12th December, reported that Santa Anna had left that place for the capital.

"Our correspondent informs us that the sick list of Gen. Worth's division was very small.

"He adds that the early occupation for Saltillo has been a fortunate one for the army, so far as supplies were concerned. The quartermaster and commissary had laid in a sufficient supply of flour and corn to last Worth's division six months, and they were daily increasing the stock.

Friday, January 15, 1847

It will be seen that the House of Representatives have passed, 17 to 34, a bill to increase the army, for a limited time, by ten regiments of regular troops, to be disbanded at the end of the war. All the Virginia delegation voted for the bill. The opposition was made up of the Abolitionists that voted against the war bill last Spring, and other Northern Whigs.

Friday, January 15, 1847

The Union, referring to the threatening aspect of Mexican affairs, uses the following language, which all true Americans will approve:

Our own Congress must now support the stand which they took in May last. They can not hesitate to furnish the amplest supplies of men and money to prosecute the war with tremendous effect. The House of Representatives have this day passed the bill for raising ten regiments of regular troops. The Committee on Finance will, in the course of a day or tow, as we understand, report a bill for raising a loan of twenty-odd millions of dollars; and we will not for one moment permit ourselves to believe that they will not report an efficient bill for raising additional revenue to facilitate the loan. An American Congress will never refuse to lend the means of carrying on a war on which the rights and honor of their country so essentially depend. These means being provided, the Executive will be able to prosecute the war with the vigor which is necessary to "avenge the national wrongs" and to secure an honorable peace.

We have no idea that any member will seek to attach the proviso about slavery to any supply bill either for war, revenue or loans.
LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA

Friday, January 15, 1847

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

PETITIONS

The following petitions were presented and referred to appropriate committees:

By Mr. SCOTT: Of citizens of the county of Fauquier, praying for the formation of a new county out of said county by a plan which will place the county seat at the town of Salem. By Mr. DUNCAN: Of citizens of Harrison and Marion for the formation of a new county out of parts of said counties, with the seat at the town of Shinston. By Mr. HARER: A memorial of citizens of the town of Lexington, remonstrating against the extension of the limits of said town. By Mr. CARSON: Of John George Heist, praying that he may be exempted from the payment of certain militia fines and that agents employed in the management of railroads may be exempted from the ordinary militia duty. [MLD]

Tuesday, January 19, 1847

In regard to the election of Mr. Hunter to the U.S. Senate on Friday, yesterday's Times indulges in the following speculations:

"The Whigs have, in our judgment, acted not only with a proper regard to representative duty in falling upon the least objectionable of the candidates of the opposite party, but also with a politic wisdom which, in regard to their own interests, they will never have reason to regret. It is with us a sufficient proof of the propriety of their course, that we know the administration at Washington to be bitterly opposed to the election of Mr. Hunter. His success is no concession of the Whig party to his peculiar views on most of the questions of the day. They have elected him believing that in the high station of Senator, he will be a CONSERVATIVE; that he will not be the passive instrument of the Executive will and that, especially in all questions arising out of the Mexican war, which the administration seeks to make a party issue, he will oppose all such politico military measures as the appointment of a Lieutenant General, against which he has already voted."

We are not sufficiently acquainted with the secrets of the Democratic administration at Washington, as this Whig paper professes to be, to employ the strong words "we know," but we feel perfectly satisfied that the Times is grossly mistaken, when it declares that the administration is "bitterly opposed to the election of Mr. Hunter." The same slang was circulated by the Whig letter-writers, who gratuitously asserted that Secretary Mason had taken an active part against Mr. Hunter's election, and that the editor of the Union had paid a visit to Virginia, with an especial view to the election of another distinguished Virginian. At that time the whole affair was exposed as a silly fable—and we have no doubt that the present story is made up of the same flimsy material. Admit Mr. Hunter to be opposed to the appointment of a Lieutenant General; that question will be decided at this session, when Mr. H. will retain his seat in the lower house, and when Mr. Pennybacker's successor may be called upon to vote upon the question.

If Mr. H differs with the Administration upon that single point, does he not fully coincide with it upon the great questions of a Sub-Treasury and a Revenue Tariff, to which the Whigs are so "bitterly" hostile? Will he not stand by the Administration in taxing the office list to raise money for the prosecution of the war to a peaceful termination? In regard to the "politic wisdom" shown by the Whigs "in regard to their own interests, the times hugs an empty phantom to its bosom. The Whig party, as we said on Saturday, may expect no "aid and comfort" from Mr. Hunter. He is too thoroughly indoctrinated in the cherished principles of Virginia, to lend the least countenance to the Whigs, who on every occasion, "in season and out of season," ridicule and contemn those principles as miserable "astractions."

We regret that, from sinister circumstances, Mr. Hunter does not go to the senate, basked by the vote of the whole Democratic party of the Legislature—but we have no fear that he will not prove true to the great principles of that party.—What the Whigs hope to gain by his election, we are unable to divine. Their course, on Friday, may be a specimen of "political wisdom," which we will not inquire into. But it cannot be denied, that it was in direct contravention to the advice of the leading Whig presses in the State, the Richmond Whig and the Petersburg Intelligencer; and, if rumor does not err, of some of the most prominent Whig politicians. The Editor of the Intelligencer, the delegate from Petersburg, declared on the floor, on Friday, that he would vote for no Democrat, but would stand by Mr. Archer to the last, which he and some nine others did. He boldly portrayed (not the "politic wisdom," but) the folly of the Whigs rallying and electing any Democrat—and said, that the services rendered to the Democratic party by Mr. Hunter gave conclusive evidence that the Whigs could gain nothing by the election of him or any other Democrat. There is, then, much diversity of opinion among the Whig leaders themselves, as to the "politic wisdom" of the course of tier party on Friday. If they hope to gain any thing other cause, arrayed as they are against Virginia's cherished principles, they are at liberty to "make the most of it." In our opinion, by electing Mr. Hunter, they have "caught a Tartar."—they have put in the Senate a man who is an uncompromising opponent to their
darling “Protection” and National Bank. Let them rejoice, then, if they can, over the extraordinary “politic wisdom” displayed by them.

[MLD]

Tuesday, January 19, 1847 RE47v43n76p1c4  662 words

LATER FROM MEXICO

The Union furnishes the following additional details by the steamer Mississippi. The chance of peace seems desperate, indeed. Is not this a sufficiently powerful argument for Congress to cease its squabbling over irrelevant and mischievous subjects, and set to work promptly and vigorously to adopt all efficient measures to bring the war to a speedy close? Will the people sustain their representatives, if they do not at once adopt means to strengthen the credit of the Government, and furnish men and money to make short work of this war? We hope to see the most vigorous steps taken at once. Delay is ruinous. Let Vera Cruz be attacked, and the road to the city of Mexico secured. The Capital must be stormed, and the misguided rulers and people of Mexico be made to feel the full force of American arms. By this course alone, we are satisfied, can we hope for peace:

“We learn (says the Union) from a gentleman who has recently arrived in this city from Havana in the steamer Mississippi, that the British mail steamer had reached that port a few days before the Mississippi left. Santa Anna has been elected President of the Mexican republic. His majority is said to have been small—only one or two votes.

“He reports that the first business transacted by the Mexican Congress was to lay on the table the American overture for peace. They then passed a resolution declaring their determination to prosecute the war to he last extremities—in the words of our informant, to make it a war to the hilt. An act was also passed to raise half a million of dollars a month, as required by the Executive estimates for the support of the army—though how the money was to be raised does not yet appear.

“There is little doubt, we think, that in the capital and its vicinity a very exasperated state of feeling prevails among the Mexican population. In the remoter provinces all accounts would indicate that there is greater apathy.

“In the address of gen. Salas at the opening of the Congress on the 6th of December, he refers to the proceedings of Santa Anna at San Luis Potosi, where, in a few weeks, he says he had assembled and organized an army of more than 22,000 men, a part of whom had already advanced to meet the enemy, so that the armies of the two nations would soon encounter each other; but whatever the result may be he says, “never shall there be a final or decisive action.” He states the reasons why he had refused to listen to any overtures of peace; he says that the war is not one of an ordinary character; that it is a war of races; that the causes of it exist in the nature of things; and that the invasion would have occurred as well under the auspices of peace as during war. The president of the congress, in his reply, does not allude directly to the war, but says “Mexico shall not be less than France, who was able to conquer principles and establish a constitution at he very time when she was invaded by the legions of all Europe.”

“The vice president Gomez Farias, took the oath of office before Congress, on the 24th of December, and delivered an address, in the course of which he says, “the war which the republic finds itself compelled to sustain against the north American republic, shall be prosecuted with courage and constancy, until the justice of our cause is acknowledged and our territory evacuated.”

“On the second day of the session of the Congress, the secretary of the Treasury (Almonte) presented an exhibit of the lamentable state of the treasury, to which the president replied, that the Congress would provide the means "to enable the executive to carry on a war in which the dignity and honor of the nation are concerned.”

[MLD]

Tuesday, January 19, 1847 RE47v43n76p1c4  103 words

We have received from messrs. Drinker & Morris a Map of Mexico, Texas, and part of the United States, including California: It is in a neat and compact form, and is published by S. C. Hayes, of Philadelphia, formerly of this city. We have derived much aid from this little map, in perusing Mr. Dix’s able speech on the appointment of a Lieutenant General. It is proper that we should state here, that, on Friday, the bill creating the office was laid on the table by a vote of 28 to 21. The ayes and noes will be seen under the Congressional head.

[MLD]

Tuesday, January 19, 1847 RE47v43n76p1c4  228 words
To the Editors of the Enquirer:

Messrs. Editors: It is generally understood, that for the field appointments in our volunteer regiment there were more than fifty applicants, most of them men of the highest character. A very natural and a very common desire is entertained and expressed to know who they are; and I write these hasty lines to suggest to you to obtain from the office of the Adjutant General (where I am sure it would be cheerfully furnished) a list of their names, in the order in which they were filed, for publication in your paper. It would gratify to some extent a very pardonable ferocity in the public mind, and could not be objected to by gentlemen whose applications, in themselves honorable to them, have been overlooked in the preferment of three others thoroughly trained in scientific instruction and fully tried in all the stern realities of the camp, the march and the 'foughten field.'

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

January 12, 1847, QUAESTOR.

We would cheerfully comply with the wishes of our correspondent—but, at present, are unable to do so. The records are not open to the public eye—and on Saturday the House of Delegates rejected Mr. McPherson’s resolution calling on the Governor for full information on the subject. A similar proposition may yet be adopted and the information be brought out.—Editors

APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT,

By and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Henry P. Robinson, to be a Lieutenant in the Navy, from the 14th of August, 1846, at which time he was promoted to fill a vacancy occasioned by the dismissal of Lieutenant John A. Russ.

Isaac N. Brown and R. Delancy Izard, to be Lieutenants in the Navy, from the 31st of October, 1846, at which time they were promoted to fill vacancies occasioned by the death of Lieutenant George M. Bache and the resignation of Lieutenant Henry L. Chipman.

Napoleon Collins, to be a Lieutenant in the Navy, from the 6th of November, 1846, at which time he was promoted to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Lieutenant William B. Beverly.

John L. Worden, to be a Lieutenant in the Navy, from the 30th of November, 1846, at which time he was promoted to fill a vacancy occasioned by the death of Lieut. Charles W. Morris.

Randolph F. Mason, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Surgeon in the Navy, from the 29th of August, 1846, at which time he was appointed to fill a vacancy occasioned by the death of Assistant Surgeon John I. Barton.

Edward D. Reynolds, of Illinois, to be a Purser in the Navy, from the 16th of October, 1846, at which time he was appointed to fill a vacancy occasioned by the death of Purser Thomas Breese.

Levi D. Slamm, of New York, to be a Purser in the Navy, from the 30th of November, 1856, at which time he was appointed to fill a vacancy occasioned by the death of Purser R. R. Waldron.

Robert Woodworth, to be a Surgeon in the Navy, from the 1st of December, 1846, to fill a vacancy occasioned by the death of Surgeon A. Haasler.

Joshua Huntington, to be an Assistant Surgeon in the Navy, form the 20th day of June; 1838, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the promotion of Robert Woodworth.

The following letter, to a member of the Senate, has been obligingly placed at our disposal (says the Union:)

MATAMORAS, January 1st, 1847

"Dear Sir: I wrote you a few days ago. Gen. Scott left here for Camargo two days ago, in great haste, having heard
The Governor responded in handsome and eloquent terms:
I receive this contribution to the regiment called for from Virginia with more than ordinary pleasure, for I perceive that it is not only equal in its ranks are full to overflowing. Nor is this all. No company has yet been presented as rich in associations.

The gentleman who has been selected to present the Company is one through whose veins, it is said, courses the blood of a former princess of the land and the savior of our infant settlements at Jamestown. As he has eloquently remarked, this company comes from a country that bears the glorious name of Montgomery—a name that cannot be repeated on such occasions as this without a thrill of pleasure. This county is also distinguished as the residence, if not the death bed, of a former Governor of Virginia, many of whose traits of character I have loved, respected and admired. The commander of this gallant company, too, is the chivalric son of another gallant Governor of Virginia, who, in the war of 1812, won for himself a soldier's name and country's gratitude. These various recollections do touch the proudest sensibilities of our nature and excite some of our finest and noblest feelings. It is known, too, that many of them are the sons of gallant fathers, who, in the war of 1812, testified their devotion to their country by sacrificing their lives, not upon the battle field but under the influence of the climate of lower Virginia, so fatal to the health of those raised in our mountain county. I advert to these various interesting subjects for the purpose of manifesting my high appreciating of the gallant company now before me, and because I am satisfied that these reminiscences can but have a happy effect in nerving their hearts and strengthening their arms in those glorious fields to which they are destined. In a few brief days, soldiers, you will be on the "trackless ocean's wave!" You will carry with you the hopes, the affections, and the pride of Virginia. As you approach the coast of Mexico, the first sight which strikes your eye will be the lofty peaks of her own blue hills and mountains. The sight will awaken a thousand recollections of home, for they will appear like those glorious summits you have left behind you. Home, sweet home, with all her thousand endearing associations, will cluster about the heart with an almost suffocating effect, and the tear, unbidden, but not unmanly, will course down many a hero's cheek.—Soldiers! Check not that tear, it a tribute to wife, children and friends; it marks a memory to our own our dear native land, that may melt, but will not unman you. Nor is it a weakness of which you need be ashamed. The bravest heart is the repository of he gentilest affection. In this soft and melting mood, however, hope will gild the future with triumph, and you will contemplate with pride, pleasure and termination, your return to your native hills, covered with a wreath that will entwine the gallant soldier's brow, and followed with the shouts and exultation of a grateful and admiring country. This is a reward that you must look forward to with eagerness, and which will reward you for a thousand toils—this is the hope that will cheer, animate and sustain you in many a weary toil and many a stricken field.

"Auspicious hope, in this sweet garden grow Wreathe for each toil, a charm for every woe."

And now, soldiers, I have for the present to bid you a cordial farewell. We may meet again before you leave our shores; but if not, you carry with you my best wishes—for my anxious hopes for your safe and glorious return after having established your own claim to the gratitude of your country, elevated the fame and name of our own beloved mother, and proudly vindicated the rights and honor of our common country. Friends, brothers, Virginians, may God prosper and bless you.

[MLD]

Tuesday, January 19, 1847 RE47v43n76p3c3  797 words

FROM THE U.S. CALIFORNIA EXPEDITION.

IMPORTANT FROM SOUTH AMERICA.—The brig engineer, Captain Elbridge G. Windsor, arrived here last evening from Rio Janeiro, whence she sailed on the 26th November. All the vessels of the California expedition under Col. Stevenson, had arrived safe at Rio, viz: U. S. transport ships Susan Drew, Loo Choo, and Thomas H. Perkins, with the U.S. ship of war Preble. The offices and men were all in good health. Every thing was quiet on board the vessels, and the troops in excellent discipline. The expedition would sail in a few days for its destination. By this arrival we have the particulars of an unfortunate misunderstanding between the U.S. minister at Rio and the Brazilian Government, which threatens to disturb our amicable relations with that power. The difficulty originated in the arrest of two men from the U.S. Columbia, who were on shore while the vessel was at anchor in the harbor of Rio. The men got intoxicated, and while proceeding through the streets to go on board, were placed under arrest and conveyed to prison. Lieut. Davis, of the Columbus, was on shore with the men; being at some distance at the time of their arrest, he followed, calling on them to accompany him.—before he got up, they were taken into the fort.—On arriving at the fort, he drew his sword in evidence of his authority as an officer of the United States, and demanded their release.

The guards then beckoned to him to come in, and supposing them desirous of having an interview with him in relation to the men, he did so, but immediately found himself and his men prisoners. Mr. Wise, the United States Minister, being apprised of the occurrence by Commodore Rosseau, of the Columbia, opened a correspondence with the Brazilian government, demanding their release. The reply being deemed unsatisfactory, was answered by another communication from the Minister, informing them that the Columbia would open her batteries upon the city in two hours, if Lieutenant Davis and the men were not released within that time. The Lieutenant was promptly released, but the men were detained under a plea that being found intoxicated in the street they were amenable to punishment by the civil authorities. Farther correspondence ensured, the men still remaining in custody. A day or two after this occurrence, the Emperor’s youngest child, the infanta Isabella, was christened, the ceremony being honored by salutes from vessels of war, and the illumination of the dwellings of the foreign ministers. The fete lasted a whole week. But Commodore Rosseau and Mr. Wise declined to join in any ceremonies of this character, until full
reparation had been made for the insult offered to their country. The authorities requested the Commodore to fire a salute which he declined doing. Mr. Wise and other Americans did illuminate their dwellings, and have consequently been subjected to repeated insults. The subject was taken up in the National Parliament, then in session. The House of Commons passed a bill requesting the withdrawal of Mr. Wise, but the upper House rejected it, and the Commons tendered their resignation in a body. Thus the affair rested at last advices, the men being still in prison.

During the excitement at Rio, the California boys arrived and resolved to have an opposition, christening one of our Americans sovereigns, tow of whom were born on the passage. A splendid silver cup was provided as a present for the young volunteers, whome the Chaplin duly christened Alto California. Col. Stevenson stood Godfather on the occasion. All the officers of the ships and many of the American s were present. It was a splendid affair, and operated as a hint to he Brazilians, who were somewhat astonished at the American volunteers leaving their homes in such numbers to go half around the world. The volunteers were allowed full privileges on shore, but there had not been a single desertion. Col. Stevenson made a speech to them in relation to the difficulties, and every man expressed his readiness to joining in storming the city of Rio, if necessary to sustain the honor of their country's flag.

Captain James M. Turner, of the California volunteers, arrived last night in the Reindeer, as bearer of dispatches from the U.S. minister at Brazil, and will proceed this morning to Washington. The other passengers were Mrs. S.G. Steele, of Athens, N.Y., lady of Capt. G. Steele, of the Volunteers; Robert P. Noah, of N.Y., secretary to Col. Stephenson; and Lieut. George D. Brewster, of the Volunteers, from West Point.

War had not yet broken out between Brazil and the Argentine Republic, but was daily expected. Brazil had ordered a large force to the Argentine frontier.

THE NATIONAL FINANCES.

In Charleston Evening News we find the following excellent article. Its views are not only sound and unanswerable, but (and here we differ with the News) they, in our opinion, respond to the popular will. We cannot believe that he American people will refuse to bear a slight burthen upon their tea and coffee, and other free articles, when the country demands money to sustain its honor and secure peace. We yet hope to see Congress satisfied on this point, and cheerfully coming forward to support the recommendations of the Executive, so necessary to maintain the national credit, and bring about a successful termination of difficulties which all deplore:

"The Washington Union of Friday has an article in relation to the national finances marked by good sense and sound principle. It commences with the just discrimination between a war and a peace system of revenue. The Union then shows that the first objects of a just impost are untaxed articles for temporary war purposes, taxing luxuries highest. It commences with a duty on tea and coffee as one which the country can well sustain, and proceeds to state that in this category of taxation should be embraced all articles whatever, which pay no duty under the present tariff. It then contends for the propriety of imposing taxes on luxuries, first through an impost, and then if this form of taxation should not yield a sufficient revenue, an excise on all luxuries whatever.

"We believe that this order and succession of taxation contains the principles of a sound fiscal system. We think if immediately embodied in a scheme of Federal taxation, the public credit would be soon relieved, and a loan would be taken up with no difficulty. Between two and three millions of dollars, raised by an impost on tea and coffee, and an equal amount produced, by increased duties or an excise on luxuries, would be productive not only of the happiest consequences to the public credit, but we have reason to look on the adoption of such a system for the bet moral consequences on the character of the contest we are waging with Mexico. It is not considered, it appears to us, that a system of finance commensurate to the conjuncture of war, is an element of strength as important as the creation of armies, for nothing weakens, in a greater degree, a popular government whose deliberations, in a crisis of hostility, vacillate between sound principles of fiscal policy and a slavish obedience to the popular feeling."

VOLUNTEER MOVEMENTS IN WESTERN VIRGINIA.

A letter from Cabell C.H., of the 6th January, alludes to the formation of a volunteer company for Mexico. The Regiment was called together on the 4th inst., when fifty-three stepped forward and enrolled themselves as ready to march and fight in their country's cause. They were to start ton the 7th for Wayne C.H., where the Regiment was to meet on the 9th, hoping to make up the requisite number. Though this company will be formed too late to be accepted by the State, it shows that there are some gallant spirits in Cambell County. The citizens of the Court-house have subscribed $200 for their benefit, and Chas. Conner (So publically spirited a gentleman deserves to be
Tuesday, January 19, 1847 RE47v43n76p4c2  610 words

For the Enquirer.

The alacrity with which the Cadets of the Virginia Military Institute have responded to the call of the State for volunteers for the Mexican war, is worthy of all commendation, and presents a strong inducement to the Legislature to cherish an institution which has proved its ability to furnish military aid of the best description in time of need. As standing armies are opposed to the genius of our institutions, and frequent militia drills in time of peace would not be tolerated, there is no to her feasible method by which any available amount of military science can be imparted to the mass of our citizen soldiers, but through the medium of military schools. These offer at once the cheapest, and indeed the only practicable means by which so desirable an end can be even approximated, and the Virginia Military Institute affords a striking instance of what military schools may and will perform, it sustained by Legislative encouragement and patronage. But whilst I pay a well deserved tribute to the patriotic zeal and military acquirements of the Cadets, I cannot pass by the opportunity which the occasion offers, to render honor to whom honor is due, for the distinguished military reputation, which public opinion accords to the Lexington cadets. From the second year of the establishment of the Instituted up to this time, Capt. Thomas H. Williamson has been the professor of tactics, civil and military engineering, and drawing, and the sole instructor in the military department; and the public examinations, annually made at the Instituted, have afforded the most satisfactory evidence of the admirable manner in which the cadet have been drilled, and of the thorough manner in which they have been taught every thing properly appertaining to military service. For this they have been indebted to an instructor, who, I am confident, has no superior, if he has his equal, in the State of Virginia, as a military teacher. Capt. W. was educated at West Point, and has for many years since devoted himself assiduously to the duties of his profession and to the acquirement of military information, in which respect he will favorably compare with the most accomplished captains in our country. And, with the frank and open-hearted manners of the soldier, he possesses the suavity in mode of the perfect gentleman.—Hence, no teacher has ever obtained a larger share of the esteem and regard of their pupils, or has ever exercised a more commanding moral influence over those committed to their charge—and indispensable auxiliary to all good and effective discipline. As might have been anticipated, the military acquirements of the cadets, their gentlemanly bearing and chivalrous spirit, with a few unavoidable exceptions, have most conclusively illustrated the ability and the fidelity with which the military professor has discharged all his duties.

The Institute has done honor to the State, and no single individual has done more than Captain Williamson to exalt its military reputation and to infuse into the bosoms of its alumni the chivalry which they have so conspicuously displayed. In bestowing upon Capt. Williamson, however, this well merited eulogy, I desire no disparagement to the other distinguished professors who adorn the Institute, and whose several departments are ably and faithfully filled. It is only in reference to the military reputation of the Lexington school that I claim for Capt. Williamson the distinguished honor of being its chief architect; and I am persuaded, from what I know of the sentiments of the cadets upon this subject, that a large majority of them will most cordially assent to the justice of this claim, and rejoice to aid in establishing it.

B.

Tuesday, January 19, 1847 RE47v43n76p4c4

Twenty-Ninth Congress. Second Session.

See Congressional Globe, p.171

http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=llcg&fileName=018/llcg018.db&recNum=202

Friday, January 22, 1847 RE47v43n77p1c5  579 words

A GALLANT VIRGINIAN

We have seen in the hands of a friend, and perused with interest, a description of the part enacted in the battle of Monterey by Lieut Col. Jno. Garland, brother of James Garland, Esq., of Lynchburg. Having under his command 641 bayonets, composed of the 3d Infantry, the Regiment of 1st Infantry and the Baltimore Battalion, he moved forward in line of battle, and soon encountered a direct fire from redoubt No. 1 and an enfilading fire from the citadel. Their pace having been quickened, they were soon brought with in the range of Mexican musketry. In a few moments they found themselves in narrow streets, where they received a most destructive fire from three directions. The infantry continued to press ahead, until the command was ordered to retire, which they did in good
order, nor, however, without losing many men and some of the most valuable and accomplished officers of the army. —Here the gallant Major Lear was severely wounded; the high-toned Adjutant Lieutenant Irwin and the noble Barbour killed, and Capt. Williams, and Lieut. Terrett mortally wounded; Brevet Major Abercrombie was also wounded and thrown from his horse. Capt. Lamotte was badly wounded more than an hundred yards in advance of this point, and in the direction of the first redoubt, where Capt. Backus, with indomitable courage and perseverance, had succeeded with his company in gaining the roof of a stone building, and not hearing the order to retire, continued to pour a galling fire into the rear of the redoubt, until the volunteers of Gen. Quitman’s brigade rushed in, took it, and kept it.

In attempting to storm the second redoubt, Col. Garland with about one half of his command, encountered a tete depot, the strongest defence of the city, and from the opposite side of the bridge two pieces of artillery were brought to bear upon them, at a little more than a hundred yards distance. Here, took many brave officers and men fell victims to the killing fire of the Mexicans. The American troops, in their exposed situation, maintained their position against fearful odds, and, for their great personal courage, fully deserved the title of the Spartan Band.

Here, too, the brave Watson, the darling hero of Baltimore, fell covered with glory.

From all that we see and hear, we are satisfied that Lieut. Col. Garland, not only at the siege of Monterey, but in the two glorious battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palms, reaped rich honors for himself, but fully proved himself a worthy son of the Old Dominion. Does it not become the Legislature to take some steps to show their appreciation of the gallant deeds of our citizens? The brave Col. Payne, of Goochland, was severely wounded in the engagements on the Rio Grande, but has now returned to his duties on the field. Lieut. Col. Garland, another Virginian, fought bravely and successfully in the three great battles of the campaign, and, in our opinion, it would be eminently proper in our Legislature to pay a fitting compliment to their noble bearing. It is an act of simple justice to these gallant officers, and it would have a highly beneficial effect in cheering on the Virginia volunteers to acts of heroism and unflinching perseverance in their country's cause. Nothing is so well calculated to stimulate a soldier, as to feel that his meritorious acts will be appreciated and rewarded with praise by his native State.

The Kentucky Legislature have adopted resolutions for erecting a monument to the memory of the gallant Major Barbour, who was killed at Monterey. We extract the eloquent remarks of John W. Stevenson, Esq., formerly of this city, but now a member of the Kentucky legislature from the county of Kenton:

Mr. STEVENSON said, in rising to second the resolutions of his friend from Mason, he was not actuated by the expectation, or hope, that any thing he could say would obtain for the resolutions a more ready and cordial support, than the flattered himself they were destined to receive; but he had only risen to add his humble testimony to the truth of the beautiful and touching eulogium of his friend, on the distinguished subject of these resolutions. Mr. S. said, he had not been so fortunate as to have known Major Barbour, so long or so intimately as the gentleman from Mason; but his acquaintance had been long enough to impress him with a lasting admiration of his character, and a touching regard for his memory, which he should fondly cherish to the longest period of his life. Mr. S. said he turned with a melancholy pleasure to the lat time it had been his good fortune to have been with Major Barbour, and when he had parted with him for the last time upon earth. It had been under touching and peculiar circumstances.

Major Barbour had but a few weeks before, led to the bridal alter, one of Kentucky’s fairest daughters, and was then upon a visit to a gallant and devoted brother officer in the town of Newport. It was but a few days before his departure for Texas, and never can I forget the moment when as he shook my hand for the last time, surrounded as he was by bridal festivities and greetings of friends, with the true feelings of the soldier, he told me I should hear of him on the battlefields of Mexico!

Though but thirty three years of age, he had already attained unusual honors! Young as he was, he had been brilliantly successful. Three several brevets had been conferred upon him for this valor on the battlefield; and could he have but survived the bloody havoc of Monterey, a fourth no doubt would have been certainly awarded him. But there he was destined to fall—dying where he had lived, at the head of his regiment.

IT is peculiarly gratifying to me, (said Mr. S.) to witness this scene—to hear these resolutions read—to behold the interest here displayed—all serve as a practical refutation of that oft quoted saying, that “Republics are ungrateful.”

Sir, Kentucky never was or can be ungrateful to the memory of her sons! I wish to see this monument erected, that every citizen within her orders may point to it as he gazes upon it on yonder eminence, and say with priced, there sleeps the gallant and noble Barbour, who was a Kentuckian!

Sir, there is a moral lesion in all this, which we should not disregard! It is no idle and empty pageant! While it is a grateful memento to the gallant dead, it may serve as an impressive lesion to the living. It proves a powerful incentive to young men born in poverty, to be enabled to gaze upon his tomb, and be reminded that the munificence of our country still retains the same institution, where he was gratuitously educated, and where they can all go and follow his example.
But, Mr. Speaker, brave and dauntless as was the lamented Barbour on the field, that valor and gallantry was not excelled by his gentle, warm and affectionate devotion at the fire-side! To know him as my eloquent friend from Mason said, was indeed to love him.

If anything were wanting to prove all I have said—a y! Mr. Speaker, and much more than I choose to say, lest I may be deemed enthusiastic—I would point this House to his thinned and valiant regiment, (the gallant third infantry) and ask them to witness the sorrow and sadness which clouds every brown when they now hear the name of Philip Norbourne Barbour! He was emphatically their loved and cherished idol! Mr. Speaker—my heart is full—I will say no more—I have already said more than was necessary—I know too well Kentucky feeling—I know too well American feeling, to doubt that there is a member upon this floor, who does not feel proud at the opportunity of thus recording his vote for these resolutions! Well may Green River be proud of her son—and proudly may she point to his monument, and glory in the thought that he was born.

[MLD]
“We have seen a blind spirit of party rage urged on by Executive instigation, in a single session of Congress, leveling to the ground long established and well-tried systems of national policy, coeval with the Constitution, and identifies with the vital interests of the national prosperity. The Tariff of 1842, though proved by the best of all tests, its actual operation, to have been a highly salutary and benignant measure, was ruthlessly sacrificed to appease the spirit of party vengeance, because it was one of the measure of a whig Congress; and, on the other hand, the same fell spirit willfully restored to the statute book the odious Sub-Treasury, which had been most signally condemned and rejected by the deliberate sense of the nation, because a Whig Congress happened to be the instrument of executing the national judgment upon it.”

This is admirable! Mr. Rives, speaking the “public opinion” of Virginia, bewails the untimely late of the Tariff of 1842! The very Tariff against which he strenuously protested on its passage as more abominable in many respects than the “Bill of abominations,” the Tariff of 1828.—A connoisseur in antiquities would be glad to know the date—the era—of this same “public opinion.” Mr. Rives is now the Rip Van Winkle of politics. He stares round at the new world about him, calls out the old names, looks for the old signs, is quite bewildered by the new mottoes and the new voices, and, poor statesman! Thinks the Bank question is just where it was when he ratted from the party, and went to sleep his long political sleep among the mountains of Virginia!

One more extract form his letter, and we have done. See the naïve unconsciousness with which he rings forward, in relation to the Oregon controversy and to the Mexican war, the topics, which, having played their brief part of factious opposition, have now been fairly abandoned even by the remotest country portion of the Federal press. To Mr. Rives, however, these worn out vituperations seem to be quite fresh and new. He tells us about “the headlong and short-sighted counsels of the President, hurrying us into a war with England;” just as if such wretched slang had not now become obsolete. He deals with the advance of our army to the Rio Grande as if he were taking part with the federal opposition before it had become ashamed of that stale pretence, and then in ludicrous ignorance, or forgetfulness of the act of the 13th May, and of the events which have followed it, and of the overwhelming unanimity of popular opinion upon that subject, he prates about the war power being vested in Congress, and not in the executive! But we will spend no more words about this gentleman’s extraordinary political resuscitation.—Having no personal ill-will towards him, we hope hereafter that he will take for granted that the public are quire willing to let him enjoy his retirement, and not write absurd letters, to let the people know how unwilling he is that they should bring him forward into political life again. But if he must write, we hope that his retirement vilification of his country’s cause, and a factious abuse of an administration laboring to uphold that cause in a just and righteous war.

The following paragraph is a specimen of his whole letter:

“The same perverse spirit, in its heedlessness or its blindness, has been as ready to sport with the external peace, as with the domestic interests and prosperity of the nation. We were saved by the firmness and wisdom of the Senate form a destructive war with England, into which the headlong and short-sighted counsels of the President were fast burying us, only to be plunged by his unscrupulous assumption of power, against the plainest mandates of the constitution, into a bloody, expensive, unseemly and embarrassing war with the republic of Mexico. That the war with Mexico was brought on by the single act of the President in ordering the hostile advance of the army into a territory claimed by e Mexico, and of which she held and had continually held the actual jurisdiction, is a proposition too clearly established by incontrovertible facts to admit of discussion. He himself impliedly confesses it by the

In noticing yesterday the important services of Lieut. Col. John Garland in Mexico, we omitted to state that Gen. Taylor, in consideration of his gallantry and efficient conduct, had appointed him Military Governor of Monterey. [MLD]

A letter from Council Bluffs reports a battle, on the 16th December, between a party of Sioux and a band of Omahas, in which sixty of the latter were killed. [MLD]
For the Enquirer,

CAPTAINS IN THE VIRGINIA REGIMENT

The Editors of the Times and Compiler and of the Richmond Whig, seem greatly dissatisfied with the arrangement of rank made by the Governor and Council among the Captains of the Virginia Regiment of Volunteers; and a writer singing himself Justice is bold enough to insinuate, political preference may have influenced the determination. Before this unfounded insinuation was made, “Justice” had better have ascertained whether Governor Smith had not been aided much in the performance of the high duty by the counsel and advice of an estimable and distinguished Whigs as nay in the State. Both he and they, looking alone to the good of the service, and eschewing all party predilections, have acted under these influences.

The writer of this speaks now upon what he knows is the fact. When the rank was settled, the most of those placed high on the list, if indeed not all of them, were absent from Richmond, an it is believed none of them, either directly or indirectly, urged any priority from themselves. With the arrangement made, Captain Carrington’s friends seemed to be dissatisfied Will they be pleased to say, which of the Captains that rank above him are not as well qualified by education, military or civil, as he, to command? At present the objection is general, and it may be that those friends believe Capt. Carrington ought to rank above all the other Captains—a pretensions at which most men would laugh—and which I am sure the gallant Captain would not tolerate.

The article of the Times and Compiler of the 20th inst., and which is adopted by the Whig, is full of errors. Capt. Carrington did not raise and tender the first company for service under the call last Spring. He did not raise the first company under the call for volunteers in November, and it was some five or six days after two other companies had been mustered into the service of the United States before he had a sufficient number of men to enable him to be a so mustered into service. He may have been the first Captain elected, but the Captain did not have the requisite number to make up a company, and had not for some four or five days after Captains Archer and Scott’s companies had been mustered into service, one of these companies numbering then 91 and the other 88me. But, I pray, why is this matter to become one of angry discussion? The writer of this has heard some six or seven of the Captains declare, that they were content to take their rank, where the constituted authorities of the State placed them—that they would take no part in any strife but against the enemies of their country—that whether on the right or left of the regiment, they expected opportunities enough would be afford for all who cared to do so to gather honors and distinction in the service. Why, then, shall editors and newspaper essayists, unasked by any one, and no doubt against the wish of all, do what must have a tended, if not designed, to produce discord in the regiment, and to separate these gallant young men, who should be bound together, as a band of brothers, "by hooks of steel?"

AMICUS

RUMORS IN WASHINGTON

The Washington Fountain has the following paragraphs, which are all important if true:--

RECALL OF GENERAL TAYLOR.—It is confidently stated by those whose position gives times an opportunity of knowing what is going on in official quarters, that General Taylor has been recalled from the field of operations in Mexico, that he will retire on the arrival of General Scott at head quarters, and that he has been ordered to Washington, immediately on his return to the United States. They go so far as to predict his arrival here, by the middle of February, For our country’s sake, we hope that these givings out will prove untrue.

ULUA NOT TO BE ATTACKED.—It is rumored abroad, on the authority of Com. Perry, that the castle of Ulua is not to be attacked, for the reason that the Government has determined to "conquer a peace" without capturing that strong hold of the enemy. It is also stated that the gallant Commodore does not return to the Gulf. How true these rumors are, we do not to pretend to say.

ULTIMATUM OF MEXICO.—We learn that our Government is in possession of the ultimate conditions on which Mexico will consent to make a peace with the United States, and that it has determined to accede to them, if Congress will enable the Executive to meet the views of Mexico. It will be seen by reference to the epitome of the Congressional proceedings of yesterday, that he committees on Foreign Relations in both Houses, have already moved the appropriation of large sums of money to be placed at the disposition of the President in treating for peace with the enemy.

[MLD]
We notice that several of the letter-writers of the Army assert, that the base of the future operations of the army will be at Tampico, or at the highest navigable point on the Panuco. If they, like General Scott, had been "studying the Southern routes of Mexico," they would not have made an assertion so utterly absurd. The route from Tampico to the table lands of the interior is a mere bridle path, the wagons and artillery carriages cannot be transported by this route, unless they are taken to pieces and carried on the backs of pack mules. On the route to the Capitol before Monterey and Saltillo, there is an excellent wagon road, and all the baggage, artillery, and military stores of the army can be conveyed to the cit of Mexico by this route, as well as upon that of the great wagon roads of the Union. If Gen. Taylor could turn pack and commence a new plan of operations at Tampico, he would command a blunder that might require three months to repair. The main army can prosecute the campaign with ten fold effect by the great road on the table lands from Saltillo to Mexico, and then could be reinforced by detachments of the light troops by the tampico route, just at the point where the Mexicans can concentrate a large force from the populous district around San Luis Postosi, and consequently where reinforcements would be more needed.

General Orders, No. 2

WAR DEPARTMENT, Adjutant General’s Office, Washington, January 8, 1847.

1. The following act of Congress, changing the term of enlistment, and providing bounty for recruits, is published for the information and guidance of the offices of the Army:

"An Act to encourage enlistments in the Regular Army:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, during the continuance of the war with Mexico, the term of enlistment of the men to be recruited for the regiments of dragoons, artillery, infantry, and riflemen, of the present military establishment, shall be ‘during the war,’ or five years, at the option of the recruit, unless sooner discharged.

"Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That there shall be allowed and paid to every able bodied man who shall be duly enlisted to serve in the artillery or infantry, for the term of five years or during the war, a bounty of twelve dollars; but the payment of six dollars of the said bounty shall be deferred until the recruit shall have joined for duty the regiment in which he is to serve."

II. The general superintendents of the recruiting service will give prompt and all necessary instructions to the recruiting officers, who will immediately publish this general order, with the table of established rates of pay agreeably to existing laws annexed, three times in two newspaper in the vicinity of their respective rendezvous.

III. The term of service will hereafter be, "during the war" with Mexico, or for five years, as the recruit may prefer. The blanks now in use will answer for five years men, by writing on the back of the enlistment, in due form, the required receipt for the advanced bounty; and they will also suffice for the new term until new blanks can be printed, by substituting the word "during war," in the hand writing of the recruiting officer, for the words "five years," as printed in the prescribe oath of allegiance.

IV. Company commanders will add two columns to the muster rolls, and muster and pay rolls now in use, to show the payments on account of "bounty." In the first column will be charged the advanced bounty paid to the soldier at the time of his enlistment; in the second thereafter joining for duty the regiment in which he is to serve. Recruiting officers will add similar columns to the blank muster rolls, muster and pay rolls, and muster and descriptive rolls, &c., respectively, furnished the recruiting service.

V. The term of service having been changed from five years to during the war with Mexico, and a bounty of twelve dollars allowed, it is expedient that the rank and file of the army will be filled in a short time, with due exertion and activity on the part of the recruiting officers who will explain fully to the recruit before he enlists the condition upon which he enters the service.

VI. Whenever recruiting stations prove unsuccessful, they must be abandoned and new one established; and if any officer fail to get recruited at more than one station, he shall be relied and ordered by the superintendent to join his regiment.
THE POLICY OF THE SOUTH

All patriots and lovers of the Union, based as it is upon compromises of sectional interests and feelings must deprecate the mischievous and reckless introduction, by leading Northern politicians, of the delicate question of slavery into the discussions upon the future disposition of Mexican territory acquired as an indemnity for the debts due by Mexico, and for the many gross outrages inflicted upon us. We had hoped that Congress would have promptly furnished men and money to prosecute the war to a satisfactory and pacific termination, leaving to a future period the terms upon which territory so acquired shall be admitted into the Union. Let us first fight the battled out; defeat, by a few decisive blows, the unaccountable insolence and infatuated obstinacy of Mexico, and, when we shall have acquired the territory, and effected a peace, we may deliberate among ourselves what course to pursue in disposing of said territory.

But the politicians of the North have willed it otherwise. At a moment when harmony and union in our national councils were so vital to the vigorous prosecution of the war and the elevation of the nation's credit; when money was called for to sustain our brave soldiers in the field, and more men needed, to reinforce our troops in Mexico, and sweep down the Mexican army; we see the firebrand of slavery thrust into the arena, and the torch of disunion flanted in the face of the South. We are glad to see the South united firmly on this question. It soars far above all other subjects—and, unless, the South be true to herself now, we may expect to see all her rights trampled in the dust. Let the South stand firm, and we cannot doubt that there will be found in Pennsylvania and in the West patriotic spirits sufficient to ward off the blow aimed at our rights and at the blessed Union. But let her falter in the least, and the most direful consequences may ensue.

These reflections are suggested by the course we see pursued by some few of the southern press. The free States threaten to dissolve the Union, if any more slave territory be added to the confederacy. In other words, if all future acquisitions of territory, whether by conquest or by purchase, be not surrendered up to the free laborers of the North and West will break up the Union. The South has ever shown a steady devotion to their Union. In peace she has borne heavy taxation to sustain the common Government, but more than that, to foster the peculiar interests of the North. In war, she has shed her best blood and poured out her rich treasures, to defend the honor and safety of the whole confederacy. For the sake of the Union, she made heavy concessions to the North, in consenting that all territory North of thirty-six degrees thirty minutes of latitude should be free from slavery. She is now asked to go further, to give up all her just and equitable rights in the partnership, and to yield to the grasping aims of the North, which demand that the South shall have no interest in the territory hereafter acquired—which is the common property both of the free and of the slave States—and that the North shall have all said territory, to be converted into a cordon of free States on our borders. Devoted as the south is to the Union, she cannot surrender all her power and will not yield to such dictation. It would be a weak and fatal policy in her to allow such usurpation and appropriation of a joint domain to the sole use of the free States. She is willing to accede to the line of the Missouri Compromise, which has been sanctioned by time and usage, and by the spirit of the whole country.—She cannot recede an inch farther, whatever be the consequences. In any event, her skirts will be free from blame.

But some of the southern papers say, why push on the war, if the Mexican territory acquired as an indemnity be admitted, through the action of the free States, as free territory, to the exclusion of Southern rights? Why not stop the war and withdraw our forces, and not add another inch of territory, to the exclusion of Southern rights? Why not stop the war and withdraw our forces, and not add another inch of territory? These very arguments are calculated to encourage the north in their grasping designs. It looks like an entire surrender at discretion of Southern rights to the anti-slavery prejudices of the North. It would, moreover, make our Government the laughing stock of the world, to be insulted and assailed by every nation who fear the progress of our free institutions and would combine to put us down.—It would be a dishonorable retreat from a position which we have boldly taken, and which we cannot abandon without injury and disgrace.—Our true policy is to finish the war, to secure sufficient territory as an indemnity for the wrongs done us by Mexico; and if then the North shall insist upon making the whole territory free, and force us to a separation, the South may yet receive for her won use an equitable share in the territory thus acquired by her own blood and treasure. May that day be far distant; but if we now ingloriously surrender the advantages obtained in Mexico, we apprehend that it will give new encouragement to the Northern fanatics and hasten the fatal moment.
The Legislature of this State convened on the 11th inst. The Senate was organized by Lieut. Gov. Trasimund Landry taking the Chair—and the House by the election of P.W. Farrar (Whig) Speaker; he having received 40 votes, and some of them Democratic, Mr. Phillips 30, and Mr. Molse 2. The last named gentlemen are Democrats.

Gov. Isaac Johnson sent in his annual message. It is a beautiful composition, full of patriotic views and wise suggestions. A large portion of it is devoted to the consideration of the Mexican war, the causes which produced it, and the noble part which Louisiana bore in furnishing troops for the field. We make an extract, to show how Louisiana regard this war which was forced upon us, but which the Whig press, in their blind party opposition, so falsely attribute to the President’s own creation:

"I regret that I cannot announce peace with Mexico: the war still continues: the causes which led to it, the long unbroken series of outrage, spoliation and indignity, to which our citizens and the national honor had been subjected by a government and people not sufficiently enlightened to place a just estimate on the obligations which a position among civilized and independent nations imposes, and too powerless to enforce an observance of them, even if the disposition to do so existed, the constant forbearance of our government which seemed only to invite a constant infliction of wrongs, the rejection of our peaceful overtures repeatedly offered, the refusal, on a flimsy pretext, to receive an Ambassador from us, who was sent out as a messenger of peace, with plenary powers to adjust all difficulties, and the actual invasion of our territory and attack upon the army of occupation, have been so clearly and fully set forth in the official communication of the President to Congress, that it would be in vain for me to attempt to add anything to so masterly and triumphant a vindication of the necessity of the war and the justice of our cause."

Governor J. sees in the brilliant successes of the United States army and the alacrity with which our people submit to sacrifices in vindicating the honor of their country, a guarantee of "those future triumphs which will secure us all that is desired—indemnity for past injuries and security against a repetition of them."

"The amount expended by the State in equipping and sending forward the six regiments which were dispatched to the Rio Grande last Spring, was, including interest, 263,950 dollars and 5 cents. This sum has been refunded by the General Government, wish the exception of a very small amount, which is yet suspended.

The sword voted to General Taylor by Louisiana, is ready to be delivered to him whenever he shall announce his pleasure to receive this valuable and richly earned present. Its blade bears the motto, "Bis vincil qui se vincit in Victoria"—an appropriate compliment to one who has displayed as much modesty in wearing honors as gallantry in achieving victories.

The Governor warmly appeals to the Legislature to comply with the injunction of the Constitution to establish a system of free schools throughout the State. The condition of the Treasury is exhibited in the following passage:

"The Treasurer’s Report will exhibit a general statement of the receipts and disbursements of the State Government during the last fiscal year, ending on the 31st of December, and shows a balance in the Treasury on that day of 391,785 dollars and 61 cents, which is an excess over the amount in the Treasury, at the end of the preceding fiscal year, of 166,785 dollars and 61. The State debt proper is 1,293,000 dollars a small portion of which falls due in June 1848, and may be provided for by this or the next Legislature. The report will expose the defects

"If the free States threaten to dissolve the Union, because not allowed to dictate terms, let them do so. Let them go out of the co-partnership, and welcome. But, in going, they will even then have to submit to an equitable division of the public domain. In either event, whether they stay in or go out, the South will not give up her fair share of the spoils of the vanquished. New Mexico and California are now, by the fortunes of war, American domain. They are, or are to be, permanent acquisitions. No body can seriously believe that he Anglo-Saxon race which has now planted its foot there will abandon them. The Southern States have contributed their proportion at least, to obtain them. There population will insist on the right of settling them, in common with their fellow citizens of other States, and will carry their institutions along with them. The Mexicans can never drive them out, even if inclined to do so. They will not allow their own country men to do it, who go there with no greater rights than themselves. It may in time become a matter of compromise, as to a fair division of the territory between the slave-holding and non-slaveholding States. But the South will not be bullied into an abandonment of the country by the threats of the free States. The South yielded more than she should have done in the Missouri compromise. She then went to the very extremity of concession. It was grave concession, that slavery should not under any circumstances extend North of a prescribed line; instead of that being left, as it should have been, to be governed by the option of the citizens of the soil."
and practical inconvenience of an act to provide for the appointment of the assessors for the State approved 1st June, 1846 which, together with the remedies suggested, I commend to your attention.”

The message concludes with a glowing and beautiful eulogy upon Alexander Barrow, the late United States Senator.

Friday, January 22, 1847 RE47v43n77p4c3  87 words

The Secretary Of War has informed the adjutant General of Massachusetts that it is highly important that the regiment from that State should be ready for embarkation by the 15th of this month, and instructions have been given to the proper officers to provide the necessary transports. The Secretary says the embarkation will not be delayed, should the regiment consist of not less than 8 companies. Instructions have also been given to muster into service the full complement of field and staff officers for the whole regiment.

Friday, January 22, 1847 RE47v43n77p4c3  278 words

In the N.O. Commercial Times we find the following items of news in regard to Yucatan, which seems to be in an anomalous position—afraid to break with either Mexico or the United States, and alternately holding out promises of adhesion to he one or the other, as its motives of interest suggest:

A Mexican schooner, bearing a flag of truce, arrived from Campeachy on the 24th. She brought the news of a declaration of the independence of that province from the central government, and claiming for her ports the privileges of neutrals, which it is believed Com. Conner refused, unless they hoisted the American flag. Merida and the country adjacent had refused to unite in the movement, and proposed to put it down by force of arms. The Campeachanos had marched upon Merida with a force of 2500 men, the Meridians having 4000. It was supposed by the captain of the flag of truce that a decisive battle was fought on the 21st ult., that being the latest date from the army, at which time they were within a few miles of each other. The flag of truce left Anton with the answer of Comm. Conner on the 27th.

The officers of the British fleet at Sacrificios, stated that they had heard from the city of Mexico that the Finance Committee in the Mexican Congress had reported that in order to carry on the war the Government would require $250,000 per month, and stated that the sum of $90,000 was all that could possibly be raised, which sum they depended upon the church for.

The health of the officers and crews of the squadron was very good.

Friday, January 22, 1847 RE47v43n77p4c3  456 words

MEXICO

A vessel has arrived at New Orleans from Vera Cruz, but brought no later news than we have received by the Mississippi. The Picayune furnishes the following interesting intelligence in relation to the new Vice President, and to the Janus faced Administration of Mexico.

It is a remarkable feature of the news, and one which exhibits the vicissitudes of public life in Mexico in a striking phases, that Gomez Farias is Vice President under Santa Anna. Farias was once before Vice President during Santa Anna’s Presidency. His wily superior, knowing the hostility of Farias to the hierarchy, and desirous of improving the finances by a confiscation of the church property, set him to work to digest a plan and prepare the public mind for seizing upon the ecclesiastical estates. The effort failed utterly, and the Government, was about being made to feel the power of an interest it had alarmed, when Santa Anna deserted Gomez Farias, threw upon him the odium of the scheme, and escape himself from the storm he had helped to raise. Gomez Farias was banished the State and for a number of years resided in this city with his family, pinched by necessity and oppressed with care. Santa Anna in time was overthrown and banished by Paredes.—Farias, immediately upon the fall of he dictator, returned to Mexico, where he has ever since taken a conspicuous part in the political affairs of the country. Santa Anna, by a sudden revolution in public opinion, was recalled from banishment, and now these two politicians, as opposite as the poles in principles, and hating each other with a rancor that has been nurtured in disgrace, occupy the first and second offices in the Republic Farias is a reformer of the progressive party; his opinions are of the term, and as bitter against religious as political trammels. Santa Anna is just what his interest for the time being requires him to be. The close proximity of two such men does not augur well of the durability of the Government which they administer, nor of the suavity that may qualify their councils.
In so far as the election to office of two men occupying the extremes of political faction may interpret the public opinion of Mexico, I may indicate a fusion of all parties, a union of all cliques, sects, divisions and classes of the people in one great war party. Gomez Farias was, if anything, the most violent of all Mexican politicians against the dismemberment of Texas and he may have united with Santa Anna to set an example of the suppression of personal and political hatred in forming an alliance for the object of consolidating the strength of the state against a common enemy.

Friday, January 22, 1847 RE47v43n77p4c2  353 words

VISIT OF COL. HAMTRAMCK

We learn from the Petersburg Republican that Col. Hamtramck paid a visit to that town on Wednesday last. He was received at the railroad depot by a large procession of the civil and military, headed by a deputation from the Common Council. Col. Hamtramck was accompanied by Major. Gwynn, President of the James River and Kanawha Company, Messrs. Thompson (of Jefferson) and Syme of the House of Delegates.

The Colonel was presented by Mr. Syme, who in a few appropriate remarks introduced him to Thomas S. Gholson, and tendered him a cordial welcome to the civilities and hospitalities of the town. The Colonel made an eloquent and happy reply, and referred in terms of high eulogy to the former history and present position of the "Cockade Town." All who heard his address felt that he had the mind and the nerve to command the Virginia Regiment.

After assigning the Colonel and his aids their positions, they were escorted to the Bollingbrook, where they (with a few citizens) partook of an excellent dinner. A number of pleasant sentiments were drunk at dinner, which called forth eloquent addresses from Col. Hamtramck, Messrs. Thompson of Jefferson, Syme and others. Late in the afternoon the company adjourned to Capt. W.M. Robinson’s quarters, where his company was received by the Colonel, who expressed himself pleased with their appearance and condition. They were then conducted to the residence of Col. Geo. W. Bolling, who received them in a soldier-like style. At 9 o’clock, the guests, with a large company of both civil and military, sat down to a fine supper prepared at the Bollingbrook. During the evening addresses were called forth from Col. Hamtramck, Gen. Butts, Co. Swan, Col. Bolling, Maj. Rosser, Messrs. Thomson of Jefferson, Syme and others—and the evening passed off most agreeably; and when the hour of 12 arrived, all seemed to regret that the moment for sundering the ties so lately formed was so near.

On Thursday morning the guests were escorted to the depot by the military companies, and at half-past 8 o’clock took their departure for Richmond.

Friday, January 22, 1847 RE47v43n77p4c2  22 words

Reuben Davis Esq., has been elected Colonel of the new Regiment of Mississippi Volunteers, mustered into service at Vicksburg, 1,000 men strong.

Friday, January 22, 1847 RE47v43n77p4c7 IMPORTANT IF TRUE

From the Washington Fountain.

We read in the La Patria of the 31st ult. a Spanish paper published in New Orleans, by Aleman & Gomez, the following extraordinary revelation of the new plan of operations in the war with Mexico:

"The government appears to confide much in Gen. Scott, who has just gone to the field of operations, and from whose diplomatic and military tactics, it hopes to gain great advantages. The plan of operations, we learn, is as follows:

General Taylor, instead of moving upon San Luis Potosi, will repair to Saltillo, where he will remain for a short period. Gen. Scott, after having made some arrangements on the Rio Grande, will hasten to Tampico, where he will assume the command of the 7000 volunteers recently called out and ordered to assemble at that point. From Tampico Gen. Scott will march towards Vera Cruz, and Gen. Taylor will make a simultaneous movement towards Tampico with all the troops he can muster, after leaving sufficient force to garrison Saltillo, Monterey, Victoria, &c. and in union with Gen. Worth’s division, will join Gen. Scott, who will have at his command the new military are of rocketeers and howitzers."
At the proper moment, fifteen or sixteen vessels of the American squadron, with a force of from 230 to 300 guns of all sizes and calibres, will appear off San Juan de Ulloa, and begin the attack upon the castle. According to the new plan of operations the land forces will rendezvous at the mouth of the river at Antigua, which empties into the Gulf a short distance to the North of Vera Cruz, and ascend the same to where the main road to Jalapa crosses it. If this plan be speedily put into execution, there can be no doubt but that Vera Cruz and the Castle will as speedily fall into the power of the American forces; but if any faith be put in Santa Anna’s declaration, it is plain he will be able to cut off the advance of Gen. Taylor from Saltillo.”

Mr. Gomez, the editor of La Patria, and the author of the above, is the same person who was appointed by Gen. Scott, while tarrying in New Orleans, to be one of his staff, and whose commission was afterwards revoked by the General on the grounds that he was not a friend of the American cause. Did Gomez obtain the above information while he was General Scott’s aid?

Tuesday, January 26, 1847 RE47v43n78p1c1

Twenty-Ninth Congress. 2nd Session.

See Congressional Globe, p. 220

http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=l1cg&fileName=018/l1cg018.db&recNum=251

Tuesday, January 26, 1847 RE47v43n78p1c3   265 words

Every arrival from Mexico goes to prove the truth of the predicament, that the course pursued by the Whig presses and politicians of this country, (Daniel Webster beyond all,) in denouncing the war as “the President’s war,” and as “unjust, atrocious and damnable,” has had the effect of cheering on the infatuated obstinacy of Mexican rulers, and in uniting their people in determined hostility against us. They see in these anti-American demonstrations what they regard as positive evidence of the justice of their cause, and endless and incurable dissensions among our own people. The Diario, the official organ of Mexico, of the 20th December, comments upon extracts from American papers, exaggerating the expenditures occasioned by the war, and the difficulty of procuring loans. It says:

“This proves that the position of the United States, with respect to pecuniary resources, is not so advantageous as some suppose. The war is much more costly to them than to us; and they are compelled, therefore, to make great sacrifices. We infer from this, that if Mexico makes an effort—if the sovereign Congress should grant resources to the Government, and if all classes of society are prepared to contribute, in proportion to the exigency of affairs, our situation is not hopeless, and we may yet prevail over our enemies.”

In the same article it refers to the threat of an impeachment of Mr. Polk, and says:

“"In our opinion this is highly important, as it shows what is the opinion entertained even in the United States with regard to the injustice of the war carried on against Mexico."”

[MLD]

Tuesday, January 26, 1847 RE47v43n78p1c3   503 words

The Legislature of North Carolina adjourned last Monday, after passing 78 public laws, 134 private acts and 71 resolutions. Among their acts was one appropriating $10,000 to the equipment and support of their regiment of volunteers for the Mexican war. The whigs did not, however, adopt his necessary measure, without taking sides with the public enemy against their own Government—for the Preamble to the Resolution falsified history in stating that the war was brought about by our own Government.—The Democrats voted for the resolution, with a protest against the false and mischievous sentiments of the preamble. They sustained themselves manfully in the debate and their withering denunciations of the unpatriotic course of the Federal party, must tend to open the eyes even of North Carolina Whiggery.

It was not enough of the Federal members to violate all rules of justice in re-apportioning the Congressional districts and gerrymandering the State for their own political advantage. They must fill up the measure of faction by adopting a preamble, which was denounced on the floor of the Commons as Mexican, and which, in its effect, virtually takes the side of Mexico. The Raleigh Standard refers to one independent Whig who had the manliness to defy party thralldom and act the part of an American patriot. It was “Mr. McKesson of Burke who stood forth for the truth—who told his party to their faces that their preamble, charging the war on the President, was unpatriotic in its nature and dangerous in its tendency.”
The Democratic members did their whole duty, and defended their country's cause. "Mr. Courts hoped that
this 'infamous preamble' would be destroyed—that this 'foul stigma' upon the State would be wiped out. Mr. Bullock
said 'he did not intend to be personal towards the gentleman from Hertford, but he must say, that if he had come
into that Hall a stranger, when Mr. Rayner was speaking, he should have taken him for a Mexican."

He Federalists refused even to vote for a resolution "declaring, in substance, that North Carolina would
sustain and support the U. States in the Mexican war; and this, after a warm discussion, in which Messrs. Mebane,
Bayne, Rayner, Courts and Baxter took part, was decided in the negative—yeas 55, nays 59."

In voting for the preamble and resolution which the Federalists refused to separate, Mr. Austin answered in
the negative, and gave notice that he should avail himself of his constitutional privilege to protest against the
preamble. Mr. Bullock voted "aye for the American resolution, and no to the Mexican preamble." Messrs. Flemming
and Griggs delivered their votes in the same language. Mr. Jackson said, "No! his conscience would not let him vote
for the preamble." Mr. McKesson voted for the resolution, protesting against the preamble. Messrs. McMullen, Neal,
Courts, Stone, and others, voted in the same language. Mr. Webster voted for the resolution, but against "the truth
of the preamble;" and Mr. J. H. White voted for the resolution; protesting against the "abominable preamble."

"A BUDGET OF BLUNDERS.—Several misstatements, which appear to have originated in this city, are now in
circulation in the newspapers.—Such as that General Taylor has been recalled from the army of Mexico, and that he
has been ordered to Washington. Such, too, is the rumor, said to be founded on the authority of Commodore Perry,
that 'the Castle of San Juan de Ullos is not to be attacked, and also that Commodore Perry will not return to the Gulf
of Mexico.' We know not upon what authority these things have been reported; but certain it is we do not believe
there is any adequate authority or foundation for either of these statements."

"You will see in the proceedings of the New York Legislature, that the Locofoco members voted against making
appropriations for the soldiers who are volunteering for the service in Mexico. This is not surprising. A party who
support the President in appointing Santa Anna to lead the Mexican forces against us, cannot be expected to vote for
supplies to Gen. Taylor, whose duty it is to meet and conquer Santa Anna. These things will be remembered."

The above is taken from a letter of "Brutus," the correspondent of the Whig. He charged us, not long, since,
with a want of fairness. Let us see how his own course comports with candor and propriety. It is true, as he says,
that the Democratic members of the New York Legislature did vote against such a resolution—but he cautiously
suppresses the fact that they did so because of the Mexican preamble, which declared that the President of the
United States has involved this Republic in a war with Mexico. This statement, so abhorrent to the truth and to the
plain duty of American patriots in a period of war, influenced their vote, though we think the democrats erred in not
voting the appropriation.—They might well have acted as the Democrats of the North Carolina Legislature towards a
similar proposition—voted the money, and denounced and protested against the "Mexican" preamble. So much for
the "fair" representations of "BRUTUS."

Let us look a little further into the motives of this Anti-American preamble. It was moved by a Mr. Bloss of
Rochester, an out and out Whig Abolitionist, of the Giddings "stripe." His avowed object was that they should adopt
such a preamble as would be a justification to the members in the eyes of their several constituencies, "for voting
money not asked for, for purposes of the General Governments. Cannot the most casual observer see the plain drift
of the preamble passed by the Whigs, which is to exculpate Mexico from all blame, and to fix upon the
Administration the stigma of having provoked the unjust acts the war with that nation?

The New York Globe unfolds the history of this Mr. Bloss, and exposes the inconsistency of his conduct. On the
27th of May last, at a meeting of the citizens of Rochester "to sustain the Administration in its prosecution of the
existing war," (this is the language of the Whig organ of Rochester,) Mr. Bloss made a flaming war speech, in which
he said nothing of the President having "involved us in the war," as his preamble now falsely states. A series of
resolutions was unanimously and by acclamation adopted. After dwelling upon the blessings of peace, which cannot
be too highly prized or too strongly cherished, the resolutions proceed as follows. We quote this expression of
opinion by a Whig city at length, because it shows how the question was regarded, before the mist of party had
clouded the political horizon and perverted the vision of politicians.—Then it was Mexico, who had covered us with
insult and injury, and trampled upon American soil and rights. Now, in the opinion of these same Whigs, it is the American Government that has been guilty of every species of "aggression" and "involved us in war:"

“There is a point with nations, as well as with individuals, beyond which "forbearance not only ceases to be a virtue," but becomes positively its opposite; and we believe the American people have now reached that "point" in their "forbearance" with the wrongs and outrages committed upon them by the faithless government of Mexico: She has plundered our commerce, robbed and imprisoned our citizens, and committed aggressions and cruelties that would no for a moment have been tolerated or left unavenged, had they been perpetrated by a power claiming equality with our own; but in a spirit of forbearance and toleration that would have been dishonorable and pusillanimous in any but a powerful and mighty nation towards a weak and puerile one, the American government has sought redress by peaceful and conciliatory negotiations, while Mexico has met our claims for restitution, and our overtures ofconciliation, with false promises and still more faithless performances—she has treated our ministers sent thither with messages of peace and compromise, with contempt and insult—and, finally, after agreeing but recently to receive our envoy to negotiate a settlement of our difficulties, she against falsified her pledges, refused him an audience, and compelled him o demand his passports and depart; and at last, to cap the climax, she has sent her banditti and soldiers upon American soil and drenched it with the blood of American citizens.”

“Resolved, then, That the war which Mexico has thus wantonly commenced, ought to be prosecuted with vigor and ceaseless energy, by this Government, affensively as well as defensively, until the Mexican hordes are not only driven from our soil, but, if need be, until the Mexican government shall be compelled to sue for peace beneath the star spangled banner as it waves in triumph over the vaunted “Halls of the Montezumas."

One of the present editors of the Whig Albany Evening Journal offered a resolution approving “the action already taken by Congress, THE EXECUTIVE AND HIS COUNSELLORS, to prosecute the war and maintain the assailed dignity of the nation.” This, too, was unanimously adopted.—Need we a stronger comment than this brief history upon the inconsistent and party character of the “Mexican” movements of the Whigs in the New York Legislature? Such is a fair specimen of the Whig leaders everywhere. When Gen. Taylor marched his army to he Rio Grande, not a murmur of disapprobation was heard. Nothing was then said of our “aggression” upon Mexican soil—no voice was raised to deprecate the movement, as inevitably leading to the war, in spite of the remarkable forbearance shown by us, the Whigs raised the slogan of party, charged the President with having produced the war by sending Gen. Taylor to the Rio Grande, which, if he had not done, these same censors would have taken the other side and held him up as justly amenable to impeachment! Such is the consistency, the justice of the Whig leaders!

[MLD]

Tuesday, January 26, 1847 RE47v43n78p2c7

For the Enquirer,

An article which appeared in the Enquirer of this morning, in regard to the appointments of captains in the regiment of Virginia Volunteers is couched in such fair and moderate terms, and displays so much of proper spirit and tempest, and is so becoming on the part of the friend of Capt. Carrington, that I cannot consent to continue a dissension with “Justice” on this delicate matter—a discussion which ought never to have been forced into the public journals, and in reference to which the errors of fact and of argument into which “Justice” had in his last article [...]. One word more—I know Capt. Carrington—[...] esteem and respect him, and never designed to say an “unkind” thing of him. That he will make an excellent and gentlemanly officer, no one is more sure than

AMICUS

January 25, 1847.
[MLD]

Tuesday, January 26, 1847 RE47v43n78p2c7   142 words

For the Enquirer,

BRIGADIER GENERAL.

The writer of this knows Major Walter Gwynn, and hopes he may be appointed to the command of the Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina Regiments. There is no one possessing in a more eminent degree the great requisites of a military commander. He is an educated soldier, being a distinguished graduate of West Point—a man of indomitable energy, chastened and regulated by a cool well-balanced judgment; has a faculty to command and a tact to inspire confidence; and, in truth, is peculiarly suited to the office above alluded to. It is true he would be a serious loss to the great work over which he presides, (James [...] and Kanawha Canal)—Yet he can do more service to the country at large, just now, in the field, and there we hope he may be called.
We shall publish very soon a confidential letter from Gen. Taylor of the 9th November, addressed to a friend in New York, which has been published in the N.Y. Express, and which has produced much sensation in Washington and elsewhere. In it he rather complains of the want of transports and other available means, which he had expected from the Government, and proceeds to justify the armistice at Monterey, with which he says the Government is not satisfied. He is opposed to carrying the war beyond Saltillo, and thinks, if the object is to “conquer a peace,” the only plan is to take Vera Cruz and march on the city of Mexico.—He thinks the most judicious course to be pursued is to take possession, at once, of the line we would accept by negotiation, extending from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific, and occupying the same, or keep what we already have possession of, throwing on Mexico the responsibility and expense of carrying on an offensive war—at the same time closely blockading all her ports on the Pacific and the Gulf.

We cannot conceal our regrets that this private letter should have been so indiscreetly published. We fear that it will do no good to Gen. Taylor, nor to the country now engaged in war. We have always entertained the highest opinion of Gen. T., and should be sorry to see an issue made between himself and the Government, at this particular crisis. We are inclined to think, that, under the present aspect of affair, Congress will “call for the official papers.” In the mean time, we shall express no opinion, until we see the whole facts spread before the country.

The following is an extract of a letter from a member of Captain Scott’s Company, who was a highly esteemed apprentice in the Enquirer office. We wish him success, satisfied that he will do his whole duty in the new life upon which he has embarked. We hope to hear often from him of the movements of the Virginia Regiment, whose valor and efficiency we doubt not will "tell" in battled. We understand that the “May Flower” probably sailed on Sunday. She will take four companies, viz: Captain Scott’s and Captain Bankhead’s, which were on board on Friday, and Captain Harper’s and Captain F. H. Archer’s, which embarked on Saturday. She is represented to be one of the finest and most commodious transport ship in the service. A prosperous voyage and plenty of laurels to her valiant passengers!

To the Editors of the Enquirer:

FORTRESS MONROE, Jan. 20, 1847.

Three companies (Captains Scott, Archer and Harper) of the battalion of Virginia Volunteers, now stationed at this Fort, expect to leave for Mexico to-morrow or the next day in the barque "May Flower." The volunteers here are in good health and high spirits. The soldier’s life is one of privation and hardship; but they all bear it like men and patriots, who are willing to make any sacrifice, and undergo any hardship for the glory and honor of their country; and you may rest assured that the high character of Virginia will never lose any thing in the hands of the Virginia Regiment.

We have had a dreadful snow storm for the last twenty-four hours, and it is now (half past four o’clock) falling very fast. Just imagine the situation of the poor sentinels on the ramparts, and the picket guard in the bleak beach around the Fort, where they have no protection whatever from the storm, such weather as this. How would you like to stand it eight hours during the twenty-four?

W.A.R.
IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO

Demand for Eight Millions of Dollars by Santa Anna—Confiscation of Church Property Contemplated—Threatened Excommunication, &c.,

New York, Jan. 24, 8 P.M.

The New York Sun has received Mexican late via Havana, considerable later than any before received. An express had arrived at the city of Mexico, from Santa Anna, demanding of the Congress eight millions of dollars, and asserting that if he did not receive it the country would be inevitably lost.

The Mexican Congress was in secret session at the latest dates, and a general confiscation of the Church property was contemplated for the purpose of raising the necessary funds. The Clergy are represented to be violently opposed to the confiscation, and that they are threatening to excommunicate not only the Congress, but the Government and the Army.

Tuesday, January 26, 1847

Further evidence of the mischievous effects of the course of Whig politicians and presses assailing their own government and impunity the justice of the war, is to be found in the following extract of a letter to a gentleman of Warrington, published in the Union:

Cuba, Jan. 7, 1847.

Dear Sir—I wish half a dozen of the members of your House were here to hear what is said of the war. This is the rendezvous of Mexican and all those coming from their coast bound Europe, and more can be learned in a week the state of sentiment in Mexico, than we won't forget at in a month in the United States. The [...]sis of their obstinacy is perceptible here, and several of those best able to judge have repeated the same thing. The Mexican leaders think a Federalists will sooner or later compel you slacken hostilities. They rely on the avowed opposition to further acquisition of Southern in territory for the final evacuation of the country West of the Rio Grande. This is a truth what you must be here, in the very focus of Mexico [...] opinion, to know. They put great stress up [...] the power of the Congress elect to return the [...] the territory which we have conquered.

Tuesday, January 26, 1847

To the editors of the Enquirer:

Williamsburg, Va., Jan. 7, 1847.

Gentlemen—Can you not prevail on some of your friends in the Legislature to suggest the propriety of changing the name of the Colonel [...] the 1st Regiment of Virginia Volunteers? I [...] been very near ruining my month several times in attempting to pronounce that name, and I still fear unless something is done, and that speech [...] that it will yet be the death o me. I hail with proud satisfaction the appointment of Col. [...] and feel confident that the safety of our men, and the honor of our State, could not have been omitted to worthier hands—but then that name. Who, when reading of the brilliant charges a glorious exploits of Col. Hamtramck’s Regiment will ever for one moment suppose that it [...] from the Old Dominion and is composed of Virginians? Oh, no, sir! It will never do! [...] Sober, sedate, smoking friends (the German) will reap all the honor an glory which the gallant Colonel and his indomitable men are destined to win in the fields of Mexico.

A VIRGINIAN

Tuesday, January 26, 1847

LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA

Wednesday January 29, 1847.

SENATE
The Senate having been called to order, Mr. BONDURANT [...] the vacation of the chair until both houses were ready to proceed to the joint order of the day.

The following act was communicated from the House:

An act providing for the punishment of certain offences within the cities and boroughs of this Commonwealth. (Referred to the committee for Courts of Justice.)

ELECTIONS OF U.S. SENATOR.

A message was received from the House of Delegates by Mr. Carson, announcing the readiness of that body to proceed to the joint order of the day; and also informing the Senate that the following gentlemen had been put in nomination: John W. Jones, J.M. Mason, James McDowell, G.W. Summers and G.W. Hopkins.

Mr. WOOLFOLK offered the following joint resolution:

Resolved, That in joint elections, after the vote has been taken, neither branch of the Legislature will proceed to a new ballot until its communicated with the other.

The CHAIR decided the resolution to be out of order, and it was altogether withdraw at the suggestion of Mr. WITCHER, who stated that there was upon the statute book a law to that effect.

Mr. BRAXTON remarked, that he would vote for Mr. Jones, unless some Senator would assure him that Mr. Hunter did not intend to move to Jefferson; if so, he intimated that he would support a Western man—not because he considered the West entitled to the Senator, (for he wished to see all sectional feeling dropped,) but as a matter of country.

Mr. MOORE. I do not rise to make a nomination speech, because I think such speeches are generally more indicative of an imaginative mind in the speaker, than of an merit in the candidate. I intend to vote for Mr. Summers, not alone because he is a Whig, but because I consider him the ...apple of the nominees. If however, as will probably be the case, I should find it impossible to elect Mr. Summers, I shall be compelled to choose between the others, and my vote shall be case for James McDowell.

Mr. STIGER, signified his intention of voting for Mr. McDowell for Senator, believing him to be preeminently qualified for discharging the duties of that or any other office that the people could place him in.

Mr. McWULLES went into quite an elaborate speech, supporting the claims o George W. Hopkins for the Senatorship. He alluded to the lat war and at the present time—he stated that Western Virginia had sent company after company—that she had poured out her heart's blood in defence of Virginia—all she asked, was to have her interests represented in the United States Senate. After eulogizing Mr. Hopkins very highly as a statesmen and jurist, Mr. McMullen brought up several convincing arguments to prove that Mr. Hopkins was not at all tinned with Whiggery. He felt concerned on the subject because it was the first time that a trans-Alleghany candidate had ever been presented to eh Assembly, and he did think that Western Virginia was entitled to the Senator. He would vote for him, knowing that a large majority of his constituents, as well as himself, were anxious for his election.

Mr. COX remarked that he would support Mr. Jones, and from any sectional feeling, for he would hate himself if he could entertain such feelings for a moment. No; he looked upon every foot of Virginia land with as much interest as he did upon the land of his own country—and he considered it his duty to protect the interest of the people of Virginia, not of Chesterfield county alone.

Mr. STANARD expressed the pleasure he felt in knowing that old King Caucus was dead—he was happy to see that a minority would not rise up to control a majority of the Legislature, as they had attempted a few days previous. He should vote form Mr. Summers and hoped the Whig party would stick to him as long as it should be practicable; if he found it impossible to effect an election by so doing, he would then choose from the other nominees the man who in his judgment, was most capable. He wished to assure the member from Scott, that if the West had poured out her blood in defence of the East, that the East had, in return, poured out her treasure in improving the West.

Friday, January 29, 1847 RE47v43n79p1c3

LATER FROM THE ARMY!

From the N.O. Picayune, Jan. [...].

By the U.S. steamer Eudora, Capt. Wilcox, which arrived in Sunday night, we have dates from Brazos Santiago to
the 12th inst., her day of sailing. Gen. Scott was at Brazos Santiago, and it was said had dispatched an express to Gen. Taylor announcing his intention of departing in a few days to join him either at Tampico or Victoria.

A report had been brought to Mier, by a Mexican, as we learn from the Matamoros Flag, in a correspondence from Camargo to that paper, dated the 3d inst., that Gen. Quitman, with 2000 volunteers, had given battle the preceding day to 1300 Mexicans under Gen. Urrea, two leagues north of Victoria. The report was not credited by the officers of the army at Camargo. The letter also states that Gen. Taylor is about six days march in the rear of Gen. Q., with 3000 regulars. Gen. Worth was still at Saltillo, and had been reinforced by three regiments of Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana volunteers. Gen. Wool was in camp fifteen miles from Saltillo on the San Luis road, with 1500 Mexican lancers hovering around in his immediate vicinity.

Our own correspondence, which will be found below, furnishes the latest intelligence from Saltillo.

Gen. Patterson and his division had arrived at San Fernando on his way to Victoria. The Flag’s correspondent writes that the ayuntamiento came out from the town to meet and welcome him. The 1st Indiana Regiment, Col. Drake, had arrived at Matamoros from Camargo to relieve the 3d Ohio Regiment, Col. Curtis, who were awaiting orders from Gen. Scott.

The U.S. steamer Giraffe was wrecked about forty miles south of the mouth of the Rio Grande, on the 7th inst., and four lives lost.

Correspondence of the Picayune.)
Saltillo, Mexico, Dec. 20, 1846.

Since I wrote to you last the aspect of things has taken a different course, and now there is but little doubt in the mind of every one connected with the army, that before another month has passed, another terrible battle will be fought in the neighborhood of this place.

An express was sent last Tuesday to Monterey, and another to Gen. Wool, for reinforcements. Three companies of Col. Marshall’s Kentucky Mounted riflemen arrived here by a forced march from Monterey on Thursday night last, and yesterday evening the Kentucky and Ohio regiments came in and encamped below town. An express which came in from Parris yesterday evening reports that Gen. Wool, with his command, may be expected in the neighborhood to-morrow evening.

Of the orders which have been issued since the excitement commenced one is, that three days’ cooked provisions shall be kept on hand. A drummer is to be attached to the different guards, ready to beat the long roll and give the alarm; that the accoutrements and arms of the sick shall all be taken to the hospital, and that every man shall hold himself in readiness to be called out at a moment’s warning. Gen. Butler came up with the Ohio and Kentucky troops.

A mail from this place, containing important documents of the future movements of the Mexican army and plans for the recapture of this place, was captured on its way to San Luis by a scouting party of dragoons a few days since. A large body of lancers are known to be scouting the country between here and San Luis, and not far from us at that, and they are almost known to be the advance guard of the main army of the enemy. Of the various accounts of the troops at her disposal of Santa Anna at San Luis, none fall short of 32000 men.

Our officers and men are in fine spirits, and eager to meet the self-styled Napoleon, to administer to him the same kind of dose they have given his predecessors. A portion of our forces, probably Gen. Wool’s command, is to take immediate possession of the Linares pass, which is about 35 miles from here. The three companies of Kentucky mounted men here are to leave early to-morrow morning on a scouting expedition. I pity any Mexican force that crosses their path, for they appear to be a second edition of the Texas Rangers, and any one of them is good for three Mexicans. They have not smelt gunpowder yet, but this only renders them more anxious for a chance to show what the Kentucky boys are made of.

Gen. Worth, who has been sick for the last two weeks, is out again today. The weather is a little too cold here to be pleasant, and the night before last we had ice half and inch thick. I forgot to mention that Webster’s battery [two 24-pound howitzers] is here.

Yours, &c., ALTO.

[MPR]

Friday, January 29, 1847 RE47v43n79p1c1 716 words

LATER FROM THE ARMY.

In another column we give copious extracts from the New Orleans Picayune. The letter from Saltillo expresses the opinion that a battle may soon be expected in that vicinity—but the new Orleans Commercial Times publishes a
letter from Matamoras, January 9, which says:

"My information from Saltillo is to the 29th inst., and from Monterey two days later. A correspondent, speaking of the message for the President of Mexico, says 'it breathes war, but with a coming diffidence.' The best informed inhabitants at Saltillo and Monterey are of opinion the Congress will accept the proposition of our President to appoint ministers to negotiate, and say they are for a peace. Here the message excites to sensation, so far as can be yet seen.

"Gen. Butler commands at Saltillo, and has the brigades of Wool, Worth and Lane, besides the artillery and dragoons corps, in that neighborhood. There is no apprehension of any attack.—The main body of the Mexican army was still about San Luis. Gen. Marshall has the chief military command about Monterey, whilst Col Garland continues to govern the city.

"General Taylor, it is said, arrived at Linares on the 30th ult. IF so, he has reached Victoria before this time."

The writer speaks of the great losses to Government and individuals, from the storms at Brazos Santiago—some 10 or 15 vessels being ashore. He refers also to the frequent assassinations, riots and robberies at Matamoras, and hopes that Congress will speedily make some provision for the government of territory, pending our occupation of it—as was done in California and Santa Fe, against which the Whigs made so foolish a clamor. A story was current [...] the strong probability of a battle at Victoria on the 2d, but it was discredited.

"General Scott returned here on the 6th inst. From Camargo. He told me that every thing was quiet above, and no probability of any hostile collision at present. He said, for the next ten or fifteen days, he should be at the Brazos Santiago, and in this place. He was asked in my hearing, to what point he would go when he should leave here; he replied—to the point circumstances should make it necessary at the time. No one is authorized to so on what point he will move, or when he will go. You are as well qualified to conjecture his destination as any of those in this quarter, who effect to speak ex cathedra. One thing you may confidently rely on. He will go to the place where the best chance for a fight offers, and he will go as soon as it is possible to get a force sufficient to fight with success. He reveals the importance, if not necessity, of making prompt and efficient movement. Those who march under his banner, may be certain of a fight, if the Mexican force can be found to oppose him. The various regiments in depot along the river for months past, are under orders to march, as soon as the new troops coming out all arrive, to relieve them. Generals Taylor and Patterson are marching on Victoria and must soon be there, if not already arrived.—The engineers, with the pioneers and their escort, and at the last accounts, nearly reached Victoria, to the route General Taylor is marching, not having met the least opposition. There is no positive information from the column of Gen. Patterson since he left San Fernando. There is no doubt of his advancing in safety.

"It will be gratifying to the friends of General Scott to learn he is very well received by the troops. His commanding and military appearance combined with the suavity of his manners, this dispelled the prejudices and opinions of many who had never seen him. Gen. Taylor, that sturdy hard soldier, is much gratified to learn of the arrival of the General-in-Chief of our armies. He has time enough to prevent any fears of a rival, and is gallant and generous enough to be willing to [...]are opportunities for distinction with a brother officer, as brave and generous as himself. There will be no rivalry between Generals Scott and Taylor, but upon one point, and that will be who can best serve the country."

[MLD]

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Friday, January 29, 1847 RE47v43n79p1c2  800 words

WHIG PARTIZANSHIP

As we hinted yesterday, Gen. Taylor will, we fear, have ample cause to regret the indiscreet, nay, rash and rabid course of those who call themselves his "friends," but who really put on this garb in order to assail the Administration and further their political ends. As a strong proof of what we say, we quote the following from yesterday's Whig:

[Correspondence of the Richmond Whig .]

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24. 1847.

As I mentioned in my last, it is supposed that Mr. Benton will open his batteries to morrow in the Senate, upon every thing that stands in his way to power. Gen. Taylor, it is supposed, will come in for large share of this abuse. We shall see which will conquer. I believe old General Taylor as thoroughly despises the Locofocos as he does his Mexican enemies, and will show them a fight to which Monterey was but a circumstance.

Looking at the whole conduct of this war, I cannot really see that he Administration desires to have it ended. I believe sincerely that they now wish for General Taylor to meet a reverse of fortune! I do believe that the Administration would not regret to see Santa Anna, Polk's appointed leader to four enemy's army, vanquish General Taylor, for the sake of breaking down his popularity I believe they would not grudge the blood of a thousand American soldiers to effect this object, if they could only have some political partisan to step in afterwards and roll
back this reverse of fortune. This is a serious charge to make, but I believe it, and may as well speak it. Some of the Locofocos make no sort of hesitation in expressing their alarm that the Whigs are gaining the laurels in this war. Therefore these new offices are being created to fill the army with the political partisans, that he war may ensure toothier benefit. They make no secret of either of their deadly hostility to Gen. Taylor. I think a majority of the Locofocos members of Congress would join tomorrow in a vote of censure on old Gen. Taylor, not because they have any ground of complain against him, but because they feel bound, as partisan, to crush him, and rob him of the laurels he has been gaining.

Can the Federal press, even of Massachusetts, whom Mr. Cushing represents as having very rarely been found on the side of its country, exhibit a more stupid series of calumnies upon a Democratic President, as well as upon Gen. Taylor himself? It is here asserted that MR. Benton was about to cover the name of General Taylor with "abuse." Well, Mr. Benton did speak, and with ability and eloquence—but he indulged in no "abuse" of Gen. Taylor. It is next charged that Gen. Taylor "thoroughly despises the Locofocos," who have taken pleasure in crowing his brow with laurels. Can the bitterest Whigs so far hate the Democratic party, as to believe in this violent and wanton feeling attributed to Gen. T.? Upon such evidence, we shall not believe it.

Again—The Administration is libeled as anxious to see Gen. Taylor and our own American army defeated by Mexico, and as not grudging "the blood of a thousand American soldiers," in order to push the fortunes of some political partisan! Such gross assaults need no notice at our hands. They are contrary to every principle of human action, even if it could be substantiated, that the President is swayed by so infamous a motive. But these bitter workings of political hatred will react upon the authors, and arouse in the popular mind an indignant feeling against such monstrous and absurd and suicidal fabrications, gotten up for party effect, and with a view to the triumph of some Whig leader, with his train of monopolies and ruinous invasions of the Constitution.

It is the interference of such "friends" as the Whig's correspondent, that Gen. Taylor should warmly deprecate. Their embrace is deadly—their praise is fatal. For ourselves, we deeply regret the publication of this private letter, by this weak-minded, rash "friend and relative." We honor Gen. T. for his courage on the field and the modesty and good sense which characterize his public dispatches. We shall wait till we see the whole facts of the case, before we express an opinion as to the merits of this letter, which should never have been published. At all events, we shall not be influenced in our judgment by the foolish and bitter ravings of political bigots, who virtually stab the reputation of General Taylor, under the professions of reverence for his name, and seek to pull down a Democratic Administration, by really casting a cloud over the character of the Hero of Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma and Monterey.

From Mexico

The New Orleans papers announce arrivals from Havana, with Vera Cruz dates of the 31st December, but the news is not of special moment. A letter in the Picayune says:

"The present Administration have been elected by so equivocal a vote, and are so decidedly popular in the more important States, that they can hardly be expected to contend successfully with the embarrassments of tier situation. If Santa Anna remains at the head of the army, Farias will of course be entrusted with the civil administration, the burden of which he cannot support. Of course, he will have to sustain the medium of all the embarrassments and all the recourses of the country. If Santa Anna is forced to retreat or loses a battle, he will ship all the same upon those who conduct the administration. And when Farias and his cabinet succumb, and in all human probability they will fall before many months are past, what will come next? If Santa Anna keeps his army together, he will probably march on the capital, and this will be the prelude of a civil war. I do not think the country, under any circumstances, will tolerate Santa Anna's dictatorship. The regiments from Puerta and other Departments now garrisoning Vera Cruz will be quite likely to be withdrawn to lengthen one side or the other, for I apprehend at the shock of civil war will be felt in Central Mexico. Within a short time Vera Cruz may be, as it has before, without a garrison adequate [...] its defence, and then will be the time to strike an effective blow with our forces for its occupation."

Had the election of President been made by votes of the deputies collectively, and not by States, there would have been 96 votes—48 for Santa Anna, and 39 for Eloriaga; and in this [...]e the election would have been contested between the two Governments. [Santa Anna relived the vote of eleven out of the twenty States.] Vice President Gomez Farias, in the absence the President, took charge of the Government, [...]d on being sworn into office, on the 26th December, made a short speech, assuring the nation at the war would be prosecuted with valor and [...]nstanly, "until the justice of our cause would be recognized, and our territory abandoned by the enemy." A decree has been published to promote the colonization by foreign emigrants of the large territories now occupied. {The funds [...]ed to be applied to this object are five percent of the sales of public lands, and the proceeds of any prohibited goods, when seized by the revenue, or twenty per cent. of duties thereon if, hereafter, such goods shall be permitted to be en[...]ed.}

Messrs. D. Ignacia Loderaud and D. Manuel Lizardi, residing in London, have been named, [...] former, agent to negotiate a loan of twenty millions, and the latter, agent for the Mexican [...]holders in England.
By a decree, a National Public Library is to be established in Mexico.

The Mexican journals contain not a word of every action of Congress in regard to our propositions of peace, nor in relation to the adoption of every measures to place funds in the treasury, or [...]ant supplies to continue the war.

Gen. Canalizo was at once appointed Minister of War and took the necessary oaths; Senor [...]abieta has accepted the Ministry of Finance [...]d Senor Ramirez that of Foreign Affairs.

A Vera Cruz paper of the 31st ult. Announces that in response to the urgent call from that city. The Governor of Puebla had engaged to remit [...]rm $25,000 very shortly. The troops at Vera Cruz are sadly straitened for supplies.

The monthly expenses of the army at San Luis Potosi exceed $377,000.

A vessel slipped into Alvarado during the month of December, and disposed of her cargo of $40,000.

On the 24th alt, Congress approved a law of the self-denying order, by which it is provided but no member shall except office under the Government during his term of office and one year hereafter.

A division of 5,000 troops, of all arms, had been detached from the main body of the enemy occupy the pass of Tula.

A letter from Havana of 9th January in the Picayune says:

I am told that the garrison at San Jan de Ulua had been several times on the point of “pronouncing” for want of provisions. There are about 1,500 mouths in the castle, and of these about 1,000 are soldiers. In Vera Cruz the garrison, about 1,200, are often on short commons. Midshipman Rogers and his companions were in prison at Vera Cruz awaiting his trial as a spy. He will not be sent to Perote.

Friday, January 29, 1847 RE47v43n79p1c2   170 words

THE SAILING OF THE VOLUNTEERS

By the politeness of Mr. Beale, of the steamer Augusta, we are enabled to state that the beautiful barque "Mayflower" weighed anchor yesterday morning at 8 o'clock for Mexico, with four companies of Virginia Volunteers, viz.: Capt. Scott’s, Harper’s, F. H. Archer’s and Bankhead’s. The Augusta, having on board the wives of some of the volunteers, moved around the "Mayflower" and gave the gallant fellows three hearty cheers. The pilot was on board the Mayflower, the national flag flying, and a favorable breeze sprung up, to wait the vessel and her noble crew, full of enthusiasm, to the Capes. The Mayflower, of classic memory, landed the early pilgrims on Plymouth Rock. May her modern namesake meet with the same luck in transporting these native sons of Virginia, the "Pilgrims" in the sacred cause of national honor justice and civilization! Three cheers for the Mayflower! Lieut. Col. Randolph, whose name is connected with the military fame of the Union sailed in command of the four companies.

Friday, January 29, 1847 RE47v43n79p1c3   933 words

Correspondence from the Picayune

Saltillo, Mexico, Dec. 26, 1846.

I am told that all sorts of rumors have been circulated at Monterey about the command at this place—that it had been cut to pieces by 20,000 Mexicans—and other stories equally absurd have been picked up y the news mongers below, and sent on in the shape of news to New Orleans. A private letter of mine, writen by the last mail, if received in due time, informed you of he situation of things as they were at that time, and even if our friends below and at home have fears for our safety at this remote place, let them feel assured that we feel ourselves adequate to any emergency, and that there is little danger of our getting cut up if they do come down upon us.

I will now give you a little sketch of Christmas in Saltillo, the most interesting and exciting one I ever enjoyed. If you could have peeped into the kitchens of any of the barracks before daylight, you would have beheld the busiest set of soldiers in Christendom. While some were engaged beating up egg-nogg, others were picking chickens and turkies, scalding pigs, and making all sorts of preparations for a real old Yankee Christmas dinner; while out of doors the streets were thronged with thousand of the natives, as well as soldiers, going to mass. The cathedral was beautifully lighted, and the silver alters in each apartment were splendidly decorated with flowers; but
I will pass over egg-nog and other nice fixings, by saying that all enjoyed themselves during the morning to tier hearts content. About 12 o’clock an express arrived from General Wool, informing General Butler that he was in momentary expectation of being attacked by the enemy. Orders were immediately issued for every man to “pack up his duds,” put on his accoutrements, and fall in, which was performed in double quick time. All was excitement and joy. In the mean time, old Madame Rumor was hard at work, and I never saw the old lady more industrious. One story was to the effect that Wool was within twelve miles of us, retreating on the place, and fighting twenty thousand Mexicans as he came along. Another was that a portion of his column had been cut to pieces, and a hundred other stories of the same kind were circulated. Although many did not believe these reports, they thought there was something like a fight ahead particularly as the orders from head quarters had been so explicit. The streets before the quarters presented an interesting spectacle. The guns were all stacked before the doors, and ever man wore his accoutrements, ready and anxious to be off; but the most amusing part of the scene was the Christmas doings. There was scarcely a man but what had the limb of an old gobbler, the rib of a pig, or something else of the kind, enjoying it probably, from the novelty of the scene, better than they ever did a Christmas dinner before—and then all candidly believed that we should wind up the day with another battle. About 2 o’clock, P.M., Webster’s battery, and the Ohio and Kentucky volunteers, who were encamped six miles below town, came in, and such cheers as the regulars gave them, and such as they returned, put me in mind of the shouts which accompanied the different victories in Monterey. Webster’s battery took up a position on the top of the hill, while the pioneers were busily engaged making loop holes through every house near the road. The horses belonging to the light batteries were all kept harnessed, and the caissons filled with ammunition. I never saw men so enthusiastic as they were now. There was one thing only that I prayed for, and that was, that a portion of town, for the Mexicans who did not blames to the ranche when the new first came, or a large portion of them, promenaded the streets, and appeared to be delighted at the prospect, and those that did not tell you mucho fandango poco tiempo, would give you a look as much as to say, “now you will catch it.”

The inhabitants all agree that there are between seven and eight hundred ladrones and lepers’ in town whom they fear, in case of an attack, more than the soldiers, for as soon as they have an opportunity they are sure to commence their work of murder and plundering; but there is little prospect of our commander’s giving them that chance. The Kentucky and Ohio volunteers left this morning again for their encampment. Maj. Write, of the 8th infantry arrived here yesterday with recruits for that region.

We have now been three weeks without a mail from the United States, but hope for one to-morrow. I have just sent several officers and privates of Gen. Wool’s column who came in to-day, and they state that a Mexican came into camp early in the morning and informed Gen. W., that there was a large Mexican force within a few miles of them, on their way to attack his command and Saltillo. A party was immediately sent out to reconnoiter, but on arriving at the designated place they found that there were no Mexicans there, nor had there been any. I need hardly tell you that we were all very much disappointed in not meeting the enemy again, and those who appeared to be the happiest during the excitement of yesterday are the most dejected to-day, particularly Capt. Blanchard and his Louisiana boys.

Friday, January 29, 1847 RE47v43n79p1c6 906 words

IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO

The New Orleans Commercial Times has information on which it reposes perfect faith, that nothing can now be expected from the Mexican Congress, in the way of an adjustment of our difficulties with that nation, except by positive be force. Every sign goes to prove that, I few desire peace, it must be “conquered.” The question has been brought before the Mexican Congress, of the acceptance of rejection of the late offer of our Government to treat, and has been decided by a large majority in favor of rejection. There were only nineteen votes cast in favor of acceptance:

“A few days before the question was brought to a vote (says the N.O. Times,) a caucus meeting was held by a number of members of Congress, comprising a majority of that body, at which Gomez Farias presided, when a resolution was unanimously adopted, that all present should take an oath to vote against nay proposition of peace, which might be made by the United States, and to reject nay mediation on the part of foreign power, so long as a single United States soldier stood upon the territory of Mexico, or an armed vessel blockaded her ports. ‘Will, then,’ asks our correspondent, ‘our Government and our people still continue to look to this Congress for peace?’”

History does not record so striking an instance of mad and infatuated obstinacy and suicidal ruin. Our Government has done all that could have been asked of a generous and magnanimous nation. It ha, over and over again, tendered the olive branch which has been insultingly rejected. The proposition that Mexico will not listen to peace until our troops are withdrawn from her soil, is monstrous, ridiculous and absurd, without a parallel in the history of nations; and yet we are mortified to see that it has its advocates on the floor of Congress. We cannot believe that the proposition to withdraw our troops to the Rio Grande, introduced simultaneously by a Whig Abolitionist in the Senate and a Southern Whig in the House, can meet with the slightest countenance. Its adoption would be a most disgraceful, as well as fatal policy—and would render our government a by word among nations.

We rejoice to see the resolution brought forward by Mr. Brown of Virginia, in favor of a rigid prosecution of the war, as the surest means of peace. Even the Whig Albany Evening Journal reprobrates the movement as at war with the sense and spirit of the country:
"We cannot afford to make such a concession of national imbecility. To show the white weather so soon after our boast of conquering a peace in the Halls of Montezumas, would be subjecting us hereafter to insult and aggression from every quarter. It would be buying half a dozen wars. Peace with Mexico, upon such terms, would cost too much. But it (the war) should not, and must not dishonor the Republic. There can be no backing out."

But (say the apologists of Mexico,) she would exhibit a want of proper self-respect to listen to terms of peace, while the iron heel of an American soldier treads her soil. In the war of the Revolution, our ancestors treated with Great Britain while she was in possession of many of the most important positions in the country, including Charleston, New York, Savannah, and all of the Western country. The negotiation terminated with the treaty of 1783, and a large portion of the West was retained in possession by Great Britain for many years after the treaty. During the last war, the British Army were in possession of a part of the State of Massachusetts, while the negotiations for peace were in progress. Italy did not demand the withdrawal of Napoleon’s victorious army before any proposition of peace would be entertained.

Are not these cases in point, to condemn the unheard of absurdity and insolence of Mexico, in rejecting every overture of peace? And will not her conduct have the effect of arousing the enthusiasm of our own people, reflected through their representatives in Washington, in favor of a vigorous, and, as General Cass says, "an old fashioned war?" To obtain peace, we must fight with all our energies and spirit, and we regret to see Congress wasting its precious time in discussion, when the people demand action, in support of the constitutional authorities. As matters now stand, there ought not, there cannot be, tow opinions as to our proper course. The war must be prosecuted with all vigor, and Mexico be forced, the mouth of the cannon, to do us full and complete justice. We must assail the very heart of the enemy's country, and push our victorious columns even to the gates of its capital. Our humanity and benevolence have been thrown away upon so infatuated a people. As the New Orleans times justly remarks, "our repeated offers for a cessation of hostilities have been interpreted as manifestations of week news, our forbearance in the hour of victory has even been taken as a proof of a pusillanimous fear of the ultimate result of the war. Santa Anna’s military prestige must be broken by an effectual defeat, before the Mexican nation can be made sensible of the nature of the contest in which they are now engaged; for to his pernicious counsels alone can be attributed the insensibleness they exhibit to their reverses, from the commencement of hostilities."

Friday, January 29, 1847 RE47v43n79p1c7  295 words

To a certain extent, the following comments of the N. Orleans Times speak our own sentiments, which we avowed at the opening of the war. By one united, powerful blow we should strike at the heart of Mexico, and force her to terms:

VERA CRUZ, ALVARADO,  &c.—It seems from the letters of our correspondents, that the Mexicans at Vera Cruz are little, if at all, incommoded by the blockade established there.—They say, that the blockade must have cost us a pretty round sum already. The French, they remark, were blockading the Gulf coast for a period of eight months, in 1838, during the whole season of Northers, without losing even a launch whilst our navy has been employed on the same service for seven months, of which four of them were Summer months, and the losses are steamer McLane, at Tobasco; brig-Truxton, at Tuspan; brig Somers, in view of Vera Cruz, and a man-of-war schooner, on Green Island, a very short time ago,  &c., &c. Our correspondent writes, our squadron has been nearly stationary at Vera Cruz, and a man-of-war schooner, on Green Island, a very short time ago, &c., &c. Our correspondent writes, our squadron has been nearly stationary at Vera Cruz, ever since the war broke out, blockading the port; while, during all this time, the little cursed hole of Alvarado, only forty miles further down the coast, has been left open to any and every vessel which chose to go in and discharge her cargo. Of this there has been an instance every week since the blockade commenced, and in some instances two or three vessels a week. Expeditions are now daily coming in from Havana. Within the last en days (from date of letter 24h ult.) the duties paid by vessels entered at that port have not been less than 200,000 dollars. The abortive attempts on Alvarado have quite intoxicated the Mexicans with vain glory.

Friday, January 29, 1847 RE47v43n79p1c  130 words

IMPORTANCE OF A DEMONSTRATION BEFORE VERA CRUZ

In one of our communications, it is stated that the policy of our Government is incomprehensible in leaving Vera Cruz so long in the possession of this people. The capture of that city and the castle of San Juan de Ultos would have had a greater moral effect in opening the eyes of the Mexican people to the necessity of making peace, than the occupation of all that vast extent of almost wilderness country, which is now held by Gen. Taylor's army. While Vera Cruz keeps our naval force at bay, (such is the language of the Mexicans,) we may depend on the fact, that there is no hope of their listening to the voice of reason, or turning their ways toward peace.
St. Louis Hotel, New Orleans,

January 15, 1847.

To the Editors of the Charleston Courier:

Gentlemen:—Col. Totten, Chief Engineer of the United States, arrived here to-day from Washington. The Rocket and double Howitzer Brigade is expected daily. The regiments of Louisiana, Pennsylvania and Mississippi are about being embarked, and will take 90 days’ rations with them. These troops are supposed to be destined to Tusman, where their will be joined by the Massachusetts, North and South Carolina, Virginia, Illinois and 2d Pennsylvania regiments. Their future destination is unknown, as every avenue to information is carefully guarded; but it is now guessed at that a march will be made direct on Mexico from Tusman by Guanchinago, Papanda Apan and Tezano, along the route over which the Indian runners passed in 24 hours from the Gulf of Mexico in the time of Montezuma.—The distance is only 250 miles, and the road is said to present no serious obstacles to the march of troops. Gen. Scott will advance at once on San Luis Potosi, simultaneously with the Tusman movement.

It is supposed that Santa Anna will not fight at Potosi when he finds 9000 men advancing from Tusman, but will fall back on Queretaro, and from thence to Tularzingo, in order to oppose our advance from Tusman, At this point he can make a strong stand. But here this double Howitzer Brigade will act with great efficiency. In order to understand how, it is necessary to describe the pass of Tulaezigno. It is formed by a chasm in the mountain, the rocks rise almost perpendicularly to a height of 150 feet. The road between will admit of no more than four mules abreast. The pass is only quarter of a mile in length. Over this chasm there is a natural bridge of rock, which is accessible by a seep and devieous ascent, by which mules can ascend. The double mountain howitzer will be placed on mules and carried to the natural bridge, when the road to the west of the pass will be completely commanded to the distance of twelve hundred yards, so that the enemy’s forces must retire on the approach of our columns to that distance. Our troops will thus be enabled to move through the pass and debouch into as open tableau of land, of some miles in extent; without hindrance of the Mexican artillery. Our army will then make a flank movement on Apan, which will compel the Mexicans to move on to Tezano, 50 miles form Mexico. In the meantime Gen. Scott will move rapidly on Maconi Chico and the Real del Monte, and thence to Pachua and otmba. The road from Otumba to Tezano is exceedingly difficult, and perhaps it may not be necessary to follow it in order to form a junction with our columns at Texano; if so, Gen. Scott will, by a right flank movement, reach Isthalmaca, 15 miles from Mexico.

I have briefly stated what is whispered amongst military men here. Though Vera Cruz is believed to be the point of attack, I think myself it is designed only as a fient.” The arrival of Col. Totten, who is considered one of the most skillful Engineers in the world, has created no small sensation in military circles. His mouth is closed.

I will write you again soon. Yours, ANON.

P.S.—Surgeon General Lawson, and Col. Blake of the Illinois Regiment arrived today. [MLD]

Friday, January 29, 1847 RE47v43n79p1c6 464 words

GEN. TAYLOR’S LETTER

We shall to-morrow publish this letter, which should have never seen the light, as we have already said. The poor excuse avowed for its publication was the “malignity” of the Government and the Democratic party. This view is entirely gratuitous and full of injustice and mischief. The Democratic party have been most cordial in awarding due honor to Gen. T. from his services, and will not do him injustice, though his rash and indiscreet “friends” may attempt to array a large party against him. When the facts shall be made public it will be seen whether his “friends” of the N.Y. Express have really done him a service, in laying his letter before the world. In the mean time, we extract the following notice from the Union:

“We deeply regret the publication in the ‘New York Express,’ of the following letter from Major General Taylor to a friend, the authenticity of which, on its first appearance, we were disposed to doubt. We cannot now, however, but consider it as genuine; and uncontradicted rumors points to Major General Gaines as the friend to whom it was addressed, and by whose permission it was published. In justice to General Taylor, we will not suppose that this letter was ever intended for publication, because its effect will be to place Santa Anna in possession of information which cannot fail to prove most injurious to us and advantageous to the enemy. Santa Anna will thus be encouraged, by the high and authoritative source from which it proceeds, to direct portions of the large force collected at San Luis Potosi to other points where it is clearly indicated by the letter that a blow may be expected, and in this manner it may seriously endanger the success of our arms. We make these remarks on the supposition that the letter truly represents the plan of the campaign, of which, however, we are entirely ignorant. It is only in view of the public mischief resulting, we regret that this letter has ever been written or published. We have no fears but that the administration, whose course towards General Taylor is known to the world, will be able to show that there is no just foundation for the complaints made against them
in this publication.

“It has already been transferred to the columns of so many respectable journals, that we no longer feel at liberty to withhold it from the readers of the Union.”

The Whig Courier of New York says that the publication of the private letter of Gen. Taylor is "alike unjust to that gallant officer and injurious to the service." It argues, however, (though we doubt not most incorrectly,) that Gen. T. has been unjustly dealt with by the Administration.

[MLD]

RE47v43n79p2c1, January 29, 1847:

CONGRESSIONAL

U.S. Senate Monday, Jan. 25

Lieutenant General—Vindication of the President.

See Congressional Globe, pp. 246-247

http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=llcg&fileName=018/llcg018.db&recNum=277

Friday, January 29, 1847 RE47v43n79p2c3

LETTER FROM GEN. TAYLOR

We copy from the N.Y. Express the following letter written by Gen. Taylor to a friend in that city:

My Dear *****

Your very kind and acceptable letter of the 31st of August, reached me only a short time for which I beg leave to tender to you my sincere thoughts. (A few confidential remarks on certain transactions are here emitted.)

After considerable apparent delay on the part of the Quarter Master's department, in getting steamboats late the Rio Grande adapted to its navigation, I succeeded, towards the latter part of August, in throwing forward to Camargo, (a town situated on the San Juan River, three miles from its junction with the Rio Grande, on the west side, nearly 500 miles from Bragos Island by water and 200 by land, and 140 from this place) a considerable depot of provisions, ordnance, ammunition, and forage, and them, having brought together an important portion of my command, I determined on moving this place. Accordingly, after collecting 1,700 peek mules, with their attendants and conductors, in the enemy's country, (the principal means of transportation for our provisions, baggage, &c.,) I left, on the 5th of September, to join my advance, which had preceded me a few days to Serraivo, a small village 75 miles on the route, which I did on the 9th, and, after waiting there a few days for some of the corps to get up, moved on and reached here on the 19th, with 6,250 men—2,700 regulars, the balance volunteers. For what took place afterwards, I must refer you to several reports,—particularly to my detailed one of the 9th unit. I do not believe the authorities at Washington are at all satisfied with my conduct in regard to the terms of capitulation entered into with the Mexican commander, which you no doubt have seen as they have been made public through the official organ, and copied into various other newspapers. I have this moment received an answer (to my dispatch announcing the surrender of Monterey, and the circumstances attending the same,) from the secretary of war, stating that "it was regretted by the president that it was not advisable to insist on the terms I had proposed in my communication to the Mexican commander, in regard to giving up the city,"—adding that, "the circumstances which dictated, no doubt, justified the changes." Although the terms of capitulation may be considered too liberal on our part by the president and his advisers, as well as by many others at a distance, particularly by those who do not understand the position which we occupied (otherwise they might come to a different conclusion in regard to the matters,) yet, on due reflection, I see nothing to induce me to regret the course I pursued.

The proposition on the part of General Ampudia, which had much to do in determining my course in the matter, was based on the ground that our government had proposed to his to settle existing difficulties by negotiation, (which I knew was the case, without knowing the result,) which was then under consideration by the proper authorities, and which he (Gen. Ampudia,) had no doubt would result favorably, as the whole of his people were in favor of peace. If so, I considered the further effusion of blood not only unnecessary, but improper. Their force was also considerably larger than ours; and from the size and position of the place, we could not completely invest it; so that the greater portion of their troops, if not the whole, had they been disposed to do so, could, any night, have abandoned the city, at once, entered the mountain passes, and effected their retreat,—do what we could! Had we been put to the alternative of taking the place by storm, (which there is no doubt we should have succeeded in doing,) we should have, in all probability, have lost fifty or one hundred men in killed, besides the wounded,—which I wished to avoid,
reached me since the declaration of war was on the 2nd instant, the same day on which I received from Washington.

In regard to the amenities, which would have expired by limitations in a few days, we lost nothing by it as we could have informed the war department that 20,000 efficient men would be necessary to insure success if we move on that place—(a city containing a population of 60,000 where the enemy could bring together and sustain, besides the one hundred and forty badly watered, where the supplies of any kind could be procured for men and horses. I have been, since May last completely crippled and am still so, for the lack of transportation. After reaching and scouting the country for miles around Camargo, selecting every pack mule and other means of transportation, I have been, since May last completely crippled and am still so, for the lack of transportation. After reaching and scouting the country for miles around Camargo, selecting every pack mule and other means of transportation, I

From Saltillo to San Luis Potesi, the next place of importance on the road to the city of Mexico, is three hundred miles—(which contains a population of about 12,000) being in part surrounded by them, at the head of a large and beautiful

That they should have been surrendered a place nearly as strong as Quebec well fortified under the direction of skillful engineers,--their works garnished with forty two pieces of artillery, abundantly supplied with ammunition, garrisoned by 7,000 regulars and 2,000 irregular troops, in addition to some thousand citizens capable of, (and no doubt actually,) bearing arms, and aiding in its defense,--to an opposing force of half of their number, scantily supplied with provisions, and with a light train of artillery,--in among the unaccountable occurrence of the times.

I am decidedly opposed to carrying on the war beyond Baitillo in this direction, which place has been entirely abandoned by the Mexican forces, all of whom have been concentrated at San Luis Potesi; and I shall lose no time in taking possession of the former as soon as the cessation of hostilities referred to expires,--which I have notified the Mexican authorities will be the close on the 13th instant, by direction of the President of the United States.

If we are (in the languages of Mr. Polk and General Scott) under the necessity of "conquering a peace," and that by taking the capital of the country,--we must go to Vera Cruz, take that place, and then march on the city of Mexico. To do so in any other direction, I consider out of the question. But, admitting that we conquer a peace by doing so—say, at the end of the next twelve months—will the amount of blood and treasure, which must be expanded in doing so, be compensated by the same? I think not—especially, if the country we subdue in to be given up; and I imagine there are but few individuals in our country who think of annexing Mexico to the United States.

I do not intend to carry on my operations (as previously stated) beyond Saltillo,--deeming it next to impractical to do so. It then becomes a question as to what is best to be done. It seems to me, the most judicious course to be pursued on our part, would be to take permission at once, of the time we would accept by negotiations, extending from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific, and occupy the same or keep what we already have possession of, and that, with Tampico, (which I hope to take in the course of next month, or as soon as I can get the means of transportation,) will give us all on this side of the Sierra Madre, and as soon as I occupy Saltillo, will include six or seven states or provinces, thus holding Tampico, Victoria, Monterey, Saltillo, Monclova, Chulluahua, (which I presume General Wool has possession of at this time) Santa Fe, and the California, and sat to Mexico, "drive us from the country!"—throwing on her the responsibility and expense of carrying on an offensive war—at the same time closely blockading all of her ports on the Pacific and the Gulf. A course of this kind, if persevered on for a short time, would soon bring her to her proper senses, and compel her to sue for peace—provided there is a government in the country sufficiently stable for us to treat with, which I fear will hardly be the case for years to come. Without large reinforcements of volunteers from the U. States—say ten or fifteen thousand, (those previously sent out having already been greatly reduced by sickness and other causalties) I do not believe it would be advisable to search beyond Saltillo, which is more than 200 miles beyond our depots in the Rio Grande--a very long time on which to keep up the supplies (over a land route in a country like this) for a large force, and certain to be attended with as expense which it will be frightful to contemplate, when closely looked into.

From Saltillo to San Luis Potesi, the next place of importance on the road to the city of Mexico, is three hundred miles—one hundred and forty badly watered, where the supplies of any kind could be procured for men and horses. I have informed the war department that 20,000 efficient men would be necessary to insure success if we move on that place—a city containing a population of 60,000 where the enemy could bring together and sustain, besides the citizens, an army of 50,000) a force which I apprehend will hardly be collected by us with the train necessary to feed it as well as to transport various other supplies, particularly ordnance and munitions of war.

In regard to the amenities, which would have expired by limitations in a few days, we lost nothing by it as we could not more even now, had the enemy continued to occupy Saltillo for, strange to say, the first wages which has reached me since the declaration of war was on the 2nd instant, the same day on which I received from Washington an acknowledgement of my dispatch announcing the taking of Monterey; and then I only received 125, as that I have been, since May last completely crippled and am still so, for the lack of transportation. After reaching and scouting the country for miles around Camargo, selecting every pack mule and other means of transportation, I could bring here only 80,000 rations (15 days supply,) with a moderate supply of ordnance, munitions, &c., to do which, all the corps had to leave behind a portion of their camp equipment necessary for their comfort, and, in some instances, among the volunteers, their personal baggage. I moved in such a way, and with such limited means, that, had I not succeeded, I should no doubt have been extremely reprimanded, if [2-3 illegible words] I did so to sustain the administration.

Of the two regiments of mounted men from Tennessee and Kentucky, who left the respective states to join me in June, the letter has just reached Camargo; the former had not gotten to Matamoros at the latest dates from there. Admitting that they will be as long in returning as in getting here, (to say nothing of the time necessary to recruit their horses) and were to be discharged in that time to reach their homes, they could serve in Mexico, but a very short time. The foregoing remarks are not made with the view of finding fault with any one, but to point out the difficulties with which I have had to contend.

Monterey, the capital of New Leon, is situated on the San Juan River, where it comes out of the mountains,--the city (which contains a population of about 12,000) being in part surrounded by them, at the head of a large and beautiful...
valley. The houses are of stone in the Moorish style, with flat roofs, which, with their strongly enclosed yards and gardens, in high stone walls all looped for musketry, make them such a fortress within themselves. It is the most important place in Northern Mexico, (or on the east side of the Sierra Madre, commanding the only pass or road for carriages from this side, between it and the Gulf of Mexico is the table lands of the Sierra, by or through which, the city of Mexico can be reached.

I much fear I shall have exhausted your patience, before you get half through this long and uninterrupted letter. If so, you can only commit it to the flames, and think no more about it, as I write in great haste, besides being interrupted every five minutes; so that you must make great allowances for blots, interlineations, and blunders, as well as want of connection in many parts of the same.

Be so good as to present me most kindly to your excellent lady, and accept my sincere wished for your continued health, prosperity and fame.

I remain, truly and sincerely, your friend,

Z. TAYLOR

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Friday, January 29, 1847 RE47v43n79p2c5  991 words

THE TRUE SPIRIT

We rejoice at the marked reprobation with which the House of Representatives on Wednesday refused to suspend the rules, in order to allow Mr. Schenck of Ohio to introduce resolutions, disgraceful to the country, involved as it is in war. These resolutions, “in order to terminate the war,” request the President to withdraw all our troops to the East side of the Rio Grande, and disband all the volunteers now in the service of the United States. They at the same time request and advise the President to keep the regular army, along or near the Western frontier of the United States, to repel or prevent any encroachment or depredation, by Mexican citizens, on our territory, property or people: Provided, that this shall not be construed to advise against retaining possession of “the disputed country between the Western limit of the State of Texas and the Rio Grande,” until a definitive boundary line shall be agree upon. They also provide for the prosecution of the existing war against Mexico, by blockading her ports and harbors on the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific coast, until a treaty of peace is made, settling all difficulties between the two countries; duties to be levied upon all imports into said ports of entry, and the proceeds of said duties to be held as security against Mexico, until she shall agree to a treaty. The present regular army not to be increased by enlistment or otherwise, but to be reduced to the number in service on the 1st Jan., 1847. The resolutions further declare it to be against the policy and interest of this Government to wage a war for the conquest of territory and that no additional territory beyond the present limits of the Union should be acquired by any negotiation with Mexico.

After a stormy scene upon points of order which begs description, and in which Mr. Schenck grossly insulted the good sense and patience of the House, the motion to suspend the rules was refused, by the overwhelming vote of 28 to 156.

It is cheering to see so final a rebuke upon one of the most mischievous and factious proceedings yet introduced into Congress, in direct opposition to the popular sense of the nation, and in virtual encouragement of our insolent and infatuated ofe. To disband our volunteers and withdraw our army from Mexico, at this moment, when Mexico has refused our overtures of peace, would be regarded by herself as proof of weakness and fear, and by the civilized world as cowardly and dishonorable. We have sufficient to appealed to her sense of justice and hood feelings—the only alternative left is to use the right arm of force, and compel her to listen to reason. To back out from our position now—to retreat from the ground we have won by the valor of our arms, and in the face of her insulting rejection of our peace offer, would but prolong the war, and might tempt other nations to interfere and complicate it.

Thanks, then, to Congress, for having crushed in the bud so mischievous a proposition.

But the course suggested of blockading the ports of Mexico, “in prosecution of the war,” is most strangely inconsistent with Mr. ‘s object of terminate the war. If we withdraw our army for the sake of peace, why not make clean work of the disgraceful retreat, and also withdraw our ships of war? Why, too, maintain the policy of seizing the "disputed territory" between the Nueces and the Rio Grande?” As the Union says, "By holding the disputed territory, we affirm that the advance of our army into it was rightful. We thus say, that we were rightfully there when Mexico attacked us, and, having said this, we—retreat! Proclaiming our quarrel to be just, we throw down our arms!"

The whole scheme is factious, mischievous and absurd, and has, we rejoice, been stamped with the reprobation of the House, and, we are satisfied, the American people. This Ohio Whig, Mr. Schenck, is one of the bitterest, most conceited and most troublesome partisans in Congress. He resorts to the smallest political tricks to make party capital. He is the same Whig who, in Congress, sneered at the patriotic sentiment of Mr. Clay at New Orleans, that he (Mr. C.) would like to have a place in the army to “avenge the wrongs done us by Mexico.” Mr. Schenck, in his ardent advocacy of he Mexican side, asked tauntingly, whether this sentiment of Mr. Clay was uttered in the early or later portion of the dinner! For this, Mr. Schenck has been christened by the neutral N.O. Picayune as “the small potato politician.” After his recent overthrow, we doubt not, h felt “small” indeed.
But who can reasonably expect peace even should we withdraw our forces East of the Rio Grande? A journal published in the city of Mexico, La Opinion Necional, is in favor of "war to the death," a protracted, annoying guerilla war, and declares that it will result in our again making proposals for peace, which "must not be received except on the other side of the Sabine, and there, our armies face to face with each other, the national standard raised along side of the cannon, a lasting treaty of peace shall be written on the tops of the drums in clear and precise terms, and a column raised, on which shall be sculptured this, or a similar inscription: 'The Sabine shall be a perpetual boundary to divide forever the United Mexican States form the United States of the North.' These are not exaggerated pretensions—this is not fugitive declamation, springing from a heated imagination," &c.

Here then it is the Sabine and not the Rio Grande which will alone satisfy Mexican insolence. Why, then, should we show the "white feather," and, by retreating, encourage and give life to the absurd and arrogant demands of our enemy?

The bill to increase the the pay of the army and volunteers, and to allow them a bounty in land, which passed the House of Representatives on Wednesday, grants an increase of pay of $3 per month, and gives to each soldier who serves out the war 160 acres, and to those serving less than 12 months from May, 1846, and who may be honorably discharged, 80 acres of land. These land-warrants, however, are not to be issued for five years.

The country will be pleased to learn that the Loan Bill has passed both Houses of Congress, and is now a law of the land. The Union understands that there is every prospect of the success of the Secretary of the Treasury in obtaining the necessary loans. The Whigs have indulged in severe assaults upon the Democratic policy, as having involved the nation in financial difficulty and produced the necessity for making this loan. They especially denounce the repeal of the Tariff of 1842 as the cause of all the mischief. Had that Tariff continued in force, say they, we should have raised revenue enough for all purposes, the war, &c.—This assumption is easily refuted by the fact that in consequence of the protective and prohibitory character of that law, the amount of revenue under it in the fiscal year 1845 was $800,000 less hand the amount collected the year before. Under its operation, the revenue was being gradually diminished, and it became necessary to adopt the new Tariff of 1846, to prevent the growing diminution of revenue. The operation of the new law, though brief, is yet sufficient to promise that it will produce more revenue than its much boasted predecessor.

To how the operation of the "ruinous" Tariff of 1846, we quote the remarks of Mr. D. H. Lewis, Chairman of the Committee of Finance, in the Senate, on Tuesday, in the debate on the Loan Bill:

Mr. Lewis said he should not decline replying to the questions which had been put to him by the gentleman from Delaware. The committee had met, and as the result of their deliberations, reported this bill to the Senate. He had no information which did not come before that committee. This call for information was a mere beating about the bush in order to attack the tariff. The real object of the Senator from Connecticut [Mr. Huntington] was to pour out his tears over the tariff of 1842. The gentleman from Delaware had a similar project.—His (Mr.L's) reliance for increasing the revenue was upon the new Tariff of 1846, together with a tax upon tea and coffee; and he had no doubt that they could raise a larger revenue by these means than would be acquired form any other source. Though he could not gratify the gentleman with precisely the information which he had called for, he had a little information
with regard to the working of the tariffs of 1842 and 1846.—He had learned form an official source that there had been an increase of about twenty per cent in the revenue under the tariff of 1846 over the receipts by that of 1842. This had been the increase up to the 10th January inst., and he understood that the increase was still going on. He had anticipated the increasing revenues by proposing to issue treasury notes and negotiate for a loan. Let them contrast the two tariffs, then, and he would submit it to the gentlemen, whether the tariff of 1846 was not as good as that of 1842. In regard to the remark of the honorable senator from Maine, alluding to a want of foresight in the secretary of the Treasury, he would say it as not always the case in time of peace that a financial officer could anticipate their necessities. How much less could he do it when the country was engaged in war. The true theory was, that the means of the Government must be proportioned to the prospective demands upon the Treasury—and if the Secretary of the Treasury failed to predict with certainty in regard to the wants of the Government, there was no reason for censoring him.

Friday, January 29, 1847 RE47v43n79p4c6 346 words

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER HIBERNIA, IMPORTANT FROM EUROPE.

The President’s message was regarded in England as giving full assurance that low duties on the manufactures of that country will be maintained, which has given English manufactures a cheerful prospect for their trade the ensuing spring.

The Paris papers assert that the French government intends proposing a reduction of the duty on foreign corn.

There has been a terrible inundation in the Roman States, causing great distress. The loss of property is extensive. The new Pope is mitigating hardships by the use of his purse, as well as by personal exertions. The Pope has reduced duties on foreign grain.

The President’s Message is assailed by the whole English press, and all kinds of abuse and ugly names heaped on that portion of it sustaining the Mexican war. The proposed annexation of California is more unpopular in England than that of Texas was when first proposed. They make sever comments upon the President’s declaration, that the war was not undertaken with a view of conquest.

The President’s message—The Liverpool Times, in reference to the President’s message, says:

"The President’s message gives a hopeful assurance that the American Tariff, so far as regards British goods, will be maintained, and has given the English manufacturers a cheerful prospect for their trade for the coming Spring.

"The last message of President Polk, which was received in this country a few days ago, has been assailed by the whole of the press, and ugly names have been given to the process of reasoning in which the President accounts for the Mexican war. One passage has been strongly commented upon,—that in which he states that the war was not undertaken with the view to conquest.

"We can call to mind no similar document during our time which has been less favorably received in England; from this it may be inferred that the annexation of California, of which Commodore Stockton had taken possession as a territory of the United States, is even less popular in England than was the annexation of Texas."

February 1847

March 1847

April 1847

May 1847

Tuesday, May 4, 1847 RE44i1p1c4 300 words.

FROM GENERAL SCOTT’S CAMP

We lay before our readers (says the Union) all the accounts which have reached us through the “Baltimore Sun,” from Vera Cruz, to the 14th April — they came to N. Orleans by the Massachusetts steamship. These accounts are later than the late letters addressed to the War Department from Gen. Scott’s army. The last despatches received from him up to this time, 4 o’clock this evening, are dated on the 8th April, from Vera Cruz. The following is the last letter which had been received, from Gen. Scott:
HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,

Vera Cruz, April 8, 1847.

SIR: A vessel, unexpectedly, being about to sail, this morning, for New Orleans, I write in haste, principally to forward, by Col. Bankhead, a passenger, a package of papers from the acting Inspector General, containing lists of prisoners of war paroled, &c., &c.

The movement upon Jalapa, announced in general orders No. 94, herewith, commences to-day. Major Gen. Patterson will follow tomorrow.

This movement is forced in reference to our very inadequate means of transportation – but made in the hope of doubling those means.

Jalapa is the first point, from the coast, which combines healthiness with the reasonable prospect of obtaining some of the heavier articles of consumption for the army – as breadstuffs, fresh beef and forage.

Another expedition sails this morning for Alvarado, to ascent that river some forty miles, with some prospect of obtaining a thousand or more horse for cavalry, draught and packs.

I have the honor to remain, Sir, with great respect, your obedient servant,

WINFIELD SCOTT.

Hon. W. L. MARCY, Secretary of War.

A large bundle of documents accompanied this letter from General Scott, covering a report from Colonel Hitchcock, relative to the prisoners of war who were captured in Vera Cruz San Juan de Ulloa, and Antigua.

Tuesday, May 4, 1847 RE44i1p1c5 1,435 words.

A LETTER WITHOUT AN ANSWER

Such is the title given by a Northern paper to a singular letter addressed to Gen. Taylor by twenty-two gentlemen of Philadelphia, soliciting his acceptance of a nomination at their hands for the Presidency had “neither desiring for expecting an answer” to the communication. This curious epistle we deem it our duty to re-publish as one of the singular phenomena of these strange times. It is alleged, without contradiction, that the twenty-two gentlemen belong to the “Native” party; but scrupulously forbore to give the least hint of their peculiar political opinions. The letter is in the following terms:

PHILADELPHIA, April 17th, 1847.

Sir: The undersigned, a committee of correspondence for the State of Pennsylvania, appointed by a meeting of the citizens of the city and county of Philadelphia, without distinction of party, held on the 6th inst., have the honor to submit to you the proceedings of their constituents, unanimously nominating you for the office of President of the United States, a station which the situation of our country now requires should be filled by no ordinary man.

In Florida, on the Rio Grande, at Monterey and Buena Vista – in your youthful exploits in the former war, your character has been distinguished by the most heroic qualities, and your whole career has proved you to possess the integrity and wisdom of a sagacious statesman.

Although they believe that the presidency should be neither sought nor declined by an individual in your peculiar position, the undersigned cannot avoid expressing the hope that you will not think it expedient to defeat the determination that, from all the sings of the times, the people have formed of placing you in the chair of Washington, which the constituents of the undersigned desire you to occupy, like him, with no pledges but those contained in the official oath at your inauguration, and with the declaration of independence and the constitution as your guides.

The undersigned, under these circumstances, take the liberty of assuring you that they neither desire nor expect an answer to this communication.

With sentiments of the highest esteem, we are, sir, most respectfully, your friends,

George W. McClellan, Joshua Tevis,
Charles S. Coxe, John W. Ashmead,
Massachusetts.

the Philadelphia "Silence Committee" as warmly as he spurns the infamous resolutions of the Federal Legislature of

one, unless they know the rules of action by which he is to be governed? But the proposition is too plain to dwell

success? Can they, as guardians of the sacred rights of liberty, commit the destinies of this great Republic to any

individual to administer the Government, who sustains the measures which they deem indispensable to national

vital importance, therefore, that the people should carefully watch the working of political measures, and select that

operation of our liberal institutions materially depends the cause of free principles throughout the world. Is it not of

The trusts reposed in the American people are too high, not to be guarded with the most untiring vigilance. Upon the

protest against any voluntary declaration of them by himself, as suggested by the Philadelphia "Silence Committee.

to the Presidency, not only without any previous inquiry as to his political principles, but even with an express

cordially as the people thank and honor Gen. Taylor for his military services they cannot consent to elevate any man

leading measures of policy which are calculated to advance the interests and character of this generation. But,

should his friends press his claims to the highest civil honors, let his opinions upon the political questions of the day

Let him first conclude the noble work before him, winning the approving smiles of all Americans; and then,

and will be elected, to the highest office in the world, and beseeching him to keep his opinions folded up in his

doublet, for the people will blindly carry him into the Presidential Chair.

A perfect log, then, envelopes the political opinions of Gen. T., which he has had no opportunity of clearing

up, for it is said that he has not voted since he cast his voice for Gen. Jackson, whose political sentiments he

endorsed: - yet we see a number of gentlemen gravely address him a letter, informing him that he has nominated,

and will be elected, to the highest office in the world, and beseeching him to keep his opinions folded up in his

doublet, for the people will blindly carry him into the Presidential Chair.

on every occasion, we have expressed our high appreciation of the great services of Gen. Taylor and the

glorious victories he has won for the country with his gallant army. Such distinguished military achievements cannot

elicit too warm thanks from a free people; and Democrats have been among the foremost to do him honor. We have

denounced the refusal of the Federal Legislature of Massachusetts to vote him thanks, at the moment that they

disgraced themselves in assailing their own Government, and avowed their sympathy for the public enemy. We

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Let him first conclude the noble work before him, winning the approving smiles of all Americans; and then,

should his friends press his claims to the highest civil honors, let his opinions upon the political questions of the day

be fully set forth, and the people will then be able to decide understandingly whether or not he and advocates those

leading measures of policy which are calculated to advance the interests and character of this generation. But,

cordially as the people thank and honor Gen. Taylor for his military services they cannot consent to elevate any man

to the Presidency, not only without any previous inquiry as to his political principles, but even with an express

protest against any voluntary declaration of them by himself, as suggested by the Philadelphia "Silence Committee."

The trusts reposed in the American people are too high, not to be guarded with the most untiring vigilance. Upon the

operation of our liberal institutions materially depends the cause of free principles throughout the world. Is it not of

vital importance, therefore, that the people should carefully watch the working of political measures, and select that

individual to administer the Government, who sustains the measures which they deem indispensable to national

success? Can they, as guardians of the sacred rights of liberty, commit the destinies of this great Republic to any

one, unless they know the rules of action by which he is to be governed? But the proposition is too plain to dwell

upon – and we have too high an opinion of Gen. Taylor to believe, that he will not reject the absurd proposition of

the Philadelphia "Silence Committee" as warmly as he spurs the infamous resolutions of the Federal Legislature of

Massachusetts.
Tuesday, May 4, 1847 RE44i1p1c6 865 words.

APPOINTMENTS IN THE ARMY

Under this head yesterday's Times characterizes as “without precedent in this country” “the course pursued by the present administration in appointing to high military offices, political favorites – the merest partisans, who have no single claim to such offices.” The Times refers to the appointment of General Pillow to be Major General and Colonel Caleb Cushing to be Brigadier General. (By its silence in regard to the appointment of Gen Quitman the Times fully admits the admirable promotion of that fine officer by the administration.) The Times, in justification of its views, quotes the opinion of the N. O. Picayune. As an offset, we cite the sound and able remarks of the N. O. Commercial Times, also a neutral journal, and also “as remarkable for its fairness as it is for its general intelligence.”

THE PRESIDENT'S RECENT MILITARY APPOINTMENTS. – One of the greatest curses attendant on monarchical and aristocratic forms of government, is undoubtedly the abuse of patronage. – Merit, personal merit, is about the last attribute taken into consideration, in the dispensing of offices of trust and emolument; the heads of administration have their friends, their relatives to be provided for, and nothing must stand in the way of the advancement of the latter, when occasion offers, however the public weal my suffer from their mediocrity or incompetency. The annals of nations in Europe are full of instances where well-conceived plans for the triumph of fleets and armies have been rendered totally abortive – where genius has been frustrated, and subordinate skill rendered powerless – by the inefficiency of the controlling agent, whom the detestable spirit of nepotism has lifted over the head of unfriended talent. In the civil departments of government, similar evils have flowed from similar sources; and the revenue has suffered, the judicial seat has been stained, while public profligacy has rode triumphant, confident in the impurity which the strength of its protection secured. In this country, thank heaven, it is impossible that a system of favoritism can long abuse the public service. The press, ever watchful for the welfare of the general interest, would soon denounced the man, or men, who would seek to render official station entirely subservient to their private profit of ambition; and the people would quickly have the remedy in their own hands, and drive the offender, or offenders, into obscurity, with the indelible stigma of their reprobation affixed to their names. There may be a Democratic party, a Whig party, a Nativist party, among whom the utmost virulence of political feeling may exist; but there is a National party overwhelmingly more numerous than the whole of them taken together, that guides, controls, and disposes all things, with whom the public weal is the first great principle of all action.

In another part of our paper will be found the appointment (by the President) of Brigadier Generals Pillow and Quitman, of the volunteers now serving in Mexico, to the rank of Major Generals. These appointments are not only well made, but well timed. Under the act of Congress, authorizing the creating of two more Major Generalships, Colonels Benton and Cumming were nominated to that rank by the President, and confirmed by the Senate; they both, at once, declined it, and Mr. Polk had to select other as recipients of honor. To his great credit, he had dispensed his patronage where it was well merited; merited by actual service rendered in the field, and bestowed upon men over whole heads it would have been painful to see other preferred, who were undistinguished in the present war. – General Pillow was one of the most prominent officers under General Scott, during the bombardment and surrender of Vera Cruz; and General Quitman was among the foremost in the storming of the outworks of Monterey. Both of these are brave and accomplished military men, whose promotion will prove to our gallant army, that the Government is not insensible to its just claims for reward; and that the volunteers, equally with the regulars, may confidently look forward to a just distribution of those professional distinctions which are the very breath of the soldier's nostrils.

Col Caleb Cushing, of the Massachusetts regiment, has been appointed a Brigadier General, in the place of Gen. Quitman. This is also an excellent appointment. Col Crushing, in overcoming the obstacles thrown in the way of the organization of his corps, has shown a devoted love for his country scattering to the winds every consideration of a sectional nature, which might have thwarted the ends of the General Government, in the prosecution of the present war. He is formed to shine in any path of public life, military or civil; and his promotion gives additional insire to the gallant army with which he serves.

The President and his Administration are certainly now acting with commendable energy. – Well seconded, which we may be assured of, by the late exploits of our army and navy, the lapse of a short time will suffice to enable us to conquer a peace with our stubborn neighbor, and thus allay that spirit of war and conquest, which is alien to our peaceful commercial institutions, a foe to enlightened freedom, and an unmitigated scourge to humanity at large.

[MSH]
My dear and excellent Friend:

* * * * * Well, after being circumscribed on board steamboats for a month, you may well imagine my enjoyment in again treading terra firma, or mounted on my horse Waxey, galloping over these level plains.

* * * * * Lt. Col. Randolph has been ordered by Col. Curtis is accompany him to Monterey, and, two days since, not a Virginian was here. Six companies came, Col. Randolph returned, and now the whole command of 12 companies is here. I shall move in a few days, to open a new line of communication between this post and Monterey, on the right bank of the San Juan river, through China. Lt. Col. Randolph will be left with 6 companies in command there, and I shall then proceed on to Monterey, with the other 6 companies, and, after resting there a few days, expect to advance to and occupy Montemorales. These two places have never yet been occupied by our troops. I shall fortify them, and hope to have a brush in getting possession. Gen. Taylor has conferred a high honor in causing the new line of communication to be opened by the Virginia Regiment, and the posts he has assigned to the command are the most important in the country. They are the key to the territory about Monterey – China covering his rear, and Montemorales his advance. He has given me two pieces of artillery, on of Bragg's batteries commanded by Lieut. Kilburn, who so distinguished himself at Buena Vista – and the other commanded by Lt. Williamson, of Captain Carrington's company – manned by good artillerymen from the regiment. Gen. Taylor wishes a topographical survey made Capt. Harper's company [fold]. He is a most excellent engineer, and has been on active duty in the Commissary department ever since he landed. You see, therefore, that we have good engineers and artillery officers of our own.” * * * Gen. Taylor is going to keep us near him, and, therefore, on active and important duty. He has paid us the honor to say to a friend who dined with him at Monterey, that if he had had the Virginia Regiment with him at Buena Vista, he would have taken Santa Anna and his army.

Whilst writing, a party of Capt. Scott's company is disinterring the remains of Lt. Botts, under the direction of Capt. Hunt, his former Captain.”

[MSH]
As our informants approached near Camargo they met a train bound for Monterey. One of the volunteers in guard of it had been lassoed and murdered by two Mexicans. The assassins were arrested, identified and summarily shot. In coming down from Monterey to the Brazos, the party with Major Colquitt and Dr. Herrick encountered neither difficulty nor obstruction. They say, by the way, that Col. Davis is recovering from the effects of his wound.

We make up from the *Flag* the following items:

**ROBBERY.** – The sum of fifteen hundred dollars was abstracted by some scoundrel from the money box of the subsistence department in this place, on Friday night last.

The body of William C. gladman, a free mulatto who owns a barber’s shop in Galveston, but who had been in Matamoras for some time, was discovered floating in the lake back of our office. It bore the marks of violence, and as he was known to have a considerable sum of money in his possession, it is supposed avarice prompted the deed.

**MORE VIOLENCE.** – A Mexican was horribly mangled by cuts with a knife in a fight near the Plaza on Monday night last. The unfortunate man is not expected to live. On Tuesday night, as we have been informed another man was shot at a fandango, and it is thought, will not survive the wound.

Gen. Cushing orders that all houses or other places of gambling, of whatever name or nature, or for public dancing be closed, and that all sale or traffic is distilled spirits is prohibited, under a sever penalty for the violation of either order.

When a part of Kentucky Legion arrived at Matamoras, on their return march the Massachusetts Regiment paraded and received them with due military etiquette. Gen. Cushing addressed them, in his usual eloquent style, with a few very appropriate and complimentary remarks. – The fine dress and generally neat and clean appearance of the Massachusetts men contrasted strongly with the scarred and sunburnt faces, the black, blue, red and tri-colored shirts, and as many colored pants of the boys then returning from the bloody field of Buena Vista, but when the column moved, and they came to handle their arms, then “Old Kentucky” shone out as conspicuously as did their new acquaintances a few minutes before.

[Fold] from a very intelligent officer at Vera Cruz, dated the 10th April, in which he says that several of the States of the Mexican Confederacy have denounced the war with the United States, and threatened to secede until peace should be made. Many Mexicans predict a peace within sixty days, but our correspondent puts little faith in auguries so favorable. He thinks the great difficulty in the way of a peace is the fact that Santa Anan is so nearly crushed that he dare not make a treaty. Nor does there appear to be any one else in Mexico strong enough to incur the great responsibility. None of the old politicians will venture upon the step. Our correspondent adds: “Some man now unknown to fame, with nothing to lose and everything to gain, may arise and advocate a peace policy successfully. His want of ambition or the little chance of his obtaining power may prevent him from becoming obnoxious to the jealousies of parties, and gain for him adherents generally. He may succeed in making a peace which every body will be glad of; but how long before it will be used as an element of political warfare?”

The Legislature of the State of Vera Cruz, sitting at Jalapa, was said to be deliberating at last accounts upon the propriety of making peace, independent of the General Government.

The State of Zacatecas has declared itself independent – so writes us an intelligent correspondent! – Picayune.

**NEW REGIMENT.** – We understand (says the N. O. *Delta*) that several military gentlemen in this city are making movements for the purpose of raising regiment, to be composed of persons who are inured to the yellow fever, to serve as soldiers to garrison those places in Mexico subject to the vomito. This movement is highly creditable to its originators, and if carried out, will prove of almost incalculable benefit. An open enemy may be met by all, but an insidious foe like the yellow fever, must be opposed by men of experience in Southern climates and in the diseases incidental thereto.

[MSH]

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Tuesday, May 4, 1847 RE44i1p1c4 1,215 words.

**UNTITLED**

“So far as the nominee of the Whig Party is concerned, there need be no apprehension among our opponents. We have a usage established by wisdom, and sanctioned by experience, which no condition of circumstances can obviate. It is to collect together the most sagacious, and the ablest men of the party in council, and to nominate the best qualified, in capacity and in virtue, for the Presidency. We have ALWAYS required the candidate, so nominated, to lay down his political principles, clearly and honestly, before the country, and in no instance has there ever been a refusal to meet this requisition.”

Thus speaks the Washington correspondent of the *Philadelphia North American*, who, ex cathedra, “lays down the law” for the whole Whig party. If he really be a true exponent of that party, (we wish they had one less
unscrupulous in assertion, and less indecent in personalities and vituperation!) we are glad to see that the Whigs mean to go into the action with their visors raised and their principles unfurled. But we protest against the declaration, that the Whigs have always pursued this open and fair course. They very reverse, we contend, is confirmed by the page of history. In 1840 the Whigs succeeded by the game of humbuggery and deception. They dared not make a declaration of principles. Need we look further than our own State, where they fought under the flag of opposition to a Bank and Protective Tariff, and were severely lashed by one of their leaders, “Honest Willoughby Newton,” for thus spreading nets to catch birds of every feather? In 1844 the party lines were strictly drawn, the principles of the two parties were made the test, and the Whig party floored. Thus has it been, and thus will it ever be, when the country is called upon to decide between the Democratic and the Federal policy; and we shall, therefore, be pleased to see the Whig party unfold and adhere to the programme thus laid down from them by the North American’s correspondent:

"Whoever is presented by a Whig Convention for the support of the country must stand pledged to carry out Whig principles to the fullest extend. He must be committed distinctly and unquestionably. We would not take a candidate on any other terms.

He must be in favor of protecting American industry, in preference to the pauper labor of Europe.

He must be opposed to the Sub-Treasury.

He must be in favor of the distribution of the proceeds of the Public Lands.

He must be in favor of the doctrine of Internal Improvements.

He must be opposed to the acquisition of Mexican territory west of the Rio Grande."

This is all plain enough, as also is the further admission that “the policy of a Bank of the U. States has been merged by common consent,” and while they “maintain now, as we (they) always have done, the constitutional power to charter such an institution,” they “waive its expediency until the condition of the country demands it.” The Bank then, is acknowledged to be an “obsolete idea.” Though the Whigs formerly contended, and with the utmost pertinacity, that a great “regulator” was necessary to the salvation of the country, experience has forced from them the concession that the country can move forward in the highest prosperity without such a miscalled “regulator.” In the same manner, we doubt not, the successful operation of the present revenue Tariff will confound its opponents, and forever banish all idea of foisting upon the people an odious monopoly in the form of a Protective Tariff. Already we have seen that Mr. Webster failed to carry into effect his threatened motion of “repeal,” and the cry of “ruin” so clamorously shouted by Whig prophets is drowned in the joyful hum of industry. He who would now gravely repeat the stale prediction of “ruin” from the new Tariff, would every where meet with a smile of incredulity, not only from the farmers and ship owners who are receiving fine prices, but the manufacturers themselves, who are being enriched under this “destructive” ”British Tariff.” The humbug of “protection” is fully exploded; and the people will be satisfied with the universal prosperity they now enjoy, without desiring a renewal of the mischiefs of an unjust monopoly.

The Sub-Treasury thus far has acted admirably, and the credit of the country and the soundness of financial operations were never on a better basis; and as a U.S. Bank is admitted by all to be out of the question, there is no reason why the present system should be abolished.

The doctrine of Internal Improvements is repudiated by a large majority of the South – and no one, who will aow his sentiments in favor of so wild, and dangerous, and corrupting a system, can hope for the support of any large portion of the American people. We pass over the “distribution of the proceeds of the public lands,” because they are pledged for the repayment of the debts incurred in the prosecution of a just war – and no one dare to touch them, until the solemn trust for which they are reserved shall be sacredly discharged.

But finally, the Whig candidate “must be opposed to the acquisition of Mexican territory west of the Rio Grande.” In other words, our nation must be guilty of the disgraceful and absurd policy of retreating from territory won by the blood and treasure of our people, without acquiring the least security of compensation for the wrongs we have endured at the hands of Mexico or for the just claims which she has wantonly with held from us. This leading Whig test of policy, we cannot believe, will be sustained, by even a “respectable portion of the confederacy.” If Mexico has not the money to pay us our just dues, and nobody contends she has, why have crossed the Rio Grande with our army, and why push on our troops, gaining victory, if we are determined to ask no indemnity? Why not at once withdraw every American from her territory, and content ourselves with the blood and treasure we will have so foolishly, so uselessly, and so wickedly thrown away? The American people, we feel satisfied, will not listen to such a monstrous proposition, and no party advocating it can, for one moment, hope to gain the voice of that people. The nation will insist upon the acquisition of an equitable portion of Mexican territory, to indemnify our expenses, and public and private wrongs. – There is, also, another scheme for the extension of the commerce of the world and the blessings of free institutions, which may well be effected in the settlement of a peace. We refer to the right of way across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, uniting the Pacific and the Atlantic, and making it the great highway of commerce. But even this wise and magnificent and important measure, beneficial alike to the North, South, East and West, must be abandoned, if the Whig game be played out with success. Upon this issue alone, the American people must repropate the policy of the Whigs – much more, when they are called upon to pass in review the whole batch of Whig measures which have been so often and so strongly condemned by them.

[MSH]
Tuesday, May 4, 1847

UNTITLED

There was nothing later from Gen. Scott's army by yesterday's Southern mail. The last letter of Gen. S. received at Washington bears date on the 11th April. He was then making arrangements for the advance to the capital. The General states that General Twiggs had passed the National Bridge, and was on the road to Jalapa. The first report was the Santa Anna had only 4,000 troops – then the accounts increased them to 6,000 – and, finally, General Trigg's despatch augmented them to about 15,000, entrenched at the pass of Cerro Gordo. Another letter, written on the 14th, has been received at the War Office, stating the General Scott had left Vera Cruz on the 12th, and General Worth on the 13th. They refer to the same rumors that were published in Friday's Enquirer with this variation, that only two members of the Mexican Congress were reported to be with Santa Anna, for the purpose of making overtures for peace. But nothing has been positively ascertained about it.

[MSH]

Tuesday, May 4, 1847

INTERESTING LETTER

As all eyes are now turned to the seat of war, and the probable chances of peace or continued hostilities, we have thought proper to republish, from the New Orleans Delta, the following highly interesting letter from one of the correspondents of La Patria, now residing in the city of Mexico, to whose Editors the Delta is indebted for a copy. It is published as coming from a presenting the most intelligent view of affairs in Mexico yet laid before the public:

MEXICO, April 1, 1847.

My Friends -- * * * Affairs are every day growing so complex and confused in this Capital, that I am now utterly unable to understand what the present infernal state of things in Mexico will lead to. Never did you see a country in a more distressing situation than this unfortunate Mexican Republic, nor one more miserably managed. You have heard of the results of the late revolution, from the periodicals which I have regularly forwarded you, and you may perhaps be able to form some idea of the atrocities and scandals of which this city is at present the theatre. I should not be able to find paper sufficient to describe all that has occurred here. It would be necessary to go back to the news of the battle of Buena Vista, and extraordinary battle -- one which we impartial can well understand -- as to its stupendous results, its incomprehensible organization, and especially the pretended victory of Santa Anna, which obliged him to retire from the field with a loss of 1500 men, and his whole army disorganized. This is truly a new-fashioned victory. But, in order to understand the present condition of parties here, it is necessary to take a calm review of affairs.

The parties which are at present, like moths, incessantly feeding on the prosperity of Mexico, may be divided into five or six factions. There is the war party, who are not only in favor of a war, but of one conducted with decision, energy and real earnest. There is the peace party, which id desirous of effecting an accommodation with the United States, even at the sacrifice of a large portion of there territory. Another party (that of the clergy) hate the Americans as heretics and Jews -- but they are unwilling to open the purses of the church to contribute to prosecute the war against the "enemies of their religion." Gomez Farias has a party, which is in favor of hypothecating the property of the church, to raise funds to carry on the war. This party is weak, for Santa Anna publicly repudiates it though it is said he secretly encourages their design. Lastly, there is a party, which has always existed to a considerable extent in Mexico, intent upon selfish purposes, disregarding the circumstances of the State -- in peace of in war, regarding nothing but the promotion of their own self interest and ambition. This party has seized the present occasion as affording an opportunity of promoting their interests, entirely oblivious to the calls of patriotism.

Santa Anna laves to-day (April 1) for Jalapa, where he will unite his force with that of Gen. La Vega, who is now at the defences of the National Bridge. Santa Anna says that he goes to conquer or die; but this he has said so often, that we cannot put much reliance on the threat. He takes with him about 20,000 men of all arms, the greater part of them being taken from (Jarochado) the lowest class of the people, who are very good for fighting. They will, however, have no other advantage over the army which marched from San Luis, except that they will not be compelled to the same dreary march through vast wildernesses, and exposed to continual cold and rain. But they are equally destitute of resources and means, having no provisions, and no money with which to buy any. We have, therefore, no reasons for expecting any other results than have characterized the former enterprises. It is said that if the Americans pass the National Bridge, and march towards the Capital, the whole people of Mexico will rise en masse against the invaders. But we do no doubt that a force of 10,000 of 12,000 Americans will not encounter, on the march, a Mexican army sufficiently large or determined to resist their onward progress.

What do the Mexicans hope for, when, during a whole year, they have permitted so many favorable opportunities of repelling the invaders to pass by unimproved? Witness the battles of Monterey and Buena Vista -- the debarkation of the American troops in the very face of Vera Cruz and when the expedition had become so
Santa Anna says there shall never be peace as long as there is one American in Mexico. But Santa Anna is, in truth, most desirous of all other persons for peace, and will be the first to recommend it, when it is safe to do so. There are many persons in Mexico, who have learned to understand and appreciate the Americans, their laws, government and institutions – but there are many Mexicans who thoroughly despise the Yankees, their manners and customs. Thus are these people divided and confused, and yet they call themselves freemen, and mockingly style their nation a Republic!

Tuesday, May 4, 1847 RE44i1p4c1 1,950 words

LATeR FROM VERA CRUZ

[From the New Orleans Picayune, April 23.]

Important Intelligence – Advance of the American Army – Santa Anna’s Preparations for Defence – Battle supposed to have been fought on the 15th April, &c.

The U.S. steamship Massachusetts arrived here last evening from Vera Cruz, which place she left on the evening of the 14th. Our correspondence is down to the latest hour. The news is of the most stirring interest. The best advices lead to the impression that a battle was fought at Cerro Gordo, nearly midway between the Puente Nacional and Jalapa, on Thursday or Friday last. We have heretofore announced the advance of Gen. Twiggs’s division into the interior. When last heard from, he was beyond the Puente Nacional and in close proximity to the Mexican army. Gen. Scott was expected to arrive at General Twiggs’s headquarters on the night of the 14th inst. Gen. Worth left Vera Cruz with the last division of the army on the 13th, and bivouacked that night at San Juan, about twelve miles in the interior. He probably joined the advance on the 15th. Santa Anna was said to be at Cerro Gordo, where La Vega and Canalizo were posted with a considerable command. The Mexican force at that point, when joined by Santa Anna, was estimated at fifteen thousand strong, consisting of two thousand regular infantry, three thousand cavalry, and the remainder irregulars. The pass of Cerro Gordo is forty-four miles from Vera Cruz, and is naturally a very strong one. – Some difficulty is anticipated in forcing it. Rumors state that Santa Anna can obtain any amount of irregular force he may desire. Reconnoitering parties from the American army had been fired upon and several wounded – amongst whom was Capt. (now Lieut. Colonel) Johnson, of the Topographical Engineers, who was shot in the arm and hip whilst examining the Mexican works at Cerro Gordo. Intelligent officers, who arrived in the Massachusetts, entertain very little doubt that a general engagement has taken place.

A number of soldiers have been shot in passing the road to and from. All accounts represent the Americans as confident of victory, and the Mexicans as burning for vengeance. Our next advices from Vera Cruz will, we doubt not, bring us the details of an important engagement.

We subjoin the news from Vera Cruz papers and our correspondence. The letter from Mr. Kendall of the 14th, written at camp San Juan, is the very latest from the army. The soldiers were suffering at Vera Cruz from sickness, but the vomito had not appeared.

[Editorial Correspondence of the Picayune]

VERA CRUZ, April 14, 1847.

The Massachusetts sails in half an hour, and I hasten to send you the latest intelligence received from the advance of our army on its march towards Jalapa. Despatches were received here yesterday evening from Gen. Twiggs, stating that the enemy had been discovered, and that in a reconnaissance some eighteen miles beyond the National Bridge, at a point called the Black Forrest Pass, Capt. J.E. Johnson, of the Topographical Engineers – now Lieut. Col. of voltigeurs – was severely wounded with a shot through the arm and another in the thigh. It is more than probable that ere this Gen’s Twiggs and Pillow have had something of a “brush” with the enemy. Santa Anna is known to have arrived at this pass with a force said to be 15,000 strong, consisting of 2,000 regulars and the balance of irregular troops – of whom 3,000 are cavalry. – The point above named is a very strong one, and naturally affords great advantages to the enemy; but, my word for it, they will not hold it long after our troops assail it.

It is becoming quite sickly here, but as yet I hear nothing of the vomito amongst the soldiers. It is very healthy in the interior, and our army, excepting those who stay to garrison this city, will soon be beyond the influence of the impure and sickly air of the coast.

I learn that the steamship New Orleans, now here, is to make one more trip to Tampico for mules, which are much wanted here, and after the she goes to your city. Yours, &c., F.A.L.

P.S. – When Capt. Johnson was wounded in his reconnaissance, he was with an escort of the 2nd Dragoons, under Capt. Hardie. F.A.L.
I arrived in this camp at 11 o'clock last night, the road from Vera Cruz running for the most part through heavy sand. The division of Gen. Worth, from the excessive heat and wearisome road, suffered incredibly.

The news in camp is stirring. An express has come down from Gen. Twiggs to the effect that Santa Anna was before him, at Cerro Gordo, with 15,000 men, as near as could be judged from reconnoissances made by Capt. Hardie and other officers of dragoons. Lieut. Col. J.E. Johnson has been severely but not mortally wounded while examining Santa Anna's words, which appear to be a succession of breastworks on the eminence in the vicinity of Cerro Gordo. Everything would now go to show that Santa Anna is determined to make a bold stand.

A dragoon, who had been sent down express by Gen. Twiggs, was yesterday found shot by the roadside just beyond this. His papers had not been touched. The Mexicans playing a bloody and at the same time bolder game than is usual for them, as it is thought they have killed no less than fifty of our men within the last three days on the road.

Gen. Scott stopped last night nine miles from this – to-night he will reach Gen. Twigg's position. If Santa Anna is as strong as he is represented, he will probably not be attacked for two or there days.

I write in great haste.

G.W.K.

On the 11th inst. Gen. Scott, issued the following proclamation, which no one will doubt was written by him:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, VERA CRUZ,

April 11, 1847

Maj. Gen. Scott, General-in-Chief of the Armies of the United States of America

To the Good People of Mexico.

PROCLAMATION.

Mexicans! At the head of a powerful army, soon to be doubled – a part of which is now advancing on your capital – and with another army under Maj. Gen. Taylor in march from Saltillo towards San Luis Potosi – I think myself called upon to address you.

Mexicans! Americans are not your enemies; but the enemies for a time, of the men, who, a year ago, misgoverned you and brought about this unnatural war between two great Republics. We are the friends of the peaceful inhabitants of the country we occupy, and the friends of your holy religion, its hierarchy and its priesthood. The same with devout Catholics, and respected by our Government, laws and people.

For the church of Mexico, the unoffending inhabitants of the country and their property, I have from the first done every thing in my power to place them under the safeguard of martial law against the few bad men in this army.

My orders, to that effect, known to all, are precise and rigorous. Under them several Americans have already been punished, by fine, for the benefit of Mexicans, besides imprisonment; and one, for a rape, has been hung by the neck.

Is this not a proof of good faith and energetic discipline? Other proofs shall be given as often as injuries to Mexicans may be detected.

On the other hand, injuries committed by individuals, or parties of Mexico, not belonging to the public forces, upon individuals, small parties, trains of wagons and teams, or of pack mules, or on any other person or property belonging to this army, contrary to the laws of war, shall be punished with rigor – or if the particular offender be not delivered up by Mexican authorities, the punishment shall fall upon entire cities, towns or neighborhoods.

Let then, all good Mexicans remain at home, or at their peaceful occupations; but they are invited to bring in, for sale, horses, mules, beef, cattle, corn, barley, wheat, flour for bread, and vegetables. Cash will be paid for everything this army may take or purchase, and protection will be given to sellers. The Americans are strong enough to offer these assurances which, should Mexicans wisely accept, this war may soon be happily ended, to the honor and advantage of both belligerents. Then the Americans, having converted enemies into friends, will be happy to take leave of Mexico, and return to their own country.

WINFIELD SCOTT.
VERA CRUZ, April 13, 1847.

Editors Delta: As I stated in my letter of this morning, the Brigade of General Worth took up the line of march for Jalapa, but, from rather sudden indisposition, the General did not leave with them. About one o’clock an express reached him, with the important information, that the column of General Twiggs had fallen in with a large force of the enemy at Cerro Gordo, a strong position beyond Puente Nacional, and that a skirmish had taken place between Twiggs’ advance guard and the enemy, in which Captain Johnson, Topographical Engineer, was severely wounded, and several others. In half an hour after the reception of this news, General Worth had mounted his horse and was off – so sudden, indeed, that I missed him, notwithstanding I repaired to his quarters to gather the particulars as soon as I heard of it.

There is no doubt at all but that Santa Anna, with from 12,000 to 15,000 men, is between us and Jalapa. It is conceded on all sides. But if Gen. Twiggs does not whip him, he will at least keep him in check until Gen. Scott, who left yesterday reaches him, which will be to-morrow night. Maj. Gen. Patterson left here with two brigades of volunteers on Friday, and he has, no doubt, reached the advance before this hour.

Gen. Twiggs had between 2,500 and 2,700 men – choice ones, too – under his command, and I entertain little fear for his safety. Gen. Patterson marched with Shields’ and Pillow’s brigades, and all the force except the garrison of the town and Quitman’s brigade, are either at the scene of action or on the road to it.

Gen. Scott, I think, was pretty well satisfied, before his departure, that Santa Anna was in the neighborhood of Jalapa, and was making good time towards that point before the express reached him.

A terrible battle will be fought at Cerro Gordo, or there will be little or no fighting. An intelligent Mexican told me to-night, that there would be no fight, and that Santa Anna had with him four prominent members of the National Congress, with the aid of whom he hopes to negotiate a peace. I believe truly, that it is the wish of his Excellency to end the strife, but whether he will embrace this occasion, (which by the way, is an excellent once,) I cannot say.

Moses Y. Beach, of the New York Sun, is now here. He came from the city of Mexico by way of Tampico, and that in so short a time that the news of the capitulation of this place had been received three days before his departure.

CHAPARRAL.

VERA CRUZ ANCHORAGE, April 12, 1847

Eds. Delta: – A large detachment of the squadron leaves to-day for Tuspan, commanded by the Commodore in person.

The officers anticipate something of a fight at that place. It is believed that there are upwards of 2000 troops at that place, under the command of Gen. Cos, with some sixty pieces of cannon.

The squadron capture at Alvarado sixty pieces of heavy cannon, all serviceable and in fine order with the exception of three.

Tuesday, May 4, 1847 RE44i1p4c2 181 words.

SUMMARY JUSTICE

Gen. Scott, (says the Vera Cruz Eagle of the 14th inst.,) is determined that, to the extent of his ability, there shall be no abuse by our citizens of the power which the torture of war has placed in our hands. He has commenced vigorously in repressing crime. A free colored man names Isaac Kirk, accused of violence on a Mexican woman, and theft, and two volunteers of the First Pennsylvania Regiment for theft, were brought before a military commission, on the 9th inst, at Vera Cruz, and tried; they were all found guilty and sentenced, Kirk to be hanged, and the others a fine of one month’s pay, each, and imprisonment for a month. Kirk was executed on the next day, (the 10th.) – A large concourse of people were present, to witness the first execution under American authority which has ever taken place since our occupation of this country. It will, no doubt, says the editor of the Eagle, prove a salutary lesson to many who would destroy the safeties guaranteed to good citizens, were not such punishments sometimes inflicted.
Tuesday, May 4, 1847 RE44i1p4c2

OFFICIAL

Letters (says the Union) have just been received at the War Department from Gen. Taylor. The last bears date on the 28th of March. A previous letter runs as follows; and it pays the proper tribute to the gallant conduct of Col. Morgan, of the Ohio volunteers:

See http://www.majbill.vt.edu/history/MxAmWar/Newspapers/Niles/Nilesg1847MayJun.htm#DATE_72.151_Taylor_CAMARGO

The last letter that our communications with the rear are now measurably secure, no interruption having taken place since that reported on the 20th ult. A train arrived on the 24th, under escort of the 1st Indiana regiment, and another was daily expected. It is understood that the regular cavalry of Urrea had retired from that quarter across the mountains; a natural result of the retreat of the main army towards San Luis and of our precautions to secure the trains. All was quiet at Saltillo – the troops in good health, and the wounded rapidly recovering. The inhabitants, both at Saltillo and Monterey, were generally returning to their homes, and, in the country, are engaged in planting their crops.

[MSH]

Tuesday, May 4, 1847 RE44i1p4c3 347 words.

THE WAR – VOICE OF MASSACHUSETTS

Under the head of N.Y. Tribune parades the infamous resolutions of Mr. Keyes, which we yesterday published as having passed the House of Representatives of Massachusetts, and which have since passed the Senate of the State, 27 to 1. They denounce the war with Mexico as "a war of conquest, hateful in its objects, wanton, unconstitutional in its origin and character, against freedom, against humanity, against justice, against the Union, against justice, against the Union, against the Constitution, and against the Free States; waged – by a powerful nation against a weak neighbor – unnecessarily and without just cause, at immense coast of treasure and life, for the dismemberment of Mexico, and for the conquest of a portion of her territory, from which slavery has already been excluded, with the triple object of extending slavery, of strengthening the Slave Power and of obtaining the control of the Free States, under the Constitution of the United States."

They denounce the wrong and enormity of slavery, and the tyranny and usurpation of the 'slave power'' and recommend the country "to retire from the position of aggression which it now occupies towards a weak, distracted neighbor and sister Republic."

We yesterday stated that resolutions of thanks to Gen. Taylor and his army, following closely the disgraceful anti-war resolutions, had been passed by the House – but the same article in the Tribune informs us that these resolutions of thanks to Gen. Taylor were rejected by the Federal Senate, in which there is not a single Democrat.

Will any one deny that these disgraceful proceedings of a Federal Legislature, partaking so largely of the spirit of the Hartford Convention, do give "aid and comfort" to the public enemy? Their assaults upon the South, should arouse the indignation of men of all parties in the South. They show how little reason Southern Whigs have to rejoice in such allies. The Democrats of the House, to their honor be it said, voted for the resolutions of thanks to Gen. Taylor and his army, but spurned the infamous assaults upon their own Government and their sister States.

[MSH]

Tuesday, May 4, 1847 RE44i1p4c3 87 words.

UNTITLED

We have had the pleasure of reading a very long and interesting letter from a young Virginian, and now an officer in the Missouri Mounted Volunteers. It is dated Santa Fe, 18th February, and gives a graphic sketch of the noble achievements of our army under Col. Price. – After the gallant storming of the strongly fortified Pueblo, the Mexican chiefs declared that, in the contest with the Americans, they supposed they were contending with men, but they found that they were fighting with devils, who feared nothing.

[MSH]

Friday, May 7, 1847 RE44i2p1c5 392 words.
BRILLIANT EXPLOIT OF COL. JEFFERSON DAVIS

We take the following from the Matamoros Flag of the 31st of March:

The 1st Mississippi regiment, under command of Col. Jefferson Davis, coated itself over with immoral glory. Originally, it numbered 980 some odd, but suddenly transferred from the comforts and genial atmosphere of home, to the almost vertical sun of Brazos Island, last August, disease made frightful ravages amongst its men. What it lost in this way, in conjunction with the killed at Monterey, and those discharged in consequence of wounds, reduced it to considerably less than four hundred strong. With this diminished force (weakened still more by the extraction of the Tombigbee and Carroll county companies, which guarded Gen. Taylor's tent,) this skeleton regiment sustained, and repelled, with immense slaughter, a charge of three times their own number of Santa Anna's best lancers. – The lancers first bore down upon one of the Indiana regiments – (we forget whether the first of second) – and dispersed it. The Mississippians endeavored to rally them, but before they could do so, were in turn themselves charged. – Col. Davis, contrary to all custom, instead of forming the hollow square, stretched out his men in form of a crocket. The lancers came up at a rapid gallop, but so perfectly astonished was not only the chief officer, but his men at so strange a manner of receiving a charge of cavalry, that they involuntarily halted. For a few seconds they gazed upon the unruffled countenances of the riflemen opposed to them, but feeling there was no time to lose, the order “Adilante!” (forward) was given. The crocket was filled in an instant; and just as they wheeled their horses, with lances set, on both prongs, the intrepid Mississippi Colonel, standing inside the fork, called out: “Boys, fire, and at them with your knives!” Simultaneously with the sharp crack of the rifle, a deafening shout went up, and Bowie knife and revolvers flashed in the direction of the lancers. Strange as it may seem, many of the lancers were dragged from their horses and stabbed to death. In this unusual manner this splendid body of horsemen were beaten back. Captain Eustis, of first dragoons, says the achievement is unparalleled. Whether it is owing to the natural daring of the men, or the infusion into their bosoms of their Colonel's spirit, we leave every body to draw their own conclusion.

With whatever regret, truth forces from us the acknowledgement that the Arkansas cavalry fled the field. Many say that the lack of discipline – the suddenness and overpowering force of the attack, would have rendered resistance madness. We hope it may turn out so. Nevertheless, they vamoosed, and were stopped, in their headlong flight to Saltillo, by the two Mississippi companies guarding Gen. Taylor's tent. They presented their rifles and ordered them to return to the field instantly. One of the fugitives, wearing the dress of an officer, replied: “It's no use – Gen. Taylor and his whole army are cut to pieces.” Lieut. Russell, of the Carroll county company – a brother editor, by-the-bye – sprang and caught him by the collar: “Lead your men back to the field, you liar and coward,”
THE ISTHMUS OF TEHUANTEPEC

As far as we are concerned, the elaborate column in yesterday’s Whig is totally thrown away. It entirely and monstrously exaggerates our position on the subject of a ship canal to unite the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans across that narrow isthmus. We have not in any sense contended for the construction of said work by Congress – but we have zealously urged the importance of acquiring a slip of land, or the “right of way” through the isthmus. The Whig may, in it horror of the extension of our limits and the expansion of the commerce of the world, resist the expediency of such a measure; but it will scarcely be so bold as to deny, that in arranging the terms of peace with Mexico, our government can lawfully and constitutionally acquire a slip of land in that or any other portion of Mexico. Under the laws of war, we can capture any province of Mexico and indeed the whole of the country, to be held until peace is concluded, and in the negotiation we may make the acquisition of certain territory a binding condition. If we can thus obtain even whole provinces, in accordance with the laws of nations, most certainly we are not precluded from the acquisition of a narrow piece of land, sufficient to form a communication between the two oceans. And the Whig may rely upon it, it will be done. That paper may denounce, in rounded periods, the curse of extending our limits, as did the Federalists of New England in the case of Louisiana and Texas – of whose accession no one now presumes to complain, for the resources which these new commercial avenues have placed in their possession have effectually silenced all grumblings; it may, following the lead of Mr. John S. Pendleton, impeach as “fraudulent” the claims of our own fellow citizens upon Mexico for grievous spoliations of their property and injury to their persons; it may regard Mexico as the aggrieved party and our own Government as completely in the wrong, and may urge the withdrawal of our troops, without the smallest compensation in money or territory for the wrongs which we have suffered, and the blood and treasure we have expended, in this “unjust and atrocious” war; it may do all this, yet it will never induce the American people to yield to such suicidal and degrading conditions as to retreat from Mexico without acquiring indemnity, in some for or other. Money, Mexico cannot command. Territory she has in abundance, will never induce the American people to yield to such suicidal and degrading conditions as to retreat from Mexico without acquiring indemnity, in some for or other. Money, Mexico cannot command. Territory she has in abundance, which is useless to her, but will prove valuable to us. A reasonable portion of such territory, we cannot doubt, will be insisted on by our Government; and among the terms of settlement, a narrow and at present valueless slip of land across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, will be included. Can any one doubt the immense importance of the communication between the two oceans which we have referred to? Besides its commercial blessings, it may be, in the language of Mr. Dallas, “converted into the means of bringing closely together, of improving and of enriching the whole human family.”

So much for the acquisition of territory, which we hold to be fully justified by right and the law of nations. We now come to the use to be made of said strip of land at Tehuantepec. We have advocated the construction of a ship canal or railroad between the navigable rivers on either side, so as to bring the teeming riches of the Indies within the control of our own enterprising citizens, and here again we quote another graphic passage from Mr. Dallas’ letter:

“The chief objects to be attained are, a speedy communication between this country and the western coasts of North and South America, especially with our territories of Oregon and California; an easy and quick access to China, the groups of the South Sea Archipelago, the Sandwich Islands, Russian settlements, and even, before long I hope, the tempting and untouched treasures of magnificent Japan; and, finally, the facilitating and enlarging of the great source of wealth, as well as nursery of able seamen, the whale fishery.”

This much we have freely asserted and still cordially maintain; but the Whig makes us go a great deal farther. It gratuitously assumes, that we are in favor of the construction by Congress of a ship canal across their isthmus, “when the territory shall have been conquered of purchased from Mexico” – and, filled with this erroneous idea, goes on to ask, with a magisterial air, “what clause of that instrument can be tortured by sophistry, or forced by the most violent abuse of language, into the service of the advocates of this gigantic scheme, who, denying the right of Congress to improve our own harbors and rivers, under that clause of the Constitution which imposes upon that body the duty of regulating commerce “among the several States,” nevertheless have the effrontery to deduce from that very clause authority first to buy from a foreign Government “the right of way through its territory, or to compel it by force to yield it to our demand, and then to cut a great canal through the soil thus purchased or conquered?”
Now, we have never advanced, nor do we now sustain, the opinion that Congress does possess or should exercise the power of constructing this magnificent work. Whatever may be Mr. Dallas' views on the subject, we unequivocally deny such a power to Congress. We have consistently opposed the construction of Internal Improvements by the Federal Government "within the States" and as strongly object to the exercise of such a power in territory acquired of Mexico. But we contend, that, even without the aid of Congress, this grand commercial highway of nations will yet be constructed. Let us first obtain the territory, as we can by just and constitutional means, and then, in the language of Union, there can be "no doubt that the commercial interest and the commercial capital, both of our own and of other countries, uniting in so great an object, will speedily turn it to practical account. Private enterprise will doubtless relieve our Government from the necessity even of contemplating any doubtful exercise of its own powers in the construction of a ship canal beyond our own territorial borders." The Whig will now see that it has entirely distorted our position. The "monstrous absurdity" to which it refers, is all a picture of its own fancy – and our own zealous opposition to the construction of gigantic improvements by the national government, is perfectly consistent with our support of the proposition to secure the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, to be afterwards converted by private enterprise into a highway of nations. Unlike the Whig, we would turn the present war with Mexico, into which we have been forced, to a practical benefit to ourselves and the whole world. We would seize the occasion presented to us, of uniting all nations in the bonds of peace and fellowship and mutual interest. We would do so, at the same time, without exercising of claiming the least power in violation of the constitution or of justice. – All this, we conceive, can be accomplished, and the constitution, which we would cherish above all other considerations, maintained inviolate.

Friday, May 7, 1847 RE44i2p4c2 898 words.

FROM THE RIO GRANDE.

From the New Orleans Delta, April 27.

We received yesterday, by the steamship Telegraph, the Matamoras Flag of the 18th inst., and the Monterey Pioneer of the 12th. We give from them such extracts as we deem of interest to our readers. General Taylor is still at the Walnut Springs. He does not contemplate leaving there for some time – not until he is fully reinforced to cross the country, attack, and, with the certainty of success, take San Luis Potosi. We should not be surprised to hear of the forces under Gen. Scott reveling in the "Halls of the Montezumas" without the co-operation of Gen. Taylor.

The rank and file of the 1st Ohio Regiment have taken measure to present Maj. L. Gindings with a sword to cost $500, as a token of their respect and thanks.

The 2d Regiment of Mississippi Volunteers have arrived a Monterey. They are all armed with rifles.

The Editor of the Matamoras Flag has recently paid a flying, or rather a steamboat visit to Camargo. Speaking of it he says:

"A happier looking people than the Mexicans on the Rio Grande we never saw, and many of them are becoming enriched by supplying the steamboats with wood, which is easily obtained, and for which they receive $250 per cord.

Camargo we found all life and bustle – apparently more business doing there than here – and merchants looking with confidence to a brighter prospect ahead. Considerable stocks of merchants' goods were being sent forward to Monterey, Saltillo, and towns along the line protected by our troops, and the trade between our merchants and the Mexicans bids fair to open again with new life and activity."

FIENDISH MURDER. – Father Ray, says the Flag, so long and favorably known as a chaplain in the army, was recently killed by a party of lancers on the road between Camargo and Monterey. What ignorance, combined with fanaticism, will do, may be judged by the butchering of this faithful old minister of peace. True to his divine calling, he forsook friends and home to make easy the couch of the dying soldier – he came with design of harm to neither Mexican or American, and was arrested in his divine vocation by those who choose the same mode of worshipping the Almighty. Strange infatuation!

The following items are copied from the Matamoras Flag:

The 1st Mississippi Regiment ("Gen. Taylor's Own," as it is styled) from what may may be considered his body guard, and are with him at the Walnut Springs, near Monterey. In and around Monterey are the Kentucky Cavalry, 2d and 3d Ohio Regiments, 3d Indiana, six companies of Virginians, and a few companies of Texan Rangers. Six companies of Virginians are occupying China and Cadarevta, which places are being fortified. The 2d Ohio Regiment is probably, by this time, on its way to Camargo; its term of service is nearly up, and the boys are homeward bound. Five companies of Kentucky Cavalry were in Camargo a few days ago, but were to return to Monterey as an escort to a train. This regiment has, also, but a brief time to remain in service, and will soon be returning.
SHAMEFUL – Persons recently arrived from Monterey, informs us that, in coming down, they beheld strewn along the road-side, where had been massacred, the teamsters who fell into the hands of Urrea's assassins in the attack on the wagon train, the decayed and mutilated remains of upwards of fifty of these unfortunate men. Where they fell, there still they are suffered to remain – their flesh made the food of vultures and wolves, and their bones scattered about by these beasts and birds of prey. Train after train has passed them by, with no more notice than a passing commentary upon their sad fate – none have stepped forth to give them burial. Humanity sickens at man's indifference to man.

CHIHUAHUA TAKEN. – The American arms have again triumphed, and the flag of the United States flutters over Chihuahua. Col. Doniphan, at the head of 950 men, accomplished this much by fighting two battles, within twelve miles of the city, in which he suffered a loss of only five killed and wounded. This information comes to us through the quartermaster at this place – he having been so informed by the quartermaster at Monterey. The loss of the Mexicans is about two hundred killed and wounded, and ten pieces of cannon captured. Despatches have been forwarded to Gen. Taylor by Colonel Doniphan. Onward rolls the republican cause. What shall arrest its progress?

DOWN UPON THEM. – We stated not long ago that Gen. Taylor had resolved on a requisition upon the states of New Leon, Coahuila, and Tamaulipas, for indemnification for the destruction of the public property of the U. States by Mexican robbers in those departments of Mexico. – Since then Col. Cushing has received an order directing him to call upon the Alcades of this place, and will accordingly pay his respects to their honors this morning. The proportion of this department is $17,500, and can be liquidated in mules at 20 dollars a head, beef cattle at 10, or corn at 3 per faega, (3 bushels.) The Alcades here will confer with the authorities of other towns, as to the amount of taxable property in their several districts, to serve as data in fixing the proportion of each. The quartermaster here will receipt for all that may be "forked over."

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Friday, May 7, 1847 RE44i2p4c7 108 words.

HONOR THE BRAVE

The citizens of Richmond county, Georgia have presented a sword to Brigadier General D. E. Twiggs, United States Army, for his distinguished services in the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. General Twiggs is a native of that county and State.

The citizens of Warren county, North Carolina, have resolved to present a sword to Major Braxton Bragg, United States Army, for his gallant conduct and efficient services at Fort Brown, Monterey and Buena Vista. It was he that commanded a battery of the splendid Flying Artillery at Buena Vista, and so promptly and fearlessly dealt our "more grape," under the order of General Taylor.

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Tuesday, May 11, 1847 RE44i3p1c1 2,474 words.

BATTLE OF CERRO GORDO.

From the New Orleans Picayune, May 1

FURTHER DETAILS. – The letter below, which we give to day from Mr. Kendall, did not appear in our extra of yesterday – we had not time to print it. It will show the dispositions made for the attack by our troops, for every thing done by General Scott evinced his skill and science as well as gallantry.

Many inquiries are made of us by friends and acquaintances as the wounded. Mr. Kendall’s letters give all the information which we possess, and it must be recollected that they were written under circumstances of excitement, and in great haste. It is a delicate matter for gentlemen who have reached the city, from the field of the conflict, to speak of the state of the wounded with any positiveness. In individual cases, their hopes may be blasted by the result, and again their fears amounting almost to certainty, may, in other cases, be happily disappointed. We must wait for further arrivals, to dispel the uncertainty which hangs over the fate of many brave men.

In this connection, all will read with pleasure that Captain Johnston is doing so well. This gentleman, Captain of the Topographical Engineers, and appointed Lieutenant Colonel of the Voltigeurs, was so desperately wounded, that little hope was felt for him. He has a strong constitution, and is in fine spirits, and Captain Hughes thinks he will recover.

The health of the troops at Vera Cruz is absolutely improving. Great ameliorations are making in the city, but, above all things, it has been undergoing a thorough purification. There is no yellow fever there, nor other malignant epidemic. This is good news.
Ampudia was in the battle of Cerro Gordo, but neither he nor Santa Anna ventured within the lines which their countrymen so strenuously defended. They were prepared to run the moment the day should seem to go against them, and run they did. Ampudia came near being taken close to Jalapa, and to save himself had to take to the fields. But we will not longer detain the reader from our correspondence.

[Editorial Correspondence of the Picayune.]

PLAN DEL RIO, MEXICO,

April 16, 1847 – Evening.

Meeting Lieut. McLane of the navy this afternoon, at Puente Nacional and on his way here, I joined his party and rode over. Major. Beall, with a small squad of dragoons, was also along with us. On the road, some six miles back, we came up with a forage party of the 2d Dragoons, under Lieut. Anderson, and also Capt. Caswell’s company of Tennessee volunteers which had been out after beef the latter had had a brisk skirmish with a party of rancheros, in which Capt. ? two men wounded, one of them, a young man of great promise, named J.L. Roberson, badly. His thigh bone was completely shattered and the poor fellow’s sufferings were most acute as they bore him along in a wagon over the rough road. The Mexicans stood their ground in the chaparral with some little bravery at first but were finally routed in every direction.

I find all excitement and bustle here. The Mexicans, under Santa Anna, are occupying a think of works along the road, the nearest of which is about a mile and a quarter from Gen. Scott’s headquarters in a direct line. The road this side is cut up and barricaded, and every positive means of defence and annoyance has been resented to. Beyond the first work there are three or four others, completely commanding the gorge through which the road to Jalapa runs – these fortifications on hills, and rising so as to defend one another. It is thought that Santa Anna has 20,000 men with him – the lowest estimate give him 15,000 – and with these he has 24 pieces of field artillery, besides some 14 heavy cannon in position. Some of the prisoners and desertors from the enemy’s camp even place higher estimates, both as to the number of men and guns.

To turn these different works, a road has been partially cut through the rough ground and chaparral to the right; and although the reconnaissance is as yet imperfect, it is still thought that a point near the enemy’s farthest work can be reached. Gen. Twiggs, with his division, is to march at 8 o’clock to-morrow morning by the new road, and in the following morning it is thought the attack will commence on the works on this side. If Gen. Twiggs succeeds in reaching the rear of Santa Anna, and he will use every exertion, I do not see what is to save him. He is generally fox enough to have plenty of holes out of which to escape, however, and from the great difficulty of reconnoitering his position fully, he may have some means of escape here. The general impression now in camp is that this is to be the great battle of the war; and the immense natural strength of Santa Anna’s works would justify the belief.

The Mexicans are more on the alter than they have ever been before, and more bold in throwing out their pockets. Not a party can go near their works without being fired upon, and yesterday a soldier of the 7th Infantry tell with no less than seven bullets in his body. It is said that Almonte is with Santa Anna, as also all the principal generals of the country.

Gen. Worth left Puente Nacional this afternoon with is division, and will be up during tongith. He started a little after 1 o’clock this morning, with near 2,000 picked men, determined to make a forced march through; but learning on the road that the attack upon the Mexican works was not to commence as soon as anticipated, he returned to Puente Nacional after marching a mile and a half. Capt. Pemberton, one of his aids, rode over here last evening after dark, and returned with the information that the attack had been postponed.

The wounds of Capt. Johnston are doing well. I regret to sate that Gen. P.F. Smith is confined to his bed, utterly unable either to ride or walk. – He has a violent inflammation of the right ankle and knee, resembling crysipelas, which from neglecting several days when he should have remained in his cot, has finally compelled him to lay up. I will write again to-morrow.

Yours,
G.W.K.

PLAN DEL RIO, Mexico,

April 17, 1847 – 8 o’clock, A.M.

General Worth’s division came up during last night and this morning, ready for any thing that turns up. A section of the siege train, comprising two twenty four pounders and an eight inch howitzer will be along this forenoon. A subsistence train is also close by, and is very much needed, as the army is nearly out of provisions.

Gen. Twigg’s division will march by 9 o’clock.-The 1st brigade, composed of the 1st artillery, 2nd dragoons and Captain Kearney’s company of the 1st and 7thinfantry, is under command of Col. Harney during the illness of Gen. Smith; the 2d brigade consists of the 4th artillery and 2d and 3d infantry, under Col. Riley; and to these must be added Taylor’s battery and Talcott’s mountain howitzer and rocket men, acting under the immediate orders of
General Twiggs. The latter company will probably have plenty of work on their hands, as this is just the country for their operations.

I have written this off so as to be able to send you an account of the operations thus far in case anyone is going to Vera Cruz. The road is now so much infested by small parties of the enemy that it is deemed imprudent for a single man to start, let him be ever so well mounted. If I have another chance to write to-day I shall improve it. G. W. K.

Further Details of the Battle.

The "American Eagle," published at Vera Cruz issued an extra on the 200th ult., from which we extract copiously, though there are many repetitions in it:

The positions occupied by the enemy were as strong as nature, combined with art, could make them, and could you but see them whilst reading these times you would wonder at their surrender. The Cerro Gordo, the most prominent of the defences, commands the Jalapa road for two or three miles a heavy battery here, in the hands of skilful men, would keep an army in there for many a day, if not entirely prevent its passage. The importance of this point was soon made apparent to all, and last night, about 12 o'clock, a piece of cannon was hauled up a neighboring eminence, which, after sending sundry shot upon the enemy, was found of little avail; and in the morning the Cerro Gordo was stormed and carried – not, however, before the commander-in-chief of the Mexicans had secured himself a safe retreat, by falling back, with his body-guard, several miles upon the Jalapa road.

In the mean time, the other defences were being stormed by our troops. There forts, situated near to our camp, and upon three heights adjacent to each other – each commanding the others – were the objects of attack; and the carrying of them was the task of the volunteers. The tenure one of these forts runs further in than the others, and this being the object of storm, the advance of the stormers had to undergo the fire of the right and left and centre – the latter of which prudently withheld its fire until our men had advanced within forty yards of the guns, and, then the dogs of war were let loose with such fury that our men were driven from their position, with great slaughter – the 2d Tennesseenees, who were in advance, having a large number of killed and wounded. Before the volunteers had time to renew the attack, the enemy had surrendered – driven, as they had been, from their favorite position of Cerro Gordo.

Taking all things into consideration, this has been a great fight, and a great victory; one calculated to shine brilliantly in the chapter of those achieved in Mexico by our arms.

The Mexican forces on the height of Cerro Gordo were the 3d and 4th Light Infantry, the 3d and 5th Regiments of the line, and 6 pieces of artillery, with the requisite number of Cavalry. – Col. Obando, chief of artillery, was killed, and Gen. Vasquez, general of division. Many of our officers were of opinion that this general was no other than Gov. Morales.

Our force consisted of the 2d, 3d, and 7th Infantry and Mounted Riflemen, and Steptoe's battery. Capt. Mason, of the Rifles, was severely wounded, having lost his left leg. Lieut. Ewell of the 7th Infantry, was severely wounded. Capt. Patten, of the 2d, left hand shot off.

On the 18th, Lieut. Jarvis, of the 2d Infantry, was wounded in ascending the first hill.

On the top of the Cerro Gordo, the scene was truly horrible. From the Jalapa road, dead bodies of the enemy could be seen on every spot where the eye was directed, until they literally covered the ascent to the height. There is about half an acre of level ground on the top of the mountain, and here was collected together the wounded of both armies, and the dead of our own. Side by side were lying the disabled American and the Mexican, and our surgeons were busy amputating and dressing the wounds of each – lotting them in turns, unless the acute pain of some suffer further along cause him to cry out, when he would be immediately attended to.

The pioneer parties of our men were picking up the wounded and bringing them in from every part of the ascent to the height. From the side towards the river, where the storming party of Gen. Twiggs's division made the charge, most of our men suffered, and many of the enemy, also, for they made a desperate stand; but when they gave way, and started in confusion down the hill, was the time they most suffered, many of them receiving the balls of our men in their backs.

The charge on Cerro Gordo was one of those cool yet determined ones so characteristic of the American soldier. From the time that our troops left the hill nearest that prominent height the fire was incessant, and they had to fight their way foot by foot, till they gained the summit, from which place the enemy gave way after a very short resistance.

Our victory is complete. Those of the enemy who escaped were driven in all directions by their pursuers, and many of them out down on the road.

Gen. Twiggs, who followed them after taking Cerro Gordo, approached within three miles of Jalapa, and finding no force of the enemy, encamped for the night. He is in the town before this time.
Capt. Merrill, of the 2d Dragoons, returned from Twiggs's camp last night, and is of opinion that nothing but a small body guard is with Santa Anna.

Santa Anna's private carriage was captured, and amongst his effects was found the sum of $18,000, which is now in the hands of the quartermaster, and an additional leg of cork for his Excellency's use in case of emergency.

I noticed one officer of the enemy shot through the head on Cerro Gordo, who was a conspicuous man at Vera Cruz.

Gen. La Vega, who is again in our clutches, looked as dashing and fine as ever. He did not seem the least disconcerted, but rode in from the battle field, by the side of Gen. Scott, laughing and talking as though he was once more on his way to New Orleans.

Gen. Shields was mortally wounded, and I hear this morning that he is dead. He behaved most gallantly and his mishap is deeply deplored.

Gen. Pillow was wounded in the arm, but slightly.

Major Sumner, of the 2d Dragoons, was shot in the head, but is considered out of danger.

The force of the Mexicans, at the lowest, is set down at 12,000. The officers of the Mexican army are being paroled whilst I write this, and with their soldiers are being sent about these business – our commander being opinion that he can whip them easier than feed them. The generals will be sent to New Orleans; among them you will have the second appearance of La Vega, he having refused again to be paroled.

The second in command to Santa Anna is a man as black as the ace of spades, with a name something like Stinton.

All Santa Anna's plate was taken, and his dinner, cooked yesterday, eaten by our own officers.

I am sorry to say that Gen. Patterson and Smith were both confined to their beds by sickness, and were unable to go into the fight with their commands.
his shot and shells, and the city and its formidable castle surrender to the American arms. Here, then, the victories of Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Matamoras, Revnosa, Camargo, Monterey, Tampico, Buena Vista, Vera Cruz, and San Juan de Uloa; when General Santa Anna and the government exclaim, 'not yet – no peace yet. You must withdraw your troops.'

While much is due to humanity in terminating the war, something is due to national honor; something do we say? everything id due to the honor of the country: as often as we tendered the hand of conciliation in the hour of victory, it has been spurned with indignity, as if we had been the conquered and prostrate foe sueing for mercy. We can sue no longer. We must now advance until Mexico sues. It is her turn to beg, - we have done more than our share. - We are pleased, therefore, to perceive that the government is directing fresh columns to march to Mexico. Six thousand troops will soon be on their way to reinforce Gen. Taylor, and when he captures San Luis de Potosi, he will form a junction with General Scott, and with 25,000 men will march to the city of Mexico, and if resistance is made, storm the place, and capture Santa Anna and the whole government; and if they exhibit their old and determined spirit of further resistance, send the General, his staff and all the Generals in the service to New Orleans, and quietly take possession of the capital; restore, law and order, and govern it justly.

All Mexico will then fall, and what will be most desirable and beneficial, we shall disband their army – call upon the people to establish a Democratic form of government, give them a free Constitution, organize for them a national guard, set industry and enterprize at work, develop their great resources, and place them on the road to prosperity, and then make such a peace as shall be honorable to Mexico, and glorious to the United States. Let us hear no more therefore at this time of our again proposing peace. On to the Capital."

[MSH]

Tuesday, May 11, 1847 RE44i3p1c5 81 words.

ISTHMUS OF TEHUANTEPEC

We heard it stated yesterday, (says the N. O. Delta,) that there were officers now in our city, who were to proceed shortly with their commands to this point in Mexico, the possession of which had been considered of so much advantage, as securing the most feasible route for the contemplated canal to connect the Gulf of Mexico and Pacific Ocean. A topographical survey of the country is to be made under the protection of a large naval and military force.

[MSH]

June 1847

June 1, 1847, REv64i9p2c1, From the Brazos

U.S. Steamer Trumbal arrived on Saturday from the Brazos. We have received by this arrival the Matamoras Flag of 15th, and the Saltillo Picket Guard of 3d.

The following passengers came in the Trumball: Capts. Webster, and Crowenshields, Mass, Volunteers; Captain Claiborne of U.S. steamer, Col. Cross; Capt. Lansing, U.S.A.; Rev Mr. McElroy, Chaplain, U.S.A; Lieut. Frost, U.S. Voltiguers; M. Field, Mr. Coolridge, Mrs. Field, and 40 deck passengers, principally discharged volunteers.

The Picket Guard contains the following result of the court martial in case of Gen Lane and Col. Bowles:

INQUIRY IN THE CASE OF GEN. LANE.

Facts. –That at the battle of Buena Vista, on the 22d February, Gen. Lane commanded the 2d and 3d Regiments of Indiana Volunteers; that on the 23d he was in immediate command of the 2d Regiment of the Indiana Volunteers, and three pieces of artillery under the command of Lieut. O'Brien, and that the 2d Indiana Volunteers retreated from the field without any orders from Gen. Lane, on the 22d of February; but through the exertions of Gen. Lane and other officers from one hundred and fifty to two hundred men of the 2d Regiment Indiana Volunteers were rallied and attached to the Mississippi Regiment and the 3d Indiana Regiment, and remained with them on the field of battle during the remainder of the day.

Opinion. –The court are of opinion that during the whole period of the 22d and 23d of February, 1847, Brig. Gen. Lane conducted himself as a brave and gallant officer; and that no censure is attached to him for the retreat of the 2d Regiment Indiana Volunteers.

INQUIRY IN THE CASE OF COL. BOWLES.
Facts. – In reference to the first charge, it appears from the evidence, that Bowles is ignorant of the company, battalion or brigade drills, and that the maneuver of the evening of the 22d February, indicated in the third specification of that charge, was indicative of an ignorance of battalion drill.

In relation to the second charge, in appears from evidence before the court, that Colonel Bowles gave the order, “cease firing and retreat;” that Gen. Lane was present, and that he had no authority from Gen. Lane to give such orders.

It also appears that Col. Bowles retreated after having given the aforesaid command; but that he did not shamefully runaway from the enemy, nor did he hide himself in any ravine from the enemy or from his regiment.

It appears, too, that Col. Bowles dismounted from his horse in rear of his regiment; but there is no evidence to show that he did so to protect himself from the enemy.

The court find that the fact of Col. Bowles having given the order above mentioned, did induce the regiment to retreat in disorder.

Col. Bowles gave this order with the intention of making the regiment leave its position; but the court does not find that he had been particularly ordered to maintain and defend it.

Opinion. – With reference to the first charge, the court is of the opinion that Col. Bowles is ignorant of the duties of the Colonel; but the court would remark that ill health, and absence on account of ill health, have, in some degree, prevented him from fitting himself for the duties of that office.

The court is of opinion that, at a time Col. Bowles gave the order “retreat,” he was under the impression that the artillery had retreated, when, in fact, that battery had gone to an advanced position, under the orders of Gen. Lane, which orders had not been communicated to Col. Bowles.

And, in conclusion, the court find that throughout the engagement, and through the whole day, Col. Bowles evinced no want of personal courage or bravery; but that he did manifest a want of capacity and judgement as a commander.

[From the Matamoras Flag, May 15th.]

General Cadwallader, and staff, are at the camp of instruction, (Palo Alto,) fourteen miles below this place. Also, Col. A. C. Ramsay; Pennsylvania regiment; Lt. Col. Fay, 10th regiment; Major Morgan, 11th do; Major Talbott, 16th do.; Captains Carr, Lyberg Moore, Irwin, Waddell and Cummings, 11th regiment. Tow companies of dragoons, Captains Butler and Merrick. Five companies of voltiguers, Captains Bernard, Biddle, Howard, Edwards and Churchill. Tow companies of the 16th regiment, Captains Hendricks and Brennan –three companies of the 10th, and Captain Pitman's company of the 9th. These troops will remain at Palo Alto under strong discipline, and from thence, it is rumored, transferred to Vera Cruz.

Col. Humphrey Marshall's Regiment of Kentucky Cavalry were in Camargo at last accounts on their way home. They will probably reach here in a day or two, and not be disbanded until they arrive at New Orleans.

It is stated in the Monterey Pioneer, upon the authority of a gentleman from San Luis Potosi, that but a few hundred effective troops were in that city and that the hospitals were filled with the sick an wounded, who were (illegible) of attention. A report (illegible) there that Gen. Taylor was within three days march of the city, which caused hundreds of the inhabitants to ramos with their property.

The Monterey Pioneer thinks that an advance upon San Luis is designed by Gen. Taylor, as unusual activity prevails in all the departments, and four trains, loaded with subsistence stores, have recently arrived at that place.

Lieutenant Waters, of the Alexandria company, Virginia regiment, died, a short time since at the town of China.

ESCAPED. – A young man named John Davis (an American we believe) was confined in prison Tuesday, charged with selling arms and ammunition, to Mexicans. Through the insecurity of the prison, or the carelessness of the sentry, he effected his escape during Thursday night last.

Romano Paz, a notorious Mexican robber and murderer was captured in the vicinity of Old Reynosa, by Captain Reid of the steamer Corvette, and brought down to this city on Wednesday last, where he is now imprisoned. It appears that he holds the rank of captain under Canales, and visited the settlements near Reynosa, for the purpose of inducing or forcing the Rancheros to join his standard. The people were not disposed to join him, and sought an opportunity to place him in the hands of the Americans. This was effected by informing Captain Reid of his whereabouts and designs, who collected a force from the boat, and made him prisoner, at a ranchero where he had been quartered for several days.

Gen. Urrea has issued a proclamation to the citizens of Cadareyta, very similar in tone to that of Santa Anna. He calls upon the town for a contribution towards supporting the war; and also orders under arms all the able bodied bales between ages of 16 and 45. Immediately after having issued this proclamation, he set off for the city of Mexico.
We understand that Mr. Simonds, beef contractor, well known to the army here, was attacked a few days ago, while on his way to Monterey, by some Mexican robbers. He was shot through the knee, so that the limb had to be amputated. One of the robbers was killed in the encounter. They made nothing that haul.

We regret to see, by the following letter, that there is a report of the defeat of Col. DONIPHAN. It comes, however, through Mexican sources, and we sincerely hope, will prove to be unfounded:

[Special Correspondence of the Picayune.]

CAMP WALNUT SPRINGS, (Near Monterey,) May 2, 1847.

There is a report here, derived from pretty good authority, from Col. Doniphan’s force, and of a very unwelcome character. It is derived from an attaché of the army as Silenas, a small town within about forty miles of this place, and he obtained the information from Mexicans who had just arrived. It is to the effect, that Col. Doniphan’s force had been attacked at a pas called Sierra Gordon, about half way between Saltillo and Chihuahua, by a Mexican force from Durango under Gen. Reiz –of whom I never recollect of hearing before –and that a Col. D. had been defeated with severe loss, and all his artillery captured. There may be some truth in this report, as the Col. was once en route to join Gen. Wool’s command at Saltillo. All we can do, is hope that the reported is unfounded, and await authentic information. The train will be off in a few moments, and I have not the time to write more.

J. E. D.

The Picket Guard of the 3d, however, makes no allusion to any report of this kind, and the only notice we see in it relative to Col. D., is the following:

‘Col. Doniphan must be within a few day’s march of this place. This may truly be called the marching command. But they have not hurt themselves much by it, if Mexican stories are believed, according to which they were not very scrupulous as to whose mules they took on the way, and infantry as well as cavalry were all mounted. They have not received a cent of pay since they loft home, nor clothing from the Government, so that, as far as outward appearances are concerned, they must be a shabby looking set. It appears they are generally clothed in buckskin. There is no doubt, however, they are some in a fight. Some English gentlemen, who arrived yesterday from Durango, report Col. Doniphan to have started from Chihuahua on the 1st of April for this part of the country, by way of San Jose del Parral. On the route they saw Gen. Garcia Conde on his way to Durango with about 150 men, having as prisoner General Heredia, who commanded at the battle of the Sacamentos. He is accused to treason, and of being fond of American gold. All the rest of the troops had dispersed for their homes. Durango was in a great state of alarm, dreading the arrival of Gen. Wool, which was expected by them daily. Mr. James Magoffin was a prisoner, with the city for his prison limits, but well treated by the Mexicans. Everything was quiet in California, the whole country in possession of the Americans, and a very great influx of families and settlers from Oregon.”

[BJM]

June 1, 1847, REv64i9p2c2, From Vera Cruz, Mexican Treachery

The schooner Whig, Captain Rayner, arrived at New Orleans from Vera Cruz, May 22d, with dates to the 15th. The N. Orleans Bulletin publishes some extracts from the Eagle of that date. There appears to have been no later news from Gen. Scott.

The Eagle expresses the belief that the army will remain at Puebla until the fall.

Lieut Brock, and 33 privates, Tennessee Cavalry, company F, came passengers in the Whig.

U.S. sloop Germantown, Commander Buchanan, had arrived off Vera Cruz, but sailed immediately for Anton Lizardo.

[From Vera Cruz Eagle.]

FROM PEROTE. –We saw a letter on Thursday, from Perote, written by one of the principal officers of the army, in which he states that the command would move in a day or two for Puebla, where, it is reported, active preparations are making for a proper reception of our troops, and he intimates that they will soon move upon the Capital. Doubts are entertained by many, however, as to this movement. Our opinion is not founded upon the most positive information, but we believe that Gen. Scott will remain at Puebla, after his arrival there, for a season, at least, and probably until the beginning of autumn. In the meantime, should no decidedly favorable step not have been taken by the government of this country, the most energetic measures will be pursued, with a view to end the strife. The United States possesses the most ample means, if a course of this kind is demanded, but nothing else that the most unpardonable provocation will compel us to resort to them. –Peace has been sued for so often by us, that it has at length amounted to humiliation, and it cannot be expected that much longer procrastination can be borne with. “There is a point beyond which forbearance ceases to be a virtue,” says the proverb, and we believe that the point cannot be far distant. When reached, it is probably that it will be a dark and dreadful day for the land of the Aztecs.
We take from the *Eagle* the following account of the recent surprise at Santa Fe:

MEXICAN TREACHERY. —One of those bloody and brutal acts which seem to be characteristic of the lower order of the Mexican people, was committed at Santa Fe, about 8 or 9 miles from this city, on Wednesday night last. It appears that a detachment of seventy-odd dragoons, belonging to the command of Col. Harney, left Jalapa some days since in command of Lieut. Hill, with the intention of visiting this city to procure a further supply of horses. On arriving at Santa Fe, nine of the men were left behind in consequence of illness on their part, and the fatigue of their horses.

Lieut. Hill and his command continued on, feeling that those who were left behind were perfectly safe, and soon afterwards reached this city, where he has been detained, although it was his expectation that he would have returned the next morning. Nothing further was heard from the men until Thursday morning, when news reached here informing us that a large party of Mexicans had attacked and literally cut them to pieces in a most shocking manner. One of them was killed on the spot, and five others were mutilated in such a manner as to strike any one with horror at the sight. Means of transportation were furnished, and the survivors brought to the city as soon as possible. One of the number, however, died on Thursday night, and two others were reported last evening, by the surgeons, as unable to survive their wounds during the night. The hand of one was cut off above the wrist. The abdomen of another was cut in such a manner as to allow his bowels to protrude. Another has several sabre cuts on his head, penetrating the skull, and the arms and bodes of others are hacked and mangled to as to render the description almost incredible. Captain Walker left this city on Thursday morning, accompanied by his Mounted Riflemen, in search of the murderers, and encountered a large body of Mexicans, whom he attacked and succeeded in killing four. A yet, we believe there has not been anything received of a positive nature in regard to the number killed. However much this kind of warfare is to be deprecated by us, we can see no other alternative than to fight them in their own way, if they will no fight us fairly. We still trust that some measure will be discovered by which this cowardly system of butchery may be obviated, and that when American blood must flow, it may be in open and honorable combat; the enemy in front, instead of sneaking behind the back.

The editor of the "Picket Guard" very vigorously defends the two Indiana regiments. He says:

"The plain truth of the matter is, that the 2d Indiana regiment, under the command of Gen. Lane and Col. Bowles, 'opened the ball' on the (illegible) of the 23d on the extreme left, in an advanced position, where they met the concentrated force of the enemy, their line raked from left to right by grape (illegible) from one sic and two (illegible) and rear exposed to the enemy’s infantry, who were engaged with the riflemen in the mountain. Here they stood unmoved, until they had the enemy, when they were ordered to cease firing and retreat.

"It is due to Indiana to say, that they four rifle companies from the two regiments of that brigade opened the fight on the mountain on the 22d, that the 2d regiment opened the fight on the morning of the 23d; that the 3d Indiana lost the last man that was killed on the field, Capt. Taggart, of company E., and occupied, in conjunction with the 1st Illinois, the advanced position on the night of the 23d, when the enemy drew off."

MAJOR GENERAL PATTERSON. —In the General Orders of Gen. Scott, directing the manner of march of the first body of the volunteers, returning home to be discharged, he says:

"Maj. Gen. Patterson, rendered for the moment, supernumerary with this army, will accompany the returning volunteers of his late gallant division, and render them such assistance, on the way as he well knows how to give. He will report, in person, as Washington, or by letter from New Orleans, for further orders from the War Department.

"This distinguished general officer will please accept the thanks of the General-in-Chief for the gallant, able and efficient support uniformly received from the second in rank of this army."


RETURNED VOLUNTEERS. —Brig. R. Russell, from Vera Cruz, with three companies Tennessee Volunteers, and Regiment, and 1 company of Kentucky Volunteers.

Brig Billow, with 140 of the 2d Illinois Regiment.

Ship *Pharsalia* arrived yesterday, with about 280 of the 1st Tennessee Cavalry, with Colonel Thomas, Maj. Waterhouse, Capts. Cooper, Newman, Haines and (illegible); Lieuts Richardson, Brownlow, McCabe, Leftwich, Chambless, Kirk, Donnelly, Allen, McKnight, Johnston, Woodson, Gossett, Bell, Allen and Anderson; Surgeon Alsop, and Assistant Surgeons Walker and Donoho. —*[N.O. Bulletin, May 24*

*REv64i9p2c4, Prospects of Peace*

June 1, 1847
Of the charges most bitterly urged against the Administration by the Whig press, is that of boundless "lust of dominion," and the most immoderate conditions required of Mexico in the negotiation of a peace. It has over and over again been asserted, that the President would be satisfied with nothing less that the acquisition of the whole of Mexico. This wholesale denunciation has been fully met, but the Whig papers still keep up the cry. We are, however, glad to see that one of them has the firmness to represent the Administration as not an uncompromising "land robber," or as a monstrous Ogre, voracious enough to swallow the whole of Mexico one meal. A letter from Washington in the N.Y. Courier refers to the statement in the New Orleans papers, that Mr. Trist has arrived at Vera Cruz, armed with authority to negotiate a peace with Mexico, in co-operation with Gen. Scott; that he (Mr. Trist) had held long and confidential conversations of such importance as to justify the belief that "Mr. Trist is the government in Mexico." So much only of this "important mission," says the Washington writer, had publicly transpired at N. Orleans; and he proceeds to supply, upon the authority of a "well informed correspondent" of that city, the following additional particulars, which, if true, are important enough. --We have been so often deceived buy the "signs of the times" in regard to the operation of cause and effect in Mexican policy, that we shall not now express an opinion as to the result. The statements, however, reveal the fact that, in the view of one Whig at least, the Administration is anxious to close the war upon terms which ought to be entirely satisfactory to Mexico. If, therefore, Mexico shall madly refuse to negotiate after the maganimous and liberal conduct on our part, the whole world will hold our Government free from blame for the continuance of the war:

"That Mr. Trist had communicated from Vera Cruz with Gen. Scott at Jalapa; that, in all probability, Mr. Trist would proceed with the next train to Jalapa; and that the negotiation might, perhaps, be brought very suddenly to a favorable conclusion. This is not absolutely certain; but from the diplomatic survey of Gen. Scott, and a reconnoitering officer in Mexico, the exceedingly strong probability now is that we shall soon have peace. Buena Vista was a more brilliant affair that Cerro Gordo; but the results of the latter are likely to be of incalculably more importance. --If Scott, after conquering the army of Mexico in the field, should now, in conjunction with Mr. Trist sign a treaty of peace in "the Halls of the Montezuamas," he will have achieved glory enough, even although he should never be President.

"Rest assured, there was a perfect understanding with Scott and the Administration, and that the terms on which both coincide in the opinion are" Upper California and New Mexico, and no other or greater portion of territory; and the right o the way across the Isthmus if it can be obtained --These terms are so much more moderate that were anticipated by Mexico, that whenever they are promulgated it is believed that the popular voice of Mexico will be clamorous for peace. --Unless, then, the Mexicans are more besotted than Hottentots or Esquimaux, we mush have peace."

[BM]

June 4, 1847, REV64101p1c5, Late From the City of Mexico

We received on Monday evening papers from the city of Mexico to the 8th inst., forwarded by Mr. Kendall. They are a week later than any papers before received. We were too crowded yesterday to make much use of them, and now recur to them, as they contain some news of the importance, yet more rumors, and relate many facts which serve to illustrate the state of affairs in the interior of Mexico.

The Mexicans seize upon the slightest pretext of rumor for believing they have inflicted injury upon our forces. It was reported and believed at Puebla on the 9th inst., that the guerrillas of New Leon and Coahuila had attacked and gained possession of a supply train, at the same time wounding Gen. Taylor.

Another rumor, credited both in Puebla and the city of Mexico, is that Gen. Scott was ill at Jalapa with dysentery, and that for this reason and the want of troops he would defer his advance upon Puebla. There is no foundation for the rumor of his illness, we are happy to say.

Another Mexican story was that Gen. Urrea was threatening Tampico, if he had not already taken it; and yet another story was to the effect that a party of guerrillas had seized $60,000 in gold belonging to the Americans. By such miserable rumors the people of the capital are continually deluded. It serves to feed their false hopes, to keep in circulation idle reports of this kind.

A Puebla paper of the 9th instant says, that the President Substitute has at last ordered General Santa Anna to be supplied with men, muskets, heavy ordnance, and, more than all, with money. There would appear to have been some difficulty between General Bravo, "the commander of the Army of the Centre," and Anaya, before the demands of Santa Anna were complied with. From the intimations thrown out, we infer that Bravo was reluctant to spare any means from the capital.

In our last, we alluded to a letter from Durango, dated the 26th of April. If is so important and significant, that we give it entire:

"Blessed be God, we are now relieved from the fear which the coming of the 4 Yankees had spread amongst us, as they have returned to Chihuahua, in as much as a general massacre has been attempted by the conquered New Mexicans and Pasenos, joined with a tribe of Navajoe Indians --all led on, as is said, by the few padres who serve in New Mexico. The insurrection, as it has been described to us, was so decisive, and made with such effect, that even the women flew at the throats of our Texas neighbors, the number killed by them being very considerable. They say
also that the New Mexicans encouraged by their triumph, are coming to avenge the outrage upon Chihuahua. God grant it may be true!"

The insurrection here alluded to is doubtless that which has already been effectually quelled. Our advises from Santa Fe, via St. Louis, are to the 19th of April, when all was quiet there, and the officers of justice were meeting out punishment to those engaged in the murderous insurrection. If anything were required to justify the measures of severity which have been taken at Taos by American authorities, we think the spirit of the letter we have just given is of itself sufficient.

The Legislature of the powerful State of Jalisco has appropriated the revenue derived from tobacco in the State, diverting it altogether from the use of the Central Government. It is well known that the government derives a large portion of its income from this source. The Republicano reproaches the authorities of Jalisco with this diversion of funds, and adds: "If the Union is to be deprived of these general revenues, and if obstacles are to be opposed whenever an attempt is made to create new sources of income, let us ask the authorities of the States in what manner can the war be carried on?"

The prohibition of the freedom of the press is to continue in force so long as the capital remains in a state of siege. Whereby the foreign enemy is indirectly protected and the defense of the country rendered every day more difficult.

The decree suppressing the liberty of the press within the Federal District of Mexico, mentioned in Mr. Kendall’s letter which we published yesterday, is dated the 5th inst., and was promulgated the following day. By it the press is forbidden to engage in political and military discussions, or to express censure upon the supreme authorities, or in any way to throw discredit upon the army or its commanders. The preamble alleges that the abuse of the liberty of the press has been scandalous; that the papers have promoted dissensions, reciprocal distrust and disunion, whereby the foreign enemy is indirectly protected and the defense of the country rendered every day more difficult.

The prohibition of the freedom of the press is to continue in force so long as the capital remains in a state of siege. The same paper mentions that the office for the administration of the tobacco revenues, with all the attaches thereto, is to be removed from the capital, with an escort of military for its protection. This, says the Republicano, strikes us as very strange, for if the office is to seek a place where it cannot be attacked by the enemy, for this very reason the military and the battalions of the Guard ought not to go there.

There is a great destitution of arms, as is already known, throughout the country. It having been reported that there were six thousand muskets for sale at Guadalajara, the authorities of the State of Guanajuato dispatched Gen. Alcayaga thither at once to buy them all up for the State. It turned out that there were none to be had, but the incident gibs color to the idea that the individual States are now looking to their own defense rather than relying upon the General Government for safely on contributing their means to the Central Government.

El Republicano of the 7th inst. comes out in a noble article rebuking the Government for this measure. It makes an earnest appeal to the conscience and understanding of President Anaya to retrace the false step. In the course of the article the army comes in for a large share of the indignation of the Editors, and some wholesome truths are told to Mexicans on the subject. –“Would to God,” says the (illegible) army had been brought into disrepute by the press, instead of by a series of inglorious defeats, which in the course of a single year have covered with shame the name of Mexico, and increased (illegible) of the well-organized armies of Europe.” And again the Republicano reproaches the army with having cost the country the enormous sum of three hundred millions of dollars since its independence was achieved; and yet, from want of discipline, it has never been able to maintain any established order of things; it has been torn by incessant civil wars; it now supports officers enough for an army eight times more numerous that the Mexican army numbers, and promotions in it have been gained by distinctions in civil war along. Moreover, to support (illegible) country (illegible) been crushed with an immense foreign debt and involved in a frightful bankruptcy. Under such circumstances the country had a right to expect that when the opportunity occurred for meeting a foreign foe, the army should respond with something more than a series of disgraceful routs. We only indicate the tone of the article in the Republicano towards the army. That paper has no further faith in it, and relies solely upon guerrilla warfare for the salvation of the country. It seems strange that a paper which reasons so powerfully upon the freedom of the press –we would reproduce the article were it not several columns long –and which appreciates so perfectly the desperate state of the country and the enormous burden of a licentious soldiery, should still be the steadfast advocate of the continuance of the war. But looking to the future of Mexico, it is gratifying to see such a paper as El Republicano pointing out to its countrymen the insupportable grievance of such a military establishment as that Mexico now supports.

Our readers will be interested to know what measure have been taken in the capital to defend it upon the approach of our troops. We cannot do this more effectually than by giving the whole of a proclamation promulgated by Gov. Trigueros on the 7th inst:

PROCLAMATION

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the Centre yesterday addressed me the following decree:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE CENTRE.
Mexico, May 6, 1847

The Federal District of this State being declared in a state of siege, it becomes my duty to comply with the 6th article of the law of the 26th of April last; and in order to meet the anxious wishes of the patriotic citizens of this city to arm themselves to repel our unjust invaders, I hereby, in conformity with the powers in me vested, ordain –
1. That all Mexican citizens of the age of fifteen to sixty years, residing in the Federal District, will present themselves for enrolment at the place in their quarter or section which may be designated by the municipal authorities.

2. The Selectmen of the city, and those who in the other settlements of the district exercise their functions, will, on receipt of this decree, designate in their respective quarters or sections the place where the enrolment is to be made, presiding over them either in person or by substitutes.

3. The same functionaries will, within six days from the publication of this decree, deliver unto the chief of the staff a register, containing in regular order the age, profession or occupation, residence, and whether single or married, of all Mexicans of the ages of fifteen to sixty years, who may reside in their quarter or section.

4. In conformity with these returns, the persons enlisted will be divided into two classes—one class containing the unmarried and the widowers without children, from the age of fifteen to forty years, the other class the married men and the widowers having family, and also bachelors from forty to sixty years.

5. Form those enlisted will be formed as many battalions of each class as there may be in each quarter or section. Should any remain over, there may be formed into one or more companies or squadrons, according to their number.

6. The force of these battalions is to be in accordance with the law of the 12th of June, 1846.

7. The General-in-Chief will appoint the person, who, during the state of siege, in which this district may find itself, shall command the battalions and companies formed by this decree, and whose functions shall cease as soon as the siege is raised.

8. Every enlisted citizen shall receive a certificate proving his enlistment, signed by the commander of the corps to which he may be attached and by the corps to which he may be attached, and my the Selectman of his quarter or section, and countersigned by the chief of the staff of the General-in-Chief.

9. Of the bodies which may be formed in each quarter or section there will be created, according to their number, one or more brigades, to be commanded by a person to be designated by the General-in-Chief.

10. All citizens will attend daily drill, and will perform such other duties as may be ordered, under the penalties established by law.

11. Whoever, at the approach of the enemy, the heat of the drum or at the sounds of any other signal calling to the common defense, shall not present himself at the place to which he may be ordered, or shall show cowardice, lukewarmness or indifference, or shall abandon the post in which he may be places as guard or sentinel, fail in respect to his superiors, or commit any other military crime, shall be punished according to the ordinances.

12. Whoever shall, in order to escape enlistment, conceal his age, either by exaggerating or diminishing it, shall be look upon as a traitor, and will be punished accordingly.

13. The authority or person who shall in any manner cover or aid in concealing the crime specified in the preceding article, will be subject to the same punishment.

14. Whoever shall hide himself and shall not have the certificate mentioned in Article No. 8, will be enrolled in the regular army.

15. The bodies created by the decree are destined solely and exclusively to repel the invaders and to maintain order, and will render services to that effect according to the law of 26th April last.

16. All who are enrolled and perform active duties as members of the National Guard, or who may be serving in garrison, will be exempt from serving in these bodies.

17. Owners of hotels, inns and boarding houses must make a daily return of the persons who enter their houses, and of those who leave, under the penalties established by law.

"All of which I communicate in your Excellency or speedy publication in this capital and settlements in this district. God and Liberty.

NICHOLAS BRAVO

[BJM]
Gen. Worth at Puebla –Advance of the Army – Herrera Elected President of Mexico – Capture of (illegible)

At an early hour this morning (says the N.O. Delta, May 27) the steamship Palmetto arrived from Vera Cruz bringing dates from that city to the 22d and from Jalapa to the 21st. We are in receipt of our full correspondence, but have only time to give the following brief extracts, at this late hour.

Our correspondent “Mustang,” writes from Jalapa, under the date of the 21st inst. – “We have positive information of the arrival of Gen. Worth’s command at Puebla. On the approach of our army to the city Gen. Santa Anna, who was there at the time supplying his troops with some necessities, sent out a detachment to engage Gen. Worth until he could procure his supplies but the encounter was soon over, and Santa Anna and his army compelled to fly. In the skirmish there were four Mexicans killed – our loss none. He has retreated towards the city of Mexico. One report says he is at Santa Martin, a town about 28 miles from Puebla, but it is generally conceded that his main force, upwards of 12,000 men, have gone to Rio Frio, where he is preparing for another engagement. – The latter place is said to be a naturally strong point, and can be made to offer strong resistance, but if Cerro Gerdo could not resist the brigade of Gen. Twiggs, what position can avail the Mexican chieftain?

“The train looked for the past few days has arrived, together with Capts. Walker and Ruft with their commands. The army here will move four miles on the Perote road to-morrow evening, and on Sunday take up its line of the march. No stop will be made at Perote. If we should not halt at Puebla, to hear the result of some more propositions of peace from the American government, you may soon expect to receive my letters dated at capital of the Republic.”

JALAPA, 11 o’clock, A.M., May 21, 1847

Eds. Delta: -The “diligence” is about leaving – I write to give you the latest up to departure. The Mexicans have a report here, which is credited by the Americans generally, that Herrera is elected President of Mexico, and that he is disposed to treat for peace. The “diligence” from Puebla is looked for momentarily, which will give us the correct position of affairs at the Capital. – If it should arrive in time to overtake the line towards Vera Cruz, I will send an express to overhaul it. The reason assigned by the Mexicans for Herrera being willing to make peace with us is that he desires to prevent our taking possession of the Capital of the Republic, which he says will be the inevitable result if the Mexicans do not come to terms. Shall we be delayed by soothing promises and friendly professions, or shall we march on, conquering and to conquer? I hope the word will be “Onward!” and not wait until they have placed the Capital in a proper state of defense, and then bid us defiance. “Delays are dangerous,” and may cause us to lose many gallant officers and soldiers. Herrera, no doubt, is favorably disposed; but can he control the factions? Once in possession of the City of Mexico we can treat on what terms we please.

The Army is under marching orders for tomorrow evening at 3 o’clock. Gen. Twiggs’ column will move at that hour, if no unforeseen circumstances intervene. Nothing further from Gen. Worth and Quitman, except that they were resting from the fatigues of the march in Puebla.

Gen. Shields had an attack of pleurisy two nights ago, but is recovering from the effect of it, and also his wound, He expects to be able to leave for the United States about the 10th of next month.

Capt. Walker is encamped with his recruits close to the town. It was generally supposed he would be arrested for the course he pursued in reference to a guerilla party he came in contact with. But I understand his course is approved of. The Alcalde of Santa Fe, who had been harboring the bandit, and in whose possession the property and clothing of the murdered dragoons were found, had to share the same fate as those who committed the murder. Served him right.

JALAPA, May 21, 12o’clock.

Eds. Delta – The Diligence has arrived from Puebla, but nothing official had arrived from the capital previous to its departure. The passengers state that it was current at that place Herrera had been elected President. I received a letter from Puebla, of which the following is an extract:

“We entered this place on the 15th inst. The of the men, and have killed two. We were attacked in Amasoc by Santa Anna, with about 1500 cavalry – he lost 3 killed and 7 wounded. – The old codger took a fir of leaving for Mexico, (illegible).

I have seen another letter, from an intelligent source, to a gentleman in this place, which says that Santa Anna retreated from Puebla to San Martin, and subsequently left for the city of Mexico, also that we are to be met on the road, somewhere, with 10,000 men, under one General, whose name I don’t recollect, and 4000 under Minon. So mote if be – the more the better. No doubt buy the time we meet them, their force will be augmented to double the number. We also learn that murders and robberies are being committed on the road daily, both by horsemen and footmen. (illegible).

Our correspondent at Vera Cruz, under date of the 22d inst., writes us as follows – just as the Palmetto was leaving:

“One hundred and twenty Quartermaster’s mules, loaded with four and pork, on their road to rendezvous at Santa Fe, were attacked late last evening, three miles from here. The muleteers were fired upon, but I cannot learn
whether any were killed. Most of the muleteers have just returned and report that the entire train was captured. This is no rumor. I have facts from the Quartermaster here."

THE PENNSYLVANIA REGIMENTS. –We learn from the *American Star*, published at Jalapa, that a part of the 1st and the whole of the 2d Regiments of Pennsylvania Volunteers will remain at Jalapa, and with the 3d Artillery form the garrison of that town under Lieut. Col. Childs.

June 4, 1847, REv64i10p2c2, Later from the Brazos

The brig *Henry*, Capt. Cole arrived last night from the Brazos, having left there on the 20th May, (says the *New Orleans Delta.*) By this arrival we have dates from Matamoros to the 19th, and from Monterey to the 9th May. There is no news of any importance of Gen. Taylor’s column. The Monterey and Matamoros papers are principally filled with extracts taken from the New Orleans papers. We clean from the *Matamoros Flag*, of the 19th inst., the following items:

Carabajal still keeps himself in the vicinity of (illegible) is about sixty miles from there, on the San Fernando road. The force under his command is small –not exceeding fifty men –but sufficient to plunder all treading parties coming in or going out from Matamoras.

Capt. (illegible) has already been made in our columns, died from the effects of his wounds on the 17th inst. Capt M. was a partner and not the Clerk of Mr. Sinclair, as previously stated. The assassin has been placed in close confinement.

CAUGHT A TARTAR. –Between Camargo and Mier, a short time ago, three Mexicans were waylaying the road to rob a Mexican merchant of Matamoras, who they knew was coming down from Mier with a large amount of money in his possession. The merchant had three men with (illegible) the spot where the robbers had posed themselves that three Texan Rangers, who had been out on a scout, struck into the road a short distance ahead of him, pursuing their way down to Camargo. –It was after dark, and the robbers mistook the Rangers for the merchant’s party. They ordered them to halt and deliver, and the Rangers did halt and deliver, but they delivered bullets instead of money, and left not a robber to carry off his load –all were killed, and the merchant passed down in safety.

The mule train which left Matamoras about the 12th inst. For Camargo, under an escort of Massachusetts Volunteers, commanded my Capt. Walsh, reached there in safety. The report about their being attacked, and the mules stampeding turned out to be incorrect.

The 9th, 11th, 12th, 14th and 15th Regiments of Infantry, and the Regiment of Voltiguers, had been ordered to Gen. Scott. The 10th, 13th, and 16th Regiments of Infantry and the 3d Dragoons, had been ordered to join General Taylor.

It was reported in Matamoras that Lieutenant Colonel Randolph, of the Virginia Regiment, had, with a portion of his command, captured, on the 5th instant, 40 of Canales’ men, at China.

The 1st Mississippi Regiment under Colonel Davis, was to have left Cerralvo on the 20th May, for the month of the Rio Grande. Colonel Davis was fast recovering from his wounds.

The health of General Taylor’s army was generally good. The smallpox, which at one time created considerable alarm among the troops and the Mexican inhabitants in Saltillo, had nearly disappeared.

The remains of Lieutenant R. L. Moore, of the 1st Mississippi Regiment, who was killed at the battle of Buena Vista, were brought over from the Brazos on bard the brig *Henry*, under the charge of Colonel C. E. Smeads and J. E. Tappen.

We make the following extracts from Kendall’s letters at Jalapa, in an *Extra Picayune*:

JALAPA, Mexico, May 20, 1847

There is no mistake that General Scott’s proclamation which went directly home to every reflecting Mexican, is doing a great deal of good.

We are still without farther positive news of General Worth, and it is now almost certain that his dispatches are cut off. He would hardly enter so rich and populous a city as is Puebla without sending an official account of it to General Scott –at least such is the impression.

The Mexicans here have news from the city of Mexico, which we cannot get hold of, their own couriers doubtless running regularly. One of the men told me last night that fifteen battalions of the National Guard have been thoroughly organized at the capital, that fortifications are already in process of construction at or near Rio Frio,
the hells have been run up into cannon, and that the owners of an iron foundry at the city of Mexico, Englishmen, have been compelled to cast balls on the promise of remuneration hereafter. Understand, distinctly, that I get all this from a Mexican, and that it must be taken with allowances; but that there is now a prospect of another fight, and a hard one, is considered certain my many. To my thinking, it will depend much upon the result of he election of President, news of which has not as yet reached the Americans here. If Herrera had been chosen, and there certainly was a party in his favor, it may be put down as a guaranty that peace measures will prevail. On the other hand, if Santa Anna had been elected, or a friend of his, the struggle may be protracted, and another stand made this side of the capital. It is now certain that Santa Anna was not at the city of Mexico to control the late election in person, although his approach with an armed force may have had some effect upon the States of Puebla and Mexico.

The four individuals I spike of yesterday as having been guilty of robbery, received a portion of their sentence last evening and the rest this morning. A most disgraceful figure did they cut, marching through the street with their heads shaved, the word 'robber' pinned upon their backs, and a band of music playing the "Rogue’s March" immediately in their rear. Their names were Henry Reed, Hugh Duane, and Benj. Potter, of the 4th Artillery, and the D. F. Revalon, of the 2d Pennsylvania Volunteers. The latter was found guilty of horse stealing; the three former of breaking twice into a house of the same Mexican, and the threats and violence robbing him of everything he possessed. Hard and degrading as was their punishment, everyone says it was deserved.

June 4, 1847, REv64i10p2c4, News from the Army

In another column we give some very interesting intelligence from the Delta. We extract a few additional particulars from the Picayune. –We deeply lament the death of Capt. Stevens T. Mason. He was brave and generous and beloved by all.

We take great pleasure in recording the capture of a party of guerillas to the number of 40, but L. Col. Randolph of the Virginia Regiment. We are glad that our "boys" have had a little "chance."

Gen. Worth entered Puebla on the afternoon of the 15th, after a short skirmish with a party of lancers sent out to delay his advance.

Santa Anna was in the city at the moment, but at once left, and pushed on towards the Capital.

It was reported that Gen. Valencia was between Puebla and the capital at the head of fourteen thousand men to resist our further advance but this is doubtful.

The result of the presidential election was not known. Santa Anna, Elloriaga and Herrera were candidates among others.

Santa Anna is said to have had a considerable force with him when he passed through Puebla –variously estimated form 1,500 to 10,000. It is shrewdly suspected that he intends to use his force to maintain his personal position and secure the Presidency.

Capt. Mayo, of the navy, Governor of Alvarado, started on the 13th May from Talascoya. –The town surrendered to him without resistance. On his return he was fired upon and Passed Midshipman Prigle and five seamen were badly wounded.

D. Barton, Surgeon U.S.A. has been appointed President of the Board of Health at Vera Cruz.

A party of guerillas has been surprised and taken close to Vera Cruz –fifteen in number. We have not room for particulars, but it is not yet mentioned that they have been hung.


Gen. Shields continues to improve slowly –Capt. Mason, of the Rifles, we are pained to learn, died on the 15th.

The U.S. sloop-of-war St. Mary’s, John L. Saunders, esq., commander, anchored in Hamton Roads on Monday night, 21 days from the Gulf of Mexico. She has done good service in the campaign. She brings as trophies of war, thirty pieces of cannon captured at Vera Cruz –ranging from 6 to 32-pounders. The most of them are brass, and from their inscriptions must be very similar to the beautiful guns in our Armory Yard. They were made in France, Spain and a few in England. The Norfolk Beacon hopes that they will be deposited at Fort Monroe.
June 4, 1847, ReEv64i10p4c1, Late from General Scott’s Army


By the arrival of the schr. *Eleanor Stevens*, Captain Hall, from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the 15th May, we have letters from Jalapa to the 14th May, -three days later than our previous advices, (says the N. O. Picayune.)

The movement of Santa Anna upon Puebla is mentioned in Mr. Kendall’s letter below. —Hopes are entertained that Gen. Worth may be so fortunate as to encounter him. The probable motives of Santa Anna are conjectured by Mr. K. Gen. Worth left Perote for Puebla on the 10th with his own and Gen. Quitman’s divisions. He was expected to enter Puebla on Sunday, the 16th. IT is supposed the authorities of the town will come out to meet him and escort him in.

All will be glad to learn that Gen. Shields is mending, though slowly, and that Gen. P. F. Smith has reported for duty.

Gen. Scott is still detained at Jalapa. The reasons for his detention are mentioned by Mr. Kendall. It will also be seen by his letter that Mr. Trist has arrived at the general’s head-quarters.

The last number of the *Star* informs us that rumors were right on the 12th May, that the troops at Orizaba had pronounced against Santa Anna, and made him prisoner. The *Star* is incredulous, and Mr. K.’s letter of the 14th does not confirm the news.

Col. Childs is governor of Jalapa, and will remain there with 2,000 picked troops when Gen. Scott moves on to Puebla. The city of Jalapa is entirely quiet and orderly. No rows or disturbances have occurred there.

We have a paper printed at Puebla on the 9th May. It announces positively that Gen. Taylor had left Saltillo and marched wither upon Zacatecas or San Luis Potosi. One report says with 4,000 men upon the former State, and 6,000 on the latter. Would that he had the force to do so.

The Yankee, or “foreign legion,” organized by Santa Anna from deserters from our armies, has been disbanded and ordered out of the city. Their immorality and insubordination are assigned for this proceeding. Their manners, the Mexicans say, are not at all adapted to their society.

A letter from Durango, dated the 26th of April, states positively that Col. Doniphan’s forces had fallen back upon Chihuahua, instead of advancing upon Durango. We think that there can be no doubt of this fact, and consequently that Col. Doniphan has not been defeated. The insurrection in New Mexico is assigned as the cause of his return.

*[Editorial Correspondence of the Picayune.]*

JALAPA, MEXICO, May 14, 1847

For two or three days there has hardly been an item of news worth recording —not even a rumor of the least movement; but last evening and this morning reports have come in which are entitled to some little show of importance.

It is now confidently asserted that Santa Anna has moved from Orizaba, and in the direction of Puebla and the city of Mexico. The *administrador de las diligencias*—general stage agent I suppose he might be called in the vernacular —left yesterday for the capital on business for the line, but this morning he returned with more speed that he went. He reports having met at Cerro de Leon, near Perote, with a force of seventy armed Mexicans, whose appearance he did not at all like. From stragglers he learned that Santa Anna, with a large force, and passed on toward Puebla; that he roads were filled with robbers and brigands, and that it would not be prudent for him to go on —so the *administrador de las diligencias* returned without effecting the object of his mission.

Last night an intelligent Spaniard informed me that he had seen two letters from Orizaba, one dated the 6th and the other the 7th inst. ON the first day the letter stated that the first brigade or division of the Santa Anna’s army started *en route* for Puebla, and on the 7th the other division marched in the same direction. His entire force was put down at 2,500, the most of them indifferently armed and under little or no discipline.
It Santa Anna has moved towards the capital, and there certainly is good reason to believe that he has, his intentions are doubtless to control the election for President, which takes place tomorrow. He cannot certainly have the temerity to even think of attacking Gen. Worth, whose division could put to light 10,000 of the best Mexican troops that ever bore arms; so that the conviction is irresistible that he intends having a hand in the coming election. One would naturally think that, after his many disgraceful reverses, he would either attempt to leave the country, or else hide himself in an obscure part of it; but the cowardly tyrant loves lower and place too well, and will cling to them as long as there is a dollar, a musket, and an open road, on which to run, left in the Republic.

Mr. Downie, sutler of the 2d Pennsylvania Regiment, arrived here yesterday. It may be recollected that he had a large sum of money stolen from him at Vera Cruz by a Mexican, a short time since, that he pursued the rascal to Cordova, and that he succeeded in recovering the most of his money. So far, so good; but the worst of it has yet to be told. Mr. D. came out with the permission of the Alcalde and authorities of Vera Cruz in search of the robber of his money, found him, and succeeded, as is said above, in recovering the most of his treasure; but just at this moment a worse robber got hold of him in the shape of Santa Anna; poor D. was cast into prison as a spy, all his money again taken from him, and the only way by which he could obtain his liberty was to acknowledge himself as a spy in writing! This Santa Anna insisted upon as an excuse for robbing him of his money; but, on the other hand, Downie insisted as well in putting a protest at the bottom of his confession, stating that all he had said above was false! The way in which Downie now speaks of Santa Anna is anything but complimentary.

The long wagon train is now coming into the city from Vera Cruz, and has met with no opposition on the way. There are between three and four hundred wagons, and between eleven and twelve hundred pack mules in the train – quite a long string, you would think, were you to see them all together. Capt. Grayson, the stirring and most popular commissary, is along with the train, and I am pleased to learn is going on towards certain halls named after the elder Montezuma.

The foreigners in the city of Mexico area all extremely anxious for the arrival of Gen. Scott. It is said that a heavy sum has already been subscribed for a grand Fourth of July dinner – one individual, an Irishman, having put down his name for no less than $800. The war has been most disastrous to all the foreigners, breaking up the business of many entirely. The only advantage it has been to any has been the depreciation if has caused in the value of real estate. Houses in the city of Mexico, belonging to the church, and which have been sold under the hammer, have been bought in by the English and other merchants at prices far below their real value.

You will doubtless learn with pleasure, as will doubtless his numerous friends in New Orleans, that Gen. P. F. Smith has again reported for duty. For no less than a month he was unable to put his foot to the ground, to such a degree was his ankle inflamed. I am also happy in being able to state that Gen. Shields is still mending, although slowly. The saving of his life may be put down almost as a miracle. I saw him but a sort time after he received his dreadful wound, and no one then thought that he could live even twenty-four hours.

Gen. Scott’s proclamations, which I sent off to you two or three nights since buy an express rider, has been read here by all the Mexicans, and in a large majority of cases with excellent effect. It is a most able document, and goes home to the feelings of the people. By this time it has been circulated at Puebla and the city of Mexico, and will doubtless turn the minds, at least of the honest and reflecting, towards peace.

I have been much amused at reading accounts in some of our papers at home of the road between Vera Cruz and the city of Mexico. One writer, who “talks like a book,” says that there is a stream ten miles from the frontier city which is crossed in scows! We did not come that road. Again, the same writer says that the Puente National is a wooden bridge! Wooden! Whew! It is the best imitation of stone I have ever seen, and as durable as the rock of ages at that.

Mr. Trist arrived here this morning from Vera Cruz. His business I do not know, but I suppose he goes on with the army. Gen. Scott, owing to the non-arrival of all the train, will not be able to move for two of three days to come. – Capt. Walker, with his Rifles, is on the way up, guarding another smaller train. I trust there may be wagons enough to carry on the little baggage our officers now possess. For want of sufficient transportation heretofore they have been compelled to leave carpet bags here, trunks there an boxes elsewhere, until nearly everything has been lost. The Government most certainly should make allowances for sacrifices which have been unavoidable on the part of its officers. Yours, &c.,

G. W. K.

P.S. With not a little trouble and expense I have been enabled to procure the very latest dates from the city of Mexico, and also from Puebla. You will see that the freedom of the press has been suspended, but not until the editors had lied most lustily about us miserable Yankees. The letter about Gen. Scott’s destroying Encerro, and offering a reward for Santa Anna, it would puzzle the father of lies to beat. On the contrary, a safeguard was placed upon the house of Santa Anna, and not a stone of it has been moved.

The report that Santa Anna has gone towards the capital receives additional confirmation. – We hear nothing of Gen. Worth, but every one hopes he has fallen in with Santa Anna.

A Mexican officer, Capt. Velasquez, died yesterday from a wound received at Cerro Gordo, and was buried with military honors. Lieut. Shelby Johnson, of the 4th Illinois volunteers, also died yesterday, and was buried with appropriate ceremonies. Gen. Scott and staff, with many other officers of our army, attended both funerals.
A work has been thrown up near this place which completely commands the city. It was constructed under the superintendent of Capt. Beauregard, a native of Louisiana, who enjoys a high reputation in the army.

[BJM]

June 4, 1847, REv64i10p4c3, Captain Tuttwall

We find in the N. Orleans Delta, the following interesting letter from the fallarit commander of the famous "Mosquito Fleet," which has done so much execution in the Gulf of Mexico. It is but just to Com. Conner, that the public should be made acquainted with the sentiments of his brave and experienced brother officers in regard to his character and conduct. The Delta most properly remarks:

"Certainly the dissatisfaction expressed by a propel, justly fold of the renown of our noble Navy, at the difficulties and disasters encountered by our squadron in the early part of the war, ought to give way to admiration of the magnificent debarkation of our troops at Vera Cruz, so skillfully effected under the direction of Com. Conner. Many of the arrangements in regard to the investment and bombardment of the city and castle were also made by Com. Conner, who, from the same morbid sensitiveness and pride to which we have referred, readily gave up to Com. Perry the command of the squadron, at a time when he might have been justified by the rules of the service in retaining it until the capitulation of Vera Cruz had been effected."

Who Capt. Tattnall is, the country is well informed by his brilliant and untiring services in the Gulf. We subjoin a very neat outline of his late achievements from the Delta. On reading his letter, we were reminded of an anecdote related to us by a gallant naval officer, who was himself the present at the bombardment of Vera Cruz. The fierce little Spitfire was in the lead of the "mosquito fleet" in attacking San Juan, and, amidst the showers of bullets from the Castle which fell around the vessel without wounding any one, Tattnall strode the deck with marked impatience, and, with a vehemence of manner, cried out, "Will no one get killed or wounded? There is no honor to be won otherwise. Will no body be killed?" He himself afterwards was wounded in the wrist at Tuxpan; his wished were gratified and the "honor," already secured by his previous conduct, heightened by the peculiar means which he himself had so emphatically indicated. Not satisfied, however, with the distinction he had won, but anxious to enlarge his contracted field of operations, he obtained leave to be detached form the Spitfire and to join General Quitman's force on land. We regret that his wound will prevent him from expanding the "honor" won upon the sea:

"Of Capt. Tattnall's incessant and successful exertions to sustain the high reputation of the service, of which he is a bright ornament, we cannot adequately express the admiration and gratitude we feel. From the commencement of the blockade he has planned and executed the various difficult and perilous enterprises on the dangerous reef, and against the well-defended towns of the Mexican coast, which have excited so much admiration, and contributed so much to the success of our occupation of the towns in the Terra Caliente. On the gallant he has led every attack, constituting on all the occasions the advanced-guard of the squadron. At the bombardment of Vera Cruz, he commanded the fleet of small vessels, which approached within a few hundred yards of the Castle of San Juan de Ulua, and opened up on the is famous fortification, sustaining a constant fire from its two hundred guns. At the last achievement of our Navy in the attack of Tuxpan, the Spitfire again led the attack, and was exposed to a heavy fire from a concealed fort, by which several of our brave officers were wounded –among them the gallant Captain himself received a wound in the arm, from which he is now suffering. The necessity of returning to this country to improve his health and heal his wound, withdraws Capt. Tatnall from the scene of warlike operations just as he was preparing to join Gen. Scott in his marc to Mexico."

[BJM]

June 8, 1847, REv64i11p2c1, General Taylor and the battle of Buena Vista

–We are the authorized to say, (says the New Orleans Bulletin,) that General Taylor never used the expression, which has obtained such general currency through the public press, that "if there had been only regulars in the battle of Buena Vista he would probably have lost the day, as the Mississippi volunteers were whipped three times without knowing it." This he considers is doing great injustice to the regular army.

This letter, under which we make the above statement, continues, and says "so far from entertaining such a sentiment, the General lamented nothing more strongly than his entire want of regular infantry, as a brigade, or even a strong battalion would have enabled him to carry the enemy's artillery, and to have entirely destroyed his army."

We are further authorized to deny the report, that the officers next in rank, were opposed to giving battle, which is entirely untrue, and it calculated to injure those officers if allowed to circulate uncontradicted.

[BJM]

June 11, 1847, REv64i12p1c7, Operations of the Gulf Squad
U.S. FRIGATE RARITAN, off Tabasco, May 16.

Gentlemen –We expect the Raritan will leave Anton Lizardo, bound for Boston, about the 1st of June. She will take home some of the older officers of the squadron, who have been jaded by long service, and also the sick from the different vessels. I am happy to say that these are not numerous.

An American flag is now planted at Frontera, at the mouth of the Tobasco river, and it is supposed that a custom house will soon be established there. The city of Tobasco, seventy miles up the river, is still in possession of the Mexicans, who have occupied a point about seven miles below, called the “Devil’s Turn,” with a force of at least one, and some say two thousand men, indifferently provided with small arms and muskets, but having a commanding battery of three 24-pounders.” I don know that Com. Perry will deem it advisable to attack Tobasco, inasmuch as we now hold the mouth of the river and sixty miles of navigation. For my own part, I can see no reason for such a proceeding, although I should be very glad of a fight. The navy had had too little to do in that line for its own interest.

Capt. Van Brunt is at present discharging the functions of Governor, by order of Com. Perry.

Com. Perry arrived here in the Mississippi yesterday, accompanied by the Vixen and Scorpion steamers. He soon afterwards got under way with the Scorpion, and proceeded to Laguna and Sisal. It is said that Capt. Mackenzie is to be charged with some negotiations with the Government of Yucatan.

Goatzacoalcos has been taken, or rather occupied in consequence of surrender.

In case we have a fight here, I will give you the particulars.

P.S. May 19. –The commodore returned to this anchorage last evening, and will leave for Vera Cruz this evening.

The steamers Vixen, Scorpion, Mississippi, McLane and the sloops Decatur, John Adams, Albany and Germantown and frigate Raritan are now assembled here.”

June 11, 1847, REv64i12p1c7, The Mexican Pirates

THE MEXICAN PIRATES. –The Princeton to be sent to the Mediterranean. –The President has issued orders directing the steamship of war “Princeton” to be go ready for sea, to proceed to the Mediterranean, in quest of the Mexican privateer “Unico,” and any other vessels that may be insulting our flag there. The matter was formally laid before the President on Monday morning my Mr. Buchanan, and his action thereon was prompt and decisive. The Princeton is to be made ready to sail on or about the 15th of the present month. –[Baltimore Sun]

June 11, 1847, REv64i12p2c1, Important from Mexico

We received yesterday a copy of El Republicano from the city of Mexico, wit a requenst fo ran exchange, (says the Mobile Herald.) It is dated the 16th of May.

In this number of El Republicano we find an important document which a friend translates for us as follows. None of the New Orleans papers contain any allusion to it:

Official letter of his Excellency, the General in Chief, (Santa Anna) accompanying some intercepted documents of the enemy

HEADQUARTERS,
Puebla, May 13, 1847.

ARMY OF OPERATIONS. –Excellent Sir: -The commandant of the flying revenue guard of tobacco of Orizaba, the Colonel D. Juan N. Caraveo, whom I left with his command near the National Road, between Perote and Nopalucan, to observe the movements of the enemy, and to harass him when the opportunity might offer, has remitted to me the accompanying documents which were taken from the enemy’s mail which left Jalapa for Col. Worth’s camp.

Among them you will find the General Scott’s proclamation of the Mexican nation, which from its style appears to have been written originally in Spanish, and not translated from English.
This proclamation of Scott’s is written with the most refined hypocrisy and with the most infamous perfidy. It is the
greatest insult yet offered to the Mexican people, whom it has attempted to lull (a quien sepretende adormecer) to
make it the victim of the ambition of that nation which is the enemy of our race, when, in another place, it feels no
embarrassment in proclaiming by the press and in official documents, that it carries on against us a war of conquest
and that this war must be made at the cost of the blood and treasure of the unfortunate country.

Your Excellency will note in one of the accompanying intercepted letters, that Scott, the Inspector General of the
United States Army, considers the above proclamation well adapted to aid the views of the invaders.

You will observe, that this letter harmonizes with others which have been lately published in this capital, and which
with reason have been regarded by all well disposed Mexicans as more prejudicial for the venom (ponzona) which
they conceal than the loss of a battle.

But in the midst of the malevolence (encona) which General Scott shows he has against me, he does me too much
honor when he says that they had been deceived as to my real intentions, and that on account of this mistake his
Government permitted me to pass to my country. Indeed, most Excellent Sir, the United States did deceive when
they dreamed that I was capable of betraying my country. Before this should happen I would prefer to be consumed
by fire and my ashes should be scattered that not a single atom be left.

Would to God the Mexicans would open their eyes to discover the poison in the golden chalice that the perfidious
Scott proffers them, and that (illegible) of universal indignation against the invaders of our soil. Let a war be made
against these without period, that when we may no longer be able, because Providence may have decreed the
subjugations of this unfortunate country, there may remain to our children or grand children, when the wrath of the
Omnipotent shall have passed, the noble work of revenging the outrages committed by the republic of the United
States on (illegible)

God and Liberty!

To his Excellency the Minister of War and Marine.
[BJM]

June 11, 1847, REv64i12p2c6, The Mexican tariff

The manufacturing class seem determined to regulate the tariff for Mexico, as well as for our own country, to suit
their particular interests. –These people and their paid advocates seem to act as though the country belonged to
them, and all the other interests were but to support a home government and conquer foreign ones for their
advantage. Not satisfied with upwards of 30 years protection at home, ranging from 30 to 200 percent., they now
claim the exclusive right to supply all Mexico. What do these manufacturers contribute to support this government?
Not one cent. They receive millions in tribute, and pay nothing. The higher the revenue, the greater their profits –
and they unanimously refused to pay anything on tea and coffee to support the war, because to that extent they
would have been compelled to contribute with others to that object.

When with the money of others, we have got possession of Mexico, and mean to make them pay part of the
expense, these men reproach the Secretary of the Treasury, because foreign goods are admitted also. Modesty
unparalleled! If then millions of dollars are to be paid by Mexicans in the price of their goods, these gentlemen claim
it, though they have never paid one cent towards the war! Nor is that all: for, were they to have the exclusive right,
the demand for Mexico and the United States together would be so great that these American goods would be
enhanced 25 to 50 percent in value, and our own citizens, after paying for the war, would be made to pay the
manufacturers extra price for all their domestic articles. These modest gentlemen own the whole country, excepting
only their stipendiary, and are to incur no other expense.

Did Great Britain make discriminating duties when she conquered China? Is such conduct compatible with the
independence of any country? Did we make war with Mexico in order to exclude others and to sell our goods to
them? But the hue and cry is up from Vera Cruz to the Aroostock –and Mr. Walker is denounced because his Mexican
Tariff is intended to obtain money from Mexico, and not to benefit a few thousand people in the United States who
have refused to pay in any shape towards the war.

FREE TRADE.

[BJM]

June 8, 1847, REv64i11p4c7, June 8, 1847, From General Taylor’s Army

OFFICIAL.
The following “orders,” issued by Gen. Taylor, have been transmitted by him to the War Department. In laying them before our readers, [says then Union] we hardly deem it necessary to allude to the pitiful falsehoods circulated by the Federal press, to the effect that the administration had neglected to notice in suitable terms the glorious achievement of American arms at Buena Vista. A calumny so foolish and so mean, must needs recoil upon the heads of its authors.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,
Camp near Monterey, May 6, 1847.

[ORDERS No. 46]

Under the instructions of the Secretary of War, the commanding general had the gratification to publish to the troops of his command the following communication, received by him from the War Department:

"WAR DEPARTMENT, April 3, 1847.

"Sir: Your communications of the 24th and 25th of February, and the 1st of March, announcing the brilliant success of the troops under your command at Buena Vista, against the forces of the enemy vastly superior in numbers, have been laid before the President; and I am instructed to convey to you his high appreciation of the distinguished services rendered to the country by yourself, and the officers and soldiers of your command on that occasion.

"The victory achieved at Buena Vista, while it adds new glory to our arms, and furnishes new proofs of the valor and brave daring of our officers and soldiers, will excite the admiration and call forth the gratitude of the nation.

"The single fact that five thousand of our troops, nearly all volunteers, who, yielding to the impulse of patriotism, had rallied to their country’s standard for a temporary service, were brought into conflict with an army of twenty thousand, mostly veteran soldiers, and only withstood and repulsed the assaults of this numerous host, led by their most experienced General, but, in a protracted battle of two days, won a glorious victory, is the most indubitable evidence of the consummate skill and gallant conduct of our officers, and the devoted heroism of the troops under their command, It will ever be a proud distinction to have been in the memorable battle of Buena Vista.

"The general joy which the intelligence of this success of our arms has spread through the land, is mingled with regret that it has been obtained at so great a price –that so many heroic men have fallen in that sanguinary conflict. They died in the intrepid discharge of a patriotic duty, and will be honored and lamented by a grateful nation.

"You will cause this communication to be published to the troops under your command.

"I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)
"W.L. MARCY,
"Secretary of War.”

By order of Major General Taylor:
W. W. S. Bliss,
Assistant Adjutant General.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,
Camp near Monterey, May 8, 1847

[ORDERS No 47]

The commanding general has the satisfaction of announcing to the troops of his command at other decisive victory achieved by the American forces under Major General Scott, on the 18th of April, and Cerro Gordo, in the State of Vera Cruz. The Mexican army, under the immediate orders of Gen. Santa Anna, President of the Republic, is known to have been entirely routed with the loss of all its artillery and munitions of war.

The army of occupation will hail with joy this brilliant success of the Americans arms.

By order of Maj. Gen. Taylor
W.W.S. BLISS
Assistant Adjutant General.
June 11, 1847, REV64i12p4c1, Very Late from the City of Mexico

By the way of Tampico, we are placed in possession of a file of El Republicano from the city of Mexico down to and including the 19th of May—eleven days later than our previous advises.

The election of President for Mexico was to have taken place of the 15th of May. As the election was made by the Legislatures of the different States, it is even yet quite too soon to know the result, which is likely to disappoint all expectations. In the State of Mexico, Angel Trias, the Governor of Chihuahua, received the vote. Upon the first ballot Trias received 9 votes, Gen. Alvarez 7, Gen. Almonte 2, and Senor D. Melchor Ocampo 1. Upon proceeding to elect between Trias and Alvarez, the former received 10 votes and the latter 9.

In the State of Queretaro there was a tie between Senor Almonte, and Senor D. J. Joaquin Herrera. Lots were cast between the two, and the chances favored Senor Herrera, who thus secured the cote of that State. If we recollect aright, this is not the ex-President.

The State of Puebla gave its vote of Senor D. Melchor Ocampo. The particulars of the coting are not given. Some time will elapse before we shall have the result of the election.

The Republicano of the 19th announces that Gen. Santa Anna had left the command of the army of the East to assume the duties of President of the Republic. He was to make his entry into the capital the evening of the 19th. He had issued a manifesto to the nation, but we regret that we have no copy of it. It was to be published in El Republicano on the 20th, which is a day later than we have received.

We have two letters from the valorous General, giving an account of his military operations. The first is dated May 9th, and in it he tells the Secretary of War that since his arrival at Orizava he had been organizing guerrilla parties, both infantry and cavalry, in the vicinity of Orizava, of Cordova and Vera Cruz; that he had collected the scattered remains of his Cerro Gordo forces; improved the brigade from Oajaca under General Leon; reinforced and remounted a cavalry force, which he had stationed at San Andreas; and lastly, fitted for service seven pieces of artillery, which are at Orizava and Cordova. The result of all these labors is, according to him, that guerrilla parties are already at work between Jalapa and Vera Cruz; three battalions, organized with 1,470 men of those dispersed at Cerro Gordo; more than 200 horses collected; a quantity of infantry equipment prepared; and, finally, 4,500 men, with seven pieces of artillery, put in movement, who would enter Puebla on the 12th May.

He tells the Secretary that he had left in command in the tierra caliente Colonel Cenobio; in the district of Cordova, D. Tomas Marin, who commanded at Alvarado when Com. Conner attacked it; in Huatuxco, General Hernandez; and in Orizava General Teran. He announces that he himself was on his march to Puebla, compelled to that course by his extreme destitution. He has only had 25,000 dollars to do all he has done, and thinks he could easily have ten or twelve thousand men under arms if the Government would give him means.

If this letter shows some energy and spirit, the second letter is replete with evidence of a contemptible, braggart soul. He would then prepare the way for his entry into the city of Mexico like a hero and conqueror. To enable the reader to verify this, we annex a translation of the letter, written on the 15th May, from San Martin Tesmelucan, seven Mexican leagues beyond Puebla, towards Mexico. The town of Amozoc, so often mentioned in it, is four leagues this side of Puebla:

ARMY OF OPERATIONS OF THE EAST,
Headquarters of the General-in-Chief,
At San Martin, Tesmelucan, May 15, 1847.

His Excellency, the Minister of War: I communicated to your Excellency, in my dispatch of the day before yesterday, at 9 o'clock, P.M., that the enemy would pass the night at Amozoc, and that I was preparing to establish myself yesterday in this place, with the troops under my command. The infantry and artillery marched in reality for this place, but I retained the cavalry, with the intention of surprising a convoy of about 200 wagons, which was proceeding under a very feeble guard to join the first (illegible) of the enemy's army, and also of challenging the enemy, to induce him to march forth from Amozoe to a convenient ground for giving battle. The convoy to which I refer passed the night at Nopalncan, and I calculated that, although it might start early, I would meet it on this side of Acajete, at a point where the ground would be favorable for the maneuvering of cavalry; but no doubt the smallness of his force induced the commander, from motives of precaution, to start at midnight, so that, at half-past 8 o'clock in the morning, (the hour at which I was flanking Amozoc in order to gain the public road,) the convoy was already very near to the village, and in a narrow lane, covered on both sides by trees, which protected it against the attack of my troops. The enemy, fearing, notwithstanding, that the convoy might be captured, sent immediately a force of 1,000 infantry, with six pieces of cannon, to its assistance. The troops immediately opened a fire on my column, which fearlessly continued its march within one league of Amozoc, at which point I determined to
countermarch to Puebla, where I arrived at half-past 4 o'clock in the afternoon, in the best order.

The whole population of this beautiful city was in motion at the entrance of my division, and gave signs of the most ardent enthusiasm. I could hardly walk from being surrounded by thousands of citizens, who were hurrahing for independence and for the Republic, and giving utterance to their hatred of our invaders. In these moments my heart was agitated my different feelings as I looked upon an enthusiastic people calling upon me for arms to defend themselves, giving the most signal proof of their love for liberty of their country, and as I reflected upon the responsibility of those who having the means had neglected to take advantage of the good dispositions of these people. The only want in this city, your Excellency, was proper men to move in the defense of the national cause.

Resuming the thread of my military report, I will inform your Excellency that, although our guide having missed the road, brought us within grape shot distance of the village of Amozoc, we completely flanked this village, showing the enemy by this bold movement the contempt in which we held him. He appeared, however, determined not to leave his stronghold after having saved his convoy, and both myself and my officers rode off with the conviction that the enemy dared not accept our challenge in the open field.

The loss we have deplore in this feat of arms is three soldiers killed and wounded, and four horses killed.

Although I was aware that the enemy was to move very early on Puebla, I ordered the division of cavalry to pass the night in the city, and at daybreak this morning it commenced its march for this place, where I also arrived this morning.

May it please your Excellency to submit this report to his Excellency the President Substitute, and to receive the assurances of my consideration and esteem. God and Liberty!

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA

His Excellency the MINISTER OF WAR.

El Republicano of the 19th announces that Gen. Bravo has proposed to the Supreme Government that the American prisoners should be sent off "successively and with due security" to Tampico to be released, inasmuch as Mexican prisoners taken at the Angostura and Cerro Gordo had been released without condition. This is the first mention of those unfortunate prisoners which we recollect to have seen in the Mexican papers.

The Republicano is again endeavoring to arouse the fears of the Mexicans against the machinations of a monarchical party. It copies, with this view, a long letter from Paris published in a Madrid journal, indicating that monarchy is the sole salvation for Mexico. The Republicano intimates that the agents of such a party are still secretly at work in Mexico, and that some traces of their operations have lately been discovered in Puebla.

The same number of this paper announces that Congress had completed its work of forming a constitution, and congratulates the country upon the termination of the great work. The constitution is described as not so much a novelty and an innovation as a modification and improvement of the old constitution of 1824.

In the same paper of the 18th, it is announced that a new opprobrium was about to fall on their unhappy country, in consequence of a dissolution of Congress which some extreme partisans of the Pures section were determined to force on. Congress was compelled to adjourn on the 17th for want of a quorum, four members having purposely withdrawn to bring about this result. –There were twelve deputies pledged, according to the Republicano, to pursue a like course, to percent there being a sufficient number of members present to promulgate the new constitution, which had been adopted by a large majority. Rather than submit to the indignity of being thus rendered powerless, it was said that the majority of Congress had resolved to dissolve and publish a manifesto to the nation. How this affair was settled the papers do not tell us, but the disgraceful dissension in the chief legislative assembly of the nation shows the country in no state to resist a foreign foe.

The Mexicans says Gen. Worth entered Puebla with 5000 infantry, 200 cavalry and a train of 400 wagons; and that Gen. Scott left Jalapa for the same destination with 2000 men and a considerable train of artillery.

Before entering Puebla, General Worth addressed a note dated the 12th to the municipal authorities of the city, announcing to them his intention of entering on the 15th and taking military possession. Should no opposition be intended, he desired an immediate conference with the authorities, to take measures in concert for the security of persons and property. At the same time he promised that their religion should be respected in all its forms and observances, and that he would support the civil authorities in administration of the laws.

The authorities replied by offering to refer the letter to Santa Anna. This General Worth refused. Santa Anna punished the prefect of the city for the course he took in the business, one little worthy of a Mexican, it is said. We presume he thought it better that General Worth should enter quietly, and that the citizens should be protected, rather than make a futile sham resistance.

Senores Gutierrez and Iriarte have resigned the portfolios of War and Justice. The former is succeeded by General Alcorta; the latter by D. Luis de la Rosa. Senor Baranda remains Minister of Foreign Affairs.
Prospects of a Speedy Peace

June 11, 1847, REv64i12p4c2, Prospects of a Speedy Peace

PROSPECTS OF A SPEEDY PEACE. –The most important item of news by James L. Day, (says the New Orleans Times,) is the prospect of a speedy peace, which really seems from what is announced as having lately transpired in the interior of Mexico, to be not divest of something like probability. On the 24th April, intelligence reached Vera Cruz from the Capital, that General Herrera had been elected President on the 15th May and that the cause of his success over his competitors was the desire, generally felt by the thinking portion of the Mexican population, to open negotiations with the United States, for a renewal of friendly relations. It was stated, also, that the new President would not be hampered with any restrictions in his efforts to make peace. The only drawback on this agreeable intelligence is, that it does not come in an official form, although almost universal credence is given to it in Vera Cruz; and men's minds are becoming more and more soothed, as the real character of the Americans becomes known to the people in the Interior, and particularly in the populous cities. General Worth's visit to the Bishop at Puebla, has wrought immensely in favor of the invaders; while the scrupulous honesty, and high feeling of honor displayed by all ranks of the army, with a few inconsiderable exceptions, in their intercourse with the inhabitants of the large towns, have quite undeceived their expectations, which counted on cruelty and rapacity, as our distinguishing characteristics. We shall impatiently wait for the next arrival, which must realize or dissipate this pleasant vision of peace. One fact, however, we gather from these advises, which is, that the tumult of passion into which the Mexican population were thrown, by the dispersion of Santa Anna's army at Cerro Gordo, has considerably subsided. There is nothing yet said of the progress, or the issue of Mr. Trist's mission.

[Correspondence of the N. O. Commercial Times.]

VERA CRUZ, Friday Evening, May 21, '47

May 22. –I have a few minutes, before the Palmetto leaves, to say that the diligence is in from Jalapa with further news from Puebla, none of especial interest, except so far as connected with affairs at the Capital. For this part of it, I am indebted to the gentlemanly and able Prussian Counsel, who has a letter from a high source in Puebla, teeming with hopes of an early peace. Santa Anna and Anaya being equally unavailable as President, in point of success, a new appointment is to be made at an early date. The general voice calls upon Herrera, the President deposed by Parades, and it is supposed he will accept the nomination this accorded. In that event, there is but little doubt of his election. I am told that Santa Anna has rushed to Mexico to defeat this movement, but it is believed that he has no longer the power to prevent it. It is also believed that Herrera has the power, and the moral courage to carry the object through. God grant that these suppositions are correct!

May 24. –We this morning have agreeable intelligence from the Capital, which, though not quite so authentic as I could wish, is so strongly supported by probabilities, and so well conforms to the public expectations, that it obtains general credence. The election for President is said to have taken place on the 15th instant, and Herrera, the former incumbent of the chair, was again chosen, it is also said that he is not hampered with restrictions in regard to the
The steamer *New Orleans* arrived this morning, followed within a few hours by the ship *Sophia Walker*, both filled with troops. This looks more like doing business, and proves the Adjutant General and the editor of the *Union* to have been more nearly correct than I gave them credit for being. But in order to meet their promises, we have yet to receive within the coming month, nearly ten thousand troops. Who believes that half that number will reach Vera Cruz before the 1st of August? I do not.

The troops not arrived, will proceed at once with a train, for the field of operations, and I suppose will continue their march directly to Puebla, which is now the headquarters of General Scott.

Since I commenced writing a most disagreeable report has reached me, which I have now confirmed, beyond question. The Jalapa stage has been beset, the passengers ill-treated, if not murdered, the driver beaten nearly to death, and the carriage, luggage, mails, etc., burned. The driver has just arrived in town, and reports the details of the affair as far as his fright, and the treatment would allow him to observe them, but is strangely ignorant, or confused upon the points of the greatest interest. The attack was made near la Riconada, a few miles beyond the National bridge. The ruffians engaged in the affair were rancheros, in all probability acting without authority, and perhaps indeed, they are only common robbers. It is thought that none of the passengers have been killed, but of this there is not certainty. If they were released, some of them will probably be in town tomorrow.

[BJM]

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**June 11, 1847, REv64i12p4c5, News from Mexico**

We lay before our readers copious extracts from the New Orleans papers. On one point, the election of President, the reports in the *New Orleans Times* and *Picayune* conflict—the former being confident of the election of Herrera, the peace candidate—and the latter, upon data which look to us more authentic, leading us to believe that the result will not be known for some time, and that the Herrera spoken of is not the President who was willing to receive our Minister of Peace, and who superceded buy Parades. As to the prospects of peace, our readers may judge as well as ourselves, from the elements before them. They are not as bright, however, as we had been led to expect.

We are deeply pained at the report in the *Picayune*, of bloody and fatal duel between the two lieutenants of the Virginia Regiment. Mahan, the only one named, was third Lieutenant of Capt. Bankhead’s Caroline Company, and was from the city of Philadelphia, which furnished a large proportion of said company. –Captain Bankhead, we learn, was promoted to the post of one of Gen. Scott’s aides; and 1st Lieutenant Garnett, (of Westmoreland,) and 2d Lieutenant Coleman, (of Caroline,) being on the sick list, 3d Lieutenant Mahan was in command of the company. These facts have been narrated to us, and may furnish a clue to the desperate and lamentable combat. On the streets yesterday, we heard the name of several officers of the Virginia Regiment mentioned as the other Lieutenant killed whose name is not given—but being vague rumors, we think it improper to Chronicle them.

The *New Orleans Courier* reviews the address of the Tennessee officers, impugning the conduct of General Pillow and his utter want of military skill at the battle of Cerro Gordo, and imputing to him an untrue statement made to General Scott. We have room but for the following extract:

"We are told that General Pillow informed General Scott that he had reconnoitered the enemy’s position, and was sure it was defended by only one or two guns. Well, every work of this disclosure to General Scott was true. General Pillow did reconnoiter the enemy’s work, and he found it weak, as he reported it to be. But by some means or other, (perhaps by a deserter,) the enemy was apprised of General Pillow’s reconnaissance, of his report to the commanding general, and of the intention to assault the batteries. This information was conveyed in the night of the 17th—the enemy immediately set to work, added five or six guns to the batteries, marched upwards of two thousand men to sustain them, and placed strong detachments of infantry, with some light pieces of cannon concealed on the flank of the route by which our troops were expected to advance. We are told this fact is well understood in the army; if it came to the knowledge of the officers who signed this address to the public against the Brigadier General, they ought to have mentioned it.

These officers say that General Pillow was not at the head of the regiment when it advanced—that he neither led nor followed it. Who has asserted that he did lead or follow the regiment in its advance? Surely the General himself asserts so much thing—nor, to out knowledge, have any of his friends made such an assertion. But we know it to be true—that when the General was wounded he was very near the right of the regiment: This information has come to us from a gallant officer who was on the ground, and an eyewitness of what took place. Why was not this fact stated in the Address of the officers to the Public? This address to the public, from the officers of the 2d Tennessee regiment of volunteers has bot been provoked by anything said or done by General Pillow. ON the contrary, in his official letter, he bestows high applause upon the regiment and its officers for the steady and gallant manner in which they bore themselves in the attack. If any part of the General’s conduct deserves censure—and if the intimations of this address are well grounded, he is unfit for his station—if he deserves censure, it would be more proper in a military point of view, and more consonant to usage, to have preferred charges against him to the Commander-in-Chief, in order that his conduct might have been investigated and the real truth brought to light. It is
a serious matter to throw before the world such intimations as these against a General officer, whose "personal courage and gallant bearing in action" are acknowledged by his accusers. We await the reply of Gen. Pillow, in full confidence that he will rebut every item of accusation, that has been alleged against him.

[BJM]

June 15, 1847, REv64i13p1c3, Spanish Opinions on Mexican War

In the total absence of news from any quarter, we lay before our readers a striking extract from El Heraldo of Madrid, of the 26th April. We find it in the N. O. Delta, which describes its speculations as the "ideas of an intelligent Spaniard, upon the probable fate of an offshoot of his once powerful and still proud race. The editor for gospel of English and Mexican accounts of the battle of Buena Vista."

This article is particularly interesting, in that while it grossly misrepresents our government as aiming at "nothing less than the destruction of Mexican nationality" and our people as inclined to appropriate the church property of Mexico without ceremony, it renders a forced and a proud tribute to the resistless energies of our free people. Our progress, which the Spanish organ seems to regard with so much horror as to invoke the arm of European monarchies, is not the fruit of blood or violence, but of the genial influence of liberal institutions, gradually melting away the prejudices and ignorance of the nations of the earth, both in the new and old world. What may be the fate of Mexico, we shall not pretend to investigate—but all we ask of her at present is a just respect for our rights. Our desire is to see her establish an enlightened, liberal Republican form of Government, to assist us in keeping off the encroachments of the Old-World monarchists—And, whatever partisans may say of the origin of the war, it cannot reasonably be denied that it will essentially benefit Mexico, in liberalizing and civilizing her people by the influence of American example. The acquisitions of territory we have already made have been based upon the highest principles of law and morality—and to the powers of Europe, should they dare to interfere with the exercise of our lawful privileges! The article of El Heraldo shows the mighty place our young nation holds in the eyes of the world:

"The latest news from Mexico announces a triumph of the arms of the republic, which would be gratifying to us as Spaniards, as united to the people of that country by so many ties and so many traditions in common, if we thought it could decide, in favor of Mexico, the present desperate struggle between the Spanish and Anglo-Saxon races. But unfortunately it is not so. We see that after prolonged disasters, after infinite defeats, operating in a country the thinness of whose population makes war most difficult, the Mexicans found it necessary to unite the flower of their army, in number fourfold superior to that of the Anglo-Americans, to achieve a triumph exceedingly doubtful, attended with losses which rendered any new operations impossible.

"This victory, it is true, has somewhat re-animated the spirit of the country so far as least as a nation whose people are not homogeneous, are susceptible of being re-animated; but in exchange for this advantage, it has deeply wounded the pride of the Anglo-Americans, and if they determine to employ all their resources, the conquest of Mexico is inevitable.

"Let it be considered that the Mexican troops have been obligated to make a Herculean effort to gather a few trophies from one of the divisions of the enemy—that this effort is almost a defeat, as it has left them exhausted—and that the rest remain in the country than one division of the enemy, against which nothing can be opposed—and it must be confessed that this victory of Santa Anna will only serve to precipitate the feeble nationality of Mexico, down the declivity which leads to the precipice.

"For ourselves, we believe that Mexico is already virtually blotted out of the list of independent nations. What can be expected of a nation, distracted by revolutions and contests for ephemeral power, when the enemy is at its fates, and that no common enemy, but one which aims at nothing less that the destruction of its nationality?—What can we expect of a nation, where the clergy—the richest Catholic clergy in the world—refuse the smallest sacrifice in favor of the country, and prefer the precarious possession of the worldly goods to the salvation of the land?

"The army without resources, even without food—the rickety politicians of the capital conspiring to overthrow the established order of things—the clergy occupied in secreting their valuables, and in exciting the fanatical opposition of the people against the sale of their property, without considering whether the Anglo-American will not appropriate it with less difficulty than the only fortification of the coast threatened by a formidable squadron—a great part of the country occupied by an army highly-disciplined, composed of men whose energy is proverbial, and abundantly supplied with every kind of munitions: what can result from all this? We look upon the consequences as inevitable. Enthusiasm will be re-awakened in the United States. An irresistible torrent of volunteers will inundate Mexico. And it will not be long before the Eagle of the Union will light in triumph upon the ancient capital of Montezuma.

"We, as Spaniards, cannot be but lament this result. The last remnants of the magnificent work of Hernan Cortes are about to disappear, and one of the most brilliant pages in our history will be bound, so to speak, in the volume of the stranger. Sorrowful effects of revolutions! Of demagogical tendencies prematurely ingrated on a nation without stamina to support the effects of an unholy ambition! Thirty years of independence have not sufficed to make the Mexicans a nation, notwithstanding they have held in their hands the richest elements that Providence ever placed within reach of the human family. And why?—Because they have strayed from the proper path; because they desired to form a republic with the materials fit only for a monarchy; because they concerted, by a simple decree, the ignorant and oppressed Indians, the dregs of the population, ignorant until then even of the language of their lords, into free citizens, possessing all the rights which a free nation could give. We now behold, though too late, the
unavoidable evils which this error drew after it.

"And now, is it not permitted to ask what the nations of Europe think of the indefinite extension which the American Union is acquiring, and which it carries forward with as much safety as rapidity, sometimes by arms, sometimes by money, sometimes by emigration, without ever appearing to consider the morality of the means which it employs? Will they permit it to absorb, successively, the whole continent of America, and so form a nation by the side of which the most powerful states of Europe would appear as ridiculous pigmies? Will they consent that it shall consolidate its rich conquests, and make them the base of operations from which to invade in succession the states of Central America, where are to be found some of the most magnificent harbors in the world? Will they permit it, without obstruction, to reach the Isthmus of Panama –its golden dream –and thus yield to it one of the principal keys to the commerce of the globe?

"Time alone can answer these questions; but the history of the past affords us but little comfort for the future. Within this century the Union has acquired, successively, the Floridas, Louisiana, and Texas, and it is now about to acquire the Californias and some of the richest provinces of Mexico. Who shall fix limits to the power of the active race which peoples it? Let it once extend to Panama, and its might will be irresistible. It will hold the dominion of the seas; it will monopolize the commerce of the whole earth. And when the English language is spoken on all the shores of the Mexican Gulf, what human power will be sufficient to prevent the Island of Cuba and the English Antilles from falling by their own movement, and impulses of irresistible attraction, into the arms open to receive them?"

June 15, 1847, REv64i13p2c1, Later from Mexico

The steamship New Orleans, Captain Wright, has arrived from Vera Cruz, having left there on the 1st June. She touched on the 4th at the Brazos.

Gen. Shields is doing well, we are most happy to hear, and was shortly expected at Vera Cruz.

General Scott left Jalapa on the 23d May for Puebla, at the head of nearly 6,000 troops. We have the following brief note:

PUEBLA, MEXICO, May 29, 1847:

The division of General Twiggs entered this city today, all well. There were rumors in the morning that Generals Bustamente and Leon were advancing to attack General Scott with an immense force, but so far we have heard nothing confirming the reports. Almost everyone thinks that the Americans are to have another grand battle, but where no one can divine.

The diligencia does not run between this and the city of Mexico, and so far I have found it impossible to lay hands upon any papers.

No one as yet knows what General Scott’s intentions are as regards his future movements, yet small as his force is, many think he will advance upon the capital. We shall know in a day of two.

G. W. K.

The news from the city of Mexico by this arrival is most important. Our intelligent correspondent from Vera Cruz has furnished us with the annexed extracts from letters written at Mexico, and from the best sources of information. The resignation of Santa Anna is an important event in the history of the war:

Extract of a letter dated:

"CITY OF MEXICO, May 29, 1847.

"From here I have nothing worthy of notice to communicate except that Santa Anna yesterday resigned the presidency, but it is not known yet whether Congress will admit of it. –He was induced to take that course from the opposition he meets in his views of carrying on the defense of the city, and from some defamatory writings which appeared in the public papers against his past conduct. It is generally expected that the Americans will be here about the 15th of next month, and, considering the state of things in the capital, I may say that they will meet with but slight resistance on the part of this government.”

Through the same channel we have received the following brief extract from another letter of the same date:

"Last week Santa Anna commenced fortifying Guadalupe, Penon and Mexicalzingo, near the suburbs of the city; but unusual disapprobation was the result, and hence his reason for offering his resignation. It is supposed it will be accepted, and that Herrera will receive the nomination. There are only about 3,000 troops in the city.”
We have an exciting rumor from Puebla, mentioned in letters from Vera Cruz, that the citizens of Puebla had risen upon Gen. Worth, and cut off six or seven hundred of his men. The rumor was in every man’s mouth at Vera Cruz and much credence given to it. We are happy to say that our correspondent in Vera Cruz puts little faith in the rumors.

[Correspondence of the New Orleans Picayune]
VERA CRUZ, May 23, 1847.

Gentlemen: After several days of anxiety and suspense, occasioned by the capture of the diligence by a band of guerrillas, and the well-knows dangerous state of the road, another train has arrived at last from Jalapa bringing us news from the army and the events that have occurred on the road during the last six days, the most important of which is the murder of Col. Sowers, and seven of his escort of eight dragoons, and Lieut. McDonald, of the Rifle Regiment.

Col. S arrived here about a week ago with dispatches from Washington to Gen. Scott. He left this city last Saturday for Jalapa, and was murdered three miles beyond the National bridge. From all appearances, the party must have been an ambush very near the road, and by a well directed volley brought them all to the ground at once, without giving them the slightest opportunity for resistance. Thus it is again that dispatches, probably of no little importance, have fallen into the hands of the enemy, and perhaps may be used to good purpose against us. The bodies of three of the party were found neat the road, partially covered with sand, and the others had been dragged into the chaparral. One American house was found shot near the place where the party was assassinated.

A gentleman from the city of Mexico, who was one of the American prisoners captured by Urrea between Camargo and Monterey, came down with the train, having been liberated by the English Minister, he having claimed British protection. He reports all the American officers that were prisoners of parole.

A wagon master by the name of Parker and a quartermaster's clerk by the name of Lathrop, both captured on the road from Camargo to Monterey, and who were supposed to have been killed, were in prison in Mexico.

The diligence, the capture of which has cause so much excitement, it appears, was robbed on its (illegible) was injured not that the vehicle was partially destroyed and plundered of every thing if contained.

Gen. Shields was doing well and may be expected here on his way home in the course of ten days.

Strong suspiscious were entertained at Jalapa of an attempt to retake the place, but Col. Childs is always wide awake for anything of that kind, and will do then up brown if the attempt is made.

Some Mexicans also came down yesterday from Jalapa, having been robbed on the toad of everything they had of value; but the highwaymen showed their generosity and kindness to the unfortunate afterwards, by returning them twenty-five cents each to pay their expenses to his place.

The force of the (illegible) etc., on the road, is estimated at 500 men, disposed of as follows 300 men near the road, and 100 on each side of it, ranging at a sufficient distance to prevent small parties from taking the by paths.

Gen. Scott left Jalapa from Puebla on the 23d inst., at the head of about 6,000 men.

I cannot hear of any later news than what has been forwarded to you, from Gen. Worth's column at Puebla.

The train which came down was escorted by about sixty men, mostly discharged soldiers and some of the wounded at Cerro Gordo, in charge of Capt. Whiting. They saw frequently on the route men on the heights, and in the distance men on the lookout.

As for local news I have none to give you. –The rainy season has, it is thought, fully commenced, as we have had a sample of it during the last three days.

I have seen a private letter from Jalapa, which states that Col. Lawrence, bearer of dispatches, and one of his escort, were killed on the road, but no doubt the writer was mistaken in the name, and that the rumor emanated from the murder of Col. Sowers.

We regret to say that Maj. R. Hammond, Paymaster U. S. Army, died on board the New Orleans, at sea, on the 2d inst., on his passage from Vera Cruz.

[BJM]
army of Gen. Taylor. The letter of our correspondent below announces the arrival of a portion of Col. Doniphan's command at Saltillo, after a short encounter with a body of hostile Indians.

We have a copy of the Matamoras Flag of the 2d inst. The individual found murdered below Reynosa, as before mentioned by us, turns out to have been a private in Capt. Paul's company of Massachusetts volunteers. A company of Massachusetts men, under Capt. Walsh, escorting a train to Carmargo, passed the spot a few days since, and identified and buried the body. -Capt. W. demanded of some Mexicans residing near the scene of murder to produce the murderers or he would burn down their ranches. The threat had the desired effect, and three incorrigible scoundrels were handed over to him—one of whom was killed in endeavoring to make his escape, and the other two are imprisoned at Reynosa. The clothes of the murdered man were upon the Mexican who was killed.

From the Flag we learn that Lieut. Col. Abbott, with four companies of Massachusetts volunteers, escorting a wagon train and a number of artillery horses, took up the line of march for Cerralvo on Saturday, the 29th ult. Col. Wright, with the remaining six companies, was to proceed by boat to Carmargo, thence to Monterey, as soon as transportation could be had.

The troops remaining at Matamoras after the departure of the Massachusetts Regiment will be three companies of the 3d Dragoons—Hagan's, Butler's and Merrick's. These dragoons companies are not yet furnished with horses, and it is uncertain when they will be mounted—probably (says the Flag) not until they are called into active service, without affording an opportunity to drill. We copy the following from the Flag:

**Murder.** –A Mexican, Joseph Maria Lara, a carpenter by trade, who has a shop near the lower end of Commercial street, was found about ten o'clock on Saturday last lying dead on the floor of his house, having been stabbed in the breast. It has not yet been ascertained by whose (illegible) he was killed. His wife represents that she left him in the house in conversation with a (illegible), and when she returned he was found as described. Circumstances tend to a belief that she committed or instigated the murder herself, and we understand that she has been imprisoned until the matter can undergo investigation.

Col. Curtis, of the 3d Ohio Regiment, has received the appointment of Assistant Adjutant General to Gen. Wool.

The Matamoras Flag of the 20th May records the following:

STEAMBOAT DISASTER –The steamer Lama, Captain Ferguson, on the upward trip to Camargo, collapsed a (illegible) on Saturday last, in consequence of which she is detained a few miles below Reynosa. No one was injured, and a new boiler having been procured, Captain Ferguson expects to have her in trim again in a few days. The Lama was under Government charter, and freighted with army stores.

The steamer Gazelle, also under Government charter, bound up the river with stores, sank on Monday last about sixty miles above here. Boat a total loss, the current having broken her up, and swept off cabin and hull.

The Sabine, Captain Sterrit, freighted with private merchandise—her first trip up the river—struck a snag on Tuesday last, about thirty miles below Reynosa, and was run into shallow water, where she sand. The principal part of her cargo was saved without injury, and the boast, it is said, will soon again be afloat.

The steamer Big Hatchee lies high and dry between here and the mouth of the river, having grounded during the late rise, and the river receded from her. A rise of four feet will put her again in her element.

At the election of officers in the Massachusetts regiment, Lieut. Col. Wright was chosen colonel; Maj. Abbott, lieutenant colonel; and Capt. Webster chosen major.

[BJM]

**June 15, 1847, REv64i13p2c3, General Scott’s Proclamation**

The Union publishes an authentic copy of Gen. Scott’s proclamation to the Mexican people. –Having already laid before our readers the same remarkable document, translated from the Spanish, we deem it unnecessary to copy the official paper, which, though more polished in form and perfect in context, gives no better idea of the views and arguments of the author than the translated copy. In relation to this paper the Union says:

"There are not many parts of it which do not meet with our cordial approval, and on these we do not now propose to make any comments. –With some few qualifications, we unhesitatingly pronounce it an able and patriotic paper, credible to its author—General Scott—and well calculated to produce favorable impressions upon the Mexican people. That such is its true character, is evinced by the fact that it has drawn forth the bitter invectives of Santa Anna and then editors of the National Intelligencer. Gen. Scott has many friends among the Whig party and we do not doubt they will at once step forth and vindicate him from his allied assailants—General Santa Anna and the National Intelligencer.

"We publish, along with the proclamation, Santa Anna’s letter in reply to it, and we refer our readers to the
June 15, 1847, REv64i13p4c2, Later from Vera Cruz

The steamship Fashion, Capt. Ivy, (says the N. Orleans Delta, June 4,) arrived at this port yesterday from Vera Cruz, having left there on Sunday forenoon, the 30th ult.

Verbally we learn that the Mexicans were busy fortifying the pass at Rio Frio, between Puebla and the City of Mexico.

Gen. Scott, with the rear of the army, was to have left Jalapa on the 29th ult., and would arrive at Puebla on the 4th inst., where it is presumed he will await the arrival of the reinforcements being forwarded to him, before he advances farther.

We have heard a rumor that Herrera has been elected President, but cannot trace t to a reliable source, and we think the result of the election could scarcely be known at the capital so soon.

From the American Eagle we learn that the diligence which left Vera Cruz for Jalapa on the 22d ult., without passengers, but with three trunks filled with very fine dry goods, was stopped two miles beyond the National Bridge and robbed, and then burnt and destroyed. The driver and postillion who accompanied it were released and made their way to Jalapa. The diligence which should have come into Vera Cruz on the 24th ult., only came down to where the other had been destroyed, and at once returned. This, it is feared, will put an end to the use of diligences on the road. The robbery was no doubt the work of Mexican banditti. We come now to a more atrocious act by the same

H. M. Brackenridge, Esq., a distinguished Whig of Pittsburgh, has written several eloquent letters in vindication of the present way, and the rights and honor of the nation. Unlike his party, he takes the side of his own country, and speaks out boldly like a patriot. We regret that we have not room for his last beautiful letter. We are constrained to confine ourselves to a short extract:

"The address of General Scott, to the Mexicans, dates at Jalapa, is a document which does him honor, and at the same time does no more than justice to the American character. It breathes the most noble and chivalrous sentiments, and is distinguished by an elevated and magnanimous tone of morals. We behold an American army invading a foreign country in the course of a war, defeating the armies of the enemy, taking their towns, not only without committing a single act of violence on the defenseless, but scrupulously regardful, in the minutest particular, of individual immunity, excepting in cases purely accidental, or unavoidably consequent on military operations. The moment the battle is fought, and the victory won, our soldiers are seen rendering the most touching offices of humanity to the wounded enemy, as if they had been comrades. How different from the Mexican practice of killing the wounded and stripping the dead! Such is the mildness and humanity of the American victors, that their thousands of prisoners feel themselves at once in as perfect security as if they were in the midst of their own people. Their wants are liberally supplied, the little boy and his pet lamb, and the little girl and her pet dove, are spoken to with kind and soothing words, by those who just before were fighting with armed men, and with the fierceness of lions. It is not any wonder that such traits should excite admiration, or that the multitude of captives, who have been set free, have been forbidden by their own despotic rulers to enter the cities, on account of what they are in the habit of relating, not only of the courage and prowess of the Yankees, but still more of their strange and unaccountable humanity and generosity.

"In the cities occupied by the American troops order is immediately restored, and measures taken to command the most perfect security to the inhabitants, man, woman and child. Scarcely a day has passed by, when all classes, excepting the assassin and plunderer, feels a degree to security hitherto unknown. No one is molested in his house, no one fears to go forth into the streets, while their places of worship are held sacred, -Everything is as safe as in one of our own peaceful towns. This certainly is to divest grim-vi-saged war of its worst terrors. Gen. Morales, who had seen the conduct of our army after the taking of Vera Cruz, advised the people of Jalapa to remain quiet at their homes, and look upon the Americans as their best protectors, and for this he has been denounced by the military anarchists of the country as a traitor. Notwithstanding the slanders of the war party in Mexico, a party interested in making the war interminable, there is little doubt that the inhabitants of Puebla and the capital will hail the arrival of the Yankees, as that of deliverers, from the cut-throats and robbers, brought to the surface by the fermentation and disorganization of their own society. One mighty effort will shorten the war, and, even, save expense. If there be no central government in Mexico capable of forming treaties, we must raise up and treat with separate States and confederacies, taking care to secure sufficient guaranties for their fulfillment. We often see the expression, 'Stop the war—stop the war.' It is for Mexico to stop the war; she can do it at any moment, but it is not in our power. We may submit, we may renounce all our demands, we may leave all matters unsettled and consent to remain, no in a state of doubtful peace, but unavoidable and unending warfare, consequent on having no definite settlement of differences, or regulation of intercourse. Two nations in this situation are always at war, because always in collision. Suppose we withdraw our armies, is there any rational man who can suppose that, in thus implicitly confiding in Mexico, we can obtain a treaty of peace, or that she will renounce her pretension to the Sabine as her boundary? One of her very last pretensions, is a claim for indemnity for the loss of Texas, and all expenses of the war in that country since the year 1836! If we should lose the grasp we now have, she would laugh us to scorn, and treat us with contempt.”

[BJM]
"HORRID. –It is with pain mingled with a desire for vengeance that we undertake to relate another massacre of our countrymen in the most cruel and brutal manner. In our paper of last Saturday (only one week) we announced the fact that Col. Sowers was in this city as a bearer of dispatches to Gen. Scott, and today we are called upon to inform the public of his horrid death—not with his enemy in front to oppose him, but cowardly shot by those who dared to show themselves.

"It appears that he left this city on Saturday last with an escort of five men and Lieut. McDonnell of Capt. Wheat’s company, expecting to find the captain at Santa Fe, or at the most a very short distance the other side. They arrived at Santa Fe and lodged there during the night, finding that Capt. Wheat had left: in the morning, anxious to push forward although it was ascertained that Capt. W. was some thirty miles ahead) with an addition of two more to the escort Col. Sowers set out for Jalapa. The next that we know of this little party is the arrivial of one of the men, who returned and reported its surprise and destruction. In consequence of the falsity of the greater number of similar stories, Col. Wilson, our Governor, had the man arrested as a deserter. Thus matters stood until yesterday, when developments were made by an arrival from Jalapa—the first that has reached us for a week—tending to confirm our worst fears.

"We conversed yesterday with a gentleman who arrived in the morning, and he informs us that at a point about two miles on the other side of Puente National, he saw the ruins of the diligence, underneath which was a human body stripped, with the exception of a part of drawers, and mutilated in the most beastly manner. This is supposed to be the body of Col. Sowers. Near him lay another perfectly naked and likewise dreadfully mangled. Our informant was assured that five other bodies lay in some thick chaparral a short distance from the road. Now, the number of killed, with the man who escaped, exactly corresponds with that of the party which accompanied the unfortunate Col. Sowers, and leaves no doubt in out mind of its destruction."

Our readers will recollect a party of Mexican robbers recently captured near Vera Cruz by a party of amateurs, under Col. Banks. Ten of them have been tried for robbing, secreting arms and ammunition, &c. Five have been acquitted and five convicted. The latter were sentenced to four and a half months’ work upon the public streets and thoroughfares in chains. Tow more yet it remained to be tried. We hope this example may be salutary.

The Eagle informs us, that on the 28th a party of six Mexicans, coming into Vera Cruz from Santa Fe, were attacked by some of their own countrymen, and robbed of all they had about them.

The ship Zenobia arrived at Vera Cruz from New York on the 28th May, having on board 193 troops, principally of the 4th and 5th Infantry, under command of Captain J. H. Whippie, of the 5th, 1st Lieutenant H. Price of the 4th Infantry, and 2d Lieutenant J. W. Lendrum of the 3d Infantry. Fourteen of the men were recruits for several regiments.

We note the (illegible) to Vera Cruz. They have published instructions to the unacclaimated, full of good sense.

June 15, 1847, ReV64i13p4c3, Conditions of Peace

The Whigs will find fault with the Administration, whatever it may do. At one time they hurled the most bitter anthems on the President, because, as they wantonly alleged, his design was to push this "war of conquest" and ruthlessly to annex the whole of Mexico to our Union. Beaten from this position, and compelled by facts too stubborn to be overcome, to admit that the Administration is willing to close a peace with Mexico upon terms which a large majority of the American people regard as most liberal and magnanimous on our part, they change their tone, and argue that, had the same spirit of moderation been evinced by the Administration, this bloody and unnecessary war would have been avoided, and the heavy loss of American blood and treasure been averted. Yesterday’s Whig quotes the following passages from the leading article in the Democratic (illegible) upon “the State of the Country,” and remarked, that if the writer "correctly delineates the policy and purposes of the Administration, we must confess that the terms upon which it is willing to make peace with Mexico, though not at all to out liking, are less harsh and exacting than, from intimations proceeding from other high sources, we had previously supposed.” We, of course, do not attach very great importance to the correctness of the writer’s expositions, but are willing, for the present, to assume them to be authentic:

"We believe, in the first place, that the administration is willing to make to Mexico every possible concession in point of form, and to allow the defeated party in the war to prescribe its own rule of diplomatic etiquette in settling the preliminaries of peace. It has, for this purpose, clothed Gen. Scott, the commander-in-chief of the American army, with power to treat with the authorities he may find in Mexico, and send Mr. Trist, the second officer in the State Department, down to aid and instruct him in carrying out the views of the President. Nay, should the Mexicans desire, or consider it a special mark of attention, Mr. Buchanan, the distinguished Secretary of State, will himself go down and negotiate in the city of the Aztecs.

"As to the cession of territory demanded of the Mexicans, the administration will not claim it as a forfeit, but offer to pay for it, so as to acquire it by purchase. We want a clear title to it; and the administration considers purchase the very best of all titles.
"The expense of the war we will not claim from the Mexicans, and the indemnity which she owes our citizens will be assumed by the government of the United States. We shall then claim no money of Mexico in any shape, and are willing to accept land in payment of our just demands.

"As to the territory to be ceded or sold to us by Mexico, we are of opinion that it will no comprise more than Upper California and New Mexico, and that our government will not insist, as a condition of peace, on the right of way across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec; but rather make this a subject for subsequent friendly negociations between the two sister republics."

As to the first proposition, the Whig asks "if Mr. Polk is now willing to permit Mexico to 'prescribe her own rule of diplomatic etiquette,' for example, at this time, why was he so indignant at her refusal to permit him to prescribe that rule, when he sent her, in the person of Mr. Slidell, an Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, to negotiate upon all the subjects in dispute between the two countries, instead of the Commissioner, to adjust the question of boundary, whom alone she had agreed to receive?"

The official documents expressly contradict the position here taken by the Whig. As soon as the resolutions annexing Texas were passed by Congress, Almonte, the Mexican Minister at Washington, demanded his passports, declaring that the action of our Government would justify war. The Administration, however, resolved upon doing every thing to conciliate Mexico and terminate the difficulty amicably, instructed Mr. Black, the American Consul at the City of Mexico, "to ascertain from the Mexican Government whether they would receive an Envoy from the United States, entrusted with full power to adjust all the questions between the two Government, though Mr. Pena y Pena, agreed to "receive a Minister from the United States in the Capital of Mexico, with full power from his Government to settle the dispute in a peaceable manner." Mr. Slidell was sent as such Envoy; but, on arriving at the City of Mexico, was objected to by the Secretary of State. Two weeks afterwards, his mission was annulled by an official vote from the Mexican Secretary, requiring him to produce special powers, from the settlement of the Texas question alone. This gross violation of an express agreement was, no doubt, attributable to the public excitement raised against President Herrera for wishing, as it was alleged, to bargain away the Mexican territory, embraced in Texas. The fact is, a few days after, the Government of Herrera was overthrown, and General Paredes, a military usurper, succeeded to power, pledging himself to recover Texas by force. Mr. Slidell, who had retired to Jalapa, repeated the proffer of peace to the new Mexican Secretary of State, Mr. Castillo y Lanzas, stating that the President was sincerely desirous of preserving peace between the two countries. A few days after Mr. Slidell (illegible) rejected, his passports were sent to him, and he returned to the United States.

Is it not evident that the objection to Mr. Slidell, as a full Minister, was a mere quibble to disguise a gross violation of an express agreement, and that, in the excited state of the public mind on account of the Annexation of Texas which led to the overthrow of Herrera, no change of policy in our diplomatic intercourse would have induced the Mexican rulers to enter upon a negotiation, even of the boundary question alone? Paredes was hoisted into power, pledged to wrest the whole of Texas from the "Northern invaders," and he would not therefore listen to any proposition, however "conciliatory or complying." This is demonstrated by his orders to the commanding General on the Rio Grande, before he could have possibly heard of the march of General Taylor from Corpus Christi, to cross the river and take "the initiative" in making hostilities. His cry was for war, and not for peace –and any argument that the war was brought on by our Government stickling for diplomatic etiquette, is refuted by history.

In reply to the Whig's assertion, we contend that the President has, from the first clash of arms, been ready and willing to make peace with Mexico. We shall not now go into the question of the march of our army to the Rio Grande. It is enough to know, that the war was recognized by Congress as the act of Mexico, and the President was fully provided with men and money to prosecute it vigorously. Not a work was then raised against the pursuit of the insolent foe into his own territory, to punish the murders of our citizens, and other wrongs inflicted upon us. The cry of "lawless invasion," "was of conquest," was not then heard. With the full acquiescence of the nation, the army crossed the Rio Grande. It is enough to know, that the war was recognized by Congress as the act of Mexico, and the President was fully provided with men and money to prosecute it vigorously. Not a word was then raised against the pursuit of the insolent foe into his own territory, to punish the murders of our citizens, and other wrongs inflicted upon us. The cry of "lawless invasion," "war of conquest," was not then heard. With the full acquiescence of the nation, the army crossed the Rio Grande and victory after victory received the applause of our whole people. Still the President was not neglectful of the great object we had in view, the establishment of a permanent and honorable peace. Proffers of negotiation were again made, in the midst of our triumphs, but they were again rejected with scorn. Could the President have done more to effect a pacific settlement of the difficulty or, rather, was he not imperfectly required, by the action of Congress and the people, to push on the war, so as to weaken and humble Mexico, and compel her to listen to a negotiation of peace? That this desirable end has not been attained, is not the fault of the President nor our gallant officers and men –but is mainly attributable to the factious partisan course of Whig presses and politicians, whose assaults upon their own Government are eagerly caught up by the war party in Mexico, as conveying sympathy for their blind and infatuated perseverance in hostilities. The Administration, we have no doubt, is now, and ever has been, willing to make peace on fair, equitable and liberal terms. What more can the country, or even the Whig party, demand?

The Whig attempts to show up the inconsistency of the proposition attributed to the President, viz: to obtain Mexican territory, not by conquest but my purchase and asks, "why conquer it first, in order to buy it afterwards?" How does the Whig know that the purchase of territory was not embraced in Mr. Slidell's mission, which was so insolently rejected, under the influence of the war spirit? And is it not a matter of record, that in the summer of 1846 the President by special message called upon Congress for a certain amount to assist in arranging the terms of peace with Mexico; and that at the last session of Congress, after we had "conquered" a large portion of Mexico, a sum of money for the same purpose was placed at the President's disposal by Congress? The attempt, then, of the Whig to present this matter of "purchase" as a new question, is not sustained by facts.
We shall not undertake to discuss the propriety of the Whig’s parallel between our course towards Mexico and “the partition of Poland and the extinction of its nation existence, by then usurping triumvirate of Russia, Austria and Prussia.” It is sufficient to chronicle such assertions as indicative of how far party spirit will blind the judgement. To use the language of the Whig, we believe that the Administration did “exhaust every effort to effect its object by peaceable means, before it unsheathed the sword,” and that since the sword has been drawn, it has left untried no plan, consistent with the honor and interests of the nation, to bring the war to a close.

We do not profess, however, to be acquainted with the designs of the Administration in regard to the conditions of peace. All that we ask is indemnification for the past and security for the future. We would put away every notion of annexing Mexico to the United States, as has been most wantonly charged upon the Administration by the Whigs; nor would we do anything to denationalize that Republic, which we yet hope to see, under the influence of our free institutions, acquiring stability and strength, and acting as a barrier against the progress of monarchical principles. To secure the object we have in view, however, it may be necessary for us to hold the country to levy duties sufficient to pay the expenses of our armies of occupation, and to protect the peace party, who may be willing to organize their Government on sound principles and consummate a solid and honorable peace with us. Money she has none, and we must therefore take a reasonable portion of her territory, of no real value to Mexico, as a moderate equivalent for the sacrifice of life and the heavy expense which has been forced upon us. –It is our policy, as it should be the aim of our Government, to see established in Mexico a literal, permanent civil government, with whom we may cultivate a friendly and generous intercourse in trade and commerce, -exchanging with one another the blessings with which Nature has endowed each country. In a word, we fully sanction the following views of the N. Y. Globe:

"The original declaration of war against us by Mexico, without any justifiable cause, has been punished by a series of victories, which has placed that country at our disposal; another movement directed by a proper force, will give us possession of her capital, she is in every point of view a beaten, conquered and humiliated nation; and what adds to her humiliation, she has brought into the field to one against us, and yet she has been vanquished in every flight; she has not gained a single victory, or achieved a single exploit, but with characteristic obstinacy, she insists upon a farther prosecution of the war. We have gained all that we hoped for in defending ourselves against these aggressions, and now we have an example to set to Mexico and to the world, an example of reason, of moderation, of forbearance. We conquer not for occupation, but for defense. We conquer for peace not for territory, and beyond our just claims to a safe boundary reaching to the Pacific, it is not our interest or our desire to occupy any more territory owned by Mexico.”

[BJM]

June 18, 1847, REv64i14p1c7, Important to Discharged Soldiers

IMPORTANT TO DISCHARGED SOLDIERS. –By an act of the last Congress, approved 2d March, 1847, (says the New Orleans Delta,) $500,000 was appropriated to provide for the comfort of discharged soldiers, who may be landed at New Orleans, or other places within the United States, so disabled by disease or by wounds received in the service, as to be unable to proceed to their homes. This sum is to be applied under the direction of the Secretary of War. On the 20th of May Gov. Johnson addressed a communication to Gen. Brooke, calling his attention to the wise and humane provisions of this act of Congress, and inquiring whether, under the direction of the Secretary of War, he had been empowered to apply any portion of the sum appropriated at this point, and what arrangements, if any, had been made for carrying into effect the provisions of that act. Gen. Brooke, with his usual promptness, immediately wrote to the authorities at Washington on the subject, which was as promptly responded to in the following letter from Adjutant General Jones:

ADJUTANT GENERAL’S OFFICE,
Washington, May 28, 1847.

General: Your letter of the 20th, on the subject of discharge volunteers who are sick and in want, has been received, and I have the pleasure to inform you that the fund appropriated by Congress for their relief (500,000 dollars) is now available. Your requisition on the (illegible) at New Orleans for any funds that you may think necessary to be placed in the hand of Assistant Surgeon McCormick, in fulfillment of the object of the law at New Orleans, will be promptly met. I am, General,

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
{Signed,}R. JONES, Adjutant General.

To Brig. General GEORGE M. BROOKE,
Commanding Western Division,
New Orleans, Louisiana. 
{BJM}
The following is the dispatch from Gen. Santa Anna to which allusion was made in our last paper:

**ARMY OF OPERATIONS OF THE EAST,**
**Ayolti, May 18, 1847.**

From the moment that I arrived at this place, I learned with deep regret, through channels worthy of all confidence, that my approach to the capital with the Army of the East had spread the greatest alarm among its inhabitants, caused by the idea that it was intended to defend the city within its own walls, as also by the agitation of party interest, which putting party passions in motion, appear in this instance to have made common cause with the enemies of honor and of the independence of the nation. Alarmed by this intelligence, which, if left to its natural course, would not only rob me of the only property remaining to me in this world—my honor—but would also decidedly endanger the sacred cause which we defend, I have thought it to be my duty to suspend my march, in order to render an account to the Supreme Government of my conduct and intentions, trusting that the loyalty and candor with which I shall explain them will prevent the last and most fatal calamity which could in our present position befall our country, “distrust and discord among those who are called upon to save it.”

When I commenced the march to this city it was in obedience to a resolution adopted by the Committee of War, of which I informed your Excellency in my dispatch of the day before yesterday, in which it was determined that the salvation of the capital was not only necessary and advantageous for the ultrair operations of the war, but might be sufficient to bring it to a happy and honorable conclusion. Although fully convinced of the utility of this measure, I had notwithstanding, resolved to submit the same question, on my arrival at the capital, to another and more numerous meeting, presided over by the older general in the army, determined to respect its decision and even to resign my military power, which I also manifested to your Excellency in my above named dispatch. Such were my designs, in which I protest most solemnly not a thought of personal aggrandizement or ambition had a part. The nation has seen that since my return to the Republic I have passed my time in the field without thinking of the supreme power, until a majority of the Representatives of the nation urged me to put an end to the civil war which was destroying the heart of the nation.

Not even this complete self-denial, nor the numerous and severe sacrifices to which I have submitted, have been sufficient to destroy old prejudices. Calumny and suspicion have added fresh wormwood to the already bitter cup of my life, and under what circumstances? At a moment when I was leading to the defense of the capital an army drawn from its ruins, and when I asked of my country no other favor than to be allowed to die in its defense. Although this unexpected and undeserved return ought to absolve me from all engagements, furnishing me an opportunity to escape with honor from the extremely difficult position in which I find myself placed, yet I will not voluntarily take such a step, nor shall it ever be said that the man to whom the nation entrusted her salvation did not have the recourse to every sacrifice, including his self-love and even outward appearances, before he retreated from before the enemy, and that if ever this should happen it will be due to invincible obstacles; and finally because he had been repudiated by his countrymen.

As in my person are at this moment united two kinds of representations, both supreme—one military and the other political—which especially claim the fulfillment of peculiar duties, it is necessary that I should satisfy both. I will do so as clearly and succinctly as the straitened position in which I am placed will admit. The first requires that I should state freely and explicitly my opinion respecting the military operations under my charge and these re, that the war must be continued until we shall have obtained ample justice from our unjust aggressors; and that, to arrive at this result, it is necessary to save the capital should be occupied without resistance, the spirit of the people will be broken, and the complete submission of the country will be inevitable.

My duty as the first magistrate of the nation, at present shamefully censured and suspected by unjust and artful detractors, requires that I should remove a pretext invented by perfidy and pusillanimity in order to neutralize the generous efforts which the good citizens are disposed to make for the salvation of its independence and honor. In order to (illegible) it is (illegible) to which I have previously alluded, and of which I now repeat the following two points: First, to carry on the war on the basis before indicated, and, secondly, to (illegible) the salvation of the capital as indispensable. Being determined to admit any compromise on either of these points, I communicate the same to your Excellency, that you may impart the same to his Excellency, the President, and, should he decide against me, you will at once tender my resignation as commander-in-chief and first magistrate of the Republic, and forward my passports to retire to wherever may be most convenient for me.

It might happen, that although there may be an obsolete conformity with my ideas, it may be thought that I would be an obstacle to carrying them into due effect. I have already stated that these circumstances would be very propitious for me to escape from the critical position in which I am faced in an easy and honorable manner by a prompt dismissal from service, but I have too high an opinion of my duty. I know the obligation I contracted with the nation when I was placed at its head, and when it confided to me its precious defense. I shall never betray this trust, and a voluntary separation from the affair would make me believe myself guilty of a dishonorable desertion. My country finds me at her side, and I am determined to fulfil the mission that has been confided to me to the very last extremity, and my dearest interests and my very existence are staked on the altar of liberty and independence of my country. But as I wish to hear and to respect the sound opinion of the nation, I should with that the Supreme Government, speaking to me loyally and with candor, should make known whether I should separate myself from the trusts that have been confided to me, and I will not hesitate a moment in relinquishing them. In that case I shall have given way to respectable voices, and not to the calculations of individual interests or factions. I shall retire, tranquilly making this last sacrifice, which is that of my own opinion, and renouncing the satisfaction of spilling my
blood for my country, and standing by her in the moments of her affliction. Senores Don Manuel Barande, Don Ignacio Trigueros and Don Jose Fernando Ramirez, who are here on a friendly visit, are commissioned to be my interpreters near the Supreme Government, and I have requested them to enlarge upon these ideas, as they have listened to them from my lips.

May it please your Excellency to communicate this note to his Excellency, the President, requesting him to favor me with an answer in the shortest delay possible, to enable me to form any ulterior determination. God and Liberty!

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

To his Excellency the MINISTER OF WAR.

To this letter the following reply was immediately made by the Government through the Minster of War:

DEPARTMENT OF WAR AND MARINE,
Mexico, May 19, 1847.

[BJM]

June 18, 1847, REv64i14p4c1, Prospects of Peace

The intelligence in the N. O. papers is of a contradictory character, in relation to the election of President. The Bulletin says that Herrera had been elected President, and the clergy were in favor of peace; and that Herrera would immediately make a public declaration to that effect. –The same paper says that a late letter from an officer in Gen. Scott's army and whose situation was highly favorable for obtaining correct information, states that peace would shortly be made:

"The news, on the whole, we think, in favorable as regards peace, or at least of a disposition on the part of the enemy to make it, if the terms should be admissible."

On the other hand, it is stated positively, that the enemy were actively engaged in fortifying the Rio Frio Pass.

The N. O. National has the following article on the same subject. We trust that its expectations may be as well founded as its reasoning is sound:

"We have had the pleasure of conversing with one of our gallant officers, just returned from the seat of war, and we have reason to believe that the prospect of peace with Mexico is not altogether chimerical. –The British residents of Mexico begin to speak of such a thing as necessary, and they no doubt represent the feelings of their government; and the British nation, having great interests to look after in Mexico, can exert influence that will greatly facilitate a peace, if it choose to do so. Before the taking of Vera Cruz, the British residents of that city were very incredulous about our conquering Mexico. The battles of Buena Vista and Cerro Gordo have forced them to acknowledge the thing as done, and they now speak of the Mexican nation as no longer competent to carry on a civilized warfare.

"Again, the most intelligent native citizens of Vera Cruz and Jalapa, and the intervening country, agree that the war should no longer be carried on. They acknowledge that the Mexican arms cannot prevail; that the resources of the people are exhausted. The people are hourly becoming reconciled to the Americans. The destruction of the enormous tariffs, and annoying tolls upon the roads, has facilitated internal commerce, and destroyed the monopolies that every where weighed down the laboring classes.

"Lastly, the clergy of Jalapa, among whom are many of the most intelligent in Mexico, openly avow their desire for peace. They have learned that we are not making war upon religion, but upon the military despots that have reduced Mexico to its present degradation; of course their sentiments will have an extended influence.

"Although our reasons for expecting peace may appear at first-sight somewhat superficial, still we find more substance on which to ground a hope that the war is nearer at an end that has heretofore been presented to us."

[BJM]

June 22, 1847, REv64i15p1c2, The President and Santa Anna

Not long since we took occasion to review some of the prominent scenes in the military life of Santa Anna, and to show that, as a General, his career has been marked by nothing but cowardice, unmilitary conduct and defeat. We further contend that if Mexico had empowered the President to select a General to lead her to battle, he could not have chosen one who, with the resources at his disposal, would have met such inglorious defeats from our gallant and skilful officers and troops. The Whig thinks we have underrated the ability as well as bravery of the Mexican Ex-
or Cerrro Gordo. Nothing but revolution, dissension and defeat, has followed the advent of General Santa Anna.

These opinions, certainly, ought not to outweigh the stubborn facts with which the country is familiar, Santa Anna, we admit, is a man of talents and ready pen; his beautiful and glowing pronunciamientos are worthy of the days of Roman virtue and self-devotion; though he has, on every occasion, with marked hypocrisy and cowardice, falsified his heroic words. But that he has not the qualities to excite a popular enthusiasm, or the skill or courage to lead armies on the field, his ceaseless defeats and pusillanimous flights have thoroughly convinced us.

We, too, can quote the weighty opinions of others in defense of our position. We find the following article in the New Orleans Commercial Times:

"GEN. MINON. –This officer, whom Santa Anna denounced for a want of skill and courage an Buena Vista, has published in the Republicano a regulation of the charge brought against him –He declares that he assertion by Santa, of the want of provisions and water in the army, is a falsehood. He states that he himself had cattle to the number of 600 head, besides maize and flour, of which he apprised Santa Anna. He further asserts that the latter’s retreat was unjustifiable; that the manner of it was still more so –moving off in the darkness of the night, and leaving hundreds of his poor wounded soldiers to their fate on the field –more like a fugitive hiding from his enemy, than a general retiring to recruit his forces. It was to prevent these facts from being made public, that he, Gen. Minon, was persecuted, imprisoned and denied communication with his friends. Truth will but, it appears, and Santa Anna will shrink into a pigmy, by and by, from the inflated dimensions he gave himself, as the Napoleon of the West."

A writer in the Union, who has been in Mexico, presents the following strong and interesting facts and sound views in regards to the return of Santa Anna to Mexico. The extract is long, but it is marked with a calm and patriotic spirit, which gives it much weight. History and observation satisfy us of the correctness of the views we have formed of the character and ability of Santa Anna; and until we see reason to change our opinion, we shall continue to believe that the return of Santa Anna has been (illegible) country’s cause, instead of a fatal and reasonable movement, as the Whigs allege:

Hoping and believing that my countrymen, whatever their alliance of party, can as patriots look upon national measures independent of the one-sided views presented by partisan presses, I venture to lay before them a few facts and observations in relation to a prominent incident in the Mexican war. I allude to the consent of the government to the admission of Gen. Santa Anna into Mexico. There is no act for which the President has been more censured and ridiculed; yet there is none in the conduct of the war which could have shown a more correct estimate of Mexican character, or of the military character of Gen. Santa Anna himself. The results have in many respects, if not in all, justified that estimate.

To those whose lot has been cast in Mexico, it is often amusing, and sometimes painful, to witness among our own people the false reasoning, based upon false impressions, applied to the Mexican population, institutions, and officers. –It is natural. We reason from those of our own country to theirs; and it is difficult for a citizen of this Union to imagine, or to understand when laid before him, the degradation of Mexico; and in making up a Mexican hero, he would never take into account the vices which are essential to the character. None have professed so much by these difficulties of judgement as Gen. Santa Anna, who has, with us, been gratuitously endowed with the character of a gallant, if not that of a chivalric, chief; whereas, at home, he is known as a chief from his pre-eminence in the national vices, and for years the inconstancy of his courage has been the subject of popular talk. From the battle of Talome, at which he was defeated, (I think in 1832,) down to the present time, he has never, even among his own people, gained a battle, excepting when he has been enabled to purchase a part of the opposing army. Going before more recent events, we know the result of San Jacinto, and we know his conduct when captured there; we also now the fate of the last battle of his contest with Paredes, after which he fled his country. Then why is he a military chief? Because, as such he is a leader of a horde of banditti, which, receiving no pay from a government having no revenue, is necessarily thrown upon robbery for the means of support. –By such of the Mexican people as are not in some way connected with the military, he is detested; and is, perhaps, the only politician who, in the event of a decided overthrow at home, runs the risk of losing his life. Nothing could exceed the enthusiasm of hate by which he was forced to fly his country at the time of his late exile. Happening at the time to be in one of the remote provinces, I saw people running to each other’s houses with congratulations at his overthrow, and exulting in the hope that he would yet be caught and shot. They repeated doggerel rhymes, in which the "one-legged scoundrel" was his most flattering epithet. Now whom did the admission of Santa Anna expel from the country? General Paredes. H fled, not from the Mexican people, but from Santa Anna, whom he knew better than did the unfortunate officer over whose name I write. A more gallant spirit than that of Paredes never existed. He is too brave a man to be long a Mexican leader. Plunging into the hottest of the fight himself, he gives his followers no excuse for retreating. His small person is now covered with scars of desperate wounds, and of one of his arms but a fragment remains. Single-handed, he has had then energy and courage to quell the mutiny of a Mexican garrison. His wife, equally brave with himself, has been by his side in some of his most desperate fights. Although it is not probable that the general result would have been changed, fighting Mexicans with Paredes, of even his wife at their head, would have been a very different thing to fighting them under that “very best General” whom the President had the INDISCRETION to give them. It is pretty certain Paredes never would have set the example of flight at Buena Vista or Cerrro Gordo. Nothing but revolution, dissension and defeat, has followed the advent of General Santa Anna.
Although the acts of the administration, as those of all human beings, may be assailed for erroneous judgement, doubts of the integrity of motive of the clearness of judgement which prompts the censure must arise in the minds of all independent citizens, when they see suggested, as a motive of policy, a want of patriotism among the chief officers of the republic. To this allegation every honest man’s heart involuntarily gives the lie. No citizen, appealing to his own bosom, can believe that the President of the United States and the members of his cabinet desire the defeat and disgrace of their country. On the contrary, he must feel that, as citizens and men, they are, equally with any alive to its interests and to its successes in our present contest with an ever vicious and faithless neighbor; while, as the agents of its policy, they have an additional interest in all that concerns its glory and renown. Yet do we daily see hostility to the success of the war charged upon the administration. Such charges are too much for the credulity of the most violent, though honest opponent of the administration, and are evidences of the spirit and judgement with which the administration is measured.

FANNINO.

[BJM]

June 22, 1847, REV64i15p2c1, From the Army of General Scott

From the New Orleans Picayune, Extra June 14.

FROM THE ARMY OF GEN. SCOTT.

The steamship Telegraph, Capt. Auld, arrived Sunday evening having left Vera Cruz on the 4th inst., Tampico on the 7th and Brazos Santiago on the 9th inst.

The Telegraph brought over the following passengers from the Brazos:


[Editorial Correspondence of the Picayune.]

JALAPA, Mexico, May 22, 1847.

It seems that the affair with Santa Anna’s lancers took place at Amosoque, a small place about three leagues this side of Puebla. The number of the enemy was variously estimated at from 1500 to 2000. They charged up within cannon range with great apparent resolution, so much so that a regular movement was made to receive them; them all scampering off as fast as their animals would carry them, leaving ten men and seven horses dead on the field.

The better classes at Puebla appear well enough disposed towards the Americans, although they perhaps do not altogether like the idea that a force of 3000 men should enter a city of near 100,000 souls, and without resistance. The lower orders –the ladrones and leperos, with which Puebla abounds –are evidently but ill disposed towards us. One of Gen. Worth’s men has already been assassinated, but fortunately the murders were immediately arrested. On the alcades telling Gen. W. that according to their laws, a year and a half would elapse before the case of the assassins could be settled in the courts of Puebla, he was informed that an American tribunal would render them full of justice in a day and a half! The miscreants are now where they never will commit another murder.

It is said that supplies of all kinds can be readily obtained at Puebla. The wheat crop has just ripened and is now most abundant.

The news now is that the Mexicans have abandoned the idea of fortifying at the Rio Frio, but intend constructing a line of works at El Penol, a position about nine miles this side of the city of Mexico. Perhaps they only intend this as a show of resistance, for the sake of saving their credit; again, they may hope to raise men enough to give a regular battle to the Americans. They can collect nothing, however, but an undisciplined rabble, and these our regulars can disperse like a chaff. The more they have to contend with of (illegible) the quicker a (illegible) be created among them.

Santa Anna, after the dispersion of his cavalry, did not stop even at San Martin or Rio Frio, but kept on with all speed to the city of Mexico. Our knowledge of the state of affairs at the capital, since Santa Anna’s arrival, is limited, but it was currently reported at Puebla on Wednesday last, that on the previous day the two parties –the Polkas and the Puros –were fighting like cats and dogs. Some new revolution has without doubt broken out, but the leaders are
Gen. Scott’s last proclamation has been generally circulated at Puebla, and it is said with most excellent effect. No less than three editions of it had been printed, and still the inhabitants were calling for more. The demand for it alone would show that its effects have been salutary. The numberless horde of military drones and all the employees and hangers-on of the Government, are doubtless doing all they can to put down its circulation and deaden its influence upon the masses; but they cannot keep it out of the hands of the middle and better class of citizens, the laborious and thinking artisans, nor prevent them from perusing and pondering upon its contents.

In a letter I sent you yesterday by the diligencia I believe that I states that Gen. Valencia was coming out with 14,000 men to meet the Americans. The report is that of this number 4000 are Pintos, or Indians of the South under Gen. Alvares. They are called Pintos from the fact that after they come to manhood their faces, from some cause or other which I have not heard explained, become spotted –yellow and red. They are of little account as soldiers, and it is probable that Valencia’s men, if he has the number given him by rumor, are nothing but raw recruits. If they stop to be fired at once they will not do it a second time.

There is much speculation in the army as to what is to be the result –as to what is to be the winding up of this war with Mexico. I can see no other result than the subjugation of the country entirely, -or at least in bringing it under the protection of the United States. As a nation, Mexico is blotted out of the list; the candle of her independence is burnt down to the socket. If left to herself she would in a few months, from her utter inability to govern herself, be torn and divided by intestine commotion. No protection whatever could be given either to life or property; there are no men in the country who could make headway against the torrent of abuses that would at once creep into every department; there is no money or means with which to establish a new and stable government. What then is she to do? This is a question for wise heads to answer. Too utterly helpless to be left to herself, I repeat that the better plan would be to take her at once under our protection. Let some honest and well-meaning man –there may be a few of them left –let someone of them be chosen or selected as President, and give him the assistance of a few thousand men to keep down revolutions, and awe the hungry horde of leeches, who have so long preyed upon the country. If they raised a grito or pronunciamento, put them down by the bayonet; pronunciamientos would soon become unfashionable if the precious blood for those who started them was brought in jeopardy. Give but one of their revolutions a tragic turn –they have been costly farces heretofore –and the people would soon become sick of them.

These remarks have been hastily thrown together, but they may possibly be as good as any speculations that can be offered. He who thinks that a lasting and beneficial peace can be made with Mexico, or believes that the American troops are soon to be withdrawn, is someone who has not bee over the country; he starts in his belief from false premises, and judges a race of people by the ordinary rules which govern human nature, while it is notoriously a fact that they have long since thrown all ordinary rules at defiance. The Chinese, when they painted hideous faces upon their walls to frighten off the English invaders, were not a whit behind these people when they get up their tremendous proclamations, and flatter themselves into the belief that what they say in them is all true –that they really area a great people, and able to contend with those whom they profess to despise. Yours,

G. W. K.

[BJM]

June 22, 1847, REv64i15p2c1, From the Army of General Taylor

From the Brazos, by the arrival of the Telegraph, our news is later.

From the Flag of the 7th inst., we learn that Col. Doniphan, with a portion of his command, passed down the Rio Grande on the 5th inst. The Flag thus speaks of them:

The unshorn beards and goat and deer skin clothes of many of them reminded us of descriptions we have read of the inhabitants of some of the countries of the Russian Empire. They stopped in town a couple of hours. Col. Doniphan is a stout, rough-featured, good-natured-looking sort of a man. He brought along with him Clark’s battery, and ten pieces of cannon captured at Sacramento. The sick, &c, forty or fifty wagons, with several hundred mules, were turned over to the quartermaster.

A private belonging to this command fell off the steamboat on the 5th inst., and was drowned.

Capt. Rice Garland’s company of Rangers has been dismissed at Matamoras, some difficulty about mustering them into the service having occurred.

The Massachusetts volunteer put in prison for killing a man who refused him whisky, has made his escape. One of his companions has killed a woman in Matamoras for the same offence. The Flag loudly denounces these outrages.

A private in the 1st Indiana Regiment is also denounced for a brutal assault upon a Mr. Stip, an aged French silversmith, with whom he had a slight difficulty.
A short time after my last letter closed the town was thrown into a fever of excitement by the arrival of Gen. Wool’s camp of two Mexican officers from San Luis Potosi, charged with dispatches for Gen. Taylor. They professed to be ignorant of their contents, but to believe that they had come from the city of Mexico and contained the intelligence that an armistice had been granted, and that negotiations for peace were under discussion between Gen. Scott and Santa Anna. Eстатio was the joy of many who are “in for the war” and pine for the day when they shall rejoin their friends and families. The dispatches were immediately forwarded to Gen. Taylor by Lieut. Franklin, and the Mexican officers treated with the most marked courtesy by our officers at this post. They professed ignorance of the character of the dispatches, but believed that they above was their purport. Singular to say, this idea was generally believed; for myself, I have so little confidence in anything Mexican that I believed it to be a paper from the Department of San Luis—a remonstrance against the advance of Gen. Taylor, or something of that character. Private letters received from San Luis by citizens here, brought by the Mexican officers, announce that the inhabitants were in a state of excitement from the expected approach of our army from this quarter, which was looked for by the 28th inst. The dispatches arrived here on Tuesday and were immediately forwarded, and the protracted absence of the bearer, Lieut. Franklin tended to excite the curiosity felt to be apprised of their contents.

About 1 o’clock today he returned. And lo! The bubble burst! The important dispatch was a communication from the Governor of San Luis Potosi, announcing that he had heard of the intended approach of the American army, and begging to inquire whether it was the intention of the commanding general to conduct the war according to the usages of civilized nations, of according to the manner adopted by the Camanches. What reply Gen. Taylor will make to a question and communication of so insulting a character I cannot say, but I am told his usually even temper was considerably ruffled upon reading it, and he is said to have remarked that he should think the Mexicans had become pretty well acquainted with (illegible) conducting war before this. If they have not it is certainly no his fault, for he has tried hard enough to beat it into them. There is no doubt that we shall march upon San Luis at a very early period, as soon as a sufficient number of troops arrive from below, and from San Luis to the city of Mexico. A communication received from Gen. Scott by Gen. Taylor a few days ago, giving a brief account of the battle near Jalapa, directs Gen. T. to move at once, or as early as possible, from San Luis, where he expected the letter would reach him, to the city of Mexico. So that Gen. Taylor will not probably remain any time at San Luis, unless he receives orders there, but leaving garrison for the lace, will proceed with the residue of his command to the city of Mexico. The command will probably never retrace its steps this way, as there will be no occasion for it. I have, therefore, a fair prospect of “reveling in the halls of the Montezumas,” as well as some other people, as if I live through the campaign and return via Vera Cruz, I shall have seen quite as much of the country as I care about.

Speaking of health, Saltillo appears to be a very healthy place, and the temperature is really delightful. The mornings, evenings and nights are cool, and a good breeze prevails through the day, rendering the atmosphere pleasant and agreeable in the shade—in the sun I confess it is hot. And yet there is now a great deal of sickness among the Mexicans mostly children, and the number of funerals of the latter are really quite alarming.

Col. Doniphan with the residue of his command arrived at camp this morning and reported to Gen. Wool. It is thought that this artillery companies under Capt. Weightman, attached to this command, will consent to remain with Gen. Taylor. Well, let us hope that the new regiments will stand up to their work quit as well as the old, and if an opportunity occurs, distinguish themselves as their predecessors have done. We cannot doubt them. It is scarcely probable that there will be any resistance, at San Luis, yet the Mexicans may make a stout one. An order has just been received from Gen. Wool, by the two Mexican officers who brought the despatchers from San Luis, to report to him tomorrow morning, at 8 o’clock, for an answer to their despatches.

June 22, 1847, REV64I15P2C2, Important from Mexico City

We have received by the way of Tampico, (illegible) the Capital as late as the 29th of May. This is a week later than the papers received last week by the Oregon, and full as late as the private advices from the Capital.

Santa Anna’s letter of resignation, which we gave on Friday last, is published in the papers of the 29th May, but we know nothing of the action taken by Congress on the subject. We find also a long manifesto addressed to the nation...
In the city of Mexico everything is manifestly in a state of confusion, and almost unlicensed anarchy. General Bravo has resigned not only his command of General-in-Chief, but also his commission of general of division. General Rincon is said to have done the same thing. More of the causes in our next.

It is true that General Almonte is under arrest though the causes of his imprisonment are not avowed. He is confined in Santiago Tlaltelolco.

The death of General Scott was for several days reported in the city of Mexico, and generally credited. The error was discovered, however, prior to the latest dates.

Gen. Ampudia has been directed to wait further orders at Cuernavaca. What suspicious thing he has done or contemplated, we are not informed.

Gen. Valencia and Gen. Salas were ordered to leave the city of Mexico on the 24th ult., for the city of San Luis Potosi, to take command of the army of the North.

The accounts we find in the Mexican papers of the disaffection in Zacatecas confirm those we published a few days since. The official paper of the State publishes wrong representations made against Santa Anna and in favor the Americans-Gen. Scott’s manifesto among the latter. The latter document is also given in all the papers of the capital.

Gen. Arista has refused to resume his military functions until his conduct should be investigated by a military tribunal. He demands that his trial may take place at once, in order that he may take part in the defense of the country.

The Legislature of Durango voted for Seno D. Francisco Elloriaga for President. Upon the first ballot, Elloriaga received eight votes, and Santa Anna six. Elloriaga was the former Governor of the State, and it will be recollected ran Santa Anna hard for the Provisional Presidency, in the last election by Congress.

The Sate of Tamaulipas has voted for General Almonte for the Presidency and Zacatecas for Senor Jose Maria Lafragua.

The Legislature of Oajaca, (which has been denounced by the revolutionary party in that State, voted for General Herrera. The new Legislature voted for General Santa Anna for President.

If this last vote be allowed to General Herrera, the result of the election so far will stand thus: General Herrera 4 votes, Angel Trias 3 votes, Senor Ocampo 1 vote, Senor Elloriaga 1 vote, General Almonte 1 vote, and Senor Lafragua 1 vote. Give the vote of Oajaca to General Santa Anna, and you have the seventh candidate for the unenviable station of the President of Mexico.

SANTA ANNA - - The Clergy, and the Capital- We find in the *Patria* of yesterday,(says the N.O. *Times*) a very interesting letter from the city of Mexico, dated the 22nd ult. The writer says that everything was in the greatest state of confusion at the Metropolis. The men at the head of the Government knew not what was to be done, nor in whom to confide. Santa Anna, in an evil hour for his own popularity, persecuted an evil hour for his own popularity, persecuted a Minon; the latter who does not seem to be a man who will be trodden upon with impunity, wrote a defense of himself, which was published in the *Republicano* of the 16th and 17th. Ult. We gave a summary of Minon's countercharges against Santa Anna, in the *Commercial Times* of the 11th inst. Their evident truth forcibly struck the minds of all, and on the Dictator's arrival on the 19th, the leperos, or mob of the metropolis, assailed him with the foulest epithets. “Death to the traitor, who has sold us to the Yankis!” was shouted on all sides; and he was most ignominiously pelted with stories, by the very population that had formerly almost idolized him. The writer says he (Santa Anna) had taken his precautions, which enabled him to avoid a misfortune, which would have proved a blessing the hapless Mexican Republic. By the (illeg.) being killed by the infuriated leperos. Santa Anna escaped their vengeance, and shut himself up in his palace, the guard at which had to be considerably reinforced to prevent a successful attack. There he remained up the date of the letter secluded from all.-It was this unpopularity, no doubt, which led to his tendering his resignation of the Presidency- the place had suddenly become too hot to hold him.

THE PRESIDENCY.- The writer of this letter says that it is confidently believed in the metropolis that Gen. Herrera will be elected President, and that he will forthwith open negotiations with the Yankís.

June 22, 1847, REv64i15p2c3, Letter from Mexico, The duel

The following letter appears in the *Philadelphia Ledger*.

CHINA, MEXICO, MAY 21st, 1847

My Dear Sir- An express is just starting for Camargo, and I avail myself of it to communicate to you, as a friend of Lieutenant Mahan, the information which will probably reach you before this, of the fatal meeting between him and Lieut. Munford, of the same regiment. I was present on the ground as the friend of Lieut. Mahan, and a more honorable meeting never took place.- They fought with muskets-advancing as they chose, they fired when within thirty yards of each other, both falling seriously wounded. Lt. Munford cannot survive, whilst Lieut. Mahan, although he received three several balls, is not considered mortally wounded, and is doing very well. A statement of the whole affair will appear in a short time, prepared by myself, and signed by all the parties on the field. I have only time to add that Lieut. Mahan has acted with a firmness and resolution which do him great credit, and his friends have nothing to fear, either for his character or for his life, as he is doing very well. They met on the 20th inst. At 6 p.m. Break this sad news to his family, and assure them that he shall receive every attention in my power to bestow; that he wants for nothing, and so long as he is with us shall not. He is now in my quarters, and my 1st lieutenant being a physician, every advantage is taken of any favorable symptom. Tender to his family and friends my assurances of sincere sympathy, and also of my determination to allow him to want for nothing which can add to his comfort or conduce to his speedy recovery. Do not allow any misstatement of this affair to become public, but, if necessary, show my letter to contradict them. By the first opportunity, I will write to his father, and forward to him and to you a statement of the whole affair, from which you will discern that Lieut. Mahan ha only acted as a gentleman, and as a man of honor is compelled to act when placed in such trying circumstances. He does no suffer any great deal of pain, and the Lieut. apprehends nothing very serious.

In great haste, your obliged friend.

[BJM]

June 22, 1847, REv64i15p4c1, Important from Mexico

Santa Anna’s letter of resignation.

The schooner *Zenobia*, Captain Brown, arrived yesterday from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the 3rd June. The steamer *Telegraph* was to sail from Vera Cruz I two of three days.
By this arrival a copy of the *American Eagle* of the 2nd June was received in town, and through the kindness of a friend we have obtained the use of it. It contains Santa Anna’s letter of resignation, which we give below, as translated by the editors of that paper. Congress had not acted upon it at last accounts.

The *Eagle* says that this resignation was followed up by that of General Bravo, as Vice President. There is probably some confusion in this. As we understand it, the Vice Presidency was abolished to get rid of Gomez Farias, and has not been re-established. General Bravo, was recently in command at Puebla, and yet more recently was at the head of what is called the "Army of the Centre." He may have resigned this post.

The *Eagle* says that the election for President will take place on the 15th June, By this we presume is meant that the votes will then be officially counted, and the result declared. We have no further returns by this arrival, but the Eagle thinks Generals Herrera will be President.

General Scott reached Puebla on the 28th May, the day before General Twiggs arrived there. Everything was quiet in the city, our soldiers and the inhabitants being apparently on the best terms.

A small reconnoitering party of our troops had been met some twenty miles beyong Puebla, -They had encountered no enemy so far. The Mexicans are erecting works a short distance this side of the capital, but the *Eagle* treats them as unimportant and no likely to be completed.

The *Eagle* gives it as a report that Gen. Almonte is a prisoner, on an accusation of holding correspondence with General Scott.

Benj. Thomas, sergeant major of the 1st Infantry, died on Sunday, the 30th ult., in Vera Cruz, and was buried on Monday morning with military honors. The sergeant was a valuable officer, say the Eagle, and his demise was regretted by all who knew him.

It has been ascertained that only one man was killed with Col. Sowers. The imprudence of the colonel in venturing ahead of his party cost these two lives.

The Eagle gives it as a report that Gen. Almonte is a prisoner, on an accusation of holding correspondence with General Scott.

The report we have of the health of Tampico is very unfavorable. Many cases of yellow fever had occurred and they were on the increase. It is said, though we hope this is an exaggeration, that on the morning of the 2nd inst. Only one sergeant and two men out of Company E, Louisiana Volunteers, reported themselves for duty, the rest being sick.

A naval expedition against Tabasco, under then commodore in person, was talked of at Vera Cruz as about to start at once. The following vessels were mentioned as likely to compose it: The frigate *Raritan*, sloop of war *John Adams*, ship *Germantown*, the (illegible) the *Spitfire* (do,) the *Scorpion*, and the gunboats *Bonita* and *Mahoncse*. Should the sloop of war *Albany* arrive in time she would probably join in the expedition.

We will not detain the reader longer from the letter of Santa Anna:

**MEXICO, May 29, 1847.**

*Your Excellency: Since my return to the Republic I have had but one grand and sacred object in view, which has solely occupied my mind –for which object the nation recalled me: it was the defense, the integrity, the independence of my country. My efforts were unlimited, and I worked incessantly for this object. On my arrival I found nothing –neither army nor resources. I succeeded in my exertions, finally, and procured both.*

*I gave the nation to understand that I was taking charge of its government, in a manifesto published on the 22d inst., in which I related the successes which have attended our arms up to my arrival in this capital, and also the motives which moved my return, and the benefits that might result from it. Arrived at the head of only part of an army, in the greatest destitution and disgrace, in order to reinforce this garrison, and entered with the full power to obtain everything that was necessary for its defense. So successful have I been that I can now with pride say, that the city of Mexico is provided with means of defense to resist all the efforts to subdue it which the enemy can now command.*

*I have always refused supreme power, except in cases of emergency, whereby the interests of the nation might be endangered. At pr4esent, circumstances require from me a sacrifice of all I possess, which sacrifices is even attended with danger and a gloomy prospect, besides disgrace attached to it: this is no less that the consecration of myself, by marching forward and setting at defiance the calumny and perfidy of my enemies, and with deeds of valor revenging myself against them for their venomous imputations. –This I am ready and willing to perform, if in any way the result thereof can benefit my beloved country. I am fearful, however, that such will not be the result, and I have come to the conclusion, that by holding the seat of the chief magistracy I will be fomenting impediments against the attachment of my most ardent wishes.*

*The enemies of my country have emissaries in every part of the Republic, whose artifices mislead and create distrust and calumny to such an extent that it is impossible to convince the Mexicans other than that I am an insuperable*
It is easy to perceive the reason why they spread such reports to my detriment—men who are afraid to defend the country with such force, and are fearful that they will not enjoy it as long as I am at the head of the Government. They are well aware that my determination has been to put down the different parties which have endeavored to destroy one another, which, even now, have entirely forgotten the common danger, in order to be benefited by such division, hoping that a change may place them in power, and free them from their responsibility to the nation. The foreign enemy’s policy is to foment such a division; in order to obtain it, they have selected me as the most probably person by the ruin of whom it may be obtained. I am consequently a target for the shafts of all parties. Therefore, my position is full of danger; but I do not fear it. The difficulty lies in preventing me from doing what I could to save the Republic. The intrigues of a revolution are well known. On that account, the enemy are now advancing towards Puebla and Mexico, as they have been given to understand that a revolution would take place in the capital. With on act alone I can stop such a revolution, which I consider is the most important service I can render the Republic—that act is my present resignation as President pro tem. Of the Republic, with which my nation has honored me. I am fully persuaded that this resignation will save the country. I respectfully request the Sovereign Congress to accept immediately my resignation, and to declare its session, in order to appoint a person well qualified to discharge the above responsible office. I have discharged my duty towards my country as far as in my power. I have dedicated y life to it—my fortune and that of my family, as well as my own reputation—my blood has been split and my limbs lost in its defense; and now with pride I forever resign my public career, without fear of disgrace, and conscious that my services have been faithful and patriotic. I any part of the world where lot may place me, I can raise my head with pride, and with satisfaction carry a name that has never been stained with shame—but, on the contrary, they will see me a faithful and patriotic Mexican, who, in all his actions, has striven for the honor of being instrumental in elevating his nation to prosperity and honor.

Your Excellency will report the same to the Sovereign Congress, in order that it may accept of my resignation, for which I will remain yours respectfully, with the highest consideration. God and liberty.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

To their Excellencies the Secretaries of the Sovereign Congress.

[BJM]

June 22, 1847, REv64i15p4c3, The Army in Mexico

The Whig press have been filled with assaults upon the Administration, because, as they say no arrangement was made to supply the vacuum left in the armies of Mexico, by the withdrawal of the discharge volunteers. These bitter partisans have indeed gone so far as to charge that the design of the President was to leave General Taylor with a miserably small number of men, so as to confine him to a mere guard duty and deprive him of all opportunity of winning more laurels. It is to be regretted that the construction of the law in regard to the discharge of the volunteers should have given rise to much embarrassment. It has been construed by the commanding generals in Mexico to require a discharge so long before the expiration of the twelve months enlistment as to insure to the volunteers abundant time to reach the United States within the period. The other, and to us more reasonable construction is, that the volunteers should be discharged at the end of the twelve months. This, we learn, was the construction put upon the law of enlistment by Washington and Jackson, and by the Administration which based upon it their plans and estimates. Had the law been carried out under this view, the volunteers could have been retained in Mexico until their numbers could have been more that supplied by the new recruits.

But even as things are, the Whig press have attached so much importance to this point, and have dwelt so zealously upon the curious misrepresentations of the truth, that we deem it proper to re-publish the striking facts set forth in the Union:

Our attention has been called to an article published in the New York Courier and Enquirer of the 14th instant, in which it is charged upon the "Union" that it has misstated the amount of force of the armies under Major Generals Scott and Taylor, and that the actual strength of their columns will be much less than represented, &c.

It was stated in the "union," that when the reinforcements which have been ordered my the War Department for Major Generals Scott and Taylor should all have reached their destination, those generals would have under their command—the former nearly 20,000, and the latter nearly 10,000 troops. On inquiry at the Adjutant General’s office today, we are confirmed in the correctness of the statements heretofore made in reference to the troops which have been provided for the armies in the field. The force under the orders of Major General Scott—exclusive of the twelve-months’ men, say 3,500—amounted, on the last of March, to upwards of 11,000 aggregate. Since that date, reinforcements of regulars (old and new legiments) to the number of 5,000 must, it is believed, have reached the seat of war in that quarter; which number, by the last of June, will be still further augmented by some 3,500-making the aggregate to: under the orders of Gen. Scott at that date, say 19,500; which includes the garrisons of captured towns, and is subject to a deduction on account of the casualties of the service during the last two months. On the other hand, however, Gen. Scott will be further reinforced by the quota of volunteers under the April calls, assigned by his command—some 2,000; and by further accessions of regular troops—say 2,500. The force provided for the main army in Mexico will not, we have reason to believe, be less than 20,000.
The measures taken by the War Department to reinforce the army under Gen. Taylor, we have said, will provide a force of at least 10,000, which, we have every reason to believe, will be realized.

Regular Troops

Fourteen companies, old regiments, (nine of artillery and five of cavalry) 1,200
10th regiment of infantry (10 companies) 866
13th regiment of infantry (6 companies) 469
16th regiment of infantry (10 companies) 1,097
3rd regiment of dragoon (5 companies) 400

When these regiments are completed to the establishment, the regular infantry will be increased to more than 3,000, which will make the regular force assigned to the “army of occupation” at least 4,500 men, old and new regiments.

Volunteer forces

The four regiments of volunteers from Massachusetts, Virginia, North Carolina, and Mississippi, when mustered into the service during the past winter and spring, amounted to 3,469; which no doubt, from what we can learn, has been considerably reduced by sickness and other causes. Deduct, say 15 per cent.-which would make that force now, probably, not to exceed 2,949, this, added to the regulars above, would make the present force under General Taylor 6,981.

The volunteers called out in April, assigned to the division of the army under Gen. Taylor, equal four regiments and two companies, which ought to give a force of at least 3,700 men. The regiments from Indiana and Ohio will soon be en route for the seat of war, as the call was promptly met in the quarter. The strength of the volunteers being raised, added to the present force, makes an aggregate of 10,508.

The above is exclusive of the Texas volunteers now in service, which it is known amount to more than 1,600 men. It will, therefore, be seen that the aggregate force under the command of Major General Taylor will be considerably beyond 10,000.

We know not, nor is it for us to say, what portions of the forces in the field will be fit for duty as the phrase is; and it is far from our purpose to magnify the strength of the army. We may say—what it is supposed everybody must know—that great allowance ought always be made, on account of sickness and other casualties, always incident to an army in the field, especially in a southern country like Mexico, during the unhealthy season of the year.

We lay the preceding statements, which we have derived from the highest official source, before our readers. Let us add, in justice to that source, that it states the truth, without regard to politics. Upon many points we are unfortunate enough to differ with the head of that bureau; but we have every confidence in his honor, his integrity, and his truth. In fact, there are the records in his possession; here are the muster rolls. He neither would nor can change their character. We lay these statements this evening before our readers, in the boldest and most unimpassioned form. We may take up tomorrow the charges which have been made against us, for our past expositions of the strength of the army by the correspondents of the "New York Courier" and of the "Picayune," and the remarks made by their editors. Meantime, what must we think of the recklessness which charges us with misrepresentation, when this writer from the camp (in the "New York Courier and Enquirer") says thus?

“The twelve-months men being now about to be discharged, there will remain with Gen. Taylor, and under his command, the following troops:- 2,300 volunteers, 300 mounted Texans, and ten companies of regulars-making the whole number about 3,200 men. There have been allotted to him four of the new regiments, and a few of these troops are daily expected to arrive at Matamoras. Admitting that these regiments are full and here, it would then only make the force on this line about 6,100 men, and you can safely say, that 30 per cent of the new arrivals will be sick and unavailable.”

Look at this statement about the Texas volunteers alone. We understand, from the best authority, that the force of Texas volunteers, now serving under Maj. Gen. Taylor, is composed as follows:

Six companies of twelve-month men, whose term of service does not expire until September and October next. Strength of the six companies, say 400.
Death of Major Bosworth, Paymaster, U.S. Army.

The U.S. ship Massachusetts, Capt. Wood, arrived last evening from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the evening of the 11 inst. The Massachusetts brings over 155 sick and wounded soldiers, under charge of Dr. Tudor, besides the following passengers: Mr. Joseph Harrod, Dr. Tudor, U.S.A., Purser Bryan, of the navy, and Mr Bosworth and two servants.

The following deaths occurred on the Massachusetts:

C. Gaines, of the Mounted Rifles, and John Drew of company 1, 7th Infantry, died on board before the Massachusetts left Vera Cruz, and were sent on shore for interment on the 11th June. One the 11th June, John Pope, of the Mounted Rifles, and John Smith, of company C, 7th Infantry, died at sea. On the 13th, J. F. Carson, South Carolina Volunteers, died. On the 14th, D. Scurry, South Carolina Volunteers, and H. Heck, 2nd Dragoons. On the 15th, L Grover, company E. Mounted Rifles

The vomito is represented as on the increase at Vera Cruz. We regret extremely to say that Paymaster Bosworth, who sailed from here only on the 18th ult. sickened and died in Vera Cruz of the vomita. His remains were brought back on the Massachusetts in charge of his brother.

Quite the most important intelligence brought by this arrival relates to an attack upon a large train by the Mexican guerrillas, which has been partially successfully. By the Fanny we learned that a train was to leave Vera Cruz on the morning of the 5th inst. for Puebla, under command of Lieut. Col. McIntosh. The train had in charge $225,000 in specie, of which sum one hundred thousand belonged to the Paymaster's Department, the remainder to the Quartermaster's. One hundred and twenty-five wagons and six hundred pack males were in the train, which was escorted by 800 troops.

The train left Vera Cruz on the night of the 4th inst. and Sunday the 6th, when it had advanced about twenty-five miles, it was attacked by a large party of guerrillas. The place was well selected for the purpose by the Mexicans, being represented as a defile broad enough for a single wagon only. It is said, too, that slight works had been thrown up by the Mexicans to obstruct our advance. The attack was made upon each extremity of the train and upon the centre at the same time, the principal point, however, being the wagons, which were supposed to contain the specie.

Private accounts represent that the attack was so far successful that forty of our wagons were destroyed, though not those containing the specie-two hundred mules loaded with subsistence were taken, and thirty of our men killed. The American Eagle of the 9th says our loss is variously estimated at from four to twenty, but private accounts, from responsible sources, give the loss as we have done, at thirty men.

The check was so severe that Col. McIntosh determined no to hazard an advance without reinforcements.- Our troops accordingly entrenched themselves behind their wagons, and despatches were sent off to Gen. Cadwalader at Vera Cruz. The general left on Monday evening, the 7th inst. With a force of about five hundred men and four howitzers.-Private accounts say further that on the 10th a part of the voltigeurs also left, with four howitzers, to join the train.

The Eagle represents that our troops received the attack with the utmost coolness, and that the enemy, being repulsed, fell back towards the Puente Nacional, which some suppose they may attempts to defend. No later news from the train had been received the morning of the 11th, the day the Massachusetts left. On the 10th a large mail was despatched to this port on the propeller Washington, which may be hourly expected.-Her letters may bring us further details.

No later news had been received from the army of Gen. Scott. The reason is obvious, for the present, at least, the communication has been entirely cut off. We do not regard this as at all alarming, for General Cadwalader will no doubt open a passage to Jalapa at once, but it indicates a necessity for some cavalry force upon the line to clear away the brigands which infest it, and who must have mustered in a greater force than had been anticipated to attack a train guarded by 810 troops.

But the audacity of these guerrillas does not stop here. They are entering Vera Cruz and stealing our horses. For several nights alarms had been created in the city by these predatory attempts. Private letters say that 60 horses were stolen from one pen in the immediate vicinity of the town. A regiment of Texas Rangers, it seems to us, would find ample scope for employment in the vicinity of Vera Cruz.

The steamers Palmetto and . . . (illigible) . . . arrived at Vera Cruz on the . . . (illigible) . . . inst. The schooner General Worth had also arrived with one company of . . . (illigible) . . . have arrived from New Orleans in search of a runaway slave. Her pursuit is represented as successful.

We await anxiously our letters by the Washington. [BJM]
General Almonte was arrested on the 23rd May, having been appointed on the 21st General in command of the state of Vera Cruz. No reasons are assigned in any of the papers up to the 26th. Some of the papers strongly disapprove of it.

A new paper, called *La Guerra*, (The War) has been started in opposition to *El Razonador*, and it advocates Santa Anna’s principles strongly.

In *El Republicano* on the 28th May there is an article upon the defence of the Capital, and the propriety of removing the seat of Government into the interior. The editor urges upon the authorities to defend the capital to extremities, and says, that the work of erecting fortifications is going on actively. But this part of the article is not in his usual bold strain. From the tone of it, and from private letters from the Capital, which we have seen, we feel persuaded that little opposition to General Scott’s entrance into the city will be made. *El Republicano* urges strenuously that the seat of Government should at once be transferred. Then, should the Capital fall, it urges the Government will still exist, and form a centre of union and a rallying point. The Editor urges the point with such force, that we are persuaded he anticipated formidable opposition to General Scott’s advance.

In an earlier article upon the subject of the defence of the Capital, *El Republicano* sets down the troops available for the purpose as follows:

The garrison then in the Capital, (the 26th of May,) was not far from 10,000 men, while they were to arrive, says the Editor, from the State of Guanajuato 3,000, from Michoacan, 2,000 and from Queretaro 1,000. We infer from allusions made to an article in *El Razonador*, that the latter paper ridicules the idea of making any defence of the city.

About 4,000 men, volunteers or national guards, quartered at the barrack of San Domingo, belonging to Gen. Urage’s command, were ordered to return to their occupations until they would be instructed otherwise, as the Government had not the means to support them.

*The Liberal Verdadero*, of Guanajuato, says that great preparations are going on there to supply the army with several pieces of artillery, from 4 to 12 pounders. All other arms were undergoing repairs and tailors and women were active in the arrangement of uniforms.

An American prisoner in Mexico writes on the 28th, that Gen. Scott was expected to enter the Capital within eight days, and he did not anticipate any formidable opposition. Gen. Worth found in Puebla a large quantity of tobacco belonging to the Government.

Whilst exercising supreme power, Santa Anna, on the 22nd ult. directed that every prosecution against military persons should be at once set at large. The services of such men are thought to be of sufficient importance to the Government to justify this clemency. It looks like an attempt of Santa Anna to strengthen himself with the soldiery.

It is thought that the resistance anticipated at Rio Frio has been much exaggerated, as the Mexican papers say nothing of it. And speak only of the fortifications in the immediate vicinity of the capital. They also state that an advance party of Gen. Worth had reconnoitered the road as far as Rio Frio.

Five hundred infantry, perfectly armed and equipped, arrives in the city of Mexico on the 24th ult. from Queretaro. They belonged to the National Guard of that state and were sent to aid in the defence of the capital.

The “valiant” Ampudia has published an address to the nation, vindicating is conduct at Monterey.

We are at a loss to understand (says the *Picayune*) the various movements among the military chieftains of Mexico. We have the resignations of Santa Anna, Bravo and Rincon and the arrest of Almonte, all within the space of eight or ten days, and the departure of other generals to remote points and Santa Anna during the time was exercising full sway, and extending every indulgence to the soldiery. It looks as though parties were marshalling their forces for a struggle for power among themselves, rather than to defend their country against a foreign foe.

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The great battle of Cerro Gordo has furnished new food for the London press. Of course, borrowing their arguments from the Whig journals here, they continue to denounce our country for "the slight cause for which this war was entered upon by the authorities at Washington"- the "trivial pretext" upon which an "immense amount of misery has been inflicted upon an unoffending people," for the "severance of the province of Texas" by U.S. agents, which engendered hostilities in the hearts of Mexicans- and for "the brigandage of unauthorized attack" which no excuse "can convert into a legitimate war." But we do not intend to refute these comments upon the causes of the war. AS long as our own Whig press takes sides against their own Government, it is not to be wondered at that British journals, in their jealousy and dread of Republican progress, should seize the occasion to vituperate and deprecate our conduct in the eyes of the world. But we do mean to refer to the tribute which the London press if forced, by the
brilliant events of the war, to pay to American military skill and valor. It is not long since we quoted the remarks of the London papers, sneering at the puny efforts of our “rabble militia” to assail and conquer the myrmidons of Mexico. The rapid succession of victories, however, capped with the triumph of Cerro Gordo, have forced the London critics to swallow their words of disparagement, and extorted from them a compliment to American power and military energy.

... (illegible) ... can campaign as one in which “conquests bring no particle of credit, and fighting no prospect of peace, and in which it is equally impossible to applaud the victors or commiserate the vanquished,” it is compelled to confess that “there is not much doubt, but that the Americans can march to Mexico, and could have done so long ago.”

“The Americans have already got all the sea coast, the customs the chief forts, and the chief towns, and while we write, they have probably got the metropolis of their victims. They have dispersed their armies, captured their generals and destroyed their materials, but it is confessed that “the war seems about as far from its close as when it started and it is now to be seen what force will be brought to bear against a people whose self-sufficiency suffers by no discomfiture, whose delusions are dispelled by no defeats, and who can dispense with a government, a capital, or a coast, as easily as with character or credit.”

The London Chronicle speaks still more emphatically of the triumphs of American prowess and military skill:

“As far as the success of their military operations is concerned, nothing more conclusive can be conceived than the late movements of the United States generals against the forces that the Mexicans have been able to oppose them in the field. It is impossible to read the accounts of these successive actions without something like a feeling of contempt for the beaten party, so strong an effect do the triumphs of military prowess exercise on the mind. Almost despite of the claims of justice, and of compassion for the countless and unoffending thousands whose fates are inextricably bound up with those of the beaten troops, one is tempted to exclaim, that they who know so on how to defend a country are not worthy to possess one ... The prize of empire—so all history tells us—bears inscribed upon it the legend ... (illegible) ... .

They (the Mexicans) forget “in their imaginative gallantry” that a thousand Bayards could never break a modern square of infantry, nor resist a modern charge, if they had not themselves passed through the hands of the drill-sergeant. They will not trust to their best allies, their deserts and their yellow fever, but must needs fight great battles, which invariably terminate in one result—disgrace and defeat. The courage displayed by the Anglo-Americans throughout the action is unquestionable, and yet it does not appear to have been a bloody one on either side.”

In the following passages, the Chronicle pays the highest compliment to the energy and foresight of General Scott, and the enduring valor of his army:

“The opinion entertained by the United States officers of the powers of resistance of their opponents may be inferred from General Scott's orders issued to the various Generals of division on the day preceding the action. Never, in the directions issued by any of the greatest European commanders, do we remember to have seen a greater confidence manifested in what must be the result of his operations. Success is assumed on every point, and the direction to be taken by each division, after forcing each point of the Mexican entrenchment’s, is as clearly marked out as though the result had already taken place. We are bound to say, that the unlimited confidence placed by General Scott in the troops under his command, has been justified by the event. His victory at Cerro Gordo appears to have been by far the most brilliant affair of the war. He describes himself as being absolutely embarrassed with the results of his own success—prisoners of war, heavy ordinance, small arms and accoutrements. Undoubtedly, if military resistance be the only obstacle to be apprehended by the Anglo American Generals in their advance upon Mexico, we shall expect shortly to hear of the fall of that city, as we have just heard of that of Vera Cruz.”

The London press profess to feel an anxious hope for the termination of this “disastrous war,” which, if the conquest of the country be aims at, “this generation will not see accomplished.”

However, we may reprobate the charges brought against us, of extravagant designs of dominion, we cannot deny that there is some force in the following remarks of the Chronicle. If the Whig press had taken the same reasonable view, and not given hopes to the public enemy, peace would long since have been established:

“Perhaps the best thing to be wished for in the interest of the Mexicans themselves, is that the success of the United States Generals should be still more rapid, and decisive than it has hitherto been, in order that they may be driven to make terms at once, and by a definite sacrifice purchase the retreat of their invaders.”

[BJM]

June 29 1847, REv64i17p2c, Highly Important from Mexico

Arrival of the Steamship Galveston.

... (illegible) ... Fights with the Guerrillas-One hundred Mexicans killed and wounded, and forty or fifty Americans-General Cadwallader attacked by a large party—Battle at the National Bridge.
The following highly important intelligence was communicated to us by Lieutenants Floyd and McWilliams, of the 2nd Pennsylvania Volunteers, who came over on the steamship Galveston, this morning at 6 o'clock. On the 8th a small recruiting party, together with some citizens and disbanded soldiers, in number about 150, with 75 armed men, and thirty mounted, left Puebla for Vera Cruz. This party was under command of Captain Bainbridge of 3rd Artillery. On leaving Jalapa, and getting near Cerro Gordo, this party was informed that it would not be prudent to go through the pass as there were about 4,000 Mexicans in the chaparral along the pass. Previous to this, two officers who had gone to the rear of the train were fired at from the chaparral. At the mouth of the pass, the party was organized and marched through without meeting an enemy. Arrived at the Bridge that evening. Whilst they were bivouacked on the other side of the bridge, being so fatigued that they were unable to furnish a guard, they were informed that some persons were barricading the bridge. A guard was then stationed between the bridge and the encampment, to prevent the party being surprised. At this time signal lights on the ridges and cliffs were distinctly seen.

Before daylight, the sick and wounded of this little party were removed to Santa Anna's hacienda, a quarter of a mile from the bridge. A scouting party was then sent out, and also a party to clear the bridge, which was done without any opposition. The main body of the army then passed over the bridge. Every thing appearing then to be safe and all danger being passed, Lieut. McWilliams and Mr Frazer . . . (illegible) . . . side of the bridge. Just as they were entering the bridge, a party of about twenty-five Mexicans appeared on the ridge, and fired several volleys on them. The wagon master and four others who were passing the bridge, were fired on and the whole five were killed and a wagon was captured of no great value.

After the fire had ceased a party of lancers appeared on the bridge and seemed to be preparing to charge, but seeing that Captain Bainbridge's party were preparing to receive them, they wheeled their horses and galloped off.

Captain Bainbridge resumed his march in good order, followed by 400 or 500 of the lancers, who hung upon his rear and flanks for four or five miles, but at a respectable distance. Thus hemmed in, this little party pursued its way until it arrived at the Pass of La Volta, where Col. McIntosh had encamped with his large train.-The Mexicans who had attacked Bainbridge's party were the same who had compelled Col McIntosh to halt and wait for reinforcements.-The party remained that night in McIntosh's camp, and during the whole time the Mexicans kept a continual fire on the camp, approaching with great boldness very near . . . (illegible) . . .

On the next day Capt. Bainbridge's party resumed its march to Vera Cruz, being joined by Capt. Duperu's dragoon, who were sent back to get their horses. This company with its gallant captain, had behaved very handsomely in the attack on McIntosh's camp. Its gallantry was the theme of universal praise and admiration in the army. Indeed, it was generally admitted that Col. McIntosh's command was saved by the gallantry of Duperu's party. Bainbridge's party continued their march to Vera Cruz, where they arrived in safety. In the meantime, Duperu's party, having a long return train to guard, and being threatened by a large body of lancers, halted at Santa Fe, where they were charged by a greatly superior force, which they gallantly repulsed, killing many of the enemy, and suffering no loss themselves. It was said, however, that some of our wagons were cut off and the drivers taken prisoners. Capt. Duperu arrived safely in Vera Cruz, having lost three killed and three wounded.

On the day Capt. Bainbridge's party left McIntosh's camp, Gen. Cadwallader had arrived, with a force of 800 men and two howitzers. The two commands were then joined, making, in all, about 1600 men, with two howitzers, under command of Gen. Cadwallader, and pushed on towards the National Bridge.

On approaching the bridge Gen. Cadwallader occupied the heights commanding the bridge from which the enemy had fired on Capt. Bainbridge's party, where he was attacked by a large force of the Mexicans, posted in the ridges and chaparral, and some hard fighting was carried on for several hours, the Mexicans losing more than 100 men, and Gen. Cadwallader losing some 15 killed and some thirty or forty wounded. The Mexicans were repulsed the bridge was successfully passed by Gen. Cadwallader, who was on . . .(illegible) . . .

There is a great deal of dissatisfaction in the army, respecting the conduct of the command which had charge of this train. There will be a court of inquiry into the subject.

The garrison at Jalapa ha been broken up, by order of Gen. Scott, and all the sick and Government stores have been sent to Perote castle, so that this line of communication is entirely closed. Gen. Scott has had a road opened from Perote to Taxpan, the distance being less than one half that from Vera Cruz to Perote, and Taxpan being a healthier place.

The success of the attack on McIntosh's command has given great confidence to the guerrillas, who are swarming in great numbers through the country, and attacking all our parties, large and small.

It was chiefly owing to the gallantry of Major Bennett, the Paymaster, that the specie wagons in McIntosh's party were saved. He was I one of them himself when the wagon was attacked, and fought like a tiger.

We are pained to hear that the fine charger sent out by the citizens of New Orleans to Col. Harney was captured by the Mexicans. Their daring was so great that they even lariated a woman who was in the wagon, but she was rescued by our men after some hard fighting.

There are about 1000 men in camp at Vera Cruz.
Gen. Shields was at Jalapa and was about to leave for the U. States, when he received an order from Gen. Scott to join him at Puebla.

There are no preparations to defend any point between Puebla and the Capital. All the odds and ends of the army are collected in the city, about 20,000 in number, but poorly armed, and of miserable material. There was a small . . . (illegible) . . . at the City of Mexico, which was easily put down by Gen. Bastamento. It was got up by factions of the peace party and of Gomez Farias party. Their cry was "down with Santa Anna!" but the President still maintains his power and influence. Congress has refused to accept his resignation.

We have about 6000 men at Puebla, under command of Worth and Quitman.

Gen. Scott will remain at Puebla until he is reinforced. Gen. Bravo is in command of the army at the Capital.

Santa Anna has published quite a flaming account of the affair between him and Gen. Worth, at Amozoque. The truth is that he had a large force of cavalry, which was attacked by Col. Duncan's battery and Maj. Bonneville of 6th Infantry. He did not wait to receive more than one volley, from which, however, he sustained a heavy loss, and then fled in the wildest disorder towards the Capital.

Since the above was written, we have learned that, in the affair between Ge. Cadwallader and the Mexicans, at the national bridge, the company of Lieut. Blaky, (of Richmond Virginia) of the newly raised volitiguers, with two howitzers, charged the barricades and swept them with a few discharges from the howitzers. In passing through, however, Lieut. Blaky received a heavy fire from the enemy on the ridge which commands the bridge, by which he sustained a loss of one killed and four wounded, the Lieutenant himself being wounded in the leg. They also lost several horses. The heights were then charged on the right and left of the road and gallantly carried, the enemy flying from before them in great confusion. When Gen. Cadwallader had passed the bridge, he was attacked by a large party of guerrillas, who kept up a continued fire on his men for a long distance. At Cerro Gordo it was thought, from the reports of heavy firing, that the enemy had made a stand in great numbers, though no apprehension was entertained for the safety of Gen. Cadwallader's command, who was moving in a bold and steady manner, the only way to deal with the Mexicans. Capt. Gates company of 3rd dragoons being sent by Gen. Cadwallader to the rear, to reinforce the guards of the train, were attacked by a large force of Lancers, whom they repulsed with considerable loss.

There is much sickness at Vera Cruz, but very little in the Castle. Col. Wilson publishes a card in the *Eagle* pronouncing the statement of Col. Mata, that La Vega had been confined in the guard-house of the Castle, to be false.

The little party, who cut their way from Jalapa to Vera Cruz, and so narrowly escaped the many perils that surrounded them express themselves under the greatest obligations to Capt. Bainbridge, Mr. Karns and Adj. Dutton for their coolness, prudence and judgement in conducting them in safety through their many dangers.

Gen. Cadwallader is much praised for the energy and promptness of his movements to the rescue of McIntosh and for the bravery and skill with which he scattered the swarms of guerrillas, grown confident by the success of their previous enterprise.

Gen. Scott was at Puebla at the last accounts. The editors of *El Arco Iris* had received dates from the Capital up to the 23 of June, Santa Anna had a second time sent in his resignation of the Presidency. Congress had not, however, up to that time, accepted it. He had also made a formal renunciation of his office as Commander-in-Chief of the army; which, like his resignation of the Presidency, remained in abeyance-Congress not having acted upon either.

Rejon, and five other generals, whose names are not given, had been arrested and sent to the different States for confinement.

The gallant Capt. Walker has commenced his work of retaliation on the guerrillas. On the morning of the 8th inst. He started with his command from Perote on an expedition some distance into the interior. During the expedition, he succeeded in capturing nineteen guerrillas and an alcalde. He has employed them in cleaning the streets and sinks.

A letter had been received in Vera Cruz on the 15th inst. previous to the sailing of the *Galveston*, direct from the headquarters of Gen. Scott, stating that Gen. Scott had issued orders for the removal of the Government from Vera Cruz to Tuxpan. This change was said to be, in part, owing to the sickness I Vera Cruz, and because communication could be more easily kept up between Tuxpan and Puebla than between the latter place and Vera Cruz. All the public stores in Vera Cruz would, in that case, be removed to Tuxpan, and troops, only sufficient to garrison the place, left at Vera Cruz. The activity displayed among the different vessels in the harbor of Vera Cruz, in shifting the cargoes from vessels having but small portions of Government property on board, into other nearly full, with the evident intention of a move, would go far to confirm the rumor of a change in the base of operations.

[BJM]

June 29 1847, REv64i17p2c2, Later from Vera Cruz
Threatened attack on Tampico—Arrival of General Scott at Rio Fria—Proposals for Peace.

We issued an extra on Sunday, giving the exciting news of which we were put in possession... (illigible)...

The steamer *James L. Day*, Captain Wood, arrived this morning. She left Vera Cruz on the afternoon of the 16th June, touching at Tampico on the morning of the 17th, and Brazos St. Jago on the afternoon of the 18th.

Her news is one day later from Vera Cruz... (illigible) this arrival, centres in the report communicated by the James L. Day, by Mr. Clitton, the pilot of Tampico, who boarded her on the 17th off the city. He stated that they were in daily expectation of an attack from the Mexicans, who were reported to be 1,500 strong in the vicinity of the city. On the night of the 12th June, a demonstration was made by the Mexicans in Tampico to rise. The American authorities, however, had timely information of the contemplated movement, and to suppress it, if attempted, called out the troops, who lay on their arms all night. There was then no demonstration of revolt made.

On the 15th inst. a party of Mexicans lancers attacked the outposts at Tampico and drove the sentinels into the city. On the 16th a party of rancheros attacked the pilot station and were greeted by a discharge from half a dozen muskets, when they retreated.

The barque, *Mary of Baltimore*, put into Tampico on the 16th inst. for supplies and repairs.—She was bound for Vera Cruz with 200 volunteers, which she landed at Tampico.

The most important part of the intelligence brought by this arrival is the flattering prospect of peace. Capt. Wood, of the Jas. L. Day, informs us that information had been received at Vera Cruz before the Day left, that Gen. Scott and Worth, with the main body of the army, had advanced as far as Rio Frio, without opposition, and were met at that place by a deputation from the capital, with propositions for peace. The exact tenor of the propositions were unknown; they were, however, of such a nature, that Gen. Scott refused to accept them, and was determined to push on his forces to the capital. From the deep anxiety felt by the new government, if the term government can be applied to any party or power in Mexico, to stay the march of our forces on the capital, it was thought that further concessions would be made to Gen. Scott before he took up his line of march from Rio Frio.

**BY THE SOUTHERN MAIL**

(From the *New Orleans Picayune*, June 18)

The towboat *Mary Kingsland*, which arrived yesterday from Vera Cruz, touched at the Brazos and left there on the 13th inst. She brought over Capt. Conner, of the Texas Volunteers, Capt. Wm. B. Archer and Lieut. Pegram, of the Virginia Volunteers; Lieut. Phaw, of the Nort Carolina Volunteers; Mr. Atwood, the artist; and the following officers of the 2nd Indiana Regiment, with six companies of the same, making 360 men:

Col. Bowles; Lieut. Col. Hadden; Majors Cravens and Mooney; Capts. Sanderson, Dennis, Davis, Briggs, Rousseau, Kimball, Graham and Young; Surgeon Walker; Lieuts. Rice, Loud, Tele, Rose, Cagle, Shanks, Haggatt, Burwell, Stropes, Davis, Schoonover, Kemple, Hostet, Beerfield, Erwin, Pennybacker, Pennington, Payntle, Epperdon and Hagan.

Mr. H. W. Pierce also came passenger on the *Mary Kingsland*, having in charge the remains of three of the first Mississippi Regiment.

By this arrival we learn something more of the deplorable duel in the Virginia Regiment which we published in our paper of the 1st inst. Since which time we had not till now been able to learn a word more of the affair. The parties engaged in it were Lieut. Mahan of Capt. Bankhead’s company, and Lieut. Munford, of Capt. Carrington’s company. The latter died immediately, being shot through in several places. Lieut. Mahan was alive at last accounts from him, but it was thought could not survive, having been shot directly through the body. Further particulars are given in our correspondent’s letter.

The *Flag* of the 9th inst. gives, upon the authority of Capt. Benedia, of the schooner *Madonna*, which had just arrived at the Brazos, the following account of the wreck of the brig *Mobile*, bound from New York for Brazos Santiago, with 180 troops of the 10th Regiment U.S. Infantry, under Capt. Andrews, of Buffalo, N.Y.

During a strong breeze from the Southward, on the night of the 23rd ultimo, the above-named brig was driven ashore on Orange Keys, Florida coast—her masts were cut away, and every exertion made to ease her, but she soon bilged and settled down, the sea making a complete breach over her. About forty of the troops took to the boats and reached the Keys—the boats were dashed to pieces, which cut off all further communication between the vessel and Keys, rendering the condition of both parties extremely dangerous. Such was the situation of the wreck on the morning of the 21st, when the schooner *Madonna*, Captain Benedict, bound from Philadelphia to the Brazos with Government stores, discovered it, and at the risk of losing his own vessel Capt. B. bore up to the rescue. At imminent peril and with great exertion, he succeeded in reaching and rescuing the men who were on the Keys, and was proceeding to render what assistance he could to those on the wreck, when the bark Alabama, from Liverpool to Havana, hove into sight, and by hoisting signals and firing guns, she was induced to come to anchor about five miles off. The troops, with their arms, ammunition and supplies, were then taken from the wreck by Captain Benedict, and
placed in safety on the *Alabama*, which vessel proceeded with them to Havana, whence they will doubtless be reshipped to their destination.—The *Madonna* was got under way, and reached the Brazos on Friday last, (the 4th inst.,) 15 days from New York.

This detachment of troops has since reached the Brazos from Havana and encamped near the mouth of the river.

Col. E. G. W. Butler, of the 3rd Dragoons, arrived at Matamoras on the 10th inst.

The *Flag* corrects its statement that Capt. Rice Garland’s company of Rangers ha been disbanded.

We have several acts of brutality recorded in the *Flag*. In one case a party of miscreants-Americans, we are pained to say- insulted a Mexican woman in her own house, and killed her husband, who interposed to save her. One of the party is in custody.

The proprietor of the Resaca House in Matamoras was robbed of 1,500 dollars on the 10th May.

A man by the name of Simmons, in the employ of the Quartermaster, was shot on the 7th May by the guard, who interposed to save Simmons’s wife from a beating by her husband.

*List of deaths in the General Hospital at Matamoras, Mexico during the month of May, 1847—May 1, Jackson Rodgers, 1st North Carolina Volunteers, 6th, Miles Boyce and Thomas Wehrines, do; 7th, Samuel J. Spooner, 1st Virginia Volunteers, 8th, James L Barnes, 1st North Carolina Volunteers, and Gurgen H. Shultz, 1st North Carolina Volunteers, 9th, Joseph Proctor, do, and Henry Walters, U.S. Voltigeurs; 10th Caleb G. Patterson, 11th Infantry; 11th, Amzi Campbell, 1st Tennessee Cavalry; 13th, Hudson Cooper, Voltigeurs; 19th, William Downie, 10th 10th Infantry; 20th, J. C. Devone, 16th infantry, and Bennet Thompson, 3rd Dragoons, 22nd Reece Carroll, 3rd Infantry; 23rd, Benjamin Little; 1st North Carolina Volunteers; 28th, William Abrams, do; 29th, Emmanuel Myers, Voltigeurs; 30th, Charles H. Gray, 3rd Dragoons.*

GEO. H. DENTSTON, Ward Master.

(Special Correspondence of the *Picayune.*)

Monterey, Mexico, May 30, 1847

When I wrote you last, we were all full of the expedition to San Luis, and active preparations were making for a march at an early period, but now everything is knocked in the head. General Scott has thrown a bombshell into this division of the forces, which will utterly preclude the possibility of General Taylor’s advancing for many weeks, and probably will put an end to the expedition. Seven of the ten regiments have received orders to repair to Vera Cruz and join General Scott.

The 2nd Mississippi Regiment and Capt. Fairfax’s company of Virginia volunteers probably entered Saltillo this morning. I passed them in camp about ten miles this side of that place yesterday afternoon, the men all pretty well beat out by the march, the road, being a terribly hard and rough one. Two companies of North Carolina volunteers and one of Virginia volunteers, Capt. Harper’s left last night for Saltillo, and the 2nd Battalion of Virginians, who are expected up from China in a few days, will immediately proceed to the same place, I regret to be compelled to state that a most unfortunate and bloody affair has occurred in that battalion between Lieuts. Munford and Mahan. A quarrel occurred which resulted in a challenge from Lieut. Mahan, which was accepted and each party left to the selection of his own weapons; the meeting to take place in one hour after the challenge was received. The parties met, accompanied by friends, and were armed with muskets, loaded with buckshot, and pistols. The distance agreed upon was one hundred yards, each party to advance and fire at will. Each man advanced about ten yards and took aim, but recovered and advanced about fifteen paces further, when both parties fired at the same moment and both fell, mortally wounded. Lieut. Munford died very soon after, and no hopes were entertained for the recovery of Lieut. Mahan. There was also a disturbance occasioned by some of the men refusing to obey orders and be placed under arrest, in which some of the officers were roughly handled, but they succeeded in reducing the ruffianly fellows to subordination. Mescal was the cause.

There is a good deal of sickness here, but not of a serious character, and but few deaths have taken place.

*Adios, J. E. D.*

MONTEREY, JUNE 1, 1847.

Although we cannot advance upon San Luis, it is thought there may be some skirmishing on the road from here to Camargo, Urrea having again plucked up courage, become tired of masterly inactivity, and being now at the head of a large force of lancers. It has been reported that he was at Tula, but the report was not credited; but I was yesterday informed at headquarters, that positive information had been received that Urrea was at the head of 4000 cavalry this side of Victoria. It is probable that the force is over estimated. If the gentleman should show himself, I suspect the old general will make another push to take him. A few days ago he might have made a very pretty little speculation, as a large amount of specie was brought up.
Talking of specie, and American, who has been doing business in Zacatecas for some years, arrived here a few days ago with $160,000 in Mexican dollars of this year's coinage. He converted his property into hard cash, and succeeded in smuggling it out of the country. Here he obtained drafts on New Orleans from Paymaster Hunter.

I wrote you on the 30th ult. and my letter stated that Col. Hays was on his way hither with a full regiment of Texas Rangers, but upon inquiry, it turns out that he only has five companies of the same regiment that Henry McCulloch came out with, and as they were enlisted for six months only and came out under Col. Curtis's 50,000 call, of course he cannot be received. The Missouri volunteers did not succeed in forming the company of cavalry they expected, the sound of home being too sweet. They had the positive assurance of G. H. Taylor that he would gladly receive as many as were disposed to re-enlist but they backed out. There may be two companies raised out of the Arkansas cavalry, but I very much doubt whether it can be done.

Four companies of the first battalion Virginia volunteers marched into town from China this morning, Capt. Mahan, who was shot in the duel which I mentioned in my last, was still alive but no hopes entertained of his recovery. A short time since a party of about thirty armed Mexicans were brought by a company of Virginians, and after undergoing an examination were disarmed and released, the alcalde giving security that they should no again be found under arms. There are about one hundred and thirty of the regiment on the sick list, but there are few of them dangerously ill. About twenty of them are to be discharged and will go home under charge of Lieuts. Allen and Pegram, who go home on recruiting service. A volunteer named Daniel Harmon, of Capt. Preston's company, Virginia volunteers, died day before yesterday.

The abandonment of the San Luis expedition on account of the withdrawal of the troops, is still the topic of conversation and a cause of universal regret. I believe Gen. Taylor freely admits the necessity of Gen. Scott's having more troops and speedily, and can only regret that a sufficient number of troops have not been forewarned. Now the very commencement of the campaign the troops have been sent out I dribblets and operations of a vigorous character prevented from this cause. Well, we shall see what we shall see. The impression seems to prevail here, to some extent that Mexico is disposed for peace. It all grows out of the statement in N. O. Delta, that the British Minister had received an application for mediation on the part of his Government from the Mexican Government. There is no news at all here.

(From the New Orleans Delta)

Further particulars of the attack on the wagon train—Murders daily committed by the Mexicans with impunity—Election of Herrera to the Presidency considered almost certain—Church party in his favor—A strong Mexican force stationed at Tabasco to oppose the advance of Com Perry.

VERA CRUZ, MAY 9TH, 1847

Eds. Delta: The train which left here the day before yesterday for the army, with an escort of 800 men, was attacked five miles from the walls of Vera Cruz by 1,500 lancers and rancheros—several men killed and 90 mules captured, in face of the whole detachment. The train was stretched out so long that it was impossible for so small a body of men to protect the whole line, assailed as it was on the extreme rear by a compact body of 1,500 lancers. An express came I the same night to Gov. Wilson for reinforcement. One hundred and fifty dragoons started out to their relief, they had hardly got out of sight of Vera Cruz before they in their turn were assailed by a large troop of lancers. They succeeded, however, in cutting their way through to the train, after suffering some little loss. These fellows had undoubtedly been apprized of the starting of this train and the $300,000 which goes with it. They have become so daring now that they actually come within sight of the city. Murders are committed within sight of the very walls, and no means whatever are adopted to bring the criminals to punishment. No example has been made to strike terror into them. Affairs are managed badly here, I am afraid. Energy-energy—we want, but energy we have not.

Some of the officers from Anton Lizardo have just arrived in the steamer Vixen. From them I gather this information: They left Alvarado yesterday morning; the old priest of that place had, a few moments before their leaving received a letter from his brother in the city of Mexico, which he read to them, to the effect, that Herrera's election would take place on the 20th of this month; the issue is peace or war; he is supported by the united Church party in Mexico. The letter states, that a continuance of the war will be 'the downfall of the Church'; that the enemy have cut off all sources of revenue to the Government; that it cannot be carried on without a sacrifice of the Church property, and it behooves them to unite with the peace party and put an end to the war; that immediately on Herrera's accession to power, propositions of peace will be made to our Government, and the writer doubts not but that peace will be concluded in a short time afterwards.

The writer of this letter is a priest of great distinction, and I place more reliance on this news than any that has yet reached us, as the officers inform me that the information they have received from him, from time to time relating to the affairs of the capital, have, in all cases, proved correct. Since the first occupation of Alvarado, to the present time, they have kept up a constant communication with the City of Mexico, and have ever found information through this source to be most reliable. Again I assure you that I pace great confidence in this news.

The squadron had all . . . (illigible) . . . Tabasco. A French merchant had arrived at Tlacotalpan, from Tabasco, just before the Vixen fell, who reports that they had determined to station forces all along the banks of the river, and fire at the Americans as they go up. They have about 2000 good troops (i.e. for Mexicans.) Com Perry will land about 1000 sailors and marines to oppose this force. The old Commodore will lead the storming party in person. He leaves
behind the two old captains this time; he thinks, I suspect, that he can get along better with the young commanders as leaders of detachments. The young officers have every confidence in the old Commodore as their leader. He cares no more for bullets than does Old Rough and Ready.

The officers speak in high terms of the gallantry of some of the Commanders of the squadron.

There are some dashing fellows among them. Buchana, Breese, McKenzie, McCluny, Adams, and Bigclow—where can you find a nobler set of fellows? And the younger ones are the boys to follow, and go ahead, too, if they find their leaders are all laggard. Success to them all.

Yours truly
J.D.J.

[BJM]
July

**July 2, 1847, RE47v44n18c4p1 Mexican Affairs**  
Report about the progress of the war and of the character of Santa Anna.

**July 2, 1847, RE47v44n18c6p1 Letter from Gen. Taylor**  
General Taylor's alleged letter addressing possible notions of a presidential run after the military accomplished its goal.

**July 2, 1847, RE47v44n18c4p1 Fire in the Rear**  
Article decrying the *National Inquirer* for assuming that Gen. Taylor was using some language borrowed from the British.

**July 2, 1847, RE47v44n18c3p2 Latest from California**  
Reports on the blockade by the Navy off of the California coast.

**July 2, 1847, RE47v44n18c5p2 From the Army of Gen. Taylor (From the N.O.*Picayune*)**  
General information about the happenings in the camp of General Taylor.

**July 2, 1847, RE47v44n18c6p2 One day later from Vera Cruz**  
Information regarding the progress of the war from General Scott's theatre and the area surrounding.

**July 2, 1847, RE47v44n18c2-4p4 Gen. Taylor (The March to the Rio Grande)**  
Democrats accuse the Whigs of trying to extend annexation to all of Mexico and how Taylor had become a pawn.

**July 2, 1847, RE47v44n18c4p4 Correction**  
A correction concerning the status of a company that had been reported as taking some casualties.

**July 2, 1847, RE47v44n18c5-6p4 Affairs in Mexico**  
General news regarding the new election of Herrera as president and any advances of U.S. forces.

**July 2, 1847, RE47v44n18c6p4 From General Scott's Army**  
News and reports concerning the happenings within Scott's military apparatus.

**July 5, 1847, RE47v44n19c3-4p1 The Whig Party Disorganized**  
Democrats praise Taylor and denounce the Whigs for opposing Taylor and his military service.

**July 5, 1847, RE47v44n19c6p1 More Evidence**  
Article describing newspaper conditions in Mexico and effect of anti-war attitudes on the Mexican press.

**July 5, 1847, RE47v44n19c6p1 General Article**  
Information about a discharged volunteer and subsequent trouble he involved himself in.

**July 5, 1847, RE47v44n19c1p2 The Effects of that Letter**  
Information that perhaps Taylor did not write the letter that was mentioned from the Signal.

**July 5, 1847, RE47v44n19c3p2 A public dinner**  
Col. Doniphan hosted a dinner for the 4th for the men returning from the war.
A few days ago Democrats accuse Whigs of prematurely choosing Taylor as their candidate.

The Government Steamers Information pertaining to Navy intelligence about resupplying U.S. forces.

The general impression Report that Gen. Scott reached the Mexican capital.

General Taylor's Letter (From the Washington Union) Speculation that Taylor will run for the presidency.

Defence of the City of Mexico

Treasures of Mexico Report on valuable artworks and architecture in Mexico city.

Important from Mexico (From the Picayune) Information concerning troop movements and battle information.

Capt. Lincoln Report on a captain killed in combat.

The Night After the Battle of Buena Vista Article relating events that occurred during the battle of Buena Vista.


Military Movements Troop movement report.

Colonel Doniphan and Colonel Xenophon

General Taylor's Letter Information about Gen. Taylor and his forces in Northern Mexico.

Gen. Taylor Superceded Article pertaining to General Scott's removal of most of Taylor's forces.

Gen. Taylor's Rebuke of the Anti-War Whigs Reference to Taylor's refute of his actions.

Affairs in Mexico Report on the state of the government in Mexico.

Important from Mexico (From N.O. Picayune) Military information out of Mexico.

British Mediation in the Mexican War Article about British mediation efforts.

Later from the Army of Gen. Taylor Information obtained later about the happenings in the Taylor camp.

Marine Journal Information pertaining the arrivals and departures out of the Richmond port.

Notice to Volunteers Article relating to volunteers about recruitment.

Important from Mexico (From the N.O. Commercial Times) Information concerning the affairs of U.S. forces in Mexico.
July 9, 1847, RE47v44n20c1p4 Later from Mexico (From the N.O.Delta)
Information concerning events in the Mexican campaign.

July 9, 1847, RE47v44n20c2p4 Capt. Williams and Gen. Pillow
Report on the disagreement that had taken place between these two men.

July 9, 1847, RE47v44n20c4p4 Payment of the Volunteers
Report on getting the promised pay to volunteers.

July 9, 1847, RE47v44n20c4p4 Capt. Edwards' Company
Report on the happenings of a local unit that was involved in a battle near the National Bridge.

July 13, 1847, RE47v44n21c2p1 Another Letter
Another supposed letter from Gen. Taylor showing up in print.

July 13, 1847, RE47v44n21c3p1 Gigantic Scheme
Idea to negotiate for the hand over of all military supplies and positions.

July 13, 1847, RE47v44n21c1p2 The Letters, Once More
More denouncements of Whigs after their conclusion that Taylor will run.

July 13, 1847, RE47v44n21c3p2 Soldiers for Gen. Taylor
More reinforcements were sent to Taylor.

July 13, 1847, RE47v44n21c6p2 Important if True
Supposed poisoning of food by Mexican irregular forces.

July 13, 1847, RE47v44n21c2p3 Marine Journal
Information pertaining the arrivals and departures out of the Richmond port.

July 13, 1847, RE47v44n21c3p4 From Tampico
News from the city pertaining to the Navy blockade as well as public health.

July 13, 1847, RE47v44n21 Later from Mexico
News pertaining to the politics of the crumbling Santa Anna administration as well as government policies.

July 13, 1847, RE47v44n21c5p4 The Signal Letter
Another article about Taylor's letter to the Signal.

July 16, 1847, RE47v44n22c2p1 Col. Doniphan's Speech
Speech by Colonel Doniphan on his exploits in Mexico.

July 16, 1847, RE47v44n22c4p1 The Anabasis of Xenophon
Article comparing the march of Kearney across the SW to the Greek march from Xenophon.

July 16, 1847, RE47v44n22c3p1 Peculiar Sources of Enjoyment
News of entertainment in Vera Cruz, Mexico.

July 16, 1847, RE47v44n22c1p2 Important from Mexico
Information regarding the latest news from Mexico.

July 16, 1847, RE47v44n22c3p2 Puebla, Mexico
Article regarding army news from the theatre near Puebla.

July 16, 1847, RE47v44n22c4p2 From the Brazos
News about happenings with the Army in Matamoras.

July 16, 1847, RE47v44n22c4p2 Departure of Troops
News of troops entering into combat from New Orleans

July 16, 1847, RE47v44n22c3p2 From the City of Mexico
Information from within the city.

July 16, 1847, RE47v44n22c6p3 From the Army
Article pertaining to information from the Army.
July 16, 1847, RE47v44n22c6p2 Vera Cruz
News out of Vera Cruz.

July 16, 1847, RE47v44n22c2p3 From California
Information out of California.

July 16, 1847, RE47v44n22c1p4 Later from the Army of Gen. Taylor
News out of Taylor's camp.

July 16, 1847, RE47v44n22c3p4 A new requisition for Troops
Information about new supplies for troops.

July 20, 1847, RE47v44n23c4p1 General Article
Information about troops.

July 20, 1847, RE47v44n23c2p2 Naval
Information about a new order to build a new steamer.

July 20, 1847, RE47v44n23c6p2 Later from Mexico
News out of Mexico relating to the Army.

July 20, 1847, RE47v44n23c6p2 Later from Vera Cruz
News from Vera Cruz.

July 20, 1847, RE47v44n23c7p2 Later from Brazos
News out of Matamoras.

July 20, 1847, RE47v44n23c2p3 Marine Journal
Information regarding arrivals and departures out of the port at Richmond.

July 20, 1847, RE47v44n23c1p4 The Taking of Tabasco
News of a successful military campaign and the capture of the city of Tabasco.

July 20, 1847, RE47v44n23c7p4 Proclamation
Letter expressing the new administration in California under Gen. Kearny.

July 23, 1847, RE47v44n24c6p1 Official-Important From the Union
Information regarding Mr. Trist and his efforts for negotiations.

July 23, 1847, RE47v44n24c1p2 The Important Intelligence from Mexico
Information out of Mexico.

July 23, 1847, RE47v44n24c7p1 Troops in Gen. Scott's Army
News about the new forces coming under Scott's control.

July 23, 1847, RE47v44n24c1p2 The Important Intelligence from Mexico
Information out of Mexico.

July 23, 1847, RE47v44n24c2p2 Troops for Mexico
News about the departure of troops destined for battle.

July 23, 1847, RE47v44n24c5p3 Most Important
Information regarding the rejection of the peace proposal by the Mexican government.

July 23, 1847, RE47v44n24c6p2 Late & Important from Mexico
Information about news out of Mexico concerning troop movement and the latest on the peace process.

July 23, 1847, RE47v44n24c1p3 Marine Journal
Information about the arrivals and departures out of the port of Richmond.

July 23, 1847, RE47v44n24c1p4 Important from Mexico
Latest news out of Mexico.

July 27, 1847, RE47v44n25c6p1 Naval
Information pertaining to news from the Navy.

July 27, 1847, RE47v44n25c3p2 From the New Orleans Times
News from the front lines.

July 27, 1847, RE47v44n25c1p3 Marine Journal
Information about the arrivals and departures out of the port of Richmond.

July 27, 1847, RE47v44n25c1p4 By the Southern Mail
Information out of Vera Cruz.

July 27, 1847, RE47v44n25c1p4 Escape of Eight American Prisoners
News of the escape from Mexican forces of eight Americans.

July 27, 1847, RE47v44n25c1p4 From Tabasco
News out of Tabasco.

July 30, 1847, RE47v44n26c7p1 Later from Matamoras
News out of Matamoras.

July 30, 1847, RE47v44n26c5p1 From Chihuahua
Information about events in that Mexican state.

July 30, 1847, RE47v44n26c5p2 General Lane to General Wool
Letter between officers praising their service.

July 30, 1847, RE47v44n26c4p2 General Wool and the Volunteers
News about the resignation of Gen. Wool.

July 30, 1847, RE47v44n26c1p2 Recruiting Station
Information to new recruits.

July 30, 1847, RE47v44n26c4p4 The Late Captain Stevens T. Mason
A eulogy on the life of a military man.

July 30, 1847, RE47v44n26c1p2 From Matamoras
News out of Matamoras.

July 30, 1847, RE47v44n26c5p4 The Wilmot Proviso and Colonel Benton
Article on the dreaded Proviso.

July 30, 1847, RE47v44n26c6p4 Naval
News out of the Navy.

July 30, 1847, RE47v44n26c5p4 Stinging Rebuke
Journalists letter refuting apparent unpopular sentiment back home.

August

RE47v44n27 August 3, 1847, Interesting Scene
Details on the Fourth of July Celebration in Monterey.

RE47v44n27 August 3, 1847, Fourth of July Monterey
Speeches of Generals Taylor and Cushings.

RE47v44n27 August 3, 1847, The Battle of Huejutla
Embedded correspondent's detailed accounts on an Important Intelligence battle.

RE47v44n27 August 3, 1847, News from the South
Another published military operation in Mexico.

RE47v44n27 August 3, 1847, Discussion in Brunswick
Letter to the editor on a discussion on the Mexican War.
RE47v44n27 August 3, 1847, Volunteers for Mexico
An add for Volunteers for the Mexican War.

RE47v44n27 August 3, 1847, Miscellaneous
Gen. Taylor's pleasure trip.

RE47v44n27 August 3, 1847, Strange Story
Polk to use $3,000,000.00 to bribe Mexicans.

RE47v44n27 August 3, 1847, Another Humbug
The President is supporting Father Rey and Father McElroy, two catholic priests for chaplains in the Army.

RE47v44n27 August 3, 1847, Tardy Justice
Opinions from Whig Newspapers in New York.

RE47v44n29 August 10, 1847, Important Rumor From Mexico
General Scott's entrance into Mexico City.

RE47v44n29 August 10, 1847, News from Gen. Scott
Mexico skirmish on advance to Mexico City.

RE47v44n29 August 10, 1847, Late and Important Intelligence
Failure of Peace Negotiations.

RE47v44n29 August 10, 1847, Letter from Mexico
Important rumor of Peace Commissioners in Mexico

RE47v44n29 August 10, 1847, Another Shower-Bath for the Mexican Whigs
Editorial.

RE47v44n30 August 13, 1847, General Scott
An account on General Scott in Cerro Gordo

RE47v44n30 August 13, 1847, Miscellaneous
Latest from Saltillo and Monterey

RE47v44n30 August 13, 1847, From Texas
The U.S. Steamer Gov. Yell was lost.

RE47v44n30 August 13, 1847, From the Army
An extract from a soldier.

RE47v44n31 August 16, 1847, Gen. Scott still at Puebla
Account of Gen. Scott at Puebla

RE47v44n31 August 16, 1847, Arrival of the Fashion
Prospects of Peace

RE47v44n31 August 16, 1847, Editorial
What will the Whigs do?

RE47v44n31 August 16, 1847, The News from Mexico
The state of affairs in the Capital of Mexico.

RE47v44n31 August 16, 1847, Southern Mail
Letter from Gen.Taylor

RE47v44n31 August 16, 1847, Latest from Brazos
Arrival of the Steamship Telegraph.

RE47v44n33 August 24, 1847, Important Mexican Documents
Senor Pacheco named Mexican Minister of Foreign Affairs.

RE47v44n33 August 24, 1847, From the Army of Gen. Taylor
Captain Morgan arrived yesterday from Brazos.

RE47v44n33 August 24, 1847, Oregon Territory
Election results in Great Britain and their impact on the Territory.

RE47v44n33 August 24, 1847, From the Union
Rumors about Scott taking the capital of Mexico.

RE47v44n33 August 24, 1847, From Mexico
General Taylor is prepared to march.

RE47v44n33 August 24, 1847, Wilmot Proviso
The Democrats of the north defeated the Proviso

RE47v44n34 August 30, 1847, The Course of the next Congress
The withdraw of troops from Mexico comes to question.

RE47v44n34 August 30, 1847, Seven Days Later from Puebla
Arrival of the Picayune's Express from Puebla.

RE47v44n34 August 30, 1847, Mr. Brownson and the War
Editorial.

September

RE47v44n35p1c7, September 3, 1847, ANOTHER LETTER FROM GENERAL TAYLOR
From the Nashville Union

RE47v44n35p1c7, September 3, 1847, THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO
From the London Times of August 11th, 1847

RE47v44n35p1c7, September 3, 1847, CENTRAL AMERICA
President of Honduras calling for aid for Mexico from the Central American States, From the New Orleans Delta

RE47v44n35p4c5, September 3, 1847, LATER FROM THE RIO GRANDE
Intelligence from the Matamoras Flag of the 11th, 14th and 18th. From the New Orleans Picayune, August 24th

RE47v44n35p4c6, September 3, 1847, THE ESCAPE OF PAREDES
General Paredes entered and left New Orleans, From the New Orleans Picayune

RE47v44n35p4c6, September 3, 1847, CENTRAL AMERICA
On the proclamation by the President of Honduras to aid Mexico, New Orleans Picayune

RE47v44n37p1c6, September 7, 1847, MEXICO
Defense of the United States rational for war with Mexico

RE47v44n37p2c6, September 7, 1847, IMPORTANT FROM GENERAL SCOTT'S ARMY
Series of Intelligence reports regarding General Scott's army

RE47v44n37p4c3, September 7, 1847, THE MEXICAN WAR
Information to why the United States went to war with Mexico

RE47v44n37p4c3, September 7, 1847, MR. BROWNSON AND THE WAR
On the Richmond Whig's view of the way

RE47v44n37p4c3, September 7, 1847, LANDING OF PAREDES
Information of General Paredes entering New Orleans with a false name

RE47v44n37p4c5, September 7, 1847, LETTER FROM EX-PRESIDENT TYLER R
Letter from Texas by former President Tyler on the Texas situation

RE47v44n38p1c5, September 10, 1847, THE WAR
On Texas' right to be treated as an independent power
Four articles published by New Orleans' newspapers

On General Taylor's presidential hopes

Conspicuous letter received at Whig office stating General Taylor President of Mexico

Two letters from Captain Robert G. Smith

Information concerning General Taylor's army

Later from Chihuahua-Murder of Mr. James Aull-Robbery-Colonel Willock's Battalion-Progress of the United States troops, etc., etc.

Report from the 12th Infantry

A correspondent of the New Orleans Picayune writes as follows from Buena Vista

Editorial correspondence from the New Orleans Picayune

The armistice-Official Correspondence from the New Orleans Picayune, September 9

Continuation of Kendall's narrative of the events

About the proposed armistice

Spanish ambassador arrived at Vera Cruz from Mexico City after being recalled for involvemet with monarchist intrigues in Mexico

Brief information about the Virginia Regiment in Mexico

"Gen. Scott's wound at Churubusco was but slight. We are happy to hear from the Delta, that the gallant old General was so little troubled by his wound, that he would not eve acknowledge it until the battle was decided."

Quote from a letter in the New Orleans Picayune

"PEACE- The N O. Delta is informed that its contemporaries of the Patria, have late news from the city of Mexico, to the effect that articles of peace had been signed by Mr. Trist and the Mexican Commissioners."

DEFEAT OF SANTA ANNA AND VALENCIA
News of the armistice and of U.S. victories in Mexico

RE47v44n40p4c2, September 17, 1847, BRILLIANT VICTORIES! IMPORTANT FROM SCOTT'S ARMY
Information from the battles of Churubusco and Contreras

RE47v44n41p2c3, September 21, 1847, Untitled.
"A Letter from a Virginia Company B, 13th infantry, dated at the camp near Mier, Upper Rio Grande, August 23rd, says: "We will leave this delightful place for Vera Cruz in a few days. The men are in fine spirits and health, and, I am happy say, we have lost only two since we left Old Virginia. Our first Lieut. G.W. Clutter, or Wheeling, is appointed Adjutant of the 13th Regiment."

RE47v44n41p4c5, September 21, 1847, CONTRERAS AND CHURUBUSCO!
A long article on the battles of Contreras and Churubusco

RE47v44n42p1c5, September 24, 1847, THE MANIFESTO OF SANTA ANNA
What Santa Anna said to the Mexican people

RE47v44n42p1c7, September 24, 1847, THE CAPTURED DRAGOONS
Information that ten dragoons may have been captured by the Mexicans

RE47v44n42p1c6, September 24, 1847, LETTER FROM GENERAL PIERCE
A private letter written from an officer to a relative

RE47v44n42p2c2, September 24, 1847, NO MEXICAN TERRITORY
Discussion of the issue of whether or not the U.S. will acquire territory from Mexico

RE47v44n42p2c3, September 28, 1847, NO NEWS YET
No new intelligence from the Mexican capital

RE47v44n42p2c6, September 28, 1847, MORE OF THE HOAX
On a letter supposedly written by General Pillow, it was in fact written by another member of the military

RE47v44n42p4c5, September 24, 1847, UNOPINION OF THE ENGLISH NEWS
Opinions of the English news as well as letters from military to correspondents.

RE47v44n42p4c6, September 24, 1847, THE "INIQUITIOUS" WAR
Discussion of the War with Mexico and its conclusion

RE47v44n42p4c7, September 28, 1847, THE ARMISTICE
Information on armistice

October
Friday, October 1, 1847   RE47v44n44p1c4   Untitled
[N.Y. Courier] Angry that Mexico won’t accept peace treaty

Friday, October 1, 1847   RE47v44n44p1c4   Scenes upon La Plata
Letter from Mexico

Friday, October 1, 1847   RE47v44n44p2c1   No Mexican Territory
Says Whigs will refuse territory from Mexico

Friday, October 1, 1847   RE47v44n44p2c2   The Libel upon Gen. Pierce
Says newspaper printed libel against Pierce, this is information vindicating him

Friday, October 1, 1847   RE47v44n44p2c3   Col. Jefferson Davis
Article claiming information that was printed is false

Friday, October 1, 1847   RE47v44n44p2c4   Important from Santa Fe
[St. Louis Union] War news

Friday, October 1, 1847   RE47v44n44p4c1   Colonel Dickenson's Report
News and troop movements

Friday, October 1, 1847   RE47v44n44p4c5   Mexican Affairs: Paredes and Santa Anna
News that Paredes entered Mexico City and imprisoned Santa Anna

Friday, October 1, 1847   RE47v44n44p4c5   Major Lally’s Command
Letter from Lally about being attacked en route to Mexico

Tuesday October 5, 1847   RE47v44n45p1c6   As We Expected
Articles hailing the armistice

Tuesday October 5, 1847   RE47v44n45p2c1   Important from Mexico
[N.O. Picayune] letters and battle reports from Mexico

Tuesday October 5, 1847   RE47v44n45p2c7   From Mr. Lallys Train
News and information reprinted from N.O. papers

Tuesday October 5, 1847   RE47v44n45p3c1   Untitled
Opinion column about the war with Mexico

Tuesday October 5, 1847   RE47v44n45p3c1   Sketch of Battle Fields
Thankful for sketches
** too dark to transcribe

Tuesday October 5, 1847   RE47v44n45p3c1   Untitled
Extract from a soldier’s letter from Mexico

Tuesday October 5, 1847   RE47v44n45p3c2   Untitled
Soldier’s letter from Mexico

Tuesday October 5, 1847   RE47v44n45p4c1   Hostilities Recomenced
{Charleston Courier Sept 29} peace treaty fails, hostilities start again, Gen. Worth wounded

Tuesday October 5, 1847   RE47v44n45p4c2   The Late Battles
Extracts from letters about Battle of Mexico

Tuesday October 5, 1847   RE47v44n45p4c3   News from Mexico
Negotiations broken off, armistice over, two armies start fighting again. Article blames Mexico for renewing the war, says they should accept defeat

Tuesday October 5, 1847   RE47v44n45p4c4   Untitled
If Mexico tries to claim Nueces as boundary, U.S. will continue battles

Tuesday October 5, 1847   RE47v44n45p4c7   Late from Vera Cruz
** Too light to transcribe
Friday October 8, 1847  RE47v44n46p1c1   Untitled
Defines what parts of California and Mexico will be exempt from slavery

Friday October 8, 1847  RE47v44n46p1c1  Blurbs
Notes the differences between the published version of the treaty and the Mexican version

Friday October 8, 1847  RE47v44n46p1c1  Blurbs
Notes an error in saying some companies had been completely killed

Friday October 8, 1847  RE47v44n46p1c4  The Mexican News
News about the movement of the armies

Friday October 8, 1847  RE47v44n46p1c4  Forbearance has ceased to be a virtue
Condemns Mexico for rejecting peace offerings

Friday October 8, 1847  RE47v44n46p1c5  Later from Mexico
Battle of Chapultepec, Santa Anna's army driven out, Gen. Scott in full possession of Mexico city
** Too light to transcribe

Friday October 8, 1847  RE47v44n46p1c5  Letter from Gen. Taylor
Extracts from Gen. Taylor's letter denying his interest in Presidential run after war is over

Friday October 8, 1847  RE47v44n46p2c1   Different Readings
Says Gen. Taylor's letters might be false
** Too light to transcribe

Friday October 8, 1847  RE47v44n46p2c2   Untitled
Says Polk is too easy in offering peace

Friday October 8, 1847  RE47v44n46p2c3   The Spirit of the Country
Says N.O. is ready to prosecute war to the fullest

Friday October 8, 1847  RE47v44n46p2c4   The Battle of Churubusco
Gen. Rincon's report to Santa Anna
** repeats from Richmond Whig of same date

Friday October 8, 1847  RE47v44n46p2c5  The Late Battles
From the Union, News and battle reports
** repeats from Richmond Whig

Friday October 8, 1847  RE47v44n46p2c6  Mexican negotiation
Extracts of negotiations between Trist and Mexican commissioner
** Too light to transcribe

Friday October 8, 1847  RE47v44n46p2c7   The Victory
Celebration of victory over City of Mexico

Tuesday October 12, 1847  RE47v44n47p1c5  Annexation of Texas
Texas Minister to the Government of the U.S. denies he withdrew application for Annexation of Texas

Tuesday October 12, 1847  RE47v44n47p1c6  Maj. Lally's Command
Letter from soldiers under Maj. Lally, details conditions of camp

Tuesday October 12, 1847  RE47v44n47p1c7  Official
Letter from Maj. Lally to Col. Wilson at Vera Cruz

Tuesday October 12, 1847  RE47v44n47p2c1  Later from Mexico
Confirmation about Gen. Scott’s entry into the city of Mexico

Tuesday October 12, 1847  RE47v44n47p2c2  Special Correspondence
Talks about Guerrillas attacks on U.S. camps
** too dark to transcribe

Tuesday October 12, 1847  RE47v44n47p2c2  Let Justice Be Done
Says execution of deserters was necessary and gives list of where they came from
Tuesday October 12, 1847  RE47v44n47p2c4  The Nueces
Says U.S. will never surrender any land to Mexico and claims Nueces as U.S. territory

Tuesday October 12, 1847  RE47v44n47p2c6    Untitled
News about Scott in Mexico

Tuesday October 12, 1847  RE47v44n47p4c2    Description of Chapultepec
Soldier's description of the city

Tuesday October 12, 1847  RE47v44n47p4c2    Lieut. Adde
Apology for a story saying a soldier (Adde) behaved cowardly

Friday October 15, 1847 RE47v44n48p2c3  Further Mexican News
Article analyzes Mexican newspapers and says they are exaggerating the hanging of the Irish deserters, says Mexico is trying to incite prejudice against the U.S. based on the event

Friday October 15, 1847 RE47v44n48p3c1    Untitled
Call by war Department to raise new regiments [illegible]

Friday October 15, 1847 RE47v44n48p4c1  News From Mexico
News and soldiers letters from Mexico. Denies reports that Generals Worth and Pillow are killed

Friday October 15, 1847 RE47v44n48p4c2  The Late Col. Butler
Tribute to the fallen Col. Butler
** same story in Richmond Whig

Friday October 15, 1847 RE47v44n48p4c2  Letter from Capt. Bragg
Letter about attempter assassination attempt
** same in Richmond Whig

Friday October 15, 1847 RE47v44n48p4c3   The Encarnacion Prisoners
P.O.W.'s return home, get paid

Friday October 15, 1847 RE47v44n48p4c5   The News from Mexico
Confirms Gen. Scott in possession of city of Mexico, says whoever controls Mexico City controls Mexico, traces history of city

Tuesday October 19, 1847  RE47v44n49p1c4  The Origin of the War
Says war was caused by annexation of Texas

Tuesday October 19, 1847  RE47v44n49p2c5   From the Brazos
News from Mexico and call for two new companies of troops

Tuesday October 19, 1847  RE47v44n49p4c1  Battles of Contreras and Churubusco
Soldier's detailed account of the marches and battles

Friday October 22, 1847 RE47v44n50p1c6  Events in the War with Mexico
Description of the expedition under Maj. Lally from Vera Cruz to Jalapa

Friday October 22, 1847 RE47v44n50p2c1    Our Victories Fully confirmed
**too light to transcribe

Friday October 22, 1847 RE47v44n50p2c2   Mr. Kendall's Letters from the Army
Letter about the war from correspondent Kendall
**repeats from Richmond Whig October 1847

Tuesday October 26, 1847  RE47v44n51p1c5  Justice to Gen. Pillow
Story about the gallant actions of Gen. Pillow, hoping other newspapers will give him some credit

Tuesday October 26, 1847  RE47v44n51p1c6  Untitled
Arrival of troops in Vera Cruz

Tuesday October 26, 1847  RE47v44n51p1c6  Untitled
Letter from soldier at National Bridge

Tuesday October 26, 1847  RE47v44n51p1c6  Important from Jalapa
Extracts from a letter about troop movements

Tuesday October 26, 1847  RE47v44n51p1c7  Further Mexican News
Mexican General Bravo taken prisoner

Tuesday October 26, 1847  RE47v44n51p1c7  Santa Anna’s Last Manifesto
Santa Anna talks about leaving the capital and resigning the Presidency

Tuesday October 26, 1847  RE47v44n51p2c4  Gen. Bravo’s report of the storming of Chapultepec
Talks about what went wrong on the Mexican side and why Americans were so successful in battles

Tuesday October 26, 1847  RE47v44n51p4c1  The Late Battles of Mexico
Battles of the 13th and 14th of September from correspondent "Mustang"

Friday October 29, 1847  RE47v44n51p1c5  Another letter from Gen. Taylor
Taylor says he is flattered for being nominated for the Presidency, says he is flattered but will accept the post if voted in

Friday October 29, 1847  RE47v44n51p1c5  Soldier Killed
A short eulogy for Lieut. Sidney Smith

Friday October 29, 1847  RE47v44n51p2c2  Letter from Soldier in Mexico
Letter from soldier in the City of Mexico

Friday October 29, 1847  RE47v44n51p4c1  Punishment of the deserters
The court martial and sentencing of the 29 soldiers convicted of desertion

Friday October 29, 1847  RE47v44n51p4c3  From the Army
Extract of a letter from a member of the Voltigeur corps, to his friend in Washington

Friday October 29, 1847  RE47v44n51p4c4  Gen. Pillow
Tells of the praises of Gen. Pillow

Friday October 29, 1847  RE47v44n51p4c4  Untitled
Letter from a soldier

November

RE47v44n53p1c4 Monday, November 1, 1847, The New York Disorganizers

RE47v44n53p1c5 Monday, November 1, 1847, Captain John B. Magruder

RE47v44n53p2c1 Monday, November 1, 1847, Five Days Later News from Vera Cruz

RE47v44n53p2c3 Tuesday, November 2, 1847, Whig Harmony

RE47v44n53p2c4 Tuesday, November 2, 1847, The Disorganizers in New York

RE47v44n53p2c5 Tuesday, November 2, 1847, Mexican Affairs

RE47v44n53p2c6 Tuesday, November 2, 1847, Arrival from Texas

RE47v44n53p2c6 Tuesday, November 2, 1847, Letter from Buena Vista

RE47v44n53p3c1 Tuesday, November 2, 1847, By Authority

RE47v44n53p4c1 Tuesday, November 2, 1847, The Capture of Mexico

RE47v44n53p4c2 Tuesday, November 2, 1847, Letter from Major Turnbull

RE47v44n53p4c3 Tuesday, November 2, 1847, Letter from Gen. Shields

RE47v44n53p4c4 Tuesday, November 2, 1847, "We see a great deal in the Whig Press . . . "

RE47v44n53p4c4 Tuesday, November 2, 1847, "British Press and Mexican War"
Friday, November 19, 1847, The Battle of Huamantla
Friday, November 19, 1847, Mr. Clay's Pronunciamento
Friday, November 19, 1847, Com. Stockton and Gen. Kearny

Wednesday, November 17, 1847, "The Times, speaking of the armistice . . ."

Wednesday, November 17, 1847, Bold Fight of Whig Oratory

Wednesday, November 17, 1847, Thanksgiving Sermon

Wednesday, November 17, 1847, Further Dispatches

Monday, November 22, 1847, "The very extraordinary positions taken . . ."

Monday, November 22, 1847, Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Clay

Monday, November 22, 1847, "We stated Friday that Mr. Clay's . . ."

Monday, November 22, 1847, Affairs in Mexico

Monday, November 22, 1847, Battle of Huamantla

Monday, November 22, 1847, More Dispatches

Tuesday, November 23, 1847, 'War expenses . . .'

Tuesday, November 23, 1847, "Presidential candidates . . ."

Tuesday, November 23, 1847, "The Ship Senator . . ."

Tuesday, November 23, 1847, Peace Speculations

Tuesday, November 23, 1847, "We have been favored with . . ."

Tuesday, November 23, 1847, "Trial of Lieut. Col. Fremont . . ."

Tuesday, November 23, 1847, The Fremont Court Martial

Saturday, November 20, 1847, Mexicans Already Voting

Saturday, November 20, 1847, Graphic Sketch

Saturday, November 20, 1847, Accounts from Mexico

Thursday, November 26, 1847, Later from Vera Cruz

Thursday, November 26, 1847, Military Contributions

Thursday, November 26, 1847, Puebla

Thursday, November 26, 1847, Speech of Mr. Clay

Friday, November 26, 1847, Mr. Clay's Speech at Lexington

Friday, November 26, 1847, Response of the Whigs to Mr. Clay

Friday, November 26, 1847, "it is consistent with Mr. Clay's . . ."

Friday, November 26, 1847, British and American Warfare

Wednesday, November 24, 1847, "in noticing our expression of surprise . . ."
December 3, 1847: Presidential Candidates
Are the Whigs going to enter Taylor against Clay for the nomination at the Whig convention? Will Taylor be able to win?

Comments about Taylor running as a non-party candidate

December 3, 1847: Tribute to the American Character
Mexico never been as safe and secure as it is now with American occupation

December 3, 1847: The Fremont Court Martial
Gives details on who has been called to testify and what they have said—very detailed

December 3, 1847: Ten Days Late from the City of Mexico
Arrival of Col. Harney's train at Vera Cruz; returning home of Gens. Quitman, Shields,Cols. Harvey, Garland; organization of the Mexican Congress; reported removal of the government from Queretaro to Morelia

December 3, 1847: Hard Hit from a Friend
Comments about remarks made that delegates from different counties will met in Virginia to nominated Taylor

Colonel Wynkoop
Wynkoop is being blasted by Whigs because he dare speak the truth; defense of Wynkoop's recent letters which have been printed in several papers

Report from Major Lally; Lieutenant Winder and Mr. Twiggs aid to Taylor fell nobly while fighting; speaks highly of townsman 1st Lieut. John Wickham Leigh; at Cerro Gordo Lieut. L's company did good service

December 3, 1847: The Fremont Court Martial
Details on the examination of Lt. Emory; comments about the proceedings of the court

December 3, 1847: The Way to Make Peace
Kendall in one of his letters lays out a proposal on how to make peace with Mexico—quotes parts of the proposal

Another "Shower-Bath"
The Whigs have prolonged the war because Mexico might believe it has an ally within the state; quote from Wynkoop's letter
Notice of Capt. Erskine's death from the Monterey Gazette—how he died and how he was buried

Comments by the Governor of Florida about how the war exists because of Mexico

Quote about how the Whigs will be divided between Taylor, Scott and Clay and that these division will not work well together

Recognition by Taylor and Payne of the sword that will be presented to those officers for their service; war begun by Mexico; congratulations to the army for their success; cannot agree with the sympathies that exist of Mexico within the US

Praise to the governor for his remarks about the Mexican war

Zetina and the government have not reconciled their differences—Yucatan

Comments about troops movement; Indians in the area; number of Mexican troops suspected

Comments about the non-party Taylor party; problems within the Whig party over who to support

Comments about Clay’s position on the Mexican war

Comment about Clay’s position on the Mexican war

Comments about the war with Mexico—what to do about it; how it has been handled; peace process

Col. Garland who has fought in Mexico will be in Baltimore

Problems between Kearny and Stockton have been explained and settled

Taylor arrived below New Orleans; Taylor accepts the invitation to be a guest of the city

The new barque John G. Colley has been chartered to take the troops now at Fort Monroe to Vera Cruz

Comments about how to make peace in the Mexican war; praises on how our troops have handled the war

Long report (goes into great detail) about about California, Mexico; generals, volunteers; victories of the army; reports about battles that have been fought; comments about occupying all of Mexico; comments about the Indians

Details about Gen. Taylor’s reception in New Orleans—gives descriptions of the events

Quote given at a Clay Whig meeting; suppose to be a hit at Taylor

A line of posts have been established form the Red River to the Rio Grande

Report from the Matamoras Flag that a Mexican stated that the US should expect more fighting; comments about troop numbers of the enemy
RE47v44n65p2c4, December 14, 1847: The Pageant at New Orleans
Description of the pageant for Taylor; gives an address giving to Taylor praising him for his service in the war

RE4vXLICi65p4c3, December 14, 1847: News from the South
Comments about Taylor's movements and what he is doing-arrival in New Orleans, who is with him, where he is staying

RE47v44n65p4c4, December 14, 1847: The Report of the Secretary of War
Comments about the Secretary of War's report; summarizes it - the report gives a history of the war; comments about the battles in California - they are also summarized; gives praise to the Secretary of War for his report

RE47v44n65p4c6, December 14, 1847
Gen. Quitman was met with a brilliant reception from the citizens of Natchez; two Mexican guns were given to Quitman by Com. Perry as trophies

RE47v44n65p4c7, December 14, 1847: The Fremont Court Martial
Summary of Com. Stockton's evidence given on Wednesday in the trial-summarized by the Baltimore Sun

RE47v44n67p1c2, December 21, 1847
Comments given to remarks made by the Richmond Republican; comments about British opinion of the war-gives quotes from newspapers where Britain denounces the war with Mexico

RE47v44n67p1c3, December 21, 1847
J. M. Bott the most anti-war man has been put in charge of the Committee of Military Affairs in the House of Representatives

RE47v44n67p1c4, December 21, 1847: The President's Message
Response to Whig comments made about the President's Message; talks of how Mexico has recognized Texas has having a right to the land between the Sabine and the Nueces and that Mexico caused the war; basically telling the Whigs that they are wrong with their comments about the war

RE47v44n67p2c2, December 21, 1847: Late and Important from Vera Cruz
Santa Anna has issued another pronunciamento; called on the country to organize men; Louisiana battalion of mounted men have had some run-ins with guerrillas; report from Captain Kerr about a run-in with some guerrillas; description of the 1st Brigader of Gen. Butler's Division-they are moving to Vera Cruz

RE47v44n67p2c3, December 21, 1847
Insurrection of Indians has broken out near Huajutia; Colonel Gates the Governor of Tampico took instant measure and despatched two companies to restore order

RE47v44n67p2c4, December 21, 1847: Honor to the Brave
Comments about Gen. Shields' travels-where has been and his receptions there; reprint of a speech given by Senator Eaves about Gen. Shields - gives Shields compliments about his actions in battle at Cerro Gordo, Churubusco, Chapultepec

RE47v44n67p2c5, December 21, 1847: MEXICO
Arrival of the British Courier at Vera Cruz; recall of MR. Trist; Anaya elected President; commissioners appointed to treat; referred by Gen. Scott to Washington in consequences of the departure of Mr. Trist; severe disappointment is Trist leaving; Anaya's cabinet in favor of peace; Gen. Worth and Pillow, and Col. Duncan are arrested for disrespect o the commander-in-chief; report of Urreas capture by the camanches; fears regarding the safety of the Steamer Maria Burt; comments about the whereabouts of Santa Anna

RE47v44n68p1c2, December 24, 1847: The Issue Joined
Mr. Botts takes the side that the US is wrong in the war and Mexico is right and that the army should withdraw; he gave a 14 point resolutions - analysis of the resolutions by the Baltimore Sun; lists all 14 of the points and then tells why they are wrong and could not bring peace

RE47v44n68p1c3, December 24, 1847: Who is it that "Surrenders?"
Comments about Taylor; believes that Taylor stated that he could not be a candidate for any party
Lieut. Edward Johnson just from the City of Mexico is in good health and spirits.

Col. Childs in his account of the siege of Puebla speaks highly of Lieut. Laialey of Cabell County VA.

List of Virginians in the army and their promotions.

Appointments and Promotions.

Thirtieth Congress--First Session.

Debate about the war in the Senate--gives a summary of who said what.

House of Representatives.

Lists those who offered resolutions dealing with New Mexico, Santa Anna, and Taylor - tells what the resolutions include.

Senate.

Lists resolutions brought up dealing with the war.

Later from the Brazos.

Steamer Ann Chase arrived in New Orleans; accounts from Saltillo had been received-Camanche Indians had made a descent in large force upon the Mexican settlement; Major Lane had to fight the Indians.

Eighteen Days Later from Santa Fe and Chihuahua.

14 companies and two battalions have left Santa Fe for the South; 500 troops remain in Santa Fe; Apache Indians drove off 200 cattle, killed three men and destroyed several wagons, Paymaster Spalding reports 300 Mexicans were fortifying Chihuahua and casting cannons.

Fourteen points of Mr. Botts dealing with the war with Mexico.

Democratic meeting in Philadelphia passed resolutions dealing with the war; Mexico never had a boundary with Texas.

Col. Garland arrived home yesterday; served in Mexico.

Gen. Quitman reached Montgomery and was addressed by Mr. Yancey he is expected in Charleston on Tuesday or Wednesday.

Quote from the New Orleans Picayune about the President's speech--liked the part where the president said war should go on until peace is made.

Reception of General Shields.

Description of the reception of Gen. Shields in Charleston.

Response to the Whigs' claim of the origin of the war-gives a quote from a Whig paper and then explains why it is wrong.

Letter in the Havana Diario; Gen. Anaya Provisional President; Governors of the States in favor of continuing the war; lists the ministers in the new government.

Mexican Government has appointed a peace commission; train is on its way to the city of Mexico; British Minister left yesterday; Scott has arrested Pillow and Worth because of letters written.

A battle has been fought between Col. Zetina's revolutionary forces and Rozado's - details about the battle.

Capt. Alexander S. Hooe died on the 8th in Baton Rouge from a sever burn; fought in Palo Alto.

Santa Anna is head of 18,000 men; General Anaya elected President; Senor Zullata brough forth a resolution to
make the city of Mexico a state; governors of the states in session at Queretaro; report of guerrilla attack on a train of wagons; Santa Anna has taken command of the army in Oajaca; Senor Otero has brought forth his proposition in the Mexican Congress for depriving the Executive of the power to alienate any part of the territory of the Republic by a peace treaty.

Train under command of General Patterson left Jalapa on the 25th; six American soldiers have arrived from Cordova where they had been prisoners; Padre Jarauta is about to return to operate in the neighborhood of Vera Cruz; Gen. Filizola in Queretaro with 2,000 men; Congress displeased with the election of the new president; reprint of the inaugural address of president Anaya.

Steamer General Butler arrived at New Orleans; she brings many officers and soldiers from the war.

Under the title Bills Passed there are a number of resolutions to honor Generals when they pass through the city.

Comments about Taylor's acceptance of his nomination by the Whigs; fight between the Whigs and the Republican; Republican believe that Taylor will lose; will Clay surrender to Taylor?

General Butler on December 24, 1847: Yet Later

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Governor Pratt gave a speech-summarized; protests the Wilmot Proviso on how to deal with land gained from the war; gave press to the war effort and Generals Scott and Taylor

RE47v44n70p2c4, December 31, 1847: Mexican War
Whigs have selected the war to attack the administration; more comments about why the Whigs are wrong in their beliefs

RE47v44n70p2c4, December 31, 1847: Self Refutation
Meeting in the capitol of Georgia by the Whigs agreed to support Taylor for President; only a few men do not represent the whole party

RE47v44n70p2c5, December 31, 1847: News from Mexico
Seneral Scott issued order to bring new assignment of brigades to Generals Smith and Cadwalader and Colonel Riley; train left Mexico City under the command of Twiggs; General Patterson arrived in Mexico-lists who came with him; Texas Rangers produce great excitement within the Mexican population; Gen. Butler left for Puebla with 7,000; Gen. Scott has issued and order dealing with the guerrillas; government of Mexico wanting peace; Trist did not go home; Mexican government determined to send propositions to Washington; Santa Anna has sent battle reports to the government; response of the Mexican congress to the Inaugural address of President Anaya

RE47v44n70p2c6, December 31, 1847
Lieut. Col. Randolph has arrived in New Orleans; description of a fight with occurred between a small party under the command of Lieut. Col. Randolph and a party of Rancheros

RE47v44n70p4c1, December 31, 1847: The Scene Yesterday
Description of the arrival of Col. Garland and Lieut. Johnson of Chesterfield and Lieut. Worscetor by the House of Delegates; prints the speech given by Mr. Speaker Strother to the guests-comments on their skilful fighting in the war; list of the toasts given at the reception

RE47v44n70p4c6, December 31, 1847: Honor to the Brave
Elegant entertainment given in Charleston to General Shields; toast given-to volunteers and Gen. Shields; description of events in the city while Gen. Shields was present; lists of toast given at various events-given to Shields, the army, other Generals and officers etc.

RE47v44n70p2c5, December 31, 1847: Delicate Compliment
Ladies of Charleston gave Gen. Shields a sling for his wounded arm

RE47v44n70p2c6, December 31, 1847: US Senate
Mr. Washington Hunt gave notice that tomorrow he would ask leave to introduce a joint resolution of thanks to Major General Winfield Scot and the officers under his command for their gallant services in the war with Mexico

July

REv44i18p1c4 July 2, 1847 Mexican Affairs

The New Orleans Times of the 23d Junes says, that "letters were received in town yesterday from the city of Mexico, under date of the 2d instant, mentioning that Santa Anna had withdrawn his late letter of resignation, under the apprehension that it would be accepted. This only goes to show the extent to which sincerity forms a portion of the character of this redoubted hero, who is continually boasting of his amor de la patria, and of his readiness to lay down his life and immolate himself as a victim for his country's welfare. The capital is represented as being in a state of complete confusion and anarchy; and as the letters do not mention that any steps have been taken to fortify the city against the approach of our troops, we presume that Gen. Scott will find the Halls of the Montezumas an easy conquest."

The same paper contains a letter from Vera Cruz, dated the 11th inst., not so late by five days as we have received. It gives a few incidents of the late attack upon the train, and refers to the mismanagement of the escort, &c., which may form the subject for the investigation of a court martial. The letter concludes as follow. We ask attention to the interesting portion of it in relation to the opening of a new road through Orizaba and Cordova: It is said, that the road is now to be fortified, and occupied in all its more difficult passes, by the Mexican troops. Don Thomas Marin, an intrepid officer of the old Mexican stamp, well known for his gallant defence of Alvarado, is reported to have eight hundred men under him, with whom he intends to occupy Cerro Gordo again, assisted, as he expects to be, by guerrillas, who can be gathered around him at a few hours notice, in cases of emergency. But even if these reports prove true, that road cannot be closed by Mexican troops. Gen. Scott can detach a division at any hour, which would again sweep such obstacles away for the moment. I am inclined to believe that the General intends to open the road to Puebla, leading through Orizaba and Cordova, as it seems to offer some advantages over that via Jalapa. By taking possession of these two cities, he would strike at the root of the Guerilla evil by controlling, to a great extent, the mountain hordes from which this class of soldiers is principally taken. It is believed that the best results would follow the opening and occupation of this road, and the General has received assurances that the feeling of the farmers and wealthy citizens is strongly favorable to the Americans, having been rendered so by the depredations of
The country along this road is extremely rich, and its products most varied and cheap. The climate is healthy and delightful, after leaving San Juan and Palmillas; and the roads are good at all seasons of the year. It is also a shorter route to Puebla than that through Jalapa. A great quantity of Tobacco is produced in the neighborhood of Cordova and Orizaba, the manufacture of which, fato cigars, is a Government monopoly, the leaf being purchased of the growers at a fixed price. This season, the quantity taken by the Government officers at Cordova, amounted to eight thousand bales but, as Government property, it is liable to seizure by the Americans, while private property is held sacred. The Tobacco has been returned to the producers to hold until its manufacture can be safely commenced. These eight thousand bales are worth nearly half a million of dollars, and would find a ready sale. They are bona fide Government property, and as such would be a legal prize to our arms. In Orizaba, too, is an immense quantity of paper very valuable, and like the Tobacco, the property of the Government. Thus you will observe that General Scott might pick up a million of dollars, or so, incidentally, by changing slightly his line of communications, while such a change would secure permanent advantages over that at present open.

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**Letter from Gen. Taylor**

Headquarters Army of Occupation.
Camp near Monterey, May 18, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, with the enclosure of your editorial, extracted from the "Signal of the 13th April. At this time, my public duties command so fully my attention, that it is impossible to answer your letter in the terms demanded by its courtesy, and the importance of the sentiments to which it alludes; neither, indeed, have I the time, should I feel myself at liberty, to enter into the few and most general subjects of public policy suggested by the article in question. My own personal views, were better withheld till the end of the war, when my usefulness as a military chief, serving in the field against the common enemy, shall no longer be compromised by their expression or discussion in any manner. From many sources I have been addressed on the subject of the Presidency, and I do violence neither to myself nor to my position as an officer of the army, by acknowledging to you, as I have done to all who have alluded to the use of my name in this exalted connexion, that my services are ever at the will and call of the country, and that I am not prepared to say that I shall refuse if the country calls me to the Presidential office, but that I can and shall yield to no call that does not come from the spontaneous action and free will of the nation at large, and void of the slightest agency of my own. For the high honor and responsibilities of such an office, I take this occasion to say, that I have not the slightest aspiration; a much more tranquil and satisfactory life, after the termination of my present duties, awaits me. I trust, in the society of my family and particular friends and in the occupation most congenial to my wishes. In no case can I permit myself to be the candidate of any party, or yield myself to party schemes. With these remarks, I trust you will pardon me for thus briefly replying to you, which I do with a high opinion and approval of the sentiments and views embraced in your editorial. With many wishes for your prosperity in life, and great usefulness in the sphere in which your intents and exertions are embarked, I beg to acknowledge myself most truly and respectfully your obedient servant.

Z. Taylor.
Major General U.S. Army

Jas. W. Taylor, Esq.,
Cincinnati, Ohio

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**Fire in the Rear**

The National Intelligencer "would almost swear" that the author of Gen. Taylor's proclamation (prepared at Washington) borrowed its very language in relation to the war from the proclamation in which the British government attempted to palliate its enormous outrage on the nationality of Denmark, in the atrocious bombardment of Copenhagen by the English fleet in 1807.

On the other hand, the N.Y. Tribune "convicts of plagiarism" the author of Gen. Scott's proclamation, who is universally admitted to be none other than Gen. Scott himself. It says that the facsimile of the document "will be found in the address of a certain Propagandist of a preceding generation to the inhabitants of a nation he came to subdue and fraternize. " We give a copious extract to show with what gross injustice a leading Whig paper sneers at and insults a distinguished officer engaged in the honorable and arduous service of his country, in a distant land.

If Generals Scott and Taylor, who deserve the thanks of every patriot, for their distinguished achievements, have been unjustly assailed, the evidence is to be found exclusively in Whig papers and meetings: (From the New York Tribune.) Napoleon Bonaparte, compelled by "a manifest destiny" to waste Egypt with fire and sword, in order to extend "the area of freedom," thus addresses the victims of his benevolence. "Cadis, Shieks, Imanes, Chorbadys, you will be told that I come to destroy your religion I do not believe it. Let your answer be that I come to re-
The California regiment had arrived cut, and in very bad condition. The men are represented as "not what they ought to be. " The Coast of California is quiet, and the inhabitants of Monterey have been saluted by the rounds of Yankee axes and hammers ringing through the woods, and astonished to see house springing up in their streets almost as if by magic. They have had the pleasant sight, too, of Yankee girls in Yankee bonnets tripping along, amide the shawl-covered senoritas. Immigrants have come and are coming over the mountains in great numbers. Some of the parties have suffered to a horrible extent. One caravan was overtaken by winter in the mountains, and were reduced to such an awful state, that they were obliged to eat the bodies of those of the party who died of cold and hunger. It is a singular fact, that most of the women survived the horrors of the situation they were in, while the men died rapidly. A company went out from Monterey to bring them in, and after their arrival in comfortable quarters, it was found difficult to make them eat proper food. Suffering had subverted their reason and their nature, and they seemed desirous of continuing their ghoul-like propensities.

[MSM]

REv44i18p2c5 July 2, 1847 From the Army of Gen. Taylor

(From the N.O. Picayune, June 24. )

The Fashion touched at Brazos Santiago on the 20th inst., on her voyage from Vera Cruz, and brought over thence the following gentlemen: Col. J.P. Taylor, of the Subsistence Department; Capt. Chase, Adjutant Caldwell, 2d Kentucky Regiment; and Lieuts. Wooster, Montgomery, Allen and Mizner, of the army. The Fashion also brought over about forty discharged soldiers.
Capt. W.R. Andrews, of the 10th infantry, has been ordered North on account of sickness, resulting from injuries received in the wreck of the Mobile on Orange Keys. Two robberies are mentioned in the Flag as occurring within the limits of the city. The same paper also mentions the death of John Comegys, a man well known here as a printer and reporter. He was accidentally shot on board the steamer Whitsville, just below Reynosa, on the 16th inst., under the following circumstances: "Mr. Comgys, while resting upon a cot on the boat, amused himself by playing with a Mexican boy about ten years of age. The boy, in a sportive mood, picked up an old horseman's pistol that had been throwing about the boat, and which no one even dreamed was loaded, pointed it at Mr. C. and pulled the trigger. A ball issued from the muzzle and penetrated one of his temples, killing him instantly. He was buried at Reynosa. Mr. Comegys of Pennsylvania, a printer by profession, and had worked in this office. He was for some a clerk in the Quartermaster's Department, and at the time of his decease officiated in that capacity on the Whitsville. His fate will be lamented by all who knew him, and furnishes another impressive lesson to show with what exceeding care fire arms should be handled."

(Special Correspondence of the Picayune.) Monterey, Mexico, June 6, 1847.

The Illinois volunteers and Capt. Pike's squadron of Arkansas cavalry have been here several days, but leave tomorrow for Camargo and home. Since I left Saltillo new has reached us of quite a successful scout of Lieut. Tobin, with a party of McCulloch's Rangers, which I presume Col. Belknap will have no objection to his mentioning. When a long distance from Buena Vista (near what place I have been unable to learn) he discovered a party of ten or a dozen armed person, and gave chase. It proved to be a Mexican express rider from Gen. Sanchez at Palos to the Governor of San Luis, with an escort, mostly deserters from our army. The bearer of dispatches and his horse and papers were captured, but the men escaped. The contents of the dispatches conveyed the information that there were very few American troops in the neighborhood of Saltillo, at that city, or along the line; people awaiting under injuries and wrongs, and anxious to fight to the last for their country, but prevented from want of means from resenting their injuries, and recommending that troops be dispatched with all possible speed to retake Saltillo, an easy task! This information I derive from, I am induced to believe, an authentic source, and the above is the purport of the dispatch. They would hardly come with any very large force, except perhaps cavalry, and they are of no account. They can scarcely have any artillery no to spare, and I am a little afraid that Gen. Sanchez, if he it was who sent the dispatch, would not realize his expectation of its being such "an easy task." There is "a pretty smart chance" of artillery in that neighborhood. The horse which the Mexican dispatch bearer rode, singular to say, was one stolen from Lieut. Sturgis some months since. Gen. Wool, I am told, dispatched some of the rangers and a company of dragoons after residue of the party as soon as Capt. Tobin reported. If they are taken and are deserters they will have a hard time of it.

I have alluded in my previous letters to the murders committed at Saltillo by Mexicans upon Americans. They killed one too many. On the 31st ult. a member of the Arkansas cavalry, while leading his horse in a grove near the Alameda, used as a race track, was accosted by two Mexican, who extended their hands to him in a friendly manner; but, instead of the grasp of friendship, the assassin's knife was plunged into his heart, and he was cast into a ditch, while his horse was made way with. Some of the companions of the deceased, who came to join him on the track soon after, discovered traces of blood, and on pursuing them found the wounded man breathing his last, with just life enough to tell the cause of his situation. Not far from the place two Mexicans were shortly afterwards discovered, whose conduct was suspicious, and they were captured. It was afterwards deemed inadvisable to permit them to be regularly tried; a party of men demanded them; and they were taken out and shot. In the sleeve of one was found a bloody knife, corresponding with the size of the wound. This was not enough! I regret to state that many Mexican were killed that day—some say 17, and some more. Comment is unnecessary.

Col. Curtis, formerly of the Ohio Regiment, has volunteered for the war and been appointed Governor of Saltillo. We have had no more news of Urrea, and heard nothing of any guerrilla parties as yet. The 2d battalion of Virginia volunteers garrison this place, but will move on as soon as they can be relieved. There is still a good deal of sickness here, but of a mild character, and but few deaths. For the last few days we have had several showers during the day, and I imagine it is brewing up for the rainy season. You will probably have an opportunity of seeing the portraits of General Taylor by Mr. Atwood in New Orleans. Mr. R.G. Brown, a portrait painter from Virginia, has also come out to take portraits of the general and the members of his staff. It seems there is still a bare possibility of our going to San Luis at a more advanced period than was contemplated by Gen. Taylor at first, but all depends upon whether troops can be had.

[MSM]
On the 30th July, Mr. Marcy again wrote as follows: "He (the President) has not the requisite information in regard to the country, to enable him to give any positive directions as to the position you ought to take, or the movement which it may be expedient to make. These must be governed by circumstances. While avoiding, as you have been instructed to do, all aggressive measure towards Mexico, as long as the relations of peace exist between that Republic and the United States, you are expected to occupy, protect, and defend the territory of Texas to the extent of which it may be expedient to make. These must be governed by circumstances. While avoiding, as you have been instructed to do, all aggressive measure towards Mexico, as long as the relations of peace exist between that Republic and the United States, you are expected to occupy, protect, and defend the territory of Texas to the extent that it has been occupied to the people of Texas. The Rio Grande is claimed as the boundary between the two countries, and to this boundary you are to extend your protection. " The letters of the 23d and 30th August are to the same purport, viz: to defend Texas from invasion, and reject the invaders, and drive the Mexican troops beyond the Rio Grande—leaving the choice of position very much to Gen. T. ’s own discretion.

The following letter from Gen. Taylor will show the manner in which he construed and carried out his orders:

The Whig press, not caring so much for the peaceful conclusion of the war as for the party capital which they hope to create by misrepresenting its origin and management, have piled up charges upon charges against the Administration, of the most extravagant and wanton character. They have successively accused the President with the design of sacrificing Gen. Taylor and his army to Santa Anna’s overpowering force at Buena Vista—with intending, in his "lust of dominion," to subjugate and annex the whole of Mexico, to rob and plunder the Mexican churches, and, at all events, to force a government upon that unfortunate people. These charges are of too absurd and extravagant a character to impose upon the credulity of any portion of our own citizens, but they have been greedily caught up by the Mexican leaders and reproduced as unequivocal evidence that an "entire party" in this country sympathizes with the infatuated obstinacy of Mexico, and, upon a change of administration, will allow Mexico to dictate such terms of peace as she may desire. Gen. Scott has been forced to remove these false impressions produced on the public mind of Mexico by the course of our own Whig politicians, which have hitherto encouraged the public enemy to hold out madly against peaceful negotiations.

We are happy to believe that his explanations and appeals have not been without good results and that the probable accession of Herrera to the Presidency, supported as he seems to be by the powerful clergy, may soon lead to the establishment of peace. But our purpose to present is not to go into the examination of charges, which have been so fully refuted. There is, however, another charge, still pertinaciously pressed by the Whigs, which has given "aid and comfort to Mexican infatuation." It is that the men of army to the Rio Grande was the cause and just cause of the war, and that Mexico was fully justified in making war upon us.

The Democratic party has maintained the wisdom and necessity of that movement in defence of the territory of Texas, a sovereign State of our Union, and has been always willing to assume the responsibility of an act, which the pledged honor of the nation imperatively required at the hands of the Executive. But at the same time, they contend that if the march to the Rio Grande be so monstrous an act, Gen. Taylor himself is equally responsible, because he recommended it, long before the step was taken. He is the professed candidate for the Presidency of many of the Whigs—and his opinions as to what the Whigs charge as the moving cause of this "atrocious" war, can be fairly quoted in defence of the movement. The Union gives a detailed and conclusive answer to the seven columns of the National Intelligencer on this point. We have no room for the long extracts from the official documents, but must content ourselves with a brief summary of facts developed by official papers. We contend, the, that on the 4th October, 1845, three months before the order was given to march to the Rio Grand, General Taylor wrote a letter advising that march. It is a matter of history that, soon after the passage by our Congress of the joint resolution for the annexation of Texas, Almonte, the Mexican Minister, demanded his passports, regarding it as a violation of the rights of Mexico, though he was positively informed that he could not justly so regard the voluntary action of the independent power of Texas, owing no allegiance to Mexico, and that it was the sincere desire of our Government to maintain peace and good will with Mexico. Our Minister at Mexico was also refused all official intercourse with that Government, and returned to the United States. By the acts of Mexico herself, the diplomatic intercourse between the two countries was thus suspended. It was, moreover, notorious that Mexico was making great military preparation to invade Texas, as the following extract of a letter from our Charge to Texas, Mr. Donelson, among other evidences, goes to prove: "From recent information just received from General Sherman, of the Texas militia, it appears that Mexico has already about seven thousand troops on the Rio Grand, and that Captain Hays, who has only about fifty rangers under his command was about to attack a party of about one hundred Mexicans, whom he had discovered near him on the Nueces. This exhibition of force, for the purpose of driving the Texas from the Rio Grand, shows that Captain Elliot is not speaking at random when he declares (as he has done to many of the citizens of this country) that a rejection of the proposals now offered by him for the independence of Texas, will be followed immediately by an invasion from Mexico. " Under these circumstances, Gen. Taylor was ordered to defend Texas up to the Rio Grande against Mexican invasion, and to repel promptly all Mexican hostilities on the Eastern bank of that river—but to be "careful to avoid any acts of aggression, unless an actual state of war should exist. " On the 18th June, 1845, Mr. Marcy wrote to Gen. T: "The point of your ultimate destination is the Western frontier of Texas, where you will select and occupy, on or near the Rio Grande del Norte, such a site as will be our Western border. You will limit yourself to the defence of the territory of Texas, unless Mexico should declare war against the United States, " On the 30th July, Mr. Marcy again wrote as follows: "He (the President) has not the requisite information in regard to the country, to enable him to give any positive directions as the position you ought to take, or the movement which it may be expedient to make. These must be governed by circumstances. While avoiding, as you have been instructed to do, all aggressive measure towards Mexico, as long as the relations of peace exist between that Republic and the United States, you are expected to occupy, protect, and defend the territory of Texas to the extent that it has been occupied to the people of Texas. The Rio Grande is claimed as the boundary between the two countries, and to this boundary you are to extend your protection. " The letters of the 23d and 30th August are to the same purport, viz: to defend Texas from invasion, and reject the invaders, and drive the Mexican troops beyond the Rio Grande—leaving the choice of position very much to Gen. T. ’s own discretion.
"Sir; I beg leave to suggest some considerations in relation to the present position of our force, and the dispositions which may become necessary for the more effectual prosecution of the objects for which it has been concentrated. It will be recollected that the instruction of June 15, issued by me. Bancroft, then acting Secretary of War, directed such a site as will consist with the health of the troops and will be best adapted to repel invasion, &c. Brazos Santiago is the nearest entrance to the mouth of the Rio Grande; and Point Isabel, within that entrance and twenty one miles from Matamoros, would have fulfilled more completely than any other position of the conditions imposed by the Secretary. But we had no artillery, no engineer force or appliances, and but a moderate amount of infantry; and the occupation of Point Isabel, under these circumstances, and with at least the possibility of resistance from the Mexicans, might have compromised the safety of the command. I therefore determined to take up the next accessible position in the rear, which is the mouth of the Nueces river. All the information which I could obtain before leaving New Orleans, seemed to point to Corpus Christi as the most suitable point for concentration; and although before the President's instructions of July 30 reached me, I would have preferred a position on the left bank of the river, yet a careful examination of the country had already convince me that none could be found combining so many advantages as this.

Every day's experience has confirmed these impressions. Corpus Christi is healthy, easily supplied and well situated to hold in observation the course of the Rio Grand from Matamoros to Laredo—being about 150 miles from several points on the river. I have reason to believe, moreover, that a salutary moral effect has been exercised upon the Mexicans. Their traders are continually carrying home the news of our position and increasing numbers, and are confessedly struck by the spectacle of a large camp of well appointed and disciplined troops, accompanied by perfect security to their persons and property, instead of the impressments and pillage to which they are subject in their own country. For these reasons, our position thus far has, I think, been the best possible, but, now that the entire force will soon be concentrated, it may well be a question whether the views of government will be best carried out by our remaining at this point. It is with great deference that I make any suggestions on topics which may become matter of delicate negotiation; but if our Government, in settling the question of boundary, makes the line of the Rio Grand an ultimatum, I cannot doubt that the settlement will be greatly facilitated and hastened by our taking possession at once of one or two suitable points on or quite near that river. Our strength and state of preparations would be displayed in a manner not be mistaken.

However salutary may be the effect produced upon the border people by our presence here, we are too far from the frontier to impress the Government of Mexico with our readiness to vindicate, by force of arms, if necessary, our title to the country as far as the Rio Grand. The 'army of occupation' will, in a few days, be concentrated at this point, in condition for vigorous and efficient service. Mexico having as yet made no positive declaration of war, or committed any overt act of hostilities, I do not feel at liberty under my instructions, particularly those of July 8, to make a forward movement to the Rio Grande without authority from the War Department.

"I have deemed it my duty to make the above suggestions. Should they be favorable considered, and instructions based upon them, I will thank you to send the latter in duplicate Lieut. Col. Hunt—one copy to be dispatched direct, without delay; the other to be sent via Galveston, should a steamer be running that port from New Orleans. I am, &c.

Z. Taylor


As the Union says, "We invoke the careful attention of our readers to the terms of this letter of Gen. Taylor. In the first lines of it, he proposes to make some suggestions concerning that disposition of his force which he deems proper and necessary to effect the 'object' for which his army had been concentrated. What those objects were, he knew perfectly. He had been told in the whole series of letters from the War Department, from May to August, as we have above quoted them, that he was ordered to Texas to protect that State from Mexican invasion up to its limit of the Rio Grande, and to repel from that quarter all Mexican hostilities. He knew, too—and the subsequent part of his letter shows that he knew—that our Government, claiming the Rio Grande as the boundary, was most desirous to settle that boundary by negotiation.

These were the two 'objects' to be effected, and, with a view to their accomplishment, Gen. Taylor, rendering his reasons as he goes along, informs his government, in this letter, that, in his judgment, his army should take post upon the Rio Grande, in order 'to display our strength and state of preparation in a manner not to be mistake, and so to produce a salutary effect upon the Government of Mexico.' A more complete and authoritative endorsement of the whole policy of our Government in sending an army of observation to the Western frontier of Texas, cannot be stated in any form of language."

But, says the Whig, admit that General Taylor did advise the march to the Rio Grande on the 4th October, he recanted that opinion in his letter of the 7th of November, and, therefore, he ought not be regarded as justifying the movement. They forget, however, to state the new circumstances which had induced him to modify his opinion. After his letter of the 4th October, he received a letter of the 16 October from Mr. Marcy, which says: "The information which we have here, render it probable that no serious attempts will at present be made by Mexico to invade Texas, although she continues to threaten incursions. Precious instructions will have put you in possession of the views of the Government of the United States, not only as to the extent of its territorial claims, but of its determination to
assert them. In carrying out these instructions, you will be left superior knowledge of localities, and the earlier notice you may receive of the probable views of Mexico and the movements of her troops."

He is also notified by Commodore Conner, on the 24th October, that the Mexican Government had accepted the proposal to arrange the difficulties by negotiation. Acting under this new information, of a change in the state of relations between the two countries, General T. wrote his letter of the 7th November, as follows:

"Headquarters Army of Occupation.
Corpus Christi, Texas,
Nov. 7. 1845.

"Sir: I respectfully enclose a copy of a letter from Com. Conner, commanding the home squadron, which I received by the 'Saratoga,' sloop-of-war, on the 5th inst. The intelligence communicated by the Commodore will, doubtless, reach the seat of government long before the receipt of this letter.

"The communication from the Secretary of War, dated October 16, was received and acknowledged on the 1st and 2d inst. I purposely deferred a detailed reply to the various points embraced in that communication until I could receive an answer to mine of October 4, which covered (at least in part) the same ground.

The intelligence from Mexico, however, tends to modify, in some degree, the views expressed in that communication: The position now occupied by the troops, may, perhaps, be the best while negotiations are pending, or at any rate until a disposition shall be manifested by Mexico to protract them unreasonably. Under the supposition that such may be the view of the department, I shall make no movement from this point, except, for the purpose of examining the country, until further instructions are received.

Signed, Z. Taylor.

"The Adjt Gen of Army, Washington, D.C."

Can any one read this letter candidly and no infer that so far from contradicting, it goes fully to substantiate the suggestions in his letter of 4th October? The reason expressly assigned for this modification of his advice is that "negotiation is pending" and that he thought it best to remain at Corpus Christi, "until a disposition shall be manifested by Mexico to protract them unreasonably." This turned out to be true—after Mexico had consented to receive a minister from us to adjust all difficulties between the two countries, and after, at her instance, our fleet had been withdrawn from Vera Cruz, Mr. Slidell was sent to Mexico to settle all the matters in controversy. The frivolous grounds upon which he was rejected are familiar to the country.

The President presents a strong view in his message of May 11: "Thus the government of Mexico, though solemnly pledged by official acts in October last to receive and accredit an American envoy, violated their plighted faith, and refused the offer of a peaceful adjustment of our difficulties. Not only was the offer rejected, but the indignity of its rejection was enhanced by the manifest breach of faith in refusing to admit the envoy, who came because they had bound themselves to receive him. Nor can it be said that the offer was fruitless from the want of opportunity of discussing it—our envoy was present on their own soil. Nor can it be ascribed to a want of sufficient powers—our envoy had full powers to adjust every question of difference. Nor was there room for complaint that our propositions for settlement were unreasonable—permission was not even given our envoy to make any proposition of any kind."

On the 17th December, 1845, Mr. Slidell wrote to our Government that the council had finally decided to recommend that he should not be received. And the President being thus satisfied that Mexico would refuse to receive our envoy, on the 13th January ordered General Taylor to march to the Rio Grande—a movement which General Taylor had himself suggested, as calculate to impress Mexico, and hasten and facilitate the settlement of the boundary question.

A candid and careful examination of all the facts of the case proves conclusively, as the Union says:

"First. That there is no real contradiction in General Taylor's two letters, and that they were both written on the same principle, and in the same policy, with reference to the course our Government in its attempt to adjust our relations with Mexico.

"And, secondly. That General Taylor's two letters, taken together, fully demonstrate his entire approval of the course taken by our Government in ordering the advance of the troops to the Rio Grande, when that advance was ordered by the War Department on the 13th of January, 1846."

The Union presents the prominent points of the case in the following summary, which will at once strike the mind of the reader with conviction, that the march to the Rio Grande, wise in itself and demanded by the imperative obligations to Texas, had the full sanction of Gen. Taylor. It is, therefore, detracting from his character, and violating the spirit of his own official letters, to contend, as the Whigs, go, that the present is a wanton, unjust, unnecessary and aggressive war on our part.

The Union says:
"In conclusion, then how stands the case in respect to Gen. Taylor's suggestion and approval of the march of the army to the Rio Grande? On the 4th of October, 1845, General Taylor knowing that the administration were determined to protect Texas up to the Rio Grande—knowing, too, that the was to avoid all acts which could justify hostilities—knowing, also, that diplomatic relations between the two countries had been broken off—and knowing, lastly, that Mexico was threatening and preparing an invasion of Texas. Gen. Taylor, under these circumstances, advised a forward movement of his troops to the Rio Grande. This advice the administration, by reason of information then in its possession, did not deem expedient to be then at once acted on.

"On the 7th of November following, General Taylor learned that Mexico had consented to a negotiation, and, at the same time, received information which led him to believe that she had suspended or abandoned her purpose of invasion. He thereupon informed the Government that he should not advance to the Rio Grande, as he had proposed to do, until he should receive further instructions. In this conclusion, formed in view of the pending negotiation, the Administration concurred with Gen. Taylor.

"But on the 17th of December Mr. Slidell informed the government that, in all probability, his mission of peace must fail by the refusal of the Mexican government to receive him or to entertain his propositions. This information reached Washington before the 13th of January. When received, it removed all the ground upon which General Taylor had founded the change of his opinions as to the expediency of the forward movement of his troops. The failure of Mr. Slidell’s mission, and the Mexican revolution out of which it grew, brought about a state of things which demanded the forward movement of our troops far more imperatively than when it was first recommended by General Taylor. He had advised it, both with a view on protecting Texas, and of producing a salutary effect upon the Mexican government. After the rejection Mr. Slidell, it became manifest that neither of these great objects could be accomplished without such a movement. The movement was therefore made in pursuance of orders issued by the War Department on the 13th of January. These orders were plainly conceived in the same spirit, and upon the same policy, in which General Taylor gave his original recommendation. " [MSM]

REv44i18p4c4 July 2, 1847 Correction

The N.O.Delta corrects an error in its extra which stated that three men were killed and three wounded in Capt. Duperu’s company in the fight near the National Bridge. That gallant corps did not lose a man. Capt. D. makes most honorable mention of two very young men, Victor Kerr, of New Orleans, and Berrard, of Attakapas, who enthusiastically "rushed upon the nearest band of guerrillas in advance of their companies, and for some time fought upon their ‘own hook’ with the most reckless and determined bravery. " [MSM]

REv44i18p4c5-6 July 2, 1847 Affairs in Mexico

We regret that the Southern mail of yesterday did not confirm the news contained in the Delta Extra, of the advance of General Scott to Rio Frio, the election of Herrera President, and the tender of terms of peace.

The New Orleans Picayune refers to the flattering prospect of peace contained in the intelligence by Captain Wood, of the James L. Day, and adds: "But our letters from Vera Cruz do not confirm this news, and the represent, on the contrary, as mentioned above, that nothing had been received from General Scott subsequent to the departure of the Galveston.

And, furthermore, we have letters from Puebla to the 3d June, when General Scott was there, and scarcely time had elapsed for him to march to Rio Frio and enter into negotiations, and for the news to come back to Vera Cruz. We are, therefore, at present incredulous about the intelligence.

"The day before the Day left, two Mexicans, supposed to be spies, were arrested in Vera Cruz. "A large sum of money has been found in some secluded vault in the Castle of San Juan de Ulua. It is uncertain whether it belonged to the Mexican Government or to some individual.

"The Eagle publishes a letter giving an account of a fire which occurred at Laguna on the 28th of May. Half a dozen houses were destroyed. The officers and men of the United States brig Vesuvius, with Lieutenant Magruder at their head, rendered efficient service in extinguishing the fire."

By the whole affair of the attack on the train, the Picayune supposes we have lost about thirty men, killed and wounded. The Vera Cruz Eagle thinks the Mexicans have gained no property by their enterprise, and have sustained a much heavier loss than we. The New Orleans papers refer to the numerous complaints made of the want of vigor and efficiency in the system of regulations enforced at Vera Cruz. One great error, it is thought, is the permitting the natives of Mexico to hold and discharge important offices in captured cities, thereby enabling them to act as spies, and communicate dangerous information to the Mexicans scattered through the country. A more rigid system is warmly recommended, to prevent the loss of life and property daily occurring.

From the New Orleans Commercial Times we extract the following summary of news by the James L. Day: Nothing
The late attack. —The feeling Vera Cruz is very strong in reprobation of the manner in which the train was conducted; had it been properly commanded, it is asserted, it would have effectuated its passage to Jalap in safety, without requiring a reinforcement from Vera Cruz. A communication has reached us, that in the first attack a company of our dragoons broke, as did some other detachments of the escort, owing, as it is alleged, for want of officers. To Captain Duperu and his men, who fought most bravely, are we considerably indebted for the safety of the train.

Capture of spies, &c. — Capt. Wood, of the James L. Day, informs us that a report reached Vera Cruz, on the 16th, in the morning, of an attack having been made by an overwhelming force of guerrillas and rancheros, a hundred of them, on twenty Americans, some distance from the city. The latter, it was said, were cut to pieces. The authorities were searching the city for the Priest Jarauta and two others, officers of Guerrilla bands. Just as the James L. Day weighed anchor, 2 P.M., news was brought on board that two Mexicans had been arrested by the police, supposed to be spies.

The following extracts are from the Eagle of the 16th inst. The first gives an account of Gen. Cadwallader’s operations at and near Puente Nacional:

Another victory. — We had the perusal of a letter, yesterday, dated at Puente Nacional, the 13th inst., by which we perceive that our arms have again triumphed over all the obstacles which could be brought to bear against the advance of our train. On the evening of the 11th inst., Gen. Cadwallader had pushed on the train as far as the Bridge, and finding it as well as the surrounding heights, pretty strongly fortified, preparations were made for the storming of both simultaneously, which resulted in the complete rout of the cowards who had attempted opposition, although there is scarcely a doubt but that they outnumbered our forces nearly two to one, besides having immense advantage of position. Our loss is set down at about thirty in killed and wounded, besides a large number of horses. The attempt to stampede was a perfect failure on the part of the enemy, and he cannot boast of gaining a dollar by the enterprise, unless it be in the capture of some frightened mules and mustangs, which broke their harness and escaped into the chaparral, these of course, were made prizes of. The number of men lost by the enemy must have been very great, as they were seen carrying the dead bodies away to every direction, as our unerring marksmen would knock them over into the arms of death. The train which followed the reinforcements sent to the first rain, joined Gen. Cadwallader without having met with any resistance on its march. Both are, by this time, no doubt safely encamped near Jalapa. The leader of this band of desperadoes is, (we are assured,) a Catholic priest, who a few weeks since, left this city and the duties of his holy office, first stating to his friends that he intended to try if he could not make more money by his new profession, than by the exercises of the priesthood—a worthy scoundrel.

Gen. Pillow— Maj. Gen. Gideon Pillow arrived in this city on Monday last, and proceeds immediately to proper organization of his command, a large portion of which has already arrived. By the wary we perceive Gen. P. has answered some charges made against him by some of the officers of the 2d Tennessee regiment, in a manner which, we believe, should satisfy any but a prejudiced, unreflecting, and malignant mind. His energy of character and dignified demeanor, as a military leader, are the cause of such envy and consequent abuse on the part of those who were not "born to command." We have no doubt, however, that he will be as fortunate in outliving the venomous scratches of their puny shafts, as he was in recovering from the effects of the enemy’s grape.

Reinforcements. — Since our last, the 12th inst., the following companies have reached this place, on their way to join Gen. Scott: Co. ’s B, C and F, under the command Lieut. Col. Hoard. Co.’s A, E and I, under the command of Maj. Mills. Those companies all belong to the 16th regiment of infantry. Also, Co. F, of the 3d and B and K, of the 6th infantry, under command of Maj. Gwinn.

The following interesting letter, addressed to our neighbors of the Bee, by a member of Captain Duperu’s company, had been kindly communicated to us by the proprietors of that journal.

Paso de Orejas,
Mexico, June 11, 1847.

Gentlemen: The train of wagons and pack mules, under the direction of Colonel McIntosh, left Vera Cruz on the 4th June, escorted by Captains Duperu, Ford and McReynolds’ companies of dragoons—the two latter mounted—and three hundred infantry commanded by Major Lee, arrived in this village on the 7th June, after a march of three days. The train, consisting of 150 wagons, laden with specie and ammunition, and 500 pack mules with provisions, &c., proceeded without molestation until about noon on Sunday last, 6th June, when our advance guard of Captain Ford’s Indiana dragoons was suddenly attacked by a large body of Mexicans, killing two men, and wounding five or six.

In this skirmish the enemy succeeded in capturing several horses and a large quantity of baggage, among which, I have to regret the loss of all my clothing and papers. Half an hour afterwards the rear of the train was attacked, and before the rear guard, who were unfortunately too far behind, could come up to its defence, the Mexicans captured a large number of pack mules, and robbed several wagons of a portion of their contents. With their booty they retired.
into the dense chaparral, where it was impossible to pursue them. One of the rascals actually dragged from a wagon
the wife of an hospital steward and throwing her across his horse, was making his escape, when he was fortunately
shot by one of the infantry, and the terrified lady delivered in safety into the arms of her husband. After the train,
which reached several miles, had come into order, the whole body moved forward, the two companies of mounted
dragoons forming the rear guard.

At sunset, when passing along a low portion of the road, with an open chaparral, and commanded at the further end
by a hill, on the size of which is a small line fort, our whole advanced guard, consisting of 25 mounted dragoons,
about 250 infantry, and our company (Duperu's) of dismounted dragoons, was assailed by a heavy discharge of
musketry, from the fort, the hill in its rear; and the chaparral beyond, and the cleared field. Our boys received their
fire steadily and unflinchingly, and returned it briskly for a few minutes. We then charged on the chaparral at the
rear of the open space, silenced the fire of the enemy and drove them entirely off. At the same time the mounted
dragoons charged on the hill, routed the Mexicans out of the fort and drove them over the hills. The whole action
lasted about half an hour and our troops, who were principally raw recruits behaved in the most gallant manner.

The castle of Perote is a splendid fortification; but this place (Puebla) is certainly the finest city that I have as yet
seen in Mexico. The country is beautiful all around, and all kinds of vegetable are abundant, and of the best quality,
and fruit in great profusion and very cheap, such as apples, pears, peaches, melons, &c. There are two snow-
mountains to the West of us in full view, and a fine fort on a hill about a quarter of a mile North of the city, whence

The Louisiana boys acquitted themselves admirably and were the first to reach the chaparral. The friends of Capt.
Duperu and his company, New Orleans, will be gratified to learn that we have sustained their highest anticipations.
The loss in our company on this occasion was three wounded, viz: Samuel Lankin, in the thigh, severely; Wallace, in
the thigh and hand, severely; William Hassel, in the thigh, slightly. They are all doing well. We suffered greatly for
want of water, but about nine o'clock, came to a small muddy brook, where we bivousack the night, sleeping in
the middle of the road. The next morning early we were put in motion, and about ten o'clock our van guard was
again attacked by the enemy, who, upon being charged by the dragoons, were repulsed, and forced to retreat into
the chapparal.

An hour afterwards we entered the town of Paso de Obejas, (Passage of the Sheep,) where we were quartered, to
await the arrival of reinforcements of artillery from Vera Cruz, with which to pass the National Bridge, six miles from
the place, and the heights of Cerro Gordo, where, it is supposed, the enemy will show opposition. About nine o'clock
yesterday morning a small train or four or five wagons came to direct from Puebla. They contained the baggage, and
were escorted by some two hundred discharged sick soldiers and a few teamsters, whose term of service had
expired. They were attacked from the heights, while in the act of crossing the National Bridge. Not being able to
return their fire, the Mexicans being concealed, they simultaneously raised a shout and run towards them,
whereupon the yellow-skinned cowards vamoosed. One wagon master was killed.

I had forgotten to mention in the proper place, that our whole loss in the two day's fighting was 40 killed, wounded
and missing. The news brought from Puebla is somewhat contradictory to the last advices. Santa Anna has not yet
resigned the Presidential chair, and is now in the city of Mexico. Vice President Bravo is at the head of the Mexican
army, which is said to be on the increase. A force of 10, 00 men are under his command. The Pass, nine miles this
die of the city, is being strongly fortified, as is also the city itself. Present appearances indicate a strong resistance,
and we will, no doubt, have some hard fighting to do ere we "revel in the Halls of the Montezumas."

The forces at Jalapa have received marching orders, and will join us on our route to "headquarters. " Gen. Scott and
his whole army, with the exception of the Jalapa force, are occupying Puebla. He will remain there, until sufficiently
reinforced to march on the capital, which will not be, it is anticipated, until fall. Late yesterday afternoon
reinforcements arrived here from Vera Cruz, under the command of Brig. Gen. Cadwallader. The number near 500
strong; two twelve pound howitzers; the Kentucky company of mounted dragoons, under Captain Gaithfers, and four
or five companies of infantry. We will probably leave here tomorrow; and should the Rancheros give us a fight we
will demolish them.

Yours, The Dragoon.

[MSM]

REv44i18p4c6 July 2, 1847 From Gen Scott's Army

We have been favored with perusal of a letter received by a gentleman in this city from his relative attached to Gen.
Scott's army, from which we make the following extracts:

"Puebla, Mexico, May 31, 1847.

"I left Perote with Gen. Twiggs' division on the 26th, and we had as large a train as ever Uncle Sam started. Gen.
Twiggs had between 3 and 4000 troops, and we had between 4 and 500 wagons, forges, battery wagons, &c.,
loaded with stores for the army. We made quite a respectable show, reaching over 3 miles when closed up; and I
can assure you that it made the Mexicans stare to see us make our entrée into the city.

The castle of Perote is a splendid fortification; but this place (Puebla) is certainly the finest city that I have as yet
seen in Mexico. The country is beautiful all around, and all kinds of vegetable are abundant, and of the best quality,
and fruit in great profusion and very cheap, such as apples, pears, peaches, melons, &c. There are two snow-
mountains to the West of us in full view, and a fine fort on a hill about a quarter of a mile North of the city, whence
you can have a full view of the whole country around, which is splendid indeed.

"The city of Puebla numbers over 80,000 inhabitants, and is a well-built city in every respect, and handsomely laid off. All the buildings and streets are kept clean and neat, and, as near as I can judge from what I have seen since I have been here, (only two days,) I should think that there are nearly 100 churches, and they certainly surpass anything in splendor that I ever beheld. The Cathedral, I am told, can scarcely be excelled in the world. The churches were all open yesterday, (Sunday,) and I looked into some of them: my eyes were dazzled with so much gilt work, gold images and rich jewels.

"Our whole force at this place is between 7 and 8000. Gen. Scott and staff are here, as well as Gens. Worth, Twiggs and Quitman. We are busily engaged in getting everything ready for a start for the city of Mexico. If we go on to Mexico, we will have about 50 wagons loaded with ammunition, beside our battery, consisting of two 24 pound guns, two 8 inch howitzers, one 10 inch mortar, and one Cocham mortar, also three battery wagons and three forges—constituting altogether quite a respectable train.

"Gen. Worth had a little fight at a small town 9 miles from here, when he was coming up, and killed about 80 of the Mexicans; and before our division arrived, the authorities told Gen. Worth that Santa Anna was coming to retake this city his men wanted money, and he should turn them loose on the city and let them help themselves. The Mexicans in all the towns near the city of Mexico are divided into two parties—the peace and war parties; and they even in this city, are frequently stabbing each other. "All communication between this place and the city of Mexico is cut off, and what will be done is hard to tell; but I hardly think that they will make more than one stand more against us on our march to that city. I expect that we will remain here a month or so yet; but we may leave sooner, as we are now within about 80 miles of the famed city of Mexico.

"June 1st—Since I commenced this letter, I have had an opportunity of going around in the city on business, and I must say that it far surpasses anything I ever say in grandeur. The fountains, public walks, gardens and churches are most magnificent. I wish you could be here to see the fair senoritas swinging on a large wheel with seats fixed in the felves."

Despatches from the Army. Despatches (says the Union) were received on Saturday night by the War Office from General Scott's camp. Several of the soldiers were sick n the hospitals of Vera Cruz, Jalap, Perote, and Puebla; but, with the reinforcements that were en route from Vera Cruz, he would probably have troops sufficient by the 22d to match to the capital, perhaps without any serious opposition. He had ordered all our troops to evacuate Jalap, in order to strengthen his active army.

The last accounts by the steamer James L. Day are from Vera Cruz to the evening of the 16th inst., which state that General Scott had advanced to Rio Frio, and not forthwith march to the capital, but, according to the intimation in his own dispatches, wait till about the 22d, both to give himself the opportunity of receiving reinforcements, and to allow the Mexicans more time to negotiate with the better grace.

Among the papers that were received on Saturday from General Scott is the following interesting letter from Gen. Worth, which we lay before our readers:

Headquarters,
Puebla,
May 15, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor to report, for information of the general-in-chief, that the forces under my command, including the brigade of Major General Quitman, took military possession of this city at 10 o'clock to day. Halting yesterday at Amosoque, to await the junction of General Quitman, (for which purpose I had shortened the marches of the leading brigades the two previous days,) I found my position suddenly menaced, at 8 o'clock, a.m., by a large body of cavalry. This force approached somewhat stealthily by a road on our right unknown to us. A rapid examination, as it unmasked itself, exhibited, as was supposed, some 2,000, but, from accurate information obtained here, 3000 cavalry of the line, unsupported either by infantry or artillery, and moving a mile on our right and toward the rear, let to the conclusion that it was a ruse to attract attention in that quarter, while the real attack was to be looked for on the high road in front, or a movement on Gen. Quitman, who might have been supposed the usual day's march in the rear.

It was presently reported that a heavy column was actually approaching on the main road. Thus it became necessary while directing a portion of the force against the visible enemy; to guard one large train, reserve ammunition, &c., packed in the square, against the invisible. The 2d artillery, with a section of Duncan's battery, under the brigade commander, Col. Garland, the 6th infantry under Major Bonneville with Steptoe's battery, was promptly moved, and so directed as to take the enemy in flank. The head of his column having now reached a point opposite the centre of the town, and distant about half a mile, the batteries soon opened a rapid and effective fire. After some twenty five rounds, the entire column broke, without attempting a charge or firing a shot, and hastily fled up the sides of the convenient hills. Only one company of infantry (of the 6th) was enable, from distance, to deliver its fire. The broken column was seen to reunite and resume its march in the direction of Gen. Quitman's approach.

The 2d artillery and 8th infantry, with two sections of the light batteries, was put in its track, when, the enemy again swerved to the left, and disappeared in the hills. Two mile distant, Gen. Quitman was met by the last named detachment. He had already discovered the enemy of whose proximity the firing had admonished him, and promptly
taken his order of battle. The discomfited enemy reached Puebla late at night, and evacuated the place at four in the morning. We took some prisoners, and found a few dead. The enemy acknowledge a loss of eight-nine killed and wounded. General Santa Anna conducted the enterprise.

Enclosed, marked A, a copy of a communication addressed, on the 12th, to the civil authorities of Puebla. Again, marked C, on the 14th, with reply to the latter, marked D; also copy circular, dated 9th, addressed to commanders of corps, to regulate their conduct in certain contingencies on the march. It is understood the force which retired from this city the day before yesterday, and today, is to take post at Puente del Tesmaluca, distant 12 leagues on the road to the capital, where it is proposed to fortify. Our reception was respectfully and coldly courteous, but without the slightest cordiality. Incessant occupation has not allowed me a moment to look into the resources in way of supply; but Mr. --says, breadstuff will be had in abundance, less of beef, and perhaps a liberal quantity of small rations.

Very respectfully,
your obd't serv't.
W.J. Worth.

General Scott,
A.A.A.G. Headqueaters of the Army,
Jalapa.

The papers referred to by General Worth were not communicated with his dispatch. We have very little doubt that General Scott is by this time in the Capital, unless some definitive propositions for peace have been made by the Mexican Government.

[MSM]

REV44i19p1c3-4 July 5, 1847 The Whig Party Disorganized

Two days ago we published a remarkable letter from Gen. Taylor to the editor of the Cincinnati Signal—a paper which we have never seen, but which we presume to be like the N.Y. Mirror, for Gen. Taylor as a "no party" candidate. We were curious to observe the effect which this letter would produce in the Whig camp here—and our curiosity was yesterday morning gratified. The Whig publishes the letter, but touches it very gingerly. It is evident that that paper would have preferred that the document had not seen the light.

Here is all that the Whig says: "We imagine it was not designed by the writer for the public eye, but the editor of the Signal professes to think that the circumstances under which he received it warrant its publication. He says he left it to be his duty, when the first demonstrations were made in favor of Gen. Taylor for the Presidency, to dwell upon the subject at considerable length.

"We were desirous (he continues) that some of the suggestions contained in our article should meet the eye of Gen. Taylor, and therefore enclosed it to his address, with a few words of reference to our position as a journalist. In rely to that communication we have received the admirable and significant letter, which we take pleasure in laying before our readers."

"We publish this letter, without, for the present, and comment."

The Republican, which was the first paper in the State to fly the name of General Taylor for President, subject not to the decision of the Whig party, or any convention or organization, but "to the decision of the American people," re-publishes the letter under the head of "General Taylor and the Presidency—a letter defining his position," with no other comments but "the explanatory introduction" of the Cincinnati Signal, above quoted by the Whig.

But the Times boldly takes the bull by the horns, and distinctly marks out which itself and the Whig party mean to follow. We give the whole article as it appears to the Times. As coming from so respectable an organ of the Whig party, it has an important bearing, and will be read with interest:

"Gen. Taylor’s Position. —The letter of General Taylor to the editor of the Cincinnati Signal, which we published yesterday, seems to be intended by the writer as a more formal declaration, than any that has yet appeared, of his views in regard to the Presidency. He states, without equivocation, that in no case can he prevent himself to be the candidate of our party. If Gen. Taylor adheres to this resolution, we are constrained to express an opinion, that the Whig party cannot be expected to surrender their organization and their principles for the purpose of elevating him to the Presidency. They have rendered him the homage of enthusiastic admiration, not merely for his distinguished services as a soldier, but for his noble moderation, his conspicuous good sense, and his calm dignity in receiving the slights of an alienated administration. They have rallied, as one man, in Congress and in the country to defend his reputation from ungenerous assaults. Almost unanimously, they have looked forward with pleasing anticipations of the period when they could reward him with the highest station the civil Government. But if Gen. Taylor deliberately chooses to decline that honorable testimonial of their gratitude, because they would offer it as Whigs, we cannot perceive that they have any recourse but to accompany him to the retirement he covets, at the close of the war,
with their profoundest regrets and unabated affection. There are others who descry nothing to revolt at in receiving the concerted support of the great Whig party of the Union.

"We regard the late letter of Gen. Taylor with the more regret, because we cannot dismiss the impression that the unfortunate position he has assumed in it is inducted by the inconsiderate haste of some of his admirers, in too early bringing forward his name in connection with the Presidency. We did not join in that movement, because we apprehended that it might impel General Taylor to the very course he has now adopted. In this paper of April 17th, we took occasion to express the belief that the nomination of Gen. Taylor at public meetings and by the press was "premature, " and in support of this opinion, remarked—"We fear the effect of these hasty movements upon the mind of the gallant General himself, now actually in the service of the Government, of which they would make him the most formidable opponent."

We lament that the unhappy influence thus referred to has probably been effectual in steeling the obdurate inclination of General Taylor against all organized approaches from the Whig party, with which his own affinities are well understood to lie. But since his resolution has been take, it only remains to us, as a party, to look with more prudence to a candidate who will not rudely reject our embraces, and who is willing to commit himself to our policy."

We pass over its sly but cutting rebuke of the "inconsiderate haste of some of his (General Taylor's) admirers, "in placing him in the "unfortunate position he has assumed"—and we come to the gist of the article, the positive declaration, that "if General Taylor adhere to this resolution, " in no case to permit himself to be the candidate of any party, (and who ever knew Old "Rough and Ready" to retreat from his position?) the Whigs have no "recourse but to accompany him to the retirement he covets, at the close of the war, with their profoundest regrets and unabated affection."

The concluding passage is so plain and unequivocal, that it cannot be misunderstood. "But, since his resolution has been take, it only remains for us, as a party, to look with more prudence to a candidate who will not rudely reject our embraces, and who is willing to commit himself to our policy. " No comments are necessary to interpret such language. A leading organ of the Whigs of Virginia thus plainly repudiates Gen. Taylor as a candidate for presidency!

Look at the Republican, on the other hand. It has nailed the Taylor flag to the mast and avows its determination to support him "without a shy or wherefore, " regardless of Whig "organization" or Conventions. But, above all, it published to the world in exulting tones, not many days since, that out of some twenty eight Whig papers in Virginia seventeen were in favor of Taylor, unconditionally, The Times in vain screams out, that to support General Taylor under the circumstances would be a "surrender" of Whig "organization and principles. " It is too late—the fatal pledge has been taken by these seventeen Whig papers to "sink or swim" with Gen. Taylor; and if they are at all imbued with the spirit of their great leader, who "never surrenders, " they must continue to fight for him "to the death."

In the mean time, the Richmond Whig looks sullenly on and does not say a word. It cautiously looks ahead to the struggle which it is sagacious enough to see will be sure to come off between the different factions of the Whig party, and takes time to put on its thinking cap. Have we not above furnished elements enough to prove the proposition we set out with, that in Virginia, at least, the Whig party is in an utter state of disorganization-a chaos of conflicting views and "principles?"

How is it in the neighboring State of North Carolina? A meeting "of all parties" is called for today, to assemble in Raleigh; and the Register, the Whig organ, warmly endorses it. But even there, this proposition does not meet with the universal acquiescence of the Whigs, for a communication in the Register holds the following language. Let it be remembered that the writer had not seen the letter of Gen. Taylor: "in conclusion, I must be allowed to say, that as a Whig, I am opposed to this Convention "without distinction of party, " called to meet on the 31 of July next, to nominate Gen. Taylor for the Presidency. If the Democrats as a party, or any portion of them, have seen the error of their way, the folly and imbecility of their leaders in conducting national affairs, and if they have repented of their ingratitude and injustice to Gen. Taylor, we certainly can have no objection to their co-operating with us in elevating him to the Presidential Chair; but let us make no compromises, have no partnerships in the matter—for Taylor is a Whig, must be nominated as a Whig, and will be triumphantly elected as a Whig."

How stand the affairs of the Whig party in Georgia, will be seen from the following brilliant article in the last Athens (Ga. ) Banner, which will speak for itself: "The Georgia This are a stiff-necked race—so thoroughly convinced that the only hope of reaching that political Heaven to which they aspire, is by clinging to the skirts of "Old Zack, " that they are resolved not to trust him to their allies in Convention. We have noted from the beginning of the trance into which they fell upon the subject, that it opened to their vision fields too Elysian—bliss too exquisite—from the fiery gulph in which they lay 'confounded though immortal,' to be hazarded. The uprising of the masses in the last Presidential campaign, with a power that astounded whiggery in her strongest castle, a fancied superiority over, and a complacent scorn for the progressive democracy—the overthrow of their system of monopoly and plunder, by which agriculture, commerce, and navigation were rendered 'hewers of wood and drawers of water' to the pampered and lordly manufacturer—the shrinking of that once gigantic money power, slept a Bank of the United States, into the dreamy and shadowy image of an 'obsolete idea'—the separation of the treasure of the Union from the banks, working like a charm, to check the wild growth of that paper currency, by which Whiggery expected to be clothed in purple and fine linen, at the expense of the plundered ploughmen and beggared yeomanry—the prosperity, which in every department of human industry through the length and breadth of the land, lights upon the brow of labor with a purple and fine linen, at the expense of the plundered ploughmen and beggared yeomanry—the prosperity, which in
That we may not be thought to misrepresent the modern dynasty of Georgia This, which has thus arisen from the lost estate of Whiggery in general, and defied 'law and order,' we copy the following from the Southern Recorder: "Will the Democratic leaders help us to do it? If they will, they will be entitled to the thanks of the country, for their patriotic magnanimity in overlooking mere partisan views, in elevating to the chief magistracy a true patriot, 'who has filled the measure of his country's glory."

But if they consent to do so, let it be no support of the old hero, subject o the Baltimore Convention's adjudication. Such a nomination would be just tantamount to the shuffling off old Rough and Ready, and the re-nomination of another Mr. Polk, or some body as prominent and as suitable. Take it up in good faith as the Whigs take it up, and nominate the old hero for the chief magistracy. Baltimore Convention or no Baltimore Convention—let us all go together fairly and honestly and above board, for the hero of the Rio Grand."

"This is clear, from the declaration of the Recorder, as well as from the fact that the Whig papers in Georgia have raised the Taylor flag without the usual words of submission to party drill, "subject to the decision of a National Convention," that the party in this State intend fighting the Taylor battle on their "own hook," thereby giving a little presumptive evidence, to say the least, that they do not expect Taylor to be nominated or elected by acclamation. Oh, not gentlemen, the forces of acclamation always fight in a body—and never take each man his tree, fight on his own hook, and stalk in the face of authority. In Alabama, we have shown how at least one Whig candidate has avowed himself opposed to a Bank and high Tariff and goes it "blind" for Gen. Taylor—and how another who cast the solitary Whig vote for the Tariff of 1846, has been renominated by his party without opposition. The Whigs of New England have vowed their uncompromising opposition to Gen. Taylor—and many of the Western Whig papers have covered his name with vituperation and insult. From those quarters he cannot, we are sure, receive the smallest support.

In New York, we understand from a gentleman who has just passed through the State, public feeling is beginning to develop itself on the part of the Whigs in favor of the hero of Vera Cruz and Cerro Gordo. The signs in every direction indicate a complete confusion in the Whig ranks; and this last letter of Gen. Taylor, (the spirit of which, in some particulars, meets with our cordial approbation, we are free to admit,) has fallen like a bombshell into the Whig camp, to produce a tremendous explosion. The duty of the Democrats is plain enough. Let them stand by their principles and bide their time. The country is most prosperous under Democratic measures. We cannot believe that, under any circumstances, the people will be willing to give up what they know to be wise and beneficial, merely for the sake of a "change" which may lead, as heretofore, to injustice and oppression to the masses of the nation. We have thus present to our readers a series of facts, but of an interesting character. Few comments were necessary to explain their bearing upon the political fortunes of at least one party. They will, doubtless, give rise to many "rich" developments in the Whig press, of which we promise to keep our readers advised.

We close these remarks, by saying that we heard some the Whigs yesterday coincide entirely with the views of the Times, and declare that they would vote for no man who would not commit himself to Whig principles. Thus we go!

P.S. Since writing the above, we have received the Union, which contains the letter of General Taylor, Esq. Editor of the Cincinnati Signal. We shall on Monday republish it, with the comments of the Union. In the mean time we copy the remarks of the Union, written after its article was penned. It unfolds a new scene in this singular drama:

"(From the Union.) The above is the view which we take of the letter attributed to Gen. Taylor, on the supposition that it be a genuine production; but there is a paper published in this city, under the name "of the National Whig," which flies Gen. Taylor's name at its masthead for the next President of the United States: this paper, in its number of this morning, republishes the letter and article from the "Signal," and pronounces it to be "A forged letter from Gen. Taylor—Locofoco trickery exposed;" and says: 'Some years since, there came a little man by the name of James W. Taylor to Cincinnati from West New York. He opened a law office, but not meeting with any success, took to writing for the press. The Cincinnati Herald and the Cincinnati Enquirer were recipients of his labors in this way for a short time, when he set up, on his own account, the Signal about a year ago. The Signal is a sort of independent democratic paper, not recognized at all by the Democratic party, and not distinguished for any remarkable ability in its editorial conduct."

The "National Whig" then copies the article from the "Signal" and the letter, and makes the following remarks: "By this time, we have no doubt, the reader has come to the conclusion we have arrived at namely, that the above letter, with the printed signature of Gen. Taylor to it, is a forgery.

"For ourselves, we do not hesitate to pronounce it a forgery—a base, contemptible forgery. Not that James W. Taylor is the forger. We do not say that, though he is a vain man. He is the victim of a wicked deception, if he is not the deceiver himself. He is a person of no influence in Cincinnati, and utterly unknown to Gen. Taylor.

"There is nothing like Gen. Taylor in this silly letter. The whole world will pronounce it a counterfeit at once, because the whole world knows the style of the hero of Buena Vista."
"Compare it with the following genuine letter of the old thunderer from the New Orleans Bulletin. That letter was written to Col. William Taylor of Point Coupee, Louisiana. It breathes the genuine sentiments of an out and out Whig writing to a brother Whig. Is there anything in it like the twaddle of the "Signal" forgery? Nothing."

Here follows the letter to Col. W. Taylor, which we have already published; and the "National Whig" concludes as follows: "In the mean time, we demand, as a matter of justice to the old hero, that every paper that shall publish this vile forgery from the Signal to copy this article. Gen. Taylor himself will nail it to the counter so soon as it can reach him. The scoundrels who have been instrumental in this infamous act of forgery will be ferreted out. A gallows as high as Haman's is already prepared for them."

Whether the letter attributed to General Taylor be genuine, or a forgery, will soon be decided by subsequent developments from Cincinnati, or from General Taylor. We learn from two citizens of Cincinnati, now in Washington, that the "National Whig" does injustice to the talents of Mr. Taylor. Postscript. Is it a forgery? Or is it authentic? The mail of tonight, just received, brings us several papers from Cincinnati of Monday last. Not one of them breathes single doubt of the authenticity of the General's letter. Most unfortunately for the "National Whig," and all others who think with it, yesterday's Southern mail brings us decisive proof that this so called "base, contemptible forgery," must be a genuine production.

The New Orleans Delta has the following article, fully confirmatory of the genuineness of the letter addressed to the Editor of the Cincinnati Signal. "A gentleman in this city received, a few days ago a letter from General Taylor, in which, referring to the attempts of certain papers, to make him a party candidate for the Presidency, the General says that he is very reluctant to be a candidate at all, but if he is, it will only be as the candidate of all parties—as the spontaneous choice of the people of parties—that he would not have the office unless it was untrammeled by party politics or obligations. The letter is written to a prominent Democrat of this city. What have our worthy contemporaries of the Bulletin to say to this? What will the "National Whig" now say of the "Locofoco forgery?" Will it now recant its insulting charge of "twaddle" in regard to the letter in the Signal? Truly, the confusion in the Whig ranks rapidly increase, and we do not envy the "political hucksters" who, for the sake of personal advantage and the trappings of power, have dragged into the political area the name of the gallant old hero, whom all must admire for his bravery and skill on the field, and his unflinching support of the just and righteous cause of his country against an "insolent foe."

A gentleman, long a resident of the city of Mexico, in which country his opportunities for observation have been most numerous, assures the Editor of the Pennsylvanian that "the influence most potent in the encouragement of the Mexicans during the present war, was the course of the Federal newspapers and Federal leaders in this country. Their anti-war opinion were repeatedly and exultingly copied into the Mexican papers. This fact did not astonish us, mortifying as it was to hear it in so authentic a shape."

The New Orleans Delta gives an amusing sketch of the examination before the Recorder of a discharge volunteer, upon a complaint of being found of being found drunk in the street. He obtains leave to "talk to this Court Martial," and enters into a long rigmarole of his services as a private in Marshall's cavalry, and of the strange habits of his horse, which would "throw out his hind feet as if he wanted to kick the whole Mexican nation into futurity."

The Recorder had a tedious job to keep the soldier's voluble tongue to the point—but he finally took the right track, and exposed the merits of his case, as follows. It was a running, or rather a fighting, epitome of the great scenes of the campaign: "Why, you see, Colonel, 'bout a week ago, old Col. Larned, the paymaster, give me my dimes, and I asked one of my mess, Bill Jones, if he wouldn't take a drink. We took a couple of horns and got a talking about politics. Bill said the Whigs was goin to run Gen. Taylor for President, and I said the old man wouldn' run no how. He then said that Gen. Scott was the man who had planned out all our battles, and I told him if old Zach had been let alone he'd had his old crooked nose smellin the perfumes of the halls of the Montezumers months ago. Bill got mad at this, for he's an all-fired strong Scott man, and we took another horn. Comin out of the doggery, Bill told me I was a fool, and I told him he was a liar. He gave me a Palo Alto lick in the head, and I returned the compliment by a regular Monterey sockdoleger in his bread-basket. He then come the Cerro Gordo tetch on my nose, which I repaid with a Buena Vista ping in his mouth. This last lick settled him, after which I went to take a horn, and I guess I fiddled 'em up until I was wuss than the beast with seven horns spoken of in the Revelations."

The Recorder read Will a lecture, and told him that it would be well for him to draw out by means of an emetic the horns that he had taken, and never again meddle with military politicians.

[MSM]
In spite of the heavy Paixhan gun from the *Times*, the *Republican* stands firmly by the standard of Gen. Taylor. Its article is as follows, and though no names are called, it attempts to specially parry the blows of the Times, and intimates that that and other Whig papers have recognized and encouraged the popular preferences for Gen. Taylor.

"The *National Whig* stoutly denies that Gen. Taylor ever wrote the letter recently published by the *Cincinnati Signal*. It boldly pronounces that letter as forgery. It places it side by side with the letter of Gen. Taylor to Col. Taylor of Louisiana and calls upon the reader to observe the difference.

"Whether this letter be genuine or not, the desire of Gen. Taylor not to seek the Government as the head of a party, nor receive it’s honors and administer its trusts as a partisan politician, were as well understood before the appearance of this document as since it’s publication. Supposing him to be the writer, he does not appear, as some think, to renounce Whig principles. Its is only "party schemes" with which he refuses to defile his hands, and we honor him the more for his manly independence. The letter does not express or imply any renunciation of the political preferences which we suppose him to entertain. It merely defers, till the close of war, a declaration of his views, when his usefulness as a military chief shall no longer be compromised by their discussion. What the principles of Gen. Taylor are, we have no more doubt than we have of his existence. Long before our own humble sheet, in response to the universal popular sentiment, nailed his flag to the mast, we were satisfied he was a Whig, on evidence which we regard as good as that he fought the battle of Buena Vista. When he disclaims those principles, we shall lower his standard; though never, were he baptized in the deepest waves of Democracy, never would we cease to honor and reverence his glorious name, nor admire a character who more nearly resembles the Father of his Country, than any patriot-hero who has ever graced the annals of the age.

"But we can multiply proofs, we can pile mountain of testimony on mountain, to demonstrate that Taylor is a Whig. And thus believing, we shall not forsake him, because, like Washington again, he prefers private life to the Executive station, and does not wish to leave his loved retirement, except at the call of his country. We know that his nomination has been repeatedly stigmatized as premature. If it be premature, the fault must be laid to the people, who have dared to indicate that their preference for Taylor, without the intervention of any political clique. If it be premature, it is because the people have acted before a Convention. What effect these premature movements have had upon his mind, we do not know, except that they have sometime since drawn from him a declaration that he will not refuse to accept the proffered honor, thus deciding a question which was at one period supposed to admit of great doubt. We have hoisted his flag, subject to the decree of the American public; and, in so doing, have appealed to the same tribunal which this letter acknowledges as supreme and final. It cannot be denied that even those who have not formally proclaimed his name, have recognized and encouraged the popular preferences for Gen. Taylor. It cannot be doubted that he is the favorite, for the highest station in the Government, of a vast majority of the American people; and thus believing, we see nothing premature in a "visible sign" of the "inward feeling" nothing premature in declining to wait till a Convention has given permission to the country to elect the Presidency the man of its choice.

"The nation waits with anxiety for the advent of a President, whose patriotism soars above party schemes, and who with moral courage only equaled by that physical valor which has covered with resplendent glory the American name, boldly resolves that he must be taken as a President of the people, or permitted to retire to his farm, and preserve there the independence which he deems to valuable, to barter for the highest office on earth."

The Republican is satisfied beyond doubt that Gen. Taylor is a Whig, and does not in this letter, "renOUNCE Whig principles." We shall let the following items in yesterday’s *Times* speak for themselves on this point:

"Important—the ‘Whig Central Committee of the State of Ohio’, in a late address to the Whigs of that State, use the following language:

“A word on the subject of the Presidential candidates: Far be it from us to debar any man, even if we had the power, from aspiring to the highest office within the gift of the people. Neither would we make military successes, however brilliant, a test a qualification. And while we condemn and reject no man, so neither do we propose any man in connexion with the Presidency. We are pledged to no one—we are committed to no one. We do not think the present a proper time to select a candidate. Let us re-assert our principles, and declare the policy on which we intend to act."

"The Knoxville *Standard*, (Democratic,) states that at the recent Taylor meeting in that place, Whigs and Democrats participated, and that one on the speakers—Gen. Anderson—a leading Democrat, ‘knows enough of Gen. Taylor to satisfy him that he is not of the protective tariff Whigs.”

The *Times* also clinches its article of Friday. Referring to the letter of Gen. T. to a Democrat quoted by the N. O. *Delta*, which says that he "can only be a candidate as the candidate of all parties—as the spontaneous choice of the people of all parties—and that he would not have the office unless it was untrammelled by party politics or obligations"—the Times remark: "This is very decided. But in a free country, where the people are understood to be the source of authority, where parties do exist, and where political principles are discussed and entertained by the people, we, hardly suppose it possible that they will be satisfied to go to the polls and vote for a man whose political principles have not been openly declared, and who, in his administration of affairs, is pledges to no particular policy—however great may be the national regard for him personally."

The Whig N.O.*Bulletin*, quoting the same letter, goes it blind, and says: "We are perfectly willing to support him on these terms—willing that he should be voted for by both Whigs and Democrats—willing to take him just as he is,
'and no questions asked. " Who can compare the conflicting positions and make even a fair guess of what will be the ultimate course of the Whig party?

To show how the letter is regarded in the West we quote the following from the Columbus (Ohio) Statesman: "Sore rebuke to the Whig party. —The true state of the case at last. —General Taylor has at last been drawn out fairly on the subject of the Presidency, in a letter to our friend Taylor, of the Cincinnati Signal, and which we copy below.

It is a most terrible damper to that portion of the Whig party who have been holding him up as a leader of their party schemes. 'In no case, ' says General Taylor to the Whigs, who have been bellowing for him with so much ardor—'In no case can I permit myself to be the candidate of any party or yield myself to party schemes. ' Our Whig State Central Committee were wise in repudiating him—in effect, if nut in words—as he declares he will have none of their party drill, and obey none of their party schemes! After this, we presume, we shall hear no more of Zachary's being 'a good Whig' 'a Whig sound in all the principles of the party, ' a 'Clay Whig' a 'Whig of the right stamp, ' &c, &c.

We shall now look with anxiety for the next move on the political chess-board of federalism and anti-warism, since he who fought so well his country's battles refuses to be a candidate of the party that leagued with our enemies while he was fighting them. This singular anomaly, conceived by the Whigs, is thus repudiated by the only man that could have consummated so great an absurdity. But to General Taylor's letter which will speak for itself. Here it is, read it, every Whig in the land. " [MSM]

A public dinner was tendered at New Orleans to Col. Doniphan, who was compelled to decline it. The Western and South-western papers are filled with the proceedings of the people, to give a warm and cordial reception to the brave volunteers just "returned from the wars. " [MSM]

A few days ago the Whig referred to the Taylor "current in which public sentiment in the South is running, " and gives as evidence that apprehension was felt by "some of the leaders lest the Democratic State Convention of Georgia might nominate General Taylor for President—but that Convention has met and adjourned, having resolved to support the nominee of a National Convention.

The course of the Richmond Times, a leading organ of the Virginia Whigs, and the action of the Whigs of Columbia county, Georgia, who we learn from the Whig, "in public meeting assembled, have expressed a decided preference for Mr. Clay as the Whig candidate for the next Presidency, " show that the "current" is not now quite so strong. [MSM]

The Government steamers, Secretary Mason and Secretary Buchanan, with the schooner Col. Yell, went to sea on Saturday from Philadelphia. The destination of these vessels is for Vera Cruz direct, via Key West. They are laden with stores for the army. [MSM]

The general impression seems to be that Gen. Scott is now in the Mexican capitol. What curious thoughts are suggested by the following brief words of the N. O. Courier!

"We trust Scott and his gallant troops will spend the Fourth of July in the enemy's capitol and that some eloquent and able man among his chaplains may be called upon to deliver a real, true-blue American discourse respecting that glorious and ever to-be-celebrated anniversary, and on the brilliant prospects which recent events have opened to the view of the Mexican people. "

The New Orleans National says:

"We presume that Gen. Scott is now in Mexico; he was to leave Puebla on the 16th June. Giving him four days for delay, he still has time, up to his date, to have reached the city. The distance from Puebla to Mexico is less than ninety miles—the road is through a plain except at Rio Frio, but this pass, of which much has been said, is not as..."
formidable as has been represented. There is no chapparal to conceal the enemy, the forest assuming a character suited to a temperate climate, and we are assured by a gentleman familiar with the pass, that it presents very little obstacle to our advance. Once on the top of the mountain, twenty miles distant, the city extends out as it were on a map. Lake and village, house and castle, are all distinctly marked, while the gorgeous mountains that surround it, give it the air of an enchanted city; it is so beautiful in its repose. It was from this mountain pass that Cortez and his followers surveyed the ancient Mexico—and, in their wonder and delight at the prospect, fell on their faces with joy. We can readily imagine that our brave troops, like those of Cortez, a mere handful, when they behold the Halls of the Montezumas for the first time, will at least raise a shout, the echoes of which will linger as a funeral knell on the departed sovereignty of the present degenerate inhabitants. " [MSM]

REv44i19p2c5 July 5, 1847 General Taylor’s Letter (From the Washington Union)

The following article, to which reference is made by the letter of General Taylor, was published in the Cincinnati Signal of April 13th, and is as follows:

"General Taylor and the Presidency.

We perceive in various quarters, the nomination of General Zachary Taylor for the Presidency. So far as such a demonstration is the mere transport of military enthusiasm, or the trick of political faction, it would be unworthy of notice; but we think it evident that his movement of the public mind has a much higher character, and grows out of a conviction, that General Taylor has displayed an energy and wisdom of conduct, and a modesty of demeanor, which are as requisite to the deliberations of cabinet as the plan of a campaign. It is a great mistake to suppose that the people are blinded in their political preferences by the bare fact of military achievement. It was the popular impulses and the stern honesty of Andrew Jackson, which aroused the sympathy and trust of the nation; and we predict that, whatever skill or success may attend the march of General Scott to Mexico, he will never excite the attachment or confidence which follows the hero of Buena Vista. We are not surprised, therefore, that ardent spirits are calling for the sword of General Taylor to cut the Gordian knot of political intrigues. But it is a far different question whether his name and fame shall be made an instrument of mere partisan warfare. In this respect, there is a distinction, which we are confident General Taylor will be among the first to perceive and act upon, which we hope to illustrate in the few remarks that we feel constrained to make in reference to existing and future agitation of this subject.

"What an enviable rank in the eyes of the world, and the harts of his countrymen, General Taylor now holds. Should he return form the fields of the Rio Grande and the heights of the Sierra Madre, with what affection and respect would he be greeted by men of all parties. Himself never a politician—content in the quiet discharge of duty and the enjoyments of domestic life—and while prompt to meet the Indian for, in the prairies or everglade, and to stand by the flag of the country, when advance to a foreign frontier, yet devoted, as all accounts represent him, to that home and family, in the bosom of which the intervals of his life, thus far, have passed peacefully and happily—" we confess that our impressions of General Taylor are such that we should not be surprised if he firmly disregarded every acclamation which connected his name with the Presidency. Should he do so, he jeopards nothing of the present spring tide of popular favor—" no, more, he takes instant rank with Washington, as an unconscious but eloquent preacher of the highest political morale. How much more enviable such a destiny for the evening of his days, then to cast the mantle of his military fame and private virtues over the excesses and corruptions which disfigure the party politics of the day. He is no friend to the reputation of General Taylor who would thus seek to restrict the applause of the whole country to the interested clamor of a party.

"Still, as a citizen of a free republic, General Taylor is to the hands of the American people; and we can readily imagine a contingency in which it would become his duty to assent to demand of the country, and assume the responsibilities of political life. But it must be the regulation of the country, not of this or that set of office-seekers, which will call him either front his rank or his fireside. It must be such a call as compelled Washington to forego the retirement of Mount Vernon—"unanimous, disinterest, the voice of the people, not the flatteries of politicians. We believe that it is in General Taylor's power, at this juncture of the national politics, to take independent ground, and become the President of the People. Our support of him, or of any other man, shall never be pledged in advance of a full knowledge of the principles and views with which he would assume that responsible station; but we may be allowed as an independent journal to indicate some of the signs of the times which point to the result just mentioned.

"1. The presidential canvass of 1848 is in utter confusion. Among the Whigs, a Pittsburg meeting nominates Judge McLean, who is also understood to be a general favorite of his party in the North western States; the anti-war spirit of New England and the Western Reserve indicates its preference for Senator Corwin; the Southern and Middle States cherish a fancy for Scott, which only requires a victory at Perote to manifest itself; while, as an undercurrent, deeper and perhaps stronger than all, is the chivalric feeling in behalf of Henry Clay, now intensified by the death of his gallant son, which may yet determine the shape of the conflicting elements. The Democrats are in a condition equally chaotic. In the West, Gen. Cass has many and warm friends; Mr. Calhoun, with his compact and disciplined body guard, stand ready to make his presidential fortune, or mar that of other aspirants in the Democratic ranks; Silas Wright, if the New York reverse had not occurred, would have been prominent in the field, and is still the favorite of many; while quietly in Lindenwald sits the statesman of the party, who will probably never again join the political melee, but might prove more available in a strict party trial than many men whose names are frequently heard in the present connexion. In the general confusion, an apprehension prevails that the election will revert to the House of Representatives—a result greatly to be deplored; and hence the popular impulse, which chooses to adjourn the strifes of parties and the struggles of their leaders, while the country takes breath under the administration of an
"2. A circumstance that may lead to the election of Gen. Taylor, by a sort of acclamation, is the fact that the pride of the respective parties would thus be saved—never authorized to claim a triumph, and neither suffering the ignomy of defeat. A long intimacy between Mr. Clay and Gen. Taylor reconciles the Whigs to the political orthodoxy of the latter, although Gen. Taylor is said not to have voted for many years; while Mr. Polk, who is, and has bee, as we are authoritatively informed, entirely free from any intention or wish for a second term of service, may still be gratified to yield his seat to the successful General of the Mexican war—closely identified as that war is with the success of his administration.

"3. The above considerations are subordinate, however, to the principles which are involved in ever presidential canvass. The country has been divided for fifteen years upon most exciting topics; and if General Taylor, immediately upon his inauguration as President, was constrained to adopt either extreme, the consequences might be fatal to the success of his administration. It so happens, however, that the results of Mexican hostilities will remove many of those points of collision—at least for a few years. A debt of one hundred millions induces the necessity of a tariff, sufficiently advanced in its rates to satisfy New England and Pennsylvania, and at the same time will prevent any distribution of proceeds of the public lands. We cannot suppose that the Whigs will again urge a Bank of the United States, and Congress will insist upon a fair trial of the Independent treasury, removing some of these impractical restrictions which have embarrassed the fiscal action of the government, and are an annoyance to individuals. So far, therefore, as the past contests of the respective parties are concerned, and administration composed of the leading minds of all parties, and supported by the whole people, is not only practicable, but may redound to the highest interest of the whole country.

"Only on one condition, however. The Executive must no longer insist upon legislative influence. There are questions approaching, which the people must be allowed to settle in their own way, without the interference of Executive patronage or prerogative. The old political issues may be postponed under the pressure of circumstances, and as for the new—those coming events which cast their shadows before—let it be understood; that the only path of safety for those who may hereafter till the Presidential office, is to rest in discharge of Executive, functions, and let the legislative will of the people find utterance and enactment. The American people are about to assume the responsibility of framing the institutions of the Pacific States. We have no fears for the issue, if the arena of the high debate is the assemblies of the people and their representative halls. The extension over the continent beyond the Rio Grande of the ordinance of 1787, is an object too high and permanent to be baged by Presidential vetoes. All that we ask of the incumbent of the highest under the Constitution, it us hold his hand, to bow to the will of the people, as promulgated in legislative forms, and restrain the Executive action in its appropriate channels. Give us an honest administration of the Government, and an end to all cabals of a cabinet—all interference from the White House—designed to sway or thwart the action of the American people. If such simplicity and integrity should guide the administration of General Taylor, the North and West would yield to it a warm support and hearty approval.

"We have said all on this subject which the present developments of public opinion require. As other scenes unfold, we shall seek to chronicle them with fair and independent comment. Meanwhile we hide the movement of the waters, holding our columns and our ballot to be disposed of, according to our sense of duty, as emergencies of this day. The reasons which he assigns for this delay on his part, are both palpable and cogent; and his conclusion on the subject cannot but be regarded as a pointed rebuke of those Federal office seekers who have sought to thrust him, prematurely and in the midst of his important military duties, before the people as a party candidate—and that, too, not only without any avowal of his political opinion, but, in fact, in deprecation of any such avowal. Under such circumstances, it is, moreover, quite manifest that any commitment, at this time, on the part of an section of the Democratic party in favor of the election of Gen. Taylor, is not only unsafe and ill judged in itself, but is, at the same time, as we may premise from his language, at variance with the wishes of Gen'l Taylor himself. We are glad to perceive, also, from General Taylor’s expressions upon this subject, that he fully recognizes the necessity of an avowal of his "personal views" in reference to the great questions of the day, before becoming a candidate for the suffrages of the people, though he considers that the time for such an avowal has not yet arrived. In this conclusion every man—and especially every Democrat, who acts upon principle, in his political course and preferences—must concur. Of course, therefore, such men will wait until such an avowal of his opinions has been made by Gen. Taylor, and has received their approval, before making up their minds to give him their support as a candidate for the President. Especially is such delay proper, in view of the strong party demonstrations in favor of Gen. Taylor, which have been made by some of the hangers on of the federal party, evidently from the most selfish and sordid motives. In addition to this, it must be remembered that Gen. Taylor is still a military chieftain at the head of his army on the battle field. The country will feel deeply the hazard involved in the precedent of selecting a man so circumstanced to fill the highest civil office in our republic; and this objection can be removed, if at all, certainly only be the most full and frank disclosure of his political opinions, and by the most ample popular approval of them. We have no hesitation in believing that this distinguished general will, with all the frankness of a soldier, express his opinions freely before the election. Certain it is that a free and enlightened people owe it to themselves to form no definite opinion about supporting him, until they have ascertained his own opinions in relation to the great fundamental principles of the government. Gen. Taylor’s explicit declaration, that he can "in no case permit himself to be the candidate of any party, or yield himself to party schemes," will attract the attention of the country. Doubtless it will cool the ardor of those office seeking politicians who have heretofore put themselves forward to support him, in furtherance of their own selfish purposes. Nor will the people, we think, hear from a man who may be a candidate for the Presidency so strong a disclaimer of all party connection, without serious consideration. The country is divided into two great parties, whose origin is coeval with the constitution itself, and whose differences of opinion are
based upon opposite constructions of that instrument, and opposite views of the proper functions and rightful sphere
of our federal government. The party plants itself upon a strict construction of the Constitution, and seeks to restrict
the action of the government to the exercise of its specified power and of such other incidental power only as may
be necessary to carry those specified powers into effect. The other party adopts a latitudinarian construction of the
Constitution, and, under the pretence of implied powers, would plunge the general government into vast schemes of
internal improvement, conflicting with State jurisdiction—would give us a high tariff for protection, a bank to
concentrate the money power of the country, and a scheme for the distribution among the States of the proceeds of
the public lands. Between two such parties and their principles, can there be entire harmony and cooperation in the
administration of the government? Is the fusion of two such parties, under any administration, practical? On the
contrary, must not any man who presents himself before the people as a candidate for the highest office in their girt,
make his election between these two opposing political platforms?

We will not analyze all the positions taken by the editor of the "Morning Signal" of Cincinnati, in April last. All of them
are strongly and powerfully stated. Some of them may be correctly assumed, though we must express our fears
that, in the Federal school, none of the great parts of their system can be considered as "obsolete. " Give them the
power again, and we may look out for the resurrection of a National Bank and a high Protective Tariff. We pass over
these matters, however, for the present. But there is one position of the "Signal" against which we must protest. The
article to which Gen. Taylor has replied, alludes to the exercise of the veto power by the Executive, and protests
against such "legislative influence" in the Chief Magistrate. We cannot take it positively for granted that Gen. Taylor
adopts this bold declaration of the "Signal, " tho' he would appear to approve, in a high degree, "the sentiments and
views embraced" in this editorial of the "Signal. "

Let it not be forgotten that this veto power—this same "legislative influence" in the Executive—is a part, and an
important part of our Constitution—necessary, indeed, to the symmetry and perfection of that instrument as an
organization of the public authority of the public authority in to different departments of government. It is the
constitutional duty of the President to veto a law which he deems a violation of the Constitution, or is in itself a
flagrant act of inequality and injustice. The people are not yet prepared to surrender this feature which they have
incorporated into their government. Certainly it preservation is not less important now than in time past. We do not
believe that the people can with safety, or that they will, elevate to the presidency any man who is pledged or
committed in any way, directly or indirectly, against the exercise, on a fitting occasion, of this branch of their
delegated authority. We certainly will not believe that General Taylor is prepared to strike out this important part of
the Executive power—thus, in fact, changing the Constitution of his country—until we have an explicitly avowal of
the sentiment from his own pen.

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**REv44i19p3c3 July 5, 1847 Defence of the City of Mexico**

On the 1st of June, all the natives of the U.States were ordered to leave the City of Mexico, for the States of Jalisco
or Morelia, or they would be dealt with according to the law of nations. Troops are concentrating from the adjoining
States for the protection of the city. A defence, or at least a show of defence, is certainly to be made. We are still
without advices of Gen. Scott's march upon the city of Mexico.

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**REv44i19p4c1 July 5, 1847 Treasures of Mexico**

W.J. Day, an American prisoner in Mexico, describes, in a letter in the Louisville Democrat, some of the curiosities in
the Mexican metropolis. Among them he refers to the bronze statue of Charles the Fifth; it is solid brass and weighs
30 tons. The horse is ten feet high and made in perfect proportion and symmetry. Chasis about eleven feet in
altitude and represents well the character of the original. It is the work of an Indian artist, and is valued at $1, 500,
000 which was offered for it by a Museum in London and declined by the Mexican authorities. The Cathedral is more
magnificent than description can represent it. The architecture and the paintings are all the artist could make them.
The Palace and Grand Square, or Plaza, are great works. The Indian Calendar is a huge old rock, bearing on its face
rude symbols or inscriptions of events, before and after the conquest by Cortez. On this rock the poor superstitious
Indians sacrificed their victims to appease their gods; when dangers impended, and periodically, according to the
rites of their church. The old church built by Cortez, the first church of the Catholics in Mexico, still stands, venerable
and time worn, and looks like a relic of olden times.

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**REv44i19p4c2 July 5, 1847 Important from Mexico**

(From the Picayune); Gen. Scott's Departure from Puebla- No Negotiations for peace—Withdrawal of Troops from
Jalapa—Gen Pillow's Departure from Vera Cruz—Santa Ann still President—Almonds in Prison—Confusion of Parties in
Mexico—Cabinet Changes—Intercepted dispatches, &c.
The steamship Palmetto, Capt. Smith, arrived last evening from Vera Cruz, having sailed thence on the 18th inst. She touched at Tampico on the 20th and Brazos Santiago on the 21st inst. Although we are not in possession of letters from Mr. Kendall, we shall advise upon which we place every relative to the movements of Gen. Scott.

An express from Puebla, by the route of Cordova, had arrived at Vera Cruz, announcing that Gen. Scott commenced his march upon the city of Mexico on the 16th inst. We hear not a word more in regard to the overtures for peace said to have been made to Gen. Scott. Then he marched on the 16th we have no doubt. Another express had arrived at Vera Cruz from Jalapa, which announces that all the sick had left there on the 15th inst. for Perote under a small escort. Col. Childs was to leave the following day with all the garrison. Gen. Shields would accompany him. The road between Jalap and Puebla is represented as free from guerrilla parties of any kind. About one thousand troops left Vera Cruz on the 17th inst., under the command of Maj. Gen. Pillow, to join the army of Gen. Scott. The Spanish renegade named La Vega, who lately repaired to Vera Cruz in company with the veracious Col. Mata from this city, is represented to us as yet being in command of a strong guerrilla party. By the express from Jalapa we have no intelligence from Gen. Cadwalader, as the rider came by a circuitous route to avoid the predatory parties on the road.

By this arrival we have received papers from the city of Mexico on the 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th of June. Our previous files came down to the 29 of May. The intermediate dates we have not yet received, and presume they have been forwarded by same sailing vessel. We have only had time to glance hastily at the papers before us, from which we glean the following: Santa Anna still remains in power. His resignation we presume was withdrawn; for it is intimated that a majority of Congress was anxious to accept it. His administration, in consequence of this feeling Congress, has entirely changed its policy and thrown itself into the arms of the puros. One great section of the puros, however, is not conciliated by this movement, the adherents of Gomez Farias and Gen. Aimonie still continue their opposition to the Administration. Senor Rejon, the former friend of Farias, is said to be the main support of Santa Anna’s Administration, although he holds no public office. He is denounced as a man without principle, a trucaller, &c.

It is represented that opinions were more divided in the capital than at present. No party seems to have decided upon what course to take. At one time the puros and the moderados appear inclined to unite upon a dissolution of Congress, and leave everything in the hands of Santa Anna, and then again the puros talk of recalling eh absent members of their party, and of having a working majority to carry their measures. In working majority to carry their measures. In the mean time, a quorum of Congress cannot often be collected. If we can give no intelligible account of the designs of parties and the Government, it is because such confusion and anarchy never before existed in the city of Mexico, by the admission of all. A important financial measure of Anaya’s administration has been summarily abrogated by Santa Anna, in deference, as he says to public opinion. This has led to the resignation of Senor Barand, who was not consulted as to the repeal of the measure. Senor Lafragua was then nominated in his place as head of the State Department, but this appointment gave dissatisfaction to the puros, who renominated against it. The result in not known. General Almonte was still in prison, nor are we able to learn anything more definite as to the nature of his offence, his trial not having yet come on. The state of Chihuahua voted unanimously for General Santa Anna for President. This is the only addition State, the vote of which is given in the papers before us. The votes were to be opened on the 15th of the present month. Our impression is, that Congress will have to make choice between the two highest candidates, as no one will probably receive a majority of all the votes. On various occasions Congress has displayed great respect for General Herrera, which leads to the opinion that he will be chosen. We find no mention made of the measures taken for the defence of the capital.

The papers say, that General Scott pretended to his troops that they would march into Mexico on the 15th July but that this was a mere boast, in order to keep up the spirits of his men—that he was in no condition to move, lacking reinforcements. Letters from Puebla to the capital, represent Generals Scott and Worth as saying, that if Santa Ann has charge of the decision of the matters of Mexico, they will be able to take it with the loss of two or three hundred men only; but that if Bravo or Valencia command, it will cost them more dear. The Republicano derides this gossip, though it sounds very natural to us. The Government is urged by letters from Puebla and its vicinity to fall upon Scott, now he is weak, and crush him. They say he has really but a little over 5000 men, thought he pretends to have 7000. They seem to dread lest Gen. Taylor should proceed to join Gen. Scott.

The propositions which Mr. Trist is authorized to make are said by the Mexicans to be that each Republic shall name three commissioners to discuss the claims of the United States, and that if Mexico will not consent to this, then the war is to be prosecuted.

We find in the Republicano of the 7th instant, along dispatch from the Secretary of War to Gen. Scott, dated the 30th of April. It informs him that by the end of June the President supposes Gen. Scott will have twenty, and Gen. Taylor ten thousand men under their respective command. It asks for the views of Gen. Scott on various questions suggested, and gives him directions how to operate with disaffected Mexican States. The Republicano regards this latter portion as very important, but pronounces the Secretary’s representation as to the number of troops to be in the field utterly false. How his letter was intercepted we are not informed.

The Mexicans appear to have intercept a good number of private letters. Several to Col. Childs are particularly referred to. One is from Mrs. Childs and contains much pleasant gossip as to the state of parties in the United States. Other letters of an entirely private nature are commented upon.

The successes of some of the guerrilla parties near Vera Cruz are duly chronicled and commended in the paper. The afternoon of the 6th inst., Santa Anna reviewed at Tealpam the troops from the South of Mexico under Alvarez. This general’s command had not all arrived, but it was expected to reach 8000 men in a few days. Senor Pedro del Castillo has been removed from the command of the regiment of Hidalgo in the National Guard. The act is strongly
Censured. Gen. J. Gomez de la Cortina has resigned the command of the battalion of Victoria, of which he was colonel. Three hundred troops from Morelia arrived in the capital on the 7th inst. Diligences have been established between these two cities. One of them has already been robbed. The Vice Governor of Oajaca has resigned his office and his resignation has bee accepted.

Gen. Scott appears to preserve perfect discipline among his troops at Puebla. The Mexicans admit this indirectly, though letters are published complaining of our excesses in general terms. The case of a New York volunteer is mentioned, who was tried by a court martial for assaulting a woman with a view of robbing her of a silver crucifix.

The casting of a piece of cannon at Toluca on the 2d inst. is formally mentioned. We have thus glanced at the papers before us, but will recur to them again, and should they contain anything of importance, lay it before our readers.

From Tampico, we learn litter news by this arrival. The only thing which give animation to the town appears to be the false alarms which frequently occur. We are informed by an office of dragoons that he went out with a party on a scout on the 18th inst., and proceeded some forty miles from the city in the direction of Altamira, but saw no armed Mexicans. The country people appeared friendly, and like the rest of the inhabitants of Tamaelipas did not seem ill affected towards our Government.

The Louisiana regiment stationed at Tampico has suffered severely from sickness. Many have died and there are yet men sick—not less than 150, accounts say. Not more than 180 men are reported fit for service, and yet this is the only regiment doing duty. Reinforcements have been expected, but in vain.

(From the New Orleans Delta.) Lieut. De Groote, of the Dragoons, who arrived on the Palmetto, has been ordered hither to recruit men to fill up his complement. It consist now of only fifty-four men. This is the company with which it is intended to open the road from Tampic to San Luis Potosi.

Notwithstanding the privations to which the troops of Col. Doniphan were subjected in their prolonged march and perilous campaign, they enjoyed excellent health during the whole time. One instance as an illustration:—in Capt. Weightman's company of light artillery, numbering 120 men, not a man was lost by sickness, nor indeed otherwise, during the twelve months they have been out.

From the Brazos. —The steamer Jas. L. Day, Capt. Wood, started last evening for Brazo St. Jazo. She took down 66 horses and two companies of the 13th infantry, under the command of Lt. Col. Withers. Col. J. M. Withers is from Alabama, our sister State, and he will, we venture to say, do honor to his appointment. He is a gallant gentleman, and thoroughly understand the profession in which he has embarked.

From Vera Cruz. —The steamer Galveston, Captain Haviland, started last evening for Vera Cruz with 110 horses, a number of teamsters and some passengers.

Troops. —The barque Convoy, arrived yesterday from Key West on the 15th inst., off Doble Headed Shot Keys, spoke the barque H. Harbuck, twenty days out from New York, with U.S. troops, bound for Vera Cruz.

The following letter from our attentive Monterey correspondent, received yesterday, give the latest intelligence from that section: Five companies of the Virginia Regiment have been ordered to join General Wool—the balance of the regiment will go up as soon as the Massachusetts Regiment reaches here. One company of the North Carolina Regiment has moved forward to Saltillo. The 1st and 2d Regiments of Illinois Volunteers, and the Arkansas Cavalry, will leave here to day for Camargo, where they will be discharged from the service and paid. Paymasters Dix and Partridge will go down with them to make the payment. The advance on San Luis will be deferred for some time, probably until September, in consequence of the inadequacy of the force at present in this section. I was in Camp this morning, but could learn no news. All is quiet. The rainy season, I think, has fairly set in. Yours, T.

[MSM]

REv44i19p4c3 July 5, 1847 Capt. Lincoln

The fine milk white charger rode by this gallant office of Buena Vista, (says the N. Orleans Delta) is now here in charge of the 2d Kentucky Volunteers, who, with a delicacy and sensibility worthy of the bright fame of this distinguished regiment, have made arrangements to send this favorite horse of the lamented deceased to his distinguished and patriotic father in Boston. We are told that when Capt. Lincoln fell he was in the rear of the Kentucky Volunteers, of whose gallantry he had just expressed his desire to be a witness. After delivering an order to the Illinois regiment, he wheeled his charger, and halting for a moment, cried out to the 2d Kentuckians, "I must see how these Kentuckys boys fight." The words had scarcely escaped his lips, when he fell from his horse pierced by a half-dozen balls. His horse was uninjured, and is a noble charger as ever "snuffed the battle." He was purchased at the sale of Capt. Lincoln's effects by that heroic woman, whose sobriquet, "Great Western," is so familiar to our readers, and who, with characteristic liberality and magnanimity readily yielded him to the solicitation of the Kentuckians, who desired to have him sent to Gov. Lincoln.

[MSM]
The night of the 23d of February last was one of most intense anxiety to the participator in the bloody fight of Buena Vista. After twelve hours of obstinate fighting, with the final result yet unknown, nothing but water having passed the lips of those gallant men, for the last twelve hours, the flower of their respective corps dead or wounded, and the certainty of a renewal of the onslaught the next day, it is hard to imagine a period more calculated to "try men's souls" that night. After the cessation of the fight, came the lassitude super induced by the extraordinary excitement of the day; men fell exhausted, and bivouacked in the line—"the weary to rest and the wounded to die."

—The depression of physical energy was so great, that neither hunger nor danger could incite them: that bloody field was at 8 o'clock as silent as the grave. It can only be surmised what were he feeling of that "great old man" upon contemplating the results of that day's work. No officer sought repose, and the camp fires, which on other occasions had been the scene of just and merriment, were now still, and deep anxiety depicted on the faces of the various officers, impressed you with a solemnity, a foreboding of ill, that was truly painful. All eyes were turned ever and anon to the tent of one upon whom all their hopes were placed, but not a light, not a movement could be discerned. The occasion made that single tent an object of intense solicitude. Some wondered if he was alone, others would have given their earthly wealth to have known the thoughts, the hopes, the wishes, the intentions of the old hero; but all was dark and silent as the tomb. Capt. L., of the Topographical Engineers, had visited the battle ground at night. He had made some discoveries he thought important to be communicated immediately to the commander-in-chief. On approaching the general's quarters, he overtook his servant, who had been attending to his master's cavalry, and inquired if the "old man" was alone and awake. "I spec he fast asleep, Captin, for he eat a monstrous hearty supper, and when he a big supper he sleep berry hard and sound, and I reckon you won't see de 'hold hos' for 4' o clock in the mornin'. Listen, you hear him snore clean out here. " When the captain made a report of this last reconnaissance, joy and satisfaction were diffused through the camp. They knew that all was safe. R.P.W[MSM]

The following graphic account of the Texas "Flying Artillery" used at the battle of San Jacinto, we find in an exchange paper. It beats Ringgold's all hollow:

"Sam Houston's Flying Artillery used at the battle of San Jacinto, was one four pounder, lashed with a piece of raw hide to the back of a Jackass. When the piece was discharged, it would throw him forward on his face with such force as to detain him in that position until the piece was re-loaded, and as he rose and brought it within range of the Mexicans, the match was applied, away went the animal on his face knees, and away went thunder and flame and death staling balls, and away went the Mexicans, helter skelter. " [MSM]

The Norfolk Beacon of Tuesday says: We understand that the barque Margaret Hugg will sail from Hampton Roads, today, for the Gulf of Mexico, with Capt. Caldwell's company of Voltigeurs, and 103 Voltigeur recruits, under command of Lt. Marriot, on board. The following is a list of officers of Captain Calwell's company: Jas. H. Calwell, captain, John W. Leigh, 1st Lieutenant; G.W. Carr, 2d tlo; Isaac Smith, 3d do. Officers of the recruits from Baltimore —J.C. Marriot, 1st Lieutenant, J.C. Wynder. 2d do. [MSM]

—The New York Post compares Colonel Doniphan's expedition from Missouri, through New Mexico to the mouth of the Rio Grande, with the famous expedition of the five hundred Greeks under the renowned leader of nearly similar name, Colonel Xenophon. The last has become classic, because it was told in so charming a manner by Xenophon, and all Doniphan has to do is to write as perfect a history his expedition to make it be read with admiration two thousand years hence. The Greeks were led from near Babylon through Armenia to the Black Sea, and thence to Chrysopolis, three thousand four hundred and sixty five English miles. It was accomplished in fifteen months, and a large part o it through an unknown, mountainous and hostile country, and in an inclement season, the Greeks losing every thing except their lives and arms. Doniphan and the Missourians traveled over six thousand miles in twelve months, neither receiving supplies nor money, but living exclusively on the country through which they passed, and supplying themselves with powder and balls by capturing them from the enemy. They fought three battles, in each of which they were victorious, over greatly superior numbers. These are the two most remarkable expeditions that have ever occurred. [MSM]
We are glad to perceive that the Baltimore _American_, Baltimore _Patriot_, Philadelphia _Inquirer_, New York _Courier_, and other leading Whig papers, advocate General Taylor even more earnestly since the appearance of the letter to the Editor of the _Signal._

(Richmond _Republican_) What says that "leading Whig paper, " the National Whig, established at Washington, expressly to sustain the election of General Taylor? It denounces the letter as a "base Locofoco forgery," "silly twaddle," &c.

And what says that "leading Whig paper," the Richmond _Times_ of yesterday? In re-publishing yesterday the celebrated editorial of the _Signal_, (which the _Republican_ and the _Whig_ have not yet quoted,) the _Times_ conveys the severest rebuke that we yet seen of the "premature" "no party men." It says: "we are not surprised that Mr. J.W. Taylor (the Editor of the _Signal_) should have written to General T., on the contrary, we conjecture, that he is only one of many of those who instead of hoisting General Taylor's flag at their mast head, have made themselves fat to General Taylor, hoping to be drawn up thus into the grateful confines of papdom.

We are only surprised that he did not answer in the language of the following, which the New York _Commercial_ has well suggested as a more appropriate response from that great commander whom the Taylor 'Flag-bearers' are so prone to style 'Old Rough and Ready.'

Sir:—I have had the honor to receive your letter and the paper sent with it; and will read both, some time or other, when the war is over, and I am quite at leisure. I have the honor, &c., &c. "it is to the indiscretion of the "premature" portion of the press, which have by embarrassing General Taylor brought him apparently to repel the Whig party, that we desired to direct attention. The tack which they now pursue, is to repudiate party—as if parties were not necessary in a free government, and inseparable from the exercise of a freedom of opinion among a free people. Some of these very anti-party men, too, are those who in times past, have been intolerant partisans. But break up parties separated by difference as to principles, and what must succeed? Parties fighting for place and patronage."

We ask the _Republican's_ attention to the following graphic sketch by the Washington correspondent of the _Pennsylvaniaian_: "If a bomb shell had been thrown amongst our Federal neighbors, more consternation, could not have been manifested, than was seen after the publication of Gen. Taylor's last letter. No. 6., of the Thompsonian system of medicine, celebrated for its teaming and sweating process, would be but child's play compared with the effect this letter has upon our Federal opponents. They wriggle like an eel upon a sharp hook while undergoing the hiding process. Man of them begin to think "old Tough and Ready" is not the kind of a man they took him for. The ghost of Tylerism stares them in the face, and no wonder they exhibit so much perturbation. The last paragraph has created a nausea which renders even a hasty plat of soup unpalatable. Poor, deluded victims of Federal folly and madness! The cup of their sorrows, vexations, and disappointments, is almost full. The future, to them, is as dark and hopeless, as the past and the present. A momentary transport is quickly followed by a depression, as mournful to witness, as it is agonizing to endure. Whither to flee they know not—where to find succor from their perils is an interrogation often put but never answered. They dig a pit and fall therein: set a snare and are first caught therein. In attempting to hood-wink others, they have been awfully bamboozled themselves. "The biter's bit," and their fate is in the fire. Poor fellows! Misfortunes and disasters are their inheritance."

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When our eyes met this startling announcement in Saturday's Petersburg Intelligencer, we could not imagine what new "gorgon and chimaera dire" the Whigs had been able to evoke. For a moment we supposed that it was to record the fact of Gen. T. being "superceded" as the Whig Presidential candidate by the article in the Times. On looking into the body of the piece, however, we found that it was his military and not his civil command which was referred to.

We shall let the N.O. _National_ which first started this ridiculous story, tell it in its own language: "We have what we conceive to be undoubted authority for stating that Gen. Taylor has been superseded in his command. An express passed through Matamoras some few weeks since, with the credit of bearing such news to Gen. Taylor; in due course of time, the rumor comes from Monterey that such is the fact, and that Gen. Taylor is hereafter, as a subordinate, to report to Gen. Scott, and through him to the War Department at Washington. This last account of an unhappy administration will seal its fate with the American people. Its conduct towards Gen. Taylor from the commencement of actual hostilities, has been characterized by neglect, and not an opportunity has been permitted to pass, that could be taken advantage of, to annoy and harass him. The intention has been to force Gen. Taylor into some act of indiscretion that would render him unpopular before the people, and compel him to resign.

"So far, the enemies of the old hero have been disappointed in their expectations, as they will ever be, but Mr. Polk has lost his judgment, and pursued precisely the course of conduct he should to elevate the man he wished to destroy. We cannot imagine a more total ignorance of the feelings that govern the people of this country, than has been shown in the treatment Gen. Taylor has received from the administration."

This silly humbug is generally copied into the Whig papers, with a swelling torrent of affected indignation. To
"This being the case, the making Gen. Taylor subordinate to Gen. Scott is surely more proper than would be the opposite arrangement—Gen. Scott being the senior officer of the grade would not make him the subordinate of his junior would be an insult and a wrong, but there is neither wrong nor insult in requesting Gen. Taylor to receive orders from his senior, Gen. Scott. "But as we have said, these are only our ideas and may be all wrong. We have no military knowledge or experience. " [MSM]

REv44i20p1c2 July 9, 1847 Affairs in Mexico

The Mexican nation is made up of such strange elements, moved by such contradictory influences, that we have long since ceased to speculate upon the probable issue of events at an early date. Certain it is, that the aspect of affairs is much less pacific than we had recently been led to expect. All accounts now seem to agree that General Scott will have one more grand battle at least, before he enters the Mexican Capital. How it will eventuate, we have no fears.

REv44i20p2c2 July 9, 1847 Gen. Taylor's Rebuke of the Anti-War Whigs

Text. "We are opposed to the War, as unconstitutional—(N.Y.Express. )

Comment. —"No one can support me who opposes the war—he's worse than a Mexican. "—(Gen. Taylor. )

Thus it is, (says the N.Y.Globe, ) that "these Whig demagogues get snubbed on all sides, for their impertinent assurance in claiming to be in favor of Gen. Taylor, the hero of the war, while they are denouncing the war itself as wicked and unconstitutional. But there are no tricks that the Whigs will not resort to—no principles that they will not sacrifice—no inconsistency too glaring for them to adopt—if they fancy that thereby they can succeed in getting into power and place. "

In connexion with the above we quote a significant remark made to the editor of the Cincinnati Enquirer by a "brave and discriminating officer, " who is direct from the seat of war: "Sir, ' said he, 'tell the presses and politicians who are denouncing the war and the cause of the country, that if they are so fixed in their opinions that they cannot abandon them, they had better at once take up arms and go into the ranks of the enemy. They will do the country less injury by that course, than by continuing in their present position. "

This observation, enforced by the facts within the knowledge of the speaker, is another proof that the factious, mischievous course of the Whig press and politicians in assailing the justice of the war and the conduct of their own Government, and thereby virtually encouraging the public enemy to persevere in their mad resistance to negotiation. The great body of the people of both nations, says the Cincinnati Enquirer, "desire peace, and it would long since have been accomplished, had not the military leaders in Mexico based their hopes upon our discussions, and actually found, not only sympathy, but encouragement, from the leaders of a great political party among us. The men, who control the affairs of Mexico have long since found that they could not successfully contend with our troops in the field;--but they have seen that army, whilst covering itself with honors abroad, most bitterly denounced at home;--and at the same time the leaders of a great political party pledging themselves, upon their accession to power, to recall that army, or to cut off its supplies, and thereby compel an abandonment of the war. Not only have our troops been compelled to submit to this denunciation from home politicians, but, as our friend says, to be taunted with it in Mexico; to hear this state of things openly assigned as a reason why offers for negotiation have been, and will continue to be reject, --why the war has been changed from the open field to the guerrilla system, --that being the only means left by which the struggle can be procrastinated, --our troops harassed, and cut to pieces, --and hostilities kept alive, until a political revolution in this country shall enable Mexico to 'Dictate a Peace. ' The remark of our friend conveys the sentiments of the great mass of our troops who are returning from the field, where they have felt and experienced these things. With the, we say to the Federal leaders, go over at once to the enemy, --shoulder your muskets, and step into their ranks, '—and our army will not be long in conquering a peace with Mexico and her allies combined. " [MSM]
When several of our papers, last winter, were filled with the most gloomy forebodings, and the most utter despair, on account of Santa Anna's advance, with a large army, against Gen. Taylor's little Spartan band, and our conquests on the Rio Grande were given up as lost, we held firmly and confidently to the hope and belief that American courage would prove superior to the crisis. And are we now to be frightened at such old women's stories as those detailed, respecting the ardor and enthusiasm of a people who, with a population of 200,000, are compelled to send do off hundreds of miles for naked Indians, to fight their battles? And, forsooth, they are casting cannon and making balls—they are throwing up entrenchments and digging ditches—but what of all that? These preparations will give spice and incentive to the valor of our men.

Mexican prowess is no more to be dreaded in the defense of the Capital, than it was on the field of Buena Vista, and on the heights of Cerro Gordo. Indeed, the men who fought those battles, were far better material than those which can be rallied in their effeminate Capital. They fought, too, under the most favorable circumstances—in the one case with greatly superior numbers, and in the other with great advantages of position. But now they have to defend a city which lies on a level and exposed plateau—a city embracing a large area—and which could not be successfully defended with less than two hundred cannon. Where are the cannon? We hear of the melting of church bells into cannon, but we believe this is all Mexican gasconade. If the Church has made this sacrifice—in Mexico a very serious one—it is certainly the first they have made for this war. But if the cannon are there, where are the soldiers to man them? Where are their artillerists—their experienced officers? They are nearly all exiled from the Capital, or under arrest. The patriotic and honest Bravo has been sent northward; the chivalrous and able Almonte is in prison; the cunning and capable Ampudia has been sent, under guard, to Cuernavaca; Pinzon is on parole. Lembarin is nursing his wounds and his ire against Santa Anna, at San Luis Potosi; Minon moves within prison bounds; Valencia lives in quiet at his hacienda, cultivating the arts of peace; Canalizo satisfies his valor by writing magnanimous and high-swelling letters and orders. Nearly all the prominent military men of Mexico. They have lost all confidence in the generalship of Santa Anna. He was never considered by the professional soldiers of the county, as a very capable officer in the field. His late operations have given such strong confirmation to these opinions, that they openly and publicly declare their contempt for his military qualifications. Reduced to a few inexperienced officers, and a rabble army of militia and wild Indians, he expects to prevent the entrance of Gen. Scott into the Capital; and some of our own people think that there is ground for apprehension and fear on account of our army, in marching against a city thus defended. Never were fears more baseless. Scott will leave Puebla with 12,000 of the best troops that ever went forth to battle; he will have veteran, experienced officers, complete and effective artillery, abundant supplies, and, what is more than all, he will have men "in whose vocabulary there is no such word as fail."

The Mexicans will, no doubt, make a stand before they yield up their Capital, but it will be a weak one. Their dreaded Pintos, with their wild looks, long knives and bows and arrows, will carry no terror to the souls of our men. Their barbarous arms and warfare will prove of little avail against the big guns of our artillery, the long bayonets of our Pintos, with their wild looks, long knives and bows and arrows, will carry no terror to the souls of our men. Their barbarous arms and warfare will prove of little avail against the big guns of our artillery, the long bayonets of our soldiers; they are throwing up entrenchments and digging ditches—but what of all that? These preparations will give spice and incentive to the valor of our men.

The schooner Iona, Capt. Stevens, arrived yesterday morning from Vera Cruz, and in a few hours afterwards the steamship New Orleans, Capt. Auld, came in. The latter left Vera Cruz on the 25th inst., and brings us letters of the 25th and papers of the 24th. One hundred and fifty six discharged soldiers and teamsters came over on the New Orleans. Our dates from the army of Gen. Scott, at Puebla, are to the 14th inst. The immediate advance of our army upon the city of Mexico had been postponed until the arrival of reinforcements. The rumor which has been so generally circulated through the city that he had arrived within twenty-five miles of the city of Mexico, is without foundation. A rumor reached Vera Cruz on the night of the 24th inst. that Gen. Cadwallader's command had fallen in with a guerrilla party a few miles beyond Jalapa, and by a movement unperceived by the guerilleros, succeeded in surprising them and killing about thirty of them, without losing a man.

Other letters have been received in town as to this affair of Gen. Cadwallader, which represents it to have occurred near La Hoya, about eleven miles beyond Jalapa. The surprise of the Mexicans was complete, and one letter says that fifty of them were killed. Gen. C. suffered no loss, all agree.

By another letter, dated the 24th inst., from our Vera Cruz correspondent, we learn that the train which went up under command of General Pillow was attacked at Calera, said to be nine miles beyond the Puente Nacional. The guerilleros were dispersed with the loss of thirty men. Verbal accounts say we had some eight or ten wounded, but none killed.

The force under the command of Gen. Pillow left Vera Cruz on the 18th, escorting a train of about 125 wagons. The force amounted to nearly 1,800 men, and consisted of the 14th infantry, and a portion of the 15th, three companies of the 3d and 6th Infantry, six companies of the Voltigeurs, a detachment of the 3d dragoons and six howitzers. That such a train would meet with serious resistance from guerilla parties was not to be expected; but we regret that our accounts induce the belief that it suffered excessively in the first and second day's march from the heat of the
weather. The march on the second day is represented as having been particularly severe, the time chosen for it being during the heat of the day, through heavy sand and when eleven miles were to be made without water. There are a great many guerrilla parties upon the road, a small body of our troops left San Juan on the 21st hoping the overtake Gen. Pillow, but after proceeding two or three miles they encountered some guerilleros. These they charge upon and dispersed, but they saw so many others on the road in small parties that it was thought prudent to relinquish the design of coming up with Gen. Pillow.

We regret to learn by this arrival of the death of Mr. Thos. G. Banks. He died at Vera Cruz of the vomito. Mr. Banks was connected, we believe, with the Quartermaster’s department.

The course pursued by Capt. Walker towards those desperadoes who fell into his hands is said to have been highly approved by Gen. Scott. We have been asked if Gen. Cadwalader adopted Walker’s plan and shot those who fell into his hands. The Eagle says that an enterprise is on foot for running an express between Vera Cruz and the towns of Alavarado and Tiacataipan. The execution of such a plan would greatly facilitate the commerce of Vera Cruz. Capt. Duperu’s company of dragoons have at last received horses and they paraded though the streets of Vera Cruz on the 23d inst.

The news by this arrival from the city of Mexico is important. We have received our accounts of it though an express dispatched by Mr. Kendall from Puebla expressly for this office. His letters come down to the 14th June, being the latest from the interior of Mexico.

[MSM]

Rev44i20p3c3 July 9, 1847 British Mediation in the Mexican War

In the House of Commons on the 11th of June, in reply to a question from Dr. Bowring, Lord Palmerston said that an offer of mediation on the part of Great Britain between Mexico and the United States had been made by the former as well as the present Government, but that as yet it had not been accepted by either of the belligerents.

[MSM]

Rev44i20p3c1 July 9, 1847 Later from the Army of Gen. Taylor

The steamship James L. Day, Captain Wood, arrived last evening (says the N.O. Picayune, ) from Brazos Santiago, whence she sailed on the 8th ult.

By this arrival we have our correspondence to the 16th June from Monterey, but the news is of so great importance. Nothing has occurred to change the disposition of Gen. Taylor’s forces in any material point, and there is no hope of an advance upon San Luis. Capt. Bankhead, commanding a company in the Virginia Regiment, arrived at Monterey on the 14th ult. from China. He reported that after the departure of the main body of the battalion for Monterey, he dispatched a Mexican for Camargo with a communication for Col. Relknap. A few days after he learned that the messenger had been captured by a body of armed Mexicans near Pazo Zacata and sentenced to be shot. News had reached Monterey from China, of the death of Lieut. Mahan, who was hot in the recent duel with Lieut. Munford—both of the Virginia regiment. Three companies of Texas Rangers had recently come in to Monterey after having been out scouring the roads in the direction of Camargo. They failed to fall in with Urrea or any of his men, although rumor frequently had him in thinks he is still the other side of the mountains. The rangers captured one or two "robbers," and it is said, shot one of them. Upon their return they were at once ordered up to Saltillo.

The Mexicans are said to be organizing small guerrilla parties, and the roads are somewhat beset with robbers, but we do not learn of any harm done by them. A train from below arrived at Monterey on the 15th, escorted by several companies of the North Carolina regiment. The health of the troops at Monterey was improving, and only one man had recently died. He was attached to the Virginia Regiment.

The Mexicans are beginning to return to their residences in Monterey in considerable numbers. A man named James Mays, a Virginian by birth, but a long resident of Texas, was shot recently at Monterey by the guard, while attempting to escape from the guard house. A Texan Ranger had also been shot on the plaza by a fellow soldier and died. Not withstanding these untoward events, Monterey is now much more quiet than it had been. The troops are under severe discipline and reserve admirable order. The Massachusetts regiment had not reached Monterey at last accounts, but a rumor had been received that it was ordered to Vera Cruz. The rumor was probably unfounded, but it would excite no surprise were it true.

[MSM]

Rev44i20p3c2 July 9, 1847 Marine Journal

Arrived.
Schr. Sarah Elizabeth, Jones, Baltimore, lumber.
Schr. Joseph Jumble, Travis, Baltimore.

Sailed,

Schr. Hope, Ricketts, Middletown, Connecticut.

Port Walthall, July 7.

Cleared,

schr. F.J. Brockton, coal, for Providence,
schr. S.B. Ashmate, coal, for New York;
schr. Avenger, coal, for Philadelphia;
schr. Pampero, coal, for Providence.

[MSM]

REv44i20p3c6 July 9, 1847 Notice to Volunteers

Adjutant General’s Office. Richmond, June 23, 1847.

Parties enrolled in different places, and individuals who have signified their wish to volunteer, are requested to join the rendezvous at Richmond, without delay. Quarters and subsistence will be provided. Part of a company has been received, and is now under a course of military instruction, in quarters. June 22 Wm. H. Richardson, Adjutant.

[MSM]

REv44i20p4c1 July 9, 1847 Important from Mexico

(From the N.O. Commercial Times)

The steamer New Orleans has just arrived from Vera Cruz. We hasten to transmit a portion of our correspondence from Mexico, by this morning’s mail.

Correspondence of the Commercial Time.

Vera Cruz, June 24, 1847.

Gentlemen—you will gather a fair notion of the dating and audacity of the guerrillas, from their repeated atrocities under the walls of this city. Within the past thirty-six hours, another man has been hanged by them almost within gun shot of our batteries. The victim was one of the most active police officers, a Dane, named Miller—lie and a Frenchman were out riding, when they were "lassoed" and carried into the woods. The Frenchman was released, but Miller is said to have been put to death as stated. Parties were out most of the day and night of yesterday, in search of the perpetrators of the outrage, and seven Mexicans were seized on the roads and bought in. Five of these proved to be gentlemen bound to Medelin, but the others are suspicious characters, and the Governor has imprisoned them to await further examination. —One of them was taken on the horse which Miller was riding when attacked. We are yet without authentic intelligence from Mexico of a later date than the 12th inst., and nothing of especial interest up to that time.

There seems to be no doubt of Santa Anna’s intention to make a stand against Gen. Scott at some point between Puebla and the Capitol; and our next arrival from our little army may tell us another Cerro Gordo affair. Of the result, of course, I can entertain no apprehension even in the event of Alvarez’ arrival and participation. —I believe the suspicions long entertained of British vessels supplying arms and ammunition to the Pacific ports, are not entirely unfounded. I am assured that considerable quantities of both have come in from Acapulco, and I have to ask why that port is not now occupied by our forces, naval or military? Or, if it be so occupied, how these things have been permitted to enter.

I suppose the cause lies in the meager force of men-of-war in that sea, a matter which requires remedy. The movement of sending the marines out here is a good one, unless as some think, their destination has connection with that Quixotic expedition to the interior, of which I spoke some time since. The Marine Corps is one of the finest bodies of troops in the world, or, it was so, some eight or ten years ago, and I suppose it has not fallen off since that time, badly as it has always been treated by Congress. Give it a chance in Mexico, and I will warrant a good
The murderers of Miller are now supposed not to belong to the regular guerrillas but to be private enemies, which he has made in this city by his harsh treatment of the people, who occasionally came under his charge. He hated a Mexican from his soul, and sometimes treated the poor wretches, who committed trivial offences, shamefully. Some of the worst of these have taken the occasion of a professional visit to Madelin to waylay him on his return, and revenge themselves in this manner. One larger negro, well known in the city, is supposed to be the chief of the party. I presume most of those concerned are by this time regular members of the guerrilla band. It is yet, however, not absolutely certain that the man has been murdered.

The vomito is yet picking out poor fellows off, one or two at a time, in the city. Colonel Banks, well known in New Orleans and here as one of the finest fellows and enterprising men in the country, is one of the last victims of which I am informed. He died yesterday morning after 48 hours' illness. The disease cannot be said to be raging, nor do I think it is nearly so fatal in its operation as it has been in other years; but it is really a serious matter, and it is impossible to feel any degree of comfort in its neighborhood.

Business is still, of course, at a stand. Another vessel, the Spanish brig Amistad Campeacheana, has arrived with a cargo of the goods stored in Havana, nearly the last, I think, of that stock. A vessel was expected soon from Campeachy, where one cargo was stored during the blockade, and that I fancy will pretty much close the foreign trade with Vera Cruz, from some months at least. I am informed that the head of one firm, and one of the very first in the city, has replied to a demand for duties, from the Collector, that he has no money and cannot pay. His thirty days are out, and it remains to be seen what will be the result. His goods will not be sold, as nobody can buy them, for the same reason that prevents the payment of his duties. The brig Petersburg, from New York, is now here discharging a small, but rather valuable cargo—chiefly silks and drugs to owners, Hargrows & Co.

June 25.—We received letters from Mexico last night, as late as the 15th, but they do not satisfy me on the subject, of the greatest interest—the election. One of them declares that Santa Anna has been chosen, with extraordinary powers, to use in the prosecution of the war, but is expressly forbidden to enter into negotiations for peace. It is also said that there are twenty thousand troops in the city of Mexico, and reinforcements are constantly arriving. Alvarez' force is now augmented (by report) to eight thousand, well armed and equipped. Taking everything into consideration, I have no doubt that a bloody battle will precede Gen. Scott's entry into the capitol.

Gen. Scott had not left Puebla of the 16th instant, that is certain. He is waiting for reinforcements from the eastward. Gen. Cadwalader left Jalapa on the 19th to join him, with some two thousand troops under his command. I think the army will move forward as soon as it receives this reinforcement, and the money and supplies which accompany it—the same which found so difficult a road to Jalapa. Alvarez is said to have taken his station with six thousand of his Sonora troops, between Puebla and Jalapa, for the purpose of cutting off Cadwalader's train, and would probably be reinforced.

The editor of El Arco Iris says he has information that the election did not come off at the time appointed, but is postponed until the 21st of September. He says the general impression is, that Herrera will be elected, and that negotiations for peace will immediately follow his installation. If his paper comes out before the New Orleans starts, I will send it to you.

Our dragoons have had quite a brush with the guerrillas near Perote. Three hundred of them encountered four hundred guerrillas in a ravine, and routed them, the Mexicans losing some thirty killed. Our fellows were guided by the Alcalde of Perote. Senor Atocha is here cruising about the streets with no apparent mission, or business of any kind. He is most cordially hated by the Mexicans, and, I believe, disliked by everyone in Vera Cruz, who knows anything of him. The New Orleans will soon be off, and I must close.

Yours, very respectfully,
Indicator.

[MSM]

REv44i20p4c1 July 9, 1847 Later from Mexico

(From the N.O.Delta)

The Mexican Generals—the defense of the capitol—guerrillas—the American Army—Santa Anna—withdrawal of his resignation—the Clergy.

We have received our Mexican papers from the 30th of May to the 5th of June, inclusive. They contain little of moment, but as almost everything from that country is at present read with interest, we shall give a brief synopsis of their contents.
The Mexican Generals. —General Arista was apprehended on the evening of the 29th of May, and was immediately sent, under escort, towards Acapulco. The reason for this arrest is unknown. General Almonte was still in prison, and had been removed from St. Jago Tiateloco to the city of Guadalupe. He was at first accused of conspiring against the person of Santa Anna, and afterwards accused, in some of the public journals of treason—but a correspondent of the Republicano suggests that the sole motive for his imprisonment is, that he is too great a friend in his country to suit the purposes of those in power. General Ampudia having refused to proceed to Cuernavaca, as ordered, was sent thither under escort.

The defense of the capital. —On the 1st of June, all the natives of the United States were ordered to leave the capital city of Mexico, for the States of Jalisco or Morelia, or they would be dealt with according to the law of nations. Generals Gutierrez, Goana, Martinez, and Palamino are entrusted with the command of the lines of defense of the city. Bodies of the National Guard are said to be on their way, and constantly arriving for the adjoining States, and it is believed that from seventeen to twenty thousand troops will be concentrated for the protection of the city.

Guerrillas. —Accounts are published, from all quarters of the formation of guerrilla bands; but little is said of their performances, and we are lead to suspect that the records of the newspapers are rather an evidence of what the editors hope than of what their countrymen do. In San Luis Potosi they have published a sort of guerrilla code, providing for the raising of the forces and their operations—all deserters from the army, fugitives from justice, convicts or offenders not capital, and vagabonds, and criminals un-apprehended, of all kinds, are invited to join and make war, as to them may seem good, against the invaders, capturing property, taking prisoners, or killing, as "circumstances may require," all who come in their way. The only well authenticated feat of guerrilla prowess, published in the papers before us, is the attack on Col. Sour, which is thus described in a letter from Orizava: "They write me from Hustusco that a guerrilla assaulted the diligence from Vera Cruz, coming to Jalapa, with nine Americans, whom, having put to the knife, they relieved of some interesting communications, which were sent to the government. " There it is, it is true, another story of the guerrillas under Jarauta having, on the 30th of May, captured 80 wagons, 80 horses, and killed 200 hundred Yankees, between Vera Cruz and Antigua, but this we suppose to be the Mexican history of the attack on Col. McIntosh.

The American Army. —The Mexicans have "certain information" that Gen. Scott cannot expect reinforcements to a greater extent than 2000 men, and money to the amount of $200,000, and "nothing more;" they therefore think it doubtful whether he will march to the Capital, and talk loudly in that city of marching out to meet him. "There are but 6, 000 men," say they, "from Vera Cruz to Puebla, who lord it over a population of a million of inhabitants which the two States contain. It can be believed only because it is seen. " Among the intercepted dispatches was a letter from Col. Hunt to Capt. Hetzold, from which the enemy draws great consolation. The Colonel gives the Capt. Some information relative to the moneys in his hands, from which it appears that our worthy Quartermaster was under a temporary embarrassment; this is construed by the enlightened editors of Mexico, into an evidence of the want of means, on our part, any longer to carry on the war, and they, therefore, exhort their fellow-citizens to renewed exertions and continued constancy, assured that in the end they must triumph.

Santa Anna. —We have noticed, heretofore, the resignation of Gen. Santa Anna, and the fact that he was still at the head of the Government; the matter is cleared up by the following withdrawal of this resignation:

Mexico, June 2, 1847.

To their Excellencies, the Secretaries of the Sovereign Congress:

Excellent Sirs:

When I resolved to offer my formal resignation of the supreme command of the Republic, my mind was strongly actuated by the reasons which I laid before the august Congress, and by others not less powerful, which it appeared to me prudent to conceal. Every moment confirms me in the solidity and propriety of all of them, and I have waited several days the decision of the legislative authority, sustaining not only the evils consequent upon a position immeasurable complicated, but those which flow from the state of expectation and anxiety into which the public is thrown, and which produces at each moment, new changes in the political scene. I asked that my resignation might be taken into immediate consideration, and that even in permanent session, the person might be designated who should succeed me, and this request was not suggested by the desire to leave speedily the difficult situation in which I found myself, but because it could not be concealed that any delay whatever would maintain the public agitation, and draw after it occurrences which would alter the condition of things. I anxiously wished, that whoever might succeed me, might soon take my place, because I knew that the invading army could not immediately move upon the Capital, and that the new head of the State would have the time and opportunity to devise his measures, and prepare himself in the manner which should seem to him most suitable.

Now, it is known that the forces of the enemy are about to move, and that they may do so at any moment, and we may suffer at the same time an invasion of the Capital and a change of government—as state of affairs certainly dangerous, and which may, perhaps, decide the fate of war. The news of my separation from the supreme command has been, as I know, the cause which induced this resolution. This is an important occurrence, and one which requires from me a resolution prompt and efficient, to contribute to the salvation to the Capitol.

During the time since I gave in my resignation, I have received singular tokens of the confidence of all classes, and of persons the most influential in society—all have besought me not to persist in my intention. I see in them a determined purpose to force me to remain, founded on the necessity of preserving the present state of things without innovation, in order not to endanger the fate of this populous city and of the nation.
The excitement has been very general, and even the troops of the garrison, and the most numerous portion of the
people, have been constant in their insinuations and their prayers. I know certainly, that the occasion of my
resignation has caused great excitement in all minds; enemies who cease not to spy out the moments for producing
discord and making revolutionary movements, avail themselves of everything, and endeavor, by their machinations,
to force an outbreak; men of good faith, who have seen the disbanded partisans of peace spreading their seductions
to propagate the persuasion that I ought not to continue in power, are excited and active; and I behold on all sides,
the terrible symptoms of a revolutionary movement.

All this is the necessary effect of the delay which this matter has met with, and which has involved me in grave and
complicated responsibilities. I see, then, the enemy profiting by these circumstances, ready to fall upon us. I see, in
addition, the agitation increasing on all sides, and I do not desire that any one should inculcate me in case of an
unfortunate event, attributing the persistence in my determination to a criminal egotism.

Never shall it be said, that for a point of honor, or of pride, ill understood, I preferred my personal welfare to my
country. I am about then, to make a new sacrifice, exceedingly costly, that of my pride, and I have resolved to
withdraw, and do effectively withdraw, my resignation of the 28th of last month, and I desire that from this moment
it shall be held as having never been presented.

The hour of difficulty will pass, and I, firm, in my determination to abandon power, will do it without hesitation or
change, in conformity to the constitutional law. And perhaps I may be able, in withdrawing from this post, to offer a
new service to my country, or my design may be useless, as by that time I may have given my life as a last
holocaust to my fellow citizens.

Will your Excellencies have the goodness to present this note to the Sovereign Congress, receiving the protestation
of my high consideration.

God and Liberty!

[MSM]
Hobson and Whitehurst, two of the privates of Capt. Edwards’ company had died of vomito, and that William Kirby, another private was unable to do duty and was on his way home.

REv44i21p1c2 July 13, 1847 Another Letter

The Troy (N.Y.) July 13, 1847 Post, publishes the following letter from Gen. Taylor, eleven days later than the one to the editor of the Cincinnati Signal.

—Those Whig papers which have denounce the Signal letter as a "forgery," will soon be convinced by unmistakeable evidence, that it is a genuine production. We envy not the feelings of the National Whig and those Whigs here and elsewhere, who fiercely denounced the Signal letter as "silly twaddle," as a "base Locofoco forgery," &c. We make no comment upon this letter, except by saying that it contains in stronger tones, if possible, than the Signal letter a virtual rebuke upon the Whig "schemes" or "cliques," who have sought to further their "party schemes" by the old hero’s name and reputation.

It the Whigs can find any "aid and comfort" in this letter, let them "make the most of it." It is addressed to a most respectable citizen of Lansinburg, and the Troy Post says--: "His communication to us, and the original letter from Gen. Taylor, which are now before us, bespeak an intimacy between them, which accounts for the frankness and freedom of expression, which characterize the latter."

Headquarters, Army of Occupation,
Camp near Monterey,
May 29, 1847.

Dear Sir: It is with much pleasure that I acknowledge the receipt of your most interesting letter of the 1st instant, and to which I desire to reply in terms more expressive of my thanks to you for your kind consideration for myself, and yet more so of my high appreciation of the up right and patriotic sentiments which are the principal tenor of your letter; but I am burdened with official duties, and at this moment, with many letters from distant sources, which require attention, and will necessarily oblige me to reply to you in a few lines: The Presidential office presents no inducements to me to seek its honors or responsibilities; the tranquility of private life, on the contrary, is the great object of my aspirations on the conclusion of the War—but I am not insensible to the persuasions that my services are yet due to the country, as the country shall see fit to command them; if still as a soldier, I am satisfied if in higher and more responsible duties, I desire not to oppose the manifest wish of the people—but I will not be the candidate of any party or party clique; and should the Nation at large seek to place me in the chair of chief magistracy, the good of all parties and National good would by my great and absorbing aim. Sentiments such as these have been the burden of my replies to all who have addressed me on this subject, expressing he assurance that by the spontaneous and unanimous voice of the people alone, and from no agency of my own, can I be withdrawn from the cherished hopes of private retirement and tranquility when peace shall return. Please accept, with this, my brief reply, the warm appreciation and high consideration of

Yours, most sincerely,
Z. Taylor,
Maj. Gen. U.S.A

[MSM]

REv44i21p1c3 July 13, 1847 Gigantic Scheme

The New Orleans Delta publishes a letter from Gen. Gaines to Col. Wm. Preston, of Louisville, Ky., which is eminently characteristic of its author. We have room but for a short extract—a specimen of the whole. If the war with Mexico be not concluded until his magnificent scheme be accomplished, the present generation will not see the end of hostilities. Under the powers to "declare war" and to form a more perfect union, to provide for the common defence and to promote the general welfare," he contends that Congress has the authority and should exercise it, of making railroads for the transportation of troops through an enemy’s country; and he says that is the most fit and proper time for us to extend our railroads:

"First—From Memphis, Tenn., to the principal North-Eastern seaport of the Bay of California. Second—From Louisville, Ky., via Independence, Mo., to Santa Fe, and thence to the Pacific. "On the return of peace, all these expensive structures like the nation domain, the forts, arsenals, &c., in the possession or power of the victor, become fit subject for negotiation.

"From the same clauses of the Constitution he adduces the power, "above all, finally, to complete and perfect the civilization of the people of America and Africa, and all other people who are willing to profit by our example and friendship, and secure to them the blessings of independence and self-government, as we understand it,""Our readers will be startled at these bold doctrines, and also at the following remarkable suggestions, with which his
"I am under the impression that the best possible measures we can now adopt for terminating this war, would be to call into service fifty thousand volunteers, principally mechanics and laborers, and construct a railroad from Memphis to Monterey; and, moreover to construct at Pittsburg, Cincinnati, Louisville and Memphis, 11 to 14 war steamers, such as I, in 1839, recommended as floating batteries, 300 feet long and 60 feet wide, each furnished with an engine of the greatest power—such war steamers as will cost not more than one hundred and forty thousand dollars ($140,000) each.

"We may thus terminate the war at less than one-half the expense of time, and blood, and treasure, than there is reason to apprehend it may otherwise cost us; and, above all, we shall be ten times as strong upon our own border, by land and water, as were when this commenced; provided that the proposed additional force of mechanics, and laborers, after aiding with their axes, their adzes, and their arms, (rifles and bayonets,) in bringing the present war to an honorable termination, be transferred to our principal seaports, to aid in the completion of the works necessary for the protection of our great commercial emporiums, by locking up, and thus enabling us to control the navigation of our deep inlets against fleets against fleets propelled by steam power." [MSM]

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REv44i21p2c1 July 13, 1847 The Letters, Once More

The *National Whig* speaks in the following gentle strains of Gen. Taylor's letter:

"The *Signal* letter is the offspring of some miserable, mean, lying fellow, who would steal your purse, or stab you in the back, if an opportunity only offered of doing either without detection.

"We close for the present with the declaration, that we know Gen. Taylor to be a Whig of this strictest sect, and hence our prompt denunciation of this forger, by which it is sought to injure the fair fame of the old hero. In the mean time we call upon every Whig paper in the Union to republish this article. And to assist in dragging to the light the perpetrators of this wicked and damnable fraud."

The Cincinnati *Enquirer*, however, settles the point by the following: "We have the original letter before us, in the hand-writing, as we are assured, of Major Bliss, with the bold signature of the old General attached, which we have compared with the one appended to the letter furnished Mr. Atwood, the painter, --and if one is genuine, both are so. But beyond this, we have the statement of a distinguished officer direct from Monterey, that he was present when the letter was written, and was requested by Gen. Taylor himself to say to the editor of the *Signal*, lest he should consider it a private letter, that it was intended for publication." (The *Whig* thought that it was not intended for the public eye!)

A Cincinnati correspondent of the *W. Union* confirms this statement. The *N.Y. Mirror*, the first paper that raised the flag of Gen. Taylor, says that the *Signal* letter was exactly what it ought to be, and that had T. written a different letter, it would strike a flag. We yesterday published another letter of the old hero (from the Troy *Post,* ) breathing the same sentiments. This the *N.Y. Mirror* stigmatizes as a "hoax" in such insulting language as the following: "The Troy *Post* published a letter purporting to have been written by General Taylor, which is in all respects, so utterly dissimilar to any of his authentic dispatches, that we strongly suspect that is a hoax. If General Taylor wrote it, we can truly say, with regret, that he has written himself out, which we do not believe, or that his friends have done what his enemies have never been able to do, vanquished him. We sincerely pity the old hero, bothered to death as he must be, by letter-writers; harassed and annoyed as he is, if he would chance to forget himself, and write a hum drum letter between sleeping and waking, we would not think the worse of him for it; but he is not the man to be caught in that way.

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REv44i21p2c3 July 13, 1847 Soldiers for Gen. Taylor

The 4th Regiment Indiana troops is now in this city (says the N. Orleans *National;) it is one thousand strong, destined for Gen. Taylor's division. They are a fine looking body of men, and we hope destined to visit the "halls of Montezuma" via San Luis Potosi.

[MSM]

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REv44i21p2c6 July 13, 1847 Important if True

Just as our paper war going to press, (says the N. Orleans *National;) we were informed by a gentleman in whom we have every confidence, that a report from a respectable source, reached this city from the city of Mexico, last night, that a dysentery of a malignant character had broken out among our troops at Puebla, and that is it believed the Mexican vendors of milk, pulque, liquors, etc., poisoned these articles with a certain poisonous vegetable, which
grows in the neighborhood. We believe the rumor entitled to credit, and hope Gen. Scott will of it in time to prevent an extension of the diabolical plot.

REv44i21p3c2 July 13, 1847 Marine Journal


REv44i21p4c3 July 13, 1847 From Tampico

The schooner Sarah Elizabeth, Captain Webb, arrived at New Orleans on the 1st of July from Tampico, having left there on the 24th of June. The Picayune learns from Mr. Mitchell that the English steamer Avon was lying off the bar, landing quicksilver. She would shortly proceed on her return voyage, touching at her several appointed ports, but she would take little or no specie with her, as in consequence of the guerrilla parties it is deemed unsafe to transport even merchandise in the interior without a large escort of troops.

Tampico feels sensibly this state of things. The accounts of the health of the city are at variance. While Capt. Webb represents that the Louisiana regiment is suffering dreadfully from the fever—less than one-fourth fit for duty—the Sentinel, of the 20th ult., says the health of the town continues good, with the exception of some cases of intermittent fever. The U.S. bomb brig Hecia, Lieut. Com'g. Fairfax, is blockading the port of Soto la Marina.

Another Requisition. —The Secretary of War has made another requisition on Louisiana. The present one, just received by Gov. Johnson, is for two companies of mounted gunmen. The scene of their duty is to be Vera Cruz and its environs.

REv44i21p4c2 July 13, 1847 Later from Mexico

The New Orleans Delta of the 2d July says: We yesterday received files of Mexican papers from the Capital, to and of the 12th ultimo, dates three days later than any previously received. We make from them a series of extracts which are given below. We find in them no evidences of that formidable, fearful opposition of which for the last day or two so alarmed the nerves of some of the more sensitive of our contemporaries.

The same unsettled, indecisive, neutralizing policy seems to prevail at the Capital, which has so long been characteristic of Mexican policy. We hear nothing of those thirty thousand of an army, which with a valor equaled only by the valor evinced by the troops of a celebrated King of France, who marched up and down an eminence—were marching out in attack and annihilate Gen. Scott in his quarters at Puebla. Santa Anna, it seem, however ambitious he may be to play the dictator, is rather shy in proclaiming his references, he appears to think that as he can get along, though minus half his “understanding:” he can keep the Government moving though resting on a fraction of a Ministry.

The War. —The files before us contain full reviews of the opinions of the different newspapers throughout the country, which number about twenty, and with but one single exception (in Durango) they are all fully in favor of the war.

The Dictatorship. —El Monito Republicano of the 12th ult., contains a lengthy article on the subject of the Dictatorship. Up to that date Santa Anna was not proclaimed, nor had he proclaimed himself Dictator. Indeed, the Monitor ridiculed the idea that he designed to become one. The rumor to that effect which prevailed in the capital, is alleged to have originated with and been propagated by his enemies and the enemies of the country.

No Change of Policy. —The Monitor asserts that the new cabinet is not to be entirely form of Puros, (Democrats,) as stated in some of the journals, and that the new Ministers will carry out the policy of their predecessors. Santa Anna thinks that without a full Ministry—with the Ministers of War and Finance, together with the clerks in the Bureau of Foreign Relations—he will be able, for the time being to carry on the government. In an article published in the same paper of the 10th, we find the following paragraph:---"There is no doubt but that the majority of the nation is in favor of carrying on the war, and we are, consequently, convinced that it is impossible to enter into any arrangement for peace, were it be concluded, it would prove fatal to the nationality of Mexico. The defenders of the nation are therefore, encouraged with brilliant hopes of final success, as it is undoubtedly that the position in which the United States finds itself must, in the end, secure us triumphant success, notwithstanding our former disasters. All of us who sincerely wish the continuation of the war, look upon an equivocal policy as dangerous, and all overtures of peace a perilous means to secure it; for this reason we are opposed to any change in the politics which may give it a
pacific appearance."

Congress. —Congress met at the Capital at last on the 10th, and the proposition of declaring a recess, was lost by one vote. El Republicano, of the 12th, in a leader of great length, recommends that the forces which are intended to defend the capital, should be well and properly instructed and drilled, as they have plenty of time before the American army arrives there. Being chiefly recruits, the General commanding them, he says, should take great pains in their drill. The editor says that chieftains should bear in mind that this is to be their last effort, and consequently no exertion to have it successful should be spared.

The Peace Party. —El Razonador, the peace paper, says that it has recommended peace only because it is convinced that the government would not or could not carry on the war; but at the same time it approves Santa Anna’s withdrawal of his resignation, and praises him very much, saying that his is the only man in the country who can keep alive the war spirit.

The Presidency. —The Legislature of Agua calientes had given its vote to Gen. Almonte. A letter from Oajaca says that Santa Anna has been unanimously nominated President by the Legislature of the State.

Gen. Valencia. -Gen. Valencia is reported having arrived at San Luis Potosi on the 5th of June, where he took immediate command of the army. Gen. Salas had also arrived there, and taken charge of his post.

Gen. Bustamente. —Gen. Bustamente was at Irapuato on the 5th, where he was to begin immediately to raise forces from the State of Ouanajuato. It was thought that Gen. Alcorta had issued an order by which Bustamente would be obliged to go as far as Sinaloa, in order to take command of the forces there—which, according to El Monitor, are none.

Canalizo Pardoned. —It seems from what we see in the Monitor of the 11th that Santa Anna and Canalizo had "made friends" once more and consequently the examination of the latter for his conduct at Cerro Gordo was dropped. Although it was reported that he had been appointed Governor of the State of Vera Cruz, he was to be employed in the defence of the capital.

More Guerrillas. —El Estandarte de los Chanacastes, published at San Luis Potosi, says that a large body of guerrillas has been organized at Bocas, about twelve leagues from San Luis, and that they were all well armed and equipped.

Mexican Correspondence Intercepted. Gen. Alvarez sent an express from Ameca, on the 11th, with correspondence intercepted in the possession of a courier going from the Capital to Puebla. The Government had called on the different persons sending letters, in order that they should be opened and read, to show whether or not they contained any information of which the Americans could avail themselves. A letter addressed to El Monitor, from Puebla, says that Gen. Worth, who began by kissing his hands to all the young ladies at Puebla, has concluded by breaking the doors of Senor Haro’s house, lodging himself in it. (Whatever truth there may be in the former part of this statement the latter part we believe to be a lie.)

Gen. Scott’s March to the Capital. —El Republicano of the 11th, has accounts from Puebla, in which it is stated that the American forces would not move towards the capital before six weeks, (from the 10th June) as they were awaiting reinforcements and heavy artillery from Vera Cruz. El Monitor of the same date, publishes a letter in which the writer states that he has been informed that the whole forces will move towards the capital, in all from the 15th to the 20th, as they had resolved and were determined to spend and celebrate the 4th of July at the capital.

Movements of American Troops. —A letter from Puebla, addressed to El Monitor, states that Gen. Worth went as far as Cholula with 200 men, and had returned alone with his staff, without being troubled by any of the guerrillas.

Assistance Solicited from Gen. Scott. —A letter received at the Capital of the 10th, from Tlaxcala, says that the inhabitants of that place addressed a petition to Gen. Scott, asking protection of him; as a chief of guerrillas, Portillo, was constantly annoying them. The Monitor says, that it seems the Tlaxcaltecos wish to imitate their predecessors during the time when the Spaniards went to conquer them.

Attack on Gen. Scott. —A correspondent from Puebla, writes on the 7th to a friend in the capital, that the American forces are scarcely 6,000 men, and as Gen. Scott could not leave that lave for some time, it would be good policy to have the Mexican forces marched to Puebla and there attack the Americans who were not prepared for an effective defence. A letter from Texpan, of 31st May, says that the inhabitants are so much frightened there, that as soon as they say a vessel approaching the port, they packed up their beds and ran to the woods, where they remained until they were assured that there was no danger in the town.

[MSM]
For the satisfaction of the Whig and our own defence, we will state that so far from culling "apart" of Colonel Doniphan's speech for a particular purpose, we re-published the whole sketch as furnished by the St. Louis Union. The entire speech we did not see till Tuesday night in the Washington Union, re-published from the St. Louis Republican. We shall now quote not only the passages cited by the Whig, but other passages of an important bearing, which, with the full speech before it, "seem not to have attracted the (Whig's) attention."

"Many persons (and among them Mr. Botts, the representative elect from the Richmond District) give the letter the construction attached to it in the Times so Friday inst. understanding Gen. Taylor to declare distinctly, that in no case, no matter how he may be nominated, will he consent to become the candidate of any party, or, in other words, of the Whig party; that is, that the refuses to be elected as a Whig, or to seek the support of the Whigs upon the ground of his approving their principles. Those who view the letter in this light say that if Gen. Taylor do not abandon the position which they thus understand him to have assumed, the Whig party cannot look to him as their candidate for the Presidency. I have met with no Whig who, assuming this construction of the letter to be correct, does not unite in the same conclusion."

This more than make out what we represented as the effect for the letter in this quarter. The impressions produced in other sections of the Union we have already sketched, as present by distant journals. Admit the letter to be genuine, (and who can reasonably doubt it?) and will not the Republican's "respected friend of the National Whig" be compelled to repudiate Gen. Taylor? How can that Metropolitan Whig organ sustain a man who has written so "silly a letter," filled with "twaddle," and worthy only of the coinage and forgery of Locofoco deception? But the Whig papers of yesterday morning themselves furnish intrinsic evidence of the utter confusion in which Gen. Taylor's "unfortunate position" (as the times called it) has involved the Whig party. The Republican quotes the following extract of a letter addressed to its editors, "from a perfectly reliable source in Mexico."

"You are authorized by the highest authority to say, that Gen. Taylor looks for nothing, and asks for nothing, beyond this war, but that, if the people of the United States choose to elect him their President, he will feel bound to serve them. He will not, however, be a party candidate, nor accept the nomination of a Convention or Caucus of either party. If the people, irrespective of party, choose, in their primary meetings, to nominate him, and then elect him, he will accept the responsible office with grateful feelings—though, if he consulted his own wishes, he would prefer to retire within the quiet bosom of his family, at the conclusion of the war."

REv44i22p1c2 July 16, 1847 Col. Doniphan's Speech

For the satisfaction of the Whig and our own defence, we will state that so far from culling "apart" of Colonel Doniphan's speech for a particular purpose, we re-published the whole sketch as furnished by the St. Louis Union. The entire speech we did not see till Tuesday night in the Washington Union, re-published from the St. Louis Republican. We shall now quote not only the passages cited by the Whig, but other passages of an important bearing, which, with the full speech before it, "seem not to have attracted the (Whig's) attention."

"Upon returning from our arduous campaign, and when entering upon the bosom of that noble stream that washes the borders of your city; when, in passing the magnificent country seats, bright eyes and smiling faces greeted us, and white handkerchiefs were waved in honor of the returning volunteers, we felt that we were sufficiently rewarded for all our toils. When we arrived at the great city of New Orleans, we were all unknown. That city is the thoroughfare through which have passed the heroes of Paio Alto, Resaca de la Palma; Monterey, Buena Vista and Cerro Gordo—indeed, the heroes of all the brilliant victories achieved in Mexico—and it was to be supposed that they would have been worn out long ago. Yet their patriotism, their regard for their country, is unceasing. There was not a volunteer in this corps who was not proffered a welcome hand. The hospitality of the city was extended to all. Men who arrived there in rags, were clothed; the wealthiest merchants, who never had seen them, proffered them everything they wished for their comfort, and on credit.

"Fellow-citizens: It has been said of republics which have existed heretofore, that they have been ungrateful. However true the charge may be with regard to former republics, it is not true of our own. Patriotism, talent and virtue, have ever been remembered in this government, and they ever will be. "It is not for me, fellow citizens, to discuss the merits of this war. But it is natural that I, for one, should say something in relation to it. It is a strange war; when first commenced, it was denounced by a large party in our country—the party to which I belong—as a war for political purposes. But, when soldiers were to be raised for the prosecution, you find that men of all parties—the opposers and the advocates, the accuser and the accused—were ready to engage in the war, to rally under the same standard, to fight in the same tented field. What a spectacle for the people of the Old World to gaze upon?"

"Men who were engrossed in the strife of political prejudices were willing, like Roderick Dhu and Fitz James, to lay aside those prejudices for the time, when a common enemy was to be engaged—to renew their dissensions, if ever, when peace should be restored. Fellow-citizens, I wish that the same patriotic feeling had existed in the councils of this nation. I wish that Mexico could have seen the same unanimity in our people, in the prosecution of this war, that they have seen in our forces in the field. I recollect well the impression made on my mind, on one occasion, when an express, sent by me to General Wool, brought me such stray papers as had found their way to the General's camp—the latest dates were of the 29th November—consequently, we had seen nothing of the proceedings of the last session of Congress, or of the President's message. The first thing I cast my eye upon was a speech of Mr. Corwin,
Senator from Ohio, denouncing the war, and those engaged in it, as little better than a band of robbers. Gentlemen, a Winter shower bath would have been pleasant compared with my sensation on reading it! Freezing—chilling! Such speeches might have been deemed patriotic in the United States; but place yourselves where we have been; and endure what we have undergone, and then imagine our sensations. We were in a city numbering in population at least twenty times our force, and surrounded by enemies on all sides. We had crossed the Sierra Madre, and found, when we had arrived at Chihuahua, that we were looked upon as little better than a band of robbers! Fellow citizens, the speeches which are made in opposition to this war, are said to emanate from the peace party; but I say that they are made by those who are postponing the peace eternally!

"If the honorable Senator's (turning to Mr. Benton) plans had been adopted, the war would have terminated long ago. If our government had placed at the disposal of Gens. Scott and Taylor each 20,000 men, they would, ere this, have subdued the whole Mexican power. To talk about guerrilla warfare is nonsense, against such forces as this. If Gen. Taylor, with 4, 500 men, , whipped Santa Anna at Buena Vista, with 20,000 he would have hunted him down and crushed him! If Gen. Scott had had a sufficient force on his march from Vera Cruz to Mexico to establish a line of communication between his army and Vera Cruz, he would, long ere this, have marched in the city of Mexico, and there dictated the terms of peace.

"Fellow-citizens! What have we gained by this war? Of Gen. Taylor I can safely speak, having been through all his lines of operation. He has gained four distinguished victories—perhaps the most brilliant victories that have ever been gained on the continent; and yet he has gained nothing. Why, sir, (turning to Mr. Benton, ) is it the efforts of our army are like the efforts of a fevered patient, who spends all his strength in spasms, and as soon as they are over are prostrated? After the brilliant victories which they have achieved, they have been forced, for want of men, ammunition, money and conveyances, to lie idle until the enemy have been able to gain strength anew, and then the battles have to be fought over again. In our victories nothing has been gained. Suppose Ben. Taylor remains where he is, will we have gained anything? He has been there ever since last September, and unless some better means are offered him, he will remain there until next October. The expense of this was is enormous. I have been told that $1,000,000 a week has been paid to sustain the war, and yet Gen. Taylor lies in the very position where he was eight months, and there he must lie.

"Although I have not been over Gen. Scott's line of operations, yet it is clear that he cannot sustain himself from his want of means. He may take the city of Mexico, but, he cannot sustain himself there—take he may, but it is impossible for him to keep it. For Santa Ann, although he was stoned when he went to the to the city of Mexico, from some cause he gained new strength, (some have thought that it arose from Gen. Scott's proclamation, ) and he will soon have an army sufficient to cope with Gen. Scott.

"It is true, fellow-citizens, that this war has not been without its effect. It has had a great moral effect upon Europe. We now present to the world a spectacle such as we have never before presented. It has been said that the United States could not wage a war of invasion. We have shown to the astonishment of the world, that volunteer troops can be depended upon—that private citizens can be transformed into good soldiers by a proper discipline. We have shown it at the battle of Buena Vista, where the whole force was composed of volunteers; and I defy the world to produce a parallel to that battle. The whole left wing was turned, and the myriads of Santa Anna's army came pouring down on that handful of volunteers, almost surrounding them on all sides; yet they were sufficient to drive this superior force, and victory perched on their standards. This, fellow-citizens, was done by volunteers alone; it was done by volunteers, disciplined in the school of Taylor, and of that scientific officer and accomplished gentleman, Gen. Wool. "

We ask attention to the passage italicized, which the Whig has not even referred to. Do they not prove what the Democratic press has consistently contended, that the speeches made in opposition to the war have given "aid and comfort" to the public enemy, and, in the strong language of the Whig, he shall "refuse credence to the testimony of Col Doniphan, Whig as he is. And, in support of our position, we commend to the Whig its own language, simply changing a few words: "This, be it remembered, is not a mere flying rumor from the camp, uttered by a partisan in a spirit of hostility to the Whig party, but by an officer of rank, fresh from the scenes of which he speaks, intimately acquainted with all the facts, and entitled, by the evidence he has given both of his patriotism and sagacity, to pronounce judgment upon those facts: In regard to the want of reinforcements which has been felt both by Generals Taylor and Scott, to which Colonel D. refers, we have always argued, that if the recommendations of the President for new troops had been promptly carried out by Congress, without the obstruction and delay, which the people saw with deep regret, the evils complained of would not now exist—and Colonel Doniphan presents this view in full. Had Congress done its duty, we are satisfied, as the Union says, that "both these Generals would now be in a position to follow up their victories more decisively, and to reap the fruits of them with less delay. " We think Colonel D. is mistaken in saying that we have gained nothing by our victories. Have we not completely broken up the military power of Mexico, and seized her vast provinces, and occupied her ports and principal cities, and all in a remarkably short period, considering the magnitude of our operations by land and sea, and the necessary complexity of arrangements, at a time, too, when, after a long peace, we were not prepared for war? Is the moral effect of our great military achievements upon the old and the new world to be regarded as nothing? Is it nothing, that the Union have proved to the world that, without a large standing army, and with her brave volunteers, he is ready not only to follow up their victories more decisively, and to reap the fruits of them with less delay. " We think Colonel D. is mistaken in saying that we have gained nothing by our victories. Have we not completely broken up the military power of Mexico, and seized her vast provinces, and occupied her ports and principal cities, and all in a remarkably short period, considering the magnitude of our operations by land and sea, and the necessary complexity of arrangements, at a time, too, when, after a long peace, we were not prepared for war? Is the moral effect of our great military achievements upon the old and the new world to be regarded as nothing? Is it nothing, that the Union have proved to the world that, without a large standing army, and with her brave volunteers, he is ready not only to defend herself, but to carry on triumphantly the most extended military operations, and compel the respect and peaceful regard of European powers? Taking all things into consideration, and comparing the events and results of the present with those of the last war, the world will concede, that the existing campaign could not have been conducted with more vigor and success. There is a further point touched upon by the Union, whose arguments and facts are interesting—as follows:

"In fact, our army in Mexico has already (not-withstanding the dilatory action of Congress) been largely reinforced. It is ascertained by the latest accounts from Vera Cruz, that several thousand additional troops have been already
reported there, to strengthen Gen. Scott’s command. Beside these, a corps of six hundred marines must have ere this time arrived at Vera Cruz, for the same purpose. The battalion from this District, under the command of Colonel Hughes, will start immediately of the same destination. Additional regiments are also now mustering for the scene of action from Illinois, Ohio, Louisiana, and Georgia. Indeed, almost every mail from New Orleans brings intelligence of the embarkation of new troops for Vera Cruz. In a word, instead of giving Gen. Scott 20,000 troops on the principal theatre of operation, (which Col. Doniphan call for, and which the intercepted letter of the Secretary shows were intended to be assigned to General Scott,) the design now is to give him more than 20,000.

"The administration has done all that the action of Congress permitted it to do, in furnishing its generals with the amount and description of force which they required. And the feats which our arms have already accomplished—the armed occupation, both of the Pacific and the Atlantic seaboard of Mexico—the subjugation of vast regions of Mexican territory—the prostration of the Mexican capital—attest the power and success with which the efforts of the administration have been put forth. In these efforts there will be no relaxation, until the objects of the war are secured in a just and honorable treaty of peace."

But this article is already too much extended. The Whig papers are welcome to make the most of the evidence of Colonel Doniphan. Le them lay all his testimony before their readers, and we fear not the result. He fully justifies the position advanced by the Democrats, that peace has been postponed by the mischievous and factious course of those partisans who have written and spoken in opposition to the war. And his language goes very far to confirm the remark attributed to Gen. Taylor, that "he who oppose the war, cannot support me—he's worse than a Mexican."

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**REv44i22p1c4 July 16, 1847 The Anabasis of Xenophon**

With English Notes, &c. by Charles Asthon, The expedition of the Greeks under Xenophon, the great achievement of antiquity, has been, in our own time and history, greatly surpassed in romance, peril and self-sacrifice, by the glorious exploits of the Missouri volunteers, under Colonel Doniphan, who has just been received, with open arms, by the people of Missouri. Xenophon’s expedition has become classic, because it was told in so charming a manner, and Colonel Benton’s speech (as Colonel Doniphan intimates) is so good a history of the Missouri expedition, as will make it read with admiration two thousand years hence. The Greeks were led from Babylon through Armenia to the Black Sea, and thence to Chesopolis, three thousand four hundred and sixty-five English miles. It was accomplished in fifteen months, and a large part of it though an unknown, mountainous and hostile country, and in an inclement season, losing every thing except their lives and arms. Doniphan and the Missourians traveled over six thousand miles in twelve months, neither receiving supplies nor money, but living exclusively on the country through which they passed, and supplying themselves with powder and balls by capturing them from the enemy. They fought, and were victorious in three battles, over greatly superior numbers, and have returned (many poor fellows being left behind, a melancholy sacrifice in their country’s cause!) to receive the cordial thanks of a grateful country. The young student, therefore, will have a new stimulus to turn over the pages of the Greek General, and compare his adventures with those of our own countrymen.

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**REv44i22p1c3 July 16, 1847 Peculiar Sources of Enjoyment**

The editor of the Vera Cruz Eagle says: "We had the pleasure of enjoying an invitation to be present on the occasion of an amputation of two legs, above the knee, on Saturday last."

The proprietors of the Christian Cemetery in this have somewhat similar taste. They say in their advertisement, "that this burial ground is on 45th street, and that they would be very happy to attend to any one who may wish a place for burial." —N.Y. Mirror. This brings to mind a very kind offer of a similar hospitality made to us by a friend, one of the proprietors of the beautiful Cemetery about to be established at Clarke's Spring, near this city. We positively, but respectfully, declined the invitation, but especially because of a very inappropriate name, "Mount Vernon," which has been ascribed to it. We were glad to hear from him, however, that there was no design to christen the new Cemetery with a name which should be sacrely appropriated to the resting place of the ashes of Washington, and to none other.

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**REv44i22p2c1 July 16, 1847 Important from Mexico**

Latest from Gen. Scott’s Army. The steamship Alabama arrived at an early hour yesterday from Vera Cruz, touching at the Brazos. She left the former port on the 2d of July, and the latter on the 4th. The following passengers came over on the Alabama, from Vera Cruz. Capt. A.R. Hetzel, assistant quartermaster; Dr. A.H. Saunders, later bearer of dispatches from the Government to Gen. Scott. The following passengers are from the Brazos: Capt. Carrington, Lieuts. Kinney and Ashby; and Messrs. J.T. Weislger and Wm. C. Hogg, of the Virginia Regiment. By this arrival we have direct advices from Mexico to the morning of the 29th of June, and from Puebla to the 30th.
Gen. Scott had not then been able to leave Puebla. He was awaiting the reinforcements under Gen. Cadwallader and Gen. Pillow, who had not then arrived. (Some of the papers mention that Gen. Cadwallader arrived at Puebla on the 30th. Letters from Mr. Kendall of that date make no mention of it, thought he was constantly expected. He was at Perote about the 29th, awaiting Gen. Pillow).

The news from the city of Mexico is very indefinite. Gen. Scott is said to have communicated to the Government that Mr. Trist was with him, and authorized to negotiate for a peace. Santa Anna had been in vain endeavoring to procure a quorum of Congress to lay General Scott's communication before it. Mr. Kendall's letters rather encourage the prospects of an early peace; but we have had access to letters from a very responsible source in the city of Mexico which take a very different view of the subject. The writer thinks Gen. Scott will have to march into Mexico to secure a peace.

The censorship of the press existing in Mexico prevents us from knowing what measure to defend the city will be taken. Santa Anna was to leave the capital on the 30th ult., intending to pass three days in the country for the benefit of his health. It is said that every avenue of entrance into the city is fortified, but the writer in Mexico, upon whom we very much rely, thinks the American army will easily overcome all such obstacles—that the defence of their fortifications will only embarrass the Mexicans.

We are unable to throw much light upon the movements of Gen. Cadwallader and Gen. Pillow. The latter is said to have been compelled to contest the road with the guerrilla parties, till he was beyond Cerro Gordo. Guerrilleros took advantage of every defile to resist his progress. His loss is said to have been severe.

We have by this arrival a file of the "American Star, No. 2," published twice a week at Puebla, by Messrs Peoples, Barnard & Callahan. The file extends from the 12th to the 27th June, and we glean from its columns sever items of intelligence. The government of the city Puebla has been entrusted to Lieut. Col. Belton, of the 3d Artillery. Gen. Alvarez was at Atilizco on the 14th June, with 300 Mexican cavalry. The Star thinks his forces have been greatly overrated.

A Correspondent of El Monitor Republicano, writing from Puebla, says: Gen. Scott, with all of his engineer corps and a number of other officers, proceeded to Cholula the other day, and, after ascending the pyramid, agreed at once to fortify the place." He thinks it is only throwing salt to the fishes to fortify so out of the way a place. The truth of the business is, says the Star, that Gen. Scott never went there at all, but that Gen. Quitman, Twiggs, Col. Harney and a party of officers, hearing of the pyramid and wishing to see the spot rendered so notorious by the massacre of the Cholulans by Cortez, did go, but the idea of fortifying was farthest from the thought.

The Star tells a good story of a party of guerrilleros who stopped some Mexicans who were driving hogs into Puebla. They first compelled the drivers to pay the usual city tax on their swine for entering the city, and then drove the swine off in another direction. The Star says there is three months' provisions in the city for the army, and that the fields around the city supply all the forage necessary.

A Mexican named Heredia has been detected by his countrymen on his way from the capital to Puebla with drawings of the different fortifications around the capital. He was tried and condemned as a spy and a traitor, and was condemned to be shot on the 21st ult. The fellow made his escape the morning of the 21st.

The Mexicans are using every inducement to make our men desert, and with some success, but those who have deserted find little comfort from their new friends. The Star tells of two dragoons who ran off from us, but had not gone three leagues before some Mexicans came across them, took their horses and stripped them of everything but their shirts. A German and a Mexican have been tried by a court martial for tampering with our soldiers and persuading them to desert. The Mexican was acquitted—the German found guilty and condemned to be shot. Being recommended to mercy his sentence was remitted.

The following narrative is from the Star of the 24th ult. "On Sunday morning last, the 20th, a party of Americans, not connected with the army, left here for a hacienda on the road to Mexico—say about eighteen miles distant. The object in view by the party, eight in number, was the purchasing of mules for the Government; and after they had bargained for a number, to be brought in the next day to Puebla, they prepared to leave, but were prevailed on to defer their departure until after dinner. The repast was arrived on in good style, and after it was partaken of, the host refusing to receive any pay whatever, the horses were brought out and the party mounted. They were warned not to go too near a village on their left, as some five or six hundred soldiers were quartered there, and it we mistake not, a Mexican was preparing a horse to accompany them along a bye path in the mountains, when a party of lancers were discovered riding up to the hacienda. The little party of Americans started off in a slow gallop; their leader telling them to save the horses until it would be necessary to run. In this way they proceeded some distance, the soldiers continuing to decrease the distance between them, when it was proposed to go a little faster. A half a minute had not elapsed with the increase gait, before they came upon another party of the enemy, formed across the road. To attempt to pass them would have been foolishness; so they halted, and through their interpreter, informed the captain that they were Americans, but not connected with the army. The pursuing lancers were now...
All the talk now is of peace, immediate peace, with great Mexican nation, and those who talked but a short week since of reveling in the halls of the Montezumas, now appear to think they are just about as near the aforesaid halls as they ever will be. I hardly know what to think of the matter. The arrival of the heavy reinforcements known to be on the way for Gen. Scott, combined with the loss of confidence the Mexican leaders have in themselves and their followers, have turned their feelings to a degree, and the most belligerent among them may now really be in favor of coming to terms. Santa Anna himself, although he will be very far from starting the ball, will doubtless help to keep it in motion when it is once under way. His very salvation depends upon it. He knows that he will be defeated and lose all if he makes another stand by making cat’s paws of some of the members of Congress, and getting them to look with an eye of favor upon propositions for peace, he thinks that he may be able to second their movements if every thing looks favorable, and finally himself reap all the benefits that may grow out of it.

What the propositions are that have been made to the Mexican Government few here know; but what with British interference, and the timidity of the Mexican leaders, they have evidently been listened to. Three days since and hardly a man in Gen. Scott’s army thought there was a hope of coming to terms with the enemy, now, the time has changed, and many of the officers are even talking of the chances of avoiding and escaping the vomito on their way home. With all the cry of peace, I am not one of those who think that our affairs with Mexico are yet settled. A great deal depends upon circumstances. Should the upper train, containing as it is supposed a large sum of money, meet with a reverse, the Mexicans would be emboldened to offer fresh resistance; should Santa Anna find, on counting noses, that a majority are against him in any committee appointed by Congress, he will be found among the first to scoff at any idea of terms with the perfidious Yankees; should, in fact, anything turn up out of which the Dictator may make capital for himself, no matter whether for, or against the best interest of his dearly beloved country, he will embrace it for his own aggrandizement. He wants time, he wants to procrastinate, he wants to delay the approach of Gen. Scott upon the capital—in short, he wants to do anything which may aid and further his own ambitious schemes. Santa Anna, tired of fighting the Americans, is anxious to make peace with them, although tearful of openly avowing it.

The peace party in the capital—the capitalists and property holders—are also anxious, unwilling to support the war longer and taxed already beyond what they consider their means. The military are anxious to see the war continued, as the only means by which they can support themselves; the leperos, the ragamuffins of the country, care but little, one way or the other, how affairs go, so that they can steal enough to supply themselves with blankets, chinguite and trijotes and tortillas sufficient to support life. The Indians care for nothing, and they are the most numerous class, so that they can sell their produce for silver in which they have sufficient confidence to bury, and many of the other inhabitants of the country will follow their example. Their priests—perhaps I should have placed them at the top of the list—are anxious to preserve their position and their riches, although they may look upon us as dogs and heretics; and thus you have a mere inking of the feeling of the different parties. All these feelings and interests—after taking into consideration that all hate and despise us—you may mix up and then make out the chances for a peace. I do no know that nay one has reflected much upon this subject, but to me it seems that this thing of making peace is to be a more difficult matter than making war upon the Mexicans, and will be surrounded with greater perplexities. Texas has to be brought into question, other boundaries taken into consideration, California is to be a bone of contention, indemnifications and costs of war are to be called into account, and a thousand other matters will be found in the catalogue of stumbling blocks in the way of an amicable arrangement of difficulties. The "three millions," after Santa Anna has helped himself—for he must be thought of first—will not go far, in way of salve or cordial for the many wounds under which poor Mexico is suffering, and there will be other provisos than Wilmot’s for increasing the sum.

Let me conclude this hasty scrawl. The talk as I said at the outset, is now peace; but it will all end in Santa Anna’s advancement or his utter downfall. In all his diplomatic arrangements—whenever he has been allowed to argue his point—he has been invariable a winner; at this game, some how or other, he always turns everything to his own advantage, or at least always has so far. How he will succeed in his present scheme remains to be seen, but he should and probably will, be closely watched. A few days will bring us out of the doubt and uncertainty in which every thing is at present enveloped, and I shall make opportunities to keep you informed of every thing that transpires. G.W.K [MSM]
Rev44i22p2c4 July 16, 1847 From the Brazos

We have received a copy of the Matamoras Flag of the 3d inst., brought on the Alabama. There does act appear to be any later news mentioned by the Flag from above. Great preparations were making to celebrate the Fourth of July at Matamoras with [ecint. ] Capt. Merrick, of the 3d Dragoons, was selected to read the Declaration of Independence, and Rice Gatland to pronounce an oration.

[MSM]

Rev44i22p2c4 July 16, 1847 Departure of Troops

The steamship New Orleans, Capt. Auld, left last evening (says the N. O. Orleans Picayune) for Vera Cruz, with the following passengers: Mr. Albert Von Germain, Leo Delatra, Dr. John D. Sims, U.S.M.C Dr. S.L Barbor, Ass. Sur. 13th Inf. ; Dr. R.R. Ritchie, U.S.A; Lieut. Col. Bonham, 12th Inf. ; Capt. Featherston, and officers of his company; Capt. Dobbins, 4th inf. and officers of his company. She carries 151 horses, Capt. Dobbins' company 4th infantry, Capt. Featherston’s company Louisiana Volunteers and 50 quartermaster's men. The ship Tahmaroo and bark Jubilee also sailed yesterday for the Brazos with five companies of the Indiana Volunteers. The ship Sophia Walker and U.S. steamer Ann Chase will take the remainder of this regiment today or to morrow.

[MSM]

Rev44i22p2c3 July 16, 1847 From the City of Mexico

We have papers form the city of Mexico to the 22d of June, but not a perfect file, (says the New Orleans Picayune.)

Santa Anna has again been tampering with the freedom of the press. One of his first acts upon resuming the reins of Government on the 20th of May, was to abrogate the decree of Anaya shackling the press. The press enjoyed their freedom thus obtained nearly one month. On the 18th of June, Sr. Vincente G. Torres, the proprietor of El Monitor Republicano, was summoned to the presence of General Gutierrez, and informed that President Santa Anna had ordered that he should be sent of at once to Acapulco if he continued the publication of such articles as had hitherto appeared in the Monitor in opposition to the Government. He was expressly forbidden to speak of the generals, to say any thing disrespectful of the army. Or to discourage the war. Senor Torres replied in a very spirited manner to the Governor, and his paper has not ceased its opposition to Santa Anna and his measures. The editors affect to believe that the verbal threat was merely intended to frighten the proprietor. A like message was communicated to the Republicano. Thereupon Senor Otero, who has been acting as editor of that able paper in the absence of Senor Cumplido, at once withdrew from the paper. He refuses to write under the restrictions imposed upon him. The editor of the Calavera, a satirical paper, was sent off by an order of the President to San Luis Potosi, and the paper discontinued by the proprietors. The editor of the Boletin de la Democracia, Senor Sogo, has been sent off to Acapulco. His paper was considered the organ of Gomez Farias. While such measure are taken to keep the press in subjection, our readers will not expect to derive much information from such papers as have reached us. To test how far the laws will protect the citizens against the arbitrary edicts of the Government, Senor Torres had determined to bring the acts of General Gutierrez before the Supreme Cuort, and demand punishment upon him for his infractions of the constitutional right of the citizens. This will probably lead to some yet more arbitrary act of the Government, and we shall perhaps hear that Torres has been packed off to some remote prison. He is accustomed to these things.

The papers contain accounts of the assaults of the guerrilla parties upon the trains from Vera Cruz. It was supposed that General Alvarez would join Father Jarauta and continue to harrass the trains. Several communications are published from Governor Soto, in which he assures the Government that he will take the promptest measures to cut off all communication between Vera Cruz and Jalapa. He says that guerrilla parties were rapidly collecting upon the route, and he contemplated taking possession of Jalapa. He announces in one of his letters that the American sick and wounded at Jalapa were all to be left there, "entrusted to the generosity and humanity of the Mexicans." We believe, on the contrary, that all our sick and wounded were removed early to Perote. The impression is, that the command of Gen. Cadwalader awaited at Perote the arrival of Gen. Pillow, but in regard to the movements of these General we are left almost entirely in the dark.

An official statement is given in the Mexican papers of the forces under the orders of General Taylor on the 20th of May, with a minute account of the strength of each position from the mouth of the Rio Grande to Saltillo. The volunteers which have lately returned are included in this enumeration. The Mexicans were aware that they were to be disbanded, and their places supplied by fresh troops. The Monitor of the 22d ult., says that our army at Puebla had lost from 250 to 300 men by sickness, death and desertion. It mentions, too, that four of five months' pay was due to our troops, and that in consequence of this the 6th Infantry had refused on the 18th ult., to turn out when ordered for drill. This is all common, of course. The American army is twitted with having boasted that they would spend the 4th of July in the capital, while the truth is, say the Mexicans, that their reinforcements, instead of reaching Puebla, have got stuck in the mud upon the route.

An opposition paper says that when the Americans learned that Canalizo had been appointed to the command in the State of Puebla, General Scott was highly delighted, and that Worth and old Twiggs (thus irreverently are they
named,) declared that if these 8000 cavalry were under his command they were safer than in their own houses.

An official letter is published date the 14th June from San Juan de los Llanos, announcing that an American train had been attacked above Cerro Gordo, and forty wagons were taken. This probably refers to the attack upon the train under Col. McIntosh, which is often alluded to.

In Mr. Kendall’s letter allusion is made to a loan called for by Santa Anna. The decree referred to is dated the 17th of June, and imposes a contribution of one million of dollars upon the Federal district, and the States and Territories not occupied by the enemy. The apportionment of the amount among the different states would not interest our readers. The contribution is to be enforced by the authorities of the different States, &c., respectively—no one to be compelled to pay over $2000, or less than $25. Ten days are allowed to apportion the contributions among individuals in the most equitable manner. Individuals are allowed just three days to pay their respective quotas; if they make default, they are compelled to pay twice the amount.

The entrance of D. Vicente Romero into the ministry as head of the Department of Justice and Religious Affairs is scoffed at by the Mexican papers. The Monitor Republicano pronounces it equivalent to another defeat by the enemy.

REc44i22p3c6 July 16, 1847 From the Army

Knowing the anxiety of our readers to hear from Mexico, we make very copious extracts from the Picayune, which contains the fullest account. The intelligence, though not of a very definite character, is interesting. As to the prospects of peace, opinions are very contradictory.

Gen. Scott was still at Puebla, waiting to be reinforced by Gen’s Cadwalader and Pillow. The latter officer is represented as moving on, fighting with the guerrillas every step. (There is a report that he was captured, but it was discredited in New Orleans) These reinforcements must have reached Gen. Scott some time since.

The New Orleans Bulletin learns from a passenger by the Alabama that General Pierce with a large train and a column, said to be 2,000 strong, would leave Vera Cruz probably about the 6th July, to join Gen. Scott. These troops had arrived since the departure of the last column, under Gen. Pillow, and, with the troops of Generals Cadwalader and Pillow, would make an addition to Gen. Scott’s army of between 5 and 6,000 men, swelling it to about 14,000 men. We think it probable, however, that General Scott would not wait for Gen. Pierce’s command- but when reinforced by Pillow and Cadwalader would with his army, amounting to at least 12,000 men, push on the capital, where the most probable accounts seem to intimate he would meet with a very serious resistance.

But on all these points, we refer to the Picayune’s correspondence. In regard to the capture of Tabasco by Com. Perry, a letter from an "intelligent" correspondent of the N.O. Delta shows the great importance of the operations of our gallant tars in that quarter. We shall tomorrow publish from the Delta a graphic sketch of the expedition by one of the actors.

REv44i22p2c6 July 16, 1847 Vera Cruz

If I have understood the character of Bruno and the people of that province alright, Com. Perry has achieved a more difficult and important undertaking than they seem to think. The people of the province of Tabasco since the first landing of Cortes have ever been esteemed the bravest and most obstinate of all the Mexican race, and Gen. Bruno, who commands there, is considered one of the bravest and most cunning partisan leaders of the day. Ever since the first expedition of Com. Perry against that place, with a force inadequate to the attempt, Bruno has been drilling all of the citizens capable of bearing arms, and fortifying the approaches to the city. These facts reached us through the correspondent of an English house in Tabasco. His force could not have been less than 2,500 men when the expedition landed, though my young correspondent estimates them at 2,000. Now when you think of a thousand sailors landing and marching over such a country, dragging through swamps and thickets 10 pieces of artillery, the heat oppressive beyond conception, and driving before them 2,500 men, commanded by a man like Bruno the feat reflect the highest credit on our navy, and but proves what I’ve always said, that our navy to equal to any undertaking; They want but the opportunity. Com. Perry should have had command down her twelve months ago.

Yours, J.D.J [MSM]

REv44i22p3c2 July 16, 1847 From California

(We understand says the Union)-the last letters received in Washington from this distant country are to the 1st of May from Mazatlan. Commodore Shubrick was then at that port, in Independence enforcing the blockade as
established by Commodore Biddle. From Mazatlan the Commodore would probably proceed to the Sandwich Islands to refresh his crews, who had had scarcely had any vegetables since he left Valparaiso in December last. From the Islands Com. Shubrick would return to Monterey. Our squadron had been able to enforce a rigid blockade without giving any offense to any natural power.

Com. Biddle was at Monterey on the 19th of April. The Preble had not arrived. The Congress was at San Diego, but was expected soon at Monterey. The Portsmouth was off San Jose on the 27th—all well. The Warren was employed transporting volunteers from San Pedro to San Frisco. The store-ships Xylon and Mount Vernon both at Monterey and the squadron is well supplied with provisions. The Portsmouth had been employed in taking possession of the towers in Lower California, on the gulf; but at no place was there the means of making resistance to our flag.

The U.S. steamer Fashion, Capt. Ivy, arrived yesterday from Brazos Santiago, with about fifty discharged soldiers and teamsters. By this arrival we have our correspondence from Monterey to the 29th ult., and the Matamoras Flag of the 30th.

From the Flag we learn that Brig. Gen. Hopping, then at Matamoras, was to proceed immediately to Mier to superintend the formation of a Camp of Instruction for the troops now on the Rio Grande and to arrive. The Flag gives the following account of the troops to go into camp:

The 16th (Col. Tibbat’s) regiment, entire, is now at Camargo and will be the first at the camp. Two companies of the 13th (Col. Echols’s) regiment passed up the river on Monday, one company is in Fort Paredes, where it will remain for the present and two more are at the Brazos. (Unreadable). The battalion of 3d Dragoons now here, are under order to remove to the camp, but their march is delayed in consequence of he non-arrival of horses. In addition to the troops above mentioned, the following forces, raised and to be raised, under the recent call for volunteers and assigned to General Taylor, will enter Gen. Hopping’s school at Mier as fast as they arrive: One regiment of infantry from Indiana and one from Ohio; one battalion (five companies) from New Jersey; one battalion (five do) from Delaware and Maryland; one battalion from Alabama; one company of foot from Florida; four companies of horse from Illinois, Arkansas, Ohio and Alabama; two companies of foot from Virginia, and one company from North Carolina. The troops will be exercised in their studies at this school under Col. Belknap, and when they shall have passed though a course of instruction under him, they will be fully prepared to fight under Gen. Taylor’s invincible banner.

The troops quartered at Matamoras, about 1400 in number, were to have been received on the 1st inst., by Col. Davenport, the commandant. Major Ben. McCulloch and his men had been for some days quartered at Matamoras. The men were enlisted for six months, and the major is in bad health.

The Flag has a report communicated by letter—in which, by the way, it puts no faith—that a scouting party of General Wool had been cut off near Encarnacion, and all but one man killed, or made prisoners. The letter further said, “that General Wool was expecting an attack. The letter is dated June 10th. Had there been any truth in its reports, they would have been noticed by our correspondent, writing ten days later from Monterey.

We understand (says the New Orleans Bulletin) that a requisition was yesterday made on the Governor, by the War Department, for 1000 mounted men, for service in Mexico.

The New Orleans National (a special Whig Taylor paper) has the following: The Washington National Whig asserts and asserts that the letter purporting to be from Gen. Taylor, published in the Cincinnati Signal, is a forgery. In arguments to prove it such are certainly cogent. Time will show. " The New Orleans Bee, another Whig Taylor paper, reviews the article in the National Whig, regarding some of its reasons to establish the forgery as "frivolous and straw-splitting," and other as "plausible and well-founded."

It concludes as follows: Strange that the self boasting organs of the Old Hero should not be able to agree as to the identity of his writings! They show themselves to be very ignorant of his views, and very "premature" in thrusting his name into the political arena. Certain it is, this letter has taken them all by surprise, and utterly confused their "party schemes." "We have given this outline of the opinions of the National Whig, in view particularly of the Anti-
slavery question, which General Taylor is made, in general terms, to sanction. That there is error or deception some where, there can be no doubt. No one will, for a moment, believe that Gen. Taylor is willing to extend the ordinance of 1787 over all the continent beyond the Rio Grande, and consequently, no one will believe that he has ever avowed such a sentiment? Yet the article General Taylor, distinctly states as one of the grounds of non-interference by the Executive with the decrees of Congress, that the extensions of the ordinance of 1787 must not be baffled by Presidential vetoes; and this opinion we are told, meets the "high approval" of Gen. Taylor. We must suspend our belief in the genuineness of this letter, until further evidence is obtained. " [MSM]

REv44i23p2c2 July 20, 1847 Naval

The Norfolk papers state that the commandant of the Navy Yard there, (Com L. Kearny) received orders on Thursday morning for building a war steamer of the first class. She will be of the following dimensions. Length between perpendiculars at load water line, 250 feet; extreme length over 278 feet 6 inches; moulded breadth of beam 40 feet; extreme breather over paddle boxes 72 feet; depth of hold 27 feet. She will be propelled with vertical wheels, by a bouble engine of 500 horse power each. [MSM]

REv44i23p2c6 July 20, 1847 Later from Mexico

Through the nimbleness of our ponies, we yesterday received intelligence from New Orleans of Monday last, being (on account of the failure of the mail) forty eight hours later than has reached us in regular course. The failure of the mail was doubtless caused by the recent freshets that have prevailed at the West. An endorsement on one of our papers mailed at Montgomery on the 14th inst., says: 'The Express Rider reports the roads flooded. The mail due this morning cannot get in, as he passed it 20 miles out. " On the outer envelope of the Express package, it is stated that "the Alabama River is rising rapidly. " We have great fears that the recent heavy rains will prove very destructive to the crops, brides, &c. a the West, and look with much anxiety for further advice. Our express letter brings us the New Orleans Commercial Times of Monday, and a slip from the office of the Picayune up to 10 o'clock, a.m. of that day. The news from Mexico will found interesting, inasmuch as the heads of a correspondence that has taken place between Mr. Buchanan, Secretary of State, and the Mexican Minister of Foreign Affairs are published. Mr. Trist, it will be seen, is invested with full powers to conclude a Treaty of Peace, but we find little indication that the Mexican government are disposed at the present time to enter into negotiations. [MSM]

REv44i23p2c6 July 20, 1847 Later from Vera Cruz

The steamship M'Kim arrived at this port on Sunday afternoon in charge of her first officer, Capt. Pillsbury having died on the passage of yellow fever. The M'Kim left Vera Cruz on the 3d inst. There had been nothing later received from the city of Mexico then was brought down the night of the 1st inst., but fuller accounts had transpired at Vera Cruz than were received by the Alabama. We have no further information of the march of Gen. Pillow. Had any disaster occurred to him; the news of it could scarcely have failed to reach Vera Cruz promptly. Our letters make no mention whatever of him or his command.

By this arrival we have files of papers from the city of Mexico to the 29th ult, inclusive. In the Diario del Gobierno of the 26th June appeared an important diplomatic correspondence. The first note is from the Mexucan Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Secretaries of Congress, referring to that body a communication from Mr. Buchanan, which announces Mr. Trist's appointment. We learn that this letter was communicated to Santa Anna by or through the British Minister at Mexico, Mr. Bankhead, who has exerted himself to bring about a negotiation for peace between the two nations.

Mr. Buchanan's letter is dated April 15th. It acknowledges the receipt of the Mexican Minister's letter of the 22d February, declining to accede to our proposition to send commissioners to Jalapa, Havana, or other point before the blockade of the Mexican ports should be raised and the Mexican territory evacuated by our troops. Mr. Buchanan writes that the President holds such a condition absolutely inadmissible neither demanded by national honor nor sanctioned by the practice of nations. He urges that such a preliminary condition would render wars interminable, especially between contiguous nations, unless by the complete submission of one of the belligerents. He shows how puerile a course it would be for a nation which had sacrificed men and money to gain a foot hold in an enemi's country, to abandon all the advantages it had won and withdraw its forces in order to induce negotiations, without any certainty or security that peace would ensue from such negotiations. He then cites the case of our last war with Great Britain, to show that we never considered for a moment that our nation required us to insist upon the withdrawal of British troops before consenting to treat for peace. We sent commissioners to Ghent when portions of our territory in the possession of British troops; and it was notorious that while negotiations were going one at Ghent, hostilities were carried on upon both sides with unwonted vigor; the most memorable actions of the war taking place after negotiations had been concluded. Such a preliminary condition to negotiation cannot be cited in modern times; at least, Mr. Buchanan knows none. He then expose the unusual conduct of Mexico under another
The President, in his desire to avoid the war, had sent a Minister to negotiate a peace. Even after the war was commenced by the attack of the Mexican troops upon Gen. Taylor, the President had reiterated propositions with a view of opening negotiations which should put an end to hostilities. He had declared to the world that he would exact no conditions that were not honorable to both parties, and yet the Mexican Government had refused to receive the Minister sent to her, and after refusing to accede to the opening of negotiations, Mexico had never made known what basis she would consent to a settlement of the differences between the two Republics. There will never be a termination of hostilities, Mr. Buchanan proceeds, if Mexico continues to refused to listen to the overtures which have been proffered, and which tend to the establishment of peace. The President will not, therefore, make further overtures for the opening of negotiations until he has reason to believe that such will be accepted by the Mexican Government; but, nevertheless, such is his desire for peace, that the evils of the war shall not be prolonged one day longer than the Mexican Government makes it absolutely necessary. Accordingly, to carry his determination into effect, he had sent, in the quality of commissioner to the headquarters of the army in Mexico, Mr. N.P. Trist, First Clerk in the State Department, with full powers to conclude a definite treaty of peace with the United Mexican States. Mr. Trist is recommended as possessing the full confidence of the President, and worthy of that of the Mexican Government. In conclusion, Mr. Buchanan forbears from commenting upon the closing passage of the last letter from the Mexican Minister, lest it should give to his present note a less conciliatory character than he desires for it. He recurs with pleasure to another passage in the same letter wherein is express the pain with which the Mexican Government, has seen altered the cordial friendship which it had cultivated with this Republic, the continued advancement of which it had always admired, and whose institutions had served as a model of its own. Such sentiments, continues Mr. Buchanan, the President deeply feels his strongest desires are that the United Mexican States, under such institutions as prevail with us, may protect and secure the liberty of their citizens, and maintain an elevated position among the nations of the earth. Such is an outline of Mr. Buchanan’s letter of April 15th. We have not translated it, as the original will no doubt at once be made public. There is no indication in it of the basis upon which Mr. Trist is authorized to conclude a treaty. This letter the Mexican Minister acknowledges on the 22d of April, saying that the President had instructed him to reply that the whole subject matter of it had been expressly reserved by the Sovereign Congress of the nation for its own control, and that the letter would be at once transmitted to it for translation.

We learn by the Mexican papers that Congress was at once convened to take the matter for consideration, but up to the 29th of June no quorum had been procured. By a letter from a source entitled to great respect, we further learn that General Scott gave the Mexican Government till the 30th ult, to act upon the letter, when, if nothing should be done, he would march in. The best opinion in Mexico, in our judgment, we have had an opportunity of learning by this arrival. That opinion gives but poor encouragement for peace, but does not entirely despair. Other gentlemen, with very ample opportunities for judging, write from the city of Mexico. None of the letters we have seen mention any thing about the number or position of the Mexican troops.

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REv44i23p2c7 July 20, 1847 Later from Brazos

The steamer James L. Day, Capt. Wood, arrived this morning from Brazos Santiago. By her we have received the Matamoras Flag of the 7th inst. The news is without importance, The steamboat Enterprise has been sunk in the Rio Grande, 15 miles above Reynosa. Beat 1 loss. Capt. Dunlap’s company of mounted men from Illinois had arrived at Matamoras, the men in fine health and the horses in tolerable condition. McCulloch’s company has returned form Camargo to Matamoras.

We copy the following from the Matamoras Flag: "From the Interior of the State. —Mr. Holliday, a gentleman well known in this city, returned on Tuesday evening last from a journey into the interior, sixty miles beyond San Fernando. The object of his journey was to purchase mules for Government, which was frustrated on account of an irregular competition in the same business by the band of Carabajal, who were spread over the country, taking forcible possession of all the mules and horses fit for service. The (unreadable) of several different villages beyond San Fernando advised Mr. Holliday not to prosecute his journey further, assuring him that it would be impossible to obtain mules, and he was running a great risk of being either killed or made prisoner. He was informed that a part of Urrea’s forces was in Victoria, and that the mules and horses which were being collected by the Mexicans were intended for a force which was raising and was to rendezvous at Victoria for the purpose of making a descent upon Tampico. This he learned from many different sources, and he believes that an attack on that post is intended, the weakness of the garrison there strongly favoring such a design. " [MSM]

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REv44i23p3c2 July 20, 1847 Marine Journal


Port Walthall, July 17—Cld, brig Moxley and schr.J.W. Calwell, for Philadelphia; schr.Lady Suffolk, for Fall River. [MSM]
The following characteristic letter from one of our gallant tars, who took a conspicuous part in the late brilliant affair at Tabasco, is well deserving of a reading from all persons who admire Yankee valor and sailor frankness and humor, (says the N. Orleans Delta.) The letter was not intended for publication, and is, therefore, written in the free and easy style of friendly correspondence; but there is nothing in it that will not excite the admiration, sympathy and deep interest of all our readers. The pathetic and heart-rending complaint which concludes the letter, respecting the stubborn non-combativeness of the "bloody Bruno," who will not stand with his 1400 men long enough to be tickled by our jolly tars, is decidedly the richest thing we have read.

If Mr. Polk does not promote our friend in his very next orders, he shall certainly hear from us: Sailors turned Soldiers, or Boiled Lobsters Ashore—Our Fleet passing up the Tabasco River—Bruno in Ambush—Fire opened upon our Fleet—Sharp Shooters Aloft—Formidable Defences—Lieut. May Wounded in Reconnoitering—Fine Order preserved by our Sailors—Capts. Buchanan, McKinney and Adams—Com. Perry—Sailors Hitched to Cannon—Order of March—Encounter the Enemy and Drive Him Before Them—Difficult March—Great Excitement among the Frogs and Tadpoles—Lieut. Maynard's Gallant Charge—The Enemy Routed—Tall Walking—The Fort opens upon our steamers, which is Briskly and Effectively Returned—Lieut. Porter Lands and Carries the Enemy's Pattery, and Hoists the Stars and Stripes—Capts. Lee and Bigelow—The "Camels"—Our Troops March into the Town and Occupy the Plaza—Songs of the Sailors—Damage Done by the Enemy's Cannon. Frigate Raritan, 27th June, 1847.

Editors of Delta—You asked me to keep minutes of our Tabasco Expedition. I can't go the minutes; but if the hours will suit you, here they are. It was a novel picture, the like of which you may never hear; tell of again, and well worth the expenditure of a sheet of foolscap—so I will begin in due form and give you every item, from the battle with Bruno down to the stealing of a chicken. Just think of an army of salts suddenly transferred from the ship to the shore. The idea alone is enough to fix one's attention and excite the risible organs. One thousand tars transmogrified into soldiers. Shouldering muskets, forming into platoons, marching by word of command. "Eyes right, and face Corporal—the word order is only a caution, " &c.

They went through the exercise beautiful. Dragging artillery through swamps, chaparral, on ditches and in ditches, where horses would have foundered. Oh it was a beautiful sight, and this is the picture I design presenting to you, and is pronounced to be the most novel and interesting of the war. Tabasco, you must know, is a fine city, situated on a high bluff, on the right bank of the river, 80 miles from its mouth. The river is narrow, the banks high and steep, and covered with trees, and flags, interwoven with hanging vines and the densest foliage I have ever seen. Fifty determined men could have swept every one of us from the decks as we passed up without our ever seeing an enemy. The channel runs close to the right bank of the river, which looked immediately down on our decks, packed with men. The vessels frequently become entangled among the branches of the trees, and in this way, about midnight, several men were swept out of the boats and from the decks of the vessels.

Then with the burning of the blue lights (the preconcerted signal for any accident) and the rowing about the boats, in this sepulchral glare of the light to pick up the lost, rendered the whole scene strikingly picturesque and intensely exciting from the beginning to the ending of the expedition. On the 12th the squadron anchored off the river Tabasco, and on the 14th, all things being ready, we made sail. The steamer Scorpion, bearing the Commodore's broad pendant having in tow the Washington and Vesuvius, followed by the steamers Spitfire, Vixen and Scourge, towing the Etna, Stomboli, Bonita and Capt. Taylor's little vessel, the Spitfire, with the patent India rubber Cameal, for lifting our vessels over the shoals and obstructions thrown across the river—the boats of the squadron, about 50 in number, towing astern of all, presented a beautiful sight.

About sundown we left Frontera, and with an occasional interruption from the overhanging branches sweeping our men overboard, we passed on very genteely until 3 o'clock next day, when we captured a canoe with two Indians, from whom we learned that Bruno lay in ambush, with a larger force, 20 miles further up. The tops were at once filled with sharp-shooters, and officers were kept aloft on the look out. The place designated as the first point of attack being passed without interruption, we were beginning to feel secure, when a heavy volley opened on us from the banks. In an instant the fire was returned from the heavy guns of the Scorpion, Washington and Vesuvius, and from the small arms on deck and aloft. Lieuts. Blunt and Gansevoort, commanding field pieces mounted in launches towing astern of the Vesuvius and Washington sung out, "Go it boots, " and let drive, and the way those little pieces danced about those launches decks as these gallant fellows fired volley after volley, is nothing to yon.

The firing lasted about ten minutes; the big escopeta balls whizzed through the rigging of the old Vesuvius in the most mournful strains. It was a melancholy feeling, too, (music always makes one sad,) to be standing still and be shot at like a dog and not see an enemy, and have no place behind which to dodge your devoted body. I thought of getting behind the mainmast; but, wot! wot! Was me—there I found a bug buck negro occupying the place. You know that I cared nothing about my own life, but it would have distressed my Sally sorely to have been hit in the head. Strange to say, but one of our men was wounded, the balls nearly all passing over us. The awning of the Scorpion, I was told, was cut up pretty badly. The Vesuvius's dies were pretty well peppered, but for the foresight of the commodore, to stationing sharp-shooters aloft, we must have suffered severely—but they had heard of our being armed with the revolving rifle, and had a most awful horror of exposing themselves to its effects. They were afraid of raising their heads to take aim, for fear of showing themselves to the men aloft, and being shot. This nice little brush was monopolized by the three vessels named; all the rest being some miles astern.
We learned in Tabasco that Bruno commanded here in person. We kept on up the river, and anchored at sundown at a place called the Devil’s Bend. About two hours after, the rest of our forces came up and anchored in line astern. At this place we expected the most formidable opposition. Here is a long reach of a mile and a quarter in length. The river narrows, and an obstructing throws across the bar, with a strong breastwork commanding it, made my hear go “pit pat, patti pat, ” as I thought of the morrow, and the distress of my Sally, should a Mexican pill enter my stomach. As the shades of evening stole over us, we were fired upon again from the bushes, the discharge breaking a man’s leg on board of the Vesuvius. We opened the big guns on them again, cleared the woods of the mosquitoes, and went to bed. At daylight, Lieuts. May and Alden were sent ahead some 100 yards or so, to sound on the bar and examine the obstructions, which could be seen projecting out of the water. This was a perilous undertaking, but they went boldly to work, when a shower of balls were poured down upon them from the breastwork and bushes. 

Lieut. May’s boat being in advance, received the fire, severely wounding him and several of his crew, compelling the boats to return to the vessel. The order was then given for he forces to embark in the boats and form into line, three deep, in the middle of the river. This was done with great dispatch, and beautiful order. Capt. Buchanan was particularly noted for the beautiful style and celerity with which he brought his division into line; his men were the best equipped in the expedition. Whatever Buch does, he does well—whether in the fighting line, or horsing a midshipman—this last he does beautiful, and nothin’ else. Capts. McCloney and Adams were likewise remarked for the coolness and decision with which they gave their orders, in the confusion that must necessarily occur in bringing fifty or sixty twelve oared boats into line, in a narrow river, and under the fire of the enemy. This is no small merit I think.

In advance of all, was the "old hoss" heself, sitting quietly in his barge, with his broad pendant flying, forming the most conspicuous mark for Mexican shot, and his mouth puckering out as if he did not care a damn for all the Mexican bullets in Tabasco. While forming into line, a heavy cannonading was kept up from the vessels. At a signal given from the Commodore, the steamers ceased firing—the men gave an awful shout—700 oars dipped their blades into the water, and a thousand Yankee tank stood on the banks of the Tabasco. Good! I was thar: and my Sally sustained no loss.

The forces were now drawn up in the order of march—the pioneers and scouting party, commanded by Lieutenant Maynard, in advance then the marines, in command of Captain Edson—then the "old hoss" and suite, with his broad pendant in front—the artillery, by Captain Mackenzie, and infantry, in two division, by Captain Forest and Breese—the ambulance party following after, to pick up the killed and wounded. And now you should have been here with your note book, to gather a few scraps as they fell from Jack, when hitching him up in the artillery. I have often been called a Jackass says one, but little did I think that my mother’s son would ever be called upon to fill the place of one!

Marching about 300 yards brought us out of the woods into an open space; the grass and flags up to our armpits, and an occasional marsh to wade though, rendered our advancing exceedingly painful and laborious. We had ten field pieces dragging after us. With twenty rounds of grape and canister, yet our tars never flinched, but dragged them though much and mire, until we planted them in the Plaza in Tabasco. As we neared a dense chaparral skirting the woods the Mexicans opened on us again. Captain Mackenzie and Buchanan immediately brought forward the artillery, and opened on the thicket, the marines and infantry advancing and returning the fire at the same time. About this time, the word ran along the line that he enemy was advancing on the right—the field pieces were trained on them, and in the act of firing, when discovered to be Lieutenant Maynard, with his pioneers, returning from a scouting expedition; five seconds later, and they had been dead men. The Mexicans retreated before us as we advanced, keeping up a running fire, but rarely showing themselves. It was impossible to charge them for the marshes and chaparral; there was no means of forcing our way through the woods, the undergrowth of briars, vines, snakes, scorpions and other vegetables, rendering it perfectly impregnable. We now struck into a footpath, which we kept until we got in sight of Tabasco. It was with the greatest difficulty that the artillery could be got along, and but for the indomitable energy and perseverance of the officer command them, the must have been left on the road. But before such fellows as Mackenzie, Buchanan, Perry, Gansevoort and Blunt, it was no use—the chaparral fell back, the high flags bowed their devoted heads, the bull-frogs said "bloody hound" (not nouns) and hopped away, and the tad poles having no legs, wagged their tails and exclaimed, "we are dead tad-poles, " and the artillery passed along.

Our march now for two or three miles was uninterrupted by the appearance of a Mexican, but the roadside was strewn with cartridges, beds, haversacks, and other indications of people moving in a hurry. Scouting some distance in advance of the main body, the pioneers suddenly came upon a large party of the enemy waiting in a close chaparral to give us a volley as we approached. Maynard charged in upon them in gallant style, and routed them out. And now you should have been here to have seen what a Texan would call a specimen of "tall walking"—the Mexicans running and the pioneers after them. The yellow varmints seemed to think that they were losing too much time in their feet touching the ground so often, so they picked them up, and we soon saw nothing but a cloud of white specks in the distance, like coat-tails shivering in the wind. Maynard’s runners are of no contemptible dimensions, and he soon left his own men far aster, --but he was a snail alongside of the Mexicans. There were enough of them to them to have eaten up his little force numbering but thirty men, and half of them armed with axes. This was our last brush, and towards evening the advance guard came in sight of the fort commanding the approach to the city by land and water.

I have never seen a more commanding position—constructed on a bluff, taking in a line of the river one mile and a half long, exposing our vessels to a raking fire the whole distance. In the fort they mounted three long 32s, three heavy field pieces and 24 pound carronade, and as the Scorpion and Spitfire came around the bend of the river, they opened on them from the fort with grape and round shot. The two little steamers came steadily along, paying more attention to steering clear of the shoals than of the shot. The Scorpion coming up first opened her fire as she got abreast, the Spitfire returned most gallantly, again driving them from their guns. The Scorpion at this time landing a
party of men to take possession of the town, and thinking in the fort that they were about to be attacked in the rear, prepared to limber up their field pieces, when Lieut. Porter landed with a force from the Spitfire and Scorpion acquitted themselves most creditably. These were the only vessels the shoalness of the water would admit of coming up at the time. The wheel houses of the Scorpion and Spitfire were driven in by the shot of the fort, paddles shattered, wheel shot away, and several men and an officer wounded. With the assistance of Capt. Taylor’s camels, the Etna and Scourge were subsequently brought over the bar. We now formed into line, and with flags flying marched into the city to the tune of "OH! Git along Jack."

On reaching the public plaza, the men and officers were quartered in the public buildings around the square, the commander and suite occupying the government house. Every Mexican had left they city. Not an officer of the Government, civil or military, could be found in the place. We were in the city nine days, during which time not an outrage was committed by a man, and private property respected most rigidly. At night, our jolly tars would assemble together in squads of a hundred in the plaza, and sing their sea songs. Such music had never before been heard in Tabasco. The ladies always assembled in the balcony of the Spanish Consul’s house regularly every evening, and never left until the last note was sounded. There are few concerts in the world equal in my opinion to the music of a hundred sailors’ voices.

The guns were all put on board of the steamers, and the magazine razed to the ground. On the 26th we left Tabasco. Capt. Van Brunt left as governor. The Etna, Spitfire and Scourge remained to hold possession of the place. Bruno is still in the woods in command of 1, 400 men, and will no doubt annoy the vessels from the river banks. And now that I have come to the end of my journey, I will ask a question: Is it our fault that the yellow rascals stand and fight? Is it our fault that more of us could not get killed and wounded? Is it our fault that Bruno with two thousand men, would not stand before one thousand tars and he shot at? And lastly, is it my fault that the President and Secretary have not discrimination enough to discover my merits and promote me. Yours, &c.

[MSM]
Americans and Californians from henceforth are one people. Let us then indulge one desire, one hope; let that be for the peace and tranquility of our country. Let us unite like brothers and actually strive for the improvement and advancement of this our beautiful country, which within a short period cannot fail to be not only beautiful, but also prosperous and happy.

Given at Monterey, Capital of California, the 1st day of March, of the year of our Lord and of the Independence of the United States, the 71st.

S.W. Kearney,
Brig Gen. U.S.A. and Governor of California

[MSM]
the war, the president, actuated by the same pacific spirit, made repeated overtures to the government of Mexico to negotiate for its termination; and although he has, from the beginning, solemnly declared before the world that he desired no terms but such as were just and honorable for both parties, yet the Mexican government, by refusing to receive our minister in the first place, and afterwards by not acceding to our overtures to open negotiations for peace, has never afforded to this government even the opportunity of making known the terms on which we would be willing to settle all questions in dispute between the two republics. The war can never end whilst Mexico refuses to hear the proposals which we have always been ready to make for peace.

The president will not again renew the offer to negotiate—at least until he shall have reason to believe that it would be accepted by the Mexican government. Devoted, however, to honorable peace he is determined that the evils of the war shall not be protracted one day longer than shall be rendered absolutely necessary by the Mexican republic. For the purpose of carrying this determination into effects with the least possible delay, he will forthwith send to the headquarters of the army, in Mexico, Nicholas P. Trist, Esq., the officer next in rank to the undersigned in our department of foreign affairs, at a commissioner, invested with full powers to conclude a definitive treaty of peace with the United Mexican States. This gentleman possesses the entire confidence of the president, and is eminently worthy of that of the Mexican government.

The undersigned refrains from all comment upon the concluding paragraph, as well as some other portions, of your excellence's note; because the strong sense which he entertains of their injustice toward the United States could not be uttered in the friendly tone which he desires to preserve in the present communication. He turns from these, therefore, Caldwell—as he does with unfeigned pleasure—upon the sentiment contained in an early part of the same note, where the Mexican government expresses how painful it is "to see disturbed the sincere friendship which it cultivated with your [our] republic, whose continued progress it has always admired, and whose institutions have served it as a model."

This feeling is most cordially reciprocated by the president, whose earnest desire it is that the United Mexican States, under institutions similar to our own, may protect and secure the liberties of their people, and maintain an elevated standing among the nations of the earth.

The undersigned embraces this occasions to offer to your excellency the assurance of his most distinguished consideration.

JAS. BUCHANAN.

[MSM]

REV44i24p1c4 July 23, 1847 The New Orleans National

The New Orleans National, Whig, publishes the following interesting extract from a manuscript work upon Upper California, from the pen of "a very scientific man, eminently capable of giving information of value to those who contemplate moving to California."

The National says, that these sketches "will be found of interest, more particularly as they relate to that part of Mexico, which all parties in this country agree must become a part of the United States." But the Whig and Mr. Botts say, that the Whig party are opposed to the acquisition of a single foot of this worthless, or more than worthless, territory. Which speaks the true Whig doctrine:

San Francisco Bay, California.

An opportunity occurring, I embarked on board of a small trading schooner, to pay a visit to the Bay of San Francisco, the most splendid one in California. A pleasant run of two days from Monterey brought the vessel in which I journied to the mouth of the bay which is peculiar, and will always attract attention for the facilities it present to be strongly defended at little cost, and for this very picturesque appearance. The entrance to the bay is excellent, it being fully a half mile wide. On the south rises a high rocky point, on the top of which are the ruins of an old Spanish fort. On the north side is a high, bold coast, at the foot of which are some perforated sand stone rocks, resembling in a remarkable degree remnants of old castles, with ruined porticos and archways. After you pass well into the bay; you meet with various small islands or round bold rocks, one of which is known as Bird’s Island. This island is admirable calculated for a light house or fort, for it perfectly command the entrance of the harbor, and could not have been better situated for the purposes named, if it had been located by a skillful engineer.

Such is the entrance of San Francisco Bay, the best on the Pacific coast, and not surpassed for beauty of surrounding country, or safety for ships at anchor, by any in the world. The Port of San Francisco Bay has a bold shore, and high hills for a background. The narrow entrance of the bay looking out towards the sea, is beautiful, bounded as it is on both sides, by bold rocks, while the high precipices on which you stand, brings the waves of the ocean at your very feet. At he head of San Francisco is the small bay of San Puebla, which much resembles a lake. Vessels entering it, pass close to the western shore, through a narrow strait made by small islands; continuing on, you come in the vicinity of Sonoma, the residence of the Mexican commander of the California frontier.
The town is situated three miles from the bay, on the banks of a handsome creek. In the vicinity are several settlement. Sonoma was originally laid off with great taste, and had the enterprise of the people built it up according the original intention, it would have been the handsomest place in California. The military barracks are extensive, and front a magnificent plaza. This station has a garrison, nominally consisting of one hundred and fifty-five men rank and file, but never musters more than thirty or forty. The business of the soldiers is to scour the country, and, under the pretense of keeping the Indians in subjection, rob them of the little property they may from time to accumulate.

Enough of agricultural enterprise is exhibited at Sonoma, to enable one to judge of the capacity of the soil in the hands of an industrious population. The stock looked fine and the houses were better than any seen elsewhere on the bay. In the vicinity of Sonoma are hot springs, remarkably effective in the cure of rheumatic complaints. Near by them was a water mill intended for grinding corn and wheat, but the machinery, although exceedingly simple, was too complex for the simple Californians to manage, so it stood still, the people being satisfied to spend more time preparing tortillas for one day's consumption than would have been necessary to expend in fixing the mill, to have enabled it to grind enough in one day to last a month.

Yerbabuena, is a small and growing to the southwest side of San Francisco Bay. The harbor offers great facilities for unloading vessels of all descriptions, but the place suffers from the want of good water; vessels, therefore, are obliged to cross the bay to supply themselves. As the country become more thickly settled, a fort will be opened further South that Yerbabuena, which must become of great importance as a place of business.

The country between Monterey and San Francisco present a great variety of level land, well drained when suffering from the rainy season, and kept moist in the dry one by the waters that come from the mountains and lose themselves in the low lands. In the forests is oak timber of the best quality for ship building, and all the interior woods used for framing houses and domestic purposes. Places of several acres in extent are to be found, occupied by the palmetto and lotus plants—spot of ground easily cleared, and possessing the richest possible soil

. Traveling towards Francisco Bay from any direction, it is observable that, as you approach the country constantly improves in fertility. The shores are everywhere lined with mission stations, and private farms, the produce of which, with the most rude cultivation, is almost beyond belief to those who till the soil in less hospitable climates. The yield of wheat is often a hundred fold, and corn is still more prolific.

REv44i24p1c7 July 23, 1847 Troops in Gen. Scott’s Army

We learn at the Adjutant General’s office (says the Union) that more than 7, 000 troops (new regiments and reorganized companies of the old) have been sent to reinforce the army under Maj. Gen. Scott; and that official reports have been received, which show that nearly 5, 000 have arrived at Vera Cruz between the 24th of May and 26th of June, and which, we understand, have been pushed forward to join the advancing column of the army with all practicable expedition. The entire force in advance of Vera Cruz, operating in the interior, and moving in the direction of the capital, exceed 15, 000. These are, of course, exclusive of the garrisons at Tampico and Vera Cruz.

It is impossible to determine what deduction should be made on account of the sick; but, according the best judgment of military men, it should be put down at not less than 2, 600; which would make the efficient force in the heart of Mexico about 13, 000, exclusive of staff corps. The army under Gen. Scott must soon be further increased, since more than 2, 500 are known to be en route for Vera Cruz; among which are six companies of the U.S. infantry, and several companies of marines, &c.

In addition to these, a respectable number of troops, of an effective character are now raising, and will be promptly en route for Gen. Scott’s army. We take the present as a fit occasion to say to our readers, that we shall henceforth forbear to make any corrections of the errors and oft repeated misstatements of our forces in the field, which appear in certain prints. But we will say, once for all, that the pay rolls—that infallible test of numbers—will show that the forces in Mexico, under Major General Scott and Major General Taylor, in the month of July, will exceed 30, 000. [MSM]

REv44i24p2c1 July 23, 1847 The Important Intelligence from Mexico

The important intelligence from Mexico, of which our duty to our readers, at this interesting crisis, forces us to give copious extracts, leaves us no room for remarks this morning. What may be the result of the extraordinary state of affairs in the Mexican capital, our readers can judge as well as ourselves, from a perusal of the extracts which embrace all that we can see of an important bearing in the New Orleans papers.

The New Orleans Times is the only paper which refers to the positive rejection, by the Mexican Congress, of our offer of negotiation. None of he other papers having alluded to it, we are encouraged to hope that the information may be incorrect. At all events, we have no doubt that Gen. Scott is now in the city of Mexico. What may be the issue of his movements, a few days will certainly unravel. We shall be astonished at no conduct of the Mexicans, however
infatuated it may be; but whatever they may do, we have no fear for the triumphant progress of Gen. Scott and our brave army. We have practiced toward Mexico a generosity and forbearance which we would not extend to a more powerful nation. We have over and over again tendered to her the most liberal offers. If she madly rejects the olive branch, the responsibilities be on her own head. Peace we hope for but not at the sacrifice of our national honor and rights. The conduct of our Government has been in accordance with the laws of the nations and the practices of the civilized world. If Mexico plays the mule and rejects all overtures, she alone must be responsible to the grand council of nations, for a continued rupture of peace between two republics that ought to be cordially united against the monarchicals of the Old World.

[MSM]

REv44i24p2c2 July 23, 1847 Troops for Mexico;

A detachment of one hundred recruits sailed from New York on Monday, for the Brazos, Mexico, in the ship Elisha Denison. These troops were recruited by Lieut. R. A. Bouton, of the 10th Regiment 250 strong. They are ordered to report to General Taylor.

[MSM]

REv44i24p2c5 July 23, 1847 Most Important

Again a rejection of the olive branch.

Mexico Declines Treating.

At the moment when the Galveston was leaving Vera Cruz, a courier, with the mail from the Capital, entered the city, bringing dates to the 5th July. The principal item of intelligence, brought from the city of Mexico, is of a momentous character, viz: The Mexican Congress, with some difficulty, had been brought together, and Mr. Buchanan's communication, containing the President's overtures for peace, were laid before them. Their decision was immediate, and to the effect, that Mexico would listen to no terms for peace. General Scott left Puebla, at the head of his army, for the Capital, on the 30th June. We received this news from a passenger, and have every reason to believe that it is authentic.

[MSM]

REv44i24p2c6 July 23, 1847 Late & Important from Mexico;

By way of Tampico (says the N. Orleans Picayune) we yesterday received a copy of El Republicano, from the city of Mexico, of the 30th June, also the number of the 28th, which was missing from our previous file. Both papers contain matter of great interest.

The council of war spoken of was held on the 24th. It is not alluded to in the Star of Puebla of the 26th, nor in Mr. Kendall's letters, which come down to the 30th. Yet the facts are said to be derived from a responsible source, and they look plausible—Gen. Worth's opinions particularly so. The Republicano of the 29th says nothing about the subject, but in that paper of the 30th is another postscript, to which is prefixed in large letter, "Very Important." This postscript mentions the receipt of letters announcing the debarkation of 18—men at Vera Cruz from Tampico, who had marched immediately for Puebla. (This is probably Gen. Cadwalader's detachment.) The letters further said that Gen. Scott had already ordered the march of the first brigade, consisting of 1500 troops, with ten guns and a mortar, towards the city of Mexico, when he learned that the train was detained at Nopalucan (forty two miles this side of Puebla, and fifty one beyond Perote) that he thereupon countermanded the march upon Mexico, and dispatched a force to the assistance of the rain coming up. The letters then speak of the review of the troops, which took place on the 26th. The number of troops is again set down at 8, 500 men, without including those who occupy the fortifications of San Juan, Loreto, &c. But the most important paragraph is, that Gen. Scott, would probably postpone his march upon the city until the 10th July, to allow these reinforcements to come up. We give those various pieces of news as we find them; but the reader will constantly bear in mind, that our advices direct from Puebla are later than those by the city of Mexico. The Republicano, in this same postscript, thinks it very probable that General Taylor will abandon Saltillo, Matamoros, and other towns in the North of Mexico, and shortly proceed to Vera Cruz, to assist in the taking of the Capital. Which now, it adds, the object of the aspirations of the Americans. It is very anxious that the Government should direct General Valencia and Salsas, now at San Luis, that they harass the retreat of General Taylor.

[MSM]

REv44i24p3c1 July 23, 1847 Marine Journal


REv44i24p4c1 July 23, 1847 Important from Mexico

Our files of papers from the city of Mexico, by the way of Vera Cruz, come down to the 29th of June. By the way of Tampico, to, we have files from the capital, but not later than the 16th. Our attention was first given to discover something about the American prisoners in Mexico. The following paragraph is the only thing upon the subject we can find. It is sufficiently indefinite, but shows that the prisoners had left the capital. It is from El Republicano of the 27th ult.

The 180 Yankee prisoners of war whom the Government sent by this route have been detained at the above named town, and we learn that General Garay has not the necessary means for supplying them with food.

We have looked in vain into proceeding numbers of the same paper for a notice of their departure from the capital, but the above scanty paragraph is all that we can find upon the subject.

A summons for Congress to assemble we find in almost every paper we open. We presume it is summoned to take into consideration Mr. Buchanan’s letter announcing Mr. Trist’s appointment. It is certain that no quorum had been assembled up the 29th ult. The Republicano published daily the list of members present and absent. They have several times come very near a quorum, and there its, doubtless, a sufficient number of members in the city to form one. Seventy one are required—sixty six were present on the 25th.

The papers of the city appeared to expect that the American army would move from Puebla by the end of June. They say not a word in their later numbers of their own means of defence, or, indeed, of their own army. In this particular they show perfect acquiescence in the wishes of Santa Anna.

We see no allusion in the papers to the fact which we have stated elsewhere upon different authority that General Scott had given the Government to the 30th ult., to consider of Mr. Buchanan’s letter before pushing on to the capital. The Republicano says our army is too insignificant to advance, but hopes it is true that General Scott intends doing so, as it will afford a good test of the fidelity of those Mexicans who have pledged themselves to defend the capital till death. This reads much like a sneer at the Mexican officers—a thing the Republicano is very capable of doing.

The persecutions against the press are continued. D. Francisco Lazo Estrada, editor of the Boletion de la Democracia, having secreted himself to escape a prosecution, has been found and arrested. This is the second individual connected with this paper proceeded against.

On the 26th ult., rumors which the Republicano calls "very alarming" were in circulation in the capital. It was said that the Mexican Government had acceded to the mediation of England; that the English Secretary of Legation had been down to Puebla and returned on the 24th; that the object of his visit was negotiate with Gen. Scott a treaty of peace; that the terms agreed upon between them would be the surrender of the Californias to the Americans, the recognition of the independence of Texas, and the acknowledgement of the line of 36 degrees as the northern boundary between the United States and Mexico. (This line would give Santa Fe and over a third of New Mexico to the United States. ) The Republicano has no faith in these rumors. It denounces them as false, but at the same time in such a manner as to betray its fears least the rumors confirms the information we derived from a distinct source in Vera Cruz that Mr. Buchanan’s letter was transmitted thought the English embassy. The same considerations may lead the reader to attach some faith to the terms of treaty which are enumerated above. The English Secretary returned to the city of Mexico n the 24th and Mr. Buchanan’s letter was published on the 26th, and at the same time these rumors obtained general currency.

[MSM]

REv44i25p1c6 July 27, 1847 Naval


REv44i25p2c3 July 27, 1847 From the New Orleans Times
We have been favored with the following extract from a letter, dated Tabasco, June 30, 1847.

We have been far more tranquil ever since the departure of Commodore Perry, small parties of men having entered the town at night and fired upon the sentries. This has led to the burning, the day before yesterday, of about two hundred houses, at the back and south end of the city, by order of our government and military commander. Yesterday reinforcements of about 110 marines and sailors were sent up by Commodore Perry from the bar, and this morning about 250 men have gone out to try and meet some of the Mexican forces that are in this neighborhood, and drive them away. The city remains deserted, and no business at all doing, not a single shop in the place being opened, and all our usual supplies from the neighborhood suspended. We understand Commodore Perry has declared his intention to retain possession of this city, unless he receives orders to the contrary from the government in Washington.

July 1. —The result of the expedition yesterday appears to have been in favor of the Americans, but with a loss of two men killed in ambush, and four wounded. The Mexican force waited for them in ambush at Tamulte, but after about twenty minutes firing retired—it is not yet known with what loss.

REv44i25p3c1 July 27, 1847 Marine Journal

Arrived. Sardinian brig, La Rosa, Prede, Ireland.

Spoke 6th July, lat. 37 10 N. lon. 65 00 W., brig Iceland from Philadelphia, bound to Western Islands.

Schr. Triumph, Williams, Baltimore. Schr. Essex, Cooper, Norfolk.

Sailed. Schr. Gulnare, Luce, Portland.

REv44i25p4c1 July 27, 1847 By the Southern Mail

The steamship Palmetto, Captain Smith, arrived last night from Vera Cruz, by way of Tampico and Brazos Santiago. She left Vera Cruz on the 9th, Tampico on the 10th, and the Brazos on the 12th. By this arrival we have letters and papers from Vera Cruz to the 9th July. So far as we can learn by them, or by the verbal report of the officers of the Palmetto, there have been no arrivals from the army of General Scott since the night of the 1st July. We are, therefore, confirmed in our opinion, that the story brought here by some one on the Galveston, about a courier from Mexico with "momentous" news to the 5th July, was "all my eye."

We can learn nothing whatever the army or the capital. The Sun of Anahuac of the 9th July, gives the following account of the issue of Captain Mayo’s expedition against Father Jarauta:

"Captain Mayo, United States Naval Governor of Alvarado, as we have said in a previous number, ascended the Alvarado river with the steamer Petrita a few days ago in pursuit of a renowned priest chief of the guerrillas. Padre Jarauta, Captain M. went up the river about 70 miles to a town called Cosamaloapoapan, where the padre had captured an American trader's boat with two men, and robbing 200 dollars from them; but when he arrived the Mexican had fled, after selling the boat. "No resistance was made to the Governor—he hoisted the American flag, made the alcaldie pay the two hundred dollars, and return the boat to its owner".

"The padre, before leaving Cosamaloapan on Friday last, told the people that his intention was to go to Tsechoacan, and Hacienda of Nopalapam, for the purpose of collecting 500 horses, to mount his men, at this time stationed in the town of Cotasta, Hacienda of Naranjo, and Boca Costol, in number about 600 effective men; from these places he was to join a guerrilla chief from Jalapa, Juan Chimaco Robledo, who is now in the pass of the Hava, nine miles from Jalapa, with 150 men, and collecting as many more as possible from the neighboring country, for the purpose of attacking our train on their way up. He has positive orders to take no prisoners but to put to death not only all Americans, but even every Mexican he can catch, that has in any way rendered services to our countrymen."

The Sun also reports a fight between a Frenchman named Simon Lamadée and a Mexican named Ramon Bustamente. The Mexican stabbed the Frenchman dangerously and made his escape. A reward of $100 was offered for Bustamente forthwith. Gen. Pierce had not left Vera Cruz when the Palmetto sailed, but was expected to leave that day or Saturday, the 10th, with 3, 000 men. From Tampico and the Brazos we have no news whatever. The Palmetto brought mails from each point at which she touched, but they were not distributed last night.
The schooner *Home*, Captain Kinney, arrived here yesterday morning (says the New Orleans *Picayune*) from Tampico, bringing over eight of the American prisoners who have been so long and so unjustly detained in Mexico. The names of these men are A.W. Holeman, W.P. DeNormandie, William Funk, Josh Thomas, John A. Scott, Robert S. Cockrill, John Swigert and William Russell. The last named belonged to the Arkansas cavalry, the others to the two regiments from Kentucky. They left the city of Mexico on the 5th of June, with the other prisoners, it being understood that their destination was Tampico. They marched with a small escort in charge of a Colonel and two or three officers. On the 17 they reached Juejria, where they were turned over as prisoners to Gen. Garay, in command of that town, where several hundred troops were stationed. The prisoners were treated with some consideration by Gen. Garay, and much more kindness than they had before met with. They were informed by him that he had no orders to dispose of them, and that although he presumed it was the purpose of the Government to send them on to Tampico he had no instructions to that effect. The prisoners were here furnished with twenty five cents each daily for their expenses. This money Gen. Garay appears to have raised by contributions among the town’s people. After waiting here some days, seeing no prospect of release, and fearing lest events at the capital might induce the Government to charge its intention of forwarding them to Tampico, they determined to effect their escape. They attempted this in small parties of five at one time, two at another, and five at another. Seven in all left on the 27th. The first five were all retaken and carried back to Huejutla, but one of them again escaped and with the other seven reached Tampico. They marched principally by night and were from four to six or seven days on the route! After their arrival at Tampico, news reached there by a Mexican that about thirty of the men had also attempted to escape; that twenty five of them had been retaken, and three others shot in the pursuit.

These were the reports in Tampico, but our informant does not place implicit confidence in them. He has little expectation that Col. De Russy’s expedition will prove of any avail in procuring the release of the other prisoners. He thinks it certainly will fail, if the intention be to rescue the men by force. The movement of the colonel will inevitably be reported to Gen. Garay in advance; and if he does not feel himself strong enough to receive an attack, he can very readily send off the prisoners further into the interior. The fate of those men is greatly to be deplored, and we must consider them lost. The movement of the colonel will inevitably escape; that twenty five of them had been retaken, and three others shot in the pursuit.

The arrival of the steamship *Vixen* with a reinforcement, and your very liberal and judicious instruction, enabled me to increase the land party to 240, with two pieces of artillery; and I also directed the *Vixen* to ascend the river in company with the *Scourge* to assist one another in case of grounding. In conformity with these arrangements, I started at 7 o’clock on the morning of the 30th, (yesterday) and at the same time the steamers got under way to ascend the river. At nine o’clock, when within about a quarter of a mile of the village the enemy opened a fire of musketry from the bushed on both sides of the road, where he had posted himself in ambush. This was promptly returned by the marines and small arm men, till the artillery was brought into position; when, after a few discharges, the enemy broke and fled to the woods, pursued by our men; but not being acquainted with the by paths, we were not able to overtake them, and consequently made no prisoners, except a few stragglers found in the village. A small quantity of ammunition, and some muskets, were found in the church and destroyed.

At 1 o’clock P.M. after having refreshed my men, seeing nothing of the steamers, I took up the line of march and returned to the city. The steamers after getting aground several times for the want of pilors, which were not to be obtained, reached the village about half an hour after we had left, and returned here this morning. I forward herewith the report of Lieutenant Commandant Lockwood, of the *Scourge*, who was in command.

The party we encountered at the village of Tamultay consisted of about 500 men, under the command of Gen.
Echegaray, being the whole force of the enemy in this vicinity. They had received information of our movement, and
were posted in the most judicious manner to receive us. During the action we lost two men killed, and had, two
wounded—one severely and the other slightly. Lieut. Kintzing was also slightly wounded by a spent ball, and two
men were badly burned by the accidental explosion of powder in a building. The loss of the enemy was not
ascertained, but two killed were found in the bushes near the road. The officers and men behaved in a manner
creditable to the service and their country. The following comprise the names of the killed and wounded: Killed—
Dangerously, Wm. Treat, ordinary seaman, Potomac. Severely—Jas. Hoy, ordinary seaman, Mississippi; Brosby,
Etna, from explosion of gunpowder; George Brown, ordinary seaman, Etna, from explosion of gunpowder. Slightly—
George Johnson, Potomac, from explosion and gunpowder.

REv44i26p1c7 July 30, 1847 Later from Matamoros

Probable Advance from Gen. Taylor on San Luis Potosi, and Junction of the American Forces under Gens. Scott and
Taylor.

By the steamship Jas. L. Day, Captain Wood, from Brazos St. Jago, late last night, we have received Matamoros
papers to the 18th instant—from which we extract the following intelligence, combining all we can hear at present:
(From the Matamoras Flag.)

Col. S. R. Curtis, acting Inspector General under General Wool, reached our city on Monday, directly from the camp
of General Wool at Buena Vista, having left there on the 28th ult. We believe that he is undetermined, whether to
proceed from here to the United States, or to the headquarters of Gen. Scott. In brief conversation with him, we
gather the following particulars, with regard to affairs on this line. Up to the time of his departure from Buena Vista,
everything had remained quiet camp.

The Mexican forces at San Luis were variously reported at from four to fourteen thousand. —They are commanded
by General Valencia. A march against General Wool had been determined upon, but appears to have fallen through.
General Wool received timely notice of it on the 26th ult. and made arrangements for a hearty welcome. It was
afterwards ascertained, that the brigade of General Minon, (commanded now by another officer, ) forming the
advance, had approached within sixty or eighty miles Saltillo. Here the soldiers began to desert, and dissensions
arose, which induced a countermarch, and rumor said, that General Valencia was en route from San Luis to join
General Santa Anna, at the City of Mexico.

(We can contradict this rumor upon the authority of San Luis papers, received in this city within the last few days. —
These papers state Gen. Valencia to be still at San Luis, making preparations for the reception of General Taylor.
They mention that dispatches, ordering General Taylor to form a junction with General Scott, by the way of San Luis,
had been captured, and they feel certain that General Taylor will march upon that place. The regular troops under
Valencia are stated at 9, 000, and strenuous appeals are made to the people assist in the defense of the city. )

The troops at Buena Vista (2, 900) are in good health, and under general Wool’s command, progressing rapidly in
the "school of a soldier. "

Gen’l Taylor is still at Walnut Springs, quietly awaiting the arrival of those reinforcements so often promised and
always delayed. He desires to go toward or back. Thinks he has a prospect of getting more reinforcements than
necessary for mere garrison duty in this country; but not long enough to prosecute hostile movements. He has 120,
000 rations, 800 wagons and 2000 mules waiting, ready to move forward.

The camp near Mier, is designed as the headquarters of General Hopping and the "School of Instruction, " has been
located at the Sulphur Springs, about three miles from Mier, at the junction of the Alama river with the Rio Grande.
—It is said to be a delightful place, and some 1, 500 troops are already collected there.

Col. Belknap and Major Crossman started from Camargo on the 8th inst., on the Rough and Ready steamboat,
designed to try the navigation to the new camp—The river is still low, and but few boats ascend above Reynosa. A
large quantity of public stores have accumulated at Reynosa, and at San Francisco. These stores, designed for the
army above, will be forwarded as fast as circumstances will allow.

It was rumored along the road that Urrea was on the side of the mountains, but it was not generally believed in
Camargo, or above there on the line; the country wore the appearance of perfect quiet, and there was no interest
either in present or perspective operations. At this place, Mexican reports assume a more concise form, and we are
forced to give credit to some of them. It is beyond doubt, that Urrea is now on this side of the mountain. We have
positive information of his being in Victoria, five days ago, and of his having arrested the Governor of his state, and
sent him under guard, to the city of Mexico, charged with hatching treason against the Mexican government.

It is also pretty certain that a nephew of Canales has been arrested and shot by his order, treasonable

[MSM]
left Victoria with the design of attacking Tampico, in conjunction with troops from San Luis, but this rumor we cannot trace to any reliable source.

Carabajal is reported moving about all over the country—here one day, there the next—letting few traders escape him—fleeing them even to their shirts.

From San Luis. —San Luis papers to the 6th instant have been received in town, but they are in the hands of Mexicans, who refuse us permission to see them. They contain some important information, looked upon by Mexicans as very favorable to their cause, the purport of which we arrive at from hearsay.

The most important intelligence regards General Scott. The papers state, so we are told, that our army marched from Puebla for the city of Mexico, but after ascertaining the force they would have to contend with, countermarched again to Puebla, without coming to an engagement with the Mexicans, although battle was offered at a point distant twenty-five miles from the city. This is too improbable for beliefs; General Scott will never turn back when once on the march, even though the opposing force be "forty thousand valiant Mexicans," as stated.

The second item of importance announces the dissolution of the Ayuntamiento of Puebla, and retirement from the city of all the members, save one, who was arrested by order of General Worth. The good feeling which at first existed between our troops and the Pueblanos has given place to the direct enmity.

[MSM]

REv44i26p1c5 July 30, 1847 From Chihuahua

Letters were received in this city, yesterday, from Chihuahua, dated some ten days after the departure of Col. Doniphan's command from that city. They were bought by Mr. Webb, who returned by way of El Passo and Santa Fe. —All along the route, between Chihuahua and Santa Fe, he was suffered to pass without molestation from the citizens.

The letters represent everything as quiet at Chihuahua—the citizens, who fled at the entrance of our army, had returned to their homes—and trade was commencing, under an arrangement made by the merchants with the State authorities, after Col. Doniphan left. By this treaty, the American merchants agreed to pay such custom house duties as were paid by the Mexicans, and the authorities, on their part, guaranteed the safety of the persons and property of the merchants. The Mexicans are said to treat the Americans with great deference and civility, and it was hoped that sales of all the goods—amounting to a million dollars worth, when the army left Chihuahua—would be soon effected. The letters complain of the exceeding haste with which the departure of the American troops was effected, and of the dangers to which this conduct left them exposed.

[MSM]

REv44i26p2c5 July 30, 1847 General Lane to General Wool

Buena Vista, Mexico, May 20, 1847.

Dear General: In a few days we are to take up the line of march homeward, and, from my understanding of the law, I am soon to be discharged, and I greatly hope that the cause which gave rise to my appointment may soon cease to exist. A speedy and honorable peace with this country is much desired by every American citizen.

But, my dear General, I cannot think of parting with you without expressing my high opinion of your great worth as a military man. —During the time that I have been under your command, I have found you prompt, faithful, and vigilant, in the discharge of your duty, looking alone to the good of the service and honor and glory of our country. A strict disciplinarian, you have discharged your duty with ability, and impartiality worthy a great man.

Your exertions as second in command at the great and glorious battle of Buena Vista, moving to and from in every part of the field, watching the movements of the enemy, exposed to danger almost every moment of the day, ordering and disposing of our forces in the best manner to meet and repulse the enemy—and by your exertions, coolness and courage in gaining this victory, you have won laurels and a fame that will endure as long as the traces of American history shall exist. —Hoping that you may live long to enjoy the thanks of a grateful people, I remain, sir, your most obedient and humble servant, Joseph Lane, Brigadier General.

Brig. Gen. Wool,
Commanding forces at Buena Vista, Mexico

[MSM]
We insert below the warm tribute of respect paid by the chief officers of the first Illinois Regiment, and the brave Gen. Lane, of the Indiana Brigade, to Gen Wool, on taking leave of his command at Buena Vista.

It is a triumphant vindication of the sound military policy which this brave and accomplished officer adopted and vigorously pursued is his extraordinary management of the volunteer forces of his army. He has proved, by the result of his own example in the enforcement of discipline and the establishment of a strict but just military police, that volunteers, when properly officered, become the most powerful army that can be brought into the field. They are then taught to acquire the ordinary efficiency of regular soldiers, while they appealed to as citizens, and retain in full vigor that spirit-rousing stimulant of State and National pride, which worked so magically on the battle-ground of Buena Vista.

There is another fact developed, not merely by the immediate tribute of respect to which we call attention, in the general language of the volunteers since the great battle, which we regard as highly auspicious for the service. It is very evident that most of them have changed their views entirely as to the necessity of discipline. —They experienced its benefits in that terrible conflict, and now they appreciate its importance. —What would have been their fate if discipline had been previously disregarded? Their force on the battle field was but 4, 610 of which more than 4, 000 were volunteers, who in the preceding summer, had been organized into the service by General Wool in the respective States of which they were private citizens. They were now surrounded by an army of twenty-four thousand of the best disciplined, the most numerous officered, and the most veteran army ever raised in Mexico. Ten thousand of them with Ampudia had been under fire at Monterey, and there were officers and men who had fought against old Spain, and made civil war their pastime for twenty-five years.

What, we repeat the question, would have been the fate of our brave and devoted little army, if discipline had been neglected? Probably in one house they would have been thrown into confusion, and then, if the sanguinary design of the Suwarrow of Mexico had been carried out, seconded by his licensed assassins, the infuriated lancers—and his Cossacks, the rancheros—who were placed as additional outposts to cut off every straggler, and were all thirsting for blood and plunder, not one man of our heroic band would have survived to tell the tale of horror. It is not surprising, therefore, that we find not only a change of opinion as to the absolute necessity of discipline, but an out-pouring of grateful admiration towards General Wool for his steady determination in enforcing it, and his admirable example in directing it to the best advantage on the field of battle.

But the volunteers, with the exception of one regiment, had never been under fire. He knew that his sole dependence in the hour of trial would be from that self-confiding bravery which discipline alone inspires. Accordingly he had - the moment the army was concentrated at San Antonio in the latter part of August, until (after accomplishing a march of nine hundred miles) he presented them in front of Saltillo on the alarm of General Worth in the latter part of December, and thence up to the very day of battle, directed the whole energies of a long military life to make his column not only the proudest model of an army in all its appointments, equipments and supplies, but the best in its discipline and military deportment. In this he did succeed, but it cost him his popularity with many of the volunteers.

They had dreamed not of the hardships of drill and subordination, of ordered discipline, but of the romances of military marches and encampments; and consequently, as the Saltillo Picket Guard in his plain style says, "No General ever had so many curses for so few offenses." But now how changed is the language of the volunteers: "I take back," says one of them in an Arkansas paper, "all I have said against Gen. Wool." "Little as his column liked him before the battle," says another, "they all now admit that he is a splendid General." [MSM]

Having been ordered to this station on recruiting service, to fill up the companies of the Virginia Regiment of Volunteers to the full standard of one hundred men each, I am ready to receive all able-bodied men who desire to join the service. The inducements now offered for volunteering are greater than any that have heretofore been offered. The Regiment is now posted at Buena Vista, in one of the most delightful and healthy countries in the world, where the disorders that have afflicted it for some time are rapidly yielding to the salutary influences of the climate. I am expressly authorized by Colonel Hamtramck to say, that General Taylor's column—the Virginia Regiment being in the van—will move upon San Luis Potosi as soon as a sufficient additional force shall arrive from the States. The utmost alacrity and energy are therefore enjoined upon the undersigned, and he cannot urge too much promptness and dispatch upon those who desire to join the Regiment of their State. As squads of from ten to fifteen in number are formed here, they will be dispatched to Fortress Monroe, from which place they will be forwarded to the Regiment as rapidly as detachments of about one hundred are there made up.

In proceeding to the Regiment, they will not be subjected to any delay at intermediate posts in the unhealthy country on the Rio Grande. If the volunteer defrays his own expenses to Petersburg, he will receive a communication of seventy-two cents for pay and subsistence, and fifty cents for traveling expenses for every twenty miles of the distance from his residence to his station. His regular pay and allowances will commence from the day he reaches this station, after which time the most ample provisions are made by Government for his comfort and well-being.
Volunteers are advised not to encumber themselves with clothing, as they will be abundantly furnished with the same as soon as they reach Fortress Monroe.

The undersigned will visit as many of the countries South of James River as possible, so soon as he can leave this station with propriety. Ample provisions will be made for the transportation, &c., of those who shall join him in these countries. The provisions made by Government for the soldier are so ample that he is not under the least necessity of expending any part of his regular monthly pay of $7.

By the 9th section of the act of Congress of the 11th February, 1847, "each non-commissioned officer, musician or private - - - regularly mustered in any volunteer company, for a period of not less that 12 months, who has served or may serve during the present war with Mexico, and who shall receive an honorable discharge, " &c., will be entitled to a warrant for one hundred and sixty acres of land; or he may, at his option, receive Treasury scrip to the amount of one hundred dollars in lieu thereof. By due economy, he may also save $100 of the traveling expenses allowed on his return from Mexico. So that, supposing the war lasts but a year longer, he may, at his discharge, with reasonable economy, have cleared from $200 to $300.

The risk of loss of health in the new _____ of service in which the Virginia Regiment will be engaged the undersigned regards as being less than in this country. The undersigned was ordered to this service without solicitation on his part, and was told on receiving his order, that the utmost zeal and energy would be expected of him. He is required to break up this station on the 1st of October next and report himself forthwith to his regimen; and he calls upon all young men who feel the passion for military distinction to come forward and avail themselves of the opportunity now offered. He promises them that there is every probability they will soon be in the presence of the enemy; and invites all who love glory and their country—all that have the spirit of enterprise and adventure—all who scorn to be rushing in the inglorious inactivity while Taylor and Scott and the brave officers and soldiers under their command ask their aid, to come forward and enlist under the banners of their country.

If he knows the Virginia youth, they will not be satisfied to stay at home and read in their gazettes the glorious performances of others and not feel irresistibly prompted to share their tales, their fortunes, and their honors. [MSM]
In the Spring of ’45, through the interference of friends, without his own application, he received the appointment of military store-keeper at the Washington Arsenal. This, although a lucrative and comparatively an easy post, yet a illy suited with his aspiring and ambitious news, he resigned, after having held it for the space of one year. The bill for raising a regiment & mounted riflemen having, about this time, passed Congress, he procured from the President of the United States the appointment of Captain in that newly raised regiment.

Immediately of receiving his commission, he applied himself energetically to recruiting his company, and was the first Captain in that whole regiment who reported his company ready for service. Instead of Oregon, which was the original destination of the mounted riflemen, he was ordered to join the army in Mexico, where he arrived soon after the battle of Monterey. He remained with General Taylor until the bombardment of Vera Cruz was determined on by the Administration, when, together with most of the regular army, he was ordered to join Major General Scott. His first engagement was before Vera Cruz, where a skirmish took place between the rifles and a body of Mexican lancers, in which the Mexicans, though far superior in umbers, were repulsed with considerable loss.

His cool courage and daring intrepidity on this occasion was for him the admiration of his commanding officer. His next engagement was in the hard fought and warmly contested fight of Cerro Gordo, where, while gallantly leading on his men, his left leg was carried off by a cannon ball, and he was obliged to be borne from the scene of action. The conduct of Captain Mason on this occasion indulged the hope, that it would not prove fatal, and, indeed, until a few days previous to his death there was every prospect of a speedy recovery; but, in consequence of absorption of matter by the lungs, his case assumed a more dangerous aspect, and justly excited the fears and apprehensions of his friends for the worst.

When apprised of his situation, the same tranquility and fortitude which had characterized him through life, attended him in his trying hour. He spoke with composure of his approaching end, and after having made a disposition of some articles to his particular friends, he met the King of Terrors with calmness and resignation. Thus died, on the 15th of May, 1847, this high toned, chivalric and brace officer, at the early age of 29—not until, however, he had established a character for courage, honor and integrity and had endeared himself to a large number of admiring and devoted friends.

The public and unfeigned manifestation of feeling and sympathy, and their unanimous vote of a sword to him, so soon as they heard of his misfortune at the battle of Cerro Gordo, proved much more forcibly than words can express the high estimation in which he was held by the citizens of his native county. And, subsequently, when his death was made known, the universal regret which pervaded the community in which he had lived, and the prompt and active measure taken to bring to the land of his birth his remains, show that he will long live enshrined in their memories, and his name will ever be associated with what is good, brave and honorable. It is designed, we learn, as soon as practicable, to bring his remains in his native country and have them interred in the cemeteries of the Episcopal Church, at Leesburg, in the same vault and by the side of his beloved wife and distinguished father.

REv44i26p4c5 July 30, 1847 The Wilmot Proviso and Colonel Benton

Messrs. Editors: Your semi-weekly paper of 22d June contains long extracts from a speech of Colonel Benton of Missouri, recently delivered at Jefferson city. The readers of the Enquirer will regret that the speech in full, with some voucher for its authenticity, is not laid before them. The topics touched upon, of "continental American" interest—Colonel Benton being the speaker will excite a lively curiosity to see every thing he has said, particularly when it is ascertained that, contrary to his wont, he is defining his position of the chief questions of the day, and with regard to the most delicate and important of them, taking a stand, in opposition to what was supposed to be the undivided sentiment of the South. I allude, of course, to the Wilmot Proviso business, and have taken up the pen rather with the hope of drawing public attention to this great subject, than with any intention of splintering a lance against he great Missourian.

The Colonel says: "A new slavery question has sprung up; one which discarding the old ground of defence and compromise, goes for propagandism in its most unqualified form, and to the most remote and Northern territories of the Union. It is a test which our Northern friends—all the citizens of the North who are willing to let things remain as they are—cannot stand. Those citizens have done well; they have greatly quieted and softened down the abolition agitation; they have helped us (us indeed!) through the Texas annexation, although that question was pushed at them by the Tyler cabinet in a way to revolt them, purely and simply as a slavery extension question, to give the Slave States mastery over the Free ones; they have just assisted in admitting Florida into the Union, without a struggle and without the agitation of a Missouri question; and they are now assisting with men and money to carry to successful conclusion the Mexican war; although taunted with question as repugnant to the feelings as they are unnecessary, gratuitous and premature."

Now, sires, if, as I believe, you told us truly that Mr. Botts is unsafe on the Wilmot Proviso, what say you to Col. Benton? God only reads the heart, and we cannot know what motive He sees for this willful blindness to, or perversion of the truth. Is there in the resolutions offered by Mr. Calhoun in the U.S. Senate, or in those passed by the Legislature of Virginia, or in Mr. Seddon’s speech on this subject, one drop of the spirit of propagandism?

On the contrary, were not the circumstances (which Mr. Benton wholly misrepresents) such as to show clearly that they were designed solely to repel the propagandist, who presented himself in the H. of Representatives in the form
of a resolution, passed by our Northern friends, (Mr. Wilmot and Mr. Winthrop, I suppose,) declaring in effect that the citizens of the slave States are not entitled to equal rights with those of the free; and that in any territory there after acquired they should not enjoy such rights? Did not Mr. Seddon (I use his name because it comes first to mind) spring indignantly to his feet because he felt that a blow had been aimed at him? And, yet, Col. Benton coolly tells the people of Missouri that "our Northern friends" have "greatly quieted and softened down the abolition agitation."

And that the warm anti-Wilmot men are propagandists. Growing still more gross in his misstatements, he next tells his people that the Tyler cabinet pushed annexation at these Northern friends, purely as a sectional question, "to give the slave States mastery over the free ones!" Childlike simplicity! The Tyler cabinet asked the North to furnish a stick, explaining that the use to be made of it was to break the said North’s head!

Not a line was ever penned by that cabinet which did not, whilst urging annexation as essential to the South, demonstrate its high importance to the North. All the Southern press took that ground. Look to the files the Enquirer, and see with what vigor the measure was sustained, as calculated still further to promote the manufactures and commerce which have given to the North her power, and queenly beauty clothed in purple and fine linen. So far as the question assumed a sectional cast we were forced into that position by the wicked schemes and arguments of those who are now proclaimed by Col. Benton to be famously fine fellows; because the did not raise a Missouri question on the admission of Florida, and because they have not gotten up another Hartford Convention about the Mexican war, notwithstanding their inability, so far, to secure more than their share of "the spoils" all of which they endeavored to snatch beforehand.

There are other opinions and views expressed by the Colonel, beside those thus briefly alluded to, that he wishes "our friends" to regard him as a Southern man with Northern feelings. "He tells us, for instance, notwithstanding much talk about he impolicy of introducing a party organization, founded upon geographical lines, that the presentation of the next Presidential candidate of the party does belong to a particular section. Louisa, June, 1847. [MSM]

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REv44i26p4c6 July 30, 1847 Naval

After the U.S. Frigate Raritan dropped down to the bite of Craney Island on the 24th inst., her crew was immediately transferred to the Vandalia, which had preceded her to that anchorage. We are happy to say, that since the sick were sent to the U.S. Naval Hospital, there has been no sickness on board. We understand that orders were received here on Saturday for the immediate equipment of the frigate Brandywine, destined for the coast of Brazil, as the flag ship of Com. Storer. Such portion of the crews of the Raritan and of the Potomac, as have further time to serve, are to be transferred to the Brandywine, which is expected to sail during the month of August. (Norfolk Beacon) [MSM]

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REv44i26p4c5 July 30, 1847 Stinging Rebuke

A correspondent of the Steubenville (Ohio) Union, writing from Buena Vista, holds the following language:

"It grieves us to the hear to see so many of the American Press giving "aid and comfort" the enemy, but it gratifies us to see that they do not belong to the Democracy.

"I tell you, it stirs the blood of those who have sacrificed every comfort, endured every hardship, and are now in the field of battle for their country's honor and to see its citizens justified, when the publications of their fellow-citizens justified, when the publications of their fellow-citizens denounce them as banditti in the worst sense of the term, and deny that the war is either justified by the laws of God or man—they are of the Tories of old; a second edition of the Blue Light Feds. Our term of service will soon have expired, and then we will return home to battle with those men at the ballot box. To maintain our liberty. " [MSM]

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August

Tuesday, August 3, 1845, REi27p1c2 words: 327

Interesting Scene

We devote much of our space this morning to striking incidents at the celebration of Independence Day at Monterey. To hear the glorious sentiments of the Declaration re-echoed through the splendid palaces of debased and infatuated Mexico, would, under any circumstances, be an extraordinary scene- but this spectacle at Monterey, must have been eminently impressive. The orator was one who had shone in the civil councils of his country, and had left behind him the comforts and luxuries of home, to share the perils and hardships of battle, in support of the noble principles which he so eloquently depicted and enforced. His auditory was truly one worthy of such an orator and such a theme. Around the venerable hero of the war, whose praises are on every one’s lips, were collected
Tuesday, August 3, 1845, RE127p1c2 words: 3,040

Fourth of July at Monterey

The celebration is over, and without any accident, a rare thing for a Fourth of July, and everything went off pleasantly and agreeably to all concerned. The morning of the 5th was cloudy and portended rain, but the bright sun soon dispelled the heavy mist that clung to the mountain’s side, and ere noon the heavens were as clear and bright as a lovely woman’s smile. Early in the forenoon the American ensign was displayed from the Governor’s quarters and the Spanish flag from the residence of the Spanish consul nearly opposite. The live companies of Massachusetts volunteers were assembled, all but the guard, with the colors of the regiment presented them by the Governor of their State, and a little after 9 o’clock they formed and marched out towards Camp Taylor. An American flag borne by a citizen was carried near the regimental colors. Col. Wright and the members of the regimental staff, and others, preceded the regiment, and on the road received the marching salute. At Camp Taylor all was ready; under the wide-spread awning in front of Gen. Taylor’s tent were the brave old hero and the members of his staff and the officers attached to the forces stationed at camp. On the right of the awning the soldiers of Maj. Bragg’s Light Artillery were drawn up in line, on the left the 2d Dragoons, and in front the Massachusetts regiment. As soon as the latter had formed into line, Gen. Cushing made his appearance, and Gen. Taylor and his officers all rose. Gen. Cushing then proceeded to address him as follows:

“General- The veteran officers and soldiers whom you have so many times led on to victory and to tame-those yet untired in the field, who ardently long for the day when your voice shall bid them also tread triumphantly in the same noble path of honor and of duty- and others your fellow citizens present, who, though not called to fight the battles of their country, are not the less animated with the same devoted love towards her which we feel- have desired on this anniversary of our separate existence as a sovereign people, to present their respectful salutations to you, as the official representative here of the power and authority of the United States.

“We come to rejoice with you on this day of glorious memories; in the prosperity and greatness of our country, and to rekindle in our hearts the sacred fire of patriotism by remembering together the virtues and the sacrifices of our wise and brave forefathers, who have transmitted to us the splendid heritage of the land hallowed by their blood, of the institutions they founded, of their own immortal names.

“It is, indeed, a day never forgotten by an American; for whether in the home of our affections and interests, surrounded by all that is dearest to the human heart, or on the broad expanse of the fathomless ocean, or wandering over some far distant land, on this anniversary, wherever we may be, our thoughts are turned spontaneously to the same point, as truly as the needle to the pole, as devoutly as the Muslem to his holy Mecca.

“And well it is for us that it is so, since no warmth of gratitude is intense enough to be commensurate with the debt of thankfulness we owe to our patriot sires, no language of eloquence is powerful enough to express adequately the emotions of pride which our country’s career awakens- no homage of the soul is profound enough render due adoration to that gracious Providence which has continued to guide and to guard the destinies of the Union.

“Men who have but superficially studied the history of the United States are accustomed to speak of this day as the anniversary of our emancipation from bondage, and vague ideas of that vaguest of all things, called liberty are attached to the very name of our national independence. But the people of the United States were never in a state of bondage. The war of the revolution was not a war for liberty. On the contrary, it was but a struggle in arms to determine whether the two free subdivisions of the British race, one inhabiting Europe, and the other inhabiting America, and both equally free, should continue to constitute a single empire, or whether they should be reconstituted separately into two independent empires. The God of Battles decided that we, the American Colonies, were as competent for independent self-government as the mother country; and England with that practical good sense which distinguished her from other nations, manfully acquiesced in the decision which split her power asunder, and gave to us separate dominion in America.

“And the mysterious order of Providence seems to have predestined the American to surpass the European
subdivision of the original empire, for, of that high-minded, bold-hearted and strong-handed British race, which,
wheresoever it appears, appears but to command, the more numerous part will ere long be found in America; and
the British Isles have already reached that fatal term in the history of nations when their native land can no longer
feed its sons; while the people of the United States are still expanding with a rapidity and strength of possession
which defies calculation, over the rich virgin soils of the New World.

“This reflection acquires new force from the circumstances under which we this day meet- a conquering
American army, here, in the heart of the Mexican Republic, in sight of the captured redoubts and heights of
Monterey, amid the venerable trees, and by the side of these living waters of the wood of San Domingo, which,
occupied by you, general, and your victorious troops, has acquired a place in history as enduring as poetry ever gave
to the fountain of Vaucluse, or eloquence to the grove of Academus.

“Yes, millions of men will have assembled today within the broad limits of the United States, to do honor to
the traditions of the Revolution, to ponder on the excellent beauty of the Federal Constitution, to congratulate one
another on the happy condition of our country, and to look forward with inquisitive eye into the sublime future of the
American Republic. They will call to mind the names of the stricken fields of that first war of independence, which
vindicated our national rights on the land- of that second war of independence which vindicated our national rights
on the sea, and of the heroes who illustrated each but while Bunker Hill, and Saratoga, and Yorktown, and New
Orleans will not be forgotten. Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterey, Buena Vista, Vera Cruz, and Cerro Gordo
will yet more.

“Be in their flowing cups freely remembered,”
and earth and sky will re-echo with shouts of enthusiasm at the mention of the names of Scott and Taylor, and of
the brave men who, under their lead, have borne the banner of the Union in triumph over the wild plains and
through the mountain passes of Mexico.

“But we, assembled in this grander than all human temples, the outspread sky of the bright firmament of
heaven, treading with our own feet that conquered savannahs of New Leon, surrounded by that lofty Sierras, which
rises on either hand, as though placed by Nature to be the boundaries of empires, we, I say, can best appreciate,
with the sober but strong conviction of the palpable reality, how vast are the strides which the United States have
made in greatness, since the day, not yet remote, when we were humble colonies; scattered in a narrow line along
the shores of the Atlantic, until now, when we have swarmed across the great central valley of the continent, have
struck over to the shores of the Pacific, and, unembarrassed by the burden of a foreign war, which has already given
to us the possession of two-thirds of Mexico, are yet able, from the superabundance of our overflowing prosperity, to
nourish at will the starving nations of the Old World.

“Honor then to the bold hearts, who, on the great day whose anniversary we celebrate, dared to
comprehend their country’s capabilities, and to proclaim it independent! Honor to the heroes and the sages who
have conducted it so gloriously on to our times! Honor to the statesmen whose vigorous hands at this time so ably
and successfully administer to Government! Honor to the generous-minded people of our county, who feely send
forth their sons to fight her battles in this foreign land! Honor to the brave soldiers who live to enjoy the renown
they have so nobly earned in the battle-field! Honor above all to the gallant men of her who fell in the hour of their
country’s triumph, whose blood was the sacrificial incense of victory, and who, though dead, yet live immortal in the
affectionate memory of their countrymen!

“We trust and believe that our brethren in arms, whom Scott has been leading in triumph from Vera Cruz to
Puebla, will celebrate this day in the capital of the Mexican Republic, and on the side of the great teocalli of the
Aztecs. - And if Mexico shall then continue in the blind obstinacy of her fatal infatuation, and still refuse the proffers
of peace which the President of the United States, with honorable solicitude to terminate the evils of war, has at all
times been ready to conclude, - then we look to you, sir, in the undoubting confidence of perfect faith in your
generalship, your wisdom, your courage, and your fortune, to conduct us in similar triumph along that lofty table and
before our eyes, and to complete, on the plains of the Bajio, that which you so gloriously commenced on those of the
Rio Grande, namely, the total subjugation of New Spain.

“Once more, general, in the name and as the humble instrument of your fellow soldiers and fellow citizens,
whom you see before you, I tender to you their felicitations on the occasion of this auspicious anniversary, with
sentiments of admiration for the high achievements which have marked your life, of deep respect for you personally,
and of the sincerest aspirations for your future happiness and honor in whatever else of danger or duty you may
hereafter be called to by the providence of an all-wise God. “

Gen. Taylor, who had listened with great attention to the remarks of General C., and evidently powerfully
affected by the mention of his name, briefly but feelingly responded as follows:

“General- In reply to you eloquent and complimentary allusions to the services of that army under my
command, I can only briefly express my thanks and those of the brave men of my command, to whose exertions and
gallantry alone our successes are due. For myself, I can claim no merit beyond that of sharing and encountering
danger with them. You have traced up and depicted in most faithful colors the rapid progress of our country form
the commencement to its present condition of greatness and prosperity- occupying the front rank in the nations of the
world. The existing war may show the world that in great national enterprises and interests we are firm and
untied- and that the flower of our country, without distinction of party, is always ready to vindicate the national
honor on the battle field. Should it be our lot to resume offensive operations on this line, I shall move with ever
confidence in the gallantry and success of the forces. I have but little doubt that those who have but recently come into the field, and have not been able to participate in active service as yet, will distinguish themselves as greatly as those who have gone before. That thousands of volunteers who have, may of them, been brought up in affluence, have left their pursuits and comfortable homes, to encounter the hardships of an active campaign, is a sufficient guaranty that the rights and honor of our country will always be maintained.

A general shaking of heads and congratulations here took place for some moments, after which Col. Wright, of the Massachusetts volunteers, by invitation, read the declaration of Independence. The company then partook of a substantial lunch, provided by the hospitable commander, who had a smile and a pleasant word for all and seemed happy in being able to make others so. He was dressed in undress uniform, and looked a little more like the brave old hero that he is, and a little less like the plain unaffected country gentleman—very little—than I have [. . . illegible . . .]

... and before the sound of the last gun had died away, the booming of cannon from the black fort seemed to echo back the salute.

About 3 o'clock Gen. Taylor and staff with an escort of dragoons came into town, and with General Cushing and the officers of the Massachusetts Regiment proceeded to Arista's garden or Arista's house I should say, where a table was spread in the broad corridor opening in to the garden with its bright green shrubs, its crimson rose bushes covered with fragrant flowers, its well kept walks, and the gurgling stream that meanders through it. The smell of the bright gems of nature's handwork were not more pleasing than the odor which arose form the savory viands prepared for immediate consumption. Every one was surprised at the profusion of good things and the variety that was placed upon the table, all owing to the exertions of Capt. Glover, a merchant residing here for some years, one of the committee of arrangements, whose peculiar province it was to see that nothing should be waiting. He performed his duty to perfection. Claret, Madeira, and Champagne in abundance served to give zest to the repast and aid in the sentimental expressions of feeling.

When the substantials had been discussed and removed, Gen. Cushing, who presided at the head of the table, with Gen. Taylor on his right, arose, and after some remarks complimentary to the committee of arrangements for the faithful manner in which they had cared for their guests, proceeded to announce the following regular toasts, which I think you will admit are better than regular set toasts generally are:

1. The Day we Celebrate: As dear to us in a strange clime and in the midst of war as when welcomed at our peaceful homes.

2. The President of the United States.

3. The Memory of Washington: Brightening with time, all nations will at last behold and admire its lustre.

4. The Army and the Volunteers of the United States: They have conquered all but peace.

5. The Navy of the United States: With amphibious facility, finding no enemy on the waters, it has constantly sought and successfully encountered him on the land.

6. The Constitution: May it ever be administered in the spirit which controlled its first formation.

7. The surviving Heroes of the Revolution: Length of days has been vouchsafed to them that they might behold the marvelous results of their youthful toils. All honor to their venerable names!

8. Our Brethren in Arms at the South: The have lighted their paths with a blaze of victories.

9. Mexico: Blessed with a genial clime and the physical elements of greatness and power, she is a prey to civil strife and bad government; may the influence of wise rulers and free institutions restore her to her proper rank among the nations of the earth.

10. "The Spirit of '76: It burns as brightly among the mountains of Mexico as of old at Trenton. 'Skies, not souls, they change who cross the sea!'

11. The Mexican War: Waged to secure an honorable and a lasting peace, may such be its early consummation.

12. The Illustrious Dead: From Palo Alto to Cerro Gordo every field is consecrated by the sacrifice of gallant spirits; a sympathizing country yields spontaneous and grateful homage to their memory.

13. The American Fair: Worthy descendants of the women of the Revolution; their hearts and prayers are with those who uphold their country’s cause in a foreign land.

These sentiments were all drunk with the strongest testimonials of admiration, and all was harmony. About seventy persons, including a number of citizens, partook of the repast.
Volunteer toast being called for, Lieutenant Crowningshield of the Massachusetts Regiment gave:

Andrew Jackson: Sacred be his memory. (Drink standing, in silence.)

Lieutenant Fuller, of the Massachusetts Volunteers, gave:

"General Taylor: We hail him as the next President. May his civil be as brilliant as his military career. “ (This sentiment was drunk with three times three.)

General Taylor rose to respond to his sentiment and said:

"Mr. President and Gentlemen: I have never had the vanity to aspire to, or look for that elevated situation which has just been alluded to, but if my fellow countrymen think proper to elevate me to so distinguished and honorable a position, I certainly shall do my best to discharge the duties of that responsible position faithfully. But if any other candidate is preferred and offered who may be more competent than myself, I need not to say that I shall acquiesce most cheerfully in their decision, and shall rejoice that there is one more worthy to represent them in the highest office in their gift. “

He then gave as a toast:

"The State of Massachusetts and the City of Boston: The place where our liberties were cradled; whose sons have borne so conspicuous a part in the establishment and maintenance of the principles of our independence and the constitution, and have gallantly maintained the same by sea and land. “

Col. Wright responded:

"Massachusetts and the city of Boston; it is my native State and my native city, and the State where many of us who have been complimented this day were born. We have just received a compliment, and a great one, form the commanding general. Massachusetts has heretofore done her part; her name reads well; her star shines brightly in the national galaxy. In former times she was known well and did well. She then held, [JM]

Tuesday, August 3, 1845, REi27p1c2 words: 511

The Battle of Huajutla

Gentlemen: Considerable excitement has existed in this city for the past two weeks, is relation to the detention by General Garay, at the town of Guautla (pronounce Wahootla) 140 miles from here, of one hundred and eighty Americans, who were recently liberated in the City of Mexico and sent towards this city with a small escort. They are those who were taken last February at Encarnacion. The renowned General Garay, in true Mexican style, pretended that their passports were not correct, and that he would be under the necessity of detaining them at Guautla, until he could hear from his Government.

Six of them made their escape, and arrived in safety in this city, and immediately communicated the above facts to our Governor, Gates.

An expedition was fitted out on the 8th instant by order of Colonel Gates, and the command of it given to Colonel De Russy, of the Louisiana regiment. The expedition consisted of one hundred and twenty men, and one six-pound field piece- forty men third artillery, commanded by Captain Wyse- forty dragoons, mounted on trained mustang horses, and commanded by Captain Boyd and Lieutenant Tannehill, late of the Baltimore battalion- and forty mounted more from the Louisiana regiment, commanded by Captains Mace and Seguine- Lieutenants Lindenburger, Campbell and Heimberger, of the Louisiana regiment, accomanied the expedition to act in such capacities as might be required.

Their march for four days was uninterrupted, passing through the towns of Pueblo Viejo, Tampico-Alto, Ozuania [sic] and Taantcycca [sic], in all of which the people made professions of friendship and had got within seven miles of Guautla, eight miles beyond the last mentioned town, and one mile from Rio Calabasa. Here the colonel met an Indian, who informed him that a large force of Mexicans, under the command of Garay, had heard of his approach, and was in ambush on both sides of the river. Col. De Russy immediately dispatched Lieut. Lindenburger, acting Adjutant, with an order to halt the column (advanced guard) under command of Capt. Boyd. The Captain had halted at the river for the purpose of watering his horses, and while in that act, he received a destructive fire from an unseen enemy. As I said before, the horses were all mustangs, and at the report of the musketry they became unmanageable, threw most of the riders and created great confusion. Capt. Boyd dashed across the river, followed by his Lieutenant and six men. In crossing the Captain was shot in the head, and of course died on reaching the opposite shore. Three of the men were also killed. All this took place before Lieut. Lindenburg reached him. The remainder succeeded in re-crossing the river, and joined the main body. - Thus fell one of the bravest and finest men that ever lived.
Tuesday, August 3, 1845, REi27p1c2 words: 349

News from the South

We publish in another column all relating to our military operations in Mexico which we can glean from our exchanges. Our readers will know as well as we do what importance to attach to the rumor that the Mexican Government has appointed commissioners to meet Mr. Trist of Texmeluca, in order to . . . for peace between the two republics. No one can tell with any degree of certainty the influence exercised by the city of Mexico over the people of that nation, and consequently cannot foresee the effect which the danger that capital it is, from the armies of the United State, may exert in producing a speedy peace. Reinforcements are pouring in to General Scott. Generals Cadwallader and Pillow, it seems, from last accounts, had already joined him, and Gen. Pierre had started from Vera Cruz with the same object. When our forces are united, even the Mexican rulers must see that their capital is at our mercy. The certainty that they could possibly assemble may have induced them to appoint commissioners to treat with Mr. Trist. On the other hand, the selfish councils which have heretofore swayed Mexican politicians and Mexican Generals, may lead them madly to hold on to the last and oppose the march of Gen. Scott, although they have no idea of success. They may be willing to see their great city stormed, their soldiers slaughtered, and the horrors of war brought home to them, in order that their hopeless and hypocritical efforts may in the future tend to their advancement, and place in their hands the power to oppress and ruin the Mexican people.

The same arrival which brings the rumor above-mentioned, informs us of another brilliant exploit of our troops- an exploit which reflects high credit on the American arms, although no battery was taken or fortress stormed. Nothing can try the best qualities of a soldier- his courage, discipline and endurance—more than a retreat before overwhelming numbers through a hostile country. The exploit of Colonel De Russey, in cutting his way out of the pass... (illegible) [JM]

Tuesday, August 3, 1845, REi27p1c2 words: 235

Discussion in Brunswick

Mr. Editor, - It was our pleasure, yesterday, to hear the discussion at this place, between Meade and Bolling.

Mr. Bolling opened with a . . . upon the virtues and ability of the late Gen. Dromgoole. Of course this was intended for "Bunkum. ” He then passed to the Mexican War, and the next Presidency- declaring his preference for Gen. Taylor, whether he be Whig or Democrat.

Mr. Meade commenced his reply by alluding to the Eulogy upon Gen. Dromgoole. After making a tribute to the exalted worth and public services of that great and lamented man, which, for beauty and touching pathos, has rarely been equaled, - he said, that he would dismiss the subject- that he did no think it a fit occasion, in the mele of a political discussion, to mingle the recollections of the dead with the strifes of the living.

Mr. Meade then asked why his opponent had changed his mode of warfare? Why had he abandoned the ground which he took in every other county in the district? Why was he (Mr. M. ) not charged with inconsistencies here, as he had been elsewhere? Why was not every letter which he wrote, and every toast which he gave when acting with the Whigs, paraded before the people of Brunswick? Was it because he was in the county in which he was born and reared? Was it because he was among those who had[... illegible . . .]

Tuesday, August 3, 1845, REi27pc words: 74

Volunteers for Mexico

One of the two Companies required, will be mustered into the service of the United States at Richmond on the first day of August- another on the 15th. The first Company is nearly filled; the second is expected from the south-west. All who are desirous to join are requested to report to me as soon as possible. Quarters and subsistence are provided for them.

By command.
Tuesday, August 3, 1845, REi27pc words: 1, 394

Miscellaneous

Gen. Taylor’s Pleasure Trip

I have just learned that a party is to start for below early to-morrow morning, of which opportunity I shall avail myself and will endeavor to give you an account of Gen. Taylor’s trip to Mamalequi, the plantation of Gen. Arista. I apprised you in my last that he was to make an excursion, and of my intention of making one of the party.

It was quite refreshing to see the old General mounted on his horse on Wednesday morning, the 7th inst., surrounded by the members of his staff, about to leave the monotony of his camp, to enjoy himself for a few days- a gratification he has denied himself till now. Gen. Cushing and his aid-de-camp accompanied the expedition, escorted by a dozen dragoons. We took the road to Salinas, which lies in a direction a little north of east, about twenty miles from Monterey, and passed through the village of San Nicholas de las Casas, a flourishing little place for Mexico, of some considerable extent, six miles from Monterey. At this town they raise considerable corn and vegetables for the Monterey market. We left camp at noon and arrived at Salinas about 5 o’clock in the afternoon, where the alcalde received the general and party with every demonstration of respect, invited him into his courtroom, and treated him to figs and unripe watermelons. I do not mean to speak slightingly of this treat, because it was evidently “the best he had at the shop.”

Salinas, once a flourishing town, but now going fast to decay, is situated upon the northern bank of the Rio Salinas, a pretty formidable stream that rises near Parras and empties into the San Juan. It is very brackish and hardly drinkable, but it is all the inhabitants have to depend upon, as they have no wells in the city- carrying out the national trait of the country to “leave well alone.” The town contains about 700 inhabitants and a very well conditioned alcalde. Sugar is the principal source of revenue; but owing to the saline qualities of the water, the sugar is of an inferior quality. A small amount of rice is also raised, but no more corn than to suffice for the consumption of the inhabitants. - There are several very thriving little rancheadores on this stream at different points. I beg you will not attempt to look on the map for this stream, for it has a dozen different names, and probably is not noted, the Mexican custom being to give streams a fresh name for every town they pass.

We encamped upon the southern bank of the river for the night, and in the evening some of the party attended a fandango get up for their amusement in the town. It was the first I ever attended, and rather a dull affair, very few senoritas being present. On the 8th, by sunrise, we struck our tents, crossed the salt river and arrived at Mamalequi about noon.

Arista’s hacienda is situated upon or near the Rio Pecacho, and at the foot of a spur of the Sierra, in a northeasterly direction form Monterey, about twelve miles from Salinas, and from a distance has quite the appearance of a baronial estate. His plantation is a very extensive one comprising fourteen square leagues; but miles of it are useless, low chaparral, only relieved by the tall Spanish bayonet plant, which bristles up in every direction. Arista purchased the place about four years ago from a lady residing in the city of Mexico for $35,000, and has since expended about 40,000 dollars in improving it. There is a very fine sugar and saw mill upon it; the motive power of which, is water of course. The dam across the river, forming the hill pond, is a very solid piece of mason work, and was estimated in the bill of sale at 14,000 dollars. The estate is managed by an administrator, who has under him an overseer. There are about ninety men and boys, peons, upon the place, and as many women and girls, all of whom are [ . . . illegible . . . ] for life, as are all peons in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, and quite as bad off as slaves, in your section of the country- worse even, as when they become past work, their landlord is not compelled to support them, and this duty devolving upon their relative, serves to bind them the firmer.

I am afraid Arista does not find agriculture quite as profitable as the profession of [ . . . illegible . . . ]; for, according to the account we received from the overseer, the profits of the estate are little or nothing. The nominal wages of the peons is from two to ten dollars per month, but as they are compelled to purchase every article they consume, and all their clothing, from the proprietor of the estate, every month falls them deeper in debt. Two crops of corn are raised, and twenty-four fanegas of seed is the usual amount planted. The yield is generally one hundred fold, which would make the annual crop of 2400 fanegas or 5600 bushels. Of this but little is sold off the estate, as it is the principle article of food. The crop of beans, which is also one of the “standbys” is estimated at 800 fanegas-2200 bushels. There are about a thousand head of cattle on the estate, and a few sheep and goats- but as one [ . . . illegible . . . ] is generally killed nearly every day, the sale off the estate is very small- not more than twenty-five a year. The cane crop is as yet small, but more land is dedicated to its cultivation every year, and it must soon yield a handsome profit. At present not more than 40 arrobas (1000 pounds) of sugar are made in the year, but of a good quality. A small amount of rice of a fair quality is also raised. By far the greatest source of profit is the lumber, some portions of this extensive domain being heavily timbered with pine. The growth of cotton has been attempted, but without any decided success.

The administrator and overseer came out to meet Gen. Taylor and offer him the hospitalities of the place,
and we encamped about half a mile from the main building, under the shade of some pecan trees. The residence of Arista is spacious and very strongly built with walls three feet thick hoop-holed for musketry. It is constructed of the large sun-dried brick, succeed and whitewashed and better adapted for comfort than almost any house I have been in. These brick, which are about a foot square and four or five inches thick, are made by the peons for a bit and a half (... y media) a hundred- by those of the place for three-bits a hundred.

I have said that we encamped near the main-building, and under the cool shade of the pecato we remained tranquil during the rest of the day. The statistical information which I have given was imparted to Gen. Taylor- who takes the liveliest interest in every thing pertaining to agriculture, and is anxious to obtain all the information relative to the produce of the country- by the administrator. In the evening this functionary, who is a young man born on the estate, invited the General and party to a fandango, and much to his satisfaction evidently it was accepted. As soon as it was quite dark, Gen. Taylor and gen. Cushing and the rest of the [...] repaired to the fandango. In the open air, in front of the house, three rows of benches were arranged, forming three sides of a square, leaving a large space between, and upon these were seated the male and female tanantry, the dancing ground being lighted by two torches of split pine wood. When the affair got well under way there were about sixty females peasants present, all of them as brown as berries and very ugly, notwithstanding which they found plenty of partners. The music consisted of two violins and a couple of guitars, and the musicians played some very pretty tunes, too.

After one or two national dances, consisting of alternate dancing and discordant, wild singing- the dancing resembling very much that peculiar to the negroes in the States, and the singing as [...] [J.M]

Tuesday, August 3, 1845, REi27pc words: 176

A Strange Story

Under the head of "A Strange Story, " the Times publishes the particulars of a statement, that an emissary had been sent from Havana in Mexico, with despatches providing for the employment of the $3,000,000 entrusted to Mr. Polk by Congress, for the purpose of corrupting the most influential men in Mexico - viz: Atima, Ampudia, Almonte, Canalizo and Rejon, in order to obtain peace. Through the New Orleans Times and Bee ridicule this story as "a tarragon of improbabilities, and unwholly worthy of confidence, " and though the Times is "not prepared to give eredence, upon the flimsy evidence produced in its support, " yet the later paper goes into an argument to show that the polity imputed to the President is not one "which he may not be suspected of [...] " Any man may be suspected of any crime, however revolting- but no man ought to be judged harshly, unless upon the clearest evidence. The Times argument to justify its suspicions is not sustained by facts. We give it to show, [...] [JM]

Tuesday, August 3, 1845, REi27pc words: 558

Another Humbug

A most wicked and ridiculous story is circulating through the Whig parties, that the President is appointing Fathers Rey and McElroy, two Catholic priests, Chaplains to the Army in Mexico, acknowledged that he had no right to make any such appointments, but had appointed thee Chaplains nominally, that they might become spies. “ This fable is based upon a letter of the Rev. W. L. McCalla, in reply to three interrogatories addressed to him by the "Hon. Peter A. Browne of Philadelphia, a leader of the proscrip tive Nativists. Mr. McC’s whole letter is not published, but simply his laconic answers to the interrogatories. The correspondent of the National Intelligencer who furnishes the momentous information, by his own admission suppresses the greater portion of the "long letter, reflecting severely on the Catholic Church, which has nothing to do with the particular point under consideration. "

This attempt to degrade two distinguished and respectable clergymen of the Catholic Church, is in strange conflict with the recent pretended affection for the Catholics on the part of the Whig press which endeavored to demonstrate that the administration was opposed to the Catholics. But, this is a matter of trifling consideration in the eyes of the Whigs. They care little how they contradict themselves, provided they can get up a party-cry against the administration, even for a few days. The Pennsylvanian pricks the bubble in the following authoritative article.

"The Rev. Mr. McCalla " is known as a somewhat sanguineous clergyman- a person as fond of battle as of books- in a word, a sort of bigoted knight errant, always on some half-brained enterprise intent. The New York Commercial with a great deal of archness, says he “hears a name not unknown to the citizens generally, or now heard for the first time. " A very questionable construction might be placed upon terms so equivocal.

Of the two Catholic clergymen sent by the President to Mexico, one, Mr. Rey, sacrificed his life to his God and his country, and the other, Mr. McElroy has recently returned to his home. Mr. McElroy is a patient and
exemplary person, and will no doubt take an early opportunity to defend himself against the aspersions of his slanderers.

In the meanwhile we beg to say that the whole accusation, as quoted from the National Intelligencer, is a fabrication manufactured out of the whole cloth. It has not even a suspicion upon which to rely. Upon the highest and the best authority, we pronounce it unfounded and untrue. - The President is too cautious to make a confidant of a leaky and erratic clergyman like Mr. McCalla, and he has too high a sense of his own duties and appreciates too keenly the rights and feelings of others, to indulge a design so base and degrading as that alluded to in Mr. McCalla's letter, and by him alleged to be entertained by the Executive in regard to the Catholic Chaplains.

It is the province of the Chief Magistrate of this great country to submit to abuse without the opportunity to reply. But, in the present instance, the charge is one that demands the answer we have given to it, if only as an act of justice to the intrepid men who accepted the appointment conferred upon them by the President, and discharged its duties in so noble and Christian a spirit.

Tardy Justice

We find the following opinions on the war with Mexico expressed by two of the leading Whig papers in the city of New York. Perhaps the keen lashes of Col. Doniphan's indignant rebuke, acting upon public opinion, may have extorted this late concession to the justice of the war and the patriotic impulses of the American people:

The Courier says

"We have proclaimed, on all occasions, that we had abundant cause of war with Mexico; and that therefore the war is just, although it might have been deferred, and possibly avoided altogether, if the administration had so desired.

"We hold that with half the provocation form either England or France, the whole nation would have demanded war; but Mexico being a weaker power, we could with honor have made another effort to avoid the collision, by abstaining from the Rio Grande, although, in our opinion, we had a perfect right to go there whenever we pleased."

And the commercial:

"As to Mexico herself, we do not agree that, so far as she alone has any right to speak in the matter, the war is unjust. A long course of insults and injuries committed by her against the United States as a nation, and against citizens of the U. States as individuals, sufficient to justify, according to the theory and practice or other nations, a sever measure of punishment, was demonstrated, we think, by Mr. Ingersoll's report as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

France had not a tithe of the same good ground for her war against Algeria, or England for hers against the Afghans. Even against China. England had not so much valid cause of complaint and resentment, or anything like it. - With reference to the justice or injustice of the war, then, we are of opinion that Mexico has not a word to say."

Important Rumor from Mexico

A good deal of excitement was created in the city yesterday afternoon (says the New Orleans Picayune of the first of August) between two and three o'clock by the issue from the office of the National of an extra announcing General Scott's entrance into the City of Mexico. We will not forestall the opinions of our readers, but give the National's extra in full.

"General Scott in the City of Mexico- Quarrel between Santa Anna and Canalizo.

"There is news in the city, form the city of Mexico, as late as July 17th. It came through by a Mexican courier, who came by the way of Orizaba and Alvarado to Vera Cruz. General Scott entered Mexico on the 17th of July. He met with no opposition on his way from Puebla until he arrived at Penon, about eight miles from the city. Here a slight skirmish ensued between his advance and the Mexicans, when the latter fell back. The civil authorities then came out to meet General Scott. Stipulations were entered into, by which the persons and property of the
citizens of Mexico were to be respected; this accomplished, our army marched quietly into the city of the Montezumas.

"This important news reached here in the Massachusetts, but has been withheld for purposes that we do not understand. The authority upon which we publish it, seems to us undoubted. The courier that brought this news could come from the city of Mexico via Orizaba to Vera Cruz in five days, if the weather is good, seven under any circumstances. The Massachusetts left Vera Cruz on the 23rd. It will be perceived that this allows seven days for the news to reach Vera Cruz by the route we have sailed.

"We know, upon the highest authority, that there is a letter now in this city, of the 17th July, from the city of Mexico. This gentleman, who gave us this information, has a letter of the 15th, in which is mentioned the preparations of families about leaving, from the approach of the Yankees.

"Santa Anna and Canalizo had quarreled about the defence of the city. Canalizo did not want the city injured, as there was no hope of successful resistance. He preferred to meet our troops in the plain, an there decide the contest. Santa Anna would not agree to this, so no opposition was made.

"The entrance of Gen. Scott into Mexico is a rumor. From the letter of the 15ht we know positively of the preparation of the families in the city to move on the approach of Gen. Scott, and of the quarrel between Santa Anna and Canalizo as to the defence of the city, and we know that there is a letter in the city of the 17th from Mexico.

"The courier that brought through the letter of the 17th brought news of Gen. Scott’s entering the city. We have no doubt of the truth of the report."

We have not a doubt (says the New Orleans [ . . . illegible . . . ])

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**Tuesday, August 10, 1845, REi29pc words: 351**

View from General Scott

The Anesville (Ohio) *Courier*, of the 3d inst, contains the following letter, which it states is from a commissioned officer of the 5th Regimental U.S. Infantry. The *Courier* publishes it with the following remark:

"There is no longer a doubt of Scott’s advance, for here are the particulars, which may be relied upon. The letter was commenced on the 10th of July, and added to, on each evening, giving the . . . of that day, from the writer’s journal."

This letter places the American army at the ... of Mexico, which is much alter news than we have before received. It seems extraordinary, near impossible, that our army should have made this advance without the knowledge of the New Orleans press. We, therefore, publish the letter as we receive it, and with many doubts of the ... of the information it communicates.

The fact that it is two months since any information was received from Gen. Scott gives... interest to the letter which, we presume ... from the city of Cholula, at the foot of the mountain of Cholula:

On the 9th we left Perote and came out eight miles to San Antonio, a large hacienda, where we remained until the morning of the 10th, when we marched at 7 A.M. for Tepe ... a village of some 1, 000 inhabitants, a distance of ten miles. The next day we marched 22 miles and encamped at a hacienda called ... a very desolate looking country, with the sun broiling us all the day. On the ... we marched with the whole divisions concentrated... to present a bold front, and after passing through a very pretty meadow near the ... where we encamped about 4 o’clock...

Some time during the night two of [ . . . illegible . . . ]

The market here is very abundant, and fruits of all kinds can be obtained in any quantity, and of all sorts-Apricots, peaches, pears, cherries, oranges, lemons, limes, melons, & c., &c. are for sale all around us. This afternoon we are having a fine shower, which will ... the dust and cool the atmosphere.

[JM]

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**Tuesday, August 10, 1845, REi29pc words: 148**

Mexico- Late and important intelligence
Tuesday, August 10, 1845, REi29pc words: 244

Letter from Mexico

M. Y. Beach- Dear Sir: You will be surprised to hear that peace is at last probable. - It ahs been rumored for a week that Mr. Trist had offered the basis of a treaty, and now I have to announce that a quasi set of Commissioners are on their way to meet Trist at Puebla. They go on their own hook, for there has been no quorum of Congress to legally appoint them, and should they accept the Treaty, which is rumored as more than probable, the Mexican nation will not feel itself bound by its beyond momentary interest. There are three of the Commissioners, Tornel, Gorostiza and Beranda, by one of whom I am permitted to send this letter to the Bishop of Puebla, for Gen. Scott is to send an express to Tampico. The treaty as it has leaked out astonishes every one, and form its liberality may induce the Commissioners to show a little obstinacy in order to get more favorable terms still. This is substantially the basis of the treaty- Mexico is to yield Upper and Lower California and New Mexico to the United States, in consideration of the sum of ten million dollars, three millions to be paid down and the balance secured by national bonds- the United States at once withdrawing all her forces, giving up her old claim or nine millions against Mexico, and paying her own cost and losses in the war.

[JM]

Friday, August 13, 1847 REi30p2c1 149 words

General Scott

It has been a matter of considerable astonishment, not only in this country, but in Europe, and even in Mexico itself, that this officer did not take advantage of the panic occasioned by his overwhelming success in Cerro Gordo, and advanced immediately upon the Capital, before it had had time to recover from the blow-such an advance, it is said, would not only have been consistent with the rules of war, but with the well known character of General Scott, always terrible to attack, and seldom taking into consideration the necessity of retreat. It would have been highly gratifying to his army, flushed as they were with victory, confident in the talents of their leader, examining their wild ascertained superiority, and firmly pressed with the belief that no force of the enemy were any obstacle [. . . illegible . . . ] The eyes of the whole world were turned towards the American General; the utmost . . . [illegible] [JM]

Friday, August 13, 1847 REi30p2c1 344 words

Miscellaneous

It is our pleasure yesterday (says the New Orleans Delta of August 3) to converse with Lieutenant Niles, of the late second regiment of Illinois Volunteers. After the disbanding of the regiment, lieutenant Niles took command of a company of Texan Rangers, whose term of service has just expired, which for the present, relieves him from further military duty. He left the camp of General Taylor at Walnut Springs near Monterey, on the 17th ult., and brings the latest advices from that point.

The health of all the troops is good at Saltillo, Monterey, Cerravlo, Mier and Matatmoros. Thus remark applies to those recently arrived, as well as the more acclimated. General Taylor's whole command at the present time is about 7, 000 men- not more. Of these, General Wool has with him at Buena Vista 2, 900 or thereabout; there are immediately under General Taylor, at Monterey, 800; and at Mier, Cerravlo and Matamoros, there are about 3300. This statement may be relied on. General Wool is impatient for the word-march! Forward to San Luis! So is General Taylor; but before he gives that word he demands that a force of 10, 000 men, all equal in active service, be placed under his command, say 8, 000 men to advance with him and 2, 000 men to man his garrisons. Some time ago he believed a larger force necessary and, believing so, he wrote in the Department, stating that if he was not to be sent forward, he could spare General Scott 2, 000 men; but that if he were to be, he would require an aggregate force of 14, 000 men. He now rules the necessary number at 4, 000 less, for it is now
known that the difficulty of Marching to San Luis Potosi, is no more than such as in ordinary cases is encountered.

The road from Camargo to Monterey it is perfectly clear, as indeed is the whole company this side of the mountains, of any organized guerilla force. Canales and Urrea are by... (unreadable) ...Luis Potosi, or the district of country between there and Tampico.

Friday, August 13, 1847 REi30p2c1 195 words

From Texas

The Steamship *Yacht*, Captain Crane, arrived yesterday from Galveston. We received by the papers to the 31st ult. (says the N. Orleans *Delta*, Aug. 3d.).

Loss of the U.S. Steamer Gov. Yell—The U.S. steamer *Gov. Yell*, which touched Galveston some two weeks since, on her way from New Orleans to Brazos was wrecked on Aransas Bar on the night of the 13th ult. The day was fine, but a heavy sea was rolling, to such a degree as to cause the vessel to labor and leak badly. In the evening it was impossible to keep up steam; but making Aransas bar at sunset, the Captain attempted to run in, the breakers ran high and extended entirely across the channel, so that she missed the pass, struck in three feet water, where the sea broke over her all night, with ropes in hand, ready to lash themselves to parts of the wreck in case she should go to pieces. She, however held mostly together until daylight, when the people threw overboard their baggage most of which was driven ashore by the waves, and had gained the beach in one way or another—The boat is a total wreck.

Friday, August 13, 1847 REi30p4c4 176 words

From The Army

The following is an extract of a letter turned in this city (says the Union) from an officer of the Government at Vera Cruz.

"Vera Cruz, July 23, 1847.

I was in hopes, by this time, there would be something definitive, or that we had arrived neared to peace; but as yet no commissions have been appointed, and the government has moved to a place further South. They will be a show of defence at Mexico, but Gen. Scott will march in. Our last dates from him were at the 10th inst. He was then to move on, if he did, he must be now in the city. General Pillow and Cadwallder, and all the (unreadable) reached him and his number was 12,000.

I see no other way or prospect for a peace treaty to form an anti-Santa Anna non-monarchial party, under the auspices of the American Army, and by this new Government is well and (unreadable)...The guerrillas have augmented to the left. The south and the north have threatened us that they will be coming in.

JM

Monday, August 16, 1847 REi31p1c2 692 words

Gen. Scott Still at Puebla


The U.S. steamer *Fashion*, Cap. Ivy, arrived late last evening from Vera Cruz, bringing us dates from that city to the 2d inst. Her news is most important. She brings a large mail. Gen. Scott was still at Puebla on the 30th of July. The news of the National’s extra was totally unfounded, as we believed and have contended from the first.

The courier of the British legation arrived at Vera Cruz on the 31st ult., with correspondence from Mexico to the 29th of July, and from Puebla to the 30th.
Our letters from Vera Cruz differ somewhat from Mr. Kendall’s in regard to the probable movements of General Scott. They represent the chances of peace in a more favorable light than Mr. K, and think the resistance to our advance will be almost nominal. Mr. Kendall thinks differently, and gives his reasons. We can only find room this morning for his latest letters.

In Mexico every thing was at sixes and sevens. Congress has referred Mr. Buchanan’s letter back to the executive, and thrown upon him all the responsibilities of the war. About 26,000 men are collected for the defence of the city, but the peace party in the town is yet strong and increasing, and they have no faith in their Generals.

Gen. Pierce, with his train and convoy, had arrived safely at Perote. Gen. Scott, it will be seen, dispatched Gen. Smith’s brigade from Puebla to meet him. It will be seen that Mr. Kendall believes Gen. Scott would advance the first week in August upon Mexico, and that there would be the severest battle of the war. The Mexicans are fully prepared to receive him.

The Sun of Anahuc gives the following account of an encounter between General Pierce’s train and the guerrillas. It must be regarded as a rumor says our correspondent, and so to says the Sun;

‘A respectable person of the city has informed us that a letter has been received yesterday morning by a citizen of this place, from a guerrilla chief, stating that the guerrilleros, about 600 in number, attacked the train commanded by Gen. Pierce, near the National Bridge. The letter says the Americans approached under the fire of the Mexicans until they arrived within a hundred yards of them, when the American infantry open fire. The Sun tells of various exploits of Mexican robbers near Vera Cruz, but they are hardly worth repeating, stealing horses being the greatest feat. The following paragraph quotes the Sun of the 23rd ult. touches Father Jarauta.

This priest and his band of robbers having robbed some of the property belonging to the U.S. government, from General Cadwalder’s train, delivered it over to the Governor of Orizaba, who sold it and pocketed the proceeds. It is said the priest is not at all satisfied with this and has abandoned his command.

We have letters from the American officers, prisoners in Mexico, which we can not find any room for this morning. The latest date is the 15th of July. The health of the party is good, but they see no prospect of release. They long for the arrival on their behalf, but we do not yet know the result.

Gen. Alvarez was in the capital the middle of July and had several long interviews with Santa Anna.

Mr. Trist must have been indisposed. A private letter, written on the 29th, says his health has improved.

We have a copy of El Nacional of the 24th. This paper is published at Atlisco, the present capital of the state of Puebla. From that we learned that Gen. Garay has reported to the government that he had defeated 150 American riflemen at the river Calabozo. He sets down our loss at one captain and fifteen soldiers killed, five drowned and fifteen made prisoners. His side, he says only took forty horses and some mules and arms. His own loss in not mentioned.’

Monday, August 16, 1847 REi31p2c3 78 words

Arrival of the Fashion

Prospects of peace—This arrival brings us confirmation of rumors which have lately been published here, relative to the failure of the efforts of our Government, in the mission of Mr. Trist, to bring the Mexicans to listen to results. All prospects of peace are now dissipated at the moment, and the sword will once more appealed to, as an arbiter of the future destinies of that Republic, through the obstinacy of personal rulers who now preside over her government.

[JM]

Monday, August 16, 1847 REi31p3c1 160 words

Editorial

What will the Whigs do?

Nothing that the Administration may do in the management of the war with Mexico, can give satisfaction to the fault finding Whigs. Every movement, every order, very demonstration is denounced. If success follow the measures adopted—if victory crown our advancing, they unite for the moment in shouts and hurras for the national glory achieved by our armies. Cannon roar—flags are flaunted to the town and joy and gratitude are on every lip. But when the blood has had time to cool, some disagree. The indiscriminate slaughter of a defenceless and
unoffending group of semi-babrbrians. If after gaining a victory, an attempt must be made to improve it, by
taking part of a session of the place where the battle was held or of the country we have conquered, and by holding
it against the enemy until he will concede to terms of peace, then the Government can announce acquiring territory
under the gains of indemnity, and indulging a merited conquest.

Monday, August 16, 1847 REi31p3c3 145 words

The News From Mexico


Monday, August 16, 1847 REi31p4c1 215 words

By The Southern Mail

Later from the Army of General Taylor

The steamer Ohio, Capt. J. Swiler Jr., arrived yesterday morning from Brazos Santiago, touching at Galveston. She
left the Brazos on Saturday, the 31st instl. And Galveston on the 21st.

By the arrival we have the Matamorras Flag of the 28th ult. We give the first of all the Flag’s account of the
“rumors” in circulation there in regard to General Scott:

It has been rumored here for a week past that Gen. Scott had arrived in the city of Mexico, with a loss of
three hundred men, and we have learned from good authority that positive intelligence has been received here to
that effect, but where [. . . illegible . . . ] fight at Rio Frio or in the city itself or as to the time arrived there with
other troops remains uncertain. Gens. Pillow and Cadwalder joined the Commander-in-Chief at Puebla, his force
numbered upwards of 12, 000 men with which he could have easily overcome all opponents. It is also asserted
here that General Valencia by all accounts, had left San Luis for the city of Mexico with a large force.

According to the Flag, it is rumored that for a week past, General Scott has entered Monterey on the 13th
ult, four days before he pretended that he entered the city.

Monday, August 16, 1847 REi31p4c2 200 words

Latest From Brazos

The Telegraph, which touched at Brazos, brought us the Matamorras Flag of the 4th inst., from which we extracted
the following:

Advance upon San Luis—From Major Arthur, formerly quartermaster at Cerralvo, we learn that General Woel
has received orders to proceed with the advance of General Taylor’s column on the 20th inst, in the direction of some
20 leagues from Buena Vista, where he will establish a depot, into which three months rations will be thrown. The
army will advance upon San Luis, and communication be opened with Tampico.

Barbarians—A Mexican force, we have learned, was recently dispatched to the neighborhood of Parras, to
destroy the crops of corn in the region. The resident Mexicans after applying to General Taylor for assistance,
collected in force and themselves drove off the destroyers. There can be no doubt that the people of Tamaulipas
would gladly erect theirs into an independent state. Their miserable, ever changing Government, not only taxes
them exorbitantly, but refuses them protection from robbers within, and from aggressions of the Indians from
without their limits. They have more than once attempted to cut loose from the central government, but found they
Important Mexican Documents

It has already been mentioned that Senor Pacheco was appointed Mexican Minister of Foreign Affairs early in July. The name of this gentlemen has long been connected with the politics of the country, and Mexican papers before us declare him to be a man of ability and of unquestioned patriotism. The American Star, published at Puebla, seems to admit his capacity and patriotism, but insinuates that he is a man of gallantry, and distinctly attributes the rupture between France and Mexico, to a guilty intrigue of Pacheco with the French Minister's wife. Be this as it may, considerable importance must attach to the views now entertained by Pacheco, as he is the organ of Santa Anna's government with foreign nations. Upon entering office, he addressed in the Governors of the States a circular expressive of his views of public affairs. The document does not appear to us to be written in the best taste, being extremely egotistical, nor to evince great ability; and we should not translate it but for the fact that it may safely be deemed the latest and best exponent of Santa Anna's views which we have. It abounds with fulsome panegyric of President, but we must presume, in the absence of positive evidence to the contrary, that it speaks the sentiments of Santa Anna and his administration.

By the circular it appears that the Administration in Mexico, like our own, is bound to prosecution of the war until glorious peace shall be obtained—hasta obtener una paz gloriosa.

From the Army of Gen. Taylor

The U.S. transport schr. Belle, Capt. Morgan, arrived yesterday from Brazos Santiago, having sailed thence on the 6th Aug. The papers from Matamoras are no later than have been before received, but we have a mail through from the army of General Taylor. The Belle brought over the remains of Lieut. Charles Hoskins, 4th infantry, who fell gallantly at Monterey, and of the following members of two Kentucky regiments: Henry Edwards, John J Thorea, Abraham Goodpaster, Enoch Broton, Sergt. Henry WOld, WM. Blackwell, Lemuel Bartlett, James Seston, John Sanders, and John Ellenwood. These remains are in charge of Maj. Milam and Mr. L.C. Jefferies.

From the Union

The city has been excited today by rumors that Scott had taken the capital with the loss of 1, 100 of his men, and with the capture of many thousands of the Mexicans.

It was given as telegraphic news from Richmond. There is nothing in the N.O papers of this evening to
confirm it. In fact no accounts from General Scott’s camp.

Telegraphic bulletins from Richmond are frequently so incorrect, that scarcely any one places confidence in them. They are passing into a sort of proverb. But as Mr. Kendall shows, this is not the fault of the telegraph, but of some of those who use it, or rather abuse it, at Richmond. The telegraph is but the unconscious instrument of those who employ it; and we might as well blame the mail for the incorrect and hastily intelligence it sometimes communicates, as the telegraph.

[JM]

Tuesday, August 24, 1847 REi32p3c4 269 words

From Mexico

The Southern mail of yesterday morning brings us dates from Monterey of the 27th July. A correspondent of the New Orleans Delta states that a move to San Louis Potosi has finally been decided on, and all the departments connected with Gen. Taylor’s columns are actively engaged in preparing for the march.

The 1st September is the time fixed upon for the forward movement. The forces under Gen. Taylor would seem, in my opinion, to be totally inadequate for such an undertaking, but the old Hero has, to use his favorite classic quotation, determined on the matter nolus volus.

Dates to the 30th July have been received from the city of Mexico. Gen. Scott had not then moved. Santa Anna and the Mexican Congress are at variance. Santa Anna desires an expression of the will of the nation as to listening to the American propositions for adjustment of expressing differences. But Congress is silent: no quorum appears, and for this official journal, the Diario del Gobierro lashes the delinquent members.

In this connection (says the N.Orleans Picayune) we may have mention that Congress and Santa Anna are at variance upon another point. The papers represent that Congress is strongly in favor of the removal of the seat of government; Santa Anna is violently opposed to it. From Santa Anna’s obstinacy upon this point, some think that he is scheming to make the fate of the capital the crises of the war. Should it fall, they believe he will insist upon peace. Should he make a successful defence, Gen. Scott’s army would be overwhelmed in all probability.

[JM]

Tuesday, August 24, 1847 REi32p4c2 249 words

The Wilmont Proviso

The Philadelphia North American charges the Democrats of the North with having defeated the Wilmont Proviso, and says the papers in that latest have taken ground in advance, against its principles. We are glad to have this evidence from the pen of an opponent of the loyalty of our party in the Northern States to right and justice. We are rejoiced to see that they stand by the South and the Union on this great question. But the same paper which gives us this pleasing intelligence also gives us some of the opposite character. It tells us that the Whig party, though “deprecating the necessity of such a Proviso, will, it circumstances require, support it and the principles it involves with all the vigor which comes from the conspicuousness of right and persecution of duty.” We hope that the N. American is not authorized to speak for the Whig party in this matter- that it has not been truly represented. If not a majority of the Whigs we trust that the Southern Whigs will not make a party question of such a momentous subject, but will be found by the side of the Democrats doing battle for the rights of the South and the safety of the Union. On the Bank, Tariff and Annexation questions, they went with their party against Southern interests. Southern rights are now as sailed, and we hope they will pause before they go further.

[JM]

Tuesday, August 31 1847 REi34p1c3 193  words

The Course of the Next Congress

Some days since, in criticizing the position of Messrs. Bolt, Crowin, and Haskell, in favor of an instant withdrawal of our troops from Mexico, and the refusal of an acre of Mexican territory by way of indemnity for our heavy expenses and losses through her wrongful conduct, we took occasion to avow the opinion, that the Whig party, if in power, would not dare to change the policy already pursued by the Administration, but would be compelled to carry on exactly what the much abused Democratic Executive has been called on, by its high constitutional obligations, to put in force. We contended that, under the circumstances, to withdraw our troops to the boundary line of Texas would be fatal to peace, would encourage the infatuated hopes of Mexico, and would make us laughing-stock and contempt of the world, to be insulted and struck at by the powerful nations of Europe. The majority of Whigs in the next
House of Representatives, thrilling though it be, which he late elections indicate, has naturally elicited attention to the probable course of the majority upon the great question of the war.

Tuesday, August 31 1847 REi34p1c1 173 words

Seven Days Later From Puebla

The steamship Galveston, Capt. Hayliard arrived yesterday from Vera Cruz, having touched at Tampico, Brazos and Galveston. She left Vera Cruz on the 12th inst.

By this arrival we are in possession of advices from Puebla to the 6th of August—just one week later than we had before received. Our letters were brought through from Puebala to Vera Cruz by a courier dispatched exclusively for this office. The news is important.

Gen. Scott was still at Puebla on the 5th inst. But the army was to take up the lines of the next day for the city of Mexico. General Twiggs’ division leaving on the 7th.

Gen. Pierce arrived at Puebla on the 6th inst. Not on the 2d inst. As some of our correspondent cararies stated. He lost not a single men on the march, notwithstanding “another severe battle with the guerrillas.”

The most agreeable news by this arrival is the escape of Major Gaines from the city of Mexico and the arrival of Major Scott.

Mr. Brownson and the War

We have read carefully the reply of the Whig to our article of Monday, commenced on Wednesday and concluded yesterday. After doing so, we see no reason to alter a word we have written. Indeed, the Whig fails to meet the point we were discussing. Mr. Brownson had drawn a distinction between a state of the war and mere hostilities, and accused the President of uttering a deliberate falsehood in his message to Congress, stating that war existed by the act of Mexico, and asserted that he thereby trampled on the rights of Congress, violated the Constitution, and made the United States responsible for the war. In our reply, we admitted the distinction between war and hostilities; but contended by the Mexican army, were such as to justify the President in believing that war did exist by the act of Mexico. That the course he pursued did not interfere with the rights of Congress, or violate the Constitution, and that the United States were not thereby made responsible for the war. [JM]

September

RE47v44n35p1c7, September 3, 1847: ANOTHER LETTER FROM GENERAL TAYLOR

Gen. Taylor has replied to a letter addressed to him by a Democratic meeting held at Clarksville in this State. It differs but little from the one to Dr. Delony, which we published a few days since. The Clarksville Jeffersonian says that the letter to which Gen. Taylor’s is a reply, contained a series of resolutions embodying the principles, upon which the meeting wished to know the General’s opinions. The first resolution expressed a settled hostility to a National bank, and a belief that such an institution is not only unconstitutional, but highly expedient. The second referred to the same subject. The third resolution declared in favor of the Independent Treasury and the separation of Bank and State. The fourth declared against a Tariff for Protection; the fifth against the distribution of the proceeds of sales of the public lands, and the sixth against the policy of internal improvements by the General Government. The seventh expressed the belief in the right of Texas, as an independent sovereignty, to annex itself to the United States, and the obligation imposed upon us after the act of annexation to protect her territory. --Then came a preamble which alluded to the movement which had been made by the Whig party in favor of Gen. Taylor, and took the ground without qualification that the Democratic party could not support any man whose principles were not well defined and wholly and entirely Democratic. The followed the resolution instructing the officers of the committee to address a letter to Gen. Taylor touching his opinions upon several matters referred to in the resolutions. Another resolution fully endorsed the course of the present administration, and congratulated the people upon the prosperity of the country under the Democratic rule. It will be seen that Gen. Taylor declines replying to any of these questions. He declares that he is no politician, and has not time to devote to an investigation of the subjects embraced in the resolutions, so as to be able to reply to them in a way that would be satisfactory to himself or his interrogators.
HEAD QUARTERS, ARMY OF OCCUPATION,  
Camp near Monterey, Mexico,  
July 20, 1847  

Dear Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your esteemed letter of the 16th, which has just reached me, accompanied by certain resolutions entered into by a Democratic meeting of my fellow citizens of Clarksville, Tennessee, on the 7th of June last, in relation to certain important matters and principles connected with the management of our national affairs, desiring to know my views and opinions in regard to the same, as they might have an important bearing on their course, should my name be before the country as a candidate for the Presidency at the coming election; which I must beg leave to decline doing, for even if disposed to do so, I can spare the time from my official duties to devote to the investigation of those subjects which their importance seem to require, to enable me to reply to them in a way that would be satisfactory to myself, much less so to your honorable committee. I must therefore say in this instance what I have stated to others on like occasions, which is, that I am no politician, near forty years of my life having been passed in the military service of the Republic, most of which in the field, the camp, on our western frontier, or in the Indian territory, and I may say with great propriety for the most part constantly on duty, the last two in Mexico, or on its immediate borders, during which time I have not passed on night under the roof of a house; you may therefore readily suppose under such circumstances, I have had but little time to devote to the consideration or investigation of important political matters, or to their discussion, nor have I attempted to do so, or been mixed up with political men or matters in any way, not even having voted for one of our chief magistrates or any one else since I have been in the public service, having been stationed or serving for the most part beyond the limits of the States.

I can say in all sincerity I have aspirations for the Presidency; and if I am a candidate, or to be one, it must be recollected I am or will be made so by others, and by no agency of mine in the matter. Under this state of things, should a majority of the good people of our country think proper to elevate me to the first office in their gift, or I may say the first in the world, I will feel bound to serve them, and will be so honestly and faithfully, to the best of my abilities, strictly in conformity to the provisions of the Constitution, as near as possible in the way it was acted on and construed by our Presidents, two of whom at least participated in creating and putting in operation that glorious instrument. But many important changes in our affairs at home and abroad may take place between this and the time for holding the election for filling said office, so much so, as to make it desirable for the general good that some individual other than myself should be selected as a candidate for that station--and could be elected, I will not say that I would yield my pretensions to that distinguished position--for I have not the vanity to believe I have any--but I would not only acquiesce with pleasure in such an arrangement, but would rejoice that the Republic had one citizen more worthy and better qualified than I am, and no doubt there are thousands, to discharge the arduous and important duties appertaining to the high office. --Be this as it may, should I ever occupy the White House, it must be by the spontaneous move of the people, and by no act of mine, so that I could enter on the duties appertaining to the Chief Magistrate of the country untrammeled and unpledged beyond what I have previously stated as regards to the Constitution, so that I could and would be President of the nation, and not of a party.

For the interest you and other kind friends of the committee, and those you and the represent, take in my continued success against the enemy while this war continues, which I sincerely hope will some be brought to an honorable close, as well as I fear for the too flattering manner you have been please to connect my name with the distinguished office in question, and especially for the handsome and complimentary terms in which they have been communicated, are duly appreciated, and for which I beg leave to tender to you and through you to the gentlemen of the committee, collectively and individually, my most cordial thanks for the same. With considerations of highest respect and esteem, I remain, gentlemen, Your ob't, and devoted serv't.,

Z. TAYLOR.  
Major General, U.S. Army, 

To Dr. C.L. Wilcox, and others of the Committee.  
[BRM]

RE47v44n35p1c7, September 3, 1847: THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

The mail of last month apprized us that the victorious and apparently unimpeded career of General Scott to the capital had been brought to a full stop at Puebla though rather by his own weakness than the enemy’s strength. It was intimated also that some new base would be taken for the line of operations on the city of Mexico, and the arrival of fresh reinforcements, their organization at Vera Cruz, and their junction with the main body, must all precede any future movements. --While war was thus cared for, peace was no neglected, and with the usual ambidexterous attitude of an American army, the Commander-in-Chief and the “peace commissioner” were to advance together.

The terms of peace as most recently reported, are interesting and characteristic. America is to have the line of the Bravo up to the Pass, or as some say, even to Santa Fe, together with the Province of Upper California. It is even asserted in the private correspondence of some the trains Atlantic journals, that Lower California, also, together with a right of way across the central isthmus, will be comprised in the demands of Mr. Trist. Each party is to pay its own expenses, and Mexico is to be reimbursed for her cessions of territory, in which category, however, the original bone of contention, the Doab, between Del Norte and Nueces, is not to be included. A suggestion, which we suspect must have come from the Americans, proposes that part of the payment for these lands should be made in responsibility...
rather than cash, and that after "three millions" have been paid down handomely, the remaining accounts between the high contracting parties should be balanced by the U. States taking a certain portion of the foreign debt of Mexican on their own shoulders—a very pretty example of "conversion," which the creditors, however, will probably hardly think it worth their while to quarrel about. Between certain securities, as between certain insects, there is no settling the precedence.

The truth cannot be denied, if the market had but been opened a little more fairly, New California is of no more use to Mexico than Louisiana was to France. Not only is the population of Mexico almost stationary, while that of the United States increases at a rate greater than that of our won islands, but the country at the head of the California Gulf is such an irreplaceable waste that all ordinary intercourse by the route between Mexico and the upper provinces would be impossible, while the coast is of such character as to render any regular communication by sea but a little more practicable. California could never be settled by the Mexicans, whereas the tide setting westward from the U.S. shows what must almost necessarily result in that quarter. In the present day, the sovereignty of this barren and half explored province may seem of small amount, but its capabilities and promise have not escaped the eyes of the prudent. The bay of San Francisco is the finest in the world, and described by Captain Wilkes as amply capacious enough to receive the united naives of America and Europe.

From so favorable a harbor, the course lies straight and obvious to Polynesia, the Phillipines, New Holland and China, and it is not extravagant to suppose that the merchants of this future emporium may open the commerce of Japan. So grandly, indeed, are the destinies of this province prefigured by intelligent American writers, that it was been represented as unlikely long to be subordinate to the powers of Atlantic seaboard, but as promising to rise into an independent power, which should ride over the waters of the Pacific. Such is the region which an ambitious and aggressive state is not endeavoring to extort from an imbecile but obstinate neighbor—an attempt, in which it is indeed, probable that she will ultimately succeed, but of which the realization appears thrown too a greater distance by every successive mail.

RE47v44n35p1c7, September 3, 1847: CENTRAL AMERICA

Address of the President of Honduras, calling on the States of Central American to Aid

The Mexicans, in their Contest with the United States.

We are indebted to our obliging contemporary of La Patria, for a copy of this important document, which we translate for the benefit of our readers:

PROCLAMATION.

The President of the States of Honduras to the Central Americans.

Compatriots! Fortune now rules the destinies of Mexico, and menaces her sons with desolation and extermination. The North Americans have destroyed the interesting population of Vera Cruz—have possessed themselves of their effects, and are now marching upon the Capital. We [illegible] what other calamities will afflict [illegible]. They are our [illegible] and their fate awaits us. We should not maintain neutrality, if we can in any manner aid them in their honorable struggle.

The entire would should know that the Hondurenos are ready to fulfill their duties, of whatever nature they may be.

I will sustain in the State an honorable peace, at all hazards; but I will not do it with the sacrifice of Hondurian honor, for a disgraced people arc fit but to bear chains, and to suffer with humility the threats and the injuries which the stronger impose.

I address myself to-day to the Government of the Republic; making these observations in order that it shall be deemed expedient, we may, if it is possibly, afford aid, or at least manifest our favorable disposition to their cause and to liberty.

Divisions and internal feuds have ruined our Mexican brothers. Eight millions of inhabitants of whom that nation is composed, have been unable to defend themselves against a handful of men, who have seized upon their territory and their property, and annulled their rights. What may be the fate of the Central Americans if we continue divide?

The Hondurenians always appear extraordinarily great; they adopted the most effectual means to secure their independence; but nothing has been sufficient to estrange them; respect to the Government, and submission to law, they consider as their power, their glory, and their honor.

What happiness does he experience, who rules the destinies of a people adorned by the virtues!!!
Comayaga, June 1st, 1847.

The Undersigned, Generals of Division, to the Army of Honduras.

Companions! Notorious is the anguish of Mexico, and evident is our obligation to co-operate in the defence of that country. Her sons are our brothers, and the cause which they sustain is also ours, that of liberty against conquest.

In compliance with a sacred duty, the proclamation addressed by the President to the Central Americans was yesterday published, and we wish to express our deference and our desire to co-operate at any time that he may call upon us to aid our neighbor.

Forgotten forever are all those ideas which could divide us. Our interests and our passions are second to our country. Her triumph is our glory and our honor. She demands our union, and that suffices to cause us to cordially offer it. Union and liberty is our motto! Eternally opprobrium to him who would promote and assist dissensions and conquests.

F. FERRERA,
SANTOS GUARDIOLA
Comayagua, June 2, 1847.

[BRM]

RE47v44n35p3c5, September 3, 1847: LATER FROM THE RIO GRANDE

Since our last there have been several arrivals from the Brazos, by which we have the Matamoras Flag of the 11th, 14th, and 18th inst.

Much the most important intelligence by this arrival is contained in the following, from the Flag of the 18th:

ANOTHER MASSACRE. --Intelligence was received on Saturday last, confirmed since by letters from Cerralvo to the 9th inst. that a scouting party of twenty-seven Texans, commanded by Capt. Baylor, ordered out by the Col. Abbott, commandant at Cerralvo, to scour the country between that post and Monterey, had fallen in with a large body of Mexicans, and all had been killed out three.

Our letters inform us that Captain Baylor left Cerralvo on the 6th., and following out his instructions, visited several ranchos in the neighborhood of where the recent attacks had been made upon the trains. At two of these ranchos goods and property captured from the trains were found secreted in the houses, and the guilt of a participation in these robberies being clearly proven against the Mexican residents, the property was retaken, the dwellings of the guilty burned, and several known desperate characters killed. With three prisoners which he had captured, Capt. Baylor was returning to the main road, when he found himself surrounded by a large force of Mexicans, stated at three hundred, undoubtedly the same force which had attacked the trains previously. He was completely hemmed in, and the Mexicans charged upon his small band, killing many of them the first discharge of fire arms. Three of the party effected their escape by crawling into the chaparral, and got into Cerralvo dreadfully lacerated with thorns. When they last say Captain Baylor he was wounded and unhorsed, but still fighting, and only three of his men were in their saddles. They think it impossible that any more could have escaped, and do not believe that the Mexicans made any prisoners. Two days had elapsed since they got back to Cerralvo, and nothing had been heard of any of the rest of the party. In the dwelling of one of the Mexicans made prisoner by Capt. Baylor, (so the men who escaped report, ) were found two letters from the chief alcalde of Cerralvo to Canales, informing him in whose possession he had placed certain goods captured from the trains, which he (canales) had empowered him to dispose of in Cerralvo, and also giving him to understand that if he stood in need of arms, horses or men, he had but to make his wishes known and they would be attended to. These letters were in Capt. B’s possession when attacked, and have been recovered by the Mexicans. IN consequence of the report made to Col. Abbot, he has had the alcalde and several other influential Mexicans arrested.

After confirming the above, an officer in the Massachusetts regiment writes from Cerralvo to a friend in this city, under date of the 8th of August:

"The two last trains up were attacked, and thirty of forty pack mules cut off from each. ---A train left here yesterday from Monterey and we have positive information that some 400 Mexicans are lying on the road to cut them off. I do not know when we shall move on, but, if at all, I think somewhere about the 1st of September.

The Flag has become satisfied that all intentions of an advance towards San Luis by the column of Gen. Taylor have been abandoned. --The Flag condemns this course; considering it an essential step on our part to occupy San Luis Potosi, and open communications from that city to Mexico."
The following extracts are made from the Flag of the 11th:

FROM MONTEREY. --TRAINS ATTACKED. Mr. Coolridge, of the Massachusetts regiment, and several other gentlemen, direct from Monterey, who left there on the 1st of August, and arrived here on Monday last, furnish us with the following particulars of the operations of the guerillas on the Monterey road:

On the 39th July, an express mail wagon for Monterey, with an escort of seven men, under Lieutenant Reynolds, was attacked ten miles from Marin, by about sixty Mexicans. The mail driver succeeded in passing the ambuscade, and putting his horses to their speed, reached in safety the encampment of a train which was coming down from Monterey. The escort were scattered by the assault, and two of the number are missing, supposed to have been killed.

The next day after this attack, a merchant's train, composed of sixty mules and several wagons, under a small escort of citizens, was attacked at Punta Aguda, by a large force of Mexicans. And the entire train captured. The assault was so sudden and overpowering, that no resistance could be offered. The first intimation of an attack was given by a discharge of firearms from the thickets on each side of the road, and an immediate charge of cavalry on the train. The number of attacking party could not be correctly ascertained, but it was supposed to be from 100 to 150. Immediate flight was the only chance of escape, and all who could sought safety in the thickets, and afterwards to reach the rancho of Papagallas, where, fortunately, a train from Monterey, escorted by 30 dragoons, had just arrived and encamped for the night. Those who had escaped from the attack on the train, gained the side of the mountain during the night, from whence they discerned the American encampment at Papagallas, and all but one of the escort go into the encampment before morning. The Mexican muleteers, and all the merchandize, amounting in value to some twelve or fifteen thousand dollars, fell into the hands of the Mexicans. Only one American was known to be killed, though several were missing. The downward train broke up their encampment at Papagallas in the morning, and came on to Cerralvo without molestation. In passing the spot were the attack had been made the evening previous, no vestige of the property had been left. The body of the wagoner was found a short distance from the road, and buried. Canales commands the robbers who have proved so successful in their forays of late.

THE TRAIN UNDER MAJOR LALLY. --One of the Patria's Vera Cruz correspondents writes that the train under Major Lally has been a second time attacked by the guerrillas, and sustained a severe check, losing two hundred and fifty men. But for an accident, their defeat would have been entire. The letter further says, in conclusion that "the Yankees have capitulated." We shall not believe one word of this till we have other authority for it. We have no doubt, however, that this train will be more harassed than any which has yet gone up. We shall be relieved when we hear of its safe arrival at Perote.

FROM YUCATAN. --By the arrival of the schooner Primera Campechana, at New Orleans, the editors of La Patria have dates from Yucatan. The advices are of unusual importance. It appears that a conspiracy had been entered among the Indians of various villages for an insurrection. One of them, who was entrusted with the secret, traitorously divulged it to the Governor of Valladolid. Through his management, the principals implicated in the affair were arrested and executed, the cacique Antoni Ay being the first. As soon as this became known, the Indians rose in some of the villages and massacred all the whites and those of missed race, save the women, and not excepting those women might be enciente. The details of their excesses are horrible. The white race at once united in self-defence. The Government has appealed to the people to forget their party animosities and join for common protection. Seventeen Indian villages are involved in the insurrection. Government has forbidden the sale of arms and take other measures for the public security. We do not enter into the details of this affair, as they possess little interest, save the people of the Yucatan themselves. [Picayune.

DEPARTURE OF TROOPS. --The following Government transports left yesterday for the seat of war, ( says the New Orleans Picayune, August 24. ) the prompt departure of such a number of troops indicates energy in the quartermaster's department.

FOR TAMPIO. --The United States steamer New Orleans, E. Auld, commander, with five companies second Regiment Illinois Volunteers, under command of Lieutenant Colonel Hicks. Passengers:--Dr. Remes and Dr. Whitesides.

FOR VERA CRUZ. --The United States steamship Massachusetts, with four companies second Regiment Illinois Volunteers, under command of Colonel Collins.

The chartered steamer Mary Kingsland, with one company 2d Regiment Illinois Volunteers, and Capt. Connolly's company Louisiana Mounted Volunteers, together with 70 teamsters for service in the Quartermaster's department of the army of Gen. Scott.


The Telegraph will leave this day for the Brazos' with a detachment of 12th Infantry, under Capt. Clinck. [BRM]
The more we think of this event, (say the New Orleans Picayune) the more unfortunate do we regard it for the cause of peace, faint as our hopes were before of the speedy termination of the war. --Grave censure will fall on official heads for the failure to arrest Paredes, and yet we do not permit ourselves to doubt that the Secretary of War and the diplomatic agents of the Government in Europe will be found to have discharged their duty in the premises in good time. It is not necessary to prejudice the case and designate more particularly those on whom the weight of responsibility those on whom the weigh of responsibility rests: public opinion has already declared itself with fatal distinctness.

From Vera Cruz we learn that Senor Atocha met Gen. Paredes after the latter landed and recognized him. Paredes is understood to have signified him by a sign to "keep dark," and the handsome Senor did so for the space of an hour or more--at all events, until the distinguished Mexican had passed out of the city's gates. We have seen these facts written from Vera Cruz by a gentleman of sense and discretion. From him we learn, too, that Senor Atocha held a situation in the customs at Vera Cruz, from which he has been promptly dismissed for conniving at the escape of Paredes. Every day is further developing the fitness of Senor Atocha to act as the emissary of our Government!

We learn, too, that Capt. Clark, the port captain at Vera Cruz, has been dismissed from his post for the remissness in this affair of Paredes--We mention this and what we have said above of Atocha on the authority of a private letter from Vera Cruz from a gentleman who would not mislead us and who should be very well informed. It is his opinion that the English have had a more direct agency in the business that the facts yet developed show.

The correspondent of La Patria gives quite a dramatic scene between General Paredes and the Mexican who furnished him with the necessary supplies for his expedition into the interior. According to this, the merchant had been the political opponent of General Paredes in days gone by, but was touched by the appeal of the latter to his patriotism, the General avowing his purpose to be to throw himself into the arms of his countrymen, and procure a position in the army to assist in the salvation of his country. Whether the sketch be fanciful or not, we deem it the true key to the part which Paredes will enact.

The same writer says that among the Mexicans of all parties the arrival of Paredes has excited a general enthusiasm. They argue that Paredes will be able to derive from the clergy the resources necessary to prolong the war for many years. It is conjectured, too, that the six States which have formed the Coalition and declared themselves opposed to any peace, may call upon Paredes to assume leadership. Viewed in whatever light you choose, the return of Paredes is regarded as injurious to the designs of the U. States, and very possibly to those of Santa Anna. There can, we think, be no doubt to this.

"MEXICO. --We made upon her; we invaded her territory; we took possessions of her soil, we laid waster her towns and cities, and we are unable to discover what are the benefits these acts have conferred on her, that we should demand from her indemnification. No soldier of Mexico has set his foot on our soil, or injured us by any act of his, to the value of a farthing. If wars were waged or settled on principles of abstract justice, instead of on the principle that 'might makes right,' we should have to give Mexico indemnification, in place of demanding it of her."

The words are from the Atlas; but the ideas are constantly repeated, in the opposition papers, though they have, again and again, been shown to be false and unfounded. We shall once more, in a few words, plainly demonstrate the contrary truth, and the impossibility of avoiding the unhappy stand which our government was unwillingly compelled to take.

Mexico effected a revolution, and cast off the yoke of Spain. Texas, then a part of Mexico, growing weary of the subsequent factions, the new revolutions, the internal wars, cruelties, and devastations constantly occurring in that unsettled and unhappy country--and, moreover, her soil adjoining ours, and being peopled and owned in a great measure by persons from the United States--it became the interest and the desire of its inhabitants to separate from Mexico, and to become united to this country. Texas first declared and effected her independence, which was recognized by us and the principal powers of Europe. She then, as a sovereign, independent State sought and agreed to become one of the United States, and was received by us as such. This was done by both countries in the manner sanctioned by law and by former precedents. By this union the United States became constitutionally bound
to defend the rights and the territories of Texas, as a portion of the Union, from all foreign claims and encroachments.

Texas claimed, and had claimed, a certain boundary to her territory, on the side of Mexico. This boundary had been formally recognized and admitted by the Government of Mexico. We were, therefore, as much bound to defend and maintain the territory of Texas up to that boundary, as we should be if Mexico were to claim and invade any portion of the territory of Massachusetts.

Mexico, notwithstanding a former recognition of this boundary line, subsequently refused to admit it, and asserted her determination to exceed it by force of arms. It then became necessary for us to place an armed force near that line, in order to defend our rights and to prevent invasion. That force was attacked by the forces of Mexico, by the express order of its Government, and she thus commenced hostilities against this country. We were obliged to repel them—and thus a war instituted between the two countries. Congress subsequently sanctioned the course and adopted by our executive government, voted men and supplies, and declared war as existing between the two nations “by the act of Mexico.” A great majority of the people, of all parties, has since approved and supported the measures, adopted by government. We must therefore pursue this war, however, unwillingly, till our rights are respected, and justice—nothing more than justice—its accorded to us. We cannot recede. Our obligations to Texas and to ourselves forbid us to flinch. Honor, patriotism, justice, duty, all command us to preserve, and unite against the foe, till our rights are acknowledged and our just claims satisfied.

It is true—and pity’t is true—there is a certain portion of our citizens—or, rather, our inhabitants or residents, (we will not call them citizens)—who have long lived happily and prosperously under the paternal guardianship of this government, many of whom have acquired princely fortunes while sustained by its protection arm—there is a portion of such people; we say, who have ever been found not only mimical to this government, and at war with its measures, but absolutely encouraging, aiding and abetting the enemy in times of war—who are now thus willfully protracting the existing struggle, merely for the selfish and suicidal purpose of rendering, if possible, the Democratic party unpopular, removing it from power, and placing themselves in the chair of state. All patriotic feelings are renounced—all regard for weeping humanity and for suffering millions is extinguished—all pride for their country’s honor is thrown to the winds—every high and noble principle is sacrificed—and for what?—for the basest and most ignorable ambition. A ruinous and bloody war, by their shameful opposition at home, and assistance abroad, is purposely continued and protracted, solely with the vain hope of disgracing, in the eyes of the people, our own government and our own country, and, by this traitorous means, of attaining power themselves, and of accomplishing their own selfish and pernicious designs. {Boston Post.

[BRM]
Ayotla on Friday, the 13th inst., and up to that date had not fired a gun. This news reached Vera Cruz by a gentleman who left Ayotla on the 13th, coming down by way of Orizaba. Ayotla is buy 21 miles from the city of Mexico, being 20 miles beyond the pass of Rio Frio. We now turn for a moment to other subjects of great interest.

The expedition which left Vera Cruz about the 13 instant to re-inforce Major Lally’s command was composed of Capt. Wells’s company of the 12th infantry, Capt. Halle’s company of Louisiana Rangers, all under command of Captain Wells. They returned to Vera Cruz on the 17th, after having proceeded as far as National Bridge, where they expected to overtake Major Lally’s command. Major Lally, however. Had gone on, and by subsequent advices at Vera Cruz it is known that he had carried up his train in safety beyond Jalapa.

The command of Capt. Wells was compelled to fight their way to the Bridge; and they made the attempt to pass it, but found all the heights occupied by the guerrillas, who opened a heavy fire upon them, killing nearly all the mules and forcing the whole party to retire. They left the whole of their wagons, save only one, in the possession of the enemy. All the baggage of the officers and knapsacks of the men, which were in the wagons, fell into the hands of the Mexicans, and little else besides the mail was saved. The loss of men in this affair has been five or six killed and two or three wounded, and several men have subsequently died from fatigue and exposure on the march.

About eight miles this side of the Bridge, Capt. Wells, on his advance, detached twelve dragoons, accompanied by Dr. Cooper, with directions to go forward cautiously, and, if they encountered any obstacles, to return and report the fact at once. Nothing has since been heard of this party, and it is supposed the whole have fallen into the hand for the Mexicans. These twelve dragoons we suppose to be a portion of Fairchild’s company. Dr. Cooper was the surgeon who went up with the train.

Capt. Wells had five successive engagements with the enemy before the final affair at the Bridge. In this the Mexicans had one piece of artillery engaged, from which they fired grape, and were thus able to make their stand against the command of Capt. Wells.

Maj. Lally on going up with the train is said to have had a sharp skirmish with the guerrillas at Cerro Gordo, and to have expected another brush with them at La Hoya. No accounts of these affairs have been received, but our latest letters say there where is no doubt of the safety of the train. No news had been heard at Vera Cruz of Capt. Besançon’s company for a fortnight. It was out on a scout when news reached there that Major Lally required reinforcements, and it is by many supposed that the company fell in with the train, and, crossing the National Bridge, continued up with it. Others again think differently, and suppose the whole company has been cut off by the Mexicans. Such is the tenor of our latest letters.

In regard to Gen. Scott’s march, there were rumors at Vera Cruz that he had met the enemy and repulsed them after a sharp engagement, in which he lost 800 men. This the Mexicans regarded as a victory on their part, at their loss was insignificant. Notwithstanding these details, our correspondent writes that there is no truth in them whatever. He also considers the announcement of the Sun of Anahuac that Gen. Scott arrived at Ayotla on the 11th as a statement hazarded upon mere rumor. He has confidence in the veracity of a man who arrived on the 21st, and declares the vanguard of Scott’s army to have been in Ayotla on the 13th, having met no resistance so far. Both the Vera Cruz papers and our correspondent believed that Gen. Scott was in possession of Mexico by the 20th inst, but they had no information to this effect.

We have more minute accounts on board the ship Agnes of the various engagements with the guerrillas mentioned above. The Mississippi, being a fast sailer, has anticipated those accounts, but without supplying all the details.

We have no letter direct from the army. The Boletín de las Noticias, of Jalapa, says that more correspondence from the army has been intercepted by the guerrillas. --This paper appears to have advices from Puebla to the 10th inst., but only states that the last divisions of the American army left on that day 4000 strong.

[BRM]
the destructive of that instrument and the usurpation of Santa Anna rendered them independent without any further act of their own. This was the sum and substance of the Texas declaration of independence as it is termed. That the people of Texas was right in taking this course, will be apparent, if we apply their reasoning to our own Government. We presume that no one would contend that the people of Virginia, or of any State in the Union, would owe obedience to any but their State government if the Constitution would be the overthrow of the government established under it. That would sever the only tie which united the different States, and would, of course, leave them separate and unconnected republics, free to enter into a new and different confederacy or not, as they might think fit. If this be true of us, it must have been true of Texas after Santa Anna’s usurpation. For the Mexican Republics, both in their State and Federal institutions, were modeled after our own. They had the same State sovereignty and the same Federal compact that we have—and usurpation there would necessarily confer the same absolute independence that it would here.

Texas was thus made entirely independent of the central Government by the destruction of the central Constitution, and was at once at liberty to do all those acts which sovereign States have a right to do. Our own Government acknowledged this, and entered into treaties with her. Santa Anna endeavored to force the people of Texas to obey the new and despotic Government which he had created, and to whose creation the people of Texas had never consented. Had he succeeded in his undertaking, new questions might have been presented. But so far from this his fortune did not have even the semblance of success. He was not only thwarted in his plans of conquest, but he was defeated. His army was completely put to out and he taken prisoner. He had no just claim to Texas, and nothing but victory and conquest could give him any claim. But instead of victory he found defeat, and instead of being a conqueror he was taken captive. The Mexican Government could not claim the right of the strongest, for on the battle-field she had been proved to be the weakest. Six years clapsed without any further change. Texas, being of right independent, had on the battle-field asserted her right successfully. Years elapsed, and no effort worth the name was made to subdue her. In this state of the case, the treaty of annexation was brought forward—the Mexican minister at Washington, General Almonte, notified our Government that if the measure of annexation was consummated, his Government would regard it as a war. If we mistake not, he said Mexico would look upon it as a declaration of war. Months elapsed; and he did not retract that message. His Government was thus made responsible for it—Annexation was consummated; and in accordance with his notification, Gen. Almonte demanded his passports and left the country; in obedience, as all will admit, to the wishes of his country.

Here we contend that the whole world, except his political opponents, would have justified the President had he informed Congress of these circumstances, and asked of Congress men and means to carry on the war in which Texas was engaged, Mexico having declared that she should consider us a party to it. Nothing but the sufficiency of our peace establishment, to prevent any Immediate danger from the arms of Mexico, can excuse him for not taking that course. It was thought that Mexico would contend herself with the bold language of General Ampudia, and no steps were taken to do more than protect Texas. Had our Government thought proper to consider war existing after the threat of Mexican Minister, and the consummation of annexation, it clearly had a right to do so. It had a right to take that Republic at its word, and to have gone to blows at once. This would doubtless have been done, had our Government thought that Mexico would make her words good, or that she had the strength to injure us in the event that we delayed our operations. Had Mexico been any thing like a match for the United States—even if her navy had been sufficiently strong to annoy our seaports, or cripple our commerce—we think it would have been the plain duty of the President to have said to Congress that war existed, and to have asked for men and means to drive the Mexican navy from the seas. Had he failed to do so, we hazard nothing in saying that the first descent made upon our coast—would have been the signal to the Whig opposition for such denunciation of the Government as was never heard in this country. The very men who are now so loud in their complaints of the President for his message in May, 1846, would have heaped curses as strong as language could afford, for not having sent that message long before. It would have been in vain for him to draw distinctions between hostilities and war. He would have been told that the Mexican Minister had said that the Mexican Government would consider annexation as equivalent to war; that this declaration, authorized by Mexico and followed up by the withdrawal of Gen. Almonte, constituted war—a war which it was his duty, as President of the U. States, to prosecute with all the strength of the nation. --They would have said [illegible] he had been false to his high trust and regardless of his plain duty—that he had tamely permitted the national enemy to ravage our coasts, destroy our commerce, and shed the blood of our people, without resistance. And in saying this they would have been much more consistent that they have been in declaring, if we annexed Texas, we annexed war along with it—and then affirming that the President made the war in defiance of Congress and the Constitution.

After Gen. Almonte had left the U. States, the action of his Government was, as far its condition would allow, prompt and consistent with the attitude that Minister had assumed. The United States made every effort at reconciliation which could be made. It offered to settle by negotiation the boundaries of the new State. Mexico persisted in claiming that State as a rebellious province, with which she was at war, and which she intended to subjugate. The President was thus forced to protect Texas. He had no choice in the matter. By the action of Congress during Mr. Tyler’s administration, this was made his plain duty, no matter what he might have thought of annexation. The measure had been consummated before he came into power, and he had, from his official position, to provide for the consequences. Gen. Taylor, as a measure of precaution, was stationed at Corpus Christi; and subsequently, after a suggestion from him to that effect, he was ordered to the Rio Grande. It has not yet been contended, that we know, that this march was considered at all inconsistent with the relations then existing between the two countries. The Mexican army, under Gen. Apudia and Aristu, was concentrated at Matamoros. And while Gen. Taylor lost no opportunity of making known the pacific intentions with which he had come to the Rio Grande, the Mexican forces acted in conformity with Gen. Almonte’s declaration. They acted as if war existed, and cut off every straggler from the American army who fell in their way. At length their forces were sufficient, they thought, to destroy our army; and they made the attempt.

Now, we contend that the circumstances which we have related justified the president in saying that war existed by the act of Mexico. --Others, at the time, thought differently, and they had a right to think differently. They thought
that Mexico should have an opportunity to disclaim the conduct of her Generals. We do not blame them for this idea. Subsequent events prove that Mexico wished no such opportunity. She had authorized the attack on our troops, and could not disclaim it. She hoped not only to clear Texas of our forces; but her Generals were framing plans of invading the United States. That they would have invaded the United States, had they been able, no one can question. If it was proper for the United States to declare war before the attack upon Lieutenant Thornton. The whole history of the war, however, shows that she considered the annexation of Texas as amounting to war: and, having notified us of that, thought it unnecessary to do more. If it was unnecessary for her to do more, it surely was for us. That our Constitution was violated, or the rights of Congress assailed, we confess our inability to understand. The war was commenced by Mexico, because of the annexation of Texas. If we had a right to treat with Texas as an independent power, it justifies us for taking up arms. If the war has been improperly or informally declared, Mexico is responsible for that, and not the United States.

RE47v44n37p3c3, September 7, 1847: MR. BROWNSON AND THE WAR

Since commencing our article to-day, we have seen the editorial of the Whig relative to the remarks we made about Mr. Brownson's position. We are sorry that we have failed to make ourselves understood. The faults must be in our powers of expression, or the Whig's powers of perception. The old adage "that none are so blind as they who will not see" may throw some light upon the question as to who is to fault. When we called attention to the absurdity of Mr. Brownson's argument, we stated the reason we did not publish it entire. That reason we still think sufficient. We did, however, state the substance of it: and that, too, without saying anything having the appearance of making a Whig of Mr. Brownson; except that he took Whig ground relative to the war. As to the offer of the Whig to give us the information we have so earnestly desired on certain conditions, we must think it was not made to acceded to. We would, however, gladly embrace this proposition of the Whig, and we already said so much on the question at issue. To commence, de novo by publishing Mr. Brownson's article, would be a useless task to our readers. But notwithstanding that, If the Whig will give us the information, or the argument we have called for, in reasonable compass, and proper terms, we will publish it, and such remarks as may be necessary.

RE47v44n37p3c3, September 7, 1847: LANDING OF PAREDES

A N. Orleans paper makes some complaint of the want of vigilance in our agents in Europe, and of the commanding officer at Vera Cruz, in relation to Gen. Paredes. It might be imprudent at this time (says the Union) to divulge all the facts connected with this subject, but they would clear our agents abroad of any shadow of complaint. Col. Wilson, at Vera Cruz has not been asleep upon his post. It is difficult to detect every spy who may land on the coast; but we have lately been informed by the New Orleans papers, that very lately he has been forbidden a suspicious character to land, and sent him off. As to the landing of Paredes, the following extracts of Col. Wilson's letter to the Secretary of War, (the last which has been received from him, ) relieve him from any imputation of remissness, and lay the censure upon others:

Extract of a letter from Colonel Wilson to the Secretary of War.

"HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF VERA CRUZ,
August 15.

:I have the honor to report, that on the 14th August the British steamer Teviot, Captain May, arrived here from England and Havana, having General Paredes on board, under the assumed name of M. Martinez; who, in consequence of the tardiness of the boarding officer, (Captain Clark, ) landed at between 6 and 7, a.m., incognito, from a four-oared boat, apparently prepared for the occasion. In his transit through the gate of the mole, he was recognized by an inspector, who took no notice of him. Therefore, I immediately ordered the discharge of both him and Captain Clark--the former for having lost sight of the main object, notwithstanding my office is but a few yards from the mole.

"The General, having arrived at the house of Mr. Jose G. Zamora, a native merchant, he presented a letter of introduction from Paris, and requested that horses might be directly furnished for himself and servant--a request immediately complied with; and but ten minutes after his landing he passed through one of the gates of the city on his way to the interior, without myself or any of my officers being able to avoid it, from the circumstance of his arrival and presence here being unknown, and the letters from the United States consul at the Havana, giving notice of his having left, not being delivered to me until after the General's departure, owing to their being in possession of a lady passenger on board."

[BRM]
The very brief letter under my signature, which was evoked by a paragraph in the *National Intelligencer*, and kindly given a place in the columns of your paper some two months ago, has, to my no little astonishment, called forth a public letter from the pen of Senator Houston of Texas, on matters not put in issue by the article which, because of the great respectability of the paper in which it appeared, I deemed it proper to notice. Nothing certainly was farther from my intention, than to have involved the ex President, now the Senator from Texas, in the necessity of any exposition upon the subject. Whatever doubt existed as to his real desire for the annexation of Texas to the United States, had, by a previous publication, either in the form of a speech or letter, I forget which, nor is it material to remember, been sufficiently cleared up by the declaration, that he only coquetted with England in all that he had done, with a view, as we are now told, to produce an impression with the over credulous people of the United States, as well as those entrusted with the administration of their public affairs, that the “golden moment” for annexation had arrived, and, if permitted to pass, could never be recalled.

Aided by the silence of the Texas press, and for aught I know by other and still more impressing Gen. Jackson—to whom, in the exubrance of his devotion, he ascribes the whole honor of the measure—with the belief, that the coquette would, unless prevented by prompt action, very soon fall into the arms of another, and thus be forever lost to the United States. That time-honored patriot has descended to the grave, under the full conviction, that what he avouched to the American people was true in every word, and in every letter. He was incapable of giving utterance to what he felt to be untruly; and I may safely add, that he looked too deeply into the deeds of men, and understood too thoroughly their motives, to be easily deceived. He saw, as readily as others, the great stake at issue in the question of annexation—a stake which the leading States of Europe would be quite as eager to gain as the United States—and he possessed as full a knowledge of the necessity which would compel Texas to resort to expedients to rescue herself from the unhappy condition in which Mr. Houston describes her to have been in 1841, as the President of Texas himself.

Those expedients are how for the first time promulged to the world by Mr. Houston, as having been deliberately weighed, considered, and adopted by himself. The first was to obtain from Mexico the recognition of the independence of Texas; and failing in both these, the third was to form a defensive alliance with some foreign power against Mexico. In order to accomplish the last of these objects, the President of Texas had spread before him as broad a field for diplomacy as could well have been desired. His first expedient, annexation to the United States was very soon exhausted, since Mr. Reilly, who had been instructed to propose annexation at an early day of my administration, so utterly failed as not only to withdraw the proposition, but to accompany the withdrawal with the declaration that Texas would never renew it. After Mr. Reilly’s failure, the question naturally arises, what course did the President of Texas then pursue? Did he fold his arms in apathy, or did he press on to the accomplishment of his second and third-expedients? Did he seek to interest other governments in the affairs of Texas, so far as to induce their interposition with Mexico, in order to obtain an acknowledgement of Texas independence by Mexico no wider than it had before stood. After the failure of his first expedient, did Mr. Houston stand with his arms folded, and fall into an apoplectic slumber? It was not until his Presidential term had run the greater part of its course, that the U.S. Executive, startled by intelligence received from London, and confirmed by the representative of Texas at the court, deemed it necessary to institute inquiries, through its accredited organs, for the purpose of ascertaining accredited organs, for the purpose of ascertaining the true condition of things. Those inquiries developed the active efforts made by associated individuals to ensure the fulfillment of their intrigues, and the extent of the countenance which had been bestowed upon them by the Ministry of Great Britain, which was more publicly and openly avowed on the floor of the British Parliament, in a debate in which Lord Brougham, whose sentiments were fully re echoed by the British Minister, bore a conspicuous part. In that debate, the Texan was declared to be the all important question—and this not so much on its own account in the abstract, as in its bearing and effect on the condition of the U. States.

There was no longer any room to doubt but that the eyes of foreign powers, as well as of associated companies, were strained in that direction; and I repeat, in this place, what I said in my former letter, that I resolved upon the proposition for annexation as the readiest, if not the only mode, “to scatter the web of their intrigues,” either actual or contemplated. Notwithstanding, however, the authentic information received by the U.S. Executive, all of which has been heretofore in official documents communicated to the public—and notwithstanding the great interest with which Texas was regarded by the distinguished statesmen of England, Mr. Houston, who is not content to speak for himself alone, but also for the whole world, would feign induce the country to believe that the British Ministry folded their arms in inaction, and that the Abolition Society of Great Britain reposed in undisturbed slumber. He seems also most strangely to forget that the city of Mexico was as important a place for concocting and carrying on intrigues, as the city of Austin itself.

In taking the initiative, I not in the least controlled by the feelings of the Texan Executive; nor did anything which had proceeded from it stimulate me to action. Texas was surrounded by well-known embarrassments, exhausted by a long war, her industry paralyzed, and her resources almost annihilated; and as she had been repeatedly repelled in her advances to the Government of the United States, it was naturally concluded that she would look elsewhere for succor and aid. The Executive of Texas had tried annexation, and failed; it had not obtained a recognition of independence by Mexico. What other expedient remained, but to make the best terms it could with either France or England, or both, which, giving it breathing time, would enable it to repair the energies of the country, and recover it from the state of deep depression in which it was placed? The American Minister (Mr. Murphy) was therefore directed to urge annexation on the Executive of Texas. This was accordingly done, and Mr. Houston, in his letter, sets forth the terms which, as a condition precedent, he thought it proper to exact from an over zealous, but devoted friend to the measure. It must be permitted to say, that it would have better concluded Mr. Houston’s account of the matter, if he had seen cause to have informed the public, that the terms thus exacted were promptly disavowed by the Executive, it being firmly fixed in its devotion to the Constitution of the United States, and that Constitution nowhere
conferring the power on the President to transfer his authority over the army or navy, or any portion of either, to a foreign potentate, or to enter into any alliance, defensive or otherwise, without the previous sanction of the Senate. This was as well known to Mr. Houston as to myself. He had filled important stations in the United States prior to his emigration to Texas, and was believed to be well acquainted with the limitations and restrictions imposed by the Constitution on all its functionaries. Mr. Houston will pardon me for frankly saying, that this arrangement, thus made with Mr. Murphy, did at the time excite a suspicion on my part, that he wanted but a plausible pretext to defeat annexation altogether. He will find in that act, independently of their own personal merits, the secret motive for the appointment of Gen. Howard, who had belonged to Mr. Houston’s military family when Governor of Tennessee, in place of Mr. Murphy; and, after the death of Gen. Howard, of Major Donaldson, from the household of Gen. Jackson’s who was regarded as the idol of Mr. Houston’s political worship. Both these gentlemen were well worthy of their appointments, and acquitted themselves of their high duties with ability and zeal; but yet, could I have been satisfied at the time that the President of Texas was playing the coquette, and merely indulging in a course of innocent flirtation, in order to awaken the jealousy of the people of the United States, it is quite probable I should have selected for the mission of others, who stood more closely allied to my administration. The flirtation with Mr. Murphy was very soon quieted, by a disavowal of what he had inconsiderately, but from the best motives, been led to do; but, when the coquetry with England was afterwards actually carried, through the active agency of the British Minister, into an acknowledgement by Mexico of the independence of Texas, upon the sole condition that she would renounce annexation to the Unites Sates, it was as near becoming serious as any love affair in the calendar. What if the United States had presented at the time no definitive proposition for annexation, is any one prepared to say that the Mexican proposition would not have been accepted? Will any one venture to say that Gen. Jackson was so far deceived, or the American people so far misled by their jealousy, as to have been mistaken in supposing that “the golden moment” had in fact arrived? Or, can it be said that I was very far mistaken in the declaration, that the proposition for annexation scattered to the winds all the webs of intrigue wherever woven? Alas for annexation, if the American Executive had been driven to the alternative of presenting a new basis of negotiation, in place of definitive terms!

In declaring the opinion that the death of Mr. Upshur, and the appointment of an adjunct commissioner to Mr. Van Zandt, alone prevented the completion of a treaty at an earlier day, I neither designed to utter complain against an All-wise Providence for removing from my side my friend and able counselor, nor against the Executive of Texas for appointing an adjunct commissioner. It was a solemn occasion, that of merging the absolute sovereignty of one State into that of others; and Texas could not well have used too much caution in its performance. Certain it is that no adjunct could have been more acceptable to the U. States than Governor Henderson. --I did but urge that view to show that so secret had been, and so expeditious would have been the course of the U. States Executive on the subject, that the treaty, but for the two circumstances alluded to, would have been consummated before the speculation in Texan stocks, or holders of Texas lands would ever have heard of it. I think the remark admits in fairness no other construction.

As to the ascription made by Mr. Houston to Gen. Jackson of the success of the measure, I have nothing more than this to say, that I took the initiative without any previous consultation with that distinguished man. He gave to the action of the Executive his zealous and cordial support, and I would be the last to deny him the full measure of honor which his patriotic advocacy implied. His name was undoubtedly a tower of strength to any cause which he espoused; but there were other auxiliaries, who deserve to be noticed in connection with the matter. I omit the names of Mr. Upshur, Mr. Nelson and Mr. Calhoun, who successively filled the chair of the State Department, and after them of my entire cabinet. They were a part of my own identity, and that each was worthy of my confidence and that of the country, is sufficiently demonstrated by the fruits of their labors. I choose to mention others, not members of my political family, among the most prominent of whom was Mr. Walker, the present Secretary of the Treasury, whose writings unveiled the true merits of the question and, aided by the expositions of many editors of the newspaper press, brought the public mind to a just and sound decision.

I was myself sustained and encouraged by the opinions of other distinguished citizens, among whom I take pleasure in mentioning the name of one who once would have commanded the respect, if not the confidence, of thousands; but who, at the time, rested under a cloud, and spoke to me from the shades of Andalusia: I mean the late Nicholas Biddle, with whom I differed so widely on the subject of the Banks of the United States. His bright and accomplished mind did not fail to embrace in its full extent the value of the virtual monopoly of the cotton plan, secured to the United States by the acquisition of Texas—a monopoly more potential in the affairs of the world than millions of armed men.

I have only to say, in conclusion, that I shall content myself in all else that relates to the annexation of Texas, by referring to the public and official documents already spread before the country.

JOHN TYLER

New York, Sept. 1, 1847

[BRM]

A few days ago we penned an article showing that Texan had a right to treat with the United States as an independent power. It is not for us to say how well we succeeded in our effort. But if we did succeed, the conclusion
seems inevitable to our mind, that the war in which we are engaged is a just and rightful war; and all good citizens should unite in bringing it to an honorable and successful termination. If, on the other hand, we did not succeed, and it is admitted that Texas had no right to treat as an independent nation, we contend that the wrong done was in annexing Texas to the United States, and that Executive was bound by every consideration of honor and duty to defend her. By the act of annexation, she became a State of this Union, and had a right to demand protection from the Government. If any thing more than a quasi state of war existed between Mexico and Texas at the time of annexation--and something more must have existed to give any validity to the Mexican claim----then it seems that the refusal of Mexico to treat with the United States, after Texas was admitted, made the United States, after Texas was admitted, made the United States a party to the war. The hostile attitude in which Mexico and Texas stood with regard to each other, could never be altered but by a treaty of peace with the United States. Texas had given up all control over the matter. Her power to treat had been made over to the President and Senate of the United States. She then had no control whatever over the subject. And, in the hypothesis we are considering, war existed, a war which could be made to cease only by a treaty between Mexico and the United States Government. --Mexico refused to treat with the United States' Government, which refusal was tantamount to a refusal to terminate the war in which she was engaged with one of our States. This course which Mexico pursued, made us a party to the war--Texas having been annexed--in despite of ourselves. Mexico so considered it, and took action accordingly--not for one moment dreaming it necessary to make a declaration of war before she resumed hostilities, by endeavoring to enforce her claim to Texas.

If we have succeeded in making ourselves understood, it is clear that whether Texas did or did not have a right to become a State in this Union, the complaints urged by the Whig party against the war are entirely unfounded. Mexico takes the only consistent ground. She contends that Texas was a revolted province belonging to her, which she was actively engaged in endeavoring to subdue by force of arms; and that, by the act of annexation, the United States made themselves a party to the war, and inflicted a wrong upon her by adding to the Union a portion of her territory. She has never, to our knowledge, taken any other view of the subject than this. --But this will not satisfy the Whig leaders. They cannot take this ground; for if they could succeed in convincing the people, that that was the true ground to take, their party would not be benefited. Annexation was popular; and besides, the people would see that the mischief had been done, and could never be atoned for--that the U. States would be dishonored in the eyes of the world if she did not meet the consequences of annexation after that measure was completed. The Whigs, then, must take up other positions--positions which Mexico has never assumed--if they would [illegible] party.

This they have shown a willingness to do, on all occasions. Their devotion to party is so much greater than their love of country, that they are ready to embrace an inconsistency if they can weaken their political adversaries. They show the cause of their conduct in their eagerness to seize on any trifling circumstances, founded on any trifling evidence, to lessen the credit and underrate the resources of the government; they show it in their constant forebodings of disaster, and the readiness with which they magnify every obstacle to be encountered. Some of the antiwar presses have even gone so far as to proclaim openly and loudly that they desire that our armies may be overthrown by the enemy, and that we may find defeat and disgrace where we seek victory and honor. This is not treason as defined in the Constitution; but it is not treason, only because they who entertain and express such desires, use the press instead of other weapons to give aid and comfort to enemy. We always like to put the most charitable construction on the words and actions of every man, but when we see a party contending that annexation would make the United States a party to the war which existed between Texas and Mexico, and now that we are actually engaged in hostilities endeavoring to make the war odious by denouncing it as a President's war, as a war commenced by violating the Constitution and trampling on the rights of Congress, we must confess that our charitable feelings are weakened. If the Whig party would come out openly and declare that we had no right to annex Texas to the United States, and that justice required us to undo the act and the deed, then, however untenable their position, it would have the merit of consistency. They hold on to the conclusion that the war is unjust--but they manifest no desire to adhere to the premises on which that conclusion is founded. If they come out against annexation now, they take ground against an ascertained majority of the people. That they have no desire to do. If they contend that we wronged Mexico in annexing Texas to the United States, the logical deduction is plain, that we can put the country right only by giving up Texas. This the people will never consent to do. Yet the Whig party opposes the war, not only as unnecessary, but as unjust. Whether it is right or wrong in this singular course, we leave the people to decide, believing thoroughly that when they coolly consider the matter, they will uphold those who uphold the cause of the country.

[BRM]

RE47v44n38p3c1, September 10, 1847: BY THE SOUTHERN MAIL

[From the New Orleans Delta, August 31.]

LATEST NEWS FROM VERA CRUZ

We have been anxiously expecting the steamer Fashion, from Vera Cruz, for the last three days. On Saturday evening we were confident that, as on all previous occasions of important news from Mexico, so on this we should be enabled to supply our readers on Sunday with the glorious news of Gen. Scott's triumphant entry into the city of Mexico. But we were disappointed, and in absence of the last steamer, we have to rest content with such items as the schr. Mississippi, Capt. Black, brought yesterday.

The Mississippi, left Vera Cruz on the 21st August, and the Fashion had not then arrived. --By the Mississippi we have El Sol den Anahuac to the 21st inst. The late numbers of this paper are very dry and barren. Indeed, we have
almost ceased to look to Vera Cruz for anything full or authentic in relation to Gen. Scott’s army. We are not so confident as some of our contemporaries seem to be, of the truth of the statement made by El Sol, that Gen. Scott had arrived at Ayutla on the 11th August. Ayutla is said to be eight Mexican leagues from the city of Mexico, which is about twenty English miles. Now, if General Scott’s advance only left Puebla on the 7th of August. We do not think it probable that General Scott could move with his long trains and heavy guns at the rate of fifteen miles a day, over an ascending, precipitous, and, in many places, difficult road. We know that he himself did not expect to reach the capital in less that fifteen days after the departure of his rear division, which left on the 10th August. The transportation of the large cannon which Gen. Scott takes with him, over the rugged road which passes for a considerable distance around the mountain for a considerable distance around the mountain Cordova to Rio Frio, will be very slow and laborious. Nor is it probable that Gen. Scott, would hurry or fatigue his men, on the march, which I might be so necessary to keep them in good condition for the great battle, which he expects to fight near the capital. But, of course we may be mistaken, and we only give our opinion for what it is worth.

The guerrillas are still disturbing our trains.

Major Lally’s command made their way over the National Bridge, routing the guerrillas on all sides, and without waiting for the reinforcements which had been sent to their relief. These consisted of Captains Wells’, Haile’s and Fairchild’s companies, which were attacked and pretty severely handled by the guerrillas, and having no artillery returned in Vera Cruz. Their loss was five killed and two wounded, together with the loss of good number of mules and wagons.

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From the New Orleans National

LATEST FROM GENERAL SCOTT.

Our army within eight leagues of Mexico--Gen. Scott’s position on the 11th inst. --Village of Ayutla.

The schooner Douglas came in last evening, bringing us Vera Cruz papers up to the 10th instant.

The Sun of Anahua of the above date, says that a gentleman arrived at Vera Cruz on that day from the interior, bringing the intelligence that Gen. Scott and command were at Ayotla, eight leagues from the city of Mexico.

The village of Ayotla is about midway between the Rio Frio and the Capital; it is a small halting place for travelers. On the Rio Frio mountain our troops saw the city of the Montezumas almost at their very feet, and descending into the valley and losing sight of it for a short time, must have had the pleasing effect to heighten the charm of its final possession. Just beyond Atoyla there is a slight rise in the road that conceals the city; it passed, and for twenty miles ahead, Mexico is visible, presenting a singularly beautiful aspect. The next news, we trust, will bring us intelligence that the Capital of Mexico is on our possession.

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VERA CRUZ

In addition to the Mexican intelligence which we laid before our readers yesterday (says the N. Orleans Times, ) we have since received by the arrival of the ship Agnes, Capt. Kelly, a letter of a later date, from our correspondent at Vera Cruz, in which he communicates the unpleasant rumor that General Scott encountered a large Mexican force at Rio Frio, and had been compelled to retreat. We place no reliance in the report. The rumor in regard to Major Lally’s position may be true, but we prefer to withhold our belief until later intelligence comes to hand.

VERA CRUZ, August 21, 1847.

Gentlemen--Some very unpleasant reports have reached us this morning which I sincerely trust may prove to be unfounded; but such as they are, you have them.

General Scott, it is said, encountered an overwhelming force on his march to Mexico, and had to fall back from Rio Frio. Major Lally is reported to be hemmed in between Puente National and Jalapa, not able to advance nore retreat. - Captain Fairchild lost all of his train and some men, and made good his retreat to this place.

Captain Elliot, acting Quartermaster, has made quite a revolution in his department. He has sent cargoes of coal dust back to Baltimore, and cargoes of provisions to your city, and Tampico and Brazos; he has discharged about 250 laboreres and teamsters, and sent them away; he has cut down the clerk hire and suckers of his office; and, in fact, he is some pumpkins.

The Mexicans have now about 50,000 men in the field, of all classes, guerrillas and soldiers.

TAR BUCKET.
FROM MATAMORAS. —By the U.S. propeller Secretary Buchanan, we received yesterday the Matamoras Flag of the 21st inst. The Secretary Buchanan left the mouth of the river on the 24th.

Maj. G. H. Crossman, Quartermaster, arrived at Matamoras on the evening of the 10th, from Gen. Taylor's camp, yet the flag gives not a word of news from that quarter.

Some vessels had been engaged in carrying goods up theRio Grande, with the pretext of landing them on the Texas side of the river. The commander of the district issued orders that duties on goods should be paid at the mouth of the river, before passing up, declaring the Texas boundary to be the left bank. The Matamoras Flag insist upon it, that the Texan boundary according to the laws of Texas, is the "principal stream" of said river, and that vessels have a right to pass up the principal stream for the purpose of unloading on the Texan side. The question will be settled by superior authority.

By a letter from Captain Hicks, of the U.S. steamboat Tom Kirkman, we learn that the route between Matamoras and Monterey is infested with banditti. The loss of most of Capt. Baylor's company, is in a manner confirmed by the letter of our correspondent, as he states that up to the time of his writing, only five members of the company had come in—two at Marin and three at Cerralvo.

The mail, it is said, had been attacked, and Capt. Reed's lieutenant killed. Canales was seen on the 16th inst., about seven miles from Camargo, and it was presumed that his force was somewhere in the neighborhood, or in the vicinity of China.

VOLUNTEERS FOR MEXICO. —Capt. Scott, nor organizing an independent Company of Volunteers for the Mexican War, rendezvousing at Richmond, will be at Chesterfield Court on Monday next, in Brunswick, on the 16th inst., (due notice of which will be given) and at Morgansville (Jones') on Saturday the 18th; at which times and places addresses will be delivered and gallant sons of gallant sires will have an opportunity, perhaps the last, of enrolling themselves under the Stars of Liberty. RICHMOND, Sept. 9th, 1847.

The letter of this distinguished warrior, addressed to Mr. Delony, seems to have had wonderful effect on the Whig party throughout the Union. The Whig presses seem to be utterly unable to reconcile the position he takes with the necessary qualification which they demand form their leaders. Gen. Taylor's position presents no prominent points either for attack or defence. His ignorance of the important principles which have heretofore divided parties—and his alleged inability "to express suitably" the opinions which he really entertains on these questions, have made even the Whigs doubts about his steps. They pretend to be the advocates of principles--of positive principles, and can but illy put up with a negative candidate. No impassioned man could have thought them sincere when they were advocating a "no-party" candidate. They have shown that they were not sincere in that course. They cannot stand without a man who is willing to stand as their representative; consequently we find them growing "small by degrees and beautifully less" in advocating Gen. T.'s pretensions to the presidency. They were willing to avail themselves of the popularity of any man to get into power, but the position of Gen. Taylor is such, that they cannot take even him for this purpose. Now we find our Whig friends showing themselves in their true colors. They discard the hero of the Rio Grande, of Monterey and Buena Vista, when he cannot be made to subserve their purposes. We hope the people will understand this. If so, they will learn that the Whigs go for POWER and not PRINCIPLE, and are willing to take power without any regard to principle. In fact the great essential difference between the two parties may be summed up in this, that the Whigs are willing to take power, without regard to principle, and the Democrats are willing to see their principles triumphant, not matter in whose hands the power of the Government may be lodged. —Can the people hesitate in choosing their friends?—Four ourselves we cannot appreciate any inducement to embrace Whig doctrines, while we can see much, both of present safety and future prosperity, which identifies Democratic principles with the true well-being of the people. We commit ourselves to no man. We have heretofore thoroughly committed ourselves to principles. And when the day comes no one can be ignorant of our position, for no one can be ignorant of our principles.

We have received nothing later from Mexico. On Saturday the following singular notice was hung out at the Whig office. It is, probable, a letter from one of the editors of the Picayune. —We confess that we cannot understand what it means, but give it for what it is worth. Can it mean that General Scott has declared himself Military Governor of Mexico? This we might believe—but that the Mexican Congress has declared him President, we are utterly incredulous:
"I have only time to say, that, by steamboat just arrived, news is received that Gen. Scott is declared President of Mexico until the 15th January, 1848.

J. LUMSDEN."

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RE47v44n39p2c3, September 14, 1847: FROM THE VIRGINIA REGIMENT

The mail of yesterday morning brought two letters from Captain Robert G. Smith, to his father. The one dated at Buena Vista, August 8th, and continued on the 9th; and the other from the same place, commenced on the 14th of August, and closed on the 15th of the same month. This last letter brings the intelligence of the death of Captain Fairfax expressed in the following terms:

"Sunday morning, August 15th. --Capt. Fairfax, who has been sick for three or four weeks, dies in Saltillo last night at 8 1/2 o'clock. He was a most excellent man and a good officer. We shall feel his loss most sensibly. Just before his attack, he boasted to me, that nothing could hurt him in this country, that he had not been sick for twenty years, and apprehended no danger from the climate. My company enjoy good health. I have only two or three in the hospital, and they not seriously unwell. The routine of Camp duty becomes so monotonous, that men and officers complain a good deal -- yet an attentive and industrious officer will find enough to employ and engage him. Since coming here I have not visited Saltillo, nor indeed been much from the camp. The drill of my company commands now my undivided attention. The North Carolina Regiment has suffered much from sickness, and the effect has been to dispirit the men. Our regiment has but little sickness in it, and its condition for active service is at least respectable. When we shall move forward, I am unable to inform you, nor do I believe General Taylor himself is informed on the subject; when we do, the Virginia Regiment will be in the advance, and I fain hope will not disgrace the Old Dominion."

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RE47v44n39p2c4, September 14, 1847: LATER FROM THE ARMY OF GENERAL TAYLOR

The steamship Telegraph, Capt Wilson, arrived here Sunday forenoon from Brazos Santiago, whence she sailed on the 1st inst.

The intelligence by this arrival is interesting and important. We have at last the execution of the design of the Government to withdraw from the column of Gen. Taylor all the troops which can be spared by the General with due consideration for the safety of the line of the Rio Grande and thence to Buena Vista. The General was also directed to detach to brigadier generals; by the following general orders it will be seen how he has directed the views of the Government to be carried out:

ORDER No. 96.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION

Camp near Monterey, August 16, 1847.

1. Five companies of the 10th Infantry, under the colonel will proceed to Matamoros and relieve the Ohio regiment of volunteers now in garrison there. The Ohio regiment will then proceed to Brazos Island and be held ready to embark fro Vera Cruz. The remaining companies of the 10th, under lieutenant colonel, with Capt Hunt’s company of artillery and Capt Reed’s company of Texas cavalry, will form the garrison of Camargo and its dependencies, relieving the other troops now on that duty.

2. The Indiana regiment of volunteers will proceed to Brazos Island and will then, with the Ohio regiment embark for Vera Cruz. Brigadier General Lane will take the command of these regiments at the Brazos and conduct them to their destination.

3. Six companies of the 16th Regiment, under the colonel, will take up the line of march for Monterey, when they will relieve the present garrison, composed of six companies of Massachusetts regiment. The remaining four companies, under the lieutenant colonel, will in the like manner relieve the battalion of the Massachusetts regiment at Cerralvo. The troops thus relieved will proceed to the Brazos and be there concentrated under the command of Col. Wright.

4. The 13th Regiment will proceed to the Brazos as soon as practicable after the companies of Massachusetts regiment, now at Cerralvo, shall have passed down the river.
5. Brig. Gen. Cushing will take up the line of march, no latter than 23d inst., with Capt. Deas’ light battery, (company B, 4th Artillery.) He will proceed to the Brazos, when he will bring under his orders the 13th Regiment and Massachusetts regiment, and thence conduct his entire command (one battery and two regiments) to Vera Cruz.

6. Brig. Gen Hopping will remain in command of the district of the Upper Rio Grande, and will establish his headquarters where he may select. Should it be found necessary to retain the general hospital at Mier, a sufficient guard will be furnished for its protection, and also sufficient force of medical officers and attendants must be detailed from the regiments which leave their sick. Great care will be taken to furnish descriptive rolls of all attendants and patients thus detached. Col. Belknap is specially charged with the rigid enforcement of this order.

7. Col. Hays, with his command of Texas horse, will march for the Brazos, and there embark for Vera Cruz, in conformity with the instructions issued to him by the War Department.

8. The above movements will be executed with the least possible delay. The quartermasters and other staff departments will furnish the necessary transportation and other facilities for this purpose.

By order of Maj. General TAYLOR:
W. W. S. BLISS, Ass’t Adj’t Gen.

The Ohio and Indiana regiments under Gen. Lane, and the 13th Infantry and Massachusetts regiment, with Deas’s (late Washington’s) battery, under Gen Cushing, being ordered to Vera Cruz, and Hay’s regiment being sent to the same point, let us see what troops are left on the Rio Grande line.

Gen Wool’s command at Buena Vista and Saltillo will consist of the Virginia, North Carolina, and 2d Mississippi regiments of volunteers and Maj Chevalle’s three companies of Texas Rangers.

Gen Taylor at Valnut Springs will have only Lieut Col Fauntleroy’s squadron of dragoons and Maj Bragg’s battery.

The 16th Infantry, Col Tibbatts, and the 10th Infantry, Col Temple, will garrison the Monterey, Cerralvo, Camargo, Reynosa and Matamoros.

The squadron of the 3d Dragoons, Col Butler, and two companies of volunteer cavalry from Alabama and Illinois remain unassigned. A portion of the dragoons are at Mier, and it is conjectured that they will remain on the line for escort of trains and like duties. [A correspondent of the National thus sums up the troops who remain between Brazos Island and Buena Vista.]

Distribution of forces on the line of the Rio Grande, after the departure of the force now under marching orders for Vera Cruz:

- Brazos Island, 1 Company 1st Artillery, 111
- Point Isabel, 1 Company 4th Artillery, 109
- Fort Brown, 1 Company 2d Artillery 93
- Matamoros, 6 companies, 5 of 10th Infantry, 1 of Mounted, Volunteers, 511
- Camargo, &c. 12 companies, 5 of 10th Infantry, 5 of 3d, Dragoons, 1 of 4th Artillery, 1 of Mounted, Volunteers 1133
- Cerralvo, 4 companies of 16th Infantry 403
- Monterey, 6 companies 16th Infantry 604
- Camp near Monterey, 5 companies 3d Artillery, 2 2d, Dragoons, 1 Mounted Volunteers 413
- Buena Vista, Saltillo, &c., 42 companies, 2191
- Total number of troops 5568

A few weeks since it was supposed that Capt. Raylor and his command had been cut off. The Flag gives the following letter from its correspondent, which assures us of Capt. B.’s safety:

Editors Flag---My letter to you of a recent date gave information of an attack by a large body of Mexicans upon a detachment of twenty-seven Texas rangers, commanded by Capt. Baylor, and the probable destruction of the whole part save three, who had effected their escape and got back to this place. So positive were they in their statements
that no more could have escaped, that I did not hesitate to express to you my belief that all the rest had been killed.

Such was the opinion of ever on here until this morning. Greatly to our relief and much to our astonishment,
composing part of an escort to a train which arrived this morning from Monterey, there came Capt. Baylor and all but four of his reported dead companions. There escape was truly miraculous, and knowing that you would like to have a history of it, I have obtained from Capt. B and Lieut. Lee the full particulars.

After visiting and searching several ranchos without finding anything in them which would convict the inhabitants of being concerned in the late robberies of the trains, Capt. B. left them unmolested and proceeded on to a rancho, called Las Tablos, situated on the river Salinas. Here a large quantity of good were found, and $500 in American money. The goods and money were taken and packed upon the mules, the rancho was burnt, and several Mexicans made prisoners. With the booty and prisoners, Capt. B started for the Monterey road, and had proceeded about a mile and a half from the burnt rancho, when he found himself in the presence of 300 Mexicans, who were ambushed in the chaparral skirting a plain over which the road ran. Between the road and the river was another chaparral thicket extending to the river. The lancers charged before Capt. B could gain the thicket next to the river, and in this charge four of his men were killed. The thicket gains, the rangers dismounted, and protected by the bushes twice repulsed the lancers, killing fifteen, and forced them to retire beyond the reach of their rifles. Taking advantage of this, the rangers left their horses, boot and prisoners, and descending an almost perpendicular bluff, fifty feet high, they crossed the river. Marching by circuitous routes and avoiding ranchos, the party at length reached Monterey, where they were again remounted for service and arrived here this morning as I have mentioned above. The three who made their way to this place and gave the account which I sent you, were separated from the main part by the first charge, and judged that they were all killed, by the firing having ceased, and seeing the enemy in possession of their horses.

Capt. Baylor leaves to day with the train for Camargo and on his return, if I am not misinformed, the Mexicans will hear from him again. Maj. Graham commands the escort going down with the train, and has with him upwards of one hundred dragoons and rangers. With this force he will return and go in search of the robbers who have been so bold of late.

The following is from the Flag of the 25th ult.:

Retaken.--The report which was noticed in last Wednesday’s paper of the taking of some thirty or forty pack mules beyond Cerralvo, by a party of Mexicans, is confirmed. The attack was made between Ramos and Marine, and we regret to learn that a clerk of Mr. Taniver, of this city, by the name of Merchant, was killed. Gen. Lane, who was proceeding to headquarters, in company with the escort immediately collected ten men--his son among the number--who volunteered their services and made after the robbers. The general, being an old back woodsman, soon ascertained their whereabouts, and his party no sooner appeared to the Mexicans, than the latter "vamoosed," leaving the pack mules and all the booty which they had taken, in the hands of the Americans, who delivered the property safely to Monterey. The goods belonged to Mr. Taniver.

Some ten or a dozen cases of yellow fever are reported at Brazos, and several persons have died. The fever originated on board vessels from New Orleans, and is as yet, confined to the crews of those vessels. There is no hospital on Brazos Island, and we understand objection has been made to yellow fever patients entering the hospital at Point Isabel.

Ex-President and General M.B. Lamar, [now Captain Lamar, commanding a company of Texan Rangers, ] was in Mier a few days ago, with a detachment of his command, on his way from Laredo to General Taylor’s camp. Captain Lamar, we understand, is anxious to be relieved from his post at Laredo, and will apply to General Taylor for this purpose. We are happy to hear that he is in excellent health.

From GEN. WOOL’s COMMAND.--We have a series of very interesting letters from our correspondent at Gen. Wool’s headquarters coming down to the 16th of August. We are unable to give any portion before our next regular issue. We must, however, mention the death, of Capt. Fairfax, of the Virginia regiment. He dies at Saltillo on the 14th ult., of fever.

[BRM]
from Monroe county; and a train of sixty five United States wagons, under the charge of Mr. King.

Through Mr. Barnum, Mr. Aubry has news from Chihuahua to the 3d of July. On the 23d of June, Mr. James Aull, the partner of the late Col. S.C. Owens, in an extensive mercantile business, was killed by four Mexicans. They entered his store at Chihuahua, killed him, and took away $5000. Three of the murderers were arrested, and put in prison, to await their trial.

The persons and property of American citizens generally were respected at Chihuahua, though none were-permitted to leave the city, except neutrals, who could bring away their means by paying a duty of six per cent. Mr. Barnum obtained his passport by pretending to be an Irishman.

Gov. Armijo, on his way to Albuquerque, to visit his family, was arrested at Chihuahua, and kept within the limits of that city.

No merchandise of any description was suffered to come into New Mexico by the Southern route.

In New Mexico the territorial election was to have taken place on the 1st and 2d Monday in August. Consul Alvarez, Capt. Angney, and Mr. Kirkland, of St. Louis, were candidates for the Legislature.

The murderers of Brown and others were on trial, and seven of them would certainly be convicted.

Col. Willock's battalion of volunteers, their time having expired, were ordered to leave Taos and return to Santa Fe. Twenty-five citizens remained, and were determined to erect fortifications for their defence. A large number of the women of Taos had determined to follow our army, and not to return to their homes until their husbands would consent to become friendly with the United States.

An insurrection had, a short time previous, commenced, but it was nipped in the bud, and the leaders, terrified at the numbers sent out in opposition to them, fled precipitately to the mountains.

Mr. Aubry met, at different points, nearly all the numerous companies of troops, government trains, and traders, on their way out, going on without difficulty.

[BRM]

RE47v44n39p4c1, September 14, 1847: AMERICAN ARMS VICTORIOUS

THE MEXICANS DEFEATED BY GENERAL SCOTT IN TWO DISTINCT ENGAGEMENTS.

THE CITY OF MEXICO IS AT OUR MERCY.


New Orleans Picayune, Sept. 3rd.

The steamship Fashion, Capt. O’Brady, arrived yesterday evening from Vera Cruz, by the way of Tampico. She left Vera Cruz on the 27th of August, and Tampico on the 29th.

The News of this arrival is the most important we have received in many months from Mexico. Our army has not only advanced to the city of Mexico, but it has had two engagements with the enemy close under the walls of the city and defeated them. The Mexicans have been brought to supplicate a suspension of arms, and General Scott has granted it. The Mexican Congress has been convoked to take into consideration Mr. Trist’s propositions.

The news was received in Vera Cruz on the evening of the 26th ult. By an express courier from Orizaba, who brought down the following letter to Mr. Dimond, the collector at Vera Cruz, to whose courtesy we are indebted for the use of the letter, which we proceed to give:

Orizaba, August 25 th, 1847.

My dear friend—The Mexican mail, which has at last come in, brings the following intelligence, which the copy from the Diario Official del Gobierno. Being of so great importance, I send you this express, courier, who will be with you to morrow about 12 o’clock.

On the 20 th two brigades commanded by General Valencia and Santa Anna, went out to attack the Americans near San Angel. Valencia’s division has been completely defeated, and Santa Anna after the first rencontre, fell back also in disorder to the city.
They immediately after this asked for a suppression of hostilities, and offered to hear the propositions of peace from Mr. Trist.

The next day the minister of foreign relations invited the congress, through the newspapers to meet for that purpose.

These are the great facts which no doubt will bring after them peace. Your, truly.

F.M. Dimond, Eq.

*Another letter say Los Llales de San Angel.

Another express arrived in Vera Cruz on the 26th with letters containing the same news in substance and the following:

[Translated from the Diario Official del Gobierno]

On the 20th August Scott’s troops, who intended marching on Penon, turned away from it and arrived near Tacubaya. As soon as the news was known at Mexico Valencia’s division went out to attack the Americans at Los Llanos de San Angel, and was completely routed. Next came Santa Anna with another division, which shared the same fate after some fighting. The Mexicans retreated to the capital in great disorder, and such was the panic created by their defeat that the minister of foreign relations immediately convoked the congress to take into consideration Mr. Trist’s proposition. A suspension of arms was demanded by the Mexicans and granted. The Americans are around Mexico, but had not entered the city on the 21st.

Such are the meager details which we have of these important events. No couriers from Gen. Scott’s army direct have been able to get through, so far as we can learn. --But from the foregoing statements it is manifest that Gen Scott holds the city of Mexico at his command. That Gen. Scott did not choose to enter the city is manifest. He was doubtless deterred from entering it by a desire to save the pride of the Mexicans when upon the even of important negotiations. It is now supposed that the extraordinary courier which left Vera Cruz for Mexico on the 12th ult, a day in advance of the regular English courier, was the bearer of instructions to the British minister to offer again his mediation; and we think we may safely say that he was instructed to do so if possible before Gen Scott entered the capital. We believe the instructions were positive, and no doubt they were obeyed. Having absolute confidence in this representation of the acts of the English Government we think it reasonable to suppose that Gen Scott was influenced by a knowledge of this mediation to trust again to the efforts of Mr Trist to negotiate a peace, and so spared the Mexicans the humiliation of the armed occupation of their capital. His characteristic humanity may also be presumed to have strongly influenced him to save Mexico from the violence of a hostile occupation. We may recur to this point and to the prospects of peace which some may now entertain.

We have given some of the rumors current in Vera Cruz as to the fall of Mexico. They are evidently founded on imperfect rumors of the real state of facts. The rumors circulated here that Santa Anna and Valencia were taken prisoners we believe are totally unfounded.

In regard to the train under Maj. Lally, the intelligence is favorable. We are informed from a very responsible source that he is known to have passed Perot and been on his way in safety to Puebla. He made some delay in Jalapa. Our readers may be interested in what is said of the movements of the train prior to its leaving Jalapa in the Sun on Anahuac.

The Boletin of Jalapa, says that the train, after having been attacked at Cerro Gordo, retired to the Plan, at the same time the guerrillas also retired. On the following day the train commenced marching for Jalapa, and on Thursday evening, had not yet entered that place. On the 19th it was reported at Jalapa that the Guerrillas would attack our troops near that place, and all the evening the road for a mile was covered with men, women and children, whom curiosity had attracted there. This have rise to a firing of cannon and musketry from our troops, and the citizens succeeded in reaching their home without receiving any injury.

At 11 o’clock on the 19th Major Lally inquired of the alcaldes whether the citizens of Jalapa would commit hostilities against the Americans if the entered, or not. To which the alcaldes answered, that the population was unarmed; but that a number of guerrillas being in the neighborhood he could not take the responsibility of their actions. On the morning of the 20th the train of wagons and the troops entered the city. The Boletin says that the wagons are filled were sick and wounded.

Yesterday [the 24th, ult.] it was rumored in Vera Cruz that Father Jarauta had attacked the train a short distance the other side of Jalapa, but that he had been driven back by our troops, with loss on both sides.

In addition to the foregoing we have been favored with the two notes following, the first of which is a translation from the Spanish:

JALAPA, August 20, 1847.
The American army, after much suffering on the road, has been again attacked at Dos Rios by 700 guerillas, and badly enough treated. Even before the entrance into Jalapa there was some firing. Last night, at 9 o'clock, the Americans entered the city firing and retreated on minus. He was lassoed by one of the guerillas. This morning they sent a flag of truce to the Ayunta Miento (City Council) to ascertain whether they should enter as friends or foes, but without awaiting an answer they began to enter and continued up to 1, P.M., when all got in. There are 76 wagons and 895 men, among whom 317 are wounded and sick. --Major Lally is sick--the horses are worn out--for which reason it is supposed they will remain here some time. --It is said that Father Jarauta will attack them to-night but nothing positive.

The other note is as follows:

JALAPA, August 23, 1847.

Major Lally, with his command, is still here, and will probably remain here some time. The guerillas have all disappeared from this neighborhood, but to where they have gone I am unable to say. Aburto, the guerilla chief, died in Jalapa a few days since, some say of a wound received in one of the attacks on Major Lally's command, and others by fever.

We do not entertain any doubt that the train, as mentioned above, has passed Perote and gone on in safety to Puebla.

Intelligence reached Col. Wilson on the morning of the 17th ult., that Lieut. David Henderson, of Capt. Fairchild's company of dragoons, and his party, who were sent out by Capt. Wells, on the 15th of August, to apprise Major Lally of the approach of reinforcements, were all shot by the guerillas. There is little or no doubt of the correctness of this sad intelligence. Lieut. Henderson was a resident of New Orleans, and but recently embarked as a volunteer in his country's service. He was a printer by profession, a man of courage and enterprise, and his fate will be sincerely lamented by his numerous friends.

It is now very generally believed that Capt. Besacon's company went up with the train under Major Lally.

The following letter gives some facts that we have not before seen, though news promptly reached here of the insurrection on in Yucatan.

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[Correspondence of the Picayune]

Gentlemen--On Sunday last the city was startled with the intelligence from Yucatan that the whole Indian population of that State had risen against the whites, and in some districts massacred entirely the whole population with the exception of the women, whom they only spared for a fate still worse than death. The news was received here by the French Consul in a communication from the French Consul at Campeachy, and the massacre he says was universal, no distinction being made except between Indians and whites. In some of the districts the whites have succeeded in reaching the cities and were there waiting succor. There is good reason to hope they will be able to defend themselves until they are reinforced. At Campeachy they were in expectation of an immediate attack.

The French brigs of war La Peyrouse and La Pilate have, it is understood, but been ordered to Campeachy, and there is a report that Com. Perry is about ordering down one of the vessels of our squadron. There is, perhaps, some exaggeration in the accounts of the extent of the massacre, but of the main facts there is not a doubt. The Indians in Yucatan have been more oppressed than in any other part of Mexico, because the landholders are generally absentees residing in Spain, and entrust the management of their estates to stewards, who to subserve their own interest, grind the unfortunate Peon to the dust.

An express arrived here on Tuesday from Alvarado to Com. Perry, with information that the guerrillas had attacked that place the night before and killed a surgeon and two marines in that town. The steamers Petrita and Scorpion were immediately dispatched to reinforce those in possession of the place.

D.S.

In the Sun of Anahuac, of the 25th ult., we find the following note from Mr. Hayes:

Mr. Editor will you do me the favor to correct an error into which you have inadvertently fallen in the account of the march of the small train under the command of Capt. Wells. In the article you give me the command of the detachment--it was under the command of Corporal Meredith. I accompanied the train on the invitation of Capt. Fairchild, and was of course, temporarily attached to his command; but am entitled to no credit, as I merely performed the usual routine of duty.

I regret the necessity of troubling you, but my silence might be construed into a desire to take credit for acts performed by others.
Respectfully yours,
A.H. HAYES.

The same paper also contains the following orders, no doubt suggested by the escape of Paredes from Vera Cruz:

GENERAL ORDERS, No.10.

U.S. Flag Ship Germantown,
Anton Lizardo, Aug. 18, 1847.

The senior U.S. naval officer, next in rank to the commander-in-chief, who may be stationed at or near Vera Cruz, is hereby instructed to act in conjunction with the senior officer of the U.S. Quartermaster’s Department at Vera Cruz, and the collector of the port, as a commissioner to make the necessary appointment of pilots, officers connected with the duties of the port, light-house keepers, superintendent of signals, &c., to establish regulations for their government, and to have cognizance of all matters connected with the departments above mentioned, being careful not to interfere with the military authorities of the city and castle.

M.C. PERRY
Commanding Home Squadron,

To the senior U.S.N. officer stationed at Vera Cruz.

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GENERAL ORDERS, No.11

U.S. Flag Ship Germantown,
Anton Lizardo, Aug. 18, 1847.

All vessels, excepting army steamers and transports, arriving at ports in Mexico held by the United States forcers, are to be visited by a boat from the general ship of the day, or any single vessel of the squadron, that may be in port for the purpose of tendering the usual compliment of services to foreign vessels of war, and detecting any irregularities in foreign mail steamers or merchant vessels, whether foreign or American.

It is desirable when it be practicable, that the boarding officer should be a lieutenant.

M.C.PERRY,
Commanding Home Squadron.

The following notice from the collector or Vera Cruz is important to travelers:

NOTICE. --Passengers arriving at this port without passports from the American Consul, resident at the port they embark from, will not be allowed to leave the vessel, and the master of any vessel permitting such passengers to land will be fined $500 for the each and every passenger landed and the vessel held responsible for the same.

F.M. DIMOND, Collector.

Collector’s Office, Vera Cruz, Aug. 25, 1847.

The following passengers came over the Fashion:


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From the N.O. Delta, 3d inst.

Extract of a letter from an officer at Vera Cruz under date of the 27th August, 1847

"Your correspondents have doubtless informed you that Gen Scott reached the city of Mexico on the (I have not the date at hand. ) Worth went around behind the city, and cut off the water. Valencia, with a larger force sallied out of the city, met Gen Scott, fought a little while, and then vamosed into the city. Santa Anna then brought out a force and fought some time, but retreated into the city in great disorder--convoked the Congress, and sent out for a cessation of hostilities, expressing himself willing to treat with Mr. Trist. Hostilities ceased--Scott surrounding the city. There is no doubt of the correctness of this information. Some think piece will soon be established, but nobody thinks so in Vera Cruz. Maj Lally was heard from beyond Perote, on his way to Puebla, not molested."
The following from our regular Vera Cruz correspondent, was scribbled off very hastily, just at the Fashion was about to leave:

August 27, 1847:

EDITORS DELTA--Every conceivable variety of rumor relative to the movements of the Great General and his generals, have been afloat for several days past, but none having the color of authenticity about them. I omit sending them to you. This morning, however, a rumor found its way from the interior, which leads to the belief that Scott has had two most decisive battles, in both of which the American arms were successful. The first of these was with Valencia who hid his shard of the amusement with the advance guard; and the other was between the General himself and Santa Anna. The best and most authentic information I have received is, that the armies of both Valencia and Santa Anna have been dispersed; that the city is in the state of confusion and panic, and Congress has been summoned together, to take into consideration the propositions of Mr. Trist. That these rumors are better founded than any that have been received for some time I have no doubt. But in a day or two more, when the regular news comes here from Mexico, we shall either confirm it, or other wise.

P.S. --I have just time to inform you that the prisoners taken from Well's train, (Lieut. Henderson an 13 men,) have been, according to a Mexican who arrived here this morning, SHOT. He says he saw them shot.

D. Harden, of the Louisiana Battalion, died this morning, after a protracted illness. He will be buried this afternoon. Capt. White's company is still at Tampico.

Official Report of Capt. Wells

CAMP BAGARA, Aug. 19, 1847.

Sir--I have the honor to report for the information of the Colonel Commanding, that on the morning of the 13th inst., in obedience to his orders, I proceeded, with my command, composed of Captain Haile's company 14th Infantry, E company of the 12th Infantry, commanded by Lieut. Wyche, and Captain Fairchild's company of Louisiana Rangers, in all seven officers and two hundred and one rank and file. The train was composed of two ambulances, each drawn by four good horses, fit for the service in which they were employed, and nice wagons drawn by half broken down but still unbroken Mexican mules, with which it would have been difficult for me to have fulfilled my orders even I there had been no enemy to contend with. The commanding officer was not mounted and was under the mortifying necessity of dismounting a dragon and taking a horse when circumstances were such that he could not possible perform his duty on foot. Such was the command with which my orders required me to traverse a country and pass a bridge and fortification which no less than eight hundred men, supported by artillery, had heretofore attempted. I had not proceeded four miles from camp when it became necessary to throw out a part of my provisions; and it was then only with the aid of my infantry, and the extraordinary exertions of the active and efficient wagon master (Mr. Booley) who accompanied the train that the wagons could be forced up the sand hill. I reached Santa Fe and encamped for the night. The next morning I pursued the march, the enemy appearing on the flank, but evidently with no intention of attacking us. A few shots were exchanged between them and Captain Fairchild's company, who had left the road to give chase. I arrived at Juento del Rio about nine o'clock at night and encamped. Here I judged myself to be within six miles of Major Lally's camp. The next morning I directed Captain Fairchild to detach an officer (Lieutenant Henderson) and thirteen men with the orders to proceed to Major Lally's camp, and report my advance, provided he could prudently do so and the distance did not exceed six miles, but by no means to go beyond that distance, but to return and report the condition of the road to me. This command was accompanied by Dr. Cooper of the army and two of the Georgia Volunteers. I regret to inform you that I have not since heard of this detachment, and I am ignorant of its fate. I pursued the march until about ten o'clock, with difficulty getting the mules along, and at Pass La Beja, whilst the train was on the bridge, and the troops were getting water, the enemy appeared in force in front, on the hill, and commenced a fire upon us; some of the shots were also fired from the rear. --After the necessary preparations were made, I detached Capt. Haile with his company through the chaparral to gain the flank, and if possible the rear. This service was promptly and gallantly performed, whilst the command was ascending the hill. He gave them a fire which put them into immediate flight. I ordered Lieut. Morrelle, of Capt. Fairchild's company, with twenty men mounted to hold the horses near the bridge until the train had ascended the hill. The rear, however, was not attacked at this place. We continued our march, dispersing the enemy before us, until dark; when, as the train was passing a bridge within three miles of Puerto Nacional, the enemy opened his fire from the hills, within two hundred yards of the command, the balls generally ranging too high; the fire was so promptly returned that they were soon driven from their position, and, I think, with considerable loss. --Here, as I had previously intended, I ordered the troops to encamp. The wagons were placed in a safe position, the white covers taken off, the horses placed under shelter, and everything disposed for a quiet night's rest, which my men so much required. At three o'clock next morning I had the men under arms, and detached Lieut. Wyche with a part of his company through the chaparral, to gain a position on the hill side to be ready when the enemy should advance to attack. Just at daybreak they appeared on the hill with a drum beating and firing into our camp. I did not return the fire, but ordered Capt. Haile with his company to pass up the hill to the left of the road and again their flank. They continued their music for about twenty minutes, when Capt. Haile suddenly fired upon them and was after them with the bayonet, much to the amusement of our troops, who could see them from the opposite side of the bridge. Lieut.
Wyche had gained his position and was lying in wait, but they did not approach sufficiently near. I held the hill with my infantry until the train was ready to move. I was now within about three miles of Puento Nacional. The enemy had attacked us three times in force, and was always routed, with the loss, on our part of a man. The only loss sustained was on horse wounded and three muskets rendered unserviceable by musket balls. It was so reported to me this morning by the wagon master that one of the mule teams could proceed no farther; I was compelled in consequence to destroy my tents and leave one wagon. The other mules I had no hope of getting much beyond Puento Nacional, and had determined that if I did not find Maj. Lally near there, to destroy all the wagons and property, and with four days provisions in the haversacks, and the mail and ammunition, and some light baggage in the ambulances, to join him by forced march. Everything being in readiness I commenced the march about half-past nine in the morning. Before this time I was fully satisfied that the enemy occupied Puento Nacional in force. The tracks of unshod horses in the road left no doubt of that. My orders were positive; no direction was allowed me, and according to my ideas of military service, I felt bound to proceed in the execution of my order, until it was probed without the possibility of a doubt that it could not be carried out. My force was too small to detach any part of it to endeavor to turn the position. I accordingly made my disposition so as to sacrifice the least possible number of my troops. With thirty picked men under the command of Lt. Cheney, 14th Infantry, extended to six paces, I descended towards the bridge. This detachment was ordered to keep at least one hundred yards in front of the mounted men. After the mounted men with some interval, marched Lieut. Wyche's company; next came the train followed by Capt. Haile's company, who were ordered to close on and protect it, in case it should be charged. The rear guard, commanded by Lieut. Morrelle, of Captain Fairchild's company, followed after Capt. Haile's company. I halted the command on the slope of the hill, continuing to [illegible] myself, with Lieut. Cheney's command, hoping to draw the enemy's fire, without further ex[illegible] my troops. All was, however still--nothing could be seen. I directed the advance to move upon the bridge, ordered up the main body, and took my position in person near the bridge, where I could direct the advance, or order a retreat as one might prove practicable, or the other necessary. The rear of the command had scarcely got in motion, when the enemy opened their fire from the forts and heights with muskets, escopets, and artillery, and shoved themselves in such numbers and position, that I perceived at once that in passing the bridge, they must necessarily inflict upon me such a loss in killed and wounded, that it would be impracticable for me to advance or retire. I therefore directed the fire to be returned, and the retreat commenced; and withdrew my troops from under the fire of this strong place, with the loss of only four men killed, and one man and two horses wounded. One of the ambulances was quickly turned and gained the top of the hill--the other, in the act of turning, had one of his horses killed, and could not be brought off. The mules were of course more unmanageable than ever, and as soon as the enemy perceived that we were retiring the concentrated their whole fire upon the train. Half the mules were almost instantly shot down and the teamsters compelled to abandon their wagons. The enemy now displayed a strong force outside the fort, and was moving to gain our rear. I now moved off my command, which had been halted at the top of the hill, just beyond the effective range of the enemy's guns, and abandoned the train, which I could not possibly have brought off, nearly all the mules having been either killed or wounded; and to have blown up the ammunitions or saved anything from the wagons would have been to sacrifice men, which it was not evident I had not to spare, and would have compelled to leave my wounded, as I had not the means of transporting them. All the property, as well the personal baggage of the officers, was lost, and some despatches

Which I ordered Capt Haile to keep in his trunk as the safest place, were also lost. The mail intended for the army was, however, saved, and the only wounded man brought from the field.

The enemy's force occupying the forts I could not estimate with any degree of accuracy; it was certainly several times my own, and there was also a considerable force outside. Nothing was left now for me to do but force my way through the enemy in the rear and return by rapid marches to this place. The enemy appeared on every side during the day, and I was compelled to proceed with the greatest caution, always holding one hill until my infantry gained possession of the next in front, by a fatiguing march through the chaparral. This laborious duty fell principally upon Capt. Haile. I continued my march at night, but after dark I met with no further opposition from the enemy, and arrived the next morning at Santa Fe.

The next day I arrived and encamped at this place. In conclusion, I must be permitted speak of the officers who so ably sustained me on this trying march; Capt. Haile, of the 14th Infantry, I had frequently to detach on laborious and dangerous service, and it was universally performed in a manner that called forth my warmest admiration. Lieutenant Wyche, 12th Infantry, though sick, was with his company, and rendered important service. Lt. Cheney, 14th Infantry, who commanded the advance on the 16th, I was compelled to glance in a most dangerous position at the bridge, and his coolness and bravery were conspicuous. To Lieut Morrelle of Capt Fairchild's company, and the twenty brave volunteers who composed his command, my thanks are also particularly due. I had assigned him the duty of holding heights and protecting the rear. He selected his positions with judgment, and I frequently saw from the front his men charging and firing upon the guerrillas who were annoying the rear. Mr Hayes, of N. Orleans, accompanied the command as an amateur, and was always a volunteer whenever dangerous or difficult service was to be performed.

I am, sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

J.M. Wells,
Capt. 12th Infantry, Com'dg Detachment.

LIEUT. ARTHUR,
A.A. Adjutant General, Vera Cruz
The following is the report of Capt. Wells, 12th infantry, who commanded the detachment that was sent out on the 13th August, from Vera Cruz, to reinforce Major Lally's command, which was attacked by a large force of guerrillas near the National Bridge; we find it in the N. Orleans Delta:

Sir--I have the honor to report for the information of the Colonel Commanding, that on the morning of the 13th inst., in obedience to his orders, I proceeded, with my command, composed of Captain Haile's company 14th Infantry, E company of the 12th Infantry, commanded by Lieut. Wyche, and Captain Fairchild's company of Louisiana Rangers, in all seven officers and two hundred and one rank and file. The train was composed of two ambulances, each drawn by four good horses, fit for the service in which they were employed, and nice wagons drawn by half broken down but still unbroken Mexican mules, with which it would have been difficult for me to have fulfilled my orders even if there had been no enemy to contend with. The commanding officer was not mounted and was under the mortifying necessity of dismounting a dragoon and taking a horse when circumstances were such that he could not possibly perform his duty on foot. Such was the command with which my orders required me to traverse a country and pass a bridge and fortification which no less than eight hundred men, supported by artillery, had heretofore attempted. I had not proceeded four miles from camp when it became necessary to throw out a part of my provisions; and it was then only with the aid of my infantry, and the extraordinary exertions of the active and efficient wagon master (Mr. Booley) who accompanied the train that the wagons could be forced up the sand hill. I reached Santa Fe and encamped for the night. The next morning I pursued the march, the enemy appearing on the flank, but evidently with no intention of attacking us. A few shots were exchanged between them and Captain Fairchild's company, who had left the road to give chase. I arrived at Jueto del Rio about nine o'clock at night and encamped. Here I judged myself to be within six miles of Major Lally's camp. The next morning I directed Captain Fairchild to detach an officer (Lieutenant Henderson) and thirteen men with the orders to proceed to Major Lally's camp, and report my advance, provided he could prudently do so and the distance did not exceed six miles, but by no means to go beyond that distance, but to return and report the condition of the road to me. This command was accompanied by Dr. Cooper of the army and two of the Georgia Volunteers. I regret to inform you that I have not since heard of this detachment, and I am ignorant of its fate. I pursued the march until about ten o'clock, with difficulty getting the mules along, and at Pass La Beja, whilst the train was on the bridge, and the troops were getting water, the enemy appeared in force in front, on the hill, and commenced a fire upon us; some of the shots were also fired from the rear. --After the necessary preparations were made, I detached Capt. Haile with his company through the chaparral to gain the flank, and if possible the rear. This service was promptly and gallantly performed, whilst the command was ascending the hill. He gave them a fire which put them into immediate flight. I ordered Lieut. Morrelle, of Capt. Fairchild's company, with twenty men mounted to hold the horses near the bridge until the train had ascended the hill. The rear, however, was not attacked at this place. We continued our march, dispersing the enemy before us, until dark; when, as the train was passing a bridge within three miles of Puerto Nacional, the enemy opened his fire from the hills, within two hundred yards of the command, the balls generally ranging too high; the fire was so promptly returned that they were soon driven from their position, and, I think, with considerable loss. --Here, as I had previously intended, I ordered the troops to encamp. The wagons were placed in a safe position, the white covers taken off, the horses placed under shelter, and everything disposed for a quiet night's rest, which my men so much required. At three o'clock next morning I had the men under arms, and detached Lieut. Wyche with a part of his company through the chaparral, to gain a position on the hill side to be ready when the enemy should advance to attack. Just at daybreak they appeared on the hill with a drum beating and firing into our camp. I did not returen the fire, but ordered Capt. Haile with his company to pass up the hill to the left of the road and again their flank. They continued their music for about twenty minutes, when Capt. Haile suddenly fired upon them and was after them with the bayonet, much to the amusement of our troops, who could see them from the opposite side of the bridge. Lieut. Wyche had gained his position and was lying in wait, but they did not approach sufficiently near. I held the hill with my infantry until the train was ready to move. I was now within about three miles of Puerto Nacional. The enemy had attacked us three times in force, and was always routed, with the loss, on our part of a man. The loss sustained was on horse wounded and three muskets rendered unserviceable by musket balls. It was so reported to me this morning by the wagon master that one of the mule teams could proceed no farther; I was compelled in consequence to destroy my tents and leave one wagon. The other mules I had no hope of getting much beyond Puerto Nacional, and had determined that if I did not find Maj. Lally near there, to destroy all the wagons and property, and with four days provisions in the haversacks, and the mail and ammunition, and some light baggage in the ambulances, to join him by forced march. Everything being in readiness I commenced the march about half-past nine in the morning. Before this time I was fully satisfied that the enemy occupied Puerto Nacional in force. The tracks of unshod horses in the road left no doubt of that. My orders were positive; no direction was allowed me, and according to my ideas of military service, I felt bound to proceed in the execution of my order, until it was probed without the possibility of a doubt that it could not be carried out. My force was too small to detach any part of it to endeavor to turn the position. I accordingly made my disposition so as to sacrifice the least possible number of my troops. With thirty picked men under the command of Lt. Cheney, 14th Infantry, extended to six paces, I descended towards the bridge. This detachment was ordered to keep at least one hundred yards in front of the mounted men. After the mounted men with some interval, marched Lieut. Wyche's company; next came the train followed by Capt. Haile's company, who were ordered to close on and protect it, in case it should be charged. 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I am, sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J.M. Wells,
Capt. 12th Infantry, Com'dg Detachment.

LIEUT. ARTHUR,
A.A. Adjutant General, Vera Cruz

*These troops were entirely undrilled.

- Intelligence reached Col. Winston, on the 27th ult., the correctness of which he did not doubt, that the whole party were taken prisoners and shot.

- Capt. Wells lost from his company 1 killed and 1 wounded/ Capt. Haile lost 2 killed and one man disabled for life by a fall. 1 teamster was killed, the ball that killed him passing through the body of a mule and then entirely through his own. The names of the two men killed in Capt. Haile's company were Begaur, of St. Louis, and Sojourney, of Shreveport, La.

!!The force in, and immediately around the fort on the left hand height, was estimated by the officers present at not less than 1000. There were several hundred on the other hills.

Mr. Hayes, formerly of the Delta. He is spoken of in the warmest terms by the officers of the detachment, for his coolness, gallantry and cheerfulness in the hour of peril.

[BRM]
battles of Couterras and Churubusco. With Disturnell's enlarged map of the Valle of the City of Mexico before us, we traced Gen. Scott's victorious march from Ayotla to the scenes of his late victories, and rose from Kendall's vivid sketch with the new admiration for the generalship of Scott, and increased wonder and respect for the invincibility of the American arms and energy of character—Kendall's masterly narrative, together with all the details which we find in all the New Orleans papers, we lay before our readers this morning. --We give it preference over everything else, satisfied that all speculations of our own would be thrown away, when matter of such stirring interest fills the thoughts of the whole community.

Nor shall we attempt to "fight the battles over again," nor to fill up the gaps in the narrative which are yet left open. The official accounts will soon present all the facts, and, for the present, the sketches before us present abundant materials for thought. Once more the dark myrtle is rightly entwined with the glittering laurel. The country, while rejoicing over the triumphs of our arms, the bright precursor (as we hope and believe) of peace, will deeply deplore the havoc made in the ranks of our gallant army. The memories of Thornton and Johnson of Virginia, Butler of South Carolina, and the other noble spirits who died for their country, will be enshrined with immortal honor in the national heart.

We turn from the gloomy picture to the glorious achievements of our arms. These two last victories of Scott will rank favorably with the other deeds of the campaign—and they point, unerringly, we think, to the cheering rain-bow of Peace. Mexico must be now satisfied, that all resistance to our arms must be desperate indeed—and the very terms of the armistice clearly indicate that negotiation and peace are the objects heartily desired by the rulers of Mexico. But our readers can draw their own conclusions from the facts before them.

Many persons seem to imagine that General Scott did not have more than 6,000 or 7,000 troops in the field, arrayed against 30,000 Mexicans. --While it is stated that, in one of the engagements only 6,000 Americans routed from 15,000 to 20,000 Mexicans, it is naturally inferred, from what we know of the strength of Scott's army, and the current of events, that this number represents only a portion of his forces, and that another division was posted in a different quarter. --We are satisfied that Gen. Scott must have had with him at least 12,000 men.

The Mexican loss, in killed and wounded, is immense; said to be about five thousand. Our loss, in killed and wounded, is supposed to be about 1,100. The number of officers reported killed, viz: 12 Regulars and 4 volunteers, is small, compared with other actions. The American officers wounded, as reported, are 45 Regulars, and 21 Volunteers, viz: New York regiment 10, South Carolina regiment 11.

But all doubt on this and other points will soon be cleared up by the official accounts—and we forbear all speculations. The victories have been glorious and astounding—and some of the incidents romantic and highly honorable to the American character.

We but express the general feeling, we are satisfied, when we declare that Persifer F. Smith, of New Orleans, Colonel of the Mounted Regiment and Brigader General by brevet, won his full share of glory on the 20th August. He fought bravely under Gen. Taylor in Florida—was recommended by Gen. Taylor as commander of the Louisiana Volunteers, when they were called for on the first breaking out of the war—and received the honorable office of Colonel of the Mounted Regiment, at the hands of the President. He is spoken of in the highest terms, for his military knowledge and noble qualities. But all, we doubt not, did their whole duty on this grand occasion.

By order of the Executive, a salute of one hundred guns was fired at 3 o'clock yesterday, by Capt. Nimmo's Fayette Artillery. We have never seen our city more excited.

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On Tuesday night the Secretaries of State of War received by Express the interesting letters, to be found below, confirming the glorious news. There were no despatches from General Scott. It will be seen that the commission to negotiate has been appointed, and at its head Herrara, supposed to be a friend of peace. Mr. Trist writes that they had already had two meetings, and were to have a third, perhaps a last interview, on the 30th August. The Union looks upon the City of Mexico as at the mercy of our army, and thinks that they late rout has induced the enemy to enter into negotiations for peace.

Santa Anna has published a manifesto, in which he acknowledged the defeat, but makes a wretched attempt to throw the blame on an offending general, believed to be Gen. Valencia, who, he says, disobeyed his order in advancing, instead of taking a safe position at Coyoacan, and, afterwards, in not retreating to San Angel. He says that Gen. Scott might have reached the capital but for his (Santa Anna's) resistance to the advanced corps; and that on Gen. Scott's proposing an armistice, he concluded to accede to it. --[This we cannot yet believe.] He talks of the "national honor!"

But we have only time to insert the very interesting letters from the Union:

VERA CRUZ, August 31, 1847.

"SIR: I have the honor and satisfaction to inform you that our army has again been crowned with victory; 31,000 Mexicans engaged, with Gen. Santa Anna at their head, our little army, who, with the bayonet, drove them, in two hours, to the gates of the city."
Commissioners were immediately appointed, and negotiations are going on. The protocol appears on the face of it to be dictated by our commissioners. I had an English copy of it to send to you, but Colonel Wilson, for some cause best known to himself, begged it to send to the President.

"I send despatches which I received from Mr. Trist, to the hon. James Buchana. I cannot conclude without congratulating you, sir, on the mighty conquest, for I feel assured it will result in peace. Paredes will, in my opinion, hurry the conclusion of it. He ought never to have got out, after he got into the city; nevertheless, I firmly believe it will hasten a peace. Valencia made his escape with only two companions to Toluca, where he pronounced against Santa Anna and peace.

"I enclose a copy of a letter which I have received (from a very distinguished officer of the army. )

"With great respect, your obedient servant.
Hon. WILLIAM L. MARCY,
Secretary of War, Washington City.

"I am pleased to add, that the following named persons are the commissioners on the part of Mexico; and more so, because they are considered most friendly disposed for peace, viz;

General Herrera,

Sor. Cuoto, Lawyer.

General Mora y Villamil,

Sor. Atristain, Lawyer,

Sor. Arroya, Secretary (formerly secretary of legation the United States.

"I have just seen a letter from one of the most respectable English houses to their house here; they say that the Mexicans are so out generalled and so cornered, that they must make peace; but that Gen. Scott says if they do not at once, he will occupy the city with a territorial government--place 5000 troops to open the roads, &c. They speak of the Americans with admiration.

"The country people were already commencing to supply the army with every thing."

The following letter is from a highly distinguished officer in our army, who had a principal part in the battle:

TACUBAYA, Aug. 26, 1847

My dear sir:--I owe it to your many acts of kindness to inform you that our arms are crowned with a glorious victory. After many minor combats, but always against very superior numbers, with about 7000 we encountered the enemy’s army, headed by Santa Anna, at Churubusco, 3 or 4 miles from the gates of the capital, strongly entrenched. To this position we could only get two light batteries, 8 pieces. The enemy had much artillery and 32,000 men. After two hours of bloody conflict, mainly with the bayonet, we carried every thing. The rout was complete, and the pursuit carried to the gates of the city.--Our loss is short of 1,000--the enemy’s 5,000 including many distinguished men, generals and civilians.

In haste, your friend.

The following is an extract of a private letter from a Captain in the army, (who witnessed the battle, ) addressed to his correspondent at Vera Cruz, and enclosed to the Secretary of War:

TACUBAYA, Aug. 28

"You have no doubt been made aware, that, during our stay in Puebla, the General-in-chief and Mr. Trist received several visits from the British Secretary of Legation in the city of Mexico, relative to peace with this country, so that some of the Americans actually believed we were going to have a treat of peace signed at once, but all this vanished as soon as Santa Anna got the people a little united, and a large force collected in the capital to resist the enemy; and General Scott, in the meantime, having received reinforcements, continued his march on the capital on the 7th inst. On reconnoitering the hill of Penon, three leagues from the city, which was fortified, the General-in-chief concluded not to attack it, and the troops were marched round the south side of Lake Chalco to Talpam, or San Augustin, where the last arrived on the 19th inst. One the afternoon of that day an action was commenced by the troops under Gens. Twiggs and Pillow, about four miles from Talpam, on the road to San Angel, where the Mexicans held a strong position, with about twenty pieces of canon and six thousand men, under Gen. Valencia, at a placed called Cautreros, and on some heights called the Lomas of Magdalena.

"The fire was kept up until night with great vivacity by the Mexicans; as they were at a considerable distance from
their adversaries, who fired but little during the afternoon, and of course suffered much from the fire of the Mexican artillery; but at break of day on the 20th, Gen. Smith surrounded one flank of the enemy, got in their rear, made over 3,000 prisoners, took all their artillery, and killed 600 or 700 of them. The Americans under Twiggs and Pillow continued their march to San Angel and Coyoacan, so as to get in rear of San Antonio, on the Tlalpam road to Mexico, where the Mexicans were also fortified, while Gen. Worth advanced on San Antonio, which the enemy hastily abandoned and retreated to a bridge over a stream of water that crossed the road, where they had a large fortification; and on the left of the road, a few hundred yards, another fortification with a large convent well garrisoned and fortified also. Here the American forces all neared each other, and were fired on with great vivacity by the Mexicans for about an hour. The troops of Gen. Worth drove the enemy out of the works about the bridge, and pursued them along the main road; and Gen. Shields attacked a hacienda a little further on, and routed them from there; and after about two hours, the battle of Churubusco was ended—in which the enemy had about 20,000 men, and commanded by Santa Anna in person, who retreated through Mexico to Guadalupe, as he thought, of course, the Americans would enter the city. Gen. Worth slept in advance that night, about a league and a half from the city; and the next day came to this place, where the General-in-chief arrived also."

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The Union contains the following qualifications of the armistice agreed to:

TACUBARA, Aug. 23, 1847.

Considered, approved, and ratified, with the express understanding that the word “supplies,” as used the second time, without qualification in the seventh article of this military convention—American copy—shall be take to mean (as in both the British and American armies) arms munitions, clothing, equipments, subsistence (for men,) forage, money, and in general all the wants of an army. That word “supplies” in the Mexican copy, is erroneously translated “viveres” instead of “recursos.”

WINFIELD SCOTT
General-in-chief of the U.S.A.

[Translation]

Ratified, suppressing the 9th article, and explaining the 4th, to the effect that the temporary peace of this armistice shall be observed in the capital and 28 leagues around it; and agreeing that the word SUPPLIES shall be translated RECURSOS; and that it comprehends everything which the army may have need, except arms and munitions.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY U.S. OF AMERICA

Tacubaya, August 24, 1847.

I accept and ratify the foregoing qualification added by the President General of the Mexican Republic.

WINFIELD SCOTT.

A true copy of the original.

G.W. LAY, U.S.A.,
Military Secretary to the General in Chief.

[BRM]

RE47v44n40p1c3, September 17, 1847: A LEAF FROM THE PAST

The N.O. Delta contains an interesting anecdote in regard to a prediction made by General Scott:

"Which Gen. Scott was in this city, on his way to the seat of war, he was frequently interrogated by curious persons as to his plans and designs. --But the old General generally as close as an oyster. There as, however, on purpose of his which made no effort ot conceal, and that was, his determination to be in the Capital by the 1st of September. "I shall dictate peace to them in their Capital, on the 1st September, 1847."--The old General is certainly shaving it very close, but we believe he will redeem his promise."

[BRM]
A correspondent of the New Orleans Picayune writes as follows from Buena Vista, under date of Aug. 16. The touching tribute to Captain Fairfax is in fine taste. We deeply regret to see that any portion of the Virginia volunteers were concerned in the “emeute” with Col. Paine of the North Carolina Regiment:

In camp here matters go on much the same as usual, and the health of the troops continues about the same. It gives me pan to announce that the Virginia regiment has lost one of its most accomplished Captains, Virginia one of her most worthy and respected sons, in the person of Capt. Henry Fairfax, of Fairfax county, Virginia, who died in Saltillo evening before last, of fever, at the age of forty-three years. He commanded the 13th company, and came out after the regiment had been some time in the country. He had received a military education at West Point, but did not remain in the army after he graduated. A brave, chivalrous spirit, and an ardent desire to give his country the benefit of his services in the field, induced him to sever the ties that bound him to the domestic hearth, around which gathered an affectionate wife and smiling children, and led on his neighbors to a distant country; and now in the prime of life, with the prospect so gratifying to a soldier, of marching on to meet the enemy and wielding the good right arm for victory, he has met that enemy against whom none can combat—Death! Who has taken him prisoner and borne him to the grave, where legions have been borne before. --Although it has been denied him to die upon the field of battle, his death is not the less glorious that it was a peaceful one. Friends watched over his sick bed, cared for his wants and wept over his demise. His remains will be conveyed to the States to-day by two of his late companions in arms, Lieuts. Fry and Donnan, who had resigned their commissioners and were about returning home. Two of the Virginia companies stationed in town, and the staff and company officers of the regiment, all who can leave camp, will escort the remains to the edge of the town. --Gen. Wool has also signified his intention being present with his staff upon the occasion, as a token of respect for the deceased.

Yours, &c.,
J.E.D.

BUENA VISTA, August 16, 1847.

An occurrence took place last evening which I had not purposed relating, learning that something more distressing might grow out of it, but as everything seems quiet now, I will briefly relate the circumstance. Col. Paine, of the North Carolina regiment, from the rigid system of discipline which he has pursued, has become very unpopular in his own regiment and in the Mississippi and Virginia regiments, with which he has been throw in connection as officer of the day. Many insults have been offered him by members of the two latter, and this feeling had gradually been ripening till it came to a head last night. A crowd assembled about different tents of about thirty men, some his own and some privates of the Virginia regiment, and subsequently stone assembled in front of his lieutenant colonel’s tent, who was sick and vomiting, and indulged in brutal laughter at his illness. These crowds were dispersed and two men ordered to be taken to the provost guard. The men of one company ordered to perform the duty refused, but were compelled to obedience by the colonel. -- One of them, however, refused to take his arms until the colonel held his sword over him and threatened to cut him down if he refused. -- That company having evinced a determination not to obey, were ordered to the rear of the colonel’s tent and obeyed contrary to his expectations, and were dismissed after answering to their names. Subsequently, quite late in the evening, another posse assembled in front of the colonel’s tent, but as he came in sight they began to disperse in different directions. He ordered them to halt, but they refused. The colonel then cried out that he would fire if they did not halt, and ordered them again, and upon their refusing discharged his pistol into the crowd, bringing down two men, wounding one of them mortally. This prompt and decisive step quelled the mutiny, and the colonel reported Gen. Cushing and Gen. Wool, who approved of his conduct. -- They both repaired to the camp, but everything was quiet. I regret to say that the colonel did not receive any very unanimous support from his officers on the occasion. The man who was so badly shot died last night. I have no time to write more, for the mail is on the point of closing.

J.E.D.

I have spent not a little time in endeavoring to collect a list of the killed and wounded officers in the great battles of the 20th, not a difficult matter, inasmuch as the different divisions are quartered in villages several miles apart. The entire loss in the division of Gen. Twiggs was 266, in that of Gen. Worth 339, in that of Gen. Quitman (Shield’s brigade), 240, in that of Gen. Pillow 212.

The New York Volunteers suffered severely, but not in proportion to the regiment from South Carolina. Col. Butler, who commanded the latter, behaved in the most gallant manner. In advancing upon the hacienda attacked by Gen. Shields, at the head of his regiment, his horse was shot dead. He then advanced on foot until he received a severe wound in the leg, which caused him to fall. -- In a fainting condition he was carried to the rear, but soon rallying he again advanced to the head of his regiment, when a musket ball struck him in the head and he died almost instantly. South Carolina lost on of her bravest and most generous spirits when Col. Butler fell.
I have not had time to obtain a full list of all the killed and wounded in the different divisions of the army, but shall endeavor to do it at the earliest opportunity. A great proportion of our loss—perhaps nineteenth—was in the attack upon the strong works at Churubusco—Santa Anna’s second line as he called it. As I have previously stated, no reconnaissance whatever of this strong position had been made. The brilliant success of the morning had inspired both officers and men with the highest enthusiasm, and they rushed pell mell into the position the post exposed, and where they were mowed down by hundreds.

It will be seen that our own loss falls short of eleven hundred—about 6,000 men were actively engaged. —When the works of the enemy are examined, one naturally wonders that Gen. Scott’s entire force was not swept away. Put his army in the same position and since the days of the viceroys there have not been Mexicans enough to born to drive them out.

White flags are now constantly passing and repassing between the Palace here and the Palace in Mexico. At this game the Mexicans can beat us. Yours, &c.

G.W.K.

TACUBAYA, August 25, 1847.

The armistice has finally been settled and signed, and I do not tell half the story when I say that it had produced universal dissatisfaction in the army—in the entire army. In the first place let me give you, from recollection, its main provisions, and then I will give you an idea as to the mode by which it was brought about.

The articles of the armistice first go on to say, that hostilities between the two armies are at once to cease., in order that the peace propositions of the United States may be listened to, and that they, the hostilities, are not to be renewed until either commander shall give the other forty eight hours’ notice; that in the meantime all work or fortifications on both sides shall cease, and that no further reinforcements or either party shall be allowed to approach nearer than twenty-eight leagues of the capital; that no persons other than citizens shall be allowed to either the city, and they only with passports from the Mexican authorities; that certain persons of the American army shall be allowed to either the city to borrow money and purchase supplies, but no officers are allowed to pass in except upon special business and under a flag. Such are about the amount of the different articles of the armistice, signed on our part by Gens. Quitman, Smith and Pierce, and on the part of the Mexicans by Gens Mors and Gujano.

Let me now give my speculations as to the mode by which this armistice was brought about. On the night of the 10th inst. After the great Mexican army was thoroughly beaten, broken to pieces and routed, Mr Thornton, or the English legation, accompanied by the British Consul, Mr Mackintosh— a man who regards Santa Anna, hates the Yankees and never moves unless his own ends are to be gained—came out to the city post haste on a visit to Gen. Scott. The next morning Gen Mors, accompanied by Mr Arrangoiz, who was formerly Mexican consul in New Orleans, came out, also on a visit to Gen Scott, and on the same day the latter wrote a letter to the Mexican authorities, hinting an armistice between the two armies with a view of opening negotiations for a peace. This proposition was eagerly jumped at by the Mexican Minister of War, at the instigation of Santa Anna of course, and the result has been a treaty of armistice in which, according to rumor nearly every thing the Mexicans asked for was conceded. I know nothing of the proceedings of this commission except from hearsay. There are many who believe that Gen. Scott has been compelled to adopt this policy, at the threshold of the Mexican capital by Mr Trist and his instructions, but there are few, and I must acknowledge myself among the number, who think that a peace honorable and satisfactory to the U.S. is to grow out of this matter. The whole affair, on the face of it, looks like on of Santa Anna’s old tricks to gain time to plan some new scheme of trickery and dissimulation, and as he has British influence to back him he will be likely to carry out what he undertakes. I have always said and always believed that Santa Anna was favorable to peace—to peace from policy only—and still believe he may endeavor to bring it about; but great as is his power, like a sail vessel he can only go with the wind and current, and has too many and too powerful enemies to carry out his present schemes, at least without strong assistance from the United States.

Santa Anna accuses Valencia of having lost the capital by not obeying his orders to abandon Coutreras on the 19th, and has ordered him to be shot wherever found; on the other hand, Valencia accuses Santa Anna of having lost every thing by not coming to his assistance, and it is now said that he has pronounced against him and peace with the Yankees at Toluca. Thus matters stand between these great Mexican leaders. Again, it is reported that Paredes is advancing from Oriziba, which place he successfully reached from Vera Cruz, breathing nothing but death and utter annihilation to the infamous North Americans, while it is further stated that Bustamente is at or near the capital with 6000 men, breathing the same amiable sentiments—The papers of the capital are almost silent about every thing—they do not even give an account of their terrible defeat.

The number of deserters and other foreigners found fighting against us the other day, and who are now prisoners, is 72. A court martial, with Col. Garland as president, is now in session here, for the trial of a portion of this precious set of scoundrels, and it is to be hoped they may have full justice done them. Riley, the Irishman who commanded the battalion of San Patricio, as it is called, openly makes his brags of what he has done, and says he expects no mercy.

Gen. Scott was himself wounded on the 20th inst. By a grape shot. It struck him on the outside of the leg below the
knee, and gave so little a pain at the time that he said nothing about it, but it has since caused him more uneasiness.

Our own loss, in killed, wounded and missing, is put down in the numbers at 1000--it may possibly range a little under. The Mexican loss in killed alone amounted to nearly that number, their prisoners to about 3000, while their wounded we have no means of computing. Among the officers taken prisoners were three member of Congress, and I believe they are to be liberated to take part in the proceedings of that body in relation to peace.

Yours, &c.
G.W.K.

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TACUBAYA, August 26, 1847.

We now have certain intelligence that Valencia arrived at Toluca with only two men, his aid-de-camps, and they were thankful for their good horses, or else they could not have kept up. It is asserted positively that he was drunk on the night of the 19th inst and promoted all his officers for their extraordinary gallantry in standing firmly to their guns during the afternoon when no one was returning their fire. The account that he has pronounce against Santa Anna has denounced him in a public decree, and accuses him of all blame in bringing about the recent disasters to the country. He must accuse somebody, and Valencia, by his disobedience of a cowardly order, has made himself amenable--offers a target for his master's wrath.

The policy of Gen Scott or of Mr. Trist--I do not know which is responsible for the measure--in effecting an armistice and consequently an opportunity to negotiate--this policy, I say, although not very flattering to the pride of those who fought the sanguinary battles of Coutreras and Churubusco, may still have a tendency to soften that of the Mexicans, and lead to some kind of a peace. So perfect was the panic among the sons of Iturbide on the 20th that one of our weaker regiments could have entered the Grand Plaza with but little opposition--in fact, could have driven every soldier either out of the city or to some hiding place within its walls. Santa Anna and the miserable semblance of a Government would also have fled, and there would have been no power with which to open negotiations, with which to treat. Perhaps it is better, then, that the army did not at once enter and occupy the capital, a least in view of a peace--this is the question yet to be solved, I must acknowledge, however, even as matters now look, that I am one of a large majority who feel anything but rejoiced that the army did not enter the city at first, and that peace negotiations are to be entertained at the National Palace.

Yours, &c. &c.
G.W.K.

P.S. --Since the above was written, we have received a thousand and one rumors from the city. The report that Bustamente is approaching with some 6000 troops is renewed, as well as the account of the advance of Paredes upon the capital. All the shops in the city are closed, and consternation reigns. Many will have it the evidence being their own proper eyes, that the Mexican are throwing up breast works and constructing batteries at different points, and they say too, that Santa Anna either is desirous of gaining time, or else to make one of the main conditions of peace that he is to be supported by American Arms against any faction that may rise against him. In this they are probably more than half right. A train of wagons, which was going in this morning headed by Capt. Wayne and an escort of dragoons, were turned back by Mexicans on the pretence that there were regular soldiers with the envoy. I don't know how the matter will be settled, but Santa Anna will probably have his own way. Our own officers are many of them outrageous at the occurrence.

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TACUBAYA, August 27, 1847.

The official report of Gen. Salas, who was second in command at Coutreras, and who is now a prisoner, has been published in Mexico. He admits that his defeat was total, but as usual lays the blame on some of his brother officers. He says that on the afternoon of the 19th--(this was while no one was returning their fire)--The Mexicans fought with uncommon valor and enthusias, but that early on the morning of the 20th August they were suddenly surrounded and at once thrown into confusion, and in the end utterly routed. Salas says that at the outset of the disorder he shouted "Victory for Mexico," ordered the trumpets to sound, and directed Gen. Torrejon to charge with his lancers; but according to the same account that officer fled in the most cowardly manner, the infantry got mixed up with the cavalry and also fled, and the rout of all was complete and most disastrous. Salas says that Gen. Valencia ran off at the commencement of the fight, that he does not know what has become of him, and for this reason has felt himself called upon to make the report. Sch is the account given by his Excellency Gen. R. Don. I. Mariano de Salas, of the defeat at Coutreras--one of the most brilliant victories achieved by our arms since the commencement of the war--brilliant and most important for the great results produced with so little loss on our side, and for which Gen. Smith, as well as Col. Riley and the other officers engaged in it, are receiving the unqualified approbation of the entire army.

Gen. Salas himself acknowledges that in this battle Gen. Fronters was killed, that besides himself Gen. Mendoza, Bianco and Garcia were wounded and taken prisoners, in addition to a list of over 100 others--Colonels, Captains, &c. who were either killed, wounded or are now in our hands. And here let me mention one fact in relation to the after battle of Churubusco, which will show how near Gen. Scott was to capturing the entire Mexican army. At the time Gen. Worth was pressing upon the tete de pont, Gen. Twiggs upon the church, and Gen. Shields and Pierce
upon the hacienda farther on, the commander-in-chief ordered Major Sumner to take command of the Rifles, and by
a circuitous march to reach the road between the enemy and the city. Nothing but the daring impetuosity of our own
men in front prevented this plan from succeeding--had the Mexican held out or our own soldiers held off ten minutes
longer, the enemy would have been in a bag as it were, and killed or captured to a man. Santa Anna might perhaps
escaped, as he has a peculiar way of his own; but he would not have taken even the remnant of an army with him.

The trial of the deserters--the celebrated battalion of St. Patrick--is still going on, but how the affair will terminate,
no one but those on the court martial can say. A strong influence is at work in favor of the prisoners. In the first
place, all the Mexican ladies in this town, La Senora Cayetano Rubio among the number, have signed a warm
petition in their favor, which has been sent to Gen. Scott. The lady whose name I have given, is the wife of the rich
Rubio, who has a country house here in Tacubaya. The English, and perhaps some of the other foreign ministers,
have also interested themselves in behalf of the scoundrels. I might here state that the celebrated flag of the foreign
battalion was captured by the 14th Infantry, attached to Gen. Pillow's division.

Two o'clock, afternoon. -----New has just come in from the capital which has caused great excitement. At an early
hour a train of wagons, under charge of Captain Wayne, dressed in citizens' cloths, started for the city. Scarcely had
they reached the Plaza before the wagons were surrounded by an immense concourse of leperos, who at first
commenced cursing at jeering the wagon-masters and wagoners. Soon, however, they began to pelt the poor fellows
with stones and other missiles, and notwithstanding the pretended exertions of a squad of Mexican soldiers, who
acted a guard, the entire train was driven out of the city. Several of the wagoners received bruises and contusions
from the showers of stones thrown at them, and foremost in the mob were said to be the women of the town. One
Mexican was shot by the wagon masters, and another by a Mexican officer, but not until they had half killed an
American. In the crowd of loafers or leperos were soon [illegible] apparently of the better class from their dress, who
excited the mob to acts of violence, while in the balconies were ladies looking on and evidently enjoying the sport.
Even the Mexican cavalry guard, or many of them, sat upon their horses--not indifferent spectators, for they fairly
laughed to see the unfortunate and unarmed teamsters beset in a manner so cowardly. I suppose that Santa Anna
will apologize for the outrage, and that thus the matter will be settled; but this done not prevent many from thinking
that the tyrant instigated the whole affair. He is up to all sorts of trickery. There are others who think, and probably
with good show of reason, that the mob was set on by the enemies of Santa Anna and peace, with the intention of
involving the whole party and breaking off all negotiations. Be this as it may, the Mexicans have won a great battle
in driving our wagons from the city, and will not fail to exult over it. I know not what measures Gen. Scott will no
resort to in order to obtain his money and supplies from the city.

Yours, &c.
G.W.K.

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TACUBAYA, August 28, 1847.

The accounts this morning from the city would go to show that Mexicans are chuckling over the defeat of the wagon
train yesterday, and its expulsion without the walls--they absolutely term it a victory! The authorities pretend they
did everything in their power to suppress the row, but no one who understands the Mexican character believes them.
If anything in this world can be driven easier than Mexicans with arms in their hands, (vide Churubusco and
Coutreras, ) it is Meixcans without arms. A Mexican mod can be likened to nothing save a flock of sheep--as easily
routed and dispersed --and now the authorities pretend that they did everything in their power to suppress the one
which was raised yesterday. A single squadron of our dragoons could have ridden over the rioters as easily as they
could over a lawn. I suppose now that the wagons will not be allowed to enter the city--another point gained by the
enemy. They certainly have not been in to-day.

The Diario del Gobierno of yesterday is almost entirely filled with documents and letters, all undertaking to prove that
Valencia was the sole cause of the defeat of the Mexican army. Santa Anna's friends are at the bottom of all this of
course. Several of Valencia's letters are lugged into the document, in one of which, dated at 8 o'clock on the evening
of the 19th, at Coutreras, he speaks of having routed the entire American army at all points, and that the liberty and
honour of his country had been saved by the glorious victory. He further discloses the fact that General Frontera was
killed while leading on a charge of cavalry, and that Gen. Farrad was wounded. This is news; we shall get all the
truth out of them after a time. The last we hear of Valencia he was at Toluca, whither he had gone, according to his
own published statement, to collect forces to vindicate the honor of his county.

The same number of the Diario contains an account of the attack upon the wagon train. It makes light of the whole
affair, says that a few persons were slightly injured, that Gena. Tornel, Herrar and Quijano soon dispersed the
rioters, and that the fact of the wagons going as far as the Plaza Principal was an error or overnight. Among these
who received a shower of stones on the occasion was Mr. Harous, the gentleman, who has mainly fed and clooted the
army since it marched from Jalapa. He was in the city after supplies at the time.

I believe that up to this time I have neglected to mention that Major Gaines, who recently escaped from Mexico, was
on the staff of Gen. Scott during the recent battles, and that Midshipman Rogers was on that of Gen. Pillow. After
the route at Coutreras, and while our troops were on the way to Churubusco, a house where Capt. Danley and Major
Borland were secreted was passed. The former was quite unwell at the time, but the latter came out, shouldered a
musket, and was in the defeat of Churubusco. I hear that Clay and all the other prisoners will now soon be released.

Yours, &c.
The peace commissioners met again yesterday, and at a point near this place. Nothing positive in relation to the proceedings of this second meeting has transpired—some say that everything went on smoothly, others say not, which is tolerably strong proof that but little is known one way or the other in relation to the deliberations. The new commissioner, Barnardo Couto, was present, as was also Atristain. The latter is represented as a tool of Mackintosh's; but if he can do anything towards bringing about a peace this makes no difference. They say that in the city they indulge the hope that the commissioners will agree upon the Neusces as a boundary. This is carrying the stakes and stones a little too far. "Give them an inch and they'll take and ell" is applied to many people in the world—give a Mexican an inch and he'll take at least seven miles and a half.

I must close this letter haste, as a messenger has just come in to say that the express man is about to start. You shall be kept informed of everything.

Yours, &c.

G.W.K.

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RE47v44n40p2c4, September 17, 1847: IMPORTANT PUBLIC DOCUMENTS

The Armistice—Official Correspondence

To the proper elucidation of the spirit with which the recent Armistice was entered into between Gen. Scott and Santa Anna, we annex several important documents.

The following was the letter addressed by General Scott to Santa Anna tendering an armistice:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY U.S. AMERICA.
Coyoacan, August 21, 1847.

To his Excellency the President and General in Chief of the Republic of Mexico.

Sir—Too much blood has already been shed in this unnatural war between the two great Republics of this continent. It is time that the differences between them should be amicably and honorably settled, and it is known to your Excellency that a commissioner of the part of the U. States, clothed with full powers to that end, is with this army. To enable the two Republics to enter on negotiations, I am willing to sign, on any reasonable terms, a short armistice.

I shall wait with impatience until to-morrow morning for a direct answer to this communication; but shall in the meantime seize and occupy such positions outside of the capital as I may deem necessary to shelter and comfort this army.

I have the honor to remain, with high consideration and respect, your Excellency's most obedient servant.

WINFIELD SCOTT.

To this letter a reply was returned by the Mexican Secretary of War, of which the following is a hasty version:

Ministry of War and Marine,
Mexico, August 21, 1847.

Sir—The undersigned, Minister of War and marine of the Government of the United States of Mexico, is instructed by his Excellency the President, commander-in-chief, to reply to your communication in which you propose to enter into an armistice, with a view to avoid the further shedding of blood between the two great Republics of this continent, for the purpose of hearing the propositions which may be made for this purpose by the commissioner of his Excellency the President of the United States of America, who is at the headquarters of the American army.

It is certainly lamentable, that in consequence of the disregard of the rights of the Mexican Republic, the shedding of blood has become inevitable between the first republics of the American continent; your Excellency with great
propriety qualifies this war as unnatural, as well on account of its origin as the antecedents of two people identified by their relations and their interests. The proposition of an armistice to terminate this scandal has been received with pleasure by his Excellency the President, commander-in-chief, as it will enable the propositions to be entertained which that commissioner of the President of the United States may make for the honorable termination of the war.

Accordingly, the President, commander-in-chief, directs me to say to your Excellency that he accepts the proposition to enter into an armistice, and for this object he has appointed the brigadier generals D. Ignacio Mora y Villamil and D. Benito Quijano; who will be present at the time and place which may be designated.

His Excellency also instructs me to communicate his satisfaction that the army of the United States should occupy convenient and fitting quarters, trusting and hoping that they will be out of reach of the fire of the Mexican fortifications.

I have the honor to be with high consideration and respect, your Excellency’s most obedient servant,

ALCORTA.

The same day Senor Pacheco, the Secretary of State, issued the following summon for the assembling of Congress:

MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AND FOREIGN RELATIONS,
Mexico, August 21, 1847.

Most Excellent Sir--All Mexicans, but especially the inhabitants of this capital, have been witnesses to the extraordinary exertions which have been made by his Excellency the Provisional President to collect an army capable of meeting that of the United States, and restoring the luster of the arms of the Republic. They are witnesses also that he has fought with intrepidity, exposing his own life, until the moment which the victory was lost and the enemy was at the gates of the capital.

In these circumstances, and when the numerous inhabitants of Mexico have made ever kind of sacrifice to carry on the war, it is one of the most imperious duties of the First Magistrate to prevent the calamities inseparable from an assault, and to avoid all consequences of a violent occupation of the city. To this end, and in the exercise of his constitutional powers, and in conformity with the wishes of Congress communicated to him on the 16th July last, he has determined to hear the propositions which Mr. Nicholas Trist has to make on the part of the United States, and to consent that in the meantime there shall be a suspension of hostilities.

At this question is of the utmost interest to the Republic, his Excellency desires that the national Congress should take their appropriate part, and accordingly directs me to notify your Excellency that you may take measures diligently to summon the Deputies to assemble at 12 o’clock to-day.

I reiterate the assurance of my distinguished consideration. God and Liberty.

JOSE RAMON PACHECO.

[BRM]

RE47v44n40p2c5, September 17, 1847: FURTHER PARTICULARS

We devote all of our dispensable space (sacrificing our own privileges to the important news and to our advertising friends, ) to the continuation of Kendall’s interesting narrative of events. We commenced with his account and think it proper to give his consecutive letters—especially as the interest does not flag at all.

The New Orleans Delta and Times are also filled with copious and graphic sketches of the varied incidents of the two well fought and glorious fields. The Delta’s picture of the battles of Contreras (and not Couterreras, the Picayune says, ) and Churubusco is among the most attractive narratives of the kind we have ever read. We shall hereafter draw on it liberally. It describes our army on its arrival at El Penon, which position it turned, and where Gen. Alvarez at the head of the Pintos (painted or naturally spotted Indians, ) and of 10,000 regular Mexican troops attempts a feeble effort to defeat the movement, but is scattered to the winds by Captain Taylor’s artillery—refers to General Worth’s arrival at San Augustin—to the death of Captain Taylor’s—refers to General Worth’s arrival at San Augustin—to the death of Captain Thornton on a reconnaissance—to the occupation of San Juan de Dios by Gen. Worth; who was fired upon by the enemy’s—the defeat of a detached Mexican force by Major Graham—the appearance of Generals Pillow and Twiggs’ division in front of the enemy—the hot engagement of General Smith’s brigade with the enemy’s infantry—Captain Magruder’s battery sustaining the fire of the whole Mexican artillery, 22 pieces—the movement of Pierce’s brigade to the support of Smith—the movement of Pierce’s brigade to the support of Smith—the approach of Santa Anna with 12,000 men—the masterly manoeuvres of General P.F. Smith—the magnanimity of General Shields, who totally routed and dispersed the enemy, who, in their retreat, were cut to pieces by General Shields—the hot fire of the Chivalry Regiment—and the
utter defeat of the enemy at Contreras and Churubusco. These are but a few of the heads, which are dwelt upon with great effect.

The Delta gives a long and mournful list of the killed and wounded Americans in the late battles, 1017 in all. The proportion of killed to the wounded is smaller than in the previous battles, but many are severely wounded.

In the 1st division, (Gen. Worth's,) killed: Commissioned officers none; non-commissioned 5; privates 32. Wounded, commissioned officers, 13; non-commissioned 41; privates 235; missing, privates, 10. Aggregate, 336.

In the 1st brigade, 2d division, (Gen. Twiggs',) killed: Rifles, 4; 1st artillery, 10; 3d infantry, 5-19. Wounded--Rifles, 10; 1st artillery, 16; 3d infantry, 28-54. Missing--Rifles, 3; 1st artillery, 1; 3d infantry, 8-12. Total 85.

In the 2d Brigade--killed 23; wounded 126; missing 4. Engineer Company, wounded 4; missing 1. --Total 158.

In the 3d division, Gen. Pillow's--in 1st brigade commanded by Gen. Pierce: commissioned officers killed 1; wounded 11; missing 1: non-commissioned officers and privates, killed 11; wounded 124; missing 10. --Total 158. In the 2d Brigade, (including Voltigeurs and South Carolina Regiment,) killed and wounded, 137.

In the 4th Division, Gen. Quitman's--Killed: Commissioned officers 4; privates 11. Wounded: Commissioned officers 9, non-commissioned 9, privates 68, missing 1 private. --Total 103.

We await the official account to give the killed and wounded. In addition to the officers already published, we regret to see the name of Col. G. W. Morgan of Ohio, wounded severely.

[BRM]

RE47v44n40p2c5, September 17, 1847: AFFAIRS IN MEXICO

We confess that we felt some disappointment, when we first heard that Gen. Scott had proposed an armistice to the Mexican-Commander-in-Chief. We had seen so much perfidy in Mexican conduct, so barbarous a system of warfare employed by them, so shameful a rejection of our generous offers of peace, and the plighted word of its government so wantonly broken or disregarded--that we felt as if they were not entitled to such forbearance at our hands. We were inclined to the opinion, from the unhappy results of our former leniency, that Mexico might again play us false--and that the occupation of her capital and the utter prostration of her moral as well as physical power might be necessary to force her seriously to negotiate.

But reflection upon all the facts has almost convinced us that, in proposing the armistice, Gen. Scott has shown sound wisdom and good policy. He probably foresaw, that by entering the city, the Government would have been disbanded, and none left to make peace with. HE must have felt satisfied, that the city was at his mercy, and that if Mexico obstinately rejected peace, the alternative of seizing the capital was still secured to him. It was natural, too, that the Mexican Government would be more disposed to negotiate, than if the national pride had been mortified by a seizure of the capital. Above all, Gen. Scott knew that the great object of our Government and people is to make peace--and felt justified in doing what he also did after the battle of Cerro Gordo. The proposition was simply to suspend hostilities, to ascertain if it be practicable to conclude a peace without further shedding of blood. Similar overtures were made to the enemy and foolishly rejected, soon after the overthrow of the Mexican forces at Cerro Gordo. We trust, and, from all we see are inclined to believe, that the present negotiation will result favorably; though bold must be that prophet who can make any positive predictions, based upon the ever shifting and heterogeneous elements of Mexican character.

We are indebted to a kind friend for the following very interesting extracts of a letter received in this city yesterday from an officer, fully enabled by his position to furnish reliable information. His statements are important, and his view of the armistice, we are induced to believe, is the sound one--though, in ignorance of all the circumstances, we cannot, express a very confident opinion:

TACUBAYA, August 25, 1847.

We have had another brilliant but bloody victory, which brought us triumphantly up to the very gates of the city. We should now be in the Capital but for an armistice, which was agreed upon to enable Mr. Trist to treat. As it was supposed the prospects of peace would be greatly lessened if we occupied the Capital, the army has made this sacrifice upon the altar of patriotism. It seems to be a bitter one, but excellent hopes are entertained of its resulting well.

Our loss has been severe, but that of the enemy utterly ruinous, so as not to leave him any power of resistance. General Scott has outdone all his former achievements, and the army has done with the bayonet alone probably as much as was ever accomplished by any troops without artillery. You are aware that we have had no opportunity of sending letters for some months past: I am not even sure that I shall be able to slip this in with despatches. From where I write, I overlook the city [but two miles distant] and the whole valley of Mexico--a view scarcely less charming from association than in itself.
So many officers have been killed and wounded, that I fear will be great distress and anxiety on account of many who are safe. No one from Richmond was hurt. Captain Craig, who is know there, received a smart flesh wound, but not at all serious. *****Our loss is about on thousand killed and wounded. The Mexican loss about five thousand killed and wounded, and about ten thousand more prisoners and dispersed--fifteen thousand in all. We had about nine thousand to thirty odd thousand.

The Spanish Minister had arrived at Vera Cruz from the capital, on his return home. According to the Picayune, he is understood to have been recalled "in consequence of his intrigues to establish a monarchy in Mexico, and place the Duc de Montpensier on the throne. It is said that the Governments of both France and England disavow having ever entertained his scheme. Had he been successful, they would not have been so anxious to disclaim his acts."

The Times publishes a letter from Col Hamtramck to Adj't General Richardson, it which he pays a proper tribute to the virtues in the highest terms of the officers and men of the Virginia regiment, and adds.

"We are much pleased with out Brigadier General, (Cushing. ) he is a gentleman--a man of great information and intelligence--industrious, energetic, and possesses more military information and knowledge than the world gives him credit for."

We cannot but regret that the Virginia troops have unfortunately had no opportunity of showing their mettle (or metal, as Coleridge writes it, ) on the glorious battle fields of Mexico.

Gen. Scott's wound at Churubusco was but slight. We are happy to hear from the Delta, that the gallant old General was so little troubled by his wound, that he would not eve acknowledge it until the battle was decided."

A letter in the Picayune, from an English commercial house, dated Mexico, Aug. 29, says:

"There are about 15, 000 or 20, 000 Mexican troops in the city, and, unless an honorable peace is entered into, they will have another brush. --But my opinion is all will be settled, if it was not previously understood. The business houses continue closed. The American troops are now in Tacubaya, San Angel, San Augustin, &c. --The opinion of the better classes, and our countrymen among them, is that a peace will be concluded."

"PEACE- The N. O. Delta is informed that its contemporaries of the Patria, have late news from the city of Mexico, to the effect that articles of peace had been signed by Mr. Trist and the Mexican Commissioners."
By the U.S. steamer Mary Kingland, which arrived this morning, we have Vera Cruz papers containing intelligence of the Important Victory gained by Gen. Scott over the concentrated forces of Mexico, within three miles of the capital.

Gen. Scott moved on to the village of St. Augustine, a few miles from the city, on the 18th, from which time to the 20th, the day of victory, the Mexicans were seen busily preparing their defences and batteries, having previously destroyed the roads and ditches, to prevent the cavalry and artillery from advancing.

The Van of the army, commanded by General Twiggs, first met with resistance at Chalco, a small village situated at the end of the lake.

On the 18th General Worth advanced on the city, and quartered near San Antonio, which place was strongly fortified by the enemy, who, on the morning of the 19th, opened a brisk fire on General W., which continued until night.

On the morning of the 10th General Scott moved towards the strong batteries of Coutreras, accompanied by General Worth, when the joyful intelligence, that that battery was silenced, and the Mexicans in full flight, leaving fifteen pieces of cannon, and some fifteen hundred prisoners, among them four general officers, in the hands of General P. Smith, who thus routed General Valencia, after tremendous conflict. It is supposed seven hundred of the enemy fell at this battery.

General Worth then turned on San Antonio, whilst the main army, under Generals Twiggs, Pillow, Smith and Cadwallader, moved on the Capital. The former place was abandoned by the enemy, with the cannon, ammunition, &c.

The divisions of General Twiggs and Worth then engaged the other strong batter, Churubusco, which was said to be commanded by Santa Anna in person--this conflict was fierce, and ended in routing the Mexicans, who fled for the city.

The fancy troops--the Hidalgoes--Independencias and Polkas, fled without firing a shot.

Gen. Twiggs took about 2000 prisoners, among which were a number of generals and the entire foreign battalion, (deserters from the American army, ) under the noted Riley.

The South Carolina and New York volunteers have suffered severely, the former losing 137 out of 272 men; the 1st Artillery, also, suffered severely.

Among the prisoners are three ex-Presidents. --About 45 pieces of cannon have fallen into the hands of the conquerors.

Col. Harney's dragoons could not be brought into action on account of the ground, which consists of sharp pointed lava strewn in every direction for miles, and which indeed impeded the infantry in their operations.

Thus, once more has the American army covered itself with glory, and at last forced the Mexicans to believe it invincible. They having 30,000 fresh troops to oppose only 6000 Americans, jaded with marching and exposed to the rain the night previous to the battle, without shelter, and having barely any artillery in comparison with themselves.

Gen. Scott has, as will be seen by an extract from a Vera Cruz paper, granted an armistice for 48 hours, at the intercession, we understand, of the British Consul.

The city is still untouched, and we trust will remain so, as doubtless the commanders of the Mexican army must see the utter hopelessness of attempting to oppose Gen. Scott in entering the city.

[From the Sun of Anahuac. ]

THE ARMISTICE.

The undersigned appointed respectively-the three first by Maj. General Winfield Scott, commander-in-chief of the armies of the United States; and the two last by his excellency D. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, president of the Mexican republic and commander-in-chief of its armies, met with full powers, which were duly verified in the village of Tacubaya, on the 22nd day of August, 1847, to enter into an armistice, for the purpose of giving the Mexican government an opportunity to receiving propositions for peace from the commissioners appointed by the president of the United States, and now with the American army; when the following articles were agreed upon:

ART. 1. Hostilities shall instantly and absolutely cease between the armies of the United States of America and the United Mexican States, within 30 leagues of the capital of the latter states, to allow time to the commissioners appointed by the Mexican republic, to negotiate.
2. This armistice shall continue as long as the commissioners of the two governments may be engaged on negotiations, or until the commander of either of the said armies shall give formal notice to the other of the cessation of the armistice, and for 48 hours after such notice.

3. In the mean time, neither army shall, within thirty leagues of the city of Mexico, commence any new fortification, or military work of offence or defence, or do anything to enlarge or strengthen any existing work or fortification of that character, within the said limits.

4. Neither army shall be reinforced within the same. Any reinforcements in troops or munitions of war, other than subsistence now approaching either army, shall be stopped at the distance of twenty-eight leagues from the city of Mexico.

5. Neither army, nor any detachment from it, shall advance beyond the line it at present occupies.

6. Neither army, nor any detachment or individual of either, shall pass the neutral limits established by the last article, except under flags of truce bearing the correspondence between the two armies, or on the business authorized by the next article; and individuals of either army who may chance to straggle within the neutral limits, shall by the opposite party be kindly warned off or sent back to their own armies under flags of truce.

7. The American army shall not by violence obstruct the passage form the open country into the city of Mexico, of the ordinary supplies of food necessary to the consumption of its inhabitants, or the Mexican army within the city; nor shall the Mexican authorities, civil or military, do any act to obstruct the passage of supplies from the city, or the country needed by the American army.

8. All American prisoners of war remaining in the hands of the Mexican army, and not to heretofore exchanged, shall immediately, or as soon as practicable, be restored to the American army against a like number, having regard to rank, of Mexican prisoners captured by the American army.

9. All American citizens who were established in the city of Mexico prior to the existing war, and who have since been expelled from that city, shall be allowed to return to their respective business or families therein, without delay or molestation.

10. The better to enable the belligerent armies to execute these articles, and to favor the great object of peace, it is further agreed between the parties that any courier with dispatches that either army shall desire to send along the line from the city of Mexico or its vicinity, to and from Vera Cruz, shall receive a safe conduct from the commander of the opposing army.

11. The administration of justice between Mexicans, according to the general and state constitutions and laws, by the local authorities of the towns and places occupied by the American forces, shall not be obstructed in any manner.

12. Persons and property shall be respected in the towns and places occupied by the American forces. No person shall be molested in the exercise of his profession; nor the services of any one be required without his consent. In all cases where services are voluntarily rendered, a just price shall be paid, and trade remain unmolested.

13. Those wounded prisoners who may desire to remove to some more convenient place for the purpose of being cured of their wounds shall be allowed to do so without molestation, they still remaining prisoners.

14. Those Mexican medical officers who may wish to attend the wounded shall have the privilege of doing so, if their services be required.

15. For the more perfect execution of this agreement two commissioners shall be appointed, one by each party; who in case of disagreement shall appoint a third.

16. This is convention shall have no force or effect unless approved by their excellencies the commanders respectively of the two armies within 24 hours, reckoning from the sixth hour of the 23rd day of August, 1847.

A. Quitman,
Major Gen. U.S.A.
Pershier E. Smith,
Franklin Pierce,
Brigadier Gen. U.S.A.

IGNACIO DE MORA Y VILLAMIL,
We learn that a manifesto has been published by Santa Anna, but have not heard the tenor of it.

RE47v44n40p3c2, September 17, 1847: BRILLIANT VICTORIES! IMPORTANT FROM SCOTT’S ARMY

From the New Orleans Picayune, Sept. 5.

Important from Gen. Scott’s Army

BATTLES OF COUTRERAS AND CHURUBUSCO.

Total Defeat of the Mexicans—-General Scott encamped within two and a half miles of the City of Mexico—-Armistice between the two Armies—-Negotiations with Mr. Trist for a Peace commenced.

The U. States steamship Mary Kingland, Capt. John Davis, arrived at an early hour this morning. -By her we have received our letters from Mr. Kendall from the 22nd to the 28th of August, all dated from Tacubaua. A courier dispatched by him on the 29th with the first account of the battle fought on that day, was cut off.

From a map and plan of the battle fields before us, we note that they are called the battles of Contreras and Churubusco—so called from field works of the enemy of those names. The victories were decisive, but as far as we can judge from a hasty perusal of a portion of our letters, the proposition for an armistice was made by Gen. Scott—probably at the suggestion of the British Embassy. The report we have hitherto given that the city of Mexico was at our mercy, appears to have been unfounded.

Should peace not follow form the negotiations now pending, another battle must ensue, the enemy having a force of from fifteen to twenty thousand men yet left. But the road appears to be completely open to us, and the city is only two and a miles form our encampment.

Our victories have been purchased at a vast loss of valuable life, as will be seen by the following list. We see names of men at the loss of whom we weep; but all have their friends, and we make no distinctions.


OFFICERS WOUNDED—-Regulars—-Colonel Clark, 6th Infantry slightly, Col. Morgan, 15th Inft. severely, Maj. Wade, 3d Art. severely, Maj. Bonneville, 6th Inft. slightly, Capts. Wessells, 2d Inft. severely, Phil. Kearney, 1st Dragoons, left arm shot off, McReynolds, 3d Dragoons, severely, Craig, 2d Inft. severely, Ross, 7th Inft. severely, J. R. Smith, 2d Inft. severely, Chapan, 5th Inft. slightly, Johnson, 9th Inft. slightly, Lieuts. Schuyler Hamilton, 1st Inft. But attached to Gen Scott’s staff, severely, Halloway, 8th Infantry but attached to Smith’s Light Battalion, severely, Bacon, 6th Inft. severely, Callender, of the Ordinance, but commanding howitzer batter, severely, Arnold, 2d Artillery, severely, Herman Thorn, 3d Dragoons, attached to Col. Garland’s staff, slightly, Hendrickson, 6th Inft. severely, Humber, 7th Inft. severely, Boynton, 1st Artillery, but attaced to Taylor’s battery, slightly, Lorimer Graham, acting with 1st Dragoons, severely, Van Buren, of the Rifles, slightly, Martin, 1st Artillery, right arm shot off. Goodloe, 15th Inft. Mortally, Farrelly, 5th Inft. but attached to Smith’s Light Battalion, severely. Lugenbell, adjutant 5th Inft. slightly, Bee, 3d Inft. slightly, Collings 4th Artillery, slightly, Tilden. 2d Inft. severely, Newman, 6th Inft. severely, Gardner, 2d Inft. severely, Hayden 2d Inft. slightly, Sprague, adjutant 9th Inft. slightly, Palmer, 9th Inft. severely, Buckner, 6th Inft. slightly, Cram, 9th Inft. slightly, Simpkins, 12th Inft. slightly, Peternell, 15th Inft. slightly, Bennet, 15th Inft.


On the 16th of August Gen. Worth marched as far as the hacienda of San Gregorio, beyond which it was found that labor, were completely turned.

By this move a new line of operations was taken up on the southern and northwestern side of the city of Mexico, and Pillow followed the next morning; at the same hour Gen. Quitman broke up his encampment at Buena Vista, a small road could be made which would enable the army to reach San Angel, and thus turn the strong batteries of San Antonio. This latter party had a squadron and a body of the 11th Infantry under Col Graham, to ascertain the practicability of finding a road by which the village of San Angel could be reached, and thus turn the strong hold of San Antonio. This latter party had a sharp encounter with the advance of this enemy, the main body being found posted at a strong point not far from the factory of Coulter's. In the skirmish some six or eight Mexicans were killed, and as many more taken prisoners—our troops had quiet possession of San Augustin. Our only loss during the day was one man, a soldier of Smith's light battalion, who was wounded from a cornfield near Xochimilco.

As the division neared the hacienda of La Noqui the advance was again fired upon, but again the enemy's pickets were driven in, without loss. A turn of the road beyond La Novia brought the pleasant village of San Augustin in sight, and after two or three light skirmishes, in which the Mexicans had two or three lancers killed and wounded, were driven in, without loss. A turn of the road beyond La Noqui brought the pleasant village of San Augustin in sight, and after two or three light skirmishes, in which the Mexicans had two or three lancers killed and wounded, were driven in, without loss. A turn of the road beyond La Novia brought the pleasant village of San Augustin in sight, and after two or three light skirmishes, in which the Mexicans had two or three lancers killed and wounded, were driven in, without loss.

On the 16th of August Gen. Worth marched as far as the hacienda of San Gregorio, beyond which it was found that the enemy had cut up and ditched the miserable trail among which the artillery and wagons were obliged to pass. He would have gone to Santa Cruz, another hacienda a league further on, had not an order came up from Gen. Scott for a halt. It seemed that Gen. Twiggs had met a large force of the enemy drawn up in front of him near Chalco, as if with the intention of disputing his advance, cutting him off from the main body of the army, and perhaps bringing on a general action. Gen. Twiggs promptly ordered some of his heavier guns to be unlimbered, and after a few discharges the enemy was dispersed, with the loss of five or six killed, but the demonstration made by the Mexicans, as I have before said, caused a halt of General Worth's division before half a day's march was made.

At 6 o'clock on the morning of the 17th, Gen. Worth resumed his march, his route running through corn-fields and narrow and rocky lanes, along which carriages had never passed before. The filling up of the ditches caused some little delay, but by 8 o'clock the advance was in sight of Santa Cruz, and the spires and domes of the noted capital of Mexico could be discerned in the distance. The obstructions in the road, of which I have spoken, were obviously of recent construction—evidence that the enemy had but just wind of our approach, and that Gen Scott had completely stolen a march upon Santa Anna.

Other than the ditches and rocks which had been rolled down from the precipitous hill-side, no opposition was made to the advance of Gen. Worth until he had reached a point in the road not far from Santa Cruz—-but now a scattering fire was opened upon the head of his column by a force stationed at advantageous positions above the road to the left. The enemy was quickly dispersed, however, by Col. C F Smith's light battalion and 2d Artillery, under Maj. Galt. As the division neared the hacienda of La Noqui the advance was again fired upon, but again the enemy's pickets were driven in, without loss. A turn of the road beyond La Novia brought the pleasant village of San Augustin in sight, and after two or three light skirmishes, in which the Mexicans had two or three lancers killed and wounded, our troops had quiet possession of San Augustin. Our only loss during the day was one man, a soldier of Smith's light battalion, who was wounded from a cornfield near Xochimilco.

AT 7 o'clock on the morning of the 18th, Gen. Scott arrived at San Augustin, and at 10 o'clock Gen. Worth was in full march for the city of Mexico by the main road. --Majors Smith and Turnbull, Capt. Masori and other engineer officers, were sent in advance, supported by Captain Blake's squadron of dragoons, to reconnoiter, as it was known the enemy was in force at or near San Antonio. --The party, when withing a thousand yards, was fired upon from a battery, which was masked by trees, and the first ball from a 12-pounder instantly killed Capt. Thornton of the 2d Dragoons, besides severely wounding a guide, Janathan Fitzwillers. Col. Garland's brigade was now ordered to occupy the hacienda of Carrera, within plain sight and range of the enemy's batteries at San Antonio, while Col. Clarke's brigade and the battery under Col. Duncan took a station in the rear close by. The engineer officers were at once sent out to reconnoiter by Gen. Worth, to ascertain the practicability of turning the strong works of the enemy, and in the mean time Gen Scott had despatched Capt Lee with a supporting party, composed Gen'l Kearney's squadron and a body of the 11th Infantry under Col Graham, to ascertain the practicability of finding a road by which the village of San Angel could be reached, and thus turn the strong hold of San Antonio. This latter party had a sharp encounter with the advance of this enemy, the main body being found posted at a strong point not far from the factory of Courtrers. In the skirmish some six or eight Mexicans were killed, and as many more taken prisoners—on our side not a man was touched. The result of the reconnoissance proved favorable. It was ascertained that a road could be made which would enable the army to reach San Angel, and thus turn the strong batteries of San Antonio and perhaps others the enemy might have upon the road between the and the city of Mexico. The Mexicans were plainly seen in force at a commanding position near Courtrers, and it was evident that they had a number of cannon in position; but at a council held at night, it was determined upon to attack them the following day.
In the meantime, while the reconnaissance was in progress, Gen. Worth had established his headquarters at the hacienda of Curera, while from the windows countless numbers of the enemy could be seen at work upon the batteries of San Antonio. About noon they opened upon the hacienda with both round shot and shell, nearly every one of which took, effect, but without doing other injury than to the building. Late in the evening of the batteries again opened, but with no other result than showing the position of the different guns. For a marvelous the batteries were silent during the night. Had the fire been kept up, the hacienda might have been torn in places and the entire command compelled to retire. Before going farther it may be well to state that the city of Mexico lies about nine miles nearly north of San Augustin, that San Antonio is about 3 miles in the same direction, while the point occupied by Gen. Valenica, near Coutesras, for he had command at that place, is at least three miles in a straight line and in a direction nearly west. It was ten miles the way of our troops had to march, for you cannot imagine a more rough, uneven and jagged surface.

At 8 o'clock on the morning of the 19th the batteries again opened on Gen. Worth’s position at the hacienda near San Antonio, the balls crashing through the way and filling the rooms with fragments of plaster and broken furniture. Shells also burst in the air over the building and the pieces dropped among the men stationed in the rear. --So hot was the fire that the troops were obliged to gain shelter behind the building, but still did not give up the position. About 9 o'clock the divisions of Gen. Pillow and Twiggs were ordered to advance in the direction of Coutreras and by one in the afternoon were in plain sight of the enemy’s batteries, and within range of his heavier guns. The brigade of Gen. P. F. Smith was ordered to advance directly towards the enemy’s works, while that of Col. Riley moved towards a small village to the right, with orders to gain the main road and thus be enabled to cut off any reinforcements which might be sent to Valencia from the city. An incessant firing of cannon was opened upon the advance of Gen. Smith, and soon the Rifles were engaged in skirmishing with the pickets of the enemy and driving them in. The 12-pounder battery of Capt. Maguder, was pressed forward with all speed, as was also the rocket and mountain howitzer battery, now commanded by Lt. Callender of the Ordnance Department. As soon as the could gain a position they opened upon the enemy, but were so much exposed to the fire from heavier guns that they were soon silenced. Lt. Johnson, of the 1st Artillery, but attached to Magruder’s battery, was mortally wounded, while Lt. Callender was severely wounded in both legs.

At 3 o’clock the brigade of Gen. Cadwalader was ordered out to support Col. Riley, heavy reinforcements being soon on their way out from the city, while Gen. Pierce’s brigade was sent to sustain Gen. Smith. The firing from the batteries of the enemy continued incessant, while from a hill just outside of the range of their guns, the spectacle was most grand and imposing. At about 4 o’clock Gen. Scott arrived, and seeing the immense strength of the Mexicans, at once ordered Gen. Shield’s brigade from San Augustin—a part of Gen. Quitman’s command—to the right support Riley and Cadwalader, and prevent, if possible, a juncture of the forces coming out from the city with those of Valencia. But few of the movements of our own troops could be seen from the hill where we were posted, owing to the dense chaparral, sharp rocks and ravines, but not a motion of the enemy but was plainly visible. The order of battle of Valencia was certainly most imposing—infantry were seen drawn up to support the batteries, while long lines of the enemy’s cavalry were stationed in the rear, as if awaiting the shock of battle. Two separate charges of the latter were distinctly seen repulsed by Col. Riley, who had moved his brigade at one time to a position partially in the rear of the enemy’s work. Col. Harney was excessively anxious to march his cavalry to the sense of actions, but it was deemed utterly impracticable. The nature of the ground was such that the infantry even had great difficulty in finding the way across the pedregal, as the Mexicans term it—ground covered with sharp, jagged rocks.

Until the night had fairly closed in the fire from the enemy’s batteries did not slacken—it had been a continuous roar for nearly six hours. Gen. Scott retired to San Augustin about 8 o’clock, an in the midst of a hard rain which had just commenced falling. Gens. Twiggs and Pillow came in about 11 o’clock, wet and completely exhausted. It was impossible to use horses on the rough and exceedingly broken ground on which they had been operating for nearly twelve hours. Not anticipating the immense strength of the works of the enemy, or the almost insurmountable difficulties of reaching them, it had been at first thought that the batteries would be taken at a dash, and that the troops would be all comfortably quartered in San Angel for the night; instead of the a large portion of them were compelled to bivouac without blankets in the midst of a pitiless rain, and on ground where they could not even stretch themselves out. Add to this, the prospects of the morrow were far from flattering—were enough to dismay any but the stoutest hearts—that the enemy would doubtless reinforce and strengthen his works during the night, having every superiority in knowledge of the ground—add again to this that the men were weakened by long exertions, want of food, and chilled by the continuous night rain, and it is not saying too much assert that the bivouac of the 19th August was gloomy in the extreme.

Early on the morning of the 20th, Gen. Worth was ordered to move with a part of his division—Garland’s brigade—towards the scene of action at Coutreras, to aid in the attack upon Valencia, for to force this position was deemed indispensable. A few discharges of cannon were heard about 7 o’clock, and a heavy rattling of musketry, and some even said that in the distance they had seen large masses of Mexicans in full flight towards the city; yet few dreamed that the batteries at Coutreras had been stormed and carried. Yet so it was. Gen. Scott himself accompanied by Gen. Worth, started for the scene of action, when they were met by Capt. Mason, with the joyful intelligence that Valencia had been completely routed, after a short but terrible struggle. The attack upon his works was planned by Gen. Smith, and resulted in the capture of fifteen pieced of artillery, some fifteen hundred prisoners—among them, Gens. Blanco, Garcia, Mendoza, and the notorious Salas; all the ammunition and camp equipage, while the road along which those who escaped fled was strewn with muskets. No less than 700 of the enemy, among them many officers, were left dead on the field—the number of wounded was undoubtedly far greater. I have no time now to enlarge or comment upon this well planned and brilliant achievement, but reserving a more full description for some other time, must pass on to other exciting events. The works at Coutreras completely in the power of the American army, Gen. Scott at once ordered Gen. Worth to fall back upon San Antonio, to turn and capture that work and then to push on towards the capital by the main road, while the main body of the army under Gens. Twiggs, Smith, Pillow, Smith, Pierce and Cadwalader, moved on towards San Angel and Cohoyean. --Scarcely had the
advacne of Gen. Twiggs got half a mile beyond the latter village, before a rattling fire of musketry announced that it was actively engaged with the outposts of the enemy, and the heavy booming of cannon now gave token that noted 2d division had fallen upon another strong work. But a few minutes more and tremendous firing from the right, and immediately in the main road from San Augustine to the capital, made it evident that General Worth's division was actively engaged. He had completely turned the strong works of San Antonio, but while doing so the enemy had abandoned the place with the loss of their heavy guns, and had fallen back upon his second and stronger line of works. It was now at the commencement of the battle, about 1 o'clock in the afternoon, and sure such a rattling of firearms has seldom or never been heard on the continent of America, accompanied with such booming of artillery; and this was continued over two hours and until the enemy was fully routed from every point, and until those who were not killed or taken prisoners were in full flight for the city. Let me endeavor in words to give the reader an idea of the position and works of the enemy. As you come along the road leading from San Augustine to the capital, and immediately this side the Pueblo del Rosenea, the Mexicans had thrown up a strong and exceedingly well-built battery, commanding the road completely. On the right as you faced the city, stretching for a long distance was a continuous ditch, behind the bank of which an immense number of Mexican infantry were posted. On the left of the tete de pont, or work at the bridge, and about three hundred yards distant, was the church of Churubusco, or San Pablo, strongly fortified with works for infantry, and also having a well constructed battery containing a number of guns of heavy caliber. This work was a little advanced from the tete de pont, and nearly in a line between it and the village of Cohoycan---Further on, on the other side of the work at the bridge, and about three hundred yards from the road, was a large building, well adapted for the protection of infantry, an in which the enemy had also posted an immense body. --The ground in the vicinity of all these points was completely covered with corn, and other fields, cut up in every direction by wide and deep ditches, presented obstacles innumerable to the advance of our troops. No reconnaissance of the position of the enemy had been made, and consequently its strength could only be ascertained by hard blows and knocks.

The divisions of Gens. Twiggs and Worth were at once engaged, the former with the church and strong-hold of Churubusco, and the latter with the batteries at the bridge; and in the meantime Gen. Shields's brigades--the New York and South Carolina volunteers--together with the 9th, 19th, and 15th regiments of Infantry under General Pierce, were hurrying onward from Cohoycan to attack the hacienda. Soon they were engaged, and the battle now became general. The enemy had over twenty pieces of cannon, all in admirable position, and served with more than ordinary skill, while but few of our guns could be brought to bear. The battery of Capt. Frank Taylor, it is true, opened a well directed fire upon Churubusco, but so exposed was its situation that it suffered most terribly, both in officers and men.

To describe the fierce conflict, even now that two days have elapsed, or to give an account of the part taken by the different regiments, were impossible. From the opening of the strife up to the time the Mexicans were entirely routed and in full flight for the city, was one continuous roar of cannon and musketry, accompanied by the loud shouts of the Victoria as some new vantage ground was gained; and high above the din rose a dense column of smoke, at time completely shrouding the combatants. --The strength of the enemy at this battle is known to have been 15, 000 at least, many say 20, 000, all fresh troops in a position of uncommon strength. Opposed to them were about 6000 Americans, jaded and broken down by marches and countermarches, and by incessant toil before the stronghold of Coutreras and San Antonio. At Churubusco, the Mexicans themselves say, Santa Anna commanded in person, but that he left early. The noted battalions of Hidalgo and Victoria, and of Independencia--the Polkas, or young men of the capital, from whom so much was expected--nearly all fled without firing a gun.

In the different works (but mostly in the church) taken by Gen. Twiggs, near 2000 troops were captured. Among them were Gen. Rincon, who commanded in person, Gen. Anaya, lately President Substitute, and Gen. Arevalon, as also Col. Goretega, formerly Minister at Washington. --Gen. Garay was captured near San Antonio by General Worth, and several influential officers, among them Col. Miramon, by Gen. Shields at the hacienda; but the most important capture of all was the entire Foreign Battalion, mostly made up of deserters from our own army, with their commander, notorious Riley himself. They are all now under close guard, and I trust will be strictly dealt with.

The loss on our side has fallen most heavily upon the South Carolina and New York volunteers, the 6th Infantry and Smith's light battalion, attached to Worth's division, and the batteries of Capts. Magruder and Taylor. The S. Carolina regiment was nearly cut to pieces losing 137 out of 272 men, with which it went into action. The 1st Artillery has suffered severely in officers.

The Mexican accounts acknowledge the loss, in killed, wounded and prisoners, or no less than thirteen Generals, (among them three Ex. Presidents, ) and forty-five pieces of cannon. One of our officers says that we have captured more ammunition than Gen. Scott has used since he has been in the country. Yours, &c. G. W. K.

[From the N. Orleans Delta, September 8.]
Smith's brigade engaged for more than one hour sustained the fire of 22 pieces of artillery, mostly of heavy calibers. They were finally compelled to retire, after sustaining a severe loss in killed and wounded. Gen Pillow had ordered Gen. Pierce's brigade to the support of Col. Riley. At this stage of the proceedings, while the battle was raging, the enemy appeared on the left of the fort of Couttreras, and in rear of the village of Ensaldo, with a force of 12,000 men, under the immediate command of Santa Anna.

The 15th Infantry, under Col. Morgan, was then ordered by Gen. Pillow to support of Smith's and Riley's Brigades. About this time Gen Scott came upon the ground, bringing with him Gen. Shield's brigade of volunteers, which was immediately ordered to the support of the forces under Gen. Cadwalader. Gen. Twiggs, as night approached, finding it impossible, from the nature of the ground, to reach his command, fell back to the position occupied by Gen. Scott, and passed the night exposed to the inclemency of the weather. McGruder's and the howitzer battery being disabled. And our left advancing on a road previously prepared by the enemy, thereby exposing our infantry to a destructive fire as the approached. McGruder's and the howitzer batteries were ordered by Gen. Smith to open, to attract the attention of the enemy, while he made a movement to the right, to try one of the enemy's flanks. After passing over the broken irregular surface of ground, and crossing the deep ravines, he succeeded in reaching the village of Ensaldo. Gen. Smith being the ranking officer, Gen. Cadwalader reported to him with four regiments of Gen. Pillow's division. Col. Riley's brigade had crossed the ravine, and passed towards Couttreras, after a strong body of the enemy, which he drove off. The enemy was now drawn up into line, above the village, on the right of the fort. This was a strong position of the enemy.

Gen. Smith now ordered Gen. Cadwalader's force to be drawn up on the outer edge of the village facing the enemy's heavy force on the left of the fort. After making the proper disposition of his forces, Gen. Smith now determined to attack the enemy's right, with Col. Riley on the left. --Gen. Cadwalader on the right of the former, returned in echelon, but before the movement could be completed night approached--the enemy's line could not be seen--therefore the order was countermanded, Gen. Cadwalader resuming his position on the outer side of the village. Col. Riley's Brigade was formed in a long lane inside and parallel to the village, the Rifles on his left, and the 3d Infantry on the churchyard. But now, says our correspondent, I imagine the position of this portion of the army, numbering 3500, at the outside, without artillery or cavalry, while the enemy in front and on the left had 19,000 troops. (those in the fort sail to be the best in Mexico,) with 22 pieces of artillery, and among his troops about 7000 cavalry. It was evident that some decisive action had to be taken; that some great effort had to be made; and Gen. Smith and Col. Riley, seconded as they were, were just the men competent to the task, and an attack on the enemy's front was determined upon, and the movement to take place at 3 o'clock of the following morning.

The force of Gen. Smith was not strong enough to carry the enemy's works, and at the same time to hold possession of the village: but fortune favors the brave; for, while he was preparing for the attack, Gen. Shields reported his near approach with the South Carolina and New York Volunteers. Gen. Shields, though outranking Gen. Smith, had too much magnanimity to assume the command, or to pluck the bright laurels about to be gathered by a brother soldier in carrying one of the enemy's strongholds, and accordingly he moved subject to the command of Gen. Smith. Gen. Shields' brigade was then placed in the village of Ensaldo, to cut off the enemy's retreat from Couttreras, or to take the reserve of the enemy in flank, if he should change his front.

At 3 o'clock on the morning of the 20th, the movement commenced, which was so slow that daybreak appeared before the head of Cadwalader's Brigade commenced ascending the ravine at the village. As soon as Col. Riley ascended the hill, and came in full view of the enemy, they opened a severe fire on Riley's forces.

Our correspondent then continues--"Col. Riley threw out his two advance divisions skirmishers and said, "Now, boys, give them hell--close in with them, and let the bayonet do its work," and his command rushed down the slope with a yell and enthusiasm enough to strike terror to the heart of the boldest, while the rear of his command moved steadily forward as if they were all made of one piece. The Sappers and Miners and Rifle regiment, which had been thrown across a ravine intervening between the one they passed up, and under the brow of the slope which Col. Riley came down, from that position poured in a fire which swept in front of Col. Riley's column, then inclining towards their left joined in the attack of the troops outside of the left flank of the fort. Gen. Cadwalader followed the route taken by Col. Riley, and as soon as his troops were formed mobbed on to his support. The first brigade, which was bringing up the rear, had been ordered to follow the same route--but while it was on its march by the right flank up the ravine and nearly opposite the fort, Gen. Smith ordered the brigade to face to the left and advance in line to attack the enemy's forces in flank--this movement was executed in less time than it takes me to write it--they met the enemy's position at the front as Col. Riley's brigade rushed into it--the enemy was completely routed and commenced a precipitate retreat--their cavalry and had been formed to receive the charge but were compelled to give way to the baronet--the rout was most complete, and the victory most decided; but while Riley's brigade took possession of the work, and planted their colors upon it, the other force continued the pursuit down the road. The retreating force had to pass near where Gen. Shield's brigade was placed to intercept them. They, however, were not aware of it until they received the well-directed fire of the South Carolina regiment, which mowed them down like grass before the scythe."

The rout and dispersion were now complete. In the fort were captured 22 pieces of artillery, an immense amount of munitions of war, and upwards of 1,500 prisoners, among whom were several officers of high rank. The enemy left dead upon the field upwards of 700, which we buried; but his loss, says our correspondent, was much larger, as the Mexicans were still burying dead two days after the battle. The troops in the fort were commanded by Valencia, and those outside by Santa Anna. The two 6-pounders of Washington's battery, taken on the field of Buena Vista by the Mexicans, were recaptured in this fort.

The enemy were pursued to San Angel, he endeavored to make a stand at every point--they were finally compelled
to take refuge in Churubusco. At San Angel General Pillow assumed the command, and when the troops arrived at Culican, shortly after, General Scott assumed the command of the whole. The position now occupied by the enemy (Churubusco) was a very strong one, and it being the last stand the enemy could make in defence of the Capital, he fought with desperation for more than two hours, before the works were carried. Our loss at this point was over 1,000 men. Seven pieces of artillery, and two stand of colors, were captured; General Rincon, with 104 officers, and upwards of 1,100 non commissioned officers and privates, surrendered as prisoners of war. The Mexican loss in this engagement is said to be 5,000 in killed and wounded, and out of a force of 30,000 men, there were about 6,000 men left, the balance being killed, wounded, prisoners, or totally dispersed.

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[From the N. Orleans National, Sept. 8]

We have received the Sun of Anahuac of the 30th ult., from which we extract the following. --We give the extract verbatim--but under the impression that Paredes and Peres are the same.

Two letters were received this morning dated Mexico, Aug. 23, 1847. These letters are from the best source and cannot be doubted. They are from Mexicans of high respectability at the Capital and addressed to commercial houses here. They say that General Scott attacked El Pinon—took it, went around through Guadaloupe, where Valencia was in command of 6,000 men, (this was on the 21st) attacked him and took a great number of prisoners, but the night coming the fire ceased on both sides and Gen. Scott surrounded by Valencia’s troops. The next morning they were again vigorously attacked and completely routed, leaving 4,000, between dead, wounded prisoners.

Valencia had received the order on the 21st to retreat on the capital, but he would not obey it, and fought until his command was nearly all cut down as we have already said.

While he was retreating in disorder, say the letters, Gen. Peres was on his march with 8000 men to reinforce him; but on seeing the disorder in which Valencia’s forces were retreating, they themselves retreated in great confusion, leaving a great number of dead, wounded and prisoners.

A proposition was then made to General Scott to grant an armistice of 34 hours, which he refused. Gen. Moray Villamil was then sent out to make a new proposition, the result of which was not known.

It is reported also that Santa Anna was opposed to the plan of operations which were put in practice by the Mexican troops, but that the plan had been opposed by Paredes who was with Valencia during the engagement.

The letters agree in saying that all was confusion in the Capital.

The letters to which we refer say that some persons elevated the loss of the Mexicans to FOURTEEN THOUSAND, but that it was very difficult to say exactly the number. These letters are from Mexicans and therefore we can be certain that they would not say anything to their disadvantage, if they were not certain of their being true.

It is reported that the loss of Gen. Scott is very small in comparison to that of the enemy.

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The New Orleans Times copies the following from the Sun of Anahuac, of the 1st September.

HUZZAH! HUZZAH!! HUZZAH!!!

GREAT VICTORY.

THIRTY-TWO THOUSAND MEXICANS DEFEATED BY SEVEN THOUSAND AMERICANS.

Our army has again covered itself with glory.

The English Courier had just arrived and the news, NEWS we say, are that Gen. Santa Anna and thirty thousand men have been defeated whipped!! And completely routed!!

Our troops engaged those of the enemy about three miles from the capital of Mexico, where they were strongly entrenched. After a combat of TWO HOURS they (the enemy) were put to fight!!

The enemy’s forces amounted to THIRTY-TWO THOUSAND MEN ! and our forces to SEVEN THOUSAND!!

Three more cheers for the American army--Huzzah! Huzzah!! Huzzah!!

The enemy’s thirty-two thousand men were driven to the gates of the city of Mexico, by our seven thousand men at
the point of the bayonet.

Four commissioners were sent to Gen. Scott from the city of Mexico.

This news came by the English Courier, and therefore we suppose that no one will doubt it. --We will say further that we have seen a letter which no one would dare to contradict, which says all we have said. This letter is dated Tacubaya, 3 miles from Mexico, August 26.

N.B. --We have just seen in Diario del Gobierno than an armistice of 48 hours was granted by Gen. Scott. [BRM]

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RE47v44n41p3c1, September 21, 1847: CONTRERAS AND CHURUBUSCO!

Two Great Battles and Glorious Victories

BY THE AMERICANS.

NEAR THE CITY OF MEXICO

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THE BATTLE OF CONTRERAS.

[Correspondence of the New Orleans Delta. ]

TACUBAYA, August 26, 1847.

Eds. Delta: The late brilliant achievement of the arms of the United States over the superior numbers of the enemy, and in front of the capital of the country, cannot but excite the admiration and pride of our people, from one end of the land to the other; but those who were not here to witness and participate in the desperation of the conflict--the great and apparently insurmountable obstacles--the privations appreciate the brilliancy of the victory, the gallantry and good conduct, and the scientific attainments of our noble little army. Our comparative loss, of those engaged, exceeds that of any practicable route we could take that would so effectually turn their position, and in order to delay our movement, sent out General Alvarez, the great champion of the South, with his Pintos (a tribe of Indians spotted by nature) together with a portion of the regular army, amounting in all to about 10,000 men, to attack the rear column, under the command of Gen. Twiggs; but it turned out to be a feeble attempt. Gen. Twiggs had scarcely formed his line of battle and opened his artillery, under the command of Capt. Taylor, before they fled with great precipitancy. A few well-directed shots from this battery made a forcible impression upon their columns, and they retreated, leaving a portion of their dead and wounded to take care of themselves. The whole affair did not detain Gen. Twiggs more than an hour, and he was again on his march. By this time the enemy had discovered the route by which we were moving, and endeavored to obstruct the road; but the sappers and miners, aided by the head of Gen. Worth's column arrived at San --the enemy's skirmishes firing from every hill-top and point which favored them on the route, and their cavalry presenting themselves in force several times during the day, but never daring to attack.
On the 18th, General Worth’s column moved down the road in the direction of San Antonio, from which place the enemy fired upon a squadron of dragoons (killing Captain Thornton and wounding the guide Jonathan Fitzwater) advance of the fortifications of San Antonio. Capt. Thornton had been very unwell for some time, and went out in command of his squadron against the advice of his physician and his senior officers; but his energy and gallantry would not allow him to remain inactive when there was the least possibility of meeting the foe. As soon as the dragoons were withdrawn, Col. Duncan’s battery and the sappers and miners moved down the road, and took a position that would enable them to operate in any direction, in case of emergency. Col. Smith’s light battalion was thrown out on the left front to watch the movements of the enemy, and to hold him in check in case of his advancing his flank. Immediately after, Col. Garland’s brigade made a diversion to the right, and took position in line, resting his right at the hacienda of San Juan de Dios, about 400 yards to the right of the road. As soon as this movement was completed, the 2d brigade, under Col. Clarke, moved down the road until the head of his column rested on the left wing of Col. Garland. One section of the mountain howitzers was brought forward, and thus they remained until sundown, when the brigade of cavalry withdrew, leaving the infantry and artillery on the ground. About two o’clock a heavy rain came on, which completely drenched the troops, and they were also exposed during blankets. Gen. Worth, with a part of the first brigade, occupied the hacienda of San Juan de Dios during the night, and the enemy amused themselves by firing a few random shot at it about sundown, from San Antonio, but without any other effect than to riddle the house completely with balls, and to besprinkle the officers with the mortar and dust of the old hacienda. During the day, Maj. Graham was sent out from San Augustin (Gen. Scott’s headquarters) towards Contreras, to protect the engineers in a reconnaissance of the route in that direction, where, during the forenoon, he engaged a force of the enemy’s cavalry and infantry, which he drove back, with a loss of 8 killed, 2 wounded, and 5 prisoners—Maj. Graham’s command sustaining no loss.

On the 19th, the enemy fired from the works at San Antonio on the hacienda of San Juan de Dios, supposing a part of our forces were still there. About 10 o’clock the suppers and miners, under Lieut. Smith, and the section of mountain howitzers, under Lieut. Calander, returned to San Augustin and joined Gen. Pillow’s division, which was then taking up its march in the direction of Contreras. Gen. Pillow continued his march, opening the road as he went, until he reached a high point, from whence we had the enemy and his fortifications in full view. Between 1 and 2 o’clock the division of Gen. Twiggs came up with the advance and moved forward—Gen. Smith’s brigade advancing to the left, and Col. Riley’s to the right. Gen. Pillow placed at the disposal of Gen. Twiggs Capt. McGruder’s battery and Lieut. Cadalader’s howitzers—both of which belonged to the proper division of Gen. Pillow.

With great difficulty the two batteries moved forward having to travel half a mile over a broken and confused mass of lava, apparently impassable even for footmen. The enemy opened his heavy batteries from Contreras, and the advancing troops of Gen. Smith’s brigade hotly engaged the enemy’s infantry, which he had throw out across a deep ravine and creek in front of his fortifications. He appeared determined to maintain his position in front of his fortifications, using his artillery for a time against the rear brigades of our army as the came up; but he was not able to stand the severity of the conflict, and was compelled to retire with heavy loss. --He then concentrated his fire upon the howitzers and Capt. Mcgruder’s battery. These two batteries sustained, for more than an hour, the fire of twenty-five pieces of artillery, mostly of large caliber, when they were ordered by Gen. Smith to retire from so unequal a conflict. Their loss is very severe, and among others, we have to lament the death of Lieut. Johnson; Lieut. Calander was also severely wounded.

General Pillow had ordered General Pierce’s brigade to the support of General Smith, and General Cadwalader’s to support of Colonel Riley. At this state of the battle, while it was raging with extreme severity, the enemy appeared on the left of the fort at Contreras, and in rear of the village of Ensalso, where Colonel Riley had arrived, with a force of 12,000 men, (which we afterwards learned was under the command of Santa Anna himself,) apparently threatening the safety of Colonel Riley and General Cadwalader. General Pillow ordered the 15th Infantry, under Colonel Morgan, to support of General Cadwalader. General Scott came upon the ground about this time, bringing with him General Pillow’s battery of brave volunteers (South Carolina and New York) whom he advanced to the support of the forces under General Cadwalader.

General Twiggs finding his command so separated, and that it was utterly impossible, from the nature of the ground, for him to reach the point intended to occupy, as night approached, fell back with a portion of his staff to the place where General Scott was passing the night, exposed to a severe rain, without shelter, or anything more than his usual uniform, to protect him from the inclemency of the weather.

McGruder’s and the howitzer battery being disabled, and it being evident that our left was advancing on a route prepared for us by the enemy—he having cleared away all the brush and other obstacles that obstructed his view—thither exposing our infantry to a destructive fire as the approached, and it being doubtful whether they could cross the ravine after they reached it, Gen. Smith directed Capt. McGruder and the howitzer battery to open, in order to attract the attention of the enemy, while the made a movement to the right, which he had determined on, in order to try on of the enemy’s flanks. Leaving three companies of the 3d infantry to support the battery, and about 20 men of Maj. Dimick’s command to reinforce the loss sustained by the battery. Gen. Smith moved off with the sappers and miners, Lt. Smith, 1st artillery, Maj. Dimick, and 3d artillery, Capt. Alexander—and as many of the rifle men of Maj. Dimick’s command to reinforce the loss sustained by the battery. Gen. Smith moved off with the to try on of the enemy’s flanks. Leaving three companies of the 3d infantry to support the battery, and about 20
and craggy rocks—some to the ravines—while others depended upon their heels, and made most excellent time in a line approach and the enemy’s line could not be seen; therefore, the order was countermanded, and Gen. Cadwalader's position was taken to the edge of the village; Col. Riley’s brigade was formed in a long line inside parallel to it—the rifles on his left and the 3d infantry in the churchyard. Thus they remained exposed to a severe rain all night without fire or shelter—the officers from generals down sharing the severity of the weather; but perhaps it only whetted their appetite for a more glorious and determined engagement in the morning. —But now imagine the position of this portion of the army, numbering 3500 at the outside, without artillery or cavalry, while the enemy in front and on the left had 10,000 troops—those in the fort said to be the best of Mexico—with 22 pieces of artillery, and among his troops about 7000 cavalry. Ti was evident that some decisive action had to be taken, that some great effort had to be made, and Gen. Smith and Col. Riley, seconded to the task they were, were just the men competent to the task. An attack on the main work was determined on, and the movement to take place at 3 o’clock of the following morning. However, here another obstacle presented itself—the force of Gen. Smith was not strong enough to attack the main work and hold the village at the same time, and it was of the utmost importance he should do so—for if he drove the enemy from this main work, and in his retreat he secured possession of the village, he could hold it long enough to allow his troops to get away, and in all probability seriously embarrass any further movements of our army until he was safely fixed somewhere else. It is said that fortune favors the brave—and in this instance it most truly did—for while Gen. Smith was preparing for his attack. Gen. Shields reported his near approach with his brigade of South Carolina and New York Volunteers—and here was an exhibition of magnanimity on the part of a high-minded soldier to a brother officer. When Gen. Shields arrived he was the ranking officer and could have assumed the command, but he was not the man to pluck the bright laurels about to be gathered by a brother soldier in carrying one of the strong works of the enemy—accordingly he moved subject to the command for Gen. Smith, and his brigade was placed in the village of Ensaldé, as circumstances might require, either to cut off the retreat of the troops from Contreras or to take the reserve of the enemy in flank, if it should change its front and attempt to attack our force towards Contreras.

At 3 o’clock, on the morning of the 10th, our troops commenced their movements towards the front of attack—the night was so dark that the men could not go out of reach of one another for fear of losing their way. This caused the movement to be so slow that day break approached before the head of Gen. Cadwalader's brigade commenced descending into the ravine at the village. As soon as Col. Riley got out of the deep ravine, and at a point where it was thought the rear of the work could be approached, the head of the column halted and closed—at the same time drawing the loads out of the guns supposed to be wet. Col. Riley then formed his brigade in column by divisions—and thus the column stood formed, Col. Riley’s brigade on the advance, next Gen. Cadwalader’s and Gen. Smith’s brigades, together with the sappers and miners, under the command of Maj Dimick, closed up the rear—leaving Gen. Shields at the village. Col. Riley continued up the ravine hearing a little to his left, and as he raised over the bank he stood facing the rear of the enemy’s work—but he was protected from the severity of its fire by the favorable position of the ground. As soon as Col. Riley ascended the hills and came in full view of the enemy, they immediately opened a warm fire upon him. Col. Riley threw out his two advanced divisions as skirmishes, and said forward—"Now boys give them hell—close in with them and let the bayonet do its work"—and his command rushed down the slope with a desperation and enthusiasm enough to strike terror to the heart [illegible] of his command moved steadily forward in solid block with the most mechanical precision. The sappers and miners and the rifle regiment, which had been thrown across a ravine intervening between the one they had passed up and under the brow of the slope which Col. Riley came down, from that position poured in a fire which swept in front of Col. Riley’s column—and thus inclining towards their left, joined in the attack on the troops outside of the flank of the Fort. Gen. Cadwalader followed the route taken by Col. Riley, and as soon as his troops were formed, moved on to his support. The first brigade, which was bringing up the rear, had been ordered to follow the same route, but while it was on his march by the right flank up the ravine and nearly opposite the Fort, General Smith ordered the brigade to face to the left and advance in line to attack the enemy’s force in flank—this movement was executed in less time than it takes me to write it—they met the enemy outside o the Fort, just as Col. Riley’s brigade rushed into it—the enemy was completely routed and commenced a precipitate retreat—their cavalry and infantry had been formed to receive the charge but both were compelled to give way to the bayonet—the rout was most complete and the victory most decided—but while Riley’s brigade took possession of the works and planted their colors upon it the other force continued the pursuit down the road. The retreating force had to pass near where General Shields’ brigade was placed to intercept them. They, however, were not aware of it until they received the well directed fire of South Carolina regiment which mowed them down like grass before the scythe.

The enemy had been completely deceived in reference to the position of Gen. Shields’ brigade and the balance of the force, by the sagacity of the General. After Gen. Smith moved off to attack the work, Gen. Shields cause his men to build fires over the ground occupied by the troops during the night as if the men were preparing their breakfast which led the enemy to believe our troops were still in force in the village; this also led him to believe we were going to carry into execution the attack we were mediating the night before—accordingly the night before he placed batteries along his line, and in the morning moved detachments forward to take in the flank the attack he supposed we would make at daylight, and how great his surprise must have been when the first thing he saw in the morning was Col. Riley moving down the slope, having already turned his stronghold—but, all doubts were soon dispelled by the capture of his works and the dispersion of his army—they were met at every point by the skilful management and energy of Gen. Shield’s, whose command compelled them to fly in every direction—some taking to the broken and craggy rocks—some to the ravines—while others depended upon their heels, and made most excellent time in a
race across the fields--One of the most sagacious movements made by a Mexican officer was made at this place. After a large portion of the Mexican army had passed through a very narrow pass and our troops after them, he formed a squadron of lancers in the pass, laid down their arms and surrendered, thus effecting the escape of those who had already--those of our troops who were nearest having to take possession of the prisoners and guard them back, and before another force could go in pursuit they were out of reach.

In this fort there were captured 22 pieces of artillery, mostly large size, a great number of pack mules, a large quantity of ammunition and munitions of war, and upwards of 1,500 prisoners, among them were several officers of high rank. The enemy left dead upon the field, which we have buried, upwards of 700--but his loss was certainly much heavier--as the Mexicans were still burying their friends when I passed over the battle-ground two days ago--there were many more killed, when the Rifles engaged on the 19th, than we had any idea--their unerring aim told with powerful effect. The troops in the fort were commanded by Valencia, those outside by Santa Anna.

Among the highest achievements of the morning's engagement was the recapture of the two Buena Vista, six-pounders, belonging to Capital Washington's battery, by one of the light companies of the same regiment. They now stand before the door of General Twiggs, and I hope when he shall meet his old friend, General Taylor, he will have present these beautiful trophiess to claim the congratulations. All the small arms taken were immediately destroyed.

The arms were secured and a detachment left to protect the ordnance, ammunition and prisoners--the column formed for the purpose of pursuing the enemy, who had been met by a force from San Angel, when Gen. Twiggs arrived and ordered a speedy and most vigorous pursuit of the enemy, which was immediately done--Gen. Shields' brigade in advance, next Gen. Twiggs, division, and the rear by Gen. Pillow's division--the rifles and sappers and miners in advance as skirmishers. There now ensued a sort of running fight all the way to San Angel--the enemy endeavoring to make a stand at every point on the road--but the unerring fire of the rifle made every place too hot for them, and they were compelled to take refuge in Churubusco.

At San Angel Gen. Pillow arrived and took the command, when the whole column moved down to Culican, when Gen. Scott came up and immediately took the command of the whole.

The Battle of Churubusco.

As soon as the enemy's forces perceived that Contreras was carried, and that we could be able to turn his position and attack him in reverse, he evacuated the fortification and fell back on Churubusco with his artillery and whole force. This was also reinforced by the troops from Contreras, and some from the city. They apparently determined to make their final stand at this point.

The work and position was exceedingly strong and completely masked by a high growth of corn, and an orchard, which very much precluded our officers getting a proper view of the position and strength of the work, which proved to be a regular fortification, and had been erected in the incredibly short time of 38 hours. The church buildings formed a large square--the lower front, at the North end, was chiefly a wall, scaffolded for infantry; behind it was a higher building, also covered with infantry; and in rear of this, the church itself was also covered with infantry, and a high steeple on its right flank was filled with infantry; in front of the first wall was a curtain connecting two salient angles, which flanked it, and were continued back to the side walls of the church, garrisoned heavily with infantry, and mounting 7 pieces of artillery. This was the point at which General Smith's brigade opened the action, and soon followed, a little further to the left, by Col. Riley's brigade--these two composing the Cerro Gordo Division, General Twiggs'. Capt. Taylor's battery of light artillery also took near this work, on the right of Gen. Smith's brigade--it soon drew upon it a heavy fire from the fort, which he sustained for an hour and a half, losing 23 of his company, among whom were Lieuts. Martin, Boynton and Sims, and 3 Sergeants; he also lost, during this time, 15 horses. The conduct of Capt. Taylor and his company throughout, was such as to excite the admiration of all who witnessed it, as well as his superior officers.

At the opposite side of the work, the breastwork extended across the road from the church, presenting a similar front, excepting the buildings of the church--the work on the road was also strengthened by a bridge over a creek, behind which was a body of infantry, and the work itself mounting three or four guns. General Pillow, with a part of his division, was sent round by General Scott, to assault this part of the work, but as he, with his command, emerged from the mud mire of the corn fields, (having waded, some of them, waist deep) into the road, he met General Worth coming up from San Antonio with his division--they had a hearty welcome, and one of them proposed that their commands should go hand in hand in carrying the work, which was readily agreed to.

At the same time that the other commands were despatched, General Scott ordered General Shields to attack the enemy's extreme left, where he was heavily entrenched; at the same time reinforcing his command with the 9th, part of the 12th and 15th infantry, under General Pierce. This movement was executed as soon as the nature of the ground would admit--the whole command having to pass through corn fields of high growth, intercepted by ditches running through them in every direction.

The action now became general, and the severity of the conflict never equaled within the recollection of our oldest soldiers--the enemy was more than three times our number, besides his advantage of artillery and position--added to this, he was stimulated by the fact that it was the last effort of resistance he could make, before we could enter the capital--his troops knew that they were fighting for the last remnant of the Republic. And they stood their ground with as much firmness and resolution as any troops cold stand, before the army we at present have here. The roar of the musketry was so great, that it was almost impossible for the soldiers to hear the orders of their officers. There
was no point at which the action did not rage with severity for more than two hours, which is proven by the fact that our loss at this point was nearly 1,000 men.

After the contest had lasted about two hours, our troops had got into such position as to be able to class with them at the point of the bayonet, which decided the affair in our favor—Gen. Pillow and Gen. Worth carrying the work on the road, by an officer of Gen. Pillow’s division taking down one flag, and one of Gen. Worth’s taking down the other, and the 8th infantry planting their colors instead. Gen. Twiggs’ division carrying the work it attacked at the church, Capt. J.M. Smith, of the 3d infantry, received the surrender of the work, with seven pieces of artillery, two stand of colors, Gen. Rincon, together with 104 officers and upwards of 1,100 non-commissioned officers and privates, surrendered as prisoners of war. Gen. Shields had his work more to himself, and he fully sustained that high reputation hitherto acquired on the field of battle. When the contest raged highest, and his men falling around him in every direction, he preserved that even temperament of mind for which he is characteristics his [illegible] wearing that bland and affable appearance throughout the whole engagement. His volunteers stood and moved under the fire with the regularity of veteran troops. South Carolina has sustained a heavy loss. Col. Butler was wounded twice before he received the fatal shot. The color-bearers were successively shot down, when Lieut. Col. Dickinson took the colors, and was bearing the Palmetto proudly amidst the storm, when he also received a severe wound. About the same time that the three divisions at the forts were enabled to close, Gen. Shields succeeded in driving from their position the large force with which he was contending.

The dragoons were now brought forward, and drove the enemy to the gates of the capital, thus closing, for the present, the most brilliant victory achieved by our arms during the war, and one which will vie with any achievement of our arms in times past.

For more fully detailed particulars, I must refer you to the reports of the several commands. I find that if I were to attempt to record the entire details of the achievements of the 20th, I would not be able to conclude it in time enough to be of any interest to your readers.

Louisiana had two brilliant representatives, who participated largely throughout the whole affair, viz: Gen. P. F. Smith, of the 1st brigade, 2d division, and Lieut. Beauregard, of the engineers—both of which gentlemen signally distinguished themselves, both of which gentlemen signally distinguished themselves, both by their superior military knowledge and their personal courage. The engineer corps throughout has borne a large share of the labors and exposure of the battle.

From intercepted letters which we have in our possession, written on the evening of the battle, we learn the Mexican loss to be 5000 killed and wounded, and by them we also learn, that out of 30,000 men, they had but between 6000 or 8000 men left, and they in confusion without leaders—the balance killed, wounded, prisoners, or totally dispersed.

I send you a list of the killed and wounded, as near as they can be got at present.

I also send you the master roll of a company of volunteers, who organized themselves for the occasion, under Capt. McKinstry. They were composed of men who were not attached to any particular command, but mostly belonging to some of the departments. They had five wounded, but I have not been able to get their names. On several occasions they rendered highly important service, and exhibited the metal all Americans possess.

We also had many persons who bore a conspicuous part in the actions of both days, who were not attached to any particular command—among them I noticed conspicuously Maj. Bryant and Lieut. Dickinson, formerly of the Alabama regiment of volunteers.

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**Manifesto of the president ad interim of the republic, and general in chief of its army, to the nations:**

In moments so critical and solemn, it is a duty, on the part of him who presides over the republic, to give publicity to events; and I discharge this duty with pleasure, because frankness has at all times been the characteristic of my administration. The occurrences of the 19th and 20th are too well known, for they were unfortunate; but it is proper for me to review them, in order that they may not be misrepresented, as well from a spirit of detraction and malevolence, as from errors resulting from a want of analysis in subjects of grave and transcendent importance.

The nation has witnessed the great—the extraordinary efforts with which, during the space of three months, I have labored for the defence of the capital, which was about to be surrendered defenceless to the enemy. I have organized, armed, and equipped an army of more than 20,000 men; I have collected an immense material for this army; I have fortified various lines in order to keep at distance from Mexico the ravages of war; I have created resources in the midst of the state of abandonment in which the government was left; and no fatigue, no labor, have I omitted, in order that my country might present herself with dignity and firmness in the struggle to which she has been so unjustly provoked.
In war, an accident—a circumstance apparently the most insignificant—may frustrate the most skilfully devised combinations. A glance at the defences which I caused to be constructed around the city is sufficient to discover the plan which I had proposed to myself.

The troops which I had advanced, by one of the flanks, supported by others posted en echelon at convenient distances, were to have made a concerted retrograde movement, which I commanded at the proper moment. A general who commanded a strong division of 5,000 men and 24 pieces of artillery, whose headquarters were at the town of San Angel, was ordered by me on the 18th, and 11 o’clock in the morning, to fall back on the village of Coyoacan, in order to effect the concentration of forces, in consequence of demonstration already made by the enemy, and for the purpose of exactly carrying out my plan of operations. But this general, forgetting that there cannot be two commanders on the field of battle, and that the execution of a plan will not admit of comments which annul or retard it, suffered himself to himself to object to the orders which he had received; and obedience and discipline, so indispensable in military movements, having been banished from among us, thus rendering it necessary, in order to avoid greater and imminent evils, to tolerate what it would be absurd to approve of, I suffered him, in spite of myself, to persevere in his purpose, and charge himself with the whole responsibility of the consequences. They were not less disastrous than they had been obvious. He advanced, motu proprio, [of his own accord, J more than a league to choose a position from which to meet the enemy, without acquainting me either with his movement or his intentions. His refusal to obey the order sent him was the first notice which I had of this temerity; and soon afterwards the report of cannon enabled me to ascertain the position he had taken, and apprized me that an action had commenced.

Although weighed down with the presentiment of what was to follow, I instantly placed myself at the head of a splendid brigade of four thousand men and five pieces of artillery. I arrived at the moment when the enemy had cut off the rear of the position of the ill-fated general by a considerable force, whose operations I was then hardly able to check, for it was now nearly night.

But I observed, with the greatest grief, that the position in question was isolated—that a large ravine intervened, and a neighboring wood was occupied by the enemy; the troops under my immediate command could not advance by the only road which existed, without being exposed to the same fate as the others; and a single battery, which arrived late, was my only means of attack. The firing having ceased, our brigade took up their quarters in the town of San Angel; for the rain fell in torrents, and to keep the troops in the field would have been equivalent to their being routed.

Previous to this, I ordered that my aid-de camp, Col. Ramiro, should, taking as a guide the deputy, Don Jose Maria del Rio, who was acquainted with the ground, proceed to the head of the terrible ravine in front of us, and along the skirt of a distant hill, and, making all haste to the camp of the general referred to, order him to retire that night, without fail, with his infantry and cavalry, to San Angel, by the only road which was left him, firing spiking his cannon, if it already impossible to save them. This my aid accomplished, and communicated my order between 10 and 11 at night; but instead of punctually obeying the order, the general hardly suffered my aid to speak, interrupting him by saying that what he wanted was 6,000 men and munitions, and sent him off, after giving him two official letters, which he had signed and sealed, one of them containing a report of the action of the evening, in which he stated that he had beaten the enemy, and put him to shameful flight, and that he had, in consequence, granted promotions of the generals, field officers, and others.

The following day, at dawn, I repaired again to the same field, reinforced by the brigade which I had ordered to be brought from the capital, and determined to effect the enemy made his attack, which lasted about ten minutes, and I witnessed, in the midst of despair, the rout of those troops, worthy of a better fate, and unfortunately commanded by a general who was himself the cause of their being cut off.

The consequences of this affair were, in my view, terrible. The enemy could, by a rapid movement, reach the capital before it would be possible for me to succor it; he could, by a flank movement, cut off my detached forces; he could, by a flank movement, cut off my despatched forces; he had obtained, as the result of his victory, the power of falling with the main body of his troops upon a part of mine; the enemy, in fine, through the unskilfulness and insubordination of a general, converted to his own benefit all the advantages of my situation.

The advanced fort of San Antonio could not sustain itself; for our time had been intersected, and I ordered its garrison to retire, while I covered the fort and tete de port of Churubusco. The enemy advanced, cutting off a portion of the troops as they were retiring, and presented himself in front of our nearest defences. I there placed myself again in front of our soldiers, and my efforts cost the enemy not a little bloodshed. The losses ensued, although lamentable, were the natural result of the retreat, which was sudden, unexpected; and embarrased by the trains, marching along a narrow causeway flanked throughout its whole extent. The defence was from line to line, until the third was reached, where I personally opposed the enemy, and saved the capital, which was suddenly placed in danger. While I was engaged, on the 22d, in reorganizing the forces and covering the batteries, and again in person at the head of a column, which would have continued the defence to the last extremity, I received a communication from the enemy’s general-in-chief, proposing to me to conclude an armistice, which would afford time to consider the propositions which may be made by the commissioners of the United States, for ending the struggle between the two nations. I consented to the armistice; and, after consulting the ministers in cabinet, I determined that the propositions referred to shall be taken into consideration.

The suspension of hostilities is always a good thing, because war is always an evil; and much more so, after great combinations have been frustrated. To save the capital from the horrors of war, or at least defer them, was a consideration which I could not overlook, more particularly when viewed as a means of arriving at an honorable
When two nations find themselves in a state of war, they have the reciprocal right to make propositions. A perpetual war is an absurdity, because it is a calamity; and the instinct of self-preservation, which is even stronger and more powerful in nations than in individuals, counsels that no means shall be disregarded which may lead to an advantageous adjustment. The constitution gives me full authority to adopt this course.

Devoted to interests so great and of such pre-eminent importance, I must maintain at all risks the respect and consideration due to the supreme authority which I exercise—now especially, when, if factions beset and harass the government, they will deprive it of the power of deliberating, and it will become contemptible in the presence of the enemies of the nation, I will be still more explicit—commotion and sedition shall be exemplarily punished.

I have preserved a considerable body of troops, and the nation will support me in maintaining its honor and vindicating its reputation. I consider myself as free as if I had just obtained a signal victory, and there is no fear that I shall be imposed on by the enemy’s negotiators, when his troops and a cannon have failed to alarm me. We shall adjust our differences, provided honor, above all, is saved; and we shall renew the combat, if the sword is thrust between our justice and acknowledgment of the rights of the nation.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA

Mexico, August 23, 1847.

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RE47v44n42p1c5, September 24, 1847: THE CAPTURED DRAGOONS

A New York letter, of Monday, in the Philadelphia Inquirer, has the following, which, if true, is highly gratifying.

"It has been supposed that Dr. Cooper and the ten dragoons, who left Vera Cruz to inform May. Lally of the approach of reinforcements, fell into the hands of the Mexicans, and were butchered in cold blood. The report, I am happy to say, is unfounded, and, farther, Dr. Cooper and the whole of the dragoons are safe and sound. This pleasant intelligence was received here in a letter written by Lieut. Sears, of the 2d Artillery, to a friend, stating that Dr. Cooper and his small party joined the train at Cerro Gordo, on the twenty-third of August last, all well. No mention has been made of the Doctor in any other way than through this letter."

[BRM]

RE47v44n42p1c7, September 24, 1847: FROM TEXAS

The steamship, Yacht, Capt. Crane, arrived yesterday from Galveston, bringing us to the close of the past week.

The Galveston News says that the house of Wm. Hendley & Co., Galveston, have now under contract five large packet ships to constitute a regular line between that city and New York. They are in the progress of construction in Portland, Me. The first will be launched and towed to New York, about the 20th inst., the second in April next, and two more during the next summer, so that by next fall there will be four of them completed and in the trade. --Their capacity will be about 1000 bales of cotton each.

The Galveston papers mention the death of Dr. Thos. P. Anderson of that city, and make the most honorable mention of the deceased. Three or four of the earliest inhabitants of Galveston have recently been called home."

The canvass for Governor of the State is carried on with considerable spirit. Gen. Wood, who distinguished himself at Monterey, is a candidate; so is Mr. Van Zandt, whose name is inseparably connected with the negotiations for the annexations of Texas. There are other candidates in the field.

The Texas editors are daily expecting to hear of Col Hays’ regiment at Mier. He left San Antonio de Bexar on the 13th ult.

The Houston Star of the 7th inst has the following paragraph about the crops of Texas:

"DROUGHT AND THE CROPS. --We were not apprised until within a few days that the drought that has prevailed in the undulating region had been so extensive and disastrous. We have been informed that it has seriously injured the upland cotton through the whole tier of counties from San Antonio to the Trinity. On the San Antonio, many of the settlers have been compelled to cut up their corn as it was withering in the fields. The settlers near Bexar have raised so little corn that the crop is insufficient for the consumption of the citizens, and large quantities have been transported from Guadalupe to that town. It is selling at Bexar for a dollar a bushel. We are informed that the cotton has suffered more upon the uplands than the corn. In many places but little or half a crop will be made. In
the bottom lands, however, the crop is immense; some of the planters are already complaining that they cannot procure hands to pick it out as fast as it matures."

The Houston Star says a large number of Mexican families have removed from the Rio Grande to that town, and others are expected to follow them this season. These families, however, possess little property, and appear to have removed from Mexico to avoid the oppressive exactions of the numerous guerilla parties that now infest all the Eastern States of Mexico. According to their representations, the people in the valley of the Rio Grande are in a deplorable condition. Unprotected in any manner by their own Government, almost without laws or officers who are empowered to restrain marauding hands of their own countrymen, or to check the incursions of the savages, they are unable to enjoy the least security of person or property.

The Star learns that Bexar is not the only town that has been benefited by the emigration from Mexico. Laredo, which has enjoyed comparative security since the ranging company of Gen. Lamar has been stationed there, seems to be slowly recovering its former prosperity.

RE47v44n42p2c3, September 24, 1847: NO NEWS FROM MEXICO

We had confidently hoped to lay before our readers this morning some definite intelligence from the city of Mexico--but we are again doomed to disappointment. While we cannot indulge any anxiety for the safety of Scott and the army--the Mexican authorities themselves admitting that their capital was at the mercy of our troops--the Mexican authorities themselves admitting that their capital was at the mercy of our troops--it is natural that the public mind should be filled with eager curiosity as to the result of the crisis in Mexico, whether peace or continued hostilities. It is a little strange that no despatches have been received from General Scott. --We can account for it only on the ground that he wants confidence in the Mexican pledges to allow a safe conduct to our couriers, and fears to risk such valuable documents with a small force. He may probably wait till something definite is done by the Commissioners, before he sends a sufficient escort to protect his courier from the guerillas. The wily Mexicans may attempt, for ulterior objects, to prolong the negotiations--but Gen. Scott and Mr. Trist, we are satisfied, know the Mexican character too well to be deceived by such a trick. We therefore look for news every day.

We have said that there was no news--but if we are to rely upon the inventive genius of the Spanish paper in New Orleans, La Patria there is news of vast importance. We give it for what it is worth, putting no sort of reliance upon its accuracy. The Patria has on several occasions published Mexican intelligence, which always turned out to be humbug. Aware of the public curiosity at the present moment, it has, no doubt, fabricated this new budget of items, to make the paper sell. This in itself is sufficient to throw discredit upon its "facts," but the very terms of the reported treaty utterly falsify the statements. --Who can believe that Mr. Trist has consented to the surrender of the Californias and the whole territory to the Rio Grande; thereby placing us in as bad a condition as when the war was commenced by Mexico? Many if the Whig presses and politicians would rejoice, could they believe in this reported arrangement, which surrenders all our just claims; but the large majority of the nation would spurn such a conclusion.

The New Orleans papers all express a want of confidence in the Patria's letter, which, it says, was received by the schooner Charon, that arrived at New Orleans on the 15th of September, from Tampico. The Bulletin states that its reporter had a conversation with the Captain of the Charon and, also, with an intelligent passenger, both of whom stated that there was no news of any kind, when they left Tampico. It must be further remembered, that the letter is of no later date (August 29) than we have already had from the capital by way of Vera Cruz. Letters written on that day (Sunday) informed us, that the commissioners had two meetings, and would have a third and final one on the next day, Aug. 30. but the Patria's astounding letter:

TAMPICO, Sept. 5th, 1847.

My friends: I have just received a letter from Mexico, which arrived here by special express via Huejutla; and I take advantage of the departure, almost at this very moment, of a vessel bound to your port to transmit you a copy of it. --It is to this effect:

MEXICO, August 29th, 1847.

Esteemed Friend: I have already informed you that General Scott proposed a suspension of arms on the 21st, and that it was followed by an armistice agreed to on the 22nd inst. A negotiation was forthwith opened with Mr. Trist, and I have just been assured that up to yesterday it had progressed very satisfactorily. Very shortly, a treaty of peace, it is expected will be concluded. The principal articles are the following:

"THE UNITED STATES shall for ever retain the State of Texas whose limits shall extend to the left bank of the Rio Bravo del Norte, comprising Matamoras by means of a canal which shall be cut, for that purpose." In respect to this latter point, it appears that nothing definitive has been agreed on.

It has been found impossible to assemble Congress, consequently a junta of "notable" will be found, for the express purpose of revising the treaty. There are other article, but as they are of secondary importance, they are not given.
GEN VALENCIA marched to Toluco, where he publicly declared that he would not recognize Santa Ann as President of the Republic, nor as Commander-in-Chief; and he proposed to assemble troops for the purpose of attacking the Capital. Subsequently, however, it appears, he surrendered himself to the Government, by whom he has been sent to prisoner to Guadaloupe, where he is to be brought before a court martial.

GEN. ALVAREZ is announced as intending to re-assemble his troops, for the purpose of attacking the Americans on the first available opportunity.

GEN. PAREDES, it is stated, is marching on the Capital with a respectable force, which he has succeeded in bringing together, with a view to assist his countrymen. This he persists in doing, notwithstanding the order that has been transmitted to him from Santa Anna to quit the country—to return again to the place of his exile.

GENERAL SALAS. --I have just seen a communication from General Salas, dated from Coayacan, where he remained a prisoner. In this, he declares that it was by the unskillfulness of Valencia, and the cowardice of Torrejon that the battle of Contreras was lost. Torrejon, instead of obeying the orders of Salas, which directed him to charge the Americans with his cavalry, pucillanimously fled, and in this manner brough run and destruction on our infantry.

N.N. *

This is positively the latest news from the Capital, but I expect at every movement the receipt of more, of still greater interest, which will enter more into detail.

The above news which we have given to the public, the moment it came to hand, is really of a character which is calculated to produce strangely conflicting feelings among Americans. The abandonment of California, after all that has been said, is a great sacrifice to be made to the Genius of Peace; peace for which we are all anxious.

RE47v44n42p2c3, September 24, 1847: OPINION OF THE ENGLISH NEWS

A New York letter, of Tuesday evening, says: "The commercial and monetary news by the Britannia is considered favorable. It is considered here that the lowest point of depression in breadstuffs had been reached, and that a better state of things is at hand."—[Balt. Sun.

The Whig press are endeavoring to produce the impression, that "the organs of the Administration" have censured General Scott for entering into an armistice with the Mexicans. We have seen nothing of the kind. It is true, the New Orleans Delta, neutral, found great fault with the armistice—but it intimated, at the same time, that General Scott might not be exclusively responsible for it. The Baltimore American, Whig, takes General Scott to takes for his correspondence with the Mexican Minister of War—ininsuates that General Scott might well have dispensed with the epithet "unnatural," applied to the war, and should not have allowed the Mexican to have employed, unanswered, the insolent terms of his note, in which he assents to the armistice. The Democratic press have not censured General Scott, and will do full justice to the armistice when the facts are fully known.

We are glad to see it stated in the beautiful and thrilling letter published to-day from the Union, that Santa Anna made the first proposition for a suspension of hostilities.

In explanation of this letter, the following statements of the Union are important:

"We lay before our readers a very interesting letter from an able officer upon the great battle. --We subjoin to it a short extract from another letter, which advises that there should be no relaxation of our exertions, but that, on the contrary, the army of Gen. Scott should be reinforced, so as to bear with more tremendous force upon the Mexicans. We concur fully in these views, and we have already stated that such is the purpose of the administration. With this design, they have recently called out six new regiments—one from Ohio, (which is en route for Vera Cruz,) two from Kentucky, two from Tennessee, and one from Indiana.

"We are gratified to learn to-day, from an officer in Indiana, that although the requisition had only been received on the last days of the month August, five companies had already been accepted, and fifteen more had offered their services.

"A similar spirit is displaying itself in Kentucky. The Lexington Observer, of Wednesday last, states that 'twelve companies had been reported to the adjutant general Frankfort, under the recent proclamation of the governor, up to Monday morning last. Thus one regiment is filled, and two companies reported for the next is filled, and two companies reported for the next. --But one company had then been reported from this congressional district; and that from the county of Scott. Not a doubt is entertained that the requisition will be filled by Monday next--the time fixed by the governor from arranging the regiments.'
We perceive from the Nashville Union that Tennessee is also in motion. To-night's western mail brings us the 'Memphis Eagle' of Friday last, which states that a company of volunteers 'is rapidly being organized in Somerville, and that another is forming at Germantown, under Messrs. A. L. Yancy and W. Ledbetter, under this last requisition from the War Department;'

"There cannot be a doubt that Gen. Scott will be strongly reinforced, and will be able to control the Mexicans, to coerce a peace; or, if a treaty be already made, to secure its execution."

Very interesting letter from a distinguished officer to his correspondent in Washington.

TACUBAYA, August 22, 1847.

We are now located in one wing of the Archbishop's palace, Chapultepec, with its significant grove, is before us, and we overlook the great city, surrounded by its [illegible] and embosomed in its mountains. I never recalled the beauty of the valley of Mexico until I reached this spot. To see it now, lighted by the soft, bright moon with every village, spire, hut, and mountain reflected in its silver lakes, you would think it even surpasses the descriptions we read of it. There are also some stupendous works of art around us. I can tell you nothing, for I have not been in the city, of something more interesting, I shall have to tell you of the operations of the army.

On the 7th inst. Gen. Twiggs's division left Puebla. --It was followed on the 8th by Gen. Quitman's on the 9th by Gen. Worth's, and overtook Gen. Twiggs that night at San Martin. Our march over the mountains was undisturbed, except by rumors of guerillas and resistance. Both disappeared as we approached, and we left their abandoned works as we found them. On the 11th Gen. Twiggs encamped at Ayotla, 15 miles from Mexico, 15 miles from Mexico, on the direct road. The other divisions, on each succeeding day, came up in order, and took positions in the rear--Gen. Worth occupying Chalco. The reconnaissance of the 12th and 13th satisfied us of the strength of the enemy's defences in our front. Their principal defence was at El Penon, commanding the causeway between the lakes of Tezecaco and Chalco. The hill of El Penon is about 300 feet high, having three plateaus of different elevations. It stands in the waters of Lake Tazeuco. It haze is surrounded by a dry trench, and its sides arranged with breast works from its base to its crest. It was armed with thirty pieces of cannon, and defended by 7,000 men, under Santa Anna in person. The causeway passed directly by its base--the waters of the lake washing each side of the causeway for two miles in front, and the whole distance seven miles to the city. There was a battery on the causeway about four hundred yards in advance of the Penon, another by its side, a third about a mile in front of the entrance to the city, and a fourth at the entrance. About two miles in front of the Penon a road branched off to the left, and crossed the outlet of Lake Hochimilico, a the village of Mexicalingo, six miles from the main road. This village surrounded by a marsh, was enveloped in batteries, and only approached over a paced causeway a mile in length. Beyond, the causeway continued through the marsh for two miles farther, and opened upon terra firma at the village of Churubusco, which was also fortified, and which we shall see more presently. The reconnaissance of the 14th satisfied us that the route south of Lake Chalco was practicable for our wagons, or could be made so. That day Gen. Pillow's division closed upon the village of Chalco, and the next morning (15th) Worth led off south of the lake. The divisions took up the line of march in succession, Gen. Twiggs bringing up the rear, and we turned our backs upon the fortifications of the Penon and Mexicalingo. General Valencia, with 6000 men, made an attempt to annoy our rear as it turned Lake Chalco; but General Twiggs having his train in front, and his division well in hand, wheeled into line to the left, and, with one discharge of Taylor's battery, tumbled over some men and horses, and sent the rest flying over the hills like the wild ducks from the lakes. He then broke again into column, and resumed his march. The racheros and guerilleros hovering about our front gave us little trouble, and the working parties filled up the trenches, and rolled away the rocks that had been placed there to retard us, without stopping our march.

On the 17th Gen. Worth encamped at San Augustin, on the Acapulco road, and moved down on the 18th two and a half miles, in front of San Antonio, or make room for the other division to close upon him. The 18th was devoted to reconnaissances. San Antonio was situated similarly to Mexicalingo. Batteries commanded the causeway in front, and swept over the marches to the left as far as the lake. The pedregal, or volcanic rocks, rendered the right impassable for everything but infantry, and difficult for them. one and a half mile in the rear were situated the defences of Churubusco, commanding the approach over the pedregal, and by the way of Mexicalingo. A route was discovered west from San Augustin over the spurs of the mountain, to the San Angel road, by which these positions could be turned. Gen. Twiggs's division coming up the morning of the 19th, was thrown forward on this route, to cover the working parties formed from Pillow's division. By 1, p.m., we had surmounted the hills and approached the two divisions of the army, with their field batteries, &c., within cannon range of Valencia's entrenchments, situated on the San Angel road, and commanding the only approach through the pedregal, or volcanic rocks. The working parties were returned to their regiments, the tools repacked, and preparations made to dislodge the enemy, before continuing the road further. On approaching his front within canister range, and driving in his advanced parties, posted behind breastworks across the road, with Magruder's and the howitzer batteries, it was found that the ground on his left offered the greatest advantages for the attack. He lay entrenched on rising ground, behind a deep ravine about midway between us, to which the ground gently descended from both directions. His front was defended by four 8-inch howitzers, and three long 16-pounders, one 18-pounder, and some smaller caliber. His right was almost equally strong; and, after crossing the ravine, approached over smooth ground in form of a natural glacis, and taken in reverse by a body of rancheros and lancers. The heads of the different divisions were accordingly changed to the right; and, each leaving their horses and batteries behind, slowly weeded their way, among the volcanic rocks, to the ravine, which they passed in front of the small village of San Raymond, out of gunshot of Valencia's batteries. They were now on the firm San Angel road, between Valencia and relief; but Santa Anna coming out to his support with seven thousand infantry and cavalry, drew up in battle array on the hill of Contreros, to our right. Col. Riley's brigade, that had been moved to the right earlier in the day, to co-operate with a front attack, and had passed beyond the San Angel Road, now falling back upon the village which we had take possession of, General Smith at
At 3 a.m., Col. Riley’s brigade was in motion, followed by Gen. Smith’s and Gen. Cadwallader’s; Gen. Shields holding the village. During the night, the 9th and 12th regiments, with a company of rifled and some detachments that had been thrown out the previous day, were moved to the ravine in front of the enemy’s position, and, after driving in their picquets in the gray of the morning, filed off to the right, an took sheltered position on their left, ready to co-operate with the attacking force in rear. This force moving around the base of the hill on which the battery was placed, covered from their view and fire, began about sunrise to show themselves over its crest. Col. Riley’s brigade, sweeping around their rear and right, moved down with great impetuosity, while Gen. Smith attacked their left from the rear. In the meantime Col. Ransom, pushing across the ravine the force in front, opened his fire upon their front and left. The enemy fiding himself thus attacked, and apprehending the main attack from the direction in which we approached the previous day, opened his heavy battery on his front. But Riley’s brigade carrying everything before them, on that of Shields. They broke at all points, abandoning artillery, pack train, ammunition, &c. We took 800 prisoners—4 generals: Salas, Mendoza, Blanco, and Garcia; 4 colonels; 2 commanders of brigades and squadrons, and other officers in proportion. Among the twenty-two pieces of artillery taken, were the two belonging to Washington’s battery, taken at Buena Vista. They were retaken by the 4th artillery, the regiment to which they originally belonged. We buried 600 of their dead found on the field. Our loss did not exceed 60. After allowing the troops a little time for refreshment, they were put in march down the San Angel road, to take in reverse the positions of San Antonio and Churubusco. The enemy, finding himself turned, immediately commenced to evacuate his lines at San Antonio; but we moved upon him so rapidly that he had to abandon his guns. Gen. Worth’s division, that had masked him in front, followed so close upon his heels as to drive his rear into the defences of Churubusco. In the meantime Gen. Twiggs had taken his position in the front on the battery surrounding the convent, while Gen. Worth seized upon that defending the bridge, and blocking the main road to Mexico. The battle opened fiercely on that side. Generals Shields and Pierce’s brigades were sent to attack in rear. Advancing towards the city of Mexico until they had passed the stream in rear of Churubusco, they crossed a cornfield on their right, and made for the causeway leading from Churubusco to the capital. This causeway was defended by a large body of infantry and cavalry, the latter extending apparently to the gates of Mexico. The number of infantry was said to be 5000, and of cavalry 4000. Gen. Shields forming his line obliquely to that of the enemy, resting either flank upon some buildings on his right and left, and gaining as much to their right flank as possible, brought his men promptly into action. General Pierce, following quickly up, took position to his left, and the howitzer battery opened on his right. The Mexicans made a stout resistance, and the reverse under Major Sumner, composed of the rifle regiment and a squadron of dragoons, was brought to their support. By the time they broke into the cornfield, the enemy began to give way. Worth and Twiggs had forced their front, and they were being driven upon the capital. As soon as the way was clear for the dragoons, they swept over the causeway, charging up to the very gates. Many a fine saddle was emptied by the discharge from their last battery. Capt. Kearney, whose troop was leading, lost his left arm, and the rest of his officers were wounded. Our men had done their work well faithfully. Their exhaustion required rest. The recall was sounded and we returned to the care of the killed and wounded. Of these we have a goodly number. I fear they will reach nearly 1000. Many gallant officers are at rest. Col. Butler, of the South Carolina regiment, bringing his regiment into action, had his horse shot under him; continuing the charge on foot, he was wounded in the leg, and finally shot through the head. Of the regulars, Capt. Thornton, of the dragoons, Capt. Burke, 1st artillery, Hanson, Lieut. Irons, Easly, Hoffman, and Johnston. About 40 are wounded more or less severely. All the engineers are safe. We cannot be sufficiently thankful, nor repay the interest or prayers of our friends in our behalf. The greeting of General Scott, by the troops after the action, on seeing the success of all his plane, was loud and vociferous. It must have shaken the “Halls of the Motezumas.” Their enthusiasm seemed to cheer the Mexican officers in their captivity. The army has implicit confidence in him, and apprehend nothing where he commands. He sees everything, and calculates the costs of every measure; and they know and feel that their lives and labor will not be uselessly commanded. During the day, we too, 9, 700 prisoners, 6 generals, 37 pieces of artillery, and ammunition enough for a whole campaign, their defences were completely turned and their plans upset. We could have entered Mexico that evening, or the next morning, at our pleasure, so complete was the disorganization of their army of 38,000 men. We learn that 27, 000 men were opposed to us at all points on the 29th, and they acknowledge is killed and wounded 5000 men. On the 21st, as the army met by a proposition for a cessation of hostilities, for the purpose of taking case of the killed and wounded. This he refused, but in the evening agreed to an armistice, or enable commissioners to meet Mr. Trist, and to treat for peace. —The armistice has been officially ratified. It is difficult to foresee the result; though I can very well see that it is for Santa Anna’s advantage to make peace. So far I can trust him.

The Lieutenant Johnson killed, was the nephew of Lt. Col. Johnson, of the voltigeurs. I was standing by him when his leg was carried off above the knee by a cannon ball. He was gallant little fellow, and an merry over his work all the morning as a boy at play. He fell by the side of the gun he had been effectively serving, and died that night, 19th instant. The Colonel did not hear of his death until next morning. He was standing in Valencia’s captured entrenchments, flushed with the recent victory; his frame shrunk and shivered with agony, and I wept to witness his grief. It is the living for whom we should mourn, and not the dead. The engineers did good service on both days, nor was the engineer company behind in any under taking.

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We have been favored with another letter from Tacubaya, dated Aug. 22d, which covers ground very similar to the above. We take form it the following closing extract:
"We took altogether 2,500 prisoners, 8 generals, 37 pieces of cannon, ammunition enough for a whole campaign, and completely disorganized their army. The following day, (21st,) on taking our proposition from Santa Anna, which the General declined, except so far as to say that if undisturbed he would not attack. That night we had formal propositions for an armistice, commissioners were appointed, and an armistice entered into for the purpose of allowing commissioners to meet Mr. Trist for the purpose of treating of peace. What the result will be I do not know. I have but little confidence in the, It is reasonable to suppose that Santa Anna wishes peace, but whether he will be able to accomplish it I know not. There are various rumors of pronunciamientos, factions, &c. It is said that Bustamente and Paredes have formed on one side; Valencia and Almonte on the other, &c. I fear there is more work for the bayonet. After each of the battles, when the troops saw the complete success of Gen. Scott’s plans, he was received with the most vociferous cheers through out the whole army. The shouts must have reached Mexico. Even the captive Mexican officers seemed cheered in their distress; to witness their enthusiasm. The army have the greatest confidence in him justly. They know his care for them. They know his worth. He weighs his plans well, calculates the cost of every measure, and attempts nothing without a reasonable prospect of success. I hope our government will not think the war at an end, and stop our reinforcements. Now is the time to urge them on, and show that the country is not only ours, but that we will hold it until our demands are acceded to. It is this temporizing policy which has protracted the war. The march of Gen. Scott with his little army upon the capital has been the boldest move in the mclearn warfare. --It is ascertained that the Mexican army was thirty-two thousand strong. Twenty-seven thousand men, from their own account, met us on the 20th. They are in the midst of their resources; we are a great distance from ours.”

[BRM]

RE47v44n42p2c5, September 24, 1847: (no title)

Excerpts from a letter, in the National Intelligencer, from a member or the 13th company, Virginia Regiment, dated August 22.

"We had an election for Captain, and Lieutenant James Thrift was elected; our second Lieutenant as elected first Lieutenant; and----Neale second Lieutenant; Sergeant Young third Lieutenant.

"Besides our late Captain, we have lost two more of our Company, both privates. --One named Trott, son of a Baptist Preacher in Virginia--the other was Mahlon Mills, also, of Virginia."

[BRM]

RE47v44n42p2c3, September 24, 1847: (no title)

Letters have been received from the camp of General Taylor, who was then near Monterey. The General had made the necessary arrangements for carrying out his late general order for sending the troops lie could spare to Vera Cruz, to join the column of General Scott. In addition to the troops which he kept upon his line of defence, he had detained the light battery of Capt. Deas, to strengthen his line. A mixed force of dragoons and Texans was employed in clearing the country between Camargo and Monterrey of the roving guerillas.

Reports are renewed of the General’s intention to visit the United States; but he does not yet mention such an intention in his recent despatches. --Union.

[BRM]

RE47v44n42p3c3, September 24, 1847: FROM THE ARMY OF GENERAL TAYLOR

The New Orleans Picayune of the 13th inst., publishes the following extracts from the Matamoras Flag:

Capt. Clarke, of the 2d Mississippi Rifles, was at Matamoras on the 3d inst., with a detachment of recruits, on the way to his regiment at Buena Vista.

Capt. Clinch was at the mouth of the river on the 6th inst., with a detachment of recruits, on the way to his regiment at Buena Vista.

Gen. Lane’s brigade was at the mouth of the river, expecting to embark about the 8th instant. The first transport which reached there would proceed to take the troops on board.

Col. R.E. Temple arrived at Matamoras on the 1st inst., with four companies of his regiment, the 10th infantry.
Col. Hays’ regiment of Rangers has been ordered to Vera Cruz.

The Flag publishes the following letter from Urrea, designed to encourage desertion among our troops:

> Gen. Joseph Urrea, of the Mexican Army, Comandant General, Inspector of the Interior Eastern States, and in chief of the Division of Observation, to the American Invaders:

Soldiers and Volunteers of the American Army! The war that you carry on against Mexico is the most unjust and barbarous that can be conceived. Civilized nations detest it—they do not see in you the defenders of the rights of an injured country, but merely the tools of a man without foresight, without calculation, who, to obtain an unfortunate celebrity, had not feared seriously to compromise a great people. Do not doubt it. Every sensible American will consider this war one of the most atrocious nature—sent by Polk to Mexico, and essentially iniquitous, because it is vandalic, and belies the severe Republican principles that you all profess, because it serves to convert the children of Washington and Franklin into robbers and assassins.

Sons of America! Let the world see you in a better light than in a miserable and odious character you now represent. Do not serve any longer the caprice of a man destitute of virtue or good feeling. Abandon his lines, because they are not those of honorable men—throw yourselves into the arms of the Mexican nation, who, magnanimous and forgiving, will forget the injuries you have committed. Here you will find the sympathies of a generous people, and the tranquility of conscience otherwise not to be obtained; because the man who attacks and destroys the principle of Universal Moral, which brings together nations as it does individuals, cannot obtain it.

Soldiers and Volunteers! Come to us and abandon the cause of crime—I wait your appearance, and will receive you as brothers.

                JOSEPH URREA.
                Tula de Tamailipas, Aug. 12, 1847.

[BRM]

RE47v44n42p3c4, September 24, 1847: THE "INIQUITIOUS" WAR

That the campaign with Mexico, to whomever the credit may justly be due, has conferred glory on our arms, and invested our nation with a moral power that will shield us from foreign interference for many long years to come, none but the most bigoted fanatic or the loomy tenant of an insane asylum will be found to deny. No country, no age, can exhibit more noble fruits of individual and national self-sacrifice and devotion, more brilliant and glorious triumphs over natural obstacles and embarrassments. The achievements of the present war are written in letters of fire on the history of the world, and are worthy to rank with the brightest events in our own archives.

But brilliant as it has been, promising to extend by its influence the blessings of civilization over a large section of country; if the Whig party is to be believed, our national escutcheon is stained by the dark plague-spot of injustice and crime. They contend that the war is atrocious and God-abhorred; that it was made by on man (the President) in defiance of the wishes of the people and the sacred requisitions of the Constitution; that, so far from being justified, it was commenced by an aggression upon an inoffensive neighbor, and that every step taken by our gallant and victorious army has marked the progress of injustice and oppression. It has been denounced as the fruit of a "meretricious lust of conquest," robbing our neighbors of their property, and casting the blight of disgrace upon the neighbors of their property, and casting the blight of disgrace upon the national honor and reputation. Indeed, the New York Express, in publishing the list of killed and wounded at the two late battles, sacrifices all decency and fairness upon the shrine of party, and puts forward the following infamous argument:

“For all this bloody record, the administration of the government of this country with JAMES K. POLK and all who aid and abet him, is responsible. They it was who got up the unnecessary war, against the will and the wishes of the people of this country--and they it is who must be held responsible for all its terrible consequences--of the murdered and the slain.”

We shall not dwell upon the taste or justice of such an appeal, which, while it attempts to make party capital out of the bloody results of the war, really insults the memory of the gallant dead, by classing them with "murderers" and violators of all law, human and divine. If, as the Whigs contend, their country is engaged in a wanton and atrocious war, commenced for the basest of motives, by what philosophy can its actors be shielded from the disgrace which covers the nation in whose cause they fight?

We believe the war to be not only brilliant and glorious, but to be in every respect righteous and just. Our Government in vain attempted to ward it off--its voice was for peace--its conduct was conciliatory and generous. But Mexican madness and insolence took the extreme step, and craven would have been the Executive of our nation, had he not resisted the arm inflicted injury and insult upon our fellow citizens. We shall not now repeat the arguments and facts which show beyond the shadow of a doubt, that, as soon as the annexation of Texas was declared, Mexico resolved upon war, and put her resolution into practice by marching an armed force across the Rio Grande, and murdering American citizens on American soil. In addition to the evidence already before the country,
we find the New Orleans Delta the following important statements from Mexican authorities. No comments are necessary:

OUR MEXICAN BOUNDARY. --In common with many others, we have always maintained that the annexation of Texas, and not the advance of General Taylor to the Rio Grande, was the cause of this war; that Mexico always intended to resist with arms any attempt of the U.S. to extend its boundaries west of the Sabine.

In confirmation of this position, which by-the-by has already been satisfactorily maintained by other facts and arguments, our Mexican correspondent has hold of some extracts from Mexican documents, which, as relating to an interesting historical question, we lay before our readers.

The Monitor Republicano, commenting Mr. Buchanan’s note, says--“We have read with the proper attention the communications which have passed between our government and that of the U.S., relative to that most grave question, the war, which at this moment absorbs the attention of the entire Republic. * * * * The Mexican troops attacked those of Gen. Taylor when the latter having invaded a territory which, even according to the acknowledgement of the Americans, was disputed territory, planted his flag opposite Matamoras, and threatened our port with his artillery. We say, even according to their acknowledgments, because the Mexican Government does not recognize, and never has recognized any other boundary but the Sabine.* * * *

Mr. Buchanan says the Mexico, in the act of repelling Taylor, began the war. No Sir! It was the United States who declared war, in the act of annexing Texas; an assault which was energetically protested against by our Executive directly to the cabinet—by Gen. Almonte our Minister there—and through their agents in Mexico; through all these channels declaring that the annexation would be equivalent to a declaration of war. by whom, then, was it commenced?”

Our correspondent says he has now before him the Calendario de Cutivero, an almanac for 1847, published at the city of Mexico. In the preface to this little book the publisher says:

“The campaign of Texas being now fairly opened, I consider that I have rendered a positive service to our military class by inserting a detailed itinerary from San Luis Potosi to the river Sabine, both by the coast and by the way of Saltillo, “ &c., &c.

Our correspondent adds:

Yes sirs! “no other boundary but the Sabine,” and “the campaign of Texas”--This is the way they talked in Mexico as late as the 22d of June of the present year. What then becomes of Mr. Webster’s and Mr. Calhoun’s theory, “that the war was created by our troops crossing the Nueces?”

In connection with this point, and in vindication of the honor and justice of our own country, as regards the war with Mexico, we think proper to republish the following remarks Wm. C. Preston, Esq., of South Carolina, made in the United States Senate in 1838. When the measure of annexation, was near its completion, the Whigs contended that it would inevitably bring on war—this, in the very teeth of the fact, that John Quincy Adams and the most violent of the Whig party had years before advocated this very measure of annexation. The measure was completed—Mexico did declare and being the war—and the Whigs at once shifted their ground, and attributed it to the march of General Taylor to the Rio Grande exclusively. How our title to the Rio Grande was regarded by the Whig party a few years ago, and what zealous efforts they made to secure annexation up to that line, will be made clear by the statements of Mr. Preston—then, as now, a thorough Whig, high in the confidence of his party:

“it is STRANGE that a measure WHICH HAS BEEN URGED FOR TWELVE YERS PAST should now, for the first time be met by a tempest of opposition; and it is VERY strange that HE should be found riding upon and directing the storm, WHO WAS THE VERY FIRST MAN TO PROPOSE THE ANNEXATION OF TEXAS, as one of the very earliest measures of his Administration, after he was made President. Yes, Mr. President, Mr. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS had hardly ascended the Presidential chair before he assiduously addressed himself to the task of repairing the injury inflicted upon the country by the treaty of 1819, in the making of which, it has been since understood, he was the RELUCTANT agent. As Secretary of State, in 1819, he negotiated the treaty of transfer; as President of the United States, in 1824, HE INSTITUTED A NEGOTIATION FOR THE RE-ANNEXATION. --Through his Secretary of State, Mr. Clay, (whose name heretofore has always been connected with opposition to the cession, and with ADVOCACY OF THE RE-ANNEXATION OF TEXAS, AND WHOM I SHOULD BE GLAD TO FIND STANDING ON THE SAME GROUND NOW THAT HE OCCUPIED FROM 1819 to 1829, ) the President instructed Mr. Poinsett, then Minister to Mexico, to open at once and vigorously urge a negotiation for the reacquisition of Texas, AND THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SOUT WEST LINE OF THE UNITED STATES AT THE RIO GRANDE DEL NORTE. The Secretary UGED it upon the Envoy, as a matter of THE DEEPEST INTEREST to the country, and the highest POLICY of the Government. The advantages are elaborately and zealously set forth; and although the country at the time labored under A LARGE DEBT, the envoy was authorized to offer FIVE MILLIONS for the acquisition. It is greatly to be lamented that the joint efforts of Mr. Adams, Mr. Clay and Mr. Poinsett FAILED upon his occasion, as the joint efforts of General Jackson, Mr. Van Buren and Mr. Poinsett DID, UPON A SUBSEQUENT OCCASION, when the proposition was renewed, or rather CONTINUED, under a new Administration. From the beginning to the end of his Administration, Mr. ADAMS KEPT IN VIEW THIS IMPORTANT MEASURE; and when his successor came in, as it was supposed, with opinions differing on all points, and with promises and pledges of all sorts of changes, amidst the general disregard of all that had been doing or attempted, THIS MEASURE ALONE WSA HELD SACRED; it was adopted as it stood upon the record, and urged with the characteristic energy of the men who felt, and truly felt, that he was not so much the functionary of a Constitutional Government, as the representative of the Democracy of this country, as Napoleon had been of that France.
JACKSON, VAN BUREN and POINSETT, took the place of ADAMS< CLAY AND POINSETT, but pushed on the negotiation. How, or why it failed, it were useless now to inquire. Whether it was lost sight of amongst the vulgar and paltry controversies of Scotoins and Yorkinos, or postponed by the massacres and plundering of the succado, or suspended BY THE CEASELESS REVOLUTIONS OF THE FATED COUNTRY, is now of no consequence. This is certain, that President Jackson NEVER LOST SIGHT OF IT, and continued to look to its accomplishment as one of THE GREATEST EVENTS of his Administration, to the moment WHEN THE TITLE OF MEXICO WAS EXTINGUISHED FOREVER BY THE BATTLE OF SAN JACINTO."

RE47v44n42p3c5, September 24, 1847: (no title)

We are indebted to a friend for the following General Order of Brigadier General Cushing, who pays a beautiful and touching tribute to the memory of a gallant Virginian.

We are pleased to learn that General Cushing holds the officers of the Virginia Regiment in high esteem, and speaks in approving terms of the maderel and fine military bearing of the whole regiment. How Gen. C. is regarded by his brother officers, we have already shown is an extract of a letter from Col. Hamtramck to Adj. Gen. Richardson. Gen. Cushing has been ordered, with his brigade, to join the wing of the army under Gen. Scott. We wish him success and plenty of laurels, it indeed a treaty of peace do not nip them all in the bud:

ORDERS—No. 8

HEADQUARTERS BRIG OF INFANTRY,

Buena Vista, Aug. 17th, 1847.

The General commanding the Brigade has with deep regret received information of the death of Captain HENRY FAIRFAX, of the Virginia Regiment.

In him the Brigade has lost a faithful and gallant officer, the State of Virginia a patriotic son, and the Union a brave soldier, who, if opportunity in the field had offered, would have done signal honor to his eminent ancestry, to the service, and to his country.

Whilst lamenting his premature decease, his friends at home, and his fellow officers here, can reflect with pride on his brief but already honorable career in the service, and draw some alleviation of their sorry from the consideration, that, though he has not fallen, as a soldier would most desire to fall, amid the smoke of the battlefield, and with the shout of victory to animate his dying moments, yet, that he has not the less departed in the discharge of the highest of all duties to his country and to his native Commonwealth.


Signed,

W.W.H. DAVIS, A.A.A.G.

[BRM]

RE47v44n42p1c6, September 28, 1847: LETTER FROM GENERAL PIERCE

We have been favored with the perusal of a private letter written by this gallant officer to a relative, and have taken the liberty to publish some extracts from it. The responsibility of the publication must rest entirely with us, as the author had no idea of its being seen by any one save his relatives and immediate friends, and hence the reason that it contains so minute a history of his personal movements:

Headquarters 1st Brigade, 3d Div. U.S.A.,
Mexsoque, Mexico, Aug. 27, 1847.

Since I left Vera Cruz to this hour I have had no means of communicating with the States. Although but a few months in the service, I know what are fatigue, anxiety and exposure. Contrary to expectations, and contrary to my orders from the Department at Washington, I was compelled, for the want of the requisite provisions for transportation, to remain for more than three weeks at Vera Cruz, and for more than four in Terra Caliente, (the vomito- region, as it is called) I left the dreaded city on the 10th of July with 2500 men of all arms, and a train of wagons which, when closed up, extended more than two miles.

On the 6th of August I reached Puebla, without the loss of a single wagon, with my command in fine condition. --My
regiments of my brigade (the 13th) lost in killed and wounded one third of its entire force. In killed and wounded we
heavy. With this small army we could not afford to purchase many such victories at such a price; one of the
battle commenced in the morning at Contreros, and the loss in the afternoon was much greater. Our loss has been
The Mexican loss in killed and wounded must have been immense. Our troops buried 500 Mexicans upon the field of
thirty-five pieces of artillery—an immense quantity of ammunition—eight hundred mules and horses, and more than
two thousand prisoners—among the eight generals and any number of colonels.

The Mexican force, as they said afterwards, consisted of 500 men. Had the possessed courage and skill in the use of
arms our loss must have been very great. You can hardly conceive the strength of the natural defences over which
we passed. Rumors came to me almost every night that we would be attacked by large forces the next day, but they
made no where anything like a brave and stern resistance. The official reports of the great battle of Mexico will
probably reach you as soon as this letter, and I shall therefore not attempt to give the minute details. It was fierce
and bloody beyond anything that has occurred in this war. The battle differed in many respects from that of Buena
Vista. There Gen. Taylor received the enemy in a strong position selected by himself. Our force on the 20th consisted
of less than nine thousand men; the Mexican force, within supporting distance and engaged, undoubtedly exceeding
thirty thousand. We attacked him in position upon ground of his own selection, admirably fortified. You will
distinguish, so far as numbers are concerned, between the battle of the morning and that of the afternoon, although
spoken of in official reports as one engagement under designation of "the battle of Mexico." We took, during the day,
thirty-five pieces of artillery—an immense quantity of ammunition—eight hundred mules and horses, and more than
two thousand prisoners—among the eight generals and any number of colonels.

The Mexican loss in killed and wounded must have been immense. Our troops buried 500 Mexicans upon the field of
battle commenced in the morning at Contreros, and the loss in the afternoon was much greater. Our loss has been
heavy. With this small army we could not afford to purchase many such victories at such a price; one of the
regiments of my brigade (the 13th) lost in killed and wounded one third of its entire force. In killed and wounded we
number not less than 1000, and among them I lament to say an unusual proportion of valuable officers. The New
England regiment suffered severely, and behaved throughout in the most gallant manner. My horse, at full seed on
the evening of the 19th, when leading my regiment through a perfect shower of round shot and shells, fell under me
upon a ledge of rocks, by which I sustained a severe injury by the shock and bruises, but especially by a severe
sprain in my left knee, which came under him. --At first I was no conscious of any serious injury, but soon became
exceedingly faint, when Dr. Ritchie, surgeon of the 12th, [a portion of my command], who was following the
advancing columns closely, administered to me as well as he could under the circumstances. In a few moments I
was able to walk with difficulty, and pressed forward to Capt McGruder’s battery, where I found the horse of poor
gallant Lt. Johnson, who had just received a mortal wound, of which he died that evening. I was permitted to take
him [my own having been totally disabled ] was helped into the saddle, and continued in it until 11 o’clock that
night.

It was exceedingly dark, the rain poured in torrents, and being separated from my servants and baggage, I was
without tent or covering; add to this, that during the afternoon of the 19th we had gained no advantages over the
enemy, who remained firmly entrenched with 7000 men opposed to about 4000 on our side, without the possibility of
bringing our artillery to bear, and you will readily conceive that our situation was not the most agreeable. The
morning of the 20th was, however, as brilliant as the night of the 19th was dark and gloomy. Soon after daylight the
enemy’s works were carried with the bayonet, and of their 7000 men, regular troops, under the command of
Valencia, probably 4000 cannot be found to-day. As we passed this field in pursuit of the fugitives, the scene was
awful, the road and adjacent fields every where strewn with mangled bodies of the dead and dying. We continued
the pursuit until 1 o’clock, when our front came up with the enemy’s strong works at Churubusco and San Antonio,
where the great conflict of the afternoon commenced.

At San Angel, dispositions having been made to attack in reverse the enemy’s works on the San Augustin road. Gen.
Scott ordered me to march my brigade in concert with that of the intrepid Gen. Shields, across the open country
between Santa Acterina and the above named road, in order to cut off the enemy’s retreat. We gained the position
sought, and although the enemy’s line was perfectly formed, and extended as far as the eye could reach in either
direction, they were attacked vigorously and successfully. Arriving at a ditch which it was impossible for my horse to
leap, I dismounted and hurried forward without thinking of my injury, at the head of my brigade, for 200 or 300
yards, when turning suddenly upon my knee, the cartilage of which had been seriously injured, I fainted and fell
upon the bank in the direct range and within perfect reach of the enemy’s fire. That I escaped seems to me now
providential. The rout and overthrow of the whole Mexican force soon became complete, and we could easily have
taken the city; but Gen. Scott was met with a proposition for an armistice, (after demanding the surrender of the
city, ) with a view to open negotiations for peace.

In my judgment the army, full of ardor and confidence, was humanely and wisely restrained. Major Gen. Quitman,
Gen. Persifor F. Smith and myself were appointed [illegible line] to the terms of the armistice. I had not taken off my
spurs of slept an hour for two nights, in consequence of my engagements and the pain of my knee. I obeyed the
summons, was helped into my saddle, and rode two and a half miles to Tacubaya, where the commission assembled
at the house of Mr. McIntosh, the British consul general. Our conference commenced late in the afternoon, and at
four o’clock the next morning, the articles were signed.

That I was thoroughly exhausted you will readily imagine. I slept an hour or two that morning at Gen. Worth’s
quarters, and my sprained knee, which was by far my most serious injury, has been daily improving and to-day I
We have intended for some time to say a few words on this new and singular issue, which has been brought forward by the Whig party; but the news already received from our army in Mexico, and the anxiety to hear further accounts from Gen. Scott have caused us to delay doing so longer than we intended. We call this issue a new one, because it has but lately been brought forward by the Whig party, and singular, because we think the history of nations will hardly find a parallel to it. We are in the midst of a war with Mexico without any acknowledged boundary between her territories and our own, and nothing but a treaty of peace, made as the Constitution prescribes, can restore friendly relations or fix a boundary line between us. If, then, we are to have no Mexican territory, to what point shall we withdraw our forces? The Whigs say that Texas extends no further than the Nueces. We must then give up all for which we have been contending. Fort Brown, Resaca de la Palma, Palo Alto--even Corpus Christi--are beyond the line which we are to insist on, if the advocates of No Mexican Territory are to be followed. But this is not all. If the Mexican war be unjust, and our foes have the right in their present hostilities, it is because the annexation of Texas to the United States was wrong, and inflicted an injury, a wanton and unlawful injury on Mexico. To be consistent, then, we must desert Texas--give her up to Mexican, tyranny and oppression; and withdraw our forces this side of the Sabine. --We must repeal the joint resolution--dismiss the Texan Senators from the Senate and her Congressmen from the House of Representatives, and present a spectacle from which even our Whig friends must turn with horror. If the Whig doctrines do not lead to this, it is because we must stand by Texas at all hazards. But, should we stand by Texas, if we had no right to annex her Assuredly not, even a Mexican casuist would answer. It, then, we must claim as far at the Nueces, it is because the annexation of Texas was a measure which the United States had a right to do this--the present war is a just and rightful war, and Mexico is WRONG in pursuing the course which she has pursued--wrong in breaking off friendly relations between us--wrong in refusing to settle the boundary of Texas--wrong in refusing to receive our Minister, and wrong in attacking our troops this side of the Rio Grande. If this be so--if we had a right to receive Texas into the Union, the present war is a just war, and according to every principle of international law, we have a right to exact indemnity from Mexico for the expenses of the war. This is an established rule--one to which we know of no exception. The only indemnity which Mexico can offer is a portion of her territory of--of the territory acknowledged to belong to her. This indemnity--the only indemnity which can be obtained--the Whig party says we must not touch; that we must cast it from us and have none of it.

This is indeed singular advice, coming as it does from men aspiring to the control of our foreign and domestic relations. But the reasons urged in justification of such a course are more singular still. When it was first authoritatively [illegible] expected that the person who brought it forward would at least attempt to show that if it was right and just in itself, and consistent with national honor and the high character of the people of the United States. But no--these were matter which the Whig leader did not condescend to discuss. Right and justice, the national honor and the character of our people, were matters too insignificant to merit the attention of the Whig leader. His eyes were turned in a different direction. His end and aim were different. Success--the success of the Whig party--was all that occupied his thoughts. He left out of view all but policy; and convinced himself, and endeavored to convince other, that the most public move which the Whigs could make, would be to rally under the banner of no Mexican territory. Having come to this conclusion, nothing more was regarded by him, and he seemed to have thought that nothing more was necessary to command the support of his political friend. --Power was what he wanted, and he addressed them as desiring nothing else. The interest of the people, the honor of the nation, were nothing. Policy and the triumph of party were all. In addressing such arguments to the Whig leaders, the "patriotic Whig statesmen" of the N. Intelligencer may not have made a mistake. His arguments may be the most potent with them: but hope and believe that the rank and file of the Whig party look to something higher. We feel confident that the people of the country will demand some better reason than party expediency before they give their adherence to the no territory principle. They will consider that the ridiculous position of the Mexican government and the heavy expenses of a rightful war--to say nothing of the hardships and sufferings of our gallant troops--require that Mexico shall give us some indemnity for the existing hostilities. They will see that justice to ourselves in the eyes of the world requires that this shall be done; and will decide the question in their own minds on different principles than party expediency. They will look--if the Whig leaders do not--to the honor of the nation and the interests of the people, and say, "Let this question be decided by the constituted authorities of the Government. Let a treaty be made, and if there is anything wrong, we will hold the wrong doers to heavy account." They will be right in [illegible] -bility of peace--of peace on the best terms it can obtain, and then if it has been satisfied with too little, the people have the remedy in their own hands.

RE47v44n42p2c1, September 28, 1847: "NO MEXICAN TERRITORY"
There is another feature in this matter which we cannot forbear to mention. The "truly patriotic Whig statesman" of the Intelligencer gravel considers the propriety of making the WILMOT PROVISO the test question of the Whig Party, and we beg the people to remember how that matter is disposed of. By opposing the Proviso? No. By showing it wrong and unjust? No. By opposing the Proviso? No. By showing it to be unconstitutional? No. By showing it injurious to the South? No. By asserting that it is inconsistent with Whig principles? No--none of these. It would be impolitic in the Whig party to take this ground, say the "truly patriotic Whig statesman" of the Intelligencer. The Whigs of the North, he says, are ready for it, but the Democrats will beat us on that issue. This is the motive, and the only motive which is assigned, why the Whig party should not come out in favor of the Wilmot Proviso. The Democrats will beat them, is the only reason that they shove it aside for the present, and take up for the time the new cry of "No Mexican territory," AS THE NEAREST APPROXIMATION TO IT. This we will show at our leisure. The no-Mexican territory issue is made us, and advanced by Whig leaders AS A COMPROMISE WITH ABOLITIONISM. The Whig leaders are afraid to say that they are opposed to the South on the great question of slavery; but they can say to the North, "we are ready to see that your tender feelings shall not be hurt by a farther extension of the peculiar institution." We say to the people of the South, beware of these men. Keep an eye on them, and watch their movements. Party expediency is all they recognize as worth of their consideration. They have left the safe anchorage, PRINCIPLE, and no man can safely trust them, or with safety trust to their guidance. Their leading papers recognize the right of Congress to impose conditions on new States coming into the Union. Every where at the North their organs are arrayed in favor of the Wilmot Proviso. If the Proviso is omitted by them as a test question, it is because they fear their ability to carry it through: and trust more to kindred idea of "no Mexican territory." For ourselves, we believe that the country is engaged in a just war; and think it best to leave the matter where the Constitution has placed it. If a peace is concluded which is injurious to the people, or which inflicts an injury on the National honor, then we will go with the foremost to demand that they who have been thus untrue to country should feel the weight of popular indignation. Having said thus much, we leave this subject for the present with a promise to again take it up at an early date.

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RE47v44n42p2c2, September 28, 1847: NO NEWS YET

We have again to inform our readers that there is no later intelligence from the capital of Mexico. The Southern mail for the last week arrived regularly, with the exception of yesterday, when it brought nothing beyond Mobile, still there is not a word from the army later than the 29th, our last dates. We cannot account for the delay, unless the despatches have been cut off by the guerrillas. The United States transport ship Massachusetts has arrived at New York from Vera Cruz. It left that place on the 5th, at which time the steamer Ann McKim for New Orleans was waiting for the despatches of General Scott, with her steam up. The Sun of Anahauac announces the death of the gallant Colonel Burnett of New York, as having been killed at the last day's battle at Churubusco. This, we feel assured, must be an error.

In the absence of later news, we ask attention to the interesting letter of a Virginian, in to-day's paper. We may publish to-morrow the official report of Brigadier General Shields, which was transmitted to the Governor of South Carolina, and by him furnished for publication. The Palmetto State should feel pride in having her chivalrous sons lauded by one, whom all represent as one of the bravest among the brave.

[BRM]

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RE47v44n42p2c3, September 28, 1847: MORE OF THE HOAX

The N.O. Delta this replies to assertions of the enemies of Gen. Pillow:

"Seeing the statement in a Mobile paper, that we had never denied that the letter of Leonidas was written by Gen. Pillow, we hereby state that the letter came to us signed and written by a respectable officer in the army, not by Gen. Pillow, nor having any signs of his knowledge or cognisance.

"We are sorry to see the Bulletin and Picayune lose their tempers about that Leonidas hoax. It is not our business to get mad, so we will leave hard words to them.

"In answer to their inquiry whether these extracts are genuine or not, we reply that most unequivocally and undeniably they are --they are purely the figments of some imaginative brain. As to the suppressed extracts they have no sort of similarity to those furnished to the Bulletin and Picayune. We usually determine for our ourselves what shall go into our paper, and we question the gentility of other papers prying into our private correspondence. "As to our connection with the hoax, we have only to say that though we should have been justified in hoaxing editors who were willing to avail themselves of such an unfair means of getting at our private correspondence, yet neither the Picayune nor Bulletin editors can with any truth say that they ever heard or saw anything from us countenancing the authenticity of these alleged quotations.

"The Picayune and Bulletin both say that one of the editors of this paper gave color to the authenticity of these extracts, by describing in public an encounter of Gen. Pillow's. This is perhaps true, but the whole story should be
Told. --The Mexican killed by Gen. Pillow, was killed by the identical ball which he received at Cerro Gordo--whether we did not add that the ball glanced off and passed through sixteen other Mexicans, who were all standing in a line with the said bullet, we do not just now remember.

"Gentlemen, you were hoaxed--awfully and overwhelmingly, hoaxed--and we would advise you to take it good humoredly, and you may have your joke at our expense some of these days."

We take great pleasure in publishing the following graphic picture of the thrilling scenes of the war, by a gallant and distinguished Virginian. It will be observed, that he, like many other officers of the army on the spot, does not relish the armistice. We can appreciate the natural feeling of disappointment at seeing the brave soldiers checked in their ardor, at the very moment when the fruit of their toils and blood was in their grasp. But, with the lights before us, we cannot but regard the armistice as a judicious measure tending to bring about a peace which all so much desire. But our views on this point have already been fully expressed, and a few days must solve the mystery.

For the Enquirer.

THE LATE MEXICAN BATTLES.

The following account of the late battles of Contreras and Churubusco is take from a letter from an officer of the U.S. Army, a Virginian, who participated in the deadly conflict. The letter is addressed to a friend at home. It is dated:

"MIXCOAC, 3 miles from the City of Mexico, August 25, 1847.

"My Dear------We have met the enemy and he is ours. Santa Anna has been completely outgeneraled and though his men fought like Devils, our fought like----Angels! With an army of less than 10, 000 men and 27 pieces of artillery, we have beaten Santa Anna with about 35, 000 men and 100 pieces of artillery behind well constructed fortifications. Each knowing that victory or death would be his fate, the flaming cannon's mouth had no terrors for any. Our men charged batteries, shot down cannoniers, routed infantry and turned the enemy's own cannon upon them with a rapidly and impetuosity that nothing could resist; in all cases led by their officers. Of 15 officers in our regiment, eight have fallen; 5 killed and severely wounded. We have lost at least 1, 000 men, but we have taken near 50 pieces of artillery which makes us stronger than before our loss. The city is at our feet suing for mercy; but what the soldier has so well done, the diplomatist may spoil.

An armistice has been concluded, the terms of which are, in substance, that hostilities shall cease, to be renewed at the option of either party at 48 hours' notice; that free trade shall be allowed with the city to supply the army with necessaries; that no officer or soldier other than those connected with the quarter master's or commissary Department is to enter the city with or without arms; that our expresss can pass through the city with safe guard to the coast, that no new fortifications are to be erected by either party and no re-inforcements to be received either; that this armistice is agreed to, to give the U. States, and opportunity of proposing terms of peace!! I am a soldier, and make no comments. It is but just to state, however, that the reasons given for this armistice are "that if Santa Anna and his army are entirely destroyed or dispersed, there will be no body to make peace with, that we shall be compelled to assume the government and become entangled in Mexican politics, and that such a state of things would be the worst that could happen to our country." We are therefore to treat with Santa Anna, and strengthen him as far as it is proper, to enable him to make peace; but when we go, he must fall, as he knows. Hence, when he is sufficiently strengthened, he may turn upon us again, and fortune cannot always be with us. He is treacherous and unprincipled in the extreme, with great talents both as a general and an intriguer; and, though he is said to be without personal courage, his firmness of purpose and confidence in himself are absolutely marvelous.

Whilst all this is going on, much of course to the dissatisfaction of the army, our troops are quartered in the little villages around the city, and are anything but comfortable. I myself, however, with my company, occupy a beautiful country church--the good padre having kindly given up his library to me as a sleeping apartment. At the head of my bed stands a waxen image of the Virgin Mary, and opposite its foot two figures as large as life, each having a hand of the infant Saviour, all covered with glass cases; the books are all theological, and on every side there are images of saints--leaving nothing earthly in the room except your humble servant, and a Daguerreotype of Bocanegru, who, I believe, is a relative of the Padre.

My battery has been much injured in this fight. I was ordered to attack with 6 light pieces a Fort furnished with 23 guns, among them 18 pounders and three 8-inch howitzers--the latter being the same caliber as 68 lb Paixhan guns. I was obliged to go within their grape to be felt by them with my light guns, and to open on them from the road without any cover for my battery. However, it was necessary to hold the position at all hazards, in order to give time to the storming parties to turn uninterruptedly the enemy's left. I held it from 2 o'clock, P.M. until I was relieved by a brigade of infantry, at 10 o'clock at night--having in the meantime been repeatedly urged by the Engineers, and ordered by others, to retire; which I did not think myself justified, however, in doing, being better acquainted with the state of affairs in that part of the field that others whose orders I received, but who ere engaged elsewhere. I have the satisfaction of knowing that my conduct met with the entire approbation of my commanding officers. I had three pieces dismounted--the 1st Lieut. Of my battery, J. P. Johnston, 1st Artillery of Virginia, killed by my side, (one of the brightest and most valuable officers of the army,) several privates killed and wounded; and I lost ten horses killed or so badly wounded as to be unfit for service. Poor Irons is dreadfully wounded, with a grape-shot through his neck; he may recover--God grant he may. Martin of the 1st, I deeply regret to say, has lost his arm. I hope he is doing well.
In the Fort of San Angel, we captured the pieces lost at Buena Vista; 'tis said they were captured by the 4th Artillery, the same regiment which lost them.

I hope we now shall have a peace—but I distrust diplomacy. The Mexicans ought, in my opinion, to have been made to treat during a fight. Nothing makes them so much disposed to peace as the roar of our artillery and the cheers of our men. They will beat us to death at diplomacy carried on in tranquility. I hope for the best, and am not disposed to condemn what I may not fully understand. One thing is certain, that the Army has the most unbounded confidence in Gen. Scott—he has proved himself great in all things. Mr. Trist is the negotiator on the part of the Government, and I am told, with the fullest powers. Quitman, Persifer Smith and Pierce (Generals) were the Commissioners to arrange the terms of the armistice on our side—all fighting men and all Administration men.

I am naturally most anxious to return home—I am glad there is a prospect of peace. Having participate in five great battles, the last the greatest in numbers, and perhaps in consequences, yet fought during this war, and been engaged in several skirmishes, I am not so ferociously ambitious as to desire a continuance of the war, when I cannot see that any good end is to be attained other than the advancement of our own profession.

I cannot give you an intelligible account of the battles without describing our operations in detail, which would fill a small volume. From the reports which will soon be published, you will gain a tolerably good idea of this short campaign. It is sufficient at this moment to say, that the City of Mexico was not so well fortified in rear as in front, though strong on both sides; that Gen. Scott amused Santa Anna in front, whilst he turned the city by the left; taking a road 30 miles in length, supposed by the Mexicans to be totally impracticable for artillery and wagons, we thus were enabled to fight him with better chances of success. —As Santa Anna said, "the enormous rocks we rolled into the road to stop the Americans, they kicked out of the way with their feet; deep ditches we cut to impede their progress, they filled up in a moment, without halt in their march."

RE47v44n42p3c6, September 28, 1847: GEN. PIERCE

The Union, in copying our remarks in vindication of this gallant officer, makes the following emphatic remarks:

We understand that there is in preparation, and will soon, appear, a full and complete refutation of the gross and unfounded libel upon the character of Brigadier General Pierce, which originated in the Philadelphia Saturday Courier, and has been copied from that paper into the Richmond Whig, and other federal journals, charging General P., among other things, with having demanded and received his pay and rations six months in advance, before he would accept his commission. We deem it necessary now only to say, that the article in the Philadelphia paper will be proved to be a most wanton and aggravated libel, disgraceful alike to the paper in which it appeared, and to the writer who originated and penned it. We use strong and plain language, but it suits the case.

We have seen official documents, which clear the character of Gen. Pierce from every imputation; and can assure the Richmond Enquirer that in due season and place they will be forthcoming, to confirm all that it says.

[BRM]

RE47v44n42p3c7, September 28, 1847: THE ARMISTICE

The Journal of Commerce publishes a letter from a field officer of the army in Mexico to a friend in New York city of the very latest date from General Scott’s head quarters, (August 28th.) In the course of the letter, he says:

"You will be better able to appreciate this forbearance, (of Gen. Scott,) when you understand that it was known in our camp that the route and panic-stricken remains of the Mexican army could oppose only a feeble and ineffectual resistance to the entrance of our troops into the capital but Mr. Commissioner Trist, who is charged by the administration at Washington with the negotiation on our part, announced as his deliberate conviction, that if the army were to follow up the victory and enter the Capital, all hope of a speed peace would be destroyed; while, on the other hand, forbearance promised that happy result.

"On the morning after the battle, Santa Anna sent out a flag, and asked for a truce preliminatory to negotiations for peace—the General-in-chief, desirous to carry out the views of his government, and acting in concert with the commissioner, Mr. Trist, assented to the armistice to afford opportunity for negotiation, under the most favorable auspices."

[BRM]
The New York Courier (Whig) employs the following strong language in regard to Mexican affairs:

“If the Mexicans are still so besotted as to refuse the proffers of peace, and chose again to plunge into the horrors and the chances of war, no one can foresee the probably issue of such renewed contest. If the war is now renewed- after Gen. Scott has asked for an armistice after negotiations had been commenced at his solicitation, and after the fair promise held out by the Mexican authorities, there will be small opposition in this country to the prosecution of hostilities to any extent, and with any degree, of vigor that may be required. No treaty stipulations, that so favorable to Mexico as those offered, can ever again be made.” [JKM]

Scenes Upon the La Plata

To the Editor of the Union

Buenos Ayres, Aug. 2, 1847

I have just heard of the opportunity to send to Montevideo, and from thence to the United States, and have but a moment to write you. I seize that moment, however, brief as it is, to say a few words by way of posting you up on the condition of things in this quarter.

The negotiations, under the auspices of the English and French ministers, have totally failed. They had agreed upon many articles of the convention looking to an adjustment of the difficulties here, until finally they came to the question touching the navigation of the interior rivers of the confederation, upon which the negotiations were broken off and ended. Gov. Rosas planted himself immovably upon the sovereign rights of the confederation over its interior waters, and adhered inflexibly to his determination not to yield in any manner the smallest portion of these rights. As the minister seemed determined also to acquire some sort of right, modified or exclusive, to navigate these waters, the negotiations necessarily closed on that point, leaving Gov. Rosas in the strongest position possible, for he had the right and justice of the question on his side, as well as the strength of the argument. [JKM]

In our paper on Tuesday, we stated our objections to the manner in which the new issue has been brought forward by the Whigs. We then remarked that the controlling reason, which prompted them to avoid the Wilmot Proviso and substitute this new questions in its stead, was a conviction that it would be inexpedient for them to take ground on the Proviso, while they might succeed in gaining the reins of government if they declare their fixed purpose of refusing to take any territory as an indemnity from Mexico. In making this assertion we think the communication in the National Intelligencer which we referred to, fully justifies us. In that communication the fear of losing the Southern vote, if the principles contained in the Wilmot Proviso are adhered to and made the text of political orthodoxy by the Whigs, is states as the reason it should not be adopted as an article of the Federal creed; and the probability that the Whig church can satisfy its northern communicants without driving off its friends in the South, is states as the reason that the new doctrine should be adopted. Here we beg our readers to remember that the fear of driving off the Whigs of the South is the prime cause of the desertion of the principles of the proviso by the Whigs, and not as antipathy to the proviso itself. Indeed the very person who brings forward the new issue- one who is endorsed by the National Intelligencer as an able and patriotic Whig of the North could be united against the South on the vital question. It is also worthy of notice, that it is urged that the Federalists, both in the North and South, can be united on the proposition to avoid the necessity of taking any action on Mr. Wilmot’s proposition or the principles it contains, by concluding a peace with Mexico without requiring any indemnity for the expense of the war. This proposition requires the nation to give up its claim to indemnity because the Northern and Southern Whigs can thereby be united, and the spread of slavery be prevented. Any course which will not have this effect of preventing the spread of slavery to new territory, the Northern Whigs, in this state of the case, consent to make up the issue which they seem about to make, it is nothing more nor less than a compromise with abolitionism, no matter how it is disguised. They who are willing to make such a compromise have no excuse for their conduct. The friends and supporters of the Missouri Compromise, by which the rights of the Southern States were given up without equivalent, pleaded in their jurisdictions that danger to which the Union was subjected, and alleged, in extenuation of their conduct, that they actuated by the high desire to bring about quiet and harmony, and to prevent domestic feud and strife if not civil war.

[Illegible - black spot covers rest of article. [JKM]
We thank the New Hampshire Patriot for sending us a second copy of their conclusive vindication of Gen. Pierce from the libel no less upon the Government than upon himself, first published in the Philadelphia Saturday Courier, viz: that Gen. Pierce refused to accept his commission until he should receive six months’ pay and rations, and that this extraordinary demand was complied with. The Patriot publishes the following interesting facts, which do Gen. P. great honor. We publish them with the single remark, that, since the Patriot’s article was written, Gen. Pierce’s valor and military skill in the late battles have won for him the respect of all patriots, and the gratitude of the whole country:

It will be recollected that the “Ten Regiment Bill” passed just before the close of the last session of Congress. As soon as it passed, the President, without solicitation and without the knowledge of Gen. Pierce, nominated him to the Senate as Colonel of the first of the Ten Regiments- the 9th infantry. A friend at Washington immediately wrote to Gen. P. informing him of what had been done, and expressing the hope that he would accept the Colonel’s commission. Upon receiving that letter, Gen. P. immediately showed it to us. Knowing the very great sacrifice, both pecuniary and social, which it would require of him to accept the commission as well as the difficulties in the way of declining it, we confess we were in doubt both as to his duty and what he would do; and therefore after perusing the letter, we asked - “Well, what will you do?” - He instantly replied - “Do? There is no alternative. I shall accept the course.” And then he went on to remark that for many years past he has enjoyed the honors and rewards of the most desirable stations in the gift for his people, where no sacrifice or risks or exposure were required of him, and that it would be positively disgraceful for him now to hesitate when called upon to submit to sacrifices in the service of his country. He then sat to our table and there wrote a reply to the letter, saying without condition or hesitation, that he should accept the appointment of colonel. And from that day he commence his preparations for joining the army. But the bill providing for the appointment of Generals having passed before the close of the season, the President immediately tendered him the appointment of Brigadier General, which was as promptly accepted, we have no doubt.

Now are not these facts alone sufficient to disprove the charge of the “Sat. Courier?” If he thus unconditionally and without the least hesitation, accepted the Colonel’s commission, is there any sane man who will believe that he refused to accept a higher grade with nearly double the salary, “unless he received with his commission, six months full pay and rations for man and horse in advance?” No, it is too preposterous to think of.

As to the talk about ‘inexperienced” “ignorant” “inefficient” General’s, and the fatal consequences so often predicted from their appointment, we need only remark, as concerns General Pierce, that he marched his column of 3500 men or more, with a valuable train, from Vera Cruz to Puebla, a distance of some 175 miles, and repelled repeated attacks of large bodies of guerrillas- all without the loss of a single man. Could the most experienced General have done more? [JKM]

Some weeks since the Republican quoted the following extract from the correspondence of the New York Spirit of the Times, in its effort to array Col., now Senator Davis, against the Administration:

“He denounced in no measure terms the conduct of the Government in withdrawing from Gen. Taylor his troops.”

The New Orleans Southerner refuses the whole story in the following emphatic manner:

“We take the liberty of positively and unequivocally denying every word of this extract. We were within three feet of Col. Davis during the whole of his speech and know that he did not use any remarks reflecting upon the administration for their conduct towards Gen. Taylor. The following remark he did make, but it was made without reference to the administration: “He (Col. D.) declared that if he had known to what extent the capitulation at Monterey had been used in the United States to injure General Taylor, his defense of it would have been more complete- that he had means in his possession.” [JKM]

The Insurrectionists under their Leaders- General Gonsalles and Outlaw Cortes surprised and dispersed, and the Re-capture of a great number of American Horses by our troops.

Messrs. Editors: At the destruction of the town of Los Pias, on the 6th of July last, by the troops under the command of Maj. Edmonson, we found upon the prisoners then taken letters written by one Illarw Gonsolles and others, leaders of the late projected insurrection, giving a plan of their intended operations, and asking the citizens to be in readiness for action at a moment’s warning stating, also, that the Americans were already weakened by the departure of the States of a number of troops; that others were to start in a few days, and amongst them the company Capt. Fisher’s; and the spies would be kept constantly on the road to give information of their (the
The prisoners also stated that many of their men, with their arms, had gone to the town of Loquesta, to join their leader, Gen. Gonsalles.

Loquesta is a town of considerable size, and admirably located for defense, being situated on the San Magil River, surrounded by the mountains of an almost inaccessible character. The prisoners stated that Cortes and his party were at, or near, Anton Checo, a frontier town situate on the San Magil river, some fifteen or twenty miles below Loquesta. Having disposed of the prisoners taken at the storming of Los Pías, by sending them to Santa Fe for trial, Maj. Edmonson, with the companies of Capt. Horine and Holloway, and two pieces of artillery, started on the 15th of July to the town of Anton Checo, a distance of about forty-five miles.

Upon our arrival at the latter place, at daylight the following morning, we found the town deserted, except by a few old men, women and children, from whom we extracted the information that their men, with their arms, had likewise gone to the town of Loquesta. Pursuing our march, and when within about five miles of the latter town, a Mexican, supposed to be a spy, was captured by out scouting party, who informed us that four to six hundred armed Mexicans, under their leaders, Gonsalles and Cortes, were then in the town of Loquesta. Upon our arrival on the heights commanding a view of the town, we discovered the enemy dispersing in every direction to the mountains. We, however, succeeded in capturing about fifty prisoners, the mule, saddle, bridle and saber of General Cortes, and a great number of American horses, and Comanche and Apache Indian horses, obtained from those Indians in exchange for horses stolen by the Mexicans from the American troops.

The enemy had evidently made great preparation for defense, as their hoses were generally barricaded and fortified, and their goods and valuables either hid in the mountains or buried. Our prisoners informed us that the great panic amongst the Mexican troops was produced by our sudden and unexpected approach, together with the fact that we had with us artillery, which I think they never intended to face again if they can avoid it.

It is but justice to the troops, being part infantry, and having with them artillery drawn by oxen, to state that the march from Los Vegos, by Anton Checo to Loquesta, a distance of between fifty-five and sixty miles, was performed in less then twenty-four hours, over a rough and mountainous country, and a great portion of the distance without even a road to guide them- to which extraordinary march may be attributed their success on the occasion.

We are endeavoring, here in Santa Fe, to raise a new regiment. Three companies have already been mustered in, and two others reported ready for being mustered. They are composed principally of discharged volunteers and wagoners.

Six of the prisoners charged with the murder of Lieut. Brown and his party were executed of the 3rd, in Santa Fe, by sentence of a drumhead court martial. The balance, it is supposed, will be released for want of sufficient testimony.

Yours respectfully J.H. Brown

[JKM]

Friday, October 1, 1847   RE47v44n44p4c1   Dispatches from the Army   words:655

Colonel Dickinson’s Report
San Augustine, August 23rd, 1847

General- Early on the morning of the 20th instant, Colonel Butler, in pursuance of your orders, marched his command from the road running to the South of his quarters, by which it was reported many Mexicans were retreating from the field of Contreras to the City of Mexico. Owing to the thick patches of maguey and a rugged ravine, he could not reach his position until several hundred of the enemy had passed. As the Regiment emerged from the ravine into a field, extending to the road, we discovered large masses of the enemy in the road before us; and, although they perceived us as the same time, they were unable to escape beyond our reach until every gun in the Battalion had been brought to bear upon them; most however had broken into an open field opposite, which only the more exposed them to our fire. Through this field in full musket range of our position, mingled groups of their cavalry and infantry continued to pass. Shortly, however, we perceived large masses forming in line of battle, under cover of the stone wall, already mentioned- and that a large body was advancing from the orchard, on our right flank and rear. Col. Butler immediately changed front to the right by a flank movement, and brought the enemy, in both their positions, as they advanced from cover, under his fire; this they returned for a short time, and then retreated. Col. Butler perceiving that others of the enemy were passing through the field, in our front, left a few miles to guard our rear- formed again on the road, and maintained a steady fire upon the enemy, who continued to pass for about 20 minutes- large bodies of Mexicans then came forward and surrendered themselves to Col. Butler, who, seeing other bodies still coming remained upon the road with three companies, while the rest of the Regiment, in pursuance of an order from the General, retired beyond the ravine to oppose a very large body of the cavalry, appearing in our rear. Of the enemy, one hundred and twenty seven were killed and wounded and two hundred and seventeen taken prisoner. Among the latter were one general, two colonels, four commandants and a lieutenant. Our own loss in the action, from the random fire of the enemy was one Sergeant severely wounded, and on private
Capt. Marshal with his Company (E) was left as a guard over the prisoners, who were placed in a church, and the Regiment, soon after, took up its line of march on the road to Mexico. About noon the Regiment was ordered to make a detour to the left, and strike upon the same road a short distance beyond the enemy’s works at Cheraposa, to cut off their retreat, as it was reported that the works had been carried by our troops. On arriving on the field after the subsequent action, we found that the New York Regiment, in consequence on numbers of horseman and a small corps of the Howitzer battery having intruded themselves betwixt use, were some three hundred yards in advance of use, and the 9th infantry at the same distance.

[Illegible]

Capt. Marshall, who rejoined the Regiment with his command at this place, reports to me, that soon after the battalion had left the church where the prisoners were placed under his charge, finding himself destitute of provisions, he sent a detachment of his company to forage for fruit and green corn; this detachment surprised a party of Mexican soldiers engaged in the same pursuit. They killed one and captured 43, whom they brought back and delivered to their Captain. This makes the total number taken at this place 260, which, with the 127 killed and wounded, makes the total of 387.

J.P. Dickenson

To Brig. General Shields

[JKM]

Friday, October 1, 1847   RE47v44n44p4c5   Mexican Affairs: Paredes and Santa Anna  words: 539

Mexican Affairs- Paredes and Santa Anna

We learn that one of the Mexican prisoners now in our city received, via Tampico, by the last arrival, a letter from a friend in the city of Mexico, dated on the afternoon of the 28th, in which it is stated that Gen. Paredes had entered the city of Mexico with a large force, and arrested Santa Anna and imprisoned him in the carcel San Jago. We give the report for what it is worth, neither denying nor endorsing its truth. It is by no means improbable, as Paredes at the last accounts was at the town of Toluca, near the capital, ready to take advantage of any misstep of his old enemy, or any confusion in the capital, to regain his former position and influence in Mexico. The temper of the mob is admirably suited to such a movement. At our last accounts they were much incensed again the American and Santa Anna, and were ripe for a revolutionary demonstration. Paredes is just the man to snatch the golden opportunity and profit from it. He would no doubt rally all parties around him, and around warmth of zeal and enthusiasm which it is vain for Santa Anna to endeavor to excite. He is a man of gallant and dashing commanding address, and will no doubt attract the general confidence of the multitude. He comes, too, under circumstances which demonstrate his sincerity and patriotism.

In the continued unpleasant dearth of news, we give the above rumor in the last New Orleans Delta. We attach no importance to it- for our last dates from the Capital are one day later, and they make no mention of it. We have already confessed our fear, that any peace made with Santa Anna may not be sanctioned by the leaders of the factions of inimical to Santa Anna, such as Paredes, Valencia, etc., and that they may endeavor to arouse the people to renewed resistance. But we feel satisfied, that with an amicable arrangement entered into with Santa Anna, General Scott will be enabled to put down the factionists, and secure all the benefits of the Treaty- or, should the Treaty be entered into and sanctioned by the action government of Mexico, we might take possession of and maintain the ground embraced in the Treaty, leaving the Mexican factions to fight it out among themselves. But it is needless to speculate farther upon past or future events. A few hours may bring us intelligence that will give a clear view of the whole field.

While on the subject of rumors, we will briefly refer to an absurdly extravagant one which was circulated yesterday morning, viz: that the peace negotiations had been broken off, Gen. Scott beaten and forced to retreat.

In the course of yesterday, we also heard of “rumors of war” in another and yet more distant quarter. It was said that the Telegraph from Washington had announced that a difficulty had broken out with Brazil, and that no flour should be sent from our port to Rio. On calling at the Telegraph office, we found it mute on this or any subject of warlike news. There are hoaxes here as well as in New Orleans.  [JKM]

Friday, October 1, 1847   RE47v44n44p4c5   Major Lally’s Command  words: 233

The Lynchburg Virginian refers to a letter in its possession from an officer in the U.S. Army, dated Jalapa,
“The train was more harassed than any other, in consequence of the belief that it had a large amount of specie. It met the enemy on the 10th, 12th, 15th, and 19th of August, and cut its way through in every instance, with a loss, in the aggregate, of more than eighty men. Twelve were killed and several of the wounded afterwards died. Major Lally received a ball on the 10th, when near Jalapa, through the neck. Capt. Calwell, of the Voltigeurs, and Capt. Cummings, of the 11th infantry, both from Virginia, and Captain Clark, of North Carolina, were severely wounded, and first in the head, and the second in the leg. Lieutenants Adams, and the Marine Corp, Winder and Cramer, of the new Regiments, were also very badly wounded. Little hopes were entertained of the recovery of Lts. Adams and Winder. With these exceptions all the wounded were doing well and considered out of danger. Capt. G.C. Hunter, who, as we mentioned some time ago, on the strength of an article in the Union, highly distinguished himself, was in command of all the troops above 1200 at Jalapa.” [JKM]

Tuesday October 5, 1847 RE47v44n45p1c6 As We Expected words: 609

When the news reached us that an armistice had been entered into between Gen. Scott and Santa Anna, it received the commendation of all the Whig papers, as a wise and judicious measure, calculated to facilitate the arrangement of peace. Then they supposed, that Gen. Scott himself originated it and many of them even went so far as most unjustly to assail the Democratic papers for what was improperly regarded as a censure upon the acts of Gen. Scott. We give a few passages from the article of the Whig and the 17th in justification of the armistice.

“It is unquestionably highly unjust to condemn the measure without a full knowledge of all the circumstances, which, in the opinion of the Commanding General rendered it judicious, particularly in reference to its probable influence upon the termination of hostilities between the two Republics upon terms acceptable to his Government. But the great end contemplated by the Administration, in the invasion of Mexico, as we have been repeatedly assured, is not the wanton and unnecessary destruction of the life and property, but to “conquer a peace.” And if Gen. Scott believed as he might very naturally have done, that this result would be more likely to ensure from the tender of an armistice, remaining meanwhile without its walls, while his victorious army commanding all the entrances to the city, and thereby saving it from the horrors of a bombardment or an assault, he was unquestionably warranted by sound policy as well as by considerations of humanity, scarcely less obligatory in their nature, in adopting the course he has pursued.

“We have too much confidence in Gen. Scott’s sagacity, for which he is not less remarkable than for his courage and skill, to suppose, for an instant, that he could have been induced to propose the temporary cessation of hostilities, with the city of Mexico completely, as it appears to have been, in his power, had he not been possessed of facts justifying the conviction that by that proposition, made under circumstances that left no doubt of the magnanimity and generosity from which it sprung, the prostrate and humbled enemy might be the more readily induced to turn a favorable ear to the often before rejected advances, made by our Government, for the renewal of negotiations. We shall, therefore, until the contrary shall be indubitably shown— as we are confident it never will be—by something more conclusive than surmises and inferences, take it for granted that the proposal for an armistice was dictated by the highest considerations of expediency as well as by the noblest impulse of humanity.

On Friday, the “unfavorable news” reached this city, and at once the views of the Whig are completely changed. It now denounces this same armistice, which it assumes to have been the work of the Democratic Administration, through Mr. Trist. It says:

“There seems to be a general impression upon the public mind, that the armistice into which General Scott entered, and which was certainly not beneficial to the American arms, was owing to the agency of Mr. Trist.”

It then goes on to attack Mr. Trist and his mission, and likens him to “some agent of the Jacobin Club in the armies of Revolutionary France, who acted in the double capacity of commissioner and spy” – sneers at Mr. Trist as “having married the grand-daughter of Mr. Jefferson,” denounces his mission as “a nuisance of the most formidable character” – and in the following language assails the very armistice, which, two weeks ago, it lauded as “dictated by the highest considerations of expediency, as well as by the noblest impulse of humanity.” [JKM]

Tuesday October 5, 1847 RE47v44n45p2c1 Important from Mexico words: 572

The steamship James L. Day, Captain O’Grady, arrived yesterday from Vera Cruz, which place she left on the evening of the 21rst, bringing intelligence of the greatest importance. Immediately on the receipt of our papers and dispatches, we issues an extra containing the news—brief, but sufficient to satisfy public curiosity, and allay the anxiety for the fate of the army, caused by the length of time which had transpired without news, and the probability that hostilities had been resumed.

As we anticipated in our papers of yesterday, the negotiations resulted in nothing. The last letter from Mr. Kendall is dated the 5th, and our file of the Diario del Gobierno does not come down later than the 4th, but the Arco
Iris of Vera Cruz has a letter from the city of Mexico dated the 10th, together with extracts from the Diario, and the Boletin of Atlisco, to the 12th, which together with the letter we publish, and the manner in which the armistice was terminated, will be learned from the extracts we copy. A perusal of Mr. Kendall’s letters, however, will at once show that a feeling of hostility was growing with the people of the capital as early even as the 13th of last month, and the Congress of the State of Mexico, in session at Toluca, had declared against peace. Notwithstanding repeated belligerent demonstrations by the enemy, and a positive violation of the armistice in our wagons not being permitted by the mob to enter the city for provisions, negotiations were still pending to as late a date as the 6th. The Arco Iris received letters from Mexico under date of the 9th, stating that, on the 7th, the Mexican Commissioners declared that the propositions made by Mr. Trist were inadmissible, in consequence of which General Santa Anna convoked a council of General s, who decided that notice should be given immediately to Gen. Scott that the armistice was at an end, and appointed the 9th for the commencement of hostilities.

On the 6th Gen. Scott addressed from Tacubaya the following note to Santa Anna

Headquarters Army of United States

Sept. 6, 1847

To his excellency the President and General-in-Chief of the Republic of Mexico

The 7th and the 12th articles of the armistice on military convention which I had the honor of ratifying and exchanging with your Excellency on the 24th, stipulate that the army under my command shall have the privilege of obtaining supplies from the city of Mexico. There were repeated violations of these articles soon after the armistice was signed, and I have now good reason for believing that within the last twenty-four hours, if not before, the third article of the same convention was also violated by the same parties. These direct breaches of good faith give to this army a full right to commence hostilities against Mexico without giving any notice. However, I will give the necessary time for an explanation, satisfaction, or reparation. If these are not given, I hereby formally notify you that if I do not receive the most complete satisfaction of all these points before 12 o’clock tomorrow, I shall consider the armistice as terminated from that hour.

I have the honor to be your Excellency’s obedient servant

WINFEILD SCOTT

To this Santa Anna made the following reply

Headquarters Army of Mexican Republic

Mexico, Sept. 6, 1847

To his Excellency General Winfield Scott, Commander in Chief of the Army of the United States

Sir: By the note of your Excellency under this date I learn, without surprise, that you consider that the civil and military authorities of Mexico have violated articles 7, 12, and 3 of the armistice which I concluded with your excellency on the 24th of last month.

The civil and military authorities of Mexico have not obstructed the passage of provisions for the American army; and if at time their transmissions has been retarded, it has been owing to the imprudence of the American agents, who, without having a previous understanding with the proper authorities, gave occasion for popular outbreaks, which it has cost the Mexican Government much trouble to repress. Last night and the night before the escorts for the provision trains were ready to start, and were only detained because Mr. Hargous, the agent, desired it. The orders give to suspend the intercourse between the two armies were addressed to private individuals, not the agents of the army of the United States, and were intended purposely to expedite the transmission of provisions to the army, and to confine the intercourse to that object exclusively. In return for this conduct you excellency has prevented the owners or managers of the grain mills in the vicinity of the city from furnishing any flour to the city, which is a true breach of the good faith your Excellency had pledged me.

It is false that any new work or fortification has been undertaken, because one or two repairs have only served to place them in the same situation they were in on the day of the armistice was entered into, accident or the convenience of the moment having caused the destruction of the existing works. You have had early notice of the establishment of the battery covered with the mud walls of the house of Garry in this city, and did not remonstrate, because the peace of two great republics could not be made to depend upon things grave in themselves, but of little value compared to the result in which all the friends of humanity and the prosperity of the American continent take so great an interest.

[Illegible]

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA
We yesterday saw one of the party detached by Captain Wells, under command of Lieut. Henderson, and which our readers will recollect was sent forward for the purpose of informing Major Lally of the advance of his reinforcements. From him we learn that this small party (already reported to have been all shot by order of the Chief Aburto, commanding guerrillas at the National Bridge) had lost but one man in all and some four or five horses. After passing the National Bridge, and from thence the whole line of their march until they reached Maj. Lally, they had continued skirmishing, were frequently surprised by parties greatly outnumbering them, and subject to much suffering from want of provision. They succeeded ultimately, however, in reaching the train, and when there found that Besancon's company was along with it. In the frequent skirmishing which ensured during the period which elapsed between the departure of Henderson's party and their rejoining Maj. Lally, our men suffered severely at times. The whole loss however, was, it appears, but trifling— one man is reported killed, whose name has not transpired. The detachment left Jalapa, accompanied by some of Besancon's men, on Saturday morning last, and arrived here yesterday. They numbered in all twenty-eight men, they reported Maj. Lally at the former place when they left. [Sun of the 13th]

We presume that there will be few in the nation who will not concede the liberally of our offers to Mexico, and the insolent demands of Mexico. She talks as a victor, and not as a suppliant. Is there an American patriot who will for a moment listen to the insulting demands of Mexico, that we should confine our boundary to the Nueces? The whole country, we trust, will now see the importance of the most vigorous and active measures to beat down Mexican pride, shy and insolent, and , punishing he long practiced treachery, force her to do us justice, and make peace on proper grounds. But we have only room to call special attention to the terms of the two propositions: The justice and duration of our own, and the impudence of the enemy's.

Extract of a letter in Picayune, dated September 4, at Tacubaya

The headquarters of General Scott are here in Tacubaya, where General Worth’s division is also quartered. General Pillow is at Mixcoae, two miles South; General Twiggs at San Angel, about four miles further South; and General Quitman at San Augustine. Some sickness prevails in the army, but the health of the troops may be put down as generally good.

The wounded officers are all doing well. A day or two since, both Lieutenants Hamilton and Holloway were reported as in a dangerous condition, but I believe that all danger is now considered over.

{From the National Intelligencer, Oct. 4}

We were favored, late last evening, with the following extract of a letter from an officer of rank at Puebla to his wife in Washington, dated the 10th of September, and received by last evening’s mail.

We entertained a strong hope that the reinforcement of Gen. Lane, which marched from Vera Cruz on the 19th, reached both Jalapa and Puebla in time to arrest any disaster from the commands of Major Lally and Col. Childs, which, according to this letter, appeared to be in great jeopardy.

Puebla, September 10

“All the expresses sent by General Scott to Puebla have been cut off; but one has escaped, being the only official intelligence I have received since General Scott left here. An express came to me yesterday, and reported that he left Mexico on the 8th, and was robbed of his dispatches.

I am, and have been, hemmed in by 4,000 Mexicans for the last three weeks. The Mexicans represent Major Lally, with 1,000 men, as surrounded and hemmed in at Jalapa, and cannot venture out. Major Lally ought to have been here fifteen days since. The whole country swarms with guerrillas.”
Hostilities Recommenced!

After a long interval, and that, too, when the peculiar situation of affairs before the walls of Mexico, caused every one to desire further news, we have later intelligence from our Army, received by our Pony Express, in advance of the mail.

It appears that the attempt of Mr. Trist to negotiate a peace has proved abortive, and that hostilities have been resumed between the opposing armies— that another battle has been fought, but no other peculiars given than that the Mexicans have again been defeated.

The news comes to us in such a form as while it bears every evidence of truthfulness, still leaves us doubly anxious to learn more.

The statement of the revolt of Puebla, and of the loss of the Americans there and at Mexico, amounting to "at least two thousand men," comes in such a "questionable shape," as to induce us to place no confidence in it. The "two thousand" report probably originated from the loss of killed and wounded in the two battles fought on the 20th.

It will be seen that according to the Vera Cruz Sun of the latest date, from two or three thousand would shortly be on the way to reinforce General Scott, which, with the additional force detached from the army of General Taylor, will be amply sufficient not only to subdue the City of Mexico, but to hold in check, and disperse any body of troops that the Mexicans can probably get together.

We proceed to give all the intelligence received by the Express, leaving our readers to draw their own conclusions as to the existing state of affairs in that quarter, and awaiting (as will our readers) further advices with great anxiety. 

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We are favored with the following account of the battles of Mexico, in the form of an extra from the Pittsburgh Post of Saturday last. We understand it is compiled from letters written by two of the most talented and distinguished officers in the army. We give place to it at once in the Union, with great pleasure. Every account we continue to receive of these achievements, whether from our own officers or the Mexican writers, adds new strength to the column of fame which our gallant countrymen have erected:

Tacubaya, Mexico, August 27, 1847

The whole force which moved from Puebla amounted to ten thousand men, more or less marching in four columns on successive days, in the following order: Twiggs, Quitman, Worth, and Pillow. In approaching the city of Mexico by the main highway, you go directly on to the height of El Penon, which is a strong position and excessively fortified. Before leaving Puebla it had been considered whether the main road could not be avoided, and El Penon turned, by passing round to the south and left of lakes Chalco and Jochimilco. The engineer officers serving immediately at general headquarters, had questioned a large number of persons (especially spies and agents sent especially to examine the route) and the mass of testimony was entire as to the boggy mucky, and perfectly impractical character for wagons and artillery of the road leading in that direction. It was therefore in contemplation to turn El Penon by forcing the enemy's lines at Mexicalzingo although the ground was difficult, and the batteries known to be numerous. This route, you will observe, is to the north and right of those lakes. The reconnaissance of the engineers were consequently directed to this end. In the mean time General Worth, whose division had been left at Chalco, (while General Scott, with Twiggs's division had gone on to Ayotla) sent Colonel Duncan, with a strong party, to examine the denounced route. Colonel Duncan found it just the reverse of what it had been pronounced to be; it was firm, rocky, and quite practical, requiring, to be sure, a little labor here and there. General Worth instantly sent Colonel Duncan with this information to General Scott, and urged the movement of the whole army to the left of Lake Chalco. This recommendation instantly prevailed. The direct attack was abandoned, and the next morning the whole army was in motion. Worth's division on in the rear (now by the change of the line of operations became the front) took the lead, and the whole mass filed to the left of the lakes to San Augustin, which is on the great Acapulco highway to the city of Mexico, and about nine miles from it. This is the history of the strategy of the business.

We arrived at San Augustin on the evening of the 17th. The first position of the enemy was at San Antonio, 2 ½ miles off in advance. Gen. Worth sent an engineer officer the next morning to check it out. Capt. Thompson of the dragoons escorting him. He went to about 1000 yards of the enemy's battery, leaving the company some hundred yards to the rear. When the engineer officer began to examine the battery with his spyglass, a gun was fired at him. The ball, passing over him, struck Capt. Thornton from his horse, tearing away his whole breast and ribs. Poor fellow! He had not ten days to live; he was so feeble that he could scarcely sit in his saddle. Physicians and friends had remonstrated against his going out; but he had, I doubt, not, made up his mind that nothing but death itself
The news, however, taken in connection with the very long delay in hearing from the army is far from agreeable. We had some faint expectation that Mexican madness and infatuation would have been convinced of the invincibility of American arms, and would have consented to an equitable arrangement of difficulties. We indulged in hope that the magnanimity and forbearance exhibited by General Scott, in not crowning his late victories and a capture of the Mexican Capital, and in thereby saving in nation from a feeling of degradation, might have induced them to make a peace upon just and honorable terms. But American generosity and humanity have been thrown away– the olive branch has been against madly rejected– and Mexico has assumed upon herself the awful responsibility of farther hostilities and bloodshed. We trust that the late intelligence will unite our whole people in favor of a prosecution of the war with sweeping energy and vigor. A people so treacherous, so insolent and infatuated as the Mexicans have shown themselves to be, must be made to feel the pressure of war. We have done all that reason, justice and humanity, and the voice of the civilized world, can demand. We have, in the moment of victory, tendered over and over again as offer of peace, and, as far as we can judge, of a reasonable character. Our advances have been rejected, and Mexico has preferred war. Let her have it then in all its force and terrors. Let her victory, tendered over and over again as offer of peace, and, as far as we can judge, of a reasonable character. Our advances have been rejected, and Mexico has preferred war. Let her have it then in all its force and terrors. Let her feel that while peace is our policy and choice, the American nation will never shrink from war when its honor and its rights are involved.

We have hoped that a treaty of peace would have been made, securing to us a reasonable portion of territory and a permanent boundary line, which we might have defended against the assaults of all the factions in Mexico. But our moderate demands have been treated with scorn – and the only alternative that is now left to us is to conquer and hold the whole country, levying contributions upon her provinces and towns, until she comes to her senses and voluntarily steps forward to do us justice. Retreat under the present circumstances we cannot. Our honor, our national self-respect, our permanent safety and welfare, require that we should not leave our task of self-vindication unfinished. And this, we feel convinced, will be the spirit evinced by the whole nation, as the late intelligence shall sweep over the land. [JKM]
But if the Mexicans are still mad enough to claim to the Nueces, then we say we presume there is not a patriot in this land who will not indignantly repel the demand, and call aloud from the most vigorous prosecution of this war. There is not a man of honest fame who will dare to advocate it. Mexico might as well pretend to demand a slice of Virginia or Pennsylvania. [JKM]

Mr. Trist’s summary retrocession of all the territory of the Californias lying south of the 37 degrees, discloses a singular feature in the policy of the President, by which, of course, Mr. Trist was governed. The line of 37 degrees is just half a degree North of the 36 degree 30 min. of the celebrated line of the Missouri Compromise, and if Mr. Buchanan’s project of applying that compromise to the territory is obtained from Mexico, be adopted, the whole of our acquisitions, except a small piece of southern New Mexico (which lies, as Mr. Polk contends, entirely west of the Rio Grande) will be subject to a restriction against the existence of slavery. We shall be much gratified to see how our Southern Democratic friends will argue in behalf of the policy of the Executive as thus developed.

The very article from which we clip the above states that Mr. Trist “persisted in claiming the whole of New Mexico,” and this fact is stated in the concluding letter of the Mexican commissioners to the Minister of Internal and Foreign Relations, from whence alone we derive any information on the subject. Now in referring to the map, we find that the territory of New Mexico runs from the latitude of 32 deg. 15 min. to the 40th degree. This would give us upwards of four degrees South of the Missouri Compromise line.

But the question cannot be argued intelligently, until we have Mr. Trist’s own representations. Even the few notes from him, referred to in the Mexican documents, have not come to light- and we are forced to resort to Mexican statements for all the glimmerings we of the progress and result of the negotiations. The Union has positively expressed its disbelief in the statement of the Mexican commissioners, that Mr. Trist had asked for forty days to consult our Government, in the hope of a favorable result, upon the question of surrendering the territory between the Nueces and the Rio Grande, and also a portion of Upper California. Such a course would have been “a violation of his instructions.” It is evident, therefore, that whether the Mexican commissioners have spoken correctly or not, the report of the negotiation does not properly present “the policy of the Executive.” We must yet wait some time before we even know the true state of the case. [JKM]

The Union publishes an authentic copy of the draught of the treaty carried out by Mr. Trist. In is the same which we have already published, with the exception of a few passages which are interpolated in the copy of the treaty published in Mexico, as having been submitted by Mr. Trist. The interpolations are as follows: In the 2nd article, the words “Besides, it is agreed, that if any Mexican citizen should be prisoners of the Commanches, or of any tribes of Indians, within the limits of the United States, the Government of the United States will endeavor to obtain their return to their homes, according to the treaties existing with those Indians.”

Again, in article 5th, the words “and by the stipulations which will appear in article No. 8, the United States abandon, forever, all claims against the United States of Mexico, on account of the expenses of the war.” [JKM]

The New Orleans Picayune corrects the painful error into which it was led, that the whole of Capt. Besancon’s company had been killed by the guerillas, and that Lieut. Henderson’s command had been captured at the National Bridge. Private letters from members of the companies state positively that both companies had arrived safely (with the loss of one killed and one wounded) at the headquarters of Maj. Lally, at Jalapa, on the 8th of September. [JKM]

The news about the movements of our army is obtained from two sources (says the Union) – 1rst, from the Mexican papers, and 2ndly. from the letters received by the departments at Washington from their correspondents at Vera Cruz, or in the squadron. Most of what we have copied from the New Orleans papers is divided from Mexican channels. It is suspicious, extravagant- in a word, not to be trusted. We attach little credit to the rumors about the loss of our gallant generals and of the great numbers of our troops. Accordingly to the Mexican version, a single bombshell, fired from the palace of Chapultepec, destroyed 300 Americans and General Worth- as if so much powder, so many men, and a distinguished general had been collected in one place. We cannot repress our fears that some valuable lives were lost from the 8th to the 16th, that day when our troops entered the capital; but we
cannot believe that anything very serious has happened to Worth, or Smith, or Pillow; for the letters which have reached Washington directly know who are their authors. We know that they emanate from officers, whose character for truth, intelligence and caution, is thoroughly established. They say nothing about the wounds of Worth, or the deaths of the other generals. And yet is it to believed that, if they reposed any confidence in these reports, they would not have noticed them? On the contrary, they warn us against believing the fables of the Vera Cruz Iris, or the rumors afloat. One of the best-informed officers in Vera Cruz says, that “no credence whatever can be given to one in a hundred of these reports.” We think therefore, we are safe in advising our friends everywhere against indulging too much anxiety about their friends in the camp.

Letters from trustworthy sources, received in Washington

Vera Cruz, Sept. 19th

“On the 9th Lieut. Col. Hughes’ Maryland volunteers took possession of the National Bridge and its works, without the slightest difficulty or resistance from the enemy. His description of its advantageous position has determined us to make it a depot at once, and to throw in all the supplies we can, at such times as the trains at not otherwise employed. About halfway (at San Juan) we have established a resting place, which is held by Col. Collin’s battalion of 2nd Illinois volunteers.

“Brigadier Gen. Lane, with two regiments of Ohioans, arrived from the Brazos within the few last days. He seems much occupied in getting ready in march. He will take with him all the several detachments of recruits, and others that have arrived here lately.

“Maj. Lally, we learn unofficially, was to have left Jalapa on Saturday, the 18th September, to join the army. General Rea, it is reported by Mexicans, is on the road near Puebla with 3,000 troops, for the purpose of intercepting and cutting off trains and reinforcements destined for our army; and also of General Paredes being expected there with 6,000 more. There are no means of ascertaining the truth of the stories. There are thousands of tales circulating daily, without the slightest foundation. No credence whatever can be given to one in a hundred of these reports.

“The sickness in this city has, as far as regards yellow fever, entirely ceased. The cases amongst the troops are now mostly intermittent fever and scurvy.”

“Gen. Bravo has been killed, and Santa Anna retired, with the remaining part of his troops to Guadalupe, after suffering a heavy loss. Santa Anna was wounded in the arm. The news is up to and included the 14th of September at Mexico, and I am assured can be relied on.”

“Gen. Lane left today, (19th) without furnishing a report to this office of his command from the Brazos.”

[Illigible]

[JKM]
We are happy to learn that there are ample means in the treasury (thanks to the operation of the tariff of 1846) for the most vigorous prosecution of the war, including the organization, equipment, transportation, etc., of all the new troops required, until some time after the meeting of Congress.

Mexico would never have offered terms so preposterous, if she had not been encouraged by the "no territory party", by the Nueces party and Mexican party at home, by the party which has denounced this as aggressive, unholy and unjust on our part. Let us hope, however, that her recent treacherous and vindictive course will rouse and unite the nation in the prosecution of the war, and, it exacting from her, by military contributions, as far as practicable, its future expenses. [JKM]

Friday October 8, 1847  RE47v44n46p1c5  Letter from Gen. Taylor  words: 404

Headquarters Army of Occupation

Sir: Your letter of the 17th last, requesting of me an exposition of my views on the question of national policy now at issue between the two political parties of the United States, has duly reached me.

I must take occasion to say that many of my letters, addressed to gentlemen in the United States in answer to similar inquiries, have already been made public, and I have greatly hoped that all persons interested had, by this time, obtained from them a sufficiently accurate knowledge of my views and desires in relation to this subject. As it happens, however, that such is not the case, I deem it proper, in reply to your letter, distinctly to repeat that I am not before the People of the United States as a candidate for the Presidency. It is my great desire to return at the close of this war to the discharge of those professional duties and to the enjoyment of those domestic pursuits from which I was called at its commencement, and for which my tastes and education best fit me.

I deem it but due to condor to state, at the same time, that if I were called to the Presidential Chair by the general voice of the people, without regard to the political differences, I should deem it to be my duty to accept the office. But while I freely avow my attachment to the administration policy of our early Presidents, I desire it to be understood that I cannot submit, even in thus accepting it, to the exaction of any other pledge as to the course I should pursue than that of discharging its function to the best of my ability, and strictly in accordance with the requirements of the constitution.

I have thus given you the circumstances under which only can I be induced to accept the high and responsible office of President of the United States. I need hardly add that I cannot in any case permit myself to be brought before people exclusively by any of the Political parties that now so unordinary divide our country, as their candidate for this office.

It affords me great pleasure, in conclusion, fully to concur with you in high and just estimate of the virtues, both of head and heart, of the distinguished citizens mentioned in your letter.

I am Sir, respectfully, your obedient servant

Z. Taylor

[JKM]

Friday October 8, 1847  RE47v44n46p2c3  The Spirit of the Country  words: 264

The Whig press are assailing the administration for sending Mr. Trist, or even any Minister along with General Scott, to offer terms to Mexico. With what face can they do so, when it is remembered that this policy was first suggested by Mr. Crittenden, a leading member of the Whig party? On the 12th of May 1846, Mr. Crittenden, while speaking on the war in the Senate, employed the following language.

"Great consequences might be involved in this war. We would therefore, make it as compendious as possible. He would, even if he had his way, send a Minister Plenipotentiary with our General, and between every blow hold out the offer of peace." [JKM]

Friday October 8, 1847  RE47v44n46p2c2  Untitled  words: 115

The N.O. Courier, on the request of gentlemen of highest respectability, publishes a call for a public meeting on the 30th.
“To take into consideration the refusal of the enemy to treat of peace, and to assure our Government that the people of New Orleans are ready, as they always have been, to prosecute the war with their persons, and, if necessary, with their money. We are persuaded that a public meeting held for this purpose, and animated with the true American spirit, would have the happiest effects, showing that the Government, have the cordial support of the public in pursuing an honorable peace through a war vigorously conducted, and convincing the enemy that he labors under a mistake in supporting that party spirit has any power to divide the American people from their Government in a question of national rights and honor.”

The N.O. Picayune warmly endorses the propositions and pays a just tribute to the patriotism of New Orleans:

“This call will be gladly, cordially responded to by all classes of our citizens. Our country has embarked in a war with a foreign power, and there will be a union of hearts to facilitate the Government, by the advocacy of all wise and proper measures to prosecute it with the greatest energy. There is among our people but one mind, but one heart upon this subject. All are willing and even anxious to exert their influence, and aid by the use of their means, and risk their persons, if necessary, to aid in chasing the infuriated enemy with whom we are contending.” [JKM]

Friday October 8, 1847  RE47v44n46p4c4  The Victory  words: 100

THE VICTORY- Salutes of 100 guns were fired yesterday (says the N.O. Courier of 27th Sept.) on the Plac d’Armes at noon and sunset in commemoration of the late victories achieved by the American troops, under General Scott, near the city of Mexico, and the subsequent capture of that capital.

It is worthy of notice, that the attack upon Chapultepec was made on the 8th September, the fete of Mexico’s patron saint- but he afforded them no very efficient assistance, as it was the most fatal to them that has yet been fought. [JKM]

Tuesday October 12, 1847  RE47v44n47p1c5  Annexation of Texas  words: 78

Col. James Reily, who was the Texas Minister to the Government of the United States in 1842, publishes in the Houston Telegraph a letter, in which he controverts the position taken by ex-President Tyler, that he (Reily) withdrew the application for the annexation of Texas to the United States. He says he never had any instructions from the Government of Texas to withdraw the proposition for annexation, and assuredly would not have done so on his own responsibility. [JKM]

Tuesday October 12, 1847  RE47v44n47p1c6  Maj. Lally’s Command  words: 547

The following letter, (says the New Orleans Picayune,) from an intelligent and most reliable correspondent, with the accompanying list of killed, wounded and missing of Maj. Lally’s command, will be read with interest by all. It will be seen that the gallant party encountered constant danger, hardship and toil. But the unyielding and indomitable spirit of Americans bore down all opposition, and in the face of death itself they forced their way onward toward their destination.

Messrs. Editor- Accompanying I sent you a list of the killed, wounded and missing in the command which left Vera Cruz on the 7th., under command of Maj. Lally, on the 9th infantry. The train arrived without the loss of a wagon, on the 20th, but as you will see, from the accompanying list, we have had hard work. Since leaving the San Juan river, we have been attacked from behind every bush, and from every hill-side death has been sent among us. We have fought four hard battles meantime- at Pas del Ovijas, the 19th; the National Bridge, the 12th, from 1 till past 6; at Cerro Gordo; the 15th. at none of these places, nothing less than 1500 to 2500 men, according to their own accounts. Their loss has been very great. At Lasanimas the last dying attempt to seize us was made, but as before, without success. It was foolishly reported in Vera Cruz that our train was to take up a million in specie. The hopes of booty and promise of fifty dollars to each man in the event of success, from El Padre Jarauta, brought out “los guerrilleros” in vast numbers.

Everything remains quiet here- no alarms of any kind. I have never seen a more orderly Mexican city. The health of the command is improving fast. The wounded officers are doing very well, and will soon be able to be moved. Lieut. Winder, of the Voltiguets, serving in Forno’s battery, who was wounded at the National Bridge, was buried yesterday with the honors of war. He was shot on the bridge, almost at the first fire, an esopeta ball passing through his body, carrying away his left lung. He was a gallant and gentlemanly officer, whose loss will be severely felt. Lieut. George D. Twiggs, serving in the same battery, after the fall of Lieut. Winder, was shot dead on the hill, while engaged in charging the position of a piece of artillery. He was on his way to join Gen. Twiggs as aid-de-camp. A more high-souled or chivalric fellow never lived. Capt. Clarke, of the 12th, was also wounded while assisting to
Tuesday October 12, 1847  RE47v44n47p1c7  Official  words: 463

The following letter from Major Lally was addressed to Colonel Wilson at Vera Cruz, and by him forwarded to Adjutant General R. Jones at Washington.

Headquarters, Jalapa, Aug. 26, 1847

To Gov. Wilson, Vera Cruz:

My command reached this place on the morning of the 20th. We have fought our way triumphantly every-inch of the route, but have had severe contests-nay, battles- with the guerillas: on the 10th at Paso Ovejas, (as before reported) on the 12th August at the National Bridge; on the 15th of August at Cerro Gordo; and on the 19th at Las Animas, only a mile and a half from the city. Not a wagon has fallen into the hands of the enemy. We have been opposed by at least 1,200 to 1,500 guerillas on these occasions- perhaps at the last, for they were badly whipped at Cerro Gordo, where their loss was so large that they could not reorganize. Father Jarauta, commanded them. Our loss is great. During the entire march- 7 officers wounded, 12 of rank and file killed; 5 mortally wounded, 66 wounded. Of this number, 4 killed and 4 wounded were at places elsewhere than the four actions named above. I regret to say that at the National Bridge Mr. George D. Twiggs (expecting a commission and to be a D.C. to Gen. T.) was killed while gallantly serving in my staff; Capt. J.H. Calwell, of voltigeurs, and Capt. A.C. Cummings, 11th infantry, were wounded on the 10th, ( as before reported) but are doing well now. At National Bridge, Lieut. James A. Winder, of voltigeurs, and Lieut. George A. Adams, of marine corps, were dangerously wounded; also, on the same day, Capt. W. J. Clark 12th infantry, in the thigh; 2nd Lieut. Charles M. Crearor, 12th Infantry, not severely in the leg. At Las Animas, on the 19th, Major F.T. Lally, 9th infantry, commanding officer, was wounded in the neck, not severely but has for a few days rested. Besides our wounded; as we shall be compelled to remain here many days to recruit. I cannot much praise the gallantry of the officers- the men, raw and uninstructed, have gradually acquired confidence.

Dr. Cooper and 12 dragoons reached us. I cannot too earnestly recommend that you assume the authority to order the re-occupation of this city. Even if General Scott was not before the city of Mexico, and beyond the teach of reinforcements, you perceive that trains are constantly endangered by guerillas, and I am satisfied that this city has been their headquarters, and that their chief supplies have been forwarded from here. Their spirits have been raised by absence of the troops. I am certain that General Scott, on the spot, would order its reoccupation. Colonel Wynkoop concurs in the important. [JKM]

Tuesday October 12, 1847  RE47v44n47p2c1  Later from Mexico  words: 759

The steamship Alabama, Capt. Windle, arrived here at an early hour this morning, from Vera Cruz and Tampico, having left the former place on the 26th, and the latter on the 30th.

By his arrival we receive the first number of "The Genius of Liberty," a new paper published in Vera Cruz, by Messrs. Mathewson and Quinn, from which we gather the following information.

There had been no communication between Vera Cruz and the City of Mexico since the news brought by the Mary Kingsland, already laid before our readers. The capture of the Capital, and the flight of the government to Guadalupe, are, however, placed beyond a doubt by letters received at Vera Cruz via Orizaba and Tampico.

The following circular to commandant generals of departments, dated at Guadalupe, September 14th, which we copy from the Genius of Liberty, describes the attack of the American forces on the defenses of Chapultepec, and the subsequent entry into the city. Chapultepec was carried at the point of the bayonet, at daybreak of the 13th, after a desperate resistance of six hours. The fortification situated between the centry boxes of Belen and St. Thomas, St. Como and the citadel, was next attacked by our forces. The resistance of the Mexicans at this place was truly desperate, and the heroism displayed by them worthy of the best days of the Republic. Santa Anna led his troops in person. After nine hours hard fighting, according to the Mexican circular now before us, Gen. Scott retired, drawing off his forces. The Mexicans, it appears, after repulsing the forces under Gen. Scott, dreading a
MOST EXCELLENT SIR:- After the important and great events that have yesterday taken place there remains no other alternative to the Government of the Union than that of its abandoning the Capital in order that other means be adopted and pursued for the harassing of the enemy. Accordingly, His Excellency of the integral Republic orders me to inform you in order that through you, the honorable Congress of the State over which you preside, may know it that his Excellency is firmly resolved to prosecute military operations against the invader. And that whatever be the consequences resulting from the war, yet his Excellency is determined to wage it in every possibly manner, and by every attainable means. A heroic resistance was made in the Capital for the space of six days, but at length the enemy established himself in places and positions, from which his missiles and projectiles could reach the peaceful thousands of the city, then the Supreme Government seeing the state of affairs to be such as warranted their departure, changed their abode; and very soon I will have the pleasure of announcing to you Excellency the site upon which it will fix, which, at present, is impossible for me to do, as it accompanies the army, and, as yet, is not agreed upon the residence of the Supreme Power of the Nation. But as soon as the latter is known, I will give your Excellency as detailed account of everything that has occurred; bit now I shall confine myself to the single following statement:

The American army charged yesterday and daylight; with all its force, upon Chapultapec, which, after a spirited defense of six hours, yielded at last to the attacks of the enemy, who immediately marched to take possession of a fortification situated between the sentry box of Belen and St. Thomas, St. Como and the Citadel. The first advance was checked by the troops his excellency, the President, led up, disputing the ground inch by inch, till finally the invader was routed from the Citadel, after nine hours hard fighting. The Capital being in this situation, his Excellency was anxious to avoid a bombardment, and to spare the tumult and confusion attendant upon an assault, which would have given room for a thousand calamities, and a repetition of those acts in which the foe has manifested so instinctive a spirit of extermination.

His Excellency, the President of the Republic, hopes that your Excellency will endeavor to preserve and reanimate the public spirit, in order that the war may be carried on with the vigor and energy which the national honor and rights of the Republic so imperiously demand

ALCORTA
Minister of War and Marine

[JKM]
recognized by Santa Anna, the President of Mexico, by solemn treaty and by the order of his generals—such was received by us, and our jurisdiction extended by special acts to the Rio Grande—and such was acknowledged by European powers? Whatever opinion Mr. Benton or any other individuals may have entertained, it cannot be denied that the United States have in the most solemn form recognized Texas to the Rio Grande, and that to surrender it now, would be a violation of national honor and that sacred rights of each member of our blessed Confederacy. We ask attention to the following condensed summary in the Union of “facts from the records,” which cannot be answered.

“It has been often shown by extracts from the letters and speeches of Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, John Quincy Adams, and Henry Clay, that they repeatedly declared the Rio Grande to be the true boundary of Texas, and our title up to that river to be as clear as to New Orleans itself. Mr. Clay not only affirmed this in 1820, but reaffirmed it in his letter of April, 1844. We say further, in the controversy between Mr. Adams and Don Onis in 1818, the former insisted that Texas to the Rio Grande was our as part of Louisiana—it was so delivered

[Illegible]

To show the extraordinary course of the Whig at the present time, in vindicating the Mexican title to the Nueces, we would refresh the memory of that paper, by referring to scenes a few months ago in our State Legislature. On the 12th February, 1847, when the war resolutions were under discussion in the House of Delegates, Mr. Chastain Cocke, the Whig delegate from Powhatan, move the following amendment:

“Resolved, That this General Assembly, persuaded that the honor and interest of this country will be best promoted by withdrawing the armies of the United States to the Eastern side of the Nueces, and defending the territory to which we are justly entitled, does hereby advise such position to be taken.” [JKM]

Tuesday October 12, 1847   RE47v44n47p2c6   Untitled   words: 277

We republish all the news we find in the New Orleans Delta and Picayune from the Mexican capital. Its most important feature is the confirmation on the intelligence that Gen. Scott was in quiet possession of the city. While indicating a heavy loss of brave officers and men, its silence as to the deaths or severe wounds of Generals Worth, Smith, and Pillow, goes to disprove the painful rumors we have had. It is also calculated to remove anxiety for the army, as everything looked quiet at the last accounts. The avowed intentions of the Mexican government will be read with interest, though they do not throw much light upon the future.

Maj. Lally, it will be seen, is snugly ensconced in Jalapa. We observe from the Union, that, as early as August 12th, the War Department anticipated the views of Maj. Lally in regard to the reoccupancy of Jalapa, and on the day instructions were dispatched by the Adjutant General of Col. Wilson, at Vera Cruz, to organize

[Illegible]

The instructions also suggested the holding of the National Bridge and Cerro Gordo, so as to open the communication from the end of the line. As has been already stated, a letter has been received from Lieut. Col. Hughes, stating that he has occupied the National Bridge. Col. Wilson reports that a sufficient force left Vera Cruz, September 6, to take possession of San Juan and the National Bridge, and that other force would soon follow to open the remainder of the line to Jalapa. The taking and holding these points are the first steps necessary to keep open the communication with our army in Mexico. [JKM]

Tuesday October 12, 1847   RE47v44n47p4c2   Description of Chapultepec   words: 359

Chapultepec having been captured by the Americans, after the most desperate resistance ever made by the Mexican army, the following account of the place cannot fail to prove interesting:

Chapultepec is the Aztec for “Grasshopper’s Hill.” It is a porphyritic rock, rising near the former margin of the lake that surrounded the city of Mexico, and is one of the places designated by the Aztecs where they carried on their emigration from the north, in search of a final resting place. Their oracles had foretold that such resting place would be denoted by their seeing an eagle devouring a serpent on a rock, and at Chapultepec this prediction was verified. From it they beheld the eagle on one of the rocks in the lake, devouring a serpent. The event was at once symbolized in their records, and subsequently represented on the flag and coin of the nation. The hill is surrounded by a belt of noble cypress, from having been planted before or during the reign of that Prince, measures fifty-one feet in circumference.

Chapultepec was the favorite country residence of Montezuma and his courtiers. It contains remains of garden groves, tanks and grottoes, which bear evidence of its past magnificence. Here Montezuma retired from the heat and dust of the city, to enjoy all the luxuries that wealth and power could procure, or art devise. It was selected
by the Spanish Viceroy as the most beautiful place in the valley of Mexico for a royal residence, and the modern palace (lately a military school) was built by the Viceroy Galvez.

From this place one has a charming view of the whole valley, the capital, the lakes and the volcanic mountains which rise in the distance like a great wall surrounding the enchanting picture. In Anglo Saxon hands this valley may be made as impregnable as Gibraltar.

Bombs and cannon planted on the hill of Chapultepec command the city, the principle roads and aqueduct. Hence the attack and capture of that point by General Scott, before making any demonstration upon the city. Once on the hill, the taking of the city could be effected without serious loss of life. [JKM]

Tuesday October 12, 1847  RE47v44n47p4c2  Lieut. Adde  words: 267

We felt the greatest reluctance (says the N.O. Times) in giving credence to the reports unfavorable to the character of this young officer, wherein it was stated that he had behaved in a cowardly manner, in an affair which took place, about the end of last month, between a party of Mexican lancers and a detachment of 20 men of the 3rd, and 12 men of the 1st Dragoons, under his command. We have now the satisfaction of contradicting, under the authority of Capt. Duperu, Lieut. Adde’s immediate commanding officer, the whole story. Lieut. Adde, in the conflict in question, behaved with the utmost intrepidity.

We can state, with much pleasure, that we have seen a letter from Captain Duperu, in which the gentleman says the Lieutenant Adde had been attacked 8 miles from camp, by a body of 160 lancers, when he retreated with the twenty men of his own company, of the 3rd Dragoons, to a post near a cornfield, where he valiantly fought the Mexicans, and succeeded in putting them to flight. Lieutenant Graham, who commanded the 12 men of the first Dragoons, stood his ground, and, after the encounter, denounced Adde to Gen. Scott as a coward. Lieut. Hamilton, however, bearer of dispatches, who the command was escorting, and who was severely wounded in the fray, bore testimony to Adde’s courage and conduct and that he had covered himself with glory. Lieutenant Graham has offered an apology, and the whole seems to have been a misunderstanding on his part, as he mistook a judicious retreat to a good position, as a shameful flight. [JKM]

Friday October 15, 1847  RE47v44n48p2c3  Further Mexican News  words: 1050

We yesterday (says the N.O. Picayune) found an opportunity to look through a file of Mexican papers from the 5th to the 10th of September, both inclusive. We find very little of interest in them to extract, but can gather from them a very clear idea of the spirit of hostility with which the people are animated towards us. A very determined effort is made to excite prejudice against us for the execution of the Irish deserters. We find this execution made the object of an entire supplementary number of the Diario del Gobierno of the 10th. It is in the form of an address to the Mexican people, without any signature, but evidently partaking in some measure of an official character. We give a translation of the whole document, though we have not a doubt that the circumstances of the execution are grossly exaggerated. It gives us the exact number hung and otherwise punished:

"Mexicans! Among the European volunteers whom the American army has hired to kill us, there are many unfortunate men who are convinced of the injustice of this war, who profess the same Roman Catholic religion which we profess, which prevails in Europe from the want of employment and failure of crops, having consented to enlist. Some of these men, abjuring their errors and following the noble impulses of their hearts, have passed over to our army to defend our just cause. From these, his Excellency, the President, formed the Foreign Legion, known under the name of the Company of St. Patrick. At La Augostura and at Churubusco, they bore themselves with the highest intrepidity, and after the enemy had gained possession of his last point, which was only after its defenders had exhausted their last cartridges, they were made prisoners.

"The Generals of the American army, who cannot count upon their soldiers in a war so iniquitous, save through the influence of acts of ferocity, were determined to shoot these Irishmen. Scarcely was this known in this city, before every breast was filled with horror and indignation. His Excellency, the Minister of Relations, in a touching letter to the English Consul, the estimable lady of her Britannic Majesty’s Minister, various private individuals, both Mexicans and foreigners, we ourselves, and even the ladies of families residing in Tacubaya, interceded for these brave men; and we expected that if they could not be pardoned, they would, at least, be spared capital punishment.

"It would have been deemed base and repugnant to the laws of civilization, as practiced in modern wars, to offer the bloody spectacle of the execution of these men; and yet it could have been palliated to a certain extent by the part which these men took in the defense of Churubusco; but they had no share whatever in the slaughter which was made the day before yesterday upon the heights of Kings Mill. Well, then, will you believe it, my countrymen? This day, in cold blood, these Caribs, from an impulse of superstition, and after the manner of savages, and as practiced in the days of Homer, have hung up these men as a holocaust- they have themselves said it- to the manes of the General or Generals who there fell! And in what manner did they hang them? Noosing them by the neck as they stood upon the ground, and so suspending them, that they died "by inches” strangled by their own weight; the mode adopted being such, that their horrible agony lasted more than one hour. A spectacle worthy of such men, or
ended on the 13th of September. From the moment that Santa Anna fell back upon Guadalupe, the position.

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From the circular which is given in another column to the commandants of the different States of Mexico, which say that he also lost his horse in the retreat by the route of Tulancingo.

correspondent discredits the report that Santa Anna was wounded, though it is reiterated by the Patria's advices, estimate. The accounts from Tampico confirm the death of Gen. Bravo, killed fighting bravely, but our Vera Cruz

Mexican loss is set down in round numbers at 3,000 killed and wounded. We don not attach much credit to this

should have transpired in regard to our loss but with all diligence we have been unable to learn anything more. The

accomplished officer, a graduate of West Point and native of New Hampshire. It is somewhat singular that so little

wounded 45. The only individual mentioned among the killed is Capt. Albermarle Cady, of the 6th Infantry, an

hundred and seventy or eighty all told. The number of American officers killed is said to be 27, and the number

thousand men in killed and wounded, while more authentic accounts from English sources set it down at four

Beyond dispute, the most satisfactory feature in the news touches the loss sustained in the recent actions by

the army of General Scott and its present position. Our news is rather of a negative nature, but it is hardly less

satisfactory than if it were more definite. We have ample ground on which to deny the painful reports brought by the

James L. Day of the deaths of distinguished American General Officers. Our information is positive that General

Smith has not been slain, but that he has anew covered himself with glory. General Worth has been appointed

Governor of the city of Mexico, and was acting as such as late as the 24th of September, letters of which date have

been received by commercial houses at Tampico. We have not been able to learn anything definite of General Pillow

and his wounds, but from the total silence of letters in regard to him, which make mention of our losses, we are

persuaded that he has not been killed, and we hope not wounded. We cannot learn that either General Worth or

General Smith have been wounded, but Major Capers, an intimate friend of General Worth, who came passenger on

the Alabama, is entirely satisfied of General Worth's safety. In this connection we may mention that Maj. Capers is

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the bearer of dispatches from Tampico to Washington. He has with him, also, letters, private and unofficial, from

various sources in the city of Mexico, which make incidental mention of public affairs, which letters will be

communicated to our Government. It is from this gentleman we learn such information as we posses of the loss of our

army in the recent engagements, which is unexpectedly small. The Mexican accounts make it exceed one

thousand men in killed and wounded, while more authentic accounts from English sources set it down at four

hundred and seventy or eighty all told. The number of American officers killed is said to be 27, and the number

wounded 45. The only individual mentioned among the killed is Capt. Albermarle Cady, of the 6th Infantry, an

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correspondent discredits the report that Santa Anna was wounded, though it is reiterated by the Patria's advices, which say that he also lost his horse in the retreat by the route of Tulancingo.

From the circular which is given in another column to the commandants of the different States of Mexico,

announcing the abandonment of the capital by Santa Anna, we are persuaded that the fighting for its possession ended on the 13th of September. From the moment that Santa Anna fell back upon Guadalupe, the position.

"Mexico, Sept. 10, 1847"

[Illegible]
But if we are thus relieved from all apprehension in regard to General Scott’s army from this source - and we have not thought the alarm felt from him in some quarters well founded - we have to deplore the calamities which have overtaken the city of Mexico from another source, and which are much more formidable than could have resulted from our occupation; nor do they fail to excite alarm lest our army has suffered from the same cause.

According to the Arco Iris of Vera Cruz of the 26th, received here by La Patria, letters from Jalapa and Orizaba announce that immediately after Santa Anna abandoned the capital and as soon as the populace felt themselves relieved from the restraint of his bayonets, the leperos commences the work of sacking the city, plundering the houses of citizens as well as foreigners, and committing all species of excesses. During this pillaging, the accounts say that a division of the American Army entered the city to restore order; verbal accounts say that their aid had been solicited by the magistrates. A conflict ensued between these troops and the rabble, in which some accounts say that the whole division was cut off, while others say that one portion was driven back to the gates of the citadel, and yet another took refuge in the convent of San Francisco, abandoning two pieces of artillery.

Their aid had been solicited by the magistrates. A conflict ensued between these troops and the rabble, in which some accounts say that the whole division was cut off, while others say that one portion was driven back to the gates of the citadel, and yet another took refuge in the convent of San Francisco, abandoning two pieces of artillery to the leperos. The accounts go on to say, that Gen. Scott was then compelled to bombard the city from the citadel gates of the citadel, and yet another took refuge in the convent of San Francisco, abandoning two pieces of artillery to the leperos.

The accounts go on to say, that Gen. Scott was then compelled to bombard the city from the citadel gates of the citadel, and yet another took refuge in the convent of San Francisco, abandoning two pieces of artillery to the leperos. They numbered in all ninety-two men, and Uncle Sam gave the "boys" nearly $17,000 for their services. Too much praise cannot be given to Col. Larned and his clerks, for their zeal that they manifested in the performance of their duties on the above occasion. [JKM]

The same paper pays the following just compliment to the American character:

"The very fact that the mob began the sack of the city, after it was abandoned by the Mexican army, has given another occasion for a new display of the noble and generous character of our army. The civil authorities of the city begged the intercession of our troops to protect them from the outrages of their countrymen, and their prayer was granted. What a contrast is here presented, to the conduct of the other armies of the world! The history of the same century will record the taking of Saragussa, Badajos, and Mexico, and will furnish to future times the means of comparing French, English and American armies in the hour of victory." [JKM]
Tuesday October 19, 1847  RE47v44n49p1c4  The Origin of the War  words: 945

We believe that it is now generally admitted that the war in which we are engaged with Mexico grew out of the annexation of Texas to the United States. We have contended from the beginning that if Texas was in fact a sovereign and independent nation, Mexico had no right to object to its annexation to our confederacy: and when she took such a course she became responsible for the consequences which might result there from. The whole history of the subject shows conclusively that she bases the justness of her cause entirely on the claim to Texas, and the wrong done her by the United States, in despoiling her on a portion of her territory. The limits of that territory she has, never, until the recent negotiations, condescended to mention, that we know of. The country between the Nueces and the Rio Grande was not distinguished from the rest of Texas. For Mexico claimed, and still does claim, the whole of what is now a State of the Union. In the negotiations with Mr. Trist, the Mexican commissioners, in fact, were willing to sell Texas to the United States, on the payment of an adequate price. The very first article of the instructions under which they acted mean nothing but that; for it expressly says that the independence of Texas will be acknowledged on the payment of a suitable indemnity; and it is no forced interpretation to that article to say, that the Mexican Government still prefers to claim to all the country beyond the Sabine as well as that beyond the Nueces- a claim which it is not willing to relinquish without a price. If this be so, it seems a useless task for the Whigs to go in search of motives for the war. The origin of the war stands out plain and distinct. Mexico claims a state of this Union as he own property. That State, when it was admitted into the Union, was at war with Mexico. On the validity of that claim Mexico justifies her course, and that war she has always contended was transferred to the United States by the mere act of annexation. She has been entirely consistent in this. We do no know that she has ever complained of the march of Gen. Taylor from Corpus Christi to Fort Brown. She has disregarded that matter entirely, and based her action on the question of annexation.

Although Mexico has, by plain implication, admitted that the cause of the United States is right and just, if the measure of annexation was right and just, her allies in the United States have gone farther. They do not dare to take the ground which Mexico takes; they do not dare to come forward and say that Texas should be surrendered to the enemy, or that we are to pay a price for a sovereign state of the confederacy. They must take other grounds, and endeavor to assign false motives for hostilities. They have commenced, as if that was a matter in which Mexico had any concern; and have gone so far as to justify that cause of the public enemy, upon the frivolous pretext, that the President, and not Congress, had commenced hostilities. Admit, for a sake of argument, that the fact is so, and we ask in all sincerity, how does that affect the justice of the injustice of the war? Has Mexico anything to do with the distribution of powers in the United States? Has Mexico any concern in the provisions of our Constitution? And does that depend upon anything but the cause of the war? Awe think the answer to these questions is, to use an elegant expression of Mr. Webster’s, as plain as a turnpike: and , being thus plain, it really appears to us, that they who base their hostility to the war, on the manner in which it was declared, and allow themselves to denounce the war as unjust for that reason, are not actuated by the proper feelings. We are confirmed in this belief when we see who they are that oppose the war. Nearly all, if not all of them, are those who oppose the annexation of Texas- those who contended that we had no right to annex Texas, and those who oppose the further spread of slavery. There are they who oppose the war; and we believe that they oppose it because of their hostility to the “Texas bomb”. That, we believe, is the true reason that we see so many who side with the enemy. They bring forward other matters in justification of their conduct- but we cannot help believing that they are mere pretexts; for, almost with one voice, they said in 1844 that the annexation of Texas would be the annexation of the war in which Texas was then engaged; and now they say that the President, and not annexation, made the war. This strikes us as being pre-emminently absurd- and we are pained to see the many side with public enemy, and have no better justification for their conduct. The Whigs of the North come out plainly in the matter. They say that their opposition to slavery is at the bottom of their opposition to the war. The Northern Whigs rule the Whig camp, for they have the strength to rule it. The Southern Whigs have to follow them, making such excuses for their conduct as they can. Those excuses have in times past been singular enough. When the annexation and Tariff questions were before the people, they were eminently so; but now they are more so, and no courteous term can convey our idea to them.  [JKM]

Tuesday October 19, 1847  RE47v44n49p2c5  From the Brazos  words: 276

The Schn. Panama, Capt. Porter, arrived on Saturday from Brazos, but bring no news of interest.

Gen. Cushing’s brigade left the Brazos on the 20th Sept. in four vessels.

Col. Hays arrived on the 29th Sept. and was to leave the next day with five companies of his command on board the steamship Fanny for Vera Cruz.

The brig Crusoe and schrs. Equity and A. Cadmus were at the Brazos on the 29th Sept., to leave for this port in a few days.

The Matamoras Flag on the 25th Sept. says Gen. Mirabeau Lamar had been announced as a candidate to represent the counties of San Patricio and Nueces in the representative branch of the State Legislature. The election will be held at the different election precincts in these counties on the first Monday in November next. Gen. Lamar has, for about a year past, been stationed at Laredo, in Nueces county, in command of a company for the defense of
On the 22nd, we made a reconnaissance of the work, which was pronounced impractical, as the lives of little over 9,000 all told.

The mountains which were to lead us to the El Dorado of our hopes, the great plain of Mexico. Our march was to be long and difficult, and 3 o'clock saw us under way with heart and hopes full of the prospect before us. The much dreaded pass is reached and passed. The mountains which skirt the road on the left, here close upon it for about a mile, overhanging and enfilading it completely, and affording with their crests most excellent coverings for the enemy's marksmen. The newly cut trees and long range of breast works thrown up on the crest, showed preparation was overhanging and enfilading it completely, and affording with their crests most excellent coverings for the enemy's marksmen. The newly cut trees and long range of breast works thrown up on the crest, showed preparation was

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We left Puebla on the morning of the 7th, and entered upon a beautiful rolling country of great fertility, supplying with its gardens the inhabitants of Puebla with food, and surrounded by lofty mountains, some of which were covered with snow. Our road was gradually ascending and so good that on looking back from the head of the columns, our train could be seen for miles in rear, dotting with its snow-white tops the maguey-covered plain. On our left were Popcatapetl and Iscatatel, the snow on their not distant tops rendering the air quite chilly. General Scott did not leave with us, but came on the next day with Capt. Kearney's dragoons.

The second day's march was like the first, gradually ascending, passing through defiles, narrow passes, and over deep chasms, where a more determined enemy might have seriously annoyed us by merely making use of the obstacles nature everywhere presented. Thick woods of the finest forest trees were abundant, and the rugged nature of the country would readily carry one back to the Northern parts of New England, or the passes of the "Notch". Here and there beautiful little lakes were interspersed in the deep valleys, and the clearness and coldness of their waters were almost incredible.

The third day we were to encounter the much vaunted pass of "Rio Frio," and along the passage of the mountain which was to lead us to the El Dorado of our hopes, the great plain of Mexico. Our march was to be long and difficult, and 3 o'clock saw us under way with heart and hopes full of the prospect before us. The much dreaded pass is reached and passed. The mountains which skirt the road on the left, here close upon it for about a mile, overhanging and enfilading it completely, and affording with their crests most excellent coverings for the enemy's marksmen. The newly cut trees and long range of breast works thrown up on the crest, showed preparation was made, while numerous parapets, with embrasures in the logs, taught us what might have been done. But no men were there, the muskets and cannon were gone. Valencia, with 6,000 Mexicans were full a day's march ahead, making for Mexico, with a speed which, betrayed homesickness. Rio Frio was found to be a little stream pouring down from the Snow Mountain, of icy coldness and crystal purity. After a slight pause for refreshments, we commenced our ascent of the ridge, which separates the plains of Puebla and Mexico, the former of which it had hitherto skirted. For several long miles we toiled up the hill, only recompensed for our labor by what we hoped to attain at last. When all were pretty nearly work on, a sudden turn in the road brought the top of the ridge. The whole vast plain of Mexico was before us. The coldness of the air, which was most sensibly felt at this great height, our fatigue and danger were forgotten, and our eyes were the only sense that thought of enjoyment. Mexico, with its lofty steeples and its checkered domes, its bright reality, and its former fame, its modern slender, and its ancient magnificence, was before us, while around, on every side, its thousand lakes seemed like silver stars on a velvet mantle.

We encamped that night at the base of the mountain, with the enemy's scouts on every side of us. The next day we reached Ayolta, only fifteen miles from Mexico by the National Road, which we had hitherto been following. Here we halted until Generals Quitman, Pillow and Worth, with their divisions, should come up. We were separated from the city by the marshes which surround Lake Tezcuco, and by the Lake itself. The road is a causeway running through the marsh and is commanded by a steep and lofty hill called El Pinnol. This hill completely enfilades and commands the National Road, and had been fortified and repaired with the greatest care by Santa Anna. One side was inaccessible by nature; the best had been made so by art. Batteries, in all mounting 50 guns of different caliber, had been placed on its side, and a deep ditch, 24 feet wide and 10 feet deep, filled with water, had been cut connecting the parts already surrounded by marshes. On this side Santa Anna had 25,000 men, against a force of a little over 9,000 all told.

On the 22nd, we made a reconnaissance of the work, which was pronounced impractical, as the lives of 5,000 men would be lost before the ditch could be crossed. We continued our search and found another road which went round on the left but when within five miles of the city, were halted by coming suddenly upon five strong batteries on the hill which commanded this road at a place called Mexicalcingo. We soon counter marched and then saw our danger. With on regiment and three companies of cavalry, in all about 400 men, we saw that El Pinnol lay directly between us and our camp, distant full 15 miles. Every eye was fixed on the hill with exception of an approaching column, which should drive us back into a Mexican prison, which we stepped off with the speed and

The Governor of Texas has authorized Lieut. H. Bee to raise a company of mounted volunteers, to be mustered into service some time in October. This company will be stationed at Laredo, and supply the place of that now there, under the command of Gen. Lamar, whose term of service expires in three or four weeks.

"Capt. J.S. Sutton is also authorized to raise a company, to be stationed between the Nueces and Rio Grande, to supply the place of that recently commanded by Capt. Gray. Capt. Sutton was in Corpus Christi a few days ago recruiting. [JKM]
By means of his scouts, Gen. Worth had found a path round the left of Lake Chalco, which led us to the Western gate of the city, and which, up to that time, had not been fortified. On the 14th, the other divisions commenced their march, while we brought up the train in the rear. In the morning, the train was sent in advance, while Smith’s brigade acted as rearguard. It was composed of the Rifles, 1rst Artillery, and the 3rd Infantry, with Taylor’s battery. As the rear guard, marching slowly along, came up with the train, word came to Gen. Twiggs that a force of about, five thousand men were trying to cross the road between them and the train in order to cut it off. We were then passing through a small village which by a curious confidence was called Buena Vista. On our left were large fields of half grown barely, through which was seen advancing in splendid order, the enemy’s column. It was the most splendid sight I had even seen. The yellow cloaks, red caps, and jackets of the lancers, and the bright blue and white uniforms of the infantry, were almost beautifully contrasted with the green on the barely field. One line of battle was soon formed, and we deployed through the grain to turn their left and cut them off from the mountains. A few shots, however, from the battery, soon showed them that they were observed, and countermarching in haste, they left their dead on the field, Thus ended our fight of Buena Vista. The night we stayed at Chalco.

The next day we made a long and toilsome march over a horrible road, through which with the utmost difficulty, we dragged our wagons by the assistance of both men and mules. The next was nearly the same, except that the road was, if possible, worse than before, as the Mexicans had blocked it up with large stones, rolled down the neighboring hills. This night we encamped at a most beautiful olive grove, of immense size and accompanying at once both divisions. In the town, as well as in Chalco, there are still standing the churches of Indians where the fire worshippers assembled before Cortez had introduced a new religion. They are large and somber edifices, differing but little from the churches of this country, and being near the city, are said to have been formerly resorted to by the ancient kings.

The next day we arrived in sight of the rest of the army, and heard the guns with which Worth was bleeding the walls of San Antonio. That night the news of the death of Capt. Thornon, of the second dragoons, reached us. He was a brave officer, and a thorough gentleman, but was always unfortunate in his military career.

On the morning of the 19th, we left the little village where we had heard this sad news, and took the road to San Juan, about seven miles to the west and only about ten miles from the city. When we arrived here, we heard the sound of Gen. Worth’s guns, who was said to have attacked San Augustine, a village three miles nearer the Capital, where Santa Anna was said to be 20,000 men. When we arrived at San Juan, the men were told to sling their blankets across their shoulders, put their knapsacks into their wagons, and to put two days bread and beef in their haversacks. When this order came, all knew that the time had come. The officers arranged their effects, put on their old coats, and filled their haversacks and flasks. Soon we were all ready for anything but a thrashing. We here heard the position of the enemy, which was nearly as follows: Santa Anna with 20,000 men was at San Augustine; Valencia with 10,000 men was at a hill called Contreras, which commanded another road parallel with San Augustine road, but which led into it between the city and Santa Anna. Now, but cutting a road across, if we could whip Valencia, we could then follow the road up and this get it between Santa Anna and Mexico and whip him too. General Worth supported by General Quitman was to keep Santa Anna in check, while Twiggs, backed by Pillow, was to try to astonish Valencia, which, you will see, he did very effectually. Pillow with some of the ten regiments was to cut the road. We left San Juan about 1 o’clock, not particularly desiring a flight so late in the day, but still not shunning it in case we could have a respectable chance.

About 2 P.M., as we had crawled to the top of a hill, whether we had been ourselves pulling Magruder’s battery and a Mountain howitzers, we suddenly espied Valencia fortified on a hill about 200 yards off, and strongly reinforced by a column which had just come out of the city. We lay down close, to avoid drawing their fire while the battery moved past at a full gallop. Just then General Smith’s manly voice rung out, “Forward the Rifles, to support the battery!” On they went, till they got about 800 yards from the work, when the enemy opened upon them with his long guns, which were afterward found to be sixteen to eight inch howitzers. The ground was the worst possible for artillery, covered with rocks large and small, and prickly pear and cactus, intersected by ditches filled with water and lined with maguey plant, itself imperviable to cavalry, and with patches of corn with concealed the enemy’s skirmishers thrown forward to lose their relative position, as well as the column. About four the battery got in position under a most murderous fire of grape canister and round shot. Here the superiority of the enemy’s pieces rendered our fire nugatory.

We could get but three pieces in battery, while they twenty-seven, all of them three times the caliber of ours. For two hours our troops stood the storm of iron and lead they hailed upon them, unmoved. At every discharge they lay flat down to avoid the storm and then sprang up to serve the guns. At the end of that time, tow of the guns were dismounted and we badly hurt; thirteen of the horses were killed and disabled; and fifteen of the cannoneers killed and wounded. The regiment was then recalled. The lancers had been repelled in three successive charges. The 3rd Infantry and 1rst Infantry had also engaged and successfully repelled the enemy’s skirmishers without loss of either officer or men. The greatest loss had been at the batteries. Officers looked gloomy for the first days fight, but the brigade was formed and Gen. Smith in person took command. All felt revived and followed him with a yell as, creeping low to avoid the grape, which was coming very fast, we made a circuit in rear of the batteries and passing off to the right we came soon lost to view in the chaparral and cactus.
Passing over the path that we scrambled through behold us at almost 6 o'clock in the evening tired, hungry and sorrowful, emerging from the chaparral and crossing the road between it and Valencia. Here we found Cadwallader and his brigade already formed, and discovered Riley's brigade skirmishing in rear of the enemy's works. Valencia was ignorant of our approach, and we were as yet safe. In front of us was Valencia strongly entrenched on a hillside and surrounded by a regular field work concealed from us by an orchard in our rear. Mendoza with a column of 6000 was in the road, but thinking us to be friends. On our right was a large range of hills whose continued crest was parallel to the road, and in which we formed in line of battle 5000 of the best Mexican cavalry. On our left we were separated from our own forces by an almost impassable wilderness and it was now almost twilight. Even Smith looked round for help.

Suddenly a thousand vivas came across the hillside like the yells of prairie wolves in the dead of night, and the squadrons on our right formed the rear! “Wait till you see the red caps and give it to them!” Fearfully they came on a few yards, then changed their minds, and, disgusted at our cool reception, retired to their couches. On the edge of the road between us and Valencia, a Mexican hamlet spread out with its mud huts, large orchards, deep cut roads, and a strong church, and through the center of this hamlet ran a path parallel to the main road, but concealed from it: it is nearly a mile long. In this road Smith's and Riley's brigade spent the night. Shields who came up in the night, lay in the orchard, while Cadwallader was nearest the enemy's works. As we were within range of their batteries, which could enfilade the road in which we lay, we built a stone breastwork at either end to conceal ourselves from their view and grape. There we were completely surrounded by the enemy and cut off from our communications, ignorant of the ground, without artillery, weary, dispirited and dejected we were a disheartened set.

With Santa Anna and Salas' promise of "no quarter," a force of four to one against us, and one half defeated already, no succor from Puebla, and no news from General Scott, all seemed dark. Suddenly the words came whispering along, "we storm at midnight." Now we are ourselves again. But what a horrible night. There we lay—too tired to eat, too wet to sleep, men side by side, with a heavy rain pouring down upon us, the officers without blankets or overcoats, (they had lost them in coming across,) and the rain was so heavy that the streams in the road flooded us, and there we stood crowded together, drenched and benumbed, waiting till daylight. At half-past three the welcome word "fall in" was passed down, and we commenced our march. The enemy's works were on a hillside, behind which rose other and slightly higher hills separated by deep ravines and gullies, and intersected by streams. The while face of the country was a stiff clay, which rendered it almost impossible to advance. We formed our line about a quarter of a mile from the enemy's works, Riley's brigade on our right.

At about four we started winding through a thick orchard, which effectually concealed us, even had it not been dark, debouching it to a deep ravine, which ran within about 500 yards of the work, and, which carried us directly in rear and out of sight of their batteries. At dawn of day we reached our place after incredible exertions, and got ready for our charge. The men threw off their wet blankets and looked to their pieces, while the officers got ready for a rush, and the first smile that lit upon our faces for twelve hours boded but little good for the Mexicans. On the right, and opposite the right of their work, was Riley's brigade of the 2nd and 1rst Infantry and 4th artillery, next the rifles, then the 1rst Artillery and 3rd Infantry. In rear of our left was Cadwallader's brigade, as a reserve, the whole division under command of General Smith in the absence of General Twiggs. They had a smooth place to rush down on the enemy work, with the brow of the hill to keep under until the word was given.

At last just at daylight, General Smith slowly walking up asked it all was ready. A look answered him. "Men forward!" And we did "forward". Springing up at once, Riley's brigade opened, when the crack of a hundred rifles started the Mexicans from their astonishment, and they opened their fire. Useless fire, for we were so close that they overshot us, and before they could turn their pieces on us, we were on them. Then such cheers arose as you never heard. The men rushed forward like demons, yelling and firing the while. The carnage was frightful, and through they fired sharply, it was on no use. The earthen parapet was cleared in an instant, and the blows of the stocks could be plainly heard, mingled with the yells and groans around. Just before the charge was made, a large body of lancers came winding up the road looking most splendidly in their brilliant uniforms. They never got to the work, but turned and fled. In an instant all was one mass of confusion, each trying to be foremost in the flight. The road was literally blocked up; and while many perished by their own guns, it was almost impossible to fire on the mass, from the danger of killing our own men. Some fled up the ravine on the left or on the right, and many of these were slain by turning their own guns on them. Toward the city the Rifles and 2nd Infantry led off the pursuit. Seeing that a large crowd of the fugitives were jammed up in a pass in the road, some of our men ran through the cornfield, and by thus heading them off and firing down upon them, about 30 men took over 500 prisoners, nearly a hundred of them officers.

After disarming the prisoners, as the pursuit had ceased, we went back to the fort, where we found our troops in full possession, and the rout complete.

We found that the enemy's position was much stronger than we had supposed, and their artillery much larger and more abundant. Our own loss was small, which may be accounted for by their perfect surprise at our charge, as to them we appeared as if rising out of the earth, so unperceived was our approach. Our loss was one officer killed, Capt. Hanson of the 7th Infantry, and Lieut. Van Buren of the Rifles, shot through the leg; and about 50 men killed and wounded. Their force consisted of 8,000 men under Valencia, while a reserve, which had not yet arrived under Santa Anna. Their loss, as since, ascertained, was as follows: Killed and buried since the fight, 750-wounded 1,000, and 1,500 prisoners, exclusive of officers, including four Generals, Salas, Mendoza, Garcia and Guadalupe, in addition to dozens of Colonels, Majors, Captains. We captured in all on the hill 23 pieces of cannon, including five 8 inch howitzers, two long 18, three long 16 and several 12 and 8 inches, and also the two identical 6 pounders captured by the Mexican at Buena Vista, taken from Capt. Washington's battery of the 4th artillery.
The first officer who saw them happened to be the officer of the 4th selected by Gen. Scott to command the new battery of the regiment. Capt. Drum. In addition were taken immense quantities of ammunition and muskets, in fact the way was screwed with muskets, escopets, lances and flags for miles. Large quantities of horses and mules were also captured, though large numbers were killed.

Thus ended the glorious battle of Contreras; in which 2000 men, under Gen. P.F. Smith, completely routed and destroyed an army of 8000 men under Gen. Valencia, with Santa Anna and a force of 20,000 men within five miles. Their army was so completely routed that not 1500 men rejoined Santa Anna and participated in the second battle. Most people would have thought that a pretty day's work. Not so. We had only saved ourselves, not conquered Mexico, and men's work was before us yet.

At 8 a.m. we formed again, and Gen. Twiggs, having taken command, we started on the road to Mexico. We had already marched a mile before we were sharply fired upon from both sides of the road, and our right was deployed to drive the enemy in.

We soon found out that we had caught up with the retreating party, from the very brisk firing in front, and we drove them through the little town of San Angelo, where they had been halting in force. About half a mile from this town we entered the suburbs of another called San Katherina, when a large party in the churchyard fired on the head of the column, and the balls came right among us. Our men kept rushing on their rear and cutting them down, until a discharge of grape shot from a large piece in front drove them back to the column. In this short space of time, five men were killed, ten taken prisoners, and a small color captured, which was carried the rest of the day.

Meanwhile, General Worth had made a demonstration on San Antonio, where the enemy was fortified in a strong hacienda; but they retired on his approach to Churubusco, where the works were deemed impregnable. They consisted of a fortified hacienda which was surrounded by a high wall on all sides. Inside the wall was a stone building, the roof of which was flat and higher than the walls; above all this was a stone church, still higher than the rest, and having a large steeple. The was pierced with loop holes, and so arranged that there were two tiers of men firing at the same time. They thus had four different ranges of men firing at once, and four ranks were formed on each range, and placed at such a height, that they could not only overlook all the surrounding country, but at the same time they had a plunging fire upon us. Outside the hacienda, and completely commanding the avenues of approach was a field work extending around two sides of the work, and protected by a deep, wet ditch, and armed with seven large pieces. This hacienda is at the commencement of the causeway leading to the Western gate of the city, and had to be passed before getting on the road. About 300 yards in rear of this cross road meets the causeway, at a point where it crosses a river, thus forming a bridgehead, or lete de pont.

This was also very strong and armed with three very large pieces of cannon. The works were surrounded on every side by large corn fields, which were filled with the enemy's skirmishers, so that it was difficult to make the attack immediately, as they were full of men and extended for nearly a mile on the road to the city, completely covering the causeway. The attack commenced about 1 p.m. Gen. Twiggs' division attacked on the side towards which they approached the fort, i.e. opposite the city; Gen. Worth's division attacked the bridge head which he took in about an hour and a half; while Generals Pillow and Quitman were on the extreme left, between the causeway and Twiggs' division.

The Rifles were on the left and in the read of the work, entrusted by Gen. Scott with the task of charging the work in case Gen. Pierce gave way. The firing was most tremendous- in fact one continued roll while the combat lasted. The enemy, from their elevated position, could readily see our men, who were unable to get a clear view from their position. Three of the pieces were manned by "The Deserters", a body of about 100 men, who had deserted from the ranks of our army.

These men fought most desperately, and our said not only to have shot down several of our officers, whom they knew, but to have pulled down the white flag of surrender, not less than three times.

The battles raged most furiously for about three hours, when both sides having lost a great many, the enemy began to give way. As soon as they commenced retreating Kearny's squadron passed through the tele de pont, and charging through the retreating column, pursued them to the very gate of the city. As our troops got within about 500 yards of the gate, they were opened upon with grape, and canister, and several officers wounded. Amongst the number was Capt. Kearney, 1st Dragoons, who lost his left arm above the elbow. Lieut. Graham, of New York, received a severe flesh wound in his left arm. Capt. McReynolds ditto. Our loss in this second battle was large. We lost in killed seven officers: Capt. Capron Burke, 1st Artillery, Lieuts. Irons, Johnson, Hoffman; Capt. Anderson. Col. Butler, of S. Carolina, and about 30 officers wounded exclusive of the volunteers. The official return give our loss in killed and wounded at 1150 besides officers.

The Mexican loss is 500 killed in the second battle, 1,000 wounded and 1,1100 prisoners exclusive of officers. Three more generals were taken, among them Gen. Rincon and Anaya, the provisional President, and 10 pieces of cannon, and an immense amount of ammunition and in killed, wounded and missing at 12,000. He has only 18,000 left out of 30,000, which he gives as his force on the 20th in both actions.

Thus ended the battle of Churubusco, one of the most furious and deadly for its length of any of the war. For
On the 11th we rested (if it may be so called) while a heavy volley of musket was constantly being poured in
wounded. Having so large a train to guard, we were unable to bring into action over 400 men.

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about a mile on the road, by a force of at least 500 Mexicans. The heaviest fire was at first on the center and rear of
the column, which was more destructive to the teams than to the men; their object being to cut off the wagons. A
number of horses and mules were killed, and considerable confusion created in the train. Major Lally rode down to
the rear, and ordered a charge into the chapparal which dislodged the enemy, and silenced the fire on the center and
rear. But the action in front continued to be obstinately contested- our right wing being hotly engaged with the
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lead of Capt. Alvord, of the 4th Infantry, who was acting as adjutant. The enemy’s position was carried after a
determined resistance. In this charge, two as brave and excellent officers as ever wore a uniform- Capt. Caldwell, of
the voltigeurs, and Capt. Cummings, of the 11th infantry- were shot down, both severely wounded. Two field pieces,
under the direction of Lieut. Sears, were skillfully managed and did good execution. Our loss was one killed and nine
wounded. Having so large a train to guard, we were unable to bring into action over 400 men.

On the 11th we rested (if it may be so called) while a heavy volley of musket was constantly being poured in
upon us. On the 12th, we resumed our march and were incessantly annoyed by attacks upon different parts of the
line until noon, when we arrived at the National Bridge. This is one of the strongest passes upon the road to Mexico.
The bridge crosses the river just above the junction of two rapid streams, and curved around a high hill on the left,
which is crowned with a castle, that commands the bridge. On the right, on the opposite side of the river, there is a
perpendicular bluff, along the edge of which they had breast works. It certainly appeared to us a formidable fortress
to capture with new recruits. Major Lally, with his staff and a strong body of voltigeurs advanced upon the bridge to
reconnoiter but could not discover a man of the enemy. But, on the farthest end of the bridge appeared as if the
enemy intended to defend at that point, and to reserve their fire until they could decoy our whole train on to the
bridge and the valley leading to it.

One company was ordered ahead as an advance guard and storming party followed by two pieces of artillery
and three companies of infantry. On reaching the center of the bridge a most deadly fire was opened upon us; and
our advance guard, being thrown into some disorder, faltered, not withstanding the exertion of the artillery to open
upon the barricade (from which the fire principally proceeded) with round shot, while the men covered themselves as
well as they could. But, on perceiving that this did not produce the desired effect, he ordered that whole body (with
the exception of one company of infantry, which was partially sheltered) to retire; which was done in good order.

Finding the enemy is so large force, Major Lally determined to attempt the capture of the castle before
crossing the bridge. For this purpose, he selected tow strong companies, and placing them under the command of
the brave Lieut. Ridgely, of the 4th, directed him to pass down and ford the first stream, ascend the height in the
rear of the castle, and storm it. He then attached ropes to a six pounder cannon, and, with a hundred men, he raised
it to the top of a high hill on the right of the road, and on one side of the bridge. This somewhat astonished the
Mexicans as they had supposed this height inaccessible. The gun being planted and carefully directed, a fire was
opened upon the castle with great effect, and the Mexicans soon began to leave it; and when they discovered
Ridgely’s storming party, they rushed out in double quick time. The castle being thus taken, the remaining two
companies of infantry and one of cavalry charged across the bridge, carrying the barricade, and routing the enemy
in every direction.

The time occupied in this affair was six hours. Our loss was considerable. Mr. Twiggs, acting in the staff of
Maj. Lally, a noble and gallant young man, was killed; and Captain Clark and Lieuts. Winder, Adams, and Creanon,
all officers of great worth, were severely wounded. Eleven men were killed or mortally wounded, and upwards of
molestation, to give them proper care and attention. We moved on again on the 14th, and as usual were fired upon.

After this, up to the 19th, we had no regular fight. Although continually annoyed by their cowardly shots,
we took and spiked three pieces of artillery.

Pass, if nothing more; but, to their surprise, none came up until we were in possession of the heights. In this affair
from the right announced that Captain H. had not been less successful, and the Mexicans were seen flying in all
directions. Had our force been greater, we could have captured them all, by cutting them off on Twiggs' road. In this
affair 9-pounders had time to discharge but on of them. Almost simultaneously with the taking of this work, the cheers
formed in line, gave three cheers, and carried it at a dash. This was done so quickly, that the Mexicans, who had two
miles, up a steep hill, the men no sooner came in sight of the enemy, land within 300 yards of the fort, than they

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directions. Had our force been greater, we could have captured them all, by cutting them off on Twiggs' road. In this
brilliant affair our loss was only two killed and eight wounded. The Mexican cowards, by their own account,
numbered 1,400, and their loss was severe- we could not stop to count them. They calculate to get the train at this
pass, if nothing more; but, to their surprise, none came up until we were in possession of the heights. In this affair
we took and spiked three pieces of artillery.

On the right, the chaparral was very thick, and the day being hot, the men were much exhausted when they
reached the hill; and, though under the fire of the enemy, were obliged to rest a short time. On the left, for some
distance, Lieutenant R. found a path; and though the distance to the fort, after leaving the road, is more than two
miles, up a steep hill, the men no sooner came in sight of the enemy, land within 300 yards of the fort, than they

Fortunately for all parties, they sent us messengers of peace in the morning, and we marched in without
opposition, while their forces retired on the other side.

We are daily threatened with attacks, but we feel perfectly secure against any force they can bring against
us. We consider ourselves good against 4000 Mexicans.  [JKM]

We are glad to see that the recent conduct of Gen. Pillow has exhorted from the Whig some atonement for
its former abuse and ridicule of that gallant officer. The two other Whig city papers do not seem to be yet satisfied,
and we feel it to be our duty to enlighten them with an extract of a letter published in the N.O. Courier "from a high
source of military information, and every word of it may be implicitly relied on." It is dated, Sept. 19, City of Mexico,
and, referring to the battle of Contreras on the 20th August, says that “at a signal one rush was made, the works
carried, twenty-two guns [some 18-pounders and O'Brien's guns taken at Buena Vista] captured, and also 1,100
prisoners, sixty wagon loads of ammunition, 300 pack mules and $18,000 money, besides killing more than 700
men; and all this was done in seventeen minutes by the watch, with a loss on our part of only forty seven men killed
and wounded.”
In regard to the armistice, the writer states a fact, showing that the propositions came from the enemy:

“General Scott wisely recalled the troops, as, by entering the city, (which could most readily have been done,) the authorities would have been dispersed and all chances of peace dispelled forever. On the 21st, Gen. Mora, Chief Engineer of Mexico, came out, and meeting Gen. Scott at Cayoacon, made propositions for a truce.”

At the storming of Chapultepec, “a Mexican was killed in the act of setting fire to three mines, with the intention of blowing up the Castle and killed every soul in it.”

The conclusion of his letter renders a handsome tribute to the American officers and men, and among them the much-abused Gen. Pillow:

“Oh, on the morning of the 14th September, General Scott and staff entered the city and after viewing the troops, were escorted to the palace. As the troops were about to move to their quarters, a large body of leperos commenced firing on our men from the house tops, and a general street fight ensued, which was kept up for two days and nights, when the priests and authorities, finding the leperos worsted, called on General Scott, who stopped the further effusion of blood by recalling the troops, and everything is now as quiet as if no hostilities existed. We killed nearly 1000 leperos, and lost in killed and wounded about 100 men. History cannot point to more brilliant actions nor to a more successful campaign. Every effort of our arms has been crowned with success and every officer and soldier has rendered himself worthy of his country’s everlasting gratitude.

“This is a magnificent city in every respect, combing splendor, beauty and wealth, of which the Mexicans’ may well be proud. Our friends Pillow and Sheilds greatly distinguished themselves, and were both wounded- Pillow in the left ankle, Shields in the arm. I am glad to say they are doing very well. They were both wounded in storming the castle of Chapultepec, at the head of their columns. They have the confidence of their officers and men, as is shown by the brilliant results of the 14th September, in which both acted conspicuous parts.

“September 26th- Nothing of importance has transpired since I finished the above, except the shock of an earthquake which was felt on the 20th, and the detection of a plot of some 2,000 men to assassinate our officers and men. We are not to be caught clapping. There is proof that a portion of Pillow’s division entered the castle before the regular storming party, which shows well for him and his troops. Santa Anna has renounced the Presidency. If we don’t have peace in 30 days, we never shall. Herrera will doubtless be President.”

The Union of Friday night says nothing of Gen. Scott’s official dispatches. Of course, therefore, they had not then arrived. It understands “that when General Scott chances to receive a mail, it is freighted with numbers of letters to him, private and public; but more than half the mails- both ways- are intercepted. This may account to the government, as well as his friends, for not hearing from him. “Indeed,” write a friend, “the General has, for a long time, had only rare moments for private correspondence or indulgence of any sort.”

In relation to the arrival of troops at Vera Cruz, the same paper says:

“Reports received at the Adjutant General’s office last evening, from the commanding officer at Vera Cruz, state the arrival there, from the 2nd to the 6th of October, of fresh troops to the number of 2,000 and upwards, including a portion of Brigadier General Cushing’s brigade from the Rio Grande, besides two companies of the 11th Infantry, over one hundred strong, which had been for some time detained by Col. Gates at Tampico. In addition to the above, Col. Hay’s companies of Texan mounted volunteers, of which the strength is not known, were just arriving from the Brazos.

“Since the Brigadier Gen. Pierce’s departure with his brigade from Vera Cruz for Maj. Gen. Scott’s headquarters, July 14th, six thousand troops and upwards are officially reported to have arrived at the former place inclusive of October 6th; since which date, other and numerous reinforcements have been rapidly concentrating there, and moving forward on the route to the city of Mexico.”

The Union publishes the following extracts of a letter from Mr. John R. Henly, of the army of the United States, dated at the National Bridge, 30th September, to Major L. Thomas, U.S. Army [Adjutant General’s Office.]

Washington:

“I have to inform you that at midnight of the 27th an express reached this post from Brigadier Lane, who was at the Plan Del Rio, fifteen miles from here, bringing an order for Major McCoy, of the Indian Regiment, to move forward immediately, with all the troops here, with the exception of our battalion, as Maj. Lally, then at Jalapa, had
received an order from Col. Childs to move to his support, by reason of the approach of Santa Anna of Puebla. Major McCoy left forthwith, and I know that he joined General Lane on the morning of the 28th, and that the whole brigade is now at Jalapa; thus, if General Lane moves to the support of Colonel Childs, of which I have no doubt, he will carry with him nearly 3,000 men. On the morning of the 28th, a young Mexican officer reached here from Jalapa, [he had a passport from General Lane,] from whom I obtained the following information- corroborated entirely by what I have since learned from the British courier- that after the armistice was broken, and our troops had entered the city, a large portion of the Mexican infantry, which had escaped, took the road to San Luis, under Herrera; whilst some three thousand cavalry, under Santa Anna, took the road to Puebla; the citizens [or rather the lower classes] of which place, anterior to his arrival, had risen on our troops and killed some of them, which forced Col. Childs to bombard the town, causing considerable destruction to life and property, and reducing the town to submission. The British courier from the city of Mexico arrived today, and we are informed he saw Santa Anna in Puebla; that Col. Childs had possession of the surrounding heights, and, if provisioned, could hold his own, as he had plenty of water. He- the courier- was loath to speak on the subject, and I cannot give you any further particulars of the state of our force at Puebla.

"From the courier we are also informed that he had seen Paredes in the city of Mexico, (whilst our troops were in possession,) but who, finding that nothing could be done there, owing to the vigilance of Gen. Scott, had left the city, and retired to his estate, some fifty miles distant; that the Mexican Congress would meet on the 5th of October at Queretaro; and that he thought it probable Santa Anna had come this way in order to escape from the country. He also seemed to think that the prospects of peace were more flattering, whilst the young Mexican officer (in my opinion, a type of his countrymen) ridiculed the idea of surrendering any portion of their territory.

“Our force is small here, but we are actively engaged in strengthening our, position, and, of course, will defend it to the last extremity, if attacked.”  [JKM]

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**Tuesday October 26, 1847  RE47v44n51p1c6  Important from Jalapa**  words: 56

Extracts of a letter received in this city dated

"Jalapa, (Mexico,) Sept. 30, 1847

"We are to march in two hours to relieve Col. Childs at Puebla, who has been attacked by 10,000 men, under Santa Anna. Our force is now 4,000, under command of Gen. Lane of Buena Vista. We start right off."- [Charleston News.]  [JKM]

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**Tuesday October 26, 1847  RE47v44n51p1c7  Further Mexican News**  words: 171

By a communication in the American Star we perceive that Gen. Bravo and staff were taken prisoners by a portion of the New York Regiment in Gen. Quitman’s division. Circumstances prevented their being delivered to Gen. Quitman, and they were taken to Chapultepec by Capt. Davis, aid to Gen. Q. On reaching there, finding the general-in-chief still at the castle, he reported to Gen. Scott that he had Gen. Bravo and staff prisoners of war. The general ordered Capt. Davis to bring the prisoners forward where he was when the general-in-chief addressed Gen. Bravo as follows:

"I deeply regret meeting the valiant Gen. Bravo in misfortune. I have long and favorably known him by fame. I trust we may soon be friends. I honor and respect him as an enemy."

Gen. Bravo expressing his thanks for the courtesy extended towards him by the general-in-chief the latter directed that the former be taken into the citadel and furnished with a comfortable quarters as the convenience of the building would admit of.  [JKM]

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**Tuesday October 26, 1847  RE47v44n51p1c7  Santa Anna’s Last Manifesto**  words: 858

The President of the Integral Republic of Mexico to his fellow countrymen

With the most poignant and profound grief do I announce to you, that it was after repeated and extraordinary efforts, and after fifteen hours incessant fighting, I saw myself under the necessity of abandoning the capital, with my ranks remarkably thinning by the projectiles of the enemy who penetrated our nearest lines, strewing the way with their bodies, and with those of the noble Mexicans, who so gloriously defended, inch by inch, the rights and honor of their country. You have been witnesses that I have created resources, at a time when there were none; that I labored day and night; that I erected fortifications around Mexico; that I organized and assembled a powerful army, in order that I might wrest some favor from fortune, which has been so averse to us. The insubordination of one General subverted my entire plan of operations- a thing which you already know. In the
Convent and Bridge of Churubusco, the enemy received some very severe lessons, which were thrice repeated afterwards in the fort of Chapultapec, the suburbs of Bolen and St. Carlos, and finally the citadel. But the value of many of our soldiers of the guard and of the army, was not always supported, yet was it only by fire and sword that the enemy, in a day most fatal to the nation, made himself master of the capital. I have anxiously sought death in all parts, because a loss so great has occasioned me the most profound despair. In Chapultapec I received a contusion, in Belen my clothes were pierced by the balls of the enemy, and around me disappeared the best soldiers of the Republic. What remains to me, then, in the minds of this woe and anguish which assail me, the unprofitable conscientiousness that I have personally sustained the combat to the very last extremity, and that I have sold dearly to the enemy his astonishing victory. He has seen me in the front at Augostura, Cerro Gordo, Churubusco, Chapultepec, Belen, St. Commo, and the citadel, and he shall find me, I swear to you, wherever it shall be useful and glorious for me to combat.

I ought also to announce to you that I have spontaneously resigned the Presidency of the Republic, calling to assume it, according to the Constitution, the President of the Superior Court of Justice, with the associates, who will be the depositories of power, until the National Congress can decide who is he to whose guidance shall be entrusted its future destinies.

When power was entrusted to me under the most trying circumstances, I accepted it, in order that I might combine the element of resistance existing in the country; and open the enemy’s advance towards the capital, I resumed military command, that I might oppose to him a force of considerable strength and concentrate all our resources for its defense. But after the fall of the capital, circumstances have been altered, and now a division of the commands is requisite to promote the same objects, to attack the enemy in his line of communication from Vera Cruz to the capital is imperiously urgent, and I alone must take upon me the responsibility, because I feel it incumbent upon me, ever to place myself in the quarter in which there is the most peril. The supreme magistracy cannot be exposed to the hazard of war, and it is necessary to locate it amid population and wealth in order that I be not given over to anarchy and in order that it may again arise with power and with glory.

For this reason, have I surrendered an authority, to me so laborious and so bitter, and in whose reception and laying down, I have aspired to nothing more than the welfare of my beloved country. I may have committed some errors in the discharge of my civil obligations, but be assured that my desires, and my hopes have known no other stimulus, that the noble one of sustaining the rank of the nation in which I first saw the light, and which has laden me with honors and with favors.

I have said it before, and here repeat it, that I never despair of the fate of my country. If faction be silent, and will listen to the sovereign voice, if we be unanimous in our desire, an in our yearnings, there is yet time to hurl the enemy from the soil which he pollutes by his presence. It is known to you that I rejected a peace which would reduce the Republic to a nullity, the most absurd and complete. The nation has desired, and still desires, let us continue it; then, with the greatest intrepidity, and my example shall be a most ardent one.

Factions cannot now dispute with me concerning the power; which with pleasure I abandon; if they would dispute with me, let them come to the field of battle, there they will find me serene, and firmly consecrates, as ever, to the most

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ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA
City of Guadaloupe Hidalgo, September

[JKM]
of the 8th. This indicated likewise the necessity on our part of attending to the defense of the wood, as on the
preservation of that depended that of the fortress, for without it the garrison would have been deprived of all
assistance, and would even have been in need of water, which was obtained from there.

The forces which I had under my command on the morning of the 12th, amounted, according to the
enclosed account, to 832 men, distributed in the manner therein stated, and ten pieces of artillery, three of heavy
caliber, five smaller, and two mountain howitzers, all supplied with full ammunition and artillermen. Of the said
forces there were 367 men to keep the lower points and road of the hill, and the rest kept the heights. The
fortifications of the building had hardly commenced, and the fort protected by wood work was too feeble to resist the
artillery of the enemy. In this state of affairs the enemy commenced firing on us at half past six on the morning of
the 12th, from three batteries, situated one at the hacienda de la Condesa, another near the arsobespacco de
artillery of the enemy. In this state of affairs the enemy commenced firing on us at half past six on the morning of
fortifications of the building had hardly commenced, and the fort protected by wood work was too feeble to resist the

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During this day tow aids-de-camp from his excellency the President and one from your excellency, were sent to me
to know and to ascertain if I needed any assistance in defending the fortress. My only answer to his excellency was,
that one or two battalions should be sent to me to be stationed in the wood, to support the small force scattered
about in it.

The active battalion of San Blas, under command of its colonel xecontencall, was sent, but was recalled in the
evening by his excellency the President, without giving me or the chief, who had charge of the position any
notice whatever. Between 6 and 7 p.m., another message from the President was received, which induced me to go
down to the gate of Rastillo and see him in person. He then told me that he had already recalled the battalion of San
Blas, and gave me orders to withdraw the small force they had supported, as his excellency was determined to
abandon that position and defend the height alone.

Your excellency is aware of the observations I made opposite to that resolution, and that the effect they had
induced the President to concur with me that it was necessary to keep the woods at every risk. He then offered to
send me another battalion that very night, in order to maintain the position in the woods, and reinforce the garrison
should they need it. I insisted on the necessity of its being promptly done, stating to his excellency that with the
troops then there, it was impossible to pass it, as the battalion from Toluca had nearly all deserted, and that the
small force remaining had lost all moral courage, from the effect of the fighting on that day. But the President
concluded by saying, that he would not send them immediately, as he did not wish to concentrate too large a force
in the fortress, and thus present a greater body to the power of the enemy's projectiles- assuring me, however, that
we would be secured in time. The battalion offered was not sent, and this obliged me to dismember the force I had
guarding the heights, to augment with 100 men that which was sustaining the point below, and with 162 men the
outer works of the fortress, with orders to return to the fortress in case of an attack by a superior force. By this
means the force that was stationed in the woods was comprised of 215 men, 374 kept the advance of outer works
and 343 the fortress. During the night the desertion continued, though in less numbers; the garrison of the outwork
likewise diminished, and of all the battalion from Golney, which, when I reviewed it, amounted to 450 men, there
only remained 27 men and the officers. D. lean Cardenas, D. julian molua, D. Manuel irmenez, D. Jose Maria Cores,
and D. Angel Colina; therefore, at daylight on the 18th I only counted a little over 200 men in the principal part of
the fortress, to resist the assault of those of the enemy's columns, 350 to 400 strong and even many of these few
were so demoralized by the fatal example of their companions and that of some of their officers, that they attempted
flight in such a degree as to make it necessary to fire upon several of them, who were seen letting themselves down
from the top of the battery. In view of the difficult position, and knowing that the enemy would commence the
assault immediately, and judging by the activity of their fire in the morning I directed you an hour after my note of the
13th in which I stated the desertion of the troop, and the absolute necessity of my being reinforced by a different
kind of soldier, or otherwise it would be impossible to defend the fortress, and that my responsibility would leave at
the moment.

The aid-de-camp, who took this note, returned to the fortress, and told me that he had delivered the note
into your hands, having found you with his excellency the president, who also read the note at the house of Alfarro.
Seeing that the time was passing off, that the enemy had commenced moving his columns, and the help required did
not arrive in spite of my fourth note of the morning, and the repeated offers of the President to send two thousand
men to the fortress in time of need, and knowing that general razgel's brigade was near the fort, I sent two aids to
request his assistance then, which, in a short time, would be of no avail. The general razgel and pina barragon
answered me by the last of my aids, that they could not come to my assistance without the orders of the President.
At nine in the morning, the columns of the enemy, protected by an active fire from their artillery, commenced
entering the woods on the side of melino del rey, and advancing by the tacubayo road. The weakness of the forces
that covered abundant trenches towards the wood- forces that had been diminished by desertions the night before-
let the enemy advance with slight obstacles, and take possession of the outer works- it being proper to observe
here, that the troops who had been beaten at these points did not fall back on the fortress, as ordered.

The hill being completely surrounded by the enemy, they charged their greatest force on the west side,
which is the easiest of access, and for which reason we had prepared some mines, the train of which was possessed
by the engineer, D. Manuel aleman, who had been instructed to blow them up when ordered; but this officer,
Although he had been particularly charged not to leave the place where he was to receive my orders, on any account whatever, did not comply and when he was sought at the critical moment, could not be found, and hence the prepared mines were of no avail, and the enemy had this great obstacle out of the way. This circumstance on the one hand, and the large number of the enemy on the other, and the want of all help, and the falling back of the troops that defended the outer works, spread horror among the artillery men, who had not been wounded, and they flew from their ground and confusion shortly communicated to the few soldiers who remained, so that no earthly effort could contain them, and make the enemy's triumph dear to him.

The enemy, however, sustained a proportionate loss to the resistance that was made, and through it, and the remembrance without doubt, of that they experienced in the action of the 8th, the result of which had considerably disheartened his troops, he was seen to vacillate in the assault, notwithstanding our fires, and the advantages he had gained. Therefore, it can be assured, that with a little more help in the way of reinforcements, with which we could have prolonged the defense for some time, the enemy beaten, would have returned to his camp at Tacubaya, to put in execution the retreat which a few days before it was reported had been determined upon. It is impossible for me to give you Excellency an accurate account of our loss, because, in my position, as a prisoner, I am in want of all the necessary documents. I can only assure you that all those who remained in the fort up to the last moment, those who were not killed, were either wounded or taken prisoners. Among the former, I have to mention, he being one of those, I have been able to find out, Gen. Don Juan Nepomaceno Pene, killed by a cannonball, (which glancing, stuck my aid Lic D. Francisco Losa Estrado.) The Col. D. Juan Cano, and my Adjutant, D. Lercin Calro, whose family I particularly recommend to the protection of the Supreme Government. The greater part of those who accompanied me, compiled with their duty, and their behavior corresponded with what the honor and sanity of the cause we are engaged demanded. All of which I have the honor of informing your Excellency in order that you may inform his Excellency the President, and offering you the consideration of my great esteem.

God and Liberty, Tacubaya, Sept. 14, 1847

Nicolas Bravo

To his Excellency the Minister of War and Marine

[JKM]
quantity of ammunition, small arms; and about 600 prisoners. As soon as they were driven from the buildings, Capt. Drum and Col. Duncan advanced their light batteries, and Lieut. Stone brought forward one of the 24 pounders, the whole of which opened a most destructive fire upon them, as they retreated across a low plain to the rear of the position they at first occupied. Our loss was very heavy, and I regret to say, that some of the very best officers of our army fell killed and wounded, while the Mexican loss was very slight until they commenced their retreat. While the cavalry were passing in front of the enemy, in order to charge the column of lancers, they were not under the fire more than ten seconds, and during that time they sustained a loss of six officers wounded, thirty two privates killed and wounded, and a loss of 105 horses. There were

We were deceived in reference to the character of the buildings, as there was no foundry, or even a semblance of one- and after blowing up some of the buildings, and bringing off our killed and wounded, we evacuated the place, as the occupation of it would give us no advantage. Our loss was 800 killed, wounded, and missing.

The result of this engagement taught us one lesson, which was, that the Mexicans use their arms well and fight well, when they are in position; and although the superiority of our arms and the valor of the troops will eventually triumph, yet still we must call into requisition all our military science and skill, or we purchase our victories at too dear a price. A list of the killed and wounded, you will find in the general recapitulation which I sent you. Many a tear will be shed on its perusal, and many a heart will bleed for the noble souls, and the old and firm veterans who fell in the assault.

Col. Riley was not advanced from San Angel (his former camp) to El Piedad, in order to make a diversion, and hold the entrance to the Piedad and San Antonio to road. Gen. Pillow's division moved up to within supporting distance, and thus rested our army until the 11th, without anything of moment occurring. The engineer corps were busily employed night and day in their reconnaissance, ascertaining and examining the position of the enemy, and the different entrances to the city. The engineers, throughout all our operations, have performed a most dangerous and laborious duty. There was a little incident, which occurred to Captain Mason in one of his reconnaissances, which is worthy of record. It became necessary, on one occasion, for him to go very close to the enemy's breastwork, in order to ascertain its true position. As the approached, a Mexican officer rode out with two of his escorts, and came up within a very short distance when Captain Mason drew his revolver. The Mexican then in Spanish saluted "Good Morning." The Captain responded. The Mexican then said "You seem to be very curious; suppose you come a little closer." "No, I thank you, sir; I can see very well from where I am." "Walk inside, sir- we will endeavor to treat you as well as the accommodations of the camp enable us." "I am much obliged to you, sir, for your kindness, but prefer partaking of your hospitalities on some future occasion." And holding his spy glass to his eye, he continued, "I only want at the present to see how you are situated. I can see two guns in embrasure a little further to the left. That gun I see you men loading. I do think you will be able to bring to bear on me, as I will keep you between it and myself;" and moving round a little to the right, he continued his observation. One of the escorts then spoke in English and said, "You damn rascal, you know better that to come in here. If I was to get a hold of you, I'd cut your throat." Capt. Mason then said to the officer, "He makes a very bad use of it, and his scurrility is in striking contrast with you own respectable language. If we had him in our camp, we would teach him to be more respectful." The Mexican officer then rode off to one side. Capt. Mason who had been making his observations during the whole time of the conversation, said to the officer, "I have no desire at present to be brought within the range of your guns, and having learned all I want to know about your position, I will bid you good morning, sir," and then returned to where he had left his escort, which until then had been unseen by the Mexican, who rode back to the fort, apparently much mortified and disappointed that he had not been able to Decoy the captain into the trap that had been set for him.

On the 11th, a column of cavalry sallied out from the fort on the San Antonio road, either for the purpose of threatening our position or taking Capt. Magruder's battery, which was stationed with the picket within about 800 yards of their fort, though in a great measure covered from the range of their guns. As soon as they got their column moves out into a place free from all obstructions, Capt. Magruder opened two pieces upon them with shot and shell, which passed through them with great destruction, and they took to their heels and got back to the fort as quick as possible. The fort opened two guns on the battery, but without further effect than killing one man of the 15th Infantry. An officer shortly after rode up and inquired of Capt. Magruder if the fort replied, that he had the gentleman's card, and he expected the cavalry would carry back him compliments to the fort.

About sundown Gen. Twiggs, with the balance of his division, arrived at Piedad, and Gen. Pillow move with his division to the South of Tacubaya, and took a position on the West side of Chapultepec, and Gen. Quitman, with his division, occupied the road from Tacubaya to the city of Mexico, Gen. Worth's division remaining in Tacubaya.

In the course of the night three heavy batteries were planted in front of the Castle of Chapultepec: No. 1 commanded by Capt. Drum; No. 2 commanded by Lieut. Hagner; No. 3 by Lieut. Stone- all under the general command of superintendence of Capt. Auger, Chief of the Ordinance. Also, during the night Gen. Twiggs' division planted Capt. Steptoe's in front of the fortifications on the San Antonio road, it being intended that General Twiggs should make a feint for the purpose of drawing out the enemy in that direction.

At daylight on the morning of the 12th, all the batteries opened- the fire made by Gen. Twiggs' division succeeded admirably. As soon as Capt. Steptoe opened his guns the enemy marched out several heavy columns, and in reaching the fort passed within range of Steptoe's guns, when he turned a heavy and destructive fire upon them. As soon as they reached the work he tuned his attention to the fort, and in the course of an hour's cannoning drove them out of it, and silenced all the guns. Capt. Steptoe's fire throughout was one of the most effective and
It was determined on the morning of the 13th to storm the Castle of Chapultepec and the works connected with it. The General-in-Chief, knowing the strength of the fortifications and the strong force with which it was garrisoned, concluded to assault it with old and well trained troops- not that he did not possess confidence in the divisions of General Pillow and Quitman- but in carrying a point of which was the key to all our future operations, it would not do to make a mistake or omit to take every advantage. Therefore the storming parties from the divisions of General Worth and General Twiggs, which had so frequently been under severe fire, were selected. The heavy batteries continued their fire upon the fort, and about 7 o’clock, when the brigade of Gen. Smith arrived as a supporting force to the division of Gen. Quitman- as soon as General’s Smith’s brigade reached its position- the division of Gen. Pillow passed Molino del Rey and ascended the hill on the west side, the Voltigeur Regiment, which had been advanced into the timber to clear it of the enemy’s skirmishers, became the assaulting force, supported by the balance of the division. Gen. Worth was situated to the north and on the left of Gen. Pillow. A part of Gen. Quitman’s force ascended the hill on the South and to the right of Gen. Pillow. As the division of Gen. Pillow and a portion of Gen. Quitman’s ascended and carried the Castle in most gallant style, the balance of Gen. Quitman’s force and the brigade of Gen. Smith’s swept the works on the road, the whole of the command moving harmoniously and simultaneously together, much to the honor and credit of their respective, commanders struck the enemy in their different positions, at one and the same time, a fatal blow. The hill where General Pillow’s command ascended had been mined for the purpose of blowing up our troops when they arrived at this point, but the rapid movements of the Voltigeur Regiment, and the dead effect of the fire of their rifles, as they followed up the enemy from the first position, prevented their carrying out their views and intentions. Just as the command of Gen. Pillow rose the hill, and while in the act of assaulting the work, he fell, and wounded, and Col. Ransom was killed, but so luckily had Gen. Pillow explained his objects and intentions in carrying the work, and aided by an active and efficient staff, that his command moved on and carried the work without even being brought to a stand. As Gen. Quitman’s division was charging on the work in the road, Brig. Gen. Shields received a severe wound in the arm, and as soon as the works were carried he returned and had it dressed, and again mounted his horse, which was shortly afterwards killed under him, but he continued to command his brigade, which was actively engaged throughout the day, and the name of Shield’s will long be remembered in connection with the laurels won by the Palmetto of the South and Empire of the North.

Gen. Pillow being disabled by his wound, Gen. Worth took the command of both his own division and that of Gen. Pillow, and advanced along the aqueduct leading to the gates of San Cosme. Gen. Quitman, with his own command and Gen. Smith’s brigade, also advanced towards the city by the aqueduct leading into the city at the gate of Piedad, which is commanded by the Citadel. On each of the routes the two columns met with a decided and stubborn resistance, and after the advance of Gen. Worth’s command had reached the gate of San Cosme the fire was so hot that they were compelled to temporarily abandoned it- and did not make a permanent lodging until towards evening, when a portion of the siege train battery was brought into action, as also a piece or two of the mountain howitzers, which hurled the shot and shell about the ears of the enemy a little hotter than they desired. General Quitman’s column, with the Rifles at their head, continued steadily and cautiously on, taking position and breastwork, as the came in contact with them, until they arrived near the gate of the city. Here the firing was so heavy both from small arms and artillery, that it was deemed prudent to carefully reconnoiter it before attacking. Accordingly Lieutenants Beauregard, of the engineers; Lovell, of General Quitman’s staff, and Van Doren, of General Smith’s staff, went forward to ascertain the position of the affairs; they returned, and upon their report the Rifles, supported by a small force of infantry, was advanced forward for the purpose of picking off the artillerists, which they did- being particularly covered by the aqueduct- with the same success and accuracy as one of our Southern or Western men would shoot squirrels. This rendered the situation of the Mexican artillerists so uncomfortable, they were unable to stand to their guns long enough to load them, and they commenced moving their guns, which was perceived by General Quitman, and he ordered a charge, which was carried into execution as soon as commanded-Lt. Stuart, of the Rifles, leading the way. It captured the main work, with two pieces of artillery, which Captain Dunn turned on the retreating enemy. General Quitman was himself among the first to mount the breastwork, and plant the standard thereon; at 1 o’clock; the enemy then formed, and three times attempted to charge us, and make the position, but the withering and deadly fire of the Rifles, together with a volley of grape from Captain Dunn, so cut them to pieces that they would not approach nearer than rifle shot. The third time they tried to advance under the cover of the arches of the aqueduct, but if ever a Mexican poked his head out for the purpose of slipping one arch to the other, some riflemen would be sure to put a ball through it. During the whole of the afternoon, the Citadel and a fort on our right, continued a concentrated fire upon the gate, where our troops were, in the hopes of driving them out, but in this they were much mistaken, although we had but little over. Here it was that the lamented Captain Dunn fell mortally wounded; the death of no man in our army has been more sincerely regretted that his. Throughout the bombardment of Chapultepec he stood by his guns, and when the works of the enemy were stormed, he continued to advance his battery under the heaviest fire, himself possessing and infusing into his men a cool and deliberate bravery and self-possession surpassed by none. You will recollect it was he who recaptured the Buena Vista guns, still covered with the blood of those who fell over them at the time they were lost, and afterwards used them with such decisive effect at the battle of Molina del Rey on the 8th. Under cover of the night Gen. Quitman’s column erected a breastwork, and put into position a battery of two 18, one 68-pounder howitzer, and a 24-pounder howitzer intending to warm up the citadel in the morning. Gen. Worth’s column got his guns in a position to rake everything in his vicinity, and after night Lieut. Hagner threw a few shot and shell into the city, which no doubt intimidated the enemy very much, as they had a taste of this at Vera Cruz.
After the results and successes of the day, General Scott intended, on the morning of the 14th, to make a lodgment of the "New Pasea," (entering by the San Cosme gage) and bombard the city, and for this purpose the balance of Gen. Twiggs' division was ordered from El Piedad to the support of Gen. Worth.

On the night on the 13th, Santa Anna evacuated all his positions and retreated from the city, having had more that one-half of his army killed and wounded or taken prisoners- among the latter, Gen. Bravo, with his staff, at Chapultepec- Santa Anna found that if he fought us on the 14th, he would hardly have a bodyguard left to cover his retreat.

Early in the morning the two columns took up their march. Gens. Quitman and Smith, at the head of their commands, entered the Grand National Plaza, at 7 o'clock. The column was formed in the Plaza, and, by order of General Quitman, the National Standard of the Cerro Gordo Division, while the command came to a present, was flung to the breeze over the National Palace, and it now triumphantly waves over the Halls of Montezumas, and, with on of our national poets, we may say-

"Our flag is there, our flag is there
Behold its glorious stripes and stars!
Our flag is there, our flag is there
We hail it with three loud hazzus!"

Gen. Worth's command halted four or fives squares from the Plaza, where Col. Garland was wounded.

About 8 o'clock, Gen. Scott and staff, in full feather, escorted by the cavalry entered the city, amidst the huzzas of the soldiers on all sides. As he entered, the band of the 2nd dragoons, mounted, interested the starting crowds with Hail Columbia. As the escort entered the Grand Plaza, the band moved the patriotism of the whole of us to a little higher pitch, by the good, old-fashioned national air of Yankee Doodle.

One of the first acts of Gen. Scott was to appoint Gen. Quitman Civil and Military Governor of Mexico, and Col. F.S. Belton, Lieut. Governor of Mexico. Gen. Quitman's department embraces the following officers. Capt. F.N. Page, Assistant Adj't General; and Lieuts. M. Lovell, M. Wilcox and R. Davis, Secretary, and Mr. Levi, interpreter.

Throughout the 14th, and on the morning of the 15th, the Mexicans continued to fire from the corners and on the houses, killing some and wounding many.

Friday October 29, 1847  RE47v44n51p1c5  Another letter from Gen. Taylor  words: 209

Headquarters Army of Occupation
Camp near Monterey, Aug. 2, 1847

Dear Sir- Your letter, enclosing to me a copy of the proceedings of the Democratic meeting held at Harrisburg, Pa., in which I find myself nominated with so much honor for the Presidency, has been received. This evidence of the high and flattering regard of so many of my friends of the Keystone State, is, I assure you, most feelingly appreciated. I beg you, as President of the meeting to convey to the people of Harrisonburg, as opportunity may offer, my sense of their kindness, and the assurance that, though sincerely distrustful of my ability to fill with efficiency so exalted a important an office, it will by my strong and zealous endeavor, should the people decide to bestow it upon me, to serve them for the good of the country and as shall be required by a strict respect for the constitution and the manifest wishes of the whole nation.

I return you my thanks for the handsome and acceptable manner in which, as President of the meeting, you have made known their proceedings to me.

With many wishes for your prosperity in life I remain, with high respect,

Your obedient servant

Z. TAYLOR, Maj. Gen. U.S.A.

Friday October 29, 1847  RE47v44n51p1c5  Soldier Killed  words: 78
Among the killed at the city of Mexico was Lieut. Sidney Smith of the 4th Infantry. The Fredericksburg Herald says he was the son of the late Austin Smith of King George. He entered the army some years since, and was engaged in several of the most important battles fought in the progress of the war. He was brave, generous and exceedingly popular. "His ambition was to gain a soldier's fame- his fate to fill a soldier's grave."

Friday October 29, 1847 RE47v44n51p2c2 Letter from Soldier in Mexico words: 510

A letter in the New York Commercial Advertiser, from an American officer in the City of Mexico, communicates some interesting facts:

The General (Scott) with his staff, escorted by the dragoons, entered the National Palace at about 9 o'clock, and in a few moments issued his congratulatory order to the army. On the 15th and 16th, small bodies of our troops were still engaged with the rabble, who fired from the tops of the houses. Since then the shops are all opened, the streets crowded by people on foot and in carriages, the churches open, bells ringing, and everything as orderly as in the good city of Philadelphia or New York. Indeed, here we are in quiet possession of a city with 900,000 inhabitants. The Government has fled- the Mexican army dispersed- and, strange as it may seem, we are as far from a peace as when we landed at Vera Cruz. So say the foreigners resident here, and such is the impression of the principal men of the country who are in favor of a peace.

The country is divided into factions, and there is positively no Government to treat with. Some of the States-seven whose representatives are in session at L'Argos- have denounced Santa Anna as a traitor, and proclaimed any person a traitor who dares to entertain propositions with us for peace. Others, by the decrees of their representatives, have authorized each State to raise and equip a force of 3,000 men for the purpose of carrying on the war. And thus they go- all is anarchy. Santa Anna was last at Puebla, with a few hundred men; as usual, plundering the inhabitants by levying contributions. Bustamante has been named by some of the refractory States as Commander-in-Chief of the army. Pena y Pena Chief Justice of Mexico, is the constitutional President of the country but it is reported that, having appeared before one of the State Legislatures the other day to be sworn into office, they refused to administer the oath.

I will now mention some objected of interest in this magnificent capital. First, the Cathedral. It is larger but not more tasteful than that of Puebla. In the exterior wall standing out in relief, is the famous astronomical chart of the ancient Mexican. This stone was removed from the rock of Chapultepec, of which is formed part. Its mass is huge, and somewhat resembles a mammoth cheese, with curious figures carved upon it. It has four concentric circles upon its disc, intersected by radii, the intermediate sections filled up with symbolic figures. The cardinal points are distinctly marked.

In the museum, is a sublime equestrian statue of one of the Spanish Charlesses, done in bronze and in one piece, the work of a native artist. The same court contains the famous sacrificial stone of the Aztecs. This also is a huge mass, wrought over with all sorts of incomprehensible figures. There are besides many mythological individuals, seeming entirely independent of each other, and every one apparently trying to outdo his neighbor in excessive ugliness.

Friday October 29, 1847 RE47v44n51p4c1 Punishment of the deserters words: 626

The New Orleans Picayune, of the 15th, says: We have not room for the orders in full, in which the trail and sentences of the different deserters are given, but give the substance.

By a general order, dated the 8th September it appears that a court martial, of which Colonel Riley, of the 2nd Infantry, was President, tried twenty-nine men for desertion to the enemy. Their fate may be read in the following sentences of Gen. Scott:

SENTENCES: The court found the above named prisoners, (the names are given again below,) severely guilty as charged, and sentence each (two-thirds of the members of the court in every case concurring in the sentence) "to be hanged by the neck until he is dead."

2. The general-in-chief approved the foregoing proceedings and sentences, with the following exceptions: the cases of Thos Riley, company 1, 3rd Infantry; James Mills, company H, same division, and John Reily, company K, 5th Infantry.

These three prisoners severally committed the crime of desertion as charged, in the early part of April 1846. At this date the United States were at peace with Mexico and all the world; for the present war did not break out in fact, till a latter date, and was not recognized to exist, by the Congress of the United States till the 13th of the following month.
No higher punishment can, therefore, be legally inflicted upon these atrocious offenders. T. Riley, J. Mills and J. Reily, than that prescribed for a state of peace. Fifty lashes with a raw hide whip, well laid on the bare back of each, and their punishments is commuted accordingly- with the addition, that each be branded with the letter D, kept a close prisoner as long as the army remains in Mexico, and then be drummed out of service.

So much for the punishment, in the case of Henry Newer, company D, 4th artillery, as related to hanging, is on the recommendation of many members of the court, remitted; and a like remission is made in the case of Edward McHerron, company G, same regiment, out of consideration for a son, a private in the same company, who has remained faithful to his colors.

There being some slight circumstances of mitigation in the several cases of Hezekiah Akles, John Bartley, Alex McKee, and John Bowers, all of company H, 3rd artillery, their sentences are commuted as in the cases of T. Riley, J. Mills and S. Reilly, above.

The remainder of the prisoners tried by the same court, and for the same crime: Henry Venator, company 1, 2nd Dragoons; F. Rhode, company 1, 2nd Dragoons; W.A. Wallace, company C, 3rd Inf.; Lawrence Macky, company K, 3rd Inf.; Patrick Dalton, company B, 2nd Inf., John Sheehan, company G, 5th inf., John A. Myers, company G, 5th inf., Henry Whisler, company E, 4th art., Elizeir S. Lusk, company C, 3rd inf., James Spears, company D, 7th inf., Dennis Conahan, company I, 7th inf., James McDowell, company K, 7th inf., Martin Lydon company D, 7th inf., W.H. Keck, company F, 4th art., W. Oathouse company I, 2nd art., Henry Ocker, company D, 4th art., W. O'Conner, company K, 1st art., Andrew Nolan, company G, 4th art., Herman Schmidth, company D; 3rd inf., R.W. Garretson, company H, 3rd art., will be hung accordingly to their several sentences, between the hours of 6 and 11 o'clock in the afternoon next, after the receipt of this order, as may be arranged by the commander of the post or camp where he said prisoner may be respectively be found. (The above named men, excepting H. Venator, F. Rhode, J.A. Myers, and J. Sheehan, were executed at San Angel September 10, 1847.)

By command of Maj. Gen. Scott

H.L. Scott, A.A.A.G.

[JKM]

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Friday October 29, 1847  RE47v44n51p4c3  From the Army  words: 261

The following (says the Union) is an extract of a letter from a member of the Voltigeur corps, to his friend in Washington, dated:

“City of Mexico, Sept. 28, 1847.”

“The Voltigeur Regiment was first inside the works and castle of Chapultepec, in the great battle of the 13th October, and their little flag [completely riddled by balls] was planted on the inside battlement at least ten minutes before any other. This is a fact acknowledged by nineteen-twentith’s of the army, although another regiment now claims it; but it will not do. This regiment behaved well in former battles, but had not the front in either; notwithstanding they had 99 men hit in the battle of the 8th, and only between 50 and 60 killed and wounded [few of the former] in the last, in which this regiment was in front, and did the hardest fighting of any. The fact is, the Mexicans shoot too high, and those nearest to them frequently, if not oftenest, escape with less loss. Their artillery, however, they fight well.

“Tell - - that his friend Gen. Pillow has very much elevated himself lately. He is our major general. He is wounded, but will get well of it. His wound was from a spent grape shot, in front of the instep, smashing the bone.”

Major General Butler writes to his friend in Washington, from Louisville on the 15th, that he should on that evening set out for Nashville- for the purpose, we presume, of making some arrangements about the Tennessee Volunteers en route to Vera Cruz.  [JKM]

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Friday October 29, 1847  RE47v44n51p4c4  Gen. Pillow  words: 719

The Whig says, that while it said on Saturday that “the conduct of Gen. Pillow in the late engagements is highly creditable to him as a man of gallantry,” it by no means meant to “retract anything we (it) heretofore said in regard to the inordinate vanity of the man, by the exhibition of which he has on more that one occasion rendered himself ridiculous, or in relation to the offensive anxiety of his eulogists to bring him into notice as the greatest General of modern times!”

The Whig asks, “Why is it that Gen. Pillow alone requires a trumpeter?” – and it cites this fact as proof of “a
New Orleans by the 16th and Washington by the 25th, a flowing time for mail failures, and, if the War Department
otherwise, Gen. Scott must want them sadly. The news of the rupture of the armistice ought to have reached
here already.

Every officer here is loud in expressing his hope that this line will be abandoned and our troops sent to the
other column. The same writer says, on the 27th:

"We are all filled with speculation here as to what is to be done with this column, but the general impression
is that whether Gen. Scott is successful in taking the city or not, this line will be abandoned to Matamoras and a
garrison maintained there, at Fort Brown, and the mouth of the Rio Grande and at Brazos Santiago, and the residue
of the troops dispatched round to Vera Cruz. They might be much better employed there than here- there they can
be of service, here of none whatever. No one supposes for a single instant that the Mexican army or any portion of it
will advance in this direction, and if they do they have nothing to gain. As we lay no claim to any part of the country
this side of the Rio Grande, why should 6,000 good troops be kept here in idleness to maintain what we do not
want? Either send them through to San Luis, which everyone would prefer, or sound them round. The interior route
would be the most expeditious, least expensive and surest, and the "great desert" bugbear, which has to terrify
the good people of the United States, is entirely exploded. All travelers from San Luis to this place represent that
would be the most expeditious, least expensive and surest, and the "great desert" bugbear, which has to terrified
there would be no difficulty at all, especially by the Zacaracas route, and very little hard marching. The order to
march either way would be received with the most unalloyed satisfaction by everyman in the entire column."

The same writer says, on the 27th:

"When any member of the press gang shall be able to show that he has done as much for his country as is
recorded in this brief paragraph, we will be one of his audience to head him abuse Gen. Pillow. He is engaged in a
distant land fighting for his country; he has fought bravely, and has left to his countrymen here, sitting quietly by
their firesides at home, to mete out to him his reward. He has nothing to shield him from calumny but their
generosity and justice; and we very much err, if there be not enough of these qualities among them to see that his
slanderers do not pursue him to the death."

But, while the Whig is forced to confess the "gallantry" of Gen. P., it utterly destroys the effects of its
"exhorted" compliment by its insinuations of the "inordinate and ridiculous vanity," the self "puffing" and the
"impudent pretension," of this Democratic General. Is this the language to be held towards a brave soldier, doing his
whole duty thousands of miles distant from his assailants? The friends of Gen. P. are not responsible for the opening
of the discussion of his merits; but when they saw him unjustly, and for political reason assailed, they stepped
forward to protect him with the shield of truth. The recent battles in Mexico have vindicated the fame and character
of Gen. P. - and his position is unassailable. We deem it useless to question to quote new authority in defense of Gen.
P. We now repeat what Gen. Scott declared after the storming of Chapultepec. Winfield Scott will scarcely be
denounced as endorsing with his high name and military knowledge any many of "impudent pretension or
meretricious reputation." His word will stand good with the American people, Whigs as well as Democrats, against
the partisan judgment of assailants, thousands of miles distant from the field of operations. Here is the high
testimony of Gen. Scott, which the Whig journals most utterly repudiate, or confess that they have done rank
injustice to Gen. Pillow.

When General Scott came up to where General Pillow lay upon a wall of the citadel, with his leg badly
crushed by a large grape shot, he exclaimed, "My dear General, I thank God for your glorious success. Your country
will cover you all over with honor, and will pour out its heart in gratitude for your distinguished gallantry this
day." [JKM]

Friday October 29, 1847  RE47v44n51p4c4  Untitled  words: 392

The Whig press having hinted fears lest Gen. Taylor's column on the Rio Grande might be weak enough to
invite the attack of the enemy; we think it proper to quote a letter from the Picayune's correspondent, dated Buena
Vista, Sept. 24th:

"We are all filled with speculation here as to what is to be done with this column, but the general impression
is that whether Gen. Scott is successful in taking the city or not, this line will be abandoned to Matamoras and a
garrison maintained there, at Fort Brown, and the mouth of the Rio Grande and at Brazos Santiago, and the residue
of the troops dispatched round to Vera Cruz. They might be much better employed there than here- there they can
be of service, here of none whatever. No one supposes for a single instant that the Mexican army or any portion of it
will advance in this direction, and if they do they have nothing to gain. As we lay no claim to any part of the country
this side of the Rio Grande, why should 6,000 good troops be kept here in idleness to maintain what we do not
want? Either send them through to San Luis, which everyone would prefer, or sound them round. The interior route
would be the most expeditious, least expensive and surest, and the "great desert" bugbear, which has to terrified
the good people of the United States, is entirely exploded. All travelers from San Luis to this place represent that
there would be no difficulty at all, especially by the Zacaracas route, and very little hard marching. The order to
march either way would be received with the most unalloyed satisfaction by everyman in the entire column."

The same writer says, on the 27th:

"Every officer here is loud in expressing his hope that this line will be abandoned and our troops sent to the
other column. Gen. Scott must want them sadly. The news of the rupture of the armistice ought to have reached
New Orleans by the 16th and Washington by the 25th, a flowing time for mail failures, and, if the War Department
acted with promptness, orders for the march might be received here by the last of next month. I hope that they will
adopt this plan and put it in execution without delay. Yours

J.K.D."
### The Mexican-American War and the Media, 1845-1848

#### Richmond Enquirer

**January-June 1848**

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From Pachuca

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By the Magnetic Telegraph. Correspondence of the Enquirer. Washington, May 20 – P. M. U. S. Senate

Adjournment of the Convention

The President’s letter

British Bondholders in Mexico

Yucatan

For the Enquirer: Mr. Jefferson and the Tariff

British Intervention

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Important from Mexico
Report on the prospects of Peace declining; Herrera not elected President; Com. Pickney and Harris drowned

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By the Magnetic Telegraph
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Major Lawrence P. Graham
Praises given to Graham’s performance at the battle of Resaca de la Palma

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Ratification of the Mexican Treaty
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The Whig-Convention
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Peace Made
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To the Editors of the Enquirer
Movements have been taken to overlook Clay and make Taylor the nominee for President; Gens. Scott, Quitman and Cushing are here but preparing to leave for MD

Letter received expressing that the ratification of the peace treaty is certain; opponents of the treaty in Mexico are
looking to the Whig party success in the up coming election

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RE48v45n10p4c2, June 6, 1848, Arrival of the New Orleans
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RE48v45n11p2c6, June 9, 1848, Ratification of the Treaty
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RE48v45n11p2c7, June 9, 1848, Correspondence of the Washington Union
Taylor's support is much depressed here today and Scott's popularity is improving; Taylor needs to enter convention with a pledge to submit to their policies or otherwise he won't win

RE48v45n11p4c2, June 9, 1848, Important from Mexico
Ratification of the treaty in the Chamber of Deputies; outposts of the army to be called in; embarkation of the troops; Gen. P.F. Smith starts for Vera Cruz to oversee the embarkation

RE48v45n11p4c5, June 9, 1848, The Whig Convention
Impossible to speculate as to the probable nominee of Taylor but his chances seem to be improving; have quotes saying that Taylor will not get the nomination if he does not promise to abide by the policies of the party

RE48v45n11p4c5, June 9, 1848
Whigs of South Carolina voted against instructing their delegate to vote for Taylor

RE48v45n11p4c6, June 9, 1848, Thirtieth Congress
Report on the discussion about the Oregon Territorial Bill in the Senate

RE48v45n12p1c1, June, 12, 1848, The Response of the Whig Press
Whigs hail the nomination of Taylor; comments about how the Whig Press covered the nomination of Taylor--gives quotes from Whig papers

RE48v45n12p1c2, June, 12, 1848,
Surgeon General of the US army has purchased a site for a military hospital on the Gulf

RE48v45n12p1c4, June 12, 1848, National Whig Convention
Report on what happened at the Whig convention; report on the recommendation that Louisiana be able to vote for Texas

RE48v45n12p1c4, June 12, 1848, Whig Convention
Report on the nomination of the Whig presidential candidate; gives the numbers of votes given to each candidate for each round of the nomination

RE48v45n12p2c3, June 12, 1848, Gen. Taylor's Prospects
Oppose that Taylor has been called a Whig candidate and not an independent candidate
A state that the Whigs have claimed for Taylor

Placing Taylor as a nominee puts him in direct contradiction to all of his letters

Comments about how Taylor is a good soldier but not a politician

Taylor has been given the nomination of the Whigs for President; allowed the delegates of Louisiana to vote for Texas; little enthusiasm was produced at the announcement of his nomination

The new of peace with Mexico strikes a blow for the Whigs who have placed on their platform a return to peace

Ratification of the Treaty with Mexico has been completed and peace now exists between Mexico and the US

Report of the ratification of the treaty; Gen. Kearny ordered to command the City of Mexico and replace Gen. Smith; great tensions in the City of Mexico because of the Indians; final vote on the treaty occurred on 25th of May; comments about troops leaving

Delegation from Richmond to invite Scott to the city arrived today

Comments about how the Whigs have Taylor's promise not to veto any bill from Congress

Comments about how the Whig party is split between Taylor and Clay

Many letters written by Taylor explaining his political stance on issues; comments about how he does not want to accept the nomination for President

Full details of the convention that nominated Taylor for President

More comments about the battle between the Clay Whigs and the Taylor Whigs for the Presidential Nomination

Mr. McKee passed through this morning with official government information of the treaty between the US and Mexico; peace is finally established
RE48v45n13p4c5, June 16, 1848, Rough Notes of a Virginia Volunteer Officer During a Short Campaign in Mexico
Comments about Taylor, the makeup of the army, places where he went etc.

RE48v45n14p1c1, June 20, 1848, Gen. Taylor and "Free Soil"
Comments about Taylor's stance on the slavery issue

RE48v45n14p1c2, June 20, 1848, "General Taylor's Position"
Taylor's supporters will withdraw his name if he does not follow their lead; Taylor said he would not refuse the Whig nomination and will not withdraw his name if Clay is nominated

RE48v45n14p1c4, June 20, 1848, Whig Ratification Meeting
Comments about Taylor being equal to Washington

RE48v45n14p1c5, June 20, 1848, "Old Whitey"
Reported that Mr. Collier of Ohio reported to nominate Taylor for President and "Old Whitey" for VP

RE48v45n14p2c1, June 20, 1848
Gen. Taylor supported in the North as long as he promises not to veto the Wilmot Proviso

RE48v45n14p2c3, June 20, 1848, Gen. Taylor's Qualifications for the Presidency
Comments about whether Taylor himself stated that he had not qualifications for President -- Whigs say that he did not

RE48v45n14p2c5, June 20, 1848 Whig Rallies
Continue to receive reports of how the Whigs are trying to rally support for Taylor

RE48v45n14p2c5, June 20, 1848
Some papers in Louisiana and South Carolina fly the name of Taylor alone

RE48v45n14p2c5, June 20, 1848, Intercepted Correspondence. General Taylor's Acceptance
Letter to Taylor asking him to accept the nomination for president; and letter from Taylor accepting the nomination

RE48v45n14p4c3, June 20, 1848, Sober Second Thoughts
Report on how Whig delegates have acted upon their return from the nomination of Taylor

RE48v45n14p4c3, June 20, 1848, To the Editors of the Enquirer
Comments about how Taylor cannot carry the state of NY

RE48v45n14p4v6, June 20, 1848 Thirtieth Congress
Report on the Oregon Territorial Bill -- did not pass in the Senate; conversation in the House about a joint resolution dealing with the return of military forces from the war with Mexico

RWvXLVi14p4c5, June 20, 1848: To the Editors of the Enquirer
Report on a Whig rally held in City Hall in Washington; division between the Whigs-Clay vs. Taylor

RE48v45n15p1c1, June 23, 1848,
More comments and reports on the division between the Whigs- Clay vs. Taylor

RE48v45n15p1c2, June 23, 1848, Long Tail and Bob-Tail Coons
Report that Taylor believes the slavery question should be left up to the people

RE48v45n15p1c4, June 23, 1848, To the Editors of the Enquirer
Comments about Taylor is a military man not a politician

RE48v45n15p2c1, June 23, 1848, To the People of Virginia
Defends the US occupation of Mexico

RE48v45n15p2c5, June 23, 1848, Later from Mexico
Indians continue to murder in the Yucatan -- quote from a report about it

RE48v45n15p2c5, June 23, 1848, Further from Mexico
Prisoners known as the St. Patrick prisoners have been pardoned by Gen. Butler; Gen. Herrera has been elected President; comments about US troops leaving Mexico; reprint of an address to the US commissioners after the Mexican Congress had ratified the treaty

RE48v45n15p4c4, June 23, 1848, An Easy Conscience
Quote from the Wheeling Times that it is in agreement with Taylor's political stance

RE48v45n15p4c4, June 23, 1848: General Taylor a Tariff Man
Quote from a letter from John Buchler, said Taylor would make a fine president because he is a Whig and a tariff man

RE48v45n15p4c3, June 23, 1848, Santa Anna
Belief in Mexico that Santa Anna will return

RE48v45n15p4c3, June 23, 1848, Almonte
The distinguished Mexican will be visiting the US

RE48v45n15p4c3, June 23, 1848, Governor of New Mexico
Brevet Lieut. Col. Washington will command the troops detached from Gen. Wool's command and on his arrival in Santa Fe he will act as governor

RE48v45n15p4c5, June 23, 1848, Later from Vera Cruz
Explosion in the city; recruits arriving are now turned back without landing because of the fever; details of the explosion in the city; Gen. Smith paid a visit to Com. Perry

RE48v45n15p4c4, June 23, 1848, The Whig Address of the Central Committee of June 17th
Comments about how Taylor has shown no ability to lead in civil matters

RE48v45n16p1c1, June 27, 1848: Thirtieth Congress
Comments about how Taylor was opposed to the annexation of Texas; Whigs believe Taylor to be an honest Whig and trust his decisions

RE48v45n16p1c6, June 27, 1848, The Great Embodiment
Comments about how Clay received the news of Taylor’s nomination

RE48v45n16p1c7, June 27, 1848, Rough Notes [No.II]
Description of Mexico—land, people, towns etc.

RE48v45n16p1c6, June 27, 1848,
Letter from Martin Van Buren saying he will not vote for Cass or Taylor

RE48v45n16p2c1, June 27, 1848
Reasons why Virginia should sustain the nomination of Cass and Butler against that of Taylor and Fillmore

RE48v45n16p2c2, June 27, 1848
Gen. Butler expected to arrive in New Orleans last week

RE48v45n16p2c3, June 27, 1848, White or Black!
Comments made by Taylor about supporting Clay for President but not withdrawing his name if Clay won the nomination

RE48v45n16p4c6, June 27, 1848, From Mexico
Major General Butler published a General Order announcing the peace between the US and Mexico and ordering the evacuation of the country—reprint the order

RE48v45n16p4c7, June 27, 1848,
Remarks about the Allison Letter written by Gen. Taylor

RE48v45n16p4c6, June 27, 1848, Correspondence of the Pennsylvanian
Quotes made by Taylor about how he has no political opinions, but then stating that he is a Whig

RE48v45n17p1c5, June 30, 1848, What will be the effect of Van Burens Barnburning nomination!
Report that Van Buren will take more Whig votes than Taylor

RE48v45n17p1c7, June 30, 1848, From New Orleans
Steamer arrived from Vera Cruz; Herrera has finally accepted the Presidency; ten thousand US troops were evacuated and waiting transportation; inhabitants from the Isle of Canea have petitioned Com. Perry to not withdraw the Naval Forces until the Mexican government has provided for their safety; Indians have become troublesome-Caps. Hunt and Wise with their companies had to repel attacks of the Whites and Indians from Campeachy

RE48v45n17p1c6, Jun 30, 1848, Rough Notes (No.IV)
Description of Matamoras

RE48v45n17p1c5, June 30, 1848, Rough Notes (No. III)
Description of the Texas coast line; Indians, Santa Anna's mandate; the Rio Grande

RE48v45n17p2c1, June 30, 1848, A Screw Loose
Editor certain that the Whigs of NY will not support Taylor; comments about Taylor and Whig support

RE48v45n17p2c6, June 30, 1848, Later From Mexico
Mr. Sevier, out commissioner to Mexico, left the capital on the 12th; conspiracy has been formed in the city of Mexico, headed by Paredes and Jarauta to overthrow the existing government; all troops expected to be at Jalapa on the 21st; Palmetto brought four companies of Michigan Volunteers

RE48v45n17p2c7, June 30, 1848, Thirtieth Congress
Report on the bill to make additions to the Texas navy; report on the bill for fortifications; report on the bill to establish the Territorial Government of Oregon

RE48v45n17p4c3, June 30, 1848, The Virtue of Consistency
Comments about how no one knows where Taylor stands on issues

RE48v45n17p4c3, June 30, 1848, The Spirit of Faction
Report that Southern Whigs held against the nomination of Taylor at the Whig Convention; comments about the Mexican war and how the Whig stance on it, is wrong

RE48v45n17p4c4, June 30, 1848, The Barnburners' Nomination
More comments about Taylor's supposed stance on slavery; and because he owns slaves, prediction on his vote on the slavery question

RE48v45n17p4c6, June 30, 1848, Thirtieth Congress
Report on the Oregon Bill and the debate surrounding it in the Senate

January

February

RE48v44n79p2c7, February 4, 1848, COURT OF INQUIRY

We have been politely favored (says the New Orleans Delta) with a manuscript copy of the following General Order of the Secretary of War issued by direction of the President. It explains itself.

The command of the army in Mexico will necessarily devolve on Gen. Butler, of Kentucky, he being the officer next in rank to Gen. Scott whose presence will be required at the Court of Inquiry.

WAR DEPARTMENT, Adj't General's Office

Washington, Jan. 13, 1848.

General Order No. 2 – The following Order received from the Secretary of War, is published for the information and guidance of the officers concerned:

WAR DEPARTMENT, Jan. 13, 1848

By direction of the President of the U. States a Court of Inquiry, to consist of Brevet Brig. Gen. N. Towson, Paymaster General; Brig. Gen. Caleb Cushing, and Col. E.G.W. Butler 3d Dragoons, members, will assemble in Mexico to inquire and examine into the charges and allegation preferred by Major General Winfield Scott, against Maj Gen. Gideon J. Pillow, and Brevet Lieut. Col. James Duncan, Captain of the 2d Regiment of Artillery, and the charges of matters of complaint presented by way of appeal by Brevet Maj. Gen. W.J. Worth, Colonel of the 8th Regiment of Infantry, against Maj Gen. Winfield Scott; and also, into any matters connected with the same, as well as such other transactions as may be submitted to the considerations of the Court; and after investigating the same the Court will report the facts in each case, together with the opinion thereon, for the information of the President.

The Court will convene on the 18th day of February next, or as soon thereafter as practical in the Castle of Perote, in Mexico, where it will continue to hold its sittings, unless the exigence of the public service may require the place to be changed, in which case the Court is authorized to adjourn from place to place, as circumstances may render necessary, in order that no embarrassment to the service may be occasioned by the sessions.

Should any of the members named in the order be prevented from attending, the Court will proceed to and continue the business before it, provided the number of members present be without the limitations prescribed by law.

1st Lieut. Richard P. Hammond, 3d Artillery is appointed to act as Judge Advocate and Recorder of the Court.
In case the Judge Advocate and Recorder should be prevented from attending, or unable to discharge the duties, the Court is authorized to appoint some other proper person, or devolve the duties of Recorder upon the junior member.

W.L. MARCY, Secretary of War

By order: (Signed) R. Jones, Adj Gen

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RE48v44n80p1c2-4, February 8, 1848, LATE AND IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO

[From the New Orleans Picayune, Jan. 29.]

LATE AND IMPORTANT NEWS FROM MEXICO.

Two weeks later from the City of Mexico and ten days later from Queretaro.

Safety of Col. Wither’s command – Rumors of Peace – Capture of Gens. Valencia and Torrejon and other Mexican Officers – Attempt at Insurrection in the City of Mexico – Skirmish between the Rangers and Guerrillas – Supposed Death of Padre Jarauta – Pena y Pena again President &c, &c.

The U.S. steamship Edith, Capt. Cuillard, arrived last evening from Vera Cruz, which place she left on the 20th January. By her we have received our letters and files from the city of Mexico to the 13th of January, and from Vera Cruz to the date of the sailing. The most important feature of the intelligence by this arrival relates to the rumors of peace and an attempted insurrection in the city of Mexico.

Col. Wither’s command, about which our last advices left some anxiety on the public mind, arrived in safety at Real de Monte.

A detachment under Col. Wynkoop captured Gen. Valencia and his aid, and Col. Arrista, at the hacienda of the former, Tepijaco, on the 1st inst. Col. Wynkoop was in pursuit of Jaruata and Rea at the time. These escaped him a few hours only. Gen Valencia and Col. Arrista were released on parole.

Cols. Torrejon, Minon and Gaund were shortly afterwards captured at Amaxnca, near Puebla, by Dominguez, Capt. Of the Mexican spy company in the service of the United States.

Gen. Cadwalader’s command, consisting of the 4th Artillery, 6th, 8th and 11th Infantry, left the city of Mexico on the 3d inst. For Toluca. The troops were in fine spirits at the prospect of active service once more. They had reached Lerma at the last accounts, without molestation.

On the 4th inst. Major Talliaferro arrived in Mexico from Real del Monte with a detachment of the 9th Infantry and twenty dragoons, in charge of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars in silver bars – a part of the assessment levied upon the State and Federal District of Mexico.

The rumor prevailed in the city of Mexico that the Mexican Commissioners had offered a plan of peace – based upon Mr. Trist’s propositions at Tacubaya – which had been sent on to Washington city. The departure from the ultimatum offered by Mr. Trist, was supposed to be a demand for $30,000,000 for the territory proposed to be surrendered to the United States.

We regret to learn that the four regiments which accompanied Gen. Butler to Mexico, are suffering much from sickness.

From a hasty glance at our Mexican papers, of which we have a full file, we can find nothing more than is contained in the letters of our correspondents.

We extract the following paragraph from the World, of Guadalaxara, under date of the 17th of December:

In a letter from Teple, dated the 11th December, 1847, it is said that news had reached Manialen that 500 rancheros of California had attacked the Americans who were in possession of La Pax and San Jos, had defeated them and set fire to those places. On the 24 three American vessels had left Maxatian to render assistance, and this occurrence would prolong the blockade of San Blias.”

The following is a list of passengers in the United States steamship Edith, from Vera Cruz:

Lieut. A.S. Way, Georgia Bat.; Lieut. Averson; Joseph Johns, discharged soldier; Robert Smith and Capt J.
Loyall.

The Edith brought over forty sick and discharged soldiers – two of whom died on the passage – and the bodies of the following deceased officers:


These bodies will be conveyed this morning to J.D.G. Quirks, Camp street, where they will be properly bestowed, and prepared for their transportation.

[Special Correspondence of the Picayune]

CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 12, 1847.

You will find in one of the letters of the gentleman who continued his correspondence with you during my indisposition, an account of the capture of Gen. Valencia, the renowned hero of Contreras, and Col. Arresta, at the hacienda of the former, in this valley, by a party of Texan Rangers under command of Col. Wynkoop, of the Pennsylvania Volunteers. From all I can learn, the expedition was managed in the most successful manner, and the party came very near laying hands on Padre Jarauaura himself, who has been busy in this vicinity some weeks.

Yesterday, Dominguez, the captain of the Mexican Spy Company, arrived with a small man, and brought intelligence of his having had a brush with a party of the enemy’s cavalry between Obijo de Agua and Napouca. The cavalry he dispersed, and took prisoners Generals Torrejon, Minon and Gaud, who were with the party, and delivered them over to Col. Childs, at Puebla, together with two American deserters whom he found with the party. I regret that in addition to these captures I cannot add that of Gen. Salazar, who rendered himself infamous by his cruelty to the Santa Fe prisoners. The scoundrel was in the city a few days since, upwards of twenty four hours, with his family, and the authorities, on learning his whereabouts, sent a body of soldiers to arrest him, but unfortunately he had left the city about two hours before it was known he was here. All these prisoners have been liberated on parole.

The policy of liberating these men I think extremely doubtful. On parole they can go where they please, and among their own countrymen can say what they please, which enables them to do us much more injury in exciting the people to acts of hostility than if they were never taken prisoners, and their influence not confined to such parts of the country only as they could muster courage to visit. As an instance in proof of what I say, I am told by a gentleman who came up with Col. Johnson’s train from Vera Cruz, that on entering one of the small towns at this side of Puebla, which was an advantageous position to resist the advance of Col. Johnson, Gen. La Vega (who, together with his brother, Col. La Vega, taken at Huamantila, and Gen. Heren, taken at Cerro Gordo, came up with the train on temporary parole) addressed the first know of his countrymen he met in the town, and asked them why they were not up. It would be much safer to keep these men confined here, or send them to the U. States.

It is impossible to say when there will be a movement towards any of the cities still in the possession of the enemy. The commander-in-chief, confident, perhaps, of a peace resulting from the proposition of which it is said the Mexican Government has made, is not disposed to disturb the deliberations of the Government at Queretaro by sending an expedition in that direction, or to create new causes of animosity, by making additional conquests, until the result of the proposition is known.

A bearer of dispatches from Washington arrived yesterday with Col. Dominguez, and it is possible that an onward movement may be ordered. If it is ordered soon, there is little, if any, probability of resistance being offered to our progress. There is not at any one point that I can learn sufficient men and military supplies to resist one thousand of our soldiers.

I regret to say, there is a great deal of sickness among the four volunteer regiments from Kentucky, Tennessee and Indiana, which Gen. Butler commanded to this city. The measles, the mumps and the diarrhea are the prevailing diseases, and on an average one half the men in the four regiments are unfit for duty.

We have news today from Queretaro: Anaya, who was elected President after Santa Anna’s resignation, has gone out of office, the term having expired, and Pena y Pena, by right of his office as Chief Justice, at present file the vacant chair, or has been elected President – I cannot positively learn which, but I am inclined to believe the former. He has declared that he will pursue the policy of Abaya, who is supposed to be favorable to peace. The letter which brings this news is dated the 8th just, and says the Cabinet has been re-organized by the appointment of Sr. Rosas as Minister of Foreign Relations and temporary Secretary of the Treasury, Riva Salacio as Minister of Justice and Pedro Maria Anaya as Secretary of War. Yours, D.S.
CITY OF MEXICO, Jan. 13, 1848.

On Monday last the Commander-in-chief was informed of a movement designed here to attack the quarters of the officers of the army, and if possible, to take them prisoners, or kill them. – The plan was, that the population, or so much of it as could be induced to take part in the conspiracy, should rise, and assisted by a body of guerillas which were to enter the city at a certain hour, make the attack. During the day, the Commander-in-chief informed all the chief officers of the intended attack, designated rallying points for the different regiments, and made every disposition necessary to defeat the insurrection. At night scarcely a Mexican was to be seen in the streets – showing that the whole population had a knowledge of what was to be attempted. The precaution adopted, it is supposed, prevented an attempt to execute the plan. The projectors of the insurrection were either blind to the effects of their plan, or foreseeing them, must have been utterly reckless as to the consequences which would result to their own countrymen; for if the attempt had been made, there is not an officer in the army, not excepting the Commander-in-chief himself, who could have restrained the troops from sacking the city. During the night Lieut. Baker of the 5th Indiana regiment, commanding a patrol, came in sight of two carts near the Plazza del Torro, in the South Eastern part of the city, one of which containing one hundred stand of arms he captured; the other he was unable to come up with before it was placed in concealment. Whether General Scott has the names of the parties who originated the plot, or not, I do not know; but it is pretty well understood that the chief conspirators are among the soldiers of the Mexican army, who assumed citizen’s dress when our army entered the city, and have remained there since. A few days may reveal more a relation to the matter.

You will, perhaps, learn before this reaches you of a similar attempt at Puebla, which the promptitude and determination of Colonel Childs nipped in the bud. Enclosed you will find Colonel Childs’ proclamation in the Spanish.  D.S.

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MEXICO, Jan. 13, 1848.

Yesterday Colonel Hays, and some of his men, had a brush with Padre Jaruota, at a place called San Juan, some twenty or thirty miles from here. Although the guerillas far exceeded the Texans, they did not wait for more than the first charge, but fled in great confusion. Jarauta was seen to fall from his horse, which, together with his lance and cloak, fell into the hands of Colonel Hays. His saddle was bloody; from which it is inferred that the reverend scoundrel was killed. C.C.

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THE MEXICAN JOURNALS

The noticioso, of January 12, (says the New Orleans Delta,) contains the proclamation of President Anaya, dated at Queretaro, December 16, relative to the organization of the Mexican army. The several levies amount to 16,000 men, exclusive of the troops already raised, whose ranks are to be filled up. The new levies are to serve for three years, unless sooner discharged. They are not to consist of malefactors or invalids, they must be at least five feet in height and their age not to exceed forty years.

The disaffected population of Juasterca had made a pronunciamento against the Mexican army laws and government, and valorously threatened to march against the city of Mexico in order to wrest it from the Americans.

Col. Gates, commanding at Tampico, has given notice that all gold and silver metals, or specie, must be left at the Customhouse, when designed for exportation, where an exact account will be taken of it. The duty will be deducted there from and the balance returned to the owners for exportation.

A pronunciamento was put down at Queretaro, by President Anaya, on the 19th ult, by a display of military force which overawed the disaffected. They, however, threatened to rise, after Anaya’s term expires, which occurred on the 8th inst.

The small sum allowed the Mexican officers and soldiers had disgusted many of them, according to the Noticioso, and a great many of the officers had petitioned for permission to resign.

The Ameojo, of Durango, hopes that peace will soon be concluded, or the war renewed with vigor.

The Legislature of Durango had joined its vote to that of Jalisco, in favor of authorizing the Mexican Congress to take measures to form a coalition between all the Hispano-American governments on the continent.

The Patriots, of Aguascalientes, says it has received various communications on the existing state of the country. Some of the writers propose to call Santa Anna to the dictatorship, while others suggest a national Convention, to deliberate whether peace shall be made or the war continued.

CITY OF MEXICO, Jan. 13, 1848.
Eds. Delta – The city of Mexico is rife with rumors in reference to peace; some have it that peace is made; others have it that commissioners have gone on to Washington, &c., &c.; and thus we have it up and down every day – peace and war alternately. Believe nothing you hear from this city at the present time on this subject, for I assure you no one, unless it is Gen. Scott or Mr. Trist, knows anything more about it that “the man in the moon.” And these gentlemen are exceedingly cautious in everything relating to the movements of the army, and everything connected with it. The nearest that I can come to the present state of affairs, is from my correspondent at Querétaro, who informs me that there has been no treaty concluded, but he adds: “The whole subject rests with the Government of Mexico is willing to make a treaty, and are prepared and are strong enough to sustain it.” Many of the most influential men in the Republic, who have heretofore been violently opposed to making a treaty, are now advocating it strongly. – Those persons, who formerly belonged to the army and have been discarded by the Government, are perfectly prostrate; their influence is nothing on either side of the scale. The Congress had not yet met at Querétaro at the latest dates, but it was expected there would be a full meeting by the 19th or 20th inst.

The brigade of Col. Riley is still at Tacubayas, and the brigade of Gen. Cushing at San Angel. No movement of troops for San Luis can take place before the 1st of February, even if General Scott most earnestly desired it. The command, before it starts from here, must be fully appointed for five or six months, as it will take that time at least before they would be able to make a road from San Luis to Tampico, by which they would be enabled to bring supplies from the latter place. At present they are without one of the most necessary articles, clothing, for such an expedition. Gen. Scott has sent twice to Vera Cruz for it, and both times has received a very meager supply; therefore he has had to resort to one of the poorest means of procuring it – having it made here. Capt. McKinery, of the Quartermaster’s Department, has now about 10000 men and women engaged in making clothing for the soldiers, and I understand they will be at least until the 1st of February before a sufficient quantity will be ready. It is a very easy matter to move armies on paper, but more difficult in the field.

P.S. – 11 o’clock. – Col. Jack Hays has returned; he routed Padre Jarauta from one of his dens – killing some 10 or 12 of his men, and wounding about 15 others. One of the men shot the Padre; whether they killed him, I am not informed; they brought in his horse, saddle and bridle, and cloak and other trinkets belonging to the Rev. Father.

We have received the intelligence of the attack on Col. Miles’ train, and are sorry to learn that the fine company of Mounted Rifles has been cut up. We suppose it to be Capt. Ruff, as we do not know of any company of mounted rifles down there except his. The gallantry of Capt. Ruff and his company in several of the most important battles in this country has been severely tested, and always highly distinguished themselves. If the Mexicans did, as we are informed “cut him up,” you may rest assured they had a dear bargain of it. No men in the service use all their arms better than this company.

Yesterday the Police Guard discovered about a wagon load of muskets concealed in a Convent in this city.

Mr. Trist does not go home with the train going down-morrow.

The gallant Capt. Walker, of 6th Infantry, so severely wounded at El Molino del Rey, will be sent down; he goes in a litter – still being too weak to travel otherwise.

-MUSTANG

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF PUEBLA

Puebla, January 5, 1848

PROCLAMATION – Whereas, a diabolical and bloody correspondence has been detected between Don Manuel Perez, and other (as yet unknown) citizens of Puebla, with a person called General Rea, a guerilla chief, in which the said Perez and his confederates recommend the assassination of the person who styles himself the Governor of the State of Puebla, as well as many of the peaceably disposed citizens, in order to “strike terror into the whole community,” and then for the said Rea to pronounce against the State and General Government, and declare himself Dictator: this is to give notice to the inhabitants of the city of Puebla that so long as the troops of the United States of North America shall hold military possession of the city, any Mexican, or other person, not owing allegiance to the United States, corresponding with known guerillas or with any organized military body, in arms against the forces of the United States, will be considered in the light of spies, and any attempt to furnish such armed bodies with supplies of any kind, will be deemed as a violation of good faith, and persons thus detected, will be regarded as in open hostility against the forces of the United States, and treated accordingly. Citizens remaining in the city of Puebla during its military occupation by the United States troops, enjoying protection of person and property, tacitly acknowledge such military authority, and any aid of theirs compromising their neutrality, is, by the laws of war, severely punished.

THOMAS CHILDS, Col., U.S.A,
Civil and Military Governor

[SDW]
The New Orleans Picayune of the 30th ultimo contains various matters of interest, form which we select the following:

Among the passengers on the Maria Burr, from the Rio Grande, came Lieut. Franklin, of the Topographical Engineers – a gallant young officer who rendered himself conspicuous at Buena Vista as a member of General Wool’s staff by his gallantry. Lieutenant F. is direct from General Wool’s headquarters at Monterey, which place he left on the 13th instant.

Just before he left an express was received from Saltillo from Col. Hamptramck, in a command of the forces there, stating that a report had reached him from a source entitled to credit, that a force of Mexicans, 10,000 strong, under command of Gen. Bustamente, were marching down upon Saltillo. The report even particularizes the points from whence the troops had been raised, but so frequent are the stampedes upon that line, very little credit was attached to the report. Our forces, there were in good condition, and perfectly willing to be attacked whenever the enemy though best to make the experiment.

Upon the receipt of this news Gen. Wool had appraised the merchants at Monterey, Camergo, Matamoras, and other ports, that he could afford them no protection in the way of escorts. From another source we learn that Colonel Carasco, a Mexican officer who has rendered himself rather conspicuous, is at Monterey, proposing to enter into negotiations with Gen. Wool for a pronunciamento against the existing Government of Mexico and in favor of the Un. States, on the part of the States of Mamaulipas, Nueva Leon, and Coahuila. He also proposes to bring in Gen. Canales, that cowardly chief of guerillas, who has given us so much trouble upon the Rio Grande. Col. Carasco has been for a long time residing in Matamoras with his family, and appears friendly to the Americans. We know not what degree of credit to attach to this report.

Capt. Deas, of the artillery, who was a short time since wounded by a Mexican lancer between Saltillo and Monterey, has recovered from the effects of his wound, which was not so severe as was reported.

The Matamoras Flag, of the 22d, contradicts the report as to the probable death of Capt. G.K. Lewis, from wounds received in a recent fight with the Indians, near Pairs. He was able to move about the streets of Saltillo with slight aid from a crutch. The wound is in the foot, a toe or two having been cut off by an Indian arrow. – Mr. Lewis is a printer.

The steam-propeller Massachusetts, Captain Wood, fourteen days from New York, arrived at the Brazos on the 17th ult. She suffered some damage to her machinery, but being a superior sail vessel, there was not much detention in consequence. Several ladies, wives of officers of the army on the Rio Grande line, and others, were passengers.

FOR THE BRAZOS. – The U.S. steamship Fann, will sail for the brazos this morning. She takes over the following named passengers: James Campbell, bearer of dispatches; Major Early, Virginia Regiment, Dr. H. Stenneke, Capt. Wm. R. Archer, Virginia Regiment, in command of a detachment of recruits for the 3rd Dragoons; Sergt Maj Brown; Mrs. Dr. Treavit and two childred, Mrs. Powers, Messrs Field James Delby, C. Taylor, A.U. McConlin, Gen. Randolph, Charles C. Churchill, James Knowles, Julian Magill, and Paine.

[SDW]

What is termed a rupture, and said to have been long fermenting between Governor Young of New York, and the Clay whigs in the State Legislature, at length is made clearly manifest in the extraordinary report just made by a majority of the committee to whom was referred that portion of the governor’s message relating to the Mexican war. They have brought forward a long protest, with a series of resolutions, dissenting form the stand the Governor had assumed and in favor of the waste between the Nueces and the Rio Grande as the boundary. A minority report, on the same subject, has been submitted also.

[SDW]

Sir – I have had the honor to receive your communication of January 27th enclosing a newspaper slip, and expressing the regret of the Department that the letter copied to that slip, and which was addressed by myself to Major General Gaines, should have been published.
Although your letter does not convert the direct censure of the Department or of the President, yet, when it is taken in connection with the revival of a paragraph in the regulations of 1825, touching the publication of private letters concerning operations in the field, I am not permitted to doubt that I have become the subject of Executive disapprobation. To any expression of it, coming with the authority of the President, I am bound by my duty and by my respect for his high office, patiently to submit; but, lest my silence should be construed into a tacit admission of the grounds and conclusions set forth in your communication, I deem it a duty which I owe to myself to submit a few remarks in reply. I shall be pardoned for speaking plainly.

In the first place, the published letter bears upon its face the most conclusive evidence that it was intended only for private perusal, and not at all for publication. It was published without my knowledge, and contrary to my wishes. Surely, I need not say that I am not in the habit of writing for the newspapers? The letter was a familiar one, written to an old military friend, with whom I have for many years interchange opinions on professional subjects. That he should think proper, under any circumstances, to publish it, could not have been foreseen by me.

In the absence of proof that the publication was made with my authority or knowledge, I may be permitted to say, that the quotation in your letter of the six hundred and fiftieth paragraph of the superceded regulations of 1825, in which the terms “mischievous” and “disgraceful” are employed to characterize certain letters or reports, conveys, though not openly, a measure of rebuke, which, to say the least, is rather harsh, and which many may think not warranted by the premises. – Again: I have carefully examined the letter in question, and I do not admit that it is obnoxious to the objections urged in your communication. I see nothing in it which, under the same circumstances I would not write again. To suppose that it will give the enemy valuable information, is to know very little of the Mexican sources of information, or of their extraordinary sagacity and facilities in keeping constantly apprized of our movements.

As to my particular views in regard to the general policy to be pursued towards Mexico, I perceive by the public journals that they are shared by many distinguished statesmen, and also in part by a conspicuous officer of the navy, the publication of whose opinions is not perhaps obstructed by any regulations of his Department. – It is difficult, then, to imagine that the diffusion of mine can render any peculiar aid to the enemy, or specially disincline him “to enter into negotiations for peace.”

In conclusion, I would say, that it has given me great pain to be brought into the position in which I now find myself with regard to the Department of War and the Government. It has not been of my own seeking. To the extent of my ability, and the means placed at my disposal, I have sought faithfully to serve the country, by carrying out the wishes and instructions of the Executive. But it cannot be concealed, that, since the capitulation of Monterey, the confidence of the Department, and I too much fear of the President, has been gradually withdrawn, and my consideration and usefulness correspondingly diminished. The apparent determination of the Department to place me in an attitude antagonistical to the Government, has an apt illustration in the well known fable of Esop. But I ask no favor, and I shrink from no responsibility. – While entrusted with the command in this quarter, I shall continue to devote all my energies to the public good, looking for my reward to the consciousness of pure motives, and the final verdict of impartial history.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Z. TAYLOR

Hon. W.L. MARCY,
Secretary of War, Washington

[SDW]

RE48v44n84p2c5, February 18, 1848, FROM THE RIO GRANDE

By the arrival of the U.S. schooner Belle, Captain Morgan, which left Brazos Santiago on the 30th ult, we have dates from Matamoras to the 26th ult., says the New Orleans Picayune.

From the Flag of this date we learn, that Gen. Wool has issued an order, dated the 17th ult., at Monterey, requiring all disbursing officers of Government on that line, receiving money from merchants and others for checks on the United States, to charge six percent on the amount of coin so received, the percentage to be credited to the United States. It also requires the Collector for the Districts of upper and lower Rio Grande, to state on the invoices of goods going to the interior, that the duties have been paid, mentioning the amount on each article. We also give below another order of General Wool, regulating, trade with the interior.

We regret to learn from the Flag the particulars of a recent fatal duel. We copy the Flag’s paragraph:

“We understand that a duel was fought at Camargo, a few days past, between Capt. Joshua Collet and Capt. Alexander Wilkins, both of the 10th infantry, now stationed at that place, in which the former was killed. We have not learned the particular causes of difficulty, but have been told the meeting arose out of a dispute between Capt. Wilkins and Capt. Postley of the same regiment, in which Capt. Collet acted as the friend of the latter.”
Dates to the 17th ultimo have been received from Monterey by the Flag. All was tranquil. The Union Gazette of the 15th, speaking of Colonel Hamtramck, commanding at Buena Vista, says that by his energy and prompt action, the guerrilla bands in the neighborhood of Saltillo have been completely broken up and dispersed. Refugio Gonzales, a celebrated guerrilla chief, and his brother, have fled the State. The Vice Governor of Saltillo has likewise fled, fearing lest he might be roughly dealt by, as papers had been captured from the robbers which implicated him in their schemes.

From the Flag we also copy an article touching the “spreading” of our army over Mexico.

Colonel Davenport has ordered Captain Dunlap, with his company of Illinois mounted men, to take permanent post at Santa Teresa, a considerable town, sixty miles distant from here on the route to Victoria. The object in sending troops to Santa Teresa, is to break up the Mexican custom house established there, and to prevent the collection of duties from traders coming to the place, or going to the interior, and to give them protection, as far as circumstances will admit. This is a good beginning, and an augury of what is to follow. Next San Fernando, and then Victoria must be occupied, and so on until our troops are spread over all the country between us and the mountains, giving protection to the people, and security to trade in every quarter. Our troops scattered over the country, the trade of Matamoras will be quadrupled, and the increased duties collected will be more than adequate to defray all expenses incident to the maintenance of troops at posts thus widely separated. Besides, the inhabitants of the country will be brought immediately in connection with our people, and being freed from the conniving spirits who are ever inciting them against us, a spirit of friendship will grow out of our intercourse with them, the same as witnessed in this city, and in nearly every city now occupied by our troops. The good to result from this wide-spread friendship is incalculable.

The following is the order of General Wool, referred to above:

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF OCCUPATION,

Monterey, Mexico, Jan. 12, 1848.

[Orders No. 4]

1. To prevent as far as possible, the evasion of the orders of the Government in relation to the collection of duties on importations to Mexico, the following regulations will be observed by all concerned, viz:

All persons leaving the Lower Rio Grande with goods, wares, or mercantile for any of the posts in advance of Matamoras, or any one leaving, in like manner, the districts of the Lower or Upper Rio Grande for the interior, will before their departure, present to the collector of the district correct invoices, in duplicate, of the articles to be transported specifying to what place they are to be taken. The collector shall satisfy himself that the required duties have in each case, been paid; and if such be the fact, he will endorse to that effect on the invoices – one of which he will send direct to the collector of the district in which the goods are to be sent, and will return the other to the carriers of the property, who will exhibit it to the commanding officer of each military post through which they may pass, who will countersign it, and afford to the persons presenting it every protection and facility in his power.

The absence of the invoices herein directed, or any frauds detected in any of them, will subject the goods to be confiscated.

2. * * * All persons coming into the interior from the posts or ports below, or passing from one post to another, will, before leaving be required to obtain a passport from the commanding officer of the post, and to have it countersigned by the commander of every post through which he may pass to reach his destination.

All persons arriving at a military post will invariably present themselves to the commanding officer, who is required to see that this order is in each case duly complied with.

* * * *

Commanding officers will be careful to give passports only to those who may deserve to receive them.

By command of Brig. Gen. Wool:

(Signed) IRWIN McDOWELL

Eug. E. McLean, A.A.G.

[SDW]
From the terrific blustering of the Whig about the return of Santa Anna, one would suppose that that journal had never heard of his return to Mexico until after the call was made by the House of Representatives upon the President to furnish information touching his “free pass.” – We indulged in some speculations a short time ago on this subject, which were characterized, in the graceful language of the Whig, as “fustian and rant.”

We now present some of the speculations of that journal on the same subject, bearing date 1st September, 1846. Comparing the views it presented at that time, with its present uproarious course on the same subjects, we leave it to our readers to determine where the right application of “fustian and rant” belongs. From the Whig of 1st September, 1846, we take the following:

“The last Southern mail brings us intelligence, which may be found in another column, of the arrival of Santa Anna at Vera Cruz, and of the successful pronunciamento in his favor at Metropolis; and what was entirely unexpected, of the downfall and imprisonment of the late dictator, Paredes.

“This news, however, is chiefly interesting to the people of the United States from the influence which it may probably exert upon the relations subsisting between our government and that of Mexico. Will it lead to a more determined, united and vigorous prosecution of the war, or will it tend to a speedy restoration of peace? Santa Anna and Almonte, who have both traveled extensively in the United States, and are more familiar with our resources than most of the public men in Mexico, must be satisfied of the hopelessness of the struggle on the part of Mexico, even under the most favorable circumstances, and equally so, that, the longer it is protracted, the more injurious it will be to that country. Hence, however, keenly they may feel, as Mexicans, the injuries which, in their opinion, Mexico has sustained at the hands of the United States government – and the diplomatic intercourse between the two governments, during his own previous administration, as well as subsequently, will show that they do believe, however erroneously, that they have suffered many and grievous wrongs – they cannot be less painfully convinced that they can never obtain redress by an appeal to arms – and that they have much more to hope, even now, from an appeal to the magnanimity of our people and Government, than by obstinately persisting in their present hostile attitude. And we take it for granted, that Santa Anna would not have been permitted by Com. Conner to enter Vera Cruz, had not that officer received instructions from Washington to interpose no obstacle to his attempt, or had he not been satisfied that his influence would be exerted to put an end to the existing hostilities. The fact, too, that Capt. A Slidell Mackenzie was three months ago sent by President Polk on a secret mission to Havana, where he had several interviews with Santa Anna, gives strong color of plausibility to the rumor that there has existed for some time such an “understanding” between the Mexican President and the authorities at Washington as will reder the pacific adjustment of the controversy mere matter of form – unless, indeed, Santa Anna shall find on his return to Mexico, that those who have recalled him from exile are nevertheless in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war. In that event, it will be a matter of very little consequ3ences what may be the personal wishes of Santa Anna, since the whole history of events in Mexico, shows that the President for the time being must conform to public opinion or cease to rule. The facility with which, by the mere edict of a few influential military commanders, at different points, dynasties are overthrown and restored, is sufficient to satisfy us that the Executive is generally a mere instrument in the hands of these chieftains even though invested with the title of Dictator, and not the supreme power in the State.

“What then is the probably opinion of these Warwicks of Mexico – these putters-up and pullers-down of rulers? Had not the restoration of Santa Anna been accompanied by an exhibition of popular resentment towards his predecessor, our impression would have been that the change of rulers would not lead to a change of policy towards the U. States. If, as our previous accounts had prepared us to expect, the authors of the successful revolution, by which Santa Anna has been restored, had permitted Paredes to remain at the head of the army intended to operate against General Taylor, or had even allowed him to withdraw quietly to his private residence, as did President Herrera, when Paredes deposed him and usurped the executive functions, we should have been inclined to believe that public opinion in Mexico was still averse, under existing circumstances, to a renewal of negotiations with the U. States. But the imprisonment of the Ex-President, who has evinced so determined a spirit of hostility towards us, would seem to justify a belief that the leading feature of the policy of his administration is not in harmony with public sentiment, and that his overthrow has been decreed in consequence of his inflexibility upon this point. If this inference be correct, we may regard the restoration of Santa Anna as the harbinger of a speedy restoration of peace. In that event, it will be a subject for general congratulation – for although the United States is in no danger in such a contest, from the worst consequences of a war – the invasion of our own territory – yet there are strong reasons why even our own people should desire the termination of a conflict in which but little honor is to be gained even by repeated victories, the cost of which, in life and treasure, will scarcely be repaid by their fruits.”

[SDW]

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RE48v44n85p1c7, February 22, 1848, FROM THE RIO GRANDE

News from Chihuahua–Prospects of another engagement-Capture of a party of Americans-Military Executions at Buena Vista and Saltillo

By the last arrival from the Brazos we have received several private letters, from which we glean a number of items of interest that have reached us from no other source, and which we have not seen elsewhere. Information had been received across the country at Saltillo, which would indicate some little work ahead for the American troops sent from Sante Fe to take possession of Chihuahua. On the 15th of December they were encamped at El Passo, from whence it was understood they would march about the latter part of January. The Mexicans in that part of the country, are making every effort to oppose their march with a strong force. At first they did not intend making any
Mr. Freaner arrived at Vera Cruz on Sunday last, the 6th inst., bearing dispatches from Gen. Scott for Government at Washington. He was only four days from the city of Mexico. – He sailed on Monday, the 7th inst., on board the U.S. steamer Iris for Mobile. The New Orleans was detained for two days to give the Iris time to get in ahead – why is scarcely known. – The New Orleans, however, overtook the Iris and passed her before she reached the Balize. – The dispatches brought by Mr. Freaner are of the utmost importance. The nature of them was not generally known at Vera Cruz, but from a source in which we have abiding confidence we learn that the Mexican Congress has sent interims of peace, which Gen. Scott has taken the responsibility of accepting. One of the articles of this arrangement is that twelve thousand United States troops shall remain in Mexico until certain obligations are fulfilled—the remainder of the troops to be withdrawn.
We learn further that the preliminaries of the treaty of peace were signed on the first day of February by the Mexican Government, and that no doubt was entertained that the Mexican Congress, which was to meet in a few days, would ratify the same by a large majority. By the terms of this treaty we understand that the United States obtain the boundary of the Rio Grande, New Mexico and Upper California. The pecuniary consideration for these concessions is a mere trifle compared with that proposed in the conferences at Tacubaya.

Our dates by this arrival are to the evening of the 2d inst. From the city of Mexico, and the information given above comes to us through so many channels and in such authentic form that we see no reason to question the fact.

We are almost overwhelmed by letters and papers by this arrival, but give below as many of our letters as we can possibly find room for.

Orizaba was captured on the 26th ult. A full account of the expedition is furnished us by one of our special correspondents, who accompanied it. His narrative is intensely interesting, but is so long that we cannot possibly find room for it this morning. One of the purposes of the expedition was to capture Gen. Santa Anna at Tehuacan. The wily Mexican, however, effected his escape through the treachery of one of his countrymen. Our readers will be extremely interested in the narrative, which we will lay before them in our next.

Com. Perry returned on the 8th inst. To Vera Cruz, from an expedition to Tlacatalpam and other towns south. We have a report of it, but are unable to insert it today. Our paper on Tuesday will contain a mass of Mexican news unavoidably laid over today.

Two large trains left Vera Cruz on the 7th instant, one for Orizaba, under Colonel Bankhead, consisting of over 1500 men, and the other for the city of Mexico, under the command of Major Caldwell of the Voltigueras.

The expedition which left Vera Cruz on the 24th ult. against the guerrillas does not appear to have effected much. They had two or three brushes with the enemy, but no great harm was done on either side. In the Free American of the 4th inst., we find an explanatory statement in regard to it, but we have not room for it.

Special Correspondence of the Picayune

CITY OF MEXICO, Jan. 15, 1848.

From what I have heard I am satisfied of the correctness of the information imparted to me in Jalapa, by an intelligent merchant who has resided there several years, that an attempt would be made to raise a national insurrection, but, as it struck me at the time, and, as has since been verified, the conspirators had not sufficient courage or energy to attempt the execution of their plans. The design appears to have been to rise simultaneously in this city, in Puebla and Jalap, and attack the garrisons, but especially the officers. Circumstances have come to light which serve to convince, that no portion of the respectable inhabitants here were implicated in the affair; on the contrary, they were desirous of the plot being discovered, and it was from them information of the design was obtained. – The Padre Jaruara, it is confidently said, was in the city a day or two before the attack was have been made, and was active in his efforts to excite the people and to perfect the plan. It is probable that he will give no more trouble to us for sometime, if ever, as there is but little doubt he was severely wounded in the brush he had a few nights since with the party of Rangers under Col. Hays. His horse and his saddle, stained with blood, and a cloak with his name on it, also stained, were captured, and a Mexican officer, whose skull has fractured by being thrown by his horse against a stone wall in the fight, before dying, said Jaruata was wounded. I would look upon the capture of Jaranta as the most valuable that can be made, and an expedition will be started from here in a few days, which there is strong hopes will result in his capture and perhaps that of Santa Anna himself. The capture of Jaruta would be valuable, because he is active, energetic, and talented, and is possessed of more courage than any of his brother robbers. There is but little doubt, too, that Salazar was in the city upon an errand similar to that of Jaruta, but he, like his co-laborer, found it prudent to shorten his visit.

The expedition to which I refer will consist of about four hundred mounted men, half Texan rangers, and half dragoons, under the command of Gen. Lane, whose activity in the neighborhood of Puebla, in routing the different bodies of the enemy, with severe losses, from their rendezvous, gives promise that he will not return without achieving something important, if there is a possibility of doing so. The expedition will be absent some ten or twelve days, and after thoroughly scouring this valley, in which it is known there are several guerrilla bands, will strike for high game in the direction of Orizaba.

D.S.

MEXICO, Jan. 21, 1848.

The expedition under the command of General Lane, which left the city on Tuesday last, consisted of a portion of Col. Hays’ Texas Regiment, with the gallant Colonel himself, and two companies of the 3d Dragoons under the command of Major Polk. Mr. Scully, your special correspondent, accompanies the party, and will doubtless keep you fully advised of all its movements.

The Star of Wednesday published an extract from a letter of the Secretary of War, which contains an
eloquent and well merited tribute to the high military skill and bravery of Gen. Scott and the army under his command. This as it should be. Such testimonials coming from so distinguished a source, are gratifying to the gallant army whose achievements have so richly deserved them, and are not without their effect on the day of battle.

I inclose you a letter from Gen. Bravo to the editor of Los Debates, a new journal published in Queretaro, some copies of which I sent you by the courier who left on the 13th. It was drawn forth by a late publication of Santa Anna’s in which the "Napoleon of the West" charges Bravo with cowardice in his defence of Chapultepec. The gallant veteran, whose humanity to our prisoners here will not soon be forgotten, writes in an indignant tone, and all who were present at the storming of Chapultepec know the falsity of the charge brought against him by the "hero of a hundred defeats."

The Monitor says that Padre Jarauta is neither dead nor severely wounded – that he escaped with a slight wound in the hand. It adds that he had only twenty men in his late skirmish with the Texans, and that since his success in that affair his force has rapidly increased. This is about as near the truth as the Monitor generally gets. His saddle, which was reeking with blood tells a different tale to his wound and the precipitate flight of his band, does not look very much like success. He has two powerful enemies to contend with the Texans and the native spy command of Col. Dominguez; should he fall into the hands of either his race is run.

Updno the discovery of the intended insurrection, some days ago, many persons supposed to be implicated were arrested, and among them the celebrated Dr. Mariano Otero. Yesterday he was liberated, the Governor being fully satisfied of his innocence. The doctor was formerly the leader of the Moderado party here, and for a number of years edited the "Siglo XIX."

The advance of General Marshall’s train came in this morning, and Colonel Miles, with the rear will be in tomorrow. The mail is in the rear, of course.

MEXICO, Jan. 22, 1848.

The boys in the streets are selling an address to the Mexican people, signed by the notorious Jarauta. He calls upon the people to awake from their lethargy and rally around his standard in defence of his just rights. He concludes that the God of Battles has, for some unaccountable purpose of his own, favored the Yankees heretofore, but that "luck must turn some time," and as the tide of success is now at the flood, he conjures the greasers not to neglect the favorable opportunity.

The Star of this morning publishes the following communication in regard to the San Luis pronunciamento furnished to them by a foreign resident, who says he has correspondents at Guadalajara and San Luis Potosi. He is a strong friend of peace, and his wishes may in this instance give color to his views:

"The basis of the plan proves to have been nothing more than a part of a proposition made by the Vice Governor to the Congress of the State, and as it was not admitted, both the Governor and Vice Governor endeavored to coerce the Congress by threatening to bring up the National Guard and turn out the members, but which threat was not carried into execution, as the Commandante General, Amador, was opposed to the proposition, and also the regular troops under his command. This conduct of the Governor is the more atrocious in endeavoring to employ the customary military tyranny, as only a very short time before, in his opening sessional address to the Congress of the State, he had argued that the system of Commandetes General and Government troops should be abolished, as having had the practice of controlling the legislative and civil power. These propositions were printed in an unofficial paper and sent to this city, where the preface to them, announcing the four States being agreed, is reported to have been added by the partisans here."

We find in the papers from Mexico the following orders of Gen. Scott, one of which is strikingly illustrative of his humanity and soldierly feelings:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Mexico, Jan. 20, 1848.

GENERAL ORDERS-No.26.

For the information and convenience of merchants in the interior, who are importers of foreign goods through the custom house at Vera Cruz, it is ordered that, in future, payments may be made in advance, on account of duties on such goods, to the Chief Paymasters, Major Kirby, at this place, and to the Paymasters at Puebla and Jalapa, respectively, for the benefit of the military chest in this army.

Receipts in triplicate, will be given in the case of each payment, and be attested and registered by the commanding officers at Puebla and Jalapa, respectively, and at this place by the Superintendent (Major Gardner) of Assessments. Two of those receipts will be delivered to the payer, or his agent, to entitle him to a credit at the custom house for the amount expressed therein, and the other receipt, be transmitted, by the attester, to the proper accounting officer at Washington, to be charged against the receiver.

When it happens that the money may be more needed, on account of the public service, by one of the other disbursing officers, (the Chief Quartermaster or Commissary) at the place of such payments, the commanding officer
will direct the transfer of the money from the receiving paymaster accordingly.

By command of Major General Scott.

H.L. Scott, A.A.A.G.
HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Mexico, Jan. 20, 1848

GENERAL ORDERS-No. 27.

It is represented that some of our gallant men who have recently died in general hospital, have not been buried with due solemnity. The General-in-Chief is certain that no blame can be attached either to the Chaplains of the Army or to the Catholic Priests of the city. On due notice, they, no doubt, would promptly have performed the duties of their holy offices at the graves of the deceased.

It is ordered that the body of no soldier, no matter what his rank, if not executed as a felon, shall be buried in future, without the customary military honors, unless the presence of the enemy may render the ceremony impracticable, and also without giving notice to some clergyman, at hand, according to the religion of the deceased.

Patients who die in general hospital will be promptly reported by the senior surgeon of the hospital, to Brig. Gen. Smith, if the deceased belongs to the regular army, or to the senior officer of the volunteers present if the deceased by a volunteer, who, respectively will take care to make all proper arrangements for the funerals.

By order of Major General Scott:

H.L. SCOTT, A.A.A.G.

[From the American Star of Jan. 20.]

“FROM QUERETARO-We have nothing of importance from the seat of Government. The pronunciamento of the State of San Luis had created some excitement, and the Ministers were about making a reply to what is termed so "rebellious" a document. It is in contemplation to send the response to all the States. There was no quorum of members present although several meetings of those in attendance had been held. When shall we have something of interest from Queretaro? Pena y Pena is in the Presidential chair; but not withstanding the appeal in his recent address, the members do not come together. The bold stand taken by the important State of San Luis appears to have taken the Supreme Government by surprise. As its policy and course in relation to the war are the main grounds of the rebellion, we have some curiosity to see the document which is promised in reply to the San Luis manifesto.”

[SDW]
Upon the subject of the territory acquired, Mr. Jefferson says: "Our information as to the country is very
great and national transaction, the next in importance to the establishment of our Independence.
beings have been rendered happy by the acquisition, whilst our wisdom which controlled our Government in this
Constitution; but all these croakings, as evanescent as a morning dream, have passed away, and millions of human
Union—and, as is too often the case with partisans, when other reasons fall, that it was a violation of our
was then strongly urged—that it would lead to the extension of slavery—that it would lead to the dissolution of the
empire, like expanded gold, exchanged solid strength for feeble splendor." The murmur, so often since repeated,
England sooner than he expected, the negotiation ended in his making the sale Mr. Jefferson desired.
In the Summer of 1803, and because Napoleon, then first Consul, had been precipitated into a war with
situated at its door, added to Great Britain?
enemy." He enquires, how long would it be held by such a power, with such an enemy as the United States
maintenance," and also, "whatever power than ourselves holds the country East of the Mississippi, becomes our
purchase of Louisiana; and Mr. Jefferson, in writing to Mr. Dupont Nemours, uses the following language: "The use
In the Spring of 1803, Mr. Monroe was sent to France to unite with Mr. Livingston in the negotiation for the
conquer
Orleans;" and, indeed, he goes far beyond, that "we must marry ourselves to England, and by the union,
his disposition, and always a stickler for the Constitution, asserts in express terms, "that we must conquer New
we can acquire at all, is not conquest of the modes of acquisition? But Mr. Jefferson, who was not very bellicose in
But how happens it that the United States, according to the modern doctrine, cannot make conquests? Are
nations is this one which this measure forces upon us as necessarily as any other cause by the taxes of nature brings
Now I would enquire, what is the meaning of all this? Is it not simply that, from our geographical position,
New Orleans was essentially necessary to our existence as a nation, and that we were obliged to have it, and would
have it. Was such a position contrary to the law of nations? Not so. By that law we were entitled to every thing
necessary to our existence—not indeed unjustly. But what would be justice in that case? The answer is, to take it,
and pay for it a just equivalent. But suppose the soldier would not agree to sell it? Then it would follow, as a natural
necessary consequence, that the nation, whose existence depended upon it, would take it by conquest. Refine as
you will upon justice—self-preservation is the first law of nature, and it will be vindicated, even at the expense of an
injury to another—such an injury being one of the unavoidable incidents of human existence. It was exactly the
deduction of wisdom, "That the day France takes possession of it, fixes the sentence, which is to restrain her within
the low-water mark"—a metaphorical expression, indicating that, from that moment, she was to be held as an
enemy.
But how happens it that the United States, according to the modern doctrine, cannot make conquests? Are
we the only people on earth who may lose and cannot gain? Can other nations conquer of us, and not we of them? If
we can acquire at all, is not conquest of the modes of acquisition? But Mr. Jefferson, who was not very bellicose in
his disposition, and always a stickler for the Constitution, asserts in express terms, "that we must conquer New
Orleans;" and, indeed, he goes far beyond, that "we must marry ourselves to England, and by the union, conquer
the whole of North and South America, to be held in sequestration for the common purposes of the United British and
American nations."
What nonsense it was for the United States to invade Canada during the last war with England, if we could not
and ought not to make conquests!
In the Spring of 1803, Mr. Monroe was sent to France to unite with Mr. Livingston in the negotiation for the
purchase of Louisiana; and Mr. Jefferson, in writing to Mr. Dupont Nemours, uses the following language: "The use of
the Mississippi is so indispensable to us, that we cannot hesitate a moment to hazard our existence for its
maintenance,“ and also, "whatever power than ourselves holds the country East of the Mississippi, becomes our
natural enemy." He enquires, how long would it be held by such a power, with such an enemy as the United States
situated at its door, added to Great Britain?
In the Summer of 1803, and because Napoleon, then first Consul, had been precipitated into a war with
England sooner than he expected, the negotiation ended in his making the sale Mr. Jefferson desired.
On this acquisition there was no little croaking and complaint at that time. It was said, "That extended empire,
like expanded gold, exchanged solid strength for feeble splendor." The murmur, so often since repeated,
was then strongly urged—that it would lead to the extension of slavery—that it would lead to the dissolution of the
Union—and, as is too often the case with partisans, when other reasons fall, that it was a violation of our
Constitution; but all these croakings, as evanescent as a morning dream, have passed away, and millions of human
beings have been rendered happy by the acquisition, whilst our wisdom which controlled our Government in this
great and national transaction, the next in importance to the establishment of our Independence.

Upon the subject of the territory acquired, Mr. Jefferson says: "Our information as to the country is very
On the 1st November, 1803, in writing to M. Dupont, after congratulating him and thanking him for the aid he had rendered in the purchase of Louisiana, he tells him:

"It is true, at this moment a little cloud hovers in the horizon. (It was indeed a cloud which continued to hover in after times.) The Government of Spain has protested against the right of France to transfer, and it is possible she may refuse possession, and this may bring on force.-But against such neighbors as France there and the United States here, what can she expect from so gross a compound of folly and false faith-she is afraid of her enemies in Mexico-but not more than we."

Some difficulties existed with Pichon, the French Minister, about the ratification of the treaty, and Mr. Jefferson tells our Minister, Mr. Livingston, "that he had assured Mr. Pichon that he had more confidence in the word of the first consul, than in all the parchment we would sign." (There was something of soft corn in that.) And he tells him "that the treaty was ratified, Mr. Pichon knowing that Spain had entered with us a protestation against its ratification; grounded first on the assertion that the first consul had not executed the conditions of the treaties of cession, and secondly, that he had broken a solemn promise not to alienate the country to any nation." We answered that these were private questions between France and Spain-and so they were, and Spain had no right to wreak her vengeance on us in after times, on that account.

In writing to Dr. Priestly and speaking of Louisiana, Mr. Jefferson says: "Whether we remain in one confederacy or form into Atlantic and Mississippi confederacies, I believe not very important to the happiness of either part. Those of the Western confederacy will be as much our children and descendants as those of the Eastern; and I feel myself as much identified with that country in future time as with this-and did I now foresee a separation at some future day, yet I should feel the duty and the desire to promote the Western interests as zealously as the Eastern-doing all the good for both portions of our future family which should fall in my power."

In virtue of the treaty with France the United States took possession of Louisiana, in opposition to the remonstrance of Spain. But Spain still continued restive-she was the author of many acts of injustice toward us-she continually refused every reparation, notwithstanding all our efforts at accommodation, backed even by Napoleon’s influence, and we submitted tamely through a long series of years. Is it forgotten that she contumaciously refused to permit Mr. Nelson, our Envoy, to set his foot on her soil? To a charge made at the time against Mr. Jefferson, that he was yielding the boundary of the Rio Bravo, which belonged to us, in a letter to Wm. A.Burwell, he uses this language:

"It is not true that our Ministers in agreeing to establish the Colorades as our Western boundary had been obliged to exceed the authority of their instructions. Although we considered our title good as far as the Rio Bravo, yet, in proportion to what they could obtain East of the Mississippi, they were to relinquish West." But no treaty was made.

The French inhabitants of Louisiana complained of the prohibition of importing slaves, a complaint which Mr. Jefferson says may be removed by the introduction of slaves form the other States, which by dividing that evil would lessen its danger.

And, in 1807, in his letter to Mr. Bowdoin, this strong language is used:

"Never did a nation act towards another with more perfidy and injustice than Spain has constantly practiced against us, and if we have kept our hands off her till now, it has been purely out of respect to France, and from the value we set on the friendship of France: We expect, therefore, from the friendship of the Emperor, that he will either compel Spain to do us justice, or abandon her to us. We ask but one month to be in possession of the City of Mexico."

Aye-aye-we ask but one month to be in the city of Mexico. For what? Upon a fool’s errand? If incompetent to conquer or to hold, why go there? And why did we not do it?-Any relation with Spain to prevent it? Never had a nation acted with more perfidy toward us. The only reason was, that Napoleon prevented it!-and shortly afterwards the power of Spain was completely crippled by France, and so continued until the overthrow of Napoleon, and the meeting of the allied powers in 1815, when Spain was reinstated in power.

SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES

We have seen how matters stood between France, Spain and the United States-that Mr. Jefferson asked only that the Emperor would stand with hands off, and we would be in Mexico in a month. Why? Because no nation had ever acted toward the United States. Let us see, now, how matters progressed between Spain and the United States after Napoleon's overthrow. Just at that time the United States had come out of the war with England, crippled and weak, and she was, compared with Spain, who had been reinstated by the allies, just what Spain was, compared with France, in the zenith of Napoleon's power. In plain language, she was the superior, and we the inferior power-and, just so soon as she was warmed into life, she returned to the old bone of contention-the acquisition of Louisiana in opposition to her protest;--and it must be fresh in the recollection of every one-the arrogance, and indeed insolence, practiced by the Spanish Minister at Washington during Mr. Monroe’s
The terms dictated were, that we were to pay five millions of dollars for Florida, being ten times as much as it was worth, and to cede to Spain the country between the Sabine and the Rio Grande. But this was not all: The line was to leave the Sabine, and cut in two the Red river, thereby giving to Spain the key to New Orleans because, with an invading army, she could be upon New Orleans in twenty-four hours.

Mr. Rivers, in his speech on the Tyler treaty, says "it is impossible to look upon the map and not see that the possession of Texas was essentially and vitally necessary to the safety of the United States." If so, that settled the question. —If holding any portion of the country east of the Mississippi rendered the holder our natural enemy, surely, holding the key to New Orleans did the same thing. He says; "How it happened that we could have agreed to such a boundary, was an enigma which had never been solved." But see’st thou not an awful form arise from tout the earth? Is it any longer an enigma? Mr. John Quincy Adams can tell us all about it if he would, and Mr. John C. Calhoun could do the same thing. It was simply this: that Spain, looking forward to her retention of her Mexican provinces, determined to hold this key— and Mexico understood that thing in after times as well as Spain did.

Mr. Rives says, "it was sufficient for him that Mr. Jefferson and all the distinguished men of the day considered our title to the Rio Grande as complete as our title to New Orleans." If it was sufficient for him, it is sufficient for me, and it should be sufficient with all men. He adds, moreover, "That when the question came to be understood, it would be met with more unanimity than any question which had ever been presented to the United States.”

But we ceded it away, and ceded American citizens along with it. It is said these citizens protested against it and why do not the Texan Senators, who it is presumed are acquainted with Texian and Mexican history, give us some account of this matter? It is said that these American citizens refused to submit to the jurisdiction of Spain, and that Spain was actually preparing to reduce them to submission when the Mexican revolution broke out. But be this as it may—we ceded to Spain all the country between the Sabine and the Rio Grande, and that territory had never been a part of the Vice Royalty of Mexico before that cession was made. The Revolution in Mexico—Mexico consisting of various departments, amongst which Texas had become one, governed by distinct municipal arrangements and political limits—being successful, the sovereignty of Spain was thrown overboard, and the short lived reign of Iturbide, as Emperor, followed that event. This Government soon perished, and the attempt was made by the several States to unite and form a Federal Constitution upon the plan of the U. States. This Constitution soon yielded, too, to another revolution, and the Central Government was adopted, with Santa Anna as a Dictator. In the struggle between Spain and Mexico, the United States treated each party alike. They were both placed upon the same terms in outposts; and when Mexico had succeeded in the struggle, the United States were the first to acknowledge their independence. The independence of whom? Of the United States of Mexico, of which Texas was one.

Texas, one of these confederate States, refused to submit to the Central Government, and a civil war ensued.

What, then, was the state of things between

MEXICO AND TEXAS?

It is laid down by Vattel, "that civil war produces two independent parties; that they are to obseve the common laws of war, and that the maxims of humanity, moderation and probity are to be observed on both sides."

How was it in this civil war? A handful of men, of American origin, had been invited by Mexico to settle in Texas. They had acted well their part under the Constitution of 1824. They refused to submit to the Central Government and to Santa Anna, clothed with his new dignity of Dictator, and for this they were invaded by that Dictator, with the declaration of "no quarter," and no man in the United States can doubt, if he had been successful, he would have put to the sword, or expelled from the country, every man, woman and child of American origin.

Whence, is it that there is so much of Mexican sympathy at the present day? Whence is it that to enlist that sympathy she is spoken of as a "sister Republic?" What sort of Republic with Santa Anna a Dictator? Why no sympathy for Texas, who presents a spectacle of heroic virtue, in resisting this attempt to enslave her, which has no parallel in modern times? We had Greek committees, Greek contributions, Greek bails to aid revolutionary Greece.
England and France combined to destroy the Turkish fleet at Navarino, to prevent Turkish butcheries, and yet we stood by and saw the Texans threatened with a like butchery, without saying a word in their behalf. I speak of the government—and when our citizens, yielding to instinct, flew to their rescue, cold-blooded apathy has been inclined to reproach our government for not preventing it.

Mexico and Texas were equal and how many of our citizens engaged on the side of Santa Anna, we are yet to learn.

Notwithstanding the odds in this desperate struggle, the God of battles was in favor of the few and the oppressed, and Texas succeeded in acquiring and maintaining her independence, and took her stand in the rank of nations—the United States, England, France and Belgium recognized that independence, and with them she stood clothed with all the attributes of perfect sovereignty. What was the extent of her territory? I answer to the Rio Grande, because anterior to the treaty with the United States in 1819 the country between that and the Sabine formed no part of the Vice Royalty of Mexico. It went with the Texans upon it from us as a whole, and stood that same whole when it was conquered by Texas. Texas asserted her right to the Rio Grande—suppose she had made good that assertion in the greatest part, and suppose there had been a strip of country between Corpus Christi and Matamoras which Texas had not, but would reduce to subjection, the moment Texas became annexed to us it was our duty to carry out and do what Texas would have done, had annexation not taken place.

As between Spain and Mexico in their struggle we had treated each party alike, and as between Mexico and Texas we did the same thing. But this would not suffice for Mexico—she arrogantly demanded that we should expel Texan vessels from our ports, and demanded that they should be arrested as pirates; and when Texas had expelled her armies from her limits and there was not a soldier to defend our frontier from the Indians, a thing which Mexico had bound herself to do, and when Gen. Gaines had gone to Nacogdoches to accomplish that object, with the assurance from Gen. Jackson that nothing else was contemplated—the Mexican minister declared it was an invasion of Mexican soil—a capus belli broke up this mission, and the Mexican Government, following his example, dismissed our minister, Mr. Ellis, and closed all diplomatic relations with us. Was this a course to enlist all sympathies in behalf of Mexico?

IN the struggle between Mexico and Texas, it is said the United States ought to have been neutral. I deny it. The law of nature is the same thing with individuals and with nations. Is it right for one man to stand by and see a giant cut a pigmy’s throat? We had, as a nation, the perfect right, fairly to estimate the merits of the dispute and to take the part of the one on whose side justice was found to lie. Accordingly, Vattel writes, "That in vivil war another nation may interpose their good offices for the restoration of peace, and this the law of nature prescribes to them; but if their mediation proves fruitless, they who are not tied by any treaty may, for their own conduct, take the merit of the cause into consideration and assist the party which they shall judge to have right on its side." We had no treaty with Mexico which forbade our interference, nor with Mexico, that was not as much a treaty with Texas, a component part of Mexico when the treaty was formed.

It is true, if I interpose to prevent a strong man from murdering a weak one, he may strike me, and I hazard that when I interpose; but this does not deprive me of the right to interpose—and so the United States ought to have interposed and have left it to Mexico or Santa Anna, its Dictator, to strike if they dare.

When Texas had established her independence, and she had established it so far as those were concerned who had acknowledged that independence, she acceded to the proposition to be annexed to the United States. She had a perfect right to part with her territory and to sink her sovereignty into that of any other nation. She did that by her compact with the United States; and from the happening of the event let us see how Mexico and the United States stand.

Mr. Gallatin says, the annexation of Texas was a declaration of war against Mexico. It was so if Mexico chose so to consider it; but it does not follow that it was right or just for Mexico so to consider it. The true question of right or wrong is to be decided by a reference to the merits of the controversy between Texas and Mexico. If Texas was right, we were right in giving to her all "the aid and comfort" we could; and Mexico could not be right, when she had been foiled in the attempt to cut the Texian throats, to make the attempt to cut ours also.

Upon this question the "Doctors disagree."—Mr. Calhoun, who aspires to the honor of annexing Texas, ascribes the war to the march of Gen. Taylor from Corpus Christi to Matamoras, upon the ground that this was disputed territory. Well, it was disputed territory, and how was the dispute to be settled? Were there any other than two modes of adjusting it? One by negotiation and the other by war? Had not Mexico contumaciously spurned the proposition to settle it by negotiation, and what other mode remained but to settle it by arms, that being the last resort and the only one left my Mexico herself?

It is in vain for those who denounce the war to attempt to conceal the fact, that Mexico had determined upon war, and would have stricken our army as well at Corpus Christi as at Matamoras or any where else, the moment she had the opportunity to do so—and had Gen. Taylor listened to the mandate "if you don’t break up your camp and be off in twenty four hours, I will chastise you with a vengeance," he would have been but little entitled to the liberal honors which his generous country is so willing to lavish upon him.

But suppose I have failed to show that the United States were right in annexing Texas, and let it be admitted that that step was injurious and offensive to Mexico—yet for most injuries there are many things that lie in compensation—and immediately on the annexation of Texas a messenger was dispatched with an offer to Mexico of ten millions of dollars—and the superadded offer to negotiate and settle the difference upon terms both just and
I leave out of view Mexican insults, Mexican debts and spoliations, and I demand, if the foregoing synopsis be right, what reason there is for the pronouncing the war unjust on our part?

The vote in the Senate and in the House of Representatives for the annexation of Texas, and that for the acquisition of Louisiana, may be not unfavorably compared. In the last case the vote in the Senate was 24 to 7, and in the House of Representatives 59 to 23. Upon the question of annexation the vote in the Senate was 27 to 25, and in the House of Representatives, 132 to 76.

If ever there was a question solemnly decided by a nation, it was the question of annexing Texas-annexing it, too, although it might involve us in the war then existing between Texas and Mexico. It is a most serious thing to charge a nation with engaging in an unjust war, and disguise it as they will those who make the charge must desire our defeat. I would fear that this was the inclination of Mr. Gallatin's mind.

It is painful to see how by mingling propositions which have no foundation whatever, he has been the author of a publication calculated to injure the country of his adoption, and that country which has delighted, during his protracted life, to listen to him with respect, and at all times to do him honor. I shall endeavor briefly to expose the fallacies which he has ingeniously intermingled in his production.

He has divided his argument into eight parts, and I wish to give it a passing notice. In his first clause, headed "the law of nations," he describes the Mexicans as a "heterogeneous population of seven millions, with very limited resources, and no credit-as distracted by internal dissensions, and by the ambition of its chiefs-a prey, by turns, to anarchy and military usurpers, and as occupying among the nations of the civilized world, either physically or mentally, whether in political education, social state, or any other respect, a most inferior position"-and yet it is this very people in whose behalf all his sympathies are enlisted whilst in his whole production he has not had one moment's leisure to look at the condition of the people of Texas, against whom these Mexicans were waging a war of indiscriminate extermination, for the only reason that they would not submit to be the slaves of this demi-savage people, distracted by anarchy and military usurpation, and occupying only a half-way position in the civilized world, the degraded position he has so eloquently described. He compliments our valor at the expense of our principle concludes that we must be successful-enuires what are the terms which we have a right to impose on Mexico-takes it for granted that all will agree that it must be an honorable peace, and then enquires, "Will any one dare to assert that a peace can be honorable which does not conform to justice?"

Why does Mr. Gallatin ask this question?-Such a question may be asked by one who takes it for granted that our government has been in the wrong from first to last-that, half savage as the Mexicans are, we are still more savage than they-but it ought hardly to be asked by one who has just before described us as an energetic, intelligent, enlightened and united nation, possessing unlimited resources and credit, and enjoying all the benefits of a regular, strong and free government;-and it would not have been asked, but for the inference which the writer would have to be drawn, that our object was neither just nor honorable.

Why not have addressed his homily of "thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself, love your enemies, and as you would that men should do to you, do you also to them likewise," to this demi-savage population of Mexico, and have endeavored to bring them into the civilized ranks?-Why not have told them that they must cease to trespass upon the rights of others, before they were entitled to any sympathy either from God or man? And why present them as a people who are privileged to rob because they are unable to pay? Whose land must not be taken from them because they have agreed among themselves not to part with it, and who are privileged to show no mercy to their brethren in Texas, engaged in civil war; but when the lash is applied to them, the eloquence even of Mr. Gallatin is to be evoked for their apology?

Why not have told them that the marauder does not always go unwhipt of justice; that the day of retribution will come?-and that such may be the destitution of principle, "from him who hath not, even that which he hath shall be taken away?" Why not have told them that their conduct was a reproach to civilized man, and if they were treated as they ought to be treated, they would be left in a condition no longer to be cutting their own throats, and no longer to be annoying a neighboring nation, who had practiced forbearance toward them until forbearance ceased to be a virtue?

Why tell those who were averse to the annexation of Texas, that it would be a shameful dereliction of principle, on their part, to countenance shy attempt to claim an acquisition of territory or other advantage, on account of the success of our arms? Is this the part for a minority to set, in a Republic like ours? A thing being determined on by the voice of the majority, becomes the will of the nation; and shame to those who would paralyze that will, so legitimately manifested. The argument is, that having been robbed by Mexico; having prevented Mexico from burchering the population of Texas; having offered to Mexico all just and honorable terms of adjustment, after being spurned and insulted by Mexico, and driven to war, whether we would or not; after the loss of so many valuable lives, so justly to be deplored; after incurring an enormous expenditure, which we did all we could to avoid, we must claim no advantage on account of the success of our arms; and we are told this under the head of the "law of nations."

Is it satirical irony, or sober earnest, which the writer is addressing to the American people? Does he offer it as a deliberate insult to their understanding?
There are two modes of expressing our feelings in favor of those we side with. One is to weep over their failures, the other is to glory in their success. During the war with England, there were many who much more bemoaned the fate of Tecumseh than they regretted the capture and destruction of the city of Washington; and in the present war it is quite obvious that these are many who look so completely to one side of the question, and with such a jaundiced eye upon the position of their own country, that happen what will, they will have it that we must, and will, and ought to be disgraced and dishonored—if not in a military, at least in a national, moral or political point of view.

Mexico has fallen, and they are found deploring her fate. And yet, but yesterday, Mexico was impregnable; she stood protected by the mighty panoply of mothers, reefs sand banks, cariles, Castillian pride and Sastillian honor. Mr. Poinsett was ready to portray the terrific and tremendous fortifications of the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa, of Vera Cruz, of Perote, of the National Bridge and of the immoral city—the terrific defiles and passes in which our armies were to be cut to pieces.

Mr. Thompson, et id omne genus, joined in this war song over the remains of our fallen army: Mexico believed all this. She believes now that she will repel the barbarians, as she styles us, and that she is in the unqualified enjoyment of the best wishes of this and every other land who beheld her enriched, and encircled by honor and renown, by valor and by patriotism.

What say you, brave soldiers—-you who, where the banner of Washington floated to the wind, presented your dauntless bosoms in defense of your country’s cause? Are you a mercenary crew, creeping forth at the desp’ot’s bid, to murder your fellow man, reckless of the causes which led to the catastrophe? To wage an unjust war against helpless, defenseless, injured and insulted Mexico? Or have you stepped forth voluntarily, to reap the laurels of the field of battle, and to vindicate, at the expense of your lives, the interest and the honor of the beloved country whose flag waves in triumph over your heads? Do you want any crocodile tears shed over your graves? Have you not long since learned that the soldier’s meed is the bays of honor and renown on glory’s grave? How do you like to be told that all you have achieved is nothing compared with the disasters which have followed your army?—Are not the survivors, whom Providence has restored to their beloved country, to the scenes of their earlier days and happier hours, when heart with heart delights to blend, received with an enthusiastic delight sufficient to make the heart dance with joy?

Over the dead who have fallen in distant lands—from kindred friends, how far!—may the eagle forever hover with wide spread pinions—

And the red brezet, oft at evening’s hour,
Still kindly lend its little aid,
With gathered moss and fragrant flower,
To deck the grave where they are laid.
No howling ghosts shall then be seen,
No goblins lead their midnight crew;
But Fairy Fays shall dance the green,
And deck their graves with pearly dew.
Adorned with honors on a distance shore,
Silent they sleep and dream of wars no more.

Time fails me. Seven out of eight of Mr. Gallatin’s positions remain unanswered. They are like sets of exchange. The first not being paid, pay to the remainder. I have endeavored to pay the first. And if necessary, I may at some after-time go to the trouble of showing that the remainder of the sett should be treated as blanks, blanks and nothing more.

My object, Messers. Editors, is to vindicate my country from the charge of having been guilty of the greatest crime imputable to man, the crime of having rushed into an unjust war.

When Congress voted that “the war was the act of Mexico,” they announced to the world the exact truth; and when Mr. Clay, with an audacity which merits the indignation of ever just man, rashly asserts that the Whigs who voted upon that question voted a liz, the charge should be hurled back contemptuously in his teeth.

Mexico had, very promptly over and over again, pronounced that the “casus belli,” existed. She took great care to place herself in an attitude, in which she might strike whenever she please. - She had dismissed her President Herrera, because he advocate peace. She had taken Paredes, because he advocated war. She had collected her armies on the borders of Texas, as to whom she had ended the armistice. She was at open war with Texas, with whom we had become identified. She knew that Gen. Taylor had been instructed that it was “not our design” in our present relations with Mexico, that “you should treat her as an enemy,” but she should assume that character by a declaration of war, or any other act of hostility towards us, “you will not act merely on the defensive, if your relative means enable you to otherwise.” And, knowing all this, she availed herself of the first opportunity to carry out an open act of hostility by attacking the forces of Gen. Taylor, in the unquestionable expectation that success awaited her, and inglorious defeat was to be the fate of the brave Taylor and the comparatively small army he had the honor to command. Thanks to this army, the result was otherwise; and he who can see any thing in this transaction to justify Mexico, and traduce us, can hardly examine the matter with a patriot’s or with an imperial eye.

When Mexico has assumed the lofty attitude she had, when she had ruptured the friendly relations therefore
existing between herself and the United States—when she had gone off with the debt she owed our citizens in her pocket (for it is to be remembered that war cancels all debts)—when she has assembled her armies on the frontiers of Texas with the avowed purpose of war, it is in vain to assign the war to Gen. Taylor’s occupation of disputed territory. It is possible, by playing a shifty-shaly game, the game of hide and seek, the game of manoeuvre and prevarication—we might have been able to skulk out of the way of Mexico and thereby have postponed the period when the first blow would actually have been stricken. But, for one, I am not for playing that game and for one, I think with Mr. Polk and Gen. Taylor that if Mexico intended to strike, it was right to give her the opportunity of doing so just as soon as she pleased.

The celebrated Mr. Sterne has characterized plemic divinity by the following satire. A battle was to be fought by Gymnast and Tripest.

"Which words being heard by all the soldiers which were there, diverse for them being inwardly terrified did shrink back and make room for the assailant. All this did Gymnast very well remark and consider; and, therefore, making as if he would have alighted from off his horse, as he was poising himself on the mounting side, he most nimby (with his short word by his thigh) shifting his feet in the stirrup and performing the stirrup leather feat, whereby, after the inclining of his body downwards, he forthwith launched himself aloft into the air and placed both his feet together upon the saddle, standing upright with his back turned towards his horse's head. Now, said he, my case goes forward. Then, suddenly, in the same posture wherein he was, he fetched a gambol upon one foot, and turning to the left hand, failed not to carry his body perfectly round, just into his former position, without missing one jot. Ha! Aid Tribet, I will not do that at this time, and not without cause. Wee, said Gymnast, I have fail: I will undo this leap; then, with marvelous strength and agility, turning towards the right hand, he fetched another frisking gambol as before; which done, he set his right hand thumb upon the bow of the saddle, raised himself up and sprang into the air, poising and upholding his whole weight upon the muscle and nerve of the said thumb, and so turned and whisted himself about three times, at the fourth, reversing his body, and overaiming it upside down and foreside back, without touching anything, he brought himself betwixt the horse’s two ears, and then giving himself a jerking swing, he seated himself upon the crupper.

["This can’t be fighting." Said my uncle Tony. The corporal shook his head at it. "have patience," said Yorick!]

"Then Tripet passed his right leg over his saddle, and placed himself en croup. But, said he, it were better for me to get into the saddle; then putting the thumbs of both hands upon the cruppet before him, and thereupon, leaving himself as upon the only supporters of his body, he incontinently turned heels over head in the air, and straight found himself betwixt the bow and the saddle, in a tolerable seat; then springing into the air with a summerset, he turned him about like a wind-mill, and made about an hundred frisks, turns and demi-pommaders."

"Good God!" cried Trim, losing all patience! "One home thrust of a bayonet is worth it all." "I think s, too," replied Torick. "I am of a contrary opinion," quoth my father.

I would not have had Mr. Polk to play either Gymnast or Tripest.

Those who maintain that the war is unjust, attribute it to the march of our army upon disputed territory—let us test that question by the laws of nations.

Suppose our right to the disputed territory to be doubtful one? And suppose it to have been occupied by Mexico? Vattel says:

"In things doubtful, if one of the parties will not listen either to conference or accommodation, a negotiation or a compromise, the other has only the last resource for the defence of himself and his rights—the means of fore; and his arms are just against so unfractable an adversary. For in a doubtful cause we can only demand all the reasonable methods of elucidating the question, and of deciding or accommodating the dispute."

Now all this was done by the United States, and every overture on our part was rejected—Mr. Gallatin’s wire-drawn distinction between a Commissioner and a Minister is a flimsy hypercriticism, and a ground now taken back by Mexico. ON the contrary every approach on our part was repelled with scorn and contempt.

Vattel proceeds: "It is not permitted to take arms to obtain the possession of a thing to which the person has but an uncertain or doubtful right; but he may oblige the possessor, if it be necessary by force of arms to discuss the question, to accept some reasonable method of decision or accommodation, or, in short, to negotiate upon as equitable footing."

And so having been involved in war with Mexico, the motives of the war have been appropriately styled “to conquer a peace”—in doing which, (see page 393,) the United States have the right, according to the same authority, to superadd to all other charges against Mexico, “the expenses incurred the charges of the war, and the reparations of damages.”

In whatever form it may please the U. States to accommodate this controversy, to what extent they may claim indemnity, and whether they shall receive that indemnity in territory or not, remains to be decided by the wisdom and justice of the counsels which control their destiny; and these should remember that they have the right to compromise or concede the honor, the interests and the rights of their own country, actuated by Quixotic philanthropy for Mexico, or partisan feelings in reference to ourselves—the question of who shall or shall not be
President being one which shall have passed away and been forgotten when the effects of the decision now to be made will influence the destiny of a large portion of the human race in all after time.

The Constitution declares “that Congress shall have power to declare war,” and to make “all necessary regulations concerning captures on land or sea.”

The consequences of war are governed by the laws of nations—and by these laws the instant our armies conquer territory from the enemy, it becomes the territory of the United States, and that by the highest law known to the political body—the Constitution which governs them. No laws of annexation are necessary. Es vi iermins such territory stands annexed as completely as if it had belonged to the body politic at the moment of the adoption of the Constitution, and at the moment that Constitution conferred the war making power upon Congress.

Thinking as Mr. Rives did when he uttered the sentiment, “that this question, when understood, would be met with more unanimity than any other ever presented to the American people,” I have ventured, Messers Editors, to forward these sheets to you. Give them what disposition you may think fit.

C.

[SDW]

RE48v44n87p2c6-7, February 29, 1848, LATER FROM MEXICO

ARRIVAL OF THE ROYAL MAIL STEAMER DEE

The royal mail steamer Dee arrived at Ship Island on Sunday, the 20th February, from Vera Cruz. She left Tampico on the 13th, and Vera Cruz on the 16th February. She had on board five passengers for Havana, five for England, and ten for New Orleans. Among the latter were Major Dimick, United States Army, Dr. Wiley, Fleet Surgeon, United States Navy, M’lle Dimier. The Dee had on board 100,000 dollars in specie, and 350 ceroons of cochineal.

The news from Mexico by this arrival is important. The courier of the English delegation has arrived at Vera Cruz having left the capital on the 13th February, four days later than our previous advices.

The American Star of the 11th contains the official announcement of the conclusion of a treaty of peace under the signature of Senor Rosa, the Minister of Foreign Relations.

There was yet no quorum of the Congress at Queretaro, from which city our dates are to the 10th February; but a majority of the Deputies in the city are represented as approving the treaty. The Star of the 11th says, that a meeting of the Deputies on the 7th there were twenty-four present. It requires nearly thrice this number to form a quorum.

Gen. Lane reached Mexico, from Orizaba, on the 10th inst., without further adventure.

Lieut. G.A. Schott, of the 4th Kentucky Volunteers, is dead.

Gen. Smith’s brigade was reviewed on the 10th inst. By Maj. Gen. Butler.

Col. Clarke, with his command, was at Cuernavaca on the 9th inst. Gen. Alvarez was making great efforts to cut off his supplies, and the Col., in turn, was taking every means to thwart the designs of the redoubtable commander of the Piatos.

In the Star of the 13th we find the following article in regard to Santa Anna. It is of much importance:

**SANTA ANNA**—The Monitor of yesterday gives an extract from a letter written by a person of distinction, which says: “General Santa Anna has asked for a passport, to enable him to leave the Republic, and has recommended his friends to sustain a peace, and the Government of Pena y Pena.” The same paper cites an article in the Constitution prohibiting the President of the Republic from leaving the territory while in the exercise of the supreme command, and one year afterwards. Another Queretaro correspondent of the Monitor intimates that Santa Anna’s official communications in regard to his passport, &c., will be published. We hardly know what to make of this movement of the ex-President and at first were inclined to discredit the statement altogether. If it be true, however, that he recommends his friends to support the Government of Pena y Pena, it evinces a very sudden change of opinion in Santa Anna. We suspect that, if any such recommendation has been made, it is for the purpose of securing a safe egress from the Republic, rather than of giving any sincere support to the pacific policy of Pena y Pena.

We may add, while on this subject, that la Bandera del Pueblo at Guanajuato, brings as a letter from a writer
in this city, in regard to the late flight of Santa Anna from his hacienda at Tehuacan. It proceeds from the gentleman escorted by lancers who was met here by General Lane on his way from Santa Anna’s residence. The writer say he gave a man fifty dollars for hurrying across the fields to apprise the ex-President of Gen. Lanes’ approach, assuring the messenger that that distinguished functionary would pay him still more handsomely. The letter continues, I should add, that the Government at Queretaro, in agreement with Scott, has resolved upon the imprisonment of Gen. Santa Anna, in order to remove the only obstacle in the way of concluding a peace. The Government has been guilty of the blackest of treasons. Men who have drawn their blood from the heroes of the Independence, seek to shed that of the illustrious Gen. Santa Anna, to remove him form the scene as the only obstacle to the conclusion of a treaty of peace, and they are right, for Gen. Santa Anna will never consent to the dishonor and infamy of his country. The editor of La Banderaradd that a treaty of peace has been signed, and that nothing is wanting but the imprisonment of Santa Anna. We give these passages for what they are worth, but the reader will observe that they are singularly at variance with the statements of the Monitor’s Queretaro correspondents.

In the same paper we find the following notice of movements at Queretaro:

QUERETARO—We have nothing of interest from Queretaro, though our dates are to Wednesday. Another meeting of the Deputies is to be held tomorrow. There were various agents present from the principle houses in the city offering resources to the Government. The minister of the Treasury, however, had made no arrangement with any of them, though much in need of funds. There is much life and animation in the city, commerce was reviving, and those who abandoned the Government in its misfortunes, were coming from every part to offer their respects and obtain their salaries. It would seem from this, that the general belief that peace would soon come, was creating confidence among the people and bringing about a better state of feeling.

The following paragraph from the same paper gives an indication of the state of the country:

ROBBERY—A gentleman who came down from Toluca yesterday says that about midway between that place and this city, a small party of muleteers were attacked by banditti, and one of them killed. The robbers then took some dry goods and put off. Our informant is an American, who left Toluca in the diligence in the morning. About fifty guerrillos, heading by a priest, stopped the diligence to look for Americans, but finding none as they supposed, allowed it to proceed on.

The following article was prepared by the Star evidently for transmission to this country by the British courier. It appeared in the number of the 13th inst:

FOR THE UNITED STATES—Many of our papers will go to the United States, and perhaps a few words in regard to the present position of the relations between the two Governments may be acceptable to our home readers.

We are of opinion that the prospect for an adjustment of the difficulties between the two Republics was never more favorable than at this moment. It has been officially announced by the Minister of Relations at Queretaro that a treaty of peace was signed on the 2d inst, at Guadalupe, between Nicholas P. Trist, commissioner on the part of the U.S., and Sts. Canto, Cueva and Atristian, commissioners on [illegible] art of the Mexican Government. The document making this announcement is conceived in a most excellent spirit, and evinces a disposition on the part of Perna y Pena to use the influence of his high position, both with the people and the Governors of the States, to unite all opinions in support of the treaty. The response of the Governors to the circular of the Minister, asking their co-operation, will probably be shortly known. It does not appear that they have any more knowledge in regard to the treaty than the mass of the people. The Cabinet at Queretaro very properly preserve a strict silence on the subject, declaring that the conditions will be made known immediately upon the assembling of Congress. The President of the Republic is using all his influence for the union of the members for the performance of their legislative duties. Thus far his means have not been commensurate with his efforts. But twenty-five members have yet appeared at the preliminary meetings, though it is believed that the severe meetings, though it is believed that the severe penalties ordered to be inflicted upon the recusant Deputies will have the effect of securing a quorum at no very distant day.

Probably there is as much known in the United States, in regard to the treaty, as in this city. By the masses, it is generally believed that it was dispatched to Washington, by express, immediately after its ratification by the commissioners here. Several of the Mexican journals affirm, that it yields California, New Mexico and Texas, pays five millions to our citizens in settlement of claims, and guarantees the payment of fifteen millions to Mexico for the territory surrendered by her. It is not worth while to speculate upon the alleged character of the treaty until we have something official before us upon which to form an opinion. The Mexican provinces named are all in possession of our troops at this time, and we hold them by right of occupation.

California and New Mexico are a mine of wealth in themselves, and if the indemnity to the United States provide in the treaty be ample, the general policy in the army of occupation will be in favor of peace. No one desires war for the mere purpose of conquest, and all, we feel confident, will sanction an honorable settlement of existing differences. We have taken some pains recently to ascertain the sentiments of the army on this question, and we believe that two-thirds of it are in favor of an honorable peace; in other words, they are ready to sustain the Administration in its well-directed efforts to secure the attainment of this great object.

We congratulate our readers in the United States upon this favorable aspect of the question, and we trust that nothing may occur to present its consummation to a successful issue. Pena y Pena is the man for the crisis, and it is the ardent hope of all Americans in Mexico that he may be sustained by Congress and by the people. Letters from Queretaro, and intelligent gentlemen who are conversant with the state of affairs in that city, affirm that he will
be. But we must await the event.

The disposition of the troops continues nearly the same as the date of our last article for the States. Colonel Clarke’s brigade, however, has since left the city for Cuernavaca. Alvarez, who has a considerable force in the vicinity, is endeavoring to embarrass him by cutting off his supplies. The stringent measures of Colonel Clarke, however, will counteract the efforts of the Mexican general.

The health of our troops is not so good as we wish it were—the typhoid fever prevailing to a considerable extent in some regiments, principally, however, among the new recruits. As they leave the city for the interior, the health of the soldiers will no doubt much improve.

We may add that we learn that the 4th Kentucky Regiment has applied for permission to occupy Pachuca and that Tulancingo, a delightful city, about the size of Jalapa, some forty miles easy of Pachuca, will also shortly be occupied.

We publish the following order of Gen. Smith, less for its importance here than to show how thoroughly Gen. Scott is carrying into effect the orders of our Government to quarter on the enemy:

OFFICER OF CIVIL AND MILITARY GOVERNOR

National Palace, Mexico, Feb. 4, 1848.

To insure tranquility and good order in the neighborhood of the city of Mexico, all that part of the territory commonly known as the valley, the basin of Mexico, including the places hereafter named, as annexed to the "Federal District," and placed under the jurisdiction of the Ayunamiento of the city, for all purposes of police revenue.

The quota of the contribution to be paid by the City and Federal District, including the Valley, is $400,000 per annum, and net $268,332 by the remaining part of the State of Mexico—all to be paid in equal monthly portions—those of December and January being now due.

The following is a list of the subdivisions, towns and villages, included under this decree in the Federal district:

EAST OF MEXICO

Divisions-Municipalities

TEXCOCO-Texcoco, Papalotia, Atango, aeman, Chiautla, Chicholoapam, Tepetiastoc, Calpulalpan.

TEOTIHUACAN-Teotihuanac, Orumba, Axapusco, Temascalapa, Tecamac, San Cristoba, Ecatepec.

CHALCO-Chalco, Tlalmanalco, Amecameca, Tepopula, Xochitepec, Ozumba, Torolanga, Ylayacapa, Tlahuac, Ixiapaluca, Ayotzingo.

WEST OF MEXICO

Divisions-Municipalities

TLALNEPANTLA-Tlalnepantla, Tutitlas, Huixquiluca, Monte Bajo, Monte-AltoNauscapam.

XUMPANGO-Zumpango, Tequisquac, Neclapam, Tlucipostla.

CUATITLAN-Cuautilian, Tepotzotlan, Texloyucan, Huehuetoca, Tutlepec.

TLALPAM-Tlalpam, Xochimilco, Coyoacan, Milpa-Atla, Toyahualco, San Angel, Sante Fe.


PACHUCA-Pachuca, Mineral Del Monte, Mineral Del Ohico, Gempoala, Tizyucan.

APAM-Apam, Tepeapulco.

By the Governor:

R.P. HAMMOND, Secretary.
The following is the latest order we see from Gen. Scott:

General Orders-No. 54.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY
Mexico, Feb. 12, 1848.

The 58th article of war directs that “all public stores taken in the enemy’s camp, towns, forts, or magazines—whether of artillery, ammunitions, &c, “shall be secured for the service of the U. States,” or the orders of Government by treaty or otherwise. Until the receipt of such superior orders, not a piece of captured artillery or ordinance, and no captured ammunition, or other materiel, will be taken from any of the forts or cities held by the American army in the Republic, except for immediate service in the existing war.

By command of Maj. Gen. Scott
H.L. SCOTT, A.A.A.G.

[SDW]

RE48v44n87p2c7, February 29, 1848, THE TREATY WITH MEXICO

The following is said to be a synopsis of the treaty article by article, given in the New York Herald.

Senors Cuevas, Conto and Atristan, are appointed Commissioners on the part of the Mexican Government, to adjust with the Commissioner of the United States, Mr. Trist, a lasting treaty of peace.

Article second provides for the present suspension of hostilities between the forces of the two nations.

Article third defines the future boundary between the two Republics. The line is to commence in the Gulf of Mexico, three leagues from land; to run up the middle of the Rio Grande, its intersection with the Southern boundary of New Mexico; thence North, until it intersects at first branch of the Gila; thence down the middle of that branch of the Colorado; thence it follows the division between Upper and Lower California to the Pacific, which it strikes on league South of San Diego.

The next article guarantees to citizens of Mexico, now residing in the territory ceded to the United States, all the rights and immunities of citizens of the latter country, provided they take the oath of allegiance; or in case they desire to continue citizens of Mexico, there is guaranteed to them the right to leave the territory, and to dispose of their property to the best advantage.

The next article of importance provides the grants of lands in the territory ceded, made in Mexico prior to the treaty, shall be respected by the United States.

The next article provides that Catholic residents in the ceded territory are to be protected in the exercise of their religion.

The next article provides that grants of land by Texas, made by Mexico prior to the year 1836 shall be respected by the United States.

The next article provides that this government shall take prompt and effectual measured for the defense of the borders from Indian incursions.

In consideration of the cession of territory or the part of Mexico, the government of the United States binds itself to pay Mexico fifteen millions of dollars. In this sum are to be included by three millions of dollars already appropriated by Congress, for the furtherance of peace, and are subject to the order of Mr. Trist. This sum to be paid immediately on the ratification of the treaty by the Mexican Government.

[SDW]

RE48v44n87p2c7, February 29, 1848, THE UNION AND THE TREATY

The Washington Union, of Saturday, has an article in reference to the rumors in circulation with regard to the treaty which is now before the Senate. It asserts that the treaty, was not, as is alleged made by Mr. Trist by private instructions by Mr. Polk, and that the Cabinet knew nothing of it; that there is no provision in the treaty about the Wilmot Proviso, as has been stated; and that there is a large cession of country made by us, “of a greater extent than any country in Europe except Russia”-that the territory does include the bay of San Francisco in the 37-3
REVXLIV\#105p1c2, May 2, 1848, GEN. TAYLOR'S POLITICS

Now that the Virginia Elections are over, this question has lost much of its interest—as signs indicate that, whatever the "nolus-volus," spontaneous no-party friends of Taylor may design doing, the old chief, as the Whig candidate, is carefully to be laid on the shelf. But, as the problem of Gen. T.'s true political attitude has excited as much curiosity and speculation as the question gravely raised in New York some time since, "Will salt-petre explode?" we deem it due to his friends to give them all the benefit of the very latest revelation on the subject—and that is to be found in the Nashville Whig, a zealous advocate of territorial indemnity, and once a "sink or swim" supporter of Old Zac, though it has lately been whipped into the "trap of the veteran political gamblers" of a National Convention.—That paper predicts that, should

General Taylor deem it proper to make an exposition of his views as it thinks he will do to rebut the conversations falsely ascribed to him, he will take his stand upon "the great Republican platform upon which our liberties rest, viz: the careful preservation and scrupulous maintenance of the distribution of the powers of the General Government between the Executive, Legislative and Judicial departments, as provided for in the Constitution." The Nashville Whig continues, in a very authoritative tone: "We venture to PREDICT, that he will delcare it to be his FIXED DETERMINATION to leave to the LEGISLATIVE

>Department of the Government the business of LEGISLATION, without interposing his INDIVIDUAL WISHES, much less his OFFICIAL INFLUENCE, to thwart, shape or control it; and further, that he will never interpose his veto, except in cases of manifest haste and want of due consideration by Congress, or where there has been a CLEAR and PALPABLE violation of the Constitution. This, WE UNDERTAKE TO SAY from UNQUESTIONABLE evidence now in our possession, is the broad CONSERVATIVE, WHIG ground, which Gen. Taylor will occupy, and which he is ready to avow his intention to occupy, it elevated to the Executive chair. And this settles all questions, doubt or difficulty, as to the course he will pursue, if elected in reference to the Tariff, the Bank and other national measures. He will leave such questions to the decision of Congress. If THE PEOPLE OF THE U. STATES, speaking through the legitimate and constitutional channel, the LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT shall demand a Bank, he will not interpose his influence in any way to thwart their wishes, should they not desire a Bank, he will not seek to press one upon them; should they, through their representatives in Congress, signify that they are content with the Tariff of 1846, he will not recommend its repeal; should they, on the other hand, through their representatives, require its repeal or modification, he stands ready to sanction any act which Congress may pass for that purpose; and so with the Sub-Treasury, and other measures of national policy, with the exception of such cases only as involve clear and palpable violations of the constitution, or as are manifestly the result of hasty and inconsiderate legislation—in which category is included neither of the Tariff, Bank or Sub-Treasury measures. This, we have reason to know, is the course which General Taylor has marked out for himself to pursue, in the event of his election. And it is the true course, the patriotic, Republican, Conservative, Whig course. Let it but be pursued by our Executive Magistrates, and our free institutions will be co-extensive with all time."

The Times, while itself professing its firm belief, that Gen. Taylor is a Whig, upon the "amply sufficient" evidence now before the public, yet thinks it "right that the opinions of every individual who is prominently recommended for the high office of President, should be perfectly known." It, therefore, is "perfectly confident" that he "will consider it his duty to make a frank, unequivocal and perfectly satisfactory exposition of his views on the different political questions of the day," and it does not doubt that said exposition "will be in the main what is indicated by the Nashville Whig."

Now we ask any candid man to look at the chart laid down by the Nashville Whig, and answer whether it discloses any political opinion of the old soldier. Does it enlighten us on the question whether General T. is for or against a Bank, Protective Tariff or Sub Treasury? Does it not, on the contrary, positively affirm that he has, and will have, no opinions of his own on these questions; but if Congress enacts either of those measures, he will acquiesce, and if Congress should, on the other hand, let matters stand as they are now, he will be equally passive? These Whigs would make the old soldier a mere automation, an inanimate machine in the hands of Congress. The Constitution requires the President to recommend to the consideration of Congress such measures as he may think necessary and expedient. Still the Whigs would have him a perfect mute, a stock, a stone, having no mind of his own, but implicitly following the dictates of Congress. Is it such a President that the Constitution designed? Is it such a President whom this great and free Republic will content itself with?

But, again; if Gen. Taylor has no opinions of his own, how can the people know for what political principles or measures they are voting and what index will the members of Congress have to guide their own votes? To carry any
measure, they must have some "exponent," some "embodiment." But according to the political chart laid down for Gen. Taylor, the whole affair is to be pell-mell, regulated by chance and accident. We had thought that the Whigs were surfeited with "Accidencies." If Gen. Taylor be elected

President, with no more "satisfactory" exposition than the above, we shall have the strangest administration that the world ever saw—Congress omnipotent—and the President, headless and bodiless, the "exponent" of nothing but the edicts of Congress.

We have said enough to show that this last revelation places Old Zac in no very creditable position, and is but a poor argument why the American people should vote for him. The Republican, however, quotes "the noble and independent" sentiments of Gen. Harrison against giving any pledges in regard to his course when elected President, as identical with Gen. Taylor's position. Now, the very language of Gen. Harrison quoted by the Republican exhibits a glaring contrast between the two. "Old Tip" is represented as saying—"A better guarantee for the correct conduct of the Chief Magistrate may be found in his character and the course of his former life, than in pledges and opinions given during the pendency of a doubtful contest; and, although recognizing the right of the people to be informed of the leading political opinions of the candidates for offices of trust, yet as it regards the subjects upon which the Legislature may be called to act, the pledges and opinions should be required, if required at all, of the candidates for Congress."

Here Gen. H. expressly recognizes the right of the people to be informed of the leading opinions of candidates for office, such as Bank, Tariff, &c.; and in 1840, the Virginia Whigs paraded his letters to prove that he was anti-Bank, for the Compromise Tariff, &c. Has this plan been pursued in the case of Gen. Taylor? Is not the very question in issue his failure to enlighten the people as to his "leading political opinions?"—and does not the parallel, if it exist at all, break off here? We shall not here allude to the scenes in 1840, save only the remark, that it is strange that Mr. Tyler should have been denounced as a "traitor," if he had made no "pledges or promises." After these hasty remarks, we trust that there will be no one so blind as not thoroughly to understand Gen. Taylor's political sentiments, in all their length and breadth!

REVXLIVi105p1c4, May 2, 1848, GENERAL SCOTT AND THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

We regret that we have not room for the Union's long and scathing article upon the trickery of the Whigs in Congress, and their bold and impudent attempt to suppress the printing of Mr. Marcy's reply to Gen. Scott's most elaborate and violent attack upon the whole course of the Administration in the conduct of the war, from the commencement of the Vera Cruz expedition up to the time of the session of the Court of Enquiry in Mexico.

This extraordinary letter of General Scott, the Union characterizes as "on its face a bill of indictment against the War Department, drawn up and sent forward by General Scott at his leisure, and apparently in order to be used at their discretion by his friends in Congress." The Whigs of Congress, for partizan purposes, designed to let this violent attack on the War Department go forth alone to the world, unaccompanied by Governor Marcy's conclusive reply, which on Democratic motion, was in terms embraced in the call for the correspondence. It was evidently with this unjust view, that they attempted to suppress Gov. Marcy's reply, and thus forestall and prevent, by misrepresentation, the public judgment upon a document, which the Union predicts will, when it is published (as it will be shortly) "be regarded as a most triumphant and irrefutable vindication against Gen. Scott's charges of the whole course of the administration and the War Department in the conduct of the war."

REVXLIVi105p1c4, May 2, 1848, No title.

The Harrisburgh Telegraph, a leading Scott paper of Pennsylvania, takes ground against the nomination of Gen. Scott for Vice President, and says that he cannot be nominated for that office with the consent of his friends.

REVXLIVi105p2c1, May 2, 1848, MORE LETTERS FROM GEN. TAYLOR

In yesterday's Republican we find the following information: "We are authorized to say that Gen. Taylor has never made the statements imputed to him, viz: that he was in favor of the Tariff of '46—of the Sub-Treasury—that he originated the war with Mexico—nor that, if elected, he would choose his Cabinet from men of both parties.—Not one of these things has he said. The contradiction of these reports cannot undo the mistaken impressions that have had their influence in the Virginia elections, but they will not be too late for the consideration of the Nation.

Our authority is a letter from Gen. Taylor in reply to one from us. We shall present the contradiction in his own words to-morrow."
8th April. Mr. Trist left with an escort on the same day. The Judge Advocate in the case of Maj. Gen. Pillow, had
Brig. General Cadwallader has resigned his commission in the army and left the city of Mexico for Vera Cruz on the
Paredes or Monarchical party.

The European news, he thinks, will somewhat affect the action of the Congress—as it will destroy all hopes of the
opposed to its ratification—but that its fate will materially depend upon the course Commissioner Clifford pursues.
week would find the Mexican Congress acting on the Treaty. He says that but six Deputies and two Senators are
expressed the opinion that the Court of Enquiry would conclude the investigation of evidence in Mexico, about the

At the Taylor meeting in New York, which was addressed by Mr. Toombs, of Ga., and Col. Todd, of
Kentucky, the friends of Henry Clay were the most numerous, and had the cheering all their own way. So says the Evening Post. [BWP]

We learn from the New Orleans Delta that Gen. Leslie Coombs, so famous as the signer of the celebrated secret circular issued from Lexington, and for his unfulfilled pledge to climb the ash-pole at Lexington feet-formost, in case Mr. Clay was defeated in 1844, is now in New Orleans, and it is said he is giving the Taylor men “Jesse.” On dit, says the Delta, that the General’s visit has some connection with Gen. Scott’s expected arrival, and the movement of Northern politicians, to bring out Mr. Clay and Gen. Scott on the same ticket for President and Vice President. But the New Orleans Mercury thinks Gen. S. will sail for New York and not visit New Orleans—and, moreover, a Scott organ in Pennsylvania says that Gen. Scott will not consent to play second fiddle for any body—and will take nothing less than the first office—the Presidency! But, perhaps, the Claymen, who now imagine that they have “the world in a sling,” will use “the persuaders” upon the General, and, by threatening him with their displeasure and certain defeat, now and hereafter, if he should dare to aspire to the Presidency in defiance of the Great Harry—by such arguments, alternately addressed to his fears and to his interest, they may induce the General to lower his crest a little, and for the present, put up with the chances for the Vice Presidency. The Clayites are still positively certain that Gen. Taylor is politically dead, and that Mr. Clay will be the nominee for President by a large majority of the Whig Convention. We shall see!

The following is an extract from a letter received by the editors of the Enquirer: “I think the State of Virginia should make a donation of books to our Regiment. For be assured, they deserve it. A more high-minded and chivalrous legion never left their native shore to maintain their country’s honor on a hostile soil. When I left them (on the 10th March, on account of sickness and family misfortunes at home) they were like so many long caged lions—impatient to rush upon the foe,”

Detachments from the various volunteer companies escorted yesterday to the Petersburg Depot the remains of the gallant Lieut. Easley, who fell nobly in Mexico. They are to be transported to their last-resting place in his native county Halifax. The procession was very solemn.

We lay before our readers a very interesting message, which was yesterday transmitted to both houses of Congress by the President. It called out some remarks in both houses, but in neither was it fully discussed.

We have no space left us this morning for the documents which accompanied the message, or the measures they recommend. But we have no doubt that, the country will stand by the wise and humane, and moderate policy which the President recommends. (Union.

I submit, for the consideration of Congress, several communications received at the Department of State from Mr. Justo Sierra, commissioner of Yucatan, and also a communication from the governor of that State, representing the condition of extreme suffering to which their country has been reduced by an insurrection of the Inidans within its limits, and asking the aid of the United States. The communications present a case of human suffering and misery which cannot fail to excite the sympathies of all civilized nations. From these and other sources of information, it appears that the Inidans of Yucatan are waging a war of extermination against the white race. In this cruel war, they spare neither age nor sex, but put to death, indiscriminately, all who fall within their power. The inhabitants, panic-stricken and destitute of arms, are flying before their savage pursuers towards the coast; and their expulsion from their country, or their extermination, would seem to be inevitable, unless they can obtain assistance from abroad.
In this condition they have, through their constituted authorities, implored the aid of this government to save them from destruction, offering, in case this should be granted, to transfer the "dominion and sovereignty of the Peninsula" to the United States. Similar appeals for aid and protection have been made to "the Spanish and the English Governments."

Whilst it is not my purpose to recommend the adoption of any measure, with a view to the acquisition of the "dominion and sovereignty" over Yucatan, yet, according to our established policy, we could not consent to a transfer of this "dominion and sovereignty," either to Spain, Great Britain, or any other European power. In the language of President Monroe, in his message of December, 1823, "we should consider any attempt on their part to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety." In my annual message of December, 1845, I declared that "near a quarter of a century ago, the principle was distinctly announced to the world, in the annual message of one of my predecessors, that the 'American continents, by the free and independent condition which they have assumed and maintained are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European power." "This principle will apply with greatly increased force, should any European power attempt to establish any new colony in North America. In the existing circumstances of the world, the present is deemed a proper occasion to reiterate and reaffirm the principle avowed by Mr. Monroe, and to state my cordial concurrence in its wisdom and sound policy. The reassertion of this principle, especially in reference to North America, is at this day but the promulgation of a policy which no European power should cherish the disposition to resist.—Existing rights of every European nation should be respected; but it is due alike to our safety and our interests, that the efficient protection of our laws should be extended over our whole territorial limits, and that it should be distinctly announced to the world, as our settled policy, that no future European colony or dominion shall, with our consent, be planted or established on any part of the American continent."

Our own security requires that the established policy thus announced should guide our conduct, and this applies with great force to the Peninsula of Yucatan. It is situated in the Gulf of Mexico, on the North American continent; and from its vicinity to Cuba, to the Capes of Florida, to New Orleans, and indeed to our whole south western coast, it would be dangerous to our peace and security if it should become a colony of any European nation.

We have now, authentic information that, if the aid asked from the United States be not granted, such aid will probably be obtained from some European power, which may heretofore assert a claim to "dominion and sovereignty" over Yucatan.

Our existing relations with Yucatan are of a peculiar character, as will be perceived from the note of the Secretary of State to her commissioner, dated on the 24th of December last; a copy of which is herewith transmitted. Yucatan has never declared her independence, and we treat her as a State of the Mexican republic. For this reason, we have never officially received her commissioner; but whilst this is the case, we have, to a considerable extent, recognized her as a neutral in our war with Mexico. Whilst still considering Yucatan as a portion of Mexico, if we had troops to spare for this purpose, I would deem it proper, during the continuance of the war with Mexico, to occupy and hold military possession of her territory, and to defend the white inhabitants against the incursions of the Indians, in the same way that we have employed our troops in other States of the Mexican republic in our possession. In repelling the attacks of savages upon the inhabitants who have maintained their neutrality in the war. But, unfortunately, we cannot at the present, without serious danger, withdraw our forces from other portions of the Mexican territory now in our occupation, and send them to Yucatan. All that can be done, under existing circumstances, is to employ our naval forces in the Gulf, not required at other points, to afford them relief. But it is not to be expected that any adequate protection can thus be afforded as the operations of such naval forces, must, of necessity, be confined to the coast.

I have considered it proper to communicate the information contained in the accompanying correspondence, and I submit to the wisdom of Congress to adopt such measures as, in their judgment, may be expedient to prevent Yucatan from becoming a colony of any European power which in no event could be permitted by the United States; and at the same time to rescue the white race from extermination or expulsion from their country. JAS. K. POLK. WASHINGTON, April 29, 1848.

[REWXLIVi105p3c1, May 2, 1848, REGIMENTAL ORDERS]

The training of the officers of the 19th Regiment of Virginia Militia, and those attached thereto, will commence at the City Hall this Tuesday evening, at half past 3 o'clock, P. M., and continue the 3d and 4th, at the same time and place. Officers will appear in Summer uniform. Non-commissioned officers of the volunteer corps are requested to attend the training. The Regimental muster will take place the 5th of May at the City Hall, at half past 10 o'clock. By order of the Colonel. JNO. Q. JAMES, Adjutant 19th Regiment Virginia Militia. May 2

[REWXLIVi105p4c1, May 2, 1848, (From the N. Orleans Delta, April 22d.) LATER FROM MEXICO.]
The British West Indian mail steamer Avon arrived off the North Chandeleur Island, on Thursday evening, the 20th inst., from Vera Cruz, having left that place on the 17th inst.—By this arrival we have dates from the city of Mexico to the 14th, with later proceedings of the Court of Inquiry, a portion of which we can only make room for in our columns this morning.—Below we give a summary of the Mexican news, from the ample files of Mexican papers and correspondence now before us. As to the ratification of the Treaty, the news by the arrival is not very promising. At last accounts from Queretaro, a quorum had not been formed in Congress. The Monitor, of the 11th, contains a long article condemning the conduct of the members of Congress in delaying the session. Sixteen members were still wanted in the Chamber, and two in the Senate, to constitute a quorum. A correspondent at Queretaro, of the Monitor, thinks the necessary number will soon be in attendance, and that when Congress once gets together, Herrera will be chosen President, since a majority of the Legislatures have expressed themselves in his favor. The news of the ratification of the Treaty, had been received in Queretaro, and some persons entertained the belief that its modifications would be accepted.—On the other hand, we have before us an extract of a letter dated “Mexico, 13th April,” addressed by an English merchant, long resident in the city of Mexico, to his friend, an officer of the Avon, which says: “There is a dearth of news of any kind. Commissioner Clifford arrived here two days ago.—Amongst the Americans the impression is that a treaty will not be made; some of the Deputies, most inclined for peace, swear they will have nothing to do with it, unless the Americans leave force sufficient to support a Government, and I think the chances are that they will not come together in the stipulated time.”

On the same subject, we make the following extract from an article in the Free American, of the 15th inst: “We had occasion yesterday to converse with a respectable gentleman who had just arrived from the city of Mexico. He is a Mexican and is in favor of peace, but says that the members of Congress will not vote for the treaty as it now stands;—that he has heard many of them express their opinions on the subject, and that they all seem to agree that they have not the power to cede any portion of the territory belonging to the republic. Doing this, they think, would be violating the Federal Constitution of Mexico. They would be willing to pay the expenses of the war.

They are also willing to abandon their pretensions to the ownership of Texas provided the demarcation of the boundary line be left to commissioners to be appointed by each government. “In our opinion, if this statement, be true, and we believe it is,—it shows plainly that the Mexicans have again made an abuse of the good faith of the American government.”

We learn from the Monitor that a battle was fought at Santa Cruz de Rosales, twenty-two leagues from Chihuahua, on the 16th March, in which, as usual, our troops were victorious.—The Monitor says “the firing commenced at 9 o’clock in the morning, and continued until dark at night, when the Americans stormed the place, took eight pieces of heavy artillery, six small pieces of ordnance, and more than one thousand muskets. The number of killed on either side is not yet known; but the loss of life on both sides was very great. Don Angel Trias, Governor and Commander, and the officers under his command, were taken prisoners at the moment the action ceased.” Commissioner Trist and Gen. Cadwalader left the city of Mexico on the 8th inst. We do not hear of their arrival at Vera Cruz.

Commissioner Clifford had arrived in the city of Mexico.

It was supposed that the Court of Inquiry would adjourn about the 20th. A conducta from Guanajuato had arrived at Mexico, escorted by forty Mexican Dragoons.—The amount brought by the conducta is stated to be $400,000. Another conducta, arrived from Puebla, Mineral del Monte and El Chico brought 68 bars of silver.

The funeral obsequies of the late Gen. Valencia were celebrated on the 4th inst. at the Convent of San Francisco. The Monitor of the 7th, contains a letter from San Luis stating that the Indians to the number of 2500, are now in a state of revolution, and that their number is still increasing. Several Haciendas, or plantations, have been robbed of all the cattle and horses. Some of the planters have been murdered. The letter also states that the capital, San Luis, is the only part of the State where one can remain with security. The session of the Legislature of the State adjourned on the 31st ult., and deprive, by a decree, Don Adame, Governor, and Don Avila, Lieut. Governor, of their respective offices. Don Juliano Reyes, their present Governor, received extraordinary powers, to last until the meeting of the next Legislature. The election for a new Governor of the State will take place on the 30th of the present month. A detachment of 800 men, sent to San Luis de la Paez by the Government of Guanajuato, to assist in protecting the State against the Indians, has retired to Dolores Hidalgo without firing a gun. Gen. Bustamente, to whom the people looked for assistance, has written that he would come, but they have lost all hopes of getting succor from him.

The Monitor of the 11th says, that the State of Guanajuato followed the example of San Luis, and the Indians are in a state of revolution. The Monitor says that the revolution which was commenced by about forty individuals has now mustered upwards of two thousand partisans.

Robberies were still frequent on the roads and in the city of Mexico. Numbers of families who have been obliged to abandon their homes on account of the insurrection in Yucatan, had arrived in Vera Cruz—some of them entirely destitute. It was proposed to hold a meeting to adopt measures for their relief.

The court martial for the trial of Lieut. John Smith, 3d battalion Louisiana Volunteers, commenced sitting on the 13th inst., at Vera Cruz.—We find no report of the proceedings. The court consists of Lieut. Col. Fiesca, (President,) Capts. White, Featherstop, Besancon, Forry and Wheat, and Lieuts. Curtis and Young (Judge Advocate.) The charges preferred against Lieut. Smith are, desertion; enticing of soldiers to desert; embezzlement of public
It is stated that the General Hospital is to be removed from Vera Cruz to Jalpa—probably on account of the approaching sickly season.

The French citizens of Vera Cruz were to give a grand banquet on the evening of the 16th, in honor of the French Revolution. We learn from the Free American that a supper was given by some of the French citizens on the 8th in honor of the Revolution. Several Americans were invited. The French consul was present, and, like his countrymen, manifested his sympathy for the liberal principles by which the French people will be governed.

Our Vera Cruz correspondent, "Ulua," says: "It is rumored that Gen. Cushing's brigade is ordered to Jalapa." The regular mail coaches commenced running between Verz Cruz and the city of Mexico on the 15th, and will leave hereafter three times a week.

The career of the notorious Father Jarauta has at last been checked. A letter from Queretaro, dated April 2, states that the Father was arrested at Huejutla, by the Perfect, Don Cristobal Andrade. The arrest is officially announced in the Tampico Noticioso.

Capt. Connolly, of the La., Mounted Battalion, arrived at Vera Cruz escorting the mail from Puebla, on the 12th inst. Capt. C. met with a great many guerrilleros, but they made no opposition to his march. He also met a Mexican train of eight wagons, the conductors of which reported that the guerrilleros had levied a contribution of $300 on their merchandise.

I have, however, strong hopes that neither Mr. Sevier nor Mr. Clifford will permit any trifling on the part of the Mexicans, but will tell them at once, without parley, "Gentlemen, here are our terms—accept them or reject them, as you think proper. We are conquerors, and have and will exercise the right of conquerors in dictating our terms." This is all the negotiation that is necessary, and all that should ever have been used. Mr. Clifford arrived here day before yesterday, with the Secretary of the commission, Mr. Wash, and was very handsomely received, all the troops in the city having, by order of General Cutler, turned out to give him a reception.

The following was the order issued on the occasion:

HEAD QUARTERS, ARMY OF MEXICO,
Mexico, April 10, 1848.

(ORDERS NO. 58)

The Hon. N. Clifford, United States Commissioner, is approaching this capital, and may be expected to arrive this evening or to-morrow.—The troops on duty in the city, will be held in readiness to receive him with appropriate honors. Major Gen. Patterson is assigned to the command of the troops on the occasion and will make proper dispositions accordingly.

By order of Major Gen. BUTLER: L. THOMAS, Ass't Adj't Gen.

We learn that Mr. Sevier left Vera Cruz for this city on the 7th inst., and the commander-in-chief has ordered similar honors to be paid to him. Capts. Fairchild and Kerr, in command of two companies of the Louisiana mounted men, escorted Mr.

Clifford up. They will remain here about a week, and together with Col. Biscoe and Lieuts. Kelly and Hunter, also of the Louisiana Battalion, will then return to Vera Cruz. The prospect is still favorable for a speedy meeting of Congress at Queretaro; and for my own part, notwithstanding the contradictory rumors and reports on the subject, I shall be disappointed if the treaty is not ratified within a month or six weeks. In anticipation of favorable action upon the treaty, all the sick who can bear removal, numbering about one thousand, were yesterday sent to Jalapa, with an escort commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Preston, of the 4th Kentucky Regiment. On Sunday night last, between the hours of 8 and 10, a parole of ten riflemen, commanded by a corporal, was fired upon from the building known
Kentucky Regiment, the name of the commander of which I have been unable to learn, and a company of Marines, under Capt. Henderson, were ordered out. These forces having arrived on the ground, forty or fifty armed horsemen were met, who secreting themselves in and about the "bull­pen," kept up a fire upon our troops for nearly an hour. Several shots were also fired from the tips of the houses in the vicinity, and two riflemen were severely wounded. Owing to the darkness of the night and the fear that our troops might accidentally shoot one another, their fire was not effective, but two of the Mexicans were killed. A few were taken prisoners, and houses in the neighborhood were searched and the arms found in them captured.—During the latter part of the fight a firing was heard towards the Alameda, in the opposite quarter of the city, and Lieut. Russell started in the direction, from which it was heard, but on reaching the spot no one was to be found. The horsemen that were seen at the "bull­pen" were regularly armed as guerrillas or cavalry, with lances, escopettes and pistols, and it is supposed the object was to break the armistice. The firing at the Alameda was, it is thought, for the purpose of drawing attention that way, and by weakening our forces at the "bull pen," to enable the Mexicans there to act with more boldness and effect.

The twenty­eight deserters I spoke of in my last letter as being about Chapultepec, are still at large. The party sent in search of them was unsuccessful, and they are probably here this in Queretaro. Two privates of the 3d Dragoons were caught in the act of deserting night before last, with their horses, arms and equipments,—2d Lieut. Thos. H. Bassey, of the 4th Infantry, has been found guilty by a court martial of absenting himself without leave from his command, of disobedience of orders, and of conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman, in charging in a pay account, which he sold, $10 for commanding a company in his regiment, whereas he never commanded a company. The court has sentenced him to dismissal from the service, and the sentence has been approved by the commander­in-chief. We first heard of the late great revolution in France on Sunday last, 9th inst., and the day had not passed before measures were taken to afford the Americans here an opportunity of manifesting their joy at the glorious event, and of expressing their sympathies with republican France. Accordingly, a preliminary meeting was held night before last, the proceedings of which I send you. A more enthusiastic meeting I have never witnessed, and the determination is universal that whatever demonstration the committee of arrangements may agree upon to celebrate the event, it shall be one worthy of the occasion.
pretensions to the highest honor in the power of a free people to contest—pretensions founded not on military deeds alone, but upon the most distinguished civil qualifications.

General Quitman is a Democrat in the true Jeffersonian sense of the world, believing in the constitution placed by the great Apostle of the people’s rights upon the constitution, and is professedly acquainted with the whole science of political economy and Government. The best portion of his life has been devoted to the acquisition of knowledge, and it would be difficult to mention the statesman better acquainted with the diversified interests of the whole country than he is. He is opposed to a United States Bank, and in favor of the Sub-Treasury—opposed to a high Protective Tariff, and prefers the Tariff of 1846, to that of 1842—in a word, he is with the Democratic party upon every great principle for which they contend. His private character is perfectly unexceptionable, and may proudly defy the assaults of his political foes.—He is entirely free from all arrogance and foolish pride, in his intercourse with his fellow Citizens, of much simplicity and cordiality of manners, and treats every honest man, who has the impress of his Maker’s image upon him, with respect—in fact he has every great quality, both of head and heart, to render him one of the most popular men in our country, and I verily believe, if he could receive the nomination of the Democratic Convention and the whole press of our party were to come out in his favor, a flame of enthusiasm would be kindled in the public mind for his election, which would bring him into the Presidential chair by a larger majority over Henry Clay (who will most probably be the nominee of the Whig National Convention) than that obtained by President Polk in 1844.

The editors of Democratic papers in every section of the Union, who are in favor of a fair and impartial examination of the claims of the most distinguished leaders of our party in the coming Convention in Baltimore, are respectfully solicited to give the within nomination the earliest insertion in their columns. Nothing is farther from the wish of Gen. Quitman’s friends than to produce the least split in the Republican ranks. All they ask is that his pretensions may be examined, and if another than himself be the choice of the Convention, they pledge themselves to use every honorable means to ensure his success—provided he be entirely free from the leperous taint of Abolitionism, which is now with fiend-like malice gnawing at the very vitals of the Republic, and if not put down by the good sense and patriotism of the people, must end ere long in a dissolution of the Union and perhaps at last in the entire overthrow and destruction of one of the fairest fabrics ever constructed by the wisdom of man for the happiness of the human race.

Gen. Quitman, as President of the U. S., would be guided in his course by the Constitution of his country and would lend his aid to no encroachments on the rights of the South solemnly guaranteed to her in the sacred instrument because he believes that upon the maintenance of these rights unimpaired, depend both the prosperity and perpetuity of our Union. He warmly sustains the President in his claim of Mexican Territory, not as has been falsely argued because “it will extend the slavery of the African race,” but because he believes his own country to have been in the right from the commencement; that the war was forced upon her by the act of Mexico, and such being the case, we have a perfect right, under the laws of nations, to demand some indemnity for the enormous expenses we have been compelled to incur in its prosecution; that while we allow to Mexico what to her will be ample compensation for the loss of New Mexico, Upper California and the harbor of San Francisco, they will prove in the end of incalculable value to the United States; that by the junction of the two oceans we will have it in our power to make the rest of the world tributary to us, and by the treasures thus obtained our whole country will be made to smile with joy and gladness. The contemplated acquisition of territory would, in many respects, it is true, be highly beneficial to the South, but then it is clear to demonstration that the North, as a commercial and manufacturing people, would be infinitely more benefited by it.—General Quitman, though long a resident of the South, is a native of the North, and no one feels a warmer interest in all that concerns her prosperity than he does. Within the wide limits of our glorious confederacy there breathes not a purer patriot, or one more entitled to the respect, esteem, and affection of his fellow-citizens; and should it be his fortune to obtain the highest honor in their power to confer, the Democracy of every State in the Union might say with pride “This is the President of our choices, and we introduce him to the world as a true Representative of American character,—of its patriotism, its chivalry, and its honor!”

VIRGINIUS.

[BPW]

REVXLIV105p4c5, May 2, 1848, (Reply of Captain Edwards.) NORFOLK, April 7, 1848.

Gentlemen: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your kind invitation to a public dinner to be given me by the citizens of my native county, which I accept with no ordinary pleasure. You have been pleased to approve my conduct in the valley of Mexico, and, next to the consciousness of duty well discharged, nothing can be more gratifying to me than the generous approbation of my fellow-citizens, especially of my native county.

Permit me to express my obligations to yourselves for the very kind manner in which you have thought proper to address me, and to return to my fellow citizens of Surry my heartfelt thanks.

With sentiments of respect and esteem, I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant, O. E. EDWARDS, Capt.

U. S. Voltigeurs.
8th. Our Navy: The debarkation of our troops at Vera Cruz gave earnest of the science that directs and of the skill which performs its operations. To prove its gallantry equal to both, it wants only an “opportunity.”

9th. Our Volunteer Soldiery: By achievements without a parallel, they have immortalized themselves, illustrated the annals of their country, conferred imperishable renown upon its prowess, and in the salutary caveat they thus offer to the world, insured it future security.

[BRP]
The date of this memorandum is December 15, more than three weeks after my requisition and departure from Washington. Of not one of the "ten vessels" in ballast, or with stores, (leaving room for troops) have I heard, up this day. Relying upon them, confidently, the embarcation was delayed, in whole or in part, at the Brazos and Tampico, from the 15th of January to the 9th of March; leaving, it was feared not half the time needed for the reduction of Vera Cruz and its castle before the return of the yellow fever.—But half the surf boats came at all; and of the siege train and ordnance stores, only about one half had arrived when the Mexican flags were replaced by those of the United States on those formidable places. We succeeded, at last, in reading the point of attack, in the midst of frightful northerns, by means, in great part, of trading craft, small and hazardous, picked up accidentally at the Brazos and Tampico; and when the army got ashore, its science and valor had to supply all deficiencies in heavy guns, mortars, and ordnance stores.

The first letter that I received from the department, after entering the captured city, contained an elaborate rebuke, (dated February 22,) for having ordered Col. Harney, 2d dragoons, to remain in the command of the cavalry with Major General Taylor, so as to leave Major Sumner, of the same regiment, the senior of that arm in my expedition. There was no great difference in the number of cavalry companies with the two armies. This rebuke was written with a complacency that argued the highest professional experience in such matters, and could not have been more confident in its tone, if dictated to the greenest general of the recent appointments. Yet without the power of selecting commanders of particular corps, no general-in-chief would venture to take upon himself the conduct of a critical campaign. Such selections were always made by the Father of his country, and the principle generals under him. So in the campaign of 1814, I myself sent away, against their wishes, three senior field-officers of as many regiments, who were infirm, un instructed, and inefficient, in favor of three juniors, and with the subsequent approbation of Major Gen. Brown, on his joining me, and the head of the War Department. Both were well acquainted with the customs of war, in like cases, at home and abroad; and without that energy on my part, it is highly probable that no American citizen would ever have cited the battles of the Niagara without a sigh for his country. I am happy, however, that before a word had been received from the department, and, indeed, before it could have had any knowledge of the question, I had decided to take with me the frank and gallant colonel, and hope soon to learn that he and very many other officers have been rewarded with brevets for their highly distinguished services in the campaign that followed.

It was in reference to the same rebuke, that, in acknowledging your communication, I said, from Vera Cruz, April 5th: "I might very well controvert the military principles so confidently laid down by the department, (in the letter of the 22nd of February)—but believing that the practice of the U. States army in the two wars with Great Britain would have no weight in the particular case, I waive further reply—having, at the moment, no leisure and no inclination for controversy."

Alluding to the heavy disappointments in respect to transports, siege trains, and ordnance stores, then already experienced, I wrote to the department, from Lobos, Feb. 28-- "Perhaps no expedition was ever so unaccountably delayed—by no want of foresight, arrangement, or energy on my part, as I dare affirm--and under circumstances the most critical to this entire army; for everybody relied upon knew, from the first, as well as I knew, it would be fatal to us to attempt military operations, on this coast, after, probably, the first week in April; and here we are at the end of February! Nevertheless this army is in hearts and crippled as I am in the means required and promised, I shall go forward, and expect to take Vera Cruz and its castle in time to escape, by pursuing the enemy, the pestilence of the coast."

The city and castle were captured March 29th, and with about one-fourth of the necessary means for a road train, (no fault of mine,) the retreat, in pursuit of the enemy, was vigorously commenced April 8th. The battle of Cerro Gordo soon followed, and we occupied Jalapa and Perote, where we were obliged to wait for supplies from Vera Cruz. In those positions, I was made to write under another disappointment.

In my four memorials to the department, on the further prosecution of the war against Mexico, written at Washington—and, dated, respectively, October 27, November 12, 16, and 21—[it was only intimated to me in the night of November 18, that I might prepare myself for the field]—papers in which I demonstrated that Vera Cruz was the true base of operations, and that the enemy's capital could not probably be reached from the Rio Grande; I estimated that, after taking that great seaport, "about 20,000 men," or "an army of more that 20,000 men may be needed: 1. To beat in the field and in passes, any accumulated force in the way; 2. To garrison many important points in the rear, to secure a free communication with Vera Cruz; 3. To make distant detachments, in order to gather in, without long halts, necessary subsistence."

And that force, I supposed, including volunteers, and aided by land and money bounties, might be raised in time, by adding ten or twelve new regiments of regulars, and filling up the ranks of the old. A bill was introduced for raising ten additional regular regiments; and I certainly do not mean to charge the department with the whole delay, in passing the bill through Congress. But it was passed February 11, 1847; and under it, by early in April, some few thousand men had been already raised and organized. My distress may be conceived, by any soldier, on learning, at Jalapa, April 27, that the whole of that force had been sent, under Brigadier General Cadwalader, to the Rio Grande frontier!

In my letter to the department, written the day after, I said I had, expected that—"Detachments of the new regiments would, as you had promised me, begin to arrive in this month, and continue to follow perhaps into June."

"How many (volunteers) will re-engage, under the act approved March 3, (only received two days ago,) I know not; probably but few. Hence the greater my disappointment caused by sending the new troops to the Rio Grande; for,
besides their keeping the road in our present rear open for many weeks by marches in successive detachments, I had intended, as I advanced, to leave strong garrisons in this place, (Jalapa,) in Perote, and Puebla, and to keep at the head of the movement a force equal to any probable opposition. It may now depend on the number of the old volunteers, who may re-engage, and the number of new troops that may arrive from the Brazos in time, as also in some degree upon the advance of Major General Taylor, whether I shall find this army in strength to leave the garrisons, and to occupy the capital.”

I may add, that only about fifty individuals of the old volunteers re-engaged under the provisions of the act of March 3; that the remainder were discharged May 4; that Maj. Gen. Taylor made no movement in advance of Sultillo; and that the new regulars, including Cadwalader’s brigade, only began to come up with me at Puebla in July, but not in sufficient numbers till August 6. The next day the army commenced its advance upon the Capital, with a little more than 10,000 effective men. It is not extravagant to say that, if Brigadier general Cadwalader’s forces had not been diverted from me to the Rio Grande, where he was mad to lose, without any benefit to Major Gen, Taylor, much precious time, I might easily have taken this city in the month of June, and at one-fifth of the loss sustained in August and September. The enemy availed himself of my forced delay at Puebla to collect, to treble, to organize, and discipline his forces, as also to erect numerous and powerful defences with batteries. Nearly all those extraordinary preparations for our reception were made after the middle of June.—And it is known that the news of the victory of Buena Vista reached Washington in time to countermand Cadwalader’s orders for the Rio Grande, before his departure from New Orleans. Two rifle companies, with him, received the countermand there, and joined me early.

I know that I had the misfortune to give offence to the department, by expressing myself to the same effect from Jalapa, May 6. In a report of that date, I said: “The subject of that order (No. 135, old volunteers) has given me long and deep solicitude. To part with so large and so respectable a portion of this army, in the middle of a hostile country which, though broken in its power, is not yet disposed to sue for peace—to provide for the return home of seven regiments from this interior position, at a time when I find it quite difficult to provide transportation and supplies for the operating forces which remain—and all this without any prospect of succor or reinforcements in, perhaps, the next seven months—beyond some 300 army recruits—present novelties utterly unknown to any invading army before. With the addition of ten of twelve thousand new levies in April or May—asked for, and until very recently expected—or even with the addition of two or three thousand new troops, destined for this army, but suddenly, by the orders of the War Department, diverted to the Rio Grande frontier; I might, notwithstanding the unavoidable discharge of the old volunteers—seven regiments and two independent companies—advance with confidence upon the enemy’s capital. I shall, nevertheless, advance; but whether beyond Puebla, will depend on intervening information and reflection. The general panic given to the enemy at Cerro Gordo still remaining, I think it probable that we shall go to Mexico; or, if the enemy recover from that, we must renew the consternation by another blow.”

Thus, like Cortez, finding myself isolated and abandoned, and again, like him, always afraid that the next ship of messenger might recall or farther cripple me—I resolved no longer to depend on Vera Cruz or home, but to render my little army “a self-sustaining machine” as I informed every body, including the head of the War Department—and advanced to Puebla.

It was in reference to the foregoing serious causes of complaint, and others, to be found in my reports at large—particularly in respect to money for the disbursing staff officers, clothing, and Mr. Trist, commissioner—that I concluded my report from Puebla, June 4, in these words: “Considering the many cruel disappointments and mortifications I have been made to feel since I left Washington, and the total want of support or sympathy on the part of the War Department, which I have so long experienced, I beg to be recalled from this army the moment it may be safe for any person to embark at Vera Cruz—which, I suppose, will be early in November. Probably all field operations will be over long before that time.”

But my next report [July 25] from Puebla has, no doubt, in the end, been deemed more unpardonable by the department. In that paper, after speaking of the happy change in my relations, both official and private, with Mr. Trist,” I continued:

“Since about 26th ultimo [June] our intercourse has been frequent and cordial, and I have found him [Mr. T.] able, discreet, courteous, and amiable. At home it so chanced that we had but the slightest possible acquaintance with each other. Hence more or less of reciprocal prejudice; and of the existence of his feeling towards me, I knew (by private letters) before we met, that at least a part of the cabinet had a full intimation. Still, the pronounced misunderstanding between Mr. Trist and myself could not have occurred but for other circumstances: 1. His being obliged to send forward your letter of April 14, instead of delivering it in person, with the explanatory papers which he desired to communicate; 2. His bad health in May and June, which I am happy to say has now become good; 3. The extreme mistification into which your letter, and particularly an interlineations, unavoidably threw me. So far as I am concerned, I am perfectly willing that all I have heretofore written to the department about Mr. Trist should be suppressed. I make this declaration as due to my present esteem for that gentleman; but ask no favor, or desire none, at the hands of the department. Justice to myself, however tardy, I shall take care to have done. * * *

I do not acknowledge the justice of either of your rebukes contained in the letter of May 31, (in relation to Mr. Trist and the prisoners at Cerro Gordo;) and that I do not here triumphantly vindicate myself, is not from the want of will, means, or ability, but time. The first letter (dated February 22) received from you, at Vera Cruz, contained a censure, and I am now rebuked for the unavoidable—nay, wise, if it had not been unavoidable—release on parole, of the prisoners taken at Cerro Gordo—even before one word of commendation from government has reached this army on account of its gallant conduct in the capture of those prisoners. (No such commendation has yet been received—February, 1848.)—So, in regular progression, I may, should the same army gallantly bear me into the city
of Mexico, in the next six or seven weeks—which is probable, if we are not arrested by a peace or a truce—look to be dismissed from the service of my country! You will perceive that I am aware (as I have long been) of the dangers which hang over me at home; but I, too, am a citizen of the United States, and well know the obligations imposed under all circumstances by an enlightened patriotism. In respect to money, I beg to report that the chief commissary (Captain Grayson) of this army has not received a dollar from the States since we landed at Vera Cruz, March 9.—He now owes more than $200,000, and is obliged to purchase on credit, at great disadvantages. The chief quartermaster (Captain Irwin) has received perhaps $60,000, and labors under like incumbrances. Both have sold draughts to small amounts, and borrowed largely of the pay department, which has received about half of the money estimated for.—Consequently, the troops have some four months’ pay due them. Our poverty, or the neglect of the disbursing departments at home, has been made known, to our shame, in the papers of the capital here, through a letter from Lieut. Col. Hunt, that was found on the person of the special messenger from Washington. The army is also suffering greatly from the want of necessary clothing—including blankets and great-coats.—The new troops, (those who have last arrived,) as destitute as the others, were first told that they would find abundant supplies at New Orleans; next at Vera Cruz, and finally here; whereas we now have, perhaps, a thousand hands making shoes and (out of bad materials and at high rates,) pantaloons. These articles, about 3,000 pairs each, are absolutely necessary to cover the nakedness of the troops. February 28, off Lobos, I wrote to Brigadier General Brooke to direct the quartermaster at New Orleans to send to me large supplies of clothing. March 10-23, General Brooke replied that the quartermaster at New Orleans had ‘neither clothing nor shoes;’ and that he was ‘fearful that, unless they have been sent out to you direct, you will be much disappointed.’ Some small quantity of clothing, perhaps one-fifth of our wants, came to Vera Cruz from some quarter, and followed us to Jalapa and this place.”

I must here specially remark, that this report, No. 30, though forwarded the night of its date, (July 25,) seems to have miscarried. Perceiving, about November 27, that it was not acknowledged by the department, I caused a duplicate to be made, signed it, and sent it off by the same conveyance with my despatch No. 36, and the charges against Brevet Major General Worth, Major General Pillow, and Brevet Lieut. Col. Duncan, together with the appeal against me of the former. All these are acknowledged by the department in the same letter (Jan. 13) that recalls me.

It was that budget of papers that caused the blow of power, so long suspended, to fall on a devoted head. The three arrested officers, and he who had endeavored to enforce a necessary discipline against them, are all to be placed together before the same court;—the innocent with the guilty, the accuser and the accused, the judge and his prisoners, are dealt with alike. Most impartial justice!—But there is a discrimination!—No with a vengeance! While the parties are on trial—if the appealer is to be tried at all, which seems doubtful—two are restored to their corps—one of them with his brevet rank—and I am deprived of my command! There can be but one step more in the same direction:—throw the rules and articles of war into the fire, and leave all ranks in the army free to engage in denunciations and a general scramble for precedence, authority, and executive favors. The pronunciamento, on the part of my factious jurors, is most triumphant.

My recall—under the circumstances, a severe punishment before trial—but to be followed by a trail here, that may run into the autumn—and on matters I am but partially permitted to know by the department and my accusers—is very ingenuously placed on two grounds: 1. My own request, meaning that of June 4, (quoted above, and there was no other before the department,) which had been previously (July 12) acknowledged and rebukingly declined. 2. The arrest of Brevet Major General Worth, for writing to the department “under the pretext and form of an appeal,” an open letter, to be sent through me, in which I was grossly and falsely accused of “malice” and “conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman, in the matter of the general order No. 349, on the subject of puffing letters for the newspapers at home.

On that second point, the letter from the department of January 13 is more than ingenious; it is elaborate, subtle, and profound—a professional dissertation, with the rare merit of teaching principles until now wholly unknown to military codes and treatises, and of course to all mere soldiers, however great their experience in the field.

I have not in this place time to do more than hint at the fatal consequences of the novel doctrine in question. According to the department, any factious junior may, at his pleasure, in the midst of the enemy—using “the pretext and form of an appeal” against his commander, insult and outrage him to the grossest extent—though he be the general-in-chief, and charged with the conduct of the most critical operations; and that commander may not arrest the incipient mutineer, until he shall have first laid down his own authority, and submitted himself to a trail, or wait at least until a distant period of leisure for a judicial examination of the appeal! And this is precisely the case under consideration. The department, in its eagerness to condemn me, could not take time to learn of the experienced, that the general-in-chief who once submits to an outrage from his junior, must lay his account to suffer the like from all the vicious under him—at least down to a rank that may be supposed without influence, in high quarters, beyond the army. But this would not be the whole mischief to the public service—Even the great mass of the spirited, intelligent and well affected among his brothers in arms, would soon reduce such commander to utter imbecility, by holding him in just scorn and contempt for his recreancy to himself and country.—And are discipline and efficiency of no value in the field? But it was not my request of June 4, nor report No. 30, [of July 25] so largely quoted from above; nor yet the appeal of one pronunciado that has at length brought down upon me this visitation, so clearly predicted. That appeal, no doubt, had its merits—considering it came from an erratic brother—a deserter from the predicted. That appeal, no doubt, had its influence proceeding from the other arrested general—who is quite willing that it should generally be understood [and who shall gainsay his significant acquiescence?]—that all rewards and punishments in this army, were, from the first, to follow his recommendations. This, the more powerful of the pronunciados against No. 349, well knew a the time, as I soon
knew, that he was justly obnoxious, not only to the animadversions of that order, but to other censures of yet a much graver character.

In respect to this general, the letter of recall observes, parenthetically, but with an acumen worthy of more than a “hasty” notice, that some of my specifications of his misconduct are hardly consistent with “your [my] official reports and communications.”

Seemingly, this is a most just rebuke. But, waiting for the trials, I will here briefly state, that, unfortunately, I followed that General’s own reports, written and oral; that my confidence, lent him, in advance, had been but very slightly shaken, as early as the first week in October; that, up to that time, from our entrance into the city, I had been at the desk, shut out from personal intercourse with my brother officers, and that it was not till that confinement that facts, conduct and motives began to pour in upon me.

A word as to the 5th article of war. I can truly say that, in this and other communications, I have not designed the slightest disrespect to the commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the United States. No doubt he, like myself and all others, may fall into mistakes as to particular men; and I cannot, having myself been behind the curtain, admit the legal fiction that ALL acts of a Secretary are the acts of the President. Yet, in my defensive statements, I have offered no wanton discourtesy to the head of the War Department, although that functionary is not in the enumeration of the above-mentioned article.

Closing my correspondence with the department, until after the approaching trial, I have the honor to remain, respectfully,

Your most obedient servant,

WINFIELD SCOTT

The Hon. SECRETARY OF WAR, Washington D.C.

REv45i1p1c4, May 5, 1848, Sort of Dilemma.

The Editors of the Whig seem to have sprung from their beds at an early hour on Tuesday morning, to enjoy the perusal of Old Zac’s letter in the Republican; for yesterday’s “leader,” of “unreasonable length,” was struck off at a heat, before the arrival of the Allison letter, which reached us by the Southern mail about half past 10<A.M. The Whig’s comments on the Baldwin or Gallaher letter open with the ominous remark, that “letter-writing has been the death of more than one Presidential aspirant, of not occasionally of a nominee for that office.” It then proceeds to show why such are the fatal results of letter-writing, and argues, that Mr. Polk, “an adroit politician,” (the Whig press have generally ridiculed him as an “imbecile”—a nobody!) by writing one single letter, the famous “Kane letter, the model of an electioneering epistle,” succeeded in utterly “confounding those who insisted(ed) on “putting him to the question” by the use of phrases.” It is far different, argues the Whig, with the “ingenuous, unsophisticated, unambitious” General Taylor, and the “open, frank and fearless” Mr. Clay, (the Whig does not say that he is “unambitious!”) who, “if they answer at all, as they are apt to do, will reply in categorical and explicit terms.” Hence, says the Whig, the defeat of Mr. Clay, who “answered all questions, whether from friend or foe, careless of all consequences, and desirous that his views on all questions of public policy might be understood.” And hence, we presume, the expected defeat of Gen. Taylor, who, the Whig informs us, “has written too many letters.” It is true, as that paper says, from General Taylor’s position, “he had necessarily very little to say;” but the “misrepresentations of his opinions” compelled, him to “come out” in his letter to Mr. Baldwin or Mr. Gallaher. But, still, if the Whig means, any thing at all, it clearly means that General Taylor, who “has written too many letters,” has subjected himself to the category of the “open, frank, and fearless” but unfortunate Mr. Clay, and that, like his great prototype in letter-writing, he, too, must, for his multifarious epistles, reap the bitter fruits of “defeat.” And here we would remark, that the Whig in diluting upon Mr. Clay’s fatal cacoteries scribendi does great injustice to Messrs. Polk and Buchanan’s “electioneering,” and gives vastly too much credit to Mr. Clay’s “openness and frankness.” Mr. Polk wrote one single letter, which was read from one end of the Union to the other, and the views of which have been fully realized and carried out, since his elevation to the Presidency. [And, strange to say, the only sentence in the Kane letter upon which any doubt has been expressed, is almost identical, word for word, with a snetnec in one of Mr. Clay’s Georgia anti-Tariff letters!]—Mr. Clay, on the other hand, wrote a number of letters, suited to the Northern and Southern latitudes respectively. Of his many letters on Texas, some were quoted at the North, decidedly against annexation, and others cited at the South, to prove that his election alone would secure the admission of Texas. “Good Cassius” tells us that Mr. Clay on the Native American question wore two faces. On the Tariff, too, Mr. Clay’s letters to Georgia and his letter to Pennsylvania were of an antagonistic aspect. And on this question the Whig does great wrong to Mr. Buchanan. That gentleman did not, as had been fully proved, contend that Mr. Polk was a better Tariff man than Mr. Clay, but that he was as good a Tariff man; and his grounds were, that Mr. Clay, in his Georgia letter, had advocated the Compromise Act, as had done Mr. Polk. When Mr. Buchanan made his speech, Mr. Clay’s letter to Pennsylvania, openly in favor of “protection,” had not appeared. It was from his Georgia letter that Mr. Buchanan drew his parallel. When the later letter to Pennsylvania appeared, the whole aspect of the affair was changed. So much for Mr. Clay’s “openness and frankness” in writing various letters to suit various places. Is it strange that he was so utterly prostrated in 1844?

But to return from a digression, which we could not avoid, to the Whig’s comments upon the Baldwin or Gallaher
Thus far all goes smoothly; but, on looking more closely into the letter, the Whig sees distinctly that Old Zac has flouted the banner of revolt in the face of the Whig party; that, in defiance of all conventions, he means to be a candidate at all hazards, and that he will not quit the field, or “surrender” his independent position, for Mr. Clay or any body else! The Whig has too often lashed the “folly and madness” of those who would set up for themselves, independent of Whig organization, now to submit to any such proposition—and it gives to Old Zac and his “independent” friends a plain talk, which we copy in full.—Its argument is unanswerable. It tells the peculiar nolus volus Taylorites, that the game they would play is “rather too strong”—even for the “veteran political gamblers of the National Convention”—that the members of that body will never submit to the game “Heads I win, Tails you lose,” by which they must lose all and gain nothing—in a word, that as long as old Zac stands on his present independent position, he is in imminent danger of defeat both in the nomination and election. But it is unnecessary for us to make any comment on the Whig’s argument. It cannot be strengthened, as all who read the following will admit. The “independency” of Gen. Taylor means utter “disorganization” of the Whig party and openly defies their National Convention:

"In one word, we have not the shadow of a doubt that he is in all essential points "A WHIG UPON PRINCIPLE;" and, entertaining this undoubting conviction we are prepared to support him cordially and zealously, IF HE BE THE NOMINEE OF THE WHIG PARTY. We regret, therefore—and it is the only thing we much regret to see in the foregoing letter—that Gen. Taylor, while expressing a willingness to receive, under any circumstances, the nomination of the Whig National Convention, should have deemed it necessary to say, in so many words, that, should he fail to do so, he will, so far as it depends upon himself, remain a candidate. Such a declaration is calculated to deprive him of that nomination, if there were otherwise a certainty of his getting it—"Heads I win, Tails you lose," is rather too strong a game, in politics, as in less important matters. The very basis upon which Conventions are organized is a spirit of compromise;—the members, as well as those who are willing to receive the votes of such bodies, consenting, for the sake of a common triumph, to submit to the chances of an individual sacrifice. If this rule is to be violated—if one of the individuals willing to receive its votes, may say "if you nominate me, I will be a candidate in opposition to your nominee," it is manifest that Conventions are themselves solemn farces, or even worse. It can scarcely be expected that some two hundred and fifty gentlemen will consent to meet in Philadelphia, in June next, from the most remote parts of the Union, at great inconvenience and expense to many if not all of them, simply for the purpose of NOMINATING A GENTLEMAN WHO IS ALREADY IN THE FIELD, "NOLENS VOLENS," and intends so to remain, whether a majority of them shall think it advisable or unadvisable. For one, we confess we do not like this part of Gen. Taylor’s letter; and, foreseeing that it will constitute an insuperable objection with some, who would be otherwise in favor of General Taylor’s nomination, we regret that he has been induced to assume an attitude so embarrassing to all of his friends, except the handful who expect to support him as an “independent” candidate, and which may have the effect of defeating his own nomination and election. That the General does not care to be elected, one may readily infer from the language of his letter, but if he be thus indifferent to his own success, he ought to feel some anxiety for the triumph of sound principles and wholesome measures; and we do not very clearly comprehend, therefore, why he has determined so pertinaciously to cling to his position as a candidate for an office that he does not want, in opposition to both the Whig and Democratic nominees, IF BY DOING SO HE SHALL WEAKEN AND DEFEAT THE FORMER, and render the election of the latter inevitable."

Soon after the above positive declarations of the Whig were penned, the Allison letter came intot he hands of the Whig Editor, and in a P.S., he eagerly clutches at a single expression, as affording some little hope of safety. He says:

"We are more pleased with it than we have been with any previous exposition of his views. Indeed, as an enunciation of general principles, it meets our unqualified approbation; and had we received it before our comments had been prepared on his letter to the Editors of the Republican, we should have deemed them unnecessary. But, as they were written, we let them remain. We understand clearly now, that although General Taylor will not withdraw his own name in the event of the nomination of another individual by the Philadelphia Convention, yet his FRIENDS are at liberty to do so whenever THEY may deem it expedient; and that they will unquestionably advise his withdrawal in the event of the nomination of any other Whig, cannot be doubted. The peculiarity of the circumstances under which the General was brought forward as a candidate, AUTHORIZES, and almost COMPELS him to take this ground; and, for one, we are satisfied with it; as, indeed, we are with the admirable sentiments—and especially those relative to EXECUTIVE POWER AND INFLUENCE—embodied in his letter."

Why were the Whig’s comments “unnecessary”? Does the old soldier’s second letter “surrender” the independent ground of the first? Does it indicate that he will leave the field and submit to the Convention? On the contrary, does it not, as the Republican truly says, confirm that position? It is the merest quibble, then, in the Whig to profess to be satisfied, with its former very strong expressions in the same article staring the reader in the face. But last evening’s Republican cuts away even this last plank of the Whig.

The Republican’s editors certainly ought to know what the Old Hero means. As his correspondents, they are his best commentators—and what do they say? They say that they “wish to be clearly understood, for we would not desire a vote, nor seek to retain one for Gen. Taylor upon grounds which are not sanctioned by his real views and position.” They, therefore, argue conclusively, that Gen. Taylor’s position, as emphatically announced in the letter to
themselves, is "entirely confirmed in the letter to Captain Alison"—that they wrote to him expressly "in regard to his independent position," for they "wished no concealment"—and that his letter, as published, shows his "true ground in every respect." They continue as follows:

"Gen. Taylor, then, does not desire to withdraw, let who will be the Candidate of the Whig Convention. He cannot withdraw, because he is already the candidate of the people, made so without reference to Conventions, by men of all parties.—His declaration upon this point, in his letter to the Republican, harmonizes with those of every letter he has written, and is confirmed, instead of being modified, by the following manly avowal in his letter to Capt. Alison:

'I have consented to the use of my name as a candidate for the Presidency. I have frankly avowed my own distrust of my fitness for that station; but, having, at the solicitation of many of my countrymen, taken my position as a candidate, I do not feel at liberty to surrender that position, until my friends manifest a wish that I should retire from it. I will then most gladly do so.'

In other words, Gen. Taylor, is in the hands of his "COUNTRYMEN," and, being a candidate by their act, not his own, he will cease to be such when it is their desire that he should retire. And who are the "countrymen" to whom he refers?—Why undoubtedly the people—Whigs, Natives and Democrats—who, through their various Conventions and presses, have called him to the field. It is for them to say whether he shall withdraw; for them, who have never appealed to a National Convention, and many of whom are not, in fact, Whigs at all, say whether he shall retire at the dictation of a caucus. It may be as well understood now as ever, that the people have placed Gen. Zachary Taylor in the field; that he shall not be withdrawn, AND WILL NOT BE WITHDRAWN. We make this declaration, because it is the truth, and we wish no man to support him on any mistaken supposition. We shall be sorry if its effect is to drive any of our Whig friends from his banner, but we console ourselves with the full assurance that those Whigs who will refuse to support him are those who would never, in any event, have given him a support worth having; and that their places will be more than supplied by independent and patriotic millions of the American People.”

Nothing can be stronger than this language.—Indeed the plain words of Gen. Taylor’s two letters can mean nothing else, however the Whig may torture them by quibbles. The old soldier has taken his stand—his "friends" have taken their stand—and "he will not be withdrawn," whether Henry Clay or any other Whig be nominated by the Convention. Here, it strikes us, the road in the Whig ranks must "make a fork."—We shall see whether "independency" or "Whig organization" will "surrender"—whether the "handful" or the other faction will give way. As the day for the Convention approaches, we will have some "rich" developments.

Hereafter we shall have a word to say as to the exposition of Gen. Taylor’s "principles" in the Alison letter.

[BWP]

REV45i1p1c6, May 5, 1848, No title.

The steamship Massachusetts has arrived at New Orleans from Vera Cruz, but with no later news. This is the vessel which was, it was said, to convey Gen. Scott to N. York. We presume, therefore, that not the North but New Orleans is his destination. She brought over several officers, with 148 sick soldiers—also the remains of Lieut. Perrin Watson, 14th Infantry; Lieut. M. L. Shackelford, 2d Artillery; Lieut. Calvin Benjamin, 4th Artillery, and Mr. T. T. Tucker, of East Tennessee.

The people of Texas are improving their rivers and opening their roads. A steamer now runs regularly between Galveston and Port Lavaca, in connexion with the line of steam ships to N. Orleans—a reat convenience to Western Texas.

The anniversary of the battle of San Jacinto—the 21st of April—was celebrated "with all the honors " in Galveston.

[BWP]

REV45i1p1c6, May 5, 1848, No title.

The Matamoras Flag of the 8th April has the following painful news from Monterey to the 29th ult. We trust that there may be some mistake as to the alleged murders:

The news of the ratification of the treaty by the U. States Senate reached Gen. Wool on the morning of the 29th, and, it is said, produced quite a stir in camp. It was rumored in Monterey, though not much credit was given to the story, that several American merchants had been recently murdered near the Mazipil.

The Monterey Gazette learns from its agent in Saltillo, that three men of the Virginia regiment had been murdered at Parras a few days ago. The murderers were arrested, and it was supposed would be hung.

Appropriate honors were paid by the garrison at Monterey, on the 23rd ult., to the memory of John Q. Adams.

[BWP]
We publish to-day Gen. Scott’s most extraordinary and unprovoked letter, which wantonly assails the Administration as guilty of the bases crimes and misdemeanors. As the Union says, it is like a bill of indictment, showing on its face that it was entirely uncalled for and baseless in its charges. The defence of Mr. Marcy we shall publish as rapidly as possible. It is one of the most powerful papers we have ever read, and, as a Whig friend observed yesterday, portions of it are worthy of “Junius.” The answer is conclusive, overwhelming, and the accuser is utterly refuted by his own evidence. This remarkable letter of Mr. Marcy will elevate him to a high eminence in public opinion. Even the most thorough Whigs admit the power of the paper and the perfect vindication of the War Department from the unjust and sweeping assault. A highly intelligent member of that party has said that Mr. Marcy has not left General Scott “one inch of ground to stand upon, nor a loop to hang doubt upon.” But our readers will judge for themselves. For Gen. Scott, as a skillful and accomplished officer and soldier, we have great respect. He has many noble qualities as a man—but upon the present occasion, to our deep regret, his evil genius has led him to assume an attitude of attack, from which the Secretary of War could not fail to drive him by the weapon of truth, without surrendering all self-respect as a man, all dignity, and fidelity to duty as a public officer, clothed with high responsibility.

Messrs. Editors: Permit an humble and obscure individual, (but one who feels a deep interest in the welfare of our country,) to make a suggestion through the medium of your paper. It is very desirable that a peace, honorable to both nations, should speedily be concluded between the United States and Mexico; and I would therefore suggest, for the consideration of my countrymen, that we hold a portion of the Mexican territory—say that portion at present demanded by our Government, not absolutely and indefeasibly, but as a security for the payment of the five millions of indemnity due to our merchants from Mexico, and for all other legal and equitable demands this country may have or acquire against Mexico, either under the laws of nations or otherwise. That five years—from the date of the Treaty—shall be allowed to Mexico to pay the said claims; and if within that time she pays them, then the United States shall release every acre of Mexican soil which, in right and justice, belongs to her. But if she does not pay the said claims at or before the expiration of the five years, the said territory shall belong, indefeasibly and absolutely, to the United States.

As to indemnity for the expenses of the war, if, according to the rules and regulations of civilized warfare, it is right and proper that the United States should demand and receive it of Mexico, then we should have it; otherwise we should make no such claim. These are terms which I think Mexico can honorably accept, without the least humiliation, or without the smallest stain on her national reputation; and as this is not a war of conquest on the part of the United States, what is fair and right is all she can reasonably demand.

It would be unfortunate in the extreme if we should lose, or the least impair even, our present high national character for strict impartial justice by any false step we might take in this delicate matter; and I trust that our country will make no demand of Mexico but what is strictly just, and so acknowledged to be by all impartial and civilized nations; and I also trust that our public functionaries in arranging this matter will not forget that grand principle of our holy religion: “Do unto others as we would that they should do unto us.”

I see there is some prospect of peace. Perhaps Mexico is compelled by her present crippled and distressed condition, to accede to almost any terms. But let us show our magnanimity. Let us not absolutely take her territory, and appreciate it in fee to our own use, without indemnity; but let us merely hold it as before stated, as security for our just and legal claims against her. Such a course I think would receive the commendation of all the world; and a peace concluded on such terms would no doubt be lasting, and might beget a stronger feeling of attachment between the two countries than has perhaps ever before existed.

It might be one of the stipulations of such a treaty, that, upon its conclusion, Mexico should at once enter upon negotiations for the settlement of the boundaries of Texas; and that, in case of disagreement between the two republics as to the boundary, the matter should be submitted to some impartial and competent umpire.

These are some the views that present themselves to a plain unlearned man; and I am sure that some such reflections present themselves to every lover of strict justice, who has paid the least attention the this subject, and is not too much under the influence of party discipline. I have been, and still am, a supporter of the present administration; but if I could for a moment believe that this war was waged on Mexico for the purpose of depriving her of a large portion of her acknowledged territory, without a fair equivalent, I should at once withdraw my support; and, in thus saying, I must believe that I speak the sentiments of my countrymen, generally.

ARISTIDES.
Essex County, Virginia, 1848.
WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington, April 21, 1848

SIR: I would not be respectful to you to pass unnoticed your extraordinary letter of the 24th of February, nor just to myself to permit it to remain unanswered in the files of this department.

To attempt to dispel the delusions which you seem to have long pertinaciously cherished, and to correct the errors into which you have fallen, devolves upon me a duty which I must not decline; but, in performing it, I mean to be as cautious, as you profess to have been, to abstain any "wanton discourtesy;" and I hope to be alike successful. Your prudent respect for the "fifth article of war" has induced you to hold me ostensibly responsible for many things which you are aware are not fairly chargeable to me. The device you have adopted to assail the President, by aiming your blows at the Secretary of War, does more credit to your ingenuity as an accuser, than to your character as a soldier. A premeditated contrivance to avoid responsibility does not indicate an intention not to do wrong.

The general aspect of your letter discloses an evident design to create a belief that you were drawn forth from your quiet position, in a bureau of this department, and assigned to the command of our armies in Mexico, for the purpose of being sacrificed; and, that to accomplish this end, "neglects, disappointments, injuries, and rebukes" were inflicted on you, and the necessary means of prosecuting the war with success withheld; or, in other words, the government, after preferring you to any other of the gallant generals within the range of its choice, had labored to frustrate its own plans, to bring defeat upon its own armies, and involve itself in ruin and disgrace, for an object so unimportant in its bearing upon public affairs. A charge so entirely preposterous, so utterly repugnant to all the probabilities of human conduct, calls for no refutation.

For other purposes than to combat this fondly-cherished chimera, it is proper that I should notice some of your specific allegations.

It is true that, after you were designated for the chief command of our armies, the President was desirous that your departure should not be unnecessarily delayed; but you were not restricted, as you allege, to "only four days" to make the necessary preparations at Washington. You were not ordered away until you had reported that these preparations were so far completed that your presence here was no longer required. Then, instead of going directly to Mexico, you were permitted, at your own request, to take a circuitous route through New York, and there to remain a few days. You staid at New York nearly an entire week; and, not until the 19th of December, (twenty-six days after leaving Washington,) did you reach New Orleans, where you would have arrived in seven days, if you had been required to take the direct route. This solicited indulgence, by which your arrival at N. Orleans was delayed nearly three weeks, is incompatible with your allegation that you were allowed "only four days at Washington, where twenty might have been most advantageously employed." This complaint has relation to facts within your own knowledge; error, therefore, is hardly reconcilable with any solicitude to be accurate. As this is your opening charge against the War Department, and may be regarded as indicative of those which follow, I shall make the refutation of it still more complete, for the purpose of showing with what recklessness you have performed the functions of an accuser, and how little reliance, in the present state of your feelings, can be placed on your memory. You are the witness by whom your allegation is to be disproved. On the day of your departure from Washington, you left with me a paper, in your own hand-writing, dated November 23, 1846, with the following heading:

"Notes suggesting topics to be embraced in the Secretary's instructions to general S., drawn up (in haste) at the request of the former."

From that paper I extract the following paragraph:

"I (the Secretary of War) am pleased to learn from you (General Scott) that you have in a very few days already, through the general staff of the army here, laid a sufficient basis for the purposes with which you are charged, and that you now think it best to proceed at once to the southwest in order to organize the largest number of troops that can be obtained in time for that most important expedition" (the expedition against Vera Cruz).

Here is your won most explicit admission that you represented to the Secretary of War, before leaving Washington, that arrangements were so far completed, that you thought it best to proceed at once to the army in Mexico; and yet you make it your opening charge against the department, that you were forced away to Mexico before you had time for necessary preparations.

I present the next charge in your own language:

"I handed to you a written request that one of three of our accomplished captains, therein named, might be appointed assistant adjutant general, with the rank of major, for duty with me in the field, and there was a vacancy, at the time, for one. My request has never been attended to, and this I have had no officer of the Adjutant General's Department with me in the campaign.—Can another instant be cited of denying to a general-in-chief, in
the field at the head of a large army—or even a small one—the selection of his chief of the staff—that is, the chief in the department of orders and correspondence?"

Were the case precisely as you have stated it to be you have given too much prominence, as a matter of complaint, to the President's refusal to be controlled, in his exercise of the appointing power, by your wishes. Had there been a vacancy such as you mention for "one of the accomplished captains" you named, no one knows better than you do that your request could not have been acceded to without departing from the uniform rule of selection for staff appointments, without violating the right of several officers to regular promotion, and offering an indignity to all those who held the position of assistant adjutants general, with the rank of captain. The rule of regular promotion in the staff is as inflexible, and has been as uniformly observed, as that in the line. It must appear surprising that you, who were so deeply "shocked and distressed" at the suggestion of appointing, by authority of Congress, a "citizen lieutenant general," or vesting the President with power to devolve the command of the army on a major general without regard to priority in the date of his commission, should, in your first request, after being assigned to command, ask the President to disregard the rights of at least four officers as meritorious as "the three accomplished captains" named by you. The President's views on this subject undoubtedly differ from yours. His regard for the rights of officers is not graduated by their rank. Those of captains and major generals have equal value in his estimation, and an equal claim to his respect and protection. I cannot admit that it is a just ground of censure and rebuke against the "head of the War Department" that the President did not see fit, in order to gratify your feelings of favoritism, to disregard the claims and violate the rights of all the assistant adjutants general of the rank of captain then in commission.

But, so far as it is made a ground of complaint and reproof, this is not the worst aspect of the case. You are entirely mistaken in the assertion, that there was then a vacancy in the adjutant general's staff, with the rank of major, to which either of the captains recommended by you could have been properly appointed. There was no such vacancy. To show the correctness of this statement, and to demonstrate your error, I appeal to the Army Register and the records of the Adjutant General's Office. You mistake as to an obvious fact, lying within range of matter with which you are presumed to be familiar, has excited less surprise than the declaration, that by the non-compliance with your request, you "have had no officer of the Adjutant General's Department with me [you] in the campaign." Every officer of that department—at least eight—was, as you well knew, subject to your command. When you arrived in Mexico, there were with the army at least five assistant adjutants general, all at your service. That you chose to employ none of them at your head quarters, and detached from other appropriate duties an officer to act as an assistant adjutant general, may well be regarded as a slight to the whole of that staff then with you in Mexico, and a cause of complaint; but certainly not a complaint to emanate from you against the War Department. Willing as I am to presume, though unable to conceive, that circumstances justified you in passing over all the assistant adjutants general then with the army, and in selecting an officer of the line to perform the duties of adjutant general at you headquarters, I was much surprised to learn from you that, when General Worth sent to you one of these "accomplished captains," the first on you list, under the belief that you desired his services as an acting assistant adjutant general, you declined to employ him in that capacity; and I am still more surprised to perceive that you have made it a distinct ground of charge in your arraignment of the War Department, that you were not permitted to have him as an assistant adjutant general at your headquarters. Had you selected him instead of another, as you might have done, you would have been bereft of all pretext for complaint. Though there was no vacancy in the Adjutant General's staff of the grade of major, for which only you recommended the "accomplished captains"—and to which only they were properly eligible—there was a vacancy in it of the rank of captain. For this position you recommended an officer in General Wool's staff, then on the Chihuahua expedition. This officer was subsequently appointed assistant adjutant general with the rank of captain, as you desired, and has ever since been at the headquarters of that general. Thus it will be perceived that your request, so far as it was proper and reasonable, was actually complied with.

The next specification in the catalogue of charges preferred against me, is, that a court-martial was not instituted by the President for the trial of Gen. Marshall and Capt. Montgomery on your charges against them. The offenses imputed to them were certainly not of an aggravated character. The one, as was alleged, had been incautious in relation to a despatch under circumstances that might admit of its coming to the knowledge of the enemy, and the other had not carried a despatch with as much expedition as you thought he might have done. As one was a general officer a court to try him must have been composed of officers of high rank. Before the order for assembling it could have reached Mexico, it was foreseen that your command would be at Vera Cruz, and probably engaged in an active siege of that city. Officers could not, therefore, have been then sent from your column to Monterey or the Rio Grande, (where the court must have been held,) without great detriment to the public service. Had you been deprived of several officers of high rank at that critical period by the order of the President, it would have afforded a better pretence of complaint than any one in your extended catalogue. Had the court been composed of officers taken from Gen. Taylor's command, it would have still further weakened his condition, already weak in consequence of the very large force you had withdrawn from him. Subsequent events have proved that it was most fortunate the President did not comply with your request; for, had he done so, some of the officers highest in rank, and most conspicuous at Buena Vista, might, at that critical conjuncture, have been separated from their commands, and engaged in a court at a distance from that glorious scene of action. It is not fanciful to suppose that their absence might have changed the fortune of that eventful day; and that, instead of rejoicing, as we now do, in a triumphant victory—among the most brilliant in the whole course of the war—we might have had to lament a most disastrous defeat, and the almost total loss of the whole force you had left to sustain that frontier. No man has more reason than yourself to rejoice that no order emanated from Washington, though requested by you, which would have further impaired the efficiency of General Taylor's command in the crisis that then awaited him.

My letter of the 22d of February, conveying the President's views in regard to your order depriving Col. Harney of his appropriate command, is severely arraigned by you as offensive, both in manner and matter.
The facts in relation to this case of alleged grievance are now before the public, and a brief allusion to them will place the transaction in its true light. Under your orders Col. Harney had brought seven companies of his regiment—the 2d dragoons—from Monterey to the Brazos, to be under your immediate command; and two others—being all of the regiment in Mexico—were expected to follow within a few days. In the midst of his high hopes and ardent desire for active service, you took from him the command of his own regiment, devolved it on one of his junior officers, and ordered him back to Gen. Taylor’s line to look for what was not inappropriately denominated “an imaginary command.” Outraged in his feelings and injured in his rights, he respectfully remonstrated; his appeal to your sense of justice was unavailing. Neither to this gallant officer nor to the President did you assign any sufficient or even plausible reason for this extraordinary proceeding. The whole army, I believe, and the whole country, when the transaction became known, entertained but one opinion on the subject—and that was, that you had inflicted an injury and an outrage upon a brave and meritorious officer. Such an act—almost the first on your assuming command—boded disastrous consequences to the public service, and devolved upon the President the duty of imposing the protect the injured officer. This interposition you have made a grave matter of accusation against the head of the War Department, and have characterized it as a censure and a rebuke. It may imply both, and still, being merited, may leave you without a pretence for complaint. The President, after alluding to his duty to sustain the rights of the officers under your command, as well as your own rights, informed you that he did not discover in the case, as you had presented it, sufficient cause for such an order; that, in his opinion, Col. Harney had a just cause to complain; and that he hoped the matter had been reconsidered by you, and the colonel restored to his appropriate command. Your own subsequent course in this case demonstrates the unreasonableness of your complaint, and vindicates the correctness of the President’s proceedings.—You had really rebuked and censured your own conduct; for even before you had received the President’s views, you had, as he hoped you would, reconsidered the matter, become convinced of your error, reversed your own order, and restored Col. Harney to his command; thus giving the strongest evidence in favor of the propriety and correctness of all the President had done in the case. I give you too much credit for steadiness of purpose, to suspect that you retraced your steps from mere caprice, or for any other cause than a conviction that you had fallen into error. After the matter had thus terminated, it appears accountable to me that you, who above all others should wish it to pass into oblivion, have again called attention to it by making it an item in your arraignment of the War Department.

You struggle in vain to vindicate your course in this case, by referring to your own acts in the campaign of 1814. You then sent away, as you allege, against their wishes, “three senior field officers of as many regiments who were infirm, uninstructed, and inefficient, in favor of three juniors, and with the subsequent approbation of Major General Brown, and the head of the War Department.” This precedent does not, in my judgment, change the aspect of the present case. Colonel Harney was not “infirm, uninstructed, and inefficient;” you did not assign, and, in deference to the known opinion of the army and country, you did not venture to assign, that reason for deposing him. I do not understand the force of your logical deduction, that because you, on a former occasion, had deprived officers under your own conduct; for even before you had received the President’s views, you had, as he hoped you would, reconsidered the matter, become convinced of your error, reversed your own order, and restored Col. Harney to his command; thus giving the strongest evidence in favor of the propriety and correctness of all the President had done in the case. I give you too much credit for steadiness of purpose, to suspect that you retraced your steps from mere caprice, or for any other cause than a conviction that you had fallen into error. After the matter had thus terminated, it appears accountable to me that you, who above all others should wish it to pass into oblivion, have again called attention to it by making it an item in your arraignment of the War Department.

As your animadversion upon the tone of my letter is probably not a blow aimed at a much more conspicuous object, to be reached through me, I ought, perhaps, to pass it without notice.—On revision of that letter, I cannot perceive that it is not entirely respectful in manner and language. The views of the President are therein confidently expressed, because they were confidently entertained. It seemed to be admitted by you, that “it dictated to the greenest general of the recent appointments,” the letter would not have been exceptionable. I was not aware that it was my duty to modify and graduate my style, so as to meet, according to your fastidious views, the various degrees of greenness and ripeness of the generals to whom I am required to convey the orders of the President, and for any such defect in my official communications I have no apology to offer.

In the same letter, wherein you complain of being censured for your course in relation to Col. Harney, you say: “I am now rebuked for unavoidable—nay, wise, if it had not been unavoidable—release, on parole, of the prisoners taken at Cerro Gordo, even before one word of commendation from government had reached this army on account of its gallant conduct in the capture of those prisoners.” Accident alone—not any oversight or neglect on my part—has given you the apparent advantage of the aggravation which you have artfully thrown into this charge. My letter commending yourself and the gallant army under your command for the glorious achievement at Cerro Gordo, was written and sent to you on the 19th of May—eleven days before that which you are pleased to consider as containing a rebuke.

But I meet the main charge with a positive denial. You never were rebuked for discharging the prisoners taken at Cerro Gordo. This issue can be tried by the record. All that was ever said on the subject is contained in the following extract from my letter of the 31st of May:

“Your course hitherto in relation to prisoners of war, both men and officers, in discharging them on parole, has been liberal and kind; but whether it ought to be still longer continued, or in some respects changed, has been under the consideration of the President, and he has directed me to communicate to you his views on the subject. —He is not unaware of the great embarrassment their detention, or the sending of them to the U. States, would occasion; but, so far as relates to the officers, he thinks they should be detained until duly exchanged. In that case, it will probably be found expedient to send them, or most of them to the United States. You will not, therefore, except for special reasons in particular cases, discharge the officers who may be taken prisoners, but detain them with you, or send them to the United States, as you shall deem most expedient.”

If I understand the force of terms, there is nothing in this language which, by fair interpretation, can be made to express or imply a rebuke. I cannot conceive that any mind, other than one of a diseased sensitiveness, over anxious to discover causes for complaint and accusation, could imagine that anything like a rebuke was contained in
Before considering your complaints for not having been supplied with sufficient means of transportation for the expedition against Vera Cruz, I will notice your “four memorials” to the War Department, in which you demonstrated, as you state, that “Vera Cruz was the true basis of operations, and that the enemy’s capital could not probably be reached from the Rio Grande.”

I cannot discover the pertinency of your allusion to these four memorials, except it be to put forth a claim to the merit of originating the expedition against Vera Cruz, and of being the first to discover that the most practicable route to the city of Mexico was from that point on the gulf; but your known abhorrence for a “pruriency of fame not earned,” ought to shield you from the suspicion of such an infirmity.

I am sure you are not ignorant of the fact—but if you are, it is nevertheless true—that the expedition against Vera Cruz had been for some time under consideration; that great pains had been taken to get information as to the defences of that city, the strength of the castle, and the difficulties which would attend the debarcation of troops; that maps had been procured and carefully examined; that persons who had resided there, and officers of the army and navy, had been consulted on the subject, and the enterprise actually resolved on before the date of your first memoir, and before you were thought of to conduct it.

As early as the 9th of July, 1846, within two months after the declaration of war, and before the main body of troops raised for its prosecution had reached the scene of operations, considerate attention had been given to that subject. On that day, a letter from this department to Gen. Taylor thus alluded to a movement from Vera Cruz into the interior of the enemy’s country:

“If, from all the information which you may communicate to the department, as well as that derived from other sources, it should appear that the difficulties and obstacles to the conducting of a campaign from the Rio Grande, the present base of your operations, for any considerable distance into the interior of Mexico, will be very great, the department will consider whether the main invasion should not ultimately take place from some point on the coast—say Tampico, or some other point in the vicinity of Vera. Some suggestion is made with a view to call your attention to it, and to obtain from you such information as you may be able to impart. Should it be determined that the main army should invade Mexico at some other point than the Rio Grande—say the vicinity of Vera—large and sufficient number of transport vessels could be placed at the mouth of the Rio Grande by the time the healthy season sets in—say early in November. The main army with all its munitions could be transported, leaving a sufficient force behind to hold and occupy the Rio Grande, and all the towns and provinces which you may have conquered before that time. In the event of such being the plan of operations, your opinion is desired, what increased force, if any, will be required to carry it out with success. We learn that the army could be disembarked a few miles distant from Vera Cruz, and readily invest the town in its rear, without coming within range of the guns of the fortress of San Juan d’Ulloa. The town could be readily taken by land, while the fortress being invested by land and sea, and all communication cut off, must soon fall. From Vera Cruz to the city of Mexico there is a fine road, upon which the diligences or stagecoaches run daily. The distance from Vera Cruz to the city of Mexico is not more than one-third of that from the Rio Grande to the city of Mexico.”

The subject was again brought into view on the 13th of October, in the same year, and more particularly on the 22nd of October, in letters addressed to General Taylor. At the last date, the plan had been so far matured that several officers of the staff and line were indicated for that service. This was nearly a month before it was determined to employ you with the army in any part of Mexico.

It was never contemplated here to strike at the city of Mexico from the line occupied by General Taylor, or through any other except that from Vera Cruz. If the war was to be pushed to that extent, it required no elaborate demonstration—no profound military talents—nothing more than common sagacity and very slight reflection on the subject to see the propriety and the necessity of making Vera Cruz the base of military operations.

An alleged deficiency of means to transport the troops in the expedition to Vera Cruz seems to be most prominently presented, and most confidently relied on to sustain your charge against the War Department for neglecting this branch of its duties.

I issued, it seems to be admitted; the proper order, so far as the means of transportation were to be drawn from the north; but the allegation was that it was issued too late, and was never executed. It was issued at least four days before you arrived at New Orleans on your way to the army. If promptly executed, it was a reasonable calculation that the “ten vessels” alluded to in your letter, would have arrived in season to receive the troops as soon as you could collect them from their remote and scattered positions in the interior of Mexico, bring them to the seacoast, and prepare for their embarkation. Whether an order for ships to be sent out in ballast, issued the 15th of December, was or was not in season for the service they were designed for, depends upon the time when the expedition could be got ready to sail. To determine this, a regard must be paid to what you required to be done preparatory to the expedition, rather than to what you may have said on that subject.

A reference to two or three of your requisitions will show that no rational hope could be entertained that the expedition would set forth before the middle or the last of February. You required as one item of the outfit one
hundred and forty surfboats—all to be constructed after you left Washington. Though the department urged a less number, you insisted on all. You estimated the expense of each at $200; and thought, by putting the principal shipyards on the Atlantic coast in requisition, they might be constructed by the 1st of January. To show what reliance was to be placed on your calculation, I refer to the fact that, though due regard to economy was had in procuring these boats, each cost on an average 950 dollars—nearly five-fold your estimate. Conceding that you erred much less as to the time within which they could be constructed—nay more, admitting they could have been ready by the 1st of January—and sooner you did not expect they could be made—by no reasonable calculation could they have reached the coast of Mexico before the 1st of February. The expedition could not go forth without them. In your letter to me dated the 28th February, off Lobos, you state that but a small part of the transports engaged at New Orleans, under your orders of the 28th December, &c., had arrived, and "not one of the ten ordered by your [my] memorandum if the 15th of that month, "and the whole were due at the Brazos on the 15th of January. Having thus shown, by your own opinion, that under my order "the ten vessels” ought to have been at the Brazos at least fifteen days before the expedition could have been ready to sail, I have vindicated myself from your charge of having neglected my duty by not issuing that order at an earlier date. If issued earlier, it would have involved a largely increased expenditure for demurrage, and resulted in no public benefit.

But the graver part of this charge is, that none "of these ten vessels” ever arrived. "Relying (you say in the letter now under consideration) upon them (the ten vessels) confidently, the embarcation was delayed in whole or in part at the Brazos and Tampico, from the 15th of January to the 9th of March, leaving, it was feared, not half the time needed for the reduction of Vera Cruz and its castle before the return of the yellow fever." To whomever the calamitous consequences of the non-arrival of these "ten vessels,” and your "cruel disappointment” in relation to them, are imputable, he has certainly involved himself in a serious responsibility.—I hope to remove the whole of it from "the head of the War Department,” and entertain some apprehensions that it will fall in part upon the commanding general of the expedition.

The execution of the whole of the most difficult branch of duties appertaining to a military expedition—providing for transportation—is, by the distribution of the business in the War Department, allotted to the Quartermaster General. As an expedition against Vera Cruz had been resolved in some time before you were assigned to take command of it, General Jesup had gone to New Orleans to be in the best position to make the necessary preparations for such an enterprise. From his great knowledge and long experience in military affairs, not only in his appropriate department, but as a commander in the field, the government thought it fortunate that you could have the advice and assistance of so able a counsellor.

Your suggestion that it might be necessary to send ships in ballast from the North for transports was not neglected or unheeded by me. Whether it would be necessary or not, depended, according to your statement to me, upon the means of transportation which could be procured at New Orleans &c. My first step was to write to the Quartermaster General, then at that place, for information on that subject. In my letter to him of the 11th of December I said:

"It is expected that most of the vessels in the service of the quartermaster’s department can be used for transports for the expedition. It will be necessary that the department here should know what portion of the transportation can be furnished by the ordinary means which the quartermaster’s department has now under its control for the purposes of its expedition. I have to request that information on this point should be furnished without delay.

Another point on which the department desires information is, what amount of means of transportation for such an expedition can be furnished at New Orleans, Mobile, and in that quarter.

The expense of procuring transports from the Atlantic cities will be exorbitant. Freight is very high, and most of the good vessels are engaged for the ordinary purposes of commerce.”

It is important to bear in mind that you saw this letter on your first arrival at New Orleans. In writing to me from that place, December 21, you observe, "I have seen your letter (in the hands of Lieutenant Colonel Hunt) to the Quartermaster General, dated the 11th." You could not mistake its object, because it was clearly expressed. I asked distinctly, what means of transportation for the expedition can be furnished at New Orleans, &c., and referred to the expense and difficulty of procuring transports from the Atlantic cities. You could not, therefore, but know that my course as to sending ships in ballast from the north would be regulated by the Quartermaster General’s reply. While waiting for this information, and in order to prevent delay, and be sure not to deserve the imputation you now cast upon me, I issued the order of the 15th of December, to which you refer, knowing that it could be modified and conformed to the exigencies of the service, according to the answer which I should receive from General Jesup. His reply is dated the 27th of December, and in it he says:

"Transportation can be provided here for all the troops that may be drawn from the army under the command of Gen. Taylor, and for all the ordnance, ordnance stores, and other supplies, which may be drawn either from this depot (the Brazos) or from New Orleans. The public transports—I mean those owned by the U. States—that can be spared for the contemplated operations, it is estimated, will carry three thousand men with all their supplies. Vessels can be charted on favorable terms for any additional transportation that may be required."

This letter was submitted to and read by you, as appears from your endorsement thereon.

After referring to some other matter sin the letter, you conclude your endorsement as follows:

"I recommend that Brevet Major General Jesup’s suggestions be adopted.” This fact shows that the letter received
your particular attention. When this letter (which you knew was forwarded to the department) was here received—showing that your apprehended difficulty in obtaining sufficient transportation at the south was unfounded, and that it could be provided in that quarter in great abundance on favorable terms—my order of the 15th of December, so far, and only so far as it related to sending out vessels in ballast, was countermanded. It is strange, indeed, that, after you were made acquainted with the object of my inquiries and General Jesup’s letter in reply to them, you should have looked for transport vessels in ballast from the Atlantic cities, and still more strange that their non-arrival should be the proof you rely on to convict me of having neglected my duty in this instance. If, in truth, you delayed the expedition nearly two months for these transports, I am blameless. The responsibility is in another quarter. It cannot be said that this statement as to the sufficiency of transports to be obtained at the south had an implied reference to what I ordered from the Atlantic cities, for my order was then unknown to yourself and the Quartermaster General. You first received a copy of it several days after the date of General Jesup’s letter to me, and of your endorsement thereon. [See your letter to me of the 12th January.] Resisted as you were by “head winds,” enveloped in “frightful northerns,” and oppressed with complicated and perplexing duties in arranging and preparing the expedition against Vera Cruz, some temporary bewilderment may be excused; but, to charge the War Department with your own misapprehensions and mistakes, is inexcusable.

[Remainder in to-morrow’s paper.]

The Whig papers of Richmond and elsewhere have expended much sympathy on the “persecuted” Scott—and have as freely poured out their abuse upon the Administration for its (alleged) “efforts to crush him.” Will these Whig papers publish Gen. Scott’s late “indignation” letter containing a list of all his grievances, all the counts of his long bill of indictment against the Administration—and publish, at the same time, Secretary Marcy’s reply thereto, —that their readers may see both sides of the question? We shall see. ONF, Who thinks Gov. Marcy ought to be prosecuted under the law against cruel punishments.

Cassius M. Clay, denies in toto, the story of his having represented himself to the Mexicans to be a relation of Henry Clay’s. He says: “I have never claimed kinship with Mr. Clay! It was he who claimed, in his Greeley letter, ‘relationship’ to me!”

Let Cassius rest now!

We presume that Gen. Taylor had seen Mr. Clay’s letter written on the 11th April (nine days before the Baldwin or Gallaher letter,) for lightning and telegraph dispatches travel quicker than thought, and the steam in the West is hard to beat—we choose, therefore, to consider the old soldier’s first letter not so much an answer to the letter of Messrs. Baldwin and Gallaher, as a response to Mr. Clay’s letter. It comes so apropos, and is so much an answer, that, if it is not, it ought to be. Mr. Clay informed the “Public” at large and Gen. Taylor indirectly in particular, that he (Mr. Clay) would get New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio, and “that no candidate can be elected, without the concurrence of two of these three States and none could be defeated, upon whom all of them should be united.” Gen. Taylor, as plainly as a man can indirectly speak, says in his turn: “My dear Mr. Clay, I am sorry for your great desire to obtain the nomination for the Presidency, destined as you are, I fear, to a terrible disappoint. I regret to perceive your anxiety to frighten me from my propriety, but I must inform you, dear Harry, that ’t has not been my intention, at any moment, to change my position, or to withdraw my name from the canvass, whoever may be the nominee of the National Convention, wither of the Whig or Democratic party.” Mr. Clay assures “the Public,” and thus gives General Taylor delicately to understand “that at no former period did there exist so great a probability of my election, if I would consent to the use of my name,” and then with this great probability before him, he gives his reluctant consent. But oh the hopes, the high hopes of the effect that his letter was to have upon his dear friend Old
Zac—upon him who acknowledged, in the face of day, that he would have voted for Mr. Clay at the last election against all others! And why not vote for him now, when the probability of his election is greater than at any former period? Hopes—alas, faded, blighted never to revive! General Taylor, after Mr. Clay's own fashion, writes to Messrs. Baldwin and Gallaher in general, but indirectly to Mr. Clay in particular, and gently says,

"I do not design to withdraw my name if Mr. Clay be the nominee of the Whig National Convention, and in this connexion I beg permission to remark, that the statements which have been so positively made in some of the Northern prints to this effect, 'that should Mr. Clay be the nominee of the Whig National Convention,' I had stated, 'that I would not suffer my name to be used,' are not correct, and have no foundation in any oral or written remark of mine." (Perfectly cool and calm!) "I beg permission to remark to you." My dear Harry, that notwithstanding New York, and Pennsylvania, and Ohio, are certain to vote for you, there are twenty-six other States in this Union that may possibly vote for me. I beg permission also to add, that notwithstanding you have given a reluctant consent to the use of your name, and so invitingly insinuate your desire that I should withdraw, "O shall maintain the position of independence of all parties in which the people and my own sense of duty has placed me." Then, my friend, if you desire to retain the integrity of the Whig party, you can retire; for I am still sitting upon "Old Whitey," surveying the battle-field, and I beg permission to inform you that it is not the first time in my life that I have seen lightning, and heard thunder. Yours to command," &c.

But other views crowd upon us, while reading these last letters from Baton Rouge. Our friends of the Republican have seen fit to publish their new edition of the Whig Catechism, and we desire to see how all the reluctant aspirants of the Whig and "no party" parties will pass through the ordeal. How admirably the Old General stands the drill! We premise in the first place, by way of parenthesis, a single question to the Editors of the Republican; and ask, if they have given to the public the whole of their own letter to which General Taylor's is a reply? We desire to know all the points. Their letter seems to be an extract, without the usual address, date &c., and begins rather abruptly. But thus by the way. Now, attend to the fugleman. "Will you refuse the nomination of a Whig National Convention?" To understand the evolution expected to be performed, we must remember that the Catechumen has repeatedly answered before the world, "yes, and by God's help so I will; whether it be from a Whig Convention, or a Democratic Convention, or a Native Convention, or a spontaneous assemblage of all the people, or an unanimous meeting of every body in all creation." Why ask the same question again? A great deal depends upon the tone of the Catechist—upon the emphasis. "Will you refuse the nomination of a WhIG Convention? [. . . ]-nention, my dear General, imbued with—(said insinuatingly,) with Whig principles; with—(said with a wink of the eye,) with Whig schemes; with—(said with a winning smile,) with a love for Whig men, and an intention to give them snug little fat Whig offices? Now, General, look like a soldier, and speak like a man."

Answer—"If nominated by the Whig National Convention, I shall not refuse acceptance; PROVIDED I am left free of all pledges, and permitted to maintain the position of independence of all parties in which the people and my own sense of duty have placed me: OTHERWISE, I shall refuse the nomination of any Convention or Party." I understand your winks and smiles and nods, and I know you to be "insinivating young gentlemen; but," [said with an emphasis,] "if elected, I would endeavor to act independent of party domination. I should feel bound to administer the government untrammeled by party schemes."

**Catechist**—My dear General, listen to us; we belong, you know, to the "no-party" party. 'Tis true, we are Whigs, [and one of us was a Secretary of the late Whig Convention, and is now published to the world as a member of the Whig Central Committee of Virginia]—'tis true, we have been as bitter as Whigs, as hot as Whigs, as can be found; but we are now no longer "ultra;" we are now sweet, gentle Whigs, and perhaps we may say, cold Whigs just now; but if we can only succeed in electing you, we will warm up again, and become "every inch a Whig." WE do not desire you to make pledges, except one pledge. We have seen enough to satisfy us that Mr. Clay is to be a candidate, and we are afraid that you will retire—we beg you, then, to answer one other question. WE shall ask you others but they will be of no account. This one, though, we wish you to answer right up and down, outright and downright. "Do you design to withdraw if Henry Clay or any other man shall be the candidate?" Attend to the fugleman. "I do not design to withdraw my name if Mr. Clay be the nominee of the Whig National Convention, or to withdraw my name from the canvass, whoever may be the nominee of the National Convention, wither of the Whig or Democratic party." Answered like a man. That's the position of a soldier. Head erect—eyes to the front—shoulders square, &c., &c.

**Catechist.**—But, my dear General, there are many principles we have battled for these many years; but we do not desire your opinions upon these at this moment, while at the same time it is desirable to appear to wish you to give them.—For God's sake, however, don't step an inch to the right or left. We will put the questions right—there is no cross-examination. All you are expected to do is answer the questions asked—but be cautious—be wary—"Have you stated that you are in favor of the Tariff of '46, the Sub Treasury; that you originated the war, and should select your Cabinet from both parties?" We do not ask you, if you are in favor of the Tariff of '42. We would not have you suppose, that we ask if you are in favor of any Tariff. For the sake of our party—we beg pardon—we mean of our no-party, do not say what you are in favor of. We ask, "Have you stated that you are" &c. We do not ask if you are in favor or opposed to the Sub-Treasury, or any treasury, or any plan for carrying on the financial operations of the government—whether you have examined whether any scheme for this purpose is in accordance with the Constitution—whether, if this particular scheme be wrong, a better can be devised—but, (again said most insinuatingly with a little nod of the head,) "Have you stated, that you are in favor of the Sub-Treasury?" We do not ask you—and we beg you to attend to this point, my dear General—whether the was is just or unjust—whether it could have been avoided—whether Mexico did not force it upon us—whether you advised the advance of the troops as a precautionary measure against the avowed intention of the Mexicans to reconquer and retake the whole of Texas, and whether that advance was not the cause of the war—whether you would prosecute it; if Mexico still refuses peace—whether we should not obtain some indemnity. But listen now: "Did you ever state that you"—of your own will—moved and instigated by the devil and your desire for blood and carnage, solely "originated the
and popular man; but all this could avail nothing against his Taylorism! The facts speak for themselves.

In 1844, this district gave Clay 1125 votes, and now, Dr. Thornton, a Taylor man, receives only 161! Great change!—Rappahannock (his own county) 115; Greene 22; Orange 111; Madison 44. Total—904.

H. Shackleford—Democrat, Culpeper 588; Rappahannock 144, Greene 17; Orange 111; Madison 44. Total 904.

Thomas Davis, Democrat, Greene 260; Orange 167; Rappahannock 32; Culpeper 22; Madison 276. Total—757.

W. Ship, Democrat—Madison 223; Greene 53; Orange 162; Rappahannock 209; Culpeper 88; Total—735.

Dr. P. Thornton, Taylorite—Rappahannock (his own county) 115; Greene 21; Orange (Gen. Taylor's own county!) only 21; Culpeper 28; Madison 14—Total 161!

In 1844, this district gave Clay 1125 votes, and now, Dr. Thornton, a Taylor man, per se, receives only 161! Great is the strength of Taylorism, truly! Even the Whigs (to the number of 964) refused to vote for the candidate exclusively in favor of the nominee of the Whigs of Virginia. “Our friend, the Doctor, is a most agreeable gentleman and popular man; but all this could avail nothing against his Taylorism! The facts speak for themselves.
HEADQUARTERS, SALTILLO, MEXICO. April 2d, 1848.

My dear friend: I have but a moment to say that I have just received an express from Ge. Price’s column, announcing the pleasing intelligence that Gen. Trias, with all his forces, has surrendered to our arms. Gen. Price entered Chihuahua on the 9th of March, and immediately gave pursuit to the enemy, whom he overtook at Santa Cruz de Rosalio, a strongly situated town some sixty miles South of Chihuahua, on the 16th. The place was invested, and after fighting all day, the plaza and church were nearly attained by burrowing through the houses, when the enemy surrendered. Our loss was one Lieutenant, two non-commissioned officers, and 12 privates—the enemy’s loss is 300 and odd killed and 72 wounded, his whole force [800,] all his artillery, [12 pieces,] 2,000 stand of arms, some 800,000 dollars worth of public property, many field officers, and General Trias at their head. Col. Ralls’ command on one side, and Col. Lane’s on the other, acted most heroically, and took the place.

My letter from Col. Ralls is dated March 22d.

I am, in haste, your, &c.,

JNO. F. HAMTRAMCK, Col. Com’g, &c.

Rob. H. Gallaher, Esq.

WASHINGTON, SATURDAY, APRIL 29—P.M.

U. S. SENATE.

A message in writing was received from the President of the United States, recommending that aid and comfort should be extended to the people of the peninsula of Yucatan, by the Government of the United States.

Mr. Hannegan moved to refer the message to the committee on Foreign Relations. Mr. Calhoun addressed the Senate on the subject of the message and its reference. He regarded the aid proposed to be extended to Yucatan, as a dangerous interference on our part with the internal affairs of neighboring nations.

The sad intelligence having been communicated to the Senate, that Senator Ashley was supposed to be dying, on motion, the Senate adjourned.

[Mr. Ashley has since died, at his lodgings in this city. He had been indisposed for some time.]

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House has been engaged the entire day in discussing the message of the President, relative to affording succor to Yucatan. The message was finally referred to the committee on Foreign Relations; and the House then adjourned.

Monday, May 1, 1848. SENATE.

As soon as the Senate was called to order, the death of Mr. Ashley, Senator from Arkansas, was announced in eloquent terms by Messrs. Borland and Breese, and after the adoption of the usual resolutions for mourning and attending the funeral, which takes place to­morrow, the Senates adjourned.

In the House nothing of importance was done, except to adopt the resolutions of the Senate in regard to the death of Mr. Ashley, which was feelingly announced by Mr. Johnson, of Arkansas, when the House adjourned.

Tuesday, May 2. SENATE.

The Senate transacted no business to­day—Shortly before 12 o’clock, the Committee of Arrangements and Pall­Bearers, with the coffin containing the body of the deceased Senator Ashley, beautifully decorated with flowers, entered the Chamber, followed by the Senator and Representative of Arkansas, the widow, daughter, and personal friends of the deceased. The President and Private Secretary, with Messrs. Buchanan, Walker, and Marcy, entered immediately afterwards, and were soon followed by the members of the House of Representatives.
There were also present several officers of the army and navy, members of the corps diplomatique, and other distinguished gentlemen; but the number of spectators in the galleries and lobbies, owing to the state of the weather, was not so large as is usual when the last honors are paid at the Capitol to distinguished men of the nation.

The services commenced with an impressive and eloquent prayer by Rev. Mr. Gurley. The funeral discourse was delivered by Rev. Mr. Slicer, 1. Peter, 24th and 25th verses: "For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of the grass: the grass withereth, and the flower of the grass fadeth away; but the Word of the Lord endureth forever."

The Reverend Speaker commenced with an allusion to the fact that within the short period of eighteen months, Death had six times visited that Chamber. Heaven thus demonstrating not only the mortality of public men, but the facility with which that mortality reaches even the most elevated. The only fact stated in the course of the discourse, which has not already been published, was that the last words of Mr. Ashley, to those who surrounded his bed of death, was—"Pray for your country, and prepare to meet me in Heaven."

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 12 o’clock, and the journal was read, when the members proceeded to the Senate Chamber to attend the funeral of Mr. Ashley.

[The remains of Mr. Ashley were deposited in the receiving vault at the Congressional Burying Ground. His remains it is understood, will not be removed to Arkansas, and the National Cemetery will be his final resting place.] [BWP]

Re45i1p4c4, May 5, 1848, Later from Santa Fe.

[Telegraphed for the Baltimore Sun.] PITTSBURG, MAY 1ST, 1848.

Advices have been received at St. Louis, by an arrival from the far West, which contain accounts from El Paso to the 3d ult., and Santa Fe to a corresponding later date. General Price had finally marched for Chihuahua, with his whole disposable force, in fine order and spirits, and eager to meet the enemy, who were reported to have mustered in strong numbers, to oppose their entry into the capital of the State. At Santa Fe there were indications of another attempt at insurrection, the Mexican population daily becoming more insolent, and appearing disposed to take advantage of the absence of General Price, with his command. Precautionary measures had been taken to suppress any emeute.

Intelligence for Iowa, received at St. Louis, has settled the question of the contested election in that State. It is ascertained from the returns, that Harleu, Whig, has been elected Superintendent of Instruction by 76 majority, over Thomas H. Benton, Jr., the candidate of the opposite party. This sets at rest the rumors that have been floating about in favor of each. [BWP]

Re45i1p4c4, May 5, 1848, Pass it Round.

'God knows, that man does not love, never did nor never will, whom we would prefer for the Presidency to Henry Clay, but at the same time we are not willing to put him up again as a target at which boobies may discharge their splatter guns at pleasure, nor are we willing to see him in a position where he can be chatted at, and grinned at, by satyrs and monkeys.’ [Abingdon Virginian, (Taylor Whig.)] [BWP]

Re45i1p4c4, May 5, 1848, No title.

Here is a specimen of Whig "decency" the Democracy would do well to consider.—Against the political course of Mr. Clay these Democratic "boobies," "satyrs" and "monkeys" must not open their mouths, they are not fit to vote against him, but at the same time the editor of the Virginian is endeavoring to cajole these "boobies," and "satyrs" and "monkeys" into the support of Gen. Taylor. We ask the Democrats to lay this paragraph by, and when asked to support Gen. Taylor, show it, to prove how their intelligence is estimated. [BWP]

Re45i1p4c5, May 5, 1848, More Taylor Letters.
We regret that our enterprising neighbors of the Republican had not brought out earlier their important missive from General Taylor; for its novelty and freshness did not last long, the Southern mail bringing, in the New Orleans Picayune and Bulletin, another (and we presume the last) letter from Old Zac to his brother-in-law, Captain Allison, two days later. We give them out as "studies" for the ingenuity and speculations of our readers. As we cannot digest in one day two letters from the old soldier, we are induced to defer our comments. The Republican, with an air of triumph, says that the old hero's position is now "above even the cavil of the most suspicious," and that "those who desired General Taylor to 'come out,' will no longer have an opportunity for so much as a quibble."—"Come out!" The Republican might better have said, in the language of a Whig yesterday, General T. "has knocked the Whig party into a cocked hat." Great as was the dismay which Henry Clay's last pronunciamento produced in the Whig camp, this double battery from Baton Rouge has excited even a more volcanic explosion among "the Whigs of Virginia." Even some of his former zealous supporters cannot tolerate his determination to set himself above and beyond the Whig party. If his letters mean anything, they unequivocally declare that he is and will continue a candidate, in defiance of all Conventions, Whig or democratic—and he seems to take particular pains to indicate that even the great name of Henry Clay, should he be nominated, has no terrors for the: "Thunder of Buena vista," who means to stand firmly in the field, regardless of all consequences, in defiance of all parties and politicians. Here's truly "a pretty kettle of fish" for the great Whig party! What will they do now? Will they "disband" at once, scatter all "regular" organization to the winds, "surrender" their much praised and highly cherished Convention at the bidding of old Zac, and, as the Republican intimates, rally as "volunteers" around the independent no-party candidate? To this complexion has it come at last: the Whigs must abandon old Zac or their Convention and party organization! Truly, has he "come out," but in a far different manner from what the Whigs had hoped for. This Taylorism will, as we predicted, prove the death of the Whig party. "Disorganization" has struck deep into its vitals and the malady must spread.

But while this single position is clear, viz—that he will be a candidate at all events, we have looked in vain to these last expositions, to ascertain what are the political sentiments of gen. Taylor. Is he for or against a Bank, Protective Tariff and Sub-Treasury; or does he believe them to be "obsolete"? Does he or not advocate the justice of the war, or territorial indemnity? We challenge any one to point to any passages in his two letters which shed any light on these questions. True, he thinks that they should be left to the omnipotence of Congress; but he does not tell us what his own opinions are, or what policy the interest of the country should pursue. He is willing to be President, and register the edicts of congress, scrupulously taking care to have no opinions of his own, save that he believes in the policy of the "earlier Presidents"—not, however, informing us whether he refers to Adams or Jefferson, whose principles were directly antagonistic.

But we had no idea of saying so much at present, but simply to call attention to the two letters. We shall resume our comments at some length. In the mean time we wish the Whigs joy of their independent, no-party candidate.

[From the Richmond Republican, May 2]

Annexed is the answer of Gen. Taylor to a letter from us, propounding the following inquiries:

"It has been stated in some of the papers in a most positive manner, that you have said, if Henry Clay be the nominee of the Whig National Convention, you will not suffer your name to be used a candidate.

"It has been also stated, lately, that, in recent conversations, you have declared that you are in favor of the Tariff of '46, of the Sub-treasury, of the war—that in fact the responsibility of the war belongs to you—also, that, if elected President, you will choose your Cabinet from both parties.

"W respectfully solicit an answer to the following questions:

"1. Will you refuse the nomination of a Whig National Convention?

"2. Do you design to withdraw if Henry Clay or any other man shall be the candidate?

"3. Have you stated that you are in favor of the Tariff of '46, the Sub-Treasury, that you originated the war, and should select your Cabinet from both parties?"

The following is Gen. Taylor's reply:

BATON ROUGE, LA., April 20, 1848.

Dear Sir: Your letter of the 10th instant, which alludes to certain statements that have recently been made in some of the papers at the North, and which submits several inquiries for my consideration, has been received.

To your inquiries I have respectfully to reply:

First —That if nominated by the Whig National Convention, I shall not refuse acceptance, provided I am left free of all pledges, and permitted to maintain the position of independence of all parties in which the people and my own sense of duty have placed me—otherwise I shall refuse the nomination of any convention or party.
Secondly —I do not design to withdraw my name if Mr. Clay be the nominee of the Whig National Convention—and, in this connexion, I beg permission to remark that the statements which have been so positively made in some of the Northern prints, to the effect "that should Mr. Clay be the nominee of the Whig National Convention, "I had stated" that I would not suffer my name to be used, "are not correct, and have no foundation in any oral or written remark of mine. It has not been my intention, at any moment, to change my position—or to withdraw my name form the canvass, whoever may be the nominee of the National Convention, either of the Whig or Democratic party.

Thirdly —I have never stated to any one that I was in favor of the Tariff of '46—of the Sub-Treasury, nor that I originated the war with Mexico. Nor, finally, that I should (if elected) select my cabinet from both parties. No such admissions or statements were made by me, at any time, to any person.

Permit me, however, to add that should such high distinction be conferred upon me as that of elevation to the Executive Office, the Constitution, in a strict and honest interpretation, and in the spirit and mode in which it was acted upon by our earlier Presidents, would be my chief guide. In this, I conceive to be all that is necessary in the way of pledges.

The election of another candidate would occasion mortification to me, but to such a result, as the will of the people, I should willingly and calmly submit. As I have had no ambition to serve, but in the desire to serve the country, it would bring to me no disappointment. With sentiments of high respect and regard, I remain, Your most ob't servant, Z. TAYLOR.

[To] O. P. Baldwin, Esq., or Ro. H. Gallaher, Esq., Editors of Richmond Republican, Richmond Virginia. [From the New Orleans Picayune.] BATON ROUGE. April 22, 1848.

Dear Sir—My opinions have recently been so often misconceived and misrepresented, that I deem it due to myself, if not to my friends, to make a brief exposition of them upon the topics to which you have called my attention.

I have consented to the use of my name as a candidate for the Presidency. I have frankly avowed my own distrust of my fitness for that high station; but having, at the solicitation of many of my countrymen, taken my position as a candidate, I do not feel at liberty to surrender that position until my friends manifest a wish that I should retire from it. I will then most gladly do so. I have no private purposes to accomplish, no party projects to build up, no enemies to punish—nothing to serve but my country.

I have been very often addressed by letter, and my opinions have been asked upon almost every question that might occur to the writers as affecting the interests of their country or their party.—I have not always responded to these inquiries, for various reasons.

I confess, whilst I have great cardinal principles which will regulate my political life, I am not sufficiently familiar with all the minute details of political legislation, to give solemn pledges to exert my influence, if I were President, to carry out this or defeat that measure. I have no concealment, I hold no opinion which I would not readily proclaim to my assembled countrymen; but crude impressions upon matters of policy, which may be right to-day and wrong to-morrow, are, perhaps, not the best test of fitness for office. One who cannot be trusted without pledges cannot be confided in merely on account of them.

I will proceed, however, now to respond to your inquiries.

First. —I reiterate what I have often said—I am a Whig, but not an ultra Whig. If elected, I would not be the mere President of a party. I would endeavor to act independent of party domination. I should feel bound to administer the Government, untrammeled by party schemes.

Second. —The veto power. The power given by the constitution to the Executive to interpose his veto is a high conservative power; but, in my opinion, should never be except in cases of clear violation of the constitution, or manifest haste and want of consideration by Congress. Indeed, I have thought that, for many years past, the known opinions and wishes of the Executive have exercised undue and injurious influence upon the legislative department of the Government; and for this cause I have thought our system was in danger of undergoing a great change from its true theory. The Personal opinions of the individual, who may happen to occupy the Executive chair, ought not to control the action of Congress upon questions of domestic policy; nor ought his objections to be interposed where questions of constitutional power have been settled by the various departments of Government, and acquiesced by the people.

Third. —Upon the subject of the tariff, the currency, the improvement of our great highways, rivers, lakes and harbors, the will of the people, as expressed through their Representatives in Congress, ought to be respected and carried out by the Executive.

Fourth. —The Mexican war. I sincerely rejoice at the prospect of peace. My life has been devoted to arms, yet I look upon war at all times and under all circumstances as a national calamity, to be avoided if compatible with national honor. The principles of our Government as well as its true policy are opposed to the subjugation of other nations and the dismemberment of other countries by conquest. In the language of the great Washington, "Why should we quit our own to stand on foreign ground?" In the Mexican war our national honor has been vindicated, amply vindicated, and in dictating terms of peace we may well afford to be forbearing and even magnanimous to our fallen foe.
My reply to your accusations forces me to expose some of your misstatements of fact. You allege that the expedition, for the want of the "ten vessels," was delayed from the 15th of January to the 9th of March. You certainly mean to be understood, that, on the 15th of January, your troops were ready to embark, and were delayed for want of these transports. But this was not so; and I am indebted to you for most abundant proof to establish your inaccuracy. The great body of your troops for the expedition was drawn from Gen. Taylor's command at Monterey and in the interior of Mexico; and no part of them had reached either the Brazos or Tampico—the points of embarkation—on the 15th of January. In your letter of the 12th of that month, to General Brooke, at New Orleans, you said: "I have now to state that it is probable the troops I have called for from Gen. Taylor's immediate command to embark here (the Brazos) and at Tampico, will not reach those points till late in the present month, (January,) say about the 25th." In a letter to me of the 26th of January, you remark that Gen. Butler responded to your call for the troops with the utmost promptitude, and that Gen. Worth made an admirable movement.—"The head of his division arrived with him a mouth of the Rio Grande the day before yesterday" (24th January.) When the remainder came up is not stated; yet one of your "naked historical facts" places the whole command at the points of embarkation waiting for the "ten vessels" at least nine days before the actual arrival of any part of them. But if they had been there, why should they have been detained for these vessels? In the same letter—written but two days after the arrival of the head of the first division, and probably before the other troops had come up—you say that "the Quartermaster, (Brevet major General Jesup, at New Orleans,) I find, has taken all proper measures with judgment and promptitude to provide everything depending on his department for the dispatch and success of my expedition." If more was wanted, cumulative proof might be drawn from the same source—your own correspondence—to show not only that this charge against me has no foundation in truth, but that you can have no apology for having preferred it.

After showing how unfortunate you have been in your specific charges, I may with propriety meet those of a general and sweeping character with a less particular detail of proofs to show their groundlessness.

Though the "ten vessels" were not, for the very sufficient reasons I have assigned, sent out in ballast from the Atlantic cities; yet a very large number were sent thence with stores, supplies, and troops, to co-operate in the expedition.

In Genera[l] Jesup's letter to me of the 17th instant, a copy of which is sent herewith, he states that fifty-three ships, barques, brigs, and schooners, were sent from the north, and the department actually furnished at New Orleans, Brazos, and Tampico, for the army, before it took up the line of March into the interior, one hundred and sixty-three vessels.

I have alluded to the large number of surf boats, and the great difficulty of procuring them, as the cause of the delay in their arrival. I have also a similar reason to offer in reply to your complaint for not having seasonable received the siege train and ordnance supplies. The delay is to be ascribed to the enormously large outfit you requested. If it was necessary, and dispatch was used in procuring it, no one is in fault. If too large, you certainly should not regard as a reprehensible delay the time necessarily taken up in preparing it. To show that it was large, and required much time to procure it, I will select from many a single item. You demanded from eighty to one hundred thousand ten-inch shells, and forty or fifty mortars of like caliber. This enormous quantity of shells—about four thousand tons—was mostly to be manufactured after you left Washington. All the furnaces in the country, willing to engage in the business, were set to work; but, with the utmost diligence and dispatch, the supply of this one article, or even two-thirds of it, having to

Be manufactured and transported to the seaboard from the furnaces, (located in most instances in the interior of the country) at a season of the year when water communications were obstructed by ice, could not be ready to be sent forward to you in many months after your departure from Washington. Had your requisitions been moderate—and undoubtedly more moderate ones would have sufficed—they could have been furnished at a much earlier period.

The memorandum which you left "for the siege train and ammunition therefore," was submitted to me by the Ordnance Department, on the 26th of November, with an intimation that it could not be complied with in season for
the expedition to go forward as early as you had contemplated. I endorsed upon it, "comply with the above as far as practicable;" and this order, I am satisfied, after full examination, was faithfully executed.

What could be done at Washington, was promptly done. You had with you the Quartermaster General, with all the means at the command of the War Department, and with unrestricted authority to do whatever you might require. He was under your supervision, and subject to your orders, able and willing to execute them. You have never intimated that he, in any respect, failed in his duty; but on the contrary, you have spoken in highly commendatory terms of his efficient services.

I have already quoted your acknowledgment that he had taken all proper measures with judgment and promptitude to provide everything depending on his department for the dispatch and success of your expedition. In an issue of fact between you and the head of the War Department, his testimony, next to your own confession, is the best that can be offered to correct your misstatements and to refute your charges.

In his letter to me of the 2d January, 1847, he says: "Gen. Scott left for the interior on the 29th ult., and I am taking active measures to have everything depending upon me ready for his operations. The quartermaster's department, I find, is called upon to do a great deal that should be done by other branches of the staff. So far as Gen. Scott's operations go, I shall have everything done that is necessary, whether it belongs to my department or to other departments to do it."

You had with you, and subject to your orders, not only the Quartermaster General, but officers of the other staff departments. They did not look to the War Department, but to yourself, for directions; and it was your duty, and not mine, to see that your requirements were complied with. That they were so, to the utmost practicable extent, I have no reason to doubt; but if they were not, the fault, if any, is not with the War Department. You also gave the instructions in relation to providing the means of land transportation, and the officers charged with that duty were under your immediate control; and if there is blame anywhere for any deficiency in this respect, it cannot be imputed to the War Department.—Your whole correspondence with me, and the staff officers with you, shows that you very properly took upon yourself the whole charge of giving directions in this matter. Ina letter to Captain Hetzel, senior quartermaster a the Brazos, speaking on this subject of the land transportation which may be needed after the descent on the enemy's coast near Vera Cruz, you say: "I have already discussed and arranged with you the detail of the early land transportation train; &c. On the 19th of March, you furnished General Jesup with your estimates and directions on this subject. The staff officers being with you, and under your orders, nothing further was, or properly could be, required or expected to emanate form Washington, beyond the supply of funds; and, this being done, if you were disappointed in not realizing your expectations, you have not a colorable pretense for imputing blame to "the head of the War Department."

As a just ground of complaint, and a matter of accusation, you refer to your deficiency of means to make the descent, and to capture the city of Vera Cruz and the castle of San Juan d'Ulloa, and assume that the extent of that deficiency was the difference between what you received and what you required. It would be quite as correct reasoning to say, that what you had having proved sufficient for the purpose, that difference showed the extent of the errors in your estimate. The truth lies, perhaps, between the two extremes,—You had less, probably, then you should have had, and you required much more than was necessary. That you did not have more, and, indeed, all you asked for, I have already shown was not the fault of the war Department.

Gen. Jesup was with you at Vera Cruz, saw your means, and is capable of forming an estimate of their sufficiency. He is, as his letter herewith shows, disposed to be just, and even generous to your fame. To his opinion on the subject, no well-founded exception can be taken. He says, in reference to your complaints on account of a deficient supply of surf-boats, siege train and ordnance stores: "The result shows that he (General Scott) had surf-boats and stores enough!"—And of the delay of which you complain, he fully exonerated the War Department, and ascribes the whole to yourself, and to unavoidable accidents. The imputation that you were designedly crippled in your means, is a charge as preposterous as it is unfounded.

I am aware that the execution of some of the many arrangements for the Vera Cruz expedition was obstructed and delayed by accidents, but they were such as common sagacity could not foresee, or human agency control. They were not, however, more than a considerate mind, bringing into view all the vast difficulties of the case, would have expected. When your complaints on this subject were first received here, evincing, as they did, that you intended to hold the department responsible for every untoward event, the heads of the several bureaus were called on by me to show how they had executed the duties which had been confided to them, particularly in regard to matters referred to by you. The evidence they presented of having done all that was required, or could have been expected, convinced me—and I venture to say that on a full examination, it will satisfy any mind open to conviction—that all your complaints, so far as they imputed blame to the War Department, or any of its branches, are unfounded. It will do much more—it will show that great industry, promptness, uncommon capacity, and extraordinary exertions, in relation to everything connected with the war, have characterized the action of each of these subordinate departments. As a commendation justly merited by these several branches of the department, assailed as they are indirectly by you, I see no good reason for withholding my opinion, that an instance cannot be found where so much has been done, and well done, in so short a time, by any similar body of officers under similar circumstances.

As you have, by implication, laid a heavy hand upon the bureau which is charged with the onerous duties of executing the laws and orders for raising and sending forward the recruits and levies, I feel bound to affirm that you have done to that branch of the public service the greatest in justice. No industry has been spared—no possible omitted—to raise the forces which were authorized, and to send them to their destination within the briefest practicable period.—The numerous orders issued from the Adjutant General's office, and its voluminous
You have pressed with unwonted zeal the charge in relation to diverting the detachments of the new regiments under Gen. Cadwalader's command to the Brazos, and have indulged in the wildest speculations as to the sad consequences which attended this imputed error. Assuming that my orders diverted these troops, or any others,[an assertion which I shall controvert hereafter,] the circumstances justifies the measure. The critical condition of gen. Taylor, according to all received here at that time, is stated in my letter to you of the 22d of March. To show that the department acted properly, though it incurred your reproof, it is necessary to recall the facts as they then appeared here. They are presented in the following extracts from that letter:

"The information which has just reached us in the shape of rumors, as to the situation of gen. Taylor, and the forces under his command, has excited the most painful apprehensions for their safety. It is almost certain that Santa Anna has precipitated the large army he had collected at San Luis de Potosi upon Gen. Taylor; and it may be that the General has not been able to maintain the advanced position he had seen fit to take at Agua Nueva, but had been obliged to fall back on Monterey. It is equally certain that a Mexican force had been interposed between Monterey and the Rio Grande, and that it had interrupted the line of communication between the two places, and seized large supplies which were on the way to Gen. Taylor's army.

"If the hostile force between the Rio Grande and General Taylor's army is as large as report represents it, our troops now on that river may not be able to re-establish the line, nor will it, perhaps, be possible to place a force there sufficient for the purpose, in time to prevent disastrous consequences to our army, unless aid can be afforded from the troops under your immediate command.

"From one to two thousand of the new recruits for the ten regiments, for this quarter, will be on the way to the Brazos, in the course of three or four days. All the other forces will be directed to that point, and every effort made to relieve General Taylor from his critical situation. You will have been fully apprized before this can reach you of the condition of things in the valley of the Rio Grande, and at the Headquarters of General Taylor, and have taken, I trust, such measures as the importance of the subject requires. I need not urge upon you the fatal consequences which would result from any serious disaster which might befall the army under Gen. Taylor, nor do I doubt that you will do what is in your power to avert such a calamity."

The course pursued by the War Department on that occasion, which you convert into a charge, must, on revision, I think, commend itself to general approbation. Had it been indifferent to the alarming condition of General Taylor's army, and forborne to use, a the earliest moment, the most energetic measures, to guard against the fatal consequences of its defeat, then too probable, it would have deserved an arraignment as severe as that which you have made against it for having done its duty in that critical emergency. When you first received the reasons assigned for the course adopted here, they appear to have been satisfactory. In your dispatch on the 28th of April, you say: "Yesterday I learned, by your letter of the 22d, and the Adjutant General's of the 26th ult., that all the recruits of the regiments—some 3,000—raised or likely to be raised in time for this army, have been ordered to the Rio Grande." You did not then intimate the slightest dissatisfaction—not even a premonitory symptom of that deep distress with which, instantly on Mr. Trist's arrival in Mexico, you represent yourself to have been seized. It is a coincidence not unworthy of notice, that the letter containing your first commendatory remark on this subject was written on the day of the date of Mr. Trist's first note to you, and only the day before your captious reply to it; and in both you assail the War Department. Your withering disappointments seem to have slumbered for ten days, and then to have been aroused by the appearance of Mr. Trist in Mexico, and your quarrel with him. If the order from the War Department had in fact "diverted" the forces with general Cadwalader, still it was fully justified by the threatening aspects of affairs on the Rio Grande; but I am quite sure it did not divert them. No previous order form the department had designated any other place of rendezvous than the Brazos for the troops that were to join your column. It was well understood, before you left Washington, that all the troops for both armies were to be sent to that place, and there to fall under your command.

This arrangement was not, nor was it expected that it would be here changed, until you had penetrated so far into the enemy's country as to render your communications with that place of general rendezvous difficult and dilatory.

You also complain that the order was not countermanded. If there had been such an order and it had been countermanded, what would have been the consequences? The troops would have gone forward from the Untied States under the former orders of the department, which would have taken them to the same place.

You allege that "the news of the victory of Buena Vista reached Washington in time to countermand Cadwalader's orders for the Rio Grande before his departure from N. Orleans." I notice this specification of neglect of my duty, to show the extent to which you have carried your fault-finding, and the industry with which you have searched for occasions to indulge it.

Your assumption is, that the news of the victory of Buena Vista should have satisfied the War Department that Cadwalader's forces were not needed on the Rio Grande; and the omission to countermand, as soon as that news was received, the orders to send them there, was a neglect deserving severe animadversion. How did you act under similar circumstances? With better means of information as to the actual condition of the Rio Grande frontier, after the victory of Buena vista, you did not deem it prudent, after being forty-one days in possession of the news of that victory, to issue positive orders to remove a single man from that frontier; yet you venture to censure me for not having sent the troops away the moment the news reached Washington.
You received information of that victory on or before the 14th of March, for on that day you proclaimed it in orders to your army. On the 25th of April, more than forty days thereafter, you issued an order to the commanding officer at the Brazos to embark for Vera Cruz "such detachments of the new regiments as may have been ordered by the War Department to Point Isabel;” but you made it conditional with reference to the safety of the line of the Rio Grande; and said to that officer, that you relied upon his "sound judgment to determine on the spot whether that line would not be too much exposed by the withdrawal of the troops in question.”—Thus it appears that you do not hesitate to impute neglect of duty to me, for not having adopted and acted on the conclusion that the line of the Rio Grande was safe the moment I heard of the victory of Buena Vista; but, when acting on the same subject, you dared not adopt that conclusion, although you had been in possession of the same information forty-one days. Your own conduct in this matter completely refutes this charge of yours against the War department.—It does more: it shows how rash and inconsiderate you have been in selecting topics for attack.

But the most serious consequences are attributed to the long delay of these troops at the Brazos. For your sake, I sincerely hope these consequences are much exaggerated, because I am quite confident it will be shown that you alone are responsible for the delay. The War Department did not—and it was proper that it should not—issue any order in regard to the movement of these troops after their arrival in Mexico.—The order from the department of 30th of April, making a division of the new levies between the two columns, does not contradict this assertion, for these levies were then mostly within the United States; only portions of them had then reached Mexico. Until this order took effect, the troops at the Brazos, and, indeed, on the Rio Grande and with General Taylor, were under your entire and unrestricted command. As to this matter, you were under no misapprehension; for, on the 25th of April, before you were informed what had been done here to secure the Rio Grande line, you issued an order in relation to the troops at the Brazos. This place, you well knew, was the general rendezvous of the new levies from the United States, and before you sailed on your expedition to Vera Cruz you were notified that the Mexican army were advancing upon General Taylor. To have assumed that you had not left at the Brazos, with a view to meet any probable contingency, orders for the proper disposition of the troops which were, or might have been sent there, would have implied an opinion that you wanted suitable qualifications for the high station which had been assigned to you.

These troops were a part of your command, and subject to your orders; and if they remained one day at the Brazos after it was there known that they were not needed on the Rio Grande line, and would be serviceable with your column, the fault was entirely your own, and in no wise imputable to the War Department. If your opinion be not extravagant—and you say it is not—that but for the diversion of General Cadwalader’s forces from you, and the "much precious time" lost at the Brazos, you "might easily have taken this city [Mexico] in the month of June, and at one-fifth of the loss sustained in August and September,” you have indeed a most fearful account to settle with your country.

I cannot, however, regard your speculative opinions on this subject as fanciful and wild.—You greatly overestimate the force which landed at the Brazos and subsequently joined you.—from the best calculation which can be made from data in the Adjutant General’s office, the number was much less than you imagine, and did not probably exceed one thousand. As the refutation of your charge against the department for diverting these troops is in no wise impaired by the number, be it more or less, it is not important to inquire into that matter. But there is a question of serious import, to which I think the country will expect you to answer.

If these new levies, which had just entered the service, would have enabled you to capture the city of Mexico in June, with a comparative small loss, why did you, at the very time you discovered that they were so much needed, and would have been so useful, send away from your army three times as many volunteers, who had been many months in service, and were, as you acknowledge, "respectable in discipline and efficiency,” and who had distinguished themselves at Vera Cruz and Cerro Gordo, and, in the hour of peril, had fought by the side of your veteran troops, and merited an honorable share in the glory of those memorable conflicts? The period of their engagement had not expired. When thus sent away, but one of the seven regiments had less than thirty, and most of them had more than forty-five days to serve. According to your own opinion, concurred in by the department, they could have been legally retained on your line of operations till the last hour of their engagement. If not deemed expedient to take them on towards Mexico with you, their services, at that critical period, would have been of inestimable value in holding the post at . . . [illegible] and so unexpectedly abandoned—and in keeping open the communication between Vera Cruz and your headquarters, whereby supplies, munitions and recruits could be safely and expeditiously forwarded to you. Had this been done, you would have been spared the trouble of inditing many items of grievance and complaints against the War Department for having failed to furnish them. If you had retained the twelve months’ volunteers until the end of their agreement—and no sufficient reason has yet been shown for their premature discharge—you might, for a season at least, have received, without much obstruction, supplies from the main depot on the Gulf; the army might have been strengthened by reinforcements at an earlier period; and many of the revolting scenes of barbarity on the road from Vera Cruz to Jalap, in which so many lives of our fellow-citizens have been sacrificed by the ruthless guerilleros, would not have occurred.

Another and still more lamentable calamity is, I think, fairly to be ascribed to the early obstruction of this important line of communication. The brave and patriotic men who were hurried on to Mexico, in small detachments, in order to reinforce your army, were unexpectedly, but necessarily, detained at Vera Cruz until the numbers there collected there were sufficient to force their way through the strong guerilla bands which held the difficult passes on the Jalapa road.—While thus detained on this inhospitable coast, in the sickly season, they were exposed to the attacks of a wasting pestilence, more formidable, and, as it unfortunately proved, more destructive, than the Mexican army.

When the unwelcome news of the premature discharge of this large body of volunteers was received here, unaccompanied by any explanation to show the necessity of the act, it excited very general surprise and regret. Its consequences were at one foreseen; but the step had been taken, and could not be retracted. It was loudly
As early as June, you begged to be recalled.—You allege that this application was “rebukingly declined.” This is not a persecuted man. It; though in doing this, you may be deprived of much upon which you depend to sustain your claim to be considered denominate your dismissal, I may be obliged to strip it of the embellishments you have ingeniously thrown around. In presenting in its true light the President’s compliance with your own request to be recalled, which you now credit of the fulfillment of your own early prediction.

Your letter of the 25th of July, which was not received at Washington until the 30th of Dec’r last, abounds with recklessly put forth the groundless complaint of “a total want of support and sympathy” from it. This novel conception, so suddenly adopted, was as suddenly carried out; your army was, indeed, converted “into a self sustaining machine;” you discharged the twelve months’ volunteers, and broke up your posts at Jalapa, and on the way to your main depot, “resolved,” as you announced, “no longer to depend on Vera Cruz or home”—you put yourself beyond the reach of the supplies which had been provided by the government, and at Jalapa, and on the way to your main depot, “resolved,” as you announced, “no longer to depend on Vera Cruz or home”—you put yourself beyond the reach of the supplies which had been provided by the government, and rendered yourself, in a great measure, inaccessible to the recruits and levies (except in strong parties) which had been raised to augment your command. In this way, you rendered unavailing, for a time at least, all that had been or could be done by the assiduous and incessant labors of the War Department in all its branches; and then you recklessly put forth the groundless complaint of “a total want of support and sympathy” from it.

Your letter of the 25th of July, which was not received at Washington until the 30th of Dec’r last, abounds with complaints against the department, and refers in strong terms to the wants and sufferings of the army at that time. Before you ventured to make its then destitute condition a ground of charge against the War Department, you ought to have recollected that these afflictions fell upon it in the midst of your experiment of making it “a self sustaining machine”—and were the legitimate fruits of that experiment. These sufferings came upon it before your estimated period of isolation from “Vera Cruz and home” had necessarily abandoned both, and entered upon your self-sustaining position, “cut off from all supplies and reinforcements from home, until perhaps in late November,” by what pretense of justice do you complain of the War Department for the distresses you thus voluntarily inflicted upon yourself and the gallant army under your command? Something very different from censure and reproof is due for the extraordinary efforts which were successfully made to reach you with recruits and supplies in your sequestered situation, and to rescue you from the embarrassments in which your ill judged measures had involved you. I have brought into view this unaccountable movement of yours, with no purpose to make any comment upon it as a military measure, but solely to show that the evils resulting from it are not just grounds of accusation against the War Department, and that the labored attempt to pervert them to such a purpose discloses the manner and spirit with which you have executed the assumed task of its accuser.

As you have indulged in the widest range of speculation in regard to the alleged sinister motives and covert designs of others, I feel less reluctant to present my views as to the main object of your last communication. Throughout the whole of it, and particularly in the concluding part, you manifest the most solicitude to place yourself in the position of an injured and persecuted man. With all the aid you can derive from dextrous strategy, you will be likely to fail in your attempt, unless you can have the full benefit of your high coloring of some facts, and your forgetfulness of others, together with all your fanciful conjectures and surmises. Your recall is, you assert, the long suspended “blow of power,” which you had the sagacity clearly to predict. It is somewhat remarkable that your predictions preceded the events which you imagine provoked that blow. As early as the 25th of July, soon after the “happy change in my (your) relations, both official and private, with Mr. Trist,” you looked, you say, “to be dismissed from the service of my (your) country.” If your recall can be regarded as a dismissal, you are entitled to all the credit of the fulfillment of your own early prediction.

As early as June, you begged to be recalled.—You allege that this application was “rebukingly declined.” This is not
In conclusion, I may be permitted to state, that, as one of the President’s advisers, I had a full share in the immediate gratification of your wishes; but the President promised to act definitely on the question when that obstacle should be removed. Judging from the state of things at the headquarters of the army in January, he concluded that it was removed, and that he ought no longer to require of you reluctant service as commanding general. This certainly cannot be called persecution or punishment. I do not deem it proper to comment on the state of things at the headquarters of the army, to which illusion is made in the letter granting your request; nor to express an opinion as to the share of responsibility therefor, which rests upon yourself or others; that matter is, to a considerable extent, involved in the investigations before the court of inquiry, now sitting in Mexico. Your request to be recalled, thus ultimately granted, was prefaced with imaginary complaints, which could not be passed without notice, nor noticed without exposing their groundlessness. If the exposition has given offence, you can blame only yourself for introducing complaints so entirely unfounded.

The crowning outrage, as you regard it, is the simple fact that you, and “the three arrested officers,” “are all to be placed together before the same court—the innocent and the guilty—the accuser and the accused; the judge and his prisoners are dealt with alike.” “Most impartial justice!” you exclaim. And why is it not impartial justice? On what ground of right can you claim to have your case discriminated from theirs? It is true, you have assumed to be their judge, and have pronounced them guilty; and complain and repine that the laws of the country do not allow you, their accuser, to institute a court to register your decree. But you are not their rightful judge, although they were your prisoners. Before that court you all stand on the same level, and all have equal rights. Though you may have the same self-satisfying conviction that you are innocent and they are guilty, the government could act upon no such presumption. By becoming an accuser, you did not place yourself beyond the reach of being accused; and unless you are clothed with the immunity of despotic power, and can claim the benefit of the maxim “that the King can do no wrong,” I know not why your conduct, when made the subject of charges, may not be investigated by a court of inquiry; nor can I perceive what other or better right you have to complain of and arraign the government, than the other officers whom you have accused, and whose cases, with yours, were referred to the same court. If yours is a hard case, theirs is not less so. If you can rightfully complain of persecution by the government, so can they, with equal justice, and an equal claim to public sympathy.

The charges against you did not emanate from the government, nor did they relate to a matter in which it could feel any peculiar interest. Not believing it impossible for you to do wrong, or that you were exempt from all responsibility for whatever you might have done, the government deemed it proper, when charges were preferred against you, coming from a source entitled to respect, to cause them to be investigated. As the usual and mildest mode of proceeding, they were referred to a court of inquiry. Until you can show that you enjoy the transcendental privilege to have your official conduct exempt from all examination in any form whatever, you have no cause to complain of the course taken in regard to the charges against you.

If your extraordinary pretensions are to derive any support from your distinguished services in the field, you ought to be mindful that the three accused officers put under arrest by you have like claims for distinguished services. In the pages of impartial history, their names and their gallant deeds must appear with yours; and no monopolizing claims, seeking “malignant exclusions” at the expense of the “truth of history,” will be permitted to rob them of their fair share of the glory won by our gallant arm while under your command.

With your assault upon the character of your “erratic brother,” I shall not intermeddle; but I must repel your charge, that he has been favored for being a political deserter “to the true faith”—for signalizing his apostacy by acceptable denunciations of one “to whom he had ‘formerly’ professed [and not without cause] the highest obligations. The reasons for not sending your charges against Brevet Major General Worth to the court of inquiry, are set forth in my letter of the 13th of January. I regret that they are so entirely unsatisfactory to you, but am consoled with the assurance that they are in other quarters more favorably received. The errors of your commentary on my letter have arisen from your misapprehension of the text. The principles there laid down is of vital importance to subordinate officers, and in no respect impairs the rights or the authority of those in chief command. As the principles which you arraign are the creations of your own fancy, and have no countenance or support from my letter, I am in no way implicated by “the fatal consequences” you deduce from them. Whether legitimate or fanciful, they do not disturb the positions laid down in my letter.

I cannot, however, but regard your solicitude for the support of discipline to be more ostentatious than profound. When a general at the head of an army of freemen, who do not lose their rights as citizens by becoming soldiers, sets up pretensions to dictatorial power—when he condemns the authority of his government, and is much more ready to censure than to execute its orders and instructions—when he denounces as an outrage and a punishment the attempt to submit his acts, charged to be an offence against a subordinate officer, to an investigation in the mildest form—when he administers an indignant reproof to his superior, for upholding the sacred right to appeal, upon which the security and protection of all under his command,—such a general sets an example of insubordinate conduct of wide and withering influence upon sound military discipline.

By extending my comments upon your letter, I might multiply proofs to show that your accusations against the head of the War Department are unjust; that your complaints air unfounded; that the designs imputed by you to the government to embarrass your operations, impair your rightful authority as commander, and to offer outrage and insult to your feelings, are all the mere creations of a distempered fancy; but to do more than I have done, would, in my judgment, be a work of supererogation.

In conclusion, I may be permitted to say, that, as one of the President’s advisers, I had a full share in the
responsibility of the act which assigned you to the command of our armies in Mexico. I felt interested, even more than naturally appertained to my official position, that success and glory should signalize your operations. It was my duty to bring to your aid the efficient co-operation of the War Department, I never had a feeling that did not harmonize with the full and fair discharge of this duty. I know it has been faithfully performed. There are some men for whom enough cannot be done to make them grateful or even just, unless acts of subserviency and personal devotedness are superadded. From you I expected bare justice, but have been disappointed.—I have found you my accuser. In my vindication, I have endeavored to maintain a defensive line; and if I have gone beyond it at any time, it has been done to repel unprovoked aggression.—To your fame I have endeavored to be just. I have been gratified with the many occasions I have had to bear public testimony to your abilities and signal services as a military commander in the field. It had been, and, under any change in our personal relations, it will continue to be, my purpose to be liberal in my appreciation of your distinguished military merits. In respect to your errors and your faults, though I could not be blind, I regret that you have not permitted me to be silent.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. MARCY, Secretary of War.

Major General Winfield Scott,
U.S. army, Mexico
[BWP]

REv45i2p1c5, May 9, 1848, Quartermaster General’s Office, Washington City, February 18, 1848.

SIR: In reply to the complaint of General Scott, in his despatch of the 25th of December, that Lieutenant Colonel Johnson’s train had returned without one blanket, coat, jacket, or pair of pantaloons, the small depot at Vera Cruz having been exhausted by the troops under Generals Patterson, Butler, and Marshall, respectively, all fresh from home—I have the honor to state, that if the facts are as set forth by the General Scott, the responsibility lies at other doors than mine. Understanding fully his...[illegible]...wishes... under his command; those corps, I believe, never...seven thousand men; to supply them, I...eleven thousand forage caps; fourteen thousand wool jackets, and four thousand cotton jackets, fifteen thousand flannel shirts, and seventeen thousand cotton shirts; eighteen thousand pairs of wool overalls, and four thousand pairs of cotton overalls; seventeen thousand pairs of flannel drawers; thirty-seven thousand pairs of booties, (I ordered fifty thousand pairs;) twenty thousand pairs of stockings; two thousand four hundred great coats, and nine thousand two hundred blankets. These supplies were all sent to Vera Cruz previous to the 30th of June.

I made no provision for the volunteers, for you are well aware I had not a single cent that I could legally apply to the purchase of clothing for them. If the generals named by General Scott exhausted the clothing placed in depot at Vera Cruz, by applying it to the use of their respective commands, they acted in violation of the 36th article of war, and the General should hold them accountable.

It is known here that several thousand suits of clothing, sent to New Orleans and Mexico for the old army, have been issued to the new regiments and to volunteers. But Gen. Scott is mistaken in supposing that the depot at Vera Cruz was entirely exhausted by those issues; for I have official information, as late as the 6th of December, some time after Lieut. Col. Johnson’s train left Vera Cruz, there still remained in depot, at that post, eight thousand forage caps; three thousand none hundred wool coats and jackets, and six thousand nine hundred cotton jackets; nineteen hundred wool, and seven thousand seven hundred cotton overalls; twenty-seven hundred flannel, and thirteen thousand seven hundred cotton shirts; fifteen thousand six hundred pairs of drawers; two thousand seven hundred great-coats; seven thousand blankets, and eleven thousand pairs of bootees.

If the volunteers and new regiments went to Mexico without the proper supplies, that was the fault of those who commanded them. Gen. Butler, I understand, was specially directed to superintend the organization, equipment, and movement of the volunteer force. It was his business, not mine, to see that they were properly clothed and supplied; and neither he, Gen. Patterson, nor Gen. Marshall, had any right to take for their commands the supplies I had placed at Vera Cruz for Gen. Scott’s old regiments.

For the new regiments I had made timely arrangements, and would have sent to Vera Cruz, in November, a large supply of clothing; but I received, in October, a report from Capt. Irwin, (acting quartermaster general of Gen. Scott’s army,) dated at the city of Mexico, the 27th of September, of which the following is an extract: "I have now a thousand people engaged in making clothing. The quality of the material is not so good as our own; and the price, on the average, is 50 per cent. Higher; still, supposing the road between this and Vera Cruz to be entirely open, I think the government will lose little; if anything, by purchasing here. I shall be able to fill, in a very short time, every requisition which has been made on me, with clothing, which, though not exactly our uniform, will be comfortable and good.”

This information, sir, was from a man who not only knew how to supply an army, by putting into requisition all the resources of the country around him, but was better qualified to command a large army than most of your generals in the field. The report of Capt. Irwin delayed my action here; but, in December, I ordered from Philadelphia a supply of clothing sufficient for the whole army, regulars and volunteers.

To enable me to do this, I have been obliged to apply, on my own responsibility, three hundred and sixty-eight
thousand dollars of the funds of the quartermaster’s department to the purchase of clothing, and to authorize purchases to be made on credit, which have been paid for by bills drawn on me at ninety days, which I have accepted—hoping that Congress, by making an appropriation, will enable me to meet them by the time they become due.

I have the honor to be, sir, your ob’dt serv’t,

TH. H. JESUP, Quartermaster General.

(To The Hon. Wm. L. Marcy, Secretary of War, Washington City.)

REv45i2p1c5, May 9, 1848, Quartermaster General’s Office, Washington City, April 17, 1848.

SIR: I have received the extracts from General Scott’s letter to you, dated the 24th of February, complaining of the want of means of transportation, of supplies, and of funds form the Quartermaster’s Department; in consequence of which, he informs you, he was embarrassed and delayed in his operations, as well in the attack of Vera Cruz as in his movements afterwards, and I have to state, in reply, that delays did occur in the movement upon Vera Cruz which were most vexatious, but which were not occasioned by any neglect or mission on my part, or on that of any other officer of the department, as a detail of the facts will show. The memorandum from the War Department for the Quartermaster General, alluded to by General Scott, fixed the number of transport ships for his expedition at forty-one, viz. twelve for the volunteers, ordnance, an supplies, from the Atlantic, five for surf boats or lighters; ten to go out in ballast for troops on the Gulf of Mexico; and fourteen to be supplied by the officers of the quartermaster’s department at New Orleans and on the Gulf. That number, I take it for granted, was determined upon by Gen. Scott himself, or by the War Department, with his assent; as I have not understood that the at any time objected to the number as insufficient. He complains that the ten in ballast for troops were not sent, and that the embarkation was delayed thereby, "in whole or in part, from the 15th of January to the 9th of March."

Colonel Stanton informs me that the order to charter those ten vessels was countermanded in consequence of a letter from me, dated at Brazos, Santiago, the 27th day of December, which was read by gen. Scott before it was sealed, and to which he added a postscript. The general no doubt relied upon those vessels. I expected them; for I believed they would be chartered and on the way before my letter could be received; but so boisterous was the season, that I thought it unsafe to trust to their arrival, and made my arrangements as if they had actually failed; which fact I reported to Gen. Scott, as well as I now remember, either through Captain Wayne or the late Captain Hetzel.

It will be seen by reference to the memorandum referred to, that twenty-seven vessels were to be sent from the Atlantic with troops, supplies, and in ballast. Not one was sent in ballast; but there were actually fifty-three ships, barques, brigs and schooners, sent with troops and supplies. It was expected that I should furnish fourteen ships.—The department actually furnished at New Orleans, Brazos, and Tampico for the army, before it took up the line of march into the interior, one hundred and sixty-three vessels, some of which made several voyages.

I submit a copy of a report from the late Capt. Hetzel, (marked A,) dated at the Brazos, the 21st of February, 1847, which shows what had been done by the department up to that time. Of the 102 vessels contained in that report, five were from the Atlantic—four only of which had reported there, the other had been wrecked. I also submit paper marked B, which is a list of vessels chartered at Tampico, to transport thence troops, horses and mules.

Under the mist favorable circumstances, much time would have been required to organize so extensive a transport service; but, owing to the drenching rains throughout the month of January, the ships and other vessels chartered at New Orleans could not be prepared and sent to sea as rapidly as was desirable; and the frightful northers described by General Scott in his letter of the 12th of January, 1947, and mentioned in many of his subsequent letters, delayed their arrival at the Brazos and Tampico, as well as the movement from those points. The time lost from these causes alone, may be fairly estimated at from twenty-five to thirty days. But a measure of General Scott, which he seems to have overlooked in summing up his difficulties, produced not only embarrassment and increased expense, but delays more injurious to the service than the want of the ten ships promised from the Atlantic, even had others not been substituted in their place. It was the change in the destination of the Mississippi, Louisiana, North Carolina, Massacusetts, and Virginia regiments. Had the two former been sent direct to Lobos, and a regiment already at Tampico been left there for the defence of the place, and the regiment replaced by the Mississippi regiment been left with General Taylor, double lighterage would have been avoided at a time when lighters were not abundant; delay would have been prevented; and six ships, that were rendered comparatively useless, would have been available for the campaign, the places of which had to be supplied. Had cutters or pilot-boats been dispatched to cruise off Cape San Antonio, with orders for the North Carolina, Massachusetts, and Virginia regiments to proceed direct to Sacrificios, double lighterage, as well as the transports for the troops that replaced them, would have been saved.

General Scott certainly . . . [illegible]...he, not you or I, is responsible . . . increased expense, and delay . . . by that change.

As to the complaint of the want of funds; you are aware that the appropriations were nearly exhausted—the small amount available I was obliged to use so as to preserve the credit of the department; and I made the only arrangement in my power for the supply of funds, by authorizing the officers of the department to draw on me without limit. The service, I know, was carried on with as little embarrassment as ever attended the service of any
The complaint of General Scott in regard to clothing is fully answered in my report of the 18th February last, which will be found in executive document No. 56, page 250, to which I respectfully refer.

General Scott says that not more than half of the surf-boats he required came at all; and of the siege train and ordnance stores, only about one-half had arrived when the Mexican flags were replaced by those of the United States at Vera Cruz. The science and valor of the army, he says, had to supply all deficiencies. The result shows that he had surf-boats and stores enough; and one of his high merits as a commander is, that he never doubted the science and valor of his army, but made the best use of both. He had invaded a country with resources sufficient to support large armies against us; he availed himself, with great ability, of the resources of the enemy. This, I know, you and the President expected him to do; had he failed to do so, or had he doubted the science and valor of his army, he would have proved himself unfit for the high trust confided to him, and those who placed him in command would have had a heavy account to settle with the country. But his complaints are entirely groundless, as he, in his cooler moments, I have no doubt will admit. He is one of the best informed military men now living; but it would puzzle him to show a single instance in the military history of the last two centuries, in which an army, whose personnel and materiel had to be collected from so vast a territory, was as well appointed and supplied as his army had been. The glorious results of his campaign are a sufficient answer are all his complaints—results so astonishing, that the faithful chronicler of the events as they occurred, will probably be considered rather the compiler of fables than the relater of facts. I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant, THOS. S. JESUP, Quartermaster General. [To Hon. Wm. L. MARCY, Secretary of War, Washington City.]

REv45i2p1c6, May 9, 1848, Quartermaster General’s Office, Washington City, April 18, 1848.

Sir: Since my letter of yesterday, I have received a report from the principal quartermaster at the city of Mexico, dated the 20th of March, from which I make and submit for your consideration the following extract:

“I am happy to inform you that this army (the army under Gen. Butler) is well supplied with clothing, camp and garrison equipage. At Vera Cruz there still remains for issue or transportation to the interior a good supply of the above articles.”

This is a fine commentary on the complaints recently made to you of the delinquencies of the department.

I, am, sir, respectfully, your obedient servant, TH. S. JESUP, Quartermaster General. [To The Hon. W. L. MARCY, Secretary of War, Washington City.]

[REv45i2p2c1, May 9, 1848, Thunder Without Light.]

Tuesday Morning, May 9, 1848. Gen. Taylor’s two last letters do not contain more thunder than is produced in our theatres by frothing the mustard-bowl on the floor above; “we are certain that the light they give only serves to make their internal “darkness visible.” The Taylor-boys consider them “tall thunder,” and the Whigs, though they groan in spirit while they peruse, will continue to exclaim until after the Convention, “Light, boys, Light!” After the Convention it will be “Fire in the mountains; run, boys, run;” and when Mr. Clay receives the nomination, and the Taylor flag still floats in the breeze, they will tear these letters into tatters.—We will then compose ourselves with a glass of something cool, for it will be very hot, and smile complacently while they fight the fire.

We gave our comment upon the Baldwin and Gallaher correspondence. As we thought, there was something omitted in the letter to which the General’s was a response; but we are assured that it was not of the least importance, and we take it for granted—though people will differ upon what is considered important. We have heard a lady scream because a tiny ant ran over her neck;—a woodman would have thought it of not the least importance. We proceed, now, to review the General’s letter to his brother-in-law, Capt. Allison. We should have been pleased to have had the letter to which it was an answer.—To understand a witness, much depends upon the questions asked, and the manner in which they are propounded.

Gen. Taylor commences: “My opinions have recently been so often misconceived and misrepresented, that I deem it due to myself, if not to my friends, to make a brief exposition of them upon the topics to which you have called my attention.” How could the General expect anything else?—Who knew, or who knows now, what his opinions are? Here we have in our own city the Whig and the Republican, both warm Taylor presses until Mr. Clay’s nomination of himself, and then one hot Taylor man, and one lukewarm sort of a Taylor man, disputing over the meaning of his last two letters. In his first he says, “I do not design to withdraw my name if Mr. Clay be the nominee of the Whig National Convention.” “It has never been my intention at any moment, to change my position, or to withdraw my name from the canvass, whoever may be the nominee of the National Convention, either of the Whig or Democratic party.” And in his second letter he says: “But having, at the solicitation of many of my countrymen, taken my position until my friends manifest a wish that I should retire from it.” Suppose his friends should be divided;--some
screaming at the top of their voices, "Hold on, hold on,"—others begging gently, "Let go, let go,"—some affirming, "Henry Clay is most available"—others "You are."—Some swearing, "You will beat the crowd; you will get democratic votes"—others imploring, "The Convention has nominated Mr. Clay, Gen. Scott!" Under such circumstances, how will the General act? Will he take the vote? Will he assemble his friends in one grand Mass Meeting, and then put the question, "All you who are in favor of Gen. Taylor, say aye!" and "As for the noses, I shall not count them."—This will probably be the method adopted; for the General says, "I have no concealment—I hold no opinion which I would not readily proclaim to . . . [illegible] . . . It would be great. . . eight, twenty-five millions of people assembled to hear the General go through his catechism!

Gen. Taylor says, "I have no private purpose . . . [illegible] . . . enemies to punish, nothing to serve but my country." How will the Simon Pure Whigs relish this? "No party projects to build up." No American system, consisting of a high protective Tariff, to fill, as they say, the public coffers to repletion—of internal improvements by the General Government, to waste the public money upon ill-advise and squandering log-rolling schemes; buying up the public with their own money, and demoralizing every branch of society—no bankrupt law, to induce cheating and swindling, and to deprive honest creditors of their just rights, that dishonest debtors may revel and live upon the earnings of others—no Bank, expanding its discounts to-day, scattering its rags broadcast thro’ the land, until money is depreciated and everything else is bloated with a factitious and speculative value, and then to-morrow contracting with the force of a boa-constrictor, causing its incautious customers, who have come within its folds, to be crushed and destroyed, and every thing to be depressed far beyond its intrinsic value. What will they think?

But, we will ask, what does the general mean by "Party Projects?" Governments must be administered upon some principle. Everything must be done in some way. Well, men differ as to the principle—as to the mode; one set of men think this principle right, another think it wrong. This difference of opinion constitutes and gives vitality to parties. The Constitution declares that the President "shall from time to time give Congress information of the State of the Union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient." Well, as soon as the President is inaugurated, [if he knows nothing before hand of the minutiae of government, as General Taylor confesses,] he begins to turn his attention to such subjects. He finds the Sub-Treasury, for instance, in existence. His Secretary of the Treasury is an out and out Whig. It has so happened, not through design, but the General selected him not to carry out party schemes, it so happens that he has been brought up in the Whig school; his mind is under a bias against the system. He says, "Mr. President, this scheme is wholly wrong—it won't work—we can't get along with it—the country will be ruined unless you recommend some change." The President turns to another Secretary—he happens to be a Democrat. He says it is the best scheme in the world—it is the constitutional mode of managing the finances; "Mr. President, you must either have this mode, or you must have an United States Bank, or you must employ State Banks." Now the President says, I will wait for Congress to act." Congress don't look into the workings of the system—they are engaged in abusing the President and in praising the President. His Cabinet pull and haul this way and that; and finally he recommends to Congress to pull down the Sub-Treasury and to build up a Bank. Is this or is this not a party project? He says, "I will recommend nothing. I think the Sub-Treasury works very well." Is he not taking just as much by failing to recommend, and thereby permitting things to remain as they were? If he lets it alone, is he not playing into the strong hand of the Democrats? Is this no party project? We could take up every other party measure, and show how utterly futile is any such position. If a man is elevated to the Presidential Chair, he is forced, by circumstances beyond his control, to have party projects and party schemes, and he is wholly unfit for the elevated honor, who has not studied all party schemes and party measures, and has not made up his mind to choose between them. If he takes a ground between the two, and others follow him, than he erects a new party, and carries out their plans.

Again, says the General, "I have been very often addressed by letter, and my opinions have been asked upon almost every question that might occur to the writers as affecting the interests of their country of their party. I have not always responded to these enquiries for various reasons. "The Yankee when asked why he did not play, said he had forty reasons for refusing: "First, I have no money." 'My dear, Sir, you need not go farther. One such reason is sufficient." The General in some of his numerous letters assigned as a reason for not answering, that he had formed no opinions upon the great questions of the day—he had been too long in camp—he had not slept in a house for forty years upon years—and if the people took him, they must take him as a man takes his wife, "for better, for worse." Under these circumstances, we will ask for no other reasons.

The General continues: "I confess, whilst I have great cardinal principles which will regulate my political life, I am not sufficiently familiar with all the minute details of political legislation to give solemn pledges to exert my influence, if I were President, to carry out this or defeat that measure."

In some of his numerous letters he says: “I was educated in the Jefferson school.” If these are the great cardinal principles which will regulate his political life, we confess we should think that, if the Whigs succeed in electing him, they will "catch a Tartar." But, then, he says in his Baldwin and Gallaher letter, "Should such high distinction be conferred upon me as that of elevation to the Executive office, the Constitution, in a strict and honest interpretation, and in the spirit and mode in which it was acted upon by our earlier Presidents, would be my chief guide."—Among our earlier Presidents was old John Adams, with his ultra Federal notions. We confess, if the principles which he maintained are the great cardinal principles which will regulate the General's life, then, if he is elected, the Democrats will catch a Tartar, and the country will catch a Tartar too.

He reiterates, "I am a Whig—but not an ultra Whig." Are the principles of the Whigs the great cardinal principles that will regulate his political life? No; for he immediately adds, "If elected, I would not be the mere President of a party—I would endeavor to act independent of party denomination. I should feel bound to administer the government, untrammeled by party scheme!" He has great cardinal principles—these would guide his actions; but he will not be guided by party rule, by party schemes, by party pledges; he must be independent of all parties. Are you in favor of a Bank? No; this is a party scheme. Are you in favor of the Sub-Treasury? No; this is a party
"Second—The Veto power. The power given by the Constitution to the Executive to interpose his veto, is a high
conservative power; but, in my opinion, should never be exercised, except in cases of clear violation of the
Constitution, or manifest haste and want of consideration by Congress." The Constitution provides that "Every bill
which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it becomes a law, be presented
to the President of the United States; if he approve, he shall sign it; but if not, he shall return it, with his objections,"
&c. According to this cardinal principle laid down by the General, there must be a clear violation of the Constitution,
or manifest haste and want of consideration. Who is to decide whether it be a violation or not, or whether it is a
clear violation?—One party will swear it is manifestly a violation, the other will prove it entirely constitutional.—What
may not be vetoed under the saving clause of want of consideration? How long must Congress consider a subject?
A wrong measure might be passed by a majority of one, after the greatest consideration. As the Union says, with
great strength—

"The more protracted the discussion, the more violent the contest, [illegible]...said to be hasty or ill-considered but
the more. . . legality. . . be doubled. Men...argue and dispute about propositions of manifest benefit and utility to
to all. Where the contest is more protracted and violent, is there the greatest occasion for the President to exercise a
sound discretion in determining between two parties. Yet it is precisely in such a case that the principle of gen.
Taylor converts him into an automaton."

The President sees reasons against such a measure; is he to violate his oath to support the constitution and not
interpose his objections?—What is the object of requiring him to make his objections? Is the measure necessarily
defeated thereby? If Congress thinks his objections valid, a new bill may be introduced without the objectionable
features. If they think them invalid, two thirds may pass it. What is manifest haste?

Gen. Taylor says, "The personal opinions of the individual, who may happen to occupy the Executive chair, ought not
to control the action of Congress upon questions of domestic policy; nor ought his objections to be interposed, where
questions of constitutional power have been settled by various departments of government and acquiesced in by the
people." How can the recommendations which the Constitution requires the President to make to Congress of such
measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient, control the action of Congress? They are free to act as they
please, after his recommendation. How can his opinions unexpressed control their action? The personal opinions of
the Executive ought not to control their action, says the General, and we hold it to be equally clear that the opinions
of Congress, if believed to be wrong by the President, while our Constitution exists, ought not to control his action.—
If he permits it, without interposing his objections, he violates his oath. "Nor," adds he, "ought his objections to be
interposed where questions of constitutional power have been settled by the various departments of government and
acquiesced in by the people."—"How long must it be acquiesced in? While one party is in power, a measure is
passed, which is denounced by their opponents as unconstitutional. It is acquiesced in rather than have recourse to
a Revolution; but is the lapse of years the other party come into power, and, believing the measure to be
unconstitutional, it is repealed. The repeal is acquiesced in by the party proposing the measure, just as long as they
are out of power and no longer. Must the President fail to interpose his objections to the repeal, if he believes the
measure constitutional and wholesome? This commentary, we find, is extending our article to too great a length; we
will pursue the fruitful theme on some other occasion.[BWP]

REv45i2p2cZ, May 9, 1848, Which Will "Surrender?"

The republican declares that Gen. Taylor will continue in the field as a candidate for the Presidency, no matter who
may be nominated by that body—and his authority we acknowledged is very good for this declaration: Gen. Taylor
himself, Yet, strange to say, the Republican of Saturday evening adopts as its leading editorial an article from the
"new Orleans National" containing a list of the States which it is expected Gen. T. will get in the Convention, and an
argument showing the chances and probabilities of his getting the nomination from that body!—"All that is required
(says the article in the Republican) to assure the nomination of Gen. Taylor by an expression quite as strong as that
indicated, is for his Whig friends to stand fast and firm to the organization of the party. The Whig nomination is
necessary to his success; and that nomination will be awarded him without contention or difficulty, if they will only
be true to him and themselves. In the present aspect of things, it cannot be otherwise."

What doesthe Republican mean? Doe sit expect the friends of Clay, (towards whom General Taylor has significantly
pointed his finger in connexion with this subject,) and the friends of Scott, and the several candidates for the
nomination, will allow General Taylor or his friends to have any part or lot in that Convention, with the declaration of
General Taylor and his friends staring them in the face that they will not abide its decision—or while there remains
even a doubt as to the course General Taylor and his friends will pursue in the event of his not receiving the
nomination? Has not the Republican’s neighbor, the Whig, a fellow co-laborer in Taylorism, exposed the absurdity of
such a "farce?"—has it not told the republican that: ‘Heads I win, tails you lose,” is rather too strong a game,” &c.? It
seems to us, who care not how these Whig difficulties may be settled, that if the Whig Convention has any sense
of propriety or self-respect, the door of the Convention will be rudely slammed in the face of the “Independents,” if
they shall make their appearance at the Convention, and boldly stand up there and use the following language
(found in General Taylor’s late letter: )
"I do not design to withdraw my name if Mr. Clay be the nominee of the Whig National Convention—and, in this connexion, I beg permission to remark, that the statements which have been so positively made in some of the Northern prints, to the effect, 'that should Mr. Clay be the nominee of the Whig National Convention,' I had stated 'that I would not suffer my name to be used,' are not correct, and have no foundation in any oral or written remark of mine. It has not been my intention, at any moment, to change my position, or to withdraw my name from the canvass, whoever may be the nominee of the National Convention, wither of the Whig or Democratic party."

Will not the Convention require from every man who goes there to participate in its proceedings, an introductory oath, somewhat in the following form—(found in Mr. Clay's late letters: )

"I have, therefore, finally decided to leave to the National Convention, which is to assemble next June, the consideration of my name, in connection with such others as may be presented to it, to make a selection of a suitable candidate for President of the United States; and whatever may be the issue of its fair and full deliberations, it will meet with my prompt and cheerful acquiescence."

We are puzzled to know how the republican, which seems to belong to two parties, viz: the Taylor Independent party and the Whig party, can be calculation Gen. T.'s chances in a Convention which he and that paper boldly repudiate—a Convention towards which Gen. T. himself holds this emphatical language:

"It has not been my intention at any moment to change my position, or to withdraw my name from the canvass, whoever may be the nominee of the National Convention, wither of the Whig or Democratic party."

Gen. T., his friends say, "never surrenders."—We shall soon see, when the Convention meets, who will surrender—whether the friends of all the other candidates combined, or the "corporal's guard," the "Independents."

REv45i2p2c4, May 9, 1848, To the Editors of the Enquirer.

JAMES BUCHANAN, ESQ.—THE TARIFFS OF 1842 and 1846

Messrs. Editors—Now that our spring elections are over, and a victory obtained, as we hope and believe, all are looking forward to the Baltimore Convention. Upon whom the nomination is to fall, is an enquiry upon the lips of all. Many great and good men have been spoken of, and I have yet to see the first Democrat who will not support the nominee, be he who he may; provided he is not in favor of the "Wilmot Proviso."—No man who is so forgetful of the rights of the whole country as to support it, can hope to find any favor with the mass of the Democratic party. It is very evident that the only hope or expectation of the Whigs is the dark spot in New York. Can it be that that great State will madly and recklessly throw away her great power? Will she be unmindful of the past? Justice and gratitude forbid it! But it go she will—if her distinguished sons shall so will it—if they will calmly and deliberately decide to take the last fatal leap, we must give her up, and try to do without her; we must give her up, as we once were compelled to do her distinguished son, although it be with a "bleeding heart." Messrs. Editors, we can elect, and triumphantly too, the nominee of our Convention. Who then, is to be the fortunate man?

It is pleasing to see the spirit manifested by the friends of the different candidates—a spirit worthy of the cause, worthy of the Democratic party. No bickering, no attacks upon each other; but a temperate advocacy of the claims of each. All this seems to the writer to be legitimate, indeed necessary, to a proper appreciation of their pretensions.

It is with such feeling I address you this hasty scrawl. It is well known to every reading politician, that the distinguished gentleman whose name heads this article, has received more than "his share" of Whig denunciation—perhaps more than all the rest. Why is this so? Is it not that he is dreaded more than nay other? Certainly this is a fair inference. During last summer and fall, that chaste and ever truthful journal, the Richmond Whig, hunted up and published all kinds of slanders against him,—slanders and gross falsehoods, which had been over and over exposed, and become to be so well known, that the decent papers of Pennsylvania would not touch them. About that time, a writer in the Enquirer, over a signature of "A Republican of the Old School," in a series of numbers, fully and triumphantly exposed them here in Virginia.—He appealed to the records for fifteen or twenty years back, (and could have appealed to Mr. B.'s speeches on "Chilton's" famous resolutions in 18267 and 1828,) and placed Mr. Buchanan upon true Southern, true American ground, from which himself and friends may proudly defy their puny assaults. The Whig was made to behave with some decency, for a time at least; but since then the great State of Pennsylvania, the keystone, has spoken through her State convention, and her trumpet tones majority of eighteen or twenty thousand. Mr. B. seemed to be getting rather too strong to be resisted by Whiggery; and now another desperate game is resorted to. He is charged with the sin of voting for the Tariff of 1842, and being opposed to that of 1846 by the makers and advocates of the tariff of 1842, and the open enemy of the one of 1846. If these charges were true, it is clear they would not constitute any ground of objection, with them. No, no; their hope is to injure Mr. B. with the Democratic party, and thereby get clear of a troublesome adversary.

A few remarks in relation to the Tariff of 1842 and 1846, I think, will satisfy all who are seeking truth, that Mr. B. cannot be objected to by us on account of his opinions respecting them. Every intelligent man knows that a peculiar state of things existed in 1842. For a time, by the action of Mr. Clay and his friends, no duties could be collected; the Compromise Act had ceased to be. Just at this crisis, the vile Tariff of 1842 was brought forward, and the alternative presented, to vote for it or let the whole machinery of Government stop; all efforts to modify and
Messrs. Editors:  A somewhat piquant debate took place in the Senate on Thursday, on a motion of Mr. Hannegan to take up the message of the President, communicated on the state of affairs in Yucatan, one of the States of Central American, and nominally one of the States of Mexico. Messrs. Hannegan, Foote and Cass were for immediate action—Mr. Calhoun, aided by Mr. Niles, wished delay. But why for delay, they did not state, in detail, to the Senate. Mr. Foote took the liberty of telling Mr. Calhoun a little piece of his mind, which cut rather close to the skin of this consistent Senator; yes, this Senator that has never changed his political text book, although he has boxed the compass with all kinds of opinions. Mr. Calhoun has a way of assuming Senatorial dignity when he is pressed too hard, and declines to answer “that man,” or this man. This will not suffice. In this country the people know of no superiority in a Senator or Representative but what his talents and his patriotism give to him; certainly Mr. Calhoun cannot for a moment believe that in his person are to be found all the knowledge and patriotism of the land. Why should he? Since the war commenced he has done nothing to aid his country. Where is a vote to be found, or a word to be spoken by him in debate, in aid of the war, or in approbation of the success of our gallant army? No where. From May ’46, to the present time, examine the record, and you will find him arrayed with those who have given “aid and comfort” to the enemy. Even the sons of South Carolina, whose blood of noble daring and of patriotism, stained the heights of Cerro Gordo, and now crimsons the rocks of Contreras, have with him no sympathy in “this rash and precipitate war.” How Mr. Calhoun can call the movements of the Executive “rash and precipitate,” I cannot understand! Years had been wasted in negotiation, our Minister rejected, and our Government insulted, and, finally, our territory being invaded by a Mexican army, we had no remedy but fight or disgrace. The Executive, by the advice of General Taylor, took the proper course, and, from that day to this, Mr. Calhoun has not sustained his country. So well and so distinctly has his public career in the Senate been understood in Mexico, that he has been complimented in general meeting of the Philanthropic Society of Mexico as one of the “illustrious champions of the Mexican cause,” and “justly gained the gratitude of all our good fellow-citizens” by being one of “the defenders of the cause of justice and civilization.”

And let me remark, that Mr. Botts, your Representative in Congress, is named along with Mr. Calhoun and others. Call you this supporting your country? If it is, I should like to know in what that support consists. If withholding supplies and condemning the Executive, and opposing the welfare of the country constitute Mr. Calhoun a republican, then, in fact, am I at a loss to understand his movements. But so we go. Mr. Foote is not to be driven from his duty to his country. He will deal justly, love mercy, and defend his country from Mexican allies, and Mexicans themselves, without fear or favor and his friends throughout the country will applaud and sustain him in his patriotic course.

The question being postponed until yesterday, it was again taken up, and an interesting debate continued. Mr. Hannegan defended the President in a very animated manner and sustained the country with his usual patriotic impulse. He told the Senate how England had already made advances in Yucatan and had an eye in prospective on the island of Cuba. Mr. Clayton opposed the action of the Senate as premature and as being contrary to the armistice regulation now entered into with Mexico. Yes, Mexico, sympathy for Mexico! You understand, Messrs. Editors, how that sympathy is applauded by our Mexican enemies; vide their complimentary resolution of thanks to certain persons. Gol. Jefferson Davis advocated the bill in an energetic speech and did himself and country full and ample justice. Mr. Crittenden took the opposite side. He was opposed to the bill almost on any ground except as a
Mr. Davis of Mississippi rejoined, defending the bill, and Mr. Foote followed, closing the debate for the day, in an animated speech in defence of the bill, and against the opinion of the Whig opposition in the Senate—that opposition, so reckless, so vindictive, that has sympathies for our enemies and none for our country. Mr. Foote played "cut and thrust" and did the sympathizers up in right good earnest.

Gen. Scott has gained ground with the Whigs in proportion as he loses the good will of the administration, or rather, as he provokes from the administration merited and just castigation for the futile imaginations of his brain. He stands an equal chance with Clay or Taylor for the nomination, and rather in advance of Mr. Crittenden and Judge McLean. Many of the patriotic Whigs will not touch Judge McLean since the publication of his Cincinnati letter. I still believe Mr. Clay will be the man, after all the management here to the contrary.

The gallant Col. Harney has been made by the President and Senate a Brigadier General in the regular army. So says Madam Rumor all over the city, and what every body says must be true. He deserves it, as well as some others deserve promotion, particularly our own intrepid and gallant Col. Garland.

Many of the members of the Baltimore Convention are coming in to spend a few days in Congress, before the consummation of the important business of selecting a Presidential candidate. Those I have seen are buoyant in hope of a cordial meeting and speedy and untied nomination. Yours, NED EVANS.

Return of Mr. Trist and Gen. Cadwalader.

The steamships Augusta and Virginia left Vera Cruz on Saturday, the 22d inst. The Augusta came up to town, yesterday afternoon, (says the New Orleans Picayune, April 30,) while the Virginia having got a drift log in one of her wheels, was obliged to come to anchor at Poverty Point, fifteen miles below the city. It is hardly probable that she will come up before our paper goes to press.

Gen. Cadwalader and Mr. Trist came over passengers on the Virginia, and will no doubt come up to town this morning.

The great mail was sent by the Virginia, but we received a package of letters and papers by the Augusta containing Vera Cruz papers to the 22d, and from the city of Mexico to the 15th. In another column we have given the twenty-sixth day’s proceedings of the Court of inquiry. We understand that the impression was that the court would not adjourn for three weeks, and that Gen. Scott would await its adjournment.—The Star of the 15th says that he is in fine health.

The burden of the editorial articles in the Star is that there is yet no quorum of Congress at Queretaro. It is obvious from the Star’s reiterated complaints that there is great fear lest no quorum should meet at all. We have not room to-day for its articles, but this is the burden of them.

Major Stewart of the Pay Department, arrived in the city of Mexico on the 14th.

Paredes as late as the 11th inst. Had not been arrested by the Mexican Government. He was still at San Luis, and, according to a letter in El Eco de Comercio, “taking up his residence with the different lawyers in the place.” We hear nothing more of his designs.

There is no further news from Chihuahua.

The ship American sailed from Vera Cruz for this port on the 19th inst. with ninety-two sick soldiers in charge of Dr. Wright.

We gather some miscellaneous intelligence from the Vera Cruz papers.

[From the True American of the 18th.]

Arrival of Gen. Cadwalader and Mr. Trist.—A train arrived yesterday from the city of Mexico. The escort was commanded as far as Jalapa by Lieut. Col. Emory, and from Jalapa to this place by Major Gardner. The mounted escort was under the command of Lieut. Waters, of the Louisiana Volunteers.

Gen. Cadwalader and Mr. Trist, framer of the treaty, accompanied the train.

On the road, near Passa la Vego, a Mexican reported to the commander of the escort that he had been robbed of some mules, and stated that the robbers were in the chaparral. Lieut. Hawkins dismounted ten of his men and started in search of the ruffians, and shortly afterwards returned with them, having surprised and taken them in in
the most admirable manner. They are now in custody.

This train left Mexico on the 7th inst., and on the 10th day after its departure arrived here.

A grand banquet was given in Vera Cruz the evening of the 16th inst. by the French residents and others in honor of the revolution in France. It is quite out of our power to give place to the enthusiastic proceedings. The Americans were to celebrate the same glorious event on the 22nd inst.

The Free American remains of opinion that there is little prospect of peace. On the 19th its language is:

"We announced, a few days ago, that we had conversed with a gentleman from Mexico, who was of opinion that the members of Congress would not vote for the treaty as ratified at Washington. We have since seen two letters from influential men, one at Queretaro and the other at Mexico, who coincide with the opinion of the gentleman in question. Another letter says that should the members of Congress violate the constitution of Mexico by ceding any part of the territory, the same members will have to ask the United States to leave a force of several thousand men to keep order in the Republic. The writer is of opinion that so soon as the American troops will embark for the United States, the Government will be overthrown, and the new causes for war will be given to the United States by the turbulent people of this country."

We regret to learn that Gen. Kearny has been seriously ill at Vera Cruz; at the same time we rejoice that he was pronounced out of danger and convalescent at last accounts.

The State of Mexico gives its voice for Gen. Herrera as President, he receiving 152 out of 166 votes.

There was a caucus of the members of Congress present at Queretaro on the 10th inst., at which resolutions were adopted to prevent members then present from afterwards absenting themselves, and to fill one or two seats made vacant by promotion or otherwise. It appeared that but few members were then wanting to form a quorum—but this is an old story.

The Congress of the State of Vera Cruz assembles this day; that of Puebla met on the 10th. D. Juan Mujica y Osorio was appointed Governor of the latter State.

There are 2000 Mexican troops in Queretaro, and yet on the 12th inst. a diligence was attacked within half a mile of the city by eight men. They fired upon the passengers, but the latter showed fight and killed one of the robbers. The passengers returned to town, however, lest they should again be attacked.

The Monitor Republicano of the 14th inst. says that, on the 10th, Gen. Bustamente was at the village of Dolores with a party of his division, while another portion had gone against the Indians of the village of Xichu, an insurrection of whom had become formidable. They had had the audacity, so confident were they in their numbers, to sack the village of San Diego del Bischocho.

Mr. Clayton presented a memorial in favor of the proposed new railroad from Philadelphia to New York, and took the occasion to remark that the petitioners were prepared to prove the statements therein set forth.

Mr. Hannegan, chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported a bill to enable the President to take temporary military occupation of Yucatan—to employ the army and navy of the United States for that purpose, and to repress the incursions of the savages against the white population of that country—to furnish the white population with arms, ammunition, &c., to repel the attacks of the Indians—and to authorize the raising of additional volunteers, equal in number to replace the troops withdrawn from other portions of the service, for this service in Yucatan.

The bill was twice read, and Mr. Hannegan moved that it be made the special order for tomorrow.

Mr. Calhoun thought the day named too early—more time should be given for reflection. He proposed Monday next.

Mr. Hannegan said it was important that this bill should be acted upon without delay. A day or an hour might be
Mr. Calhoun. I did not consider it necessary to contradict what that Senator said.

Mr. Cass. He begged the Senator's pardon, but his expression had been so quoted here this morning, without contradiction, by the Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. Calhoun. I did not consider it necessary to contradict what that Senator said.
Mr. Foote retorted, but his remark was not distinctly heard.

Mr. Cass proceeded, chiefly on the causes of the war, and insisting that, from all the information before them—from the declaration at the time of Mexico herself—the annexation of Texas was a cause of the war; though he said, as now universally admitted, no just cause of war.

Mr. Calhoun replied to the remarks of Mr. Cass, the question of boundary being introduced, and Mr. Cass rejoined.

Mr. Hannegan said the object of his motion was prompt action, but the debate to-day was the poorest illustration of prompt action which he had ever known. The question of the annexation of Texas, having nothing to do with the subject, had been dragged in, as it always unfortunately was on almost every great measure emanating from the Administration. The motives which had induced him to move the consideration of the bill to-morrow, were better expressed in the concluding portion of Mr. Sierra's letter than they could be by any thing which he could say. He read the extract, showing the condition of the white population of Yucatan, and expressed his wish that the question should at once be taken on his motion.

Mr. Niles followed. He was wholly unpre... principles—principles entirely new—he desired time to examine the documents. It was not merely a bill involving the question of affording temporary relief, but one of far greater and more vital importance connected with the policy of the country. He was not disposed to act under the "whip and spur"—they should not act without giving the subject all the consideration which its importance demands.

The question was then taken, successfully, on motion to postpone until Saturday, and until Monday, and rejected. Mr. Hannegan's motion then prevailed, and the bill was made the special order for to-morrow.

One or two bills, not of public importance were passed, several petitions and memorials presented, a great number of bills from the House read twice and referred, and a resolution offered by Mr. Calhoun, adopted, calling on the President for all the correspondence between Mr. Sierra and the Secretary of State. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Murphy reported a bill to regulate the exchange of certain documents and other publications by Congress. Read twice and referred.

Mr. Grinnell, from the Committee on commerce, reported a bill to admit certain articles, the growth or productions of Canada, free of duty, on condition that similar articles, the growth or production of the united States, shall be also admitted into Canada free of duty. Rea twice and referred.

Mr. Collamer, introduced a resolution, which was adopted, directing the printing for the use of the House of a map of the public lands, showing the amount surveyed and the amount sold.

Mr. Goggin, for the Committee on Post Offices and Postroads, reported a bill to regulate the postage on newspapers and for other purposes. Read twice and referred.

Mr. Jones of Tennessee, from the same Committee, reported back the bill for making permanent arrangement for the transportation for the mails by the steamboats and railroads in the U. States, with a recommendation that the committee be discharged from the further consideration thereof. Mr. Tompkins of Mississippi moved a reference of the bill to a Select Committee. The subject was one of great importance, and he desired that a report should be made and go forth to the people. The reference to a Select Committee, after some debate, was accordingly ordered.

Mr. Burt, from the Committee of Naval Affairs, reported a bill to establish two National Foundries and a National Armory, the sites to be determined by a Board of Examiners. Read twice and referred.

Mr. King of Georgia, from the same Committee, reported a bill to establish a line of war steamers from Monterey or San Francisco, California, and the Sandwich Islands, and also from Monterey or San Francisco to Shanghai and Canton, China. Read twice and referred.

The bill repealing the section of the act creating an additional number of general officers, which requires that the number of Generals at the close of the war shall be reduced to one Major General and two Brigadier Generals, to be selected by the President without regard to priority of commissions, was taken up and passed.

Several Executive communications on the Speaker's table were read, referred, and ordered to be printed.

The resolution of thanks to Major Gen. Taylor, was taken up, and the amendment of Senate was agreed to.

The bill providing for an additional number of examiners in the Patent office was taken up, the House insisted upon its amendment, and a committee of conference was asked on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses.

A great number of the bills from the Senate were read a first and second time and passed.
Adjourned.

FRIDAY May 5, 1848. SENATE.

Bills form the House relative to the number of Major and Brigadier Generals to remain in the service at the close of the war—to extend the time for the erection of certain light-houses—to extend the time for locating Virginia military land warrants, and some others, were read and referred.

Mr. Atchinson introduced a bill granting the right of way through the public lands in Missouri, and granting alternative sections of the same, for the construction of a railroad between certain points on the Missouri and Mississippi rivers.

The resolution offered by Mr. Johnson, of Md., inquiring of the President whether any officers, civil or military, were acting under commissions form the President, whose appointments had not been submitted to the Senate for confirmation, and why? Was taken up and adopted, but the vote was subsequently reconsidered, on motion of Mr. Allen and laid over.

On motion of Mr. Hannegan, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill to enable the President to take temporary military possession of Yucatan.

Mr. Hannegan addressed the Senate in reply to the remarks of Mr. Calhoun on the day the message of the President on this subject was presented. He was unable to discover the dangers to which the Senator has alluded, but had not stated. He could perceive no hidden rocks upon which we were to suffer shipwreck, if the measure was adopted and the aid required furnished.

The President, he said, does not ask, and the bill expressly prohibits the permanent occupation of Yucatan. Considerations, it is true might arise, which would render it necessary to turn it into something more than a temporary occupation, and he desired now to make this declaration for he wished no disguises.

We have positive information not only that England intends to, but that she has interfered in the affairs of Yucatan. She has taken possession of the Balize, and advanced her troops from Honduras into Southern Yucatan, under the pretence of protecting the interests of her own subjects.

But her desires, he entertained no doubt, were to obtain possession of Yucatan, and he had no more doubt that if she did obtain Yucatan, her efforts would next be directed to the obtainment of Cuba also.

Give her Cuba and she would control the mouth of the Mississippi as easily as she now controls the mouth of the Thames; and her power would be extended to the entire North American coast. Would the Congress of the United States stand by and see this?

It had come out in the correspondence with Mr. Sierra, that the agent of England had actually furnished the Indians with the very arms which they are using against the white population in Yucatan.

"England," says the Senator from South Carolina, "will not more take possession of Yucatan than will he himself." Would the Senator be responsible for the consequences of the acts which England has already committed towards Yucatan? And were we to disregard the interests and honor of the country, because of the fear of getting into a war with England—or of incurring an additional debt?

There was no danger that we should ever be compelled to resort to a system of taxation like that in England and France, to which the Senator had referred. Nor was his allusion to the fact, that the expenses of Mr. Monroe’s Administration, which were put down at 10,000,000 per annum, to show the increased expenditures of the present administration, a correct illustration; for at no period during Mr. Monroe’s administration did the population of the United States exceed 10,000,000.

He represented that it was not the intention of the President, or of the bill, to take permanent possession of Yucatan, unless compelled by unavoidable circumstances, and then the whole matter would be within the control of Congress.

He denied that in regard to the interference of European powers with the affairs of this Continent, the message went “far beyond” the declarations of Mr. Monroe, as had been stated by the Senator from South Carolina.

And why did not the Senator protest against the doctrine of Mr. Monroe, at the time, when he was a member of his Cabinet, instead of denouncing it now, when it had become necessary to carry it into practical operation?

He (Mr. H.) considered it a fundamental doctrine of our policy. It was a doctrine of which Mr. John Quincy Adams, then also a member of Mr. Monroe’s Cabinet, was the father—at whose suggestion the declaration was introduced into the message of Mr. Monroe. This he had learned in a personal interview of two hours, on [th]is subject; with that venerable man. Mr. Monroe certainly meant something, and Mr. Adams meant something, by this declaration and of this he became satisfied during the conversation to which he had referred.
Mr. Clayton gave his reasons which would influence him in voting against the bill. The President says, in his message, that during the continuance of the war with Mexico, if he could spare the troops, he would take possession of Yucatan and offer the aid desired. But the bill provides for an indefinite occupation for Yucatan. It was true the word "temporary" was introduced but that was a very indefinite expression. He desired to know how long it was contemplated by this bill to continue this occupation?

The bill also, he said, was in violation of the treaty of peace with Mexico, and of the terms of the armistice. A Congress was about to assemble at Queretaro, with a fair prospect of ratifying that treaty. And was it not probable that when the intelligence that this bill is before the Senate reached them, this would throw the treaty to the wind—reject it—considering the movement not as intended to repress the incursions of the Indians, but to take permanent possession of one of the States in her confederacy.

He was opposed, too, to taking away the gallant officers who have so bravely fought in Mexico and sending them to a sickly climate. How many would survive, if this were done? And he did not like having too many fights on our hands at the same time.

With the Senator from Connecticut, (Mr. Niles,) he was disposed to act in this with extreme caution. He thought it highly impolite to agitate the country, at this time, with another question of annexation.

The passage of this bill would be a violation of the treaty, unless we obtained from Mexico her consent to send our troops into her territory.

Mr. Jefferson Davis said Yucatan was recognized as a part of Mexico, and, being so a part, we had the right, during the existence of the war, to send our troops into that territory. The President only asked for troops to carry out objects entirely consonant with the prosecution of the war with Mexico.

As to the question of seizing certain points in the gulf, in the exigency to which the Senator from Indiana had referred, he declared that he would not hesitate for one moment. And even if we had no war with Mexico, he would still stand by the people of that country in their present struggle.

But here there was no such difficulty. We are at war with Mexico, and the only event in which we are allowed, during the existence of the armistice, to take possession of any other territory of Mexico, had transpired—it had been rendered necessary by "acts of the Mexicans themselves,"—"there had been a military movement by Mexicans."

He moved certain amendments, in conclusion, not affecting the character of the bill, but designed so to modify its provisions, as to merely establish a "new military post," leaving the right to take possession to the authority given under the act "recognizing the existence of a war with Mexico."

Mr. Crittenden opposed the feature of the bill which provided for raising additional volunteers, to take the place of those withdrawn from other portions of the service in Mexico. Where was the necessity he said, of any such provision, when there is already another bill before the Senate providing for 20,000 additional volunteers? If the exigencies of the war required it, he was ready to vote for any additional number; but no such exigency had yet arisen.

The measure proposed, so far from having war in view as it object, is presented as a measure of charity, of humanity. And he could not perceive that under the terms of the armistice, we could take possession of a province not in our hands at the time the armistice was made. It could not be contended that such would be a fair construction of the armistice.

He was also opposed to the bill, on the ground of inexpediency. It was contrary to sound policy to involve the country in a difficulty of this character. He was opposed to any such intervention by one country in reference to the affairs of another, even, as an act of humanity—to engage in that which might lead to war throughout the world, and thus, by endeavoring to allay one calamity, to create a greater. We should allow every nation, as we would every family, to manage its own affairs.

He would succor the distressed and relieve the needy, but it was impossible to do this by any general system regulating such intercourse between nations, as here proposed.

The Indians whom it was proposed to put down were as much citizens of Yucatan as those whom it was proposed to succor, and entitled to the same privileges. But he would rescue the white population if possible, even though they had, for ages, oppressed and borne down their present oppressors. But he would not do it by withdrawing our troops from other portions of Mexico.

We would only make our interposition effectual by placing an army in Yucatan, and that he had no disposition to do until he understood fully everything connected with this question—until he could reconcile the whole subject with the great principle of non-intervention.

Mr. Jefferson Davis replied to a portion of Mr. Crittenden’s remarks; and was followed by Mr. Foote. The evidence before them, he said, was of such a character that, if they did not act, they would disgrace the country, and justly incur the execration of the whole civilized world. In the course of his remarks he expressed, in strong terms, his
opinion that neither Yucatan nor Cuba should be permitted to fall into the hands of any European power, even if we were compelled to go to war to prevent it. And he declared also, if he were President of the United States—a position which he never expected to occupy—he would not hesitate now to apply to the government of Spain to transfer, on just terms, the Island of Cuba, to the United States.

At the conclusion of Mr. Foote’s remarks, the Senate adjourned to Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

After several unsuccessful efforts were made to introduce resolutions, the Speaker laid before the House a communication from W. W. Brent, stating that he had just received, addressed to his care, from Robert Walsh, United States Consul at Paris, a portrait of Major General Baron De Kalb, to be presented to Congress, as an offering from the surviving family of De Kalb, persons of great distinction and worth, and asking the decision of Congress in regard to the reception and disposition to be made of the picture—referring to the library committee.

Mr. Stewart, of Pennsylvania, asked the unanimous consent of the House to introduce the following:

Resolved, That “the power given by the constitution to the Executive, to interpose his veto, is a high conservative power, which should never be exercised except in cases of clear violation of the constitution, or manifest haste and want of consideration by Congress.”

Resolved, That “the personal opinions of the individual who may happen to occupy the executive chair, ought not to control the action of Congress upon questions of domestic policy, nor ought his objections to be interposed when questions of constitutional power have been settled by the various departments of the government, and acquiesced in by the people.”

Resolved, That, “upon the subjects of the tariff, the currency, the improvement of our great highways, rivers, lakes, and harbors, the will of the people, as expressed through their representatives in Congress, ought to be respected and carried out by the Executive.”

Resolved, That “war, at all times, and under all circumstances, is a national calamity, to be avoided if compatible with national honor;” that “the principles of our government, as well as its true policy, are opposed to the subjugation of other nations and the dismemberment of other countries by conquest—for, in the language of the great Washington, ‘why should we quit our own soil to stand on foreign ground?’”

Objection being made, the resolutions were not received.

On motion of Mr. Rockwell, the House then resolved itself into committee of the whole, for the consideration of private bills, and after taking up one or two of this character found itself without a quorum, the roll was called, the committee rose and reported the names of the absentees to the House, and they were ordered to be entered in the journal. A quorum having appeared, a number of private bills were subsequently considered in committee of the whole, reported to the House and passed. And then, at 20 minutes past 1 o’clock, the House adjourned until tomorrow.

REv45i2p4c4, May 9, 1848, General Taylor and the Whig.

The Whig, in a column of editorial, attempts to extricate itself by new quibbles from the “dilemma” in which, we still insist, its attempts to entirely explain away one letter of Old Zac by another written only two days afterwards, has involved it, in the common sense view of every reasonable man. Upon one point the Whig and ourselves thoroughly agree: viz: that the Baldwin or Gallaher letter per se admits of no other construction, than that the old soldier utterly repudiates the action of the National Convention, resolved to remain an independent candidate, whoever might be the nominee, and whatever said body might do. And here we quote from yesterday’s long explanatory article in the Whig its renewed assertion of its opinion, after reading the Baldwin letter, and before it had seen the Allison letter:

"When we read the General’s letter to the Editors of the Republican, which seemed to intimate his determination to be a candidate for the Presidency, whether nominated by the Whig Convention or not, we saw that it was impossible, with such an understanding of his purpose, that his name could be presented to the Whig National Convention even for its consideration. The friends of no man have a right to ask that his claims shall be considered, in a body of that kind, who proclaims in advance that he will pay no respect to its decision, unless that decision be favorable to himself. As a member of such a Convention, we would not insult it by asking it to deliberate upon a matter already predetermained—or, in other words, to decide by vote whether a certain individual had forewarned it, that, having been already announced as a candidate, he would remain so, be its decision what it might. Nor would we consent to weigh even the claims of such a man, if presented by another. What business has such an one, indeed, in a Convention at all? Yet the language of General Taylor’s letter to the Editors of the Republican, seemed to us to be susceptible of no other interpretation; and, consequently, pursing the course we have heretofore done in regard to that gentleman, and which we shall adopt towards other aspirants, all of whom, in our estimation, stand upon a level platform and have equal rights, we promptly and explicitly expressed our decided dislike of a position, which, while
General Taylor had a perfect right, if he thought fit, to take it, must, of necessity, have been regarded, under the circumstances, as grossly offensive to other aspirants for the Whig nomination, and as a defiance to the Whig party itself. And had it so remained, we, for one, would no longer have considered that General Taylor’s friends had a right to present his name to the Whig Convention.

But the Allison letter which reached the Whig soon after, was “entirely satisfactory” to the Whig, and convinced that paper, that it soon former strong comments were utterly unfounded, and that Old Zac had taken his true position on the platform of a National Convention. What is the saving clause in the Allison letter, on which the Whig relies with so much apparent self complacency and confidence?

“I have consented to the use of my name as a candidate for the Presidency. I have frankly avowed my own distrust of my fitness for that high station; but having, at the solicitation of many of my countrymen, taken my position as a candidate, I do not feel at liberty to surrender that position until my friends manifest a wish that I should retire from it. I will then most gladly do so.”

Here, says the Whig, Gen. T. leaves the matter in the hands of his “friends”—and the Whig “takes it for granted that the General meant what every other candidate who consents that his name shall go before a Convention means, when he uses the same expression, and that is, that his friends in Convention shall, before it proceeds to deliberate, announce their intention to abide by its decision and that announcement will be to Gen. Taylor a sufficient manifestation of their wish that he should not be a candidate, in the event of his failure to obtain its nomination. That the great body of his friends, throughout the country, would concur in the manifestation of this wish, we cannot doubt; because they would clearly perceive not only the impossibility of his election, but the probability of his failure to obtain a single Electoral vote—an attitude in which, as his true friends, they would never consent to place him.”

And in another place, the Whig thinks that the Old General’s course will be controlled by “the embodied sense of his ‘friends’ who may be members of the National Convention, and who, if they go into that body at all, must do so in no such uncompromising spirit as that evinced by the republican. For it cannot be expected that the friends of other gentlemen, in that body, (experienced gamesters too, as they have been dubbed,) will consent to play at ‘Open and Shut’ with those of Gen. Taylor or any other man.”

But this theory is perfectly fallacious, for it really begs the whole question, and makes out General Taylor willing to abide by the action of the Convention, which, in his letter of the 20th, he expressly repudiates. That letter says, that it is not “my intention to withdraw my name from the canvass, whoever may be the nominee.” It is evident, then, that the old soldier, in employing the word ‘friends,’ refers not to such advocates of his conditional nomination as the delegates to the Convention like the editor of the Whig, who declares that he is not “committed” to Gen. Taylor, but to those exclusive friends, who, eschewing all conventions, have put old Rough and Ready on the track as an independent candidate, and have solemnly committed themselves to support him as “the people’s candidate,” against the world. General Taylor says in the Allison letter, “at the solicitation of many of my countrymen, I have taken my position. I do not feel at liberty to surrender that position,” until my friends (i.e., of course those who have placed him in that position, independent of all Conventions,) manifest a wish that I should retire from it.” Who are those exclusive “friends,” to whose arbitrament alone he will submit, and by whom alone he can be induced to abandon his position? Last evening’s Republican furnishes us with the information in the shape of an article from the Philadelphia Inquirer. They are the “independent State Conventions in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Iowa, Kentucky, Georgia, (Louisiana we insert,) and one or two other States,” which have run up Old Zac’s flag of “Independency,” and which, from the decided tone of their resolutions, will never “surrender.” The Maryland Taylor State Convention boldly argued that neither of the nominees of the Whig or Democratic Conventions can be elected, and that Taylor, the independent “people’s candidate,” must sweep the Union. Will such “friends” call upon old Zac to retreat from the position in which they have placed him, and run the chances of his defeat before a Convention? It is such “friends” as the Editors of the Republican, who boldly proclaim that General Taylor “will not be withdrawn.”

But it is useless to press the arguments farther, that the Whig in its most difficult, nay, impossible effort to “ride both sides of the sapling,” (Taylor and the Whig Convention,) has involved itself in a most annoying “dilemma.” It is not the Republican and Enquirer alone, which, following out the rules of common sense and the plain meaning of language, have construed Gen. Taylor’s two letters, together, so differently from the Whig. The same view is taken in the following lamentatory article from the Fredericksburg News, which has been one of the most zealous Taylor organs in the country:

“The reader’s attention will be called to the two letters of General Taylor—one addressed to the Richmond Republican, the other to his relative in New Orleans, Captain J.S. Allison.

“There is scarcely a paper which has issued from the Press for the past six or eight months which did not contain a letter from General Taylor. We said in the early part of our months which did not contain a letter from General Taylor. We said in the early part of our editorial career, we would support no man for the Presidency who would indulge in that greatest of all evils, the cacoec hes scribendi, a disease more to be dreaded in a candidate for the Presidency than the small-pox. We supposed that Gen. Taylor was not imbued with the infection, that as an honest, practical, common-sense man he had formed opinions, and at a suitable time would give them to the public. In this we have been disappointed. He has the same fondness for letter-writing which has before killed off other Whig Candidates for the Presidency. His last, however, he promises, shall be his last; to which we hope he will adhere.

“The N. Orleans letter is unexceptionable in style and sentiment. We agree with him in all the views he there puts forth. Had he written that letter and none others, nothing could have defeated his nomination and his election. “The Richmond letter is highly objectionable. Gen. Taylor certainly advised in one of his numberless letters, the
nomination of Mr. Clay. If he did not say so in as many words, he gave us to understand he would abide the decision of a Whig National Convention. To say now he will disregard that Convention, and accept a nomination from any party or any Convention, and under all circumstances (should his friends desire it,) be a candidate, is an act of signal indiscretion, not to say total abandonment of all reliance upon the Whig party for support. Sincerely do we regret this position of Gen. Taylor. We yet hope he may be induced to abandon it."

But yesterdays' Union adds confirmation to the views which we have taken:

"The Richmond letter of Gen. Taylor, as published in the 'Union' of Thursday, has placed the Whig party in a curious position with respect to the nomination to be made in June. Upon the Clay, McLean, and Scott men it came like a thunder-clap. Old 'Rough and Ready' tells them plainly that he does not intend to be shuffled off the track by political jockeys. They must take him, or he is an independent candidate. Dare they refuse? We have been told of another letter written to a distinguished senator, in which the old general says: 'he feels under an obligation not to withdraw his name from the canvass, whoever is nominated by either the Whig or Democratic Conventions,' and he grounds the propriety of his decision on the manner in which he has been brought before the country, 'by the people.' Therefore, if the Whigs should refuse to nominate him, he may be considered the third candidate."

And in this connexion we quote from the Union a curious anecdote which is afloat in Washington:

"It is said that as soon as the letter was published in Richmond, two of the Taylor Whigs were alarmed. They saw it struck at all organization in the Whig party, and that, unless a candidate was named by the Whig Convention, they stood little chance of success. With this impression, a decided Whig leaves Richmond on Tuesday morning, to apply to one of the most distinguished Whigs in Congress to suffer his name to be used, under the belief that neither Clay nor Taylor could be elected. But here, again, is an insuperable difficulty. How could this distinguished Whig suffer his name to be used against Gen. Taylor, when he has been among his most active friends to bring the General into the field, and when Gen. Taylor now declares, as he is in the field, he will not withdraw his name form the canvass, whoever may be the nominee of the National Convention? If this gentleman runs, therefore, he has to run directly against Gen. Taylor. There are more things in heaven and earth than are dreamed of in our philosophy."

As, therefore, it may now be set down as a "fixed fact," that gen. Taylor will be an independent candidate at all events, the Whigs' very summary remedy for such contumacious conduct on the part of Gen. Taylor and his friends, will have to be put in force. "The claims of such a man” will not even be "weighed” in the Convention; for "what business has such an one indeed in a convention at all?” Gen. Taylor's position, by the Whig's rule, will have to be regarded as "grossly offensive to other aspirants for the Whig nomination, and as a defiance to the Whig party itself.” Should "the corporal's guard" of "Independency" make an "arrogant attempt to dictate" to the Whig Convention, "the effect of it may be to prevent a nomination altogether—certainly to prevent the nomination of Gen. Taylor."

But we have grouped together extracts enough to prove the "dilemma" of the Whig. One thing is positively certain (and it is a curious and amusing fact,) viz, that after all the "explicit, satisfactory," and "come out" expositions of the old soldier, two of the Taylor organs at our very door are utterly at points as to the "position" of Gen. Taylor—one of then contending for his "independent" stand, which will carry with him "patrician millions;" the other as stoutly maintaining that this "handful," this "corporal's guard" of Independents, will "render themselves ridiculous," and, what is more "mortifying" still, their candidate will not "receive an electoral vote in the Union". Here's another difficult plot in the play—vindice dignusdeo nodus. Another "exposition," another letter, is necessary. Suppose the editors of the Whig try their hands at questioning old Hero—and, if not then "satisfactory" the Times can have its "finger in the pie!" Oh! These President-killing letters, as sighs forth the Fredericksburg News.

REv45i2p4c6, May 9, 1848, To the Editors of the Enquirer. Washington, May 3, 1848.

Dear Sirs: Those members of Congress who made the call for the correspondence of general Scott with the War Department, have been fully gratified. The reply of Mr. Marcy to the fulminations of gen. Scott against the War Department generally, and the President covertly, are met with positive, direct testimony, mostly gleaned from Gen. Scott himself, that all his charges are the inventions of his own brain, with the aid, perhaps, of his friend, Don Nicholas P. Trist.—the testimony of the Quartermaster General goes to prove that Gen. Scott has himself to blame for the delay in the arrival of the transports, by changing his orders; and, moreover, the whole is an after thought; for what had the transport question to do with the conquest of Mexico after the Castle and Vera Cruz had surrendered to the gallant army under his command? The truth is, Gen. Scott is badly poised in judgment on civil matters, and does not fully understand his position. He is a noble General, and none excel him, but par excellence, there he stops. Whenever he touches civil affairs, he is, as the French say, neant—entirely at fault—for he becomes lost in his labyrinth of preconceived injuries, that have no foundation but in his own disturbed imagination.—The idea entertained by him, that the President and Mr. Marcy wished to cripple him in the campaign, is too ridiculous for serious refutation. The correspondence, Messrs. Editors, you should lay before your readers at an early day.

The gentleman with the scarlet coat, from N. Carolina, that made this call, and fought against the publication of Mr. Marcy's letter, I guess has his fill of Marcy boluses to a t least one month. —If he has not, it will be difficult for truth to reach him during the present session of Congress. It is not our wish to disparage Mr. Clingman; he is a very useful man in his way. Many of the Whigs dislike this last move of his; but they should not—he did it form the best motive in the world, and that was to excite sympathy for Gen. Scott, who has injured himself; and that he has
succeeded to the letter, no candid man, who will read Gov. Marcy's reply, can deny. Gen. Scott has used fancy for fact and argument against the Executive. Gov. Marcy returns his compliments to general Scott in solid, substantial, unmitigated truths—in language plain, but explicit, and regrets the necessity for his reply; and the subject rests there for the present.

General Scott was very inimical to Mr. Trist, for a time after his arrival in Mexico, as a messenger of peace. Suddenly he became much enamored of Don Nicholas, and now they are the veriest kind of "cozzen's" the world ever saw wedded together. There is no accounting for these changes, and men have a perfect right to change their views of each other. Indeed, Messrs. Editors, General Scott and Don Nicholas have become so closely allied, that many suspect that the present Court Martial in the City of Mexico has, in some way, emanated from that alliance. They are both very bitter against general Pillow, and appear to take much delight in his persecution. If this is the feast of reconciliation, I pity their reunion, for it will recoil upon them fourfold were they are done with this Court Martial affair. It makes but little difference to the American people, whether General Pillow killed a Mexican in personal combat or not; he helped to do so, and the whole army knew it. He being second in command, or fifth in command, whether he was a "green" or a ripe "general," he did his duty, as all others did, in that gallant army under General Scott. It is therefore a sorry business, because Maj. Burns thought proper to praise Gen. Pillow, that he, Gen. P., must suffer a bitter hatred of Mr. Trist and the ignominy of a court martial, because Gen. Scott was informed by some good, discreet friend, that Gen. P. wrote the "Leonidas" letter. It is a "fixed fact," as gen. Cushing on another occasion once said, that Gen. P. did not write the letter. And when the accusing party get through with their persecution of Gen. Pillow, we will be happy if they escape Maj. Burns. From what we know of him, of his cool, determined character, his sense of republican independence, we have no doubt but that he is fully able to defend himself and where truth and justice predominate, others will step forth boldly to his aid.

Messrs. Editors, this is an unfortunate business for Gen. Scott and Mr. Trist, and, my word for it, "the end is not yet."

Mr. Trist is on the way to the United States, and, as the court martial was about adjourning for the same purpose, I presume Gen. Scott will soon follow for the same destination. It is to be hoped he will cool off a little before he arrives. As to Mr. Trist, he cannot be cool, so irritable is his disposition, and his, feelings so far got the better of his discretion, before the court martial, that Gen. Towson had to request him to moderate his language—a pretty witness, truly.

The Yucatan message of the President, sent to Congress with the best intentions by Mr. Polk, has afforded Mr. Mr. Calhoun another theme for a thrust at the President. Nothing can ever please Mr. Calhoun again. Well, it cannot be helped at this late date. The Foreign Department is in very good keeping and if Mr. C. is satisfied [as he would vain make us believe,] why is it that he does not sustain the Government Executive in upholding the honor of the nation in this trying crisis, both of war and of foreign intervention?—He sustained Mr. Monroe in his declaration against foreign intervention. If Mr. Monroe was correct—and we all thought and believed him so—in his patriotic views, certainly Mr. Polk must be correct, when the occasion is rife for English interference. But Mr. C. has his own views and they are truly his own. They are so unlike any thing else than his own, that he must be allowed the full merit of originality in his conception of right and wrong.

The remains of Senator Ashley were attended to their final resting-place yesterday by an immense assembly of citizens and of both Houses of Congress, all the Cabinet and President. Every one regrets his demise, but none will feel his loss like the State of Arkansas, for his place will be difficult to be supplied with a more useful or talented man in the Senate of the United States. Yours, NED EVANS.

REv45i2p4c5, May 9, 1848, The Question Settled.

The London Times, a Tory organ, steps forward to advise the Whig party of the Union how to extricate themselves from their present difficulties. A brief extract may not be unimpressive. It depicts the President as a very monster and tyrant, upon whom not even a resolution of a decided majority of Congress in favor of "the conclusion of a peace, on any terms," would have the slightest effect; and it expresses its positive conviction, that "the sole effectual means of terminating such a war, is to remove from power the man who commenced it, and who now persists in it. That would be the inevitable fate of a minister in any constitutional country, with an adverse majority on such a question." It goes on to show that the real solution of the difficulty lies in the next Presidential election, and with great self-complacency exhorts the Whigs to rally upon gen. Scott, as the most available man to expel the present "dynasty." The Times adds:

"Probably an old soldier like general Scott, perfectly acquainted with the real nature of the war, the real value of these territorial acquisitions, would be better able than any other man to restore the blessings of peace to the country he has just conquered, and to bring back the policy of the United States within the bounds of peace and reason. That is the most promising aspect in which we can now view the questions which agitate the American people. By some means or other, the passions Mr. Polk has excited for his own purposes must be quelled, or they will embroil the nation in ceaseless wars; and in the present state of men's minds, the government of a cool headed soldier is more likely than any other remedy to cure this malignant fever, which has yet many months to rage before its violence can be interrupted."

Will the Whigs ratify this nomination, made in England? Will they send forth their coin, stamped with this
superscription of a British monarchist? Should General Scott, by way of compromise, be selected to lead on the Whig army, he will go into the field with the sympathies of European monarchists. The London Times warmly nominates him—and the author of the compromise (Scott and Botts) in the Whig here, says that "next to Louis Philippe, the position of Gen. Scott is more attractive" than that of any other public man.

REv45i3p1c1, May 12, 1848, Thirtieth Congress—First Session. Washington, Monday May 8.

SENATE.

A number of petitions and memorials were presented.

Mr. Dix presented the resolution of the New York Legislature, in favor of the payment of the claims of our citizens for French spoliations.

Mr. Dickinson presented a petition from New York, in favor of the proposed new railroad between New York and Philadelphia.

Several unimportant reports were made from committees.

Mr. Johnson, of Georgia, offered a resolution, which was adopted, instructing the Judiciary Committee to enquire into the expediency of establishing a Professorship of international law at the Annapolis Naval School, and to extend the number of appointments, so as to allow the administration of two for each member of Congress.

Mr. Breese reported a bill to grant the right of way through the public lands of Indiana, and alternate sections of the same, for a railroad.

The bill to authorize the holding of a special term of the District Court in Tennessee, was passed—also the bill relative to the public archives of Florida.

Several bills from the House were received and referred.

Mr. Borland introduced the bill of which he had given previous notice, to grant unsold overflowed public lands in Arkansas to that State, for purposes of internal improvement. Read twice and referred.

The special order of the day—the Yucatan bill—was then taken up.

When Mr. Foote referred to that portion of the report of Thursday’s debate in the Senate, which attributes to Mr. Calhoun the remark that he “had not considered it necessary to notice what the Senator from Mississippi had said,” in his speech of that day. Mr. Foote said, satisfactorily, that the remark referred to had been entirely misunderstood by the reporter.

Mr. Calhoun also disclaimed having used the expression, or any other disrespectful to the senator from Mississippi. [My reports are necessarily hasty, and I must of course have misunderstood the remarks at that point of the debate, tough others understood it as I did. I certainly had no intention to misrepresent the remarks of any one, and readily make the correction. I do this the more cheerfully because honorable senator from Mississippi has done me the justice to say that he believes the report, in other respects, substantially correct, and his speech of that say forms its prominent feature.]

Mr. Foote made a few remarks, and Mr. Hannegan also again urged the importance of prompt action. It had become a question—Shall we or shall England take possession of Yucatan?

Mr. Johnson, of Maryland, followed, and in the course of his remarks referred to the fact that though the message had only been on their table for a week, the subject had been brought to the attention of the Executive more than six months since. He also alluded to the charge which had been made against Texas, of “coqueting with England.” He was opposed to the bill in its present shape, and expressed his views on the subject at considerable length.

Mr. Houston would be glad if the Hon. Senator would point out any instance in which Texas had coquetted with England.

Mr. Johnson said that during the pilgrimage of the Senator to Gen. Jackson, if the papers had correctly quoted him, he had used such an expression.

Mr. Houston thanked the Senator from Maryland for the opportunity to contradict the statement. He had never used such remarks as had been attributed to him.
Mr. Houston then addressed the Senate at great length, in support of the bill, but I have not time before the cars leave to give a sketch of his remarks, which embraced several topics of public importance which now occupy the public attention.

Mr. Hannegan said that the Senator from N. York, some days since, had so clearly laid before the Senate the operations of England on the Yucatan coast, &c., that it was unnecessary for him to refer to the facts. It was well known that the object of England was to seize Yucatan. And Mr. Sierra, in his last communication, said that if the aid asked is not afforded in two short months, Yucatan, as a government, will cease to exist.

Mr. Jefferson Davis said that if this bill was passed over, he hoped the twenty regiment bill would be taken up, that the President might be enabled; in this particular case, to prosecute the war with Mexico in such a manner that a new war might not grow out of it, for he agreed with the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, (Mr. Hannegan,) that if delay was practiced the next question would be whether we shall expel England from Yucatan.

Mr. Calhoun contended that there was not the slightest probability that England would interfere or take possession of Yucatan. He was ready to take the responsibility of this declaration. He had examined the correspondence which had been referred to and there was nothing in it to warrant such a conclusion.

Mr. Crittenden followed. He desired, before agreeing to the movement authorized by the bill, such information as would warrant the taking of military possession for the objects contemplated, or from the considerations stated. He was in favor of the amendment proposed by Mr. Jefferson Davis.

Mr. Westcott addressed the Senate at length, and expressed his conviction that is was the intention of England to take possession of Yucatan, and that once in her possession, she would not relinquish it. And he would vote for any measure necessary to prevent England from taking possession, and to protect the interests of the U. States.

After some further conversation, the bill was passed over informally, and the Senate adjourned, after adopting a resolution calling on the president for further correspondence on the subject.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

After some unimportant business, the House, in committee of the Whole, resumed the consideration of the bill granting bounty lands to officers promoted from the ranks, and the several amendments proposed.

The amendments of Messrs. Thompson of Mississippi, and Lumpkin, of Georgia, to which I have already referred, and numerous others offered to-day, were rejected, and the bill was finally reported to the House and passed, with a single amendment, requiring that the officers referred to "shall have been elected or promoted, after reaching the seat of war."

And then the House adjourned. [BWP]
Mr. Allen had no idea, by a condemnation here of the Court of Inquiry now sitting in Mexico, to prejudge the proceedings of that court before they are concluded. When these proceedings were before them, it would be the time to discuss that question.

The Senator had supposed a case in which, by delay, the President might abuse his power, and for which he would be justly censurable; but that would not enlarge the powers of the Senate—that would not give to it powers not conferred by the constitution. The President might with infinitely more propriety call on Congress to know why they had not passed the ten regiment bill, or any other particular measure, and when they expected to pass it.

It was proposed by this resolution to do virtuously towards the President the same thing. It was a call on the Executive to know why he has not sent in certain appointments. He was opposed to establish any such system of mutual inquisition.

Where the constitution had prescribed the duties of the several departments of the government, Congress had no power to interfere, and this was clearly a case of that kind. He was for watching closely all attempts at usurpations was much greater than in the Executive Department of the government.

At the conclusion of Mr. Allen’s remarks, the resolution was passed over at the suggestion of Mr. Hannegan, and the Senate resumed the consideration of the Yucatan bill.

Mr. Lewis addressed the Senate in opposition to the bill in its present shape, and proposed and amendment, in the form of a preamble to Mr. Davis' amendment, which Mr. D. accepted as a modification. It is, substantially, that whereas an exterminating war is now waged by the Indians of Yucatan against white population; and whereas Mexico, of which Yucatan is a State, has been rendered incapable, by reason of the war with the United States, to render the necessary protection to Yucatan; and whereas, in the existing state of things, humanity, and our duty to Mexico, require that protection should be afforded to Yucatan by the United States, until Mexico shall be in a situation to extend that protection herself; therefore the President is authorized, &c., provided that our protection shall not be withdrawn until Congress is satisfied that Mexico is in a condition to afford protection, and provided further, that nothing herein shall be construed to warrant the permanent occupation or annexation of Yucatan to the United States.

Mr. Niles followed. He expressed his surprise at the urgency with which immediate action on this bill was pressed, and commented at some length on the Message of the President, and the proposition of Yucatan to deliver up her sovereignty to the U. States. Whether the humanity of the measures suggested by the Executive was excited by the proffer of sovereignty on the part of Yucatan he would not pretend to say.

Mr. N. then proceeded to discuss the merits of the bill, drawing a distinction between the bill and the message, the former of which, he said, did not cover the whole ground embraced in the latter. The bill was for a particular purpose, but the message went much farther. He contended that neither the declaration of Mr. Monroe, the peculiar position of the people of Yucatan, nor the principle of non-intervention, warranted the interference proposed. He was, for one, unwilling to take the responsibility of exterminating the Indian population of Yucatan, independent of other considerations.

Mr. Niles asserted that there were two parties in Yucatan, between whom a difficulty existed; but as to the causes of that difficulty, or the merits of the controversy, we know nothing. But it had been stated that the chief object of this application from Yucatan was the "extermination" of the Indians. He read from the correspondence to show the character of the people which we are called upon to "exterminate." If, as has been stated, our interference was to involve us in a war with Great Britain—an event which he had not apprehended—the bill assumed a higher character, and their responsibilities were proportionately increased.

At the conclusion of Mr. Niles’ speech, which was of great length, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On motion of Mr. Burt, the House resumed the consideration of the joint resolution providing for the payment of the regiment of Texas mounted troops called into the service under the requisition of Col. Curtis—the question being on a motion to reconsider the vote by which the House of Thursday ordered the bill to be engrossed.

The question being put, the motion prevailed, and Mr. Burt offered an amendment relating to horses lost in the Gulf of Mexico, and then agreed to. Thus, amended, the resolution was again put upon its passage, when a further amendment, striking out the clause giving bounty lands, was proposed and adopted, and then the resolution thus amended, was again read the third time and passed.

The House then resolved itself into Committee of the Whole and took up the bill for the admission of Wisconsin into the Union, but without coming to any conclusion thereon the committee rose, and at 3 o'clock the House adjourned. [BWP]
The Whig was mistaken when, in its hasty article of Wednesday, the 26th of April, it says the Enquirer “professes to have every thing at its fingers’ ends,” relating to “this question” about a “Protective Tariff.” We only professed to have heretofore read the “early history” of the government having reference to this subject, and to possess, as er supposes many well educated school-boys did, “more and better information than the editors of the Whig had exhibited,” not in reference to the whole question, but as to “Gen. Hamilton’s opinions and position in regard to it.”

And we submit that this is not saying much either for ourselves or the school-boys, when it appears that the editors of the Whig, in the same article of Wednesday, seem to admit that they were not before aware of the existence of Gen. Hamilton’s celebrated “Report on Manufactures.” We really were surprised that the editors had apparently overlooked this Report, and are still more so, to infer that they did not know of it; and we cannot doubt that, in this respect, there are school-boys who have the advantage of them. But we assure our neighbors that it was not our intention to impute to them such want of information in regard to this whole subject as they state, much less generally, --and desire now to correct any such impression, if our language warranted it; so that they cannot decline the discussion on that ground. We must, however, in candor add, that, in our opinion, very little reliance should be placed on the conclusions to which the Whig has arrived on the question we are discussing, when, in regard to Gen. Hamilton’s opinions, it has exhibited such a singular defect of information; and especially if we shall show, as we expect to do, that it is almost equally at fault in regard to Mr. Jefferson’s.

While we do profess to have some general knowledge of the “early history” of this subject, we must also candidly admit that, so far from having “everything at our finger’s ends” about it a good deal of labor and of time has been spent in searching up the old “records” referring to it, in order to refresh our memories; which we knew must have grossly betrayed us, if the “inevitable conclusions” of the Whig were at all correct.—These old “records” happened not to be very accessible to us at this time; and we confess our inability to quote them verbatim—or any of them, even Hamilton’s report, much as we have heard of it—without having them before us. This, with the fact that we have been occupied occasionally with other matters (Revolutions in Europe, Old Zac’s “position,” &c.) united to our desire to treat the subject candidly, fairly, and accurately, in our articles upon it, will, we hope, show satisfactorily, to the editors of the Whig and to our readers, why we “require an unusual time in their preparation” and why they appear so “labored” as the Whig states. Surely none of our patients—not even the Whig—can complain because we are thus compelled to administer our medicine in broken doses, given at long intervals, or that it is manufactured with much labor; for we profess to have no patent machine for making it.

Our present article, we regret to say, has been delayed by our inability to procure a copy of M. Smith’s “great free trade speech delivered in 1793.” We are curious to see this speech, because the Whig had repeatedly declared that it was “in favor of free trade,” and now pronounces it “the great free trade speech delivered in 1793,” in its very same article of Wednesday and almost in the very same breath in which it says “the humbug of Free Trade is itself of modern invention.” If the term “modern” is intended to be applied to “that humbug” generally, then we say it is at least as ancient as the science of political economy or as trade itself; and that it has been ably advocated by the earliest as well as the best writers on the subject. Every text book on the science, used in our schools, treat “free trade,” and many of our school-boys, we presume, must know that it is no “modern invention” in this application of the terms, which we suppose, therefore, could not be the application intended by the Whig. But if those terms were intended to mean that “free trade” was “of modern invention” in reference particularly in our own government, then the Whig would seem to contradict itself, for it insists that as early as “1793,” only about four years after the organization of the government under our present constitution, Mr. Smith “delivered a great speech,” “in favor of “free trade;” also that Mr. Hamilton was then in favor of “free trade,” and Mr. Jefferson was then opposed to “free trade.”—“The humbug” must then have been invented almost as soon as the government itself, and cannot be called “modern” in reference to it, with any propriety or without direct contradiction, however mistaken the Whig may be as to the inventors. The Whig itself shows that this “humbug” is nearly as old as the government itself, and that is, at any event, quite a respectable old age, at least for a humbug, being more than half a century. We have taken it for granted that Mr. Smith did not make a great speech in favor of “free trade” before the thing was invented, which he could only have done in the manner Guy Faux is said, in the song of the “Gunpowder Plot,” to have used Locofofo matches, we believe, in setting fire to the Parliament House—that is, that Mr. Smith would have made a great speech in favor of “free trade” in 1793, only “it was not just invented then.” Our readers will understand why we are curious to see this speech, which, according to the Whig’s account of the matter must be a very curious affair, being made about a “humbug” before it was invented. But, seriously, we presume this remark of the Whig to be the mere result of inadvertence and haste, and while it complains of our “labored articles,” we must recommend to it to labor its own a little more, if it wishes to avoid such glaring contradictions, and to try, as we do, even at the cost of some trouble and delay, to inform itself before it undertakes to enlighten others. Just think of some Whig orator, as we may surely expect, pronouncing “free trade” a “modern humbug” in our politics, and in the same breath telling of “the great speech” made in favor of it, on the floor of Congress, in 1793, only fifty-five years ago!

In this connection, the Whig asks, “when, indeed, did the Enquirer itself become an advocate of a non-protecting Tariff?” and challenges us “to show chapter and verse,” as if it thought “free trade” was an “invention” so “modern” that it must have been made long since the Enquirer was established. We may at some convenient time answer this “challenge” of the Whig, and gratify its desire, as far as our files will enable us. But we do not see that what the Enquirer may contain can throw any light on the “early history” of this subject, or can tend to show what opinions Gen. Hamilton or Mr. Jefferson, at that period, may have entertained about it; we must therefore postpone the production of “chapter and verse” for the present. We do not know that we shall be able to find in the Enquirer any “verse” at all about a “non-protecting Tariff.”—All we can recollect to have seen on that subject in “verse” is to be found in the Whig song books where we believe some edifying and entertaining couplets may be discovered. If we find any in our old files, the Whig shall surely have them; but at present, it must excuse us and let us dispose of the question before us.
We think we should be able to do this better, if we could find Mr. Smith's "great free trade speech;" and we are therefore no less anxious than curious to see it. The Whig lays great stress upon this speech; for in its same Wednesday's article it says "in regard to Mr. Hamilton's opinions," the editors confess "they have no other evidence than that of Mr. Jefferson;" and this evidence of Mr. Jefferson consists of his conjecture "that Hamilton had furnished to Mr. Smith of South Carolina the great free trade speech delivered in 1793;" so that "it cannot be doubted that Mr. Jefferson DISAPPROVED OF THE DOCTRINES OF THAT SPEECH;" and of course, "at the time, MR. JEFFERSON WAS IN FAVOR OF" "the protective policy;" and it concludes by asking us "not to lose sight of this fact." If we can once get sight of the fact, we will try not to lose it. But we have not as yet been able to find Mr. Smith's great speech; and the only question at all material about it, is, was it a "free trade" speech in "fact?" If it was not, then the conclusions of the Whig, (founded on the "fact" of Mr. Jefferson's "conjecture") namely, that because Mr. Hamilton furnished the speech, therefore he was in favor of "free trade," and as Mr. Jefferson disapproved it therefore he was opposed to free trade and in favor of the "protective policy," must fail; and if, on the other hand, it was in "fact" a protective tariff speech, then these conclusions should be reversed and Gen. Hamilton's consistency, in favor of protection, will be vindicated, while we shall have taken one step towards showing Mr. Jefferson's disapprobation of that policy. We wish, therefore to see the speech, and hope the Whig will aid us in finding it.—In its article of March 29th, in which an extract from this speech is given verbatim, the Whig represents it to have been made in 1794, while in its late article of April 26th, it several times says it was "delivered in 1793." We doubt not this is another inadvertent, except as it has perplexed us in our efforts to find or identify it: for the Whig, in referring us to "the record," as on other occasions, in its haste, omits to inform its readers in what particular "record" it found this "great speech." We shall be obliged to the Whig now to supply the omission, and to inform us where the speech can be procured. We suspect the assumption of the Whig, (for it appears to us to be no more,) that this speech of Mr. Smith was "a free trade speech," is founded in misapprehension and mistake, as it seems to admit some of its other assumptions to have been; resulting, we doubt not, from the rapidity of composing articles, which it appears to esteem so highly. We suspect the "fact" will turn out to be, that it was not a "free trade speech" at all, but was perhaps rather more of "a protective tariff" speech. Certainly the extract given from it be the Whig, in its former article of March 29th, does not tend to show that it had any reference even to "free trade," while in a long and very full abstract of a speech delivered by Mr. Smith of South Carolina in 1794, on Mr. Madison's resolutions, (no doubt the same speech referred to be the Whig,) which is given by Judge Marshall in his "Life of Washington," volume 5, pages 490 to 498, the terms "free trade" are not to be found at all. This Abstract, if accurate, as we cannot doubt it is, would show that the speech, instead of being "a great free trade speech," or made on that subject, had no direct reference to it; and so far as it has any reference to "a protective tariff," or to the "protection of manufactures," it rather shows that Mr. Smith was, at least, inclined to favor that system. We refer the Whig and our readers to the whole abstract, but [illegible] the following paragraph, as indicating at once the whole subject actually discussed, as well as Mr. Smith's apparent inclination in favor of protection. Judge Marshall, page 496, makes Mr. Smith say:

"If the object of the resolutions were the encouragement of domestic manufactures, there might be some semblance of argum4nt in their favor. But this is not contemplated. Their avowed object is to turn the course of trade form one nation to another, by means which would subject the citizens of the United States to great inconvenience."

It would seem, then, that if the "encouragement of manufactures" had been, in Mr. Smith's view of them, "the object of the resolutions," he might have been found an advocate for them, and of course we may infer, was in favor of "a protective tariff." But this was not even "contemplated." On the contrary, the "avowed object," he says, was "to turn the course of trade form one nation to another," that is, from Great Britain to France; and the ulterior object, as he might have added, and as we shall hereafter show, was to force Great Britain into a commercial treaty with us, and all nations into "free trade" with us, which France then exhibited a strong disposition to favor. This policy of forcing all foreign nations into "free trade" with the United States, by commercial restrictions against those nations who would not adopt "free trade," and commercial advantages in favor of those who would, was Mr. Jefferson's favorite policy, as we shall hereafter show more fully. This policy (set forth at large in Mr. Jefferson's great report on commerce, made, as Secretary of State, December 16th, 1793, which we shall again refer to more particularly, and which we will show was opposed to that of General Hamilton, contained in his celebrated "report on manufactures,") was embodied in Mr. Madison's resolutions, and was opposed be <Mr. Smith's speech. Although Mr. Smith's argument had no direct reference to free trade, the effect of the speech was, in Mr. Jefferson's view, against free trade—and hence, perhaps, his remark, that Smith did not comprehend his own speech. So far, then, from being "a great free trade speech," unless we are convinced of the contrary by the sight of it, we must conclude, as we think every candid reader will, upon the evidence before us, that is was in fact an anti free trade speech, and that Mr. Jefferson so considered it. His conjecture, therefore, that General Hamilton wrote it, is perfectly consistent with his knowledge that General Hamilton was in favor of "a protective tariff," and with his own advocacy of "free trade." So much, then, for this imposing Whig "fact" against Mr. Jefferson's "free trade" opinions—at least at present. In another "chapter" we will adduce some positive evidence of Mr. Jefferson's advocacy of "free trade" and opposition to the "protective policy," and endeavor to show what his opinions and position really were in reference to those questions.

But before we conclude this "chapter," though already too long, it is due to the Whig to acknowledge its candor in admitting in its Wednesday's article, as we anticipated it would, "that the Enquirer has satisfied us" [its editors] "that, in 1791, Mr. Hamilton was in favor of the protective policy." So far, then, we are agreed. "But," adds the Whig, "it has not convinced us that he was not opposed to it in 1793." The only evidence of this supposed opposition of General Hamilton to the protective policy in 1793, as the Whig admits, is Mr. Smith's speech and Mr. Jefferson's conjecture. After what is said above on this "evidence," we are willing to leave it to the Whig itself to estimate its weight, satisfied it will be found a little less than nothing. We cannot find any declaration of Gen. Hamilton's opinions on this subject as late as 1793. Nor is this to be wondered at, since his first great "Report on Manufactures" fell dead in the Halls of Congress; for, although it was referred to the Committee of the whole House on the 23rd of January, 1792, it does not appear afterwards on the journals, nor can we find any subsequent reference or allusion.
to its in Congress. But in his Report of March 16th, 1792, [American State Papers, edition 1832, vol 5, p. 150] is found this passage:

“It is certain, also, that a spirit of manufacturing prevails at this time in a greater degree than it has done at any antecedent period; and as far as an increase of duties shall tend to second and aid this spirit, they will serve to promote essentially the industry, the wealth, the strength, the independence and the substantial prosperity of the country.”

This shows that as late as March 16, 1792, Gen. Hamilton had not changed his opinion—at most, less than two years before Mr. Smith’s speech was made; which really can furnish no evidence of such a change, or that Gen. Hamilton had, as the Whig insinuates, “two sets of opinions on this question, as well as Mr. Jefferson” &c. The Whig had as well abandon this idea. These great men had advocated great systems of governmental policy, which they perfectly understood, and were not apt to vary. Where their detached expressions see, to indicate otherwise, it is only, we believe, because those expressions are isolated and then misunderstood. The protection of manufacturers was a part of General Hamilton’s system of governing by monopolies; and the Whig may be assured that as he was it author and advocate in 1791, so he remained to the day of his lamentable and untimely death.

[REV45I3P1C3, May 12, 1848, Anecdotes in Yucatan.]

The heart bleeds at the following recital of atrocities which have been committed in that distracted country, (says the Union.) It is furnished by Don Justo Sierra, the commissioner of Yucatan now in Washington—a gentleman of education, and a nephew of a distinguished Mexican, who was formerly driven from his country in account of his liberal principles, took refuge in Texas, whose destiny he shared, and whose revolution he promoted:

**Horrible Atrocities committed by the Savages in Yucatan**

During the siege of Valladolid, the savage Indians proposed that commissioners should be sent out to them to treat for peace. The parish priest of that city, a young ecclesiastic of unblemished conduct and well-known piety, (Dr. Manuel Sierra de O'Reilly, a brother of Don Justo Sierra, the present commissioner of Yucatan at Washington,) was nominated for that purpose, together with the chief police and two other respectable citizens. Dr. Sierra had acquired, by his charity and benevolence, a wide-spread popularity with the Indians of the city and its vicinity, and the most happy results were anticipated form the mission. Two days were passed in pacific conference with the savages; after which they committees the unheard-of brutality of assassinating him and his colleagues in the church. Their lives were feloniously taken in reward for their (perhaps) indiscreet confidence in the integrity and honor of a race, who, alas! are too well known for their perfidy.

After the city of Valladolid fell into the hands of these barbarians, there were found within its suburbs one hundred and seventy-seven women and children who had been left without the means of escape. They were all brought into an enclosure, or fenced lot, where, to the sound of music and obscene songs, the women were publicly violated; and, after prolonged torments, which lasted thirteen hours, they were all murdered.

The venerable curate of Guainia, who had been 53 years among the Indians—during the whole of which period his life had been devoted to their service—was forced from his bed, where he was prostrated by disease, and was dragged to the belfry of the church in which he had for many years ministered to their spiritual wants, where he was ignominiously hung to the bell rope.

More than 30,000 men, women, and children, who were without any means of defence, have been assassinated in the frontier settlements and villages. The most horrid acts of atrocity have been committees by the relentless savages—acts more frightful in their character then those which attracted the wrath of a just and offended God against the accursed cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. Such are the citizens, who, as expressed by some of the public presses, _are vindicating their political rights_ by an insurrectionary movement!!

[REV45I3P1C6, May 12, 1848, Clay in Alabama.]

The Whig Convention in the Mobile District has passed the strongest resolutions _unanimously_ in favor of Mr. Clay for the Presidency, and appointed Clay Delegates (the Editor of the Mobile Advertiser one of them) to the National Convention—all unanimously.

The 4th District (Greene) has compromised between Clay and Taylor, by sending two delegates to the Convention for one, and two for the other.

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“That same old Coon” is not quite dead in Alabama.
We yesterday morning received the Fredericksburg mail the following epistle. We publish it verbatim and literatim, for the benefit of the Virginia Whig Taylor organs, which have not yet succeeded in defining Old Zac's "position:"

Mister Richy—I wants to ax you 3 questions, but I hope you won't leve me as much in the dark as ginral taler did mister republican in anser to them three questions ov hizzen.

1st—is ginral taler a neutral man, or a Jefferson democrat, like he sed he was sum time ago?

2nd—which is the skeerdest, henry cla or ole zac?

3d & las—ain't sum ov the whig organs in this state a leetle out ov tune; and, if so, which is out ov tunist?—in haste yours, til deth,

GUS. HENTIL, ov Hentilvil, Va.

[Mexico-The Treaty, &c.]

The New Orleans Bulletin learns from Mr. Trist, now in New Orleans, that he thinks there is little or no doubt of the ratification of the treaty by the Mexican Congress—

Such, we learn, is the decided opinion of all the best informed, most intelligent and most influential Mexicans at the Capital. The probability is that there will not even be any opposition—at least none of any moment—to ratifying it, nor any difficulty in forming a quorum for the purpose of taking it into consideration so soon as our commissioners reach the Capital, and are prepared to proceed with their negotiation. All the unfavorable reports as to the prospects of peace, we are glad to hear, are either unfounded or greatly exaggerated, and it is believed that whatever foreign influence may exist in Mexico, official or private, will be exerted to promote the ratification.

"We learn, with pleasure, that the health of the army was much improved, though there was still considerable sickness and mortality. Disease has been more fatal to our army in Mexico, than the battle-field, and the volunteers have suffered more severely than the regulars, arising from greater imprudence in living, both in eating and drinking, neither of which can be practiced with impunity in that climate.

"It was expected that the Court of Inquiry would probably close its labors form the 20th to the 25th April, and adjourn to meet in the United States, when Gen. Scott would immediately leave, on his return home. He is probably, at this moment, in Vera Cruz."

[CITY OF MEXICO, April 17, 1848.

Enclosed you will find a translation of the first letter I have received from the gentleman employed as your correspondent at Queretaro.—You will perceive that he says Senators and Deputies are constantly arriving there from all parts of Queretaro; and yet, he adds that the House of Deputies lacks sixteen or eighteen of a quorum, and the Senate four, showing the number of Congressmen present at the seat of government to be less now then it was
a fortnight ago, when the Mexican journals reported that but fourteen were wanting in both houses to make a quorum. This tallies with reports here that members are leaving Queretaro for their homes as fast, if not faster, than new ones arrive. There are few here now that do not despair of the treaty being ratified by the Mexican Government, chiefly in consequence of the tardiness displayed by Pena y Pena, in bringing Congress together, and the nonfulfillment of his promise to have a quorum assembled as soon the treaty was returned ratified by our Government. Reports are current still, too, that Bustamente is opposed to peace, and, you will observe that your Queretaro correspondent, in speaking of him and Minon going to San Luis Potosi with the army, says they have gone under the pretext of suppressing an Indian insurrection in the Sierra Gordo district, which lies between Tampico and San Luis Potosi. Paredes, notwithstanding the fulminations of the Government at Queretaro against him, and the order issued to the Governor of San Luis Potosi to arrest him, was still at liberty at the last advices from San Luis. Now, the object of Bustamente in going to San Luis, without doubt, is either to overawe the partisans of Paredes, and arrest him, or to coalesce with him, and if the latter, farewell to the Government of Pena y Pena and peace. Time alone can reveal the designs of Bustamente, but we shall very soon have a knowledge of them. It is gratifying to know that the men now here will permit no trifling on the part of the Government at Queretaro.

Mr. Sevier arrived here on Saturday. Both he and Mr. Clifford say they can have but few words with the Mexicans, and those are to ratify the treaty quickly, and the general in-chief has within a few days declared that he will be very soon either in Vera Cruz or Queretaro. This is the only way to deal with Mexico, for their strength is entirely in procrastination.

The trail of the officers and men accused of the late murder and attempt of burglary is going on. I would send you a report of the evidence, but the court has only admitted reporters on condition that the evidence shall not be published here or in the United States, until some time shall have elapsed that there will be a certainty of the publication not reaching here before the trial is concluded.

You have doubtless heard that a council of war was held when the army was in Puebla, to debate the propriety of "buying a peace," by advancing a certain sum of money to Santa Ana. It is said that Gen. Scott, although the council of war decided against the plan, entered into negotiations with Santa Anna, through Mackintosh, to bribe him either into a treaty, or not to oppose the advance of the American army upon the capital; that the sum was agreed upon, and that ten thousand dollars were advanced as "earnest. . . [illegible]. . . is guilty of this, but that a charge to the effect I have mentioned, or somewhat similar is to be made, the character and position of my informant leaves me no room to doubt.

There is a part of your Queretaro correspondent’s letter that I do not very clearly understand. It is that stating that several American officers have joined the Mexican army. I can only learn of one American officer who has gone from this line of the army to Queretaro—a Lieut. O’Sullivan—who was promoted form the ranks to a commission in one of the old Infantry regiments for his gallantry at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. He resigned his commission some time ago, and it is believed went to Queretaro join the Mexican army. It is probable that many of the deserters from the ranks of our army, with the view of obtaining commissions in the Mexican army, represent themselves on arriving at Queretaro as having been officers, and thus your correspondent may have fallen into error. The inhabitants of Zecualtepec, at which place General Lane had the fight with Jarauta, have petitioned General Butler to remunerate them for the losses suffered by them by the fight and the partial sacking of the town. General Polk is collecting evidence to show that their reports of their losses are greatly exaggerated, and which will also show that the town must have been almost exclusively inhabited by guerillas and their accomplices. Nearly every house and store in the town had articles in them which bore evidence of their having been robbed from the trains. American whiskey and American manufactured tobacco—articles never used by Mexicans—were found in the most of them, and in others goods of all descriptions marked to American and other merchants in this city. D. S.

Queretaro, April 13, 1848.

Senators and Deputies are arriving here daily from all parts of the States of the Republic.—Those who are here meet frequently in caucuses (juntas preparatorias.)

It is generally believed that Congress will meet after the Easter holidays, that is from the first to the fifth of next month.

The number of Deputies wanting for a quorum now, is sixteen to eighteen, and the number of Senators wanting is four.

The army of reserve, and the munitions, have left here under General Bustamente and Minon, of San Luis Potosi, under the pretext of preserving order and tranquility, which are threatened by the rising of the Indians at the Sierra Gordo.

All the opinions expressed up to this time by the members of the new Congress are in favor of peace.
Some officious Mexicans have induced several American officers, as it appears, reluctantly, to come to Queretaro, and they have enlisted in the army. Three of them have been sent to Guadalajara, and to the others are waiting here for their appointments. In my next letter I will give you their names. The two battalions of San Patricio consist of from a hundred to an hundred and twenty men.

The stage which left this city for Guanajuato yesterday, was attacked by a band of robbers about five miles from here. The passengers fired and killed one of the robbers, who was carried off immediately by his companions. The passengers returned to town, an asked the Government for an escort, which was refused. They let the stage go on empty, and entered their protest against the refusal of the government to protect them under such circumstances.

City of Mexico, April 19, 1848.

Herewith you will find the second letter of your Queretaro correspondent, dated the 14th inst., and had it not been for the breaking down of the diligencia on the road, I should have had a letter a day later from him. This letter will be found exceedingly interesting at the present moment, in view of the possibility of the treaty not being ratified at Queretaro, and a reopening of the war, in as much as it gives in detail the present military resources of the country and what is deemed necessary by the Government in case a prolongation of the war if determined upon; but if such a determination is thought of, how appalling must these statistics be to any Mexican of sense, who desires to preserve the nationality of his country. Eleven thousand five hundred men is all they can bring into the field. They say if peace cannot by had they want 53,500 men more, and 155 pieces of artillery, of which latter they have, I learn from good authority, at all points, not more than forty pieces, and these generally og an inferior quality. To support the force which they said would be required, would involve a monthly expenditure of over a million dollars, and with all their ports in their possession and a large portion of their richest territory, together with seven or eight of their most wealthy and populous cities, whence, in the absence of all national credit, can they expect to raise so large a sum. So desperate a situation of affairs of the country one should think would bring the members of Congress together at Queretaro in a rush, to ratify the highly favorable treaty that awaits their action; but we have no evidence of such a disposition, and by virtue of the members of Pena y Pena’s Government and the “occupationists,” who are daily growing in strength, the treaty may be rejected, or which would be the same in result, they may prevent the action of congress upon it until the 2d June, when, as is understood, if the treaty be not ratified, warlike operations are to be resumed.

Your correspondent at Queretaro still refers to desertions, and continues to assert that American officers are among the number. I am yet of opinion that he has been deceived in this matter, and that private and non-commissioned officers who have gone to Queretaro have, for the purpose of obtaining respectable positions in the Mexican army, represented themselves as having been commissioned officers (which I take it, your correspondent means they have been) in the American army. You will think by the statement of your correspondent that several of these deserters have been sent into the interior States to organize companies of Americans strange, but I am credibly informed that there are some six or eight hundred teamsters, discharged soldiers and deserters scattered through the country, some idling and others at work in the factories, or engaged in other occupations. The greater part of this number are at Guanajuato and Guadalajara. This attempt on the part of our government to increase military force of the country and the efforts to promote desertion from our army would seem to convey belligerent intentions; but it may be that Pena y Pena is looking to the possibility of being compelled, by his own countrymen to continue the war.

The letter says that several of the States have refused to send their Representatives to Congress, and private letters from Queretaro represent that it is contemplated by the Government, in view of the present position of Yucatan, and the state of the country generally, to decree that fifty or sixty members of Congress shall constitute a quorum, and thus declare a quorum to be present now, and thus baffle the designs of the opponents of peace. It is said our commissioners will not recognize a ratification of the treaty that is not constitutional, but with Mr. Buchanan’s instructions to Mr. Trist, to negotiate with a Dictator, should he find one in power, it would not be prudent to believe that our Government will be over nice as to the constitutional organization of the Government at Queretaro.

There is but little news to communicate from this point. The trial of the officers and men charged with the murder and attempted burglary in the Calle de la Palma is progressing. Lieutenant Hare is the only one of the party that has yet been before the commission. The evidence against him thus far proves, beyond doubt his connection with the affair, and Armstrong, who has become “State’s evidence,” swears that Hare was the leader.

The treaty was sent to Queretaro on the day before yesterday by a Mexican express, and at the same time a dispatch was sent to the Mexican Government by our commissioners. I do not know the purport of their communication; but a reply is anticipated on Friday, when they except to start for Queretaro. Should they go, Major Polk with a hundred, or an hundred and fifty men, will escort them. I shall go with them, as there is but little of interest to write upon from this place, and I can be more useful to you at Queretaro.

Colonel Black, of the 1st Pennsylvania, arrived here on Saturday, the 11th, from Vera Cruz, in command of a military train. He made the shortest march to and from Vera Cruz that has ever been made with infantry. He made the march each way in thirteen days. Colonel Loomis, who is escorting a merchant train from Vera Cruz, will be here tomorrow. We received a very large mail this morning, which brought us New Orleans dates to the 8th instant. D.S.

Queretaro, April 14, 1848.

During the last few days from fifteen to twenty American soldiers, deserters, have arrived here, who enlisted immediately into the Mexican army. Several of them have been attached to the artillery and ordnance department.
Others have been sent to Guanajuato and Guadalajara for the purpose of organizing companies which are to be formed of Americans (deserters.) There is much talk about a desertion of from four to five hundred men that it is said, is to take place in a few days from the American troops quartered about the city of Mexico, and it is further said that several agents have left this place in order to facilitate the desertion.

It is a fact that, in the above named departments, there are not only American soldiers, but also American officers, who have deserted within a short time. Amongst them s an artillery officer, who deserted six days ago, and they have left this place in order to organize in all the interior States.

The insurgents of Xichu, in the State of Guanajuato, have risen to a formidable body. They...[illegible]...and they have partisans even as far as the district of San Felipe. They have given the cry for anarchical principles, and are destroying all towns through which they pass. The forces sent against them have not been sufficient to quell the insurrection.

It appears that the South and some of the other States refuse to send their representatives to Congress, but the number is not sufficient to prevent the opening of Congress.

According to a statement presented to Congress, the Mexican Government require, for the purpose of carrying on the war against the Americans: Sappers and Miners, 531; Foot Artillery, 2640; Mounted do., 536; Infantry of the line, 47,340; Cavalry, 9,440; other disciplined forces, 4,500. A total of 65,077 men, to form 60 battalions and 16 regiments, and added to this a train of 145 pieces of Artillery.

To support this force would involve a monthly expense of $1,172,539, without taking into account the extra pay and extra rations during the war, the cost of the horses for the artillery train, train for bridges, ammunition, clothing, hospital stores, and other necessary expenses.

The forces existing at present are: Infantry, from 6000 to 8000 men; Cavalry, form 2000 to 3000 men; Artillery, 500 men. Total, 8000 to 11,500; which latter will include all the disciplined forces in the service.

Therefore, the Mexicans, in order to continue the war, will have to arm and equip 531 Sappers and Miners, 2140 Foot Artillery, 536 Mounted do., 39,340 Infantry of the Line, 6440 Cavalry, 4590 other disciplined forces—53,577 men in all and 145 pieces of artillery, at an expense of one million and some hundred thousands of dollars per month. [BWP]

REv45i3p2c3, May 12, 1848, Interesting from Chihuahua.

[From the N. Orleans Picayune, May 4.]

The Battle of Santa Cruz de Rosales.

The U.S. steamship Fashion, Captain Morgan, arrived from Brazos Santiago yesterday, whence she sailed on the 30th ult., bringing us several days later intelligence from the Rio Grande, and interesting news from Chihuahua. Among the passengers on the Fashion was J. L. Collins, Esq, bearer of dispatches form General Price and General Wool to headquarters at Washington. Our readers are already familiar with the name of Squire Collins, honorable mention having been repeatedly made of him. He was taken prisoner some months since near Chihuahua, and confined till about the first of February, when he succeeded in making his escape and joining the American troops at El Paso.—He participated in the battle of Santa Cruz de Rosales, with Gen. Price's command, and has kindly furnished us with a succinct statement of the affair and the events which were connected with it. As we have had no accounts of the engagement save form Mexican sources, and American's version of the affair will be read with interest.

Mr. Collins informs us that about the first week in February he succeeded in breaking prison at Chihuahua, then in possession of the Mexican troops under command of Gov. Trias, and after an arduous journey of six days, succeeded in reaching El Paso, 300 miles distant, then under command of Lieut. Col. Ralls, of the Missouri Mounted Volunteers. Previously to his arrival intelligence had been received form various sources that Urrea, with a strong force of lancers, was upon the road to attack them, having made a detour to the westward, and these reports were confirmed by the capture of a small party of Mexicans, under command of a lieutenant, who were surprised and taken at a small town called Carazal, half way between Chihuahua and El Paso. Letters announcing the intended march of Urrea were found in the possession of the commanding officer. Intelligence was thereupon dispatched to Santa Fe to Gen. Price, who immediately started with two companies of the 1st Regiment U. S. Dragoons, commanded by Major Bell, one company of same regiment acting as artillery, commanded by Lieut. Love, and the battalion of St. Louis Infantry, commanded by Lieut. Col. Easton and the Santa Fe Battalion under Major Walker, and arrived about the 20th of February at El Paso, increasing the command to about 1600 men.

It was ascertained that the report of Urrea's advance was entirely false, and Squire Collins furnished Gen. Price with all information of Gov. Trias's position and means of resistance, Gen. P. at once determined to march down and attack him. Accordingly, on the 1st of March, he started with about 400 men and arrived at Chihuahua on the evening of the 7th performing the entire distance in the extraordinary space of seven days. A deputation of the civic authority came out and held an interview with General Price, informing him of the reported conclusion of a treaty of
commanded by Captain Greer, and arrived at Gen. Wool's headquarters on the 20th. He proceeds on to Washington about 2000 stand of small arms. On the 18th, General Price started back for Chihuahua, taking with him Gov. Trias amount of arms and ammunition captured. There were fourteen pieces of artillery, some of a heavy caliber, and the Mexican force was from 1500 to 2000.—The officers, some forty in number were taken prisoners, and the whole side of the Mexicans was about 150 killed and as many wounded, while on our side there were but five killed and twenty wounded—two of whom subsequently died.

To this general Price consented, and not only waited the four days, but four days longer, at the expiration of which time, a portion of his force having come up, increasing his strength to about 700, he determined to attack the town. The officers, some forty in number were taken prisoners, and the whole amount of arms and ammunition captured. There were fourteen pieces of artillery, some of a heavy caliber, and about 2000 stand of small arms. On the 18th, General Price started back for Chihuahua, taking with him Gov. Trias and a portion of his prisoners, and leaving Lieut. Col. Ralls in command, to follow as soon as practicable. Mr. Collins informs us that our troops conducted themselves in the coolest manner and distinguished themselves by their bravery, officers and men. The Mexican prisoners were all liberated upon parole soon after they arrived at Chihuahua.

The Lynchburg Virginian, a leading Taylor paper, takes the same view, and speaks in the most decided terms of the Convention. 'We demand, and have a right know whether he and these 'friends' mean to deal fairly by the friends of Mr. Clay and whoever else shall be nominated, and that without this the whole Convention is a farce, and its doings of no force, so far as General Taylor is concerned.'
We place the Virginian's article on record, as evidence, form an influential organ of their own party, that the Whigs, in pushing Gen. Taylor's nomination by the Whig Convention, are showing an utter "want of self-respect." This is not "Locofoco," but good Whig authority. And we ask out readers, has not the once great Whig party reached a strange position of humiliation? Professing to love and reverence great Harry, they cruelly sacrifice him and Whig principles for the sake of an assumed "availability"—and not content with this self conviction and abandonment of their former boasted party schemes, many of them now give up all "self-respect," and solemnly enter upon "the farce" of a Convention, not to deliberate upon the selection of their best man, but, in desperation, to ratify the self-nomination of a man who defies them and their party conventions and measures, and, shaking the rod over their heads, exclaims "take me or defeat." We have heard much of the "one-man-power," but we have never seen it more tyrannically applied then in the present case. The whole Whig party, through their leaders, crouching before "the Thunderer of Buena Vista!" Will not the "Dictator" of Ashland open his eyes with amazement and look unspeakable things when he sees the Whig party, with its broken organization and party measures spurned, namely yielding to the lash of "no-partyism," handsomely "laid on" by a "military chieftain"? Truly, he will think, an event has come about more fatal in every respect than "war, pestilence, and famine!" But to the strong evidence of that good Whig journal, the Lynchburg Virginian, a *quondam* supporter of Gen. Taylor:

"The terms laid down [by General Taylor] are just those for which Mr. Buchanan, Judge Woodbury, or General Cass might stipulate. Either of these Locofoco aspirants for the Presidency would have no objection whatever to be the nominee of the Whig Convention, provided no pledges were asked of him. In doing so, he would compromise neither principles nor character; nor would General Taylor, were he to accept a nomination from the approaching Baltimore Convention, upon the same condition.

"But can General Taylor, in the face of the declaration, that he will, in any event, be a candidate, receive the nomination of the Philadelphia Convention? We answer, without the least hesitation, NO—unless the members of that body be *wanting in respect for themselves and the Whig party*. We should really consider it an insult to the Convention, to bring before it, as a candidate for the nomination, the name of one who says, if you choose to nominate me on my own conditions, well!—if you do not, I shall notwithstanding be a candidate. In our view, therefore, General Taylor has virtually placed himself beyond the pale of the Whig party, as such, and the Convention, in our opinion, cannot possibly entertain the question of his nomination. We regret sincerely to use language so decided, but without it we could not do justice to our own convictions. The Convention will have one less to choose from General Taylor having withdrawn his own name, we should not be surprised that, as a compromise, Mr. Clay's be also set aside, and the nomination conferred upon some third person, not heretofore much talked of for the Presidency.

"It may be assumed, therefore, that there will be three candidates in the field—the respective nominees of the Whig and Democratic parties, and General Taylor. What will be the result of this tripartite contest? The mass of both parties will support their respective nominations. General Taylor will be supported by recruits drawn from both the great parties, though not in equal numbers. For one democrat who will vote for him, there will be five Whigs. It will be readily seen that all the evils of running two candidates of the same party will be experienced. As the Whig nominee, General Taylor, we believe, would carry the doubtful States of Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, Maryland and Pennsylvania. As an Independent he will carry neither, whilst he will abstract Whig strength enough to render the success of the nominee of the Convention hopeless in the States enumerated. We desire to be explicit as possible, and here deliberately record the opinion which we now entertain, that, running as a third candidate, *General Taylor will not receive a single Electoral vote in the United States*. The only State which he can hope to secure is Louisiana. Most assuredly he will not receive enough votes to devolve the election upon the House of Representatives, for, in every instance, his defeat will be but the accompaniment, as his running the cause, of the defeat of the Whig candidate. Sincerely deprecating the evils of an election by the House, and knowing that the Whigs would have nothing to hope from such an event, we shall not be sorry to see an election by the people.

"Some have thought that, notwithstanding General Taylor's explicit language, his name would not yet be withdrawn. The Whig, for instance, says: 'We understand clearly, now, that, although General Taylor will not WITHDRAW HIS OWN NAME in the event of the nomination of another individual by the Philadelphia Convention, yet his FRIENDS are at liberty to do so whenever THEY may seem it expedient, and that they will unquestionably advise his withdrawal in the event of the nomination of any other Whig, cannot be denied.' We regret to say that we look in vain in the letter of the Republican for a single sentence which warrants this opinion.

"Were his friends told him frankly that his chance of success was hopeless, and that his continuing to be a candidate would but ensure the defeat of the Whig nominee, and advise him to withdraw, we think that he would readily do so. But, looking merely to the letter before us, we are led to believe he has no more idea of retreating now, than he had at Buena Vista.

"The position of our Delegates to the National Convention is somewhat peculiar. The Convention which appointed them, whilst expressing a determination to support the nominee of the National Convention, adopted a declaratory resolution to the effect, that Gen. Taylor was the choice of the Whigs of Virginia, as the candidate for the Presidency. It has been thought that this would operate as instructions to the delegation to support General Taylor, and no one else. We see no ground for this opinion. The Delegates will take their seats untrammeled by any pledges or instructions.—General Taylor has explicitly withdrawn his name from the list of eminent men presented to
In addition to the intelligence in another column, we learn from the Union that an intelligent gentleman arrived in...

The New York Mirror, and original "no-party" Taylor organ, "insultingly" taunts the Whigs by saying that "General Taylor, it will be understood, is a candidate under all circumstances. It is for the Whigs to determine whether or not they can afford to slight so available a candidate for their party."

Finally, the last Norfolk Argus has the following. Is the once great Whig party really about to "surrender" in humiliation to the "no-party" dictation?:

"It is understood in Washington City that Senator Reverdy Johnson has very recently received a letter from General Taylor, peremptorily declaring that he will not make way for a nominee of the Whig Convention. Senator Johnson is said also to declare that the party 'must' nominate him, or take the consequences. So they go."

REv45i3p2c6, May 12, 1848, No title.

We expressed our surprise on Tuesday that the Republican and its "independent" candidate, General Taylor, should repudiate a National Convention and at the same time be calculating the chances of General Taylor for the nomination by that body—the one dubbing the Convention a set of "political gamblers"—and the other declaring his entire independency of that body—that he "will not withdraw form the canvass whoever may be the nominee."

In reply, the Republican "freely confesses that if some of the sentiments contained in that article were adopted by us (them) in any way, it would show inconsistency of the most glaring kind," and adds:

"We may say, however, that editors do not always adopt all that they copy from other papers, and the writer of this should have said as much in regard to the article in the National, but for the simple fact that it found its way into the Republican without its knowledge. We say this in justice to ourself. We have but one opinion upon the subject referred to, and have spoken it so repeatedly, that we may well be excused from avowing it once more. When we change that opinion, we will com out with an open and explicit recantation in our own words."

This apology for apparently riding both sides of the sapling, we must confess, is conclusive, and forms a complete estoppel to all argument on the subject. The article "found its way into the Republican without the editors' knowledge!" Nor do they hold themselves responsible "for typographical errors, advertisements, and Brandeth's Pills!—nor for the Police reports." A perfectly "independent" journal, according to its own showing. But who wishes to hold them responsible for all that appears in their journal? We did suppose, however, that the prominent political articles in the Republican, first in place under the editorial head, bearing all the marks of "knowledge" and adoption, found their way there with the knowledge of the editors. But it appears otherwise. In the future it would be unkind in us to hold the editors responsible for any thing which may appear in their paper, since the political articles, (some involving them in "inconsistency of the most glaring kind," and adds:)

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The Republican intimates that it adheres to its opposition to a Convention—that it has "but one opinion on the subject," &c. Thus far that paper is consistent. Gen. T., himself, its candidate, is on open rebellion against the "political gamblers"—he cares not whom they may nominate—he asks them no favors—he is the statesman more deserving than all beside[!]—the Whig of superior claims "above all others"—in short "the most fittest" man to preside over the political interests of this great nation—and does not intend to yield to the claims of any human being, not even the "great embodiment," the God-like, the "persecuted," &c., &c., will tamely and quietly hang their harps upon the willows for the next four years, or until the superior claims of Gen. T. for services in the Whig cause shall be rewarded.

[BWP]
Washington on Wednesday evening—one of the last persons who has left the city of Mexico. We understand his opinion is, that the treaty will be ratified if the Mexicans can agree among themselves in the distribution of the funds; but not otherwise. He is also of opinion that the Mexicans will agree, as they were much in want of money. He thinks that some delay may take place in the ratification of the treaty by Mexico, and that it is not probable the exchange of ratifications will or can take place by the 1st or 2d of next month.

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REv45i3p2c6, May 12, 1848, No title.

Mr. Trist left New Orleans on the 3d for his brother’s plantation, near New River. He will thence proceed, in a few days, says the delta, to his family, in Albemarle county Virginia, where he will prepare and address to the people of the U. States, in which he will define his course in Mexico.

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REv45i3p2c6, May 12, 1848, How Old Zac received the Missive from Ashland.

--The Louisiana Floridian, published not far from Gen. Taylor’s residence, learns that on the receipt of Clay’s circular, the old General read it with some appearance of emotion. On finishing it, he remarked, “That, from Mr. Clay’s movements, he was not altogether unprepared for this determination. As regarded himself,” he continued, “it made no change in his position. He was the people’s candidate for the Presidency, and as such submitted his name for their consideration.”

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REv45i3p3c1, May 12, 1848, Thirtieth Congress—First Session. Washington, Wednesday, May 10, 1848.

SENATE.

Memorials and petitions were presented by Messrs. Greene, Dickinson and Dix.

Mr. Underwood introduced a joint resolution which was laid on the table and ordered to be printed, providing for the collection by the Commissioner of the Patent Office, to be embraced in his report annually, information, 1. As to the value of the agricultural productions of the several states, the amount of labor employed, price of labor in each State, &c. 2. The number and value of the manufacturing establishments in the several States, quantity and value of manufactures, labor employed, price in each State, &c. 3. Authorizing the employment of postmasters in the several States for this object, and requiring them to answer all questions and give all other information which they may be able to communicate.

Several private bills were reported, and several House bills read twice and referred.

The bill for the relief of the bona fide settlers under the act for the armed occupation of Florida, was passed.

The consideration of Mr. Johnson’s resolution calling on the President to state why the nominations of certain officers have not been sent in, was resumed.

Mr. Johnson replied to the remarks yesterday made by Mr. Allen. He had no idea, he said, of censuring in advance, nor had he expected to be compelled to censure at all, the conduct of the Executive. He desired merely to give the President an opportunity to set himself right before the Senate, as to why it had not been in his power to communicate certain appointments to the Senate.

He had heard surprise expressed by friends of the President, that the nominations had not been sent in, and solicitude that the president should relieve himself from any suspicion of unjustifiable motives.

He then proceeded to discuss the constitutional question as to whether the Senate has the right to call for this information, contending that the Senate had the right, and combating the position of Mr. Allen, that the tendency to usurpation of power is greater on the part of the Legislature than the Executive department of the government. If views, such as expressed by the Senator from Ohio were to govern here, it would prove that the will of the Executive might command, whenever his own reputation rendered it necessary to command.

It would prove that the Executive might command, and the Senate be made the instrument to record the will of the Executive.

The records of Congress, he said, were full of vetoes which smell rank of Executive usurpation. The vetoes on bills
for internal improvements—the powers of the general government in regard to certain descriptions of which had never been questioned—were cases in point during the administration of the present President.

Without concluding, Mr. Johnson gave way to the suggestion of Mr. Foote, and the consideration of the Yucatan bill was resumed.

Mr. Cass addressed the Senate at length. He referred to a remark made yesterday by the Honorable Senator from Connecticut, (Mr. Niles,) and insisted that it was right for the President to seek information upon this, one of the most important questions which had ever been laid before Congress—one of the most extraordinary cases of humanity ever presented to the world. All the facts had been communicated so soon as they were obtained—there had been no delay on the part of the Executive—and now that they had all the information necessary, he hoped there would be prompt action.

There is a great question of public safety, he said, introduced in the question, based on the doctrine promulgated by Mr. Monroe, re-iterated by Mr. Polk in his message two years ago, and repeated in his present message. The Senator from Ohio foresew, two years ago, the existence of a state of things like the present, and urged consideration of a resolution on the subject, but without success. The foundation of the doctrine is, that we have interests and institutions of our own, opposed to those of European continent, which it is our duty to look after and protect—that we should cut loose entirely from European governments, leaving them to the full enjoyment of their institutions if they prefer them simply desiring that they will not interfere with the policy which we have deemed it necessary to adopt on this continent.

No one, he said, can doubt that the decree has gone forth, that the period is fast approaching, when the last foothold in European domination on this continent must be relinquished. Yet Yucatan is of vast importance to England, and it does not follow, because there may be an entire and fundamental change in the government of England, that England will not remain, that her people will not remain, and that her policy will not remain. She has now a chance to make an acquisition in the same manner all her colonies have been obtained, he believed, with the exception of Scotland. Would she hesitate, when her interest is to be promoted, and her character for humanity elevated? He understood that there were four companies of British troops now actually in the Southern province of Yucatan, thus indicating the intention of England in this matter. If we refuse now to come to the assistance of Yucatan, and England takes possession, we shall have no cause to complain. And when had England, after once obtaining possession of a country, relinquished it? She might do it in the case of Yucatan, but it would be the first time.

The consequences to the United States of allowing England to take possession, were pointed out—the immense power which it would give her, with her feet also planted in Cuba, and in the Bahamas, the control of the Gulf of Mexico would be lost to us. He had no belief that England would now attempt to obtain by force possession of Yucatan—in that he agreed with the Senator from South Carolina—but she might and probably would use the peaceable measures now in her power to obtain possession, unless we afforded the protection required. She would then possess the gate to the great artery which commands one-half our empire.

He then went into an examination of the facts connected with the present condition of Yucatan, and her relations to Mexico. He drew the conclusion form these, that Yucatan is an independent government—as entirely separate from Mexico as she is from China. But if this was otherwise, and we were at peace with Mexico, he would still interfere from motives of humanity. The terms of the armistice required that thins should remain as they were. No armistice would be construed to permit one party to overrun the country and require the other to sit by quietly without interference. It was our duty, under the armistice, even admitting Yucatan to be a part of Mexico, to interfere for her protection.

The argument which had been used for years on all questions of such a character—"the danger of involving the country in war"—had lost perhaps, by its frequent repetition, and its frequent refutation by the course of events, all its terrors. Notwithstanding frequent predictions to the contrary, our country yet remained, with the strongest government on the face of the earth.

At the conclusion of Mr. Cass’ speech, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of Executive business, and then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The only subject of importance before the House to-day, was the bill for the admission of Wisconsin into the Union, which was again debated in committee of the Whole, reported to the House with sundry amendments, some of which were agreed to, when, without final action on the bill, the House adjourned.

[WP]

REv45i3p3c3, May 12, 1848, Correspondence of the Enquirer. Washington, Thursday, May 11, 1848. U.S. Senate.

U. S. SENATE.
After the transaction of some business of no special importance, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the order of the day, viz: the bill to extend aid to the people of Yucatan.

Mr. Davis of Massachusetts being entitled to the floor, addressed the Senate in opposition to the bill. Mr. Miller has the floor on this subject for to-morrow.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The bill providing for the admission of the territory of Wisconsin into the Union as a State, was taken up and passed.

On Mr. Vinton’s motion the House resolved itself into a committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, (Mr. Toombs, of Georgia, in the Chair.)

Mr. Rockwell, of Connecticut, addressed the committee, in continuation of a speech commenced some two months since, in which he undertook to expose what he characterized as gross blunders of the Secretary of the Treasury. Mr. R. adduced vouchers to fortify his positions.

After farther discussion, in which several members participated, the committee rose, and the House soon after adjourned.

REv45i3p4c1, May 12, 1848, Congressional. U.S. Senate-April 12, 1848. California Claims.

The Senate resumed the consideration, as in committee of the Whole, of the bill for ascertaining and paying the California claims.

Mr. MASON of Virginia.—The bill which is under consideration, although it has the very unassuming title of “a bill for ascertaining and paying the California claims,” will, I think, be found, on examination, to present matter of very deep interest to the character of our Republic, to the history which is to be written hereafter of the existing war with Mexico. It is my purpose, Mr. President, to confine the remarks which I offer to the Senate strictly to this bill, and to the matters necessarily connected with it, as they have been developed in the report of the committee on Military Affairs which accompanies the bill. Sir, we have been told by the public press, and somewhat taunted by the press on the other side of the Atlantic, with the charge that the United States of America exhibited to the world the spectacle of a republic waging a war against a sister republic, a war waged in her part as a war of aggression, waged in the lust of dominion for the purpose of conquest, and for the increase of her territory. The same language, I am sorry to say, has been hold on the floors of legislation; and if it were true it would form a dark page, and I humbly hope the only dark page so far in the unwritten history of our country. Sir, in relation to this war with Mexico, when the passions of the day have subsided, when reason and intellect shall take a fair and unbiased survey of it, of the causes that brought it on, and of its conduct on our part, I am satisfied that the character of the country will stand redeemed in the eyes of posterity.

Mr. President, an honorable Senator who sits on the opposite side of the chamber has declared that the war, so much condemned by his political associates as a war of aggression, was, in fact and in truth, a just, a necessary and an honorable war. I mean the honorable Senator from Maryland—a tribute which the Senator has beautifully paid to the position of an independent statesman, illustrating, as he has done, how difficult a task it is, on some occasions, to bring the broad duty of the patriot within the narrow limits of party obligations. Sir, Mexico began the war. This stands recorded as a fact on your statute book.—And although gentlemen may say that the vote they gave, was given under protest, the fact is nevertheless recorded as that which will present the material for history. If I am capable of arriving at truth in a matter passing before my own eyes and under my own observation, I, for one, could not hesitate to declare to the American people and to the world, not only that the war was a just and necessary war, but that it could not have been avoided without dishonor. It was commenced by Mexico in the invasion of one of the States of this confederacy, an invasion by the hostile forces of that country, made under the authorized declaration of the commander of its army, and of the chief executive officer of the government, that they had sufficient cause of war; that cause being the fact, that by an act of the American Congress we had entered into a compact with a sovereign and independent republic, which resulted in a change of the government of that republic.—I mean the republic of Texas. I do not desire to go at all into the details connected with the general history of the Mexican war, but I will say this, and might appeal to the world for its proof, that just and unavoidable in its inception, the whole conduct and management of the war has spread around our country and its institutions honor in every thing; not only in the unparalleled victories obtained by our arms, but in the dignity and the forbearance uniformly shown by this republic to deluded, infatuated Mexico. Every occasion was embraced to hold out to Mexico the right hand of fellowship. Concessions were made which, if to a country really formidable for her military power, might well have subjected our government to the charge of pusillanimity—concessions which she could afford to make, because conscious of her honor, strength and of the justice of the war, and conscious that Mexico was too weak to admit of such concession being misconstrued.

These California claims, Mr. President, become interesting, in my apprehension, not only because of the circumstances out of which they arose, which were strikingly exhibited on Monday last before the Senate by an honorable member form Missouri, [Mr. Benton] but because of the fact appearing form the report of the Committee on Military Affairs, that they involve expenditures unauthorized "by law, expenditures for military operations, which
were conducted without the authority of this government. It becomes important then to the character of our country that these claims which we propose by this bill to recognize and pay, should be properly and distinctly understood, and their proper place assigned them in the legislative history of this country. If this be not done, future history may refer to them also in evidence of the general charge, that the war originating in a spirit of rapine and conquest, an insurrection was covertly fomented in the remote province of California, as part of the general scheme of extended dominion. The report from the committee on Military Affairs has made a very full exposition of this matter. The payment of these claims has been recommended to Congress by the Secretary of War in his annual report communicated to us at this session, to which I shall have occasion to advert. But they are brought immediately under the consideration of the Senate in the very unassuming form of a private memorial asking for their payment. It is the memorial of Lieutenant Colonel Fremont, who, at the time these liabilities and obligations were contracted, was an officer in the military service of the United States. The character of these claims, or rather the character of the military operations out of which they have arisen, is very clearly and succinctly stated in that memorial. It is asserted by Col. Fremont,

"That, in June of the year 1816, being then a brevet captain of topographical engineers in the service of the United States, and employed as such in California, he engaged in military operations with the people of the country for the establishment of the independence of California before the existence of war between the United States and Mexico was known, and was successful in said undertaking; the independence of California being proclaimed at Sonoma on the 5th day of July, and the Mexican forces routed and dispersed. That, immediately on hearing of the war between the United States and Mexico, the flag of independence was pulled down, and that of the United States ran up in its place, and under this flag military service was rendered to the United States until the conquest was complete, and supplies obtained from the people mostly on credit certificates given for them. That, after the conquest, a temporary government was formed; the expenses of which, like those incurred for military operations, are mostly yet unpaid, and should be paid by the United States, to whom all the benefits of the conquest of California has accrued."

Here, Sir, we find the fact distinctly avowed, that a part of these claims which we are called on to pay—and which I am free to admit, form the consideration which I have given to the subject, I feel the necessity and propriety of paying—were incurred in military operations accidentally commencing after war had broken out between the two countries, but before that fact was in any manner known at the scene of operations.

The circumstances attending this war in California I must be permitted to briefly allude to, as they are contained in the report of the committee. In my humble judgment the officer from whose memorial I have read, was fully justified in what he did. But it becomes us the more to ascertain its character, to give to the country the reasons for the judgment which we are about passing on the subject. An officer of the topographical corps of the United States who had been justly distinguished for his scientific explorations in California, and in the adjoining territory of Oregon for some two or three years preceding, found himself in California in the spring of 1846, with an armed party but still a civic one, there by permission of the authorities of California in a pursuit purely pacific for the advancement of general science. He was informed, or rather saw—from the extraordinary jealousy of character which seems to appertain to the whole Mexican people, that sort of suspicion which is incapable of comprehending any broad or elevated purpose of object in life—that his only hope to escape from actual military collision with the authorities of California was to abandon the country and to get beyond its jurisdiction, and this, although he had asked her hospitality, and that hospitality had been promised. And thus we are told, that in the spring of 1846, finding that such was the state of feeling around him with the authorities of California, he deemed it wise, in order to avoid collision, to abandon the country and to pass into the adjoining territory of Oregon.—He did so, and with him his whole party.

Although hostilities had not broken out between this government and Mexico, yet the aspect of affairs was so threatening as to render it expedient in the eyes of the President and of the public functionaries here to determine that no foreign power, especially that of Great Britain, should avail themselves of, or should seize the opportunity afforded by the weakness an the imbecility of Mexico, to posses herself of territory on this continent. Accordingly, an officer was dispatched to California for the purpose of conferring with our consul, who was the only public agent of this country then in California, and with Lieut. Colonel Fremont, if he should be found there, to concert with them such plans as in their judgment would be best calculated to frustrate any attempt on the part of any foreign government, should such attempt be meditated, to acquire dominion by colonization or otherwise, within the limits of Mexico or California. We are told, and I am satisfied of its truth, that it was for the purpose of carrying out this view of the government at Washington, that Lieut. Col. Fremont was induced to return to California after he had abandoned it. Sir, it is important, in my estimation, that the reason for this return should be distinctly known, in vindication of the conduct of the American government in the management of this affair. We have this in the report of the committee, distinctly stated by Col. Fremont himself, who has assumed the whole responsibility, and properly assumed it. He says that a gentleman, [who was an officer, as I understand, of the Marine Corps], brought him a letter of introduction from the Secretary of State, and also one from Col. Benton.

I quote the language of Col. Fremont, from his deposition before the Military Committee:

"He brought me a letter of introduction from the Secretary of State, Mr. Buchanan, and letters and papers form Senator Benton and his family. The letter from the Secretary was directed to my private or citizen capacity, and, although importing nothing beyond the introduction, accredited the bearer to me as coming from the Secretary of State, and, in connection with the circumstances and place of its delivery, indicated a purpose in sending it which was intelligibly explained to me by the accompanying letter from Senator Benton, and by communications from Lieut. Gillespie. This officer informed me that he had been directed by the Secretary of State to find me, and to acquaint me with his instructions, which had for their principal objects to Ascertain the disposition of the California people, to conciliate their feelings in favor of the United States, and to find out, with a design of counteracting, the
designs of the British government upon that country."

That such were the instructions, is confirmed by the officer himself, [Mr. Gillespie.] I quote form his deposition before the committee:

"In answer to the first inquiry of the honorable committee, 'Were you charged with any verbal instructions or communications to Colonel Fremont from the government at Washington, or any officer? And if so, please state those instructions or communications, and from whom received?' I have to state, that I was directed by Mr. Buchanan to confer with Colonel Fremont, and to make known to him my own instructions, which, as I have previously stated, were, to watch over the interest of the United States, and counteract the influence of any foreign agents who might be in the country with objects prejudicial to the United States. It was also directed to show to Col. Fremont the duplicate of the dispatch to Mr. Larkin, consul at Monterey.

In answer to the second inquiry, "You have said that you communicated the wishes of the government to Colonel Fremont; state particularly what you did communicate to him as the wishes of the Government?"  I beg leave to state, that the answer above contains, as near as I can recollect, what I communicated to Col. Fremont, telling him, at the same time, that it was the wish of the Government that we should conciliate the feelings of the people of California, and encourage a friendship towards the United States."

Now, sir, it appears manifestly, from the testimony of both of these officers, that they carried with them into California no authority either from the Department of State, or from the Military Department of the Government, to wage any war for any purpose against the people of California, or against their Government; but, on the contrary, their mission was purely a peaceful one. They were instructed to conciliate and gain the good will, and attract the friendship of the people of California, in order as far as they might be able to do so, to frustrate the designs of the British emissaries, and to prevent them from getting possession of the country. That his was a wise policy on the part of the Government, I apprehend there can be no doubt. How was it then when that mission was in reality a peaceful one, that these gentlemen found themselves embarked in military operations soon after their arrival. The report of the committee on Military Affairs sheds abundant light upon this inquiry. The government of California stimulated doubtless, by foreign emissaries, whose presence was notorious, determined that no American should remain upon its soil. I am not familiar with the Spanish language, but I should apprehend as the Mexicans use it, the idea of "stranger" and "enemy" is expressed by the same word, as in ancient Rome. It is manifest from the whole history of the transactions attending our intercourse with Mexico, that to be a stranger there, was to be an enemy. — When these officers returned to California it will be seen, as is fully proved by the documents, that our countrymen who had gone into California and established themselves there, whether with the express permission of the authorities or not, I do not know, but certainly with their acquiescency—were about to suffer from a conspiracy which had been got up against them; measures had been taken to bring down upon them the Indian population and a war was about to commence which would involve not only the massacre of the Americans who were spread through the peaceful valleys of California, but would probably involve also the party which accompanied Lieut. Col. Fremont. In such an emergency these officers assumes a very high responsibility. I confess, sir, that I feel instinctively sensitive to the establishment of a precedent, which would sanction, in any degree, acts of war or acts leading to war, on the part of officers of this government within the limits of a foreign power. I have looked therefore at this matter closely, and I hope, considered it deliberately, and fully concur in the opinion that Col. Fremont and his party, whilst themselves blameless, were thus surrounded by circumstances which left them no alternative between a disgraceful and probably a most unsafe retreat, or uniting with his countrymen who were settled in California, and taking up arms in their own defence. — He assumed the responsibility of the latter course, and he carried it out, as he says, successfully, and thus it was that California was subdued, and the settlers saved from destruction, about the very time, that war broke out with Mexico, although the fact that is existed was then unknown in California.

Sir, my object in the remarks with which I am wearying the Senate is to disconnect the authorities at home from this outbreak in California, and to prove by testimony which cannot be controverted, that the government at home had no part in the insurrection, that the probability of such an occurrence was unknown to the government, and in truth, that it was no party to it either directly or indirectly. This fact is most distinctly stated, also, in this memorial form Lieut. Colonel Fremont, an extract from which I shall presently refer to.

So much for the commencement of the operations in California on land; now for those which commenced at sea. It appears from the documents which are to be found in the report, that Commodore Sloat, who commanded in the Pacific, at that time arrived at Monterey. It is stated by Lieut. Col. Fremont (after having given an account of his military operations thus far) as follows:

"While proceeding against Gen. Castro, authentic information was received that, on the 7th of July, Commodore Sloat had taken possession of Monterey, and hoisted the American flag; upon which the flag of independence was immediately hauled down, and that of the United States ran up; and under the flag of the United States all subsequent operations were carried on."

"I came down to Monterey with my command, upon the request of Commodore Sloat, to co-operate with him; and immediately on my arrival waited upon him, in company with Lieutenant Gillespie, on board the frigate Savannah. Commodore Sloat appeared uneasy at the great responsibility he had assumed. He informed me that he had applied to Lieutenant Gillespie, whom he knew to be an agent of the government, for his authority, but that he had declined to give it. He then inquired to know under what instructions I had acted in taking up arms against the Mexican authorities. I informed him that I had acted solely on my own responsibility, and without any authority from the government to justify hostilities. Com. Sloat appeared greatly disturbed with this information, and gave me distinctly
to understand that in raising the flag at Monterey, he had acted upon the faith of our operations in the north. Commodore Sloat soon relinquished the command to Commodore Stockton, who determined to prosecute hostilities to the complete conquest of California.—He proposed that Lieut. Gillespie and myself should serve under him, with all the force we could get; which we agreed to, our men doing the same, as Com. Stockton so fully testified before the court martial; and from that time forward, all my operations were carried on under the orders of Com. Stockton, or by virtue of commissions bestowed by him. I was appointed by him major of the California battalion, afterwards military commandant of California, and afterwards governor and commander in chief in California; and under all these appointments expenses were incurred, which remain to be paid."

ON the 7th of July, then it appears that Commodore Sloat, commanding the marine, hoisted the flag of his country at Monterey, and took possession of that capital. It is manifest from this evidence that Lieut. Col. Fremont was accidentally thrown under the necessity of commencing these hostilities, and that neither he or Commodore Sloat, who came shortly after upon the coast, had any authority whatever from their government to wage war against California. Indeed, it appears Commodore Sloat, in raising the flag the United States at Monterey, did so under the impression that hostilities would not have been commenced on land unless under the authority of the government, or with a knowledge that war had commenced between the United States and Mexico. Now, sir, the Senate and the country may pass its separate judgment upon the acts of Lieut. Col. Fremont in commencing these hostilities. What I desire is to rescue the government of my country from the possible imputation, that it sought by indirectly stirring up insurrection in a remote province of a sister republic to provoke a war for the purpose of seizing and appropriating her territory. I am free to admit, so far as I can form an opinion from the facts, that this young officer was placed under circumstances in which he could not have acted otherwise than he did. He could not see his countrymen exposed to the merciless attack of the savages, their homes and their fields desolated and their women and children fleeing before the tomahawk and scalping knife; he could not have subjected his own men to the dangers which awaited them, without incurring a censure greater than any he could have incurred in taking up arms for their protection. No, sir, I have no censure for this officer for the path he bore in these military operations in California.

Then question, then, arises, does it devolve upon this government to pay these claims? Sir, I believe if not debito justitiae, still in justice and equity we ought to pay them—because these military operations, however unauthorized, were undertaken from necessity and for the protection of our own countrymen thus treacherously assailed, and because the fruits of the victories achieved enure to the United States when its army was sent there in prosecution of the war against Mexico. We must recognize them under this fact and none can complain. Claims that originate against the government under the sanction of law, always find laws providing for their liquidation. Claims that come before us without the sanction of law require special legislation to enable them to be paid. The Secretary of War has recommended the payment of these claims. In his annual report to Congress he says:

"The dispatch of Col. Mason, to which I have before alluded, refers the unsettled claims in that country against the United States, and recommends that immediate measures should be taken to ascertain the amount of such as are well founded, and that provision be made for immediate payment. These claims are principally for property of various descriptions furnished to, or taken by, our forces in the course of the military operations in that country. The delay to pay them has already produced much dissatisfaction, and is prejudicial to the interests of the United States. Some of the officers engaged in this distant service have become personally responsible for debts contracted for the use and in the service of the United States; it is also due to them that provision should be made for paying these debts."

How are they to be paid? The bill appropriates seven hundred thousand dollars, and, in my judgment, so large a sum to be expended in payment of claims which in their character are necessarily, to a great extent, indeterminate and loose, requires that every precaution should be taken to ensure justice as well to the government as to the claimants. It is proposed in the bill reported from the Military committee that they shall be ascertained and paid under the authority of a commission, to be created for that purpose. I agree entirely with the committee in their recommendations on this point. They are claims of peculiar character; many of them doubtless of small amount would be dependent on evidence that it would be difficult to collect—evidence which must be closely scanned and sifted, to separate such as are fair and just from the unfair and unjust. Such scrutiny cannot well be made by any other than a tribunal of judicial character. Claims which have arisen without the sanction of law should have the closer scrutiny of law, and I know of no better mode for their adjustment than to have a board that shall sit and adjudicate them. It is proposed, however, in the bill which has been reported to create this board, and to appoint by law the officers who are to constitute it, one by name and the others by description.

Mr. President, I apprehend, and I say it with great deference to the committee who have reported this bill, that to create the board in such a manner would be a violation of the constitution of the United States. The bill provides that "The President be, and he is authorized, to appoint a board consisting of John Charles Fremont, and two officers of said battalion while in service," &c.

The President shall be authorized to appoint Lt. Col. Fremont and two other officers who were in the service. Now, sir, we ought to look carefully into this matter. It is unbecoming, [I say it with all respect,] it is unbecoming I think in the Senate of the United States, or in either branch of the Legislature of this government to trench, in the slightest degree, on the powers which are assigned by the constitution to the Executive. It would be a dangerous precedent. The constitution, for wise purposes, has lodged the power of appointment with the President giving to the Senate only a negative on that power. Although the terms of the constitution are familiar to every Senator, I will ask leave to refer to them. It provides that the President

"Shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint ambassadors, other ministers and consuls, Judges of the Supreme Court, and all other officers of the United States, whose appointments are not
you in favor of or against the Alien and Sedition laws? "If you will give me the details," the details—"to carry out this or that measure." Well, this is very brilliant! Are the
But, General, we don't desire you to give us crude impressions,; we ask you a question—take your time—reflect—
best test of fitness for office"—"I am not sufficiently familiar with the minute details"—"Excuse me, if you please." "but crude impressions upon matters of policy, which may be right to­day and wrong to­morrow, are perhaps not the
"I have great cardinal principles," this measure has a great many minute details, and I am
"I have principles, but am not sufficiently familiar with all its minute details
to defeat it."
"I have great cardinal principles," are for the Bank? "I have principles, but am not sufficiently familiar with all its minute details
"I am in favor of paying these claims. But it is important that their character should be understood, so that
In what I have said, I have confined myself as I proposed to do, entirely to this bill. I am friendly to the purposes of
The bill proposes that there shall be three commissioners, I have no particular opinion on this subject. I had thought
I have, sir, with the deference which becomes me, made these objections on the bill as it is reported from the
committee, and I have made them with reluctance that I can express opinions different from those of a committee of
this body, but it struck me at once, and the more I examined it the more I was confirmed in the opinion, that the
appointing power does not reside here, that it would be trenching on the rights of the Executive, and violating the
constitution, though not so intended, if we were to make these appointments by law. It becomes us, therefore, if we
agree to the creation of any board, to do it in the usual form, and leave the power of appointment to the functionary
in whom it has been reposed by the constitution. I know of no other mode of attaining this object than by a
proposition to send the bill back to the committee on Military Affairs, with instructions to reform it in this respect. I
have drawn the instructions, which I will read to the Senate.

The bill proposes that there shall be three commissioners, I have no particular opinion on this subject. I had thought
that one commissioner would be enough, provided he would be associated in some manner with the military
commander for the time being in California, but on further consideration it strikes me that it would be as well that
there should be two—though the additional expense would be comparatively small—I think it unnecessary. I throw
out this proposition of the consideration of the Senate, not being wedded to it in any form a to details, which the
committee is more competent than I to determine; but I see no mode by which this object can be accomplished
without a recommittal.

In what I have said, I have confined myself as I proposed to do, entirely to this bill. I am friendly to the purposes of
this bill. I am in favor of paying these claims. But it is important that their character should be understood, so that
at a future day, this government may not be implicated for having covertly, or for improper purposes incited the
insurrection in California. I move the recommittal of the bill.[BWP]

REv45i3p4c6, May 12, 1848, Thunder Without Light.

Dean Swift tells us is certain philosophers who attempted to extract sun­beams from cucumbers. OH! That they had
lived in our times!—General Taylor's last letters would have afforded them subjects equally good for
experimentation. We are confident, however, that there are some such philosophers now, who will make the
attempt; but, after peeling and slicing and peppering and vinegaring, they will be apt to put up the oath, "Fleas are
not lobsters, d—n their souls," and conclude that, instead of sunbeams, there is nothing so cool as the centre­seed
of a cucumber. If light can be extracted from these letters, we confess our optics are not keen enough to see it.
(Hear him, hear!) "I am a Whig—but not an ultra Whig." "I have great cardinal principles which will regulate my
political life," "I am not sufficiently familiar with all the minute details of political legislation to give solemn
pledges to exert me influence, if I were President, to carry out this or defeat that measure." What is the meaning of
this or that measure? It is something like the exposition of now and then----it is all the time. Are you in favor of the
Tariff of 1846? "I have great cardinal principles, but am not sufficiently familiar with all its minute details to carry out
this measure." For the Bank? "I have principles, but that measure has a great many minute details, and I am
not sufficiently familiar with them to defeat it." Will you recommend any thing? "I have great cardinal principles,
"but crude impressions upon matters of policy, which may be right to­day and wrong to­morrow, are perhaps not the
best test of fitness for office"—"I am not sufficiently familiar with the minute details"—"Excuse me, if you please."

But, General, we don't desire you to give us crude impressions,; we ask you a question—take your time—reflect—
hunt up the authorities, bring your cardinal principles to bear, and then, in your own time, tell us your opinion upon
this important matter, on which parties have so long divided. "Parties! I have a holy horror of parties"—"I am not
sufficiently familiar with all the minute details," "to carry out this or that measure." Well, this is very brilliant! Are
you in favor of or against the Alien and Sedition laws? "If you will give me the details," o;all" the details—all the
Well, General, what do you think of the Veto power? ("Hear him—Hear.") "The power given by the Constitution to the Executive to interpose his veto, is a high conservative power; but, in my opinion, should never be exercised, except in cases of clear violation of the Constitution, or manifest haste and want of consideration by Congress. Indeed, I have thought, that for many years past, the known opinions and wishes of the Executive have exercised undue and injurious influence upon the legislative department of the government, and for this cause, I have thought our system was in danger of undergoing a great change for its true theory." Well, we would ask any candid reader to answer, what does he understand by this? It is plain that Congress is charged with having been improperly biased in their actions, contrary to the will of their constituents, by the Executive. If not contrary to the will of their constituents, they are but carrying out the great cardinal principle that the representative is bound by the will of his constituents. If contrary to it, is it not a direct chare that Congress are capable of being improperly influenced by the Executives, and have been so unduly influenced; and if so improperly influenced by him, why not by others, and by other causes, and for other reasons; and, if they are, what remedy has the Constitution provided? This very remedy of the Veto. But what says General Taylor in farther answer to the question? "The personal opinions of the individual who may occupy the Executive Chair, ought not to control the action of Congress upon questions of domestic policy." Then what becomes of the "high conservative power?" If his personal opinions ought not, whose opinions but his are recognized by the Constitution? The President is to return the bill with "his objections." But does the President control Congress by interposing his objections? It may as well be said, that every member of either House controls Congress by stating his objections to a bill! In the case of the members, the Constitution requires that a majority shall be necessary to pass a bill. If a member objects, it may yet be carried by a majority; but if it is not so carried, that member may as well be said to control Congress. The Constitution authorizes the President to make his objections, and, in such case, it requires that two thirds shall be necessary to pass the bill. If the President objects, it may yet be carried by two-thirds—if it is defeated, the President only controls by discharging his duty—a duty as much required of him as any other duty, and which, if, he fail to perform, having according to his personal opinion valid objections, he would be guilty of a manifest violation of his oath. The one third vote controls more than the President's objections.

"Nor," continues General Taylor, "ought his objections to be interposed, where questions of constitutional power have been settled by the various departments of government, and acquiesced in by the people."

Now, to test the soundness of this cardinal principle, we will suppose a case. A question has been fairly submitted to Congress as a party measure, believed by one party to be right and proper; by the other to be absolutely, clearly and unequivocally unconstitutional. It is passed as a party measure. A party President sanctions it. It has been carried before the Supreme Court, which decides it to be constitutional. The people—that is, a majority of the people—acquiesce in it for twenty years. All this time, the same party maintain the ascendancy. All this time the minority struggle against and denounce it. Finally, by the power of coonskins and gourds, and elder-barrels and brooms and log-cabins and songs, and all sorts of humbug, the minority become the majority, and gain the ascendancy. Congress is swept by the board. Different cardinal principles prevail—principles of "that same old coon." The measure hitherto acquiesced in is an odious one—the law is repealed. The President thinks the former law is wise and constitutional, has been sanctioned by all the departments of the government, and acquiesced in—and that, if the repeal takes effect, "our system is in danger of undergoing a great change from its true theory." What ought he to do?—Gen. Taylor answers: "Nor ought his objections to be interposed, when great questions of constitutional power have been settled by the various departments of government, and acquiesced in by the people!" "The personal opinions of the individual who may happen to occupy the Executive chair ought not to control the action of Congress upon questions of domestic policy." This is one of the great cardinal principles. If we happen once to have a President who is reckless of Constitutions, and he happens to "have exercised an undue and injurious influence upon the legislative department of government," and an odious measure has been saddled upon the people, and he, being a party President, shall happen to have appointed a majority of the Judiciary of his own way of thinking, and they, too, should have sanctioned his unconstitutional acts—a virtuous President and a Congress reflecting the will of a high-minded and virtuous constituency must be paralyzed forever by this 'cardinal principle!'

Permit me, General, your brother-in-law, to ask you one more question. I do not desire any "crude impressions." I am not able to give you in any thing short of a folio volume "all the minute details"—but you have "great cardinal principles" and you have been educated in "the Jeffersonian school," and you say you are "a Whig," and the Whigs, you know, particularly in the matter of cider barrels and "that same old coon," generally plumb the track. Tell me, I pray you, what are your opinions on the Tariff, the currency, the improvement of our great highways, rivers, lakes, and harbors? Now, when the General read this letter, he happened to be at breakfast and he happened to be eating fried bacon and eggs and sipping a cup of coffee, and the castors were near his plate. He said to himself, in a whisper, "Tariff," then he put his finger on his manly nose and looked sagely. "Currency"—he took the mustard out of the cruet and poured it into his coffee—"Tariff, Harbors"—he took up the cream and poured it over his eggs. The General—looking at the letter as Macbeth did, when he said "Is that a dagger that I see before me?"—sipped his coffee—"Rivers"—"Lakes"—"Harbors." "Bring me some water!" and he spat upon the floor and wiped his tongue with a napkin. And, then, hitting upon a happy expedient, he answered:--("Hear him, hear.") "Upon the subject of the tariff, the currency, the improvement of our great highways, rivers, lakes, and harbors, the will of the people, as expressed through their representatives in Congress, ought to be respected and carried out by the Executive." What a brilliant display of light!
These two little words have been recently invested with a cabalistic meaning, and, from the arguments of the Whigs,...

Now, General, remember—it is not one of the “insinwating Young gentlemen,” who is asking you questions now—but your own brother-in-law. Tell me—no, not me—"the people"—what are your opinions about the Mexican war? Mr. Clay, you know, General, when he went to New Orleans, was very desirous to have it in his power to kill a Mexican with his own hand. But, then, you remember his Lexington platform—"a change came over the spirit of his dream"—he thought the whole concern unholy, unjust, iniquitous and vile. Now, we all know the laurels you have won, and what you have done to sustain your country’s rights and fame and honor and glory. But what do you think of the Mexican War? The General was in his element upon this subject—he had studied it—he had corresponded with the general officers of the enemy—he had corresponded with his own government—he had recommended measures—his impressions were not crude—he was not required to make any pledges. He neither looked a the ceiling, nor on the floor—he scratched not his head nor pulled at his lips or nose—but he ate his breakfast in peace and feeling kind towards all mankind and thankful to kind Heaven for all its blessings, he answered as follows—not in regard to the Mexican War, but the subject of war in general: "I sincerely rejoice at the prospect of peace." And so do we. We only wish the prospect were better. "My life has been devoted to arms, yet I look upon war at all times and under all circumstances as a national calamity, to be avoided if compatible with national honor." Well, but, General, we desire you know if you think the Mexican war could have been avoided compatibly with national honor. All Christian people believe war is a national calamity, but God, for wise purposes, ordains that there should be wars, and He has punished nations in times past for not waging wars as they were required. But we ask you, was this war compatible with national honor? Congress declared that the war was commenced "by the act of Mexico," and "the will of the people as expressed through their representatives in Congress ought to be respected and carried out by the Executive." If so, had you been President and Congress had appropriated millions to raise troops and carry on the war, would you have contented yourself with permitting the enemy to overrun your country and harass your own inhabitants, or would you have carried the war into the Enemy’s country? (Hear him.) "The principles of our government, as well as its true policy, are opposed to the subjugation of other nations, and the dismemberment of other countries by conquest." Why, then, did you, General, after you had driven the Mexicans across the Rio Grande, pass that river and take the town of Matamoras? In the language of the great Washington, "why should we quit our own to stand on foreign ground?" It is true that we ought not to undertake the dismemberment of other countries by conquest, for the sake of conquest alone and without cause; but when assailed by them, the principle of self-defence, the principle of preserving the peace of the world, the principle of justice and right, justifies and authorizes you to cripple them in every open and honorable mode; and if necessary to compel a peace and prevent the repetition of unjustifiable assaults, you have the right to conquer and deprive them of territory, to weaken and render them unable to assail you or disturb the peace in future. If a nation commences the war with you, and after your national honor has been vindicated by overwhelming and overrunning her territory, suppose you dictate terms of peace that are forbearing and magnanimous to a fallen foe, and she should refuse to make peace and persist in destroying your troops, whenever found in an unprotected situation, by her guerilla bands, what would you do then, General?—My dear Sir, have I not told you that "I look upon war at all times, and under all circumstances, as a national calamity, to be avoided, if compatible with national honor?" But here the General lowered his voice, and, in a stage-whisper, said to himself, "then I would mount Old Whitey once more, and give them Buena Vista; and, I tell you more, I would conquer the whole territory, and utterly prostrate them for future mischief." Believing that the old General, or any other General would do this, we say, his answer amounts to nothing, and affords no light whatever.

REv45i3p4c7, May 12, 1848, Senator Mason’s Speech.

We ask attention to the very strong and sensible views of Mr. Mason’s speech on the California bill, which we extract from Houston’s official report. It gives a clear and conclusive explanation of certain points, which partisan presses have attempted to torture into grievous offenses on the part of the Administration. We thoroughly respond to Mr. Mason’s view of the constitutional power of the Executive to appoint the commissioners under the bill.

REv45i4p1c2, May 16, 1848, “My Friends.”

These two little words have been recently invested with a cabalistic meaning, and, from the arguments of the Whigs,
it would seem that upon their true signification mainly depends the result of the next Presidential election, and the fall or triumph of Federalism.

The Times mingles in the fray, and construes that "intangible conglomeration" ("my friends") to mean such men as Crittenden, Bell, &c., "the very pillars of the Whig party," who will themselves be governed by the decision of the National convention, and whose support of another candidate than Gen. Taylor would be a sufficient manifestation to the old soldier of their wish that he should withdraw—and he would do so accordingly.

We shall not re-argue so clear a point—but in the Mobile Advertiser we find an extract from the Whig, commenting upon the independent Maryland State Taylor Convention. The Whig says:

"If, indeed, General Taylor shall consent to run as a third candidate, he will be very apt to discover that a comparatively very small portion of the "people" will adopt him as their candidate. And HIS FRIENDS, who are mainly, if not altogether, Whigs, who seek to place him in that attitude, will do him great injustice thereby, as well as inflict a fatal wound upon the Whig party.—They could adopt, indeed, no more effectual means of ensuring the triumph of the Democratic nominee, and, for all practical purposes, they might as well cast their own votes for that nominee as for Gen. Taylor as an independent candidate."

Does not this clearly indicate who are "me friends" referred to? It is not the delegates to the Whig Convention to whom he points, but, as the Lynchburg Virginian, (Whig,) in another conclusive article, contends, to "those friends who, in various parts of the country, by their "solicitations, induced him to become a candidate, and nearly all of whom, in the first instance, reprobated a National Convention, and many of whom even now reprote it, and have refused to be represented therein." But perfectly clear as the meaning of Gen. Taylor is, the construction which the Whig and Times place upon it, would place the old soldier in a very discreditable position of arrant contradiction—it would make him (we again quote the Lynchburg Virginia) "falsify the explicit assertion which he had made but two days before, that he would be a candidate, let who might be the nominee." The Lynchburg Virginia goes on to show that it "would be hazardous for the Taylor delegates to act upon the theory of the Whig" and withdraw Gen. Taylor from the field, upon their own responsibility, without authority from him—nay, in direct opposition to his plain language. On the whole, the Lynchburg Virginia concluded that the "premature" letter to Mr. Baldwin, or Gallaher, has "raised an impassable barrier between him (Gen. T.) and the Whig nomination."

\[BWP\]

REv45i4p1c2, May 16, 1848, No title.

The Clay Whigs of Virginia, enlightened by the late Taylor defeat, are beginning to peak out for "Old Harry."

The following resolutions were adopted by a Whig meeting in Fauquier:

"That this meeting is fairly persuaded that HENRY CLAY, and not General TAYLOR, is the choice of the Whigs of Fauquier county and of Virginia, and the most available candidate for the Presidency.

"That it is the duty of the Whigs of Virginia, if misrepresented by the late State Convention, to correct the error of their delegates; and we earnestly recommend to our Whig brethren throughout the State to meet in their primary assemblies, and declare their sentiments in regard to the candidate for the Presidency, to the end that the Old Dominion may assume her true attitude in the National Convention."

The Whigs of Jefferson are about to make a similar movement, as will be seen from the following card in the Jefferson papers:

"WHIG MEETING.

"The Whigs of Jefferson, who do not consider the principles of their party to be 'obsolete,' and are favorable to a fair presentation of the name of Mr. CLAY to the National Convention, are requested to meet at the Court House in Charlestown, at 2 o'clock, P. M., on Monday, the 15th instant, (Court day.) Deeming the occasion important, every true friend of Whig principles in the county is earnestly invited to be present.

"May 9, 1848. MANY WHIGS."

[BWP]

REv45i4p1c3, May 16, 1848, Another Letter From General Taylor.

The Baltimore American of Saturday last publishes the following letter from Gen. Taylor, addressed to Brantz Mayer, Esq., (one of the Secretaries) acknowledging a copy of the proceedings of a meeting held in Baltimore some time since:
Dear Sir: I have by this day’s mail received a copy [duplicate] of your letter of March 21, with an enclosed copy of the proceedings of a meeting held by the citizens of Baltimore who are friendly to my election to the Presidency.

The political sentiments embraced in the preamble and resolutions adopted at that meeting, I rejoice to say, meet with my cordial approval and assent. No movements in any part of the country, having the object to offer testimonials of honor and respect towards myself, or to advocate my election to the Presidency, have caused in me more lively pleasure, or demand more my gratitude.

You will please do me the favor to make known my acknowledgements to the citizens of Baltimore for the unexpected and unmerited honors they have conferred upon me, in such manner and terms as you may deem most proper.

They are obligations which, should the votes of the country be cast in my favor, it will most surely be my endeavor to redeem to themselves and to all the people of our country.

I must be permitted to add, that, as they have, with so much confidence placed my name in nomination before the country on their own responsibility, free from party action and the exaction of pledges from myself, I shall serve them strictly as a constitutional and not as a party President (in the event already alluded to)—and as my ability will permit.

Please accept my thanks for the kind sentiments you have, in forwarding the proceedings of the meeting, been pleased to express to me.

With sentiments of cordial respect and regard, your most obedient servant,

Z. TAYLOR.

[To] Brantz Mayer, Esq., Secretary of Public Meeting in Baltimore.

We are unable at present to furnish our readers with the "preamble and resolutions" referred to by Gen. Taylor, but we shall endeavor to procure them without delay.

BWP

REv45i4p1c3, May 16, 1848, Mr. Clay’s Last—Illustrated.

The Buena Vista, a new Whig paper started in Boston, to aid Gen. Taylor to the Presidency, says:--We find on our table a copy of Mr. Clay’s late letter, illustrated by Straightshank, which we take pleasure in recommending to our friends in the Whig party, who are "dyed in wool." We give an imperfect description of some of the illustrations, from which our friends can, perhaps, judge of the merits of the work, which may be obtained at wholesale and retail from the Whig Central committee.

Plate No. 1 represents Mr. Clay at the moment of his departure from Ashland, for the Supreme Court, to consul his friends upon the propriety of his being a candidate for the Presidency, and his prospects for the nomination. This plate, by an ingenious arrangement, shows the contents of Mr. Clay’s green bag, which consists of his intended speech in the Supreme Court, No.—(a case which will probably be reached in about two years,) ploitalacal statistics, &c. Among the statistics, the vote of New York and Pennsylvania (two free States,) at the last Presidential election, have a prominent position.

Plate No. 2, represents John Minor Botts, Esq., urging upon Mr. Clay the necessity of allowing his name to go before the National Convention, if he wishes to save him (Mr. Botts) from political annihilation. Mr. Botts seems to be endeavoring to convince Mr. Clay that, although the Whigs of Virginia have declared their preference for the hero of Buena Vista, they do not know their own minds, and infinitely prefer Mr. Clay.

Plate No. 3, represents Mr. Clay in the act of saving the Whig party from being drowned in the waves of Gen. Taylor’s popularity. The party are about going down for the second time only, and one would naturally suppose it would rise to the surface without assistance; but it shows such evident marks of suffering from the descent in 1844, that the reader will see, at a glance, that this time is the last.

There are many other plates, showing the rush of "voters of native and foreign birth" for Clay ballots, Mr. Clay shaking hands with, and forgiving such of his old friends as have "patriotically and honestly" declared their preference for others, &c., &c. Our notice of the work has already reached a greater length than we at first intended, and we will conclude by recommending it to the party organizers.

BWP
This war is denounced as the President’s war. It is in this form that party vituperation is dealt out by every anti-war partisan, from the orator who enchains the attention of the Senate, down to the smallest politician who lounges and gossips in a village bar-room. The deprecat (sic) ingenuity of a sinking faction seems almost to have exhausted the sources of attack upon the war, in the single complaint that it is the President’s war. It would be a proud distinction for any man to be able to call this his war. It was worth any man’s ambition to connect his name with the accumulated glories and enduring national advantages of our achievements in this war,—achievements which concurring accounts from all quarters of the civilized world, represent as having carried the American character to a pitch which it had never before attained. The friends of the President will feel no anxiety to rescue him from such a charge. If his opponents will fasten it upon him, he will, no doubt, endure the infliction with commendable cheerfulness. But it is with the design of identifying him with its achievements, that it is denounced as the President’s war. For the purpose of throwing odium upon the war and its supporters, it is represented as having its origin in an infraction of the constitution. Thus expounded, the charge that this is the President’s war, merits the serious consideration of every American freeman.

The order for the march to the Rio Grande is denounced as an infringement of the power of Congress to declare war. It was not unconstitutional to order the army of Corpus Christi, although our title that far was strenuously disputed by Mexico, because she did not resist its execution by force. But to order the army to the Rio Grande, upon territory not more strenuously disputed by Mexico than that from which it had removed, became clearly unconstitutional because Mexico had determined to resist its execution by force! To incur that forcible resistance was to violate the constitution, by taking the war-making power into the hands of the Executive. This argument makes the duty of our Executive to depend, not upon the requirements of our own laws, but upon the determinations of foreign government—not upon the settled terms of our own constitution, but, as in this case, upon the whims and caprices of some burlesque foregiving government. The government of Mexico is to dictate to our President the extent and the limit of his constitutional powers. The authority of the President over our army is to depend upon the determination of Mexico to summits quietly or forcibly to resist the execution of his orders! There is no action of any department of our government which some foreign government may not choose to regard as a cause of war. And if the determination of some foreign nation to make any anticipated action on the Executive or Judiciary a cause of war, is to deprive those departments of all power to act, then we have a government controlled not be ourselves, but by foreign nations. Let us for a moment recall McLeod’s case, which occurred but a few years ago.

The determination of the British Government to make the conviction of McLeod a cause of war was well known. Could the simple annunciation of such a determination deprive the Court of Jurisdiction in that case? Would the jury, who sat in it, by returning a verdict of conviction in the face of such an annunciation, have violated the Constitution, and interfered with the power of Congress over the War subject? Or, if after sentence had been pronounced, England had marched her forces to the Northern frontier, and announced to the officers of the court that the moment that McLeod was swung from the gallows, her army would cross the line and lay waste the American frontier, would the officer, executing the sentence, be usurping the war-making power? Could not such a war be called the hangman’s war, with as much propriety as this is styled the President’s war? Illustrations of this view spring up at every instant. British subjects were deeply interested in the United States Bank, and anticipated serious injury from a refusal to re-charter that institution. We may, for the sake of argument, suppose that the British Government had assumed an attribute of menace, and declared that she would regard such refusal as cause of war. Suppose that the British Minister, after the bill had passed both Houses of Congress, had announced to Old Hickory that if he voted that bill his mission was at an end, as his Government had determined to resist it forcibly; would the veto, in such circumstances, have been a usurpation of the war-making power? If this argument be correct, the country has been permitted to slumber over a violation of the Constitution that has been perpetrated during this very Texas negotiation.

In November, 1843, Gen. Almonte, the Mexican Minister, by express order of his Government, announced to the Executive, that “on sanction being given by the Executive of the Union to the incorporation of Texas into the United States, he will consider his mission ended, seeing that, as the Secretary of State will have learned, the Mexican Government is resolved to declare war as soon as it receives information of such an act.” Regardless of this threat, Mr. Tyler did give his sanction to the incorporation of Texas, and had a treaty negotiated for that purpose. Did he thus violate the Constitution, and usurp the war-making power? Can a simple threat of a foreign government deprive a department of this government of its constitutional vitality? Mr. Madison has stated the duty of the Executive in such circumstances so correctly and so aptly, that we venture to quote his words: “It (the Executive) is bound to the faithful execution of these, as of all other laws, internal and external, by the nature of its trust and the sanction of its oaths, even if turbulent citizens should consider its so doing a cause of war at home, or unfriendly nations should consider its so doing as a cause of war abroad.”—[2d letter of Helvidius.]

The only proper inquiry then recurs—Was it the duty of the President to order the army to the Rio Grande?—was it his duty to put them in a position to protect from invasion the territory lying between the Nueces and the Rio Grande? If the above reasoning be correct, his constitutional powers are the same, whether he was or was not to incur the forcible resistance of the Mexicans.

We think it clear, that, in ordering the march to the Rio Grande, the President acted within the line of strict duty. We do not mean in this connection to argue the question of title. That was not a question for the President. God forbid that a President of the United States should ever be empowered to determine the boundaries of a sovereign State of this Union, and to extend the protection against invasion guaranteed in the Constitution only to such portions of the territory of a State as his judgment or his will might select! The Constitution of the United States makes it obligatory upon the Federal Government, and each department of that government within its sphere of action, to protect each State from invasion. The power to define the boundaries of a State is one of the highest attributes of sovereignty.
This power is nowhere in the Constitution delegated to the General Government, and is consequently reserved. There is something startling in the very enunciation of the adverse proposition—power in the General Government formally to cede, or informally to yield to a foreign nation, a portion of the territory of the State of this Union! We will not stop to refute it until we find some one bold enough to advocate it in open daylight.

As the Federal Government would otherwise have no power over this subject, the following clause was inserted in the . . . [illegible]. . . foregoing consent of Congress is given upon the following conditions, and with the following guarantees: First—the said State to be formed subject to the adjustment by this Government of all questions of boundary that may arise with other governments.” This clause gave to the General Government, and to the treaty-making department of that Government, so much power over the boundaries of Texas as might be necessary for the adjustment of questions of boundary that may arise with other governments. It is an exception out of the general power over the subject, subject to this exception. Texas had the same power to define her boundaries that any other State had. Her power was limited only by the power to be exercised by the General Government in adjusting questions of boundary that may arise with other governments. Except in the contingency of having such questions to adjust, the General Government had no more power to define the boundaries of Texas than to define those of Virginia.

Now, had any question about the boundary of Texas, arisen with the government of Mexico at the time the troops were ordered to the Rio Grande? On the contrary, Mexico had indignantly repelled the repeated attempts of our government to induce her to discuss such a question. She never condescended to it. Her domineering and ridiculous pride could never be brought to regard Texas but as a rebellious province—the whole of it was hers, and she would not for a moment admit a question as to what part she should yield.—She had broken up all diplomatic relations with our government, and when in her outrageous treatment of Mr. Slidell, she closed the door upon the amicable discussion and adjustment of all questions, she removed every pretext of authority over the boundaries of Texas in the Federal government, and the power reverted back to Texas as completely as if that proviso had not been introduced into the annexation resolutions. No question of boundary had arisen—there was no longer the remotest probability that any such question would arise. The Mexican people had indignantly spurned the proposition to listen to such a question and had overturned the government of Herrera for evincing a disposition to tolerate it. The contingency, then, not having occurred, in which the Federal Government was to have power over the boundary question, Texas was exclusively competent to determine her own boundaries.

It is unnecessary to detain the reader by explaining at length what was the determination of Texas upon this subject. She claimed, bona fide, the Rio Grande as her boundary. Mr. Pilsbury, one of her representatives in Congress, declared, last Winter, that she never would have submitted to the reservation in the annexation resolutions, but for her abiding confidence in the justice of the American Government. To maintain that boundary was with the people of Texas a matter of pride and feeling, as well as of right, and to have surrendered it would have wrung with anguish the gallant hearts of many of those men who have toiled and suffered in the cause of Texan independence. It would have been well calculated to check the impulse of affection and gratitude towards the American Government, for us to have taken from Texas a territory which a course of hardy adventure had made familiar to many of her citizens, and give it back to Mexico, in whose estimation it had become so polluted, that every one living upon it was a traitor, and deserved a traitor’s doom. The very last Congress that assembled in the Republic of Texas were disposed to take measures to secure the undisputed possession of the Rio Grande, but appear to have relinquished that design at the instance of the American Minister. Major Donelson, in his dispatch dated “Washington, Texas, July 2d, 1845,” says:

“It seemed to me wiser to look for some advantage from the assailing movement threatened by Mexico, than to risk the passage of such a law as Congress were disposed to pass over the veto of the President, putting the Texan force under the command of the Major General, the effect of which would have been the immediate expulsion of all Mexican soldiers found on the East bank of the Rio Grande.”

Under the date of July 11th, 1845, he says: “The Congress of Texas, which has recently adjourned, would have passed a resolution with as much unanimity as they did the acceptance of our joint resolution, affirming the claim to the Rio Grande; and so it is probable would Convention now sitting, if they had deemed it expedient in this manner to manifest their disapprobation of the treaty proposed by President Jones, or to oppose the inference which might be drawn from his proclamation, that Texas admitted the right of Mexico to keep an armed force this side of the Rio Grande.”

The Texan Secretary of State also requested that our forces should at once be marched to the Rio Grande. In the face of these pretensions, our Minister, sent specially to Texas to plijt the public faith on all subjects connected with annexation, gave them a pledge that their claim should be bona fide maintained. In his dispatch of July 11th, 1845, Major Donelson says: “But while from such views I encouraged no aggressive movement on the part of Texas to take forcible possession of the Rio Grande, I have nevertheless omitted no opportunity of satisfying all parties here, that the United States would, in good faith, maintain the claim, and I had every reason to believe they would do so successfully.”

When the Mexican Government had indignantly closed the door upon negotiation and was marching her invading armies into territory claimed by a sovereign State of this Union, what option had the Federal Government or any or its departments upon the subject? None—none whatever! When Texas appealed to the government for the protection against invasion guaranteed by the Constitution, where was the authority to refuse it? When she pointed to the Mexican hosts, marshaled in hostile array upon her borders, who authorized the President of the United States to stay to enter into a technical quibbling discussion about the extent of her title? The contingency in which, under the annexation resolutions, the Federal Government or any of its departments was to have authority over the
subject was gone—Mexico had raised no question of boundary—our government had none to adjust with her. Texas, then, possessed the power to define her own boundaries as substantially and exclusively was the State of Virginia. But, according to Whig doctrine, we should have closed our ears to the voice of Texas, while we listened only to the decision of Mexico.—The President should have shrunk from any farther dispute with Mexico in arms, and conducted it with Texas, who had just been disarmed by compact with us! Having failed to satisfy Mexico that her claim to this territory was unjust, he must hasten in alarm from the roar of the Mexican guns to convince Texas that her title has no foundation!

Having presented our own argument upon this subject, it is due to candor to say that the Whig view is sustained by the authorities of a celebrated commentator on the laws of England,. In Dogberry’s opinion of the power of the constable to stay the Prince if he met him in the night, we find the very distinction which is taken by the Whigs in prescribing the constitutional power of the Executive to keep the Mexican army from Texan soil: “Five shillings to one on ’t, with any man that knows the statutes, he may stay him; marry, not without the Prince be willing; for indeed the watch ought to offend no man, and it is a great offence to stay a man against his will.”

MARCUS.

REv45i4p1c5, May 16, 1848, Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun. Washington, May 8,1848.

There is a very strong party here in favor of the new Indian King of the Yucatecos and his cannibal subjects. The color of their skin especially entitles them, in the eyes of some of our philanthropists, to our sympathy, in any contest with the white race. It is now contended, and even by Senators, that the barbarian Indians have a better right to the peninsula of Yucatan than the descendants of their Spanish conquerors.—They also claim for the Indians a civil right, to establish a government as they please, and to cut the throats of all the whites and of the mixed race, on the principle that the majority ought to rule.

It is claimed that the Indians are citizens, and have a civil right to assume the government and to destroy their opponents. It is pretended, too, that they are advanced in civilization. As a proof of their philanthropy, it is well known that they are man-eaters. They are actually cannibals. They killed and ate several American sailors, who had landed for the purpose of obtaining water in 1813-1814. Another proof of their civilization and refinement is that they spare no age nor sex—that they subject women to the utmost brutality of treatment, and that, after prolonged tortures, they murder all the women and children who fall into their hands.

If these atrocities fill us with horror, the justification of them excites our disgust.

There is no truth in the assertion that the Indians now devastation Yucatan form any part of the government, or have anything more to do with it than the Camanches have with that of Mexico. There were some civilized Indians in the towns. The government had taken great pains to educated and civilize the Indians, but the . . . [illegible]. . . . The insurgents are not the civilized Indians—they are the wild savages, who are even more cruel and relentless towards the half Indian race than towards the whites.

The number of the savages in the Peninsula is 450,000; of the whites, 130,000; and of the half blood and mixed race, 80,000. Those Indians who are committing such horrible excesses, and who threaten to destroy and blot out of existence a people who for three hundred years have held the country, and now hold it with as good a title as the people of Maryland hold their territory, are not the Indians of the old race of the Montezumas, whom Cortez found in Mexico.—Those Indians were far advanced in civilization; and the Indians of Yucatan have not a trace or vestige of that civilization.

The Indians were oppressed, no doubt, by the old Spanish conquerors and by the old Spanish government down to the time of the revolution of 1821; but since that time, the Spanish American States, and especially in Yucatan, have endeavored to improve and elevate the condition of the natives, though without any success. The Indians have no grievances to complain of. They rose and fell upon the Spanish settlements because they knew that they were defenceless—being destitute of arms and provisions, and munitions of war, and of money to buy them—while the Indians were supplied with arms from the great British contraband establishment at the Belize.

There is no longer any hope that Congress will give the President troops in time to enable him to afford any efficient aid to the suffering people of Yucatan. Even should they do it at all, all that can be done must be done by the President, and that is to afford relief as soon as he possibly can, through the naval force of the United States.

[By Express and Telegraph to Baltimore Sun]
The daily pony express for the Sun has arrived, bringing New Orleans papers of the 6th inst., three days in advance of the mail.

The schooner Eleanor arrived at New Orleans on the 5th inst., from Balize, from whence she sailed on the 20th ult.

The Indians continue their depredations on the panic stricken inhabitants of Yucatan. They have destroyed the town of Vacola by fire.

The men, to the number of five hundred, retired for the forts, and the women and children had to take care of themselves, and without money, food, or clothing, . . . [illegible]. . . Balize were also threatened with an attack, and were preparing, with more than ordinary vigor, to meet it.

From the New Orleans Picayune, Extra, May 8.

The U.S. steamship New Orleans, Capt. Edward Auld, arrived on Sunday evening from Vera Cruz, having sailed thence on Wednesday, the 3d inst. The ship made capital passages both going and coming.

Gen. Scott and suite left the city of Mexico on the 22d ult., and arrived at Vera Cruz on Sunday, the 30th. He immediately embarked on the brig St. Petersburg for New York, under a salute from Fort Conception. He was waited upon by the commander of the fleet, and received a salute from the flag ship Cumberland. On Monday, the 1st inst., the St. Petersburg was towed to sea by the propeller Thompson. In passing the store-ship Relief and frigate Cumberland, their rigging was manned and three sheers given the old hero. On the 3d inst., the General exchanged visits with Com. Perry and was saluted by the flag-ship Cumberland.

Gen. Scott said, in substance—"I go ashore at the Narrows below New York, and proceed without entering that city, to my family in Elizabethtown. Laboring under the public displeasure of the Executive, it would be highly improper in me, a soldier, to put myself in the way of provoking shouts and cheers from my warm hearted countrymen."

A quorum has not yet been formed at Queretaro. Pena y pena has however determined to settle matters with as many as may meet, provided the American Congress will accept such a ratification. Parades remains quiet.

The vomito has broken out in Vera Cruz; in the city 30 cases per week. The Commissioners leave for Queretaro 29th April.

Among the passengers on the New Orleans, a list of whom will be found below, were Gen. Pillow and staff, Gen. Towson, Gen. Cushing and staff, Co. Belknap, Col. Childs, Col. Duncan, Col. Withers, and a large number of officers.

So desperate at one time was thought the chance of bringing together a quorum of Congress, that the President had determined to exclude the States of New Mexico, Chihuahua and Yucatan in estimating the representation, so that a smaller number may constitute a quorum. Subsequent events led him to believe that a quorum could be obtained, and the President reconsidered his determination. The letters of our correspondent are to the latest date; we annex them. [below, as "Special Correspondence fo the Picayune"]

In my last letter I stated that Col. Withers, of the 9th Infantry, had gone home on leave. I have learned since that he has tendered his resignation.

The letter of your Queretaro correspondent, of the 23d inst., which I send you, is full of interest, and some of his information is important. The extracts from the message of Rosa to the members of Congress now at Queretaro, show that Pen y Pena, fully realizes the dangerous position of the nationality of the country, should the treaty not be ratified in season—and also shows an energetic determination to spare no effort to bring about peace. The passage in the conclusion of the message quoted by your correspondent, in which Rosa says—'and in order not to incur the terrible responsibility of losing the nationality of the country, the Executive will dictate extraordinary measures, which he never would have adopted if circumstances were not so very difficult and dangerous'—I presume refers to the intention of the President to decree that, in consequence of the condition of Yucatan, and other States, arising from the war, a certain number (less than the constitutional quorum) shall form a quorum. It is probable he will have to resort to this measure, as it is understood here that several Congressmen, who are not willing to oppose
though treaty by a direct vote, intend to defeat it by breaking the quorum, whenever the question is put.

The paragraph in the letter relative to the sermon of the Padre Sanchez is at this moment very important. It was supposed, that in consequence of the amendments made by the Senate of the U. States to the clauses of the treaty relating to the recognition of the Mexican church, in the territory proposed to be ceded to us, that the clergy would oppose the ratification of the treaty, or at least require that the clause be reinserted. Not so, however. Your correspondent is right in representing the Padre Sanchez as the organ of the clergy, and a great majority of them favor the ratification of the treaty as it stands. The clergy of this city, fearing the inability of Pena y Pena to raise the forced loan of $150,000 to $200,000 in Queretaro, for the purpose of assembling Congress and supporting the Government, (which, when translated, means for the purpose of bribing the refractory Congressmen,) held meetings in the Cathedral to-day and yesterday, over which the bishop presided, for the propose of discussing the propriety or expediency of advancing the sum required by Pena y Pena, and to-day they resolved upon loaning the money from the funds of the church. I understand the whole sum will be sent to Queretaro to-morrow. These facts, to my mind, settle the question as to whether the treaty will be ratified or not, in the affirmative.

The individual referred to as having been baptized with so much pomp at Queretaro, and who had the honor of having Pena y Pena stand at the baptismal font as his godfather, is, without a doubt, the Lieut. O'Sullivan I have already spoken of as having resigned his commission in the 3d Infantry and gone to Queretaro to join the enemy. He is not a legal deserter, but all the dishonor of moral guilt will ever attach itself to his name.

The Commissioners will not leave for Queretaro until the 29th or 30th inst. In the meantime, the troops which are to form the escort are being inspected daily; and are being prepared to present a fine appearance, in point of clothing and equipments.

A few officers from the train from Orizaba, under command of Capt. Howe, came in advance to-day, and the train is expected to arrive to-morrow or the day after.

It is reported in town to-day that there is a quorum of Congress at Queretaro, but I cannot trace it to an authentic source.

QUERETARO, April 23, 1848. The Secretary of the treasury expresses himself as follows in relation to the forced loan of $150,000 to $200,000, which will be employed exclusively by the Government to pay the necessary expenses in assembling the General Congress, and for its support in this city for tow months:

"You will perceive, according to the last advices published in the papers of the capital, how short a time there remains for us to ratify the treaty of peace, celebrated between our Republic and the United States of America. In order that that treaty should be exchanged at Washington on the 2d of June, it is indispensable that it should be ratified at the latest, on the 15th of May next, and I doubt if it can be done if Congress does not get together immediately. A multitude of unfortunate circumstances have prevented, until now, a reunion of Congress, and the principal one has been the want of money, to give the Senators and Deputies for their necessary wants in this capital. Government has made the greatest efforts to realize this sum, but without success, and having expended all its resources, his Excellency, the President, had, in order to facilitate the meeting of Congress, resolved that all the capitalists, and persons of easy circumstances in this city shall, to assist the Government under the title of a loan, advance a sufficient amount of money to pay for two months the per diem of the Senators and Deputies of the General Congress. Once a quorum has been assembled. Congress will dictate the necessary laws to create such funds and resources as the Government may want to continue its existence."

He concludes thus:

"His Excellency, the President, thinks that the salvation of the Republic imperatively demands the prompt meeting of Congress, and in order not to incur the terrible responsibility of losing the nationality of the country, the Executive will dictate extraordinary measures, which he never would have adopted if circumstances were not so very difficult and dangerous.

"God and Liberty!"

"ROSA"

The priest Sanchez, the clergy’s organ, in one of his sermons, preached on Friday night last, the 21st inst., (Good Friday,) in the Church of Santa Clara, at which the greater part of the members of the Administration, and of the members of Congress that is about to meet, were present, said: “Gentlemen—The only way to save the Republic, and—in pardoning the injuries you have received—to prove yourself Christians, is to make peace.”

Yesterday an American officer, a deserter of the 3d Infantry of the line, was baptized in this city with great pomp. He had for his godfather the President of the Republic, Pena y Pena.

CITY OF MEXICO, April 27, 1848.

I wrote you yesterday, and enclosed a translation of a letter from your Queretaro correspondent, containing highly important information. Lest my communication may miscarry I now send you the original letter. Our commissioners
have not yet received an answer to their communication to the Government at Queretaro relative to the escort. Gen. Butler, a day or two since, was requested by the Mexican Government to allow some Mexican troops to enter this city to take possession of a quantity of army clothing left in one of the convents when the Mexican army evacuated the city. Gen. Butler, instead of granting the request, seized the clothing. It would not now be surprising if the Mexican Government were to ask the arms taken in the different actions to be returned. It would be in keeping with the modest request in relation to the clothing. D. S.

MEXICO, April 27—9 ½ P. M.

I have just received a letter from your Queretaro correspondent of the very latest date, and hasten to give you a rough translation:

QUERETARO, April 25, 1848.

The preparatory union of Congress have retaken their usual course, and few of the Deputies are wanting for a quorum. Queretaro, politically speaking, presents a most animated aspect, and nothing is talked of but peace. In every quarter there are warm discussions upon this grand question. The most vehement party for war is, without doubt, the army, but it had fallen so low in public estimation, and is so numerically weak that it is doubtful if they can get up a pronunciamiento, as it was publicly rumored here within the last few days they would.

Attention!—To­morrow there is to be a meeting of the officers of the Artillery. The object of the meeting is not positively known. Some say that it is to deliberate upon the possibility of sending reinforcements to Gen. Landero; others say the meeting is called to pronounce against the Government, who have effected a loan to pay the Deputies and Senators their per diem for the last two months, and who have done nothing for the army.

It was rumored to-day that the American Commissioners would be here this afternoon.

The Charge d’Affaires of France, Monsieur le Marquis de Renepont, is here.

Gen. Landero is, as you are aware, the general who signed the capitulation of Vera Cruz and the castle of San Juan de Ulua.

From the copious files of papers which we have received by the New Orleans, we proceed to make extensive extracts:

(From the American Star of the 24th April)

THE SPECIAL COMMISSION.—The case of Lieut. Isaac Hare was disposed of yesterday, but of course the finding is not known.

Lieut. Mathison of the same regiment, one of the arrested whose names we have before given, was cleared of the charges preferred, but a nolle prosequi was entered, and he was again remanded to prison.

Another officer of the army, Lieut. T. B. Tilden of the 2d Infantry, whom the State evidence implicates in the matter, has been also arrested.

The case of Lieut. Dutton will commence, we hear, on Monday next.

Major A.D. Stewart, the senior Paymaster in the field, Col. Randall being ordered to New Orleans, will we understand, assume the duties of that office at once.

[From the American Star of April 25.]

The editors of El Eco del Comercio, one of the deputies who left the city yesterday for Queretaro, says there are sixty-four members in attendance, and that by the last of the week there will be seventy-six. If so, we see not why Congress may not organize by Monday or Tuesday. The same papers says Messrs. Sevier and Clifford will leave to­morrow or the next day, escorted by a small cavalry force, instead of by a division. It pronounces the story that they were going to threaten the Government as false—their only object being to present the treaty to the Mexican Government.

THE TREATY.—El Progreso, at Queretaro, has a long editorial in opposition to the treaty, intended to show the loss which Mexico suffers by it.—It says: “Though the United States offer us $20,000,000, they take about $50,000,000 from us.” It urges various reasons why the treaty should not be ratified, and amongst other things says the Government is check-mated—placed in a position where it can neither make peace (there being no Congress) nor war. El Progreso, as our readers know, is the organ of the revolutionists, or the war party. It is a journal of limited circulation, and has but little influence. Many of its articles are so personal and libelous, that were it not for the great liberty which the press in Mexico has enjoyed since its occupation by the American troops, it would long since have ceased to be published.

[From the American Star of April 26th]
The Official Register of Durango contains a communication from the Minister of War to Trias, late Governor and commandante General of Chihuahua stating that he is at liberty [the reader will remember that he was sent to Chihuahua from Rosales after the battle, by Gen. Price.] He says the Provisional President, the moment it was known the American troops were advancing up [on Chihuahua, determined that reparation should be made in case of disaster. It was therefore agreed with the American commander-in-chief that if any Mexicans should be captured, they should not be held as prisoners, nor warlike stores and munitions be considered as lawful prize. Sen. Trias is therefore set at liberty, the trains, &c., are to the restored, and as the editor of the Register remarks, “there is only the loss that will be felt, that of the brave men who fell at Rosales.”

El Progreso, at Queretaro, of Thursday last, has an elaborate article on the subject of the probable assemblage of Congress. It character will be understood from the last paragraph: “We have seen from various extracts from the doings of their sessions, that, in consequence of some Deputies and Senators having been excused, on different pretences, from attending to their duties, it has been determined to summon—and they have been summoned accordingly—the respective substitutes, in order to obtain a quorum, in install the Chambers and proceed immediately to the consideration of the treaty signed at Guadalupe.” The editor of the El Progreso then goes into a long argument to show that this cannot be done, inasmuch as the Deputies cannot be called upon except by a decree from the chamber to which they belong, and then only in case the excuse of the principal is pronounced sufficient by the same body. We shall not follow the editor, but would direct the attention of our readers to the main fact upon which he animadverts, as evincing a disposition on the part of the Deputies present to secure the attendance of the constitutional number.

GUATEMALA.

Advises from this country to the 13th ult., represent the Indians as committing great excesses on the whites. A deputation of five Friars had been sent out to treat with them, but were unsuccessful.

Two deputies from Tlaxcala have repaired to Queretaro.

LADRONES.—The Americans at Rio Frio took three ladrones the other day, who were shot. It is stated that they disclosed the hiding place of the whole band.

The Hon. Messrs. Sevier and Clifford have been invited within a few days past to various entertainments. They received invitations from Gen. Butler, and Senors Hargous and Emilio Vost. Night before last Messrs. Sevier and Clifford gave a supper to the American generals, at which the Mexican General D. Ignacio Mora y Villamil was present. Senor Haro y Tamariz was also invited to be present, but from motives of delicacy and patriotism, which were appreciated by the American Ministers, he was compelled to decline the invitation.

REv45i4p2c6, May 16, 1848, From the Vera Cruz American of April 30.

A train arrived yesterday from Jalapa, commanded by captain Clendenning, assistant quartermaster, and escorted by a company of Texas Rangers.

We understand that Major Chevallie, bearer of dispatches, arrived yesterday from the city of Mexico.

Private George Ealer, of Captain Fairchild’s Company of Louisiana Mounted Men, in company with two of his comrades, on the Orizaba road, was shot dead by one of a party of Mexicans, said to have been about twenty strong.

REv45i4p3c1, May 16, 1848, The Court of Inquiry.

—The Court of Inquiry met at the St. Charles Hotel in this city this morning, with closed doors, and adjourned until to-morrow morning, when various witnesses now in this city will be examined. We understand that the members of the Court will leave the city on the 10th or 11th by the way of the Coner, to hold a session in Frederick, Maryland, where they will adjourn about the 19th instant, unless something unexpected should turn up in the meantime. [New Orleans Picayune, May 8.]

[New Orleans Crescent, May 8.]

REv45i4p3c1, May 16, 1848, Court of Inquiry.

—We were informed last evening by Gen. Cushing, (says the New Orleans Crescent,) that the Court of Inquiry had
not positively decided on its place of meeting in the United States. It would, in all probability, be at Washington, or some place very near there. They have to take the depositions of a number of persons in the United States; and there is no telling when the investigation will end, or how.

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REv45i4p3c1, May 16, 1848, Gen. Cushing-the Peace Treaty.

—We had the honor of a passing call from General Cushing last evening, says the N. Orleans Crescent, who informed up that he intended posting [illegible] forthwith to the north. Gen. C. is in the possession of the most perfect health, and seems to have well withstood his residence and operations in Mexico. We learn from the General that there is little doubt of the ratification of the Peace Treaty by the Mexican Congress. If a quorum does not soon convene at Queretaro, the government will have the treaty passed through the forms, without a quorum—that is, if the American Commissioners will accept of it in that way.

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REv45i4p3c2, May 16, 1848, Correspondence of the Enquirer. Washington, May 15-P.M. U.S. Senate.

The first business before the Senate this morning was the resolution of Mr. Johnson of Maryland, calling on the president of the United States for his reasons why certain nominations had not been transmitted to the Senate.

Mr. Borland spoke at some length in opposition to the passage of the resolution.

The subject was then informally laid aside, and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the order of the day—viz: the bill for military occupation of Yucatan.

Mr. Calhoun addressed the Senate in a speech of some length in opposition to the bill and amendments.

Mr. Bagby has the floor on this subject for to-morrow.

A message in writing was received from the President of the United States, transmitting correspondence between the Secretary of the Navy and Commodore Perry, relative to affording aid to the people of Yucatan.

On motion, the Senate then adjourned.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

A bill refunding to the several States advances made to volunteers in the Mexican war, was taken and passed.

Mr. Stewart submitted a resolution, calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury for a statement of the amount of exports of Cotton and Breadstuffs sent to England from this country, for the first three-quarters of 1847 and 1848.

An interesting debate sprang up on the subject matter of the resolution, which was participated in by Messrs. Ingersoll, Stewart and Bayly.

Mr. Bayly offered an amendment to the resolution, extending the statement to the last twenty years, which was agreed to.

The vote was then taken on the resolution as amended, and it was adopted.

On motion, the House adjourned.

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REv45i4p4c3, May 16, 1848, Whig Sentiment in Other States.

"That same old Coon" is not yet quite dead. Indeed, his chances seem to revive a little. Contrary to general expectation, the Whig State Convention of Maryland have declared Mr. Clay their first, and General Taylor their second choice. We extract the proceedings upon the resolutions offered by T. G. Pratt:

"Whereas, it appears by the indications of the present Convention, that the first choice of the Whigs of Maryland is Henry Clay of Kentucky, that their second choice is General Zachary Taylor of Louisiana; therefore,
"Resolved, That the delegates who shall be appointed in this meeting be, and they are hereby, instructed to use their best efforts to secure the nomination of Henry Clay by the National Whig Convention; and if they shall be at any stage of the proceedings of said Convention convinced that the nomination of Henry Clay cannot be effected by them, then that the said delegates be, and they are hereby, instructed to vote in said Convention for their best efforts to secure the same.

"The clause of the resolution, asserting Mr. Clay to be the first choice, had been adopted, and the question was upon the second clause, expressing the second choice to be General Taylor, and instructing the delegates so to vote.

"Mr. Jenifer offered the following as a substitute for the second clause:

"Resolved, That in the opinion of this Convention, General Z. Taylor is the second choice of the Whigs of Maryland.

"After discussion, the question on the substitute was taken, by yeas and nays, and decided in the negative—yeas 31, nays 59.

"The question was then taken by yeas and nays, on the proposition of Mr. Pratt, and decided in the affirmative—ayes 54, nays 49.

The Georgia Whig State Convention has also acted. They have resolved to stand by the National Convention. The following resolution was adopted "almost unanimously":

"Resolved, That the nomination of General Zachary Taylor for the Chief Magistracy of this Union meets the hearty concurrence of a majority of this Convention; but in the spirit of a just and liberal concession, we stand prepared to support Henry Clay of any other Whig who may be the nominee of the Whig party; provided the views of the nominee accord with our own on the subject of the Wilmot Proviso and Southern Rights."

The latter clause is in direct conflict with the letter of Mr. Toombs, declaring that the South could not consistently sustain Mr. Clay. The Convention went farther, and unanimously adopted the following resolution. [In this connection it may be proper to state, that in a Whig Convention in Alabama, a leading Whig, apparently doubting the "soundness" of Mr. Clay on the Wilmot Proviso, offered a resolution calling on Mr. Clay for "an explanation" of his views on the slavery question. It was, however, laid on the table.]

"Resolved, That Henry Clay is entitled to the undiminished confidence of the Whigs of Georgia, both as to ability and integrity—that his great abilities, long experience, and brilliant services in the cause of his country, entitle him to its gratitude and endear him to his countrymen."

* * *

We confess we cannot understand the Wytheville Republican. We looked into it for election news—but found nothing of the kind. Its editorial space was devoted to the Address and resolutions of the Maryland Taylor "no-party" State Convention, which it extols to the skies. Of the address it says:

"It breathes the right spirit—the spirit of freedom from old party shackles and the spirit of patriotism which alone can meet the new and terrific issues to which this accursed Mexican War must give rise, and it breathes the name of Taylor!—the man for those issues. No party man can ride the storm which is brewing, and will be let loose at the close of the War; for to rake up, the old issues which have been so potent in arousing the wildest fury of party hate, would be to unsettle the base of our Union, and shiver the temple of Liberty which the hand of God himself planted upon the soil of a solitary Nation of this earth. Heaven, save us from a partisan, and deliver us from a northern man! Give us, at least, such a man as Taylor, who will keep his eye on the Stars of liberty and the Constitution of the Union, and its compromises."

Now we feel satisfied that the editor who plumes himself upon his States Rights constitutional notions, could not have seen the Allison letter when he wrote the above. He cannot, we feel sure, approve of Gen. Taylor's views on the veto—for, on that point the old General runs directly in the teeth of the great speech of Mr. Calhoun, the idol and favorite of the Wytheville Republican.

Again, the Wytheville Republican says, "Heaven, save us from a partisan, and deliver us from a Northern man!" Strange to say, this extraordinary language appears in the same paper, which copies an article from the Enquirer, headed "Noble Example," introducing Mr. Hannegan's admirable speech against the fanatical proposition of the infamous Hale with the following words: "Mr. Hannegan is a Democrat from a non-slaveholding State, but he boldly and eloquently stands by the compromises of the Constitution." We know not what the Wytheville Republican would do—but, for ourselves, we freely say, that we would willingly confide the destinies of the South into the hands of such brave defenders of the Constitution and such sincere patriots, as Mr. Hannegan—and so would the whole South.

Finally, the Wytheville Republican makes a fling at the "accursed" war. Our only reply shall be, to quote the triumphant and thrilling burst of eloquence from Jefferson Davis, a gallant Southron and a far-seeing and enlightened statesman, called forth by the similar word "odious" with which Mr. Calhoun stigmatized the Mexican war:
"The Senator says this war is 'odious.' Odious! Odious for what? Odious on account of the skill and gallantry with which it has been conducted—or is it because of the humanity, the morality, the magnanimous clemency which has larked its execution? Odious! Why in any newspaper which I take up, I find notices of large assemblages of the people gathered together to do honor to the remains of some dead soldier brought back from Mexico; or around the festive board to greet the return of some gallant member of the army. The conductors of the press, without distinction of party, express the highest approbation of the conduct of the army. Where is the odium? What portion of our population is infected with it? From what cause does it arise? It cannot be on account of the origin of the war; the extraordinary unanimity with which it was declared by both Houses of Congress, the eagerness with which our citizens pressed to the service, forbid that conclusion. A long and unbroken succession of victories has satiated the public appetite for military triumph—there may be a surfeit, for more has been offered than needed for a feast—an over anxiety for immediate peace is the natural result: with this I sympathize; beyond this I am not prepared to believe the popular feeling of the country extends.

"We have cause to be proud of the record this war will leave behind it—a monument more lasting than brass. We, the actors of to-day, must soon crumble to dust; the institutions we now maintain and hope will be perpetual, may pass away; the republic may sink in the ocean of time, and the tide of human events roll unbroken over it grave; but the events of this war will live in the history of our country and our race, affording in all ages to come proof of the high state of civilization amongst the people who conducted it—proof of the intelligence which pervaded the rank and file who fought its battles—proof of the resources of such a government as ours, wholly unembarrassed, in the midst of war, conquering one nation and feeding another! Where, sir, are the evidences of the evil brought down upon us by this "odious" war? Where can you point to any inroad upon our prosperity, public, or private, industrial, commercial, or financial, which can be, in any degree, attributed to the prosecution of this war? All that is yet to be shown; and I confidently await the issue."

REv45i4p4c5, May 16, 1848, Truly Said.

The Fredericksburg News, Whig, says with emphasis, that, if elected, General Taylor's election "must be effected by the Whigs." From the Democrats "he can expect nothing."

"His reliance must be altogether upon the Whig party. 'Tis madness for him or his friends to calculate upon support from any other source. If he wishes the nomination, he should look to them as the only party or respectable fragment of a party who will support his pretensions to the office.—We hope, then, he will unconditionally throw himself upon them—resolved to abide their will, and be governed by their determination in Convention assembled. He would under these circumstances have the best chance for the nomination."

But is it not "too late?" Can the old soldier now retreat from his firmly-assumed position?—This President-seeking is full of thorns—and, after all, the aspirant may be defeated.


U.S. SENATE.

The resolution of Mr. Reverdy Johnson was again taken up, but at his suggestion, passed over until tomorrow.

The consideration of the Yucatan bill was then resumed.

Mr. Davis, of Mass., addressed the Senate on the general principles involved in the message of the President.

After three messages had been sent in, furnishing information, it seemed to him that the question, as it now stood, was simply one of expediency. The chief argument of the honorable chairman of the committee on Foreign Relations had been that it was our duty to take possession, not only from motives of humanity, but because it is necessary to command the Gulf of Mexico. Such was the argument, stripped of all extraneous matters, and it was in this view that he intended to discuss it.

He denied that the representations made here, that the controversy in Yucatan is between castes of men, were warranted by the information before them. Of the 520,000 Indians in Yucatan, only 120,000 were engaged in this warfare. The remainder were peaceable, engaging in no way in this controversy. The mixed portion of the population, too, had generally united with the Indians in this warfare. Therefore, it was not true that it is a war of the races—between the white and colored population of Yucatan.

He contended that, from all the information which they had been enabled to obtain, it was apparent that there is just cause for these attacks upon the white population—that, instead of being a contest between the indigenous population and the population of Spanish blood, it is a party contest—a contest between the party in power, and a party which constitutes by far the largest portion of the population of Yucatan.
The latter, he said, were neither savages, nor uncivilized, though many of them were degraded it was true. In regard to a large portion of them, they were as much established in their occupations—in the cultivation of the soil—as any of the Spanish portion of the population. And many of them had, from time to time, held offices of responsibility and trust under the government.

And this, Mr. D. said, was the description of persons whom it was proposed to expel by this "temporary" occupation. But it was not protection really against this population which was sought. It was protection against the Mexican States. And if the government of Yucatan had become alarmed at their rebellion against the Mexican States, and sought this protection form the United States for that reason, when would this protection be likely to cease? No one, he thought, would doubt, from the information, that this was the protection desired. And was it likely, under such circumstances, that the time would ever arrive when we should consider Mexico in a situation to afford protection?

He considered it purely a question of annexation, and whether we shall assume the responsibilities of permanently extending our authority over Yucatan. That was clearly the inference to be drawn from the arguments of the supporters of this measure.

He could not perceive the force of the argument adopted by the Senator from Michigan, (Mr. Cass,) that the importance of Yucatan to the commerce and navigation of the United States justified the measure proposed. The West Indies, Cuba, and the Bahama Islands, would still lie in the way, and it would be equally necessary to obtain them to carry out his magnificent views. But here we would have a stronger than the Yucatanese to deal with. We have the English in lawful possession at the Belize, in Honduras and Mosquito country.

If in annexing Yucatan, then, it was proposed also to annex Belize, to extinguish the title of England to a foothold there, we would scarcely be able to do so without getting into a war with Great Britain. He thought it must be apparent to all that this could not so easily be done.

We may assert our authority in Yucatan, in Cuba, in the West India Islands, but if we do not establish our principles there, we shall have accomplished nothing.

But let us carry out the true policy and principles of our republican form of government, and such aggressions would not be required to bring all these into our system.

He contended that we had no right to extend our authority over any other country, simply because, in our opinion, we are giving to that country a better government. It was the right of every people to judge what constitutes their happiness. Whatever may be our own views, if they find happiness in their institutions, "God speed them."

He condemned the policy of seizing Yucatan, from fear that England or some other may do so if we do not. It had been asserted also that England would take possession of Texas if we did not, and yet we now hear the Senator from Texas (Gen. Houston) declare that that was all "diplomatic humbug." The Senator from Maryland (Mr. Johnson) had alluded to an alleged former remark of the Senator, as "coqueting with England," but that the Senator form Texas had disclaimed—he now called it "diplomatic interchanges," alias diplomatic humbug. And he (Mr. Davis) seemed to suppose that there might be a great deal of "humbug" in the idea that England intends to take possession of Yucatan.

He referred to the inconsistency of supposing that England is furnishing arms to those Indians, and at the same time proposing to afford protection to the other party. From the correspondence he quoted, to show that a declaration of Mr. Sierra that they "could easily obtain arms from the Belize" was the only thing to warrant such a declaration.

After looking at the subject in all its bearings, Mr. Davis could not bring his mind to take the step proposed.

When Mr. Davis had concluded, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill for the admission of Wisconsin into the Union, and part of the remaining amendments pending when the House adjourned yesterday were adopted, and part rejected. The bill then, as amended, was ordered to be engrossed, and was read the third time and passed.

Under the 114th rule, Mr. Brodhead handed to the Clerk a notice of a motion for leave to introduce a joint resolution to amend the Constitution of the United States.

On motion of Mr. Vinton, the House then resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, and took up the bill making appropriations for the payment of revolutionary and other pensions for the year ending 30th June, 1849, and after some time spent therein, rose, without coming to any determination thereon.

Then House proceeded to the consideration of a motion made on the 19th April, to reconsider the vote by which the Senate bill had been passed, entitled “An act in amendment of an act entitled an act to amend the act entitled an act to reduce the rates of postage, to limit the use and avert the abuse of the franking privilege, and for the prevention of fraud in the revenues of the Post Office Departments,” passed 3d of March, 1845.
After debate, Mr. Vinton moved the previous question, and Mr. Stephens moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table. Mr. Stephens' motion was negatived—40 to 117. Mr. Vinton thereupon withdrew his motion for the previous question, but after further debate it was renewed by Mr. Goggin, and sustained, and the veto on the passage of the bill was reconsidered.

Mr. Cobb moved to lay the bill on the table, but the motion was not agreed to, and it was finally on motion of Mr. Brodhead, re-committed to the Post Office committee. Adjourned.

FRIDAY, May 12. SENATE.

The bill from the House for the admission of Wisconsin into the Union, was read twice and referred to the committee on territories.

The Vice President laid before the Senate a report from the Secretary of State, in compliance with a resolution to the claims of the owners of the brig Douglass, for indemnity for losses by reason of the wrongful seizing of that brig by a British cruiser.

Mr. Douglass introduced a bill, granting to the State of Iowa the right of way and portions of the public lands, for a railroad to connect the Missouri and Mississippi rivers. Read twice and referred to the committee on Territories.

Mr. Johnson introduced a bill to amend the act, approved June, 1844, “to provide for the adjustment of land claims within the States of Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, and those parts of Mississippi and Alabama south of the 31st degree of north latitude, between the Mississippi and Perdido rivers.” Read twice and referred.

The bill authorizing the payment of interest on loans advanced by the State of Alabama, for the General Government, in suppressing the Creek Indian hostilities in 1836-7; was taken up, the amendment (before noticed) adopted, and the bill passed.

On motion of Mr. Jefferson Davis, the bill explanatory of the act “to raise for a limited time an additional military force and for other purposes,” approved 30th February, 1847, was taken up and passed. [It extends the provision, relative to bounty lands, to the brothers and sisters of deceased soldiers.]

The consideration of Mr. Johnson’s resolution, calling on the President for information in reference to certain military appointments, (Generals Pillow and Cushing,) was then resumed, and Mr. Johnson concluded his remarks in reply to Mr. Allen and on Executive usurpation, as illustrated by the late veto of the President on the river and harbor bill. It would be seen, he said, by consulting the journal of the other House, that the present Executive had actually given, in that body, his vote and his support to bills of a similar character. The constitutional right to construct works, like many of those embraced in that bill, was discussed at some length. Whether they were fresh water or salt water improvements, he said, made no difference. There could be no distinction made for this reason merely. As well might it be contended that a man has not the same right to be drowned in fresh as in salt water.

At the conclusion of Mr. Johnson’s remarks, Mr. Hannegan gave notice that, as he was in favor of Yucatan, he should, after to-day, press immediate action on the Yucatan bill.

Mr. Badger remarked, that for the opposite reason expressed by the Senator for Indiana, he was in favor of executing the order of the Senate and taking up the private Calendar.

Mr. Foote, in a playful manner, expressed his surprise that the Senator from North Carolina should declare that he is opposed to Yucatan. He thought she was at least entitled to our sympathies, in her present calamities, and that the Senator should have an opportunity to explain!

Mr. Badger explained, accordingly, that his opposition was the bill, and not to Yucatan herself. [I hope that I have not placed the gentlemen in a "discourteous" attitude towards each other!]

The senate then proceeded to the consideration of Executive business. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On the motion of Mr. Goggin, the vote by which the House yesterday re-committed the Post-offices bill was reconsidered, and the bill was passed.

A bill for canceling certain illegal entries in the Land Office at Columbus, Mississippi, was read and referred.

The House then, in Committee of the Whole, took up the Private Calendar, and the bill for settling the claim of the legal representatives of Richard W. Meade, was again under consideration, and after a protracted debate, was reported to the House, and, on motion of Mr. McKay, was laid on the table, by yeas and nays, 118 to 38. And then the House adjourned.
REv45iSp1c1, May 19, 1848, General Taylor and Mr. Clay.

It will be remembered that at the late Whig Convention in Virginia, Mr. Botts stated positively that he had seen a letter from General Taylor, in which he declared his determination to sustain the election of Mr. Clay, should he be the nominee of the Whig Convention. This statement was acquiesced in by the Taylor leaders in the Convention, whose selected oratorical organ, Mr. Preston, urged this declaration of Mr. Botts as a strong argument of General Taylor’s Whiggery, which should have precluded all objection on that score on the part of Mr. Botts. The matter passed off, and was regarded by the public as a “fixed fact,” until the appearance of Old Zac’s letter to Mr. Baldwin, wherein the old soldier takes especial pains to refer to the statement, and to deny the smallest foundation for its existence. A direct issue is thus involved, and nothing but the letter can solve the mystery. We understand that Mr. Botts persists in his version, and has written to Mr. Clay for a copy of the letter, which, it seems, was addressed to Mr. Clay by General Taylor. It will, no doubt, be shortly published. In the mean time, we extract the following on the subject from the Baltimore Sun:

“It has been repeatedly announced of late, that a correspondence relative to the Presidency has taken place between General Taylor and Mr. Clay; and the New York Herald, a few days since, attempted to give the substance of it, in which Mr. Clay figured as having lectured General Taylor on the impropriety of allowing his name to go before the National Whig Convention. The New York True Sun, however, gives the following more likely version of this correspondence:

“It now appears that General Taylor wrote to Mr. Clay, assuring the latter that if nominated by the Whig Convention, no man would give him (Mr. C.) more ardent support. This pledge was given in connexion with the protestations of indisposition to be himself a candidate, and thus interfere with Mr. Clay’s election. * * * Ten to one, the letter from the General to Mr. Clay will soon see the light. Indeed, it is even now probably on the way from Ashland to Washington, from whence it is expected to be made public very shortly.”

A correspondent of the N. Y. Herald, writing from Washington on the 11th April, makes the following positive statements, which our readers will take for what they are worth:

“We have some new lights in reference to the late Taylor letters. It is now understood, or believed, upon circumstantial evidence, sufficient to hang a man for murder, that the letter of Old Zac, of the 20th April, was dictated from Richmond, Va., and under the impression, after Mr. Clay’s pronunciamiento, that the great Harry would be the nominee. Hence the declaration of Old Zac that he will be a candidate any how. It is believed, upon equally strong testimony, that the Allison letter was dictated from Washington, under the conjoint deliberation of Messrs. Crittenden and Bell of the Senate, and Messrs. Stevens of Ga., Pendleton, Preston, Flournoy and Fulton of Va., Stewart anf J. R. Ingersoll of Pa., and Hilliard of Ala. Hence, from their better information, the more judicious protocol of Old Zac, and the reservation of leaving his case in the hands of his friends. But the letter to Richmond will require a fuller recantation, and we are authorized to suspect that instructions have gone down to Old Zachary to make it.

In the Richmond letter, General Taylor says he has never declared that he would withdraw form the field in the event of the nomination of Mr. Clay. We are authorized to say, by a friend of Mr. Clay, who knows the fact, that Henry Clay, at the United States Hotel, in this city, last winter, exhibited a letter to several friends, avowing the very concession to Mr. Clay which the Richmond letter denies; and we are further authorized by our informant, to challenge old Zachary to the proof. Mr. Clay exhibited the letter to show the perfect disinterestedness of feeling a that time existing between himself and old Zachary, and that, thus far, the friends of each might consistently be the friends of both.”

[WP]

REv45iSp1c2, May 19, 1848, General Taylor and the Veto.

Not all the Whig party is satisfied with Gen. Taylor’s practical nullification of that “high conservative power,” the veto, which ought to be deeply cherished by the South. The Frederick (Md.) Examiner sees danger to Whiggery in Gen. T.’s exposition:

“We are to understand then, that if the measures of the Whig party, under their administration for instance, should operate most beneficially to the country, yet, if by some sudden popular outbreak, whether from local causes or otherwise, the majority should be turned against the Whig party, the General would not exercise the veto power, because this change happened, but would remain content and give it his sanction—like a mere vane to be shifted and turned by every political breeze, no matter from what quarter of the compass it may come—without the exercise of a sound judgment, most solemnly enjoined by the constitution upon the Executive.
“That the veto has been most shamefully abused we readily admit, but who desires the President of the United States to be the mere instrument in the hands of Congress, instead of its Constitutional adviser?” [BWP]

REv45i5p1c1, May 19, 1848, No title. Bold statements of the Whig Press—General Taylor’s nomination.

“The Richmond Enquirer of Saturday is filled to the brim with articles about General Taylor—all going to show that the prospect of his nomination has thrown the Editors of that paper into spasms of fear.” [Petersburg Intelligencer]

If the bold statements of the Whig press of the two factions are to be believed, we surely must be in a bad way. The Taylor organ quoted above describes us as suffering “spasms of fear” at the prospect of General Taylor’s nomination—while the Mobile Advertiser (Clay) paints the “intense agony” felt by the Democrats at the “bare mention” of Mr. Clay as a candidate!

We can assure the Petersburg Intelligencer that we do not feel one “spasm”—but are as cool as this warm weather will allow—calmly awaiting the action of both Conventions. If the contingency assigned by the Intelligencer be the only cause of fear, then we should feel perfectly at ease, for we have the empathetic testimony of as strong Whig papers as the Intelligencer itself, that the “spontaneous combustion” produced by our neighbors of the Republican, in publishing Old Zac’s “premature” letter to Mr. Baldwin or Mr. Gallaher, has utterly cut off all “prospect” of Gen. Taylor’s “nomination” by the Whig Convention.

The Lynchburg Virginian has published two long and unanswerable arguments to show that with the plain and direct language of the Baldwin letter staring them in the face, the Whigs cannot, without a sacrifice of “self-respect,” think of nominating General Taylor—that it would be an “insult” to the Convention to bring his name before that body—that the unfortunate note of the 20th, sent off before the astute, and far-seeing, and well-posted Major Bliss reached Baton Rouge, had “virtually replace” General Taylor “beyond the pale of the Whig party, as such, and the Convention cannot possibly entertain the question of his nomination”—and finally, that “the exposition of his principles” came “too late”—for it was “deferred until the letter to the Republican had raised and impassable barrier between him and the Whig nomination.”

The Fredericksburg News, a Taylor organ, asserts roundly, that if General Taylor “perseveres to adhere to his Richmond letter, as interpreted by the public generally, we cannot conceive how he can be brought before the Convention. It would be altogether useless to present his name before it, with a determination not to abide its decision. But we have not a shadow of a doubt that he will do as some have construed his letter to mean. He is a man of sense, of moderate ambition, of discretion, and, as such, his duty is to yield to the behests of his party, and submit to what they advise.”

While, however, the News thinks that, in the present state of the case, Gen. Taylor cannot possibly be brought before the Convention, it is confident that the old man, whose great glory it has been “never to surrender,” may now be induced (of course by the cunning “telegraph politicians” at Washington) to eat up his words, to contradict his own plain language in the grossest manner, to say that white meant black, and that when he positively declared that he would not withdraw his name, whoever might be the nominee, he meant that he would do exactly the reverse and withdraw it, and in every respect would “yield to the behests of his party, and submit to what they advise.” Now, General Taylor has frequently told us in his various letters, that he was entirely independent of all “parties and all party schemes;” and yet his “friends” are so anxious to force him into an humble submission to “the behests of party,” that they would tear a laurel from his brow, and place him before the public utterly devoid of self-respect—a miserable party tool. His “friends” may entertain so humiliating an opinion of Gen. Taylor, but we confess that we are not yet prepared to see him “surrender” his good name, ad sacrifice himself and his pride of character, as they would represent him as being about to do. A short time will remove any doubt, and lift the veil from this last act of the drama. We shall soon know whether his “friends” will extort from him a letter, to “explain away” his Baldwin letter, and stamp his own flagrant inconsistency. After all, the News intimates that, in consequence of "the unpleasant altercation between the friends of Mr. Clay and General Taylor at the North," both may be dropped, and some third man taken up.

Finally, we commend to the Petersburg Intelligencer the following strong language of the Mobile Advertiser, Whig; which had just received the "fatal missive." This Southern organ, also, puts Taylor out of the question. We humbly conceive that these revelations of the Whig press should transfer the "spasms of fear" from ourselves to the Petersburg Intelligencer. Certain it is, that if Gen. T. be not nominated, that paper will tremble like an aspen—for it has been almost conceded by that and other kindred presses, that Gen. Taylor is the only man who can succeed in their view. For ourselves, we "fear" neither Taylor nor Clay. But to the article from the Mobile Advertiser:

"The letter of General Taylor to the editors of the Richmond Republican, which we publish this morning, defines very clearly his position in regard to the Presidency, so that hereafter there need be no mistake about it. He is a Candidate, "hit or miss"—an "independent" candidate—and so he will remain, regardless of the wishes of the Whigs as a party, and in utter defiance of the action of the Whig Convention or any other Convention. If either Convention or any party nominates him, well and good; but if not, he is a candidate any how. He will not decline in the event of nomination of Mr. Clay or anybody else by the Whig Convention. In short, he is a candidate "on his own hook," and bids defiance to both the Whig and Democratic parties. Such being his position, his name will not, of course, go before the Whig Convention, or, if presented, will receive little consideration. IT CERTAINLY WILL BE ENTITLED TO NONE. At all events, we set it down as a "fixed fact," that he will not be nominated. There will be three candidates in the field, to wit: a regular Whig, a regular Democrat, and an "independent," "no party" candidate. Wonder how
many states the latter will carry? Nous verrons! We rejoice that General Taylor has thrown off his mask at last. We now understand him fully, and shall feel no embarrassment in speaking of him hereafter in such terms as our feeling and a sense of duty to the Whig party may dictate.”[BWP]

**REv45i5p1c7, May 19, 1848, Yucatan.**

The Vera Cruz *Arco Iris* has very late dates from Yucatan. We are compelled to cut short the news, but the principal feature of the intelligence is a treaty which the Government of Yucatan has been constrained to enter into with Pat, the chief of the insurrection. The following are the terms of it: 1st Pat shall be Governor for life of the Indians of Yucatan; 2nd. D. Miguel Barbachano shall be Governor for life of the whites of the State; 3rd Twenty-five hundred muskets taken from the Indians before the war, shall be given up to Pat; 4th All debts due by the Indians to their masters shall be forgiven; 5th Unoccupied lands which have been sold by the Government shall be again held in common; 6th No personal tax shall be paid in Yucatan; 7th [This article provides that the *derecho de estola* shall be reduced. We do not know the nature of the impost. Possibly . . . [illegible] . . . .

Mr. Sierra, the Commissioner of Yucatan, had just received a letter from Campeachy, by the way of Vera Cruz, of 30th April, of which the following is an extract, translated into English:

"The extermination everywhere in the country is going on with increasing fury and carnage. Poor Governor Barbachano, through the intercession of Bishop Querra, has offered everything to the barbarians to moderate their unheard of rage. His efforts have been unavailing. While Pat, the most powerful among the tribes, is talking about peace, his numerous bands are destroying cities, towns, farms, and all the valuable property around Merida. The inhabitants of the Capital are in the deepest consternation; the families emigrate by hundreds to Cuba, Campeachy and Laguna. Orders have been issued for concentrating all the bodies of national militia within the fortifications of Merida, and abandoning to the Indians all the advanced posts, but every town is resisting the orders, on the ground that the people will defend their homes and their wives and children in the best manner possible, and in the mean time the savages come down and massacre the whole population.—The panic has completely demoralized the people. The public authorities have lost all their influence, and the cry *sauve qui peut* is spreading over the country. The richest families in the interior, who have escaped with their lives, are now beggars, asking the assistance of their unhappy countrymen, deprived alike of the power of assisting them. Some subscription for their relief have been raised in the Havana, where great sympathy for the poor sufferers prevails.—Cannot you, our dearest friend, do anything in favor of our common home? We have neither arms, nor ammunition, nor money, nothing but our resignation to die at the merciless hands of the Indians! Without speedy and efficacious relief form abroad, the beautiful and rich peninsula of Yucatan will be the tomb of the white race, deprived even of the means of flying. May the Almighty God have mercy on us!"

[BWP]

**REv45i5p1c7, May 19, 1848, Election in Oregon.**

The *Oregon Spectator* announces the official returns of the election for Governor as follows:—George Abernathy, 536; A. L. Lovejoy, 520, Scattering, 18. Abernathy’s plurality 16. Rather a close election that.

[BWP]

**REv45i5p2c1, May 19, 1848, Remarks of the Hon. Thomas H. Bayly, of Virginia.**

*In the House of Representatives, April 10th, 1848.*

The Joint Resolution from the Senate, tendering the congratulations of the American people to the French people, being under consideration in the House, and Mr. ASHMUN having spoken in reply to Mr. BAYLY, he obtained the floor, and said, when he had spoken one week ago upon this question, he had spoken without one—

Mr. ASHMUN interposed, and desired the gentleman to give way for a moment while he added a few observations on a topic which had escaped him.

Mr. BAYLY assented, and Mr. ASHMUN proceeded with his remarks; after which—

Mr. BAYLY resumed the floor, and proceeded. He said he was about to remark, when he had yielded the floor to the gentleman from Massachusetts, that when he had spoken a week ago on this subject, he had spoken without one moment of preparation, and under the feeling very manifest to the House at the time, and which he did not attempt to suppress. The gentleman from Massachusetts subsequently on the same day, had obtained the floor, and declined then under circumstances similar to those under which he had spoken, to reply. He had taken a week to fortify himself, and all he (Mr. B.) asked now, was, not a week for preparation to rejoin to him, but the attention of the committee. He should follow the gentleman step by step through his remarks.
And, first, as to what the gentleman had said in reference to his (Mr. B.’s) suggestion as to the form in which the resolutions of congratulation to the French people ought to be presented by this country. The gentleman said he had objected to the resolutions of the gentleman from Ohio, [Mr. Cummins,] because they had not come from any committee of this House, or even from a gentleman connected with the committee having charge of our foreign relations, and had seemed to intimate that that was ground of objection on his (Mr. B.’s) part to the resolutions themselves. On the contrary, gentlemen knew very well that it was impossible to get this subject before the House in the imposing form he (Mr. B.) had desired, until they had first been submitted by some member.—His (Mr. B.’s) argument had been in favor of referring the resolution, and nowhere had he objected on account of the gentleman from Ohio having introduced them. The gentleman had quite as much right to introduce them as anybody else.—They had come with quite as much propriety from the gentleman from Ohio, as they could have come from anybody else. But he [Mr. B.] had desire to give them an imposing appearance.—He had desired that they should not seem to be the suggestion of a single individual, but rather the deliberate and well-considered action of this House.

He had not understood the resolutions of the gentleman from Ohio, nor had the gentleman from Massachusetts himself understood then as referring to the subject of abolition in the French colonies; because, if we had, why did he move his amendment? The resolutions had created no excitement here, though the gentleman from Massachusetts now maintains that they contain the substance of his amendment. There had been no ill feeling, no indisposition to vote them when they were brought forward in a proper form. Was it that the gentleman found, that although thus containing his amendment, as he now maintained, they were not likely to excite broil and discord here, and hence he deemed it necessary to give additional point to it, to render it obnoxious, as far as their feelings were concerned, and thus raise the storm of which he now complained? The gentleman had one of the two horns of the dilemma; he must either admit that he did not understand the resolutions as he now maintained them to be, or, being everything he desired, yet, as they were going quietly along, his purpose of agitation was not likely to be attained, and, therefore, it was necessary for him to interfere with his amendment. So far from the gentleman’s explanation having relieved him from any odium, which he (Mr. B.) undertook to say his amendment had brought upon him, in the estimation of three fourths of the members of this House, they only served to fix it more indelibly upon him.

The gentleman had expressed surprise that the resolutions of the gentleman from Ohio, which, as he contends, contained a virtual congratulation at this abolition movement in France, should have come from this (the Democratic) side of the House and said that “but for the position” (emphasizing the word) of the gentlemen on this side of the House, he would have been more explicit in its utterance. What did the gentleman mean? Had it come to this? Had a leader of the Whig party in this House been brought to admit that . . . [illegible] . . . of discord here, which did not prevail on that (the Whig) side of the House? They all knew—scarce any man was so inattentive to what was going on here, from day to day, as not to know—that such was the fact; but he had thought that the calculating prudence of the gentleman form Massachusetts, on the eve of a Presidential election, when the vote of Southern States is wanting to elect a Whig, would have restrained him from the open, undisguised avowal of it on this floor.

But the gentleman said that the resolutions were premature; that he was willing, at a proper time, to express sympathy with France, but wished to wait until he saw the result of the movement there. He wished to wait until republicanism was consolidated in France, before he could express a word of sympathy with this movement in the direction of free principles.—He desired that the movement should be consummated before we should open our lips. —He (Mr. B.) wished for no such ill­timed delay. In this contest for free principles, waged in imitation of our own glorious contest of ’76, he did not wish now, any more than France did then, to wait for the movement to be consummated before the cheering voice of sympathy was heard. If the calculating prudence of the gentleman had been practiced at that time by France, perhaps our Revolution would never have been consummated. So far from its being premature, it was in the midst of the strife, when the issue was yet uncertain, when these people were contending for their political rights, that they required the cheering voice of sympathy. It was at such a period as that that he (Mr. B.) wished to speak—whilst the contest waged, not when it was over. Then would be a time for congratulation when they had achieved the glorious object for which they were struggling; now was the time to send over to them the voice of sympathy and encouragement. He had none of that cold, calculating policy which would restrain him from sympathizing with men fighting for their liberties, because perchance they might be stricken down in the struggle. He ardently hoped that France might establish, on a firm basis, her republican principles; and it was precisely because he did not want to produce despondency for lack of the sympathy of this great nation that he did not want to wait. If we were not to rejoice now, because their had been something to be regretted in what had occurred, we never could rejoice at the inception of any movement of this sort. Somewhat of irregularity, confusion, disorder—somewhat (he was sorry to add) of error, must always precede the success of any great revolution. He asked again, was France premature when she not only aided us by her cheering voice of sympathy, but with men and money? It was precisely as premature in France then, as it was in us now. He repeated, he had no sympathy with the gentleman in his ill­timed prudence.

But the gentleman from Massachusetts could not speak to these resolutions—with all his professed anxiety to produce no discord, to discharge his duties merely—he could not speak to these resolutions without recurring to the conduct of our Government in the Mexican war, virtually charging us with hypocrisy—not in terms, but that was the effect of his argument—charging, that at the time we were exulting at the birth of a republic in the Old World, we were exerting the power of our nation to crush a Republic on this continent. What had we done in reference to Mexico that showed dany disposition on our part to put the iron heel of war upon her? Had not our course toward her, from the dawn of her independence to this time, been that of forbearance and friendship; while hers, in turn, had been nothing but outrage and hostility? Has not our forbearance toward her been such, that if it had been practiced towards a strong instead of a weak nation, it would have stamped u with pusillanimity? Was Mexico less likely to be free, less likely to be republican, after the termination of this war, which the gentleman’s course had tended so much to protract, than it wa before?—Was there any man, who had looked attentively at the course of events, who believed that this war would result in injury to Mexico, as far as her civil and political condition was
The gentleman had referred to the remarks of the French minister, and had quoted from his book what he had said on the subject of slavery in the West India Islands. Now, he (Mr. B.) begged leave to say to this House, that he attached precisely the same importance to Lamartine’s description of slavery in the West Indies, that he did to the constant descriptions of slavery in the Southern States by the gentleman and his associates on the floor. He had never lived in those colonies. He knew nothing of their condition. He was precisely as ignorant of it as the gentleman from Massachusetts had those who co-operated with him were of the condition of slavery in the Southern States; and as presumption would never supply the place of knowledge, he attached precisely the same importance to the opinions of Lamartine upon a subject he did not understand, that he did to the opinions so often expressed here by a class exactly in the same category.

But does not the gentleman know that Lamartine was speaking of the condition of slavery in St. Domingo at the time of the insurrection, and not of the condition of slavery at this time in the French Islands?

Besides the reason which he had given for attaching no importance to Lamartine’s description of the condition of the slaves in St. Domingo, there were others. He was not sustained by better informed historians. Most of them represented the Negroes as contented and happy, until they were made to believe, by the interference of foreign fanatics, that they were oppressed and deprived of the natural rights of man. But, although he attached no importance to what Lamartine said of the condition of the slaves in St. Domingo, yet he did attach importance to what he said in the extract which the gentleman had read on another point, about which he was informed. Mr. B. alluded to what Lamartine said about the effect of the insurrection. He referred to the fact that the Constituent Assembly had proclaimed the liberty of the blacks, and said, “St. Domingo, the richest of the French colonies, was swimming in blood. FRANCE WAS PUNISHED FOR HER EGOTISM.” Yes, she was punished for her egotism, in attempting to control an institution which the great mass of her people and statesmen knew nothing about, in the massacre of her white citizens in St. Domingo in the first instance, and in the loss finally of the finest of all of her colonies. And civilization and humanity itself was punished, in the loss of both, of one of the finest and most productive portions of the globe.

And (continued Mr. B.) if it were possible for the gentleman and his associates to succeed in abolishing slavery in the Southern States of this Union, we would not be the only persons who would suffer. They and their constituents would also, though not to the same extent with us, be punished for their egotism.

But the gentleman from Massachusetts had said that he had been in error in what he had said in reference to abolition in St. Domingo. The gentleman seemed to suppose that he had maintained that the emancipation was the action of the French Government which brought about that emancipation, and had undertaken to show that it occurred prior to any action of the Government on that subject. He had never said that abolition in St. Domingo was brought about by the action of the French Government. On the contrary, in as explicit terms as he could employ, he had said it was brought about by the agitation of the subject by English and French fanatics, without the concurrence of the Government of France, and by the operation of societies there of the character of those to which the gentleman belonged.

Mr. ASHMUN (Mr. B. yielding) said he had understood the gentleman to make use of these words precisely as he was reported in the Intelligencer.

Mr. A. here read a passage from the Intelligencer’s report of Mr. B.’s speech.

Mr. BAYLY (resuming) aid, if the gentleman would hand him the report he would show him exactly what he had said. The report, considering the circumstance under which he had spoken, he was free to say, was a very faithful one. But much he had said was omitted. The remarks immediately after what the gentleman quoted showed clearly enough what his understanding. He had said the thing had been effected. How? By the action of the Government? No such thing. This was what he had said; and he read from the Intelligencer’s report as follows:

“Then the thing had been effected by the busy intermeddling of visionary fanatics, just as it was now sought to be done by the gentleman from Ohio and his associates. There was then a band of fanatics in London who met in the Old Jewry, and who passed resolutions very similar to the amendment which it was now sought to foist on the pending resolutions.

“It was then proposed to aid these Negroes with men and money in a struggle for their freedom; and similar resolutions were at the same time adopted in France by an association similar to that to which the gentleman and his abolition friends belonged among us. These fanatical visionaries set the revolt of the blacks in St. Domingo in motion; their machination succeeded in exciting a servile insurrection, in the course of which every white man and woman and child in the island was massacred, with the exception of a small remnant, who fled to the shipping in the harbor and barely escaped with their lives.—Whole hecatombs of dead bodies were piled up in the streets, amid burning, murder and pillage.”

He had made other remarks which were not in this report. The House would recollect—those who had paid attention to his speech—that he had referred expressly to the fact that the Abol-... [illegible]... and money; and of this was by aid, thus furnished by persons belonging to associations precisely similar to those that existed there, that these
Negroes had been stirred up to insurrection, and been enabled to succeed, by cutting the throats of every white man, woman, and child in the land, except a few that escaped.

Mr. ASHMUN wished to correct the gentleman on one point. Oge’s mission, he presumed the gentleman would recollect, was to vindicate the right of the mulattoes against the whites. His mission was not emancipation.

Mr. BAYLY knew, as well as a man could expect to know from general reading, the history of that transaction.

Let the gentleman look to the authority he had quoted, or to his own historian, Edwards, and he would find that although Oge, when he left St. Domingo, contemplated nothing more than to assert the rights of the free mulattoes before the Constituent Assembly in France, yet in France he became associated with the Society of the friends of the Blacks, and in England he was made acquainted with the abolitionists there. —The association with these men changed his views. He became intimate in France with Barnave, whose fanatical maxim was, “Perish the colonies rather than a principle;” and he returned to St. Domingo, bent upon a general insurrection, which he contrived very soon to set in motion.

Look to the British Islands. British statesmen had admitted that their attempt at emancipation there had proved a failure. It had taken place under circumstances more favorable than could ever again occur: the masters were in some sort compensated for their slaves by the appropriation of $100,000,000, and there was not that acute sting of wrong which would occur where they were not this emancipated; they underwent a probation of ten years; in England heavy discriminating duties were laid in their favor for their protection; they had British bayonets there to keep them in order and protect the white men against their murder—and yet, with all these safeguards, with all these favorable circumstances, which never did occur before, and which never could occur again, what was the condition of things in those islands? Look to the debates in the British Parliament; look to the admission of her statesmen and of her leading journals, and it was everywhere conceded that the attempt had proved a failure. It had been maintained in the British Parliament, as it was here, that white labor would be more profitable than slave labor; that emancipation would enhance the products of those islands. We of the South (said he) knew otherwise. As young as he was at the time, he reviewed, in one of the periodicals of the day, these positions; he was not wise after the fact; in 1833, in this article which was in print, he had predicted exactly what had since occurred. English statesmen, or such of them as were influenced but his reasoning, as very few of them in fact were, did not understand the fact—which it seemed could not be learned here—that presumption was no substitute for knowledge, and that man cannot wisely regulate a subject they do not understand.

But, to look further: What must inevitably be the ultimate moral effect of extensive emancipation? He said now, whether by the torch of the incendiary and the dagger of the assassin, or by the peaceful action of the Government, emancipation could never take place in any country where there was a large proportion of the blacks, without absolute destruction to the whites or the blacks. There was no man that reflected about the matter who could believe that the two races could ever live together in the same community as equals: they never did anywhere, and never could. Free the blacks in the Southern States, and a strife would inevitably arise between them and the whites which would become a war between the races, the most deadly of all wars, in which it would be necessary “that one should perish that the other might live.”

The gentleman said when he (Mr. B.) pronounced his amendment a libel on one half of the States of this Union, he was virtually saying that the Declaration of Independence was equally a libel. What was the resolution of the gentleman, as modified by his friend from Ohio, [Mr. Schenck?] It was a declaration that slavery, domestic slavery, was a violation of a cardinal republican principle. He said that that declaration was a libel on one-half of the States of this Union, because it affirmed that those States were living in the habitual violation of a cardinal republican principle; and he maintained it still. But had the gentleman’s resolution any analogy to the Declaratio of Independence? —Did the Declaration of Independence speak of anything else then political rights? When the Declaration of Independence declared that all men are created equal, did it mena to assert the untruth that all men were in fact created equal in their social and physical condition? Did it mena to say that the idiot equal in every respect with the man of genius? The dwarf with the giant? In what were they equal? Equal in stature? In intellect? In any gift of God? The Declaration of Independence never meant to assert any such absurdity as that. It mena to assert that men are equal in their native rights, before they were modified by law after they entered into society. That was what it declared; and there was no ingenuity which could torture the Declaration of Independence into having the remotest allusion to the institution of domestic slavery.

The gentleman had read a long list of bright names that represented Virginia at that time in the old Continental Congress—the name of Lee, who introduced the resolution that “these colonies are, and of right ought to the, free and independent States;” of Benjamin Harrison, Carter Braxton, and other eminent men, who participated in that movement. Did he not know that every one of these men at that time were large slaveholders—among the largest in that State? That every one of them continued to be slaveholders till the day of their death? With what purpose, then, did he come in here and assert that these men propounded any such doctrine as he now contends for? I say
But to recur to the subject of the Declaration of Independence. The gentleman had said that every creature that had the form of a man was entitled to the right of citizenship. He asked the gentleman in what State of this Union did any such right obtain? He asked him in what State of this Union, except, perhaps, his own, did free Negroes enjoy any of the fundamental rights of citizenship? Did they vote? Did they serve on juries? Had they the right, which was secured by the Constitution to every citizen, of going to any State they please to reside? Did not the gentleman know, that laothough he talked so much about Negroes being deprived of their rights by the institution of slavery, they were as much deprived of every political right in the other States as they were in Virginia?

Mr. ASHMUN was understood to say, (Mr. B. yielding) that there were other States beside Massachusetts in which the black population were entitled to vote. This was the case, he believed, in Democratic New Hampshire.

Mr. BAYLY. Do the Negroes vote there?

Mr. ASHMUN. Yes, and in New York.

Mr. BAYLY [continuing] undertook to say—he did not presume to be as well acquainted with their State constitutions as their own representatives were—but he undertook to say, that neither in New York nor New Hampshire did the Negroes stand on the same footing with the white voter. There were discriminations against them; and of there were any discriminations, they did not enjoy all the privileges of citizenship. In New York they require the Negroes to possess a large property qualification, not required of the whites, which effectually excludes them from the polls. In New Hampshire there are very few free Negroes, a dh the law, perhaps, may allow them to vote; but are they not kept by public sentiment from the polls?

Mr. TUCK interposed, and [the floor being yielded] begged leave to correct the gentleman in regard to New Hampshire. Free Negroes voted in New Hampshire; and he would inform the gentleman that very many of them were intelligent and respectable men. [A laugh.]

Mr. BAYLY continued. How many of them had the gentlemen ever seen on the jury, at the bar, on the bench of justice? Not one, he would undertake to say. And they could not marry a white man or woman. [A laugh.] And yet gentlemen came here and talked about their being free and equal. It was not the fact anywhere. Look at Connecticut, in the very heart of New England: on a late occasion, by an overwhelming popular vote, she had denied them the right of suffrage. Look at New York, Pennsylvania, to every State in the Union. In none of them were they entitled to the enjoyment of equal rights . . . [illegible] . . . about emancipating their slaves. Go home (said he) and emancipate your free Negroes. When you do that, we will listen to you with more patience. Until you have taken the beam out of your own eye, do not undertake to remove the mote from ours.

The gentleman from Massachusetts asked [continued Mr. B.] if the ordinance of 1789 was a libel on the States of the South. He [Mr. B.] did not choose to anticipate now aht he should have an opportunity on another occasion to say, when he should pay his respects to that ordinance, and show all it ever was or is. It contained no such sentiment as that expressed by the gentleman.

The gentleman had also asked him if the Oregon bill, with the anti-slavery restriction, was a libel on the Southern States. He regretted that the gentleman had made it necessary for him to refer to the circumstances unde which the anti-slavery restriction was put in that bill. It had been in none of the territorial bills that had preceded it, except the Wisconsin bill, and there in so loose and general phraseology that it had escaped the attention of the House. The effort had been abandoned in the case fo the Iowa bill.—When the Oregon bill came into this House in 1845, reported by a gentleman from a non-slave State, and from a committee a majority of whom were form non-slave-holding States, there was no such restriction in it. It was paced there—and he regretted it—on the motion of a gentleman whose elevated personal character, whose elegant accomplishments, whose urbanity, whose ability, whose statesmanship, ought to have made him scorn to participate in any such proceedings—by the gentleman who then, as now, represented the city of Boston, [Mr. Speaker WINTHROP.] It was introduced against all precedent, against all necessity, and for the purpose, he regretted to believe, of keeping up abolition excitement. If it had come from such a source as this amendment, he should have expected nothing better; but he confessed he was disappointed, mortified, to see it come from the source which it did.

But the gentleman had not been content with a legitimate reply to his argument, but had seen fit to come into this Hall, in a manner which every gentleman here must feel to have been offensive, to drag before the nation and to denounce the conduct of the Senate of Virginia for refusing to pass certain resolutions in reference to the death of Mr. Adams. It was not for him to defend that body, composed as it was of patriots and statesmen. They were able to defend themselves, and they had defended themselves before the tribunal to which they were responsible. He should not defend them before this, to which they were not. He plead to their jurisdiction. But why was it that the Senate of Virginia had not passed those resolutions? They were willing to pass such resolutions as were becoming the occasion. They were offered to pass resolutions of regret at the death of the man; but they were unwilling to stamp hypocrisy upon themselves, and to pass general resolutions of approbation of the public conduct of a gentleman whose public conduct, it was well known, had never met the approbation of Virginia. He spoke of his political course. Of his private character as a man, of his ability as a statesman, no man in Virginia had ever undertaken to speak in terms of disparagement. But they were not willing to pass sweeping resolutions of
But the gentlemen, not content with referring to the Legislature of Virginia and her constitution, had undertaken to tell the House about her want of prosperity, and to refer them to the greater growth and prosperity of other States. He [Mr.B.] knew that this was a very common idea; but he undertook to say, with some small knowledge of the fact, that there was not one of the old States which had advanced in prosperity with a more steady, decided step than Virginia. He undertook to say that there was no state in which the progress of improvement had been more certain. He knew some of the new States had outstripped her. The cheapness of their lands, the disposition of our people to seek new homes, and many other circumstances, which he could not now stop to discuss, had stimulated them into rapid prosperity—a prosperity which he had never envied them. But he maintained, that among the old States of this Union, there was no State which had advanced in population and wealth with more steady step than had Virginia. Even Massachusetts herself, with all the protection she had received from the General Government, elevating her and depressing us, had not a larger ration of representation, in comparison with Virginia, on this floor, than she had in the first Congress under the Constitution.

Under these circumstances, their people constantly going out, the new States keeping up a constant drain upon them, they kept on at a steady pace of improvement.

Instead of being misled by declamation, let gentlemen look to the facts of this case. Let them compare the census taken at different times, and they would find that the old slave States had advanced quite as rapidly as the old non-slaveholding States, with the exception of New York and Pennsylvania; and they, in truth, in the connection in which he was speaking, could scarcely be called old States. At the time of the adoption of the Constitution, they possessed a vast, unappropriated western territory, which they have since virtually brought to the seaboard by their internal improvements. In consequence of which, their western counties have been filled up with a dense population, and their towns have grown into large cities. If it be answered, that Virginia also had a large unpeopled territory in the western part of the State, I reply that Virginia had provided no outlet for the produce of the country; and this circumstance, and the existence of slavery—for, in truth, in that part of the State there were few slaves—retarded the growth of the country.

He had been referred to the contrast in the prosperity of Kentucky and Ohio; and this has been attributed to the existence of slavery in the former. But is it so? Have not other causes operated more powerfully?

By the time we had acquired the right of navigating the Mississippi; which gave the strong impulse to western emigration—certainly before the introduction of the steamboat, which gave the great impulse to the western country—nearly all the lands in Kentucky had been appropriated. Most of them were held in very large tracts by private persons, many of them by non-residents, who held them for high prices, which were confidently looked for as the country grew. A large portion of Kentucky was inaccessible to navigation.

But how different was the situation of Ohio! Most of the lands within her borders were held by the Government. They were open to private entry, in small and convenient tracts, at Government prices; and she was surrounded by navigable lake and sand rivers. Besides, there was a great difficulty about land titles in Kentucky—as, indeed, heretofore there has been in Western Virginia—which is always such a terror to emigrants. In Ohio there were none whatever. Under these circumstances, it is not surprising that Ohio has outstripped Kentucky. But it remains to be seen that the existence of Negro slavery has been the great cause of retarding the growth of the latter. Has it retarded the growth of Missouri? Which of the new States has advanced with a more rapid or steady stride, or which one of them enjoys more solid prosperity than that State? But he found that he was being beguiled into an extent of remark on
this point which he did not desire.

Suppose the institution of slavery is as great a cure as gentlemen would have us believe; yet do . . . [illegible] . . . brought upon ourselves? And do they not also know that we who live among it, and understand it better than they do, are very clearly of opinion that their meddling with it only aggravates it, and that we cannot remove it in the way they propose, without producing evils infinitely greater? Do they not know, that if it be all they say of it, it is our misfortune? And does it become gentlemen from the non-slaveholding States constantly to throw up to them a misfortune which they did not feel, and one which they had not the power to remedy? Did the gentleman from Massachusetts find it consonant either with the feelings of humanity or patriotism?—If they had a deformed limb, in the name of God let it pass the notice of their brethren. If it could not pass their notice, let them not be jeered and ridiculed for it. It was an institution which was upon them: if it was a deformity in their social system, no portion of the people of this globe had done more to inflict it upon them than the people of Massachusetts themselves—as they were doing, at this hour, upon the people of Brazil. Does it lie in their mouths to come here to upbraid us!

There are many other topics to which the gentleman had referred, which he should not take up his time in speaking of now.

But one more remark. He sought altercation with the gentleman as little as the gentleman did with him. He had no fondness for personalities; he had no taste either to indulge in abuse, in the first instance, or to retort it. The retort of abuse was low and vulgar; it was usually rather the recourse of vulgar minds, overflowing with bad passions, than the resort of patriotic indignation. He confessed that some remarks which he had made when he occupied the floor a week ago were pretty pointed: if he had had the language he would have made them more so.—All he could say now, in speaking under different impulses, as far as any abhorrence had been expressed by him of the character of that proceeding; was, that he would have expressed it in his cool moments in quite as stron language.

*Lamartine, in describing the insurrection at St. Domingo, says: "A rivalry of cruelty seemed to arise between the two colors. Of certain noble and faithful slaves placed themselves between their old masters and death, they were sacrificed together. Gratitude and pity are virtues which civil war never recognizes. Color was a sentence of death, without exception of persons; the war was between races, and no longer between men. The one must perish for the other to live. Since justice could not make itself understood by them, there was nothing but death left for them. Every gift of life to a white man was a treason which cost a black man’s life. The Negroes had no longer any pity. They were men no longer; they were no longer a people, but a destroying element, which spread over the land, annihilating everything."—Vol.I, p.317.

REv45i5p2c4, May 19, 1848, From Vera Cruz.

By the arrival of the schr. Athos, Captain Worth, we have news one day later from Vera Cruz, (says the New Orleans Picayune, May 11.) We find in the papers but little more of interest than has already been published by us. From the Free American of the 4th inst., we extract the following:

FROM MEXICO AND QUERETARO.—We received dates from the city of Mexico, last night, two days later than those received by Monday’s mail.

A letter in the Monitor, dated Queretaro, April 25, says that nine Deputies were still wanting to constitute a quorum. The same letter states that Senor Rejon, before resigning his seat in the House, left a written speech against peace, and is it probable it will be published. Gen. Almonte arrived at Queretaro, to take his seat in the Senate. He is opposed to the treaty, and the Government look upon him with suspicion. The two Senators of the district of Mexico have resigned their seats in Congress.

The writer closes his letter, saying that he would not be surprised to see the Government, before ratifying the treaty, dissolved, and each one take the road home.

The Monitor is of opinion that Congress would meet on the 1st inst.

It is reported that Otero is the leader of the war party in the House of Representatives.

Senor Micheltorena, one of the Deputies, deserted his post, and left Queretaro.

El Progreso, of Queretaro, says, on the 27th ult., that Congress will not meet.

REv45i5p2c5, May 19, 1848, No title

The Republican briefly replies to our exposure, on Tuesday, of its double-dealing course. It makes no attempt to
controversy of any of our arguments or positions, and gives no reply to any or our questions. It surrenders or evades the whole ground taken by us. "The difficulty with the Enquirer," it says, "Is, that it is unable to see how a man can be a Whig or a Democrat, and yet refuse, as a citizen, to recognize the binding authority of Party upon his conscience and his thoughts, or, as a President, to 'overlook politics altogether' in the distribution of the offices.”

The Republican is mistaken; this is not the difficulty with the Enquirer. We are at a loss to see how any democrat can vote for Gen. Taylor "with perfect consistency," if he be, as the Republican ("in one breath") declares he is, "a good Whig, a Henry Clay Whig"—and, moreover, how a Henry Clay Whig can be a "no-party" man. Nor can we exactly see how a President is to overlook politics altogether in selecting a Cabinet? The Republican concludes its brief reply with the following remark: "We have contended that Gen. Taylor is a Whig, and if the Enquirer wishes to know what Whig principles are, we refer him to the Allison letter, with the remark, especially in regard to those upon the veto and the encroachments of executive power, that they are principles for which Henry Clay has long contended, and which, it seems to us, all good Republicans may consistently support.”

The Allison letter! For an exposition of General Taylor’s principles! Who can tell any more about General Taylor’s principles or opinions upon the various important measures which divide the two great parties of the country, after reading the Allison letter, than they could before? The Tariff—an important subject—what are his opinions about it? A National Bank, and the Currency questions, also important. What are his opinions on these questions? The Sub-Treasury, Distribution, Mexican War, &c., &c.; on all these important questions we are as wise now as we were before the Allison letter made its appearance? True, the Allison letter gives General Taylor's opinions on the Veto. He is in favor of its exercise—and he is opposed to its exercise! And as to "Executive power," he is so fearful of its injurious tendencies, so fearful of "dictation," that he thinks the President should have no opinions of his own—at all events, he should express no opinions, notwithstanding the Constitution requires him as President to recommend such measures as he shall deem expedient. He is to be silent upon all the various matters of interest to the Union—express no opinions upon any of the numerous questions which may arise affecting or endangering the welfare of the country, lest it would be "dictation." He is to be a mere automaton—to nod assent to any and every thing which a bare majority of Congress may choose to sanction. The Allison letter is a no party, every party exposition of principles, and nothing more.

The Republican had a hard task to perform—a difficult road to travel—in its efforts to get the support of "all parties" for General Taylor. In the first place, to get the support of its own friends, it has to prove that General Taylor is a good Whig—a Henry Clay Whig. And in the next place, to get the support of the Democrats, (for it knows there is no hope without their aid,) it has to show that General Taylor is not a good Whig—that "he is as much a Democrat as Whig." Positions about as difficult to reconcile, as it would be to prove that a "chestnut horse is a horse-chesnut." [BWP]

REv45i5p2c7, May 19, 1848, Thirtieth Congress—First Session. Wednesday, May 17, 1848, Senate.

Mr. Dix, from the committee on commerce reported Senate bill extending the privileges of vessels engaged in trading from one port of the U. States to another, with the amendment of the House thereto. The amendment was concurred in, and so the bill stands passed.

Mr. Niles submitted a resolution, which was adopted, calling on the Secretary of the treasury for information as to the mode adopted in reference to the payment of the interest on the public debt, and whether any payments have been made in Philadelphia, New York and Boston, in anything but gold and silver coin.

The bill authorizing the relinquishment of the 16th section in certain cases, and the selection of other lands in lieu thereof, was taken up and passed. Also, a bill allowing $700 to Robert Purkis, an aged citizen of Rhode Island, for services rendered the United States, in his youth.

Mr. Davis of Massachusetts, presented resolutions and a memorial from the legislature of that State on the subject of Postage.

The bill authorizing notaries public to take oaths, affirmations, and acknowledgements in certain cases, was passed; as was also the bill from the House to continue, alter and a mend the charter of the City of Washington.

Several bills form the House were read twice and referred.

The bill to amend the act to raise for a limited time an additional military force, and for other purposes, [continuing their bounty lands to officers promoted form the ranks,] was taken up and the amendments of the House concurred in. So the bill stands passed.

The bill providing for the obtaining of testimony in relation to claims for losses sustained in the Florida war, was taken up, and, a debate ensuing, it was passed over formally.

The consideration of the Yucatan bill was then resumed, the question bring on an amendment offered by Mr. Dix at the close of yesterday's session, authorizing the President to use the army and navy of the U. States for the
Mr. Dix said he had not intended to make any remarks on his substitute, had it been understood that the debate was not to be continued. But so many inquiries had been addressed to him in regard to the character of this substitute, that he felt called upon to make some explanation.

In the present condition of Yucatan, he thought it clear that we had a right to interfere, in some manner. Yucatan had never really been subject to either Old Spain or to Mexico.

The relations in which she had from time to time stood towards these powers, were explained. Since the commencement of the war with Mexico, Yucatan, though by her own act in 1843 an integral part of Mexico, had stood in the position of a neutral, but considering Yucatan as a part of Mexico, as we had done, during the existence of the armistice, he thought it doubtful whether we had the power to take the military occupation proposed—it seemed to him that the consent of the Central Government of Mexico was necessary. He considered it proper, however, to interpose in the manner proposed by his amendment. He only objects to the first section of the bill, as reported by the chairman of the committee on foreign relations—he was ready to vote for the second and third sections.

His substitute, for the first section, proposed to put the army and navy at the disposition of the President, to aid in putting an end to the devastating war in Yucatan, provided this aid shall be so rendered in concurrence with the Government of Yucatan. It was the peculiar relation in which we stand toward Mexico and Yucatan, which constituted the chief objection to the first section of the bill; but we might furnish assistance without violating the treaty, or the conditions of the armistice, and such interference would be considered an act of friendship and humanity.

We had so interfered already, in other cases, on grounds which may be considered applicable to this. The object of the substitute offered by the Senator from Mississippi, was rather to provide the President with means, than to confer any additional authority to act. But this places the army and navy at his disposal, provided he shall act in concurrence, or rather in subordination to the government of Yucatan, and thereby all pretense that the armistice had been violated would be removed.

Mr. Hannegan, at the close of Mr. Dix's speech, rose and said that since the commencement of the Senator's remarks, he had received information, in addition to that which appeared in the Baltimore Sun of this morning, which, though from a private source, satisfied him that a treaty had been entered into between the white and Indian population of Yucatan, which might render any interference on our part unnecessary. For this reason he felt it to be his duty not to press the vote on the bill to-day, and he would therefore move that it be passed by informally. This treaty, the heads of which were given in the Richmond enquirer, was apparently a very fair one, and he hoped would restore peace and harmony to that distracted country.

Mr. Dix expressed his regret that he had not sooner been apprised of this, as the Senate would do him the justice to say that he was not in the habit of inflicting upon them a speech unnecessarily.

Mr. Hannegan had been unable to do so at first; and another reason for not interrupting the Senator was, that he knew he always made a good speech, and he wanted to hear him.

After some further remarks by Messrs. Underwood, Foote, Hannegan, Niles, and Houston, the bill was informally passed over, and the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Kaufman introduced a joint resolution, which was read twice and referred, giving to Texas authority to extend her Eastern boundary, as to include Sabine Pass, Sabine Lake, and Sabine River, as far North as the 32d degree.

The bill from the Senate, providing for free communication across the Eastern Branch of the Potomac, was referred to the committee of the whole.

The report of the committee of conference, on the bill providing for an additional number of examiners in the Patent Office, was taken up, and after considerable debate the report was finally, under the operation of the previous question, adopted, 62 to 69, and the bill accordingly stands passed.

Mr. Gayle reported a bill to grant portions of public lands to the Mobile and Ohio Railroad.—Read twice and referred.

The consideration of the annual navy pension bill was then resumed in committee of the whole; as was also the annual appropriation bill for the service of the Post Office Department—and, after debate, the first mentioned was reported to the House, without amendment, and passed. On the other, the committee came to no conclusion.

After some further business, not important, the House adjourned.

[BWP]
SENATE.

Mr. Jefferson Davis presented a memorial from Messrs, King and Young of New York, offering their services in raising a regiment of volunteers for Yucatan, and asking the aid of the government for that purpose. The memorialists state that the regiment will be raised, armed and equipped, whether the aid is or is not afforded, as hundreds are now ready to embark and are only awaiting the action of Congress on the bill before them.

Petitions and memorials were also presented by Messrs. Calhoun, Dix, Mason, Douglass and Dickinson.

Mr. Dayton offered a resolution, which was adopted, calling on the Secretary of the treasury to furnish a statement of the amount and value of the iron and manufactures of iron imported into the United States form 1st July, 1847, to 1st May, 1848, and the quality and value of all mineral coal so imported.

Mr. Johnson of Maryland offered a resolution, which was adopted, requesting the Secretary of the Navy to lay before the Senate all the papers connected with the application of Mrs. Causin, widow of Com. Causin, for a pension.

Mr. Hannegan laid on the table of the Senate a resolution of inquiry into the expediency of establishing the consulate of Muscat in the dominions of the Imaum, in the same footing as those at Tangiers, Tripoli and Tunis, in the Barbary States.

Mr. Douglass offered a resolution, which was adopted, instructing the military committee to inquire into the expediency of amending the law approved 23d April, 1808, appropriating annually $200,000, for arming the whole militia of the United States and territories, so as to increase the same to an amount equal to the present wants of the country.

Mr. Dix, from the committee on commerce, reported a bill to admit certain articles, the growth or production of Canada, free of duty, conditionally that similar articles shall also be admitted from this country into Canada free of duty.

The post office bill, with amendments, as it yesterday passed the House, was taken up, and some of the amendments concurred in and others rejected.

Mr. Badger inquired of the chairman of the committee on printing the cause of the delay in the printing of the Senate, and why the report on the pea patch case has not been furnished.

Mr. Cameron replied that he had been sick and absent from the Senate for some days, but he thought it was a mistake that there had been any delay in the printing, or that it had not been as well done as usual.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of the bill authorizing the temporary military occupation of Yucatan.

Mr. Miller addressed the Senate in opposition to the bill. If he could look upon it as a measure of humanity alone, he should have no hesitation in giving it his support. But the question had been so managed as to strip it of its humane character, and to place it upon the ground of expediency. It is a case in which at the same time that charity and assistance is solicited by Gov. Mendez, he offers to pay us for it, with the sovereignty of his country. And at the time this application was made, Mr. Mendez was not Governor, and has no authority to make the application, or the tender.

The manner in which the application had been presented by the Executive was also objected to, and the course of the Secretary of State on the subject commented upon—the silence which had been so long a time maintained, before these cries of distress had been responded to by the Department. It was not until this offer of sovereignty was made, accompanied by the threat that if aid was not furnished by us, she would go to England or Spain for assistance, that any movement had been made by the Executive.

Here was the consideration accompanying the application for our humanity, and then the President was prepared to send in his message—making the humanity question merely collateral to the question of policy.

This policy had been settled, by the chairman of the committee on fearing relations, to mean, that because there is danger that England will take Yucatan, therefore we must take her—that it is a race between the Lion and the Eagle, watching for their victim, as to which shall seize her first. Instead of alarming the humane feelings or our nature to rush at once to the assistance of the distressed and suffering, they had sat down here discussing questions of policy.

He denied that is we were at peace with Mexico we should have any shadow of pretense for taking possession in the manner proposed—that England would have just as good grounds for taking possession of a State of this Union; and that there is no government in Yucatan which possesses the power to sell the sovereignty of the people of that State to the United States.
It had been said in the public prints that the President is not in favor of this measure, but enough had been seen, in the course of this debate, to show the contrary—that the object is acquisition.

Mr. M. further contended that if, under the armistice we had a right to take possession, we had an equal right to drive out any English troops which might be found in any quarter of the territory, and that such course will inevitably involve us in war with great Britain. He was opposed by seizing upon Yucatan, to doing the very thing of which we accuse England of and intention to do. If it is wrong in her it is wrong in us.

The application of Mr. Monroe's doctrine to this case, he considered a gross perversion of the principle. We propose to do the very thing which Mr. Monroe said England, France and other European nations, should not do—to seize upon a state of this continent. Mr. Monroe intended that the rule should not only apply to European nations but to ourselves. If England has no right to interfere, upon what principle have we the right? And yet the doing this, it is said, will be carrying out the principle of Mr. Monroe, that there shall be no interference.

The evidence of Com. Perry was quoted to shoe that duplicity on the part of Governor Mendez had led to the hostility of the Indians, and even excited the indignation of a portion of the white population.

If we took possession of Yucatan, the next movement, in the present state of Europe, would be a similar application from Cuba. He should not like to see Great Britain take possession of Cuba, but he would not be willing for that reason that we should take possession for ourselves.

The true course, in all such cases, was to say to Great Britain openly and decidedly, that we will not permit her to take possession.

At the conclusion of Mr. Miller's remarks, Mr. Calhoun expressed his intention to address the Senate, and moved an adjournment, but gave way to

Mr. Clarke, who offered a resolution, which was adopted, calling in the President to inform the Senate whether any order has been given to all or any squadron in the Gulf to proceed to Yucatan, for the protection of the white population; and if so, to communicate a copy of such orders, and any other correspondence on the subject. And then the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Brown, of Mississippi, introduced a bill for the relief of the West Feliciana Railroad Company. Read twice and referred. Mr. Adams, of Kentucky, presented certain resolutions of the Legislature of that State, which were appropriately referred.

Mr. Conger, from the committee on printing, reported a resolution calling on the treasury Department to state the reasons why certain papers have not been furnished, so as to enable the printers to compete the printing of the report on commerce and navigation. Lies over.

The House, then, in committee of the whole, took up the private calendar, and was occupied for the remainder of the day in discussing the bill to pay the legal representatives of Benj. Hodges, late of Maryland, deceased, $280, for a slave who was conveyed from the United States on board the British fleet, in the year 1814, and not recovered by Hodges or his legal representatives.—The claim is made under the first article of the treaty of Ghent, and the $280 is the estimated average value of slaves, established by the commissioners under that treaty.

The bill, of course, gave rise to a debate on the subject of slavery, in which Messrs. Tuck, Rhett, Chapman, Collamer, Giddings, Woolward, and others, participated.

In the course of the speech of Mr. Giddings, some rather exciting remarks passed between him and Mr. Holmes of South Carolina, as to the cause of the former's expulsion in 1842, which Mr. Holmes alleged was for endeavoring, "surreptitiously," to put in a petition. This Mr. Giddings denied, and Mr. Holmes reiterated, appealing to the journal for the truth of his statement. Mr. Giddings said if the journal proved that, it would prove a falsehood.

This Mr. Gayle seemed to consider personal toward Mr. Holmes, but the latter did not think so, and Mr. Giddings disclaimed any intention to be personal.

Finally the affair passed off very pleasantly.

The committee rose without coming to any conclusion on the bill, and the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON MONDAY May 15, 1848.

U.S. Senate.

Mr. Bagby gave notice that he should call up his resolutions on slavery to-morrow, with a view to pressing a vote.
The consideration of Mr. Johnson's resolution relative to the commissions of Gens. Pillow and Cushing was then resumed.

Mr. Borland addressed the Senate in opposition to the resolution. When he concluded, the consideration of the Yucatan bill was resumed, and Mr. Calhoun addressed the Senate.

He said that the President, in his message, recommends certain measures: 1st. To prevent Yucatan from falling into the hands of an European power; and, 2d. For the protection of the white population from the Indians. On the first proposition he states that Yucatan has declared that unless we furnish the aid, some European power will do so; and that the so taking possession by Great Britain, or any other power, will be in contravention of the doctrines of Mr. Monroe. In pursuance of this, the committee on foreign relations have reported a bill to carry out the views of the Executive.

In the first instance, he then proceeded to show that the case did not come within the declaration of Mr. Monroe, nor for that reason furnish any sufficient ground for the bill from the committee. The declaration of Mr. Monroe, he said, referred to the proceedings of the allied powers in Europe, Russia, Prussia, Austria, and France—to put down republicanism—which in their progress, had finally extended to this continent, in a design to assist Spain in putting down her revolted colonies. At this point England had interfered against these movements, and Mr. Monroe's declaration, after mature deliberation, had also been put forth.

The circumstances then existing, have since, he said, entirely disappeared; and in the present state of Europe, all danger of interference with the affairs of this continent, has disappeared also. No European government had interfered with Yucatan, with a view of oppressing her people, or changing her form of government from a republic to a monarchy, and in this respect also did not come within the character of Mr. Monroe's declarations, as this was the state of things contemplated by him.

It appears from the correspondence, he said, that arms and ammunition might be obtained from the Belize cheap and in abundance; that England had not looked upon Yucatan as an independent government, but as a part of Mexico. And the President himself does not charge England with granting supplies—he merely says that England "may" furnish supplies if we do not.—According to the President himself, the interference of England would be merely for the purpose of preserving the white population from extermination, not with the intention to change the form of government. Therefore, even from the declarations of the President himself, there is nothing to bring the case within the declarations of Mr. Monroe.

In regard to the term "colonization" embraced in these declarations of Mr. Monroe, the circumstances also were different then and now; and the term "colonize" in Mr. Monroe's declaration had no application to the present case. Yucatan, by the alleged intended interference, would become not a "colony" but a "province" of England.

Mr. Monroe's declaration was, that these colonies, having established and maintained their independence, were no longer subject to colonization. The intentions on this subject, of Mr. Monroe and of his cautious cabinet, had been entirely misapprehended. This had been merely to announce to the civilized world in what light we should regard the state of things contemplated by him.

The message of the present Executive—the broad interpretation given to Mr. Monroe's declarations—had been totally disavowed three years after the declarations put forth by Mr. Monroe.—It had been declared that the policy of this country is to avoid war so long as it could possibly be avoided; and it was in this light that he (Mr. C.) had uniformly acted. It had never been the policy of this government to go to war. There was no principle laid down in these declarations that rendered it necessary for us to go to war to prevent any European power from rendering assistance to any other power on this continent.

There are cases of interposition which he would resist at the hazard of war. He would instance Cuba. It had been the policy of all administrations to let Cuba alone—and that she shall not pass from the hands of Spain into the hands of any other European power—because she is necessary to the security of the commerce and navigation of the U. States.

There was another case—Texas—bone of our bone, and flesh of our flesh. If she had been left to take the natural course of events, it might have involved us not only in a war with Mexico, but with other powers.

It was in this view that he had been in favor of annexation. Though when he had been applied to, to know whether, if England took possession of Yucatan he would resists, he had replied that he would not—because it was of no importance to us in any point of view, and would no way contribute to our control of the Gulf, or for our defence in any way.

Nor would the occupation of Yucatan add anything to the power of England, which England already possesses in that quarter. Not a single vessel, in case of war, would enter the Gulf by the passage which the possession of Yucatan would furnish her. The passage to the Gulf is through another channel, and she now has complete command of the Caribbean sea and of the gulf, without the possession of Yucatan.
He believed that the taking possession of Yucatan would involve us in another "Seminole war"—without any sufficient motive—the expense and the termination of which no one could foresee. There was never a time when there was more reason for us to husband our resources, to meet any contingencies which might arise. Any one who would look to the eastern horizon, would see that such an emergency may very easily arise.

In regard to our relations toward Mexico—to the armistice—he did not consider this a case embraced in the terms of that armistice. It was one of the most complicated cases, in every respect, which had ever arisen for the consideration of Congress, and requiring the greatest caution and deliberation. Under the circumstances, the suffering of the Yucatanese could not justly be charged to them, if they did not interfere, but to the manner in which the subject had been presented by the Executive.

Whether it was a war of the races or not, his sympathies were naturally with the white population. He would go farther,—if this was a war between the races, there would be strong considerations of policy which would induce him to interfere. These were, that the white population had contributed to establish liberty on this continent—they possessed the wealth, and a greater degree of intelligence than the Indian population, and might perhaps be able to take, though not very elevated, a higher position hereafter.

Mr. C. said, though it may be a war of the races, substantially, yet, after looking to all similar cases, he was not prepared to involve the country in their difficulties merely to secure the ascendancy of the white race in the Southern portion of this continent.

He thought that we should extend to them all the aid which we can with propriety—that we might transfer the suffering portion of the population to Cuba, or any where else they may desire—but he was not willing to incur the danger, the cost, the consequences of doing what this bill proposes.

Between the bill and the amendment of Mr. Jefferson Davis, he would prefer the bill. He would rather do that directly, which the President proposes, than to cover it up under any other proposition whatever. Nor was he in favor of the amendment of Mr. Lewis—that did not meet the case. The time would never come when Mexico would be able to hold possession, and we should be compelled to make arrangements for permanent occupation.

At the conclusion of Mr. Calhoun’s remarks—Mr. Cass referred briefly to his allusion to the uselessness of Yucatan for defence, or for the protection of our commerce. There was a map in the Departments, which had been examined at his (Mr. Cass’) request, by Lieutenant Porter, and it had been shown that, on the Eastern point of Yucatan, there is one of the best and safest harbors in the world, with sufficient depth of water over the bars at the entrance. With Yucatan in our possession, we could successfully contend with England for the control of the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf, but without it England would have it completely.

Mr. Calhoun replied, and reiterated, that for purposes of defence, in the event of a war with Great Britain, Yucatan is not worth to us one groat. But, if the object sought by the honorable Senator from Michigan was the command of the seas, then the proper course was to husband our means and foster the Navy, and not to engage in an impoverishing war upon land.

Mr. Cass referred also to the interpretation given by Mr. Calhoun to the term "colonization," as used by Mr. Monroe. Did not the Senator from South Carolina consider Jamaica a Colony of England?

Mr. Calhoun.—No. To "colonize," in the light of Mr. Monroe’s declaration, would be to send out a portion of her population for that purpose. If she had done this, then Jamaica was a colony—not otherwise.

Mr. Cass said Mr. Monroe had distinctly disavowed the right of interference by European powers. There was no new territory, not apportioned, to which any European power could send out their population to colonise, on this Continent. Where then would England colonise here, if not among those portions already partitioned out? If Jamaica were not a "colony" in the light contemplated by Mr. Monroe, he did not know what was.

After some further conversation between Messrs. Calhoun and Cass, and a few remarks from Mr. Foote, the bill was informally passed over, Mr. Bagby having the floor for tomorrow.

The bill providing for the proper ventilation of passenger vessels, was taken up and passed; and then the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On motion of Mr. Harralson, the rules were suspended, for the purpose of enabling him to move that the committee of the Whole be discharged from the further consideration of the bill "to refund money for expenses incurred, subsistence and transportation furnished for the use of volunteers, during the present war, before being mustered into the service of the United States."

The committee were accordingly so discharged, and the bill taken up, read the third time, and passed, as follows, under the operation of the previous question:

Be it enacted, &c., That the provisions of the joint resolution, approved March 3, 1847, entitled "A resolution to
refund money to the States which have supplied volunteers, and furnished them transportation during the present
war, before being mustered and received into the service of the United States,” be, and the same are hereby,
extended, so as to embrace all cases of expenses heretofore incurred in organizing, subsisting, and transporting
volunteers, previous to their being mustered and received into the service of the United States for the present war,
whether by States, counties, corporation, or individuals, either acting with or without the authority of any States:
Provided, however, that proof shall be made, to the satisfaction of the Secretary of war, of the amount this
expended, and that the same was necessary and proper for the troops aforesaid.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That an amount sufficient to refund said expenses so incurred be, and the same is
hereby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

The rules were also, on motion of Mr. Chapman, suspended, and the committee of the Whole discharged from the
further consideration of the bill “to continue, alter and amend the charter of the City of Washington.” The bill was
then taken up, read, and ordered to be engrossed—95 to 59.

Mr. Meade moved a reconsideration, but the motion laid on the table, 92 to 67, and the bill was then read the third
time and passed.—A motion to reconsider the vote on the passage was also laid on the table, 74 to 58. So the bill
stands passed.

Mr. Stewart of Penn., offered a resolution, directing the Secretary of the treasury to report to the House the
aggregate amount of exports and imports during the three quarter of the year 1847 and 1848, ending the 31st of
March; also showing the amount of specie exported and imported, breadstuffs and provisions of all kinds, and cotton
exported during said period, showing separately the amount of each exported to and imported from England.

Mr. Bayly proposed to amend by adding, "And that the Secretary of the Treasury be also required to report to this
House the whole amount of agricultural products of the forests of this country, from 1824 to the present time,
together with the exports and imports of specie for the same period.

Mr. Stewart accepted the modification, and the resolution was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Vinton, a resolution was adopted, to close debate on the Revolutionary Pension Bill in half an hour
after again going into Committee of the Whole thereon. Adjourned.

SENATE. TUESDAY, May 10.

Mr. Douglass reported without amendment, House bill for the admission of Wisconsin into the Union, but it was
subsequently recommitted to the committee of Territories.

Mr. Bagby’s resolutions declaratory of the powers of the General Government on the subject of slavery, particularly
as connected with the admission of new territory, offered some time since, were taken up, and after some
discussion, were, on motion of Mr. Badger, laid on the table, 24 to 9. [This is not considered a test vote, as several
Senators, who voted in the affirmative, stated explicitly that they so voted to prevent debate, and not on the
principles involved.]

The bill to renew certain Naval Pensions for five years, and extend its provisions, was taken up, amended and passed.

Mr. Johnson’s resolution relating to Gens. Pillow and Cushing, was taken up, but Mr. Johnson being absent, its
further consideration was postponed to Thursday.

The bill authorizing the Secretaries of War and the Treasury to surrender certain lands held by the United States
against the State of Indiana, and receive others, in lieu thereof, was taken up amended and passed.

The bill from the House to refund moneys advanced by States for transportation and subsistence of volunteers,
previous to being mustered into the service was read and referred.

House bill, to amend and continue the charter of the city of Washington, was ordered to be engrossed for a third
reading.

The consideration of the Yucatan bill was then resumed; and Mr. Bagby addressed the Senate.—He did not believe
that the government had the power to assume the character of a “great almoner,” and to decide on cases of
humanity, as connected with the nations of the earth. But as to the questions of policy involved in this measure, he
believed the time had arrived when the Unite States were called upon to assume a substantive and decided position
upon the principle involved in the declarations of Mr. Monroe.

He should therefore discuss the question as one of policy solely, and if the objects of humanity were subserved
thereby, it would be because they were incidental thereto, and not because they form the basis of the measure itself.

He should take the information communicated by the President, for what it was worth, and no more. He had
recommended no precise course of action—he had simply given certain information, leaving it to congress to adopt
such measures as in their wisdom they might deem proper and necessary.

Mr. B. reiterated to some extent the views given yesterday by Mr. Calhoun, as to the state of things under which the declarations of Mr. Monroe were made, and that the object of Mr. Canning was to ascertain whether the great commercial interests of Great Britain would be best promoted by the policy of the Allied Powers, or the policy which was finally suggested. It was, after full deliberation by the British Government, that the communication to our Government was made by Mr. Rush.

When Mr. Bagby had concluded, the question was taken on the amendment of Mr. Jefferson Davis, as modified so as to include the preamble of Mr. Lewis, and it was negatived, yeas 5, nays 26.

The bill was then, as the suggestion of Mr. Clayton, passed over until to-morrow, in the consequence of the number of Senators absent, and with the general understanding that the final vote shall then be taken.

Executive session. Adjourned.

Mr. Rockwell, from the committee on Claims, reported a bill to increase the number of clerks in the Treasury Department. Read twice and committed.

A number of bills, not of general interest, were reported from committees, and read twice and referred, and some others before reported, were read the third time and passed.

The bill from the Senate, extending the privileges of American vessels engaged in trade from one part of the U. States to another, was taken up and passed.

Mr. Hunt, from the Committee on Commerce, reposted a bill making appropriations for certain Marine Hospitals. Read twice.

Mr. Moses Hampton, from the same Committee reported a bill making appropriations for certain rivers and harbors. Read twice.

Senate Bill, to require the holders of Military Land Warrants to compensate the Land Officers for locating the same, was passed.

The bill making appropriations for revolutionary and other pensioners, was again under consideration in Committee of the Whole, reported to the House with amendments, the amendments concurred in, and the bill passed.

A number of Senate bills were read the second time and referred to the appropriate committees.

Senate bill explanatory of the act to raise for a limited time an additional military force, and for other purposes, was read the third time and passed, with an amendment, and returned to the Senate.

The House receded from its amendments to Senate bill amendatory of the act relating to the franking privilege, and to reduce the rates of postage; and the bill accordingly stands passed.

The bill to amend an act granting to Alabama the right to use certain funds to construct a railroad from Brandon, Miss., to the line of that State, nearest Montgomery, so as to allow these funds to be used for the purpose of completing the chain of said railroad from Jackson to Brandon, was read the third time and passed.

Mr. Embree submitted a long resolution, relating to a section of land in the State of Indiana, which was agreed to.

The bill making appropriations for Nay Pensions was under consideration in Committee of the Whole, but the committee rose without coming to any conclusion, and the House adjourned.

REv45i5p4c4, May 19, 1848, Mexican News.

On his departure from the city of Mexico, Gen. Scott received the most brilliant and striking testimonials of affection from his companions in arms.

A friend, in a private letter, writes thus to the N. O. Delta: “Just before Gen. Scott’s departure, he held a levee, which was thronged by all grades of officers, and by many of the private soldiers.—So great was the attendance, that the general was unable to greet them individually, but in a voice which was rendered indistinct by the strong emotions which possessed his manly heart, and with a very perceptible tear trickling down his war-worn features, he
bade farewell to all his brave brother soldiers, and wished them many years of happiness, and a safe and speedy return to their families.” The scene was a stirring and impressive one. Many a brave heart that had withstood the storms of war, and defied its thousand perils was melted with feelings that sought relief in tears. The veteran who had, in his short but unparalleled campaign, swayed and directed that little army, and led it through so many dangers, and over so much difficulty, to such glorious results, was, for the first time, to sever the tie which bound him to his gallant command.

The crowd of officers and soldiers continued to lounge around Gen. Scott’s quarters, until the time of his departure arrived, and when he entered his carriage and waved his handkerchief, there was a profound and expressive sorrow perceptible in the vast assemblage. His carriage was followed for some distance on the road by officers on horseback, and as he passed along by the quarters of the different regiments, crowds of soldiers ran out to greet him, and wished him God speed.—The Star of the 23d says that the night before his departure the general was serenaded by a splendid band of music, who played among other popular airs, that of “Hail to the Chief.” The general appeared on the balcony and bowed his thanks.—but the most affecting scene of all, says the Star, was when we left his house. The rifle guard was drawn up to receive him, and as he passed, and they presented arms to their beloved commander for the last time, they shed tears like children, and so affected was the old hero, that he could scarce get into the carriage.

In the N.O. Delta we find the following letter copied from the Crescent:

JALAPA, MEXICO, April 28, 1848.

My Dear—:

As I may not have time at Vera Cruz, to put pen to paper, I write now, though much fatigued and halt sick with a cold. I am—being too late in the season—pushing on rapidly to embark from the beach, without entering that city, [Vera Cruz.]

I have written ahead to have ready, if possible a vessel to take me directly to the Narrows, below New York, whence I shall proceed, without entering that city, to my family at Elizabethtown, New Jersey.

I have learned on the road, that some of the spirited and patriotic citizens of New Orleans—including, perhaps, the Municipal Authorities—are thinking of taking public notice of my arrival among them; and possibly there may be a few persons in other places on the route to the North, [inland] who would give the long-absent soldier a passing cheer or two. This, my dear sir, is another reason why I should hasten to my family at its home in the sequestered village, fifteen miles this side of New York; for, laboring as I am under the public displeasure of the Executive, it would be highly improper in me, as a soldier, to put myself in the way of provoking a cheer or shout from my warm-hearted country-men. Should there be any such intention in New Orleans, as I have alluded to, please make all necessary explanations and apologies for me; for I make a great sacrifice of feeling, to a sense of public duty, by avoiding on my return home some hundreds of personal friends whom I should have the chance of greeting by the inland route.

Always my dear--., your friend,
WINFIELD SCOTT.

Peoples, of the Star, thus parts with the old Hero:

“That the winds may waft him quickly to his native shores, and that Heaven may shower its choicest blessings upon him for the remainder of his days, is the prayer of one who has watched his brilliant career from Vera Cruz to the palace of this city.”

[Rev45i5p4c5, May 19, 1848, An Anomaly!]

We have received the first No. of the Democrat(!) published at Fellowsville, Preston county, Va., which flies at its mast-head, Henry Clay for President, and Gen. Scott, for Vice President. It is a strange evidence of Gen. Taylor’s popularity in Virginia, this establishment of a Clay and Scott paper, which goes the whole length of Whiggery, and “emphatically” declares itself “in favor of a Tariff for Protection which beneficial scheme” it regards “as a fundamental principle of the Whig creed!” In another passage, it describes Mr. Clay “as the advocate and champion of our principles—the head and front of which is Protection to American Industry,” and asks, “where is the Whig throughout the length of this Union, who does not wish to see the Executive Department of this Government adorned by his occupancy?” Such a test would rule-off a large number of professing Whigs!

We notice the advent of this Clay Democrat stranger, principally to urge our friends in the North West to sleep not, lest “the enemy sow their pestilent tares by the way side.” We trust that our friend Kidwell of Marion, will soon have his press in battery to check this invasion of the “ultra Whig” politicians, and to put down Whiggery in whatever Protean shapes it may attempt to insinuate itself into the heart of the gallant North West. To win the battle, we must have no drones, no idlers—but every Democrat, officer or private, regular or volunteer, must go forth armed with
The views of our correspondent Mustang, on this subject, are perhaps more reliable than anything we can gather from our files. All our officers concur in the probability—some think, absolute certainty—of a speedy peace with Mexico. Pena y Pena, to make up for the absences which still prevent the action of Congress, has issued a proclamation reducing the number of deputies necessary to form a quorum. This is truly a Mexican device. New Mexico, California, and Yucatan are excluded, by this proclamation, form any right of representation. This is considered a high handed violation of the Constitution; and El Progreso, of Queretaro, a strong war paper, is out against the Government for this arbitrary proceeding.

In the meantime, a ridiculous dispute has arisen respecting the escort of Commissioners Sever and Clifford to Queretaro. The Mexican can profess to be alarmed at the idea of their being escorted by American troops, and Messrs. Sever and Clifford very properly insist upon selecting their own escort. This absurd dispute, however, has been probably determined, as we see those efficient corps, the Rifles and 3d Dragoons, under Major Polk, have been designated as the escort of our Commissioners. The Mexicans were terribly frightened by a rumor, that General Butler and his whole Division was to visit them, and back Messrs. Sever and Clifford.

The opposition to the treaty seems to grow small by degrees, and beautifully less.

Bustamente is sustaining the Government with his influence, which is deservedly great. Some of the papers are still opposing the Treaty. *El Progreso* is the most influential, as it is published in the capital. It says, that "though the United States offer us two millions, they take fifty from us." It urges various reasons why the treaty should not be ratified, and among other things says the Government is check-mated—places in a position where it can neither make peace (there being no Congress) nor war.

The following, which, we hope, is true, shows that the Mexicans themselves know what is the best mode of managing their own Government.—*El Progreso*, of the 20th ult., says:

We learn, on the best authority, that an express reached this city yesterday from Mexico, with the alarming intelligence that the two commissioners, Messrs. Sevier and Clifford, would soon arrive in this city, with a view of intimating to our Government, that if, by the 10th of May, the treaty is not ratified by our Congress, as modified by the President and Senate of the United States, hostilities will commence between the two nations."

*El Monitor*, of the 22d, has the following in reference to the peace question:

"Let the morose and fastidious representatives, who have not thus far made their appearance at Queretaro observe that the rumor current for a few days past, that there are mercenaries who protect the interest of the United States, has already begun to create suspicions that will certainly recoil upon them. Let them also bear in mind that in Monday next the Commissioners of the United States leave this city, with a competent armed force, with a determination, as we are informed on authority, that the question of peace or war shall be immediately decided upon without extending the stipulated time a single moment. That period, which expires on the 2d of June, is too short; and in order that there should be no failure, the treaty must be approved within fifteen days, or implements of war must be immediately got in readiness to repel hostilities, which will immediately commence. The subject is a grave one, and deserves the immediate attention of the Representatives. If they are inefficient, they will be held responsible before God and man. But we hope for the contrary. We are certain there is no one capable of selling himself, and he who fails to resort to his post, must not complain, if he receives the unfavorable judgment of the world."

We find in the Washington Union a note from the Hon. F.W. Bowdon, transmitting the following letter, which he had received from Gen. Worth, in reply to a letter he had addressed him, asking his opinions in regard to the various questions which divided the two great parties of the country:

*TACUBAYA*, (Mexico,) April 12th, 1848.

My Dear Sir:—Your favor of the 18th ultimo reached me last evening. The return courier leaves in a few hours, and as another opportunity will not probably occur in the next two weeks, I hope you will excuse me for substituting the enclosed copies of replies to two other friends, as answers, in part, to the inquiries you have addressed to me. To many communications on the same subject from citizens of different States, these are the only answers, other than
simple acknowledgements of civility, that I have felt at liberty to make. In each case, the writer was already named—or looked to be named—a member of the Democratic Convention, to meet in May. To that extent these replies embody, distinctly and truly, my sentiments and opinions.—

Not much doing on our side of the house—all being united in the success of a good man, it makes but little difference who he is, so that the Republican creed is fairly represented in his past life. We will elect him, and trust to the future for the continuance of the same sanative regulations. Many members of the Baltimore Convention are here, and more coming in daily. All are elated at the prospect of a harmonious meeting of friends of the republican party. One thing, Messrs. Editors; there will be no Mexican allies in the Democratic Convention. That is a glorious reflection. It is an American triumph of free and liberal principles. No affinity of feeling and sympathy for the enemies of our country will be there:—all will be united in the on e great cause of up holding the interest, the honor of the nation.

But, Messrs. Editors, who will compose the Whig Convention? Time will answer that. I have no wish to anticipate them in their hallucinations;—they have, as a party, acted badly enough, and I presume their conduct this session of Congress is a guarantee that not much improvement is expected of them in the coming contest.

I hope to see you at Baltimore, as it is understood you are a delegate, and will attend. Being no delegate, I contemplate looking in upon you, to see that things are managed to insure success. Indeed, our friends in the Convention are not so foolish as to waste their strength against each other, and let their political enemies bear off the palm of victory. I have no doubt but that you will see all united in the Baltimore Convention, with a long and steady pull, for the success of the Republican candidate. The surest way for success, and united success, will be, for delegates to be trammeled. Let them meet for consultation, open, free, and unbiased; let it be spontaneous and united. No danger, then, of defeat for the Democracy. United, we are invincible; divided, we are gone, as sure as two and two make four.

We are, however, Messrs. Editors, sure of this, that, in the division of the Whig Convention, if Gen. Taylor is not the nominee, his friends propose to run him as an independent candidate. I was distinctly informed of this last evening. The information is considered authoritative, you may rest assured.

"Union," in your last number, pleases me very much. He comes to the proper issue, and after the nomination, the subject will be noticed farther.

Mr. Trist and gen. Cadwalader are looked for daily. I am desirous to see Don Nicholas.—He will be somewhat of a "lion" in this city—and we hope, if he is in any better humor than when before the court martial, that he will be an acceptable visitor to more persons than one, on his arrival. Yours, NED EVANS.

REv45i5p4c6, May 19, 1848, To the Editors of the Enquirer: Washington, May 13, 1848.

Messrs. Editors: The Yucatan question still drags slowly on through the Senate. The old Federal scheme of delay and opposition to the Government is being preached, by the day, against humanity, against the Democratic party, and against truth and the light of reason staring the opposition in the Senate full in the face. But what care they, the interest of the country, the feelings of humanity are nothing, so that tirades can be promulgated in their place, for the coming presidential campaign, mixed up with all kinds of willful and malicious assertions? Witness the following paragraph, uttered in the Senate on Thursday by Senator John Davis of Massachusetts. He said:

"He denied that the representations made here, that the controversy in Yucatan is between CASTES of men, were warranted by the information before them. Of the 520,000 Indians in Yucatan, only 120,000 were engaged in this warfare. The remainder were peaceable, engaging in no way in this controversy. The mixed portion of the population, too, had generally united with the Indians in this warfare. Therefore, it was not true that it was a war of the races—between the white and colored population of Yucatan."

The foregoing is the language of one of the Federal Senators from Massachusetts. See with what unblushing hardihood assertions are made, that have no foundation for fact. It is impossible to reason or argue with such a man as John Davis of Massachusetts. He has long been engaged in the same vocation, being an editor of a Tory Sullivan paper during the war of 1812. I remember him well. It is not my purpose to go back to those times, but only to remind you that Senator John Davis is the same man who advocated the traitor principles of the Hartford Convention period; and if he has ever supported any measure since, in which his country has benefited by his vote, it had been more by accident, than with nay good intentions on his part.

Permit me, Messrs. Editors, to quote a short article from the Boston Traveller of Tuesday, as an entire, positive, direct refutation of the assertion of Mr. John Davis in the Senate, in reference to the insurrection in Yucatan. The information is derived from Captain Spates, of brig Otis Norcross, from Laguna, April 10th, which says:

"At the last accounts, the Indians were within one day’s march of Campeachy, in vast numbers and with no abatement of their design of a general massacre of their opponents. Their war cry was 'Death to both black and white—man, woman, and child—all save the red man.' They claim to be 250,000 strong, and say the country rightfully belongs to them, and they will possess it, and ensure possession by the massacre of all their opponents. They will undoubtedly take the town, unless assistance arrives from other quarters."
The above quotation speaks for itself, and is as true as it is just, in refutation of all Senator Jno. Davis has said on the Yucatan question.

Senator Niles, also, has lent a hand to the same subject, and pretty much on the same plan, of affording relief to the suffering people of Yucatan. While he was speaking, in opposition to the Yucatan bill, Col. Jefferson Davis remarked to Gen. Dix, that we might as well send a cargo of spades to the poor Yucatecos at once,—for they would need them to dig graves, in consequence of the delay in sending aid and comfort in another shape. In observation there was more truth than poetry. Yes, Messrs. Editors, this delay is in fact a denial to suffering humanity. But so we go.

In my last there was a wish expressed that the Whigs would at least adhere to Gen. Taylor until after the meeting of the Democratic Convention; but, sirs, I was doomed to a very serious mistake in my expectation. The Whig State Convention of Maryland has lifted Mr. Clay in advance of gen. Taylor as pretty considerable number of feet, and if old "Rough and Ready" does not "gather up" by quick step, the great "Embodiment" will outstride him and win the States at Philadelphia, on the 7th June. He must be up and doing. Perhaps another "letter" will be forthcoming. These "letters" are wonderful machines in building up Presidents.---Sometimes "letters" let them down a peg or two; well, if such is the fact, they must be careful, what they write, or what is written, which is all the same thing in these days of conventions, of fun, frolic, approbation and disappointment. Mr. Clay, up to this evening, had decidedly the advantage of Gen. Taylor, and it is all owing to the decisive preference expressed for him, by the Baltimore Whig Convention of Maryland. And perhaps, as things now are, they may continue, until the Democratic party have made their nomination. But there is no telling how long the present preponderance may continue.

The house has passed the bill for the admission of Wisconsin as a State. This makes thirty States. What a commentary on Federal croakers! The purchase of Louisiana was condemned by them: Florida also. Some of the same party has spasms on the admission of Texas; and as the area of freedom is enlarged, with a few additions from Mexico, I have no doubt but some of the "old blue light stock," will have "fits outright." I hope they may. If a few of them were fed now, like unto Nebuchadnezzar of old, perhaps their returning reason would make better patriots of them than they are at present. It is the impression that the Senate will pass the bill of admission to Wisconsin at an early day next week, as it had been read twice, and now ready for final action in that body.

I must, in closing, en passant, congratulate you on the glorious triumph of Republican principles in the "Old Dominion" at the recent election.—Virginia, to be sure, must be vigilant—not only against the Whigs, but ever watchful of their allies the Mexican advocates in Congress. Your representative in Congress belong to the latter class of politicians, if his votes and the opinions of Mexicans are any index to his position. Those who have acted against three country in, and throughout this war, will be remembered, and duly noticed in after days. Yours, NED EVANS.

REv45i5p4c7, May 19, 1848, City of Mexico, January 10, 1848.

My Dear Sir: In acknowledging your favor of November 12th, it is due to candor to say that I am not aware of ever having entertained a desire for preferment out of my own profession, probably because of conscious want of qualification, and distaste for the means whereby preferment is usually attained.

The subjects you pay me the compliment to present, are of high national concern and interest, in respect to which my humble opinions are equally unimportant and uninfluential; and it is only in courtesy to a generous, although qualification, and distaste for the means whereby preferment is usually attained.

1st. "What are your views of the Mexican war, and do you believe it an unjust one?"

War, ever to be deplored, should be avoided so long as may be consistent with national honor and national rights. In my opinion, there had been no war in our history, (always excepting that for independence, which stands out, and will through all time, as case buy itself,) nor in that of a people, commenced under greater provocation, or waged with higher humanity. Regarding, then, this war as eminently just, I sincerely hope it may be the pleasure of government, sustained by the people to prosecute it with vigor, until ample satisfaction for indignities, and full indemnity for sacrifices be received.

2d. "Are you in favor of, or opposed to, the chartering a United States Bank?"

When the was agitated as a measure of financial and political expediency, I looked no further into the subject than to keep myself informed generally on matters of public interest. During its struggles for a re-charter, and when withering and reeling under the blows of the patriot President Jackson, my judgment was instructed that such an institution, however wisely restricted or cautiously guarded, must, of necessity, have within itself elements dangerous to public and private virtue, of not to the appropriate and healthful action of government. So the people seem to have regarded and decided the question, and it is difficult for them to conceive a state of affairs to tempt any sane, or to excuse any honest man, in the "effort to give it vitality again."

3d. "Are you in favor of the present independent treasury?"
Decidedly in favor of the principle;—of its working in respect to economy convenience, in receipt and disbursement of the public moneys, uniformed;—although under the impression that in those respects, (its machinery,) modifications may be desirable; and if so, that the wisdom of Congress will apply the remedy.

4th. "Do you favor, or oppose, the distribution of the proceeds of the sales of the public lands among the different States?"

Were I in a position to vote, or exercise personal influence, oppose it to the uttermost. However honestly designed, it is difficult to imagine a scheme fraught with greater evil, or more ingeniously devised to corrupt individuals and masses—States and Congress. Besides, will not such a disposition of the proceeds operate a fraudulent stewardship of the great trust confided to government for the general good?

5th. "Are you in favor of, or opposed to, the tariff of 1846?"

Absence, since the passage of that act, has deprived me of the opportunity of informing myself, by observation, or by communion with others, as to its practical operation. As a general principle of political economy, applicable to our institutions and circumstances, I should hope to see a tariff for revenue, critically adjusted to the various interests and rights of every part of the country, limited strictly to the means necessary to an economical administration of the affairs of the country, including every proper and constitutional internal improvement—protection regarded as purely incidental—trusting, nevertheless, to see the day, and that not remote, when trade will be free and unfettered; when no interest of our country will need, or desire, aught of protection against foreign competition.

I have thus, my dear sir, in a plain way, frankly answered your questions, truthfully, if not satisfactorily. Cordially reciprocating your kind expression of personal regard, believe me, very respectfully, your obedient servant, W. J. WORTH. [to Joseph Nill, Esq., Chambersburg, Pa.]

REv45i7p1c1, May 26, 1848, Indian War in Oregon.

Four Battles—The Whites Victorious—Massacre of Missionaries!

In the Pittsburg Gazette, we find the following important telegraphic dispatch, dated Louisville, May 21, 1848,

By the arrival of Major Meek, from the West, we have late and important news from Oregon, where all is confusion and bloodshed between the Whites and Indians. Four powerful tribes have united, and commenced a deadly war. Four battles took place in January, in three of which the Whites were successful in beating their enemy. Five hundred Whites fought a body of two thousand Indians a whole day, when the Indians retreated, after wounding a great number of Whites.

On the 29th of November, a most horrid and brutal massacre was committed by the Cayuse Indians, at the Presbyterian Mission, at the Wallah­Wallah Valley. Dr. White, his man and wife, with eighteen others, were killed, and sixty or seventy taken prisoners. The houses of the missionaries were burned to the ground. The unfortunate prisoners were subsequently ransomed, through the agency of Peter Sken Ogden, chief factor of the Hudson Bay Company.

Major Meek pushed up the river yesterday, on his way to Washington, with dispatches for the government, asking for immediate aid on the part of the Oregon settlers.

REv45i7p1c6, May 26, 1848, The Case of General Pillow.

The Jackson Mississippian, speaking of the trial of General Pillow, says: "We have examined in the most impartial temper, the testimony of general Scott before the court of inquiry in the case of General Pillow, and we can arrive at no other conclusion, than that the proceedings against General Pillow were commenced, and have been continued with a view to destroy the reputation of that officer, and thereby injure the President of the United States. Numerous letters have been written by officers of the army, some laudatory of General Scott—others laudatory of various officers, and yet only the one signed "Leonidas," in laudation of General Pillow, is seized upon as the ground-work on which to raise a court of inquiry and disgrace a gallant officer.

"We do not say that Gen. Scott commenced this heartless prosecution of one who had frequently periled his life under his orders, in a spirit of sheer malignity, but we can have only one opinion as to the instigators of it, be they whom they may. WE believe that Trist was the main instigator—for it appears that his intimacy with General Scott, dated from his falling out with General Pillow; and, further, that his friendship for General Pillow continued until that officer wrote to President Polk remonstrating against the surrender of the territory between the Neuces and the Rio Grande, which Trist was assenting to in his consultation with the Mexican Commissioners."

[BWP]
REv45i7p2c4, May 26, 1848, Gen. Lewis Cass (of Michigan,)

THE NOMINEE OF THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

We learned by Telegraph yesterday evening that the democratic Convention had nominated Gen. Lewis Cass for the office of President of the United States—he receiving 179 votes out of 254—nine more than two-thirds of that body.

We congratulate the country and the Democratic party upon this grand result. The man who has stood in the front rank of our party in the Senate of the United States, sustaining upon all occasions, with signal ability, the prominent measures of the present Administration, and vigorously and successfully meeting its foes—the man whose fame stands recorded in the annals of his country’s history—as the brave and gallant soldier in the late war with Great Britain—as the able representative of his nation at the Court of France, foiling by his skill and diplomacy the European nations in forming the designed quintuple Treaty—this is the man the Democratic Convention presents to the people of the country and to the Democracy to rally upon. Pure and spotless in his character as a man and as a statesman—the field and the cabinet can both lay claim to him—he is emphatically a civil-military man. While he is not unacquainted with military, he is well fitted by education for civil stations. In the thrilling language of one of the orators in the Convention, (Mr. Humphreys,) we present to the people of the United States—

“One standing with one foot on the lakes, and with the other producing an effect in France—whose character is as pure and unsullied as the Alpine flower on the bosom of the eternal snow. [Great applause.] One who, at the darkest period of our history, in the war of 1812, when treason stalked at noonday even in the streets of the capital of the nation. [Applause, in which the remainder of the sentence was lost.] Born of humble parentage in the State of New Hampshire, we him going forth as a pioneer to the West on his own hook; and there, on the very frontiers of civilized life, we witness the display of that self-reliance—that sturdy independence of character—that indomitable perseverance, which afterwards raised him step by step to high offices in the State, and now surrounded him with an overwhelming sentiment of popular favor.”

We have not heard how the matters in reference to the New York delegation have been adjusted, nor anything definite in regard to the Vice Presidency. Rumor speaks of Stevenson, Mason, Butler, King, &c.

In conclusion, we must say we were never in finer spirits. With our flag to the breeze, upon which are inscribed the known and well-defined principles of our party—and with a man every way worth of his country and our cause—respected at home and honored abroad—victory again assuredly awaits us!

REv45i7p2c4, May 26, 1848, Important from Mexico. Rejection of Treaty.

We publish below, from the Charleston Courier, highly important news from Mexico. The intelligence if the rejection of the Treaty was received by express to that paper 24 hours in advance of the mail. The accounts received by this mail confirm those published yesterday.—The news, however, is still contradictory—and we await with some impatience further details, which may be expected this morning.

The reader will also find annexed interesting intelligence from Yucatan. It will be remembered, however, that we have already published later accounts from this distracted State, which represent the treaty as having been broken—the towns of Iturbide, Cibachen and Bacalar had been taken after much bloodshed, and that in every direction the terror-stricken inhabitants were flying towards the sea coast, closely pursued by the ruthless savages.

[BWP]

REv45i7p2c5, May 26, 1848, There is an End to Peace.

The Government of Pena y Pena has finished in a tragical manner. Ever since yesterday morning this news was rumored—those who circulated it referring to an express arrived the night before last from Queretaro, and to respectable houses of the city of Mexico.

Gen. Bustamente, in a well-formed combination with his companions, Cortazar, Almonte, and Paredes, prepared a revolution with such secrecy and success that the blow was successfully struck. Pena y Pena, Rosa, Anaya, Osero, Pedraza, and many other Deputies and Senators, have been obliged to fly and seek a hiding place.

Almonte, in conformity with his wishes, fills the Presidency. The other three generals are the head of 8,000 men, and the head of the new army is Bustamente. The new administration count upon three millions of dollars, which
have been furnished by sundry rich Mexican and foreign merchants, who have also bound themselves to pay every
month one million and a half of dollars during the duration of the war. The Government also counts upon 80,000
muskets, which have for some time been collected with zeal and secrecy.

Finally, a commission preceded by an extraordinary courier, has started to call back Santa Anna. The nation
recovers its life, courage, and conceives great hopes. Was will be carried everywhere.

These are the particulars of the interesting news reported and confirmed yesterday; we, however, know positively
that the whole is a fabrication.

REv45i7p2c4, May 26, 1848, By Telegraph. New Orleans, May 18, 8½ P.M.

[From the Mobile Herald and Tribune, May 18.]

The steamship Eudora has arrived below with later news from Vera Cruz. She sailed thence on the 12th inst. She was
hailed by a tow boat on the river, which reports that the treaty has been rejected by the Congress of Mexico.

In Yucatan hostilities have been resumed, and another cruel massacre by the Indians is reported.

There have been 4,000 bales of cotton sold today. The market is steadier. Middlings sold at 5c; good 5 5/8 c. Flour
lower, Illinois $4 ½ (?) a $45/8 per barrel. No change in other articles.

REv45i7p2c4, May 26, 1848, (From the N. O. Picayune, Extra, May 18, 1 P.M.) Late and Important From Mexico.

A Quorum of the Mexican Congress at last Assembled at Queretaro—Conflicting Opinions upon the Peace Question.

By the arrival of the schooner May, this morning, we have received Vera Cruz dates to the 7th inst., the day of her
departure, and our correspondence from the city of Mexico to the 2d.

Shortly after the arrival of the May it was bruited about that all hopes of a peace were at an end. The shortness of
the time allowed us to prepare a slip before the mail closes, does not admit of our examining the extensive files
which we have received by this arrival. We publish two letters from our special correspondent, which do not present
matters in so gloomy a light—though they contain much to keep alive apprehension.

The Eudora is reported below with later advices. If she arrives in season for a postscript we shall add a word to this
slip.

[Special Correspondence of the Picayune.]

City of Mexico, April 30, 1848.

The inclosed (sic) letter of your correspondent at Queretaro should have been in my hands last night, but some
irregularity in the post office here prevented my receiving it until this morning.

You will see your correspondent announces the important fact that a quorum is at Queretaro at last, and that
Congress only awaits the arrival of the American commissioners to commence its deliberations. Why they should
wait for the arrival of the commissioners to commence their sittings is more than I know. Their duty, as required by
the constitution is to elect a President, and this before entering into a consideration of the treaty. The
commissioners are waiting to hear officially that Congress is prepared to sit before they leave for Queretaro. As
soon as that fact is announced to them by the Mexican Government they will start. They expect to receive a
communication by the mail which arrives form Queretaro on the 2d of next month.

Last night the city was thrown into a state of great excitement by the circulation of a letter purporting to be from
Queretaro, of which the following is a translation:

Popular Revolution against the Government at Queretaro. —A respectable gentleman has received by extraordinary
express from Queretaro a letter which among other things says:

"Queretaro, April 27, 1848, 11at night.

"Dear Friend—The people have become weary with suffering the oppression and sport of petty tyrants. This at least
is the case with the Mexicans; and, by the omnipotent exercise of its will, discarding what is called the General Government of the nation, established at Queretaro, it has prostrated to the earth its treacherous oppressors. At 9 o'clock on the night of this day, without any resistance, it proclaimed the only plan which in the present circumstances can save the country, viz: 'War, and war without truce or quarter, until an honorable peace is conquered!' Such is the programme of this happy revolution, at the head of which are the distinguished Gens. Almonte, Butamente, and Paredes, to whose voice all who are Mexicans, rather than partisans, will respond.

"The tocsin of liberty has sounded at least.—Sons of Hidalgo and Iturbide, awake! The invincible hand of Providence points out to you the road by which every nation on the globe will occupy its true place. Mexicans! Fulfill your destiny!"

The whole story proves to be a fabrication, still I am informed by old residents here that the circulation of such stories in print is the usual precursor of revolutions, and many circumstances render it within the range of possibility that the government of Pena y Pena, without popularity and without resources, may be ousted from power before the treaty can be ratified. The military are demanding pay, which Pena y Pena in the present condition of the treasury can hardly give them. The advices from Queretaro show—if betting can be taken as an index—a division among the members of Congress on the subject of peace. Rubio (whom your correspondent says has made a bet of $5,000 that there will be no peace) is one of the wealthiest and most influential men in Mexico. He is a Spaniard, and for the last ten or twelve years, by means of his wealth and his power of intrigue, which are said to be great, has whenever he pleased controlled the government that has existed in the country. He is, too, the staunch friend of Paredes, and then Paredes was President was his main stay. I have been surprised to learn that a man of Rubio's immense wealth, and with the stake he had in the country, was opposed to peace, as he must know that the nationality of the country is lost if the treaty now at Queretaro is not ratified. However, the owner of some of the largest cotton factories in Mexico and may desire the extension of the American Government over the whole country to give that security to industry which experience has proved never will exist under the Mexican Government. He is a large commercial speculator besides, and like many others of that class, may be opposed to peace at the present time, lest the goods they have ordered from abroad may arrive after the treaty has been ratified, and when the Mexican tariff will come into operation again. This has been suggested to me as one reason for his opposition to peace by an old and intelligent resident of this city, who knows him well. From what I hear of the character and power of Rubio, I attach great importance to the position he takes in regard to the treaty. The Monitor Republicano, published in this city, a strong advocate of peace, although treating the letter to which I have referred as a hoax, at the same time tacitly confesses that the government has reason to beware of its enemies. Enclosed you will find the article of the Monitor on the subject.

There are numerous rumors afloat here in relation to money and munitions coming into the country to prosecute the war. I have very good authority for stating that both arms and ammunitions are being received through Acapulco from South America in considerable quantities.

Queretaro, April 27.

American deserters are continually arriving here; during the last three days twenty soldiers presented themselves to the Mexican Government, and were immediately incorporated in the San Patricio Company.

The garrison of Queretaro is composed of 820 men of all arms. Eight hundred men have deserted, with arms and baggage, from the army of reserve, 2,500 strong, which the Government had sent against the insurgents at Sierra Gordo.

A wager of $10,000 has been made for and against peace; several Deputies are concerned in the bet, and it is said that Mr. Rubio, the principal better, has staked $5,000 against the peace.

The number of Deputies is completed. The arrival of the American Commissioners if looked for in order to open the Congress. The Consuls of the foreign powers are all here. Anxiety is at its highest pitch, and the deliberations of Congress are longed for as is the coming of the Messiah.

It has been transpired form the meeting held by the officers of the artillery that they have made a demand on the Government to receive their pay in the same manner that members of Congress receive it, and that they have made an assessment to furnish supplies to Landero, but the nature of these supplies is not known.

[Reprint]
Between twenty and thirty desertions took place from the army here on Saturday night.—You will recollect that your correspondent at Queretaro some time since stated that a plan had been organized the effect a desertion of several hundreds form the army in and about his city, and that the parties who were to effect it were soon to leave. It has been discovered that the head quarters of the schemers are at Guadaloupe. They give each man that deserts as high as a hundred dollars. Measures have been taken to trap the gentlemen. Several faithful men have been allowed to go to them as deserters, and these men are communicating information of their movements. D. S.

REv45i7p2c5, May 26, 1848, From Vera Cruz.

The *Maria Burt*, Capt. Riddle, arrived last evening, from Vera Cruz the 6th, Tampico the 8th, Brazos the 10th, Port Lavaca the 11th, and Galveston the 14th inst. She brings no later news. Three companies of Texas Rangers, who came from Vera Cruz in the *Maria Burt*, were landed in Texas, part at Port Lavaca and part at Galveston.

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**Conclusion of a Treaty of Peace.**

By the arrival last evening of the Yucatan schooner Aparecida, Capt. Espinola, we are in possession of late and highly interesting intelligence from Yucatan, which will afford much pleasure to those who have been lamenting the troubles that have occurred on that coast. The *Aparecida* left Campeachy on the 2nd inst., and Sisal on the 11th, and brings us dates from Merida of the 29th ultimo. The reports contained in the papers and the verbal information furnished our reporter by Capt. Espinola are somewhat at variance, and we are a little at a loss to reconcile them. “*La Union*,” of Merida, of the 25th April, publishes a treaty of peace concluded on the 19th of April, at Zucacal, by Commissioners appointed by Sr. D. Miguel Barbachano, Governor of Yucatan, and commissioners appointed by D. Jacinto Pat, commander-in-chief of the revolted Indians, and ratified by both parties on the 23d of April, at Tecul.

Captain Espinola reports, however, that on the day he left Sisal, news was received to the effect that Pat, with his forces, were within eight leagues of Merida, from which he judged that tranquility had not been restored, but that hostilities again been renewed. It is quite probable that Pat's forces were remaining in the vicinity of Merida until the terms of the treaty were complied with, in accordance with the 9th article. Captain E. also reports that about twenty-eights vessels form different nations were off the coast, removing the inhabitants of Yucatan to Campeachy. We strongly incline to the belief that the treaty concluded the difficulties, as the insurgents seem to have had every thing that they desired granted them by the commissioners.

We have not room for the whole treaty, but furnish our readers with a synopsis of it, by which it will be perceived that great concessions have been made by the authorities. *La Union* has a long editorial upon the subject, and rejoices at the establishment of peace, complimenting Governor Barbachano upon his promptness in ratifying it.

ART. 1. Abolishes the personal tax upon whites as well as Indians, from the ages of sixteen to seventy years.

1. Establishes the baptismal fee at three reals and the marriage fee at ten reals for whites as well as Indians.
2. Accords to the Indians the privilege of clearing the mountain lands for agricultural purposes, permits them to establish their ranchos at the edge of the villages on uncultivated lands, rent free, which are never hereafter to be sold.
3. The Indians, to receive, through their chief, Don Jacinto Pat, all the arms which were taken from them by the Government, to the number of 2,500, any deficiency to be supplied by the purchase of new ones—all the arms now in existence to be immediately restored upon the ratification of the treaty. All the arms now in the possession of the Indians to be retained by them, and all moveables and effects captured by them to be retained and considered as their property, subject to no future claim.
4. Considering that his Exmo. Gov. Barbachano is the only one charged with the ratification, fulfillment and faithful maintenance of the terms of this treaty, it is agreed that he shall remain in the existence of his supreme power during the term of his natural life, agreeable to the wishes of the people of Yucatan, and that the troops now under Don Jacinto Pat will be ready to take up arms again to maintain him in power, if necessary.
5. From the moment of the ratification of the treaty, Don Jacinto Pat, chief of the insurgents, to be Governor and Commandant of all the Captains of native Indian troops of Yucatan, and, in conjunction with his Exmo. Governor Barbachano, to decide upon the best method of establishing harmony between the whites and Indians, and of administering justice for the good of the whole.
6. All servants who are in debt to their masters to be relieved from the same, whether engaged in the war or not, but debt hereafter contracted to be liquidated by personal service.
8. As soon as the ratification of the treaty is completed, the belligerent forces shall mutually retire to their homes, leaving merely such forces as are necessary to keep order and establish tranquility and harmony in the several villages.
The Philadelphia papers, announce the arrival, on Sunday morning, of GEN. Scott, in the brig St. Petersburg, from Vera Cruz.—Messrs. Frazier, of the revenue service, met him at quarantine, and proceeded immediately with him to Elizabethtown, N. J.

REv45i8p4c5, May 26, 1848, Important from Mexico.

No Prospects of Peace.—The schr. Velasco arrived last evening from Vera Cruz, which she left on the 8th May. We may learn from Capt. Decker, of the Velasco, that before he left Vera Cruz, it was reported and generally believed there that the Congress at Queretaro had dispersed without acting on the Treaty; and it was universally admitted by all classes, Mexicans and Americans, that there would have either to occupy the whole country, or to retire from it entirely.

Since writing the above, we have received the Vera Cruz Free American of the 5th inst., for which we are indebted to the polite attention of Mr. Boyle, of the firm of Boyle & Maccorry, merchants, of Vera Cruz. It contains no news of importance; but is not the less acceptable.

The Free American speaks indignantly of the conduct of the Mexican authorities, who, it is stated, are doing all they can to humiliate the American citizens in Vera Cruz, and calls on the Governor to investigate the matter, and see that justice is done. It seems that since the commencement of the Armistice, the Mexican authorities have resorted to all sorts of petty annoyances, and, as far as they dare, have done everything they could to gratify their revengeful feelings.

The British man-of-war Electra arrived at Vera Cruz on the 4th inst. from Laguna. [N. Orleans Delta, May 16.]

REv45i8p1c6, May 30, 1848, Alexandria Volunteers.

At an election held by the Alexandria Volunteers, Virginia Regiment, at Saltillo, Mexico, on the 18th of April, John A. Higdon was elected First Lieutenant in place of T. W. Ashby, resigned. The officers and men of the Alexandria volunteers are all well.

REv45i8p1c7, May 30, 1848, (From the Clinton Democrat.) The Voice of a Whig Soldier.

Extract from a letter to the editor of this paper, by John W. Ross, of the Mounted Rifle Regiment, who, in 1844, was the editor and publisher of the Clinton County Whig, a paper at that time published in this place:

CITY OF MEXICO, April 7, 1848.

*** I am proud to see the Clinton Democrat still floating above the waves. You are right, "go ahead." The wishes of such men as Mr. Pollock, in Congress, in regard to the withdrawal of this army to a mere defensive line, and the anti-war speeches of Mr. Clay, etc., wont go down here. The men who have supported the Stars and Stripes of the United States even to the enemy's capital, will at least place their foot upon such foul ingratitude.

Respectfully, your friend, JOHN W. ROSS.

This is the voice, says the Democrat, of a brave soldier who had fought every inch of his way from Vera Cruz to the city of Mexico. In 1844 he was the editor of a Whig paper in this place, and warmly supported Messrs. Clay and Pollock, whom he now so bitterly condemns.—He was an ardent Whig; like all others of his party, he would have made any sacrifice to place Henry Clay in the Presidential chair in 1844; his time, his labor, his money and his talents were freely devoted to secure the election of the proud Statesman in whom all the hopes of this party were centred—he adored his party, he loved its candidate, and wept bitterly a this defeat. But [to him at least] even Henry Clay has changed!—When his idol turns his back upon his country, with manly voice he denounced him. The noble spirit that led him to the defence of his country, in the front rank of one of the most daring regiments in the army, could not brook the craven.

No man rejoiced more at the several successes of Mr. Pollock, in this Congressional district, than John W.
Ross. Yet now no one more bitterly regrets it. No personal consideration has produced this change—the power of patriotism has wrought it!

This distinguished Mexican General arrived at Kingston on the 5th instant, in the Spanish brig Martinez. The General had taken up his residence at a splendid mansion near the race course at Kingston. The Despatch says: “It is said that the General will spend a few months in this city, and proceed afterwards to Venezuela.”

In the Senate, Mr. Bradbury presented the petition of Clifford S. Worthing, asking a mail route from Augusta to Bangor, Maine.

Mr. Benton presented a petition from J. Quinn Thornton, praying the establishment of a Territorial Government in Oregon; Which was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Dix presented a petition from the steam navigation companies of New Jersey, New York, Boston, and Providence, Rhode Island, asking remuneration for maintaining a light boat on the Eel Grass shoal, in Fisher's Island Sound.

Mr. Niles, from the committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, reported a bill for the relief of Frick & haddock, accompanied by a report. The bill was read a first time.

A resolution submitted by Mr. Niles, some days since, calling upon the Secretary of the treasury to communicate whether there had been any violation of the Sub-treasury Law in the payment of interest, was taken up; and, after a few words from Mr. Niles and Mr. Jefferson Davis, the resolution was agreed to.

The bills form the House of Representatives were severally read a first and second time, and referred.

On motion of Mr. Bill,

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, directed to furnish the Senate with a list of the Creek Indian warriors who were killed or wounded, or who died in the service of the United States, during the late war in Florida, with the dates when they were severally killed or wounded, or when they died; together with a statement of the arrears of pay due to each of them, respectively.

The Senate then adjourned till Monday.

In the House, Mr. Wick introduced a bill to prohibit the importation of slaves into the District of Columbia, with certain exceptions; but, upon a call of the House, it was ascertained that only 120 members were present, and a motion to adjourn was agreed to—yeas 69, nays 56.

The Mexican intelligence which we publish below will be read with great interest. I is highly important, inasmuch as it is understood that peace between Mexico and the United States is now certain. The message of the President of Mexico to the assembled Congress places the position of affairs in such a light as will doubtless bring conviction to the minds of the members of that body, that true policy, nay, sheer necessity, dictates but one course to pursue—the ratification of the treaty—to preserve the nationality of their country.

Arrival of the Steamship Tay.

The Royal Mail steamship Tay, Capt. Sharp, arrived at Cat Island, on Saturday afternoon, at 5 o’clock, P. M. from
Vera Cruz, which port she left on the 16th inst.

The Tay carries out $652,000 in specie and 482 bales cochineal.

The British Courier arrived at Vera Cruz on the morning of the 16th inst., from the City of Mexico, and reports that Herrera was elected President by an almost unanimous vote, and that Pena y Pena was appointed Chief Justice of the Republic. Our dates from the City of Mexico are to the 14th.

Congress had fixed on the 25th inst. as the day for the taking of the vote on the treaty—and it was generally supposed that the question would be nearly unanimously adopted, as there were only about fifteen of the members who were against it, and they opposed it merely on account of the withdrawal of our troops from that quarter.

Gen. Kearney left Vera Cruz on Sunday, the 14th inst., for the City of Mexico; and on the following day 1200 men, under the command of Col. Ramsay, for the same destination. We make the following extract from a letter of our valuable correspondent “Chapparal.”

CITY OF MEXICO. May 13.

At last the treaty is before the Mexican congress, and were the members other than Mexicans, one would readily infer that an exchange of ratifications would soon follow; but with the Mexicans as the actors in the scene, no one can safely say what the denouement will be.

The treaty was laid before Congress on Tuesday, the 10th, by Rosa, the Minister of Foreign Relations. He accompanied it presentation with a long address, which is said to have been an able one. The strictest measures have been adopted by the Congress to keep the members in their seats—fines have been imposed, and a deprivation of citizenship for some length of time for the recusant—and in order that the threatened withdrawal of Puro members may not render the Congress null, it had been decreed that the votes of the majority present shall be final. As a said before, with any other people than those Mexicans, an inference might be safely drawn from this that they would make a peace with us, but I have seen so much of their subterfuge and chicanery, that although a peace may be made, I shall take the liberty of withholding any sincere belief until I am assured it has been signed, sealed and delivered.

[Special Correspondence of the Picayune.]

Queretaro, May 8, 1848.

Everything is tranquil. The officers of the army have received their full monthly pay. Therefore, for the present, there is no idea of a pronunciamiento.

Queretaro, May 11, 1848.

The Chambers assembled at half-past 12 o’clock. The session is secret. The time was consumed, as yesterday, in reading documents relating to the treaty.

At 2 o’clock the doors were opened, and, after reading documents of little importance, a Deputy from Rio addressed the Chamber, and demanded that, before the discussion of the treaty was gone into, the proposition of Deputy Don Manuel Crecencio Rejon should be considered. When he had done, Deputy Prieto spoke, and said that the position and reasoning of Rejon were absurd and fallacious, and, being so, he demanded of the Chamber to reject it. This motion prevailed by a large majority.

The secret session to-day gives the public to understand that the treaty will be discussed with closed doors.

[Special Correspondence of the Picayune.]
On Tuesday last Senor Rosa, Minister of Foreign Relations, laid the treaty of peace, as ratified by the American authorities, before the Mexican Congress. The manifesto accompanying it was long, and the discussion was continued to a great length. There were eighty Deputies present in the House—a considerably larger number than is necessary for a quorum. In the Senate, twelve standing committees were appointed. The most important at this time are those on constitutional questions, relations and war. Oterois, Chairman of the first, Ledo of the second, and Herrera of the third. Senor Rosa is Chairman of the Committee on the Government, or Administration and the Public Cedit. Esparza is at the head of the committee on the treasury.

Several projects were introduced in grand committee, among which, was one fining the recusant Senators and Deputies to the amount of two hundred dollars—another, that those who neglected to report themselves should be without employment, and deprived of the rights of citizenship for a period double that for which they have failed to discharge their legislative duties. Those who were absent, without permission, for two months, shall be subject to the same punishment. Further—in case of the withdrawal of members, the votes of the majority shall be final, and in case of a tie, the question shall be considered as decided in the negative.

After a few other unimportant matters, the committee rose, and the two branches adjourned.

We have, in a previous number of the Star, stated that President Pena y Pena, accompanied by his ministers, delivered his message in presence of the Senators and Deputies, which was responded to on the part of the President of the Chamber of Deputies—an abstract of which response has already appeared in our columns.—The messages of Pen y Pena is rather longer than we expected to find it, but we shall make no apology, from the interest which attaches to the subject, for translating it at its length, as follows: (see next article, Message of the President of the Republic.)

Gentlemen of the Senate and the Chamber of deputies. Can there possibly be an act more august, or a ceremony of more national interest, than the present installation of the Mexican Congress? Nay, could I hope for a more distinguished favor from Providence than that of announcing to you this day that the Republic survives its misfortunes, preserves its unity, and has it yet in its power to receive the proudest titles in the estimation of the world? Was it to be expected seven months since—the capital, the ports, and the principal cities of the republic being lost—the army disorganized and the passions of the people inflamed—that the calamities of a foreign war would cease, and we should have it in our power to nourish the hope of a peaceful and happy future?

You have . . . [illegible]. . . [un]derstood also, the circumstance which surround us. You can therefore, appreciate the value and importance of an event which places us in so advantageous a position. What was regarded as an impossibility is this day realized. Congress has assembled in accordance with the requisitions of the constitution, and the Government is about to entrust the destinies of the Republic to the wisdom of its representatives. How national and elevated is you mission—how great and how glorious is your responsibility!

It will be expected that I should speak to you of the great and interesting point in the internal administration of the Government, and refer briefly to its history during the short period of its existence. Without the slightest exaggeration, I can assure you that in the most difficult crisis which the republic has ever seen, and with no resources to meet its absolute necessities, it has maintained loyal order, resisted with the law more than with an armed force, the violence of factions; preserved the morality of the Government, prevented ruinous losses to the treasury, and above all it has never allowed the bond of the Federal Union to be broken. A sincere regard for our institutions, an ardent desire to prevent shameful insurrections and broils in sight of the foreign enemy, a firm resolution to assemble the chambers and entrust the reins of the administration to a new President—these will be sufficient to explain the few severe measures which the Government has taken, and especially so far as relates to its course—alike constitutional and indispensable—in regard to the events in San Luis Potosi. But, gentlemen, these points would not, whatever your feelings or preferences under ordinary circumstances, draw your attention form the awful responsibility of the present moment—when the question is—EITHER WAR OR PEACE WITH THE UNITED STATES.

Being satisfied several years since, that the first of these alternatives was not of any advantage to the republic, I took such measures as were within my power, and such as were compatible with my loyalty or came within the scope of my legal procedure, to put an end to the exciting differences which existed between the two republics, by a pacific negotiation. In forming my opinion, and in sustaining it in 1845, it never occurred to me that such a negotiation was compatible either with the interests or the well known honor of the nation. I have ever been
persuaded that every people—the most warlike even in the world, sometime finds itself in circumstances where it has no power to resist the enemy which has invaded its soil. They, like individuals, have their periods of vigor and weakness, and cannot be exempt from the ordinary laws of humanity. A conjunction of Circumstances, to which it is unnecessary here to refer more particularly, but which might be explained very easily by our internal dissensions and failure on the part of the public Administration, has convinced me of the serious difficulties in which the country would be involved by sustaining, with any prospect of a successful issue, a war with the United States.—He, who entertaining this conviction, is disposed to resent an insult to our good name and our honor speaks not like a statesman and politician—much less is he a man of sterling honor and goodness.

Called by the constitution to exercise the Supreme Magistracy, and at a moment when the capital was about to be occupied and our army dispersed, my opinions in regard to a peace were the stronger in proportion to the greatness of our misfortune. Without any merit to assume the reins of government, and with no other title than that of President of the Supreme Court of Justice, I could not, nevertheless, refuse to discharge the duties of the difficult post to which I was called, without subjecting the nation to a frightful state of anarchy; neither could I fail to meet the foreign question under such circumstances, with feelings the most profound and conscientious.—The necessity, then, of making one so decidedly in favor of peace the depository of the Supreme Power, made me believe (and aloe me to say it with frankness) that Providence had summoned me to the work which had been commenced in 1845—a work which would then have been terminated with glory and profit to the nation, and which this day, at however dear a price, at least saves its honor and secures its independence.

But inasmuch as representative governments, and particularly those under a republican form, should be guided by true public opinion, it was my desire to ascertain what that opinion was.—Setting aside my own, it was my object to ascertain in good faith how far the co-operation of the States could be relied upon for the prosecution of the war, if such was the general wish of the Republic. I can assure you, gentlemen, that, since instituting this inquiry, I have had no other conviction than such as was favorable to peace.

The people and their authorities, like the Supreme Government, have foreseen all the evils of a prolonged war. Though disposed to favor any great effort that could restore the brilliancy of our arms, if there were no alternative left, so long as there were means, they will not fail to condemn as unwise the conduct of the Government which dies not put an immediate end to their sufferings. The people have an unquestionable right to demand security that they shall suffer no more than may be incidental to their condition. It is not merely gross injustice, but an act also of gross inhumanity, to compel them to pass through all the horrors of a bloody contest after long years of civil war.

Thus tranquil and satisfied at a time when, by its policy, the Government was counting upon an immense majority of the nation, I immediately acceded to the desire of the Mexican Commissioner, who proposed to resume the negotiations which had been suspended in consequence of the unhappy circumstances of September last, as Congress was well advised. The Interior President who succeeded me after the first term of my administration, appointed commissioners enjoying his confidence, who discharged the duties of their offices with all the fidelity and loyalty which might be supposed to accompany their well merited reputation. But he had determined that no proceedings should be had until early January. His reason was, that, loyal to the Government, and following the system which I had pursued, he was anxious to ascertain the sentiments of the people of the Republic, and such modifications as they might have undergone, guided not only by lessons drawn from our present condition, but from the opinions of the press of both parties, presenting as it did the question under a thousand different aspects.

No one, during all this time, could charge the Government with having attacked the liberty of thought. Neither could any one question its sincerity in obtaining the aid and co-operation of all good citizens in a matter of such transcendent importance. The duties devolving upon it in consequence of the alternative of war not being adopted, you yourselves, gentlemen, can weigh with that calmness and coolness which become the discussion of a subject so nearly concerning the dearest interest of our unfortunate nation. The verdict of impartial history will surely not impeach my motives, in consequence of the great and well-known services which have been rendered since the fatal rupture with the United States.

The instructions given for my guidance at that time, as Minister of Relations, and to the Commissions of the Republic, though much more favorable, as was natural, than could be reasonably expected, never had any definite character.—The Government, also, reserving to itself the right of modifying them, according to the information it might receive, gave the Commissioners full liberty to conclude the negotiations, with the belief that, neither in letter or spirit, any offense was intended to our honor, and that no compromise was effected of which a civilized people need to be ashamed. Though very decided in favor of peace, and disposed to make such sacrifices as circumstances might demand, the Government never had any idea of acceding to any conditions, either humiliating or such as should give to the negotiation a character unworthy of our independence. In the opinion of the Government, war has its limits, and so has peace. Even the extreme misfortune of the nation could not cause to be forgotten that mutual regard and consideration which one nation and one government owes to another—the more important in the ordinary pacific relations of the two, in proportion to the misfortunes which may visit either. And here, gentlemen, I should inform you that the propositions of peace have proceeded directly from the Government of the United States. They have sent Ministers Plenipotentiary to this Republic, who have commenced negotiations, and there had been no single act of the Mexican Government, in the course of them, which can be characterized as either meanness of weakness.

The Minister of Relations will transmit to the two Chambers all the documents which may be necessary for the national interests, as well as the articles of the treaty, signed at Guadalupe on the 2d February last. You, yourselves, will be as convinced as the Government is, that the territorial cession is less than could be expected, or than could have been agreed upon. Neither was there any ground to expect that the United States would, in any respect, modify their pretensions. The limits of Texas, of Upper California and New Mexico, are of such great interest
and importance, that the Government of the American Union has announced before its Congress, that without the cession of the said territories, it will continue the war on the plan indicated by the President’s message of the 6th of December of last year. The negotiation, then, cannot be condemned in consequence of its not having diminished the loss of territory, taking into consideration the advantages of peace. Perhaps it will deserve praise for having succeeded in obtaining that no additions have been made to the original claims—the capital being lost, and the army of he 13th of September disbanded.

Had the government been able to indulge any well-founded hope that that of the United States would recede from a demand to which it had no legitimate title, its conduct would have been different, or it would have reserved the treaty for a more opportune season. But a declaration so solemn, and the repeated assurances of the American Minister, leave no room whatever to doubt that any peace was utterly out of the question which did not involve the cession of the territories mentioned. The Government and its plenipotentiaries have, nevertheless, enforced and defended the justice of the nation, and I can declare to you that nothing which they ought to have done has been omitted. Subsequent events which are well known, show in the clearest manner that the Government acted with judgment in designating the time in which negations should commence and be concluded.

The armistice which followed the negotiation of the treaty and the immediate re-establishment of constitutional order in all its branches, the ample guarantees secured to Mexican citizens, who, either holding that character or that of Americans citizens, should reside in the territories ceded—the suppression of the Indian tribes which should make incursions upon our frontier—the indemnity of fifteen millions of dollars, and the payment to be made by the Government of the United States for claims liquidated and pending against the Republic—the solemn promise to assuage, if at any time there shall be occasion, the calamities of war, as well as to respect the well known rights of humanity and of society—and, finally, the closing stipulation, that the dividing line established by the fifth article shall never be changed except by the full consent of both Republics, expressed through their General Governments in conformity with their respective constitutions; all these considerations give to the negotiation all the dignity, as well as all the security, that could be demanded in this class of transactions.

If the Government has found itself compelled to respect acts thus consummated, without insisting upon a compliance with our tariff rates, or treasury laws, when the question of the introduction of goods into our custom houses in the interior of the Republic, was under discussion, it has resulted alone from a well-established principle, that no treaty is to be regarded as possessing any force or value until it had been duly ratified. Such stipulations as have been made on these points of the treaty and commerce will be readily explained on the principle mentioned, and by the practice generally adopted in all countries under similar circumstances.

The treaty, gentlemen, concluded by our plenipotentiaries in the city of Guadaloupe, is submitted to the judgment of the national representatives of public opinion, and to the verdict of foreign nations. The termination of a war such as we have suffered, the change which it has produced, are interesting to the whole world. They merit the examination of the philosopher, as well as the politician, and from their very nature constitute a new period of vital importance to the republic. Justice, humanity, convenience and honor present, under different aspects, treaties celebrated between two nations; and, according to the dominant feeling, they are regarded as advantageous or detrimental. Opinions, in consequence, vary considerably, and it is by no means easy to weigh the disadvantages of the extremes, and make a choice in the scale of cool reason and calm calculation. Nevertheless, the treaty of Guadaloupe, whatever judgment may be passed upon it, either by the present generation, or by that which may succeed, will never be censured as dishonorable or oppressive to the liberty and sovereignty of the nation. It cannot be pronounced unworthy of a noble misfortune and of generous feelings.

The Mexican Republic has treated the United States, and they with it, as independent people. The spirit with which the negotiation has been conducted might be cited to show that we do not deserve all the charges which have been made against us during the war. True, a fertile and beautiful portion of our soil is ceded—a portion of considerable extent and containing the elements of new and flourishing States. I do not wish to conceal the truth at a moment so solemn—much less the profound regret occasioned in my bosom by the separation of Upper California and New Mexico from the National Mexican Union. I desire, further, to leave on record a testimony of the interest with which my administration has regarded the citizens of those States. I can assure you, gentlemen, that their future destiny has presented the greatest difficulty which has thus far been encountered in the negotiations. Nay, had it been possible, the territory ceded would have been extended on the condition that the Mexican population within its limits should be left free. The reflection that a continuance of the war would certainly injure their condition, has brought with it the consolation that whatever evils they may suffer, cannot be chargeable upon my administration. War always renders the most deplorable changes necessary, and a war so unfortunate as ours has been, cannot but be attended by the sacrifices to which all societies and communities are subjected. Costly as they may be, they involve but a single loss, and a loss demanded by the principles of a just and far seeing policy. They not only involve no opposition, but are compatible with the honor and dignity of the most powerful people in the world.

Whoever shall pronounce the treaty of Guadalupe dishonorable on account of the extent of the territory ceded is guilty of bringing the same charges against the first nations in the world, and the question will never be solved: "How can an unfortunate war be avoided?" The dignity of governments and of the people demand other immutable laws, and also a character widely different from that which often springs from the passions, generally spurious and dangerous in their effects. To dam up a torrent which is devastating everything, to avoid a useless effusion of blood, to reinstate the nation in its primitive condition, in order that it may enjoy the advantages of peace and public order, to do all this, though at the same time satisfy the unjust pretensions of a fortunate and victorious enemy, is an act of wisdom recommended by both Christianity and civilization. The territories ceded by the treaty are not lost for the sum of fifteen millions of dollars; but for the recovery of our ports and invaded cities, the final cessation of every class of evils, every kind of horrors, to being consolation to innumerable families, which, abandoning their homes and places of resort, have been suffering the ills of poverty or exposed to beggary—in fine, to improve the occasion
which Providence presents for producing a systematic organization among the people, who have not ceased to suffer during the long period of thirty-seven years. Let us be just, gentlemen. Let us remove the veil which has prevented our seeing the true condition of things. We will cherish the hope that peace, that precious boon which we have not learned to estimate properly, may scatter upon us all the benefits which we have desired, and which we shall certainly obtain if we stand firm in offering a resistless opposition anarchy and disorder.

If the treaty could have been submitted to your deliberation precisely as it came from the hands of the Plenipotentiaries, my satisfaction at seeing the war at last brought to an end would not have been lessened, as it is this day, in consequence of the modifications introduced into it by the Senate of the United States, and which have received the sanction of the President. I could have wished that no alteration had been made in a negotiation which was in conformity with the general views of the government of the American Union—not only because I look upon modifications as unfavorable, but to prevent, also, their being the subject of exaggerated comment. You will be circumstantially instructed in regard to the reasons which the Cabinet of the United States has advanced in justification of the modifications. There will be placed also before you, for your direction, all such suitable information on the subject as may enable you to form a correct and impartial judgment. At present it is sufficient for us to say to you, that if, in the opinion of the Government, justice had not been evinced on the part of the Senate and Government of the United States in introducing such modifications, it is presumed, on the other hand, they are not of such importance that they should set aside the treaty. I believe, on the contrary, that it ought to be ratified upon the same terms in which it has already received the sanction of the American Government. My opinion is alone greatly strengthened by the fact, that a new negotiation is neither expected or considered possible—much less could another be brought forward upon a basis more favorable for the Republic.

The character of the address, and the assurances that you will find in such documents as will be laid before you by the Minister of Relations, all necessary data, do not permit me to enlarge further upon the treaty, or to obtrude observations which will doubtless occur to you, in your examination of the subject. But, allow me to assure you, that it is no vain fear, much less an unfavorable estimate of the moral and physical strength of the Mexican people, which compels me to decide in favor of peace. Nothing could be more unfounded. I have lived long enough to witness the heroic efforts which the nation made to sustain an unequal contest of eleven years, and at last achieve its independence. In the same civil war, I was able to observe the resources and elements of that people which acts with valor and energy. In the foreign war we have just witnessed, though in but few engagements, have witnessed the courage and firmness of our soldiers, when commanded by chiefs of honor, and in whom they had confidence, and we have all remarked that the war would have had altogether a different result, had the army and the national Guards been properly organized. I have never believed, neither do I now believe, that the Republic is absolutely incapable of continuing the war and affording an example which might be transmitted with glory to posterity. But, with the same frankness and good faith, I must say that I am convinced that the condition in which we are, with all its attendant circumstances, imperiously calls for peace, because, as statesmen affirm, discussion upon the subject of war, is not a matter which can be submitted to proofs or adventurous attempts—that the desire of the . . . [illegible]. . . count of the distance of the territories ceded, and through want of a national marine, it cannot be reasonably expected that the result of a war would be a fortunate negotiation, that would save our territory entire. I am well persuaded that our loss would be greater, and that there could be no excuse for the conduct of the Government and of Congress, if it did not guard against new and more terrible evils. There is nothing in this opinion which is not in strict conformity with truth, and passion only can designate it as timid and exaggerated. The elements of resistance cannot be created in a moment, neither is it within the power of the most vigorous administration to cause distances to disappear in a territory of such vast extent, and to gather the central population upon points along the shores of the ocean and the neighboring frontiers.

The arguments which are advanced at this day against peace, are of the same character with this put forth in 1845. First, against the acknowledgement of the independence of Texas, and subsequently against the negotiations with the U. States, which the administration of that year sought to establish.

We have occasion this day to lament that the peace policy did not at that time prevail. Those who were opposed to it have been since undeceived, but their enlightenment has not been able to exempt the republic from misfortune. Tardy and barren as the lesson was, we ought never to forget it. And, gentlemen, we will not forget it, but let us make a glorious effort, that our children may not curse our memories.

Contemplate for a moment the confusion and anarchy in which we should behold our country involved, if the foreign war should be continued. All the germs of discord would in the event be aroused, and the flame of the passions everywhere kindled. We are already made to feel too deeply our social disorganization, the insecurity of towns and highways, the paralysis of every branch of public wealth, and the general wretchedness of the people.

The State of Yucatan, presenting such a scene of devastation and barbarity, has been a subject of much pain and regret to the Government, and the more so that in its present situation it could not extend the aid which humanity demanded. The native population has proclaimed the extermination of the white race, committed excesses which I shrink from recounting, and having taken possession of the principal cities, there is scarcely left to the families even the port of Campeche, to place themselves under cover from the savage hordes. I have not ceased to employ my thoughts upon such measures as could be adopted for the safety of that portion of our territory—but what can the Government do under present circumstances?

Whatever fate Providence may have in reserve for our unhappy country, it is left for us, gentlemen, to place her on the road to prosperity. If peace is made and the nation has it in its power to effect a proper organization; if with the extended experience from which we have learned so much, factions, disorder and demoralization prevail, we shall not be held responsible for such scandals. As men, we cannot foresee the future destiny of the people; but if we labor with rectitude and prudence, complying with the august duties imposed upon us by the law and our country,
You may flatter yourselves, gentlemen, with having been summoned to decide upon the greatest question presented since the achievement of our independence—to maintain, with all your decision and wisdom, the dignity and influence which should surround a nation, and to enact such laws as the condition of every class of the people may require. A vigorous and just system of legislation is demanded—one which will banish forever those abuses which are compatible with no form of Government. Obstinate in following the same career, without having recourse to salutary reforms demanded form time to time by the administration of public affairs, would be to our eternal loss, make us unworthy of the gratitude of the nation, and stain the titles acquired in 1821. The Constitutional Government which is about to be established, and the duties of which will be discharged by a citizen distinguished for his virtues, and beloved by his compatriots, will second our efforts, and at the same time give character to the nation. He will suggest such measures as in his opinion should be adopted to inspire general confidence, without which there can exist neither union nor true liberty.

So far as concerns myself, I have but little to say, because the policy of the Government, in the circumstances which it had been obliged to encounter, is known to all. I have respected the institutions of the republic, and sustained them against the revolutionary spirit by which they have more than once been threatened. I have persecuted one no one, and nothing has been farther from the course of my administration than the adoption of measures against political opinion.—I have initiated and concluded a peace, and the Republic, which, upon the occupation of the capital, seemed destined to a complete dissolution and to a prolonged war, has neither lost its unity nor the hope of a lasting and durable reorganization.

If, notwithstanding my ardent wishes and anxiety, it has been impossible to avoid the evils consequent upon the invasion, the misery and wretchedness which the invaded States have suffered, it is not the fault of the existing Government, but results from circumstances and from the nature of the war itself. But with or without this aim, I have accomplished the plan which I proposed to follow on assuming the reigns of Government—to save the nationality of the country, and to preserve, faithfully and scrupulously, the national institutions which invested me with the power I hold. I consider myself fortunate that in the midst of difficulties and dangers, I have been able to summon you together and quietly to commit to your keeping the trust confided to me. If the Government has not been true—if the present crisis demands any other resolution than it had indicated, the fate of the Republic is in your hands and it belongs to you to save it. The pressing importance of the business which you have assembled to consider should address itself to you.

The freedom of your deliberations will be respected and sustained to the last extreme, and the Governor will consider every one as a traitor to the nation who, in any manner, or by whatever means, shall endeavor to excite a spirit of dissolution, or attack the freedom of the legislative body. The words, war and peace, will be listened to by the Government—whatever its opinion—with all that respect to which the worthy representatives of the Republic are entitled. The Government considers the treaty of Guadalupe as a subject of general and transcendent importance. The qualifications which may be made in it, will be the result of that diversity of opinions into which the citizens of every free State are divided. The Government, in adopting it and transmitting it to the Chambers, has looked upon it as a measure truly honorable for the country, after all her misfortunes, but that judgment is submitted by the constitution to the tribunal of the people’s representatives.

Gentlemen: You are chosen and assembled under circumstances in which public opinion cannot be misled. There is no chance for deception among the people, when they labor with the noblest impulses and desires, to solve the great question of their own salvation. If in ordinary cases Congress is the legal and most respectable organ of the nation, it more than ever this day realizes the appropriateness of the title, in consequence of the condition to which things have arrived, and also the unfettered freedom which has prevailed in the elections. The confidence with which you have been honored by your compatriots, deserves unmerited recompense—that is saving the Republic.

And gentlemen, you will save it, because, being citizens of honor and integrity, your labors will be blessed by Providence. I have spoken.

[WP]

REv45i8p2c2, May 30, 1848, Tamaulipas.

The Governor of Tamaulipas has issued a circular summoning a meeting of the Legislature of that State, to vote for a President of the Republic, and Senators and Deputies of the General Congress.—The 28th inst., is named as the day.
Letters from Queretaro state that the State of Jalisco has taken strong grounds in favor of peace. A popular movement in support of it having been set on foot.

The election of a Governor and Vice Governor was about taking place at our last advices at San Luis, and much excitement was the consequence. The Puros are striving to place another Adame in the Chair of State, that is, another instrument of disorder. The Conservative party in the Legislature were likely to lose two of their number, in consequence of Samano, one of the Deputies, aspiring to be Governor.

The evidence in the case of Lieut. Tilden, 2d Infantry, was closed on the 10th inst. The three remaining prisoners, we understand, will be tried together.

The Bishop of Mexico and Cesarea has gone to Queretaro to take his seat as one of the Senators.

A train under the command of Maj. Taliaferro came in from Pachuca in the 7th. It consisted of ten wagons—two of them laden with about sixty bars of silver, valued at $1200 each. It was accompanied by an escort of twenty dragoons and some forty of the 9th Infantry. The officers who accompanied the train were Capt. Bissell, and Lieut. Simmons, Reg’ Qr. Master and Commissary of the 9th Infantry; Lieuts. Bradford, 4th Artillery; Schonoever, 3d Dragoons; and Dr. Stevens, 1st Surgeon of the 9th. The train will return on the 12th inst.

The health of the troops at Pachuca has much improved of late. About ninety recruits for the 9th, who reached this city by the last train from Orizaba, will repair to Pachuca with the return train.

H. B. Yeager, a corporal in the corps of Sappers and Miners, has received a commission as 2d Lieutenant in the 3d Dragoons.—Lieut. Y. belongs to Philadelphia.

D. Manuel Gomez Pedraza was nominated for President, and Senors Lafragua and Covarrubias at a preliminary meeting of the members of the Senate on the 5th inst.

The Vice President laid before the Senate a communication from Lewis Cass, of Michigan, resigning his seat in the U.
S. Senate.

A message in writing was received from the President of the United States transmitting a memorial from the Legislature of Oregon, in relation to the incursions of the different hostile bands of Indians in their vicinity.

The memorial was referred to the committee on Military Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Benton was appointed chairman of the committee on Military affairs, vice Mr. Cass, resigned.

Mr. Butler, from the committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill providing for the punishment of persons violating the secret proceedings of Congress.

The bill to amend the act for the transportation of the mails to foreign countries, was taken up, amended and passed.

The Senate spent the remainder of the day on Private Bills.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

A message was received from the President of the United States in relation to the incursion of the Indians in Oregon. The message recommended the granting prompt assistance to the settlers in the Oregon territory.

The message was referred to the committee on Military Affairs.

A motion being made that the House resolve itself into a Committee of the whole, and proceed with the Appropriation Bills, a warm discussion ensued as to the order of business, many members proposing to take up the subject of the Oregon difficulties in preference to the Appropriation Bills. The House finally decided to go into Committee of the Whole on the Post Office Bill, which was perfected in committee, and reported to the House on the rising of the Committee. The House then adjourned.

REv45i8p4c1, May 30, 1848, Adjournment of the Convention.

We learn by a telegraphic dispatch from Baltimore, received at half-past six o’clock last evening, that the Democratic National Convention adjourned yesterday harmoniously and in the highest spirits. The address of Mr. Stevenson at the close of the session is said to have been most beautiful and much admired. Thus has ended the deliberations of a body whose movements have been watched with the deepest interest from every section of our country; and most nobly and satisfactorily have they discharged the important duties entrusted to them by the Democracy of the Union. We have given extensive reports of the proceedings of the Convention. It will be seen that on every ballot for President the vote of Virginia was cast for Lewis Cass.—In balloting for a candidate for the Vice Presidency, the vote of Virginia was given first for John Y. Mason, and then for Gen. Wm. O. Butler—after which, all the States which had voted against Gen. Butler changed their votes, and he received the unanimous nomination of the Convention. Gen. Butler’s high character, both as a civilian and a military man—formerly a member of Congress from Kentucky, and more recently a brilliant officer in the Mexican war, and now the commander of our army—it known to all. It is another name of power, which adds dignity and force to our ticket. He will receive the most cordial support of the entire Republican party.

So far as we have been able to ascertain, the nominees of the Convention have been most enthusiastically received by the Democracy of this city.

The Richmond Examiner of yesterday morning says:

“"This nomination will be responded to with pleasure by the Democracy of the Union. The public mind has been long prepared for this.—The distinguished services of Gen. Cass have given him a reputation as extensive as that of any living American statesman. Abroad and at home he has alike been honored by men of virtue and intelligence. The distinguished statesman, the intrepid hero, the legislative halls of the nation as well as the well fought battle-fields of 1812, attest his merits and services. No American has ever been more distinguished for great deeds endearing him to the people. Above all this, during the last three years of bitter Federal opposition to the Administration and the nation’s honor, Lewis Cass has been always found in the right place—never swerving in the discharge of his high duties as a Senator, a Democrat, and a patriot. The nomination of a Vice President had not been made a the time of our going to press.”

On the subject of the nominations, that able neutral journal, the Baltimore Sun, has the following:

"In the choice of General Cass, the Convention has no doubt acted wisely and well. From our point of observation, we are inclined to think that he will be generally acceptable throughout the Union. Wherever he is personally known, Gen. Cass never fails to have a host of friends.—His affability, his native kindness of heart, his frank and manly bearing, invest his character with traits irresistibly attractive; while his public services, military and civil, many of
which have been of great importance and responsibility, and elicited eminent qualifications of statesmanship, are calculated to secure the implicit confidence of the people.

“The evening session of the convention resulted in the choice of Major Gen. Butler, now at the head of the army at Mexico, for the Vice Presidency. This distinguished officer, whose military career has been a constant testimonial of dauntless courage, a valour indeed insensible to danger, and a resolution always equal to the sense of duty, is not without the recommendations of an exalted capacity for civil service.—Those who know him best are confident in the distinguished ability and suavity of deportment with which he will grace the chair of the Senate, should he be honored with the choice of the people.”

The Old Dominion, we feel assured, will be well satisfied with the nominations, and will roll up her thousands for CASS and BUTLER.

This is perhaps the strongest ticket which could have been selected by the Democratic National Convention. Indeed, some of our friends seem to think that, should Mr. Clay be nominated by the Whigs, there is much doubt whether he will be able to carry "Old Kentucky." And as to "Old Zac," his prospects for the Presidency are now supposed to be just about as good as those of the "calculating" sage of Ashland. The Democracy of the Union have now before them, as standard bearers, men who are worthy of their support—worthy of the great cause we advocate—well calculated to guard all the interests of our beloved country—and, in every respect, qualified to carry out the true, well-tried and glorious principles of the Republican party, upon the preservance of which mainly depend the prosperity and permanent welfare of our country.

REv45i8p4c2, May 30, 1848, The President's letter is as follows:

WASHINGTON CITY, MAY 20, 1848.

Dear Sir: From speculations which have appeared in some of the public journals, and from frequent inquiries which have been made of me, by many political friends, some of them delegates to the Democratic National Convention, which will assemble at Baltimore on the 22d instant, I am induced to suppose that it may be the desire of some of my friends to propose my re-nomination, as the candidate of the Democratic party, for the office of President of the United States.—Should you ascertain that such is the intention of any of the delegates, I desire, through you, to communicate to the Convention; that I am not a candidate for the nomination, and that any use of my name with that view, which may be contemplated, us without any agency or desire on my part.

The purpose declared in my letter of the 12th of June, 1844, in accepting the nomination tendered to me by the DEMOCRATIC national Convention of that year, remains unchanged and to relieve the Convention from any possible embarrassment which "the suggestion of my names might produce in making a free selection of a successor who may be best calculated to give effect to their will, and guard all the interests of our beloved country," I deem it proper to reiterate the sentiments contained in that letter. Since my election, I have often expressed the sincere desire, which I still feel, to retire to private life at the close of my present term.

I entertain the confident hope and belief, that my Democratic friends of the convention will unite in the harmonious nomination of some citizen to succeed me, who, if elected, will firmly maintain and carry out the great political principles introduced in the resolutions adopted by the Democratic National Convention in 1844—principles which it has been the earnest endeavor and constant aim of my administration to preserve and pursue—and upon the observance of which, in my opinion, mainly depend the prosperity and permanent welfare of our country.

If on reviewing the history of my administration, and the remarkable events, foreign and domestic, which have attended it, it shall be the judgment of my countrymen, that I have adhered to these principles and faithfully performed my duty, the measure of my ambition is full, and I am deeply compensated for all the labors, cares, and anxieties which are inseparable from the high station which I have been called to fill.

I shall ever cherish sentiments of deep gratitude to my fellow-citizens for the confidence they reposed in me, in elevating me to the most distinguished and responsible public trust, on earth.

It is scarcely necessary that I should add, that it will be no less my duty than it will be my sincere pleasure, as a citizen, to unite with my Democratic friends in support of the nominees of the convention, for the offices of President and Vice President of the United States.

With great respect, I am your obedient servant,

JAMES K. POLK.

[To Dr. J. G. M. Ramsey, of Tennessee.]

The following is the letter of 1844 referred to in his communication to the Convention:

Gentlemen: I have had the honor to receive you letter of the 29th ultimo, informing me that the Democratic National
Convention, then assembled at Baltimore, had designated me to be the candidate of the Democratic party for
President of the United States, and that I had been unanimously nominated for that office. It has been well observed
that the office of President of the United States should neither be sought nor declined. I have never sought it, nor
shall I feel at liberty to decline it, if conferred upon me by the voluntary suffrages of my fellow-citizens. In accepting
the nomination, I am deeply impressed with the distinguished honor that has been conferred upon me by my
Republican friends, and am duly sensible of the great and mighty responsibilities which must ever devolve on any
citizen who may be called to fill the high station of President of the United States.

I deem the present to be a proper occasion to declare that, if the nomination made by the Convention shall be
confirmed by the people, and result in my election, I shall enter upon the discharge of the high and solemn duties of
the office with the settled purpose of not being a candidate for re-election. In the event of my election, it shall be
my constant aim, by a strict adherence to the old Republican landmarks, to maintain and preserve the public
prosperity, and at the end of four years I am resolved to retire to private life. In assuming this position I feel that I
not only impose on myself a salutary restraint, but that I take the most effective means in my power of enabling the
Democratic party to make a free selection of a successor who may be best calculated to give the effect to their will,
and guard all the interests of our country.

With great respect, I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

JAMES K. POLK

To Messrs. Henry Hubbard,
William H. Roane,
Benjamin H. Brewster,
Romulus M. Saunders,
Robert Rantoul, Jr.,
Committee of the Democratic National Convention at Baltimore.]

REV45i8p4c5, May 30, 1848, British Bondholders in Mexico.

In the British House of Commons, on the 7th ultimo, Mr. Urquhart asked if her Majesty’s government had taken
measures to secure the rights of British bondholders in Mexico, in the event of a cession of territory to the United
States on America?

Lord Palmerston.—Her Majesty’s government, as he believed he explained on a former occasion, had not hitherto
thought it right to interfere officially, as between government and government, with respect to the claims of the
British bondholders in numerous foreign States. Therefore no steps had been taken by the British government upon
the point to which the honorable gentleman referred. But, although, perhaps, it was not exactly an answer to the
question, it was of course evident that if a State gave to foreign creditors or to domestic creditors a mortgage upon
its revenues, the mortgage applied equally to the revenues of whatever portion of that State which might remain;
and the government of that State could not, by alienating a part of its territory, in any degree defeat or lessen the
claims of strangers upon its revenues.

REV45i8p4c6, May 30, 1848, Yucatan.

The New Orleans Patria has received later advices by the schooner Ampericeda, which sailed from Sisal on the 11th
inst. By this arrival the “Patria” has received its correspondence and files of papers o the 9th inst. from Merida, and
to the 2nd inst. From Campeachy, being eight days later than previously received.—Not a word is said in these late
journals and letters concerning the conclusion of a treaty of peace between the Commissioners appointed by
Governor Barbachano and Jacinto Pat, which treaty was published in the “Union,” of Merida, of the 25th April. Hat
attempt to consummate a peace failed and hostilities were renewed on the part of the savages.

The Indians still continued their massacres.—On the 7th inst., they entered the village of Mani, professing peace.
Their professions were relied upon, but next morning at daylight the war cry of the savages was heard and two
hundred of the inhabitants were inhumanly butchered. They then retired.

The statement that twenty-eight vessels of various nations were off the coast of Yucatan, assisting the whites needs
confirmation. The greater portion of these vessels were small coasting boats belonging to the Yucatecos.

The village of Iturbide is stated to have defended itself for eight hours against an overpowering force of savages.
The loss on the part of the whites was 23 killed and 11 wounded. During the retreat of the whites 106 soldiers
deserted, thus leaving the commander with a force of only 60 men.

The whole coast from the port of Cilam to Cape Catoche and then to Bacalar is now in possession of Pat and Chi and
their blood-thirsty followers.
More than 100,000 persons are now crowded into the capital of Yucatan, and should it unfortunately fall into the hands of the savages, but a portion of these refugees could be saved, owing to the small number of vessels now on the coast.

The "Amigo del Pueblo," published at Campeachy, states that the British Minister in Mexico had received the official communication from the Yucatan Government, offering the sovereignty and dominion of Yucatan to Great Britain in case assistance and protection were offered, and that the Minister had written to his Government earnestly urging the compliance with the offer.

The Yucatan officers had removed the seat of Government from Ticul to Merida.

All hopes of making peace with the crafty and pernicious savages have vanished, and the destiny of the two races only remained to be decided by the arbitrament of arms. The Yucatecos were preparing to make a last struggle against their relentless foes, anxiously awaiting assistance from abroad.

REv45i8p4c6, May 30, 1848, For the Enquirer. Mr. Jefferson and the Tariff.

Messrs. Editors: The readers of the Enquirer will, doubtless, think, after the utter demolition you have visited upon the Whigs, that it is a work of supererogation to draw further upon the "truth of history" to sustain your position and that of the party on the points in controversy. It is, however, so frequently attempted by the Federalists to palm off their impostures upon the great fathers of Democracy, and to acquire a spurious credit for their odious policy, by showing that it has, at some time, received the support of a few prominent men of our party, that nothing which can contribute to expose their deception, or to foil their cunning attempts, ought to be considered uncalled for. The Tariff is one of the prominent features of their oft-repudiated and miserable "system" which they have industriously labored to mystify, in order to confound and mislead the judgment of the people, and, in support of which, they have often forged the great name of Jefferson. I do not myself entertain much respect for that class of politicians who can perceive no other merit (as a reason for supporting them) in a set of measures, than that they were introduced or advocated by this or that eminent statesman. But the opinions of such a wise and experienced man as Thomas Jefferson are entitled to great weight, and it therefore becomes important to ascertain the real "truth of history" respecting them, especially when they are perverted by our Whig friends, to serve an end he never countenanced. True it is, that parties were not for some time after the adoption of the new Constitution, as distinctly defined and separated on the question of the Tariff as on some others; but as far as my acquaintance with Mr. Jefferson's opinions, derived from his own writings goes, he was always consistent on this point, and certainly has left us the most convincing and unquestionable proof of his disapprobation of the doctrine of protection, contended for by modern Whiggery. I shall quote from a number of his letters, to prove—first, that he was a free trade man—and, secondly, that he was decidedly and emphatically opposed to the Whig doctrine of protection.

In July, 1785, Mr. Jefferson wrote a letter to a French or Dutch gentleman on the subject of the financial condition of the States, in which he asserts that Virginia had paid more revenue in the previous year than all the other States together, and he ascribes her ability to do so to the fact, "that she is (was) at liberty to avail herself of her natural resources, and has (had) free markets for them." In a letter of the same month and year, to Mr. Adams, he says, "I think all the world would gain by setting commerce at perfect liberty." And, in August, 1800, in a letter to Gideon Granger, he uses this language, "Let our affairs be disentangled from those of all other nations except as to commerce, which the merchants will manage the better the more they are left to manage for themselves." These expressions, it is true, are very general—and, at the time they were uttered, there can hardly be said to have been a tariff question to which they had reference—but they show conclusively, that, at that early day, Mr. Jefferson was thoroughly imbued with the spirit of free trade. So utterly at variance are they, though, (let the Federalists make as little of them as their known and hereditary hatred of their author can induce them to make,) with the restrictions and prohibitions of the odious Whig—falsely name American—system, that we should be justified in inferring Mr. Jefferson's opposition to its principles, even if he had left us no positive proof of the fact. Fortunately for the country, and for the "truth of history," he has left us, under his own sign manual, the indisputable evidence of his abhorrence of Whig protection. Here it is: "Under the power to regulate commerce, they assume indefinitely that also over commerce, which the merchants will manage the better the more they are left to manage for themselves." These expressions, it is true, are very general—and, at the time they were uttered, there can hardly be said to have been a tariff question to which they had reference—but they show conclusively, that, at that early day, Mr. Jefferson was thoroughly imbued with the spirit of free trade. So utterly at variance are they, though, (let the Federalists make as little of them as their known and hereditary hatred of their author can induce them to make,) with the restrictions and prohibitions of the odious Whig—falsely name American—system, that we should be justified in inferring Mr. Jefferson's opposition to its principles, even if he had left us no positive proof of the fact. Fortunately for the country, and for the "truth of history," he has left us, under his own sign manual, the indisputable evidence of his abhorrence of Whig protection. Here it is: "Under the power to regulate commerce, they assume indefinitely that also over agriculture and manufactures, and call it regulation to take the earnings of one of these branches of industry, and that, too, the most depressed, and put them into the pockets of the other, the most flourishing of all."

This language is used in his letter to Governor Giles in December, 1825, after the protective, who first came, hat in hand, to ask a temporary bounty of the liberality of Congress, had fattened and grown so strong upon that bounty, that they were bold enough to develop their real policy, and had begun to demand, that what was granted as a favor should be conceded as a right, and that a measure acknowledged to be unjust, or at least unequal in its operation, and designed to be of temporary duration, should be established as a permanent system. He perceived also that this attempt was made under a colour of carrying out certain implied powers conveyed in the Constitution, and which none but a Federal constructionist would or could ever have discovered. Thus, in this single sentence, does Mr. Jefferson repudiate and condemn two Whig principles—their protection and their latitudinous mode of construing the Constitution; and yet they have the audacity to call upon this name to bolster up their despicable measures, and to call their inexcusable errors, or intentional misstatements, a vindication of the "truth of history." Others can, I hope will, collate more fully from the "truth of history" to establish the points set forth in this paper; but the facts already adduced are amply sufficient to show that Thomas Jefferson neither was the father nor ever became the sponsor of the misnamed Protective policy. An if the Whig writers will read history with as earnest a desire to learn "the truth"
of it as he shows to palm off rank Federal heresies upon the great Apostle of Democracy, he will find that his party has really out-heroded Herod in carrying the protective policy to a point far beyond that contemplated by the early friends of protection. In consequence of this, many who were not hostile to the principle of protection, repudiated its Whig embodiment; and the Tariff has now become, in a great measure, a simple proposition of high and low taxes. The Whigs go for the first, and the democrats for the latter. ROANE.

REv45i8p4c7, May 30, 1848, British Intervention.

The following is from "el Amigo del Pueblo," published at Campeachy:

"Her Britannic Majesty's Minister in Mexico has addressed a communication to the authorities of this State, respecting the offer which the latter had made simultaneously to the United States, England and Spain, of the dominion and sovereignty of Yucatan, on condition of saving it from the ruin and destruction which threatened its destruction as a free and civilized people. An English frigate, just arrived at Del Carmen, brought the official communication of the above-mentioned Minister, which was yesterday forwarded to this city by the English Vice Consul in that island. It was yesterday dispatched, by special express, to the authorities of the States. We learn that the Minister has intimated his determination to make a representation to the Government of the critical situation of Yucatan, and of the positive necessity which exists of giving prompt and effective aid. He concludes with assuring the Government of Yucatan that Her Britannic Majesty's Cabinet will take into consideration the offer which has been made of the cession of the dominion of the country, in the event of its being saved from the imminent danger which threatens it."

The Union, of Merida, of the 9th inst., states that the Government had returned to the capital from Tical, much affected with the ineffectual attempts which had been made to establish peace. All pacific attempts to restore tranquility having failed, the Yucatanese are significantly told that blood washes away blood, and that they should use the same weapons as their adversaries, in their defense—in the prosecution of the war, viz: unsparing vengeance and terror.

June
The Mexican-American War and the Media, 1845-1848

Indexes Only

RE48v45n18p1c1, July 4, 1848: Santa Anna's Treaty with Texas
Boundary of Texas was not agreed upon by the Treaty signed between Santa Anna and the civil authorities of Texas in 1836; no arrangements can be shown to prove that the boundary is not the Rio Grande.

RE48v45n18p1c1, July 4, 1848
Whigs provide for their readers the letter of Taylor rejecting the nomination of the Whigs and occupying the ground of independent; more Comments about whether Taylor is a Whig or not.

RE48v45n18p1c3, July 4, 1848: The Great Whig Pow-Wow in New York
Comments about the division between the Clay Whigs and the Taylor Whigs; gives a debate that went out at a Whig Ratification meeting in NY.

REvXLi18p1c6, July 4, 1848: Thirtieth Congress
Report on introduction of bill in the Senate to establish a collection district in Brazos; Judiciary Committee reported on the House bill giving Texas jurisdiction of the Sabine; Report on a debate in the House about the President and the war and who the Representatives support for this upcoming election.

RE48v45n18p2c1, July 4, 1848: Annexation of Texas
Comments about how the annexation took place, and what lands were included and why the annexation was legal.

RE48v45n18p2c2, July 4, 1848: Gen. Taylor "Surrenders" Comments made about a letter from Taylor which stated that he would not make Comments about the current President.

RE48v45n18p2c2, July 4, 1848: Whig "Principles" Comments about what might happen if Taylor is elected President.

RE48v45n18p2c3, July 4, 1848: The Question of Veracity Settled More Comments about Taylor being an independent candidate.

RE48v45n18p2c4, July 4, 1848: Mr. Webster's Position Mr. Webster does not support Taylor's nomination by the Whig Convention.

RE48v45n18p2c5, July 4, 1848: Arrival of Major Gen. Butler and Mr. Sevier Major General Butler and Mr. Sevier arrived at New Orleans on the 26th of June on the US steamer Fanny; the Fanny also brought one hundred discharged soldiers and Quartermasters' men.

RE48v45n18p2c6, July 4, 1848: Ratification Meeting in King William Resolutions stating that the war with Mexico was justified.

RE48v45n18p4c1, July 4, 1848: Later Intelligence from Mexico When General Worth left Mexico city, Herrera's officers were escorted into it by the National Guard; many of the invalid officers and men are represented to have died on the march from the interior; Col. Domingo has arrived at Vera Cruz; Com. Perry declared the blockade ended; Gen. Kearney's division marched from the city of Mexico on the 6th; Gen. Arista expected to arrive; Herrera was sworn in as President; list of the regiments to leave Mexico.

RE48v45n18p4c1, July 4, 1848 Many of the volunteers who are returning, went to war as Whigs but have returned Democrats.
Whig Dissatisfaction
Hear many Whigs saying that they will not vote for Taylor.

Report on an anti-Taylor Convention in Massachusetts

Report on another meeting held by Whigs opposed to Taylor's nomination

Mr. Van Buren's decision will harm the Whigs because it will take votes from Taylor.

Taylor has committed himself to supporting the Wilmot Proviso.

Description of Mexico

Inconsistency of the Whigs
Comments made by different Whig editors about Taylor

In one of the strongest Whig districts in Ohio there is reported to be only 3 men in support of Taylor.

Letter from the Mexican Army about the San Patricio prisoners; there has been a pardon given and the men will be released.

The Course of the War
Comments about the Mexican war and the Whig opinion of the war compared with that of the Democrats; dispute about the legality of the war, who started it etc.

More Comments about Taylor; believed that Taylor's silence on important issues will hurt him.

Whig Convention At Worcester Massachusetts
Report on the Whig convention; it ended with no nomination because the Whigs could not agree.

Did Taylor give Mr. Stewart permission to speak for him?--it is believed that Taylor did not.

Comments about Taylor and the Ordinance of '87; story about a misunderstanding--shows Taylor's military mindset.

The conversation for Taylor shall not be divulged; see the Times dated July 6, 1848.

Report of how after Taylor won the nomination a Taylor flag was hoisted up at a Whig newspaper, but the editor tore it down.

Taylor's name alone in the editorial column of the Fairfax News; where is his VP?

Whigs in the Southwest are not very enthusiastic about Taylor's nomination.

Letter from a Whig, which shows how the vague declarations on the virtues of Taylor could not make him support Taylor.

Report on a disagreement between a Taylor supporter and two who were unsure of Taylor; Van Buren's defection will do harm to the Whigs more so than the Democrats.

Gen. Pillow has been fully acquitted by the Court of Enquiry of all the charges brought against him by Scott.
RE48v45n19p2c4, July 7, 1848: A Handsome Sword for a Virginian
Description of a sword made in honor of Lieut. H. L. Shields

RE48v45n19p2c5, July 7, 1848: Thirtieth Congress
Report on a debate that took place in the Senate---Comments about the war with Mexico and Taylor

RE48v45n19p4c1, July 7, 1848: Col. Braggs
Arrived here yesterday from Brazos

RE48v45n19p4c1, July 7, 1848: Lieut. George Lay
Lay is well known as one of Scott's brilliant staff during the operations in the valley of Mexico

RE48v45n20p1c1, July 11, 1848: The President's Message
Comments about New Mexico and California; report about the debt caused by the war with Mexico; need for
governments in the new territories

RE48v45n20p1c2, July 11, 1848: The Mexican Treaty
Proclamation of peace given by Polk; reprints the treaty that was signed between the US and Mexico

RE48v45n20p1c6, July 11, 1848: The Peace and Its Fruits
Most of the paper is devoted to the peace proclamation and the President's message because they are important;
summary of what the president says; description of part of the land gained from the war with Mexico

RE48v45n20p2c1, July 11, 1848: Thirtieth Congress
Report on a resolution to repay claims stated by US citizens for costs they covered or suffered during the war with
Mexico;

RE48v45n20p2c3, July 11, 1848: Late from Mexico
Revolution in Guanajuato; Paredes in the field; manifesto by Paredes; counter manifesto given by Herrera;
approaching battle in Mexico between Paredes and Herrera; Company of St. Patrick set free

RE48v45n20p2c6, July 11, 1848: The Close at Hand
Adjutant General R. Jones published a general order, that general officers appointed under the act of March 1847,
the general and staff officers under the act of June 1846, volunteers, and paymasters under the act of 1838 be
honorably discharged

RE48v45n20p2c5, July 11, 1848: General Taylor's Position and His Constitutional Views
Quotes taken from letters of Taylor, which are supposed to show his political views about the constitution, the Whig
nomination etc.

RE48v45n20p2c7, July 11, 1848: Old Zack Hear from at Last
Says it is not is purpose to accept the Whig nomination on a Whig platform; why the delay from Mr. Morehead in
notifying Taylor of his nomination?

RE48v45n20p3c1, July 11, 1848: Confirmation of Military Appointments
Learned that the long delayed nomination of Pillow, Quitman, Cushing and Pierce sent into the Senate have been
confirmed by the Senate

RE48v45n20p4c7, July 11, 1848: Thirtieth Congress
Oregon Bill will be taken up again

RE48v45n21p1c1, July 15, 1848: Thirtieth Congress
Propositions brought before the Senate to examine dealing with the consequences of the annexation of Texas;
question in the House about whether those who were appointed by Kearney in New Mexico, and California are still
being paid; more reporting about the debate in the Senate dealing with Texas

RE48v45n21p1c3, July 15, 1848: More "Loose" Logic
Comments about a letter sent to Gen. Gaines by Taylor; do not think that Taylor in his Allison letter covers the
ground that the US was to take no territory from Mexico; Taylor thought the US was wrong when he wrote to Gaines

RE48v45n21p1c5, July 15, 1848: Coming Back into the Ranks
Robert Carter Nicholas has agreed to serve as an Elector on the Taylor Independent Ticket

RE48v45n21p2c5, July 15, 1848: Brig. Gen. Kearney
Was led the conquest of NM and CA, and nominated as Major General by brevet was rejected by the Senate because
of the dispute with Col. Fremont
RE48v45n21p2c6, July 15, 1848: Thirtieth Congress
Report on the Senate--Comments about the Texas navy bill, stipulations of the treaty with Mexico, territorial government of Oregon, NM and CA

RE48v45n21p4c1, July 15, 1848: "Old Zack" and the "Disgruntlement" of the Whig
Comments about how the war helped Taylor to become a Whig candidate; Comments about why Cass is a better candidate than Taylor

RE48v45n21p4c2, July 15, 1848: A Good Joke
Whig ratification meeting in NJ; M. Hardenburg said that he was in favor of Van Buren because he stood a better chance unless the audience could evince more enthusiasm; other speaker said that they should vote for Taylor but spend their time eulogizing Mr. Clay

REvXVLi21p4c3, July 15, 1848: Extract of a letter
Comments at a Whig ratification meeting; speaker's thoughts on Taylor;

RE48v45n22p1c1, July 18, 1848: Santa Anna's Treaty with Texas
More Comments about the treaty signed by Santa Anna and where it established the boundary of Texas

RE48v45n22p1c2, July 18, 1848: Returned from the War
Colonel Hamtramck, Captain R. G. Scott, Captain William Robinson, Lieut. Porterfield, Lieut. Bryans of the Virginia Regiment arrived in the city; they left their Regiment at Brazos; Virginia Regiment will reach Old Point from the 25th - 30th of July; regretted that our Virginia Regiment had no chance to distinguish themselves in the glorious achievements of the war

RE48v45n22p1c4, July 18, 1848: To the Editors of the Enquirer
Letter about how Cass is a better candidate than Taylor

RE48v45n22p1c5, July 18, 1848: Death of Independent Taylorism
Independent Taylorism has died in Baltimore and the whole state of Maryland because of a letter received by them from Taylor; quote from the letter

RE48v45n22p1c6, July 18, 1848: Thirtieth Congress
Debate in the House about discharging men; further consideration in the Senate about a bill that extends the Circuit Court System into Texas

RE48v45n22p2c1, July 18, 1848: Gen. Taylor's Position
Taylor said he was an independent candidate but then stated that he would pick his cabinet from the best Whigs; does this make him a Whig candidate?

RE48v45n22p2c3, July 18, 1848: Major Generals Butler and Taylor hauled up before Court
Privates and non-commissioned officers of the 4th Kentucky Volunteers submitted to Butler, Taylor and Brooks a plea for their release from arrest at the Carrollton camp, where they had been detained by Col. Williams; Taylor and Brooks appeared before the court, disclaiming any control over the plea and giving the matter to Butler; Butler denied the release of the men

RE48v45n22p2c6, July 18, 1848: To the New Orleans Delta
Consider Taylor a Whig candidate; and believe that Taylor will not disturb the Democratic party

RE48v45n22p2c7, July 18, 1848: Later from Mexico
Insurgents headed by Paredes and Jarauta had been met by the Government so firmly that they were disconcerted and revolution has now been checked; the state of Tamaulipas made a demand to the Mexican government for money because of the loss of their territory in the recent peace treaty with the US; nearly the whole of the American troops have taken their departure from Vera Cruz

RE48v45n22p2c5, July 18, 1848: For the Enquirer
Mr. Henry Wise argued very well for the case of war against Mexico being justified

RE48v45n22p2c6, July 18, 1848: The Game of Brag
Report that the Whigs comment that some thirty Democrats in one neighborhood in Gloucester would go for Taylor is wrong

RE48v45n22p3c2, July 18, 1848: By the Magnetic Telegraph
Resolution put forth to request from the President information on how much Cass and Taylor were paid by the Government to determine if their was any extra pay
Revolution progressing; movement of Paredes for revolutionizing the government was fast developing; number of government troops have gone over to him; Paredes has taken possession of the mint at Guanuaxuato and has drawn money for payments; insurgents had entered Queretaro and Paredes has published a pronunciamento condemning the treaty; American troops have evacuated Tampico;

Comments about Taylor--how is he a military man not a politician, how Taylor has stated his lack of qualifications, Taylor has never had a seat in the legislature;

At the Whig ratification meeting, the lead speaker refused to speak after Taylor's nomination because he was opposed to the election of Taylor

Meeting in NY called for all the Whigs are not going to vote for Taylor

List of toasts given--toasts given in honor of American Army and its success; Scott and Taylor; Santa Anna; officers of Buena Vista etc.

Van Buren might take the Whig vote from Taylor

Whigs are going to lose the vote in Taylor's home county

Believed that by the committee for the inhabitants of NM and Upper California which are made up of person not acquainted with legislation to give them the first form of legislature and not allow them to pass laws upon certain specified subjects; governments established in Oregon, California, and NM

Volunteers returning and complaining that they were not discharged at New Orleans and have pledged themselves to advance the election of Taylor; have received word that no such decision was decided

Pillow, Quitman and Cushing all are appointed to Major General and Price to be Brigadier General

Pillow has been acquitted by the Court of Inquiry; Whigs have made accusations about the President during the trial

Comment that Taylor's idea to leave all questions to Congress is absurd

Comment that Taylor's idea to leave all questions to Congress is absurd

Comments about Cass's conduct during the war and his military services; Comments about how Cass handled the Oregon controversy

Report from the Senate about Oregon, CA and NM

Proceeding of a meeting held in response to the nominations for President and VP; Comments about Cass's conduct during the war and his military services; Comments about how Cass handled the Oregon controversy

Comment that Taylor's letter of acceptance has not appeared

Another Whig Gun Spiked

Coming Back Into the Ranks
Letter by Col. R. C. Nicholas saying that he cannot support the Whigs decision to nominate Taylor

RE48v45n23p3c1, July 21, 1848: A little More Grape Capt. Bragg
Comments about Taylor; division within the Whigs; why Gen. Cass can be supported

RE48v45n24p1c1, July 25, 1848: Should the South Vote for Taylor and Fillmore?
Report that Taylor is opposed to the Wilmot Proviso—which there is no evidence for; Taylor has never expressed his views on slavery; reports from other Whig papers that Taylor would not veto a bill passed by congress dealing with slavery—but Taylor himself has said nothing about this issue

RE48v45n24p1c3, July 25, 1848: A Test Vote
Senate rejected a motion to strike out all the territorial bill after the 20th section

RE48v45n24p1c5, July 25, 1848: Thirtieth Congress
Debate in the House—Taylor is defended by Mr. Goggin who says that he is not afraid to express his opinion

RE48v45n24p2c3, July 25, 1848: Voice of the Volunteers
Whig press making unusual exertions that the whole body of returning volunteers is enthusiastic in the support of Taylor; demonstrates the system of falsehood upon which the Whig leaders and press have determined to conduct this campaign

RE48v45n24p2c4, July 25, 1848: Circulate the Documents
The Buena Vista newspaper has hauled down the Taylor flag and given notice that its last number is published; reprint of the newspapers reasons for abandoning Taylor

RE48v45n24p2c6, July 25, 1848: The Volunteers
Comments about the brave Virginia Volunteers--sings praises of the volunteers and their actions in the war

RE48v45n24p2c5, July 25, 1848: The Richmond Whig and Roorbacks
No meeting was held by the volunteers returning to show support for Taylor as the Whig had stated

RE48v45n24p2c7, July 25, 1848: Thirtieth Congress
In the Senate more discussion was given to the bill to establish territorial governments in Oregon, CA and NM

RE48v45n24p2c6, July 25, 1848: Will Nothing be Done!
Much excitement was produced at the arrival at Old Point of the North Carolina Volunteers; we hear that the VA Regiment was expected yesterday; the VA Regiment will be paid off and mustered out of service at once; suggest that something be done by our citizens or city authorities so show gratitude to the soldiers

RE48v45n24ip2c6, July 25, 1848: Near the End
One battery of Horse-Artillery, five companies of Cavalry and the 1st Regiment of Artillery are all the remain in Vera Cruz as a garrison; final evacuation is expected to take place today; Wool and his staff were at Brazos awaiting transportation

RE48v45n24p2c6, July 25, 1848: At Last!
Taylor received the official letter from Governor Moorehead announcing his nomination; cannot doubt that the original was refused by Taylor and sent back to Washing

RE48v45n24p2c4, July 25, 1848: Gen. Scott and the Investigations before the Court of Inquiry
All but one of the cases were referred to the Court of Inquiry have ended; Scott arrested Duncan, Pillow, and Worth and sent charges to have them court martial-ed; Gen. Worth brought charges against Gen. Scott; all charges were investigated--results of the investigations; Scott's charge against Worth is all that remains

RE48v45n25p1c6, July 28, 1848: Arrival of the Virginia Volunteers
Ships arrived with the Virginia Volunteers; list of the detachment on board the Ships, Memphis, Ohio, and Herman; the officers and men are in good health

RE48v45n25p1c6, July 28, 1848:
Gen. Kearney, Brevet Brig. Gen. Riley, Maj. W. B. Tyaliaferro, Maj. Lally and a host of officers and men have arrived at New Orleans from Vera Cruz

RE48v45n25p2c1, July 28, 1848: Thirtieth Congress
Comments from the Senate about CA, NM and Oregon populations

RE48v45n25p2c2, July 28, 1848: New Mexico and California
Requesting information in relation to NM, and CA; want information in regards to NM and CA civil governments in existence; orders given to the army and navy have abided by the surrender of the habitants to the US; boundaries of NM, Texas; end of question of disputed territory with Mexico; information on any person tried and found guilty of treason against the US in NM and other areas East of the Rio Grande; value of newly gained lands

RE48v45n25p2c3, July 28, 1848: Late and Important from Mexico
Battle between insurgents and government troops with the insurgents winning

RE48v45n25p2c5, July 28, 1848: The Democracy of Louisiana
Believed that Taylor will honor not veto the ordinance of 1787 because of his Allison and Signal letters; Taylor will not express his opinions on any of the questions asked him; not one of the Taylor papers has published Taylor's letter in which he refuses to say whether or not he will veto the Wilmot Proviso

RWvXLv25p2c6, July 28, 1848
Volunteers will be discharged early next week

RE48v45n25p2c6, July 28, 1848: Discussion at Mercer Court House
Discussion about Taylor and Cass, and the Mexican War

RE48v45n25p4c1, July 28, 1848: Thirtieth Congress
More discussion in the House about Texas, NM and CA and the slavery question

RE48v45n25p4c4, July 28, 1848: The Whig and Its Party
Comments about the Whig party and whether it has a platform with Taylor; and the lack of enthusiasm in comparison to other years

RE48v45n25p4c4, July 28, 1848
Still no acceptance letter from Taylor; but the non-committal fog of the Whigs might be good for them; the letter has not arrived and Taylor refuses to take letters out of the Post office unless they are pre-paid or handwritten by someone he knows; he might have received his letter because he won't pay the ten cents for it

RE48v45n25p4c5, July 28, 1848
All the companies of the Virginia Regiment arrived at Old Point on Sunday

RE48v45n25p4c5, July 28, 1848: Another Taylor Letter
Letter from Taylor replying to inquiries by McConkey to whether Taylor would as president, veto and act of Congress prohibiting slaver in the new territories; Taylor will not give his opinion on the matter

RE48v45n25p4c7, July 28, 1848:
Free soil meeting was held in Baltimore; resolved not to have slavery in the new territories

RE48v45n26p1c2, August 1, 1848: The Veto Power and the Whig Party
No two of the Whig speakers take the same ground in recommending Taylor to the people of the Union as fit candidate

RE48v45n26p1c3, August 1, 1848
Whigs of the South will vote for Taylor but only because of party lines; election will be a party contest like '44

RE48v45n26p1c4, August 1, 1848: General Taylor and the Signal Letter
Taylor's residence in a slave state gives his answer to the slavery question; he approves of the Wilmot Proviso according to the Signal Letter; but Taylor regularly refuses to gives his opinion on questions

RE48v45n26p1c6, August 1, 1848: The Letter
Reprint of the letter sent to Taylor informing him of his nomination and a reprint of Taylor's reply to accept the nomination

RE48v45n26p1c5, August 1, 1848: Enthusiasm for Taylor
Can find no one but Whig editors who can find this enthusiasm

RE48v45n26p2c1, August 1, 1848: The Compromise Bill
Bill reported to establish governments for the territories of Oregon, CA, and NM; Taylor's only chance for election is in keeping the slavery question open; Comments about the acquisition of NM and CA; what will happen to Taylor with the passage of the Compromise Bill?

RE48v45n26p2c3, August 1, 1848: Record of the Atrocious Deed
Blame Taylor and Taylorism for the defeat of the Compromise Bill in the House

RE48v45n26p2c3, August 1, 1848: Inconsistency
Inconsistencies in Taylor's Remarks about not making Comments about political issues; he has made Comments
Resolved that Taylor does not entertain a high opinion and decided approval of the sentiment that the prohibition by Congress of Slavery in the Territories is an object too high and permanent to be arrested by Presidential vetoes.

Tomorrow there will be a report on a large Democratic meeting in Orange county; Taylor’s county is safe for Democracy.

Gen. Worth passed through Richmond Friday morning.

Report that the nomination of Taylor does not take well in Mississippi.

Taylor did not take the letters which announced his nomination because they were not pre-paid.

Debate in the Senate about slavery in Oregon, NM and CA; rejection of an amendment adding two sections defining the mode of proceeding in CA and NM; rejection of an amendment to strike out the 12th section the words, “three months” as the period within which the law of the Oregon provisional government prohibiting slavery must be reaffirmed by the territorial legislature.

Capt. Harper and his company of Augusta volunteers left town yesterday for Staunton; the adjourned meeting on Monday night for the reception of our volunteers was quite large; take this occasion to express our regret that our community is about to lose the society of Mr. Greenhow.

Report from the Senate about a bill in conformity with certain recommendations from the President's message; more debate on the establishment of temporary governments in Oregon, CA, and NM; In the House a debate about the laws of Texas being constitutional; joint resolution offered to thank the Navy for their bravery at Vera Cruz; consideration of the Oregon territory bill.

Letter from an American in Paris; says he feels bad that Taylor has been nominated for his first civic duty by a party that who for years has struggled on fix principles--compares this to France.

Democratic and neutral press of the South are speaking about the eight Southern Whig Taylor members of Congress who caused the defeat of the Territorial bill.

Editor of the Republican complains about the treatment of the volunteers by the Government; however this is not true, the volunteers are treated very well.

Comments made at an Independent Taylor Convention before it dissolved; Taylor’s friends refused to endorse him.

Whig published part of a letter, but omitted the extract that is printed in this paper; Comments about how Taylor does not agree with the extension of slavery.

Captain F. H. Archer's Company was received at the wharf in Petersburg by the Grays and Artillery and an immense crowd; Col Rosser made an address; the procession then marched to the Court House Square where Capt. A. and Leitu Peterson mad speeches to their men; reception of the Palmetto Regiment at Charleston on Frieday.

Gen. Patterson at the Volunteer Banquet made a speech--quote from the speech.

Judge Converse of Ohio said he would not vote for Taylor.

Quote from the Republican about Taylor; tells us that Taylor is not only a statesman but also into politics; informed as to what books; not a good sign of a statesman.
Table of the volunteers given by each state--divided into Free and Slave states; requesting the territory of the south to be given to the southerners to settle because they supplied more troops

RE48v45n27p2c6, August 5, 1848: Fourth of July at Whitesville, Halifax
List of toast given - mention the Mexican war, Navy, volunteers, those who died, Taylor etc.

RE48v45n27p4c1, August 5, 1848: The Seventeen Grand Political Positions of Taylor
List all seventeen political positions of Taylor, taken from quotes made by Taylor and then proceeds to its opinion about them

RE48v45n27p4c5, August 5, 1848: Gen. Taylor in Charleston
Whigs said that there were many Whigs in Charleston that were going to vote for Taylor; quotes from Newspapers, which state that most in South Carolina are Democrats; Comments about Taylor and whether or not he should be elected

RE48v45n28p1c2, August 8, 1848: Thirtieth Congress
Comments in the Senate about the Oregon bill, slavery in CA and NM; Comments in the House about slavery in CA, NM and Oregon, a reading from the Mexican constitution; Resolution in the Senate asking the President for information about the alleged recent expedition into Mexico

RE48v45n28p1c4, August 8, 1848
_Baltimore Patriot_ has doubt but believes that Taylor will win

RE48v45n28p1c5, August 8, 1848: The Jacobins and the Friends of the Union
Comments about Taylor's stance on slavery

RE48v45n28p1c6, August 8, 1848: Honor to the Volunteers
Capt. Talbot's company of returned volunteers were received at the Petersburg Depot amidst a salute of cannon; list of those who arrived; volunteers marched to the Public Square and then to Military Hall; troops looking good

RE48v45n28p2c1, August 8, 1848: A Monstrous Roorkback Crushed
Comments about how the Whigs have been wasting ink by attempting to prove that the Administration were convincing at and cheering a scheme to seize, by force, Mexican territory beyond the Rio Grande

RE48v45n28p2c2, August 8, 1848: The Democratic Association
Comparison between Taylor Clay; and Comments about why Taylor will not be a good president

RE48v45n28p2c6, August 8, 1848: Thirtieth Congress
Bill in the Senate to carry out the fifth article of the Treaty with Mexico

RE48v45n28p4c1, August 8, 1848:
Comments about how the Taylor men have no principles; Democrats have exposed the inconsistencies of Taylor

RE48v45n28p4c2, August 8, 1848: Arrival of the Volunteers
Arrived at Rockets wharf--a detachment of City Volunteers, Members of the City Council and Committees, to welcome home the Mexican Volunteers--list of what companies arrived; address given by Gilmer; volunteers look well

RE48v45n28p4c4, August 8, 1848: Taylorism in New Kent
Mr. Standard was asked to give a speech--spoke about Taylor and Cass; the Comments he made about Taylor only strengthened the position of Cass; Comments about Taylor's lack of principles and how the Taylor movement has passed New Kent by

RE48v45n28p4c4, August 8, 1848: Rough Notes (No. VI)
Description of Mexico, Taylor's movements within Mexico, the cities etc.

RE48v45n28p4c7, August 8, 1848
Polk letter stating that he does not want to give to the House the instructions that were given to the US commissioners during their negotiation of peace with Mexico

RE48v45n28p4c7, August 8, 1848
Comments made about the peace treaty; report form the Secretary of War containing information called for by the resolution of the House

RE48v45n29p1c4, August 11, 1848: MR. R. T. Daniel A Wilmot Man
Comments about slavery in NM and CA--Congress should not allow it

RE48v45n29p1c5, August, 11, 1848: The Whig Meeting on Tuesday Evening
Comments about how many votes Taylor really had in the states that the Whigs claim he will take easily
General Wool
Report on Comments made by Capt. Folger about Wool--sent over the telegraph from Brazos

Vindication of National Justice in the Mexican War
Report on how the war with Mexico was need and justified

Gen. Taylor and the Veto
Taylor says in his Allison letter that the veto power should never be used; in the letter to the Editors of the Richmond Republican he says that how earlier presidents used the veto would be his guide

Western Virginia will not vote for Taylor has the Whig papers report

And Gun Spiked
Letter explaining why Mr. Wise likes Cass--one of the reasons is for his support of the Mexican War

Thirtieth Congress
From the House a request has gone to the Secretary of War to get information about the Court of Inquiry held at Puebla in the case of Col. Riley and of Gen. Pillow

Editorial about Taylor saying that his personal opinions will not interfere with his work; Whigs use the fact that Taylor owns slaves to prove that he is reliable

The North Carolina Election Returns
Comments about the majority that Taylor won; but do not discount the Democrats

Dinner to Hon. Henry A. Wise in York Town
List of toasts given--toast given to the army, navy, etc.

The Returns from NC
Comments on Taylor's popularity in NC

Thirtieth Congress
Comments about CA and NM dealing with slavery in the Senate; in the House also Comments about CA and NM dealing with slaver and communication from Triste about his negotiations with the Mexicans

Albemarle County
Resolutions about the war with Mexico and the US army

Thirtieth Congress
More Comments from the Senate about Oregon's need for a provisional government, slavery in the new territories; debate in the House about the Oregon Bill and Comments about a bill passed which carries certain stipulations into effect that are in the Treaty with Mexico

The New York Volunteers for Cass
Comparison of volunteers in NY for Cass and volunteers for Taylor

Message from the President
No information about an expedition to Mexico by US citizens

The Janus-Faced Ticket
Comments about the Whig ticket; Remarks about Taylor's view of the veto, slavery etc.

The Editors of the Richmond Times, A Wilmot Proviso Man
Lists the position of Taylor, Fillmore, and Butler on the Wilmot issue

To the Editors of the Enquirer
Democrats want to give an award to Taylor for his military achievements

TO the Editors of the Enquirer
Trist placed before Congress his defense of his trip into Mexico

Later from Mexico
Insurgent General Paredes has not yet been taken; Mexican Government is considering the propriety of recalling Bustamente

Another Letter from Gen. Taylor. Still Jumping Jim Crow
Comments about Taylor's non-party stance

RE48v45n31p1c2, August 18, 1848
Arguments that the Whigs put forth that because Taylor has made no promises, the South should consider him a save candidate

RE48v45n31p1c2, August 18, 1848
Letter from an army chaplain stating that Taylor is a Whig

RE48v45n31p1c3, August 18, 1848
Whigs say that Taylor is forced to live in the south by the government, making him a southern man with northern principles, but this cannot be supported with evidence; argument for why the south should not vote for Taylor

RE48v45n31p1c5, August 18, 1848: Adjournment of Congress-President's Last Message
Comments made about the 8 southern Whigs defeating the compromise bill; only bill past dealing with the western territories is that which establishes a government in Oregon; president has marked out a course for CA and NM; Comments about the Missouri compromise, which was needed after the annexation of Texas

RE48v45n31p1c7, August 18, 1848: Appointments by the President
Appointments for the new government in Oregon

RE48v45n31p1c1, August 18, 1848: Democratic State Central Committee, to the Republicans of Virginia
Comments about not knowing Taylor's stance on politics but knowing the Whigs; report on the Whigs stance against the Mexican war; Comments about Taylor's nomination, letters he has written, lack of qualifications for President

RE48v45n31p2c5, August 18, 1848: The Truth Comes Out
Comments about Wm. L. Perkins from Ohio urging Whigs to vote for Taylor; Whigs looking for spoils from the election of Taylor

RE48v45n31p2c6, August 18, 1848: Discussion in New Kent
Debate between the Democrats and the Taylorites; Comments about Taylor's stance on slavery

RE48v45n31p2c7, August 18, 1848
Mr. Corwin vouched for Taylor that he was a Whig but Taylor says that he not the candidate of a party

RE48v45n31p4c1, August 18, 1848: Thirtieth Congress
Report on the Oregon bill in the Senate

RE48v45n31p4c3, August 18, 1848
President communicated to Congress on Thursday information called for by Congress about the amount of public money paid to Cass and Taylor

RE48v45n31p4c4, August 18, 1848: Gen. Taylor's Letter of Acceptance
Comments about how the Whig papers have printed Taylor's acceptance letter; Comments about whether or not Taylor is a Whig

RE48v45n31p4c4, August 18, 1848: The Vote of Mr. Botts
Mr. Botts says that he will not vote for Taylor

RE48v45n31p4c5, August 18, 1848: J. Q. Adams for Gen. Taylor
Adams is in support of Taylor, the question is will the South follow Adam's lead?

RE48v45n31p4c5, August 18, 1848
Reprint of a letter by Mr. Daniel's commenting on slavery; mentions how the slavery question should be determined in the Mexican territories

RE48v45n31p4c7, August 18, 1848: Adjournment of Congress
Oregon bill was signed; Gen. Shields nominated and confirmed by the Senate as Governor of Oregon

RE48v45n31p4c7, August 18, 1848: To the Editor of the Enquirer
Letter about how Taylor will not occupy the White House; exposure of the Whigs recent roorbacks will hurt Taylor etc.

RE48v45n32p1c3, August 22, 1848: Oregon Bill
Comments about Polk's inability to veto the Oregon Bill; Whigs state the Polk has brought danger to the US with the new acquisition of Mexican territory, Democrats counter the attack; Comments about Taylor's pledge to not veto any bill

RE48v45n32p1c4, August 22, 1848: The Taylor Party
Comments about how the Whigs want to make the Executive Office useless with their stance against the use of the
President's veto

RE48v45n32p1c5, August 22, 1848: Another Sign
Whigs reported that Gen. Quitman supported Taylor; printed is a letter from Quitman speaking negatively about the Whigs and positively about the Democrats; Quitman in his letter says he is in support of the Democrats

RE48v45n32p1c6, August 22, 1848: Another Letter—The Whigs Still Without a Candidate!
A letter from Taylor restating that he is not the Whig candidate even though he accepted their nomination

RE48v45n32p1c7, August 22, 1848
Charleston Mercury contradicts the report that the South Carolina Delegation in Congress are in favor of Taylor

RE48v45n32p1c7, August 22, 1848
Whigs say that Cass has been in office for many years and use this a negative against him, however Taylor has also been in office for years

RE48v45n32p1c7, August 22, 1848: Can't go Taylor Whiggery
Geo. Gale Esq. has abandoned the Taylor flag

RE48v45n32p1c7, August 22, 1848: The Volunteers and Gen. Taylor
Capt. Constable of the NC volunteers stated that out of the whole NC Regiment there are not more than thirty who will vote for Taylor; Whigs expect that Taylor will receive votes from the volunteers

RE48v45n32p1c7, August 22, 1848: Declension of Gen. Shields
Telegraph arrived stating that Shields has declined the appointment of Governor of Oregon

RE48v45n32p2c1, August 22, 1848: the Daniel Letter
More Comments about the letter written by Mr. Daniel about slavery; Comments about Mexican law

RE48v45n32p2c3, August 22, 1848: Col. Wynkoop on the Stump—Why He Renounced Whiggery
Col. Wynkoop delivered a speech stating that he was no longer a Whig and thanks for the Mexican war for his conversion

RE48v45n32p2c4, August 22, 1848: An Important Sign
German Whig paper died out after only supporting Taylor for a few weeks

RE48v45n32p2c4, August 22, 1848: Democratic Mass Meeting at Port Tobacco--More Backing Out
Comments about how Taylor is inconsistent

RE48v45n32p4c1, August 22, 1848: Latest from Mexico
Revolution in the country has been suppressed; most of the Americans left in Mexico have taken departure for the Yucatan

RE48v45n33p1c2, August 25, 1848: The Democratic Meeting in Fauquier
Comments made about Taylor at the meeting--Comments about his letters, upholding the constitution, his nomination, his promise to not use the veto power etc.

RE48v45n33p1c4, August 25, 1848:
To gain the North's support for Taylor's nomination a compromise was established; the compromise is re-printed- says Taylor is a Whig, will not use the veto power, he will be trained in Whig policy

RE48v45n33p1c5, August 25, 1848:
Comments by the letter's author about how many people he has heard of who will vote for Taylor

RE48v45n33p1c7, August 25, 1848: To The Editor of the Union
Comments about the Oregon bill and how Taylor has no support any where

RE48v45n33p2c1, August 25, 1848: The Last Plank of Whiggery Swept Away
Comments about the Oregon bill, Taylor's statements about being an independent candidate

RE48v45n33p2c4, August 25, 1848: Public Meeting
Remarks about how the Mexican war brought about the question of slavery, Comments about the Oregon bill, Remarks about how Taylor and Cass would handle certain situations such as the slavery question and legislation regarding it

RE48v45n33p2c6, August 25, 1848: Democratic Meeting
Comments about how the Democrats need to make known that they do not want Taylor as President; Comments about Taylor's nomination; Remarks about where Taylor stands on political issues
RE48v45n33p4c1, August 25, 1848: Rough Notes on Mexico (No. VII)
Description of a massacre, attacks by guerrillas, and Remarks about the Mexican people

RE48v45n33p4c2, August 25, 1848:
President's Protest of the Oregon Bill and Comments about what he believes should be done

RE48v45n33p4c3, August 25, 1848: "Blowing Hot and Cold in the Same Breath"
Comments about Taylor's remark of remaining a non-party candidate

REvXVL33p4c4, August 25, 1848: Democratic Mass Meeting in Fauquier
Speech by Mr. Foote, where he states that the Northerners have returned home refusing to support Taylor unless he gives a more detailed state about Free Soil; at the meeting also rapidly touched upon the war with Mexico; Taylor had recommended the march to the Rio Grande and that was the cause of the war according to the Whigs

RE48v45n33p5c5, August 25, 1848: He Left His Party to Go for His Country
Capt. Thomas S. Loeser went to Mexico a Whig and returned a Democrat

RE48v45n34p1c2, August 29, 2848: The Two Parties
Taylor refuses to make any pledges; the pledges he has made are in favor of the northerners; Comments about the annexation of Texas

RE48v45n34p1c4, August 29, 1848: The March to the Rio Grande
Letter from Taylor recommending the removal of the army from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande; Comments about being too far from the frontier to pressure the government; US did not follow through on Taylor's suggestion until they received the news that Mr. Slidell had been rejected

RE48v45n34p1c5, August 29, 1848: Extract from a letter by a gentleman in Richmond
Some Whigs have said they do not know what to make of Taylor because his lack of public appearances; only met a few Whigs while at home in MD

RE48v45n34p1c6, August 29, 1848: For the Enquirer
Remarks about the Treaty with Mexico and the question of slavery in the new territories

RE48v45n34p1c7, August 29, 1848: Late from Mexico
Capital was in a state of peace and Congress in session; Herrera had been very popular and was making great exertions to revive commerce and promote prosperity; Paredes is supposed to be in the capital somewhere; Indian depredations on the rancheros and small town still continue without any apparent check; Vera Cruz quiet

RE48v45n34p2c1, August 29, 1848: The Compromise Bill--Alexander Hamilton Stephens
Mexican territories are free states because the Mexican constitution did not allow slavery---arguments that have been proposed against this belief

RE48v45n34p4c2, August 29, 1848: The Compromise Bill
Comments about how the settling of the slavery question would have hurt Taylor's election

RE48v45n34p4c1, August 29, 1848: The Next President
Remarks about how the Whigs nominated Taylor believing that he would be carried into the Presidency on a wave of military enthusiasm----but this will not work

RE48v45n34p4c4, August 29, 1848
Lieut. Manly of the army, passed through the State last week on his return from Mexico; he went to Mexico a Whig and returned a Democrat

RE48v45n34p4c4, August 29, 1848: Let the South Beware
The Union published a letter asking Taylor to write about his opinions because the Southern Whigs cannot vote bindly; Comments about how many southern Whigs say they will not vote for Taylor

RE48v45n34p4c5, August 29, 1848: A Good Joke
Northern Whig papers have announced Taylor's last two letters to be forged

RE48v45n34p4c6, August 29, 1848:
Clay Convention at the Slash Church, Hanover
President, Thomas Clarke gave a speech about Taylor's role in the Mexican War; saying he should have known that crossing the Nueces was a declaration of war; spoke of Taylor as only a military man

RE48v45n35p1c7, September 1, 1848: "What Party is Ours?"
Comments about the Whigs nomination of Taylor for President; Whigs of the VA said that they would support whoever was nominated, so now they have to, whether they want to or not
Many of the leading Whigs of Albany did repudiate Taylor; double face of Taylor on the free soil question cannot be kept up.

The letters supposedly forged have been called by the Charleston Mercury and News as authentic.

Hon. Andrew Ewing before a Taylor Democrat has renounced the Whig candidate.

Comments about Taylor's nomination, he's bravery in the Mexican war, Comments about Taylor's views, letters he has written etc.

Comparison between Taylor's letter and an article in the Whig.

Mr. Daniel stated that Taylor stood on the same platform with Washington and Madison; demand that Taylor should speak out about the territorial question; Taylor's platform is the public's will.

Valley Whig says that Mr. Leake boldly denounced Taylor.

Letter form Taylor's friend stating that Taylor would never veto the Wilmot Proviso.

Remarks about the Whigs have been against the war with Mexico and the march to the Rio Grande, and the annexation of Texas; cannot believe that Mexican law would override the constitution.

Argument which Councillor Travers Daniel tried to prove that Taylor was a statesman of high order.

President has denied to Congress that there is no information of the Sierra Madre "Buffalo Hunt" Expedition.

Different Whig opinions about Taylor's letter writing.

Find in the Charleston Mercury letters from two distinguished States Rights' men, state that support should go to Cass and not Taylor in the election.

Letter from Mississippi, author can find many Whigs upset with the nomination of Taylor but few Democrats upset with the nomination of Cass.

Comments about how Mr. Lyons was always in favor of annexation of Texas and how Mr. Polk was right in repelling the attack from the Mexicans.

Taylor has been denounced in the North because of his acceptance of the Charleston nomination.

Comments at a meeting about Polk's actions dealing with Mexico being unconstitutional; the boundary of Texas debate continues; Polk extending constitutional power to Oregon; objection of Mexican war was not to gain territory-debate about this.

Letter betting one thousand dollars that Cass will get more votes than Taylor.

Comments about a new bill put forward to deal the slavery question in NM and CA.

Criticism towards Polk for signing the Oregon bill; more Comments about slavery in NM and CA.
Beggars are going around in stolen or purchased volunteer uniforms and asking for alms because they have fought for their country.

Report that at a Taylor meeting in Sussex a resolution was passed denouncing the war.

Report that Taylor promised not to veto the Wilmot Proviso if it is passed by Congress; letter from Senator Baldwin about this subject.

Mr. Lyons the speaker for the Whigs has admitted that it was right for Taylor to march the army to the Rio Grande and that if a blunder was committed it was committed with the crossing of the river; Taylor originated and carried out the movement that caused hostilities with Mexico.

Whig party maintains that the annexation of Texas was wrong and the march to the Rio Grande as an act of war.

More Remarks about Taylor’s march to the Rio.

Letter stating that Taylor is losing support everyday.

Remarks about Taylor being a military man and not wise to nominate him; Comments about what Taylor would do once in office.

Sarcastic Remarks about Taylor never stating his opinions on politics;

Another bet of one thousand dollars that Taylor will not win the election.

Quote about Taylor’s movement to the Rio Grande; believed no order was given to Taylor to cross the Rio Grande; more debate about the original boundary of Texas.

Taylor’s wealth has decreased because of his absence from his plantation.

Comments made about Taylor by the army chaplain who said that Taylor had odd ideas about slavery.

Taylor’s Charleston letter has caused great problems for the Whigs.

Taylor’s letter has caused great problems for the Whigs.

North and South Whigs make Taylor’s opinions fit theirs.

Taylor likes his letters being published; Taylor says he is a Whig in principle; accepts the nomination of the Whig convention but says that he is the people’s candidate.

Mr. Duncan attempted to smooth over the rough points in Taylor’s character by saying he is a good Whig; someone stood up and said that Taylor was not a good Whig; Taylor cannot win Conn.

Remarks about how Taylor has stated that he does not know about policy; Taylor will approve the vote to exclude slavery from NM and CA; Taylor unfit to be president.

Comments about the betting against Taylor winning the election.

Do not know Taylor’s political stance on issues; Taylor wants the presidency but does not want to be the candidate of a party; friends compare him to Washington; negative Comments about Taylor given as reasons to not support.
his nomination; address of the Democratic Whigs of NY to the Democratic Whigs of the US--Comments about not voting for Taylor

RE48v45n38p4c1, September 12, 1848: From the New Orleans Times
Predes has managed to evade all pursuit; congratulations sent to the president for quelling the outbreak at Guanajuata; accounts of American freebooters in New Leon from Laredo

RE48v45n38p4c2, September 12, 1848:
Taylor losing support

RE48v45n38p4c3, September 12, 1848: Strange Condition of the Whig Party of Virginia
Taylor says he is not a Whig candidate

RE48v45n38p4c3, September 12, 1848:
Taylor should not be happy to have Fillmore has is VP candidate; many southerners will not vote for Taylor

RE48v45n38p4c3, September 12, 1848: Something Rich
Taylor's Charleston letter shows that he is a green Whig; Taylor should not write any more letters because they only hurt him

RE48v45n38p4c3, September 12, 1848: More of Gen. Taylor's Northern Face
Has been reported that if elected Taylor would not veto a bill containing a provision for the exclusion of slavery from the NM and CA;

RE48v45n38p4c3, September 12, 1848: Can't go Longer with Mexican Whigs
Letter from a volunteer who went to Mexico and Whig but now proclaims allegiance to Cass and Butler

RE48v45n38p4c4, September 12, 1848: The Discussion on Saturday Night--Ended
More Comments about Texas and slavery; debate on whether or not Taylor would veto the Wilmot Proviso

RE48v45n39p1c4, September 15, 1848: The Strifes of the Whigs
Comments about slavery and Taylor

RE48v45n39p1c5, September 15, 1848: A Little more Smoke
Sarcastic Comments about what the Whigs are to do since they have no real candidate

RE48v45n39p1c5, September 15, 1848
Botts promised to vote for Taylor and has now changed his mind; letter from Botts stating why he has changed his mind

RE48v45n39p1c6, September 15, 1848; Another Taylor-Allison Letter
Comments by Taylor about his letters that have been published, the debate about his movement to the Rio Grande, accepting the nomination for president

REvXVLi39p2c1, September 15, 1848: General Taylor's Two Faces
Comments about what Taylor has been reported to do if the Wilmot Proviso passes

RE48v45n39p2c6, September 15, 1848: To the Editors of the Enquirer
Comments about how Whigs will not support Taylor; Democratic party voted to thank Taylor for his army service; war with Mexico the fault of Mexico

RE48v45n39p4c1, September 15, 1848: General Taylor's Two Faces
Comparing and Contrasting the opinions Taylor gives to the North and to the South

REvXVLi39p4c7, September 15, 1848: The Clay Ball Still Rolling on
Resolutions passed denouncing the nomination of Taylor

REvXVLi39p4c7, September 15, 1848: Striking the Taylor Flag
Elizabethtown Journal, a long time Whig paper, has pulled down the Taylor flag

RE48v45n40p1c2, September 19, 1848:
Taylor appears to be ready to accept the Wilmot Proviso

RE48v45n40p1c4, September 19, 1848: Where is Milly MacPherson?
Comments made by Mr. Botts about letters written by Taylor and assertions made about Taylor; attempting to set the record straight on Taylor's stance on issues; article taken from the Richmond Whig

RE48v45n40p2c1, September 19, 1848: Gen. Cass's Letter to Mr. Nicholson
Remarks on how Taylor will not give his opinion about the Wilmot Proviso; letter from Cass states that he believes no peace should be given to Mexico until she repays the injuries done to the US, he believes that slavery will not be re-established in the new Mexican territories because those in the territories are colored.

RE48v45n40p2c6, September 19, 1848: From Ashland and Henry Clay
Remarks about Taylor and his Whig nomination; belief that Whigs will not vote for Taylor.

RE48v45n40p2c6, September 19, 1848: A Voice from the South
Letter commenting about how Taylor has little political experience, hold to the achievements of gaining Texas.

RE48v45n40p2c7, September 19, 1848: Gold Region of California
Discovery of gold near the Sacramento river.

RE48v45n40p4c1, September 19, 1848
Whigs have questioned the conjecture of the New Orleans Courier that Col. Bliss wrote Taylor's second Allison letter.

RE48v45n40p4c1, September 19, 1848: Why Northern Whigs Support Taylor
Northern Whigs support Taylor to put Fillmore in the chair of the Senate.

RE48v45n40p4c2, September 19, 1848; Gross Misrepresentation
Taylor's stance as a Whig candidate; Taylor stated that he did not want to be brought forth as a candidate for the Whig party; Whigs stated that Taylor said he was a Whig and accepted their nomination.

RE48v45n40p4c3, September 19, 1848; To the Editors of the Enquirer
Proposition of a bet of one thousand dollars that Cass will win the election.

RE48v45n40p4c6, September 19, 1848: Democratic Meeting in Hanover County
Resolutions passed dealing with the Whig nomination of Taylor.

RE48v45n40p4c5, September 19, 1848
Will not be more than thirty Taylor men in the next Legislature.

RE48v45n40p4c5, September 19, 1848: Interesting Extract of a Letter from a distinguished Democrat of NC
Taylor support is falling quickly.

RE48v45n40p4c5, September 19, 1848: To the Editors of the Enquirer
Taylor support is falling.

RE48v45n41p1c3, September 22, 1848: Gen. Cass Nicholson Letter
Remarks about the governments to be established in NM and CA and their ability to decide the slavery question; Cass' opinion about slavery and the acquisition of Mexican territory.

RE48v45n41p1c4, September 22, 1848: The Whig and the New Territory
Comments about the nomination of Taylor and the new territories acquired from Mexico.

RE48v45n41p1c6, September 22, 1848: To the Editors of the Enquirer
A barbecue given in honor of volunteers who went to Mexico.

RE48v45n41p2c2, September 22, 1848: Corwin Upon Taylor
Whigs publishing Comments made by Corwin about Taylor; Taylor's pledge to not veto the Tariff and Internal Improvements.

RE48v45n41p2c2, September 22, 1848: Mr. clay's Disgruntlement
Comment about how Taylor has not accepted nor declined the nomination.

RE48v45n41p2c3, September 22, 1848: Two Gallant Soldiers on the Stump
Gen. Shields and Gen. Quitman have spoken on behalf of Cass and Butler.

RE48v45n41p2c3, September 22, 1848
Dialogue between a Clay Whig and a Taylor Whig.

RE48v45n41p2c4, September 22, 1848: Discussion in New Kent
Compare and contrast between Taylor and Cass.

RE48v45n41p2c5, September 22, 1848: To the Editors of the Enquirer.
Comments made about Taylor by a volunteer

REvXLVI41p2c5, September 22, 1848: TO the Editors of the Enquirer
Remarks about Taylor's stance on the presidential veto

RE48v45n41p2c6, September 22, 1848: Give Us Light
Complaining about Taylor's lack of public stances on issues

RE48v45n41p4c2, September 22, 1848: The Jacobins and the Friends of the Union
Remarks about how Taylor will be out of place as president

RE48v45n41p4c2, September 22, 1848
Reminder that you cannot vote for Filmore if you do not vote for Taylor

RE48v45n41p4c3, September 22, 1848
Gen. Scott was willing to be the VP on the Clay ticket and this was not mentioned at the National Convention

RE48v45n41p4c4, September 22, 1848: A Variety of Styles
Compare the letter given to the Allison letters and it is obvious that all were written by Taylor

RE48v45n41p4c4, September 22, 1848: As Maine Goes so Goes the Union
Report that Maine will vote for Taylor but the democratic vote has grown

RE48v45n41p4c4, September 22, 1848: The Vermont Election
Remarks about how Taylor's position is unsatisfactory to many

RE48v45n41p4c6, September 22, 1848: Clay Movements
At a Whig meeting the name Taylor did not gain any enthusiasm; Taylor's nomination has no support

RE48v45n42p1c3, September 26, 1848: "Noscitur a Socis"
Whigs have backed Taylor's nomination on the promise that Taylor will not veto the Wilmot Proviso

RE48v45n42p2c1, September 26, 1848: Address of the Democratic State Convention to the People of Virginia
Comments about Taylor's nomination--his Whig nomination, no public stance on issues, Taylor's supposed political ideas, Comments about what Taylor has promised to do---long and detailed opinions about Taylor

RE48v45n42p4c1, September 26, 1848; Mr. Rives' Speech
Mr. Rives' opinion about the President and his actions dealing with Mexico; Comments about Taylor being uncommitted on the slavery question and attempted to construct a party platform from the Allison letters

RE48v45n42p4c3, September 26, 1848: Great Democratic Meeting--Speech of Mr. Dallas
Mr. Dallas said that the US's winning in war and prosperity was due to democratic principles

RE48v45n42p4c4, September 22, 1848: Harmonious Whiggery
Remarks about Taylor's connection to the Whig party

RE48v45n42p4c4, September 22, 1848: To the Editors of the Enquirer
Taylor's lack of opinions on issues has divided the country

RE48v45n43p1c4, September 29, 1848: The Namelessness
Remarks about Texas as a sovereign State

RE48v45n43p2c1, September 29, 1848:
Taylor and Filmore are abolitionists; Oregon bill did not solve the slavery question; Withrop opposes the introduction of slavery into CA and NM

RE48v45n43p2c3, September 29, 1848: Le the South Beware
Letter written by Taylor stating that he is in favor of the Wilmot Proviso and that he has been opposed to slavery for the past twenty years; no re-print of the letter

RE48v45n43p4c1, September 29, 1848: Gen. Cass' Nicholson Letter
Compare and contrast of Cass' platform and that of Taylor; since CA was gained by the entire country all laws should apply there equally meaning the laws in Mass. and VA should match those of CA

RE48v45n44p1c2, October 3, 1848: Meeting of the Friends of the Hon. Henry Clay
Comments about Taylor's latest letters and inability to gain back support that had been lost; Mr. Botts against Taylor's nomination, nomination of Taylor by the national convention was not what the Whig party members wanted, why Botts does not support Taylor
Caleb B. Smith said that if Taylor is elected he will not veto a bill containing a provision for the exclusion of slavery in NM and CA.

More comments about the march to the Rio Grande, and Taylor's suggestion to do so.

Bearding the Lion in His Den
More remarks about not knowing Taylor's stance on slavery and the Wilmot Proviso.

Horace Greeley the advocate of free soil as come out in support of Taylor.

Trip to New Kent proved that there is no support for Taylor there.

Editor of a Taylor paper is believed to have written the second Allison letter.

Whig Convention
Report on a Whig Convention held in Lexington--Remarks about Taylor, the war with Mexico.

Letter written by Fillmore is reported to be damaging to the Taylor campaign.

Two Taylor papers have been discontinued in Ohio because there is no support for Taylor in that state.

Understood that Gen. Butler refuses to use his name along with Taylor.

Whigs believed popular support would rally about Taylor's nomination; Mr. Trigg urged everyone to vote for Taylor--talked about Taylor's character.

Whigs in VA believe they have little chance to elected Taylor.

Remarks about a Taylor letter read aloud at a speech in Roughville; Comments made about Taylor not having an opinion about the Wilmot Proviso, being a war man, Remarks about Oregon and CA, and how the South is in danger.

Mr. Botts' speech at a Clay meeting incited political hostilities towards Taylor; Botts compares and contrasts Taylor and Clay.

Botts said that Taylor's campaign was an insult to the Whig party.

The Whigs will not be able to take VA for Taylor as they believe.

Presenting Taylor as a friend of the North by saying he supports the Wilmot Proviso.

More Comments about Taylor and the slavery question.

Report that Taylor was given extra money for his duties in the military.

W. L. Milhoml a Mexican war soldier was elected Whig elector for his state and declined the honor.

Comments about slavery in the new territories of CA and NM.
James C. Price was reported to support Taylor for president but he is not in favor of him

RE48v45n45p1c6, October 6, 1848: Letter from the "Hon." W. F. Colcock
He is not in favor of Taylor

RE48v45n45p2c1, October 6, 1848: The War!
Whig leaders say the Mexican war was caused by the President and not Taylor; provide extracts from Reports written by Taylor which clearly show how he is to blame for the beginning of hostilities

RE48v45n45p2c3, October 6, 1848
Have heard that many Whigs are anxious to cast their votes for Butler by placing his name on the ticket with Taylor--this cannot be done because every vote for Taylor is also a vote for Fillmore

RE48v45n45p2c4, October 6, 1848: A Warning Voice from the South
Comments about voting for Taylor and Fillmore; Fillmore is a true Whig

RE48v45n45p2c5, October 6, 1848: Extract of a letter
Report that Mr. Corwin knows that Taylor is in favor of the Wilmot Proviso

RE48v45n45p2c4, October 6, 1848: To the Editors of the Enquirer
Mr. Rives believes that he has secured the defeat of Taylor

RE48v45n45p2c5, October 6, 1848: The Veto
Remarks about Taylor and the Presidential veto--what Taylor has said about the veto but what he actions entail

RE48v45n45p2c7, October 6, 1848: The Presidency---Letter from H. R. Robinson Esq
Says he will not vote for Taylor

RE48v45n45p4c1, October 6, 1848
Texas Taylor men are having trouble finding men to be their electors and might have to have Louisiana cast their votes for Taylor

RE48v45n45p4c3, October 6, 1848: Mark the Difference
Differences in Comments made about Taylor's stance on slavery

RE48v45n45p4c3, October 6, 1848
Taylor's platform is similar to that of Adams when he was elected

RE48v45n45p4c3, October 6, 1848
Taylor will not win PA

REvXLVI45p4c4, October 6, 1848: Backing out from the Support of the South
Comments about Taylor, slavery and Taylor support in the South

RE48v45n45p4c4, October 6,1848:
Description of a debate between a Democrat and a Whig about Taylor

RE48v45n45p4c5, October 6, 1848: Amelia County
Resolutions dealing with the Oregon bill

RE48v45n46p1c2, October 10, 1848: Another Letter from Gen. Taylor
Inconsistencies and contradictions dealing with Taylor, his stance on the Wilmot Proviso and the supposed letter from him that includes is opinion

RE48v45n46p1c3, October 10, 1848: To the Editors of the Enquirer
A letter which Remarks about Polk, the march to the Rio Grande, the annexation of Texas and how it all led to war; Comments after the letter about Taylor, the Wilmot Proviso, his actions at the Rio Grande etc.

RE48v45n46p2c3, October 10,1848: A Challenge
Philadelphia North American, a Whig paper, has taken the position that Taylor will not veto the legislation of Congress on slavery or any other questions; Taylor has not written on the subject of slavery

RE48v45n46p2c3, October 10, 1848: More Warning for the South
A call to elected Taylor because he has promised to not veto anything dealing with slavery

RE48v45n46p2c5, October 10, 1848: To the Editors of the Enquirer
Remarks about Taylor, CA, the war with Mexico, fighting Santa Anna etc.
Democratic Meeting in Madison

Resolutions stating that Taylor is against their principles, Taylor ignorant of Fillmore's stance on issues

The Next Presidency

Who will it be? Taylor's position on the Wilmot Proviso makes him annoying in the South; Taylor believes in the extension of the continent beyond the Rio Grande; Taylor is a Whig no matter what he might say; why Taylor should not be president

Correspondence of the Charleston Mercury

Taylor is antagonistic to all cherished democratic principles

Rough Notes on Mexico-- No. VIII

Description of Gen. Worth's camp; marching the army did; preparing for battle

Who Wants $900?

Offering a bet of $900 that Cass will win the election

"The Lone Star"

Mr. Pendleton boasted that the nomination of Taylor was a triumph of the people over the politicians at a Rough and Ready Club meeting; Comments about how Taylor has not been presented as president on his own merits, how Whigs defeated the Territorial compromise

Pennsylvania and Ohio

When election time comes in Ohio the Whig vote will be split causing Butler and Cass to win

Sound Vies Strongly Expressed

Letter from ex-Governor Gilmer calling to not make Taylor president even though he is a good military man

More Evidence

Remarks about the Whig party and their stance on slavery in Texas

Gen. Taylor at Home

Extract taken from a letter describing Taylor at home

What the Whigs Expect

A description of what the Whigs can expect of Taylor wins the elections

To the Editors of the Enquirer

Remarks about the inconsistencies with Taylor

To the Editors of the Enquirer

Taylor's prospects are not a bright as Clay's in 1844

From Tobasco

Parades has again appeared on the scene of actions; General Paredes was marching towards Tobasco with six hundred men; Gen. Bruno headed with four hundred men to met Paredes, believed that a battle between the two will take place

To the Editors of the Enquirer

Comments about Taylor and the Mexican War--his performance during the war and his growing popularity

Ohio

Many votes will be with held from Taylor because he does not give his opinion on slavery

Tobacco

Taylor 'disappointed the plotters' by returning to Santa Anna's demand of a surrender the immortal reply---Taylor never surrenders!; Taylor to good a soldier to use such language, it must be a mistake

Filling out the Picture

Times quotes special passages of the speeches of Messrs, Butler and Burt of SC who recently expressed their preference for Cass over Taylor--reprint of the article from the Times

Rough Notes on Mexico (No. IX)

Description of Mexico, battle of Monterey, battle of Buena Vista; story about Taylor in Mexico

As Between the Two candidates Who Would Hesitate?

Letter from Hon. Dudley Marvin stating that Taylor would not veto the Wilmot Proviso
Filmore was against the annexation of Texas.

Mr. Scott praises Taylor's military career but says he is not qualified to be President.

Mr. Rightor says that he knows from evidence of Taylor's own lips that he is opposed to the extension of slavery and would agree to a bill prohibiting it.

When asked about his opinion on important issues, Taylor refused to answer.

Taylor is now Nativism.

Taylor's name does not cause any enthusiasm in PA.

Taylor stands on chance in Ohio.

The election of a Whig Governor does not mean Taylor will win in November.

Fake election ticket has been created putting Taylor and Butler on the same ticket.

Taylor says that he has never stated that he was in favor of the Tariff; believed that Taylor is fully in support of the Whigs.

Van Buren cannot in his heart oppose Taylor but he is favorable to Cass.

Kentucky Legislature passed a series of resolutions complimentary of Taylor and the officers and soldiers under his command; Governor of Kentucky made swords to be presented to Taylor and Butler; Taylor's got sent to his home, Butler's was delivered when he visited the state; reprint of letter sent with sword to Butler and Butler's thank you note.

Jefferson Davis on the Stump for Cass

Davis had been reported by the Whigs to throw his support to Taylor but he does not, he is in favor of Cass.

Presentation of a Sword to Gen. W. M. O. Butler

The Hartford Convention Out for Taylor

Van Buren cannot in his heart oppose Taylor but he is favorable to Cass.

A Pair of Reverend Taylorites

Quotes from two of Taylor's supporters.

For the Enquirer

Comparing and contrasting letters that Taylor has written expressing his opinion on issues.

Signs

Two bets made yesterday for $50 that Cass will win the election.

More Comments about how Taylor does not allow the public to know his opinion on issues.
To the Editors of the Enquirer

Taylor will lose because he refused to guarantee the south's safety

Look at this!

Comments about why Taylor is supported in the South and North; resolutions passed by the Whig State Convention in PA

To the Polls!! To the Polls!!

Call for Democrats to vote so Taylor does not win the election

Quote two facts which prove that Taylor is not in favor of the Wilmot Proviso

The Fraudulent Ticket Once More

Comments about the fake ticket that was discovered and now in circulation; no one wants to take blame and it cannot be the democrats because they would not cheat themselves and add Fillmore in any way

Looking Glass for Moral Traitors!

Extract from letters from Col. Wynkoop, and others about those who sympathize with the Mexicans

Annexation of Texas and acquisition of NM and CA are the proudest moments in US history; Comments about how things will be if Taylor is elected

A Presidential Calculation

Prediction of the number of votes each candidate will get from the NY Tribune; even though Taylor is winning in these calculation the Tribune is wrong, Cass will win

Gen. Taylor's Massachusetts Platform

Comments about Texas and slavery, and Taylor's position on slavery; Whigs cannot win Mass unless they abolitionize Taylor

Not enough Taylor candidates running in SC to give the state to Taylor

More Comments about Taylor's position on slavery; only insurance Taylor supports have is regarding his stance on slavery is two pledges given in letters

Facts for the South

Taylor has refused to gives his opinion on the Wilmot Proviso; will allow Congress to do what it wants; examples of situations where Taylor might not let Congress do what it wants

General Taylor's Suppressed Pannill Letter Once More!

Mr. Pannill refuses to show the letter from Taylor; gives an extract of the letter

South Carolina and Gen. Cass

If Taylor is elected president a new compromise bill is expected to be proposed

Cheering from Texas and Louisiana

Texas majority in support of Cass; and Whigs are losing ground everyday in Louisiana

Extract of a letter to the Editor of the Enquirer

Author knows of several Whigs who are not going to vote for Taylor

The democrats of Dinwiddie

Whig speakers in VA and perhaps the south manufacture opinions for Taylor; Comments about converting CA and NM into free states; no opinion from Taylor about Congress' right to determine the slavery question

Gen. Taylor at Home

More complaining about Taylor not giving his opinion on issues; speculation on whether or not he will approve the Wilmot Proviso
RE48v45n50p2c3, October 24, 1848: Address of the Democratic State Central Committee
Comments about how the war with Mexico was Mexico's fault

RE48v45n50p2c4, October 24, 1848: Watchman, What of the Night?
Comments about the Whigs expected majorities in areas where the Democrats have actually won the majorities

RE48v45n50p2c6, October 24, 1848: Which is the Oracle's True Exponent?
Remarks about the denial of the authenticity of certain letters by Taylor

RE48v45n50p2c7, October 24, 1848: Letter to the Editors of the Enquirer
Comments about how the Whigs are trying very hard to win Ohio for Taylor

RE48v45n50p4c2, October 24, 1848; Gen. Worth--an Incident at the Opera
When Gen. Worth entered the opera the began to cheer

RE48v45n50p4c2, October 24, 1848: "God D--n the North They Deserve to be Cheated"
Taylor in favor of restricting slavery; Taylor doesn't state his opinion because if he did, the north would not support him

RE48v45n50p4c4, October 24, 1848: Bribery and Corruption
New York Day believes that it can prove that Clay's nomination was defeated and Taylor's nomination secured through bribery and corruption

RE48v45n51p1c3, October 27, 1848
Whigs said that Taylor would win VA, but when Mr. Wray asked who would vote for Taylor, no one raised their hand

RE48v45n51p1c4, October 27, 1848: More Damning Proof
Taylor is said to be fully committed to not interfere with Congress and Taylor pledged by his Allison letter not to veto the Wilmot Proviso

RE48v45n51p1c5, October 27, 1848: Look out for Forgiveness
Resolved that Taylor has pledged against slavery the extension of it

RE48v45n51p1c5, October 27, 1848: To the Editors of the Enquirer
Whigs have claimed Taylor victories in several states, Taylor has still not produced opinions on issues and other
Comments about Taylor

RE48v45n51p1c6, October 27, 1848: To the Editors of the Enquirer
Comments about Texas and slavery

RE48v45n51p1c6, October 27, 1848: Later from Mexico
Revolutionary outbreak took place on the 9th; government prepared and acted with energy; troops were called out; Gen. Bustamente raised a force of 4,000 to quell the revolt at Tampico

RE48v45n51p1c7, October 27, 1848: Major Gen. Taylor
Based on statements made by Mr. Taylor his political stances on issues can be determined; if Taylor doesn't have any political stances then he is unfit for the Presidency

RE48v45n51p2c2, October 27, 1848: The Fraudulent Taylor and Butler Ticket
More Comments about the ticket; Whig electors pledged to vote for Filmore; no man can vote for Taylor without voting for Filmore

RE48v45n51p2c3, October 27, 1848: Curious Effects of No-Partyism!
Whig orator said he had not hear of one person in his travels who is not going to vote for Taylor

RE48v45n51p2c3, October 27, 1848:
Unless Taylor Whigs united with Van Buern, Cass will take Ohio

RE48v45n51p2c3, October 27, 1848: Warning Facts for the Southern People
Taylor will not use his veto to extend slavery into territories

RE48v45n51p2c3, October 27, 1848
Whigs who voted for Clay will not vote for Taylor

RE48v45n51p2c4, October 27, 1848: Lous McLane
Is opposed to the election of Taylor

RE48v45n51p4c2, October 27 1848: Committee Men to work!!
Call for men to work for getting Cass elected and not Taylor; makes Comments about Taylor's nomination and party and contrasts the policy of Cass with that of Taylor; letter from Taylor while he was at Monterey

RE48v45n51p4c1, October 27, 1848: From Mexico
Advises have been received of the return of Santa Anna; much excitement in Tampico on account of the pronunciamento giving the details of the Sierra Madre movement; another battle between the whites and the Indians has taken place near Tampico

RE48v45n51p4c4, October 27, 1848: Lieutenant John S. Pendelton
Comments about how the Whigs have gone to great lengths to show that Taylor is against the Wilmot Proviso

RE48v45n52p1c2, October 31, 1848: The Rally
More Remarks about Taylor's Allison letter; Taylor will veto no act of Congress unless it is in violation of the constitution; points out how Taylor's Allison letters do not support other statements he has made

RE48v45n52p1c4, October 31, 1848: Will the South Heed Her Betrayers?
More Comments about Taylor's uncommitted stance on the Wilmot Proviso

RE48v45n52p1c5, October 31, 1848: The Last Warning--More Confirmation
Taylor stood and pledged not to interpose the veto power to defeat the Wilmot Proviso

RE48v45n52p1c7, October 31, 1848:
Correspondence about a sword given to Lieut. Col. Magruder for his actions in Mexico; letter presenting the sword and Magruder's thank you

RE48v45n52p1c7, October 31, 1848: Very Important from Tampico
A pronunciamento has taken place in Tampico proclaiming independence and annexation to the US and it is believed that the same thing has happened in Matamoras; the Indians risen up again in Yucatan-details; Santa Anna could not think of returning to Mexico

RE48v45n52p2c2, October 31, 1848
Letter stating that the Whigs produced the fake ticket with Taylor and Butler listed together

RE48v45n52p2c2, October 31, 1848: Watchman! What of the Night?
Believed that many Whigs will reject the Abolitionist Filmore and Taylor

RE48v45n52p2c3, October 31, 1848: The Whig Against Itself!
Comments about Taylor; Taylor song

RE48v45n52p2c4, October 31, 1848: A Plentiful Crop of Whig Fraud
PA declares it to be a fact that Whig leaders have prepared and have now in their possession what is suppose to be a letter from Taylor saying that is in favor of Free Soil

RE48v45n52p2c4, October 31, 1848: Attention Democrats!
Taylor is a Whig

RE48v45n52p2c4, October 31, 1848: Will the South Falter?
More Remarks about Taylor's stance on the Wilmot Proviso and the slavery question

RE48v45n52p4c7, October 31, 1848: To the Editors of the Enquirer
More complaining about how Taylor has not stated his opinions on issues

RE48v45n52p4c5, October 31, 1848: no Proscription!
Since Taylor is a non-party candidate it will not ace the same pressures that other president's have had

RE48v45n52p4c7, October 31, 1848: To the Editors of the Enquirer
More Comments about Taylor being only a military man, him not expressing is opinion about the slavery question

RE48v45n52p4c5, October 31, 1848:
Belief on what will happen regarding the tariff if Taylor is elected

RE48v45n53p1c2, November 3, 1848: Out Adopted Citizens
Comments about how Taylor's supporters are members of the native movement; Remarks about how Taylor is a native

RE48v45n53p1c3, November 3, 1848: The Natural Echo
Remarks about the Southern Taylor party is opposed to extending slavery and opposed to the annexation of Texas; Taylor opposed to slavery
RE48v45n53p1c5, November 3, 1848: Whig Policy
Remarks about Taylor's lack of expressing his opinion on great questions of importance; Comments about what Taylor has said in letters he has written

RE48v45n53p1c7, November 3, 1848: To the Editors of the Enquirer
Remarks about how Taylor will not win the state he was born in nor the state where he resides now

RE48v45n53p2c1, November 3, 1848: Coon Hunting
Comments about how Taylor presented the people with the fake ticket with his name and Butler

RE48v45n53p2c2, November 3, 1848: The Last Warning for the South
Letter in the hands of Baldwin of Conn. Which states that Taylor is not opposed to the Wilmot Proviso

RE48v45n53p2c3, November 3, 1848
Mr. Ray who had pledged Ohio for Taylor I now disgusted and ashamed of him; Rough and Readys claim VAS for Taylor, but this will not happen;

RE48v45n53p2c4, November 3, 1848
Remarks about how Taylor has not mentioned the Wilmot Proviso nor will he give his opinion on the issue; Comments about Taylor promising to let the Congress make decisions and not veto them

RE48v45n53p2c7, November 3, 1848: To the Editors of the Union
More Comments about Taylor and his lack of opinion on the Wilmot Proviso, what will he do for the North and South? can you trust his campaign promises?

RE48v45n53p3c1, November 3, 1848: Death of Gen. Kearny
General Kearny has died

RE48v45n53p4c1, November 3, 1848: More of Gen. Taylor's Averion to Paying Postage
Letter about how Taylor refuses to pick up mail if the postage has not been prepaid and because of this there are many letters in the post office for him that have not been read

RE48v45n53p4c2, November 3, 1848: The Fraud Once More
More Remarks about the fake ticket with the names Taylor and Butler on it; believed to have been done by the Whigs; if vote for Taylor you must vote for Filmore

RE48v45n53p4c3, November 3, 1848: A Picture for the South
Reprint of a handbill calling for the end of slavery

RE48v45n53p4c4, November 3, 1848: Prenez Garde!
Remarks about how Taylor always suites his political views to the various localities throughout the country

RE48v45n53p4c4, November 3, 1848: Truman Sith
Gives a quote from a Lynchburg paper about Taylor and how he is noble and how Cass was abusive in the army--write of the letter says that Taylor is not noble and Cass was not abusive

RE48v45n53p4c6, November 3, 1848: Tennessee
Remarks about how many votes Taylor can expect to get in this state and NC as well; he will probably get the slave states but not Kentucky

RE48v45n54p2c1, November 6, 1848: It Won't Do
Comments about how the letter saying that Taylor is in favor of the Wilmot Proviso has been said to be fake and a campaign trick; quotes from other papers about Taylor; Remarks from different people about how Taylor has said that he would veto and that he would not veto the Wilmot Proviso

RE48v45n54p2c3, November 6, 1848: Gen. Washington and Gen. Taylor
Taylor is not like Washington

RE48v45n54p2c3, November 6, 1848: Letter from Gen. Taylor
Letter sent to Taylor saying that the South never should agree to the Wilmot Proviso; Taylor's response to the letter--does not state his opinion on anything; Remarks at the end of the letter about how Taylor will not give his opinion on anything

REvXLVI54p2c4, November 6, 1848: Mark the Broad Contrast
More remarks about what Taylor has or has not said about the Wilmot Proviso; people who say he has promised not to veto; people have said that they will not support Taylor

RE48v45n54p2c4, November 6, 1848: A Glorious Rally!!
Taylor's Allison letter and letter to B. F. Hallet read aloud at a Democratic rally
RE48v45n54p2c5, November 6, 1848: To the Editors of the Enquirer
Remarks about how Taylor will not win his home state or Louisiana

RE48v45n54p4c2, November 6, 1848: Virginia
Comments about the Whigs stated that they hoped and believed VA would go to Taylor; VA will remain a Democratic majority; letter about the Democrats winning

RE48v45n54p4c3, November 6, 1848: For the Enquirer
Remarks that had been made about the Whigs and Taylor; Taylor agreeing that the President should not use the veto power and he pledges not to do so

RE48v45n55p1c7, November 10, 1848: The Presidential Election
Remarks about the election; election results for Richmond City, Hanover, Chesterfield, Alexandria, Petersburg, Charles City, Louisa, Albemarle, Orange, Prince Edward, City of Norfolk, Norfolk County, Princess Anne, Elizabeth City

RE48v45n55p2c2, November 10, 1848: Presidential Election
Election results for Virginia, York, Essex, Louisa, Albemarle, Fluvanna, Mecklenburg, King William, Greensville, Henrico, Hanover, Alexandria, Petersburg, Sussex, Norfolk, Pittsylvania

RE48v45n55p4c1, November 10, 1848: Yucatan
Mr. David G. Walds has been empowered by the Governor of Yucatan to find men for service in the peninsula; 80 Americans in the Yucatan

REvXLVI55p4c2, November 10, 1848: Loaded Dice
Taylor bribed votes

RE48v45n55p4c2, November 10, 1848: The Cheat and Imposture of Taylorism
Remarks about Taylor and how he said he was in favor of the war; questioning why Taylor would not let a letter be published in the papers

RE48v45n55p4c3, November 10, 1848: The Whole Matter in a Nut-Shell
Taylor pledge to the North not to veto the Wilmot Proviso

RE48v45n55p4c35 November 10, 1848: To the Editors of the Enquirer
Speech about the Allison letter and other letters written by Taylor

RE48v45n55p4c5, November 10, 1848: To the Editors of the Enquirer
Taylor cannot veto the Wilmot Proviso

RE48v45n55p4c7, November 10, 1848: Rough Notes Again
Remarks about Comments made after the Rough Notes published dealing with the Battle of Buena Vista

RE48v45n55p4c7, November 10, 1848: Presidential Election
Election results

RE48v45n56p1c2, November 14, 1848: Virginia Election
Election results for Virginia--several counties and cities; Delaware, NY, Maine, Ohio, Georgia and Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi, Indiana

RE48v45n56p2c1, November 14, 1848: The End
Taylor has won the election

RE48v45n56p2c1, November 14, 1848: Presidential Election Returns
Election results for VA, Vermont, Penn, Wisconsin, Maine, NH, Mass, NJ, MD, Indiana, Illinois

RE48v45n56p2c4, November 14, 1848: For the Enquirer
Conversation where a Whig and Democrat argue over Taylor’s qualifications for President

RE48v45n56p2c5, November 14, 1848: Late from Georgia and Alabama
Election results

RE48v45n56p2c6, November 14, 1848: Last Words of the Union
Washington Union's words about Taylor winning the Presidency

RE48v45n56p4c3, November 14, 1848: The General Results
Remarks about the election, and why Taylor won and the Democrats did not
November 14, 1848: What Southern Whigs have Gained
Remarks about slavery in CA and NM, Taylor not using his veto

November 14, 1848: Elections in other States
Election Results from MD, NJ, MASS, PA, GA, Mississippi, Alabama, Conn., RI, DE, Maine, NH, Vermont, Ohio, IL,
Indiana, Michigan, NC

November 14, 1848: Presidential Election Returns
Election Results from VA-divided into counties and cities

November 14, 1848: Extract of a letter
Unless LA, GA, and Tennessee go for Cass Taylor will win

November 17, 1848: Mr. Clay and Gen. Taylor
Clay did not vote for Taylor

November 17, 1848: Old Zack is Come
As soon as Taylor was elected a man from the south came to Richmond to see about manufacturing he said if Cass
would have won he would have stayed home

November 17, 1848: We shall see if Taylor will remain a no-party president

November 17, 1848: Election Results for VA

November 17, 1848: Delaware
Election results for Delaware

November 17, 1848: Michigan
Election results

November 17, 1848: Florida
Election results

November 17, 1848: Mississippi
Election results

November 17, 1848: Louisiana
Election results

November 17, 1848: Alabama
Election results

November 17, 1848: Pennsylvania
Election results

November 17, 1848: The Future Whig Policy
Country waiting to see Taylor's cabinet

November 17, 1848: Virginia
Election results

November 17, 1848: Virginia Election-Official
Election results

November 17, 1848: Town of Baton Rouge gave Taylor a 19 majority

November 17, 1848: Presidential Election returns
Election results for different counties

November 17, 1848: Election results for Alabama, Mississippi, LA and FL, DE, CONN, Vermont, RI, Maine, Michigan, MASS

November 17, 1848: To the Editors of the Enquirer
Remarks about Taylor and extension of slavery
Our Standing Abroad
Comments about what Taylor should do regarding foreign policy

Presidential Election Returns
Election results for VA, NC, and Little Tennessee in VA

Baltimore Correspondence of the Washington Union
Nearly all of the west has gone for Cass and Butler; NY went for Taylor

The Fruits of the Election
Rejoicing over Taylor's win by his supporters; Comments about Taylor and the tariff, slavery, veto etc.

Remarks about Taylor by the Governor of NY

Results in VA

Remarks about Corpus Christi becoming a center of trade; improvements in the new territories—harbors, buildings, court houses; Mexican traders coming up; Hay's expedition to Chihuahua is popular; sporting season good; prefer to remain on the good terms with the Mexicans; emigrants coming

Result in Virginia

The Two Parties
Taylor is the hero of the Mexican war, people's president

To the Editor of the Enquirer
Difficult question Taylor will face will be slavery

Would rejoice if Taylor would settle the slavery question; Remarks about Taylor and slavery

Election results

Virginia Election--Official
Election results for different states

Ohio
Election results

The Vote of Pennsylvania
Election results

Virginia--Once More!
Election results and Comments about the election

Mercer
Election results

Our Defeat
Remarks about the loss of the Democrats to Taylor

Taylor, Filmore, and Free Soil
More Remarks about Taylor and the slavery question
Quotes about the war with Mexico and Taylor

Virginia Election results

Mississippi Election results

Alabama Election results

Illinois and Mississippi Election results

Louisiana Election results

New York Election results

Texas Election results

The Natural Fruits
Comments about Taylor, slavery and NM and CA; preamble of a bill prohibiting the extension of slavery into the Mexican territories

Taylor majority voted for men that were not on the ticket by handing in tickets with names written on them

Virginia Election--Official Election results

Presidential Election Returns Election results from different states

Correspondence of the New Orleans Picayune Despatches arrived from the pacific and CA; matter of doubt as to whether Herrera will be able to maintain his government; congress authorized the government to borrow money; Remarks about how Mexicans feel towards Americans

Those Democrats who voted for Taylor have been taken because he is not a no-party candidate

Strange Logic Report on Taylor’s popularity

Virginia Election results

Massachusetts Election results

Correspondence of the NY Journal of Commerce Speculation of Taylor’s policy

Alabama Election results

New Hampshire Election Election results

Little Tennessee Remarks about Taylor winning the election
The Taylor Festival in NY; Mr. Preston of VA speaks about Taylor.

Comments about the difficulties Taylor will find himself in as he takes the presidency; strong fear.

Taylor's reception of the election news; his conversation with an angry Democrat--Democrat attacked Taylor.

Taylor’s reception of the election news; his conversation with an angry Democrat--Democrat attacked Taylor.

Remarks about how hopefully Taylor will not surrender in the White House to pressure.

NY Journal of Commerce advocated Taylor’s election and is now telling the Taylor people what to do during the administration.

Taylor's reception of the election news; his conversation with an angry Democrat--Democrat attacked Taylor.

Election results of different states.

It is said he sent a conciliatory message to Gen. Kearney before his death.

Remarks about Taylor and the Wilmot Proviso.

Gen. Taylor and his Flatterers
Whigs papers are flattering Taylor; quote from one.

Taylor said he was a Whig before the election.

To the Editors of the Enquirer
Will Taylor act like a Whig or lean more to the Democrats?

Remarks about why people voted for Taylor.

Virginia-Almost Complete
Election results
December 1, 1848: Extract of a letter from Washington

Pleas for Taylor not to take jobs away--firing people and replacing them with his own

December 1, 1848: Correspondence of Chronicle and Old Dominion

Comments about Taylor supporters asking removals of people from office

December 1, 1848: Correspondence of the Washington Union

Election results from Mississippi

December 1, 1848: Official vote of Alabama

Election results

December 1, 1848: Vote of Ohio--Official

Election results

December 1, 1848: Massachusetts--Official

Election results

December 1, 1848: Virginia Election--Official

Election results

December 1, 1848: What Their Own Friends Say

Quotes from friends of Taylor about the difficulties he will face in the upcoming year--special attention to the tariff issue

December 1, 1848: Virginia

Election results

December 1, 1848: The Riches of California

Reports of a surveying team; reports of gold

December 1, 1848: The Truth Will Out

Comments about the war with Mexico; opinion of Whigs, Democrats and Taylor

December 1, 1848: North Carolina

Election results

December 1, 1848: New York Official

Election results

December 1, 1848: Maryland Official

Election results

December 5, 1848: Whig Troubles

Many different opinions in the Whig party; different groups forming around different opinions; party distinctions blurring and if this is true then Taylor’s election is not a Whig victory; Comments about Taylor democrats

December 5, 1848: Still in a Fog

Will Taylor be loyal to the South or North when the slavery question arises? What will he do about the Wilmot Proviso and how will that effect his standing in the North and South?; different papers declare him having different stances on slavery

December 5, 1848: Resolution declaring Taylor president, and confidence in Taylor

December 5, 1848: Virginia Election

Election results

December 5, 1848: A Farce in one act about Taylor

December 5, 1848: Rhode Island Official

Election results

December 5, 1848: Florida

Election results

December 5, 1848: Important if True
Reports that Taylor has taken a strong Southern position

Even after suggestions have been made, Taylor has decided to leave all of the Secretaries in place

Quoted article from another paper about how since Taylor is elected the working class and south will be protected; Comments about the south and the tariff

Boasts about Oregon, NM and CA acquisition and the annexation of Texas; Remarks about CA’s wealth; boasts about ratification of peace treaty with Mexico; Comments about the extension of slavery into the new territories;

Comments about Taylor and the tariff; no evidence that he is opposed to the present tariff

Mr. Douglass will introduce his California and Territorial bills on Monday; discussion of boundary lines of the new states

No county in eastern Texas has given a majority to Taylor

Story about Taylor taking wine at Hewlett’s

Various and conflicting views about the policies of Taylor’s upcoming administration; will he abide by the Whig party?

Taylor sent in his resignation as Major General Commanding the Western Divisions of the US Army

Taylor hopes to keep his promise and visit Nashville

List of toasts given--given to the Mexican war; report of an address given by Leake about Taylor and the South under his administration

Botts admits being to hard on Taylor; he should have been silent about his nomination; he however never did commit himself to support Taylor; believes Taylor is indebted to him for his election

Botts admits being to hard on Taylor; he should have been silent about his nomination; he however never did commit himself to support Taylor; believes Taylor is indebted to him for his election

Report of ocean steamers going to CA

Comments about how Taylor’s platform has changed since his election began; hope that the Democratic majority in the Senate will not embarrass Taylor; inconsistency with Taylor on the issue of slavery, the tariff and the veto power

Comments have been made stating that Taylor has said "North attempted to interfere with the question of slavery, he was for drawing the sword and throwing away the cabbard" ; Taylor says this is slander but some Whigs are happy that he might have said this

Virginians will have no reason to leave for California because their state is rich

Mr. Wise makes Comments about Taylor who he knew in war

Report of a tour through California--description of tour--what was seen etc. ; reports of gold

Report of the Secretary of Navy
Comments about organization of the navy on the west coast

RE48v45n66p2c1, December 19, 1848: The In-coming Administration---Semi-Official Revelations
No idea about Taylor's desires to remove or appoint people; cabinet members will be selected from top citizens; speculation about whether Taylor will fire all the democrats or not

RE48v45n66p2c1, December 19, 1848:
Whigs do not catch our objection to the appointment of Mr. Corwin to the seat in General Taylor's Cabinet

RE48v45n66p4c2, December 19, 1848: The Wilmot Proviso
Resolution that time has come to discuss the slavery question for the territories gained from Mexico

RE48v45n67p1c2, December 22, 1848: Thirtieth Congress
In the Senate Mr. Douglass called up his bill for the admission fo CA and NM as a State into the Union

RE48v45n67p1c7, December 22, 1848: The Truth Evolved
Allison letter written in Washington and sent to Taylor to sign

RE48v45n67p2c6, December 22, 1848: For the Enquierer
Comments about the US victories in the Mexican war

RE48v45n67p4c1, December 22, 1848: Report of the Secretary of War
Comments about where the new territories have been added in regards to the keeping of military peace; where troops are stationed along the borders; Comments about the war with Mexico

RE48v45n67p4c3, December 22, 1848: Mr. Bott's Demonstration
Comments by Mr. Bott's about the Allison letter written by Taylor; Remarks about how Virginians felt about the nomination of Taylor; in the section entitled "notes" Bott's states charges that have been made against him and his answers to them--several have to do with Taylor and his nomination

RE48v45n68p1c5, December 25, 1848: Can it Be So?
Wilmot Proviso has passed, Polk will veto it but that won't kill it because Taylor will sign it if bill is passed by both houses

RE48v45n68p1c7, December 25, 1848: Spontaneous and Unanimous
Comments about Taylor's election; popular votes were not cast for Taylor even though he got the electoral votes in several state

RE48v45n68p2c1, December 25, 1848: News
Comments made about Taylor by a French Journal; Remarks about Taylor's actions in the Mexican War (hard to read; the newspaper copy is not good)

RE48v45n68p2c2, December 25, 1848: Suit the Action of the Word
Taylor will be President

RE48v45n68p2c3, December 25, 1848: The Cabinet of Gen. Taylor
From Taylor-how his cabinet will be organized

RE48v45n68p2c3, December 25, 1848:
The sword voted by Congress to Gen. Quitman was formally presented to him

RE48v45n68p2c5, December 25, 1848: Presidential Election Returns
Election results from Indiana and Missouri

RE48v45n68p2c6, December 25, 1848
Some preparing to go California through Texas

RE48v45n68p2c6, December 25, 1848: Texas
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RE48v45n68p4c2, December 25, 1848
Maj. General Gaines will be taking over Taylor's position in the army

RE48v45n68p4c5, December 25, 1848: Presidential Election Returns
Election results from Tennessee, Georgia, Maine and New Hampshire

RE48v45n68p4c6, December 25, 1848: Thirtieth Congress
Resolution to give funds for an asylum for disabled soldiers returning from Mexico
RE48v45n69p1c5, December 29, 1848: Not that it Loves Rome Less, But Old Zack More
Passage of resolutions might hurt Taylor

RE48v45n69p1c6, December 29, 1848: A Call for a Convention in the Richmond District
Remarks about Taylor signing the Wilmot Proviso; let the territorial bill excluding slavery in NM and CA testify
because Taylor will sign the Wilmot Proviso so it doesn't matter

RE48v45n69p2c1, December 29, 1848: Report of the Secretary of the Treasury. (Continued)
Comments about loans and the peace with Mexico; land for schools in Oregon recommended; public land in CA with
gold--public lands belong to the government;

RE48v45n69p2c7, December 29, 1848: Mr. Floyd's Resolutions
Slavery will never exist in New Mexico or California

RE48v45n69p4c1, December 29, 1848: Report of the Secretary of the Treasury. (Continued)
Comments about putting someone in charge of the Gulf of Mexico to collect duties; transportation of CA gold
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Correspondence, Il Secretario

Mexico

From Washington, Fate of the Texas Movement

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Richmond Enquirer, Annexation of Texas

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RWv22i21p2c5 March 14, 1845 MEXICO, political news

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RWv22i25p2c5 March 28, 1845 THOMAS RICHIE!

RWv22i25p2c4 March 28, 1845 ONE WHO KNOWS, MR. WILLOUGHBY NEWTON

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RWv22i26p1c2 April 1, 1845 Proposed construction of canal at Tehuantepec
From the Baltimore American, comments on building a ship canal and where the best place to build one would be

RWv22i26p1c3 April 1, 1845 Isthmus of Tehuantepec
Information the isthmus of Tehuantepec—comments on the land and potential for development and trade

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RWv22i26p2c5 April 1, 1845 To the Editors, Texas question
More comments on the Texas question—comments on Texas with regards to the constitution, signed UNION

RWv22i26p2c6 April 1, 1845 Admit Texas or Canada
Comments on admitting Texas—if done must allow people there representation

RW45v22n26p2c6 April 1, 1845: To the Whigs of the 8th Congressional District, signed A BANK AND TARIFF WHIG
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General Orders from the Enquirer; information Mr. Lyons being a friend of Texas even though a Whig

Hon. Caleb Cushing’s letter on Texas to the Journal of Commerce; his opinion that annexation of Mexico is not wise

Information on the British Minister giving Santa Anna money for the province of California

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The Reason Why the Whigs Should Support Mr. Lyons, signed IGNORAMUS

Account of a discussion that took place at the Court House between Messrs, Newton and Hunter-comments made by all on Texas

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Late From Texas

Letter to the Editors, signed ANTI-ANNEXATION

Letter to the Editors, Our Cause, signed ONE OF THE PEOPLE

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Letter to the Editors, signed SOLOMON

Letter to the Editors, signed ANTI-ANNEXATIONIST

Letter to the Editors, signed HOMO

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Letter to the Editors, signed CONCESSION

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Dateline Chesterfield, April 12, 1845, letter signed JAMDUDUM
From the *St. Louis New Era*, April 18

RW45v22n34p2c1 April 29, 1845: Later from Mexico
From the *New Orleans Bee*, diplomatic correspondence between Shannon and Cuevas and comments

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RW45v22n34p2c4 April 29, 1845: A Word in Season to Whig and Democrat

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RW45v22n34p2c5 April 29, 1845: Mr. H. A. Garland's Letter

RW45v22n34p4c1 April 29, 1845: Foreign News. The Oregon Question
Per the *Caledonia*, from the *London Times*

**MAY 1845**

RW45v22i35p1c1, May 2, 1845 **THE UNITED STATES AND GREAT BRITAIN.**
Sources say that the English are both excited and irritated by events concerning Texas and Oregon.

RW45v22i35p1c2, May 2, 1845 **PROBABLE WAR WITH MEXICO.**
Speculations by the *United States Gazette*.

RW45v22i35p1c5, May 2, 1845 **THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE UNITED STATES AND ENGLAND – WAR OR PEACE?**
War is not desired, but pride will rise to occasion.

RW45v22i35p1c6, May 2, 1845 **TEXAS-MISSION TO ENGLAND.**
Quote from *New York News* regarding Texas' Minister's mission to England.

RW45v22i35p1c6, May 2, 1845 **ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES.**
From the *Globe*. Polk announces his agenda in Oregon and Britain responds.

RW45v22i35p2c5, May 2, 1845 **RE-ANNEXATION.**
A satirical article from the *London Punch* which editors hope will force those who are pro-annexation to realize there is more to the issue that meets the eye.

RW45v22i35p4c2, May 2, 1845 **UNTITLED.**
From *New Orleans Com Bulletin*. Any attack on Texas is really an attack on the United States.

RW45v22i36p1c1, May 6, 1845 **MR. GARLAND'S LETTER.**
Illegible.

RW45v22i36p1c4, May 6, 1845: **SPECIAL MINISTER TO ENGLAND.**
A report from the *New York Commercial* stating the belief that ex-president Van Buren will probably be sent to England to settle the Oregon dispute. A rumor the editors believe is more likely than the appointment of John C. Calhoun.

RW45v22i36p1c4, May 6, 1845: **"YOUNG AMERICA!"**
From the *UNITED STATES Journal*. Young America is great and should have Texas and Oregon no matter what.

RW45v22i36p1c4, May 6, 1845: **THE GREAT QUESTION OF THE DAY.**
Editors agree with the *Union* which makes a distinction between the British sovereign and the UNITED STATES President.

RW45v22i36p1c6, May 6, 1845 **MINISTER TO ENGLAND.**
*Washington Union* reports Mr. Pickens of South Carolina is minister, not Van Buren.

RW45v22i36p1c7, May 6, 1845 **F. H. ELMORE.**
*Charleston Courier* Col. Elmore declines Polk's appointment as Minister to England.

RW45v22i36p1c7, May 6, 1845 **AMERICAN FLEET– THE GULF.**
Ships and guns headed to Vera Cruz.

RW45v22i36p2c3, May 6, 1845 **DEMOCRATIC DEMONSTRATIONS**
War meeting in Philadelphia. Editors report meetings in Philadelphia were disrupted by factions but all agree for the
need to assert rights against Britain.

RW45v22i36p2c4, May 6, 1845 "TWO PICTURES BY ONE ARTIST."
Philadelphia Post. Two editorials of the proceedings.

RW45v22i36p4c4, May 6, 1845 THE UNITED STATES, TEXAS, AND MEXICO.
Cities info from recent journal of Commerce. Contradicts info from New Orleans Press. Texas is pursuing an honest, patriotic, and judicious course.

RW45v22i37p1c1, May 9, 1845 EXTENT OF REPUBLIC – CALIFORNIA.
From the New Orleans Tropic. Illegible.

RW45v22i37p1c2, May 9, 1845 NEWS FROM MEXICO
Congress talks in bellicose manner. However they must fight or never be taken seriously.

RW45v22i37p1c2, May 9, 1845 THE GREAT QUESTION
Washington Union points out that the Polk administration is backing down from the position it took on Oregon in inaugural.

RW45v22i37p1c2, May 9, 1845 UNTITLED.
Speculations that Mr. Holmes of Charleston will be minister to England if Pickens declines.

RW45v22i37p1c2, May 9, 1845 LATER FROM MEXICO.
The latest from the Mexican Congress as reported by the New Orleans Tropic.

RW45v22i37p1c5, May 9, 1845 FROM TEXAS
Galveston papers prove Texas is pro-annexation.

RW45v22i37p2c3, May 9, 1845 TEXAS ANNEXATION.
The New Orleans Bee reports from Galveston make annexation seem inevitable. Whig editors hope for quickness and that their fears will not be realized.

RW45v22i37p2c4, May 9, 1845 FOREIGN NEWS
Oregon concerns subsided.

RW45v22i37p2c4, May 9, 1845 SANTA FE AND CHIHUAHUA
Events in New Mexico.

RW45v22i37p2c5, May 9, 1845 ARRIVAL OF HIBERNIA 14 DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE
From New York Express latest news from England.

RW45v22i38p1c1, May 13, 1845 TEXAS, IOWA, AND FLORIDA IN THE UNITED STATES
There are those who are determined for the three territories to be part of the Union whether they want to be or not.

RW45v22i38p1c2, May 13, 1845 THE GREAT OREGON – IT’S NEW GOVERNOR
From The Washington Union. Reports of a supposed Governor appointed by Britain. Most likely a deputy. United States outraged if true.

RW45v22i38p1c4, May 13, 1845 ONE DAY LATER FOREIGN NEWS.
A bellicose speech by Sir Robert Peel that appears only in the New York Sun.

RW45v22i38p1c5, May 13, 1845 THE OREGON DIFFICULTY AND INCREASE OF OUR NAVY.
Thought from the North American on likely naval increase.

RW45v22i38p1c6, May 13, 1845 MILITARY MOVEMENTS.
From the Washington Union. Col. Kearny departs from Fort Leavenworth.

RW45v22i38p1c6, May 13, 1845 MINISTERS TO ENGLAND.
The latest from The New York Journal of Commerce, Mr. Pickens declines.

RW45v22i38p2c3, May 13, 1845 MR. CALHOUN’S VIEWS ON THE OREGON QUESTION.
Views have not changed since his speech in 1843.

RW45v22i38p2c5, May 13, 1845 THE OREGON QUESTION – VIEWS OF MR CALHOUN.
Excerpts from his 1843 speech to the senate.

RW45v22i39p1c1, May 16, 1845 BRITISH VIEWS OF AMERICAN AFFAIRS.
Not everyone in Britain is against the United States “Rationale of American Politics” from Liverpool Journal proves it.

**MISSION TO ENGLAND.**
Update on the current status of finding a minister.

**THE MISSION TO ENGLAND - THREE REFUSALS**
A more detailed history of the difficulty in finding a minister.

**DON'T BE TOO GRASPING! CONFINE YOURSELVES TO PROPER LIMITS!**
Warning against expansion including Oregon and California.

**THE TEXAS QUESTION SETTLED.**
A judge in Mobile refuses to exclude a citizen of Texas from jury duty in Alabama.

**MISSION TO ENGLAND**
The *Charleston Mercury*'s coverage.

**MISSION TO ENGLAND**
Report from *Washington Union* contradicting rumors of Calhoun's likely appointment.

**COST OF ANNEXATION**
New Orleans papers debate best way to attack.

**SOMETHING RICH.**
Brief discussion of the Philadelphia meetings regarding Oregon.

**BEWARE ALL YE NATIONS OF THE EARTH.**
Editors pity Great Britain and copy an article from the *Washington Union* which they should use as an example.

**SANTA ANA**
Life is no longer in danger. *Picayune* has speculations of his fate.

**PROTECTION**
New Orleans Tropic asks why we need a large army to protect what was said to be essential to our protection.

**ONE TERM!**
Polk intends to keep promise.

**WAR RUMORS –British Troops.**

**CANADIAN VIEWS OF WAR**
*Toronto Globe*.

**WE ARE A WONDERFUL PEOPLE**
*New York Courier*. It is our destiny to annex.

**TEXAS**
Update on annexation feelings.

**MISSION TO ENGLAND**
Status update.

**GENERAL SAM HOUSTON**
Comments by Commodore E. W. Moore of Texas navy. From Texas papers from *New Orleans Tropic*.

**A WORD IN THE EAR OF MR. POLK**
From *Punch*. Do not go to war.

**THE OREGON QUESTION**
Relating Hamlet to The Oregon Situation.

**GENERAL GAINES AND HIS FLOATING BATTERIES.**
War with England should carry with it the Generals continuation of his hobby.

**SAM HOUSTON'S VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES.**
Expresses popularity of annexation.

**COMFORT FOR ABSQUATULATORS**
Texas papers are comforting to absconding debtors.

**WHAT CAN MEXICO DO?**

Mexico has just cause to be upset.

**TRUE SENTIMENTS OF WAR AND PEACE.**

Honorable J. S. Calhoun of Georgia’s editorial “The War cry” from the *Columbus Enquirer*.

**WAR ITEMS FROM CANADA**

Rumors published in *British Whig*. 13 May

**THE YOUNG DEMOCRACY**

*United States Journal* and *Richmond Enquirer*. Illegible.

**NEWS FROM ENGLAND**

Avoiding war doesn’t look promising. *Phila N. Amer*.

**FROM MEXICO**

British Consul receives papers guaranteeing independence of Texas. Discussion of Santa Ana as well.

**AN IMPROBABLE STORY.**

Correspondence of the *New York Sun*. The Oregon-British Governor of Hudson Bay Co travels to Oregon. Cincinnati, May 12.

**MR. CALHOUN AND THE MISSION TO England.**

*Charleston Mercury* refutes claims of Calhoun’s appointment.

**A PASSAGE IN THE POLK-OREGON WAR.**

From *Kentucky Keepsake* for 1845. A work of fiction.

**UNTITLED.**

Report from *Baltimore American* of a citizen being told to finish business and leave Mexico immediately.

**ENGLISH VIEWS UPON ANNEXATION**


**THOMAS CLARKSON AND TEXAS**

Indians will probably oppose annexation.

**AMERICAN PEACE SOCIETY**

Reasons why we should not go to war.

**Mexico**

“The reported declaration of war by this power, is entitled to no credit. The restoration of Santa Anna is a most singular and yet not unanticipated event.”

**WAR!**

England prepares.

**Mexico AND TEXAS**

discussion Texas desire to join Union if recognized by Mexico as independent.

**MEXICO – RUMORS OF WAR.**

As reported by the *New Orleans Courier*.

**Texas**

Rumors from the *Bee*.

**June**

**From Texas**

News from Texas

**From Mexico**

News from Mexico

Texas will accept
January

RWv22i1p1c2 Jan. 3, 1845 “Texas Debate,”
The debate on Mr. Ingersoll’s, resolutions of annexation, which was expected to commence Monday, has been postponed until to-morrow.

A strong attempt is being made by the Texas party at Washington to reconcile all Democratic dissentients upon the basis of some new plan, like that of Mr. Weller of Ohio, or Mr. Douglas of Illinois. There was a Caucus Saturday, and, as conjectured, chiefly for this purpose. A private letter shown us expresses the opinion that every plan will fail, as public opinion in the northern and middles States was becoming more and more hostile to Texas:– The writer might have added just as truly, and with entire truth, so far as we know, “in the South, too.”

Except the “Chivalry” and a few other, some from one motive some from another, the Southern States taking the masses of both parties, are opposed to annexation, or quite indifferent about it. N. Carolina has openly through her Legislature, expressed her dissent, and Virginia, submitting the question to the Democratic party alone, to say nothing of the Whigs, we hold it to be extremely doubtful if a majority would not be found opposed to “immediate annexation” – that is to annexation without the previous consent of Mexico. Nothing is more certain than that in this affair of Texas our venerable neighbor runs quite ahead of Democratic opinion. There is very little sympathy with his hot haste, out of the circle of those who hold Texas Lands. The Sweat House itself is divided on the matter. If Mr. Gallatin’s letter were published by the Enquirer, the Texas ranks would be reduced to a mere skeleton. The Calhounites and the Land and Scrip holders would be pretty much all.

Here is a view that we think cannot but strike the public with much force: Mr. Polk, the Texas party say, was elected as a friend of immediate Annexation: We deny the fact – but grant it to be so: Why not then wait for Mr. Polk’s administration to annex it! Why defraud him of this glory? Why squeeze Texas through as the shank of an inglorious and universally detested Administration and at the short session of Congress, when there is no time to debate it fully and gather public opinion? Why this unaccountable, this thundering haste, so little in consonance with the gravity of the occasion and with the weight of the subject?

Ah! “thereby hang’s a tale!” The Texas Land and Scripholders are not only impatient to realize and grasp their profits, but they know well, yes, they well know that it is “now or never,” and that even with a Texas President in the person of Mr. Polk, the measure of Annexation cannot be carried if the public opinion of the United States is left to time and calm deliberation. “Immediate Annexation” is odious, and any annexation, is day by day receding in public
favor. Could we steer clear of inflicting any wrong to Mexico, and put ourselves right in the *** *** of the world in the acquisition – even then we believe it would be repugnant to the large majority of the American People: But unless that be first done the Whig party are unanimously opposed to “immediate “Annexation” and a large portion besides of the soundest part of the Democratic Party.

[LLS]

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RWv22i1 p1c4 Jan. 3, 1845

“From Texas,”

By the arrival of the steam packet New York, Capt. Wright, we have received our files of Galveston and other papers to the 21st inst. Nearly 400 emigrants from Bremen had arrived at Galveston within a few days.

The Gazette of the 1st says: “The interruption in the navigation between this city and Houston, in consequence of low water in the bay, within the past week has retarded the steamers, and left us without late intelligence from the Seat of Government. The mail due a week ago only came to hand yesterday, and its successor had not arrived when our paper for this morning went to press. WE believe we have not before mentioned the election of Mr. Greer as President pro tem of the Senate. He, as well as the Speaker of the House, is a decided friend of the administration.”

The papers contain President Jones’ Inaugural Address. It is brief and to the purpose and neat in diction. His object, he states, will be the maintenance of public credit; the reduction of the expenses of the Government, the abolishment of paper issues by the Government; a proper [ . . . ] with incidental protection, the establishment of a system of Common Schools; the attainment of speedy peace with Mexico; the encouragement of immigration; friendly and just relations with the Indians on the frontier; the introduction of the [ . . . ]; the encouragement of Internal Improvement.

A Galveston paper says: “The question will soon be laid before the people of Texas [ . . . ] authentic shape, whether they will take an acknowledgement of their independence from Mexico, [ . . . ] of declining annexation by the United States, or await the chance of union with this country.”

The Houston Telegraph [ . . . ] steamer Dayton is hard and fast of Red Fish [ . . . ]. She is heavily laden, with upwards of 60 passengers, and among them, Capt. Elliot, the British Minister.

Business between Houston and Galveston is very brisk. Two steamboats are constantly employed as packets between the two cities.

Ebenezer Allen, Esq. has been appointed Attorney General of Texas. Stephen Hoyle is to be private Secretary to the President.

The Indians about Bastrop have been engaged of late in several acts of depredation, such as horse stealing, &c, &c.

Major Hays has disbanded his company of veterans and indefatigable spies. His reasons are want of means to defray their expenses. Since this even the Mexicans in the neighborhood of San Antonio have become more impudent and insulting that heretofore. The people in that neighborhood call loudly upon Congress for protection.

The Texas National Register (started on the same plan as our Niles Register) appears to be a valuable paper and ably conducted. [N. O. Bee]

[LLS]

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RWv22i1 p1c5 Jan. 3, 1845

Keywords: Mexican debt payments to the United States

"Il Secretario“ in a letter to the Philadelphia North American of Dec. 27, says:

"Of Congress, I have nothing else to tell you, but that Mr. C. J. Ingersoll, took upon himself a sort of engagement to call up the Texas question, on Monday.

On this matter, Mr. Calhoun,—whom I had expected to manage it with some little of the ability of which he has the reputation-has certainly proved himself as great a bungler as was ever seen. He has done little but march from one blunder to anther; and if we escape a nation mischief for which the party in power were really ripe, was shall owe it, after all, to nothing but his incapacity, the folly by which he has disgusted the people with the very ware of wickedness which he meant to recommend and which they were abundantly disposed to receive.

Each new revelation of documents that is made or extorted brings into plain view some new iniquity, or furnishes the strong suspicion of some other suppression or fraud. Among other, the last Message and its appendix afford, I think,
strong reasons for believing that the whole allegation of Mexico's failure to pay the last two installments of our indemmites is entirely without proof, and merely to irritate the country against her. A very intelligent claimant, whose heavy interest in the thing has urged him to arrive at the real state of the facts, assures me that all proof of Mexico's non payment is wanting: that neither the Cabinet nor young Mr. Green (who is brought in to furnish the statement which they publish) knows anything positive and official of the matter. Mr. Shannon cannot directly assert it: there is no statement from our agent and receiver for the purpose; master Green has no official relation to it and the Mexican Secretaries, on the contrary-men of high character-directly declare that the money has been paid over. The policy of that government has been to give us no decent pretence of quarrel with them; from this they deviated only when, in the Spring, they had reason to look on themselves as already in a state of war with us. Then, it would have been absurd to be paying us money. But they withheld it no longer after they learned the rejection of the Treaty of Annexation. If it should prove really true that they have now again stopped the indemmites, it can only be in consequence of the hostile position take by the President through Mr. Shannon. The absence of these proofs which would scarcely have failed to be exhibited, if the fact were true, compels me to disbelieve it; but should I even turn out as they say, who can blame Mexico? Whose fault will it be but that of this Administration?

Mr. William Polk, brother to the elect of Gen. Jackson and Mr. Calhoun had just appeared here. His errand is supposed, of course, a political one. Leves are said to be already attending him, and the whole valletaille [as Paul Louis Courrier calls it] the entire lackeydom of office-seekers and fawners is reported to be besieging him at the back door as well as the front. With what he is entrusted may presently appear in this Texas business. What if the Hero and the President to be should have sent him to speak out to the doubting democracy? Mr. Calhoun has certainly involved himself in one of those difficulties which, in tragedy, make the interposition of some supernatural being indispensable. I see, from the givings-out in some of the court organs, that he is, in his consternation, anxious to make a scape-goat of poor Shannon. Such a piece of cowardice and perfidy is only fit to redouble one's scorn of him, already abundant.

IL SECRETARIO

[LLS]

RWv22i1 p2c4 Jan. 3, 1845

"TEXAS,"

The correspondent of the Courier & Enquirer at Washington, gives the following solution of the mad and reckless haste which annexation is pressed by the "Immediatists." He may be right in part; but he may rely upon it that the ruling motive is, not to disembarrass Mr. Polk, but that the large party interested in Texas, know that delay is dangerous to their schemes if not absolutely fatal to them. Mr. Calhoun's negotiations have inflicted a stab upon annexation which it will scarcely ever recover.

The impatience with which Mr. Hammett showed in common with the other zealous friends of annexation has been pushed to this outbreak by promptings from the Hermitage, instigated, without doubt, by the President elect and his friends, who wish to disembarrass the coming administration of this matter, for such is the purport of letters received here yesterday by the hands of Col. Polk, the brother of the President elect. He is the bearer of a letter from Gen. Jackson, pressing action at his session of the question of annexation, and urging, among other, the consideration, that if it is postponed to the next Congress, the composition of the Senate may be such as to give to Dallas the casting vote, a position of embarrassment from which he desires to see him freed; either because he may distrust him, or for the reason that, as the candidate of the party for the succession, his vote, howsoever given, may take from his political strength. The faithful here, are also referred to Col. Polk for further information as to the views and wishes of both the Ex-President and the President elect, the latter of whom, ever since his nomination, has, by a species of cunning purely "Democratic," never been permitted to appear before the public but in a political Siamese connection with the old hero, which argues little for his individual worth and promises badly for the future; it shows him to be a man not self sustained, and liable to be made the dupe of the sinister influences of those who may be around him. Although he may have the best intention, he will in all probability be the slave of a back door influence as baneful as that which, in its control over General JACKSON, was so fruitful of evil to the country. It is rumored that Col. W. H. Polk is to be of the kitchen cabinet, but he is young and his appearance indicated inexperience of the world, and too great a constitutional proclivity to rashness to warrant his occupying the post of chef de cuisine.

You have doubtless seen the resolutions of instruction of the Legislature of Missouri as they have passed the Senate of that State. They bear the impress of having been shaped by the friends of Mr. Benton, so as to leave him free to act as he pleases in attaining annexation, which they resolve the people to that State are in favor of, and which they desire to see annexed as soon as "practicable," and without endangering the "peace and harmony of the Union," all which is perfectly compatible with the fullest discretion on the part of their representatives in Congress as to the time and method of accomplishing this object.

[LLS]
Keywords: Herrera chosen President

From the New York Sun, Extra:

FROM MEXICO.—By the Eugenia from Vera Cruz we have received our files of papers from Mexico to and including the 7th of December. Since the last news was received, Congress was suspended by a proclamation of several of the principal minister, and Santa Ana appointed dictator with full power to act and do without advice or counsel from others. This was on the 1st of December, but on the 6th Congress met in defiance of the Government, being escorted by the people and soldiery to a man to their chambers, where they received, accepted and published the manifesto of the revolting general (Don J. Herera) and appointed him president of the Republic without more ado.

Herera immediately issued a decree calling upon the inhabitants to sustain themselves and him in their movements against a man who had assured his will to be over and above all, which was received with acclamation.—The National palace was then taken possession of - the ex-ministers, save Canalizo, who was arrested, fled and all was quiet as if my magic.

No blood was shed but it was supposed that the execution of Santa Ana if he should be arrested, would be called. One of his statues in the streets was broken down by the inhabitants, and then removed by the new President in order to prevent riot and disturbance.

[LLS]

RWv22i2 p1c2 Jan. 7, 1845 Washington, IL SECRETARIO

WASHINGTON, Jan'y 2, 1845

A press of occupations has for some days denied me the opportunity of writing either to you or to my venerable and cherished friend near you. I am sure that the perfect identity of his style and mine, and our plentiful lack in common of wit must have often led you to suspect that I wrote many of the Enquirer’s “leaders.” Why, then should I deny the “soft impeachment?” But, then, Mr. Ritchie and I systematize and subdivide our joint loving labors. He does the quotations, supplying all those gems of original learning and taste that glisten adown the columns, like orient pearls at random strung. He has mines of that sort of erudition, the astonishing man – no less than six quotations from Dr. Dodd’s “ Beauties of Shakespeare,” three from a book that Mr. Jefferson sent him call “the Bible,” and two from a rare author called Cowper. One of them runs thus: “Oh for a lodge in some vast wilderness,” and refers, I believe, to certain farms of Texas. The other is something about “I am monarch of all I survey,” and is supposed to allude to some floating Land Grants in the same Promised Land. He furnished all the French, too; which, you know, is of a quality that has long kept all Gaul in astonishment. He likewise does the History; for I assure you that the splendid discovery that Colbert was Minister of France to Louis the XVI is his, not mine. The “fine writing” is also his, undoubtedly – though, occasionally, the imaginative powers of the elder junior and the fervid genius of Tommy erect themselves into a sublime that almost rivals the paternal. They, in short, do the fancy (which you know is the richest) the erudition (which is perfectly ponderous) the Abstractions (which are of the very thinnest) and the fictions generally, which for boldness of invention soar a little higher into the empyrian than ever Pegasus winged before except that immortal Subverter of all fact, the great Ferdinand Vendez Pinto, the acknowledged prince of prevaricator. But if you ever see such humbler things in the Enquirer as a little sound argument, an atom of common sense, a touch of manliness, a ray of charity, a bit of sincerity, a momentary gleam of honesty, or a joke that is not fitter to make on cry than laugh – lay your hand upon your heart or crook your arm and swear that I did it! So, now, having made my confessions, let us pass to matters here.

They have not yet taken a very decisive form. The Democracy is a little be-fogged on the great questions, Texas and the Tariff. On which side it will emerge, no eye can yet discover. They have a great longing, in both cases, to keep their promises; for they are religiously observant of their engagements to do ill. Here, however, they pause, apprehensive that they many hurt – not others (for that were a small matter) but themselves. Meanwhile, by way of solacing their love of mischief, they threaten a little from time to time, to break up the Oregon negotiation, or amuse themselves with efforts to worry brave little Rhode Island and pull down her government about her ears. They have been at the latter pastime to day.

As to Texas, they have held, on Saturday, one caucus, and are probably at brawls in another, to-night. In the former, there are said to have been many violent Southern propositions and speeches, met by as many cool Northern moves to make them all abortive. Finally, a postponement and a committee of compromise was resorted to – it is said, with no sincerity on the part of the North. The Report and final decision were to be to-night. You will perceive that they already have before them, openly, near a score of plans: probably as many more are yet to be divulged; for, it being taken for granted that rapine is a thing easily made acceptable to “the greatest land-stealers upon earth,” and that national robbery is a thing at which any knave is expert enough, every blockhead seems to have his Joint Resolution of Annexation. That single word, inasmuch as it avoids saying “Plunder,” dispenses with all other colorings of right or policy or sense or decency. Henceforth, if a man wants his neighbor’s house or wife of purse, let him ‘annex’ the same. If you have sold a thing, put the cash or other consideration into your pocket, button it up tight, and then “re-annex” it. Thus you see that the only difference lies in the Re----: when you impudently say that you will have a thing without a title, that’s Annexation: and when you choose to say that you once had a claim, that’s Re-Annexation.
I have reason to believe, however, that the skilful doubler whom you celebrated the other day, Mr. Dromgoole, thinks that it is he who will bring matters about; and his crafty guesses at what can succeed may be much relied on. He. Thinks that all the positive measures will be defeated, and that a Resolution (to be moved by him) That it is expedient that Texas be annexed, will be the utmost that can be done. That, you see, will involve no action, and only be a declaration of opinion: and as the opinion of such a House is (as he knows) of no sort of weight with any body, the step will not be of the slightest consequence. The Globe, on the other hand, is positive that the thing will pass; but divested of all detail, in the simple and concise form that Texas be and is annexed.

The dynasty that is to be display an unexpected caution, amounting to timidity, as to committing itself to men or measures. Mr. Calhoun’s incredible follies have probably made them afraid of him and forfeited all the vantage he at first held. Never did any one of reputation exhibit such astonishing fatuity. What a rapid havoc he has made of such respect as was left him – that of ability

As I do not write to the Enquirer to-night, please let my loving friends know that when they can either write or fight or speak the truth, "the hero of the Liberty school" may conceive some little apprehension at the wrath or vauntings of “the Heroes of Hobbes’s Hole.” Dogs as they are, they may whine when I lash them: but let them bark at me, if they dare!

IL SECRETARIO

[LLS]

RWv22i2 p1c4 Jan. 7, 1845

“FROM WASHINGTON,”

The Democracy are reported to be in a "Snarl" at Washington – embarrassed by their very majority, and by their having ceased for the present, to be afraid of the Whigs. We heard many rumors from there which it is not worth while to notice in detail. The scope of all is, that nothing will be done at this session of Congress to disturb things as they are, either in our domestic policy or Foreign relations: that is, in other word, that the Tariff will not be disturbed nor Texas annexed.

This is news enough for present. [LLS]

RWv22i2 p1c4 Jan. 7, 1845

“MEXICO,”

The Mexican news will be found of great interest. It is now given in detail, and we believe can be as much depended upon as news from that country ever deserves to be. [LLS]

RWv22i2 p1c6 Jan. 7, 1845

“CONGRESS, PROCEEDINGS OF TODAY,”

The Senate is not in session today, having on Thursday adjourned over until Monday next.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The proceedings this morning were commenced by an explanation by Mr. CHAPMAN, of Alabama, in relation to some comments in the Nation Intelligency on his speech, delivered a few days ********

MEMORIAL AGAINST ANNEXATION AND SLAVERY.

Mr. PHOENIX, of New York, presented a memorial of the respectable society of Friends, in the State of New York, in opposition to the annexation of Texas, which, on his motion, the Clerk commenced reading. A part of the memorial was devoted to the subject of Slavery, and contained strong Abolition sentiments. When the Clerk arrived at that part of it, Mr. CAMPBELL, of South Carolina, rose and objected to the further reading of the paper.
He said that by the courtesy of the House Mr. Phoenix had been permitted to offer the memorial when the ruled would have forbid it. This was done under the supposition that there was nothing offensive in them, which now turned out to be a most violent Abolition petition.

Mr. McClernard then moved to lay the memorial on the table, and on that motion the yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote on laying on the table stood yeas 87, nays 87 – a tie.

The Speaker then voted in the affirmative, and the memorial was therefore laid on the table.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Mr. Bailey, of Virginia, moved to suspend the rules for the purpose of going into Committee of the Whole, on which motion ninety-seven gentlemen voted in the affirmative – the noes were not counted.

ANNEXATION OF TEXAS

The House then went into Committee of the Whole and Mr. Hopkins, of Virginia, took the Chair.

The proposition to annex Texas was taken up, and Mr. Bailey being entitled to the floor, said he would yield it to any gentleman in the opposition who desired to address the Committee.

No one showing a disposition to speak, loud calls of “question question question” were heard from the Whig side of the Hall.

The reading of the amendment to the main proposition was then called or, and it was read.

Mr. DOUGLASS then rose and stated that as no one appeared to be desirous of debating the question at the present time, he would move that the Committee rise.

Loud calls were again made for the question, when the reading of Mr. DOUGLASS’ amendment to the amendment was called for, and it was read.

Mr. RHETT rose and requested Mr. DOUGLASS to withdraw the preamble to his resolution and put his first resolution to the vote. That resolution embraced the simple proposition to annex Texas to the United States unconnected with any details. That course would bring the House to a test vote at once and would determine whether a majority were in favor of annexation in the abstract. He wished this point to be decided in the outset, and the details could easily be settled afterwards.

Mr. DOUGLASS agreed to the suggestion of Mr. Rhett and withdrew the preamble to his resolution. The vote was then about to be put on the adoption of the first resolution, when

Mr. J. R. INGERSOLL rose and stated that he was unwilling that the House should come to a decision on this question without a word being said in its opposition.

This movement of Mr. J. R. Ingersoll disappointed the Whig members very much, who were anxious that the question should be put. It was, on the other hand, a relief to the dominant party, who were evidently much embarrassed by the position in which they were placed and would have come up to a vote unprepared and with the greatest reluctance.

Mr. J. R. INGERSOLL then proceeded to address the Committee in opposition to the measure. He was at so remote a point from the reporter as to prevent his remarks from being distinctly heard. It is therefore impossible to give a synopsis of his remarks.

Mr. PAINE succeeded Mr. INGERSOLL, and contended for the general policy of annexing Texas to the Union.- The leading argument advanced by him was that Texas was necessary to us for the purpose of preserving the integrity of the Union, and for its safety of defense in the time of war. He advanced other positions and strenuously urged the expediency of the measure. He was very irritable at the idea which had been advanced by the opponents of this measure, that it was a slave question and was to be resisted on that account. He became somewhat boisterous on this point, and before he got through, his hour expired.

Mr. WINTHROP, of Mass., then got the floor and as there seemed to be disposition to adjourn, he moved that the Committee rise.

The motion was carried, and at 3 o’clock the House adjourned.

[LLS]
"Vive la Bagatelle,"

We have no objection to amusement even when it is at our expense in art, and therefore publish the report from "Salt River" extracted from a City Correspondent.

**Correspondence of the Whig**

WASHINGTON, Jan'y 5, 1844

For the last two days, we have had here a strange jumble of Farce and Tragedy – a sorts of heroico-comic of politics, where the ridiculous alone atoned for the atrocious, and knavery was softened down by foolery obviously incapable of performing it. In short, we have had, in happy juxtaposition, Dorrism and Annexation, the one made almost as respectable by all the nonsense of Mr. Burke of New Hampshire, as the other moral by all the ingenuity of Mr. Charles Ingersoll of Philadelphia.

Never, unquestionably, have met, by any grace of those gods who, after dinner, look down for their sport, upon human foolery, so sad a piece of diversion, as these two questions, hobbling along together, must afford. The contemptible and the odious never before so embraced each other, nor the words of Freedom, Law, and all that should at its very sound raise in one’s mind noble and pure ideas, every before were so joined with the senseless, the pusillanimous, and the ruffianly.

Than a freedom which, for the slightest grievance, easy and quick of natural redress, would break down all law and aim for mutual destruction peaceful brothers of the same soil, than a freedom like that of Dorrism which teaches, under airy doctrines about Natural Rights, every thing that is fittest to plunge a land in desolation and blood without end, I can imagine no greater curse The freedom of the bad is the most dreadful of all the scourges that were ever let loose upon any land. I can imagine no sign more woeful to any country than when none are so loud for Liberty as the fools and knaves – when servile fools like Ritchie are pealing that sacred name in an eternal clamor, and every idle echo of ignorance or every mimic cry of fraud voices back the sound.

I believe the Democratic party will pass Resolutions directly, affirming all the principles of the Dorr insurrection, and teaching in effect that mere tumult is the only Government, the only law; that the constituted order of things, even without, oppression, has no sacredness, no reverence, but that a majority, real or pretended, formed of no matter whom or what – aliens; felons, refugees, or anything else – is entitles, al all times, to overturn whatever is pleases and demolish a State, as soon as you can count, or pretend to have counted, a majority of one.

One can conceive that such wild doctrines would be resorted to among nations denied will gifts of freedom, and maddenred, by severe oppression, in the very fury of Liberty. But how in a land where equality is native, accustomed to mild laws shaped all the while by a ready conformity to the public which, such horrid principles of mere confusion should spring up on all sides, it is difficult to imagine. We enjoy already, confessedly, the freest system of government upon the earth: and yet the cruelest despotism in existence or that ever did exist has never displayed so wild, and so restless an impatience to subvert all authority.

It is, too, not a little remarkable to see in how small a degree any thing that ever before commanded among men admiration or its opposite any longer acts upon the public mind. The rapscallion array that assailed the Rhode Island Arsenal or fled at Chepachet were scarcely so seemly as Falstaff's recruits nor their leader an atom more heroical than that doughty Knight himself. Never was there such a burlesque of freedom, such a travesty of valor. Naturally, where all thought was not lost but of the mere buffoonery of whatever was fit to rule men, an attempt so marked with every thing that was pitable and grotesque could only have excited an universal derision: yet this miscreant fugitive, with a heart as white as he meant that his hands should be red with fraternal blood, is by a party who forget his cowardice in his crimes, erected into the hero – the martyr!

Consider, too, the strange contrast presented by the very action which they are obliged to apply to this Rhode Island Case. Just a twelvemonth since, these very men held, as legislators, that it was competent for any State to dissolve, by its contumacy, any law that Congress passed, even upon a subject specially confided to it: and here they take it upon themselves to pronounce upon the validity of the constitution and lawn of a State, in matters as strictly of State authority alone!

As to Texas, after many fluctuations, it begins to look as if that grand iniquity and folly was about to be consummated. The prevailing opinion begins to be what mine originally was, that it will certainly be carried in the House and may probably prevail in the senate also. To bring it about – to stir the flagging zeal of the Northern democracy, the direct rescript of Gen'l Jackson has probably been necessary: but the younger Polk has no doubt intimated to them the hero’s pleasure: and it is now probably that they will go on to cumulate upon the glories of the 8th those of Annexation. Methinks they might have found a yet more appropriate era for the fact – that of the trial of Louallier for his life or the “shopping” of Judge Hall.
FROM MEXICO AND CHINA – The bark *Eugenia*, Captain Biscoe, arrived yesterday morning at this port from Vera Cruz which she left on the 12th of December, Capt. B. informs us that the principal towns, and indeed all the country, have declared against Santa Ana, who, with a small force was at Yucrefaro. The revolution passed off very quietly, no blood having been shed: the former revolutions being carried on by one party of military against another resulted in much loss of life, but this movement coming from the people was well as the soldiery, makes it general, and hence the commotion was not of a sanguinary character – Santa Ana has but little chance of overcoming this rebellion, and it was a matter of conjecture, whether he would attempt to escape or deliver himself up; he will probably endeavor to win over the opposite General by bribery or other corrupt means, but in this it is thought he will not succeed. IN case that he is take prisoner the people will probably demand his execution, as they deem his liberty dangerous to the public safety.

The markets were in a very bad state, with little prospect of improvement.

There were at the Island of Sacrificio, Br. Frigates Spartan, just arrived from New Orleans, Inconstant, and two French brigs of war, but no U.S. vessels.

The American Minister to China, Mr. Cushing, came passenger from Vera Cruz in the *Eugenia*, and has furnished us with the following sketch of the events of the revolution as they came to his knowledge while in Mexico. It will be found interesting and instructive:-

The revolution of Mexico is rapidly approaching a decisive crisis, and the utmost confusion and disorder exist in all parts of the Republic.

The great object of the revolution is to decide whether Santa Ana shall be precipitated from power, of whether, on the other hand, he shall be the permanent dictator and arbitrary master of the Government.

In order to understand well the actual state of things, it is necessary, in the first place, to give a brief explanation of the previous things.

At the head of the Government in 1841 was General Anastasio Bustamente under the constitution which then regulated the Mexican Republic. In August, 1841, General Paredes and the Department of Jalisco pronounced against the Government of Bustamente.

A civil war of brief duration ensued, which was terminated on the 28th of September 1841, by an arrangement in virtue if which the pre existing constitution was abolished, and General Santa Ana was invested with the powers of dictator, for the purpose of reorganizing the Constitution and the Government.

This temporary arrangement is known by the name of the Basis of Tacubaya and the agreements of La Estanzuela.

Under the auspices of Santa Ana, a Congress assembled in June 1842, and proceeded to deliberate on a new Constitution. Santa Ana himself retired to Manga de Clavo, leaving General Bravo as President *ad interim*; and the proceedings of Congress not being agreeable to Santa Ana, it was dissolved by General Bravo in December 1842, and a National Junta, or Assembly of Notables, was convened in its place.

On the 12th of June, 1843, a new constitution was completed and made public, by which (among other things) the supreme power was lodged in the hands of a President, to be elected for five years; of an elective body called the Council of Government, and of a Congress composed of a Senate and Chamber of Deputies; and Santa Ana himself was immediately elected President under the new Constitution.

During this period the republic had been distracted, not only by the civil war which displaced Bustamente and elevated Santa Ana to power, but also by the insurrection of Yucatan and the long civil war which ensued in that quarter, by incursions of the Indians in the North – by controversies with foreign powers – by the question of Texas, and above all by incompetency and corruption in all members of the government.

By the 6th of the Basis of Tacubaya it was provided that 'The provisional Executive shall answer for his acts before the first constitutional Congress,’ and this was confirmed by the agreement of La Estanzuela.

Nevertheless by a decree of Santa Ana issued on the 3d of October, 1843, before assuming the office of
constitutional President, it was declared that as the power exercised by him under the Basis Tacubaya was, by its
very tenor; without limitation, the responsibility referred to in the 6th of the said Basis, was merely a responsibility of
opinions that all the acts of his Dictatorship were of the same permanent force as if performed by a Constitutional
government, and much be observed as such by the first Constitutional Congress.

The new government was completed and installed in January 1844, when the first Congress under the new
institution assembled. Its early acts seemed to have been in accordance with the views of Santa Ana, for it voted an
extraordinary contribution or four millions with which to prosecute the war against Texas.

But, on his requiring authority for a loan of ten millions, the Congress hesitated to give its assent; though it was
notorious that but a small portion of the extraordinary contribution had been realized, and the Treasurer, so far from
being competent to supply the means for carrying on a war against Texas, was in fact incompetent for the ordinary
daily necessities of the government.

Meanwhile, as affairs proceeded, a heavy opposition to Santa Ana began to manifest itself in congress and through
out the Republic. He had been raised to power, though apparently with great unanimity, yet, as the event has
shown, by a military revolution, rather than by the spontaneous general choice of the people.

For, on his expressing a wish to retire a short time to Manga de Clavo for the care of his private affairs, (as he had
done in 1842,) in which case the new Constitution required that the Senate should make choice of a President _ad
interim_, to officiate during his absence from the seat of Government, the ministerial candidate, Gen. Valentin
Canalizo, prevailed by one vote only over his opponent, General Rincon.

Such, then, was the position of things in October 1844: Santa Ana being Presidente _propietario_; Canalizo Presidente
_interino_, and Congress assembled in special session, occupied with the foreign relations and the financial
embarrassments of the Republic, when the revolution broke out in the large and powerful Department of Jalisco.

On the first of November, 1844, the Departmental Assembly of Jalisco adopted a published what is called an
_Initiative_, being an act provided for by the constitution, in virtue of which the Assembly submitted the proposition
following:

The National Congress will make effective the responsibility of the Provincial Government, to which it was subjected
by the 6th of the basis of Tacubayba, which it swore to and caused to be sworn to by the nation.

2. The law of August 21, 1844, imposing extraordinary contribution, is repealed.

3. The Congress will occupy itself by preference in reforming the articles of the constitution, which experience has
demonstrated to be contrary to the prosperity of departments.

This act was adopted by all the authorities of the Department, civil and military, and made known by public
documents issued under the signature of the civil governor Escovado, and of the commandant general Galindo, with
his principal officers; and thus far it was in Mexico a constitutional and not a revolutionary act – for in Mexico the
military participate equally with the civil authorities in all political proceedings.

But, though nominally a constitutional act, it was in reality a revolutionary one, skillfully arranged and combined for
the overthrow of Santa Ana.

To this intent, General Mariano Paredes, who had commenced the revolution in 1841 in the same Department of
Jalisco, and who had since that time acted with Santa Ana, was pitched upon to be the agent of his overthrow.

The secret movers of the new revolution obtained for General Paredes the command of the department of Sonora, to
reach which it is necessary to march through that of Jalisco.

On the way to his Government, Paredes stopped at Guadalajara, the capital of Jalisco, with the troops under his
command, and there pronounced openly and directly against Santa Ana and assumed the functions of military chief
of the revolution.

The four departments of Zacatecas, Aguascalientes, Sinalva and Sonora concurred at once in the _pronunciamento_ of
Jalisco; and thus the five Northwestern departments were in arms at once against Santa Anna. Between these and
Mexico, there intervene the two departments of Guanajuato and Queretaro.

Paredes advanced to Lagos, on the frontier of Jalisco, and there established his head quarters, with an army of 1400
men, to await the progress of events. In the contiguous department of Guanajuato was General Cortazar with 2000
men, on whom Paredes depended for support; but the rapid movements of Santa Ana himself prevented Cortazar
from joining Paredes (if he had the intention) and compelled him (for the present at least) to declare for Santa Ana.

For, instantly on hearing what had taken place in Guadalajara, Santa Ana, who was then at Manga de Clavo, in the
Department of Vera Cruz, and in whose neighborhood was a large body of troops, _professedly_ collected for an
expedition against Texas, set out for Mexico, being invested by the _Presidente _as interin_ with the conduct of the war
against Paredes. He set out from Jalapa on the 7th of November at the head of 8500 men, crossed rapidly the Department of Puebla, where he received some additional troops, and on the 18th arrived at Guadeloupe, a town near Mexico, where he fixed his head quarters.

He had left the Departments of Vera Cruz and Puebla full of professions of loyalty to his government; and he found the same professions in that of Mexico, and similar professions came to him there from Queretaro and Guanajuato; and, he prepared to march from Guadaloupe, and to assemble at Queretaro a force of 13,000 with which to overwhelm the little army of Paredes.

But, even at this moment, all powerful as he appeared, at the head of a great army, and with all the departments behind him loyal, symptoms began to appear of the uncertainty of his case; for though the Congress did not professedly support Paredes, yet it insisted that Santa Ana should proceed constitutionally, which the latter was unable or indisposed to do.

The Mexican Constitution provides expressly that the President cannot command in person the military force either by land or by sea without the previous commission of Congress. Santa Ana had taken the command without even pretending to ask the consent of Congress; and in so doing had himself performed a revolutionary act quite as positive and serious and that of Paredes.

Nevertheless, on the 22d he proceeded on his march to Queretaro; and on the same day the Chamber of Deputies voted the impeachment of the Minister of War. General Reyes, for signing the order under which Santa Ana held the command of the troops. Congress also voted to receive and print the pronunciamientos of the revolutionized department, in all this indicating a disposition, not to be mistaken, of hostility to Santa Ana.

On arriving at Queretaro, Santa Ana found that, although the military authorities were professedly in his favor, yet the junto departmental had pronounced for the initiative of Jalisco. Therefore, he made known to the members that if they did not repronounce in his favor, he would send them prisoners to Perote.

They refused; and three of them were immediately arrested by his order, and sent off under a strong guard in the direction of Mexico and Perote. When the report of these proceedings reached Mexico, the Congress immediately summoned before the Ministers of War and Government, to know whether they had authorized General Santa Ana to imprison the members of the junta departmental of Queretaro.

This subject occupied the Chambers on the 29th and 30th of November; and their attitude had now become so menacing, that the President ad interim Canalizo (after consultation with Santa Anna) took the high handed step of deciding to close the session of congress by force, and declare Santa Anna Dictator of the Republic.

Accordingly, on reparing to the Palace on the 1st of December, the members found the doors shut against them and guarded by soldiers; and on the 2d appeared the proclamation of Canalizo as Presidente Interino until otherwise ordered by Santa Ana.

For some days, this forcible demolition of the constitutional government by the creatures of Santa Ana remained without producing any apparent effect in Mexico. But on the very day when the news reached Puebla, General Inclan, commandante general of the department, in concert with the civil authority, pronounced against Santa Anna; and in a few days (on the 6th) the garrison and people of Mexico rose against the government, imprisoned Canalizo and his ministers – Congress re-assembled – the President of the Council of Government, General Herrera, assumed the exercise of the functions of President according to the constitution, and new ministers were appointed the next day, whose authority was immediately acknowledged in Vera Cruz.

At the latest dates there from Vera Cruz [Dec. 12th] affairs stood thus:-

The departments of Sonora, Sinaloa, Jalisco, Zacatecas and Aguascalientes were in a state of revolution, and in military possession of Gen. Paredes.

Gen. Santa Ana [with Cortazar] had military possession of the departments of Guanajuato and Queretaro.

Santa Ana’s President interim, Canalizo, and his Ministers were imprisoned in Mexico. Congress had reassembled, and a temporary constitutional government was installed there, composed as follows viz:

General Jose Joaquim de Herera, President of the Council of Government, charted temporarily with the supreme executive authority.

D. Luis Gonzaga Cuevas, Minister of Foreign Relations, State and Police.
D. Mariano Riva Palacios, Minister of Justice, Public Instruction and Industry.
D. Pedro J. Echeverria, Minister of Finance.
D Pedro Garcia Conde, Minister of War.

And it was already known that the Departments of Puebla and of Vera Cruz, had declared their adhesion to the provisional Government; and there is no doubt that most of the other Departments will also support he congress.
Meanwhile, Santa Anna is constitutional President of the Republic, but unconstitutionally in command of the troops employed against Paredes. The new Minister of War has ordered him to give up his command.

If he refuses he becomes undoubtedly a rebel and a traitor; because the new provisional government in Mexico is constitutionally constituted. If he consents, he ceases to have an troops for his support: he is placed at the mercy of his enemies.

Reports were current at Vera Cruz that a part of his troop had already proclaimed him Dictator; and that another part had declared against him; but upon this point, no information is authentic form had reached the public ear.

If any sufficient portion of troops adheres to him, to enable him to continue the war, still he is surrounded with difficulties, being in the very heart of the Republic, with Jalisco and its concurrent departments to the pacific against him on the one hand, and Mexico, with its concurrent departments to the Gulf, against him on the other hand:

He may recover himself by some new turn in the wheel of Fortune, and resume his place as the constitutional President *proprietario* of the Republic; but this is hardly probable, as te public sentiment is almost unanimous against him in nearly all the Departments.

It seems more likely that he will have to yield to the storm: and if not deprived of his life, he may escape to the United Stats by a sudden march on Tampico, or to South America by way of the Pacific.

[LLS]

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**RWv22i3 p1c1 Jan 10, 1845**

“TEXAS,”

"Il Secretario says that the probability of annexation is increasing, and he said it before the great news from Mexico, which will probably put more weight into the Texan scale.

The “Globe” inclines to the same opinion – the Globe so much opposed to annexation in may and so much in favor of it in January!

That paper of Monday evening says-

"It is well ascertained now, that a majority exists in the House, and probably in the senate also, in favor of re-annexing Texas to the Union. The conditions alone remain to be adjusted. The treaty scheme of last session, as presented in joint resolutions, it is understood will not pass in either branch. The proposition of recognizing our obligations to Texas under the treaty of Mr. Jefferson in 1803, and entitling it to admission as a State at once, or as a Territory, with a view to subdivision for admission in several States, with the principle of the Missouri compromise engrained, seems to met with most favor. It is possible, however, that the act of the present congress may take the shape of that under which Mr. Jefferson secured Louisiana, being an appropriation to enable the President elect to effect at once what he may be instructed to accomplish in come form or other; submitting the alternatives to the discretion, and the confirmation of the next congress. We think the simpler mode will be found the best.

The National Intellegencer of Tuesday did not com, and we know not therefore how to correct "our longitude at sea!" but we still hold it to be impossible that the Texas iniquity can be perpetrated with a Whig Senate: To say nothing of the unconstitutionality of the mode of annexation by joint resolution, which is the popurlar fashion with the "Democracy" and the entire unlawfulness of which Mr. Callatin has so conclusively show, we hope that the Whigs of the Senate, if no others, will never consent to legalize plunder and constitutionalize fraud. The "signs" are more adverse than we imagined they could be, but we have yet the hope and faith that the Texas jobbers will be routed, and public opinion have the time and opportunity for full and fair play allowed it.

[LLS]

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**RWv22i3p1c2, Jan. 10, 1845**

[letter]

To the People of the Congressional District of the counties of Albemarle, Nelson, Bedford, Amherst, Orange, Madison, and Greene, in Virginia

FELLOW CITIZENS:

As the term for which I was elected will expire on the 3d of March, next, I deem it proper, having received numerous letters on the subject, to make known to you my purpose to decline being considered again a candidate.
It is known to many of my friends that my private affairs, neglected as they have been by an almost continuous service in Congress and the State Legislature, for about eight years, will demand my constant personal attention, and that a withdrawal from public life can alone accomplish what is required at my hands. With me the highest considerations, and a due regard to the wishes of friends, have induced personal sacrifices heretofore; and now even, gratitude towards those who have given so many evidences of their friendship, would, under other circumstances, require that these sacrifices should again be made on my part; yet there are obligations and duties, apart from such relation as those which I now bear to you, that no man can, with propriety, disregard at all times.

The nature of my engagements and pursuits are such, that, on my return home in the spring, I could not enter actively into a canvass under any circumstances. Living, as I do, in the extreme Southern county of a district two hundred miles in length, I am almost barred the pleasure of personal intercourse with many of my constituents; and the time and the labor required to canvass the district, as now arranged, can only be estimated properly by myself, having devoted to it the last two years; in both of which, It will be recollected, was held a Congressional election, as well as the general election last fall, in which also I participated. Every consideration has been given the subject, and with a desire on my part to comply with the wishes of my friends, I had hoped that some of the obstacles would have been surmounted by arrangement which I had in contemplation; but in this I have been disappointed, and I therefore am not a candidate for your suffrages at the ensuing election. I make this announcement, this early, that some other individual my be selected to be voted for in my stead, who shall have my most hearty support, if he can come recommended by an unflinching attachment to the great principles and measures for which, in the late canvass, I, in common with others, contended. There are in the district many such men, as able as they are patriotic.

Let it not be supposed that my withdrawal has been caused by disappointment, consequent on the defeat sustained by my friends in the late presidential election. - That my disappointment was great is the general result, I admit, yet I am not the less devoted to the policy which we then advocated, not less desirous to see the principles, for which we exerted ourselves, permanently established – than I was previous to the first Monday, in November, nor less confident of their ultimate triumph. I proclaimed myself, as you well know, the friend of a discriminating Tariff, what would afford sufficient protection to American labor, while it primarily supplied the revenue of the country – the advocate of a a regulated U. States Bank, that would give us a sound, safe, and uniform currency, while I should afford every facility for the collection, safe-keeping, and disbursement of the public money – a friend of a distribution of the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, which, while it would withdraw a fund from the general purposes of the Federal government, would, at the same time place it under the control of the States, to be applied to the special benefit of each State, and of the people within the same – and that I was also the friend of Mr. Clay. If these declarations made a Whig, when I had the honor to represent another district; if they constituted me a Whig when you voted for me last spring, as well as the spring preceding; if they were the tests of my apolitical faith in the canvass last fall, they are, now and they constitute me a Whig still.

In regard tot eh annexation of Texas, which, since my election, has been much discussed, in some portions of the District, I feel it to be but due to candor to declare, that, as your Representatives, I consider it my duty to oppose it. Though elected without reference at all to this question, it is my business to consider, and to meet it fairly. When first presented to me I felt inclined, without examination, to favor it – subsequent reflection has tended to fix my opinions against. It. The annexation of a foreign Territory to our own was, I think, never contemplated by the framers of the Constitution. If the power, however, was beyond doubt, I deem the project, if carried out, as likely to endanger the Union, itself – as unwise and impolite in the existing state of our own, as well as the relations of Texas with those of Mexico.

We have, too, in Virginia alone, more land than is sufficient to maintain thirty millions of inhabitants. – We are possessed, also, (besides the lands of all the other twenty-five States) of a rich and boundless domain in the west, that must remain unpeopled, great portions of it, for ages to come. Whey, then, it may be asked, shall we covet that which is our neighbors? – Why need we acquire more, (and that, too, by aping many millions of dollars for it) when we have already an abundance, and to spare, even to the foreigner, at one dollar and a quarter per acre? Why, in grasping more, should we diminish the value of that which we already possess? For this must be the effect. Bring into market with our own, the lands of this foreign country; tempt the Virginia slave owner with the prospect of immense profits in the Texas cotton fields, and his Virginia lands will soon be offered for sale; he will be induced to sell at a low price, because he can buy more, where his slave labor will, as he supposes, be better remunerated. But the man with a small farm, and limited means, who has to perform all his labor himself, wishes to remove to the West or Northwest, to some free State, and he, to, offers his land for sale; but he finds his more opulent neighbor competing with him, finally underselling him, and thus reducing the value of his farm, until it is made almost worthless. The man of small means is forced to sell at a low price, because he has not the means to do so, and has already, perhaps, determined to go in another direction. The lands of each and every class of our citizens will thus be lessened in value, whether the wish to remove and to sell, or to remain in the Old Dominion. That it would, in all probability, add a few dollars to the value of each slave in Virginia for at time, I think, may be conceded; yet this advantage is small in comparison with the evils to which I have but adverted.

In these views I may be mistaken, yet they are candidly entertained. Now, as I am no candidate for office, I trust I shall not be suspected of a want of sincerity. I earnestly desire to see this Union preserved – to promote its blessings and to aid in establishing, on a firm basis, the institutions of our own free and favored land. My humble efforts while I have had the honor to be a representative in Congress, have been directed to these objects, and I shall retire from the station, at least with the consciousness of having done nothing to forfeit any claim which I may ever have had, to the good opinion of my fellow citizens.

Whigs of the Fifth Congressional District, I shall ever be grateful for your past and continued kindness; no service of mine can repay your confidence. I sever the relation which has existed between us with many feelings that you will
appreciate. To say that I shall always recur with pleasure to the period when I was elected as the representative of such a district, would be but feebly to express myself, in the kind remembrance of a constituency, honored as you have been by the associations of the brightest intellects that Virginia has given to the Union, taken from your own limits, in her Jefferson, her Madison, her Monroe, her Crawford, and her Barbours.

Democrats, neighbours, and friends – to you I return my thanks, also, for your uniform courtesy and politeness; and, I may well say, that in all the heat of party excitement, you have given me abundant cause to believe, that we differed only in our political views. I take leave of you, also, as a portion of my constituents, with no unkind feeling towards any one, but with a sincere desire to see always a continuance of individual friendships and to feel an assurance that political conflicts, however fiercely waged, cannot with us dissolve the ties of the social circle.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

W. L. COGGIN
WASHINGTON CITY, JANUARY 1, 1845

[LLS]

"REVOLUTION IN MEXICO AND FALL OF SANTA ANA!"

The news from Mexico to-day, by way of New Orleans, is of the highest importance, and bears the stamp of authenticity. It seems clear that the fall of Santa Ana’s long sustained power is no longer a matter of Doubt, and that he, who for a period of 20 years has been “the arbiter of others’ fate, is now a suppliant for his own”!

What shape the Revolution will assume – whether the interests of Mexico and of Civilization will be promoted by the termination of Gen. Santa Ana’ ascendancy – or whether that event will lead to increased disorder and a darker anarchy – can only be ascertained by time. That the successful party will profess unbounded devotion to Liberty and the People and a determination to effect all that the People wish effected, we have no manner of doubt. That they possess the inclination to perform what they promise, is possible too; but that they can control events, enlighten at once a half civilized People, and make those worthy of Liberty, who are too ignorant to know it’s value or to use it wisely, Mexico will continue the prey of intestine disorder and anarchy, until some chief crises with the adequate energy and vigor to impose his joke upon her population – fitted as they are, to be Slaves, and unqualified to be freemen.

A nearer question – near to this country – remains to be considered: how will this new revolution in Mexico affect the United States? How will it affect the question of Texas annexation, now and for six months past so prominent and absorbing?

We can but express our fears that the revolution is Mexico, will strengthen the Immediatists, and operate unfavorable to the party comprising unquestionably an immense majority of the American People, who regard annexation at all as of doubtful benefit, and the Annexation which the Tylerian Dynasty proposed, as involving and comprehending robber. We understand that the “Immediatists” consider the fall of Santa anna as highly favorable to their iniquitous views.

"ANNEXATION,"

"Il Secretario” writing to the Philidelphia North American on the 3d of Jan’y, says:

"In the debate of to-day on Texas, there was, of course, little in the speeches to command much interest. When, after (as he says) years of thought on the subject, the Chairman of the Committee (foreign Relations) which has had it many months in charge, can give no better reason for it in law than Mr. Ingersoll’s [ . . . ] impotent one of the [ . . . ] of right has been reduced.

I have told you the sort of dilemma to which the party had brought themselves, when the House broke up yesterday. Again, to day they seem to stuck in the caudine forks of a like difficulty; be were, for the time, extricated by a speech, into which Mr. Joseph R. Ingersoll (I think injudiciously) allowed himself to be drawn.

Just yesterday, they offered the floor to the Whigs: Mr. Bayly of Virginia, who had it by right, signified his disinclination to speak, and tendered his opportunity to any one in the opposition. Again the Whigs, anxious to see them brought to vote on their own propositions, declined to speak, and called for the “question”! The vote being
about to proceed, Mr. Rhett, of S. C. rose and signified that, to test at once, by the simplest measure, the disposition of the House, and to let it be seen who were and who were not the sincere friends of Annexation, he would move that at once, without any details or encumbrances as to the manner, it be declared that “Texas is annexed.” His proposition was adopted in this form, by the member whose Resolution was before the House, and thus brought in at once to be acted on. He had, also, in propounding it, the morality to signify that large part of the body were ready for the thing in the gross, and were only revolted when they came to examine the details, so that clearly the best way to omit the details, pledge them to the thing, and they would be sure then to reconcile themselves to the particulars that must follow. In a word, he knew that, in frosty weather, men are very averse to wetting their feet: but that, once over shoe-leather they plunge on easily up to their ears.

At this point, when half the democracy shook in their shoes, Mr. Ingersoll rose and went into the discussion.- Of course, he could not avoid touching upon the slave question, and putting gone of his strong objections to the thing of that ground. This was doubly obliging the Democracy – the Southern, by affording matter for resentment in their quarter, and this making the matter more popular – the Northern, by getting the Whigs to fight for them a question on which they dared not (though pledged by their support of Mr. Polk) come boldly up, either pro or con.

You will easily imagine that great fault was found with Mr. Ingersoll. Yet it seems that many of those who blame him are about to repeat the indiscretion. If they do, they stand condemned by their own complaints, for why, if it was wring, copy it?

Of Mr. Payne’s speech, which came next, I need say nothing, but that it a Southern, to a high degree of wrath and violence.

It seems now admitted, by some of the acutest observers that the vote of Annexation will probably carry in the naked form proposed by Mr. Rhett. And the truth no doubt is that the Imperial Mandate to that effect from the Hermitage has been brought by that minor hickory, the younger Mr. Polk. As I do not possess his confidence, I cannot aver the fact; but I do not question that he has brought (as I expected somebody would bring) the Hero’s high behest.

Monday will give us a new discussion, and I fear an unfortunate one, only fit to excite local passions and endanger the issue. Several Massachusetts Whigs seem anxious to speak, among them, I fear, will be Mr. Adams, whose severity will, I fear, act more strongly on the South than any arguments in favor of the thing. If he would be, for once, conciliatory, he might do good.

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**RWv22i3p2c3, January 10, 1845**

**“TEXAS IN VIRGINIA”**

On Wednesday in the senate of Virginia, Mr. WALLACE (of Faquier) from a Select Committee on the appropriation of the Governor’s Message, made to the Senate the following Report:

"Whereas, by the Treaty of Louisiana, it was expressly stipulated by the United States that eh inhabitants of said Territory should be incorporated into the Union, and admitted as soon as possible according the principles of the Federal constitution to the enjoyment of all the rights, advantages and immunities of citizens of the United States; and whereas, the people of that part of said Territory known as Texas, have expressed their desire to be received into this Confederacy according to the terms set forth in said Treaty:-

Resolved therefore, That it is the right of the people of Texas to be admitted into the Union, and the duty of the people of the United States to perform in good faith all their obligations assumed by them in the purchase of Louisiana.

Resolved, That Texas should be admitted into this Union as soon as practicable.

Resolved, That the Senators from this Commonwealth in the Senate of the United States be instructed to effect that object."

Than this report, not yet acted upon by the Senate, but which, of course, the faithful in that body will swallow, as they would swallow an other noxious medicament which Demagogism had prescribed – than this report, politically speaking, as reprehensible a document as ever issued from men who were placed under and felt their obligations to Law and Constitution – nothing has ever been offered to the consideration of the country from official sources, so detestable and revolting.

Let the country remember this fact, and with it, the obligations of common honesty.

**IF Texas was admitted by Mr. Jefferson’s treaty in 1803, as a part of Louisiana, first to territorial an successively to Sovereign State Rights – Texas was as certainly ceded to Spain by Mr. Monroe’s treaty of 1819! [approved by Monroe, Crawford, Wirt, and last and least, Calhoun!]**
IF Jefferson had a right [as he confessed he had not!] to negotiate with France, for the purchase and acquisition of Louisiana, (comprehending Texas,) Mr. Monroe had as unquestionable a right to swap Texas, as he did, [Mr. Calhoun approving!] for Florida.

It was an exchange in the way of business and national convenience – not perhaps strictly regular on either side, but in which the American and the civilized world acquiesced. Nobody was aggrieved, and nobody was interested to raise abstract points and questions of international law, and strict right.

We still retain Florida for which Texas was swapped. Neither Spain, or Mexico who succeeds to the rights of Spain, lays any claim to that Territory! We hold securely and without dispute, the territory of the two Floridas, which by solemn and ratified treaty in 1819, the U. States agreed to accept for Texas. Neither Spain, or Mexico, standing in the shoes of Spain, has pretended to put in any adversary claim to our right to the Floridas, for which in 1819 we exchanged Texas!

Observe now the atrocity of the policy urged by the immediate Annexationists, and gravely recommended to the Senate of Virginia, by a select Committee of that body!

The U. States who have been paid for Texas, by the two Floridas, are urged to receive Texas, claimed by Mexico (standing in the shoes of Spain) as a revolted province, which by the laws of Nations she has an undisputed right to reconquer and repossess if she can – the U. States we say are urged and invited, still holding the Floridas, to seize and appropriate to themselves Texas, for which they exchanged the Floridas!

We will not stop now to debate the Constitutional power to effect this violent iniquity which, if the events of the times did not concur to produce the effect, ought of itself, if consummated, to steep American national character in odium. Without raising that question at all, where is the RIGHT, the right of common honesty, to retain the Floridas for which the U. States exchanged Texas, and then to appropriate Texas too!

Such a proposition is now unblushingly advanced, under the influence of Texas pecuniary interests (not that we mean that Gen. Wallace is any thing more than the cat’s paw!) to the Senate of Virginia itself. We hope that honorable body, without the least regard to party, and in defiance of party influence, will spurn the proposition out of their Hall, never before debased by a proposal so unjust.

[LLS]

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RWv22i3 p2c3 January 10, 1845

Wednesday, Jan. 8th, 1845

SENATE (of Virginia), Session of

Excerpt:

Mr. McMullen reported a bill concerning the Price’s Gap and Cumberland Turnpike Company.

Mr. Wallace, from a select committee, made the following Report on so much of the Governor’s Message as related to the Annexation of Texas, and the Resolutions of the States of Massachusetts and Connecticut, and the same subject:

Whereas, by the Treaty of Louisiana, it was expressly stipulated by the United States that the inhabitants of said Territory should be incorporated into the Union, and admitted as soon as possible according to the principles of the Federal Constitution to the enjoyment of all the rights, advantages and immunities of citizens of the United States; and whereas, the people of that part of said Territory known as Texas, have expressed their desire to be received into the Confederacy according to the terms set forth in said Treaty:-

Resolved, therefore, That it is the right of the people of Texas to be admitted into the Union, and the duty of the people of the United States to perform in good faith all their obligations assumed by them in the purchase of Louisiana.

Resolved, That Texas should be admitted into this Union as soon as practicable.

Resolved, That the Senators from this Commonwealth in the Senate of the United States be instructed to effect that object.

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On motion of Mr. Dennis, the Senate adjourned.
"ANNEXATION' AGAIN."

"Lilburne" the correspondent at Washington of the Philadelphia Morning Post (late the "Forum" and a paper most worthy of Whig support) says:

"WASHINGTON, January, 5, 1845.

The nonchalance with which the Locofoco orators speak of "blood an carnage," is a caution to "Old Hickory," – Mr. Payne, in his last "thundergustical" upon the subject of Texas, spurned Mr. C. J. Ingersoll's plan of paying for her; he would annex her, and then fight for her. If the Mexicans, or the English, or anybody else did not like it, and chose to try the fate of war, they would find another New Orleans, &c.

This overflow of Locofoco valor, at a distance is a little ridiculous it appears to me in men who have seen no service. What do Mr. Payne, and such as he, know about war, that they are ready to appeal to the last argument? – Have they ever looked the "grim visaged god in the face, and is his glance so captivating, that they desire a closer acquaintance? Where are the proofs that they are more valiant than their neighbors? Do the means themselves, to shoulder their knapsacks and march to the field of glory, or death, or do they eschew, entirely, such a vulgar position of the "[ . . . ] Military" as the giving and receiving wounds, running bayonets through the bodies of their enemies – or, what is not quite so agreeable, getting them through their own? If they have tried these things, and are fond of them, why, then, I have nothing more to say; if they have not, it would be at least becoming to do first, and to talk afterwards.

It seems to be the opinion of many, that the Annexation is reserved for Mr. Polk, and that the "party" do not intend to allow that honor to the present administration. For my own part, now that the instructions to Col. Benton have turned out to be no more than a direction to him, to use his own pleasure in the business, I begin to incline to the same opinion. I wish, if such turn out to be the fact, that Mr. Pollock's plan for taking the sense of the people directly upon the point would be pursued, or some other, calculated to have the same effect. Let the question be stripped of all extraneous matter, such as Presidential electioneering; and let it come directly before the people. Their vote would then decide, whether or not, we are to be styled, as Mithridates styled the Romans, "Latrones gentium" – that is the "robbers of nations."

My letters have been so filled with this subject, that I have not found room for more than an allusion to the insolent proceedings of the Democracy in Congress, relative to Rhode Island and her constitution. Was there ever any thing like it? The Congress of the United States undertaking to prescribe a constitution to one of the sovereign States of this Union! It will be received, no doubt, in that quarter, with all the contempt due to such insolence; but what say our flaming State Rights men, our McDuffies our Rhetts, &c? They will say no doubt or will think if they do not say, that the Rhode Islanders are Yankees and not entitled to the benefits of their abstractions.

I hear little speculations, worthy of notice, on the subject of the Cabinet appointments under the new Dynasty. Mr. Calhoun, however, it is generally thought, has so effectually done himself up. Since his acceptance of the office of Secretary of State, that he seems to be entirely out of the question. Never did any man in so short a time so completely undeceive the world as to his abilities. He is an example of the fact, that a man who plumes himself upon splitting hairs, and shopping logic, makes the very poorest of Statesmen, and will always fritter away the best cause, by running it out into immaterial points.

LILBURENE."

Correspondence of the Whig. (Il Secretario)

WASHINGTON, January 8th, 1845.

In spite of the Heroites and all their appliances, we have weathered the appointed day of Annexation, and that mighty "consummation, devoutly to be wished" by all who have no piety nor faith in them, is yet unaccomplished. As your neighbor, of as many quotations as principles, might say, "the ides of March have come" – yea, and gone also.

The day began, in the House, with the offer of a Resolution, by Mr. Adams, granting the use of the Hall, for two successive Wednesday, to the elder Owen (him of Lanark, the founder of Socialism, not his son, the M. C. of Indiana,
I presume that Mr. A. – who surely knows better or who perhaps would gladly lecture in reply – thinks Owen’s reveries too idle to do any harm. I cannot say I think so for I have learned to believe that no folly, however monstrous, can be propagated to the good people of this country, without a very strong probability of its spreading like wild fire. It is true that Owenism has not lazed yet up: buy why should it not? If it fail to take, its absurdity is certainly not the hindrance. It is quite as rational as Millerism, as religious as Agrarianism, as practical as Fourierism, as honest as Mormonism, as intelligible as the Emmersonian Transcendentalism. One error, however, my fried the philosopher has made, that will probably more than all else bar his way to a vast proselytism: he proposed no immediate plundering; his system offers no “spoils,” no offices; and the men of new ideas, the Progressive Democracy, will therefore not flock to him. He promises nothing but justice, peace, and universal good-will – though a goodwill without a God. The godlessness they like exceedingly; but then the good-will is by no means to their taste.

Accordingly, one of the Democracy, Mr. Hammett, (descended, perhaps, from the sage in Cervantes, Sid Hammet,) signified his distaste for Owenism. Its object being to uproot Society – which Democracy can do without it – and to pull down Religion, he evidently thought that Loco Focoism needed not the auxiliary. “He was opposed [he said] to granting the use of the Hall to any Lecturer or Theorist, who might wish to give to his speculations the sanction of that House.” As to the degree of authority which any opinion could borrow from the sanction in question, Mr. Hammett is perhaps more alarmed than there was any occasion to be. However, one cannot dissent from his closing proposition – “there were other places more suitable and where information could be imparted more agreeable.” I certainly know few places where information is less to be expected or is less agreeably imparted than in that Valhalla of barbarous and dissonant Democracy.

The Owen resolution was laid on the table. But if the father could not get the floor, the son soon did; and considerably the worse man of the two is he – as much more dangerous as a certain Jacobin editor of seven principles is worse than his Tory father.

It would seem, after all, that the magnetic pole to which change as it may, the needle of Mr. Dromgoole’s opinions [true to the majority] ever points, must have shifted a little again [as it is known often to do] since I told you that he expected to propound a Resolution declaring Annexation expedient. He to-day brought in a bill fro directly introducing Texas as a State. What has changed his steadfastness of notions – whether the prospects of Annexation are taking that aspect when your neighbour cries out “skies bright and brightening” – or whether the Heroic behest from the hermitage has shaken him – or, lastly, whether the hope of a certain Senatorship, dependant somewhat on Calhounite votes, may not have modified him, I undertake not to say.

Next came a new effort to impeach or indict the State of Rhode Island before Congress. It was in the shape of a series of Resolutions by the Legislature of New Hampshire, stigmatizing the conduct of R. I. towards the far renowned Dorr, as illegal, unconstitutional, inhuman and all that. They arraign R. I. as having condemned him by a packed Jury, and as having punished him barbarously, by putting him in the Penitentiary, where, by the by, he stays (as every body knows) only ’till he chooses to swear allegiance to his State. That, I suppose, will seem a very hard condition to your Virginia Democracy, as you too have a like oath in your State constitution: for New Hampshire, that is so outraged, has just the same. She will presently, I suppose, fly out against some State for inflicting disabilities, upon Catholics!

These Resolutions failed to be brought in, the rules standing in the way, and but 113 of the Democracy voting their suspension.

Thus the House returned to the Texas question; and Mr. Caleb Smith, of Indiana, made against that business a very animated and strong speech – the best, certainly, that the debate has yet afforded, except that of Mr. Winthrop, of Massachusetts. Though the range of the one hour rule is utterly disproportionate to such a question – so great and so complex – yet he selected so well the strong topics and enforced them each to so just an extent, that his argument was a highly efficient one. He took, among others, the Slavery question; but while he urged its main points well and boldly, took on it ground so just; so faithful to all the subsisting obligations between the States, that no Southern man could take the slightest exception to either his positions or his language.

To him succeeded his colleague, Robert Dale Owen. – I was glad to hear that citizen of the world, - renegade of country as well as faith – a teacher of Platonic politics and of loves only made platonic by artificial methods of avoiding their consequences (ask not for the detestable explanation: it is in his book, published in his name – "Moral Physiology") take the floor, to explain Right, Morals and all that, such as could sanction this national depravity. I wanted to hear what one of the associates of Socialism would say of laws, what the hater of the land that gave him birth would prate of patriotism, what the Agrarian editor of the "working-man’s Advocate" would tell us of Land-titles, what the author of a series of popular tracts against Christianity would say of the public faith. Honest and gentlemanly in private life, well-informed, acute, he is, with all that, every thing that is only the more dangerous for advantages which leave him but the more pestilent demagogue and subverter. We dislike, we justly fear the gross, the licentious gangs of the worst populace, that Europe casts, from her encumbered lap, upon our shores: but there is one thing yet worse than all their ignorance, all their depravity – the deadly hostility to all society of educated English Radicalism. A Cobbett, a Callender, an Owen, a Fanny Wright, is worse, in his or her single person, than all the scum or dregs of foreign debasement.

I must leave you to find, in his reported speech, how this Optimist, this Perfectibilian proved, from good and noble old Grotius, the rightness of national robbery and perfidy. Texas is probably that Perfect Commonwealth which his philosophic dreams have long sought in vain.
In the Senate, the Smithsonian Institute occupied nearly all the sitting. That you may see in the speech of Mr. Choate, beautiful as well as strong.

I would gladly, had I time, tell you of the sublime self-complacency of the inane with which that martial Judge Bayly yesterday delivered himself of a series of the most triumphant abstractions. Gossamer was solid in comparison with his reasonings; adamant unsubstantial in comparison with his confidence in their solidity. I could give you some pretty specimens: but where's Punch? He should be here to report the General.

The debate is evidently to run on, until the Texans think they can carry their measure – now probably Gen'l Dromgoole's. My news of to-night leads me to think that Santa Anna is really upset: a great misfortune, I fear, to Mexico. He is their ablest and I think their best man, stained as his earlier career was. My compliments of the day to him who said General Jackson would be a curse and a scourge to the country. There is a foreigner here collecting our different grape vines: couldn't' he furnish him with one of a very particular sort?

IL SECRETARIO.

[LLS]

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, (United States), Excerpt:

The debate on the Texas question was then resumed.

Mr. Yancy of Alabama, was entitled to the floor, and proceeded to address the committee in favor of annexation. He devoted the first part of his speech to a reply to some of Mr. Clingman's remarks, upon the practices of the "Democratic" party in the late Presidential election. He then argued at length in favor of the right to bring Texas into the Union. He stated that news had this morning arrived in Washington that Santa Anna had been deposed and banished from Mexico. He spoke out his hour.

Mr. Bayly of Virginia, rose next, and after complimenting Mr. Yancy for his forcible speech, supported the same side of the question. His first position was that it was competent in congress to admit Texas by joint resolution. He derived the power from the clause in the Constitution which authorized Congress to conduct a war, and to do those things which are necessary to make the war successful. Texas was necessary to us to make a war on defense successful, and therefore we have a right to bring her into the Union. Texas could also be annexed by virtue of the Constitutional authority to introduce new States. He enlarged on these points, and afterwards argued the question as the right of Texas to agree to become a part of the U. States. He contended that she had.

Mr. Stetson, a "Democrat," of New York, spoke next, and said he had difficulties about the constitutional power to carry out this measure. He was in favor of the expediency of annexing Texas, but would go against a simple joint resolution of a few lines, without settling the details. He seemed to be opposed to all the plans before the House, but at the same time inclined to the opinion that a proposition might be brought in to effect the object constitutionally. There was a great deal of confusion in his arguments, and it was difficult to arrive at a certain knowledge of what his precise opinions were. He was understood to maintain that annexation could not be effected by act or resolution, and that if it could be done at all, it must be done by treaty. He said he was alarmed at the disposition he saw among the advocates of this measure to enlarge the powers of the Congress by constitutional construction. He was alarmed for the fate of that principle of strict construction which the democratic party contended for.

At the same time that it was difficult to get at this precise views, it was manifest that he was more opposed to the measure than in favor of it.

At the conclusion of his remarks Mr. Caleb Smith , of Indiana, got the floor and the Committee rose.

Mr. A. V. Brown reported bills for admission of the States of Iowa and Florida into the Union, read, ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee of the While.

Mr. McKay reported a bill making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of the government for the next fiscal year.

The Clerk to the House submitted his report of expenditure, &c. Various executive and other communications were read and properly disposed of.

Mr. Adams moved that the use of the Hall be given to Mr. Dale Owen for four nights for the purpose of delivering lecture. Before the question on the adoption of the resolution was decided the House, at ** before 4, adjourned.
Excerpts:

Mr. Dromgoole, by general consent, introduced a bill to form a State out of a portion of the Territory of Texas, and for its admission into the Union on the 4th of July next. The bill was read twice and referred to the committee of the whole.

Mr. Dromgoole again rose and called the attention of the House to two precedents in the history of the United States, favoring the adoption of his bill. He stated that Kentucky and Vermont had been admitted into this Union in the same way he now proposed in reference to Texas. Those States had been created by acts of congress, out of territories not within the limits of the United States, and admitted at the periods specified by those acts.

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Texas Question

Mr. C. Smith, of Indiana was entitled to the floor and proceeded to address the committee in opposition to annexation.

He made a very favorable and eloquent speech. He said there were a great many points involved in the question, and he could allude to but few of them.

He maintained that the constitution did not authorize annexation of foreign territory. If Texas could be annexed as a state, England, France or any other foreign nations could with the same propriety.

It was clear that nothing could be done by joint resolution and the only question that would admit of dispute was whether the Treaty making power could be brought into requisition. Besides objection on the score of right, he saw equal objection on the score of expediency. It was said this measure was necessary to extend the area of freedom. If Texas is now a free State, as is alleged by annexationists, she could not be made more free. “The area of freedom” would not therefore be extended by making her a State of this Union.

Our relations with Mexico furnished one of the strongest objections to the measure. Another great objection arose out of our assuming the immense debt of Texas, whose amount no one knew. He contended that there was no right to assume that debt.

His opposition was strengthened by the proposal to postpone the settlement of the Question of slavery until Texas was brought into the Union. It was dangerous to the Union not to settle that question in the outset. A great deal had been said about making this a sectional question. He thought the responsibility of giving such a character to the measure rested with the Southern members.

At the conclusion of Mr. Smith’s speech,

Mr. Owen, of Indiana, got the floor and delivered a constitutional argument in favor of the measure. His considered this a question of vast importance, which rose above all party considerations. One of the gentlemen who had preceded him, on the other side, having deprecated the indulgence of party feeling.

Mr. Hamlin, of Ohio, then got the floor and moved that the committee rise, which motion was carried and the committee arose accordingly.

“From Texas,”

By the arrival of the Steamer Republic we have received our files of Texas papers to the 28th alt. Inclusive. They contain President Jones’ annual Message to Congress.—He remarks that the Republic has arrived at a crisis in its affairs fraught with deep and absorbing interest, but that the capacity of the people for self government, and for the maintenance of their independence have been tested and proved. He observes with pleasure the tide of emigration which has set in towards Texas – the uninterrupted administration of justice; the urgent necessity under which they
were first put forth no longer existing. He further urges the utmost economy in the administration of the Government; the imposition of proper revenue duties by a Tariff; the passage of a law for classifying the debt of the country; the establishment of the seat Government at a proper place; the protection of the frontier, a revision of the penal code; the enactment of laws for perfecting the titles of settler, &c, &c. The Message is ably written and will command attention.

The House of Representatives have passed a bill changing the Sear of government to Austin. Its fate in the Senate is doubtful. [N. O. Bee.]

[LLS]

RWv22i3p4c2, January 10, 1845

"HIGHLY IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO. OVERTHROW OF SANTA ANA. FORMATION OF A NEW GOVERNMENT."

From the N. O. Bee

On Saturday the schooner Ventura from Vera Cruz arrived in our port bringing dates from that city to the 13th inst., and from Mexico to the 9th. The news is of the highest importance, and is as serious as unexpected, since previous advices had induced every one conversant with Mexican affairs to believe that Santa Ana would succeed in quelling the insurrection headed by General Paredes. – It appears, however, from the tenor of our intelligence, that the outbreak in question was not merely one of periodical seditious movements to which that country seems subject, but was the earliest symptom of deep felt and pervading dissatisfaction at the administration of the Dictator. The revolution which had commenced at Jalisco, spread almost simultaneously throughout every department; the popular feeling sided everywhere with the insurgents and so rapid and overwhelming was its course that in an incredibly short time, nearly all Mexico had joined in the movement, the administration was displaced and Santa Ana hurled from power and transformed from a dictator to a skulking fugitive. A singular and satisfactory feature in this revolution is the comparative peacefulness with which it has been effected. Scarcely any where was the radical change in the Government attended with bloodshed. It seems on the contrary a perfect revolution of public opinion, so universal and overpowering that resistance became at once altogether hopeless and unavailing.

For the following copious details we are in a great measure indebted to the polite attention of a Commercial House from which we have frequently acknowledged similar favors. We have also received several particulars from the Mexican Consul.

In the city of Mexico the disturbances commenced by a formal denunciation of Santa Ana by both branches of the Mexican Congress, whereupon Gen’l Canalizo, who during the absence of the president at Queretero, fulfilled his functions ad interim, issued an order commanding Congress to dissolve, and for the purpose of preventing the publication of the decrees of that body, forcibly closed every printing office in the city, save Santa Ana’s immediate organ, the Diario del Gobierno. The order in question was signed by Canalizo and his ministers, Rejon, Haro, Barande, and Bayadre. As soon as this tyrannical decree was promulgated, great excitement arose; the news was rapidly spread about, and the garrison and people of Puebla, on the 3d inst., declaiming against the Government [. . .] offered an asylum to the members of Congress.

In the meanwhile, both the Liberals and Clergy in the Capital united in the revolutionary movement, and began to make preparations against the common enemy. Congress, as well as the Ayuntamiento, succeeded, in spite of Canalizo’s decree, in having secret circulars printed, which were actively disseminated among all classes. The government troops about the Palace, seeing symptoms of the coming storm, began to waver. After a few days of intense though quiet excitement, Congress and the party attached to the Constitution, assembled at the convent San Francisco, and a large number of young men, belonging to the middle and better classes, armed themselves in defence of the outraged Legislature and violated Constitution. – From the convent of San Francisco they marched to the National Palace, in which are situated not only the Military Barracks, but the halls of Congress, and called on Canalizo to surrender. The Provisional President at first endeavored to offer resistance, but his troops exhibited strong symptoms of irresolution and faithlessness, and Canalizo perceiving that no dependence could be placed in them, fled terrified into the interior of the palace. At 2 o’clock P. M., Gen’l Herrera, leader of the Constitutional party, sent a message to Canalizo requiring him to issue orders recognizing the Constitutional Government and acknowledging the full exercise of its powers. Canalizo consented to deliver up the garrison upon condition that his person and those of the four Ministers should be respected. One of our letters states that Herrera and his troops forced an entry into the Palace, but that Canalizo in the confusion managed to escape. Another account declares that he was captured and detained a prisoner in the palace, together with [. . . ], the Commandante General; Rejon and Haranda fled, while the Ministers of War and of the Home Department were set at liberty upon giving security for the observance of the laws, and their acknowledgment of the Constitution.

General Herrera next issued the following Proclamation:

"Jose Joaquin de Herrera, President of the Council of Government, to the inhabitants of the Capital:

Mexicans: - A blind and audacious Government had violated the laws, believing that society was wholly dependent upon its decree. But I, having been invoked by all classes and by the principal commanders and chief of the Garrison, have re established constitutional order, and am proud of having spared to Mexico and her vast population
the anarchy and dissensions arising out of merely isolated efforts. I therefore invite every patriot to rally around the legitimate government which I represent through the Constitution; and the national Congress, which has assembled within a few hours, will accomplish everything which the safety of the country requires from it. Thus will this momentous event be rendered worthy of national pride – a hope which is sincerely shared by your fellow citizen,

JOSE J. DE HERRERA.

Mexico, December 6th, 1844.

On the 7th inst. a new Government was organized. – Gen. Herrera was constituted Provisional President of the Republic. His Cabinet consists as follows: Don Pedro Echeverria, Minister of Internal Affairs; Don Luis G. Cuevas, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Don Marian Rivepalacio, Minister of Justice and Public instruction; Gen Pedro Garcia Conde, Minister of War and Marine. The new ministry, we understand, in composed of the ablest and most honest men in the Republic. Around it are arrayed all the power, wealth and influence of the nation. Echeverria is a member of the firm of Widow Echeverria & Sons, well known in the commercial world for its respectability and influence. He was educated in and England is a man of enlightened and sagacious intellect. Senor Cuevas occupied the post of Minister for Foreign Affairs during the French contest, and acquitted himself with signal agility. He was educated for a diplomatic career, and figured once as Minister to Prussia. Conde is chief of the engineer corps; he is the son of a Spanish General and said to be a clever young man. We have reason to believe that under the new government no alteration will take place in the foreign relations of Mexico, but that on the contrary they will be maintained with increased vigor and energy.

No sooner was the revolution in Mexico completed than the city appeared to be filled with rejoicings and festivities. Every trophy of Santa Ana, his portraits and statues were torn into shreds and shattered to pieces. His amputated leg, which had been embalmed and buried with military honors, was disinterred, broken to pieces and kicked about the town with every mark of indignity and contempt.

The revolution at Vera Cruz is best described in the following letter from a correspondent:

VERA CRUZ, 11th Dec., 1844.

Political affairs in this country have since taken a rather violent turn, but as yet, without blood being shed. The States of Queretaro, Zacatecas, Aguascalientes and Sinaloa had joined already in Parades plans, when Santa Ana, at the head of about 10,000 good troops and 25 pieces of artillery marched on Queretaro on the 22d ult., where he arrived soon after, demanding that the "disponencias," but which, although the authorities were entirely left as Santa Ana's mercy, was not complied with; on the contrary, the Junta Departmental, notwithstanding Santa Ana having threatened to send them in case of a refusal to the Castle of Ulloa, persisted firmly in their resolutions.

In the meantime, on the 29th ult., the deathblow to Government was truck by the latter itself. Gen'l Canalizo, as President as interim with his ministers, issued a decree on that day, by which the sittings of the Congress were put an end to for an uncertain period, the Executive declaring itself invested with unlimited power to decide any question, without consulting the Congress. This bold step created an immense sensation and excitement. First, Puebla rose, declaring against the Government; then Mexico followed, which had in its consequence the immediate overthrow of the government, the restitution of congress, and the formation of a new government, with Gen'l Jose Joaq. de Herrera, Presidente del Conseja de Gobierno, as Provisional President, who constitutionally had to take the chair in case of vacancy, or a temporary absence of the acting President of the Republic. On the new of the pronunciation of Mexico being received here on the 9th, the authorities of this place immediately determined on following the example, acknowledging the new order of things, as established at Mexico, after the pronunciation there.

The removing of Congress, although not openly dispersed by Santa Ana, yet it may be taken for granted has been done at his desire, and with this view of thing; at Mexico, Puebla and here, every thing bearing the name of Santa Ana or relating to him, his statues, portraits, &c., have been completely destroyed by the people, who, it may be said, hardly ever before showed so much interest and enthusiasm for their just cause. I am happy to advise that no excesses have been committed, at least not any of moment; here every thing passes of very quietly.

According to the last information, Santa Ana remains captive at Queretaro. Congress, it is said, has outlawed him in case he should not lay down the command of the troops, which latter it may be expected will gradually abandon him, and then he is doubtless done for. Appearances are quite against him.

Trade is, under such circumstances, not much thought of. Several robberies, to some extent have been committed on the road to Mexico and further in the interior, by which some merchants loose considerably.

We have likewise seen several letters from various parts of Mexico, all of which speak in glowing terms of the pacific accomplishment of the revolution, and of the beneficial results which are likely to flow from the establishment of a firm, vigorous, and above all, honest government, in lieu of the military despotism and grinding exactions, which have been under the dictatorship of Santa Ana crushed the people for the last few years.

The escape of Santa Ana is highly problematical. At the last advices he was at Queretaro with about 2,500 men. His troops were daily thinned by desertions. There is every probability that he will be ultimately left alone and that he
may be so hemmed in by is enemies, as to leave him no chance of quitting the country. Should he succeed in escaping, he will proceed, as we are informed, to Cuba, where with his princely revenues he can still live in his accustomed splendor. His private fortune is estimated at some four millions of dollars. For the last twenty-three years, Santa Ana has with very brief intervals wielded the destinies of Mexico, but his career appears now to be really drawing to a close, leaving him the alternative of a disgraceful flight or an ignominious death.

We have been favored with a copy of the various protests and documents connected with the rise and progress of this revolution. We do not publish them in full as they have merely a local interest, and we have given so comprehensive an account of the whole affair, as to render their insertion unnecessary.

[LLS]

Jan. 14, 1845, vol. 22, is. 4p1 col. 1

“Texas – Rhode Island,”

A reference to the Congressional reports, will exhibit to our readers the two subjects which now engross the attention, and illustrate the character of the “Progressive Democracy” – a most benefitting title! – for they are ever progressing from bad to worse. Mr. Tibbatts introduces a series of resolutions pledging the protection of the United States to Texas against the hostility of any Foreign Power – in other words, Mexico. And Mr. Burke, the gentleman, if we are not mistaken, who voted against the reception of General Washington’s Sword, moves for ten thousand extra copies of the Locofofo Report on the Rhode Island controversy. In this one day’s proceeding we behold a true type of this extraordinary party: Every intent on disorganization, they foster Rebellion and opposition to constituted authority, whether manifested at home or abroad. With a question of Annexation pending before the Nation, these men would violate every principle of international law, by aiding and abetting a rebellious province against its parent Government. Promising neutrality towards Mexico, they would fight the battles of Texas – and in a spirit analogous to that of the old Spanish rule which hung first and tried afterwards, they would to war with Mexico – wrench her possessions from her, and then employ the Diplomatic skill of our Talleyrand and ****, J. C. Calhoun and Wilson Shannon, to test the independence of Texas, and exchange ultimatums on the subject of boundaries! How bright will be the glory of our arms. The veteran of the Seminole campaign may gain fresh laurels on the banks of the Rio Bravo. Military fame will again be in the ascendant and some future Democratic candidate for the Presidency will demand our favor in the name of a tawny scalp taken in the marshes of Florida, or some brilliant skirmish in Mexico where the numbers were only two to one in his favor!

Every effort at revolution extols the admiration of this order-loving democracy. The gloom of Dorr’s prison is confirmed by a promise of Legislative reaction! And should he muster courage enough hereafter to stand one round of his own Artillery, he may count upon the aid and comfort of this “fierce Democratic” in establishing that darling maxim of their hearts-

“That they shall take who have the power/And they shall keep who can.”
[LLS]

Jan. 14, 1845, RWv 22i 4p1c 4

“Annexation- Mr. Rives,”

The Washington correspondent of the Charleston Mercury, appears to think that the question of Annexation at this session is in the hands of Col Benton: why should that correspondent intimate a doubt as to the course of Mr. Rives? None that we have heard, is felt by Mr. Rives’ friends in this quarter. It is not imagined, we suppose, by any, that he so lightly made up his mind six or eight months ago, as to be prepared to change it already, or that he has been cajoled by those who only forget to abuse and learn to flatter, when they have a point to carry!

The Mercury’s correspondent says:

“The Whigs fear, and with reason, that a large majority of the House are now prepared to go for annexation in the abstract; and, after going thus far, they cannot split upon details.

“Most of the New York Democrats in the House are opposed to the measure, and two of them will speak against it. On the other hand, three or four Southern Whigs go for it, and the great body of the Democratic members.

“The Senate is now already divided on the question. Mr. Foster, of Tennessee, will go for annexation, and so will Mr. Johnson, of Louisiana, if instructed.

“Mr. Atherton, Mr. Fairfield, and the New York Senators go for it. Mr. Hannegan, who was absent when the vote on the treaty was taken, will now add his vote. Mr. Tappan and Mr. Allen will follow the lead of Mr. Benton.
"So, with Mr. Benton's concurrence, I make twenty-eight votes for annexation,- leaving out Mr. Rives."

"The question is, will Mr. Benton take the responsibility of defeating the measure?"

Jan. 14, 1845, RWv22i 4p1c4

"General Assembly, Senate,"

Excerpt from Jan. 11, 1845

Mr. Thompson of K. offered the following resolution, which he would move to lay on the table, and consider on Wednesday next.

Resolved, by the General Assembly, that the Annexation of Texas should be effected with no further delay than may be necessary for the accomplishment of that object by the constituted authorities of the two countries.

Resolved, that the Governor be requested to communicate a copy of the above resolution to each of the Senators and Representatives of this common wealth in the Congress of the United States.

Jan. 17, 1845, RWv22i5p1c2

"Texas,"

The Senate of Maine (largely Democratic) by a vote of 24 to 7 refused to instruct their Senators and Representatives in Congress to vote for annexation! An ugly sign for that holy brotherhood.

Gov. Wright, of New York, [Mr. Van Buren's right hand man, and the next "Democratic" attempt to make him a party to it.

RWv22i6p1c3, January 21, 1845

"MR. BRINKERHOFF"

This gentleman is a man of high reputed talents. He is a member of congress from Ohio – a very warm friend of Mr. Van Buren. – Cool, collected, able and sagacious (as report runs).

His speech upon the Annexation of Texas, we understand, is regarded as the most weighty, comprehensive and significant in its views which has been delivered – surpassing each side of the House by its sentiments, and impressing each side very decidedly, in favor of the Statesmanship and ability of the speaker.

We are therefore induced, not being able to publish the entire Speech, to publish the synopsis of it, furnished by "Oliver Oldschool," the Correspondent of the U. States Gazette.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13, 1845.

"The debate proceeded in the House, and was carried on by Mr. Tibbatts, of Kentucky. Mr. Brinkerhoff, of Ohio, and Mr. Chappell of Georgia – the first and last in favor, and the other against it. Mr. Tibbatts, argued the question of Constitutionality somewhat at length, and Mr. Chappell spoke generally upon the subject. Mr. Brinkerhoff's however, was the speech of the day, and told with more effect, perhaps, than any one that has been made, owing to his position, being an ardent of Van Buren, and one of the Ohio delegation who foresaw and proclaimed to their constituents and the country, through the Globe, the intrigue that was on foot to defeat the nomination of Mr. Van Buren.

Mr. B. treated the question as a southern, and a sectional one, as he said it had been proclaimed to be, by the Chairman of the Committee of Foreign Relations. He contended that it was unjust to the North, to add so much slave territory to the United States; it would destroy that equilibrium of power which had ever been preserved in the Senate between the free States and the slave States. – But some gentlemen argued that as many free States as slave States would be formed out of the territory. Then why not provide now that it shall be the case? Why leave it
Under some circumstance, he would be in favor of annexing Texas to the Union – he would be in favor of it, because he knew the advantage there was in having a “West,” as a field for the young and enterprising men of the country, who, owing to the influence of old and extensive families, accumulated wealth, associated capital, &c., in the old settled parts of the country, found themselves, unless they occupied, by birth, a certain position, cramped by these influences, and their energies repressed. He was in favor of it, on account of the additional trade and export that it would give to this country; but he was not in favor of annexing it merely for the purpose of extending “the area of freedom” to one race, who were to enjoy the privilege of freedom at the expense of another race being held in bondage. Never, never should it be annexed by his vote in this way. He noticed various reasons that had been urged in favor of annexation, some of which he contended were mere humbugs, while one or two, he admitted, had some plausibility and weight in them. One argument urged by him in favor of declaring, at this time, what portion of Texas should come into the Union, if at all as slave States, and what portion as free States, was, that if these were not determined upon, the freemen of the North would not emigrate to that country – they would not go there to labor beside the slave, and thus in the eye of the slave’s master, put themselves on a equality with them. They would do no such thing. Draw a line between slavery and freedom, and on one side of it would settle the hardy, independent yeoman of the North, and on the other, the planter with his slaves.

Again, if this line were not now drawn, if Texas were annexed unconditionally, how would it be hereafter? One State is admitted as a slave State; another knocks at the door of Congress for admission, and is told she cannot come in as a slave State. But they will reply, why not? Texas was a slave country when you annexed it, you said nothing about prohibiting slavery in any part of it then, and we have settled it with our slaves, which are our own property, and with which we cannot part. What will you say to these men then? Is it not easier to prevent this evil now, than to get over it then? “Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof,” say some men. This is better scripture than statesmanship. Wit statesmen, evil should be foreseen and guarded against, or prevented altogether, not no engendered, as they would be if annexation took place without settling this question.

The administration seemed to be [ . . . ] solicitous on the subject, very anxious to regain what they allege once belonged to us and was unjustly parted with: but there was the territory west of the Rocky Mountains, which nobody doubted our [ . . . ] title to, which [ . . . ] under British jurisdiction and British laws. Why was not the same anxiety felt to obtain possession of [ . . . ]? Why not the same means employed? Why, when [ . . . ] this question, they reply, we are “negotiating.” In reference to Texas, they play the gasco and the bully to Mexico most bravely, because the latter is weak and unable to resent it; but when they come to look the British Lion in the face, why they roar as gently as a [ . . . ] dove! Mr. Chairman, said Mr. B., I can tell you why this hot, this feverish, this impatient hast to get possession Texas, and is cold indifference in regard to Oregon, is because the first is to be settled by planters and the latter by farmers.

Mr. B. noticed the taunt which came from Mr. Yancy, that no Northern man had ever been re elected to the Presidency. It was well that that taunt had come from the quarter it had; it was needed: we needed to be reminded of our vassalage to the South – we needed the stinging last supplied to our backs to remind us of our duty to obey our masters. We needed to be reminded of the defeat of one of the wisest statesmen the country possessed, (Mr. Van Buren,) by those who possessed all the patriotism in the country! We must of course bow our necks and bend our back to our masters!

This strain of irony and sarcasm, in which Mr. B. indulged for some minutes, produced a very strong sensation in the House. He had spoken with great [ . . . ] and vehemence, but when he came to notice the [ . . . ] his manner and emphasis gave peculiar force to his words while he thus rebuked the craven spirit of the North, he made the Southern Locofocos feel the sting of his bitter irony.

We have been told too, said Mr. B., that we are not a generous, warm, patriotic people at the North, - that these qualities belong South; there, and there only, is to be found that “enlarged patriotism” which extends over the broad prairies of Texas, and takes in every country that may tempt the cupidity of man, - that we are selfish. Yes, the North is selfish because she asks for half; while the generous South will be content with nothing less than all. She is extremely disinterested in demanding the whole, while we are taunted with selfishness when we ask our share only!

Mr. B. noticed the aid which his colleague (Mr. Dean) had generously lent the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. Yancy) in berating the North and especially New England. Well, this was a matter of taste in his colleague – if he chose to turn his battery against New England, he did not know any one who had a better right as he believed he was himself a native of that country. (great laughter.)

Mr. Dean desired to explain – he [ . . . ] that he was a Yankee [renewed laughter] and explained what he had said. In done this, he became so earnest and his manner was so vehement, that, taken in connection with his language, the scene was irresistible ludicrous, and the House was convulsed with laughter for some minutes. Mr. B. then went on a short time, in noticing the arguments urged in favor of annexation, and closed. He was followed by Mr. Chappell, and afterward Mr. Holmes, of S. C., obtained the floor, and at four o’clock the committee rose.”
Gen. Jackson is again cracking his whip over the heads of the faithful, and requiring them in a letter to “my dear Mr. Blair” of Jan. 1st., to admit Texas, instantly and without delay!

When will that old man think it becoming in him to retire from the stage and prepare for other scenes? And when will those who have so long degraded Republicanism and debased human nature by their servile submission to his rescripts, conceive that they have a right to dissent from his mandates and to think and act upon their own judgments?

He has again lugged in England, designing by doing so, to make an appeal to ignorance and anti-Anglican prejudice, and to introduce Texas, not through any argument of the value of Texas to the U. States, or of their right to annex, but that by her introduction England may be disappointed and circumvented! This is exactly the argument which Demagogism would address to ignorance and stupidity.

Gen. Jackson’s letter is this:

HERMITAGE, January 1, 1845

MY DEAR Mr. Blair? I cannot forbear, on this first day of the year 1845, to let you know that I am still in the land of the living, although greatly afflicted and debilitated. – My whole family join me in kind salutations to you and yours, wishing you the joys of the season. May you all live to see many happy new years.

I observe that you have before Congress too many joint resolutions for the re-annexation of Texas. This argues want of unanimity in the Democracy upon this great national and most important subject. I have just received from Major Donelson, a letter dated at Washington, in Texas, from which I would infer, that if Congress expect to annex Texas to the United States, they must act speedily, or it will be found to be beyond our grasp. The rejection of the advances of Texas has given offence to some, and a handle to others to press the liberal propositions of England upon the Texans, together with the splendid view of Texas independent, growing into a vast Republic, in time to embrace not only the limits of Texas, but all the domain once Montezuma’s.

This view to ambitious aspirants, added to the guaranties of England of her independence, and the loan of large sums for ten years, based upon a treaty that English manufactures shall be free of duty, is gaining a party in Texas. – General Houston is still the leading star; and his influence can alone be counted upon to resist the present influence of England and its increasing power. How long this influence of England can be successful withstood in Texas, is becoming a very questionable matter. I have taken a view of the whole ground, given to all information its due weight, and I say to you that, unless Congress acts upon this subject promptly, Texas will be beyond our grasp, and lost to the United States forever, unless regained by the sword. What will be the situation of our country, with Britain manufactures introduced duty free into Texas? Comment is unnecessary.

I hazard nothing in saying that, if the present Congress do not act promptly upon the subject, the next will not have the power. The consent of Texas cannot then be obtained. Great Britain will have laid the lion’s paw upon her, and bound her by treaty.

I am exhausted; but, from major Donelson’s letter, and other sources of information, the danger of losing Texas seemed so imminent, that, although feeble, I could not forbear to say this much to you, that you might communicate it to my friend. May God bless you and yours

ANDREW JACKSON”.

Against Gen. Jackson, we quote the authority and opinion of Jno, Minor Botts. Jackson we know will carry the day with the ignorance and prejudice of the time; but Botts will carry it with the reflecting, with posterity, and in the judgment of the future historian.

In publishing Mr. Botts’ letter the other day, some sheets of it were omitted to be sent by him the Press. As it happens, they treat of this same question of English influence, and are a most conclusive reply to Gen. Jackson:

Mr. Botts says:

Another argument has been urged, with some apparent sincerity, particularly in letters signed by and said to have been written by Gen. Jackson, to wit: that we must take Texas into the Union to prevent a connexion being formed between that government and Great Britain – or, in other words, if we do not take Texas, Great Britain will! To which I answer, in the first place, that nothing is more unlikely than that Texas would be disposed to form such an alliance, even if it were desirable to Great Britain; but, in the second place, I answer, that Great Britain does not want it, if respect is to be paid to the most solemn and formal declarations made by the representatives of a powerful and honorable nation. Such a purpose has been disclaimed by the Ministry in Parliament, and formally disavowed by her Minister at Washington, and it rests only in the fertile imaginations of the mischievous, the interested and designing. Let us ask ourselves, what does Great Britain want with Texas? It would be only for the production of cotton, the cultivation of which she knows, as well as we, is adapted only to slave labor, and that she does not tolerate. As for her desiring to hold it for any useful purpose in time of war, it is to my mind all fudge. I pretend to no particular
military science, but a knowledge of the geography of the country, satisfies me, that an appropriation of the
establishment of a suitable naval depot and fort at Pensacola would give us the command, the lock and key to the
gulf of Mexico; and then, with our inexhaustible supplies of timber on the Mississippi, and with the hardy sons of the
great valley of the West, we might throw at any time, such a force of armed steamers upon the Gulf, (to say nothing
of recent important discoveries in regard to harbour defences, as would entirely exclude Great Britain from all
intercourse with Texas – even if she were in actual possession of it – she could, in that case, no more reach
Galveston, or communicate with Texas, than she could send her fleet to the base of the Rocky Mountains: but if we
were to take Texas, Great Britain could devise no more plausible pretext for grasping at Cuba, which would prove far
more advantageous to her, than our possession of Texas could possible prove to us, and far more injurious to us,
when her occupation of Texas – this argument, therefore, has o weight with me, and like the rest, is used only to gull
the unthinking.

If, then, the question is put to me, whether there is no mode of annexing Texas to the U. States, provided they
People of both countries desire it, I say, that Congress has no such power, under the Constitution, and cannot
enlarge its own powers, even by the mighty authoritative and newly ascertained mode of settling grave national and
foreign questions by joint resolution. If they desired to amend the Constitution for this purpose, it would first require
a vote of two thirds of both Houses to submit the question, and then it would require (until Dorrism is successfully
established) three-fourths of the State Legislatures to ratify it: therefore, I say, if the present Congress are anxious
for annexation, let them, by a vote of two thirds of both Houses, pass a law submitting the question either to the
People or to the State Legislatures – and if such a proportion as would be required to amend the Constitution, (to
wit, three-fourths,) should vote in favor of the measure, there would be some reason and plausibility for its adoption,
though, in my opinion, no right – because, in a partnership concern, when there is no previous understanding or
agreement for the admission of new members into the family, I cannot suppose that the sanction of three-fourths
could take in a partner or partners against the will of the other fourth; but, according to the principles of common
law and common sense, it would require the assent of the whole. But this would be showing a slight shade of respect
for the People, by those who seem to regard the Government now in some degree under their control for the next
two months, when their little brief authority will terminate, as actually belong to themselves.

But when they talk about annexing Texas to this government by the adoption of a joint resolution as now proposed,
to with: "Resolved, (Texas assenting,) That it be and it hereby is, re-annexed to the United States" – it can only be
regarded as the most impudent and ludicrous piece of foolery and jugglery that has ever been practiced or
attempted. Pray will those gentlemen tell us what force there is in a joint resolution of such a character – how such a
power as Mr. Jefferson thought could not be exercised by the only branch of the government, of whom it was ever
claimed – I mean the President and Senate – is now to be carried into full effect in a few hours by a joint resolution!
There is no contract in that joint resolution, and no power to make such a contract if there were one, and of course it
is liable to be rescinded or repealed at any time hereafter: Then suppose the next or any future congress were to
adopt another joint resolution, as follows: "Resolved, That Texas ought not, and, it is hereby declared, is not
annexed to the United States" – what becomes of Texas – is it in or out of the Union? – or is it in to-day and out to-morrow?

Have the people lost all interest in and affection for their Government, or have they surrendered it into the hands of
the Destructives and Disorgainzers, to be trifled with as a toy in the hands of children?

[LLS]

RWv22i4p2c4, January 14, 1845

"IL SECRETARIO" is no great admirer, it would appear, of General Ventose! No! Not of him who claims the right to
annex Texas, under the exercise of the power of making war upon Mexico, and conquering Texas, if we should make war? Not admire the author of that most profound discovery in Abstractionism? Does not the confession argue a great defect of taste in "Il Secretario"?

As to the "Impracticables," respecting whom "Il Secretario" apostrophizes us, we hope we have seen the last of that
pernicious sect, who traded in principle, and have proved there, as they have proved before, and ever will prove,
Cow Boys! We place, and this community placed, no faith or confidence in men, professedly too honest to act with
any party of their countrymen, but not too cringing and designing to sure for office and to accept it from either.

There are no Impracticables now!

[LLS]

Jan 17, 1845, RWv22i5, p.1, col. 3.

"Congress, Proceedings of Today, Senate;"

Excerpt from Mon, Jan. 3, 1845
Mr. Foster of Tennessee rose to present certain resolutions in reference to Texas annexation and prefaced their presentation with remarks of the following tenor, viz:-

That he had long entertained great anxiety upon this subject, regarding it as one that involved the harmony and integrity of the Union. He had not consulted with a single member of this body in the course he was about to pursue; nor had he ever said so much as he would now say, which was, that his social feelings had always been in favor of Texas. Had he no other reason for this?

He was but a man and could not but remember that at least one tenth of the citizens of Texas had been citizens of his own gallant State. He had not concluded upon any form for the annexation of Texas. On this point he had great doubts; but one thing he would say, viz: that he would never consent to the annexation of foreign territory unless it can be done upon the broad basis of our noble Constitution.

Mr. F. then sent his joint resolutions to the Chair, which were read and referred. The resolutions authorizes the preliminary steps to bring about the ultimate annexation of Texas to the United States.

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Jan. 17, 1845, RWv22i5p1, col. 5
Keyword: Jackson’s 1819 cession of Texas to gain Florida

Texas – Mr. Adams – General Jackson – Mr. M, &c.

It would be superfluous now to say, for what length of time and with what acrimony and virulence Mr. Adams has been assailed by the Jacksonian myrmidons, and the whole tribe of Democratic party back, for having relinquished Texas by the Treaty of 1819, when he was Secretary of State under Mr. Monroe. It has been in vain that the obvious and conclusive defense was made for him, that he acted as an instructed agent and not as a principal – that he obeyed the directions of President Monroe, and did not pursue the inclinations and conviction of his own mind – that the revolutionary, if there was any, did not attach to the subordinate who negotiated the treaty with Spain, but to the superior who dictated his instructions.

In other cases, this defense would have been entirely sufficient and invincible! But not so in that of John Quincy Adams! His was an unpopular name! He was an unpopular man! Party could make capital for itself, by attacking him, however unjustly; and Demagogues were never yet known (and American Demagogues especially, the most odious of their kind) to be restrained in their pursuit of an end, by any consideration of liberality to persons or regard to justice. Mr. Adams was not only hated by the crew of whom we speak, but they identified him with the Whig Party, and proposed (as they have succeeded in doing!) to injure that party through his want of popularity in the South and West.

Equally vain was it for Mr. Adams to declare as he did formally that of Mr. Monroe’s cabinet (himself, Crawford, Calhoun, and Wirt) he alone was opposed to the surrender of Texas! The Democratic prints would never take the least notice of this most singular and important statement! They affected deafness, and pretended not to have heard it at all. It is no doubt so, as Mr. Adams’ veracity has never been questioned, and his wonderful accuracy is proverbial. He has not been tripped up in any statement of fact that we are aware of, from Jonathan Russell down! Mr. Calhoun, the only surviving member of Mr. Monroe’s Cabinet except Mr. Adams, has not, that we are apprised, ever denied his statement. No one has denied it – and yet throughout the late canvass, and for years before and now, Mr. Adams is invidiously held up in the South and South West, as the Traitor who surrendered Texas in 1819, through his enmity to the South, to Southern interests and Southern institutions, and Mr. Calhoun has permitted this gross calumny still to circulate and to injure an innocent man when it was in his power, and as we conceive was his duty to have averted it.

But this is not all, or by any means the darkest part of these transactions: All the abuse of Mr. Adams for the surrender of Texas in 1819 has endured to the benefit of Gen. Jackson, his party in the country, and his two protégés and dictated successors, Mr. Van Burn first, and then Mr. Polk!

What will the country think – what will the world think – what will history think, when after the subsidence of party spirit, it comes to narrate the events of the time in which we live – when they all come to know, that while Mr. Adams was actually opposed to the surrender of Texas, JACKSON was in favor of it, and approved the whole Treaty of 1819, the boundary lines and all! We confess our own astonishment at the discovery of this fact, and how much more ought the Antediluvians to be astonished at it, if perchance they ever hear of it!

We affirm the fact to be so, and as we fully believe, beyond the possibility of a doubt or a cavil.

In May 1836, Mr. Adams, in his place in the House, made the following detailed statement:

"The treaty was signed on the 22d of February, 1819, and he presumed it was in the recollection of many members of the House, the General Jackson was at that time in this city, and that was the celebrated session during which is proceedings in the Seminole war were subjects of deliberation both Houses of congress; and General Jackson was here during the consideration for that subject, and was here at the time of the conclusion of the treaty."
"But to come to the precise point. After the Treaty had been framed, and ready to receive the signatures of the contracting parties, but before there was any obligation upon our part to sign it, by the express direction of Mr. Monroe, he (Mr. A.) took the treaty, drawn up as it was, to General Jackson, not as to the military commander of the army of the United States, but as to a highly distinguished citizen of the United States, whom, being here at the time, the then President of the United States thought proper to consult upon a subject of such great importance. He took the treaty to him at his lodgings, which were in a house at that time kept, he believed, by Mr. Strother. He took and delivered that treaty into the hands of General Jackson, with the particular request from Mr. Monroe, that he would read it over and give his opinion upon it. He would state further that General Jackson kept the treaty some time, possible not more than one day, but he kept it a sufficient time to for a deliberate opinion upon it, and that he (Mr. A.) called upon him after a day or two, and that he returned the treaty, with his approbation of that particular boundary."

Gen. Jackson (then President) authorized the Globe to state, when this revelation was made, that he had no recollection of the circumstances, and that paper attempted to show by circumstantial proof, that Mr. Adams lied!

Mr. Adams, as usual, permitted the matter to rest there, too proud to vindicate his veracity.

Recently Mr. Governor of N. York, son in law of Mr. Monroe, published an article in the national Intelligencer, under the signature of "G," which contains this statement:

"It is eminently due to the memory of Mr. Monroe explicitly to state that, in the execution of the high duties involved in this measure, he did not fail to avail himself of all the lights which patriotism and experience would shed upon it. Its provisions were the subject of friendly consultation with Jefferson and Madison, names identified with no concession unworthy of their country: and the policy dictated, especially as to boundary, has the written approbation of Jackson, well verse in the localities of a territory to which they refer, then lately the scene of military service distinguished by high personal responsibility, which gave him new claims to the grateful recollections of his country."

A few days ago in the Texas Debate, Mr. Kennedy, of Baltimore, thus spoke in the H. of Representatives:

"In this part of his argument, Mr. K said that the treaty of 1819 was approved of by the people of the U. States, and that Gen. Jackson himself gave it his unqualified approbation. He begged the reporters to notice this assertion, that Gen. Jackson approved of the treaty of 1819 in the broadest and most extensive terms; and asserted that, if the friends of Gen. Jackson denied it, there were letters of his extant to prove the truth of what he asserted."

There is no longer any doubt at all, that among the Monroe paper in possession of this son-in-law, Mr. Governor letters from Gen. Jackson, expressly and unqualifiedly approving the Treaty with Spain, and the surrender of Texas in 1819 – that act for which Mr. Adams has been exposed to so much obloquy, and for his assumed opposition to which the "Hero" has been so much glorified!

"Truth crushed to earth, will rise again!" Aye! but when? That is the question! When the evils which might have been averted, are hopelessly fixed upon the country! Truth we know will prevail in the end – at the day of judgment, if not before! But why not let her prevail as soon as possible, and why should Mr. Adams have withheld this curious history and the proof of its reality, and suffered the Whigs to be bestrode and reddened down by this Texas matter and its history, when it was in his power all along, to have unhorsed the hobby riders? What will it avail now, save only to ascertain fact to the future historian. We hope Mr. Adams will now come out with a fell expose!

[LLS]

Jan. 21, 1845, RWv22i6p1c4

"Correspondence of the Whig, Jan. 16, 1845,"

Writing, you know, chiefly to keep you well, or at least informed, I must sometimes take up my pen for but as single event, if it seems unlikely to be borne to you by the papers of the morrow.

Such is likely to be the fact as to the passage through the Senate of the Chinese treaty; which is reported to me to have happened to day, in secret session. I do not doubt the information, though derived from no positive source – because there could be little doubt of the confirmation of the treaty.

In my very rapid glance, last night, over the probabilities of failure of the Oregon negotiation, I find that one possibility was not adverted to, which may, at first view, appear of consequence: - that, I mean, of a reference of the disputed rights to some high arbiter abroad – an European Sovereign.

It seems to me unlikely that any such umpirage has been arranged; and though there is not telling what foolery a man of metaphysics, like Mr. Calhoun, may not have committed, I am sure that, if He was assented to such a thing, the public of this country will not. Inflammatory councils on one side, and the certainty of their success on the other, will forbid any toleration of such a resort.
We are, in a word, as it seems to me, about to be made to taste the disastrous consequences of these far-stretched pretensions, difficult to achieve and useless when achieved. They are any thing but a wise or right policy for a system like ours. Of it, there remote possessions, incapable of union, not to be retained except as dependencies, to be as such defended only a great cost, can never be a proper part. To us, for full a century to come, Oregon can be, at best, only a colony, to be reached by the circumnavigation of cape Horn. Can the obtaining it serve to us any purpose of aggrandizement? Can distant and therefore insecure colonies aggrandize us? Can they aggrandize any people that cannot command access to them by the seas? And why would a people with a whole border of fertile wastes, with vast unoccupied tracts in their very midst soliciting population, run thousands of miles off, and plant the remote and insecure in vain and foolish contempt of the contiguous?

I say, therefore, that, in mere national vanity, we have grasped at what we cannot take and yet must no quit. How are we to wrest it from Great Britain? Only by marching forces whither even bands of hunters can hardly pass, over a space and through difficulties to which Bonaparte's invasion of Russia was but a morning's walk. I am firmly persuaded that with but the marines which England can land from her navy already commanding that sea – with but a thousand soldiers – she can repel any force that we can ever march across the rocky Mountains. To talk of our dispatching a thousand me thither, is ridiculous, whatever western vaunts may say of it. Is an army to hunt its way to the Columbia?

I but suggest these ideas, because I am in the habit of saying to the public truth, whether it chooses to relish it of not. The last is its affair, not mine. It strikes me, then, that we have, most prudently, involved ourselves in a contest from which was will not and cannot recede, for that which we have no hope of obtaining, and which would be worse than useless if we could obtain it. In a word, w may take Canada – at least Upper Canada; but Oregon we cannot get. Nevertheless, understand me as only uttering what I generally abhor – a political speculation; for, as I have said, I now that we are involved, by a false policy, and by the mistaken public passions which it has engendered, in a thing from which there is no retreating. I think you may consider it certain, that we are now to have in the next Senate, Webster, John M. Clayton, and Reverdy Johnson. The former will succeed Mr. Choate, the two latter, Bayar and Merrick.

The Globe – either seeing that the demand for General Jackson's Texas Letter of 1819 to Mr. Monroe cannot be evaded, or perhaps unaware of its precise tenor (which the Hero himself perhaps has forgotten – some people you know have proverbially had memories) – has challenged the production of that remarkable epistle. I fancy that the call will not long remain unanswered.

The final development of the McNulty business may be expected tomorrow – that is, if this worthy does not run away or get shot in the meantime, as he was very near doing, last night, in a brawl down at the Steam boat Landing, where he and a gambling companion of his got into an affray with the tavern-keeper, who rid himself of Mr. Banks (the company) with a pistol, wounding him with two buck shot.

We have an intermission of Texas today.

IL SECRETARIO

[LLS]

Jan. 21, 1845, RWv22i6p1c6

"Mexico,"

The news from this distance country is again important, and will again strengthen the hands of the Piracy meditated in the United States against her rights and the laws of nations.

Little doubt, we presume, can now be entertained, that Gen. Santa Ana is overthrown, and we presume finally, and without the power of rallying.

Santa Ana's personal fate from the effect of the Revolution, is still in obscurity.

We confess our regret at this unexpected Revolution in Mexico, and for two reason; 1st, We how not the remotest idea that the people of Mexico are fit for self-government, and firmly believe that they require a master who will hold a tight rein over them. We are not aware that they possess a citizen more competent to this task than Gen. Santa Ana, whose energy, vigor and talents are unquestionable. 2d, The Revolution in Mexico, it is obvious, strengthens the Texas party in this country. Violently opposed to 'annexation, and transference of the reins of government from the hands of Santa Ana must be regarded as an indirect relaxation of that principle on the part of the Republic or Mexico. The Texas party in this country will not be slow to avail themselves of it.

[LLS]
"From Texas and Mexico,"

By the arrival of the steam packet New York, Capt. Wright in 42 hours from Galveston, we have been put in possession of Texas papers to Tuesday the 7th inst., inclusive. The most important intelligence in these journals is that of the progress of the Mexican Revolution, and retreat and defeat of Santa Ana by General Paredes. It appears that the sloop H. L. Kennedy, Capt. Lewis, arrived at Galveston on the 4th, direct from Corpus Christi, bringing the news which had reached the latter place from Matamoros through letters. These communication state that Gen. Paredes at the head of 8000 men marched against Santa Ana, who at that time had 13000 troops under his command. On the approach of Paredes, Santa Ana immediately retired, great numbers of his soldiers deserting his cause. His retreat extended to the city of Puebla, where he was attacked by Gen'l Paredes and defeated.

Gen'l Santa Ana, who made his escape, was compelled to disguise himself and take conveyance in a common coach of the country. The particulars of this battle are not given, but we presume, says the Galveston civilian, the victory was achieved by Gen'l Paredes at great expense of life, as is usually the case in Mexican warfare. In Northern Mexico, the revolution has been general throughout the country: at the last accounts Gen'l Canales in conjunction with Arista, were marching at the head of a large force against Gen'l Woll, who still held out in favor of centralism.

The revolution broke out in Matamoros on the 19th, ult. On the reception of the news in Matamoros, of the success of the Federal party, the citizens opposed to centralism and in favor of Federalism, assembled at the most public places and immediately denounced the Tyrant, and publicly proclaimed for the Federal cause. Great excitement prevailed in the city during the outbreak. Gen. Cela the commandant of the city was seized and imprisoned – the shout for liberty and down with centralism became general in all quarters; until the revolutionist had proved triumphant.

In Monterey the same scenes were enacted as in other cities, but of a more sanguinary character. The particulars we have not received, further than an account of the death of Gen'l Jose Ortega, Governor of the city of Monterey, who was publicly butchered for his faithful adherence to the cause of Santa Ana.

We give the above intelligence was we find it in the Texas papers, though we do not very well understand how Santa Ana could have had 13000 men under his command when attacked by Paredes, if the accounts be true which stated that his troops had been reduced to a mere handful by desertion.

On the night of the 27th ult, upwards of fifty horses were stolen from Corpus Christi. The Caronkawa Indians are likewise committing depredations upon the property of the inhabitants, surrounding Aransas Bay.

The Gazette gives a rumor that Gen. Duff Green, U. S. consul at Galveston, has been harshly treated by the Executive, but knows nothing of the particulars.

It is stated that the bill to remove the Seat of Government to Austin, has passes both Houses and will become a law. -N. O. Bee

[LLS]

Jan. 21, 1845, RWv22i6p2c4

"Gen. Houston of Texas,"

Gen. Jackson in his last letter, ordering the instant annexation of Texas, having re-endorsed the character of his Protégé, Houston, late President of Texas, and a worthy disciple of such an instructor, and alleged in effect, the incredible statement, that it is owing to Houston alone, that England has not acquired Texas – we think it appropriate to counteract the effect of the Hero's letter, by the following charges from a Galveston paper, avouched to be true by Wm. L. Coneau, an officer in the Texan army, represented as a gentleman of character and veracity:

"I charge Sam Houston with a misapplication of $20,000, appropriated for frontier defense, and used by him for dismantling it.

I charge him with willfully neglecting to carry out the law appropriating $15,000 for the relief of our suffering countrymen in the dungeons of Mexico.

I charge him with abstracting from the State Department a law prescribing the manner in which the elections for chief Justice should be held in the counties of Goliad, San Patricio and Refugio.

I charge him with the issuing of a draft on the custom House of par funds to Anson Jones for the purchase of the newspaper Houstonian, now Democrat.

I charge him with corresponding with the national enemy, Seguin and Antonio Perez.
I charge him with a cowardly desertion of the seat of government established by law.

I charge him with ordering out an armed force to effect an illegal object, at the risk of civil war.

I charge him with thwarting and defeating the retaliating campaign against the Rio Grande, from the mean dread that some REAL hero might arise to eclipse himself.

I charge him with submitting to the grossest insults from Mexico, and bringing contempt and disgrace on the national character for the same base reason.

I charge him with having caused the dissemination of the Mier prisoners.

I charge him with abstracting from the mail a letter addressed to Col. Jones, of Travis, from Col. Watson, of this place.

I charge him with having connived at breaking the seal of a private letter, in conjunction with one of his meanest tools in this city – a private letter address by Judge Morris, of Galveston, to Mr. Tankersby, of Houston, with the President himself acknowledged having read.

I charge him with having permitted Dr. Anson Jones to draw 4270 for traveling expenses, from Austin to Burleigh, in visiting his family, and back, at 30 cents per mile, transportation, and $4.50 per day horse hire, and call upon the auditor to deny the charge.

I charge him with paying Captain Read, of steamboat Mustang for the transportation of his furniture, out of the money appropriated by congress for conveying Government Expresses.

I charge him with having attempted, through his Commissioners, a treasonable armistice with Mexico, based upon the surrender of our nationality.

I charge him with having inhumanly denounced the navy of the country as pirates to the world, while gallantly engaged in combat with the enemy's fleet.

I charge him with the unmanly persecution of the commander of the navy for defending his country, conduct which he has the meanness to envy, without the courage to imitate.

I charge him with disgracing the first office in the nation by habitually mendacity.

Jan. 19, 1845, Jan. 21, 1845, RWv22i6p2c7

"Correspondence of the Whig,"

Again, on yesterday, the business of the House of Representatives consisted of little but a very bad attempt at performing the duties of a criminal court. They once more arraigned their defaulting and now deficient clerks for that worthy only appeared "vicariously" (as Mr. Benton hath it) through his agent, Mr. Kershaw, and is now gone, where the public money went before him. Never mind: we shall soon have him: annex away, and we shall recover him, along with quantities of other citizens equally valuable. Who knows? Why, by the time we get Texas in, he may be Secretary of the treasury there! Nothing more likely: for did not Mr. Hollingsworth embezzle the Government funds as U. S. District Attorney for Tennessee? And didn’t he, when discovered, "put out" for the land of the Lone Star, [so called, no doubt, because of the many who travel thither by starlight?] and, as soon as he got there, the fame of the exploit having traveled before him, didn’t they make him Chief Justice of Texas? I cede did they. I have the history from the surest source.

Well, the worthy member from Lexington, in your State, Chairman of the committee on Accounts, rose, after some little progress in the calendar of Private bills, and told his tale. Mr. McNulty, according to his wont, and aided by the discreet measures of the House, had not appeared before him at the hour indicated. He had waited, as they wait who have much faith, and as they must sometimes perforce wait who have none. The latter, I fear, was Mr. Taylor’s predicament; for be is a man of sense, Vain, however, were his expectations! Mac was missing!

"He comes not, ne'er will come again!"

In a word, he found it more convenient to appear in that House, as the people does, by deputy, so he produced himself, by proxy, in the shape of another, perhaps almost as fit to be laid by the heels as himself, that is, his missing and cashless cashier, Mr. Kershaw: who, to save blushes, presented himself in lieu of modest Mac, bearing with him an epistle from his principal. When asked something about the desired object, the chink, this excellent accountant replied, with a most engaging simplicity, that after the very luminous exhibit which his superior had
Heaven first sent letters for some wretch's aid," he drew forth another missive from his chief, in which that ingenuous person (who eke n the Ohio Legislature, applauded the mobs that pulled down and rifled Banks, and who now claims to leave deposits in all sorts of Rag-mills) assured the Committee that he had some 20 or 30,000 dollars (no matter which) in the vaults of the Bank of North America in New York.

For my part, I am only puzzled so imagine with what sort of looks Mr. Taylor and his associates received these impudent communications, or how he could help picking up a chair and knocking the fellow on the head. I presume however, that when the committee walked off to communicate the very satisfactory results Mr. Kershaw went after them that impressive salutation which is performed by joining the tip of the left hand thumb to the summit of the right hand little finger and then applying, with sundry graceful flourishes of the unemployed digits, the right hand thumb to the apex o the nose. Possible to he breathed that significant interrogatory which sometimes aids the gesture, “Does your mother know you are out?”

Well: upon the Report, the House, now somewhat indignant at the facility with which their friend had played upon them, proceeded to break them: but not, as you will perceive, 'til he had first broke them. For he has probably left them more bills to pay than money. He has also attained a glory which I had never expected to see any man arrive at in that House - a glory reserved, like so many others, to the Progressive Democracy - the glory of uniting all voices; for the vote to dismiss him was unanimous. Even the metal of Mr. Weller, who yesterday assured the House of his innocence, and pledged himself and his fellow sureties to make good any minus that might appear against the clerk, gave way. He still stuck to his persuasion that nothing would be lost; but avowed that he had been deceived in his expectations of yesterday and placed in a very embarrassing situation. I do not find, however, that he took the trouble to reduce to any available form the guarantee which he before offered.

The other Resolutions brought in by the committee were afterwards adopted; that directing the Secretary of the Treasury to proceed against his sureties; and that directing the President to cause him to be persecuted criminally. In the latter Instruction, they were far less scrupulous than they had shown themselves about punctilios as to arresting and detaining him.

At any event, this strange facility of leaving him at large has rendered their present zeal of persecution somewhat nugatory. He was sought for, by the Police, all last night, but “the place that knew him shall know him no more,” and Texas hath one more patriot.

For my part, I took it upon him as a persecuted individual, the martyr of his principles. Such was his reputation, that the House might just as well have trusted him after the fact as before it. He was the perfection of a Jacobin, and would have made Mr. Ritchie a first-rate head man, if haven had only given him Richmond as his residence. He had some demagogue talent and was, I think, one of the most unabated blackguards I have ever seen. But certainly, upon the principle established by the Democracy, in the famous Mississippi case of the Land Receiver, his removal is a grievous hardship: for was it not then settled that when a man becomes gorged with embezzlement, he is at once safer than all others as a depository of the public cash, inasmuch as he that already has hi skin full cannot devour or guzzle as they would do who are yet empty? Such was the philosophy of Messrs. Woodbury and Van Buren.

But mark! This man, who thought Banks so dishonest that it was right for mobs to plunder and sack them, and who, in half a year, besides other frauds which will yet appear, has made way with probably 50,000 dollars of public money, was last summer detected, at a Congressional mess, in cheating at Brag. He was kicked down stairs; and, almost with the prints of that shoe leather in his flesh, was within a week or ten day, haranguing a democratic assemblage here, about Mr. Clay's fondness for cards! He was again detected, beyond question, in hiding bullets and braggers, during the Christmas holidays! These things were known to many members of congress, and the utter laxity of his principles, his debaucheries and vices of every sort, notorious.

But when, alas! Is the league of those who are esteemed virtuous merely because they always prate of virtue, patriotic because they always have the words of freedom in their mouths, and statesmen because they can theorize, to be broken? The people do not take men to be the most religious, who profane the name of god the most frequently: why, then, should they think those most zealous for the public good, who give no proofs of it but by their incessantly desecrating its divinest words with their foul lips?

Il Secretario

[LLS]
We have been shown an intercepted letter written by Santa Ana to Valentin Canalizo, and dated Queretaro, the 6th of December. This letter is a reply to a dispatch addressed to Santa Ana by Canalizo, and dated the 4th. The following is the substance of the letter, which is will be perceived, was written the very day on which the revolution broke out at Mexico.

"However disagreeable may be the defection of Inclan, it is of little consequence, if met with firmness and energy.

"The army is all on the march, and as it was necessary to divide the forces in order to effect a decisive stroke, I am preferring for Paredes, who does not budge from Aransas, on the route to Guadalajara, it is impossible to order a countermarch of the 2,500 men of which you speak, as it would occasion entirely too much confusion.

"I have, however, given orders to dispatch to you the 8th regiment of infantry and the active squadron of Tlaxcala, which I had left in garrison for reinforcements. The two will constitute an effective force of 600 men, you may augment the eighth with the battalion of recruits which may be prepared before hand, as the battalion will arrive in six days and the squadron in four.

"You may likewise assemble the squadron of Tula, which consists of pretty good troops, and a few detachments besides in the vicinity of the capitol.

"I am of the opinion that not a soldier should be allowed to leave his post until the arrival of these forces – you know the petty officers of the army – they cannot be lost sight of with safety.

"I am in hopes that the Commanders Gaona, Mendoza, Ullarte and others will arrest Inclan. Should I be disappointed it will be of little consequence, as without arms and munitions they can accomplish nothing.

"Only preserve the capital with 3000 faithful men well stationed, and the revolution at Puebla will prove of no importance. There may be some few outbreaks which will cease as soon as Paredes is beaten, and this will be done in eight or ten days. I have already informed you that Zacatecas is tranquillized, and the surrounding departments, though filled with agitators, are free from turbulence or commotion.

"General Juvera is well disposed towards the government, and is in command of this place with 600 men and three pieces of artillery.

"Although timorous, General Cortazar is in the right path, and serves the cause of the government.

"It is indispensable to secure Pedraza, as well as the petty chiefs of the revolution, in order to disconcert their plans. The dissolution of the factious assemblies such as the Ayuntamiento and Junta Departmental, is not important, as they will be forced to submit when they behold the denouement of the drama.

"The election of the Command of Puebla appears to me certain, and likewise that of second in commandcMendoza. This will aid the government, and produce a good effect.

"The news from the squadron at Puebla is satisfactory. It is probable that Inclan has been arrested. In one word, comrade, resolution, and exemplary chastisement for all the chiefs of the conspiracy! Do not stop halfway. Nothing is more fatal in critical moments than weakness and indecision."

In a letter to Rejon we find the following passage:

"Energy, no pausing before the means necessary to be employed. In crisis like the present firmness and blows settle every thing." -N. O. Bee.

[LLS]

Jan. 28, 1845, RWv22i8p1c1

"From Washington, Fate of the Texas Movement,"

Let us be permitted to caution the country as to the statements which appear in the papers devoted to the immediate annexation of Texas, and which represent that event as certain or next to certain.

Those statements are probably in every case, from the pens of partisans and interested persons, me whose wishes are fathers to their thoughts, and whose purses control their thoughts and wishes both. They are bold speculations intended to bring about the end desired, not faithful representations of fact.

We believe we can assure the Public, that Texas will NOT be annexed, and that whatever the House may order, the
Senate, by a great majority, composed of both great political parties, will arrest the movement to annex by Legislation; the most unqualifiedly profligate violation of the Constitution ever yet attempted.

The people, in truth, do not desire annexation now, all at once, in such hot haste and tremendous hurry, if ever. They have got along without Texas, for two hundred and thirty years, and think they can manage to do so still. It is the Texas Land mongers and Scrip-speculators only, who are in this wonderful hast to CLUTCH THE SPOILS.

Jan. 28, 1845, RWv22i8p1c3

"Passage of the Resolutions of Texas Annexation,"

As we thought probable, the resolutions annexing Texas passed the House of Representatives on Saturday, ayes 120, nays 98. Eight Whigs voted for them, viz, Messrs. Peyton, Senator, Ashe, and Milton Brown, of Tennessee; Messrs. Clinch and Stevens of Georgia; Dellet, of Alabama; and Newton, of Virginia. Their votes reversed, would have produced nearly a tie.

Towards the close of the debate, Mr. Rayner, of North Carolina, rose and said: "He called upon the reporters to note it particularly, that no Southern Whig, who was in favor of the annexation of Texas, had been allowed to address the House during the debate. By some system of management, Southern Whigs had been deprived of the floor and thus prevented from explaining their position and giving their reasons for the course they intended to pursue." [Mr. Hopkins, of Virginia, who occupied the Chair, called Mr. Rayner to order, and said he could not permit reflections to be made upon the Presiding office."]

The forms of resolutions adopted, was that offered by Mr. Milton Browne, of Tennessee, and Mr. Foster of Tennessee, in the Senate, (providing for the adoption of one Texas slave state and one Texas free state) providing for the adoption of one Texas slave state now, and four hereafter, if the people prefer slavery.

Mr. Hale's proposition for making two States of Texas received but 16 votes.

By the resolutions, as adopted, slavery in the States to be created out of Texas, is to exist or not, as the people may prefer.

The debts of Texas are not to be assumed by United States, but provided for out of the Texas public land fund.

(This if sustained by the Senate, is a great measure, the consequences of which, foreign and domestic, remote and immediate, commercial political, and religious, can be foreseen not even guessed at by human ken! It may produce a dissolution of the Union as it exists, and new confederacies among the States, war with Mexico and possibly England, and civil war; or it may produce none of these and result in strengthening and enriching the American People, in extending the area of Liberty and civilization, and the Anglo Saxon tongue, religion and civil Institutions. We have always dreaded the consequences more than we hoped from them, because knowing that this great measure sprung from a political intrigue and the cupidity of speculators, we would not feel justified in the expectation that what was born in iniquity could lead to glory and happiness. But Providence chooses its instrument by rules hidden from mortal eyes, and we humbly trust that such may be the case now, and that what appears to us of so doubtless and alarming import, is yet destined to effect final good.)

But the measure has yet to pass the fiery ordeal of the Senate, a body very different in constitution and character from the House. Our information leads us to the firmest assurance that the resolutions cannot pass the Senate. That body will not consent to be goaded on by the system of "overseeing," so successfully practiced against recusants in the other House: they will certainly take time for the widest enquiry and the most mature consideration. Nearly every Senator will desire to address his constituents, and this will very probably bring the 4th March: But there is supposed to be decided majority against annexation, by legislation in any shape, in not by treaty, too.

Jan. 28, 1845, RWv22i8p1c3

"Santa Ana and Mexico,"

The news from Mexico is so important as well as so curious and unexpected, bearing too upon the fortune of movements in the U. States that we insert it to the exclusion of a press of other matter of much interest.

(This news is crowded out by Foreign news.)

We shall not speculate upon the circumstances so ably reviewed and lucidly collated by the Picayune, farther than to express the decided conviction that if Santa Ana has really approached the Capital so near as five miles and at the
head of so large a force, that the contest has been decided in his favor.

Jan. 28, 1845, RWv22i8p1c3

“Texas Vetoed by the Legislature of Louisiana,“

We have omitted to state what we hear is the fact, that the Legislature of Louisiana have rejected resolutions in favor of annexation by a vote of 48 to 46.

The explanation is of more importance than the fact. That we do not doubt is contained in the present ruinously low prices of the great Southern staples of sugar and cotton.

A correspondent of the National Intelligencer writes:

New Orleans, Jan. 11, 1845,

“I find that the very low rates of both sugar and cotton are already beginning to open the eyes of some of he strong advocates for the annexation of Texas, and will no doubt make many pause in their exertions to attain that object. I do not consider that he question of annexation can come into the next Presidential canvass, but that it must and will be settled definitely, on way or the other, at the next session of congress, or, at any rate, within the first two years of Mr. Polk's administration. I ought, therefore, not to be any longer considered as having any party bearing, but should both by Whigs and Locofocos, be taken up on the pure merits of the question; and I most sincerely hope it will be discussed in this spirit at Washington.”

It has ever been a subject of surprise to us that the planting States of S. Caroling, Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Alabama and the Floridas should favor a step so fatal to their prosperity if Texas be the Egypt in fertility represented. An ultimate and extensive reaction much take place in popular opinion in those regions, and it was to give time for nation reflection upon a subject of such immense import, that we have ever chiefly opposed Immediate Annexation. If immediately annexed and the measure should prove disastrous, it would also be irreparable.

Jan. 28, 1845, RWv22i8p1c3

"Lashing them in,"

From the N. Y. Tribune:

The Richmond Enquirer closes an article on the Annexation of Texas as follows:

"We rejoice that those deserting Democrats, who oppose this vital question, which Mr. Polk so anxiously desires to be settled at this session, will have nothing to expect from his Administration. Those Northern Democrats, who avail themselves of this critical contest with our great Trans-Atlantic rival, to indulge their fanatical hatred of the South, will find themselves mistaken in their calculations – marked by a great national sentiment in their turn – and we dare to say, that if they should defeat us, we shall have at least the consolation of knowing, that they will be hereafter defeated in their own aspirations."

‘Boys, do you hear that?’ ‘No song, no supper.’ You must go Texas, or you get no offices from Polk! They didn’t talk so before Election.

Jan. 28, 1845, RWv22i8p2c1, January 28, 1845

“FROM MEXICO – LATE AND IMPORTANT”

From the N. O. Picayune.

By the arrival yesterday of the ship Hermann, Captain Welch, from Vera Cruz, we have dates from that city up to the 2d inst. To give a full account of all the occurrences in the distracted Republic since our last would occupy our entire space – we must therefore, as briefly as possible, detail the principal events which have transpired.
From all we can gather, by our files of papers, our correspondence, and verbal accounts, it would seem that Santa Ana is still in the field arrayed against the new government, and with a force far from inconsiderable at his disposal.

The report of his being defeated by Paredes, at Puebla, as we anticipated, was entirely without foundation.

A friend at the City of Mexico has sent us a supplement of the Diario del Gobierno, dated on the 27th January, which contains a long correspondence between Santa Ana and the new President, Herrera, the substance of which will be found below. Santa Ana's last letter was written on the 25th at Huehueto, a small village but a few leagues from Mexico. Verbally we learn that the dictator was within five miles of the city on the 28th, that the roads leading to it in every direction had been cut up and barricaded, that the citizens were under arms, and the Gen. Paredes, with a force of 6000 men, had gone out to meet Santa Ana. The force on the latter we have no means of ascertaining. One account places it at 10,000, of which 2000 are said to be splendid cavalry; but other reports make out the entire force of 6000 men, had gone out to meet Santa Ana. The force on the latter we have no means of ascertaining. One account places it at 10,000, of which 2000 are said to be splendid cavalry; but other reports make out the entire force of 6000 men, and was expecting reinforcements from both Zacatecas and San Luis. It may be that Bravo had gone out to meet Santa Ana, as he had arrived at the city a few days before and had taken sides against the tyrant.

But in order more fully to give our readers an idea of the present situation and prospects of Santa Ana, we must take them back to the time when he first hears of the Revolution in the city of Mexico, and the imprisonment of Canalizo. Want of room prevents us giving other than a mere synopsis of a correspondence which occupies pages of the Mexican journals.

On the 18th of December, Santa Ana addressed to Gen. Herera a letter from Celaya, in which he states, that while on his march to put down the rebellion of Paredes, he received at Siloa, the intelligence of the insurrection of the 6th December, by which Canalizo was hurled from power. He had waited for this intelligence to be communicated to him officially, and to be invited to take charge of the Government as the Constitutional President. Upon learning afterwards, that the command of the army had been intrusted to Gen. Cortazar, he determined to address the government to know if it would then commit to him the public authority to be administered according to the Organic Bases, in order that he might accordingly regulate his line of procedure. At the same time, he protests against the imprisonment of Gen. Canalizo, as contrary to the Organic Bases, while acting as President of the Republic. He then declares himself at the head of an army full of spirit and enthusiasm, and determined to march upon the capital to re-establish order.

The Foreign Secretary, Cuevas, replies to this under date of the 21st December. Without deigning to reply directly to Santa Ana's demands, he rebukes him for calling that an insurrection which is in fact a unanimous manifestation of the national will. He justifies the course of conduct pursued by the Government towards Canalizo, and then enters upon an enumeration of the acts of tyranny of Santa Ana in violation of the Organic Bases. He then orders him to give up the command of the army to Gen. Cortazar, to suspend his march upon the capital, and to place himself at the disposition of the government, to be tried for alleged offences by the two chambers. A warm appeal is made to his magnanimity, his sense of the honors showered upon him by the country, and the absolute powers at times entrust to him, to prevent the effusion of blood and yield with dignity. At the same time the safety of his person is guaranteed. This letter is written with ability, but, we think, betrays a natural apprehension of the tyrant's power, and a praiseworthy desire to avoid bloodshed.

The first letter of Santa Ana was accompanied by a private letter to Herrera, written with the utmost apparent cordiality, but in which he expresses views not unlike those of his official communication. At the same time he demands that, upon his approach to the capital, Herrera would grant him an interview, that hey may consult together upon the best means of re-establishing and confirming public order. Gen. Herrera accompanies his secretary's official reply with a private letter, in answer to this, as cordial as Santa Ana's, but he declines the interview.

This letter was preceded by a decree dated the 17th of December, by which it is declared that the Government no longer recognizes Santa Ana's authority as President of the Republic; all his acts, as such, President, are pronounced null and void, and the army under him is required to submit at once to the constitutional authorities.

Santa Ana continued his movement upon the capital until he reached Huehueto, from which place, on the 25th of December, he addressed another long communication to Gen. Herrera. It is written haughtily, and in defending himself he does not hesitate to attack the Government. He states that he was ordered to put himself at the head of the army, to suppress the outbreak at Jalisco. He hastened to do so – it not being his duty to inquire into the legality of the order, but to obey. He was the more ready to obey, in consideration of his elevated position and his influences with the army. He then asserts that he could and should readily have crushed the outbreak, but for the insurrection in the capital and the order given him to transfer the command of the army. He then discusses the acts of the Congress – declares their disposition of Canalizo illegal, as he had neither resigned his command nor been allowed a trial; he refuses therefore, to acknowledge Herrera as President.

He then defends the act of Canalizo suspending the sessions of Congress, and contends that if was, at the least, no more a violation of the Bases than the act of Congress deposing Canalizo. The former, he urges, was an act of necessity – the latter, a seditious movement to wrest power from himself; but whatever was the character of the act, it was that of Canalizo, not of Santa Ana. The latter not being responsible for it, he contends that the decree of the 17th of December, virtually deposing him from the Presidency of the Republic and disavowing his acts, is in itself illegal, beyond the competency of Congress, and revolutionary.
He takes up in detail the several charges made against himself by Cuevas – (for a synopsis of which we cannot find room to-day) – and, one after the other, he pronounces them false and calumnious. He then solemnly declares, that not having failed in this obedience to the laws, that being determined that no one shall overthrow them, and that being resolved to maintain the Organic Bases, he feels bound to protest against, and does protest against, the revolutionary deposition of Canalizo, and the act of accusation against him. He protests against the audacious disavowal of his own authority, as beyond their constitutional powers [ . . . ] an act unknown to the law, and contrary to the [ . . . ] of the government he declares that he has sought to exercise no authority not conferred on him by law; that he has not thought, nor does he think, of dissolving the legislative body, but that he is determined, at every hazard, to maintain the Organic Bases. Finally, he protests against the act of accusation directed against himself, as beyond the pale of the authority of Congress, and the work of personal enemies seeking to bring about a revolution.

He then boldly demands that Herrera should give up to him the power, to the exercise of which he had been called by the nation. He next asserts that he is on his march to the capital, for the purpose of assuming the reins of Government, not for wreaking vengeance on his foes, and that the army is with him in sentiment. He characterizes the indignities with which were treated the remains of the limb he lost in “a day of glory” as brutal and cowardly; says something of his public services, and concludes with some sever reflections upon Cuevas.

This official letter is again accompanied by a private one, in which, in a more bland manner, Santa Ana urges upon Herrera to lay aside his own authority and acknowledge that which he himself claims. He intimates that as he is at the head of troops, it is unnecessary to say, to an old soldier like Herrera, what the consequences must be, if the latter refuse to comply.

The reply of Herrera to this note, which is dated at Mexico on the 27th, two days after, is friendly yet firm and dignified. He stands by the letter of his Secretary of Foreign Relations, and exhorts Santa Anna to submission. – Gen. Bravo, too, who had been called to the command of the army, on the 27th December, addressed Santa Anna, apprising him of his command, and urging him to suspend actual hostilities and spare the effusion of blood. We can not get more at length into this correspondence. Upon reading it, it is somewhat difficult to form an opinion as to the relative positions of the three generals. Santa Ana may have assumed all the audacity which characterizes his portion of it; but his marching upon the capital looks as though he were in earnest. On the other hand, the milder and almost supplicating tone of Herrera's in some passages, may be dictated by real humanity and patriotism, not unmixed with a magnanimous regard for the fortunes of an old fellow soldier, whom he allows to have deserved well of the Republic. We think that Santa Ana's superior craft and dexterity, coupled with his great energy, are more dreaded by both Herrera and Bravo than their physical forces under his command.

The Mexican papers of the 25th December state that for some days previous nothing was to be heard but discharges of artillery and the ringing of bells at the joyful announcement of the progress of the revolution. The surrender of the constitutional Government of the castle of Perote, with twenty thousand stands of arms; the declaration of Tampico against Santa Ana; the adhesion of the garrison of Guanajuata to the government, under the command of General Liceaga – the events, as the new successively arrived, filled the city with joy. This, it should be recollected, was before the news had arrived that Santa Ana had arrived at Huehuetoca, and had sent his bold note to Herera. The papers of the day, after its reception, have not reached us.

The city has been declared in a state of siege, and the inhabitants are obviously afflicted at the near prospect of bloodshed. Their shouts and rejoicings must, therefore be taken with some grains of allowance, and should Santa Ana succeed, they may hurrah as loudly for him.

General Bassedre who it was said at the North was to supersede Santa Ana in his command, has been accused by the unanimous vote of the Congress, and will undergo a trial. He was Santa Ana’s Secretary of War.

Senor Llaca, a distinguished Deputy from Queretaro, and a leader of the opposition against the late government, is dead. His funeral was attended by Congress, and an immense throng of citizens.

On the 25th of December, Senor Cuevas, Secretary of Foreign Relations, addressed a letter to the governors of Departments, congratulating them, among other things, that the vessels of war, just returned from the U. States, had been placed at the disposition of the actual government. He announces Santa Ana's march upon the capital, but says it has been put in a complete state of defence, and he expresses perfect confidence of triumph. Gens. Valencia, Guzman, and Morales, have declared for the Government, and the first named appointed second in command of the army – general Bravo commanding in chief. The citizens of Mexico were rapidly enrolling themselves, and all hands were at work digging trenches and barricading the streets to prevent the advance of the tyrant.

The downfall of Santa Ana, was at one time deemed so certain in Mexico, that the poets plumed their wings, and commenced their lampoons, and affected lamentations over the fortunes of the late President.

It is a strong indication of the dread entertained of him in Mexico, that the roads leading to the capital, had been torn up to retard his march. At the same time, the sisters of charity, in anticipation of a desperate conflict, and with their characteristic piety and humanity, had tendered their services to the War Department, to be employed in the hospitals.

The Commandant general of the Department of Vera Cruz, under date of December 31, addressed the inhabitants, indicating to them the probability that Santa Ana might attempt to establish himself in Vera Cruz, with the view of
They have shown that they can count the House, but they have equally shown that they cannot the Senate.

With all that, the Annexationists are confident and rely upon a majority of 5. They obviously reckon on losing none of their men, and on getting more of ours than they can obtain. In both particulars, they are like to prove mistaken. They have shown that they can count the House, but they have equally shown that they cannot the Senate.

[LLS]
The session of the House of Delegates, Saturday, extending to a late hour in the evening, was entirely devoted to the discussion of Annexation and kindred topics. They Select Committee which had been appointed, in the expectation of bringing in a compromise report, stated that they could not agree, and requested to be discharged. The resolutions from the Senate were then taken up; and the 1st one (although a Democratic proposition), being found more palatable to the Whigs than to the Democrats, was agreed to. The Democrats then proposed a farther amendment – in substance endorsing both the expediency and the constitutionality of the Joint Resolution passed by the House of Representatives. To this the Whigs could not subscribe and they proposed an amendment simply declaring that a majority of the people of Virginia are in favor of Annexation by any constitutional mode; but forbearing, in express terms, to give any opinion of this constitutionality of the mode of joint resolution. This amendment was adopted. The effect of this proceeding is, and was designed to be an as is so declared, to leave our Senators free to act as to them may seem best on the Joint Resolution. A resolution instructing them to vote for the Joint Resolution was subsequently voted down.

The Locos, we rather think, made but little capital by this Texas agitation. When they come to reckon with the People for the time and money wasted in the discussion, they will find that their political speculations are quite as barren and profitless as their Texas scrip is likely to prove. They are like the gentleman who went out in quest of wool and came home shorn!

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To the Editors of the Whig:

Messrs. Editors – I read in your daily paper of the 28th ultime, a letter addressed to me, by some one signing himself "B," criticizing my late latter, published in your daily paper, of the 22d, ult. It is made my duty to answer this letter. I very much regret the necessity thus forced on me, again to appear in the *** *** of a newspaper – for in all seriousness, I have a decided distaste for such notoriety.

"B," is entitled to my thanks, for his kind and flattering acknowledgment of the purity and integrity of the motives by which I was actuated in the expression of the views contained in the letter which he so courteously comments on. While I accord to B none other than a patriotic and laudable desire to convince me, by his letter, of the suicidal effect of my position and arguments, as expressed in my letter if the 15th of January, he will, I am sure, pardon me for eth expression, that his arguments and conclusions present an perfect non sequitur.

B, I am well assured, neither designed to involve me in a needless controversy, or to rest his conclusions on a sophism; and yet, such are the scope, tendency and conclusion of his own argument, that both of these undesirable ends have resulted as a consequence from his letter.

B quotes, at some length, from that portion of my letter in which I argue to establish the position that – if it is constitutional to annex Texas by joint resolution, it would be equally as constitutional to cede away as State – by the same mode of legislation – there being no higher exercise of sovereignty required, in cession that there would be in annexation.

But it should not have escaped the astute intellect of B that he (unintentionally, I am sure) over looked the previous position of which this argument was based, as the constitutional proposition, on which the correctness of my conclusion rested. In the quotation which B gives from my letter, he merely confines himself to the secondary proposition resulting as a consequence from the previous position distinctly laid down, and carried out, that so long as Texas was a separate, independent sovereign power, fully invested with all the prerogatives of sovereignty, no internal legislation on the part of the United States, could reach or control either her soil or citizens: That Texas must first part with her sovereignty before her territory or citizens could be rendered amenable to the jurisdiction of the United States: that to accomplish this, a Treaty stipulation between the two high contracting parties was necessary and indispensable, and that any mere internal legislation on the part of the United States, must leave the act of annexation a dead letter on our State books until it was perfected by Texas.

Here then is an essential and radical misconception and misstatement of both my position and argument. I now call the candid attention of B to this unintentional breach of argument manifest in his letter. If he will impartially review it, he will at once perceive the injustice which his conclusions have done my position.

That portion of my letter quoted my him is as follows;

"For one as an American citizen, I will not consent to violate every rule of Constitutional propriety, that Texas may be annexed. I am now, as I have even been, a devoted and sincere friend the measure when it can be fairly,
"There is yet another view of this monstrous and daring infraction of the constitution. If it is constitutional, to annex a State by joint resolution, is it not equally as constitutional, by the same means, to deed away a State? Is there any higher exercise of Sovereign power required in cession, than would be in annexation? I would seem not. If then, by joint resolution, Congress can annex a foreign State to the United States, may it not by the same means cede away a State? Apply this principle – carry it out and what might it not lead to? Congress might then [ . . . ] by joint resolution annex Texas, and at its next session cede away Texas and Louisiana.

"With these views I must be pardoned for declaring, in all seriousness, that, under no circumstances, can I ever agree, so far as my vote is concerned, to see Texas annexed to the United States by joint resolution. I am in favor of annexation – by treaty with Texas – under the provisions of the constitution – when it can be fairly, honorable and peaceably accomplished – taking care, in the Treaty provisions to settle the question, as a National one, above all party or geographical prejudices.

From this language I drown the forced inference that I must dither give up the question or admit the monstrous proposition that by treaty the United States could cede away one or more of the States of this Union.

Here, then, is the manifest unfairness of his position and conclusion. He entirely overlooks the previous position and utterly excludes it form his consideration. Allow me to recall his attention to it.

In my letter of the 15th of January, I distinctly use this language:

"Texas is either in independent, sovereign government, or she is not independent. If she is an independent Republic, then is she a Sovereign Power – and under the international law, regulating the intercourse between sovereign powers, she can be divested of the Territorial possessions, in but one of two ways, either by conquest of by treaty cession. If she is not an independent, Sovereign Power, then she has no territory at her disposal. No secondary dependent government, without the exercise of sovereign powers, can treat with Sovereignty. Treaty stipulations, to be binding, must proceed from a sovereign power – to an equal, in the scale of National independence. Sovereign powers can enter into compacts between each other by Treaty stipulations alone. This is the only means by which Independent nations can ratify a compact entered into between them.

The question here presents itself – "can the mere legislative action of the U. States, bind either the citizens or the soil of Texas?" If so, then Texas is already a part and parcel of our soil – and any act of annexation, whether by treaty, or joint resolution, would be a mere legislative supererogation. There can be no constitutional – extra territorial legislation. No statute, or law, can be obligatory, beyond the ascertained boundaries of the government which passes it. It can only operate on foreign territory, or the citizens of a foreign government, by international comity. To secure this, a compact between the two Sovereignties is necessary. This compact must be entered into, and ratified by a Treaty: no internal legislative provisions can either create or enforce any such reciprocal privileges.

Let us apply these views to the case in point. Texas is certainly a few, Independent, sovereign power. She is endowed with all the prerogatives of sovereignty. This being the fact, she must first part with her sovereignty, before her Territory can be at all subject to our Legislation, or her citizens amenable to our laws. Now, can the United States Legislature Texas out of her Sovereignty? I humbly think not. How, then can the mere Legislative volition of the United States, lend into on e Government, two republics wholly independent of each other?

There is a very spurious argument advanced in and out of Congress, that Congress has the power to admit "new States" into the Union. From this granted power, the strict constructionists imply the devised power, of admitting "foreign States" into the Union. It is indeed melancholy to witness such willful perversion of the Constitution, by men in high places, and who profess to be literal construers, of every specific power vested by the Constitution in Congress.

The 3d section of the 4th article of the Constitution, from which this implied power is thought to be filched, gives and related to "Territory of other property belonging to the United States." How, under this clause, can congress exercise any supervisory control over "Territory" not "belonging to the United States."

To allow of Legislation, the "Territory or property" which forms the subject of legislation must "belong to the United States." Now does Texas "belong" to the United States? If so, annexation is useless. The Territory of Texas, is physically already annexes to the Territory of the United States. What is proposed to eh done, contemplates a social and political incorporation of the people and institutions of Texas, with the Government of the United states – thus merging of the lesser Sovereign power into the greater. If this can be done, by joint resolution in Congress, then can one sovereign power Legislature over and divest the chartered rights of the citizens of another Sovereign power. The thing is impossible.

Suppose that any of the various series of resolutions or bills now pending before Congress, were to pass both Houses unanimously – What would result? Would not this law of political gravitation thus created, be suspended in its operation, until the Government of Texas – per gratia – allowed it to exercise its limited powers of attraction within her Territory? Would it not require the legislative action in some form of Texas before the law of annexation could operate? The very terms and provisions of these resolutions or bills admit the fact. What then is proposed by these joint resolution? They might pass in congress here, and be spurned in the congress of Texas. What a political farce!
Feb. 4, 1845, RWv22i10p2c4

“The Texas Senate, Texas,”

The principal topic in the Senate yesterday was the Texas Resolutions, as amended in the House by Mr. Witcher.

Mr. Wallace moved to strike out the latter clause, which waived any expression of opinion on the constitutionality of Annexation by joint resolution. This was agreed to, after debate, ayes 19, noes 9.

Mr. Thompson of K. offered further to amend, by declaring, in substance, approbation of the Joint Resolution, as a lawful and constitutional mode of annexation, and one which would be approved by the People.

In vain was the authority of Mr. Jefferson sited by Messrs. Carter and Gallaher, and delay asked by Messrs. Stanard and Caperton, for the purpose of eliciting light on the latter branch. Messrs. Wallace, McMullen and Thompson of K., considered the constitutional point sufficiently clear, beyond all question, and urged prompt action, in which they were sustained by the Senate; and the Resolutions, in their amended form, were forthwith sent back to the House.

The latter body, being engaged upon the Tex bill, did not consider the amendments of the Senate to their amendment on the Texas resolutions.

The subject will doubtless be taken up in the House today, for probably the Democracy will consider, as Mr. Wilson of Botetourt did in relation the Expunge, that “the people are suffering” for action on the subject.

What becomes of old fashioned State rights, Strict construction notions? Texas is wanted, and the means of getting it are of no moment in the opinion of the dominant party. Mr. Jefferson’s practice is deemed better than his precept – and, as he can be found on both sides, the convenient opinion is always most orthodox.

Feb 4, 1845, v22i10p2c5

“Correspondence of the Whig,”

Washington, Feb’y 2, 1845

In the legislation of the last week, as in that of the preceding ones of this winter, one question has stood up, far above all others of the present day, perhaps far above any which the country has witnessed for above a quarter of a century. It is a question not only of the present peace; but of all the future honor of the land, and (we greatly fear) of its very Union. That question has been decided, as far as the action of one of our legislative bodies can decide it. The only hope of rendering void this most portentous decision lies in that great body whose well-organized superiority to the tumultuary movements of the moment, whose calmer temper, whose less rash or partisan counsels, whose higher responsibilities, have, on many other occasions, frustrated the ill that threatened us and saved the nation from measures that could scarcely have been less than disastrous in the extreme.

In a word, the wild measure of Annexation has been carried, in the House of Representatives, not only in defiance of constitutional limitations the most imperative and in the face of whatever precedents and authorities they who perform the thing have professed most to hold sacred, but in utter contempt not merely of all the methods and reasons which they last year held to be the true and valid ones, but of many which they themselves have subsequently advanced, and in total disregard of the many terrible consequences for the peace, the concord and the institutions of the country, which may well attend upon a decision at once so unjust and so imprudent.

I must be pardoned if, upon a matter of such magnitude and such peril, I speak with a large abandonment of reserve. Where the question is one of which the momentousness so totally effaces all ordinary rule, it becomes all, whose part it is to speak, to deliver themselves, certainly with decency, but nevertheless with the utmost freedom.

I look, then, on the measure, now half-consummated:

As in entire derogation of all the rights of the separate members of this confederacy to repel the admission into it of new associates who suit them not:

As totally beyond the competency, at best, of any but the Treaty making power:
As therefore, a direct and subversive usurpation, by one branch of the government, not only upon the coordinate ones, but upon the inherent rights of the individual parties to this league – the separate States that compose it:

As clearly, in this double usurpation, a blow so deadly to whatever has heretofore been of constitutional limitation, that it must be considered as nothing short of a demolition of all our Organic Law:

As warranting, by Congress, the alienation, no less that the incorporation, of what or whom it shall please, near or far:

As thus authorizing a simple legislative vote to divest, transfer or extinguish the sovereignty, or the independence, not only of foreign countries, but of each of these States and even of all together: for whatever of the sort a mere majority of congress can do, as to a country be joined our laws, it may surely do yet more legally where it has a jurisdiction:

As thus trampling on all that is safe or respectable at home or abroad, in order to commit a nation crime to which we have no real temptation, and on which swift vengeance will surely descend with the plagues of fierce domestic dissension, or of foreign war, or the double horrors of both.

Could we, as if by the mere blindness of Fate, escape that bloody atonement which national acts like this entail, usually by their heinousness, and invariably when they are as foolish as they are wrong, what will at best ensue? What but the shame of having plundered an unhappy people who were incapable of resisting us, and of having done this in the mere wantonness of an aimless lust after what was not ours, of what we do not want, of what it would be wiser to avoid, could we even acquire it justly?

But will nations heretofore jealous enough of our legitimate career of greatness, of peace and of justice – will nations, that dreaded the example of our Liberty, endure to see the Freedom whose contagion they have feared, arm itself, in addition, under that potent name, with every thing that is aggressive, every thing that is faithless, wild. During and rapacious? Will not Despotism, compelled by the opposite spectacle of our institutions to learn humanity and justice, rejoice at an outrage so fit to bring Republics into discredit, and seize with eagerness the occasion to punish the past and the present, to tame what was a mischief to them while it was good, and what will become a plague to the earth when it grows bad?

Already the abominable doctrine is preached throughout the land, not merely to popular ears, but in grave Legislatures and even from cabinets, that, all the Continent being destined to be ours, is idle to talk to any adverse right of the present – that from Canada to California, from Oregon to the Isthmus, our eagles, as little to be arrested as those of Rome or of Napoleon, must fly. While, with these daring pretensions, we tread upon the weak, we affront the strong and teach them that, if they too would be safe, they must make common cause with those feebller nations whom we would now oppress. It is

"Nunc in ovilia – mox in reluctantes draconis" -

If the dragons are wise, they will assail at once the young bird of prey, that will presently turn with disdain from the harmless sheep-fold and rend their own scaly strength? But what, on the other hand, would be fit to be said of the prudence of the eagle who should make proclamation that now, while but half fledged, he means only a war upon hen roosts; but that presently, when his claws and beak shall be grown, he will swoop down upon the shepherd and his flocks? Would he not be apt to call up, for his early destruction, all who could send an arrow or point a gun?

He who, intent on plundering the feeble, announces, when he goes about it, that he designs, with those added means of offence, to assail the strong, is certainly like to draw upon himself both the weak and the powerful. The conduct then, which there seems some danger that this nation shall be led to adopt, is surely as impolitic as it is unjust, granting even that the object at which it immediately aims, is worth the injustice. If we mean to trample upon Mexico, is it not the part of prudence, not to tempt British interference, by taking of seizing without ceremony, upon Oregon, and of annexing all her possessions North of us? Why provoke her to take part against us? Will that course render our success easier, or more bloodless? Surely, if we want territory, the less the expense of life and money at which we get it the better; and if, on the other hand, it is, (as many in the madness of the day shockingly suggest,) mere war that we want, it will be better to begin with a small one, get ourselves a little in practice for that humane diversion, after 30 years disuse, and when we have trained and enlarged our armies and our fleets, then help ourselves by due aggressions or insults, to such greater foes as, in our fighting propensities, promise no easy victory, scars enough, ravage in abundance, a plenty of desolation to suffer and inflict, and in a word, blows by the belly-full.

But let us see what quarters of this country are thus interested in a war, and will draw profit or honor (whichever be the object) from it.

Maine seems to be keen for it. Is it then, for the benefit of her foreign lumber trade, almost her only resource? Or is it because, lying next to the enemy, she will taste superior advantages in the way of having desolation spread over her fields?

New Hampshire seems unanimous for it. Is it because she, too, is greatly exposed? Or is it because she has large
shipping interests, that must be destroyed in a naval warfare with Britain?

Vermont has less to lose: and therefore seems less bent upon the strife. Imprudent Vermont!

Massachusetts, though likely to gain in her great interests, the Manufacturing, seems quite averse to the contest. But Massachusetts is a very selfish state!

Her case is nearly that of Rhode Island.

Connecticut is martially disposed. What has Connecticut to gain? I know not.

New York will, we suppose, profit in her vast foreign trade, in that of the Lakes; in her upland contiguity to British regiments and the exposures of her great city to bombardment. Having so little at stake, she may well like a war.

New Jersey lies equally exposed, in a long line of coast.

Pennsylvania has a great stream, by which there is access for a force of war-steamers to her great **** and into the very heart of her wealthiest region. We see what she may lose: we conceive not what she can gain, except in perhaps, tunes to pay her debts.

Delaware and Maryland can suffer equally, but are less pleased with the prospect.

To Virginia, so agog for the contest, the inducement must lie in the annihilation of her tobacco trade.

As to north and Sough Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Tennessee – the cotton-growing states – one easily conceives the present advantage in the market for their staple, and the prospective benefit of raising up the growth of cotton *** Egypt, **** and Brazil.

Missouri and Illinois, I admit, will be benefited; for there'll be a great demand for lead.

I see, however, no State so safe, so remote from attack, as Kentucky. Her [ . . .] will [ . . . ].

IL SECRETARIO.

[LLS]

Feb. 7, 1845, RWv22i11p1c1

"The Course of the Enquirer,"

The course of this paper, is beyond all question, the most uncandid and disingenuous that ever yet conferred a discreditable distinction upon any press. It seems to proceed, and evidently does, upon the postulate, that there is no limit to the gullibility of its peculiar readers, and that they are incapable of detecting the grossest frauds upon their understandings, the most palpable distortions and misrepresentations of facts known to the whole country, and the most obvious suppressions of truth. Never did any man, connected with the public, make such heavy drafts upon its presumed stupidity.

Texas we all know, is and has been for months, the absorbing and almost the exclusive theme of that paper. Aided by Senator Walker, and other speculators in Texas Lands, bonds and scrip, its columns groan under editorials essays, letters and appeals, in favor of the acquisition of Texas, containing, we will venture to say, an amount of perversion, false reasoning, violation of history, suggestion false and suppressio vori, unmatchable in the same bulk in all American Political discussion or polemics. Texas! Texas!! Texas!!! It is Texas first, Texas last, and Texas all the time! Nothing else is regarded as of any consequence in comparison: All other public affairs are thrown into the back ground: And to force Texas upon the Union now, this minute, at this session of Congress, before a new Congress can meet and the true voice of the People be heard – in other words, to suppress and strangle that true voice, which the complotters well know will be ultimately against Texas, North and South, is the simple aim and end. If the Texas faction are not afraid of the People, WHY this unseemly haste and furious hurry? Why this Jehu speed in an affair of infinite moment, the gravest question of the age, involving consequences which the wisest cannot foresee, and craving the profoundest caution and deliberation? Why ram it down the throats of the People now? At this very instant of time? Can it not wait ten months? Is there ay danger that Texas herself will escape from the continent? Will she not be forthcoming next winter, and as anxious then as she is now to come into the Union? Will not her lands, her bonds, her scrip, keep a few months?

Really, a comparison of the present with the past, is calculated to fill one with astonishment at the extraordinary inconsistencies of our neighbors and many of their present allies. In 1837, in the administration of Mr. Van Buren, the question of annexing Texas was formally before the American People. It found favor with no party. It was
resisted by Mr. Van Buren and most intemperately opposed by Mr. McDuffie then Governor of S. Carolina, and the proposition fell almost without a struggle or attracting any interest. Yet Texas was then what she is now! She possessed the same fertile fields, the same limits, the same independence, (for the battle of San Jacinto was fought in 1836) and we had precisely the same claims to reannex her as a part of Louisiana, that we have now! Yet then was witnessed none of this furious desire to possess her. None of this frantic haste to adopt her into the Union! None of these extensive combinations to write up a spurious public opinion in favor of the measure, and to make annexation absorb every thing else!

And why? Yes why? Is the reader so soft as to ask the question? There was then no large body of American citizens interested in Texas lands! She had them issued no bonds and scrip which American speculators ad bought up for a song, and which by annexation, they proposed and hoped to realize at par, for the outlay of a few beggarly dollars, to reap a harvest of princely estates! Work the problem as you will, and there is no other solution of the fiery ardor for Texas which prevails now, as contrasted with the utter indifference manifested for the acquisition in 1837. Far be it from me to intimate that the whole body of the friends of annexation are animated by interested motives. On the contrary we are satisfied that the Calhoun Party (and McDuffie himself) have come into the support of the measure on political grounds. They wish a Southern confederacy extending from Carolina, to the shores of California, and they have embraced annexation we verily believe, and are endeavoring to force it down, in order that it may induce the North to dissolve, and thus themselves evade the terrible responsibility of an act, which would damn them to more than C***narian infamy!

But the country may rely upon it, that there is powerful and organized association of Texas land, bond and scrip holder, who are at head bottom of this whole Texas movement – whose views and ends are not political, much less patriotic, but selfish and mercenary only, and whose purposes are attained, when they get par for their investments, when their fortunes are made, and who do not look beyond that, to the incalculable and momentous consequences which are almost certain to flow from a measure so rashly conceived, and so recklessly urged in defiance of justice, the rights of other powers, and the laws of nations. We accuse not these men of wrong or wickedness: It is natural that they should act as they are acting: but we assert, that so great and vital a public measure, should not have originated in such merely personal and contemptible motives, nor be driven to a rash consummation, merely to put money in their purses.

To return to the Enquirer. That paper yesterday, engaged in the formal attempt to dragoon the Whigs of the General Assembly, into the support of Texas Resolutions! The attempt is bunglingly and confusedly executed, and if the Whigs retain their self-respect, if it have any effect at all, will have the contrary effect to that intended! Is it not enough that the Enquirer bullies its Democrats, and whips them into the traces – but must it come into the Whig camp and threaten and endeavor to intimidate the Whig Representatives of the People! Who has authorized is so confidently to pronounce that the public opinion of Virginia is for Texas, and the joint Resolution form of annexing Texas? Where is the evidence of the fact? Where are the petitions or the single petition? Where the popular meetings? Polk was for Texas and Polk got the vote of Virginia – and that is the whole proof offered to sustain the conclusion! Yet how many hundreds and thousands of Polk men are against Texas, and how many issues besides Texas were involved in the Presidential struggle.

We hope and do not doubt that the Whigs of the House will adhere firmly to their course, and the most firmly from this mingled attempt to coax and bully them! Let them distrust the blarney and despise the driving. In our simple judgment they ought to lay the whole ridiculous subject on the table, address themselves to the real business of the People and bring the session to a close. They know as well as we do, that is perfectly futile an way, and a mere loss of time, and that Texas annexation, at this session, is already a phantom.

Feb. 7, 1845, RWv22i11p1c1

“Annexation of Canada and New Brunswick!”

Petitions from New York and Maine were presented in the Senate on Monday, for the Annexation of these British colonies! Why not? We have just as honest a right to them as we have to Texas, for which we swapped with Spain for Florida, in 1819 – Calhoun and Jackson approving the bargain! There is an old adage that it is as well "to be hanged for an old Sheep as for a Lamb"! If the nation turns Rogue and Land Pirate, let it do so on a magnificent scale, and win Gold enough to gild the infamy!

[LLS]

Feb. 7, 1845, RWv22i11p1c1

“State Senate – Texas,”

The disagreement of the House of Delegates to the Senate’s amendments of the Texas Resolutions, was the subject of a pithy debate in the Senate yesterday. Mr. Thompson of A., a gentleman entirely too modest for the good of his associates, made a clear and powerful exposition of the constitutional difficulties involved in the wild, latitudinarian proposition of the Democracy; and Mr. Caperton followed up the positions of MR. T. with great vigor.
Messrs. Thompson of K, McMullen and Wallace supported the unlimited power of congress on the subject, as being clear and indisputable – and one of them as least claimed the power to annex China, Great Britain, Cuba, &c.

Mr. Standard, we learn, will reply today – and debate of increased interest will probably yet take place.

Feb. 7, 1845, RWv22i11p1c2

"Mr. Barrow of Louisiana,"

The remarks of this gentleman as reported [from the Baltimore Patriot] appear detached and disconnected; but they are decisive and of the utmost importance. Taken in connection with the revelations of the "Missourian" [Col. Bedton's organ] and the whole current of private opinion from Washington, we think them conclusive of the fate of the lawless and desperado scheme of annexation by Joint Resolution; at this session of congress at least! That atrocity will not succeed.

We at least shall thus gain all we have ever asked for: Time, deliberation, calmness, and the "sober second thought" of the people upon so vast and novel a measure. This opportunity for reflection allowed them, and we have never doubted that annexation would be frowned down as unwise, unconstitutional, unjust, and ruinous to the planning interest! Disgraceful to the character for probity of the American people, and most hazardous to this Union, the bond of Liberty and the ark of safety to the present and future generations, and above all to the South.

We tender in advance, our congratulations for the defeat by the Senate, of the predatory scheme of annexation now before that body, and we appeal to the Whigs of the General Assembly to stand firm! There will shortly be a hurricane of public opinion against the measure!

P. S. Since writing the above, we have looked into the National Intelligencer of yesterday, where we find the remarks of Mr. Barrow more fully quoted, and the occasion of them, stated. The reader's attention is requested, and the whole country may rest satisfied that, thanks to the integrity and patriotism of the Senate, the Rob Roy scheme of annexation, is defeated.

Texas:

"By Mr. Johnson: Certain resolutions from the Legislature of Louisiana, in relation to the annexation of Texas.

Mr. Johnson observed that he had stated before he had received these resolutions, that if the question of annexation could be presented free from constitutional objection he would vote for it, and he said so still. He had great doubts, however, as to the power of congress to provide for the admission of foreign territory into the Union by a joint resolution. He would give the matter the fullest examination and when the question came before the Senate he would vote on it according to the best lights before him.

Mr. Barrow would merely take this occasion to say that he was opposed to annexation in any and in every shape, at all times, and under all circumstances. The resolutions received from the Legislature of Louisiana, left the Senators at perfect liberty to act in the matter as they thought right. He should always act, on this and every other question, as he thought right, whether under instructions or not. If he had been in favor of annexation, he should have opposed it in the shape presented to the Senate by the other House. He should be prepared, when the question came before the Senate, to prove that the annexation of Texas would be ruinous to the whole South, and particularly to the State of Louisiana.

He had not supposed that the people of Louisiana were favorable to annexation before the receipt of these resolutions. He was far from regarding the result of the late Presidential election in that State, as indicative of the people's opinion upon annexation. He was convinced that, if that election had been fairly conducted, the vote of the State would have been given to Henry Clay. He did not undertake to say anything about other States; but this he would say, that, if Mr. Clay had not been cheated, villainously cheated in Louisiana, he would have received the vote of that State. He was glad that the subject of the election in Louisiana was now under investigation by the Legislature, and he hoped that that body would ferret out and expose the imposture and the infamous frauds which were notoriously committed, and by which alone the vote of the State had been given the James K. Polk.

Feb. 7, 1845, RWv22i11p1c2

"Texas Again,"

The House yesterday disagreed to the amendments proposed by the Senate to its resolutions. That is the House
persists in its refusal to say that he acquisition of foreign territory by joint resolution is constitutional. It leaves that question to the good sense of our Senators.

Feb. 7, 1845, RWv22i11p1c5

"Texas Again,"

In the State Senate yesterday, no progress was made on the pending question – which was the motion of Mr. Thompson of Kanawha to insist upon the Senate’s amendment to the amendment of the House. This amendment, it will be recollected, insisted upon the declaration by the assembly that the admission of Texas, by a joint resolution of Congress, was both lawful and constitutional.

Mr. Stanard made a speech of great ability against this assumption of power, and sustained himself by a train of reasoning and authority which seemed irresistible. Mr. Thompson, of K., did attempt an answer, but certainly made but little impression upon the logical fortress of his opponent. Other gentlemen entered briefly into the subject.

Mr. Wallace of Fauquier, with infinitely more of sagacity than his coadjutors, plainly foresaw that an adherence on the part of the senate would defeat the object of the party, and therefore suggested to Mr. Thompson a withdrawal of the motion to insist – admitting, as we understand, that it was the senate that first raised the constitutional question, which now prevented concurrence in the general proposition of favoring the admission of Texas. It will be recollected that in the original action, they had waived any expression on that point.

Thus the matter stands at present; and notwithstanding the rod held over them by the Autocrat who daily gives out his edicts to his liege subjects, we think it not improbable the party will be compelled to “back out ingloriously,” as one of their leaders feared they would.

Feb. 7, 1845, RWv22i11p2c4

"Texas – the Two Houses at Issue,"

The Senate yesterday was in a snarl for a while. Mr. Wallace wished to ask a conference between the two houses whilst the motion of Mr. Thompson of K. in insist upon the senate’s amendments to the House’s amendment, was pending.

Mr. McMullen objected to the motion as being out of order, and, in an appeal from the decision of the Chair, was sustained by the Senate, 15 to 9.

After an hour’s talk upon the point of order and other matters of difficulty, the motion to insist was divided, so as to take the question on the amendments separately, and decided in the affirmative.

The Resolutions having been sent back to the House, that body adhered to its disagreement to the Senate’s amendment – and no course now remains but for the Senate to ask a conference.

Feb. 7, 1845, RWv22i11p4c6

"From Texas,"

We learn from Capt. Peterson, of the brig Najade, arrived from Vera Cruz, sailed 6th ult, that Santa Ana had attacked, at the head of 4,000 men, 1500 of which were cavalry, the town of Puebla, but was driven back by the Revolutionists. Santa Ana, it is said, would endeavor to make his escape either by the way of Vera Cruz of Tuepan. The day previous to the sailing of the Najade, about 350 volunteers had arrived from Alvarado in the steamer Neptune, and 1500 more were momently expected from Campechy in the steamer Montezuma, which, with those already in the city, would present a formidable front against any force the dictator might march against that city. The revolutionists were in hot pursuit of Santa Ana, and certain death awaited him should he fall into their hands. A National Guard, similar to the French national guards, had been established by the revolutionists throughout all Mexico, and all foreign citizens were called upon to defend themselves, notwithstanding, the revolution was spreading with rapidity throughout the Republic. Santa Ana continued to have around him a number of influential friends.

-Char. Courier

[LLS]
Feb. 11, 1845, RWv22i12p1c1

"Progress of the Texas Question in the Legislature,"

The rampant constitutional doctors if the Assembly, have cooled down a little in their pretensions. They have been compelled to ask a conference; and yesterday, on motion of Mr. Wallace, the Senate passed a resolution, inviting the House to appoint a committee to join its own committee in free and friendly conference on the subject of disagreement between the two Houses.

Accordingly, the House responded in an amicable tone, and the joint committee commenced its session about 2 o'clock yesterday.

The committee on the part of the Senate consists of Messrs. Wallace, Thompson of K., Stanard, Taylor, Carter, McMullen, and Caperton; on the part of the House, Messrs. Witcher, Preston, Edmunds of H., Bowden, Toler, Anderson, and Strother.

We anticipate no compromise on the subject. The House cannot give an inch, without yielding the whole question; which is a full and unconditional admission of the power of Congress to annex a Foreign State by joint Resolution – an absurdity, the discovery of which seems to have been reserved for this age of political empiricism and folly.

[LLS]

Feb. 11, 1845, RWv22i12p1c4

Keyword: Reasons for conquest of Mexico

To the Editors of the Whig:

Gentlemen: Is it not strange that our title to the Territory of Mexico, has been entirely overlooked in the zeal to acquire possession of Texas? I am at a loss how to account for such neglect on the part of an administration so distinguished for industry and acuteness in the discovery of nation claim, as the present; and especially when I remember that the great personification of Southern jealousies occupies the Department of State.

I shall not enter at large upon the subject of our claim – for that is altogether unnecessary. It will suffice to touch upon one or two prominent points, to refresh the memories of your readers in regard to it, and to stimulate our Legislators to immediate action upon a subject which has so long interested the American people. It seems to me important that some bill, to this effect, should be forthwith referred, with the necessary documents, to the Committee of Revolutionary Claims.

Nature has evidently marked out this continent as a unit, designed to constitute a single empire. Rivers and mountain lines are artificial creations. They are the fictions of mere convention, and violate the great law of nature which has indicated the true and just limits of sovereignties by great seas and narrow isthmuses, which are not subject to the mutations of time. It is obvious therefore that the Rio del Norte cannot constitute the limit of the United States any more than the Mississippi or the Sabine, without insulting Nature, and exposing ourselves constantly to mutilation by some foreign invader. These remarks may be applied hereafter, with justice, to the British and Russian possessions and to Central America; but we are only concerned now about the re-annexation of Mexico, and I must insist that the present is a most favorable juncture for its accomplishment, owing to the revolution now pending in that country. We must have Mexico at all hazards, and now is the time to secure it the least possible expense.

The records of history attest that that territory was improperly surrendered to Spain on the occasion of several treaties between Great Britain and that power, and subsequent treaties between the United States and the same government, when the weakness of the latter afforded ample opportunities for its acquisition. As those treaties were entered into by the aforesaid governments without the deliberate sanction of the Democracy, allow me to deny that they are of any binding force upon us, or should weigh a feather in our deliberations. Thus has been lost to us a noble empire, not mildly war merely, like Texas, but deliciously hot, producing perpetual crops of gold, and commanding from its geographical position, the sovereignty of the Seas. Shall we not immediately vindicate our title to this fair domain, so shamefully and repeatedly thrown away?

Should it be objected that we cannot entertain this proposition without violating our faith with Mexico, let it be answered that Mexico has been long indulged in her efforts to establish a right to self-government, and has signally failed. Her nation existence, like her war upon Texas, is merely nominal, and the United States have as much right to govern her mongrel races as Santa Ana or any other usurper. Indeed nothing is wanting but a bold military demonstration on her frontiers, to induce her whole confederacy to unite with us, and thus consolidate the continent.

Constitutional objections may be disposed of with equal facility. We have no sympathy with that narrow principle...
usually called strict construction, which would forever confine us to the mere latter of the Constitution. But it is
unnecessary to violate even the letter in the present case; for provision is made for the admission of new States;
and surety Mexico cannot boast of age, when half a century has not yet passed since her independence. According to
the laws of nations, three or four centuries seem to be necessary to bring them to maturity, and as many more to
their decline, and we may therefore safely repose our consciences upon the express words of the sacred Charter
under which we act. Admit her as a new State, and Mexico will occupy the same consistent position now held by
Louisiana, Missouri and Arkansas.

It only remains to notice briefly the benefits which may be expected from this great enterprise. Among the first in
importance is the indefinite extension of Slavery, not only of the African race, but also the seven millions of Mexican,
Creoles, Mestizos, and Indians, whom we propose to conquer. Consequent upon this the Slave States must acquire a
lasting ascendancy in the Government, and the principles of Free Trade become the settled policy of the country. The
great champion of Southern rights will be elevated to the Presidential chair by the acclamations of millions, and the
theory of Nullification will be taught in his messages to posterity and the world.

- OVID

Feb. 11, 1845, RWv22i12p1c5

"Annexation – Col. Benton’s Project,"

The new bill of Col. Benton has evidently has the effect of a subterranean explosion on the ranks of the Democracy.
Fearing and hating him, and hating him because they fear him more than any other man, the Calhoun and Tyler
"Chivalry", assuming as we must, the Madisonian to be their exponent, evidently view his scheme with the greatest
distrust and alarm: And it is rather singular too that they should – for it indirectly proposes to make the United
States the paymaster for Texas debts, which the joint resolution passed by the House declined to; and if we
understand rightly, most of the bond, scrip and Texas Land mongers belong to the Calhoun Wing! So far those
gentlemen exhibit the Phenomenon of a Texas Speculator being opposed to the interests of his own purse! – But the
country must not too rapidly come to conclusion! They have, there is no question, substantial reasons for opposing
col. Benton’s plan – interested reasons. 1. They distrust Benton, and fear the Greeks though they bear gifts! 2. They
foresee that it may [if it was not as they allege, so designed] defeat annexation at this session, a circumstance fatal
to the whole piratical design, for if defeated now, it is defeated eternally! The American People if they happen to be
consulted, will never agree to it. 3. Their calculations as to the Texas debts which they own is this – let us get Texas
in first, with, or without an assumption of her debts by the United States – when in, that act alone will greatly
enhance Texas lands, bonds and scrip, and we have little doubt of ultimately prevailing on congress to pay off her
obligations!

Let the people watch with close and jealous eye, what is now transacting at Washington! We firmly believe that all
the corruptions of 60 years would kick the beam if placed in the scale against those of the last 18 months.

Feb. 11, 1845, RWv22i12p2c2

"Correspondence of the Whig,"

The day has brought forth in the Senate an impartial and an unexpected event, as to the Texas question, it is a
change of position by Col. Benton, in the withdrawal of his bill of last year, and the substitution of it of another,
directing, in effect, as negotiation through commission, with Texas alone, for the adjustment of the terms of Union
between the two countries. Fro the expenses of such a commission, $100,000 are appropriated.  They are to settle
all the terms of the incorporation of the two countries, as to boundaries, debts, and every thing else, except that the
bill provides in advance that Texas is to be represented at once by two members in the House as well as in the
Senate. When the conditions are settled they are to be submitted by the President to Congress, either in the form of
a treaty or otherwise.

If, with the commentary of the Missourian’s speech, I understand the purposes of the plan, they are as above. I
comprehend if as abandoning, in effect, the reservation in his previous bill for the consent of Mexico. I perceive not,
as far as the details could be collected from merely hearing them read, that Mexico is to be consulted even about the
boundaries to be established. If something did not escape me, the commissioners (plenipotentiaries in truth) would
have no power to deal, or even consult with others on the part of Mexico; and if it were otherwise, that would matter
nothing, for she is certain to refuse to take any part in the arrangements for her on spoliation. Thus it is with Texas
alone, that the limits must perfice be arranged. It is true that Col. B. said, in his remarks, that it would be our part
to treat with Mexico in the most conciliatory manner; but this, put into the English of two or three Polk or Tyler
commissioners, may mean but just what Mr. Shannon means, when he tells Senor Rejon that the United States are
practicing towards Mexico all sorts of delicacy and forbearance.
Col. B. further indicated his meaning to be that the responsibility of this government for the debts of Texas should not be excluded, as in the joint resolutions of the House. It was, he said, known every where that her public domain was all alienated already; so that the plan of the other House would leave her nothing wherewith to pay.

You will further see that this bill expunges from his former plan all the territorial limitations of slavery. It, in form, passes by all that question – thus meeting, in effect, one of the great objects for which so many caucuses of the other House were ineffectually holden, to procure, in the first place, action, annexation, and to leave the Slave question for another time, when Texas and her people might themselves lend a voice in resisting any exclusion of servitude. Such will, no doubt, be the effect of the new plan. Texas will claim to settle this for herself, as an internal question; and it will be yielded to her. Nay, it has already been yielded to her by Northern votes in the other House and why, after that, should Senators from a Slave State like Col. B., have any scruple?

In the last place, if I have correctly seized the phrase of the bill which I have conveyed by the italicized word otherwise B. thinks that the Union need not take – is not forced finally to take – the form of a Treaty. I conceive, therefore, that he has no longer constitutional objections, to the joint resolutionary mode of Annexation. He certainly suggests that there is an alternative, a succedaneum, for the sanction of the treaty-making power.

In a word, I consider this bill as one which the Southern Annexationists, and the scrip and land speculators must decidedly prefer to the Joint Resolutions. It has, further, to me, a feature monstrous in legislation – the alternative clause which suggest a more constitution form – Treaty – and yet provides, loosely, that some other unexpressed way of doing the thing shall be permitted.

I will not, till I have seen the thing in print, consider all this as certain. At times, we of the galleries must catch very imperfectly, things where the precise wording is so very material. I give you, of course, but present impressions. It would therefore, be premature to offer, as yet, any conjecture as to the influence which the new proposition may have on the fate of Annexation, or the part which Mr. B. and his followers mean now to play in the question.

Mr. Rives, at least, must have formed a judgment of the matter very different from mine; for though he voted to refer the plan, as they did who apparently are its opponents, he spoke of it, as the most conservative, conciliatory, and statesman-like, of all the projects offered. You will probably see it, in some of the morning papers, and thus be able to see who has best caught its character. I hope it may be he.

It is not, however, to be overlooked that, from the preceedings, the step took the Whigs by surprise. Several were absent, including Mr. Archer, who is sick; and none seem to have been prepared for the thing; while one voted with the Democrats. That, however, as to the mere reference, is not decisive, either as to him, or as to Democrats, whom, though acting in the same way, I have had reason thus far to consider as decided opponents of all Annexation thus clapped up, not only in disregard of all right, and all expediency, but in defiance of every constitutional obligation.

To a Southern man, accustomed to view the entire security of that weaker section of the Union as inseparable from the most determined resistance of all invasions of the main constitutional powers, there can be nothing more alarming than this Southern conspiracy, which, for a fancied good of the moment, soon to prove not merely illusory but calamitous, would break down our only protection, our last hope. I fear that the days which this Republic is yet to see, are few and will prove troubled.

This subject must excuse me from all others, except a single work of exultation a the death of the Land Graduation bill in the House.

IL SECRETARIO

[LLS]

Feb. 11, 1845, RWv22i12p1c2

“Later from Mexico,”

The brig *R. de Zaldo*, at New York, sailed from Vera Cruz on the 14th ult. We find in the *New York Journal of Commerce* the following summary in intelligence brought by her:

It is stated that Gen. Santa Ana had made five different attacks upon the city of Puebla, and had been repulsed each time, with some loss. At length despairing of success at that point, he withdrew, with all his forces, about 4000 men. An express arrived at Vera Cruz from Jalapa just before the Z. sailed stating that Santa Ana was besieging Perote, to which place it appears he retired after leaving Puebla. Generals Bravo and Paredes, the chiefs of the Revolution party, (which now wields the civil power) were still at Puebla on the 12th ult., with about 10,000 men. It was supposed he would march in pursuit of Santa Ana. Even should he be taken prisoner, it was thought at Vera Cruz that his enormous wealth, (he having, it is said, more than $12,000,000 in England) would avail to purchase his own life and the lives of his officers; although his conduct at Puebla is represented to have been exceedingly brutal, and
to have raised the popular indignation against him to the highest pitch.

The people of Vera Cruz were expecting a visit from Santa Ana soon, either with a besieging army or as a fugitive. He would, however, be obliged to pass through a defile (about 15 miles from Jalapa) which was well fortified, and commanded by General Jose Rincon. At Vera Cruz there were also fortifications, which, although incomplete, were supposed to be sufficient to prevent his capturing the town.

Information brought by the express from Jalapa, mentioned above, excited apprehensions at Vera Cruz that an intrigue was going on, to save him and his officers, and that a fresh outbreak and much bloodshed would be the consequence.

Another report was that Santa Ana had sent in his submission to the new Government, and had placed himself and his troops at their disposal.

The officers commanding at Vera Cruz were Generals Moza and Hernandez; the Castle is under the command of Gen. Juan Lobo, and a sterling man, and an inveterate enemy of Santa Ana.

It was deemed probably that Santa Ana would soon find his fortunes desperate, and escape on board an English frigate stationed at Sacrificios, with orders, it was said, to receive him and protect his person.

The brig passed, as she was coming out of the harbor of Vera Cruz, the Mexican steam frigate Montezuma, going in with troops from Campeche.

The New York Herald adds the following:

Santa Ana, after having been defeated and driven into a small town near Puebla, has resorted to diplomacy, by sending three commissioners to the city of Mexico, to negotiate for the safety of his head, “In fact, he has virtually surrendered all his forces to the Supreme Government.”

We annex the official notice of the surrender:

From Diero de Vera Cruz, Jan. 13.
General in-Chief and Chief Secretary’s Office
Puebla, January 11, 1845

Bulletin no. 15, Army of Operation

His Excellency Don Antonio de Haro of Tamaniz, and Don Jose Maria Mendoza, yesterday took their departure for the capital of Mexico. On the same night, they were followed by Gen. Don Pedro Cortazar. These three officers are dispatched to treat with the Supreme government for the settlement of all difficulties now existing in the Republic, and for the prevention of further bloodshed.

I, therefore, order all the forces that cover the lines around this city, and now under my command, to suspend all acts of hostilities; to abandon the positions they now occupy; and to retire to the town of Amozoe, there to await the result of the negotiations of those officers.

In view of this commission, I doubt not that seconding the philanthropy by which I am animated, you will order the forces under your command to suspend, on their part, all hostilities, and avoid the effusion of blood, which should be carefully preserved to be shed only when necessary and against a foreign foe.

God and Liberty,
Head Quarters, Jan. 10, 7 P. M.
ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANA

To General Don Ignacio de Inclan.

It may be that this is only a ruse, on the part of Santa Ana to gain time, in order to strike a more decisive blow. He is too shrewd a tactician not to see a check mate in a brief delay. It is very evident, however, that thus far he has had the worse of the fight, and has been driven into diplomacy.

[LLS]

“New and important aspect of the Texas Question in the Senate”

On Wednesday last, Mr. Benton gave a new and important phase to the Texas question (the debate of which
"A BILL to provide for the annexation of Texas to the United States.

" Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in congress assembled, That a State to be formed out of the present republic of Texas, with suitable extent and boundaries, and with two representatives in congress until the next appointment of representation, shall be admitted into the Union by virtue of this act, on an equal footing with the existing States, as soon as the terms and conditions of such admission, and the cession of the remaining Texas territory to the United States, shall be agreed upon by the government of Texas and the United States.

"Sec2. And be it further enacted, That the sum of one hundred thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated to defray the expenses of missions and negotiations to agree upon the terms of said admission and cession, either by treaty, to be submitted to eh Senate, or by articles to be submitted to the two Houses of Congress, as the President may direct."

Mr. Benton entered into a very lucid explanation of the reasons of this movement, which we have not the space to quote at large. The following extract, however, will sufficiently possess the reader of the governing consideration which induced him to present this bill as an antagonist mode to that of joint resolution proposed by the House – the most atrocious departure from and violation of the Constitution, ever offered it, and which, if sanity ever again returns upon the minds of the American People, will be viewed, it and its aiders and abettors, with deeper abhorrence than ever was the Hartford Convention.

"Mr. BENTON said he would avail himself of the indulgence of the Senate to state the reasons which induced him to offer it. It was a copy, he said, substantially, of the bill which he had previously offered, with the omission of all the terms and conditions which that bill contained. He had been induced to omit all these conditions because of the difficulty of agreeing upon them, and because it was now clear that whatever bill was passed upon the subject of Texas, the execution of it must devolve upon the new president, who had been just elected by the people with a view to this object. He had confidence in Mr. Polk, and was willing to trust the question of terms and conditions to his untrammeled discretion, certain that he would do the best that he could for the success for the object, the harmony of the Union, and the peace and honor of the country. He had therefore, withdrawn all the terms and conditions which his previous bill contained, and only retained its cardinal features, namely, the admission of a Texas State by law, the cession of the remaining Texan territory to the United States, and the adjustment of the terms and conditions of this admission and cession by envoys, or commissioners, subject to the confirmation of the two governments. This seemed to him to be the natural, practical way of proceeding, and was certainly the most respectful to Texas.

The joint resolution sent up by the House of Representatives was noting but a proposal, and a proposal clogged with conditions, and limited as to time. If it passed both Houses of our congress, it might be rejected by Texas; and then the process of making proposals would have to commence again. Legislative propositions, interchanged by two legislative bodies, sitting in two different countries, at the distance of near two thousand miles apart, was a slow way of coming to conclusions; and, unless some more practicable method was adopted, the annexation of Texas might be looked upon as an event deferred for years. – Commissioners, or envoys, to discuss propositions face to face, with a right to give as well as to take – with power to yield as well as to demand, can alone be competent to the successful termination of such a business. He therefore adhered to that part of his former bill which proposed to send ministers to settle the terms of annexation.

The occasion [said Mr. B.] is an extraordinary one, and requires an extraordinary mission. The voluntary union of two independent nations is a rare occurrence, and is worthy to be attended by every circumstance, which lends it dignity, promotes its success, and makes it satisfactory. When England and Scotland were united, at the commencement of the last century, no less than thirty-one commissioners were employed to agree upon the terms; and the terms they agreed upon received the sanction of the Parliaments of the two kingdoms, and a completed union which had been in vain attempted for one hundred years. Extraordinary missions, nationality constituted, have several times been resorted to in our own country, and always with public approbations, whether successful or not. They first Mr. Adams sent Marshall, Gerry, and Pinckney to the French directly in 1798. Mr. Jefferson sent Ellsworth, Davin, and Murray to the French [ . . . ] government of 1800. Mr. Madison sent Adams, Bayard, Gallatin, Clay, and Russell to Ghent in 1814. All these missions; and others which might be named, were nationally constituted – composed of eminent citizens taken from each political party, and from different sections of the Union; and, of course, all favorable to the object for which they were employed. An occasion has recurred which in my opinion requires a mission similarly constituted – as numerous as the missions to Paris and to Ghent – and composed of citizens from both political parties, from the non-slaveholding as well as the slaveholding States. Such a commission could hardly fail to be successful not merely in agreeing upon terms which would be satisfactory to the people and the governments of the two countries. And here to avoid misapprehension and the appearance of disrespect where the contrary is felt, I would say that the gentleman now in Texas as the charge of the United States, is, in my opinion, eminently fit and proper to be one of the envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary which my bill contemplates.

The bill which I now propose (said Mr. B.) is brief and plain, but comprehensive and effectual. It proposes to admit one Texan State – to obtain a cession of the remaining Texan territory – and to settle the terms and conditions of the admission and cession by the usual and practicable mode of negotiation.

The admission of the State, or rather its right to admission, is to be complete under the bill. It is to be admitted by
virtue of the act! so that no future legislation will be necessary for that purpose, and possibility of a Missouri controvery will be entirely avoided. The admitted State to have all the rights of the existing States from the moment of her admission, not only theoretically but practically; for the bill fixes her representation in the federal Congress, and avoids all delay or debate upon that point. It says nothing about senators, for these the Constitution alone is sufficient: it both gives the right to senators, and fixes the number. To representatives it give the right, but leaves it to Congress to fix the number. This bill fixes it, and gives to the first Texan State two members – a number to which her present population will entitle her, and which will be sensibly increased before the process of admission can be accomplished, and doubled or trebled before the new apportionment under the census of 1840 can be extended to her."

A motion was made by Mr. Berrien to refer the bill to the Committee of foreign Relations, in which he as aided by Messrs. Morehead, Merrick, barrow, and fives, and opposed by Messrs. Allen, Walker, &c. the vote resulted as follows:

YEAS: Messrs. Barrow, Bayard, Berrien, Clayton, Crittenden, Dayton, Evans, Foster, Francis, Huntington, Johnson, Mangum, Merrick, Miller, Morehead, Pearce, Phelps, Porter, Rives, Simmons, Upham, White and Woodbridge – 22.


So the new bill was not referred.

What the secret spirit of this movement of Mr. Benton is, there is a contrariety of opinion. Some think it is not made in good faith, but intended to complicate the question, to spin out time, and to secure the defeat of Annexation at this session of Congress, now rapidly drawing to a close, and by this Congress, elected before the question was sprung upon the country, and without any reference to it. Were this Col. Benton’s end, it would be in our judgment, a most laudable, praiseworthy and patriotic one! But we do not believe it is; for the superiority of his mode to any yet suggested is so clear that it furnishes a kind of guarantie of its sincerity and good faith. Not that we think if good – far from it – be we think it, with Mr. Rives, the best plan yet devised to accomplish an unconstitutional (by any mode!) and execrable result, even it was constitutional!

Mr. Rives said of it:

He repeated, that if he believed this new proposition was in any manner affected or prejudice by the report which had come to the Senate from the Committee on Foreign Relations; if he believed there was any intention on their part to smoother, or withdraw it from the consideration of the Senate when the general subject should come up. He would not favor the reference proposed; for he did not hesitate to say, without committing himself in regard to his future action, what the proposition itself was conceived in a far more cautious, and, in his humble judgment, considerate and provident spirit than any proposition which had yet been submitted to this body.”

The Globe is in extacies with Benton’s projet. The Madisonian, reflecting, we presume, the sentiments of the Calhoun and Tyler clique, expresses for it the most unqualified abhorrence. We quote a portion of its objurgations:

“COL. BENTON’S BILL”

At length the mountain has brought forth again, and the mouse is precisely similar to the one of which it was delivered last summer, with the exception of the tail. This mouse has been curtailed of its dimensions by some process or other; whether it was consumed by the fiery indignation of the Republican party against such an efficient breed, or whether its parent desired to exhibit a bob-tail to the Senate and the world, for the sake of greater diversion – and we presume the sequel will show that Col. Benton’s design is merely to ridicule the efforts of those in favor of immediate annexation, as a preliminary to the assumption of this “grand NEUTRAL position – of course his Whig allies who are laughing ostreperously in their sleeves, are the best qualified to decide.

Col. Benton has not, in reality, the presumption to believe that such a puerile and curtailed bantling as this proposition, which is brought forward after two months of grave, profound, and mysterious parturition, can be made to swallow up the measure which has passed with such difficulty through the House; no, he does not believe it; and if the popular branch of Congress were to revoke what has been done, retrace all the steps which have been taken, and bow in reverential submission to this curtailed mouse, as the god of their idolatry, we are sure no one would be more surprised that Col. Benton himself.

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“The expressed purpose of Col. Benton’s [unclear unclear], is to defeat the immediate re acquisition of the territory of Texas – its ultimate design is to ignite a political volcano, which is to enable its authors to control the patronage of the new Administration; without ever considering, or even comprehending, what it is to do with it. Colonel Benton declared last May, (we have it on good authority,) he “would rather see the Democratic party sunk fifty fathoms in hell, than that any other man than Mr. Van Buren should be nominated.” During the campaign his weight was added, with other prominent anti-annexationists, to sink it; and since the triumph of the Democracy, on the strength of the Texas question, he has declared in the presence of a member of the Missouri legislature, that “if Col. Polk should dare to say immediate annexation once, he would make the Presidential chair too hot to hold him.” And now we see his plan developed; and although it is an insignificant affair in the estimation of others, it will serve
him as a perrtext and a means to utter his predetermined anathemas.

[LLS]

March

RWv22i18p1c1, Mar. 4, 1845

"TEXAS PASSES THE SENATE!"

We refer to the letter of "Il Secretario" and the annexed slip from the National Intelligencer, for the particulars of the passage of the Texas Resolutions by the Senate, the form in which they passed, and the new attitude given the question by the annexation of Benton's project to the Resolutions of Mr. Brown as they passed the House.

Thus amended in the Senate, the measure must again pass under the revision of the House, and as but four days of the session remain, and one of them is Sunday, it is yet questionable what the final issue is to be. It occurs to us as most probable, that the Texas party in the House, frantic and unscrupulous as they have already proved themselves, will apply the gag, prohibit debate, deliberation or amendment, and by a call of the previous question, pass the undigested lump just in the form it came from the Senate. Nay, most probably this has already been done, and that this day's mail will bring the intelligence.

We regard this measure, this great and far-reaching measure, thus originating in the impurest motives of political intrigue and mercenary speculation,--thus hurried through and crammed down the throats of the People, - not only before the People themselves had spoken and approved, but almost avowedly, that they might be deprived of the opportunity of speaking as sinning against the Constitution, national honor, justice and principle, with the "high hand and an outstretched arm!" Many, we know, every way worthy of respect, differ from us in these sentiments. We can only wonder that they should do so, with the Constitution before their eyes, and the unchangeable principle of Justice and Right in their hearts: It makes us believe that there are times in a country's history, as philosophers allledge, - as in the South Sea bubble in England, or that of Law in France, - when madness is endemic among nations. Why we should want more territory, when we have forty times more already than we can people - why we should wish to annex another cotton and sugar country, when cotton and sugar, from over-production, are already almost drugs in the markets of the World - why we should above all, desire to go out of our way to make this acquisition, at the expense of violating the laws of nations, the rights of a friendly power, the prostration of our Constitution, the disregard of all the maxims of a wise moderation, at the imminent hazard of foreign war and above and [ . . . ] over all, of domestic CONVULSIONS and DISUNION - these problems we say, must puzzle every thinking mind.

Yet there is a solution and the solution is, that mercenary speculators and designing politicians made this an issue before the country to serve their own purposes, and that party management used it to accomplish the objects of power and office it had in view. The people have been shamelessly deceived and juggled, and have really had little to do with the matter.

It is the beginning of the "letting out of waters" and we proclaim that no one can foretell where or how it is to terminate. They who have forced it upon the country have a weight of responsibility to bear, which should not be ours for all the treasure Old Ocean hides in his bosom.

But in the conflict of excited passions and sectional interests, which is inevitably to ensure, let us all cling to the UNION, convinced that when that goes to pieces, this country is to become, uncontrolled by any public opinion, or the neighborhood of other nations, the most apt illustration of a Hell upon Earth.

From the National Intelligencer Extra, February 28

THE ACTION OF THE SENATE

The [ . . . ] of the Senate yesterday upon the Texas question requires a more formal notice than the ordinary current report of legislative proceedings.

The Joint Resolution which, having passed the House of Representatives, has been under discussion for some days in the Senate, is in the following words:

JOINT RESOLUTION FOR ANNEXING TEXAS TO THE UNITED STATES.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that Congress doth consent that the territory properly included within, and rightfully belonging to, the Republic of Texas, may be erected into a new State, to be called the State of Texas, with a republican form of Government, to be adopted by the people of said Republic, by deputies in convention assembled, with the consent of the existing Government, in order that the same may be admitted as one of the Sates of this Union.
Sec. 2. And be it further resolved, That the foregoing consent of Congress is given upon the following conditions, and with the following guaranties, to wit:

First. Said State to be formed, subject to the adjustment by this Government of all questions of boundary that may arise with other Governments; and the Constitution thereof, with the proper evidence of its adoption by the people of said Republic of Texas, shall be transmitted to the President of the United States, to be laid before Congress for its final action, on or before the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six.

Second. Said State, when admitted into the Union, after [ . . . ] to the United States all public edifices, fortifications, barracks, ports and harbors, navy and navy yards, docks, magazines, arms armaments, and all other property and means pertaining to the public defence, belonging to said Republic of Texas, shall retain all the public funds, debts, taxes, and dues of every kind which may belong to or be due or owing said Republic; and shall also retain all the vacant and unappropriated lands lying within its limits, to be applied to the payment of the debts and liabilities of said Republic of Texas; and the residue of said lands, after discharging said debts and liabilities, to be disposed of as said State may direct; but in no event are said debts and liabilities to become a charge upon the Government of the United States.

Third. New States, of convenient size not exceeding four in number, in addition to said State of Texas, and having sufficient population, may hereafter, by the consent of said State, be formed out of the territory thereof, which shall be entitled to admission under the provisions of the Federal Constitution. And such States as may be formed out of that portion of said territory lying south of [ . . . ] thirty-six degrees thirty minutes north latitude, commonly known as the Missouri compromise line, shall be admitted into the Union, with or without slavery, as the people of each State asking admission may desire. And in such State or States as shall be formed out of said territory north of said Missouri compromise line, slavery or involuntary servitude, (except for crime) shall be prohibited.

The debate upon this resolution was resumed yesterday, in a brilliant speech, by Mr. Crittenden, against the resolution, and was closed by a speech from Mr. Archer, in reply to the supporters of the measure, and in most earnest exhortation to the Senate against the surrender of its peculiar constitutional power to mere popular impulse.

When Mr. Archer concluded –

Mr. Walker moved to amend the joint resolution by adding thereto the following:

And be it further resolved, That if the President of the United States shall, in his judgment and discretion, deem it most advisable, instead of proceeding to submit the foregoing resolution to the Republic of Texas as an overture on the part of the United States for admission, to negotiate with that republic; then –

Be it resolved, That a States to be formed out of the present Republic of Texas, with suitable extent and boundaries, and with two Representatives in Congress, until the next apportionment of representation, shall be admitted into the Union, by virtue of this act, on an equal footing with the existing States, as soon as the terms and conditions of such admission, and the cession of the remaining Texas territory to the United States, shall be agreed upon by the Governments of Texas and the United States.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the sum of one hundred thousand dollars be, and the same in hereby appropriated to defray the expenses of missions and negotiations, to agree upon the terms of said admission and cession, either by treaty to be submitted to the Senate, or by articles to be submitted to the two Houses of Congress, as the President may direct.

The pressing for an immediate vote upon this amendment [which is substantially Mr. Benton’s last proposition] gave rise to some feeling in the Senate, and, in the end, it was determined to take a recess before voting upon the question.

At six o’clock the Senate again assembled

We refrain from any attempt to give a particular account of proceedings at this evening session, fearing errors in the lateness of the night, contenting ourselves with announcing the decisive votes merely.

On the question to agree to the amendment of Mr. WALKER, above stated, the votes were as follows.


So the amendment was agreed to.
On the question of ordering the Joint Resolution to a third reading as thus amended, the vote was as follows:


So the bill was ordered to a third reading.

The bill was then read a third time, amidst profound silence, without the yeas and nays being called for, and passed.

Though the lobbies were crammed, and the galleries packed with an anxious and interested multitude of people, a perfect dignity and decorum characterized the whole proceeding of this memorable night.

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The reader will learn, from the preceding statement of the Senate's proceedings of last night, that the Joint Resolution of the House of Representatives for the admission of Texas into the Union, having acquired the support of Mr. Benton and others by incorporating his last project as an alternative to the provision of the House resolution, has passed the Senate by a majority of two votes, in effect by one vote, as a change of one vote would have reversed the decision, by producing an equality of votes.

Our readers must not fall into the error of supposing that this decision by the Senate settles the Texas question. It unsettles it, on the contrary, apparently beyond the possibility of its being determined at the present session of Congress. It is hardly possible that the House of Representatives with one half of all the business of the session in its hands untouched, can again reach a question which, once taken up, will leave for other business no remainder of the session, But should the question be reached, it is still less within the compass of probability that the amendment made by the Senate will receive the sanction of the House. The Joint Resolution passed by chance: that chance can hardly again recur.

We could have wished indeed that the sanctity of the Constitution and the rights of the Senate, had been vindicated by that body itself; but there is consolation in the reflection that in the checks and balances of the Government and especially of each House of Congress upon the other a compensation is sometimes happily to be found and may be hoped to be found in this case for the confusion of the senses under which bodies even so elevated as the Senate of the United States sometimes stray from the path of right and duty.

[LLS]

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“FEU DE JOIE FOR TEXAS!

The Texas gentlemen yesterday, at 3 o'clock, saluted the People of Richmond with Twenty seven Guns! – (One for Texas!) Let us see if the Spartan band, the Leonidases who performed that gallant service, will be as ready to face those real and substantial dangers which are likely to grow out of this violent measure!

[LLS]

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It is finished, and we are an Annexed people! We have taken to ourselves the Commonwealth of cut-throats, the Republic of Rogues; the Land of Loafers! We have a broader freedom: it has taken a new and wider area: no “pent-up Utica confines our powers” any longer: our liberty, “cribb'd, cabined and confined” before, has got a little elbow-room at last. We shall now, for at least two years to come, have at worse, in this crowded country of ours, what they call in theatres “Standing-room” – that is, for such as it suits not to run away: though, really, this business of running away from the United States will presently, at this rate, become a very serious one; for the Union and accountability to its laws follows so fast, that it will be difficult for villains to get away from them.

The land of Washington has, among its founders, placed on high, in the pantheon of its demi-gods, along side of his
image, that of the drunken brute and blackguard, who fled his own State as the abhorred traducer of his own wife's honour; who went forth, an expatriated ruffian, to herd with savages – to be, if he could, an Indian. Such proportion, [ . . . ] as he bears to Washington, in wisdom or virtue to found a States, does Texas bear to any thing which ought to be a part of this Union. Let the good old Thirteen veil their head in shame at such an associate! Let Mississippi, if she ever had a thought of blushing, abandon the idea. She will shine white and pure – INTIMANITIS FULGET IIONORIRUS – beside the new ally, the sweet, the maiden modesty and innocence of Texas! But let me not run over in shame, in bitter and indignant words: there is no time for it. At the late hour when the Senate came to a final decision (after 9) and after some time spent in collecting particular personal facts, I have no more space than is necessary to give a brief account of the main events of the day.

The House bill and Mr. Benton’s consolidated into one, were passed by a vote of 27 to 25 – a full Senate. In this vote, Bagby deserted back to his own party; Foster returned to his friends; poor Johnson copied the apostacy of miserable Merrick; and the latter stood faster to his baseness then he ever stuck to any thing else before in his life.

Of these four, Foster had always declared himself as favorable to the expediency of Annexation upon proper terms, and as entertaining little doubt about the question of constitutionality. He finally abandoned them, when by refusing to secure Slavery there and to provide for the Non Assumption of the debts of Texas, the plan was rendered such as met not his notions of policy and duty. Merrick, I need hardly say, discovered not a scruple of any sort, on any point. Johnson, as I have said, had thought any thing but the treaty form of Admission unconstitutional. He so voted, almost at the last state, on an amendment offered for the direct and avowed purpose of entangling him and Bagby. Yet both surmounted all their own specific scruples and plainly and unequivocally perjured themselves, upon their own deliberate and solemn declarations!

In a word, this whole operation was accomplished by the most palpable fraud and subterfuge of men who, a part of them, had opposed one form of the thing as against their consciences, and another part the other form: but by the simple device of putting the two together, these same men became satisfied to vote for that which they had denounced as unconstitutional!

To Bagby and Johnson both, as I have told you, the difficulty lay to acting by Legislation: both believed that a treaty only could constitutionally annex Texas. But what did they? Both voted against every effort but one to act through the Treaty power! And both finally voted for a set of resolutions, huddled up out of inconsistent – nay, hostile methods – which permit Texas, if she likes, to come in at once, merely upon the passage of this Act and even without its being formally communicated to her, by the Executive; secondly, to come in, more formally, through a mere Executive invitation to take advantage of this law: and, thirdly, to come in by negotiation, if the President should choose to offer to finish the business in [ . . . ] form.- You will thus see what the consciences of [ . . . ] are worth, even upon a public question the most [ . . . ] and high. They believe treaty alone legitimate, and [ . . . ] vote for what IN TWO OF THE MODES, includes it, and make THE THIRD dependant only upon the pleasure of the Executive! He MAY negotiate, if Texas will let him, he may, IF HE LIKES – that’s all. They commit their consciences, then, to Texas and the President – authorizing THEM, to pay some attention or none to the Constitution, just as suits them! Mark you: over Texas, they CAN exert no compulsion: and over the President they ATTEMPT none. – If the latter should have ever so many scruples about the power to act by treaty only, it matters not – for Texas can act, under this law, without his intervention: and he, too, in his turn, if they let him into the matter, may then choose to take the treaty made or not, as he fancies! Such are the vile, [ . . . ], infamous, rotten pretences of legality, that quiet the consciences of these men! Oh foul and monstrous fraud and dishonour! Why, the mere felon that hid not his turpitudes under a more decent fetch than this would be held as low a blockhead as knave! This is a case to quiet the consciences of these men! Oh foul and monstrous fraud and dishonour! Why, the mere felon that hid not his turpitudes under a more decent fetch than this would be held as low a blockhead as knave! This is a case to quiet the consciences of these men! Oh foul and monstrous fraud and dishonour! Why, the mere felon that hid not his turpitudes under a more decent fetch than this would be held as low a blockhead as knave! This is a case to quiet the consciences of these men! Oh foul and monstrous fraud and dishonour! Why, the mere felon that hid not his turpitudes under a more decent fetch than this would be held as low a blockhead as knave! This is a case to quiet the consciences of these men! Oh foul and monstrous fraud and dishonour! 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“TEXAS IN THE SENATE!”

We have no space for the final and very interesting proceedings in the Senate on the day of the passage of the Texas measure. The friends of the Constitution fought nobly and fought to the end, and but for Merrick’s unblushing treachery, [or rather, sale of his vote!] would have defeated the measure by a tie vote, notwithstanding the disregard of instructions, by Haywood of North Carolina, and Allen and Tappan of Ohio. [. . .] in sin, and instigated throughout by motives of party intrigue and mercenary cupidity, this measure was properly consummated at last by a disregard of the highest obligations. Corruption and venality finished what avarice, President-making, and disloyalty to the Union commenced. It will stand out on the page of history along side of the partition of Poland, surpassing even that in the unredeemed baseness of the motives which swayed the immediate agents in it. [LLS]

“TEXAS IN THE HOUSE!”

The Texas measure, as we predicted Saturday, was forced through the House on Friday. No debate, no amendment, no deliberation, was allowed. So great a measure was never so hurriedly dispatched. The final vote of the House adopting the Senate’s amendment was 132 to 76.

The *National Intelligencer* says:

“Our readers will perceive, by the above notice of yesterday’s transactions in Congress, that the Resolution for the annexation of Texas to these United States has passed both Houses, and that nothing now, but the veto of the President can prevent its becoming the law of the land. – Notwithstanding, however, his hailing from the school of strict constructionists, and his remarkable [. . .] in regard to other measures, approved of at one time and vetoed another, we do not pretend to anticipate that the President will negative this Joint resolution, utterly repugnant though it be, both in its object and in the mode of officiating it to the Constitution of the country. We must . . . [Three illegible lines] . . . the highest interests of the country, as well as at variance with the Constitution itself, we have exerted the utmost of our humble ability to avert its consummation. Our own efforts, and those of much abler and wiser men, having failed to arrest an act which a few years ago any man would have been deemed insane who had seriously proposed it, we must bow to the will of the majority. We could have wished, indeed, that a decision pregnant with consequences so vast, and so deeply affecting the testament of the country, had not depended on one man, and been carried by a single vote: had it received a more emphatic approval, we could have been better reconciled to its passage. [LLS]

“CONGRESS,” From the *National Intelligencer*, March 1.

The proceeding of Congress yesterday, though very limited in the number of subjects disposed of, were in some respects, of the highest importance. Not having space for a detailed account of the transaction of the day we [. . .] a summary statement.

In the Senate, after rejecting a motion to postpone the previous order and proceed to consider the bills for the admission of the Territories of Iowa and Florid as States of the Union the bill of the other House [unclear unclear unclear] for the civil and diplomatic service of the Government was taken up, and the Senate spent the remainder of the day’s sitting, until five o’clock, in discussing new items of appropriation, or changes of pre existing ones, proposed by the Committee on Finance or moved by individual members. Among the numerous amendments adopted was one reducing the appropriation for a Minister Plenipotentiary to Austria to the sum required only to maintain a Charge’d Affaires; another was the reduction of the appropriation for outfit and salary for a Minister to China to the sum of $5,000 for “a Commissioner to reside in China,” and another was inserting an appropriation of $275,000 to pay the April and July instalments of the Mexican indemnity due in 1844, provided it should be ascertained that the said instalments have been [as was ascertained in debate] paid by the Mexican Government to the agent appointed by the Government of the United States to receive them.

In the House of Representatives, the first transaction of importance was the passage and transmission to the Senate of the Harbor and River bill, making appropriations of some two millions of dollars for various objects of internal improvement. Then came up, in course, the report of a committee on the Dorr rebellion, and the delivery of two speeches of the subject, when the hour allotted to reports expired. Motions were then successively made to take up the Army and Navy appropriation bills, but the majority resisted these motions, and insisted on first “clearing the
Speaker's table,” on which lay, the Senate’s amendment to the Resolution for the Annexation of Texas. Accordingly, that subject was soon reached, and the House having adopted an order virtually prohibiting debate, the amendment of the Senate was forced through a Committee of the Whole House, (careful to observe the format of the Constitution in small matters,) and "was then concurred in by a vote of 132 to 76. The House then took up the Navy appropriation bill, and at 8 o’clock [the latest period at which we heard from it] was quietly going through its details. [LLS]

RWv22i18p2c4, March 4, 1845

"MR. NEWTON"

This gentleman (and all the Whigs who voted for Brown’s Texas Resolutions except Mr. Dellett of Alabama) voted in opposition to them when they returned from the Senate, encumbered with Mr. Benton’s proposition--. On the other hand, every Democrat who had voted against Mr. Brown’s resolutions, now voted for them (with Benton’s project annexed) except Mr. Hale of New Hampshire and Mr. Davis of New York.

These facts are highly significant. The accession of the recusant Northern Democracy [principally from New York] proves that the Van Buren and Wright influence had finally acquiesced in the Texas movement, and that Mr. Benton’s movement was in all probability concerted to afford them the opportunity of doing [ . . . ]. In few words the moral of the tale is, that Calhoun and Polk having stolen Tyler’s Texas thunder, and made capital from it, were in turn robbed by the Old Hunkers, who did not choose that they should make too much capital.

But we congratulate Mr. Newton, that circumstances, no mater how contrived, [ . . . ] whom, or for what purpose, so worked ultimately as to save him from the deep responsibility of a final approbation of the outrage and iniquity of annexing Texas in the mode it was annexed, and for the still viler motives which influenced the mass of active agents in that work of unconstitutionality and lawless aggression. His friends we are sure will rejoice, and his own conscience.

[LLS]

RWv22i18p2c4, March 4, 1845

Mr. Tyler has signed the Texas, and Florida, and Iowa Bills, so that the bills making them States are now laws of the Land. [LLS]

RWv22i18p2c4, March 4, 1845

"JEREMIAH MORTON, ESQ."

This gentleman’s second address to the People of the 9th congressional District will appear to-morrow, having been received too late yesterday for this day’s Whig.

This gentleman is pleased to indulge himself in very unfounded complaints at our “throwing the power of the Press between him and the Whig party, before his first address reached them!” And that Mr. Pendleton’s address was issued before his own! What are the facts? We first published as soon as we received it, Mr. M.’s Card announcing himself a candidate. Then came Mr. Pendleton’s Card which was promptly published: then Mr. Morton’s first address which was as promptly published as Mr. Pendleton’s, but which did not reach the District as soon after publication as Mr. P.’s, because the Country edition was not so near when it was published in the Daily – What more could we do? What just ground of complaint has Mr. Morton? Nay had we declined publishing his address entirely, we are not aware that he could have had any cause of complaint, since we presume we have the discretion of rejecting or publishing what we please: But, instead of taking the course, and in pursuance of a rule from which we never deviate, to publish both sides, we at once and at the earliest practicable moment yielded to his application. Thus we shall to, too, again, in respect to Mr. Morton’s second address.

The truth is, that gentleman is irritated because we exercised our rightful liberty of commenting upon his extraordinary and (as we think it) unjustifiable course in hazarding the loss of the strongest Whig district in Virginia to gratify his ambitious aspirations – in appealing, in effect, to his and [unclear unclear unclear unclear} the Whigs for his own promotion and advancement; and in making all the measures of the Whig party bow to the immediate annexation of Texas where he is fortunate enough to hold territorial possessions. This is what irritates him, and he will scarcely deny that it is so.

To the majority of men, Mr. Morton’s course is the most natural in the world; but from him we confess we expected a more generous course and a loftier political bearing.
But Texas is now annexed: What next from him? This was the scaffolding upon which he sought to climb, and it has been kicked from under his feet by his own Texas allies: Will he still persist in dividing the Whig party, the single object of his aspiring to Congress being attained without his assistance? Time will show. Let us assure him what he knows well, that there is no personal pique in what we have said respecting his proclaiming himself a candidate for Congress under the circumstances; that scarcely one man in Virginia would have been personally more acceptable to us; but that we would feel justified in supporting no man who had placed himself in such an attitude to his own cause, his own principles and his own friends.

[LLS]

RWv22i18p2c5, March 4, 1845

"CORRESPONDENCE OF THE WHIG"

WASHINGTON, March 2, 1845

As the end approaches, it becomes more worth my while to abandon the tracing of proceeding in Congress of events that lie open to every body's knowledge, and to attempt instead, to give you notice of the true internal state of things, so far as my somewhat practical observation detects, or seems to me to detect it. It is a very curious one.

To begin with the regular organization of the new power, I believe the Cabinet will be constituted just as I told you some ten days since: that is to say, Mr. Buchanan is to be Premier, Mr. Walker to occupy the next position in dignity (really the higher one for patronage and influence) the Treasury; Cave Johnson to be Post Master General; that inexpressible man of unmentionables and Spoils, Marcy, to be Secretary of War; Mr. Mason to remain in the Navy – the only part of the Tyler dynasty that has found favor in Mr. Polk’s eyes. They were old intimates – Congressional yoke fellows to the Jacksonian era. The Attorney-Generalship is less positive, but Mr. Bancroft, I still think, will get it. It is not supposed that the new Administration will encourage or therefore need much Law; so that even the little which he possesses may probably be put into very slender requisition.

As to the Premier, you see at once, either that the authentic edict, published through Mr. Polk’s confidential journal (the Union), just in time to arrive here with him, is put aside in Mr. Buchanan’s favor, or that he is the selected successor, or the HE ALONE, of the notorious Presidential aspirants, has been done the honor of being looked on as having no chance, or else that he has done himself the honor of entering by stipulation, into a regular renunciation of the future for the present. Now it is very true, that baffled so long in his weak ambition, he may have come to prefer "a bird in the hand to two in the bush:" or again he may have considered that, as Presidents now-a-days always promise to serve but one term – as the surest means of being able to arrive not only at one, but two – so secretaries may adopt with equal morality and like advantage the same system of pretended self denial. Or yet again, he may intend to use his present position (as it may be called) to secure a better one (now probably the ultimate object of his corrected aspirations) the retiring Pension (as they call such things in the British Ministry,) of a seat on the Supreme Bench, with the survivorship of Chief Justice.

Meantime, as the President’s following the example of the later Roman Emperors, and appointing what they called, a Caesar, (a successor,) that you must observe was never done by them except to secure their own power: none of them ever meant that the designated Caesar should reign, till they could reign no more themselves. I do not much suspect any of those who belong to this dynasty of the “old Roman” of knowing one word of Roman History: but still they may have been told, that the Caesars very often aspired to dethrone those who had lifted them to the second place in the Empire; and that they often supplanted their creators. At any event it is a common instinct of Princes to be jealous of their heirs. The Dukes of Orleans, in France, repeatedly led the party opposed to the Crown; and in England the Prince of Wales has many times headed the opposition. I take it for granted then, that Mr. Polk will, like every body else that has tasted the sweetness of supreme power, soon find himself utterly averse to giving it up; that if, therefore, he has entered into any compact, it was only with the momentary view of inducing a rival not to stand in his way; that such a compact, no matter how made, will not be kept, either by him or any other; nay, that he with whom it was made, will only, for its existence, become the strong object of jealousy. In a word, such an arrangement may be made at a President’s first, as well as second term; but it is never kept, except as to the latter. It was, no doubt, made between Jackson and Calhoun: but the latter saw, before the first term was far gone, not only that the "Hero" meant to be a candidate a second time, but probably preferred a different, suppler successor. But Jackson’s engagement, for his second term, was more faithfully kept, because he could reign no longer. In spite of this lesson, Calhoun clearly allowed himself to be a second time entrapped with this pie crust – first term promise, made to be broken, by Mr. Van Buren; coalesced with him – turned against him; and pulled him down, when he stood up to complete a second term. Now, partly because, as an older bird, he is not to be caught with such mere chaff, nor yet to be taken by having salt put upon his tail; and partly because his wretched mismanagement of this Texas business has so nearly been fatal to it; he cannot trust the Polk Administration, nor it him; so that he has been, in its arrangements or compacts displaced by the Buchanan interest.- Enough however of Mr. Buchanan. As Secretary of State, he cannot well make any but a very poor figure. Except the good temper of a man without much purpose, an amenity derived from a want of all will or courage or sincerity, he has exceedingly little in him. His reputation for abilities, so far as he possesses it, will soon appear – before the test of real difficulty, as a leading member in that which has to originate, to act, to guide, to manage high and often dangerous things – to be a mere imposture. I know scarcely any man whose capacity has been more utterly overrated.

Mr. Walker had, upon a man whose fortunes have been made by the Texas question, claims which it was impossible
of Cave, what shall I tell you, or how fitly speak of a condition of public affairs, when an animal as worthless for any high public trust as he can mount to distinction? Among Demagogues themselves there is one sort narrower and baser than all the rest, the poverty of whose parts directs them to but one single mode of making themselves agreeable to the meanest of the many – those I mean who dedicate all their public zeal to prevent any man’s getting at the Treasure, right or wrong. Among this sort, Cave is one of the most inveterate. For God knows how many years, he has made that, and moving small and mean motions in Congress, his dearest and almost his only occupation. There is no wrong against any claim however equitable, nor any public interest however capital, which Cave would not at any moment commit, for the sake of seeming vigilant of the Treasury. In short, Cave is as thoroughly the dirty fellow, as any that is has been my fortune to look upon in public life. His abilities are in precise proportion to his favorite aim and the morality with which he pursues it. As to the capacity to manage a Department, the Post Office has been glorious under Wickliffe in comparison to what he will make it. As to a system, he is about as fit to direct one as a weasel would be to manage a great establishment for hatching chickens, or a man for a weaver that had never done any thing, all his life, but pick holes in every public sack that he could get at. He is one to make a great hammering and seem very intent on mending one hole in your pan, while he is making half a dozen new ones. That’s Cave; and depend upon it that the little ability that Heaven has given him will be, every atom of it, spent in contriving to make the Post Office service a still more abandoned machinery of party politics than even Charles Wickliffe has turned it into.

But this grows long, so I must finish my review of the coming Cabinet, on the last day of the old. I have also to touch on the present prospect of Calhoun, Benton, Blair, Ritchie et id omne genus. At present, if I may measure your feelings by my own, you are woefully tired.

IL SECRETARIO

[LLS]

RWv22i18p2c6, March 4, 1845

Letter to the Editor

To the Editors of the Whig:

Gentlemen – I have seen with great pleasure the amends honorable made to Mr. SCOTT in your paper of this morning. In your article you speak of “one” who has done the greatest service to Polk, Dallas, and TEXAS in this section of the country: may a Democrat trespass so far upon your courtesy as to ask what “one” is the individual alluded to? Excuse the liberty taken in addressing you anonymously, and believe me to be most respectfully, etc.,

Yours,
A DEMOCRAT.

[LLS]

RWv22i19p1c7, March 7, 1845

"MEXICO"

We are indebted to the Captain of the schr. Fanny, for Mexican papers up to the 8th instant.
Mr. Gomez [ . . . ] arrived at Vera Cruz on the 11th inst., on board the Spanish brig [ . . . ] O'Donnell, from Havana.

Don Fernando Calderon, a promising young poet, died in the flower of his age.

Nothing definite had yet transpired concerning Santa Ana's fate. The great Dictator has humbled himself, and begs to have his life spared, with the most contemptible cowardice, and under whatever condition they may I pose on him.

The Siecle of the 7th, announced that Santa Ana has given drafts to Mr. Perez Salver, being a restitution of one hundred thousand dollars which he had caused to be taken from the Mint in Guanajuato. He had also appointed as advocate to raise the embargo put on his property and settle all the damages his conduct has caused the nations to suffer.

The Courier Francais remarks that great difficulties exist in bringing a bill of accusation against Santa Ana. The question to solve, is whether he will be accused as President or as General, being at the time of the revolution Ex-President and commander in Chief. – N.O. Bee

DESPATCHES TO TEXAS.

The Madisonian says:- “Floyd Waggaman, Esq. will leave the city this afternoon to deliver to Major Donelson, temporarily at Nashville, the Joint Resolution for the admission of Texas into the Union, which was signed by the President of the United States on Saturday. Should it be found that our Charge has left Nashville the bearer of dispatches has been directed to proceed immediately himself to Texas.”

So that Mr. Tyler has acted as we supposed he would, upon the Resolution of the House, leaving those of the Senate a dead letter. – Balt. Pat.

TYLER!

The New York Courier & Enquirer gives the uncrowned monarch a parting broad-side, so just and retributive, that we transfer it below to our columns. King James II of England, after his exile from the throne and when he had taken refuge in France, overheard a French nobleman celebrated for his wit, say to a companion, “There is a fool who sold three Kingdoms for a mass”! But King James was honest! He thought Popery right, and that his duty to God bound him to attempt its restoration in England! He was a fool to be sure – but an honest fool – and if one is obliged to execrate his tyranny, as well as the objects for which it was exerted, he is still left at liberty to respect the sincerity which actuated him.

But, of our John, what can be said in extenuation! – Where is the sincerity that excuses his folly, or the single upright motive that offers any apology for his enormous treachery? His pernicious administration of public affairs has only been exceeded by the vile personal motives and ends in which it as engendered! Self! Self! Self has been throughout the controlling consideration. Upon the instant of his succeeding to the Presidency by the death of Gen. Harrison, he embraced the purpose of a second term, to which absurd and impossible dream – known to be impossible and absurd to every body but himself and a little coterie of moonstruck and interested dependents – he sacrificed his friends, his cause, his principles, his promises and the great and generous party who had snatched him from obscurity, and elevated him to a world observed prominence! As he did in the Virginia Legislature in 1839, when he sought and obtained a nomination from his opponents against his friends, so did this shallow dupe of his own egregious vanity seek to do again, when fate, not the People, had raised him to the highest office in the world! He intrigued for a Democratic nomination! He sacrificed without hesitation, or delay, or even the observance of a decent interval of time, all the Whig principles and measures which the victory of 1840 had consecrated! He babbled, he and all his clique, of Democracy, with the loudest of the Canting Crew! He even affected to be governed by principle, who did not regard it as unpriced to sacrifice a nation’s will and expectations to his own frivolous hopes and ridiculous expectations.

But why dwell upon a theme so revolting and disgusting! We only do dwell upon it at all, to lend our feeble aid to consign perfidy, the disregard of the most solemn obligations which can be imposed upon men, to the hatred and contempt of mankind. It is not to render John Tyler any more uncomfortable than his own consciousness already renders him. God forbid! That would be a cruelty of which we hope we are incapable. He is now out of power, and we are convinced that no one in all the annals of time, has ever been compelled to lay down power – not even King John or the Stuarts – se generally and cordially despised.
The Courier and Enquirer says:

"With the close of last night ceased the temporary Presidency of John Tyler – who goes back to Virginia without the respect, we sincerely believe, of a single man in the nation, and with the malediction of every patriot who can appreciate the degradation brought upon the institutions and morals of the country by the course of his administration.

Coming into power by a calamity which plunged the nation in gloom, he brought with him enough of character upon which to build hope in his capacity, and had so deeply pledged himself to Whig principle as to preclude doubt of his fidelity.

These hopes and doubts he made haste to dissipate.

Weak, presumptuous, showy and vain, he very soon became the mark for all the political sharpers in the land – who saw in him the precise qualities by means whereof knaves have ever played upon fools. They flattered him to the top of his bent, they talked Virginia Roman to him until he almost imagined himself a Roman indeed – they lauded his political consistency – then stimulated his narrow prejudices – they called – whose personal experience of men and things went not beyond Mason & Dixon’s line – a great statesman! And the qualities of a profound and accomplished Jurist were ascribed to this second rate lawyer of a Virginia County Court.

He heard and believed and swelled, while they who thus fooled him got offices, contracts, jobs – and the country saw with mingled scorn and indignation the scullion of the kitchen promoted to be ruler among men.

From the moment that he broke with General Harrison’s Cabinet – a breach not more remarkable for the mean equivocation with which on his side, incipient treachery was sought to be concealed, than for the manly disinterestedness with which his councilors threw up office – to the latest of the dirty acts of his jobbing, dirty administration, his downward career has been progressive.

Coming to power with professions of economy and reform, he has lavishly used the public monies in the multiplication of offices; and the revival of some, abolished before as unnecessary.

Declaiming in his first message against the interference of office holders in politics, and carrying his fastidiousness so far as to direct a circular to be written, threatening all such with loss of place for any violation of the prohibition, we have seen him appointing men solely because they were partisans and busy electioneers for him; and again turning out others of his own selection, because they would not become partisans themselves, nor permit their subordinates to be so.

Favored by circumstances, and the signal ability of his Secretary of State, he was fortunate in bringing to an honorable close the long-contested a menacing controversy with England, respecting the North eastern Boundary; and, as acting President, some portion of the honor will accrue to him.

The Annexation of Texas – the favorite hobby of Mr. Tyler – has succeeded in Congress, but at the expense of the Constitution; and we witness the spectacle of men trained in what has been called the school of strict construction, stretching that construction so as virtually to annihilate the Senate, quo ad hoc. and to extend a limited partnership formed for these United States and their dependencies, to any and every foreign State, whose possessions we may covet, and whose independence we may suborn.

In forming a judgment, therefore, of John Tyler’s, administration, we shall find its one virtue to be the treaty of Washington; and that solitary virtue, as in the case of Byron’s corsair, is linked to a thousand crimes.

Of the personal character of the acting President, we have expressed ourselves with sufficient distinctness, at the outset of these remarks; and without any assured views as to the course of the new administration, which this day commences its rule, we rejoice, and the country rejoices, that the mean, weak, ignoble and corrupt administration of John Tyler is closed."

[LLS]

RWv22i19p2c4, March 7, 1845

Mr Waggaman, from the Madisonian of Monday evening

FLOYD WAGGAMAN, Esq. will leave the city this afternoon to deliver to major DONELSON, temporarily at Nashville, the Joint Resolution of the admission of Texas into the Union, which was signed by the President of the United States on Saturday. Should it be found that our Charge has left Nashville, the bearer of dispatches has been directed to proceed immediately himself to Texas.

This Mr. Waggaman is Tyler’s nephew. He is thus provided for on the last day of the term! Instead of leaving Mr. Polk, as in decency and dignity and propriety, he was bound to do, to exercise the discretion left to the President in
the Texas Resolutions, honest John, on the very last day of his service, takes it all upon himself, and dispatches his
ephew to Nashville and contingently to Texas, the sole motive no doubt being to provide for him! The Globe pours a
heavy fire into the transaction, which is however entirely characteristic. It says:

"MR. TYLER’S HASTE. - We understand that Mr. Tyler mounted one of his relations [Mr. Waggaman} as an express
to hasten to communicate to Texas that he, as President of the United States, had made his election as to the
alternatives contained in the late act of Congress, looking to the admission of Texas into the Union; and that he had
chosen that alternative which it is known could not have commanded a majority in the Senate, and had rejected that
which carried the majority in the House up from twenty-two to fifty-six.

"Mr. Tyler knows well that Congress did not intend to entrust the discretionary power of the act to his hands. – He
knows well that, if he had appointed to commissioners necessary under one of the alternatives of the act, they would
not have been confirmed to carry out his instructions. He has therefore seized upon that portion of the legislative
enactment which, if acceded to by Texas, may involve future difficulties in our own Congress, and mar the concord
now existing among the friends of the measure, which can alone ensure it a happy consummation. He has taken the
alternative, meant by the law to be conferred on the American President whose duty it will be to effect the measure,
from him, and given it to the Texan Executive.

"But, apart from all considerations of public policy, what will the country think of the propriety and decorum of this
attempt to forestall the action of the Chief Magistrate chosen by the People with an especial eye to this question, and
to whom alone it is notorious the discretion confided in the act of Congress was intended to apply? It is clear, as Mr.
Tyler began his Presidential career in virtue of an accident, that he means to take the benefit of the whole chapter of
accidents, to blend himself with results having their origin in the counsels of Generals Jackson and Houston, and
which his inauspicious management has so far marred in their progress."

[LLS]

RWv22i19p2c5, March 7, 1845

"TEXAS," From the N. O. Courier.

The schooner Lone Star from the river Sabine reports that some difficulty had arisen in the river on account of
tonnage duties, claimed from American vessels by the authorities of Texas. The schr Louisiana, Capt. Eddy, of this
port, was taking in cotton at some place on the Sabine, but the loading was stopped by the Texas custom house
officers on the ground that she had paid no tonnage duty. The revenue cutter Woodbury arrived in the river during
the dispute, and sent a boat with an armed crew, to insist that the loading of the Louisiana should proceed. In the
mean time a Texan revenue cutter arrived, the captain of which declared that the orders of the custom house must
be obeyed. The captain of the Woodbury persisted in a contrary view of the question – and there were mutual
threatenings of blows. The dispute was not settled when the Lone Star sailed from the Sabine.

If the foregoing account of the affair be correct, it is very plain that the captain of the Woodbury is acting in an
unauthorized manner within the jurisdiction of a friendly power.

The captain of the Lone Star paid his tonnage duties to avoid difficulty.

[LLS]

RWv22i19p2c5-6, March 7, 1845

"FROM MEXICO."

The schooner Fanny arrived here last evening from Vera Cruz, and furnishes us with our files of papers from the city
of Mexico to the 10th and from Vera Cruz to the 14th instant, both inclusive.

These papers contain nothing of a very interesting character. Santa Ana was still awaiting his trial, and was still
detained in the prison of Perote. He had requested permission to appear before a grand jury to make his affidavit,
but was refused. The excitement produced by his tyrannical acts, was gradually subsiding. It would not be
surprising, should he be condemned to the mild punishment of banishment for life.

The venerable Gomez Farias, who spent some years of exile here in New Orleans, arrived with his family at Vera
Cruz in the brig Leopold O'Donnell, from Havana. This gentleman will probably be called to some eminent post in
Mexico, an elevation to which he is entitled by his virtues and high reputation.

The Hesperia announces that a conducta had left San Luis Potosi for Tampico on the 8th instant, with $2,370,000 in
specie.

The following are further extracts:
In the Whig of the 25th instant, I find an address of J. S. Pendleton, Esq. to you, so replete with rank and gross proscription, I protest against. And if the Texas Whigs will guard against one device of their adversaries, viz: a by many: but in the keenness of disappointment, that I and Texas Whigs, should be made the victims of cause, I know! That the disastrous result in Virginia, showed the justness of my warnings, is felt by all, and avowed that canvass, I avowed myself in favour of annexation, and would not treat it as an issue or a party question, and they will have the nerve to speak out their sentiments. That I incurred the censure of some Whigs, because during the last years, although often solicited, have never consented to be a candidate for popular favour. I have been ambitious to do good – have devoted much of the prime of my life to the advancement of the morals of my country. In the Vineyard of the Temperance reform, I have been of the popular will of the District. According to the best of my judgment, I thought it necessary to take the position I of the horizon, covered the heavens. I state this as evidence that what my convictions are, I pursue, without reference to pointed at, as innovators and enthusiasts, I stood firm in that little band, until the speck, which was seen in the a laborer for the last fifteen years. I espoused it, if not the first, among the first in Virginia. When its friends were of my life to the advancement of the morals of my country. In the Vineyard of the Temperance reform, I have been a laborer for the last fifteen years. I espoused it, if not the first, among the first in Virginia. When its friends were pointed at, as innovators and enthusiasts, I stood firm in that little band, until the speck, which was seen in the horizon, covered the heavens. I state this as evidence that what my convictions are, I pursue, without reference to the number who think with me, and that I have an abiding confidence in the success of a just cause. What is my offence, brother Whigs?

That I think the annexation of Texas is a great and vital question, and that upon it there should be a fair expression of the popular will of the District. According to the best of my judgment, I thought it necessary to take the position I have, to obtain that expression. I know the responsibility of my position. I am ready and willing to meet it. I maintain now, as I did in the canvass of '44, that a majority of the Whigs are in favour of annexation, and I trust they will have the nerve to speak out their sentiments. That I incurred the censure of some Whigs, because during that canvass, I avowed myself in favour of annexation, and would not treat it as an issue or a party question, and reproached the course of those who threw their influence and talents against it, as unwise and injurious to the Whig cause, I know! That the disastrous result in Virginia, showed the justness of my warnings, is felt by all, and avowed by many: but in the keenness of disappointment, that I and Texas Whigs, should be made the victims of proscription, I protest against. And if the Texas Whigs will guard against one device of their adversaries, viz: a
I regard no man as the friend of annexation, who will object to the detail of every plan proposed. What is my offence, brother Whigs? That I stand on this rock of republican liberty, that a majority of the constitutional voters should rule. I say if this district be in favor of a Bank, it ought to be have a Bank Representative: if it be in favor of Distribution it ought to have a Distribution Representative: and if it be in favor of Annexation, it ought to have an Annexation Representative.

In what have I offended brother Whigs? That I object to a convention as unnecessary, when there is no Democratic candidate in the field. That the people should be left free to judge and select for themselves. But Mr. Pendleton thinks it strange I was for a convention two years ago, and against it now. The distinction is plain. – Then the Democrats had a candidate in the field, distinguished in his party for talents, energy and influence, and in the Whig party six individuals had their friends; a convention then with all its evils, was necessary to concentrate the Whig strength. If, with that necessity, such was the wide spread dissatisfaction as to the constitution and action of that convention, that a majority of 900 was reduced to 375 by Whigs absenting themselves from the polls: how can you have an harmonious action of the party when only Whigs are in the field, and the Democrats in two counties have pledged themselves to public meetings that they will leave the arena to the Whigs alone. The necessity of a convention ceases, and I concur most cordially in a resolution of the Loudoun meeting, that if there should be no Democrat in the field, the Whig party ought not to waive their individual preferences. The wider the range of selection the better. Why unnecessarily fetter and manacle the will of freemen. But the gentleman, with “no ambitious aspiration,” yielded his assent to the application of a friend, that he might place his name on the list of those who would be proposed as candidates to a Whig Convention, in the event there should be a convention, and in that event only. He refused, at various times and to many persons, to permit his name to be presented in any other form. Then Mr. Pendleton feels the necessity of a convention to endorse him – and so charmed with that mode of gliding into congress that he would not permit his name to be presented in any other form. Now, brother Whigs, hear what this convention gentleman, with “no ambitious aspiration,” thought upon the subject of conventions in 1836. In an address to the People of Rappahannock, Mr. Pendleton said: “Fellow citizens, in conformity with a custom of Virginia, coeval with the existence of her Government, I appear before you. As a candidate for a representative agency at your hands, I owe it to you, to myself, to the great crisis in our public affairs, which seems very properly to have excited the anxieties of all ages and conditions of the People of this Commonwealth, and of the Union, to give a full, free and unreserved expression of my views on these subjects – my opinions on which constitute the true test of my fitness to be your representative. The necessity of adopting this form of communication with you, would perhaps be LESS IMPERATIVE, if I CAME before you upon the RECOMMENDATION of a PARTY CAUCUS, or by the DICTATION OF PARTY LEADERS. Not expecting, however, any aid from these modern contrivances, I must even follow the ANCIENT fashion of Virginia, and SEEK my election upon my OWN RESPONSIBILITY, soliciting no support that is not FREE and VOLUNTARY, and sincerely desiring rather DECIDED opposition, than that support which is EXTORTED BY PARTY EXCOMMUNICATION, or the RIGOR OF PARTY DISCIPLINE.” Now, brother Whigs, try Mr. Pendleton by Mr. PENDLETON, and he condemns himself. In ’36, he spurned party caucuses, or the dictation of party leaders. He followed the ancient fashion of Virginia – he sought his election upon his own responsibility, and desired rather decided opposition, than that support, extorted by party communication or the rigour of party discipline.” In ’45, he is so in love with party caucuses and the dictation of party leaders, that in the event only of their embracing him, will he consent to be a candidate. In ’45, he may expect some aid from these “modem contrivances,” he abandons the “ancient fashion of Virginia” – he will no longer seek an election upon his “own responsibility,” and it may be he looks to support which is “extorted by party communication and the rigour of party discipline.” - But brother Whigs, you will no doubt thank Mr. Pendleton for informing you that which I did, when he was upon the shores of the Pacific, viz: that I was in favour of the Texas treaty. In my Texas letter I said, “I think the Treaty ought to have been ratified, although there were circumstances in connection with it I would have had otherwise.” He informs you I am in favour of the joint resolution mode of annexing Texas – and then comes this remarkable passage, “in a word, so far as I understand his position, is willing to annex Texas, and that if the constitution and action of the democratic party.” Mr. Pendleton understanding is more humble than I thought it, if he understood my position as willing to be, and to all practical purposes the Democratic candidate. If he understood me so, he did it, in the face of the most explicit declarations, when he had placed himself by my side: but in another party of his address he says, “he announced himself in the same breath a Whig candidate and opposed to a convention of the Whig party.” You see then, by Mr. Pendleton’s own declaration, that I declared myself a Whig candidate, but since he has discarded “the ancient fashion of Virginia,” it is treason in his pure eyes for Whig to be opposed to a convention. Col. McCarty and Dr. Thornton I understand are opposed to a convention when the Democrats have no candidate, and why did he not make them willing to be and to all intents and purposes democratic candidates. But brother Whigs, he informs you that the democrats, with few exceptions, will vote for me. The gentleman makes me much stronger than I supposed. Col. McCarty it is conjectured, by others, will take a large portion of those of Loudoun and Fairfax, Dr. Thornton his share of those of Rappahannock, and if report is correct, Mr. Pendleton is unwilling for me to have those of Culpeper. The gentleman claims credit to himself, that as soon as I presented myself, he took occasion, at the call of Whig friends, to express his disapprobation of my course. I wish brother Whigs, he had told you every thing that did occur, and I think you would concur with him, that his nomination “is now a position, in many respects, eminently undesirable.” The call of his Whig friends, was in a tone so low, that it never reached me, and his address is the first intimation I have had of it. I feel flattered that the gentleman is so alarmed, that he waives the responsibility of “the marshal’s truncheon,” and asks for “a musket to fight in the ranks.” He is pleased to call me a traitor in the ranks. I repel the foul charge and trample it in the dust. To every principle of the Whig party I claim an adhesion as long, as more unchanging than he.
Mr. Pendleton, I have shown you, has been an anticaucus man, when he loved “old Virginia fashions” and expected nothing from “modern contrivances” – now such a devotee of caucuses, that he will not present himself, unless endorsed and bolstered up by them. Once, twice, thrice, he voted for Gen. Jackson, and contributing as he did, to the generation of that storm, which went with such a desolating sweep through the country, he should feel a little moderation and humility, under a sense of his manifold transgressions. He harped for years over the slander of bargain and corruption. He was opposed to a National Bank and Tariff as unconstitutional and oppressive – and having denounced all of those opinions and standing not where I have always stood, he modestly calls me a traitor in the camp and invokes my excommunication, because I am in favor of the immediate annexation of Texas – and opposed to a convention, and the gratuitously assumes, that I shall get all the Democrats, with a few exceptions.

The Editors of the Whig, in the paper publishing Mr. Pendleton’s address, and acknowledging the receipt of mine, (but not publishing it) have thrown the power of the press between you and me, and invoked my condemnation unheard. They are pleased to say, “we could not have expected this course from Mr. Morton, although we knew his Texas sympathies and his Texas personal interests.” It has been the systematic effort of that press to arouse all possible prejudices against annexation, inculcating the idea that personal interests, were the powerful and controlling influences of the advocated of annexation. The Editors ought to be satisfied by this, that the broad, wide and deep current of popular opinion in favor of annexation, is because of the powerful and overwhelming reasons enforcing it, and that they can no more stop its hourly gathering force than they can Mississippi’s current, by throwing a bulrush on its bosom. During the recent canvass, and at all times when I have addressed the people, I felt it due to them, and myself, that I should avow the fact, that I have a personal interest in the destiny of Texas, that my opinion might be received with as many grains of allowance, as in the estimation of my fellow citizens, that interest might dictate. - I will tell you the interest I have in Texas. I have not one foot of land in all her wide and rich domain. In her struggle for liberty, in the darkest hour of her fortunes, I loaned her my money to carry on as righteous a war as was ever directed by the God of battles – I had confidence in her cause – in the nerved arm of the Anglo-Saxon race, that had raised that flag of independence, and shortly afterwards planted it in imperishable glory on the plains of San Jacinto – I had the privilege, under the loan to take it out in land or receive my principal and interest. I visited Texas in ’40, and determined then not to locate lands, but demanded my money. I still hold her securities, my claims are for money, and not a cent’s interest have I acquired since the year 1840. Texas has never repudiated and I believe never will; although unable to pay, it has been her misfortune and not her crime. If the Tyler treaty had been ratified, I might have obtained the whole or part of my just dues, and then my action run in the same current with my interest; but how stands it now under the joint resolution. I submit to the judgment of candid men if now I do not struggle against my personal interest. Is not one reason urged by the opponents of the joint resolution, that it is injustice to the creditors of Texas; that it is striping her of her custom houses, and her sources of revenue, and throwing her creditors upon the public lands alone? The destiny of Texas is onward, whether a portion of this Union or not. She will grow up, under foreign alliances, a great competitor in the markets of the world, and a powerful neighbour, if we do not admit the Lone Star in the bright constellation of American States. Do I support the annexation of Texas by joint resolution, although palpably against my pecuniary interest, with less ardour than I did the treaty? No. I am more anxious for its final adjustment this session than I have ever been. National interests invoke it, southern interests and southern peace call for it, the national will demands it, and would that there was not one discordant note in all the Southern States against it. I look upon it as the “pillar of cloud by day, and the pillar of fire by night,” which will guide the Israelites in a long lone journey through the wilderness – that it will guide them in safety and peace to that land of promise beyond the sunny clime of Texas. Narrow is the heart and [ . . . ] the spirit, that, in such a great question, involving perhaps the destiny of States, and the gate of nations, can see no reason for annexation but in the selfish ends of “Texas speculations.”

The Editors farther say, that “the course of Mr. Morton, if he is any longer a Whig, and we have always known him for as true a Whig as ever fluttered, is wholly unjustifiable.” I have quite as much confidence in my own judgment as I have in that of the Editors, and I feel fully justified in my own conscience, trusting that notwithstanding the systematic efforts, which seem to be making to prostrate me in your estimation, that I shall stand justified before you. Do the Editors mean to say I am no Whig, because I am a Texas Whig, and opposed to a convention? They insinuate as much – I like directness of purpose and open warfare, if such is unhappily to exist. Not that I shall recognize their right, and that of Mr. Pendleton’s – to mount as a self-constituted High Priest into the papal chair, and issue against me the bull of party excommunication. Let Texas Whigs resolve upon this, not to be divided and split up as to the mode of annexation; it is playing into the hands of the adversary – and to go for no eleventh hour Texas man, but one who has shown in good and evil report, that he heart is in the cause. If such an one as that can be found, gathering more strength upon this vital question than I can, - I would cheerfully, and at once, give place to him, and like Mr. Pendleton, turn my back upon “the truncheon of the marshal” an call for “the musket” and a place “in the ranks.” I avow myself the foe of tyranny, whether it manifests itself in the Executive head, the legislative halls, in party leaders, or in political presses.

JEREMIAH MORTON.

The Richmond papers, the Alexandria Gazette, and the papers of the 9th Congressional District, are politely requested to copy.

[LLS]

RWv22i20p1c4, March 11, 1845

“THE CORRECTION – AT LAST.” From the National Intelligencer.
A Washington correspondent of the Journal of Commerce makes the following explanation concerning the extraordinary news which was manufactured in this city during the pendency of the Texas question in the Senate, of a treaty for the cession of California to Great Britain having been found upon the person of Santa Ana at the time of his recent capture – a story that was reiterated, notwithstanding the total silence of the Mexican press and people on the subject, and which was avouched by the Journal of Commerce as being founded on information received by our Government. One of its correspondents now says:

"The Texans here tell me that the proposition was made by Great Britain in 1840, and was accompanied with an offer to assume the debt of Mexico to British subjects.- They say the Mexicans were jealous of British power, and would not entertain it; but that Santa Ana, as the papers lately found in his possession show, entertained and promoted it. It may be a charge got up against Santa Ana to help the manifold accusations against him. The nature of the case itself excludes the idea that our Government can have any official and authentic information of it. Whatever was done, was done in secret, and never approached consummation. Mr. Packenham was Minister in Mexico, and the proposition, if made, was through him."

The New York Courier and Enquirer contradicts the concluding part of the foregoing extract. It says:

"THE CALIFORNIA FALSEHOOD. – The Journal of Commerce, which originated the statement that England has been negotiating with Mexico for California, now says that the proposition, if made at all, “was made through Mr. Packenham, who was then Minister to Mexico.” Now, we have the most reliable authority for saying that Mr. Packenham has denied, in the most explicit language possible, that any such proposition was ever made, or any such design entertained.

"Thus is this very exciting rumor refuted by the Journal itself, the very paper with which it had its origin. It is possible (we wish it were probable) that the editors of the Journal have been simply imposed upon by some designing persons in this affair; but in repeating, as they have done, assurances of its truth, they have made themselves responsible for it. No man of ordinary conscience can regard as a light or trifling matter the invention and circulation of a story calculated and intended to induce national action which may plunge us into war. [LLS]

RWv22i20p2c5, March 11, 1845

Correspondence of the Whig.

WASHINGTON, March 9, 1845.

The fact may, I believe, be relied on, that the Mexican Minister yesterday communicated to the Corps diplomatique here a protest, addressed to the President against the Act of Annexation. It appears that he law was not published, with the President’ assent, until the preceding evening, in the Madisonian; which fact alone accounts for the Mexican’s delay of the step to which his nation was so deeply pledged, and which (pledged or not) she was certain to take. Gen Almonte, I presume, could not act, in a matter of such high formality, on any thing short of the regular publication of the law, and has held back for that the proceeding which, however calm and corteous in its character, certainly places the two nations in an attitude of any thing but peace. The document, as far as I can learn its tenor, is to the following effect:

"That he has the honour to address himself to the Hon. Secretary of State of the U. States, in order to manifest the deep concern with which he has seen that the President has given his signature to a law admitting into this confederacy the Mexican province of Texas.

"He had flattered himself that the right counsels urged by so many distinguished citizens of this country, thoroughly versed in its public principles and the wise and right policy that has directed its conduct abroad, would have led to a better event. Unhappily, it has not been so; - and, in contradiction to his hopes and to his sincerest vows, he sees carried on the part of this Government, to its legal consummation, and act of aggression the most unjust that modern history can record - the despoiling a friendly nation of a considerable part of its territory.

"For these reasons, as bound to do by his instructions, he protests, in the most solemn manner, in the name of his Government, against the law in question. He also protests that the Act can in no manner invalidate the right of Mexico to recover her province, so unjustly wrested from her: and that she will sustain and give effect to that right by all the means in her power.

"He also begs that the Secretary will make known to the President that, in view of these facts, his Mission near this Government is, from to-day, at an end: and he, therefore, asks that the honorable Secretary will send him his passports – it being his purpose to leave this city as soon as possible for New York."

I do not, of course, vouch for the precise forms of the matter; but deriving my information from a very accurate person, who has seen the document, can venture to say that this is faithfully the substance in general, and nearly the terms of the most material sentences.
Here, then, is, beyond question, the final adoption, on the part of Mexico, of that remedy which she has long and steadily announced to us as the only resort left her. It has pleased the Annexationists to argue, in the face of every inevitable cause given her, and of all those solemn declarations which she has made, that her pledges were all but shams – the shocking reason for which incredulity was evidently, at last, her supposed incapacity to harm us, or even do defend herself. They forgot that the very worm, when trod on, turns upon the heel that crushes it. Mexico, fouly treated as she has been from the beginning of this Texan struggle, has yielded all that she could to prudence: but the matter has now come to a pass at which all her people must be roused to a resentment and an alarm, at the present outrage and the still more fatal ones sure to be close at its heels, when all calculations of strength must be given to the winds and she must fight, as one that fights for life. The very humblest of her citizens is aware that, after this proceeding, to submit is but to invite a new dismemberment, already avowed – that of California; and that the next [ . . . ] certain to follow in a few years, is a blow at her great city itself, her rich mines, and her very churches of god, themselves, as much as the mines, the objects of an impious, utterly Unchristian cupidity.

I have always said that Mexico, however overmatched, must make battle. Inferior as she is, she was bound to avoid it, as long as she could; and she has done so: but she now knows that she can do so no longer. It is no more a question of temporizing, but of the most abject and fatal submission, that will sacrifice every thing and make any future resistance impossible. She sees, she cannot but see, that she has only the choice of defending herself against us while yet at a distance, or of waiting until, firmly seated in one of her own plundered territories, we assail her, from that vantage, in her very centre. If pride and prudence thus far concur to drive her to arms, she is well aware, besides, that the present conjuncture promises better for what is her main hope, of not being worsted – foreign aid – than any future contingency is likely to offer. English interference in the quarrel has been singularly provoked by its [ . . . ] and foolish management on our part; and the difficulties of the Oregon question come most opportunely to the (Mexico’s) cause.

Were it, however, far more probable that in the contest thus forced upon her, Mexico must stand alone, nothing, I must insist, was ever more abandoned, in the way of ill counsels, of utter improvidence joined with infamous wrong, than to proceed as the party conducting this business, every way shameful, are doing. Who ever before saw men march to deeds of pillage, when resistance had been announced in advance, just as easy, as secure, as gay, as if they were going to a wedding feast or other holiday junketing? It is as if house breakers who have sent notice of intended burglary and received warning in return that the master and his family would fire upon them, should set about their enterprise by flinging away all their own weapons.

Have they, under not only all the pretended designs of England, but her real relations to this question and her actual position in regard to us elsewhere [Oregon and Canada,] and right to take it for granted, by their miserable neglect of all preparation, that she will not profit by this occasion and join arms with Mexico? To suppose that she will not is only to confess that all the alleged grounds of setting on foot this scheme of rapine were utter falsehoods known by their authors to be such. Nor is this all: it is likewise to suppose that England may not, by the provocations given her in this business, by sympathy with a nation largely involved with her by [unclear unclear unclear], or by considerations of policy forced on her by our own avowed designs, he led to take part, either directly or indirectly? Is she not likely at least to give Mexico secret encouragement and indirect assistance? Would she not at least rejoice to see our trade ruined and our pride humbled in a privateer war? And need she [ . . . ] to Mexico than we were as to Texas and Canada?

Grant, however, that her rivalry, her resentment, her policy might all be with prudence put out of view: let it, if you will, have been all an infamous pretence that she meant us anything but what was most friendly, and that she bas indeed, an unbounded complaisance towards us – still Mexico is left – not alone, since she will have the warm sympathy of all nations; not unaided, since their citizens will flock to her banner of land and at sea: not unencouraged, since our own total omission of [ . . . ] will leave her the power to inflict a terrible blow upon our myriads of helpless merchantmen, before we can retort upon her. I see not how we can injure her much, while upon our trade she can let slip the havoc of privateers by the thousand! What has been done to guard against such a mischief by sea? Nothing but demagogue efforts to cheapen our Navy! And what to repay any such ravage by land? Nothing but to attempt reductions of our poor little Army, the mere nucleus of a public force! To Texas, the very object of seizure, not a company of U. States Infantry has been ordered. Not a dollar is at the President's disposal for any hostile contingency; not a step for defence against any sudden movement is left legally in his power! It would seem that the authors of what has been done were determined that they would not only shock the world by their violence of iniquity, but astonish it by their utter contempt of all precedence.

IL SECRETARIO

[LLS]

RWv22i20p4c3, March 11, 1845

To the Editors of the Whig:

Gentlemen – 'SIMON' is by no means surprised at the caricature of his remarks in the Whig of Monday, since it is so common a thing for one who speaks, independently, his sentiments, to be branded with the charge of misrepresentation, and even falsehood! Mr. Lyons is surely, not the man to require the efforts of such a scribbler as “Richmond” to defend him in a matter like that now is issue in this city, and "Simon" will not permit "Richmond," or
any other man, to entertain higher respect for, or profounder gratitude to, Mr. Lyons, for past services, than himself! "Simon," however badly expressed the sentiment might have been, did not mean to say more than, that, in the canvass now progressing in the City, Mr. Lyons had placed himself upon Texas and Texas alone! He did not plead the interests of the city, the cause of education throughout the Commonwealth, or the general prosperity of our people; but, if "Simon" read correctly, (and he has not his piece now before him,) his card was to prove that the great interests of the Confederacy would be promoted by the annexation of Texas. "Simon" considered this an offence to this part of the Whig Dominion, not that Mr. Lyons did not have as much right to go for Texas as any other man to go against it, for "Simon" is just one of those who would tolerate freedom of opinion even in his satanic majesty, with the obscurest freeman in the Land. He is far from entertaining hostility to any man because of this, and consequently "driving him from the party," – but when a candidate for public suffrage stands up before such a community as this and pleads an issue so odious as the Texas humbug, that by which the honour, integrity and perhaps peace of the country have been sacrificed upon the altar of political knavery and malignity against Mr. Clay and the great Whig party, those who thus regard this subject, may surely venture to dissent from such pretensions. It was in this view and this alone that "Simon" ventured to speak of the city canvass, and the isolated quotations by "Richmond" does him, to say the least, great injustice. No man, laying aside this matter of Texas, would sooner vote for Mr. Lyons, than "Simon," notwithstanding his objections to lawyer. But Mr. L. is not of that class of Lawyers who seek notoriety by aspiring to a seat in the Legislature. He has won for himself on another and more honorable arena a fame which might be tarnished, not brightened, by contact with such a body of leatherheads as usually, in these corrupt times succeed in getting a seat there. "Simon" knows perhaps, as well as this valiant, this fine Richmond, “in the field” that Mr. L. would be a working man; but like the "expunge" Texas is an offence, that ten thousand rivers of the purest water that ever flowed can never wash out, and no results that can succeed, will ever obliterate the foulness of the treachery in which it was conceived, and the ignoble purposes for which it was perverted by the Loco-Foco party. So far therefore as Mr. Lyons in concerned, "Simon" can only regret that so good, so able so decent a man as James Lyons, and some few others that he has the honor of an acquaintance with, should be found supporting a measure, condemned by every letter of the Constitution, and at utter variance with all the experience of our Government.

[LLS]

RWv22i21p1c2, March 14, 1845

To the Editors of the Whig:

Gentlemen – Now that the all absorbing and grand question of Annexation has been ludicrously disposed of, and the speculating jockeys of our once fair, but now degenerate country, are smiling through their sleeves at the unexpected thousands lying at their feet, together with our sacred Constitution; allow one who deeply sympathizes with all those who look with regret and mortification upon this state of things, to address a few lines in your columns to the Whig Voters, whose suffrages are so loudly called for, in tones of thunder, in the Sixth Congressional District of Virginia, particularly to the Whigs of Chesterfield.

The recent battle, fellow Whigs, which we fought so gallantly, has passed by, and the measures for which we so boldly contended, have been trampled beneath the feet of our opponents. Are we, fellow citizens, placidly to submit to this? Are we to relax those efforts which have ever characterized patriots, Whigs? Are we to stand, awestruck by the numerous vices of the minority, and allow such depredations as have recently been practiced, to stare us in the face, when we have it in our power, with proper organization, to reap the reward which should await true patriots in the field of battle – Victory! No; gird on your armour, and swear by the God who reigns over all, that every muscle shall be exerted, every nerve roused, to perform its proper function, and victory awaits us.

Union is all that we wish, all that is necessary to ensure success; and cannot Union be obtained? I answer the interrogatory – Yes. There is not a Whig in this district who, with mature deliberation, will not lend his influence, however humble, to the election of our indefatigable and able Statesman, JNO. M. BOTTS, to the Congress of the U. States.

In perusing the Whig, some two or three days since, I was much surprised, and at the same time distressed, to see that any other than Mr. Botts should have been spoken of as our candidate in this district; and still greater was my surprise to learn that the Texas question, of minor importance as it is, comparatively speaking, was the point on which many differed with Mr. Botts. I will not, however, enter into a discussion of the merits or demerits of Texas at this late hour, but would only say that Texas is ours, and I supposed Mr. Botts would, with as much zeal, defend this as any other acquisition we have made in years past; therefore, I am sure Mr. Botts will enjoy the support of every Whig in the District.

A word to the Whigs of Chesterfield and I have done. Chesterfield having long trodden the path unknown to wisdom, I am happy now to think, is retracing the steps of her digression, and should the Whigs adopt proper means of canvassing the country, I will guarantee that we give Jno. Mr. Botts 50 votes more than he received in '43, thereby greatly increasing the chance of our talented candidate for a seat in the next Legislature of Virginia: I would, therefore, suggest that the county be divided into Districts, appointing a committee of five to each district, whose duty it shall be to procure means by which the disabled and revolutionary patriots may get to the polls. I suggest this, knowing as I do that there are many, very many, whose silvery locks would forcibly evince proof of their being destitute of physical power sufficient to use much exertion to enjoy this great prerogative. Will not some active Whig carry this plan out?
"THE LATE ACTING PRESIDENT,"

From the Democratic Review for March, 1845

We must be indulged in the harmless anachronism which this anticipates, by a few days, the period when this agreeable form of expression may be employed, with a more strict accuracy than at the moment at which it is now written. — For even though the hour has not yet quite arrived, which is to be brightened by the reflection that Tylerism has ceased to exist, in any other than the past tense, yet, by the time this page shall reach the eyes of most of its readers, they will have ceased to blush for the government of their country.

"It will take the country a long time before the morals of our politics can recover from the bad influence which has been exerted over them by the regime of Tylerism" — was the recent remark of a very eminent statesman, occupying a position entirely aloof from it, and disinterested in regard to it; and who neither in his own person nor that of any friend, had been injured or assailed by it, but who had rather been on the contrary, an object of its good-will and flattering attentions. And the remark was true — so true that we scarcely know when and how to expect the curative influence or recuperative power which shall wholly undo the mischief, wholly atone for the disgrace, so deeply wrought by the events of the last four years.

Of late, indeed, towards the conclusion of Mr. Tyler's term, certain events have conduced to produce the effect of raising a little faint show of factitious popularity — not his own but another's — which attaches not to his general administration, but partly to a particular measure — and which prevents the full manifestation of that common contempt, which both Whig and Democratic parties vie with each other in entertaining for that nondescript tertium quid which he and an insignificant band of mercenary adherents have constituted, as a hybrid novelty unimagined before in our political experience. The strong arm of the great Statesman of the South so far upholds him, as to let him down with a decent show of dignity, in his descent from the high place to which accident alone raised him; and the blaze of the "Lone Star" streaming up over our south western horizon, alone sheds a certain degree of feebly reflected light on his retiring person, to redeem it from the entire darkness in which it would otherwise have gone down.

Men rarely love a treason so well as to forget to despise the traitor. Nor indeed is it by any means clear, that in his defection from the Whigs who had placed him in the position which gave him his power to harm, Mr. Tyler is entitled even to the usual good treatment which the policy of war accords to deserters. To desert voluntarily is one thing; to be fairly scourged out of the ranks and out of the camp and then driven over to the enemy as the only place of refuge, is another, and a very different thing. And when the person thus expelled was himself already a deserter in the enemy's camp from the side to which he is thus again ignominiously driven back — when his prolonged continuance there up to the time of that expulsion, has involved in itself the grossest treachery to the side from which he again supplicates a refuge — it cannot be pretended that any very strong ease is made out for a very cordial welcome. This is no overcharged picture of Mr. Tyler's position.

In the year 1840, what Whig out Whigged the renegade "Virginia Republican?" Nay, not only was he a Whig of the intensest sort but he was peculiarly, and par excellence, a Henry Clay Whig. To be a Harrison Whig, or a Scott Whig at that time, means comparatively little or nothing. To be a Clay Whig was full of the deepest and strongest meaning. There was no non committalism about the bold Kentuckian. His name alone, constituted as distinct an announcement of a system of political doctrine — and political doctrine of the worst sort — as could have been conveyed in any form of creed or catechism. And in the convention of 1840, Mr. Tyler was so furiously a friend to the selection of Mr. Clay, to be the Presidential candidate and national representative of the Whig party, that as has been subsequently proved, it was to the bitterness of his lamentations for Clay's failure of nomination, that he partly owed his own selection for the Vice Presidency.

We should not have made this fact alone, "per se," the foundation of the charge against Mr. Tyler, of having been a "renegade Virginia Republican," if he had not, by the palpable corruption of his subsequent course, reflected back upon his position at that time the clearest of lights by which to read his character and conduct. In his zealous Clayism of that day, there was no honesty of conversion, from what he had of old professed. He was sinning against a great light, and he knew it. He has subsequently, when ambitious interest prompted a different course, thrown himself back again, with an ardor of Republicanism reinvigorated by its long intermission of repose, upon the old principles, and the old party, which he was then betraying. — With no disposition to withhold from Mr. Tyler a charitable judgment over, ever, nevertheless the undisguised and unblushing excess of the political corruption which has rioted through his administration — now, happily, exalting its very last breath — has been such as to compel justice, in the interpretation of former equivocal conduct, to accept in all cases the worse construction as the more probable truth.

The history of Mr. Tyler's administration may be briefly summed up. Becoming Acting President by accident, his polar star was a second term. Wit this view he first, in conjunction with Webster, aimed at an amalgamation of parties,
until it became evident that neither Whigs nor Democrats would have anything to do with such a scheme. The
former fairly encouraged him forth from the place among them; which the latter as sternly and contumulously
denied him admittance even within the uttermost verge of their gates. Then and not till then did Mr. Tyler adopt as
the text trick of his policy, the effort to force or buy his way into the Democratic party by patronage of Texas, * * *
* * and hoping to throw us into such confusion as to create at least a probability, if not necessity, of rallying upon
him for re-election, as the only means of averting the worse evil of the election of Clay. Hence his convention at the
same place and day with that of the Democratic party. To this hope he clung long and desperately, till the ridicule of
his position became intolerable, even to the proverbial fatuity of himself and his family, and the [. . . ] after the
nomination of Mr. Polk, he at last withdrew, only after an absurdly transparent attempt to make, by implied
understanding with some of our party, the best terms of capitulation in his power for his officeholder. This is the
naked outline of Mr. Tyler's administration.

Does any reader doubt its truth? Let it be remembered – the most supplicant tenacity with which Mr. Tyler during his
first year clung to the Whig party. - At this time, be it borne in mind, the Whigs were fresh from the then last
contest, which had placed them in the attitude of an overwhelming ascendancy; while the Democrats were
apparently a broken down party, not only comparatively feeble in force, but containing within themselves many
elements of confusion and disorganization. * * * Mr. Tyler's game then was, clearly, to shake off Clay, retain the
great bulk of the masses whose rush had borne Harrison and himself into power, trusting afterwards gradually so far
to disintegrate the Republican party, as to bring in at least a considerable proportion of them around his
administration. Hence, although he vetoed Mr. Clay's Bank Bill, he offered at the same time a much worse one, and
actually clung to the profession and name of a Whig, pleading with them impiously in one of his Messages on the
ground of the number of other Whig bills he had signed, until all hope of success vanished, and Clay's controlling
ascendancy in the party succeeding in flinging him forcibly and scornfully off into a position in which it became
acknowledged treason for any Whig to maintain any sort of party communion with him.

Let it be remembered – the manner in which he then proceeded to address himself to his next aim, that of courting
the democratic party. Then was witnessed a spectacle of the corrupt abuse of the patronage power of the Executive,
unprecedented, unimagined before. One of Mr. Tyler's first acts after his entrance into power had been to
promulgate a special declaration against the interference of the federal office holders in politics. On former
occasions, also, Mr. Tyler had in peculiar manner identified himself with this principle. And yet, as soon as he began
the working of this policy, that of worming his way into a position in the Democratic party by means of his office,
systematically and universally throughout the country they were held up as the bribes for adhesion to him and his,
interest, and activity in his cause.

Every man then is the Democratic party occupying any sort of position capable of being represented as one of
influence, had office at his disposal for the mere acceptance of it. Democratic Representatives in Congress had
almost unlimited command over the Federal patronage of their districts. Anything to prove himself a Democrat – to
get admission as such – recognition as such. In all directions were to be seen Whigs removed from office who had
scarcely had time to get adjusted in the seats to which they had been appointed either by General Harrison or by Mr.
Tyler himself – Whigs of unimpeached personal worth and capability – for no other even pretended reason than to
confer their offices on Democrats. It was a positive public scandal – undisguised, undissembled.- We need not dwell
on details – a single prominent fact will suffice to illustrate it. The whole system adopted is typified in Mr. Tyler's
Baltimore convention, of which body nearly all were already his office-holders when they went there, while all the
rest, with scarcely an exception, have been made so since!

The direct application of the vast machinery of the Federal patronage to the object of buying a deserter's way into
some kind of welcome or reception by a party on which he seeks to fasten himself, presented a novelty in our
politics. It certainly wrought a vast amount of mischief. It scattered broadcast through the land, seeds of
demoralization, which could scarcely fail, almost everywhere, to find at least a little soil adapted to their to ready
germination. Everywhere a certain number of persons were to be found, urged perhaps by their necessities, or little
disposed to be scrupulous in such matters, whom a little judicious dangling of these baits before their eyes could
scarcely fail to attract, with an eagerness little disposed to quarrel with the hand from which they were to drop.
Unprincipled men were also at many places to be found, who had little difficulty in palming themselves off upon the
facile and foolish confidence of Mr. Tyler and his family, as their special friends, and as persons of astonishing zeal,
activity and local importance, in whose hands the local management of their interests might safely be reposed. In
general, able to get only the lowest and worst to fraternize with them in their loud mouthed partisanship of Mr.
Tyler, this class of persons, at many points, and especially in the cities, succeeding in getting together miserable
little knots of persons, rarely more that sufficient to fill the far room of some mean haunt which constituted their
head quarters, and these, in connection with the higher incumbents of the lucrative offices, constituted the "party"
worthy of their creation and creator – the Tyler Party!

With the aid of a few newspapers, supported by the public patronage, and by a heavy system of assessed taxation
upon the holders of office, these little pot-house knots of "the friends of John Tyler," were constantly astonihing the
country with "mass meetings," and "great popular demonstrations," of which it is needless to say that they rarely in
numbers much exceeded that of the officers reported to have presided over them. To what extent this system of
humbug, the most impudent, succeeded in imposing upon Mr. Tyler, so as to make him actually believe in the
existence and growth of a great popular sentiment in his behalf, we have no means of knowing. It is, at any rate,
very certain, that even if deceived in regard to the imaginary popular sentiment in his favor, manufactured by these
persons, he could not have been ignorant of the great fact which constituted [. . . ] the chief characteristic and the
worst evil and disgrace of his administration, that it was mainly, if not wholly by the active plying of the power of his
patronage, that the organization of his friends as a "party" was constituted, and sustained to the point of real or
fictitious zeal. And this is the leading feature of his term, the employment of office and every manner of patronage
to create a party, and keep it up to the due point of stimulus. We fear that a deeper mischief has been thus wrought
to the political morality of the country, than would have attended the signing of fifty charters of banks or banking
exchequers.

These people have in general been exceedingly clamorous in behalf of “Polk and Dallas,” since Mr. Tyler’s withdrawal – an event which did not take place till nearly three months after the nomination of the Democratic candidate. We believe they even so far surpass themselves in all those attributes which are the opposites of modesty and veracity, as to claim a large share, if not the whole of the glory of the Democratic victory. In truth, we have from the commencement felt satisfied that they did more harm than good. Their numbers were utterly insignificant. In point of moral force they added only a weakness and a weight hard and heavy to be borne. – It was felt that they were introducing into the Democratic party, and into a position of self-assumed clamorous prominence, frothing on the surface, a class of persons felt generally to be equally unworthy of personal respect or of political confidence. While it cannot but be a matter of regret, that the country has lost the moral benefit of witnessing that just retribution of rebuke which awaited this weakest and worst of our Presidents, in the utterly insignificant number of popular votes he had the slightest chance of obtaining.

We by no means design to include the whole body of Mr. Tyler’s office holders within the application of the above remarks. A considerable number of gentlemen of the highest political and personal merit, are indeed to be found among them – either selected through the agency of friends – or by happy chance – or by the way of good leaven to leaven the lump, as respectable endorsers to the bankrupt worthlessness of so many of the rest. Still less, of course, will any portion of them be received as applicable to Mr. Tyler’s Cabinet – the members of which have had little – most of them nothing – to do with the meaner matters of party making management. Mr. Calhoun’s position in it, in particular, is known to all to have been one far aloft from and above any thing and everything of this kind. He accepted the State Department at the call of the country for a specific object of the greatest public importance, with personal reluctance and entire independence of controle, and full understanding of his purpose of retiring as soon as he should have completed the Texas & Oregon negotiations.

[LLS]

RWv22i21p2c5, March 14, 1845

"MEXICO"

By brig Abiano, we have received Mexican papers up to 12th February.

Santa Ana was to be tried on the 24th February, by the Congress erected as jury. If Santa Ana does not present himself before the grand jury, but sends his written defence, the trial is to come off sooner.

It appears that Santa Ana has full liberty to communicate by letter with whoever he pleases. It is reported that several letters have been intercepted, which were addressed to several houses in Vera Cruz, recommending them not to denounce the several sums deposited in their hands. A remarkable fact is, that whilst Santa Ana declared to Congress he had no other fortune than his landed property, he drawn exchange for $90,000, thereby proving the contempt with which he treats the Mexicans. – N. O. Bee.

[LLS]

RWv22i22p1c5, March 18, 1845

Question to Henry Brooke

To Henry L. Brooke, Esq.

Your frankness and prompt decision in your card of this morning, lead me to believe that you will, with equal candour and promptness, give an immediate reply to the following queries, which, as one of the voters in the city, I am desirous of having answered, and therefore feel bold to put them to you in this public manner:

1st. Are you in favour of the ultimate annexation of Texas?

2d. Are you of opinion that the Joint Resolutions are Constitutional?

3d. Do you think the present crisis such as to render Annexation expedient?

My reason for putting to you these questions, is this: that I think each candidate ought to avow his sentiments fully upon every issue which may be brought into the canvass; and, if street rumor is to be credited, your opinions are differently understood by different persons. – For instance, it is said confidently that you hold the affirmative of the 1st and 2d questions, and the negative of the latter; whilst it is known that you have been electioneering against one of your opponents upon the ground that he holds the affirmative of all three!
SHOCKOE.
Richmond, March 15, '45.

[LLS]

RWv22i22p1c5, March 18, 1845

"WILLIAM C. RIVES."

We had intended to mark the retirement of several able and upright Statesmen from the United States Senate, with some comments on their services and worth, but other duties have prevented. We cannot, however, in justice to our feelings, longer withhold the expression of our high appreciation of, and gratitude to, William C. Rives of Virginia. Through the last two Sessions, especially, Mr. Rives has evinced a liberality and justness of sentiment, a soundness and firmness of principle, a largeness of perception and loftiness of aim, which have commended him more and more to the affections of the Whigs throughout the Union. His upright, manly, truly National course on the Tariff and Texas questions, and his unanswerable demonstration of the unconstitutionality of Annexation by the mode which Congress has adopted; will not be forgotten. Mr. Rives is the living embodiment of the best traits and best days of James Madison. He may for the present be driven from the national councils by the cupidity of Virginia slave-breeding stimulated by the prospect of a vast and lucrative market in Texas, but such a man cannot be kept down. His talent and virtues must soon cause him to be summoned again to the service of his Country. It is an evil day for her when such men as Rives are lost to her halls of Legislation, even for a brief season.- N. Y. TRIBUNE.

[LLS]

RWv22i22p2c3, March 18, 1845

"MR. WILLOUGHBY NEWTON."

This gentleman finds himself in no enviable position: He has mortified his true and steadfast friends, or a very large portion of them; they who had stood by him at the crisis and placed him upon the summit he desired to reach, without conciliating his opponents! He went too far for the first, and not far enough for the last! He in his rabid support of the extremest Texas movement, without consulting the opinions of the vast and incalculable majority of the party with which he acted, from the Arostook to the Sabine, sinned against the first canons of party propriety, for in doing so, he made the great interests of this country, indissolubly united with the success of Whig principles, as he himself said a thousand times, and measures, subsidiary and subordinate to the immediate annexation of Texas, a measure which could be accomplished at any time whatever! He displayed in this course, an arrogant and conceited self reliance and self sufficiency over the assembled wisdom of the Whig party at Washington, and Whig opinion throughout the Union, which mark him for an unsafe politician – for one upon whose judgment little reliance can be placed in contingent and collateral questions, and who on such questions, is like a dollar pitched up, as likely to fall heads as fall tails.

Thus by his thorough paced and inscrutable Texas, immediate, not a moment's delay notions, he justly offended the bulk of the Whig party, who in so immense a question, could see no harm in a little delay, in a little reflection, and that the People might be permitted to reflect THEIR sentiments, NOT through a Presidential election governed by twenty other issues, but calmly at the Polls, and through the medium of a new congress! Without, that we have heard, any consultation with his District, or with the great body of the Whigs in it at least, Mr. Newton undertook to give THEIR vote for a measure of unconstitutional violence – we mean annexation of a foreign empire by joint resolutions of Congress, the very lowest grade of Legislation. That IT IS a measure of lawless and unconstitutional VIOLENCE we affirm, and we appeal to the CONSTITUTION itself, to sustain us in the assertion: We appeal particularly, to STATE RIGHT MEN! We ask them to show us and the People, the power of annexing old and foreign empires! As our neighbors of the Enquirer are wont to say, let them put their finger on the CLAUSE! And it is a sad reflection that this stab at the heart of the Constitution – this abrogation of all Constitution – is the work of vaunting, self proclaimed, exclusive, State Right men!

But to proceed – While Mr. Newton pulled kindly in the Texas, Tyler, Polk and Calhoun traces, he was applauded to the echo by that whole interest. The Enquirer, day after day, was eloquent in his praise! His independence – his Statesmanship, his Patriotism – his superiority to the shackles of party – were celebrated, if not in heroic and Homeric verse, yet in "prose run mad!" The Whigs the while, looked on and said little! They were chagrined and almost disgusted but they forebore all reproaches and all commentary.

Suddenly the scene changed – Brown's Texas resolutions passé the House, and as Mr. Newton almost boasts, by the prowess of his persistent arm! They went to the Senate, and there they were amended by Benton's bill. They came back to the House thus amended harmlessly at least, and there this furious annexationist Mr. Willoughby Newton, who would before give the People no time for thought or reflection, voted against them! He says he did so, because Benton's measure contained an insidious attack upon Slavery and the Southern States! The Enquirer intimates pretty broadly, that his vote was governed by other considerations, and that he proposed by it, to reinstate himself in the confidence and trust of the Whig party, annoyed and disgusted by his frantic Texas course! Where doctors of such
eminence differ, we presume not to come in as a consultative Physician! Let them settle it as they will: It is all one to us, and we presume to the Whig party.

But, Mr. Willoughby Newton had no sooner given his final anti-Texas vote, than he was fired upon by the Enquirer and its associates. They evidently had received him as a deserter from the Whigs in his Texas votes, and regarded his last vote with the most vehement indignation, as an attempt to desert back again! They tried to shoot him, as John Randolph said he shot John Holmes, as he crossed the line!

The Enquirer without delay, poured a broad side into Mr. Newton’s in the following terms.

"Is it not melancholy to reflect upon the cursed consequences of this party spirit? Wonderful to tell, there was but one Whig who voted in favor of the amended resolutions, (Dellet of Alabama,) whilst six of the others, (Stephens of Georgia, not in the House,) who originally voted for Brown’s resolutions in the House, were made enough, party mad, to vote against them in their amended form – a form, certainly, which neither affected their constitutional nor practical character. And among these six who ultimately turned their back upon Texas, were Milton Brown himself, of Tennessee, General Clinch of Georgia, and Willoughby Newton of Virginia. They voted against it, and three others. Newton! Aye, our old friend Newton, whose forcible letter was, but the other day, so much admired by the Democrats, and condemned by the Whigs. These men, it appears, could not withstand the screws of party operation, or the last of the Whig press: and, after a brilliant effort, they have returned to the vile affinities of party spirit."

To this denunciation of the Enquirer, Mr. Newton replies through a letter published in that paper of Saturday from which we make the following extracts:

"But what is the extent of our offence? Not that we voted against the proposition as amended, but that we did not vote for the amendment which was distasteful to us, and must be exceptionable to every true friend of the South.- Notwithstanding my objections to the amendment, I am free to say, that if the question had been on the resolutions as amended, I should have voted in the affirmative, rather than a measure I had so much at heart should have failed. I knew full well, however, that the Democrats of the House had been whipped in by the last of party and that, the amendment would be carried by a large majority; and even if rejected by the House, I had no fear that the measure would thereby be defeated; for either the Senate would have recoiled from the amendment and fallen back on the original resolutions: or, if the amendment was adhered to by the Senate, the House would have receded. So that our votes against the amendment, which we disapproved: could in no event endanger the [. . .] proposition.

I had hoped that my course in public life had satisfied all who have deemed it worthy of their attention – that I always endeavored to be governed by principle, and that I am not to be turned from the path of duty by the denunciations of a reckless press of my own party, or by the seductive influence of the flattery of my political opponents. I did not advocate the admission of Texas from any selfish considerations. I was well aware that I should incur the displeasure of some of my party friends, by doing what I deemed a duty; and on that account, if no other have a right to claim justice, at least, at your hands. I ask no more. And as that is denied to myself and my associates, by the men who, by our aid, have been enabled to achieve a great measure, I may be pardoned the seeming vanity of declaring, that without us, and, indeed, I may say, without my own humble efforts in the cause, the measure could not have been accomplished, at least, during the late session of Congress. In proof of this assertion, I might cite the evidence of distinguished and liberal men of your party, who are to magnanimous to deny their obligations to Whigs, in the accomplishment of a great national object, merely because it may serve to lessen the apparent triumph of their own party.

I do not deem it necessary or proper to reply to ordinary newspaper articles, but your notice of me upon this measure is so pointed: and your views so mistaken, if not designed to do me injustice, that my declining to notice them might be improperly construed. I have, therefore, to request, that you will do me the justice to publish in your next paper these hasty lines, by which I mean to assure you and the public, that my support of the proposition to admit Texas had its origin in a spirit of pure patriotism which is not likely to be influenced by a desire to conciliate the apparent triumph of their own party.

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Yours, very respectfully,

WILLOUGHBY NEWTON."

The commentary of the Enquirer upon this cringing appeal, is such as it deserved. It by no means pardons the offender against Texas, and shows off, with force, the weakness of voting against Benton’s amendment, after Mr. Newton and the Texas Whigs had swallowed Brown’s resolutions. Its reasoning upon this point, is conclusive: It gives Mr. Newton no credit for changing his voted, on the score of principle, but intimates that it was quite as probably caused by a disposition to attend to his own interest in returning to his party.

This letter of Mr. Newton we never read until yesterday (Monday): We read it under PROMISE to a friend, and with the sincere wish of being pleased with it. We lay it down with feelings of entire disgust, and with the conviction of the truth of what a distinguished, a most distinguished Virginian said, a year ago – he “will not be a Whig a year hence!” His allusion (for so we cannot but understand it) to this Press, either as a “reckless press” or as a “party hack” we fling in his face with defiance. He himself is deeply indebted to us for our liberality and forebearance in 1844, as he knows well – or if perchance he does not now; some of his Texas friends can inform him: No seat in Congress – no accidental elevation, either entitles him or any other man in this country, to hold language of such assumed superiority over other, nor shall we for one, permit it to him or any other, without at least repelling the haughty and insolent vaporing!
To the Whigs of the District we address an earnest invocation: suffer not yourselves to be driven from you moorings by these fatal Texas feuds, so much nourished by your Whig Representatives in Congress. ATTEND TO THE LEGISLATIVE SPRING ELECTIONS. – That is the great and essential point. Organize for that! Organize for the United States! Organize for Virginia! Organize for Whig Principles! Let not Texas once cross your mind, much less influence your votes! Congress is comparatively little this year: The House of Delegates is all in all!

– JNO. BOTTS.

The Convention held on the 20th ult., on the part of the Whigs, with perfect unanimity, selected the above named gentleman to represent this District in the next Congress. The battle between Whigs and Democrats begins this day at Goochland Ct. House, where Messrs. Botts and Seddon will measure arms.

WHIGS OF EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND FORTY AND FORTY FOUR, are you ready for the contest? Are you ready to draw the sword and throw away the scabbard in support of your principles? Do you bear in mind the duplicity and fraud by which your opponents cheated you out of the benefit of your principles, and the election of your own Henry Clay? Surely every motive that could impel you to action exists (at least in this undoubted Whig District.) can there be a doubt of success, if you will but do your duty. No! no!! no!!! must be the answer; but we sometimes hear a "Democrat" say that there are a few Whigs (very few, I imagine) who do not like Mr. B. personally. Can it be possible that any Whig would let go his principles for the sake of any man? Look to the political history of your nominee, ever a Tariff man, a Bank man, A distribution man, battling for those measures from the hour that he entered public life to this moment.- Look to the times when he spurned the documents of the traitor Capt. Tyler – when treachery would have met its reward, and fidelity was so rare, that even the "union of the Whigs for the sake of the Union,” “every inch a wig,” and the Minister to China, caught at the bait, and deserted their principles and their party! Who was it that stood firm in this trying hour? Whose voice was it that was loudest in the defence of your liberties and the Constitution? The answer is ready: Botts was the man! But Texas, Texas, Texas! Mr. Tyler said, was the question – not what was best to be done for our household, as it was, but that the family should be increased; and, upon the propriety of this, a President was to be elected! Come, brother Whigs, one and all, and let us show to the "Hunkers" and the "Chivalry," that, like the Greek, though you cut off both arms, we will hold on with our teeth. And, with this determination, we will as certainly elect our candidate, as life and liberty last. POWHATAN.

MR. WILLOUGHBY NEWTON.

The Alexandria Gazette says—

"Mr. Willoughby Newton, the Whig candidate for the Northern Neck District has written a letter to the Richmond Enquirer, concerning his votes with regard to Texas, and the comments that have been made on his course. This letter is severely handled in the Richmond Whig. Without pretending to interfere in a matter, which, probably, does not concern us, we may be permitted to say, that, although we certainly should never think of looking into a man's views in favor of Texas, as a recommendation for a seat in Congress, we should, on the other hand, as in the case of Mr. Newton, and in the circumstances in which he is placed, not look upon these views, as throwing him out of the Whig party, or in a contest between him and a Loco Foco, as a reason for refusing him a hearty support. Mr. Newton is the Whig Candidate. He avows and maintains Whig principles, and he is in favor of the Annexation of Texas. Mr. Hunter is a sublimated Loco Foco, (the worst kind, we think) is the candidate of the Loco Foco party, and is also in favor of the Annexation of Texas. Now, this is the exact state of the case. Can any Whig, in the Northern Neck, therefore, let him be for or against Texas, hesitate one instant in this matter?: We trust not. It is the bounden duty of the Whigs to give Mr. Newton a cordial support. As for Mr. Newton's flings at the press, because he has been galled in some quarters, that is neither here or there. He is not the first public man, and will not be the last, who will assume a kind of superiority to that which, as a public man, has contributed to make him, and has made many who have kicked down the ladder by which they have mounted. We, though younger in years, than our senior friend of the Whig, have already acquired by experience, philosophy enough to regard these things with a stoicism which befits the times. But we must insist that let him write what letters he may, about the press, Mr. Newton (this Texasism included) is the Whig upon whom the good people of the Northern Neck out to rally, and return to Congress."

COMMENTARY.
"We have not acquired the Stoicism vaunted (and only, we suspect, vaunted, and not possessed,) by our friend of the Alexandria Gazette. We hope, moreover, that we shall never acquire a frame of mind which implies, as a condition precedent to obtaining it, the abnegation of all sensitive and manly feeling. The time has not yet come with us, and it shall never come if we can prevent it, when we are prepared to surrender the feelings and rights of the man to the claims of the party. For Party we go, legitimately, as par as he who goes farthest. Party is inevitable—party is right;--without party, we can sustain and carry, through nothing in this country, were all is dependent upon, and regulated by party! But, even here, there must be limits—the limits of reason and sound sense. He who flies from the obligations—takes a course of his own, in opposition to the mass of opinion of the party with which he acts—prefers his own judgment to theirs, without consultation, or conference, or communing, and that upon matters of the very highest, most vital, and most far-reaching moment, has no right to complain if he is regarded as presumptuous and officious. That he has been trusted—that is in Congress—gives him no right to constitute himself the thinker of the Party with which he acts, and to stifle, in his representative course, their opinions and convictions.

Such has been Mr. Newton's course—a course wild, and disregardful of the opinions of his friends. Had the Whigs of his District who elected him, been consulted, would they ever have advised him to vote to annex a foreign empire to this, by joint resolution, the very lowest form of parliamentary proceeding? They never would. We think we can vouch for the whole party in the District. Mr. Newton never could have obtained from them, the privilege of making them say, it is constitution to annex foreign empires to this, buy the simplest and cheapest form of legislation, and without consulting the people! So great and incalculable a question, was never intended by the framers of the Government, to be thus lightly and unceremoniously disposed of, not even the form of consulting the American People being observed! Mr. Newton can not, ought not, to feel surprised, at finding arrayed against his self-willed and hard headed and self sufficient course, the most strenuous and even indignant opposition from his own party friends! They will and they do ask themselves—why, what worse could any Locofoco do than this? In a great and overwhelming matter, affecting the very liberty and existence of the country, he has not deigned to consult us his constituents! He has thrown himself in opposition to their wishes, and the solemn judgment of the Whig Party!

But we are constrained to cut short what farther we wished to have said. We shall continue and complete our address to the Whig Party of the Westmoreland District, by Tuesday.

[JS-LLS]
We moreover believe, that the most direct and positive—the clearest as well as the harshest—mode of making this separation, is by making any opinion on the "annexation" question, a test of eligibility to such offices of trust or honour, as may be at the disposal of the Whig Party. We, therefore, earnestly protest against the application of this est; and, differing greatly amongst ourselves upon the "Annexation" question, but agreeing in preferring Mr. Lyons, as the representative of this city in the next Legislature, to any gentleman hitherto named, we deeply regret to have seen his opinions upon that subject, treated, by many Whigs opposed to his election, in a manner tending to produce incurable discord in the Whig party. We are also satisfied, that the whole question of "Annexation," as well as Mr. Lyon's opinion upon every b=ranch of that question, and his more of treating it during the late Presidential canvas, is by many wholly misunderstood.

For the purpose, therefore, of promoting harmony in the Whig party, in Richmond—the want of which, we are convinced, arises in a great measure, from misunderstanding each other,—we have joined in the above invitation to a public meeting on Wednesday night.

[JS-LLS]

RWv22i24 p2c5 March 25, 1845

"MANY WHIG VOTERS"—ANNEXATION—AND MR. LYONS.

We publish the call of "Many Whig Voters" upon the Whigs of Richmond, to meet Wednesday evening at the "Odd Fellows' Hall" as requested. How many authorize this call of "Many Whig Voters," we do not know, that part of the secret being kept secret.

If we understand the position of things correctly, it is very different from that which the author of this communication seems willing to imply. No Whig that we know of, objects to any other Whig that he is in favor of annexing Texas—at the right time—in a Constitutional manner—and by the consent of the American, the Mexican and the Texan People! Present it in that shape, and few would be found comparatively, (though some still would) to dissent from it. The vehemence and indignant opposition to the immediate annexation of Texas, which animates the bosoms of thousands and hundreds of the purest patriots in the land—springs from the loftiest motives! They spurn the idea of bullying Mexico, as this Government would not attempt to bully England! They want not a rich acquisition, did its rivers flow with gold and previous stones, at the expense of national honor, and by driving a plough share through the Constitution! Admitting Texas to be fertile and desirable in the abstract, they distain, or would distain, to receive it from the unclean hands of Tyler, and the Texas jobbers in land, bonds, and scrip! These are the feelings of the great Whig party—of nearly the whole party—throughout the U. States; and they are feelings which, in our poor judgment, reflect the highest honour upon their elevated patriotism and principles. It is not Texas that, in the main, they are opposed to obtaining, but they are opposed to obtaining her unconstitutionally, unjustly, and by a contemptuous regard of national honor and faith!

This writer intimates that immediate and Joint Resolution Annexation Whigs are unacceptable to the Whig party, and opposed by them because they ARE such! Can it be at all wonderful that it should be so? Here is by far the most immense American question of the age—a question which, before it is ended may well change the whole frame work of American Society, and stain American soil with civil gore-decided against the solemn judgment of the Whig party, by the aid of a few self-willed Whigs, numbering among them Tyler and Merrick, and every other Whig traitor of the day! Can it, we ask, be wonderful, that the Whig masses look with coldness and distrust, upon these "immediate Annexation, Joint Resolution" Whigs, who, whether they intended it or not (as we know many of them did not) helped by that detestable question and the support they gave it, to overthrow Henry Clay and prostrate the Whig party in November? IS IT WONDERFULL—that smarting under the effects of this odious Tyler and Speculator invention to ruin them—defeated by it, and deprived of that command of the Government to which they were entitled from their numbers, and defeated too by the indirect assistance of Whigs—the masses of the Whig party should for the present feel extremely lukewarm towards such Whigs, as in this great national and vital question, took part against them, and Henry Clay, and with 'Polk, Dallas, and Texas!' We for our part, think that nothing can be more natural, reasonable, and proper! Let Polk, Dallas, and Texas elect them if they can, to the offices they want: Let them, like our friend Jeremiah Morton, appeal at once to that "Democracy" with whom they concur on this great Constitutional question!

The Whigs as a party, we trust will take no part in the proposed meeting, which is obviously called to the heal any dissention, but to enable one of the Candidates to make a Texas speech! If that gentleman chooses to make that question the issue—to separate himself upon it from the Whig party, and the assembled wisdom of the Whig parting Congress, he will find no doubt strong Democratic sympathy, but we most sincerely hope no Whig sympathy! Let him go and speak his speech, but the other Whig Candidates will scarcely feel called upon, we trust, to go over arguments which the Rives', Choates, Berriens, Archers and Crittenders have made familiar to all! [JS-LLS]
ANNEXATION!

Our neighbors of the Enquirer are alarmed, and we have no doubt that the whole Holy Brotherhood of Texas Landholders, bond holders and Scrip holders with them, at the unfavorable manner in which Brown's Resolution for immediate Annexation have been received in Texas itself! It really would look, from the language of the Galveston Civilian, and the Texas National Register—the leading and most influential Journals of that Republic—as if Annexation on the terms proposed, was going to the scorned and spurned by Texas!

How ardently, we hope this may prove true, we need not say, for it would in a great measure correct the dire mischief of the ranks and unconstitutional legislation of the late Congress—a Congress destined to be opproboriously remembered in the annals of this country.

But we confess that we depend but little upon these demonstrations from Texas. As far as we can understand, they are induced, but the fact that the U. States did not assume to pay the Texas national debt—estimated, by many, to exceed twenty millions of dollars! When the Texans learn what the hope and calculation of the Texas jobbers in this country in this country is—namely, that although not assumed in form, the Texas debt will yet be paid, and the aforesaid jobbers, in the end, realize all their golden visions—we say, that when this idea, not implausibly supported, is duly circulated in Texas, and backed b the secret assurances of Mr. Ro. J. Walker, Secretary of the Treasury, "Randolph of Roanoke," (Seth Barton,) our venerable neighbor, and the Texas authorities generally, the People of Texas will jump into the Union like sheep into a pen! So we fear, at least! We devoutly wish them the sagacity to perceive their true interest as well as that of the U. States—that is, to keep themselves to themselves!

But the country may rely upon it, that monied speculation is at the bottom on the part of Texas to make this country pay her debt on the part of Speculators here, to make the U. States pay them scrip and bonds at par, which cost only a few cents in the dollar; and Texas, moved by this mercenary consideration will be whipped in!

We give two articles of interest, from Texas papers:

FROM THE GALESTON CIVILIAN

"The article which we copy today from the National Register affords gratifying evidence f a return, on the part of the friends of annexation in this country to a proper sense of self-respect, and an understanding of the position which Texas may and ought to assume in relation to the question. Our friends beyond the Sabine have lost sight of the homely adage that it takes two to make a bargain; and only studied how to shape measures so as to make the "reciprocity all on one side," until at length their utter selfishness and disregard of the respect due to Texas as an independent nation, which has thus far maintained her nationality, rights, and liberties, begins to produce the natural fruits of disappointment and aversion in those of our citizens who ha looked to that quarter for magnanimous and disinterested regard for our welfare and happiness.—The helpless and perishing beggar may without hesitation accept the most humiliating conditions for, and agree to become the menial of, him from whom he receives the means of averting famine and death; but the sturdy yeoman, whose honest industry and strong arm afford him all the means of subsistence and protection requisite to his condition and habits in life, may well shun the banquet and the association if invited into the society of the more wealthy and presuming, when his acceptance is to be coupled with acknowledgments of vassalage and inferiority.

[from the Texas National Register]

THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION.—The Congress of the United States "doth consent that the territory included within and rightfully belonging to the Republic of Texas may be erected into a new State, to be called the State of Texas, with a republican form of government, to be adopted by the people of said Republic, by deputies in Convention, assembled with the consent of the existing Government in order that the same may be admitted as one of the States of the Union." Such is the language of the first section of the resolution which has passed the lower House of the American Congress. What is its import?

The answer is, that we must lay aside our national name, abandon our preset Constitution, erect ourselves into a new State, adopt the appellative of "State of Texas" organize a new Government of a republican form, by mean of deputies assembled in convention, and, after we have passed through this prescribed revolution; after we have thus voluntarily deprived ourselves of every feature and lineament of that nationality under which we have our independence has been recognized by foreign Powers; after we have, in fact annihilated our identity as a community, and repudiated even our name, so that we can neither know nor be known in the rank and seat among
the nations which we have hitherto occupied, at least without dishonour, and without the consent of the old world and the new; after all the sacrifices and all this degradation, what shall we have gained? What [sic] shall we have accomplished? Annexation to the American Union? No; not even the promise of it. Under such circumstances, all our connexions with foreign nations would be dissolved, our relations toward them changed; all advantages accruing from past negotiations cease; for no one can pretend that the great European Powers will continue their amicable intercourse with our Government as the REPUBLIC OF TEXAS, under the name of "STATE OF TEXAS," habited in the garb of a supplicant for admission into the family of American States, the very cut and fashion of which have been PRESCRIBED by their Congress. Why, in such a guise we should not even know ourselves! In such a state of national abeyance and limbo, we could neither assert a separate independence for ourselves, nor claim any species of alliance or connexion ever known by any name "given under heaven or among men," with any other Government. In such an attitude of morafying [ . . . ] and humiliating indefiniteness, we may well be disavowed as a distinct nation. 

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"By all our kind and skin, [ . . . ] when they
"Compare our [ . . . ] day and [ . . . ] day."

And, having assumed this ?eal posture, by the consent of the American Congress, "in order," as the resolution declares, "that we may be admitted as one of the States of the Union," that we are bound unto them, but they are not bound unto us. We are again and for the fourth time, to knock at their door for admission, "on or before the first day of January next," with out new Constitution in our hand, when that Congress will take their final action (for or against, as the case may be) on the subject of our application.

This is the substance and extent of their "guaranties," paraded, as the expression is in the resolution, under imposing grammatical form of the plural number ?. Have we any pledge that we shall then be annexed? No; they only promise that they will once consider the proposition, and take what they are pleased to denominate their "final action" upon it. And, judging from the language they now hold, we have nothing more nor less to expect than that they will then "spurn" us as before—for they can do so without violating any pledge.

But, if we adopt the course indicated by the resolution, we do so under the formal sanction and color of their express consent. This would be a tacit admission on the part of the Government and the people of Texas of the authority of that consent, and would imply at least that we could not lawfully act in the prescribed mode without it. No doubt we should be forced to borrow largely from the efficacy of that same consent, to carry us through the conspicuous [ . . . ] part assigned to us in the ridiculous farce thus prepared for exhibition.

If the people of Texas choose to revolutionize their Government, and institute some new and different republic organization, they may do so without the leave of a foreign Government "first had and obtained." But the United States have acknowledged our title to be recognized as an independent nation, both de facto and de jure. Should we adopt the course designated by their resolutions, we at once lose the benefit of that acknowledgment. We pass into a state of imbecile and hopeless dependence upon that Power. To be annexed? Certainly, never—until their aspiring partisans shall cease to need the materials we now furnish them for manufacture of political capital. Our relations with other Governments dissolved, and our own nationality renounced, the United States, may consent to hold—as we are required to give to the United States a lien upon our country's sovereignty—this worthless consent, as it is conferred on Texas, is eked out to her at a miser's usury, and is shackled with what lawyer's call "conditions precedent." Passing by the required sacrifice of our right to adjust the boundaries of our territory, the consent of that Congress even once more to entertain the Texas question is coupled with the cold assurance that if we are, ever admitted into the Union at all, we must cede to the United States "all our mines, minerals, salt lakes, and springs; also, all our Public Edifices, Fortifications, Barracks, Ports and Harbors, Navy, and Navy Yards, docks, Magazines, Arms, Armaments, and all other property and means pertaining to the public defence [sic]. [sic]" We must also yield up our revenue and our capacity to raise one: which single item, under the financial regulations of our fostering stepmother, will bring into her Treasury at least three hundred thousand dollars per annum, for which we have her kind permission to retain our public debt; and keep our public domain; subject, however to the payment of the debt, and circumscribed without such limits as she may hereafter be pleased to assign to our territory, in the exercise of her characteristic and far-fetching diplomacy, which once reached even to the Western banks of the Sabine! We must, however, truckle to her pet abolitionists by obligating ourselves to prohibit slavery north of the parallel of thirty-six degrees thirty minutes, known as the Missou [sic] compromise line.

But even this consent of the American Congress, meager and valueless as it is to the people of Texas, but for which we are required to give to the United States a lien upon our country's sovereignty—this worthless consent, as it is begrudged to Texas, is eked out to her at a miser's usury, and is shackled with what lawyer's call "conditions precedent." Passing by the required sacrifice of our right to adjust the boundaries of our territory, the consent of that Congress even once more to entertain the Texas question is coupled with the cold assurance that if we are, ever admitted into the Union at all, we must cede to the United States "all our mines, minerals, salt lakes, and springs; also, all our Public Edifices, Fortifications, Barracks, Ports and Harbors, Navy, and Navy Yards, Docks, Magazines, Arms, Armaments, and all other property and means pertaining to the public defence [sic]. [sic]" We must also yield up our revenue and our capacity to raise one: which single item, under the financial regulations of our fostering stepmother, will bring into her Treasury at least three hundred thousand dollars per annum, for which we have her kind permission to retain our public debt, and keep our public domain; subject, however to the payment of the debt , and circumscribed without such limits as she may hereafter be pleased to assign to our territory, in the exercise of her characteristic and far-fetching diplomacy, which once reached even to the Western banks of the Sabine! We must, however, truckle to her pet abolitionists by obligating ourselves to prohibit slavery north of the parallel of thirty-six degrees thirty minutes, known as the Missouri [sic] compromise line.

We have always been a warm and hearty advocate for the cause of annexation; but never did we dream that the approval of the people of Texas would be required to a proposition so absurd, so degrading, as the one propounded by this resolution. Our space does not now admit of further detail. Suffice it that we contrast our present elevated position as a people—secure in the respect and amity of the great enlightened nations of the earth; secure in the enjoyment of peace, and in the speedy acquisition of acknowledged independence; secure in the wealth which the commerce of Europe is about to pour into our lap, and the increasing value of our lands, arising from the extended occupation and the investment of foreign capital; secure of becoming "the most favored" by those powerful and wealthy sovereignties whom both interest and policy impel to cherish our prosperity and growth, that their markets may be supplied with our staples; and secure that the increase of commerce will speedily render no less consistent than desirable a great diminution of our present tariff—with the alternative present by this resolution, of Texas divested of all these high privileges and advantages, shorn of her attributes as a nation, crippled in her commerce, in her prosperity, in her domestic resources, depressed in the burdens of public debt and direct taxation, her land in
consequence depreciated in value; and, in the event of final annexation upon the proposed basis, our public domain not only razed and mortgaged to secure the payment of our debt, but even eviscerated of its mineral wealth to swell the federal treasury.

This is, indeed but a dim and totally inadequate view of the actual pit and grave of insignificance and infamy into which the House of Representatives of the American Congress have proposed to plunge this nation.

"Since he, miscalled the morning star,
"Nor man, nor fiend, hath fall'n so far."

[JS-LLS]

RWv22i25 March 28, 1845

Wednesday Morning, March 28, 1845

CITY CANVASS – "DICTATION," &c., &c.

We ask the reader's attention to the judicious card of HENRY L. BROOKE, Esq., excusing himself from attending the meeting which the Texas Immediate Joint Resolution Annexation friends of one of the candidates have called, to [. . . ] it they cannot put the fire out by pouting [. . . ] oil upon the fire.

We are authorized to say for Mr. Lancaster, that he too, entirely disapproves of that meeting, as calculated to do harm [. . . ] and not good. Mr. James we feel convinced, and indeed we know, is of the same opinion; and in sincerity we have not seen or heard of the first Whig (except the little [. . . ] clique who got the whole thing up) who did not unqualifiedly reprehend the course proposed, of a TEXAS [. . . ] among the Whigs, in order to settle differences and promote peace, as entirely absurd and farcical! These discussions when they take place between hostile parties, and [. . . ] the collective People being auditory and the judges, [. . . ] are well enough; but when they are invoked to steal [. . . ] family jars, are ridiculous. It is not by such means—means calculated to exasperate and not conciliate—that the desired harmony can be restored, and we feel [. . . ], as in point of fact the Whigs of Richmond knew that they have been appealed to as a dernter and desperate resort by those, who, having detached themselves from the rest of the Whig host, hope something where they can loose [. . . ]!

To the communication addressed to "the Citizens of Richmond," we ask attention, although that communication is a most illiberal attack upon us! The authors of it and the little [. . . ] clique who act with them, were very indignant last year, when the Richmond Whig was denounced as attempting to "dictate" because it opposed the election of Mr. Brooke! Now forsooth, the same three or four denounce us as Dictators because it enters into their wise ?? to suppose that we are friendly to the election of Mr. Brooke!

The truth is, we have taken no part, and wished to take no part, in the election—in the adjustment of a difficulty where all were friends and where to be for one, was to appear at least to be against another. We have felt like the good [. . . ] natured voter in Goochland, who, being bothered be??? predilections, said—"Gentlemen, I wish I could [. . . ] vote for you all!"

These gentlemen, it seems, who in the face of public opinion, as all but themselves think, are attempting to force the election of Mr. Lyons—denounce us for what? For opposing him—for taking even any part? No—but for simply opposing a meeting to hear Whig denounce Whig, and a Texas Whig allow up another Whig who has [. . . ] opposed to annexing the U. States to Texas !

This is dictation in us ! It is dreadfully wrong! But when these same persons day after day, electioneer through the streets for Mr. Lyons—THAT is no [. . . ] O! by no means! They may steal a horse, but me must not look over the hedge!

Had we supported Mr. Lyons, no matter how warmly and zealously—were we to do it now,—it would be no [. . . ] then ! It is only dictation when we happen to think differently from those who would themselves [. . . ], if they could! We agree fully with the authors of this Card in one thing at least, and it is that the enlightened population of this city are not to be dictated to by any man or any set of men!—not are they such fools as to think that we attempt to dictate to them, because, like every other citizen, we express, as we have a right to express, our simple opinions. They have known us for twenty years, and they have never known us in that long tract of years, to try to dictate; NOR HAVE THEY EVER KNOWN US TO TRY TO PREFER AND PROMOTE OURSELVES AT THE EXPENSE OF THE PUBLIC CAUSE! If they trust us at all, as we hope they do, it is because they know that we are candid and plain sailing, and have no private schemes [. . . ] to serve by party !

This is our shield and defence, and here we know we are impregnable, and defy the assaults of all .The People—the Whigs of Richmond—must and will stand by us because we have stood by them!

[JS-LLS]
WHIG FEUDS IN THE CITY

These feuds are just nothing! They are formented, if not produced, by Locofoco cunning and address, acting upon Whig vanity and gullibility! The state of things now existing, has been projected, in our opinion, by those who have not made their purposes known even to their instruments, to overthrow the Whig party, in this Congressional district, and Botts’ Election. We are greatly mistaken, or we can put our finger on the one or two men, who, acting behind the curtain and playing upon personal irritability, and that vanity which is the besetting sin of the time, have produced our troubles!

But it all will avail the plotters nothing! The Whigs of Richmond are not thus to be circumvented! He who has been abusing them, and warring upon their interests for twenty years, is not now going to succeed in pinioning their strength by Texas anodynes, or by accusing us falsely of dictation! The trick is stale and will not succeed! The Whigs of Richmond constitute the most enlightened community in North America, and they will prosecute their ends, regardless of the attempt of the enemy to humbug them!

[JS-LLS]

It is rumored in Washington that M. Bodisco, the Russian Ambassador, has formally entered a protest with our Government on behalf of the Emperor of Russia against the Annexation of Texas. It was supposed, however, to be entirely untrue.—Balt. Pat.

[JS-LLS]

THE MEETING WEDNESDAY NIGHT

There was, we hear, quite a crowd at the Odd Fellows’ Hall, Wednesday night, to hear Mr. Lyons. His on clique was there of course—a number of Whigs from curiosity, and the Sweat House in full force! The latter were very much delighted with the course and drift of than argument, which, not bearing upon them, bore only upon the Whigs. Their satisfaction was entirely natural. Had it borne still harder upon the Whigs, that audience, or the mass of them would have clapped still more loudly.

Mr. Lyons attacked Mr. Brooke and attacked us, but we did not hear of his attacking any Loco Foco!

He spoke, we are told, of a piece which appeared in the Whig some weeks ago, with much severity, which piece he ascribe to the senior editor of the Whig. [It was a piece simply calling on the candidates to say what were their views on the subject of immediate Joint Resolution, Texas Annexation!] That Editor did write the piece! He has never denied it, and is proud now to proclaim it and avouch it. It merely called upon the candidates to state their opinions upon this most grave constitutional question. There was no attack, direct or indirect, upon any one; and yet Mr. Lyons, the next day, demanded to know the name of the author—a demand which he had no right to make unless he meant to exact personal responsibility. He was told politely, that he had no right to make such a call, as there was nothing personal in the article—that there was not the least objection to his knowing who the author was, but that there was an objection to the principle he assumed, which would give him or any man, the privilege of making himself acquainted with matters which are universally regarded where the Press is free, as entitled to protection from inquisitiveness.

But the author of the article alluded to, was so far from desiring to conceal this authorship, or from fearing any sort of responsibility for it, that he stated to a friend of Mr. Lyons the next day, that we was the author, not doubting that that friend would communicate it.

So much for this matter! Let that article be published again—we ourselves will publish it—if it is desired by any—

But let us quite this theme altogether! The Locos were excessively delighted—in a broad grin—the Whigs, with few exceptions, chagrined and mortified! That is in a few words, the history of the matter. The Patriarch of the Enquirer will gloat over it, and the fact that his friend Lyons, helped to "row Whigs up Salt River!"—as in fact he has been gloating, and chuckling, and smacking his lips for several days, at the prospect!

Let these gentlemen all, however, take notice, that the Whig party of Richmond is not yet Vanquished! We shall all see what we shall see! The Whigs mean to ACT, not to jower! The fourth Thursday in April is not now distant, and they reserve their response to those proceedings, for that day!
More we shall have to say, but not now.

THOMAS RICHIE!

Both Mr. Merrick and the Senators from Ohio, in their votes upon the Texas question, violated the known and expressed will of their constituents. Not only our Senators, but the Legislature of Virginia have been violently assailed by Mr. Ritchie; the former, for acting in opposition (as the Enquirer contends) to the public sentiment of Virginia; and the latter, for not instructing our Senators to conform to this popular will. But, what says the pure and consistent Democrat, [who claims the honor of senior Editor of the Richmond Enquirer,] touching the conduct of the Ohio Senators and Mr. Merrick? Not only has he bottled up the thunder of his indignation against their palpable dereliction from Democratic principles; but he has proclaimed that Mr. Merrick, in acting in contradiction to the expressed will of his constituents, (through the Maryland Legislature,) has entitled himself to the thanks of the Democracy, [which he, I presume, as the organ of the party in Virginia, freely bestows upon him.] Yet, this same Mr. Ritchie has the effrontery to propose as one of the issues of the Spring Elections, the refusal of the Legislature of Virginia to instruct their Senators upon the Texas question. Why instruct Senators, if they merit the thanks of the Democracy for acting in open defiance of the wishes of their constituents, when they happen to represent a Whig constituency? And is not this the unavoidable inference we must draw from a comparison of Mr. Ritchie's practice with his professions? In Virginia, instructions are imperiously demanded, and our recent legislators of last winter, are to be hauled over the coals this spring, for not obeying this Democratic behest of the Richmond Enquirer. But in Maryland it was the Whig ox which was gored; and the case being altered, alters the case. The Maryland votes decided the Texas question; and according to the political ethics of the Enquirer, this outrage of the Maryland Senators, against the expressed wishes of his constituents, entitles him to Democratic gratitude. Verily, these Democrats must have very India rubber kind of consciences, if Mr. Ritchie is a true exponent of their political morality; and we are at a loss which most to admire, the effrontery of the declaration alluded to in regard to the thanks due to Mr. Merrick, or the impudence and the consistency of the Enquirer, in assailing our Legislature for refusing last winter to instruct our Senators upon the Texas question. Instructions, forsooth!! What boot instructions to the Democracy of the Ritchie School, if party purposes are to be subserved by disregarding them; or, what amounts to the same thing (according to Democratic professions, but not Democratic practice, if party ends are to be gained by opposing the expressed will of the constituents? Let me caution Mr. Ritchie, that in relation to his threats to bring our Legislature, of last winter, to the bar of public opinion, for refusing to instruct on the Texas question, discretion will be the better part of valor. The less he excites public attention to the political morality he has displayed, in regard to Mr. Merrick's vote, the better for him; he may gain credit with Democrats of the Empire Club School, by the avowal of such principles, but with the honest yeomanry he must infallibly lose caste, as he deserves to do with honest politicians.

ONE WHO KNOWS

MR. WILLOUGHBY NEWTON.

We resume the theme of this gentleman's recent course with, we confess, other feelings than those which actuated us a week ago. We then felt naturally mortified and resentful at his personal course towards us. We had stood by him for 13 years, in every political fortune, and if we had rendered him no service, it certainly had not bee for the want of trying to do so. We were unconscious of the slightest offending personally, or even politically, towards Mr. Newton. True—we could not think with him, that the Constitution gave Congress the power to annex foreign empires to the Union, by joint resolution, the lowest and least solemn form of legislation! We thought it, as we think it still, the grossest and most violent invasion of the Constitution ever yet attempted; and if the deliberate reflection of the People does not bring them to the same conclusion, then we shall be of the mind of Mr. Burke of New Hampshire, that a Constitution is an evil, and like a Custom House oath, only made to be broken!

But, thus thinking we said not a word in opposition to Mr. Newtown's Texas course. We regretted it as a Whig: We regretted it as a personal friend: But still we said nothing, for it was no affair of ours: We had fought for him, trusted him, valued him, respected him, loved him; and however much we censured his Texas Immediate Joint Resolution Annexation course, we had no wish to assail him for it.

All we said was comprised in the two following paragraphs:

From the Richmond Whig of February 20th.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF WESTMORELAN.
"Notwithstanding Mr. Willoughby Newtown's entire conformity to the wishes of the Texas party, and his abandonment in his course upon that subject in Congress of the immense majority of his own—notwithstanding the delicious flattery addressed to him by the Texans, when his vote was deemed necessary in the House to pass Brown's resolutions, and construct the fortunes of Texas Speculators, and the gross and fulsome adulation which that party have paid him since—notwithstanding, we say, all these things, the Democratic party of his district has assembled in Convention at Tappahannock and nominated Mr. Hunter [another great Texas man, but not greater than Mr. Newton !] and Mr. Hunter has accepted the call!

So Mr. Newton will get no wing from the Democracy for all his compliances! They have played the old game upon him—used him to help their schemes and break down his friends---plied him ad interim with sugar plums and caresses—but when they have no longer any use for him, unceremoniously laid him aside! Why, as the Democracy say, Texas is all in all—the absorbing, the great, the only question—as by and through it they accomplished the defeat of the Whigs in 1844, surely they might have been complaisant and grateful enough to so valuable an ally as Mr. Newton has proved to them, as to give him their nomination!

Mr. Newton must now rely upon the Whigs again, to may of whom his course has been given great pain, not to say unqualified disgust. We hope his reliance will not be in vain."

From the Richmond Whig of March 4:

"MR. NEWTON

This gentleman [and all the Whigs who voted for Brown's Texas Resolution except Mr. Dellett of Alabama] voted in opposition to them when they returned from the Senate, encumbered with Mr. Benton's proposition. On the other hand, every Democrat who had voted against Mr. Brown's resolutions, now voted for them (with Benton's project annexed) except Mr. Hale of New Hampshire and Mr. Davis of New York.

"These facts are highly significant. The accession of the recusant Northern Democracy [principally from New York] proves that the Van Buren and Wright influence had finally acquiesced in the Texas movement, and that Mr. Benton's movement was in all probability concerted to afford them the opportunity of doing so, in few words the moral of the tale is, that Calhoun and Polk having stolen Tyler's Texas thunder, and made capital from it, were in turn robbed by the Old Hunters, who did not choose that they should make [unclear much capital]."

But we congratulate Mr. Newton, that circumstances, no matter how contrived, or by whom, or for what purpose, so worked ultimately as to save him from the deep responsibility of a final approbation of the outrage and iniquity of annexing Texas in the mode it was annexed, and for the still viler motives which influenced the mass of active agents [distorted section ends] in that work of unconstitutionality and lawless aggression. His friends we are sure will rejoice, and his own conscience.

That was all! And being all, we appeal to Mr. Newton himself, and to his and our friends to say, if it justified him in denouncing us as he did—as a "party hack"—as a "reckless press"—and going into the Enquirer to do it—attempting as we thought, to appease and mollify and propitiate the conductors of that journal, by censuring and vilipending us! What! Are we to have no feelings—are we to crouch—are we to forget the feelings which belong to men and gentlemen because we are not in Congress!

But—after this expression of proper feeling, which is due to our self-respect—let us add, that we very much regret the matter. We did not seek it most certainly. WE have warmly esteemed Mr. Newton, personally, intellectually, and politically. And we are most willing and shall be most rejoiced, to "let by gones be by gones" and that we shall unite with him, if he will with us, upon the old 1840 platform, to sustain the good old cause of the party and the country!

We are not at all afraid of misconception: A man who knows the rectitude of his own intentions never is.

[JS-LLS]
The route across the isthmus at Panama is the shortest and the most direct; that by the Lake Nicaragua would require perhaps the least work so far as the mere forming of a navigable communication is concerned; the third route, that of Tehuantepec, although the longest, has peculiar advantages which, in the estimation of many, entitle it to the preference over all others, The want of good harbours wither on the Atlantic or the Pacific side, or on both, is urged against the two first named routes; and it is a formidable objection. The [insalubrity] of the climate moreover, is said to be much that the construction of a canal by either of those points would involve a lamentable loss of human life.

An article in a late number of the London Quarterly argues strongly in favour of the Tehuantepec route. The following description of that portion of the isthmus will show some of the chief advantages which it offers for the construction of the great work.

The Breadth of the isthmus is a straight line from the mouth of the Coatzacoalcos is 220 kilometres (130 miles,) but the greater part of this space is occupied on the south by lagoons and extensive plains, and on the Atlantic side by the course of the Coatzacoalcos, which can easily be rendered navigable up to the confluence of the Malatengo. The principle works, therefore, to be executed would be comprised between latitude 16 degrees 36 minutes and 17 degrees 3 minutes N, including a space less than 31 miles in extent, wherein no excavation whatever exceeding the usual limits would be required. The highest point to be surmounted is at the Portello de Tarifa, a pass between the mountains only 200 metres (656 feet) above the level of the Pacific and 160 metres above the mouth of the Malatengo. There is a abundance of water, which may be applied with great facility so the service of the canal being derived from the Chicapa of Chimalapa and its confluent the Monetza, and from a more considerable river, the [Oaiota], which like the former, flows into the lagoons not far from the town of Tehuantepec. The grand condition of the good harbour at either extremity of the line seems capable of being simply fulfilled in this case. The mouth of the Conizacoalcos, 700 metres wide, and with never less than twenty-one feet of water on the bar, quite enough to float a frigate, is according to Balbi, "the finest port formed by any one of the rivers that discharges themselves into the Gulf of Mexico, not even excepting the Mississippi" – Hitherto it had been very generally supposed that no harbor could be established on the Pacific side; but Signor [Moro] has cleared up this difficulty. The lagoons near Tehuantepec have a depth seldom less than five or six metres, and this could easily be increased by dredging, the bottom being nothing but mud and shingle. The Bocca Barre, by which they empty them selves into the ocean, is not obstructed by a [true] bar, but a little way within it there is an accumulation of sand which might be destroyed with extreme facility whilst the cause of its deposit mighty be effectually removed.

A survey of the Tehuantepec route has been completed by Don Jose de Garay, by the authority of the Mexican Government and the report is favorable. M. de Garay is now in England inviting the attention of British capitalists to the work.

To the Editors of the Whig

Gentlemen: you will not object now a days with a little political grist for your mill. On Monday the [21st] [ . . . ]time Mr. Newton and Mr. Hunter met in the King William Court House in the Congressional [ ] for the Westmoreland District. It is due to both gentlemen to say that they conducted themselves as gallant knights should – though their lances were [ ] and their [ ] battered in the [ ], (to use the warlike language of the Enquirer and its correspondents.) [ ] and that honorable self respect which makes the well-bred gentleman shun the dishonour of inflicting pain upon the feelings of others, as he would a wound, were conspicuous throughout.
Mr. Hunter lead of in a speech of about an hour and a half. This gentleman is not a very fine popular speaker, certainly. He has many of the leading peculiarities of the eccentric school to which he belongs – is sometimes wrapt in his political reveries – and soars aloft into the [subliment] heaven of water colored theories upon government perfectibility, Southern interest in particular, and a hard money currency in general. He saws the air with quite a sweep of limb – laughs hysterically at his own efforts at wit – wears a loose, badly tied cravat – and looks quite as noon struck as the Prince of the Mystics, or the Founder of the Transcendentalists himself. Bur for nervous energy of expression – for that practical, homely vigor of thought, which rouses and agitates the mind – and for that fervor of feeling and sweep of sympathy, which warm and gladden the heart, - we must look elsewhere, than to the 'bright particular star of the Rappahannock.'" The raus thereof rather resemble the mild and gentle influence of the minor luminaries of Heaven, than the meridian sun himself. The farmers of his district will hardly, as Homer's shepherds did, "Eye the blue vault and bless the useful light" -

And our Calhoun friend waged, too, a singular warfare; he occupied his hour and a half mainly in fortifying his camp, and beseeching his Democratic soldiers not to desert him; he feared that Newton would endeavor to entice them into his own ranks, and by a sort of coup-de-man, turn his flanks and carry the day. He therefore aimed to heed him: he told the Democrats that Mr. Newton would claim credit for having bareing his breast to parry detraction – but that he had done only what he was bound as a good citizen to do - and that Texas would have been annexed had Mr. Newton never been born.

Perhaps the Ex Speaker had found that the under-currents of feeling in Newton's favor were settling rather too strong; and thought it judicious to dam up the torrent of he could. "Twas a strange spectacle indeed, and well illustrated the truth, that politics as well as travelling, make strange bed fellows. Texas Thunder, Mr. Hunter and his compatriots had always regarded as their own especial munition of war; and that an imprudent Whig should have stolen it, was as bad as Salmoneus, of Classic repute, who imitated Jove's thunder by rattling a chariot over a brazen bridge! 'Twas "brazen" indeed, beyond endurance – To have nursed this banting; to have fathered him through good and evil report; to have employed Tyler as the Accoucheur, old Ritehie as the Wet Nurse, and entices poor Merrick to act as Sponsor ans Godfather – and then, that an inventor of "Whig Humbugs" should claim the paternity! "Oh, most monstrous tale in the book of Time!" "Tis enough to throw an abstraction into a political Dyspepsia, which Adam Smith, nor Tracy, nor Say, nor Ricardo, could cure. After dinner, Mr. Newton, from feebleness of health and voice, thought proper to address the people in the Court House.

It has rarely been my lot to see any public speaker listened to with more deference and respect. Mr. N's frank, manly bearing - his manifest honesty of conviction and purity of intention, are such as to produce a feeling of personal friendship in the hearer. You feel that you are listening to a gentleman of the Old School, who will not palter with his conscience, of barter his principles for power and place – who will do what he deems right, in defiance of all party considerations, and will never sacrifice the "honest" at the shrine of the "useful." However much you may doubt the judgment of his political revealings, the conviction cannot be resisted, that lofty honor, and pure virtue, beat higher in no man's heart. He declared that the question of independent representation was directly involved in his re-election. – That he had used his best endeavours to procure the Annexation of Texas, because, as a Southern man and Patriot, he believed the best interests of the South were involved in the issue – he averred in the most solemn manner, that political life had no charms for him – that before God and his conscience, he believed it no fit employment for an honest man – that its corroding disquietitudes and hollow professions produced in a pure mind loathing and disgust ineffable – but that self respect, and a regard for his children, the inheritors of his good name, would not allow him to shrink like a coward, and cower like a poltroon, under the lash of party denunciation. He then administered a most wholesome rebuke to Mr. Hunter for his continual harping upon Southern interest and Southern rights, and his constant endeavor to chafe and irritate the public mind into phrenzy by inflammatory diatribes against Northern oppression and pampered manufacturers – that such a course was grossly unpatriotic, as it tended to poison public feeling at the fountain and to pour out the waters of bitterness upon a contented and happy people, and that such fixed ideas were utterly unworthy a Statesman and a Patriot.

He then declared himself a Whig upon the old issues – Bank, Tariff, and Distribution – and this all knew full well. Did not Mr. Newton by his bold and manly avowal of his principles in his District; by the fearlessness with which he made these issues throughout its length and breadth, succeed in carrying a District which had been regarded as doomed to look for light only to that "Star of the Rappahannock!" and did he not by the ability and research with which he discussed and demonstrated his propositions, extort the admiration of his foes, and wring from the most prejudiced, expressions of esteem and regard.

Mr. Hunter in a reply of an hour and a half, much more remarkable for good feeling and temper than for force of views or strength of expression, took occasion to laugh at Mr. Newton for his inconsistency in declaring that he regarded Texas as necessary to the safety of the South, and yet he would not have voted for it had it been certain that the measure could have been accomplished, without his aid – and thus have ruptured party ties. This position many agreed with Mr. Hunter was an awkward one, but to my mind it only proved that Mr, Newton, in volunteering this remark, had the candor and magnanimity to avow what others would have supposed – others would have intended it, but like Fouché, would consider that the admission of a designed but not accomplished measure, is worse than a crime, and amounts to a blunder.

How many men would have themselves spurred the odium of such a design? It serves only to elevate Mr. Newton in my poor estimation.

The two gentlemen then parted in good feeling with the promise of meeting each other at Phillippi, a very [ . . . ] allusion, but supposed to refer to a place called [Mangonick] in the upper part of King William, whither they were to go on the morrow.
If the Whigs of Mr. Newton's District fail to testify their confidence in his integrity, and high souled independence they will grieve a noble heart, and will look in vain hereafter for his superior in all those qualities which make ambition virtue, and which gild with a softened charm the cheerless waste of party strife.

He may have committed errors of judgment (and let him who has not, cast the first stone) he may in moments of too generous warmth, have inadvertently given the enemy an insight into our camp – but to degrade a long tried and faithful soldier for one doubtful step, is to turn our weapons suicidally against our friends, and to damp the free and untrammed action of bold and honest men.

Let the Whig party bury the tomahawk. Let not a drum head court martial be offered for all who fail to comply with a strict party drill. If you do, you will hurry to speedy execution, no nobler soul than Willoughby Newton, who deserves and will win the increased confidence of his District.

NOT A CONSTITUENT.

[LLS]

RWv22i26 p2c5 April 1, 1845

To the Editors of the Whig:

Gentlemen—As the Texas question is still open, allow one who has already occupied your columns upon the subject, to submit to your readers a few considerations, which, in my humble judgment ought to be decisive.

It will not be denied that the constitutional requisition of a long citizenship, in order to eligibility to the Congress of the United States, was founded in the reasonable presumption that foreigners recently naturalized would be too ignorant of our principles of government, and too unfamiliar with our institutions, to be safe depositories of so important a trust.

It must also be conceded that the clause of the Constitution which empowers Congress to admit new States into the Union, has no geographical limit, if the existing boundaries of the United States be not a limit; and that Canada may become a member of the confederacy as constitutionally as Texas.

If this be true, and the Constitution is consistent with itself, how can Congress, or the "treaty power" extend to [...] what Constitutional right can a Canadian take his seat in the Congress of the United States within one year after his citizenship commences, while the Frenchman, who has been six years a citizen, is positively, and for wise purposes, debarred for the same privileges?

Is it less dangerous to the public liberty that the one should legislate for us than the other? If not, where is the constitutional power to confer privileges upon many foreigners, which it is plainly unconstitutional to confer upon one. It is impossible to believe that such an absurd inconsistency exists in the Constitution of the United States.

It is said that the citizens of Texas will not be foreigners, after her admission, any more than the citizens of Virginia, or Vermont, were foreigners immediately after the present Constitution was adopted. But the meaning of that instrument must be learned from the meaning of those who made it. Now it is evident from the nature of things that, on the minds of those wise and patriotic men who framed the Constitution, the prohibitory clause, which we are considering, was designed to apply, not to themselves, nor to any citizen in the territory pervaded by the revolution, but to the citizens of foreign nations generally recognized as foreign nations. This is the plain, common sense construction, and the first departure from it involves us in amazing inconsistency. The prohibitory clause, beyond a doubt, was intended to apply both to Spaniards and Canadians, en masse as will as individually. Where then is the right to make thousands of them eligible at once to the Congress of the United States?

[LLS]

RWv22i26 p2c6 April 1, 1845

Admit Texas or Canada, and you must admit them without distinctions among their citizens, and the Canadian or the Mexican must be as fully entitled to the representative office as the renegade from the United States. But were this not true, let me conclude by saying that that is a monstrous, no less than an absurd construction of our great charter, which denies to the foreigner who has become one of us, for the sake of liberty and its advantages, those privileges which it concedes so freely to the reckless and unpatriotic adventurer, who has abandoned this, the country of his birth, weary of the restraints of a well regulated freedom, to seek lucre and danger in another land.

UNION.
The New York Tribune contends that if Texas shall decline the proffer of annexation said to have been already made to her by the Executive under the Joint Resolution of Congress, then the whole forces of that resolution is exhausted. The Tribune quoted from the resolution as follows, (directly following the House proposition:)

"And be it further resolved, That if the President of the United States shall, in his judgment and discretion, deem it most advisable, instead of proceeding to submit the foregoing resolution to the republic of Texas as an overture on the part of the United States for admission, decide to negotiate with that republic, then –"

"Is it not plain," asks the Tribune, "that the President is not authorized to try one alternative first, then the other? He is first to decide under which proposition he will proceed; but having chosen and failed with that, he has no right afterward to resort to the other. The House proposition has been officially transmitted to Texas; if she rejects it, Mr. Polk must wait until Congress gives him new power. The House Resolutions will be dead."

Wednesday Morning, April 2, 1845

We have no Collectors in the greater portion of the State, and therefore appeal to the sense of justice of our subscribers to make remittance through the Mail.

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"GENERAL ORDERS!"

From the Enquirer of yesterday.

"An important question is now presented to the consideration of the Democrats of Richmond. We have no candidate in the field – the Whigs make up for our deficiency by starting four of five of their own. The question now is shall the Democrats fold their arms and vote for none, or will they vote for Mr. Lyons, who, though a Whig, is the friend of Texas, and for that reason is to be hunted down by the Richmond Whigs and the Botte Whigs. For one, I venture to say, that the greater portion of the Democrats will vote for James Lyons, and that they ought to do so. We owe nothing to the others, but to him we owe respect for his independence, gratitude to his noble efforts for Texas, and sympathy for the unrelenting persecution which his devotion to that cause has brought down upon his head. TEXAS."

So we have the cat out of the bag at last, and the general orders published by the Enquirer to its Democratic host to support and vote for Mr. Lyons! And for what reason is he preferred over all other Whigs? Two are assigned: 1. He is for Texas, and the Democracy owe "gratitude to his noble efforts for Texas!" Why had not the author of the article gone a little farther in the confession and stated that Texas broke down Henry Clay and the Whig party, and that the chief "gratitude" is felt for that towards all who contributed their help! Mr. Lyons, we know, zealously and ably laboured for Mr. Clay, but unhappily taking the side of the "Democratic" on that question which they insisted upon making, and did make, the absorbing and controlling issue – to wit, immediate annexation – the necessary effect was (though not the intended effect) to weaken his own friends.

2. The second reason assigned is that Mr. Lyons is persecuted! How? Why there are Whigs who prefer other Whigs over him! That is all, so far as we know.

[LLS]

From the Philadelphia Morning Post

HON. CALEB CUSHING'S LETTER ON TEXAS TO THE JOURNAL OF COMMERCE.

This production, one of the most singular of a time abounding in specimens of the marvellous, will be found in
Of all the men who have appeared in our day, Mr. Cushing appears to be the most determined to keep himself always before the public. His vanity and thirst for notoriety appears to be fully as great as his ambitions, and all three of them are beyond the reach of satisfaction. If he can find a public journal willing to gratify his ruling passion, it is for him so much clear gain: if he cannot, he sets to work in good earnest and blows his own trumpet, until the country rings again. We first hear of him, about 1841, as a prominent candidate for the mission to Spain, his claims being founded, (according to an article suppose to have been written by himself, but which turned out to have been the work of a near connexion,) on his profound erudition – his vast acquirements, [unrivalled since the days of the admirable Crichton] in almost every species of human learning – his fascinating manners – and last, but not least, his thorough acquaintance with the Castilian tongue, which he was said to have as much at command as Quevedo – his intimate and critical knowledge of Spanish literature, and a variety of other accomplishments, which combined, tendered him the most finished cavalier of which history makes any mention. Contemporaries, however, are rarely just to transcendent merit, and are in general too much disposed to assign its reward to posterity. It happened so with the highly accomplished person in question. The age was dull to his merits and he did not get the position.

We next hear of him in the House, as the principal friend of the late Dynasty, and a sort of auctioneer general of Executive favor. Rejected from one embassy, the President took care to furnish him with another, at a time when the formidable Senate could not interpose between him and his favorite. Residing some five or six months in China, he saw more than man ever saw, heard more than man ever heard, and has told more than man ever told before. – Conforming to that wise precept of our Saviour, which forbids the hiding of a man’s “light under a bushel” he has let his shine out, through all the highways of the land. – Traveling post through Mexico without (so far as we know) understanding a word of the language, in the course of a few weeks he formed an acquaintance with the habits – manners – customs – political institutions, and even the sentiments of the whole people, numbering some nine million, which appears absolutely marvellous. Johnson taunts Milton with his short stay in Italy (nine months) and though he perfectly understood the language, and was thoroughly acquainted with the literature of the country, says he could, in that time, have learned very little of the manners, customs, and institutions of the Italians, but what was the author of “Comus” and “Paradise Lost” compared to the negotiator of the Chinese Treaty? The trip to China appears to have had an effect, which very much resembles inspiration. It has not only made the voyageur intimately acquainted with Islands and countries which he saw from the deck of his vessel, but it has opened the gates of all knowledge to him, and has laid every species of mystery, natural, national and diplomatic perfectly level to his comprehension. He speaks upon all, from a Chinese dictionary to the secrets of the Mexican government, as though there were no appeal from his judgment, his claims are to the full as good as those of “Hadji Baba,” who was esteemed a valuable adjunct to the English Mission, because he had been in Constantinople, and was perfectly acquainted with the “Franks”; that is to say had seen some half dozen of them, in the course of his sojourn. Mr. Cushing can allege a claim of a similar nature; was he not three weeks in Mexico, and who shall presume to contest the palm of acquaintance with Mexican politics with a man thus thoroughly qualified to understand them?

This much we think is necessary to say, upon introducing his letter to the public. Now for the letter itself.

"With regard," says he, "to the withdrawal of the present Mexican Minister, that, it seems to me, is by no means so grave a fact as many may imagine." We shall call upon our readers to say, whether they have ever seen more impudence and presumption compressed within so short a sentence.—The Government of Mexico has repeatedly declared, that it would consider the annexation of Texas a declaration of war – as soon as it is done, the minister, as his first step, asks for his passport – he leaves the country after delivering a protest as pointed and as energetic as language can make it, and after all, Mr. Caleb Cushing, ex-minister to China, and post rider through the Republic of Mexico, cannot see that it is “by any means so grave a fact as many may imagine!” it is a matter of some importance to know what Mr. Cushing considers a “grave fact.” Finding little to sustain him in his incredulity, in the actual state of things, he launches at once into the wide ocean of suppositions and imagines a variety of things. “Mexico was, doubtless, reluctant to see Texas annexed;” “it was quite in the ordinary course of things” that “she should manifest her opposition by threats of war;” “it was equally supposable, by way of argument that she should instruct her minister to demand his passport;” “that the minister should public his instructions to this effect;” “and thus, on the case occurring, he should prepare to leave the United States, and return to Mexico!!” and thus by stringing together a miserable set of imaginations and suppositions, he thinks to meet and stave off, the inference open to all, and upon which, after the repeated assertions of the Mexican Government, there cannot be a shadow of doubt in the mind of any intelligent human being, unless one should arise from the weakness of Mexico herself.

But to go on with our extracts. "The departure of General Almonta does not of itself interrupt even the diplomatic relations of the two Governments." But when that withdrawal is connected with the declarations of the Mexican Government, what can be make of it, but a determination to interrupt them as soon as possible? What does all the half-learned twaddle that follows in the same paragraph, about other cases of withdrawal, signify? What possible connection has it with the subject under consideration? No cause of war had arisen in any of these instances, neither Government had said to the other, “if you do this thing of that, we shall consider you at war with us.” If such had been the fact, would any man at that day have had the folly to say there will be no war? Every thing we take it depends on the manner in which the withdrawal is make; whether it be from personal pique, or from the improbability of bringing certain matters under consideration, to an amicable termination or from a variety of other causes, not sufficiently great to authorize war. But did any man ever hear of a Minister's demanding a passport after his Government had declared this a particular act, which had already been consummated, would be considered a declaration of war without meaning something serious?

The writer goes on to insist upon the position so often refuted, that the acknowledgment by a nation, of the
independence of another, gives her the right to annex, &c. -- This is a cheap, and easy method devised of late to acquire territory. We have according to this idea, nothing more to do than to send forward a band of adventurers into the territory of a weak neighbor, let them settle themselves, quarrel with the authorities, proclaim their independence, procure its acknowledgment, and then annex them to the United States. It is a principle, moreover, at war with the law of Nations. By this law, a nation wishing to form a treaty with another, addresses itself to the Government it finds, it treats with the Government de Facto, and does not enquire into the rights of that Government. It is not in fact authorized to do so. Hence the supposition, that if Mexico had cause of complaint, it was against our acknowledging the Independence of Texas, is absurd to the last degree. -- That proceeding was perfectly regular, and just. The U. States found the colonists in possession of the Government, it treated with the power it found, and had no right to enquire by what title it was in existence. It is altogether another affair when annexation comes up. There the right should clearly be ascertained.

But the most absurd part of this whole letter is that in which the author threatens to hang the foreign sailors who shall be taken on letters of marque commissioned by the Mexican Government. Two can play at that game, Mexico has in her dominions fully as many Americans as we have of her subjects, and if we hang her foreign sailors, she can hang our citizens. But does not any man at once see the monstrous iniquity of this proposition? Thousands of American citizens fought against Mexico; hundreds of them are at this day citizens of the United States. Yet when Fannin and his men were butchered in cold blood, the resentment of this country was, very properly roused to the highest pitch. It was for Mr. Cushing to suggest a line of policy to the Government, cruel in itself, and which the whole American people united in condemning as worthy of barbarians.

[LLS]

RWv22i27 p2c3 April 4, 1845

From the Journal of Commerce.

LATER FROM ENGLAND

By the packetship Queen of the West, Capt. Woodhouse, we have Liverpool papers of March 7th, and London to the eventing of the 6th. Also an Extra of the 7th from the office of Willmer & Smith’s European Times, containing the latest intelligence.

The Queen of the West brings seven cabin passengers and four hundred and fifty six in steerage.

Cotton continued firm at the advance reported by the steamer of the 4th.

The accounts from Switzerland are no later than the advices before received. The state of affairs in that country is extremely critical.

England has resolved to interfere, in a friendly way, for the termination of the war between Buenos Ayres and Monte Video.

CALIFORNIA. – The Paris “Presse” contains the following paragraph, which confirms a piece of intelligence first given to the public through our columns, and which some of our cotemporaries were pleased to regard as moonshine. – The same paragraph, is copied into the London papers without comment.

“The great fall of Santa Ana has exposed one of the vastest projects which the undermining ambition of Great Britain ever conceived. It appears from the correspondence of the Ex-President of Mexico with the British Minister, that the former for a sum of 25,000,000 piastres, of which he had reserved for himself a considerable portion, was on the eve of ceding absolutely to Great Britain the magnificent province of California, considered so valuable both by Great Britain and the United Stated, that the latter, in the year 1837, offered $5,000,000 for the harbor of San Francisco alone.”

LONDON, March 6, 1 o’clock. – The English securities are steady, with a small amount of business, and prices, though not exhibiting much alteration, are tolerably well supported by the jobbers, who will not accept lower values than those currently quoted within the last few days. Consols for money are 99 1/8 to 100, for the account 100 1/8 to 1/4, and Exchequer Bills 63[ . . . ] to 65[ . . . ] prem.

Railway shares attract considerable attention, with an improved demand and less speculation. We find the market supports a good appearance.

Three o’clock. – consols 99 7/8 to 100 for money, and 100 1/4 for the account.

LIVERPOOL, March 7. – The Income Tax. – This tax, “with all its imperfections on its head,” passed through committee on Wednesday evening, with hardly a show of opposition, in a thin House, only mustering 119 at the division.
The income tax, then is to be continued for three years certain, and he who believes that it will be taken off at the end of that period, voluntarily at least, must be endowed with an amazing fund of superstition, The vague promises of Sir Robert Peel and the Chancellor of the Exchequer are all so much moonshine.

The Peel Tariff has made but slow progress since our last, and, marred as it is by the omission of all reference to corn, provisions, and tea, by a most absurd and mischievous arrangement of the sugar duties, and by the retention of all the iniquities of the income tax, it would matter very little if its progress in future should continue to be as dilatory as it has hitherto been.

LOUISANA SUGAR – On the 5th ult., in the House of Commons, --

Mr. Thornley said, I wish to repeat the question which I put to the right Hon. Gentleman, First Lord of the Treasury. I yesterday stated that a quantity of Sugar had reached this country from the United States, which was notoriously the produce of slave labor. The question which I then put has become of more importance, because today I find that samples have arrived of cargoes of two or three shipments from New Orleans. The question I wish to put is this, whether this Sugar, the produce of Louisiana, and therefore the produce of slave labor, will be admitted at the same rate of duty as Sugar from China, Java, and Manila, which is considered the produce of free labor?

Sir Robert Peel – There are certain countries – the United States being one of them – where Sugar is produced by the labor of slaves. The United States, and one or two other countries, have concluded reciprocity treaties with this country, which treaties stipulate that the produce of such countries shall be admitted into this country on the footing of the most favored nation. That, I apprehend, is the state of the case. But up to this hour, there has been no official information received by her Majesty’s Government, from the Custon house, with respect to the arrival of this shipment, nor has any communication been made to the Treasury Board upon the subject, nor any applicatin for an orfer in Council, which would be necessary before the Sugar could be admitted. At present, I apprehend that the Sugar could not be admissible, for no order in Council has been issued for its admission form the United Stated. At the same time, I have no hesitation in saying that my construction of the treaty is, that Sugar from the United Stated would, under the reciprocity treaties, be admissible on the same terms and footing as Sugar from Java, Manilla, and China., -- [Loud cheers from the Opposition benches.]

Mr. Thornley had heard the answer of the right hon. Gentleman with great satisfaction. He begged simply to state that the produce of Sugar in Louisiana was such as would give great profit on its exportation to this country, and that there was every reason to believe the new trade would be carried on to a very considerable extent,

Mr. Edwards said there was another question connected with this subject, which he was anxious to have answered. He wished to know whether the right hon. baronet was aware that all the sugar coming from Louisiana was brown Muscovado sugar, and, therefore, would come into this country at the duty of 23[s], and not at 28[s]? So that, in fact, this slave grown sugar of the United States would be imported at a lower duty than the free-labor sugar of Java, Siam, and Manilla.

Sir R. Peel declined entering into any argument upon the subject at present.

COMETS. – In addition to the comet recently seen at Berlin, Paris, and London, M. Colla, the astronomer of Parma, announces that he has discovered another; and in the log of Captin Hilare Gautier, who has arrived lately at Marscilles, a third is mentioned. The latter is said to be placed between the two stars No 11 of Eridnaus and 16 of the Atlas of Harling. This comet disappeared at the moment when Captin Gautier approached the equator. -- [Liverpool Mercury, 7th.

KING WILLIAM

I ask permission, gentlemen of the Whig, to occupy sufficient space in your columns to give my brother Whigs of the Congressional District, an account of the discussion which took place at our Court House on Monday last, between Messrs. Newton and Hunter. I will be as brief as circumstances will permit: -- Mr. Hunter opened the debate in a speech which, in my humble judgment, fell immeasurably below his usual standard. Heretofore this gentleman has over [adressed] himself to the reason of his hearers, but alas! Argument seemed entirely to have escaped his memory on this occasion. Never before, in our county at least, has he ever condescended to quit the lofty pedestal on which he has ever abod as a public speaker, to step upon the platform, hitherto deemed, and not by a very "strict [co ]" as belonging exclusively to the low and despicable demagogue – I will do him the justice to say, it was an excellent speech for a man in his apprenticeship – But only think, Hunter training to play the demagogue wonder what upon earth, Mr. Calhoun and the proud and haughty Rhett would have said could they have seen him, fussing about, clapping his hands and evidently so completely out of his proper element, For Heaven’s sake friend Hunter, haul up, at this thy first bound, in a career so unworthy of you, else, a "long farewell” to all thy greatness.

The speech of Mr. Newton in reply, was one of great force and point – bold, frank and manly, telling the Democrats it was unworthy of a proud and high-minded people to take advantage of a schism in his party, to foist in their candidate, which they knew it would be impossible for them to succeed, but from the position, he occupied in regard
to Texas – a measure which he supported, not because he was a Whig, not because be was a Democrat; but because he was a Southern man. It was a question upon which the South was about to be driven to the wall, and he went to the rescue. 'Twas a bold, high-minded and noble speech, carrying the conviction irresistibly to the mind, that though he may err, the error will never spring from the heart – carrying the conviction also, that the best interest of his constituents has been, and ever will be. his ruling star in the discharge of his representative duty. He may err, possibly has done so, in the opinion of many of his constituents – he is not infaillible. But where is the man who does not sometimes err? If he exist upon the face of the earth, would to Heaven I could be so fortunate as to set my eyes on him.

For one, I frankly confess, that although as a party man I wish to Heaven John Tyler had been at the bottom of the Red Sea and Texas upon the top of him, before we had ever heard of either of them, yet as a Southern man, with this Texas issue made for and in spite of us, I think Mr. Newton acted right, under existing circumstances; his course meets with my hearty approbation; and in this canvass he shall, God willing, receive my candid support. Judging from my own impressions, I believe Mr. Newton is greatly misunderstood in regard to his position on this vital question; and the main object of this communication is to submit to your consideration a synopsis of his speech on this subject, delivered on Monday last. I once thought him wrong, but now I honestly admit, with his explanation before me, I consider him a "good and faithful servant." – When you shall have read his remarks, brother Whigs, ask yourselves this question, in cool, calm and deliberate moment: "How would I have acted in similar circumstances?"

Observe – Mr. Newton did not raise this question; the Whig party did not originate it: and you will remember, we could not prevent its being lugged into the late Presidential election. We objected, demurred, implored that it might not be made a party question; that it might be considered and treated as a general or national question, upon which, at the proper time and in a proper way, every man of both the great parties could act as should seem to him right and just. Upon the mode and manner of admission some of our wiser heads have differed. About twelve months since Mr. Archer, our Whig Senator, in a speech in the Senate, opposed the annexation of Texas by treaty, as unconstitutional, and maintained that she could only be admitted by "Joint Resolutions." Mr. Archer was, and is now, in fact, our representative; and it is true, I believe, that he has since advocated the admission of Texas by treaty, and now condemns the mode by Joint Resolution, as unconstitutional. Well, be it so; I for one so not object; believing Mr. Archer to be an honorable man, and that he has changed his opinion upon proper investigation, I mean mature reflection – still it proves to my mind, that the admission of Texas by joint resolution is not so clearly and palpably unconstitutional that we should kick Mr. Newton over, because he happens to think as Mr. Archer once thought. Besides, Mr. Newton was and is certainly entitled to his opinion upon this subject. And after all, what has Mr. Newton done? Simply this – he settled the terms upon which Texas is to be admitted into the Union, that is the length and breadth it seems to me of his offending. And is it nothing to have this question settled upon terms, which every man of you must approve, I am sure, if Texas is to come? Hardly any man doubts, but the democratic party will have Texas, and if she comes in under these resolutions, we have her upon Whig terms – aye Newton's terms – as I think the subjoined synopsis of his speech must convince every one. For this, and this alone, so help me Heaven, I think Mr. Newton deserves the thanks, the approbation, the vote, of every Whig in his District. Well might every one of us, believe the admission of Texas by Joint Resolution, unconstitutional, and yet, honestly and consistently, I opinie, approve of Mr. Newton's vote; understand me if you please, Mr. Newton's views, of the condition of the question, as stated in his remarks, being indisputable, I say emphatically, I honestly think we could approve of his vote. What was that question? Not that Texas should be admitted or not admitted, -- but whether she should be annexed, upon terms satisfactory to the South or upon terms objectionable to the South. Can there be two opinions, brother Whigs, upon the subject? Mr. Newton believed Texas could be admitted constitutionally, by Joint Resolution. The question arises, shall Texas be admitted by Joint Resolution, mainly as a Slave holding State, or vice versa. The crisis is upon him, he must act and act energetically, not only to give his own vote, but to exert himself to obtain the votes of others, to decide the question in favor of the South. He came to the rescue, like a true blooded Virginian, and for one I thank him. – Recur to the question above, and I ask where is the Southern man in the name of Heaven, who would permit Texas to come into the Union mainly as a non Slave-holding State, when it was in his power to prevent it, without violating his conscience or his oath? I sincerely hope and believe, he does not reside in the County of King William – here a Whig is a Whig indeed, the arts and blandishments of the so-called Democracy, have lost their [. . .] influences, and we are now a band of brothers – to have seen the glowing, the animated countenances of the Whigs, as they listened to the noble and triumphant speech of the bold and gallant Newton, on Wednesday last, you would require no other assurance that we mean to march to the battle-field, "one and inseparable.” Yes, brother Whigs, we have our county candidate in the field, also as an earnest of what we mean to do in the county struggle; and, although we cannot even hope to elect Dr. Power, we man to give him a warm and cordial support – if for no other reason, (and there are hundreds) – because he a King William Whig!

Here is the synopsis of Mr. Newton's speech, delivered at King William Court House, on Monday, 24th March:

The whole Democratic party of the House (said Mr. Newton) was pledged to Texas, and it must and would have been brought by them, in some form, before the adjournment; but it could not be done by them, upon terms satisfactory to Mr. N.'s constituents of the South. The Democrats had been in caucus, repeatedly, upon the subject – their councils were divided on the subject of slavery, and the Southern portion of the party entirely dispaired of carrying the measure, with the line of the Missouri Compromise or any equivalent proposition. In this state of things, Mr. Rhett of South Carolina, and other Southern members, stated frankly, to Mr. Newton, the distraction of their party, and appealed to him as a representative of a slaveholding District, to aid them by his vote, and to endeavour to procure the co operation of other Southern Whig members, in support of the Southern, against the Northern, plan of annexation. Mr. Rhett assured Mr. N. that no more than 98 Democratic members could by any means, be procured for the Southern scheme. Mr. N. replied that, if that fact was ascertained with certainty, he had no doubt but that the co-operation of a sufficient number of Southern Whig members might be procured; but, to make certain, the House must be filled, and the fact ascertained in the most authentic manner! Three Southern Democrats took listsof the members, carefully polled the House, and reported the result to Mr. N. Mr. Rhett still maintained, that no more than 98 could be relied on – the other gentlemen thought that 100 might be got; and possibly one or two more, but certainly not enough to carry the Southern Scheme! It was then said to Mr. N., by those gentlemen, we cannot carry
this measure without the aid of the Whigs, and if you will come to the rescue of the South on this vital question, you shall be permitted to shape the measure to suit yourselves. Many of the Whigs had never been opposed to the admission of Texas, and the 8 who voted for it, thought a crisis had now arrived which enabled them to carry out their own views and those of their constituents. The terms were arranged among them, and the resolution proposed, under their auspices, by Mr. Brown of Tennessee, and submitted, contemporaneously, in the House and Senate. The question came up in Committee of the Whole – all the plans proposed were severally rejected by a majority, ranging from 8 to 12. When Brown’s plan came up in order, 9 Whigs voted for it, carrying it by 109 to 99. – This was the test vote – the trial of strength between the North and South. One hundred Democrats only voted in the affirmative, and no force could have compelled another to vote for it, if his vote had been necessary to carry it. if nine Whigs had voted in the negative, the Southern plan would have lost by 100 to 108. But Texas would not have been defeated – the Democrats would have again rallied, and compromising on Benton’s Bill, or Oville Robinson’s New York scheme, carried the measure in a manner entirely unacceptable to the South.

In the House, on the final passage of the Resolutions, the vote in the affirmative, was 122. But no one believing that one over 109 voting in the Committee on the test question, could have been obtained if their votes had been necessary to carry the question. Their unwillingness to stand out against their party, when no practical effect would be the result, brought 13 of them to vote for it in the House. There were yet 29 recreants who were so bitterly opposed to Slavery, that they could not be induced to vote for the Resolution. Chiefly for the benefit of the “tender consciences” of these gentlemen, the Senate’s amendment was introduced, that was regarded as a nullity, a “[mare surplusage]” of the Southern wing, and by the Northerns, it was looked upon as leaving open the question of Slavery. The whole party was rallied in the House, on the amendment, with two exceptions, and perfect harmony restored, – though not one of the 29 recreants, although voting for the amendment, could be found to vote for the original resolutions, or for them as amended. The vote on the amendment was indeed but the political roll call of the Democracy, after their great battle on the slavery questions ans it was well known, that all their forces would be enrolled as the amendment was mainly designed for that object. Mr. Newton did not choose to answer such a call and therefore voted against the amendment, and not against the amended resolutions as so often falsely stated, but declared at the time in the House, that if the vote were in the resolutions as amended, he would vote for them, though he did not approve of the amendment. It was perfectly well known in the house, before the vote on the amendment was taken that nearly the whole Democratic party would unite on it, and that it would prevail, by a large majority, which the result proved, it having been carried by 152. Mr. Newton deemed it his duty to aid, in good faith, in carrying out the Southern plan, which he did to the last, and no considerations, that could have been addressed to him, would have induced him to abandon what he deemed the path of duty.

The question now being settled, Mr. Newton did not desire to raise an issue with his friends who differed with him on this question, but he deemed the explanation necessary to his own vindication. [LLS]

April 4-end of April  Missing transcriptions

May

Friday, May 2, 1845 RW45v22i35p1c1  1006 words

THE UNITED STATES AND GREAT BRITAIN.

The Baltimore American adds:

“"The United States and Great Britain. – The extracts which we published from some of the London journals received by the Great Western, relative to the annexation of Texas and Mr. Polk’s Inaugural Address, showed the deep interest excited in England by the political events on this side of the water. The language of other journals, besides those recently quoted, indicates a strong feeling of excitement.

The declaration in Mr. Polk’s Address that our title to the Oregon “is clear and unquestionable” seems to have caused especial irritation. The official character of the announcement intimates that Mr. Polk fully expects the British Government to yield – that her pretensions are considered frivolous and unfounded – not worthy even to be listened to. The Morning chronicle remarks that is was not prepared to find the English lion treated so very like a puppy dog! It adds that "what has been all along feared will take place – that Great Britain will be compelled to go to the extremity and expense of war merely for the sake of showing that she dare still do such a thing under grievous provocation."

The manner in which the movement of our Government upon Texas was carried to a conclusion has indicated pretty clearly to Great Britain that if she intends to maintain her claims to the Oregon she will be obliged to do it by arms and that speedily. Hence the annexation of Texas to the United States has a significance beyond its immediate and particular bearing. If they cry of Texas was found to be so available here for political purposes,
The London correspondent of the Boston Atlas, whose letter gives a full exposition of the state of public feeling in England on this subject, says: - "No news has been received from the United States for a long time that has claimed more serious attention, or has been considered so alarming to the interests of both England and the United States."

The Standard, an administration journal expresses the belief that war may grow out of Texas and Oregon questions, but rejoices that Great Britain will have time to prepare for it. After quoting numerous paragraphs of an exciting character, the Atlas correspondent says:

It is unnecessary to write further upon this subject; from the opinions which are here briefly given, it will be at once see that the Polk Address has created an intense excitement – even a war fever. In commercial circles in the city, and, indeed, amongst all classes in the metropolis, nothing else had been the topic of general conversation, but war with the United States. Yesterday the excitement was great, and today it had not abated. Tomorrow the weekly journals will appear, and their leading articles will of course be devoted to American affairs – their language will be bold, and it will have a tendency to continue the present excitement. On Monday next, in the House of Commons, the Texas question will be brought before Parliament, and a warm debate is anticipated upon the subject. The news, therefore, which the Royal Mail Steamer Caledonia will take to the United States, may be expected to prove of a most important character, as affecting deeply the great interests at stake between two of the most powerful nations of the world.

The language of the public journals, expressive and doubt of the state of popular feeling in England, is scarcely to be taken as portending the course of the Government. WE have no reason to suppose that the British Cabinet has been insincere in its frequent demonstrations for the preservation of peace between the two countries, nor is it probable that it has any wish to go to war with the United States at this time. But it must be granted that the alternative is now before the Government – the alternative of war this year or a year or two later – unless all British preconditions to the Oregon are given up. And it is this consideration which gives great interest to the annexion of Texas in Great Britain since the idea may present itself that if a collision must take place with the United States, the best time to meet it is now, when Mexico may be used as an ally, and when the pretext of resisting the progress of slavery will give a certain prestige which would be wanting in a quarrel about territorial lines in the Oregon.

When Mr. Polk too the responsibility of announcing officially, that the British claims to the Oregon were not to be regarded by this Government, on would think that prudence might have suggested to him the propriety of taking some measure to make good such an announcement. Congress had already adjourned when the inaugural made known this declaration – it had adjourned leaving our relations with Mexico involved in doubt and danger, yet without the least preparation for difficulties, and on the top of this confusion, the new President, before he had seated himself in the chair of office, threw another element of discord more pregnant with strife than all the rest together. And thus the country stands in a sort of stupid bewilderment, with a vague idea that some explosion is at hand, yet hardly conscious of any thing differently, and in a state to be surprised at nothing. A strange indifference is the common feeling. There is no confidence in the government – for it shows itself listless and [...]ed. The sentiment of patriotism – the throbbing pulsations of national life and energy – where shall one turn to find them? If war should come, then indeed the elements would be aroused, and the people, in spite of their [...]of a Government, would vindicate the national spirit and honor – but how much suffering would be the prelude to final victory!

The United States Gazette, whose information is always good, and judgment sound, thus speculates:

"WAR WITH MEXICO. – The news from Mexico, which we publish this morning, is of a character to arrest the attention of the people of the United States, and to lead them to inquire whether the nation has of late been, or is now, in the hands of men, who understand its genious and wants, and are able to administer its government for the good of the people. The answer to such an inquire must be, that our country needs a new policy, a new set of men, a new set of measures. Economy defence, in all that concerned public good, had been practiced, until we have nothing to present to our enemy, that would not excite the smile of any considerable power. Not a sea port in the Union is in a state of defence, not a “company” of soldiers could be mustered under a Unites States commander. Meantime, the public purse has been emptied into the pockets of favorites, and what should have gone to maintain the defences and honor of the nation, has been lavished upon unworthy partisans, who have cried economy, economy, whenever a ship was to be built, a fortification repaired, a harbor defended, or a company raised, while they have drawn like horse leeches the life blood of the Treasury.

War with Mexico is now likely. The danger is imminent. We mean what we say – the danger is imminent Western Congressmen, who are out of the way of risk, may bluster in their seats in Congress, and southern gentlemen may talk of chivalry, and nominate their Quattlebumps; but in a war, the middle and eastern States will
have to sustain the cause of the nation, and suffer the losses that result from the contest.

We are told that Mexico will be passive in a war – that is the language of a Locofoco paper upon the news now before us – passive, because she has no ships. Cannot the same sources that supple vessels for the slave trade of South America, yield ships for the producers of Mexico?

Is it likely that the people of Europe, alive to all the advantages to be derived from a “right” to intercept the rich scattered commercial ships of the United States, will not hasten to the spoils? And will Mexico remain passive in a war which she will declare herself, and which, at small risk, may be made twice as profitable as her mines have ever been?

But the United States will declare, by act of Congress, that persons engaged in war upon the commerce of this country, and not natives of Mexico, shall be regarded as pirates, and treated as such, when taken in the act. That sounds very well – it looks well upon paper. But will France and England stand quietly by, and see their citizens strut up like fish, for accepting place in the Mexican service? England and France have both had too much to do with the quarrels of weak nations, to admit of such a course.

In a war with the United States; Mexico would be more active than any power we know of – active, we mean, against the commerce of our country; and no law which the Congress at Washington could pass, would materially interfere with the commissioning of privateers, for any persons who would accept them. We say nothing now of the swarms of picaroons which would infest the West India Islands, and sweep the Gulf of Mexico. People may sit down and smile at the idea of a war, but a war with any nation is an evil, which our government should avert, and which every many who has hope of honest gain, or relish for the enjoyment of what he has acquired, should earnestly deprecate.

Friday, May 2, 1845 RW45v22i35p1c5  938 words.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE UNITED STATES AND ENGLAND – WAR OR PEACE!

We quote from the Globe of Monday an article on the subject of our relations with England in their new phase, which must be regarded as semi-official, and, as such, of much importance.

While the temper of the article is displayed in milder and less minatory language than is usual with that organ, its willingness to provoke the collision which it affects so much to undervalue, by taunting English sincerity and good faith, and by assailing her lust of conquest, as well as by stimulating the prejudices and exasperating the inherent suspicions of the American People towards Great Britain, as clearly as in previous and fiercer instances, indicate a wish for hostilities.

Entire and unshrinking firmness in the maintenance of all their just rights, at the hazard of all consequences, the American People expect from this and all other Administrations: But they don not expect of desire, we imagine, that their National dignity should be lowered by an official bullying and menacing tone of language, or the Government of a friendly Power insulted by the repeated disclaimer of belief in its declarations, and by the insinuation of charges against its good faith and pacific purposes, both in the teeth of those declarations and in the absence of all proof to invalidate them!

This was the taste of the Tylerian and Calhoun Dynasty and of the Gloke, until we find in this its article of Monday, which we are reviewing, rather less of gasconade and rather more of moderation.

But it is replete still with statements calculated, if not intended, to mislead, to exasperate bad feeling in both Countries, and to multiply the chances of War, an evil which every good citizen and man aught to reject until national honor imperiously demands it. Let us look at some of the statements:

1. The Globe says –

"ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES! – The President of the United States, in whose hands the Constitution reposes the treaty making power, having, in his inaugural address to his constituents, designated the course which he should pursue in the negotiations respecting Oregon, is met on the part of the British Government by a declaration in Parliament that they are prepared for hostilities. The pledge of the American President that the faith of treaties shall be preserved, is replied to by a menace of war. The nations, at the time of this debate, are in the security of peace; their relations in the northwestern wilderness are defined by treaties, which America at least declares must be sacredly observed: the negotiations between the countries for the adjustment of difficulties are not suspended; and in the midst of this state of the diplomatic intercourse, Great Britain attempts to throw the sword into the scale, and decide the balance by the weight of its arms."

Now what is the use of negotiations after Mr. Polk in his Inaugural, announces officially that the British claims to the Oregon were not to be regarded! The British Ministry can look no farther than Mr. Polk, and he says in
advance, he tells them, when the negotiations are yet going on, that England has no claim, or, if any, that it will be disregarded, and that thus the negotiations are a mere farce and mockery! The respect due to the Chief Magistrate of the United States, could not permit England to place any other construction upon his official language than that she has placed, or allow the British Government to suppose that he was simply indulging the taste of some of his countrymen for gasconade! And viewing Mr. Polk’s declaration as substantially terminating pending negotiations, could Great Britain, for self respect, do less than resent that treatment so unusual and cavalier among Nations?

2. It is as the Globe says, “no new doctrine,” that the United States claim Oregon as their own: But, what is meant by Oregon? That is the question! Within certain boundaries, England puts in no claim to Oregon, and expressly conceded that of the United States by the treaty of Ghent. But North of a certain parallel of latitude there lies a vast region which is the true subject of dispute between the two countries, Russia also advancing a claim to a portion. The negotiations related to that and not to the Valley of the Columbia River: those negotiations which the President, as England has good right to conclude from his own official language, means either to break off or to disregard their result.

It seems to use that the Globe is uncandid and seeks to mislead public judgment in not discriminating between Oregon proper and Oregon unknown and unexplored, which is the subject of controversy between the two powers.

3. The charge of intending to "menace" the People of the U. States against the British Ministry by the debate held the other day, and the ridiculous proof brought to sustain it is really unworthy of the official. Sir Robert Peel spoke in such a strain, and Lord John Russell the leader of opposition spoke by concert with the Premier in such another strain! And the Steamer (no doubt the voluntary act of the Captain adopted for commercial purposes) the steamer is kept back a whole day to help Sir Robert and Lord John bully the U. States! This is really "prodigious" and shames Bobadil!

But we are compelled to stop. If war comes however wantonly and unnecessarily all will stand up to it who love their country, as the only mode of carving out an honorable peace: But we do hope that a fair chance will be allowed to cultivate still the friendly relations of the two countries.

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Friday, May 2, 1845 RW45v22i35p1c6  280 words

TEXAS-MISSION TO ENGLAND.

We quote the following article from the New York News of Tuesday, and agree with that Texas print, in the opinion that, if it has guessed truly the object of the Texas Minister’s mission to England, (in [...] it to be ascertain if England will not outbid the U. States,) it is a shabby affair:

"TEXAN SECRETARY OF STATE.

Mr. Ashbel Smith, the Texan Secretary of State, arrived in this city yesterday, and proceeds on to Boston this morning, to embark on Thursday in the steamer for England. It is difficult to imagine any other than one object of such a post haste speed on the part of this functionary, on the way to London – namely to ascertain from England what terms they can get in the way of money for their debt, as the condition of refusing Annexation to the United States. If this is so, according to the general rumor, it is certainly a very indecorous and indecent proceeding, worthy perhaps of some [...] politicians about the Government of Texas, anxious mainly about scrip and place; but it is not one likely to find favor with the people of that country, whom all account concur in representing as enthusiastic in favor of their long cherished hope of coming into our Union. If such is the object of Mr. Ashbel Smith’s extraordinary [...] we have little faith, either in the idea that the English Government would like to venture so far as to irritate the people of the United States, by bribing Texas to defeat a favorite measure of our public policy; or that, if she should do it, the people of Texas would ever tolerate such a transaction."

[MSH]
hostile. The pledge of the American President that the faith of treaties shall be preserved, is replied to by a menace of war. The nations, at the time of this debate, are in the security of peace; their relations in the
northwestern wilderness are defined by treaties, which America at least declares must be sacredly observed: the negotiations between the countries for the adjustment of difficulties are not suspended; and in the midst of this state of the diplomatic intercourse, Great Britain attempts to throw the sword into the scale, and decide the balance by the weight of its arms.

There is nothing in what has transpired to call for, or palliate, at this time, the excitement in the British Parliament. That America holds the country of the Oregon to be her own, is no new doctrine. She first discovered the Columbia at its mouth, and first discovered its source; Spain relinquished its claim to her; her citizens took possession of it; Great Britain itself, in the hour of returning peace, restored American jurisdiction on its bank; American statesmen have never breathed a doubt of the justice of our claim; successive administrations have asserted it; the people have confirmed it; the American Senate has passed upon it; the House of National Representatives has maintained it; and now, of a sudden, the British government assumes to be angry, seeks to insulate the new administration from Congress and from the people, and to overawe the President in the discharge of his constitutional powers, by a threat of resorting to war.

The theatrical preparations by which the menace was attended – the evidently concerted speeches – the distribution of parts between the rashness of Lord John Russell and the greater caution of the Premier – the keeping back of the steamer a day for the purpose of taking over the debate – all seem to show that the scene was designed as an experiment on the nerves of the administration. In this point of view it is ludicrous. The day had gone by when a menace of war on the part of England could away a negotiation with the United States.

But England cannot be serious in her menace. Her manufacturers must leave their mills idle, unless America supplies them with cotton. Her merchants know their ships must fall a prey to American privateers, that would not leave a sea unvisited. Her success, too, would be fruitless; for if she took Oregon as a wilderness, she would conquer but rocks and forests, and the privilege of garrisoning a solitude; and if she should attempt to form a colony there, the colonists, whosoever they come, will insist on governing themselves. Nor is this all. The oppressed [...] in England would not tolerate war with America. A war between Great Britain and the United States would be the signal of a strife throughout Christendom of the old aristocracies with the millions. Neither Sir Robert Peel, nor France, nor Russia, nor any of the monarchies or aristocracies of Europe, can wish to see that war begun. America does not wish it; for, having faith in the principles of freedom, she has never been a propagandist, but is willing to await the quiet influence of truth, and the amelioration of society by the gradual and certain progress of civilization.

If the menace is designed to produce an effect on the re annexation of Texas, by intimidating its people, the duty of American government is too obvious to be mistaken. Texas must be more and more earnestly welcomed to a participation in our confederacy; and her citizens must be made to feel that they are invited on terms the most liberal, not so much to common danger as to the boundless benefits that are to spring perennially from union.

Or is the menace of Great Britain seriously intended? – The United States of America, under the blessed influence of democratic institutions, are rapidly developing their resources, and exciting the envy of powers whose laws and constitution are less favorable to freedom. Would Great Britain seek, by force of arms, to arrest that progress which is the admiration of the world, ought to be a source of delight to every friend to his race? The attempt would prove a vain one. The expansive power of popular freedom cannot be restrained. The tides of the Pacific might as well be arrested, as the progress of American principles beyond the mountains. Nothing can stay their advance but the waters of the great ocean. If England is serious in her menaces, we are well warranted in believing that the administration will assert, and inflexibly maintain, the position assumed by the President in his inaugural address to his constituents.

If England looks to war as one of the means of attaining the gratification of her ambition, how admirable is the contrast afforded by America! Our policy is peace. We seek no government over men but through their free consent. The genius of our institutions forbids conquests – If provinces were to be reduced, our system provides no method of governing the unwilling. Thus the contrast between America and England becomes here, as everywhere, a contrast of principles. The menace of arms on the one side is met by the irresistible elements of peaceful progress on the other.

It is common to say that England is well prepared for war, and that America is not. It is no doubt true that the immediately disposable naval and military force of Great Britain is far greater than our own. But this by no means proves relative weakness. England has gained her greatness by scattered conquests in every party of the world, and holds it by the power of arms: America is compact; its territory all contiguous; its greatness the result of a system, which sprang from the free choice of the people, and which is maintained by the consent. It has no acquisitions to make by arms, and none to defend by arms. Her States are bound together by their own choice. She has no motive to injure others; she has no desire to ravage the coast of England, or burn its commercial towns, or deface its [...], or with semi-barbarous passion, destroy its public buildings. Governing herself by free consent, and having no motive to restrain, or limit, or impair, the prosperity of other nations, she has no need of a vast standing army, or of a navy like that of England. But when the question comes as to which has the most considerable disposable force to occupy the country of the Oregon, we think the Great West must be summoned to connect. The people of the Mississippi valley must make answer. The bands of emigrants bearing the axe and rifle, the men trained in republican feeling, and made still more impatient of authority by their [...] on the frontier, - these form the strength of America. They are indomitable in spirit, and unapproachable by their distance. Against them the fleets and armies of England are powerless. Let Sir Robert Peel attempt to plant himself in the gaps of the Rocky mountains, and intercept them in the passes. He might as well attempt to stop the Columbia itself. The combined Powers of all Europe would tail in an attempt to set bounds to their progress. That progress is to be self-
circumscribed by the respect for right and the sacred regard of America for the inviolability of treaties.

The Administration may, then, safely assume that England cannot permanently occupy any part of the American wilderness, but by the consent of America itself. If England chooses to interrupt negotiations, the crisis must be met; if negotiations continue, the Administration can know but one rule—“TO DEMAND NOTHING BUT WHAT IS RIGHT, AND TO SUBMIT TO NOTHING THAT IS WRONG!” Let the people support the President with union, and a sentiment of nationality, and no foreign Power will adventure an aggression.

[MSH]

Friday, May 2, 1845 RW45v22i35p2c5  912 words

"RE-ANNEXATION?"

The following broadly satirical article from the London Punch. We ask those who are so clamorous for "immediate annexation" to read and ponder upon it, and then tell us candidly whether there is not more in it than "meets the eye." Whether it does not comport with the facts in relation to this Texas movement—a movement conceived in political corruption, prosecuted for gain, and consummated by an outrage of the Constitution. It is worthy also of the perusal of those Whigs, who, knowing that this Texas plot has succeeded in blasting the hopes of the patriot by robbing our country of the services of one of the greatest Statesmen the world ever saw, still give their countenance to the advocates of Annexation by Joint Resolution.

"John Polk was put to the bar changed with robbing the Mexican minister of a favorite dog, named Texas. The circumstances of the case Don Bernardo Murphy stated to be simply these:—

Some months since, John Polk sold his Excellency the dog, (a very large animal, spotted black and white, that used to run under his carriage,) subsequently a fellow, by the name of Houston, a countryman of Polk’s, who had been in his Excellency’s service, absconded with the dog, and he had that day seen it at Greenwich Fair, whither he had gone in company with Chevalier Bunsen. The animal was tied to a wan, belonging to the prisoner, and from which he was [...] to the company at the fair.

Policeman, X.21 said—Please your Worship, there has been more picking of pockets around that ere psalm-singing wan, than in any part of the fair.

Mr. Aberdeen. — Silence, Policeman. What has that to do with the complaint?

The Mexican Minister continued, in a very agitated manner, "I instantly recognized my dog, and gave the scoundrel yonder in charge to a policeman."

"Scoundrel!" the prisoner cried, (a very sanctimonious looking fellow, who held the dog in his arms) — "Am I in a Christian land, to hear myself called by such names? Are we men? Are we brethren? Have we blessings and privileges, or have we not? I come of a country the most enlightened, the most religious, the most freest, honestest, punctuallest, on this airth, I do."

Mr. Aberdeen (with a profound bow.) You are an American, I suppose?

Polk. — I thank a gracious mussay I am! I can appeal to every thing that is holy, and, laying my hand on my heart, declare I am an honest man. I acorn the accusation that I stole the complainant’s dog. The dog is my dog—mine by the laws of heaven, airth, right, mature, and possession.

Don Bernardo Murphy, very much agitated, here cried out—How yours? I can swear to the animal. I bought him of you.

Polk — You did. It’s as true as I’m a free-born man.

Don Bernardo — A man who has an old servant of yours comes into my service and steals the dog.

Polk — A blesseder truth you never told.

Don Bernardo — And I find the animal now again in your possession.

Polk (cuddling the dog.) — Yes, my old dog – yes, my old Texas, it did like to come back to its old master, it did!

Don Bernardo (in a fury) — I ask your worship isn’t this too monstrous?

Mr. Aberdeen. — Your Excellency will permit me to observe that we have not yet heard of Mr. Polk’s defence.
- In a British court justice must be shown, and no favour.

Polk. – I scorn a defence. The dog returned to me by alor of nature. If I sold the dog, and by the irresistible attraction of cohesion, and the eternal order of things, he comes back to me – am I to blame? It’s monstrous, heinous, regular blasphemy to say so.

Mr. Aberdeen appeared deeply struck by the latter observation.

Polk (continued) – I didn’t steal the animal. Steal! – Is a man of my character to be called a thief? I re-annexed him – that’s all. Besides, what jurisdiction has there here court? What authority has any court on airth in a question purely American? My bargain with Don Bernardo Murphy took place our of this country – the dog came back to me thousands of miles away herefrom.

Mr. Aberdeen. – In that case, I really must dismiss the complaint. Allow me to state my opinion, Mr. Polk, that the dog is yours; I have no business to inquire into questions of annexation as you call it, or of robbery as his Excellency here (very rudely, I must think,) entitles your bargain. I entreat rather that gentlemen so respectable should live together in harmony; and – and, I wish you both a very good morning.

Mr. Polk then left the office whistling to his dog, and making signs of contempt at Don Bernardo Murphy, who slunk away in a cab. He had not been gone an hour when Policeman X 21 came into the office and said, "Please your Worship, the Yankee annexed your Worship’s Canadian walking-stick in the passage."

Mr. Aberdeen [sternly] – Mind your own business, fellow. Mr. Polk is perfectly welcome to that stick.

Presently another member of the force [O’Ragan by name] entered and swore the incorrigible Polk had stolen his beaver had.

Mr. Aberdeen [good humoredly.] – Well, well, I dare say the hat wasn’t worth twopence halfpenny: and it’s better to lose it than to squabble about it at law.

O’Ragan left the court grumbling, and said it wasn’t so in Temple’s time.

[MSH]

Friday, May 2, 1845 RW45v22I35p4c2  547 words

UNTITLED.

If the paragraphs in the Mexican Diarie [government journal] which we referred to yesterday, intimating that certain "warlike governments" were on foot, not predent to disclose, but the successful issue of which was speedily expected to transpire, have any significancy at all – are not mere gammon for amusement and edification of the belligerent spirit rampant in Mexico – they must forbo de either reprisals on American citizens resident in Mexico, after the fashion suggested by the Courrier des Etats Unis, or a demonstration to be attempted on some exposed quarter of Texas. If the former, of course Mexico will have it, for the time being, all her own way; but she will be guilty of an unprecedented and unwarranted outrage on private individuals, which will call for and bring upon her summary and signal retribution from the government. If it is against Texas that a movement is proposed to be made, the Mexican arms will not probably achieve so complete a triumph as in the other case; but they will still be committing an offence against the United States, that will call, not perhaps for reprisals, but certainly for resistance. The United States have assumed towards Texas a position that will not permit an attack to me made on her from any quarter, without regarding it as an attempt on their territories absolutely in possession, and more especially if the attack were made, as in the present instance would be the case, in consequence of measures which this country had taken. We could not of course, first provoke an assault against Texas and then leave her to battle it out herself. Moreover, good policy as well as good faith would require us to protect her.

We are inclined to the opinion, however, that the Mexican journalist, in his mysterious giving out, though he chooses to employ the phraseology of war, is rather foreshadowing some great feat which he expects to be accomplished in the diplomatic way, than any actual demonstration of force. We come to this conclusion the more readily from noticing the alacrity of movement continued to be displayed by Her Britanic Majesty’s naval express between Galveston and Vera Cruz. It is impossible that those dispatches are coming to and fro without some object; and we cannot imagine any sufficient object, unless the Mexican Government, through the intervention of the British Minister, is making final a final effort to forestall the action of the United States, by negotiations with Texas; and, of course, to such a purpose, any warlike movements against either Texas or this country would be fatal. We take it, therefore, what it was with an account of the successful result of some trick of diplomacy that the DIARIE hoped to electrify its readers, rather than with any remarkable achievement of Mexican valor. In either case, however, the course of this country is plain. Whether the assault on Texas, during our present relations with her, be by predatory bands of Mexicans, or by the diplomatic chance of Great Britain, in either case, good faith, second policy, self respect and self preservation, would all require the prompt intervention of the United States. In either case, indeed, though Texas were made the field, the United States would be the real object of the attack. – N. O. Com. Bulletin. [MSH]
SPECIAL MINISTER TO ENGLAND.

A rumour is in circulation, that it is the intention of the Administration to send a special Embassador to England to negotiate the Oregon difficulty. The "U.S. Journal," the organ of one wing of the Democracy, strongly urges the appointment of Mr. Calhoun, pledging its "word for it, that he would not refuse to serve his country at the hour of her need."

But the New York papers have rumour of the probably appointment of a very different personage – ex. President Van Buren. This latter report, on every account, we take to be the most more probable one.

We copy from the N.Y. Commercial:

"A BIG RUMOR. – It has been whispered in Wall street this (Wednesday) morning and yesterday, that the result of the President’s deliberations with his Cabinet, on the Oregon question was a determination to follow the example of the British Government on the Maine boundary affair, and send a special Minister to London. Even the Minister has been named – Mr. Van Buren – and we have heard also, in this connexion, the name of another distinguished leader in the Democratic party. We have not been able to trace the rumor to any authentic source, and it is very possible that I has no other foundation than the sources [...] which are always generated in the preeinetos of political gossip, when the [...] of men are strongly fastened upon any public questions of importance.

There are some considerations, indeed, which bear against it – foremost among which may be mentioned the belief prevalent among all discreet, judicious, and well-informed men, that there is no probability of war, as a result of the Oregon dispute – that the question, in fact, is not one very difficult to adjust by the ordinary means of negotiation. As we have said before, there is a vast deal of foolish and ill-considered talk afloat on this subject, as there was in reference to the Maine boundary, which will also be remembered hereafter as talk, and nothing more.

But, on the other hand, there are some considerations which have a bearing the other way. Mr. Polk may justifiable desire to gain for his administration the renown of bringing this vexed question a settlement – although he may not care or wish to have, if the only glory of his four years in power, as the adjustment of the Maine boundary was of Mr. Tyler’s. It would not be ungraceful, either, to reciprocate the compliment paid to the Union by the British Government in making the preffer of a special mission; and we can imagine a variety of reasons which might influence the President to make a tender of the honorable task to Mr. Van Buren.

For instance the selection of an ex-President would be though very complimentary in England – of a man who had filled the highest office knows in our political system, who is looked upon by the mass of the English people as a sort of retired King. Moreover, Mr. Van Buren was personally very popular among the English aristocracy, and especially among the Conservatives, who were in power when he was there, as they are now; and his position of ex-President may be supposed to place him beyond the ordinary influences of party, and entitle him to act and be considered as the representative of the whole country.

Whether he would accept such a mission may be doubted: but that doubt would not probably have much influence toward withholding the offer of it by Mr. Polk. On the whole, therefore, we are of the opinion that much stranger things have happened than the ultimate verification of the rumor.

Touching the other distinguished gentleman whose name has been mentioned, we presume that there are insuperable difficulties in the way of his present appointment to such a mission; but those difficulties may cease to exist before the times comes when it would be necessary to consummate the arrangement."

"YOUNG AMERICA!"

The Washington "U.S. Journal", edited by Messrs. Dow & Fisk, which says that no political journal was ever commenced under more favorable circumstances, and that in six months it will have the largest circulation of any paper in this country, manifests a spirit, which threatens to disturb the calm which Old Huckerdom fancies is to brood for year over parties in this Republic. To possess our readers of the temper of this party, which promises to
THE GREAT QUESTION OF THE DAY

The new organ of the Administration comes freighted with dissertations on the vexed and momentous question, which has arisen between this country and England, touching the Oregon Territory. The leading article, evidently not from the pen of the editor, but, in all probability, from the State Department, breathes a better spirit, than has been wont to animate the editorials in the same paper on our Foreign Relations. The most important feature in it, is the assertion that Mr. Polk’s declaration that “the claim of the United States to Oregon is unquestionable,” does not close the door to negotiation, as interpreted, and very naturally, by the members of the British Parliament, and was not so designed. Such a declaration, it is argued, is mere brutum fulmn, coming from an American President, who holds not in his hands the power of peace or war; but the case would be very different, if the same assertion were made by the British sovereign, who can, without the intervention of another branch of the Government, declare and wage war.

The “Union” says:

A British sovereign possessed himself ample powers to protect his subjects in such a case, without reference to another branch of the government, much less to the people. He can terminate the existing convention with regard to Oregon, by a letter from his foreign office to his minister at Washington; and can cause the country to be occupied, and forts to be erected in it, by another letter from his admiralty to the commander of his naval forces in the Pacific, or from his colonial secretary to his governor general in Canada. He has therefore no need, and certainly no desire, to introduce the subject in a message to Parliament; and when legislative action becomes necessary, his ministers are in both Houses to make the necessary arrangements and procure the requisite number of votes in their own way. A President of the United States is in a different position; he can take none of these steps until authorized to do so by Congress, which is itself dependent upon the popular voice. His assertion “that the claim of the United States to Oregon is unquestionable,” means only that he will exert his influence in maintaining and establishing it. From a British sovereign, the same assertion would announce to the world his determination to employ his power for the benefit of his kingdom. It demands the immediate annexation of Texas at any and every hazard. It will plant its right foot upon the northern verge of Oregon, and its left upon the Atlantic crag, and waving the stars and stripes in the face of the once proud Mistress of the Ocean, bid her, if she dare, "Cry havoc, And let slip the dogs of war.”

Already the mountains and vallies, the towns and cities of this great nation, have caught the glad tidings from every breeze. The depressed and the rejected have been called from exile. The dry bones of the valley have been breathed upon as with fire, and the old skeleton’s have gone forth clothed in beauty of youth, and filled with the spirit of manhood. It is destined to expose false theories and extend the principles of truth and virtue. It will change the moral condition of man and the physical aspect of things. God save Young America.

[MSH]

Tuesday, May 6, 1845 RW45v22i36p1c4  2,382 words.
their sense of it. He does so openly; and if he enlightens other parties as to his views, they have no right to complain of it. Offensive language is of course not to be employed by a public functionary on any occasion; but the President may assert what he conceives to be the right if his nation in terms of strength proportioned to the importance of the subject and the profundity of his conviction.

The President of the United States emanates from the bosom of the people. He is their trustee. He has no hereditary pretensions to the seat which he occupies. He has no powers which the constitution does not confer upon him. He must administer those powers, not for this own benefit, nor his own honor, but for the good of his country, to which he is responsible. It becomes his duty therefore, at all times, whilst communicating with the people themselves, in his inaugural address, or in his messages to their representatives in Congress, to speak in frank, clear language, in relation to the common rights and interests of a free people. Whilst he takes care, in performing this duty, to give no unnecessary offence to foreign States, he is bound to speak, plainly, and to assert, in the clearest and strongest terms, the rights of his nation. In his diplomatic intercourse with foreign nations, he will seek to guide his course by his conceptions of the rights of his country, and to carry out, as far as possible, the views which he has formed. It depends upon his own discretion to decide what course he shall pursue in the conduct of foreign negotiation. It will remain for Great Britain to decide how far she will assume the responsibility of defeating a wise and amicable negotiation, by making demands which are extrava
ggant in themselves, and well calculated to prevent a most desirable adjustment of our differences.

It is also a problem worthy of Sir Ro. Peel’s and Lord Aberdeen’s consideration, whether they, who profess to object to Mr. Polk’s declarations to his countrymen in his inaugural address, should, in their places in Parliament, adopt a style of speaking which is equally exclusive, and strongly marked with a “blustering” spirit of intimidation. In other words, whether it is respectful to the Government of the United States for Sir Robert Peel to declare, in the House of Commons, “That we consider we have rights in respect of the territory of Oregon which are clear and unquestionable; that we trust still to effect an amicable adjustment of these claims; that we desire to effect that adjustment; but, having exhausted every effort to effect that arrangement, if our rights are invaded, we are resolved, and are prepared to maintain them.”

And it well becomes Lord Aberdeen to consider whether he can fairly reconcile his criticism on our President’s language with the spirit of his own declaration in the House of Lords: “Should it be otherwise, I can only say that we possess rights which, in our opinion, are clear and unquestionable; and, by the blessing of God, and with your support, those rights we are fully prepared to maintain.”

Mr. Polk has thrown out no threat. He asserts the rights of his own country without any blustering or bravado. We leave it to an impartial world to decide which conduct best becomes the executive agents of a great country.

In conclusion, we must repeat our opinion that this debate in Parliament is to be regarded only as the result of a pre-arranged attempt by Lord Palmerston and his friends to embarrass the ministry. Lord Aberdeen doubtless anticipated it, and being uncertain how it might end, he retained the steamer one day, in order that he might fashion his instructions to Mr. Pakenham according to circumstances. A close examination of the principal London newspapers, we moreover repeat, leads us to the belief that very little real excitement was produced in the House of Commons, (among the lords non is ever expected;) and that the whole matter has been, are this, dropped for the season. At the same time, however, it would be unwise to suppose the existence of anything like apathy on the part of a government so watchful and energetic as that of Great Britain; of that silence in London is incompatible with activity in Canada and on the north Pacific.”

It is in our view of very little consequence whether the distinction here sought to be drawn between the executives of the two countries, be well founded or not. The important matter is the concession, that Mr. Polk’s blustering speech from the Throne was not intended to arrest the progress of the negotiation. We have no idea that War could be the result of such a question between two countries so strongly allied by blood and by interest, unless by the most bungling diplomacy. We know the vast numbers, which war per se enlists at all times and in all countries. – All who are connected with the army and navy are prima facie its advocates – because it opens the grand road to promotion; and all those, who are as badly off as they can be, and cannot be worsted – a mighty host in every densely populated country – are the natural supporters of war, convulsion and change. But in spite of this great phalanx in both countries, eager for the conflict, we cannot doubt, that the cause of humanity, civilization and liberty – so intimately dependant on Britain and this Republic, will triumph, and the great curse of war will be postponed to a day far distant!

Our belief, that the braggart tone of Mr. Polk had been assumed to subserve the ends of the Demagogue and to impress his Democratic supporters with the idea that he is a fire-eater, is strengthened by the tone of other articles in the Executive organ. One of them, the authorship of which cannot be mistaken by any one who ever heard the original remark touching the incapacity of the Bourbons for learning of forgetting anything, or the not less characteristic one in regard to the number of swallows which it takes to make a summer, proves that the design of the Administration is to agitate the Oregon question, just as the Texas question was agitated, for the purpose of playing upon the popular popularity, and profiting by the passion for territorial aggrandizement, which pervades the entire Anglo-Saxon race. – War is not the object of these interested patriots – but party – party capital and the spoils – and to retain these they would not scruple to sport with the highest interests of the Republic and subject it to the direct calamities which can afflict nations.

We subjoin the article from the “Union” – which by substituting Texas for Oregon, may be found in the Richmond Enquirer of last year:
A CAUTION TO THE WHIG PARTY.

We appeal to the whigs, by their regard to their own party interests, and by the still higher motives of country, not to convert this rising question of Oregon into a party measure. They must see now – or, like the Bourbons, "they learn nothing and forget nothing" – that the unfortunate blunder of Mr. Clay and his friends about Texas has contributed more to their defeat, than any error of his whole life. Will they remain blind in spite of experience? or will they again attempt to make party capital out of a miserable opposition to the true interests of their country? They were shipwrecked on the question of Texas. Will they expose themselves to similar destruction on the great measure of Oregon? If they commit a second egregious blunder of this description, they would be better fitted to fill a cell in bedlam, than the executive chair of this great republic.

But if we had the pleasure of expressing our sentiments freely to Mr. Pakenham, we would advise him not to mistake every idle expression of a Whig journal for even the voice of the Whig party, much less for the voice of the nation. It is not every swallow that makes the summer. We make this suggestion in consequence of the idle clamor of a few of the Whig presses, such as the following from the "Portland Advertiser:"

"Whatever may come out of other questions, there will be no war about Oregon. Mr. Polk will not fight for Oregon. He has no idea of any such thing. He could not be kicked into a war with England, about Oregon, or any other issue now between us. What he said in his inaugural was mere clap trap. It is upon the inferior level of a common partisan letter, such as Mr. Polk wrote in April last about Texas. 'Let Texas be re-annexed,' 'Oregon is ours' – these are the phrases, not of a Statesman, impelled by a public necessity to raise critical and vital issues, but of a mere partisan leader, who is flush of his talk, but will take good care to keep the peace. How can it be supposed that the Polk party going to war for Oregon, when the Polk majority of the Legislature of Maine, under the auspices of Mr. Ebenezer Otis and Mr. Elbridge Gerry, undertake to pass and have passed very warlike resolutions about Oregon, while, by their own showing, they are totally ignorant of the latitude of the American claim?"

Such was the language which was employed in 1811 by the federal party. They then said that Mr. Madison "could not be kicked into a war," and England was misled and encouraged to continue her aggressions upon our commerce and our seamen. And what was the result? That Mr. Madison, amiable as he was in all his relations, and as great a "friend of peace" as the Indian Logan himself, was impelled by the wrongs of his country into a recommendation of war. We are sure we need not remind the British Minister of the results of that war. The whole transaction is written in lines of glory for our country. We will not say in what manner it terminated for the British arms. The same blunder at the present time, will terminate in the same results.

The "Portland Advertiser" is more ignorant of Mr. Polk's disposition than the federalists of 1811 were unacquainted with Mr. Madison's character. Mr. Polk, as a wise statesman ought to be, is "the friend of peace" but still more the friend of the rights and honor of his country. The republican party sympathize with his sentiments, and it is to be hoped the great body of the whigs will see their true interest in the same spirit. The President is, withal, a firm man. He was called the "Little Hickory" during the late campaign; and he deserves the distinction, for he has the spirit of "Old Hickory" in him. He will never sacrifice the honor of his country to any idle apprehensions of war or, we beg leave to say, the still more idle declarations of the statesmen of England, in the midst of the imperial Parliament! Let not, then, the peace of two great people like those of England and the United States, be disturbed by any factions declarations of any of the Whigs present."

Tuesday, May 6, 1845 RW45v22i36p1c6  35 words.

MINISTER TO ENGLAND

It is announced in the Washington Union, that the Mission to England had been tendered to Mr. Pickens of S. C.

The same paper discredits the report of Mr. Van Buren's appointment, as a Special Ambassador.

Tuesday, May 6, 1845 RW45v22i36p1c7  71 words.

F. H. ELMORE

We learn (says the Columbia Chronicle) that Col. Elmore has declined the appointment of Minister to England, tendered him by President Polk. In these selfish days, when corruption and intrigue are restored for the purpose of obtaining place and power – and by those too who consider themselves the magistrates of the land – it is quite refreshing to meet one man who is unambitious enough to decline office and employment. – [Charleston Courier].

[MSH]
DEVELOPMENTAL DEMONSTRATIONS

The Philadelphia papers teem with accounts of a meeting of meetings held in that city last week, to adopt resolutions in favor of warlike measures in support of our claim to the Oregon Territory. It appears that the meeting was disturbed by factions, and by rival competitors for notoriety and effective favor, and after much hubbub, and sundry fist-fights, it was resolved into two separate meetings, with separate officers – each of which, amidst tumult and confusion, adopted resolutions strongly asserting our rights to the Oregon Territory, and very valiantly defying the British lion. That the reader may be able the better to decide how much weight should be attached to such popular demonstrations in favor of war, we subjoin sketches of the proceedings of the meeting from both Whig and Democratic papers.

We are not at all surprised at the warlike outgivings of the fierce Democracies. “The cankers of a calm world and a long peace,” that now so greatly abound in all our large cities, and in a manner hang upon the skies of the Locofoco party every where where are, as a matter of course, the advocates of confusion, change and revolution. They cannot be worsted: They bear not the burnt of battle, and supply not the sinews of war. They are therefore the willing and eager aiders and abettors in all measure and systems of policy which tend to unsettle the existing order of things and produce convulsions. In this they but exhibit the same spirit, which has ever animated men similarly situated. They envy the good, and abhor all who, by a life of industry and virtue, have amassed fortunes, and obeyed the Scriptural injunction of providing for their households. Like their predecessors of the Jacobin Club in France, they crave change, and they are indifferent about the means of gratifying their wishes. Indeed, we have witnessed in American Locofocoism, [in a form to be sure somewhat modified by circumstances,] the same spirit of restlessness and of envy at the ascendency of superior merit, and the same fell purpose of leveling all above them, which characterized the largest French liberty party during the “reign of Terror.” In Paris, it was accounted monstrous and intolerable that one set of men should fare sumptuously every day, while the patriots of the Fauxbourg St. Antoine were perishing of hunger. The rich were consequently condemned to the guillotine, and their property disturbed among the “virtuous poor”! In New York, we have seen flour stores mobbed, on the same high and holy principle of justice and equality, and their contents scattered among the suffering patriots of the “Five Points”! In Paris, to wear fresh linens or ride in a carriage was tantamount to a confession of aristocracy and incivility, and consigned the unfortunate man guilty of it to a prison, where he was speedily septembrised. Here, a like indiscretion and violation of the cardinal principles of Locofoco cleanliness and equality, incurs an equal odium in the forum of Locofoco public opinion; and, time and opportunity concurring, would subject the delinquent to a like penalty. It is recorded, that the “largest liberty” men in Paris waited impatiently, without food or refreshment of any kind, from sunrise to sunset, to see the venerable Marquis de Favas led to execution. He was the first noble who was brought to the guillotine, and while his death established their great principle of equality in all things – in life and in death – it soothed their vanity and appeased their envy to see one of illustrious birth reduced to the same ignominious punishment which was accorded to the vilest malefactor; and they accompanied him to the scaffold with wild howlings and shouts of joy. The same species of savage exultation. Unrivalled excellence – the greatest and most meritorious man of the age had been humbled! Their self-love was thereby saved from a wound – their envy and malice, and hatred of everything great, was gratified and soothed!

As we are not surprised, neither do we regret to see these disorganizing demonstrations by the Democrats of Philadelphia. They are premature, and they will recoil upon the heads of those who have conceived them: They will tend to excite a timely apprehension in the bosom of all conservatives in the Union, under whatever party designation they may be found; and lead them to band together to preserve order and public liberty. The Destructive and levelers as yet constitute but a small portion of our population. A large portion of the Democratic party are essentially conservative – i.e. they are content with the regulated freedom which the patriots of the Revolution achieved for us, and are only desirous of preserving, in their purity, the institutions which those great men bequeathed us! All who are of this way of thinking will take the alarm at the leveling, disorganizing, and destructive projects which American Jacobinism is attempting to introduce into this country, and they, as wise men and patriots, will co-operate with those who think with them, and will rally cordially to the support of the institutions derived from our revolutionary fathers. In this way, and by this means, conservatism and destructiveness will become the test and the dividing lines of party.

But, to the warlike demonstrations, and the grave deliberation, which characterized them:

From the Philadelphia Post.

THE "WAR MEETING!"

THE BATTLE FOUGHT! – VICTORY WON!! – PEACE RESTORED!!

Who will now dare to dispute the claim of the U.S. to Oregon, Texas, or indeed, (if we may judge from the boasts of the speakers at the meeting yesterday afternoon,) to the whole of this continent, should the Administration demand it? But our present object is not to interrogate – it is to terrify the Britons and Mexicans by recording the proceedings of the meeting alluded to, and in doing so, we shall speak only of what was really done and said. Would
that our memory would enable us to tell the whole truth on this occasion; but it will not, and we are of opinion that those even who conducted the meeting, will find it impossible to tell half that was done.

Most of our readers are probably aware that for several days a call for a "war meeting" (as it may be denominated,) had appeared in all the locofoco papers of this city: but doubtless very few have heard that at a preliminary gathering on Wednesday evening, after a row characteristic of the "harmonious democracy," the old Hunkers retired and the "Young Democracy" elected officers for the meeting to be held on the following (yesterday) afternoon, in Independence Square. The "Hon. Thomas M'Cully" was to be chairman. The old Hunkers who retired, were in favor of placing in the chair the Hon. Charles Jared Ingersoll.

Well at four o'clock, P.M., on the 1st day of May, A.D. 1845, the drizzling rain with which our city was visited at that hour did not prevent several hundreds of both factions of the "unterrified Democracy" from wending their way to Independence Square, for the purpose of veining with each other in their manifestations of patriotism, and of hurling defiance at Great Britain.

Many Whigs were present to enjoy the anticipated sport. At the appointed hour a rush was made for the stand, which was soon taken possession of by the representatives of both the "Old Hunkers" and the "Young Democracy" – the former led on by the valiant Col. Lee, and the latter by Benjamin H. Brewster, Esq., Attorney at Law, etc, etc. Immediately, amid huzzas, hisses, and groans, some sort of a motion was made by somebody; but whether or not it was carried, we were unable to decide! Soon some person on the stand moved Benjamin H. Brewster, Esq., off of it! – He, however, regained his position [...] and commenced talking, (at least so we inferred from the movement of his lips and hands, for the confusion prevented us from hearing him.) Col. Lee, who had been for some time jostled about by the crowd on the stand while he was attempting to make his voice heard, now mounted a chair or bench and shouted louder than before – the gamblers and bullied on the stand, who considered it their duty to back their respective friends swore outrageously – Mr. Brewer, assisted by Mr. M'Cully, attempted to read some resolutions, or something else, and at last Col. Lee was very suddenly removed from the stand to the ground! He, also soon regained his position, and a disgraceful conflict ensued, [which to the credit of the audience be it said, was confined exclusively to those on the stand.]

After this scene, Judge Barton made his appearance, but the belligerents would not be quieted. Their voices were "still for war!" Fight they must – if for nothing else than to show the subjects of Queen Victoria if any of them were present, how they would be treated should the British Government persist in asserting her claims to Oregon – and fight they did! The only serious injury observable after the battle was the destruction of the steps and other conveniences attached to the rostrum.

At about five o'clock, peace was partially restored by the division of the audience – the old Hunkers taking a position west of the rostrum, and the young Democracy, east. A meeting of those on the west side was then organized – resolutions were adopted, and addresses were delivered by Col. Page, Col. Lee, Wm. D. Kelly, Esq., and another individual whom very few seemed to know or care anything else.

All the speeches were made and resolutions adopted amidst alternate cheers, hisses, and groans and therefore we were not able to hear much that was said. What we did hear, however, was sufficient to convince us that although the speakers – including the two Colonels – were bravely defying Great Britain to maintain vi et armis her asserted rights, they would prefer an office under the present Administration to a commission in the Army, should a war ensue. The meeting finally adjourned – those on the stand jumped off, and all departed, leaving the owner of the stand to decide the question, which he considered most important, who broke the steps?

To be serious, this was the most disgraceful scene we ever witness in this city. We doubt whether the walls of Tammany Hall could, were they possessed of vocal power, speak of transactions so disgusting and outrageous as were witness by un in Independence Square yesterday afternoon. We looked with indifference upon the quarrel, because it was a family affair altogether, and it was of little consequence to us which faction should triumph; but aside from politics, we must regret that any thing of the kind should have occurred in the city of "Brotherly Love," and in the vicinity of old Independence Hall. However, we are certain that those who are acquainted with the facts, will exonerate the respectable of all parties, by whom the conduct of those who call and conducted the meeting, was condemned. Should England accept the invitation which some of the valiant speakers yesterday seemed disposed to tender her, they would certainly run away! They can talk of war, but they have no idea of risking their precious lives by a conflict in which bullets and bayonets must be introduced!

We said in the outset that we should not attempt to tell the whole truth. Our memory will not serve us, and if it would, we have not space for all the details. One of the speakers took occasion to say, we believe, that the spectacle which had been presented to the audience was humiliating – he felt it to be so – and we think we have said enough to convince our readers that it must be so to all order loving citizens.

Some of the speakers boasted yesterday that they belonged to the truly Democratic, patriotic war party, and were ready at a moment's warning, to march to the battle field and meet the troops of Great Britain face to face. And who, distant reader, do you suppose these very gentlemen wished to preside over their meeting? For whom did they fight so valiantly yesterday? Why, Charles Jared Ingersoll, the man who says he would have been a tory had he lived in the days of the revolution! Who will hereafter doubt their patriotism – who question their motives – or who assert that they are not entitled to the confidence of James K. Polk and Thomas Ritchie?
THE UNITED STATES, TEXAS, AND MEXICO

The Journal of Commerce of Wednesday contains an article, apparently founded on authentic information, in contradiction of some of the statements that have recently been disseminated through the New Orleans press, concerning the movements of Texas on the subject of the pending proposition to incorporate that Republic with the United States.

In regard to the mission to England of Mr. Ashbel Smith, the present Secretary of State for Texas, the Journal argues that it may have in view objects in every way proper and expedient, an entirely distinct from any design to embarrass the measure of annexation; because, even if the Texan Government sincerely desired annexation, and entertained the fall expectation that such would be the issue of the overtures now pending, it would be no more than due to the courtesy heretofore manifested towards Texas by England and France, in the early acknowledgement of her independence, and in many subsequent acts of kindness, to explain to them, in the most respectful manner, the present posture of affairs, the general sentiment of the people, and the probably result; and the Journal maintains that such an explanation would be doubly due, if those Governments procure the acknowledgement of her independence by Mexico, and if they had generously and faithfully exerted themselves for that end.

The Journal then proceeds, on the authority of an intelligent gentleman just from Texas, who has taken a deep interest in the affairs of that country, and in ever practicable way informed himself as to the present state of opinions and acts, to deny that Mr. Smith’s mission is in pursuance of any plan of operations agreed on by the Texan Cabinet, in consultation with the British Minister in Texas, having for is object to put off all action on the Joint Resolution for Annexation until further advices can be hand from England. The present being an important moment for Texas, whatever coarse she may determined to pursue, there is at least a propriety in her having an accredited Minister at the Courts of England and France: and no new man could be so well qualified as Mr. Smith, who has resided at those Courts nearly three years, and been an instrument in all that transpired between those Governments and his own during that period. This is the whole reason why the “Chief Officer of State in Texas” was appointed to the mission in question. There is no evidence that Mr. Smith or the Texan President and Cabinet are opposed to annexation – they having deemed it proper, in the present crisis, to avoid any public declaration of their views on this subject.

The Journal also says it is not true that President Jones has been tampered with by the English and French Ministers, or that he has promised them any delay in submitting the propositions of the United States Government to the Congress of People of Texas. On the contrary, it was well understood that as soon as the President should be formally in possession of the overtures of the Unites States Government, he would submit them directly to the people for their adoption or rejection. Besides the expense of an extra session of Congress, his mind was doubtless influenced by the further consideration that the members were not elected with any special reference to the question of annexation, and that, even if referred to them in the first instance, it must after all go back to the people for final decision.

The Journal further says, it is true that Mexico has offered to acknowledge the independence of Texas, if the latter will renounce forever the idea of annexation to the Unites States. It may, however, be presumed that in proffering such an acknowledgement, Mexico would seek to place the dividing line as far east as possible, and perhaps also require a certain amount of indemnity as a salve for her honor. On each of these points the Texan Government must have a definite understanding with Mexico, before it will be able to judge whether the propositions of the latter is worthy of serious consideration. Such an understanding may possibly be gained through the instrumentality of the British and French Ministers, both of whom decidedly prefer independence to annexation. Should a direct offer of a satisfactory character be made by Mexico, before the question of annexation is submitted to the people, the President may deem it his duty to present both propositions to them simultaneously – viz: Annexation or Independence – that they may choose between them. There is, however, no reasonable doubt of the result. Almost all the Americans, who constitute the great majority of the population, are favorable to annexation.

It is denied that Mr. Donelson, our Charge d’Affaires, was treated with discourtesy or neglect on his recent arrival at the seat of the Texan Government. He arrived on Sunday, and was courteously received by President Jones on the next day, to the entire satisfaction of Mr. D.

It is not true (the Journal continues) that Messrs. Elliot and Saligny, the British and French Ministers, left Texas for the purpose of visiting Washington. [this city] Mr. Elliot had no special object in going to the U. States, other than recreation. Mr. Saligny went only to New Orleans, where he is accustomed to spend the greater part of his time, making occasional visits to Texas as circumstances require.

It is not true that Messrs. Elliot and Saligny visited Texan capital (Washington) immediately on the arrival of the British frigate Euridice with despatches from Vera Cruz. The despatches which induced them to visit Washington were not brought by the Euridice, but came from England and France by way of the west Indies. The despatches by the Euridice met them on their return from Washington to Galveston; and, after opening them and partially reading them, they continued their course to Galveston, and had not again visited Washington.

In conclusion, the Journal expresses its belief that the Texan Government is pursuing an honest, patriotic,
and judicious course; and adds, on the authority before cited, that ten percent duty on imports is sufficient to raise all the revenue necessary to meet the ordinary expenses of Government, and that fifteen per cent would leave a considerable surplus. The actual public debt is between $12,000,000 and $13,000,000; the country is extremely prosperous; business good; the products of the earth abundant; and the currency unquestionable, consisting of gold and silver. – Nat. Int.

Friday, May 9, 1845 RW45v22i37p1c2  39 words

NEWS FROM MEXICO

See the Intelligence of a late date, from the city of Mexico.

The Mexican Congress talk in a bellicose strain. But talking won't do. They must fight, or they must give up all claim to be ranked among nations.

Friday, May 9, 1845 RW45v22i37p1c2  163 words

THE GREAT QUESTION

The Washington Union in commenting on an article in the Intelligencer, signifies more distinctly than it had one, that the Administration back out from the position, which it was understood, Mr. Polk had assumed in his inaugural, touching Oregon. The negotiations is to go on!

The Union says:

"We certainly do not understand that the negotiation about Oregon is at an end; or that our administration is determined or willing to terminate it; or that there is no prospect of amicably adjusting the dispute; or that it must necessarily end in breaking up the peace of two great countries. We see no necessity, therefore, of analyzing the triple alternative, which the National Intelligencer is please to make out in its elaborate article of near one column and a half. We yet trust that "this case may go forward to its peaceful and reason decision;" in spite of all the unnecessary menaces of the British ministers and all the blustering of the London Journals."

Friday, May 9, 1845 RW45v22i37p1c2  140 words

UNTITLED

It is said, that if Mr. Pickens does not accept the mission to England, it will be offered to Mr. Homes of Charleston. Some of Mr. Calhoun's friends is to have it, if any one can be prevailed upon to take it. There may be in this repeated offer of the same post to Mr. Calhoun's friends, and their continued refusal, something more than meets the eye. Is it that the acceptance of it will be construed into a pledge of indiscriminate support of Mr. Polk, by Mr. Calhoun and is Mr. Calhoun shy of giving such a pledge?

It is suggested, that Mr. Pickens is of late more an ostensible than a real friend of Mr. Calhoun. If that be so, it would not be fair to tax Mr. Calhoun for the mission to England bestowed upon Mr. Pickens.

Friday, May 9, 1845 RW45v22i37p1c2  1121 words

LATER FROM MEXICO

From the N. O. Tropic

By the arrival, last evening of the schooner Yucatan, from Vera Cruz, we learn that General Almonte had arrived at that port, where he still remained when the Y. left. We also learn that four American, two Spanish, one English, and on French men of war were lying at Vera Cruz. We did not receive any letters or papers by this arrival, but thanks to the courtesy of our neighbors of the “Bee,” who received full files of Vera Cruz papers to the 21st and
city of Mexico papers to the 17th instant, we are enabled to lay before our readers the following particulars.

The Joint Committee of the Mexican Congress, to which had been referred the subject of Texas, reported at length on the 7th instant. We have no space to devote to a description of the bombastic phraseology of the document, but at once proceed to give the concluding part, as furnished to us by the "Bee." It recommends two projects, as follows:

THE FIRST is preceded by a preamble, declaring that, whereas the United States have resolved to annex the territory of Texas; and, whereas, such a mode of appropriating foreign territory to which other nations lay claim, is a monstrous innovation upon the peace of the world and the sovereignty of other powers; and, whereas, this act had long been in preparation, even while the United States were professing peace and friendship for Mexico, and while the latter respected and observed scrupulously the terms of existing treaties between the two countries; and whereas, the said annexation is a violation of every conservative principle of society, an assault upon the rights of Mexico, an insult to her dignity as a sovereign nation, and menaces her independence and political existence; therefore, the Congress of the Mexican Republic solemnly declares, that the law of the United States for the annexation of Texas to the American Union, in no respect impairs the rights which Mexico possesses, and will maintain to that department.

Furthermore, that the United States having disregarded the principles upon which are based treaties of amity, commerce and navigation, and more especially of boundary, Congress considers them violated by the United States.

The second project, consists of four articles, as follows:

First – The Mexican nation calls upon her sons to defend their national independence, threatened by the usurpation of the territory of Texas, which is sought to be consummated by a decree passed by Congress and sanctioned by the President of the United States.

Second – Therefore the Government will consider itself at liberty to call forth its entire, permanent and active military force, agreeably to the authority given to it by existing laws.

Third – For the preservation of public order, and the maintenance of her institutions, and if necessary, as a reserve for the army, the Government, in virtue of the power granted to it on the 8th of December, 1844, may levy the troops to which said decree refers, under the name of defenders of independence and the laws.

Fourth – With a view to the efficient maintenance of the rights of the republic, the Government, is authorized to procure all extraordinary resources which may be deemed necessary, making known to Congress the necessary steps to be taken, conformably to the constitution.

We do not find any account of any action by the Mexican Congress on the foregoing projects. They have been laid before that body, and that is all we learn respecting them. It is clearly evident that the government and people of Mexico are decidedly disposed to surrender Texas, and the tone of the public journals is exceedingly warlike; still, as long as the Mexicans confine themselves to making reports in Congress and firing broadsides in their newspapers, there does not seem any immediate prospect of hard knocks. To be sure, it had been suggested that Mexico may undertake to annoy us by crippling our commerce in the Gulf, but while there are some of our floating batteries well manned and equipped, in the immediate vicinity of Vera Cruz, there appears to be but a slender chance for the Mexican flag to become distinguished on the high seas.

The agency for the payment of the Mexican debt to Great Britain has been taken from the house of Lizardi, in London, and given to Schneider & Co.

There is not a particle of intelligence about Santa Ana. He appears to be quite forgotten in the prevailing excitement.

We copy from the slip furnished to use by the "Bee," the following account of another earthquake in the city of Mexico on the 10th inst, three days after the former one, and which appears to have been very destructive.

ANOTHER EARTHQUAKE. – Our readers doubtlessly remember the details we published a few days since, of a frightful destructive earthquake which was experienced at Mexico on the 7th inst. We have not to add a reputation of this awful disaster in the Capital on the 10th inst. An examination of the papers has failed to enable us to discover many details of the amount of ruin and desolation occasioned by the convulsion; but from the fact that the journals quite in describing its effects as terrific, we presume the destruction must have been great. The Diario the 11th states that the earthquake occurred about 10 o’clock, A.M., and lasted forty seconds; that it overthrew many new buildings, and many other that had escaped the former violation; that most of the inhabitants, stricken with terror, left their houses, and took refuge in the open fields and public squares, passing the night without shelter and in the utmost consternation. The "Veracruzano" of the 14th instant, states that private letters furnish a gloomy picture of the destruction that has fallen upon Mexico. The "Hesperia" of the 12th states that the earthquake of the 10th complete the destruction of the cupola of Santa Teress, and increased the damage done to the church of Santo Domingo and San Francisco. But for the shortness of its duration, the entire city could have been laid in ruins. Mexico did not suffer alone. The shock was felt in a number of towns and villages within a radius of several hundred
miles. At Puebla, the earthquake was experienced on the 7th about 4 o'clock P.M., but its effects were comparatively light. Several churches were injured, and many private edifices were greatly damaged; though none were absolutely destroyed.

At Acountillo and Talaco the effects of the shocker were more considerable. At Gualalojaro, Morella and Vera Cruz, the earthquake was experienced both on the 7th and 10th; the earthquake was experienced both on the 7th and 10th, but on neither occasion was the business very serious.

TEXAS ANNEXATION

It would seem from the tone of public sentiment in Texas, that this grand project is on the point of consummation, on the terms and conditions of the joint resolutions of our Congress. Well, if it must come, the sooner the better! We only pray, that the evils we dread from it, may never be realized; that no visitations from on High may overtake our hitherto favored land, on account of the rapacious and unjust spirit which prompted the act; that the bands of our glorious Union may not be weakened, but be made more strong, and that rich blessings may be multiplied and showered down upon every portion of our wide spread confederacy.

The New Orleans Bee publishes the following letter from "one of the most influential and respectable citizens of Galveston – the statements of which may be relied upon."

"I am most happy to assure you that the demonstrations throughout the country, have been most unanimous, warm and decided in favor of closing at once with the propositions now before the country without further delay, and apprehensive as many men in different countries were, that our Executive and most of his immediate partisans would do everything they dared to do, to postpone and ultimately defeat the measure, meetings were held in several countries proposing that the people should at once move in the matter, by requesting their respective members of Congress to assemble about the middle of May, to advise and deliberate on the matter. Our President, however, at length issued his proclamation to convene the Congress in June, with which we are content. Although most of us believe it was made so late in order to give the British intriguers time to mature all their plans for its defeat. But as public sentiment is so entirely overwhelming, we are satisfied that there was no chance for the success of their machinations, and consequently acquiesce in the late day fixed by the President rather than throw the country in a state of anarchy and confusion. If there had been the least fear that the enemies of annexation could have succeeded, we should have gotten up a revolution instanter."

FOREIGN NEWS

See the details by the Hibernia. The news is of little interest – and the only feature worthy of notice is the fact, that the apprehension of difficulties in respect to the Oregon question, appears to have subsided. The money and produce markets – which were agitated for a few days pending and after the debate in Parliament, have become quiet and gone up or settled down to the peace establishment.

SANTA FE AND CHIHUAHUA

The Independence (Jackson co.,) Expositor of the 19th says on Wednesday and Thursday we note the arrival at Hansford's Independence House, of Messrs Leitenadorfer, Branham, and twelve or fourteen companions from New Mexico.

In the way of news we have little to communicate. The governmental affairs had remained perfectly quiet up to the 1st of March, the date of their departure. They had not yet received the intelligence of the final defeat and captivity of Santa Anna.

Business had been dull all winter. The non retail law in full force. This law it will be remembered, prohibited the retailing of goods by any, except Mexican subjects.
Mr. Speyre it is said met with further loss between Santa Fe and Chihuahua. One hundred and sixty-five of his mules were run off by the Apache Indians in that portion of the road known as the Jornada del Muerto.

Mr. Owens was expected to reach Santa Fe by the 1st April, and may be looked for here in three or four weeks.

Richard McCarty, Esq., of this place died in Santa Fe in February Ist.

The news of the slaughter of the traders among them by the Yute Indians is verified. It is supposed Antoine Robiboux must have perished, as nothing had been heard from him during the winter.

The yield from the Gold Mines in New Mexico this winter, had been small, owing to dry weather and scarcity of winter. Forty of fifty thousand dollars is the supposed yield. – St. Louis Republican.

Tuesday, May 13, 1845 RW45v22i38p1c1  132 words

TEXAS, IOWA, AND FLORIDA IN THE UNITED STATES

IN THE U.S. SENATE.

It would appear from the following, that the friends of Texas, Iowa, and Florida, are determined to have them in the United States, whether they are willing or not:

“Mr. Dallas’s late visit to Washington was, it appears, to make room in the Senate Chamber, for Texas, Iowa, and Florida. He decide to add another row of seats to the inner circle, in front of the chair. Texas, Iowa, and Florida are there to be accommodated. The sofas outside of the bar, it is further said, will afford room, hereafter, for Wisconsin, Nebraska, and the States hereafter to be carved out of Texas and Oregon”

It will be see that Oregon, when she does come into the confederacy, together with Wisconsin, Nebraska, and perhaps Canada, will all have to take back seats.

June

June 3, 1845, RWv22i44p1c6, From Texas

We are indebted to Captain Hoffman, of the Barque ‘William Ivy,’ from the Matagorda, for the Weekly Dispatch, of that place, of May 3.

It is filled with animated expressions of the public voice in favor of Annexation.

It contains the proceedings of a meeting of the inhabitants of Matagorda county – Seth, lagram, in the chairman and Thomas Harvey, Secretary.

In pursuance of resolutions adopted at a previous meeting, the Representative and Senator in Congress from the county of Matagorda, were appointed Delegates to meet the delegates from the other counties, in convention at the seat of Government, on the 31 Monday in May, in order to adopt such plans as they may deem most proper to obtain the action of the people throughout the Republic on the question of annexation. Among the resolutions adopted by the meeting are the following.

“Resolved. That we have heard with astonishment and indignation of the appointment and embarkation of a Minister from this government to England and France, which, in conjugation with the delay used by they executive, in calling together the Congress is well calculated to excite out distrust in the action of the President.

“Resolved, That delay is useless, as we wish to see no overtures from any government save that of the United States.”

The columns of the Despatch are full of severe but justly merited invective against the president Hones for his unreasonable delay in convoking Congress for the purpose of deliberating on the propositions of out government relative to the admission of Texas into the Union. Mr. Jones received those propositions on the 20th March; his proclamation for the meeting of Congress was only on the 15th April, and he has fixed the day of assembling on the 16th June. The Despatch says: - “The public feeling is forced into its utmost tension to tolerate this delay. This distasteful and nauseating duty has been wrung from him by the united voice of all Texas – he discharged it amid the murmurs of public discontent – we are indebted for it to no lofty impulse nor noble sentiment of patriotism – it is
The Despatch contains also a letter from Mr. Richard Roman, Senator from the Matagorda district, to the Annexation Corresponding Committee, which expresses, says the Despatch, the sentiments of nineteen-twentieths of the people of Western Texas. In this letter Mr. Roman declares that ever since the commencement of the Texan revolution he had "an abiding hope that annexation to the United States was the ultimate destiny of Texas. Such was then, and has over since been the general conviction of the people." He goes on to state that the hope of its consummation was so strong in 1836, that the existing government at that time submitted the question to the people simultaneously with the constitution. The people were unanimously in favor of the plan. He says the present government of Texas was instituted for temporary purposes only. Mr. Roman concludes with expressing a firm resolution to promote the measure of annexation on every occasion – and if it fail, he will think that Texas has struck a blow for liberty in vain, and he will feel the humiliation of defeat.

It is plain that the PEOPLE of Texas, the real people, are full of enthusiasm for the consummation of a measure which they contemplated ever since the battle of San Jacinto, as the reward of their toils in the settlement and defence of the Territory against the Mexicans. It will be an exceedingly dangerous experiment for Mr. Hones and his advisors to undertake by open violence or secret intrigue to disappoint the wishes of the public. Not only will the experiment be dangerous, but it cannot succeed. Its success is impossible. The moment Mr. Hones and his co-intriguers attempt by an open act to counteract the measure, the whole republic will be in a flame – there will be a simultaneous rising of the people from Nacogdoches to the Rio del Norte. Nothing will be able to withstand them – they will demand annexation, rifle in hand – the present government will be abolished, and they will call a convention, who will order the measure to be carried into effect without a moments delay.

The people of Texas were indignant when they heard that president Hones had despatched Ashbel Smith as minister at the courts of Paris and London, for the purpose of completing his private, secret, dirty negotiation, to prevent, if possible, the republic of Texas from joining our confederation. --It turns out that Smith, instead of going to Europe, went to Vera Cruz, and is now in the city of Mexico, with Elliott, the British minister to the republic of Texas. This face is positively asserted by the Picayuno of this morning, and the assertions is based on information undoubtedly authentic, transmitted to the editors of that paper by their correspondents in Mexico. These two individuals, it was, unquestionably, who made the proposal to the Mexican government which induced it to acknowledge the independence of Texas. This recognition, as the Picayune justly observes, is conducted “under the auspices of England, its object being to check the progress of this country, cripple her influence, and baffle the will of the American people.”

Whatever may be the determination of our government under the state of things that now presents itself, we have no apprehension but that they are prepared and ready to defeat by force of arms any conspiracy of foreign enemies with domestic traitors, that has for its object to disappoint the wishes of the people of the United States and of Texas for the junction of the latter to our confederacy. We entirely coincide with the Picayune that our government is bound by a regard to the honor and safety of the country and by the sacred obligation of good faith to the people of Texas, to interpose its whole power in order to save them from falling under the domain of traitors whom they abhor or of England, which from their infancy they have been taught to look upon as the sworn enemy of those free and liberal institutions, under which they desire to live or not to live at all.

We copy the following from the Picayune of this morning:

" The bill allowing the Minister of Foreign Affairs the power to negotiate a Treaty with Texas for her Independence, with the provision that she shall not be annexed to the United States, passed the Mexican House of Representative on the 3rd time by a vote of 41 for and 13 against it, after a strong debate of 3 days. It was immediately sent to the Senate, where it was believed it would be concurred in unanimously. A report to that effect reached Vera Cruz some days before I sailed, but the last mail, of the 16th, brought no confirmation of it."

[BJM]

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June 3, 1845, RWv22i44p1c6, From Mexico

The Picayune also contains interesting accounts respecting the condition of Mexico. Distraction and discontent everywhere prevail. The states of Pueblo and Tabasco have already declared in favor of the federal constitution, and a general meeting was held at Vera Cruz, but active measures were suspended at the request of the governor who is not averse to the object of the meeting.

Santa Ann was still confined in the Castle of Perote – but it was thought he would soon be liberated – and probably would be at the head of the government in a few months.

The present army of Mexico is said to consist of 21,000 officers, and 20,000 private soldiers.

There was no declaration of war against this country and no prospect of such an event.

In regard to the presence of the American squadron at Vera Cruz, the correspondent of the Picayune gives the following information:
“The arrival of our squadron at Vera Cruz created a great excitement, and also at the city of Mexico, where it was represented to consist of twenty-on sail of men of war! The unexpected presence of this squadron had no doubt, a salutary influence, and possibly might have caused the mission so privately determined upon to the United States.”

Mr. Shannon, the Minister of President Tyler to Mexico, is not the man for such a state of uncertainty and turmoil as now prevails in that country. It is said he has been living in the utmost obscurity, without knowing or caring what was doing on. We are glad to hear that he is on his way homewards.

June 3, 1845, RWv22i44p2c3, Texas will accept bid to the union

By late arrivals at New Orleans from Texas, it would appear that there is no longer any doubt, as to the probability of the People of Texas acceding to the proposition for annexing that Republic to the United States. President Jones has, accordingly, issued a Proclamation calling upon the People of Texas to hold a Convention, to form a new Constitution as a State about being numbered among the States of this Union. We publish below, the Proclamation, which has been put forth in anticipation of the Congress of Texas acceding to the proposition from the United States:

June 3, 1845, RWv22i44p2c3, A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the People of Texas have evinced a decided wish that prompt and definite action should be had upon the proposition for annexation, recently submitted by the Government of the United States to this Government, and that a Convention should be assembled for this purpose, and,

WHEREAS, it is competent for the people alone to decide finally upon the proposition for annexation, and “by deputies in convention assembled.” To adopt a Constitution with a view to the admission of Texas as one of the States of the American Union, and,

WHEREAS, no authority is given by the Constitution of this Republic, to any branch of the Government to call a Convention, and to change the organic law, this being a right reserved to the people themselves, and which they alone can properly exercise,

THEREFORE, be it known, that I, ANSON JONES, President of the Republic of Texas, desirous of giving direction and effect to the public will, already so fully expressed, do recommend to the citizens of Texas, that an election for "Deputies" to a Convention to be held in the different counties of the Republic, on Wednesday the fourth day of June next, upon the following basis, viz: Each county in the Republic to elect one Deputy, irrespective of the number of voters it contained at the last annual elections. Each county voting at that time three hundred, and less than six hundred to elect two Deputies. Each county voting at that time six hundred and less than nine hundred and upwards, to elect four Deputies: and that the said Deputies so elected, do assemble in Convention at the city of Austin, on the “Fourth of July” next, for the purpose of considering the proposition for the annexation of Texas to the United States, and any other proposition which may be made concerning the nationality of the Republic, and should they judge it expedient and proper, to adopt, provisionally, a Constitution to be submitted to the people for their ratification, with a view to the admission of Texas as a State, into the North American Union, in accordance with (illegible)

June 3, 1845, RWv22i44p2c4, The Texans

The Texans in this country are in a great bother about the negotiations said to be in progress between the President of Texas,(Jones) and Mexico, through the agency of the British Minister, Capt. Elliott. General Ashbel Smith’s movements, too, seem greatly to annoy them. When it was reported that that individual reached New York on his way to England for the unavowed purpose of defeating annexation, in some way or other, he was roundly berated by these same gentlemen. But now, when it is announced, that instead of going to England he took shipping to Vera Cruz, and is now in Mexico with the British Ambassador, their indignation knows no bounds. We agree with the gentlemen, that his movements are certainly circumbendious – to coin a word for the occasion; and it looks highly probable, that he and President Jones, in conjunction with Captain Elliott, are making strenuous efforts to defeat annexation. But the Texan prints in this country assure us, that all their efforts will prove in vain. We will rely upon that assurance, and haughty negotiators to the tender mercies of the aforesaid prints. They will do them enough!

June 3, 1845, RWv22i44p2c5, Later From Texas
The fine steamship New York, Captain Wright, arrived home on Saturday, in 33 hours from Galveston, bringing papers to the (illegible)

President Jones has issues a proclamation dated "Washington, May 5, 1845, in which, after reciting that “the people of Texas have...[illegible]...a decided wish that prompt and definite actions...[illegible]...be bad upon the proposition for annexation.” And that a Convention should be assembled for that purpose also, that “it is (illegible) for the people alone to decide finally upon the proposition for annexation and by Deputies in Convention assembled to adopt Constitution with a view to the admission of Texas as one of the States of the American Union,” and that no authority is given by the Constitution of the Republic to any (illegible) of the Government to call a Convention, and to change the organic law, that being a right reserved to the people themselves, and stating that he is “desirous of giving directions and effect to the public will,” he recommends to the citizens “that an election for Deputies (illegible) Convention by held in the different counties of the Republic on Wednesday, the 4th of June next; and that the said Deputies so elected, do assemble in convention at the city of Austin, on the Fourth of July next. “For the purpose of considering the proposition for the annexation of Texas to the United States, and any other promotion which may be made concerning the nationality of the Republic; and should they judge it expedient and proper, to adopt provisionally, a Constitution to be submitted to the people for their ratification, with a view to the admission of Texas as a State into the North American Union, in accordance with the terms of the proposition for annexation already submitted to this Government by that of the United States.”

Speaking of the business which Congress, at the extra session will have to transact, the Houston Telegraph says:

The Convention, not being a body recognized by the Constitution, can pass no law requiring the Treasurer to pay on any money, and this officer would be compelled by his oath of office to refuse to pay any portions of the expense of the Convention, unless Congress should make the necessary appropriation for this purpose. One of the main objects therefore of Congress will be to provide the necessary means to enable the Convention to proceed to business. Another object will be for Congress to express its assent to the resolutions submitted by President Polk. Those resolutions provide that the assent of the existing Government of Texas shall be obtained before they shall go into effect. The terms “assent of their existing Government” is rather indefinite: but it was the opinion of President Polk, and of the American Charge here, that the term implied the assent of the Executive and Legislative Department of our Government. For this reason the American Charge was exceedingly desirous that Congress should be called at an early period to give its assent to the resolutions passed by the American Congress. We understand that the President and several of the members of his Cabinet entertained the opinion that Congress had no right to act upon this question until it had first been submitted to the people, and they had instructed their Representatives to adopt or reject the terms proposed by the American Government. Hence the delay of the President in calling the extra session of Congress. He was willing to call it at an earlier period, if he had been able to ascertain that the people were willing to accept the terms as submitted by President Polk. The people having met in their primary assemblies in all or nearly all the counties of the Republic, and expressed their approbation of the terms for annexation, the members of Congress doubtless considered themselves as being specially instructed to express their assent to these terms, and it is probable that a joint resolution, testifying the assent of the Government to the terms submitted by President Polk, will be passed by our Congress. There is another subject that will engage the attention of Congress. A question may arise whether it will be expedient that an election shall be held in September next for members of Congress, or whether the election shall be deferred until the American Congress has acted upon our Constitution. If that Constitution is adopted in January it will be necessary for an election to be held immediately after its adoption for the members of a State Legislature, and it will probably be advisable that the election of the members of the next Congress should be deferred until it is ascertained whether that Congress shall give place to the State Legislature. These and perhaps one other question, relative to the extension of the boundaries of the Northern and Western counties to the Northern limits of the Congress. They can all be disposed of in a very short time, and it is not improbable that the extra session will no continue more than six or eight days.

The National Register says that the proposed Convention will, according to the basis proposed in the President’s proclamation consist of 61 deputies as follows: the 12 western counties will have 14 deputies, the 5 northern counties 11 deputies, the 8 eastern counties 13 deputies; and the 11 middle counties 23 deputies.

The Houston Telegraph expresses the opinion that the people will assent to the President’s recommendation with great unanimity. In Milam, Robertson, Brazos, Washington, Montgomery, Harris and Austin counties, the people, it is stated to have already agreed to elect delegates.

The Civilian of the 17th, has the following paragraph:

A gentleman from Washington informs us that a party of Commanche Indians, numbering between three and four thousand, are encamped near Mr. Torry’s trading house on Little River, and have sent two of their number, accompanied by a white man, to inform the President that they (the whole body of Indians) are on their way to the Mexican frontier, to make reprisals for some losses they have recently sustained in that quarter, that they will strictly abstain from any act of aggression upon Texas, and to request the President to give notice to our citizens that such are their designs, in hope that their intentions may not be mistaken, and war made upon them by Texas. We have not understood what answer has been returned my the President, but presume that the Indians will neither be encouraged to make war upon the feeble frontier of Mexico, or permitted to come within the vicinity of our own settlements. – Had Texas been disposed to imitate the examples of some older nations in the employment on Indians as soldiers, many calamities might have been inflicted upon Mexico which have been prevented.
The *Houston Telegraph* of the 14th says: -

We learn from the LaGrange Intelligence that a party of Indians appeared near Corpus Charieti on the 15th ult. Killed two Mexicans, wounded a third, and drove off a large number of horses belonging to Col. Kinney. A company of marauders has been ranging between the Rio Grande and Nneces for several weeks and cut off all communication with the Mexican settlements. Trade is therefore very dull. Scarcely any traders have visited the port for the last three weeks. We learn from other sources that a large number of troops have been sent to Matamoroe and to different points on the Rio Grande, by order of General Arista. It appears that the Mexican government fears that an attack will soon be made upon that frontier by American troops. It does not appear, however, that the number of troops on the Rio Grande has been much increased. –The whole force along the line of the Rio Grande does not probably exceed one thousand men.

The steamboat *Lady Byron*, while crossing the bar at the mouth of the Brazos, a few days ago, sunk and is a total loss.

[BJM]

June 13, 1845, RWv22i47p1c1, Violence of the Texas Presses

A crisis is approaching in the affairs of Texas, which seems to excite much uneasiness in the minds of the friends of annexation. They profess indeed not to be in the least apprehensive of the result, but the profession is not sustained by their conduct.

We have heard all along and did not ourselves doubt it to be so, that the Anglo-American population of Texas, constituting the cast majority, were nearly of quite unanimous in favor of annexation. . . . [illegible] . . . ow certain that the President of Texas, (Jones) has secretly negotiated a Treaty with Mexico, at the city Mexico, (as alleged under British auspices,) the leading feature of which is that Mexico agrees to recognize the independence of Texas, on condition that the latter declines annexation and remains independent.

If the fact be so, and it seems well avouched, the reader will in the first place find himself puzzled to account for the conduct of President Hones. If the people of Texas be so unanimous for annexation, why should their President negotiate a Treaty which he cannot but know will be as unanimously rejected by the Congress of Texas? –Why should he so unnecessarily and gratuitously forfeit his popularity and expose himself to legislative censure and popular indignation? Or why should England desire so vain a thing to be done as the formation of a Treaty which, she knew would be rejected by the people and Congress of Texas.

Theses are points which appear to us difficult of solution, if it is possible to solve them except by the supposition either that a change is expected to be wrought in the popular inclination of Texas, that that change has already been wrought, or that there has all along existed more opposition to annexation in that country than was admitted in the U. States.

We quote the following bitter Philippie from the New Orleans Courier of the 2nd, a leading Texas print for the purpose of exhibiting the rage into which this Treaty of President Jones has thrown those who could find no fault in a similar proceeding by President Tyler.

[BJM]

June 13, 1845, RWv22i47p1c1, Mexico and Texas

We have received dates from Vera Cruz of the 22nd ult. By the British frigate *Eurydice*, and of the 28th from Galveston by the steamer *McKim*.

The *Eurydice* is off the mouth of the river, and several of her officers, with Capt. Elliott, the notorious charge d’affaires of England to Texas, came up to the city, and lodge at the St. Charles Hotel. The face of Elliott’s arrival here with dispatches from Mexico for the agent of his government, gives us ground to presume that the treaty has been concluded between Mexico and Jones of Texas. To the eternal disgrace of that person and every Texan who approves of his treason, that treaty was negotiated under the superintendance of Elliott; the Texas agent was protected in the Mexican capital by the same British missary, where neither his nor any other citizen of the republic would have dared to place his foot with no other guarantee of safety than that of Texan citizenship –he was introduced to the Mexican Secretary of Satate by the same enemy of his country –who (illegable) Mexican government, as a favour to Great Britain, the acceptance of the proposals from President Jones. We heard some days ago that the treaty was concluded, where by Mexican acknowledges the Independence of Texas, and the latter republic is pledged to refuse the offer made by our government to receive her into the confedearcy. The lapse of a few weeks will make known the consummation of this dark intrigue, or its utter defeat. It will be a phenomenon of human Independence, should Jones dare to lay before the Congress of Texas this fruit of his “coquetry with a foreign nation,” as General Houston calls it. If he should have the hardihood to do so, we have little doubt it will be accounted and hooted by the members –but that for any consideration the citizens of Texas will tolerate its
June 17, 1845, RWv22i48p1c2, Texas and the Treaty

The N. Orleans Courier, next to the Washington Union and the Richmond Enquirer, is the most indefatigable and intolerant Texas print in the Union. It has teemed for 18 months with the most inflammatory appeals in favor of annexation, addressing them to the worst passions of the multitude, and it ever ascribes the worst motives to those who think proper to oppose that hazardous measure.

That such a paper, so near to the scene, hitherto so confident of the adoption of the Joint Resolutions by Texas, and so exultant, should now betray alarm, proves the existence of danger to the project, and that that danger is greater than is admitted.

The last Courier says:

"Well –the treaty being concluded, what is to prevent President Jones from laying it before Congress, which is to assemble on the 16th of the present month, and what security have we that if will not be ratified in proper and constitutional forme?

"It is a bad sign, a sign at least that is ominous of no good, that the National Intelligencer publishes the news concerning the treaty with so much satisfaction. The failure of annexation would be mortifying to the pride of this country and extremely detrimental to our best interests as a nation. It would, on the other hand, be very agreeable to Great Britain and to the British partisans in the United States. It would redound to the advantage of no power on earth except Great Britain –and hence, the pleasure with which the prospect of its accomplishment is regarded by the Intelligencer. Bet the Intelligencer and its patrons in England will be disappointed in the long run. Should the treaty be ratified by the Texan congress, annexation to the United States will be postponed for a while; and possibly war between this country and England may be the consequence. But admitting these things; admitting the treaty to be ratified by the congress of Texas and war to ensue –what then? Annexation will be delayed –that is all. England, France and Mexico combined have not the force to prevent the measure from being accomplished in the course of the present year. The people of Texas will trample on a treaty which sells them to the British, which was prompted by corruption and concluded by treason.

"But, after all, we have scarcely any apprehension that the treaty will be ratified by the Texan congress. We are informed on good authority that there are not in all Texas a sufficient number of citizens, formerly belonging to the United States, to make a quorum of either house of congress and who are opposed to annexation. Jones and his little band are under the influence of a peculiar kind of motives, which cannot reach the majority of either branch of the legislature; and in spite of the whishes and predictions of the National Intelligencer, we have hopes, amounting almost to conviction, that the congress will, in accordance with the indignant voice of their whole constituency, refuse even a reading to the infamous treaty with England and Mexico."

We point the reader's attention to the first paragraph. --"What security have we that the Treaty "President Jones’ with Mexico) will not be ratified by the Texas Congress!" Indeed! What! Is not security enough that the Anglo-Americans of Texas, constituting nearly the whole population, are, according to the Courier itself, within a cery small fraction of unanimity? Can there be any danger that the Treaty will be ratified when this is the case? Will the Congress of Texas so grossly misrepresent its constituency? Or is the object of the Courier to insinuate remotely, that they are purchaseable, and may yield to the temptation of British Gold? We can in no other way reconcile the first paragraph we quote from the Courier and the two which follow it; its assertion of the unanimous desire of the People of Texas for annexation, and its evident fright lest the Representatives of that unanimous people, may ratify Jones’ Treaty, defeat their will, and defeat the darling Scheme of Annexation.

Our persuasion is, that the Courier has secret information which does not disclose, and that the information renders the ratification of Jones’ Treaty, and the consequent defeat of Annexation, highly probable, by the Congress of Texas: We have little question either that a reaction has taken place against Annexation in Texas; for we cannot
believe that, if the People were unanimous, as is represented, in favor of it, the People's Representatives would dare to oppose it. The supposition of the employment of bribery would not explain the Phenomenon. Bribery is for the few not for the many: Nobody ever heard of a whole Congress being bribed. It the Treaty is ratified and annexation rejected, we may feel quite confident that such is the will of the people of Texas, though certainly not the wish of the Courier of its Texas allies in this country. The recognition of Texan Independence by Mexico vitally changes the whole aspect of the question, and safely and Liberty secured, the warmest advocates of annexation in Texas might very consistently change their ground. The Congress of Texas meets the day after tomorrow, and we shall soon know the result. It appears certain from the language of Gov. Jones' Official, that a Treaty with Mexico has been negotiated, and that it will be laid before the Congress of Texas by the same message which communicates the Joint Resolutions from the United States.

The Cincinnati Gazette wisely says:

"Let us, on this question of peace or war, wave all minor matters. The Union need not fear the loyalty of any party, if conflict comes with any foreign nation. Americans will be Americans in that hour. Oppose its coming –regret it –dread it –all this may be with a portion of them. But there will be no fear –no division, when the hour is; we shall all move together no one man –as a party. –Nor should the Union trouble itself about the London Times. That Journal neither sways the British Public, nor speaks for the British Ministry. And if it did both, the Official misunderstands the real drift of its articles about Mexico, if we read them aright."

Yes, and many of the most forward and clamorous for war now, will then leave those to fight its battles whom they stigmatize now as the “British party,” because they will not consent to put rapacity and cupidity before national justice and national honor, while they remain home!

The western countries of Texas are opposed to the Convention, and consider the power of Congress ample and plenary on the subject of annexation. A meeting had been held at Bastrop, presided by General Burleson, and a series of resolutions adopted denouncing Jones; proclamation as dictatorial, and designed to frustrate the anticipated action of Congress.

The crops of Texas corn, cotton, sugar and tobacco are represented as flourishing. The cotton is, however, some what infested by the coco grass.

We regret to learn that on Saturday evening last, Mr. Wells, the splendid Dancer, and the principal Musician of the Theatre, while bathing in the Gulf, was attacked by some unknown species of fish, supposed to be a Shark, his side cut and much bruised and two ribs broken. He is now confined to his room under the attendance of Dr. Carper. This is to be more regretted, for not only the accident and the pecuniary loss, which will fall on his gentleman, but that the Theatre for a time, will be deprived of his valuable services. Mr. W., we learn, is mending.

The Mexican steamer Neptune, Captain Parkinson, arrived at Charleston on Thursday, it’s the short run of three days from Havana. This vessel is bound for New York but . . . [illegible] . . . into Charleston for a supply of fuel.

Capt. Parkinson states that British mail steamer Medway arrived at Havana on the 7th, instant from Vera Cruz, which
No particulars are given as to the course pursued by the Mexican Government in banishing Santa Ana, but Captain P. understood that the decree presented an absence of ten years, that his private property was respected; that he had with him a large amount of money and was in good personal health.

In one of the Havana papers it is recorded that the French Legation had been insulted in the streets of Vera Cruz just previous to the sailing of the Medway, and that the Minister had demanded from the Mexican Government immediate reparation for the indignity offered, or the alternative of furnishing him with his passports.

It is stated that all anticipations of war between the United States and Mexico had subsided; and a strong practical evidence that such was the case (says the Charleston Courier) is the fact that the Neptuna, the property of Mexicans, had been ordered to New York to refit, which would of course, not have been done if the owners were apprehensive of such an event.-Nat. Int.

June 27, 1845, RWv22i51p1c3, Banishment of Santa Anna

LATER FROM MEXICO

Banishment of Generals Santa Ana and Canalizo, and the ex-ministers arrival at Havana of Santa Ana and Bustamente—the French legation assaulted by Mexicans.

By the brig Tiri arrived at this port yesterday, we have received files of Mexican papers to the 27th, ult.

The English steamship Medway arrived at Havana in 4 days from Vera Cruz and Tampico, with Gen. Santa Ana on board; who had obtained permission to banish himself from Mexico. On the same day, and almost at the same hour of his arrival, Bustamente, another ex-president, who had been wandering for many years an exile in foreign lands, arrived at Havana, in another steamship from Kingston, Jamaica.

The meeting of these two men in this manner is extraordinary, one going into banishment with his wife and children—the other returning from exile and on his way to his native shore.

We give below the news received by this arrival, which we copy from the Courier of last evening:

The Spanish brig of war Habanero left Havana on the 28th.

These papers contain the amnesty, as follows:

Art. 1. Amnesty is accorded to all persons accused of political offences before the publication of this law with certain restrictions and exceptions.

Art. 2. Those who take the benefit of the amnesty will preserve their grades both civil and military—but they shall not exercise any power, nor discharge any functions conferred upon them in consequence of the national movement, 6th Dec. 1844.

Art. 3. General Santa Ana is excepted from the benefit of this amnesty, unless he shall embark, in compliance with his own request, within the delay fixed by the government and qui the territory of the republic, according to his abdication of the Presidency.

Art. 4. General Canalizo and the ex-Minister Bassadre are also excepted in this amnesty, unless they shall within three days from the publication of this law apply to the tribunal charged to try them and engage to absent themselves from the republic for ten years.

Art. 5. The preceding articles apply also to the ex-Ministers Crescentio Rejon, Manual Baronda, and Antonio de Haro Flamiriz; and if any of them have fled, the Government will point out the place where they shall reside.

Art. 6. To each of the persons mentions in the three preceding articles, the republic will grant a pension equal to one half their pay in their employ before the 29th November, 1844. Any one of them shall be deprived of his pension who may quit the place of residence pointed out by the governments, and if he shall return to the soil of the republic, he shall be liable to the penalties of the laws.

Art. 7. The foregoing six articles shall not dissolve (illegible) engagements before they quit the Republic, Generals Santa Anna and Canalizo and the four ex-ministers who signed the decree Nov. 29, 1844 shall establish their claims.
and satisfy those which may be brought against them.

The papers are silent on the subject of Texas, Mr. Shannon had arrived at Vera Cruz from Mexico. He was robbed and ill-treated on the road by a banditti.

The Mexican Congress was engaged in modifying the tariff.

The powers of the Executive to great with Texas were published as follows:

"The Congress authorize the Executive to receive the proposals of Texas to proceed to a definite arrangement, and conclude a treaty, suitable to the interest and honor of the republic-the same be submitted to the examination and sanction of Congress."

Gen. Don Jose Juan Landero is appointed commander of the fortress of San Juan de Uloa.

A large manufactory of forged money was discovered at Mexico.

It was understood that the Department of California was restored to order. The troops sent by sea were not opposed in their landing.

The Vera Cruzano of the 18th ult., complains that there were hardly any merchant vessel in that port, and ascribes this circumstance to the expectation that the tariff will be amended, in consequence of which all orders were suspended. (N.O. Crescent City, June 18th.)

June 27, 1845, RWv22i51p1c3, Important from Texas

From the New Orleans Bee

IMPORTANT FROM TEXAS.

By the arrival of the steam packet New York, Captain Wright, we have been put in possession of our files of Texas papers, to the 14th instant inclusive. They contain information of importance and interest. President Jones, after months of tortuous duplicity and hypocritical double dealing has boldly thrown off the mask, and virtually . . . has disgraceful overtures to Great Britain and Mexico. And his deadly hostility to Annexation. We cannot in the crowded state of our columns, comment upon this intelligence at the length we could desire, and must content ourselves for the present with a synopsis of the (illegible).

The Galveston News Extra, publishes a third proclamation of President Jones, preceded by a prolix preable, in which that worthy attempts to gloss over his conduct with the usual of a spurious patriotism. He begins thus:-

The executive is now enabled to declare to the people of Texas, the actual state of affairs with respect to Mexico, to the end that they might direct and dispose of them as they shall judge best for the honor and permanent interest of the Republic.

He then goes on to say that last summer he learned from credible sources that the Government of Mexico, was disposed to acknowledge the Independence of Texas, upon the understanding that she would maintain her separate existence that in March last the representatives of G. Britain and France jointly renewed the offer of their intermediation with Mexico for this purpose; that as they were unaccompanied by any entangling conditions, he could not consent to reject them, and therefore placed in the hands of their representatives statement of conditions preliminary to a treaty of peace. These conditions having been accepted by the Government of Mexico, through the friendly interposition of England and France, he deems it his duty to issue the following proclamation:

(The Proclamation will be found in another column)

Most of the papers that we have seen are excessively indignant at these developments, and even the most moderate, such as the Houston Telegraph, express and emphatic belief that the proposal of Nesico will be promptly rejected by Congress.

The election returns for the Convention were coming in fast. At Galveston, Col. Love and Richard Bache, were chosen. In Harris, (Houson) Messrs. Brashear, McGowan, and F. Moore are elected. In Montgomery, General Sam Houston, with four others, is chosen.

Captain Elliott is to remain at Galveston, to await the action of Congress on the proposals of the Mexican Government.

More Indian Murders:-We have learned with bitter regret, that the son of Mr. Hornsby and Mr. Atkinson, were
June 27, 1845, RWv22i51p2c1, The annexation of Texas

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE NORTHERN STATES, OR AMERICA.

My Friends, -I had lately occasion to write to you on the subject of slavery, and I, now feel a desire (talking so deep as interest as I do in your political welfare) to write to you again on another not less important subject, -I mean the annexation of Texas to your republic –a measure which will not only extend, but perpetuate the sufferings of the negro race. Perhaps you will immediately reply, “What necessity for this, when both our Legislatures have already passed a bill for this great measure, and when it has been signed by the President, and when, therefore, it can neither be altered nor undone?” I know all this; but I deny that it is yet a perfect bill, for it wants the acceptance of the Texas Government and people. There may be a considerable interval of time before all the necessary arrangements for the object can be completed. This interval may be of great importance to you who hate this measure, as you may use it much to your advantage.

How do you know, in the first place, that the Texans will accept your offer? There is a very strong party in Texas who prefer a connection with England rather than with America. Texas may no so easily come in the American Union as you may imagine. Will there then be difficulties in the way besides? –no disputes, which it will take time to settle, before the object can be accomplished? I have heard of one case already which will occasion discussion. Some people in America think that the Union will not be safe if it be based only on the Resolutions of both Houses of the Legislature and signature of the President. Others think that it will be secure only by a Treaty. But will there be no other subjects for dispute where the interests of so many thousand are concerned? It will take time on the part of Texas also to determine how many new States are to be created, what are to be their boundaries, of which Maps are to be made, -and which of them, after many consultations of the inhabitants of Texas, are to be the Slave States, and which of them are to be free. In fact, there will be plenty of work beside, to be done by the Texans themselves, before annexation can take place. Again, are you sure that then Indians in the neighborhood of the Texan provinces, who know, to their cost, that Americans under no other character than that of money making of land, will not put a spoke in the wheel of such a union, and appeal to arms, rather than have such enemies of mankind in their neighborhood? Again, are you sure that Mexico will be a quiet spectator, and see her former province wrested from her, and not proclaim ware either against Texas or the United States? If she proclaims war against Texas, with what face can the American states justify themselves in the eyes of the civilized world for the part they have taken in drawing off Texas from Mexico? Again, are you sure that the Powers of Europe will not, somehow, or other, be dragged into the contest, and particularly when they see that the effect of victory on one side will only be aggrandizement, without any other result than to entail unparalleled miseries for ever upon a vast portion of this unoffending human race? Again, and lastly, will you my friends on the northern states, take no part yourselves against annexation, -give your neighbors of the south no trouble, but let them have their own way without a constitutional resistance to the measure? No; I believe you will rise as one man against it. You have been too long in chains to the south ever to wear them again, if an opportunity should ever occur of getting rid of them. Such an opportunity for asserting your own liberty appears to me to be at hand; and, as there may be (as I have just shown,) in carrying the measure, many obstacles in the way, many contingencies to rise up, all of which it will take time to meet, a sufficient interval of time will be given you, before the final settlement of the contemplated change, in which to make successful efforts to extricate yourselves from your present bondage.

That the northern states have been in bondage to the unprincipled slaveholding people of the south is a notorious fact. They have been robbed of their rights by the latter. They cannot make laws for the whole American community, as the south do; but must submit to the laws which the people of the south may choose to impose upon them, however cruel, however unjust, however revolting to their consciences. They have not a fair representation in Congress. This every American knows; and of this every American of the north bitterly complains. But how did this hateful –this abominable distinction as to privilege, arise! I will not tell you myself, lest I should be thought partial; I had rather it should come from some person of authority such for instance, as from Judge Stroud, an American
Congress gave to those remonstrances? An answer worthy of slaveholders, -"that a civilized people, inhabiting any
not to share in the burden of the expenses of it. –Now, what was the answer which the southern members in
as the war was not undertaken on their account, but wholly on account of the slaveholders of the south, they ought
advance upon the settlers, but stayed at home, and the settlers advanced upon them. They contended, again, that
Congress had sold land to those who would buy it. They who bought it were anxious to settle it as soon as they
a mere supposition of injury. They contended that this proximity of the two lands was not the fault of the Indians.
fugitive slaves. A great majority of the people of the north, as religious men, deprecated this war. It was founded on
disturbed ast some time or other, and, at any rate, that they might afford a hiding place of place of refuge for
that their lands were too near to the American plantations of the south, and that these plantations might be
war upon certain of the Indians, whole tribes of whom were exterminated during the contest, merely upon the plea
murmur against slavery might transpire, and that slavery might go on uninterruptedly, and with all its miseries and
open all suspected letters and parcels, and to make their contents known. And breach of this law was accompanied
was that they passed what were called the gagging bills. The people were denied the liberty of speech as to any
their minds. Whatever the outrage might be, a sacrifice must be made for the good of the south. The consequence
that they were invading by such a measure of the liberties of the people? No; no such thought ever once came over
as representatives of a land of which they boasted as the more free in the whole world? Did they not as once think
But is it really true that this compromise has been attended with such vexatious effects? I repeat, that it is true. I
assert, that the good people of the north cannot even now mention it but with some indignation, for they may be
told to feel it daily. Some one circumstance or another is frequently rising up which puts them in mind of their
degradation. In the first place, every sacrifice is made by Congress to uphold the Slave-holding interests of the
South in preference to any other interest. If the People of the North have a point to carry, however beneficial to the
country at large, yet, if it meddling in the least with Slavery, they are sure to be outvoted; and if the People of
Planter of the South have in their turn a point to carry, however cruel and unjust, or however contrary it may be to
their consciences, and even to the Laws of God, it is sure to pass into a law. But this superiority of the South over
the North as it relates to the number of cotes, is often very vexatious and harassing to the subject in bills or acts of
Congress, where personal liberty is concerned. A few years ago conversation in America was directed more than
usually to the wickedness of Slavery, so that it could not escape observation as a common topic. Upon this the
Planters were . . . [illegible] . . . and it was resolved that the evil taking was so vitally detrimental to the interests
of the south that it should be immediately stopped; but how was this to be accomplished? And now I have to record an
instance of audacity in the American Congress not paralleled in the representative history of the world. Congress
resolved that the inhabitants of the whole of the United States should be tongue-tied. What did they forget their duty
as representatives of a land of which they boasted as the more free in the whole world? Did they not as once think
that they were invading by such a measure of the liberties of the people? No; no such thought ever once came over
their minds. Whatever the outrage might be, a sacrifice must be made for the good of the south. The consequence
was that they passed what were called the gagging bills. The people were denied the liberty of speech as to any
censor upon slavery, and the postmasters in all the towns of the different states were enabled and commanded to
open all suspected letters and parcels, and to make their contents known. And breach of this law was accompanied
with censure, and as a source at times of considerable uneasiness, vexation, and even suffering. A this very hour
a master has a cote for every three slaves out of five, and this was a part of the compromise.

Let me mention another instance where the people of the northern States had reason to be dissatisfied with the
people of the south, and where they could not help themselves. Congress, at the instigation of the planters, made
war upon certain of the Indians, whole tribes of whom were exterminated during the contest, merely upon the plea
that their lands were too near to the American plantations of the south, and that these plantations might be
disturbed ast some time or other, and, at any rate, that they might afford a hiding place of place of refuge for
fugitive slaves. A great majority of the people of the north, as religious men, deprecated this war. It was founded on
a mere supposition of injury. They contended that this proximity of the two lands was not the fault of the Indians.
Congress had sold land to those who would buy it. They who bought it were anxious to settle it as soon as they
could. This one plantation after another rose up, and this so rapidly, that in a few years the new plantations of the
settlers came near to the Indian frontier. The Indians, therefore, were not to be blamed for this, but they did not
advance upon the settlers, but stayed at home, and the settlers advanced upon them. They contended, again, that
as the war was not undertaken on their account, but wholly on account of the slaveholders of the south, they ought
not to share in the burden of the expenses of it. –Now, what was the answer which the southern members in
Congress gave to those remonstrances? An answer worthy of slaveholders, “that a civilized people, inhabiting any
country, had a right to . . . [illegible] . . . of their land, if residing on it, or in the neighborhood, because soon people did no good to themselves or to others.” I should like to know which were the barbarians, the Congress or the Indians? We see in these two instances, as I have observed before, without mentioning others, that everything was to be sacrificed so the slaveholding interests, and that the compromise before mentioned, obtained originally in an evil hour, rendered the people of the north helpless as to any opposition to the south, however, unjust the measures of the latter might be. Is it not a gralling matter, a matter of constant irritation to the former, living under the same Government, and as good subjects as the latter, to feel as they are to obey laws which their conscience disapprove, and to feel, moreover, that they have no hope of an ameliorated system? –for slavery has been so firmly riveted and ramified into the customs of the state by the machinations of the Legislature, first suggested by the planters, that nothing but the abolition of slavery itself can give any hope of reformation. No man is chosen to take office under the Government (and how many hundred public offices are there in the United States) who does not pledge himself by an oath that he will take up and secure every fugitive slave he may meet with, that he may be returned to his master, even though such a return in prohibited by the law of God. The consequences of such a law has been, that some of the best magistrates in the land give up every year their offices, not being able to reconcile this injunction to their consciences, and the laws of God. Thus every thing is done by a slaveholding Government to uphold slavery. If a door is left open to public emolument, a man is thrust in who is made to change his views with respect to slavery, and to swell the suffrages of the southern free-holders.

But will the good people of the north consent to live under the chains of the south forever? Will they consent to have no will of their own in legislation? Will they be any longer the degraded gaolers of the south for all their fugitive slaves? Will they be pleased with any more gagging bills? If they submit to this, then they must be content with their present degraded constitution. But will they be better off if Texas should be annexed to their republic? No. If Texas should bring with her into the union a number of new slave states, and two representatives should be allowed to each, as is proposed, then the number of votes hostile to the north would be increased, so that the people of the northern states would have no hope whatever, from their votes, of a change in their political condition. Their chains would be only riveted the faster, for they would still have a slaveholding Cabinet, and a slaveholding Congress, and their enemies would be more numerous than before. Now what good is to be expected from such men as these, as to an upright administration of the affairs of state? Men of hardened hearts, men daily familiar with cruelty and injustice, men who act on the principle of expediency, instead of that of honor and honesty, and who appear to have no fear of God before their eyes. The people of the north have already seen such men in office to their cost; and will such men lose their habits the less because they are more in number than formerly? There is no hope then of an amelioration of the representation if Texas should be added to the union, and this is what the northern states what, and all they want.

And now, my friends of the North, suffer me from the love I bear to you, and as a long-tried and uncompromising enemy to slavery, to give you my advice at this particular crisis. I have already told you that a considerable interval of time must elapse before the negotiations to bring about the annexation of Texas can be finished, and I have told you also that you ought to use that interval with all your energies, in case the union of Texas with your republic should be resolve upon –I repeat, to use all your energies to shake off the yoke under which you have so long groaned. Well, then, an opportunity now occurs for your so using it, which will never occur again. You are going to have a change in your constitution; that is, you are going to have a newly-created Congress, constituting of Americans, as before, and Texans mixed, the latter of whom are foreigners. It will perhaps be said that there can be no violation of the Constitution in creating such a Congress. I have to say in reply, that, if I am properly informed, it is a violation of the present law of right to citizenship, which is a part of the present constitution. I have always understood that if a foreigner marries an American woman, he becomes an American citizen, and that residence for a certain length of time in the United States entitles him to the same right; but here are people clearly all foreigners, and no one of whom probably ever resided in the country for perhaps a day, made citizens at once. The old constitution never contemplated such a change, nor does any law now existing sanction it. The vote of Congress for annexation is therefore an innovation, as far as right to citizenship is concerned; and Congress, I apprehend, must make a new law for purpose, or annexation will not be valid.

I would advise you, then my friends, at every next meeting of the Congress, to prepare a petition to that body from the whole of the inhabitants of the northern states, stating first, that as they (the Congress) are going to make a change in the constitution of the United States, by receiving foreigners into the union, they would take the case of the north into consideration, and grant them an equal representation with the people of the south.

2. That some of the laws of the south now in force are so repugnant to the consciences of those in the north, that they cannot give their support.

3. That is was naturally expected that when the Convention came to deliberate on the great question of representation; the people of the north would have been allowed equal rights with the people of the south; but this expectation was defeated by a compromise begun and carried on by intrigue, and that the petitioners therefore beg leave to demand restoration of those rights which they were so unjustly deprived.

4. That any change or innovation of the constitution of the United States to suit the annexation of Texas would be less of an innovation than that of an alteration in the representative system, because such an alteration is only a restoration to a natural right.

Having now given you my idea of the sort of petition, leading you to use your own words and ideas, I recommend that this letter of mine should be extensively circulated in the northern states, and directed to such persons as are most esteemed by their fellow citizens for their judgement and the integrity of their character; and if it should appeal by their answers that a great majority are favorable to the views it contains, then take measures to get it signed, and to appoint a most respectable deputation to present it to Congress to introduce and argue the matter there.
I do not think at present that I should add anything more to the petition. After the petition has been read and commented upon, you will know the mind of Congress as well as who are your friends and who your opponents, and judge accordingly. It will be quite time after this to resolve what to do. If it be found that it is the will of a great majority of the people of the north that there should be a separation into the two states, you will act accordingly; but at any rate it will be more handsome to begin the amelioration you wish for in this than any other manner.

THOMAS CLARKSON.
Playford-hall, near Ipswich, April 26.

[BJM]

June 27, 1845, RWv22i51p4c2, Very late from Mexico

—The bark Anahuac, Capt. Wilson, arrived this morning in 22 days from Vera Cruz. Governor Shannon, our late Minister to Mexico, came passenger in her.

Capt. Wilson, with Mr. Shannon and his passengers and letter bag, came up this morning in the eight o’clock boat from Quarantine. The political condition of things was very unsettled. It was the general belief that there would be another revolution in Mexico. The Government was very poor, and unable to pay the Army or Navy with any degree of promptness. The general belief among all classes in Mexico, was that Texas would not accept the terms offered by the congress of the United States, and that consequently the country would not be annexed. There was a very hustle feeling against Americans, and the people believed that, should Texas be annexed, a declaration of war would follow. —N. Y. Express. [BJM]
The Mexican-American War and the Media, 1845-1848

Richmond Whig and Advertiser
Vol. 22, July-December 1845

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July 1, 1845 RW45v22n52c5p1 The Wheeling Times and Oregon
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July 1, 1845 RW45v22n52c2p2 Naval Information
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July 4, 1845 RW45v22n53c4p2 Significant!
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July 4, 1845 RW45v22n53c4p3 Letters of Distinguished Men
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July 4, 1845 RW45v22n53c5p3 My Very Dear Sir
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July 4, 1845 RW45v22n53c2p4 To the Editors of the Union
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July 8, 1845 RW45v22n54c6p1 From Mexico
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July 11, 1845 RW45v22n55c6p2 Oregon
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July 15, 1845 RW45v22n56c3p2 Oregon
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July 1x, 1845 RW45v22n57c1p2 The Debt of Texas - Mr. Polk's Position
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July 1x, 1845 RW45v22n57c3p2 Late from Texas, "So look out for a War with Mexico"
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July 29, 1845 RW45v22n60c7p1 Mexico
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RWv22n August 22, 1845: War with Mexico
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RWv22n August 22, 1845: The Tariff and War
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**August 22, 1845: Texas**
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**August 25, 1845: Oregon Independent**
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**August 26, 1845: Later from Mexico**
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**August 26, 1845: Very Late From Vera Cruz**
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**August 26, 1845: Still Later from Texas**
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**August 29, 1845: Later from Texas**
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**RWv22n71p2c3, September 5, 1845: MILITARY**

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**RWv22n72p1c1, September 9, 1845: DEBT OF TEXAS**

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**RWv22n72p1c5, September 9, 1845: THE ARMY-PROMPT MOVEMENT**

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**RWv22n72p2c1, September 9, 1845: FROM TEXAS**

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**RWv22n72p4c2, September 9, 1845: THE THEATRE OF ACTION**

Gen. Taylor's forces in Texas

**October**

Poor microfilm, seems to have imposed layers on other papers, first two pages of each issue virtually impossible to read.

**RWv22i79p2c4 October 3, 1845: Ten Days Later from Texas**

Call for 1,000 volunteers and other information about Gen. Taylor's army. [reprint from the N.O. Picayune]

**RWv22i80p2c1 October 7, 1845: Affairs in Mexico**

News about Mexico and Texas. How England views the Mexico-U.S. dispute

**RWv22i81p1c6 October 10, 1845: The Texas Debt**

Issues about the U.S. assuming the Texas national debt.

**RWv22i82p1c3 October 14, 1845: Fradulent Claims made by President Houston**

Article saying that a contract between President Houston and Gen. C.F. Mercer to grant huge tracts of Texas land is a fraud.

**RWv22i83p2c3 October 17, 1845: From Texas**

News from Texas. Accuses Mexico of wanting to incite a slave uprising so slaves will fight for Mexican government if war breaks out. [reprint from N.O. *Tropic*]

**RWv22i85p1c1 October 24, 1845: Later from Texas**

News about Gen. Taylor's activities. [reprint from N.O. *Tropic*]

**RWv22i87p2c3 October 31, 1845: Oregon and the Oregon Question**

Long article that talks about Oregon. Can only make out the 2nd half of the article. Has excerpts from several different papers.
July

July 1, 1845: Oregon Meeting In Illinois

A large meeting for Oregon has recently been held at Springfield, the seat of government for Illinois, at which, Governor Ford very indecently (it would be thought here) presided. These Illinois boys, are we imagine, the very choicest specimens of "Progressive Democracy" any where to be found. Carrying away the palm even from New Hampshire, and the Empire Club! They adopted at this meeting the following resolutions, which it will be observed, modestly claim all the Northwest, up to the 54th deg. of latitude; all that is in controversy, they decide by a scrape of the pen to be our own, or rather their own, for we hope no Virginian adopt their wise and enlightened resolutions as the course of the Government, would be to slam the door in the face of the all negotiation, an tantamount to an immediate declaration of war against England:

"Friday Evening, June 6. The meeting having again organized; Gov. Ford in the chair—Mr. Calhoun modified his resolutions to read as follows:

Resolved, That the title of the United States to the Oregon Territory, the north latitude of 54 degrees and 40 minutes, is clear and indisputable; and is so recognised by all the people of all parties in the United States. Resolved, That it is the duty of the United States Government to assert this right, without delay, by building forts, and placing troops on the route to the Pacific, for the protection of emigrants, and by extending our laws over the country.

Resolve, That the American right to the Oregon country being clear and indisputable, we unwilling to hazard our rights by submitting the dispute with England, to the arbitrament of any foreign power. Resolved, That independent of all questions of title by discovery or treaty, this republic ought not to permit any new colony to be established in any unsettled portion of this continent, by any foreign prince or potentate.

Resolve, That this principle requires that we should not permit Great Britain to possess any portion of the Oregon. And although we are adverse to war, if war can be honorably avoided, yet we are ready, willing, and anxious, if necessary, to maintain the American title to the whole country by an appeal to arms.

The question on the above was, on motion of Mr. McFarland taken on each separately; and they were unanimously adopted. The Hon. E.D. Baker the offered the following:

Resolved, That we are in favor of the termination of the joint occupation of the Oregon, and desire that necessary steps should be taken to accomplish that object, in accordance with existing treaty stipulations.

The question put on the above resolution it was unanimously adopted. On motion of Maj. Baker, the Secretaries of the meeting were instructed to furnish the President of the United States with a copy of the resolutions adopted by this meeting. It was then resolved, that the officers of the meeting sign the proceedings, and that the editors of all newspapers friendly to the objects of the meeting, be requested to publish the same.

[MSM2]
We confess our astonishment that such wild and irrational views should have emanated from a Whig source of intelligence, and if we withdraw the adjuration to "save the country from such Whigs" so far as that the Wheeling Times is personally concerned (if we may so say) we renew it and reiterate it with fresh emphasis against opinions which we deem unlawful in principle and destructive in tendency. And upon what foundation does the Times place these erratic notions and from what source of Right derive the American claim to take summary possession of Oregon, regardless of Treaties, regardless of rival claims heretofore acknowledged by our government to be entitled to consideration, regardless of instant and prolonged war? Why if we understand it, which perhaps we do not, upon some vague and fanciful hypothesis, that if we have not the right of priority of discovery and occupancy, we ought to have it, because we should fit that country with better institutions than Europe could give her; that in short the superiority of our form of government gives us a title to extend it over all unoccupied countries. If we misinterpret our contemporary undesignedly we are sorry for it; if correctly, we feel confident that the enlightened Whigs of the northwest will concur with us in saying that these are not Whig doctrines, but the worst doctrines of the worst portion of the self-styled "Democracy."

The Times advances another and a yet more selfish reason for acquiescing in all the frantic designs of the ultra Democracy who propose the immediate occupation by force if necessary (as forces and a large force would be necessary) of all Oregon from the frontiers of California to the Russian Colony. That reason is that the Northwestern States desire it and will have it, and that is useless to incur the defeat and party injury which must ensue from a collision with the popular humor! Noble ethics these! Noble motives to address to a nation of enlightened freemen and Christians, to submit to and acquiesce in the perpetration of wrong, outrage and calamity, because forsooth a virtuous resistance might prove unavailing! As Whigs we denounce and reprobate such doctrines. For one we are ready to incur eternal party defeat, in preference to achieving success by means which would overwhelm the Whig party with self reproach, and justly forfeit the glory which none can take from it, of combating for principle and on principle.

[MSM2]
Some of the Democratic prints represent Gen. Jackson's last words to have been, "no compromise (with England) but at the cannon's mouth!" When Jefferson died, some spluttering expression was put in his mouth too—we believe it was, "call the Committee on Public Safety together!" These in our opinion are pure inventions, one and all of them, or at best the ravings of distemper and therefore of no signification. They are pious frauds intended by the inventors to set off the dying Hero or Sage, and to represent him in the agonies of dissolution as still superior to the fear of Death, and as still absorbed in solicitude for his country's honour and welfare! We have no faith in this super-human fortitude, and reject all such statements as fabulous. He who is grappling with death thinks not beyond his immediate state or the dear friends whom he is about to resign, or that awful Being to whom he is about to account. He has not time for fine or Heroic speeches. We object to this last moribund Humbug concerning Gen. Jackson particularly, because it is calculated and was no intended to foster the war spirit which already prevails among the "Progressive Democracy."

[MSM2]

RW45v22i53 July 4, 1845 Significant!

(From the Charleston Mercury—Calhoun) "We never dreamed that, under the circumstances which places Mr. Calhoun in the State Department—called by the voice of all parties to its high duties—he could be removed by Mr. Polk much less that he could be displaced in the midst of Oregon negotiation, and with the tender of a commercial treaty from England to us. But the same blindness that led to this result seems to have haunted Mr. Polk in regard to our foreign relations themselves. His inaugural declaration that our title to Oregon was "clear and unquestionable," was a terrible mistake. Construed as every plain man would construe if, it put an end to negotiation. "Clear and unquestionable," rights cannot be put into the compromising crucible of negotiation without dishonor. "Great Britain very naturally, I think, took the declaration as an assertion our completer right to the whole territory in dispute, and our determination to maintain it. She accordingly prepares for war. But did the President mean it as the announcement of war? Certainly not, for he goes on negotiating. Does he wish a war? I believe him to be a good man, therefore he cannot desire the desolations of such a conflict. I suppose the truth to be, that the President was only thinking very innocently of winning additional popularity in the Wes, and that I never occurred to him that he was erecting an almost insuperable barrier to the peaceful settlement, or even peacefully attempt to settle the question, unless by arbitration. It is indisputable that before this declaration Great Britain would have accepted terms of compromise that might well be considered satisfactory to this country. National pride and jealousy now fully aroused, and the unanimous pledges of all parties to sustain the British Minister may meet us in opposition to any concession of the extreme claims of England. Mr. Calhoun, it is understood, declined last winter the proposal of Great Britain to refer the matter to arbitration. If he had been retained in the State Department, we may be sure that all chance of settlement by negotiation would never thus have been impaired by the needless boast of the inaugural. And no, Mr. Editor, if we in South Carolina shall be dragged into a war for one of the most worthless countries in the world in proportion to its extent, and of no earthly present use but as an enormous drain from the United States Treasury into the West, what a glorious consummation will it be to our patriotic efforts in President making! It does seem to me that this game to us is very like the game of coppers among boys—"heads I win, and tails you lose"! I am sorry to confess it, but I feel much like—"A Humbugged Man."

[MSM2]

RW45v22i53p3c4 July 4, 1845 Letters of Distinguished Men

The English Mission—The "Town" makes itself merry over the ludicrous way in which the honor of representing the Union at St. James's has been going a begging through the land’ and gives several of the replies received by Mr. Polk to his overtures to the different personages, who (the Town says) have had the offer made to them.—They are certainly very characteristic.

Chapel Hill, May—. My dear Mr. Polk:--I am perfectly aware that the party have driven you into a mighty narrow place; but you will get used to such things, as I have, before your next term. I have learnt by experience that there are always scrapes for green ones to get into.—You should not have suffered the party to get your nose to the grind stone, unless you meant to suffer some. AS to taking the mission to St. James's I'll see you d—d first.

Yours respectfully, Thomas H. Benton.

Lindenwold, May--. Most Excellent Sir:--Yours, offering me the place of Minister to England, is duly received. My opinions on this subject are, I trust, definitely understood. By the way, have noticed in the papers how sadly we want rain in the North? Garden vegetables, will, I fear, suffer immensely. The appointment of my son John as Attorney General of this State must, I think, have afforded you much pleasure, and have been perfectly satisfactory to General Jackson. I believe that the United States Bank was a curse to the this country, and that a proper regard for interest of the Union does not demand that a new name for the confederacy should be adopted; although I am free to confess that banks under proper regulations, may be very useful, and that, should the public sentiment require it, I should be the first to glory in the name of Alleghania.

Your, with great respect. Martin Van Buren

Washington May--, Sir:-- My engagements with Mr. Morse will not permit me to accept your very flattering offer of
the mission to England. Another reason is that it has been a cardinal principle with me to accept only offices of profit, and as the mission alluded to would probably pay a loss of $10,000 per annum, it wouldn't answer my purpose at all. If the party will guarantee to make up the loss and pay me a bonus for breaking with Mr. Morse, I am open to propositions. Failing in this, I respectfully offer the use of the Magnetic Telegraph to government to communicate with Mr. McLane.

Very Respectfully,
Amos Kendall.

[MSM2]

RW45v22i53p3c5 July 4, 1845 My Very Dear Sir

My arrival the seat of Government seems to have passed not altogether unnoticed, since it has been your Excellency's pleasure to prefer me, through your private and confidential Secretary, so distinguished an honor as that of representing this vast and growing country, as "Minister Plenipotentiary and Ambassador Extraordinary" at the Court of St. James. In your very kind not you have been pleased to bestow not a few unmerited compliments upon my ability to settle, in a diplomatic capacity, the serious difficulties growing out of the thoughtless expression in you Inaugural relative to Oregon. I cannot be confess to you my serious apprehensions upon reading that part of your address, which I thought at the time, would cause John Bull to bristle up. You say, too, in your kind favor of this morning, that you have been exceedingly at a loss for some proper person upon whom to throw the "Harness" of Embass, and that now I am "in town" that difficulty no longer exists. It would seem from this that you regard me as peculiarly fit to ring in upon the nobility of England. I am truly sensible of my capacity in that particular and must say without the fear of being thought egotistical, that the shape and talent, of which it has ever been my fortune to boast, ought to seem, in the eyes of the world, to point me out as the very person who could figure in the "Marble Halls" of Old England.

By the war, sir, speaking of marble halls; did you ever "dream" of dwelling in them until after had actually found yourself in the White House? I put not this question to you in any other sense than merely to mark the difference in the luck of distinguished men—like you and myself. I have "dreamt that I dwelt in marble halls," so often that it at last puzzled me to believe my senses, upon waking up and finding myself still Red River Retreat. While you, I am led to believe, never in all your fancies "laid such a flattering union to your soul." But see the difference, there you are now occupying as "Young Hickory" the place of your illustrious predecessor "Old Hickory," whilst I, like a Rover as I am, enjoy the broad canopy of Heaven for a bedspread. You have intimated thought, if I mistake not, your (indecipherable). Beau Hickman P.S. Since writing the above it has occurred to me that with all my qualifications for flourishing as Ambassador Extraordinary. I would be become willing to preside over the Treasury Department which would put just in my element, among the Finances. The duties of such a post would not be strange to me, as many distinguished men upon whom I have in can testify.

As Above, Yours& C. Beau

[MSM2]

RW45v22i53p4c2 July 4, 1845 To the Editors of the Union

Dear Sir: In your paper of the 5th inst., you have quoted largely from the N.O. Republican, and a letter from Gen. Jackson, the effect of which quotation is to identify your paper and the administration with Gen. Samuel Houston. You do not know Houston as I know him. And as the tendency of your remarks and of the extracts which you have quoted is to perpetrate a fraud upon the people of this country, a fraud deeply injurious to the interests of Texas. I claim the privilege of replying to them, and setting the public right as to Gen. Houston's character and purposes. The published letter of the British minister in Texas, proves that Gen. Houston and Dr. Jones pledged themselves to the British government that they were opposed is notorious in Texas: and if it had not been so before, the late developments of Jones' diplomatic intrigues with the British minister are conclusive. For it is folly to attempt to separate Jones and Houston. They are identical, as is further known by the fact that having reached Galveston on his way to the United States, he there ascertained that the public sentiment of Texas had reached a crisis which threatened destruction to him and his faction if he did not move with the current; and therefore he hastened to Washington, and induced Jones to issue his proclamation calling a convention to meet on the 4th of July. Finding that he could not arrest the torrent of public opinion, he resolved, if possible to put himself at the head of the movement.

But, Sir, that was not all. His policy has been to array Western Texas against Eastern Texas that he might put himself at the head of the stronger against the weaker interest, and he has gone so far as to induce Jones to usurp the right o apportion the representatives in the convention to meet on the 4th of July, because he feared to leave that question with Congress, because he hoped by this usurpation, to give to the eastern counties larger representation in the State Legislature than he could otherwise do, hoping thereby to increase his chances of getting to the Senate. He has not only refused to give that protection to the West which it was his duty, as the President of the Republic, to give, but he has done all that could do to arrest emigration to the Wes, and by dividing the Republic
By a contract made with Charles Fenton Mercer, without authority of law, he has endeavored to so locate the emigration coming into the republic, as to strengthen his personal and political influence, by fraudulently granting to Mr. Mercer and his British abolition associates, the right to colonise a large district of the finest and best lands in Texas, said to contain near twelve millions of acres. A grant made as I repeat, without authority of law, and closing the land office to those who had right claims and military bounty warrants, and which illegally deprived the old settlers who had conquered the country, of their just rights, and granting millions of their best lands to Mr. Mercer and British abolitionists. In this Gen. Houston has overdone his part. The fraud has excited a feeling of indignation against him, which manifest itself in the proceedings in every part of the republic, and gave a deeper feeling to the demand for annexation. One of the inducements to which was a desire to redeem the country from the corrupt men into whose hands the corrupt intrigues of Houston had betrayed it. We are at no loss for the object of his visit to the Hermitage. Houston sees in the annexation of Texas, an opportunity of transferring his intrigues to another theatre. He is (we are told) already a candidate for the Presidency of the United States; and we who know the excess of his vanity, and the former success of his duplicity and cunning, can easily credit the report. To attain this preferment, he seeks first to reach the Senate of the United States, and he wished to obtain the endorsement of General Jackson, and of the administration at Washington, that he is to be the channel through which the patronage at Washington is to be dispensed. Hence although it is notorious that he was drunk during the greater part of the time that he was at Washington, during the late session of the late Texan Congress, he now comes to New Orleans to make temperance speeches; and hence he has the indelicacy to drag in his wife’s name, and his wife’s religion as constituting one element of his claims to popular favor.

But above all, sir, permit me to call your attention to General Houston’s own confession, made to a late public meeting held in the city of New Orleans. Did he not there acknowledge that he had as President of the Republic of Texas, been guilty of insincerity and deception, duplicity and cunning, in treating with high minded honorable gentlemen representing two governments, (England and France) notorious for their strict honor and rigid observance of good faith in all matters in which they may have been concerned—two nations that had at an early period of Texan difficulties recognised the independence of her government, and in good faith sent accredited agents to conduct an honorable interchange of mutual obligations and duties between the parties.

What, may I ask, will be the feelings of the honorable gentlemen who have been duped by the infidelity and falsehood of General Houston? And what the indignation of their respective governments, when they find that they have treating with a nation confiding their national character to the keeping of such a man as General Samuel Houston? The government of Algiers, Tunis, Tripoli, or even Mexico, in their most reckless contempt of national obligation and good faith would not have made an acknowledgment so humiliating to their countries; and yet General Houston, later President of Texas, gives to his falsehoods the softer name of “coquetry.” What unblushing guilt has marked this man’s whole career! I will not trouble you with details, connected with the moral turpitude of his nature. Though, be assured, if there was one redeeming trait in his character, I would hail it as a green spot in the waste of morals. I deem it my duty, as a citizen of Texas, knowing Gen. Sam. Houston well, and that he has at all times been a withering blight upon her destinies to protest against your identifying your paper, or the administration, with him or his corrupt and hypocritical proceeding. I sign my own proper name to this letter, because its character is such as to require that I alone be held responsible for it.

Most respectfully, Your friend and servant. Branch T. Archer

[MSM2]

**RW45v22i53p4c5 July 4, 1845 Marine Intelligence**

Port of Richmond. Arrived, Schr. Jon Simmon, Small, Boston, sundries; Eliza Meserole, Progmore, Mew York, ballast; George Klots, Rogers, Fall River, ballast; Wm Thompson, Baker, Fall River, ballast; Rival, Caroon, N. Carolina, shingles and wheat; Hero, Hooper, Fredericksburg, sundries; Stmr Curtis Peck, Davis, Norfolk, passengers; Sloop Sail Ann White, Gwathney Smithfield, sundries. Sailed, Schr Roscoe, Eaton, Boston, coal. New York, July 2—Cleared, S. Rockbill, Predmore, Richmond, N.L. McCready; Saied, bark Steven Brewer, Richmond

[MSM2]

**RW45v22i54p1c2 July 8, 1845 From Europe (From the New York Sun)**

The Acadia has arrived, bringing dates to June 19 from Liverpool. She arrived in Boston Wednesday night, after a passage of thirteen and a half days, although detained by icebergs and head winds. The Britannia went out in twelve days.

A most terrible revolution has broken out in the Holy Land between the Druses and Christians, who were slaughtering each other, the Turks encouraging these hostilities. Many thousands have been killed and many churches burnt. A crisis is about taking place in Syria.
Cotton was looking well—a great demand and large sales. In the Share market there is still much business doing, and speculation has been busy in the lines which still occupy the attention of Parliament. In the manufacturing districts there has been much activity apparent, and the superior descriptions of printing cloths have experienced a slight improvement.

The weather during the last week has been such as to raise the most sanguine expectations respecting the new crops. The cold and bleak winds gave way to heat and sunshine, and finer days have rarely beamed from the heavens than those of the past week. There has been an extensive demand for Cotton during the last week, the sales having reached the respectable quantity of 43,870 bales. Surats have declined 1/8 d per lb., but American closed with the quotations of the previous week.

The Iron trade has recovered from the temporary depression under which it labored. In Staffordshire forged pigs an improvement to the extent of 5s to 10s, per ton has taken place.

Nothing is said about Oregon or Texas, and the best feelings seem to be entertained towards this country.

Messrs. Bering have accepted the agency of New Granada, an arrangement which has thrown an increased respectability around its stock, as may be inferred from the fact of the bonds having improved to the extent of one percent.

The Diet of Sweden has closed, after having passed many important measures calculated to be beneficial to the mass of the people. Great efforts are being made to cultivate cotton in British India. The Bombay Chamber of Commerce has published a report on this subject, showing the rapid progress already made.

We will allude to it hereafter. The steam ship Great Britain is to spend a week at Dublin before coming to New York. She made fourteen miles an hour on a recent course. The screw principle, we hear, will shortly be adopted for a new line of steamers between Liverpool and Dublin.

[MSM2]
Texas Annexed

The "long agony is over," and Texas has been annexed to the United States. As anything we might say could not undo what has been done, we copy from the Union of the 4th, the latest news from the no longer "lone" Star. Let those that can rejoice do so, but take care their rejoicings do no turn to sorrow.

Important and Glorious News (From the Washington Union)

On the eve of the great day which is consecrated to the independence of our country, we hail the re-union of Texas with the United States. We will now tread the road of freedom and greatness together. This news comes to us by the Princeton steamer, which arrived at Annapolis today at 2 o'clock. Dr. Wright brings the dispatches from Annapolis. He left Washington, Texas, on the 21st June, and arrived at Galveston on the 23rd —on which day the Princeton left that place. We are favored by the Doctor with following memoranda:

"The United States ship Princeton, Commodore Stockton arrived at Annapolis, from Galveston, Texas, after the short passage of nine days, having consumed only 93 tons coal. She steamed against head winds, with the exception of only 36 hour, when she was assisted by her sails. No atlantic steamer has ever made so good an hourly average, with the same economy of fuel; and considering all the circumstances, it may be regarded as an unprecedented passage.

The news brought by the Princeton is of the most interesting character. Both houses of the Texan Congress have unanimously consented to the terms of the joint resolution of the United States. The Senate had rejected the treaty with Mexican by a unanimous cote. Capt. Wagaman had arrived at Washington, Texas, to select posts to be occupied by the United States troops, and to provide for their subsistence. A resolution was introduced into both houses of Congress, requiring the Executive to surrender all posts, navy-yards, barracks, &c., to the proper authorities of the U. States. The joint resolutions were introduced into both houses of Congress on the same day, and were almost identical in their tenor. The resolutions passed the Senate on the 18th of June, and were sent to the House; the House laid them on the table, and passed their own resolutions unanimously, and sent them to the Senate on the next day. In the mean time, considerable jealously arose as to which branch should claim the honor of the paternity of the resolutions; and it was finally settled that the House should take up the resolutions of the Senate, and amend them in the third section, The House then passed them in their present form, and sent them back to the Senate, which body concurred in the amendment. The President is pledged to give full and immediate effect to the will of Congress, so far as depends upon himself."

This important intelligence has just reached the President of the United States, [this evening, half past 8] Dr. Wright brings copious dispatches from our able charge Major Donelson; but they are written prior to the adoption of resolutions of the Congress of Texas. He also brings newspapers, embracing the "National Register," printed at Washington, of the 19th June, three days after Congress assembled. We must confine ourselves principally to the contents of the Galveston "News Extra" of the 23rd June. The "Nation Register" contains the correspondence between Major Donelson and the Government of Texas, from March 31, 1845, down to June 11th, accompanying President Jones' message to Congress.

News Extra –President Jones’ Message &c.

We are indebted to Mr. Briggs for the following interesting documents, which we hasten to give our readers. Verbally we learn from Mr. Briggs, that the propositions for our independence have been submitted to the Senate. They are not yet made public; but it is understood that they are highly objectionable, and will be promptly rejected.

Executive Department. Washington, June 16, 1845.

Gentlemen of the Senate and of the House of Representatives: I am happy to meet you, on this interesting occasion, as the representatives of the people, again assembled in the discharge of your high and important duties. The call of an extraordinary session of Congress at the early day, but the Executive, was not made without the most mature, deliberation, and a due deference to the great crisis which has arisen since your late adjournment, in the affairs of Texas as well as the almost unanimous expression of public will which took place throughout the country in regard to the same.

The Executive has now the pleasure to transmit to the honorable Congress, for such action as the may deem suitable, the propositions which have been made on the part of the United States to this Government, for the
annexation of Texas, and its incorporation, as a State, into that great and kindred Confederacy, together with the correspondence between the two Governments, which has arisen out of the same. This correspondence, entering, as it does, very fully into the views and sentiments of the Governments in question, renders it unnecessary for the Executive to add [for the information or consideration of Congress] but little thereto in reference to the proposed union, render those terms more much acceptable than they would otherwise have been. The state of public opinion, and the great anxiety of the people to act definitely upon the subject of annexation, by a convention of deputies, as prescribed in the resolutions of the United States Congress, induce the Executive to issue his proclamation on the 5th of May, ultimo recommending an election for sixty one deputies, to be held in the several counties throughout the republic, on the 4th of the present month, and to assemble in convention, at the city of Austin, on the 4th of July next.

This recommendation has met the sanction of the citizens of Texas generally, and the deputies in the several counties; so far as heard from, having been elected upon the basis proposed, it is confidently expected the convention will assemble at the time and place fixed upon. To this convention, the question of annexation, and the adoption of a State constitution, will probably belong; and they will determine the great question of annexation, and they will determine the great question of the nationality of Texas, as to them shall seem most conductive to the interest, happiness, and prosperity of the people whom they will represent.

It is important that the "consent of the existing Government" should be given to their exercising the powers which have been delegated to them, in order to comply with a requirement to that effect in the resolutions on the subject of annexation, passed by the American Congress. For this purpose, the present extraordinary session of the Congress of the Republic of Texas has been convoked, and to its wisdom, as a co-ordinate department, the Executive now submits the determination of the matter. The services to be performed by the Convention will be arduous and will probably engage it for a considerable period of time and the Executive would respectfully recommend to Congress the propriety of making a suitable appropriation for the payment of its members, as well as the officers it may find occasion to employ.

The Executive has the pleasure in addition to presenting Congress the proposition concerning annexation, to inform them that certain conditions, preliminary to a treaty of peace, upon the basis of a recognition of the independence of Texas by Mexico, were signed on the part of the latter, at the city of Mexico, on the 12th of May last, and were transmitted to this Government of the 2d instant, by the Baron Alleye de Cyprey, minister plenipotentiary of his Majesty the King of the French, at that court by the hands of Capt. Elliott, her Britannic Majesty's Charge d' Affaires near this Government. In consequence of the signing of these preliminaries, the Executive believing it to be his duty, in the recess of Congress, to make the fact known to the people of Texas, and to declare and proclaim a cessation of hostilities between Texas and Mexico, until the same could be communicated to, and acted upon, by Congress and the Convention about to assemble. A proclamation for this purpose was consequently issued on the 4th instant, a copy of which is herewith transmitted. The preliminaries being in the nature of a treaty, will, with all the correspondence in relation thereto, be forthwith communicated to the honorable Senate, for its constitutional advice, and such action as to its wisdom, the same shall seem to require.

The alternative of annexation or independence will thus be placed before the people of Texas, and their free, sovereign and unbiased voice will determine the all important issue and so far as it shall depend upon the Executive to act, he will give immediate and full effect to the expression of their will. His situation in regard to the important subjects now communicated to Congress, has, since their late adjournment, been one of great delicacy and embarrassment. Questions of much difficulty have been presented for this determination, upon which the fate and welfare of the country depended and. Without precedent or constitutional guide for his governance, he has been obliged to assume, in consequence, great and severe responsibilities. He trusts, however, that Congress will approve the course he has adopted, and, by their enlightened counsels, relieve and direct him in the course hereafter to be pursued in relation to those questions.

The Executive is happy to announce to Congress, that Texas is at peace with the world; that with all foreign powers with whom we have had intercourse, friendly relations are maintained. The different tribes on Indians on our borders, with whom treaties exist, have continued to observe the same with good faith; and within the last few days, information has been received, that the only band of Comanches within our limits, who had maintained until then a hostile attitude towards Texas, have sued for peace, and expressed a wish to be permitted come to Bexar celebrate a treaty of friendship, which, on the part of this Government has been complied with. The arrangement made your regular session, for additional companies of rangers to be mustered into service, have been carried into full effect, and have afforded adequate and very efficient protection to our frontiers. The receipts into the treasury have been sufficient to meet various expenditures of the government.

A specie currency has been maintained without difficulty; and all the exchequer bills which were in circulation at the period of your late adjournment, have been redeemed and withdrawn from circulation; and the Executive is happy to congratulate the Congress and the country upon a state of peace, happiness, and prosperity, never before experienced by Texas, and rarely, if ever, equaled by so young a nation. It only remains for the Executive to express an assured confidence in your individual wishes to sustain the best interest of Texas, and the fervent hope the He, who holds the destinies of me and nations in his hand, may crown your deliberations with his richest blessings.

Anson Jones
RW45v22i54p1c6 July 8, 1845 Joint Resolution

Giving the consent of the existing government to the annexation of Texas to the United States. Whereas, the government of the United States hath proposed the following terms, guarantees, and conditions, on which the people and territory of the Republic of Texas may be erected into a new State, to be called the State of Texas, and admitted as one of the States of the American Union, to wit: [Here follow the resolutions of the United States Congress] And, whereas, by said terms the consent of the existing government of Texas is required: Therefore,

Sec. 1. Be it Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of Texas in Congress assembled. That the Government of Texas doth consent that the people and territory of the Republic of Texas may be erected into a new State, to be called the State of Texas, with a Republican form of Government, to be adopted by the people of said Republic, by deputies in convention assembled, order that the same may be admitted as one of the States of the American Union; and said consent is given on the terms, guarantees and conditions set forth in the preamble to this joint resolution.

Sec. 2. Be it further Resolved, That the proclamation of the President of the Republic of Texas, bearing date May 5th, 1845, and the election of deputies to sit in Convention at Austin on the 4th day of July next, for the adoption of a Constitution for the State of Texas, had in accordance therewith, hereby receive the consent of the existing Government of Texas.

Sec. 3. Be it further Resolved, That the President of Texas is hereby requested immediately to furnish the Government of the United States, through their accredited Minister near this Government, with a copy of this joint resolution; also to furnish the Convention to assemble at Austin of the 4th of July next, with a copy of the same; and the same shall take effect from and after its passage. The above is a copy of the resolutions as the passed the two Houses, and which will, we suppose, receive the sanction of the President.

They passed unanimously.

Tod Robinson.

We are favored by Dr. Wright with the following memoranda, in MS, takes by himself at Washington, Texas, just before he left it for Galveston:

Memoranda of the conditions preliminary to a treaty of peace, as agreed upon by Ashbel Smith, on the part of Texas, and Mr. Cuevas, on the part of Mexico, and the accompanying papers, as substituted to the Senate by President Jones.

I Message of President Jones, transmitting the treaty and papers to the Senate.

II Letter from Baron Alleye de Cyprey, transmitting to the Executive of Texas the conditions signed by Ashbel Smith, and the agreement on the part of Mexico to accede to them as the basis of a formal treaty.

III Conditions preliminary to a treaty of peace.

1. Mexico consents to acknowledge the independence of Texas.
2. Texas engages that she will stipulate in the treaty not to annex herself, or become subject to any country whatever.
3. Limits and other arrangements to be matters of agreement in the final treaty.
4. Texas to be willing to refer the disputed points with regard to territory, and other matter, to the arbitration of umpires.

Done at Washington, (on the Brazos,) on the 27th of March, 1845.

(Signed) Ashbel Smith, Secretary of State—Certified copy of the original, present by Captain Elliston (Signed) Alley De Cyprey, Bankhead. Mexico, 20th of May.

IV. Acknowledgement by Cuevas of the receipt of these preliminaries, through the intervention of Baron Alley de Cyprey; and declares that the national Congress having consented that Mexico will accede to the preliminaries proposed by Texas, as the basis of a formal Treaty, May 19th, 1845.

V. Addition declaration Cuevas. If this negotiation is not realized on account of circumstances, or because Texas, influenced by the law of the United States on annexation, consents thereto, either directly or indirectly, then the answer which is given under this date to Texas, shall be considered null and void. May 19th.

VI. Letter from President Jones to Baron Alley de Cyprey, acknowledging his kind offices in bringing about the negotiation, &c., &c. We also learn from Dr. S., that H.B.M. man-of-war vessel Eurydice, Captain Elliott, put into Pensacola for water the day before yesterday. She was received with all due courtesy by Com. Conner, and served with water from the city by the Commodore’s own boats. The Eurydice has been some time cruising in the gulf.
Another revolution broke out in the City of Mexico on the 7th inst. It was led on by a General whose name the Mexican papers do not mention. It commenced with one of the Regiments of Grenadiers, who entered the palace and made prisoners of the President and three of his Ministers. The rebellion, however, was soon quelled and order restored—the citizens, by rallying promptly to the rescue, evincing their firm adherence to the new Government. The General in command of the revokers made his escape; but the Colonel of the Regiment and forty of his men were instantly tried and shot.

In connection with this revolt, it is mentioned that previous to the departure of Santa Ana from Mexico, the troops stationed at Vera Cruz were marched several leagues below the city, in order to prevent all hampering between the friends of the fallen tyrant, and the officers and privates of the army. This was done in consequence of a rumor, that another revolution was in embryo in the city of Mexico, the object of which was to reinstate Santa Ana in power. The steamers that conveyed him away from his country, we also learn, took him on board at a place called Perote Landing, several leagues this side of Vera Cruz, and connected with Castle Perote by a separate road from that leading to Vera Cruz. Gomez Farias has been elected Senator in place of Don Sebastian Camacho

The Government of Mexico was raising an army of 2,000 men, ostensibly for the purpose of being sent to the Californias; but it is the belief of several intelligent American citizens that, that this force is destined to march secretly to the frontier of Texas. Mobile Advertiser, June 27.

Gov. Shannon appears to have freed himself from all blame in the strange matter of the Mexican indemnity—His official letter to the Secretary of State, follows;

Washington, July 2, 1845. Sir—Since my arrival in the United States, I have noticed that at least a portion of the public are laboring under incorrect views with regard to the payment of the fourth and fifth installments due our citizens from Mexico, under the treaty of the 31st January, 1843; and also that some unjust reflections have been cast upon me, as well as others, in reference to the manner in which the business had been transacted. I deem it not out of place for me to communicate to you the facts in relation to the two installments in question, so far as the are within my knowledge, with the view not only of putting you in possession of the true state of the case, but of acting myself right in this matter. This I should have done at an earlier period, had I been aware that there was any difficulty on the subject, or that there was any doubt in any quarter as is the facts to the case. The fourth installment fell due on the 30th April, 1844 and the fifth on the 30th of the following July; and I did not arrive in Mexico until the evening of the 26th of the following August. On my arrival in Mexico, the fourth installment had been due near four months, and the fifth near one month, and the date of Mr. Voss’s receipt, closing the matter with the Mexican government, I understand, is the 27th August.

It will be perceived from these dates that the agreement that was made with the Mexican government by Mr. Voss. Soon after my arrival in Mexico, on inquiry of Mr. Voss, our agent who had been appointed to receive the money, as to the payment of the two installments in question, he informed me he had in vain sought to obtain the money from the national treasury in Mexico: that he had failed on all his efforts to do so, for the reason, that, as fast as the money came into the national treasury, it was absorbed for the purpose of the army, and by Mexican claimants, whose influence with the government was such as to enable them to obtain the preference over the American claimants; that finding all efforts to obtain payment in Mexico had failed, he prevailed on the government to give him drafts on the local treasuries for an amount sufficiently large to cover the principle and interest due on the two installments, and the cost of collecting the same, and transmitting the money to Vera Cruz.

He also advised me that the English house of Tayleur, Jamison & Co., i.e. Mexico, had claims on the Mexican government and that they had taken drafts of a similar character, and were about to collect them; and that he had handed over the drafts which he had received to that house, for collection at the same time. The house of Tayleur,
there the country must be ours—these views by no means suit the grasping cupidity and swollen vanity of our

Although the territory north of 49º is barren and inhospitable; although we can have no possible use for it, until our

People!

But no such moderation is agreeable to that rage for acquisition which has seized upon so many of the American

Mountains, adopted as the boundary between Our Oregon and the English Oregon. This we had always hoped would

latitude, which is an extension of the northern boundary of the United States on the east side of the Rocky

obedient servant.

order to coerce Mexico into a compliance with her treaty stipulations. I have the honor to be, very respectfully your

difficulties existing between the two countries are finally adjusted, or our government shall adopt strong measures in

Mexico so soon as her financial abilities will enable her to do so, without regard to the future relations of the two

countries. I do not feel justified in giving any assurances that the remaining installments will be paid until the

Mexico so soon as her financial abilities will enable her to do so, without regard to the future relations of the two

countries. I do not feel justified in giving any assurances that the remaining installments will be paid until the

It is proper I should state, that I have no doubt Mr. Voss has acted throughout with the most perfect good faith and

integrity, and that he did what be believed to be the best for the claimants at the time; that, upon a statement of

the facts and reasons on which he acted, I concurred with him in the opinion, and so expressed myself to him at the

time, that the course he had adopted was the best, under all the circumstances of the case, that could have been

adopted in order to secure the money for the claimants. While it may be expect that these drafts will be paid by

Mexico so soon as her financial abilities will enable her to do so, without regard to the future relations of the two

countries. I do not feel justified in giving any assurances that the remaining installments will be paid until the

difficulties existing between the two countries are finally adjusted, or our government shall adopt strong measures in

order to coerce Mexico into a compliance with her treaty stipulations. I have the honor to be, very respectfully your

obedient servant.

Wilson Shannon

[MSM2]

RW45v22i55p1c4 July 11, 1845 Oregon

We learn from the Union that the principal negotiation in relation the this country, is still to be confined the this side

of the Atlantic, and will not therefore be put in change of Mr. McLane; “but (it says) collateral questions may

incidentally arise in London, in the discussion of this important question, which may shed no inconsiderable influence

on the final arrangement.” We do not perceive what these collateral questions are to be, nor how they are likely to

arise, and wish sincerely the whole negotiation had been entrusted to Mr. McLane, in whose talents, experience and

moderation all have confidence, and who deserves it more if possible for another quality not possessed by any

member of the administration; superiority for popular clamor.

We greatly mistake the signs of the times, or there will be need of this quality to preserve the peace of the country,

unless England makes a total surrender of her claims to Oregon, an event not very probable. There has been a

rumor in circulation that the outlines of a treaty had been agreed upon at Washington, and the 49th parallel of

latitude, which is an extension of the northern boundary of the United States on the east side of the Rocky

Mountains, adopted as the boundary between Our Oregon and the English Oregon. This we had always hoped would

be the basis of the compromise, and this Mr. Calhoun, while Secretary of State; was understood to have approved.

But no such moderation is agreeable to that rage for acquisition which has seized upon so many of the American

People!

Although the territory north of 49º is barren and inhospitable; although we can have no possible use for it, until our

population reaches there by the natural progress of population; and although when it does in this manner reach

there the country must be ours—these views by no means suit the grasping cupidity and swollen vanity of our
countrymen. They want Oregon now; they want it all; they want it in defiance of consequences, and in contempt of the claims of others! That there will be a strong attempt made to defeat any compromise, and to reject any treaty founded upon compromise, we do not in the least doubt, and that, as in the case of Texas, the sound sense of the country may be overpowered by mobocratic clamor, we hold to be full probable.

The truth is, there are immense and increasing multitudes in this country who desire war with England, and to whom (that event would be welcome with or without provoked.) Even the New York Sun, a neutral and an enlightened print gives partially into these lamentable sentiments. It requires England to recede to the parallel of $52^\circ$ (6º North of the mouth of Columbia) not upon any argument that our claim North of the Columbia is superior to hers, but simply because it is expedient we should have certain harbors, and that the country will be more profitable to us than to her!

[MSM2]

__RW45v22i55p2c6 July 11, 1845 Oregon__

We find some reflections which we advanced yesterday on the subject of Oregon, and the probable fate of the treaty said to have been agree upon at Washing, strongly confirmed by the correspondent of the Charleston Mercury, generally accurate and apparently having access to authentic sources of information. From the spirit of the West irrespective of party, and the time of the ultra Democratic press throughout the Union, there is great reason to fear the defeat of any Oregon compromise with England, and that affairs in that quarter will result in a national determination to exclude England from that quarter of the Continent.

A new and hateful spirit has manifested itself in the American People, and there need be no surprise at any pretensions it may act up (as it is already setting the pretension to all Oregon and California) or to any extravagance it may act. The feeble hand of Tyler set a stone rolling which it may defy the honesty and wisdom of the country to arrest.

The correspondent of the Mercury says: “There is, however, a rumor in circulation among a few persons here which is of very great importance, and if it be true, it may exercise a very material and important influence on the final consummation of the measure of annexation. I have not yet had time or opportunity to inform myself as satisfactorily as I could wish on the point of its, but I hear it in such a quarter and from such authority, that I am inclined to believe that there is some truth to it —if it be not true in all its parts. The report is a . . . to the effect that negotiations between Mr. Buchanan, the Secretary of State, and Mr. Packenham, the British Minister, are progressing upon the basis of the 49th degree of north latitude as the boundary between the two Governments. It is said that this line has been proposed by Mr. Packenham on the part of the British Government—that is has been accepted by Mr. Buchanan on the part of the American Government, and that the terms of the Treaty are now being canvassed and arranged between the two negotiators.

If these statements be true, some most important questions arise, which may not be very easily or satisfactorily answered. The first question is—will the Senate of the U. States ratify a treaty founded on such a basis? ON first thought and without consideration one would be tempted reply “yes.” There are, however, various reasons which would lead me to suppose the contrary. The 49th degree will not be satisfactory to the West. That is a settle question. The whole West goes for the Russian line as our boundary.

Mr. All and other Western Senators will not agree to the 49th degree. Will Mr. Benton? Has he forgotten his defeat of the Texas question? And his narrow escape from expulsion from the Democratic ranks? Has he gratified his hatred against the illustrious statesmen who framed, or reduced the shape the Treaty of annexation, and whose masterly arguments on that subject pronounced so great and effect? Or has he become reconciled to the manner in which he was compelled to vote for the passage of the annexation resolutions? Let the course of events show. And if a Treaty be negotiated on the basis of the 49th degree—see it Mr. Benton do not put himself at the head of an opposition to its ratification, and if the whole West will not go with him, and see if they do not couple with the acts for the completion of the annexation of Texas—a condition that the Southern Boundary of Russia shall be the Northern Boundary of the United States?

It will, however, perhaps be supposed by many that the Whig Senators will vote for the ratification of such a treaty. This may prove in the event to be so, but such a consummation cannot be relied upon. Distinguished Whig Legislators and Statesmen from the West have said that they hold themselves not bound to any such conclusion. True, they admit, that Mr. Adams offered the 49th degree as a boundary he was willing to accept, but that was refused, and they hold themselves now at perfect liberty to refuse it if offered or agreed to by Great Britain. From these and various other reasons I am induced to believe that if the 49th degree have been agreed upon—and if the Treaty be so framed and sent into the Senate for ratification, it will be a very doubtful matter whether it can be ratified.”

[MSM2]

__RW45v22i55p3c4 July 11, 1845 Marine Intelligence__

**RWv22n55c3p4 July 11, 1845 Correspondence of the Whig**

New York, July 5th, 1845. The Editor of the *Union* and a correspondent who lives in Washington (who no doubt is an office holder, and who may very well understand the measures and policy of J. K. Polk’s administration) are attempting, through the “Union” toward off the blow against the “powers that be,” from leaning to either the Northern or Southern flack of the Democracy, under the command of Maj. Generals Calhoun and Wright. They call on the New York correspondent of the Charleston Mercury and his friends of Mr. Calhoun, to “hold on a bit” and not to be quite so “fussy,” that Jim, won’t be President any more after his term has expired, will show all the segments of the great Democratic family, how sincere and fraternal his feeling and partialities are for their mutual welfare and harmony.

This will be a work much more difficult than the Editor of the *Union*, his correspondent and Mr. Polk himself are aware of, to show. The few persons alluded to, in the North, such as Rantoul and one or two others, the administration were forced to give office to. There was no escape from these appointments. And they would be turned out of office tomorrow, if it could be done without raising a regular row and riot, and bringing round the eyes and face of Mr. Polk a nest of hornets. Mr. Woodbury “lies in his throat” if he says he is satisfied with the appointments made by Mr. Polk, or with the removal of unoffending persons who, are subordinates in office have turned out, and the men they have appointed to fill their places.

I can tell Mr. Polk and Mr. Ritchie that more than one personal friend of Mr. Calhoun have authentic documents to be prove this statement untrue, and at the proper time will let him and Mr. Polk know it too. I say they have got documents, and I speak advisedly. The troubles in the White House from the ever varying blasts make Polk most earnest and diligent for harmony.---

“In this calling he is prompt and watchful more than ordinary men, Hence he has learned the meaning of all winds, Or blasts of ever tone; and ottenumes, When others heed not, he hears the South make subterraneous music.” But this Administration owes me nothing, and I shall ask it for nothing, but simply to be “host and true” and if it does not act so, I shall owe it uncompromising hostile and legitimate war to overthrow it. So far as I am personally concerned, I care not who it turns out of office or who it puts in. I am a small man with moderate pretensions in life, but I am too high and too independent, even on any condition, to hold office under such a soulless creature as James K. Polk. He unworthily obtained his high position, and unworthily conducts the treat confided to his hands. He deceived the South of the North in his letter to Kane, and if dares not now urge the reduction of the Tariff, he will betray the South, and if he odes, he will betray the North.

If he acts either way, the miserable creature of circumstance must have the scorn and contempt of the party deceived, for lying so notoriously to them. He pledged himself in this speech at Nashville, soon after his election, that no one should be proscribed for his opinions, and yet no sooner is he installed in office, than he attempts to wreak his vengeance right and left upon every officer whom God had endowed with a better soul, and who could not, without lying think as he did. No wonder Capt. Rynders and his band were at home in the White House and the new President of the Republic should give the President of the Empire Club a lucrative office in the New York Custom House.

We have had abundance of rain for a week past, and the crops begin to look up. The corn crops especially will be benefited by it. The weather, though has been unusually cold for this season of the year. The thermometer on Monday last down at 58. In fact, warm weather came in a hurry and went off so. Yesterday and today, however have been every way pleasant over head and under foot. The Fourth of July, yesterday, was celebrated with considerable life.

The steamboats in the Hudson and East River were paddling about all day with parties of pleasure visiting Hoboken, Staten Island, Long Island, &c. &c. The Military were out in full strength to march to the soul stirring chorus. They marched fro the Park to the Battery; where they were reviewed by Gen. Sanford, who by the bye is a time officer, and a good Whig. The American Museum was crowded all day, and at night it, with Theatres, was filled “jam up.”

The day’s recreation and amusement were concluded by a grand display of Fire Works in the Park, front of the City Hall. A good many youth were injured, and some badly so, by the firing off of pop crackers, pistols and guns. The least calculation there was consumed from 7 to $8000 worth of Powder by the Military, City and Council, and the many others who used it yesterday.

We have the news of Texas having annexed herself to this country this morning, and that Mexico would certainly declare war with the United States if she did. So I suppose will have to go to war and spill blood. Let Mr. Ritchie, who
is so anxious to drive the young men of this country into a war, agree to go along and fight too. Any man can grow patriotic and daring out of danger. Let us see who has the most pluck. I see no necessity of my replying to the article in the New York Morning News. So long as it admitted that what I stated is true, I have gained my point and now quit the subject with no ill will to them. It was not my purpose to distort that statement or anything else, and do not wish to hear that character. Hudson

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**RWv22i56p1c1-2 July 15, 1845 Hear the Green Mountain Whigs**

The good Whigs and true, of Vermont, held a State convention on the 2d of July, to make their nominations for Governor &c. As an evidence of the true American spirit, which animates the bosoms of the Vermonters, we here copy some of the resolutions, will be read with interest by the Whigs of this Union, and echoed back to the Green Mountains in one universal shout of approbation. Here they are;

"Resolved, That the Whigs of Vermont maintain, as their great principles, a Tariff for Revenue to defray the necessary expenditures of the Government, discriminating with special reference to the protection of the domestic enterprise and labor of our country—a well-regulated national currency—a Distribution of the Proceeds of the Sales of the Public Lands among the States—a Single Term for the Presidency—a Reform of Executive Usurpation—and, generally, an administration of the Federal Government that shall be national and constant in its politics, and efficient and Economical in its execution.

Resolved, That the unfortunate result of the last Presidential election gives no cause of despondency and inactivity to the Whigs, on the contrary, impels every patriotic citizen to firmer resolution and more watchful vigilance; and in reviewing the contest, we are proud of the principles we professed, and of the manner in which Vermont sustained them.

Resolved, That the threatened reduction of the Tariff, by the official organ of the administration, is a striking commentary on the hollow professions of attachment to the Tariff by the Loco Foco party, and should call forth the strong rebuke of the Northern States, at this repeated attempt to prevent any settled and permanent policy of our Government.

Resolved, That a Tariff with discrimination for revenue, is decidedly opposed to protection, and that all the pretenses of our political opponents, that they are in favor of discriminating duties, are calculate to deceive and mislead.

Resolved, That the joint resolutions passed by the Congress of the U.S. at its last session, providing for the annexation of Texas to the Union are a palpable violation of the Federal Constitution, and are not binding upon the country, and should meet the continued and united opposition of the Whig party throughout the Union.

Resolved, That we confidently recommend to the freemen of Vermont the State Ticket this day nominated, as composed of men of tried and eminent ability and faithfulness.

Resolved, That the Whigs of Vermont will ever hold in grateful remembrance the patriotic services of Henry Clay; that their confidence in his talents and virtues is unshaken by the assaults of his enemies, and should be again be presented by the Whig party for that office, which he is so well fitted to adorn, the Star that never sets shall shed around him its brightest beams."

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**RWv22i56p2c3 July 15, 1845 Oregon**

The correspondent of the Charleston Mercury whom we quoted the other day as authority that the 48th degree of Latitude had been agreed upon at Washington as the boundary, now takes back that opinion and says:

"Washington City, July 8, 1845. I have ascertained from authority on which I can place the utmost reliance; that there is no truth whatever in the report which I informed you was in circulation in this City, repeating the 49th deg. Having been definitely settled as our Northern Boundary, with reference to the claims of G. Britain on the North Western Territory. No such arrangement has been made with Great Britain, and I have equally good authority for saying that no such proposition will be agreed upon by the present Administration.

I have a so good reasons for giving expression to the belief that the Cabinet do no intend to compromise this matter at all but mean to maintain our title to the whole territory up to the Southern Boundary of the Russian possessions. The leading Democrats in the City of all shades of party, were unanimous in their condemnation of the supposed basis upon which negotiations were said to be pending, and many of them I heard openly express the opinion that if such course were adopted by the Administration, it would prove the political damnation of the parties to it on the American side."
Per Contra—The correspondent of the N. Y. Herald 2 days later: "Washington, July 10, 1845, The 49th parallel—yes, sir, the 49th parallel has actually been under serious consideration by Mr. Buchanan as the Oregon compromise line. A compromise on Oregon, where they should be "no compromise but at the cannon’s mouth! Mr. Buchanan now says that he does not know that our title is so clear as might be beyond the 49th parallel; and this in the face of his speech in the senate during the session of '43 '4, that he held our title indisputably clear to the latitude of 50 40."

RWv22i56p2c4 July 15, 1845 Marine Intelligence

Port of Richmond, Arrived, Stmr Columbus, Parris Baltimore, sundries; Stmr Jewess, Sutton, Norfolk; Schr Olympia, Hubbard, below, corn to W. Anderson; Schr Independence, Eerwan, Baltimore, sundries; Schr Bartlett Chandler, Dezier, New York, sundries; Schr Lenity, Smith, Boston, plaster; Brig Nancy Jane, Godfrey, New York, salt, to Davenport & Allen; Brig Josephine, Robinson, Boston, plaster, Baskins & Libby; Schr W Mowry, Hoffman, New York, ballast Sailed, Schr Susan Ludwig, Curling, Boston; Schr Ellen Ann, Tyler, Erkton. New York, July 12—Arrived, schr Elmira Rogers, Saltar, Richmont, Platt& Pearson. Boston, July 11—Arrived, schr Wave, Berry, Richmond.

RWv22i57p1c2 July 18, 1845 Future Advantages

In an article yesterday, we alluded to the debt of Texas, and the promises of Mr. Polk. The subject is one which ought to attract more of the public attention. It may be deemed absurd, in this age of usurpation, to ask by what authority of law or Constitution, the President of the United States, through the "representative of the country" in Texas made "promises" of "future advantages" to be extended to the "Lone Star," if she consented to the proposed union with the United States. We find such offer gravely alluded to by President Jones in his Message to the Texan Congress, and actually made in one of Maj. Donelson's letters. We shall wait with no little degree of curiosity for an explanation of this matter by some of the '98 men—some of the sticklers for strict construction—especially the "Calvary."

In the Tyler Treaty, as it was called, the public lands of Texas, and all other property, were to be ceded to the United States—the latter agreeing to pay ten millions of the Texan debt. Everybody believed that this amount was far short of the real debt, and that the United States would be bound to shoulder all the responsibilities of the defunct Republic—whatever they might prove to be. In the act of Annexation passed by Congress it was stipulated that all the lands of Texas should be ceded to the United States and no provision was made for the payment of the debt of the "lone Star." This omission, doubtless, is what Maj. Donelson has undertaken to call an "accidental" affair—and he, therefore, under the authority of President Polk, undertakes to intimate that this little matter, of probably fifty millions of dollars, will all be provided for, if the Texans will only come into our embraces, without any further parley—and, accordingly, they submit most graciously, without a dissenting voice.

It will be a matter worth future observation, to watch how complacently the Anti-Assumption men will introduce and defend the payment of the Texas debt, in the course of the coming year. How plausibly they will present the difference between paying the debt of Pennsylvania and that of Texas! How conclusively they will show that this outrageous policy of State Assumption, a little while since pertinaciously attributed to the Whigs, and denounced as Federalism,—is perfectly within the powers of the Constitution, or at least of the doctrines of '98!

We invite the reader to note the progress of this affair, which has no higher claims than the interest the scrip-holders and land speculators, whose wishes first engendered the scheme, and for whom the straight-laced doctrines of the Democracy are to be outraged. Maryland may struggle on—Pennsylvania may wring from her people enough to pay the interest of her debts only—Illinois, Indiana, and Mississippi, may continue to hear the food stain of Repudiation, but the debt of Texas must be paid by the General Government! The patriots "who left their country for their country's good," and seized the territory of a country with whom we pretended to be at peace, must be "cared for," no matter what the Constitution may prohibit—and no matter how often the "Democracy" may be compelled to repudiate their own doctrines.[MSM]

RWv22i57p2c1 July 18, 1845 The Debt of Texas- Mr. Polk’s Position

Mr. Polk’s promises. We all know that one of the most striking features in the bill which was at first presented to Congress for the Annexation of Texas to the U. States, was that this Government should assume all the liabilities of the little Republic, and take the unappropriated Public Lands. These, it was thought, were the only grounds upon which Texas would be willing to annex herself to Uncle Sam and, from what was then said by the friends of annexation, we were somewhat certain that they never would consent to any other terms. Finding, however, that Uncle Sam, at that time, had so many public lands of his own, and as many branches of his family, whose debts were unpaid, as were desirable, that feature of the Texas bill was stricken out entirely. This, it was thought by those who suspected the motives of the Annexationists, would have forever quieted the application for the "lone Star" to be numbered among the 26 United States but, all at once.
We see Texas changing position, and at last adopting the views of Col. Johnson, of whom it was said, that if he couldn’t get the nomination for the highest office, he willing to take a nomination for anything. So it was with Texas: if she couldn’t be admitted on her own terms, she was willing to in any how! So it was with Texas: if she couldn’t be admitted on her own terms, she was willing to in any how! But to the sequel of this change in the notions of Texas. We recollect that just about the time the late bill for annexation was to ass we were conversing with a high functionary of Texas, and asked him if the people for his Republic would consent to be annexed without the United States would assume their debts? To this interrogatory, he gave us to understand he could say yea; and he has been sustained in that supposition by the late action of the Texan Congress.

We thought, and indeed remarked at the time to our friend, that we took it for granted, if Texas consented to be annexed at all, it would be with the expectation of some day having all her responsibilities saddled upon Uncle Sam; and so it would seem from what follows. President Polk, it appears, has had a finger in the pie; and has proved himself not only magnanimous to the little Republic, but faithful to his trust as the head of this Government: "President Jones's Message to the two houses of the Texas Congress, in calling their attention to the propositions from the Unites States, says—"The Executive has much satisfaction in observing, what no doubt will forcibly arrest the attention of the Congress, that, although the terms embraced in the resolutions of the United States Congress may at first have appeared less favorable than was desirable for Texas, the very liberal and magnanimous views entertained by the President of the United States towards Texas, and the promises made through the representative of that country, in regard to the future advantages to be extended to her if she consent to the proposed union, render those terms much more acceptable than they would otherwise have bee."

This is a paragraph pregnant with meaning, and is of a nature to arrest public attention in all the States, particularly in the no dividend paying States. It, no doubt, means that promises have been made to assume the debt of Texas! We are now prepared to hear the “democracy,” particularly the "democracy of '98 and of “the Jeffersonian school,” contend that it is quite "constitutional" to assume the debt of a foreign State, but quite as "unconstitutional" to assume the debt of Indiana or Illinois. As to promises, what right has any representative or any office of the Government to make such promises for, and in behalf of the people of the United States? These promises, however, will be converted by Texas, when a member of this Union, into claims; and upon them will be founded loud appeals to the people of the United States. Meanwhile, as the Texas Stock Jobbers are thus managing their cards, they are disposing of their public lands as fast as possible. When we get the $20,000,000 debt of Texas saddled as a fund to provide for it. If there be any simple minded of “the democracy” in the North, who have not foreseen all this jobbing and scheming, we can only pity their miserable gullibility."

By the Norfolk papers of yesterday, we find the arrival of the U.S. Mail Schr. Onkshyee announced. It seems, from the opinions of the Naval Offices, that we are certainly to have a war with Mexico. Here is what we glean from the Norfolk Herald:

"Naval. The U.S. mail schr. Onkshyee, Lieut. Com’t Sinclair, arrived at this port yesterday from Chagrev, via Carthagean, Vera Cruz and Havana, 6 days from the latter. Left Vera Cruz on the 21st June. All was anxiety there to hear from Texas; and in the meantime the public opinion was made up that a declaration war by Mexico would follow immediately on the announcement of annexation; and the U.S. Consul at Vera Cruz stated to Lieut. Sinclair, that such was his decided belief. So look out for a war with Mexico by the next advices. Business at Havana was uncommonly dull. There were very few American or other shipping in port, and commerce was almost at a stand. The Onkshyee has proved herself, in spite of the disadvantages under which she made the voyage, a superior sailor, having made under favorable circumstances between 11 and 12 knots an hour—and 9 knots when running within four points of the wind. Some necessary alteration to her spare (which are too heavy) and her trim, will make her the fleetest craft in the navy."

Port of Richmond. Arrived at Bermuda Hundreds, Barque Alabama, Merrit, from Baltimore, in ballast, to Chas. Palmer; Below, Ship Marathon, Brown, from Europe, to C. Palmer. Arrived, Stmr Curtis Peck, Davis, Norfolk; Schr Catherine Martha, Dazy, York river, corn to Jones & Winston; Schr Santa Maria, Keane, below, wheat to Gallego Mills.; Schr Heroine, Hollingshead, Havye de Grace, coal.; Schr May, Hubbard, Baltimore, sundries.; Sailed, Schr Rich’d Thompson, Townsend, West Point.; Schr Evelinia, Peterson, Sandwich.

RWv22i57p3c5 July 18, 1845 Marine Intelligence

No record found.

Since the consummation of the annexation question, in Texas, we have been looking out for some news from that quarter, without knowing exactly what we were expecting. The latest accounts, however, bring us but little news of interest, and such as it is, we give below. It will be seen that some of the papers in the State of Texas, for we suppose we can call it nothing else, have been peppering the late President of the Republic pretty severely. Here is a specimen: From the N.O. Tropic:

Texas. The schooner Atlantis arrived yesterday from Galveston, bringing the Weekly News of the 5th. There is nothing particularly new or interesting. The News is filled with the correspondence between that Government and Mexico relative to the recognition of Texan Independence. The funeral solemnities in honor of General Jackson were celebrated on the 4th. The morning was ushered in by a National salute of 29 guns, and during the day the “Stars and Stripes” were seen floating from several Consular offices in the city. At 10 o’clock, a procession marched to the Episcopal Church, where an effective discourse was pronounced by Rev. Mr. Eaton. In the afternoon, an oration was delivered, appropriate to the Anniversary of American Independence.

The News publishes a list of 63 Delegates to the Convention which met at Austin on the 4th. Eight of the present members of Congress are members. Col. Samuel B. Marshall, who died at Galveston, on his way to this Government with dispatches, was attended to his grave by the Masonic Fraternity. The following, from the Houston Telegraph, is some what savage: “We did not receive a copy of the propositions made by our Secretary of State to the Mexican Government, until Thursday morning. We bitterly regret to say that they are more disgraceful and dishonorable to Texas than we had anticipated. Although they are dated at Washington on the Brazos, we still hope, for the credit of out Government, that they were concluded at Galveston, and that the Executive and Cabinet knew nothing of them until a copy was sent by Dr. Smith to Washington. Better would it have been if the band that signed them had been paralyzed, ere the disgraceful act was consummated.”

The following resolution was introduced in the Texan Congress on the last day of the session, but it seems that the House, after various motions, adjourned without acting upon the question:

Resolved by the House of Representatives. That the course of the Executive in relation to the question of Annexation, has been unpatriotic and unwise attempting to thwart the people in their well know wish, to reunite themselves to the great political family of the United States, and throw them afloat again upon the troubled sea of a separate existence, to be the sport of a policy hostile to Liberty in both Hemispheres; and that he may not be enabled to throw further obstacle in the way of this great measure, and ultimately effect its defeat, we recommend to the Convention of the people of Texas to establish a Government ad interim, until the Constitution of the State of Texas shall go into effect, as being the most certain, effectual and economical mode of securing our Annexation to the United States.
The schooner Sarah Ann, Capt. Davidson, left Tampico on the 1st of July and arrived at Philadelphia on Thursday. Such was the fear of so immediate embargo being laid on all the American shipping in the ports of Mexico, that the departure of the S. A. was hastened. By this arrival we have copies of the "Gegen," published at Tampico, in which are editorial articles, strongly urging the immediate declaration of war on the part of Mexico against the United States, as the last and only appeal to be made by that Government in the situation in which she is placed by the consummation of Texas Annexation. On the 26th of June a small vessel from New Orleans arrived at the Bar, below Tampico, and sent up to the city a sealed package, supposed to contain dispatches, which was immediately forwarded to General Arista. The vessel forthwith proceeded to Vera Cruz.-Balt. Pat.

The Government will in all probability never pay more than ten cents on the dollar on these bonds and bill, and that too for the reason that the Government and people never received even that mount for them. They are chiefly held by brokers and speculators in New Orleans, who wrung them from the oppressed Government and its poor people for the amount of from three to eight cents per dollar, and the Government will doubtless pay what they justly owe, and no more. Is it right or just they should? The brokers have tried many ways to secure their Texas claims to the full amount on the face of them, but they will never succeed. It is now a conceded point that some persons were bribed by certain persons by an offer of thirty per cent on the amount of the debt if they would cause it to be ratified. Persons then commence negotiations elsewhere, and thought they could lull the people upon whom this Annexation has been forced, should know what is likely to be the result in a financial point.

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had failed to arrive to attend the Convention. It was feared they might have fallen in with some of the Indians on the

movement noted above. The writer also states that Dr. Ashbel Smith has written home, that Lord Aberdeen has

Bache of Galveston, who, it is reported afterwards signed the Ordinance.

The buyers took the very serious risk of the continued independence, the solvency and honesty of Texas, on account of which risk the seller agreed to submit to such a discount. Now when pay-day approaches, the debtor says, "Sir Creditor! I will pay you just what money I received from you." "Why, friend," remonstrates the creditor, "what did you mean by agreeing to pay a much larger sum in case you were ever able to pay anything?" "Mean," responds Texas. I "meant to get your money, which I wanted, wright badly; but I am out of my troubles now so take what I offer you and clear out." This may be a very nice boldness, but we do hope Uncle Sam will keep entirely clear of it. He has some character to lose in spite of his recent hankering after loose company.”

RWv22i60p3c4 July 28, 1845 Marine Intelligence

Port of Richmond. Arrived, Stmr Columbus, Parrish, Baltimore, sundries; Stmr Jewess, Sutton, Nosk; Schr Fontaise, Willisby, Norfolk, light; Cecil, Travers, Baltimore, tobacco, to S. Winfree; Pastory, Creighton, Itimore, tobacco, to S Winfree; H Ingrim, Phillips, btw, wheat, to Gallego Mills; J R Dunbar, Powers, below, wheat, to Gallego Mills; Stoop Mary Miller, York ver, corn and wheat, to Worthaso, McGruder & Co.; Schr Providence, Kerwun, Baltimore, sundries; Navigator, Pointer, New York, sundries; Vermadela, Welsh, Itimore, sundries; Augusta, Godfrey, Boston, plaster; J H Urquhart, Burrem York River, corn, to Royal & Morgan; Sailed, Schr J W Smith, Parker, New York; Brig Josephine, Robinson, Boston; Schr W Mowry, Albertson, Greenwch; J Rosters, Lewis, Sanwich; Aid, Vinal, Boston.

[MSM2]

RWv22i60p4c3 July 28, 1845 Interesting From Texas (From the New Orleans Tropic)

By the arrival of the fast sailing brig Hope Howes, from Galveston, we received intelligence of the unanimous assent of the Convention, to the terms of Annexation, proposed by the U.S. Government.

The Convention assembled at Austin, on the 4th instant, and elected General Rusk as its President. A Committee was then appointed, who immediately afterwards reported an Ordinance, assenting on behalf of the people of Texas, to the terms of annexation, and it was adopted at one o'clock of the same day, with one dissenting votes, that of Major Bache of Galveston, who, it is reported afterwards signed the Ordinance.

We received Galveston papers to the 12th instant, but they contain very little news.

Our neighbors of the Picayune, received a very interesting letter from the Correspondent at Austin, from which we learn, that after assenting to the terms of annexation, a resolution was passed in Convention, "that the member wear crape on their left arms for one month, as a testimony of regret for the decease of Gen Jackson," and then adjourned for that day. On the next day Committees were appointed to report on the various subjects submitted, and at latest dates the Convention was busily engaged in the work of framing a State Constitution. The writer says that so anxious are the Texans to free the subject of annexation from further agitation, in the U.S. that [con] conditions whatever will be annexed to the Constitution, differing from the resolutions passed by the U.S. Congress.”

Despatches from our Government, in relation to the occupation of the Frontier by U.S. troops, were received, and Major Donelson, who had been detained by indisposition at Washington, arrived at Austin on the 5th.

A resolution was passed in Convention on the 7th, requesting the President, of the U.S., in behalf of the people of Texas, to send troops forthwith to the Frontier. This resolution was intended as a sanction by the Texans, of the movement noted above. The writer also states that Dr. Ashbel Smith has written home, that Lord Aberdeen has avowed to him that the British Government will not interfere any further in reference to annexation. Apprehensions were felt for the safety of General Tarrant, delegate from Fanin, and Mr. Howard, delegate from San Antonio, who had failed to arrive to attend the Convention. It was feared they might have fallen in with some of the Indians on the Frontier, who have committed several murders lately.
From our papers we learn that Ashbel Smith has been recalled from England, and that President Jones has appointed Hon. Ebenezer Allen, Secretary of State, Hon. W. B. Ochiltree, Attorney General, and Ho., J.A. Grear, Secretary of the Treasury. The Hon. K. L. Anderson, Vice President of the Republic died at Featheroe's, Montgomery county, on the 4th inst of fever. Col Wm. G. Cooke, Secretary of War, had gone to Bexar to effect a treaty with the portion of the tribe of Comanches known as the party of Santa Anna, a noted marauder, numbering about 50 Indians detached from the main tribe. Their depredations have chiefly been on the Rio Grande frontier.

It is stated by the National Register that a general council at the Comanche tribe will be held in September about Torrey's trading house, for the purpose of celebrating a general treaty of peace. The Register, in speaking of Dr. Ashbel Smith's arrival in England, and of the tenor of the advices from that country, says: If the more moderate tone held in England in regard to Annexation, be in any manner the result of this gentleman's mission, it has not been in vain. We believe its principal purpose was to set the British Government right in regard to the wishes and feelings of our people, and to induce the continuance of those friendly relations hitherto maintained. England is now fully informed of the desires and sentiments of the people of Texas, of the determination of this Government to give them full effect, and there can be no playing at cross purposes. We think Dr. Smith's mission was necessary in view of our existing relations with England, we believe it will contribute to the prevention of difficulties resulting from our Annexation the United States.

The Indians are still committing depredations in the vicinity of Corpus Christi. On the 21st ult. They killed a young man named Kinney, within a mile of the Ranch, and on the night following they stole sixty horses from an enclosure near the Ranch, and escaped without detection.

The Civilian of the 12th says the general health of Galveston was never better, and no apprehensions of sickness are entertained the present season. The accounts of the crops from every section of the country are said to be highly favorable. "Grain of every description is out of all danger, and has succeeded beyond all precedent. The prospect for Cotton has lost none of its promise." The British brig Persian had arrived at Galveston from Vera Cruz. She is said to have brought dispatches fro the Government. Of their tenor or from when they came, nothing was known.

General Taylor, commanding the U.S. Troops destined for Texas, with his staff, arrived in this city yesterday, on board the steamer Yazoo, from Fort Jessup.—N.O. Bee July 17

Texas Twins!

The friends of Annexation, in the United States, were not aware, perhaps, that bringing Texas into the Union, they would be introducing two new States instead of one. It appears from the following, taken from the New York Tribune, that the people of Texas have fixed on a division of their state:

"Twins- We are assured that a private letter was received in this city yesterday from one of the most popular and influential members of the Texas Convention, stating that it is in actual contemplation among the leading spirits in that body to divide Texas into two States, making the Brazos the dividing line; the State west of that river to called Austin, and that on the east to retain the name of Texas.-N. Y. Tribune, Aug.6"

That's right, sister! You are altogether too delicious a morsel to be swallowed whole. True, your population may be thought too small by some to furnish four members of the U.S. Senate, but where the quality is so fine, it's not worth while to stand for trifles. Cut yourself in twain, by all means! Such blessings as you are, should never come single!-[Tribune.

If the result above alluded to is to be brought about, Vice President Dallas ought to know it, that he might have four new seats arranged in the Senate Chamber for Senators from Texas, instead of only two.

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From Texas - The Washington Union contains official dispatches received by special messenger, from Major Donaldson, in which are included the authenticated documents relative to the proceedings of the Texas Convention. We published yesterday from New Orleans papers the news of the ratification by the annexation resolutions. This having been communicated to Major Donaldson, he replies as follows:-Balt. Pat.

Legation of The United States,
Austin, Texas, July 6, 1845,

Sirs; The undersigned, charge d’affairs of the U. States, has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note on the 5th...transmitting a certified copy of the ordinance adopted by the convention of Texas, accepting the proposals, conditions, and guarantees contained in the first and second sections of the joint resolutions of the Congress of the United States for admission of Texas as a State of the Union.

This ordinance shall be immediately forwarded by a special message to the President of the United States, who will receive it with the gratification its dignity and importance are so well calculated to produce every part...

Friday, August 15, 1845 RW45p2c2  267 words

A War Coming!

Those who are advocates of war, will see by the following indication, taken from the N. Orleans papers, that the United States is likely to be embroiled in a difficulty with Mexico, on account of the new member of Uncle Sam’s household, which he has consented to receive without the acquiescence of Mexico.

"Rumor had it yesterday (says the N. O. Picayune of Thursday) that the Mexican Consul, Señor Arrangoiz, was to leave for Vera Cruz in a day or two, and that his departure is to be the signal for the passages of a non intercourses act or law. Of truth of this we are not prepared to decide."

"The Bee, of the same date, says: 'We were informed yesterday that an importing house in our city had applied to the Mexican Consul to know whether he could clear a vessel for one of the Mexican ports on Thursday next, and that the reply of the Consul was that after Wednesday he would be unable to attend to any such businesses. As the duty of the Consul in such cases is to ....manifest, his refusal looks as if there were some truth in the rumors of war, now so prevalent.’"

In confirmation of the above, we take the following from the New Orleans Bee of a late date:

"Mexican Consulate-It has been...in the papers of yesterday, Mr. Arrangoiz, the Mexican Consul for the city, intended closing his official business here today. We can state positively, that such is the fact. Persons having business with the Consulate will therefore have to bring it to a close during the day."

[JM]

Friday, August 15, 1845 RW45p4c1 819 words

War Come At Last!

Hostile Movements of the Mexicans-Preparations of the American Troops.

The Much talked of, and long expected, has come at last and the two nations which ought to be at peace, are to be arrayed against each other in all the forms of hostility. Mexico, as will be seen by the news of yesterday, from New Orleans, has declared war against the United States, and the intercourse between the two Governments is of course at an end.

How desirable such an event may be to some turbulent spirits, we do not undertake to say, but sure it is, our Government had no right to expect any other result to grow out of the annexation of Texas, after the manner and mode in which it was brought about. Now, that the country is to be embroiled in a difficulty with Mexico, and perchance, England, who should be the sufferers, but those who were instrumental in producing the difficulty? We will see now, how the advocates of Annexation will act, when the emergency stares them in the face—whether they will stand up to defend that little Republic, which has caused the difficulty, or whether they will skulk, and leave the fighting to be done by others. We shall certainly be able to find out, after the Mexicans and Americans have had a brush or two, whether these people who cried aloud for annexation, in violation of the treaty-making power, will show the stronger love for Texas or for themselves.

The Annexationist must undoubtedly expect to defend Texas, now that they have forced the people of the U. States to make the "Lone Star" under their wing; and however insignificant these gentlemen may have regarded the
Mexicans heretofore, they will find them at least capable of resenting an insult.

This declaration on the part of Mexico, doubtless required a great deal of nice consideration, were the step was taken; and we can hardly think that government blind enough to suppose that, now, it has declared war, the Mexican people will be able to stand up against the forces of the United States, without the aid of some foreign power. What then are we suppose? That England will come to the aid of that weak nation, or that Mexico relies on France, to rescue her from the destruction which must sooner or later be visited upon her by the United States? While we are free to think that France will not interfere in this difficulty, yet we are not entirely sure that England will not give a helping hand to Mexico.

Where is the money—$12,000,000—to come from, that Mexico found it necessary to raise previous to making an open declaration of War? It is well known that negotiations were in contemplation, between Great Britain and Mexico, in regard to this very matter of Finance; and it is to be supposed, if the loan has been made, that England will look to the protection of her money, if she finds it endangered. We have here, then, not only the prospect of war with little Mexico, whose inability to contend with us should protect that Nation—but we have strong probabilities of having to encounter another Nation, which while it may not be able to conquer us, will, at least, annoy the United States very considerably. In anticipation of these things, we are glad to find that the Administration has been making some little preparation for the emergency, by ordering the United States soldiery in all quarters to hold themselves in readiness. The Flying Artillery, as the Northern papers have it, have already embarked for the Frontier, and the Troops formerly in that quarter are also in a state of preparation for a conflict when it comes.

But to the action of Mr. Polk in the further prosecution of this matter. Will he undertake himself, the whole management of the conflict, by heading an army of Annexationist; and meeting the enemy, or will he at once convene an extra Session of Congress? It is incumbent on His Excellency to do one or the other, and that quickly. However, as he will receive the official notice of hostilities, in a short time, we will expect him to do his duty—his whole duty, and nothing but his duty.

We must confess, that we are not a little anxious to see what game those very disinterested patriots will play, who went all for Texas, and nothing for themselves, in their untiring efforts to bring about annexation. Would we be expecting too much, if we were to call upon the Editor of the Union to convert his pen into a more dangerous instrument of warfare and head of an army of "Texas Men" to go and fight the Mexicans? Surely, any one who has made so many professions of sympathy for the citizens of Texas, ought to show by his actions and deeds that he was sincere. But "Nous Verrons."

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Friday, August 15, 1845 RW45p4c3 701 words

Declaration of War!

The Schooner Relampago, which recently arrived at the Balize, from Vera Cruz, came up to the City in Tuesday evening. Our previous accounts by this vessel, were very limited, based as they were, upon verbal statements, and a short extract form one of the few letters which reached the city in company with the dispatches for the State Department. It was not until a late hour yesterday, that we received the letter, an extract from which follows, containing the official communications, a translation of which is subjoined. The letter is from a friend and correspondent in Vera Cruz, and enclosed the communications, which are from the Minister of War against this country, have assumed a positive and determined shape. No simple act of non-intercourse, it appears, will give sufficient vent to the pent-up indignation of our Mexican neighbors. Nothing short of a war—a war of invasion too—that contemplates among the least of its triumphs, the reconquest of Texas—will appease their belligerent feelings, and heal their wounded honor. Well, if it is to be, we must prepare ourselves for the struggle. We hope by this time, that our fleet is in the Gulf—we know that our little army is at its post. The Water Witch, which may be looked for everyday will bring us full particulars.

We have reason to believe that the dispatches to the Department of State at Washington, brought by the Relampago, communicated the fact of War having been declared by the Mexican Government.

In a still closer view of war with Mexico, we take occasion to repeat what we said the other day, as the course which should be pursed in such an event. If we are to be embroiled in a conflict with Mexico, we hope that the scale upon which the contest will be prosecuted by us will bear some relation to the power and dignity of this nation. Let the assertion of our might as well as of our right be so complete, that among the other results of a brilliant campaign, no vestige of European influence will remain in Mexico to tempt her into a repetition of the fatuity of going to war with us.

The following is the letter and document referred to:

Vera Cruz, July 21, 1845

Dear Sir:
I have only one moment’s time to hand you the enclosed, to which I refer you. We are momentarily expecting to receive the declaration of war against the United States, from Mexico. Every one is making preparations to leave this place and move into the interior. The Water Witch will sail for your port on the 28th or 29th inst.

Office of War and Marine.
Section of operations.

Circular-The United States have consummated the perfidy against Mexico, by sanctioning the decree which declares the annexation of the department of Texas to that Republic. The injustice of that usurpation is apparent, and Mexico cannot tolerate such a grave injury without making an effort to prove to the United States, the possibility disposition, has been interpreted into an acknowledged impossibility on our part, to carry on a successful war.

Such an error on the part of the U. States, will be advantageous to Mexico, because, suddenly abandoning its pacific attitude, it will to­morrow communicate to Congress the declaration of war, and excite the patriotism of its citizens to sustain the dignity of the nation, and the integrity of its territory, now treacherously attacked, in utter disregard of all guarantees recognised in this enlightened age.

You will readily appreciate the importance of this subject and the necessity of preparing the troops under your command, to march towards any point which may require protection against these unjust aggressors. I am directed by the provincial President to enjoin upon you, as general­in­chief of your division, and as a citizen of this Republic, to hold yourself in readiness to repel those who seek the ruin of Mexico. The government is occupied in covering the different points in the frontiers, and in collecting those whose glory it will be to defend the sacred rights of their country.

I have the honor to communicate for your intelligence, and to direct your conduct.

God and Liberty-Mexico, July 16, 1845.

Garcia Conde.

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Friday, August 15, 1845 RW45p4c4 166 words

Late and Important from Mexico

We have been favored with the perusal of a letter which is addressed to a gentleman of respectability, at present in the city of Washington, from a highly respectable source. We have politely authorized to make an extract form the same. The correspondent has recently returned from Tobasco, in Mexico, and gives us the following information, which may be relied on:

“Very little, if anything commercially, is now doing in Tobasco. The Mexicans have taken all the guns and soldiers from the fort at the mouth of the river, for safe keeping. But the captain of the steamboat, in attempting to land the same let all the cannon roll in the river, where I think they will remain. There is great excitement against the Americans, and they are going to whip us without much effort! General Ampudia has made all his plans for the campaign, by which, with ten thousand Mexican veterans he can subdue and effectually conquer the United States.”

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Friday, August 22, 1845 RW45p3c3 97 words

Letter from secretary of Convention

Resolution relative to the introduction of the United States forces into Texas.

Be it resolved by the Deputies of the People in Convention assembled, That the President of the United States of America is hereby authorized and requested to occupy and establish posts without delay upon the frontier and exposed positions of this republic, and to introduce for such purpose and defence of the territory and people of Texas, such forces as my be necessary and advisable for the same. Adopted in Convention, at the city of Austin, Republic of Texas, July 7th , 1845.

Thos.J Rusk, President.
Texas and Mexico

About 11 o’clock yesterday forenoon business took us out of our office; and as we went down Camp, and on to the Post Office, we saw citizens grouped together at every corner, talking intently about—we then knew not what. They seemed...It was at the time we speak of, publicly and very generally known that the veteran, Gen. Gaines, commanding the Southern military division of the United States, had made a demand on Gov. Mor...on for one thousand men or more for the national service and the Governor promptly made a requisition on Gen. Lewis, commanding the first division of the Louisiana militia, for the required force...two regiments of volunteers, of ten companies each one of them to consist of musketeers and one of riflemen, and tow companies of artillery with eight field...It was the knowledge of this fact that caused the excitement amongst the citizens which we have attempted to describe;—it was that made them seem as it...(highly illegible).

[JM]

Friday, August 22, 1845 RW45p3c3 79 words

Items

U.S. Squadron in the Gulf of Mexico (Under command of the Commodore Conner)


On the Pacific Coast of Mexico-(commanded by Com. Sloat.)


East India Squadron, about to be relieved, and destined as supposed to the Mexican Pacific coast.

(Commanded by Captain Parker of the Brandywine) Frigate Brandywine-Frigate Constitution, Capt. Percival-Sloop St. Louis-Brig Perry.

[JM]

Friday, August 22, 1845 RW45p3c3 343 words

Caution to Merchant-Men

That American Commerce may dread Mexican depredation, or rather that of the pirates of all countries under the Mexican flag, is agreed on all hands. We observe the following in the New York Herald of Saturday.

"Symptoms of War-Preparations for Depredations from Havre, arrived at this port on Wednesday last during the voyage, a very extraordinary incident occurred, and the interests and importance of which our readers will easily judge when we recite the details.

When in latitude of forty-four and a half, and just as she was about to approach the south east bank off Newfoundland the captain of the St. Nicholas observed to windward two brigs sailing directly across his course, which was from east to west. These brigs were evidently new...The wind was from the south east, blowing moderately and as favorable as possible to any vessel bound either for Europe or any port on the American continent. But here were these brigs making due north, a course they be bound!"

"What were they?" these were the questions asked with no little interest on board the St. Nicholas, and the suspicions which had been awakened by the appearance of the brigs was not at all diminished when as the wind shifted towards the west of St .Nicholas diverged somewhat from her former course, the brigs came within hailing distance, crossed each other’s bows, evidently for the purpose of exchanging communications. Shortly after this, a large square rigged merchant vessel appeared in the western horizon, and bore down towards the St. Nicholas. Again the brigs came within speaking distance of each other, and now seriously alarmed, the St. Nicolas crowded on her canvass; and aided by the wind and the darkness of the night made her escape.

"The captain and intelligent passengers of St .Nicholas are firm in the belief that those suspicious looking brigs were Mexican cruisers carrying letters of marque and reprisal. Circumstances certainly justify in great degree such a conjecture. What object could such a vessel have had, close reefed and evidently cruising about, consistent with the character of peaceful merchant craft?
The Administration-The War-The Tariff

In the present aspect of affairs with the probability of a war with Mexico, and an avowed determination to make war upon the Tariff, we are rather inclined to think that the present Administration is in a quandary.

The President and his Cabinet must know, as every school-boy knows, that if the United States engage in a war with Mexico, insignificant as some may regard the latter Government, we shall need a certain means of supporting our Army and Navy. What then, are we to rely on as the resources of this Government, if the Polk Administration should see fit, by the aid of demagogues to repeal the Tariff?

Mr. Walker, the Secretary of the Treasury, has been tinkering away, for the last two or three months, upon some scheme of reducing the present Tariff to a “revenue standard.” Does he mean to reduce this wholesome measure, to a standard by which the mere expenses of the Government can be met? Or will that gentleman increase the height of his standard, by laying such duties on foreign imports, as will enable the people of the United States to keep off direct taxation? Here now, in the emergency of a war, we can give the Anti-Tariffites an opportunity of displaying their ingenuity, by calling upon them to know if they really intend to reduce the Tariff to such a low standard as to compel the Democracy to put their hands into breeches pockets and make good the deficit in the revenue, necessary to carry on a war which has been brought about by the Stock Jobbers and Land Speculators of the U.States

We should like really to see the first draught of Secretary Walker's in regard to his reduction to a revenue standard; and then ask his permission to look over his shoulder, when he finds it necessary to shape his ends differently. If we mistake not, the great Financier of the Treasury and Tariff department will yet it incumbent on this Government to keep up such a standard as will not only brace the manufacturing interests of this country, but also give strength to the soldiery of the United States. If this same little, “weak” and outraged Government of Mexico requires Twelve Millions of Dollars to sustain herself in a War, how much will the United States require to support her vast army and navy?

When the “revenue standard” men can answer this question, then perhaps, Mr. Walker will let this question, then perhaps, Mr. Walker will let the world know what he means when he says that the Tariff must be re-enacted, and suited to such a purpose as the Democracy demand.

But, we may be doing the Annexationists an...injury, when we undertake to say that Uncle Sam must rely on solely on the proceeds of the Tariffs to carry him through in this war?—We should have recollected that in annexing the little Republic, we also annexed a vast domain of Texas lands, which, we suppose, the owners will at once convert into available means, sufficient to carry on the war, without having to depend upon any resources so uncertain as the duties on foreign goods. Or, perhaps as we before have intimated, Mr.Polk and his army of Annexation men, or any of her allies, without the need of funds. We shall patiently await the movements of his excellency in this matter— supposing, of course, that none but Polk, Dallas, and Texas men, will be allowed to fire even one musket at the poor Mexicans.

[JM]

War with Mexico

That Mexico would declare war against the U. States, if her power were adequate to the wrong she has received, or to her resentment of that wrong, we have not doubted from the beginning: That she will do so, regarding the relative strength and position of the two countries, is what we shall be slow to believe until it is done; and if it should be done, we shall be prepared more to it should be done, we shall be prepared more to admire her spirit, than approve of her wisdom.

Nothing can be imagined more entirely hopeless and unequal, than a contest between the U. States and Mexico: It would indeed be so much so, that the brave man would almost be ashamed to draw his sword against Mexico: He would feel as if he was attacking a woman, or a professed non-combatant, where victory if possible would be more disgraceful than defeat. Mexico in a contest with the United States, would have the same chance and no greater, than Montezuma and his subjects three hundred years ago, had against effeminacy; of knowledge against ignorance; of discipline against rabble; of energy against effeminacy; of knowledge against ignorance; of the Caucasian and Anglo Saxon, pure white blood, against a mixed and mongrel race, composed of Indians, negroes and Spaniards, all three degenerated by the admixture of blood and colors, debased by superstition, and enfeebled by faction and intestine feuds. No laurels can be gained in such a war. Plunder there might be, and to some this might prove an equally powerful incentive with Glory.
Friday, August 22, 1845 RW45p4c2 140 words

The Tariff and War

If a war with Mexico ensues, it will increase the annual expenses of the Government not less certainly, than 20 millions of dollars. Already we may anticipate an immense augmentation of expenditures, in preparation, in the creation and transmission of munitions of troops, and in the new direction given to the Naval operations.

What, under these new circumstances, will the Anti-Tariff party proposed to do? They profess to be willing to support a Revenue Tariff-one which shall provide for the wants of government, and nothing beyond-a principle, in which, on different principles, we perfectly coincide with them: But, if instead of 20 millions of Revenue, 30 millions are necessary, what will they propose then we to do? Increase the Tariff to the Revenue standard! We should be glad to hear from that party in the present prospects of the country.

Friday August 22, 1845 RW45p4c3 217 words

Mexico and the United States

Several days have elapsed since the news of the Declaration of War, from belligerent Mexico, reached the American government at Washington, and yet, doubtless from some informality in the proceedings of the former, the latter, beyond the profiler of some preliminary advice, has manifested nothing definitive as to its ulterior designs. Our soldiery, in the meantime, as in crises past are instinctively burnishing their death-dispensing blades; and the...so much dreaded for their effective arms. While Texas, "the head and front of our offending"- the "beautiful but unfortunate" Texas, is eying with deep solicitude, the vapourings or the unnecessarily outraged... of her neighbor. We say unnecessarily outraged because, in the honest conviction of our minds, we have province to be superior to those of any other Nation acknowledging her in a like respective relation; or we have rather the more willingly, coincided with others better informed in the matter than ourselves, who have advocated the "let alone" policy, trusting to the rapid growth of her power and population as a means of establishing her importance in the scale of Nations, and by an affirmation of American policy so weaning herself, in place, Annexation in the bounds of honourable adjustment-such as should have characterized the diplomacy of a Nation with whom she had ever acted in good faith.

Friday, August 22, 1845 RW45p4c4 146 words

Texas

By the arrival of the Texan steamship McKim, we have received our files of Texas papers on the 5th inst; there is however nothing important in them. Of the proceedings of the convention we learn but little from the papers we have received, the only notice of it...the reports of two special committees-one on Finance and the other on Education.

The McKim reports the arrival at Galveston on the 7th instant, of the sloop Olive Branch, from Corpus Christi, which vessel reports the United States revenue cutter Woodbury, at Port Cavallo, awaiting the arrival of Major Donaldson, when she would proceed to New Orleans. The United States troops were on St. Joseph’s Island. The steamer Dayton left Galveston on the 6th under charter, for Corpus Christi, to convey the troops to the main land. The United States ship St. Mary's, arrived at Galveston on the 7th instant.

Monday, August 25, 1845 RW45p2c1 111 words

Latest From Mexico

The N.O. Tropic of the 14th contains the following:

“Three day later from Vera Cruz, no war yet!”
The only important intelligence brought by the French brig of war, Mercure, which sailed from Vera Cruz on the 27th. Mexico had not declared war, but that she probably would do so very soon. We understand that the Mercure brought no mail, and the only verbal information that could be gathered from her offices went to show a general belief among the citizens of Vera Cruz that war or non-intercourse was inevitable. We learn nothing from the Water Witch, though it is hardly probable that she sailed until some time in this month.

**Monday, August 25, 1845** RW45p2c3 107 words

Oregon Independent!

A letter from an emigrant to Oregon thus discourses:

"An Independent Government in Oregon- a letter from a citizen of Oregon, Peter H. Bennett, who appears to be the man of note among settlers, is published in the Platte Argus of the 2nd inst. "Ere this reaches you," says Mr. Bennett, "perhaps you will have successful operation in Oregon. When I first reached this region, about a year ago, I thought any attempt at organization might be premature. I had not, however been her long before it was conceived that a government of some kind was inevitable. It grew out of...inevitable [. . . illegible . . . ]"

**Tuesday, August 26, 1845** RW45p3c3 36 words

Later from Mexico

The Water Witch from Vera Cruz to the 5th inst. And the Revenue Cutter Woodbury, from Galveston to the 10th, bring down Mexican accounts to latest possible dates. We should have received it but did not.

**Tuesday, August 26, 1845** RW45p3c3 71 words

Very Late From Vera Cruz

Arrival of Water Witch-No Declarations of War-10,000 Mexican Troops on their march to Texas! Important Correspondence.

We hasten to lay before the readers of the Tropic the latest news from Mexico. The Water Witch, Capt. Trennis, left Vera Cruz on the 5th instant and arrived here between 5 and 6 o'clock this morning. It seems that after all the gasconading dispatches of the Mexican Minister, a Declaration of War is now doubtful.

**Tuesday, August 26, 1845** RW45p3c3 107 words

Still Later From Texas

The Cutter Woodbury, Capt. Foster, which left Arkansas on the 6th and Galveston on the 10th, has just arrived. Major Donelson came passengers in the Woodbury. The ships Victoria and Suviah were to leave Arkansas on the 8th.

The United States steamer Monmouth had arrived at Arkansas in a leaky condition, so bad that the pumps were going continually to keep her afloat.

We have received the Galveston News of the evening of the 8th. The sloop of war St. Mary arrived at Galveston on the 7th from Corpus Christi. The are 1000 troops at St. Joseph’s island where they are comfortably situated.

**Tuesday, August 26, 1845** RW45p3c3 157 words
News from Mexico

The long expected schooner *Water Witch*, Capt. Trennis, arrived at this port yesterday morning from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the 5th inst. She brings letters and papers as late as due: from the city of Mexico our files come down to the 31st of July, just twelve days later than were received by the Relampago.

Mexico has not yet declared war against the United States although she received; by the British brig. of war Persian...Texas upon the propositions made to her for examinations made to her for annexation, and some rumors of active military movements on the part of the United States.

Not only had there been no declaration of war, or even of commercial non-intercourse, but we can find not one word in our ample files to show that any military operations have yet been resolved upon in Mexico. The story of 10,000 men moving towards Texas is just a rumor.

[JM]

Friday August 29, 1845 RW45p4c2  94 words

Later from Texas

We had three arrivals yesterday from Texas. The schooner *Mary* left Matagorda on the 13th inst. And reports that the schooner *Two Friends* from this port, bound to Aransas took a pilot on the 12th inst.

The brig hope *Howes* left Laguna on the 6th inst and reports that a Mexican schooner arrived at Campeachy on the 5th, with a requisition upon the Yucatan Government for troops. The Yucatan government told them, that if war did come, they would have to provide their own troops, and that the Yucatan government would not provide any.

[JM]

Friday August 29, 1845 RW45p4c2 46 words

Still Later

The ship *Queen Victoria*, Capt. Ranlott, arrived last night from Aransas bay.

The U.S. Ship of War *Falmouth* arrived with dispatches at the same time and has not yet arrived. U.S. brig *Lawrence*, Capt. Jarvis also left in company and has not yet arrived.

[JM]

September

RW22n70p1c2, September 2, 1845: THE MEXICAN WAR AND INVASION OF TEXAS

The opinion is now strongly prevailing with all classes, as far as we can learn, that the manifestoes of Senor Garcia Conde, Secondary of War, were either apocryphal altogether, or unauthorized—that there will be no war, and no invasion of Texas--if there is— and that Gen. Gaines has acted both illegally and grannyishly in calling for Volunteers. Some men cannot resist any opportunity of rendering themselves conspicuous, though the temporary notoriety be purchased at the expense of the permanent discredit of their understandings.

The *Alexandria Gazette* of yesterday says:

“It appears that Gen. Gaines, is indeed, on his high horse. A letter from New Orleans states that in addition to his requisition upon the Governor of Louisiana, he called on the Governor of Arkansas, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Kentucky to hold their volunteers in readiness. He does not do all this under any direct authority or orders from Washington, but considers himself authorized under his general instructions, acting discretionary. No one knows what information he may possess, that, in his opinion, renders such a step necessary. From the published accounts, and from the tenor of numerous private letters both from Mexico and Texas, no sufficient cause exists for throwing that whole district of country into a high state of excitement, by calling young men and citizens from their ordinary avocations and business to unnecessary exposure under burning tropical sun, attended with consequent sickness and loss of life. Gen Gaines is an alarmist of the first water, and may “catch it” from, the War Department for the present proceeding. If his call be acceded to, Uncle Sam will have a pretty bill of expenses to foot, or, what is more probable, will refuse to have any thing to do with it, on the ground that the whole proceeding was unauthorized and unnecessary.”
The *Baltimore Patriot* of the same date says:

“MEXICO AND TEXAS.— We stated in our paper of yesterday, on the authority of a letter from Matamoras, that General Paredes was on his march to Monterey, with four or five thousand men. The *New Orleans Courier* says: “If it be true that Paredes is going to California with five thousand men, it is hardly possible that the Government of Mexico contemplates an invasion of Texas, for which object she would want every man and musket she could muster.” The *National Intelligencer* of this morning says, “it is evident that the Editor of the *Courier* has fallen into the error contained in the above remark, by supposing that the Monterey to which Gen. Paredes is advancing is the city of that name on the Pacific, in upper California, instead of being, as is undoubtedly the case, Monterey, in New Leon, and sixty miles directly west from Matamoras, and forty-five southwest from Mier, both of which latter places are on the Rio Grande. In fact, all the information we have, if we could rely upon its authenticity, would lead to the inference that the forces under Generals Arista, Paredes, Gaona, and Bustamente were marching to take up position on the Rio Grande—-we will not say preparatory to the passage of this river, but undoubtedly with a view to such a location as might render operation practicable, at more points than one, with the least possible delay and difficulty. We ought to add, however, that we have no reason to rely upon the late news from New Orleans press, the apparent absence of any information on the subject Gen. Taylor, and our New Orleans correspondence, all go to confirm the impression that the report of these warlike movements on the part of Mexico is most probably premature.”

[BRM]

**RW22n70p1c5, September 2, 1845: DEPARTURE OF VOLUNTEERS**

*From the New Orleans Courier, Aug. 22.*

DEPARTURE OF VOLUNTEERS

Yesterday afternoon, the company of artillery, who volunteered under Major Gally, marched from the Public Square, under a salute of twenty-eight guns, to the United States Barracks, three miles below the city. The fine, capacious steamship Alabama was lying in front of the barracks, with Captain Forno’s company on board. Notwithstanding the heat and dust, a vast crowd accompanied the march of the company from the square, increasing the great concourse of people already at the barracks; among the spectators was a considerable number of the fair sex, who had come to take a parting adieu and last look of brothers, husbands, and sons, leaving their homes to encounter the enemies of their country. There never was a nobler body of young men collected together for such a purpose. The greater part of them are under twenty-five years of age, and few are over thirty. The company, without halting, marched on board the steamer which is to convey them to Texas, the veteran Gally moving at their head. A little before ten o’clock in the night the steamer got under weigh with the companies above mentioned and five companies, comprising about 200 men and the 7th United States Infantry, the whole under the command of Major Gally.

The number of troops embarked is as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major Gally’s artillery</td>
<td>106</td>
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<tr>
<td>Captain Forno’s do</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seventh Infantry</td>
<td>214</td>
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<td></td>
<td>403</td>
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The U.S. infantry that embarked are as fine, hardly, athletic fellows as we ever saw—-all young, at least under the middle age, and looking as if they could effect anything that can reasonable be required of human daring and physical strength. This is a very efficient reinforcement for General Taylor, if he should be found in a situation of difficulty. The two volunteer companies carry with them eight field pieces, with fixed ammunition and accoutrements complete, with officers of skill and bravery to direct the exertions of the gallant young soldiers who are to manage them. The detachment of infantry, as we just observed is as efficient as one could desire to be associated with on the field of fame. Four hundred of such men, so commanded, are sufficient to change the aspect of campaign where the numbers on either side are not more than a few thousand.

[BRM]

**RW22n70p1c5, September 2, 1845: MEXICAN INDEMNITY**

From a private letter, says the *New York Express*, dated Mexico, July 26th, 1845, received by a gentleman in New York, we derive information that on the 31st inst., a motion was made in Congress to call on the Secretary of the Treasury for written report on the subject of the payment of the two missing installments of indemnity, which produced a very animated and lengthy discussion. Mr. Trigueros, the late Secretary of the Treasury, and Mr. Vose, the Agent of the United States, were handled most unceremoniously; and the Ex-Minister of the United States, Mr. Shannon, was likewise subjected to some critical remark. The motion was finally carried by a vote of 27 to 26, and...
we are now likely to get possession of all the leading facts in this mysterious affair. At copy of the report will be forwarded to us as soon as practicable after it is made public in Mexico.—Bal. Pat.

[BRM]

RW22n70p1c5, September 2, 1845: FURTHER FROM MEXICO

From the New York Express, Aug. 29.

LATER FROM MEXICO.

BUSTAMENTE, Commander of the Forces against Texas—The Fifteen Millions-Loss authorized.

The bark Ann Louisa, Captain Marshall, arrived last evening from Vera Cruz. She sailed on the 3d inst.

Previous and up to the departure of the bark Ann Louisa from Vera Cruz, the Mexican Government were making great preparations for war. They had taken all the guns and munitions of war out of the Castle of St. Juan de Ulloa, fearing, in the event of an attack, they would fall into the hands of the Americans.

A large number of troops had marched for the frontier of Texas. The whole force, when assembled, were to be under the command of Gen. Bustamente. The Mexicans, Capt M. states, say the United States are sending troops into Texas, and they, the Mexicans, will march through Texas on the road to the Capitol at Washington, without declaring War!

Congress have passed the bill permitting the Government to borrow $15,000,000 to carry on the War. This amount they confidently expect to raise in England.

The American squadron had not arrived at Vera Cruz, that Almonte would be elected President, in the [illegible] which they say war will be inevitable.

The Ann Eliza brings only $19,798 in specie."

[BRM]

RW22n70p1c6, September 2, 1845: FROM THE YUCATAN

The position of Yucatan towards Mexico is like to prove troublesome. The central Government demands men and money, to prosecute a war against the United States, and the response is, "not one cent." You may have both for the defence of Mexico, if invaded, but no aid, whatever, from us to prosecute a war against the United States. As Yucatan is one of the most independent of the Provinces of Mexico, and therefore, the least likely to be trampled upon, it is not probable that she will yield. Mexico has not the courage, or the means to enforce submission at her hands; and she is likely, therefore, to maintain her ground. Yucatan has before been in rebellion against those who now seek to burden her with taxes, to prosecute a war she is opposed to. She opposed centralism and Santa Ana together, and she once united with Texas to resist Mexico. The people of Yucatan are a better educated people that most of the subjects of Mexico, and will soon have a government of their own, and one wholly independent of Mexico.—N. Y. Express

[BRM]

RW22n70p2c1, September 2, 1845: RICHMOND FAYETTE ARTILLERY

MARCH TO MEXICO!

We find in the "Union,"(Mr. Polk’s organ) or Saturday, the following warlike correspondence.

The spirit thus manifested by the Artillery, we have little question would be that of the whole country was really considered in any danger by a singly human being. But as it is, we can scarcely believe that any rational man regards the ‘attitude’ of Mexico, whatever gasonade her Governors may employ, or the national habits of that people familiarly resort to, as implying the slightest danger to any Anglo American thing of life, from a man to a musquetoe! And talking of musquetoes, we regard them at present, and we believe the ladies of Richmond most heartily concur with us in opinion, as far more annoying and troublesome than the Mexicans, whom those ladies, if need were, flog themselves. They (the musquetoes) worry the children of nights, and the ladies themselves, terribly. We should look upon it as a most patriotic achievement, and quite as safe as the proposed onslaught against the Mexicans, if the Artillery would give this subtle and nocturnal for a, few broad sides before their departure for Mexico. We think it would be quite as easy to get the musquetoes to assemble on the Capitol Square, and consent to
'stand fire,' as to induce the Mexicans to stand the same operation. For the 'glory,' we feel satisfied that the ladies, whose bright smiles and brighter eyes are, in very truth, the only 'glory' that men care for, would pay more (at this particular time when they are 'slapping' all night to try to kill a stray musquetoe) for a musquetoe's scalp for a Mexican's.

The correspondence follows:

OFFICIAL

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WAR OFFICE

We are favored with the following copy of the correspondence which has passed between the Richmond "Fayette Artillery" Company and the Secretary of War. It breathes the true spirit:

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA,

August 27, 1845.

SIR---In pursuance of a Resolution which I have now the honor to communicate to you, I beg leave to offer your department the services of the "Richmond Fayette Artillery" for any duty you may be pleased to assign to us.

This corps, being one of volunteers, has been in commission more than twenty-three years. It has now on its rolls fifty-two members. With the exception of three commissioned officers, and two company officers, it is composed exclusively of mechanics. We are well uniformed, well equipped with swords, pistols, and hour beautiful six pounder brass guns; and could assemble for duty upon short notice. The strength of the Company might, with readiness, be increased to the complement of a full company, according to regulation.

In making this offer, we are actuated, as our resolution expresses, by the threatening attitude of Mexico towards our country. We are not uninformed of many wrongs our fellow citizens have suffered at the hands of Mexico—her refusal to render justice in many yet unadjusted cases—and the violation of right which she would commit by now invading Texas. We do not desire war; but as volunteers, in view of the position she has assumed, we feel that we are in the proper discharge of our duty when we offer ourselves for war-service.

Should there be, in the opinion of your department, necessity for draught from the volunteers of Virginia, I beg to say, for myself and my corps, that I should feel greatly honored by being included among them.

I am, sir, with great respect, your obedient servant,

THOMAS H. ELLIS,
Captain Richmond Fayette Artillery.

Hon. William L. Marcy,
Secretary of War, Washington City.

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At a meeting of the 'Richmond Fayette Artillery," at Military Hall, Tuesday night, August 26th, 1845, after drill--Captain Ellis in the chair,

Lieutenant Nimmo offered the following preamble and resolution:

"Whereas, in the present state of affairs, a strong probability exists that Mexico will declare war against the United States; and feeling this to be an occasion when our volunteers should be prompt in tendering their services for the defence of their country.

"Be it therefore resolved, That the captain be, and is hereby, requested to offer the services of the 'Richmond Fayette Artillery' to the Secretary of War of the United States, for any duty he may think proper to assign us."

Lieutenant Rawlings seconded the same, with remarks.

After remarks from the captain, Lieut. Brown, Sergeant Hatcher, and Surgeon Brown, the preamble and resolution as proposed were adopted, with but one dissenting voice.--
SIR: Your letter of the 27th inst. Has been received, offering, by resolution the whole corps, the services of the Richmond Fayette Artillery volunteer company under your command, “for any service that may be required by this department, for the defence or their country, in case Mexico shall declare war against the United States.”

Should the President be authorized to take into the service of the United States volunteers, and should the public exigency warrant the acceptance of your offer, the President will most readily avail himself of it.

The President and this department fully appreciated the public spirited and patriotic motives which prompt your offer, which will be entered on the list of candidates for military service.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed)

W. L. MARCY,
Secretary of War

CAPT. THOMAS H. ELLIS
of Richmond Fayette Artillery,
Richmond Virginia.

RW22n70p2c1, September 2, 1845: REQUISTION FOR MEN

The “Union” Mr. Polk’s organ, of Friday evening, says:

“The New Orleans Bulletin,’ of the 22d instant, quotes an article from the ‘Vicksburg Whig,’ of the 12th, which states that ‘a gentleman, who has just arrived from Jackson, informs us that the Secretary of War, under the direction of the President, has required Governor Brown to make a draught of men, and have them ready for further order.—Our informant did not know what number the Governor was required to call out.’ This is a mistake. No such requisition had been made. General Taylor is authorized, if necessary, to call for men from Mississippi, as well as from Louisiana, &c. But it is certain that no such call was made at the time specified, in any form whatsoever.”

The “Union” thus denies that the power of calling for militia by the Federal Executive, when there is no war, insurrection, or invasion, has been exercised by Mr. Polk; but it quite as distinctly affirm, that Mr. Polk has clothed Gen. Taylor with this unconstitutional power, to be exercised at his discretion. What is the difference? Why this simply, to plain understandings: the first would be a positive and overt infraction of law, (making requisitions without the authority of Congress;) the other is the intention, the readiness and determination to do it. There is a very shadowy line of moral and political demarcation between the two: Between a man’s doing a wrong thing, and his firm purpose of doing it the first opportunity, there is no difference at all in his moral accountability.

Mr. Polk’s errors committed, and in the way to be committed, have all grown out of his sensitive, repugnance to an extra session of Congress: Yet as Congress is the War-making and the War-providing power in our system, nothing is or can be clearer, than that Congress ought to be in session when war is to be denounced by this country, or against this country.

RW22n70p2c1, September 2, 1845: REPORTS

We have had in the last two or three days, very bloody reports form Texas, circulating in the streets, but not even the retailers able to tell from whom they received them. The principal of these was, that Gen. Taylor, with 2000 men, had been cut off by the Mexicans!
Such a report will be true when apples grow on oaks and figs on briars: And if it could be true—if 2000 Anglo Americans could allow themselves to be cut off by that effeminate race of Hybrids, not a tear ought to be shed for their fall, nor a funeral gun to illustrate the last ceremonies.

RW22n70p2c3, September 2, 1845: LATEST FROM TEXAS

The *National Intelligencer* of yesterday contains the following items, which are the latest of authenticity which met our eye from the seat of war! (Qu. Of humbug and putting up prices for Uncle Sam?)

The conduct of Gen. Gaines, in making requisitions for militia without the authority of the executive, which could itself have no such authority without that of Congress, is admitted to be illegal by the "Organ," the "Union": that paper while it concedes (as we do) the purity of his motives, says his motives "cannot exempt him from the censure of the Executive"!

"LATEST FROM TEXAS, &c.

Advice from an Officer of the Army, dated at Corpus Christi on the 15th August, communicate the important intelligence that so far there is no sign of hostilities on the part of the Mexicans. It is stated that a courier who had been despatched by Gen. Taylor to Matamoras, had returned and reported that there were only four hundred Mexican troops in our near that place. Our troops under the command of General Taylor, had all left St. Joseph's Island, and were encamped on the main land. They had a pleasant camping ground, with a delightful breeze continually prevailing, and were in fine health and spirits, with no enemy near them, and no sign of expectation of any.

A letter from an Officer of the Second Dragoons, dated at Nacogdoches on the 31st July, states that the seven companies of that regiment arrived there on that day, after a six days' march from Fort Jessup. They were to leave on the next day for the Trinity, and thence fro San Antonio. The writer says that the command stood the march very well.

A latter from Aransas Bay, dated on the 14th August, given an account of the loss of the schooner *Swallow* on the 12th, as she was going over the Aransas Bar. She was chartered by Government, and had on board a cargo of coal and a quantity of stores, and clothing belonging to the Third Infantry.

The *New Orleans Bee* of the 23d informs us that a company of one hundred and fifty volunteers, styling themselves the Mississippi Riflemen, were expected to arrive in New Orleans on the 24th, destined for the Mexican frontier. It was their intention to join the Louisiana volunteers.

The Pensacola correspondent of the *Tropic* writes as follows, under date of the 20th August:

"Presuming it would be interesting to hear a little bit of news about the doings of our squadron, I take the liberty to address you a few lines on the subject. As I am writing, the St. Mary's and Saratoga are coming in under heavy canvass, and no doubt we shall some exciting news, both from Texas and Mexico.

"The Princeton and the steamer Mississippi arrived here yesterday—the former Philadelphia, and the letter from Boston. The sloop John Adams and brig Porpoise anchored the day previous in front of the Navy Yard. So you will perceive that we have no a very decent show to make in the Gulf.

"To recapitulate, our squadron now consist of the following men of war: the sloop Falmouth mounting twenty guns; the brig Lawrence, ten guns—now in the Gulf, supposed to be at Vera Cruz; steamer Mississippi, ten 64 pound carronade; sloop John Adams, twenty guns; frigate Potomac, forty four guns.

"The above named vessels, with the exception of the two first ones, which are in Vera Cruz, are now all lying at anchor at the Navy Yard, under command Commodore Conner, and will leave for the Gulf [supposed to be for Vera Cruz] on Saturday; the leak on board the Potomac not having been discovered yet, it is presumed that Commodore will leave her here and shift his broad pennant on board of the Mississippi. Capt. Ingram arrived here by this day's mail to relieve Captain Gerry of the brig. Somers--I presume you are already aware of the troops now at Forte McRae and Pickens having been also ordered to Texas."

[BRM]

RW22n71p1c1, September 5, 1845: THE WAR WITH MEXICO

There is a great disposition on the part of the general public, to laugh the Mexican war machine attempt into contempt. We must confess that we consider the disposition natural and authorized. The battle of San Jacinto, which
The Undine left Aransas Bay on the 21st inst. The schooner prevailed in the Camp.

Matamoras does not exceed 1,500—-that they are sadly supported, and not more efficient than Mexican soldiers.

Per contra the Civilian declares that from the best information, the number of troops at Matamoras is said to be 8,000 strong, and are engaged in fortifying that city.

The Galveston News states that the Mexican army at Matamoras is said to be 8,000 strong, and are engaged in fortifying that city.

The steamer which had been wrecked on the Bar, had been stripped on her masts, sails, rigging, &c. Some of her cargo was saved.

The steamer McKim, at Galveston, was to leave at 3 o’clock on the 23d inst.

The Galveston News states that the Mexican army at Matamoras is said to be 8,000 strong, and are engaged in fortifying that city.

Per contra the Civilian declares that from the best information, the number of troops at Matamoras does not exceed 1,500—-that they are sadly supported, and not more efficient than Mexican soldiers.

A Correspondent of the N. Y. Herald at Washington, writes that paper as follow:

“It surely cannot be the object of our government to commence the war. If war is to come, let Mexico begin it, and then let her look out for the blow that will follow. Gen Taylor is undoubtedly told that he must not be the aggressor. He has a difficult duty to perform. He is in a wild country, with Mexicans on one side and Texans on the other. He must make roads, establish posts, and build forts on our new frontier. While he is preparing to repel a blow from the one, it is equally his duty to see that there is no improper interference on the part of the other. If war is to come, it will not be proclaimed from the capital of Mexico; but it, will be commenced on the banks of the Rio Grande. It becomes the duty of the American General, then, to prevent all lawless depredation—-to restrain all lawless bands—-to allow no crossing of the line by unauthorized desperadoes, no burning of houses, no stealing of horses, no cutting of throats, no hanging. For the performance of so difficult a duty our government has, it is said, selected one of its ablest generals—-an officer of judgment, courage and experience. They are placing at his disposal the flower of our army, and are surrounding him by those choice spirits, which are every where to be found among our educated and gallant young officers. They are stripping our coast of troops, leaving only here and there, an old jogy with a few young officers and the skeleton of a company, to act as a sort of police guard about our fortification. Let them now authorize the General in the field, in case of emergency, to call for volunteers and militia from Texas, and all will be well. If volunteers and militia are required, let them come from Texas first, and, if necessary, from the Mississippi valley afterwards. Let them be called for by the General who conducts the campaign, and not by an old alarmist in the city of New Orleans. It will never do to trust to the discretion of General Gaines. He is too much like Father Ritchie, “ardent as a southern sun can make him.” He is one of your hair trigger old gentlemen, who, whenever there is the least excitement, goes off half cocked, as a matter of course! Like an old dragoon charger, he hears war in every bugle note—-he snuffs it in the breeze from afar—-pricking up his ears, gives a snort, and, with head and tail erect, sets out to join in the distant ranks, and hopes to make yet another charge! He has ever had the disposition to defend his country—he was once, no doubt, a gallant and valuable officer; but that was “a long time ago.” He ought now to seek that quiet and repose so necessary to age and the decline of life. It is now too late for him to mingle in the strife of contending armies, and to lead on those daring spirits, whose prowess must, in the last resort decide the fate of nations. Cannot the Executive hold him in check, and prevent his doing mischief? This is all that the people can expect. The country certainly will not look to him, at this late day, as the leader of its armies—it has younger men. Would it not be well for our legislators to provide something like a pension or retired list for our old and worn out officers who have done the state of good service? Would it not be well to provide some arrangement which would enable them to retire in comfort, leave their places to be filled by young efficient men. A single injudicious and unnecessary call for militia would cost the county more money than would support Gen. Gaines and all his old associates, on a retired list, during the remainder of their lives. Besides, it would do the country no good to have our young men drawn from their business pursuits by such ill­timed calls.”
The accounts from the Convention are meager and unsatisfactory. Nothing further had been done relative to the project of attempting to establish a Provisional Government and annulling the present Constitution, prior to the completion of the Constitution of the State. The plan had been strongly opposed by Messrs. Henderson, Van Zandt, and other leading members, and discountenanced by Major Donelson.

The following resolutions, introduced by Gov. Runnels, were adopted by the Convention on the 29th ult:

"Resolved. That the committee on the General Provisions of the Constitution be instructed to enquire into the expediency and propriety of incorporating in the Constitution, the following provisions:

SLAVES.

1st. The Legislature shall have no power to pass laws for the emancipation of slaves; without the consent of their owners, or without paying their owners previous to such emancipation, a full equivalent for the slaves emancipated. They shall have no power to prevent immigrants to this State from bringing them such persons as are deemed slaves by the laws of any one of the United States so long as any person of the same age and description shall be continued in slavery by the laws of this State; provided that such person or slave be the bona fide property of such emigrants; and provided also, that laws may be passed to prohibit the introduction into this State of slaves who have committed high crimes in other States or Territories. They shall have full power to oblige the owners of slaves to treat them with humanity, to provide for them necessary food and clothing, to abstain from all cruelties to them; and in case of their neglect or refusal to comply with the requisitions of such laws, to provide, by law, for the sale of such slave or slaves, for the benefit of the owner or owners.

2d. In the prosecution of slaves for crimes of higher grade that petit larceny, the Legislature shall have no power to deprive them of an Impartial trial by a petit jury.

3d. Any person who shall maliciously dismember or deprive a slave of life, shall suffer such punishment as would be inflicted in case the like offence had been committed on a free white person, and on the like proof, except in case of insurrection of such slave."

On of the provisions passed by the Convention prohibits the creation, renewal or extension of any corporate body with banking or discounting power. Another section prohibits the Legislature from contracting debts above one hundred thousand dollars, except in case of war, or to repel invasion or insurrection.

The Houston Telegraph of the 21st instant, says that a party of about 70 Mexican soldiers approached within 16 miles of Castroville, about a fortnight ago. Captain Hays received information of their movements, and went out to attack them; but they were apprised of his approach by other of their spies, and hastily decamped. It is supposed that they intended to attack Castroville for the purpose of capturing a quantity of goods that had been deposited there by some Mexican traders. The traders reported that they were under the command of a man by the name of Platina; that they belonged to a detachment of Cartradores, that has recently been stationed at Presidio.

Our neighbours of the Enquirer go into a long editorial, in their paper of yesterday, to establish the inconsistency of the Whig on the war-question and the unkindness of what was intended as a mere piece of fun, our article on the bellicose demonstration of the Fayette Artillery. We do not think it worth our while to vindicate the Whig from the first charge, no is it all necessary that we should say anything with reference to the last. But the Enquirer (one of whose Editors is a gay Lieutenant of the veteran corps in question) seems determined to misinterpret our meaning and to draw from it an innuendo against their courage and patriotism. Now no such thing was intended. Nobody though of asserting that the Richmond Fayette Artillery was not spirited and gallant company. So far from it we are willing to consider that this recent emeule proves incontestably that they are the most determined and soldierly and intrepid body of volunteers that ever dragged cannon in the service of freedom.

In view of the (very) "threatening attitude of Mexico," they had a perfect right to offer their services to the Secretary of War, and if Gov. Marcy had thought proper to accept them, we should not have urged a single objection to their embarking, together with all who would accompany them, not even excluding the Chepachet Invincibles of Thomas W. Dorr.

It is certainly very amusing to see a company and a company of Virginians, as ardent as a southern sun can make them, so eager for a fray as to resolve themselves into a standing army of 56 men and pant to rush desperately (two thousand miles) upon a foe, composed of effeminate, half-fed, ill-clothed, disaffected Mexicans, not as yet in the field and little disposed for attack. It was this much ado about nothing that diverted us---this belligerent spirit with no occasion for its exercise---this over-hasty and premature intrepidity which snuffs the battle from afar,
which would carry the Artillery to Mexico and bring them back unthinned but by fever, resembling nothing so much as those dreadful preparations, when

“The King of France with forty thousand men,

Marched up the Hill and then marched down again.”

In this state of affairs and not wishing the Artillery’s patriotism to evaporate, we ventured to suggest that they might win domestic laurels by doing something to exterminate the mosquitoes, which always attend the exodus of summer. So great have become the ravages of these pests that we were about begging some public spirited city father to introduce a bill (we do not intend a pun) into the Common Council to grant us a riddance. But if the military (which is more potent than the civil force) would take it up and demonstrate that truth of the poet-philosopher, Peace has its’ victories as well as war, what blessings would not attend them! What abundant reward would they not reap in the smiles of the fair, to which we know the Artillery are not insensible! For to make two blades of grass grow where one grew before, to follow industriously the ordinary avocations of life, to ride the community of insects that prey upon them during slumber, we submit,

Are ways to benefit mankind as true,
Perhaps, as shooting them at Waterloo.

[BRM]

RW22n71p2c3, September 5, 1845, MILITARY

We learn from the Pensacola Gazette of Saturday that the following named officers of the Staff have been ordered to report to General Taylor, in Texas:---Captain Ramsay, Ordinance department; Captain Crain, Topographical Engineers; Captain Sanders, Corps of Engineers; 1st Lieut. Scarrit, do; 2d Lieut. Kingsbury, Ordinance, and Bvt. Lieut. Word, Topographical Engineers.

The Gazette says---“We learn that three companies of the 7th Infantry now stationed at the Barancas, are to leave here in a day or two for Texas.”

The steamboat Creole arrived at Pensacola on Monday, took in military stores at Barancas, and left the same day for Aransas Bay.

The St. Augustine Herald publishes the following information in relation to the removal of the United States troops from the State:

The 8th Regiment, stationed at this post, Fort Brooks [Tampa Bay,] and Key West, received orders by the last mail to proceed to Aransas Bay, Texas Companies A---Gwynn’s; E---McKavitt’s; G---Worth’s and I----Hill’s are already embarked and sail to-day for their destination. Gen. Worth proceeds across the country to Tampa, at which point the Regiment is to rendezvous and embark in Transport ordered from the North.

The officers who embark at this post, are Capts. Worth, McKavitt and Hill; Lieut. Gates, Smith, Lee, Sheppard, Jordan, Longstreet and Wood.----N.O. Tropic.

[BRM]

RW22n72p1c1, September 9, 1845: DEBT OF TEXAS

It is stated in a New York paper that a proposition will be submitted at the next session of Congress to advance some millions to Texas, on condition that she transfer her public lands to the United States.

We never doubted, but that this annexation project—which originated in a speculating, gambling spirit, contemplated the saddling Uncle Sam with the debts of Texas. The zeal with which the scheme was supported by certain individuals could only be accounted for the supposition, that they were stimulated by interested considerations. The original scheme proposed in so many words the assumption of ten millions of debt; but this was so barefaced, that this feature was stricken out, and by the articles as finally agreed upon, Texas was left to pay her own debts. To get around this stipulation, and to return to the original plan, in effect, will now be the object to be accomplished. It is by this means only that the flaming patriots can realize to the full extent the immense profits anticipated from Texas scrip, &c.

We have seen no estimate to be relied upon of the amount of the Texas debt; but this is of no consequence. A matter of higher moment, is the principle involved. Is Texas the only State whose debts are to assumed by the Federal Government? Is she the only one worthy of this distinguished honour and signal favour? Why should not Indiana, Mississippi, Florida——and the rest of the States, whose credit has been tarnished, and who are embarrassed
heavily, receive a like assistance from the Federal Treasury? Why, indeed, should not all the States come in for an equal and just distribution? On what principle of justice is it that Virginia, for instance, which contributed her millions of acres to the Union, shall be excluded, while this new State is to be overwhelmed by Federal bounty?

Can any other reason be assigned for such a proceeding, than the sinister influence, which the land jobbers and scrip speculators exert over the present Administration? If the Texas debt is assumed, several individuals, who are not overstocked with money to­day, may be millionaires to­morrow—­but no such partial and magical result would follow from Virginia’s receiving her just proportion of the Land Fund. Hence it is, that the noisy affairs at Washington, are so particularly intent on aggrandizing Texas—it is their own aggrandizement.

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**RW22n72p1c5, September 9, 1845: THE ARMY­PROMPT MOVEMENT**

Observing several commendatory notices in the papers, of the promptness with which the *Lexington* was made ready for sea, after receiving orders from the Navy Department, it may not be improper to say that equal praise is due to the officers of the army, for promptly executing their orders to assemble and prepare for embarkation of troops sent out in the *Lexington* to Texas, which sailed on the 2d inst.

Orders were despatched from the War Department on the afternoon of the 23d of August, for the concentration of seven companies of artillery at Fort Columbus, New York harbor, thence to be embarked in the United States ship *Lexington*, for the army of Texas. Five of the companies were drawn from Frankford arsenal, Pennsylvania, Boston; Portsmouth, New Hampshire; and Portland, Maine. The detachment from the most distant station (*Portland*) reached New York on the morning of the 30th, when the whole command of 408 officers and men, under Major J. Erving, 2d regiment of artillery, with all their supplies and equipments for service, were in perfect readiness to embark.

The promptitude with which the orders of the War Department were executed, is highly creditable to the service.—*Union.*

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**RW22n72p2c1, September 9, 1845: FROM TEXAS**

LIEUT. LAY, of the Army, mention in the New Orleans papers, passed through Richmond on Sunday, on his way to Washington, with despatches from Gen. Taylor. He considers, we understand, the prospect of a brush with the Mexicans as rather feeble. The latter were entrenching themselves, (not exceeding 3300 strong,) and seemed to be more in the attitude of defence than of attack. Their chance of doing mischief to Gen. Taylor’s command has passed by, probably forever.

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**RW22n72p2c3, September 9, 1845: FROM TEXAS LATE**

The steamer *Alabama*, Capt. Windle, arrived this morning about 5 o’clock from Aransas bay, whence she departed Aug. 27. Yesterday wicked reports were circulated of an accident and disaster of the most dreadful kind having befallen the *Alabama*. It was said she was taken by Indians and 45 of the volunteers from New Orleans massacred—another rumor gave out she was sunk and all on board perished! The baseness of the motives in which these reports were invented may be imagined, when it is recollected that on board the *Alabama* were about 200 regular troops with their officers, and about the same number of volunteers raised in this city—many of them young men belonging to respectable families, a considerable number of them having wives and children of their own. Any one who could joke over the fancied loss in such a mode of such men as Major Gally, Captain Forno, their youthful and gallant volunteers, and so fine a detachment of American regulars must be lost to the feelings of humanity.—We can tell the author or authors of these reports that if we were now in a state of actual war, the laws would hold them responsible for circulating false intelligence, and they would pay dear for their miserable pleasantry.

We give the following details on the authority of letters from officers of the volunteers and the extra *Picayune*—one of the editors of which journal came passengers in the *Alabama*.

Lieutenant Lay of the army also arrived in the Alabama, with despatches from General Taylor.

The *Alabama*, after passing through some rough weather in the Gulf arrived safely at Aransas Bay on Sunday last, and the next day off St. Joseph’s Island, where the volunteers and regulars were landed without difficulty by means of the steamer *Monmouth*, which was on the spot waiting for the *Alabama*. On Tuesday the artillery embarked for Corpus Christ 35 miles distant, in the steamer *Dayton*, and joined General Taylor the same evening.
The volunteers enjoyed perfect health, and were impatient to come in contact with the Mexicans—but their
wishes were not likely to be soon gratified. There was no movement on the other side of the Rio Grande that
indicated any prospect of a fight, and Gen. Taylor anticipates no such event.

Arista, with 2000 men, was entrenching himself at Matamoras, and knows that Gen. Taylor is in his
neighborhood. The army at corpus Christi numbers about 2000 men, and is constantly receiving reinforcements. It is
equal to a much larger member of Mexicans. The country between Corpus Christi and the Rio Grande is almost
wholly destitute of water, and otherwise is little better than a desert.

The Troops left on St. Joseph’s Island were preparing to move to Corpus Christi on the 27th when the
Alabama departed. The Monmouth and Dayton were transporting the stores.

The brig William Ivy arrived hence at Aransas Bay on the 24th with two companies of the 4th infantry. On the
passage out she was thrown on her beam ends by a squall, but righted in a few minutes with no damage. Before the
squall a soldier jumped overboard in a fit of delirium tremens, but was picked up by a boat after some resistance,
brought on board and tied. When the squall was struck to the brig he was released in order that he might swim—but
he leaped into the sea and was lost.

The brig sailed on the 26th for Matagorda.

The Edward S. Lambden with stores arrived at St. Josephs in the morning of the 25th. The loss of the brig.
Swallow, mentioned some days ago in the Courier, is confirmed.

On the 26th U. States brig Lawrence, Com. Jones, arrived off St. Josephs, all well—was to sail on the 29th
for Pensacola.

Schooner Mary Wilkes, hence, arrived at Aransas on the 27th with Col. Whistler, Major Stanniford, stores,
horses, &c.

Mr. Ringold, who passed through this city some short time ago with despatches for Texas, arrived at
Aransas from Galveston on the 24th with despatches from Gen. Taylor, and came passenger in the Alabama.

On the 25th news arrived of the 2d regiment of dragoons under Col. Twiggs being within four miles of Gen.
Taylor’s camp, which they were to join on the 28th. They lost not a single horse in their long and sultry march—
there were two or three detentions. No sign of the Mexicans on the route.

Near San Antonio there were about 300 Comanche Indians, some of whom visited Col. Twiggs. They
appeared delighted at they news of war between the United States and Mexico. They said they were going towards
the border to carry on hostilities against the Mexicans. They admired the dragoon horses, and asked Col. Twiggs if
they might steal some of them. The Col told them if they did so he would hang them. They then asked if they might
steal horses from the Mexicans— to which the Col. Replied they might steal any thing from them, but if they stole
from the Americans he would hand them.

Some days ago, a soldier went from the camp at St. Joseph’s to hunt, and was no more head of— supposed
to have been bitten by a snake or to have lost his way in a cane brake—and he is said to be a very trusty man. A
tent was struck by lightning at Corpus Christ, and a valuable servant belonging to Lieut. Bragg was killed, and some
other persons were stunned.

The regulars and volunteers enjoyed perfect health and the finest spirits. Gen. Taylor intends to throw
forward detachments of the dragoons towards the Rio Grande, so that no enemy can approach him without his being
previously apprised of their intentions.

The cannon that went out with Major Gally, are of great utility in giving strength to the position of the army.
They are two twelves and six sixes. The defences set the Mexicans at defiance.

[BRM]

RW22n72p2c3, September 9, 1845: THE THEATRE OF ACTION

We learn from the Annapolis Republican that the Company of U.S. Artillery, which has been stationed at
FORT SEVERN for several years past, under the command of Major Gardiner, took its departure in on of the Bay
Steamers on Wednesday evening last for Fort Monroe, Old Point Comfort, Va.

The Theatre of Action
"General Taylor of the U.S. forces here, returned to the Ranche yesterday, from an excursion up the Nueces, whither he went for the purpose of seeing the country and meeting the Dragoons; now hourly expected at this place. He is much pleased with Corpus Christi, and the country he has seen adjacent to it. The camp is located immediately above town, on the bank of the bay, in a very pleasant, airy place, where a good supply of water is to be had by digging only some five or six feet deep. The steamer Dayton, from Galveston, is plying daily between this place and St. Joseph’s Island, together with some twelve or fifteen small sail vessels. The trade of our town continues to be lively, and it is to be hoped that the commanding officer here will continue to be, as he now is, disposed to sustain the people of the place in keeping it up. So far, through the influence of Col. K., and other residing here, the impression made upon the traders has been such as to establish perfect confidence in them, with regard to any thing of hostile nature on our part. As an evidence of this fact, within the last ten days three large parties have left here laden with goods for the West, and from these parties many of the officers have provided themselves with strong, fleet horses, which being natives of the country, and of a hardy nature, are much more valuable to them than other animals would be from abroad."

RW22n72p4c2, September 9, 1845: THE LATEST FROM TEXAS

The "New Orleans Tropic" of the 27th furnishes the following extracts from the Texas papers, which will be found of no inconsiderable interest to our readers:

"The 'Brasos Planter' says the conventions has fixed the seat of government at the city of Austin until the year 1850. Thirty-six votes were given in favor of Austin, and a scattering vote for other places.

"An important document from the land office at Austin has been laid before the convention. From it, we learn that the superficial extent of Texas, as comprised within the limits defined by statute of the 1st Texan Congress, comprises, is round numbers, 397,000 square miles, or 254,284,166 acres; that the total amount of land issued by the various boards of land commissioners is 43,543,970 acres; that the total amount of the above, recommended as good and lawful claims, is 19,212,206 acres; issued by the department of war, as bounty and donation claims, 6,300,000 acres; land scrip sold by the Texas government, three hundred and sixty-eight thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven acres; amount of legal claims to lands issued by Texas, 25,880,993 acres; amount issued, and supposed to be fraudulent, 24,331,760 acres; issued by the authorities of Mexico, a portion of which is supposed to be invalid, 22,000,000 acres, and that the total amount of the public domain subject to location and unsurveyed, is 181,991,403 acres. The officer of the land office, in communicating the above statement, says that he has no means of knowing the whole amount of scrip that has been issued by the Texan government, but thinks the amount yet out it about one-eighth of that shows to be in his office, and that the same is the case with reference to bounty lands."

Whilst we are printing this sheet, the United States dragoons, commanded by Col. Twiggs, are passing through town, amid the roar of artillery. Welcome visitors, indeed. God speed their march, and success attend their arms.--[Lugrange Intelligencer].

The last Galveston "Civilian" states, that the "United States troops under command of Gen. Taylor were busily engaged in fortifying their position near Corpus Christi west of the Nueces. The rest information from Matamoras is, that there were about 1,500 Mexican troops there, fortifying. They are represented to be badly supported, and not more efficient than Mexican soldiers usually are."

RW22n74p1c2, September 16, 1845: LATER FROM TEXAS

"Three companies of Mexican traders arrived at Corpus Christi [illegible] the 26th ult., and had purchased largely of goods. They reported that a regiment of Mexican troops had started from Tampico about six weeks ago, for Matamoras, about 700 in number, 400 of whom has deserted or died for want of food and water. They were also deserting from every post throughout Mexico. General PAREDES was at Monterey with from 800 to 1,400 men, and found it impossible to keep his men from deserting." [N.O. BEE]

From the N.O. Tropic Sep't 5.
The steamer *Creole* arrived at Mobile the morning of the 3d inst. From Aransas Bay. We receive by her our own correspondence from Corpus Christi, and are indebted to some gentleman who came passenger upon her for some verbal terms of information.

The [illegible] from Corpus Christi are up to the evening of the 31st ult., and from Aransas to that of the following day, when the [illegible] left for Mobile. Gen. Taylor still remained in his Camp, awaiting further developments of the designs of Mexicans, and orders from his own Government. The [illegible] Regiment of Dragoons, under Col. Twiggs, arrived at Corpus Christi on the 26th ult. All were in fine health and spirits. Every thing about the camp was perfectly quiet.

At about the same time as the Dragoons, three companies of Mexican traders arrived at Gen. Taylor’s camp with a goodly number of reports, but upon which little reliance could be placed. One of these reports was, that a regiment of Mexican troops, about 700 strong, left Tampico six weeks previous to Matamoras, but their numbers has been reduced to 300 [illegible] sickness and desertion on the march, induced by the war of food and water. At almost every military post in the North Eastern part of Mexico desertions were extremely frequent. Arista had been seriously all at Matamoras, but [illegible] so far recovered as to resume the duties of his command. Gen. Paredes was reported to be still at Monterey, but with less than 1500 troops, who were continually deserting. The reader must receives reports strictly as reporting Mexican news, received through Mexican trader, is proverbially uncertain.

The *Creole* left outside the bar at Aransas, the U.S. brig *Lawrence*;—all well on board. She also left, at anchor inside of the bar, the schooners *Mary Wilkes*, *Enterprise*, and *E.L. Lamdin* on the 2d inst., at o’clock, P.M., she met the steam propeller *Augusta* [illegible], as was supposed; for *Aransas*, loaded with horses, &c. The *Creole* made the passage from Aransas Bay to the [Illegible] Pass in 47 hours.

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**RW22n74p1c5, September 16, 1845: THE ARMY OF OBSERVATION**

*THE ARMY OF OBSERVATION----Its Position--its Officers--its Spirit,*

The following sketch, from the *New Orleans Picayune*, gives a lively and interesting account of Gen. Taylor’s army and its prospects. It will be seen that it is composed of materials that have bee tried, and that are keen for another trial of their prowess. We think it probable the Mexican imbecility will scarcely furnish them “foemen worthy of their steel.”

**CORPOR CHRISTI, August 30, 1845.**

The position taken by Gen. Taylor is one of extreme beauty; and when the eye first rests upon his Camp, clustered with a thousand spotless white tents, along the shelly margin of the shore of Corpus Christi Bat, irresistible bursts of admiration follow! It is a position of security as well as beauty.

His tents are pitched on a piece of table land that reaches about a quarter of a mile to a range of hills; at has stationed, as an out­guard, a force of one hundred and twenty hardy and well tried Texans, to whose fidelity is entrusted this otherwise assailable point.---May. Gally, commanding the volunteers from New Orleans, is entrusted with guarding the extreme left, while the extreme right is safely guarded by Colonel Twiggs, commanding the 2d Dragoons. The center is composed of the 3d, 4th , and 7th Reg'ts of Infantry.

It is probably one of the healthiest and pleasantest spots in the world. From the earliest dawn refreshing breezes invigorate the body, dissipate the intensity of the heat, and nerve the system to a healthful action. The cool nights incite the weariness to repose, disturbed neither by the promenading flies, nor the buzzing musquito.

The only drawback to continuing this encampment is the scarcity of wood and water—the former, the troops haul three miles, and the latter is quite brackish—though I believe there are one or two small wells in camp which supply a very fair beverage.

The officers appear to enjoy themselves amazingly—considering they were supposed to be all cut up! They purchase Mexican ponies at from $10 to $30, and excellent nags they are to ride, too. The waters abound with fist and oysters, both of superior kind, and the prairies adjacent with rich flavored venison. Large and fat beeves are slaughtered daily for the use of troops, all which, with the liberal supplies of Uncle Sam, these occupiers of an independent nation’s soil can get along mighty well with.

There is a rumor in camp, to which the utmost credit is given, that fifteen hundred Mexicans have recently marched to Matamoras for its additional security. This is all the news about the movements of the enemy known here.

It is supposed Gen. Taylor will act [illegible phrase]. Wait for two months in his present position, to know
what the Mexicans will do. If they do nothing, our government will send a Commissioner to Mexico to lay down the boundary of the two countries. If Mexico refuses to receive the Commissioner, and blindly turns away from a peaceable settlement, then our forces will immediately occupy the mouth and borders of the Rio Grande, and establish that as the boundary, whether or no.

Gen. Taylor is the very man the Government should have selected for the delicate and responsible duty of conducting an “Army of Occupation.” His judgment is ripened by a long life of military experience, and his clear, practical views, the result of a common sense way of looking at things. His courage is undoubted, as his patriotism is unsullied and pure. In a few words, he is a Soult for industry, and a Fabius for caution; but they do say he is a Jackson for stubbornness. With his excellent good sense, however, this is no deficit in his character. The honor of the country is safe in his hands.

Gen. Worth, the Ney of the army, will ere long join, with his Regiment (the 8th Infantry) the troops stationed here. He will be a great addition, and every officer feels a prouder glow at the prospect of being under his immediate command.

Col. Twiggs, with his stalwart frame and high military bearing, is the very beau ideal of a veteran cavalry officer. If an opportunity is offered, he will lead his gallant and well mounted corps, consisting of as bold a set of officers and men as can be found anywhere, to the thickest of the fight.

Col. Whistler is in command of the 4th Infantry. To give you a correct idea of the Colonel’s daring. I will tell you an anecdote of him, which occurred during the last war, on the Northern frontier. In sight of the American and English armies, prepared for battle, an Indian Chief committed a most insulting reproach to the former. Col. W., then a Lieutenant, rushed at him, out of his lines, and the two armies witnessed a terrible conflict. Both were in the flower of their youth, strength and courage, and fought for life—for honor! The Saxon blood gained the victory; he laid his savage foe low upon the ground, and, undisturbed by the enemy, returned to his lines, to receive a severe reprimand for such a reckless exposure of his life. Under such a leader, the officers and men of the Fourth may be sure of being led into the thickest of the fight.

Col. Hitchcock commands the 3d Infantry, a complete scholar, gentleman and soldier. In his valor end steady firmness and officers of his Regiment place the most implicit reliance. It would seem as if this Regiment was determined to win all the honor and trophies of war. However, the officers cannot have a higher estimate of their leader’s gallantry than the Government places on it.

Maj. Brown commands the 7th Infantry. This is the Regiment that distinguished itself at the battle of New Orleans. The Major is a matter of fact soldier, and says, though he likes his comfort as well as the next man, “there are two campaigns still in him.” With such a sentiment as this on his lips, does he not embody the idea of a true soldier? He has under him the most gallant, noble hearted fellows that ever seeing an sword on a soldier’s thigh!— From the next command down to the lat Brevet, there is not a heart but leaps with joy for the fray. They have come for war, and can’t bear disappointment any more than you can, that man with the “white hat” which you used to make yourself merry about. By the by there is a “white hat” in camp. Had your “white hat” a pair of boots under it? And such a pair, the God’s defend us! Why the Alabama chartered? Col. Hunt could never have seen those boots!

The army is now ready for action. It is well appointed in every respect—1900 strong—every man able to do duty, and every heart a tower of strength! Under the broad fields of the Stars and Stripes, that loveliest of flags, this little army will become Hotspurs all. They are prepared and eager for the fray.

I send you this by the Creole. Light blow the winds smooth be the seas, on her homeward track.

Adieu,

HARRY THIN.
from the gigantic power, the enormous growth in population and resources, and as the conceive the unbounded and uncepsurable ambition of the American People than the Annexation of Texas! If his judgment revolts against these conclusions as unjust to the national character of his country, an American citizen may be pardoned for exulting in the changed tone of England especially towards his country! When speaking of the United States the press and Statesmen of England, no longer speak in terms on contemptuous derision of her "renegade and runaway" population of her few "fire built frigates, with a piece of striped bunting at the mast head!" They now salute us as a "great power!" When they speak of our navy they speak of fleets and not of single frigates! When they speak of the astounding advances if this country in production, in the development of new illimitable resources, in the cultivation of the arts, in all the elements of power and greatness, and above all when they speak of her far stretching Empire and of its probable still farther increase from "Democratic ambition," it is with ill suppressed dislike, but still with profound respect, may with something like admiration and awe!

And it well may be so- for the United States has but to keep banded 50 years longer to exhibit the greatest power the world ever witnessed! In truth, no imagination could ever supposition of the continued union of the States, pretend to assign a limit to their power or to their influence over the fortunes and destinies of the world!

The three articles are these: 1. A commentary from the London Times on "Annexation:" 2nd. A reply from an American citizen: 3rd. "A letter from the Mexican correspondent of the "Times."

As showing the state of feeling at present, and as foreshadowing the probable future, these articles will be read with unusual and even intense interest.

"The affairs of Mexico form the topic of a long and able Editorial in the Times of Sept. 10. The excessive folly of that country, in refusing to treat with Texas when it might have done so with good hope of success, and the complete failure of all attempts to prevent annexation are first, remarked: - and the disposition of Mexico for war, as demanded by the people and indeed by the very existence of the nation, next referred to. "The difficulty of raising money sufficient to carry on the war is held to amount almost to an impossibility. A loan to bring into the treasury $15,000,000, must create it is said more than $45,000,000 of stock even at its present low prices; and this, for a state without a Government, without a dollar in the Treasury, without military means of covering its frontier, of occupying its provinces and resisting the aggressions of its neighbors, and with its disposable revenue already pledged to pay former loans, is deemed impossible. Mexico is adjudged to be in a state of dissolution, and it is declared that her weakness alone has encouraged the United States to carry forward, with so much steadiness and determination, their project of annexation. War, therefore, is held to be improbable, and Mexico, unable to hold Texas as a province, is manifestly powerless, it is conceded, to "reconquer Texas", annexed to one of the most "powerful States in the world." The Times proceeds.

But if the termination of this affair be pacific, it establishes in the most patent and indubitable manner, the superiority of the Anglo American race, and of the United State Government over their neighbors. These advantages the Americans will as infallibly assert. It is not proved that no consideration of prudence, justice, or good faith can restrain them from seizing or acquiring the possessions of contiguous states. Thus much may be foreseen – that these excesses and encroachments will only be limited by opportunity and public caprice, until it become the interest of some great European Power to oppose them. But what is not foreseen either by the Americans or by ourselves, is the effect of these acts of violence or fraud, leading to immense extension of territory, upon their own political and social condition. Thus much only we do venture confidently to predict- that these changes involve the creation of such conflicting interests, the existence of such opposite characters and designs, the prevalence of such formidable passions, and the growth of such an enormous and incongruous people, that the feeble Federal Government of America will eventually forfeit its precarious authority, and the contests which the neighboring states to the south of the Union are too weak to wage, will at least break out in its own bosom. We, of our time, have seen the gigantic growth of the American democracy, as rapid and enormous it its internal corruption and its external crimes as in the progress of its population and its productive powers; but, unless the eternal laws of public morality and of history be suspended, these same phenomena announce the certain approach of a period of anarchy and retribution. It is not more possible that such a system should be carried on without leading to disastrous consequences, than that society should continue to subsist without government or law; and the reaction of the same principles which have now been allowed to assail Mexico and appropriate Texas will one day be felt in the heart of the Union.

The Times proceeds to say that the United States will undoubtedly insist upon the Rio Grand as the Southwestern boundary, inasmuch as "there is no rule to go by but greediness of one party and the feebleness of the other;" and says that, notwithstanding the undoubted willingness of the United States to include Upper California, they will probably be prevented by the physical difficulties of such an enterprise, inasmuch as California is divided even from Mexico by vast tracts of uninhabited country; and the difficulties which a detachment of troops would have to encounter in crossing the deserts and prairies that intervene between the Mississippi and the Pacific Ocean, will probably be insurmountable for the next half century. The Times concludes thus:

With reference to California, we adhere to the opinion we have had occasion to express with reference to the Oregon territory. Little is to be apprehended from invading land as long as the coast is open and the country protected by sea. The interests which may hereafter extend colonist enterprise to the shores of the Pacific are inseparable from the commerce of the east and the navigation of the ocean. Great Britain is for all practical purpose nearer to those coasts than the Atlantic states, and we have no apprehensions that the American Government will commit itself to sets of violence, which must lead to the total destruction of its fisheries and commerce in the South Seas. They will observe a certain discretion, even in their invasion of all rights, and however we may lament the deplorable state to which Mexico is found to be reduces in this emergency, we cannot but rejoice that the peace of the world is likely to be preserved.
In the Times on the 11th, is a communication signed "An American Citizen," in reply to these wholesale aspersions of the United States and in vindication of the policy of Annexation; not upon grounds of expediency, but as a question of "honor and good faith." The writer denies that there was ever any plans in the United States to wrest Texas from Mexico, - says that Texas was fairly settled by foreigners and invited thither by Mexico, that the land was subdued and many thousand families settled there under the guarantee of free institutions from Mexico, that a revolution established a despotism there, that the people rebelled; - as Englishmen would have done under similar circumstances, and secured their independence. Having maintained this independence for eight years, finding herself in debt, with an expensive machinery of government, regarding Mexico as for her defunct, Texas yielded to the policy of annexation. The writer concludes his article thus:

In the Times on the 19th, we find another very long and interesting letter from its Mexican correspondent. He gives - first a sketch of the proceedings of the Mexican Government on first receiving an intimation that annexation had been consummated, and represents the Ministry as constantly and arduously contending against the haste and impetuosity of the war party, and finally succeeding, by the measures already well known. He says that a demand of a loan of $15,000,000 as a condition, was of itself sufficient to destroy the whole war project, inasmuch as at least $50,000,000 would be required to bring that amount into the treasury. The Government receives but 13 percent on all the duties and customs, the remainder being mortgaged to various creditors. He says that the United States are playing a sure game of aggression on Mexico, and repeats what he said before, that "England must either interfere or be prepared to see the mining districts and California, before many years, under American rule." The following passage, from his letter, we transfer at length: it is worthy of attention:

Can the United States be allowed to send in settlers to the unoccupied lands of their neighbors, and then take possession of the departments by the voice of those settlers? And what chance has Upper California, which, in my opinion, is a vital point for British interests, when there are already 1,300 American settlers on the banks of the river Sacramento, discharging itself into the Bay of San Francisco, the finest port in the world, who may next year vote in favor of annexation? The plans of the United States are most insidious; by demanding the Rio Bravo as the Texas frontier, instead of the old limit of the Nueces, they cut immense slices from four departments of Mexico. They get the opposite bank of the river Matamoras, the Mexican port of the north, as it is called, they take in on half of Tamaulipas, the department of the Gulf, a good share of Coahuila, a good portion of Chihuahua, and nearly the whole of New Mexico, with the capital Santa Fe. The territory thus laid hold of is larger than Texas, and the northern part of it, Santa Fe, is most important, as already through it all the contraband of the United States is introduced; so much so, that the supply of the whole north of Mexico is in the hands of American smugglers. From all these points excursions are not difficult into the neighboring Mexican departments, and these states, languishing under a central government, without physical or moral force, will, one by one, submit to American influence, until the mining districts are laid hold of, and the secret object of Yankee policy be finally obtained. This result is evident, as Russian encroachment on the Turkish empire, to those who are on the spot and have an interest in studying the question; but I fear it will not be deemed equally clear by those in Europe who have so many other pressing on their attention. Let me, therefore, call your notice to the coast of the Pacific, and to those maritime stations whence, if Mexico can rival England in manufactures suited to the Chinese market, she can send supplies four weeks sooner than we can by our most expeditious conveyance. I allude more particularly to Upper California and to the Bay of San Francisco, as the soil of the former is fertile beyond expression, the climate excellent, and the harbor of the latter is capable of containing all the fleets of all the nations of the world. This province is much discontented with the central Government. It has been more than once in open revolt, and so powerless is the Government, that an expedition of 2000 men destined to secure it from United States aggression, though prepared several months back, is unable to move from want of money to buy soldiers rations. The Americans are assiduously getting possession of that territory; they already command the banks of the leading river, the Sacramento; they are buying titles from the hungry governors, and as I said before they have 1300 settlers in a district where only 40 British subjects are to be found. Mexico owes 5,000,000 dollars of unsettles claims, beside 1,000,000 of admitted claims, to the United States, and its is just possible that the enlarged Texan frontier and Upper California might be taken in payment of these claims if a sum of money be not added sufficient to relive the Government of its embarrassments. As the United States have shown us the example, and as they have discovered a new mode of conquest unknown to the old world, I do not see why England is to continue to be the dupe, and why we should not purchase from Mexico such portions of Upper California as may be necessary to protect our Indian trade. We let France take possession of Algiers, and she has now 300 leagues of the Mediterranean coasts. Let us suffer Jonathan to get footing in California, and we shall be left without a resting place on the coast north of Mazatlan. Recollect that the lands of California are mortgaged to the English bankholder; but so are those of Texas; and if the United States be suffered to eat up the latter without any remonstrance on our part, can they not pick and chose in California with the same impunity? I have heard persons complain, that while this Texas affair was going on we had no fleet in the Gulf of Mexico; but our interests in the Gulf are uncertain while those on the coast of the Pacific are notorious. In this writing I represent the opinion of all the British community in this quarter, and I do believe that an anti-United States demonstration in California will be most popular at home as well as in Mexico.

The same writer adds, that capitalists in Mexico, who get their pay, reap a fine harvest; as for about $1,500,000 advanced a few days since, the whole tobacco duties are abandoned, a quality of paper is received and the Contractors realize 43 percent in one year. The Government tried to raise $12,000,000 on Church property, but were entirely unsuccessful. It is still embarrassed by the departments of Zacatecas and Tamaulipas, asking for the reestablishment of Federalism, which is doing legally what Tabasco has done illegally. The writer says:

It is hoped that the Mexican Government will be dissuaded from declaring war, in order that the United States may have no right to conquer any part of their territory, and retain it by right or conquest. Mexico has been shamefully treated by the United States and by Texas, but she must put up with the loss. She may past a Non Intercourse Act, and remain on the defensive; but if she declare war or make one step in advance, the United States will take possession of California - I am told they have a large fleet in the Pacific - and improve its position with
He adds that the Mexican Government had resolved to issue no declaration of war, but to take up a defensive position on the Rio Grande. The writer says he hears that the United States are scarcely making offers of compensation, in order to prevent British interference. The English merchants are greatly alarmed lest the Gulf be blockaded. The writer adds the following:

One of the first houses here in connection with London capitalists has offered the Government to make a railroad from Vera Cruz to Mexico, with power to continue it to a port on the Pacific, near Acapulco. The arrangement is in a forward state, the privileges desired are to be granted, and the contractors are sanguine as to the result. The line embraces several considerable towns, and though the elevation of Mexico is considerable, it is imagined that on the atmosphere pressure principle, or by the stationary engines, as in the United States, all difficulties will be surmounted.

The Foreign News by the Cambria is of less interest than usual. The political items are scarce worth noticing. The most important are the speculations of the French and English Press upon American, Mexican and Texas Affairs. It cannot be conceded that the immense present and rapidly augmenting consequence of the United States in the eyes of Europe, is such as to gratify American vanity to the utmost, and to justify American Gasconade upon the subject, if anything can justify vaunting. It was supposed currently that war had actually ensued between the United States and Mexico, and in anticipation of it, that many European ships with Mexican letters of commission, would be let loose upon our commerce: But of this we believe not much.

The Queen’s progress of the Continent, had evidently excited disgust in England, and among the signs of the times as denoting the growth of Republican feeling, is the popular mooting of the question, “Shall Cromwell have a statue?”

We have never doubted that early and vigorous efforts would be made to induce the United States to assume the national debt of Texas- that they would be persevering, and that they would finally be successful. Nor did we ever question that to convert Texas liabilities, worth then, we believe, not ten dollars in the hundreds, into American Gold, was the grand but secret main spring of the whole Texas movement.

The Baltimore American says:

“The Texas Debt Assumption.- We alluded some time ago to the probability, which is almost a certainty, that some measure will be brought forward at the next session of Congress, to advance a sum of money to Texas, on condition that she transfer her public lands to the United States.

The Charleston Mercury objects, in advance, to any such measure. It argues that the assumption of the debt of Texas might have been made one of the conditions of annexation; for the power to annex new States to the Union must evidently include the power to fix and settle the terms of annexation. The agreement in such cases would bear some analogy to a treaty between independent Governments, by which either might stipulate to pay any specified sum to secure some valuable advantage. But when once a State is admitted into the Union without any condition precedent of an assumption of its debts, it is contended that the General Government has no power to undertake such an assumption. "It is clear," says the Mercury, "that if Congress can assume the debts of Texas under these circumstances, it can assume the debts of all the other States. It is indeed alleged that there is a difference in the case of Texas that places it by itself- inasmuch as she will pay for the assumption of her debts by an equivalent in her public lands. This may be admitted, as a question of value, but it does not alter the case. The value of lands, or anything else, is just what the buyer pleases to give for them. The power to make a bargain implies the power to make a bad as well as a good one, and the power to traffic with the States for their land, implies also the power to traffic them for all kinds of public property.”

The Alexandria Gazette of the 12th ult. contains a communication from Gen. C.F. Mercer purporting to be a vindication of the contract made with him by Gen. Samuel Houston, as President of the Republic of Texas, granting him the privilege of colonizing a large tract of country in Texas, which contract I sometime since declared to be fraudulent. He sets out by saying that the Union refused to publish my letter making that charge; thus attempting to
array the influence and authority of your press in support of his own fraudulent contract, and in furtherance of the equally fraudulent, political machinations of his patron, Gen. Samuel Houston.

This makes it proper that I should desire to use your columns to expose both of their frauds; and first as to Gen. Samuel Houston. It is my misfortune to have borne a personal relation to him, and to his official acts that compelled me to know, and understand the motives. His misgovernment has been a withering blight upon the fairest portion of Texas. His conduct has been such as to create a strong current against him. Having done all that he could to defeat annexation, and finding that the procedure would be carried by an overwhelming majority, he fled from the public indignation of Texas, and come to the United States, hoping to get an endorsement from Gen. Jackson and the President, that would enable him to practice further frauds upon the people of Texas, and this Union. Himself, a disgusting drunkard, he gave the people of New Orleans a temperance harangue. Himself, opposed to annexation, he there made a speech in favor of it.

Knowing that his purpose was to recruit his political influence by creating an impression here, that he was the master spirit who controls the public will of Texas, and thus get up demonstrations to be paraded through the press, for the purpose of creating a belief in Texas that the best means of finding favor with President Polk is, to become a partisan of Sam Houston; believing that his purpose in visiting Gen. Jackson was to practice a political fraud upon him and the public, and that he would come on to Washington to consummate that fraud, thus getting up the show of confidence and friendly intercourse with the President to react on the people of Texas; I resolve to check his progress by a bold, unequivocal and authentic denunciation.

You had published letters written for the purpose of giving éclat to his progress, and I therefore addressed to you my letter denouncing the proceedings, and explaining their object.

Unwilling to open your paper, to what you were apprehensive might become a personal controversy, you declined to publish it. I then sent it to the New York Herald; this circumstance has been used by Houston's partisans in Texas, to show that he is so great a favorite with the Executive; that whilst you publish letters commending him to public favor, and attributing to him an influence which he does no possess; you will not permit me under my own name to expose his public character, or to comment on his official acts.

I knew the man, and as soon as I saw that the convention were to meet in Austin I foretold that he would not venture to attend it. I knew the man, and I foretold that my letter would arrest his progress; that instead of coming to Washington, or going to Austin, he would hide himself; and instead of playing out his game boldly by denying the truth of the charges I had made, and of others which I knew I am prepared to make and to prove, he would change his tactics, and to accomplish his objects, seek by subordinate agents, what he could not do in person. What I foretold has come to pass. He retreated to the interior of Tennessee- he put his machinery in motion, got up a public dinner and endeavored to throw himself into the popular current, by a speech manufactured for the purpose, and a laudatory letter published in the Union.

When he had thus paved the way he dispatched to Washington one of his instruments, a man whom he had himself disgraced as unworthy of a petty office, a salary of five hundred dollars per annum, and who was again taken into favor when he found that by appointing him to a subordinate clerkship he could prevent his disclosing to a committee of Congress the manner in which he had applied a large sum of money entrusted to him, for the public service. I learn that he gave letters commending this man to the confidence of the President. I learn also that this man boasted that he had obtained the confidence of the President and has gone back to Texas freighted with pledges, the purpose of which is to recruit an army of hungry office hunters and dependants, whose compensation is to depend on their activity in placing the new government of Texas in the hands of Houston and Jones, and sending such persons from Texas to the Senate and House of Representatives as will use their influence to sustain Sam Houston.

So far this game has been adroitly played. Unable to defeat annexation, Houston and Jones, and a few corrupt associates, now seek to make an impression that they are to control the federal patronage as a means of acting on the elections in Texas.

These remarks are made, by way of showing that your press has been used [without your knowledge of the fraud;] as one of the means of practicing a fraud upon the public; and to show that in what I have said, and what I am now about to say of Mr. Mercer's contract, relates to a public matter, proper to be discussed through the public press, and that the circumstances are such as to make it your duty to publish this as a comment intended to counteract the effect of the publications you have heretofore made.

I now come to speak of the contract. I have pronounced it fraudulent. It is due to the public, to Mr. Mercer, and to myself, to state why I have so pronounced it. I proceed to that statement. Not having the law before me I write from recollection. The facts are such that I am sure that I do not mistake them.

After the Mexican authorities had been driven from Texas, a controversy arose with certain Indians, residing within our limits; a war ensued and the frontier settlements were much annoyed. Persons residing in Texas at the declaration of Independence, and others having performed military service had grants for land which they could not locate in consequence of the hostility of the Indians. It therefore became a part of the defensive policy of the government to encourage the colonization of the frontier, and a law was passed authorizing Carroll, Peters, and others, to colonize that tract know as the Cross Timbers. But the act authorizing the contract expressly provides that the colony should be located above the existing settlements, and that one-third of the colonists should be introduced during the first year. By A subsequent act the President was authorized to make further modifications of the contract
with Carroll, Peters, and their associates; but no authority whatever was given to relax the conditions of the contracts he was authorized to make with others.

Such was the law when Mr. Mercer appeared at the seat of the Texas government in the year '44 as the Representative [as I credibly informed the name of the gentlemen so informing, if desired will be giver] of Carroll, Peters, and their associates, asking further modifications of their contract— and as such he appeared before Congress. He was heard, and instead of granting his request, Congress repealed all laws authorizing the President to make colonization contracts. The President had the constitutional power to keep possession of the bill for five days, and during the time he had the bill in his possession, as is now alleged, he made this fraudulent contract with Mr. Mercer, and returned the bill with his Veto. Congress passed the bill by an almost unanimous vote. The right to make any contract was repealed in despite of the Veto.

Here was a flagrant disregard of the will of Congress, and shows that Sam Houston and Anson Jones, whose duty it was as Secretary of State, to prepare the contract, must have had a strong inducement to do so. It was made not only in defiance of the will of Congress, but without the knowledge as I believe, of every member of that body except one, and he, it seems, was taken into the contract as a partner, because he selected the tract, and gave the local information necessary to define the limits of the grant.

But it is not on this account alone that I denounce the contract as a fraud. I denounce it because Sam Houston had no authority to make such a contract. The law authorizing him to make colonization contracts, required that the colony should be located above the settlements; the object being to compensate the privations and risks by a grant of land on the extreme frontier to new settlers, who, by their position, would be exposed to Indian depredations. The chief inducement to the passage of the law was, that by thus giving protection to the frontier, the old settlers who had head rights, and bounty warrants, might locate them from danger, or disturbance by the Indians. Now Mr. Mercer's contract, instead of being above the settlements where, by the law, he could only locate, to give protection to the frontier, so as to enable the old settlers to locate their head rights and bounty warrants, has been made to embrace one of the finest and most valuable districts in Texas—BELOW, instead of above, the settlements, protected from, instead of being exposed to, Indian depredations, and covering the very district of country in which the old settlers wished, and intended to locate their head rights and bounty warrants. The first notice the public had of the contract was a notice issued after the adjournment of these head rights and bounty warrants, and reserving a tract of the country more that sufficient to pay the whole debt contracted by Texas for the benefit of Mr. Charles Fenton Mercer, and his associates. "He now denies that any of his associates are British Abolitionists." I cannot know who his associates are; but I do know that it was given out in Texas that he was associated with British Abolitionists, and that he had made arrangements for a large amount of British capital. And when we compare and combine the circumstances, and the parties of his contract, it serves to cast some light on the active efforts of Mr. Mercer to defeat the election of President Polk and the artful and diplomatic efforts of Houston and Jones to defeat annexation. It is know that Houston and Jones made the contract with Mercer.

But Mr. Mercer says that his contract was made solely with a view of providing for the debts of Texas. Who can believe this? Was it providing for the debts of Texas when Houston gave away, without money and without price, so many millions of public land? He, Mr. Mercer, also quotes the title of the Act smuggled thought the Congress during the winter cession of 1844 and 1845, which at the time, was represented to be a resolution, to defeat his contract, but which from the use now made of it, was intended as a legislative sanction of it. Showing that the parties implicated endeavored to legalize one fraud, by practicing a fraud upon the Legislature. I speak thus strongly because it is known that an effort to obtain a judicial examination of the contract was defeated by Executive influence action on the Senate at the last moment of the session.

In further proof of what I have said, I refer to the proceedings of the Convention held to organize a state government. One of the general provisions of the constitution, annuls and vacates all colonizing contracts made by President Houston; securing the right to actual settlers, and opening the courts to the contractors: who are to sure the State for the indemnity for the loss of their contracts. This general position indicates two clearly the impression of the Texas Convention in relation to Houston's contracts. And I have no doubt that the provision was adopted, as the shortest and best way to get ride of Mr. Mercer and his contract, and compel him and his associates to look to a Texas jury "instead of British abolitionists," for the consummation of their speculation.

I have been thus particular in stating the law, and facts, connected with Mr. Mercer and his contract, and I now appeal upon the law, and facts, to the good sense and moral sentiment of the public,— whether the transaction does not bare on its face and front, resistless evidence of fraudulent character.

Most respectfully
BRANCH T. ARCHER

City of Washington, Sept. 17th, 1845

[JM]
The steamship *Cincinnati*, from Arkansas, arrived yesterday. We are indebted to Captain Smith and a passenger on board, for Galveston papers on the 4th, Houston of the 30th ult., and Washington on the 30th ult. We also receive our regular files by mail.

The *Houston Morning Star* says that, among the items of news recently received from Mexico, is one that the Mexican Government has sent seven emissaries to Texas, to excite and insurrection among the slaves, and to induce them to act in concert with the Mexican troops, if war should be declared by Mexico against the United States. In one of the letters received from Mexico, it is mentioned that one of these emissaries had returned, and reported that he had been successful. To what extent he had succeeded does not appear, not from the Mexican journals. We copy the articles from the Star at length.

For some months past, the slaves at several points on the Colorado have discovered a very refractory disposition. Several have run away, and some have been engaged in thefts, and committed other outrages. In instances Mexicans have been seen with the runaway Negroes. About three months since, two Negroes ran away from a plantation near LeGrange, and stole several horses. They were subsequently recaptured, and they stated that they had been enticed away by two Mexicans, who promised that if they would steal some good horses, and accompany them to Mexico, that they should be made free, and be treated by the Mexicans as equals. The Mexicans however, when they found themselves pursued, took the horses and fled, leaving the poor Negroes on foot, and they consequently fell into the hands of the pursuers. Shortly after this event, a gang of Negroes, with (it is supposed,) some Mexican accomplices, broke open a store of Webber’s Prairie, near Austin, and stole a considerable quantity of goods. They also broke into the dwelling house of Mr. Glassock, about fifteen miles below Austin, and stole a few articles. These, or another gang, were soon after discovered near Columbus, but they retreated into the woods, and have not been captured. On the 18th September a small party of Negroes suddenly fired a volley of balls and buckshot upon three men who were sitting in the evening of the gallery of the house of Col. J. Caldwell, of Bastrop County. Each of these three men received several wounds from the buckshot, but none of the wounds is considered mortal. When the Negroes found that they had killed neither of their intended victims, they fled precipitately to the woods. Two of the persons thus wounded were Mr. Cooke, of Austin, and Mr. Upchurch. The name of them we have not ascertained. Col. Caldwell was absent with his family on a visit to a relation. The overseer of Col. C thought that he recognized a yellow boy belonging to the Colonel among the Negroes. It is supposed that the villains intended to murder the white men at the house, then plunder it. A party of citizens of Bastrop are now in pursuit of them. The people of that section have been long suspicious that some Mexicans were engaged in exciting sedition among the slaves, and they have made several efforts to detect them. Now that they have authentic evidence from the city of Mexico that emissaries have been sent to Texas for the express purpose of enticing the slaves to engage in an insurrection, some prompt and energetic measures should be adopted to prevent the impending evil. We have no fears that seven, or even seventy times seven Mexican emissaries could excite a general insurrection among the slaves of Texas; for the settlements are so disconnected, and the plantations are generally so distant from each other, that it would be impossible for the Negroes to form extensive combinations; but seditions may be excited in insulated settlements, or on a few plantations, and the lives of some of the most valuable citizens may pay the forfeit, if these emissaries are not ferreted out in due season.

[JKM]

Friday October, 24, 1845   RW45v22i84p1c1   Later from Texas   words: 171

From the *New Orleans Tropic*

LATER FROM TEXAS

The schooner *Florinda*, Capt. Arnet, arrived yesterday from Galveston, which place she left on the 10th inst. We are indebted to a passenger for the Civilian of the 8th.

The brig *Galveston* arrived there on the 6th, in 16 days from New York, with arms and ammunition belonging to the U.S. Government. They consist of ten 18 pounders with seacoast carriages complete; 18 truck carriages, seven hundred 18 pound balls, with boxes, barrels, and ordnance stores.

The splendid packet ship *Star Republic*, to have sailed from New York on the 1rst inst. as also the steamship *New York*, were expected soon. The big *Empire*, Baxter, was advertised as the first packet for New York, to sail in November.

The crops are favorable. We take the following from the *Courier*.

It is states that General Taylor arrested several Mexicans as spies, and although he had strong evidence against them yet he permitted them to go at large, under the impression that their reports of the condition of his camp would do no harm.

[JKM]
Since Mr. Polk's intemperate inaugural, and Sir Robert Peel's no less intemperate response, each having a tendency to exclude negotiations and cut off compromise, we have anticipated consequences from the Oregon Question: Both these representatives of their respective nations have been rebuked by the good sense and moderation of the two Countries. But we fear that the effect of their intemperance has been still to shut the door upon compromise, and to render a collision probable. If the United States claim the whole of Oregon, as the "progressive Democracy" insist as their right, from the frontiers of California to the Russian colonies, embracing all the English claims and settlements, it is hardly to be expected that the pride of that power will submit to the pretension. If the United States decline to accept the 49th parallel of latitude as a compromise, of which there is the strongest indication, there is just apprehension that England will refuse any further concession.

It appears from the following quotation from the Correspondent of the Charleston Mercury, that the negotiation at Washington is at a stand still:

"I learn that no progress whatsoever has been made by Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Packenham, in the adjustment of the Oregon Territorial question. Mr. Packenham has submitted a proposition to Mr. Buchanan, to refer the question to a third power to have it settled by arbitration. Mr. Calhoun, when secretary of state, had the same proposition made to him, but he rejected it, on the grounds which it is said will be sustained by the whole nation, whenever that are made public. Mr. Buchanan on the contrary, was desirous of acceding to this proposition, and advised President Polk to accept it, or at least to introduce the subject into his message to Congress, and to recommend that mode of settling the dispute. This the President has declined doing, on the grounds as I am informed, that it would not be satisfactory to the West. There the matter rests at present. I learn that Mr. Packenham is very desirous that the administration should accede to this proposition, and that Mr. Buchanan has used his best endeavors to that end."

In connection, we present an article of interest on this very important subject, from the Pennsylvania Inquirer of Monday:

"More of the Oregon Troubles—Our Relations with Great Britain: The Oregon question, we perceive, is exciting more and more attention. Everywhere throughout the country the journalists are expressing their views. The recent intelligence from Washington, to the effect that President Polk has rejected the offer of Mr. Packenham to refer the difficulty of the arbitration of a third power, will impact additional interest to the subject, and the more so, because of the rumored willingness of Mr. Buchanan to accept of the proposition referred to. The American Secretary of State enjoys in a high degree of confidence of his own political friends, especially in Pennsylvania. It is thought, moreover, that in the Oregon matter, he will go quite far enough, and that hence his views and suggestions should be treated with great respect. If, however, Mr. Buchanan be willing to refer the matter to a third party, he must feel satisfaction from a thorough examination of the subject, and from interviews with Mr. Packenham, that such a course, all the circumstances considered, would be judicious, proper, national, honorable, and patriotic. But, so the story goes, Mr. Polk, influenced by the opinions of the West, has rejected the arbitration. What next? What will he say in his Message to Congress? The Washington Union has given several articles upon the subject of late, to which we may refer with propriety. The official editor closes one thus:

"In another article, we may take occasion to say something of the "abstract right in the soil of Oregon," which the "Times" is inclined to set up against the rights of the inclinations of the population whose dwelling place it is hereafter to be. Let it be understood that it is on the "clear and unquestionable right" we have to the country that we rest our claim, and are prepared to assert it. England has in more than one respect, set us an example which it is time for us to imitate. She has now established laws for the British population there, and secured the means of administering them. We, too, must establish a territorial authority over our emigrants, and prepare to block-house at least to the Rocky Mountains, to protect our emigrants, and give them confidence to emigrate to Oregon, free from all unnecessary fears of interruption from the Indians of the intermediate country. John Bull has no right to complain of this movement, as the most material measure of the series has for several year been adopted by British policy."

The London Times also contains an article upon this vexed and important question, from which we copy this passage:

"Really, it is almost tedious to describe, in the way of an Oregon prophecy, what has already occurred in Texas. The monotony is, however, in the facts. There is the sameness of a deep and determined policy. There are vast territories, over some of which "we have rights," as the Premier said while Mexico retains, and is at present admitted, to have, still more absolute rights over other more southern and desirable regions. The Union condescends to dispute and negotiate with the more powerful of the two possessors; but that is not all. The negotiation lengthens, as if, to use the sailor's expression, its end has been cut off. The boundary line perpetually recedes. The pleas are continually amended. While the diplomatists are at work, crowds of settlers are encouraged, escorted, protected, and even deluded and entrapped, into the debatable land. Instinct with the indigenous policy of the Union, they from independent organizations. Of course, they know they are safe enough. As soon as they are many enough and strong enough to reduce the original inhabitants, the Mexican natives, or the British fellow colonists, to a minority in numbers and physical force, they will forthwith give vent to their noble aspiration for union with the States; and it will not be long before their spontaneous advances are gratefully acknowledged. Were it a walled town, and not half a continent, which was in question, there would be no dispute as to the character of the stratagem. The classical reader is acquainted with many such instances on a small scale. While the besiegers were parleying, or perhaps, in a time of profound peace, a group of peasants would straggle up to the city gate with
faggots, or fruit, or wine. They casually muster, throw off their rustic guise, draw swords, disarm the guard, and admit the approaching body of their comrades. This was once a stale trick. Magnitude will now give it the appearance of novelty. The colonists of Oregon and California will muster and form, eventually draw their swords, to open a way for the main body of the Union."

The Union also contains a long letter from its London correspondent, in which the Oregon question is treated in detail. The writer is no doubt an individual of much ability, and quite familiar with European affairs. He contends that it is the interest of Great Britain to prevent a war between Mexico and the United States and adds:

"Neither need we apprehend that the British Government will assist Mexico with money. The very idea is preposterous. England has sufficient demands on her own treasury. SHE MUST PREPARE FOR THE DEATH OF LOUIS PHILLIPPE; for a change in dynasty, or a revolution in Europe, would inevitably lead to an interruption of the present relation between Great Britain and France. As to the bankers lending Mexico money for the purpose of carrying on a war, I can only say they are not quite so moonstruck as all that. The only chance of Mexico ever paying her old debt is the maintenance of peace. A new loan would increase the indebtedness of the state, and, at the same time, diminish her means of payment. As to the absurd notion that England will take a mortgage on California, it scarcely merits a serious refutation. England would, by that means, acquire no further title in California that she has, except that she might claim payment of that debt from any power which may afterwards take possession of it. Neither would it justify her assisting Mexico to maintain possession of that province further that she has already a right to do so, as her friend and ally. Any loan, therefore, which either the government or individuals might make to Mexico, on such a mortgage, would establish no new title, and only impugn the honesty of England- of which she is so particularly desirous of furnishing new proofs, since the world has shown itself dissatisfied with the old ones."

Turning then to the Oregon Question, he expresses the opinion, that the declaration of Sir Robert Peel about the Oregon Territory; followed as it was immediately by the disparagement of that territory in the ministered journals, "was intended mainly to obtain from America better commercial terms- perhaps an offer to settle the Oregon question by the new tariff. The British government is evidently prepared for it, and the influential portion of the community, still more so- as it conceded by all the respectable journals of the country. Sir Robert Peel’s political sins are only pardoned by the majority of his own party on account of the healthy financial condition to which his administration has restored the country, and which his measures thus far tend to secure in the future. It is therefore most probable the Sir Robert Peel will eagerly seize upon any propositions to settle the Oregon question, or any other question that may be pending between America and England by a compromise which shall benefit commerce, and by that means, at least indirectly, the British treasury."

In corroboration of this view, the correspondent of the Union quotes from the London Economist, an advocate of the Anti-Corn Law and free Trade League, which holds this language.

"Our present object, however, is more particularly to call attention to the commercial relations of the two countries, and to the means by which the best and permanent interests of both may be advanced. And this subject derives an additional importance at the present moment, as offering, by far, the most likely means of rendering practicable and easy settlement of all other questions in dispute. The commercial intercourse between Great Britain and the United States, even as it now is, but far more as it might be, involves the deepest and largest interests of both countries- greater than the settlement or occupation of Oregon, which, in a very few years, will be practically occupied and possessed by citizens of the United States."

To sum up the matter, therefore, we may briefly state that this country claims the whole of Oregon, while Great Britain is equally zealous in urging her claim to part of that Territory. The subject has been under negotiation for a long period, without arriving at any satisfactory conclusion. The intelligence from Washington is, that finding it impossible to agree upon the compromise, one of the parties has, through her Minister; proposed to refer the dispute to the arbitration of a third party; and that this proposition has been rejected by the President of the United States, because of the opinions of the West, the London letter writer above quoted.

Had we the privilege of wielding the power of two countries for a season, we would settle the Oregon Question thus, guided by the results which have already occurred there, and by this reasoning: Whether owned and settled by the United States or by England, the Oregon Country, and Empire in extent, will be independent of both in 20 years! It will be too powerful for a British dependency, and too remote to form an integral part of the American Union. Let each nation then abandon its spurious claims, for the claims of both are spurious; let those who will colonize the country, and let them set up for themselves!

[JKM]
Our columns are monopolized by this document. We cannot in justice to the public omit it, or in justice to ourselves, publish it, without the greatest inconvenience. There is no greater bore than these long documents, to editors and readers! Yet what can be done but to publish them? If the Press generally, would agree to publish no document greater than a column in length, it would teach public men better manners and better taste. We have space but to allude to the Message of the President. The two great topics of course, are the Tariff and Oregon: as to the Tariff, Mr. Polk's principals seem right enough but his inductions wrong: He recommends, if we understand him, a horizontal, ad valorem, discriminating Tariff – that is a protecting Tariff without Protection! In other words he has set his traps to catch the fish going up the river and coming down! All the Presidents since Mr. Adams, have as rank demagogues as ever harassed a country. The danger of the Oregon question will suggest itself from the Message, to every intelligent reader.

[TCS]

RW Tuesday December 5, 1845 RW45v22n8p1 President's Message

For a complete archive of State of the Union addresses see: http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/site/docset/sou.htm

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives:

It is to me a source of unaffected satisfaction to meet the representatives of the States and the people in Congress assembled, as it will be to receive the aid of their combined wisdom in the administration of public affairs. In performing for the first time the duty imposed on me by the Constitution of giving to you information of the state of the Union and recommending to your consideration such measures as in my judgment are necessary and expedient, I am happy that I can congratulate you on the continued prosperity of our country. Under the blessings of Divine Providence and the benign influence of our free institutions, it stands before the world a spectacle of national happiness.

With our unexampled advancement in all the elements of national greatness, the affection of the people is confirmed for the Union of the States and for the doctrines of popular liberty which lie at the foundation of our Government.

It becomes us in humility to make our devout acknowledgments to the Supreme Ruler of the Universe for the inestimable civil and religious blessings with which we are favored.

In calling the attention of Congress to our relations with foreign powers, I am gratified to be able to state that though with some of them there have existed since your last session serious causes of irritation and misunderstanding, yet no actual hostilities have taken place. Adopting the maxim in the conduct of our foreign affairs "to ask nothing that is not right and submit to nothing that is wrong," it has been my anxious desire to preserve peace with all nations, but at the same time to be prepared to resist aggression and maintain all our just rights.

In pursuance of the joint resolution of Congress "for annexing Texas to the United States," my predecessor, on the 3d day of March, 1845, elected to submit the first and second sections of that resolution to the Republic of Texas as an overture on the part of the United States for her admission as a State into our Union. This election I approved, and accordingly the charge' d'affaires of the United States in Texas, under instructions of the 10th of March, 1845, presented these sections of the resolution for the acceptance of that Republic. The executive government, the Congress, and the people of Texas in convention have successively complied with all the terms and conditions of the joint resolution. A constitution for the government of the State of Texas, formed by a convention of deputies, is herewith laid before Congress. It is well known, also, that the people of Texas at the polls have accepted the terms of annexation and ratified the constitution. I communicate to Congress the correspondence between the Secretary of State and our charge' d'affaires in Texas, and also the correspondence of the latter with the authorities of Texas, together with the official documents transmitted by him to his own Government. The terms of annexation which were offered by the United States having been accepted by Texas, the public faith of both parties is solemnly pledged to the compact of their union. Nothing remains to consummate the event but the passage of an act by Congress to admit the State of Texas into the Union upon an equal footing with the original States. Strong reasons exist why this should be done at an early period of the session. It will be observed that by the constitution of Texas the existing government is only continued temporarily till Congress can act, and that the third Monday of the present month is the day appointed for holding the first general election. On that day a governor, a lieutenant-governor, and both branches of the legislature will be chosen by the people. The President of Texas is required, immediately after the receipt of official information that the new State has been admitted into our Union by Congress, to convene the legislature, and upon its meeting the existing government will be superseded and the State government organized. Questions deeply interesting to Texas, in common with the other States, the extension of our revenue laws and judicial system over her people and territory, as well as measures of a local character, will claim the early attention of Congress, and therefore upon every principle of republican government she ought to be represented in that body without unnecessary delay. I can not too earnestly recommend prompt action on this important subject. As soon as the act to admit Texas as a State shall be passed the union of the two Republics will be consummated by their own voluntary consent.

This accession to our territory has been a bloodless achievement. No arm of force has been raised to produce the result. The sword has had no part in the victory. We have not sought to extend our territorial possessions by conquest, or our republican institutions over a reluctant people. It was the deliberate homage of each people to the
great principle of our federative union. If we consider the extent of territory involved in the annexation, its
prospective influence on America, the means by which it has been accomplished, springing purely from the choice of
the people themselves to share the blessings of our union, the history of the world may be challenged to furnish a
parallel. The jurisdiction of the United States, which at the formation of the Federal Constitution was bounded by the
St. Marys on the Atlantic, has passed the capes of Florida and been peacefully extended to the Del Norte. In
contemplating the grandeur of this event it is not to be forgotten that the result was achieved in despite of the
diplomatic interference of European monarchies. Even France, the country which had been our ancient ally, the
country which has a common interest with us in maintaining the freedom of the seas, the country which, by the
cession of Louisiana, first opened to us access to the Gulf of Mexico, the country with which we have been every
year drawing more and more closely the bonds of successful commerce, most unexpectedly, and to our unfeigned
regret, took part in an effort to prevent annexation and to impose on Texas, as a condition of the recognition of her
independence by Mexico, that she would never join herself to the United States. We may rejoice that the tranquil
and pervading influence of the American principle of self-government was sufficient to defeat the purposes of British
and French interference, and that the almost unanimous voice of the people of Texas has given to that interference a
peaceful and effective rebuke. From this example European Governments may learn how vain diplomatic arts and
intrigues must ever prove upon this continent against that system of self-government which seems natural to our
soil, and which will ever resist foreign interference.

Toward Texas I do not doubt that a liberal and generous spirit will actuate Congress in all that concerns her interests
and prosperity, and that she will never have cause to regret that she has united her "lone star" to our glorious
constellation.

I regret to inform you that our relations with Mexico since your last session have not been of the amicable character
which it is our desire to cultivate with all foreign nations. On the 6th day of March last the Mexican envoy
extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the United States made a formal protest in the name of his
Government against the joint resolution passed by Congress "for the annexation of Texas to the United States," which
he chose to regard as a violation of the rights of Mexico, and in consequence of it he demanded his passports.
He was informed that the Government of the United States did not consider this joint resolution as a violation of any
of the rights of Mexico, or that it afforded any just cause of offense to his Government; that the Republic of Texas
was an independent power, owing no allegiance to Mexico and constituting no part of her territory or rightful
sovereignty and jurisdiction. He was also assured that it was the sincere desire of this Government to maintain with
that of Mexico relations of peace and good understanding. That functionary, however, notwithstanding these
representations and assurances, abruptly terminated his mission and shortly afterwards left the country. Our envoy
extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Mexico was refused all official intercourse with that Government, and,
after remaining several months, by the permission of his own Government he returned to the United States. Thus, and,
by the acts of Mexico, all diplomatic intercourse between the two countries was suspended.

Since that time Mexico has until recently occupied an attitude of hostility toward the United States—has been
marshaling and organizing armies, issuing proclamations, and avowing the intention to make war on the United
States, either by an open declaration or by invading Texas. Both the Congress and convention of the people of Texas
invited this Government to send an army into that territory to protect and defend them against the menaced attack.
The moment the terms of annexation offered by the United States were accepted by Texas the latter became so far
a part of our own country as to make it our duty to afford such protection and defense. I therefore deemed it proper,
as a precautionary measure, to order a strong squadron to the coasts of Mexico and to concentrate an efficient
military force on the western frontier of Texas. Our Army was ordered to take position in the country between the
Nueces and the Del Norte, and to repel any invasion of the Texan territory which might be attempted by the Mexican
forces. Our squadron in the Gulf was ordered to cooperate with the Army. But though our Army and Navy were
placed in a position to defend our own and the rights of Texas, they were ordered to commit no act of hostility
against Mexico unless she declared war or was herself the aggressor by striking the first blow. The result has been
that Mexico has made no aggressive movement, and our military and naval commanders have executed their orders
with such discretion that the peace of the two Republics has not been disturbed. Texas had declared her
independence and maintained it by her arms for more than nine years. She has had an organized government in
successful operation during that period. Her separate existence as an independent state had been recognized by the
United States and the principal powers of Europe. Treaties of commerce and navigation had been concluded with her
by different nations, and it had become manifest to the whole world that any further attempt on the part of Mexico
to conquer her or overthrow her Government would be vain. Even Mexico herself had become satisfied of this fact,
and whilst the question of annexation was pending before the people of Texas during the past summer the
Government of Mexico, by a formal act, agreed to recognize the independence of Texas on condition that she would
not annex herself to any other power. The agreement to acknowledge the independence of Texas, whether with or
without this condition, is conclusive against Mexico. The independence of Texas is a fact conceded by Mexico herself,
and she had no right or authority to prescribe restrictions as to the form of government which Texas might afeard
choose to assume. But though Mexico can not complain of the United States on account of the annexation of Texas,
it is to be regretted that serious causes of misunderstanding between the two countries continue to exist, growing
out of unrepressed injuries inflicted by the Mexican authorities and people on the persons and property of citizens of
the United States through a long series of years. Mexico has admitted these injuries, but has neglected and refused
to repair them. Such was the character of the wrongs and such the insults repeatedly offered to American citizens
and the American flag by Mexico, in palpable violation of the laws of nations and the treaty between the two
countries of the 5th of April, 1831, that they have been repeatedly brought to the notice of Congress by my
predecessors. As early as the 6th of February, 1837, the President of the United States declared in a message to
Congress that—

The length of time since some of the injuries have been committed, the repeated and unavailing applications for
redress, the wanton character of some of the outrages upon the property and persons of our citizens, upon the
officers and flag of the United States, independent of recent insults to this Government and people by the late
He did not, however, recommend an immediate resort to this extreme measure, which, he declared, "should not be used by just and generous nations, confiding in their strength for injuries committed, if it can be honorably avoided," but, in a spirit of forbearance, proposed that another demand be made on Mexico for that redress which had been so long and unjustly withheld. In these views committees of the two Houses of Congress, in reports made to their respective bodies, concurred. Since these proceedings more than eight years have elapsed, during which, in addition to the wrongs then complained of, others of an aggravated character have been committed on the persons and property of our citizens. A special agent was sent to Mexico in the summer of 1838 with full authority to make another and final demand for redress. The demand was made; the Mexican Government promised to repair the wrongs of which we complained, and after much delay a treaty of indemnity with that view was concluded between the two powers on the 11th of April, 1839, and was duly ratified by both Governments. By this treaty a joint commission was created to adjudicate and decide on the claims of American citizens on the Government of Mexico. The commission was organized at Washington on the 25th day of August, 1840. Their time was limited to eighteen months, at the expiration of which they had adjudicated and decided claims amounting to $2,026,139.68 in favor of citizens of the United States against the Mexican Government, leaving a large amount of claims undecided. Of the latter the American commissioners had decided in favor of our citizens claims amounting to $928,627.88, which were left unacted on by the umpire authorized by the treaty. Still further claims, amounting to between three and four millions of dollars, were submitted to the board too late to be considered, and were left undisposed of. The sum of $2,026,139.68, decided by the board, was a liquidated and ascertained debt due by Mexico to the claimants, and there was no justifiable reason for delaying its payment according to the terms of the treaty. It was not, however, paid. Mexico applied for further indulgence, and, in that spirit of liberality and forbearance which has ever marked the policy of the United States toward Republic, the request was granted, and on the 30th of January, 1843, a new treaty was concluded. By this treaty it was provided that the interest due on the awards in favor of claimants under the convention of the 11th of April, 1839, should be paid out the 30th of April, 1843, and that—

The principal of the said awards and the interest accruing thereon shall be paid in five years, in equal installments every three months, the said term of five years to commence on the 30th day of April, 1843, aforesaid.

The interest due on the 30th day of April, 1843, and the three first of the twenty installments have been paid. Seventeen of these installments, remain unpaid, seven of which are now due.

The claims which were left undecided by the joint commission, amounting to more than $3,000,000, together with other claims for spoliations on the property of our citizens, were subsequently presented to the Mexican Government for payment, and were so far recognized that a treaty providing for their examination and settlement by a joint commission was concluded and signed at Mexico on the 20th of November, 1843. This treaty was ratified by the United States with certain amendments to which no just exception could have been taken, but it has not yet received the ratification of the Mexican Government. In the meantime our citizens, who suffered great losses—and some of whom have been reduced from affluence to bankruptcy—are without remedy unless their rights be enforced by their Government. Such a continued and unprovoked series of wrongs could never have been tolerated by the United States had they been committed by one of the principal nations of Europe. Mexico was, however, a neighboring sister republic, which, following our example, had achieved her independence, and for whose success and prosperity all the sympathies of the United States were early enlisted. The United States were the first to recognize her independence and to receive her into the family of nations, and have ever been desirous of cultivating with her a good understanding. We have therefore borne the repeated wrongs she has committed with great patience, in the hope that a returning sense of justice would ultimately guide her councils and that we might, if possible, honorably avoid any hostile collision with her. Without the previous authority of Congress the Executive possessed no power to adopt or enforce adequate remedies for the injuries we had suffered, or to do more than to be prepared to repel the threatened aggression on the part of Mexico. After our Army and Navy had remained on the frontier and coasts of Mexico for many weeks without any hostile movement on her part, though her menaces were continued, I deemed it important to put an end, if possible, to this state of things. With this view I caused steps to be taken in the month of September last to ascertain distinctly and in an authentic form what the designs of the Mexican Government were—whether it was their intention to declare war, or invade Texas, or whether they were disposed to adjust and settle in an amicable manner the pending differences between the two countries. On the 9th of November an official answer was received that the Mexican Government consented to renew the diplomatic relations which had been suspended in March last, and for that purpose were willing to accredit a minister from the United States. With a sincere desire to preserve peace and restore relations of good understanding between the two Republics, I waived all ceremony as to the manner of renewing diplomatic intercourse between them, and, assuming the initiative, on the 10th of November a distinguished citizen of Louisiana was appointed envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Mexico, clothed with full powers to adjust and definitively settle all pending differences between the two countries, including those of boundary between Mexico and the State of Texas. The minister appointed has set out on his mission and is probably by this time near the Mexican capital. He has been instructed to bring the negotiation with which he is charged to a result to Congress during the present session. Until that result is known I forbear to recommend to Congress such ulterior measures of redress for the wrongs and injuries we have so long borne as it would have been proper to make had no such negotiation been instituted.

Congress appropriated at the last session the sum of $275,000 for the payment of the April and July installments of the Mexican indemnities for the year 1844:

Provided it shall be ascertained to the satisfaction of the American Government that said installments have been paid by the Mexican Government to the agent appointed by the United States to receive the same in such manner as to discharge all claim on the Mexican Government, and said agent to be delinquent in remitting the money to the
United States.

The unsettled state of our relations with Mexico has involved this subject in much mystery. The first information in an authentic form from the agent of the United States, appointed under the Administration of my predecessor, was received at the State Department on the 9th of November last. This is contained in a letter, dated the 17th of October, addressed by him to one of our citizens then in Mexico with a view of having it communicated to that Department. From this it appears that the agent on the 20th of September, 1844, gave a receipt to the treasury of Mexico for the amount of the April and July installments of the indemnity. In the same communication, however, he asserts that he had not received a single dollar in cash, but that he holds such securities as warranted him at the time in giving the receipt, and entertains no doubt but that he will eventually obtain the money. As these installments appear never to have been actually paid by the Government of Mexico to the agent, and as that Government has not, therefore, been released so as to discharge the claim, I do not feel myself warranted in directing payment to be made to the claimants out of the Treasury without further legislation. Their case is undoubtedly one of much hardship, and it remains for Congress to decide whether any, and what, relief ought to be granted to them. Our minister to Mexico has been instructed to ascertain the facts of the case from the Mexican Government in an authentic and official form and report the result with as little delay as possible.

My attention was early directed to the negotiation which on the 4th of March last I found pending at Washington between the United States and Great Britain on the subject of the Oregon Territory. Three several attempts had been previously made to settle the questions in dispute between the two countries by negotiation upon the principle of compromise, but each had proved unsuccessful. These negotiations took place at London in the years 1818, 1824, and 1826—the two first under the Administration of Mr. Monroe and the last under that of Mr. Adams. The negotiation of 1818, having failed to accomplish its object, resulted in the convention of the 20th of October of that year.

By the third article of that convention it was—

Agreed that any country that may be claimed by either party on the northwest coast of America westward of the Stony Mountains shall, together with its harbors, bays, and creeks, and the navigation of all rivers within the same, be free and open for the term of ten years from the date of the signature of the present convention to the vessels, citizens, and subjects of the two powers; it being well understood that this agreement is not to be construed to the prejudice of any claim which either of the two high contracting parties may have to any part of the said country, nor shall it be taken to affect the claims of any other power or state to any part of the said country, the only object of the high contracting parties in that respect being to prevent disputes and differences amongst themselves.

The negotiation of 1824 was productive of no result, and the convention of 1818 was left unchanged.

The negotiation of 1826, having also failed to effect an adjustment by compromise, resulted in the convention of August 6, 1827, by which it was agreed to continue in force for an indefinite period the provisions of the third article of the convention of the 20th of October, 1818; and it was further provided that—

It shall be competent, however, to either of the contracting parties, in case either should think fit, at any time after the 20th of October, 1828, on giving due notice of twelve months to the other contracting party, to annul and abrogate this convention; and it shall in such case be accordingly entirely annulled and abrogated after the expiration of the said term of notice.

In these attempts to adjust the controversy the parallel of the forty-ninth degree of north latitude had been offered by the United States to Great Britain, and in those of 1818 and 1826, with a further concession of the free navigation of the Columbia River south of that latitude. The parallel of the forty-ninth degree from the Rocky Mountains to its intersection with the north easternmost branch of the Columbia, and thence down the channel of that river to the sea, had been offered by Great Britain, with an addition of a small detached territory north of the Columbia. Each of these propositions had been rejected by the parties respectively. In October, 1843, the envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States in London was authorized to make a similar offer to those made in 1818 and 1826. Thus stood the question when the negotiation was shortly afterwards transferred to Washington, and on the 23d of August, 1844, was formally opened under the direction of my immediate predecessor. Like all the previous negotiations, it was based upon principles of "compromise," and the avowed purpose of the parties was "to treat of the respective claims of the two countries to the Oregon Territory with the view to establish a permanent boundary between them westward of the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean."

Accordingly, on the 26th of August, 1844, the British plenipotentiary offered to divide the Oregon Territory by the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude from the Rocky Mountains to the point of its intersection with the north easternmost branch of the Columbia and thence down that river to the sea, leaving the free navigation of the river to be enjoyed in common by both parties, the country south of this line to belong to the United States and that north of it to Great Britain. At the same time he proposed in addition to yield to the United States a detached territory north of the Columbia extending along the Pacific and the Straits of Fuca from Bullfinch's Harbor, inclusive, to Hood's Canal, and to make free to the United States any port or ports south of latitude 49° which they might desire, either on the mainland or on Quadra and Vancouver Island. With the exception of the free ports, this was the same offer which had been made by the British and rejected by the American Government in the negotiation of 1826. This proposition was properly rejected by the American plenipotentiary on the day it was submitted. This was the only proposition of compromise offered by the British plenipotentiary. The proposition on the part of Great Britain having been rejected, the British plenipotentiary requested that a proposal should be made by the United States for "an equitable adjustment of the question." When I came into office I found this to be the state of the negotiation.
Though entertaining the settled conviction that the British pretensions of title could not be maintained to any portion of the Oregon Territory upon any principle of public law recognized by nations, yet in deference to what had been done by my predecessors, and especially in consideration that propositions of compromise had been thrice made by two preceding Administrations to adjust the question on the parallel of 49°, and in two of them yielding to Great Britain the free navigation of the Columbia, and that the pending negotiation had been commenced on the basis of compromise, I deemed it to be my duty not abruptly to break it off. In consideration, too, that under the conventions of 1818 and 1827 the citizens and subjects of the two powers held a joint occupancy of the country, I was induced to make another effort to settle this long-pending controversy in the spirit of moderation which had given birth to the renewed discussion. A proposition was accordingly made, which was rejected by the British plenipotentiary, who, without submitting any other proposition, suffered the negotiation on his part to drop; expressing his trust that the United States would offer what he saw fit to call "some further proposal for the settlement of the Oregon question more consistent with fairness and equity and with the reasonable expectations of the British Government." The proposition thus offered and rejected repeated the offer of the parallel of 49° of north latitude, which had been made by two preceding Administrations, but without proposing to surrender to Great Britain, as they had done, the free navigation of the Columbia River. The right of any foreign power to the free navigation of any of our rivers through the heart of our country was one which I was unwilling to concede. It also embraced a provision to make free to Great Britain any port or ports on the cap of Quadra and Vancouvers Island south of this parallel. Had this been a new question, coming under discussion for the first time, this proposition would not have been made. The extraordinary and wholly inadmissible demands of the British Government and the rejection of the proposition made in deference alone to what had been done by my predecessors and the implied obligation which their acts seemed to impose afford satisfactory evidence that no compromise which the United States ought to accept can be effectuated. With this conviction the proposition of compromise which had been made and rejected was by my direction subsequently withdrawn and our title to the whole Oregon Territory asserted, and, as is believed, maintained by irrefrangible facts and arguments.

The civilized world will see in these proceedings a spirit of liberal concession on the part of the United States, and this Government will be relieved from all responsibility which may follow the failure to settle the controversy.

All attempts at compromise having failed, it becomes the duty of Congress to consider what measures it may be proper to adopt for the security and protection of our citizens now inhabiting or who may hereafter inhabit Oregon, and for the maintenance of our just title to that Territory. In adopting measures for this purpose care should be taken that nothing be done to violate the stipulations of the convention of 1827, which is still in force. The faith of treaties, in their letter and spirit, has ever been, and, I trust, will ever be, scrupulously observed by the United States. Under that convention a year's notice is required to be given by either party to the other before the joint occupancy shall terminate and before either can rightfully assert or exercise exclusive jurisdiction over any portion of the territory. This notice it would, in my judgment, be proper to give, and I recommend that provision be made by law for giving it accordingly, and terminating in this manner the convention of the 6th of August, 1827.

It will become proper for Congress to determine what legislation they can in the meantime adopt without violating this convention. Beyond all question the protection of our laws and our jurisdiction, civil and criminal, ought to be immediately extended over our citizens in Oregon. They have had just cause to complain of our long neglect in this particular, and have in consequence been compelled for their own security and protection to establish a provisional government for themselves. Strong in their allegiance and ardent in their attachment to the United States, they have been thus cast upon their own resources. They are anxious that our laws should be extended over them, and I recommend that this be done by Congress with as little delay as possible in the full extent to which the British Parliament have proceeded in regard to British subjects in that Territory by their act of July 2, 1821, "for regulating the fur trade and establishing a criminal and civil jurisdiction within certain parts of North America." By this act Great Britain extended her laws and jurisdiction, civil and criminal, over her subjects engaged in the fur trade in that Territory. By it the courts of the Province of Upper Canada were empowered to take cognizance of causes civil and criminal. Justices of the peace and other judicial officers were authorized to be appointed in Oregon with power to execute all process issuing from the courts of that Province, and to "sit and hold courts of record for the trial of criminal offenses and misdemeanors" not made the subject of capital punishment, and also of civil cases where the cause of action shall not "exceed in value the amount or sum of lbs. 200."

Subsequent to the date of this act of Parliament a grant was made from the "British Crown" to the Hudsons Bay Company of the exclusive trade with the Indian tribes in the Oregon Territory, subject to a reservation that it shall not operate to the exclusion "of the subjects of any foreign states who, under or by force of any convention for the time being between us and such foreign states, respectively, may be entitled to and shall be engaged in the said trade." It is much to be regretted that while under this act British subjects have enjoyed the protection of British laws and British judicial tribunals throughout the whole of Oregon, American citizens in the same Territory have enjoyed no such protection from their Government. At the same time, the result illustrates the character of our people and their institutions. In spite of this neglect they have multiplied, and their number is rapidly increasing in that Territory. They have made no appeal to arms, but have peacefully fortified themselves in their new homes by the adoption of republican institutions for themselves, furnishing another example of the truth that self-government is inherent in the American breast and must prevail. It is due to them that they should be embraced and protected by our laws. It is deemed important that our laws regulating trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes east of the Rocky Mountains should be extended to such tribes as dwell beyond them. The increasing emigration to Oregon and the care and protection which is due from the Government to its citizens in that distant region make it our duty, as it is our interest, to cultivate amicable relations with the Indian tribes of that Territory. For this purpose I recommend that provision be made for establishing an Indian agency and such subagencies as may be deemed necessary beyond the Rocky Mountains.

For the protection of emigrants whilst on their way to Oregon against the attacks of the Indian tribes occupying the
and reaffirm the principle avowed by Mr. Monroe and to state my cordial concurrence in its wisdom and sound policy.

It requires several months to perform the voyage by sea from the Atlantic States to Oregon, and although we have a large number of whale ships in the Pacific, but few of them afford an opportunity of interchanging intelligence without great delay between our settlements in that distant region and the United States. An overland mail is believed to be entirely practicable, and the importance of establishing such a mail at least once a month is submitted to the favorable consideration of Congress.

It is submitted to the wisdom of Congress to determine whether at their present session, and until after the expiration of the year’s notice, any other measures may be adopted consistently with the convention of 1827 for the security of our rights and the government and protection of our citizens in Oregon. That it will ultimately be wise and proper to make liberal grants of land to the patriotic pioneers who amidst privations and dangers lead the way through savage tribes inhabiting the vast wilderness intervening between our frontier settlements and Oregon, and who cultivate and are ever ready to defend the soil, I am fully satisfied. To doubt whether they will obtain such grants as soon as the convention between the United States and Great Britain shall have ceased to exist would be to doubt the justice of Congress; but, pending the year’s notice, it is worthy of consideration whether a stipulation to this effect may be made consistently with the spirit of that convention.

The recommendations which I have made as to the best manner of securing our rights in Oregon are submitted to Congress with great deference. Should they in their wisdom devise any other mode better calculated to accomplish the same object, it shall meet with my hearty concurrence.

At the end of the year’s notice, should Congress think it proper to make provision for giving that notice, we shall have reached a period when the national rights in Oregon must either be abandoned or firmly maintained. That they can not be abandoned without a sacrifice of both national honor and interest is too clear to admit of doubt.

Oregon is a part of the North American continent, to which, it is confidently affirmed, the title of the United States is the best now in existence. For the grounds on which that title rests I refer you to the correspondence of the late and present Secretary of State with the British plenipotentiary during the negotiation. The British proposition of compromise, which would make the Columbia the line south of 49°, with a trifling addition of detached territory to the United States north of that river, and would leave on the British side two-thirds of the whole Oregon Territory, including the free navigation of the Columbia and all the valuable harbors on the Pacific, can never for a moment be entertained by the United States without an abandonment of their just and dear territorial rights, their own self-respect, and the national honor. For the information of Congress, I communicate herewith the correspondence which took place between the two Governments during the late negotiation.

The rapid extension of our settlements over our territories heretofore unoccupied, the addition of new States to our Confederacy, the expansion of free principles, and our rising greatness as a nation are attracting the attention of the powers of Europe, and lately the doctrine has been broached in some of them of a "balance of power" on this continent to check our advancement. The United States, sincerely desirous of preserving relations of good understanding with all nations, can not in silence permit any European interference on the North American continent, and should any such interference be attempted will be ready to resist it at any and all hazards.

It is well known to the American people and to all nations that this Government has never interfered with the relations subsisting between other governments. We have never made ourselves parties to their wars or their alliances; we have not sought their territories by conquest; we have not mingled with parties in their domestic struggles; and believing our own form of government to be the best, we have never attempted to propagate it by intrigues, by diplomacy, or by force. We may claim on this continent a like exemption from European interference. The nations of America are equally sovereign and independent with those of Europe. They possess the same rights, independent of all foreign interposition, to make war, to conclude peace, and to regulate their internal affairs. The people of the United States can not, therefore, view with indifference attempts of European powers to interfere with the independent action of the nations on this continent. The American system of government is entirely different from that of Europe. Jealousy among the different sovereigns of Europe, lest any one of them might become too powerful for the rest, has caused them anxiously to desire the establishment of what they term the "balance of power." It can not be permitted to have any application on the North American continent, and especially to the United States. We must ever maintain the principle that the people of this continent alone have the right to decide their own destiny. Should any portion of them, constituting an independent state, propose to unite themselves with our Confederacy, this will be a question for them and us to determine without any foreign interposition. We can never consent that European powers shall interfere to prevent such a union because it might disturb the "balance of power" which they may desire to maintain upon this continent. Near a quarter of a century ago the principle was distinctly announced to the world, in the annual message of one of my predecessors, that—

The American continents, by the free and independent condition which they have assumed and maintain, are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for colonization by any European powers.

This principle will apply with greatly increased force should any European power attempt to establish any new colony in North America. In the existing circumstances of the world the present is deemed a proper occasion to reiterate and reaffirm the principle avowed by Mr. Monroe and to state my cordial concurrence in its wisdom and sound policy.
The reassertion of this principle, especially in reference to North America, is at this day but the promulgation of a policy which no European power should cherish the disposition to resist. Existing rights of every European nation should be respected, but it is due alike to our safety and our interests that the efficient protection of our laws should be extended over our whole territorial limits, and that it should be distinctly announced to the world as our settled policy that no future European colony or dominion shall with our consent be planted or established on any part of the North American continent.

A question has recently arisen under the tenth article of the subsisting treaty between the United States and Prussia. By this article the consuls of the two countries have the right to sit as judges and arbitrators "in such differences as may arise between the captains and crews of the vessels belonging to the nation whose interests are committed to their charge without the interference of the local authorities, unless the conduct of the crews or of the captain should disturb the order or tranquility of the country, or the said consuls should require their assistance to cause their decisions to be carried into effect or supported."

The Prussian consul at New Bedford in June, 1844, applied to Mr. Justice Story to carry into effect a decision made by him between the captain and crew of the Prussian ship Borussia, but the request was refused on the ground that without previous legislation by Congress the judiciary did not possess the power to give effect to this article of the treaty. The Prussian Government, through their minister here, have complained of this violation of the treaty, and have asked the Government of the United States to adopt the necessary measures to prevent similar violations hereafter. Good faith to Prussia, as well as to other nations with whom we have similar treaty stipulations, requires that these should be faithfully observed. I have deemed it proper, therefore, to lay the subject before Congress and to recommend such legislation as may be necessary to give effect to these treaty obligations.

By virtue of an arrangement made between the Spanish Government and that of the United States in December, 1831, American vessels, since the 29th of April, 1832, have been admitted to entry in the ports of Spain, including those of the Balearic and Canary islands, on payment of the same tonnage duty of 5 cents per ton, as though they had been Spanish vessels; and this whether our vessels arrive in Spain directly from the United States or indirectly from any other country. When Congress, by the act of 13th July, 1832, gave effect to this arrangement between the two Governments, they confined the reduction of tonnage duty merely to Spanish vessels "coming from a port in Spain," leaving the former discriminating duty to remain against such vessels coming from a port in any other country. It is manifestly unjust that whilst American vessels arriving in the ports of Spain from other countries pay no more duty than Spanish vessels, Spanish vessels arriving in the ports of the United States from other countries should be subjected to heavy discriminating tonnage duties. This is neither equality nor reciprocity, and is in violation of the arrangement concluded in December, 1831, between the two countries. The Spanish Government have made repeated and earnest remonstrances against this inequality, and the favorable attention of Congress has been several times invoked to the subject by my predecessors. I recommend, as an act of justice to Spain, that this inequality be removed by Congress and that the discriminating duties which have been levied under the act of the 13th of July, 1832, on Spanish vessels coming to the United States from any other foreign country be refunded. This recommendation does not embrace Spanish vessels arriving in the United States from Cuba and Porto Rico, which now pay this rate of duty. The Government of the Netherlands complains that such a discriminating duty should have been imposed on coffee the production of one of its colonies, and which is chiefly brought from Java to the ports of that Kingdom and exported from thence to foreign countries. Our trade with the Netherlands is highly beneficial to both countries and our relations with them have ever been of the most friendly character. Under all the circumstances of the case, I recommend that this discrimination should be abolished and that the coffee of Java imported from the Netherlands be placed upon the same footing with that imported directly from Brazil and other countries where it is produced.

Under the eighth section of the tariff act of the 30th of August, 1842, a duty of 15 cents per gallon was imposed on port wine in casks, while on the red wines of several other countries, when imported in casks, a duty of only 6 cents per gallon was imposed. This discrimination, so far as regarded the port wine of Portugal, was deemed a violation of our treaty with that power, which provides that—

No higher or other duties shall be imposed on the importation into the United States of America of any article the growth, produce, or manufacture of the Kingdom and possessions of Portugal than such as are or shall be payable on the like article being the growth, produce, or manufacture of any other foreign country.

Accordingly, to give effect to the treaty as well as to the intention of Congress, expressed in a proviso to the tariff act itself, that nothing therein contained should be so construed as to interfere with subsisting treaties with foreign nations, a Treasury circular was issued on the 16th of July, 1844, which, among other things, declared the duty on the port wine of Portugal, in casks, under the existing laws and treaty to be 6 cents per gallon, and directed that the excess of duties which had been collected on such wine should be refunded. By virtue of another clause in the same section of the act it is provided that all imitations of port or any other wines "shall be subject to the duty provided for the genuine article." Imitations of port wine, the production of France, are imported to some extent into the United States, and the Government of that country now claims that under a correct construction of the act these imitations ought not to pay a higher duty than that imposed upon the original port wine of Portugal. It appears to me to be unequal and unjust that French imitations of port wine should be subjected to a duty of 15 cents, while the more
The late President, in his annual message of December last, recommended an appropriation to satisfy the claims of the Texan Government against the United States, which had been previously adjusted so far as the powers of the Executive extend. These claims arose out of the act of disarming a body of Texan troops under the command of Major Snively by an officer in the service of the United States, acting under the orders of our Government, and the forcible entry into the custom-house at Bryarlys Landing, on Red River, by certain citizens of the United States and taking away therefrom the goods seized by the collector of the customs as forfeited under the laws of Texas. This was a liquidated debt ascertained to be due to Texas when an independent state. Her acceptance of the terms of annexation proposed by the United States does not discharge or invalidate the claim. I recommend that provision be made for its payment.

The commissioner appointed to China during the special session of the Senate in March last shortly afterwards set out on his mission in the United States ship Columbus. On arriving at Rio de Janeiro on his passage the state of his health had become so critical that by the advice of his medical attendants he returned to the United States early in the month of October last. Commodore Biddle, commanding the East India Squadron, proceeded on his voyage in the Columbus, and was charged by the commissioner with the duty of exchanging with the proper authorities the ratifications of the treaty lately concluded with the Emperor of China. Since the return of the commissioner to the United States his health has been much improved, and he entertains the confident belief that he will soon be able to proceed on his mission.

Unfortunately, differences continue to exist among some of the nations of South America which, following our example, have established their independence, while in others internal dissensions prevail. It is natural that our sympathies should be warmly enlisted for their welfare; that we should desire that all controversies between them should be amicably adjusted and their Governments administered in a manner to protect the rights and promote the prosperity of their people. It is contrary, however, to our settled policy to interfere in their controversies, whether internal or external.

I have thus adverted to all the subjects connected with our foreign relations to which I deem it necessary to call your attention. Our policy is not only peace with all, but good will toward all the powers of the earth. While we are just to all, we require that all shall be just to us. Excepting the differences with Mexico and Great Britain, our relations with all civilized nations are of the most satisfactory character. It is hoped that in this enlightened age these differences may be amicably adjusted.

The Secretary of the Treasury in his annual report to Congress will communicate a full statement of the condition of our finances. The imports for the fiscal year ending on the 30th of June last were of the value of $117,254,564, of which the amount exported was $15,346,830, leaving a balance of $101,907,734 for domestic consumption. The exports for the same year were of the value of $114,646,606, of which the amount of domestic articles was $99,299,776. The receipts into the Treasury during the same year were $29,769,133.56, of which there were derived from customs $27,528,122.70, from sales of public lands $2,077,022.30, and from incidental and miscellaneous sources $163,998.56. The expenditures for the same period were $29,968,206.98, of which $8,588,157.62 were applied to the payment of the public debt. The balance in the Treasury on the 1st of July last was $7,658,306.22. The amount of the public debt remaining unpaid on the 1st of October last was $17,075,445.52. Further payments of the public debt would have been made, in anticipation of the period of its reimbursement under the authority conferred upon the Secretary of the Treasury by the acts of July 21, 1841, and of April 15, 1842, and March 3, 1843, had not the unsettled state of our relations with Mexico menaced hostile collision with that power. In view of such a contingency it was deemed prudent to retain in the Treasury an amount unusually large for ordinary purposes.

A few years ago our whole national debt growing out of the Revolution and the War of 1812 with Great Britain was extinguished, and we presented to the world the rare and noble spectacle of a great and growing people who had fully discharged every obligation. Since that time the existing debt has been contracted, and, small as it is in comparison with the similar burdens of most other nations, it should be extinguished at the earliest practicable period. Should the state of the country permit, and especially if our foreign relations interpose no obstacle, it is contemplated to apply all the moneys in the Treasury as they accrue, beyond what is required for the appropriations by Congress, to its liquidation. I cherish the hope of soon being able to congratulate the country on its recovering once more the lofty position which it so recently occupied. Our country, which exhibits to the world the benefits of self-government, in developing all the sources of national prosperity owes to mankind the permanent example of a nation free from the blighting influence of a public debt.

The attention of Congress is invited to the importance of making suitable modifications and reductions of the rates of duty imposed by our present tariff laws. The object of imposing duties on imports should be to raise revenue to pay the necessary expenses of Government. Congress may undoubtedly, in the exercise of a sound discretion, discriminate in arranging the rates of duty on different articles, but the discriminations should be within the revenue standard and be made with the view to raise money for the support of Government.

It becomes important to understand distinctly what is meant by a revenue standard the maximum of which should not be exceeded in the rates of duty imposed. It is conceded, and experience proves, that duties may be laid so high as to diminish or prohibit altogether the importation of any given article, and thereby lessen or destroy the revenue which at lower rates would be derived from its importation. Such duties exceed the revenue rates and are not imposed to raise money for the support of Government. If Congress levy a duty for revenue of 1 per cent on a given
In recommending to Congress a reduction of the present rates of duty and a revision and modification of the act of
the first opportunity, affords strong and conclusive evidence that it was not intended to be
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The Government in theory knows no distinction of persons or classes, and should not bestow upon some favors and
privileges which all others may not enjoy. It was the purpose of its illustrious founders to base the institutions which
they reared upon the great and unchanging principles of justice and equity, conscious that if administered in the
spirit in which they were conceived they would be felt only by the benefits which they diffused, and would secure for
themselves a defense in the hearts of the people more powerful than standing armies and all the means and
appliances invented to sustain governments founded in injustice and oppression.

The well-known fact that the tariff act of 1842 was passed by a majority of one vote in the Senate and two in the
House of Representatives, and that some of those who felt themselves constrained, under the peculiar circumstances
existing at the time, to vote in its favor, proclaimed its defects and expressed their determination to aid in its
modification on the first opportunity, affords strong and conclusive evidence that it was not intended to be
permanent, and of the expediency and necessity of its thorough revision.

In recommending to Congress a reduction of the present rates of duty and a revision and modification of the act of
1842, I am far from entertaining opinions unfriendly to the manufacturers. On the contrary, I desire to see them prosperous as far as they can be so without imposing unequal burdens on other interests. The advantage under any system of indirect taxation, even within the revenue standard, must be in favor of the manufacturing interest, and of this no other interest will complain.

I recommend to Congress the abolition of the minimum principle, or assumed, arbitrary, and false values, and of specific duties, and the substitution in their place of ad valorem duties as the fairest and most equitable indirect tax which can be imposed. By the ad valorem principle all articles are taxed according to their cost or value, and those which are of inferior quality or of small cost bear only the just proportion of the tax with those which are of superior quality or greater cost. The articles consumed by all are taxed at the same rate. A system of ad valorem revenue duties, with proper discriminations and proper guards against frauds in collecting them, it is not doubted will afford ample incidental advantages to the manufacturers and enable them to derive as great profits as can be derived from any other regular business. It is believed that such a system strictly within the revenue standard will place the manufacturing interests on a stable footing and inure to their permanent advantage, while it will as nearly as may be practicable extend to all the great interests of the country the incidental protection which can be afforded by our revenue laws. Such a system, when once firmly established, would be permanent, and not be subject to the constant complaints, agitations, and changes which must ever occur when duties are not laid for revenue, but for the "protection merely" of a favored interest.

In the deliberations of Congress on this subject it is hoped that a spirit of mutual concession and compromise between conflicting interests may prevail, and that the result of their labors may be crowned with the happiest consequences.

By the Constitution of the United States it is provided that "no money shall be drawn from the Treasury but in consequence of appropriations made by law." A public treasury was undoubtedly contemplated and intended to be created, in which the public money should be kept from the period of collection until needed for public uses. In the collection and disbursement of the public money no agencies have ever been employed by law except such as were appointed by the Government, directly responsible to it and under its control. The safe-keeping of the public money should be confided to a public treasury created by law and under like responsibility and control. It is not to be imagined that the framers of the Constitution could have intended that a treasury should be created as a place of deposit and safe-keeping of the public money which was irresponsible to the Government. The first Congress under the Constitution, by the act of the 2d of September, 1789, "to establish the Treasury Department," provided for the appointment of a Treasurer, and made it his duty "to receive and keep the moneys of the United States" and "at all times to submit to the Secretary of the Treasury and the Comptroller, or either of them, the inspection of the moneys in his hands."

That banks, national or State, could not have been intended to be used as a substitute for the Treasury spoken of in the Constitution as keepers of the public money is manifest from the fact that at that time there was no national bank, and but three or four State banks, of limited Capital, existed in the country. Their employment as depositories was at first resorted to to a limited extent, but with no avowed intention of continuing them permanently in place of the Treasury as the Constitution. When they were at first employed from time to time employed, it was from motives of supposed convenience. Our experience has shown that when banking corporations have been the keepers of the public money, and been thereby made in effect the Treasury, the Government can have no guaranty that it can command the use of its own money for public purposes. The late Bank of the United States proved to be faithless. The State banks which were at first employed were faithless. But a few years ago, with millions of public money in their keeping, the Government was brought almost to bankruptcy and the public credit seriously impaired because of their inability or indisposition to pay on demand to the public creditors in the only currency recognized by the Constitution. Their failure occurred in a period of peace, and great inconvenience and loss were suffered by the public from it. Had the country been involved in a foreign war, that inconvenience and loss would have been much greater, and might have resulted in extreme public calamity. The public money should not be mingled with the private funds of banks or individuals or be used for private purposes. When it is placed in banks for safe-keeping, it is in effect loaned to them without interest, and is loaned by them upon interest to the borrowers from them. The public money is converted into banking capital, and is used and loaned out for the private profit of bank stockholders, and when called for, as was the case in 1837, it may be in the pockets of the borrowers from the banks instead of being in the public Treasury contemplated by the Constitution. The framers of the Constitution could never have intended that the money paid into the Treasury should be thus converted to private use and placed beyond the control of the Government.

Banks which hold the public money are often tempted by a desire of gain to extend their loans, increase their circulation, and thus stimulate, if not produce, a spirit of speculation and extravagance which sooner or later must result in ruin to thousands. If the public money be not permitted to be thus used, but be kept in the Treasury and paid out to the public creditors in gold and silver, the temptation afforded by its deposit with banks to an undue expansion of their business would be checked, while the amount of the constitutional currency left in circulation would be enlarged by its employment in the public collections and disbursements, and the banks themselves would in consequence be found in a safer and sounder condition. At present State banks are employed as depositories, but without adequate regulation of law whereby the public money can be secured against the casualties and excesses, revulsions, suspensions, and defalcations to which from overissues, overtrading, an inordinate desire for gain, or other causes they are constantly exposed. The Secretary of the Treasury has in all cases when it was practicable taken collateral security for the amount which they hold, by the pledge of stocks of the United States or such of the States as were in good credit. Some of the deposit banks have given this description of security and others have declined to do so.

Entertaining the opinion that "the separation of the moneys of the Government from banking institutions is
indispensable for the safety of the funds of the Government and the rights of the people," I recommend to Congress that provision be made by law for such separation, and that a constitutional treasury be created for the safe-keeping of the public money. The constitutional treasury recommended is designed as a secure depository for the public money, without any power to make loans or discounts or to issue any paper whatever as a currency or circulation. I can not doubt that such a treasury as was contemplated by the Constitution should be independent of all banking corporations. The money of the people should be kept in the Treasury of the people created by law, and be in the custody of agents of the people chosen by themselves according to the forms of the Constitution—agents who are directly responsible to the Government, who are under adequate bonds and oaths, and who are subject to severe punishments for any embezzlement, private use, or misapplication of the public funds, and for any failure in other respects to perform their duties. To say that the people or their Government are incompetent or not to be trusted with the custody of their own money in their own Treasury, provided by themselves, but must rely on the presidents, cashiers, and stockholders of banking corporations, not appointed by them nor responsible to them, would be to concede that they are incompetent for self-government.

In recommending the establishment of a constitutional treasury in which the public money shall be kept, I desire that adequate provision be made by law for its safety and that all Executive discretion or control over it shall be removed, except such as may be necessary in directing its disbursement in pursuance of appropriations made by law.

Under our present land system, limiting the minimum price at which the public lands can be entered to $1.25 per acre, large quantities of lands of inferior quality remain unsold because they will not command that price. From the records of the General Land Office it appears that of the public lands remaining unsold in the several States and Territories in which they are situated, 39,105,577 acres have been in the market subject to entry more than twenty years, 49,638,644 acres for more than fifteen years, 73,074,600 acres for more than ten years, and 106,176,961 acres for more than five years. Much the largest portion of these lands will continue to be unsalable at the minimum price at which they are permitted to be sold so long as large territories of lands from which the more valuable portions have not been selected are annually brought into market by the Government. With the view to the sale and settlement of these inferior lands, I recommend that the price be graduated and reduced below the present minimum rate, confining the sales at the reduced prices to settlers and cultivators, in limited quantities. If graduated and reduced in price for a limited term to $1 per acre, and after the expiration of that term to lower rates, a large portion of these lands would be purchased, and many worthy citizens who are unable to pay higher rates could purchase homes for themselves and their families. By adopting the policy of graduation and reduction of price these inferior lands will be sold for their real value, while the States in which they lie will be freed from the inconvenience, if not injustice, to which they are subjected in consequence of the United States continuing to own large quantities of the public lands within their borders not liable to taxation for the support of their local governments.

I recommend the continuance of the policy of granting preemptions in its most liberal extent to all those who have settled or may hereafter settle on the public lands, whether surveyed or unsurveyed, to which the Indian title may have been extinguished at the time of settlement. It has been found by experience that in consequence of combinations of purchasers and other causes a very small quantity of the public lands, when sold at public auction, commands a higher price than the minimum rates established by law. The settlers on the public lands are, however, but rarely able to secure their homes and improvements at the public sales at that rate, because these combinations, by means of the capital they command and their superior ability to purchase, render it impossible for the settler to compete with them in the market. By putting down all competition these combinations of capitalists and speculators are usually enabled to purchase the lands, including the improvements of the settlers, at the minimum price of the Government, and either turn them out of their homes or extort from them, according to their ability to pay, double or quadruple the amount paid for them to the Government. It is to the enterprise and perseverance of the hardy pioneers of the West, who penetrate the wilderness with their families, suffer the dangers, the privations, and hardships attending the settlement of a new country, and prepare the way for the body of emigrants who in the course of a few years usually follow them, that we are in a great degree indebted for the rapid extension and aggrandizement of our country.

Experience has proved that no portion of our population are more patriotic than the hardy and brave men of the frontier, or more ready to obey the call of their country and to defend her rights and her honor whenever and by whatever enemy assailed. They should be protected from the grasping speculator and secured, at the minimum price of the public lands, in the humble homes which they have improved by their labor. With this end in view, all vexatious or unnecessary restrictions imposed upon them by the existing preemption laws should be repealed or modified. It is the true policy of the Government to afford facilities to its citizens to become the owners of small portions of our vast public domain at low and moderate rates.

The present system of managing the mineral lands of the United States is believed to be radically defective. More than 1,000,000 acres of the public lands, supposed to contain lead and other minerals, have been reserved from sale, and numerous leases upon them have been granted to individuals upon a stipulated rent. The system of granting leases has proved to be not only unprofitable to the Government, but unsatisfactory to the citizens who have gone upon the lands, and must, if continued, lay the foundation of much future difficulty between the Government and the lessees. According to the official records, the amount of rents received by the Government for the years 1841, 1842, 1843, and 1844 was $6,354.74, while the expenses of the system during the same period, including salaries of superintendents, agents, clerks, and incidental expenses, were $26,111.11, the income being less than one-fourth of the expenses. To this pecuniary loss may be added the injury sustained by the public in consequence of the destruction of timber and the careless and wasteful manner of working the mines. The system has given rise to much litigation between the United States and individual citizens, producing irritation and excitement in the mineral region, and involving the Government in heavy additional expenditures. It is believed that similar losses and embarrassments will continue to occur while the present System of leasing these lands remains
Naval forces. In peace our Navy performs the important duty of protecting our commerce, and in the event of war.

For more than thirty years appropriations have been made and annually expended for the gradual increase of these important interests. Protection with our ships of war distributed in the great highways of trade throughout the world. For more than thirty years appropriations have been made and annually expended for the gradual increase of the efficiency and economy in its management. During the past year the officers and men have performed their duty in a satisfactory manner. The suggestions contained in that report in relation to these prominent objects of national interest.

I refer you to the accompanying report of the Secretary of War for information respecting the present situation of the Army and its operations during the past year, the state of our defenses, the condition of the public works, and our relations with the various Indian tribes within our limits or upon our borders. I invite your attention to the suggestions contained in that report in relation to these prominent objects of national interest.

The commerce of the United States, and with it the navigating interests, have steadily and rapidly increased since the organization of our Government, until, it is believed, we are now second to but one power in the world, and at no distant day we shall probably be inferior to none. Exposed as they must be, it has been a wise policy to afford to these important interests protection with our ships of war distributed in the great highways of trade throughout the world. For more than thirty years appropriations have been made and annually expended for the gradual increase of our naval forces.
The successful use of steam navigation on the ocean has been followed by the introduction of war steamers in great and increasing numbers into the navies of the principal maritime powers of the world. A due regard to our own safety and to an efficient protection to our large and increasing commerce demands a corresponding increase on our part. No country has greater facilities for the construction of vessels of this description than ours, or can promise itself greater advantages from their employment. They are admirably adapted to the protection of our commerce, to the rapid transmission of intelligence, and to the coast defense. In pursuance of the wise policy of a gradual increase of our Navy, large supplies of live-oak timber and other materials for shipbuilding have been collected and are now under shelter and in a state of good preservation, while iron steamers can be built with great facility in various parts of the Union. The use of iron as a material, especially in the construction of steamers which can enter with safety many of the harbors along our coast now inaccessible to vessels of greater draft, and the practicability of constructing them in the interior, strongly recommend that liberal appropriations should be made for this important object. Whatever may have been our policy in the earlier stages of the Government, when the nation was in its infancy, our shipping interests and commerce comparatively small, our resources limited, our population sparse and scarcely extending beyond the limits of the original thirteen States, that policy must be essentially different now that we have grown from three to more than twenty millions of people, that our commerce, carried in our own ships, is found in every sea, and that our territorial boundaries and settlements have been so greatly expanded. Neither our commerce nor our long line of coast on the ocean and on the Lakes can be successfully defended against foreign aggression by means of fortifications alone. These are essential at important commercial and military points, but our chief reliance for this object must be on a well-organized, efficient navy. The benefits resulting from such a navy are not confined to the defense of our State. The productions of the interior which seek a market abroad are directly dependent on the safety and freedom of our commerce. The occupation of the Balize below New Orleans by a hostile force would embarrass, if not stagnate, the whole export trade of the Mississippi and affect the value of the agricultural products of the entire valley of that mighty river and its tributaries.

It has never been our policy to maintain large standing armies in time of peace. They are contrary to the genius of our free institutions, would impose heavy burdens on the people and be dangerous to public liberty. Our reliance for protection and defense on the land must be mainly on our citizen soldiers, who will be ever ready, as they have ever been ready in times past, to rush with alacrity, at the call of their country, to her defense. This description of force, however, can not defend our coast, harbors, and inland seas, nor protect our commerce on the ocean or the Lakes. These must be protected by our Navy.

Considering an increased naval force, and especially of steam vessels, corresponding with our growth and importance as a nation, and proportioned to the increased and increasing naval power of other nations, of vast importance as regards our safety, and the great and growing interests to be protected by it, I recommend the subject to the favorable consideration of Congress.

The report of the Postmaster-General herewith communicated contains a detailed statement of the operations of his Department during the pass year. It will be seen that the income from postages will fall short of the expenditures for the year between $1,000,000 and $2,000,000. This deficiency has been caused by the reduction of the rates of postage, which was made by the act of the 3d of March last. No principle has been more generally acquiesced in by the people than that this Department should sustain itself by limiting its expenditures to its income. Congress has never sought to make it a source of revenue for general purposes except for a short period during the last war with Great Britain, nor should it ever become a charge on the general Treasury. If Congress shall adhere to this principle, as I think they ought, it will be necessary either to curtail the present mail service so as to reduce the expenditures, or so to modify the act of the 3d of March last as to improve its revenues. The extension of the mail service and the additional facilities which will be demanded by the rapid extension and increase of population on our western frontier will not admit of such curtailment as will materially reduce the present expenditures. In the adjustment of the tariff of postages the interests of the people demand that the lowest rates be adopted which will produce the necessary revenue to meet the expenditures of the Department. I invite the attention of Congress to the suggestions of the Postmaster-General on this subject, under the belief that such a modification of the late law may be made as will yield sufficient revenue without further calls on the Treasury, and with very little change in the present rates of postage. Proper measures have been taken in pursuance of the act of the 3d of March last for the establishment of lines of mail steamers between this and foreign countries. The importance of this service commends itself strongly to favorable consideration.

With the growth of our country the public business which devolves on the heads of the several Executive Departments has greatly increased. In some respects the distribution of duties among them seems to be incongruous, and many of these might be transferred from one to another with advantage to the public interests. A more auspicious time for the consideration of this subject by Congress, with a view to system in the organization of the several Departments and a more appropriate division of the public business, will not probably occur.

The most important duties of the State Department relate to our foreign affairs. By the great enlargement of the family of nations, the increase of our commerce, and the corresponding extension of our consular system the business of this Department has been greatly increased. In its present organization many duties of a domestic nature and consisting of details are devolved on the Secretary of State, which do not appropriately belong to the foreign department of the Government and may properly be transferred to some other Department. One of these grows out of the present state of the law concerning the Patent Office, which a few years since was a subordinate clerkship, but has become a distinct bureau of great importance. With an excellent internal organization, it is still connected with the State Department. In the transaction of its business questions of much importance to inventors and to the community frequently arise, which by existing laws are referred for decision to a board of which the Secretary of State is a member. These questions are legal, and the connection which now exists between the State
In his last annual message to Congress Mr. Madison invited attention to a proper provision for the Attorney-General as "an important improvement in the executive establishment." This recommendation was repeated by some of his successors. The official duties of the Attorney-General have been much increased within a few years, and his office has become one of great importance. His duties may be still further increased with advantage to the public interests. As an executive officer his residence and constant attention at the seat of Government are required. Legal questions involving important principles and large amounts of public money are constantly referred to him by the President and Executive Departments for his examination and decision. The public business under his official management before the judiciary has been so augmented by the extension of our territory and the acts of Congress authorizing suits against the United States for large bodies of valuable public lands as greatly to increase his labors and responsibilities. I therefore recommend that the Attorney-General be placed on the same footing with the heads of the other Executive Departments, with such subordinate officers provided by law for his Department as may be required to discharge the additional duties which have been or may be devolved upon him.

Congress possess the power of exclusive legislation over the District of Columbia, and I commend the interests of its inhabitants to your favorable consideration. The people of this District have no legislative body of their own, and must confide their local as well as their general interests to representatives in whose election they have no voice and over whose official conduct they have no control. Each member of the National Legislature should consider himself as their immediate representative, and should be the more ready to give attention to their interests and wants because he is not responsible to them. I recommend that a liberal and generous spirit may characterize your measures in relation to them. I shall be ever disposed to show a proper regard for their wishes and, within constitutional limits, shall at all times cheerfully cooperate with you for the advancement of their welfare.

I trust it may not be deemed inappropriate to the occasion for me to dwell for a moment on the memory of the most eminent citizen of our country who during the summer that is gone by has descended to the tomb. The enjoyment of contemplating, at the advanced age of near fourscore years, the happy condition of his country cheered the last hours of Andrew Jackson, who departed this life in the tranquil hope of a blessed immortality. His death was happy, as his life had been eminently useful. He had an unaltering confidence in the virtue and capacity of the people and in the permanence of that free Government which he had largely contributed to establish and defend. His great deeds had secured to him the affections of his fellow-citizens, and it was his happiness to witness the growth and glory of his country, which he loved so well. He departed amidst the benedictions of millions of free-men. The nation paid its tribute to his memory at his tomb. Coming generations will learn from his example the love of country and glory of his country, which he loved so well. He departed amidst the benedictions of millions of free-men. The nation paid its tribute to his memory at his tomb. Coming generations will learn from his example the love of country and glory of his country, which he loved so well. He departed amidst the benedictions of millions of free-men. The nation paid its tribute to his memory at his tomb. Coming generations will learn from his example the love of country and glory of his country, which he loved so well. He departed amidst the benedictions of millions of free-men. The nation paid its tribute to his memory at his tomb. Coming generations will learn from his example the love of country and glory of his country, which he loved so well. He departed amidst the benedictions of millions of free-men. The nation paid its tribute to his memory at his tomb. Coming generations will learn from his example the love of country and glory of his country, which he loved so well. He departed amidst the benedictions of millions of free-men. The nation paid its tribute to his memory at his tomb. Coming generations will learn from his example the love of country and glory of his country, which he loved so well. He departed amidst the benedictions of millions of free-men. The nation paid its tribute to his memory at his tomb. Coming generations will learn from his example the love of country and glory of his country, which he loved so well. He departed amidst the benedictions of millions of free-men. The nation paid its tribute to his memory at his tomb. Coming generations will learn from his example the love of country and glory of his country, which he loved so well. He departed amidst the benedictions of millions of free-men. The nation paid its tribute to his memory at his tomb. Coming generations will learn from his example the love of country and glory of his country, which he loved so well. He departed amidst the benedictions of millions of free-men. The nation paid its tribute to his memory at his tomb. Coming generations will learn from his example the love of country and glory of his country, which he loved so well. He departed amidst the benedictions of millions of free-men. The nation paid its tribute to his memory at his tomb. Coming generations will learn from his example the love of country and glory of his country, which he loved so well. He departed amidst the benedictions of millions of free-men. The nation paid its tribute to his memory at his tomb. Coming generations will learn from his example the love of country and glory of his country, which he loved so well. He departed amidst the benedictions of millions of free-men. The nation paid its tribute to his memory at his tomb.

JAMES K. POLK

[TCS]

RW Tuesday December 5, 1845 RW45v22n8p2 Commentary, The President’s Message

With the multifarious details and the minute reasoning of this document, it is neither our province or our inclination to have anything to do. Our task, as we think is limited to a survey of its general scope and policy, not either because the principles avowed and opinions expressed, are those of James K. Polk, intrinsically a very small man, but because circumstances have placed Mr. Polk at the head of affairs in this great nation, because he is the Official head of the dominant party in it, and because, from the existing rigor of party discipline, the will of a party President, is almost certain to be the will of the party which elected him! These things ought not to be so [there] ought to be more independence, more devotion to the public good and interests. But they are so, have always been so, and will continue to be so until the end of time, or until man's nature is radically modified by his creator.

To return, then, to the subject – a strict perusal of Mr. Polk's message satisfies us of its demagogic character and design, and we now predict, what before we really did not believe, that he will be a candidate for re-election in 1848.

With his views on the Oregon question we should be pleased, but for his proposition to give England the notice required by the treaty of 1827. That amounts, as things are, to very little short of a denunciation of war – that the practical enforcement of the idea would produce war, there can be no doubt at all.

We have been forced in thinking of these matters, to admire, to venerate, more and more, the wisdom of our old American Statesman[;] Was there ever a happier idea than that of “joint” occupation of Oregon! A more philosophic, a more humane, a more enlightened conception! It says in effect, this country, claimed by both, but belonging in truth to neither, shall be kept open to both for colonization, for settlement trade and commerce! And the article in the treaty might have added, “it is of no real value to either.” Let all go there who choose, and take up their habitation, and in the fullness of time, let them establish a Government for themselves and choose their own institutions!

There could not have been, as we think, a happier condition of affairs, and we blame Mr. Polk, and the deliberate
thought of the country cannot fail to blame him, for terminating it, for slamming the door of compromise in the face
of England, and for hazarding a war, millions of money, and rivers of blood, for that which, when it is obtained, is
not of the smallest value. Show us cause to justify it to God and conscience, and we will shrunk as citizens, from no
war with any Power, or with all Powers: But do let us have something tangible and intelligible to fight about, either in
the shape of interest or honor.

Who can fail to see that Oregon is ours, is obliged to be ours, by waiting without shedding a drop of blood! In ten
years our people will fill that country, an all the world cannot divest them of it.

We could have asked nothing better than the treaty of joint occupation.

[INC]
The negotiation was then removed to Washington, and in August 1844, was formerly opened between Mr. Calhoun, the Secretary of State, and Mr. Pakenham, the British Minister. On the 26th of that month Mr. Pakenham renewed a proposition which had before been offered by Great Britain, "to divide the Oregon territory by the 49th parallel of N. latitude, from the Rocky mountains to the point of its intersection with the north easternmost branch of the Columbia river, and thence down that river to the sea; leaving the free navigation of the river to be enjoyed in common by both parties the country south of this line to belong to the United States, and that north of it to Great Britain. – At the same time, he proposed, in addition, to yield to the United States detached territory north of the Columbia, extending along the Pacific and the Straits of Fuca, from Bulfinch’s harbor inclusive to Hood’s canal, and to make free to the United States and port or ports north of latitude forty nine degrees, which they might desire, entire on the main land, or on Quadra and Vancouver’s island." With the exception of the free ports, this was the same offer which had been made by the British, and rejected by the American government in the negotiation of 1826.

This proposition was rejected by Mr. Calhoun, on the very day it was made, and Mr. Pakenham then requested that the United States should make a proposal for an “equitable adjustment of the question.”

This was the state of the affair when Mr. Polk became President. He believed that Great Britain had no rightful claim to any portion of the territory, but in consideration of what was done b his predecessors, and that as the treasury of 1827 authorized a joint occupancy of the territory by citizens of both countries, Mr. Polk renewed the offer to divide the territory by the 49th parallel, without, however, conceding the free navigation of the Columbia river.

This offer was rejected by Mr. Pakenham, with the remark that he trusted “some further proposal for the settlement of the Oregon question, more consistent with the fairness and equity, and with the reasonable expectations of the British government, would be made.” The sharpness of this remark necessarily cut off the negotiation, inasmuch as Mr. Pakenham made no proposition for his government, and here the matter has rested ever since.

Under these circumstances, Mr. Polk who believes that our title to the whole of Oregon “is the best now in existence,” and who seems to have no hope that any attempt at compromise will succeed, recommends that the year’s notice required by the treaty of 1827, to put an end to the “joint occupancy,” shall be given by the United States, and that in the mean time Congress shall take such steps, as it may consistently with the treaty of 1827, to protect our citizens there – and for the end, that “our laws and jurisdiction, civil and criminal, ought to be immediately extended over them.” Our right to do this he supports by referring to the example of Great Britain in this respect. He also recommends, for the safety of emigrants going to Oregon, that “a line of block houses” be erected along the usual route to that, territory from our frontier settlements on the Missouri.

The matter of terminating the “joint occupancy” of Oregon, by giving the year’s notice required by the treaty, is one entirely in the discretion of Congress, and as its consequences may be fatal to the peace which now so happily prevails throughout the civilized world, it will not hastily or inconsiderately be adopted. That it will be determined upon by Congress, we have scarcely a doubt; and it may not be long before we shall hear something decisive as to the course of England in such a case.

[Source: The National Intelligencer]

RW Tuesday December 9, 1845 RW45v22n9p1 ENVOY TO MEXICO
The National Intelligencer of yesterday says:

“The Pensacola Gazette of the 22d states that the United States ship St. Mary’s, a day or two previous, was dispatched from the port of Mexico with a “person of some distinction” as a passenger.

The Message of the President solves the mystery in part, by stating that a "distinguished citizen of Louisiana” has already sailed for Mexico in the capacity of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary; and the Union of Wednesday finishes the revelation by informing us that “the distinguished citizen of Louisiana” is the Hon. John Slidell, a Member of the last Congress, and Representative elect to the present.

So far from the objecting to this mission, our readers already know we heartily approve it, and we see no reason to doubt that the gentlemen selected will discharge worthily the trust reposed on him. We cannot help thinking however, that after waiting until within two weeks of the meeting of Congress, it would have been no more than respectful to the Senate had the President taken time to obtain the advice and consent of the body to the appointment.”

[Source: The National Intelligencer]

RW45v22m12p1 Friday December 12, 1845 Polk and War

"Junius” – Polk – and WAR!
The article which we publish this morning thus signed, is worthy to be so signed. It is, in our judgment, the most powerfully reasoned, and pregnant article of the whole winter from any quarter.

No one can read it, who is capable of thought, and dares to think, without being deeply impressed with its views and reasoning. It is immensely powerful and comprehensive.

That the country is in danger of War from Polk's message, not only with England but with other powers; unnecessary, wanton war, a war provoked by demagogues, whose motives have no expansion beyond their own paltry and contemptible private and party interests, is admitted on all hands, by every man capable of taking an enlightened survey of the state of things.

And if we should have a war forced upon us by the bravadoes and national insults, and unreasonable, or if not unreasonable, the ill-timed and unnecessary territorial demands in the President's Message – Will it not be a little remarkable, that the bloody conclusion will have been brought about by the "Duck River Colonel," who in the former war, crossed Duck River from Maury, having lands in each, and went back over the River, when the draft was to be made in Williamson, and the venerable editor of the Union, of those exploits in the Chesapeake War and War of 1819, we have no where read?

But we have no space for commentary. JUNIUS, we again say, ought to [rivet] the attention of the whole country. [TCS]

Friday December 12, 1845 RW45v22n12p1 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
The House met and the Journal was read.

On motion of Mr. Douglass, the rules were suspended, and he introduced the joint resolution to admit the State of Texas into the Union.

The resolution was ordered to be printed, and made the order of the day for Tuesday next.

Mr. Rockwell of Mass. Moved that Mr. Douglas's resolution be referred to the Committee of the whole House.

The Chair decide that the resolution of Mr. R. was proposed too late, and could not be entertained.

Mr. Hopkins’ resolution, to go into the election of Chaplains of both Houses, and that they be chosen from different denominations, was taken up.

Mr. Pettit, of Indiana, spoke at length against the resolution, and offered an amendment, which was rejected.

The resolution of Mr. Hopkins was then adopted.

Petitions now being in order –

Mr. J.Q. Adams presented a large number on various subjects, but chiefly against admitting Texas as a slave State into the Union.

Mr. Harmanson then rose and announced the death of Mr. Dawson, of Louisiana, and the House adjourned. [TCS]

Friday December 12, 1845 RW45v22n12p1 Letter
To the Editors of the Whig:
ORANGE Dec. 4, 1845.

Gentlemen: - I have been much pleased by a perusal of the Governor's Message. It is written with vigor and elegance, and inculcates maxims of duty and patriotism worthy of all praise and adoption. Thinking thus, I may be allowed to express my surprise and regret that its beauty should have been marred such "claptraps for the galleries" as the fight on Texas, and the [eulogium] on Jackson. The Hero of New Orleans, as his friends prefer to style him, has passed away, and Posterity may be allowed to undoubtedly be, that he was a brave general, but a bad President. But we are willing to strike a balance between his Sword and his Pen, and leave him to the silence which proves our charity. The Governor, in his glowing style, which marks all of his productions, dwells with favor on the acquisition of Texas, and the rich "dowry" she will bring. Something of folly may be excuse to the honeymoons, but to speak of dowry is too much. We may not forget in our first warm embrace, that we are to be made accountable for the debts of our blushing bride, - And that if past folly and extravagance be any earnest of the future, she may but prove a fit companion for those of her unfortunate sister, whose honour, fully equal to fighting for Oregon, is lamentably insensitive in the [p]ocket nerve. But enough of Texas: The Sabine is passed – Heaven grant that the
The Governor is much more at home and more eloquent on those subjects of vital importance to our State – Education and Internal Improvement. It would be ridiculous, if it were not deplorable, to hear the load [[f]launts of Virginia's greatness, which mediocrity, vain, ignorant and contented, daily puts forth; and that sickening pride of ancestry which boasts of Fathers who owe their brightness to a contrast of degenerate sons. We [[l]aud the "resolutions of '98 and '99" and forget the unlettered host within our borders, who cannot read them; enounce Webster for the Ashburton Treaty, to those who never looked upon a map; prate of a Constitution to such as never saw it; and claim our "clear and unquestionable right" to the fifty-fourth degree of North latitude, before a company that never heard of the Equator! We revolt at the subtle refinement of the tyrant Caligula in placing his law tables so high no one could read them; but are not those law givers more deserving of our condemnation, who with cruel mockery, publish their statute and yet withhold a knowledge of the characters which compose them. What stability can you hope for in a popular government, where the mass is uneducated; the passions, not the judgment must decide; the demagogue will send in the high place and Agrarianism rule the hour. The Legislature may revise, enlarge, amend its penal code, but its best provision would be a good Common School System. Teach the rising generation to read their Bible, and you will prevent more crime than by erecting a [gibet] as high as Harman’s! I can but admire the self-sacrificing patriotism which urges Locofocism foard in the cause of Education. I had supposed them fully in the cause of Education. I had only hope rested on ignorance, as did the Papal Supremacy on the suppression of the Bible. But I am glad to see that it is otherwise; and I trust that this winter they will leave federal politics to take care of themselves – add no more folly to that already embarked in the Oregon question – consider the Bank as settled – and turning their thoughts to their proper sphere, see to elevate the moral and social condition of our people.

I know how warmly you are attached to the cause of Internal Improvements, and I share your feelings. I acknowledge the claims of the West, and condemn that narrow minded and selfish policy which would deny to our brethren safe channels of communication with the East. But you must excuse me for saying that this is a subject which demands, and should receive, the fullest and calmest deliberation. We have just seen the wise and generally prudent community of Great Britain, misled by a Rail Road mania, only surpassed, if surpassed at all, by the South Sea Bubble, and the Mississippi Scheme. Let us recollect that our capital and credit could ill stand such a shock. We have not idle millions at our disposal, not that teeming population which swarms on every highway in England. We have debt resting on is to whose payment we are fully equal, and which every year of increasing wealth will make lighter and lighter. But let us beware how we in crease our debt. The past should not be a sealed book, nor the fate of many of our sister States forgotten. Our schemes so far, have proved utterly abortive. Our great Central Improvement seems only to raise a melancholy smile at the provision in its charter which forbids a dividend of more than fifteen percent. What we have most to fear is the introduction of that system styled, in homely, but expressive phrase, log rolling. We are precisely in the condition of Maryland, before her famous Eight Million Bill, which was passed by the mutual aid of a number of sectional interests. By this unfortunate system, she was plunged into inextricable difficulties, and now groans under a debt of $30 every man, woman and child, within her limits. Let our Legislators learn wisdom from her fate, and whilst they act for the welfare of the State, have nerve to lay such taxes as will prevent any increase in our debt.

Friday December 17, 1845 RW45v22n13p1 Increasing Probability of War

Monday’s Debate in the Senate – Increasing probability of War

We transfer to our columns from the Baltimore American yesterday, a sufficiently expanded account of the Debate in the Senate Monday, which will serve to impress the country with the conviction that WAR, if avoidable, is highly probable.

So senseless wanton and foolish a war, if it occur, or one more so never did occur. England and France were in the habit, for centuries, of going to war to gratify a minions pride, or to vindicate the beauty of a mistress’ eyebrow. But even that was more sensible than this threatened Oregon war, for a territory which neither has the shadow of a claim to, which neither wants, and which neither can retain, for its independence, in a short time, is certain.

Mr. Case’s diagnosis as to the War symptoms, and Mr. ARCHER’S full approval of Polk’s views, will strike the reader as being about of equal significance.

Friday December 17, 1845 RW45v22n13p1 War Message

To the Editors of the Whig

THE WAR MESSAGE

In our former communication we attempted, and we hope, successfully, to demonstrate that war with Great Britain is inevitable and our position with regard to France, to say the least, hazardous, unless the wisdom of Congress shall speedily rebuke the intemperate and unstatesmanlike course of our Executive. In the present state of the parties, there is good reason to apprehend, this body will not be governed by the experience of history, that “Never to act unjustly against equals, is a firmer [se]curity of power, than to be elevated by present plausibilities, and enlarge it
through a series of dangers." It appears from the President's account of the negotiations, that unsuccessful attempts to establish a "permanent boundary," were made in 1818, 1824, 1826, 1827, 1843, 1844, and 1845, and that "awowed purpose of the parties, based upon principles of compromise, was to establish a permanent boundary between them, westward of the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Oceans." And this principle of compromise is fully recognized by the President, for he says: "In consideration that propositions of compromise had been thrice made by two preceding administrations, to adjust the question on the question of 49 degrees, and in two of them, yielding to Great Britain the free navigation of the Columbia, and that the pending negotiation had been commenced on the basis of compromise, I deemed it to be my duty not to abruptly to break it off." Here then is ample proof that Mr. Polk considered this question a fair subject for compromise and that on this principle, he had made the same offer as his predecessors, with the exception of the free navigation of the Columbia.

Now if Mr. Polk wished the settlement of this difficulty, why did he offer worse terms than those which he knew had been rejected? He must have thought that he was making a horse trade with some West-Tennessean jockey. He thought proper to deny the free navigation of the Columbia (the only oasis, by the bye, in the barren desert of his intellect) — an important part, however, of this national bargain; but why did he not offer some equivalent? Is he so wedded to straight lines that he could not depart from Lat. 49 deg. at the point where it strikes the Northeast branch of the Columbia, and dropping down to 47 deg. 30m. — run[,] on that line, to the Pacific Ocean? In our [p]ast, we said that the real cause of the dispute is three degrees of Latitude, from 46th† to the 49th [. ] Now, the arrangement proposed would, in vulgar parlance, be "splitting the difference," and about a fair equivalent for exclusion from the River. Great Britain would thus have the whole of Vancouver's Island and the Strait of Fuca, and each nation would hold exclusive right to its own rivers, harbours and bays. Mr. Polk, however, will lift up his hands at the folly that would surrender an inch South of 49 deg., and with the cupiditv of a miserly land-pirate who fixes his affections on his neighbors farm, he exclaims:

Proximus accedat [ ] nunc deneriat agellum.

But this is a childish, silly ambition. What consequence.

* Thucidides
† By a typographical error it was printed 99[ ]

(is continued on next column)

is it to the people of these United States, whether their boundary forms a straight line from the Lake of the Woods, to the Pacific; or whether, in approaching its western terminus, it deflects NINETY MILES? It is very evident from the various propositions, of the English Government and especially, from the last, that the possession of the Columbia is what they really desire; but as all who look an the map, must see, that this division would be unjust to the United States, they offer the "detached territory" North of the river, along the Pacific and Strait of Fuca. Here England virtually acknowledges she is asking too much, in demanding to come to the mouth of the River; and offers what she considers and equivalent. It must be confessed this is a clumsy attempt to make a bargain, and a fair offset to Mr. Polk's horse-trade. Away with such peddling! Lord Ashburton and Mr. Webster, or any other two liberal men, left to their own sense of right, would settle the question in an hour. Let the Senate of the United States - the great conservative branch of our government, advise the withdrawal of the implied threat of Mr. Polk, and advise, besides, the offer of some proposition equivalent to the suggested, and the peace of the world may yet be preserved. At all events, we shall show all the world that we are deficient neither in justice nor magnanimity. The assertion of Mr. Polk, that our claim to the whole territory is irrefragable, will not bear one moments examination. We have, ourselves, by permitting a joint occupation, for more than a quarter of a century, yielding a right, by prescription or [ ] caption, which no present claim can annul, or invalidate. The object of this communication is two-fold; first, to show that a compromise may still, and ought to be affected; and secondly, if the Government do not elect this mode, but prefer sustaining the belligerent attitude of the President, to offer some suggestions as to the probable action of Great Britain, and the means of counteraction. If the Government of our country, were yet actuated by the sole consideration of the public good, and that purity of purpose which influenced its earlier career, we might hope that views such as we have taken, would prevail; but alas! there is little to be expected of a party, whose slightest mandate in congressional caucus, dictated by the previously ascertained will of the President, must be obeyed implicitly as the command of a superior officer by a subaltern. Does a senator dare vote for a Secretary, or a Door Keeper, or Sergeant at Arms, against the nomination of a Caucus, he is punished on the same principle as that held by the Stoics, that it was as great a crime to steal a cabbage from a neighbors garden, as to commit sacrilege. It is most mortifying to acknowledge the fact, but this government is corrupt to the very marrow: Selfishness and self-aggrandisement are now the motive power that impale our public men. The calculation is not how the public good will best be subserved, but how the antagonistical interests of party aspirants can be harmonized, and their love of plunder gratified with the greatest prospect of the advantage to those who hold the purse strings.

But enough! Let us now consider what will be probable course of Great Britain, on receipt of the President's Message.

After adopting measures for pacifying Ireland, the next ca[s]e will be to place Canada and all her possessions in North America, in a posture of defense. This she can soon do, by increasing her standing army from the brave but starving population of Ireland. That country, out of a population of eight millions, can afford three hundred thousand brave men. Of these there may be sent to Canada fifty thousand; Natives 30,000; English and Scottish Soldiers 30,000 — making with the present forces some 125,000 men. Her Ship Canal and Ridean Canal will give her command of the waters of the St. Lawrence and the Lakes, and enable her to cover those Lakes with war steamers in an inconceivably short space of time. Simultaneously, she will divide her vast naval power, so, that leaving a large squadron to guard the coast of Ireland, transferring from that country to England eighty thousand men to watch the discontented, and replacing them by as many English and Scotch troops to control the Irish; moreover, having left in the Mediterranean a sufficient force to insure respect and safety in that quarter, she will be enabled to send to the Pacific, Caribbean Sea, and Gulf of Mexico, fleets, every one of which will equal our whole Navy. Having made these
dispositions, and landed in Oregon a sufficient force to maintain possessions, her squadron will have orders to await the result, and the first blow that is struck, steamers will carry the news to the Pacific Squadron and to Acapulco; thence it will conveyed across the Isthmus to Vera Cruz, and without waiting for any formal declaration of war, a dash will be made at our commerce, before we have time to look around us, or concentrate our means of defense; and our defenseless sea-board will be attacked from the Rio del Norte to Passamquoddy Bay. These views are founded not upon the opinion if any military man, for we have interchanged views with no human being on these topics, nor are they based upon any military experience, for we profess to know very little about such matters; but we think they are such as any man of ordinary intelligence must see are at least probable. In the first instance, England having assumed the defensive, with throw the onus of breaking the peace upon us, at least she will so act until Congress, by some hostile demonstration, shall have convinced her war is resolved. It is then probable, that she will wait no longer; but, like the Roman General, shaking her Toga, she will [send] it forth on the four winds of Heaven.

Awful, indeed, will be that hour, but if it is to come, why let us meet it as men and patriots. We have a great and noble country to fight for, and palisied be the hand and accursed the heart, and penniless the purse, that will not surrender the last dollar to preserve it from pollution. Yes, it is true that a country of twenty millions of freemen cannot finally be conquered! We have no craven fear for our noble Eagle: he may perch on Mount Washington, or Peak of Otter, or Mount Brown, and look down proud defiance on the invaders of this country. If then Congress be for war, let there be no miserable, ill-timed economy; let them not act as the child who supposes he can bay a horse for a dime. An immediate appropriation of fifty millions will be necessary, and Government should be directed to adopt immediate measures for the defense of our Lakes, Sea-coast, and Commerce. In sixty days, it may be too late, and the loss of hundreds of millions may be the consequence of our ill-sustained bravado. Americans, we call upon you, whatever may be your opinion of the patriotism and wisdom of those who have induced the present state of things; we call upon you, to sustain your Government, RIGHT OR WRONG. Now, you may censure, reprove, admonish; but sixty days from now, you may be very differently circumstanced. You may then have no alternative but to bear high and proudly the banner of your country. Who can doubt your resolution to defend it to the death.

JUNIUS.

Friday December 17, 1845 RW45v22n13 page 2 Mexican Indemnity

THE MEXICAN INDEMNITY

A LETTER FROM Ex President SANTA ANA, dated at Havana, Nov. 19th, states his be[ ] that the installments due the United States were actually paid in ready cash if not, Minister Agent Voss, (he says) are responsible – the one having disobeyed his orders, and the others not having fulfilled the orders of his constituents.

THE LONE STAR, LONE NO LONGER.

The passage by the Senate of the U. States, of the Joint Resolution for the admission of Texas into the Union, without restriction, merges the “Lone Star,” and blots out the independence of that nation. We may now expect the election of Senators and Representatives, to take place soon after the official announcement of the fact to the State of Texas.

Ex-President Lamar has joined in the denunciation of Houston, who has hitherto been regarded as an aspirant for Senatorial honors; and the latter will have more than his usual good luck to surmount the difficulties which beset his path way to further political distinction. The probability is, that his star has twinkled its last.

[TCS]

Friday December 17, 1845 RW45v22n13 page 1 Symptoms of War

SYMPTOMS OF WAR

Washington, Dec. 16, 1845
To the Editors of the Whig:

Gentlemen: As there is some little new astir here which you and your readers may like to hear, I will send it in a few words before the mail closes. The House, today, passed the bill admitting Texas, without any more ado on our part, as part and parcel of the Federal Union – there being only fifty-six votes in the negative. The Senate will follow suit in a day or two, so that “kettle of fish” will soon be stewed. If this must be so, let us all say – so be it – our country, however bounded, still our country – to be defended and regarded as one and inseparable, form now through all time.

The Senate passed unanimously today, the resolution making inquires into the state and condition of the Army and
Navy. This looks as if they expected “breakers ahead.” Gen. Cass made a war speech to-day for buncumb. He is opening early for the Presidential campaign. Every one I heard speak about it, regarded in the same light I have. I was surprised to-day, to hear from our most prudent Sachems and wise men, that they thought there was no escaping conflict with Great Britain. Inquires have been made, and there is found a majority in both Houses, in favor of adopting the President’s recommendation of notifying England of the abrogation of the joint occupancy of Oregon, in one year from the time of the passage of the act, and extension of the laws of the U. States over the Territory. If this be the case, I see that war must come. I understand that Mr. Packenham has declared that this must be the case, should Congress adopt the President’s views. Let us hope for the best but prepare for the worst. I hardly expected that the members from the Atlantic States[,] would have been so rash and precipitate. Perhaps when Mr. Calhoun arrives, other counsels may prevail; but there is now, perhaps too strong a current to resist. Many think he will unite with the majority, and attempt to head [Cass]. I fear this Congress, with the President and his advisers, will get us into a row of some kind, before we get rid of them. These are evil times, and our merchants, farmers and manufacturers, should keep an eye to the windward.

In conjunction with this painful view of our position, is the fact that a majority of FIVE members in the lower House, have pledged to repeal the Tarriff of 1842. A Democratic member in the lower House, tells me, that he knows this to be a DEAD CERTAINTY. It will pass also in the Senate, as there are only two Democratic Senators, Messrs. Stargeon and Cameron, who oppose it. This brings us all “right up-standing,” and shows that our “progressive democracy” will waylay the country some way for certain. Well, the people will do all things, and I submit. Let them prepare their nerves for coming events, as the times must change – a change perhaps, that will produce results that will affect his nation unto the fourth and fifth generations. McDuffie’s friends think he will not live the session out. He has been confined some time to his room.

In the Speaker's chamber, a heated debate took place regarding the annexation of Texas. Several resolutions were introduced by Mr. Rockwell of Connecticut, calling for the House to consider the matter of annexation. The resolutions were discussed, and a motion was made to refer them to the Committee of the Whole. Mr. Boyd moved that the resolutions be laid upon the table and printed, which motion prevailed.

Mr. Rockwell desired that his Resolutions should be referred to the Committee of the whole and printed.

Mr. BOYD moved that they be laid upon the table and printed, which motion prevailed. The remainder of the day was given to the perception of[.]
Mr. RATHBURN expressed his belief that the resolutions had been referred to the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER decided that no such reference was made.

Mr. HERRICK, of New York, moved to lay the resolutions upon the table. The yeas and nays were ordered, and the vote was ayes 52, noes 142.

The previous was then seconded, by a vote of 95 to 81.

The question recurred, shall the main question be now put.

Mr. SCHENCE, of Ohio, called for the yeas and nays. He wished to see who would be willing to record their votes in favor of such a proposition.

The yeas and nays were ordered and while the names were being called, several members rose to know the effect of the motions which had been submitted.

The SPEAKER announced that unless the main question was now put the whole question would go over until tomorrow.

The vote was announced as 108 in favor of the main question 90 against it.

A division of the question was then called for, which the SPEAKER decided to be out of order.

The question returned now to the open engrossment of the resolutions. The yeas and nays were ordered, when Mr. HUNT, of N. Y., asked to be excused from voting; the question, he said, was of the greatest magnitude, and he was called upon to vote upon it without opportunity to offer amendment, or to express opinion upon it. He denounced the proceedings as an infringement of the right of discussion. Mr. H. was here, called to order, and afterwards excused from voting.

The question of engrossing the Resolutions was sustained by the House ayes 141, nays 57.

The SPEAKER, now put the Resolutions upon the their passage.

Mr. ROCKWELL, of Mass. obtained the floor, and spoke mildly of the act before the House, and of the unusual manner that had been taken to hurry such a question through the House. He opposed the admission of Texas, in consequence of the enlargement it gave to the Slave territory of the country; and objected to some of the provisions in the Constitution of Texas. Mr. R. concluded with a motion to recommit with instructions, to insert a proviso that there be no Slavery or involuntary servitude in Texas, except for the purposes of punishment.

The SPEAKER decided that the motion to recommit to be in order.

The majority of the dominant party were opposed. The decision of the Speaker was first sustained 92 to 77, and then reversed upon a motion 96 to 93.

After great confession and much discussion upon points of order, the House was brought to a vote upon the resolutions – Ayes 141, Nays 56.

A motion was made to reconsider this vote and lost, after which the House adjourned.

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Friday December 23, 1845 RW45v22n14p1 CALIFORNIA

"CALIFORNIA – it seem to be understood that Mr. Slidell, our new Minister to Mexico is fully authorized to arrange our boundary with that Republic upon the [best] [ ] [eral footing. His powers in this [ ] are believed to be so extensive that under them he may appropriate a [ ] [ ] the United States of the right of Mexico to Upper California. This would probably be effected by making our line follow the course of the Rio Grande del Norte from the Gulf of Mexico until it reaches the thirty second degree of north latitude, and then run westward on the parallel to the Pacific Ocean." "Of course such area will not be brought about without a handsome compensation to Mexico for that relinquishment of territory. Our claim [ ] [her [ ] for indemnification to our citizens is now very large, and no way is so likely as this to [such] [ ] [and] [ ] satisfaction. Indeed, so far as the compensation we give her is balanced by this account, it may be said to amount to nothing, or if we give Mexico the fullest credit for good will to be prem[ ] her distracted and impoverished condition [ ] but a slight hope that she will very speedily pay it in money.

[TCS]
Mr. DOUGLASS of Ill. From the Committee on Territories reported a Bill for the protection of American citizens in Oregon. Referred to the Committee of the Whole, and made the special order of the day for the second Tuesday in January, and every day after until disposed of.

N.E. BOUNDARY.

Mr. HAMLIN of Me. offered a resolution calling upon the President of the United States for information in relation to the navigation of the river St. Johns and the Washington treaty. Also for copies of all correspondence upon the subject during the two years past.

THE OREGON.

Several Resolutions of inquiry upon the subject of the North Western territory, (similar to those offered in the Senate) were submitted, all looking to the establishment of civil and military power West of the Rocky Mountains.

Mr. WINTHROP of Mass. offered a series of Resolutions, declaring that there was no occasion to suspend the negotiations between the United States and Great Britain in reference to the disputed territory – that it would be a disgrace to both nations to submit to such a question to be decided by arms, and nothing has occurred by which such a question may not be referred to arbitration, – that arbitration does not necessarily involve the necessity of a reference to crowned heads, but that all the world is open from which to make a choice of Commissioners, who may wisely decide as to the powers of both Governments.

Mr. Winthrop's resolutions excited some interest in the House, but there was danger of their being laid on the table, he gave notice of his intention to debate them, which carried them over to a future day.

Mr. DOUGLASS of Ill. followed with two resolutions, declaring first, "that our title to the whole of Oregon South of 54° 40 was clear and unquestionable." Secondly, "That being a title, it was not a proper subject of arbitration."

Mr. Douglass gave notice that he should debate the Resolutios he had offered, when the [ ] [ ] [ ] Massachusetts called up those which he had submitted [ ] a Resolution was also submitted in reference to the employment of the Home Squadron in the Pacific.

Friday December 23, 1845 RW45v22n14p1 War Panic

Effects of the War Panic.

The consequences of the belligerent debate in the Senate of the United States, are strongly visible in the Northern cities. In New York, the heart of the commercial system, the excitement has been disastrous, and both stocks and market have suffered. We quote from two of the papers that are generally close observers.

The Herald says:

THE PANIC. – The panic in Wall Street is rather increasing than otherwise, and is now operating upon the banks, and money in the business channels. Interest is rising, specie is leaving the banks, and there seems to be every preparation for a general bank panic, more in relation to the sub-treasury [ ] [ ] to any other matter. Old times are coming back.”

The Express remarks:

"The week has been one of a good deal of excitement. The proceedings of the Senate of the United States have been read with unusual interest. Public attention will be turned both to Washington and to Europe. Our foreign are deemed by some to be in so critical a position, that all good men, as well as those having great commercial, mercantile and manufacturing interests at stake, will continue to be deeply anxious for the future. The new has already had a considerable effect on the market, particularly stocks, which have fluctuated very materially. The holders of grain and flour are waiting for further tidings from Europe; and, for the present there is a pause in large transactions. The next news will be of a good deal of commercial importance. If the grain market should be higher in England, prices will advance here, but if lower, holders will accept of prices at which orders can be filled, -- there will be large shipments. The winter has now fairly set in; the River is closed, and merchants are taking their inventories and closing up for the year's work."
CONGRESS
Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot – By Telegraph.
Thursday, Dec. 18—2 P.M.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

This morning, Mr. ALLEN introduced his resolutions of which he had given notice, to authorize the President to give notice to Great Britain, that the treaty for the joint occupancy of the territory of Oregon must be annulled and abrogated. Read for a first time.

Mr. FAIRFIELD presented a memorial from claimants for French spoliations previous to 1800, which after a debate, was referred to a select Committee.

Oregon – Outrageous Resolutions of Mr. Douglass.

The following highly important and antagonistical resolutions were offered in the H. of Representatives on Friday.

They will bring up all the questions involved in that dangerous controversy and probably resolve the issue of peace or war.

We confess ourselves much impressed with Mr. Winthrop’s, with humanity, moderation, wisdom and christian spirit and not less disgusted with the reckless rapaciousness of Mr. Douglass’.

To understand the full meaning and import of the latter, the reader must bear in mind, that neither the U. states nor England claim a [ ] of land North of 50 degrees 40 minutes North Latitude, where the Russian colonies commence. The claim is then for all, accompanied by a refusal to treat any form! In other words, if adopted by Congress, it is tantamount to a declaration of war!

The suggestion of a course so absurdly precipitate and wantonly rash, so little required by any existing emergency or justified by reason, was never addressed before, we feel confident, to any deliberative assembly on Earth! It must shock the calm good sense of the American people, even of the most tenacious for “all of Oregon or none.”

What honor is lost or hazarded by negotiating while it is yet honorable to negotiate, we cannot perceive! And is it not honorable to negotiate until England has offered us either aggression or insult?

Where too are the gentlemen’s fleets and armies, to fence his doughty purposes? How is an army to be marched across the Continent? Where is the fleet to come from that can cope with England in the Pacific? What is to move our immense commerce in those seas from destruction, were these most absurd resolutions be adopted, which every man knows England would construe as a war and act at once? Where are the fortifications, the steamers, the troops, to prevent the bombardment of Boston, New York, and every seaport?

If the proposition had not come from a member of Congress of distinction, we should say that it must have come from a madman.

Mr. WINTHROP submitted the following resolution:

1. Resolved, That the differences between the United States and Great Britain, on the subject of the Oregon Territory are still a subject for negotiation and compromise, and that satisfactory evidence has not yet been afforded that no compromise which the United States ought to accept can be affected.

2. Resolved, That it would be a dishonor to the age in which we live, and in the highest degree be discreditable to both the nations concerned, if they shall suffer themselves to be drawn into a war upon a question of no immediate or practical interest to either of them.

3. Resolved, That if no other mode for the amicable adjustment of this question remains, it is due to the principles of civilization and christianity that a resort to arbitration should be had; and that this Government cannot relieve itself from all responsibility which may follow the failure to settle this controversy while this resort is still untried.
4. Resolved, That arbitration does not necessarily involve a reference to crowned heads; and that, if a jealously of such a reference is entertained in any quarter, a commission of able and dispassionate citizens either from two countries concerned, or from the world at large, offers itself, as an obvious and unobjectionable alternative.

These resolutions were laid over under the rule for debate.

Mr. DOUGLASS moved the following resolutions in relation to Oregon:

1. Resolved, That the title to any part of the Oregon Territory south of 54 degrees 40 minutes of north latitude is not open to compromise so as to surrender any part of said territory.

2. Resolved, That the question of title to that territory should not be left to arbitration.

These resolutions were also laid over under the rule for debate.

Friday December 23, 1845 v22n14p2 COST OF WAR

The N. Y. Express says:

"If a war should take place, The Government would, at the lowest calculation, have to borrow at least one hundred million dollars a year, for the first few years. The present revenue from imports and land sales, would very nearly cease, and the resort would be wholly to taxes."

The calculation of the Express is probably too large – but reduce it in one half – where is the amount of money to be borrowed by a Confederacy whose credit in Europe two years since, was prostrated by the repudiation of some States, and is not yet restored?

The infatuation of the party in power, appears to our judgment most unaccountable, as well as complete. While they are frantically and precipitately hurrying the United States into a war with the greatest power in the world, with an army of 5,000 men, with a navy that would shut up at once in port, or only escape the fate by stealing out a ship at a time, with empty arsenals, and dilapidated forts, they are on one hand proposing to dry up the Revenue by repealing or greatly reducing the Tariff, and on the other to prostrate commercial confidence, and paralyze trade business, to diminish the circulating medium, and destroy the equilibrium of exchanges, by resorting the exploded sub-Treasury, influenced by party spirit!

More rash and destructive counsels never threatened to overhelm a country. But we hope that “sober second thought” of the Democratic party itself, will interpose to avert the wide-spread ruin which their adoption would occasion.

Texas, Oregon and California!

On the 19th Dec., the N. York Locos held a grand pow wow at Tammany Hall.

The News of the 20th says:

"Oregon, Texas, and California – Meeting in Old Tammany in Support of the Presidents Message and Municipal Reforms:

Last night, pursuant to a call of the Democratic Republican Young Men’s General Committee, a meeting was held in Tammany Hall, for the expression of opinions on the message of the President of the United States, and also upon the subjects of Constitutional city Reform. Above the platform a neat banner was suspended, simple but expressive. The nominations have been made, a series of resolutions of a very qualified nature have been reported, and adopted of course – approving to the crossing of a “t”, the President’s Message – rejoining Texas – demanding all Oregon from latitude 54 degrees 40 minutes to California – endorsing the Sub-Treasury – denouncing the Tariff of 1842 as odious and oppressive – applauding the resolution of General Cass in the Senate U. S. &c.

[TCS]
Corn Laws Oregon &c.

The accession of Lord John Russell, long the leader of the Whigs and a man more eminent than he has had general credit for, and moreover the virtual head of the great house of Bedford and of Lord Morpeth, heretofore supporters of the Corn Laws, is universally esteemed as of great importance. We have ever believed that the subversion of the Corn Laws would in a short time lead to the subversion of the Aristocracy, and to a repudiation of the British National Debt, a monopoly of corn sales being necessary to enable the farming interest to sustain their dreadful burthens. We believe the repeal is at hand.

The Paris Press indulges in copious speculations on the Oregon question, and the remarks of some of the Journals are curious enough. Most of them express the opinion that the Americans have much the best claim to the territory, though one of them thinks Britain will fight hard for their claim – in which case the battle "will be one Englishman and an Englishman and a half." Another paper says neither England nor the United States has so much right to Oregon as the French, inasmuch as the latter first discovered the country!

[End of Corn Laws Oregon &c.]

ISLAND OF CUBA

Mr. LEVY submitted the following proposal, which lies over for debate, under the rules.

Resolved, The in the opinion of the Senate it is advisable for the President to open negotiations with the Government of Spain for the cession to the United States of the Island of Cuba, the inhabitants of said island consenting thereto.

On motion of Mr. BENTON, it was

Resolved, That the Committee of the Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of organizing a company of sappers, miners, and pontooners.

ADMISSION OF TEXAS

Mr. ASHLEY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported the joint resolutions from the other floors providing for the admission of Texas as a State into this Union on a footing with the original States; also, a substitute for the bill heretofore offered on the same subject.

The joint resolutions having been read –

Messrs. WEBSTER, BARRIEN, NILES, HUNTINGTON, and BAGBY successively submitted their reasons for the vote which they were reportedly about to give on the resolutions.

The resolutions were then, by consent read a third time and PASSED.

The Senate, on motion of Mr. ALLEN, went into Executive session for a short time, and then adjourned.

[End of ISLAND OF CUBA]

The Oregon Question Impartially Viewed – War and its Consequences

To Thomas H. Pleasants, Esq.

Dear Sir: -- This is a question that has been but a short time, prominently before the American People; has been little discussed, in public, and still less understood; for until now, few public documents have been presented to the public eye, from which a correct judgment could be formed, and those, so voluminous, that few comparatively even of our public men, have taken the pains to wade through them. Under these circumstances, I have thought that it could render no more acceptable service to me fellow-citizens, who are so vitally interested in this issue, and who now stand on the brink of a bloody and desolating was, than to present to their minds, as briefly as possible, a clear
and distinct understanding of the true nature of the claims set up by Great Britain and the United States, to this comparatively worthless, disputed territory; and of the actual position we occupy towards it at this moment. And for this purpose, I propose to exhibit the question, as it presents itself, from a careful examination of the correspondence between the British and American negotiators, as accompanying the President's Message to the two Houses of Congress, stripped of all the mystification that surrounds it, by the volume of words that have been employed to establish their respective claims.

The Oregon Territory, as it is known, consists of that part of the northwestern portion of North America lying between the summit of the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Ocean—bounded on the South by the 42d degree, and on the North by the 54th deg. 40m of north latitude.

The claim on the part of the United States, up to the present time, has covered only the portion lying between 42 and 49° north latitude; and that portion beyond 49° has been conceded to Great Britain; at least in all former negotiations we have agreed to surrender it, but now, for the first time within 27 years, during which we have been treating and negotiating with Great Britain on this subject, a claim by Mr. Polk and his negotiator, Mr. Buchanan— to the whole territory—and the grounds upon which this claim rests, are twofold:— 1st, a right acquired from the Spanish Government by the Florida treaty in 1819; and secondly, a right derived from discovery, exploration, and settlement.

First, then, let us examine the Spanish title—I quote from Mr. Buchanan's own letter and acknowledgement—to show how it stands:

"That Juan de Fuca, a Greek in the service of Spain, in 1592, discovered and sailed through the strait, now bearing his name, from its Southern to its Northern extremity, and thence returned by the same passage, no longer admits of a reasonable doubt. An account of his voyage was published in London, in 1625, in a work called Pilgrims by Samuel Purchas. This account was received from the lips of Fuca himself, at Genoa in April, 1596, by Micheal Lock, a highly respectable English merchant.

During a long period, his voyage was deemed fabulous, because subsequent navigators have endeavored in vain to find these straits. Finally, after they have been found, it was discovered that descriptions of de Fuca corresponded so accurately with their geography, and the facts presented by nature upon the ground, that it was no longer possible to consider his narrative fabulous." * * * * * *

** Justice has, at length, been done to his memory, and these straits which he discovered, will, in all future time, bear his name: Thus, the merit of the discovery of the Straits of Fuca belongs to Spain; and nearly two centuries before they had been entered by Captain Berkely, under the Austrian Flag.

"It is unnecessary to detail the discoveries of the Spaniards, as they regularly advanced to the North from their settlements, on the Western coasts of North America until we reach the voyage of Captain Juan Perez, in 1774. That Navigator was commissioned by the Viceroy of Mexico, to proceed in the corvette Santiago to the 60° of North latitude, and from that point to examine the coast down to Mexico. He sailed from San Blas on the 25th of January, 1774. In the performance of his commission, he landed on the Northwest coast of Queen Charlotte's Island near the 54th° of North latitude; and then along the coast of the continent until he reached Monterey," (which is about the 42° N. latitude.) "He went on shore and held intercourse with the natives at several places, and especially at the entrance of a bay in latitude 49½ degrees, which he called Port San Lorenzo. The same now known by the name Nootka Sound—

"In addition to the journals of his voyage which render the facts incontestable, we have the high authority of Baron Humboldt in its favor. That distinguished traveler, who had access to the manuscript documents in the city of Mexico, states that Perez and his pilot, Estaner Mastenez, left the port of San Blas on the 24th of January, in 1774. The 9th of August they anchored (the first of all European Navigators) in Nootka road, which they called the Port of Lorenzo, and which the illustrious Cook, four years afterwards, called King George's Sound."

"In the next year 1775, the Viceroy of Mexico, again fitted out the Santiago, under the commission of Bruno Hecata, with Perez her former commander, as ensign, and also, a schooner called Sonoro, commanded by Juan Francisco de Bodega y Quandra. These vessels were commissioned to examine the Northwest coast of America, as far as the 65th degree of latitude, and sailed in company from San Blas, on the 15th of March, 1775. It is unnecessary to enumerate the different places on the coast, examined by these navigators, either in her company or separately. Suffice it to say, they landed at many places, on the coast, from 41st to the 57th degree of North latitude, on all of which occasions, they took possession of the country, in the name of their sovereign, according to a prescribed regulation; celebrating mass, reading declarations, asserting the right of Spain to the territory, and erecting crosses with inscription, to commemorate the event. Some of these crosses were afterward found standing by British navigators."

Again, Mr. Buchanan says: "Compared with this ancient claim of Spain acquiesced in by all European nations for centuries, the claim of Great Britain, that this convention," (the Nootka Sound Convention of 1790 between Spain and Great Britain) "which was dictated to her by Spain contains no provision impairing the ultimate sovereignty which that power had asserted for nearly three centuries, over the whole Western side of North America, as far North as the 61st degree of latitude, and which had never been seriously questioned by any European nation. This right had been maintained by Spain with the most vigilant jealousy ever since the discovery of the American continent, and had been acquiesced in by all European Governments. It had been admitted that even beyond the latitude of 54 degrees 40 minutes North, by Russia, then too only power having claims which could come even in collision with Spain, and that too, under a sovereign peculiarly tenacious of the territorial rights of her empire. This will appear, from the latter of Count Fernan de Montmorin, the Secretary of the Foreign Department of France, dated..."
Paris, June 16th, 1790. From the letter it seems, that complaints had been made by Spain, to the Court of Russia, against Russian subjects, for violating the Spanish territory, on the 61st degree of North latitude; in consequence of which, that Court without delay, assured the King of Spain “that it was extremely sorry that the repeated orders issued to prevent subjects of Russia from violating in the smallest degree, the territory belonging to another power, should have been disobeyed.”

This is the Spanish title, as established by the American negotiator in his correspondence with the British Minister, under which we claim by the Florida treaty of 1819 – and if it be represented by him, that the Spanish claim was not only full and complete, but recognized by all European nations for centuries before discoveries or explorations had been made, either by that government or that of Great Britain, it would seem that little value could be attached to such discoveries or explorations on the part of either – and if the matter rested here, it might appear satisfactorily enough – that the title of Spain being established, and that power by the treaty of 1819, having ceded to the United States “all her rights, claims and pretensions to any territories west of the Rocky Mountains, and north of the 42d parallel of latitude,” would justify the language, that has been lately and for the first time employed that our title of the whole of Oregon was “clear and unquestionable” – but the matter does not rest here: one side of a story is always good, until the other is told. What says Great Britain as an offset to the Spanish title under which we claim to show that this cession on the part of Spain to the United States in 1819 did not entitle the United States to exclusive dominion over any part of the Oregon territory? I take Buchanan’s own statement again:

"In the year 1788, John Meares, a British subject, sailing under a Portuguese flag landed at Nootka Sound, and made a temporary establishment there for the purpose of building a vessel; the Spaniards in 1789 took possession of this establishment under the orders of the Viceroy of Mexico, who claimed for Spain the exclusive sovereignty of the whole territory on the west coast of America up to the Russian line. Meares appealed to the British government for redress of Spain, and the danger of war between the two nations became imminent. This was prevented by the conclusion of the Nootka Sound Convention. That convention provides, by its first and second articles, for the restoration of the lands and buildings of which the subjects of Great Britain had been dispossessed by the Spaniards, and a payment of indemnity for the injuries sustained. – This indemnity was paid by Spain; but no sufficient evidence has been adduced that either Nootka Sound, or any other spot upon the coast was ever actually surrendered by that power to Great Britain."

Observe, this statement and acknowledgement of the American negotiator, and I apprehend it is of little importance as respects the validity of title, whether John Meares’ original design in making a settlement was for a temporary or permanent purpose; and that it is equally unimportant whether there was, or was not an actual surrender of the spot to the British authorities – it is admitted by our government that the Convention between Spain and Great Britain, signed at the Escurial on the 28th of October 1790, recognised the right of Great Britain to the settlement, and Spain stood pledged to a restoration, and paid an indemnity for the injuries sustained by a British subject.

But Mr. Packenham adds, that “in 1792, Vancouver was sent from England to witness the fulfillment of the above mentioned engagement, and to effect a survey of the North West Coast.”

The third article is as follows: “In order to strengthen the bonds of friendship, and to preserve in future, a perfect harmony and good understanding between the contracting parties, it is agreed that their respective subjects shall not be disturbed or molested, either in navigating or carrying on their fisheries in the Pacific Ocean, or in the South Seas, or in landing on the coasts of the country, or of making settlements there; the whole, subject nevertheless to the restrictions specified in the three following articles:"

“

“The material one of which is,” as Mr. Buchanan himself says:

Art. 5. “As well in the places which are to be restored to the British subjects, by virtue of the first article, as in other parts of the North Western Coasts of North America, or of the islands adjacent, situate to the north of the parts of the said coast, already occupied by Spain, wherever the subjects of either of the two powers shall have made settlements since the month of April 1789, or shall make any, the subjects of the other shall have free access, and shall carry on the trade without any disturbance or molestation.”

It will be perceived, that the first article has a two fold object, and recognises and stipulates for two distinct rights on the part of Great Britain – the first is an understood right to navigate and carry on their fisheries in the Pacific Ocean, or in the South Seas, and to land on the coasts of those seas, in places not already occupied, for the purpose of commerce with the natives. So far as it may be regarded as a commercial treaty; but it also secures to Great Britain, the right to make settlements, which implies a right of jurisdiction and sovereignty, co-equal with that of Spain herself. The 5th article, and only one relied upon, and referred to by Mr. Buchanan, only secures the right of free access to the subjects of each nation, to the settlements that may have been formed by the subjects of the other, since April 1789, or that may be formed subsequent to the Convention.

The importance of the discrimination, as to the distinct objects of the 3rd article of the Convention above quoted, will be seen by reference to another portion of Mr. Buchanan’s communication, which will be presently noticed.

It is manifest then, that if this Nootka Sound Convention was in full force and operation between Great Britain and Spain, at the time of the negotiation of the Florida Treaty, in 1819, by which Spain ceded to the United States “all her rights, claims, and pretensions to any territories west of the Rocky Mountains, and North of the 42d parallel of latitude,” that she would not have entitled the U. States to exclusive dominion over the whole of the Oregon Territory, for she could not transfer to the U. S. what she did not herself possess, or lay claim to, as she held it in joint occupancy with Great Britain.
But says Mr. Buchanan, this Nootka Sound Convention had no existence at the time of the Florida treaty, because there was a war between Great Britain and Spain in 1796, and "the general rule of national law [ ], that war terminates all subsisting treaties between the belligerent Powers."

But again, on the other hand it appears, that subsequent to the war between Great Britain and Spain, and before the Florida treaty in 1819, to wit, on the 28th of August, 1814, additional articles to the treaty of Madrid were signed between these two Powers, the first of which follows:

"It is agreed that pending the negotiation of a new treaty of Commerce, Great Britain shall be admitted to trade with Spain, upon the same conditions as those which existed previously to 1796: all the treaties of Commerce which at the period subsisted between the two Nations, being hereby ratified and confirmed."

And upon this subject, Mr. Buchanan says:

"The first observation to be made upon this article is, that it is confined in terms to the trade with Spain, and does not embrace her colonies or remote territories."

At the time of the war in 1796 between Spain and Great Britain, the trade of the Oregon territory had been opened to G Britain, as had been by the Nootka Sound Convention, but had not been opened to other foreign nations. So in 1814, after the general peace of Europe was established, the trade of her other colonies and remote territories had not been opened up to foreign nations, and therefore in the treaty of Madrid it was further stipulated that "in the event of the Spanish American possessions being opened to foreign nations, his Catholic Majesty promises that Great Britain shall be admitted to trade with those possessions as a most favored nation." A very proper necessary provision, even if taken separate of the Oregon trade, and yet, Mr. Buchanan deduces it as an "irresistible inference," that Great Britain admitted that she had acquired no right under it to trade with the colonies or remote territories of Spain, where she obtained this stipulation – which is apparent to any clear mind is a far fetched and untenable deduction.

I have undertaken to show that the Nootka Sound Convention, embraced two distinct objects – the first was to regulate commerce between the subjects of these two powers in the Oregon territory; and the second, to secure the right to the subjects of each to make settlements: the latter part of which being permanent and enduring in its character, (while the first part is only temporary, and liable to alteration or destruction) is entitled to, as it must carry with it, much the greatest weight and importance.

Mr. Buchanan says, "The general rule of national law is, that war terminates all subsisting treaties between belligerent powers. Great Britain has maintained this rule to its utmost extent. Lord Bathurst in negotiating with Mr. Adams in 1815 says, 'that Great Britain knows of no exception to the rule that all treaties are put to an end by a subsequent war between the same parties.'" Perhaps (continuing Mr. Buchanan) the only exception to this rule – if such it may be styled – is that of a treaty recognising certain sovereign rights, and belonging to a nation which had previously existed, independently of any treaty engagements. These rights which the treaty did not create, but merely acknowledged, cannot be destroyed by war between the parties."

The first question to be determined, if the position of Mr Buchanan is correct, which I am not disposed at this time to dispute, is, whether the Nootka Sound Convention created rights on the part of Great Britain, or whether it acknowledged rights existing previously to the treaty; -- and this may be a question of much difficulty in determining: Certain it is, however, that Great Britain claimed it as a right to make settlements in Oregon prior to the Convention, founded on her real or supposed discoveries, regardless of the rights of Spain; precisely as we had done on the mouth of the Columbia river by Gray, and by the explorations of Lewis & Clark: othereise she would not have demanded and obtained indemnity from Spain for the injuries sustained by dispossessing Meares, one of her subjects; and equally certain it seems to be, that Spain recognised such rights; othereise whatever concessions she was disposed to make, she would not have acquiesced in the demand for indemnity, if no previous right was acknowledged to exist – and therefore it may be regarded not as creating, but as acknowledging rights previously existing – so that according to Mr. Buchanan’s own shewing, the war of 1796 did not and could not, destroy the sovereign rights of Great Britain. But I apprehend that whether these sovereign rights of Great Britain existed or not, prior to the Convention of 1790, they then being recognised and established, could not have been abrogated or annulled by the subsequent war of 96, except by consent or concession.

But hear Mr. Buchanan again: he finds it necessary to deny that the treaty of 1790 was a commercial treaty, for if it were, then it was revived by the treaty of Madrid in 1814, which declared the "all treaties of commerce which at that period, (1796) subsisted between the two nations, being hereby ratified and confirmed;" and he proceeds to say: "The "grant of making settlements," "whether understood in its broadest, or most restrictive sense relates to
Sound, as between Great Britain and the U. S. (for the discovery of Perez has nothing to do with the pending claims.

In 1778, Captain Cook discovered Cape Flattery, the Southern entrance to the Straits of Fuca, also of Nootka Sound, for the discovery of Perez has nothing to do with the pending claims.

And yet this is the claim for the first time set up under our Spanish title to the whole of Oregon as “clear and unquestionable,” which is to justify a refusal on the part of our government to compromise the question, or to arbitrate it; but which, at the bidding of Mr. Polk, is to plunge us suddenly and rudely into war, with the most powerful adversary we could find on earth, and a nation between whom and ourselves, from every consideration that can present itself, to a reflecting and patriotic mind, the bonds of fellowship and good feeling should be ever held as indissolubly cemented.

What respect was paid by our government to this “clear and unquestionable” title of Spain, under which we now claim the whole of Oregon, may be inferred from the fact, that prior to the Treaty of Florida, we claimed, and now claim, under the discovery of Captain Gray, of the mouth of the Columbia River in 1789, and by virtue of the explorations of Lewis and Clarke, in 1805-6, a clear and undoubted right to all that portion of Oregon drained by the Columbia River and its tributaries, (which is most elaborately argued by Mr. Calhoun, in the earlier part of the negotiation) in despite of this now asserted “clear and unquestionable” title of Spain, which had been acknowledged for many centuries, by all European nations; and it may be further inferred by the treaty of 1818, between this Government and Great Britain, by which the two Governments, not being able to agree on a line of division between themselves, without consulting Spain on the matter, appropriated the entire Territory of Oregon to their own uses, and agreed to hold it in joint occupancy, which has been continued from that day to the present, 27 years, according to the terms of the treaty.

After the grounds upon which the American negotiator has mainly rested our claim, to wit: that derived from Spain, it might seem necessary to examine the claim founded on discovery and explorations yet upon a question of such magnitude as this, which is to involve issues of peace or war, not of our own people only, but perhaps of the world, the subject cannot be thoroughly canvassed and understood. And first, let us look to our own title, depending on discovery and exploration. According to Mr. Buchanan –

“Capt. Robert Gray, in June 1789, in the sloop Washington, (a private merchantman,) first explored the whole eastern coast of Queen Charlotte’s Island.

“In the autumn of the same year, Capt. John Kendrick, having, in the mean time, surrendered the command of the Columbia to Captain Gray, sailed the sloop Washington, entirely through the Straits of Fuca.

In 1791, Captain Gray returned to the North Pacific in the Columbia, and in the summer of that year examined many of the inlets and passages between the 55th and 56th degree of latitude.

On the 7th May, 1792, he discovered the entire Bullfinch’s harbor, where he remained at anchor for three days, trading with the Indians.

On the 11th of May, 1792, Captain Gray entered the mouth of the Columbia, and completed the discovery of that great river.

In the Years 1805-'6, Messers. Lewis and Clarke, under the commission from the Government of the U.S. explored the waters of the Columbia nearly from its headspring to the Pacific.

In 1811, John Jacob Astor, a merchant from New York, in a spirit of private enterprize, established a settlement on the South side of the mouth of the Columbia, called “Astoria,” which was captured during the war, to wit, on the 1st of December, 1813, by the British Sloop of War, Raccoon, but was again restored to the U.S. in 1818, under that provision of the treaty of Ghent which declared that “all territory, places, and possessions whatever, taken by either party from the other, during the war, &c., shall be restored without delay,” which the American negotiator regarded as an unqualified admonition on the part of Great Britain of our territorial rights, while he admits no such recognition on the part of Spain to Great Britain in the restoration of Nootka Sound, to Meares, and the payment of an indemnity for injuries sustained; and in this again, I think he exhibits a want of candor, and involves himself in an inconsistency that is only to be accounted for, in a gentleman of acknowledged ability, (for I have great personal respect for him,) by an overweening desire to shape his arguments to conform in the views of the President, and to sustain him rather than our just and legitimate claim. And this is the extent of our claim as presented by our Government through its negotiator, by virtue of discovery, exploration and settlement.

Let us see what is presented by the British Plenipotentiary as an offset to it, by virtue of discoveries, explorations and settlements by Great Britain, and it will be observed that up to this time, I have relied entirely upon the statements and admissions of Mr. Buchanan himself, quoting his own language whenever it was possible to do so, and in no part of his entire correspondence, in the conclusion of which he abruptly terminates the negotiation, does he deny the facts stated by Mr. Packenham, which follow:

“In 1778, Captain Cook discovered Cape Flattery, the Southern entrance to the Straits of Fuca, also of Nootka Sound, as between Great Britain and the U. S. (for the discovery of Perez has nothing to do with the pending claims.
"In 1787, Captain Berkley, a British subject, in a vessel under Austrian colors, discovered the Straits of Fuca.

In the same year, Captain Duncan, in the ship Princess Royall, entered the straits, and traded at the village of Classe [t].

In 1788, John Meares, a British subject, formed the establishment at Nootka, which as before stated, gave rise to the Nootka Convention, which terminated in the recognition by Spain of the right of Great Britain to MAKE SETTLEMENTS in the unoccupied parts of the northwest portion of the American Continent, {Oregon} and a stipulation to reinstate Meares in possession, and to pay an indemnity for injuries sustained.

"In 1792, Vancouver was sent by England to witness the fulfillment of the stipulation to restore possession of Nootka, and to survey the north west coast, which he performed by departing Nootka Sound, and entering the straits of Fuca, and after an accurate survey of the coasts and inlets on both sides, discovered a passage northwards into the Pacific by which he returned to Nootka, having thus circumnavigated the Island which now bears his name.

"While Vancouver was prosecuting discovery and exploration by sea, Sir Alexander McKenzie, a partner in the Northwest Company, crossed the Rocky Mountains, discovered the head waters of the river, since called Frazer's river, and following for some time the course of that river effected a passage to the sea – being the first civilized man to traversed the continent of America from sea to sea in these latitudes. On the return of McKenzie to Canada, the Northwest Company established trading posts in the country to the Westward of the Rocky Mountains.

"In 1806 and '11, respectively, the same Company established posts on the Tacoutche, Tepe and Columbia.

"In the year 1811, Thompson, the astronomer of the Northwest Company, discovered the western headwaters of the Columbia, and following its course till joined by the rivers previously discovered by Lewis and Clarke, he continued his journey to the Pacific.

"From that time till the year 1818, when the arrangement for joint occupancy of the territory was concluded, the Northwest Company continued to extend their operations throughout the Oregon Territory."

These are the claims, as respectively set forth, (chiefly in their own language,) by the American negotiator and the British plenipotentiary.

In the progress of the negotiation, a proposition was submitted by the British minister, to divide the territory, by running the 49th parallel of North latitude due west to the point where that parallel strikes the Northeasternmost branch of the Columbia river, with the free navigation of the said river to both parties, to make free to the United States, any ports which the United States might desire, either on the main land or on Vancouver's Island, north of latitude 49°, together with some separated territory on the Pacific.

This was declined on the part of the U. S. negotiator, and a proposition was submitted by him to divide the territory between the two countries, by the 49th parallel of North latitude, from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean, making free to Great Britain any port or ports on Vancouver’s Island, south of the 49th degree, that the Government of Great Britain may desire.

This proposition was declined on the part of the British plenipotentiary, and another submitted by him in the following words –

"But considering on the one hand, the impatience which is manifested in the U. S. far a settlement of this question, and on the other, the length of time which it would probably be still required to effect a satisfactory settlement of this question, and on the other, the length of time which would probably be still required to effect a satisfactory adjustment of it, between the two Governments, it has occurred to her Majesty's Government, that under such circumstances, no more fair or honorable mode of settling the question could be adopted than that of arbitration. This proposition I am accordingly authorised to offer to the Government of the U. S. – which proposition was rejected; and to which the American Secretary of State replies as follows –

"The President instructs me to inform you, that while he unites with her Majesty's Government in desire to see the question settled as early as may be practicable, he cannot accede to the offer,"

The same offer is again repeated by the negotiator on the part of the U. S., which had been already declined, and it was again declined, with a request that the Government of the U. S. would, as it had neither acceded to the line proposed by Great Britain, or to the proposition to submit the question to arbitration, offer something "more consistent with fairness and equity, and with the reasonable expectations of the British Government. Whereupon Mr. Polk and Mr. Buchanan, make what may be called a "flare up” and withdraw the proposition already submitted, and substituted instead, a claim to the whole territory of Oregon, American, Spanish and British – up to the Russian Possessions, which are about the 54th degree 40 minutes of North latitude.

Now, I am neither disposed, nor prepared if I were disposed, to decide upon the relative claims of these two parties, as resting on discovery, exploration and settlement: it seems to me, to be a subject involved in much difficulty and
We copy the judicious and truly enlightened article which follows from the Charleston Mercury, a paper apart from the administration; yet it was the last submitted by Great Britain, and not having been withdrawn, has been always open for perpetualation of power to lie in the bottom of the whole proceeding.

The question more briefly stated, is simply this, Great Britain says to the U. S., “from 1790 I have held the Oregon territory in joint occupancy with Spain and the U. S., with my right to make settlements on any portion of the unoccupied territory recognised by Spain as far back as 1790, then the only claimant.

Whether under the Spanish authority, or by discovery, exploration and settlement, my claim is at least equal to yours; you are impatient to divide, and I am not disposed to quarrel with you about it – my object is to cultivate friendly relations with you.

I will propose to decide by such a line; no, says Mr. Polk, I can’t agree to that. Then says Great Britain, do you make me a proposition! Mr. Polk says, I will decide by such a line; Great Britain says no, I can’t agree to that – but as there seem to be a wide difference between us, and I am not disposed to take more than I am entitled to, and am unwilling to interrupt the harmony of the two nations, I will agree to submit the matter to arbitration of some third party, to be mutually agreed on between us. No, says Mr. Polk, I won’t do that either. Then what will you do? make some other proposition more equitable than the first. Why, says Mr. Polk now, I will withdraw my first proposition and claim the whole entire territory of Oregon, even that which has been admitted by this government as belonging to Great Britain, ever since the treaty of joint occupancy in 1818; for if Great Britain had no just claim or title to any part, it is impossible to conceive that the terms of joint occupancy would ever have been agreed upon – or that Mr. Polk would himself have offered any part to Great Britain in the course of this negotiation.*

Disguise it as you may by flourishes of the pen, “to this complexion it must come at last.”

Now I venture to make the unqualified assertion, that there is not one intelligent, honest, disinterested, patriotic man in this whole country, who, upon a full understanding of this much vexed, but greatly misunderstood question, who would, under existing circumstances, be disposed to pronounce our title “clear and unquestionable,” and to favor the desperadoes, the political jugglers, the ambitious aspirants, and the greedy office holders, in their clamors for “the whole of Oregon or none,” and in making war for what can never be accomplished by war, and what is not worth a quarrel even, if we could, but which if the matter had been left alone, would have naturally fallen into our possession by the settlement of the country by our own citizens – for, to use the language of Lord Castle[reagh] – we were acquiring possession of the country, while our people were asleep, and knew nothing about it.”

If the President is sustained in these novel and lofty pretensions, how is war to be averted? Does any body expect Great Britain to surrender the whole of Oregon to us, without a blow, when she uniformly rejected all propositions that have been submitted by us to give her less than half? No sane man does, I am sure! There is but one way by which war can be avoided – and that is, that Congress shall repudiate Mr. Polk and his musical instrument, the organ, in their ridiculous new born doctrines of “the whole of Oregon or none.” Will they do it? I fear not. I think not. Party bondage will prove too strong, and the welfare of the country and the honor of the nation will be sacrificed to the dictation of power. It is rumored, I know, that instructions to Mr. McLane were dispatched by steamer, preceding his message to Congress, authorizing him to compromise the matter; and that therefore, it is, he expresses the hope that the difficulty may yet be amicably adjusted. He can have no such hope, unless he has sent such instructions, and if he has, he has dishonored himself and his government, by playing the bull dog on this side of the water, and the spaniel on the other for what might be the position of the country in such an event?

Mr. Polk says to Congress, we are entitled to the whole of Oregon, and we must give the years notice required by the treaty of 1818, and at the expiration of that time we will take possession of it, and we cannot surrender it or any part, without dishonor and disgrace. Congress sustains him in his views – then comes the information, that Mr. McLane, by instructions from Mr. Polk, has compromised the matter by surrendering one-half.—We should subject ourselves to the contempt and ridicule of the world – and therefore I believe no such instructions can have been given, and of course I must conclude that war is inevitable; this is the fruit of the triumph of destructive locofocoism over conservative whiggery, and all brought about by two men. One a President for four years, and the other a public printer, holding the two most lucrative offices in the government, who may have vainly conceived that the [ the next two lines are unreadable] of honors and emoluments of office in their own heads. I believe a hoped for perpetuation of power to lie in the bottom of the whole proceeding.

*It is known that the proposition to arbitrate was made in the month of January last, during Mr. Tyler’s administration; yet it was the last submitted by Great Britain, and not having been withdrawn, has been always open to Mr. Polk.

[TCS]
the peculiarities of South Carolina politics, always enlightened, moderate and high principled. We will try to find place tomorrow for the important analysis of the supposed English ministerial views, to which the Mercury alludes. We should fain hope that the Mercury was the exponent of the views of Senators Calhoun and McDuffie, and that their influence in the Senate would be exerted to preserve the pacific relations of the country, a matter of no difficulty if it be sought in the right spirit—of no difficulty, even having regard in the first place, to the most punctilious scruples of national honor: But the Mercury has of late, exhibited an elevation of thought and superiority to mere partizan views as much as surpassing the South Carolina Senators, as those Senators outranked the Mercury in position.

The true difficulty in the way of a pacific and honorable adjustment of the Oregon question is the ambition of presidential aspirants, striving to carve political capital out of this and every other prominent question which comes before the country. It is the very curse of our institutions, and the cause which will finally lay them low, that ambitious men seize upon and appropriate to their own advancement, interest and measures which can only be wisely settled when approached in the most passionless and disinterested singleness of spirit. There is ever in this country a large party ready for war with England, with or without a justifiable pretense, from hereditary hatred alone: that party is now swelled by the population of our immense frontiers, Atlantic, Gulf, Pacific! Lake and Inland, who would look to war as the descent of a golden shower among them! The hundreds of millions that war with England will cost, will find its way into their pockets. War with them is mercantile speculation. Again, there are legions, idlers, loafers, who having nothing to lose, hope to gain something by turning the world upside down.

These constitute the elements, and the powerful elements, of the war party—powerful in numbers, powerful in energy. They form the nucleus of a strong Presidential party, which Mr. Cass observing, has stolen a march upon Buchanan Allen & Co., and placed himself at their head. Who doubts that in moving his resolutions, and aiming his speck, he was looking more at the Presidential year of 1848 than the defenses of the country?

As to the point of honor made by Mr. Cass, and alluded to by the Mercury, what can be more preposterous! We make three several offers to England which she rejects; we rejecting hers in turn) we then make a fourth offer less favorable to her the three preceding, and because she rejects that of necessity (having rejected more advantageous positions, as not sufficiently just to her) it becomes a point of honor that we should have all of Oregon, or appeal to arms! Could there be a greater absurdity, a more stupid definition of honor! Can they who insist upon it, really think as they say, and possibly conceive, that the honor of America requires them to be fools, and to run tilts at windmills? These gentlemen clearly did not study honor at the school of Bayard and Sir Philip Sidney, whose humanity and disinterestedness shone even more conspicuously than their valor and punctilio.

A distinguished gentleman of the city has a plan to suggest to Mr. Polk, for settling the difficulty with England, after the method sometimes observed in Heroic times, that is, by single combat between him and Prince Albert! A plan which we presume the courage of the Duck River colonel will eagerly embrace! But in advance of that plan, we express the confident opinion, that Massers. Webster and Rives, if negotiations were reopened, could settle all difficulties with British commissioners in five days, to the observance of the honor and the entire satisfaction of both nations: This however, is exactly what Presidential aspirants do not wish.

[TC]

Friday December 30, 1845 RW45v22n15p1 Birtsh and Oregon

The Charleston Mercury says:

"We have copied from the N.Y. Courier and Enquirer an extended analysis of several leading articles in the London Times, which are suspected on very plausible ground, to have emanated from the British Cabinet. They possess therefore a peculiar interest. These articles show at once the danger to which peaceful relations are exposed, and the ease at which they might be preserved. The British government desires to compromise and settle the dispute—but it has determined to meet aggression with resistance.

On our side all is extreme. We give our opponent every advantage—we hasten to load ourselves with every prejudice—we [set] at defiance the opinion of the world—we mock our pretensions to be a peace-loving nation. After having occupied Oregon in common with England near thirty years, the President declares that it all belongs to us and Mr. Douglass in the House offers resolutions affirming the same and repelling the suggestion of arbitration. After having offered England an adjustment less favorable than we had three times offered before, Mr. Cass in the Senate makes it a point of honor that we should never recede an inch from that. Other Senators use language full of menace and insult to England. If we cannot recede from our offer without disgrace, neither can England from hers; and thus a case is made to grow out of the peaceable common occupancy of an obscure corner of the earth by two great nations, in which neither can step towards adjustment, without being dishonored! This is monstrous!"

[TC]

Friday December 30, 1845 RW45v22n15p2 FRANCE AND THE U. STATES.

Our warlike President, impatient for combat, not contented with menacing England in his Message, also insulted France!
The Express says:

"It was a great error in Mr. Polk, when he was firing into the Court of St. James, to throw a shell into the Tuilleries. According to the French Courier of this city, whose Editor is fresh from France, and whose opportunities there fully qualify him to represent what is, or will be, public sentiment,—the Oregon correspondence between Messrs. Calhoun and Buchanan on one side, and Mr. Packenham on the other, will change a now inimical Public opinion in France into a friendly sentiment towards us. A certain M. de [Mofra] says the Editor, who visited Oregon, has published a one sided book in Paris, in favor of the British pretension, which, form its coolness and calmness of tone, and apparent good faith, had powerfully seized the public mind. This presupposition, however, the official correspondence will undoubtedly remove, while it will strengthen the claims of our countrymen in the eyes of the world. But, add the Editor, the Cabinet of Tuilleries will be deeply wounded and pained by the intrigues of Mr. Polk has [enraged] them with the affair of Texas, and other matters having reference to the balance of power. The French Ministry, we may add, have been pretty well abused by the opposition in France for having taken part with England against the United States, in the annexation of Texas, and the reproaches of our President’s Message will so be much fuel to the opposition flame, while we of the United States will suffer from having the Government in the hands of a party embittered against us by a [ ] interposition of ours in foreign politics.

It was unfortunate, therefore, that when Mr. Polk found that the United States was about to be fully occupied with England, he did not omit his reproaches of France, which, we will say, were certainly most ill timed."

Friday December 30, 1845 RW45v22n15p2 France and Oregon

And the N.Y. Courier & Enquirer:

"FRANCE—THE UNITED STATES—OREGON .

Many of our citizens (says the United States Gazette) have felt anxious to hear how France would receive the complaints of interference which Mr. Polk, in his late Message, made against her for interfering in the of Texas annexation. We have yet to hear from Mr. Guizot and his fellow laborers, but the editor of the Courier de Etats Unis, who has recently been with those statesmen, is of opinion that they will find cause to recriminate. The New York Courier translates the following:

"The French Government will be deeply wounded by the accusation of treason and intrigue (the word is there at full length) openly cast upon it from the Presidential Chair. And, let us say it, the French Cabinet will not be wounded without reason. Whether the policy it adopted on the Texan question were good or bad, it owes no account of it other than to its country and to its own conscience, and it belongs not to any foreign Government to constitute itself judge thereof. The accusation preferred by Mr. Polk against the policy of Mr. Guizot will so much the more irritate the latter, as it will be in the hands of the Opposition in France a sharp weapon; the Left of the Chamber will scourge unmercifully with it the policy of the Ministry. But Mr. Guizot is not a patient victim, and when he turns upon his adversaries his return blow usually leaves ine or more of them on the ground. We are much less deceived, or Mr. Polk will have his share in these vigorous reprisals."

[TCS]

Friday December 30, 1845 RW45v22n15p2 Oregon Negotiation

Reprinted from the Nat. Int. of Saturday:

THE OREGON NEGOTIATION.

The following appears in the New York “Morning News” of Wednesday last, which with other New York papers of the same date, reached us since our last publication;

"A report was in general circulation yesterday afternoon that a letter had been received in the city from a member of the Cabinet at Washington, by the afternoon’s mail, to the effect that a settlement of the Oregon boundary question had been concluded in London between the British Government and Mr. McLane on the basis of the 49th degree—the proposition coming from the former. We have not seen the letter in question, but have reason to believe the truth of this report as in the highest degree probable. We know the British Government is anxious for the speedy and amicable settlement of the question. We know too, that it was at a recent day ready to offer the 49th degree, before allowing matters to go to extremities. Nothing can be more likely than that, out of anxiety on their part, coupled with the fact that our Government having recently offered to accept the line of 49 degrees, has grown to a definite treaty between Lord Aberdeen and Mr. McLane."

Had this paragraph originated in almost any other paper, we should have passed it by as being a mere embodiment of the multitude of rumors from Washington which are constantly on the wing in the great commercial emporium. Nor do we now give faith to the rumor said to have gone to New York from this city of the actual "settlement of the Boundary Question" at London. But to the remarks of the "News" upon the rumor, we attach much consequence,
In the absence of proceedings of Congress the sober part of the public mind is deeply agitated by the foreign relations of the country, and the difficulties likely to grow out of the Oregon Question. The Executive, by his Message and through his official organ having been able to work his friends in Congress into something of a passion against the British Government, professes, it is said, an entire willingness to leave the subject to Congress. This would not have been a wiser conclusion if it were not accompanied by the fact that the President was known to hold and encourage the extremes of opinion upon this momentous question. There is, I fear, but little doubt that the majority in Congress will act in harmony with the President’s opinions, whatever they are, in reference to this vexed question. The House of Representatives are certain to do so, and the only hope in the Senate is grounded upon the hope that Mr. Calhoun and his immediate friends may have sufficient political independence to show more attachment to the interests of the country than the success of a party of which he and his friends are members. Upon all the questions that have been decided in Congress there has so much submission to caucus dictation that even this hope does not seem a very reasonable one. Mr. Benton and Mr. Bagby have assumed an independent position upon questions growing out of the choice of officers, but these are trifling matters compared with the grave questions which now agitate the country, and trifling compared with the disposition shown to sustain the Executive the determination to have an Executive organ of his own course.

All questions before Congress and the country sink into utter insignificance compared with that which at this moment threatens war with Great Britain. It seems certain from the letters received here by both the last steamer that Mr. Packenham received no rebuke from his Government in consequence of the attitude assumed by him in declining to accept the proposition submitted by the Secretary of State making the 49th degree of latitude the dividing boundary line between British and American possessions. It is equally certain that we are going on in defense of our extremest claim, and that and that any proposition thus far introduced by any friend of the Administration has aimed at the entire dispossessment of the British Government from the whole Northwest Territory. The most important of these bills is that submitted by the Committee on Territories in the House of Representatives and made the special order of the day for the first Tuesday in January. This bill makes the following important provisions:

1st. That the Boundary of Oregon be extended to the 54th degree 40 minutes of Northern latitude, the Eastern summit of the Rocky Mountains, and the West the Pacific Ocean including the islands adjacent to the coast.

2d. That the President be advised forthwith to give the one year’s notice provided for the Second article of the treaty of the 6th August, 1827, whereby joint possession is now held of the disputed territory; but that this act shall not be enforced in a manner to deprive any of the subjects of Great Britain of any of the rights and privileges secured by the Convention of 1827 until the one year’s notice shall have been given.

3d. That there shall be a complete territorial organization extended at [pace] over the whole of this disputed territory, and that the laws of Iowa shall be in full force as far as they may be applicable. Judicial Districts, Judges and Justices of the Peace, and all necessary ministerial officers, are also provided in the bill, with Superintendents of Indian affairs, Indian Agents and Sub Agents, and whatever civilian officers are necessary for the protection of the Government. A mail route is also established from the St. Joseph’s, Missouri, to the mouth of the Columbia.

4th. Blockhouses, stockades and military posts are authorized to be erected, and two regiments of mounted men to be raised, officered and equipped to serve in the country.

5th. Six hundred and forty acres of land are offered to every white male inhabitant of the territory of Oregon of the age of 18 and upwards, who may have gone there, or who may go within two years from the passage of the act, and who shall cultivate the same for five consecutive. Also to the wife and child of every emigrant and settler 160 acres—

Should this bill become law, and the Government attempt to enforce it, it will be regarded as equivalent to a declaration of war, and all hopes of negotiation end at once. The senate are moving more cautiously, and propose subjects of inquiry where the House propose immediate and positive action.

The whole question, regard it in whatever aspect it may be presented, is fraught with serious consequence to the country, and it will need all the forecaste, good sense, love of justice and of men, to keep the two Governments from engaging in collision, and even with all this it will be a miracle of the wisdom of wise men is not more than
overbalance by the folly of fools.

The President having approved the Joint Resolution admitting Texas as a State into this Union, and dispatched the same by a special messenger, it is probable that two months will see Texas merging her identity as an independent nation into a single State of the Union, with representatives on the floor of Congress. California may follow, and Cuba is proposed, and Mexico with us is deemed a speedy probability. All this looks to one direction of the continent. Oregon is the absorbing question elsewhere, and some are ready at once to lay claim to every inch of country from Cape Breton to the Pacific. May Providence preserve us from the fate of those whose ambitions has proved the graves of nations and of men.

The President, to escape from the multitude of applicants pressing upon him for the vacancy upon the Bench of the Supreme Court, has at length nominated George W. Woodward for that high office. Mr. Woodward’s name was but little known among the candidates.

Friday December 30, 1845 RW45v22n15p2 Clay in New Orleans

Mr. Clay has arrived en route to New Orleans, where he goes on professional business. He expects to be absent during the winter and thinks of paying Cuba a visit! By the way, Cuba is now the winter resort of great numbers of pulmonary and other invalids from the U. States, and multitudes of Americans have fixed their abode there for life as merchants, planters, physicians, &c. It’s “annexation” will by these means, find it in a state measurably prepared for free institutions.
January 1846

RW46v23n1p1, 2 January 1846 Who would suffer most in the event of War?

RW46v23n1p1, 2 January 1846 Oregon

RW46v23n1p1, 2 January 1846 THE PROSPECT OF WAR

RW46v23n1p1, 2 January 1846 Oregon question

RW46v23n1p2, 2 January 1846 Better Prospects for Peace

RW46v23n1p2, 2 January 1846 CONGRESS

RW46v23n2p1, 6 January 1846 REMARKS OF MR. ADAMS

RW46v23n2p1, 6 January 1846 PEACE FEELING IN THE SENATE

RW46v23n2p1, 6 January 1846 BRITISH PREPARATIONS FOR WAR AND DEFENCE

RW46v23n2p1, 6 January 1846 OREGON

RW46v23n3p1, 9 January 1846 OREGN DEBATE IN THE HOUSE

RW46v23n3p1, 9 January 1846 MR. ADAMS POSITION

RW46v23n3p1, 9 January 1846 State of parties

RW46v23n3p1, 9 January 1846 Response to Adams speech

RW46v23n3p1, 9 January 1846 Proceedings of Congress

RW46v23n3p1, 9 January 1846 England and the United States

RW46v23n3p2, 9 January 1846 CONGRESS, Senate

RW46v23n3p2, 9 January 1846 OREGON QUESITON

RW46v23n3p3, 9 January 1846 Letter to the Editors on Oregon

RW46v23n7p1, 23 January 1846 ORGEON QUESTION

RW46v23n7p1, 23 January 1846 War for Oregon
Talk of trade in Texas.

A series of reports from Vera Cruz.

Advertisement to settle in Texas.

Rumors of Mexican states declaring independence.

Info that future letters should not be sent to Corpus Christi because the army has moved.

Possibility the army has gone from Corpus Christi toward the Rio Grande.

News that an internal revolution in Mexico has been put down.

Information from Mexico.

Rumors from Corpus Christi.

Letter concerning Oregon.

Debates over the Oregon issue.

Mexico in the way of expansion.

Building tensions between Britain and the U.S..

News about the Army in Texas.

Points of view on the Oregon issue and the conflicts it is causing with Britain.

The negative action of the government.

More arguments about the Oregon issue.

Mr. Benton's speech about the Oregon issue.

News from Mexico.

A Monarchy in Mexico
The Mexican government.

RW46v46nn22 Mar 17, 1846: Mr. Webster On Oregon
A call for compromise.

RW46v46nn22 Mar 17, 1846: Later From Mexico
News from Vera Cruz.

RW46v46nn22 Mar 17, 1846: The Oregon Question, Mr. Webster's Remarks
Another Perspective on the Oregon issue.

RW46v46nn23 Mar 20, 1846 p1c1: Mr. Calhoun's Speech
The Oregon question.

RW46v46nn23 Mar 20, 1846 Later: From Mexico
More arrivals of ships and information on Mr. Slidell.

RW46v46nn23 Mar 20, 1846 p4c3: More of Calhoun's Speech
Continued opinion on the Oregon question.

RW46v23n24 Mar 24, 1846 p1c2: The Army of Texas
The idea of aggression is out.

RW46v23n24 Mar 24, 1846 p1c3: Collection of military reports
Many different reports.

RW46v23n24 Mar 24, 1846 p2c1: The Message
Probability of war, the President warns.

RW46v23n24 Mar 24, 1846 p2c7: Important Message From the President
Calls for an increase in the Navy and the Army.

RW46v23n24 Mar 24, 1846p3c1: The Army and the Navy
A collection of opinions.

RW46v23n24 Mar 24, 1846 p3c1: House of Representatives Military Bill
Military issues in general.

RW46v23n24 Mar 24, 1846 p4c1: The Administration in its Conduct of Foreign Affairs
Questions the way the U.S. is handling Britain with the Oregon issue.

RW46v23n26 Mar 31, 1846 p1c2: Mexico
Contradiction in accounts.

RW46v23n26 Mar 31, 1846 p1c4: Despatches From Mr. McLane
Concerning the Oregon issue.

RW46v23n26 Mar 31, 1846 p1c4: Correspondence of the American
The projected naval up builds.

RW46v23n26 Mar 31, 1846: The Secret Articles
Proposed forty to fifty million dollars for ship building.

RW46v23n26 Mar 31, 1846 p2c1: Signs of War
Tensions between Britain and the U.S..

RW46v23n26 March 31, 1846 p4c1: Gen. Santa Ana
A small Article concerning Santa Ana.

RW46v23n25 March 27, 1846 P1c3: Important Report
The position of the troops in Texas.

RW46v23n25 March 27, 1846 p1c3: Late From Texas
Troops moving south.
April

RW46v23n27p1c2 Friday April 3, 1846: More Annexation

RW46v23n27p1c3-5 Friday April 3, 1846: Congress. Senate, March 30, Speech of Mr. Webster on the Oregon Question

RW46v23n27p1c5 Friday April 3, 1846: From Yucatan
From the New Orleans Picayune

RW46v23n27p1c2 Friday April 3, 1846: Later From Texas
From the New Orleans Picayune

RW46v23n27p3c1 Friday April 3, 1846: Highly Important
From the National Intelligencer, Oregon Question

RW46v23n27p3c1 Friday April 3, 1846: Benton's reply to Cass
Correspondence of the Baltimore American, Washington, April 1, Oregon Question

RW46v23n27p3c1 Friday April 3, 1846: Pregon Question
Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot, Washington, March 31.

RW46v23n27p3c1 Friday April 3, 1846: Congress. Senate
Correspondence of the Baltimore American, Washington, April 1

RW46v23n27p3c2 Friday April 3, 1846: Later From England
From the Baltimore American, Oregon question

RW46v23n27p3c2 Friday April 3, 1846: U. States and England - Effect of the Refusal to Arbitrate
From the London Times, March 4

RW46v23n27p4c1 Friday April 3, 1846: Affairs in Mexico - Republic of Hayti

RW46v23n27p4c2 Friday April 3, 1846: The Naval Estimate

RW46v23n27p4c4 Friday April 3, 1846: Congress. Monday March 30, Senate; House of Representatives

RW46v24n28p1c4 Tuesday, April 7, 1846: The Notice
From the National Intelligencer, on the Oregon boundary issue

RW46v24n28p2c2 Tuesday, April 7, 1846: Mr. McDuffle's Speech
Oregon question, comment and extended extract

RW46v24n28p2c4 Tuesday, April 7, 1846: Late From Mexico
From the New Orleans Picayune, March 26

RW46v24n28p2c4 Tuesday, April 7, 1846: Later From Galveston
From the New Orleans Picayune, March 27

RW46v24n28p2c6 Tuesday, April 7, 1846: Santa Anna
Correspondence of the New Orleans Picayune, dateline: Havana, February 20, 1846

RW46v24n28p3c1 Tuesday, April 7, 1846: Two Day Later From Europe
Items on the Oregon issue

RW46v24n28p4c1 Tuesday, April 7, 1846: Debate in the Senate, Oregon question

RW46v24n28p4c1-1 Tuesday, April 7, 1846: The Union

RW46v24n28p4c3-6 Tuesday, April 7, 1846: Congress. Wednesday, April 1, Senate. The Oregon Question

RW46v24n28p4c6 Tuesday, April 7, 1846: Congress. Thursday, April 2, Senate. The Oregon Question; Friday, April 3, Senate

RW46v24n28p4c6-7 Tuesday, April 7, 1846: Congress. Senate. The Ashburn Treaty

RW46v25n29p1c1-2 Friday, April 10, 1846: Senator Webster. Editorial
Friday, April 10, 1846: The News From Mexico

Congress. April 6, Senate
Correspondence of the Baltimore American, Oregon debate

Congress. Tuesday, April 6, Senate; House of Representatives
Correspondence of the Baltimore American, Oregon issue

Mexico. Highly Important
From the New Orleans Picayune, April 1

From Another Correspondent
Fro the New Orleans Picayune, dateline: Vera Cruz, Thursday 11 o'clock, March 19.

Friday, April 10, 1846: Value of Oregon

Last Evening's Mail. Congress. Wednesday, April 8, U.S. Senate; House of Representatives
Oregon issue

From Santa Fe

Mexico - Gen. Santa Anna

Proposed Steam Armada for the Gulf of Mexico

Messrs. Webster and Ingersol. Editorial

Opinion in England
Comment and extract from London Times, March 5, 1846, Oregon issue

A Curious Revelation
Senator Benton and Oregon

Mr. Webster's Speech. Second Day.
Correspondence of the U.S. Gazette, Washington, April 7

Congress. April 10, Senate
Correspondence of the Baltimore American, Washington

A Conspiracy Charged
House of Representatives, Oregon boundary

The Foreign News
Oregon in England

Value of Oregon

Mexico - Santa Anna

Foreign News
From the Baltimore Sun, Extra, April 11, from the Liverpool Chronicle, March 4, Oregon question

From the New York Herald, April 11, extract from London Times, March 9

Congress, Saturday, April 11, House of Representatives
Ingersoll's accusation against Daniel Webster

Mr. Webster's Speech. Editorial

Later from Europe
From the New York Gazette, April 9, items from the London Morning Chronicle and the United Service Journal on Oregon issue
Captain James Smoot to command U.S. frigate United States

Triumph of the Peace Party. Congress, April 23, Senate; April 24, House of Representatives, item on the Joint Resolution on Oregon

Civilian company going to California

London paper mistakenly stated Polk had been taken prisoner by British in last war

Correspondence of the Journal of Commerce, dateline Austin, Travis Co. (Texas), April 3

The Policy of the Administration. Editorial

Humor, Parkenham and a New York drunk

May

Ingersoll and Webster

News From Capt. Fremont

Latest from the Army

title cut off

Debt of Texas

Additional Foreign News

From the N.O. Picayune April 21, Later From Brazos Santiago

From the N.O. Picayune, Later From Mexico

From the N.O. Picayune April 21, Later From Texas

The Model Republic

News Expected

Forthcoming work on Mexico

"Democratic" Principals

Our Army on the Rio Grande

Later From Mexico

Saturday Morning May 2, 1846, "Oregon Controversy Settled"

Gen. James Hamilton
Texas not a Paradise
From the Charleston Evening News. Corpus Christi, (Texas) Jan. 25

The Army

Benton and Polk

From the New Orleans Tropic, Extra, April 29. Late from Texas

Later from the Army of Occupation

Still Later. From the Galveston News, Extra

Thirteen days later from Mexico
From the N.O. Picayune, (Extra,) April 29.

The Foreign Intelligence

Congressional Independence

No title

From the Rio Grande
Correspondence of the N. O. Picayune

Last Evening's Mail. The Oregon Question
Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.

Congress
Correspondence of the Baltimore American

From Vera Cruz

The Question Not Settled

Stirring News from the Army

Important from Texas and the Army

To Arms! Texans to Arms!

Correspondence of the N.O. Tropic

To the Editors of the Tropic

The News!

The Surprise and Defeat of Capt. Thornton
From the New Orleans Picayune, May 3.

Camp Opposite Matamoras, April 26,1846

From the New Orleans Tropic, May 4

Latest from the Army

Congress. Washington, May 9, 1846. Senate

Last Evening’s Mail. From Washington

Camp before Matamoras, April 27, 1846
Important From Washington. By the Electo-Magnetic Telegraph

Correspondence of the Baltimore American

News From the Frontier

Later From the Army. Col. Cross Murdered!-His body Found! From the New Orleans Picayune, May 1.

The Blockade of the Rio Grande

From the New Orleans Picayune

More on the Oregon Question

The Army.-Misapprehension Corrected.-Gen. Worth

The Sandwich Islands-Oregon and California

From the Honolulu Friend, Feb. 11. Oregon

Letter From Washington

The Debate

General Scott

No title

England and Mexico

From Pensacola, No title

Debate on the War Message

Monday May 11, 1846. In Senate

The War Bill Passed

Additional.-By the Magnetic Telegraph

By the Magnetic Telegraph

The Debate. The Country and the Administration

Mr. Benton’s Position

Excess of Patriotism

Late from Texas From the New Orleans Tropic, May 7

Military News

From the National Intelligencer, May 13

The War Spirit From the Mobile Advertiser, May 8

To Arms! To Arms!! To Arms!!! To the Gallant Young Men of Alabama
Military

Executive Declaration of War

Congress

Boundary of Texas

Foreign Interference

A Mexican Proclamation

No title

Mexican secrecy

Tyler’s Guns

Volunteers

New Orleans, May 5.

President’s Message---War Measures by Congress

The Volunteers-"The cry is still they come"

Meeting at the Commercial Exchange

No title

The True Spirit

No title

Military Movements

U.S. Troops From Fort Pike

Recruits From Texas

From the Washington Union

From the Baltimore American

From the Senate

Melancholy Tidings

Warlike Demonstrations

The Right Spirit

What Does it Mean?

Later From the Army

From the New Orleans Tropic

From the New Orleans Picayune
Volunteers
From the Mobile Advertiser, May 9

Two Days Later From Mexico

No important news

Latest News

Castle of San Juan de Ulua

General Taylor in His Tent

No title
From Yucatan

Mexican Privateers Against the United States

Santa Anna

The War Movements

From the Baltimore American

Triumph. A Glimpse at the Future

The Texan Boundary

Reducing the Tariff

The True Meaning of the Term 'Army of Occupation'
From the New York Mirror

No title

No title

Warlike Movements

How Presents Crowd Upon Us

Later From the Army
Daily Advertiser-Extra, Mobile, Tuesday May 12

Congress

Later From the Army of Occupation
From the N.O. Tropic, May 11

Extracts

Volunteer Meeting

Last Evening's Mail
Correspondence of the Baltimore American. Washington, May 17, 5 ½ P.M.

The War Proclamation

Volunteers from Richmond
War horse and plate to Capt. Forino in New Orleans

Charleston Mercury responding to Washington Union attack

Rumor, cabinet members to resign, from the New York Globe

Destiny of Mexico

Shadows of Coming Events!

Trouble Ahead for Mexico

Companies on the move, from the Norfolk Herald

New Orleans, May 8. From Galveston

Debate in the Senate

Congress

White lady visits Comanche

A "Democratic" Tariff

The Past and the Present

Difficulties of a Mexican Campaign

From the New York Herald

A Vindication of Texas

New Orleans, May 12, 1846. To the Editors of The Picayune

Warlike Preparations

Further Details From the Army

From the New Orleans Picayune, May 13

Richmond Fayette Artillery

Here We Go

From the Philadelphia American

Congress

Gen'l Scott

The Mexican War-Suspected Interference of European Powers

A Week later From Mexico. Gen. Paredes-His Proclamation

The Mexican Version
No War News—A state of suspense—Volunteers still pouring into New Orleans

Regular Force in Texas

Last Evening's Mail Correspondence of the Baltimore American. Washington, May 20, 5½ P.M.

Congress

Dragoons, Attention

The True Boundary Line

General Taylor

Ridiculous rumor, Mexicans steamers to blockade New York harbor

Deas swam river to meet his Mexican beauty

Col. Cross's widow died

Douglass criticizing John Q. Adams

General Wool to Washington

New York war meeting

Pensacola rumors from the New Orleans Tropic

Later Advices

Further From the Army! From the New Orleans Picayune, May 12.

Attack Upon Gen. Taylor's Camp

Surprise and Surrender of Capt. Thornton's Command

The Richmond Volunteers, Upwards of One Hundred Strong—Their Exercises at the Armory

From the Washington Union

Correspondence of the Baltimore American. Washington, May 18, 5½ P.M.

Correspondence of The Picayune, Point Isabel, May 5, 1846

The Administration and the Country

Congress

Thrilling News

Volunteers
A Wise and Prudent Decision

The Right Spirit abroad in the Land

England's Warlike Preparations for America

Congress

From the Army

Virginia Volunteers

Call upon Virginia!

Correspondence to Editors of St. Louis Republican

Volunteers

Official Dispatch to Gen. Gaines
From the N.O. Bee, May 18.

Affairs on the Frontier

General Vega

Three Days Later From Mexico
From the New Orleans Tropic, May 10.

Organization of Volunteer Corps for the United States Service

A Proclamation, Governor of Virginia

Military Arrangements
From the Washington Union

General Orders

Captain Walker

Last Evening's Mail. Gen. Scott

Dragoons, Attention

Latest From the Army
Montgomery Journal Extra, Tuesday Morning, May 19, 1846 [by Express from Mobile]

Late Intelligence from the Seat of War
From the New Orleans Reformer

The News Confirmed

Correspondence of the Tropic

Ship arrivals

Still Later From the Army
From the New Orleans Tropic -Third Edition, 1 P.M.
June

June 3, 1845: From Texas
-News from Texas

June 3, 1845: From Mexico
-News from Mexico

June 3, 1845: Texas will accept
-Bid to the union

June 3, 1845: A proclamation

June 3, 1845: The Texans
-Texan behavior

June 3, 1845: Later From Texas
-News from Texas

June 13, 1845: Violence of the Texas Presses

June 13, 1845: Mexico and Texas

June 17, 1845: Texas and the Treaty

June 17, 1845: Peace or War

June 17, 1845: From Texas

June 20, 1845:

June 20, 1845 Late From Mexico
-News from a Mexican Steamer

June 27, 1845: Banishment of Santa Anna

June 27, 1845: Important from Texas

June 27, 1845: The annexation of Texas

June 27, 1845: Very late from Mexico

January

January 2, 1846: Who would suffer most in the event of War?
Who would suffer most in the event of War?

The New York Express of Saturday Says:

"The "ALBANY ARGUS" labors to prove that Great Britain will suffer sadly by a war with the United States as indicated by the fall of consuls in London, &c. &c.

There is no doubt that England would be a great sufferer, more so from a war with us than any other nation in the world, because our cruisers would do so much damage to her commerce,—but we would never strike her at home or she would strike us. We would never plant our feet on the soil of Britain. We would never shell into London, or bombard Liverpool or Bristol, or Edinburgh,—while New York, Charleston, Norfolk, Mobile, Buffalo, Detroit, Cleveland and Chicago might suffer terribly from British guns.

But because England will these suffer, the Albany Argus reasons, England cannot be kicked into a war with the United States! Either ignorance of British character, or stupidity dictates such a conclusion as that. When was England ever known to hold back in a fight? When did England ever shrink from war, because of its consequences to property?—The People who plunged into a war with the French Empire, when not half as strong as they are now, count but little on consequences, where pride, passion and honor are concerned. England is the same stuff we are, always ready for a fight to redress a wrong, or to vindicate a right.

Again, it is argued England will not dodge war with the United States, because of the unpacified state of Ireland, because the potato crop has the rot there, and Mr. O'Conner threatens rebellion! The rot in the potato crop only makes it easier to enlist men of the best physique in Ireland for the British army. Ireland has been twice on the borders of a rebellion, when England was in a war with France, but she was kept under and kept in awe, as she is now. Since the days of Cromwell, there has been nothing that threatened to be a successful rebellion in Ireland. The leaders of the opposition in Ireland are spouters, the people have no arms. It is folly too to calculate on the sympathies of the Irish soldiers in the British army. The Irish soldier is only a machine. The admirable drill of the British officers convert them into so many six feet, or five feet men machines. They obey orders. Thinking is out of their line of duty.

The Argus with its usual profligacy attempts to turn a party point on this Oregon question: It strives to convert the Whigs into the enemies of their country, and the friends of England! We verily believe the politicians of the Albany Argus would sell their souls to the devil, as Tom Walker did, to keep in with the party in power. Spoils is all it breathes of, dreams of, feeds on, or thinks of."

COMMENT.

If the event of a war with England was to be determined by the relative extent of the suffering mutually inflicted, we should soon have to come to an ignominious peace.

Where can we strike England? Obviously, but in two places—in Canada and on the Ocean! We could and would overrun and conquer the two Canadas, possibly all of British North American possessions. Should we cripple England or impair her power by the conquest? Not at all. We should relieve her of what now hangs as a dead weight upon her, her North American Colonies. So far from paying any revenue into the British Exchequer, the Colonial Governments draw money from the Exchequer for their support.

There is, we believe, little doubt felt by England herself, that her North American Colonies are rather a burthen than a benefit, and it is known that a strong party in Great Britain would tomorrow be willing to compliment the Canadas. New Brunswick, &c. with independence—a boon which those Provinces are too wise to accept. Pride alone restrains England from taking the step. We should cut off her commerce with the St. Lawrence, and that would be the extent of the injury we could inflict in that quarter. The loss would be temporary and scarcely felt in England. England gained in the end commercially, by American independence, for she enjoyed the same advantages of trade without being encumbered with colonial expense and responsibility—and she would gain by cutting loose from the Canadas. She would retain the commerce, and rid herself of the expense of her military and civil establishments in those countries.

Again, we could strike at England on the Ocean—as in the war of 1812, capture a frigate in single combat, and by Privateers, cut up her commerce in every sea. But this game she would play too, and to the full as successfully as we. Her fleets would ride triumphant and irresistible in every sea. Her commerce is better protected than ours, by a superior navy, which is a match for all the naval forces in the world united. She has more men, ships and ports, and even at Privateering could overmatch us. We can indeed strike England on the Ocean, but not without having the blow fearfully repaid, and our Commerce destroyed. Like Van Tromp, her ships would sail with a broom at the mast-head, in token of having swept our trade from every sea!

Let us briefly glance at the other side of the picture. Where could England strike us? Or, rather, where could she not strike us? Our seaports and great cities are defenceless: She could and would bombard them, and exact millions to save them from destruction. The products of our looms and forges would remain in the warehouses, and England would resume the monopoly of supplying the countries where we have slowly rivalled or driven her from the field of competition. Our cotton, wheat, tobacco, rice, would rot in the barns, or be stowed away for an indefinite period. Oregon, the cause of war, would fall into her hands without the firing of a gun, for we have no force there, nor are
They are greatly deceived, in our opinion, who think England in a bad position to enter a war with us: On the contrary, she is in a most advantageous position. Her armies and navies could be recruited at libitum from a pauper population, eager to procure a subsistence which they cannot find at home. The supplanting of the Americans from all corners of the world, would impart a stimulus in trade and manufactures: Nor is there solidity in the idea, that we could starve England by withholding our cotton. She would not be more anxious to buy, than we to sell; and she would soon procure from neutral ports, the Cotton we now send to Liverpool: while we should be but too happy thus circuitously to dispose of that Staple.

In short, we have all to lose and nothing to gain by War.

[TC]

RW46, January 2, 1846 v23n1p1 Oregon


When Mr. Webster, some weeks since, in his speech at [Fanebil] Hall, alluded to the difficulty to extending the laws of the Union over this territory, and expressed the opinion that it would be far better to leave the settlers to their own course, believing that an independent nation would soon spring up on the shores of the Pacific; we signified our hearty concurrence, calling, at the same time, attention to the fact, that we had advanced the very same views a week before, and that we had, at the time, believed them original with us. A friend assures us that neither we nor Mr. Webster are entitled to priority in this discovery. In the House of Representatives, during the last session, a debate having sprung up incidentally upon this question, Mr. E. Joy Morris, of Pennsylvania, a gentleman of a high order of intellect, enlarged and rendered liberal by assiduous cultivation, suggested that under any circumstances coming within the scope of his imagination, they thought the best disposition that could possibly be made of the territory, after it has been proven unquestionably ours, was to make a present of it to the actual settlers. These sentiments, according so exactly with all that the Whig Party has ever contended for, are justified by the actual relative condition of the two countries, Oregon and the United States, separated by two thousand miles of howling wilderness, or unexplored prairie—by the Spirit of the age, avers to all measures which may lead blindfolded to bloodshed—by justice and common sense. It is remarkable that a view, so striking, should not have attracted more attention at the time than it did; and we can only account for it by supposing that it was buried in the agitation consequent upon the Texas debate.

Mr. Morris is no longer a Member of Congress, having been defeated by the Native American candidate, Mr. Levin. It is singular, that John P. Kennedy, of Baltimore, and E. Joy Morris, of Philadelphia, both of them warm friends of the only measure embraced in the creed of Native Americanism, the latter having actually offered a resolution upon the subject of altering the Naturalization laws, should have been both defeated by the Native American Party! These facts should make the body of that party reflect seriously before they act again. That they are honest, we have no doubt; that their object is such as should be granted, we have just as little. But when we see them deliberately throwing overboard the very pilots who have stood by them in the midst of the storms, we cannot help suspecting that they have become the prey of the Demagogues in some shape or another. What do they want? A change in the Naturalization laws. What else? Nothing they say. Here are two men who represent them now, exactly of their way of thinking—men of talents both—men of energy and decision—ready to go the entire length of their creed—Why reject them? The conclusion is irresistibly forced upon the mind, that the party is held together, under false pretenses, by designing men for their own purposes. We call upon all Whigs who have allied themselves to it, for the sake of the name, to reflect upon these things; and further upon the undoubted fact, that while their organization renders, invariably, service to Locofocism, it never fails to advance the only party really opposed to any change in the Naturalization laws.

[TC]

RW January 2, 1846 v23n1p1 THE PROSPECT OF WAR

THE PROSPECT OF WAR.

The Baltimore Patriot strongly inclines to the opinion that there will be no war, and that the controversy will be ultimately adjusted on the parallel of 49 degrees. This settlement it thinks, and we have no question correctly, would prove satisfactory generally. We have no doubt it would be so to the Atlantic States and to men of moderation every where.

The Patriot says:

"THE OREGON QUESTION.—The papers to the East of us have had, for several days, reports that the negotiation about Oregon had been resumed, and some letter writers went so far as to say that the question had been settled—
the line of the 49th parallel having been fixed as the boundary, and some mutual equivalent and concessions having been made. We have reason to believe that these reports were premature, if they were not altogether unfounded, and that it is only since the arrival of Mr. Calhoun in Washington, that an adjustment of the question has seemed probable.

Our correspondent, in his letter published today, alludes to the fact that Mr. Calhoun has had a long interview with Mr. Packenham; and we learn from other sources that the result of the interview is a conviction, in which Mr. Polk shares, that there is no reason to apprehend that a war will grow out of the Oregon question—but that it will be settled amicably, and with proper regard to the rights, whatever they may be, of both nations.

We may say also, that public opinion here, and we believe every where, is decidedly in favor of the course pursued by the American negotiators in the matter, and that if the offer made by Mr. Polk, for the settlement on the basis of making the 49th parallel the boundary, be renewed or accepted by him, there will be no complaint, and no cause for it.

The aspect of things in Washington is, in every view, pacific; and, though we never shared in the apprehension that war was likely to come, we believe that it is now much more unlikely to ensue than two weeks ago.

But whilst we do not believe we are to have a war, we hold it not less the duty of the General Government to prepare for it, let it come when it may. The recent excitement has had this good effect, if no other in directing the attention of Congress to the exposed situation of the seaboard of the whole country, and especially to the defenceless position of all the considerable cities on the Atlantic. If war were now waged, there is nothing to prevent the occupation by the enemy of all our cities, or to ward off the destruction which a bombardment would bring upon them.

The wise admonition—in peace prepare for war—through so often repeated as to become trite, and never [gain said] though it be so old—has been lost upon the General Government, which,—though repeatedly involved in disputes with foreign powers, which threatened to disturb the peace between them,—has been content to leave these disputes settle without a rupture, leaving the country as the dispute found it, destitute on any adequate means to encounter the hostilities that were threatened, or it may come upon it hereafter;—and which experience teaches are often prevented by the very means taken to meet them.

The escape from a war now—if happily we shall entirely escape—we trust will cause Congress to have the whole country put in a situation to be successfully defended.—That speaking of our own city—which is the case of all the Atlantic cities,—the lives and property of our citizens will not be left, as they are now, open to any Naval force that may be brought against them, but that, be the erection of proper forts, and defences, we may be at least able to keep of or hold at bay, whatever enemy may be sent, hereafter, “to wake the city.”

We are gratified to know that the nearly defenseless situation of Baltimore has attracted the attention of the proper Committee of Congress, and our citizens will be glad to learn, that the visit made to this city on Saturday last the Military Committee of the House of Representatives, and the excursion to Soller's Point, to which we alluded on Saturday, will result in an earnest recommendation from that Committee in favor of the erection of proper forts. Of the success of the recommendation we will not permit ourselves to doubt, as such a doubt would be to question the disposition of the members of the Senate and House, to defend the city in case war should ever come.

In regard to the excursion to “Soller's Point,” we may say this much, that apart from the personal knowledge it gave to those whose official position required of them to thus seek information, the excursion was most a delightful one to all who took part in it, and from the good things said, to say nothing of the good things which were on the table, was time well spent and wisely enjoyed.”

We should be glad that our friends of the Patriot would afford some small hint where the money is to come to fortify the whole country! Does it think the amount of the British National Debt would accomplish it?

[Omitted text]

RW46, January 2, 1846 v23n1p1 Oregon question

Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29, 1845.

I know not precisely upon what authority, but nevertheless the opinion is gaining ground rapidly, that the Administration will, after all, consent to settle the Oregon question with England upon the basis of the 49th parallel; with some little hacking, by way of throwing dust in the people's eyes, about Vancouver's Island.

With this impression, it is stated that Hannegan’s resolutions were introduced in the Senate today, declaring that any surrender South of the parallel of 54° 40 would be an abandonment of the rights and honor of the United States. These resolutions are to be the test question, as I am informed upon sensible Locofoco authority, and if they are voted down or laid on the table or in any other way receive the go by, then a new party starts for the Presidency.
with the Governor Lewis Cass for its candidate, and Mr. Polk goes to the wall! Hannegan, as you know, is a friend of Mr. Cass!

Mr. Polk today sent into the Senate a large batch of appointments, which it required some thirty minutes to be read through, I learn that Marcus Morton, Collector of Boston, the Locofoco Abolitionist was among them. Unquestionably he will be rejected, if all of half of what his Locofoco brethren say of him to be true.

I am informed that at last it has been decided that Mr. Hagner, the Third Auditor, Mr. Pleasanton, the Fifth, and Mr. Edwards, Commissioner of Pensions, must walk the plank. It is confidently predicated that a grand display of dismissals is soon to take place!

Better Prospects for Peace

Better Prospects for Peace!

We congratulate the country on the improved prospect for the preservation of peace. It seems to be acknowledged generally, that the ground taken by Mr. Calhoun Tuesday, is decisive, and that Messrs. McDuffie, Haywood, Lewis, and probably others acting with him, the claim to all Oregon will not be insisted upon, the absurdity set up by Mr. Hennegan, that no foot of vacant territory can be alienated even for the adjustment of boundaries, scouted s it deserves to be, and the foundations laid for an honorable compromise on the 49th parallel of latitude, which in reality gives us nearly all the country worth having.

Mr. Calhoun's resolutions, which we heartily approve, and a succinct but satisfactory sketch of the debate may be seen in another column. He very adroitly represents Hannegan's movement as an attack on the Administration, but the latter retaliated severely in his reference to the “hot haste” of the “peculiar” friends of Texas!

CONGRESS

Tuesday Dec. 30, 1845.
In Senate

In the Senate at an early hour, the resolutions of Mr. Hannegan, declaring that a surrender of any portion of Oregon would be an abandonment of the honor and best interests of the United States, were taken up for consideration.

Mr. HANNEGAN moved that they be printed, and made the special order of the day for some day next week, but, at Mr. Archer’s suggestion, changed his motion so as to have made the order of the day for the third Monday in January.

Mr. CALHOUN rose to offer an amendment in the shape of a series of counter resolutions—declaring the power to make treaties to be voted in the President with the approbation of two thirds of the Senate—that the Administration did right in offering to settle the Oregon Question with England upon the basis of the 49th parallel—and that it would be no abandonment of the honor and best interest of the nation to settle that question upon that line of parallel. He supported his amendment, and stood by the course of the President on this subject vigorously. To pass the resolutions offered by the gentleman from Indiana, he said, would be to declare that the Oregon Question could not be settled by negotiation, to bring on war, and settle the question at the cannon’s mouth—to lose us, for the present, at least, the whole of Oregon—and to pronounce an implied censure for having offered the 49th parallel to Great Britain. Although he could not support the resolutions, but must oppose them, yet he was glad they were offered. They were direct, manly, and met the point boldly.

He pictured the horrors of war which might ensue from a false step in this delicate business, and said that, if war should come in this matter, he would stand by his country as firmly as any man, while he would hold those responsible for its devastating consequences, who, by rashness or imprudence, should bring it upon us.

The following was submitted by Mr. Calhoun.

Resolved, That the President of the United States has the power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two-thirds of the Senate concur.

Resolved, That the power of making treaties embraces that of fixed and settled boundaries between the territories and possessions of the United States and those of other powers, in case of conflicting claims between them in reference to the same.
Resolved, That however clear their claims, in their opinion, to the country included between the parallels of 40 deg. and 54 deg. 40 min. North latitude, and extending from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean, known as the territory of Oregon, there now exist, and have always existed, conflicting claims to the possession of the same between us and Great Britain—the adjustment of which has been the subject of negotiation between the respective Governments.

Resolved, That the President of the U.S. has rightfully the power under the Constitution, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, provided two-thirds of the same concur, to adjust by treaty the claims of the two Governments to the said territory, by fixing a boundary for their present possessions.

Resolved, That the President of the U.S., in renewing the offer in the spirit of peace and compromise to establish the 49th degree of North latitude as a line between the two countries to the said territory, did not abandon the honor, character, or the best interests of the American people, or exceed the powers vested in him by the Constitution to make treaties.

Mr. HANNEGAN followed. He did not intend any censure upon the administration for having offered the 49th parallel. The contemptuous rejection of that offer had changed the whole aspect of the case, and it would now be an abandonment of our honor and best interests to settle the question upon that basis, and thus surrender a large portion of soil clearly ours. While we would not censure the President, he was not so bound down to power, but that he could stand up and oppose any measure of the President which he felt was not right. He claimed to be an independent man, as well as the President, and had as good a right to express his sentiments as the President had to communicate his. If war were to come—and he hoped it would not, if it could be avoided with honor—he desired that it might never be settled except at the cannon's mouth, and upon our own terms. He could not help referring to the different treatment meted to this of Oregon and that of Texas by the peculiar friends of the latter. Both questions were born and cradled in the Baltimore Convention, and the democracy of the whole country solemnly agreed to stand by both alike. But the friends of Texas were in hot haste to get that question settled and into the Union, while they were strangling Oregon in the cradle! There were conflicting claims on the subject of the western boundary of Texas, as much so as in regard to the northern boundary of our part of Oregon.

But when those who presumed to know something about the history of the country (Col. Benton was probable to allude to) told the Senate that we ought to stop on the banks of the Nueces and ascertain whether we were right before we should go further, their counsels were unheeded, and there was no pacifying gentlemen until the war horse of the United States was prancing on the banks of the Rio del Norte. Nothing would do short of an armed occupation of the country between these two rivers. In that matter we had only weak Mexico to offend; but now that we have England for an opponent, gentlemen are anxious to prevent hostilities.

Mr. CALHOUN rejoined and explained his course both on the Texas and the Oregon question. He reiterated the sentiments that he had before advanced.

M. HAYWOOD rose as a pacificator—thought the discussion was premature, and rather out of place—and moved to lay the whole subject on the table.

Mr. J.M. CLAYTON followed in support of the motion. He thought the Senate ought not to commit itself in advance of the subject.

Mr. ARCHER supported the motion—thanked Mr. Calhoun for the high and honorable position he had assumed—and congratulated the country that new glad tidings would be wafted on the wings of peace to the four quarters of the globe.

Mr. ALLEN spoke on the subject, in his usual style—He supported Mr. Hannegan’s resolutions, and deprecated war-panics, got up to frighten the feeble-minded persons from maintaining the just rights of the nation! The commercial interest were ready to parade the cost of war in grim array before the people, when a question like this came up—as if dollars and cents were to be weighed against the honor of the country.

Mr. CALHOUN, again addressed the Senate, in justification of the course he had marked out for himself on the question. He was followed by

Mr. HAYWOOD, who advocated the medium ground, first reviewing and opposing the position of the Senator from Indiana, and then reviewing and not agreeing with the position of the Senator from South Carolina. They were both wrong, and it would be wrong for the Senate to adopt the resolutions of either, until the jurisdiction of the Oregon question should pass into its hands from those of the Executive. He thought after all, there would be lees to fear from war with Great Britain than from a war of politicians on that floor! He begged Senators to give the Administration two moons for a fair trial, and not attempt in a single month after the assembling of Congress, to break it down by getting up an octagon party in that Chamber. After he had concluded—

MR HANNEGAN once more took the floor in support of the position he has assumed, and in reply to the gentleman from N. Carolina. He maintained that the President had yielded up the jurisdiction question, and announced in his message, to the whole world, that the negotiation had terminated, and was at an end. He asked the gentleman from N. Carolina how, if the negotiation had not terminated, he would defend the President saying it had, in his message? He concluded by declaring himself against any unjust, dishonest and cowardly surrender of our territory, by a
settlement of the question upon the 49th parallel.

He then modified his motion, so as to have both sets of resolutions laid on the table, with the understanding that they be taken up with the report of the Committee on Foreign Relations, on the same subject, when the latter shall be presented to the Senate for its adoption.

Mr. BENTON said emphatically the he would vote for the motion without the qualification.—So the whole subject was laid on the table, and soon after the Senate adjourned.

—TCS—

RW46, January 6, 1846 v23n2p1 REMARKS OF MR. ADAMS

REMARKS OF MR. ADAMS

Mr. J.Q. ADAMS rose to address the House. He said that he ought perhaps to commence with an apology to the House for addressing it at all on this question. The state of his health was such to render it impossible for him to appear at all on the many important questions [ . . . ] with this subject, and whatever observations he might feel it his duty to make upon it, must necessarily be brief. His physical power would not enable him to go at any length into the question.

The question now immediately before the House he understood to be, whether the bill making provision for raising two regiments of riflemen should be made a special order for the first Tuesday in January.

The SPEAKER said that this constituted one part of the question, but was not debatable. The other part of the question was on referring this bill to a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and that question was open to debate.

Mr. ADAMS said that he asked, then, that the question might be divided, and might first be put on the reference, because he presumed the there was no diversity of opinion on that point; if there was, it would change the whole state of the debate.

Mr. HOUSTON, of Alabama, said, in explanation, that it was not the reference of the bill he said he had objected to, but its being made a special order.

The SPEAKER further declared that the first branch of the question, viz. the reference of the bill could be decided by a majority, but that to make it a special order would require a vote of two thirds.

Mr. ADAMS said that, if the House should refuse the references he should have nothing further to say.

The SPEAKER said that the first question would be on the reference of the bill, and that question was debatable.

Mr. ADAMS then asked if he was at liberty to debate the question whether this bill should be made the special order Tuesday next.

The SPEAKER replied that he could not, but that the question of reference might be debated.

Well then, (said Mr. ADAMS,) I will, at risk of being arrested for irrelevancy, (which seems of late a favorite mode of preventing discussion,) speak in reality and in substance to the question of making the bill a special order—while in form, my remarks will be on the question of reference.

This measure now proposed to be referred is one, which, for a variety of reasons, is as important as any question which has hitherto come, or will hereafter come, before this House for discussion. It is difficult to speak on one of the bills relating to this subject without a reference to all others. For example: this is a bill to raise two regiments of riflemen. Now, I find there has been reported in another part of this building a bill providing for one regiment of mounted riflemen. The question then presents itself to me—how are these two bills to go together? If but one regiment only of mounted riflemen is necessary to be maintained, then it does not follow that two regiments of unmounted riflemen are needed: the bill depends in a measure upon the other. I refer to this merely as an illustration [the rest of the paragraph is illegible].

I do not see any testimonials of the probability of a war at this time; but, if any danger is apprehended by any gentlemen here, it appears to me that the very first measures to be taken—that should precede all military measures of any kind—is to give notice to Great Britain that we mean to terminate the existing treaty of joint occupancy of Oregon. That is the first measure to be taken. How can gentlemen apprehend war otherwise? Does Great Britain tell us that she shall take offence at the continuance of the treaty of Joint Occupancy? She does not, though I have heard of some question being made in England, whether they shall not give us notice of the termination of the treaty of joint occupancy. Yet it is not a joint occupation, and I have been surprised at the language held by some gentlemen on the subject. The treaty acknowledges no occupation of the territory by either
party; it is a commercial convention for free navigation, but does not admit by either party the occupation of one
inch of territory by the other. It is no occupation. But, whatever it is, neither party can permanently occupy the
country without notice to the other to terminate the convention of commerce and trade, which would not be
permitted without such convention. It is not a treaty of joint occupation; it is a treaty for the exercise of navigation
rights, commercial rights, and trading rights with the Indians. It precludes the occupation of the country by either
party. Exclusive occupation cannot be assumed by either party without notice. Of all these measures for occupancy
and for assuming jurisdiction over citizens to of the U. S., who may have gone to Oregon, and there in actual
possession, notice id the first thing. Twelve months after that notice shall have been given, the right will accrue to
the U. States to occupy any part of the territory they may think proper.

In a bill which passed at the last session I myself moved, as a first section to the bill, that such notice should be
given. The House did not think proper to agree to it. And passed the bill without any notice.

Mr. C. J. INGERSOLL. No; It was put into the bill at the last moment.

Mr. ADAMS. But the bill did not pass the Senate, and so the insertion was immaterial. But it is a material fact to me,
because I proposed it as constituting the first section of the bill. I declared myself ready then; and I am ready now,
to give such notice. (Great sensation.) I hope it will be given, and that we shall do it as the first measure to be taken
—to be followed afterwards by a real occupation of the whole territory. (Great sensation in the House and an
incipient clap, which however, was promptly arrested by the Speaker, who called loudly to order.) But it is
indispensable that we shall give notice.

The gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Douglas) says that it appears to him there is a game playing here—a remark which
is quite incomprehensible to me. I shall not inquire what the gentleman alluded. But I confess I was very much
surprised to hear that the Committee on Foreign Affairs will not report to the House such notice.

Mr. C. J. INGERSOLL. I know of no member of that committee who has said so.

Mr. ADAMS resumed. I have heard it from various quarters; and if the report is delayed much linger I shall believe it.
(A laugh.) If it is so, I shall deplore it; I shall deeply regret if a majority of that committee shall not be ready to give
notice. All the other measures must depend on that. While we are taking about regiments of riflemen and regiments
of infantry, and stockade forts and sappers miners, and pontoniers, Great Britain is assembling steam vessels,
equipping her frigates and line-of-battle ships, and sending troops over here to be ready. I would press a resolution
giving notice this day if I hoped that a majority of the House could be obtained to effect the measure.

Mr. WENTWORTH here moved that the rules be suspended to afford the opportunity for such a motion; but the
motion was pronounced out of order.

Mr. ADAMS resumed. I fell myself scarcely authorized to hope that I should be successful should I make the motion.
But for this I would have moved it on the first day of the session. Because I have so profound a sense of duty of
adhering to treaties, I feel debarrd from the least act of hostility, or even from meeting hostility manifested
elsewhere, till notice shall have been given. While our convention remains, I will vote no increase of the army or
navy, no fort or stockade, no riflemen, no infantry, no sappers, no miners. All must depend on that. If this bill shall
be made the special order for Tuesday, I hope it will be arranged by the gentlemen who manage the business of this
House, that the question of giving notice shall come up on the same day, and shall be taken up before anything else.
It is mere wasting of time, and whistling in the wind, to talk about raising a military force until our conscience is
clear from the obligation of the convention.

And it does not follow that if we give notice, there must of necessity be war; nor does it even follow the we shall
then take possession. It will only be saying to Great Britain: After negotiating twenty years about this matter we do
not chose to negotiate any longer; we shall take possession of what is our own; and then, if to settle the question
what is our own, you wish to negotiate, we will negotiate as long as you please. We may negotiate after we take
possession. (Much laughter.) That is the military way of doing business. (Increased merriment.) When the great
Frederick came to the throne of Prussia, his father had prepared and equipped for him and army of an hundred
thousand men. Meeting, shortly after, the Austrian Minister, the latter said to him: “Your father has given you a
great army; but our troops have seen the woolf: yours have not,” “Well, well,” said Frederick. “I will give them an
opportunity to see the woolf.” Frederick then added in his memoir: “I had some excellent old pretensions to an
Austrian province which some of my ancestors had owned one or two hundred years before, and I sent an
ambassador to the Court if Vienna stating my claim, and presenting a full exposition of my right to the province. The
same day my ambassador was received in Vienna I entered Silesia with my army.” (A laugh.) So you see that, on
the very day his army entered Silesia, he gave notice to the Court of Vienna that the convention of joint occupation
of Silesia was ended. (Loud and prolonged laughter.)

I say, therefore, that I hope the first measure adopted by Congress will be to give the most solemn manner, the
notice to Britain that the treaty requires; then the coast will be clear for us to do as we please. It does not, I repeat,
does not follow as a necessary consequence that, because we gave this notice, we must take possession, though it is
my hope that we shall. It is not necessarily draw after it a war; and if Great Britain chooses to take such notice as an
act of hostility on our part, and forthwith commence hostilities on hers, we have told been told that we may all be of
one party, and God Almighty grant that we may be so! If it shall be so, the war will have less of those extraordinary
terrors which my friend fro South Carolina (Mr. Holmes) has now discovered, notwithstanding the extreme military
propensities which manifested on this floor last year.
The gentleman was a most valiant man when Texas was in question. But I shall draw no comparisons as to what we witnessed then and what we see now; but this I will say, that I hope, if war shall come—which [. . . ] forbid, and of which I [entertain] no fears at all—the whole country will have [. . . ] one heart, and one united hand. And of this I am very sure, that in that case Great Britain will no longer occupy Oregon, or any thing [. . . ] north of the Canada line. (Great sensation, and incipient indications of applause.) But if you will serve to give notice, strong as is my horror of war, and of all military establishments, if there should then be the breath of life in me, I hope I [rest of sentence is illegible]. But, till notice is given, I am not prepared to vote any preliminary measures of a military kind. I suppose, however, that we may, without giving notice, extend our laws and our protection to our brethren who have settled at least in that part of Oregon which is not claimed by Great Britain; but there can be no need of increasing our army and our navy in order to do that. I hope that such an act will not be effective to Great Britain, and that she will not think of going to war about it.

But if we are going to take actual occupation of the country, then some additional force will be needed to our army, and in that case, however, unwilling I have ever been to increase our military establishment, I think I should get over my difficulties, especially if a disposition should be manifested by Great Britain to take offence at the measure I have just mentioned. All our military preparation must depend on notice to Great Britain; we must not have our hands and feet bound; the obligations of joint occupancy must be dissolved, and we left free to her according as the interests of our country require.

I believe it will not be necessary for me to refer to any other part of this subject. There have been, as I understand, two applications made to the House by fellow citizens of ours settled beyond the Rocky Mountains, for the protection of the Government. The Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (Mr. C.J. Ingersoll) presented, as I think, one memorial, while another from a different, [sic] quarter is also before the Territorial Committee—possibly it is a copy of the same.

Mr. C. J. INGERSOLL. No; they are different memorials, from different persons.

Mr. ADAMS. I think it is time this House should consider what are our duties to our countrymen there. I confess that I know them very imperfectly. I have of course seen the reports of Lieutenants Wilkes and Fremont; they contain valuable information; but that sort of information which we now want it was not the object of those expeditions to obtain. I am in favor of protecting these persons as far as we can.

I believe I have said all that is at present necessary. I have said perhaps more than I should, and certainly more than I intended; I am not able to go further. The most important point I wished to state is, that to give notice should be our first measure. Then let us protect our emigrating citizens, and our own frontier, by stockade forts and such an increase of our military establishment as may be necessary; but I am against all other measures unless that is done first.

Mr. FARAN of Ohio, moved to suspend the rules for the purpose of offering a resolution which he held in his hand, but the House, without hearing it read, immediately adjourned.

[TCS]

RW46, January 6, 1846 v23n2p1 PEACE FEELING IN THE SENATE

PEACE FEELING IN THE SENATE

The correspondent of the Courier & Enquirer expresses the opinion the "the Benton and Wright Senators" will cooperate in resisting all violent and aggressive measures respecting Oregon—that the year’s notice will not be given, unless provoked by England—and in short that Polk, his Organ, and the Illinois Democracy will be baffled in their bellicose purpose.

[TCS]

RW46, January 6, 1846 v23n2p1 BRITISH PREPARATIONS FOR WAR AND DEFENCE

BRITISH PREPARATIONS FOR WAR AND DEFENCE.

The correspondent of the National Intelligencer, is clearly right to the opinion that the immense defense preparations of England, are not made from any apprehensions of an American war, since an invasion form this country would be as little feared by her as dreamt by us. They have reference of course to a possible rupture with France, at the death of Louis Phillippe, and the facility with which the Island may be invaded from the introduction of steam. Had it been discovered and in use at the time as now, neither Hoche in 1798 would have baffled in landing in Ireland, nor Bonaparte in England in 1804. they had but to have waited for a storm to blow the British fleet off the coast, to put to sea in steamers and land before the fleet could have re-assembled. It is no longer possible by sail vessel to hinder French invasion, and hence these gigantic preparations for coast defense.
The immense preparations that are making in England, both for attack and defence, on land and water, have attracted the attention of the civilized world, but especially France and the United States. That these active movements and warlike arrangements on the part of Great Britain were not produced by the position of the public affairs of that country and this, must be evident to the most superficial observer. She had no cause to apprehend an invasion by the Americans, and consequently, there was no necessity to guard against such an event. Her coast, defences, therefore, must be intended to meet contingencies that may or may not hereafter arise.

But when we review the vast steam navy that she has created and is creating—the expensive arrangements that she has entered into for the transportation of her mails, by steamers built purposely to be converted, if necessary, into vessels of war, and then take into consideration the large deposits of coal which she has caused to be made on our coasts and in our vicinity, it is impossible to resist the impression that these movements have a beating upon the unfriendly position which the two Governments occupy in relation to each other. True, these movements on the part of Great Britain are only precautionary, and of themselves are no cause of national offence. But it will be perceived that it places her in a position, in case if war, to strike a blow most disastrous to our commerce, and for a period destructive to our revenue rising from imposts and tonnage."

We propose to devote a few moments this morning to another consideration of the vexed question, pregnant with the fate of empires. We would fain hope, that the lust of dominion has not so warped the judgment of our people, that they will turn a deaf ear to the voice of calmness and reason, which admonishes us that war is the greatest calamity which can befall our land, and that Peace alone can fulfill the bright destiny assigned us. We will not emulate the sickening patriotism so forward to sound the charge, but so backward in the hour of battle—nor those political incendiaries, who, like Danton and Robespierre, rouse the worst passions of the breast that they may rise upon the ruin of all that is great and virtuous. We dare to say that our country is in a false position on the Oregon question. And that the interests of our great republic should not be sacrificed to the dictates of a rump convention and the political schemes of a heartless faction. There are occasions enough, Heaven knows, when war is unavoidable. Such were our wars with England. There was Independence to gain and honor to preserve. But let us assure those timid Statesmen, who are too sensitive as to their course in the last contest with Great Britain, that this is a far different issue. If calamity befalls us now, it will spring from an unholy lust for Dominion—if war come, it will be at our own beckoning, and the distress and devastation of our country will be the proofs of our own folly and madness.

How stands the case! We find ourselves on the brink of a disastrous war, to be commenced in folly, and whose end no tongue can tell. With a country the most fertile under the sun, teeming with everything nature can give, or art invent, with hundreds of millions of unoccupied territory, we are to join in deadly conflict for the doubtful sovereignty of a hundred and eighty miles of inhospitable sea coast. For this, our towns must be burnt, our commerce swept from the ocean, our Union endangered, and our country thrown back fifty years in the great march of civilization and improvement. All this must be done at the bidding, and to satisfy the behests of our party. Which under the suspicious guise of Democracy, would soon reduce us to that wild and reckless mob, which acknowledges only the argument of the cannon, and the logic of the sword. Are we so drunk with prosperity, that in the humor of the Donnybrook Fair, we must [ . . . ] trail our coast upon the ground, and solicit a fight? Are we so lacking in manly independence, that we must stand by the vaporings of a President so newly in his seat, that he [ . . . ] not yet assumed the dignity appertaining to his office? Are we so regardless of those who preceeded, and those who are to come after us, as by us unneccessary and unrighteous war, to cripple the energies, and to paralyze the resources of a country which, but for ourselves, would be the brightest portion of the earth? With what spirit can we go into battle when the fearful conviction presses itself upon us, that we ourselves have closed the door of hope, and extinguished the last chance of reconciliation? And what is the state of our defences? Was there ever such excess of folly as to invite war when the whole of our seaboard lies unprotected, and our small navy is scattered in every ocean? Is this culpable negligence, or are we to hope the "Polk" now building will be as great in war, as its namesake in speech, and settle and establish our "clear and unquestionable right" with a few swivels? Or are we to hope, that General Cass. With his homilies on the Right of Search, will scatter our enemies as by the Riot Act? Or shall we trust to the potent arm of the "Union," (that of Washington,) and as John Randolph said, "enter the war against ships of the line; with a sixpenny pamphlet.?”

But for the magnitude of interests involved, we might laugh at the bungling diplomacy of an administration which supports its side by hostile and antagonistic claims—which seeks to establish our right to Oregon by discovery, and the next breath gives all the credit thereof to another country, and shows its desire for a compromise and peace, and its deference to predecessors by offering worse terms than had been refused. How fit a conclusion to all this folly is the withdrawal of the proposition and the assertion of a claim to the whole territory in dispute. But we turn from this Bobadil with disgust. We appeal to the people themselves and their representatives in Congress assembled. We ask the latter to pause before they carry out the measures which must inevitably bring woe to their country. Let them not suffer themselves to the hurried away by a mock enthusiasm, or a dread of the people. We can tell them that the nation does not wish war, nor will it fall in time to inflict the heaviest vengeance upon the
heads of its authors. Let them forget themselves and look singly to the welfare of their country. Let them speak in a
voice not to be misunderstood, and all may yet be well. There is no need to close the negotiation. Examine the
earlier parts of the correspondence, and it will be seen that but for the unhappy intervention of Mr. Polk and his
Secretary of State, there was every prospect of an amicable adjustment. Mr. Calhoun, in his principal letter, the
most masterly production of his mind, proves our best right to the region drained by the Columbia, postpones to a
subsequent period the assertion of our right to the country north of the 49th parallel. To this claim of the valley of
the Columbia, the British minister returns but a feeble reply, and confines his principal argument to the subject of
Great Britain’s claim to Vancouver Island. Had negotiation been conducted in the spirit in which it was commenced,
we have no doubt that a compromise could thus have been effected, viz: that the United States should extend their
line to the 49th degree of north latitude, and then taking the middle channel of the straits of Fuca, leave
Vancouver’s Island as and equivalent for the territory surrendered by England above the mouth of the Columbia river.

This would give t each all that it desired, good harbors and naval stations. England has never cared for Oregon
except for the Fur Trade, and, as the animals which yield the fur gradually disappear before the increasing
population, she will value her possessions there less and less. If this proposition be not acceptable let our
Representative urge the arbitration of this question. Let us not lose the consolation that we have used every
honourable means to avert the calamity of war. It has been urged that we should not have justice form any monarch
of Europe in case of arbitration. But are monarchs the only umpires? Are Wisdom and Justice only to be found
beneath a crown? Have not the two countries sufficient confidence in the integrity of their own citizens to entrust it
to a commission appointed equally by such government? Or if this be objected to, let it be referred to some crowned
head, with the distinct understanding that any departure from the forty-ninth degree by the umpire shall be
surrendered by the party receiving the award, and thus generously terminate a dispute, which should never for a
moment have disturbed the friendly relations of two great nations.

Above all, let us have calmness and moderation. With these, we may have peace and Oregon. Without them we shall
have war, disaster and defeat. Blessed will be his position who aids the peaceful conclusion of this subject—whilst
upon him, through whose agency a different result is effected, will fall deservedly, the curses of a blighted country.

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### RW46, January 9, 1846 v23n3p1 OREGON DEBATE IN THE HOUSE

THE OREGON DEBATE IN THE HOUSE

Saturday, the Debate commenced Friday upon the proposition of the Military Committee through Mr. Haralson, to
raise two Regiments of Riflemen, was continued by Messers. C.J. Ingersoll, Haralson, Darragh, King of N. York,
Winthrop of Mass., Owen of Indiana, and Barker of Illinois—Mr. Cabell, of Florida, got the floor Monday.

There was little in this debate but what we uniformly find in all American Debates, much clamorous profession and
loud vaunting—much Demagogism, much pretended courage, and much real fear of the People.

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### RW46, January 9, 1846 v23n3p1 MR. ADAMS POSITION

MR. ADAMS POSITION.

The position assumed by this venerable and most eminent, most conscientious and illustrious citizen, to whom is
familiar the learning of the ancient and modern world, of all mankind indeed, of all ages, countries and races, is a
most melancholy commentary upon human nature, its certain decay under the load of years, (notwithstanding the
strictest temperance, and daily ablutions in the Potomac!) its weakness and imperfections. We individually, grieve to
see this man, who is worthy in knowledge to have been called by Solomon into consultation, and to have given him
sage advice, subject himself to the suspicion of friends, and to the more significant condemnation of Loco Foco
plaudits! There must be a screw loose somewhere, or, fast and attached friends could not be universally amazed and
disgusted, and the most implacable enemies, rejoiced and delighted! We remember the fate of Gil Blas with the
Archbishop, and shall say nothing upon a subject of extremest delicacy at all time and with all men; yet we should
be glad if great men would be great here too, as well as in other matters.

Than Mr. Adams’ approbation of the war measures of the Executive, nothing is felt by the general community, to be
more unworthy of his grey hairs, and christian professions; than his course of argument in support of that view,
nothing is regarded as more contradictory, sophistical and weak!

His cardinal policy is to give the year’s notice to England! Why! Aye WHY! What public necessity demands, or what
good is to come from it? He says to preserve (an admirable object) the faith of treaties! But does the treaty of 1818
or 1827, require us to give the notice now? When we are resolved to take all Oregon, the notice may be right: But is
the nation so resolved? Are the American People prepared to say that all Oregon belongs of right to us? In no other
conceivable state of things can the notice be expedient or necessary.
Mr. Adams claims all Oregon, and looks to war as the consequence of the claim. He knows that England will never relinquish her rights, whether they be real or pretended, and that war must infallibly ensue from our giving her notice, and at its expiration, proceeding to take possession: What does he propose to do, while the year’s notice is running? To prepare for war? To equip soldiers, build navies, and construct fortifications? No! We must do none of these things! He quotes with approbation, the conduct of the great Frederick, in taking possession of Silesia under exactly different councils from those he recommends—but he will have us, in respect of treaties, not build a ship, or arm a man, until the 365 days have elapsed, when undoubtedly a war, British war, the most formidable war in the world, will be poured upon us, on Atlantic and Gulf, Lakes and Pacific! He would throw away the whole year of notice—the only time for preparation we have—and let England, in ulatumque paptus, catch us then, as we should now, completely defenseless and unprepared!

For ourselves, we cannot understand this sort of logic, national faith, or common sense. The notice, if it effects any thing, will bring war, and the it has to run, is the only time left us for PREPARATION.

RW46, January 9, 1846 v23n3p1 State of parties

State of parties in the Senate

Upon the state of [ . . . ] in the Senate, everything depends—whether a wanton and ruinous war shall be waged—to the entire prostration of the Southern and planting states—to the disgrace of Christendom, and the outrage of humanity—or whether Peace shall be preserved and continued. Mr. Calhoun has deserved nobly of his country, and has acquired golden opinions: We wish him "God Speed" in efforts which we did not expect from him—efforts which in their philanthropic tendency ought to make those who profess so much christian spirit, blush for the homicide spirit which actuates them with one foot in the grace.

We hope and believe that Mr. Calhoun will be sustained by all the Atlantic States: As for war we fear it as little as another: But war for so slight and absurd a cause! War with ENGLAND, the head of civilization, of christianity and Protestantism! Bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh! The devastation of countries, the expenditure of unknown millions, the slaughter of tens of thousands, the destruction of prosperity—and for what? Let the people ask for themselves FOR WHAT? Why not make a President, or to facilitate the plunder of the Treasury! As for Oregon, we must infallibly obtain it by Peace, and as infallibly lose it by War!

RW46, January 9, 1846 v23n3p1 Response to Adam's speech

A letter in the Courier and Enquirer says:


DEAR SIR:—Mr. Adam's speech today will no doubt produce much speculation and alarm, but I have what I deem good reason to believe that Southern Senators are unanimous for an adjustment of the Oregon question by the 49th degree, if a treaty be made, and that Mr. Calhoun will be sustained in resisting the notice so you may be confidant that we are to have no war.

We have a rumor that Col. Benton, who has heretofore refused to indicate his course, has declared in favor of the notice and for the "whole of Oregon," and some suppose that he will take the Senators from Arkansas, Missouri, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio and Maine as well as Michigan; but without knowing what the other Senators will do, I have the best reason to feel assured that Mr. Cameron of Pennsylvania and Mr. Turney of Tennessee will go with Mr. Calhoun.

It is proper, however, that the press should speak out and sustain those who are for peace."

RW46, January 9, 1846 v23n3p1 Proceedings of Congress

Proceedings of Congress on Tuesday.

The Oregon debate in the House of Representatives, more that any other and all other questions combined, attracts the public attention, and we therefore make an effort to present the proceedings of Tuesday, including the resolutions of Mr. McConnell of Alabama.

These resolutions are we presume, a burlesque upon the arrogance of American pretensions: But, we are free to
confess that we think them rather serious joking! Inflated by prosperity—puffed up by vain glory—we believe that with the immense body of the ignorant who all have votes, and who pretty much rule the roast—such ideas exist in reality, as Mr. McConnell has advanced possibly in jest.

RW46, January 9, 1846 v23n3p1 England and the United States

England and the United States!

These two countries, it is well said by the North American, are almost the only homes of the PROTESTANT RELIGION! The Religion has indeed a foothold upon the continent of Europe, but uncertain and subsidiary: In the event of a crusade against Protestantism, England and the United States are the only countries which can be relied upon to unfurl the banner of Protestantism and to repel the shackles of Popery and Superstition!

Here then, in the strongest and noblest motive for perpetuating the bonds of brotherhood between the two nations, in addition to the thousand considerations of kindred, similarity of Institutions, and ties of interest and humanity, all pleading eloquently for Peace.

RW46, January 9, 1846 v23n3p2 CONGRESS, Senate

CONGRESS.
Correspondence of the Balt. American.
WASHINGTON Jan'y. 6, 1846

UNITED STATES SENATE

Mr. ALLEN, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported a Resolution directing the Secretary of the Senate to cause to be prepared for the use of the Senate 10,000 copies of the map of Oregon, compiled by the officers of the Exploring Expedition, provided the cost of the same does not exceed $10 per hundred. Laid over.

Mr. CAMERON, from the Committee on Public Buildings, reported a joint resolution to authorize the Washington Monument Committee to erect a statue to Washington on any part of the public ground not otherwise occupied that may be designated by the President of the United States. Laid over.

Mr. BREESE offered a resolution calling upon the Secretary of War for information relative to the land mines on the public lands in the State of Illinois. Adopted.

Mr. SEVIER, from the Committee of Foreign Affairs, reported a bill authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to pay the States of Texas the amount ascertained to be due her by the United States, arising out of the disarming of her troops while she was an independent state by the troops of the United States under the command of Major Shively. Laid over.

Mr. SPEIGHT offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Commerce to inquire into the expediency of making an appropriation for the erection of light houses on St. Joseph’s Island and other points on the Mississippi. Adopted.

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of the joint resolution offered yesterday by Mr. Niles, regulating and reducing the price of public printing.

Mr. J. M. CLAYTON moved to recommit the resolution to the Committee on Printing, with a view to amend it so as to provide the compensation allowed by it shall apply to the printing [...] [...] [...] [...] as well as that which may be executed hereafter. The motion prevailed.

A Message was received from the President of the United States transmitting copies of Correspondence between the Attorney General and the legal authorities of Florida, relative to the power and duties of the Territorial Judges under the act of admitting said State into the Union.

The Senate then went into executive session.

RW46, January 9, 1846 v23n3p2 OREGON QUESTION
OREGON QUESTION.

Mr. YANCEY of Ala. moved that the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole. The motion prevailed, and the debate was resumed upon the question of the notice and the whole Oregon question was debated upon its merits.

Mr. YANCEY expressed himself in opposition to war at this time, and therefore in opposition to giving the notice at this time, because he regarded it as a war measure.—He advocated the American claim to the whole territory, and believed that it was secured to us by the delay.

Mr. CALEB B. SMITH of In. made a very able and eloquent speech against giving notice at this time, and in favor of committing the power of the President to give the notice. The responsibility belonged to him, and he would not take it form him. The country, however, ought to be defended at once, and placed in a condition to meet any emergency that might happen, but we were now in no condition for war.

Mr. Smith's speech commanded great attention form the fact that he was a Western man and one of the Committee on Foreign Relations. It was patriotic, statesmanlike, and inits views such as will commend it to the common sense of the nation.

Mr. COBB next obtained the floor, and on his motion the Committee rose and the House adjourned.

RW46, January 9, 1846 v23n3p3 Letter to the Editors on Oregon

To the Editors of the Whig:

Gentlemen:—Deprecating, as I do, a war between the United States and Great Britain as the most direful calamity that could befall these two great, and most powerful nations on the globe, even if sufficient cause existed, but which is ten times more horrible when it shall result form mere wantonness or madness of political tradesman, my heart beat with unbounded pleasure on taking up, for the first time, last night, your paper of the 2nd inst., and my eye rested on a brief editorial beginning as follows:

"Better prospects of Peace."

"We congratulate the country on the improved prospect for the preservation of peace. It seems to be acknowledged generally that the ground taken by Mr. Calhoun on Tuesday is decisive," and so forth.

Well, I naturally hurried over the paper, in search of the column referred to in the after part, to ascertain what was the ground taken Mr. Calhoun, that was to settle this much vexed Oregon question, and give harmony to the civilized world; and presently I found it, but before looking to the resolutions he had offered, I ran my eye over the debate they had occasioned; first, because of my impatience to form a just estimate of the importance that had been attached by the Senate to the proposition he might have submitted, and secondly, because I could not well understand how a mere proposition form Mr. Calhoun, who certainly heads no very considerable or formidable party in the country, and who I believe is held responsible for no set of opinions or principles he may advance beyond the duration of a single moon, was to work out so desirable, but at the same time, so extraordinary an effect.

But I could not find any one member of that body, save Mr. Archer, had put such a construction on their import as your remarks had led me to anticipate. Yet when I read his views as reported in the proceedings of the Senate. I could not help ejaculating, "Now, indeed, a great man has arisen in Israel; and whatever may be his former errors, and however ignis fatuus like, his previous career, I for one will hereafter hail him as a Patriot," and a deliverer of his country: Mr. Calhoun has thrown off at last all party shackles, has risen superior to the consideration of whether it will "[ . . . ]enure to his own benefit," and struck for his own country. Content with plundering Mexico, he will not attempt to rob Great Britain: content with seizing that, which fell an easy prey, he will no venture to involve the world in arms, to secure a barren, worthless and inhospitable tract of country that must prove disastrous to our institutions, "if we obtain it and settle."

How could I sat less, Messers. Editors, on reading your remarks as quoted above, and the following from Mr. Archer?

"Mr. Archer supported the motion—thanked Mr. Calhoun for the high and honorable position he had assumed, and congratulated the country that new glad tidings would be wafted on the wings of peace to the four quarters of the globe."

But judge, Mr. Pleasants, of my mortification and disappointment, when on turning to the Resolutions themselves, I found the first four to consist mainly of a few common place undisputed truisms, as to the functions and extent of the powers of the Executive and Senate in forming treaties, and the last to bolster up his own "consistency" whilst acting in the character of negotiator. They ran thus:

1st. Resolved, That the President of the United States has the power, by and with the advice and consent of the
Senate, to make treaties, provided two thirds of the Senate concur.

Well think I, that don’t settle any boundary question, secure peace, or improve “the prospects of peace.” I read again—

2d. Resolved, That the power of making treaties embraces that of fixing and settling boundaries between the territories and possessions of the United States, and those of other powers, in cases of conflicting claims between them in reference to the same.

Well think I, that don’t settle any boundary question, secure peace, or improve “the prospects of peace.” I read on—

3d. Resolved, That however clear their claims, in their opinion, to the country included between the parallels of 40 degrees and 54 degrees 40m, North latitude, and extending from the Rocky Mountains to the pacific Ocean, known as the territory of Oregon, there now exist, and have always existed, conflicting claims to the possession of the same between us and Great Britain—the adjustment of which has been the subject of negotiations between the respective governments.

Well think I, that don’t settle any boundary question, secure peace, or improve “the prospects of peace.” It needed no ghost to tell us that, for every school boy knows it. But nothing daunted, I read on—

4th. Resolved, That the President if the United States has rightfully the power, under the Constitution, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, provided two-thirds of the same concur, to adjust by treaty he claims of the two governments to the said territory, by fixing a boundary to their present possessions.

Well think I, that don’t settle any boundary question, secure peace, or improve “the prospects of peace.” But now for the last, though not the last; for like all lovers of good wine, he has saved the best bottle to wind up with: So on I went, full of hope and confidence, to the 5th and last resolution, which by a dash of goose quill, was to settle all difficulties, and give ease to the aching minds of patriots, and peace to the agitated bosoms of millions—and here I could not pause for a moment, and reflect on those beautiful and impressive words of Richelieu, when speaking of his pen—

“Behold the arch enchanter’s wand; itself a nothing,
“But taking sorcery from the master hand—to paralyze the Cezars,
“And strike the loud earth breathless.”

And so it was to be, with the magic pen of the mighty peacemaker: and on I went to the

5th. Resolved, That the President of the U.S. in renewing the offer in the spirit of peace and compromise to establish the 49th deg. of North latitude, as a line between the two countries to the said territory, did not abandon the honor, character, or best interests of the American people, or exceed the powers vested in him by the Constitution to make treaties.”

Well, thinks I, is that all? How does it settle any boundary question, secure peace, or improve “the prospects of peace.”

I laid the paper down, lit my pipe, and went to thinking, and wondered how my friends Archer and Pleasants should have fallen into so egregious an error, as to construe these resolutions into a settlement of peace maker, unless it was one of the Stockton sort, dispensing mischief, confusion, and destruction to all that followed in its wake.

I at length laid down my pipe, took a long breath, and in spite of my self, said What! John Cataline Calhoun (as the Globe and Enquirer called him) the great disturber of the public peace, whose mischief making propensities have brought this government to the verge of dissolution, kept our own family in continual agitation, discord and turmoil for fifteen years, become a settler of difficulties? Whew!

Now I may be mistaken, and it may be, that if all this does not satisfy Great Britain, she is rather too hard to please, to justify any further effort on our part.

To be told by Mr. Calhoun, that Mr. Polk, did not exceeded his powers, and did not abandon the integrity of his country, by submitting at one time, a proposition to divide the territory by the 49th deg., may appear plain enough to some, as carrying with it sufficient atonement to appease to aroused anger and indignation of the British government, occasioned by the impudent and bullyling tone of our Executive and his mouthpiece, who being suddenly, unexpectedly, and undeservedly transferred to positions that nature did not design them to occupy, have seemed to know nothing of the dignity, courtesy, and decency, that should regulate intercourse between nations; but as a plain and simple minded man, I must confess, that I do not see how the matter is mended in the slightest degree.

Mr. Calhoun does not propose to abandon the preposterous claim now set up by Mr. Polk to the whole of Oregon or none; he does not even advise that the offer of the 49th degree should be renewed; but contents himself with declaring the Mr. Polk, in renewing the proposition which he (Mr. Calhoun) himself had made in the early part of the negotiation, and which had been rejected, had not exceeded his powers, nor abandoned the dignity, character, and bests interests of the American people; for if he had, then so had Mr. Calhoun, and if Mr. Polk had been justified in
making this offer, then so had he; so that while he strikes one blow for Mr. Polk, he strikes two for himself but not one for his country; and in this like the rest of the Presidential aspirants in Congress, (of which there are not perhaps less than 200, large and small) he proposes to convert the whole country into one great political chessboard, and make that move which he thinks most likely to win the game that will "ensure to his own benefit."

I say he does not propose to renew the proposition to settle the boundary by the 49th degree, and even if he did, how would that secure peace, or improve the prospects of peace? When has Great Britain agreed to accept such a line of division? Have we not over and again offered it? and has she not rejected it? And why is it to be supposed, that she would be more disposed to accept it now under the bravado and threats of our hectoring and warlike Hickory Sapling (which is a more appropriate title for him than "Young hickory") than before, when she could have gotten it without hard words, and contemptuous treatment.

But if the proposition could now be renewed, so far from its being accepted, I question if a greater indignity could be offered to that people—No! The acceptance of [her] proposition for honourable arbitration, is the only alternative left us, for a peaceable adjustment; and it ought never to have been subjected, unless there was a better prospect of settling it by negotiation, than there appears to have been at the time.

But imagine the proposition to be renewed to divide by the 49th degree, and it would approximate a domestic scene, that we who have spoiled children, are all familiar with.

We attempt to divide an apple between two urchins, John and Jack; John's half is a little the larger, and Jack pouts and says: I won't have that. Why? Because it ain't as big as John's. You had better take this, for if you don't you shan't have any. Well, I won't have any then. He begins to cry, and makes a devil of a racket, which becoming insufferable, he is told—come now, be a good boy, wipe your eyes, and kiss father, and you shall have the piece of apple. Jack wipes his eyes, kisses Pa, takes the apple and chuckles over his good fortune, wisely thinking that half a loaf is better than no bread.

But whether the British nation, and her Statesmen Sir Robert Peel and the Duke of Wellington, are such babies as to thus easily appeased by taking what they had before refused, because you have threatened to withhold all, is a question that remains to be settled.

As that instrument which strikes every note in the [ . . . ] though he never plays but two tunes, to wit: the "President's March" and the 'loaves and fishes,' sometimes says, "Nous Verrons."

No, no, Mr. Whig! Let us look this question sternly in the face: let us not deceive ourselves or the people; let us not lull them into a fatal fancied security; you may rely upon it our young sapling has involved us in difficulties not easily to be overreached and not very likely to be counteracted.

Let us act as becomes men; let us hope for the best, but prepare for the worst.

Henrico, January 4th, 1846.

[TCS]

RW46, January 23, 1846 v23n7p1 ORGEON QUESTION

THE ORGEON QUESTION

To the Editors of the Whig:

I believe it is now a well established maxim, that man has no interest in man, and that all the laws and constitutions of man's invention cannot convert a human being into property. The days of vassalage are or ought to be over. Wild lands belong to the settlers, and not to the different Governments under which these settlers once lived. To throw off allegiance by expatriation, is also a well established maxim. The people, then, of Oregon belong to themselves, and if numerically weak are just as independent as if numerically strong. They, then, should be consulted as to whether they will set up for themselves, be annexed to the U.S. Government, or prefer allegiance to the British Crown. How absurd, then, for the U. States and Great Britain to be negotiating for the free men, pioneers of a wild country, appropriated by original settlement to themselves!

Suppose the U.S. and Great Britain should determine upon parallel of latitude as a geographical line of division – Can they by this species of legislation control the free will of the citizens of Oregon? The idea is preposterous to my mind. No matter how civilized or enlightened man may be, he will act upon the principle that might gives right. Submit then, the controversy to the people of Oregon, and let them decide as to the course most advantageous for them to pursue, regardless of the wishes or pretensions of other nations, who have no legitimate authority either to divide their territory, or coerce them into an obedience of Government and Laws not of their own making, and probably very ungenial to their wishes. Upon what principle of common sense is it to be inferred that persons residing North of a certain degree of latitude are friendly to British Laws, and those South of it to Republican institutions? Legislations with power to coerce may partially control the actions of men, but cannot subvert the will, or change the operations of the mind.
WAR FOR OREGON

It as been suggested in distinguished quarters that the Territory of Oregon is worthless. It has also been said on both sides of the Atlantic that the territory cannot long be governed either by Westminster or Washington; but that it will require a separate government of its own. If either of these assertions be true, a war, in this age of civilization, to determine the title of Oregon, will be “monstrous” and “impious” beyond any wager of battle in history. The following verses from an ancient newspaper will fitly illustrate the folly of both nations that engage in it. – Boston Daily Adv.

CLUMPY and CLOD, two surly clowns,
As reeling home one night
From alehouse, where their sappy crown
They’d soak’d in sad’ning plight,
While all the azure tinted sky
Spread out its clear expanse.
And all the glittering train on high
Seem’d o’er their heads to dance –
Quoth Clump to Clod. “I tell thee what!
“I only wish that I
“As much good pasture land had got
“As I can see blue sky.”
“And I,” quoth Clod to Clump, “should like
“Thy wish to beat by far,
“And have, to prove a wealthier tyke,
“An ox for every star.”
“Ah but,” says Clump, “to veed them all
“What pasture could be vound?”
“Enough,” says Clod, “vor great and small:
“I’d veed them on thy ground.”
“What! And without my leave?” says Clump.
“Ay, that I would,” says Cloddy.
Quoth Clump, “then thee my hide shall thump,
“Or I will bump thy body.”
So to’it they went, both Clump and Clod,
As ast as fist could tag,
Till both lay sprawling on the sod,
And scarce a fist could wag.
“Now, where’s your oxen, Clod,” says Clump?
“And where,” says Clod, “your ground?”
Both sigh’d, and, carcasse raised on rump,
In vain for both look’d round:
Then, shaking hands, they cursed all jars,
And all deceiving eyes,
That looked for oxen in the stars,
And pasture from the skies.

EXPENSE OF WAR

The occurrence of war will so nearly annihilate the revenue from customs, that it will be a large allowance to admit that even the odd money (four and a half millions) of the present revenue from that source will be annually available to the Treasury from customs after war begins. The amount was more than what was collected in the second year of the War of 1812; before war steamers were even thought of, and almost before steam navigation of any sort was successfully practiced.

War will therefore produce a deficiency of twenty millions of dollars in the revenue required to defray the ordinary expenses of the Government: and, after the first year of war, five millions of dollars will be required (an amount
which will increase with each year) in addition, making an annual amount of twenty millions of dollars, which must be raised, at the very beginning of the war, by DIRECT AND INTERNAL TAXATION. We do not press this consideration as any argument against a necessary war; but we do put it to our readers whether they are willing to pay to U. States’ excisemen, taxes upon all that they eat, or drink, or wear, upon the houses that they live in, and the shops they work in; and upon every little thing almost in God’s Creation, for the gratification of those honest gentlemen, in Congress or out of it, who are of opinion that it is our duty TO SEEK A WAR! – Nat. Int.

MR. CRITTENDEN’S RESOLUTION
A resolution concerning the Oregon Territory

Whereas, by the convention concluded on the 20th day of October, 1818, between the United States of America and the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, for the period of ten years, and afterwards indefinitely extended and continued in force by another convention of the same parties, concluded the 6th day of August, 1827, it was agreed that any country that may be claimed by either party on the northwest coast of America, westward of the Stony or Rocky Mountains, now commonly called the Oregon Territory, should together with its harbors, bays and creeks, and the navigation of all rivers within the same, be ‘free open’ to the vessels, citizens and subjects of the two powers, but without prejudice to any claim which either party might abrogate and annual said convention, on giving due notice of twelve months to the other contracting party:

And whereas it has become desirable that the respective claims of the United States and Great Britain should be definitely settled, and that said territory may, no longer than need be, remain subject to the evil consequences of the parties might have to any part of said country; and with this further provision in the 2c article of the said convention of the 6th August, 1827, hat either divided allegiance of its American and British population, and of the confusion and conflict of national jurisdictions, dangerous to the cherished peace and good understanding of the two countries:

With a view, therefore, that steps be taken for the [ab]abrogation of said convention of the 6th August, 1827, in one mode described in its second article, and that the attention of the Governments of both countries may be the more earnestly and immediately directed to renewed efforts for he settlement of all their differences and dispute in respect to said territory:

Be it Resolved, by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorized, at his discretion, to give to the British Government the notice required by its 2d article for the abrogation of said convention of the 6th of August, 1827. Provided, however, That in order to afford ample time and opportunity for the amicable settlement and adjustment of all their differences and disputes in respect to said territo[f]ry, said notice ought not to be given till after the close of the present session of Congress.

This was made the order of the day for the 10th of February, the day appointed for the consideration of the resolution proposing to give immediate notice to Great Britain.

Mr. Allen’s Contingent War Delcaration.

Speaking of Mr. Allen’s notice of an intention to force up his Resolution of warning to the Powers of Europe, the National Intelligencer says: We can think of nothing more unpropitious to the peace of the country at the present moment than the entertaining and discussing of such propositions, and we are quite sure that considerate men every where have felt grateful to the Senate for putting the subject, as it seemed, to rest.

With these views in regard to the extreme and mischievous proposition, it is with great regret that we have learnt the Mr. Allen gave notice yesterday, of his intention to move the Senate on Friday next, to take up his motion for leave to introduce the resolutions. We are sure that the whole country would be startled at any successful attempt to engage the Senate in public debate of such a measure. The mere disturbing of it is much to be deprecated – especially at this juncture, teeming with agitating and momentous events; and much more would any thing like a grave discussion of it be deplored.
You see by Mr. Allen’s notice in the Senate to day that he intends to run another tilt at the interference of European with American powers, next Friday. The eagle eyes of John C. Calhoun, you may depend, are upon him! – The country is believed to be safe, as it regards that matter!

It is understood that despatches have gone off requiring the Home Squadron to repair forthwith to the vicinity of Vera Cruz and the Army in Texas, and to be there, to proceed to the most available point near the bank of the Rio del Norte to meet the Meixcan forces, should they be sent into Texas.

It is further stated, that the President and the Secretary of War refuse to put the army in Texas under the control and direction of Major General Scott! It must be recollected that the Secretary of war fought some himself during the last war – and that if the President did not volunteer and was not drafted to go to the defence of New Orleans, like many of his comrades, he was no fault of his, because he left his residence in Columbia and went away to Murfreesborough to complete his studies!

But what course will the President now recommend Congress to take on the subject of our affairs with Mexico? – Remember that in his Message, at the opening of the session, after announcing the appointment of Mr. Slidell as Minister, he uses the following significant language:

"The minister appointed has set out on his mission, and is probably by this time near the Mexican capital. He has been instructed to being the negotiation with which he is charged to a conclusion at the earliest practical period; which , it is expected, will be in time to enable me to communicate the result to Congress during the present session. Until the result is known, I forbear to recommend to Congress such ulterior measures of redress for the wrongs and injuries we have long borne, as it would have been proper to make had no such negotiation been instituted."

And now that it is understood his instituted negotiation has been rejected with insult, it mremains to be seen what “ulterior measures of redress” the President will recommend to Congress! Nous Verrons.

POTOMAC.

FROM MEXICO

An arrival at New Orleans from Tampico, brings news to the 5th January.

There seems to be no doubt of the success of Paredes in his revolt. The call of Herrera, upon the “Defenders of the Country,” had met no response, and it was believed that the reins of power had fallen from his hands. Paredes was expected to enter the City of Mexico on the 29th December.

Vera Cruz and Jalapa have pronounced. Gen. Almonte is said to be under arrest. It is said; there are 2,000 troops in the garrison at Tampico, ready for action against the Government.[TCS]

THE PEACE PARTY.

Some of the Administration presses, a short time since the rampant for the “whole of Oregon or [n]one,” have of late considerably modified their tone, and one of them in an article of some length undertakes to prove that the Democracy are essentially the “party of peace.” If this be so, then has the blustering in Congress been to little purpose. It only proves the truth of the oft-repeated remark, that those who make the most noise are always the least inclined to blows.

The windy speeches have reminded us of scenes of every-day life – something that may have often been noticed in an assemblage of pot. valiant heroes in a bar-room. A man of wrath is seen boiling over with super-abundant caloric, "pitching and snorting" for an adversary, and swearing he can "lick all creation." In this alarming state of affairs, he calls out for an opponent - some two or three good-natured and peaceful friends, averse to blood and thunder, undertake to hold him – and four other men of peace take hold of his adversary – and then, good lack, how the froth flies!
"Each hero burns to conquer or to die,  
What mighty hearts in little bosoms lie!"

But the moment the by­standers cry "hands off!" the gallant champion, who threw down the gauntlet, becomes as "cool as a cucumber," and declares, "pon honor," he has not the least bad feeling towards any living mortal. And this is the drama being enacted on the great national theatre at Washington.

OREGON – MR. WINTHROP.

We had hoped, ere this, to have been able to present our readers the truly able and statesmanlike speech of Mr. Winthrop of Massachusetts, on the Oregon Question, as well as that of Mr. Hunter of Virginia, the latter taking what may be considered the Calhoun view of the question. But other matters have intervened, to delay our purpose. We find, however, an extract at hand, appropriately and happily introduced by our friend of the Lexington Gazette, to which we call the attention of the reader. We insert this more cheerfully, because it has been intimated to us that on some former occasion, an article appeared in our columns, doing injustice to Mr. Winthrop.

From the Lexington Gazette.

Many of the speeches delivered in the lower House can only make their hearers blush for their country. The vaporing, the hectoring, the rabid abuse of England, the excessive glorification of every thing American, the furious appeals to the passion of the populace! How unlike the calm repose of a mind conscious of right, which aims only at what is just, and seeks just ends by just means. How like the bully endeavoring to intimidate his adversary by menaces, yet trembling in his inmost soul lest his opponent should answer his words with blows. If speeches of this description represent the spirit of this nation [as they do not] we ought to change our national emblem at once, and instead of the Eagle hovering over our ensigns, and fanning with its hue pinions the fires of battle, choose a turkey cock, spreading and spluttering at the sight of a red rag, but running as fast as legs and wings will carry him, at the first rigorous rush of a resolute enemy.

No. This is not the character of the American people. There are statesmen and others, (we regret they are so few) whose arguments and eloquence are worthy the great subject they discuss, and the great nation has called them to its councils. Prominent among these, in the House of Representatives, is Mr. Winthrop of Massachusetts, a man who has reflected new [luster] upon his own honorable name as well as upon the legislators of his country. While we do not doubt for a moment the American title to Oregon, we believe the following extracts from Mr. Winthrop's speech will commend themselves to every true patriot for the enlightened amor patris which they evince – to every friend of humanity for the pacific spirit which they breathe – and to every lover of genuine eloquence for the chaste and impressive language in which such noble sentiments are arrayed.

"I am perfectly aware, Mr. Speaker, that I express the views which I entertain when I say, I shall not escape reproach and imputation from some quarters of the house. I know that there are those by whom the slightest syllable of dissent from the extreme views which the administration would seem recently to have adopted, will be eagerly seized upon as evidence of a want of what they call patriotism and American spirit. I spur all such imputations in advance. I spur the notion that patriotism can only be manifested by plunging the nation into war, or that the love of one's country can only be measured by one's hatred of another country. Sir, the American spirit that is wanted at the present moment, wanted for our highest honor, - wanted for our dearest interests, - that which dares to confront the mad impulses of a superficial popular sentiment, and appeal to the sober second thoughts of moral and intelligent men. Every schoolboy can declaim about honor and war, the British lion and the American eagle, and it is a vice of our nature that the calmest of us have heartstrings which may vibrate for a moment even to such vulgar touches. But (thanks to the institutions of education and religion that our fathers founded) the great mass of the American people have also an intelligence and a moral sense which will sooner or later respond to appeals of a higher and nobler sort, if we will only have the firmness to make them. It was a remark of an old English courtier, a century and a half ago to one who threatened to take the sense of the people on some important question, that he would take the nonsense of the people and beat him twenty to one. And it might have been something better than a good joke in relation to the people of England at the time it was uttered. But I am not ready to regard it as applicable to our own intelligent and educated American people at the present day. An appeal to the nonsense of the American people may succeed for an hour; but the stern sense of the country will soon reassert itself, and will carry the day in the end.

"I honor the Administration, Mr. Speaker, for whatever spirit of conciliation, compromise, and peace it has hitherto manifested on this subject, and have no hesitation in saying so. If I have anything to reproach them with, or taunt them for, it is for what appears to me as an unreasonable and precipitate abandonment of that spirit. And if any body desires on this account, to any other account, to brand me as a member of the peace party, I bare my bosom, I hold up both my hands to receive that brand. I am willing to take its first and deepest impression, while the iron is sharpest and hottest; if there be any thing of shame in such a brand, I certainly glory in my shame. As Cicero said, in contemplation of any [axiom] which might attach to him for dealing in too severe [for] summary a manner with Cataline, " Eo animo semper fui, ut invidiam virtute partam, gloriam, non invidiam, patuarem!"
OREGON: Its Limits – And the Respective Claims set up to It by the Contestants

We have been heretofore prevented, by a pressure of other matter, from spreading before our readers the Correspondence between the British Minister and our own Secretaries of State, on their respective claims to the disputed portion of Oregon. To remedy this omission, and to supply the reader whose time is limited with an abstract of the whole subject, we avail ourselves of the following excellent article, from the New York Mirror:

"THE OREGON QUESTION.

The Oregon question is so completely the paramount object of attention, and peace or war are so immediately dependent upon its settlement, that we have thought it would not be unadvisable to place before our readers the prominent facts upon which the claim of either nation is based. These facts may all be found in the diplomatic correspondence of the two nations, or in the historical voyages now published; but, few men have the time, or care to spend it in searching for them, and of those few but a small number so examine as to form or retain clear notions as to the dates and circumstances attending the several explorations. In any event, this kind of article will be useful in those after dinner and bar room political discussions, which we are brought to what Mr. Puff calls “a dead lock,” by assertion on one side, and flat denial on the other.

The Oregon or disputed territory, comprises that portion of the North-west coast of America between the 42d and 54 50 parallels of latitude. North of it lie the Russian and south the Mexican possessions.

In 1543 the Spaniards visited the Northwest coast, certainly as high as the 40th, and possibly as high as the 43rd latitude.
In 1579 Sir Francis Drake was, without doubt, on the coast as high as the 42d parallel, and it is claimed by the historian of his voyage that his progress extended as far north as the 48th. From the narrative itself, however, it seems clear that the precise degree was not known, and that the one named was merely a conjecture. Drake, with the consent and by request of his inhabitants, however, took formal possession in the name of his sovereign, of that portion of the country on or near the 38th degree.

In 1592 Jean de Fuec, a navigator in the service of Spain, sailed as high as the 48th or 49th parallel, and discovered the straight which now bears his name. This discovery was considered apocryphal for nearly two centuries. In 1602 a Spanish expedition, consisting of several vessels, was fitted out at Acapulco for the purpose of surveying the Northwest coast. Of this expedition, the most adventurous, or most storm-driven, a vessel reached the 43rd parallel.
In 1763, Spain, by the treaties it made at the then peace recovered from France New Orleans, and Louisiana west of the Mississippi; the remainder of Louisiana, Florida and Canada, and all other French possession on the North American continent became the property of Great Britain.

Between 1774 and 1779, three exploring expeditions, sent Spain, ascended to the 64th parallel.

On the 15th August 1777, Heceta, the captain of one of the vessels of the above expedition, discovered the mouth of the Columbia, and gave it the name of San Roque; he did not, however, enter it.

In 1776, Cook sailed from England on a voyage of exploration, the peculiar limits of which, so far as the northwest coast was concerned, were to extend from the 45th parallel, northerly.

In 1778, Kendrick, an American, the first white man since Fuca, sailed through the Strait of Fuca.

In 1792, Meares, an Englishman, sailing under Austrian colors, re discovered the southern entrance of the Strait of Fuca.

In 1799, Spain destroyed the settlement of Meares on Vancouver Island. The difficulties between Spain and England on this subject were settled by the Nootka Sound Convention, which determined no title whatever, but admitted the right of both nations to trade and settle.

In 1792, Kendrick, and American, the first white man since Fuca, sailed through the Strait of Fuca.

In 1795, Vancouver, commander of an English expedition, visited the coast between the 40th and 48th degrees, and records his conviction that between those parallels no navigable stream existed large enough to float
his vessel. He persisted in this opinion after being informed by Gray, an American sea captain, of his suspicion of the existence of a large river between the 46th and 47th parallels.

On the 11th of May, 1792, Gray sailed 10 miles up the Columbia.

Gray communicated his discoveries to Vancouver, who sent Lt. Broughton in the Chatham to explore it. Broughton ascended it 80 miles in his cutter, the navigation being too intricate to take up his ship.

In 1792, Mackenzie, an Englishman, floated 250 miles on the Frazer river, which empties into the Strait of Fuca.

In 1803 the U.S. purchased Louisiana.

In 1805 and '6, Lewis and Clarke crossed the Rocky Mountains, explored the whole country drained by the Columbia, and followed that stream to its mouth.

In 1806 the English made settlements west of the Rocky Mountains, but the Columbia river never proved to have been seen by them until 1811.

Before 1810, the (American) Missouri Company made a settlement on Lewis river, the Southern branch of the Columbia, which was shortly abandoned.

In March, 1811, the Pacific Fur Company of New York sent the Tonquin with their agents to the Columbia. They landed and formed a settlement at Astoria, ten miles from the mouth of the river.

On the 18th October, 1813, three of the partners of the Pacific Fur Company sold the establishment, furs and stock in hand to the Northwest Fur Company. While the transfer of property was going on, an English vessel of war, sent to destroy the American settlement, arrived; but as the property was then British, departed, after substituting the British for the American flag, and naming the place Fort George.

In 1818, Astoria was restored under the 1st Article of the Treaty of Ghent – the United States leaving the question of title open, by express understanding.

The whole territory in dispute is yet open to joint occupation, by virtue of various conventions.

In a subsequent article we shall examine the title conferred on each nation by the various acts above enumerated, and shall endeavor to give somewhat in detail; the substance of all the treaties that bear upon the subject. N.Y. Mirror.

[TCS]

RW46, January 27, 1846 v23n8 LATE AND IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO

OFFICE OF THE N.O. "DAILY TROPIC,"
TUESDAY, Jan. 13th, 1 P.M.

LATE AND IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

The Mexican schooner Julia, Zalduondo master, arrived here this morning from Vera Cruz, which place she left on the 30th ult., bringing us papers from that place to the 29th inst., and from the city of Mexico to the 23d ult. The Julia also brought J. Tilghman Hoffman Esq, bearer of Despatches to our Government, from whom we learn that Paredes was certainly on his march to the city of Mexico, and that our Minister, Mr. Slidell was still there. From the Vera Cruz and Mexico papers, we have hurriedly gleaned the following news:

The Moniteur, of the 21st ult., says that the Supreme Government has appointed Gen. Bustamente Commander in Chief, and Gen. Obregon his second in command, of the Army to oppose Gen. Paredes. That paper says the Government is indefatigably working to quell the revolt and that it has already taken the necessary measures to put he capital in a state of defence, and given out 3000 guns to be distributed among the citizens. On the 21 ult., the Senate concurred with the Government in giving Dictatorial powers to President Herrera. El Siglo says that Paredes had seized upon the Public Treasury of the Fair at St Juan, which had been committed to his charge. El Veracruzano of the 24th, says that on the 23d, a salute from the Castle of san Juan de Ulloa, under the command of Cassanova, announced the first movement of the Army and Navy, in favor of the Proclamation of San Louis Potosi by Gen. Paredes, and that it was immediately seconded by the garrison of the place, at whose head is the brave Landero, with the exception of a part of the battalion Sigero, numbering about 100 men; who left their barracks with their officers, refusing to join their companions. This body, as they were marching out, fired a volley on those who remained, killing a captain and ten veterans, and wounding three others.

It then marched to the Government palace, and was ordered to quarter in the Convent of San Francisco, where they remained at the latest dates. The same paper says that at a late hour is learned that the city and garrison of Jalapa...
had pronounced in favor of Paredes, and that it was momentarily waiting for a similar movement in Orisaba and the fortress of Perote.

On the 23d, the forces of Paredes were said to be only three das march from the city of Mexico.

On the 24th, the troops at Puebla under Gen. Inclan, who had received orders to march to the Capitol, refused to depart, and it was certain that, notwithstanding the efforts of the General to the contrary, they would soon declare in favor of Paredes.

Mexico, it was said, would in a few days open its gates to Paredes.

The Vera Cruzano of the 29th, says that it learns by letters, of responsible persons, from Mexico, that the imbecile and short­sighted Cabinet had mortgaged to England the department of Yucatan, on condition that she would pay its immense debt. There, says that paper, are facts that will soon be divulged.

A Circular of the 24th, transmitted by President Herrera to the Governors of the different Departments, delegates to said Governors the tremendous extraordinary powers with which Congress had invested him, and already had the capital of the Republic began to feel the weight of such despotism, as imprisonments, irrespective of person or characters, had become common, and even the Arch Bishop, Granduno, had obliged to fly from the persecutions that awaited him. Gen. Ampudia had gone over to the revolutionists, and the government troops had publicly expo[u]sed their cause.

Gen. Almonte was concealed, earing persections.

The latest intelligence is to the effect that Perote had had declared it self for Paredes, and that the numerous cavalry of that General were in the near vicinity of the Capitol. His artilllery and infantry were between the city and Arroya Sarco. The cities of Orizava and Guanajuato, had also declared for Paredes at the approach of his forces.

Gen. Urrea, says El Siglo of the 19th, has been defeated by the forces of Generals Campuzana and Cuesta, each party having lost about 60 persons.

The same paper says, that the Government Council, after long deliberation, had determined not to receive Mr. Slidell in his ordinary official capacity, notwithstanding its previous engagement to receive a Plenipotentiary from the United States with special powers to treat on the subject of Texas. This conclusion of the Government took place after Mr. Parrott had reached Mexico on his return from the United States.

In the Monitor of the 23d, is published Herrera’s proclamation calling upon his compatriots to rally in defence of the laws. It is a long document, and concludes as follows: “It is my duty to defend our liberties, and yours to sustain me.”

[TCS]

RW46, January 30, 1846 v23n9p1 LATEST FROM MEXICO

LATEST FROM MEXICO

By the arrival, on the 14th instant, of the United States brig Porpoise, at Pensacola, (twelve days from Vera Cruz,) the intelligence of a revolution in Mexico has been confirmed.

It appears that on the morning of the 30th, the troops relied upon by the government to defend it against Paredes pronounced in his favor; and the government entered into terms of capitulation with the General Paredes. He entered and took possession of the city on that day without opposition.

The rumor was, that General Paredes manifested less opposition to the reception of Mr. Slidell than the late President, Herrera.

[TCS]

RW46, January 30, 1846 v23n9p2 FOREIGN NEWS

THE FOREIGN NEWS

Every body seemed to have been somewhat disappointed in the tone of the English papers, in reference to the President’s Message. Many of the good people of England are probably too much engrossed with home affairs to care a great deal about Oregon – but whatever be the cause, the President’s Message fell upon dull ears and very languid sensibilities.
The London Times, which is generally regarded as indicating the feelings and sentiments of the British Ministry, talks quite coolly, and we must say, very rationally, upon the Oregon question. It seems decidedly to "prefer a settlement to a litigation – a compromise to a contest – peace to a war." It thinks, then, that "every purpose, both of honor and interest, would be answered, if the British Minister, on whom now devolves the duty of making fresh proposals to the government of the United States, were to renew on his part the offer made to England by Mr. Gallatin, in the Presidency under the direction of Mr. Adams. That proposal was to take the 49th degree of N. Latitude," &c. "This would concede all that the most successful war would acquire – a sovereign, but barren dominion – but it would secure all the commercial bearings of an honorable compromise and a rational peace."

Such sentiments must meet a cordial response from the sensible and reflecting people of both countries – and it will be a criminal disregard of the dictates of humanity, if, from false pride or sublimated notions of honor, the peace of the two countries would be jeopardized.

The National Intelligencer is inclined to regard with satisfaction, as far as our relations with England are concerned, the return of Sir Robert Peel to power. So, indeed, are most of the papers that have had time to comment on the news.

REVOLUTION IN MEXICO

News has reached the city by way of Pensacola that the Revolution in the Government of Mexico is complete, Gen. Paredes having entered the city of Mexico, and possessed himself of the reins of government, without serious opposition. – Nat. Int.

THE FOREIGN NEWS

Continued

The British Ministry – The following is an official list of the re-administration:

First Lord of the Treasury, Sir Robert Peel.
Secretary of the House Department, Sir J.R.G. Graham.
Lord Chancellor, Lord Lyndhurst.
Lord President of the Council, Duke of Buccleugh.
Commander in Chief, Duke of Wellington.
Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Earl of Aberdeen.
Lord Privy Seal, Earl of Haddington.
President of the Board of Control, Earl of Ripon.
Chancellor of the Exchequer, Right Hon. H. Goulburn.
Chancellor of the Duchy Lancaster, Lord G. Somerset.
Commissioner of Land Revenues, Earl Lincoln.
Secretary at War, Right Hon. S. Herbert.

The following are the new members of the Cabinet:

President of the Board of Trade, Earl Dalhouse.
First Lord of the Admiralty, Earl of Ellenborough.
Postmaster General, Earl of St. Germaines.
Secretary of the Colonies, Hon. W. Gladstone.
From the London Times of December 24.

A President's Message is seldom so much a new fact as a more authoritative confirmation of what the world has known long before. In England a good deal may be guessed from the general leaning of the Minister, and a convenient usage allows the heads of a Royal speech to transpire just the evening before. In the United States the council at which the President has determined on his announcements is one in which millions are privileged to advise, and the whole world is admitted to hear. For several years every citizen is allowed, or rather compelled, to offer the candidate the benefit of his experience, and to demand in return specific pledge on almost every possible point of disagreement. The candidate strikes a compact with every State, every city, every separate supporter in the Union. – Thence he derives his commission, which is only his own because he has received it, and has perchance been able to suggest some little of it during his previous political life. – But, once elected, there he is the incarnation of creed long since determined and promulgated. As a popular man, as a partisan, as a speculative politician, he may have entered into that creed with disinterested and passionate ardor. On the day of his election, however, he
awakes to a new existence. He is the Sovereign, charged with the most awful endless responsibilities, the living source [weat or wo], the arbiter of peace or war, with the eyes of all the world upon his actions, be they good or be they evil, and with posterity, as it were, to enter and pass its calm, irreversible judgment on his name. It is no wonder that the busy candidate for a people's suffrages should pause when he has ascended to this height, and begin to perceive the paternal instincts and conscience of power. Even with a second term of sovereignty still to be solicited, he is compelled, in spite of himself, to be considerate, just, and humane.

In this, the first legitimate act of his Presidency, Mr. Polk does nothing more than impersonate the Democracy which bore him into power. The style of his address is all that can really be called his own, and that is unusually readable, simple, and clear. On such minor topics as are not to us matters of practical discussion, or are not even of a sort to call for commendation; the Message will be read with interest, and sometimes with pleasure.

The annexation of Texas is treated as a matter of history, and at the same time with the brevity of recollection in which the short-lived dictations of the Union are so tempted to indulge. Texas, no matter how, was independent; the States of Europe acknowledged it; Mexico herself at least acknowledged it, though with an offensive or impertinent condition, and too late to answer her purpose. The citizens, whoever, whatever, or whenever, they might be, desired annexation, and on the great principle of self-government, had a right to be governed as they liked. With the same sweet oblivion of Texan antiquities, the inference of Great Britain and France is treated as simply an attempt to maintain a balance of power against the encroachments of the Union. It is asserted to be the indefensible right and duty of the Americans not only to resist European interference, but to be utterly deaf to the suggestions of European discretion and humanity.

With a rather unreasonable avidity of self gratulation, the President claims the contradictory honors of peace and war in the Texas triumph. "The accession to our territory," he says, "has been a bloodless achievement. No arm of force has been raised to produce the result. The sword has had no part in the victory." He cannot, however, forego the pleasure of relating, a few sentences after, what efficient military preparations he had made, and how thoroughly Mexico had been hemmed in on all sides, both by land and by sea, before it could have time to defend the disputed territory.

On one point the message exhibits sympathy with our own Ministerial intentions as marvellous as it is auspicious of international amity. The principle protective duties as opposed to those for revenue, is clearly defined and strongly condemned; and the Legislature is recommended to put an end to oppressive inequalities of what is called the general adoption of ad valorem duties. The President lays down the important maxim that taxation ought to fall as lightly as possible on the materials of profitable employment and the necessaries of life.

Oregon is the subject which the almost fanatical interest with which it has been agitated by the States, and its consequent bearings on the peace of the world, renders the most prominent in the address. The long and animated comments of the American press show how little disposed the citizens have hitherto been "to let off" the President and this painful and delicate subject. What is actually said is neither more nor less than what a million voices have dictated and we have long known. It need not augment the terrors of the European alarmists, and it certainly will not change the resolves or add to the preparations of the British Cabinet. It is already resolved and prepared.

Mr. Polk, after adverting to the negotiations, and attempts at compromise before he came into office, informs us of what he has done towards the conclusion of this unfortunate dispute. In reading his simple narrative, it becomes necessary to remember that an American exists in a sphere of his own, and can hardly be judged by European ideas of moderation, decency, and honor. The President makes great credit to himself for having made and offer which he acknowledges to be less than what the British Government has repeatedly declined.

"In consideration, too, that under the conventions of 1818 and 1927, the citizens and subjects of the two Powers held a joint occupancy of the country, I was induced to make another effort to settle this long pending controversy in the spirit of moderation which had given birth to the renewed discussion. A proposition was accordingly made, which was rejected by the British Plenipotentiary, who, without submitting any other proposition, suffered the negotiation on his part to drop, expressing his trust that the United States would offer what he saw fit to call 'some further proposal for the settlement of the Oregon question more consistent with fairness and equity, and with the reasonable expectations of the British Government.' The proposition thus offered and rejected repeated the offer of the parallel of 49 degrees of north latitude, which had been made by the preceding two Administrations, but without proposing to surrender to Great Britain, as they had done, the free navigation of the Columbia river. The right of our rivers, through the heart of our country, was one which I was unwilling to concede."

In making this proposal, already twice refused, the President thinks it necessary to apologize to his Democratic supporters. He pleads, with all the humiliation of one bound by prescriptive compliances, that he had been obliged to proceed on the basis of compromise, and asks the public condolence for that, under this bondage, he has offered what was known by repeated trials, would not be accepted. To make amends for this self-imposed indignity, he declares that the day of compromise is now over.

"Had this been a new question, coming under discussion for the first time, the proposition would no have been [refused].

[TCS]
By the barque *Peno*, just arrived from Vera Cruz, we learn that a bearer of dispatches from Mr. Slidell to our Government is on board. We have not received any letters by her, but learn verbally from the Captain that Mr. Slidell had been ordered to leave Mexico, and that no escort had been allowed him to Vera Cruz.

We learn, also, that on the reception of the news of the dismissal of Mr. Slidell, the commander of the U.S. brig *Somers*, at anchor at Vera Cruz, started immediately for the city of Mexico, with a detachment of Marines, in order to escort our Ambassador to that port for embarkation, and protect his person. –*N.O. Courier, Jan. 23.*

The accounts in other papers state that Paredes was acting President, and Gen. Almonte, (former minister to the U. States,) acting Secretary of War.

A letter from Vera Cruz, January 8th, says: “The new Government has adopted a very harsh tone towards Mr. Slidell, the United States Minister, and appear determined to carry on the war against Texas. Business, of course, under the above circumstances, has almost been put a stop to; but we now look forward to an improvement.

Trade is exceedingly dull here but we expect an improvement after first of next month, when the new Tariff will come into operation.

[SDW]

**TEXAS**

The *Washington Union* says that an express from the Government of the U. States, bearing with him to Texas the acceptance of her Constitution by Congress, arrived at Galveston on the 12th instant, and left immediately for Houston. There he was met by President Jobs, who had left Austin to meet the dispatches, and who, immediately on receiving them, issued a proclamation calling on the Legislature to convene at Austin on the 16th of February to organize a State government and adopt such other measures as they may deem necessary for the general welfare. –*Balt. Amer.*

[SDW]

**TEXAS**

FROM TEXAS—By the arrival, since our last, of the steam ship *McKim*, Capt. Lewis, we have Galveston dates up to the 15th inst.

President Jones has issued a proclamation convening the Legislature of the State of Texas at Austin, on the 16th February next, for the purpose of organizing a State Government, and "other measures for the general welfare."

Capt. Elliot, the original "man with the white hat," was in Galveston on the 12th. We presume he is on his way to Austin to attend the funeral of all British hopes of making any thing out of the new State.

The health of the army at Corpus Christi was improving. The "Army Theatre" opened on the night of the 8th inst. With Sheridan Knowles' play of "The Wife"—Julien St. Pierre, Mr. Edwards; Marianna, Mrs. Hart. The orchestra numbered no less than twenty five musicians.

All was quiet on the frontiers. –*N.O. Pic.*, Jan 20

[SDW]

The *New Orleans Tropic* of the 26th ult., is of opinion, from valuable sources of information within its reach, that although our Minister at Mexico had demanded his passports, yet that the report that he had been grossly insulted, by the refusal of an escort to ensure his safety out of the country, was a mere rumor. We observe that the warhawks, however, are stirring their wings, and preparing to fan up the sparks of war into a comfortable flare. It would seem a pity, indeed, if we can't get a set to with England, that so much pugnacious patriotism as has been recently exhibited should be altogether wasted; and just in the nick of time, Mexico, and her usual blundering awkwardness, steps in presents a fair target for our concentrated wrath. Whether it is altogether just and polite, considering the disordered and distracted condition of that Republic, to avenge the refusal of her Government to receive Mr. Slidell, is somewhat doubtful. But then it might be advisable and expedient, as an outlet for the surplus steam which has so long been generating in American bosoms, to mandate our little neighbor with the boiling flood
of our courage and indignation. As we can't fight England, without being almost demolished ourselves, we may as well turn upon Mexico: like a testy and chivalrous gentleman, of whom we have heard, who, whenever he had a controversy with a stout neighbor, who it was not quite prudent to be said with any thing harder than his words, usually retired to his domicile, and eased himself of his disagreeable feelings by whipping his wife.

The New Orleans Picayune, referring to projects said to be on foot by foreign powers, for settling the affairs of Mexico and Central America, says:

"In this connection the following paragraph, which first made its appearance in El Imparcial, a periodical of the Isle of Carmen of the 14th Dec'r., may shed some light. We find the article re-produced in the Memorial Historico, of the 4th inst. The latter journal is the Siglo revived and is published in Mexico under the eyes of the new authorities. We quote as follows:

"By way of Havana, it is known that Spain, France and England have entered into an alliance to place in Mexico and Guatamala a stable and liberal Government, for which purpose each power will furnish a quota of men; at the same time it is assured that England has already at sea thirty ships of the line which it are on their way to the Gulf of Mexico."

"The Yucatan editor states that a knowledge of what has before transpired renders this intelligence worthy of credence. The Imparcial deplores the condition of the Spanish Republics, but without acknowledging outright the crisis to be so humiliating as to render the intervention necessary. It thinks the three powers possess means to give effect to the projected movement. It indulges foreboding of ulterior purposes on the part of the intervenors, and winds up with a flourish of patriotism and valor."

It is stated that Texas is divided into 35 counties. Galveston is the largest city, and Houston the next. Austin, the seat of government, has a population of 1500, and Washington about the same number. Saint Antonia is the oldest town in the State, with a population of 1500.

RW46v23n10p2c4, February 3, 1846: LATER FROM TEXAS

By the arrival yesterday of the steamship Galveston, Capt. Wright, we have Galveston dates up to the 21st instant.

The Civilian of the 21st instant has the following, which may be of interest to our commercial readers:

"The Government of Texas has remitted the extra five percent duty, hitherto levied on merchandise imported in U.S. vessels, as that government is no longer regarded as being upon the footing of 'nations not in treaty with Texas.'"

A mail rider was recently shot at by Indians near Austin, but fortunately was missed and escaped unhurt. It was thought they were Wacos. The Register intimates that many hostile Indians are prowling about in the neighborhood of Austin, and although there is a company of U.S. Dragoons and a company of Rangers at that town, the editor goes on to say that "stationary troops are about as efficient on an Indian frontier as a stationary locomotive on a railroad." There is much truth in this.

The Hon. Anson Jones was at Galveston at last accounts. The papers also chronicle the arrival of Capt. Todd, bearer of dispatches from Washington.

A party of Mexican traders was lately robbed a short distance from San Antonio, on their return to the Rio Grande. It is supposed that the robbers were a few renegade Americans who have been prowling about San Antonio for several months.

The latest accounts from Corpus Christi represent that the health of the U.S. troops had materially improved.

The unusually inclement winter has caused great suffering among the Cammanche and other prairie Indians. Many of them had been in at Torrey's Trading House, and were delighted to procure the blankets sent them for their use.

According to the Houston Telegraph, counterfeit ten dollar notes on the Bank of Louisiana are in circulation in Texas.

Since the above was written, we have received Galveston dates one day later, brought by the steamship Alabama, Capt. Windle.

Young Audubon, the naturalist, had arrived at San Antonio, and had been well received.
The Revolution Consummated—Paredes In Power

The U.S. brig of war Porpoise, Lieutenan Comm’g Hunt, arrived at Pensacola on the 14th instant, from Vera Cruz. The N.O. Picayune, says: From the papers before us we cannot discover what day the Porpoise sailed, but from the tenor of a private letter we presume that it was either on the evening of the 1st instant, or morning of the 2nd.

According to the letters before us, General Paredes appeared with his army before the city of Mexico on the afternoon of the 30th ult. The gates were immediately thrown open to him, and he took possession of the town without firing a gun. The accounts allege that he was immediately proclaimed President of Mexico, and that expresses were at once started off from the capital to the different points of the Republic to proclaim that the revolution was complete. One of these expresses reached Vera Cruz just before the Porpoise sailed.

If then our intelligence is to be fully relied upon, as we presume it may be, although we have so few details, Gen. Paredes has attained to the height of power in Mexico—a hazardous elevation, whence he is liable to be hurled at any moment, unless he shall exhibit great firmness of purpose and energy of will, mingled with sincere devotion to his country’s best interests. Gen. Paredes is universally acknowledged as a brave man, carrying his valor to the point of reckless daring. He is resolute and determined, not fearful of assuming the gravest responsibilities, as he has shown in several revolutions which have been carried through by his influence and under his immediate lead. He bears the name of being a disinterested man, and in proof of this it is urged that with so many opportunities of gratifying merely mercenary purposes, or obtaining personal advantages, he is at this day a poor man, and owes his influence purely to the weight of his personal character. His address to the nation upon setting forth from San Luis Potosi, breathes the sentiments of a patriot and resolute reformer. It is a clear expose of the difficulties into which the Republic is now plunged, and of the causes of the debasement. It indicates a resolute purpose of putting a term to the influence of these causes. In his estimation, there have been revolutions enough in Mexico. He is determined that that now achieved by himself shall work a radical reformation of the causes of discontent. Being popular with the army and the clergy, and having secured public confidence in his disinterested and patriotism he has certainly the most favorable opportunity for the execution of his designs. It may fairly be questioned if he possesses the capacity requisite for the emergency, which is certainly one fo extreme difficulty, overwhelmed as Mexico is with bankruptcy, civil dissensions and grave misunderstandings with foreign powers. It is, we believe, notorious, that Gen. Paredes is a man given to habits of dissipation. It is a nice question whether he will throw off their control with his access to power, or give them freer dominion over him. Yet upon this may measurably depend the stability of his rule. It would be rash in us to speculate upon the probably course of events, but it will be sincerely gratifying to see Paredes coping successfully with the immense difficulties of his position.

In regard to the ultimate policy which Paredes will pursue towards the United States, we are not to suppose that it is the be ribly hostile, as the tenor of the popular cry upon which he has gone into power would indicate. Paredes, we believe, has lived in the United States, and fully appreciates the power of the country, and cannot but feel the hopelessness of a controversy with us. Even in his manifesto to the nation, he makes no professions of hostility to the United States, although he laments that Texas has been turn from the Republic, and illustrates the fatal results of their internal dissensions by reveling the boasts of “our neighbors,” as he terms us, “that the stars of the North American Union shall soon shine upon the towers of Mexico and as far as the Isthmus of Panama.” To show the spirit with which he will enter into the exercise of his power, it may interest the reader to peruse the concluding portion of his address to the Mexican nation:

"The army has risen to save the country and put an end to the precarious and dangerous position in which we have for a long time been plunged. I, who have the honor of fighting for the independence of my country—1, who glory in having been the first to raise at Jalisco the banner of insurrection against a disturbed power—I have bound myself to make good the consequences of this national insurrection. Mexico has not broken the yoke of a soldier to be delivered over without defense to the tyranny of demagogues. If such had not already been my settled conviction, it would have been infused into me by the excitements which have been presented to me, by the appeals which have been addressed to me, by the spontaneous election of the army, and by the misfortunes and fears of the country.

At the moment of marching upon the capital to accomplish the glorious enterprise which has been entrusted to me, I declare in the most solemn manner that we are not about to accomplish a revolution of persons merely; that we aspire to something more grand, more fruitful, more complete. It is not to usurp the Presidency; it is not to install another Congress in the place of the present, that we move. We would make an appeal to the nation, to the end that, without fear of turbulent minorities, it may form a constitution agreeably to its own wishes, and oppose a barrier to the dissolution which threatens it on all sides. It must avoid falling into the power of a professed revolutionists, and refrain from the renewal of the excesses which at a former epoch, of lamentable memory, scandalized the Republic. It is necessary to restore to the producing classes their lost influence, and to give to wealth, to industry, and to labor the share which belongs to them in the government of society. The nation, weary of incessant vicissitudes and of sterile convulsions, without attaining the desired repose, ardentl Longs for guarantees of orders and stability. These considerations have determined me and determined the army to undertake a revolution which shall be final, so that we may commence, under the shade of peace of internal tranquility, the sure
development of the elements of our wealth.”

[SDW]

RW46v23n11p2c2, February 6, 1846: CALIFORNIA

It is said that the Mormons intend to make this the Canaan of their future abode, after their exodus from their Egypt in Illinois. If such be the case, and they emigrate in very large numbers, it is more than probable they will erect an empire in California, which Mexico will find impossible to subjugate, and the United States troublesome to annex.

As to any little question of property involved in the acquisition of California by the Mormons, we presume they would regard that matter as a mere “abstraction,” totally unworthy the consideration of saintly minds. They have shown in the code of morals by which their social and domestic intercourse is regulated, that long possession is not even prima facie evidence of right, and that the desire of the mind for an object is sufficient authority for the hands to seize it, if they can. They have also before them the high and honorable example of the United States, which has annexed Texas, is annexing Oregon—and will annex California, unless the Mormons are beforehand with them and all this for the simple reason that the United States wants them, and therefore must have them.

If such is to be the rule of the future policy of our country, we are free to confess that California ought to be annexed at once, it being a far richer and more desirable region, in every way, than either Texas or Oregon, or both combined. The character of the population also, is such as ought not to be tolerated in the neighborhood of a free and enlightened Republic! They are generally the degenerate descendants of Spaniards and Indians, of an indolent and puxillanimous nature. The country, however, is capacious, rich, and inviting. It has a sea coast upon the Pacific of 1420 miles. It has some of the finest harbors in the world. It has large rivers, and extensive salt lakes. Its climate is one of the most delightful and salubrious under the Sun. The qualities of its soil are eminently adapted to the purposes of Agriculture. Wheat of excellent quality, Indian Corn, Potatoes, Pear, Beans, &c., are said to be produced abundantly. Grapes also flourish luxuriantly, and a large quantity of wine, some 3 or 4000 gallons, is made, as well as a like quantity of brandy, altho’ this, it is said, is not enough for the consumption of the present inhabitants, who, from their habits, it would appear, have never heard of Father Matthew. The country is also well adapted to the raising of cattle. Hides and tallow are stated to be its chief articles of export. A considerable quantity of beaver, elk, and deer, and sea otter skins, are also exported.

We would call the attention of our Government to this fine country. Do we not want it? And, if so, must we not have it? There is also another reason, the force of which will be at once recognized by our rulers. If we do not steal it, the Mormons will. Can we hesitate longer?

[SDW]

RW46v23n11p3c1, February 6, 1846: LATEST NEWS FROM A WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT

FROM A WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4, 1846.

I understand that a communication will be transmitted by the President to both Houses, tomorrow, in reply to the resolutions of Mr. Webster and Mr. Gollamer, calling upon him for the correspondence on the Oregon question, subsequent to the date of his message; and that it will announce the fact that negotiation has not been resumed, no communication on the subject having been received from the British Government since Mr. Buchanan’s last letter; and, in view of the extensive warlike preparations making by England, will recommend the immediate adoption of measures for defense. –FAIRFAX.

The Washington Correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot writes as follows concerning the opinion of the British Admiral Seymour concerning war with England:-

“One of the evidences that England is not going to war with us about Oregon is to be found in the fact that none of her Naval officers believe it. Our late Charge des Affaires to Lima had a friendly conversation in that city a few months ago, he informs me, with Sir George Seymour, the Commander of the British Fleet in the Pacific Ocean. In that conversation Sir George who is a brave, clear-headed man, that has seen much service and had half of his face shot away in battle, informed Judge Bryan, that England would not and could not go to war with the United States about Oregon, and that the British Admiralty had not a thought of it.”

[SDW]

RW46v23n11p4c3, February 6, 1846: MEXICO
The oath administered the new President of Mexico Paredes, was as follows:

"You swear to God to sustain the independence and integrity of the national territory against any foreign aggression whatever; and the republican, popular, representative system; and the plan of administration of the Republic, agreed to by the Act of the Army on the 2d of January."

A Committee of three drew up the oath, one of whom was in favor of adding a clause compelling the President to swear "to repel the invasion of the United States." The Assembly, however, says the National Intelligencer, after a long discussion, refused to adopt the clause, on the ground that it would be tantamount to a declaration of war, and that it was beyond the competency of the Assembly to declare war.

MORE ANNEXATION.

A recent letter from Yucatan received at New Orleans by way of Mexico says-

The people of Yucatan are in daily expectation of declaring the independence of that province. Offences on the part of the Mexican Congress towards Yucatan have dictated the step. Two assemblies comprised of the most distinguished personages have already met to discuss the measure of separation, and much is said of seeking assistance, should it be necessary. From the cabinet at Washington.

MORE ANNEXATION.

The New York Herald contains a letter from Merida, dated Jan. 1, 1846, from which we take the following paragraphs:

Yucatan is no longer a part of the Mexican federation. Yesterday the "Assembly Departments!" pronounced against their existing form of government, and have recalled the deputies in the Mexican Congress.

The Mexican eagle has been torn from their banner, and replaced by the stars of 1843. They have gone back to the old state of things, as they existed before the treaty with Mexico. The cause of the rupture is this same treaty; a resolution having been introduced and carried, in the Mexican chambers for a revision of said established treaty.

Incident upon this has been the resignation of the Governor of the department, Don Tiburcio Lopez; and his place is filled by Don Miguel Barbachiona, formerly holding the same office.

The Herald says:

"This freshly revolted province is one of the best int eh whole Republic of Mexico. Its inhabitants are energetic and enterprising, and if they are determined to be independent, the rest of Mexico cannot re-take them."

RW46v23n12p2c2, February 10, 1846: LATE FROM TEXAS

By the arrival of the steamship New York, Capt. Phillips, late last evening, in 36 hours from Galveston, we have dates from Galveston to the 28th, and from Corpus Christi to the 22d. We give all the news we have room for below:

The Corpus Christi Gazette of the 22d ult. says:-

"We are happy to say to their absent friends, that the general health of the camp is very good. We have seen all the great encampments in Europe for several years past; and its beauty of situation, excellence of arrangement, cleanliness and good order, it will bear a favorable comparison with that of any other nation. It confers great credit not only upon its commander, and officers generally, but upon the country whose cause they have come here to sustain."

"A train of thirty wagons left here on the 18th inst. Laden with military stores for the detachments of U.S. troops at San Antonio. Our last advices left the troops in good health.

The Gazette also states: "We have just been facored with the perusal of a letter from our much esteemed Consul at Matamoras, J.P. Scatrell, Esq., to a gentleman of this place, in which he says, that Tampico is the only place we have heard of that has pronounced in favor of Paredes. Our place, Matamoras, is strongly in favor of supporting the government. They wish for peace, and hope the result will be of short duration.' Upon this information every reliance
"The Mexican trade continues lively, as there are daily arrivals. Parties of traders from all the settlements for three hundred miles on the Rio Grande, and as far inland as Monterey, have visited this place during the past week. They have little news-a report had reached Arista at Monterey, that Mejia, at Matamoras, had declared war against the Government, in favor of Paredes—a force of 2000 was ordered by the former to march on Matamoras for the purpose of quelling the revolt. By an arrival this morning from Mef., we learn that Gen. Arista with his whole force was still at Monterey, and also that the report of Jejia’s treachery was doubtful."

The Galveston News of the 27th says:

"It is reported by the passengers arrived in the steamer Cincinatti (from Corpus Christi) that "General Taylor had expressed a determination to march immediately to the Rio Grande in case of the overthrow of Herrera."

The Corpus Christi Gazette says:

"It is now rendered certain that Gen. J.P. Henderson is elected Governor of Texas, and but little doubt remains that Gen. N.H. Darnell is chosen Lieutenant Governor

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Important Intelligence—We are indebted to our friend Middleton, of the Herald and Tribune, for the perusal of a letter from Pensacola, written on Saturday last, from which we learn that the U.S. brig Somers had just arrived at the port from Vera Cruz, bringing the important intelligence that Gen. Arista had declared against the Paredes Government and in favor of the restoration of Herrera—that throughout the country the people were organizing in opposition to the present Administration, assigning as a reason their dread of war and bloodshed, and regretting their having permitted Paredes to overthrow the Herrera Administration. Mr. Slidell was still at Jalupa, with brightening prospects.

Such is the brief and nasty account furnished by the Herald's correspondent, who wrote just as the mail was leaving, with a promise to furnish full particulars in another letter. From the nature of the intelligence we infer that the people of Mexico are not prepared to encounter a war with the United States, and that the ill-fated country is on the eve of another revolution – Mobile Adv.

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We yesterday received two letters from Pensacola, from our attentive correspondence at that place, dated on the 1st inst., which would go to confirm the reported revolution by Arista. One of the letters has it that Arista has a regular force of 4000 men at his command, which would probably be increased by volunteers if he had any chance of success.

The U.S. brig Porpoise sailed from Pensavola for Vera Cruz on the morning of the 1st inst., with dispatches for Mr. Slidell. All accounts would have it that that gentleman was quietly waiting, at Jalapa, the result of the different movements in Mexico. Our correspondent "Marinua" says:

"No mention is made of his having demanded his passports, or otherwise deported himself so as to compromise the suviter in vodo, for which he is celebrated, with the fortierin re which can at any time be resorted to when everything else has failed."

All the vessels of war at Pensacola are said to be preparing and will soon be off to sea.

One of our letters says that Arista is represented to be more hostile than any Mexican officers against the United States, and that he is determined to attempt the re-subjugation of Texas. Arista knows too much for this. He may make a noise about it, and pretext to have some such object to view, but he is not so Quixote as to put his foot this side the Rio Grande.

From our regular files of papers, it would seem that it was known in the city of Mexico, as early as the 8th of January, that General Arista had declared against Paredes. He was in consequence removed from the command of the army of the North, and ordered to devolve it upon Gen. D. Romano Diaz de la Vega, until the arrival of a successor. The papers speak as if Gen. Ampudia were likely to be his successor—the inhuman wretch who maltreated the remdios of Gen. Sentmanat, and whose broken faith to the unfortunate Meier prisoners is on record.

The Texas Bible Society will hold its eight annual anniversary in the city of Austin, on the 22d of February. >N.O.
We take from the New Orleans Picayune, some extracts of a letter from Pensacola dated Jan. 31, giving items of Mexican news received by the Somers, from Vera Cruz.

"The dilatoriness of the Mexican Government in furnishing our Minister with an escort, which was demanded at least a fortnight before it was finally granted, and the lame pretences under which it was delayed, or refused from time to time, have been thought to indicate a disposition to delay our Minister in the country to the last possible moment, in hopes that the sentiment of the people might finally take a turn favorable to negotiation.

It is certainly very singular that a military Government, with a force in the capital sufficient to oversee all the neighboring Departments, should plead inability to supply an escort of eight men to expedite the departure of a foreign minister, the question of whose reception had been the cause of the revolution, and thus delay in the capital a functionary "whose very presence," one of the principal agents in the revolution had a few days before declared, "To be an insult to a free and brave people." It has been suggested that the Government were waiting for President Polk's Message before they allowed the Minister to leave.

The Message was conveyed to Mexico by Mr. White about the 12th of January, and was immediately translated into the principal journals without comment of any kind. The Message appears to have given great satisfaction to all the American residents.

The Santa Anna party is growing stronger every day in Vera Cruz. It is confidently asserted that if he were to make his appearance at any time, he would be supported by an immediate pronunciamento. It is thought that the revolutionary Government will not, therefore, venture to weaken their force on the seaboard by sending any military force or naval detachments against the rebellious Yucatanos.

With Arista on the North and Yucatan on the South in armed opposition—with California disaffected and Vera Cruz unstable in its adherence to the plan of San Luis Potosi—it does not seem possible that the revolutionary power should be remnant. I have heard an opinion thrown out that Paredes would remain in power about four months. I know not why this express term should be set, unless it be the shortest time in which the Mexicans can accomplish anything. Four months ago, Hererra was elected by 110 to 130 votes; he was barely installed before a revolution was predicted; it has been at length accomplished, and the military dictator who has come into power by acclamation will probably last no longer than his predecessor.

The N.O. Commercial Times contains the following correspondence, deemed of interest.

"VERA CRUZ, Jan. 16, 1846.

"After consummating the last revolution, Gen. Paredes, although he most solemnly protested that he did not aspire to the executive seat, was, as it might well be expected, named President ad interim, giving the Department of Finances to his former accuracy, Luis Parres, a well intentioned man, but lacking the financial talents called for by the more and more critical circumstances of the treasury. Castillo y Lanzas, at the head of Foreign Relations, is likewise a good and honest man, and possesses a vast deal of correct information. He was Minister Plenipotentiary at Washington a few years ago; but never had the reputation of a firm and energetic diplomatist. He, with the other meunders of the actual ministry, are likely to follow, so far as the general policy of the country is concerned, the impulse of Gen. Almote, Secretary of War, who is looked upon as the Preunier. According to the latest news from the capital, the cabinet was giving satisfaction, but we do not venture to express the hope, that it will do the country any good."

VERA CRUZ, Jan 21, 1846

"Our latest dates from Mexico reach to the 17th inst. It was generally thought that the affairs pending between the United States and this government, will not terminate amicably.

"It is rumored that the government have decreed, that the licences for the introduction of 60,000 quintals foreign Cotton, are to be given to any one that may apply on the payment of $10 per quintal duty."

We understand that letters have been received from Mr. Slidell, at Mexico, under the date of the 17th ult., on which day he intended to depart for Puebla.

Speech of General Paredes upon taking the Presidential Chair.

Representatives of the Departments:-Designated by you provisionally to control the destinies of the nation, I have just aken an oath before the Supreme Being, which proves to you that I have no wish to deceive my fellow citizens.
by fallacious promises—which the people receive with indifference, because they are generally without effect. What I have sworn will be true. I determined at San Luis to rescue the nation from disgrace, to raise it to the height of power and glory, which were the noble end of Hidalgo and Iturbitle. You now give me the means of accomplishing this sacred object, which I will employ for the good of our country, overwhelmed with the evils and all her hopes blated.

It is not ambition that has led me to this cahir where cares and danger abound. As I know all the difficulties of the times, my conduct is a sacrifice, and every thing ought to be sacrificed to the country that honours its children, and after exposing my life and shedding my blood in the field of battle, the loss of rest and even of reputation is nothing, when we are called upon to risk all to save al.

My glory shall be open for my country an era of happiness, and when the time shall come when she may freely dispose of her lot, I will retire to my home and give the first example of submission and respect for her august will.

Fellow citizens, receive assurances of my unbounded gratitude, many solemn declaration, that under my Provisional Government there shall be liberty but without crimes and without outrages. I have done.

[SDW]

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**RW46v23n15p2c1, February 20, 1846: Untitled**

An arrival at New Orleans from Texas brings a rumor that Chihuahua and some adjoining States have declared their independence of the Mexican government, and were determined to maintain a separate confederacy.

[SDW]

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**RW46v23n15p4c4, February 20, 1846: THE TEXAS MAILS**

_Army Letters be_—From what we can learn, there is no longer any necessity for letters to the officers or soldiers stationed at Corpus Christi, or any other part of Texas, to be addressed to the care of the Quartermaster, Col. Hunt, now stationed at this place. Mr. Penn, the postmaster here, having taken the responsibility of making up mail bags regularly for Corpus Christi, which are transported hence without charge to the Post Office Department by the schooners in the Government employ. It will increase the work at our post office which has augmented heavily within the past year and without a corresponding increase in the number of clerks; yet Mr. Penn appears determined that nothing shall be left undone to insure the regular transmission of all mailable matter to Texas and elsewhere with promptness. —_N.O. Picayune._

[SDW]

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**RW46v23n17p2c2, February 27, 1846: LATER FROM TEXAS AND MEXICO**

By the arrival last night of the steamship _Galveston_, Capt. Wright, we have Galveston dates up to Monday, the 16th inst. The G. reports only 34 hours from city to city.

By an extra of the _Corpus Christi Gazette_, dated on the 12th inst., we learn that they have received dates at that place from the city of Mexico up to the 21st of January, three of four days later than we have received here by way of Pensacola. The dates from the Rio Grande are up to the 16th inst.

The editor of the _Gazette_ publishes several extracts from Mexican papers, which, if any reliance can be placed in them, would go to show that Paredes is endeavoring to raise a heavy force to act against Texas. We copy one item:

On the 15th Jan. Gen. Paredes issued a circular order to all the Governors of States that within forty days from that date, they shall furnish the necessary quota of men to fill up the Army of Invasion to a war complement—60,000 men. The present army does not exceed 40,000. The troops at the capital are constantly drilled with a view to act in large bodies.

The news was brought to Corpus Christi by dispatch. The editor of the _Gazette_ says that the bearer reports a considerable force of Commissioners or Mexican Customs Guards, near the mouth of the Grullo or San Gertrudes, within less than twenty leagues of the camp at Corpus Christi. Another party has been seen about the same distance from that place—but a considerable distance from the Gulf, in the interior—watching for return parties of Mexican traders.

The following item we take from the _Gazette_ of the 12th inst:

A large party of traders arrived here last night, bringing in nearly 1000 mules and horses of superior quality. They
saw Lieut. Hamilton, having about forty men of the 2d Dragoons and fifteen wagons on the 9th inst., and within a short distance of the rendezvous of a commission party.

The editor of the Gazette thinks there is no truth in the reports brought here by way of Pensacola of the revolt of Arista. That officer, it would seem from the reports of traders, was at his hacienda near Monterey on the 25th January, where he had retired on resigning the command of the army of the North.

The editor of the Gazette deems it unadvisable for the present force at Corpus Christi to march upon the Rio Grande, not thinking it strong enough. He is of the opinion that within twenty days the Mexicans can have 25,000 men within two days march of Point Isabel.

The Corpus Christi Gazette says:

The Hon. Mr. Slidell left the City of Mexico to return to the United States on the 17th January. The passport for which he applied was refused him by the government, but he was furnished with an escort to Vera Cruz. The passport was refused upon the ground that he was not a Special Minister of the United States for the settlement of the affairs of Texas—his appointment being that of a Minister Plenipotentiary, which was in violation of the agreement made with Herrera's Government to receive a Special Minister for a special purpose only.

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Our correspondent at New Orleans writes us under date of the 14th instant as follows:

I am just in possession of an item of news on Mexican affairs which I believe can be relied on. The garrison at Matamoras has declared in favor of General Paredes' government, and Arista has been suspended from the command of the Army in the North. Thus the fresh attempt at revolution in the distracted country has been defeated in the very outset. – BALT. AMER

March

Information from Mexico

By the arrival of the brig Titj. Capt. Brown, Havanna, we have advices, brought by the British steamer Fevmot, from Vera Cruz to the 31st Jan, and from the city of Mexico to the 27th. These advices are several days later than we had previously received, but the intelligence has nevertheless been mostly anticipated. We find them in our Havanna exchanges—our Mexican files not coming to hand.

From the tenor of the papers before us we infer that Gen Arista has attempted no revolution—has made no movement whatever against the Government of Gen. Paredea. The news which reached us by way of Pensacola of his movements cannot be of authentic. El Diario de Gobierno, of the 21st Jan, says that the whole country has given ** its ******** to the plan of San Louis Potosi. Nothing is said of the Yucatan, though the Havanna papers were fully aware that he had withdrawn from the Mexican confederacy.

By this arrival no light whatever is thrown upon the actions of Mr. Slidell. It is mentioned that after repeated **********, he obtained an escort to leave Mexico. It is somewhat singular that this most important matter should be shrouded in mystery. In Gen Almonte's letter, which we do not recollect to have seen before, in which he accepted the office of Secretary of War and Marine, there occurs a photograph in which he speaks of the embarrassments of the Government; of his desires to co-operate in the preservation of order, "promptly-re-established," and of making preparations for "the campaign of Texas." Neither in this nor to other documents do we see anything to confirm the report of raising an army of 60,000 men for the for the recovery of Texas. But measures have been taken beyond all doubt, to increase the effective military force of Mexico, and the war for Texas is the single pretext for the same.

The Minister of the Treasury is taking energetic measures to reduce to order the affairs of his department. He has forbidden the Governors of the several Departments to contract loans, and has ordered the "centralization" of the revenues appropriated to the different departments. But these revenue measures are somewhat indistinct. Not so however, the remittance of $50,000 to the army of the north, which is announced in the memorial of the 25th.

The importation of cotton at the port of Vera Cruz is allowed upon the payment of $10 a bale.
The Monitor Constitutional of the 231, says that the Baron Gros has been appointed to settle the differences between France and Mexico. (We think this appointment has before been announced.)

The Mexican editors continue to exhibit great suspicion, and even alarm, in regard to the United States naval forces on their Pacific Coast. Our readers need not be informed as to that squadron; but the Mexicans attribute to Com. Sloat as ominous menace: That in cause Mexico should declare war against the United States, he would take possession of the Mexican armed vessels, and with them blockade the Mexican ports, leaving his own squadron free for more interesting operations upon the coast. The Mexicans grieve over this personal menace of the American Commodore, but they are not a little pleased that both France and England have strong naval force on the Pacific coast to watch "the American forces, and see that the property of their countrymen is respected."

The "call" for the assembling of a Mexican Congress has been made. The act was celebrated as a national holiday, with every demonstration of joy. We do not find the particular day noted for the convening of this Congress and presume the Convocation to have reference to the election, rather than the meeting of this body.

A minister from the King of Prussia has arrived at Vera Cruz.

The Memorial Historico of the 18th January, commenced the emphcity of the habits of the Provisional President, his accessibility to all classes, and indefatigable attention to business. He has not taken up his residence in the National Palace, visiting it only at certain hours for dispatch of s***ts.

A committee has been appointed by him for the purpose of digesting a complete reorganization of affairs—a plan of Government and policy. Senores Gomez de la Cortica, Franciscos Faguogs, and Eduardo de Gorostiza compose this committee, the designs of which are not particularly unfolded. [PP]

RW46v23i18 March 3, 1846: Something Curious.

The Picayune of this morning contains a letter from Corpus Christi, February 14, which says: Col. Cavallo, an agent of General Arista, here, endeavoring to persuade General Taylor not to advance upon the Rio Grande; for if he does, Arista’s party will join Paredes—but if the General remains in his current position, Arista cannot carry out the revolution he has started. Another emissary, probably of Paredes, an alcalde, tells General Taylor, that all is peace on the Rio Grande, and that the Mexicans are looking for American troops to advance for their protection. One thing is certain adds the letter, the camp is full of rumors and we shall move on the Rio Grande, but nobody knows when.- N.O. Cour., Feb 20. [PP]

RW46v23i18 March 3, 1846: Oregon Correspondence.

Mr. J. M. Clayton offered a resolution, calling upon the President of the United States for copies of any correspondence which has taken place in the reference to the Oregon question, it is not incompatible with the public interest, since the 4th of February. Laid over under the ****. [PP]

RW46v23i18 March 3, 1846: Oregon debate.

After some unimportant business the Senate proceeded to the special order of the day, and the Oregon debate was resumed.

Mr. Haywood who was entitled to the floor, commenced his speech with an elaborate defence of the President’s course in ***** to the Oregon negotiation, in the course of which he denounced in no measured terms the ******* within and been displayed by some of his own party interesting in the manner they had done. The Ashburton Treaty.

Mr. H. then presented a brief view of the state of the Oregon question; and contended that the President now stood where he stood in August last-viz: upon the line 49 deg and that no where in the message could it be shown that he stood upon the 54 deg. 40. Although he believed our title to be clear he had offered to compromised on the 49 deg. **** although he had withdrawn the offer, he still held the door open for Great Britain to enter upon that line.

Mr. H. was in favor of this notice, as a great moral weapon to peace in the hands of the Executive. He thought the question must be settled within the year, or it could not be settled at all peaceably—and said he would stand by the President upon the line of 49 deg; and below that line substantially he would not talk about inches. The American people would never consent to yield the territory, be the consequences that may.
Mr. Haywood had some slight alteration with Mr. Allen while commencing upon the remarks of the Senator from *** that "England dare not go to war with the United States," and before he closed his speech a motion was carried to adjourn. [PP]

RW46v23i18 March 3, 1846: Mexico.

The last arrival from Mexico represents the new Executive as making extraordinary efforts to raise an army for the invasion of Texas. We have not much confidence in the ability of that Government to make any very grand and decisive demonstration. But it is possible that it may raise the funds and under the lead of a determined man like Paredes, make a vigorous effort to retrieve the ground it has lost. The rulers of Mexico must perceive that the difficulty in which they are at present involved in a struggle for the national existence. It is not merely the loss of Texas, but the independence and integrity of Mexico are threatened. If they submit to the recent dismemberment of their territory, one providence after another, by the same process of American emigration and armed resistance, will fall into the bands of the Anglo-Saxon race. Just as their ancestors sacrificed the unoffending Indian to their avarice and ambition, another race with all the thirst of the old Spaniard for gold and power, and ten times energy and strength, will pour down from the Northern hive in an angry food, sweeping away upon its resistless tide the last vestige of Mexican power.

We have no idea, however, that any thing that Mexico can do will preserve her from her doom. She stands in the shadow of a colossal power. She is in the way of our manifest destiny. A worm, under a giant's uplifted foot, would have a better chance of escape. She may make a desperate rally for life, she has the courage, doubted though it be, she has the patriotic fire, her sons will gather around their homes and altars, and die like true men. But it will be useless. Their fate is fixed. No temporary success, if such shall be gained over our small force upon the frontiers, can prevent the inevitable result. The first trumpet of defiance will sound her own funeral dirge. For every American that falls, a hundred will fill his place. The Western wilderness will become alive with moving myriads of armed men, who will not stop till they have planted the Stars and Stripes upon the Mexican capital, and reveled in wild triumph in the "halls of Montzumas."

If Mexico was a monarchical government, we should feel less pity for her condition, though even then, we might indulge a natural sympathy for the weak in a struggle with the strong. But when we regard her as a sister Republic, imitating the model of our own Constitution, and looking up to us as an example, the claim upon our compassion is irresistible. We feel humbled at the idea, that a country, rich and powerful like our own, should covet the possessions of a poor and defenceless neighbor, long allied to us by the fraternal bonds of kindred political principals. We are reminded of the rich man, with many flocks and herds, who coveted and seized the one lamb of his poor neighbor. Let us avoid the curse which will be certain to follow similar injustice. [PP]

RW46v23i19 March 6, 1846: The British and American Tariffs.

The following remarks were made by the Union, in publishing the news brought by the Cambria:

"Great an substantial modifications of the English tariff system are to take place; tending, as we conceive, directly to a very considerable extension and improvement of our commercial relations with the British empire. Indian corn and buck wheat are, by Sir Robert Peel's plan, to be at once admitted to the English ports free of duty; a sliding scale of diminished duties on other grains is to be adopted, and various other provisions and natural products, grown in great abundance in the valley of the Mississippi, are to be admitted on terms far more favorable than ever before.

No one can doubt that measures such as these are of great importance to us; and we do not hesitate to express our conviction that if legislation in this liberal spirit towards us shall be carried out in good faith, it will be met on our part by a modification of our tariff system, conceived in a spirit of corresponding liberality.

We take occasion to say upon this point, in reference to certain rumors which have been extensively prevalent in some quarters, that we do not doubt for a moment the readiness of the great western sections of our country to rally cordially during the present session of Congress on the democratic platform, for the essential modification and improvement of the tariff of 1842. We know it has been said that between the West and South, there is diversity and even contrariety of sentiment on this subject and that the West is now inclined to recede from the democratic doctrine of a revenue tariff. We reject this opinion as altogether groundless. The West is the great farming region, and it go for a true farmer's tariff against the tariff of 1842. We have entire confidence in the manly and straightforward policy of the West upon this subject; and we fully believe that that the votes of the present Congress will signally attest the harmony of the democratic party on this great and cardinal point in the domestic legislation of the country. England, heretofore pre eminently the country of the restrictive system, is now leading the way to the better policy of commercial freedom. It is not for us to be outdone in such a career- a career in harmony at once with our institutions, with the varied productions and the extended area of the country, with the demonstration of political science, and with the recognized, well settled, and authoritative political creed of the democratic party."

The above article shows pretty clearly the leaning of the Administration. Every one must be struck with the
marked contrast of its language and temper, to the belligerent tone of the Government organ before the arrival of the Cambria. Then, to speak with friendship of Great Britain, was a little less than high treason to Polk. The Whigs were British Whigs, aliens in heart, secret traitors, because they did not join the hue and cry against England, and advocate war to the knife for a poor, barren, wretched territory, where no American would permanently settle, if Great Britain should give us a quit-claim deed to the whole concern tomorrow, and which could never be useful except as a kind of Siberia for exiled Americans. The arrival of the Cambria, however, has lifted a thick veil, and the public are beginning to get a peep at the true position of affairs behind the curtain. It would seem, then, that all the fireworks which have been let off by the great pyrotechnist at Washington, were merely for the amusement of the people, that the thundering broadsides which have caused the ship of State to reel with their recoil, have been complementary salutes and that no harm has been intended from the first. The people have all along asked, if we are to have war, why don’t our government prepare! What is Congress about? Why does not the War Department show some signs of life? Why does Mr. Bancroft nod on his post, instead of starting his **** off the stocks and recruiting sailors at every port? Nonsense! We were all looking the wrong direction. The Government was preparing. But not in the way we expected. It was not the War, not the Navy, but the Treasury Department, which, under a cloud of smoke from the Oregon combat, was making ready to carry us successfully through our threatening difficulties. Instead of sending a fleet to dispute the empire of the waves, we were sending a Treasury Report, while on the other side not to be out done in liberality, the British Administration met us with "Free Trade." Sir Robert Peel, and "Sir Robert Walker," embrace each other with fraternal love, while the venerable performer upon the Government organ, saying aside the armor he had just done battle upon the Philistines, exclaims, in the spirit of the minstrel monarco of Israel, "Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

We appeal to the extract which we have made from the Union, to show that the are grounds for the belief that the Tariff is to be the offering by which peace is to be ensured between our country and Great Britain. Look at the enumeration which it makes of the advantages proposed by the plan of Sir Robert Peel, the conviction expressed that it will be met by a corresponding reduction of our own Tariff, and the bait so skilfully thrown out by this experienced angler to the West "the great farming region," to come in and assist in the overthrow of the American policy. Here we find the British Premier and the American Editor, both in pursuit of the same object, "the great farming region" of the West. There is the chief theatre of the war spirit. It is the West which is most glorious for Oregon. But it is the west too, which will expect to be principally benefited by the British Free Trade, and Sir Robert, nothing daunted by its patriotism, makes an appeal to its pocket, as the last hope for the preservation of peace, and the promotion of British power.

It is impossible to predict the result of this crafty scheme. It may succeed, it will succeed, unless a true love of country predominates over self interest. It will be attended, no doubt, with one great benefit, the blessing of peace. And what is more, it will make peace with England perpetual. When she has taught us to look to her for supplies of clothing and arms, when she has drained us of our money, and stolen away all "the sinews of war," it will be no longer in our power to resist her aggressivo spirit. She will sit like the old man of the sea, astride the shoulders of your young giant of the West, until he falls, strangled and breathless, beneath the odious burthen. She will accomplish by her arts, that which, in the Revolutionary and the late war, she in a vain endeavored to effect by the cannon and the sword. We fear this Trojan horse of free trade. But thank Heaven, the country is yet secure, unless a British party is to be found within the citadel, who will surrender the key of our strength to the insidious. [PP]

RW46v23119 March 6, 1846: From Texas.

The steamship Galveston, Capt. Wright, arrived yesterday, bringing Galveston papers of the 28th, and Houston of the 25th. The News publishes the act of Congress extending the jurisdiction of our government over Texas, and also the instructions of the Secretary of the Treasury Circular from Washington, which accompanied the act of our Congress, fixed the revenue laws should commence their operation. On the faith of the circular, says the News, a large amount of goods was shipped to Galveston under the expectation that they would be admitted free. The Texas Treasury instructions, however required the collectors to continue their functions in conformity with the laws of Texas until the 16th of February, and thereafter if a Collector, appointed by the U.S. Government, should not have then arrived. Thus were created say that paper, forty-seven days of conflicting jurisdiction, duties after the 31st December not being collectable under the United States law, but collectable under that of Texas. The News, in nearly two columns of comment upon the state of things, is severe upon the Texas authorities. The Texas legislature met at Austin on the 16th, and both Houses were duly organized. Gen. Burleson was unanimously elected President pro tem. Of the Senate, and Mr. Crump of Austin, Speaker of the House. On the 17th the votes for Governor were counted, when it appeared that Gen. Henderson had received 8910 votes, and Dr. Miller 1672. The Houston Star says.

Gen. Darnell received a majority of 48 votes of the official returns, but no official returns were received from the counties of Bastrop, San Patricio, Jackson, Jefferson, Braesos and Lamar. In these counties Col. Horton received a majority of about 600 votes. If the official returns of these counties had been furnished to the Secretary of State, Col. Horton would have been declared elected. Gen. Darnell was not in Austin when the votes were counted. He has been declared by the legislature to be duly elected. His friends think he will resign.

The inauguration of Governor was to place on the 18th. The U.S. Senatorial election would probably be deferred until the 25th February, or first week in March. Gen. Rusk was a candidate. The Star thought Col. V. E. Howard would be appointed Attorney General. Judge Hemphill, Chief Justice, and Judge Lipscomb, and Judge Wheeler, or Judge Boylor, Associates. Austin was crowded with visitors.
The steamboat "Kate Ward" ascended the Colorado a short time since as far as Bastrop; and the Captain intended to proceed up the river as far as Austin; if practicable. The people of that section are highly elated at the prospect of rendering the Colorado navigable.

Majors Chase and Ogden returned to the city a few days since, in the Cutter Woodbury, from Corpus Christi. Maj. C. informs us that all the information he has acquired strengthens his opinion of the practicability, ease and importance of opening the interior navigation along the coast of Texas from the Sabine to the Rio Grande. Comparatively a very few miles of excavation will connect all the rivers and bays, having their outlet in the Gulf of Mexico, with each other along the whole extent of our southeastern boundary; and thus open internal navigation from Louisiana to Mexico, secure at all times from the dangers of ocean storms, and completely protected in case of war, from the attacks of hostile fleets in the gulf.

In a military point of view this is a measure of vital importance to the security and interest of the whole southern country.- Civilian. [PP]

The following letter, intended only for the eye of a friend when written, has been deemed worthy of publication on account of its calm and dispassionate views. The writer has retired from public life, after having occupied a prominent position in the State and National Councils, which afforded him the means of forming correct opinions upon topics of general interest.

Springdale, Fredrick Co. Va, Feb. 18, '46. My Dear Sir; I differ from you entirely in regard to the probabilities of a war with Great Britain. Leaving altogether out of the view the fact that Mr. Polk has never called a secret session, nor recommended an enlargement of the military and marine force of the country- nor an augmentation on, in any form of its pecuniary means. I do not think the history or the internal evidence afforded, by the pending negotiation, warrant any serious apprehension. If any thing could excite a fear in my mind, it would result from the shameless resolution of the Baltimore Convention, and the conduct of the boisterous Hotepurs in the Congress of the United States, committed perhaps to the mandate of that resolution. Great Britain evidently shuns a war – a majority of the people of the United States certainly do not desire one. Mere punctilio or pride may prompt individuals to declare concession, but they will hardly ever precipitate two nations into war, when the bulk of the people on both sides are amicably disposed. Mr. Polk knows too well this disposition of his constituents, and through for party purposes or ulterior personal designs, he may vaunt a high tone and assume a bold front, compromise he must, and compromise he will, ere three months pass away.

I am too much a man of business now, to canvass, with much care the State papers or political news of the day, but a few hours of leisure at night have enabled me to examine, with some degree of attention, the claims of the two governments to Oregon; and while I think no power on earth has such a clear and irresistible claim to the whole or any part of Oregon, as Mr. Polk would assume, still I think the title of Great Britain to the Northern portion of that territory is the most valid, while ours to the Southern embracing the Columbia river, is the clearest. In my humble library, I found two volumes of the journal of Alexander McKensie, containing a narrative of two explorations from Hudson's Bay to the Pacific, made in 1789 and 1793. In these volumes he refers to the English fishing and hunting establishments and settlements, at Vancouver, Pugett's Sound, & c., extending into the interior as far as Hudson's Bay. What is remarkable, while he designates the 49th parallel of latitude, East of the Rocky mountains, as the future division between the British possessions and the United States, on the ground that that parallel leaves to the United States the head waters of the Missouri, as it is called I believe) her title seems to me weak, for her navigator, Cook, passed the mouth of the river, denied its existence- named one of its capes Disappointment, on account of his failure, while Astoria was settled, after the Spanish discoveries of the river, by our people and restored to us after its capture during the war. Their failure, then, either to discover or settle the Columbia, leaves no claim to the country contiguous to the Columbia river, which rises in the 54 deg 40m. N. latitude, although that river was explored by the British, it being an inferior tributary of the Columbia. But how is our title to this high degree of latitude established, even if we have a just claim to the country adjacent to the mouth of the Columbia? It is no better claim than would have been that to the country about Santa Fe, previous to the acquisition of Texas, for the reason that. In that country, were found the sources of the Arkansas and Red River. The discovery of the mouth of the river by consent, rather than the usage of nations, has given to the discoverer a right to the country upon its sources, but only when that right has never been contested.

Now, Sir remember this claim was asserted ten years or more, prior to Lewis & Clarke's discoveries. This certainly shows a pretension of claim and title, which cannot be the score of discovery and settlement near the mouth of the Columbia, and thence up the Tacheloue or Frazer's river, (as it is now called I believe) her title seems to me weak, for her navigator, Cook, passed the mouth of the river, denied its existence- named one of its capes Disappointment, on account of his failure, while Astoria was settled, after the Spanish discoveries of the river, by our people and restored to us after its capture during the war. Their failure, then, either to discover or settle the Columbia, leaves no claim to the country contiguous to the Tacheloue or Frazer's river, which rises in the 54 deg 40m. N. latitude, although that river was explored by the British, it being an inferior tributary of the Columbia. But how is our title to this high degree of latitude established, even if we have a just claim to the country adjacent to the mouth of the Columbia? It is no better claim than would have been that to the country about Santa Fe, previous to the acquisition of Texas, for the reason that. In that country, were found the sources of the Arkansas and Red River. The discovery of the mouth of the river by consent, rather than the usage of nations, has given to the discoverer a right to the country upon its sources, but only when that right has never been contested.

However, let the question of title pass: For my part, I wish the Pacific Ocean washed the base of the Rocky Mountains. That Western slope in a quarter of a century will bring this country into trouble: commercially, however, it is important and that is all that can be said for it. With 700 whale ships, and a growing East India and China commerce, we want harbors upon the Pacific. The mouth of the Columbia is a poor harbor. The whole coast of the Pacific, from Vancouver to Monterey, is iron bound, with scarcely an inlet or shelter for ships. The grand objects,
with both England and our country, our harbors. Both countries assumes high pretensions, to give room to fall. England asserts a claim to the mouth of the Columbia, that she may recede and secure Vancouver and its harbors. We pretend to 54 deg. 40m. that we may obtain Vancouver and its apparent advantages. In my opinion, something like the suggested by Gallatin and rivers will ultimately be adopted. I infer this from the whole temper of the discussion on the subject- the correspondence between Ministers, and the geographical and commercial fitness and appositeness of things. I have not here, in the country, access to any good maps, but from an examination of such as I have, if they do not betray me into error, it strikes me inconveniences would result from an undeviating adherence to the 49th parallel of latitude which I have not seen adverted to. Assuming that line as the basis of a compromise, slight departures might be made from it without material detriment to either country. For example: One of the navigable waters of the Columbia is Clarke river, which rises in a degree south of its great recipient, yet in its course makes a large bend North of 49 deg., nearly reaching 50 deg. A Conventional line should not cut this river in two. In my limited vision of the proper line, it has struck me that an extension of the 49th parallel West of the Rocky Mountains until it strikes Clarke's river; thence with the Northern margin of that river until it flows Southward to the same latitude; thence a straight line to the highest navigable point of the Tacouche or Frazer’s River in 50 deg.; thence down its Western margin to 48 deg. 30m; thence to Pugett's sound and Strait to the Ocean, would leave us the undisturbed possession of all the Columbia River and its chief tributaries: While England would be secured in the possession of all of Vancouver and its best, though not all its harbors; and she would enjoy that next desideration, a compact quadrangular territory between the ocean and Frazer’s river forever connecting her with her interior Hudson’s Bay interests, by continuity of country and settlement, if not by water navigation.

It is evident, from Pakenham’s tone, that his country doesn’t want war, and maugre the daunting bluster of Mr. Polk in his inaugural, he, as well as his "Organ" have cooled off. True Mr. Buchanan declines arbitration, but it is worth the blessing coyness of the loving maiden, who says to her lover: "Oh don’t! Pray don’t ask my mamma or papa; we can arrange this matter between ourselves. Submit your proposals in writing, or in some other form, at some other one, and as there are no two (people) on the earth more closely bound together by the ties of (love), so there are none who ought to be more able or willing to do each other justice without the interposition of third parties."

The diplomacy of Washington differs from that of any other place on earth perhaps. Protoculs and formula of treaties are frequently dispensed with, and private interviews and understandings precede, if they do not wholly supercede, clerical formalities. The Ashburton Treaty, it is understood, was concocted at the dinner table, and now we may guess the sinahude. A game is going on between Pakenham, an English gentlemen, and Buchanan, who is a good fellow, not the worse say you for being a bachelor, in which after various good natured attempts to check mate each other, they will get tired, take a glass of wine, damn the game and draw it. Washington is a city, you know of "magnificent distance." The Grand Witmagenott assembled at one end- the Exclusives and Diplomats at the other. The I atter, small in number, dispel enui, by the diner party or evening coterie. My word for it, Pakenham and Buchanan have often stood cheek by jowl pointing upon the map, and tracing a boundary where it may be, or should be. The qualified notice, as it passed the House of Representatives, even should it pass the senate, ought not and can not give offence, as Mr. McLane has probably assured his Government in the suppressed part of the late correspondence. Lord Aberdeen, with all his frankness, could scarcely have given any other answer than he did to our Minister. That response certainly does not indicate any fixedness of purpose hostile to our country, while all the inferences, I think, should be the other way. A more direct answer would commit his Government, and offend in a quarter, where offence and a blow would come together. On the whole, I have no fear of war; and if I were a merchant about freighting a ship to China, I would not add 1 10th of 1 per cent. Insurance on account of the present condition of public affars, the President finds time to step from the great theatre of State and wreak this vengeance upon a handful of innocent clerks. We hope that the press of Virginia will also find time, in the midst of Oregon and Texas discussions, on the record these barbarous acts, to old them up to universal shame, and to denounce and anathematize that infamous system of Proscription which finds such a favor with the General Government, but

RW46v23j21 March 13, 1846: The Axe Again At Work.

We perceive by some of the papers, that a now batch Clerks has been lately removed, entirely, we suppose, on account of a difference of political opinion with Mr. Polk and his party. In the midst of a most exciting and critical condition of public affars, the President finds time to step from the great theatre of State and wreak this vengeance upon a handful of innocent clerks. We hope that the press of Virginia will also find time, in the midst of Oregon and Texas discussions, on the record these barbarous acts, to old them up to universal shame, and to denounce and anathematize that infamous system of Proscription which finds such a favor with the General Government, but
By the mail of yesterday we received private advices from Pensacola, announcing the arrival there, on the evening of the 1st inst., of the U.S. brig Lawrence from Vera Cruz in eleven days. Unfortunately we received no papers by this arrival, but our correspondent informs us that there had been no change in affairs in Mexico. A letter from Vera Cruz dated the 18th, from a most responsible source, induces us to believe confidently, that nothing like a revolution has occurred in Mexico since the 1st of February, up to which day we have had advices by way of Havana. The Lawrence brought dispatches to the Government from our Minister, Mr. Slidell. This gentleman was still at Jalapa waiting instructions from Washington.

The U.S. brig Somera was to sail from Pensacola on the 21st for Vera Cruz.
Another letter states that there was great reason to believe that Mr. Slidell's treatment had been such as must lead to hard blows with Mexico. The writer says that the course of the leading men of Mexico had been of a nature most outrageous in the matter of the reception of a Minister from this country, so outrageous, that no other recourse than a resort to war left us. The writer thinks that it must be declared immediately. [PP]

**RW46v23i22 March 17, 1846: A Monarchy in Mexico.**

This subject, which we first took to be an idle conjecture, seems to be treated seriously by the Paris Journal des Debats and The London Times. The Journal says:

"This return of the Spanish American Republic to monarchical ideas is a serious subject for meditation: they turn their spirits to a monarchy as their only means of safety."

The Times says:

"The results of Mexican independence are before the world. The people of Mexico cannot be insensible to their own ruin, however powerless they may be to avert it. Under such circumstances, what would be the effect of the reappearance on the shores of America of that flag of Spain which was originally planted there by the great discoverers and captains of former ages, and which left indestructible traces of its pristine authority in the colonial descendents of the Spanish people? It would be as easy to accomplish the conquest of Mexico at the present moment, with a handful of the troops which form the garrison of Cuba, as in the days of the aboriginal Mexican princes. Would it be impracticable to accompany such an expedition with political institutions fitted to the wants of the Mexican people, and a calculated to rescue them from the perils which threaten their national existence? When we threw out this suggestion, some months ago, we confess that it wore an air of romance, and night be received with incredulity. But the more the world has learned of the utter weakness of Mexico, and the unquestionable designs of the United States, the more urgent has the case become and the more practienble the application of the only remedy which has been thought of. As far as Spain herself is concerned, such an enterprise would not be unworthy of the man whose military success and whose resolute character have already restored so much of the luster of the Spanish monarchy." [PP]

RW46v23i22 March 17, 1846: Mr. Webster On Oregon.

We publish the brief, but calm, well digested, and statesman like remarks of Mr. Webster upon the Oregon subject. They render the point clear beyond dispute, that there can be no pacific settlement of the Oregon question, except by compromise. England will never yield the whole of Oregon. In this opinion, indeed, Gen. Cass seems fully to concur. The question is, will the Administration negotiate, or not? It has the decision of war or peace in its own hands. [PP]

RW46v23i22 March 17, 1846: Later from Mexico.

We have been permitted to make the following extract from a letter lately received from Vera Cruz, under date of February 18th:

"Although the recent revolution has given much dissatistaction to a majority of the departmental governments, the country remains quiet. It does not appear that General Arista has as yet declared against the authority of Paredes, though it is highly probable he will do so."

A rumor has reached here which appears to have some foundation, that Sonora, Sinaloa, and California have pronounced against the government.

Mr. Slidell is still at Jalapa. Our citizens and commerce remain unmolested.

There are at present before this place, French, English, and Spanish vessels of war. [PP]

RW46v23i22 March 17, 1846: The Oregon Question, Mr. Webster’s Remarks

The following are resolutions proposed by Mr. Colquilt, of Georgia is the U.S. Senate.

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives. That notice be given, in the terms of the treaty, forabrogating the convention made between Great Britain and the United States on the twentieth of October,"
eighteen hundred and twenty seven, immediately after the close of the present session of Congress, unless the President, in his discretion, shall consider it expedient to defer it to a later period."

"Sec. 2. And be it further resolved. That it is earnestly desired that the long standing controversy, respecting limits in the Oregon territory, be speedily settled by negotiation and compromise, in order to tranquilize the public mind, and to preserve the friendly relations of the two countries."

In the Senate on Thursday week, the question came up for consideration and a long debate ensued. We here copy the remarks of Mr. Webster, as reported by the National Intelligencer:

I shall vote said he, for both portions of the amendment suggested by the Senator from Georgia, (Mr. Colquitt). I am prepared to do so. At the opening of the present session the President, uncalled upon by the Senate, sent to both Houses the diplomatic correspondence which had taken place between his Secretary of State and the Representative of the British Government here, recommending at the same time the giving of notice to that Government the termination of the convention of 1818. The correspondence thus submitted has very properly been made a subject of remark in this House. I will say nothing in regard to the propriety of sending that correspondence here. I suppose such a step could hardly be justifiable, save on the ground that the negotiation was ended by the rejection of the President's offer of the parallel of 49 as the boundary, and the immediate withdrawal of that offer; because, is the general practice of Governments, it has been found very inconvenient to publish the letters which may have passed between negotiators before the end of the negotiation has been arrived at. But as the President had sent us this correspondence, and as the Senate was called upon to act on the proposition of notice, I thought it would expedite our decision to have before us also any further correspondence, which might have taken place subsequently to that first sent. Accordingly moved the call, and in response to it, the more recent correspondence has been laid before us, from which we learn the offer by the British Envoy to submit the question to arbitration, and the rejection of that offer by the Executive.

Now without meaning at this time to go into any sort of examination of the course of the Executive in this matter, or indulging in any remark expressive of an unfriendly feeling towards the Administration, or any disposition to embarrass the Government, for I feel nothing of the kind, and nothing is further from my intention, I must still be permitted to say that the existing posture of affairs is such as to render it quite desirable that we should know what is the option of the executive in regard to this measure and its consequences. Nobody doubts that the two Houses of Congress have a perfect authority to terminate the Oregon convention, without offense to any body, because this is our specified right and its exercise can present no just cause of complaint in any quarter. But though this is an undoubted position, yet it must be considered in connection with the circumstances which have been made to surround it. The resolution of notice has passed the other House of Congress with a qualification, or addition, or by whatever name it should be called, which changes in some respect from being a mere naked notice to termination. It comes with that qualification or condition for adoption here. Other propositions are offered in the Senate, and are entertained as a fit subjects of consideration.

The Senator from Kentucky, in one part of his speech, says that he will leave the entire responsibility of this whole controversy where the Constitution has placed it, and contends that those who have the power to conduct the foreign diplomacy of the country are responsible to the country and to the world for the manner in which they shall exercise that power. This is certainly very just, but it raises a doubt whether we ought to do more than simply to give, or refuse to give, the naked notice. But some modification of the mere naked notice has been made already in the other House; and there is, as I believe, a conviction on the part of a large majority of the Senate that it should, to a certain extent, be qualified. Now, I hold that, under these circumstances, we have a right to know in what point of view the Executive himself regards this notice; what are the consequences to which, in the judgment of the Executive, the notice is to lead.

When speaking on this subject some six week ago I said it was most obvious that the President could not expect war; because he did not act as the Chief Magistrate of such a nation must be expected to act, if, charged as he was with the defence of the country, he expected any danger of its being assaulted by the most formidable Power upon earth. I still say there is nothing in the Executive communications to show us that the President does expect a war. He must, then, expect nothing but a continuance of the present dispute, or a settlement of it by negotiation. But how is it to be settled? On what terms? On what basis? All that we hear is, "the whole of Oregon or none." And yet there is to be negotiation. We cannot conceal from ourselves or the world the (the next couple lines are blurred). And yet we are to negotiate! What is negotiation? Does any gentleman expect that the Administration are, by negotiation, to persuade Great Britain to surrender the whole of what she holds in Oregon? They may do this: I cannot say they will not. If that is their expectation, let them try their hand in it; I wish them success. That is, I wish that we may get "all Oregon," if we can; but let our argument be fair, and let us settle the question reasonably.

But I do not understand the position we are placed in. The Executive seems to be for negotiation, but against taking any thing but the whole of Oregon. What is to be the ground of negotiation? What is the basis on which it is to proceed? If the Executive has made up his mind not to treat for less than the whole, he should say so, and throw himself at once on the two Houses of Congress.

I am entitled to make this remark, because it cannot be disguised that the probable effort of this notice is viewed very differently by very intelligent gentlemen, all friends of the Administration, on this floor. The Senator from Georgia (Mr. Colquitt) regards it as a measure tending to peace; he expects, he hopes peace from it, and he thinks the expression of such opinions as he avows will enable the Administration ration to secure the peace of the country. There are certain other gentlemen, and among them the honorable Senator from Michigan, (Mr. Cass,) who are much less ardent in their hopes of peace. That Senator's impression has been, that, if we pass this notice, the
Mr. Cass here rose amid a general smile, and said, no, (much laughter.) no; I never used the word; and I beg leave to contradict the statement. I have been afraid of war. Thus I allow, has been my position; and I hope I shall never be misunderstood nor misrepresented. I do not mean to say that the Senator from Massachusetts intends to misrepresent me.

Mr. Webster. Certainly not.

Mr. Cass. What I said was, that we were called on by the President to give this notice; that if we gave it, and there was no negotiation, and England did not recede, and we went on to carry out the other measures recommended by the President, that then war would be certain. (a laugh) I will repeat my position. I say, if we give these notice, and here shall be no negotiation; and if England adheres to her pretensions, and we go on to take possession of Oregon while she is there in possession, then there will be- gentlemen may use any term they please.

Mr. Webster. The only contingency the Senator fear is that England will continue her claim. Now, I would ask the honorable Senator whether he expects that England will ever surrender all of Oregon to any Power on earth?

Mr. Cass. I have my doubts that she will. I asked, as long ago as in October last, when she had ever relinquished any claim to territory she ever had set up.

Mr. Webster. Exactly; and it comes to the same thing. The gentleman thinks we shall not recede, and England will not recede; and, then, what more likely to happen than war. It was the Senator's argument, and not any particular. It was the Senator's argument, and not any particular expression he employed, which gave me the idea that such was his impressions. I do not charge the gentleman with saying that "war was inevitable," but what he did say yet things in my years, and on every return of the like language I am reminded the sentence with which the Roman Senator ended all his speeches, "delenda est Carthago."

I am desirous of expressing the sentiment (without wishing to embarrass the Administration; if negotiations are pending I withhold my tongue; my tongue shall be blistered before I will say anything against our own title so long as negotiations are pending; but the President must see the embarrassment under which we stand: I am willing to aid the Administration, and will aid it to obtain all to which we are justly entitled- that I must know something of the views, expectations, ends, and objects of the President in recommending this notice. I cannot much longer be quiet in the existing posture of affairs when no measures of defence are recommended to us, but negotiation is held out as likely to bring the question to a settlement by England giving up the whole matter in dispute. My doubt of that is as strong as that expressed by the Senator from Michigan (Mr. Cass). I say here, so far as my own knowledge goes, that it is not the judgment of this country, that it is the judgment of this Senate, that the Government of the United States shall run the hazard of a war for Oregon, by renouncing as no longer fit for consideration propositions made by ourselves to Great Britain thirty years ago, and repeated again and again before the world. I do not speak of any specific propositions, but of the general plan so justly suggested by the Senator from Missouri, (Mr. Beaton,) of separating the interest of British subjects and American citizens beyond the Rocky Mountains. I repeat the assertion that it is not the judgment of this country that we are bound to reject our own propositions, made over and over again twenty and thirty years ago. I do not believe that such is the judgment of this Senate. I have the fullest belief that the propositions proposed by the gentleman from Georgia concur with the views of a large majority of this body.

(A voice. Yes, of two thirds)

A gentleman near me says two thirds of it and I am willing to try that question today, this hour, this minute. I am ready now to take the question whether this difficulty shall or shall not be settled by compromise. Compromise I can understand; but negotiation, with a fixed resolution to take and not to give, with a predetermination not to take less than the whole, is what I do not and cannot understand in diplomacy. I wish we could take that question now not for the purpose of giving information in any quarter, but I wish to put an end to the prevent distressing, distracting, annoying state of things. There are many things which we should attend to, all of which are greatly and materially embarrassed by the present position of this affair. It is proposed, for example, to remodel the tariff. But with what view? If it is to augment revenue, or reduce revenue? If it is to augment revenue, then I ask, is that with a view to war? If it is to reduce revenue, then I ask, is that with a view to peace? How can we possibly know how to act, without the least knowledge whether there is a likelihood of the continuance of peace, or whether we are on the eve of an outbreaking war? The embarrassment in the private affairs of men is equally pressing. The nation possesses a great Comerce. New it is easy for a gentleman to say, "I disregard commerce on a question of the national honor." So do I when it is the question. It the honor of my country is attacked, I will say, in the language once used by a member of the other House, "Perish commerce!" But these are interests not to be trifled with. These great interest of this country, in which we are involved the daily bread of thousands and millions of men, are not to be put in jeopardy for objects not connected in reality either with the honor or the substantial interest of the country. I wish, therefore, as soon as it is practicable, to obtain and expression of the opinion of the Senate. If it shall be the opinion of this body that it is best to give the naked notice recommended in the Executive message, that will throw the responsibility upon either on the Executive to the fullest extent. I am for getting a question either on the naked notice, or on notice in some modified form, such as shall the express what I believe tho be the judgment both of the Senate and the country.

Other Senators expressed their views on the subject, but no question was taken. Many of the friends of Mr.
Colquitt’s resolution desired that a vote upon them might be taken at once, being confident of success; but a motion to adjourn, which takes precedence of all others, was made by Mr. Breese of Illinois, and was carried. [PP]

RW46v23i23 March 20, 1846: Later From Mexico.

The French bark Anax, Capt. Pomparres, arrived here yesterday from Vera Cruz, having sailed on the 23rd two or three days latter than the U.S. brig Lawrence brought. The news is not important, if we may judge from the imperfect files which we have received. The prominent feature in the news is the open canvassing of the question of erecting a constitutional monarchy in Mexico. This is the common theme of conversation at Vera Cruz, and in a late number of the Memorial Historice- the successor of El Siglo XIX- is an earnest article written to show that monarchies are no more exempt from revolutionary disturbances than Republics. The question is illustrated from general history, and especially from that of Spain. The subject has evidently taken hold of men’s minds seriously, and the probability of a revolution founded noon the desire of obtaining a stronger and more stable Government was the town talk.

Mr. Slidell was still at Jalapa, awaiting instructions from Washington. Upon receiving his orders, a short interval would elapse before receiving the definitive action of the Mexican Government; but we presume that the next arrival will inform us, either of Mr. Slidell’s reception, or of his return to the United States.

An intelligent passenger by the Anax thinks there is scarcely a chance of war between the two countries: that Mexico, when it comes to the pitch, will receive our Minister with the best grace possible.

The Falmouth, St. Mary’s and Porpoise, of the U.S. Gulf Squadron, were lying at Vera Cruz when the Anax left there on the 23rd. As we have before mentioned, the appearance of so large a force, when unexpected, alarmed the citizens of Vera Cruz not a little. When the Anax came out, she saw a vessel, supposed to be an American frigate, going into Vera Cruz. Can it have been the Raritan, which was reported as bound thither from Rio at our last account.

The Anax, we should mention, brought $65,000 in specie, and twenty four passengers.

The Mexican steamer Guadaloupe left Vera Cruz on to 22nd for Tampico, with 600 troops on board.

Don Angel Trias, the Governor of the State of Chihuahua, thus, has resigned his office, after having refused adherence to the power of Paredes.

Robberies still continue very frequent in Mexico. One occurred on the 9th, directly opposite the National Palace, three thousand dollars in specie being stolen. The streets are patrolled by the military, but there is no efficient police.

So strained are the means of the new Government in Mexico, that the clerks of the different Departments have not touched their pay since the new order of things. The Secretary of the Treasury, having recovered from a temporary illness is urged to give his attention to this needy class, if he would prevent great distress.

A new paper, El Boletin Militar , assures the public that Gen. D. Juan Alvarez has not disposed of any thing belonging to the expedition to the Californias, has been charged against him. Such things do happen sometimes in Mexico!

Gen. Ampudia does not appear to have moved further than Celaya, on his march to the army of the North. Some scandalous reports had been in circulation about him, but one paper contradicts them.

On the 6th, Gen. Paredes reviewed the troops of the capital, and there was a brilliant shame fight on the occasion. In returning to town in the evening, several accidents happened. One poor fellow was run over and trampled by the cavalry. [PP]

RW46v23i24 March 24, 1846 p1c2: The Army of Texas.

It will be seen by the important news in another column, that the army of Texas is on the advance, and we may soon expect other tidings of stirring interest. If a strong Mexican army be really in the neighborhood of the point to which our forces are advancing, a collision is not improbable; and unless our Generals commit the error of under ratting their enemy, we may soon hear of a new triumph of American arms. But in such a cause, and with such a foe even victory loses half its charms. Hitherto our sword has never been unsheathed, save in the defence of our own territory. Now, it is to be drawn, for the first time, in a war of aggression – never, perhaps, to be returned to its scabbard until our "manifest destiny" has arrived at its complete fulfillment, in the dominion of the United States over the whole of North America. Gen. Taylor, in his proclamation, pays proper respect to the religious feelings of the people when we are about to subjugate. We have no doubt that he will execute his duty with
From the New Orleans *Courier*, Extra. March 14th

**GENERAL ORDERS ISSUED BY BT. BRIG’R GENERAL Z. TAYLOR OF THE ARMY OF OCCUPATION, AT CORPUS CHRISTI.**

Galveston, March 12, 9 o’clock, A.M.

The Galveston has just arrived from Aransas Pass. The main body of Gen. Taylor’s Army had marched towards Brazos St. Jago and the last Regiment with Gen. T. and staff, was to leave this morning. The rumor of a large force of Mexican troops being about to oppose the concentration of Gen. Taylor’s forces had occasioned great excitement. The troops of Gen. T. are said to be in high spirits in the expectations of a conflict with the enemy. The following orders have been issued:

**HEAD QUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION.**

Corpus Christi, March 8, 1846.

As the Army is about marching to the frontier on a delicate service, the Commanding General wishes it distinctly understood that no person, not properly attached to it, will be permitted to accompany the troops, or establish themselves in their vicinity, either on the route or on the Rio Grande, on any pretence whatever. It may save many individuals useless expense and annoyance to be informed that rigid measures will be taken to enforce this regulation, which is deemed necessary for the intrest of the public service.

By direction of the General.

W.S. Bliss, Asst. Adjt., General.

Head Quarters, Army of Occupation,
Corpus Christi, Texas, March 8, 1846.

Orders No. 30

The army of occupation being about to take position on the left bank of the Rio Grande, under the orders of the Executive of the United States, the General commanding deems it proper to express his hope that the movement will prove beneficial to all concerned, and that nothing may be wanted on an part to insure so desirable a result, he sinetly enjoys upon his command the most scrupulous regard for the rights of all persons who may be found in the peaceable pursuit of their respective avocations, residing on both sides of the Rio Grande. No person under any pretence whatever, will interfere in any manner with the civil rights and religious privileges of the people, but will pay the utmost respect to both. Whatever may be required for the use of the army will be purchased by the proper departments at the highest market price. The General commanding is happy to say that he has entire confidence in the patriotism and discipline of the army under his command, and feels assured that his orders, as above expressed, will be strictly observed.

Z. Taylor, Br. General,
U.S. Army Commanding.

The 3rd Brigade commanded by Col. Whistler, composed of the 3rd Regiment of Infantry, commanded by Lieut. Col. J. Garland; will take final leave of their old Corpus Christi encampment, on Wednesday, the 11th instant, to join the main Army.

The squadron of transports are to leave on the 20th inst. under convoy of the cutter Woodbury, Capt Foster, and the steamer Monmouth.

The proclamation above has been published in the Spanish language, and issued to the inhabitants of the Rio Grande.

The First Brigade under the command of Brevet Brigadier General Win. J. Worth, composed of the Battalion of Artillery, commanded by Lieut. Col. Thomas Childs, and the eighth Regiment of Infantry commanded by Lieut. Col. W. G. Beik***, will leave the encampment on the morning of the 9th, for the same destination.

The steamer Cincinnati, and almost every thing else is said to be charted for the use of the Army.

The 2nd Brigade, commanded by Lieut. Col. J. S. Melatosh of the 5th Infantry and composed of the 5th
Regiment of Infantry, under Major T. Brown, will strike their tents on the morning of the 10th, and take up the line of march for the Depot.

Gen. Mejia is said to have returned to Matamoras on the 2nd. The Mexican troops this side the Rio Grande (if any) are said to be under the command of Garcia, Canales and Severiego. It is reported that Gen. Taylor has made a requisition for more troops—we doubt whether he has done so, or whether he will need them.

Corpus Christi has been literally abandoned. The hangers on of the army are leaving for the East as fast as possible. The respect so strictly enjoyed for the rights of private property will meet with universal approbation. [PP]

We publish in another column, the Message of the President, of which we yesterday gave a sketch. It is with some difficulty that any answer at all has been obtained from that high functionary, but, having at last condescended to respond to Mr. Dayton’s resolutions, he declares that an increase of the naval and military force is at this time advisable to put the country in a state of defence. It is understood that an expenditure of ten or twelve millions will be required immediately.

Now, we are free to confess, that if war be inevitable, if there are no proper, natural, honorable means to escape from that dire calamity, we should not object to the appropriation of ten times ten millions. Of the facts, however, so far as they are stated in his Message, upon which Mr. Polk grounds the recommendation of an increase of the naval and military force, the country has been long since apprised, and is as capable of judging as himself. Is there no way, plain, easy, equitable, by which the Oregon dispute may be amicably settled? We believe there is. We have had every evidence of the disposition of England, to arrive at a peaceable result. We have had good reason, in the language of the papers which are upon this point the organs of the British Government, and in the declaration of the Premier himself in reference to Mr. Pakenham’s rejection of the proposition of 49, to believe that a pacific settlement of this controversy may be easily attained, if such be the inclination of our Government. Such a settlement, we fearlessly venture to assert, would receive the approbation of three-fourths of the American people. They are thoroughly tired, disgusted, sick at heart, of this senseless quarrel. The President cannot but know, that public sentiment, with wonderful unanimity, points him to a compromise, by which our honor may be preserved, and a war avoided. We have the authority of the Washington Correspondent of the Richmond Enquirer for saying that a very decided majority of the Senate of the United States are believed to be in favor of a reasonable adjustment of the dispute. In his letter of the 22nd instant, he says:

"A letter, written in a jocose vein, in the New York Herald, headed "scientific classification of the Senate according to Buffon, exhibits signs of what a good number here conceived to be the real condition of parties is that body on the Oregon question, though I know it embraces takes as to the individual position assigned to many of the Senators. Few doubt that a treaty would be ratified on the basis of the 49th degree of North Latitude, which by the bye, should not yield to Great Britain the navigation of the straits of Fuea. Indeed, it is generally believed that not more than twelve Senators at most could be found to vote against it. Many members of that body who would sustain it, doubtless believe with the Executive that the title of the United States to the whole of Oregon, up to fifty-four forty, is clear and unquestionable."

If such be the case, there can be no necessity of an enormous expenditure of money for the object specified by the President. He has it in his own power to save that expenditure, and to avert the terrible issue of a collision between two of the greatest empires of modern times.

We do not charge upon the President that he willfully designs to involve this nation in a bloody strife,—we would impute to no man such horrible criminality: But, from first to last, from the Alpha to the Omega of this Oregon dispute, he has taught this nation a lesson which may yet need to be enforced by the scorpion lash of war, never to elevate an inferior man to a post of such transcendant importance. In his very Inaugural, he throws down the gauntlet of defiance to Great Britain upon this subject. He addresses her in the menacing tone of a high-wayman, bidding the traveler stop and deliver, rather than in the calm and dispassionate language of a practiced statesman. Confident of the goodness of his cause, and mindful of the courtesies which should prevail in the intercourse of civilized nations. We all recollect the explosion which followed in the British Parliament. Then came a lucid interval, in which our Government made the proposition of 49, and then, its pettish withdrawal of negotiation, because of the somewhat uncereonious rejection of that proposition by the British Minister. Afterwards, the Ambassador of Great Britain, representing the solicitude of his Government to avoid a war, makes the proposal of arbitration, and that, however, so far as they are stated in his Message, upon which Mr. Polk grounds the recommendation of an increase of the naval and military force, the country has been long since apprised, and is as capable of judging as himself. Is there no way, plain, easy, equitable, by which the Oregon dispute may be amicably settled? We believe there is. We have had every evidence of the disposition of England, to arrive at a peaceable result. We have had good reason, in the language of the papers which are upon this point the organs of the British Government, and in the declaration of the Premier himself in reference to Mr. Pakenham’s rejection of the proposition of 49, to believe that a pacific settlement of this controversy may be easily attained, if such be the inclination of our Government. Such a settlement, we fearlessly venture to assert, would receive the approbation of three-fourths of the American people. They are thoroughly tired, disgusted, sick at heart, of this senseless quarrel. The President cannot but know, that public sentiment, with wonderful unanimity, points him to a compromise, by which our honor may be preserved, and a war avoided. We have the authority of the Washington Correspondent of the Richmond Enquirer for saying that a very decided majority of the Senate of the United States are believed to be in favor of a reasonable adjustment of the dispute. In his letter of the 22nd instant, he says:

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In my annual message of the 2nd of December last I recommended to the favorable consideration of wise precaution demands such increase. I have to express the opinion, that a any circumstances connected with, or growing out of the foreign relations of this country, require at this time an increase of our naval or military force, and, if so what those circumstances are, I have to express the opinion, that a wise precaution demands such increase.

In my annual message of the 2nd of December last I recommended to the favorable consideration of Congress as increase of our naval force, especially of our steam navy, and the raising of an adequate military force to guard and protect suck of our citizens as might think proper to emigrate to Oregon. Since that period, I have seen no cause to recall or modify these recommendations. On the contrary, reasons exist which, in my judgment, render it proper not only that they should be promptly carried into effect, but that additional provision should be made for the public defence.

The consideration of such additional provision was brought before appropriate comities of the two Houses of Congress, in answer to calls made by them in reports prepared, with my sanction, by the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy, on the 29th of December and the 8th of January last; a mode of communication with Congress not, unusual, and, under existing circumstances, believed to be most eligible. Subsequent events have confirmed me in the opinion that those recommendations were proper as precautionary measures.

It was a wise maxim of the Father of his country, that "to be prepared for war, is one of the most efficient means of preserving peace," and that, "avoiding occasions of expense by cultivating peace," we should "remember also, that timely disbursements to repel it." The general obligation to perform this duty is greatly strengthened by facts known to the whole world. A controversy respecting the Oregon territory now exist between the United States and Great Britain; and while, as far as we know, the relations of the latter with all European nations are of the most pacific character, she is making unusual and extraordinary armaments and warlike preparations, naval and military, both at home and in her North American possessions.

It cannot be disguised, that, however sincere may be the desire of peace, in the event of a rupture these preparations the fact is undoubted that they are now proceeding, in part, at least, with a view to the contingent possibility of a war with the United States. The general policy of making additional warlike preparations was distinctly announced, in the speech from the throne, as late as January 1st, and has since been reiterated by the ministers of the crown in both houses of Parliament. Under this aspect of our relations with Great Britain, I cannot doubt the propriety of increasing our means of defence, both by land and by sea. This can give Great Britain no cause of offence, or increase the danger of rupture. If on the contrary, we should fold our arms in security and at last be suddenly involved in hostilities for the maintenance of our just rights, without any adequate preparation, our responsibility to the country would be of the gravest character. Should collision between the two countries be avoided, as I sincerely trust it may be, the additional charge upon the treasury, in making the necessary preparations, will not be lost; while in the event of such a collision they would be indispensable for the maintenance of our national rights and national honor.

I have seen no reason to change or modify the recommendations of my annual message in regard to the Oregon question. The notice to abrogate it's the treaty of the ** of August, 1827, is authorized by the treaty itself, and cannot be regarded as a warlike measure; and I cannot withhold my conviction that it should be promptly given. The other recommendations are in conformity with the existing treaty, and would afford to American citizens in Oregon no more than the same measure of protection which has long since been extended to British subjects in that territory.

The state of our relations with Mexico is still in an unsettled condition. Since the meeting of Congress another revolution has taken place in that country, by which the government has passed into the hands of new rulers. This event has procrastinated, and may possibly defeat, the settlement of the differences between the United States to Mexico, at the date of the last advices, had not been received by the existing authorities. Demonstrations of a character hostile to the United States continue to be made in Mexico which has rendered it proper, in my judgment, to keep nearly to thirds of our army on our southwestern frontier. In doing this, many of the regular military post have been reduced to a small force, inadequate to their defence should an emergency arise.
In view of these "circumstances," it is my "judgment" that "an increase of our naval and military force is at this time required," to place the country in a suitable state of defence: At the same time, it is my settled purpose to pursue such a course of policy as may be most calculated to preserve, both with Great Britain and Mexico, an honorable peace; which nothing will so effectually promote as unanimity in our councils, and a firm maintenance of all our just rights.

JAMES K. POLK

Washington, March 24, 1846

Mr. Berrien offered a resolution directing the comities on Military and Naval Affairs so lay before the Senate the communications and estimates form the War and Navy Departments, relative to the proposed increase of those branches of the public service.

Mr. Benton said the Committee on Military Affairs, all of whom he had consulted, except one now absent, were ready to lay before the Senate the report and estimate of the Secretary of War, and saw no impropriety in their publication.

Mr. Fairfield said that some of the papers communicated by the Secretary of the Navy, were not proper to be made public, and he hoped the resolution would not prevail.

Mr. Berrien said he wished the Senate to be put in possession of the information, and they would afterwards decided upon the expediency of publishing or withholding it.

Mr. Westcott hoped the resolution would pass. The information would be as safe in the possession of any and every member of the Senate as it would be in that of the Committees, or he Executive and his Secretaries- and it was proper they should have it to guide their action.

The resolution was then passed, and the report and estimates from the Secretary of War ordered to be printed.

Mr. Adams motion to reconsider the vote (closing the debate upon the Military Bill at three o’clock yesterday) was laid upon the table.

The House on motion of Mr. Brinkerhoff, went into the Committee of the Whole.

A motion was made by Mr. McConnell to lay aside the Military Bill, and lost.

The Committee then adopted an amendment that the enlistment should be for three years, unless sooner disbanded by the President and that the increase to each company of privates should not exceed eight. This amendment was adopted.

An amendment to increase the number of troops for each company from eighty to one hundred, was also carried.

A substitute to the whole bill was the proposed by Mr. Hungerford, of N.Y., and agreed to, authorizing the companies to be filled with six men each, and to serve for three years unless sooner disbanded by the President.

The Bill was then reported to the House.

Mr. Brinkerhoff moved to the previous questions which was withdrawn, and Mr. McKay addressed the House in favor of an amendment to the bill by increasing the rank and file at once to sixty men; and by giving power to the President to make each company 100 men.

Mr. McKay renewed the motion for the Previous Question, which the House refused to second, yeas 50, nays 91.

Mr. Boyd moved to recommit this bill. Lost 96 to 69.
Mr. Haralson of Ga. proceeded to defend the bill as reported from his Committee. Mr. H. said he should bring forward another bill to give the President power to raise 50,000 men, and if the emergencies of the country required it, he was ready to vote 100,000 or 1,000,000.

Mr. Davis of KY., put some plain questions to Mr. Haralson as to the exigency which the Executive had surmised in the increase of the Army.

Mr. Haralson answered that a communication had been received on the 31st of December, upon which was based the action of the Committee.

Mr. Davis wished to know what were the views of the Executive about the increase.

Mr. Burt S.C. (a member of the Military Committee) objected as the information and Mr. Haralson then said that the information could not be communicated consistently with a due regard for the public interest.

The motion for the Previous Question was now renewed and seconded by a vote of 91 to 50.

The amendment that Mr. McKay was rejected by a vote of 105 to 76, and the amendment of Mr. Hungerford (raising each company to 80 men, if the President thought proper to do so, and to enlist the new troops for three years) was agreed to by a vote of 112 to 79.

A motion was now made to lay the bill upon the table, and lost a vote 149 to 32. The bill was finally passed, 169 to 15. The bill if passed, would add 2900 men to the Army.

The house again went into Committee of the Whole upon the bill for making appropriations for deficiencies in former bills.

A debate upon an amendment in relation to distributing book, which was denounced by Mr. Payne, of Ala. The debate was continued by Mr. Ewing, of Pa. and Mr. Winthrop, of Mass., amidst much confusion, and the committee rose without action on the bill or amendments, when the House adjourned. [PP]

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RW46v23i26 March 31, 1846 p1c2: Mexico

The N.O. Tropic of the 20th inst. contains some news from Mexico. It is not, however, of much importance. All sorts of rumors were rife among the Mexicans in regard to advance of the American Army. One report states that the army was advancing towards Matamoros on the left bank of the Rio Bravo, but that they had been driven back by the Mexicans. This was contradicted by other accounts. There were large stories also of desertions from the American army. [PP]

RW46v23i26 March 31, 1846 p1c4: Despatches From Mr. McLane.

Despatches from Mr. McLane- the Washington correspondent of the New York Courier, under date of Monday last, writer:

"Despatches were received at the State Department per the Hibernia, from Mr. McLane, our Minister at London; the exact purport of which I am not informed, but unquestionably of an unfavorable character as it relates to the existing attitude of the Oregon question. Those who from their position and political relations, are accurately advised of the nature of those dispatches, and who are also advocates of peaceful and equitable adjustment of the difficulty, are evidently alarmed at the posture of affairs, and are full of apprehension that the course of our government has been such as to make it extremely improbable that the matter will be settled by negotiation."

But the Editor of the Courier himself says in the same paper:

"With regard to the Oregon difficulty, we have a well settled conviction, that it will be in a train of settlement shortly after the arrival of the steamer of the 4th of April. We have no doubt but Mr. McLane has been instructed to inform the British Government that if they will offer the proposition refused by Mr. Packenham, it will be accepted; and in our judgment, they will tender that proposition accompanied with a demand of free navigation forever, of the Columbia for a term of years, when by the extinction of the fur trade, it will become valueless to G. Britain. Should they do so we cannot doubt but the whole difficulty will be amicably arranged. For the offensive manner in which Mr. Buchanan refused arbitration, there can be no apology; but recent events have taken off the edge of that foolish and unjustifiable act; and the wise merchant and all who are engaged in business should feel and act as if the Oregon affair was in a train of satisfactory adjustment. Such a tall events are our opinions of the matter, and we give them what they are worth." [PP]
The secret estimates of the Naval Bureau and Secretary of the Navy were in the House this morning, and at one time upon the Speaker's table. The Committee on majority took the matter into their own hands, and refused to show the reports to be read. The information, however, I can give you.

The information, then, which the House designed to keep secret is the fact that the estimates were made by the Heads of the Naval Bureaus. Commodores Morris, Warrington, Crane and Shubrick proposed, under estimates prepared by the Secretary of the Navy, the following increase of the Navy:

In men, thirty six thousand, eight hundred.

Expenditure, $20,000,000

And the increase of the vessels in commission to the following number:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Steamers</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frigates</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sloops of War</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An increase of fifty-eight vessels of war in all. The Secretary of War did not go to this extreme, but proposed an increase of 50,000 to the Standing Army, the whole force to be under the control of the President of the United States. [PP]

Our Washington Correspondent writes us, by telegraph, as follows- I have it from reliable authority, that the suppressed, or withdrawn, estimates of the bureau, made with the President's sanction, proposed an expenditure of from forty to fifty millions of dollars: The Navy estimates proposed forty steamers!

Mr. Fairfield, the Chairman of the Naval Committee in the Senate, got alarmed and cut them down to ten steamers. I will write you further in my letter tonight.- Belt Pat. of Thursday. [PP]

This renowned exile, it is said, is amusing himself at present with the gentlemanly occupation of cock fighting. He has lost heavily of late at cards. He will have to return to Mexico before long, if for no other purpose than to replenish his exhausted purse. [PP]

We learn by an extract from a letter, receive by a commercial house yesterday from Galveston, and dated on the 14th inst. that the schr. Mary Shields, from Matamoros bound to New York, put into Galveston a few days since in distress. The captain reports the American Consul at Matamoros, to Gen. Taylor at Corpus Christi. In addition to this, we earn verbally that a Mexican who was the bearer of dispatches from Mr. S. at Matamoros, to Gen. Taylor at Corpus Christi, had been shot by the authorities at the former place on his return. It is also said that 8000 Mexican troops are stationed there.

There was a rumor in town yesterday, to the effect that Mr. Slidell himself had been thrown into prison, but this undoubtedly took its rise from the above. Should it turn out that Mr. Schatzell has really been incarcerated at Matamoros, Gen. Taylor cannot reach the vicinity of that city with too great speed. We have heard of several other acts committed of late- one of which was the shooting of a young American trader named Burney, in Perote, on the principal ground that he was in Texas during her early straggle for liberty- and now it is stated that one of our Counsuls has been thrown into prison on no other plea than that he has been in correspondence with Gen. Taylor. We have said so often that our Government should come to some understanding with Mexico- should have a full and final settlement with her of all difficulties – that we have become sid of the subject. Granted that Mexico- a weak, powerless- yet no one can allow a snarling puppy to be continually snapping at his heels without kicking him out of the way at least. [PP]
Extract of a letter from an Officer in the Army of Observation, dated. Corpus Christi March 10, 1846.

The Dragoons and Ringgold’s Light Artillery left on the 8th for the Rio Grande; the first brigade (Worth’s) with Duncan’s battery, on the 9th; and the second brigade, this morning. The brigade, with Bragg’s battery, will march tomorrow morning and Gen. Taylor, with his staff, will follow at noon. It is said that all the corps will unite on the Sal Colorado, and moved on together towards Matamoros or point Isabel, as it may then be determined.

No one expects a fight. My own opinion is, and has been for some time past, that the Mexican troops will retire as we made advance, and that some arrangement will be made with the Mexican Commander, by which our troops will be permitted to take position on or near the Rio Grande, and that a post will be established at Point Isabel, which will be fortified in order to insure a water communication with New Orleans and a depot for supplies.

This is all conjecture on my part – but we shall soon see whether I am right or not. The former battalion of light artillery being broken up by the assignment of three of the batteries to the Dragoons and Brigades, is late commander, Major Erving, is ordered to remain in command here for the purpose of removing the troops, artillery and stores left, from this to St. Joseph’s, and thence to the Brazos Santiago, or Point Isabel. A battery of six 18 pounders, besides Monroe’s field battery, is to go round by water with the troops and stores. St. Joseph’s as well as this place, will be abandoned – though a small depot for the supply of the dragoons at San Antonio and at Austin, may be continued. The army is to move slowly, and will probably be from 13 to 15 days on the march.

I cannot yet say how long I shall remain here, or at St. Joseph’s – both which stations are under Major Erving’s command – no final instructions having yet been received – but the passage to the Brazos Santiago could be made by an ordinary steamboat in good weather, in from 12 to 14 hours.

The troops left with me consist of Monroe’s company, Porter’s first Artillery, and somewhere about sixty or seventy supernumeraries, effective for guards, &c. Besides these are the sick and convalescent of general hospital, &c. I believe it is intended that the troops, including engineers, tools, &c, shall arrive at point Isabel about the time the troops reach it by land.

I may be wrong in some of these points, for I cannot know with certainty what is to be done here, till the instructions I have before mentioned are received. I will write a line and tell you when to change the directions of my letters. I have written this in very great haste, to be in time for the steamer for St. Joseph’s, which leaves in a few minutes.

Captain Frank of the schr. Equity, which has just arrived from Matamoros, which place she left on the 11th inst. reports that the American Consul Mr. Schatzell is not imprisoned as the schr. Mary Shields reported. Letters were received by a Commercial House in this city from the Consul himself, who says the rumor is entirely unfounded. [PP]

April

May

We deem no apology necessary for occupying much space in this morning’s paper with the [ . . . ] (though, we must add, discreditable) debate in the House of Representatives, on Monday last, between Mr. Charles Jarod Ingersoll and Mr. Ashmun of Massachusetts. The former gentleman, it will be perceived, has not only repeated his last series of charges against Mr. Webster, the first having been abandoned as untenable, and the accuser thereby acknowledging their falsity,) but he has attempted to sustain them, in advance of the investigation directed to be made [ . . . ] the House. And how? Why, by reading manuscripts from the books of the State Department, to which, it seems he has been permitted to have access, and the contents of which he has not hesitated to divulge, although the President, in whose charge the fund to the disbursements of which these books refer is specially placed by law felt himself constrained by solemn considerations of public duty to withhold even from the Representatives of the People that precise information, when requested by a resolution of the House to lay it before that body! It will devolve upon Mr. Ingersoll, therefore, even if he shall be able to sustain his charges against Mr. Webster—and upon that point we are content to await the action of the Committee of Investigation, prepared to unite in his condemnation if he be guilty, though feeling nevertheless a strong hope, as well as a profound conviction that he will pass through the fiery ordeal unscathed—we say it will devolve upon Mr. Ingersoll to clear his own skirts of the serious charge of have
transcended his privileges as a member of the House in examining the records referred to, and of having violated a law of the land in making portions of those records public. If Mr. Ingersoll shall be permitted, like "a mousing owl," to pry into the secret recesses of the Executive Departments for the purpose of arming himself with weapons of assault upon the personal reputation of a gentleman who (incomplete).

[...] announced to Congress that [...] Resolution, adopted by [...] notice to Great Britain that [...] of 1827, recognizing the [...] (or non-occupation, as [...] the Oregon territory, shall [...] of twelve months from [...] of giving the notice, contem-[...] for by thie treaty itself, is of [...] of wear, nor has it any one who [...] the subject. In or out of Congress, [...] of resorting to this measure, we [...] been questioned and denied, mainly [...] if it should be given in a discourteous [...] spirit, as there was certainly at one [...] too much reason to fear, and in regard to which we are not now entirely free from apprehension, it might close the door to friendly negotiation, and consequently result in war at the expiration of this twelve months, if not sooner. Especially, was it apprehended, would this be the case, if, as was clearly recommended in the President's Message, measures should be adopted by Congress, simultaneously with the adoption of the notice, for the purpose of taking actual possession, at that time, of the disputed territory, and expelling from it the British occupants now holding it and exercising over it, as they have long done, all the rights of sovereignty.

But the language of the notice being unobjectionable, and unaccompanied as it has been by any measure calculated to would the pride or to affect the rights (real or imaginary) of Great Britain, these grounds of objection of course
The result of the controversy now depends materially, we doubt not, upon the manner in which the President shall exercise the "discretion" with which, as well because it is legitimately and Executive function, as because of his peculiar relations to this question, he has been properly clothed. We hope for his own sake, as well as for that of the country, that neither the "pride of consistency," by which even strong minds are often unduly influenced, nor the dread of denunciation from the ultra portion of his own party, which has so much terror for aspiring politicians, will induce him, in communicating the resolution of Congress to the British Ministry, to accompany it by an inadmissible ultimatum, or, if he shall make no new proposition himself to present it in such manner as to prevent the submission, in reply, of terms of compromise by that Government. Entertaining a less exalted opinion both of Mr. Polk's expansiveness of mind and of his firmness, than some of his friends appear to do—regarding him rather as a partizan than as a statesman—believing him to be influenced less by his obligations to his country, and less by considerations of what its vital interests demand of him, than by his allegiance to party, and by his estimate of the effect which a particular course of policy may exert upon its fortunes—we have not been without strong apprehensions that he may so far depart from the spirit of the resolution adopted by Congress, as to neutralize the pacific temper of its joint resolution, and thereby to counteract the obvious design of that body in giving to it the "form" which it finally assumed. These apprehensions have not been diminished by the fact, that, in that form the resolution drew to its support every Whig in both branches of Congress, and every member of the Administration party exposed to the extreme position originally assumed by Mr. Polk, and zealously maintained by those supposed to be in his confidence,--circumstance in itself well calculated to influence the action of a mere partizan. And certainly we are not authorized to draw a very favorable augury from the recent declaration of the Official Journal, [if that paper reflects the feelings, and foreshadows the purposes of the President,] to the effect that, while it rejoices that Congress has authorized the notice to be given, it strongly disapproves of the form which that notice finally assumed.

Nevertheless, we have no desire nor intention to prejudge the Executive, nor unnecessarily to excite in the public mind fears of an inauspicious conclusion to this controversy. If, indeed, the Washington Correspondent of the New York Courier be correctly informed, Mr. Polk will adopt a course calculated to promote its pacific adjustment; notwithstanding the contrary inference is, we think, legitimately deductible from the language of the Washington Union, and from the President's own uniform language and conduct heretofore. The correspondent of the Courier thus shadows forth the probable views and purposes of the Cabinet:

"I believe that the President is still willing to adjust the matter fairly and upon the basis heretofore offered. If the same opinion is the majority of his Cabinet, the only opposing member being Mr. Buchanan; but he, from his position, is a very serious obstacle in the way of the pacific intentions of the government. His opposition, however, was upon ulterior objects the first and more immediate of which is the vacant seat on the bench of the Supreme Court of the United States, and the next and more remote is that of the succession to the Presidency. By adhering to his opposition he may compel the President to gratify the first and most reasonable of his wishes, in which, if he should be successful, the question of the succession would be merged. It is well understood that the War candidate for the Presidency, the candidate of the 54 40 men, is Gen. Cass. He commences with a small force, it is true, but should be successful, the question of the succession would be merged. It is well understood that the War candidate for the Presidency, the candidate of the 54 40 men, is Gen. Cass. He commences with a small force, it is true, but should be successful, the question of the succession would be merged. It is well understood that the War candidate for the Presidency, the candidate of the 54 40 men, is Gen. Cass. He commences with a small force, it is true, but should be successful, the question of the succession would be merged." [w]

In regard to the mode of giving the notice, another correspondent of the same paper writes as follows:

"The "notice" will be sent to Mr. McLane, by the steamer of the 1st prox., to be presented to the Earl of A**deen, on behalf of this government. The respect due to a foreign power, and the importance of the occasion in the view of the administration, requires the observance of this form, which seems to be consistent with reason and propriety. I have it from the most reliable authority, that it will not be accompanied by a proposition; but Mr. McLane will be instructed to "lump it," and pay, when they can, about 50 cents in the dollar. They will never find out the actual amount, we imagine—though they had it at their finger's ends when they were pressing the annexation measure through Congress—Until Uncle Sam shall be persuaded to assume the entire debt, in exchange for the public lands of Texas. It will soon be ascertained, after that, how much is due; and it will be "a caution to Crockett" to see how rapidly the
Now that the war in Indian is decided, the Oregon question begins to attract more attention, but the speeches of Mr. Calhoun, Mr. Haywood, and others, had convinced the British Public that our intentions were peaceable.

The U. S. steamer Col. Harney arrived in port last evening from Brazos Santiago, whence she sailed on the 16th inst. She brings us advices from Gen. Taylor's camp down to the 12th instant.

Thus affairs remained till the 11th inst., when Gen. Ampudia arrived at Matamoros. The following day General Ampudia sent a written notice to Gen. Taylor, requiring him to retire at once to the left bank of the Nueces, and insinuating to him that his persistence in maintaining his position would be deemed an overt act of hostility. To this Gen. Taylor replied substantially that he had received orders from the President of the United States to take up his position upon the Rio Grande, and to see that no encroachment was made upon our Territory; That he should obey his orders, and repel any hostile attempt to cross the river. At the same time he assured the Mexican that he had no hostile designs upon the people; that they might remain in the undisturbed enjoyment of their property and rights; and that his sole business was to resist aggression.

Gen. Taylor, however, thinking it possible that Ampudia might attempt hostilities, changed his position somewhat on the 12th inst., and thereby withdrew his army beyond the reach of the Mexican batteries, he still commanding the town with his 18 pounders and the only practicable fords. At the same time he chose to regard Ampudia's letter as so far hostile, that he directed the commandant of the force at Brazos Santiago to act as in case of war, and he gave a verbal intimation to the same effect to the naval officer in command on that station. He particularly enjoined upon both these notices would appear to be rather precautionary measures than intended to lead to aggressive acts.

Gen. Ampudia made no hostile demonstration after receiving Gen. Taylor's letter, but, like the valiant Mejia before him, determined to forward Gen. Taylor's letter to his Government, and await further orders.

We are assured by this arrival that Gen. Ampudia had but 2000 troops with him when he reached Matamoros. Of these, 1000 accompanied him from the city of Mexico; the rest joined him on the march. He lost about 1000 more between San Luis and Matamoros by mutiny and desertion. He found in the latter town about 3500 troops, so that the whole force there on the 12th was not far from 5500. {In another part of this paper the reader will note that upon other authority we have given the date of Ampudia's arrival, the number of his troops, &c., somewhat differently. We place full confidence in our later advices by the Col. Harney.] The Mexicans have 18 or 20 pieces of artillery at Matamoras, which may be call serviceable. The Americans 12 field pieces, besides the four 18 pounders before mentioned.

Upon the whole, therefore, we think there can be little doubt that we shall hear of no fighting for some time to come; and yet less doubt, that when it does come to blows our army will render such an account of itself as the country anticipates, and has a right to anticipate. In the means time the troops are well supplied with fresh provisions, chiefly by the Mexicans themselves. Citizens of the country are allowed to come and go undisturbed, and to traffic at their pleasure. Partially by their fears of the Americans, but more by the threats of the Mexican officers, the inhabitants on this side the river have very generally been induced to cross over to the other side. The Mexicans have it in their power to concentrate a large number of men at Matamoros, but they ought by no means to be called soldiers. They have neither the equipments, the discipline, nor the moral force of well-organized troops.

We have reports that Gen. Taylor has put a check to desertions from his ranks by shooting ten or twelve men who were in the act of crossing the river.

It has been mentioned to us that Gen. Worth is on his way to this port in the iron steamer Hunter.
The U. S. brig Lawrence and the schooner Flirt, lying off Brazos Santiago, had been compelled to put to sea by a gale of wind, and they had not returned on the 16th inst. We think it more than probable the Lawrence proceeded to the mouth of the Rio Grande to look after those vessels laden on this port with supplies for the Mexicans. Their owners had better get insured!

At the late hour at which we write, we find we have neither time nor room for a word more! [BWP]

RW46v23i35p4c4, May 1, 1846: From The Picayune. LATER FROM MEXICO

The bark Claremont, Capt. Lermond, arrived at this port yesterday from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the 6th inst. By her we have received our files from the city of Mexico to the 2d inst., and from vera Cruz to the 5th.

And first of all, the revolution so confidently spoken of by the master of the bark Mandarin, as to take place on 3ds inst., did not come off agreeably to announcement. The Vera Cruz papers speak very freely upon the subject. El Locomoto says that if the revolution did not take place, it was only because the leading men engaged in it differed about the measures to be taken; as to principles, they were perfectly of accord. The passage of Gen. Almonte through Vera Cruz, on his way to Havana, afforded an opportunity to communicate with Gen. Santa Ana, which was readily embraced. It goes further, and say that when once the necessary steps have been agreed upon, the revolution will not be long delayed. The same paper of the 2d inst states that in Vera Cruz the Government of Paredes has completely lost all popularity and respect, and that when a revolution was hourly expected, men of all political opinions either openly favored it or remained indifferent—none opposed it.

Private letters have been received in town from a very intelligent source in Vera Cruz, dated the 6th inst. These attribute the failure of the expected revolution to a disagreement between the Federalists and the Santa Ana party.—They represent every thing as perfectly quiet.

The frigate Potomac arrived at Vera Cruz from Norfolk on the 1st inst. the American squadron at Sacrificios on the 5th Inst. was composed of the frigates Cumberland and Potomac, and the sloops Falmouth, St. Mary’s and John Adams.

The Courrier Francais of the 1st inst. [published in the city of Mexico] announces, upon the authority of a private letter, that the port of Mazatlan had been blockaded by the Americans, and that the troops which were to have sailed from San Blas for Mazatlan had been ordered to proceed by land. The Mexican papers say nothing of this, and the Courrier was evidently a good deal incredulous in regard to the matter. Although there can be no foundation for the rumor, it may be well to hear what the editor of the Courrier has to say upon the subject, upon the presumption that the blockade was declared.

"Behold, then, the war broke forth upon the point the most feeble, and yet the most interesting of the Republic! If the announcement of the blockade of Mazatlan be authentic, this first hostile demonstration on the part of the United States menace the Californias, which, cut off from all succor and destitute of real force, cannot fail to succumb at the first blow. And in the midst of these momentous transactions, the soi-disant national press is aroused to preach homilies for this or that form of government, to disparage and vilify every man in power, and to suggest incendiary measures, under the guise of proclaiming the union of citizens! Great God! how mad is the spectacle before us!"

Senor D. Manuel E. Gorostiza has accepted the portfolio of the Treasury Department, resigned by the former incumbent in consequence of ill health. LA REFORMA asserts that Sr. Gorostiza made it a condition to his acceptance of office that the President should modify the call for the constituent Congress, and abrogate the decree in regard to the press; and that the President acceded to this. Up to the 2d inst no denial of this had appeared in the Diario Official. El Republicano urges upon the President to retrace his steps, especially his measure towards the press; and reminds him that it is more magnanimous to acknowledge the errors already committed, and pursue a new course, than obstinately to hold our against the clearest manifestations of public opinion.

The two Mexican papers, the Reforma and the Contra-Tiempo, have been seized by the Government, and Senor Zertero, the editor of the first, and D. Luis Espino, of the second, have been put under arrest. Two military gentlemen, also, have been ordered from the capital under a species of arrest—General Alcorta to repair to Oaxaca, and Capt. Schiafino to San Juan de Ullua. The two editors were proceeded against because they openly demanded the recall of Santa Ana and his restoration to power; the other two individuals had taken a very active part in getting up a protest in favor of the republican system—a protest which was signed by a large number of officers. The republican press is full of indignant rebukes of the course of the Government in pursuing journals devoted to Santa Ana, while it take no step to check El Tiempo, which continues its warm advocacy of monarchical principles, and praises the state of Mexico under the old colonial rule.

We note that the President is gradually effecting a reorganization of the army, almost every paper containing orders for the reduction of one regiment, the creation of another and the like. This clearly evinces distrust of the army under its old officers.
We find in the Mexican papers, continual despatches from Gen. Mejia, detailing proceedings upon the Rio Grande. The examination of numerous deserters from Gen. Taylor’s troops are given to show the American designs, but our advices direct are ten days later than by Vera Cruz, and are quite as authentic as the revelations of deserters.

The primary elections were going on in some of the Departments, but excited little interest. It was even difficult to induce a majority of those possessing the franchise, to exercise it in any way.

The mission of Gen. Almonte to France, has been attributed to a variety of motives, the most plausible of which would appear to be the desire of Paredes to get rid of him; to send him into an honorable exile. The Diario Oficial, on the contrary, says that the President was induced to make the appointment solely in consequence of the severe illness of the present Minister to France, Senor Garro, and in consideration of the high qualifications of Gen. Almonte, and his familiarity with the controverted points with the U. States. The General had an outfit of $10,000, and an annual salary of the same allotted to him.

The death of D. Manuel Cortazar is announced. He was the treasurer or administrator of the tobacco revenue, and is spoken of as an honest public officer.

The Archbishop of Mexico was seized with apoplexy on the night of the 30th ult., and his life was at one time despaired of but he was somewhat better on the 2d inst.

The wretch Palacio, who was the principal instigator in the assassination of D. Luis Falconi and his brother-in-law, and who had been sentenced to death, made his escape from prison at Vera Cruz the morning of the 5th inst. The authorities were making diligent pursuit for him. His guilt had excited the utmost abhorrence towards him.

A report from the military hospital of Vera Cruz, dated the 28th ult. states that one death had occurred there from yellow fever since the 21st. There had been but two new cases admitted since that day, and of previous cases four had been discharged. On the 28th there were five remaining cases under treatment.

Since the 1st inst., the brigs Plymouth and Orleans, and the French bark Anex, have arrived at Vera Cruz from this port.

RW46v23i35p4c5, May 1, 1846: From the New Orleans Picayune April 21. Later from Texas.

The steamship Alabama, Capt Windle, arrived yesterday from Galveston with dates to the 18th inst.—three days later than our former advices. There had been no arrival at Galveston from the Rio Grande, and the Galveston papers are destitute of any intelligence of importance.

The Civilian and Gazette of Saturday last had received a few more reported returns of the Congressional election, and the editor was of opinion that there was scarcely a doubt of the election of Col. Williams.

From the same paper we copy the following resolution, which embodies the substance of a report made by the select committee of the House of Representatives, in the Texas Legislature, to whom was referred the subject of the public debt and public lands of Texas. This resolution had not been finally acted upon at the date of our last advices. It is the same resolution mentioned by our correspondent “Paul” in a letter of the 1st inst. from Austin, and the discussion of which he thought would lead to violent excitement:

Resolved, That our delegation in Congress be requested and authorized forthwith to open a negotiation with the Government of the United States, in such form as they may think fit, for the cession of the public lands of Texas to the United States, for an adequate consideration, to enable Texas to pay her public debt; and negotiation to be subject to the ratification of the Legislature of the State of Texas, according to the ordinary forms of legislation.

The following are the classes of debts incurred by the Republic of Texas, included in the bill to be entitled “An act to ascertain and establish the public debt, and to define how the same is to be paid.”

1. All bonds issued by her authority, for which she received par in gold and silver, or its equivalent, together with the interest stipulated to be paid on the face of the bonds, shall be paid at par.

2. All bonds issued under special contract for munitions of war, vessels of war, and naval supplies which continue in first hands, or have not been assigned at a discount, shall be paid at------with the interest stipulated on the face of the bonds, at whatever rate they might have been taken, provided such bonds can be traced to have originated under such special contract, and can be clearly authenticated and identified.

3. The bonds of the Consolidated Fund of Texas, having been funded when the Treasury notes and audited papers were at an average of less than 33 1/3 cents on the dollar, shall be paid at 33 1/3 cents on the dollar, with the interest on the same stipulated to be paid on the face of the bonds from the date of the said bonds to the day of
Epithets have not unfrequently been thrown out in a derisive and scornful spirit, which became "words to conjure with," moving masses of men to action with talismanic power. Innumerable instances might be cited, in which terms originally of degradation and reproach have become the watch-word and war-cry of revolutionary hosts, and have been inscribed with pride upon their victorious banners—thus "returning to plague the inventors." Is it not possible, at least, that the words at the head of this article, which the April number of Blackwood’s magazine sarcastically adopts as the running title of a long disquisition upon American manners, the design of which is of course to depreciate our national character and to cast odium upon our institutions, may at no distant day be adopted by the oppressed and down-trodden people, even of great Britain, as the prelude to the overthrow of her artificial and corrupt political system, and to the correction of those monstrous abuses in Church and State, which even her most partial eulogists do not hesitate to acknowledge and deplore? May it not happen, that, in despite of all the defects of our own system, either inherent or which have been engraven upon it by a departure from the just and wise principles upon which it is founded, the toiling millions of Europe, suffering not only the deprivation of political rights, but of physical comforts to an extent undreamed of on this side of the Atlantic, while the favored few, born to a higher destiny, not only monopolize all public distinctions, but revel in luxury and splendor, unknowingly or unnoticing the destitution and wretchedness which surround them on every side—may it not happen, that they will take up the words in earnest, which the organ of the British Tories has thrown out in derision, and demand the reorganization of the British Government upon the great principles of "equal rights" which constitutes the foundation-stone of "THE MODEL REPUBLIC?" Indeed, is not a revolution now in progress in Great Britain? Now a revolution of force, we admit; but a revolution of opinion by which radical changes are in progress, and changes still more radical are ultimately to ensue, in the very constitution and frame work of her institutions, affecting ultimately her social not less powerfully than her political system? To what cause is this strong and resistless tendency of opinion to be mainly ascribed? Certainly to the light which has been thrown upon the subject of human rights, by the brilliant example of "the Model Republic"—a light, which as it shall be more widely diffused, will unveil still more extensively and clearly the monstrous abuses under which the hereditary bondsmen of Europe have so long despairingly groaned, and excite them to renewed, and in the end successful efforts, to throw off the yoke of the oppressor.

The recent debate in Congress on the existing relations between the United States and Great Britain, has furnished Blackwood with the text upon which it descants with such unctuous touching the defects of American institutions, and the vices of American statesmen. Some of the speeches which it cites, in corroboratation of its opinions, we confess are far from being models either of sense, temper or taste. But is it fair to select the most objectionable portions of the worst speeches of the most violent men in Congress as specimens of American statesmanship? From the debates of the British Parliament examples not less coarse and vulgar might be selected, in which an American commentator might find a text not less apt for his purposes, if it were fair thus to deduce from occasional exhibitions of bad taste and temper inferences prejudicial to the character of a nation, and to the influence of its institutions in forming and modifying that character.

Blackwood’s Magazine, however, is not singular in its efforts to depreciate our institutions and to defame our reputation. The London Times, not unfrequently of late, indulges in these ribald assaults. One of its bitterest articles, in which, after characterizing the speech of Ex-President Adams as "the ravings of a moon-struck madman," it proceeds to comment in terms of great severity upon the proceedings of our Government, which it says is "too feeble to restrain bad impulses" has drawn forth a brief and eloquent reply from an American citizen, which the Times, with unwonted candor and courtesy, publishes in its own columns. And it was chiefly for the purpose of introducing that pungent article to our readers, that we have been led into these remarks upon the vituperative and sneering disquisition of the coadjutor of the Times in the congenial work of national defamation. If the English papers will continue to open their columns to such manifold vindications of the "the Model Republic" as that which we subjoin from the London Times, the period will be rapidly accelerated when it will in truth be regarded, even in England, as a model of which its framers need not be ashamed, and after which British patriots will be proud to fashion their own system.
To the Editors of the Times: Sir,—Among other reasons for thinking our Government “too feeble to restrain bad impulses, and our population too excitable to be conscious of consequences,” “moonstruck madman’s” speech and the manner in which it was listened to in the United States House of Representatives, seem with you to rank among the foremost. Without stopping to inquire whether it is his “much learning that has made him mad,” if Mr. Quincy Adams be really mad (for learning even if his wits be disordered, he possesses to a degree seldom equalled in Europe or America) and without uttering a suspicion, that the superstructure, reared on such a crazy foundation, may be unsound, allow me to ask in what, and on what occasion, the general government at Washington has exhibited feebleness, and wherein has our population betrayed an excitability which is regardless of consequences?

Since we came into being, which was but as yesterday in the history of nations, it can be said without a boast, that there is not a quarter of the globe that will not bear witness to the strength and energy of our Executive in its foreign relations. Were we not the first to refuse tribute to the Algerine, while Europe was laying its black mail sat his feet? Did we follow or lead in declaring and making the slave trade subject to the penalties of piracy—which was at least one step towards purgation from the black plague inherited from our ancestors? Was our claim upon the kingdom of Naples for indemnification suffered to grow weak through age? Had France any repose till the $25,000,000 were paid? And in these latter days, was not Texas annexed in spite of foreign interference?

But perhaps the feeble nature of our Government develops itself only at home. Well, then, at home.—Did it not quell a most portentous insurrection in Pennsylvania, and that, too, while its powers were in their infancy, without shedding a single drop of blood? Did it not, in its full strength, stifle South Carolina’s nullification scheme with a menace? Did it not easily crush a monster bank conspiracy? And finally, has it not recently, in scorn of domestic opposition, added a new territory to its own?

Should weakness in the art of defence ever be charged against it, the voices from English graves throughout the country, honored wherever found, would induce many not to gainsay the slander. And if its power of offence be doubted or forgotten, not the wide ocean alone, but your very channels, whose waves almost kiss the lintels of your doors, could, if their records were not written in water, bear witness to its reality. The smoke, too, from many a richly laden convoy, was wafted too often, with a not sweet smelling savour, to the nostrils of their armed but too distant guardians, to convict the aggressors of inoffensiveness.

As to the excitability of a population, no part of which corresponds to the English mob or the French canaille, and to none of whose members the common rudiments of education are strange, it is vain to speculate on its evil results; for intelligence goes hand in hand with it, and the cool, calculating spirit of my countrymen, is a sufficient guarantee, that it will never lead them into danger.

Tried by the Procrustean standard of Europe, I doubt not that we should often be pronounced out of measure, and that even upon the floor of Congress certain scenes might be curtailed to advantage; but that “one branch of the most important legislative assembly of the new world should listen with interest and excitement” to our “lunatic” ex-President’s most original exhibition ought no more to raise your wonder, than that the House of Commons should be amused by a ludicrous description of a noble lord’s coal-hole escapade, or that it should now and then uproariously cheer on “Young England’s” champion, to badger a man who is to him like Jupiter to a rejected entellite.

As in common with my countrymen here, I no longer regard the Oregon question as a war question, with your permission, I will add a line or two respecting what is described by you to be “the threatening state of our relations with Mexico.” Your intelligent correspondent in that unhappy country might have told you, that as against a more powerful antagonist it is more helpless than a wailing child, whether for offence or defence, because it is like a “house divided against itself;” that it can no more prevent the flood of emigration from the States into California, and its consequences, be they what they may, than could the red man close his forests against the inundation of the whites; and that, though it may declare war till it is “hoarse with calling,” it can never make, it unless perchance, which I do not suspect, some European nations come to its aid, and then, without time even to see the forecast shadow of coming events, one universal howl of war, on both sides of the Atlantic, will for many a year be heard, smothering in its death echo the voice of peace.

Our “democratic pretences,” I sincerely believe, are entirely misunderstood in Europe, especially as they regard territory. We want none of your possessions, and Canada we should be must less thankful for than yourselves would be to get honorably rid of a colony, which is ravenous as a horseleech and ungrateful as its own soil.

No! pretences, unjust pretences, if they have an existence, time will show that they are not on our side. But in the eyes of some, because we are professed Republicans, and having power, choose to use it as to us seems best, we therefore and our claims are arrogance itself; and, because we will not that kings or nobles should have dominion over us, we are for that reason “of the earth earthly,” and on the high road to anarchy and confusion. What is most “strange and unnatural” is, that it is not those who are divinely hedged about and stand in high places, that are in general our self-deluded or malicious traducers; but mere men, unnoble and untitled men like ourselves, who, having sucked in their mother’s with milk an over weening reverence for rank, cannot bear to see others, void of sympathy for their weakness, asserting and maintaining the dignity of their common nature.

Most respectfully, your obedient servant,
A “STATES” MAN
RW46v23i36p1c2, May 5, 1846: News Expected.

We have received no New Orleans papers since Thursday morning last. The last Charleston Mercury, however, copies a paragraph from the new Orleans Picayune of the 24th ultimo, announcing that the Mexican schooner Ventura was in the river below, said to have on board a bearer of important dispatches. The next mail will probably bring us additional particulars.

[BWP]

RW46v23i36p1c2, May 5, 1846: Forthcoming work on Mexico.

The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia North American informs us that Gen. Waddy Thompson, formerly a distinguished member of Congress from South Carolina, and late our Minister at Mexico, has now in press, to be issued with the present month, a book containing the recollections of his residence in that unhappy and interesting country. All who know Gen. Thompson will concur in the opinion, expressed by the American's correspondent, that few public men possess in so eminent a degree the requisites for an attractive, useful and instructive work of this sort as that gentleman; and we know of no country in reference to the real character and condition of which authentic information is more desirable and necessary than that of Mexico—of which, although our nearest neighbor, there is an universal ignorance.

[BWP]

RW46v23i36p2c1, May 5, 1846: "Democratic" Principles.

In an elaborate address "to the people," reviewing the events of the year that has elapsed since his removal from Richmond to preside over the Executive Organ, the Editor of the Washington Union congratulates himself that he has labored with honesty and singleness of purpose to support "the true principles of the ancient and well-established democratic creed." We are not disposed to question either his zeal or his ability in the vindication of every Executive recommendation; and if that be, as from the events of the last sixteen years we may legitimately infer, the test of modern democracy, it is impossible to doubt his fidelity to the great principle—submission to Executive dictation—which constitutes the leading feature of the creed of the party which has cunningly appropriated to itself a popular appellation, to the influence of which, in despite of the unpopularity of many of its measures, it is indebted for its repeated triumphs.

"The true principles of the ancient and well-established democratic creed!" What are they? We are aware that certain cabalistic terms are in vogue among our opponents, to which they will refer us, with a triumphant air, as an answer to this question—such as "Revenue Tariff," "divorce of Bank and State," "strict construction," and the like. But whose mind is so obtuse as not to see that these phrases, though constituting the shibboleth of the party, have practically no clear and well defined signification? In reference to the Tariff, the very scheme just introduced into the House of Representatives, as an Administration measure, violates throughout the definition of a Revenue Tariff given by the Address of the Virginia Democratic Convention held in this city in 1843, and which has since been reiterated times without number by recognized leaders and organs of that party: and, even thus modified, it is admitted to be questionable whether the Administration party, overwhelming as is its ascendancy in the House of Representatives, and decisive as is its majesty in the Senate, will be able to consummate the overthrow of the existing system. How happens this, if indeed a tariff discriminating alone for revenue and against protection be, as the Union asserts, one of the "true principles of the ancient and well established democratic creed?" Is it not, rather, because it is an innovation upon the uniform policy of the Government since its foundation—a policy which, looking to the development of our national wealth and power, by the protection afforded to national industry, received the sanction and approval of Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Madison and Monroe, embracing the whole line of Revolutionary Presidents, and emphatically the Fathers of the Constitution,—to say nothing of their successors, (including Jackson and Van Buren, the apostles of modern democracy,) all of whom, without exception, unless the present Chief Magistrate constitute that exception, were avowedly, as their written opinions and votes demonstrate, in favor of a Protective Tariff? This "principle," therefore, is neither "ancient" nor "well established." It is, on the contrary, an attempt—we hope an abortive attempt—to subvert a policy so old as the Government itself—a policy under the benign effects of which this Republic, which but yesterday was in the swaddling-clothes of infancy, has so rapidly acquired Herculean stature and strength, and has been enabled to take its position among the leading Powers of the world,—if not the first, soon to assume that rank unless her energies be fettered and cramped by the injudicious legislation of those who would go to Birmingham and Leeds, rather than to Lowell and Pittsburg, for ploughs to till the soil, and for garments to clothe the laborers who cultivate it.

Still less can it be even plausibly pretended that the idea of "divorcing Bank and State," by the establishment of a Sub-Treasury, in which the surplus revenues of the Government are to be locked up, (though, by the way, under their "revenue system," a deficiency rather than a surplus is to be apprehended,) is one of the "true principles of the ancient and well established democratic creed." We need only refer to the files of the Richmond Enquirer, nine years ago, then conducted by the present Editor of the Union, to show, that so far from being entitled to be so regarded, it was at that time denounced by himself as a dangerous innovation upon the "ancient and well established" principles of the Republican creed. Indeed, we have some reason to doubt whether the Editor of the Union has yet become a
convert to the wisdom and expediency of a system borrowed from barbarian and despotic governments—for, in the address to which we have referred, he touches it as gingerly as if he were handling hot iron. “The country,” he believes, “has resolved to adopt it.” It was promulgated as one of the important measures of the Baltimore Convention.” But he does not say that he is any more in favor now, than he was in 1837, of strengthening, by its adoption, the Executive power, already too great for a Republic, and of adding to its overgrown patronage—or that he wishes to see two currencies established, the better for the Government, and the more worthless for the people. Confessedly, then, this is neither an “ancient” nor a “well established” principle, either of the “democratic” or of any other creed—for although the Washington Globe, in 1833, pronounced this now favorite measure of the democracy a “foul federal conception,” it thereby grossly slandered a party, which, whatever may be the sins of which it was guilty, at no time entertained the design of separating the government from the people, by the introduction of a financial system which is equally at war with the spirit of the age and with the genius of free government.

"Strict construction" is, we admit, an ancient and well established principle of the old Republican party; but, judging the tree by its fruit, we are constrained to deny that the modern democracy, of which the Union is the metropolitan organ, has any especial and peculiar right to array itself under a banner upon which those words are inscribed. They are, indeed, sufficiently rigid in the interpretation of the Constitution when they would thwart the purposes or impugn the orthodoxy of their opponents. But when they wish to carry a measure, who has ever seen them hesitate to overlap a constitutional barrier, or deficient in the ingenuity so to torture its provisions as to sanction their designs? We need only refer to their final action upon the Texas question, to show how little they regard any impediment to the consummation of an object which they desire to accomplish. Never before, we venture to assert, were the provisions of the Constitution so violently wrested from their true intent and meaning as in the measures adopted on that occasion, (rest of article unreadable).

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We have before alluded to the critical position of our little army on the Rio Grande, and to the danger of a hostile collision with the Mexican forces on the opposite bank. The Charleston Mercury closes an article animadverting with some severity upon the foreign policy of Mr. Polk, [whom, having aided to elect it has a right to castigate—the Chinese, we are told, some times whip their gods,] with the following remarks:

"Nor can we see the wisdom of his policy in sending the army of the United States to the Rio Grande. Did he fear that the Mexicans would invade Texas, or that we could not at any time take possession of just as much of Texas as we pleased to call by that name? The camp at Corpus Christi was far beyond any American settlements, and therefore a far more efficient point for their protection than further off. And if it was expedient, for some cause which we cannot divine, to send our army to the Rio Grande, why order them to pitch their tents directly opposite Matamoras, with their cannon pointing into the town? Is there no other position along that mighty river where our troops could be accommodated whilst our rights were maintained? This course looks very like a determination to provoke a war with Mexico. But whether this is the intention or not, most clearly this is the tendency. Every army, great or small, is always eager for war. If the American army on the Rio Grande does not get up a fight with the Mexicans, in spite of all pacific instructions, it will be little short of a miracle.”

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RW46v23i36p2c5, May 5, 1846: From the N. O. Picayune LATER FROM MEXICO

The Mexican schooner Ventura, Captain Durantez, arrived at this port yesterday from Vera Cruz, having sailed thence on the 10th inst. Our files are but two days later from the capital or Vera Cruz, than we had previously received, and they contain little of interest. So far as we can learn, nothing had occurred to change the aspect of affairs in the country.

We perceive that the Government is determined to be ready to meet Santa Ana, should the ex-President determine to return, as we have no doubt he will do. It may be known that criminal proceedings were instituted against Santa Ana for his transactions just prior to the revolution which hurled him from power. The proceedings in the case have been published by order of the Supreme Court, and they make a pamphlet of 130 pages. A general circulation of these may, it is thought, have some influence on the minds of the people, and prepare them for any measure of severity which the Government may take against Santa Ana.

A new paper called El Puritano, publishes two letters from Gen. Santa Ana to Gen. Tornel, Secretary of War. The first was written from Perote, at the moment Santa Anna was about setting forth from his imprisonment to leave the country. The second is dated the 9th March last from Cerro, his retreat near Havana. It is sufficiently curious to be deserving a free translation:

"MY ESTEEMED FRIEND AND COMPANION—Your entrance into the War Department has been much applauded, and I join with the nation in congratulations upon it; especially as it will enable you to give your active services in the matter of the Texas question and the other frontier departments. WHO KNOWS BETTER THAN YOU THE INTENTIONS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA?"
The papers abound with more than usual complaints of the insecurity of the public roads for travellers. That the only remedy for the evil is the re-establishment of the old presidial guards.

The press in the Department of Durango still complain of Indian outrages such as robbery and murder, and suggest purposes of rapine and plunder. Mention is also made of an ineffectual attempt of the Indians in the South of Mexico, to get up an insurrection of the 28th ult. says that orders have been given to the administrator of the mails from Jalappa and Vera Cruz, that any extraordinary courier from the latter port to the capital should be strictly detained at Puebla, and the drivers even are enjoined to preserve silence as to what may transpire at Vera Cruz. This may be an invention of La Reforma, but it shows what men are thinking about in the capital, and that Paredes knows well from what quarter danger threatens.

The Mexican papers now deny the blockade of Mazatlan, and tell a long story to show how the rumor was started. Mention is also made of an ineffectual attempt of the Indians in the South of Mexico, to get up an insurrection of purposes of rapine and plunder.

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"You have done well in accepting the portfolio of war, as it will enable you in a measure to reciprocate the kind offices of Senor Paredes, extended to you at the melancholy crisis of your banishment. You know well, that the noble and generous conduct of that General to yourself and other friends of mine reconciled me with him, and I have not hesitated to express as much in my correspondence with others.

"By that course of conduct he entitled himself to every consideration from me, and to a certain point repaid the solicitous kindness which he received during his severe and critical illness at Toluca. You will recall that one of my aids-de-camp was charged with visiting and attending upon him, extending to him at the same time the pecuniary assistance called for by his situation.

"I know not for what Providence has reserved me; but whatever may be my lot, I live in the enjoyment of the sweet idea that the day will come when justice shall triumph, and when not only my innocence shall be acknowledged, but my policy vindicated, which you well know was always inspired by the purest patriotism. In nothing does my conscience upbraid me; I live in peace, notwithstanding that I eat without salt the bread of exile. I shall never solicit a return to my beloved country; and should events ever restore me to her bosom, it will be only to serve her, and to shed the little blood which is left in me inion defence of her liberties and in defeating foreign influences, direct or indirect.

"Present my profound respects to Madame, your wife, and count always upon the affection of your old friend and companion. A. L. DE SANTA ANA."

The imperturbable impudence of the above is so characteristic, that we believe the letter to be genuine; its grossness led us at first to think it a hoax. Presuming it to be genuine, we argue from it that Santa Ana will be in Mexico by the time it has been sufficiently circulated.

La Reforma of the 28th ult. says that orders have been given to the administrator of the mails from Jalappa and Vera Cruz, that any extraordinary courier from the latter port to the capital should be strictly detained at Puebla, and the drivers even are enjoined to preserve silence as to what may transpire at Vera Cruz. This may be an invention of La Reforma, but it shows what men are thinking about in the capital, and that Paredes knows well from what quarter danger threatens.

It is mentioned in the papers that the President has increased very considerably the detachment assigned to guard his residence, as if he were not without apprehension of difficulties in the city of Mexico.

The Mexican papers now deny the blockade of Mazatlan, and tell a long story to show how the rumor was started.

Mention is also made of an ineffectual attempt of the Indians in the South of Mexico, to get up an insurrection of purposes of rapine and plunder.

The press in the Department of Durango still complain of Indian outrages such as robbery and murder, and suggest that the only remedy for the evil is the re-establishment of the old presidial guards.

The papers abound with more than usual complaints of the insecurity of the public roads for travellers.

RW46v23i36p4c1, May 5, 1846: SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 2,1846, "Oregon Controversy Settled."

Under this imposing caption we transferred to our last paper, without comment, an article from the New York Journal of Commerce, announcing, in the most positive and unqualified manner, the adjustment of the Oregon question—that is to say, that the preliminaries have been informally agreed upon, with the concurrence of both parties, and that it now only remains to embody them in a treaty, and give them the sanction of the usual official forms. This information the Journal professes to have obtained from letters received by the Great Western “from high sources,” stating that the latitude of 49 to the Straits of Fuca, and thence through said Straits to the Pacific, leaving the whole of Vancouver’s Island to Great Britain, and the navigation off the Columbia for a term of years, had been agreed upon as the basis of the treaty of pacification.

The Journal is not in the habit of heedlessly throwing out important statements of this character, from the silly ambition of anticipating its cotemporaries, or for the more reprehensible purpose of affecting the stock market, and enabling the “Bulls” to prey upon the “Bears.” At the first blush, therefore, we were indisposed to question the accuracy of its statement. But subsequent reflection induces us to apprehend that it has been itself misled, and that “its wish is father to the thought.” It may be, indeed, as the Enquirer of yesterday, commenting on the Journal’s article, remarks, that there is “some probability of the prospective realization of the settlement described;” but we cannot believe that it has yet been concurred in by the high contracting parties. It is not probable, certainly, in the first place, that, during the pendency of the discussion on this subject, in the American Congress, and while it was yet uncertain what would be the character of its final action, the British Government would resume the negotiation, twice before abruptly broken off, by submitting a new proposition; and they have not had time to do so, of course, since the a doption of the joint resolution. And in the next place, the e ditorials of the Official Journal, within a few days past, urging the Senate, in a somewhat imperious tone, promptly to follow up the notice, “by carrying out the
other measures recommended by the President in relation to Oregon," the most important of which, extending the jurisdiction of our laws over our citizens in Oregon, has already passed the House of Representatives, satisfy us that the editor of that paper could not have been in possession of this information, upon which the Journal so confidently relies, and which, if it had been well founded, we take it for granted, must have reached Washington prior to the publication of the last of them. If a treaty be formed upon the basis stated by the Journal of Commerce, the "other measures" referred to, though still to some extent necessary, must be materially modified—and the "Union," would therefore scarcely have exhibited such feverish anxiety for the speedy action of Congress upon the bills in their present shape, had it been aware that the outlines of a treaty, rendering some of their provisions inapplicable, and precipitation in all of them both unnecessary and unwise, had been already agreed upon.

The article in the last London Quarterly Review, which seems to be regarded as semi-official in its character, indicating a considerable abatement of British pretensions and an earnest desire to adjust the controversy peaceably, in connection with other significant circumstances, leaves us but little room to doubt that both the British Government and the British people are willing to make a treaty upon the basis suggested in the article of the Journal of Commerce. Supposing that difficulty removed, there is of course no reason to apprehend a hostile issue, if our own Government is prepared to assent to terms of compromise, which, however just in themselves, fall so far short of the high ground heretofore assumed by the President and his Cabinet. We have felt serious apprehensions that here would be found the great obstacle to the pacific settlement of the controversy. These apprehensions have been to some extent relieved, we confess, by the remark, in yesterday's Enquirer, [to which we hope we do not give more weight than it is entitled,] that "there may be some probability of the prospective realization of the settlement described" by the Journal of Commerce. While, therefore, we think the announcement of the Journal premature, we are not without hope that it truly foreshadows coming events.

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This distinguished gentleman, in a letter addressed to the President of the Senate of Texas, explanatory of his last connection with the affairs of that Republic, urges the transfer of the Public Lands to the Government of the U. States, as the means of enabling Texas to meet all her obligations, which he says she is entirely able to do by a wise management of her resources. The General declares, in the same letter, that the federal government has no right to take the Custom Houses of Texas under its control, because the revenue from this source was pledged to the creditors of the defunct Republic before the ordinances of annexation was passed! This is one of those vagaries, smelling somewhat rankly of Nullification, by which General Hamilton has before rendered his opinions more notorious than respected.

[BWP]

RW46v23i36p4c3, May 5, 1846: Texas not a Paradise.

Ye restless and dissatisfied; you who are disposed to abandon your pleasant and prosperous homes, in the vain hope of finding in an untried wilderness, and earthly paradise, who have heard of the flowers, but not of the thorns; who have been told of the balmy breezes, but not of the freezing siroccos of Texas, read and ponder well the sad revelations of the unadorned truth, briefly shadowed forth in the following from and intelligent and well informed source:

From the Charleston Evening News. CORPUS CHRISTI, (Texas,) Jan. 25.

The people of the United States have been, and still are, egregiously gulled by scripholders and editors respecting the character of this country. I should be amused in reading the eulogistic descriptions which are to be found in almost every newspaper respecting the climate, the productions, and the general capabilities of Texas, were it not for the indignation which I feel in reflecting on the very many worthy families that will be ruined by such barefaced misrepresentations. There is no district in all Texas, from the Sabine to the Rio Grande, with the general character of which I have not made myself pretty well acquainted. This I did by making it a business to cross-examine intelligent persons who had visited one or more of all those districts. One of the conclusions which I derive from my inquiries is, that, taking Texas in its totality, there is no region in the United States, containing the same number of square miles, that is not intrinsically much more valuable. Another is, that no district of ten miles square can be found within the widest limits of Texas which combines the advantages of good land, good water, good timber, good health, and good navigation. Nine-tenths of the whole country (at the lowest calculation) consist of prairie wastes, which, for many substantial reasons, must remain for centuries to come, if not forever and uncultivated wilderness, fit only for animals to inhabit. It is almost exclusively on the banks of a few paltry rivers, which are said to be navigable, that good timber is to be found; and even on them only narrow strips, which do not generally average over three hundred yards in breadth. The lands on the margins of those rivers are generally very rich, but almost every year they are extensively overflowed, and subsequently visited by fevers of a most deadly type. In addition to all this, the seasons in Texas are unquestionable worse than those of any country in the United States. The rainy season prevails here during the winter months, when rains are not wanted, and from April till September there pretty regularly prevails an unremitting drought. The consequence is that experienced planters do not calculate on making more than one out of three crops; and it is not always that they can make so large a proportion. I was told the following anecdote yesterday by a gentleman who attempted, during four years to sustain himself by planting on the bank of the "Gaudalupe," near Victoria, which is one of the richest, the best located, and most lauded positions.
in all Texas. He told me that he planted on high ground, which was very rich, the first year; and that his crop was entirely burnt up by the drought. The second year he planted on the low river bottom lands, and succeeded in making a crop. The third and fourth years he planted in the same land, and each year his crop was totally destroyed by the floods.—He said, moreover, that the only crop which never failed was bilious fever, and that this flourished abundantly in his family every year as regularly as July came."

The climate of Texas, like every thing else, has been greatly misrepresented. The tremendous "northers" which prevail every few days, during the winter months, and which sweep unbroken from the Rocky Mountains, over the prairie regions of this wilderness country, frequently reducing the mercury to twenty degrees, give one a strange idea of "tropical" Texas! These, together with cold pelting rains, dense fogs, relieved by a few scattering fair days, present the true bill of fare of the winter season in the most tropical portion of Texas! In summer there prevails dreadful droughts, which generally commence in April and continue unremittingly till September. These droughts are accompanied, four days out of five, with blustering, parching sirocco winds, which occasion such excessive evaporation as to destroy any species of young tree; and it is probably to this circumstance that Texas owes its prairie character. I have seen several attempts made to raise sugar cane in this part of country, but they all prove signal failures. The cane, though planted in the richest land, was so stunned by the powerful evaporating winds, as not to acquire one half the size of ordinary cane by the 28th November, when it was utterly destroyed by a frost, which reduced the mercury to 20 degrees. It is said that some good sugar crops have been made on the Brasos, and on the rifer north and east of this; but it would take ocular demonstration to convince me that a full sugar crop ever has been or ever will be made in any portion of the country between the Sabine and the Rio Grande. I need scarcely inform you that orange trees and other tropical productions will never be seen (except as curiosities) in a country whose climate is so inclement that a blackjack tree dares not show its head. But, supposing that the unavailable prairies which form nearly the whole of southern and western Texas (alias tropical "Texas") were rich, well timbered, well watered lands, with good navigation and a seasonable climate, instead of being, as they are timberless; unwatered, land-locked deserts, subject to irregular and most inclement seasons, would it even then, I ask, be advisable for southern planters to emigrate here?—Most assuredly not, unless they wished to lose all their negroes, and then cultivate, by free labor, lands to which they would have precarious titles. The insecurity of slave property is so great in the southern and western portions of Texas, that no man in his senses would risk a large gang of negroes south of the Colorado, even did he find their labor profitable, which he most assuredly would not. It is only necessary for a negro in this region of the country to mount one of the mustangs, which are always and every where at hand, and in less than forty-eight hours he is irrecoverably lost to his owner; for he has only to cross the Rio Grande in order to be a freeman, and on a perfect equality with his adopted countrymen.

I have not space to say half that I wish to say about Texas, and must therefore conclude here for the present, and I may probably renew the subject in another communication.

[BWP]

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**RW46v23i36p4c6, May 5, 1846: THE ARMY.**

Official accounts from the "Army of Occupation," to the 15th of April, inclusive, have been received at Washington. The United States and Mexican armies were still posted on opposite sides of the Rio Grande; but no collision had taken place, and none was seriously apprehended.

[BWP]

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**RW46v23i37p1c2, May 8, 1846: Benton and Polk.**

We have heretofore informed our readers that Colonel Benton’s speech on the Oregon question, in reply to Gen. Cass, had given great dissatisfaction to the ultra Oregon papers in the West, the remarks of one of which we have already quoted. Another, [the Jacksonian, published at Rushville,] declares that, "He has passed the Rubicon; it is time that every Democratic press should speak of him as he deserves—to unmask his plans and lay bare his treachery. It were better it had been done before. He is travelling in the path of the Rivers, the Tallmadges, and others, that have heretofore SLOUGGED OFF. He will soon reach THEIR level."

All of them, however, do not exhibit this vindictive and unforgiving temper. Some of them remember that in times past, the Missouri Senator has rendered good service to the Locofoco cause; and even if he had now grown somewhat lukewarm, or if his position were somewhat dubious, the most vindictive of his assailants might, it seems to us, find some palliation for his lack of zeal and firmness in the vaccillating policy of the President himself on the Oregon question, whose position is at least as equivocal as that of Mr. Benton. So thinks the Lafayette [Indiana] Courier, which, in a tone of amusing simplicity, remarks:

"Mr. Benton’s views on the Oregon question differ from those of Gen. Cass, perhaps of Mr. Polk; but they are views that are coincided in by thousands of Democrats all over the Union, and therefore, he forsooth, is to be accused of playing the traitor and abandoning his party."

"Perhaps of Mr. Polk!" There is a world of meaning in the phrase. It shows that even the friends of the President are at a loss to decide,—oscillating like a pendulum as he has been between 54 40 and 49,—where he stands upon this great question, in reference to which, although he has written much, he has said only enough to obscure his real
designs from the most penetrating eye—if, indeed he knows his own mind two days together, which is very reasonably doubted.

[WP]

**RW46v23i37p1c3, May 8, 1846: From the New Orleans Tropic, Extra, April 29. LATE FROM TEXAS.**

The steamship *New York*, Capt. Phillips, has just arrived, bringing Galveston papers of the 27th, and dates from the Army to the 22d. The following persons came passengers:


The iron propeller Hunter, which sailed from Brasos St. Jago in company with the steamer *Col. Harney* for this port, arrived off Galveston Bar on the 27th, eleven days out, with loss of smoke-pipe and short of fuel. She had encountered very heavy weather, having once been within seventy miles of the Pass and obliged to put back on account of head winds.

We take the subjoined article from the *Galveston News* of the 24th:

[WP]

**RW46v23i37p1c3, May 8, 1846: Later from the Army of Occupation.**

The schooner *L. M. Hitchcock*, Capt. Wright, arrived yesterday morning, having left Brasos St. Jago last Sunday. We are indebted for the following information to Col. March, who came on board the Hitchcock, having left the camp of Gen. Taylor on the 15th inst.

Our former intelligence by the *Hitchcock*, in regard to the movement of the army to a position three or four miles below Matamoras, was materially incorrect. On the morning of the 10th ult, when Gen. Taylor found himself exposed to the enemy's fire, with his right and left unprotected in consequence of the peculiar bends of the river, he ordered one division of his army to take position in the bend above and the bend below the town, while with the main army he maintained his first position, where he still remains. Gen. T. has used all diligence to strengthen his position, by throwing up breastworks, by entrenchments, fortifications, &c., and the Mexican General Ampudia, has been equally industrious in fortifying the town defensively keeping his soldiers employed night and day. Gen. Taylor's heavy ordnance of eighteen pounders, are said to be situated within point blank shot of Gen. Ampudia's house in the middle of the city, at a distance of 300 yards. Thus the two armies have been situated for upwards of 2 weeks up to our present dates, neither having committed any positive act of hostility, upon the other. On the 10th inst., Col. Cross, commissary General of the army, rode out by himself about 10 o'clock in the morning, to the house of a German, about two miles from the army, where, (as was afterwards ascertained,) he was taken prisoner, by a party of Mexican Rancheros. As soon as he was missing, Gen. Taylor sent a detachment of men, who scoured the country in search of him, but to no purpose.

Two or three days after Captain May, of the 2nd Dragoons, took a runaway negro in the neighborhood of the same place where Col. Cross was captured; and from this negro the above information of the taking of Col. Cross was obtained. Immediately after Gen. Taylor sent a messenger to the Mexican General requesting information whether Colonel Cross was a prisoner with him or not. The next day Gen. Ampudia sent several officers to the American camp with the answer that they knew nothing of Colonel Cross, but they had made Lieut. Deas a prisoner. This officer, it appears, had previously crossed the river [but without orders] in search of Colonel Cross, (who was his particular friend,) and had fallen into the hands of the Mexicans. Much uncertainty and many surmises prevail in regard to the fate of Colonel Cross. But the more probable opinion appears to be that his capture was authorized by, and unknown to Ampudia; and it is to be feared that he has been murdered by the party of by whom he was taken, and his horse, money and clothing divided among them.

On the 14th, Gen. Ampudia sent a formal notice to Gen. Taylor, ordering him to leave his present position within 24 hours, and to evacuate the whole territory west of the Nueces, or that has refusal would be considered a declaration of war. Gen. T. immediately returned for answer, that his orders were to maintain his position on the east bank of the river, and that he should do so, especially as the roads were muddy, and as it was unpleasant retreating at this season. Shortly after the reception, of this answer, the Mexican army partially withdrew from the town, and a portion of the troops disappeared from the west bank of the river. Thus closes the last act of the drama as far as the enemy is quite as inexplicable to Gen. Taylor as to every body else. Colonel March informs as that a report has been put in circulation, that the threatened hostilities are only suspended till the first of June, then to be renewed, we suppose, with redoubled energy and still more slaughter.

Gen. Taylor is prosecuting the fortifications at Point Isabel, with steady perseverance.
Before he returned the above answer to Ampudia, he ordered the blockade of Matamoros, and directed the
commanders of the Flirt and Lawrence to enforce it strictly, which was accordingly done. A vessel, with a cargo of
flour, having been waiting some time for a fair wind to enter the port, was the first to suffer from this measure, and
was compelled to leave the market, where flour is now, worth $40 per bbl.

The Texas Congressional election was yet undecided. The Houston Star thinks there is little doubt that Judge Pillbury
is elected. The Galveston News thinks the chances are in favor of Col. Williams.

The Galveston News of the 24th, says—The Telegraph, Capt. Auld, arrived last night from the Brasos St. Iago, and
four days later from the Army of Occupation. This steamship left Brasos St. Iago at 10 o’clock, A. M., day before
yesterday, being only 28 hours out. The Captain has kindly furnished us with some memoranda, stating that on the
19th inst., Lieut. Porter of the 4th Regiment, (son of the late Commodore Porter,) being out with a fatigue party of
ten men, (some of them wearing uniform,) were tired upon when within a few miles of the camp.

Lieut. Porter and three of his men were killed, in the attack, the rest of the party escaping returned to the camp next
day. It is stated that the guns of the Americans were wet and would not fire. We see no explanation given why this
party of soldiers should be ranging about the country with guns that would not fire.

Lieut. Van Ness informs us that nothing further had been heard of Col. Cross up to the 19th, but that the general
opinion is that he is still a prisoner, though not at Matamoros.

About fifty of the American army have deserted and swam the river for the Mexican camp, but a number of them
were shot as deserters while in the water. The whole number of American troops is estimated at between two and
three thousand, and they are said to be in excellent discipline, and eager for an engagement with the enemy.—
Ampudia’s forces are reported at between three and four thousand. It is rumored that Arista is about to supercede
Ampudia in the command.

The Telegraph left at Brasos St. Iago, barque Wm. Iry, brig Apalachicola and schooners Wm. Bryan, Aurora, Arispa,
Invincible, Gen. Worth and the steam schooner Augusta and several others, names unknown.

Laying outside the bar, schooner Florida and schooner Waterman, unable to get in for want of water.

We may here remark that it is now understood as a fact that Ampudia is already superseded by Arista, from whom
we may expect the next proclamation. This General is admitted to be an officer of character, good sense and
prudence, and whatever proceeds from him will be entitled to some consideration.

In our summary of news by the steamship Telegraph, we omitted to state what may be of some importance, viz:
that Gen. Ampudia, in his answer to the inquiries of Gen. Taylor concerning Col. Cross, expressly disavowed any acts
of hostility that might have been or might hereafter be committed by Mexicans on this side of the river, stating that
all such acts were unauthorized by him or his Government.

The brig Orleans, Capt. Patterson, arrived at this port this morning from Vera Cruz, having sailed thence on the 23d
inst. She brings us our files of papers to the 22d from Vera Cruz, and to the 18th from the city of Mexico.

Every thing was still quiet in the Captiol and Vera Cruz, so far as any outbreak in favor of Santa Anna was
concerned, but the minds of all men were ripe for a revolution. Letters had been received at Vera Cruz from the City
of Mexico, stating that Gen. Alvarez had raised the standard of revolt in the Southern part of the Department of
Mexico; proclaimed the Federal Constitution; and declared himself in favor of the recall of Gen. Santa Ana. No details
upon this subject are given in the papers, but El Locomotor of the 22d has no doubt of the fact of a revolution having
broken out as alleged.

The latest accounts received at Vera Cruz of the military operations on the Rio Grande were only to the 31st of
March. Our advices are several weeks later

The Mexican Government is said to have sold its two war steamers, the Montezuma and Guadalupe, to Manning &
McIntosh, an English house. The price is said to have been $640,000. Various speculations were indulged us to the
object of this sale. The steamers were to proceed immediately to Havanna—some reports say to bring over the
Spanish Prince destined to fill the throne of Mexico; others as confidently predict that Santa Ana would return in one
of them—in a few weeks, too. On this subject we are left entirely to conjecture.
The ship Suviah arrived at Vera Cruz on the 18th inst. The same day the brig squadron was perfectly good. John Adams sloop of war was the only vessel of war lying at Sacrificious when the Orleans sailed. The health of the Falmouth fleet had previously gone out to sea for a day or two, to give the men benefit of fresh air, &c., The , sailed from Vera Cruz on the 23d, on a cruise off the coast, accompanied by the and Cumberland Potomac. It would appear that Com. Conner has transferred his flag to the frigate Raritan, which arrived on the 18th inst. He sailed from Vera Cruz on the 23d, on a cruise off the coast, accompanied by the Cumberland, Potomac and Falmouth. The fleet had previously gone out to sea for a day or two, to give the men benefit of fresh air, &c., The sloop of war John Adams was the only vessel of war lying at Sacrificious when the Orleans sailed. The health of the squadron was perfectly good.

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El Diario del Gobierno announces that 7000 men, well organized and officered, and amply provided with munitions, money, &c., will compose the Army of the North, and that the chief command has been restored to Gen. Arista, and that Gen. Ampudia, will henceforth be only second in command. The appointment of Arista is confirmed by way of Brazos Santiago.

The business of Vera Cruz is almost annihihted by the unsettled state of the country, in regard to its internal prospects and foreign relations.

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the Straits of Fuca, the free use of the Columbia and its northern branches down to the sea, and an indemnity or compensation to the Hudson’s Bay Company for the posts they will be called upon to surrender.” These terms will not be assented to, in our opinion, by the Executive, nor do we know that public sentiment in this country would be prepared to yield to them, in all their extent. But, while we are aware of the weight to which the remarks of the London Times are entitled, particularly in its articles on the relations of Great Britain with foreign nations, we have a strong hope, that, if Mr. Polk shall consent to abandon his claim to the territory between the 40th degree and the Russian boundary, these terms will be considerably modified, and that the incidental “conditions” may be finally satisfactorily adjusted. Nevertheless, it is not to be denied or concealed that he difficulties to an amicable adjustment of the question are far from being removed; and, although it is unquestionably now the general opinion, on both sides of the Atlantic, that peace will be preserved, we confess that to our minds it is apparent that THE DANGER IS NOT YET OVER. We repeat, that in this apprehension we seem to stand almost alone; and, in giving it utterance, therefore, we feel that we are striking a chord not at all in unison with the tone of public feeling. We shall most sincerely rejoice if subsequent events shall show that it is without foundation.

The attempt upon the life of the “Citizen King” of France indicates the prevalence in that kingdom still of disorganizing and r evolutionary opinions, which may be expected to develop themselves inextensive popular commotions, whenever the death of Louis Phillippe, (who indeed seems to bear about him “a charmed life”) shall occur. Had the ball of the assassin been directed with a truer aim, a few weeks ago, it seems to be the general impression that a rising of that large portion of the people, Republicans and Legitimists, hostile to the Orleans dynasty, would have taken place—the former because of the failure of the Citizen King to fulfill the pledges exacted from him by their leaders in the Three Days’ Revolution, when they placed the diadem upon his brow; and the latter because they look upon him, notwithstanding the Princely blood that flows in his veins, as scarcely less a usurper than Napoleon, and have consequently been long anxiously awaiting the period of his demise as a favorable moment of the restoration of the older branch of the Bourbons, in the person of their “legitimate Prince,” the young Duke of Bordeaux. It is not improbable however, that the extend of the disaffection to the Orleans dynasty in France has been exaggerated, as it certainly seems to us, at this distance from the scene, to be most unreasonable; for never, at any period, has France been governed so wisely as during the last ten years—and we doubt, if at any moment, since the downfall of Napoleon, that powerful kingdom has been in a condition of greater internal prosperity, or has presented to its enemies a front better calculated to command their respect and to hold them in check. “The Napoleon of Peace,” as he has been justly called, Louis Phillippe has nevertheless won that appellation not by any sacrifice of the honor or rights of the nation, for the government of which he possesses such rare and admirable qualifications, nor by unmannerly concessions to the arrogant pretensions of some of his brother Monarchs by whom he has been always rather coldly treated as an intruder into the charmed circle of Royalty,—having about him none of that divinity, which, according to the ancient faith of Europe “doth hedge in a King,”—but he has acquired it by holding in check the passions of his violent and impulsive subjects, while asserting firmly, in his intercourse with other Powers, the right of the Nation and the honor of his Crown. It is conceded that, of all living Monarchs, he is incomparably the wisest—wisest, as well in the learning derived from books, as in that practical knowledge which is far better, and which he acquired in that rough school of adversity, into which, in his younger days, it was his fortune to be thrown. His death, occur when it may, will prove a great calamity to the French people, unless indeed they have profited more than we have reason to suppose they have done, by the “bloody instructions” which twenty years of revolution and war ought to have impressed indelibly upon their minds.

From Great Britain, the intelligence by the Cambria is not decisive in regard to those great measures of domestic policy, upon which the prosperity and perhaps the internal tranquility of that kingdom depends. The House of Lords, it will be remembered, has already passed the “Irish Coercion Bill”—a measure characterized, it is said, [for we have not seen it,] by the most despotic and tyrannical features, and to which consequently the Irish members of the House of Commons are so inflexibly hostile, that, in order to prevent its adoption, they have intimated their intention to vote against Sir Robert Peel’s proposed modifications of the British Tariff, if the Ministry shall persist in sustaining a bill so obnoxious to their countrymen. So that the fate of that important commercial scheme may be regarded as seriously endangered by its connection with a measure upon which it has not legitimate bearing.

RW46v23i37p2c2, May 8, 1846: Congressional Independence.

The Union continues to press upon Congress, with all the earnestness and pertinacity for which its editor is so remarkable, the adoption of those “other measures” in relation to the Oregon territory, which Mr. Polk recommended in his annual message. The Senate, however, turns a deaf ear to the unceasing exhortations of the Official Journal, and proceeds calmly in the consideration of the ordinary subjects of legislation. Even the House of Representatives, which has been heretofore most disposed to lend a willing ear to the importunities of the Union, seems now to be unmoved by its pathetic appeals. Are we to infer from this unwonted indifference of the two Houses to the admonitory counsel of the Union, that the wand of the magician is broken, and that henceforth Congress intends to think and act for itself, instead of sitting in the Capitol to register decrees sent to it from the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue? “That were a consummation devoutly to be wished.” Of all the practical reforms demanded by the country not one is more important or more imperatively required by its true interests—not one more essential to the preservation of our free institutions, by keeping the Executive in its constitutional orbit, from which it so often madly shoots—than the correction of the too long prevalent idea, that the representatives of the people in Congress are bound, by party allegiance, to reposes implicit confidence in the wisdom and patriotism of the President for the time being, and to carry into effect, without enquiry or deliberation, every measure that he may recommend. There has been already too much of this subserviency; and we rejoice to believe that we see indications, in the action of the present Congress, of a more just and rational apprehension of the relative duties, rights and responsibilities of the co-ordinate departments of the government.
The New Orleans Tropic states that Lieut. Porter, recently murdered by a wandering band of Mexicans under the command of Canales, who is said to be himself an outlaw, and therefore not acting under authority of the Mexican Government, was a son of Com. Porter, formerly of the U. S. Navy, and son-in-law of Colonel Beal, of the U. S. Army, now stationed at Austria, Texas. He left a wife and three children at Fort Towson, the residence of his mother-in-law. The Tropic also states that this Canales has been very troublesome to Gen. Taylor, hanging on in the rear of his army, and cutting off his supplies.

From the same paper we learn that there is no doubt Col. Cross is in Matamoras, and had been peremptorily demanded by Gen. Taylor. No answer had been received. Lieut. Deas, of the 4th Artillery, who is a warm friend of Col. Cross, the moment he heard of his capture, swam the river in his uniform, and was taken prisoner. He is at large, on parole, at Matamoras.

The American officers who have visited Matamoros, say the Mexicans have no idea that there will be war, notwithstanding their furious proclamations.

CAMP OPPOSITE MATAMOROS, EASTERN BANK OF THE RIO GRANDE, Texas, April 18th, 1846.

Gentlemen—Knowing your disposition to enlighten the world upon all the important topics of the day, I have borrowed pen, ink and paper with a view of giving you some information with regard to our present position and anticipated differences with Mexico. You have doubtless been apprised of General Ampudia's bravo communication to General Taylor, in which he informed him that it would be an insult to the good sense and understanding of Don Z. Taylor for him (General Ampudia) to attempt a recapitulation of the very many insults and grievances which the American Government had heaped upon that of Mexico, and if he, the said Don Z., did not within twenty-four hours fall back beyond the Nueces river, that the Mexican Government would be under the disagreeable necessity of making him do so. To this General Taylor politely replied, that although he might have every disposition to accommodate, yet he could not think of disobeying the orders of his own Government, and was therefore prepared to stand the consequences. Several days have elapsed since, and no attempt has yet been made to drive us off. The two opposing armies are within five hundred yards of each other—both busily engaged in entrenching themselves and throwing up field works. The most perfect non-intercourse is established. Thousands of reports are daily in circulation with regard to the probable time at which we are to be eaten up, and frequently news reached us that the Mexicans are crossing the river at some point above or below us, when some unlucky devils (whose detail it happens to be) are detached on a scout for the whole night.

The last report is that Gen. Arista has taken command of the Mexican army, and that all hostile operations are to be suspended until next June, in order to give the two Governments an opportunity of negotiating peaceably—or, in other words, giving the Mexicans an opportunity of backing out with some show of decency. Take my word for it, we are to have no fun, unless we lead off the dance.

Many of our officers assemble daily on the banks of the river, and gaze with longing eyes at the houses, streets and signoras of the beautiful city of Matamoros. In the course of a week our fortification will be finished, when we may safely defy the whole Mexican army. It is said that Arista is the rival and enemy of Parades, and will therefore be disposed to favor the American Government.

Col. Cross our Quartermaster General, has doubtless been taken prisoner by a party of rancheros, and taken over to Mexico. Lieut. Deas, of the 4th Artillery, concluded, very strangely, the other night that he would swim over to Matamoros and get information about Col. Cross. He swam over in his uniform; and yesterday, when Gen. T. made a demand upon the authorities for Col. C., they returned an answer that he was not there, but that they had Lieut. Deas, whom they held as a prisoner of war. Deas had no permission from Gen. T. to go, so I suppose he will have to get back the best way he can. There is no apprehension but that these gentlemen are safe—Deas at Matamoros, and Col. Cross at some place in the interior. Yours, L.

CAMP OPPOSITE MATAMOROS, Aprt 15, 1846.

My Dear Friends—We are all alive and kicking, the Mexicans not having yet caused "the waters of the Rio Bravo del Norte to drink any of the blood of the degenerate sons of Washington."

From circumstances we are induced to believe that Col. Cross, was taken prisoner by a set of land-pirates that roam (unreadable). A notorious character by the name of Raffael Falcon, who scruples not at theft or murder, is supposed
to have been prowling about our camp with some of his party, and seeing the colonel alone, they pounced upon him from the bushes, overpowered him, and either despatched him or run him over the river into Mexico, and now have him a prisoner—which, we have not been able to ascertain. This R. Falcon is said to be a captain of the Mexican army, and keeps at all times in his employ a set of desperadoes ready for any emergency.

This morning Lieut. Edward Deas, of the Artillery, said he was determined to ascertain what had become of Col. Cross. He dressed himself in uniform, mounted his horse, and, it is said, swam the river, and has gone to Matamoros. He has not been heard from, and how he will be received, or what will be his fate among them, none can tell, as he goes it entirely on "his own hook."

The Mexicans hold no intercourse with us, having immediately before our arrival here drawn up their boats on the other side, and told us they could not talk to us until we retired beyond the Nueces river. We won't do it.

To-day a Mexican came over from the other side and reported to Gen. Taylor that last night an express arrived in Matamoros from the city of Mexico, bringing intelligence that Ampudia is hereby relieved in command of the Army of the North, and Gen. Arista would resume the duties of that office, and that all warlike demonstrations on their part should cease until the 1st of June next, to give the two Governments time to settle the question. Yours truly,

CAMP, OPPOSITE MATAMOROS, April 19, 1846.

My Dear Friends—A report has been brought over here, by a Mexican from Matamoros, to the effect that Ampudia will, in three days, be relieved in the command of the "army of the North" by Gen. Arista, and that so soon as he arrives, he will give us a battle; and as a matter of course, we are all to have our heads boiled in oil and our livers stuffed with garlic. Look out that the Matamorians don't "ring in" an extra lot of sausage meat on the Crescent City. From the general character of Gen. Arista I look for more favorable views towards the United States than in appointing any other general in Mexico. He opposed the present Government of Mexico, and since Paredes has been in power, has expressed sentiments favorable to the United States.

Lieut. E. Deas, mentioned in my last, has been heard from. He swam the river for the purpose of gaining information in relation to Col. Cross—he went on his own hook and responsibility, without permission or sanction from either party. He was taken by a picket guard, and is now a prisoner at Matamoros. He writes that he is kindly treated. We heard that he was not in close confinement, but had the privilege of the barracks, on his parole, and was invited to the mess of Col. Curesco. Deas is a brave and intelligent man, and I think will some day be found "right side up." He is, however, in an unfortunate position, leaving our camp without the sanction of Gen. Taylor, and crossing into Mexico without a passport.

I have not time to say more to you this morning except that there has been a very severe fog her for two days, which has brought the mud to about ankle deep. Your, truly,
Several Executive communications were laid before the House from the President of the U. S. and their reading called for.

One was in relation to the Salve trade and covered a correspondence from Mr. Gordon, Consul at Rio De Janeiro.

Another was in relation to the Cherokee Indians, and the third a statement from the Adjutant General in answer to a Resolution of the House as to the desertions from the Army.

Gen. Taylor, in his Report to the Adjutant General, states that there have been four desertions from the Army where the deserters were drowned and two where the deserters were shot while swimming. They were old offenders, and their punishment had deterred others from deserting.

Mr. ADAMS moved to refer this communication to five members.

Mr. DROMGOOLE moved to lay upon the table, which was agreed to.

The Bill from the Senate, in regard to deficient appropriations, was reported, and the House insisted upon its amendments from which the Senate had not receded.

RW46v23i37p4c2, May 8, 1846: FROM VERA CRUZ.

Extract of a letter from an American officer on the Vera Cruz station, dated April 15.

"Nothing of importance has transpired here recently, but news of exciting interest pours in upon us from the frontier. The demonstration of General Taylor on the banks of the Bravo and the concentration of the Mexican forces about Matamoras, are events that we look upon as involving probable consequences of vast importance.

"The British mail packet Tweed arrived last evening from Havana with thirty passengers, amongst whom were Almonte’s Secretary, who evidently brings important intelligence or propositions."—NAT INT.

RW46v23i38p1c1, May 12, 1846: The Question Not Settled.

INTERESTING DEVELOPMENTS.

The Washington Union of Thursday night last [ . . . ] occasion, in language rather less diplomatic than it habitually employs, to contradict again the statement recently made by the N. Y. Journal Commerce, and since confidently repeated in other quarters, the truth of which we questioned from the beginning, that the Oregon question had been substantially settled by the informal concurrence [ . . . ] the high contracting parties in the outlines of a treaty of pacification, satisfactory to both. "We just again state," says the Union, "that there is some extraordinary mistake in this matter—that there is no foundation for the statement—that the question has not been directly or indirectly settled in London—that nothing will probably be done until the news reaches England of the decision of Congress. And we say this with the recollection that the Cambria has just brought despatches to our Government from London." This unequivocal denial, of course, puts to rest all the rumors, heretofore prevalent, by which the public anxiety as to the termination of this controversy had been to a great extent relieved.

There is too, we perceive, a greater diversity of opinion than a day or two since we had imagined, a regard to the final settlement of this controversy. Instead of being "solitary and alone" we find that several of our Northern cotemporaries concur in the strong fears that we have from time to time expressed, that insuperable difficulties may arise, even if both Governments shall agree to assume the 49th parallel of latitude as the basis of negotiation, in determining the rights of the parties, upon collateral but important points, upon which they are now directly at issue—such as the possession of Vancouver’s Island, the navigation of the Columbia, and the new and grave subject of difference recently suggested in England, growing out of the alleged infraction of certain rights and injury to the possessions of the Hudson’s Bay Company in the valley of the Columbia.

But perhaps the most important indication of the probable unfavorable termination of this complicated affair, the precarious and inauspicious aspect of which is to be ascribed exclusively to the unstatesman-like manner in which it has been managed by the present Administration—which, without the slightest necessity of it, has precipitated it to a point from which one or the other of the parties must recede from the position it has long and pertinaciously held, or, in the language of Gen. Cass, "war is inevitable,"—is a Letter from

An American citizen now in London, which we find in the Washington Union of Thursday evening last. The importance
ascribed to the contents of this letter by the Executive Organ, is emphatically marked by the fact that it "stopped the press," in order that it might publish, "without a day's delay," what it strongly characterizes as "MOMENTOUS" intelligence. The writer, who we are told, by the Union, "is unconnected without missions abroad, but who never writes upon any subject on which he is not accurately informed," after indulging in the usual flings of the 54 40 men at the timidity of the Senate, in refusing prompt obedience to Executive orders, and descanting upon the mischievous consequences likely to ensue therefrom, remarks: "I frankly confess to you that I cannot discover a solitary ray of hope for maintaining our rights in Oregon, except by the last resort, the ultima ratio of nations." The reasons for this opinion are to be found in the following extract from his letter, [which bears the date of London, April 18:]

"It is now generally believed, in the best informed circles, that Sir Robert Peel will succeed in effecting the change proposed by him some time since in the corn laws; and that he will then, with his ministers, retire from office. This will happen at a very early day; probably before the middle of next month. A new cabinet will, of course, be immediately formed, after the dissolution of the present one, under the s election of Lord John Russell; and Lord Palmerston, it is confidently asserted, will be restored to his said post of secretary for foreign affairs. The chief obstacle to the formation of a ministry by Russell, at the time of Peel's resignation, was the objection urged against Palmerston on account of the hostile feelings which he was known to entertain towards France. It was feared on both sides of the channel, that he would be instrumental in destroying the *eptente cordiale* which subsisted between Guizot and Peel, or rather between the two governments.

In anticipation of the early resignation of the Peel ministry, Palmerston availed himself of the Easter holydays to make a visit to the French metropolis, where he still continues, for the purpose, it is very evident, of reconciling Louis Philippe to his restoration. He has been most kindly received by Monsieur Guizot and the other members of the cabinet, and his mission doubtless will terminate successfully. His sentiments with regard to France will hereafter be entirely pacific, because his continuance in office would be of but short duration were they to become otherwise; but I have awful forebodings that our country is to find in him an inveterate deadly enemy. In his new-born zeal for the welfare of France, he will at once seize upon Guizot's "balance of power" doctrine in North America, and use his position and his talents to consummate the most desperate purposes at any time contemplated by England or France to check our growth or diminish the influence which our institutions are exercising over the other nations of the earth.

"I most sincerely regret that there should be so slight a prospect for adjusting the Oregon question before Peel's administration is at an end. Such an event could have been consummated, if there had been even a moderate degree of good management in Congress. Had the 'notice' so sincerely, and I may add, so patriotically urged by the President been promptly authorized to be given with the elevated ground upon which our title was placed by the correspondence which accompanied the message, there is not the shadow of doubt but that everything could have been, before this, amicably arranged, and to the general satisfaction of the people of the United States. But I distinctly foresee that such a result is no longer attainable by negotiation. Startle not, when I state to you, as my candid belief, that even should the notice arrive by the 25th inst., under the House resolution, nothing like the clear line of the 49th parallel can be secured! Peel could not be prevailed upon to settle at that, just as he is going out, if the 'notice' was now before him; and if we were disposed to compromise on the boundary, Russell will hesitate long, in my opinion, before he will offer it”

There are some intimations in the late English papers in reference to a possible change in Ministry in Great Britain; but, that event, should it occur, is based upon a presumption precisely the opposite of that upon which the speculations of the Union's correspondent are founded. We have seen not the remotest allusion to the probability of Sir Robert Peel's withdrawal from office in the event of the passage of his great measure of "commercial reform;” but it has been surmised, and very reasonably, that, in the event of the defeat of that measure, he will necessarily surrender his post. But is it likely that Lord John Russell, who is even more fully than Sir Robert Peel, pledged to the repeal of the Corn Laws, if Sir Robert Peel be defeated in that measure, will be his successor? We should infer otherwise; and that either Lord Stanley or the Duke of Richmond, who may be regarded as the leaders of the party opposed to the proposed modification or repeal of the Corn Laws, will be entrusted with the responsibility of conducting the Government— to be followed, perhaps, by a dissolution of Parliament a new election, and the postponement of the final struggle until another Parliament shall convene. The statement of the writer of the foregoing letter, however, in relation to Lord Palmerston's sudden visit to Paris, and his gracious reception at the Tuilleries, is corroborated by the London papers; and we leave it for our readers to judge to what extent that isolated fact is calculated to give plausibility to his gloomy inferences. We confess that we ascribe more importance and give more weight to them from the gravity of the Union in presenting them to the country, than we should be otherwise disposed to do. Occupying, as the editor of that paper does, a position which enables him to go behind the curtain which conceals from the public eye much information that may be essential in arriving at just conclusions on the subject, we cannot for a moment believe that he would, on the faith of a private letter from London, however intelligent and veracious the writer, and however ample his facilities of "ascertaining the truth from the highest and most unquestionable sources,” as we are assured is the fact in the present instance,---we say we cannot believe that the editor of the Union would even on such authority, publish, in a manner calculated to give a semi-official sanction to its contents, a letter of this character, unless its revelations were confirmed by information in the possession of the State Department. If, however, the revelations and speculations of this letter are not confirmed by information received by our Government from our official agents in London, we confess that, for one, we are strongly disinclined to give full credit to them. We believe, as we have heretofore said, that the danger of war is not over; but we do not believe that the event, should it occur, will be rendered more probable by the accession of Lord John Russell to the British Premiership. We have no doubt that he will be as strongly disposed as Sir Robert Peel to settle the controversy amicably. If the latter will consent to adopt the 49th degree of latitude as the boundary line, it is scarcely to be questioned that the former will accede to the same terms as the basis of the negotiation. But it is in the adjustment of the collateral issues that we have always apprehended, as we still do, the most serious obstacle to the satisfactory settlement of the question; and in reference to them so far as we may judge by their public
declarations, we have no reason to suppose that difficulties which might be easily obviated with Sir Robert Peel will prove to be insurmountable with Lord John Russell. The danger lies in the question itself, and not in the individuals to whom its management has been, or may hereafter be entrusted.

RW46v23i38p1c2, May 12, 1846: Stirring News from the Army!

Sooner, but not more certainly, than we had anticipated, bad tidings have reached us from our gallant little army upon the Mexican frontier—sent there, as it seems to us, in a mere spirit of bravado, and at the imminent hazard of being cut off by the superior force which it ought to have been obvious the Mexicans might at any moment concentrate upon that point. Already, to, it begins to be admitted (see the interesting letter to the New Orleans Tropic) that the bravery of the Mexican soldiers, and the skill of their officers, have been greatly underrated; and we hope, consequently, that there will be no more exhibitions of that fool-hardiness, which prompted one of our officers, at the head of a small reconnoitering party, to attack the advance guard of a formidable army—paying with his own and the lives of his comrades the penalty of his rashness.

The news of Gen. Taylor’s critical position has, it will be perceived, created great excitement in New Orleans as well as in Texas; and thousands of volunteers, we doubt not, are now marching to his relief. And we hope they may not be too late to rescue him from the large force, by which, at the last dates, he was threatened. Fearful will be the retribution, if he and his army have been cut off, that will await those by whose orders they were subjected to this needless peril.

This is among the first fruits of annexation—a war to defend a frontier, which we were assured was itself to be an impregnable wall of defence!

RW46v23i38p1c3, May 12, 1846: IMPORTANT FROM TEXAS AND THE ARMY.

Per Steamer Galveston from Galveston. Commencement of Hostilities!—News from the Seat of War! From the Galveston News Extra, April 30, 1846.

On Thursday morning, 23d ult., a Mexican came into General Taylor’s camp and reported

2000 Mexicans crossing the river some twenty miles above. That afternoon Captains Hardee and Thornton were sent with two companies of cavalry, 63 men in all, to reconnoitre. On Friday morning they fell into an ambush of the enemy, when Lieut. Cain and thirteen men were killed. Capt. Thornton missing and Capt. Hardee and 46 men prisoners. On Saturday afternoon the Mexicans sent in a wounded man who made the above report. These Mexicans, it is stated, were commanded by Canals and Carabajal. After the fight, the Mexicans on this side of the river were largely reinforced, and have surrounded Gen. Taylor’s camp, cutting off all communication with Point Isabel, at which place is the train and all of the stores belonging to the Army—Gen. Taylor not having on hand over ten days provisions. There are at Point Isabel 90 artillery men, 20 dragoons, about 250 teamsters, and about 150 citizens and laborers, and the entrenchments not half finished.

The steamer Monmouth landed Mr. Catlett on the night of the 28th ult. at Port Labacco, with despatches from Gen. Taylor, calling on Governor Henderson for 40 companies of Riflemen, 60 men each, 20 of the companies to be mounted men to rendezvous at Corpus Christi, when they will be mustered into service and supplied with provisions—the foot companies will rendezvous at Galveston where transportation will be furnished.

The steamer Augusta was to have left the Brasos St. Iago on Monday night for New Orleans with Gen. Taylor’s call on the Governors of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama for 8000 troops. Should immediate relief not be sent to Point Isabel, it will most probably fail into the power of the enemy, with all the army stores, and the destruction of the whole army may follow.

Gen. Taylor’s works in front of Matamoras would be completed on the morn of the 28th, at which time it was expected the fire would be opened on the city. Troops should not await the call of the Governor, as it will be a week before it can reach this place, but hurry to the relief of Point Isabel, as by saving that place only will we have it in our power to render the army timely assistance. Texas! You have now at last a glorious opportunity of retaliating on these perfidious Mexicans the many injuries they have done you, and of carrying that war into the heart of their own country, the cruelties of which they have so often made you feel.

We are indebted for the above to Mr. Gen. S. Grason, who has just retured by the Monmouth. He informs us that Capt. Catlett left the army on Sunday night, with a Mexican guide, and passing down the river reached Point Isabel on Monday morning with Gen. Taylors despatches to the Governor of Texas. The Monmouth was unable to leave until Monday night, in consequence of having to discharge, and take in provisions to be sent into Corpus Christi for the volunteers as fast as they arrive. These were left at St. Joseph’s, where the White Wing is now taking them to their destination.
Gen. Memucan Hunt will leave this city late this evening by way of Velasco and Victoria to rendezvous at Corpus Christi, preparatory to marching for the relief of Gen. Taylor.

[BPW]

RW46v23i38p1c3, May 12, 1846: To Arms! Texans, to Arms!

The United States Army under Gen. Taylor is surrounded by the Mexican enemy on Texan soil. Gen. Taylor has called upon the Governor of Texas for 2400 troops—let Galveston show to the world that they are always ready for the defence of their country—let them display the same spirit and alacrity that they did in 1842.

Head Quarters,
Galveston Volunteer Battalion,
30th April, 1846.

ORDERS.

The commissioned and non commissioned officers of the companies composing the Galveston Volunteer Battallion, are requested to meet for consultation at ten o’clock this morning, at the Galveston Artillery Armory, at Mr. Crawford’s store. The country needs our services! No time should be lost in immediately organizing the several corps of this battallion. The commandant of the battallion has the fullest confidence in the patriotism and zeal of the citizen soldiers of Galveston! He is sure they will not falter nor hesitate in this emergency! They have always desired an opportunity of showing their prowess to their Mexican enemies! That opportunity has now arrived! It is expected the young men of Galveston will immediately rally as volunteers, nor wait for their services to be required by draft.

If 150 or 200 men with the proper officers can be raised by to-morrow morning at 8 o’clock, they will be shipped with arms and accoutrements, and will take passage on board the steamer Monmouth, now bound for Point Isabel. N. KINGSBURY, Lieut. U. S. Army.

[BPW]

RW46v23i38p1c3, May 12, 1846: [Correspondence of the N. O. Tropic .]

BRASOS ST. IAGO, April 27.

By the Augusta, I sent you some of the items now transpiring around this interesting spot. The opinion is fast gaining ground here, that the imbecility of the Mexicans has been greatly overrated. This is the theatre of real war, not paper squabbles, but is the seat of the commencement of sanguinary conflict, and one it is feared of more importance and longer duration than has been anticipated; but the farce is at an end, and the curtain has risen bloody with carnage, the opening of a drama almost unexpected, and our country already mourns the loss of some of her finest and bravest officers. On Thursday, the 23d, Gen. Taylor received information that a body of the Mexican Army had crossed the Rio Grande some distance above the encampment. Early the following morning, Capt. Thornton and Harndee of 2d Light Dragoons, with a company of 70 men, were dispatches by Gen. Taylor, to reconnoitre above, and Capt. Kerr of the same regiment, with a company to reconnoitre below the Encampment. The latter returned without having made any discovery.

The former division fell in with what he considered to be a scouting party of the enemy, but which proved to be the advanced guard of a strong body of the enemy; who held a situation in the chaparel immediately in the rear of Gen. Taylor’s camp. Capt. Thornton charged upon the guard, contrary to the advice of his Mexican guide, and on following the enemy Capt. Thornton found his command surrounded by the enemy, who fired on him, killing as is supposed, Capt. Thornton, Lieuts. Kane and Mason, and some 26 of the men, and taking Capt. Hardee and the remainder of the command prisoner.

The Mexican commander sent in a cart to Gen. Taylor’s camp with a soldier badly wounded, with a message that he had no travelling hospital with him and could not give him the assistance his situations required. There is no doubt the detachment of the enemy east of the Rio Grande consists of fully 2500 men commanded by Col. Carasco and Carrajabal, bold and intrepid officers to experience and ability, and were the whole army officered by such men as Carasco, as I know him personally, we should not be upon an equal footing. There is no doubt their object is to cut off all communication with Point Isabel, this being the general depot of provisions for the American army; they have succeeded and consequently placed the American army in a precarious situation. It will be utterly impossible for Gen. Taylor to force his way along the dreary chaparels in which the enemy are strongly posted. His command cannot exceed 2300 men.
Gen. Taylor has an excellent position in the rear of Matamoras; and can hold his position against the whole Mexican army combined, and his batteries can range the city of an hour. Most of the citizens have left Matamoras, and Gen. Taylor has said that when the regular soldiers of Mexico were seen on the east side of the river, he would destroy the city. His batteries are to be ready on the 27th, complete. Gen. Taylor has in camp full rations for 15 days, which he thinks can be made to last 30, by which time he is in hopes to receive large reinforcements from the States of Texas and Louisiana, upon each of which State he has made a requisition for the equipment and transmission to Point Isabel of four full regiments of Militia.

It is thought by the superior officers of Gen. Taylor's army that 20,000 men will be required within a very short period, as it is well known that the Mexican army is daily receiving large reinforcements from the interior. It was suposed by the American officers that Gen. Arista reached Matamoros on the evening of the 22d, with a large Brigade, but up to the period of my informant leaving the Camp no communication had been received by Gen. Taylor from Gen. Arista. On the 22d, Gen. Taylor received from Gen. Ampudia, by the means of a flag of truce, a communication IN VERY DEFENSIVE TERMS, complaining of having blockaded the Rio Grande. To which he replied, that he, Gen. Ampudia, had been the cause of the blockade, he having expressly declared that Unless Gen. Taylor commenced his Retreat beyond the Nueces within twenty-four hours after his displaying his Flag upon the banks of the Rio Grande, he would consider WAR as being declared, and should act accordingly.—Gen. Taylor furthermore stated that he would receive no further communication from the Mexican Government, unless couched in language more respectful towards the Government and People of the United States. At Point Isabel great fears were entertained of a night attack, which, from the exposed situation of that Point, could not be otherwise than successful, if conducted with energy.

This post is defended by Major Munroe, with a detachment of 80 artillerists. There are also at the post about 200 armed waggoneers, and 10 laborers under the orders of the Quarter Master; some 100 citizen, furnished with arms by the U. S. Ordnance officer, organized under the command of Capt. Perkins, and denominated the Sumter Guards. A company of 50 Mexican cavalry was seen on the night of the 26th, within 5 miles of Point Isabel. They were supposed to be a corps of observation.

The body of Lieut. Porter, who was killed by a party of banditti, under the command of Romer Falcon, had not been found., The principal officers known to be in command of the Mexican forces as Generals Arista, Ampudia, Mejia, and Canales; and Colonels Carrasco and Carrajabal are men of talent. I am indebted for the above information to the politeness of Col. ?oane, who is on his way to New Orleans in the Augusta.

P. S. A messenger has just arrived, after severe toil and much danger, owing to the proximity of the troops and the state of the prairie. From him, I learn, that Arista communicated politely to Gen. Taylor, that he had assumed command of the Mexican Army.

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RW46v23i38p1c3, May 12, 1846: To the Editors of the Tropic

ST. JOSEPH’S ISLAND, TEXAS, April 28th, 1846.

Messrs. Editors:--By the arrival of the steamer Monmouth, this day, intelligence has been received at this place of the Army of Occupation being surrounded by 10,000 Mexican troops. The Mexican army passed the Rio Grande in the night. Capt. Thornton, 2 Dragoons, in attempting to cut his way out with his company, was killed. Also, two sub . . . ers and 13 privates, the remainder taken prisoners. Gen. Taylor, on this day, 28th, engages with the enemy. His whole force of fighting men will not number 3000—his mott is, “Conquer or die!” The United States troops are eager for the fray.

F.

OFFICE OF The Picayune, NEW ORLEANS, (10 o’clock,) May 2nd.

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RW46v23i38p2c1, May 12, 1846: THE NEWS!

We received no later intelligence by yesterday morning’s Southern mail from the seat of war on the Rio Grande—though the reader will find some additional particulars in our columns this morning.

The New Orleans papers of the 4th inst. are crowded with articles growing out of the recent stirring events in that quarter, and with notices in reference to the military movements in progress in the city, with the view of raising a sufficient force for the relief of Gen. Taylor. In the mean while, we are gratified to perceive that they generally concur in the opinion that the American Commander would be able to maintain his position, in defiance of the superior force by which he was threatened, until the arrival of an additional force. The Commercial Times, for example, says:
"From all that we can gather in relation to the contest, little apprehension need be entertained that the position of Gen. Taylor will be forced. He is very strongly entrenched, and has a battery commanding the town of Matamoras. The first assault of the Mexicans will be a signal for the levelling of his artillery against that town; and any effort to break into his fortress will only result in the bombarding of that frontier village. Famine alone can drive him into open field, and as, according to his own showing, Gen. Taylor had fifteen days’ rations with him, there is no reasonable fear of such a catastrophe occurring before the arrival of sufficient reinforcements to enable him to resume an offensive attitude. Point Isabel, it is true, may tempt the cupidity of the Mexicans, and its loss would be serious, not only because it contains ample munitions and military stores, but from the fact that it commands the route to the main body of our Army. It is stated that an addition of two or three hundred men, would be sufficient to defend this important point, from any probable force that the Mexicans could bring to bear again it. Under such circumstances, the place is safe, for Galveston and the adjacent country have already dispatched more than the number required, to the assistance of the beleaguered fortress. The only possible danger is from meeting the enemy, and being cut up, before they can reach the point. We think, however, that the Texans themselves may be relied upon. Their knowledge of localities, and experience in the border warfare so frequently waged between them and Mexico, will greatly avail them in so critical a juncture."

The Tropic presents us with a map of the position occupied by the American forces. It says:

"Gen. Taylor’s camp extend about four miles along the river bank—two miles above, and two below Matamoras. The entrenchment to erect it required 2300 men for thirty days. It is made of sand, and covered over with twigs woven together like basket work, surrounded by a very wide and deep ditch. He walls of the magazine, in the interior of the fortification, are formed of pork barrels filled with sand, and, seven tier thick, four tier high, covered over with timber, on which sand is piled ten or twelve feet.—Twelve heavy pieces of ordnance are so placed as to command the town of Matamoras. Five hundred men could defend the fortification against any force the Mexicans could bring against it at present."

The New Orleans paper complain that the volunteering has not been as rapid as had been anticipated, and not at all commensurate with the exigency of the call made by Gen. Taylor. The Tropic of the 4th furnishes the following, as the number of enrolments on the preceding afternoon:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For Capt. Breedlove’s Co. (Lou. Greys)</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; Stockton’s Co.</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; Strawbridge’s Co.</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; Doane’s Co. (Washington Gauards)</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private lists</td>
<td>47 56 30 35 168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteers for the two artillery companies</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Gally’s and Capt. Forno’s (supposed)</td>
<td>645</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"We are not aware of the numbers collected down town, but we have been told that perhaps the whole will not amount to more than 800 men, those already enumerated included. Hence it seems that the Governor will be obliged to have recourse to a draft. A gentleman informs us that his Excellency stated yesterday that he should issue his proclamation to that effect this day at noon. Two of the Regiments required will, it is probable, be taken from this city and Lafayette; the other two, from the rural parishes. In Lafayette we heard that up to two o’clock, yesterday, only ten men had volunteered."

Mobile has displayed more energy than her sister city, though of course her preparations are on a smaller scale. The news from the Rio Grande was received in Mobile on the night of the 2d, and on the 4th, a company of volunteers, numbering fully 100, started for New Orleans, on board the steamer Fashion, whence they intended to proceed with all possible despatch to the Army. Before leaving, the Company elected Gen. Robert Desha, who is said to be a gentleman of great energy and bravery, and one who has "seen service," as it is Captain, and Capt. Thomas Adrian as its Lieutenant. The wharves were lined with citizens for an hour before the departure of the gallant band, and as the boat shoved off the air resounded with shouts and cheers.

The news from the frontier reached Washington last Saturday evening; and, as might have been expected, it seems to have startled the Administration from its listlessness and apathy. We infer, from an editorial in the Union of Saturday night that the President transmitted to Congress a communication on the subject of our Mexican relations yesterday; and we take it for granted, that, under existing circumstances, that body will act upon his recommendations with promptness, decision and unanimity. It is no time to deliberate in cold debate, while the tocsin of war is ringing in our ears. It is now too late to discuss the propriety of stationing a small force on the banks of the Rio Grande, in the face of an exasperated enemy with the means of greatly outnumbering it; unsupported by a corps de reserve, and with a Desert intervening between our troops and the means of succoring them in the event of a successful assault by their adversary. Nor is it the proper period, for discussing the graver question, whether a position ought to have been taken upon the banks of that river at all, which while we claim it as belonging to Texas, is also claimed by Mexico as a part of its territory, before an effort at least had been made to ascertain and settle the
The city was thrown into a state of profound excitement yesterday morning by the arrival of the steamship Galveston, from Brazos Santiago, with later news from the Army justifying the worst apprehensions which had previously been entertained of the critical position of Gen. Taylor’s forces. We issued, immediately upon the receipt of the news, a second edition of The Picayune, laying a full statement of affairs on the Rio Grande before the reader. But not to omit any thing that may relieve the anxiety felt by all to obtain the smallest item of information in regard to the disaster which has overtaken Capt. Thornton and his command, we give, place to the following letter direct from the camp. In some particulars, it differs from the statements that have been laid before the public by the press of the city—and particularly, it sets down the loss occasioned by the surprise of Capt. Thornton’s command as less than it is made by any other report we have seen. Other letters which we have from the Army, breathe the entire calm spirit of determination as Lieut. Henry’s, from which we will no longer detain the reader:

The result of the contest cannot of course be for a moment doubtful. There is too great a disparity between the relative power and resources of the two countries, to justify and apprehensions on that score, even if the internal dissensions which seem to be a chronic disease of the Mexican people, should all be healed by the dangers which assail them from without, and their hundred factions could be induced to combine their energies and resources for the common defence. Her subjugation, indeed, under such circumstances, might be a task of difficult accomplishment—she has been so long disturbed, there is no alternative left to our Government but an appeal to arms. In that appeal, without stopping to enquire into the wisdom or justice of the course heretofore pursued by the Administration, the whole country, irrespective of party, will, without doubt, give it a cordial and hearty support. Such, at least, will be our own course—leaving it for a season more pietious to a calm and just decision by the people, to scrutinize the policy pursued by the Executive, by which the threatened war has been, if not provoked, unquestionably and unnecessarily precipitated.

Gentlemen—Knowing that in the present excited state of the public mind as regards our Mexican affairs and the welfare of our little army, that most exaggerated reports creep into the public prints, thereby carrying with them sorrow and anxiety into the bosom of the friends and relations of many officers, I deem it my duty to give you a hasty but correct account of the capture of Capt. Thornton and a squadron of the 2d Dragoons, by a force of 2000 Mexicans under the command of Gen. Torrejon. General Taylor, on the 24th, had received a report that the enemy were crossing the river above his camp. Capt. Thornton, with his command, was sent out on the evening of the 24th to examine the country above and see whether there was any truth in the report. His command was composed of Capt. Hardee, Lieut. Kane, Lieut. Mason, 5 sergeants, 4 corporals, 1 bugler, and 49 privates. His Mexican guide returned this morning, stating that he had been attacked at 8 o’clock on the morning of the 25th by a large number of the enemy, and that the whole command was captured or destroyed. The guide warned him that he was in the vicinity of the enemy and refused to proceed. He waited until night, and none of the party coming in, he returned home. About 11 this morning a private of the party was brought in, in a cart.

He was wounded. The man who brought him was the bearer of a note from Torrejon to Gen. Taylor, the amount of which was that “on the score of humanity he claimed the privilege of sending into him two dragoons, who were wounded in an engagement brought on by a charge from an American cavalry officer against his command of 200 men, as he had not flying hospital.” He then spoke of the rest being prisoner, and said “they would be treated with the considerations due prisoners of war, agreeable to the custom of civilized nations.” From the wounded dragoon
we obtain the following facts: That the charge was made in open ground; that when the command "charge" was given, but a few of the enemy were seen, but as they dashed over a hill the whole command presented themselves; they were fired upon, and immediately surrounded and taken prisoners. He does not know what became of Capt. Thornton. Capt. Hardee and Lieut. Mason are prisoners, and are all well. He reports Lieut. Kane, as shot, and it is feared he is killed. Ten men were killed. Before the cart left one of the two men mentioned died. From the note of Gen. T., it seems that he accuses Captain Thornton of having charged upon him. One can hardly conceive of such madness as charging 200 men with 63, and it is fair to presume that he was surrounded and charged to cut his way through. Time will clear it all up. The capture of Captain Thornton's party and sad death of Lieut. Porter, and murder of Col. Cross, are rather melancholy commencements of the war. I say war, for there is no doubt of its existence, and that unless an armistice is signed in ten days, we must have some hard fighting. The enemy are collecting in some considerable number, and I think their force may be estimated with safety at 5000. Gen. Taylor is rapidly pushing forward his field work, and I understand has sent for 4000 volunteers—two thousand from Louisiana and two from Texas. If they will give us a fair fight, we do not doubt our ability to whip them; but if they are going to give us a second edition of the Florida war, it will be a very annoying affair.

Yours very truly,
W. S. HENRY, Lt. U. S. A.

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We were politely furnished with the perusal of letter from Gen. Taylor to a friend in this city, from which we make the following extracts:

"Strong guards of foot and mounted men are established on the margin of the river," and thus efficient means have been adopted on our part to prevent all intercourse. While opposite to us their pickets extend above and below for several miles, we are equally active in keeping up a strong and vigilant guard to prevent surprise, or attacks under disadvantageous circumstances. This is the more necessary, whilst we have to act on the defensive, and they at liberty to take the opposite course whenever they think proper to do so. Nor have we been idle in other respects; we have a field work under way, besides having erected a strong battery, and a number of buildings for the security of our supplies, in addition to some respectable works for their protection. We have mounted a respectable battery, four pieces of which are long eighteen pounders; with which we could batter or burn down the city of Matamoras, should it become necessary to do so. When our field work is completed (which will soon be the case) and mounted with its proper armament, five hundred men could hold it against as many thousand Mexicans. During the twenty-seven days, since our arrival here, a most singular state of things has prevailed all through the outlines of the two armies, which to a certain extend, have all the feelings as if there were actual war.

"Fronting each other for an extent of more than two miles and within musket range are batteries shotted, and the officers and men in many instances, waiting impatiently for orders to apply marches; yet nothing has been done, to provoke the firing of a gun or any act of violence.

"Matamoras, at the distance we are now from it, appears to cover a large extent of ground, with some handsome buildings, but I would imagine the greater portion of them to be indifferent one story houses, with roofs of straw, and walls of mud, or unburnt brick. During peace the population is said to be five or six thousand, but it is now filled to overflowing with troops. Report says from five to ten thousand of all sorts, regular and militia. The number I presume is very much overrated.

"P. S.—Since writing the above, an engagement has taken place between a detachment of our cavalry and the Mexicans, in which we were worsted. So the war has actually commenced and the hardest must fend off."

From the above it will be seen that Gen. Taylor has neither fallen back nor retreated, but has acted strictly in accordance with his orders from the Secretary of War, which was to act on the defensive until attacked.

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An extra from the Tropic office, dated at 1 o'clock, P. M., of the 4th inst., says:--"We were favored with the perusal of a letter from an officer of the Army of Occupation to a gentleman in this city, in which it is explained that the engagement of the 70 dragoons took place 23 miles up the river, which runs W. by N. from Matamoros, while Point Isabella is NE. of the same place, thus showing that the whole Mexican force is not between Gen. Taylor's camp and his supplies. The letter also stated that the communication could be kept open that the camp was well fortified considering its length of line, and that in five days the fort would be finished and fire upon Matamoros commence.

"The Mexican force now on this side of the river is 2000 infantry and 1200 cavalry."
SENATE. The Senate was not in session to-day.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. A motion to go into Committee of the Whole on the private calendar was agreed to.

A bill for the relief of William Culver was read a third time and passed.

Mr. GARRET DAVIS moved to suspend the rules to enable him to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, 1st, That the President of the U. S. be requested to inform the House whether any portions or de (unreadable) of the American Army on the Rio Grande have attacked, or been attacked by the Mexican forces or people; whether any American officers or soldiers have been killed in any such attack, and if so the name or names of such officers or soldiers; and whether they were killed in the American or Mexican territory.

2nd. Whether any supplies for the American Army have been captured by the Mexican forces, and if so, what amount or supplies were thus captured; what force had been detailed to guard them; and what efforts were made to retake them.

3d. Whether any naval commander of the United States has blockaded the mouth of the Rio Grande, or Matamoras; whether such commander has ordered off, or captured, any American, English, or Mexican ships from Matamoras, or the mouth of the Rio Grande; and if so, what ships have been thus ordered off or captured; and also to communicate to this House a copy of any order or orders under which any such commander may have acted.

The House refused to suspend the rules, and the resolutions were not received. Ayes 64, noes 85.

Mr. PETTIT, Chairman of the “Webster Investigating Committee,” submitted a resolution to allow the Committee to sit during the sessions of the House, and to employ a clerk.

Mr. HAMLIN moved to strike out that part of the resolution which authorized the employment of a clerk.

Mr. PETTIT said that a clerk was indispensably necessary.

Mr. HAMLIN'S motion was agreed to.

The question then recurred upon the adoption of the resolution, as amended.

Mr. SCHENCK moved to amend it by allowing a clerk to the Committee of which he is Chairman. The motion was lost.

The resolution as amended was then adopted.

Mr. PETTIT then asked to be excused from serving upon the committee. He said that no member of the committee would undertake to do the necessary writing.

The House refused to excuse him.

Mr. HOMES, of S. C. moved that the committee be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

The SPEAKER decided that the motion could not be entertained.

The following bills were then read a third time and passed.

The bill for the relief of the owner and crew of the schooner Success.

A bill for the relief of Nathaniel Bird.

A bill for the relief of George Wenthing.

Mr. BAYLY renewed a motion made by him on a former day to reconsider the vote rejecting the bill for the relief of the heirs of Lieut. Jonathan Dye, an officer in the Virginia Continental line, who was killed at the Battle Brandywine. The house refused to reconsider.

Mr. WILMUT, of Pa., who is confined to his lodgings by indisposition, was excused from serving upon the Committee.
to investigate the charges against Mr. Webster.

Mr. SIMS, of S. C., moved that the Committee of the Whole be discharged from the further consideration of the bill to incorporate the Orphan Asylum and Female Free School of Alexandria, and that said bill be put upon its passage.

The Speaker said that it was necessary that the bill should pass through the Committee before it could be acted upon by the House, as it contained an appropriation.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. CALEB B. SMITH in the Chair, and took up the private calendar.

A few bills were acted upon, and then the Committee rose and the House adjourned.

[Note: From the electro-magnetic telegraph.]

The *National Intelligence* of yesterday says—"The news from the Rio Grande has of course put in motion all the Executive Departments connected with the Military or Naval operations. A Cabinet Council is said to have been held on Saturday night, and during yesterday various orders were issued from the public offices. Among other steps taken, all the remaining disposable forces of the Army has been ordered to the 'seat of war,' as it is now familiarly called. Gen. Worth, it is said, his resignation not being accepted, returns forthwith to the Army of the South."

From the same paper, we copy the following letter:

Extract from a letter from Col. Fitzpatrick, of Florida, serving as a volunteer under Col. Twiggs, to a member of Congress.

[Col. F. is a gentleman of high character, well known as an officer who served in the Florida war.

[Note: From Washington.]

Camp before Matamoras, April 27, 1846.

Dear Sir—The war was commenced on the part of Mexico. On the night of the 25th inst., Capt. Thornton, of the Dragoons, with a squadron consisting of his own and Capt. Hardee's company, were ordered to reconnoitre the Mexican army, which Gen. Taylor had been informed were crossing the Rio Grande twenty-seven miles above here. The squad was ambusched and fired on, and a number (unknown) killed, and all besides taken by the Mexicans. They sent in 2 wounded, with a note to Gen. Taylor. Capt. Hardee is prisoner, but no news of Capt. Thornton and Lieuts. Mason and Cain. You will believe me when I tell you the war is commenced by Mexico, and that Gen. T. is about to be surrounded and cut off from his supplies at Point Isabel, which is twenty-seven miles distant. The Mexicans have a force of two to three thousand on this side the river, and their destination is doubtless Point Isabel, where there is not more than four hundred men of all descriptions. You will believe me when I tell you that this army will have the ddest hardest fighting that ever any army had in this world, and, unless reinforcements are largely and speedily sent to its assistance, it must be cut off, as the enemy are in great force, and I fear have been very much underrated. I tell you, sit, the enemy have been entirely underrated, and this army has put itself in a trap, and is cut off (or about to be so) from its supplies.

I am here with Col. Twiggs as an amateur, and I shall stick to it till I am killed or made prisoner. Yours, truly, R. FITZPATRICK.

[Note: From Washington.]

Important from Washington. By the Electro-Magnetic Telegraph.

WASHINGTON, Sunday, May 10, 4 P. M.

We understand that the Committee on Military Affairs of the House of Representatives, held a meeting this morning, at 8½ o'clock, and have determined to urge to-morrow morning, the immediate passage of a Bill authorizing the President to receive 50,000 volunteers, and appropriate $10,000,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for effective operations against Mexico. The vouchers for the above are A. VIAL, Ass't. S. U. S. Telegraph.

H. J. ROGERS,
Ass't. S. U. S. Telegraph.
WASHINGTON, May 10, 5½ P. M.

The last news from Mexico and Texas has created a deep feeling in the city, and, in view of its importance and the necessity of doing something to relieve the Army in Texas, The Committee on Military Affairs for he House of Representatives have been in session to-day, and will probably report a bill to-morrow for raising Volunteers, and for paying them during their term of service, which the Government has been slow to do heretofore. The Committee of Ways and means, it is also said, have been consulted as to the provisions for carrying out the views of the Committee on Military Affairs.

A message is also expected from the President to-morrow in reference to our Mexican Affairs, and probably re-commanding a Declaration of War. The Executive and his advisers are loudly complained of in the city for the removal of the Army from Corpus Christi, and thus provoking the hostilities which have followed, and which were sure to follow. All must agree heartily to fight the battles of the country, but the responsibility of war will rest with the President.

P. S. The Committee on Military Affairs will recommend $10,000,000 in money and 50,000 volunteers.

RW46v23i38p4c2, May 12, 1846: News from the Frontier.

The reader’s attention will be arrested by the highly interesting intelligence from our little army on the banks of the Rio Grande, in another column---if, indeed, it has been able to maintain its position on the banks of that river, against the overwhelming force with which there is some reason to apprehend the Mexicans have been stealthily concentrating at Matamoras, and which, before this time, Gen. Taylor has not probability encountered in battle. We certainly have not a very exalted opinion of Mexican valor, yet we have not now to learn that it is sometimes dangerous to understate the prowess of an adversary. The very contempt for him leads to lack of caution in guarding against his attacks, and to a foolish rashness in meeting them. But even if our army escape the sword of the hectoring Dons, who, puerile as they are said to be, have evinced no signs of quailing at the approach of the American forces to the borders of their territory, it is not unreasonably feared by the New Orleans Bee that famine and the ague will decimate its ranks. We are more than ever compelled to doubt the wisdom—we certainly cannot perceive the necessity—of removing Gen. Taylor’s army from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande, leaving no *corps de reserve* to fall back upon for support in the event of even the improbable contingency of a disastrous conflict, and liable to have his supplies of provisions intercepted by marauding parties of Mexicans, some of which indeed have already succeeded not only in thus harassing him, but in cutting off small detachments of his soldiers, who have been murdered in cold blood. We are not surprised to learn that the tidings of these melancholy events have kindled an angry excitement in new Orleans, and that public opinion in that city warmly censures the course of the government in sending Gen. Taylor to face an enemy whom he is instructed not to assail, while that enemy is continually harassing and threatening him, and is daily recruiting his forces for an effectual onslaught. We fear that what we have already heard is but the prelude to still gloomier intelligence from that quarter. We have no doubt, of course, that our soldiers will do their duty in the event of a battle with the Mexicans—but can it be expected that a mere handful of men, however brave, can withstand the shock, in an open field, of thrice their number?

[USPH]

RW46v23i38p3c3, May 12, 1846: From the *New Orleans Picayune*, May 1.

LATER FROM THE ARMY.

Col. Cross Murdered!—His Body Found!

The brig *Apalachicola*, Capt. Smith, arrived at this port, yesterday from Brasos Bay, whence she sailed on the 24th ult., and reports that on the 22d she left Point Isabel, where Major Thomas, the acting Quarter Mater, informed Capt. Smith that the body of Col. Cross had been found about four miles from Gen. Taylor’s camp on the Rio Grande. From the wounds upon the body it seems evident that he was killed by a lance.

It was further reported that a person in Matamoras had acknowledge that he was the murderer, and had the watch and clothing of Col. Cross in his possession.

Gen. Taylor, it is reported, had made a formal demand for the murderer.

All open communications were permitted to pass by the Commandment of point Isabel between that post and Matamoras.
The Mexican schooner *Juanita*, from this port to Matamoras, was taken into Brasos Bay on the 22d ult. by the pilots—no doubt by permission of the blockading force.

STILL LATER.—The schr. *Cornelia*, Captain Stark, arrived last evening from Brazos Santiago, when she sailed on the evening of the 24th inst. She reports that about three hours before she sailed an express arrived from Gen. Taylor, stating that the commander of the Mexican forces had made a formal declaration to Gen. Taylor that if he did not move his army from the position he then occupied within thirty six hours, that the Mexican batteries would be opened upon them.

The same express also stated that at that time a body of 2000 Mexicans had crossed the Rio Grande near Boretta—a small town about eight miles below Matamoras, on the west bank of the river—and taken up a position between Point Isabel and General Taylor’s camp. The design of this movement is evidently to cut off the American troops from their supplies. A Private letter was also received last evening from an officer in Gen. Taylor’s camp confirming in part the above report of the Mexicans having crossed the river, but stating the number at 1000 only. There had been previously so man rumors to the same effect in the camp, that little reliance was placed upon this one which was first communicated by a Mexican, who was prudently detained by order of Gen. Taylor.

The accounts by the *Cornelia* confirms the melancholy news given above as to the fate of Col. Cross. He was found entirely stripped and wounded as before stated.

We have a letter from an officer in the camp, dated the 21st ult., the postscript to which states, what we had not doubt of that the Americans “had not retired one foot from the bank of the river, nor does the General mean to do any think that can look like it.” “Our flag waves over the waters of the Rio Grande, and we have a fixed battery of 18 pounders that can ‘spot’ any thing in Matamoras.”

While upon the subject of the army, we may state that the steamer Col. Harney, which left here on Wednesday for Brasos Santiago, took with her a battery of ten long 12 pounders, and a quantity of munitions of war, and that she was to take in more at Galveston for the same destination. The New York, which sailed yesterday, for the same point, had a detachment of 180 men on board for the army, under the command of Lieut. McPhail. F our companies of Infantry are expected here in two or three days, who will be despatches immediately for the same destination.

The steamer Gen. Worth, twelve hours later from Brasos Santiago, and bringing, it is said, one day’s later intelligence from Gen. Taylor’s camp, was in the river late last night, eight or ten miles below the city, waiting for a tow. It is said a bearer of despatches from Gen. Taylor was on board. Colonel Hunt immediately despatched a boat to bring her up. Mr. Marks, attached to the American Com????ate at Matamoras is on board the Gen. Worth. There was rumor brought by one of the schooners last night that our Consul at Matamoras is on board the Gen. Worth. There was rumor brought by one of the schooners last night that our Consul at Matamoras, apprehending imprisonment from the Mexicans, had left his post and repaired to Gen. Taylor’s camp.

We learned last evening that formal protest had been made before the British Consul by the English houses which had shipped cargoes on board the schooners Equity and Floridian, for Matamoras, which were turned back by the United States brig Lawrence, off the mouth of the Rio Grande.


On exhibiting a white flag on the left bank of the Rio Grande, a boat with two officers—represented as cavalry officers—with an interpreter—the same who appeared at the crossing of the Colorado—and a fourth person crossed from the right bank of the river

It was stated through an interpreter—Mr. Mitchell—that a general officer of the United States Army had been sent by his commanding general with despatches, to the commanding general at Matamoras, and to the civil authorities and that an interview was requested.

After some conversation explanatory of the above, the Mexican party recrossed the river, to report to the commanding general at Matamoras and return with his reply. An open note for the American Consul at Matamoras, with an endorsement on the back in pencil wads delivered to the Mexican officer. He replied that he should hand it to the commanding general. “Certainly, of course,” was Gen. Worth’s remark in reply.
On the return of the same party, Gen. Mejia sent word, that if the commanding general of the American forces wished a conference with the commanding general of the Mexican forces, it would readily be acceded to; but as a junior to the commanding general, on the part of the American troops, had requested a conference, Gen. Mejia could not entertain such a proposition; but that an officer of corresponding rank and position, in the Mexican forces, would be ready to receive any communication sent by Gen. Taylor.

It was perceived that the relation of the parties was misapprehended, they supposing that a conference was requested, this was corrected immediately, and it was reiterated that Gen. Worth was merely the bearer of despatches, with authority to relate verbally certain matters of interest to the commanding general at Matamoros.

The proposition of Gen. Mejia was then acceded to, with the remark, that this was a mere question of form, which should not be permitted to interfere with any arrangements necessary to the continuance of the friendly relation now existing between the two Governments.

The Mexican party recrossed to the right bank, and after a short absence returned, stating that Gen. Romulo Vega would receive Gen. Worth on the right bank of the river—their own selection—for the reception of any communication which Gen. Worth might have to make from the commanding general.

Gen. Worth then crossed the River, accompanied by Lieut. Smith, Aid-de-Camp; Lieuts. Magruder, Deas and Blake, attached to his staff; together with Lieut. Knowlton as interpreter. On arriving at the right bank of the river, Gen. Worth was received by Gen. Vega, with becoming courtesy and respect, and introduced to the "authorities of Matamoras," represented in the person of the Licenciado Casares. On the Mexican part were present, Gen. Vega, the Licenciado Casares, two officers—represented as cavalry officers—an interpreter, with a person named Juan N. Garza, Official de Defensores.

After the usual courtesies on meeting, it was stated by Gen. Worth that he was the bearer of despatches from the commanding general of the American forces to Gen. Mejia, and to the civil authorities of Matamoros. A written and unsealed document was produced, and Gen. Vega desiring to know its contents, it was carefully read, and translated into French by Lieut. Knowlton, and afterwards ret-translated into Spanish by the Mexican interpreter. Gen. Vega then stated that he had been directed to receive such communications as Gen. Worth might present from his commanding General; going on to say that the march of the U. S. troops into a part of the Mexican territory, Tamaulipas, was considered as an act of war.

GEN. WORTH.—"I am well aware that some of the Mexican people consider it an aggressive act but [interrupted by the Mexican interpreter, and after a slight discussion of the international question on the part of Gen. Vega, Gen. (next lines unreadable) ordered there by his Government, and there it would remain; whether rightfully or otherwise, that was a question to be settled between the two Governments. Gen. Worth then stated that he had been sent with despatches from his commanding general to Gen. Mejia; that Gen. Mejia had refused to receive it from him personally, adding, with emphasis and some degree of warmth, "I now state that I withdraw this despatch, having read it merely as an act of courtesy to Gen. Vega; that, in addition to the written despatch to Gen. Mejia, I am authorized to express verbally the sentiments with which the commanding general proposed to carry out the instructions of his Government, which in he hoped to preserve the peaceable relations between the two Governments, leaving all questions between the two Governments, leaving all questions between the two countries to be settled between the two Governments: and if hereafter Gen. Mejia wished to communicate with Gen. Taylor, he must propose the means—assuring Gen. Vega that should Gen. Mejia present himself or send his communications by a subaltern officer, in either case, he should be received with proper courtesy and respect. The question of right of territory was again opened by Gen. Vega, who asked how the United States Government would view the matter should the Mexican troops march into or occupy a portion of the territory of the United States. Gen. Worth replied that Gen. Vega might probably be familiar with the old proverb, "Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof," and that "it would be time enough to consider such matters when the act was perpetrated."

This proverb did not appear to have been translated by the Mexican interpreter, but was received by Gen. Vega with a smile and slight shrug.

Gen. Worth.—"Is the American Consul in arrest, or in prison?"

Gen. Vega.—"No."

Gen. Worth.—"Is he now in the exercise of his proper functions?"

Gen. Vega, after apparently consulting with the Licenciado Casares for a moment, replied that he was.

Gen. Worth.—"Then, as an American officer, in the name of my Government and my commanding general, I demand an interview with the Consul of my country."

No reply.

Gen. Worth.—"Has Mexico declared war against the United States?"
Gen. Vega.—"No."

Gen. Worth.—"Are the two countries still at peace?"

Gen. Vega.—"Yes."

Gen. Worth.—"Then, I again demand an interview with the Consul of my Government, in Matamoros—in presence, of course, of these gentleman, or any other that the commanding general in Matamoros may be pleased to designate."

Gen. Vega reiterated that he was in the proper exercise of his functions; that he was not in arrest, nor were any Americans in Matamoros in arrest; that he would submit the demand to Gen. Mejia, adding that he thought there would be great difficulty. This demand was repeatedly made, in the most emphatic manner, and a reply requested, General Vega [ . . . ] Consulting that (?) continued in the exercise of his functions, and that the demand would be submitted to Gen. Mejia.

Here the interview was suspended, while the Licenciado left the party, to submit, as we understood, the demand for an interview with the Consul to General Mejia. While engaged in friendly intercourse, Gen.Worth stated to Gen. Vega, in an informal manner, as an evidence of the good faith, intentions and dispositions of his commanding general, that he was well aware of the importance of Brasos Santiago to the commerce and business community of Matamoros; that he would respect their laws and customs, and freely grant entrance and exit to all Mexican and other vessels trading with Matamoros on the same terms as before its occupation by the United States, leaving all questions arising therefrom to be settled hereafter by the two Governments. At the expiration of about a quarter of an hour the Licenciado returned, and reported that Gen. Mejia would not accede to the request for an interview on the part of Gen. Worth, saying nothing, however, relative to the question of the Consul.

Gen. Vega was then again informed that the despatches intended to be delivered to Gen. Mejia by Gen. Worth in person would be returned by him (Gen.W.) to his commanding general, considering any other disposition of them as disrespectful to him, repeating that they had been read to Gen. Vega in courtesy to him, and that Gen. Mejia must take his own means of communicating with Gen. Taylor; that whether Gen. Mejia sent a superior or subaltern officer to Gen. Taylor, at all times accessible, he would be received with becoming courtesy and hospitality, presenting at the same time, a written and sealed document of the civil authorities of Matamoros, which was received by Gen. Vega and immediately transferred to the Licenciado Casares.

GEN. VEGA.—"Is it the intention of General Taylor to remain on the left bank of the Rio Grande?"

GEN. WORTH.—"Most assuredly; and there to remain until directed otherwise by his Government."

Gen. Vega remarked that "we" felt indignation at seeing the American flag placed on the Rio Grande, a portion of the Mexican territory. General Worth replied "that was a matter of taste; notwithstanding that, there it would remain." The army had been ordered to occupy its present position by its Government; it came in a peaceful rather than belligerent attitude, with a determination to respect the rights and customs of those on the right bank of the Rio Grande, while it offers protection to all on the left bank within their own territory.

No reply having been received from General Vega relative to the demand for an interview with the American Consul, the question was again introduced by Gen. Worth and the demand for the last time reiterated.

Gen. Vega promptly refused to accede to the demand replying, without waiting for the interpretation "No, no."

Gen. Worth.—"I have now to state that the refusal of my demand to see the American Consul is regarded as a belligerent act; and in conclusion I have to add, that the commanding general of the American forces on the left bank of the river will regard the passage of any armed party of Mexicans, in hostile array, across the Rio Grande, as an act of war, and pursue it accordingly.

The interview here terminated, and Gen. Worth and staff returned to the left bank of the river.

The above contains the substance of the interview between Generals Worth and Vega, and, as far as possible, the exact words and expressions used on the occasion.—Lieutenants Knowlton and McGruder, of the 1st Artillery, Lieut. Deas, of the 4th Artillery, Lieut. Blake, of the Topographical Engineers, and Lieut. Smith, of the 8th Infantry, were present at the interview.

[BWP]
him with a donation of $600. destruction of the vessel and the greater portion of her cargo, 425,000, which, however, as covered by insurance.

The Helvetia, whale ship, Captain Porter, of New London, Ct., was burned in the harbor of Honolulu, Jan. 25th. The ship was of 322 tons, but 18 months out, and had on board 150 barrels sperm and 1500 whale oil. Loss in

Our readers cannot fail to have been struck by the number of officers reported by the city press to have arrived here on the New York on her last trip from Galveston. Enough were reported to have officered several regiments. This was entirely the result of misapprehension. We learn that but three gentlemen connected with the Army did in fact arrive; these were Gen. Worth, Major Van Ness and Lieutenant Smith. Gen. Worth, it is known, has transmitted his resignation to Washington; the other gentlemen named came here on important business connected with the service.

We have before expressed the deep regret that would be felt by the nation at the resignation of Gen. Worth. He has conferred lustre upon our army by his distinguished services in Florida and elsewhere, and the country looked to him as one of the chief of the gallant spirits who were to sustain the national fame, should our difficulties with Mexico terminate in open war. But he felt himself constrained to pursue the course he did, in consequence of recent decisions of the Executive upon the subject of rank. His resignation was not tendered until all prospect of an immediate conflict with the Mexicans had passed. After it was tendered, he remained for some days in camp as a private individual, nor did he leave so long as there was any probability that his services in any contingency could be rendered available.

Gen. Worth led the advance of the Army across from Corpus Christi to Matamoros, and hoisted with his own hand the American flag upon the banks of the Rio Grande, within 350 yards of the Mexican batteries. It was the flag of his own regiment—he 8th Infantry—which he had brought with him from Florida, and was the first American ensign hoisted by the army West of the Nueces, and, strange to say, it is the only one with the army on the banks of the Rio Grande del Norte.—[N. O. Pic.]

RW46v23i38p4c2, May 12, 1846: The Army.—Misapprehension Corrected.—Gen. Worth. Our readers cannot fail to have been struck by the number of officers reported by the city press to have arrived here on the New York on her last trip from Galveston. Enough were reported to have officered several regiments. This was entirely the result of misapprehension. We learn that but three gentlemen connected with the Army did in fact arrive; these were Gen. Worth, Major Van Ness and Lieutenant Smith. Gen. Worth, it is known, has transmitted his resignation to Washington; the other gentlemen named came here on important business connected with the service.

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RW46v23i38p4c4, May 12, 1846: THE SANDWICH ISLANDS—OREGON AND CALIFORNIA.

Interesting News. —Intelligence from Honolulu to the 14th February, has been received at New York. Letters from Hawaii, of December, state, that in consequence of an unprecedented drought, that whole districts of country had been ravaged by fires, which consumed in great numbers the habitations of the natives. A famine had also prevailed there for six or eight weeks, the people living on fern and roots, and there was no prospect of immediate relief.

The Helvetia, whale ship, Captain Porter, of New London, Ct., was burned in the harbor of Honolulu, Jan. 25th. The ship was of 322 tons, but 18 months out, and had on board 150 barrels sperm and 1500 whale oil. Loss in destruction of the vessel and the greater portion of her cargo, 425,000, which, however, as covered by insurance. The personal losses of the Captain and officers are considerable, and the friends of Capt. Porter, in port, presented him with a donation of $600.
OREGON.—Previous to the departure of the Cowlitz, arrived at Honolulu from the Straits of San Juan de Fuca, 450 wagons and 3000 emigrants had arrived. Some of them were men of capital. Dr. McLaughlin had removed to the Falls and intends shortly to leave for Paris. Mr. Douglass takes Charge of the Hudson’s Bay Co.’s affairs at Fort Vancouver. Bark Toulon, Crosby, from Honolulu, was 54 days into the river, and in November had not arrived at her discharging place. Many more emigrants were to arrive, and certain description of goods to supply their wants in the winter will be much in demand.

CALIFORNIA.—By letters from California by the Don Quixote, we learn that in consequence of an advantageous attack made by the Mexican authorities of St. Francisco, on some American citizens, by which Mr. Nathan Spear came near losing his life, a memorial was presented to Captain Page of the U. S. Sloop Levant, then at Monterey, and he, together with Mr. Larkin, the U. S. Consul, immediately sailed for St. Francisco, to investigate the affair.

We also learn that three companies from the U. States numbering from three to four hundred people, with fifty or sixty wagons, had arrived at the head waters of the Bay. Some hundred head of Derham cows were brought by the emigrants.

There were three Russian ships at anchor in the Bay, for wheat, tallow, hides, &c. Also, Vandalia, Sterling and Tassen, of Boston, and Fama of Oahu.

Mr. Wm. A. Leedsdorf has been appointed U. S. Vice Consul for St. Francisco.

WASHINGTON, May 8.

The Hon. JOHN SLIDELL, our late Minister to Mexico, arrived in this city last evening, in the Western train of cars, and immediately had an interview with the President. We may now look for a message in a very few days.

It is a matter of surprise to me that the state of affairs on the Rio Grande should thus far have failed to attract the attention of Congress, and of the people. The Executive has virtually declared war against Mexico, while Congress is in session, and without its sanction, by authorizing the blockade of Matamoras. Already we hear of two American vessels being compelled to return to New Orleans, at an immense loss to the owners and shippers, which loss the Government is bound, in honor, to make good to them. The conduct of the Executive in the whole of this Mexican business, exhibits an assumption of power which requires the immediate attention of Congress. P.

THE DEBATE.

Taking it for granted that the debate on Mexican affairs will possess more interest than any other matter at present, we devote to it as much space as possible this morning.

The President’s Message assumes what remains to be proved, that the territory lying between the Nueces and the Rio del Norte is “American soil;” and upon that assumption he rests, as we anticipated, the vindication of his course, in ordering Gen. Taylor to occupy a position opposite the town of Matamoros. And yet he informs us that, after having obtained an assurance from the Mexican authorities that they would receive a Minister from the United States, for the purpose of adjusting the questions in controversy between the two governments, he abstained from taking this step, because among those questions, that of boundary occupied a prominent position. The American army, he tells us, “was concentrated at Corpus Christi, and remained there until after I had received such information as rendered it probable that the Mexican Government would not receive our Envoy. Why was not the left bank of the Rio Grande selected at first, instead of the Neues, as the position of our army? It was precisely because that which is now assumed to be an unquestionable fact, was then conceded to be a disputed and doubtful assertion of right, to be determined not by the strong arm but by the usual process of negotiation. The Neues was then, by the act of the Administration itself, admitted to be the ascertained and undisputed frontier of Texas; and our claim to its extension westwardly was deferred, as it ought to have been, for future adjustment. If our troops had remained at Corpus Christi, however, we are told, the result would have been the same—since the Mexicans would have marched their forces to that point, in hostile array, as they have done to the Rio Grande, and attempted the expulsion of the American forces, whom they would have looked upon as invaders of the Mexican territory not less when occupying that position, than when afterwards they were pushed farther on to the Rio del Norte. This is piling assumption upon assumption—“Pelion upon Ossa.” But admit that the result would have been the same—the effect
would have been essentially different. The position of the two parties would have been reversed. They, and not we, would, in that event, have invited the commencement of hostilities; and although war might have ensued, the Administration would have been free from all ground of censure. It is our firm conviction, however, that, if the American forces had continued at Corpus Christi, the Mexicans would have remained on the western side of the river, with the exception perhaps of that small number of them, who already occupied settlements on its eastern banks,—as at Point Isabel, for example, selected by Gen. Taylor as his depot, at which, when he reached it, there was a Mexican village, and a Mexican custom house, under the jurisdiction of Mexican laws, and under the protection of the Mexican flag—a fact which, of itself, strongly implies their right to the territory; for, although Texas in 1836 claimed it, yet not one foot of it had ever for an instant been in the possession of the Texan forces. It is manifest, if a mere declaration of the Texan Revolutionary Convention is to settle arbitrarily and conclusively the question of boundary, that if those who framed her original Constitution had thought proper to embrace within her paper limits the city of Mexico itself, although no Texan had ever reached that city but as a prisoner, we, in virtue of the treaty of annexation, should be bound to make that pretension good by force of arms—and them, instead of regarding the Rio del Norte as the frontier of the new State, we should not have reached that point until our flag had floated over the palace, and our soldiers "revelled in the halls of the Montezumas."

We repeat, however, that we do not mean to prejudge the question of right to the disputed territory. All we say is, that, so long as it was in dispute, or until Mexico had intimated her purpose to seize upon it, it should not have been occupied by an armed force, entrenching itself opposite a Mexican city, and bringing its cannon, as if with hostile intent, to bear upon the dwellings of its citizens. This is the ground upon which we condemn the Administration—as we do also for sending upon so perilous an errand a force so utterly incompetent, as events have shown, to maintain its position. In our determination to support this or any other Administration in the most vigorous efforts to meet and repel an enemy, we hold it to be no less a duty to investigate fearlessly the injudicious conduct by which those efforts have been rendered necessary—just as if at sea an ignorant or head strong pilot had run the ship amid rocks and breakers, each man on board would feel impelled to exert every nerve to rescue her from her perilous condition, but with a determination nevertheless freely to criticise and condemn the individual by whose incompetency or rashness the danger had been incurred.

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RW46v23i39p1c2, May 15, 1846: General Scott.

Although the partizans of the Administration defend zealously the wisdom of sending the American army to the Rio Grande, they nevertheless seem not at all unwilling to divide the responsibility and the glory of that measure with Gen. Scott—which they would never do if they had not themselves some serious misgivings in reference to its propriety. The General and his friend, however, seem to be not at all willing to deprive the Administration of any portion of the merit of that movement! A letter from Washington to the editor of the Alexandria Gazette affirms, "on competent authority, that Gen. Scott was not consulted on the subject, but was peremptorily directed to issue the order. He did not approve of the movement; and, had he been consulted, would have objected to it." Strange, if the step was a wise one, that the Administration should be so eager to confer the honor of it upon a gentleman for whom it has no very especial regard—and scarcely less strange that he should so promptly decline that honor!—The truth is, the President and his partizans, now that it is too late, perceive that he has committed a capital error, for which he will be condemned by the sober judgment of the people; and they are [. . . ] out for a scape-goat!

[BWP]

RW46v23i39p1c2, May 15, 1846: No title.

From the camp of Gen. Taylor, across the Peninsula, to Point Isabel, is about 30 miles. The distances to be reached by the earliest aid that can reach Point Isabel are as follows: From Galveston, by the outside route 320 miles; from Galveston by the inside route 336 miles; from New Orleans by river Mississippi and coastwise to Point Isabel 802 miles; from New Orleans to Galveston 482 miles; from Matamoras to the bar of the Rio Grande, by the course of the river, about 70 miles.

[BWP]

RW46v23i39p1c2, May 15, 1846: England and Mexico.

The last New York Mirror contains a long and interesting extract from the forthcoming work of General Waddy Thompson, on Mexico. His opportunities of information, while our Minister to that country, and his ability, both entitle his opinions to great respect; and we are therefore glad to find that he expresses the conviction that Great Britain, so far from desiring a war between Mexico and the United States, is deeply interested in the preservation of peace between the two countries. After stating that the popular impression that English influence is in the ascendent in Mexico, is entirely erroneous, and that, so far from this being the fact, the general feeling of the Mexicans towards the English is unfriendly, he adds:

"The British Government keeps two officers, or agent, in Mexico, with high salaries, to attend to this [the mining] interest alone. It is with the money thus derived that the English establishments on this continent and in the West
Indies are supported.

"The amount of the specie annually obtained from Mexico is more than half as great as that which is kept at one time in the Bank of England. The stoppage of this supply would very much derange the whole monetary system of England; on this account, it is to be apprehended that in the event of a war between the United States and Mexico, that England would very soon be involved in it.—If the coast of Mexico should be blockaded, England will demand that the line of steam-packets to Vera Cruz should be exempted from its operations. These packets, although commercial vessels, possess a sort of quasi-government character. This, of course, our government could not concede; and the interruption of the regular supply of the precious metals from Mexico would be most disastrously felt in England. Knowing all this, I was well satisfied that all that we have heard about England stimulating Mexico to declare war against this country was ridiculously absurd.—Such a war would injure England more than either of the belligerents. All her interests are opposed to it, unless, indeed, she intended to participate in that war. I have the best reasons for saying, that there is no other power in the world with which England would not prefer to engage in a war; not that she fears us, for England fears no nation, nor combination of nations as all her history proves; but such a war would be, more than any other, disastrous to her commercial, manufacturing, and all other industrial pursuits.

"England has no single motive for a war with us. It is not of this country that she is jealous, but of the Northern despotism of Europe, and mainly of Russia, and has been so since the seizure of the fortress of Aczaco, in 1788."

A letter from Pensacola, dated on the 4th instant, states that "Commander Saunders, of the U. S. ship St. Mary's, had been ordered by Capt. Fitzhugh, to get under way immediately for Brasos St. Iago, to furnish prompt assistance to the army force at Point Isabel. While I write she is beating out the harbor. The steam frigate Mississippi is to leave for Vera Cruz this evening at 4 o'clock."

A BILL to authorize the President of the United States, under certain contingencies therein named, to accept the services of volunteers, and for other purposes.

Whereas, by the act of the Republic of Mexico, a state of war exists between that Government and the United States: therefore—

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, for the purpose of enabling the Government of the U. States to prosecute said war to a speedy and successful termination, the President be, and he is hereby, authorized to employ the militia, naval, and military forces of the United States, and to call for and accept the services of any number of volunteers not exceeding fifty thousand, who may offer their services, as cavalry, artillery, infantry, or riflemen, to serve six or twelve months after they shall have arrived at the place of rendezvous, or to the end of the war, unless sooner discharged. That the sum of ten millions of dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated out of any money in the Treasury or to come into the Treasury, not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of carrying the provisions of this act into effect.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the militia, when called into service of the United States by virtue of this act, or any other act, may, if in the opinion of the President of the United States the public interest requires it, be compelled to serve for a term not exceeding six months after their arrival at the place of rendezvous, in any one year, unless sooner discharged.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the said volunteers shall furnish their own clothes, and if cavalry, their own horses; and, when mustered into service, shall be armed and equipped at the expense of the United States.

SEC. 4. And be it further enacted, That said volunteers, when called into actual service, and while remaining therein, shall be subject to the rules and articles of war, and shall be, in all respects, except as to clothing and pay, placed on the same footing with similar corps of the United States army and in lieu of clothing, every non-commissioned officer and private in any company who may thus offer himself, shall be entitled, when called into actual service to receive in money a sum equal to the cost of clothing of a non-commissioned officer or private (as the case may be) in the regular troops of the United States.

SEC. 5 And be it further enacted, That the said volunteers so offering their services shall be accepted by the President in companies, battalions, squadrons, and regiments, whose officers shall be appointed in the manner
Norte is part of Mexico; and that Power had people and establishments in it. Months ago the President, of his own

the President. The river Nueces is the true western boundary of Texas. The country between that stream and the Del

Sir, if the bill contained any recitation upon that point in truth and justice, it should be that this war was begun by

by Mexico.

over the Administration, by voting for a bill which set forth that this needless and unexpected war was commenced

began this war. That position is not necessary to give this bill any possible effect. It could have been as well omitted,

resources of the country for the rescue. If the war be wrongful at a more convenient season I would hold them

informal; whether began by Mexico or our own Government. I require only to know that our army is in danger, and

for which the bill provides. For these purposes it is sufficient for me that our country is at war, be it formal or

The foregoing bill passed by the decisive vote of 174 to 14. Every member of the Virginia delegation present voted in

its favor. The following are the names recorded in the negative: Messrs. John Q. Adams, Ashmun, Cranston, Culver,

Delano, Giddings, Grinnell, Hudson, D. P. King. Root, Severance, Strohm, Tilden and Vance. Two or three of these
gentlemen belong to the sect of Abolition fanatics—and, while willing to go to war with Great Britain for the purpose
of acquiring a sandy and sun-scorched Desert on this side of the Rocky Mountains, and a rocky and ice bound coast
on the other, would be doubtless willing to see our Southern frontier desolated by fire and sword. But most of them,
we presume, (at least we hope,) were influenced in their vote against the bill, not by opposition to the necessary
measures of defence proposed, but by the grave and potent reasons which induced so many members to vote for it
with a protest against certain of it is obnoxious and fraudulent features. These features are referred to in the

subjoined remarks of Messrs. Garrett Davis of Kentucky, Bayly of Virginia, Holmes of New York, and Smith of

Indiana:

Mr. GARRETT DAVIS rose and said: Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to excuse me from voting on the passage of this

bill, and I will assign very briefly my reasons.

This is a measure, directly and indirectly, of very great importance, and yet not opportunity, not a single moment
has been allowed any Whig of this House to say one word upon it. So far as it can operate upon the fate of the
gallant General and his little army upon the Del Norte, there is no need for such unparalleled haste in urging a
measure of its character through this body. He is on a frontier 3000 miles distant. In the exercise of a discretionary
power vested in him by the Executive, he has made a requisition on the Governors of the neighboring States for ten
thousand troops. At this moment, the destiny of Gen. Taylor and his gallant band is sealed, and I doubt not that ere
now the prompt succor which he has received from the States contiguous to the theatre of his operations, has given
him such force he has beaten back the enemy, and anything we may now do will be too late to influence it. There
could then be no valid objection to give a day to the consideration of this bill and no person would desire more. But
the haughty and dominating majorit will not allow now this much.

But, Mr. Speaker, I have no objection to the preamble of the bill. It recites that war exists between the United States
and Mexico, and that this war was began by Mexico. That informal war exists between the two countries is
undeniable; but that Mexico commenced it is utterly untrue, and I object to the preamble because it sets forth so
bold a falsehood. I am decidedly, strongly in favor of the appropriation of the money, and of the raising of the forces
for which the bill provides. For these purposes it is sufficient for me that our country is at war, be it formal or
informal; whether began by Mexico or our own Government. I require only to know that our army is in danger, and
whether it be in the territory of the United States or Mexico. I am ready to vote men and money even to the utmost
resources of the country for the rescue. If the war be wrongful at a more convenient season I would hold them
responsible who made it. But I protest solemnly against defiling this measure with unfounded statement that Mexico
began this war. That position is not necessary to give this bill any possible effect. It could have been as well omitted,
and, had it been rejected, I doubt not the bill would receive the unanimous vote of the House. But that was not
the object of its authors. Their purpose was to make the Whigs vote against or force them to aid in throwing a shelter
over the Administration, by voting for a bill which set forth that this needless and unexpected war was commenced
by Mexico.

Sirs, if the bill contained any recitation upon that point in truth and justice, it should be that this war was begun by
the President. The river Nueces is the true western boundary of Texas. The country between that stream and the Del
Norte is part of Mexico; and that Power had people and establishments in it. Months ago the President, of his own
The debate in the House was confined mainly to amendments proposed to the original bill. Mr. Brinkerhoff declared in silence without placing myself in a false position. I consider this bill virtually a declaration of war, made with Executive recommendation; for I do not understand the Executive as recommending a declaration of war. And made too when we do not know that the invasion of our territory and aggressive acts are sanctioned by the Government of Mexico. They may yet be disavowed, and repARATION made. I am, therefore, unwilling at this time to vote the declaration of war. I do not consider such a declaration necessary to meet the emergency. On the other hand, I am anxious to vote such supplies of men and means as will afford succor to our army and repel the invasion. I must, as I am now placed, decline to do this, or vote for the bill before the House. If I am not excused I shall vote for the bill, as I consider withholding the supplies under the circumstances as the greater evil. Mr. B. withdrew his request to be excused.

When Mr. E. B. HOLMES was called, he rose in his place and said: "Mr. Speaker, I vote ay, because I cannot withhold supplies from our army in its present condition; but I solemnly protest against the preamble to this bill, and publicly denounce it as base, fraudulent, and false."

When Mr. ALBERT SMITH'S name was called he rose and said: Mr. Speaker, I vote for the bill, but I do so under a protest to the preamble of the bill as false in its facts and operating as a fraud upon the nation.

The debate in the Senate was confined mainly to amendments proposed to the original bill. Mr. Brinkerhoff declared himself in favor of carrying the war into Mexico, and repudiated the idea that the operations of the American forces should be confined to the left bank of the Rio Grande, even though the Mexican forces should be compelled to retreat across that river. Mr. Brockenbrough was in favor of a declaration of war, and moved so to amend the bill. Mr. Roberts are in favor of issuing letter of marque and reprisal. Various other propositions, more or less decided in their character, were submitted by other gentlemen, and briefly discussed. Messrs. Rhett and Holmes of S. C. insisted, as did Mr. Calhoun and others in the Senate, that, in a constitutional point of view, there is a wide difference between a war and a sudden our break of hostilities on an exposed frontier,—that the commanding Generals might for instance, be guilty of attacks which their Government might disavow—and therefore they insisted that for the present at least, we should be content with adopting the necessary measures of defence, leaving it for future developments to govern our final action. We regret that our space will not permit us to publish the whole of the interesting debate. We are compelled however, to confine ourselves this morning to a portion of the interesting discussion in the Senate.
A message was received from the President of the United States on Mexican affairs.

The message having been read—

Mr. SEVIER moved that the message and documents be referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and printed.

Mr. DAVIS desired that the documents accompany the message be read.

Mr. SPEIGHT observed that those documents were very voluminous, and the reading would consequently occupy a considerable time. He suggested that, as they were to be printed, the reading might be dispensed with at present.—He moved that twenty thousand additional copies of the message and accompanying documents be printed.

Mr. CALHOUN said they had now a very great question presented to them—a question which, in view of all of its consequences, it would take many years to terminate and he hoped that the Senate would on this occasion, manifest that quiet dignity, and give to the subject that dispassionate consideration, which was worthy the character of a grave and deliberative body. He trusted that they would, laying aside every minor consideration, proceed at once to the adoption of such measures as were rendered necessary in the present emergency, such as the Constitution demanded of them, and such as the honor and the interest of the country might require. But he hoped that in this state of the case nothing more than was usual would be done in regard to printing documents for the use of the Senate; after they had had the matter under consideration it would be time enough to determine what number should be published.—It had always been understood that the printing of a vast number of any set of documents was an endorsement of their contents. He would offer no opinion upon the documents now before them, but the thought it would be at least undignified on the part of the Senate to print an unusual number.

Mr. SPEIGHT said he responded heartily to every word which had fallen from the Senator from South Carolina as to the proper action of the Senate upon this occasion. His motive in proposing the printing of an extra number, which proposition was suggested by his friends around him, was that he supposed that the people throughout the country would be desirous of reading the document. He could not say whether the printing might be considered an endorsement of them by the Senate, but this he would say, that as far as he was concerned, he for one endorsed every word they contained. He entirely approved of the message, and was prepared without hesitation to carry out what the President had recommended. He had recommended no declaration of war; he had only recommended the placing at his disposal a sufficient military force to repel an invasion. He believed there was no American who would not respond to that message. He would do the Senator from South Carolina the justice to say that he believed he would respond to it.

If he thought it was the sense of the Senate that no more than the usual number of copies should be printed, he would withdraw his motion; but he would repeat that he believed there would be a desire throughout the country to read these documents, and he saw no reason why they should not be printed and circulated extensively. This message was a highly important document, they had reached an important crisis, and he agreed with the Senator from South Carolina that they should meet it firmly and with due and proper deliberation. For his own part he was prepared without hesitation to carry out the proper action of the Senate upon this occasion. His motive in proposing the printing of an extra number, which he thought it would be at least undignified on the part of the Senate to print an unusual number.

Mr. ALLEN said he believed it was usual, whenever an important communication was made to Congress, if that communication and the documents which accompanied it were too voluminous to find admission in the public newspapers of the country, for the Senate of the United States to supply the demand of the country by printing an extra number of such communication with the accompanying documents. No man would question for an instant the transcendant importance of the matter now communicated to the Senate; and no man would doubt that the matter contained in those papers was too voluminous to find a publication in the newspaper press of the country. No man could doubt the right which the American people had to indulge that wholesome curiosity which would induce them to look for the publication of those documents. These were facts about which there could be no doubt, and if there ever was a case where it became important to give an extended circulation to a great public fact, this was that case. They were told by the Senator from Mississippi that the President had not recommended a declaration of war, but the President had overlooked the more important fact that the President told them that war actually exists, and he had asked the Congress of the United States to acknowledge the fact by such a public act as should nationalize it, and put the United States in that relation to the nations of the world which she had a right to occupy in consequence of a state of war. It had been said that time for deliberation was necessary; but the time for deliberation should be measured by the crisis presented by the state of facet upon which those deliberations were to be had.—What was the crises here? The crisis was existing war. Deliberation, then, could tend to no benefit. As for the suggestion which had been thrown out, that the operation of the army of this Government ought to be limited to its own soil, that we should be required to fight only on one square of the board, while Mexico fights on the whole board, it seemed to him to be unadvisable to involve the most suicidal policy. How could the war be brought to a successful termination? How could a peace which should have any duration be expected to result from a conflict conducted in that manner, unless Mexico be given distinctly to understand that when she make war upon the U. S. she incurs all the consequences which a state of war inflicts. But he would go no further in this matter at this time; he desired that the documents should be printed, and extensively circulated, for reasons which he had already given. And, for the purpose of testing and
Mr. ARCHER said he was a good deal surprised that his honorable friend from Delaware failed to make the distinction.

Mr. J. M. CLAYTON said it appeared to him there ought to be prompt and efficient action. They might be deliberated upon at leisure. Upon the main question of furnishing U. S. to the Rio del Norte. But the country was in a state of war. What was now to be done? To provide supplies to own upon this matter. He was very far from justifying the course taken by the Executive in sending the troops of the country in the first place. He denied that the Committee on Foreign Relations could decide at leisure, upon the grave question of responsibility of occasioning the war. That the war was right or not. It being in existence, he was ready to go for the volunteers and the allowance of money at the President alone, who brought it about—he was not willing to hesitate, or [ . . . ] to decide whether the inception of the war was right or not. The President also demanded of them tens of thousands of volunteers for the same purpose. Now, he was not inclined to distinguish between hostilities and war. God forbid that they should ever be found under the Constitution of this Government confounding the one with the other. There might be invasion without war, and they might find themselves forced to repel invasion, and yet no war ensue such as was strictly entitled to be so denominated. It was for Congress to determine whether war should be declared or not. And it was under that aspect of the question that he considered it unadvisable that there should be any act on the part of the Senate tending to sanction the idea that there was war.—There was a certain calmness, dignity, decorum, and forbearance expected to be exercised by the Senate of the United States which should never be lost sight of. He hoped that body would never suffer itself to be carried away by impetuosity, or hurried into precipitate action. He was prepared to do all that patriotism and the honor of the country required. He wished to be prepared at all points, but he wished that this should be performed in a manner worthy of the Senate of the United States.

Mr. J. M. CLAYTON contended that the message ought to be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs. The President asks Congress for old aid and assistance to carry on military operations; it appeared to him that the matter should go to that committee, and not the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. CALHOUN said he had in part effected the objects he had to view by eliciting the observations which had been made by the Senator from Ohio. His object was, that the Senate should not precipitately order the printing of a large extra number, thereby causing it to be inferred that there was an absolute endorsement of the documents on the part of the Senate. He would admit the President had announced that there was war; but according to his interpretation, it was not such a war as the Constitution designated by the term war. For his own part, he was inclined to distinguish between hostilities and war. God forbid that they should ever be found under the Constitution of this Government confounding the one with the other. There might be invasion without war, and they might find themselves forced to repel invasion, and yet no war ensue such as was strictly entitled to be so denominated. It was for Congress to determine whether war should be declared or not. And it was under that aspect of the question that he considered it unadvisable that there should be any act on the part of the Senate tending to sanction the idea that there was war.—There was a certain calmness, dignity, decorum, and forbearance expected to be exercised by the Senate of the United States which should never be lost sight of. He hoped that body would never suffer itself to be carried away by impetuosity, or hurried into precipitate action. He was prepared to do all that patriotism and the honor of the country required. He wished to be prepared at all points, but he wished that this should be performed in a manner worthy of the Senate of the United States.

Mr. SEVIER. My motion was to refer the message to the Committee on Foreign Relations, where messages of that sort are always referred. Has the Senator more confidence in another committee than he has in that? I understand the motion to print an extra number of copies to have been withdrawn, and on the motion to print the usual number. I now ask the yeas and nays.

Mr. CALHOUN said he had not the slightest reference to the Senator from Arkansas in any thing he had said.

Mr. SEVIER. My motion was to refer the message to the Committee on Foreign Relations, where messages of that sort are always referred. Has the Senator more confidence in another committee than he has in that? I understand the motion to print an extra number of copies to have been withdrawn, and on the motion to print the usual number. I now ask the yeas and nays.

Mr. MOREHEAD said he regretted that he could not concur with his honorable friend from Delaware in his suggestion as to the proper direction or reference of the message. The reference, in his opinion, should be to the Committee on Foreign Relations, and he thought so because he conurred with the Senator from South Carolina that before war does exist, according to the Constitution of the United States, there must be some action on the part of Congress. Thus far, if war now existed, if the people of this country found themselves in a state of war with Mexico, it was a war which had not been brought about or declared by the Legislative department of the Government, to which constitutionally the power of declaring war belonged. Before, therefore, we could occupy a proper position in the estimation of the nations of the world, whose opinion on subjects of this sort he thought they ought not to venture to disregard—before they assumed a hostile attitude, which in all probability it would become their duty to assume, the subject should be referred to that committee which in all cases of this sort, was accustomed to have charge and to receive the consideration of the matter; before the Congress of the United States recognized the existence of war, they should perform the part assigned to them by the Constitution of the United States.

Mr. J. M. CLAYTON contended that the message ought to be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs. The President—(he said) had announced that there was war; that war actually existed and called upon Congress for a grant of some millions of dollars to carry on that war, pronouncing it essentially necessary that it should be carried on. The President also demanded of them tens of thousands of volunteers for the same purpose. Now, he was not willing, though he did not take on himself the responsibility of the war—that responsibility must rest with the President alone, who brought it about—he was not willing to hesitate, or [ . . . ] to decide whether the inception of the war was right or not. It being in existence, he was ready to go for the volunteers and the allowance of money at once for the support of the honor of the country. They could decide at their leisure afterwards, and the Committee on Foreign Relations could decide at leisure, upon the grave question of responsibility of occasioning the war. That question would come under consideration undoubtedly. But the first duty of the Senate, in his humble judgment, was to vote for the supplies. What had the Committee on Foreign Relations to do with this? He would say to his friend from S. C. (if he would allow him to call him so) that the opinion he entertained very closely approached to his own upon this matter. He was very far from justifying the course taken by the Executive in sending the troops of the U. S. to the Rio del Norte. But the country was in a state of war. What was now to be done? To provide supplies to defend our position, and to lose no time in doing so. The other questions, as they arose, would have to be settled by the people and the Executive. They might be deliberated upon at leisure. Upon the main question of furnishing supplies, it appeared to him there ought to be prompt and efficient action.

Mr. ARCHER said he was a good deal surprised that his honorable friend from Delaware failed to make the distinction
Mr. BENTON said he apprehended that there were two very distinct questions presented to the consideration of the Senate touching this matter. The President announced the fact of the invasion of the United States; he then proposed to carry on a war against Mexico on a scale commensurate with the necessity of the occasion. Upon the occurrence of invasion it was the duty of the President, under the Constitution, at once, by all the means which the law placed in his power, to repel that invasion. Certain acts of Congress authorized him to call out the militia for that purpose, the period of that service being limited to three months, and as often as an occasion of this kind had occurred, it had been deemed proper, in order to procure the most efficient troops, to permit the president to accept the services of the volunteers. The General Commanding on the banks of the Rio del Norte had, therefore, in this case, in accordance with authority given him by this President called for volunteers. The first thing, then, in his opinion, which they had to do was to furnish the means to pay those volunteers, legitimize the call which he made for their services. Thus far it would be a military question—a question for the Committee on Military Affairs, to say whether they will adopt eight thousand of three times eight thousand. But it became also a question which concerned our foreign relations; and if the first measure were adopted—about which he apprehended there could be no dispute, it being requisite to repel invasion—the first measure being adopted, there would then be time to consider. He would suggest, therefore, that so much of the message as related to repelling an invasion be referred to the Committee on Military Affairs; and so much of it as related to our foreign relations be referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. ALLEN observed that the suggestion of the Senator from Missouri appeared to him to present the question in its true and natural aspect. The appropriations for the defence of the country need not be delayed by being connected with other questions growing out of the same state of facts.

Mr. SEVIER accepted the proposition of the Senator from Mo. As a modification of his motion.

Mr. CASS desired to say merely a single word. The message of the President was but a manifesto of the difficulty existing between this country and Mexico; it was very similar to a message which was sent to Congress by Mr. Madison. He felt very much gratified at hearing the language which had fallen from the honorable Senator from Delaware. The Senator had spoken like an American; he was ready to meet the emergency. The ground he took was fair ground for a party man to take: going for his country first, and afterwards to inquire by whom the mischief was brought about. It was a very fair subject of inquiry. Let us, (pursued Mr. C.) let us go for the defence of our country first; let us adopt all proper measures for repelling invasion; and, as soon as we have done that, IToe one am prepared to enter into an inquiry as to who is tight and who is wrong. I agree with the Senator from Miss., I concur entirely in the message of the President; and, as far as my voice will go to accomplish it, its recommendation shall be carried out. And I must be allowed to say further, (and I use the word in its best sense,) I repel the construction put upon it by the honorable Senator from South Carolina. One country may declare war, but it takes two countries to declare peace. Suppose Mexico declares war against you, are you at peace? No. There is no intermediate state between peace and war. In which state are we are present? Can it be said that our troops may drive the Mexicans to declare peace. Suppose Mexico declares war against you, are you at peace? No. There is no intermediate state between peace and war. In which state are we are present? Can it be said that our troops may drive the Mexicans over the boundary, and then politely say, Good bye, until you come back; and then we shall be ready for you again. This I should say was a state of war. Every gentleman knows that within the last century a dozen wars have been waged growing out of acts of hostility of that nature. The honorable Senator from South Carolina says we are not in a state of war, but in a state of hostility. Now, I am not going to dispute about the meaning of words, but if the gentleman denies that an invasion is an act of war, I differ with him entirely. Suppose a foreign nation blockages your port, to be sure you are not invaded on land, but are you not in a state of hostility—a state that leads legitimately to the consequence of war? These are my views. I say we are now in a position that, whether we declare war or not, our acts must be acts of war. We are placed in this solemn conditions. It is a most important crisis. If we march forward with firmness, decision, and promptitude, our course is plain and honorable before the world. If we do not—if we make half war and half peace; if we do this to this border and say, if you come over we will fight you; if we do this we disgrace ourselves before the world. I think there is but one course, and that is, to push the expedition into Mexico and compel her to make peace.

Mr. CALHOUN said that, in his judgment, mere invasion and a solemn declaration of war were two things entirely distinct. He hoped that there would not be the slightest difference of opinion. He hoped they would act with the utmost promptitude, so far as repelling the invasion was concerned. The Senator from Michigan (said Mr. C.) repels no observation of mine, for his remark has no application to any thing I said. I said, in the meaning of the Constitution war could only be declared by Congress that it was only through the authority of Congress that the state
of things called war could be brought about. There is no question between the Senator and myself. I will go further, and say it is a great perversion of language to call the present state of things war. It is a case of invasion, a state of hostilities between two opposite forces on the frontier. Now, whether we shall proceed and settle all our accounts with Mexico at once is the great question to which I alluded.

Mr. ALLEN said he did not rise to protract the debate, but for the purpose of moving that so much of the annual message as relates to Mexico be printed, together with the document communicated to the Senate to-day.

Mr. MOREHEAD said he had no earthly objection, as far as he was concerned, to a division of the question of reference. He rose for the purpose of saying a single word in answer to the suggestion of the Senator from Michigan; and, before doing so, he must express his surprise that the Senator from Dela. Should think it a subject of congratulation that a member of the Senate of the U. S. had expressed, powerfully and eloquently as his friend from Dela. had done, in regard to the question now under consideration, his determination to stand by the country in the hostile attitude in which it was placed. He trusted the sentiment avowed by the Senator from Dela. was a sentiment entertained by every member of the Senate. He trusted it was not so remarkable as to be made the subject of special observation. But in regard to the point assumed by the Senator, whether there was a war now existing between Mexico and the United States, he desired to say a word. It was familiarly understood by them all that the power to declare war belonged alone to Congress, and that the President of the United States had no power constitutionally to involve the country in a war; but if there was at this moment actually subsisting a war between the United States and Mexico, it would follow that the President of the United States could involve the country in a war without the assent of the Legislative department of the Government. He could very well conceive a case where the army of the United States, having assumed a position within the territory of Mexico, such a position as would de- (unreadable) from Mexico that she should repel the invasion, and that hostilities should arise between the two countries—would that be a state of war? No. He held that it was competent alone for Congress to declare when war did exist; and because the President had not the power to create hostile relations between this Government and another, it became the duty of the Congress of the United States to exercise that power. In this view he did not think there did exist at this moment war between the two nations, in the sense in which the Constitution intended it to be understood. He thought there was a very reasonable distinction between war and hostilities. There was a period of the government when that distinction was practically carried out. It was that period when hostile relations existed between this country and France. There were aggressions committed on our commerce on the high seas, and claims for restitution were formally set up by the owners of the property destroyed. Congress adopted various measures indicating a state of hostilities, but there was not war declared, and none existing, and yet there was an extensive series of hostilities enacted on the ocean—not amounting to actual war, not constituting war as intended by the Constitution, yet such a state of hostilities as made it necessary for Congress to adopt various measures authorizing various parties to repel aggressions on the part of France. It seemed to him the distinction very properly existed; and he hoped, therefore, that that portion of the message of referring to the relations existing between this country and Mexico would be referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, and that part which referred to raising supplies and reinforcements would be placed under the charge of the Committee on Military Affairs.

The debate was further continued by Messrs. Cass, Davis, Clayton, Sevier, Allen, Houston, and Huntington, the reports of whose speeches are necessarily deferred until to-morrow.

The question was then taken on the motion of Mr. Sevier, as modified, on referring so much of the President’s message as relates to military affairs to the Committee on Military Affairs, and the remainder to the Committee on Foreign Relations, and that the message and documents be printed which was adapted without division, with an amendment of Mr. Allen that so much of the annual message as relates to Mexico be printed with the documents.

Mr. SPEIGHT then renewed the motion to print 20,000 extra copies; when

Mr. CRITTENDEN, after making some inquiry as to the documents communicated with the President’s message, and after the order to General Taylor to advance to the Rio del Norte had been read, proceeded to remark, in substance, that he deeply regretted the intelligence communicated by the message of hostilities with Mexico.—that it was our true policy to cultivate peace with her.—That such had been our policy in relation to Mexico and all the South American Republics. That we had haid their first struggles for liberty, and their establishment of Republican Governments, and looked upon them as forming a system of republics opposed to the monarchial systems of Europe. At the head of the republican system, it has been our feeling, as it was our true policy, to cherish the kindliest relations and sympathies towards them all. And such had been our course till our late unfortunate difficulties with Mexico, which resulted, as we are now informed, in actual hostilities. Mr. C. feared that all had not been done by our Executive that might have been done to avoid that result. He hoped that the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. SEVIER) might be able to justify, in every particular, the conduct of the President; but at present he could see no good reason for advancing our army through a disputed territory to the banks of the Rio del Norte, and pointing our cannon upon the town of Matamoras. Such a course could hardly fail to be regarded as an insult, and to provoke hostility. But he did not wish prematurely, or with the fullest information, to impute blame. As to Gen. Taylor, he knew him well he was a brave and prudent officer, worthy of all confidence, and he felt assurance that he was warranted by his orders in all that he had done.

He said the time would come hereafter for inquiring into the circumstances and causes of the present hostilities; and the scrutiny, he trusted, would be strict, and such as the importance of the event demands. Whoever should be found to have caused the hostility; if it has been caused on our part, ought to be held to the highest responsibility. Congress alone can constitutionally declare war and the people of the United States are not to be involved in war by any other authority than that of their own representatives.
There would come a time, however, for that scrutiny. For the present we must provide instantly for the defence of the country. That was our first duty, however hostilities may have been occasioned; and he was prepared to grant at once whatever of men or money was necessary for the purpose. Our country is not in fault, though her servants or agents may be, and it is our duty to stand by her.

But I trust that while we adopt all the warlike measures that the occasion may require, we shall be equally unanimous in adopting all the most prompt and efficient means of restoring, if we can, friendly relations with Mexico. We can have no motive for pressing too far on a weak or fallen foe. The feelings of Mexico, under all recent occurrences, must naturally be excited and wounded.

Policy and magnanimity require that we should be as forbearing towards her as we can. Our superiority is such as to relieve us from the possibility of our forbearance or generosity being construed into fear, or ascribed to any improper or unworthy motives. No statesman could render a greater service to his country than restoring our peace and friendship with Mexico. And so important do I regard it that, if it was in my power, I would, as soon as circumstances would possibly permit, send her a high and honorable embassy of peace—I would appoint Clay, Van Buren, Calhoun, and Benton—any one, two, three, or all of them. Mexico would feel herself honored by such a mission, and such ambassadors would give peace, cordial peace, to the two countries.

After a few observations from Messrs. SEVIER and HUNTINGTON in reply, the question was taken on Mr. SPEIGHT'S motion, and it was agreed to.

RW46v23i39p1c3, May 15, 1846: THE WAR BILL PASSED.

It will be seen, by the annexed sketch of Tuesday’s proceedings, that the Senate passed the War Bill by a vote of 40 to 1—the two noes Mr. T. Clayton and Mr. Davis of Mass. Mr. Calhoun refused to vote, for reasons which he so emphatically states in the subjoined sketch. Mr. Crittenden, when his name was called, answered, “Aye, except the preamble.”

Correspondence of the Baltimore American. WASHINGTON, May 12, 1846. United States Senate. THE WAR BILL.

The House Bill was reported at once to the Senate this morning from the House of Representatives.

The Bill was read twice, when Mr. ALLEN, of Ohio, moved that the previous business be postponed until to-morrow, and that the Bill from the House be considered.

Mr. CALHOUN said he desired time—time to examine his own mind and the question. He wished to satisfy himself as to the fact of a declaration of war in the Bill from the House.

Mr. ALLEN was opposed to any delay in the Bill. Forty-eight hour’s delay might be productive of the greatest mischief.

Mr. MANGUM was willing to vote ten millions in money and 50,000 of men, and to do this in thirty minutes, but he could not consent that a Bill should pass declaring war, as was done in the Bill before the Senate. Why, he asked, should Senators be embarrassed by such a question as this? Why declare war in voting men and money? The supplies could be voted in half an hour and there were no objections to any provision of the Bill except that which declared war, in substance if not in reality.

Mr. J. M. CLAYTON pressed the [ ... ] considerations upon the majority, and exhorted unanimity of action, which was easily accomplished. There were no objections to the Bill except in one of two particulars. If there was any desire to obtain unanimity of action, it should be obtained; and upon a solemn question like this, he regarded unanimity as most desirable.

Mr. CALHOUN said that he had no feeling whatever upon this subject. The rule of his life had been to act promptly and to act conscientiously, and with due regard to the duty he owed to his sense of right and justice. He desired time, and he desired that there should be a hearty concurrence in all that was done.

It was as much impossible for him to vote for the Bill before the Senate as it would be for him to plunge a dagger into his own bosom, and must more so. I will not agree to make war upon the Constitution by making war upon Mexico. I shall neither vote for the Bill or against the Bill. I desire time to examine it.

Mr. CLAYTON moved to refer the bill to the Military Committee, which motion was rejected by a vote of 26 to 20.

The Military Committee had signified their intention of moving amendments to meet objections. The Committee, however, did not design to interfere with the political character of the bill, but they were prepared to move amendments to the details of the bill.

Mr. CLAYTON moved to strike out the words for “the prosecution of a war,” and to insert “to repel invasion.”
Mr. CLAHOUN defended the amendment, and Mr. HOUSTON opposed it—the former declaring that war did not exist constitutionally, and the latter asserting that it did exist. General Houston regarded the war as a continuation of that which had been going on between Mexico and Texas for ten years. War in his judgment actually existed.

Mr. ARCHER said he thought that Mexico had done enough to warrant a declaration of war, but he was not prepared to vote so, until further advices, as his opinion was governed to some extent by the judgment of others who thought differently from himself.

Mr. PENNYBACKER said that war existed de facto, and it was no violation of the law of nations that war should be declared to exist after what had been done by Mexico in crossing the Rio Grande and committing hostilities.

Mr. JOHNSON of La., also defended the idea of a war de facto. War existed by the repeated and avowed acts of Mexican officers and Government.

Gen. CASS was delighted with Gen. Houston's remarks. They showed that there was war, and he could not see how any would doubt its existence. He would not discuss the question of boundary, whether the Rio del Norte was ours or not. It was enough that the soil possessed by us had been invaded. This was good cause of war with him, and he was ready to act in reference to the hostilities, and he was for carrying the war into the heart of the enemy’s camp and country.

Mr. BERRIEN continued the debate in a brilliant constitutional argument upon the war power, and the difference between war and hostilities.

The debate was further continued against declaring war by Mr. CLAYTON and Mr. WESTCOTT in favor of the Bill. The latter was ready to declare war at once, and to vote for any war message.

Mr. CRITTENDEN said he was in favor of expeditious action. He believed that the next news from the frontier would find the Mexicans driven from the Rio del Norte and Matamoras in possession of the American Army.—But it was necessary to act without any delay, and he was ready to vote for all necessary means for the prosecution of hostilities against the Mexican Government.

He was for carrying the sword in one hand and sending the minister of peace along with it, and for marching right on into Mexico, proffering peace all the time and holding out a desire to settle the question amicably.

Mr. Crittenden said he could not do anything which would embarrass the administration, but he could not defend what the Government had done. Why had we gone on to occupy a disputed country—to place an army in hostile array—pointing gun to gun, and thus placing two hostile armies of two quarrelsome countries in close collision. Collision must have been foreseen, and it has come.

Mr. CALHOUN said,—I am amazed,—I am in wonder,—I am in deep alarm at the precipitancy of action upon a question like this. One day only was asked to read the documents, and it was refused, and that, too, when the supplies would be voted without this disguised and undignified manner of declaring war.

The Senate were then brought to a vote upon striking out the words “for the purpose of prosecuting a war.”—The Senate rejected the motion by a vote of 26 to 20.

Mr. CRITTENDEN then moved to insert the words “prosecuting hostilities.” Rejected by a vote of 26 to 20.

Mr. Crittenden introduced an amendment in regard to the provisions of the Bill touching the appointment of officers. He regarded it as it was, as an infraction of the Constitution.

Mr. DAVIS said he could not vote for the Bill, because it declared war to exist by the act of Mexico—which he believed to be contrary to the fact.

Mr. CLAYTON said that notwithstanding the unhandsome and discourteous act of the majority, in refusing an amendment, he should vote for the Bill.

The Senate is now sitting as the [. . . ] leave, and the bill will pass to-night.

[BWP]
The House then adjourned.

Weak or unprincipled Rulers never fail to avail themselves of events such as those which are now in progress on the South-western frontier, to palliate their misconduct and to cloak their own delinquencies from the public eye. They are well aware how easy it is, when the public mind is excited by an apprehended conflict with a foreign foe, to lead it, by the presentation of false issues, from the contemplation of their own errors. Love of country is a universal instinct, which they know well enough how to take advantage of. They appeal to it with all the art and eloquence of which they are masters, because they know that they will strike a chord which will respond promptly to the player’s touch. Patriotism is made to perform the office of Charity by covering a multitude of sins—and he who has the nerve, at such a moment, to condemn the policy of the Administration by whose folly or ambition the crisis has been unnecessarily brought on, may expect to be denounced by its partisans as the enemies of the Country, which, in their vocabulary, is a synonymous term. “The gloss of zeal for the public good (as Edward Livingston strikingly and eloquently remarked,) is always spread over acts of oppression; and—the people are sometimes made to consider that as a brilliant exertion of energy in their favor, which, when viewed in its true light, will be found a fatal blow to their rights. In no government is this so easily produced as in a Republic. Party spirit, inseparable from its existence, then aids the illusion and a popular leader is allowed, in many instances, impunity, and sometimes rewarded with applause, for acts that would make a tyrant tremble on his throne.”

The debate in the Senate last Tuesday, on the bill declaring that a war now exists between Mexico and the United States, and authorizing the acceptance, by the President, of the services of 50,000 volunteers, to ensure its vigorous prosecution, furnishes a striking illustration of the facility with which a Party in power may avail itself of an intense popular excitement, to effect its own insidious purposes. We regret that our limited space will not allow us to publish this debate in extenso. But contracted as are our limits, and numerous and pressing as are the demands upon our columns, justice to those distinguished Senators, who, either in express terms, or by implication, have been wantonly assailed for refusing to identify the Administration with the Country, and to make the defence of the one a pretext for throwing a shield over the blunders of the other, requires that we should give them an opportunity to be heard in their defence.

What is the nature of the emergency that called for the prompt action of Congress? A Mexican General, following the example set him by the Commander of the American forces, has passed beyond the acknowledged limits of Mexico, and planted his standard upon a territory claimed by both countries. He has taken this course, however, without a previous declaration of war by his own Government—indeed, while the war making authority of that Government is not in session. But nevertheless his attitude is one of hostility. And all parties—we believe all men of all parties, except, perhaps, the traitorous fanatic, Giddings, of Ohio—concur in the necessity of meeting and repelling his threatened attack, and avow their readiness to vote men and money for that purpose. Is not this enough? Is not this all that Patriotism demands—all that the honor of the Country requires? Undeniably it is. But it does not go far enough to answer the purposes of the Administration. Not only must the Country be defended but the President must, in the same act, be vindicated. Congress is not only required to raise troops for the purpose of repelling a threatened assault; but it must prejudge the question, by asserting first, that war exists when it is impossible that it can be cognizant of that fact, and when, in truth, if the Mexican Government should disavow the acts of its officer, it is not a fact—and secondly, that Mexico has commenced that war, when subsequent investigation may fix that act upon the conduct of our own Executive. The bill prepared by the majority, therefore, wore this double aspect, and secondly, that Mexico has commenced that war, when subsequent investigation may fix that act upon the conduct of our own Executive. The bill prepared by the majority, therefore, wore this double aspect, and part of its title should have been “an act vindicating the course of the Administration in advance and without enquiry,”—that being manifestly deemed more important than unanimity in the adoption of the measures necessary for the defence of the country. And yet, because such men as Calhoun, Berrien, Crittenden, Mangum, McDuffie, Bayly, Davis and others refused to vote for a bill, or voted for it under “protest,” which, in their opinion, not only bore the stamp of “falsehood” and “fraud” upon its face, but violated the Constitution itself, they are denounced (or the Whig portion of them at least—for the time is not yet quite ripe for the application of the lash to the others)—they are denounced as faithless to the country, and insensible to the obligations which rest upon them, as citizens and as legislators, to assert unflinchingly its rights, and to maintain its honor unsullied! It is in vain that they declare, with one voice, (to quote the language of Mr. Mangum as expressive of the sentiments of the party of which
In the course of the debate in the Senate, last Tuesday, Mr. BENTON read an extract from a Proclamation of President Paredes of Mexico, on hearing of the advance of the American troops from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande, for the purpose of showing the correctness of the doctrine that there might be hostilities without war. This extract is important. President Paredes stated in this proclamation that "it was not his right, as such, by his own act, to declare war; but that the august Mexican Congress would take into consideration the state of conflict in which they found themselves, and that a magnanimous and suffering people would not be attacked with impunity; but, in the mean while, it might be necessary to repel acts of hostility and take the initiative in regard to the invaders by

We repeat our expression of regret that we have not room for the Debate itself. But Mr. Calhoun's position—so creditable to his independence and his firmness as well as his sagacity and wisdom—is one of so delicate a character, that we feel constrained to permit him to be heard at length in its defence.

"Mr. CALHOUN said he had no disposition whatever to create unnecessary delay in the passage of this bill. The rule he had laid down for himself, and which throughout life he had endeavored to follow, had been to discharge his duty in whatever emergency he might be placed, and especially was he called upon to observe this rule in acting on so solemn a question as a declaration of war. All he wanted, all he asked for, was time to make up his opinion. He sought no delay, and resorted to no indirect course to conceal his true intent. Gentlemen argued strongly in favor of unanimity; but if unanimity constituted an element of force, and the friends of the bill were so anxious to obtain it, why could they not accommodate gentlemen who had honest doubts as to the state of facts by consenting to strike out the preamble of the bill, and to suffer the question of supplies to be separated from the question of a declaration of war? Was not such a course reasonable? Was it not fair and just? Gentlemen stated to the Senate that the information received from the frontier was such as to require instant action: if so they could have instant action. If any delay occurred the delay was their own. Mr. C. should create none. He was prepared to vote the supplies on the spot and without an hour's delay; but it was just as impossible for him to vote for the preamble as it was for him to not; he was not prepared to affirm that war existed between the United States and Mexico, and that it existed by the act of the Government. How could he affirm this, when he had not evidence in which to affirm it? How did he know that the Government of Mexico would not disavow what had been done? Was he to be called upon to give a vote like this? It would be impossible for him to utter it, consistently with that sacred regard for truth in which he had been educated.

He had no difficulty as to his course. His mind was made up; it was made up unalterably; he could neither vote affirmatively nor negatively. He had no certain evidence to go on. Whether any one would go with him in this course he did not know; he had made no inquiries, and he did not know that a single friend would be found at his side. As to what might be said on such a course, and all that was called popularity, he did not care the snap of a finger. If he could not stand and brave so small a danger, he should be but little worthy of that small amount of reputation he might have earned. He could not agree to make war on Mexico by making war on the Constitution; and the Senate would make war on the Constitution by declaring war to exist between the two Governments when no war had been declared, and nothing had occurred but a slight military conflict between a portion of two armies. Yet he was asked to affirm, in the very face of the Constitution, that a local rencontre not authorized by the act of either Government, constituted a state of war between the Government Mexico and the Government of the U. S.---so to say that by a certain military movement of Gen. Taylor and Gen. Arista, every citizen of the United States was made the enemy of every man in Mexico. It was monstrous. It stripped Congress of the power of making war and, what was more and worse, it gave that power to every officer, nay, to every subaltern commandant a corporal's guard. Did gentlemen call upon him to do this? Did they expect he was going to vote for a position so monstrous? If they forced the question upon him, he should take his own course. If they wanted unanimity, they could have it; but if they chose to proceed on their own petty party views, be is so."

Even this appeal, from a leading member of their own party—from a statesman of long and large experience in public affairs—who has grown old in the service of his country, to which, whatever may have been his errors of judgment, he has never proved faithless or recreant in times of real peril—even this appeal, coming from a source so well entitled to deference and respect, fell upon deaf or heedless ears. The defence of the Country and unanimity in the measures necessary for that object, might be important; but the vindication of the Administration and its investment with new and unprecedented powers, was, in the estimation of the majority, still more so!

The judgment of the country will, we are confident, revolt at this unjustifiable action of the dominant party; for the people will see in it, if not a tacit confession that, in the previous course of the Administration, there has been something which will not bear the test of scrutiny, at least an eagerness to procure a verdict in its favor before there has been time for investigation, wholly incompatible with that conscious rectitude which courts inquiry, and disdains and acquittal by a packed jury as worse, than worthless, because in itself tainted with dishonor.

[BWP]
This passage from Paredes’ Proclamation shows, conclusively, that he regarded the movement of our troops to the Rio Grande as an act of hostilities against Mexico, which he was bound to repel—just as President Polk now argues in reference to the crossing of the Rio Grande by Mexican troops—each country claiming the disputed territory as its own, and each therefore regarding its armed occupation by the other as an invasion of its soil.

Mr. Benton quoted this passage for the purpose of showing not only that, although there are hostilities, there is no war, by that the door is open for an adjustment of our difficulties; and he thought he could see, in the language of this officer, that a peaceable adjustment of them might be effected. So far as he could see from this declaration, the government of Mexico seemed to be willing and ready for such a result. It seemed to consider the hostilities as proceeding from our troops only, and there appeared to be an opinion that Mexico ought to adopt some preliminary measures before she drew the sword.”

In the House of Representatives of Louisiana, on the 6th inst. Mr. Prerot offered the following resolutions:

"Resolved, That whereas, the presence of a body of armed men is necessary on the plains of Texas for its defence; and whereas, the services of the General Assembly are more necessary on the field of battle than in the council chamber of the State,--

"Be it therefore Resolved, That the Senate and House of Representatives do now form themselves into two companies, to march under their respective officers to the relief of General Taylor, commander of the Army of Occupation on the Rio Grande, Texas.”

After some discussion, in the course of which Mr. Campbell gravely remarked, that if the Legislature were to march to Texas to aid the war, he doubted much whether they would prove as formidable to the Mexican troops as they will to the interests of the Commonwealth if they remain much longer in session, the resolution was laid on the table, by a vote of 44 to 25.

We are indebted to the clerk of the Telegraph for files of papers—we have received Galveston dates to the 2nd May—the Telegraph left Galveston on Sunday 3d instant, at noon, at 4 P. M., met steamship New York about 50 miles from Galveston—the Civilian of the 2d says, we understand that the U. schr. Flirt was endeavoring to get over the bar into the Brasos Santiago; in order to co-operate more effectually in the defence of the depot and position at the mouth of the river. Capt. Sympton of the Alert, was assisting in the object, having taken off some of the Flirt’s guns, in order to reduce her draught of water.—The steamer Monmouth left Friday the 1st, for Brasos Santiago, with a number of volunteers for the army under Gen. Taylor. The short time of her stay was not sufficient for many who desire to go to get ready, but others will doubtless soon follow. Gen. Johnson has just reached town. He is a soldier in whom our citizens have confidence as a leader, and can doubtless raise a company or two in Galveston. We doubt not a general and immediate turn-out of the hardy and experienced citizen soldiers of Western Texas, to be followed by the whole State, as rapidly as the occasion which demands their services shall become known. Gen. Taylor has not cried “Wolf!” until he had seen the animal, and those who go need not fear disappointment in finding the wild beast, as ample opportunity will doubtless present itself to those who desire to do so, on the other side of Rio Grande if not on this.

Colonel Marks has now mustered companies A, B, C, D, of his Regiment, and has received intelligence of two more companies, which will be here by Friday next, from West Felicians. The principal portion of those above named, are mustered in the U. S. Service and have proceeded to the barracks. Capt. Copeland S. Hunt, at the head of his company marched from their rendezvous yesterday evening for the barracks, having been mustered and inspected regularly. First Lieutenant, W. Davison Hennen. Second Lieutenant J. C. Parker.

Seven companies complete have been mustered into the U. S. Service, as we learn at Head Quarters, Washington Armory, and others are pouring in fast from all directions.
THE VOLUNTEERS’ PROTECTION.—It will be seen by reference to our Legislative Report that the bill for the protection of the Volunteers about to proceed to Texas, has passed both branches of the Legislature yesterday. Before the House adjourned yesterday, the bill was signed by the Governor, and is therefore become a law.—TROPIC.

WAR MOVEMENTS.—The steamboat Augusta was chartered yesterday to take two Companies of U. S. artillery as well as Captain De Shea’s Company of Mobile Volunteers, to the Brazos St. Iago. The steamship Galveston was chartered on Tuesday on account of the Government in order to transport troops to the Rio Grande at the rate of $500 per diem.

Lieut. Lovell left yesterday in order to muster the several Companies already formed in Mobile.—BRE.

LEVIES FOR THE ARMY OF OCCUPATION.—The recruiting was very lively yesterday, a considerable number having been enlisted at the head-quarters of all the companies throughout the city. There are now seven companies in barracks below the Third Municipality, whose numbers are complete, averaging 70 men each. The following is the order in which they were mustered into the service: No. 1, company, Capt. I. Stockton; No. 2, Capt. Smith; No. 3, Capt. Hunt; No. 4, Capt. Breedlove; No. 5, Capt. Head; no. 6, Capt. Tobin; No. 7, Capt. Glenn. These in round numbers, make about 500 men. The companies which are nearly complete, but yet not mustered, viz: Capt. Crevon’s, Capt. Dessomme’s, Capt. Soniat’s, Capt. White’s, and Senator Marks, will probably reach in the aggregate, 400 more; making in all 900 men.

There are a few more companies in process of formation, scattered in different localities, which will be filled up, it is expected, by Saturday, when they will be en masse a body of 1200 men. Gen. Smith expects the first regiment to be ready to proceed to the scene of action on the Rio Grande, on Saturday. It will be under the command of Col. Walton. We hope certainly to see them off before the week closes, as much depends on the celerity of their movements, at this critical juncture. Indeed, since the principal object is to reinforce Gen. Taylor at once, we are unfavourably of opinion that it would be better to send them off even 100 at a time, as soon as ready. They could easily be formed into regiments and be brigaded, after the first pressing want has been relieved. We should imitate the Mobile people herein; they sent off the first available force at a moment’s warning.—Times.

[BWP]


The following is the latest of the series of letters from General Taylor which were communicated to Congress on Monday last in connexion with the President’s Message on the subject of our relations with Mexico. It contains, we believe, the latest official intelligence from our army on the Rio Grande:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION, CAMP NEAR MATAMORAS, (Texas,) APRIL 26, 1846.

SIR: I have respectfully to report that General Arista arrived in Matamoras on the 24th instant, and assumed the chief command of the Mexican troops. On the same day he addressed me a communication, conceived in courteous terms, but saying that he considered hostilities commenced, and should prosecute them. A translation of his note and copy of my reply will be transmitted the moment they can be prepared. I dispatch this by an express which is now waiting.

I regret to report that a party of dragoons sent out by me on the 24th instant, to watch the course of the river above on this bank, became engaged with a very large force of the enemy, and after a short affair, in which some sixteen were killed and wounded, appear to have been surrounded and compelled to surrender. Not one of the party has returned, except a wounded man sent in this morning by the Mexican commander so that I cannot report with confidence the particulars of the engagement or the fate of the officers, except that Captain Hardee was known to be a prisoner and unhurt. Capt. Thornton and Lieutenants Mason and Kane were the other officers. The party was sixty-three strong.

Hostilities may now be considered as commenced, and I have this day deemed it necessary to call upon the Governor of Texas for four regiments of volunteers—two to be mounted and two to serve as foot. As some delay must occur in collecting these troops, I have also desired the Governor of Louisiana to send out four regiments of infantry, as soon as practicable. This will constitute an auxiliary force of nearly 5,000 men, which will be required to prosecute the war with energy and carry it, as it should be, into the enemy’s country.

I trust the Department will approve my course in this matter, and will give the necessary orders to the staff departments for the supply of this large additional force.

If a law could be passed authorizing the President to raise volunteers for twelve months, it would be of the greatest importance for a service so remote from support as this.

I am, sir, very respectfully, Your obedient servant,

Z TAYLOR,
Brevet Brigadier Gen’l U. S. A. Com’dg.
THE WAR SPIRIT.—There was much stir and excitement in our streets yesterday, occasioned, by an understanding that a requisition had been made on the Governor of this State for troops to repair to the scene of War. There was a general beating up for Volunteers and we understand quite a number enrolled their names. But, the truth is, we believe no regular requisition has been made on the Governor. A communication, however, was received here yesterday addressed to the Governor by Gen. Gaines, recommending him, as it is understood, to furnish three battalions of 600 men each, for the present emergency, and last evening Gen. Lang, Adjutant General of the State, proceeded with the dispatch to Tuscaloosa, to deliver it to the Governor. Previous to his departure he issued the following handbill: **********

To Arms! To Arms!! To Arms!!! To the Gallant Young Men of Alabama.

Hostilities have actually commenced on the Mexican frontier. Sixty-three of our men have been butchered or taken prisoners. Our army under General Taylor is surrounded by an enemy, reported to be 8 or 10,000 men. His communications have been cut off with Point Isabel, the depot of his provisions, and he has in his camp at Matamoras, rations for only 10 or 15 days, which may perhaps be made to last 20 or 30 days.

I am the bearer of a call from Major Gen. Gaines upon the Governor of Alabama for Volunteers, to be raised and marched immediately for the seat of war, which are to rendezvous at Mobile, there to be equipped and mustered into service. When I shall have received the orders of his excellency the Governor, I shall return immediately in a steamboat down the Warrior and Tombeckbee, and shall expect at every landing to find brave volunteers to join in this patriotic enterprise. JAMES W. LANG. Adjutant and Inspector Gen’l of the State of Ala. Mobile May 7, 1846.

P. S. When the Governor issues his orders, they will be sent to the different towns on the Alabama River.

In addition, we would remark, that Lieut. Lovell of the U. S. Army arrived here yesterday, with full authority from Gen. Gaines to receive, provide for, and muster into the service, any and all volunteers in this city who desire to engage in the service of their country at this important crisis.

Military.

In accordance with a determination of the War Department to send the entire disposable force of the U. S. Army to Texas, the two companies of Artillery stationed at Fort McHenry and the three companies now at Fortress Monroe have been ordered to the seat of war forthwith. The whole will be under the command of Colonel BELTON, and will we learn proceed by sea to Point Isabel. The companies at Fort McHenry are F. 3d Artillery, Lieut. TOMPKINS; and K. 4th Artillery, Liet. HUNT. [Baltimore American, May 12.

EXECUTIVE DECLARATION OF WAR.

Following speedily the Act of Congress, declaring that "WAR EXISTS" between the United States and Mexico, the President has issued the following PROCLAMATION: From the President of the United States of America. A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas the Congress of the United States, by virtue of constitutional authority vested in them have declared their act, bearing date this day, that "by the act of the Republic of Mexico, a state of war exists between that Government and the United States:"

Now, therefore, I, JAMES K. POLK, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the same to whom it may concern; and I do specially enjoin on all persons holding offices, civil or military, under the authority of the U. S. that they be vigilant and zealous in discharging the duties respectively incident thereto: and I do moreover [. . . ] all the good people of the U. S., as they love their country as they feel the wrongs which have forced on them [. . . ] last resort of injured nations, and as they consult the best (unreadable), under the blessing of Divine
Providence, of abridging its calamities, that they exert themselves in preserving order, in promoting concord, in maintaining the authority and the efficacy of the laws, and in supporting andigorating all the measures which may be adopted by constituted authorities for obtaining a speedy, a just and an honorable peace.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents. Done at the city of Washington the thirteenth day of May, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, and of the Independence of the United States the seventieth.

JAMES K. POLK.
The President:

JAMES BUCHANAN, Secretary of State.
[BWP]

RW46v23i39p3c1, May 15, 1846: CONGRESS.

Correspondence of the Baltimore American. WASHINGTON, May 13.

UNITED STATES SENATE.

The Clerk of the House announced that the House had concurred in the amendments of the Senate to the bill providing for the prosecution of the existing war with Mexico.

Sundry memorials were presented. Among them were several against a repeal of the Pilot laws of 1837.

Mr. Cameron presented a resolution from the Legislature of Penna. Instructing the Senators from that State to oppose any Modification of the Tariff of 1842.

Mr. Dix presented a resolution of the Legislative of N. in favor of a reorganization of the Militia of the U. S.

Mr. Niles from the Post Office Committee, reported a amendatory of the act regulating the transmission of to foreign countries.

The prior orders were suspended and the Senate took up the Fortification Bill.

Mr. Lewis moved an amendment to increase the appropriation for the commencement of Fortifications on Florida reef from 1 to $200,000.

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. Johnson of La., moved an amendment to authorize the construction of a fort below New Orleans.

Mr. Johnson, of Md., submitted an amendment to authorise the construction of a fort at Soller’s Point, near Baltimore.

Mr. Lewis explained that the present bill was one making appropriations for works already commenced, and that all new works would be put in a separate bill.

After some remarks from Messrs. Evans, Johnson of Md., and Dix, the proposed amendments were withdrawn and the bill finally passed.

Mr. Berrien offered a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire whether any and what legislation is necessary to give effect to the 11th article of the Treaty of 27th October, 1795, between the U. DS. And Spain (by which the subject of Spain are prohibited from taking out letters of marque against the U. S. under the penalty of being treated as pirates) and that they report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Berrien explained the necessity of looking into this matter, in consequence of the passage of the bill recognizing the existence of a war with Mexico, and the probability that privateers might be fitted out in the Island of Cuba.

The resolution was adopted.

The Senate took up the bill making appropriation for the support of the Indian Department for the ensuing fiscal year, and after consuming two hours in a dull debate on various amendments, the bill was laid aside, and

The Senate then went into Executive Session, and afterwares adjourned.
The Bill for the increase of the rank and file of the army of the U. S., and for prosecuting the war with Mexico, was signed this morning.

Mr. Holmes, of S. C., laid before the House a communication in relation to Revenue vessels, stating that those on the stocks would be finished this summer or in the Fall.

A Bill was reported authorising the President to appoint Revenue officers, and Mr. Holmes requested that it might pass at once.

Mr. Rathbun, desired that the Bill should not pass. He regarded the importance of this act as much over estimated. It was to make an increase of the navy, and yet to make a branch of the service independent of the Navy.

He would be willing to transfer the Revenue service to the Navy and to have them co-operate with the navy for the purpose of useful action.

Mr. GORDON, of N. Y. moved the Previous Question, which motion received but 18 votes.

Mr. RATHBUN moved to recommit the Bill with instructions to transfer the Revenue to the naval Service. This done, the vessels could be employed as expresses, and co-operate efficiently with the Navy.

Mr. KING of Georgia, spoke of the importance of a Bill like this, and the necessity of having efficient Naval officers to command the Revenue vessels. Such was the practice in Great Britain and in other countries.

The Bill was finally recommitted to the Committee on Naval Affairs and the House went into Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

The West Point Academy Bill was first considered, and by a resolution previously adopted, the debate upon the bill closed in ten minutes. These ten minutes were occupied by Mr. Gordon, an Administration member from N. York, representing the Anti-Rent District of Delaware and Ulster counties in an assault upon Mr. Severance of Maine, and other members who were not ready to vote a Declaration of War, and to declare that War existed by the act of Mexico.

Mr. G. spoke the full ten minutes. The pending amendment before the Committee was to break up the Academy at West Point after the present cadets had filled their term of service. The amendment was rejected by a very large vote, and the Bill was then laid aside to be reported to the House, and the ARMY BILL. Was taken up and read.

Mr. McKay moved to amend by increasing the subsistence for the Army to the amount of $163,000. Mr. McKay said that this was necessary in consequence of the Texas movements, and the Committee voted the money most readily.

Mr. BLACK of S. C. offered and amendment to increase the pay of the rank and file of the Army during the war to [ . . . ] dollars per month,. The amendment was briefly defended by Mr. BLACK, and opposed by Mr. BROCKENBOROUGH, of Florida, who thought that it would be mercenary to increase the pay. It would be suspecting the patriotism of men of legislate about pay.

Mr. Root of Ohio, said if it was worth eight dollars a day to sit here and declare war, it was worth eight dollars a month to fight the war out. Since we had got into this war, he was for fighting it out. He was for paying the soldiers well, and for avoiding the disastrous errors of the last war. We commence then with paying $16 a month for bounty, and ended by paying $140 a month.

Mr. Gordon of N. Y. having assailed the fourteen members who voted against the War Bill, Mr. R. said he voted as he did to keep the country in the right, but now, that war had been declared, he was for prosecuting it vigorously and for conquering peace. The Administration had violated justice and truth. He was not responsibility for it, and would do all in his power to bring the country from the difficulty into which it had fallen.

Mr. Gordon rejoined, but mainly by an assault upon Mr. Severance of Me. For a letter of his declaring that the country had possessed itself of territory belonging to Mexico.

Mr. S. said his letter contained the truth and nothing but the truth. The Army of General Taylor had taken possession of territory which did not belong to the United States. He could not defend the country in doing what his judgment told him was wrong, most wrong.

A speech from Mr. Delano, of Ohio, commanded great attention for the withering manner in which he denounced the Administration for the war which it had shamefully and unnecessarily provoked,—provoked by seizing territory which never belonged to the United States, and which the ablest men of the Administration had publicly proclaimed to the world never belonged to this country, to Texas.—Mr. D. alluded to Mr. Benton, who had said and written in the form of a Resolution, that the possession of the left bank of the Rio del Norte was an outrage upon the country.
Mr. D. condemned the Bill which had just been passed, and approved, for the enormous falsehood it contained in saying that war existed by the act of Mexico. Never, said he, will I vote for so abominable a lie as is embodied in the bill which has become a law. You may gibbet me, or destroy me, but you cannot make me violate my oath and my conscience by doing that which all truth, all history and all justice pronounced to be infamous.

This war, Mr. D. said, was conceived in fraud, and had been consummated in iniquity. The country would hold the Administration responsible for it, and the world would hold the Government responsible for it. It was a foul, false, damnable war, and yet every man was bound to prosecute it with vigor, power and effect. He was like his friend form Ohio for conquering peace,—but literally the President had conquered peace and let loose a ruthless and bloody war upon the country.

Mr. D. also commented upon the expenditures of the Government—the $100,000 paid to get Texas into the Union—the one million increase to pay the expenses of the Army in Texas—the five millions in the Bill before the House—the ten millions voted yesterday—the six million for the Navy over the three and four millions of previous years. These were the fruits of annexation.

Mr. Douglass of Ill., would not credit Mr. Delano’s patriotism. In his heart he was sure he was opposed to the war and the country, and so were all who acted with him.

Mr. D., by his bitterness, personality and fierceness, soon cause in conflict with several members. He claimed the whole of the territory between the Nueces and the Rio del Norte as rightfully belonging to the U. S. Mr. D. contended that Santa Ana had [ . . . ] the Rio del Norte as the boundary.

Mr. Adams—When?

Mr. Douglass—When in Texas and when he was the Dictator.

Mr. Adams—Was he not than a prisoner of war?

Mr. Douglass—Yes, but he was the Government and acted for the Government.

Mr. Adams said it was something new that a Prisoner of War could make a treaty and a boundary for his Government.

Mr. Douglass insisted that Santa Ana was the Government and as such had a right to make the treaty.

Mr. Adams asked if the Government of Mexico had not disavowed every act that Santa Ana had thus done?

Mr. Douglass admitted this, but contended that he was the Government de facto, and so on, and then referred to what Mr. Adams had done as Secretary of State, when he claimed the Rio del Norte.

Mr. ADAMS—What I did as Secretary of State, I did as the representative of the Department, but the gentleman can find no document of mine claiming the Rio del Norte as the boundary from its source to its mouth.

Mr. DOUGLASS went on to say that Texas Independence preserved the territory to Texas and so on to the United States by annexation.

Mr. Hunt, of N. Y. If the territory belonged to the United States, why had we offered an indemnity to Mexico for this disputed portion.

Mr. Douglass asked who had made the offer? He did not know of any.

Mr. Hunt named Mr. Shanon.

Mr. Douglass's hour soon expired. The floor was given to Mr. Thurman, and the Committee rose and the House adjourned.

[BWP]

RW46v23i39p4c1, May 15, 1846: Boundary of Mexico.

We have already [ . . . ] we do not deem this a suitable time to dispute the question whether or not the territorial limits of the Republic of Texas, prior to its annexation to the United States, extended to the Rio Grande, (Rio del Norte). But it is one which cannot be wholly lost sight of; since upon its determination will rest the judgment that the American people will be hereafter called on to pass upon the conduct of the President in directing the occupation of the territory between the Neues and the Rio Grande, ion the then existing condition of the relations between the
governments of Mexico and the United States. A brief recurrence to it, is, in our opinion, rendered necessary, too, by the fact, that insidious efforts have been already made, and will be doubtless hereafter repeated, to forestall the public judgment on this subject, by the unqualified assumption, that, in crossing the left bank of the Rio Grande, the Mexicans have invaded our soil, and consequently that those who have fallen, or who may hereafter fall, have been slain in repelling as unjustifiable and wanton aggression upon our rights.

We do not profess to be sufficiently well acquainted with the facts to pronounce a definitive judgment upon this question, although we have a very strong opinion in reference to it;—for we well remember that one of the most formidable objections urged in the Senate, against the ratification of the celebrated Tyler Treaty, in 1844, grew out of the fact that his very territory, which it was alleged had never been deemed within the recognized limits of Texas before the revolution by which its independence was established, and which had not for a moment been occupied by its troops, nor under the jurisdiction of its laws, during the progress or after the close of that struggle, had been nevertheless ceded to the United States—embracing within its limits not an unpopulated region only, but towns and cities and custom houses, in no less than four of the Mexican States—embracing within its limits not an unpopulated region only, but towns and cities and custom houses, in no less than four of the Mexican States, which from time immemorial and up to that very moment had been governed by Mexican officers, acting under Mexican laws. This objection, it will be remembered, was urged with tremendous and resistible power by Senator BENTON, then as he is now one of the ablest and most influential leaders of the Locofoco party, and whose opinion is entitled to more weight from the acknowledged fact, that, of all our public men, his acquaintance with this question, which he had made a subject of long and laborious research, when the “Neophytes” had scarcely heard of Texas by name, is by far the most extensive and accurate. His views are briefly embodied in the subjoined resolution, submitted by him while the Tyler Treaty was under discussion—though they were amplified and enforced in his elaborate argument, to which we may hereafter have occasion more particularly to refer. His resolution is in these words:

"Resolved, That the incorporation of the left bank of the Rio del Norte into the American Union, by virtue of a treaty with Texas, comprehending, as the said incorporation would do, a part of the Mexican departments of New Mexico, Chihuahua, Coahuila, and Tamaulipas, would be an act of direct aggression on Mexico; for all the consequences of which the United States would stand responsible."

[The reader will remember that the “Rio del Norte” and the “Rio Grande” are names applied indifferently to the same stream.]

And how was Col. Benton’s objection to the Tyler treaty met? By a denial of his position? No, but by the express declarations of its friends and supporters, that if, in defining the limits of Texas, the negotiators of the treaty had trespassed upon Mexican territory, the wrong might be rectified by subsequent arrangement between the two governments, which, by mutual agreement, might run the boundary so as to maintain the just right of each. Texas has always, we are told, claimed to the Neches. And the fact that within the limits so claimed by Texas, the Mexicans maintained undisputed away, ought certainly to be regarded as prima facie evidence of the justness of her title, at least to that portion of the disputed territory which was and had always been in the quiet possession of her citizens, and under the undisputed government of her laws.

Even, however, if President Polk had deemed our title to the left bank of the Rio Grande to be as “clear and unquestionable” as that to Oregon, he ought, it seems to us, to have been governed by the same policy in reference to it—and that is, to have considered it as disputed territory, until the conflicting claims of the respective parties should have undergone the usual diplomatic routine. It would have been time enough to have planted our flag on the Rio Grande and to have cut the Gordian knot with the sword, when negotiation had failed to unite it. We do not mean to say that the territory between the Neches and the Rio Grande belongs to Mexico—for that would be to prejudge the question in dispute; but we do say that it ought to have been left unoccupied, unless some strong reason existed for sending an armed force to that river, until every reasonable effort had been made to settle it peaceably and satisfactorily to both governments.

Nor will it be questioned that the President, when he determined to take armed possession of the country west of the Neches, should have sent thither a force adequate to its defence. It will be a wretched excuse to say that the general contempt for the Mexican character, justified the belief, that, with a small force he would be able to overawe and defy them. Mistakes like these, in national affairs, are to be regarded as great crimes since they lead not only to irreparable injury to individuals, but to public disaster and disgrace. The fault of underrating an enemy is always magnified by the importance of the object to be attained, which, rather than the conjectured power of resistance, ought to be chiefly considered by him who undertakes its accomplishment. Failing in this, the President has evinced—as he has done in other matters of as grave importance—that want of foresight, prudence and judgment, which are the very elements of wise statesmanship, and destitute of which the ship of State is as much at the mercy of accident as the gallant bark is of the waves and winds when her captain and helmsman are ignorant of their responsible duties.

When the commanding officer is thus found inadequate to an emergency which demands the highest powers, it is the duty of the crew to come to the rescue; and we therefore hope that Congress without permitting its attention to be diverted for a moment by the consideration of collateral topics, will promptly adopt the most efficient measures for the national defence, and for the indication of the national rights and honor. It will be time enough, when this shall have been accomplished, to investigate the causes which have jeopardized the safety of our army, and which, should it be defeated by a foe whom we have been taught to regard as the very impersonation of imbecility, would be an indelible stigma upon the national character.
The *N. O. Picayune* says—"It is fully understood that the Mexicans have been sustained in their hostility to the U. States by foreigners." We do not know whether, in this remark, The *Picayune* has reference to individuals or to foreign governments—we presume, the former. We are not without strong suspicion, however, that the remark is equally applicable to the latter. In the weakness and the distracted condition of Mexico, we had supposed there would be found a strong guarantee of peace between that country and the U. States, whatever might be her estimate of the wrongs which she has suffered at our hands—an estimate, however, which is certainly very greatly exaggerated by the false medium, through which she views the policy of our government. We can scarcely believe, however tempting the prospect of an easy victory over our little army on the frontier, that she would be guilty, even to achieve that honor for her disparaged arms, of provoking a contest single-handed with the U. States, unless she had received some intimations that in the conflict she would be cheered by the sympathy and support of other powers. We hope that in this apprehension we may be mistaken; but we have strong fears that "Texas and Oregon," the war-cry of a party in 1844, may soon become a national watchword.—We respectfully submit whether, under such circumstances, the NATIONAL DEFENCE ought not to be regarded by Congress an object of greater importance even than the Tariff itself—the revenue derived from which will scarcely admit of reduction even if we have only a Mexican war, and the proposed change in which will be of the smallest possible consequence, should we be unfortunately thrown into collision at the same time with Great Britain.

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The *Picayune* published the following translation of a proclamation, which the Mexican General, Ampudia, found the means of distributing in the American camp:

**THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE MEXICAN ARMY TO THE ENGLISH AND IRISH UNDER THE ORDER OF THE AMERICAN GENERAL TAYLOR:**

KNOW YE: That the Government of the United States is committing repeated acts of barbarous aggression against the magnanimous Mexican Nation; that the Government which exists under the "flag of the stars" is unworthy of the designation of Christian. Recollect that you were born in Great Britain; that the American Government looks with coldness upon the powerful flag of St. George, and is provoking to a rupture the warlike people to whom it belongs. President Polk boldly manifesting a desire to take possession of Oregon, as he has already done of Texas. Now, then, come with all confidence to the Mexican ranks, and I guarantee to you, upon my honor, good treatment, and that all your expenses shall be defrayed until your arrival in the beautiful capital of Mexico.

Germans, French, Poles, and individuals of other nations! Separate yourselves from the Yankees, and do not contribute to defend a robbery and usurpation which, be assured, the civilized nations of Europe look upon with the utmost indignation. Come, therefore, and array yourselves under the tri-colored flag, in the confidence that the God of Armies protects it, and that it will protect you equally with the English.

PEDRO DE AMPUDIA.
FRANCISCO R. MORENO,
Adjt. Of the Commander-in-chief,
Head Quarters, upon the Road to Matamoras, April 2, 1846.

By the same paper we are informed that the Mexican fort of St. Juan de Ulloa is filled with foreign engineers, and that the army on this side the Rio Grande is accompanied by English, French, and other Artillerymen. "An army (says The *Picayune*) altogether formidable enough to excite the spunk and exercise the military abilities of as great a people as popular orators describe us to be, waits us. Mark this. And, since the war has begun, let it be pushed forward with vigor."

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It is a remarkable fact, and shows the cunning as well as the secrecy with which the Mexican government masked its warlike designs, that it pretended to have sold, a few weeks since, its two war steamers, then lying at Vera Cruz, to a mercantile house in Havana. The N. Orleans Bulletin expresses the hope that our vessels in the Gulf did not permit these vessels to leave the ports of Mexico.—There is scarcely a doubt, it says, that the sale was a ruse, intended to get the vessels out of port without opposition, in order to fit them out as privateers."
We are informed by the Republican, that at Mr. Tyler's store two beautiful and highly finished double-barrelled fowling pieces may be seen, intended for exhibition at the National Fair in Washington City on the 20th instant. They were manufactured by Mr. Tyler, and nothing superior, the Republican thinks, of their kind, can be exhibited.

NEW ORLEANS, May 5. Volunteers.

This spirit of patriotism goes cheerily on. Yesterday the whole city, from the extreme verge of the Third Municipality to Lafayette, exhibited one scene of military excitement. Houses of rendezvous were opened in almost every street, where lines lay exposed for signature. The stripes and stars, in their banded brightness, streamed from the windows and doorways of the rendezvous houses, and during the morning there was almost a rush to several of them by our patriotic citizens, to evince their zeal and military ardor. The companies in process of formation marched through the principle streets at different periods of the day, headed by bands of music, and with the National flag borne before them. Every spot which offered a means of congregating together—the Public Squares—the fronts of the Municipal Halls, etc. were a most animating appearance. Crowds of people followed the military displays, seemingly to the utmost abandonment of business. The balconies of the houses in the principal throughfares were, at almost every moment, from the quick succession of the recruiting parties, who marched pass, filled with ladies, who seemed to participate in the general ardor, and to smile encouragingly on the brave men who were the first to hear, and with alacrity to obey, the mandate of their country in peril.

All these signs are most exhilarating; they manifest the intense degree to which free institutions—to which liberty and equality in their most rational, most enlarged sense, are calculated to impregnate a nation. In the ranks of these companies, destined to relieve General Taylor from his embarrassing position, are to be found citizen soldiers of every grade in society—from the grave legislator, who quits the Senate Chamber to don the uniform, to the hardy flatboat-man, who leaves his river occupation—the solitudes of the mighty Mississippi—to take up the musket and stand shoulder to shoulder with the merchant the artizan, the shopman, the day-laborer. There is something exceedingly fine in all this—where we see such a conglomeration of various interests, such a fusion of ranks, so utterly antagonistic with regard to antecedent pursuits, yet so analogous with regard to the one spirit of liberty which pervades the whole—that reigns in every bosom. Such general abnegation—and, by the by, there is no true grandeur without it—can only be found in a Republic, where enlightened institutions prevail, and where such a degree of intelligence is diffused through the masses, as to enable them fully to appreciate all its blessings. It is at such a crisis as the present, that the national glory beams forth in all its lustre.

"What constitutes a nation's true defence?
Not walls of stone, not the embattled tow'r,
Nor scarp, nor counter-scarp, nor ditch, nor moat,
Nor will the aids of Science and of Art:--
'Tis the true manly heart with Freedom fill'd
Inspired with love of Country—Intelligence his guide." [Times.]

President's Message---War Measures by Congress.

The following Message was communicated by the President to both Houses of Congress, on Monday morning last:
WASHINGTON, May 11, 1846.

To the Senate and House of Representatives.

The existing state of the relations between the United States and Mexico, renders it proper that I should bring the subject to the consideration of Congress. In my message at the commencement of your present session, the state of these relations, the causes which lead to the suspension of diplomatic intercourse between the two countries in March, 1845, and the long continued and unredressed wrongs and injuries committed by the Mexican Government on citizens of the U. States in their persons and property, were briefly set forth.

As the fact and opinions which were then laid before you were carefully considered, I cannot better express my present convictions of the condition of affairs up to that time than by referring you to that communication.

The strong desire to establish peace with Mexico, on liberal and honorable terms, and the readiness of this Government to regulate and adjust our boundary and other causes of difference with that Power on such fair and equitable principles as would lead to permanent relations of the most friendly nature, induced me, in September last, to seek the re-opening of diplomatic relations between the two countries. Every measure adopted on our part had for its object the furtherance of these desired results. In communicating to Congress a succinct statement of the injuries which we had suffered from Mexico, and which have been accumulating during a period of more than 20 years, every expression that could tend to inflame the people of Mexico, or defeat or delay a pacific result was carefully avoided. An Envoy of the U. States repaired to Mexico, with full powers to adjust every existing difference. But,
though present on the Mexican soil by agreement between the two Governments, invested with full powers, and bearing evidence of the most friendly dispositions, but, after a long continued series of menaces, have at last invaded our territory and shed the blood of our fellow citizens on our own soil.

It now becomes my duty to state more in detail the origin, progress, and failure of that mission. In pursuance of the instructions given in Sept. last, an inquiry was made on the 13th Oct., 1845, in the most friendly terms, through our Consul in Mexico, of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, whether the Mexican Government “would receive an Envoy from the U. S., entrusted with full powers to adjust all the questions in dispute between the two Government;” with the assurance that, “should the answer be in the affirmative, such an Envoy would be immediately dispatched to Mexico.” The Mexican Minister, on the 15th October, gave an affirmative answer to this inquiry, requesting at the same time that our naval forces at Vera Cruz might be withdrawn, lest its continued presence might assume the appearance of menace and coercion pending the negotiations.—This force was immediately withdrawn. On the 10th Nov. 1845, Mr. John Slidell, of Louisiana, was commissioned by me as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the U. S. to Mexico, and was entrusted with full powers to adjust both the questions of the Texas boundary and of indemnification to our citizens. The redress of the wrongs of our citizens naturally and inseparably blended itself with the question of boundary. The settlement of the one question, in any correct view of the subject, involves that of the other. I could not, for a moment, entertain the idea that the claims of our much injured and long-suffering citizens, many of which had existed for more than 20 years, should be postponed or separated from the settlement of the boundary question.

Mr. Slidell arrived at Vera Cruz on the thirtieth of November, and was courteously received by the authorities of that city. But the Government of General Herrera was then tottering to its fall. The Revolutionary party had seized upon the Texas question to effect or hasten its overthrow. Its determination to restore friendly relations with the United States and to receive our Minister to negotiate for the settlement of this question was violently assailed, and was made the great theme of denunciation against it.—The Government of General Herrera, there is good reason to believe, was sincerely desirous to receive our Minister; but it yielded to the storm raised by its enemies, and on the 21st December refused to accredit Mr. Slidell upon the most frivolous pretexts. These are so fully and ably exposed by the arguments of his predecessor, and, in terms that may be considered as giving just grounds of offence to the Government and People of the United States, denied the application of Mr. Slidell. Nothing, therefore, remained for us but to admit the Envoy who came because they had bound themselves to receive him. Nor can it be said that the offer only was the offer rejected, but the indignity of its rejection was enhanced by the manifest breach of faith in refusing to admit the Envoy who came because they had bound themselves to receive him. Nor can it be objected, that we, on our part, would not listen to any reasonable terms of their suggestion; the Mexican Government refused all negotiation, and have made no proposition of any kind.

In my message, at the commencement of the present session, I informed you that, upon the earnest appeal both of the Congress and Convention of Texas, I had ordered an efficient military force to take a position “between the Nueces and the Del Norte.” This had become necessary to meet a threatened invasion of Texas by the Mexican forces for which extensive military preparations had been made. The invasion was threatened solely because Texas had determined, in accordance with a solemn resolution of the Congress of the United States, to annex herself to our Union; and, under these circumstances, it was plainly our duty to extend our protection over her citizens and soil.
This force was concentrated at Corpus Christi, and remained there until after I had received such information from Mexico as rendered it probable, if not certain, that the Mexican Government would refuse to receive our Envoy.

Meantime Texas, by the final action of our Congress, had become an integral part of our Union. The Congress of Texas, by its act of December 19, 1836, had declared the Rio del Norte to be the boundary of that Republic. Its jurisdiction had been extended and exercised beyond the Nueces. The country between that river and the Del Norte had been represented in the Congress and the Convention of Texas, had thus taken part in the act of annexation itself, and is now included within one of our Congressional Districts. Our own Congress had, moreover, with great unanimity, by the act approved December 31, 1845, recognised the country beyond the Nueces as a part of our territory, by including it within our own revenue system, and a revenue officer, to reside within that district, has been appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. It became, therefore, of urgent necessity to provide for the defence of that portion of our country. Accordingly, on the 13th of January last, instructions were issued to the General in command of these troops to occupy the left bank of the Del Norte. This river, which is the southwestern boundary to the State of Texas, is an exposed frontier: from this quarter invasion was threatened; upon it, and in its immediate vicinity, in the judgment of high military experience, are the proper stations for the protecting forces of the Government. In addition to this important consideration, several others occurred to induce this movement. Among these, are the facilities afforded by the ports at Brasos Santiago and the mouth of the Del Norte for the reception supplies by sea; the stronger and more healthful military positions; the convenience for obtaining a ready and more abundant supply of provisions, water, fuel, and forage; and the advantages which are afforded by the Del Norte in forwarding supplies to such posts as may be established in the interior and upon the Indian frontier.

The movement of the troops to the Del Norte was made by the Commanding General, under positive instructions to abstain from all aggressive acts towards Mexico or Mexican citizens, and to regard the relations between that Republic and the United States as peaceful, unless she should declare war or commit acts of hostility indicative of a state of war. He was specially directed to protect private property and respect personal rights.

The army moved from Corpus Christi on the 11th of March, and on the 28th of that month arrived on the left bank of the Del Norte. This river, which is the southwestern boundary to the State of Texas, is an exposed frontier: from this quarter invasion was threatened; upon it, and in its immediate vicinity, in the judgment of high military experience, are the proper stations for the protecting forces of the Government. In addition to this important consideration, several others occurred to induce this movement. Among these, are the facilities afforded by the ports at Brasos Santiago and the mouth of the Del Norte for the reception supplies by sea; the stronger and more healthful military positions; the convenience for obtaining a ready and more abundant supply of provisions, water, fuel, and forage; and the advantages which are afforded by the Del Norte in forwarding supplies to such posts as may be established in the interior and upon the Indian frontier.

The Mexican forces at Matamoras assumed a belligerent attitude, and on the 12th of April, Gen. Ampudia, then in command, notified Gen. Taylor to break up his camp within 24 hours and to retire beyond the Nueces river, and, in the event of his failure to comply with these demands, announced that arms, and arms along, must decide the question. But no open act as hostility was committed until the 24th of April. On that day Gen. Arista, who had succeeded to the command of the Mexican forces, communicated to Gen. Taylor that “he considered hostilities commenced and should prosecute them.” A party of dragoons of 63 men and officers, who were on the same day dispatched from the American camp up the Rio del Norte, on its left bank, to ascertain whether the Mexican troops had crossed, or were preparing to cross the river, “became engaged with a large body of these troops, and, after a short affair, in which some 16 were killed and wounded, appear to have been surrounded and compelled to surrender.”

The grievous wrongs perpetrated by Mexico upon our citizens throughout a long period of years remain unredressed, and solemn treaties, pledging her public faith for this redress, have been disregarded. A Government either unwilling or unwillning to enforce the execution of such treaties fails to perform one of its plainest duties.

Our commerce with Mexico has been almost annihilated. It was formerly highly beneficial to both nations; but our merchants have been deterred from prosecuting it by the system of outrage and extortion which the Mexican authorities have pursued against them, whilst their appeals through their own Government for indemnity have been made in vain. Our forbearance has gone to such an extreme as to be mistaken in its character. Had we acted with vigor in repelling the insults and redressing the injuries inflicted by Mexico at the commencement, we should doubtless have escaped all the difficulties in which we are now involved.

Instead of this, however, we have been exerting our best efforts to propitiate her good will. Upon the pretext that Texas, a nation as independent as herself, thought proper to unite its destinies without own, she has affected to believe that we have severed her rightful territory, and, in official proclamations and manifestoes, has repeatedly threatened to make war upon us for the purpose of reconquering Texas. In the mean time we have tried every effort at reconciliation. The cup of forbearance had been exhausted even before the recent information from the frontier of the Del Norte. But now, after reiterated menaces, Mexico has passed the boundary of the United States, has invaded our territory, and shed American blood upon American soil. She has proclaimed that hostilities have commenced, and that the two nations are now at war.

As war exists, and notwithstanding all our efforts to avoid it, exists by the act of Mexico herself, we are called upon by every consideration of duty and patriotism to vindicate with decision the honor, the right, and the interests of our country.

Anticipating the possibility of a crisis like that which has arrived, instructions were given in August last, “as a precautionary measure” against invasion or threatened invasion, authorizing General Taylor, if the emergency required to accept volunteers, not from Texas only, but from the States of Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi,
Tennessee, and Kentucky; and corresponding letters were addressed to the respective Governors of those States. These instructions were repeated, and in January last, soon after the incorporation of “Texas into our Union of States,” General Taylor was further “authorized by the President to make a requisition upon the Executive of that State for such of its militia forces as may be needed to repel invasion or to secure the country against apprehended invasion.” On the 2d day of March he was again reminded, “in the event of the approach of any considerable Mexican force, promptly and efficiently to use the authority with which he was clothed to call to him such auxiliary force as he might need.” War actually existing, and our territory having been invaded, General Taylor, pursuant to authority vested in him by any direction has called on the Governor of Texas for four regiments of State troops, two to be mounted and two to serve on foot, and on the Governor of Louisiana for four regiments of infantry, to be sent to him as soon as practicable.

In further vindication of our rights and defence of our territory, I invoke the prompt action of Congress to recognise the existence of the war, and to place at the disposition of the Executive the means of prosecuting the war with vigor, and thus hastening the restoration of peace. To this end I recommend that authority should be given to call into the public service a large body of volunteers, to serve for not less than six or twelve months, unless sooner discharged. A volunteer force is beyond question more efficient than any other description of citizen soldiers; and it is not to be doubted that a number far beyond that required would readily rush to the field upon the call of their country. I further recommend that a liberal provision be made for sustaining our military force, and furnishing it with supplied and munitions of war.

The most energetic and prompt measures, and the immediate appearance in arms of a large and overpowering force, are recommended to Congress as the most certain and efficient means of bringing the existing collision with Mexico to a speedy and successful termination.

In making these recommendations, I deem it proper to declare that it is my anxious desire not only to terminate hostilities speedily, but to bring all matters in dispute between this Government and Mexico to an early and amicable adjustment; and in this view I shall be prepared to renew negotiations whenever Mexico shall be ready to receive propositions, or to make propositions of her own.

I transmit herewith a copy of the correspondence between our Envoy to Mexico and the Mexican Minister for Foreign Affairs, and so much of the correspondence between that Envoy and the Secretary of State, and between the Secretary of War and the General in command on the Del Norte, as are necessary to a full understanding of the subject. JAMES K. POLK.

[Accompanying the Message was a collection of letters, consisting of the correspondence between Mr. Slidell and the Mexican Government and a series of letters from Gen. Taylor.]

RW46v23i39p4c3, May 15, 1846: The Volunteers—“The cry is still they come.”

The gallant Major Hunt, we are glad to announce, has raised the first company, which was regularly inspected yesterday and declared complete. This noble example is being followed up in every direction. Our late cotemporary, Major Kelly of St. Francisville, has already, aided by Senator Marks, succeeded in enrolling upwards of two hundred men, and expects in a day or two to have the complement for a regiment under Major Marks, ready for the field. Three Volunteer corps from the Third Municipality, have through their officers sent in their names almost to a man, to fill up the number of troops required for the reinforcement of General Taylor. We also learn that Captain Forno, has his company of Artillery now full and in marching order.—This in every direction, “the work goes bravely on.” [Times.]

RW46v23i39p4c3, May 15, 1846: MEETING AT THE COMMERCIAL EXCHANGE.

A numerous meeting was held at Bravo’s Commercial Exchange last evening, Col. William Christy in the chair. The chairman having briefly alluded to the objects of the meeting, namely to take such measures as might be deemed necessary to raise troops in the present exigency, Mr. Bryce, Col.. T. G. Hunt, Randall Hunt, and several other gentlemen addressed the meeting. A resolution was unanimously adopted, and numerous signed by those present, expressive of the willingness of the subscribers to march to the aid of Gen. Taylor, who now awaits reinforcements at the hands of the citizens of Louisiana. The most entire enthusiasm prevailed during the evening.—PICAYUNE.


We learn from the Reformer of yesterday that orders were despatched on Sunday by Maj. Gen. Gaines, directing that the two companies of Artillery at Pensacola and two companies of the same description of troops, stationed at Forts
Pike and Wood, near this city, proceed forthwith to the scene of operations near Matamoras.

**THE TRUE SPIRIT.**

Senator MARKS of West Felicians, and his friend, Major KELLY; have already raised two hundred men. Their purpose is to continue with unabated ardor until five companies are raised, of one hundred men each. Mr. MARKS has already seen service, as Captain of a company raised by him, for the Florida war, and afterwards as Brigade Major of the Louisiana Detachment. [Times.

**MILITARY MOVEMENTS.**

Four full Companies were mustered into the U. S. Service for Texas, yesterday evening, and sent down to the barracks. There are several other Companies waiting a muster. In the meantime, the troops are all quartered, and nearly all paid off. Hurrah for Texas and the Volunteers!!—[Tropic.

**U. S. TROOPS FROM FORT PIKE.**

The N.O. Picayune says—"A detachment of regular troops numbering about 80, arrived yesterday from Fort Pike, and marched to their quarters at the Barracks. Several companies of Volunteers raised in this city, we learn, also marched down last evening. The U. S. Quarter Master has dispatched all necessary arms and equipments to the Barracks, so that there need be no delay in equipping the Volunteers, and we hope no delay in getting them off.

**RECRUITS FOR TEXAS.**

The number of volunteers already obtained in this city is probably about 1200, certainly not more than that number. Unless they come forward with more promptness, the Governor will be compelled to resort to a draft. Several very fine companies have been formed, and we sincerely trust that there will be no holding back on the part of our citizens, when it is of the most vital importance that the whole force should depart immediately.—Id.

**No title.**

The Washington Union of Monday night states that Capt. S. D. Thornton and Lieut. Mason of the Dragoons, who were supposed to have been killed in the recent skirmish with the Mexicans, had safely arrived in Gen. Taylor's camp.

**No title.**

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore American writes:--"The President is more and more blamed for ordering the removal of the troops from Corpus Christi to the neighborhood of Matamoras."—Gen. Scott having been charged with ordering their removal, denies it, as I understand, except as acting under the orders of the War Department. In regard to the act of removal, he was not even consulted."
Prosperity, and from the anarchy which has crushed every germ of national freedom. A nobler motive of redeeming the finest country upon the fact of the globe from the misrule which has blasted its honor—a motive which would animate by feelings of vengeance against the murderers of their countrymen, and inspired perhaps by the still more noble motive of redeeming the finest country upon the fact of the globe from the misrule which has blasted its honor. A nation has risen in all quarters rushing to the standard of their country, shall pour like a resistless torrent across the frontier, and the people of Mexico. Their officers, tempted by the opportunity of achieving an equivocal honor, by subduing a vastly inferior force, have madly drawn the sword and lighted up the fires of war. They will long and bitterly rue their rash folly, when did troops of the United States, reinforced as they will speedily be by thousands of volunteers, who are in all quarters racing to the standard of their country, shall pour like a resistless torrent across the frontier, animated by feelings of vengeance against the murderers of their countrymen, and inspired perhaps by the still nobler motive of redeeming the finest country upon the fact of the globe from the misrule which has blasted its prosperity, and from the anarchy which has crushed every germ of national freedom.

Mr. Calhoun well said, in the Senate, while counselling calmness and deliberation, that "we are placed in a position calling for solemn deliberation, and which it might take years to terminate."

We congratulate the country on the adoption, so promptly and with so much unanimity, of these vigorous measures.

We laid before our city readers, in an Extra sheet, last Saturday, the disastrous intelligence received by that morning's mail from the South, which the reader will find in our columns to-day. It appears that another detachment of our gallant troops has been cut off, almost (unreadable), by a superior body of Mexicans, while the line of march to the relief of their little situation, isolated and remote from the body of the army, we are constrained to (unreadable), from this evidence of the difficulty of succoring them, is even more perilous and critical than we had previously apprehended.

These repeated assaults upon the American [ . . . ] dissipate the doubt which had previously existed as to the real purpose of the Mexican commander in crossing the Rio Grande, and satisfy us of his deliberate purpose to BEGIN THE WAR long since threatened by the Mexican Executive—a threat which had been treated with derision by all parties, as but another specimen of [ . . . ] braggart spirit characteristic of the people of that country, and which it was supposed would (unreadable)porate in words. Unfortunately, it had become the fashion to regard the blustering Proclamations and Manifestoes of Mexican President and Generals, with the contempt naturally felt for those who, while they habitually "speak daggers,"

[ . . . ] rather remarkable than otherwise for avoiding contact with cold steel and "villainous saltpetre." (Unreadable) ence, no doubt, the great mistake of our own government, in detaching so small a body of troops to the very b orders of a country, known to be, if not hostile, greatly exasperated against us, and with the obvious fact staring it in the face, that, if they should be assaulted by a superior force, there would be great, if not insuperable difficulties in affording them timely and efficient relief. But the idea that our Army might need assistance, was, some weeks ago, almost universally hooted at as preposterous and absurd. One American, it seemed really to be thought, "could chase a thousand" Mexicans, and “two put ten thousand to flight.” Our Commanding General, doubtless, as well as his officers and soldiers, united in this unwise and dangerous depreciation of the prowess of their adversary; for, as letters from the camp show, they were not only indifferent to an assault, but really seemed eager to measure swords with the foe, even though he might outnumber them in the proportion of ten to one. Fatal error! And fatally, we fear, have they atoned for (unreadable). [ . . . ] of which were foreseen by persons less in(unreadable) than those who have had the management and must shoulder the responsibility of this disastrous movement—foreseen and predicted by those who now complain of its authors, and hole them up to public censure and condemnation.

But, whatever may be the public judgment upon the act of thus exposing such an inefficient force to the attack of a superior army, the indignation of our people, from one end of the Union to the other, will not be less intense against the people of Mexico. Their officers, tempted by the opportunity of achieving an equivocal honor, by subduing a vastly inferior force, have madly drawn the sword and lighted up the fires of war. They will long and bitterly rue their rash folly, when did troops of the United States, reinforced as they will speedily be by thousands of volunteers, who are in all quarters rushing to the standard of their country, shall pour like a resistless torrent across the frontier, animated by feelings of vengeance against the murderers of their countrymen, and inspired perhaps by the still nobler motive of redeeming the finest country upon the fact of the globe from the misrule which has blasted its prosperity, and from the anarchy which has crushed every germ of national freedom.
Great as has been public anxiety for some days past to hear tidings from the frontier, it has become still more intense since the receipt of the last gloomy intelligence. Notwithstanding the evidently critical condition of Gen. Taylor’s force, there seemed to be still a pervading confidence that he would be able to keep his assailants at bay, even if he did not rout them, until reinforcements should reach him in sufficient numbers to enable him to assume an offensive attitude. We still entertain a strong hope that he has been able to maintain his position; but it is not to be concealed that he was in great danger of being cut off, or compelled by famine to surrender—and still greater that the feeble detachment at Point Isabel, and probably some of the detached companies of volunteers rushing to aid, have heard a similar fate. We still, however, hope for the best. We are confident that all will be done that can be accomplished by consummate skill, inflexible resolution and determined bravery. If they shall have perished by the sword, however, terrible will be the vengeance of the infuriated soldiers whose duty it will be to avenge their fall.

An immense Town Meeting was held in Philadelphia on Wednesday afternoon last, in conformity with a call from the mayor, to take into consideration, the existing relations between Mexico and the U. States. At least 20,000 citizens, of all parties, assembled in Independence Square, where, by a remarkable coincidence, on the same day of the same month, 34 years ago, they met for a similar purpose—to arm in defence of their country. Col. Swift, (the Mayor,) was called to preside, and several Vice Presidents, and Secretaries were appointed to aid him. Eloquent addresses were then delivered by Peter A Browne, Joniah Randall, Col. Lee, Col. Page, B. H. Brewster, P. S. Smith and Judge Conrad—Whigs, Democrats and natives in fair proportions; after which a preamble and resolutions were adopted by acclamation setting forth the existing facts, announcing the hearty concurrence of the citizens of Philadelphia in the section already taken by the government and pledging its support in all measures it may hereafter deem necessary “for the preservation of the national domain, the security of the liberties and the conservation of the rights of our fellow-citizens, and the honor of our beloved country.”

The spirit of the country is fully aroused—and it is not too much to say, that, unless Mexico, by hasty submission, avert the threatened storm, her destiny is sealed.

Mr. Delano, one of the fourteen members of the House of Representatives, who voted against the bill declaring the existence of war with Mexico, and authorizing the raising of 50,000 volunteers, in a speech since delivered, indignantly repels the charge, predicated upon that vote, that he was therefore to be classed among “the enemies of the country.”

I am (he said) one of those who voted against the declaration of war. I thought I was right then, and I think so now. But that is over. We are in a war now; and I am with you, and my constituents are with you. [Cries of good!] And I speak for a people who live on the frontier—who can look into the enemy’s country, or what may become an enemy’s country very shortly,. We are with you in this war with Mexico; and if other wars come we shall do our duty.”—Such, we doubt not, are the sentiments of all who voted against that bill—except, perhaps, John Q. Adams and J. R. Giddings, who, although ready enough to engage in a war with Great Britain, for the whole of Oregon, it seems have “no stomach for a fight” with Mexico. Why? The people of the South will be at no loss to interpret their motives.
We of the country have been sadly [ . . . ] in our efforts to discover the real drift of the singular announcement [ . . . ] “The Union,” that “the stone which the President’s Message, by a fling, cast upon the high Rocky Mountain, but which Congressional procrastination had suffered to roll almost to the bottom, is once more raised in the top. That on a rock stands the Chief Magistrate, a man of peace and slow to anger.”

What is the import of all of it? In solemnity of tone, and mathematical precision of language, suggest the belief, that it is benthed with a weight that of secret meaning not obvious to the careless reader. Governmental and party organs often deal in mystic phrases, “where more is meant than meets the ear.” We all remember the discovery made by an official dignitary in Lapota, that a letter seemingly innocent, was in truth a revolutionary (unreadable); and the expression, “Our brother Tom has got the (unreadable),” foreboded the downfall of the State. Does not the respect due to the accredited organ of the Administration require us to suppose that this strange declaration is not absolute nonsense, but, like the Lapoton missive, conveys an occult meaning not to be fathomed by the (unreadable)? “A mummy,” quoth Sampson Legend in the play, “is no illustrious creature, and may have significations of [ . . . ] about him.” And surely the same remark is [ . . . ] of the venerable gentleman who presides over the columns of the Union. It is true he loves, oh! how fervently “the President of these United States and all others in authority,” and it is the quality of intense affection to put itself in expressions of unmeaning (unreadable). Mr. Richie, however, will scarcely assert and excuse the [ . . . ] of the paragraph in question, by admitting with King(unreadable), that he is “a very fond, foolish old man.” He must have meant something.

This preliminary being settled, the inquisitive must be permitted to ask, What was the motive of this extraordinary projection? What impelled His Excellency to carry coals to Newcastle—to fling an additional rock on the mountains, which are already but an accumulation of rocks? A member of Congress has recently declared, in the furor of patriotism, that the British shall not have a single pebble that glitters on the coast of Oregon; and this was regarded as quite a sublime avowal of local attachments. But why should the President unnecessarily hazard this extra “pebble”—why throw this additional temptation in the way of the enemy? We submit that where the salvation of rocks is concerned, the Chief Magistrate of this Nation, duly impressed with the magnitude of his trust, should walk with wary circumspection.

Some have imagined that his object is to alarm the natives, by an artificial shower of meteoric stones; while others contend that he is engaged in geological researches, which invite a comparison, by juxta-position, of the granite of the district with the primary formation of the West. If this last supposition is correct, he should certainly employ the learned agency of Mike Walsh, the Subterranean, with his horde of Trogdolytes the Empire Club, whose familiarity with all the varieties of dirt rendered them invaluable auxiliaries in the cabinet of our Presidential geologist.

It is pleasant to perceive that this most effective “Message” was not a gunpowder communication, and that the tremendous impulse given by it to this famous “stone” was not the result of its explosive character; for we are cautiously reminded that it was done “by a fling.” But what was the nature of the engine employed by the Message thus to cast it “to the top of the high Rocky Mountains,” is left altogether to our conjectures. It could not have been either the Balista or Catapult of antiquity; for, though powerful agents in their day, they were quite unequal to such an effort as this. Nor could the requisite momentum have been derived from the nervous springiness of the President’s style—though the variety of contradictory meanings into which his celebrated “Kane Letter” was stretched, proves that it possesses considerable elasticity. Upon the whole, we suspect that “the stone” received its impetus mainly from caucus machinery, since Mr. Polk’s own elevation to office illustrates the mighty energy of that engine in lifting dead weights to a height far above their congenial humility of position.

It may be supposed that this elegant paragraph contains a recondite allusion to the profitless labours of Sisyphus in the Infernal Regions, and delicately conveys to the public an authentic confirmation of the fact, before generally suspected, that his Excellency Mr. Polk, is already politically damned. But as the candid publication of such a truth scarcely comports with the “Articles of Agreement” which we all believe to be expressed or implied between the Government and its Laureate-Editor, this hypothesis must be abandoned. Indeed, the whole spirit of the article to which we refer, shows any thing rather than an abatement of religious reverence for the sacro-sanct person of the President. It places his Eminence, as the Samaritans did their Idols of old, upon the summit of a lofty mountain. Whether he flung himself into that airy position at the same time, and by the same effort, which cast the every memorable stone, is, like everything about him, equivocal. But “there on a rock stands the Chief Magistrate,” solitary and sublime, an embodiment of democracy in repose!

The giddy height to which, whether by crawling or soaring, he has attained, tends doubtless to inspire purer aspir-(unreadable) as his imperial eye glances around on “the whole of Oregon,” and he calls to mind the thousands of Democrats, Hunkers and Barn-Burners, Butte-enders and Subterraneans, Mormons, Repudiators and Anti-Renters, all submissive to his will, and ready to rush in to occupy, his exalting heart swells with emotion, and his lips are hears to murmur the language of Alexander Selkirk—

“I am monarch of all I survey,  
My right there is none to dispute,  
From the centre all round to the sea.  
I am lord of the foul and the brute.”

We must add, before we conclude, that the lovers of quiet, have been (in Chinese phrase) “exceedingly tranquillized”
by learning that the President as “a man of peace,” and that “Allen’s Alarm,” Cass’s Call to Conflict,” and “Hannegan’s Howl for War,” are all obsolete works. That he is “slow to anger,” we have the positive testimony of Mr. Wise, and need no assurances to that effect from our old and venerated friend Mr. Richie. AUSTER.

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**RW46v23i40p1c4, May 19, 1846: LATER FROM THE ARMY.**

SEVENTY MEN CUT TO PIECES, BY A LARGE FORCE OF MEXICANS!

The schr. *Mary Clare* has just arrived from Brazos Santiago, having left on the 29th ult. Capt. Griffin of the Mar. C., and passengers, report that Capt. Walker with 75 men of the Texan Rangers, were nearly all killed and taken prisoners on the 28th ult. about 20 miles above Point Isabel, by a superior force of Mexican troops, amounting to some 1500 men.

Capt. WALKER succeeded in reaching Point Isabel at 4 o’clock P. M., on the 28th, with THREE MEN ONLY! He immediately applied to Major THOMAS for four men, and announced his determination to proceed to Gen. TAYLOR’s Camp, or DIE IN THE ATTEMPT! his object being to communicate the full particulars of this attack, without delay to his commanding officer.

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**RW46v23i40p1c3, May 19, 1846: No title.**

The New Orleans *Tropic* informs us that the pilots at the Balize have applied to the government for cannon to arm their fleet to watch the privateers that are undoubtedly getting ready to attack our commerce. The pilot boats are placed at the call of the Surveyor of the port, to carry despatches between the city and the seat of war.

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**RW46v23i40p1c3, May 19, 1846: No title.**

The *New Orleans Picayune* remarks on the unusually large number of persons seen on the streets of that city with their arms in slings. Can it be, it asks, that the *drafting* has any thing to do with it?

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**RW46v23i40p1c3, May 19, 1846: From the *Mobile Advertiser*, May 9.**

**Volunteers**—The Rifle Company of this city under command of Capt. James Crawford, have volunteered their services for the assistance of the Army on the Rio Grande, and been accepted by Lieut. Lovell of the U. S. Army. They will proceed directly to Point Isabel, as soon as means of conveyance can be provided—to-day or to-morrow—and will be joined; we understand, by the Company of Volunteers raised by Mr. James Hagan and his gallant associates. The two companies will be composed of 200 as brave and gallant young men as ever fought in the defence of their country.

The Rifle Company is composed of young men of the highest character for bravery, intelligence and worth—the very flower of our city—and will give a noble account of themselves. We understand that it will be impossible for Capt. Crawford to leave with the Company, but he will join them in a few days. In the meantime, 1st Lieut. Robt. W. Smith will have command of the Company.

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**RW46v23i40p1c4, May 19, 1846: TWO DAYS LATER FROM MEXICO.**

The brig *Josephine*, from Vera Cruz, brings us the following letter from our correspondent, dated April 25th, two days later than the last, and papers from that city of the same date:--[Correspondence of the *Tropic*.] VERA CRUZ, April 25, 1846. Messrs. SAWYER, HALL AND THORPE, *New Orleans Tropic*.

Gentlemen—By the Mail Steamer *Tweed*, last evening from Tampico, we have intelligence from Matamoros down to the 15th.
A gentleman informs me that he has seen a letter from the British Consul at that city, to the British Consul here, from which he gives me an extract.

This letter indicates a degree of familiarity between the Mexican General and the writer, that would justify the conclusion, that upon him has fallen the mantle of the "man with the white hat.”

He says, Ampudia showed him the letter warning Gen. Taylor off the banks of the Bravo, before it was forwarded, and intimates, without asserting it, that nothing prevents an attack from the Mexicans, but want of boats. He also says, that "Gen. Taylor has plenty of THIRTY-TWO POUNDERS pointed at the town,” which is of course an exaggeration.

The excitement here regarding the Yankee Fleet has subsided somewhat as the ships have not been seen since the 20th. We hope they have moved into the neighborhood of our little army, as the tars would form most valuable auxiliaries in case of collision. From what I have seen and heard of sailors, I believe they would fight even better on land than on board ship. They would make excellent Artilleries, and first-rate Riflemen.

I see by the Capital papers that the American Squadron were at [ . . . ] on the 1st inst., in the following force:

Frigate—Savannah and Constitution.

Sloops of War—Portsmouth and Levant, and the Schooner Shark: the latter of which, in company with the Portsmouth, sailed that day. Official information had been given to the merchants that from the 2d of April, no more business would be done in the Customhouse. This was, surely, a very silly step, and, I presume, will cost the Collector his commission, and no blockade had been declared, and could not, reasonably, be feared.

The latest information received in Mexico from Matamoras assigned to Gen. Ampudia's force of 7000 men.—The Locomoter says that Ampudia had "compelled the American Consul and his countrymen to march into the interior, to Victoria.”

The 3d Regiment of Infantry had left the city of Mexico for Vera Cruz, and another was to follow immediately.

The Locomoter denounces the Government for its recent decree against the press, as particularly impolitic under existing relations with this country. "It is only,” says that paper, “by exciting and pleasing the people, that they can be brought to struggle with a powerful nation. The resources employed by the Government are pitiful and mean.”

The military at Vera Cruz were active in their preparations for war. The Castle is said to be in excellent condition.

The John Adams was off Vera Cruz.

We take the following from the Courier of last evening: "Extract of a letter under date of 26th ult., from Vera Cruz, received by a commercial house of this city:

"Gen. Alvarez has pronounced in the South in favor the Federalists—and in the meantime call for a triumvirate composed of Gen. Santa Ana, Herrier and Rincon, who are to govern this country until a free election can take place for a President—but we have so many of these pronunciamentoe that they do not amount to any thing.

On the 20th inst., the editor and proprietor of the monitor, in Mexico, was imprisoned and sent to San Blas.”

The New Orleans Picayune of the 10th gives an account of the late skirmish near Point Isabel, representing as having been less disastrous than the Tropic 's version of the affair, published the day before. It says:

"Capt. Walker, a gallant Texas volunteer and now a captain in the service, had been driven into the post at Point Isabel by the Mexicans. With his small command he had sallied forth and encountered the main body of the Mexicans
—not less than 1500 strong. Most of his men being raw recruits, refused to stand by him and made their escape. Twelve men, however, remained firm, and with this little handful, Walker kept the Mexicans in check for half an hour. By this time, six of his men had fallen by his side, when his horse was shot under him, and he with his surviving men effected their escape and reached the post at Point Isabel in safety. Above thirty Mexicans were killed in the engagement.

This engagement occurred on the 28th. Capt. Walker got into the post about 5 o’clock in the afternoon of that day. His original force, known as Texan Rangers amounted to about 24 men.

The next day Capt. Walker volunteered with four men to carry an express through to Gen. Taylor. The attempt was thought almost fool-hardy, but he persisted. The result was not known when the Ellen and Clara left.

The Mexicans pursued Capt. Walker in his retreat till they came within range of the guns of the post, when they in turn immediately retreated. The post is very strongly defended—thanks to the exertions of Majors Munroe and Saunders. With 500 men to defend the post, it is believed it can be made good against 3000 Mexicans.

There are now about 3000 Mexicans on the American side of the Rio Grande—one half above and one half below Gen. Taylor’s camp.

The greatest apprehension now felt for the American position is, that the Mexicans may erect fortifications which will command Brasos Santiago. The natural formation of the ground is most favorable for such a purpose. The men would be effectually protected from any naval force by a natural embankment of sand, and the position could only be carried by actual storm of the works. These works would perfectly command all vessels entering Brasos Santiago, as they have all to follow the channel within a few feet only of the position which would be occupied by the enemy’s guns.

When the Ellen and Clara sailed Maj. Monroe had under his command at Point Isabel 500 men, composed of soldiers, teamsters, laborers, &c. The works were then very strong and every day he was adding to them. He had two 18 pounders and several field pieces. He is an officer of great energy and skill, and was confident of his ability to maintain his post against two or three thousand of the enemy.

For several days an attack on the post had been apprehended, and the men slept nightly on their arms. The weather at the point had been very agreeable and the men were healthy, although the water was very bad. The distance of the Point from Brasos Santiago is about 5 miles. On the bar there are about nine feet of water in the South Channel.

The Picayune informs us that the U. S. troops from Jefferson Barracks and three companies of volunteers embarked on the evening of the 9th on board the steamship Galveston, and that three more companies of volunteers would embark at 12 o’clock on the 10th in the James L. Day, for

The scene of action. The scene it describes as highly exciting—“friends parting, perhaps, forever, from each other—a mother, a sister, or a wife, weeping upon the shoulders of a son, a brother, or a husband.” The volunteers, however, all seemed to be in good spirits, and eager for the fray. J. B. Walton, Esq. is Colonel of the organized regiment of volunteers, 1060 strong; H. Forno, Esq., Lieutenant Colonel; Capt. Glenn, Major; Charles Doane, Quartermaster; Dr. Wilson Surgeon; Dr. Gibson, Assistant Surgeon; and the Rev. Mr. Allen, Chaplain.

The whole country was alive with excitement. Lafayette Saunders, Esq., of East Feliciana, has, under authority conferred on him by Gen. Gaines, undertaken to raise a regiment of mounted gun-men, 1000 strong, and his lists were rapidly filling up; and from all the interior parishes troops were pouring in.

RW46v23i40p1c6, May 19, 1846: CASTLE OF SAN JUAN DE ULUA.

The New York Courier gives the following facts, in order that an opinion may be formed as to the probable result of an assault upon Vera Cruz. Certainly nothing can be done until a much larger force is concentrated there than is at present in the vicinity.

"The fortress of San Juan de Ulua would resist a very heavy attack—one certainly much more serious than that of the French, to which it yielded a few years since. The French squadron then consisted of three large frigates and four bomb vessels; the former anchored but little over point-blank distance from the eastern face of the castle, and the bomb vessels but little further. There were mortars in the castle, but none in use, and not more than seventeen guns could be brought to bear on a single ship, and, on the whole squadron, only twenty-six, some of which were carronades.

"Of the French vessels, the Cyclops had two mortars, and in two hours she threw one hundred and eight shells. The others did their share. One of the bombs lodged in the magazine, which was blown up, and about two hundred men destroyed. After six hours fighting, the Mexicans yielded. Since that time the fortress has been thoroughly repaired, a new water-battery has been added; thirty-two and forty-two pounders have been mounted in place of the twelves and eighteens; from twelve to twenty heavy mortars have been introduced, with several Paixltan eight inch guns,
and every thing is in the very best condition to resist an attack.

RW46v23i40p1c6, May 19, 1846: General Taylor in his Tent.

A correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer, writing from the Brasos de Santiago, says,—

"On the 26th, a friend of mine visited General Taylor in the camp of Point Isabel, where he had established his depot for stores in the army. On landing, the scene presented was quite a wild one, and reminded me of the accounts we have received of an Arab Encampment. There were three or four hundred dragoons in the camp, with their horses picketed about; besides an immense number of wagons, mules and oxen. On stepping ashore, an officer conducted my friend to the General’s tent. He was introduced to a very plain shabbily dressed old gentleman, of rather small stature, about sixty years of age; and who looked by his hardy appearance, as if he had been camping out all his life.

“This was the commander-in-chief of the army of occupation. He has been 38 years in service on the frontiers of our country. One of his officers remarked that "old as he is, he bears the fatigues and privations of the campaign better than any on under him." He was affable, dignified, and in excellent spirits. His tent was no larger and no better than those of the other officers, and his table was camp chest, in which he carried his cooking utensils, &c. His plates were tin pans, and his cups (no saucers of course) tin pannikins. A small supply of brown sugar was kept in a tin canister, and not a piece of crockery was to be seen. A party of six was thus entertained in homely style, and they all seemed to enjoy it abundantly.

RW46v23i40p1c5, May 19, 1846: No title.

The last Northern papers contain News from Yucatan, announcing a revolutionary movement in that and other Southern provinces of Mexico. This news, however, seems to be but the echo of intelligence received some days ago, by way of New Orleans.

RW46v23i40p1c5, May 19, 1846: MEXICAN PRIVATEERS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.

It appears from the following letter of the Secretary of State to the chairman of the Board of Underwriters of New York, that we have little to fear from Mexican privateers and letters of marque, so far as Spain is concerned.

WASHINGTON, April 11, 1846.

My Dear Sir: In consequence of our conversation a few minutes since, I think, it proper to inform you, without delay, that our Treaty with Spain of the 20th October, 1795, contains the following article, still in force:

"Art. 14. No subject of his Catholic Majesty shall apply for or take any commission or letters of marque for arming any ship or ships to act as privateers against the said United States, or against the citizens, people or inhabitants of the said United States, or against the property of any of the inhabitants of any of them, from any prince or State with which the said United States shall be at war.

"Nor shall say citizen, subject or inhabitant, of the said United States, apply for, or take, any commission, or letter of marque, for arming any ship or ships to act as privateers against the subjects of his Catholic Majesty, or the property of any of them, from any prince or State with which the said King shall be at war. And if any person of either nation shall take such commissions or letters of marque, he shall be punished as a pirate.” Your, very respectfully, JAMES BUCHANAN.

RW46v23i40p1c5, May 19, 1846: SANTA ANA.

Rather the most singular news which we received from Havana by the T. Street relates to a great sporting affair, which perhaps has come off ere this. It appears that two or three weeks ago some of “the boys” at Matamoras challenged Gen. Santa Ana to fight a main of cocks at that place for $20,000 a side. The General gladly accepted the offer, and was to leave his residence near Havana about the 1st ins., for the scene of the sport. Picayune.
The *Washington Union* says—

The government is "assuming (to use Mr. Madison's celebrated language) the armor and the attitude demanded by the crisis." The President and his cabinet are now actively engaged in organizing its military and naval forces under the recent act of Congress. He is in constant communication with his secretaries, and in frequent consultation, night and day, with his cabinet. Arrangements are making which will be announced in due season; and we entertain little doubt that they will be found satisfactory to the country. The plan of the campaign will develop it.

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**CONGRESS.**

Correspondence of the *Baltimore American*. WASHINGTON, May 15, 1846. **United States Senate.**

An Act in reference to the Useful Arts was reported by Mr. Cameron, and 1,000 extra copies ordered.

A resolution inquiring into the expediency of a General Insolvent Law was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Cameron of Penn., presented the proceedings of a meeting held at the State House Yard, Philadelphia. The State of Penn., Mr. C. said, had 200,000 militia, and 30,000 volunteers, and was ready to meet all the enemies of the country. Penn., he added, will do all her duty for the country. She has heart enough for all friends and iron enough for all her foes.

The proceedings of the great meeting were then read, laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

**MOUNTED REGIMENT OF RIFLEMAN.**

The Bill for raising a regiment of mounted riflemen was called before the Senate upon the question of the consideration of an amendment in regard to the selection of officers.

Mr. Archer desired that the officers should be selected from the Army proper. This was opposed by the favorites hanging around the Executive, who would take all prospect of promotion from the officers of the regular Army. As it now is, an officer could not reach the rank of Colonel until he is 60 years of age. A small chance for a promotion now occurred and an attempt was made to deprive them of the opportunity.

Mr. DIX of N. Y. opposed the views of Mr. Archer, and thought the officers of the Army would not agree with him. He desired to leave the power of appointment with the President, and unrestricted entirely except as he should think proper to choose.

Mr. HOUSTON was also in favor of the amendment, and for allowing the door to be opened for every man to come into the service whom the President might think proper to select. He thought the importance of military education was over estimated. A brave heart determined to do its duty was all that was necessary to accomplish the fighting in battle. The fact that officers were educated at West Point ought not to give them any advantage over others.

Mr. CASS gave an account of the rank and file of the officers of the Army. There were now 7540 men in the Army, and 140 companies. The rank and file of the Standing Army was increased 8000 men by the Bill passed two days since. There are 325 officers in all as the Army, and 62 of these were Brevet Lieutenants. These Brevet Lieutenants were miscalled supernumerary officers. There were ninety-five less officers belonging properly to the Army than were attached to it.

Mr. CRITTENDEN contended that the Army was entitled to the few opportunities that were offered for promotions. A man had to serve in the regular Army until he was 60 years of age before he could die a Colonel. It seemed to him gross injustice to the Army to select the officers from any quarter other than the rank and file of the Army.

Mr. Berrien quoted from an opinion of President Monroe who denied the Constitutional power of the President to select officers otherwise than from the ranks of the Army.

The vote was now taken by yeas and nays, 22 to 22, and the Vice President gave his casting vote against reconsideration, or in favor of giving the President power to select officers for the new regiments from the citizens.

The Bill was returned to the House with the amendment disagreed to requiring the officers to be taken "from the line of the Army."
The INDIAN APPROPRIATION BILL was taken up, and a debate arose upon an amendment giving the Wyandotte Indians $127,000 for their improvements.—The discussion was participated in by Messrs. Evans, Atchison, Corwin and others.

The amendment was Agreed to and the Bill ordered to be engrossed.

A motion was made to take up the Bill repealing the proviso limiting the naval force to 7,500 men, pending which the Senate adjourned, and by a previous motion over to (unreadable).

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Delano of Ohio asked leave to make a personal explanation. Mr. Chapman of Alabama objected. This is the first time that a member has been refused.

Mr. McKay of N. C. moved that the House proceed to the consideration of the public business.

Mr. Daniels asked that the private business should be considered and the motion was carried, by a vote of 74 to 37.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION.

Mr. Delano, by more general consent, was permitted to make a personal explanation.

Mr. D. said he would not abuse the privilege which the House had granted him, and sent at once to the Chair the assault make upon him by Mr. Thurman, of Ohio, in his absence yesterday. The personal extracts were sent to the Chair and read, and Mr. Delano replied.

The charges made against him were altogether groundless, incorrect, and absolutely untrue. He had said that he was willing to lend the entire energies of the Government for the prosecution of the war. He had not called it a Democratic war, but a Presidential war, an illegal and unconstitutional war; nor had he said it was a war against Omnipotence. Mr. E. said he would not be placed in a false position here or any where else. He desired not to be misrepresented, and would not allow himself to be misrepresented.

Mr. Thurman said he was ready to meet his colleague in a matter of responsibility any where he chose, and denied that he had misrepresented his colleague, except where he was not correctly reported, and in applying to him a remark made by Mr. Giddings of Ohio, that the war was one against Omnipotence.

PRIVATE BILLS.

The Private Calendar was then taken up and the bill for the relief of the owners and crew of the schr. [ . . . ] finally passed by a vote of 85 to 82.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on private bills and afterwards adjourned.

RW46v23i40p2c1, May 19, 1846: BRILLIANT TRIUMPH! A Glimpse at the Future.

Our citizens, who had been in a state of the most anxious and painful solicitude with regard to the fate of General Taylor and his gallant little Army, consequent upon our previous advices from the seat of war, were electrified yesterday morning by the glorious tidings which reached us by the Southern mail—tidings which we hastened to spread before our city readers in an extra sheet, and which will be found in our columns this morning.

The details of this splendid achievement are yet vague and indefinite; but no doubt can be entertained of the entire accuracy of the most important and substantial features of the intelligence. It may now, therefore, be safely assumed, we think, notwithstanding the immense disproportion between the opposing forces, that THE ARMY IS SAFE, and that, though inadequate to the purposes of offensive warfare, it is fully able to maintain its position until it shall be reinforced by the thousands of volunteers, who, in all quarters of the Union, are organizing, and preparing to pour like a flood into the Mexican territory, unless, grown wiser by the bloody lesson they have just received, the Mexicans shall promptly sue for peace. Should this be the policy of the Mexican Government, the terms of pacification will be of course dictated by the conqueror; but we hope, notwithstanding recent events, that the requisitions of our Government will be characterized by that magnanimity and generosity, which, while it will secure ample reparation for the past, and security for the future, will reflect more lustre upon our national character than even the most splendid series of triumphs. If, however, under the influence of that fatuity, bordering upon madness, by which her public men seem lately to have acted, Mexico should protract the war until the immense force authorized to be raised by Congress shall cross the frontier, it may well be doubted whether it will be in the power of the governments themselves to prevent her speedy dismemberment, and the "annexation," by the action of her own citizens, combined with the r evolutionary elements which will be introduced into their midst, of some of her border States, to the American Union.
That this is the natural tendency of things, indeed, has long been perceived. The internal tranquility, order, prosperity, and toleration of opinion, civil and religious, existing in the United States, contrasted with the eternal dissentions and revolutions, the poverty, oppression and intolerance prevalent in the Mexican States, must have led necessarily, even in the absence of a warlike collision, the enquiring and reflecting portion of the Mexican population to investigate the causes of these marked differences in the relative condition of the two countries—the more striking the closer the approximation of the two countries, consequent upon the rapid population of the neighboring State of Texas. Indeed, the change that has passed as if by magic, over that State—but yesterday, as it were, a Mexican province, and exhibiting in her tardy growth and in the feeble development of her natural resources the unmistakable impress of Mexican misrule—and now, under a better political system, rapidly filling up with a hardy, industrious and enterprising population, who are bringing into cultivation her gentle soil, opening her ports to foreign commerce and her rivers to internal trade, and filling her vast solitudes with the hum of industry—this rapid and beneficent change, wrought within the brief space of ten years, would of itself have induced the people of the border States of Mexico, at no distant day, to follow in the footsteps of the Texan Revolutionists—to sunder their connection with a Government, (if Government it may be called which changes its principles and its rulers with every change of the moon,) by which all their energies are paralyzed and their prosperity blighted, and to unite themselves to the great Northern Confederation, in which all the guaranties that security to life liberty and property can give, are afforded by its Constitution, and every incentive to industry and enterprize are presented by its laws. With this broad contrast constantly presented to their contemplation, we repeat, it is impossible to doubt that many of the Mexican States, even if peace had been preserved, would, one after another, have thrown off the yoke of the mother country, and united their destinies with ours. And not less certain is it that the war, unless speedily terminated, will facilitate that state of things.

The New York Mirror, in a vein of pleasantry, concealing a deep under current of truth, foreshadows future events, in case of a successful invasion of Mexico by large bodies of American volunteers—many of whom will be mere adventurers, without the ties of home, kindred or interest to draw them back, and who will be strongly tempted, therefore, even in the event of the restoration of peace, to become permanent settlers in the "pleasant land" into which they will be introduced. It requires, indeed, no ghost from the grave to predict the final result, which is playfully glanced at in the following article:

RW46v23i40p2c2, May 19, 1846: The Texan Boundary.

The Washington Union labors as hard to show that the Rio Grande is the true Texan boundary, as it did (unreadable)—the country "54 40" was the Americas line on the Pacific. But if it be so, why did the President, when he first ordered Gen. Taylor to Texas, require him to stop at Corpus Christi, on the river Neuses? Why did he send Mr. Slidell to Mexico to negotiate about the boundary question, if our title to the Rio Grande was so "clear and unquestionable" as not to admit of some doubt? Why did Congress itself, in adopting the resolution admitting Texas into the Union, expressly incorporate in the resolution of annexation a section providing for the future settlement with Mexico, of questions of disputed boundary! Our Government has never claimed a foot of soil West of the Rio Grande—and therefore, if there be any territory in dispute, it must be on this side of that river. Will the Union be good enough to tell us where that disputed territory is, if it be not precisely the positions occupied by Gen. Taylor’s troops at Point Isabel and opposite Matamoros?

Again: The Union tells us that Texas not only claimed all the territory between the Neuces and the Rio Grande, but that, since the annexation of that Republic, the laws of our own Congress have embraced it within our jurisdiction, by authorizing the establishment of a custom-house within its limits. But if that fact establishes our title, how will the Union get rid of some other facts—to wit, that there was a Mexican village and custom-house at Point Isabel when Gen. Taylor’s troops approached that place; that there are Mexicans settlements and Mexican forts on this side the Rio Grande, at other points; that Santa Fe, which our own laws have over and often recognized as a Mexican town, is east of that river—nay, that thousands of Mexicans brave, from time immemorial, resided on this side of the river, while acknowledging allegiance to the Mexican government obeying Mexican laws, and governed by Mexican officers. How, we ask, will the Union get rid of these facts?

What is thought and said upon this subject even by officers of our own Army, may be inferred from a letter written by one of them, which we find in the Newark Daily Advertiser, whom writing from the camp opposite Matamoros, says: “THIS MEXICAN STATE, TAMALIPAS, IN WHICH WE ARE ENCAMPED, is a beautiful and most delightful region.” And he then goes on to describe “the level surface, dotted with cotton and sugar cane fields, interspersed with lovely gardens after the Spanish fashion,” which we suppose were the residences of Mexican, and not American citizens.

The question of boundary will soon be adjusted now, however, by a process more summary than any known to diplomacy. It may be that our title is as good to the Rio Grande in one direction as to "54 40" in another; nor do we mean now to express an opinion upon a point in reference to which we can only speak upon the vaguest possible information. Our only purpose is to show that the boundary line was an unsettled question when the Administration ordered Gen. Taylor to take position upon the extreme limits of the American claim, thereby, forestalling negotiations by taking actual possession of the soil in dispute, and which, being in dispute, we had no more right so to occupy than had Mexico herself. The Union foresees that the Administration is hereafter to be held answerable for this movement, to which unquestionable the origin of the Mexican war is ascribable; and hence its anxiety to pre-occupy the public mind with an erroneous idea.
Reducing the Tariff.

The Union declares "that the existing war with Mexico can constitute no reason for refusing to reduce the tariff." It says: "We have a present surplus of twelve millions of dollars. And the expenditure of less than this sum, we trust, will bring the contest to a speedy and successful termination." And it adds: "Let no member of Congress, therefore, refuse to support the rights of our country abroad, from any panic anticipation that it will arrest the reduction of the tariff. Far from it! We must do our duty in both ways, boldly and unhesitatingly. Now is the time to strike against the tariff system." Heard every sensible people the like of this? "Now is the time to strike against the Tariff!!—Alexandria Gazette.

We marvel that our shrewd friend of the Gazette should express any surprise at the position assumed on this question by the Executive organ. According to the dogmas of the last Treasury Report, the Union is unquestionable right.—Secretary Walker urges a reduction of duties in order to increase the revenue; and, if an augmentation of the resources of the government will be the effect of the reduced duties, no one can question that "now is the time to strike against the tariff." And while, we confess, we do not put as much faith in Mr. Walker’s sagacity as some others do, and certainly have strong doubts of the correctness of this particular position, yet, under the circumstances, we thin, the “experiment” in at least worth the trial. Let us see;

Last year, the expenses of the government were in round numbers, $30,000,000
And the following "extraordinaries" are, according to a correspondent of the New York Herald, to be added to those of the present year, to wit, For the prosecution of the war with Mexico
Increase of the army $2,500,000
Two regiments of dragoons 1,000,000
Army of occupation, thus far, of three thousand men, &c. 500,000
Thenavy in the Gulf 1,000,000
Fortifications (probable) extra 4,000,000
Contingent expenses 1,000,000
Making a total of $50,000,000

It is manifest, therefore, that Mr. Walker will require all the money he can raise, from the legitimate sources of revenue, to make buckle and tongue meet; and as he says, and his friends repeat, that diminished duties will swell the receipts from customs, those who concur in that opinion ought by all means to give him just such a "revenue tariff" as he desires. We venture the prediction, if a majority of Congress shall do so, however, that the Treasury, at the close of Mr. Polk’s term, will be even more deeply in debt than it was when the Whigs went into power in 1841, and by the Tariff enacted in 1842 provided the means of paying off its outstanding debts of redeeming its millions of outstanding Treasury Notes, and restoring its credit, which had sunk so low that even the gamblers in Stocks in all of the money marts of Europe or America refused to touch its dishonored paper.

Yet, Secretary Walker and his friends are responsible—and we are giving them rope, if they think proper to incur the hazards against which past experiences so eloquently warns them. This is certainly a favorable period to test their experiment; and, if they have the nerve to try it, we, for one, bid them "go ahead!"

From the New York Mirror.

"THE TRUE MEANING OF THE TERM 'ARMY OF OCCUPATION'—The Morning news is in distress and perplexity as to the future movement of the President, and asks in despair, 'What next? What is to be done with the vast army of 50,000,' for the maintenance of which it speaks of the 'insignificant little sum' of ten millions as utterly contemptible. The sum certainly a small enough if the army is to be carried to Mexico and brought back again; but is the latter step necessary or desirable? Does not Mexico, the land of the sun—where the naked sky is a better shelter than half the roofs of the bleak north, and where the least possible digging produces the largest imaginable tortillas—where wives are faithful, and the men some of the best natured fellows in the world—does not Mexico—not a 10th part peopled or cultivated—offer many inducements to a residence? Certainly it does; and of the 50,000, or 500,000 gallant fellows who will go there as an army of occupation, not one in a hundred will ever come back again, and they won't be shot either. Give a Yankee a foothold and if it is worth holding he will keep it. His government will never be able to recall him, his General won't want him when the war is over; he will stay, dig, cultivate, get married, and trade. He will then revolutionize the land, and it will be impossible not to annex him when he desires it. The whole present Mexican system is utterly rotten. The land is uncultivated, commerce there is none, one of the finest cotton regions in the world runs to waste, the people are literally slaves to the landed proprietors, and utterly miserable; the different
military despotisms one after the other are nuisances; the mines of the country are already in the hand of foreigners—
the land is an inevitable prey to the first comer, and Jonathan is the man. It might be wished that the Mexicans
were a stronger race with greater industry and the power of preserving an honorable nationality, but wishers will
avail nothing against facts. As surely as that the white man on this Atlanta frontier was destined to be the successor
of the Indian by superiority of race, as surely must the vigor and industry of the United States succeeded to the
feebleness of the present native of Mexico. As it is, the Yankee foothold in that region is neither feeble nor
unfrequent. The traveller from Vera Cruz to Mexico performs the journey in Troy coaches, and the stone of which the
custom house of the former city is built came from Quincy, Massachusetts. Waddy Thompson in his new book on
Mexico, has a hundred such telling anecdotes. In view of these things we would make one suggestion to the War
Department—to incorporate alongside of the new company of sappers and miners, a body of (remainder unreadable).

We have received a copy of a "POETICAL SERMON," by Wm. Thurman, very neatly printed, and also a copy of a
poetical essay on "OREGON," from the same pen—which may be obtained of the author, and at the book stores in
this city. Mr. Thurman is a highly respectable and deserving gentleman—and, although we have met with better
poetry than his, yet his publications are worth the price he asks for them, to while away an idle hour.

The Enquirer proposed the immediate formation of a Legion, to be composed of eight full companies of Infantry, four
of Artillery and four of Riflemen, to be called "the Virginia Legion," to offer its services to the President for the
invasion of Mexico. Should the war be protracted, we cheerfully "second the motion," though there is some reason
now to hope that there will be no necessity for carrying it into execution. The Mexicans defeated in their first battle,
under circumstances so advantageous to them, will scarcely hesitate to sue for peace, upon our own terms when her
government hears of the formidable preparations in progress in this country.

The last New Orleans papers inform us that a uniformed corps in that city, known as "The Legion," had twice offered
its services to the Governor of Louisiana. The first proffer was declined, and to the second no answer had been
returned. The Tropic expresses its surprise that the services of a corps well disciplined and well equipped should
have been refused, especially when there was so much difficulty in obtaining volunteers as to render a draft
necessary.

The enlistment of Volunteers was still progressing in New Orleans. We learn from the Tropic that Senator mark's
regiment, (called the Jackson regiment) is fully organized. Samuel F. Marks was elected Colonel Theodore P. Hunt
Lieutenant Colonel, and—Fowler, late of the U. S. Army, Major. Senator Marks, who has resigned his seat in the
Legislature of Louisiana, for the purpose of going to Gen. Taylor's relief, distinguished himself in the Florida
campaign.

A company of 60 rank and file, from Natchez, had been organized, and was hourly expected at New Orleans; and
other companies were rapidly filling up in the Mississippi counties adjacent to that city.

Amid the exciting news from Mexico, we had forgotten to acknowledge a number of editorial presents recently sent
us. Mr. Joniah L. Woodson favored us a few days since, with a bottle of his excellent wine, vintage 1836, and
proceeded from Virginia grapes grown on his land. We had frequently hears of the superior quality of this wine, in it
pure state; but Mr. Woodson's kindness has enabled us to speak understandingly on the subject of wine-making in
the neighborhood of Richmond. Mr. W., like several other enterprising gentlemen near this city, has given the best
evidence of what can be produced from the grape on Virginia soil. There will be but little occasion to send abroad for
grapes since, if all who undertake vineyards in this region [ . . . ] be as successful, in making wine, as Mr. W.

That Dozen of Porter!" We almost fear that our readers may think us fond of "drinkables," if we continue to
acknowledge the receipt of such excellent wine and porter as have been lately sent. We are indebted to Mr. Archie Reath for a dozen "quarts" of his popular porter. Mr. R. had extensive arrangements at his establishment, under Messrs. Ratcliffe and Taylor's Store, for bottling porter and furnishing it to the citizens. Those who are fond of that beverage can be supplied with porter either in pint or quart bottles on reasonable terms. Mr. R., we believe, has a vehicle always ready to convey his porter to any part of the city.

_Turtle Soup_—The season for enjoying Turtle Soup has just commenced, and the enterprising conductors of the City Restaurants are already vieing with each other in serving up such delicacies of the season. Friend Smith of the Republican and ourself dropped in at "Our House," (Thompson's) yesterday, where we found a savoury bowl in readiness for us, and which we, as the saying is, "walked right into." We pronounced it rich and well flavored—such as no lover of good things could turn up his nose at.

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RW46v23i40p2c5, May 19, 1846: Daily Advertiser-Extra, Mobile, Tuesday, May 12, 10½ o'clock.

LATER FROM THE ARMY.
Arrival of the Steamship _New York_.

GLORIOUS NEWS!
Point Isabel Relieved! Matamoras reduced to Ashes! The American Army Triumphant!! 700 Mexicans Killed! A general Blockade of the Mexican Ports Ordered!!

After a painful suspense of several days, news reached us of a blow being struck by the Americans. The prowess of our brave soldiers has made the perfidious Mexicans bite the dust. The serpent of the Mexicans arms, now withes in death agony under the American Eagle. Victory perches upon our banner! Honor to Major Ringgold of the 3d Artillery, and his brave companions for their defence of the American camp. Cheers, none times nine, for our country, and its free institutions!!!

[From the N. O. _Commercial Times_]

It is with feelings of heartfelt gratitude and the deepest satisfaction, that we take up our pen in record the brilliant result of the first great blow struck by Gen. Taylor and his glorious little army. The fame of the American arms has been signaly vindicated. With an inferiority of forces as disproportionate as to have caused the deepest anxiety for Gen. Taylor and his gallant band, they have gained a great, a glorious, a noble, a most triumphant victory. Seven hundred Mexicans were left dead on the field of battle—Matamoras is reduced to ashes—Point Isabel is relieved. Such are the immediate results of this magnificent exploit.

The reception of this gratifying news will cause the national pulse to vibrate, from one extremity of the Union to the other. The thunder of the artillery which was fired last evening, in honor of this gallant achievement, will roll, responsively, from State to State—from city to city—from village to village—from hamlet to hamlet—until it reverberates from the rock girt cliffs of Maine, and the mountains of Vermont echoing a Nation's gratitude.

"The battle is not to the strong, nor the race to the swift." An overruling Providence has mercifully preserved our little army, apparently devoted to destruction, and scattered the Mexican host like chaff before the wind.

[BWP]

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RW46v23i40p2c4, May 19, 1846: Congress.

Correspondence of the _Baltimore American_.

WASHINGTON, May 16.

Senate not in session.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Daniel of N. C. offered a resolution this morning that the members absent during the session in committee of the whole should have their per diem deducted, except in giving good excuse to the Speaker for such absence, and that eight dollars should be deducted every time they are absent during a call of the roll in Committee of the Whole.

The Resolution being objected to, a motion was made to suspend the Rules. The yeas and nays were ordered and the motion lost, yeas 72, nays 70 – not two thirds.
REGIMENT OF MOUNTED RIFLEMEN.

This bill was before the House upon the question of concurring with the Senate, or receding from the amendment requiring the officers to be selected “from the line of the army.” The Previous Question was moved, and the House receded from its amendment by a vote of 96 to 67.

Mr. King, of Ga., offered a Resolution, agreed to by the House, calling for the number of Revenue vessels in the public service, and the forces employed in these vessels.

A resolution of inquiry in relation to the sums of money paid to Wm. M. Blackford and Benj. B. Green, acting as Chargés des Affaires, with a view of acting upon claims received by them, was also adopted.

Mr. C.J. INGERSOLL moved for the printing of 10,000 extra copies of the Message of the President and accompanying correspondence upon the subject of our relations with Mexico.

PRIVATE BILLS

The House then went into Committee of the Whole upon the private calendar. A bill for the relief of Commodore Jones, allowing $1500 for presents paid to the inhabitants of the South Sea Islands, with whom a treaty was negotiated, was passed.

The balance of the day was given to private bills but not one was passed, and the House adjourned at an early hour.

From the N.O. Tropic, May 11
Later from the Army of Occupation

A BATTLE REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN FOUGHT!

We have been favored by a mercantile friend, with the perusal of a letter from Capt. Shipman, of the steam propeller “James Cage,” from which we have been kindly permitted to make the following extracts, which appear to give a clearer and more explicit statement in reference to the capture of Capt. Walker’s Company of Texan Rangers – the state of affairs at Point Isabel – the strength of the Mexican force, &c., than was received by the Ellen Clara.

EXTRACTS.

BRAZOS SANTIAGO,
April 29th, 1846.

“Yesterday a party of Texan Rangers went out to (unreadable), and they were surrounded about seven miles from camp by a strong force and were all cut up except three, and those made out to get back to tell the tale.”

“There are about sixty soldiers at Point Isabel, with about 300 Quarter Master’s men, such as teamsters and along-shore-men.”

Volunteer Meeting.

A large and enthusiastic meeting was held this morning (Friday, the 15th,) at the Military Hall, for the purpose of organizing a volunteer corps to aid in defence of Texas. The meeting was addressed by E. C. Carrington in a spirited manner. The meeting then adjourned to the room of one of its members, and Mr. John D. Warren having been called to the Chair, he explained the intention of the meeting, that its object was to get a sufficient number of volunteers, and proceed as early as possible to its organization.

The requisite number being soon enrolled, the meeting, proceeded to the election of officers. Mr. Edward C.
Carrington was unanimously elected Captain of the Company; Mr. G. A. Porterfield, 1st Lieutenant; Mr. Carlton Munford, 2d Lieutenant; Mr. John D. Warren; 3d Lieutenant and Mr. Thomas G. McKenzie, 4th Lieutenant; Hermon Carlton, 1st Orderly Sergeant, and I. Richard Lewellen Colour Sergeant.

The meeting then adjourned, to meet again at the Exchange Concert Room at eight o'clock.

The meeting then proceeded to the appointment of a committee to draft constitution, and to perform such other duties as may be requisite to complete the organization of the corps.

On motion the meeting then adjourned.

E. C. CARRINGTON, Pres't.

HERMON CARLTON, Sec'y.

[In compliance with a resolution, in the above proceedings, Capt. Carrington and Lieutenant Warren left this city for Washington on Saturday morning last, with a view of tendering to the General Government the services of this new and spirited corps of volunteers.]

WASHINGTON, May 17, 5½ P.M.

LAST EVENING'S MAIL.

Correspondence of the Baltimore American

Washington, May 17, 5½ P.M.

The public meeting held last evening to raise a company of volunteers for Mexico was wanting in public spirit, though pretty well attended. Colonel Johnson presided and spoke briefly. Three members of the House of Representatives also spoke, Messrs. Martin and Stanton of Tenn. and Mr. McConnell of Ala. A Mr. St. John of Buffalo, and Lieutenant Porter of the Navy also addressed the meeting, the latter with some touching allusions to his brother Lieutenant Porter of the Army, who had been killed upon the frontier by a party of Mexicans. He had received, he said, as the sole bequest of his father, a sword, with which he would avenge his brother's blood or die in the attempt to do so; and from his Spartan mother a letter which told him to come not to her, but to go where his brother fell to avenge his death and defend his country. There were 35 names down for volunteers when the meeting broke up; another meeting will be held to-morrow. On Wednesday, it is expected that a full company will be obtained, and their services will be at once tendered to and accepted by the President.

We were not surprised, of course when we received the Proclamation of the President, announcing the existence of, War between the United States and Mexico; because that document is the legitimate and necessary consequence of the affirmation of that fact by Congress. And it is precisely for this reason, and not because we are not in favor of the adoption of the most vigorous and efficient measures for the repulse of the Mexicans, and, if need be, for their summary and severe chastisement, that we regret the failure of the efforts of Messrs. Calhoun, Berrien and others to procure a modification of the phraseology of that statute. We are entirely persuaded, that, independent altogether of the controversy between Mexico and the United States, growing out of the annexation of Texas, we have causes of complaint against the government of that country sufficient of themselves to justify a resort to arms for redress. And were it not for those considerations which address themselves to our magnanimity as far the more powerful nation, and to our sympathies as the older sister of the family of Republics upon this continent (how little soever some of the old Spanish colonies my deserve this appellation,) we should have deemed it altogether justifiable, years ago, had our Government resorted to the ultima ratio, as the only means apparently left them, to obtain indemnity for the past and security for the future. But, what we regret and condemn is, the assumption that "by the act of the Republic of Mexico, War exists," when we do not know that to be the fact, and when it may turn out that the act complained of was unauthorized by the Government of that country, and my be disavowed; which, would render a resort to war, solely on that account – and that is the only pretext for it now – not only unwise, but unjustifiable. Had the law of Congress been so modified, as to authorize the employment of our forces in repelling the hostile acts of the Mexican Commander, and in guarding against their repetition, until time had been afforded to the Mexican Government either to avow or to disavow its responsibility for his conduct – or until other facts had occurred, leaving no doubt of its intention, without a previous declaration of its purpose, to make war upon us – it would have been all-sufficient for the emergency, and would have averted obstacles to a restoration of pacific relations, which may now prove insuperable, In other words, it might have prevented a War,
the existence of which is now officially proclaimed, and the end of which the man does not live who has the prescience to foretell; for it is a trite remark that a straw may light a blaze which may result in the conflagration of a city. We do not, of course, mean that in a contest with the imbecile Mexicans, we shall sustain any material injury from their assaults; but if other nations should stand aloof from it altogether, we may be tempted into a war of conquest and annexation, which in the end may be far more disastrous than even defeat itself.

But we will not attempt to lift the curtain which hangs over the future. "Sufficient for the day."

RW46v23i40p4c1, May 19, 1846: Volunteers from Richmond.

An immense crowd assembled at the City Hall last Thursday evening, in conformity with a notice published in the papers of that morning, with a view of facilitating the organization of one or more companies of volunteers, for the Mexican campaign. After its organization, the meeting was addressed successively by Messrs. Edward Carrington, Jr., Gen. Edward C. Carrington, Robert G. Scott and John D. Munford; but, owing to the wretched construction of the Hall, we found it impossible, in the out-skirts of the crowd, to hear a sentence that was uttered. From the frequent plaudits, however, of those who were near the speaker, we take it for granted that what they said was worthy of the theme. After various unsuccessful efforts to induce the meeting to adjourn to the Capitol Square, a movement from the Hall was effected about 10 o’clock—and Capt. Charles Dimmock, responding to the repeated calls of the meeting, took a position on the steps of the City Hall fronting the Capitol, and addressed it in a brief, but pertinent and thrilling manner, eliciting frequent bursts of applause. No effort that we are aware of, was made, during the evening, to add to the number who, we learn, had previously enrolled their names. Yesterday, the strains of martial music were heard in our streets, through which the volunteers paraded. We do not know what is their present number, but we do not question, should the demand for their services continue, about which there may well be some doubt, that Richmond, as well as other sections of Virginia, will send to the field of battle its full quota of volunteers—soldiers, who like the Spartan boy, will return "with their shields or upon them."

We inadvertently neglected to mention, yesterday, that Capt. Thomas H. Ellis’s Artillery Company, which some months since, when war with Mexico was apprehended, tendered its services to the General Government, is still ready to obey a summons to the field. We hope, however—unless they prefer a tour to Mexico—that, in the event of their services being needed, the Government may find for them a more pleasant location, nearer home—we mean Old Point, which the U.S. troops at that place having all been ordered to the seat of war, will be without a garrison, unless their place be supplied by volunteers. We perceive that a Baltimore Regiment has offered its services to the War Department, to garrison Fort McHenry during the absence of the regulars, who have been sent thence to the frontier.

Since the foregoing was in type, we learn that one Company of Volunteers has been organized—of which Edward Carrington, Jr. has been elected Captain; George Porterfield, 1st lieutenant; and Carlton Munford, 2nd Lieutenant.

RW46v23i40p4c2, May 19, 1846: No title.

A War-Horse and a magnificent piece of plate has been presented by a number of the citizens of New Orleans to Capt. Henry Forno,—the commander of one of the Companies of Louisiana Volunteers, which, under Gen. Gaines’s requisition, marched to the aid of Gen. Taylor some months ago, and who has again actively taken the field.

RW46v23i40p4c2, May 19, 1846: No title.

The Charleston Mercury replies, with some warmth, to the recent attack upon it, by the Washington Union. It regard the attack, however, as designed not for itself, but for Mr. Calhoun,—the time to begin a war upon that gentleman and his friends having arrived. The Mercury promises to shiver a lance in their defense; and its assailants have reason to dread the force of its blows. We shall watch with interest the progress of the battle between these organs of the rival factions.

RW46v23i40p4c1, May 19, 1846: No title.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Globe (Loco) says, it is the general impression in Washington that the Secretaries of the Navy and War will retire from the Cabinet—and adds, “their retirement will meet the
unanimous response of Congress and the country."

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**RW46v23i40p4c1, May 19, 1846: Destiny of Mexico.**

The Mexican correspondent of the London Times, to whose interesting communications we have heretofore referred, in his letter of February 28th, expresses the opinion that Mexico will be ultimately absorbed by the United States and that Great Britain will be so much the gainer by that, event, that she ought rather to desire than to deprecate it. He argues this point at some length, but we have no room for his speculations this morning—one of which is the dissolution of the American Union as a consequence of this expansion of territory—a fierce rivalry between its Northern and Southern Republics, settling down at last into bitter hostility—and Great Britain holding the balance of power and acting as umpire between them, and profiting by their dissensions. A half-century, he predicts, will witness the fulfillment of his prophecy.

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**RW46v23i40p4c1, May 19, 1846: Shadows of Coming Events!**

We find the following paragraph in the last New Orleans Tropic—which no one need be at a loss to interpret. It may be more difficult to arrest the War, once begun, than those who begin it dream of. Ambition and Avarice will look for its rewards, as well as Revenge for its gratification:

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**RW46v23i40p4c1, May 19, 1846: Trouble Ahead for Mexico.**

We were talking yesterday with an officer of one of our volunteer corps, and he informed us that there was not a man in his regiment that knew anything about Geography, of any difference between the soils East or West of the Rio Grande. We hear of new Republics spoken of in Mexico, and we saw two candidates for Governors for these new Republics. The events of the future open with singular magnificence.

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**RW46v23i40p4c1, May 19, 1846: No title.**

The Norfolk Herald of the 14th just states that three Companies have been ordered from Fortress Monroe, to repair forthwith to the assistance of Gen. Taylor, and that they are to be joined by two Companies from Baltimore.

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**RW46v23i40p4c2, May 19, 1846: New Orleans, May 8. From Galveston.**

The steamship Telegraph Capt. Auld, arrived at an early hour yesterday morning from Galveston, having left there on Sunday 3rd inst. The news she brought we did not deem of sufficient interest to delay the publication of our paper.

We regret to say that the steamboat I left Galveston for Brazos Santiago with only sixteen volunteers on board. The people were waiting further orders from the Governor before enrolling themselves. The steamboat Col. Harney had not left Galveston when the Telegraph sailed.

The Telegraph met the New York within 50 miles of Galveston Sunday afternoon. We look for the early return of the New York with later news from the army. The Telegraph encountered a heavy gale on her voyage hither, with a heavy sea from the eastward. During the height of the storm a female passenger on board gave birth to a fine boy—Picayune.

Rumor of Privateers—We heard last evening that an affidavit had been made before Judge McCaleb, of the U.S. District Court, to the effect that vessels in this port were about preparing to sail as privateers against American commerce. This rumor may be true or not, but it certainly becomes the officers of our customs to be on the alert.
So important are the principles of the recent Debate in the Senate, and the consequences involved in the action, that we deem no apology necessary for occupying so much space with it. The reader can not fail to peruse it with deep interest.

Mr. HOUSTON rose and said, that he did not wish to trespass on the time of the Senate; but he rose simply for the purpose of expressing his apprehensions in relation to their position with regard to Mexico. He contended that they were actually in the state of War, that war had virtually existed for the years between Mexico and Texas, that Texas had been annexed on the face of a declaration on the part of Mexico that she would regard it as an act of war. The United States in annexing Texas had assumed the responsibility that devolved upon Texas antecedent to that event. It was only in accordance with the long-continued declarations of Mexico that the recent outrages had been committed upon the troops of the United States, and upon that territory from which Mexico had insolently ordered the citizens of Texas as invaders and rebels. The United States, he argued, now occupied towards Mexico precisely the same attitude which the State of Texas had maintained for the last ten years. On his conscience he could not resist the convictions that war actually existed. He then went on to point out the folly and danger of delaying proper action till the questions as to a formal declaration of war should be decided. That might be discussed for months in that chamber, whilst their trips, exposed to all the rigors of a southern climate, were doomed to inactivity, and daily wasting away. He eloquently contended that Mexico should be chastised at once for her outrages and insolence, and showed that Mexico had no right to the territory on this side of the Rio Grande—that she held no post on it—and that the invasion was evidently sanctioned by the Mexican government—a government against whose dishonorable course and habitual deception, he warned the Senate. He did not regard the Mexican government as a systematic political organization at all. The Mexican people were kind, generous, and hospitable, but they were ruled with a rod of iron by a set of tyrants, brigands, usurpers and land pirates. This people, if left to themselves, would never desire nor go to war with this country. The men that are brought into the field against the United States would rather stay at home, and it was not they but their drivers, who had offered insult to American citizens, and indignity to the American flag. The Mexicans, then, had committed aggression under order of their rulers, and he would ask, If they had not produced a stat of things in which as perfectly existing as it would be after its declaration by that honorable body? The declaration by Texas of war was clear and emphatic, add her action was correspondent; and the question now was, whether the Senate of the United States would sustain them. He did not wish to waste the time of the Senate, but he could not omit giving his opinion that war existed. He would vote for the bill.

Mr. MANGUM arose and said, the evidence given by the Senator from Texas, in the course of his remarks of the existence of war, was not the American idea, nor did it agree with the views taken by senators, in the debates which occurred in the second session of the Congress of the United States; and it seemed not to be the idea of those who held political power in this country now. It would be recollected well, that in the discussions on the Texas question, there was nothing which seemed in the opinion of that body, as so much to be repudiated and shunned, as the most distant possibility of this country being involved in war through annexation. And, he apprehended, it was not the opinion of the Mexican government. He thought the proclamation which had been translated by the honorable senator from Missouri [Mr. Benton] was conclusive on the point. Did not the head of the Mexican government assume that there was peace between the two countries?—He disclaimed the power of the executive head to put Mexico into a state of war with the United States, and refers to the assembling of Congress at that period when war was to be declared. With the views of the Senate, then, he had offered those of the Mexican government, to which might be added the opinions of the highest political characters in the nation, that war had not existed by virtue of those acts of hostility committed on the Rio Grande. The question, then, was reduced to the inquiry, whether, from the existence of a state of war. There was no need of repeating that war was the emanation of the will of the sovereign power. He would thank the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations to say in what document (for he, of course, had read them all) was the evidence contained that the sovereign power of Mexico had assented to a state of war. If there was any such evidence, he [Mr. M.] was uniformed of it. But he had arisen for the purpose of asking his friend from Delaware to withdraw his motion to strike out and insert, because in that form the question was indivisible; but if it were drawn in the form “to strike out,” the modification might be in any form to suit the sense of the Senate. And he was frank enough to say, that although utterly repugnant to the thought of considering the country in a state of war, yet he was prepared, if it were thought expedient, that the Executive should determine the question and if Mexico should make no denial by the Mexican Government of a state of war—that the Executive should set in that state of things, and not confine the American Troops to the left bank of the Rio Grande. He knew the inefficiency of an army under such circumstances. But suppose there should be a disavowal of what has occurred by the Mexican government, in what a predicament should they place themselves by recognizing the existence of war now, which would be to all intents and purposes a declaration of war. But if such a state of thins as the want of a disavowal by Mexico or a continuance of our relations as they are, then the American troops shall pass the boundary, and, if it be necessary, march to the seat of empire, and there dictate peace; and they were willing to provide money and men for that purpose. He hoped his honorable friend would withdraw his amendment; and if it should be the sense of the Senate to strike out, that it adopt some form to answer all purposes.

Mr. ARCHER continued to say, that on yesterday he spoke of war not existing DE JURE, or in the legal acception of the term; but a state of WAR DE FACTO did exist; and the question to be presented, in a few days, would be, were they prepared to make that war WAR DE FACTO a war DE JURE? He would vote for the motion of the honorable Senator from Delaware, to strike out the word “war,” but he could not do so without that avowal of his opinion to go before the people of the United States. He was waiting to wait for advises from Mexico, and learn what was to be the termination of the present state of things; and if it was to be war, he was for prosecuting it with promptitude and energy. He would not consent that any officer, military or civil, of the United States, should make blockades, throw up fortifications in sight of a foreign nation, and exercise, in truth, all the powers of war, and impose all its expenses, all its commitments, with foreign nations. In that state of thins he would not consent unless it got a legal coloring from the United States. The Senators on the other side, in this view of the question, and for
Mr. CASS said: I do not rise to detain the Senate long, nor to enter into any protracted discussion of the subject now under consideration. I have but little to say, and I shall say that speedily. In the first place, sir, I desire to answer the appeal which has been made to this side of the chamber by the Hon. Senator from Delaware, [Mr. J. M. Clayton.] He desires that portion of the bill which asserts the existence of a ware between the U. States and Mexico, brought on by the aggression of the latter, should be passed by for the present, and that we should now confine ourselves to a consideration of the measures necessary for the defense of the country. For my own part, I should be happy to take the course indicated by the Senator from Delaware, and which he asks us to adopt, were I not prevented from doing so by higher considerations. If we appropriate money and raise men for the mere purpose of repelling an invasion, we place ourselves in the very position which the honorable Senator from S. Carolina, [Mr. Calhoun,] deemed yesterday the proper on, and to which I then expressed, and yet feel, insuperable objections. A Mexican army is upon our soil. Are we to confine our efforts to repelling them? Are we to drive them to the border, and then stop our pursuit, and allow them to find a refuge in their own territory? And what then? To collect again to cross our frontier at some other point, and again to renew the same scenes, to be followed by a similar immunity? What sort of condition of thing would this be, sir? The advantage would be altogether on the side of the Mexicans, while the loss would be altogether ours. Their army is maintained at any rate, and it would cost them little more to renew and continue these border contests than to keep their troops in their cantonments, while we must spend troops along our border, and hold them in readiness to meet these invasions at whatever point they may be attempted. Now, sir, no vote of mine shall place my country in this situation. And beside, these Mexican hostilities will not be confined to operations by land. Are we to suffer their privateers to spread themselves over the ocean, to capture our sailors and vessels, and to ruin our commerce? This state of things, I, for one, am disposed to meet with promptitude and energy. Mexico has attacked the United States – has placed herself in a belligerent attitude. And now let her take the consequences of her own aggression. For these reasons, sir, while we provide for the defense of the country, I am for making the defense effectual by not only driving off the enemy, but by following them into their own territory, and by dictating a peace even in the capital, if it be necessary. But, sir, why does the honorable senator from Delaware ask the separation, and request us to postpone our decision upon the relative condition of this country and Mexico, while we provide only for driving the invaders from our soil? He says, sir, that he desires time to examine the documents which the President has submitted to us, before he can decide whether there is a state of war between the United States and Mexico. I cannot conceive, sir, that any delay can be necessary for this purpose. The main facts are indisputable. They are before the Senate, before the country, and before the world. A Mexican army has passed our boundary, and is now upon the soil of the republic. Our troops have been attacked, captured, and killed. Our army is surrounded, and efforts are making to subdue them. Now, sir, no documents are necessary to establish these facts; and these facts, it seems to me, are all that can be necessary to justify the statement of the President of the existence of the war, and our concurrence in his recommendation. If, indeed, the object be to examine the conduct of the executive, to ascertain whether this condition of things is to be attributed to him, then, undoubtedly, a careful examination of the documents would be necessary. And from indications already given, I presume that such an investigation will be entered upon. For one, I am prepared to enter into it, and I will venture to predict that the more severe it is, the more triumphant for the administration will be the result. But that subject may well give way to this. Let us postpone that inquiry till we are provided for the defense of the country and the vindication of our honor. That course seems to me to be equally indicated by duty, by policy, and by patriotism. And now, sir, permit me to advert to another branch of this subject. Strange doctrines have been heard yesterday and today, such as have been presented, neither by the history of our own country, nor that of any other. Among those who oppose the course of the executive, there seems to be an important difference of opinion on some of the principles which should regulate our conduct. By some it is contended that the invasion of the Mexican army is not an act of war, because we have no proof that it was committed by the order of the Mexican government. While others, and among them the distinguished senator from South Carolina, maintain, that an act of another company

[Illegible] ... This to me sir, is a new division of the principle of inter-communication between different countries. War I understand, and peace I understand, and the rights and duties which they bring with them. But a state of hostilities, as contradistinguished from them relations, is a new chapter in the law of nations to me. Our constitution is equally silent upon the subject. I supposed, heretofore; that if we were not at peace with a country we were at war with it. I had to learn that there was an intermediate state creating new rights and duties which I am afraid it will be difficult to find unless a new Gratis starts up upon the occasion. The Senator from Missouri [Mr. Benton] has correctly stated that there may be war with out hostilities, and hostilities without war. Belligerent operations may be temporarily suspended, and there may be acts of aggression, which may be called hostilities, which may be committed without the authority of a government. Reencounters, for instance, between ships-of-war, or predatory incursions across the boundary of a country. But there can be no hostilities undertaken by a government which do not constitute a state of war. War is a fact, sir, created by an effort made by one nation to injure another. One party may make a war, though it requires two parties to make a peace. The Senator from South Carolina contends that as Congress alone have a right by the constitution to declare ware, therefore there can be no war until it is thus declared. There is here a very obvious error. It is certain that Congress alone has the right to declare war. There is no other authority in the U. States, which, on our part can change the relations of peace with another country into those of war. No authority but Congress can commence an aggressive war. But another country can commence a war against us without the co-operation of Congress. Another country can at its pleasure, terminate the relations of peace with us, and substitute for these the relations of war with their legitimate consequences. War may be commenced with or without a previous declaration. It may be commenced by a manifesto announcing the fact to the world, or by hostile attacks by land or sea. The honorable senator from Virginia [Mr. Pennybacker,] has well stated the modern practice of nations upon this subject. He has referred both to facts and authorities showing that acts of hostility with or without a public declaration constitute a state of war. It was thus the war of 1756 was commenced. It was thus, I believe was commenced the war between England and France during our revolution. The peace of Amiens was terminated by an act of hostility, and not by a public manifest. The capture of the Danish fleet was preceded by no declaration of the intentions of the British government. Our own war of 1812 was declared on the
18th of June. The Manifesto of the prince regent declaring war against us, was not issued till January 10th, 1813. And the continent is an unerring indication of what they apprehended and what they design. We have but one safe course. The political principles which are there practically adopted. This new doctrine of a balance of power on the American and aristocratical governments of the old world. Our condition and progress are a standing reproach to many of the representatives of a great and spirited people, we shall furnish a lesson to the world which will be profitable most important crisis in this history of this country—a crisis which, perhaps, to affect our character and our destiny onward till they reach the frontiers of Louisiana, or till we receive such a formal certificate of the intentions of the army may be unauthorized; and they demand of us, what would be the condition of the two countries if such should aggression would be considered acts of war. Honorable senators have said that this act of invasion by the Mexican government. They have withdrawn their minister from the United States, and broken off all diplomatic relations with us. They have refused to recognize, and have treated with contumely our minister charged with full powers to adjust all matter in dispute, and whom they solemnly promised to receive.—They have collected an army upon our frontier, and have sent to assume its command one of the first military officers in the republic. He summoned General Taylor to retire, or that war would immediately commence. His summons being disregarded, he commenced the war by crossing in force into our territory, by attacking our troops and by surrounding our army. Now, sir, I appeal to every senator on the other side of the chamber, if he does not believe that all this has been done by order of the Mexican government. I presume there is not a man within the sound of my voice who will not say that, in his opinion, the Mexican general has acted under the direct instructions of the Mexican government. And are we now to be told, sir, that we must sit still till we ascertain whether his acts have been approved or disclaimed? No, sir. A hostile army is in our country; our frontier has been penetrated; a foreign banner floats over the soil of the republic; our citizens have been killed, while defending their country; a great blow has been aimed at us; and while we are talking for evidence it may have been struck, and our army been annihilated. And what then? The triumphant Mexicans will march onward till they reach the frontiers of Louisiana, or till we receive such a formal certificate of the intentions of the Mexican government as will unite us in a determination to recognize the existence of the war, and to take the necessary measures to prosecute it with vigor. It has indeed been suggested that acts of hostility to constitute a state of war must be directed by the legitimate authority of their country; and if not constitutional at home, they cannot be operative abroad. This is not the least strange among the strange principles we have heard advanced today. What have we to do with the constitution of Mexico? What have we to do with the powers of her President, or of her Congress? It is not for us to stop in the midst of our deliberations to turn over the pages of the last so called constitution of Mexico, and to seek how the powers of government are divided among its various functionaries, nor to inquire what is the last pronunciamento; or who is the present dictator of that unhappy country. The changes, both of authority and authorities, are so rapid that it is difficult to keep pace with them. Whoever directs the military power of the Mexican government against us is, for our purposes, the representative of the Mexican nation. Whether he has attained that power by usurpation, by false construction, or by an exercise of legitimate authority the responsibility of his country is the same. If a fleet of the United States should, by order of the President, bombard and English town, or commit any other act of aggression, certainly we should be held responsible; and such acts of aggression would be considered acts of war. Honorable senators have said that this act of invasion by the Mexican army may be unauthorized; and they demand of us, what would be the condition of the two countries if such should turn out to be the fact? Why, sir, the answer is equally clear and easy. If the Mexican government should disavow the act of invasion, and make proper satisfaction for the injuries done, peace would be immediately restored. But until this done, we have only to accept the state of war which is offered to us, and act accordingly. I have no doubt but the boundary of Texas goes to the Rio del Norte. But I do not place the justification of our government upon any question of title. Granting that the Mexicans have a claim to that country as well as we, still the nature of the aggression is not changed. We were in the possession of the country. A possession obtained without conflict. And we could not be divested of this possession but by our own consent, or by an act of war. The ultimate claim to the country was a question for diplomatic adjustment. Till that took place the possessive right was in us, and any attempt to dislodge us was a clear act of war. It appear to me, sir, that the present is a most important crisis in this history of this country—a crisis which, perhaps, to affect our character and our destiny for a long series of years. If we meet this act of aggression promptly, vigorously, energetically, as becomes the representatives of a great and spirited people, we shall furnish a lesson to the world which will be profitable remembered hereafter. But if we spend our time in useless discussion—if we adopt timid half-way measures—if we delay action, seeking for further evidence, we shall exhibit counsels and conduct whose effect will impress themselves upon many a chapter of our future history. Our institutions have no admirers among the monarchical and aristocratical governments of the old world. Our condition and progress are a standing reproach to many of the political principles which are there practically adopted. This new doctrine of a balance of power on the American continent is an unerring indication of what they apprehended and what they design. We have but one safe course
before us. Let us put forth our whole strength. Let us organize a force which will leave no doubt as to the result. Let us enter the Mexican territory, and conquer a peace at the point of the bayonet. Let us move on till we meet reasonable proposals from the Mexican government; and if these are not met this side of the capital, let us take possession of the city of Montezuma, and dictate our own conditions. And I trust these conditions will be honorable and reasonable. If all this is done soon, it will be well done. But if delayed there will be other parties than Mexico who will soon mingle themselves in this affair. And the consequences may be felt throughout the civilized world. I am not afraid to treat the President with the necessary power to vindicate the country and defend its honor. I believe he will execute his duties patriotically. Before I conclude, I beg leave to tender my thanks to the distinguished senator from Texas, [Mr. Houston,] for the patriotic sentiments he has thus uttered. He has shown us that he is as able to advocate the rights of his country in counsel as to maintain them in arms. His name is connected with one of those imperishable deeds which connect themselves with the fate of nations. He led the forces of his adopted country upon that day which secured their independence and broke the power of Mexico. He had the rare good fortune to overpower a hostile army, and to capture the chief magistrate of a hostile nation.

[EW]

RW46v23i40p4c6, May 19, 1846: Congress.

Mr. Miller from the Committee on the District of Columbia reported a bill to make the bridges over the Eastern branch of the Potomac free.

Mr. Breeze reported a bill to repeal the proviso to the Naval Appropriation Bill for the present fiscal year which limits the force of the Navy to 7,500 men.

Mr. Johnson, of Md., moved to refer the bill to the Naval Committee.

After some debate, the bill was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. Sevier, from the Committee on Commerce, reported a bill to extend the collection district of New Orleans.

The Senate refused to reconsider the Florida judicial bill.

The bill to settle the claim of New Hampshire against the U.S. was passed, ayes 29, noes 14.

Mr. Morehead gave notice that he should call up the French Spoliation bill on Monday.

The amendment of the House to the bill for the organization of a company of sappers, miners and pontoniers was agreed to.

The motion made by Mr. Archer to reconsider the vote of the Senate disagreeing to the amendment of the House to the Bill for raising a regiment of riflemen, &c., came up in order.

The amendment provides that the officers of the proposed regiment shall be selected from the supernumerary officers of the Army.

Mr. Archer said that when he moved the reconsideration, the Senator from Missouri, [Mr. Benton] had promised to convince him that the amendment ought not to be adopted. He would now like to hear from him.

Mr. Benton said there were two objections to the amendment. One was that it was unconstitutional, and the other that it was inexpedient, as it closed the door against the entrance of our citizens into the army.

Mr. Archer said he would reply to the objections of the Senator from Missouri—but he desired that the subject might pass by until the Senator from Kentucky [Mr. Crittenden,] was in his seat, as he had a paper which he wished to make use of.

The Senate then took up the bill making some alteration in the pay department of the Army.

The bill provides for the appointment of an additional Assistant Paymaster General and several additional Paymasters, and repeals the act of 1820, limiting their tenure of office to four years.

The bill led to an interesting debate upon the subject of appointments and removals, in which Mr. Calhoun deplotted the evils arising from the constant changes in office, and advocated the regulation of the power of removal from Congress.

Mr. Webster made some remarks in reference to the evil effects of limiting the term of office to four years.

The debate was participated in by Mesars, Mangum, Johnson, of Md., J.M.Clayton, Allen, Morehead, Sevier and
The Senate adjourned.

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**

Mr. Gentry of Tenn. moved a resolution, which the House refused to receive, proposing the payment of mileage due John Taliaferro, as a member of Congress in 1841.

**WEST POINT BILL**

The West Point Academy Bill was taken up, and the yeas and nays refused. The bill was then passed by tellers, 90 to 41.

Mr. Martin of Ky. moved to take up the Mileage Bill, but could not obtain the yeas and nays, and the motion was lost.

**ARMY BILL**

The House, on motion of Mr. McKay, went into Committee of the Whole upon the Army Bill.

Mr. Thierman was entitled to the floor and commenced by reading to the chair, an extract from an intemperate speech of Mr. Giddings. Mr. G. at once complained that his colleague was misrepresenting him, but T. said he was stating the substance of the speech, and refused to yield.

The speeches of Mr. Tilden and Mr. Lelano were then taken up but both gentlemen were absent. The speech was made up mainly of garbled extracts from those opposing the last war, and brought into the House now for the purpose of prejudicing those who had spoken against the declaration of war by the act of Mexico.

Mr. Sims of Mo. spoke briefly in defense of the war which had just been commenced, and against those who opposed it. He repudiated all distinction between war and hostilities and said that there was no more difference than there was between a black man and a "nigger."

Mr. DAVIS of Ky., said that he recognized the existence of a constitutional war since the passage of the war act. But an illegal war had previously been made in violation of the Constitution by the President. This was done in sending an Army into a disputed territory. He had marched a hostile army into a peaceful country, and this disturbed the peaceful relations of the country.

Mr. D. quoted Humboldt and others, (remarking that he had examined all the maps which he could find, and that all defined the Nueces as the boundary of Texas.) The country between the Nueces and the Rio Grande had never been subjugated, and Texas therefore had acquired no right to this soil. The President had declared war of himself and by himself, and, said Mr. D. I scorn, I utterly scorn the base attempts made in this Hall to bring obloquy upon those who have had the independence to arraign the usurpations of the President.

I hold all who would thus assail others for their defenses of the constitution in utter contempt. In defense of the country, I doubt not those who were assailed would go as far as those who make the assaults. I have but one son in the world, and I would freely offer him up a sacrifice in defense of my country, and with ten-fold more freedom would I offer up my own life.

It ill becomes men to rise up here and impute disloyalty to others. My life upon it that the member from Ohio [Mr. Delano] who was assailed by the member from Illinois, [Mr. Douglass] would meet the enemy with as much firmness, with as much courage, with as prompt and dauntless a spirit, and with as true bravery as the member who had assailed him, or any other member of this House.

It ill became the member from Ohio, in the spirit of a low demagogue, to resort to the appeals of a low vulgar partisan to arraign men for their want of loyalty.

Mr. Hudson of Mass, as one of the 14 members voting against the War Bill, said that he, with those voting with him, had been arraigned as hypocrites, cowards and by other choice epithets, for voting against the Bill. He had his reasons, and they were in the first place that not one moment had been given to the war clause of the Bill, and but twenty minutes to the discussion of the whole question.

But his main reason was that he was called upon to say that war existed, and that it existed by the act of Mexico, which he did not believe. He was called upon to vote for what he religiously believed to be false, and this he could not and would not do.

Mr. James of Ga. Replied to this speech: with some interruptions from Mr. Stewart of Pa. who put to Mr. J. some pertinent questions as to the war in Mexico and the causes of it.
The floor was given to Mr. Sims of S.C., when the Committee took up the Fortification Bill and concurred in the Senate amendments. The report was concurred in by the House, and the Senate amendments agreed to, after which the House adjourned.

[BWP]

**RW46v23i40p4c6, May 19, 1846: No title.**

A white lady visiting the Comanche—A friend writing from Red River, thus notices the lady of Col. Lewis, who accompanies her husband, one of the U.S. commissioners, to treat with the Comanches.

"Col. Lewis take his lady love with him—he is quite an Amazon—wears a belt and dagger—shoots a rifle and pistol—rides well on horse back, and take notes—rather handsome—medium size—English by birth—married four year—no children. The col. Is very sprightly and gentlemanly in his department, and is from Columbia, Tennessee."

[BWP]

**RW46v23i41p1c1, May 22, 1846: A “Democratic” Tariff.**

The *Enquirer* of yesterday expresses its gratification that a leading Whig paper in Georgia has intimated a purpose to sustain the Tariff Bill of the Administration as a substitute for that of 1842. Although we exchange with the Milledgeville Recorder, such an expression of opinion by that paper has escaped our observation. We have, however seen an allusion to the same circumstance in another Georgia paper, from which we suspect the Enquirer obtained its information. It is not of very unfrequent occurrence, however, to find individual members of a party differing with that party upon some particular feature of its general policy. When the Sub-Treasury, for example, was first suggested by Mr. Van Buren as a party measure, it is known that a large number of the leaders and perhaps not less than one-fifth of the rank and file, were bitterly hostile to that scheme. Time, however, and the appliances usually resorted to in such emergencies by our opponents—such as buying up some with office, wheedling others by flattery, administering the wash to not a few, and (and as Gen. Jackson recommended) “kicking out” the incorrigibly obstinate—have wrought wonderful changes; and the party now presents upon this question perhaps more the appearance of a “unit” than upon any other article in its ever-shifting creed—even those who taught us some of the strongest grounds of objection to this measure, now either warmly advocating, or silently acquiescing in, its adoption! The old proverb tells us, too, that “one swallow doesn’t make a summer;” and if the Milledgeville Recorder is prepared to unite with the Administration party in its assaults upon a system the wisdom of which has been so triumphantly vindicated by its beneficent results, and in substituting for it a scheme the like of which we have tried before with the most disastrous consequences, it will find itself almost alone—very few of the Whigs, even in the cotton growing States, concurring with that paper in the extraordinary opinion ascribed to it.

But let us reverse the medal, and see if we cannot find, among the “Democrats” of the North, men occupying high and influential positions, who, while in the very act of decrying the Whig doctrine, upon the Tariff question, are themselves nevertheless its advocates—flying directly in the teeth of the principles laid down in Secretary Walker’s Report, and upon which the Tariff Bill shortly to be acted upon by congress is professedly based. Glancing over the Message of His Excellency Isaac Toucey, the recently elected Governor of Connecticut, and heretofore a distinguished Locofoco Member of Congress, we find an exposition of that gentleman’s views upon this important question. After remarking that taxes must be levied and collected, to meet the necessary expenditures of the Government, he adds:

“By universal consent, these taxes are levied upon foreign imports, and if they are levied, by a strictly revenue tariff, upon foreign articles, which come in competition with those of our own growth and manufacture, then our home interests have an incidental protection or advantage to the extent of twenty-five millions of dollars annually. This protection or advantage is, beyond all doubt, amply sufficient for all the great interests of the country, in any manner dependent upon a tariff of duties. Here is solid ground to rest upon."

This is such sound Whig doctrine, that, if we had found the paragraph without caption or signature, we should have taken it for granted that it had been copied from a Whig essay. The Tariff of 1842 is based upon precisely the principle laid down by Gov. Toucey—while the scheme lately reported by the Committee of Ways and Means rests upon the opposite doctrine. The Whigs insist that the Tariff ought to be so adjusted as to raise no more revenue than is necessary for the economical administration of the Government, [Which the Tariff of 1842 had done.] And Gov. Toucey declares that he is in favor of just such a system –as, indeed, we believe, all men of all parties, with the exception of a very few who are in favor of the abolition of the custom house system altogether, and of raising the revenue of the Federal as well as of the State Governments by direct taxation, are. But the great point of difference between the two parties is this – in adjusting the scale of duties, shall reference be had exclusively to revenue, as the leading Locos assert – or as the Whigs contend, shall an eye be kept both to revenue and protection? The Virginia Locofoco Convention, held in this city in the winter of 1848, emphatically laid down, in its Address, the broad principle, that, in the adjustment of a Revenue Tariff, such only as the Constitution authorized Congress to enact, especial care should be taken, if any discriminations were made between the various articles imported, that they should be made "not for protection, but against it"—an idea expressed perhaps more lucidly by Senator McDuffie, who contends that the lowest duties should be laid upon those articles which come in competition with domestic fabrics, and the highest upon those which we can not ourselves produce or manufacture! But what, on the contrary,
But why single out an individual, however prominent his position, or eminent his talents, for the purpose of establishing the fact that there is a wide diversity of opinion in the Locofoco ranks on this subject—that not one voice, like that of the Southern Recorder, is heard in opposition to the creed of the party, but that a large number dissent most widely from it? Who does not know that at this very moment, with a majority of about SEVENTY in the House of Representatives, there is at least strong doubt whether the Administration party will sustain the Administration Tariff? Is it not apparent that they approach the consideration of the subject with "fear and trembling"—pledged, on the one hand, to the overthrow of the existing system, which they have so vehemently assailed; and yet, thoroughly convinced by its results, on the other, that a wiser and more judicious scheme has never been adopted than the organization of the Government, and justly apprehensive, therefore, if it be subverted or materially modified, that the most mischievous effects will result from the success of their attempts to remodel it. No wonder that they hesitate and falter when vehemently urged by the Executive Organ to redeem their pledge, and warmly expostulated with and censured for their tardiness in its execution. And right glad are not a few of them, we doubt not that a pretext is furnished them, by the large additional expenditures that will be rendered necessary by the Mexican war, to vote against the proposed change of a system upon which the Government must rely for the money necessary to its prosecution. It is true, that even by the suggestion of this pretext, they will fly in the face of one of the leading dogmas upon which the Administration project is based—to wit, that the lower the duties, the greater will be the amount of revenue flowing into the government coffers. But so absurd is the pretence upon its face, and so often has it been falsified by experiment, that no practical Statesman will, in an emergency like the present, hesitate to renounce it. In a period of peace, when a deficiency in one year's revenue may be easily supplied by the legislation of the next, those even who scout the doctrine may have been willing to indulge the accomplished financier at the head of the Treasury Department with a brief trial of his experiment; but now, when War exists, and, even if it be of brief duration, must lead to the expenditure of many millions of dollars beyond the amount requisite for a peace establishment, it is to be presumed that at least a sufficient number of the Administration party in Congress will unite with the Whigs to effect the defeat of a Bill, the tendency of which, as a Revenue measure, is, to say the least of it, so exceedingly doubtful.—At such a time, the public credit cannot be safely subjected to such precarious and hazardous experiments, however authoritatively recommended.—We look, with increased confidence, therefore, to the refusal of Congress to interfere materially with the present Revenue Tariff, as it may be emphatically styled; for although, in such a complex system there are doubtless some defects, it may well be questioned whether any plan could be devised, in which there would be fewer or slighter, or which would, as a whole, operate more beneficially than that which has been so ruthlessly and so unjustly assailed. It is a proud monument, indeed, of the wisdom, as well as of the patriotism, of the Whig Congress of 1842—and we hope to see it survive even the passions of the party which, going into power by a triumphant majority, pledged to its subversion, exhibit towards it a forbearance far more creditable to their sagacity and prudence, than to their fidelity to party engagements.

We submit, therefore, to the Enquirer, whether the isolated case of disagreement with the Whig party, on the part of the Southern Recorder, upon this subject, is not much more than compensated by the concurrence with them in opinion and action of so many of their leading opponents?

RW46v23i41p1c2, May 22, 1846: The Past and the Present.

In Mr. Clay's letter on the annexation of Texas, written during the late Presidential canvass, the following passage occurs:

"Under these circumstances, if the government of the United States were to acquire Texas, it would acquire along with it all the encumbrances which Texas is under, and among them the actual or suspended war between Mexico and Texas. Of that consequence there cannot be a doubt. Annexation and war with Mexico are identical."

This position was warmly denied by the advocates of annexation—although General Houston, one of the Texas Senators, now boldly attempts, in the teeth of the arguments of his old friends, to vindicate the policy of the Executive in advancing our army to the Rio Grande, by alleging that Texas and Mexico being at war with each other when Texas was annexed, the United States necessarily inherited that war, and that we are bound to prosecute it even though no act of hostility had been perpetrated by the government or troops of Mexico!

The New York Evening Post, [a Locofoco paper,] reminds us of another lapse of memory on the part of its political associates. When the question of annexing Texas was debated, it admits that the convenience of such a barrier as the broad and sandy waste between the Rio Nueces and Rio Grande, was much dwelt upon by the friends of the measure. But, as the Post remarks, we have now passed over that barrier already, (claiming as our own the territory beyond the desert, which was spoken of as such an admirable natural boundary,) and are beginning to talk of no other immediate boundary than the great mountain chain, the mother ridge, that forms for the present a
bulwark to the table land of Mexico! At what point we are finally to pause, who shall now say?

The New Orleans Reformer proffers our Government and those in authority some excellent counsel, in regard to the approaching Mexican campaign. After referring to the universal delusion which has heretofore prevailed in regard to the bravery and prowess of the Mexicans, it points out the difficulties to be encountered and the obstacles to be overcome, in the prosecution of a war of conquest in the following language:

"The events which have transpired since Gen. Taylor reached the frontier have caused men to reflect on this subject more profoundly and they have hitherto done, and to estimate in a more rational manner the resources of Mexico and the resistance she is able to present in a conflict with a foreign power. If a stable government existed in that country, and its whole strength, moral and physical, could be brought into requisition, it would require, so admirably is its territory adapted to defensive operations, unusual and extensive preparations to insure speedy and satisfactory results.

As she is however—torn and distracted by internal dissensions, and the sport of every ambitious conqueror—there are yet active and available materials enough in her bosom to render the work of subjugation arduous and protracted and to develop no small share of the military fact and powers of the United States. When one looks carefully at all the resources of Mexico—its population of many millions—the salubrity of its climate and the fertility of its soil affording comparatively without labor, subsistence to its people—the bravery and heroism of the old Castilian race of which many remains are yet to be found in Mexico—and the physical conformation of the country, its mountain passes, and its narrow defies, and its hidden retreats—when all these things are maturely considered it will be readily seen although Santa Ana, and Bustamente, and Paredes may by turns “revel in the halls of the Montezuma,” and American general—whoever he may be, and however well supported by a powerful army—attains that luxury only through blood and toil, and perils besetting him on every side.

Mexico too, it must be recollected, is to us an unknown country. Americans who have, here and there, visited it, saw nothing but what the eye took in as they passed over a few of the principal highways and through the large towns. The ambush by the road-side, the natural fortifications within a few yards of them made by rocks and precipices, were as a dead letter to them. And where on of our countrymen has remained for years the entire dissimilarity of language opinions and customs, and the great insecurity of traveling, have rendered it impracticable for him to obtain any extended and accurate knowledge of some of the most interesting portions even of Mexico. We know in fact nothing of the country. Probably it would be difficult, if not impossible, to find an American who could guide an army entering at Matamoras by the safest the route opposing the fewest obstacles to an invading force, and the best supplied with water. Relying upon a Mexican guide, whose treachery and duplicity are proverbial, what risks would be encountered?—what perils endured?—what sacrifices perhaps made?

The government of the United States—if we are in fact to have a war with Mexico—must not overlook all nor any of these considerations. No American general must be permitted to penetrate the Mexican territory unless he is well provided and properly secured in every respect. And the point from whence he shall leave American soil and the direction he is to go, must be determined only after careful, and prolonged, and most mature consideration. The United States must commit no blunder in this particular, or defeat, disaster and disgrace await our arms.”

The New York Herald, a warm advocate both of the Administration Tariff and the Sub-Treasury, after taking a brief view of the existing condition of the country, concludes that there is now no prospect of any change in the one, nor of the passage f the other. All these matters, it says, must be postponed for the present. Should this be the case, the Mexican War will not be an unmixed evil.

Complaints have been very generally made of the indifference manifested in Texas upon the receipt of the stirring news from the Rio Grande. The following explanation will set the matter in a better—because more just, light. We give it an insertion with pleasure:
very unsatisfactory; the greatest apathy appears to prevail." This is easy of explanation. The people of Texas for several years past have been very much harassed by reported invasions of the Mexicans. The end has generally shown these statements to be false. And the result has very naturally been to create a feeling of distrust in regard to all Mexican news. I was in Houston when the information that General Taylor was surrounded reached there. It was not official, and was not altogether credited; and those who did credit the account also said and though that General Taylor could whip them very easily. You must recollect that in Texas the opinion is, that 3000 American troops ought certainly to whip 10,000 Mexicans, and 15,000 if necessary, and this belief is based upon the fact of its having been done in that proportion over and over again.

But the principal reason for the supposed apathy was the fact, that no orders had come from the Government, and no means were at hand to furnish the necessary supply until the orders were given. The corporation and merchants of Houston were willing to advance the necessary means, but it was thought best to await the call of the Executives. Companies were forming in various parts of Texas, awaiting the action of the Executive; an you may rest assured when the call is made, Texas soldiers will be at their posts.”

We are wholly unable to keep pace with the popular movements, in various section of the Union, to meet the anticipated requisition of the government for troops. They show very clearly that, whenever the services of its citizens are requisite to defend the country or to maintain its rights or honor, the emergency will be met in a spirit corresponding with the magnitude of the occasion.

The *New Orleans Picayune* of the 13th inst. state that volunteers are pouring in from all quarters, and that the idea of resorting to a draft has been abandoned. On the 12th, no less than 437 volunteers reached that city from the interior, among whom was a fine company of 107 men from Plaquemine and Iberville, under Gen. G. S. Rousseau as captain, and another of 90 men from East Baton Rouge, under the command of the Rev. Richard A. Stewart as captain. When the Parsons take the field, the Mexicans may look out!—The *Picayune* adds that the full compliment of four regiments required from Louisiana under the requisition of Gen. Taylor will soon be filled up, and, it doubts not, double that number.

The Mobile Advertiser of the 14th announces the arrival in that city of a fine looking company, numbering about 100, under the command of Captain Elmore, from Montgomery, Alabama, on their way to the scene of action.

The Pennsylvanian says: "We understand, from good authority, that one of the chiefs of the Creek nation, now in Washington, has offered to the President the services of 2000 picked warriors, should they be required in the conflict of Mexico. However gratifying the offer, it is to be hoped the President will decline it. We should regret to see "the hell-hounds of savage warfare" in the service of our government, unless indeed their aid should be justified by the employment of a similar force by the enemy.

The mail brought over from Brasos Santiago by the Florida was not distributed till yesterday morning, when we received a whole budget of letters, the contents of which have generally been anticipated.

Gen. Ampudia is endeavoring to redeem his character for humanity by the treatment of his prisoners.

Had we room we should be glad to give a series of letters which have reached us from the officers at Fort Taylor,—They all breathe the right spirit. The following, however, we will not suppress, as it shows the feeling which exists in the camp, and is their very latest date received thence:

FORT TAYLOR, CAMP OPPOSITE MATAMORAS,
May 4th, 1946—half-past 2 in the morning.

Dear Friends—The ball opened yesterday morning from the Mexican line. They fired the first shots at reveille, and the way 4, 6, 9 and 12 (I think) pound shout flew about these part was a win, and their throwing shells kept the atmosphere in continued confusion with their “whiz! Whiz! Bang!” all the time. But notwithstanding the “Star-Spangled Banner” still waves over the “land of the free and home of the brave.” Their firing did not cease until 12 last night. I suppose tomorrow will be a duplicate of today.

It would have warmed the wax in your ears to have heard our 18-pounders “give out the cry.” One shot struck in the embrasure of the enemy’s works, and knocked canon carriage, embrasure and men “into fits.” We have no mortars, had we received those General Taylor requested from Washington when he first came to Corpus Christi, we should have left no more bricks in that town than there are “in my hat.” But, sirs, this is only the introductory act;
At a meeting of the Richmond Fayette Artillery Company, held at Military Hall on the 19th of May, 1846—

On the motion of Lieut. Ritchie, it was unanimously resolved, 1. That in the present condition of our relations with Mexico, it is proper that every citizen should hold himself in readiness to meet whatever issue may arise.

2. That this Company is still actuated by the same impulse of duty which occasioned the tender of its services to the President of the United States in the summer of last year, and is ready now, as it ever has been, to obey any call which may be made upon it in consequence thereof.

3. That still further to promote the efficiency of the volunteers who may respond in Virginia to the call of the country, this company views with high gratification the proposition for the formation of a Virginia Legion.

4. That this Company invites the officers of, or delegates from, other companies which may be willing to unite in the formation of a Virginia Legion, to meet it at its anniversary on the 29th of the present month, to devise measures successfully to carry out this design.

5. That the Captain of this Company be requested to apply to the Governor of Virginia for tents and camp equipage for this company, with a view to the formation of an encampment during the summer, or for the use of the company in case it is sooner called into service.

THOMAS H. ELLIS, Captain

E. Raux, Secretary

May 4, 1846 – 6 o'clock in the Morning.

"Here we go again!" as the boy said when the bull chased him. As I expected, at daylight they led off again, and we are going it "hip and tuck," like a grog at a burnt boot. Up to the present speaking the enemy have thrown between 1200 and 1300 shot, solid and hollow, while we have fired 357. On our side, one sergeant—of Company A, 7th regiment—has been killed, and one man slightly wounded in the arm. This is all the damage to us; the extent of damage to the enemy is not known, but must be considerable. It is almost incredible to suppose we should receive so little injury from so many shots.

If I live, I may tell you some more; if I die, you can't expect it. Yours,

By an arrival at New York on Monday evening, direct from Havana, the Philadelphia American has (by Telegraph) Vera Cruz dates to the 1st inst.

Paredes issued a proclamation on 23d April, announcing the position of the United States Army on the Rio Grande, in which he expresses his determination to defend his country against attack. War, he asserts, had commenced, but he would not declare war against the United States, as the American Congress, and not the President, had the power to adjust the question in dispute.

Santa Ana was still remaining quiet at Havana, engaged in his characteristic occupations.

There is nothing said of further revolutionary movements in Mexico.
Among the petitions presented were some by Mr. Crittenden, praying that Wheeling and Pittsburg may be made ports of entry.

Mr. Benton, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported "An act supplementary to the Act to provide for the prosecution of the existing War between the Republic of Mexico and the U.S. and for other purposes."

Mr. Lewis called up the Bill making appropriations for the support of the Post Office Department for the year 1847.

Mr. Speight said he should not oppose the bill, but have proceeded to denounce the cheap postage systems as a scheme to keep up high taxes—a handmaid of the Tariff—a burden upon one section of the country for the benefit of another. He complained that it had broken up the stage lines in his section of the country, and destroyed the facilities of traveling. He enquired whether the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads intended to report a bill to repeal or alter the existing law.

Mr. Niles in reply, observed that the Committee had not thought it their duty to recommend any change. He was surprised at the denunciation of what he regarded as one of the most beneficial pieces of legislation ever contaminated. As to the stage lines, they had hitherto been a burden of a million a year on the Department, and had nothing to do with the conveyance of the mails.

Mr. Niles said the Post Master of New York had informed him that the increase of letter in his Office were astonishing—and he [Mr. N.] was satisfied that after the next lettings the Department would cease to be a burden upon the Treasury.

Mr. Calhoun inquired what was the deficit in the revenue this year, compared with the last.

Mr. Niles replied that he believed it was about 45 percent on the first six months.

Some Conversation ensued upon the mode of compensating Postmasters, and the bill was then passed over until tomorrow.

The Committee on Foreign Relations mad a report upon the subject of the claim of the owners of the brig Gen. Armstrong against the Government of Portugal, which was ordered to be printed.

The French Spoliation bill, being the special order of the day, was then taken up.

Mr. Morehead made a powerful speech in behalf of the claimants, and left off without closing his argument. The Senate adjourned.

It is stated in some of the letters from Washington, that the appointment of this distinguished officer to the command in chief of the army on the Mexican frontier was vehemently opposed by many of the Locofoco members of Congress—and that, at one time, it was contemplated to deny it to him, and to confer the command upon him Jessup or Gen. Roger Jones, from which nothing induced the Administration to swerve but he act that Gen. Gaines, next in rank to Gen. Scott, stood in the way of the selection of either of those gentlemen, and would be justly offended if his claims were set aside for those of a junior officer—What truth there is in these reports we are not prepared to say; but if they be well founded, they are discreditable to all concerned, and non the less so because of the motive to which it is ascribed—an apprehension that Gen. Scott, who has been spoken of as a candidate for the next Presidency, may add to his already strong claims that the gratitude of his country, by decking his brow with new laurels in the approaching campaign. We hope there is no truth in the statement but there are certainly some circumstances strongly corroborative of it.

It has been more than once intimated that there were probably other powers "behind the throne" than the Mexican government itself, investigating the War between that country and the United States.

Among the many surmises of a similar nature, we find the following in a late letter of the Washington correspondent of the New York Tribune. He says:
"After much thought I cannot dispossess myself of the belief that England is concerned in this movement of Mexico. I am in possession of evidence that the last reinforcements of the Mexican Army were not ordered to be concentrated at Matamoras until about the middle of April, after the receipt of intelligence from Great Britain, which had been so anxiously looked for, and that not till then were the operations undertaken with spirit and vigor. I should be glad to be deceived on this point, but I fear I shall not be again. The remarkable alliance between France and England must have ulterior objects in view; and may not the latter, to black up the progress of the United States and to raise a counter Government on our frontier, have agreed to establish a Monarch in Mexico in the person of the Duke De Montpensier, the young son of Louis Philippe? This suggestion was presented to me, from an important source, three or four months ago, and seemed to attract no little attention when I laid it before the public. In the present juncture the probability is more plausible."

[Adapted for Natural Language Processing]
American camp, to confer with Gen. Taylor relative to the safety of H.B.M. subjects in Matamoras, in case of
hostilities. Gen. Ampudia replied that he did not know whether the American gun could play upon their houses, but
he had no power to authorize an interview like that requested.

The *Indicator*, of 6th April, gives Gen. Arista’s letter to the War Department, returning thanks for being
appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Army in the North; protesting his fidelity to his country, and reporting himself
on the march, with all dispatch, to assume the command. Most ridiculous fables are circulated relative to desertions
from the American army. Gen. Mejia reports twenty-six U.S. deserters in his ranks. Gen. Taylor, it is said, employs
one half his men to guard to other half, to prevent them joining the holy standard of the Mexican church and state.—
All fears of a revolution had entirely disappeared, (if we can believe the Mexican papers,) and the appearance of the
American army had I fused new energies into the government, and given it new friends. The fact is, we believe, a
late law against newspapers, has sealed the press to popular feeling. We shall hear no more of revolutions until they
actually burst forth.

Letters from Mazatlan, San Bias, &c., betray the greatest consternation on the west coast, in consequence of
the number of U.S. vessels of ware there. Reports were constantly arriving in the city of Mexico that Monterey, or
Mazatlan, or some other port on the Pacific, had been taken or blockaded by our forces, but they were generally
contradicted the next day.

The British ship Collingwood, 80 guns, Admiral Seymour, was at anchor off San Bias, 7th April. Emigrants from
the U.S. were still pouring into California, to the great consideration of Gen. Paredes, who considers them an army in
disguise. He gives up California as lost. Apprehensions are entertained that the Mormons, who were said to be
crossing the mountains, would overrun the whole of Mexico and subdue it. Their reputation has preceded them.

We publish this morning the Proclamation of President Paredes of Mexico, received at New York via Havana,
issued prior to but evidently in anticipation of the recent events on the Rio Grande. It will be seen that he expresses
great aversion to War, and disclaims for himself the power to involve his country in hostilities. He expresses his
determination, however, to defend the soil of the country, which he alleges had been invaded by the American
forces, who, by that act, *had begun a war upon Mexico*! So that, while our President and Congress affirm that "war
exists by the act of Mexico," the Mexican President declares that we struck the first blow. The parties to a conflict are
generally incompetent judges of the degree of blame which should attach to them respectively, the important
question is, how will the civilized world, to the opinions of which nations are amenable, decide the questions?

In common with our whole community, we have been anxiously awaiting the arrival of further intelligence from
our gallant little Army on the Rio del Norte. For two or three mornings past, we have visited the Petersburg Depot,
hoping to hear of glorious achievements by our army of occupation—and, indeed, earnestly desiring that the first
news which is to reach us may be of such a nature as to put at rest the fears of a continue conflict with the Mexican
government. By the known skill and determined purpose of General Taylor, and his companions in arms, together
with the efficient services of a large number of Volunteer gone to the scene of action, we expect that the vaunting
Mexicans will find their hands rather fuller than they dreamed of – when this war was first waged. And, without
stopping here to inquire into the cause of the conflict between the two nations, (for that will be a subject of
investigation hereafter,) we sincerely trust our adversaries may get such a thrashing at the hands of Gen. Taylor’s
Army, as may serve them for the balance of their days, and cause the whole Mexican race to be at peace with the
world at large for the future. The state of suspense our whole country has been in, since the last advices from our
army, is indeed intense; and, whatever may be the nature of the news when it does come, we shall hasten to lay it
before our readers in an Extra.

Although the New Orleans papers have said but little on the subject of our present army on the Rio Grande,
within the last few days, yet we are pleased to learn through some of our exchanges from that city, that a large
number of Volunteers from the Parishes of Louisiana are continuing to pour into New Orleans en route to the battle
field, and to the rescue of the American forces. Like gallant and brave spirits in defense of their country, every
Volunteer in the Union seems to pant for the contest, that it may be ended, as doubtless it must and that speedily,
to the honor of the American nation. For the easy consummation of that which is so devoutly to be wished, the
United States should not hesitate to make ample—nay, even more than abundant provision—and it is to b hoped
that "money and men" may be at once called into requisition sufficient to show the enemies of our country that we
are capable of doing things as they should be done.
Major CHASE, of the engineer corps has furnished the Bulletin with a communication containing important intelligence respecting the number of regular troops at the disposal of Gen. Taylor. According to the estimate of the major, and he is undoubtedly well informed, Gen. T. must have had in his command when he left Corpus Christi, from 26 to 2800 men. If Gen. TAYLOR brought with him to Point Isabel from his encampment opposite Matamoras 2000 men, and left 6 or 700 under Maj. BROWN, to defend the entrenchments on the Rio Grande, his force is, of course, nearly three thousand.

We did understand about the time Gen. Taylor took up his line of march for Corpus Christi—and from what we consider the highest authority—that the whole United States force then in Texas did not exceed 2500 effective men, and of this number that not less than 500 were left at Austin and San Antonio.

We are happy, however, to hear that Gen. Taylor is not as weak as we had been led to suppose from our previous intelligence.—(New Orleans Daily Reformer)

A bill providing an appreciation for the building of 13 vessels of war—12 of them to be steam vessels and one an iron sailing frigate—was reported this morning in the House from the Committee on Naval Affairs, by Mr. King of Ga. The steamers, it is supposed, will average, completed, an expense of $400,000 each—some less and some more. The Bill proposes that the contractors shall warrant a speed of 15 miles the hour and fuel for 15 days when the full pressure of steam is on and for 30 days when it is not; that the propellers or paddle-wheels shall be out of the reach of shot, and in other ways more secure. Thus warranted the model of the vessel is left to whoever may become the contractor.

The report accompanying the Bill I have read casually. It is drawn by the author of the bill and embodies a great deal of practical information. It is stated that the success of iron steamers for economy, durability, lightness and quickness is proved by experience beyond all peradventure. It is designed that the iron work for these steamers may be made at any point on the Atlantic or on the Lakes and rivers, and that they shall be so constructed that they be detached ready to be carried or to be launched any where.

The news from Mexico is regarded here as equivalent to an open declaration of war. The Proclamation of Parades was received from Vera Cruz last night, at once translated, and laid before the President.

Mr. Evans reported a Bill from the Finance Committee for the support of the Military Academy with amendments. Mr. Turney offered a Resolution of inquiry proposing the limiting of military appointments to the age of 60 years. The Resolution was adopted.

Mr. Sturgeon presented the proceedings of a public meeting held at Easton, Pa. in reference to the existing war with Mexico. Mr. S. prefaced the introduction of the proceedings with some remarks in reference to the bravery of the People.

Mr. Darragh of Pa. has presented an offer made by the Pittsburgh Military to the President of the United States volunteering their services for the campaign in Mexico.

Mr. Woodbridge presented the proceedings of the Legislature of Michigan against the system of leasing the Mineral lands upon Lake superior.

Mesers, Webster, Woodbridge, Breese, Sevier and Cass, debated the question of selling all the mineral lands belonging to the United States. The Resolutions were then laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Dix presented the Resolutions of the N.Y. Legislature upon the Pilot System.

Mr. Ashley, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a Bill to revive the laws heretofore enacted for the
relief of insolvent debtors to the Government.

FRENCH SPOLIATION

The Special order was called at one o’clock, and a long and able argument concluded upon the French Spoliations by Mr. Morehead of Ky. In continuation of his argument commenced yesterday.

Mr. Colquitt of Ga. replied, and spoke in opposition to the payment of the claims, not regarding the Government as bound for their payment.

The Senate went into Executive session and soon after adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The special order for this day was Territorial business, which was postponed on motion of Mr. Dodge, until the first three business days in June.

SOLDIERS PAY

Mr. Stewart of Pa. introduced a resolution, on leave, to pay the soldiers volunteering in the service and serving during the war, $10 per month, and at the end of the war to receive 160 acres of land, or in case the soldier dies in the service, that his heirs receive the land.

Objections were made to the resolution, which was in the form of instructing the Military Committee to bring in a bill to that effect.

Mr. Stewart moved to suspend the Rules, and called for the yeas and nays, [two thirds being necessary]. The vote was yeas 70, nays 75.

The Rules not suspended, and the friends of the administration were found voting in the negative. Though earnest for war, they are not ready to pay for services rendered.

[BWP]

NOTE.

Attend a meeting of your Company at the Exchange Hotel on Tuesday next, the 26th inst. At 8 o’clock P.M. By order of the Captain,

F. MARX, Orderly.

NOTE.

It is proper that the citizens generally, as well as the members of the Troop should be apprized that the above meeting is called with a view of proceeding forthwith, (if a sufficient number is added to the roll by the day appointed.) to organize the Company thoroughly and place it in a condition for active and efficient service—or, failing in this, to disband the corps at once, in order that its members may enroll themselves for duty in some other arm of the service.

JOHN J. WERTH,
May 20—dtd

[BWP]

In the present attitude of Mexico and the United States, there is very little necessity for discussing the question whether the Nueces or the Rio Grande constitutes the Western boundary of the State of Texas; for whatever might have been the final decision upon that point it had it been left to peaceable negotiation, there can be no doubt that, under existing circumstances, the geographical limits of that State will be dictated by the U. States as a sine qua non of the termination of hostilities. It is with no reference, therefore, to the ultimate rights of the two countries, that we have heretofore adverted to it, or that we may hereafter do so; but for the purpose of showing that each of them should have forborne the armed occupations of the disputed territory until the question of boundary had been definitively settled. We should have been willing to leave to a future period, therefore, more propitious to a dispassionate hearing and a just judgment than the present, the examination of a question, the decision of which must affect in a great degree the opinion of the world, as to the degree of responsibility which attaches to our own Government for the interruption of pacific relations. But the friends of the Administration, apparently as solicitous for
its vindication as for the defense of the country, will not have it so; and it is therefore proper, in our opinion, to show that their unqualified assertion of the absolute right of Texas to the territory lying between the Neuces and the Rio Grande, if not entirely unfounded, is at least repelled by as plausible and as strong conflicting pretensions on the part of Mexico. If this be the fact—and it is merely as a question of fact that we propose briefly to examine it—who can doubt that its armed occupation by Mexico would have been regarded as an act of war by the United States? And if so, how can it be assumed that the United States in thus occupying it, is guiltless of aggression? It is not he who strikes the first blow that begins a war—but he who, by aggressive acts upon the rights or honor of his neighbor, renders that blow necessary. Consequently while we concede that if the Rio Grande had beenascertained and acknowledged to be the true Western boundary of Texas, the United States could not have been properly censured for planting their national standard upon its banks, we hold, on the other hand, that, so long as that fact had neither been ascertained nor acknowledged, it was, to say the least of it, an act well calculated to arouse the national pride even of the most imbecile and degraded race—to arouse within their bosoms feelings of resentment, and to impel them to acts of hostility. From the Neuces to the Rio Grande the troops of both countries should have been carefully excluded, leaving its occupants as annexation found them, until the boundary question had been definitively settled by negotiation, or, if that means should within a reasonable time be found unavailing, by an open declaration of war.

The question then arises, is the title to the soil involved in so much doubt as to render its armed occupation by either party a just ground of complaint by the other?

We admit, at the outset, that the claim of Texas, and, through her, of the United States, is sustained by plausible arguments—sufficiently so to have justified us in regarding the appearance of a Mexican army east of the Rio Grande as an aggressive act. Let us now see, whether the claim of Mexico is not likewise so plausibly sustained as to justify her in regarding the appearance of an American army at Point Isabel and opposite the town of Matamoras, as equally aggressive in its character. We notice, in our last paper, and extract of a letter from an officer in the army, in which, speaking doubtless the popular impression, (in such cases generally correct,) he stated that the American army was encamped—where? Within the limits of the State of Texas? No: but on the soil of the "Mexican State of Tamaulips." If this were an isolated expression of opinion, it might not be entitled to very great weight. But it is the general language of those who write from the camp. The intelligent correspondent of the New York Spirit of the Times, for example, says: "Our situation here is an extraordinary one. Right in the enemy's country, occupying their corn and cotton fields, the people of the soil leaving their homes, and we, with a small handful of men, are marching with colors flying and drums beating, right under the guns of one of their principal cities, displaying the Star - Spangled Banner as if in defiance under their very nose." Can there be a more vivid picture than this of the invasion of a foreign territory—the "people of the soil" flying from their fields before an army which they regarded not as the protectors of the State to which they owe allegiance, but as its enemies, coming hostile array to expel them from their homes? Would this state of things have existed, if Texas, in addition to the act of claiming the territory in dispute, had ever been able to make that claim good?

But we have still another letter from the camp before us, addressed to the Editor of the Albany Atlas, in which we find the following Decisive statement:

"West of the Neuces the people are all Spaniards. The country is uninhabitable excepting the valley of the Rio Grande, and that contains a pretty dense population, and in no part of the country are the people more loyal to the Mexican Government.

The soil on the river is of great fertility, and, though imperfectly cultivated, produces considerable corn, cotton and sugar. On the river are several towns, some on one side, some on the other. Matamoras 9,000 inhabitants, Remosio 1500, Comongo 3000, Mier 5000, Guerrero 3500, Loredo 1500, Presidius 5,000, San Fernando 15,000; and, when you get higher up towards Santa Fe, there is another populated country. These people are all Spaniards, and actuated by a universal feeling of hostility towards the United States, and since our arrival nearly all of them have left this side of the rive and gone over, leaving their houses and much valuable property, notwithstanding every assurance from General Taylor that all their rights and property would be respected by our Government. They quarrel among themselves, but against a foreign foe they are united."

If, as has been said, this disputed territory has been represented in the Texas Congress, and now constitutes a portion of one of the Congressional districts represented at Washington, we should like to know how many voters there were, and where the polls were held! In what light the resident population of the country regarded our army, is shown by the universal flight on its approach. Gen. Taylor himself, in one of his dispatches, indeed, graphically depicts the consternation as well as the resentment excited by his appearance. Writing from Matamoras on the 23rd of March, he says:

"While on my way hither, our column was approached by a party on its right flank, bearing a white flag. It proved to be a civil deputation from Matamoras, desiring an interview with me. I informed them that I would halt at the first suitable place on the road, and afford them the desired interview with me, It was, however, found necessary, from the want of water, to continue the route to this place. The deputation halted while yet some miles from Point Isabel, declining to come further, and sent me a formal protest of the Prefect of the northern district of Tamaulipas against our occupation of the country, which I enclose herewith. At this moment it was discovered that the buildings at Point Isabel were in Flames. I then informed the bearer of the protest that I would answer it when opposite to Matamoras, and dismissed the deputation."

In what other part of Texas, we ask, would the American army and the American Flag have met with such a reception? All will concede that it could only have been upon Mexican soil and from a Mexican population that an American commander would have been thus greeted.
We have thus examined the question of title as one of fact, to be determined, not be searching archives and records, but by ascertaining in whose possession the country was when our army crossed the Neuces and marched the Rio Grande, in conformity to Executive Orders. Can any man deny that it was in possession of Mexican citizens peaceably pursuing their ordinary avocation? Have we been yet pointed to a single spot over which the Texas flag floated or a Texan citizen resided? Never. What, then, becomes of the assumption that Mexico began the war, because finding our troops upon the banks of the Rio Grande, which she claims as a part of her soil, she attacked them? Had no those troops first expelled "the people of the soil," whom they found in peaceful occupation of it on their arrival?

It is true, that the Texan Congress did, in 1836, pass an act extending the jurisdiction of its laws to the mouth of the Rio Grande. But surely it cannot be gravely argued that an act of the Texan Congress, which never was and never could be enforced, is to settle a question of disputed boundary with and adjoining State! If so, what becomes of our title to Oregon? The British Parliament is as omnipotent as a Texan Congress, and in 1820 that body passed an act declaring that all Oregon was an English possession, and attached it to Canada! Will those that contend that the Rio Grande is the western boundary of Texas because the Texan Congress so enacted, admit that the whole of Oregon belongs to Great Britain, because the British Parliament affirmed the fact to be so? But as Garrett Davis, of Ky. From whose able speech we derive this fact, and upon which we may hereafter draw more largely, says:

"Texas herself has admitted, in effect, that her law had no such consequences, and it would be wholly immaterial whether she had or had not made such admission. In 1839 Canales, a Mexican Chief, attempted with the aid and countenance of Texas, to establish the Republic of Rio Grande, constituted of the States Tamaulipas, Coabuila, and Durango. Its independence was declared, and Canales elected President. He thereupon marched his army to Loredo, a small town of Tamaulipas, on the east bank of the Rio Grande, and held possession of it with his army for more than six months. In April 1840, he was attacked and defeated by General Arista, who commanded a strong body of Central Mexican troops, and Canales, with some of his followers, retreated into Texas. In this struggle the Texan fleet and land forces co-operated with Canales, and the common object of that Government and him was the establishment of this independence of the Republic of Rio Grande, composed of the States of Tamaulipas, Coabuila, and Durango, the army of Canales occupying a portion of Tamaulipas between Texas and the Rio Grande. In the meantime, he and the Government of Texas had entered into a secret agreement, of which the first three articles are as follows:

1st. The president of the Republic of Rio Grande (General Canales) pledges himself to declare the independence of the Republic at Rio Grande, and to declare and establish the State and Federal Constitution 1824 so soon as he shall have established his headquarters within the limits of the territory claimed by the said Republic.

2nd. That the Republic of Rio Grande shall, immediately after the said declaration of independence, recognize the independence of Texas.

3rd. The Republic of Texas pledges herself to aid the Federalists of Rio Grande, in their struggle for independence, directly her independence is recognized by the Republic of Rio Grande.

"Nearly three years after the act of the Texas Congress defining her western boundary to be the Rio Grande, she gravely and formally abandons it by acknowledging that Tamaulipas and Coahula constituted a part of another Republic; and, instead of claiming any part of them to be her territory, pledges herself, and actually by her army and navy aids in the attempt, to maintain the independence of that other country, of which a section that she had before declared to be within her limits was an integral part; and this is the identical territory into which General Taylor has marched his army in the execution of the orders of President Polk. That law of Texas had not at any time the least affect over any country of which Mexico was in the possession and continued to hold or to any over which Texas did not establish her jurisdiction and laws; and, after her arrangement with Canales, there is not even a pretext for the claim that it annexed to her any territory thus situated. The only title which Texas has to territory is that of conquest. All that she had subdued by the sword, of which she held the possession, and over which she exercised jurisdiction at the time of her annexation, and nothing more, was rightfully a part of Texas."

We have occupied as much space as we are able to devote to this subject today, intending to resume it at our leisure. The examination we propose to make, is necessary to a right understanding of the origin of the war in which we find ourselves involved—and which we hope, being in, we shall push to a vigorous and triumphant conclusion. But, while Mexico had doubtless given us just cause of offence, wholly apart from the Texas question, it does not the less become the tax-payers and those who are to fight the battles of the country, to inquire into the prominent causes of the existing war, and to ascertain whether it might not have been avoided by a judicious exercise of the powers confided to the President, without any sacrifice of the national rights, or any stain upon the national honor—nay, whether it has not resulted from an usurpation of power on the part of the President. If this be so, then will the people condemn the authors of this unnecessary war, however zealously and ardently they may co-operate in its prosecution while it lasts.

[BWP]
the brevet rank of Major. He has been engaged in several battles with the Indians; and for his service in the various campaigns against that subtle and dangerous foe, he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General. Gen. T. is about 60 years of age, and is regarded as one of the most skilful officers as well as one of the most dating men in the service—uniting great prudence with reckless courage. He is a Kentuckian by birth.

One of the most ridiculous rumors we have in the paper is to the effect that the two Mexican steam vessels of war, (about the whole of its navy,) which recently sailed from Vera Cruz, intend to blockade New York! How long, pray, could they enforce it?

A Charleston letter states that Lieut. Deas, who recently swam across the Rio Grande and was captured by a Mexican, was induced to make the plunge in consequence of becoming enamored of a Mexican beauty on the other side, who gave him sundry signs and tokens of affection. He is christened the Modern Lander.

The widow of Col. Cross, the first victim of Mexican barbarity, died in Washington city on the 14th inst.—She had been for some time in bad health, and the shock of her husband’s fate is supposed to have hurried her to a premature grave.

Mr. Douglass of Illinois gave a fair hit to John Q. Adams a few days ago. "The gentleman from Massachusetts [he said] on the question on Oregon was for taking possession 54 40 first, and negotiating afterwards. I hope the gentleman will not blame Mr. Polk for taking possession of the Rio del Norte first, and negotiating afterwards."

Gen. Wool passes through New York on Saturday last, on his way to Washington, in pursuance of orders. He is to be transferred to the South.

A great War meeting, under the call of the Mayor, was to be held in New York last night. Great preparations were making in advance, and the most eminent speakers of both political parties were expected to address the assembled multitude.

We copy the following enigmatical paragraph from the New Orleans Tropic of the 12th inst. We have no clue to its meaning:
Pensacola Excitement—The rumors from Pensacola, rife in our city last evening, we believe to be without foundation. The letters bringing the news here, appear on their face to contain but unfounded rumors. We think the publication of them calculated to do much injury, create unnecessary excitement, and do no good whatever."

RW46v23i41p4c3, May 22, 1846: Later Advices.

The intelligence by yesterday’s Southern mail lease us to believe that the accounts of the preceding day were somewhat exaggerated, especially in relation to the number of Mexicans killed, and the extent of the damage sustained by the town of Matamoras. Apprehensions will seem to be felt for the fate of Gen. Taylor by the New Orleans papers, though they express strong confidence of his ability to keep the enemy in check until he could be reinforced. The Picayune of the 12th says: “If Gen. Taylor succeeded upon his return march in reaching the camp upon the Rio Grande without serious loss, the communication between Isabel and Matamoras is again open. But we cannot suppress a deep solicitude about the events of the 7th inst. If the Mexicans permitted the bulk of the army to go down to Point Isabel without molestation from policy, of course they will make the greater effort to prevent Gen. Taylor’s return to the camp. When the New York left, a battle was in progress, the result of which we await with confidence and concern.”

The New Orleans papers are filled with evidences of public enthusiasts, which seem rather to increase than to diminish. In addition to the two regiments of volunteers, the second of which was to sail on the 12th, the first having embarked the services of the Louisiana Legion, constituting in itself a brigade, have been accepted, and they are about to proceed to the field under the command of Brig. Gen. Augustin—other brigade being under the command of Brig. Gen. Smith. Maj. Gen. Lewis has applied to the Governor of Louisiana for the command of the whole division, and will doubtless receive the appointment. Many other separate corps of volunteers are in process of organization—among them a company of Germans, which has taken the name of The Black Hussars, after a celebrated corps commanded by the Duke of Brunswick, who was killed in the Belgian campaign in 1815. Troops from the interior were also pouring in. We have no space, indeed, to chronicle all the movements with which the papers in every section of the Union, but especially in the South, are filled.

Gen. Gaines has made the following requisitions: From Kentucky 2800 men; from Tennessee 2800; from Mississippi 1400; from Missouri 1400; from Alabama 1400—in all 9800. To these are to be added 2500 already furnished by Louisiana, 1000 mounted gunmen now organizing in the same State, and 2800 men called for from Texas, which will make Gen. Taylor’s force, when all assembled, (added to the U.S. trips) 19,000 strong.

Many of the merchants of New Orleans, it is said, have permitted their clerks to volunteer, without apprehension of losing their situation. One of the largest houses not only continue such of them as had volunteered in their situations, but give them half salaries during their absence.—Such liberality is worthy of all praise.

Among the privates in the Orleans Guards, about to start for the seat of war, is Gen. Wm. Debuys, the late Whig candidate for Governor of Louisiana.

RW46v23i41p4c4, May 22, 1846: From the New Orleans Picayune, May 12. Further From the Army!

Safety of Capt. Thornton and Lieut. Kane! Attack upon Gen. Taylor’s Camp—Narrative of the Action, &c.,

The steam schooner Florida, Capt. Clint, arrived at this post last evening from Brtrasos Santiago, whence she sailed on the 5th inst. Although her dates are not so late by one day as the new York’s, they contain fuller and more authentic details of events on the Rio Grande, and put quite a new aspect on affairs.

The reader will be delighted to hear that neither Capt. Thornton nor Lieut. Kane was killed in this affair of the surprise of Capt. Thornton’s Dragoons. We give below a minute account of the surprise and action, of the accuracy of which we have no doubt. It will be read with universal interest.

The Florida brought over official dispatches from Gen. Taylor for the Government. Col. Whistler came passenger on the Florida. A gentleman, who also cam passenger on the schooner, has furnished us with the following narrative of Gen. Taylor’s march from his camp to Point Isabel and of the subsequent attack upon the camp. It differs from the accounts received by the New York, via Galveston,[of which we have given the details commencing on the first page]. The reader may repose entire confidence in the following, as it may be considered almost official:

[ RW46v23i41p4c4, May 22, 1846: Attack Upon Gen. Taylor’s Camp. ]
On the 1st of May the main body of the Army of Occupation marched from the camp on the Rio Grande, leaving as a garrison in the fieldworks opposite Matamoras, the 7th Regiment of Infantry and two companies of Artillery, commanded by Capt. Lowd and Lieut. Bragg—the whole commanded by Major Brown, 7th Infantry.

On the 2nd the army encamped at Point Isabel. Early in the morning of the 3rd a heavy cannonade was heard in the direction of Matamoras, which was continued during the day of the 4th. Owing to the difficulty of communicating with the fort, no intelligence was received at headquarters respecting the result of the cannonade until the morning of the 5th, when a party sent forward to communicate brought a dispatch from Major Brown, announcing the particulars, a brief statement of which follows:

At 5 o'clock on the morning of the 3rd a fire was opened upon the fort from one of the Mexican batteries, and was continued with seven guns. The fire was immediately returned and the battery silenced by our guns in thirty minutes—two of the enemy's guns supposed to be dismounted.

The enemy then commenced firing from the lower fort and mortar battery; a brisk fire of shot and shells was kept up, but without damage to the fort or garrison.

A deliberate fire was now kept up by our eighteen pounders upon the enemy's guns and the city of Matamoras, the consulate flags being respected.

The fire of the enemy was kept up without cessation until half past 7. At 10 it was temporarily suspended, but recommenced and continued at intervals until 12 at night. Although it is believed that some 12 or 1500 shot were fired by the enemy during this period, but on casualty occurred—a sergeant of B Company 3rd Infantry being killed. Not one of our guns was dismounted, though the enemy's fire was concentrated for some time on the 18 pounder battery and the shot frequently struck the embrasures. At 5 o'clock on the morning of the 4th, the fire was resumed by the enemy, continued for 12 or 15 shots, and kept up at long intervals during the day, but without effect.

The amount of damage done to the enemy, beyond silencing their batteries, cannot yet be correctly known.

Our informant assures us that it was understood to be Gen. Taylor's intention to remain at Point Isabel until that post should be perfectly fortified, and a large accession of troops should arrive; but he further gives us every reason to encourage those enrolling or who may desire to enroll themselves, to believe that Gen. Taylor will lead them at once into active service—that it is his firm intention to "carry the war into Africa."

We proceed now to lay before the reader an account of the surprise and subsequent surrender of Capt. Thornton's command. Though not official, we have it from a gentleman familiar with the circumstances of the case, and upon whom we have published anything which has afforded us such sincere pleasure. It will cheer hearts and make the nation glad;

RW46v23i41p4c4, May 22, 1846: Surprise and Surrender of Capt. Thornton’s Command.

On the evening of the 23rd ult., General Taylor’s spies brought in intelligence to the effect that about two thousand five hundred Mexicans had crossed the Rio Grande to the Texas side above the American Fort, and that about fifteen hundred of same had crossed below. Gen. T. immediately dispatched a squadron of dragoons to each place of crossing for the purpose of reconnoitering them and ascertaining their position. The squadron ordered below was in command of Capt. Ker, the one above was commanded by Capt. Thornton and composed of Capt. Hardee, Lieut.’s Land and Mason, with sixty-one privates and non commissioned officers. The former commander, Capt. Ker, on arriving at the point where it was supposed they had crossed found that the report was false, that they had not crossed there but had all crossed above, which was afterwards proved by Capt. Thornton’s command being surprised, in which Lieut. Geo. Mason with nine men were killed and two wounded. The wounded were sent to Gen. Taylor’s camp; the army having no hospital in the field. Capt’s Thornton, Hardee, and Lieut. Kane miraculously escaped together with the balance of the non commissioned officers and men, but were captured and are now prisoners of war in Mexico.

The circumstances which led to the surprise are these; After Capt. T.’s command had proceeded up the Rio Grande about twenty-four miles and as was supposed, to within about three miles of the Mexican camp the guide refused to go any further, and stated for his reason that the whole country was infested with Mexicans. Capt. T. however, proceeded on with his command about two miles when he came to a farm house, which was enclosed entirely by a chaparral fence, with the exception of that portion of it which bordered on the river and this was so boggy as to be impassable. Capt. T. entered this enclosure, through a pair of bars and approached the house for the purpose of making some enquiry, his command following him. So soon as his command had all entered the enclosure, the enemy, having been concealed in the chaparral, about two thousand five hundred in number, completely surrounded him and commenced firing upon his command. He then wheeled his command thinking that he could charge through the enemy and pass out where he had entered, not however, without a considerable loss. This he attempted but did not succeed, the enemy being too strong.
At this instant, Capt. Hardee approached him for the purpose of advising him how to extricate themselves. The firing of the enemy still continuing Capt. Thornton’s horse, doubtless having received a shot, ran away with him and leaped the Chaparral fence and plunged into a precipice where he fell with Capt. T. under him, where he latter remained insensible for five or six hours. This casualty placed Capt. Hardee in command, who attempted with the residue to make his escape by the river, intending on arriving at its margin to swim it. In this he failed, finding it so boggy that he could not get to it. He then returned, taking the precaution to get out of distance of musketry, dismounted and examined the arms of his men, determining to sell their lives as dearly as possible. Before he had succeeded, however, in the inspection of his arms, a Mexican officer rode up and asked him to surrender. Capt. H. replied that he would surrender, but on no other conditions.—Capt. H. then surrendered. Capts. Thornton and Hardee, with Lieut. Kane and the residue of the non-commissioned officers and privates of Capt. T.’s command are now prisoner of war in Mexico. The enemy treats them remarkably well.

Lieut. Geo. Mason was a fine young officer, and his death is much regretted. His saber belt was recognized among some articles that were subsequently captured from the enemy.

So lively is the curiosity to learn every particular of the actions of the 3rd and 4th insts., that we annex hereto a letter from an officer at Point Isabel, written more for our private eye than for the public, but which cannot but interest all our readers.

The gallant corps of volunteers, of this city, now numbering upwards of one hundred strong were carried through their exercises, yesterday evening, by Capt. Dimmock of the State Guard. A large number of citizens were at the Armory to witness the drill, and all present were struck with the aptitude of the gallant young soldiers, many of whom, for the short time they had been drilled, performed their parts with credit to themselves and promised honor to their country. We had no idea they numbered so strong, until we entered the Armory Yard and discovered what a formidable line these young soldiers presented. We counted seventy-eight in the line who were on drill, and understood that the number already enrolled amounts to upwards of one hundred men. A still larger number are expected to enroll their names, prepare for service, and await the orders of President Polk.

The Washington Union states that Capt. Carrington and Lieut. Warren, of the Richmond Texas Volunteers, applied to the President on the 18th inst. for immediate service, in the presence of many distinguished gentlemen, Senator Pennybacker, Gov. McDowell from Virginia, &c. &c. The President (save the Union) was evidently gratified, complimented their patriotism, and promised, if a call should be made upon Virginia, that their claims should be fairly considered.

The President has ordered 43,500 men in all, to be enrolled and made ready to be called into the public service at any moment. This includes the troops already called out from the Southwest, and the additional number will be from other sections of the Union.—New York will be called upon for eight regiments, Pennsylvania for six, and so on.

Two millions of money more you will observe has been asked for by the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means to feed and clothe 8000 men added last week to the rank and file of the Standing Army, and for the Oregon regiment of mounted volunteers.

Gentlemen—When the express came in this morning, I hurriedly penciled down gratifying intelligence which it brought us, expecting the boat would leave in a few minutes. It now only waits for Gen. Taylor’s official dispatch, which is being prepared for Washington. Having heard the official report from Major Brown read, and having a letter before me from there, I will give your further particulars accordingly.
On the morning of the 3rd, at reveille, the Mexicans opened their batteries upon the work, throwing balls and shells without intermission until sunset, finishing with half a dozen extra ones at tattoo for a lullaby.

At reveille, on the 4th, they opened again, sending a few shots and shells, which compliment was repeated at noon. Our artillery silenced the fort opposite ours in half an hour after the firing commenced on the 4th, and knocked three embrasures into one. This caused them to stop firing there for a considerable time, to repair damages. Our artillery also dismounted several of their guns, and from appearances must have killed many men. On our part but one sergeant, of the 7th infantry, was killed—being shot in the head with a 3lb ball. He was carried to the hospital, when, strange to say, a shell fell and blew the remainder of his head off. Some twenty men were standing around the hospital when the shell burst several were knocked down, but none injured. One artillery soldier was slightly wounded by a piece of a shell, and many have made narrow escapes. We only kept up our fire for about two hours—saving our ammunition whilst theirs was being thrown away. From their having thrown from 1500 to 2000 shots and shells, and killing but one of our men and wounding another, you may judge they are none of the best artillerists, and that we had good defenses. Their shot rendered a good many of our tents unserviceable, but all our men are in good spirits and anxious to come to close quarters.

Our piquet guard is now firing at a party of Mexican soldiers, about a mile below the fort. The Chaparral between this and the fort is like a bee-hive, so full is it with Mexicans. It is thought they will make an assault on the rear of the fort, and try and repel the march of the troops from this place returning. Gen. T. leaves as soon as a reinforcement arrives here, which will enable the work to be defended without the force which he brought down from above.

In haste yours,
S.S.F.

[End of first page]

RW46v23i41p4c5, May 22, 1846: The Administration and the Country.

The calamities which the Whigs predicted would result from the annexation of Texas, are now upon us. War, in its grim aspects, has opened its fires upon our South-Western borders, and the whole nation feels something of the excitement always incident to a state of hostilities. Already has the blood of Americans been shed in a contest with Mexican soldiers? In such a case, no loyal son of the Old Dominion will be a careless and indifferent spectator, not will he stop to enquire into the righteousness of the cause of this state of things. It is enough for him to know that a hostile foe has planted his flag upon territory which the action of our National legislation has made ours, and that every attempt to negotiate and settle the limits of Texas has been refused by Mexico. Our country has been patient with our neighbor Mexico; our citizens have suffered grievous wrongs at her hands; but still there was no desire to draw the sword to avenge them,—at least on the part of the people;—she has been the first to refuse to treat, and the first to sound the tocsin of war. It is, then, incumbent upon our citizens to see that the contest is a decisive one—one that shall vindicate the country and in the peace which shall ensue make it permanent and lasting. When this is accomplished, (and may a kind Providence early ordain it!) then we will canvass the causes of the war, and fix the blame where it belongs. If our Administration can clear its skirts of censure, then we shall have still farther cause of congratulation. But let not our politicians and our partisan editors suppose that the popularity of a war in the nineteenth century can depend upon their speculations. This is an age of enquiry; and the honest, intelligent men of the times, such as John C. Calhoun and JNO. J. Crittenden, will expose what is wrong, be he who he may that practices it. But for the present, look to our little army; be ready to give it assistance and protection, and if need be, march at once to the scene of danger and of action.

For the Whigs of Virginia, one, who knows well of "what stuff they are made," will freely speak: They will not be found lagging—they have ever been found in the front ranks of the battle for freedom. From the days of John Hampden till now, they have poured out their blood like water for the cause of human liberty. When the mere pander to Executive favor has been boisterous in his adulation, with no soul nor heart to love his country and defend her rights, Whigs, in the and in the Senate, have been raising barriers to the approach of the foe. Ina contest like the present, every such Whig in Virginia is ready, and will do his duty. Let not the guilty, however, expect to escape the condemnation justly due for his crimes.

To the rescue, then, in any way your country may call! Gen. Taylor is our "Harry of Navarre"—follow his white plume!

MARION

[End of second page]
Mr. Benton offered a resolution, which was adopted, instructing the Committee on Military Affairs to inquire into the expedience of increasing the general staff of the Army in consequence of the increase of the rank and file; also of providing for the mere efficient organization of volunteers.

The bill to repeal that part of the naval appropriation bill which limits the force of the Navy to 7500 men was taken up and passed.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the bill to provide for the adjustment of all suspended preemption claims in the several States and Territories.

Mr. Huntington offered an amendment designed to retain the final decision upon the claims in the hands of Congress, and supported it in a brief speech.

Mr. Johnson, of La. opposed the amendment and supported the bill as amended by the Committee on Private Land Claims.

Mr. Calhoun was in favor of allowing the Commissioner to decide upon the claims, after consultation with the Attorney General, but requiring him to report his decisions to Congress, and the grounds upon which they are based.

After some conversation the bill was amended so as to embrace the points advocated by Mr. Calhoun, and were then ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

On motion of Mr. Dayton the bill and report from the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads on the subject of a mail route across the Isthmus of Panama, was recommitted.

More than half an hour was occupied by Mr. D. in reading some choice extracts from the correspondence of Mr. Wm. Gilpin, embraced in this report, which put the gravity of the Senate to a severe test.

On motion of Mr. Fairfield the bill reported in the early part of the session for building ten war steamers, was recommitted to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

The bill increasing the number of Paymasters in the Army, and changing the tenure of the office, was taken up; and, after a brief discussion, was read a third time and passed.

The Senate then went into Executive session, and after a short time spent therein, adjourned.

A Resolution was offered calling for information in relation to the Harbor at Sandusky Bay, which was agreed to by the House.

Mr. McKay of N.C., proposed to terminate all debate upon the Army Bill at two o’clock to morrow. A motion to lay upon the table was lost, 93 to 67, and the Resolution was then adopted.

OREGON INDIAN BILL

Mr. Thompson, of Miss., moved to postpone the Oregon Indian Bill until the first Monday in June. Mr. T. said he made the motion with a view of awaiting the action of the Senate upon the Oregon jurisdiction Bill. The consideration of the Bill was postponed.

ARMY BILL

Mr. McKay of N.C. moved that the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole upon the state of the Union, which motion was agreed to. Mr. Cobb of Ga. was called to the Chair. Mr. McKay stated that in consequence of the increase of the rank and fate of the Army, it would be necessary to increase the appropriations for the rank and file some two millions of dollars.

Mr. Sims of S.C. opposed the pending amendment to the Bill which was to increase the pay of soldiers in the ranks of the Army to ten dollars a month. Mr. S. also entered upon general defense of the Administration, and the laws of nations to prove that the Executive had been guilty of no improprieties in prosecuting a war with Mexico.

Mr. Lumpkin of Georgia read a speech giving his views upon the war movements. They were warmly in defense of what had been done by the Executive, and an argument to show that the Executive was bound to do what had been done. The few members who had voted against the Bill to declare war were treated with the respect due to their opinions and sincerity awarded them, which is more than has been done by all the friends of the Administration.
All of them had avowed their willingness to vote for supplies, though all were not ready to excuse the Administration and rally in support of it, which he thought ought to be done.

Mr. Tombs of Ga. rose in reply, and with so much spirit and fervor that his speech at once commanded the undivided attention of the House. The bill passed by Congress was prefaced by a statement which was not true, and this misstatement of fact he denounced in warm language. The war declared was an aggression upon Mexico, a usurpation of power.

The soil was never represented in the Texan Congress. They were Mexican people there, and did not rebel with the Texans or take part in the Texan Revolution. The President had violated the law of Congress and committed an act of usurpation by sending the Army to the Rio Grande. Mr. Tombs addressed the Committee briefly but with great force and effect.

Mr. Chipman, of Mich., continued the debate in a violation speech abusive of the “Federal Whigs” and laudatory of Mr. Polk and the “Democracy.”

Mr. Grider of Ky., denounced this war which had been produced by the Executive. He argued that peace might have been obtained, and our difficulties with Mexico settled in an amicable and honorable manner.

The war was an Executive war, and he should speak of it as such, regardless of all that might be said by anybody. He should cease to be a freeman when he could not speak of him in a manner corresponding to his usurpations. The war that had been provoked he would prosecute with vigor, but the manner of the war he condemned.

The soil between the Nueces and the Rio del Norte was at least doubtful, and ought not to have been invaded. With as earnest efforts to make peace as to prosecute war, peace might have been preserved, and all questions amicably settled.

Mr. G. said he should not heed the denunciations against him. He spoke from his own convictions of right and in detestation of all usurpations of power.

Mr. Tibbatts of Ky. Took the floor to reply, but gave way to a motion that the Committee rise, which prevailed.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. Hopkins of Va., said that as Chairman of the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads, he had received a communication from one of the Texas Senators in reference to the mail routes, and complaining that the mail service was suspended.

A Bill was then passes giving the Post Master General power to continue the mail service in Texas as when Texas was independent, The House then adjourned.

The Star-Spangled Banner Still Waving in Triumph!

The public pulse was made to beat high, and our citizens were relieved of an almost agonizing suspense, by the arrival of the Southern train on Saturday. The thrilling news from the seat of war was first indicated to the anxious expectants at the Depot, by the signal which floated in triumph as the cars reached the bridge over our noble James. The stars and stripes waved in triumphant beauty as all eyes turned upon them; and upon the breeze was wafted the soul-stirring news that our intrepid Taylor, with his gallant little army, had done his duty, in defending a country of which he and those under him have ample reason to be proud.

It will be seen, by our columns of to-day, that two engagements had taken place between a Mexican force of more than 5000 strong, and the American army, of only about two thousand men. Of the actual number killed and wounded on either side, it is a matter of perfect uncertainty to undertake to decide; but this much we are satisfied of, we have at least good reason, for regarding the action as having turned decidedly in favor of our own countrymen. We see it stated by the slips, we have before us, that a battle—nay, two battles had been fought, and we also notice, that a large number of Mexicans were either killed, wounded, or taken prisoner, whilst but few Americans have been sacrificed. We have therefore, cause to rejoice at a victory over our enemies, yet we should nevertheless pause to mourn the loss of a Ringgold, a Brown, a McIntosh, and other gallant spirits, whose blood has been poured out in defence of their country. In the midst of all the excitement incident upon such an occasion, we cannot but deeply deplore the loss we have sustained; even though it seems comparatively but small. The news likely to reach the city in a short time, may enable us to give a more accurate account of the killed and wounded on either side; and we devoutly hope that the loss from our ranks may be far less than has been heretofore stated. Should it be otherwise, however, we will still have abundant reason for congratulating the county upon a noble achievement.
By recent successful engagements of our little army with a much larger Mexican force, General Taylor has verified the prediction, that the American Flag would never be trampled upon while under his protection. He has met the enemy of our country under many disadvantages, yet how nobly has he vindicated himself and the objects for which his army contend! When the United States need a bright example to point out to other nations, let the triumphs of the 7th and 9th of May, be held forth as achievements which would reflect honor upon any soldiery.

In view of all now before us, notwithstanding the apparently determined spirit of the Mexicans to carry this matter still further, have we not a dependence in the skill and energy of Gen. Taylor—with the aid of such a combined force as we have been informed has already gone to his rescue, have we not reason, we say, to regard the peace of the two countries as near at hand? If the Mexican Government, which has heretofore dealt so much in empty words, should continue to wage a war with the United States, it will be incumbent upon this Government to sustain our army, add to its strength and efficiency by accepting the services of such volunteers as have already tendered their lives and their fortunes in endeavoring to bring about a speedy settlement of our present difficulties with Mexico. We do not hesitate to say, that now we have embarked in this matter, it should be carried through. If the Mexicans will not come into terms willingly, without the fight, why, let us give it them; and who then can doubt our ability to place them in a condition in which they will be glad to sue for peace. We say again, let men and money be freely given; but above all, let us bring about as speedy a restoration of peace between the two countries, as it is possible to accomplish without further bloodshed.

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RW46v23i42p1c2, May 26, 1846: Volunteers.

At a meeting of the Richmond Grays, held at the Military Hall, on the evening of the 22d May, 1846, pursuant to the order of the Captain thereof, the following preamble and resolution were unanimously adopted:

Whereas this Company has received information that a Requisition has been made by the President of the United States upon the Governor of Virginia for three Regiments of Infantry, who are to be equipped and armed, and to hold themselves in readiness for service; and whereas this Company is, and has been, at all times, ready to protect the interest and defend the honor and rights of their country, and deeming it now necessary to volunteer their services.

Therefore, be it Resolved, That the Captain of the Company tender to the Executive of Virginia the services of the Richmond Grays, with an earnest request to be enrolled in any Regiment that may be raised under the requisition aforesaid.

RO. G. SCOTT, Jr.
Captain of the Richmond Grays.

Louis J. Boissieux, Secretary.

At a meeting of the citizens of Richmond, held at the Odd Fellows' Hall, on the evening of the 21st instant, Gen. W. H. Lambert was called to the Chair, and Thos. T. T. Tabb appointed Secretary. The meeting was eloquently addressed by Capt. Carrington, Messrs. Wm. A Patteson, Thomas P. August, and John S. Caskie.

On motion of John S. Caskie, Esq., it was

Resolved, That the Committee of Five, appointed at a former meeting, for the purpose of collecting an amount sufficient to equip the Richmond Volunteers, be enlarged to nine, three from each Ward, and that the Chairman appoint the additional members of said Committee; whereupon, the following gentlemen were added to the Committee: John Wamble, Samuel D. Denoon, John H. Cooke, and Hay Taliaferro\Dr. Wm. A. Patteson, Col. T. B. Bigger, Jas. Winston, Col. George M. Carrington, and Jno. D. Munford, being the Committee before appointed. The meeting then adjourned.

WM. LAMBERT, Chairman,
Thos. T. T. Tabb, Secretary.

RW46v23i42p1c1, May 26, 1846: A Wise and Prudent Decision.

A Wise and Prudent Decision.

It will be recollected that, after the defeat of the resolution from the lower house of Congress, to give the "Notice" to Great Britain, the Senate passed a resolution which was to extend the jurisdiction of our laws over the Oregon Territory. This, at the time it was passed, was properly regarded as being even more offensive to the British
Government, than the "Notice" itself; and, we must confess, we dreaded the result of its being carried into effect. The subject, in its original form, having been referred, by the Senate, to the Committee of Territories, has since come back to the body in which it originated, and the Committee ask to be excused from its further consideration.

The subjoined, taken from the Congress news of Thursday, will give the reader an idea of the conclusion to which the Senate's Committee have come on the subject:

"Mr. Westcott, from the Territorial Committee, to whom had been referred, the resolution relative to the expediency of the establishment of a Territorial Government in Oregon, reported that the committee did not deem it expedient to act upon the matter at this time.

The Oregon jurisdiction bill from the House, which had been referred to the same committee, was also reported back, with a motion that the committee be discharged from the further consideration of the bill, on the grounds that it is inexpedient to act upon it at present.

The Right Spirit abroad in the Land.

With what pride should we look upon the movements of our gallant countrymen, who are rallying from one extremity of the Union to the other, in behalf of a country alike dear to the heart of every American freeman! Each mail brings us evidence that the right spirit is abroad, and that Americans are determined to sustain their country, under its existing trials, whether right or wrong. Although a majority of our people must feel that their county has been placed in an unenviable position, by the duplicity, and, we might well say, imbecility of the powers that be, now at its head; yet, like true patriots, the generous, the proud, and the noble sons of liberty, have lost sight of the cause in seeking to avert the effect, which a war like that now existing between Mexico and their own Government is well calculated to produce.

ENGLAND'S WARLIKE REPARATIONS FOR AMERICA.

"Within the last 6 months a great war party has manifested itself in the U. S. England thinks that in the Oregon affair there is one of those questions of national honor which do not permit her to cede to imperious injunctions. She has feared, especially as the probable result of a war with the American Union, the loss of her immense possessions of Canada, New Scotland, New Brunswick, and other colonies on the continent to the north of the great Republic. To put herself in a position to meet all dangers, she has, without affectation, but without mystery, made the most formidable armament. It is as follows:

**Armament of England in the Atlantic and the Pacific oceans, ready to menace the United States on 1st January, 1846:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vessels.</th>
<th>Frigates.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 vessels, 3 decks</td>
<td>7 frigates of 50 guns</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 &quot; of 80 guns</td>
<td>5 &quot; 42 to 44</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 &quot; of 74 &quot;</td>
<td>1 frigate 46</td>
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<td>••</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 vessels</td>
<td>13 frigates and 14 corvettes</td>
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42 sailing vessels of war, commanded by post captains, and, moreover, 7 steam frigates and corvettes, disposable in the Atlantic and Pacific.

SENATE--Thursday, May 21.

Mr. Ashly, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill to change the time of holding the Spring Courts of
Mr. Semple presented a remonstrance from citizens of the District of Columbia against the retrocession of any part of the District. Referred to the Committee on the District.

Mr. Yulee offered a resolution, which was adopted, instructing the Committee on Naval Affairs to inquire into the merits of Capt. R. F. Lopers' plan of building iron steamers.

On motion of Mr. Rusk, the Military Committee was instructed to inquire into the expediency of purchasing 200 of Colt's patent rifles.

The Committee on Territories to which the subject had been referred, reported that it was not expedient to move in the matter of a territorial government for Oregon at this session.

Also, that they had been unable to come to an agreement upon the various matters contained in the bill from the House for extending our laws over the territory of the U. S. lying west of the Rocky Mountains, and for other purposes, and asked to be discharged from its further consideration.

Mr. Wescott gave notice that when the report came up to-morrow, he should move to postpone the whole subject until the 1st Monday in December.

Mr. Benton. At what hour to-morrow does the Senator intend to make the motion?

Mr. Wescott. At 1 o'clock.

Mr. Benton. Perhaps I shall have a word or two to say then.

On motion of Mr. Johnson, of La., the Senate took up the bill to amend the act providing for the adjustment of land claims within the States of Missouri, Arkansas, and Louisiana, and parts of Mississippi and Alabama.

After some discussion and the adoption of sundry amendments, the bill was postponed until Monday next.

The French Spoliation Bill was then taken up, and after sundry amendments were offered to the bill, which were ordered to be printed.

Mr. J. M. Clayton addressed the Senate at some length in reply to the speeches of Mr. Dix and Mr. Colquitt, and after a short Executive session, the Senate adjourned.

RW46v23i42p2c1, May 26, 1846: From the Army.

We have been politely furnished with the following extract of a letter from an officer of the 8th Infantry, to his father in this city. That regiment participated prominently and honorably in the late triumphant battles between the American and Mexican forces on the frontier—bearing, indeed, on one occasion, the brunt of the battle. We refer the reader to another column for an abstract of Gen. Taylor's official account of these engagements, and for other very interesting items of information copied from the last New Orleans papers:

"Camp, Near Matamoros, May 10, 1846.

"The Express is going in five minutes•so I have time only to write two words. We have had two battles with the Mexicans. Our victory has been complete. All the officers, except myself, and one-third of the soldiers of my company have been either killed or wounded. I, by some miracle, have escaped. We took one battery, which fired grape-shot for a quarter of an hour upon us. My company was the first. The Mexican Army was cut to pieces. We were 1700•they were 6800. Gen. La Vega is a prisoner, and it is from him we have their number. We have all their artillery, and all their munitions of war."

[BWP]

RW46v23i42p2c2, May 26, 1846: Virginia Volunteers.

A volunteer company has been organized in Fredericksburg, to aid in the defence of Texas. Joseph Robinson is Captain, Wm. S. Briggs 1st Lieutenant, Mural Willis 2d, William G. Coleman 3rd, Henry Knox 4th, and Robert B. Alexander Orderly Sergeant.
In Lynchburg, we learn from the Virginian, efforts are making to organize a company. Two meetings have been held, which were addressed by Messrs. Wm. D. Fair, Jno. Wm. Dudley, James B. Green, and others, with patriotic fervor.

It will be seen, by the Proclamation of the Governor of Virginia, in another column, that that officer is authorized to receive applications for a large number of volunteers, to be hereafter mustered into the service of the U. States, should the emergency require it. Of this, unless there should be unfortunately a war with England, we think there is now no much probability. Nevertheless, we hope the full number which may be required from Virginia will respond to the call.

The Editor of the St. Louis Republican, who has recently returned to that city from a visit to Nauvoo, states that the number of Mormons who have left that place on their way to California is about 1000, and others are making preparations to follow as rapidly as possible. The Nauvoo Eagle, however, manifests great uneasiness lest those who remain shall be attacked by the Anti-Mormons before they can make arrangements to depart.

The N. O. and other Southern papers continue to be filled with accounts of the organization and marching of corps of Volunteers for the Mexican campaign. We take it for granted that Mexico will now soon beg for peace, and that the services of but few of them will be required.

The present age presents various features in its moral and political character, differing materially from the age that preceded it; and while there is much that is praise worthy, and that deserves to be considered an improvement on the past, there are other matters deserving the severest censure, and that will meet with the decided condemnation of reflecting men of all parties in politics, and of every shade of difference in religious sentiment. Among the censurable and dark features in the character of the present age, bigotry, intolerance, and a spirit of detraction, hold a conspicuous place. The truth of this remark will be apparent to every man who will rid himself as far as possible of party prejudices, and retire to some quiet retreat, whence he may through a "loop hole" take a calm view of what is passing around him in the world.

These reflections have been induced by considering the position assumed by a portion of the political press in the United States towards another portion of the press, which is generally considered the organ of a large and highly respectable portion of our citizens, who happens not to possess optics keen enough to see that every thing done by the officers of the General Government is precisely right. For what they consider a candid and honest expression of opinion, they are denounced, in offensive language, as traitors to their country, who, under the profession of patriotism are virtually in league with her enemies. The writer proposes to furnish an example, which has very recently come under his observation. The following language deserves to be pondered well by all Editors of political papers. It is reasonable to suppose that the writer himself could not have considered with seriousness its import, otherwise he would have so modified it as to have shorn it of its offensive and intolerant features.

"We are extremely sorry to use party terms in connection with this Mexican War. We had hoped that such distinctions would be forgotten; and that all who claim the protection of our common flag would come to is rescue with a common alacrity and zeal. As far as the people are concerned, we are not disappointed. There is a strong and irrepressible instinct of republicanism and patriotism in the popular mind, which the ill-disguised toryism of self-constituted oracles can neither dampen nor corrupt. The great heart of the country is right, notwithstanding nearly every Whig paper which comes under our observation is pouring out its strong and foul current of modified treason. It is true their sympathies may not be steeled against our gallant brethren in arms on the Rio Grande; and it is true they decorate their columns in glowing words and startling capitals, when they have occasion to chronicle their successes; but it is also true and here is the treason of it•they labor with 'horrid arts and execrable zeal' to place our country is the wrong before the world. This is the treason, and for it they deserve the execration of every honest man in Christendom."
It is not the writer's design to charge this illiberal, uncandid, and intolerant course exclusively upon the Democratic press. Much of it may doubtless be found in the presses of other parties, and it is deeply deplored by all who esteem it right to treat an opponent with that fairness and courtesy which we all wish to have extended to ourselves. It is time for the conductors of the press to discountenance all productions which are filled with offensive language, impugning the motives, honesty, and patriotism of all who are not their thorough-going partisans. When will all who write or speak learn to exercise moderation, candor, and courtesy? Can it be productive of good, or is it consistent with TRUTH, to charge an opponent with bad motives because he may be found advocating opinions or practices which we do not approve? MODERATION.

Fredericksburg, May 22d.

P.S. What does the word "people" in the foregoing extract mean? If it is intended to embrace the citizens of the U. States, of all parties, it is far from being correct to say that they are "right" if to be "right" means that they approve indiscriminately of the doings of the officers of the General Government: And if it is to be confined to the Democratic party, it is still incorrect, for a large number of both parties do not approve of the doings of President Polk; and without doubt there is patriotism in both parties. Who, then are the People? [Democratic Recorder, May 22nd.]


We have been politely favoured with a perusal of the official dispatch addressed by Gen. Taylor to Gen Gaines, dated from his camp on the field of battle, three miles from Matamoras, May 9th 1846. It does not differ materially from the accounts of the two engagements already laid before the public. On the 8th Gen. T. drove the enemy from their position, and occupied it during the night. The lost in this conflict was 12 killed and 39 wounded. On the 9th the army resumed its march until it encountered the enemy, protected, as stated in our extra, by a ravine, with artillery on its ravine. This battery was stormed by Capt. May's Company of Dragoons. The number of killed and wounded on our side could not be ascertained. Private accounts make the number something over one hundred.

In this second engagement Lieutenant Inge of the 2nd Dragoons, Lieutenant Cochrane of the 4th Infantry, and Lieutenant Chadbourne of the 8th Infantry were killed. Officers wounded: Lieutenant Cols. McIntosh and Payne, Captains Montgomery and Hove; Lieutenants Gaters, Maclay, Seldon, Burbank, Jordon and Fowler of the Infantry.

The dispatch states that the forces under General Taylor were two thousand three hundred men, and that they had to contend against 3,800 Mexicans of the regular army, and about 2000 irregular cavalry.

The fort opposite Matamoras has been nearly incessantly bombarded during one hundred and sixty hours, during which an immense number of shot and shells were thrown in it. No material damage has been sustained.

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RW46v23i42p2c4, May 26, 1846: Affairs on the Frontier.

AFFAIRS ON THE FRONTIER.

We published in Extras the substance of the interesting and important information brought by the Louisiana, the Col. Harney and the Galveston—the latter being the last of the arrivals, and bringing the latest intelligence. We now subjoin, from a supplementary edition of the Galveston News and Civilian of the 15th, such additional particulars as we were able to crowd in our extras.

The following anecdote connected with the decisive battle of the 9th; is too good to be omitted:

"The battle commenced by heavy cannonading on both sides. Gen. Taylor, in passing his lines, accosted Captain May of the 2d dragoons, and told him 'your regiment has never done anything yet, you must take that battery.' He said nothing but turned to the command and said 'we must take that battery follow.' He made a charge with three companies—at least with the remainder of three companies—supported by the 5th and 8th regiments of infantry. They cleared the breast work, rode over the battery, wheeled and came through the enemy's line whilst the fire of the infantry was so deadly in its effects to carry all before it. Captain May made a cut at an officer as he charged through—on his return he found him standing between the wheels of a cannon—fighting like a hero. He ordered him to surrender. He was asked if he was an officer? Captain May answered him in the affirmative, when he presented his sword remarking 'You receive General Vega a prisoner of war? Captain May gave him in charge of one of his sergeants who had lost his horse in the charge, ordering him to conduct him to General Taylor out of the line.'

In this charge Capt. Gage, a brave and gallant officer fell. A complete panic issued on the part of the enemy, and they fled in every direction, many being drowned in attempting to cross the river.

"Eight pieces of artillery fell into our hands, and innumerable quantity of small arms, munitions, baggage, camp
equipage, military chest containing a large quantity of gold, Gen. Arista's carriage, baggage, port folio with all his official correspondence with the Government, with full plans of the campaign, and instructions from the Mexican Government, authorizing him to send Gen. Taylor and his army when taken to the city of Mexico; to treat Gen. Taylor and his officers with such care and attention as becomes the magnanimity of the great Mexican nation. Four or five hundred head of mules &c. with a large number of strands of colors.

The plan of the campaign and the instructions from his Government ordered him to take possession of Point Isabel, this was to be the brief act of hostility, he was to fortify it as strongly as possible. He was likewise ordered to take possession of the mouth of the river and fortify it at once.

Some 400 Mexicans were buried at the last accounts, but doubtless hundreds lie dead among the Chaperal.

Capt. May's attack is spoken of as being one of those splendid efforts which would have adorned the brightest feather of the plume of Murat, in the palmist days of his glory. It cost him 18 horses with a few of the gallant riders. The victory, says the Extra from which we copy entirely belongs to the U. S. Army. No volunteers having arrived in time to share in the honors of the day. It will convince our country, that West Point affords the material of exhibiting the courage and bravery of American soldier.

I trust we will hear no more of dismounting our gallant Dragoons, the affair of the 9th shows them to be the arteries of our defence.

That redoubtable hero, Gen. Ampudia, commanded the 2d Division of the Mexican army. It is said he was the first man to make good his escape to Matamoras, where he reported that Arista had betrayed the army. [N. O Bee.]

GENERAL VEGA. In addition to the unprecedented excitement in our city yesterday, caused by the news of the glorious victory of General Taylor, and the war intelligence from Washington, the sensation was if possible increased by the landing of General Romilio Dias de la Vega as a prisoner of war, from on board the steamer Colonel Harney. This brave and experienced officer has a very prepossessing appearance; his is very little over the middle height, has a fine manly countenance of a swarthy hue, set off by full and well trimmed whiskers and mustachi es. On his landing from the steamer he was conducted to a private residence at the corner of Toulouse and Royal streets, where a vast concourse of people were gathered to catch a glimpse of a live Mexican General. The General appeared to be in excellent spirits. His conversation with several persons who were admitted to see him, was carried on by an interpreter in the Spanish language as he does not speak either the English or French. He expressed himself surprised at the wonderful extent of New Orleans and expatiated upon its immense amount of shipping, stating that he had no idea of the importance of the city. In speaking of the late battle, he was understood to say that the American artillery behaved with uncommon efficiency. Shortly after his arrival, General Gaines admitted him and the officers on parole, and they will, no doubt, take their quarters at the St. Charles Hotel.

By the barque Mandarin, arrived this morning from Vera Cruz, which port she left on the 7th inst., we learn that the U. S. Squadron sailed from Vera Cruz on the 4th inst. On getting under way, the guns of the Castle were all manned, matches lighted ready to fire into them, if any disposition was made towards it. It was generally believed that as soon as it was ascertained that hostilities had commenced on the frontiers, Com. Conner would make an attack on the town and Castle; but a larger force would be required than was there.

When the Meridian sailed the U. S. Ship Falmouth was the only vessel in port. The Commodore, it was reported; had gone to the Brazos, to assist the army, if needed. Every preparation was making at Vera Cruz for its defence, and that of the Castle, heavy guns were being taken over every day. The weather had become very hot. The thermometer standing at 96 in the shade.

The Vomits had made its appearance.

With a view of obtaining the requisite information as to the government of this volunteer corps, now organizing under the late act of Congress, a letter was written a few days ago by major General Stewart to Washington, making all needful inquiries on the subject. The reply of the Secretary of War is annexed. It appears to contain every
necessary direction, and, if extensively circulated, will save a vast deal of trouble to all parties interested. It will be observed by the accompanying memorandum that no provision is made for a company of artillery.

[Baltimore American.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, May 19, 1846.

Sir: In reply to the inquiries contained in the letter of Major General Steuart, and in other communications, submitted by you to this Department, I have the honor to inform you that the rule adopted is to call for volunteers that are required from any particular State, through the Governor. This is an act of respect to the Executive of the State, due as well to his position, as to his generally superior knowledge of the character and efficiency of the volunteers throughout the State, the sections from which it is most advisable to take them, and which of them can, with the greatest facility and least expense, be embodied for the service for which they may be required. Circumstances may, however, occur to render it expedient to accept offers of service direct, without the intervention of the Governor, when an application to him might cause delay. Applications of companies, regiments, &c. to enter the service may therefore be made direct to this Department.

The law, a copy of which is enclosed, provides that the officers of volunteers shall be appointed by the proper State authority, in the manner prescribed by the State laws; and the accompanying memorandum shows the number of officers, non-commissioned officers and privates, and the organization of companies and regiments.

The law also requires that the volunteers furnish their own clothing, and, if cavalry their own horses and horse equipage. Such as are already uniformed need not change; such as are not, and contemplate uniforming, are at liberty to adopt such as they think proper; but it is advisable that all who may be called into the service adapt their dress, as nearly as circumstances will permit, to the nature of the service that may be required of them, and to the character of the country and climate where they may have to serve. Those that shall be accepted will be armed and equipped at the expense of the United States, and will be inspected and mustered into service by an officer of the army, or by one appointed by the Governor, at such times and places as will be specified when their services are called for.

Very respectfully your obedient serv’t,

W. L. Marcy, Secretary of War.

Hon. Wm. F. Gilem,
House of Representatives U. S.

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Memorandum of the Organization of Volunteer Corps,
under the act of 13th May, 1846.

A company of cavalry, or mounted men, will consist of:

1 Captain,
1 First Lieutenant,
1 Second Lieutenant,
4 Sergeants,
4 Corporals,
2 Buglers,
1 Farrier and Blacksmith,
and 67 Privates, as established by order of the President.

A regiment of Cavalry, or mounted men, will consist of:

Field & staff officers

1 Colonel
1 Lieutenant Colonel
1 Major
1 Adjutant, (Lieutenant in addition to the Lieutenant of Corps.)

Non commissioned staff

1 Sergeant Major
1 Quartermaster Sergeant,
1 Principal Musician,
Chief Buglers, and
10 Companies, for the organization of which see above
A company of Infantry (or Riflemen) will consist of:

1 Captain,
1 First Lieutenant,
1 Second Lieutenant,
4 Sergeants,
4 Corporals,
2 Musicians, and
64 Privates, as established by order of the President.

A Regiment of Infantry (or Riflemen) will consist of:

Field and staff officers
1 Colonel,
1 Lieutenant Colonel,
1 Major,
1 Adjutant, (a lieutenant of one of the companies, but not in addition.)

Non commissioned staff.
1 Sergeant Major,
1 Quartermaster Sergeant,
2 Principal Musicians, and
10 Companies, for the organization of which see above.

BY THE GOVERNOR.

A PROCLAMATION.

The Congress of the United States having, by an act approved on the 13th May, 1946, declared that a state of War exists between the Republic of Mexico and that of the United States; and the President of the United States, being by said act authorized "to call for and accept the services of any number of Volunteers, not exceeding 50,000," "for the purpose of enabling the Government of the United States to prosecute said war to a speedy and successful termination," and having called upon the Executive of this State, under date of the 19th inst., "to cause to be enrolled and held in readiness for muster into the service of the United States, three Regiments of Infantry," to be composed of Volunteer corps.

Now, therefore, I, WILLIAM SMITH, Governor of Virginia, by virtue of the authority with which I am invested, do announce to my fellow citizens my readiness to receive, for the purpose aforesaid, a tender of the services of thirty companies of Volunteers to be formed into regiments when mustered into the service of the United States. These companies must have the organization of the Army of the United States, and in their rank and file must consist of 64 men, not over 45, nor under 18 years of age, and of full "physical strength and vigor." Existing Volunteer Companies tendering their services, will be permitted to retain their existing uniform; but all new companies must strictly conform, in their uniform, to that prescribed by the general order of March 1824.

No officer of Militia, no matter what his grade, will forfeit his commission by entering into the proposed Volunteer service.

For the information of the public, the uniform before referred to, as well as the company organization of the Army of the United States, will be found in the subjoined general order.

The call to arms has, upon the generous and the brave, a magical effect. To the Virginian it has never been made in vain. Other States are rushing to fields of danger and of glory; and the sons of the cavaliers will not be outstripped in this noble race of patriotism and duty.

Given under my hand as Governor, and under the lesser

Seal of the Commonwealth, at Richmond, this 23d day of

May, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and forty-six, and of the Commonwealth the seventieth.
May 26th W. M. SMITH.

RW46v23i42p2c5, May 26, 1846: From the Washington Union, Military Arrangements.

The offers made to the President, and to the War Department, of the services of volunteers, the applications for appointment as officers, and the inquiries as to the strength, organization, &c., are so numerous, that it has become impossible to answer them with promptness. The following is therefore, published for general information.

The President has deemed it best to call for such volunteers as are required from particular States through their Governors, as, from their generally superior information, they can best judge of the relative efficiency of the different corps, and which of them can, with the greatest facility and the least expense, be embodied for the service for which they are needed. The President has no power to appoint officers of volunteers—the law requires that they be appointed by the proper authorities of the States in the manner prescribed by their laws. The offers of services, and the applications for appointments, should, therefore, be made to the Governors of the States and Territories.

Those who propose to tender their services should be first enrolled and organized into regiments, or battalions, where a battalion is designated in the quota called for from a State. When this is done, they will tender their services through the Governor of the State, who will give notice thereof to the President, or Secretary of War. They will be duly informed of the acceptance of their offer by the President, and notified to be ready to be called into service when the public exigencies may require. Their pay will commence when actually called and mustered into service, and not before.

Volunteers are required by law to furnish their own clothing, and, if cavalry, their own horses, and horse equipments; but none under the rank of commissioned officer will be received into service who, in years, are under eighteen, or over forty-five; and no horses but such as are perfectly sound and in good condition to render effective service. No particular dress is prescribed for volunteers. They are at liberty to adopt such an uniform as they think proper; but it is advisable that those entering the service adapt their dress, as well as may be, to the nature of the service, and the character of the country and climate to which they may be called. When called into service, they are armed and equipped at the expense of the U. States.

[Text continues with details of the organization of Volunteer corps for service under the requisition of the President of the United States.]

RW46v23i42p2c6, May 26, 1846: General Orders.

GENERAL ORDERS.

ADJUTANT GENERAL’S OFFICE,

Richmond, May 23d. 1846.

The following organization of Volunteer corps for service under the requisition of the President of the United States, will be observed:

Each company of Infantry will consist of

1 Captain,
1 1st. Lieutenant,
1 2d " ,
4 Sergeants,
4 Corporals,
2 Musicians, and
64 Privates.

Thirty Companies are required to constitute, when called into service, three Regiments of Infantry—each Regiment to consist of

1 Colonel,
1 Lt. Colonel,
1 Major, [addition]
1 Adjutant [a Lieutenant of one of the Companies, but not in]
1 Sergeant Major,
1 Quarter Master Sergeant,
2 Principal Musicians,
10 Companies, according to the organization above.
Volunteer Corps now in commission tendering their services, and all new corps which may be raised for this service, will send to this Department with the tender of service, a written engagement signed by all the members, to serve for twelve months after they shall have arrived at the place of rendezvous; or to the end of the war, unless sooner discharged, according to their discretions.

Old corps will retain the uniform now worn by them; new corps will uniform according to the pattern prescribed.

No man under the rank of a commissioned officer will be received, who is in years apparently over 45 or under 18, or who is not in physical strength and vigor.

Commandants of regiments within which Volunteer corps for this service shall be raised, will superintend the enrollment, the elections of officers, inspect the Company, and certify the whole to this Department. Commissions for this special service will then be issued to the officers of all new corps. Existing corps will be inspected in like manner and sign the enrolment.

Companies when enrolled and commissioned will hold themselves in readiness for muster into the service of the United States when called for; but it is recommended to the members not to abandon their ordinary occupations in the mean time, further than to give such attention to training as may be convenient.

By command. WM. H. RICHARDSON, Adj. Gen'l.

FORM OF ENROLMENT.

We, the undersigned, do hereby engage to serve in a Volunteer Company of infantry to constitute a portion of three Regiments required for the service of the United States, according to the terms of an act of Congress "providing for the prosecution of the existing War between the United States and the Republic of Mexico," approved the 13th May, 1846, and to hold ourselves in readiness for muster into the service of the United States, when called upon by the Governor of Virginia.

UNIFORM OF THE INFANTRY.

FIELD OFFICERS.

Coat—Dark blue cloth, single breasted, three rows of buttons on the breast, ten in each row at equal distances; the distance between the outer rows and the centre row to be four inches at top and two at bottom, measuring from the centre of eyes of the buttons; blind button holes of black twist or narrow black braid from the centre buttons to the corresponding buttons in the outer rows; stand-up collar, to meet in front with hooks and eyes, and rise no higher than to permit the free turning of the chin over it; to be edged all around with gold lace three quarters of an inch in width, with two straps of the same lace four and a half inches in length on each side, running back from the front, terminated by a button each. Cuff, three inches deep, with four blind button holes of black twist or narrow braid extending from four buttons placed across on each, and two small buttons at the fastening. Skirts to reach to the bend of the knee with blue turn-backs, or turn-backs marked with cord; the bottom the skirts not less than three and a half; nor more than five inches broad, with a star of silver at the connecting point of the turn-backs on each skirt; two hip buttons to range with the lower buttons on the breast, two buttons at the opening of the pocket of each skirt; collar and cuffs of blue cloth, plain or embroidered at pleasure.

Buttons—Silver or plated, convex, with the arms of Virginia on them.

Sword and Scabbard—Straight sword, silver hilt and white gripe; Scabbard, steel or plated; Sword know, silver cord and tassel; Sword Belt, black leather, to be worn over the coat.

Sash—Scarlet silk net, with bullion fringe ends, sash to go twice round the waist, and to tie on the left hip; to be worn under the belt.

Epaulets—Silver.

Hat—Cocked, without binding; fan or back part eleven inches; the front or cock nine inches, each corner six inches; black ribbons on the two front sides; Loop and Cockade: Navy blue silk cockade, six inches diameter; Loop, silver, eleven inches long, ornamented with the arms of Virginia in silver.

Plume—White cock feathers falling from an upright stem eight inches long, in a silver socket.

Tassels silver, with worked hangers.

Cravat or Stick, black.

Trousers—From 1st October to 30th April, dark blue cloth or cassimere; from 1st May to 30th September, white linen or cotton.
Boots — Worn under the trousers.

Spurs — Silver or plated.

Gloves, white.

FOR COMPANY OFFICERS AND PRIVATES.

Coat — Dark blue cloth, single breasted, three rows of buttons on the breast, ten in each row, at equal distance; the distance between the outer rows and centre row to be 4 inches at top and 8 at bottom, measuring from the centre or eyes of the button; blind button holes of black twist or narrow black braid from the centre buttons to the corresponding buttons in the center rows, stand- up collar to meet in front with hooks and eyes, and rise no higher than to permit the free turning of the chin over it; for officers, to be edged all round with silver lace three quarters of an inch wide, with 2 straps of the same lace 4 1/2 inches in length on each side, running back from the front, terminated by a button. Non-commissioned officers and privates to wear white worsted lace instead of silver; cuff 3 inch. deep with 4 blind button holes of black twist or narrow braid extending from 4 buttons, placed across on each, and 2 small buttons at the fastening; Skirts to reach no lower than the middle of the thigh, with 4 blind holes of black twist or narrow braid on the pocket flaps, to correspond with the buttons.

Trousers — From the 1st October to 30th April, dark blue cloth or cassimere — from 1st May to 30th September, white linen or cotton.

Cap — Black leather, round, with bell crown, plated or silver scales and eagle.

Pompoms — White, in silver or plated socket.

Buttons — Silver or plated, convex, seven-eighths of an inch diameter, the arms of Virginia.

Wings — Silver scales and bullion for officers; for non-commissioned officers, the same as for officers except the bullion; for privates, white metal scales; non-commissioned officers to wear white worsted lace instead of silver.

CAPTAIN WALKER.

This brave soldier who acquitted himself with so much gallantry that if he gain no more renown, he deserves and must receive the most honorable praise from his countrymen. We learn that he once lived in this city a cabinet-maker. If he have to boast many more deeds of valor, he may, some day, in virtue of the military prestige so powerful in this country, be employed into a cabinet making of a different kind.

RICHMOND COMPILER.

The above paragraph unless we are greatly mistaken is erroneous. Capt. WALKER, [Samuel H., as we suppose him to be] lately one of the Rangers operating on the Texan frontier under Colonel HAYS, is a native of Maryland, and was formerly a resident of Washington city, where he has many family connexions. He is a carpenter by trade, and is yet a young man. His first entry upon military life was as a volunteer in the company which left here for Florida in 1834; and after returning from that expedition, he resumed and pursued his occupation in this city for some time, until the spirit of adventure led him first to emigrate to Florida, and from thence to Texas. While here, as we are informed, he was a young man of strictly temperate habits and unassuming deportment, but of indomitable energy.

ATTEND a meeting of your Company at the Exchange Hotel on Tuesday next, the 26th inst. At 8 o'clock, P. M. By order of the Captain,
F. MARX, Orderly.

**NOTICE.** It is proper that the citizens generally, as well as the members of the Troop, should be apprized that the above meeting is called with a view of proceeding forthwith, (if a sufficient number is added to the roll by the day appointed,) to organize the Company thoroughly and place it in a condition for active and efficient service; or, failing in this, to disband the corps at once, in order that its members may enroll themselves for duty in some other arm of the service.

JOHN J. WERTH,
May 20th dtd Captain R. L. Dragoons.

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RW46v23i42p4c4, May 26, 1846: Montgomery Journal Extra, Tuesday Morning, May 19, 1846.

[By Express from Mobile] Latest From the Army.

**THE MEXICANS TWICE ROUTED!**

By the *Daily Picayune*, and an *Extra* from the *Mobile Advertiser* of the 18th, we have news, the substance of which is contained in the following:

There have been two engagements between Gen. Taylor and the Mexican Troops, the first occurring on the 7th instant, when Gen. Taylor was returning from Point Isabel to his Camp, opposite Matamoras. In this the Mexicans, from 5000 to 7000 were repulsed, our army sleeping on the field of battle, on which next day were found 200 Mexicans dead, several pieces of artillery, stores, &c. Major Ringgold died, subsequently, from wound in this action.

Of the second battle we can only give the following particulars from *The Picayune*.

The U. S. Steamer *Col. Harney* arrived this morning, just as our paper was going to press, from Brazos Santiago, having left on the 13th inst. Her news is glorious to our arms.

She brings official accounts of a second battle between the Mexican and American forces, which took place on 9th, commencing at half past 3 o'clock, P. M., within three miles of Camp Taylor. The action was upon the edge of a ravine, and one mile from the chaparral, which was here about twelve miles in width.

The Mexicans commenced the action with their artillery, which was posted as to sweep the narrow pass by which Gen. Taylor was advancing, there being a swamp on either hand. Gen. Taylor immediately ordered a charge in the teeth of the enemy's destructive fire, and the troops promptly responded, and carried the enemy's guns at the point of the bayonet.

So sudden and impetuous was the attack, and so successful, that Arista had not time to save his papers, which with all his correspondence, fell into the hands of Gen. Taylor.

The action lasted one hour and a half, in which time 600 Mexicans were either killed or wounded, and the Americans took 300 prisoners and eight pieces of artillery. The American loss in this action was but 62, killed and wounded.

Among the killed were Col. McIntosh, Lieut. Cochran, Col. Brown (by the bursting of a shell,) Lieut. Eng, and one or two others, whose names are not given. Colonel Payne, Lieuts. Gates, Burbank, Hooe, Luther and others were wounded.

We regret to say that Major Ringgold, who was so severely wounded in the action of the 8th, died on the 10th inst., and was buried next day with the honors of war.

The total loss of the Mexicans in the two actions of the 8th and 9th, was at least 1200. The Mexican force amounted to at least 6,000 men, while that of the Americans on the ground did not exceed 1600 men.

An exchange of prisoners took place between the two armies subsequent to the action, by which Capts. Thornton and Hardee and Lieut. Kane have been returned to the army. Lieut. Deas was not demanded and still remains a prisoner. Among the prisoners taken by Gen. Taylor was Gen. Veja. For him two American officers were offered in exchange, but it was declined to give him up, save in exchange for an American officer of equal rank, whenever one should be taken.
Gen. Vega and two Mexican Lieutenants were sent by Gen. Taylor on the Col. Harney as prisoners of war. Gen. Vega was allowed to be accompanied by one of his aides, a Lieutenant Colonel as a friend.

The Mexican army was so confident of victory that every preparation had been made to celebrate it; but all their preparations fell into the hands of the Americans. In their fight many of the Mexicans took the river, and were drowned in their attempts to swim it.

Gen Taylor reached his camp the afternoon of the action. Leaving there his whole force, he started the next morning for Point Isabel, and arrived there the evening of the 10th without molestation. The morning of the 11th he started back for his camp opposite Matamoras. We need not say that he and his army are in high spirits.

The steamer Dallas took off from this place (Montgomery) last night, the "Pintala Vanguards," numbering 70 hardy fellows; the Selma will take the "Blues" to-day, about 800 and to-morrow the "Rifles," about the same number, will leave for Mobile. Montgomery will have sent a battalion when all these have got off.

RW46v23i42p4c4, May 26, 1846: From the New Orleans Reformer. Late Intelligence from the Seat of WAR.

Arrival of the U. States sloop of war Flirt, The frigates Cumberland, Raritan and Potomac, brig Somers, and sloop John Adams, off the mouth of the Rio Grande, Departure of Gen. Taylor from Point Isabel, Engagement with the Enemy, Result not ascertained.

The sloop of war Flirt, captain Sinclair, arrived in the river late yesterday afternoon from Brasos St. Iago, which place she left about noon on the 8th inst. two days only subsequently to the sailing of the New York, which arrived at this port on Sunday evening last.

The intelligence brought by the Flirt is of an important character, but it leaves us all in painful suspense. Unless the Mexican force under Arista was much greater than has been conjectured, or than Gen. Taylor himself estimated it from the best information he was able to procure, the American forces will escape capture.

Gen. Taylor left Point Isabel on his return to his encampment opposite Matamoras, with about 2,000 men, and taking with him a large quantity of supplies, late in the afternoon of the 7th. Soon after his departure, and when it was supposed Gen. Taylor had proceeded about 9 miles on his route, a heavy cannonading was heard, which continued for several hours.

On the morning of the 8th, the firing was renewed, and was still heard when the Flirt left. The sound becoming less distinct, an impression was entertained that Gen. Taylor was forcing the enemy before him. The firing was heard by the officers of the Flirt when quite out to sea.

The officers of the Flirt saw about dark a dense volume of smoke rising in the direction of Matamoras, and their conjecture was that the American forces had fired the town.

There had been no communication with the camp near Matamoros, since the arrival of captain Walker, bringing information to Gen. Taylor at Point Isabel of the attacks of the Mexicans, and their repulse, on the 3d May. Walker had immediately returned with 75 men, but it was not known when the Flirt sailed whether he reached major Brown's quarters in safety or not.

Gen. Taylor was fully prepared for an encounter with the enemy, and had made every necessary disposition of his troops to give them the best fight in his power.

No apprehension was entertained for the safety of the small detachment under major Brown, left at fort Taylor. The defences were ample to resist any force Gen. Arista had at his command.

The fleet from Vera Cruz consisting of the frigates Cumberland, Raritan and Potomac, brig Somers, and sloop John Adams arrived off Brasos St. Iago on the night of the 7th. The Flirt was detained several hours to bring important despatches from commodore Conner.

The Day and Telegraph, government transports, were passed on their way down about 200 miles west of the Balize.

Capt. Thornton was alive, and a prisoner at Matamoras.

Our consul and the American residents in Matamoras, had been sent into the interior.
From the Mobile Advertiser Extra, May, 18.

General Taylor again Victorious!!

Route of the Mexican Army!!!

Per steamer Col. Harney at New Orleans.

[Correspondence N. O. Tropic.]

BRASOS SANTIAGO, May 13.

At the receipt of the news of the first battle I wrote you a short account, the result of the second is now on hand, and it is most decisive. It now appears that the Mexicans had only five thousand men in the field at the first battle, and four thousand stowed away in the chapparel near the battle ground. It was their intention to have made but a slight attack the first day, but being so closely pressed they were obliged to make good their retreat to where the four thousand were in the chapparel. In the first fight a general officer had his head shot off, it is not yet ascertained who he was, as his body was recognized by his dress as he lay upon the field.

Gen. Taylor advanced the morning of the first battle in to the chapparel, then sent 800 picked men under the charge of Captain McCall, to reconnoitre, he advanced unmolested until near 3 P. M., (the army followed at a distance,) when Captain McCall sent word to Gen. Taylor, that he had received a charge of grape from the enemy, and lost two men.

The army was then deployed, and Captain May, 2d dragoons ordered to charge the battery that had thrown the grape, and to take it if he lost every man, he obeyed orders, took the battery of four guns and lost but one man. The battery was commanded by General de la Vega, who was taken prisoner.

Our little army of an army then rent the air with their huzzas, and rushing shouting upon the enemy, committing the most dreadful havoc among them, taking eight pieces of artillery, 155,000 rounds of cartridge, and 500 packed mules. General Arista's camp beaastead contained all his private and public baggage papers, which latter will be of great value, as we now not only have the key to the whole campaign, which will enable General Taylor to form his plans so as to entirely defeat their designs.

We took all and every thing they had, four hundred prisoners, and the army baggage. The enemy had between 8 and 9,000 troops in the two battles, but we with 1,800 troops completely routed them.

We exchanged prisoners, got Captain Thornton, Hardy and his little band. Our officers while prisoners were well treated, having lived with Ampudia ever since they were taken. Gen. Taylor would not exchange for Lieutenant Deas as a prisoner of war, as it would be sanctioning his crossing the river, which he did not, having reprobated his crossing in the severest manner.

In this second and glorious battle we lost about the same number of men as in the first, but had more officers wounded. Captain Walker with his heroic bank of Rangers, was the last that fired at the Mexicans, the army left him and his comrades on the bank of the river shooting them as they attempted to cross.

To-morrow General Taylor leaves here to make an attack on Matamoras, in connection with Com. Connor, who has sent a boat expedition up the river.

I forgot to mention that Gen. Taylor arrived here yesterday with all our wounded, between 50 and 60, with Gen Romulus De la Vega, one Mexican Capt. and two lieutenants, who go with this letter in the Col. Harney.

The Augusta from New Orleans arrived last evening. The mules from Matamoras, some 500, were sent in to-day, as well as the Mexican wounded.

I should not forget to mention that all the shell, ball and grape shot of the Mexicans are made of brass or copper.

This letter I must close, with details of glory enough for one day.

[BWP]
Since my last (not received) we have had two arrivals; the New York and brig Millaudon. The last brought the news that six steamboats with four thousand volunteers were about starting when she left. This news made us most cheerful, as we could not have then expected the result that has since taken place with our troops.

Despatches had been sent to Vera Cruz by General T., contents to us unknown, but rumor would have it that aforesaid Vera Cruz was to have been bombarded. Judge of our surprise then when at daylight on the morning of the 8th, after the whole squadron (Falmouth excepted) appeared off our harbor. The Commodore had not received the despatches from her, but was informed at Vera Cruz, that the Mexicans had marched 6 or 7,000 troops across by land to assist Gen. Arista in whipping Gen. Taylor.

Commodore C. therefore, thought very wisely that his presence here would do some good in the way of reinforcements. Gladly was he welcomed, as Gen. Taylor had marched out the evening previous to meet and conquer the enemy, taking with him twenty-two hundred men, teamsters included, with two hundred and fifty teams loaded with ammunitions, provisions, &c., which the Mexicans were no doubt apprized of, as the teams had been loaded ever since Monday last, awaiting the orders for a march at a moment's warning.

Gen T. left Point Isabel with little over four hundred men to defend it. Major Monroe, commanding here, sent a requisition to Com. Connor for as many men as he could spare, as we heard firing about 2 P. M. of the 8th, which continued with but little intermission until dark. Com. C. sent ashore 250 men, and on the 9th 4 or 500 more, which makes this place strong enough to withstand an attack against 20,000 men.

Believe me when I say there was the greatest excitement here all the afternoon of the 8th, as we could plainly hear the cannonading from the field of battle.

On the evening of the 8th, Mr. Murray and Mr. Bacon volunteered to go and find out the result.

On the morning of the 9th, a black boy came into camp, gave a history of the fight, which was about true, but as he had run away and left his team, he was not believed.

At 3 P. M. on the 9th, Messrs. M. and B. returned, and stated that they got to Gen. T.'s present camp, 16 miles from here, at 3 A. M. and learned that the army marched until about 16 miles from here, when they saw the Mexicans drawn up in battle array across his road, he immediately gave his orders for the teams to halt until the 2d Brigade had passed. The Mexicans were on the prairie near the edge of the chapparel. When Taylor got within ¼ of a mile they opened upon him with their flying artillery. Gen. Taylor arrived with Capt. Duncan and Maj. Ringgold's companies, and at it they went until about sunset, when the Mexicans had retreated to the edge of the chapparel, and ceased firing.

After which, Gen. Taylor fired ten or fifteen guns at them and set to work throwing up two breast-works. At daylight, the Mexicans were in the edge of the Chapparel. A Council of war was held by Gen. Taylor, and it was agreed that one Brigade should advance up to the Chapparel in hopes to draw the Mexicans into a renewal of the fight, but the more the troops advanced upon them, the more they want there of the Mexicans having retreated leaving three pieces of artillery, any quantity of ammunition from FOUR to SIX HUNDRED DEAD upon the field, and God only knows how many wounded they took away. One Mexican, who was stationed at one of their batteries, says every body but himself at the batteries was killed says the guns beat any thing they ever dreamed of, they were so quick. One of the Mexican officers in trying to rally his men, found he could not and commenced to cut them with his sword, when his troops shot him dead. We had 11 killed, and about 10 mortally wounded.

Captain Page of the 3d, had all the lower part of his face shot off with a cannon ball it is thought he will re-cover, though horribly mutilated. Major Ringold had the fleshy part of his legs shot through, and horse killed none of his bones broken, which is wonderful. Our informant says the field of battle was strewn with the dead, and they could hear the groans of the Mexicans wounded all night at Gen. T.'s camp. The Mexicans were commanded by General Maja. There is no doubt they have retreated across the river. When the volunteers arrive you may depend you will hear of them "reveling in the hills of the Montezumas," or peace and good will, will be whipped into those bombastic Mexicans. It is a matter of surprise that so few were lost on our side.

The monotony of this place has been relieved the last two days by the drilling of "Uncle Samuel's" "web-feet" or "barnacle backs" that came here from the Squadron. You would be surprised to see with what dexterity and precision they go through their evolutions with muskets, and no one could resist a laugh to hear some of their sayings. One old salt said this morning, "Damn and blast my eyes! here is a ship ashore, and poor jack on his beam ends."
speech was addressed to himself when looking on the tent that had been pitched, and was of sufficient dimensions to hold about fifty-two.

One-third of the whole number of men from the squadron are Marines, the balance Tars. I should picture to myself a soldier, riding horseback or a cow as soon as that I should see four or five hundred sailors going into war with muskets on their shoulders, but you could not restrain them going against the Mexicans with only a knife and fork, if you would only show them a chance, for they are all eager for the fray. Yours, &c.

In the decisive battle Gen. Taylor lost about sixty killed and wounded, among whom there were three officers, viz: Lt. Inges, of the Dragoons; Lt. Cochran, of the 4th Infantry, and Lt. Chadburn, of the 8th Infantry. Among the wounded are Col. McIntosh, of the 5th Infantry; Lt. Col. Payne, 4th Artillery, and Capt. Hooe, 5th Infantry of them slightly, and none supposed mortally.

Major Ringgold, well known as the commander of the Flying Artillery, also died on the 11th, from wounds received in the action of the 8th.

Capt. Page, who was wounded in the same engagement, we are happy to state, is rapidly recovering. Lieut. Luther, also slightly wounded, in convalescent.

The Galveston arrived!! The Galveston is just in, having left Brasos Santiago on the evening of the 13th. We hasten to lay the news by her before our readers.

From the Galveston Civilian of the 15th.

On the morning of the 13th, Gen. Taylor and his staff, with the guard that had brought down the train, &c. started for the camp. He was met by an express a few miles from Point Isabel, informing him that 8000 fresh troops had arrived in Matamoras, 2000 of which had crossed over, and 1100 more had crossed the Rio Grande at Barrita, near the Bocachica, not more than 8 miles from Point Isabel. Gen. Taylor returned to Point Isabel at once, and made preparations to leave next day with such forces as were arriving. The steamship Galveston landed four hundred and fifty Infantry.~[Regulars and Volunteers;]~ the Augusta landed about 250; Capt. Price arrived via Padre Island from Corpus Christi, with his company of 70 mounted Rangers. They all reached the point on the 13th. The Telegraph and James L. Day will doubtless land their troops, amounting to upwards of 800, at Point Isabel on the 14th. Great credit is due to Capt. Smith, of the steamship Cincinnati, and Capt. R. McBaker, of the Monmouth, for the skill, energy and promptness, shown in transporting troops and supplies across the Bay at the Brasos Santiago.

Gen. Paredes is at the head of 15,000 troops, on his way to Matamoros. It may possibly be that the fresh troops arrived at Matamoros, is the advance division of his army. No doubt the enemy were fully advised that Gen'l Taylor had left for Point Isabel, and their plan is to try and capture him on his return, whilst a strong force crossing above, is to come down upon his army. Gen. Taylor appeared highly pleased with the intelligence; for since the war has opened and no mistake, the excitement and activity attending operations, opens a new era to his vigorous achievements, and all have remarked how much better he looks than when confined to the "masterly inactivity" of the Corpus Christi campaign.

The brave and gallant Major Brown died on 23 May, from a wound received in his thigh by the explosion of one of the enemy's shells. His wound was not considered dangerous, but as he was placed in one of the bomb proof burrows, mortification ensued, from the want of fresh air. His death is deeply deplored by the army; his intrepid conduct in foiling every attempt of the enemy to reduce the Fort prepared them in a measure to anticipate the result of these conflicts with our brave army. The strength of the fort and skill with which it is defended, is incomprehensible to the Mexicans, and indeed well it might be, for they have thrown upwards of 1400 shot and shell into the works, and every morning they present the same appearance; our loss has only been two or three in the Fort. The constant practice the enemy have had in firing at it, has taught them the proper bearing to give to their guns, and almost every shot falls within the works. The Fort is never idle, and the ramparts and dwellings of Matamoros exhibit ruins as plainly as those of a hundred Centuries when gaping forth their lamentation of lo! and behold what desolation is here.

The sloop-of-war St. Mary's, arrived from Pensacola on the 10th; the steamer Mississippi on the 12th from Vera Cruz. The Bainbridge is off the Rio Grande, enforcing the blockade. The schooner Flirt sailed for New Orleans on the
It is stated that an expedition is to be sent by boats of the squadron to take the town of Barita, 16 miles from the mouth of the river, where there is a military force.

General Vega is the Col. Vega that was captured by the Texan forces at the Slaughter of San Jacinto. He was also at the Fall of the Alamo, and is a brave and accomplished officer.

RW46v23i43p1c1, May 29, 1846: Course of the Whigs.

The ungenerous assaults so frequently made upon the Whigs, in connection with the Mexican War, by Journals devoted to the Administration, which seem to regard every unfriendly criticism upon the conduct of the President as synonymous with a want of attachment to the country in the prosperity of which, by the way, it may safely be assumed, the Whigs, as a party, have at least as deep an interest as their assailants fully justify the following severe retort, which we find in the last New York Express:

"The 'Union,' as the organ of the Government, is making itself contemptible in the imputations it throws out against the patriotism of the Whigs, and the Whig Press, in this Mexican war.

"Who is Gen. Taylor, now leading our arms to victory and to glory, in Mexico? A warm hearted, staunch, high minded, Henry Clay Whig. Mr. Clay has not a warmer friend in the world, one more devoted to him, one who was more anxious for his election to the Presidency. Nor was there a man in the country more opposed to the Texas annexation, or to THE WAY IT WAS DONE.

"Who is Major Ringgold, whose life has just been offered up in the battle-field? Another Whig, and a Henry Clay Whig! who was thoroughly opposed to Texas annexation, and THE WAY IT WAS DONE. We did not know Col. McIntosh and the others, who have fallen, but from the gallant bearing, in the discharge of their duty, we have no doubt they were men of the same school.

"Commodore Conner, who has rushed to the scene of the war off the Brazos, as soon as he heard of it, is, we are told, another Whig. Gen. Scott, who is to lead our forces in Mexico, has been a leading Whig candidate for the Presidency, and has poured out his blood freely for his country.

"The Whigs are not SPOUTERS, froth-makers, declaimers, rampant orators, such as the 54 40 men are, and all that clan and school of mock patriots; but when any hard fighting is to be done for their country, when men or money are wanted in the battle-field, they are there, not spouting, nor making speeches, but ACTING, as Gen. Taylor does. If there are any cowards in the day of trial, any distinguished for their words, and recreant in their acts, they will be found among the froth 'democracy.' When Whigs make pledges they MEAN what they say, which is much more than can be said of the Dorr democracy men."

We do not concur in so much of the foregoing article as seems to insinuate that our political opponents are destitute either of patriotism or courage. Those qualities, we respectfully suggest, are monopolized by neither party; and, we do not question that the "rank and file" of both will always be found promptly rallying under their country's flag whenever the emergency may demand their services. Is it not, however, most ungenerous and most unjust, that the Whigs, as a party, should be so constantly assailed, and held up to public reprobation, as devoid of national feelings and sympathies, because a few of their number an infinitesimal portion whose affinities are known to be with the Abolitionists, have thought proper, since the commencement of hostilities on the Mexican frontier, to express unpatriotic and anti-national sentiments and opinions? Is it not equally unfair and ungenerous to construe every unfriendly criticism upon the conduct of the Administration, in the progress of the Mexican controversy, as in itself evidence of a lack of patriotism, and to stigmatize those who question the infallibility of Mr. James K. Polk, as has been done by one Locofoco Editor, as guilty of "modified treason!" Has it come to this, that although, when war exists, the Whigs are as ready as their opponents to pour out their treasured and their blood in defence of their country, they are to be denied the right to express an opinion in regard to the character of the measures by which its peace has been disturbed? Are the tax-payers and the fighting men to be gagged, as well as to be fleeced and slain? To what consequences might not this slavish dogma lead? If a state of war is to stifle enquiry into the means by which the country has been involved in it, and to silence all discussion on the subject, and if every expression of opinion adverse to the policy of the Administration is to be silenced by the clamors of its partizans, proclaiming that those who pause thus to examine and to criticize the acts of the Government, are traitors and poltroons, it is easy to see that the tremendous power of making war, though vested by the Constitution exclusively in the representatives of the people, in Congress assembled, may at any moment be exercised with impunity by the Executive, from whom, for the gravest reasons, that power has been expressly withheld. At this very moment, indeed, the President might plunge us into a war with Great Britain, by a course not dissimilar to that which he has pursued towards Mexico. Let us suppose that before the expiration of the convention of joint occupation by which Oregon is held by the United States and Great Britain in common, the President should order an armed force to march to the extreme limits of the territory, our title to which he has pronounced, authoritatively and officially, to be "clear and unquestionable," with a view to take exclusive possession and to exercise exclusive jurisdiction over it. Every man will at once admit that this would be an act of aggression which Great Britain could not fail to regard as equivalent to a declaration of war; and the reception of the intelligence in Downing street would at once lead to preparations for resistance and retaliation.
The armies and navies of Great Britain would be promptly put in motion to avenge the outrage, and we should be attacked at every assailable point. No one would doubt, at such a moment, the duty of every good citizen to meet and repel the enemy. But will any patriot will any man who regards the Constitution as the sheet anchor of our liberties, and, who, sees, in this usurpation by the Executive of the war-making power, a dangerous infraction of that charter will any man, who professes to be governed by the maxim, that while, as a nation, we ought to submit to no wrong, so on the other hand, we should demand nothing of other nations which is not right hesitate, even in the act of contributing his money or of shouldering his musket, to condemn the act of the Administration, by which the country would be involved by the Executive in an unjust war, and these pecuniary and personal sacrifices rendered necessary? Surely not. To argue otherwise, would be to give a carte blanche to the President to break down all the checks and limitations which were designed by the framers of the Constitution as barriers against the encroachments of that officer, and as safeguards to the interests, rights, and liberties of the people. In truth, if this dogma is to prevail, the President is "every inch a King," and is invested with unlimited authority. In Great Britain even, where the Monarch has the exclusive power to declare war and to make peace, the Commons May hold him in check, if he attempt to exercise it capriciously and unjustly, by withholding from him the "supplies" necessary to its prosecution.

RW46v23i43p1c2, May 29, 1846: Mr. Benton

This gentleman had not concluded his great Oregon speech at our last dates from Washington. It will doubtless, when finished, embody a great deal of new and valuable information upon this delicate and interesting question. Mr. B. has displayed, on this occasion, a quality, in which too many of our leading Statesmen are unfortunately deficient we mean fearlessness in the expression of opinions honestly entertained, after diligent and careful examination, favorable to the claims of a foreign Government, although that government be in collision with our own. Where he believes the British claim to be a valid one, he has not been afraid to say so in plain language nor has he hesitated to deny our right to certain portions of Oregon, although our infallible President has asserted the unquestionable validity of our title to those portions. Yet we have seen no attempt made to lead Mr. Benton out of the church no attack upon him as a "British Whig" no attack upon his orthodoxy in the columns of the Executive Organ, or its echoes. Why this forbearance? If Mr. Archer, or Mr. Crittenden, or Mr. Mangum, or any other distinguished Whig, had uttered such sentiments, he would have been promptly impealed by the Union and its associates and branded as an enemy of his country. But, when Mr. Benton speaks, they are struck dumb. Their silence, nevertheless, is one of the strongest proofs of their intense sufferings (of which we have other evidences) under the severe infliction of the Missouri Senator. If he had pitched his pipes to the same note on which "the organs, great and small," have harped so long, with what rapturous sounds his speech would have been greeted! We pity them, that they are compelled to endure, without a murmur loud enough to reach that Senator's ears, his luminous exposure of the glaring absurdity of the pretensions originally set up by Mr. Polk, and his refutation of the ridiculous arguments by which the "all or none" doctrine has been maintained by the unfortunate Fifty-four Forties.

[BWP]

RW46v23i43p1c2, May 29, 1846: The Interior of Mexico.

The New York Journal of Commerce has the following geographical and topographical information concerning the region east of the Rio Grande. The Journal has derived it from an intelligent American merchant who has resided at Matamoras for eight years. It is, at this particular juncture, very interesting and important:

"The distance from the Nueces to the Del Norte is about seventy-five miles. On the banks of both these rivers is a strip of good land, extending fifteen or twenty miles each way. The rest is a worthless barten. Matamoras is healthy, the yellow fever never appearing there more than in New York; and so it is through all the interior of Mexico. The Del Norte has many bars; so that only vessels of very light draft of water can go up to Matamoras. Above, it is navigated by scows for a hundred miles. The distance from Matamoras to the Gulf is twenty-six miles, and to Point Isabel something more. The Point is a poor place to land merchandise, as a vessel cannot come within a mile of the shore. The distance to the city of Mexico is from nine hundred to a thousand miles. A small mail is transported the whole distance on horseback, at the rate of sixty miles a day, and occupies sixteen days.

"From Vera Cruz to the city of Mexico is four hundred miles over an excellent Macadamized road, which was built by the Spanish Government long ago, and is now in good repair. Besides this, there are no made roads in Mexico. Except in the immediate neighborhood of the large towns. Waggonen, and even coaches, pass from Matamoras to Mexico, over a traveled road passing through all varieties of country, and with great labor. The fortress of D'Ulloa, which defends Vera Cruz, has always been counted as impregnable, though the French took it a few years ago, in consequence of an explosion which occurred by accident, within the castle. Troops marching from Matamoras for Mexico would pass through many defiles and woods, must cross all the streams without bridge, (for there are next to none in the Republic,) and must, in addition to their military preparations, carry their provisions, and, a portion of the way, their water too--for there are districts where, for sixty miles, no water is to be obtained. The Mexicans understand guerilla warfare, and are fond of it; so that if our grand army of fifty thousand men were to start over this road, with the appropriated ten millions of dollars in their purse, there would probably be little left of either men or money, when the procession should reach the renowned city of the Incas. We hope, if such an expedition is to be undertaken, the men of 54 40 will not hesitate to head the column for the inevitable war. There are richer jewels to stimulate hope for this southern march than any thing which has ever been discovered north of 49. We will agree
that it General Cass will go to Mexico and back, he may afterward taunt common men with cowardice."

We insert in another column the official account of the recent battles on the Mexican frontier, from the pen of the gallant commanding officer. They add nothing material to the facts previously in possession of the public, though those facts are detailed in a more concise, perspicuous and authentic form. General Taylor speaks in high and doubtless unexaggerated terms of praise of the conduct of his subordinates. Of himself, however, of course, he could say nothing. His junior officers, however, will not permit injustice to be done him. One of them, writing to his correspondent in New Orleans, for example, says: "The General behaved most gallantly. In the second battle he was more exposed than any one else; and there he sat, part of the time, giving his orders, with his leg 'cocked over' the pummel of the saddle, unheeding the solicitations of his Staff to retire."

The New Orleans Tropic nominates WALKER, the brave and gallant Texan, as first American Governor of the State of Tumaulipas. Has it no one in reserve for New Mexico, Coahuila, and Chihuahua? Does it not know one, whose tastes and habits peculiarly fit him to REVEL in the halls of the Montezumas?

The N. Y. Herald of the 24th inst. Contains melancholy intelligence from the Cape de Verde Islands, received by an arrival at Boston. One of them, Bona Vista, has lately been visited by the Yellow Fever, which has swept off one eighth of the population, and was still spreading. Famine has been added to the pestilence, and numbers of the people are perishing for food. An appeal is therefore made to the citizens of the U. States, on the part of the starving inhabitants of Bona Vista, which it is hoped will be quickly and liberally responded to. Capt. Yarrington, of the brig Pauline, at Boston, has volunteered to deliver to them the contributions of the benevolent.

The Washington correspondent of the Charleston Mercury writes as follows:

"War on somebody by this Congress, seems to be necessary. If it don't make Presidents in future, it will at least kill the proposed modifications of the Tariff. To get rid of this question is doubtless one of the leading causes, which have governed events here for the last six months. Nobody, however, should be surprised at the state of things on our frontier, from the time Gen. Taylor was sent to the Rio Grande directly opposite Matamoras. All reforms are probably at an end; and the South will only reap accumulated taxes and burdens as her part of the achievements of this Administration."

The Baltimore Patriot states that the Catholic Clergy of the Georgetown College have all offered their services, in the
present war, as Chaplains in the Army, and that the President has selected the Rev. John McElroy and the Rev. Mr. McRae, for that purpose, who will proceed forthwith to join the army.

[WP]

RW46v23i43p1c3, May 29, 1846: Lieut. Deas.

LIEUT. DEAS. Although from the peculiar circumstances of the case of Lieut. Deas, Gen. Worth was unable to exchange for him, we learn that strong hopes are entertained that the Mexicans of their own accord will allow that gentleman to return to the American army. The rash act, of which he has suffered already severe consequences, was one of courage and generous devotion, and will be judged of more leniently by public opinion than almost any other violation of military discipline. —PICAYUNE.-[WP]

RW46v23i43p1c3, May 29, 1846: No title.

Five out of the six printers on the Vicksburg Daily Whig belong to volunteer companies, and some of them have already enrolled their names to march to the Rio Grande when required.

[WP]


The Investigating Committee make slow work, but the Committee to investigate the facts in relation to Mr. Ingersoll, will report at an early day. The Disbursing Ck, (Mr Stubbins) will probably be regarded as one of the principal offenders, and will no doubt lose his office. Mr. Tyler will have certain interrogatories submitted to him, to answer in writing, (the other committee have summoned him in person to be present.)

Mr. Adams, Mr. J. Y. Mason, and Mr. Cushing are summoned to answer certain questions as to the practices of the Committee on Foreign Relations. This subject, from long delay lost much of its interest, but the time of reporting will give it freshness. Mr. Webster will be entirely acquitted, and the charges fall with severe indignation upon the heads of those who made them.

On the specifications, you will remember, was the corruption of the public press. This is entirely disproved. The only money paid to any press was for printing some blank forms of petitions.

Mr. Tyler, I learn, was expected to reach the city this evening.

I hear it said this evening that in consequence of Gen. Taylor's great success, he will be suffered to remain at the head of the Army.

The law introduced by Mr. Berrien of Ga. to-day in the Senate, provides that the receiving of any letters of marque from any foreign Prince or State, in violation of treaty with the U. States, shall, be punished as piracy, and the Circuit Courts of the U. S. are empowered to try and determine accordingly.

The President to-day nominated Gen. Taylor to the Senate as Brev. Major-General, and the nomination was unanimously confirmed by the Senate.

[WP]

RW46v23i43p1c5, May 29, 1846: Official.

We have received, at an hour too late for any special remarks upon them, (says the Union, of Monday night,) the official despatches from the War and Navy Departments. We lose no time in laying them before our readers. It will be seen that they confirm substantially the accounts already published:

HEAD QUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION
POINT ISABEL, Texas, May 7, 1846.

Sir: I respectfully report, that I shall march this day with the main body of the army to open a communication with Major Brown, and throw forward supplies of ordinance and provisions. If the enemy oppose my march, in whatever force, I shall fight him. Occasional guns are heard in the direction of Matamoras, showing that everything is right in that quarter.
Yesterday, the recruits under Lieut. McPhail arrived here. After filling up the companies of the permanent garrison, (A 1st arty. And G 4th arty.,) the remainder of the detachment, with its officers was placed under Maj. Monroe's orders to assist in the field, though efficient for garrison defence. They will be permanently assigned as soon as practicable.

The four companies of the first infantry are hourly expected, and will be a seasonable reinforcement. The first shipment of volunteers from New Orleans may also soon be looked for. Their arrival will enable me to open the river and free our communications.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obd't serv't,

Z. TAYLOR,
Brevet Brig'r Gen. U. S. A. Com'g.

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL of the Army,

Washington, D. D.

HEAD QUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,

Camp at Palo Alto, Texas, May 9, 1846.

SIR: I have the honor to report that I was met near this place yesterday, on my march from Point Isabel, by the Mexican forces, and after an action of about five hours dislodged them from their position and encamped upon the field. Our artillery, consisting of two 18-pounders and two light batteries, was the arm chiefly engaged, and to the excellent manner in which it was maneuvered and served is our success mainly due.

The strength of the enemy is believed to have been about six thousand men, with seven pieces of artillery, and eight hundred cavalry. His loss is probably at least one hundred, killed. Our strength did not exceed all told twenty-three hundred, while our loss was comparatively trifling four men killed, three officers and thirty-seven men wounded, several of the latter mortally. I regret to say that Major Ringgold, 3d artillery, and Captain Page, 4th infantry, are severely wounded. Lieutenant Luther, 2d artillery, slightly so.

The enemy has fallen back, and it is believed has repassed the river. I have advanced parties now thrown forward in his direction and shall move the main body immediately.

In the haste of this first report, I can only say that the officers and men behaved in the most admirable manner throughout the action. I shall have the pleasure of making a more detailed report when those of the different commanders shall be received. I am, sir, very respectfully

Your obedient servant,

Z. TAYLOR,

The Adjutant General, U. S. Army
Washington, D. C.

HEAD QUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,

Camp at Resaca de la Palma,
3 miles from Matamoras,
10 o'clock, P. M., May 9, 1846.

Sir: I have the honor to report that I marched with the main body of the army at two o'clock to-day, having previously thrown forward a body of light infantry into the forest which covers the Matamoras road. When near the spot where I am now encamped, my advance discovered that a ravine crossing the road had been occupied by the enemy with artillery. I immediately ordered a battery of field artillery to sweep the position, flanking and sustaining it by the 3d, 4th and 5th regiments, deployed as skirmishers to the right and left. A heavy fire of artillery and of musketry was kept up for some time, until finally the enemy's batteries were carried in succession by a squadron of dragoons and the regiments of infantry that were on the ground. He was soon driven from his position, and pursued by a squadron of dragoons, battalion of artillery, 3d infantry, and a light battery to the river. Our victory has been complete. Eight pieces artillery, with a great quantity of ammunition, three standards, and some one hundred prisoners, have been taken; among the latter, General La Vega, and several other officers. One General is understood to have been killed. The enemy has recrossed the river, and I am sure will not again molest us on this bank.
It affords me peculiar pleasure to report, that the field work opposite Matamoras has sustained itself handsomely
during a cannonade and bombardment of 160 hours. But the pleasure is alloyed with profound regret at the loss of
its heroic and indomitable commander, Major Brown, who died to-day from the effect of a shell. His loss would be a
severe one to the service at any time, but to the army under my orders it is indeed irreparable. One officer and one
non-commissioned officer killed, and ten men wounded, comprise all the casualties incident to this severe
bombardment.

The loss of the enemy in killed has been most severe. Our own has been very heavy, and I deeply regret to report
that Lieutenant Inge, 24 Dragoons, Lieutenant Cochrane, 4th Infantry, and Lieutenant Chadbourne, 8th Infantry,
were killed on the field. Lieutenant Colonel Payne, 4th Artillery, Lieutenant Colonel McIntosh, Lieutenant Dobbins, 3d
Infantry, captain Hooe, and Lieutenant Fowler, 5th Infantry, and captain Montgomery, Lieutenant Gates, Selden,
McClay, Burbank, and Jordan, 8th Infantry, were wounded. The extent of our loss in killed and wounded is not yet
ascertained, and is reserved for a more detailed report.

The affair of to-day may be regarded as a proper supplement to the cannonade of yesterday; and the two taken
[together], exhibit the coolness and gallantry of our officers and men in the most favorable light. All have done their
duty, and done it nobly. It will be my pride, in a more circumstantial report of both actions, to dwell upon particular
instances of individual distinction.

I inadvertently omitted to mention the capture of a large number of pack mules left in the Mexican camp.

I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z TAYLOR,
Lt. Brig'r General U. S. A., Com'g.

The Adjutant General, U. S. Army
Washington, D. C.

[ORDERS
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No. 59.]

1. The Commanding General congratulates the army under his command upon the signal success which has crowned
its recent operations against the enemy. The coolness and steadiness of the troops during the action of the 8th, and
the brilliant impetuosity with which the army's position and artillery were carried on the 9th, have displayed the best
qualities of the American soldier. To every officer and soldier of his command, the General publicly returns his thanks
for the noble manner in which they have sustained the honor of the service and of the country. While the main body
of the army has been thus actively employed, the garrison left opposite Matamoras has rendered no less
distinguished service by sustaining a severe cannonade and bombardment for many successive days. The army and
the country, while justly rejoicing in this triumph of our arms, will deplore the loss of many brave officers and men,
who fell gallantly in the hour of combat.

2. It being necessary for the Commanding General to visit Point Isabel on public business, Col. Twiggs will assume
command of the corps of the army near Matamoras, including the garrison of the field-work. He will occupy the
former lines of the army, making such disposition for defence, and for the comfort of his command, as he may deem
advisable. He will hold himself strictly on the defensive until the return of the Commanding General.

By order of Brig. Gen. TAYLOR:

W. W. J. BLISS,
Acting Adjutant General.

[ORDERS
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No. 61.]

Sir: I am making a hasty visit to this place, for the purpose of having an interview with Commodore Conner, whose
squadron is now at anchor off the harbor, and arranging with him a combined movement up the river. I avail myself
of the brief time at my command to report, that the main body of the army is now occupying its former position
opposite Matamoras. The Mexican forces are almost disorganized, and I shall lose no time in investing Matamoras,
and opening the navigation of the river.
I regret to report, that Maj. Ringgold died the morning of the 11th inst., of the severe wounds received in the action of Palo Alto. With the exception of Capt. Page, whose wound is dangerous, the other wounded officers are doing well. In my report of the second engagement, I accidentally omitted the name of Lieut. Dobbins, 3d Infantry, among the officers slightly wounded, and desire that the omission may be supplied in the despatch itself. I am under the painful necessity of reporting that Lieut. Blake, topographical engineers, after rendering distinguished service in my staff during the affair of the 8th inst., accidentally shot himself with a pistol on the following day, and expired before night.

It has been quite impossible as yet to furnish detailed reports of our engagements with the enemy, or even accurate returns of the killed and wounded. Our loss is not far from 3 officers and 40 men killed and 13 officers and 100 men wounded; while that of the enemy has in all probability exceeded 300 killed, more than 200 have been buried by us on the two fields of battle.

I have exchanged a sufficient number of prisoners to recover the command of Capt. Thorston. The wounded prisoners have been sent to Matamoras [I] the wounded officers on their parole. Gen. la Vega and a few other officers have been sent to New Orleans, having declined a parole, and will be reported to Maj. Gen. Gaines. I am not conversant with the usages of war in such cases, and beg that such provisions may be made for these prisoners as may be authorized by law. Our own prisoners have been treated with great kindness by the Mexican officers.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obd't serv't,

Z. TAYLOR,
Lt. Brig. Gen. U. S. A., com'dg,

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL of the army,
Washington, D. C.

HEAD QUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION.
Fort Polk, Texas, May 12, 1846

[ORDERSNo. 60]

As a mark of respect to the Chief Magistrate of the Republic, the work constructed at this place, to cover the main depot of the army, will be known as "Fort Polk."

The Commanding General takes this occasion to express his satisfaction with the dispositions made for the defence and protection of this point, so vitally important to the efficiency and security of the army. To Maj. Monroe, the commanding officer, captain Saunders of the Engineers, Majors Thomas and MacRee, and captains Sibley and Hill of the Quartermaster's department, captain Ramsey of the Ordnance, and Lieutenant Montgomery of the subsistence departments, credit is especially due for their zeal and activity. The General returns his thanks to numerous citizens who volunteered their services in the defence of the depot. Their assistance added materially to its strength, and to his confidence in its ability to resist an attack. The reinforcement from the brig "Lawrence," under Lieut. Renshaw, and the large force of seamen and marines so promptly furnished by the squadron on its arrival, require a special acknowledgement to Commodore Conner and Commander Mercer of the navy. The army is deeply grateful for this support and co-operation from a kindred branch of the public service.

By order of Brigadier General Taylor,
W. W. J. BLISS.
Acting Adjutant General.

HEAD QUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION.
Point Isabel, Texas, May 12, 1846

[SPECIAL ORDERS, No. 62]

1. General la Vega and the other Mexican officers prisoners of war, will be conducted to New Orleans under charge of Lieut. J. J. Reynolds 4th Artillery, who will report on his arrival to Major General Gaines for further instructions. The quartermasters department will furnish a steamer for the transportation of the party.

2. As many of the sick and wounded now at this place as may be indicated by Surgeon Wood, will be sent in suitable transports to St. Joseph's island.

Assistant Surgeon Byrne will accompany the detachment and will return with the convalescents that may be in condition to leave the general hospital. The quartermaster's department will furnish the proper transportation.

By order of Brigadier General Taylor,
W. W. J. BLISS,  
Acting Adjutant General.

THE UNITED STATES SHIP CUMBERLAND,  
Off Brazos Santiago, May 9, 1846.

Sir:—The arrival of the squadron at this anchorage, of which the department was informed, in my communication of yesterday, was most opportune. To obtain a supply of provisions from the depot at Point Isabel, Gen. Taylor after leaving Major Brown with five hundred men in charge of the works at Matemoras, marched for the former place with the remainder of his forces, consisting of two thousand men. On his return, when within twelve or fifteen miles of Matamoras, he encountered the enemy in considerable force, estimated at from six to seven thousand men, with a large portion of cavalry. An engagement took place about 10 o'clock yesterday morning, which lasted until night. A pilot in the employment of the United States at this bar, who visited the army to-day, informs me that our loss amounted to sixty killed, and that Gen. Taylor had offered the enemy battle again to-day, but that it was declined. From the rapid and incessant firing, particularly of artillery, throughout the day, I should infer the loss of the enemy must have been very considerable. No further particulars have reached me. Shortly after the action commenced, I received a communication from Major Monroe, commanding Point Isabel requesting a reinforcement from the squadron for the defence of that post, where it appears all the supplies for the army are deposited. In the course of yesterday afternoon and this morning, five hundred seamen and marines under the command of Captain Gregory, of the Raritan, were landed from the Squadron—a force, it is believed, sufficient to defend it against any attempt that the enemy can make. A reinforcement for the army is hourly expected from Galveston and New Orleans.

I am very respectfully your obedient servant,

D. CONNER,
Commanding Home Squadron.

Hon. GEORGE BANCROFT,  
Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

THE UNITED STATES SHIP CUMBERLAND,  
Off Brazos Santiago, May 13, 1846.

Sir: In my communication of the 9th inst., of which a duplicate is enclosed, the department was informed that a battle had been fought on the day previous, between the American and Mexican forces near Matamoras. On the 9th, Gen. Taylor continued to advance towards his works opposite that place, the Mexican army under Gen. Arista falling back before him until within two and a half miles from the American works when it made a stand, and a general action engaged, which ended in the complete route of the enemy. All his artillery, several standards, nearly all his baggage, ammunition and stores, with a large number of prisoners, among whom were Gen. la Vega, and other officers of rank, were captured. The enemy maintained his position bravely, and did not abandon it, without very severe loss. Our loss is stated to be about 60 killed and wounded. So signal has been the defeat, that it is not believed the enemy will be able to assemble in any force for a considerable time. This event, with the arrival to-day of nearly 1000 volunteers from New Orleans, has placed the army in perfect security. It is my intention to despatch such vessels of the squadron as are not in immediate want of water, to blockade the Mexican ports—leaving the Lawrence to cruise in this neighborhood for the protection of the vessels engaged in furnishing the army with supplies.

I am, very respectfully,

D. CONNER,
Commanding Home Squadron.

Hon. GEORGE BANCROFT,  
Secretary of the Navy, Washington.


An invasion from different points, at the same time, the forces all aiming at the city of Mexico, has been talked of. A distinguished officer of the Army has, it is said, given it as his opinion that a force of a hundred thousand men will be necessary for this object.

In the meantime the Government have taken a step which is quite as decided and important as a march to the Mexican capital. The American squadron, under Commodore Stockton, have orders to make possession of St. Francisco and Monterey, and to hold those places against all opposition. I know this to be a fact.

[BWP]
Correspondence of the *Baltimore American*


**IN SENATE.**

Mr. Dix presented a petition praying the extension of Morse’s Magnetic Telegraph, which was referred to the Committee on the Library.

On motion of Mr. Pearce, the Committee on Military Affairs was instructed to enquire into the expediency of providing for the distribution of public property captured during the war among the officers and soldiers engaged in it.

Mr. Berrien reported a bill in reference to the article in our treaty of 1795 with Spain, relating to the taking out of letters of marque, &c. The bill and report were ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Johnson of La. the bill to provide for the adjustment of land claims in the States of Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama, was taken up.

The bill, after being amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

On motion of Mr. Dix, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill supplemental to the act providing for the prosecution of the existing war with Mexico.

Mr. Dix explained the necessity which exists for the increase in the number of Brigadier Generals and Major Generals, in consequence of the increase in the rank and file of the Army, and showed the great injustice which would be inflicted by the adoption of the amendment offered yesterday by Mr. Atchison.

Mr. Morehead briefly opposed the first section as it stood, and was unwilling to place citizens over the heads of officers who have devoted life-time to the service; over such men as General Taylor; “old, rough and ready,” as he is called; and if the appointments should be authorized, he was in favor of requiring the President to make them from among those who should distinguish themselves in the war, and not from citizens; from more partizans.

Mr. Miller moved to amend, by striking out Mr. Atchison’s amendment and inserting in lieu thereof a proviso that the officers shall be selected from the Army.

Mr. Allen was opposed to both amendments. The first was inexpedient; the last unconstitutional. He wished to leave it to the President to select the officers from the Army or from citizens at his discretion. He desired to show to the people, that great appointments of this kind were open to all alike, and not to be given only to a favored class.

Mr. Mangum was in favor of Mr. Atchison’s amendment, and thought that means would be taken to secure to the country the use of any brilliant military talents which might be displayed during the war.

Mr. Benton opposed the amendment of Mr. Atchison, and, was opposed to the appointment of temporary generals which would lead to great difficulties, heart burnings and jealousies.

Mr. Johnson of Md. moved to amend the amendment by excepting the officers who should be appointed from the Army, from its operation.

The debate was continued by Messrs. Oass, Niles, Allen, Crittenden, Simmons and Webster, until near 4 o’clock, when the Senate went into Executive session, and afterwards adjourned.

[BWP]

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**RW46v23i43p2c1, May 29, 1846: Mr. Benton’s Great Speech.**

The numerous and pressing demands upon our columns at this moment, will not permit us to publish at length the able and conclusive argument of the Senator from Missouri, in which, as with a pencil of light, he traces the true boundary line between the American and British possessions in Oregon. We cannot forbear, however, to present to our readers a condensed view of his leading positions.

The basis of Mr. Benton’s argument is this—that the country presents three distinct geographical divisions, to each of which a different claim and a different degree of claim attaches, and which cannot be confounded under any one general view without a general mystification and total confusion of the whole subject. The Columbia river and its valley is one of these divisions; the Islands along the coast is another; Frazer’s river and its valley is the third.

Beginning with the “the Islands,” which he describes as “a net-work, some large, some small, chequered in together, and covering the coast to the extent of one, two, and even three hundred miles in front of the continent,” he
proceeds to trace the titles of the various nations which at different periods have made discoveries in that region, but none of which made permanent settlements. In neither the title or the value of these islands does he see anything to fight about. His conclusion is, that "our title to these islands is better than that of the British, but that neither is perfect for want of settlement; and that now, as proposed in 1824, they should follow the fate of the continental divisions in front of which they lie."

The second division of Oregon is called Frazer's river and its valley, the upper part of which is good for navigation, but the lower part is wholly unnavigable for any species of craft. Our claim to it rests upon the Spanish treaty of 1819; and the claim of Spain rests wholly upon her discoveries among the Islands. At the time that we acquired this Spanish claim, Mr. Benton says, the country had already been discovered 26 years by the British; had been settled by them for twelve years; was known by a British name; and no Spaniard had ever made a track upon its banks. And he quotes from a book of travels, written by an American, Mr. David Harmon, and published in 1820, giving a description of this country, called New Caledonia, to show that it was then universally regarded as a British province, and that not the slightest suspicion was entertained that it belonged to Spain. Indeed, he affirms that the Spaniards never claimed it themselves. Holding up a 54 40 map, he showed that that line, which takes in the province of New Caledonia, would embrace a line of British posts, from Fort McLeod at its head to Fort Langley at its mouth, and from Thompson's Fork on one side, to Stuart's Fork on the other. "And here (he said) are clusters of British names imposed by the British visible everywhere—Forts George, St. James, Simpson, Thompson, Frazer, and others; rivers and lakes, with these names and others." This famous line, "starting at the sea, gives us, by a quarter of an inch on the map, Fort Simpson, so named after the British Governor Simpson, and founded by the Hudson's Bay Company. Upon what principle we take this British Fort, (said Mr. B.,) I know not." "This is the country which geography and history, five and twenty years ago, called new Caledonia, and treated as a British possession—and it is the country which an organ-ized party among ourselves of the present day call 'the whole of Oregon or none,' and every inch of which they say belongs to us." Mr. B. then read several extracts from the instructions of the American Secretary of State to Mr. Rush, then our Minister to Great Britain, in order to show that at that time four years after the Spanish treaty was negotiated, we claimed only to the parallel of 49, and not a foot beyond, conceding that Frazer's river and its valley, our title to which President Polk pronounces so "clear and unquestionable," was a province of the British Empire. "The British (said Mr. Benton,) who know all this, must be astonished at our fifty-four forty war fever of "today!" This part of his argument is thus summed up:

"On Friday, Mr. President, I read one passage from the documents of 1823 to let you see that fifty-four forty (for that is the true reading of fifty-five) had been offered to Great Britain for her northern boundary: to-day I read you SIX PASSAGES from the same documents to show the same thing. And let me remark once more—the remark will bear eternal repetition—these offers were made by the men who had acquired the Spanish title to Oregon! And who must be presumed to know as much about it as those whose acquaintance with Oregon dates from the epoch of the Baltimore Convention—whose love for it dates from the era of its promulgation as a party watchword—whose knowledge of it extends to the luminous pages of Mr. Greenhow's book!

"Six times Mr. Monroe and his Cabinet renounced Fraser's river and its valley, and left it to the British! They did so on the intelligible principle that the British had discovered it, and settled it, and were in the actual possession of it when we got the Spanish claim; which claim Spain never made! Upon this principle New Caledonia was left to the British in 1823. Upon what principle is it claimed now?

"This is what Mr. Monroe and his Cabinet thought of our title to the whole of Oregon or none, in the year 1823. They took neither branch of this proposition. They did not go for all or none, but for some! They took some and left some; and they divided by a line right in itself, and convenient in itself, and mutually suitable to each party. This President and his Cabinet carry their "unquestionable right" to Oregon as far as 49, and no further. This is exactly what was done six years before. Mr. Gallatin and Mr. Rush offered the same line as being the continuation of the line of Utrecht, [describing it by that name in their despatch of October 20th, 1818] and as covering the valley of the Columbia river, to which they alleged our title to be indisputable. Mr. Jefferson had offered the same line in 1807. All these offers leave Frazer's river and its valley to the British, because they discovered and settled it. All those offers hold on to the Columbia river and its valley, because they discovered and settled it; and all these offers let the principle of contiguity or continuity work equally on the British as on the American side of the line of Utrecht.

"This is what the statesmen did who made the acquisition of the Spanish claim to Oregon in 1819. In four years afterwards they had freely offered all north of 49 to Great Britain, and no one ever thought of arraigning them for it. Most of these Statesmen have gone through fiery trials since, and been fiercely assailed on all the deeds of their lives, but I never heard of one of them being called to account, much less lose an election, for the part he acted in afterwards they had freely offered all north of 49 to Great Britain, and no one ever thought of arraigning them for it.

"I come to the river Columbia, and its vast and magnificent valley. I once made a description of it, with an anathema against its alienation. I described it by metes and bounds by marks and features and then wrote its name in its face. The fifty-four forties got hold of my description and rubbed out the name, obliterated the features, expanded the boundaries took in New Caledonia, and all the rivers, lakes, bays, sounds, islands, valleys, forts and settlements, all the way up to 54 40! and then turned my own anathema against myself, because their minds could not apply words
to things. Well! I take no offence at this. There are some people too simple to get angry with. All we do with them in the West, is to have them "cut for the simples;" after which they are cured. They can perform this operation for themselves, or have it done. If by themselves all they have to do is rub their eyes, and read again; if by others, the operator must read, and caution the listening patient to stick the word to the thing.

The valley of the Columbia is ours: ours by discovery, by settlement, and by the treaty of Utrecht! and has, too often, been so admitted by Great Britain to admit of her disputing it now. I do not plead our title to that great country. I did that twenty years ago, when there were few to repeat or applaud what I said. I pass over the ground which I trod so long ago, and which has been again so much trodden of late, and take up the question at a fresh place—the admissions of Great Britain! and show that she is precluded by her own acts and words from ever setting up any claim to the river and valley of the Columbia, or to any part of the territory south of the 49th degree."

Mr. Benton then enters into an elaborate historical sketch of Astoria—which, he says, was not a mere trading post for temporary traffic, but the foundation of a colony, and the occupation of the whole valley of the Columbia, and the establishment of a commercial emporium, of which . . . [BWP]

The New York Morning News, a leading friend of the Administration, discusses, in a long article, the probable cost of the Mexican War, and the means by which the money is to be obtained. The ten millions already appropriated, it admits, are only a beginning, and FIFTY MILLIONS MORE must before long follow suit—and possibly ANOTHER FIFTY MILLIONS must be added to the amount before a glimpse of the spires of the Mexican Cathedral will be caught by the American conqueror! How shall the money be raised? Loans, it entirely disapproves. Treasury Notes can only be issued to a limited amount; and we are informed by the "News" that the Secretary of the Treasury has estimated that the business of the country will stand an issue of about thirty millions, and, what is more important, that this is the plan to be brought forward by the Administration. The only other plan is by a DIRECT TAX, unless indeed Secretary Walker's idea of an increased revenue from imports, to result from the reduction of the Tariff, should be realised! Even in that case, however, so inadequate would be the revenue, the Federal tax-gatherer must soon be among the people. We do not doubt, any more than the NEWS, that the patriotic citizens of the country will cheerfully submit to any demand upon their purse necessary to sustain the honor and to vindicate the rights of the country. But that paper may be assured, that, after the danger shall have passed away, the tax-payers will not fail to enquire whether this war might not have been averted, without a sacrifice of either our rights or our honor, by a wise and judicious course of conduct on the part of the Executive—whether he has not needlessly plunged us into hostilities, without consulting the war-making power, and thereby subjected the people to the heavy privations which, ills able as many of them are to bear these new exactions, they will nevertheless, so long as they may be necessary, cheerfully submit to.

If this tremendous array of military force, and this immense expenditure, are demanded by a War with so feeble a power as Mexico, too, the people may be reasonably expected to count the cost of a war with a so formidable as Great Britain, for the purpose of acquiring possession of a region of country so remote and valueless as that part of Oregon between the parallels of 49 and 54 40; the title to which, instead of being "clear and unquestionable," as Mr. Polk asserted with as much dogmatism as ignorance of its history, is shown by Mr. Benton to be in Great Britain! They will see that there is something in War besides "glory;" and that, severe as must be the exactions upon the people to which it must lead, that is not by any means the greatest of its evils among which may be regarded the strengthening of the arm of the General Government at the expense of the rights of the people and of the States, and indefinitely enlarging the power and patronage of that branch of it, (the Executive,) from the usurpations and misconduct of which have sprung all the mischiefs that for twenty years past have scourged the country.

Lieut. JOSEPH SELDEN, one of the officers wounded in the second battle with the Mexicans, is from this city; and his numerous friends, whilst they sympathise with him in his sufferings, are gratified to hear that he has won distinction on the battle field. [BWP]

This Company has been re-organized, and Maj. WALTER GWYNN chosen its Captain. Maj. G. is a graduate of West Point, and an Engineer of eminence. Possessed of all the indomitable traits of a soldier and the gallant bearing of a gentleman, he will soon infuse into the troop all the vigor and discipline necessary to render it an efficient arm of the public defence.

The compliment conveyed to Maj. G. in this case is the more valuable because it was conferred in his absence from the city. [BWP]
The "54 40" papers & the "all or nonev patriots ḳ who asserted that there is "no break" in our title to "the whole of Oregon" are as dumb as oysters about Benton's demolishing speech. Why this ominous silence? Are they convinced? Or do they shrink from an attack upon Old Bullion?

[Source: Philadelphia North American, May 29, 1846]

WASHINGTON, May 24, 1846.

It is hardly necessary for me to make any comments upon the intelligence received from the frontier last night, inasmuch as no official accounts have been received by the President or at the War Department, and the subject is by far too grave a one for mere speculation. I can only say, the facts as stated are supposed to be greatly exaggerated.

I now turn to a matter, the promulgation of which will, I have no doubt, occasion no little surprise to the country, and if it should result, as circumstances now seem to warrant the apprehension of, will cause one general and spontaneous burst of just indignation throughout the Union ṽ in a word, THERE IS SERIOUS REASON TO BELIEVE AN EFFORT IS BEING MADE BY THE ADMINISTRATION TO SUPERSEDE GEN. SCOTT IN THE COMMAND OF THE SOUTH-WESTERN ARMY!!

In order to present the case fairly, it is necessary to refer to the circumstances which brought about his selection for this post. After the first indications of hostilities from the frontier, Gen. Scott was called into council as to the military operations. It was then proposed to him by the President and Secretary of War, to proceed to the Rio Grande and take command of the forces ṽ in plain terms, they desired to displace Gen. Taylor. With all the true instincts of a soldier and the noble qualities of a man, Gen. Scott respectfully requested to be relieved from such a duty. He stated that Gen. Taylor was his personal friend ṽ he had served on the field of battle together ṽ he had always shown himself superior to every emergency in which he had been placed, and was a brave and gallant officer, and would come out victoriously. After his urgent remonstrance, at various interviews the subject was renewed, and it was then submitted whether he would accept the command of the forces ordered by Congress. To this he readily assented, alleging that General Taylor would then have no proper ground of exception inasmuch as his higher rank would entitle him to the position, and could not be regarded as any disparagement to Gen. Taylor. When this understanding had been perfected, the President at once entered into what was presumed to be very confidential intercourse with Gen. Scott, and they were closeted nearly two days without interruption of any sort, in arranging the requisitions upon the States, and other details.

It is well known with what a cordial and universal response the selection of Gen. Scott was received all over the Union, and by men of all parties. The echo found its way back to Washington, and fell upon the ears of some high in office, in any thing but grateful notes. I shall not say how much or how little the prospect of a future, beyond the successful termination of this Mexican war, may have influenced those in power in the course of conduct which has been manifested towards Gen. Scott since this acclamation was heard; but I know, and proclaim it, that the President and his advisers have acted with marked coolness, and in a manner utterly at variance with their recent professions. Whether this be the result of cause and effect, is left for others to judge.

During all these consultations and councils, no order of any sort was issued to Gen. Scott. The President expressed his desire he should take the command of the army, when it was mustered into service, and Gen. Scott made but one stipulation, viz: that in the event of war with England, he should be permitted to return from the frontier, to the more honorable command, which was granted.

Thus stood matters until about nine days ago. Gen. Scott all the while was pushing forward his arrangements, and was devoting night and day to the organization of troops. Then, much to his surprise, the President and the Secretary of War and others connected with the administration on different occasions, renewed the suggestion, that he ought to go to the seat of war. He replied as before ṽ Gen. Taylor had accomplished as much as any officer could do, under the circumstances ṽ he had proved himself in every way capable of coping with the enemy, and deserved whatever laurels were to be won from the campaign on the Rio Grande. Still it was pressed upon his attention, so as to become disagreeable. About this time, (a week ago) it became necessary to frame a Bill systematizing the details of that granting the supplies. This was confirmed to Gen. Scott, and was laid before the Military Committee of the Senate in his handwriting. It was done with the knowledge and consent, and I believe at the request of the War
The Military Committee of the Senate met, and Mr. Marcy, the Secretary of War, appeared in person before them—a proceeding altogether unusual. Several members being absent, a section was introduced without any conference with Gen. Scott, which appears as the very first in the Bill reported on Tuesday morning last by Col. Benton. It is as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he hereby is authorized to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, two major generals, and four brigadier generals, in addition to the present military establishment.

When it is remembered, that according to the recent act, the States are allowed to appoint their own officers, that 3 generals of the regular army, Gen. Taylor, Gen. Worth and Gen. Wool, exclusive of the Commander-in-Chief are to be on the field, and therefore that no necessity, and no reasonable pretext exists for the creation of these new officers, and the mode by which the clause was inserted in the bill, is taken into consideration, it cannot but be inferred, there was some decided motive for such a movement upon the part of the administration, when the personal agency of a member of the Cabinet, was necessary to procure its adoption.

Will the government paper answer whether it was the President’s purpose by this means to supersede General Scott in the command of the army, or by securing places for his friends now, to retain them as the close of the war, when the peace establishment came to be formed, by giving the go by to Scott and Gaines? These are pungent interrogatories and explicit answers are demanded by the country, of whose glory and greatness, the reputation of Winfield Scott, is no unimportant part. I challenge a manly and candid reply and I call upon the President’s organ, to tell us, why this increase of high officers was demanded by the President through his Secretary of War, when not needed for the public service.

In this connection let we venture a prediction—if this bill is passed Samuel Houston, of Texas, will be a General in the army of the United States, mark that! The inferences are left to those who choose to form them.

But to return. Within the last few days, Gen. Scott, being still without orders, the subject not being resumed, and this bill, itself singularly expressive, being before Congress—he addressed a letter to the President stating at length, his reasons for declining the appointment to supersede Gen. Taylor, and why he could without any reflection upon that gallant officer, assume the command of the whole force to be called out. No reply has been given as yet, and it is now a matter of much doubt if he will be ordered. If the pending bill can be hastily carried through, I believe he will be overslaughed—if not, the President may take even a more exceptionable course.

The length of this letter precludes me from extending the remarks which I intended to submit to the public, but I cannot close without the expression of one opinion. If Mr. Polk and his cabinet design to make this Mexican war, a political war, as events have already indicated, the sooner they abandon their places the better for themselves; no execration can be too loud for such conduct—no penalty too severe. The Union has day after day, charged falsehoods upon statesmen of as pure patriotism and unsullied integrity as any that exist in this land, and its tirades seem only to have been the preludes to a war upon the hero of Niagara. INDEPENDENT.

A few of the citizens of New Orleans have presented Capt. May, who made the gallant and successful charge upon the Mexican Artillery, with a Sword and Belt. Upon the Sword is this inscription: "Presented to Capt. Charles May, of the second regiment of Dragoons, by his fellow citizens of New Orleans from the District of Columbia, as a token of their sense of his gallantry, displayed in the battle with the Mexican forces, May 9th, 1846." Capt. May is a native of Washington city, and is described as a very model of chivalry and heroism.

CAPTAIN W. M. FULTON, late of the U. S. Army, has been authorized by General Gaines to raise a regiment for the Army of Occupation on the Rio Grande. Captain Fulton served through the whole Florida war as Captain of Dragoons. He is an able and experienced officer, and we trust his regiment will soon be filled, and on its way to the battle-field.

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[May 29, 1846]

N. O. Tropic.

Capt. Fulton is a native of Henrico County, and is well remembered here. His friends must be gratified to find him again in the way of honorable distinction.
The officers of the U. S. Army of Occupation, have raised a purse of $1000 for Capt. Walker, the brave Texan Ranger, as an evidence of their appreciation of his services.

The N. Y. Express states that Commodores Perry and Kearner, have purchased for the Government two steamers of 500 tons each, and four schooners of 90 tons each. They were built by Bell & Brown of that city, for the Mexicans, who were unable or unwilling to pay for them.

CASTLE OF San Juan de Ulloa.

The Castle of San Juan de Ulloa, with the distance behind it. It stands alone upon a small rocky island, on one side of the main entrance to the harbor, and only about a half a mile from the wall of the city, and consequently has complete command of the port. The entrance off the other side, is so barred with broken reefs and ledges, that it can only be used by small craft in favorable weather.

The form of the city of Vera Cruz is semi-circular, fronting the sea. It is situated on an arid plain, surrounded by sand hills, and is badly supplied with water, the chief reliance being upon rain collected in cisterns, which are often so poorly constructed as to answer but very little purpose. The chief resource of the lower is the water of a ditch, so impure as frequently to occasion disease. An attempt was made, more than a century ago, to remedy this evil, by the construction of a stone aqueduct from the river Xamape; but, unfortunately, after a very large sum had been expended on the work, it was discovered that the engineer who constructed it had made a fatal mistake in not ascertaining the true level, and the work was abandoned in despair.

POINT ISABEL, TEXAS, May 13th, 1846.

"By the time you receive this, you will have heard of the two great battles that have been fought by our army against the Mexican forces. We had but 2100 men, and the Mexicans had 6000. The first day they did nothing but fire artillery at us, which we returned, and killed some hundred of them. They tried several times to break our lines by charging us, but they were repulsed. This day Major Ringgold, of the artillery, was killed by a cannon ball, which took off both his legs; and some sixty of our men were killed and wounded. Several shot passed near me and over my head, and one went between my horse's legs, but did not hit him. That night the Mexican force fell back, and took up a position in a dense chapparel, or thicket, that borders the Rio Grande, and is seven or eight miles through. I was one of the advanced guard, and was within sixty yards of the enemy when they fired grape shot upon us; and, singular as it may appear, not one of my men was struck.

"The General then ordered us to allow the infantry to pass up and engage them; they did so, and also our light artillery. They had been engaged about an hour and a half, when our squadron was then ordered to charge the enemy's batteries. We did so, took one of their batteries, and General la Vega prisoner, while in the act of pointing a gun. Lieut. Inge, of the dragoons, was killed in the charge; Lieut. Luckett had his horse shot under him, and many of the men and horses were killed and wounded. General la Vega surrendered his sword to Capt. May. It was a desperate affair, and was as gallantly performed as any action of our revolution.

"I had four men killed at my side. I cut one Mexican down, and then rallied the men that were left, when the enemy broke and run, and left every thing in our possession. The plunder was great—600 miles, 9 pieces of cannon, some 20 standards, and a large amount of money in gold, besides all their equipage. Seventeen officers were taken.
prisoners, and hundreds of men. An exchange of prisoners has been made, and our officers and men whom they took on a previous affair are now restored to us. Henry, Crozet and your friends were in the action, and behaved like men. Piper was not in the action, and is almost crazy over what I have gone through, I involuntarily shudder at my escape. General Taylor has gone up to the army to-day, and we start to-morrow. We brought the wounded down here. Several of our officers were killed, and a large number wounded, but nothing in comparison to the enemy.

[Mr. Crozet, referred to in such complimentary terms in the foregoing letter, is a son of Col. Claude Crozet, of Richmond.]

WASHINGTON, May 27.

The orders given to Gen. SCOTT to take command of the army on the Rio Grande have been revoked. The President thinks it would be unjust to Gen. Taylor to give the command to another, after his brilliant opening of the campaign. The nomination of Gen. Taylor as brevet major General was yesterday unanimously confirmed by the Senate.

The President has concluded to accept the services of one battalion of volunteers from the District, and another from Baltimore. This is the extent to which volunteers so far north will be called into service at present.

I learn that the President has caused the strictest orders to be given that in the prosecution of the war, the property of the Church in Mexico shall be held sacred, and every attempt to pillage it be punished with the utmost severity. This, in connection with the confidential mission of Bishop Hughes spoken of, will undoubtedly be productive of good results.

Among the appointments in the new rifle regiment, I have heard of the following; Percifor L. Smith, of New Orleans, to be Colonel; Capt. Fremont to be Lieut. Col.; Mr. Crittenden, (a son of Senator C.) to be Captain, and Julian May, of this city, Lieutenant.

WASHINGTON, May 27.

UNITED STATES SENATE.

The bill to provide for the adjustment of land claims in the States of Louisiana, Mississippi, &c. [Spanish grants] was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Benton said he was anxious that the bill, which was before the Senate yesterday in relation to the Army should be passed without delay, and he would therefore defer the remainder of his Oregon speech until to-morrow.

The bill relative to the Army was then taken up.

Mr. Atchison withdrew his amendment to the first section requiring the officers to be discharged at the close of the war.

Mr. Mangum also withdrew his motion to strike out the first section.

Mr. Dix offered sundry amendments to the details of the bill, all of which were agreed to.

Mr. Benton also offered one or two amendments authorizing the employment of armorers, wheelwrights, carriage makers, &c., which were agreed to.

Mr. Wescott offered an amendment, the effect of which was to give the President the power of selecting the general officers to command the volunteers from the officers of the State militia, instead of leaving the selection to the Governors of the States called upon. The amendment was very properly rejected.

The bill was then ordered to be engrossed, and was subsequently read a third time and passed.
By this bill the President has authority to appoint two Major Generals and four Brigadier Generals in addition to those now in service, and to select them from the Army or from citizens, at his discretion.

On motion of Mr. Johnson of Md., the French Spoliation Bill was taken up for the purpose of taking a vote upon it—but intimations having been given of an intention to debate it, it passed by informally.

On motion of Mr. Fairfield, the bill for the augmentation of the naval force of the U. S. was taken up and made the special order for Monday.

On motion of Mr. Sevier, the Senate at 1 o'clock, went into Executive Session.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Haralson of Ga., offered a resolution calling for copies of the account of the battles which took place between the American army and the Mexicans on the 8th and 9th instants. The resolution was adopted without objection.

CIVIL AND DIPLOMATIC BILL.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole.

Mr. McClellan of Ill., gave notice of several amendments on reference to commerce, which he designed to offer to the above bill.

Mr. Collamer of Vt. With some interruption upon a point of order, replied to the Anti-Tariff speech of Mr. Payne of Ala. That speech he pronounced the same old song that had been sung for all the time the Tariff had been before the country. That gentleman thought the minds of men were stultified by the statement that the protective duties reduced the price of goods. Such was the fact, and the fact was good against all the assertions which had been made, or could be made.

Mr. C. said the Tariff had reduced the price of goods. This was not true only of glass and leather, and some few articles, but it was true of all articles. The exclusive patriotism set up by the gentleman from Alabama for himself and party, was also rebuked—Mr. Payne having charged the Whig members with voting for the Tariff from motives of selfishness. This was claiming a great deal for the gentleman and his party, more indeed than he believed they possessed, though he awarded as much consistency to that party, and as much fidelity to their constituents, as he claimed for himself or the Party with whom he acted.

Mr. C. did not, however, intend to discuss this question now, nor the tariff question. He reserved all that he had to say upon the tariff for the time when the Tariff Bill should come up. The tariffs which had hitherto been discussed had been debated from six weeks to six months. He hoped a liberal discussion would be allowed upon the present bill, that it would not be strangled, and that it would be suffered to receive something more than what it would endure.

Mr. Steward, of Pa., continued the debate in reply to Mr. Payne of Ala., and in defence of the National Fair, which had been assailed. He had seen there every possible specimen of American manufacture, every kind of goods, all sorts of Agricultural implements, and all sorts of mechanic arts—every thing indeed he had seen from three hundred beautiful children of American manufacture to the most perfect specimen of art.

Mr. S. reaffirmed that the tariff had reduced the prices of goods. Cloths which sold in 1816 for 85 cents a yard now sold for 7½ cents. This was not true of one article but of all articles. The very highest duty had often resulted in producing the lowest prices. This was the fact which would be borne out by examination. Competition was the cause, and the fruits of it was an increase of sales and decrease of prices and a great good conferred upon the consumers.

We now send to the East Indies between four and five millions of goods. We lead the English in their own markets.

Southern men, instead of denouncing the Tariff, had better turn their attention to manufacturing. Where was South Carolina now, and where Virginia? The latter State came into the Union with ten Representatives and the former five. They had hardly more now, while Pennsylvania had 24, and New York 34. This was the fruit of a Northern, or manufacturing policy, and that of a Southern.

The plan now was, and in a time of war, to increase the revenue by decreasing the duties. In the last war, just the reverse of this was done. The duties were doubled to increase the revenues, but now our wise financiers adopted a policy directly the reverse of this.

Mr. Stewart spoke with great ability and intelligence, and commanded the undivided attention of the House by his remarks.

One o'clock arrived before Mr. S. finished, and the committee were brought to a vote upon the amendments, the first of which was to strike out 50,000 and insert $85,000 for Marine Hospitals. The amendments to the bill were from one two hundred. Some few were carried, but the greater number were rejected.
Mr. Winthrop of Mass. Offered an amendment appropriating $18,000 for a special COMMISSION TO Mexico whenever it should be ascertained that he would be received by the Mexican Government. Rejected, yeas 50, nays 81.

Mr. Thompson of Miss. Offered an amendment to prevent the Commissioner for China from receiving his salary unless he shall reside at China. The amendment was agreed to, and is designed as a bit at Alexander Everett for his return to and long continuance in this country.

An amendment in relation to the mileage and per diem of members of the House and Senate, and changing to a pay of $6 per diem was moved by Mr. Marshall, pending which the Committee rose.

A message from the President was received and read accompanying the official account of the battles of the 8th and 9th instant. The message made no remarks in references to the information received in the letter of General Taylor.

The message and papers were referred to the committee on Military Affairs, who reported a bill for furnishing books on Military tactics for the use of the Army, which was read twice and referred to the committee of the whole.

Two unsuccessful motions having been made to adjourn, the House went into Committee of the Whole, when the per diem and mileage amendment was resumed, and an amendment adopted requiring a reduction of daily pay for daily absence, upon the call of the yeas and nays, unless a certificate can be procured from a physician.

This amendment was ruled to be out of order, but an amendment in regard to mileage of members was agreed to by which no member can receive more than $750 during any one session of Congress, and that he shall receive 40 cents a mile for the first 200 miles, 35 cents for 300 miles, and 30, 25 and 20 cents a mile for longer distances.

This amendment being agreed to, attempt was made to bring forward that in relation to physicians' certificates; pending which the House adjourned, the members apparently quite disgusted with their own demagoguism.

RW46v23i43p4c1, May 29, 1846: The U. States and Mexico.

An attentive perusal of the Documents accompanying the President's Message, of the 11th instant, in reference to Mexican affairs, has satisfied us, that, with whatever justice we may complain of the refusal to receive Mr. Slidell, by the usurper, President Paredes, his predecessor, Gen. Herrera, with whom the arrangement was concluded by Mr. Black, our Consul in the city of Mexico, entered into it in good faith, and with a sincere desire to adjust, by negotiation, the questions in controversy between the two Governments. It is apparent, indeed, from the whole course pursued by the Mexican authorities, in relation to the reception of a Minister from the U. States, that, although sincere and honest in their purposes, they did not conclude this arrangement without strong misgivings as to their ability to consummate it; and the fact that, under such circumstances they consented to it at all, is at least **prima facie** evidence of the honesty of their intentions. They knew that the minds of the people of Mexico had been inflamed against the United States by highly wrought pictures, daily presented to their contemplation, of the injustice and injury to which Mexico had been subjected by the aggressive acts of our Government upon the "department of Texas," while similar aggressions hereafter, upon other States of the Mexican Republic, were confidently predicted. Large portions, indeed, of some of them, including the most populous and wealthy cities of Tamaulipas, Chiahua and New Mexico, they saw, were already claimed in virtue of the articles of annexation with Texas, and upon others, particularly the Californias, it was not less evident we were already turning a long eye. Public opinion was thus rendered decidedly averse to a renewal of the diplomatic intercourse between the two countries; and of this state of things Gen. Paredes artfully availed himself to bring into odium and finally to overthrow, the constitutionally elected President, Herrera, who, with a juster appreciation of the disproportion between the military resources and the prowess of the two countries, was unquestionably desirous of adjusting the matters in dispute between them without an appeal to arms, the result of which he foresaw must be most disastrous to Mexico. We feel entirely persuaded, therefore, that; had Herrera been strong enough to defeat the revolutionary machinations of Paredes, the success of which subverted the regularly constituted government and placed the reins of power in the hands of a Military Usurper, who assumed to himself all the powers of a Dictator, our Minister would have been received by him, and negotiations opened for the peacable adjustment of the boundary, as well as all other unsettled questions. Hence, we do not deem it altogether just to impute a fraudulent design to the Mexican Government in the rejection of Mr. Slidell, after having consented to receive a Minister from the U. States, or to base upon that act a charge of Punic faith. We might suppose a parallel (though of course an improbable) case, in this country, by reversing the position of the two parties. Had Mexico, for example, made the proposition to send a Commissioner for Texas, when our relations with her were in their most friendly aspect, and upon the assent of the U. States, had proceeded to demand and receive a special mission from the President of our country to settle the boundary, it might well have been argued by the Mexicans that such a formal gesture was only a device to obtain an opportunity of aggression. The fact that, upon similar principles, we have never sent a Commissioner to Mexico, is sufficient to destroy the force of such an argument.

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[BWP]
acquired power, or to the tenure by which it is held, must necessarily be regarded as the acts of the nation. But, although this be true, it does not deprive other governments of the right, nor indeed does it authorize them to dispense with the obligation, in deciding upon the character of these acts, to consider and weigh well the circumstances in which they originate, and by which they are surrounded, and which ought to go very far in determining the ultimate course of an adversary government which may have been offended or injured by their perpetration.

We proceed, then, briefly to group together some of the most striking features of the correspondence, which, in our estimation, justify the belief, that, when Herrera intimated to the Consul, Mr. Black, through M. Pena y Pena, his Minister of Foreign Relations, his willingness to receive a Minister from the U. States, he had no purpose to deceive or to mislead our Government, and that he was influenced by a sincere desire to avert from his own country the calamities of war, which he knew she was so inadequately prepared to encounter. From Mr. Black's letter to Mr. Buchanan, detailing the events of his interview with the Mexican Minister, when the proposition of the U. States to send a Diplomatic Agent to Mexico, was first communicated, we see the trepidation with which the proposition was assented to. The Mexican Minister, for, example, after urging the greatest secrecy upon Mr. Black, proceeded to urge that the U. S. naval and military forces in the Gulf and on the frontier should be removed, as a preliminary step, [though, this was not done, as we may hereafter have occasion to show,] lest the Mexican Government might be supposed to be intimidated into the reception of a Minister; secondly, that the Minister to be sent should be a person suitable in every respect, and not one against whom the government or people of Mexico might entertain a fixed prejudice; and thirdly, that all irritating topics should be avoided in the preparatory discussions—and he added, lest the suggestion of these precautions should be deemed offensive, that, "if the Government (of Mexico) had but itself to consult, the expression of those feelings would have been left out of the communication; but that I (Mr. Black) knew, as well as he did, that Governments like ours, must endeavor to reconcile the opinions and feelings of the people for their public acts; and that I also knew very well that a strong opposition were daily calling the attention of the public to, and scrutinizing and condemning every act of the Government, and that the Government endeavored to give them as little pretext as possible." This extract shows, we think, both the strong anxiety of Herrera's Administration to negotiate, and their equally strong apprehensions that they might be defeated, as they were, by the decided opposition of public opinion, misled by such men as Paredes and his associates, to that mode of proceeding.

This opinion is further confirmed by a subsequent letter of Mr. Black to Mr. Buchanan, in which, after alluding to the anticipated revolution, of which Paredes was then deemed the master spirit, and which Herrera was exerting himself to counteract, Mr. Black says: "I wish this Government may stand, as I think it well disposed to arrange all matters in dispute with the U. States."

[RWP]

RW46v23i43p4c2, May 29, 1846: New Engine of War.

Mr. Benjamin Reynolds and his brother, of New York, have invented a new engine of war, which they call a Projecting Engine, and which is thus described in the N. Y. Herald:

"The principle upon which it is constructed, is perfectly simple—and it is capable of propelling twenty, thirty or any number of balls, by a centrifugal power, to the ordinary distance as that by either a cannon or musket, and with equal force and velocity. This engine is worked in the same manner as the fire engine—by the aid of manual labor—and with the power of steam, could be made far more effective in storming a fortress, than a regular battery. It is neither steam, nor powder, nor gas, nor any of the ordinary aids which are required to work engines of war. The model which we have seen, resembles a windlass, placed horizontally, at the upper verge of which is placed a small barrel, about the size of a blunderbuss. Fourteen leaden balls, weighing each one and a half ounce, were placed at a certain part of the engine, and four men were set to work, in the same manner as if they were turning a winnowing machine. Having worked the engine, which was placed a distance of seventy or eighty yards from a target, with moderate strength, the balls were propelled with a velocity equal to that of a musket, and shattered to pieces and perforated the plank. The inventor states that it is capable of projecting one thousand balls a minute, and could do execution equal to one hundred muskets. But this model is capable of being applied to large cannon. At a cost of a few thousand dollars, within two months, the inventor could construct one or more projecting engines, capable of propelling a cannon-ball with equal power and velocity as if shot from the ordinary cannon by the aid of powder; also, of discharging one thousand per minute, by the aid of steam-power."

[RWP]

RW46v23i43p4c2, May 29, 1846: No title.

Many of the papers contain glowing descriptions of the wealth of the Mexican Churches—for the purpose, probably, of exciting the cupidity of those who might be deaf to the voice of patriotism. The altar of the Cathedral in the city of Mexico, which occupies the site of the Idol temple of Montezuma, is made of pure Silver, ornamented with gold, and surrounded by a balustrade surmounted with images, which are made of a compound of gold, silver and copper. The balustrade is supposed to be worth more than a million of dollars. Besides there are gold and silver vases, waifers, candlesticks, &c.
The property of the Church, in gold and silver ornaments, is valued at not less than fifty millions of dollars.

RW46v23i43p4c2, May 29, 1846: Warlike Preparations.

The papers, in every section of the Union, continue to be filled with notices of warlike movements, both by the expressions of opinion at large public meetings, as in New York and Philadelphia, and by the organization of Volunteer corps. We find it impossible to keep pace with these movements, and must therefore content ourselves with a selection of a few of the many incidents that meet the eye.

The last New Orleans Picayune states that the whole number of volunteers from Louisiana, including Colonel Ba Peyton’s newly organized regiment, is 4,443 rank and file. "The Legion," numbering 880 rank and file, have not yet been mustered into the service of the U. S., but are ready at a moment's warning. Among the companies formed in New Orleans, is one of mounted gunmen, commanded by F. A. Lumsden, one of the Editors of The Picayune. Large numbers of troops continue to pour into New Orleans from the interior parishes, and from the adjoining States among them two more companies from Mobile. A corps of 500 were expected soon to start from St. Louis. An additional detachment of troops sailed from New Orleans for the seat of war on the 17th inst.

The Louisville Journal of the 20th inst., states that Wm. Preston, Esq. on the day before procured a subscription of $50,000, (twenty-five gentlemen subscribing $2000 each,) which he has placed in the Bank of Kentucky to the credit of the Governor, in case it should be necessary in despatching troops to Texas.

RW46v23i43p4c2, May 29, 1846: No title.

The New York Herald aptly styles Mr. Benton's Oregon Speech, "the funeral discourse of 54 40."

RW46v23i43p4c5, May 29, 1846: From the N.O. Daily Delta. From the Seat of War.

From the N. O. Daily Delta.

FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.

Arrival of the James L. Day.

FAVORABLE NEWS.

We hastily compile the following from the letters of our friends at Point Isabel, which is the latest from the seat of war. All Speak of the prospects of Gen. Taylor as being in the highest degree auspicious. It is stated that the General is preparing to cross the Rio Grande and to attack and occupy Matamoras. The news reached this city by the James L. Day, Capt. Griffin.

Correspondence of the Daily Delta.

POINT ISABEL, May 15, 9 P. M.

Gentlemen — The steamer Jas. L. Day, which leaves here in a few hours, affords me an opportunity of sending you a few lines of information from this place.

We arrived here, (that is, company A, to which I am attached,) on the above named boat, on the morning of the 14th, after a pleasant passage of three days, and found everything wearing the most warlike aspect anxiously awaiting the hour when the order should be given to "strike tents," and take up the line of march for that section of country where the Mexicans do most congregate. A more cheerful set of men the sun never shone upon, you would suppose, to look upon them, they were preparing for a festival rather than an encounter with a merciless enemy — so cheerful and light hearted do they go about their labor.

The report prevalent in camp at this time is, that the Mexicans are within our immediate vicinity to the number of some 6 or 7000 strong. As to its correctness I cannot vouch, but certain it is, we are in the neighborhood of the enemy, and an attack at any hour would surprise no one here.
Gen. Taylor left this place on the morning of the 13th for his camp on the river above, accompanied by only one company of Artillery and one of Dragoons. He was dressed in a simple farmer's apparel, and his mode of conveyance a light wagon, driven by a negro servant. There seems to be little doubt but he will reach his camp in safety. After which the general supposition is the Mexicans will have to look out for squalls, his dander is up since the last engagement, and he seems determined to start the ball.

When the ball is fairly opened the amusement must not cease until the tune is played and the fiddlers paid.

Four companies of the regular Infantry, accompanied by one volunteer company of Artillery and the Mobile volunteers, left here to-day for Bareta, a point on the Rio Grande, where they will be joined in a few days by all the companies from this place, which will swell the number to some 12 or 1500 men. It is Gen. Taylor's intention to keep possession of this point, and to the volunteers he has assigned the honor of maintaining it. I am of opinion he will never regret the hour he placed its guardianship in their hands. At least they will, I am sure, never dishonor themselves or the country whose rights they are maintaining.

Col. Forno arrived this morning with five companies, which increases the force now here to about 1200 men. The teamsters and laborers number some 300, who are liable to be called on at any moment for military duty, so the post may be considered perfectly safe from any incursion of the enemy.

During the engagements of the 8th and 9th about 1000 sailors and marines from the fleet at anchor off here were landed and were a formidable set of men to keep the place while the soldiers were absent. They are now on board their respective vessels and will not be called on again till a similar occasion may demand their services.

Major Ringgold was buried with all the military honors.

It would, I suppose, be superfluous to send you an account of the actions of the 8th and 9th, as they must be in your possession per steamer Galveston. In the two battles we lost about 160 men, whilst that of the enemy was near on to 900. Some of our men acted remarkably brave, amongst whom none seems more conspicuous than the Commander and Col. Twiggs.

I would write more in detail had not the fatigues of the day – drilling and preparing for departure – incapacitated me; but my next shall make amends for this, as I will advise you of every thing which will interest your readers.

Your. A********.

My next letter will doubtless be from the Barretta, where, as I before stated, we will immediately leave for.

POINT ISABEL, Thursday,
May 14, 6 o'clock, P.M.

[BWP]

RW46v23i43p4c6, May 29, 1846: Congress

Correspondence of the Baltimore American

WASHINGTON, May 25.

UNITED STATES SENATE.

On motion of Mr. Woodbridge the communication recently received from the Treasury Department in reference to the mineral lands on Lake Superior was referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

Mr. Dickinson presented the proceedings of a large meeting held in New York, in reference to the existing war with Mexico, and accompanied their presentation with a brief tribute to the patriotism and public spirit of the citizens of New York. Mr. D. also availed himself of the opportunity to state that had he been here when the bill to provide for the prosecution of the war was under consideration, it would have received his earnest support.

Mr. Rush moved to postpone the previous orders and take up the Senate bill in reference to the mail service in Texas. He said that a joint resolution had passed both Houses in reference to this subject, but the Postmaster General did not feel himself authorized to act under it at present. The motion was agreed to.

The bill was then amended in some particulars, and by unanimous consent was read a third time and passed.
On motion of Mr. Dix, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill reported from the Committee on Military Affairs, supplementary to the act providing for the prosecution of the existing war with Mexico.

Mr. Atchison offered an amendment to the first section requiring that the additional officers to the regular army there provided for shall be discharged from the service at the end of the war, or within 3 months thereafter.

Mr. Dix opposed the amendment. The increased number of officers asked for was rendered necessary by the increase in the rank and file of the Army.

Mr. Westcott followed on the same side. It would be an act of injustice to the officers who should be promoted under this act – Gen. Taylor, for instance, if he should be promoted to Brig. General, or Major General – that they should be discharged from the service as soon as the war is over.

Mr. Atchison defended his amendment. He argued that the number of officers in the Army was altogether too great for a peace establishment, and he was unwilling that any additional number should be fastened upon the country permanently in consequence of the war. If the officers proposed should be taken either from citizens or from the Army, no injustice would be done to them in either case, because they should know the nature of the contract before they accepted the appointments or the promotion offered to them.

After some remarks from Mr. Mangum, who intimated an intention of saying something more on the subject, the bill was postponed, and made the special order for to-morrow.

The Oregon jurisdiction bill was then taken up, and Mr. Benton resumed his remarks, showing that our title extended up to 49 and no farther.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THANKS TO GEN. TAYLOR AND EXTRA PAY PROPOSED.

Mr. Brinkerhoff of Ohio proposed, as soon as the Journal was read this morning, a Joint Resolution, thanking Gen. Taylor and his Army for their gallant defence of the country in the recent engagements with the Mexican forces, and also allowing to each officer, non-commissioned officer and private one month’s extra pay.

Mr. Winthrop said he had no objection to the Resolution, but he was desirous to know whether there had been any official communication received of the engagement from the camp of Gen. Taylor.

Mr. Brinkerhoff said he did not design to ask for the passage of the Resolution at this time, but merely that it should have its first and second reading, which was agreed to almost by general consent.

Mr. Dromgoole suggested that the thanks of Congress should be made a separate Resolution from that giving one month’s extra pay.

Mr. King of N. Y. moved to refer it to the Committee of the Whole which was agreed to.

[WP]
## The Mexican-American War and the Media, 1845-1848

*Richmond Whig and Advertiser*  
*Vol. 22, July-December 1846*  
*Missing: July, August, September, December*

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Information about the arrival of U.S. forces into the interior of Mexico.

**August 4, 1846**  
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Article detailing the U.S. victory and occupation of Camargo.

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**RWv23i62p2c3 Trial of Gen. Gaines**  
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**August 4, 1846**  
**RWv23i62p2c6 Marine Intelligence**  
Information on the arrivals and departures of vessels at the Richmond port.

**August 4, 1846**  
**RWv23i62p3c1 Naval Resignation**  
Information on the resignation of Com. W.B. Shubrick from the Navy.

**August 4, 1846**  
**RWv23i62p4c3 A War of Conquest**  
Article pertaining to a letter of opposition to the war with Mexico.

**August 4, 1846**  
**RWv23i62p4c3 Late from Mexico**  
Information on the latest military events in Mexico.

**August 7, 1846**  
**RWv23i63p1c2 More Volunteers Required**  
Article informing readers of the need of more volunteers for the war with Mexico.

**August 7, 1846**  
**RWv23i63p2c1 Foreign Intelligence**  
Information from newspapers from Europe pertaining to information gleaned about events in Mexico.

**August 7, 1846**  
**RWv23i63p2c3 Marine Intelligence**  
Information on the arrivals and departures of ships from the Richmond port.

**August 7, 1846**  
**RWv23i63p2c6 Gen. Gaines**  
Information on the court martial of General Gaines.

**August 7, 1846**  
**RWv23i63p3c1 Important rumors**  
Article containing rumors of talks of peace in ending the conflict with Mexico.

**August 7, 1846**  
**RWv23i63p4c1 Yellow Fever**  
Article describing the spread of Yellow Fever through the U.S. camps.
August 7, 1846 RWv23i63p4c1 Gen. Taylor
Information on a gift to the newspaper from General Zachary Taylor.

August 7, 1846 RWv23i63p4c2 Troops for Chihuahua
Information on the disbursement of troops to Mexico.

August 7, 1846 RWv23i63p4c2 General Article
Article describing a Mexican newspaper article concerning their right to wage combat against the U.S.

August 7, 1846 RWv23i63p4c4 From the Army
Information on military events in Mexico.

August 7, 1846 RWv23i63p4c6 Two Days Later From Mexico
Information arriving on affairs in Mexico.

August 7, 1846 RWv23i63p4c6 Correspondence
Information from the N. Orleans Bee about officer affairs and military engagements.

August 11, 1846 RWv23i64p1c1 The Oregon Treaty
Information on the ratification of the Oregon Treaty with Great Britain.

August 11, 1846 RWv23i64p1c2 The Rumors of Peace
Article concerning more rumors of peace talks with Mexico.

August 11, 1846 RWv23i64p1c5 From Brazos Santiago
Letter detailing information about events occurring near Brazos Santiago.

August 11, 1846 RWv23i64p1c1 The Campaign
News of a letter from Gen. Taylor about the movement of troops toward Mexico City.

August 11, 1846 RWv23i64p1c2 Louisiana Volunteers
Information on the bravery of the volunteers from Louisiana.

August 11, 1846 RWv23i64p1c6 A sample of the war expense
Article concerning the expense of the war effort.

August 11, 1846 RWv23i64p2c1 Mexico and the United States
Information of the current state of affairs between the United States and Mexico.

August 11, 1846 RWv23i64p2c5 Later From Texas
Article concerning events occurring within the new state of Texas.

August 11, 1846 RWv23i64p2c6 Marine Intelligence
Information on the arrivals and departures of ships at the Richmond port.

August 11, 1846 RWv23i64p3c2 Very Late from Sante Fe
Information of Kearney's walk to the Pacific and the progress made therein.

August 11, 1846 RWv23i64p4c4 Correspondence
More rumors on peace proposals with Mexico.

August 11, 1846 RWv23i64p4c5 Oregon Again
Section concerning the approval of Oregon and the treaty with Great Britain.

August 11, 1846 RWv23i64p4c6 Gen. Taylor
Information concerning events surrounding General Taylor.

August 14, 1846 RWv23i65p1c2 The Two Million Bill
Article pertaining to appropriations for the war with Mexico.

August 14, 1846 RWv23i65p1c2 Captain May
Information on the military service of Captain May to the United States.

August 14, 1846 RWv23i65p1c2 The New Orleans Delta
Information on an attack of Mobile volunteers on a barracks.

August 14, 1846 RWv23i65p1c2 Army Movements
Segment containing information on military movements.

August 14, 1846 RWv23i65p2c2 Mission to Mexico
Information concerning more rumors for peace with Mexico.

August 14, 1846 RWv23i65p2c2 Interesting Letter
Letter written detailing the march to Mexico City and opposition to the war.

August 14, 1846 RWv23i65p2c3 Correspondence
Article concerning the military affairs in Matamoras.

August 14, 1846 RWv23i65p2c5 Later from the Rio Grande
Information about troop movements and military developments along the Rio Grande.

August 14, 1846 RWv23i65p2c6 Marine Intelligence
Information on the arrivals and departures of vessels into and out of the port of Richmond.

August 14, 1846 RWv23i65p3c1 Mexico and the United States
The latest reports on affairs between the United States and Mexico.

August 14, 1846 RWv23i65p4c1 The Two Million Bill
Report made about the appropriation of funds for the conductance of a military campaign against Mexico.

August 14, 1846 RWv23i65p4c3 The Oregon Treaty
Information on the progress of acceptance of the Oregon Treaty.

August 14, 1846 RWv23i65p4c3 Santa Fe Expedition
Report detailing progress of the sweep to the Pacific.

August 14, 1846 RWv23i65p4c5 Correspondence
Information concerning General Gaines and the controversy surrounding him.

August 18, 1846 RWv23i66p1c3 Gen. Gaine’s Defence
Article detailing the defense of General Gaines during his court martial proceedings.

August 18, 1846 RWv23i66p1c1 The Mexican War
Information describing political maneuvering concerning the Mexican War.

August 18, 1846 RWv23i66p1c4 Defence
More information on the defense of General Gaines.

August 18, 1846 RWv23i66p1c6 The California Volunteers
Article describing the court martial pertaining to the uprising of volunteers.

August 18, 1846 RWv23i66p1c6 Correspondence
Information from the Baltimore Sun detailing instructions to Gen. Taylor about full conductance of the war.

August 18, 1846 RWv23i66p2c2 The Two Million Bill
Article relating to the fund allocation for negotiation with Mexico.

August 18, 1846 RWv23i66p2c2 A Spy in Mexico
Information on an American spy who is relaying information on Mexican military and political movements.

August 18, 1846 RWv23i66p2c3 Defence of Gen. Gaines
Update on the court martial of General Gaines.

August 18, 1846 RWv23i66p2c5 From the Army
Information on events taking place in Camargo.

August 18, 1846 RWv23i66p3c3 Important if true
Announcement of supposed California independence.

August 18, 1846 RWv23i66p4c1 Mexico and The U. States
Article describing the current political situation between both countries.

August 18, 1846 RWv23i66p4c3 The United States and Mexico
Information on correspondences between James Buchanan and the army.
August 18, 1846 RWv23i66p4c1 The Volunteers
Article describing a situation with the Louisiana and Arkansas volunteer regiments

August 21, 1846 RWv23i67p1c1 Independence and Annexation of Canada
Information considering U.S. hegemony on the continent

August 21, 1846 RWv23i67p1c3 Interesting Letter
Article concerning support for the war in Mexico.

August 21, 1846 RWv23i67p1c6 The Yucatan Exposition Retarded
Information on the progress of the war in NW Mexico

August 21, 1846 RWv23i67p2c2 Col Churchill
Information on military personnel being relocated to Mexico for military support

August 21, 1846 RWv23i67p2c6 West Point
Information on efforts to get the Engineer Corps ready to enter in action in Mexico

August 21, 1846 RWv23i67p2c6 Marine Intelligence
Information on the arrivals and departure of ships in and out of the Richmond port

August 21, 1846 RWv23i67p3c1 Caledonia
Article relaying information on efforts to end the conflict with Mexico

August 21, 1846 RWv23i67p3c5 Letter from the Army
Military information from the front lines in Camargo

August 25, 1846 RWv23i68p1c2 The California Expedition
Article relating information on the sailing of ships to California for military purposes

August 25, 1846 RWv23i68p1c6 From Mexico
Current events reported out of Mexico

August 25, 1846 RWv23i68p1c7 Later from the Rio Grande
Article relaying military activity from the front lines of Mexico

August 25, 1846 RWv23i68p3c3 Latest from Mexico-The Resolution-Prospect of the War. &c.
Information on the prospects of all out war with Mexico without peace proposals

August 25, 1846 RWv23i68p3c1 Last Evenings Mail
Information of the progress of political events in Mexico

August 25, 1846 RWv23i68p4c1 Mr. Benton on Oregon
Article relating feelings in the Senate on the issue of Oregon

August 28, 1846 RWv23i69p1c6 Gen. Gaines
Information on the progress of the court martial against General Gaines

August 28, 1846 RWv23i69p1c7 News from Santa Fe
Article explaining the progress of Kearney and his approach to the Pacific

August 28, 1846 RWv23i69p1c6 The Mexican War
Editorial on the issue of the Mexican was

August 28, 1846 RWv23i69p2c3 A Fracas in the Camp of the Volunteers
Article describing disunity in the ranks of the volunteers in Mexico

August 28, 1846 RWv23i69p2c6 Marine Intelligence
Information on the arrivals and departures of vessels into and out of the Richmond port

August 28, 1846 August 28, 1846 RWv23i69p3c1 Last Evenings Mail
Information on the state of the new state of Texas

August 28, 1846 RWv23i69p4c2 From the Army
Latest news from the army

August 28, 1846 RWv23i69p4c5 Important from Mexico
Information on current affairs inside Mexico
September

RWv23i70p1c1, September 1, 1846: Mexican Documents
Extracts from letters-instructions of Gen. Torner Minister of War in Mexico to Gen. Arista; the other from President Paredes to Gen. Arista

RWv23i70p1c2, September 1, 1846: Santa Anna
Comments about Santa Anna's return to Mexico

RWv23i70p1c2, September 1, 1846: Sale of Public Lands
Sale of lands in Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi and Florida to pay for the war with Mexico

RWv23i70p1c2, September 1, 1846
New York Morning news reported that it is believed that Mexico has offered peace terms which cannot be rejected by the US; offered to defray the cost of the war and to sell the US California

RWv23i70p2c1, September 1, 1846: Santa Anna and Paredes
Comments about Santa going to the city of Mexico; comments about the political situation in Mexico-after the revolt against Paredes; comments on what Santa Anna will find when he reaches Mexico City

RWv23i70p2c3, September 1, 1846: Late from Santa Fe
Comments on Gen. Kearney-what he will fin don his arrival to Santa Fe business dull in New Mexico; government wagons and traders are headed west; no serious opposition to the entrance of Gen. Wool's command at Chihuahua

RWv23i70p2c4, September 1, 1846: Arrival of the Steamship McKim-Later from the Army of Occupation
Comments about troop movement to and around Matamoros; a captain W. L. Ball began for Burita four or five days ago and has not been heard from since; much sickness at Burita and Brazos Islands; no sickness in Matamoros even though conditions are bad; rumors of where the enemy is regarding Matamoros; there have been many spies and traitors among the population at Matamoras; comments about the army on the frontier-where they are, where they are going, and who they are; report that Maj. Gen. Butler lying ill at Point Isabel; potato disease prevalent in Texas; excessive rains on the coast-cotton prospects gloomy

RWv23i70p2c4, September 1, 1846: Havana---Departure of Santa Anna for Mexico
British steamship Arab, left Havana for the Yucatan with Santa Anna and his lady and family on board; war steamers, Montezuma and Guadaloupe have been purchased by the Governor General and now form a portion of the Spanish fleet; rumors about the British Ministry's actions regarding the duties on sugar have caused anxiety in the Cuban planters

RWv23i70p2c5, September 1, 1846: Most Important News from Mexico
Arrival fo the British Ship-of-war Electra; overthrow and imprisonment of General Paredes; Mexico in favor of Santa Anna; Santa Anna arrives at Vera Cruz; annexation of California to the US

RWv23i70p4c3, September 1, 1846
Texas proposes a division of the state into two commonwealths, the Brazos being the boundary between the two

RWv23i70p4c4, September 1, 1846
St. Louis Republican says that Cap. Koscialowski has raised a company of volunteers for the war; comments about the captain-history, qualifications, character etc.

RWv23i70p4c4, September 1, 1846
Cabinet Council has considered the recent news from Mexico and has decided that Santa Anna's arrival is favorable for peace; comments about an agreement or understanding between Santa Anna and Paredes about who will have power

RWv23i71p1c2, September 4, 1846:
Report that after the revolution began in Mexico City a new cabinet was formed consisting of Jose Jonaquin Pesado, Antonio Garay, Ignacio Moro y Villamill; all are said to be in favor of peace with the US and of calling a new Congress

RWv23i71p1c2, September 4, 1846: U.S. Troops-New Orders
Four companies, D, E, F, and K and the 2nd regiment have orders to proceed to the seat of war and are expected to depart early this week; five companies belonging to the same regiment have similar orders

RWv23i71p1c4, September 4, 1846: Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun
The government has no idea of suspending hostilities against Mexico

RWv23i71p1c5, September 4, 1846: the California Volunteers and Col. Stevenson
Seems to be a great deal of opposition to Col. Jona D. Stevenson, commander of the regiment of California volunteers; creditors commenced proceedings against him for the purpose of preventing his departure from the
country; public meeting has been held due to an alleged grievance brought by the volunteer corps on Governor’s Island.

RWv23i71p1c5, September 4, 1846: A Mexican Wedding
Description of a wedding at Camargo

RWv23i71p2c2, September 4, 1846: Gen. Taylor and LL.D.
Since the battles of the 8th and 9th of May, Taylor has had the letters LL.D. attached to his name by one of the Southern Colleges; not known if Taylor has this education in the law, which would give him this honor, nor does his victories at the Rio Grande give him the qualifications for it; Taylor did admit the legality of the blockade to the Mexican commander in a letter—maybe that is why he has the LL.D. attached.

RWv23i71p2c2, September 4, 1846: Texas
Comments about Texas being divided into two commonwealths; comments about how that would be too much power for the population of Texas to gain.

RWv23i71p2c4, September 4, 1846:
Humboldtgives some amusing words heard in conversations of native Mexicans—gives the name of is.

RWv23i71p3c1, September 4, 1846: Gen. Gaines in Command of Eastern Divisions
Gen. Gaines has been given the command of the eastern division placing his headquarters in NY; comments made by the Gaines about the investigation that had just occurred.

RWv23i71p3c1, September 4, 1846: Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun
Gaines ahs returned to the city.

RWv23i71p3c1, September 4, 1846: California
Commodore Sloat has taken possession of Monterey on the 6th of July; on July 9th Commander Jno. B. Montgomery summoned the commandant of the Yerba Buena to surrender; detachment from Col. Fremont’s force took possession of a frontier post called Sanoma—Gen. Castro attempted to dislodge them but with no success; on the 15th of June meeting held in Santa Barbara headed by Governor Pico to declare California an independent state—Gen. Castro declared martial law.

RWv23i71p4c1, September 4, 1846: The Mexican Revolution
Peace does not depend on Santa Anna but on the opinion of the population; Polk has been anxious to hear of the overthrow of Paredes; comments about why Paredes was thrown out of power—what the people did not like about him.

RWv23i71p4c2, September 4, 1846: General Worth
Second in command in Taylor’s army; comments about Worth—his character and how good of a military leader he is; Worth resigned his position—Twiggs was promoted but Worth not.

RWv23i71p4c2, September 4, 1846:
A letter from Mexico’s condemns Taylor’s advancing while revolutions are going on within Mexico (i.e. Mexico City); seen as a disgraceful move on his part; Paredes taken prisoner.

RWv23i71p4c3, September 4, 1846: Latest from the Army
Comments about the city of China in Mexico—how big, the taking of the city; Taylor arrived last evening in Camargo; talk of immediate movement towards Monterey; comments on troop numbers; comments about a parade of the troops; Worth drilling his men constantly; McCulloch’s Rangers are to be disbanded tomorrow their service time up; steps towards Monterey are to be taken; city of Guerrero is in favor of US government; arrival of the remainder of the Texas infantry; Worth’s Brigade marching into the interior; General Burleson and several other Texan gentlemen of distinction have arrived in Camargo.

RWv23i71p4c3, September 4, 1846: The Mexican Revolution
Journal with details of the progress and ultimate success of the Mexican revolution in favor of Santa Anna—gives a day by day description from Vera Cruz to the 15th and from the Capital to the 18th; quote from the Republicano about Santa Anna’s arrival.

RWv23i71p4c4, September 4, 1846: The Alvarado Abortion
Comments about the failure of the US navy squadron outside of Alvarado—description of the events.

RWv23i72p1c1, September 8, 1846
US has captured Matamoras; Taylor now marches to Monterey; waiting to see the population’s response to the restoration of Santa Anna.

RWv23i72p1c2, September 8, 1846: Expedition of Emigrants to Texas
Great effort is being made in NY by some extensive holders of Texas land to bring Texas into direct communication with NYC; they are preparing an expedition to Matagorda.
Comments about the cotton crop in Texas—unfavorable; time of another congressional election in Texas

Six Days Later from the Army
Worth has left for Camargo; Texan regiment arrived in San Fernando; Cap. Godfrey Pope has been shot by an sentinel—rumor proved untrue; sickness among troops at Burita and Brazos Island; Matamoras now quiet because of the prohibition placed on the city; Rough and Ready steamboat reached Matamoras

Editorial Correspondence
Comments about the ongoings in Mexico—Capt. Duncan's Rangers on reconnaissance; Capt. McCulloch shot a Mexico; Duncan put is men at different points around Punta Aguda after hearing that a Mexican officer named Ramirez was inside; was going to take all prisoners—some tried to escape and where shot; Gen. Persifer Smith has taken command of the 2nd brigade

Special Correspondence of the Picayune
Comments about the volunteers, army expected movement; number of the enemy; Mexican named Savriego raised four or five hundred men in China and started off after McCulloch; Texas infantry are to be disbanded; comments about the conditions of Monterey—should Taylor go now?; 2nd regiment of Texan mounted men arrived, and a regiment of Ohio volunteers; army will probably move on Monterey by two separate routes; camp women will be sent by to Matamoras

Later from the Yucatan
Comments that there was an outbreak a few days ago at Valladolid; popular cry of the sedition was "Down with Taxes"; gained position but retreated after learning of the approach of Col. Gambos; retreated to Tixhualactum and have been called upon to surrender

From the Army
Worth took up march to Monterey; 15,000 Mexicans are reported to be concentrated at Monterey;

Colonel Payne
Recovering from a wound he received at the Battle of Resaca de la Palma

Note from Gen. Gaines
Comments about Gaines taking command of the Eastern Division; accepts command and wants to establish his headquarters in NYC

Mexican Version of the Attack Upon Alvarado
Description from the Mexican point of view about the attack that was attempted by the US navy against Alvarado

Quartermaster's Department in New Orleans is without funds

Rumor of the capture of Santa Fe by Kearney without firing a gun cannot be true

A Short-Hand View
Mr. Toombs letter from Georgia—accepts his nomination as Whig candidate for re-election and makes comments about Polk and the war—against the war with Mexico

Very Late from Santa Fe
When Mr. C. left Santa Fe no word from Kearney; sent by two officers information to Kearney; Indians in Santa Fe offering their services to Gen. Armijo

Statement of the NY Tribune's Havana correspondent that peace terms have been agreed upon between the US and Mexico between the British and American government with Santa Anna—contradictory to the Washington Union; story seen as incredible

Cannot publish a letter about the Alvarado abortion without the name of the author

Important Rumor
Correspondent of the NY Tribune wrote from Havana that peace terms with Santa Ana had been agreed upon

The War!
Naval commanders may have been held in check by Washington, which caused their disgraceful actions; our troops only had to cross over the Rio Grande and could have made it right into the Capital city; detachment taken to march into the interior; volunteers have harsh conditions in camps; in order to conquer Mexico our regular army must be increased; unless Polk can purchase peace with Mexico the war is believed to continue; comments about why it is believed that the Gulf and Pacific Squadrons are being held in check by Washington
A friend of the administration and an intelligent correspondent in one of the Western States has begun to question the employment of volunteer companies

Because of the argument with Great Britain about Oregon, at the same time as the beginning of the war with Mexico, Polk called upon American men; comments about what Polk believed would be a sufficient amount of men for the Mexican border; comments about how many men were stationed at the border; enemy has benefited because of our volunteer army; Mexican trade worth something but needs to be secured; invasion if attempted appears to be most easy coming from Vera Cruz; pay the volunteers and send them home immediately; let Taylor establish his HQ where he wants

Officers and crew, with the exception of two Lieutenants and nineteen men have been taken prisoners by the Mexican and marched to Tampico; the ship was wrecked

Santa Anna arrived from Havana; U.S. brig Truxton has wrecked—description of what happened; list of officers on the Truxton who have gone to Tampico; steamer Legare arrived with despatches from Com. Conner

New Orleans Picayune announced the arrival of the Legare with despatches for Com. Conner; despatches are letters of the Secretary of State to Com. Conner and to the Mexican Minister of Foreign Affairs; letters immediately sent to Washington

Newspaper giving a large space to the news about the war; inefficiency of the volunteers can be confirmed with the new reports; loss of the Truxton confirmed; quote from the Picayune about the loss of the Truxton

Reports from Matamoras, Camargo, Seralvo; information on Col. Hays's Rangers; explosion on board the steamboat Enterprise; flight among the Georgia Volunteers and serious loss of life on board a steamboat at Eurit; advance of the army to Monterey; list of those killed and wounded; trouble with Indians around San Antonio; Taylor has been ordered to carry out a war of Reconciliation—make friends with the citizens—comments about this order is it right or wrong? Good or bad? Worth going to Monterey; Mexican Congress has become more pacific in their tone towards the US

The boat Rough and Ready has left; Taylor will start next week for Monterey

Kearny let Bent's Fort on the 3rd for Santa Fe; comments about the condition of Kearney's troops; trouble with the Indians on the way to Santa Fe; Col. Russell's party has divided and he has started across the mountains; report on the conditions at Bent's Fort—Mexicans trying to fortify Santa Fe and Taos

Two letters from General Taylor both from camargo are found in the papers; first letter comments by Taylor about a resolution adopted which gives expressive of approbation of the recent services of the Army of Occupation; second letter is response Taylor gives to information about being nominated for President

Comments about the Oregon negotiations; disagreements over the path to take; Polk appears to be double-dealing; Polk accused of being inflexible; comments about Polk and the negotiation—how he has made his opinion known

Capt. W.L. Ball who had disappeared has been found three miles from Matamoras with his throat cut and three stabs to his breast.

Letter written by an Officer of the Army who has been with Taylor's command from the beginning; army has advanced to Camargo; comments on his neighbor in Mexico saying he is a fair representation of the most worthy class of Mexicans—gives a description of him; comments about the Mexican view on the boundary of Texas and the presence of US troops; Mexicans believe they will win—have higher numbers and they believe the Americans will labor once in on the interior of the country, and also the country has a strong will; they do not want annexation; comments about Gen. Arista; comments about how much in the Mexican treasury and a revolution in Jalisco; comments about the army at the Rio Grande—how many, what kind; prediction of troop movement; opinion of US troops and their condition

The boat taking Santa Ana to Vera Cruz was boarded by a boat from on the American ships—Santa Ana showed a
passport signed by the President and he was allowed to land; doubt that Santa Ana will be able to carry out the agreement that he and Polk reached; Mexicans are getting rich by selling to the US army and therefore do not want an end to the war

RWv23i75p1c1, September 18, 1846: Significant
Washington Union commented on the latest intelligence from the war front that the only way for there to be peace is if an active war is pushed; has peace been rejected by the Mexicans?

RWv23i75p1c2, September 18, 1846: The Volunteers
NY Spirit of the Times expresses a very unfavorable opinion of US volunteer troops-troops leave when they are close to the enemy, president should discharge them after 6 months

RWv23i75p1c3, September 18, 1846: From the Army and Navy
Taylor's army will advance for Monterey by September 1 at the latest; campaign should be a success; prospects in California are cheery; reason to believe that the whole coast is occupied by our squadron; troops were being paid off some months in advance

RWv23i75p1c3, September 18, 1846: News from Mexico
Address or manifesto of Santa Ana to the Mexican people has been gained by the Navy Department-comments about the speech, what he talks about etc; Santa Ana left Vera Cruz for Mexico city, no report of his arrival there; General Ampudia letter speaks of Gen. Gaines march upon Monterey;

RWv23i75p1c3, September 18, 1846: From Santa Fe Army
Gen. Kearney's army arrived at Bent's Fort; comments about the march to the Fort; will continue moving tomorrow towards Santa Fe; letters arrived from Santa Fe saying that the government there has promised Americans protection; quotes from letters received

RWv23i75p1c4, September 18, 1846: Revolution in Tabasco
Garrisons stationed at San Juan Bautista declared against the government of Paredes and in favor of Santa Ana; they plan to overthrow the constitution of 1824; six articles adopted-one to repudiates the Congress summoned by Paredes, Congress members should be elected by the law of 1824, assembling of the Congress within 4 months, existence of an army guaranteed, opposition to a new Congress will be crushed, and finally Santa Ana is named chief of the revolution and he should take his command as soon as he arrives; gives a quote from the document that contains the 4 adopted articles.

RWv23i75p1c6, September 18, 1846: Medical Department of the Army
List of those appointed to the Medical Staff of the Army

RWv23i75p2c2, September 18, 1846
Washington Union published a Proclamation of Santa Ana given after his arrival in Mexico City; war is barely mentioned

RWv23i75p2c4, September 18, 1846: Loss of the Truxton
More information gained from two letters form the US Squadron about the loss of the brig; gives a minute by minute account of the incident

RWv23i75p2c4, September 18, 1846: Correspondence of the New Orleans Bee
Story told by a Mexican who arrived from San Fernando about the entry of the Texan regiment into San Fernando; US entered quietly

RWv23i75p3c1, September 18, 1846: Gen. Kearney's Command
Comments about the scarcity of provisions for the command of Gen. Kearney from the St. Louis Republican

RWv23i75p3c1, September 18, 1846: Official from the Camp
Despatches have been received in Washington about the movements of the army-despatches are reported to agree with information already gained from private letters; Taylor sent body of army to Camargo

RWv23i75p3c1, September 18, 1846: Naval
US sloop-of-war Preble at Brooklyn has received orders to join the squadron in the Pacific and will sail in a day or two

RWv23i75p4c3, September 18, 1846: An Army Incident
Report given by an officer of the army who was at Fort Brown during the siege of the Fort-gives details about the incident

RWv23i75p4c4, September 18,1846: From the NY Journal of Commerce
Information on troop movement, kind of troops (regular or volunteer)-where they will go; volunteers could serve longer; comments about their encampment-where located (Camargo), what is around etc.; Mexican Government have called out all the militia to resist

RWv23i77p1c2, September 25, 1846: The British mediation
Polk would reject the mediation of Great Britain in the Mexican affair

First resolution reported to be adopted by Santa Ana was to place all the Republic in route to Monterey

Taylor and Wool despatches received by the War Department confirm accounts all ready published in the New Orleans papers

Commodore Sloat arrived of the port of Mazatlan three days ago, he stayed one day and then went to Panama-on his way home; left Captain Stockton in command in California; Warren left in June with despatches from the Government for the commodore, supposed to have a blockade around the coast

Mexican Executive has rejected the overtures of our Government for a treaty of peace on the ground that the Executive cannot make this decision without Congress, which will not be in session until December; Mexican troops in San Luis Potosi have been ordered to march towards Monterey; doubtful if rejection of overtures has been approved by Santa Ana; comments about Santa Ana's ability to make peace

Have received a number of small papers called "Rough and Ready"-published in Ohio; Taylor's name is mentioned as a prospect for nomination in the next presidential elections

A letter from Vera Cruz stated that a flag of truce has been sent to Com. Conner offering to exchange Commander Carpener, and his men for Gen. Vega and the three officers taken with him; the proposition was refused

Details about the cause of conflict between Colonel Stevenson and his men had been learned; money was owned to each man and when it was given a bill was presented right afterwards for a bill for half of the money due each man; the men demanded that they receive more money if they were to be billed like this; men refused to pay but offered to submit the conflict to a third party, which the Colonel declined

Letter received from an officer aboard the Levart when Commodore Sloat took control of California; details of the conquest of the country

Mr. Bancroft's taking and departure, his first information that he was to leave the cabinet; commodore Stewart's Protest

Carpender as late as August 24th was at Tuxpan with his officers and crew and in good health; details about the disaster, what he did, how the accident happened, his refusal to surrender at first but later forced to do so

Mexico agreed to have England mediate the situation between itself and the US if the US withdrew its land and naval forces form the territory

Sketch of a debate within the British House of Commons on the relations between the US and Mexico

Has been quite a rebellion among the California volunteers; outbreak grew because the volunteers were being compelled to leave before receiving their pay as promised; Col. Stevenson marched two of the companies on board one of the vessels after paying them and then demanded the price of their clothes, which the volunteers refused to pay; the men eventually left and it is believed that it was a bad decision to let them leave so angry-fear of an outbreak as soon as they land

What kind of pay if Brigadier General Shields getting now that he is in Mexico

Report of a dangerous situation of the US brig Washington; loss of her commander and eleven of her crew

Comments about Taylor, his camp, his men and the interactions between Taylor and his men

From the Matamoras Flag
Capt. Thornton glad to hear that he has been acquitted in the court-martial of the charges, which were brought against him.

**October**

RW46v23n80p1c1 6 October 1846 Conquest of Mexico
a brief introduction to a later article about General Kearney and his motives for moving toward Santa Fe.

RW46v23n80p1c2 6 October 1846 Volunteers from the North
Brief, contemplating calling up 50,000 troops from the north

RW46v23n80p1c2 6 October 1846 Something Rich and Rare
Scripts and short military correspondence reprinted from New Orleans Delta

RW46v23n80p1c5-6 6 October 1846 Army of the West
Correspondence from the St Louis Republican. Letter from a soldier under the command of Gen. Kearney describing march to Santa Fe

RW46v23n80p2c4 6 October 1846 Our Army in New Mexico
In camp at Galasteo new Mexico. Long wartime correspondence from a traveling reporter - very dramatic and story like - much to say about Santa Fe

RW46v23n80p3c1 6 October 1846 Last Evening's Mail
Letters and correspondence from Mexico area including a proclamation given by Gen. Kearney to Santa Fe people and his troops

RW46v23n80p4c1-2 6 October 1846 General Taylor's Position
Expressing concern over the plight of Taylor and his ability to overcome the Mexican forces

RW46v23n80p4c3 6 October 1846 Yucatan Political Position
Yucatan acknowledgement and proclaims the Pronunciamento of Guadalajara

RW46v23n80p4c5 6 October 1846 Mexico -California
Brief correspondence from New Orleans Times

RW46v23n80p4c5 6 October 1846 To the Inhabitants of California
A letter reassuring that the US armed forces are on their way there, but not as hostiles, but rather to protect the rights of the Americans already living there

RW46v23n80p4c5 6 October 1846 Capture of Santa Fe
An account of the events which led to the capture of the Mexican held Santa Fe

RWv23n81p1c1 9 October 1846 General Kearney's Proclamation
A critique about the rights of the military to enforce the rules of America in Mexico; also questions the righteousness of the war

RWv23n81p1c1-2 9 October 1846 Annexation of New Mexico
Brief summary of Gen. Kearney's Proclamation and the status of newly acquired territory in New Mexico

RWv23n81p1c6 9 October 1846 Ship arrival - very short description

RWv23n81p2c1 9 October 1846 Progress in Annexation
Political and military explanation for the progress in annexation

RWv23n81p2c2 9 October 1846 Arrival of Mr. Bouck - Counting Specie for Mexico

RWv23n81p4c2 9 October 1846 The Area of Freedom - Thoughts on General Kearney's Proclamation

RWv23n81p4c3 9 October 1846 Value of New Mexico
Letters from a soldier giving an account of the value of New Mexico

RWv23n81p4c4 9 October 1846 Latest Foreign News
Our Mexican Relations in Europe

RW46v23n82p1c1-3 13 October 1846 News from Mexico and California
Speaking about the controversy over Gen. Kearney assuming the title of governor of New Mexico; a title he self appointed himself to
Cost of the War
Short analysis on the cost of the war

From the Gulf Squadron
New from naval activities near Vera Cruz

Letters from San Antonio
Letter from an officer of the volunteer force near San Antonio

From General Wool's Army
Correspondence of the New Orleans Tropic regarding the Army destined for Chihuahua

Later from the Army
The Capture of Monterey! A brief description of the struggle and capture for Monterey

American Slaves in Mexican Mines
Short article about captured Americans as slaves in Mexico

News from the Army
Complimenting the efforts of the soldiers who fought in battle

The Armistice
Regarding the armistice between Ampudia and General Taylor

General Kearney
Regarding New Mexico territory entering the Union and Kearney's governorship of the new territory

Hasty Memoranda of the operations of the American Army before Monterey
Mexico from the 19th to the 24 September

The Santa Fe Trade
The effect on trade with the change in government in New Mexico

General Taylor's Dispatch
Letters sent to Washington regarding the progress of a battle (Including letters from Zachary Taylor and Pedro De Ampudia) Also letters from soldiers to wives

General Kearney's Proclamation
Analyzing the meaning and significance of Kearney's announcement for the newly acquired territory

Important News from Mexico
Announcing news acquired from Mexico about appointment of a new President

Interesting Details of the Operation in and about Monterey given by the correspondence of the Picayune

The News from New Mexico
Brief description of what is currently happening in Mexico

Old Rough and Ready and the Duke of Wellington
Correspondence letters accounts descriptions that were prefaced to in a previous segment

Ecstasy among the Mules
A joking article about the mules after hearing of the victory of Monterey

The Death of Captain Williams

Notes from my Knapsack

Captain Tobun's Last

Lieut. Col. McClung of MI

From Santa Fe

Mexican Army of five thousand on its way to attack Gen. Kearney
Arrival of the Steamship McKim

News reports

Latest from Mexico
News of the war effort in Mexico - troop and ship arrivals and departures

Santa Anna’s Letter
Letter from Santa Anna to General Almonte

From Yucatan
Information on its status since its split and also correspondence letters

From Texas

The News from Mexico
The preparations for Another Battle - Predictions for an anticipated battle to ensue shortly as Generals and troops come together

Sergeant Milton
Letter from a sergeant Milton about his battle and fight at Resaca de la Palma

Movements of Chihuahua Army
Correspondence from the Louisville Journal - Letters from US Generals

Honor to General Taylor
Short excerpt from New York Herald honoring Gen. Taylor

From the Seat of War - Volunteers Ticked Out - Morals of Matamoros - Camargo - Mexicans Not Drunkards - Movements of Troops - Rare Fun

From Santa Fe
Accounts and descriptions of military activities in the area

The Capitulation of Monterey
A description of the capture of Monterey

Analysis of the Battle of Monterey and the Military Genius of General Taylor

Conquest of Santa Fe

Uncle Billy
The Old Texan Volunteer

From Col. Marshall’s Regiment
A letter as well

Later from Vera Cruz

From the Hamilton Spectator
Reviews of the war from Canadian perspective

Recruits for the Army
Who is to be called up for duty and where they may be heading

Storming of Monterey
The siege and capture of Monterey

Expenses of the War
How much debt the US is in due to war effort

Santa Anna’s friends
Describing the people surrounding Santa Anna

Late from New York Herald - Late from Yucatan
On its political independence status

Another regiment formed
November 1846

**RW46v23i88p1c5p1c3, November 3, 1846: The Storming of Monterey**
An account of the battle of Monterey.

**RW46v23i88p2c6, November 3, 1846: Marine Intelligence**
A record of the ships that sailed or arrived at the Port of Richmond.

**RW46v23i88p1c6, November 6, 1846: Santa Fe News**
General Kearney and his men travel along the Rio Grande.

**RW46v23i88p1c6, November 6, 1846: Santa Anna's Leg**
Santa Anna's leg was exhumed as a political statement, but authorities gained possession of the leg and reburied it.

**RW46v23i88p3c4, November 6, 1846: Letter of Gen. Butler**
Excerpts of a letter General Butler sent to one of his close relatives.

**RW46v23i88p3c6, November 6, 1846: The Army of Chihuahua**
Major M.C.M. Hammond provides information of General Wool's venture to Chihuahua.

**RW46v23i88p3c4, November 6, 1846: Notice of Some of the Officers who fell at Monterey**
A tribute for four soldiers that fell at Monterey.

**RW46v23i89p1c3, November 10, 1846: General Taylor**
Paris correspondent pays compliments to General Taylor.

**RW46v23i89p1c5, November 10, 1846: From the N.O. Picayune, Oct. 30**
News from the Steamship McKim.

**RW46v23i89p1c5, November 10, 1846: Electoral Correspondence of the Picayune, Galveston, Oct. 27, 1846**
Sickness among the American and Mexican armies seems to prevail.

**RW46v23i89p1c5, November 10, 1846: Correspondence of the Commercial Times, Monterey (Mexico) Sept. 30, 1846**
An account of the surrender of Monterey.

**RW46v23i89p1c6, November 10, 1846: Later from Monterey**
A record of the ships that docked and those that departed on the 28th of October.
Reported damage from the storm that stuck Havana harbor.

Reports of the ships that sailed and arrived at the Port of Richmond.

Criticizes President Polk for allowing Santa Anna to return to Mexico.

Dispatches from Vera Cruz report that Monterey has fallen.

An account of the three day battle of Monterey. Robert Hardin reports that the war is harsh on the soldiers and many of them are dying from disease.

In a letter from Rowan Hardin to his father he discusses the disadvantage of the Rancheros and states that the war should not last longer than 12 months.

Fremont left Monterey to acquire territory in California.

President Polk looks at the battle of Monterey.

Experiments with gun powder may pay off to aid the Mexican War.

General Taylor’s dispatch papers for Oct. 6th, 11th, 12th, and 13th.

The Mexican mail rider has disappeared, causing the mail to become slower.

General Ampudia leaves from Saltillo.

Lieut. Armistead just arrived with dispatch papers for General Taylor.

The Government calls for one regiment of Infantry from every state.

General Kearney issued a notice to the people of New Mexico stating that it now belongs to the Unites States.

Mexicans continue to struggle to fight the Unites States despite lack of funding.

U.S. fails to enter the river of Alvarado again.
Dr. Tyler defends his wife during his malpractice trial.

Accounts from August 22nd of the Pacific coast.

Earlier in the spring Captain E.C. Carrington, Jr.'s volunteers were canceled by the government because we did not need the forces at that time.

The War Department calls the 12 month enlistment to an end.

The President calls upon Virginia for Volunteers

Santa Anna returns to the capital bringing new hope to the Mexican people.

U.S. looks for precious metals in our territory.

Governor accepts the service of Richmond Grays.

Captain M.D. Coxix forms a regiment from Alexandria.

Lieut. Colonel Smith and his Mormon Battalion arrived at Santa Fe October 8th.

Abolitionism is on the decline.

The battle of Monterey and surrender of the city.

General Wool is ordered to the banks of the Rio Grande.

Captain Tucker arrived yesterday morning from Brazos Santiago.

Captain Randolph Ridgely is rumored dead.

More details of the death of Captain Ridgely.

Reports of the ships that sailed or arrived at the Port of Richmond.

General Taylor’s update and position of the army.

Calls for volunteers from Virginia.

The testimony of the case of General Van Nese.

The due process by which Texas was annexed.
The death of a Mexican woman reminds us of the hardships of war.

The Steamship Galveston arrives.

Texas is beginning to return to normal, at least politically.

A Paris correspondent argues that the United States should not make contributions to Mexicans during the War.

There is a rumored reconciliation between the Administration and Colonel Benton despite his son-in-law's (Colonel Fremont) actions.

General Taylor's updated and position of the army.

Major General Scott and his staff are ordered to Mexico.

Update from General Wool and General Taylor.

An overall look at the Mexican War campaign.

A detailed account of the operations of Tabasco and the death of Lieutenant Charles W. Morris.

Scott passes through Baltimore on his way to Mexico.

The official details of the conflict at Monterey.

Mexican garrison at Tampico departed to meet Santa Anna.

Commander Perry captures Tabasco

General Kearny on his way to California finds out that Colonel Fremont has already claimed Northern California.

Captain Williams arrives from Havana bringing news.

Scott passes through Baltimore on his way to Mexico.

The official details of the conflict at Monterey.

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Captain Williams arrives from Havana bringing news.
The following account of the operations of Gen. Worth's division at Monterey, and defence of the capituation, are from the pen of Col. Balie Peyton, of this city:

MONTEREY, Sept. 25, 1844.

My Dear Sir. - After a most obstinate and . . . conflict, which was continued from day to day for 5 days, Gen. Ampudia capitulated this city . . . . Our loss in killed and wounded, has been . . . severe, not less than 500, amongst . . . of the most valuable officers of the regular army, as well as volunteers.

The 1st Regiment of Tennessee volunteers, commanded by Col. Campbell, suffered more severely perhaps, than any other which was engaged during the siege, having had 27 killed on the field, and 77 wounded, some of them mortally, and many of them seriously, and this out of a force of only 390 men. Notwithstanding this tremendous loss, the regiment charged under the lead of its gallant colonel and other officers, and was the first regiment which stormed the fort, mounted the beast works, and unfurled the stars and stripes upon its walls, amidst a perfect hail storm, of balls, which was pouring upon it.

These Mexican towns and fortresses are incredibly strong, and few men fight letter from house tops, and behind stone walls, or are more adroitun the use of stationary artillery than the Mexicans. In these actions Gen. Taylor, had, all told, about 5000 men, while Gen. Ampudia's force consisted of 10,500 infantry and cavalry, besides militia, rancheros, &c. Gen. Taylor had eighteen pieces of artillery, of which seventeen were field pieces, while Gen. Ampudia had forty-four pieces, thirty-eight of which, with two standards of colors, are now in our possession.

Our Army arrived before Monterey the morning of Saturday, the 19th instant, and about half past 8 o'clock, while reconnoitering the out works of the city, a ball, discharged from a 12 pounder, struck near Gen. Taylor and staff, and bounded with terrific velocity over his head, at which the old hero did not change a muscle of even bat his eye. This day, the 19th , was spent in making reconnoisances of the place and its various outposts, amidst a good deal of firing on the part of the Mexicans, from cannon and a short gun called an escopette, which carries a large ball to a distance of 500 or 600 yards.

On Sunday, the 21th, Gen. Worth was detached by Gen. Taylor, in command of the 2d division of the regular Army "about 1500 strong" and Col. Hays'regiment of Texas Rangers "consisting of 400 men," with a view of turning the city and occupying the Saltillo road, for the purpose of cutting off the enemy's supplies and reinforcements, which were daily expected under General Santa Anna. The division performed the march - making a road - filling ditches, &c. - a distance of about six or seven miles, and reached the vicinity of the enemy in the evening about 5 o'clock, when the General, with an escort from Col. Hays'Rangers, was fired on by the batteries placed on the heights, and also by a corps of the enemy's light troops, who were sent through a corn-field to cut off his party.

From this time until the appearance of the white flag, on the evening of the 24th , the division of the Army commanded by Gen. Worth was incessantly engaged and was ever successful - never for one moment hesitating or faltering - putting to route the enemy's cavalry on the plains, driving his infantry through the chapparal and from the house tops, scaling immense heights, capturing guns, and storming fortresses which were not only deemed impregnable but which seemed to be almost inaccessible. And, best of all, these brilliant exploits were performed with the loss of fourteen killed and fifty six wounded; and during the four days'contest there occurred not the slightest error or mistake on the part of the commanding General nor was there at any time the least faltering or hesitancy on the part of the officers and men - regulars and volunteers - in executing his orders. Indeed it is difficult
When the difficulties and apparently insurmountable obstacles are considered, I venture the assertion that the series of successes obtained by the division under Gen. Worth's command, in the recent operations against Monterey, will bear a favorable comparison with the proudest achievements of the American arms. He was opposed by a greatly superior force, which was well served with artillery and posted upon the highest peaks of the Sierra Madre. He stormed heights, took three pieces of artillery, turned them on the enemy, and with these and the aid of one of his own pieces - which he contrived to place upon the summit which commands the famous Bishop's Palace, eight hundred feet above the base of the mountain - united with the inestimable services rendered by the dauntless and invincible spirits who stormed these heights, he reduced that stronghold of the enemy and drove him into the city, upon which he turned the guns he had captured. He bivouacked his force for the night on the bleak mountain, and the next day, after bombarding the town, he conducted his forces into the streets amidst a shower of balls discharged at his person. He was seen everywhere, directing everything, driving the enemy from his batteries, forcing him from street to street and house to house, until night ended the conflict. He maintained his position in the city, placed a ten inch mortar in one of the strongly fortified squares, to direct which he placed that gallant and skillful officer, Major Monroe, with instruction to fire a shell (weighing ninety pounds) every half hour during the night. This duty was performed with terrible effect, almost every shell falling in plaza where the enemy's forces were collected to the number of 7000 or 8000 men. He had made every necessary preparation for pursuing his advantages the next day, even to placing some of his artillery on the tops of high buildings, which would command and sweep the house tops from which the enemy fought.

Such was the state of probation when Gen. Ampudia capitulated the city, reflecting equal honor upon the military skill of the head which conceived, and the indomitable energy of the gallant spirits who executed the plan of operations.

Our most serious low occurred on the 21st, when Gen. Taylor only intended to make a diversion in favor of Gen. Worth, who was engaged in the attack on the other side of the town, but owing to the ardor and impetuosity of the troops they very soon became involved in a general engagement, which Gen. Taylor felt bound to sustain. This excess of courage involved melancholy consequences, but it is surely a most excusable weakness, if it be a weakness, to display an excess of ardor in the field of battle.

The volunteers from the different States behaved in the most handsome manner. They have won for the citizen soldier the admiration and applause of the officers and soldiers of the regular Army, who speak of their conduct in the highest terms of approbation and eulogy. Amongst the volunteers none have shone more conspicuously than the 1st Regiment of Texas mounted riflemen: command by that Chevalier Bayard, Colonel J. C. Hays, better known as Jack Hays. This corps, from the Colonel to the private, has fully sustained its former reputation. In the first affairs in which Gen. Worth's division was engaged on the morning of the 21st, Col. Hays, with several companies of his mounted riflemen, were thrown forward to open the ball, which he did most beautifully, encountering and shooting in the presence of the General the Colonel of dragoons who commanded the enemy's forces. In scaling heights, storming batteries, and clambering over walls and house tops, the voice of the gallant Colonel and the reports of the un... rifle of the Ranger, were ever head in the van. The courage and constancy and subordination of this corps, is the theme of admiration in the Army.

But my object is narrative and not eulogy. It is not necessary for me to go into detail in relation to the terms recorded to the Mexican Army in the capitulation as you will have seen the articles, or the substance therefore, published in the newspapers ere this reaches you. If any one not acquainted with the facts of the case should object that our commanding General has granted terms too favorable to the retiring Army let it be remembered that our invisible little Army had already suffered severely in baring the bosoms of our best citizens and bravest officers, and soldiers, to the batteries of the unseen foe; that the city was still immensely strong in its defences [sic]; that the Mexican Army was doubted that of our own; this Army was in possession of the strongest part of a city each house of which is a fortress within itself; that each remaining street was barricaded and most of them defended by cannon; and that when driven from the city the Mexican Army possessed a fortress called the Citadel, of immense capacity and great strength to which the whole Army could have retired. To have taken this work without a siege train, as we were, by assault, would have cost us very dearly. Independently of these considerations our provisions were growing short and our ammunition was quite limited. We were far removed from our supplies and reinforcements, while the enemy night have been reinforced at any moment. And lastly, the policy avowed by our own Government does not inculeate the idea that this is to be a vindictive or exterminating war against the people of Mexico, but on the contrary to conquer a peace, or in other words to whip Mexico to her own satisfaction, obtain our just rights, and conclude a peace upon terms such as would be becoming in a great and magnanimous nation towards a weak and distracted Government. All this has in my opinion been accomplished, in as full, complete and ample a manner by the theme of admiration in the Army.
Gen. Ampudia and his army left this morning for Saltillo. He was treated with courtesy and respect by Gen. Worth, whose quarters are in the city, and who accomplished him to the limits of the town. In fact, all of our troops displayed that forbearance which always marks the conduct of brave and magnanimous men towards those whom the torture of war has placed in their power. You will observe that in my narration of the vents of the battle, I have confined myself to the operations of that division of the army which was commanded by Gen. Worth. I have done so because I was with this command, near his person, saw what occurred, and know that which I have stated to be substantially correct. You are not to infer that I mean to intimate that the main army, under the command of Gen. Taylor did not perform feats equally worthy of informed as to facts and much better qualified for the duty, will no doubt give a detailed account of the operations of this portion of the army. Take the army altogether, I doubt whether a superior body of men ever rallied under the flag of our country.

Very truly, yours, &c.
BALIE PEYTON.

J. AD. ROZIER, Esq.

Tuesday, November 3, 1846 RW46i23i88p2c6 Marine Intelligence

Port of Richmond

High Water this day at 3 o'clock. P. M.

ARRIVED.

Steamer Columbia, Parrish Baltimore.

Sch. Richard Thompson, Corsus, New York.

Sch. Meridan, Tacot, Portsmouth, N. H.

Schr. Cambris, Mitchell, Norfolk.

Schr. Blackhawk, . . . , Portsmouth.

SAILED.

Schr. Pocahontas, Smack, New York.


[AMB]

Friday, November 6, 1846 RW46v23i89p1c6 Santa Fe News

Correspondent of the St. Louis Union.

Santa Fe, Sept. 13, 1846.

Messers. Editors - On the 2d inst. Gen. Kearney, with about 800 men, left this town on an excursion South. We went to a village called Tonic, about one hundred miles distant. We struck the Rio Grande twenty-seven miles from this place, at a village called San Domingo, inhabited by the Pueblo Indians. Our reception at this village was quite a grand affair, the principal men and braves of the tribe met us six miles from the town, and escorted us in; the braves were mounted on their best horses, and dressed in the most gaudy apparel, and armed and equipped in the same manner as when they go out for the purpose of fighting. When the General passed the head of their columns, they fired off their guns, and then one file on each side of our companies proceeded to the rear, and then wheeled and came down close to our line at the top of the speed of their horses, yelling and going through all he manoeuvres of a regular charge; they met again at the head of our column, fired at each other with their pistols, made passes with their lances, and then filed off and returned to the head of our companies. This was repeated several times to
the great admiration and astonishment of all who witnessed it. I have never seen better horsemen anywhere, and from what I could discover, I should take them to be formidable in battle if properly armed. They are fine looking men, and much superior in every respect to the Mexican population. They have a very fine village, most splendid vineyards, and appear to be much more comfortable in every respect than the Mexicans. When we got into the village, we were invited into the priest’s house, where a most sumptuous repast was set out, consisting of the best grapes I ever saw, melons, apples, cakes, and with liquor enough to wash them down.

There is at this town, quite an extensive church to which is attached the priest's house, where he keeps his . . . of concubines. The priest at this place has four - two of them are quite good looking. After our repast, the General made a speech to the citizens, who appeared quite well pleased; they then escorted us out of town, and we went our way rejoicing with full stomachs, and every man with just liquor enough in him to make him feel patriotic. This was the only Indian village we visited.

After we left San Domingo, we passed through villages every 8 or 10 miles, until we reached the village of Tonie. Most of them, however, were quite small, and the inhabitants, with the exception of two or three men in each, are poor miserable . . . .

The only villages on the Rio Grande that we visited worthy of note, are San Domingo, San Phillippe, Albuquerque, and Tonie. Albuquerque was the residence of Armijo. - We haulted a short time at this place, going and returning. Gen. Kearney called on the late Governor's wife, and passed an hour or two, as he told me, very pleasantly. She is said to be a intelligent women, and deported herself with much property. Her husband, (Armijo,) it is said, has gone to the Passo, an it is supposed, will continue on to the city of Mexico. The people near the Tonie, and the inhabitants of the different villages have heard of our intended visit, and the General so arranged our marches as to bring us to this town the evening before the anniversary of their patron Saint, a great day with the inhabitants of that region of country, and I assure you it was a great day not only with them, but to all who were present; there was an immense concourse of people, men, women, children, Mexican, Indians, and white folks. They had prepared fire-works, which were gotten up in a very good style, the town was illuminated, they had a theatre, that is, a play in the open yard, which appeared to be received by the in habitants, they also had a fandango, which was not only crowded, but jammed and crowded to overflowing, the beauty and fashion were there, and to my astonishment I found some of the women quite handsome. During the day there was mass said and the Virgin Mary was paraded around the streets, followed by the principle men of the town, and also by Gen. Kearney and his staff, with lighted candles in their hands.

The priest at Tonie joined in the waltz, and appeared as jovial and as much disposed to participate in all the amusements as any one else. The country couth of this place, Santa Fe along the Rio Grande, is much better than any portion of the Province I have yet visited; yet, in my judgment, no Missourian would ever think of locating any where here for the purpose of cultivating the soil. The Province has been over rated, and our government has been grossly imposed upon and deceived, as to its resources, commerce, &c. I have not seen any thing since my arrival here that would excite the least desire for me to reside here. To sum up the whole in a few words, the Mexican are physically, mentally and morally an inferior and "low flung" race.

Yesterday an order was read, assigning the five companies of dragoons for the California expedition; there has not as yet been any place designated that my company will be attached to Maj. Clerk's Battalion, and stationed at this place. I hope such may be the case, unless I can induce the Gen. to let me go south, to Passo del Norte. I saw the Gen. last night and requested that he would not assign me to Doniphan's command - he said he would not.

I have found the offices of the army very agreeable companions, and thus far, all has gone on very well. Our mail will not leave next Thursday. Should anything occur before the departure of the mail. I will write you again.

September 15th , 1846.

Since writing the foregoing, an order was made, assigning my company to do duty with Major Clark's battalion, and stationing up at this place for the winter.

The five companies of dragoons, will, it is said, march on the 25th instant for California. We have had no news in relation to prices'regiment, nor of Captain Allen's command of Mormous. We do not know how to account for the non-arrival of Price, nor the delay of Allen.

[AMB]
The following are extracts of a letter from Gen. BUTLER, to a near relative of his in Louisville. In publishing it the Journal of that city states that the General says, in the same letter, that it is the opinion of those Mexican officers who have been taken prisoners by our army, that their Government will at once offer to ours terms of peace.

MONTEREY, SEPT. 25, 1846.

Monterey is ours, but not without a heavy loss, and my division has probably sustained more than one-half of it. I am myself wounded, but not badly. I was struck by a musket ball below the knee: it entered in front, grazed the bones without injuring them, ranged round through the flesh, and came out on the opposite side. I became faint from loss of blood, and was compelled to leave the field after having been in it under a heavy fire of grape and musketry for three hours. I have been required by my surgeon to keep perfectly still ever since the battle.

I was in the act of leading the Ohio Regiment to storm two of the most formidable batteries in the town, flanked by a stone wall, ten feet high, with a deep ditch in front, and covered by a strong musketry force in the rear, under complete shelter. There were two other batteries of grape shot discharged, that swept the ground continually. Col. Mitchell, who commanded the regiment of Ohio volunteers, was wounded about the same time that I was, and we then prudently abandoned the enterprise, as we become convinced that our loss would have been probably at least one-hundred more men, had we persevered.

I hope you will not think I acted rashly. I know that I am often rash where I involve myself alone; not so, however, when the fate of others are at stake. The condition is which we were placed fully justified, if it did not positively require us to make the attempt. The peculiarity of our situation I cannot now explain without going into greater detail than I am able to do.

The battle commenced about 9 o'clock A. M., and continued without intermission, with various degrees of intensity, for eight hours. I had almost 1000 men in the battle - the Louisville Legion having been left to guard our mortars - and of that number we lost in killed and wounded about 250.

We took our battery and a house fitted up as a fortification, and assisted the regulars in taking a second. General Worth, with great gallantry and equal success, and with far less loss, carried on his operations on the opposite side of the town.

The loss of the regulars who acted with us was nearly proportional to ours, as I learn, though I have not seen the official returns.

Under the circumstances, the terms of the capitulation are favorable to us. There were still several strong forts in the hands of the enemy, which we would have been compelled to take by regular approaches or with heavy losses. The plaza is of itself an enormous fortification of continuous houses, with thick stone walls, and all the streets leading into it strongly fortified and filled with guns.

They admit that they will have at least 8000 fighting men, whilst on our part we cannot muster 5000 for duty, and have only a few heavy guns, and them we took from them. Never, I believe, did troops, both volunteers and regulars, behave with more calmness and intrepidity, and I do not believe that for downright straightforward hard fighting the battle of Monterey has ever been surpassed.

[AMB]
100 of which are swimming, and with a rapid current of six miles the hour. If opposed by a considerable force, the passage would be exceedingly difficult, and could not be effected without great loss.

Col. Harney's command, in July, were compelled to swim about sixty yards, and the stream so scattered them, that 100 resolute men, as asserted by some of his officers, could have prevented their landing.

As soon as supplies are received to enable him to advance, Gen. Wool will press on to Chihuahua, taking Santa Rose and Monclova in his route. The former town is garrisoned with regular troops and is said to be capable of strong resistance. This line of operations is longer than might be selected, but it has the advantage of turning the mountain passes - of assurance of water and some provisions - and runs within seventy or eighty miles of Gen. Taylor's, when cooperation can be readily effected if necessary.

Gen. Wool has exhibited great activity and energy in preparing for the march. On arriving at San Antonio, on the 14th of August he was far in advance of his army and his supplies and met with innumerable obstacles in procuring wagons, teams, forage and provisions. He moved his forces at the earliest practicable moment, with so limited a number of rations as scarcely to justify his advance.

If it is found impossible to transport supplies by water to the Presidio or other point on the Rio Grande whence to furnish the Army, it will be necessary to haul all their previsions from Port Lavaces, by way of San Antonio, a distance to Chihuahua of nearly 800 miles, and through a country in rainy seasons almost impeamable for heavy wagons. It will be seen that this enterprise is gigantic, and its accomplishment will be an achievement more arduous and more creditable than a brilliant victory.

The health of the troops had very much improved. The sick were left at Bexar under care of Dr. Glen, U.S.A.

The command consists of the following officers and troops:

**STAFF:**


**LINE:**

1 Company Light Artillery;  
2 do. 1st Dragoons;  
2 do 2d Dragoons;  
1 Regiment Arkansas Cavalry;  
3 Companies 6th Regular Infantry;  
1 do. Kentucky Infantry;  
2 Regiments Illinois Infantry.

The Kentucky Regiment of Cavalry left Lavacca on the 13th inst. for Matamoros. About forty of them had; died fifty to seventy of them had been discharged, and one hundred sick were sent to Matamoros by water. At one time it was said that 300 men were on the sick report. - The Tennessee Cavalry followed the Kentucky Regiment on the 16th.

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Friday, November 6, 1846 RW46v23i89p3c4 Notice of Some of the Officers who fell at Monterey

Lieutenant Charles Hoskins, of the 4th infantry, who was killed in that gallant charge in the streets of Monterey, on the 21st September, was a native of North Carolina. He graduated at West Point in 1836, and was Adjutant of his regiment at the time of his death. AS an officer he was ever active and distinguished. He rendered very important services in his capacity as adjutant in the battles of the 8th and 9th of May last. As Quartermaster in the said Cherokee nation in 1835, under Generals Scott and Wool, his services were pre-eminent in all the operations preliminary to the removal of the Cherokees. To attempt to bear any sufficient tribute to his rare virtues as a man, a gentleman, and a friend might cause this notice to transcend its character as a record interesting to the public. But that public, which cherished the glory of the Republic, and instantly accords its admiration for such heroic deeds, will feel an interest in hearing of the exalted private worth of such men, and will sympathize with those who lament their departure and extol their virtues. Lieut. Hoskins possessed a quick and sagacious intellect; he remarkable for the generosity and chivalry of his character, and for those winning traits which ever secured the regard and respect of those with whom he moved. The old "North State" never furnished for the service of the county a more choice and noble spirit. North Carolina will ever be proud of sons whose high character and gallant bearing shall rival his.
BREVET MAJOR PHILIP N. BARBOUR,

Of the 3d Infantry, who also fell on the 21st September, was a native of Kentucky, and graduate at West Point in 1834. He was brevetted a Captain for gallant services in Florida, on the 15th April, 1842. He was brevetted a Major from 9th May last for gallant conduct in the battle of Resaca de la Palma. He was ever, like a true soldier, eager to distinguish himself, and fell at Monterey in the thickest of the fight, while his regiment was subjected to that murderous fire from masked batteries in the streets, which, after severely wounding its commander, Major Lear, killed three captains and two subalterns, and left the regiment commanded by its youngest captain. His loss will be severely felt in his regiment. He was an ornament to his profession; as much from his rare private virtues as from his public character. Devotedly attached to his native State, he has ever, throughout his career as on his glorious death, reflected great honor upon it. The army will lament his death; it remains for the country to record his name among its heroes. He was a relation of the Barbours of Virginia.

SECOND LIEUTENANT J. S. WOODS,

Of the 2d Infantry, then on duty with the 4th Infantry, who was killed in the same charge, was a native of Pennsylvania. He graduated at West Point in 1844. He was brevetted a First Lieut. for his gallantry on the 9th May at Resaca de la Palma, whilst serving in the 4th Infantry, in capturing a field-piece from the Mexicans with a very few men. He was a young and modest officer, son of a clergyman in the interior of Pennsylvania. The citizens of his native town had just presented a sword to him for his gallantry on the 9th of May, little dreaming that he was so soon to exhibit the same spirit in another signal victory which numbers him among the slain.

First Lieut. Douglass S. Irwin, of the 3d infantry, killed at the battle of Monterey, was the son of Maj. Irwin, of Old Point Comfort, a gentlemen well known and highly respected by all the officers of the army. Lieut. Irwin was educated at West Point, and distinguished himself in the Florida war. He was a mild amiable man, beloved by the army, and his fate is deeply regretted by all his companions in arms. Had he lived he would have rapidly risen to command, as he possessed all the requisites of an able officer.

Each one of the officers of the regular army who have fallen in those brilliant battles at Monterey were graduates at West Point, except Lieut. Terrett, 1st Infantry, from Virginia, a young officer of high promise. Those battles reflect . . . upon our arms, and exhibit a remarkable instance of what American troops can accomplish even in storming entrenched positions held by superior numbers. [Nat. Int.

Tuesday, November 10, 1846 RW46v23i90p1c3 General Taylor

A Paris correspondent of the Louisville Journal says: "I heard often in England and Ireland, and I still hear in France, the highest compliment paid to the dispatches of Gen. Taylor. An officer in the British Navy remarked to me, after reading them, that they were models and reflected more credit upon him even than his victories."

We copy the foregoing for the purpose of correcting a very general impression, that Gen. Taylor does not write his own despatches [sic], but that, like Gen. Jackson, he . . . cures the aid of a more polished pen than his own to narrate the incidents of the battlefield. A gentlemen who was with Gen. Taylor several months during the past summer, has assured us, from personal knowledge that Gen. Taylor "writes as well as he fights," and that every despatch [sic] to which his name is signed, is written with his own hand.

[AMB]

Tuesday, November 10, 1846 RW46v23i90p1c5 From the N.O. Picayune, Oct. 30

The steamship McKim arrived at Galveston from Brazos Santiago on Saturday last, the 24th inst., having sustained some right damage in her machinery. Gen. A. S. Johnson, of Texas, Col. Balie Peyton and our associate, Mr. Kendall, were passengers on the McKim. Capt. Shivery’s company of Mississippi and Texas volunteers, and a large number of the steam schooner Spitfire at Bazos from Chagres. This and other items are given in Mr. Kendall's letter appended. The McKim was to leave Galveston on Wednesday, the 28th inst., if her repairs were completed, and also may therefore be expected every hour. Our correspondence from the Army is in the mails on the McKim. The Palmetto brought no mail.

The U.S. propeller Florida, Capt. Butler, from Brazos for this port, put for Galveston on the 25th inst., having been eleven days out, with 200 discharged volunteers on board. She was abort of provisions and water. Having supplied herself she was to sail again for this port on the 28th.

[AMB]
The *Palmetto* going out towards New Orleans this evening gives me a chance of sending you a line, although I have little in the way of news to communicate.

The *McKim* and *Florida*, propellers, are both in port here from Brazos Island. The former came in, with her machinery out of order, three days since, and having been repaired will sail to-morrow: the Florida experienced head [sic] weather, and was obliged to put in for water. She, as well as the *McKim*, was crowded with sick and discharged volunteers, several dying on the passage up. If anything is needed it is a comfortable Government transport on which to send home the sick and disabled soldiers.

From Monterey, a great deal of sickness prevails - chills an fevers and intermitting fevers. I have come in for more than a full shore of both, but am now on the mend. I regret to state that two able officers died here last night and are to be buried this afternoon - Col. William S. Fisher, who commanded the noted Mier expedition and Capt. Francis S. Karty, who commanded the Washington company of Texas Rangers at the battles of Monterey. The former had just married a young and accomplished wife; the latter was hourly expecting his family to meet him at this place.

The U.S. steamer *Spitfire*, Capt. Tatnall, arrived at Brazos Island on the 19th inst. from Chagres. She had on board Capt. Wes. C. Nocholson, Lieut. . . . and Passed . . . , U.S.N., who had been all been sent down to Chagres with dispatches for the Pacific squadron. - They are now on their way to New Orleans on the *McKim*. The news from California, brought by these gentlemen, has doubtless been anticipated by the arrival of Com. Sloat.

I am glad to see that our Government is to prosecute the war against Mexico with some show of reason and vigor. Recall. Gen. Wool from his nonsensical and Quixotic expedition to Chihuahua, order him to join Gen. Taylor and help out in the operations againstSaltillo and San Louis, and the eyes of the Mexican rulers will soon be opened. All that will be wanting will be the subjugation of Tampico, and the establishment of depots of provisions on the road between that and San Louis, to throw all of Northern Mexico completely in our power.

G. W. K.

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The Mexican General, I am confidently told, was once a common drayman in the streets of Havana.

On the 25th, the ceremony of the surrender took place, and the Mexican flag on the citadel went down saluted by their cannon, and the stars and stripes rose proudly in its place, saluted in return by the guns of the Mexican fort, while the cheers of our brave men greeted its folds, as it disdainfully fluttered out on the breeze that wafted it from the staff of its conquered foe. Many of the Mexican officers called on Gen. Worth, among whom were Don Francisco Bena, who commanded at the Onis Pado, or Bishop's Palace, Gen. Ortiga, Col. Marino, and others. While drinking with these gentlemen upon this occasion, Gen. Ortiga [sic] gave the following toast, at whose pronouns, we and our, I could not help but smile. He said, "I drink to the perpetual peace of the two Republics, and may we hereafter ever be as brothers joined in one cause, and let us show to foreign nations the greatness of our power, which the valor of our arms shall teach all Europe that we can defy them." That day a great portion of the Mexican cavalry and infantry marched out of the city, and they continued to leave in detachments throughout the week, with a great flourish of drums and trumpets. You may form a very good idea of their music by comparing it with the beating of a [..] kettle by some noisy urchin, which you occasionally see in the streets, to the [..] of some auctioneer's drum. It was a sight indeed to have seen the Mexican soldiery marching out of the city; a set of weak and diminutive creatures, dressed up in a tawdry uniform of blue and red, without shoes, having only sandals to their feet, and seeming scarcely able to support the knapsacks on their backs, while the officers who commanded them had more of the look and appearance of slave-drivers than of military men. And when our men and officers saw it was with such as these they had to do, their lips curled with the scorn of pity and [..]. - While one of their regiments were marching out of the city, in passing by the Texan camp of Rangers, a captain of their infantry saw one of our horses tied to a stake near the road, and seeing no one near, stole the horse and rode off at a rapid rate, but was soon followed by our men, on the discovery, and was overtaken, and the horse brought back. On informing the Mexican Colonel of what had occurred, the officer, or horse-thief, was immediately arrested and his sword taken from him. I had occasion to go on a matter of business with several of our officers, to call on Gen. Ampudia; we found his quarters finely furnished, his tables loaded with fruit, wine and cigars; while in an adjoining apartment, were seen several women gaudily dressed. On our presentation to him he merely bowed, standing with his hands in his breeches, with a white jacketon, and an unlit cigar in his mouth, and asked what we wanted, without even extending to us the courtesy of a seat, much less to partake of the viands on his sumptuous table. He is a large man of full six feet, inclined to corpulency with little shrewed, cunning black eyes, indicative of deceit, intrigue and libertinism; he wore am imperial, with a tuft of beard on his chin. There was nothing in his manners prepossessing or pleasing, but, on the contrary, you become disgusted with the man, and feel he is a villain, a tyrant, and a coward. And this great Mexican General, I am confidently told, was once a common drayman in the streets of Havana.
If it were possibl, I should be glad to send you a particular report of the fight on Gen. Taylor's side of the town, but not having been there, I cannot give you any further particulars than I sent you in my last; but you will soon be furnished with an official report of the whole affair, as the different returns of the commanding officers are nearly finished. The Mississippians have covered themselves with glory, and Gen. Quitman, who commanded the brigade, has added to his reputation of a statesman and noble hearted gentlemen, that of a brave soldier and a gallant and talented military chiefain. Gen. McClung also, who fell wounded in taking the first fort, on the Taylor side, at the time of receiving the award of the commanding Mexican officer, is doing well, and has won a name which his former character well sustained. I must not forget to mention an act of high souled magnanimity and bravery on the part of Lieut. George Deas, the Ajutant of the Fifth Regiment of the U.S. Infantry, which came under my observation. On the day of the 21st, when we ha been ordered to storm the first hill, which I have before described, and while we were rushing on to take the second battery, which was done by the Fifth and the Rangers, the Sergeant-Major of that regiment received a severe wound in the jaw, by a cannister shot, and fell by the side of Adjutant Deas, who was also knocked down by the concussion, and under a galling fire of grape and caninister he carried the wounded soldier to a place of security, and then with the proud feelings of his noble daring, rushed on to the taking of the battery.

Tuesday, November 10, 1846 RW46v23i90p1c6 Later from Monterey

The streamship Palmetto, Lewis arrived last night, in 36 hours from Galveston. Among the passengers were Dr. Conrad and Lieut. Nichols, U.S.A.; Lieuts. Dorfendorf, Price, (reported dead,) South and Smedes, of the Mississippi volunteers, and lieut. Read, of the Texas Rangers, with 41 volunteers. The vessels left at Galveston were the ship Star Republic for New York; bark Bostonian, for Thomaston; brigs Jenkins, of Southport, and Martha Sanger; Bremen, brig Napoleon; do. Mary, for New York, brig Damascurs, for Mobile; schrs. Sea Nymph, of Southport; Telemache, of Hallowell; Ellenor Stevens, New York; five brigs unknown; the steamship McKim, and steamshooner Florida, both for New Orleans. The McKim was from Brazos Santiago, and was to leave Galveston for this port on the 28th (Wednesday.) The steam schooner Florida was eleven days from Brazos Santiago with three hundred discharged volunteers. She put into Galveston of the 25th short of provisions and water, and was to leave again for this port on the 28th inst.

There is not much news from the Army. Lieut. Price, whose death has been announced in Mississippi papers and our own, is, thank God, alive, and now at the St. Charles Hotel, in this city. From some of the officers of the U.S. Army, who came passengers on the Palmetto, and who left Monterey on the 11th inst, we learn that the first Government Express, ordering Gen. Taylor to carry on the war with renewed energy, in consequence of the refusal of Mexico to negotiate, was within a few miles of Monterey, and would reach that point the next day.

The health of the troops at Monterey was much better than it had been on the Rio Grande.

The fortifications in the city were garrisoned by the regular troops.

Gen. Taylor's camp was about three miles this side of Monterey.

The last accounts from Gen. Ampudia and his army left them beyond Saltillo on their march toward San Luis Potosi, at which point it was rumored that Santa Anna had arrived at the head of thirteen thousand, and daily expecting reinforcements.

The Georgia Regiments was the only reinforcement which had reached Monterey at the time our informants left. Orders had been received, it was understood, by the other Regiments stationed on the Rio Grande, to move towards Head-Quarters. The Kentucky and Tennessee mounted Regiments had not yet reached Matamoros.

The people of Monterey who had left about the time of the siege, were gradually returning. They had begun to exhibited friendly feelings towards the Americans, interchanges of visits not being rare among both parties.

There had been affrays between the citizens of Monterey and Texas Rangers, which resulted, first, in the assassination of a Texan Volunteer, and then, by way of revenge, in the killing of eleven Mexicans by the comrades of the slain. General Taylor, to prevent similar recurrences had ordered an efficient guard to be distributed through the city.

Lieut. Col. McClung was rapidly recovering from the effects of his wounds. One of the officers of his Regiment informs us that the gallant Colonel was the first man that showed himself on the first Fort stormed by Gen. Taylor's Division and that he received his wounds whilst waving his sword aloft and cheering on his men, shouting "Victory." The musket ball struck him on his left hand whilst holding his scabbard and entering his abdomen, fracturing in its course, the bone above the hip joint.

We feel bound to state further from the evidence furnished us, that Gen. Taylor's coolness and sound judgement throughout the terrible three days was remarked by every one engaged, and that his intrepidity was such, he being in the thickest of the fight and always where the balls fell fastest, that his escape was deemed miraculous. He still
were destroyed. Extensive. The country about presents a sad aspect. The cane suffered as severely as in 1844, and the plantations and
were all aground. The injury done to coasting vessels was yet more
Old Colony and in a bad state. The brigs North Bend, Neptune, of Frankfort, Porto Rico, of Boston, Merlin, last from Havana,
and Portland, the bark Nichol Brown, last from Havana, and the schooner Gen. Warren, from Philadelphia, were stranded
only slips, as the printers were unable to leave their families in the general distress. The American bark Ranger, from
suffered severely, and there is a long list of injuries to the houses of the town. The newspapers were able to issue
The accounts from Matanzas give a general description of the destruction sustained there. All the vessels in port
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extensive. The country about presents a sad aspect. The cane suffered as severely as in 1844, and the plantations
were destroyed.

Tuesday, November 10, 1846 RW46v23i90p4c4 Late from Havana

The brig P. Soule, Capt. Delvailie, arrived yesterday evening from Havana, having left there early the morning of
the 26th October. Ten of the crew belonging to the barque Madeline and schooner Planet, totally wrecked in the
harbour of Havana, came over on the brig.

She brings us full files of the papers, and they are crowded with details relating to the hurricane and the destruction
caused by it. The loss is absolutely incalculable. About fifty lives were lost. One house was blown down under which
eleven persons were overwhelmed and killed. The harbour was strewn with wrecks, and most of the vessels left
afloat were dismasted. Not a house in the city escaped damage to some extent, while many were completely razed
and their occupants suffered in the ruins. The destruction far surpasses that caused by the hurricane of October, 1844.

We find a list of those buried at the General Cemetery in the course of the 12th ult. It contains 47 names. - From
this one may judge of the destruction of life. Four more were buried at the same place the following day, and two
more on the 14th.

The storm commenced between 10 and 11 o'clock the night of the 10th of October, and continued gradually to
increase; and till 9 or 10 o'clock in the morning of the 11th when the hurricane was at its height. The rain fell in
torrents during the gale. The houses outside the wall's being lighter than those in the city proper, suffered the most
severely. The ward San Lazaro appears to have been ruined, almost every house being prostrated, and the waters of
the sea being driven up into the houses by the violence of the wind. We have a long enumeration of the injuries in
the different wards of the city, but as the localities are known to but very few of our readers, we shall not enter upon
the details. The papers make vain efforts to estimate the losses, but give it up in despair.

The Captain-General and other principal authorities of the Island distinguished themselves by their efforts to
maintain order and tranquillity, and after the hurricane was over they were equally prompt to come to the rescue of
the afflicted. Subscriptions were at once opened for the relief of the sufferers, Gen. O'Donnell besides the list with
500 dollars, and other officers contributing as liberally. the various benevolent societies took prompt measures to
succor the distressed. The officers of the different wards were required to give immediate notice of any urgent cases
of distress within their limits, that the Government might promptly afford relief. Individual instances of courageous
benevolence are promulgated in the papers, and we hardly need say that the ladies of the city were the first to cheer
the despairing and minister to the wounded. Various mitigations of existing regulations in the city were made
promptly by Gen. O'Donnell, and the energies of all directed to the speediest reparation of the evils suffered.

The authorities of the Island, in order to facilitate the replacin of the smaller class of vessels engaged in the coasting
and fruit trade, which was lost or disabled in the hurricane, have so far suspended the existing ordinances as to
allow the owners of such vessels to buy foreign vessels to supply the places of hose lost - the owners being only
required to prove the former existence of the vessel lost or disabled, and the fact of its loss in the late hurricane.

We find several anecdotes related, showing acts of gallantry in rescuing crews of vessels. The crew of the American
ship Rapid were thus saved by the boats of the Belgian ship Anversois; but w have neither time nor room for such
particulars to-day.

The Havana editors give great thanks that the sugar cane has suffered severely less by this hurricane than that of
1844, although very much injured.

The accounts from Matanzas give a general description of the destruction sustained there. All the vessels in port
suffered severely, and there is a long list of injuries to the houses of the town. The newspapers were able to issue
only slips, as the printers were unable to leave their families in the general distress. The American bark Ranger, from
Portland, the bark Nichol Brown, last from Havana, and the schooner Gen. Warren, from Philadelphia, were stranded
and in a bad state. The brigs Neptune and North Bend, of Frankfort, Porto Rico, of Boston, Merlin, last from Havana,
and Old Colony, from Portland, and Nassau, were all aground. The injury done to coasting vessels was yet more
extensive. The country about presents a sad aspect. The cane suffered as severely as in 1844, and the plantations
were destroyed.
Guines suffered to a considerable extent. Several public buildings were destroyed, as were many private houses, and those left standing had their roofs blown off. Considerable loss of life, too, occurred in this town. The same general account will apply to the villages of Santa Maria del Rosario, San Antonio, Santiago. At Mariel, besides the houses blown down, six schooners were lost at the wharves and another in the bay, two only of the crew of the latter being saved.

Official accounts from Cardenas represent that in Guasimas, Lagunillas and Cimarrones the plantain trees were prostrated, but the crop would not be lost, but only kept back; a fifth or sixth part of the coffee crop would be lost, while the cane was even less injured. The whole Department, if that be the name of the territorial division, had suffered little. Not a personal accident had occurred.

The editors of the *Diario de la Marino* have advices from Cuba to the 12th, from Puerto Principe to the 14th, from Trinidad to the 15th, from Santiago to the 16th and from Cienfuegos to the 17th of October. From all these points the accounts in regard to the gale were highly satisfactory. The injury done by the hurricane is said to be comparatively insignificant; at some points nothing is said of the gale. At Sagua la Grande the gale was scarcely felt.

But we do not propose to follow the Havana papers into a tithe of their details. We could readily fill several numbers of our paper with them. We have written enough to give a general idea of the ravages of the gale. Besides, the Havana papers have not given us a comprehensive picture of their losses, but an infinity of particulars. The other news from the island is of little moment and may be speedily disposed of.

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**Tuesday, November 10, 1846**

**RW46v23i90p5c2 Marine Intelligence**

Par of Richmond

High Water this day at 7 1/2 o'clock, A.M.

Arrived, Sunday, 8th Nov.

- Schr. Levenlsk, Spiney, Philadelphia.

Sailed.

- Schr. Ludependence, Kerwan, Norfolk.
- Schr. Iowa, Travera, Baltimore.

Cleared.

- Brig. Keying, Liverpool, with tobacco, by C. Palmer. [AMB]

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**Tuesday, November 10, 1846**

**RW46v23i90p5c1 The President and Santa Anna**

If, as a French politician remarked, "a blunder is worse than a crime," in affairs of State, Mr. Polk cannot escape either self-mortification or public censure, if it shall hereafter appear, as it is now believed, that Santa Anna was induced to leave his place of exile by the previous pledge of Mr. Polk's secret agent that no impediment would be offered by the blockading squadron to his return to Mexico. For, although Santa Anna, in turn, may have given assurance to Mr. Polk of his desire and willingness, for an adequate consideration, (say two millions of dollars,) to exert his influence to put an end to the war, on conditions satisfactory to the American Government, there are at least two grave objections to the arrangement that ought to have been an insuperable barrier to its consummation.

In the first place, the whole previous history of Santa Anna, and especially his course towards the people of Texas, who had generously spared his forfeited life, proves that he is faithless and perfidious; and the zeal with which he has co-operated, since his return to Mexico, in measures of vigorous resistance to the American armies, after having virtually rejected a proposition for the renewal of negotiations tendered by our Government to that of Mexico, with view to the termination of the conflict, is therefore characteristic of the man, and ought to have been anticipated by Mr. Polk and his advisers. Fortunately, that part of the supposed bargain between the high contracting parties, which, it is conjectured, required the payment of two millions of dollars to Santa Anna, as the price of his acquiescence in the plans of Mr. Polk, failed by the loss of the famous "two million bill" the reasons for the demand of which sum by the Executive, discreetly withheld at the time it was made, will, we presume, be required by Congress at its next session. And this feature of the transaction suggests the second and more important objection to the secret treaty supposed to have been made between the parties. For, while it would have been entirely compatible with the national honor to have avoided the war in which we are now engaged, by making an equitable compensation to Mexico for the transfer to the United States of such portions of her territory as our Government might have desired to obtain, either for the purpose of "rounding off our frontier" on the Texas boundary line, or of
securing the fine ports and harbours on the Pacific coast, we hold that that [sic] honor is in no small degree
compromitted, now that the war is in progress, by efforts to obtain a peace by a secret intrigue with an expld
President, whose assent to the conditions proposed was to be obtained by a peace by a magnificent douceur. It is,
indeed, not improbable, that the inability of Mr. Polk to fulfill the pecuniary part of his contract with Santa Anna,
consequent upon the loss of the two million-bill, may have induced Santa Anna, after his return to Mexico, tochange
his line of policy, and to fall in with the excited tone of public sentiment against the United States, rather than run
the hazard of stemming its fury. But even if this be the fact, and if it be farther probable that his personal popularity
might have enabled him to revolutionize public opinion, and to induce his fellow-citizens to assent to the terms of the
secret arrangement, we should nevertheless rejoice at the discomfiture of a project, involving so serious a reflection
upon the character of our own country.

These remarks are made on the presumption that an understanding did exist between Mr. Polk and Mexican Ex-
President - a presumption justified by the circumstances of the case, as well as by the omenious silence of the
Executive Organ and the Administration presses in regard to the permission, given, by some competent authority,
Santa Anna, to pass the blockading squadron, and to land Vera Cruz. We hope soon to see this silence broken. Public
opinion requires an explanation of this extraordinary circumstance - and the Administration cannot avoid the
necessity, however disagreeable and mortifying it may be, of giving it. This remarkable event has attracted attention
abroad as well as at home, as we learn by the following paragraph from the Alexandria Gazette:

"We learned, a day or two since, in conversation with a gentleman recently returned from Europe, that the greatest
surprise was manifested in private circles in England, by the most intelligent and well-informed people, at the very
extraordinary movement of our government in countenancing and permitting the return of Santa Anna and his
officers to Mexico. "You Americans," was the common remark, "are certainly the strangest people on the face of the
earth. You certainly display the most indomitable heroism and perseverance - you overcome obstacles that would
seem almost insurmountable - and yet you display the utmost lack of wisdom, nay, even of common sense, in the
conduct of your war, with Mexico. You permit Santa Anna, a skilful general, a man of notoriously bad faith, without
one single honorable trait in his character, crafty, cunning, deceitful, and your bitter enemy, to regain his country,
unite a divided people, and lead an army, devoted to his interests, against you. This is a movement which no other
nation on earth would have thought of, for a single moment. You permit Almonte, too, who from his long residence
in your country, as probably the best informed of all his countrymen, of your condition and resources, as well as the
motion was manifested in private circles in England, by the most intelligent and well-informed people, at the very
extraordinary movement of our government in countenancing and permitting the return of Santa Anna and his
officers to Mexico. "You Americans," was the common remark, "are certainly the strangest people on the face of the
earth. You certainly display the most indomitable heroism and perseverance - you overcome obstacles that would
seem almost insurmountable - and yet you display the utmost lack of wisdom, nay, even of common sense, in the
conduct of your war, with Mexico. You permit Santa Anna, a skilful general, a man of notoriously bad faith, without
one single honorable trait in his character, crafty, cunning, deceitful, and your bitter enemy, to regain his country,
unite a divided people, and lead an army, devoted to his interests, against you. This is a movement which no other
nation on earth would have thought of, for a single moment. You permit Almonte, too, who from his long residence
in your country, as probably the best informed of all his countrymen, of your condition and resources, as well as the
disposition of your people, to return with Santa Anna, and, in all probability, assume the direction of the war
department."

We repeat, that public opinion will demand of the Administration a satisfactory explanation of this remarkable
movement. At no distant day, it must be given. That it will be made with reluctance, however, is manifest from the
refusal heretofore of the champions of the Administration to allude to the subject, except in terms so general and
indefinite as rather to puzzle than enlighten the public mind.

The following significant letter on the subject will be read with interest:

Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot.
WASHINGTON, NOV. 2d, 1846.

Is the Hon. John Slidell still the American Minister to Mexico, and does he continue to draw his salary of $9000 per
annum as Minister? Who knows? Will any body answer?

Mr. Slidell has the reputation of being a shewed, keen man, who is not only wealthy, but fond of being more so. He is
said to be fond of speculation. If he had succeeded on his mission to Mexico; if he had effected a treaty whereby the
management of the Indemnity due by Mexico to claimants in the United States would fall into his hands, the
probability is that he would have realized a magnificant sum of money. But the mission failed. He was not received,
and came back to the United States. The war ensued. Who knows what influences Mr. slidell had in bringing it on?
After awhile his brother, Capt. Slidell Macken[...] is deputed by our Government to proceed post haste to Havana,
where he held an interview with Santa Anna and Almonte. What for? He next goes to vera Cruz. What for? Next he
proceeds to the Army of Occupation, and holds an interview with Gen. Taylor. What for?

"Does not the sequel show what all this was for? The President sends, through the Secretary of State, a
communication to the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Mexico, pro[...] of peace and good fellowship between the [...]s.
He also sends a message in great haste to [...] to have 2 millions of dollars placed at its [...] to enable him to effect
a peace with Mexico. Santa Anna and Almonte leave Havana for Vera Cruz. They arrive at the latter place, which is
blockaded by our squadron. The commander suffers them to pass in unmolested. Capt. Slidell Mackenzie had been
there before them. If they could get at the head of Mexican Affairs, they might assent [...] of peace; receive Mr.
John Slidell as Minister; and the latter might yet get the negotiations respecting California, and the Rio Grande, and
Mexican indemnity mainly into his hands

But Santa Anna and Almonte proved teacherous. - They got into Vera Cruz and are now at the head of the Army and
the Government of Mexico, swearing vengeance against the United StatesWho trusted them? He who would place
confidence in them deserved to be betrayed. But was any portion of the two millions asked for, drawn [...]vance and
paid to them or any one else concerned in the matter? Who can tell?

How stands the matter now? We are going to war upon Mexico more rigorously than ever. WhyIs it not, in part, at
least, because Santa Anna and Almonte have broken their faith? Why were they trusted in the first place? Why was
confidence for one moment placed in them? The bones of the martyrs to freedom against Mexican tyranny and
Mexican butchery, who were slaughtered at the Alamo and at Gohad, and of those who were shot in the Mier Expedition, ought to have risen from their graves and stood in vision before any American Administration that would for one moment trust the cold-blooded tyrants.

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Friday, November 13, 1846 RW46v23i90p1c6 The News from Mexico

(From the Washington Union, Nov. 6.)

Despatches [sic] have been received from our squadron off Vera Cruz. Along with these letters, journals have been transmitted, from which the following extracts have been made. What a [...] people [...] Before the battle, Ampudia boasted that we should be defeated, and not one of our troops would be left to taste of the [...] of the Rio Grande. And since the Mexicans were driven from Monterey, [...] Private letters from Vera Cruz, however, appreciating the depth of the blow they have [...] tainted - Monterey being considered one of the strongest places in the world, & c.

A few members of the Locomotor of Vera Cruz, is the 8th of October, inclusive, have been received at the Navy Department. The intelligence of the capture of Monterey is copied from other papers, with few comments.

The following is the proclamation of Gen. Salas, the acting president, to the people of Mexico, [...] the loss of Monterey:

MexicansA government established against the will of the nation is interested in concealing from it events which are disastrous to it; above all, when the responsibility of their occurrence [...] fall upon the government. A government whose sentiments and interests are no other than theme of the nation, and which has emanated from the movement by which it threw off its [...], has no need to [...] anything from it, for the nation itself must combat for its preservation and its honor.

MexicansMonterey has fallen. It was not enough to defy death, as our valiant fellow countrymen did for four days, it was necessary to do more, to defy want in every shape, and the insufficiency of means of re[...]. The intention of the enemy to occupy the whole republic in manifest; but the government is determined to triumph or parish with the republic. (The rest of the article is illegable.) [AMB]

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Friday, November 13, 1846 RW46v23i90p1c3 The Sufferings of the Soldiers

A volunteer in the Kentucky regiment (Robert Hardin) writing to his father, after the battle of Monterey gives an account of the three days' fighting. He says:

On Monday night the Mexicans were in high spirits. - They had lost but a few men. All night they threw up sky rockets. At night the firing ceased. The left wing of the Kentucky regiment, to which I am attached, were marched into the fort taken by us to hold it during the night. As we moved in, we were in point blank shot of one battery, and raked on our right by another. They both belched fire the whole time we were marching in, a distance of one mile. Such a night as I spent that night, I hope never to spend again. We had eaten nothing since day light. - We had no shelter - no food - no fire. We laid down in the mire and blood, among the dead men and horses, and a cold rain fell on us all night. I had no coat on, having gone into the tight in m shirt sleeves.

I never heard balls whistle before. Two cannon balls passed within two feet of me, and many more withi a short distance. As we left the fort on Tuesday evening, which we had been holding as stated before through Monday night, we were ordered to scatter, as the best means of protection against two batteries which ranked our line. I had got away from the company about 50 yards to myself when a whole load of grape shot were discharged at me alone. I heard the shot, and stooped in the bushes, when on both sides and above me the shot fell like hail. We lost three of our men with these tares this morning.

The dead were awful sights to look upon - same shot with cannon balls, and some with small shot - some with their heads shot off - some with their legs off - some with their bowels scattered on the ground. We had no time until yesterday to bury the dead. The heavens were full of carrios birds, and the air with stench. I have not time to write large - am in fine health, unhurt, without a scratch, for which I am truly thankful. [AMB]

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Friday, November 13, 1846 RW46v23i90p1c3 The Rancheros

These constitute a principal portion of the Mexican Army. Rowan Hardin, of Ky, (who is in the Army in Mexico) writes to his father as follows -
The Rancheros are the people who live on farms. They are poor soldiers. By the laws of their government they are not allowed to have arms at home, and consequently do not understand the use of them. These people are not cowardly, but unskilled in the use of arms and without confidence in their rulers. Gen. Taylor esteems them a brave people; but they are not effective in battle because of their ignorance of the use of arms. Their defeat by Gen. Taylor on the Rio Grande, with such odds in their favor, has destroyed all confidence in themselves and they fight with no other expectation than to be whipped, but let this war last 12 months longer, and rest assured, they will prove an enemy no longer to be despised.

[AMB]

Friday, November 13, 1846 RW46v23i90p1c4 Operation of Captain Fremont

In Upper California.

(From the Washington Union.)

Letter from Senator Benton to the President.

SIR: In the absence of official information on the subject of Lieutenant Colonel [..] Captain Fremont's operations in Upper California, I deem it my duty to lay before you the private letters that I have received from that officer, for the purpose of showing you his actual position at the latest dates; the unwilling manner in which he became involved in hostilities with the Mexican authorities of that province, before he had heard of the war with Mexico; and especially to disprove the accusation, officially against him by Governor Castro, of having come into California with a body of United States troops, under the pretext of a scientific expedition, but in reality to excite the American settlers in that province to an insurrection against the Mexican government. This accusation is of the gravest character, most seriously implicating the good faith and honor of our government, and officially made by Governor Castro in a despatch [sic] to the minister of war and marine, under [..] of the first of April last, and published in El Monitor [..] publicano, in the city of Mexico, by the other of the [..] government, on the 10th of May last. A copy [..] paper was sent in Mrs. Fremont, my daughter, by [..] . Mr. Slidell, and an English translation of it is the [..] presented.

When Capt. Fremont left the United States to complete his scientific labors beyond the Rocky mountains, it was with a full knowledge of the political as well as personal difficulties of the enterprise. He knew that the relations of the U. States were [..] both with Mexico and Great Britain - that he was going through the territories of the [..], and among the settlements of the other - that jealousy would attach to his movements, and all his acts he referred to his government; and he was perfectly determined to use the utmost circumspection to all his conduct, confining himself wholly to his scientific pursuits, and carefully avoiding as well the appearance as the reality of either a political or military missions. With this view, and after having traversed the [..] and crossed the Great Basin which lies between the Rocky mountains and the Sierra Nevada of the Alta California, he left men upon the frontier, an hundred miles from Monterey, and went alone to that city to explain his object and wishes in person to Gov. Castro. He did this in the most formal and official manner, in company with the United States consul, Mr. O'Larkin, (at whose house he stopped,) and conforming to the whole detail of Spanish ceremonial, he not only called on the governor, but also on the perfect and the alcalde. The interview was entirely satisfactory. To the governor's remark that he was bringing a considerable body of United States troops with him, Capt. F. answered that it was not security against Indians, and killing game - that he was not even an officer of the line, but of Topographical Engineers and that he was seeing a new route (among the objects of science) to the mouth of the Columbia, upon a line further south than the present traveling route, and which had brought him through the unsettled parts of the Upper California; and that he now wished to winter in the valley of the San Josquin, where there was game for his men, and grass for his horses. To this the governor agreed; and Capt. Fremont left Monterey to bring his men to the beautiful valley which he had explored in his previous expedition, and to which both himself and his men looked forward, as to a paradise of rest and refreshment, after their toilsome and perilous march of three thousand miles among savage tribes, and through wilderness and desert countries.

Scarcely had he arrived in this valley, when information began to reach him from all quarters that the governor was raising the province against him and coming upon him with troops of all arms - calvary, artillery, and infantry - and that his situation was most critical and dangerous. The consul sent a special messenger to warn him of his danger; the American settlers below offered to join him; but he utterly refused their assistance, because he would not compromise them. But he did what honor and self-preservation required, and what the courage and fidelity of his men enthusiastically seconded; he took a position, and waited the approach of the assailants; and that position was nearer to them, on the summit of the Sierra, overlooking Monterey, at thirty miles distance, and whence, with their glasses, they could plainly see the troops, with their artillery, which had crossed the bay (of Monterey) to San Juan, on their way to attack him. The governor, with these troops, and with all his threats, after coming towards the camp on the Sierra, did not come to it; and Captain Fremont, faithful to his design to avoid collision, if possible, finding himself not attacked, determined to retire, and proceed to Oregon, on his intended route of the valley of the San Joaquin, and commenced his march by slow and easy stages, of four and six miles a day, towards Oregon.

It is of this encampment on the Sierra that Governor Castro makes particular complaint in his despatch [sic] to the Minister of War and Marine, as an evidence of hostile intentions, and where the American flag was raised, a fortification built and the American settlers called in for its defence. Unhappily we have no letter from Capt. Fremont [sic] detailing the events of these days; but the want of such a letter is well supplied by the official communications from the American consul at Monterey to our Secretary of State, and by Capt. Fremont's [sic] brief note to the consul, (written in pencil,) while expecting the attack of Gov. Castro, and which has been [..] published.
in our papers. Mr. Buchanan furnished us, as soon as they were received, with copies of these despatches [sic], which are herewith laid before you, and from which it will be seen that Gov. Castro's accusations against Capt. Fremont [sic] are entirely unfounded - that so far from having excited the Americans to revolt, he absolutely refused to receive those who offered to join him [sic] and, more, that when after leaving this position, and granting discharges to five or six men, he refused to fill their places from the men in the country [sic] so determined was he to avoid as well in appearance, as in fact, the smallest act offensive or injurious to the Mexican authorities. The same correspondence shows the entire falsehood of all the superfluous gasconade which Governor Castro put into his official report about the spoils of the camp - the dispersion of Fremont and his men - their flight into the bulrushes, and through the desert - his suffocation in the cradle of a dangerous conspiracy, & c., with all which imaginary exploits his official despatch [sic] was filled, while Fremont with sixty-two men and two hundred horses, were slowly retiring in a body almost in his view, and utterly abstaining from any act of offence to the province or its authorities. It was no doubt a false report to his government, and the ridicule he incurred by it in California, that led to his subsequent operations in May to exterminate Fremont's party and all the American settlers on the Sacramento.

On return from the evacuated camp on the Sierra, the governor also put forth a proclamation, in the vein of his report, and even worse, styling Fremont and his men a band of highway robbers, plundering the people & c., which accusation of plundering the consul took the trouble to investigate, and found to be a very trivial offence of manners (not of law or morals) which the injured party valued a five dollars, and for which Capt. Fremont gave ten. For the rest, the consul, after all this, declares the inhabitants of the country to be well pleased with Capt. Fremont, and that he might walk the streets of Monterey the next day alone, if he chose. The only truth in Governor Castro's despatch [sic] is, that Captain Fremont took a military position, entrenched it, and raised the American flag; but these events were the consequence, and not the cause of Gov. Castro's movement against him; and this is fully shown in that brief, heroic note, written in pencil, in answer to the consul's warning, in which Capt. Fremont, after refusing the aid of the American settlers, declared for himself and his sixty-two men that they had done nothing wrong to the authorities or the people of the country - that if attacked they would defend themselves, and die to the last man under the flag of their country, and leave it to the country to avenge their deaths. All they did was in self-defence. - The flag was raised, not as a standard of insurrection, or as a sign of contempt to the Mexican government, but as the American symbol of honor and patriotism, which was entitled to respect from others - to defence from them - and which they had displayed in that hour of danger as a warning to the approaching assailants - as a bond of union and devotion among themselves - and as an appeal and invocation (if they should be destroyed) to the avenging spirit of their far distant country. To my mind, this entrenching on the mountain, and raising the national flag, was entirely justifiable under the circumstances of the case; and the noble resolution which they took (refusing the aid of their countrymen) to die if attacked under the flag of their country, four thousand miles distant from their homes, was an [...] of the highest heroism, worthy to be recorded by Xenophon, and reflecting equal honor upon the brave young officer who commanded and the heroic sixty-two by whom he was supported.

The first letter that we received from Captain Fremont after his withdrawal from the Sierras, and from the valley of the Sad Juan, is dated the first day of April in latitude 40, on the Sacramento river; and, though written merely to inform Mrs. Fremont of his personal concerns, becomes important in a public point of view on account of subsequent events in June and July, by showing that on the first of April he was on his way to Oregon - that he had abandoned all intention of returning through any part of California - would cross the Rocky mountains through the Northern Pass on the line between the Upper, or Kettle Falls of the Columbia, and the Great Falls of the Missouri - and be in the United States in September. This shows that he had, at that time, no idea of the events in which he was subsequently involved, and that he had abandoned the cherished field of his intended scientific researches for the express purpose of avoiding all offence to the Mexican authorities. Of the events in the valley of the San Joaquin and the camp on the Sierra, he speaks a few words, without detail, but descriptive of his condition, characteristic of his prudence in not compromising his country, and worthy to be repeated in his own language. He says: "The Spaniards were somewhat rude and inhospitable below, and ordered me out of the country after having given me permission to winter there. My sense of duty did not permit me to fight them, but we retired slowly and growlingly before a force of three or four hundred men, and three pieces of artillery. Without the shadow of a cause the governor suddenly raised the whole country against me, issuing a false and compromising the United States, against which appearances would have been strong; but though it was in my power to increase my party by Americans, I refrained from committing a solitary act of hostility or impropriety." His next letter is dated the 14th of May, and informs me that, in his progress to Oregon, he found himself and party unexpectedly attacked by the Tlamath Indians - the most warlike of that quarter - had lost five men in killed and wounded - and still expected to be in the United States in the month of September.

This was the last letter received from Captain Fremont until the one of July 26th, from Monterey, of the Pacific ocean, and brought in by Commodore Sloat. the events which brought him back you have learned from that commodore but the [...] which led to these events are necessary to be known for the justification of Capt. Fremont; for, although actually justified by the existence of this war, with Mexico, yet he knew nothing of the war when these events took place; and though knowing of it when he wrote, yet he would not avail himself of his subsequent knowledge to justify previous [...] and therefore chose to rest every thing upon the state of facts, as he saw them when he revolved and acted. These causes, and the events to which they led, are rapidly sketched by him in this, his last letter; and while the whole letter is here with submitted to you, yet; for your [...] I collect its substance into the [...] and lay it before you. The substance in this: At the middle of May, Capt. Fremont, in pursuance of his design to reach Oregon, and return by the Columbia and Missouri through the Northern Pass in the Rocky Mountains, had arrived at the Tlamath Lake, in the edge of the Oregon Territory, when he found his father progress completely baited by the double obstacle of hostile Indians, which Castro had excited against him, and the lofty mountains, convened with deep and falling snows, which made the middle of May in that elevated region the same as the middle of winter. These were the difficulties and dangers in front. Behind, and on the north bank of the San Francisco Bay, at the military post of Sonoma, was Gen. Castro, [...] troops with the avowed intention of attacking both Fremont's party, and all the American settlers, against whom the Indians had been already excited. This, his passage barred in front by impossible snows and mountains, hemmed in by savage Indians, who were thinning the ranks of his little
party - meaeced [sic] by a general at the head of tenfold forces of all arms - the American settlers in California marked out for destruction on a false accusation of meditating a revolt under his instigation - his men and horses suffering from fatigue, cold, and famine - and after the most [...] deliberation upon all the dangers of his position, and upon all the responsibilities of his conduct, Captain Fremont determined to turn upon his [...] and fight them instantly, without regard to numbers, and is [...] safety for his party and the American settlers, by [...] that Mexican government in California. It was [...] and, the resolution being once taken, all half-way measures were discarded, and a rapid execution of the plan was commenced. On the 11th of June a supply of two hundred horses for Castro's troops, on the way to his camp, conducted by an officer and fourteen men, were surprised at daylight, and the whole captured - the men and officers being released, and the horses retained for American use (the point of rendezvous, and intended headquarters) was surprised and taken, with nine pieces of brass cannon; two hundred and fifty stand of muskets, other arms and ammunition, with several superior officers, General Vallejo, (Val-y-a-ho,) his brother, Captain Vallejo, Colonel Greuxdon, and others; all of whom were detained and confined as prisoners. Captain Fremont then repaired to the American settlements on the Rio de los Americans to obtain assistance; and receiving an express from his little garrison of fourteen in Sonoma that General Castro was preparing to cross the bay of San Francisco and attack them with a large force, he sat out in the afternoon of the twenty-third of June with ninety mounted riflemen, and traveling day and night, arrived at 2 o'clock in the morning of the 25th at Sonoma - eighty miles distance. The vanguard of Castro's force had crossed the bay - a squadron of seventy dragoons, commanded by de la Torre barely escaping with the loss of his transport boats, and spiking six pieces of artillery. In the mean time, two of Capt. Fremont's men, going as an express, were captured by d [...] Very respectfully, sir, your friend and fellow-citizen, THOMAS H. BENTON. Washington, Nov. 9 1846. [AMB] Friday, November 13, 1846 RW46v23i90p2c1 The Mexican War The Washington correspondent of the New York Herald, speaking of the peremptory order said to have been given to Gen. Taylor to resume active operations by marching on towards Saltillo, says: "We understand the War Department has rescinded that order, and given Gen. Taylor instructions to concentrate the scattered forces within his command, and to await at Monterey further instructions." This statement derives confirmation from the subjoined extract from a letter from a Washington correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce, whose access to authentic sources of information has been often remarked. He writes: "There will be no expensive movements - no energetic movements, made before the meeting of Congress. The Mexican Congress may court a peace, and thus relieve our government from the necessity of acting further in the matter; and, if not, the whole responsibility of further action will be thrown upon Congress.

I believe that the question of peace has been agitated - that the government desires peace and intends to have it, at any price - and that its warlike energies are to rest until it can be found whether peace or war is the final determination of Mexico.

This is the opinion of many others. The operations in the Gulf of Mexico, so long talked of, are transferred to the moon. Ditto of the Tampican expedition. Ditto of the march to the halls of the Montezums. Ditto of the march of General Kearney and the greasy tallow candles and the Virgin Mary to Saltillo. Ditto of the alleged orders to General Wool to join Taylor at Saltillo. Ditto of the fable of General Patterson's enterprises. Ditto of all the stuff, in and out of the "Union," about the energies and objects of this government.

It is very evident that Mr. Polk's estimate of the disposition and capacity of the Mexican nation to meet the shock of war was as erroneous as was his opinion of the facility with which, by assuming a swaggering attitude, he could compel John Bull to relinquish the "whole of Oregon." We do not ensure him, of course, for falling into an error in regard to the weakness and timidity of the Mexican people, which was unfortunately too common among our countrymen, and which induced the Official Editor to promise to the country, in substance if not in express terms, that the American General would eat his Christmas dinner in the city of Mexico, and which led to so much silly ballerish about "reveling in the halls of Montezuma." The victory of San Jacinto, one of the most remarkable certainly on record, when the overwhelming superiority of the defeated force in point of numbers is considered, unfortunately contributed to strengthen and diffuse this erroneous estimate of the Mexican character; and consequently, after that brilliant (but we cannot help thinking accidental) triumph, the impression became universal that Texas, single-handed, or with such aid as she might be enabled to obtain from bands of armed emigrants from the United States, could without difficulty achieve the conquest of the Reput lie from which she had just seceded. Yet nothing is new, more certain than that her resources, both in men and in the material of war, would have been ridiculously inadequate to the enterprize, which has tasked thus far all the energy, skill and courage of the United States, and which, so confident are we of the ability of almost any nation, when united against an invader, to maintain its independence, will continue to grow more and more desperate as our armies shall recede farther and farther from our frontier. We repeat, that we do not complain that Mr.Polk so readily fell into an opinion of Mexica imbecility and cowardice, at that time so universal; although we think it will now be conceded, that, to act upon that opinion, by seizing upon and occupying with an armed force, a territory, which, if it did not belong to Mexico, was admitted by himself to be in dispute between that country and Texas, and thereby to involve that nation, without the consent of Congress, in a bloody and expensive war, was a grave BLUNDER, the serious consequences of which are
perhaps as much to be depredated as the violation of the Constitution which it presupposes. We are firmly persuaded, that, had Mr. Polk foreseen the consequences of his order to Gen. Taylor to march to the Rio Grande, that order would never have given. He believed that the valley of the Rio Grande might be secured by this movement, without opposition from the Mexican troops, and probably without compensation to the Mexican Government. Acting upon the popular belief of the inefficiency of the Mexican troops, and sumulated perhaps by the distracted condition of that country and the instability of her institutions, he thought he might safely seize the territory in dispute, and leave it to subsequent negotiation to settle the price of its final relinquishment. The prompt resistance made to this attempt, though unsuccessful, and the obstinacy with which our army has been on every subsequent occasion encountered by the Mexicans, have opened the eyes of the Government to the difficulties of the task it has undertaken, and which, until very recently, it had believed might be so easily accomplished. We are not surprised, therefore, to see it intimated that the President is now solicitous for the speedy restoration of peace, and that, instead of promised by his Organ, he has resolved to remain in statu quo until the meeting of Congress, doubtless with the hope that that body may be able to extricate him, as it did from the embarrassments in which his want of sagacity and prudence involved him on the Oregon question, from the new dilemma in which he has been involved by his rash and unstatesmanlike proceedings. We sincerely hope that he may not be disappointed, if this be his purpos. We are aware that the expression of this opinion may subject us to harsh criticism from those who choose to confound the ADMINISTRATION with the COUNTRY - than which, unfortunately, as other measures of the government, besides the Mexican war, show, no two things may be rendered more distinct, and even antagonistical. In condemning the policy of the one - whether that policy be one of aggression upon Mexico for its own advantage, or upon American labor for the benefit of foreigners - we do not abate one jot or title of our devotion to the other. That very devotion, indeed, induces us to regret the existence of a war, in which the blood and treasure of the nation are poured out like water, for an object which might have been for more easily attained without the sacrifice of a human life or the expenditure of a fourth of the money which will be necessary to maintain our armies in the field. It is because we desire to see the Country prosperous and the Constitution unimpaired, that we condemn the foreign as well as the domestic policy of an Administration, which, whatever be the motives by which it has been influenced, has, in our opinion, aimed a deadly blow at both.

Friday, November 13, 1846 RW46v23i90p2c6 Marine Intelligence

Port of Richmond.

High Water this day at 11 o'clock, A.M.

ARRIVED.

Brig. Francis, Cobb, Portland.

Schr. Joy, Bartlett, Boston.

do. Jubiles, Scrimizer, Petersburg.

SAILED.

do. Patrick Henry, Chester, New York.

do. Richard Thompson, Corson, West Point.

do. Julia, Hill, Boston.


do. Wm. Applegarth, Kent, Baltimore.


[AMB]

Friday, November 13, 1846 RW46v23i90p2c5 The Gun-Cotton

Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10, 1846.
This afternoon experiments were made in the office of the Secretary of War with a quantity of prepared cotton, brought by Mr. Robertson, our present consul to Breman, for the express purpose of securing a patient for the inventors, Messrs. Schoenbein & Buttger.

The whole cabinet - the President, General Scott, Col. Totten, and a variety of distinguished gentlemen were present, and the experiments succeeded beyond the most sanguine expectation.

The prepared cotton ignites more readily than powder, and its combustion is more perfect. A ball was fired with it from a common market, from the window of the War Department against the wall of the Navy Department, with immense force; an excavation of nearly the depth of an inch being produced in the wall, and the ball being completely flattened.

The day after tomorrow, the expansive faculty of the prepared cotton will be tried at the arsenal with the musket pendulum. I will undoubtedly succeed, as a similar experiments have succeeded with it in Germany, Switzerland, and England.

Prepared cotton is nothing else than gunpowder in a purer state and more acceptable form. It contains precisely the same ingredients - carbon, sulphur, and nitre, and is manufactured with great ease, and may be preserved even for months in water. All that is necessary is to dry it before using it. - When the preparation is once made, twenty-four hours would suffice to prepare a sufficient quantity of cotton, just taken from the carding machine, to carry on our whole war with Mexico.

And yet the preparation is so simple, so clearly a scientific reduction of the known property of each ingredient part, that it is only a wonder that the same discovery has not been made years and years ago. The ventors being about to take out a patient, it would not be proper to say more on the subject now; in a few days (when the patient will be secured) all will be published, and then the process will be found so simple that every man may henceforth make his own gunpowder as he makes his own bread, or boils his own potatoes. [AMB]

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**Friday, November 13, 1846 RW46v23i90p3c1 Last Evening Mail**

**From the Camp at Monterey Nov. 11**

It is stated in the last *Washington Union* that Gen. La Vega and other Mexican officers, taken prisoners in May last, have been exchanged for Capt. Carpender and the crew of the brig. Truxton. Orders have been consequently issued by Gen. Scott for the release of Gen. La Vega and his officers.

Last evening the War Department received despatches [sic] from General Taylor. They were written on the 6th, 11th, 12th, and 13th October. But the detailed official letters on the operations before Monterey did not accompany them - much delay having occurred in making out complete returns from the various subordinate commandors of the army. The despatches [sic] which were received last evening, are brief and comparatively unimportant in their character.

In his letter of the 6th of October, General Taylor states that he had mustered out of service the entire force of mounted Texas volunteers. One company of Texas foot volunteers, which has rendered excellent service in the campaign, was then on the march to Camargo there to be mustered out of service.

The General states, that a small force is to be stationed at Laredo on the east bank of the Rio Grande, for the purpose of protecting that frontier of country from Indian depredations, and enabling the government of Texas to extend its jurisdiction with more facility to the river. With the advice of Governor Henderson, he has authorized Gen. Lamar, ex-President of Texas, to raise a mounted company of eighty men for this service, for twelve months. -- As a very small force is now in service from the State of Texas, he trusts that this step will be approved by the department.

The 2d infantry, with some of the artillery companies left in the rear, and so additional volunteer force, has been ordered forward to Monterey, together with a heavy battery train.

No credible intelligence has been received from the interior at the date of this letter. Gen. Ampudia, at the last advice was at Saltillo, probably with the whole or greater part of his army, [But subsequent accounts, in private letters, report that Ampudia had retreated from Saltillo, and would make San Luis de Potosi his rallying point. He was expected to make a stand there, and perhaps to be joined by Santa Anna, in case Gen. Taylor should extend his advance in that direction.]

The General states, that he had been unable as yet to prepare his detailed official report of the operations before Monterey - the last report from his subordinate commandors having been at that moment received. Our loss in killed, wounded and missing, will vary very little from 500-400 of which was sustained in the attack on the lower part of the city on the 21st.
Lieut. Dilworth, 1st Infantry had died of the wounds received on the 27th ult.

In his letter of the 13th of October, Gen. T. enclose a statement of a recent atrocious murder, which had been perpetrated on the 5th, in the streets of Monterey, upon a Mexican dancer, by one Fitzsimons. Captain Hays of the Texas rangers was present, soon after the scene, and had no doubt of the guilt of the man. He is now in confinement. Some difficulty had occurred as to the proper disposition of the accused, as there seems to be no American tribunal [...] to meet the case. The Mexican governor had complained of the act, and desired that the man might be brought to merited punishment. The general replied that the case should be submitted to his government before any action would be taken there.

In his last letter, Gen. Taylor deeply regrets he necessity of reporting the death of the brave Robt. H. Graham, 1st lieut. of the 4th infantry, who died, on the previous night, of the wounds which he had received in the engagement of the 21st Sept.

Friday, November 13, 1846 RW46v23i90p4c5 Untitled, Camargo

Camargo (Mexico) October 22, 1845

Gentlemen: - In my last I intimated to you that everything was very quiet about Monterey, and the indications were in favor of a continuance of the calm, until the expiration of the eight weeks mentioned in the terms of capitulation, or the return of Captain Eaton, the aid of General Taylor, from Washington City. Up to the time of my departure on the 16th, nothing indicated any change in the state of things. The discharge of the Texas troops and their departure caused the town to be more tranquil than ever. Not many of the Mexicans had returned to the place, as they are yet afraid; but that will not probably continue much longer.
Before my leaving, the account of the departure of Gen. Aumpudia from Saltillo with the army was fully confirmed. He proposed to fortify that town and make another stand; therefore he called on the citizens to assist him. They held a meeting and the answer to his call was, Monterey was a town naturally easier of defence than Saltillo, that it was well fortified, and he had been driven out of it, therefore they would not expose their families and property to certain injury and danger. The general then left taking the road towards San Luis Potosi.

At first, all the public arms were taken away, and it was not until Gen. Henderson sent Col. Hays to Gen. Taylor, that the arms were restored, to be delivered up at Bexar, in Texas. Many then would not go to get them.

During the truce, I shall run down to Matamoros and Point Isabel, but have faithful chroniclers at Monterey to record any important event; and you will be regularly in.

O. P. Q.

[AMB]

Friday, November 13, 1846 RW46v23i90p4c6 Naval - Attack on Alvarado

(From the New Orleans Tropic, Nov. 3.)

We have a letter from our correspondent 'Indicator,' who is yet in Pensacola advising us that the U.S. steamship Relief, Bellum Lieutenant Commanding, arriving there on the 30th ult., twenty days from Vera Cruz. Her letter is dated the 31st ult. He writes: "The only intelligence by her of interest regards the projected at Captain Fitzburgh came a passenger in the Relief, having been detached from the steamer Mississippi, and his place supplied temporarily by Commander Adams, heretofore second in command. Commodore Perry has hoisted his red beard permant on the board of the Mississippi, and of course is to be regarded as a Commodore, nor as a Captain. The attack on Alvardo was to take place on the 11th or 12th, at farthest. The steamer Mississippi arrived as the Relief was coming out. There is nothing sure worth communicating. - The Princeton sailed this morning for Vera Cruz. The John Adams was to leave to-day [sic]."

[AMB]

Friday, November 13, 1846 RW46v23i90p4c5 The General-in-chief of the Army of the North to the Inhabitants of the Three Provinces of the East

Countrymen: The Supreme Government being anxious to attend to the defence of the rights and the integrity of our beloved Republic, against the enemies who have invaded it, has thought proper to appoint me General-in-Chief of the brave troops destined to that holy purpose in the North. I immediately flew with enthusiasm to this section, my desire to sustain the rights of the people being notorious, and at the commencement of the present month I was in Monterey, dictating and ordering all the measures in my power to repel the advance of our enemies. Thinking, however, that an immense weight was imposed upon me, and feeling my inability, I entreated that his Excellency, the Gen. Don Juan Nepomuceno de Almonte, should come and take the command, supposing that the illustrious conqueror of

Pa[...]co would, on his arrival in Mexico, assume the rein of the National Government.

[AMB]

Friday, November 13, 1846 RW46v23i90p4c5 Untitled, Camp near Monterey

Camp near Monterey (Mexico) October 13, 1846

The Mexican mounted corps encamped about the town, began to move of on the 25th of September, as did part of the baggage train of mules. Gen. Ampudia, on the 26th, left with two heavy brigades of infantry, part of the artillery and some cavalry. His column mustered 2500 men at least, probably more. he took the road to Saltillo. On the 27th and 28th, divisions, equally as numerous, marched in the same direction. The most motley collection of men, women and children, white and copper-colored, with dogs, cats, game-cocks, parrots, and a thousand other things, mounted on horses, mules and donkeys, or on foot, accompanied each column. There never was so mixed a multitude. The followers were almost as numerous as the army, and as variegated in colors. Some of the Mexican officers are as black as any negro, and must be runaway slaves from the U. States or emigrants from the Spanish Islands. After the departure of these divisions, the Governor also left the place, and our soldiers thronged the streets, particularly the volunteers, who were anxious to see every thing. They went into house without ceremony, and in some instances did not behave well. These circumstances excited considerable apprehensions amongst the people, and a good many went away, or closed their houses entirely and concealed themselves. Those fears are now, it is hoped, being
allayed, and it is hoped the people will return to their homes.

Gen. Taylor seems to have sailed down to spend the eight weeks mentioned in the capitulation, as quietly as possible. There is some talk of a post being established at Linares, a town about one hundred miles from here on the road to Tampico; but when, I do not know. It is also said a post will be established at Riconada, about forty-miles from here on the Saltillo road. I have good reason to believe Gen. Taylor and other officers high in command, and in the confidence of the President, have written to Washington, strongly advising no further advance into the interior on this line. They recommend the occupation of the country from the sea coast, say Tampico along the line of mountains, and placing garrisons in every important place across to the Gulf of California - there hold on and subsist our forces as well as possible on the country, and let the Mexicans come to fight us, if their Government [the rest is illegible.]

Friday, November 13, 1846 RW46v23i90p4c6 Untitled, Correspondence, Picayune

Correspondence of the N.O. Picayune, Monterey, Mexico Oct. 16, 1846

Gentlemen: - A chance [sic] officers to send a line, which I must write in haste, as the gentleman who takes it will be off in few moments. Gen Wool crossed the Rio Grande thirteen days ago on his way to Monclova. A train of fifteen hundred miles arrived from Camargo a day or two since, with provisions. Two thousand mules have been hired at this place for the use of the Army, at 37 1/2 cents per day each.

Lieut. Graham's remains were followed to the grave three days since, by Gen. Taylor and nearly all the officers.

No news yet from the first mail that was captured by the enemy. Another large mail started from Camargo a few days ago (the 5th inst.) which shared the fate of the first. - This makes two important mails that have been captured from us within a month. The last was taken out of the mule train.

Everything is as dull here as possible. As for letters and papers, we never expect to see any more as long as Ampudia is permitted to act as Post Master General for our Army.

H.

Santa Anna is at San Luis Potosi, but is doing nothing. He sustains Ampudia in his late conduct. The fever and argue is spreading through the Army at a fearful rate.

[AMB]

Friday, November 20, 1846 RW46v23i92p1c1 Call for Troops

Call for More Troops

By the following editorial article in the Washington Union of Monday night, it appears that the Executive has resolved to call into the field nine additional regiments of volunteers. This sudden change in the determination of the President - for it was only a few days ago that the Secretary of War officially announced, in reply to a tender of service from a volunteer corps (we believe in Delaware) that no more troops were wanted - induces us to suppose that the recent intelligence from the Mexican capital, or from the seat of war, has satisfied the authorities at Washington that there is but little prospect of a speedy restoration of peace:

From the Washington Union, Nov. 16.

Call of Troops

We understand that requisition have been sent out from the War Department, calling into the service of the United States nine additional regiments of volunteers to serve during the war with Mexico, unless sooner discharged. They are asked for from the following States:

One regiment of Infantry from Massachusetts;
One regiment of Infantry from the State of New York;
One regiment of Infantry from Pennsylvania;
One regiment of Infantry from Virginia;
One regiment of Infantry from North Carolina;
One regiment of Infantry from South Carolina;
One regiment of Infantry from Louisiana;
One regiment of Infantry from Mississippi; and
One regiment of Mounted Men from Texas.
This important movement will show the federal press whether there is any faltering on the part of the administration, as they have been recently most recklessly charging. We have no time, at the late hour at which we receive the above interesting intelligence, to dwell upon this subject. It shows how little force there is in such suggestions as are thrown out in a Baltimore paper, that "it is believed that nothing decisive will be undertaken, either by our army or navy, before the next meeting of Congress."

We subjoin also the requisition of the Secretary of War upon the Governor of Virginia for one of the new regiments:

WAR DEPARTMENT

Nov. 16th, 1846.

SIR: - In my communication of the 19th of May last, your Excellency was requested to organize three regiments of volunteers, under the act of the 13th of that month, to be held in readiness for public service.

The President now directs me to notify your Excellency that one Infantry regiment of volunteers from your State is required for immediate service, and to be continued therein during the war with Mexico, unless sooner discharged. The regiment will consist of -

FIELD AND STAFF: -1 Colonel, 1 Lieutenant Colonel, 1 Major, 1 Adjutant, (a Lieutenant of one of the Companies, but not in addition.)

NON-COMMISSIONED STAFF:- 1 Sergeant Major, 1 Quarter master Sergeant, 2 Principal Musicians, and 10 Companies, each of which to consist of 1 Captain, 1 First Lieutenant, 2 Second Lieutenants, 4 Sergeants, 4 Corporals, 2 Musicians, and 80 Privates.

Should the number of Privates, on being mustered not fall below sixty-four effective men in a Company, it will be received.

Guyandoite is designated as a place of rendezvous for the several companies as fast as they shall be organized, and where they may be further organized into a regiment, if not already done under a previous call. The regiment will be inspected and mustered into service by an officer or officers of the U. S. Army, who will in every case, be instructed to receive no man who is in years apparently over 45 or under 18, or who is not of physical strength and vigor. To this end the the Inspector while accompanied by a medical officer of the army, and the volunteers will be submitted to his examination. It is respectfully suggested that public notice of these requirements will prevent much disappointment to the zealous and patriotic citizens of your State who may be disposed to volunteer.

By the enclosed copy of an act authorizing the President to call for volunteers, it will be perceived that all the field and company officers with volunteers taken into the service of the U. States are to be appointed and commissioned, or such as have been appointed and commissioned, in accordance with the laws of the State whence they are taken; and I would suggest the extreme importance to the public service, that the officers for the above regiment be judiciously selected.

By the act of Congress above [ ... ] to, it will also be seen, that the terms of service are for "twelve months, or to the end of the war, unless sooner discharged," and it may be that the regiments which have been enrolled in your State, and are now in readiness to enter the service, may regard this offer as made with reference to the former period. Should this be so, your Excellency will cause them to be informed, that the engagement required by this requisition is to the end of the war with Mexico, unless sooner discharged; and on this condition only will their services be required. With this understanding, one of these regiments (to be selected by your Excellency) will be accepted. if the modification suggested should not be acceptable to any of those regiments which have tendered their services, you are respectfully requested to proceed, without delay, to enroll and organize one in fulfillment of this requisition.

It may be proper to remark, that the law provides for the clothing (in money) and [...] of the non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates of volunteers, who are received into the service of the united States. In respect to clothing, for which purpose it allows to each non-commissioned officer musician and private three dollars and fifty cents per month during the time he shall be in the service of the United States. In order that the volunteers, who shall be mustered into service under this requisition, may be enabled to provide themselves with good and sufficient clothing, the commutation allowance for six months, (twenty-one dollars,) will be advanced to each non-commissioned officer, musician and private after being mustered into service but only with the express condition, that the volunteer has already furnished himself with six months clothing: this fact to be certified to the Paymaster by the Captain of the company, or that the amount thus advanced shall be applied, under the supervision of his Captain, to the object contemplated by law. In this letter case, the advance commutation for clothing will be paid on the Captain's certificate that he is satisfied it will be so applied.

In respect to subsistence before arriving at the place of rendezvous, and for traveling home from the place of discharge, that allowance is fifty cents for every twenty miles distance. . . . [The rest of the article is illegible.] [AMB]
In the *St. Louis Republican* of the 9th inst. we find the subjoined "Notice," issued by Gen. Kearney, which removes all doubt, if any had been entertained before, that, by virtue of the authority with which he has been clothed by the President, he has, without the sanction of Congress or the People, "entended the areas of freedom," by solemnly "ANNEXING", New Mexico to the United States, organizing a Territorial Government, and appointing officers to administer it. This remarkable document reads as follows:

**NOTICE.**

Being duly authorized by the President of the United States of America, I hereby make the following appointments for the Government of New Mexico, a Territory of the United States.

The officers thus appointed will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

Charles Bent, to be Governor.
Donaciano Vigil, to be Secretary of Territory.
Francis P. Blair, to be U.S. District Attorney.
Charles Leitendorfer, to be Auditor Public Accounts.
And Joab Houghton, Antonio Jose Otero, and Charles Beaubien, to be Judges of the "Superior Court."

Given at Santa Fe, the capital of the Territory of New Mexico, this 22d day of September, 1846, and in the 71st year of the independence of the United States.

S.W. KEARNEY,
Brig. Gen. U. S. A.

Could any thing be more Napoleonic? Did the Emperor of the French, when his victorious eagles perched upon every capitol in Europe, ever decree the extinction of a dynasty and the annexation of the subjugated States to the French Empire in terms more summary and with a more imperial air? Whence, we ask, in no spirit of factious complaint, but with a solemn conviction of the gravity of this act of usurpation,-whence did the President derive authority to instruct Gen. Kearney to declare New Mexico "a Territory of the United States" Whence his right to create offices, and to make appointments unknown to our constitution and laws? As the *St. Louis Republican* well remarks, "To the people of the Union the question is important, as it involves the inquiry to what extent the Executive may go in the acquisition of territory and the exercise of the appointing power. If the President can go on and make conquest, subvert governments, annex a whole foreign and independent State and people to this Republic, constitute them citizens, give them a new form of Government, and fill all the offices by his own appointments, then indeed his powers are unlimited, and all other departments of Government are lost in this universal stretch of power." The St. Louis *New Era* also invokes public attention to this extraordinary development. Gen. Kearney (it says) undertake to naturalize millions of mixed parti [sic] colored people, of various languages and natures, and most solemnly swears then in as citizens of the United States, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.-Where does he get authority for all this? He then undertakes to appoint Governors, Judges, and a list of Judicial and Ministerial officers. Where does his authority for this come? Is there any thing in the Constitution that warrants such proceedings? Where are the Strict Constructionists, when these events are in progress?-Their tender consciences will not permit them to pull a log or a song out of the Mississippi, even when it endangers thousands of lives and millions of property; but they can ride rough-shod over the Constitution in a career of conquest and national aggrendizement." [AMB]
To raise money for the war the supreme Government has allotted to the cities and States certain sums to be contributed by them monthly, but leaving the details to be arranged by the municipal authorities, &c. We have the report of a committee or junta in Vera Cruz in which the following assessment is recommended at great length: The city proper is set down for $500 a month. Then the citizens are divided into six classes. The first is composed of twenty-four citizens, who are to pay $30 a month a piece; the second of the sixteen citizens, $20 a month a piece, and so on down to $2 a month a piece. The sum total thus to be raised in Vera Cruz is estimated at $2921 a month. - We note this as a model of the manner in which Mexico is proviling resources of money. The same course is pursued in the other cities and Departments.

The Government organ of the 3d ult announced that on the morning of the day previous Gen. Salas assembled some of the wealthy citizens of the capital and addressed them upon the necessities of the Government and suggested various remedies. It was finally determined to make as assessment of $200,000 upon fifty gentlemen, which should be advanced to the Government in the shape of a loan. It was carried with signs of enthusiasm, and although the money was not actually paid in, it was deemed to be secured, and profuse thanks are showered upon the fifty capitalists who thus came forward.

In Chihuahua, Governor Trias is said to be melting up the bells of the churches to make cannon for the defence of the city. The greatest lamentations are heard that the people cannot be provided with the arms which they are so eager to take up against the invaders. In all our papers we do not see mention made of gen. Wool's invasion. it is front the North that they anticipate the descent of the avalanche.

In the capital, popular clubs have been formed, to which influential members of the Government belong. They meet nightly and talk over public affairs, and keep alive each others patriotism, an orator being appointed for each night. A chief end of these clubs is to produce a fusion of parties by bringing the leaders into apparent union. The lines are drawn between the pueros and the moderados. - The former are the republicans federalists; the latter conservatives. Gomez Farias appears to be the organ of the former, and his party is decidedly in the ascendent. These party divisions do not show themselves out of the capital.

On the 10th of October, Gen. Salas promulgated a decree touching the internal revenues of the country of great moment. The grounds of it are set forth at length in a well reasoned preamble, and the decree follows in twelve articles. The first abolishes throughout the whole Repubpublic [sic], from the 6th of December next, the excise revenue [la renta de alcabalas] from the sale of various kinds of property and securities, and the different States are prohibited from re-establishing such excise under any form. - In subsequent articles compensation is made to the States by imposts in lieu of those abolished. The whole decree is a sweeping measure, the details of which would not interest our readers, but it is denounced in some papers as high-handed and lawless.

Perhaps we owe an apology to our readers for giving up so much of our space to these details of mexican affairs, but our space to these details of Mexican affairs, but our purpose has been to give them an idea of the activity which prevails in Mexico in developing the resources of the country for the war, and to convince the public, if possible, that the whole Mexican nation is aroused thorughly, and that if we would see a speedy end put to these hostilities, or even avoid reverses to our arms, we must put forth more strength and call into th field more troops. - We will conclude our voluminous extracts to-day with the following rough translation of a circular of Gen. Almonte. It is eminently calculated to inflame the animosity of the Mexicans, and holds out to them in the end the most deceptive hopes. It is obviously intended as an appeal to the world as well as to his countrymen, and we are in hopes it will teach our own people how much in earnest the leading men in Mexico truly are in their determination to adopt the war with the United States as the deperate resource for war with the United States as the desperate resource for forming a sound national feeling, and overcoming the evils which Mexico has long endured from internal strife and civil wars:

[CIRCULAR.]

MINISTRY OF WAR AND MARINE,

October 2, 1846.

The Mexican Republic achieved her independence from ancientmetropolis without the need of other efforts than those of her own sons; and in entering the ranks of free people, she opened her ports frankly to foreign commerce.

With a loyalty which is acknowledged, she has fulfilled religiously her engagements with friendly nations [sic]; and the different administrations which have succeeded one another in the country, have vied with each other in cultivating their international relations, so that they have never been interrupted on the part of Mexico. From this religious fidelity in the fulfillment of our obligations, have followed the peace and good intelligence which subsists at present between us and the Governments of Europe and those States of independent America which were formerly Spanish; but the United States of the North, a nation greedy of conquests, not acknowledging these truths and unworthily responding to our generous friendship, has inflicted upon us all the wrongs possible, since we had the misfortune to enter into relations with it. The North Americans have excited and fomented constantly our domestic dissensions. They introduced their citizens into our States of Texas; they procured the independence of those thankless adventurers; and when it suited their interests, they resolved to incorporate with their own country that interesting portion of our territory, upon which the United States are unable to allege the slightest claim of right.
It was and is unquestionably just, that the Mexicans should reclaim their own; and when our troops were preparing to vindicate the honor of the nation reconquer a territory which belonged to us, then the Government of the U. States assumed as their own the cause of a revolted department of Mexico, and in a manner the most ignoble and unjust declared war upon us, introducing into the heart of the Republic their squadrons, thus paralyzing our commerce, and to make our position more difficult compelling us to misapply the ordinary resources of our public administration. - This war demands great sacrifices of the republic, and these sacrifices are to be attributed to the necessity forced upon us by the most iniquitous act which can be perpetrated among civilized and christian people. To the scandal of the whole world, the Mexicans find themselves attacked, and are resolved to perish together and to see their cities reduced to ruine, rather than to submit to the ambition of the people which seeks to make itself the colossus of the New World. The ambitious views of these men are as ancient as they are notorious - to extend their territory over the vast expanse comprehended with the Mexican nation, destroying our temples, our race and our nationality; and this conflict, which is one of life or death for Mexico, she must maintain with glory, or she must perish in it. It matters not that fortune sometime deserts us in the field of battle; the honor of our arms we have preserved even in the midst of the disasters of the war; and above every thing, a people numbering eight millions, which achieved their independence against the might of a powerful nation, cannot succumb in a war waged upon it by the North Americans. Our efforts to come out of a war gloriously will be as extraordinary as our sacrifices, since on every side the citizens are arming in support of the Supreme Government in defense of the country. Upon all classes in the State, it has made and it will continue to make great demands to place Mexico in an attitude to maintain her dearest rights, and Heaven, which always protects the right, is upon our side, and will be propitious to us without doubt, because we are struggling for the religion of our fathers, for our independence and our firesides. The day is coming, nor is it now distant, when we shall not only be able to impose terms upon our enemies, but to exact from them as a fitting act of justice, an indemnity for the injuries they have inflicted upon us - injuries which will be indeed a grievous burden to the country, but which will save its honor and its nationality.

The Supreme Government, in anticipation of these events, and convinced that the final triumph in the present struggle will be in favor of Mexico, wishes that in due time there should be prepared and transmitted to it in the clearest form an exact account of the losses sustained by the public interests and those of private individuals in he entrusted with the supreme executive power, charges me that I should direct you, as I now have the honor to do, this design of the executive, in order that the noble and patriotic views of the chief magistrate of the Republic may be fulfilled. God and Liberty.

ALMONTE.

On the following day, October 3d, Gen. Almonte issued his instructions for organizing he recruits. Upon their arriving at the recruiting stations, they are to be divided into two classes according to their height - those above five feet two inches forming the first, and those below that measure the second class. From the first are to be taken by preference the artillerists, the sappers and cuirassiers, the artillerists and sappers first taking those of particular trades or occupations, which may have particularly atted [sic] them for these branches of the services. The resides will join the cuirassiers. The second class is to be divided in [sic] like manner between the cavalry and infantry, having regard to individual conformation and preference. The directions are minute and simple.

[AMB]

Friday, November 20, 1846 RW46v23i92p1c5 Late from Our Squadron in the Gulf and on the Pacific

Extract of a letter from Commodore Conner to the Secretary of the Navy: "U.S. SHIP CUMBERLAND, OFF VERA CRUZ, Oct. 17, 1846."

"It is with feelings of deep mortification that I apprise the Department of the failure of another attempt to enter the river of Alvarado. [sic]

"On the morning of the 15th, a little after sun rise, I reached the entrance of the river, with the steamer Vixen, the three gunboats, the prize schooner Forward and steamer McLane, accomplished by the Mississippi, Com. Perry. It was intended the latter should cannonade the battery, while the smaller vessels crossed the bar. It was found, however, she could not approach near enough to make any impression on the work with her shells. This battery mounted seven guns; and immediately behind it, on an elevated knoll, was a platform, on which was mounted a pivot-gun. Knowing the small power of the steam ere on which I depended to tow the small vessels over the bar, and up the river, I was desirious of having a favorable wind to assist them. For this purpose, I delayed moving until nearly two o'clock, but seeing no prospect of the usual sea breezes setting in, I determined to proceed. The first division, composed of the Reefer and Bonits, in low of the Villen, got under way, and was followed by the second divisions, consisting of the Nonats, Forward and Petrel, towing by the McLane. As they approached the bar, the current became stronger, causing the streamers to steer badly, and lessening their progress to not more that a mile of a mile and a half, the hour.

"The first division continued to advance steadily, and had been sometime engaged with the battery, when I had the mortification to see the McLane aground on the bar, and the vessels she had in tow, foul of each other, in the greatest disorder.

"As it was evident no support could be expected from the second division for some time, if at all, and as the three vessels composing the first were wholly inadequate to prosecute the attack, even if they could pass the battery with with [sic] which we were engaged, I was constrained to order the Vixen to be put about and repass the bar."
"It may be as well to observe here that besides the battery at the entrance of the river, there is another at the town, one and-a-half miles distant, of three guns, with two brigs, each mounting nine guns, a schooner, of seven guns, and two gunboats each carrying a long 24-pounder—all so disposed as to command the channel. By the time the Vixen joined her the McLane was again afloat, without having sustained any material injury. It was obvious however, her draft (ten feet two inches) was too great to pass the bar in its present state. Generally there are from thirteen to fifteen feet on it, and my information led me to believe I should find that depth now, but the late floods have probably lessened it, as on sounding previously to entering there were barely twelve feet. The Vixen struck twice in going over, though drawing only seven feet. The current was also stronger in the river than I expected, and even if she could pass the bar, I felt convinced the power of the McLane was inadequate to make head against it with any vessel in tow: These consideration - and the day being far spent - induced me, however much against my inclination, to abandon any further attempt at present to enter the river.

"Except for a short time, from early in the spring to the commencement of the rainy season, no one not acquainted with them, can have any conception of the difficulties attending naval operations on this coast. The north winds, during the winter months, are sudden and violent, accompanied by high seas and strong currents. No judgment can be formed as to what moment they may commence. - Under such circumstances, an opinion may be easily formed of the difficulty of landing a body of men on the open coast, and also of the danger from the elements attending it.

I am, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
D. CONNER,
Commanding Home Squadron.

HON. JOHN Y. MASON,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

The reader will see it stated in private letters from the squadron that Commodore Perry, with the larger portion of the vessels, has gone to make an attack upon Tabasco, where some boats have taken shelter that assist in keeping open the commerce of the place.

Since the abortive attack on Alvarado, which Com. Conner describes in his despatch [sic], he has been joined, in all probability, by the Princeton and the Spitfire - thus considerably increasing his means for attack.

Friday, November 20, 1846 RW46v23i92p1c6 Acquittal of Dr. Tyler

The trial of Dr. William Tyler, at Frederick, on a charge of malpractice in treating ex-Governor Thomas, by administering certain drugs to him some fifteen years since, has resulted in a verdict of acquittal upon the first count, and upon the others a nolle prosequi was entered.

From the Hageratowa (Mt.) Torch Light.

THE THOMAS AFFAIR. - We were in error in our last number, in saying that ex-Governor Thomas was the only witness examined at the trial of Dr. Tyler. Several medical gentlemen [...]tified on the part of the State and one on the part of the traveller, all of whom exonerated the latter from blame.

An intelligent gentlemen from Frederick, with whom we have conversed upon the subject, assured us that there is not a difference of opinion in that city, at the fact that Mr. Thomas is a perfect monomaniac upon the subject of his domestic affairs; although in his statement to the Court, he acknowledged the innocence of his wife, and declared his conviction that her character was so white as the driven snow. He is said to have prepared himself upon that portion of the subject, relating to the medical treatment of Dr. Tyler, with amiduous care; and it was particularly in connection with this branch of the subject that the disease of his mind was so clearly manifested. In dealing the consequences of this disease, of which he was sensible - although greatly in error as to the cause - the spectacle presented was one of the most humiliating characters.

Revelations of weakness and of misery - clothed in jangunge the most touching - delivered with an eloquence of manner that has seldom failed of effect - and inspired with the unnatural fire of a frenzied mind - were poured forth, without concealment, by one who will himself, the subject and the victim; [...] once filling those in attendance with pity for the sufferer, and causing them to blush at the infirmities of their race. Whether the details of the trial will ever be made public we cannot tell. The Court passed an order that the testimony should not be published until the case had been disposed of.

Gov. McDowell, his wife and Mrs. Thomas we understand, were waited upon, at their lodgings, by most of the ladies and gentlemen of Frederick, who showed them marked attantion and respect.

[AMB]
Accounts from the Pacific, of Aug. 22, afford us some interesting particulars:

On the 23d of July, Commodore Stockton assumed command of the United States naval forces on the West Coast of Mexico. On the 25th the "Cyane," with the "California company of mounted riflemen," under Col. Fremont, sailed from Monterey for San Diego, that they might be landed Southward of the Mexican forces, amounting to 500 men, under Gen. Castro and Gov. Pico, who were well fortified at the camp of mess, three miles from the "city of the Angels." A few days after, Commodore Stockton, in the "Congress," sailed for San Pedro, where he landed with his gallant sailor army, and marched directly for the redoubtable "camp of the Mesa." When he had come within twelve miles of the camp, Gen. Castro broke ground and ran for the city of Mexico. The governor of the territory, and other principal officers, separated in different parties; and on the 13th August, having been joined by Col. Fremont and eighty riflemen, and by Mr. Larkin, late American consul, the Commodore entered the famous "Ciudad de los Angeles," the capital of the Californias, and took quiet possession of the government-house. Most of the principal officers were subsequently taken.

The American force thus chased the Mexican army more than 300 miles along the coast; pursued them 30 miles in the interior of their country; routed and dispersed them, and secured quiet possession of their territory.

The "Congress" was to sail in a few days on a cruise for the protection of our commerce, and the remaining vessels of the squadron were to be disposed with a view to the same object, so far as they could be spared from the blockade of the southern coast.

The President's proclamation, and the Congressional proceedings in reference to the war, were first received by Commodore Stockton (in a Mexican account) on the 19th of August by the United States ship Warren, from Mazatlan. The flag of the United States is now flying from every commanding position in the territory of California.

The patriotism and courage of the men who accompanied the Commodore on his expedition after Castro, are spoken of in the highest terms. Their march was trying and hazardous, perhaps longer than has ever been made in the interior of a country by sailors after an enemy.

[AMB]

Chance of Volunteers

We are requested to state that Captain E. C. Carrington, Jr. by whose patriotic exertions a company of Volunteers for Mexico was organized last Spring, but not mustered into service, because the Government did not then need its services, is again in the field, beating up for recruits. A few additional members are requisite to fill the ranks of his Company; and persons disposed to take part in this enterprise are requested to call immediately at Captain C's office, and enroll their names. There need be no apprehension of disappointment, or of delay in marching to the tented field.

[...] also, Governor Smith's Proclamation in another column.

The Boston Atlas states that the lower branch of the Massachusetts Legislature, as far as returns have been received, [...] as follows: Whigs 182, [...] 32, Abolitionists 5, Nativo 1, and Caleb Cushing -who, we suppose [...] classification

The Standard is mistaken. A sketch of Mr. Webster's speech, as it appears in the Boston Courier, was published at length in the Whig and also an extract from the longer sketch, which appeared in the Boston Atlas.

The Council of the Creek nation of Indians, at its late session, passed an act prohibiting the sale and use of intoxicating liquors in the nation. All liquor found there after the passage of the act is to be destroyed, and the offender punished.

Rev. Horace Stringfellow, Rector of Trinity Church, Washington city, has accepted a call from the Episcopal Church at Petersburg.

EFFECTS OF THE TARIFF.-We regret to learn that a heavy failure has taken place in Norwich, Ct. of a gentleman deeply concerned in the manufacture of [...], a description of goods which has been more affected by the tariff than perhaps any other. The failure is the more to be regretted as the individual has been one of the most honorable, enterprising, and public spirited men in New England.- N. Y. Express.

[AMB]

Letter to Governor
To His Excellency, Wm. Smith, Governor of Virginia.

We hope that the requisition of the War Department, and especially that the call upon Virginia will be promptly responded to, although the change in the term of service, (a very wise one, by the way) from a twelve months tour to the duration of the war, will doubtless render many persons, who were last Spring and Summer eager for the fray, now indisposed to embark in an enterprise the end of which no human sagacity can foresee. It is to be regretted, indeed, for more than one reason, that the volunteers first called into service were not required to serve “during the war,” instead of the limited period of twelve months. There might have been less enthusiasm and fewer applications, it is true, but there would have been though of both, and it is probable the applicants would have been of that sort of material who could have been [...] spared from home, and who would have been more [... in the field. It is obvious, too, that the Mexican government, being cognizant of the fact that the term of service of four-fifths of the invading army would expire at the end of twelve months, has determined to maintain a hostile attitude until that time, with the idle hope that the disbandment and return home of the large portion of our army, before their places could be supplied, might enable them more easily to force the remainder to retreat to the frontier. Both the Administration and the volunteers, however, anticipated a frolic rather than a serious fray—and now that delusion under which they and the country generally labored has been dispelled, the only matter of [...] is that they did not take six months volunteers instead of twelve,—that being the length of time, which, according to the semi-official intimations of the views of the Administration, it would require to overrun Mexico and to reduce its gorgeous capital to terms.

We repeat, that we hope the requisition of the War Department will be at once met by the several States upon which it is made. For, although we believe that the war ought to have been, and that, with ordinary wisdom and [...] it might have been avoided—and although we have seen, in some quarters, durning its progress, not a little to censure and condemn—yet we are not less solicitous than the Administration itself (aside from its personal connection with the subject) for its speedy and successful termination, and for the triumph of our arm in every conflict, by sea or land, that may occur during its progress. We rejoice, therefore, at every indication of renewed vigor in the conduct of the war, as the only means by which the Mexican rulers and people can be taught that their true interests, as well as our own, consist in the early termination of this unfortunate and sanguinary struggle.

[AMB]

Friday, November 20, 1846 RW46v23i92p2c7 A Proclamation

Whereas, the President of the United States, in pursuance of the Act of Congress providing for the [...] of the existing war between the United States and the Republic of Mexico, has made a requisition upon the Governor of Virginia for one infantry Regiment of Volunteers for immediate service, and is be [...] therein durning the war with Mexico unless sooner discharged—And, whereas, by the change of the term of service, the enrolment [sic] of the three Regiments of Volunteers under the Proclamation of the 23d May last is void.—Now, therefore, I WILLIAM SMITH, Governor of Virginia, to hereby make known, that the services of ten companies, to constitute a Regiment of Infantry, to serve according to the term of the requisition of the President, will be accepted—the said consist of.—

1 Captain; 1 First Lieutenant; 2 Second Lieutenant; 4 Sergeants; 4 Corporals; 2 Musicians; and 80 Privates.

These companies, when organized and commissioned, to [...] at [...] where they will be mustered into the service of the United States. Volunteer companies of Infantry enrolled under the Proclamation of 23d May last, who shall promptly conform to the new organization and give notice thereof to the Governor, will have the preference. But the Officers must necessarily be elected anew, and as it is for immediate and important service in the field, it cannot be too strongly impressed upon the men that in electing their officers all personal preferences should be discarded, and the best qualified officers be chosen.

No Officer of the Militia, whatever may be his grade, will forfeit his commission by entering the proposed Volunteer service.

The promptitude with which the requisition for three Regiments, to serve for twelve months, was responded to, affords undoubted assurance that the single Regiment now called for will be speedily in the field.

Given under my hand as Governor, and under the seal of the Commonwealth, at Richmond, this [L.S.] eighteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and forty-six, and of the Commonwealth the seventy-first.

[AMB]

Friday, November 20, 1846, RW46v23i92p2c5 The Mexicans, News, The Loan, &c.

The news from Mexico communicated by this last arrival it [...] thought, may infuse more public spirit into the counsels of the Administration. There was and is, I fear a disposition to delay action until the meeting of the Mexican
Congress, at least in reference to the land forces. The Government has given public notice that it would call out no more volunteers, and General Taylor will not probably move from Monterey with the force he has. In the mean time, notwithstanding the disasters of May and September, the Mexican Government, with a singular infatuation, takes courage with defeat. No one breathes conciliation or a spirit of conciliation towards the United it would seem, within all the borders of the Mexican Republic. "War to the knife and the knife to the hilt" is everywhere their languages towards us, and this now for the first time, no matter whose star may be in the ascendancy. The Government here is now well advised of this revengeful and obstinate determination, and it might have been before committing the "blunder" which already has proved "worse than so many crimes," of admitting Santa Anna to the capital of Mexico, there to infuse new hopes among the Mexican people and to raise up a popular leader to command her armies. I hope the Administration will not embrace that other French maxum, and be as those who "never forget anything and never learn anything." But experience so far has not been to much purpose. We have neither "conquered a peace" as yet, not have we had that "short war," of which we heard so much at the commencement of hostilities. The Administration should be held strictly responsible for all this, for the procrastination complained of is all its own. Congress, as soon as it heard of the clash of arms and acts of war, empowered the President to call out fifty thousand volunteers. Why was it not done? It added eight thousand men to the rank and file of the standing army. Why are they not in the field? It provided a new regiment of mounted men, but we hear nothing satisfactory as to the complete and efficient organization of this expensive body of troops. It crested a corps of Sappers and Minere, and they are only just now with the main body of the Army. It authorized an increase of the rank and file of the Navy of twenty-five hundred men, or a naval force of ten thousand besides the command, and yet owing to the clogs that hang upon the Navy at head quarters, nothing has yet been done through this branch of the public service, though the officers and men are burning to win laurels for themselves and victory for their flag. Military officers, too, were made by Congress by scores, and money was appropriated with so much haste that there was no command upon the President except to spend it as fast as he could-and how some of it has gone, and at what cost of principle and principal, too, I may add, you will learn hereafter. Ten millions was the first appropriation, since when nearly the whole surplus of twelve millions has gone. A loan also has been created and Treasury notes issued and re-issued by millions. All that the Executive and Heads of the Department asked of Congress was granted, save and except the memorable two millions of dollars, which most happily was not appropriated.

Well indeed is it for the country if the bill really died in the Senate of that terrible disease known as the cacoethes loquendi, for that little temporary ailment has saved the whole country the deep mortification of finding two millions of our own money transferred to the poackets of Santa Anna, nominally to buy a peace with his country, but in reality to enable him to prosecute the war against us with our money.

Since Santa Anna played the Administration falsely after his safe convoy from Havana to Vera Cruz, you have heard but little about that two millions bill, and now that this famous Generalissimo has seized two millions from a conducta at San Luis Potosi, "for its safe keeping," as he says, I image you will hear still less than before. Santa Anna, you will see, borrowed [sic] the idea of his splendid theft from our Sub-treasury law, and has proved himself the prince of Sub-Treasures. He has even given "Bonds for the safe-keeping of the money." So, too, our law requires. Is not this [...] of coin a beautiful exemplification of a Sub-Treasury law?

It is hoped that many months will not elapse now before there is an end to this whole war. Congress will act with more energy that the Executive and Cabinet have done, but with such ample powers and means as I have enumerated, why delay until Congress meets?

The rumors in the city about the Loan since my last are more than you would care to read or I care to write. There are great many persons disappointed in the result. Many small capitalists had arranged to obtain portions of the loan at a small fraction above par, and those persona will demand that their contracts be filled. Others were promised small sums at the average bids, and these, too, have nothing, for reasons I have already named. Some of the [...] from all accounts, were very busy and very [...] on the 12th. They, too, have burnt their fingers.

Washington, Nov 17

The last news from Mexico, as I wrote you yesterday, produced almost an astounding effect upon the Administration, and resulted in a Cabinet meeting, where, after the gravest deliberation, it was determined to call out a new army of Volunteers.

The official paper announced the call, and it must be to the great gratification of all who would see the war conducted with more energy and more success than it has been thus far. This call, however, is one of the many new ideas of this waviering and uncertain administration, and if it be necessary to bring the dominant party into court as a witness against itself, or for the purpose of condemning or disapproving the Government oracle, it may be done.

Upon the authority of the Secretary of War himself I wrote you at the commencement of the month that no more volunteers would be called out. I found my authority confirmed in the Washington (Del.) Gazette, an Administration paper, which introduced the following official letter with a sneering imputation upon the fears of the Whigs, lest they should be "called on to go to Mexico."

WAR DEPARTMENT.

October 15, 1846.

Sir:-In reply to your letter of the 12th inst., I have the honor to inform you that it is not contemplated to make any
further call on the Executive of your State for any volunteer or militia force, with a view to the existing war with Mexico. A sufficient amount of force, for the prosecution of that war has, it is believed, been already called into service. I have the honor to be

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
W. L. MARCY,
Secretary of War.

Friday, November 20, 1846, RW46v23i92p2c4 New Mexico

The present war brings us better acquainted with the country which we have conquered. It shows us the habits of the people, the productive [...] of their soil, its rivers, its mountains, and the routes by which commerce is hereafter to shed its blessings upon the land. The letter of Lieutenant Abert, with which we have been favored, opens upon the mines of precious metals which that province produces:

Extracts of a letter from Lt. Abert [illegible]

"In compliance with instructions from Lt. Emory (who has departed for California with Gen. Kearney) to make a survey of New Mexico, I left here last Tuesday for the gold mines.

"The trip was highly interesting. The 'New Places,' or [...] is forty miles south of this city, and about twelve miles west of the Chihuahua road. We staid [sic] at the house of Senor Don Campbell, a liberal gentleman, and a man of extensive possessions in this mineral region. He showed us his mines of gold, copper, and lead, and loaded us with as many specimens of the area as we could carry. The copper ores contain gold and silver; in fact are rich with these precious metals. In the valleys are found [...] lumps of native gold. Mr Campbell had obtained two-one worth about $900, the other about $700. He showed me a piece worth [...] dollars, and has much gold, which has been obtained by the use of quicksilver; but, [...] mineralogical specimens, this last is of course of no value.

"I have boxed up the specimens procured, and shall forward them by the first opportunity.

"I have given some attention to the mode pursued here in washing the earth and grinding the ores, and shall be able to compile a good report upon the subject.

"An express from Gen. Kearney arrived last night.-We shall send answers by the battalion of Mormons, which will soon pass on its way to California.

"My winter will probably be spent at Santa Fe, surveying, wandering among old churches, [...] old traditions, and making sketches of whatever appears curious or interesting."

[AMB]

Friday, November 20, 1846, RW46v23i92p2c2 Virginia Volunteers

In addition to Capt. Carrington's company of Texas Rangers, we learn from yesterday's Enquirer, that the Governor has accepted the services of the Richmond Greys, commanded by Capt. Robert G. Scott, Jr. under the late requisition for a regiment of Infantry from the War Department.

Volunteers desirous of enlisting in the company of Richmond Greys, whose services have been accepted by the Governor of Virginia under the [...] requisition made by the President of the United States, for a regiment of Infantry from this State, will report themselves to Robt. G. Scott, Jr. Captain of the company, immediately. The company will be pleased to see at their meeting to night, those persons who feel an interest in their success.

The places of rendezvous will be-Swan Tavern, Shockoe Hill; and Military Hall.

[AMB]

Friday, November 20, 1846, RW46v23i92p3c1 Last Evening Mail, Virginia Volunteers

The Alexandria Gazette of yesterday informs us that the Alexandria Volunteers, under the command of Capt. M.D. Coxix, have rendered their services to Gov. Smith, to form a part of the regiment called for from Virginia.

[AMB]
A letter from an officer of the U.S. Army, to a friend in St. Louis, says that Lieut Col Smith, in command of the Mormon Battalion, arrived in Santa Fe on the 8th Oct.–The commanding officers speak in the highest terms of the conduct and good order of these troops, and say that with time for drilling they will be every way equal to the regular soldiers. The battalion was turned over to the command of Capt Cook, who, with a portion of Col Price’s regiment-500 men in all, under the command of Col Price–were to leave in a few days for California.

Col Doniphan was to leave Santa Fe in a few days for the South. He would first visit some tribes of Indians, who have manifested a hostile spirit, and after quieting them, or whipping them into subjection, he would continue to Chihuahua, and join Gen Wool, unless affairs in Santa Fe required his earlier return.

Tuesday, November 24, 1846, RW46v23i93p4c2 Abolitionism

We were gratified to see, in yesterday’s Enquirer, an admission that "Abolitionism is on the decline." We agree with the Enquirer, that "the recent elections in the North have shown it. Massachusetts begins to frown upon the sentiments of the fanatics, and New York has overwhelmed and forever buried the proposition for negro suffrage." In our opinion, the Abolition organization would long ago have been dissolved-certain we are that it would have proved far less efficient-had Southern men at first taken the true position on the subject—that position which, after a long and angry contest, they were compelled to occupy.-We refer to the reception of Abolition petitions by Congress, the refusal to do which, by uniting with the Abolitionist proper in the Northern States a large number of voters who believed that the great "right of petition" had been denied to the people, contributed to swell their numbers and greatly to augment their influence. John Q. Adams may be cited, as a striking illustration of this remark. Up to the period at which the House of Representatives adopted a rule excluding these petitions, his influence had been uniformly exerted in opposition to the fanatics; But when the right of petition, as he believed (erroneously in our judgement) was attacked, he stood forth as its champion, irrespective of the question with which it became thus unfortunately identified-and by slow and imperceptible degrees, cheered on the one hand by the approbation of the fanatics, and on the other [...] to madness by the envenomed assaults of the Southern press and politicians, he became as furious in his [...] against the South as the most rabid of the crew against whose [...] nations his voice had always previously been raised. No one can have failed to perceive, that from the moment of the abrogation of the rule referred to, there has been a progressive diminution of the excitement on this question; and we feel assured that Abolitionism, like Anti-Masonry, will be extinct, or at least powerless, whenever Southern politicians shall cease to attempt to make capital out of this question, by misrepresenting the position of their political opponents at the North in relations to it, for the purpose of winning to themselves favor at the South.

The fact ought not to be concealed, however, that, while Abolitionism is on the decline, there is reason to believe that the Anti-Slavery feeling has not at all abated; and if a question shall hereafter arise, as in the progress of events is exceedingly probable, involving the admission of new Slave States into the Union, it will develope itself in the most decided manner. The Missouri Question had shaken the Union to its centre before we had over heard of Tappan or Garrison, Wendell Phillipe or Abby Kelly. Abolitionism, as a distinct party term, was unknown in our political vocabulary, when the admission of Missouri into the Union as a Slave State was opposed, not by a faction or by a party, but by the almost united vote of the non-Slaveholding States, of all parties. Do not the "signs of the times" clearly indicate, that, when that question shall again arise, as, if we acquire from Mexico territory bordering upon Texas, it must do, the struggle will be renewed, with augmented violence, and with the odds against us materially increased?-We confess, that it is in this aspect of the subject that we view the acquisition of new territory from Mexico with a feeling of apprehension and alarm. What meant the success of Wilmot's amendment to the Two Million Bill, by the almost undivided Northern vote in its favor, at the last session of Congress? If any one doubts that that provision, declaring uncompromising hostility to the addition of new Slave State to the Union, to be carved out of the territory to be obtained from Mexico, by conquest or by purchase, is a fair exponent of Northern sentiment, without regard to party lines, let him read the journals published in the nonslaveholding states, and listen to the resolutions, generally unanimously adopted, of their Legislature; and he will not fail to be convinced that the Missouri controversy, under circumstances much less favorable to its satisfactory settlement, mustbe revived, whenever, peace being restored, it shall become necessary to provide for the government of the new Empires to be annexed to our rapidly expanding confederry. Without anticipating the evil day, however, we content ourselves with the hope that, arrive when it may, the struggle may be not less auspiciously terminated than that which grew out of the bill for the admission of Missouri—that, although we may not have in the national councils another CLAY to pour oil upon the troubled waves, there will be enough of virtue left to profit by the great lesson of wisdom and moderation for which the Union is indebted to that illustrious Statesman and Patriot.

Wm. J. Shelton, Esq. has resumed his connection with the Charlottesville Advocate as its editor. Mr. S. is a well-informed politician, and a vigorous writer. We wish him all success.

[AMB]
A letter from an officer in Gen. Taylor's army was published in the Charleston Mercury, (Locofoco,) from which we make [...] two extracts. After describing the battle of Monterrey and the surrender of that city, which he ascribes [...] to the success of Gen. Worth's division, he says:

"Wonderful it is the achievement, the actore know that there will be deep dissatisfaction in the United States. It was thought a light matter to crush an imbecile people, and thousands of militiant spirits, burning with patriotism and covetous of distraction, had rushed to their country's standard in the [...] belief that in a few months they would be revelling in more than Oriental pomp and luxury in the gorgeous [...] of the Capitol of Mexico. How keenly then must then be felt the rebuke to the arrogant presumption with which the war began-this baffling of our arms for three days, and arresting our progress for eight weeks, on the very borders of the country that was to be overrun in six months. How mortifying too must be the fact that our proud banner would have trailed in the dust, but for the much despised 'mercenaries' under Gen. Worth, aided by three hundred ragged Texans almost as much reviled as they."

Speaking of the manner in which the Campaign has been arranged and conducted, he makes the following remarks:

"The [...] from which the country suffered so much during the [...] war, of directing the operations of a distant army from a [...] in Washington, it is feared, will be repeated again and again, until our arms are defeated and our country disgraced. The present distinguished Secretary of War [...] never to have doubted that with the aid of ridiculously inaccurate maps and ignorant advisers he could plan a campaign with the skill of a Wellington, and thus from the [...] our army landed on the shelly shore of Corpus [...] till now, he has taken upon him to manage everything, at one time restraining the General from the performance of possibilities, at another goading him on to impossibilities. The "Man of Iron," whom our Secretary regards as a brother in arms, would doubtless be filled with astonishment if not admiration, at some of his performances. He sent an army of invasion into the field without a single piece of [...]. He ordered the same army to encamp under the heavy guns of a fortified city, although entirely destitute of siege train and all the ordinary intrenching implements. To show that a battle could be fought [...] than Gen. Scott predicted, he urged on Gen. Taylor to the attack of an almost impregnable city, although the General's weightiest was two 24 pound howitzers, whose [...] [...] back like pebbles from the solid fortifications of Monterrey. And to drown the whole, when every obstacle had been overcome, and the Mexican forces were completely in our power, the Secretary's orders determined that it was better to fight them again behind other intrenchments than to crush them on the spot. It is supposed here that he is ambitious to occupy a page in Dr. Frost's Wonders of History, and that to insure so desirable and end, he will next order us to take San Luis Potsi with slings and pop-guns."

The writer then proceeds to describ, ( but for the honor of our country, we hope he greatly [...] the atrocities committed upon the defenseless Mexicans, after the surrender of Monterrey, by a portion of the volunteers; and adverts to the consequences of these outrages in the following terms:

"We do not care so much for the disregard of authority among the Volunteers,- their frays and fueds among themselves, and the unsoldierly scenes between the officers and privates, such as the chasing of a dignified Commander of Brigade through his own camp. All these are private matters of their own, affecting but indirectly the issue of the campaign. But outrages on the helpless and unoffending Mexicans, on the contrary, have a direct and palatable bearing on the successful termination of the war. The Mexicans themselves admit that before the arrival of the Volunteers upon the Rio Grande, all Eastern Mexico was ripe for [...] and annexation to the United States. Now there is no portion of the country so bitterly hostile to us and to our institutions. We have before us a Monterey paper of July, which reminds the disaffected of the atrocities committed at [...] and adds the "the Volunteers, the most unprincipled and ungovernable class at home, have been let loose like blood-hounds upon Mexico." We fear that very soon there will be kindled a burning hatred towards us which will make a timid Mexicans rally from every city, village and rancho around the banner of their country, and fight with a courage and constancy worthy the descendants of those renowned heroes who conquered the fairest portion of America."

[AMB]

To the Editor of the Union:

Enclosed I send you Gen. Wool's order on the [...] bank of the Rio Grande; we are now on the west bank, and in Mexico. We shall be destained a few days for the arrival of Col. Hardin's command of 600 volunteers when we will take up the line of march for Monclova via San Fernando and San Ross. There is a rumor of Gen. Taylor taking Monterrey, and an armistice for two months. The General has no official information of that fact, and will proceed with all possible despatch [sic] to Chihuahua without further orders from Gen. Taylor. The army is in good health and fine spirits, and anxious to meet an enemy.

Believe me as ever yours, in haste.

A. YEEL.
HEADQUARTERS, CAMP ON THE RIO GRANDE,
Near Presidio, October 9, 1846.
[Orders. -- No.89]

Soldiers! After a long and tedious march you have arrived on the bank of the Rio Grande. In the performance of this service the commanding general has witnessed, with the greatest pleasure, your patience, good order, and perseverance, under many deprivations and hardships. All have done their duty, and in a manner that reflects the highest credit on both officers and men. From this remark we would not except his staff, who have actively and zealously devoted themselves to the service; whilst Capt. Cross has been eminently successful in forwarding his long train of supplies, without delay or serious accident.

Tomorrow you will cross the Rio Grande, and occupy the territory of our enemies. We have not come to make war upon the people or pessantry of the country, but to compel the government of Mexico to render justice to the U. States. The people, therefore, who do not take up arms against the U. States, and remain quiet and peaceful at their homes, will not be molested or interfered with, either as regards their persons or property; and all those who furnish supplies will be treated kindly, and whatever is received from them will be liberally paid for.

It is expected of the troops that they will observe the most rigid discipline and subordination. All depredations on the persons or property of the people of the country are strictly forbidden; and shy soldier or follower of the camp who may so far forget his duty as to violate this injunction will be severely punished.

By command of Brig. General Wool.

JAS. H. PRENTISS, Adj't Gen'l.

[It appears from Gov. Yell's letter, that Gen. Wool was expecting orders from Gen. Taylor. He may receive them at Monclova, which is about 100 miles from Monterey. ]

Tuesday, November 24, 1846 RW46v23i93p1c6 Later from the Army

From the N. O. Picayune, Nov. 14.

The steamship Virginia, Capt. Tucker, arrived yesterday morning from Brazos Santiago, bringing a large number of passengers and later news from Monterey. We regret to say that the report touching an accident to Capt. Randolph Ridgely was fell wounded. That gallant officer are this, we doubt not, is no more. A whole nation will lament his loss.

The propeller Edith also arrived yesterday morning, having left Brazos Santiago on the 7th inst. Capt. Gatlin, of the 7th Infantry, who was wounded at Monterey, came, passenger on the Edith. She also brought over Captain McCerren and Messrs. T. Mewis, W. Armstrong, and Archinger.

CAPT. RANDOLPH RIDGELY. - Terrible Accident. - Maj. Dashiell, U. S. Paymaster, who left Monterey to days after us, and overtuck us at Camargo, brought intelligence that has cast a gloom over every heart. He states that on the 25th ult., the day after we left, as Captain Ridgely was riding onto town to dine with Lieut. Mackall, his horse slipped on the smooth pavement, and he was thrown with such violence against a rock as to cause a severe fracture of the skull. He lay senseless when Maj. Dashiell left, on the following day, and no hope of his recovery was entertained by the surgeons. In parting with this splendid young officer, I little thought that before I reached home it would become my duty to chronicle so painful an event concerning him. The world never produced a braver men or better soldier than Randolph Ridgely. A nobler spirit was never encased in the human form -- a kinder heart never beat. I cannot bring myself to feel that the gallant Ridgely has died thus; the thought is too cruel to be entertained. I can well imagine the heart-rending emotions of the comrades who surround him. They have seen him emerge unscathed from several battles, where he behaved with almost unparalleled heroism. They all loved him, for he was kind, frank and generous to every one.

"Hold on, Charley, and let me draw the rifle."

Poor Ridgely- how many a brave comrade would have drawn upon himself the shaft of death to have averted it from thee.

In an affray between two Texans named Peche and Allen, in Matamoros on the 27th ult. the latter was killed by a blow and a kick. No weapons were used. Daniel Murphy and John Kinsey fought a duel opposite Matamoros on the 2d inst. Murphy was severely wounded in the side.

Lieut. P. Kearny's company of [....] Matamoros on the 30th ult., and left on the 2d inst. for Monterey.

Two companies of Artillery, one [H] under Capt. Norman, the other [F] under Lieut. Haskins, broke up their quarters at Matamoros on the 3d inst., and would leave immediately for Monterey.

Reports were current at Matamoros on the 4th inst., among the Mexican residents that Tampico had been taken, by our squadron. The Americans did not know what to make of the report. We make two extended extracts from the Flag.

[From the American Flag of the 28th ult.]

MEXICAN RUMOR. - It was rumored yesterday in Mexican circles, that the troops which were on their way to San Luis Potosi from Saltillo (noticed as a rumor in our last number) have been ordered back to that place by Santa Anna, who has joined them with a large additional force. Eight thousand troops are stated to be on the evd [sic] of marching from San Luis Potosi to Tampico. A gentleman, conversant with the country and Mexican policy hints to us that, if this latter force crosses the mountains at Tuls, (being the road to Victoria) the design is to contains the march in this direction, and operate in the rear of General Taylor; but should they continue on the east side of the mountains from Tuls, (the road to Santa Barbara) their destination is certainly Tampico.

He likewise hints that much good night result from having spies out in the direction of Victoria, to watch their movements. Santa Anna, it is said, will have at Saltillo about 20,000 troops, including regulars, volunteers and rancheros.

[From the American Flag of Nov. 4th]

FROM MONTEREY. - We have advices from this post as late as the 26th ult. To the politeness of a friend we are indebted for a few items of news. The health of the troops is said to be rather bad at this time, the principal complaints being the diarrhea and chills and fever. It is supposed that the fruit, so readily obtained there, increases the sickness.

A gentlemen recently returned from Monterey, who has had a good opportunity of forming a correct opinion of the future movements of Gen. Taylor, expresses it as his belief that, after garrisoning Saltillo, the main body of the army will take up the line of march for Tampico, where it will be reinforced preparatory to making a descent upon San Luis Potosi, which is generally supposed will be the next battle scene.

It seems to be an ascertained fact in Gen. Taylor's camp, (Mexican rumors in this city to the country, notwithstanding) that Saltillo is not to be defended - the whole Mexican force being fortified in the strongest possible manner.

It is also stated to us that Victoria and all the principal towns in Tamaulipas are to be immediately garrisoned, and we would speculate that it is with the ultimate object of placing all the country on the east or northeast side of the United States, to be held as a portion of her territory and as an indemnification for the war. The state of feeling on this subject cannot be misunderstood. Every day it becomes more apparent that this range of mountains is henceforth to be the dividing line between Mexico and the United States It can no longer be viewed as a vague supposition - such we believe to be the fixed intention of the American Government - in no other way can she be indemnified for the war.

[AMB]

Tuesday, November 24, 1846, RW46v23i93p1c6 Untitled, New Orleans

New Orleans, Nov. 14

MELANCHOLY CASUALITY-Captain Randolph Ridgely-The gallant officer, who has won so many laurels in the war, is supposed to have lost his life at monterey, about three weeks ago, in a most melancholy manner.- Tropic.

SINGULAR AND ALMOST FATAL OCCURRENCE-We were told yesterday of a singular occurrence which happened on the steamboat Pike No. 8, on her recent trip from Cincinnati to this port. One of our most respected citizens, Mr. A.S. Trotter, agent we believe, for the Bank of Kentucky, in the city, was a passenger on board, and on Monday night last, at about nine o'clock, when the Pike was some forty miles from the city, he retired to his state-room. When nearly asleep he was roused by the report of a pistol in the state-room adjoining, and at the same time experienced a sharp, smarting pain on the top of his head, the blood pouring from it freely. The state-room from which the shot proceeded was immediately searched, and found recent, though a hole in the partition, close to the head of Mr. T's [...] showed that the ball, which was found flattened against the opposite wall, failed but by a hair's breadth of its
deadly aim. Notwithstanding the most diligent search, nothing could be found of the intended assassin, and we understand that Mr. T. has been unable, thus far, to obtain any clue to the mystery. Several strangers got on the boat at Louisville, and probably the impression that Mr. Trotter had a large amount of money with him was the incentive to be the attempted murder. The ball, which has been preserved, is evidently from a revolver.---[...

**NAVAL** - Capt. S.H. [...] has received orders to take command of the U.S. line of battleship Ohio, and proceed to sea with all possible dispatch, under sealed orders. Her destination is unknown, but presumed to be Vera Cruz. [AMB]

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**Tuesday, November 24, 1846** RW46v23i93p1c7 The Very Latest from Monterey

We yesterday received, after our main news from the Army was made up, a letter from a distinguished officer of the American Army at Monterey, which is three days later than anything we have seen. That portion of it in relation to Bustamante we look upon as rather doubtful, although the old General may have been sent up in the neighborhood of Chihuahua and Sonora to look after Gen. Wool. We make extracts from the letter, which is dated:

**MONTEREY, Oct., 29, 1846.**

Poor Ridgely is dead. He was buried yesterday and is mourned by the entire Army. Maj. Lear will not live twenty-four hours longer. We have late news from San Luis de Potosi [...] The effect that Santa Anna was there with 12,000 men and no less than thirty-seven generals. He was recruiting daily, but his intentions were not known. It is rumored that Bustamante has gone [...] in the direction of Chihuahua, to meet Gen. Wool, and farther it is positively asserted that the Indians are killing and laying waste all before them in the latter State. Not a line more in the shape of news. Yours, a.e. &c.

[AMB]

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**Tuesday, November 24, 1846, RW46v23i93p2c7 Marine Intelligence**

Brig. **Ruby**, [...] lebec, with [...] to Davenport. [...] & Co.

Scht **Edward**, Kenny, Boston.

Scht **Express**, Foxwell, Baltimore

Scht **Fox**, Patterson, Norfolk.

SAILED.

Brig. [...] **Hamet**, Crane, Norfolk.

[AMB]

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**Tuesday, November 24, 1846, RW46v23i93p2c4 Official Dispatches from Gen. Taylor**

The Official Despatches [sic].

We lay before our readers this morning, Gen. Taylor's official account of the operations of that portion of the army under his command, in the brilliant attack upon Monterey. The letters of Generals Butler, Hamer and Quitman will appear to-morrow [sic], and Gen. Worth's on the next day.

The Union of Saturday night states that official despatches [sic] have also been received from Gen. Wool, who was within three or four day's march of Monclova, and 135 miles from Monterey. "It appears (says he Union) from Gen. Taylor's letter, that Gen. Ampudia had abandoned Saltillo without completing its fortifications, and had gone southwardly, probably to San Luis de Potosi, instead of going to cope with Gen. Wool. Gen. Taylor considers himself almost as much master of Saltillo as if he were actually in the city."

[AMB]

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**Tuesday, November 24, 1846, RW46v23i93p2c5 Volunteers of Virginia**

YOUR COUNTRY calls for your services Virginians, who never yet faltered in the hour of peril is required to furnish a
Regiment of Infantry. We have engaged to enroll two Companies as a part of the Old Dominion's quota. Come, then, YOUNG GALLANT MEN, of this time honored Commonwealth and gallantly sustain her high reputation for patriotism and devotion to the Union.

We have opened places of [...] in this city, where enrolments [sic] can be made and full explanations furnished. The service will afford opportunity for all of winning the highest [...]..

Quarters will be furnished to all at once who come from the country, and every comfort provided. Apply to either of the [...].

R.G. SCOTT, Jr.
Richmond, Nov. 24, 1846.

E.C. CARRINGTON.
[AMB]

Tuesday, RW46v23i93p2c2, November 24, 1846: Correspondence of the Baltimore Clipper, Washington Nov. 20, 1846

The testimony of the case of General Van Nese.
[AMB]

Tuesday, November 24, 1846 RW46v23i93p3c1 Policy of Annexation

If there were no other reason to induce us to doubt the sound policy of extending the limits of the confederacy, upon our Southwestern frontier, the fact that the acquisition on additional territory and its formation into new States must inevitably bring up another question of equal importance and even greater delicacy, and more immediately threatening the permanency of the Union, should, we conceive, make us pause in the career of conquest, even though we were assured that our victorious legions might hereafter meet with fewer and less serious impediments than they have encountered and overcome in their toilsome and perilous march to the “table-lands” of Mexico. That question, as we have heretofore intimated, is the admission of new Slave States into the Union. That this issue will be made, not by the fanatical Abolitionists alone, who are alike contemptible in numbers and in influence, but by the people of the non-Slaveholding States with almost entire unanimity, does not, we think, admit of a doubt. Even while the war with Mexico is in progress, this design is unequivocally proclaimed by the Northern politicians - who being influenced less by philanthropical considerations than by a determination to maintain the preponderance of the “free” States in the federal councils, will be less likely to abandon their position when the struggle for sectional ascendancy shall come on. The proposition of Mr. Wilmot of Pennsylvania, at the last session of Congress, introduced in connection with a bill to which it had no sort of relevancy, and the unanimity with which, in despite of its incongruity with the measure pending before Congress, it was sustained by the votes of the Northern members, of both parties, evince a foregone conclusion on this question too plainly to permit a reasonable doubt, that whenever the question shall arise, they will be prepared to resist the admission of any new State into the Union, even though it be organized in the section of country between the Neches and the Rio Grande, the occupation of which by Gen. Taylor’s forces precipitated the war with Mexico, save on the condition that Slavery shall forever be excluded from its limits. For it will be remembered that Mr. Wilmot’s proviso to the Two Million bill declared substantially that in no territories which may be hereafter acquired from Mexico shall Slavery be permitted to exist. That they will firmly adhere to this position is certain. What course it will become the South to take, should this proposition receive the deliberate sanction of Congress, it does not become us to suggest, nor indeed is it proper now to determine. Sufficient for the day will be the evil thereof; and it is, in our estimation, one of the gravest objections to the war of conquest in which we are now engaged with Mexico, that it may lead to a catastrophe scarcely dreamed of, in the outset, by its authors. That we are justified in the apprehensions we have expressed, might be shown by a number of articles from Northern journals of both parties. We content ourselves, however, for the present, with inviting the attention of our readers to the subjoined extract from an interesting letter from Washington, which we find in the New York Herald. The writer, after giving a sketch of the proceedings of the House of Representatives on the Two Million bill, and the adoption of Wilmot’s Anti-Slavery proviso, remarks:

"Now, the question recurs, will the north and west assent to the extension of slavery beyond the territories acquired in the annexation of Texas? No, sir; and upon this very issue we may expect, before the close of the session, if not in the beginning, a most determined and premeditated agitation. We anticipate, before the adjournment of Congress, a peace with Mexico. We shall acquire by such peace a large accession of territory, south and west of the boundaries of Texas. The Senate will be called on to raufy such treaty, and both Houses for appropriations of money, to meet its terms, and to carry it into effect. And here will arise, and here will be renewed the proviso “for arresting the extension of the area of slavery,” as Mr. Brinkerhoff expresses it. The South appear to be indifferent about it, an indifference for which we cannot readily account, unless from the supposition that this circumvallation of slave States by free States is impossible. We have a different impressions. We apprehend that the undoubted possibility of the power of the North and West to gives metes [sic] and bounds to the South will be too strong a temptation for its exercise to be resisted. This single question of itself compasses a field of reflection embracing not only the fellowship of the States; but the integrity of the Union. Better would it be, and safer for the South to refuse any further
Mr. Calhoun unquestionably foresaw this difficulty in his opposition to the declaration of "the existing war with Mexico." He foresaw that it would precipitate another is […] nearer […] which might otherwise be evaded. - But he was overruled by those who had no foresight - no capacity to see beyond the "blow-out," - the flare-up of glory and the hurrah of the hour. In the ultimate settlement of this question, we rely upon a superintending Providence, though we expect a great deal of difficulty before we shall perfect a treaty with Mexico, however good the understanding that may be secured between Uncle Sam and Santa Anna. The difficulty to a treaty lies in Wilmot's proviso."

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**Tuesday, November 24, 1846, RW46v23i93p3c3 The Horrors of War**

The *Louisville Journal* publishes the following extract from Monterey, describing a most touching incident in the great battle.-The poor victim should have a monument erected to her memory.

**CAMP MONTEREY, OCT. 7, 1846**

Hungry and cold, I crept to one corner of the fort to get in the sunshine, and at that time to shelter myself from the bombs that were flying think around me. I looked out, and, some two or three hundred yards from the fort, I saw a Mexican female carrying water and food to the wounded men of both armies. I saw her lift the handkerchief from her own head and bind up his wounds; attending one or two others in the same way, she went back for more food and water. As she was returning I heard the crack of one or two guns, and she poor good creature fell; after a few struggles all was still-she was dead. I turned my eyes to heaven and thought "Oh God and this is war?" I cannot believe but that the shot was an accidental one. The next day, passing into another fort, I passed her dead body. It was lying on its back, with the bread and broken gourd containing a few drops of water. We buried her amidst showers of grape and round shot, occasionally dodging a shell or twelve pounder, and expecting every moment to have another grave to dig for one of ourselves. J. R. B.

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**Tuesday, November 24, 1846, RW46v23i93p3c3 Later from Monterey, Additional & Interesting From Monterey**

**ADDITIONAL AND INTERESTING FROM MONTEREY.**

The steamship *Galveston*, Capt. […], arrived here yesterday from Galveston, which port she left on the 10th last. She brings no later news from the army. Capt. G. […], formerly connected with the *Galveston News*, arrived in that city on Sunday, the 8th instant, having left Monterey on the 13th […] to which date our […] already published sometime ago, reach. This gentleman, however, brings some intelligence which conflicts a little with the information we have already given our readers, regarding the system of operations to be adopted by the Mexican army, in opposing the advance of Gen. Taylor. For instance, he says that the opinion at Monterey was, that Gen. […] had not retreated from […] to San Luis […], but that he had marched with an overwhelming […] to meet Gen. Wool, and prevent his juncture with Gen Taylor. We give extracts from the *Galveston News* below, in reference to this subject.

Among the passengers who have arrived in this city on the steamship *Galveston*, are the gallant hays and the […] Walker, whose exploits are in every mouth in this […] Republic whose names will be household words to […] […] bearingThey are accompanied by some of their companions in arms-Capt. McMullen, and […] Cage. Wherever they go honors will be showered on them in profussion, by an admiring and grateful people.

The reception given to Colonel Hays and Captain Walker by the citizens of Galveston was marked by the highest enthusiasm. Here is the notice of their arrival, and the proceedings to which that event gave rise:

"Cols. Hays and Walker, distinguished before and since the beginning of the war between the United States and Mexico, arrived here on Thursday morning, on board the steamer […] from Houston. They both appear in fine health; and though still in the morning of life; when honors most […] men, they wear their laurels as modestly as if unconscionce of their existance. To see them, one might think they had never encountered scenes more rugged than might be presented upon a farm, or in some peaceful town, where the alarms of war were never heard. Yet the fatigues of the wilderness-storm on the desert-Mexican dungeons-famine-and war-have scarcely any terrors which they have not faced. Texas is, and well may be, proud to call them her citizen soldiers.

"A ball and banquet was given to those gentelman, by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, at the City Hall over the New Market, on Thursday evening. The company was very large, and graced as it was by the beauty and chivary of our young State, it is not to be wondered that, . . . [illegible] . . .
Texas Election Returns

The election returns come in very slowly as usual, but the report from every part of the country, as far as we have yet heard, is nearly uniform, giving Mr. Pilsbury an overwhelming majority over every other candidate. We can give the exact vote of but few countries, but have heard the general results in Victoria, Port Lavacca, Matagords, St. Joseph's Island, Pass Cavallo, Colorado county. Washington, Austin, Fort Bend, Brazoria, Montgomery, Robertson, and some other countries, in all of which Mr. Pilsbury's majority is doubtless very large. In Bexa, Colonel Williams, it is thought, received a small majority. In Comal, Gonzales, and probably in Travis, Judge Jones is probably ahead of his competitors. It is thought to be doubtful whether Judge Baylor has a majority in any county. With these exceptions, it is said Judge Pilsbury will carry all or nearly all the counties in this district. No doubt as to the result can therefore be entertained. - *News*, 10th instant.

Correspondence of the European Times

PARIS, October 29. - The news brought by the Great Western is given in all the newspapers of this morning at considerable length. No comments, however, of sufficient importance to be transcribed are made upon it by any one journal. It seems, nevertheless, to be the opinion of the Parisian press, that the United States Government has made a great error in deciding that its invading army shall levy contributions from the Mexicans. As long as the army paid its way the Mexicans, having no patriotism, or at least very little, were not ill-disposed to the invaders, and, in fact, rather welcomed them than otherwise. But now that the interests of the Mexicans will be, not promoted as heretofore, but cruelly injured, it is believed by the Parisian journals that the whole population will become most exasperated against the Americans, and will resist them by all the means in their power. In that case, it is calculated that grave difficulties, perhaps disaster and defeat, are in store for the Americans, for they will have to struggle at one and the same time against all the difficulties that an army can encounter - against troops superior in number, against harrassing guerilla forces, against a hostile population, against a horrible climate, against the difficulties of a wild country, without roads, and often times mountainous, against sickness, against want of provisions, and perhaps, also, against the reluctance, the discouragement, the desertion, and the want of discipline of their own soldiers. Notwithstanding all this, it is not doubted for one moment, that if the Americans could get fairly hand to hand with the Mexicans, the latter, would get severely licked, however great might be the odds in their favor. Touching the annexation of the province of New Mexico, few observations are made, though some papers notice the vest addition it makes to the already gigantic territory of the United States. It does not appear to be thought, however, that the annexation can at [...].

Col. Benton

The *New York Tribune* makes the following remarks in regard to the rumored reconciliation between Col. Benton and the Administration:

"New Treaty at Washington. - It has for some days been reported from the Federal Metropolis that Col. Benton has given in his unqualified adhesion to the ruling dynasty, and will be the Administration leader in the Senate at the coming session.

"We have just learned what is the quid pro quo of this adhesion. Col. Benton's son-in-law, J.C. Fremont, who was recently jumped over three or four grades of his seniors in the Army, and from a Lieutenant made a Lieutenant Colonel, has been appointed Governor of California. So Stockton, Stevenson, Mason and all are adrift. Fremont is to be the autocrat of the new empire, as the price of 'O'd Bullion's' support of the tottering Executive. Such is the advantage of having a powerful friend at Court. Such is the game which great men (in station) play, using for dice the bones of the undistinguished multitude. We have this information privately, of course, but from such a source that we feel very sure of its authenticity."

WASHINGTON, 23 Nov., 1846.

If reliance is to be placed upon a statement in the following letter from Washington, however, the rumor to which it refers is groundless. We do not, however, vouch for the authenticity of the statement of our correspondent, nor endorse what he says:

WASHINGTON, 23 Nov., 1846.
consequently the approaches to the city. This command consisted of four companies, (K2d, B 3d, and G and H, 4th)

The examination, thus far, had manifested, besides the importantancce of the positions, the impracticablity of any

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effective operations against the city, until possessed of the exterior forts and batteries. Independent, however, of

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artillery,) of the artillery battalion, and Green's McGowan's R A Gillespie's, Chandler's Ballowe's and McCulloch's companies of Texan riflemen, under Major Chevalier, acting in co-operation- in all about 300 effectives. It was impossible to mask the movement of the storming party. On approaching the base of the mountain, the guns of both batteries upon a plunging fire, and numerous light troops were seen descending and arranging themselves at favorable points on the slope. Perceiving these inscrutable of determined resistance, Capt. Miles was detached with the 7th. to support and co-operate with the first party. In a short time the [...] became general, the enemy gradually yielding and retreating up the rugged acclivity, and our men as steadily pursuing. The appearance of heavy reinforcements on the summit, and the cardinal importance of the operation demanding further support-the 5th under Major Scott and Blanchard's company of volunteers were immediately detached, accompanied by Brigadier General Smith, who was instructed to take direction in that quarter. On reaching the advance parties, Gen. Smith discovered that under favor of the ground, he could, by diverting a portion of the force to the right, and moving it obliquely up the hill, carry the Soldada simultaneously with the Federacion. He accordingly very judiciously pointed, and accompanied the 5th, 7th, and Blanchard's company, in that direction. Captain Smith's command having most gallantly carried the first object of attack, promptly turned the captured gun a nine pounder-upon the second, and moved on with his main body to participate in the assault upon Soldada-which was carried in gallant style by the forces under Scott, Miles, Blanchard, and Hays [who had been detached on special service, but who returned in time to share with fifty of his men in the first assault, and to take a prominent part in the second,] the whole directed by Gen. Smith.

At this point we secured another 9-pounder, and immediately both pieces were brought to bear upon the Bishop's Palace, situated upon and midway the southern slope of the hill Independencia, a valley of only six hundred yards intervening. We had now secured an important advantage, and yet but half the work was done. The possession of these heights only made the more apparent the controlling importance of those opposite, and the necessity of occupying the palace. A violent storm ensued, and night closing in, operations for the day ceased. The troops had now been thirty six hours without food, and constantly taxed to the utmost physical exertions. Such as could be permitted, slept with arms in hand, subjected to a pelting storm, and without covering, till 3 a.m., when they were aroused to carry the hill Independencia.

Lieut. Col. Childs was assigned to lead this storming party, consisting of three companies, H and G 4th, and A 3d, (artillery battalion;) three companies 8th infantry, (A, B, and D,) under Capt. Scriven, with two hundred Texan riflemen, under Col. Hays and Lieut. Col. Walker, (captain of rifles,) acting in co-operation. The command moved at 3, conducted to its point of ascent by Capt. Sanders, military, and Lieut. Meade, topographical engineers. Favoring by the weather, it reached by dawn of day within about one hundred yards of the crest, in which position, among the creftes of rocks, a body of the enemy had been stationed the previous evening in apparent anticipation of attack. The enemy's retreating fire was ineffectual, and not returned until Cols. Childs's and Hays's command had reached within a few yards of the summit, when a well directed and destructive fire, followed by the bayonet of the regulars and rush of the Texans, placed us in possession of the work; the cannon having been previously withdrawn, no impression could be made upon the massive walls of the palace or its outworks without artillery, except at enormous sacrifice.

Meanwhile, to reinforce the position, the 5th, Major Scott, and Blanchard's volunteers, had been passed from the first height's and reached the second in time to participate in the operation's against the palace.

After many affairs of light troops and several [...] a heavy [...] was made, sustained by a strong corps of cavalry, with desperate resolution, to repossess the heights. Since the move had been anticipated and prepared for, Lieut. Col. Childs had advanced under cover, two companies of light troops under the command of Captain Vinton, acting major, and judiciously drawn up the main body of his [...] and, flanked on the right by Hays, and left by Walker's Texans. The enemy advanced boldly, was repulsed by one general discharge from all arms, fled in confusion closely pressed by Childs and Hays, preceded by the light troops under Vinton; and while they fled past our troops entered the palace and fort. In a few moments the unpretending flag of the Union had replaced the gaudy standard of Mexico. The captured guns-one six-inch howitzer, one twelve and two nine pounder brass guns, together with Duncan's and Mackall's field batteries, which came up at a gallop, were in full and effective play upon the retiring and confused masses that filled the street of which we had the [...] leading to the nearest plaza, la capella, also crowded with troops. At this moment the enemy's loss was heavy. The investment was now complete. Except the force necessary to hold the positions on independencia and serve the guns, [...] to points whence the shot could be made to reach the great plaza.) the division was now concentrated around the palace, and preparation made to assault the city on the following day, or sooner, should the general-in-chief either so directed, or, before communication be had, [...] the assault from the opposite quarter. In the meantime attention was directed to every provision our circumstances permitted to alleviate the condition of our wounded soldiers and officers; to the decent interment of the dead, not omitting in either respect [...] that was due to those of the enemy.

About 10 A.M. on the 23d, a heavy fire was heard in the opposite quarter. Its magnitude and continuance, as well as other circumstances, did not permit a doubt that the general was conducting a main attack; and that his orders for my co-operation (having to travel a circuit of some six mile,) had miscarried, of failed to reach me by the means of the numerous cavalry of the enemy.-Under these convictions, the troops were instantly ordered to commence an operation which, if not otherwise directed, I had designed to execute in part, under favor of the night. Two columns
of attack were organized, to move along the two principle streets leading from our position, in directin of the great
plaza composed of light troops slightly extended, with orders to mask the men whenever practicable, avoid those
points swept by the enemy's artillery; to press on to the first plaza, Capella; to get hold of the ends of the streets
beyond, then enter the buildings, and by means of picks and bars break through the longitudinal sections of the
walls; work from house to house, and ascending to the roofs, to place themselves upon the same breast-height with
the enemy. Light artillery by sections and pieces, under Ducan, Roland, Mackall, Martin, Hays, Irons, Clarke, and
Curd, followed at suitable intervals, covered by reserves to guard the places and the whole operation against the
probable enterprises cavalry upon our left. This was effectually done by seizing and commanding the head of every
cross street. The streets were, at different and well chosen points barricaded by heavy masonry walls, with
embarasses for one or more guns, and in every instance well supported by cross [...]. These arrangements of
defence gave to our operations at this moment a complicated character, demanding much care and precaution; but
the work went on steadily, simulataneously and successfully. About the time our assault commenced, the fire ceased
from our force in the opposite quarter. Disengaged on the one side, the enemy was enabled to shift men and guns to
our quarter as was soon manifested by accumulation of fire. At dark we had worked through the walls and squares,
reached to within one block of the great plaza, leaving a covered way in our rear—carried a large building which
towered over the principle defences, and during the night and ensuing morning, crowned its roof with two howitzers
and a six-pounder. All things were now prepared to renew the assault at dawn of day, when a flag was sent in,
asking a momentary suspension of fire, which led to the capitulation upon terms so honorable to our arms. As the
columns of attack was moving from the Palace hill, Major Monroe, chief of artillery, reached me with a ten inch
mortar, which was immediately advanced to the plaza, Chapel, put in position marked by the church wall, its bed
adjusted as rapidly as possible, and by sunset opened upon upon the great square. At this period our troops had
worked to within one square of the plaza. The exact position of our comrades on the opposite side was not known,
and the distance of the position to be assaulted from the bomb battery but conjectural; eight hundred yards was
assumed, and fuze and charge regulated accordingly; the first shell fell a little short of the point on which it was
directed, and beside our troops; a slight increase of the projecting charge gave exact results. The whole service was
managed by Major Monroe, most admirably, and, combined with other operations, exercised a decided influence
upon the final results. Early on the morning of the 23, Major Brown, artillery battalion, was despatches with a select
command, and one section of Mackall's battery, under Lieut. Irons, to occupy the stone mill and adjacent grounds,
constituting on league in advance, the narrow gorge near St. Catarina. The major took possession, repulsed the
enemy's picquets, and was preparing his command to resist anyattack, when he received my orders to retrace his
steps, enter the city, and form the main reserve to the assaulting columns. He On the 25th, in confromity with the
articles of capitulation, the citadel was taken possession of by a command consisting of two companies of each
regiment, and one section of each battery, 2d division. Gen. Smith was directed to take command of this corps, and
conduct the ceremony, which duty he executed with delicacy to the unhappy and humiliated foe.

You will receive lists of captured munitions of war; lists of such as were surrendered, have already been handed in.
It is a source of high gratification that we have been able to accomplish such fortunate results with so moderate a
sacrifice of gallant men. Annexed is a return of killed and wounded, exhibiting dates, actions, and circumstances.

When every officer and every soldier, regular and volunteer, has through a series of harassing and severe conflicts,
in the valley and on the mountain, in the street and on the house-top, cheerfully, bravely, and successfully executed
every service and complied with every execution of valor and patriotism, the task is as difficult as delicate to
distinguish individuals; and yet it will always happen, as it has always happened in the varied scenes of battle and
seige, that fortune presents to some those opportunities which all would have seized with gladness and [...]. It is
my pleasing and grateful duty to present to the consideration of the general in chief, and through him to the
government, the distinguished conduct of Brigadier General Smith, colonel of rifles; Brevet Lieutenant ColonelChilds,
artillery battalion; Colonel Hays, Texas riflemen, Brevet Lt. Colonel Ducan, horse artillery; and Capt.[sic] C. F. Smith,
secondartillery, commanding light troops 1st brigade. Lord My thanks are also especially due to Lieutenant Colonel
Stanford, 8th, (commanding first brigade;) Maj., chief of artillery, (general staff;) Brevet Major Brown, Capt. J R
Vinton, artillery battalion; Capt. J B Selan, artillery battalion; Capt. J B Selan, artillery battalion; Capt. John Scott, artillery battalion; Capt. Scott, commanding 1st brigade.
Merrill, 5th; Captain, Miles commanding, Holmes and Ross, 7th infantry; and Capt Seriven, commanding 8th
infantry; to Lieut. Col. Walker, (captain rifles,) Maj. Chevalier, and Capt. McCulloch, of the Texans and Captain
Blanchard, Louisiana volunteers to Lieuts. Mackall, (commanding battery,) Roland, Martin, Hays, Irons, Clarke and
Curd, horse artillery; Lieut. Longstreet, commanding light company, 8th infantry. Ayres, artillery battalion, who was
among the first in the assualt upon the palace, and who secured the colors. Each of the officers named either headed
different detachments, columns of attack, storming parties, or detached guns, and all were conspicuous for conduct
and courage. My attention has been particulary directed by Gen. Smith to the gallant conduct of Lieut. Gardner, 7th
infantry, during the assault upon the city; on which occasion he threw himself in advance, and on the most exposed
points animating the men by his brave example. Particular attention has also been called to the Lieuts. Nicholls,
(brother,) Louisiana volunteers, as having highly distinguished themselves by personal daring and efficient service.
The officers of brigade and regimental staff were conspicuous in the field, or in their particular departments.
Lietenants Hanson, (commanding,) Vandore, aid-de-camp, 7th; Lieut. Robinson, 5th, (quartermaster's department)
on the staff of Gen. Smith; Lieut. and Adjt. Clarke, 8th infantry, staff 1st brigade; Lieuts. Benjamin, adjutant artillery
battalion; G [...] adjutant 5th; and Page, adjutant 7th infantry, are highly commended by their respective chiefs, to
the justness of which I have the pleasure to add my personal observation. Incommom with the entire division, my
particular thanks are tendered to assistant surgeons Porter, (senior,) Byrne, Conrad, DeLeon, and Roberts, (medical
department,) who were ever at hand in the close fight, promptly administering to the wounded and suffering soldier.
To the officers of the Staff, general and personal, more especially associated with myself—Hon. Col. Balie Peyton,
Louisiana troops, who did me the honor to serve as aide-de-camp; Capt. Sanders, military engineers; Lieut. Meade,
topographical engineers; Lieuts. E Deas, Daniels and Ripley, quartermaster's and commissary's staff; and Lieuts.
Pemberton, 4th artillery, and Wood 8th infantry, my aides de-camp—I have to express the greatest obligation. In
such diversified operations during the three days and nights, they were constandy in motion, performing every
executive duty with zeal and intelgence only surpassed by daring courage in conflict. i beg to commend each to
special consideration.
We have to [...] the gallant Capt. McKavatt, 8th infantry, an officer of high merit, killed on the 21st, and Gillespie, Texas volunteers, on the 22d. The latter eminently distinguished himself which leading his brave company at the storming of the first height, and perished in seeking similar distinction on a second occasion; Capt. Gatlin and Lieut. Potter, 7th; Lieuts. Russell 5th, and [...] right, 8th infantry, and Lieut. Reece, Texas riflemen, received honorable, happily not mortal wounds.

The following, non-commissioned officers are reported as having highly distinguished themselves. Sergeants Hazard, 4th, and Dilworth, 3d artillery. Quartermaster Sergeant Henry, 7th infantry; Cross, company C; Rounds, [...] (color sergeant,) and Magg, company E; [...] company [...] and Ballard, 7th infantry.

In the several conflicts with the division, the enemy's loss is ascertained to exceed four hundred and fifty men; four nine-pounders, one twelve-pounder brass gun, one twenty-four pounder howitzer, and two national (garrison) standards captured.

Very respectfully;
Your obedient servant,

W. J. WORTH,
Brevet Brigadier General, Commanding 2d division.

Friday, November 27, 1846 RW46v23i94p1c6 Departure of Major General Scott

Correspondence of the Baltimore American.


General Scott and his staff are ordered to Mexico, to give additional spirit and direction to the Army. This new movement is the result of the recent communications and conferences of which I made mention in my letter of this morning, and have grown out of recent events in Mexico, and advices from the head quarters of the Army.

Gen. Scott was to leave in the mail boat this morning, and has probably gone. His destination, is Tampico, but with large additional powers to control his actions when upon the ground.

From both the Navy and War Departments, I learn that every preparation is making for an attack upon Tampico. The force commanded by Maj. Gen. Patterson will march from Matamoros down by the coast through Tamaulipas.

Friday, November 27, 1846 RW46v23i94p1c6 Later from the Army

(From the N. O. Times, Nov. 17)

The U. S. steamship Massachusetts, Capt. Wood, arrived yesterday in the river, from Brazos Santiago. The latest dates from Monterey are to the 4th; but we understand that nothing new had transpired there. Capt. Lamontte left Monterey on the 3d inst., and our private advices came down to the 2d. The gallant Maj. Lear, of the 3d Infantry, has died of his wounds. He was buried on the 1st inst.

Gen. Wool had communicated with Gen. Taylor on two occasions. It would appear that the former has detached one thousand men from his command to take possession of Monclova, and with the other two thousand proceeded on his march to Chihuahua. It seems to be regretted that General Taylor, from motives perhaps of delicacy, refrained from interfering in any way with Gen. Wool's plans.

The Regular troops had all been removed from Matamoros - the last company proceeded up the river on the 4th inst. The 3d Regiment Ohio, and 3d Indiana Volunteers, are now the sole guardians of the city. Fort Brown is likewise garrisoned by the Ohio troops. The remainder of the two regiments, with the exception of two companies of Indians, stationed at Reynosa, are encamped on the bank of the river, just below the town.

Colonel McKee’s 2d regiment of Kentucky Infantry were under marching orders for Monterey, three Companies having already left Camargo. The Georgia regiment had probably reached Gen. Taylor's camp. Gen. Marshall's regiment of Kentucky mounted men were encamped four or five miles below Camargo. Some Companies of Colonel Ormsby's regiment of Kentucky Infantry were at Camargo. The Tennessee regiment of mounted men were
encamped a short distance below Matamoros.

The recruits for the regular army are sent forward to Monterey as fast as they arrive. [AMB]

Friday, November 27, 1846 RW46v23i94p2c4 The War - Its Results

The fact that General Scott has been ordered to proceed to the seat of war, and, it is said that, with his Staff, he left Washington city last Tuesday morning -- for the purpose of taking the command in chief of the land forces, is one of many circumstances going to show, that the Administration, tacitly confessing the want of energy and skill hiterto exhibited in the prosecution of the campaign, has been at length satisfied of the necessity of more vigorous efforts, as well as a more wisely digested plan of operations. It is rumored also that Commodore Stewart, now the Senior Naval officer, is to be sent to the Gulf of Mexico, with a considerably increased force; and we may therefore expect, at no distant day, to hear of an attack upon the fort of San Juan de Ulloa -- by some persons well qualified to judge, deemed impregnable to an assault by sea, but which, defended by the Mexicans, in whose firmness, notwithstanding recent occurrences have tended to increase our respect for their soldierly qualities, we have not very strong confidence, it is to be hoped may be successful.

We infer from these movements, that all hope of the speedy restoration of peace has been abandoned by the Administration. Indeed, it is so stated explicitly by the "Daily Fountain," a paper published in Washington city, which professes to have "the very best authority" for its statement -- and which adds that "it has been determined to take, at all hazards, the Castle of St. Juan de Ulloa, and to occupy it and the port of Vera Cruz until our stubborn enemy shall be reduced to submission -- that Tampico, Mazitian, Alvarado, Tabasco, Campeachy, and every other Mexican port, at which trade can be carried on, is to be seized and held by our forces -- that General Taylor has been entrusted with full power and positive orders to harass and destroy the enemy in every possible way, and, so soon as the new reinforcements, which are to be increased immediately to the utmost point allowed by law, shall reach the scene of operations, to march to the city of Mexico -- and that no quarter, consistent with the rules of civilized warfare, is to be given hereafter to the enemy until he sues for peace, and shall make entire restitution for the expenses of the war."

The last remark in the above extract points to a chapter in the future history of this country, the opening sentences of which are already written, and may be read by those who run; but the concluding portion is yet sealed, and may not be fully revealed until the clouds of war shall be entirely dispersed. How is Mexico, already bankrupt and crushed to the earth by a national debt infinitely beyond her means of payment - which, indeed, has been literally unable to comply with the stipulations of its treaties with the United States, admitting its obligations and agreeing to indemnify our citizens for innumerable spoliations and robberies - how, we ask, is the Mexican Government to liquidate this large and daily augmenting amount? No one, we presume, supposes that it can pay in cash - and, as for its promises, we have already seen, that, when an infinitely smaller sum was involved, its inadequate means compelled it to allow the drafts upon it to be dishonored. There is but one mode in which it can be made to defray the expenses of the war - and that is by the session of a portion of its territory. This, we presume, will be the ultimatum of our government, whenever the parties to the contest shall seriously address themselves to the task of its termination. The question then, is, how much territory with be deemed sufficient for this purpose? Will California, the importance of which, in a commercial point of view, and the danger, if we do not secure it, that it will fall into the hands of Great Britain, will reconcile many to its acquisition, who nevertheless look with unaffected apprehension on the consequences to the union and to the cause of free government that are likely to result from the extension of its limits - will California suffice? Or, the annexation of Texas having failed to "round off of the frontier" and to serve as a wall of defence, is there yet another "outside row" on her borders, which it is essential to secure, in order to produce this geographical symmetry and to serve as an impossible barrier to foreign aggression? Must New Mexico and Tamaulipas, Chihuauha, and New Leon be annexed to the Union, as "indemnity for the past and security for the future"? And if we are thus to extend the limits of this Republic, and to enlarge its “area” to an extent greater than that over which the Roman eagles flew, can we reasonably expect that our existing them of government will long be able to resist the disturbing and debilitating influences that will be thus necessarily combined with pre-existing antagonist interests, which, as we have seen, have been already numerous and powerful enough to threaten their overthrow?

But we will not press this enquiry now. Indeed, in the present state of our relations with Mexico, and the natural temper of the public mind, which is more interested in the events of the war than its probable results, it would be an unprofitable if not an unwelcome task. We are content to adopt the language of a toast recently given by Mr. Winsthrop, the able representative in congress from the city of Boston: "OUR COUNTRY, WHATEVER ITS BOUNDARIES" - but we will add, may these bundaries never be enlarged by wars of ambition and conquest - foreign wars waged (for national agrandizement, inevitably lie the germs of the future discord and disunion, with all the evils and horrors that must follow in their train.

We do not know that the purpose of some of our leading statesmen is correctly shadowed forth by the following half playful, half-erious [sic] letter from Washington, which we met with in the New York Herald. We copy it neverthe less, because it is "germane to the matter," and because there is not [...], in despite of the manner in which the subject is treated, food for serious thought:

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20, 1846.
"Our sources of information are undentable. They are various, and all corroborate [...] The Richelieu of President Polk - the [...] of the annexation administration had project a political campaign, which if well fought with zeal, vigor, and unity, (vide father Ritchie, [...] ) will not all to overthrow their enemies. The [...] of Peter the Hermit was a small potato business inclination with the glorious undertakings now in [...] - say, resolved on by the Executive [...] of Colonel Polk. The Secretary of Treasure, we [...] has declared that there will be but two great questions resolved in the next struggle, for the Presidency, and he has [...] them in advance. First, is the upholding of the Wall [...] of 1846, without modification; and [...] the great American [...] - the progressive democratic doctrine of [...] . I will give you [...] some hints on the tariff questions. A few words, with new autolice as to "extension". It is a great - a mighty - a grand - a magnificent conception.

Ho you who are in debt, and all you who are in such bad credit that you cannot get into debt. "Ho" all you who have been turned out, and all who cannot turn into offices. Now is your time. "Extend. Extend." This will enable you all to be satisfied, contented and happy. It is the political philosopher's tone that will [...] exhaustible wealth, and continual rejuvenescence to help progressive Democracy. The principal never can [...] . The policy never can become extinct. The opposition of those who deprecate this mighty people becoming a great military republic will not be heard - it will be drowned in the cheering shouts of "Extension!" "Extension!" This is the true meaning of "E. Plusibus Unum." One of many may be said of each one of our "extensions." All hail the banner of liberty - shout, freeman shout. - Music there - strike up Hail Columbia. President's Quick Step, Star Spangled Banner. Yankee doodle doo. Yankee doodle-Dandy, shall now play the "Extension Grand March." How magnificent am I [...] bring out your whiskey; see how the small potato politicians are [...] off behind the crowd. Amy lads, you may hang up your fiddles. The age of chivalry is come. "Extension. Extension. Extension." "Land and Liberty," are now the soul stirring war cries. Bobby Walker will make all these people walk Spanish, or he will walk over them. "The Secretary stands [...] ." Erect in his greatness - what cares he for the Presidency? Father Ritchie, and will tappen, despite the efforts of his many enemies. If he should decline the burthen his horseman, the fearless Dallas, will be. This is written in the book of fate also. It is one of the chapters in the Chronicles of the Rise and Progress of the Glorious doctrine of "Extension."

The destiny of this people can be foretold. This is an eventful era. Mawkish; common place, sentimental [...] , shilly shally political the [...] and quack, are out of place. A new race is about to take th field. The Yankee Alexander, Caesars and Napoleons are now to come forth on the stage of action. "Extension" "Extension" "Extension" is now and hereafter the shibboleth to power and distinction. He who opposes it, is a doomed and defeated man.

Yours, alarmingly,
"OLD POINT."

[AMB]
I left the anchorage at St John Lizardo on the evening of the 16th of October, with the steamer Mississippi, having on board a detachment of 200 officers, seamen, and marines under command of Captain French Forest, and in tow, the steamer Vixen and schooners Bonita, [...] and Nonata respectively commanded by Commander Sanda, and Lieutenants Commandant Benham, [...] , and [...] and the schooner Forward, and steamer McLane commanded by Captains Nones and Howard of the revenue marine.

The next morning at daylight I captured, off the bar of Alavardo, the American barque Coosa found in treasonable communication with the enemy; and the same day the Vixen [...] and boarded the American schooner Portia. The Coosa was dispatched to this place as a prize, and the Portia was permitted to proceed, her papers having been [...] From the day of our leaving "Alvarardo" (the 17th) up to 22d, we had a succession of very bad weather, which gave me much trouble in keeping my little command together, during the interval, however, we captured and sent in the Mexican schooner Telegraph."

On the 23d, all the vessels, with the exception of the [...] (previously [...] in a gale) reached the bar of the [...] Tabasco; and having determined on attacking the commercial town of [...] at the mouth of the river, and the city of Tabasco, [...] 74 miles higher up, I placed myself on board the Vixen, leaving the Mississippi in command of Commander Adams, at anchor outside, and [...] in tow the Bonita and Forward, with [...] [...] containing the documents under command of Captain Forrest, I crossed the bar, the Nonata following under [...].

The Vixen with this heavy drag steadily ascending the stream against a four-knot current, and arriving near the Frontier. I discovered two steamers (of which I had received previous information) firing up, doubtless in the hope of escape, but we were too close upon them. Casting off her tow, the Vixen proceeded ahead, followed by the other vessels and barques, and at once the town, the steamers, and all the vessels in port were in our possession, excepting only the schooner [...] which vessel attempted to escape up the river, was pursued by Lieut. Commandant [...] in the Bonita, and captured.

Desirous of reaching Tabasco before they would have time for increasing their defences, the detachment under Captain Forrest was placed on board the largest of the captured steamers, the Petrita, and she, with the Nonate, the Forward, and the barges in tow, and the Vixen, with the Bonita, left Frontera at half-past 9 the next morning, Lieutenant Walsh being left in command of the place.

After standing all night, and encountering various incidents arising from the rapidity of the current and the [...] course of the stream, we arrived at 9 the next morning in sight of Fort Aceachappa, intended to command a most difficult pass of the river. On our approach, the men employed in preparing the guns for service fled, and we passed [...] unmolested, but I was careful to cause the guns to be spiked.

Anticipating serious resistance at this place, arrangements had been made for landing Capt Forrest with his detachments a mile below the fort, to march up and carry it by storm.

At noon, all the vessels anchored in line of battle in front of the city at half musket range, when I immediately summoned it to surrender, the boats meanwhile being employed in securing five merchant vessels found at anchor in the port.

To my summons sent by a flag with Captain Forrest a refusal to capitulate was returned, with an invitation to me to fire as soon as I pleased. Suspecting, as I did, that this answer was given more in bravado than in earnest, and being extremely reluctant to destroy the place, I entertained the hope that a few shots fired over the buildings would have caused a surrender. Accordingly, I directed the guns of the Vixen alone to be fired, and at the flag-staff, sending an order to all the vessels to avoid, so far as possible, in case of a general fire, injury to the house distinguished by consular flags.

At the third discharge from the Vixen, the flag disappeared from the staff. On seeing it down, I ordered the firing cease, and sent Captain Forrest again ashore to learn whether it had been cut down by our shot, or purposely struck; the reply was that it had been shot away, and the city would not be surrendered.

I now directed Capt. Forrest, with the force under his command, to land and take a position in the city, commanded by our guns. This movement brought on a scattering fire of musketry from various parts of the city, which was returned by the flotilla.

Perceiving towards evening that the enemy did us but little injury, though openly exposed on the decks of the small vessels, and their balls passing through our slight [...] works, and apprehending, from the proverbial heedlessness of sailors, that should they and the marines be attacked in the narrow streets after dark, they would be cut off by sharp-shooters from the houses, I ordered the detachment to be re-embarked.

In this position the vessels remained all night, the crews lying at their quarters ready to return the fire of the [...] of the enemy, which it was supposed they would have had the courage to have brought down under cover of the night to the openings of the streets opposite to our vessels, but they left us undisturbed.

Learning that the merchant, and other citizens of the city, were desirous that a capitulation should be made, but were overruled by the governor, who, regardless of consequences, and secure himself against attack, was content that the city should be destroyed rather than surrendered, I determined from motives of humanity not to fire again, but
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In the morning, however, the fire was recommenced from shore, and was necessitate returned, but with renewed orders to regard the consular houses so far as they could be distinguished. In the midst of the fire, a flag of truce was displayed on shore: on perceiving which, I caused the firing again to cease, and Captian Forrest was sent to meet its bearer, who submitted a written communication addressed to me; a copy of which, with a copy of my reply, [...] B and C, will be enclosed.

As an assurance of my sincerity, I now hoisted a white flag and directed the prizes to drop down the stream, intending to follow with the frylilla; but in violation of the understanding implied in the before mentioned correspondence, the enemy, in discovering that one of the prizes had [...] ashore in front of the city, collected a large force within and behind the houses in the vicinity, and commenced a furious fire upon her. Lieut. Parker, of this one, in command of the prize, defend her in the most gallant mariner, and ultimately succeeded in getting her again afloat, having one of her men killed and two wounded.

It was in carrying an order to Lient. Parker that Lieut Morris was wounded. He had been of infinite service to me from the time we left Lizardo, and, conducting himself during the bombardment with remarkable deliberation and coolness, he approached the prize in a line to cover his bond, and though apparently regardful of the safety of the officer and men of this boat, who were seated, he stood erect himself, and the ball struck him in the throat. No one can explore the fate of this very valuable young officer more than myself. His loss is irreputable to the service and his family.

It may well be supposed that on perceiving the attack upon the prize, I re-opened upon the city, which again silenced their fire. I now proceeded with the [...] and prizes down the river. One of the prizes, a small schr of little value, having grounded in a dangerous pass, and knowing that it would be difficult to extricate her without causing unconvenient delay, I ordered her to be burned. We arrived safely at Frontera on the evening of the 26th, the Vixen having towed down the river five vessels and several barges.

From Frontera I dispatched my prizes to this place; and after destroying all the vessels and crafts found in the river of too little value to be manned, I proceeded on the 31st to rejoin you, leaving the McLane and Forward at anchor [...] Frontera to continue the blockade of the river, and to afford protection and shelter to the [illegible].

M.C. Perry.

p.s.- I omitted to mention that [illegible] In regard to the McLane I propose to make a special communication. [AMB]

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Friday, November 27, 1846 RW46v23i94p3c1 General Scott

We apprehend that there is some error in the statement that Gen. Scott has been appointed to take command of the Army in Mexico. The Washington Union, received last night, is silent on the subject, and a letter from Baltimore, dated November 25, to the editors of the National Intelligencer, says: "General Scott passed through Baltimore yesterday afternoon en route to the North - New Jersey, I believe - where some members of his family are sejourning. His business is altogether of a private nature. He gave no intimation to those with whom he conversed for a short period that he had been ordered to Mexico."

[AMB]

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In continuing the publication of the official details of the obstinately contested conflict at Monterey, we avail ourselves of the occasion to express our sincere gratification that it puts forever to rest the idle rumors, first propagated by some one or more of the innumerable letter-writers attached to the Army, of an unpleasant disagreement on the field of battle between Generals Taylor and Butler, growing out of the alleged misconduct of the latter officer. Not the slightest allusion is made to such an event, by either of them - an omission wholly irreconcilable with the presumption of its occurrence. For one, we did not for a moment believe so much of the story as imputed to Gen. Butler a want of firmness; for although it may be true that "every man has his moment of fear," it rarely happens that an old soldier, like Gen. Butler, is betrayed into an exhibition of timidity while the battle is raging around him, and his men are marching steadily forward to the attack. Par it is unfortunate, we think, that there are so many letter-writers in the Army - or rather, that there are so many presses eager to publish all that is written, not an inconsiderable portion of which must necessarily be made up of crude and ill-digested rumors, of which a camp is even more prolific than other places in which large masses of men are congregated. Nor is it the only or the most serious evil arising from this source. But partially informed, as most of the writers must necessarily be, of the events of a battle, in which the circle of observation of most of those engaged in it is necessarily circumscribed, it is impossible that they can do justice even to the prominent actors in the conflict; and much more incompetent are they to judge of the propriety of the course pursued by the commander-in-chief, or to decide upon the comparative merits of his principal subordinates, and to award to each the honor due to his skill as a commander.
or to his bravery in the fight. Yet all his have most of the letter writers done. Although many of them perhaps for the first time have had an opportunity of seeing a squadron marshalled in the field, they exhibit not the least hesitation in criticising and condemning the movements of some of their superiors, for the purpose of exalting the reputations of others, towards whom their feelings are of a more friendly kind. When Gen. Taylor, for example, sanctioned the terms of capitulation agreed upon by the respective commissioners of the hostile armies, not a few of these letter-writers promptly denounced the arrangement as one derogatory to the honor of our arms, and uncalled for by the exigency of the occasion. Assuming to be more qualified to decide that grave question, or affecting to be more sensitive in reference to our national reputation, than Worth, Henderson and Davis, by whom the terms of capitulation were arranged, and Taylor, by whom they were approved, these epistolary heroes [sic] forthwith proceeded to denounce the act with a warmth of indignation which might have been very naturally elicited had these officers been guilty of deliberate treachery or undoubted cowardice. But, the lapse of a few weeks has satisfied the judgement of the country, we are sure, in despite of these critics, that the terms of capitulation granted to the Mexican General, though liberal, as they ought to have been, were wise also in reference both to Gen. Taylor's own diminished strength and precarious position, and to the formidable capacity of defence, as well as the superior number of the enemy's forces as in the works of art by which they were protected, and to capture which, even if that had been certainly in our power, (as we admit that it was more than probable,) would have been attended with a loss of life or which the honor of compelling the enemy to retreat from his shelter at the point of the bayonet would have been a most inadequate remuneration. There is, however, we presume, no remedy for this writing and publishing mania; and the most we can venture to hope is that the public, taught by the past how improper it is to rely upon information derived from sources at best but partially informed, and which is generally infected with the antipathies and partialities of the mischievous spirit of *clogueism* which is a uniform concomitant of the camp. - particularly one constituted of bodies of men hastily collected together, and influenced by sectional jealousy as well as personal rivalry - will not hereafter prematurely condemn any one of our gallant officers upon authority entitled generally to so little respect.

Our remarks, however, are not designed to embrace all who write from the camp - and among the few whom we except is the well-known correspondent of the *New York Spirit of the Times*, - the gallant Captain Henry of the 3d Infantry, five of whose senior officers fell in the action at Monterey, leaving him, the only one unhurt, in command at the close of the engagement. His letters we always read with interest, and accomplished by a regret that the claims upon our columns have permitted us so rarely to republish them. In one of his latest letters, we find some excellent suggestions in regard to the course which ought to be pursued by our government, in the further prosecution of the campaign, it in truth its purpose is to "conquer a peace," and not to extend our territorial limits. After a glowing description of Monterey and its vicinity, he says:

"If the war is to be prosecuted, and peace, not territory, is the aim of the Government, nothing can be more foolish than its prosecution in this quarter. We are only slightly wounding the extremities of the body - have not touched the heart - nor can by this route - Until there is a Government established who will have the power to treat, I do not see that we are any nearer the settlement of this difficulty than before the battles of the 8th and 9th. We may go on and expend millions and sacrifice the lives of thousands, without any good result. It stikes me, that an advance from this point can have no effect upon the settlement--our better plan is to strongly fortify this point and retain possession of the valley of the Rio Grande, until they come to terms. Let them come and retake it if they can. If you please, let us assist in establishing a Republic of the people of this valley - foster and protect it, and place it as a barrier between us and the mother country. If the war is to be carried on *nolens volens*, let the invading force start from some point near Vera Cruz, and march straight to the city of Mexico, and batter its walls down about their ears, and my word for it, the people will find some way of establishing a Government that can settle the matter. The victories on this frontier, as honorable as they may be to our army, are mere flashes in the pan, as regards the question of peace. The humane and liberal policy pursued in the prosecution of the war has a tendency to keep it up. It is the first war of which I ever read being an actual benefit to the people. Wherever [sic] we go, we pay or what we get, at two or three times the prices of the country, and all their rights and property are sacredly protected. In God's name what more prosperous times can they desire? Their cry is, "Come along, gentlemen - very happy to see you. You have been a most inadequate remuneration. There is, however, we presume, no remedy for this writing and publishing mania; and the most we can venture to hope is that the public, taught by the past how improper it is to rely upon information derived from sources at best but partially informed, and which is generally infected with the antipathies and partialities of the mischievous spirit of *clogueism* which is a uniform concomitant of the camp. - particularly one constituted of bodies of men hastily collected together, and influenced by sectional jealousy as well as personal rivalry - will not hereafter prematurely condemn any one of our gallant officers upon authority entitled generally to so little respect.

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And again, in a letter of later date, referring to the same subject, he remarks:

"I sincerely hope that the Government will order no advance beyond Saltillo. That, I think will fall into our hands without a fight. I do not predict this. I have done with predictions - for not one of my fighting ones have been correct. I am such an advocate for peace throughout the world, that my wishes have probably warped my judgement. My grounds for thinking there will be no fight at Saltillo are these - gen. Ampudia, in Council, decided upon fortifying the place. The citizens would not permit it. They very justly told him that he had spent much time and money in fortifying Monterey, a city whose natural defences were much superior to their's, and had failed to hold it, and that they had no idea of having their property destroyed. A very just conclusion, Mr. Judge. Taking Saltillo, we have the key to this whole valley. We are then some three hundred miles from San Luis Potosi, the march to which is difficult, and part of the way over a desert. Having Saltillo, taking Monclova, and Tampico, we can quietly settle down in as lovely a ountry as the sun ever shone upon a certain day. Then import your families, give them the land for a song, and mark my words, before you know it, this valley will be teaming with an American population. We do not want the valley, nor would i, if it can be prevented to any more expense than simply the holding of it, which, compared to an onward movement, would be nothing. Let Mexico come and take it, if she can. Nothing, I think, would have so strong a tendency to an immediate settlement, as the appearance of coolly settling down and taking possession of this valuable part of her domains. - Our forces has to be greatly augmented at any rate; but the augmentation would be much greater to continue the invasion."

These are the views of a highly intelligent officer, who has participated in all the perils of the campaign, and whose
opportunities of observation have been as ample as his capacity to profit by them is unquestionable. They are
entitled to great weight. At least we think so - perhaps because we, like him, deprecate a mere war of conquest -
With the exception of California - and we except that State because of its importance in a commercial point of view -
we would not, if our will could decide the question, and if it could be had for the asking, ANNEX to the Union a foot of
soil beyond the Rio Grande, nor a very large portion of it on this side of the river, inhabited as it is by an alien race,
whose habits and customs, and religious and political faith are so different for our own, and who are as meapable of
appreciating the privileges and rights as they are of comprehending the duties which appertain to American citizens -
who, we take occasion to say, are not to be manufactured of such materials as are to be found in the border States
of Mexico by the administration of oaths of allegiance whether voluntarily taken or extorted.

Friday, November 27, 1846, RW46v23i94p4c2 Important from Mexico - From Tampico

A commercial house in the city has received letters announcing that the whole of the Mexican garrison at Tampico
had withdrawn, and marched to join Santa Anna in the interior.

Friday, November 27, 1846, RW46v23i94p4c2 Rumored Capture of Tabasco

It was rumored here yesterday Tabasco had been captured by the naval detachment commanded by Com. Perry. We
have heard no particulars, except that no defense was made by the Mexicans, the citizens having fled on the
approach of the attacking party.

Friday, November 27, 1846 RW46v23i94p4c1 Later from Santa Fe

The St. Louis Republican of the 18th inst. announces the arrival in that city of Maj. Fitzpatrick from Santa Fe, which
he left on the 11th of October. He brings information that Gen. Kearney, when about 175 miles from Santa Fe, on
his way to California, was met by an express from Col. Fremont, who informed him that Upper California was
completely in possession of the American forces; and that Col. F. was acting as Provisional Governor. - Gen. K.
therefore sent back to Santa Fe all the troops with which he had started, except 100 men, with whom he
recommenced his march.

There was nothing new at Santa Fe, though much apprehension was felt of a scarcity of forage for the horses and
mules.

Friday, November 27, 1846, RW46v23i94p4c3 Official Dispatches

HEADQUARTERS FIELD DIVISION VOLUNTEERS,
Monterey, September 30, 1846.

SIR: Pursuant to the instructions of the major-general commanding, on the 21st inst, at about 8 o'clock, a.m., I
marched my division (with the exception of one company from each infantry regiment, left to guard the camp) and
placed it in order of battle, under cover, immediately in rear of the mortar and howitzer battery, my left resting on
the main road to Monterey. I had been in position but a short time when I received the general's further orders to
move as speedily as he practicable, with the three regiments attempt to carry the enemy's first battery on our left.
To expedite this movement, I marched 3 nearest regiments, commanded respectively by Cos. Davis, Campbell, and
Mitchell by the left flank, leaving Col. [...] to sustain the batteries. Finding the rifle regiments in front, that of Col.
Campbell was ordered to take its place. The two last mentioned regiments constituting Gen. Quitman's field brigade,
he took the immediate command of them, and moved off with spirit and promptness in the direction indicated by the
enemy's line of fire. Having seen Gen. Quitman's brigade fairly in motion, I turned my attention to that of General
Hamer; now consisting of the Ohio regiment only. Pursuing the instructions of the major-general, I felt my way
gradually, without any knowledge of the localities, into that part of the city bordering on the enemy's continuous line
of batteries, assailed at every step by heavy fires in front and flank. After having traversed several squares, I met
Major Mansfield, the engineer who had conducted the movement of Gen. Twiggs's division on the first battery. He
informed me of the failure of that attack, and advised the withdrawal of my command, as there could no longer be
any object in advancing further, warning me at the same time that if I advanced I must meet a fire that would
sweep all before it. Knowing the major-general commanding to be but a short distance in the rear, I galloped back
and communicated this information, in consequence of which he gave the order to [...] and the movement was
commenced accordingly. In a short time, however, it was known that Gen. Quitman's brigade had not only stormed
the battery in question, but had also carried a stone house of considerable strength connected with the first and
occupied by the enemy's infantry. The direction of Gen. [...] brigade was at once changed, and the city re-entered by another route, which, after about a half hour's march under a destructive fire, brought it within, say one hundred yards of the enemy's second fort called El Diablo. A very slight reconnaissance sufficed to convince me that this was a position of no ordinary strenght. Still, feeling its importance, after consulting with part of my staff as to its practicability, I had resolved to attempt carrying it by storm, and was in the act of directing the advance, when I received a wound which compelled me to halt. Col. Mitchell was at the same time wounded at the head of his regiment, as was his adjutant. The men were falling fast under the converging fires of at least three distinct batteries, that continually swept the intervening space through which it was necessary to pass. The loss of blood, too, from my wound rendered it necessary that I should quit the field; and I had discovered at a second glance that the position was covered by a heavy fire of musketry from other works directly in its rear that I had not seen in the first hasty examination. Under all these discouragements I was most reluctantly compelled, on surrendering the command, to advise a withdrawal of the troops to a less exposed position. There is a possibility that the work might have been carried, but not without excessive loss; and if carried, I feel assured it would have been untenable.

Accordingly, the division, under Gen Hamer, on whom devolved the command, moved to a new position near the captured fort, and within sustaining distance of our field batteries on the left. The troops remained in and near this position, and under fire of the enemy's batteries until late in the day. For the details of the after proceeding of the day, I refer to Gen. Hamer's report.

It is with no little pride and gratification that I bear testimony of the gallantry and general good conduct of my command. Were proof wanting, a mournful one is to be found in the subjoined return of the casualties of the day. That part of my division properly in the field did not exceed 1100, of which number full one-fifth was killed or wounded. The fact that troops for the first time under fire should have suffered such loss, without striking, in a continuous and inaccessible foe, finds but few parallels, and is of itself an eulogium to which I need not add. That there were some more prominent for skill and gallantry than others, even in a contest where all were brave, there can be no doubt; and I leave to these better qualified from their situations than myself the pleasing though delicate task of reporting upon their respective merits.

Of my brigadiers, however, it is proper that I should myself speak. Gen. Hamer was placed in a situation where nothing brilliant could be achieved, but which at every moment imperatively demanded prudence and calm, unbending courage. It is but justice to him to say that I found him equal to the emergency.

Gen. Quitman had before him a field in which militery genius and skill were called into requisition and honors could be fairly won, and I but echo the general voice in saying that he nobly availed himself of the occasion.

My special thanks are due to Maj. L. Thomas, assistant adjutant general; Gen. A. Sidney Johnston, of Texas, acting inspector general, and Lieut. G. W. Lay, aid-de-camp, who not only displayed great gallantry and coolness, but by their professional skill, activity, and energy, rendered valuable service through the action. After my withdrawal, they remained with the troops in the field.

Surgeon R. P. Hunt, my volunteer aid-de-camp, also evinced great coolness, and conveyed promptly the orders confined to him.

On my way back to camp I found the Kentucky regiment, under command of Col. Ormsby, drawn up in fine order to repel a threatened charge from a large body of Mexican cavalry then in view. Though necessarily kept from the field of action proper, they occupied a most important position, and had two men wounded in defending it.

I make no mention of the movements of Capt Webster's howitzer battery, which was withdrawn from my division and placed under charge of the chief of artillery.

Enclosed are the reports of Brig Generals Hamer and Quitman of the operations of their respective brigades; also, a statement in detail of the loss sustained by the division.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

W. O. BUTLER,
Maj Gen Comd'g Field Div. Vol.

Maj W W S [...],
Asst Adjt General,
Headquarters Army of Occupation,
Monterey, Mexico.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION OF VOLUNTEERS,
Camp near Monterey, Sept. 28th, 1846.

SIR: I have transmitted to Major General Butler a report of the operations of the first brigade of this division on the 21st last; but it becomes my duty, as commandant of the division, to send you an account of the movements of both brigades during the remaining days of our attack upon Monterey.
For a full statement at the points occupied and the services rendered by the 2d brigade, I respectfully refer you to the report of Brig. Gen. Quitman, who accompanied the brigade, and whose communication to me is herewith sent. I was not with them to witness their gallantry; but from the general's report, they are entitled to great credit for the courage, energy and zeal displayed on the 23d, in pushing their attacks so far into the city, and sustaining themselves under the galling fires of the enemy, who had such decided advantages over them in their barricades and other defences.

On the morning of the 23d, the first brigade was ordered out in front of the city, and took a position near the infantry of Gen. Twigg's command, where we remained until late in the afternoon. Whilst on the plain we could distinctly hear the discharges of small arms, occasionally, between Gen. Quitman's and Gen. Hernderson's command and the forces of the enemy in the city. When they were ordered to retire from the city and return to camp, the first brigade was directed to march to the town and occupy the fort taken on the 21st, the one above it, "El Diablo," which had been abandoned by the enemy on the previous evening, and the tannery between them. We obeyed the order, approaching them under a fire of balls and shells, which fortunately did us no injury.

Capt. Webster's battery formed part of my command, and, after stationing the brigade, I directed him to throw a couple of shells from his 24-lb. howitzers into the plaza, where it was understood the principal force of the enemy was collected. He did so; and as far as we could discover, with great precision and effect. Subsequent informations confirmed our opinions in regard to the injury and alarm produced by these shells. During the night, Gen. Worth threw several in the same direction from batteries on the western side of the city, proving to the Mexicans that they were assailable in this form from both flanks.

Through the whole night the enemy threw up rockets from the plaza and from the citadel; no doubt expecting a night attack, and adopting this method to discover the approach of our troops.

Early on the morning of the 24th, we had made every preparation for renewing the attack upon the city, when we were suddenly arrested by a bugle with a flag of truce, approaching the forts. It was accompanied by Co. Marine, one of Gen. Ampudia's aids, bearing a letter to the general in chief. He was conducted to me by Lieut. Col. Rogers, from the upper fort, and I furnished him a horse and escort to Major General Taylor's quarters in camp. The firing on both sides was suspended until a conference could be held. This led to the capitulation by which the city was surrendered.

I have in my former report expressed my opinion in regard to the coolness and gallantry displayed by the officers and men under my command; and have only to add, that their conduct from the firing of the first to the last gun; was of the most meritorious character, [...] deserving the approbation of their superior officers, and the gratitude of their countrymen.

Herewith I send a statement of killed and wounded.

Very respectfully, your obedient serv't,

TH. L. HAMER,
Brig Gen Commanding 1st division volunteers.

Maj W W S [...],
Assistant Adjutant General.

CAMP BEFORE MONTEREY,
Sept 28, 1846.

GENERAL: In addition to my report to Maj Gen Butler of the action of the 21st instant, I have now the honor to report the transactions of my brigade on the 22d instant, followed up by the attack upon the city of Monterey on the 23d Setember, inst.

Being ordered on the morning of the 22d to relieve Col. Garland's command, which had during the proceeding night occupied the redoubt and fortifications taken on the 21st, my command marched from their encampment about 9 o'clock in the morning. Col. Campbell, of the Tennessee regiment, being indisposed from the fatigue and exposure of the preceding day, the command of his regiment devolved on Lieut. Col. Anderson's. Both regiments were much reduced by the casualties of the preceding day, and the necessary details for the care of the wounded. The march necessarily exposed the brigade for a short distance to a [...] of artillery from the works still in possession of the enemy on this side of the city, and from the crossfire of the citadel. We were not allowed to reach our post without some loss. Private Dubois, of Captain Crump's company of Mississippi riflemen, was killed and two men of the same company wounded before entering the works. The redoubt and adjacent works being occupied by my brigade and Lieut. Ridgely's battery, a portion of the troops were engaged under the direction of Lieut. J. M. Scarrett, of engineers, in strengthening our position on the [...] next to town.

At intervals during the whole day until 9 o'clock at night, the enemy kept up from their fortifications and from the citadel discharges of shell, round shot and grape. It was in the forenoon of this day that, by the aid of our glasses, we were presented with a full view of the storming of the Bishop's Palace by troops under General Worth on the heights beyond the city. The shout by which our brave volunteers greeted the display of the American flag on the palace, was returned by the enemy from their works near us by a tremendous fire of round shot and grape upon us without effect. During the day plans of assault on the adjacent Mexican works were considered of, but in the
evening my attention was drawn to a line of about [...] Mexican infantry at some distance in rear of their works. The presence of this force, amounting to nearly three times our effective numbers, and which appeared to be posted for the protection of the works, induced me to give up all idea of forcing the works without reinforcements.-During the night several reconnoissances were made with details of Captain Whitfield’s company in the direction of the redoubt "El Diablo." Frequent signals between the different posts of the enemy during the night kept us on the alert; and at the first dawn of day on the 23d, it was discovered that the enemy had abandoned, or were abandoning, the strong works nearest to us. Colonel Davis, with a portion of his command, supported by Lieutenant Colonel Anderson, with two companies of the Tennessee regiment, were ordered to take possession of the works. This was promptly done. The enemy had withdrawn their artillery during the night, and nothing of value fell into our hands but some prisoners and ammunition. From this work, which commanded a view of the cathedral and a portion of the great plaza of the city, we perceived another half-moon or triangular redoubt in advance of us, and on our right, which appeared to be immediately connected with heavy stone buildings and walls adjoining the block of the city.-Having reported my observations to the commanding general, who had approached the field of our operations. I received permission to advance upon the defences of the city in this direction, and if deemed practicable, to occupy them. It was sufficiently apparent that all the approaches to the city on this side were strongly fortified. Wishing to proceed with caution, under the qualified permission of the commanding general, I sent out a party of riflemen, under Lieutenant Graves, to reconnoitre, supporting them at some distance by a company of Tennessee infantry, under Capt. McMurray. Some active movements of the enemy in the vicinity induced me to halt this party, and to order out Col. Davis, with 2 companies of his command and 2 companies of Tennessee troops, to advance on these works. As the troops advanced, armed men were sent flying at their approach. Upon reaching the redoubt which had attracted our attention, we perceived that it was open, and exposed to the fire of the enemy from the zone buildings and walls in the rear. It was therefore necessary to select another position less exposed.- Posting the two companies of infantry in a position to defend the lodgment we had effected, I directed Col. Davis to post his command as he might deem most advantageous for defence or active operations, intending here to await further orders or reinforcements. In reconnoitering the place several shots were fired at Col. Davis by the enemy, and several [...] of riflemen who had advanced to the slope of a breastwork (No. 1) which had been thrown across the street for the defence of the city. A volley from the enemy succeeded. Our party having been reinforced by additions from the riflemen and infantry, a brisk firing was soon opened on both sides, the enemy from the house tops and parapets attempting to drive us from the lodgment we had effected. A considerable body of the enemy, securely posted on the top of a large building on our left; which partially overlooked the breastwork No. 1, continued to pound.

Brig Gen. [...] L. Hamer


Names of the commissioned officers, killed and wounded during the operations before Monterey, Mexico from September 21st to September 23d, 1846, inclusive.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Regiment</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J. S. Woods</td>
<td>1st. lt.</td>
<td>2d infantry,</td>
<td>Sept. 21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. N. Morris</td>
<td>captain</td>
<td>3d infantry,</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goe. P. Field</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P. N. Barbour</td>
<td>c'n &amp; bt mj.</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. S. Irwin</td>
<td>bt lt &amp; adjt.</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R. Hazlitt</td>
<td>2d Lieut</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Hoskins</td>
<td>1st lt. &amp; adjt.</td>
<td>4th infantry,</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. McKavett</td>
<td>captain</td>
<td>8th infantry,</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. Hett</td>
<td>1st lieut.</td>
<td>1st Ohio reg.</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. B. Allen</td>
<td>captain</td>
<td>1st Ten. reg.</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. M. Putman</td>
<td>2d lieut.</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W.G. Williams</td>
<td>captain</td>
<td>top [...]</td>
<td>Sept 24</td>
<td>mortally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. H. F. Mansfield</td>
<td>bt major,</td>
<td>[...],</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td>severely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. L. Abercrombie</td>
<td>bt. major</td>
<td>1st infantry,</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td>slightly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\ri-1800 J. H. Lamette</td>
<td>captain,</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td>severely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. C. Terrett</td>
<td>1st lieut.</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td>mortally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R, Dilworth</td>
<td>2d lieut</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td>mortally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. W. Lear</td>
<td>major</td>
<td>3d infantry</td>
<td>do.</td>
<td>dangerously</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
H. Bambridge, captain do. do. do. slightly
R. H. Graham, 1st lieut. 4th infantry, do. do. dangerously
N. B. Bossell, 1st lieut. 5th infantry, do. do. slightly
R. C. Gatlin, captain 7th infantry, Sept. 23 severely
Goe. Wainwright, 2d lieut. 8th infantry do. do.
W. O. Butler, maj. vol. service, Sept. 21 do.
A. M. Mitchell, colonel, 1st Ohio reg. do. do.
A. W. Armstrong, adjutant, do. do. do.
Jas. [...], captain do. do. do.
Lewis Matter, 2 lieut. do. do. do.
A. McCarty, 2d lieut. do. do. do.
N. H. Niles, do. do. do. do.
R. B. Alexander, major, 1st Ten. reg. do. severely
J. L. [...], 1st lieut. do. do. do.
G. H. Nixon, do. do. do. slightly
J. C. Allen, 2d lieut. do. do. severely
R. N. Downing, captain do. do. do. slightly
H. F. Cook, 1st lieut. do. do. do.
L. S. Howard, do. do. Sept. 23 severely
R. A. Gillespie, captain 1st Texas, Sept 22 mortally
W. E. Reese, 1st lieut. do. do.

Friday, November 27, 1846 RW46v23i94p4c5 Late and Important from Mexico

(From the N. Orleans Times, Nov. 17.)

The brig. Hayne, Capt. Williams, arrived here yesterday from Havana, bringing us our usual files of papers from that port, to the 7th inst. On the previous day, the 6th, the British steamer Tay, arrived at Havana from Tampico and Vera Cruz, with $683,000 in specie. The Tay left the last named port on the 1st inst., and brought full files of papers from the city of Mexico to the 27th ult., and from Vera Cruz to the 31st. We have thus been put in possession of intelligence to the latest dates at which news were dispatched from those quarters. It is of an unusually important and interesting nature, and we shall, therefore, extract very largely from them, in order to place our readers in a position to judge correctly of the progress of affairs in Mexico, and the changes that still threaten that distracted country, from the ultra ambition of its leaders and the wretched character of its population: Although the date of the latest paper from the city of Mexico does not reach higher than the 27th ult., we have yet had an opportunity of seeing letters received in this city from that capital, of the 29th, which record certain items of interest. These we shall put serially.

SANTA ANNA. - Official information had been received at the city of Mexico from Santa Anna, that he was daily concentrating a larger force at San Luis de Potosi; were than announced as being about 20,000 men. In private letters to his friends in the capital, Santa Anna stated that, when all his measures were complete, he would forthwith march, at the head of his army, to meet Gen. Taylor and his troops, whom he had no doubt of crushing, annihilating. After the realization of this anticipated success, he would proceed to the city of Mexico, and unscrupulously put down the Federal party, of whom he was in some dread, once and for ever [sic]. It was his intention then to proclaim himself Dictator, and govern the country by his own despotic will, as the sole means of destroying the factions which had been preying on the Republic since the dawn of her independence, and thus establishing something like permanent tranquility amongst his countrymen.

TAMPICO. - We have received data from Tampico to the 24th ult. Letters announce that on the following day, the 25th, the whole of the troops in garrison there were to evacuate the place and take up the line of march for San Luis de Potosi, whither they were ordered, for the purpose of forming a junction with the main body of the Mexican forces under Santa Anna. The citizens of Tampico, in view of the defenceless state of the town, and the dread of a hostile visit from our land and sea forces, were leaving in great numbers. Entire families had removed into the interior, and the greatest consternation seemed to prevail there. Tampico will, therefore, most probably fall into our hands, without our striking a blow.
DIFFICULTY BETWEEN SANTA ANNA AND GEN. SALAS. - On the 26th ult., intelligence reached the city of Mexico, that the government of the Department of San Luis de Potosi had passed a decree on the 22d, acknowledging Santa Anna Dictator, or to be recognized Chief of the Republic, declaring the office of President ad interim vacant, or that no individual should be invested with that dignity, except under the orders or by the nomination of Santa Anna himself. - The people at San Luis de Potosi had become inveterate in their dislike to Salas, the President ad interim, who deemed himself the object of the particular enmity of Santa Anna and the authors of the Decree, fled from the capital, taking with him as an escort a detachment of troops from the garrison, and took refuge for a time in Tacubaya, Santa Anna's residence when at the seat of government. Here he published several proclamations, addressed to the whole nation, potesting [sic] that he had ever been cordial in his cooperations with Santa Anna, and sincerely approved of the latter's elevation to the supreme authority. Another version of this affair is given in the Havana paper the Diario dela Marina. A correspondent writes that a schism had broken out in the Mexican Cabinet, regarding the policy of banishing certain individuals for their political opinions, and the necessity of carrying into effect the laws recently formed regarding public worship and the property of the clergy. Gómez Farias, the Finance Minister, and Rejon, the Minister of Justice, both violent federalists, urged these two measures with great pertinacy. General Salas, sustained by Pacheco, the Minister of Justice, resisted, unwilling to have recourse to such severe and unpopular acts. Intrigues were then sent on foot to inspire Santa Anna with fears and suspicions of General Salas.

One or two attempts, it is said, were made to assassinate the latter, when he fled to Tacubaya. Alarmed at these dissensions in the Capital, Santa Anna addressed a communication to the Executive Government, recalling Salas to a sense of his duty, and disapproving strongly of his leaving the city. Salas then returned on the 29th, and having made his peace with Santa Anna, formally dismissed Rejon from office, appointing in his stead Senor Lufraga, a young man who is already distinguished by his talents and the moderation of his political character. Senor Cortina also has been displaced, in the Government of the Federal District of Mexico, by Don Jose L. Villamil. Senor Pacheco was superseded in his office of Minister of Justice by Don E. L. Guerrera.

While these miserable disputes, intrigues, and private animosities were raging in the bosom of the administration; while the waves of party federalists and moderatists - were agitating the ill-constructed bark of Government, almost to dissolution, the peace of the metropolis was endangered by discussions of government systems of policy, in two clubs recently established there, named the Puros and the Moderados. The former were for carrying things by the strong hand, forcing measures of fisc and reform on the people, notwithstanding the greatest antipathies experienced against them by the landholders and the clergy. The latter on the contrary, were for concentrating all their energies on the war question, levying supplies, sending forward reinforcements, etc., etc., acting, in short according to the exigences of the moment, and leaving all subjects of a general nature to the decision of Congress. From within the doors of the clubs, the excitement caused hereby, proceeded to agitate the masses. At this juncture, the Government issued a decree for the formation of a national guard, which the people interpreted into a pre-determination of their rulers to proclaim martial law. A few battalions were formed in the city, when a cry was raised that despotic rule, or a counter revolution was contemplated. One of these corps, composed chiefly of persons engaged in trade, numbering about 600 men, chose for their chief the Governor of the District of Mexico, Don Jose Gomez de la Cortina. It belonged to the Moderado party, and proceeded to disband another battalion, which was so much feared; the attempt, however, was so displeasing to general Lemus, the commanding General Lemus was replaced by General Jerrero. Cortina was succeeded as Governor of the district by Don J. L. Villamil, as we before stated.

SAN LUIS DE POTOSI. - Santa Anna has resolved on drawing the whole military strength of the country to one point. Not only are the regular soldiers, who are usually scattered over an immense extent of territory, ordered to march to that point - San Luis de Potosi - but all the volunteers and militia are enjoined [sic] to rendezvous there, with the view of thence marching, with an overwhelming force, in any direction where the invading army is most assailable. He has decided on abandoning Tampico without making any resistance; since he has not a disposable force, sufficiently numerous, to garrison it all points, and by evacuating it, he shall strengthen his own army and weaken Gen. Taylor's who will be obliged to detach a considerable body of troops to take possessions of it and hold it.

SECOND IN COMMAND. - Gen. Valencia has been appointed by Santa Anna his second in command, with his headquarters at Guanajuato, where a corps d'arme will be formed under his own personal supervision. Gen. Cortazar had organized a brigade of volunteers, numbering 3000, from the haciendas of Guanajuato and San Luis, and was marching from the city of San Luis ith a part of his force. These men were hardy peasants, lightly armed; a great many had two horses each with them, and were represented as full of enthusiasm.

SOLICITING THE YOKE. - The Governor of the free and sovereign state of San Luis Potosi, Don M. J. Othon, in a rather long decree, dated 22d ult., announces that his department acknowledges only Gen. Santa Anna as Chief of the Republic, prefacing it by an abusive tirade against the "infamous North Americans." The Republican, in noticing this strange document, states that the government of Queretaro has followed in the track of San Luis de Potosi, and that there is no doubt that Guanajuato will do the same. The editor implores Santa Anna not to be led astray by men who seek, whilst covering themselves with the mantle of his fame, the ruin of the country.

ROBBERY AND ASSASINATION. - According to the Republican of the 27th, the capital is in a most dreadful state of insecurity, both of life and property. Robberies are committed in the most open way; assassinations are becoming horribly frequent; vindictive feeling, arising from the heated spirit of party, being the cause of these sad proofs of demoralization.

VOLUNTEERS. - Immense numbers of men are said to be rallying around the national standard. The accounts received at the capital from all the Departments are said to be most encouraging to Santa Anna. Troops were being
embodied rapidly. Several companies of volunteers, said to be composed of the principal citizens of the city of Mexico, had been organized to garrison it. Besides, upwards of one thousand artisans had volunteered for the same purpose.

GARRISON OF VERA CRUZ. - The soldiers here were engaged in completing the defences of the city. A ditch to surround the whole city had been commenced before the steamer left, and was rapidly advancing. Reinforcements were arriving daily. On the 27th a brigade, to reinforce Vera Cruz, arrived at Jalapa Puebla.

A rich merchant at the capital, named Mier[...]y Teran, had advanced $20,000 to pay the troops at San Juan de Ulloa, and $30,000 more to be forwarded to Vera Cruz to meet demands against the Government there.

ALVARADO - The intelligence of the unsuccessful attack made by your Squadron in the Gulf on Alvarado, immediately after its arrival at the seat of Government, was duty made known to the people, in the usual inflated-style. The inhabitants of the capital, almost intoxicated with joy, Don Thomas Marin, the officer who commanded the Mexicans on the untoward occasion states that he will [...] if we return, and that all his command are [...] an opportunity of again meeting us.

At Vera Cruz an attack was expected on the frontiers of San Juan de Ulloa. The garrison of the [...] about 4500 men, national guards and regulars, and about 2,000 more expected from the neighboring towns and villages.

We append the following letter from Vera Cruz dated the 31st ultimo:

VERA CRUZ, Oct. 31, 1846.

A conductor arrived at Mexico on the 20th instant, from Guanajuato with about $1,200,000, so that money was again abundant there. Another has left San Luis de Potosi on the 16th inst. for Tampico, with upwards of a million, and was to arrive at the end of the month. The British sloop Electra has sailed to Tampico, probably on purpose to receive on board the specie for shipment. Two private conductors arrived here from Mexico, with silver bars and about 200,000 hard dollars.

At the middle of this month private letters from Mexico stated that Mr. Bankhead had offered the mediation of England, and that the Ministers had been in session for two days, to deliberate on the subject, but nothing farther has transpired since.

Political intrigues have lately kept the city of Mexico much in ferment. A partial change of Ministry has taken place, Rejon (Minister of Foreign Affairs) having made room for Lafragua, and Pacheco (of Justice, etc) for Guerrara. In consequence of these intrigues, the respective Minister has issued a circular to the end of procuring the re-union of Congress, if possible, before the 6th December next. Gen. Salas, it is reported by to-day's mail, has repaired to Tacubaya. The state of affairs is again rather complicated.

The movements of the U.S. Gulf Squadron are confined to an attack attempted on the 15th instant, on Alvarado, by the steamers (including the Mississippi) and several gun-boats, which proved unsuccessful, they being obliged to retreat. Another expedition increased by some more gun-boats, left Anton Lizardo on the 17th inst., and the ships having yet not returned to their anchorage, it is surmised they may have gone to Laguna to procure fresh provisions, which they are much in want of. The reinforcement of the so long expected large ships has, as yet, not arrived.

Large bodies of national guards have been armed throughout the country, and more are being organized still. These preparations form the most important business of the day; there is much enthusiasm. We shall have a reinforcement here of such militia, from the other cities in this State, and from Puebla. Guaymy, it is reported from Mazatlan, has been taken by the Americans, but the report wants confirmation.

Yours, &c.

[AMB]

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ARMY NEWS
Barbarities of the Mexicans

Correspondence of the Charleston Mercury
MOUTH OF THE RIO GRANDE, Feb 4th. Gen. Worth’s troops to the Isle of Lobos

THE LIBERTY OF THE PRESS
Over–reaction of all parties involved in the expulsion of the editor of the Union from the Senate. Includes correspondence.

LETTERS FROM WASHINGTON
Correspondence of the Whig, Events in the Senate concerning the Three Million Bill. Signed, BRUTUS.

Upset his letters have not been received in time for publication. Tea and coffee tax struck out.

NAVAL
Sailing orders for a sloop to the Gulf of Mexico

AN IMPORTANT “SIGN”
Senate yesterday authorized the president to renew diplomatic relations with Mexico at anytime.

GENERAL TAYLOR
Extract of a letter from a soldier ordered to leave Gen. Taylor and go with Gen. Scott

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA
HOUSE OF DELEGATES. Mr. Scott presented bills.

For the Whig, THE GOVERNMENT EDITOR vs. THE SENATE. Parturiunt montes.
Response to the "Republican" press concerning Calhoun and expulsion of the editor of the union from the Senate.

RW47v24i18p2c1, March 2, 1847, THE "LITTLE TARIFF BILL".
Expenses of the war.

RW47v24i18p2c1, March 2, 1847, COST OF THE WAR
Reports on the running total cost, how will the Mexican ‘indemnity’ cover it?

RW47v24i18p2c2, March 2, 1847, THE LIEUTENANT GENERALSHIP
Idea of appointing one general to command Gen. Taylor and Gen. Scott

RW47v24i18p2c2, March 2, 1847, LETTER FROM WASHINGTON
Correspondence of the Whig, events in the Senate concerning striking out the tax on tea and coffee. Signed BRUTUS

RW47v24i18p2c3, March 2, 1847, APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT AND SENATE
List of newly formed officers.

RW47v24i18p2c3, March 2, 1847, To Colonel Goodson, of the House of Delegates,
Supports Gov. Smith.

RW47v24i18p2c4, March 2, 1847, LEGISLATURE OF VIRGINIA
HOUSE OF DELEGATES, Feb. 27th Reports of Committees

RW47v24i18p2c5, March 2, 1847, LATER FROM TAMPICO
From the N.O. Picayune, Louisiana Volunteers from the Ondiaka are safe, health of the troops.

RW47v24i18p2c5, March 2, 1847, MEXICAN AFFAIRS
Revolution in Tabasco put down, Mexican congress declared 1824 constitution still valid.

RW47v24i18p2c5, March 2, 1847, LATER FROM TEXAS
Man seized for violation of revenue laws, Indians tolerably quiet.

RW47v24i18p2c5, March 2, 1847, STILL LATER FROM THE BRAZOS AND VERA CRUZ.
All the troops in motion, Gen. Scott still at Brazos.

RW47v24i18p2c5, March 2, 1847, LATER FROM VERA CRUZ
Gen. Valencia relieved of his command.

RW47v24i18p2c6, March 2, 1847, Correspondence of the Journal of Commerce
Steamer Polk will go to Vera Cruz in time for the end of the battle and will probably bring back news of victory.

RW47v24i18p4c1, March 2, 1847, ORIGIN OF THE WAR
Refutes congressional expression that the war is popular.

RW47v24i18p4c2, March 2, 1847, Even Mr. Benton censored Mr. Polk in congress

RW47v24i18p4c2, March 2, 1847, No doubt an attack will be made on Vera Cruz shortly

RW47v24i18p4c2, March 2, 1847, Letter very angry at the remarks of Gov. Marcy on the war. Signed FIAT JUSTITIA.

RW47v24i18p4c4, March 2, 1847, To the Editors of the Whig
Congrats to the Senate for expressing thanks to Gen. Taylor signed. J.R.C

RW47v24i18p4c4, March 2, 1847, Proceeding of the West Point Dialectic Society
Regret the Loss of Senator Botts

RW47v24i18p4c5, March 2, 1847, From the New Orleans Picayune, MEXICAN AFFAIRS
Cannot find any evidence in the Mexican papers that the Mexican congress is interested in Peace.

RW47v24i19p1c1, March 5, 1847, Mr. Calhoun
Administration determined in prosecution of the war on that gentleman.

RW47v24i19p1c1, March 5, 1847, Mr. Corwin of Ohio not going for the presidency

RW47v24i19p1c1, March 5, 1847, Sarcastic body of the Legislature of Virginia

RW47v24i19p1c2, March 5, 1847, CONDITION OF MEXICO
Growing disention in that distracted country.
New York Sun declares Senor Rejon re-appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON
Correspondence of the Whig, events in the Senate regarding the Lieut. Gen. Scheme, signed BRUTUS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA
Senate, House of Delegates, March 2nd

Mr. BENTON'S SPEECH
Concluded. Copy of Mr. Benton's Speech.

For the Whig,
Soldiers at Old Point about to depart for Tampico

New from the Army.
Gen. Scott on his way to Vera Cruz, Mexican forces heading to Saltillo

The Lieutenant Generalship
Opposition in the senate of the appointment of one of the Maj. Generals commander-in-chief.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON
Correspondence of the Whig, events in the Senate concerning the Three Million Bill, signed BRUTUS.

Manufacture of Opinion.
Editors of the Union have published many letters from its own party against the expulsion from the Senate.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA
Senate, House of Delegates, March 4th.

To Colonel Goodson, of the House of Delegates
Sarcastic support of the war.

Loss of the U.S. Propeller Ocean.
All hands saved, vessel a total loss.

From the N.O. Picayune, The Latest from the Brazos.
Santa Anna's address to the troops, March toward Saltillo. Troop movements.

From the New Orleans Picayune. Further from the Brazos.
Gen. Taylor prepares for attack on Saltillo, Mexican losses at El Paso.

Mr. Benton's Speech
Continued.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON
Correspondence of the Whig, Events in the Senate concerning appropriations bills, signed BRUTUS

Three million bill passed without the Wilmot Proviso

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA
House of Delegates, March 1

SPEECH OF MR.BENTON
In reply to Mr. Calhoun on the Three Million Bill

A Visit to San Juan de Ullos
Castle at Vera Cruz can be shelled.

Late from Santa Fe
Capt. Cook arranging for capture of troops

Calhoun's Reply to Benton.
Summary of Mr. Calhoun's speech.

Locofoco Meeting in Powhatan.
Resolutions to select a democratic candidate even though one has already been selected.
March 9, 1847, Volunteers refusing to serve under generals selected by the governor of North Carolina.

March 9, 1847, Appointments.
Officers appointed by the president and confirmed by the Senate.


March 9, 1847, MR. CALHOUN'S REPLY TO MR. BENTON,
On the three million Bill

March 9, 1847, From the Seat of War.
Gen. Scott en route to Vera Cruz but the whole of his force not yet embarked.

March 9, 1847, General Orders.
Organization of staff, punishment of crimes committed against the people of Mexico

March 9, 1847, The new Generals
Remarks on an article in the N.Y. Courier by Col. Webb who had hoped of getting an appointment and didn't.

March 9, 1847, Company of Volunteers raised too late to join the Virginia regiments will become part of the regular force.

March 9, 1847, Baltimore American reports Col. Benton may not accept the appointment.

March 9, 1847, Gen. Benton will leave Washington; will not supersede Scott and Taylor.

March 9, 1847, GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA
Senate, House of Delegates, March 8th

March 9, 1847, To Colonel Goodson, of the House of Delegates.
Col. McPherson is the man for a crisis.

March 9, 1847, Ratification Meeting in Fredericksburg.
Enthusiastic Whig Meeting, Resolutions passed approving course in the senate of sending supplies to Mexico.

March 9, 1847, Late and Important from Tampico. From the N.O. Bulletin
Two letters report the arrival of Gen. Scott.

March 9, 1847, From the Brazos.
Gen. Worth would leave in a few days from Tampico, Capture of Americans by Gen. Minon. STILL LATER, Reports of the number of Santa Anna's troops

March 9, 1847, Maj. John M. Allen died suddenly at Galveston.

March 9, 1847, Matamoros Flag reports Mexican criminals broke out of the prison, shots fired, troops mustered for battle. Now confident prepared in an emergency.

March 9, 1847, Capt. Morris died with the Regiment of Illinois Volunteers

March 9, 1847, To the Editors of the Charleston Courier
NEW ORLEANS Feb.28th Prisoner escaped

March 9, 1847, NAVAL
Ships bound for Gulf of Mexico

March 9, 1847, LATER FROM NEW MEXICO
From the St. Louis Republicans, extra
Battle at El Paso between Col. Doniphan and Mexicans.

March 9, 1847, Mr. Ingersoll's Report.
Report from the Committee of Foreign relations, shows the true boundary of Texas is the Rio Grande

March 9, 1847, LETTER FROM WASHINGTON
Correspondence of the Whig, Signed BRUTUS, Events in the Senate concerning expulsion of the editor of the Union.

March 9, 1847, Mexican Views
New York Journal of Commerce reports a letter from Mexico describing a war of conquest.
Describing a man sent out as a spy, pretending to be French.

Senators voted for the Three Million Bill because they had confidence in the president.

Appointment by the president
Portion of the list.

Genealogical Assembly of Virginia
Senate, House of Delegates, March 5th

Mr. Calhoun
Very well received by the people of Charleston, No matter how assailed by the rest of the Union South Carolina always supports him.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON
Correspondence of the Whig, signed, BRUTUS, Events in the Senate concerning, Col. Benton may not accept his appointment.

FROM THE ARMY
Rumor circulating of a battle between Gen. Taylor and Santa Anna

Gen. Butler's Views
Recently arrived because of a wound, reports of evacuation of Vera Cruz ordered by Santa Anna.

Genealogical Assembly of Virginia
Senate, House of Delegates, March 10th

General Benton Declines appointment

The Rumored Battle
Between Gen. Taylor and Santa Anna at Saltillo. Gen. Taylor fallen back. Force almost entirely of Volunteers

Rumors that General Benton declines appointment

Gen. Butler hoping return to Kentucky will help his wound.

Genealogical Assembly of Virginia
Senate, Message from the house read, House of Delegates, March 11th

For the Whig, Mr. Seddon
Reports that Mr. Seddon did not vote on the resolution censuring Gen. Taylor for the terms of capitulation at Monterey. Signed, Hampden

From the N.O. Picayune
Capture of Majors Gaines and Borland. Detailed account of their capture, signed, John J. Hardin. Col.

Ch. J. Ingersoll
Nominated to be Ambassador to France. Commentary on his worthiness.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON
Correspondence of the Whig, VALEDICTORY, signed, BRUTUS. Concerns congress, which has just concluded will be remembered for its evil.

General Benton and the Cabinet
From the Alexandria Gazette on rumors of Gen. Benton's possible refusal of appointment

Genealogical Assembly of Virginia
Senate, House of Delegates, March 8th

The Virginia Volunteers
Troops arrived at Brazos Santiago

Editorial Correspondence of the Picayune
Three letters from the Picayune on rumors of a battle between Taylor and Santa Anna

From the Picayune, Loss of the Steamer Tweed, sixty lives lost.
Complete list of many appointments to the military with the consent of the Senate.

Correspondence of the Delta, Great losses on both sides, long battle. Gen. Arista wounded.

Arrogance of his letter to the President includes correspondence of the Virginian.

Effective speech will be printed on the McPherson resolutions relative to the Mexican War.

General Assembly of Virginia
Senate, House of Delegates. March 13th

SUBSTANCE OF THE REMARKS OF Mr. Stanard
On the McPherson resolutions

Comments on the Democratic press's reaction to the expulsion of the editor of the union from the senate. Signed, Charles City

Additional Military Appointments.

Mr. Calhoun's Home reception
South Carolina Supports him.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA
Senate, House of Delegates, March 15th

For the Whig, To the General Assembly of Virginia
Signed, VIRGINIUS. Assembly should appropriate more to Capt. Carrington's volunteers.

The Dilemma
Country in eminent danger, will she be rewarded by indemnity from Mexico?

Pledge was that if the Three Million bill was passed without the Wilmot proviso then we should have a speedy peace.

Mr. Benton's arrogance

Gen. Worth may inherit Col. Benton's position

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA
Senate, House of Delegates, March 12th

Important Correspondence
From the National Intelligencer, March 12th Includes letter of Mr. Benton to the President and the President's reply

List of deaths among Volunteers at Old Point
From disease not of a local character, 14 names.

Summary of the speech that detailed outstanding claims against Mexico.

Col. Jacks Hays reached New Orleans from Galveston

From the Seat of War
Mr. Slidell obnoxious to the Mexicans, speedy peace not so speedy.

Fincastle Valley Whig, preference for Gen. Taylor as the next president.

Signed, L.B. Swift. Santa Anna reports army in desperate condition, beautiful women; do not have seats in their churches.

To the memory of Maj. Charles H. Hyde
Mr. Polk's Ambassador
N.O. correspondent reports Mexicans particularly dislike their ambassador.

N.O. Tropic reports ship tried to run blockade but was intercepted.

Mr. Polk's Ambassador
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Discussion in King & Queen
To the Editors of the Whi

April

Eight Days Later from Saltillo!
More details of the battle Buena Vista; arrival of Dr. Turner; despatches from Col. Curtis

Affairs in Mexico
Report on the condition of Santa Anna's army; predictions of the battle of Vera Cruz; information on the mode of warfare; report on the affairs of the peace process

Investment of Vera Cruz!
Landing of troops near Vera Cruz; capture of Mexican outworks; skirmishing with the enemy; Captain Alburtis killed; Lieut. Colonel Dickenson wounded; position of the army; continued canonade

Memorandum furnished by Captain Powers
Weather report; information on forces activities–building trenches; Us army gained possession of all the fortifications of the enemy; water to the city cut–off

Special correspondence of the Picayune
Weather report; information on troop arrival–those of Gen. Worth, Gen. Twiggs; Gen. Scott entering the harbor

Information on vessel arrival; report of battle between Gen. Taylor and Santa Anna; information on troop movement around Vera Cruz; ships fired upon

Weather report; information on troop arrival–those of Gen. Worth, Gen. Twiggs; Gen. Scott entering the harbor

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Sacrificios, near Vera Cruz
Alabama leaving for New Orleans; information on troop movement and equipment movement–landing on Vera Cruz; battle with the enemy and Mexican retreat; report of more skirmishes

Editorial Correspondence of the Picayune
Information on the battle at Vera Cruz and death of Captain Alburtis

Camp near Vera Cruz
More details of the battle at Vera Cruz–information on troop movement, hostilities, land of troops

U.S. Sloop of War Albany
Rumor that Scott is not going to accept the surrender of the city; information on troop and ship movement; story being told with relation to the last revolution, which has been termed pronunciamento de los mugenes

US Sloop of War Albany
Weather report; enemy opening fire; US forces not striking back

From the City of Mexico
Letters about Mexican affairs have arrived; letters that give accounts of California to the 18th of January–US now has upper California; Santa Anna's report of the battle of Buena Vista

Later from the Brazos
Arrival of new vessels; rumors of action between Col. Curtis and Gen. Urrea; other volunteers arriving; praises for army already present; report of movement of Santa Anna

The Great Victory!
Report of the victory at Buena Vista; praises of the army and Taylor

Substances of the Remarks of Mr. Lee of Hardy
Remarks made in response to the debate which arose in the house of delegates on the resolution of Messers, Leake and McPherson–resolution to thank the president for his performance in conducting the war against Mexico–speech seems to portray that Mr. Lee does
not think highly of the president’s performance.

RW47v24i27p5c6, April 2, 1847, Glorious New from the Army
Santa Anna’s army defeated by General Taylor; Loss of Cols. Yell, McKee and Hardin, Henry Clay Jr. etc; defeated handed to the Mexicans at Buena Vista—details given

RW47v24i27p5c6, April 2, 1847, Additional Particulars
List of American officers killed and wounded; Gen. Taylor maintains his position; capture of US wagons by the Mexicans; escape of a lady; safe arrival of Col. Morgan at Monterey

RW47v24i27p5c7, April 2, 1847, Further from Tampico and the Brazos
Article printed in a Mexican paper giving praises to Santa Anna; commissioners arrived from Taylor demanding the surrender of Santa Anna; letter expressing the sad condition of Mexican troops

RW47v24i27p2c1, April 2, 1847
Comments about the prospects of with a win at Vera Cruz that Mexico will surrender

RW47v24i27p2c2, April 2, 1847, For the War
Report that Captain John Eager Howard’s and his company of volunteers have left for the war by train

RW47v24i27p2c2, April 2, 1847, Excitement in Houston Texas
Debate over who owned the city—Pierpont or Allen—and who then had the right to sell it

RW47v24i27p2c2, April 2, 1847
National salute was fired yesterday by the Fayette Artillery in honor of the great victory of Taylor at Buena Vista

RW47v24i27p2c2, April 2, 1847
Col. Alphonse Duperu arrived last night with other men from Tampico—Duperu has received a commission as captain; Col. Morgan and his men arrived safe in Monterey

RW47v24i27p2c1, April 2, 1847, News from Mexico
Scott has succeeded in the landing at Anton Lizardo and making preparations for an assault on the city; not surprised if heard that the city and castle were to fall within two or three days

RW47v24i27p2c2, April 2, 1847, Expenses of the War
100 million dollars will be needed for the war if it continued on top of the other expenses of the war

RW47v24i27p2c2, April 2, 1847, A Prediction Verified
Letter from Monterey written by a Kentucky Volunteer to the editor of the Louisville Courier—shows the confidence with which a victory was anticipated as well ad the opinion in the Army of the injustice with which Taylor has been treated by the Administration

RW47v24i27p1c2, April 2, 1847, Virginia Volunteers
Letter from Lieut. Portefield of the Virginia Regiment—gives information about Taylor who has driven back Santa Anna; first battalion of Virginia Volunteers has reached the Camargo

RW47v24i27p1c2, April 2, 1847
Statement in the New York Herald that our naval armament in the Gulf is the largest ever put forth by the US; lists off what the navy consists of

RW47v24i27p1c3, April 2, 1847, The Insurrection in New Mexico
Letter from Fort Bent about the insurrection in Taos; might be another popular outbreak which extends throughout all of New Mexico; can’t believe the advancement the Mexicans have been able to make in Santa Fe but if got help from the Indians might be able to do serious damage

RW47v24i28p2c1, April 6, 1847, Rumored Capture of Vera Cruz—the city and the castle!
Information brought that Scott had succeeded in taking Vera Cruz and the castle of San Juan; numerical loss of Americans; Scott has not been able to land his heavy ordnance; Scott sent word to the citizens to leave town; most foreign residents have left Vera Cruz; many citizens are in favor of capitulation which has been opposed by the military

RW47v24i28p2c1, April 6, 1847, A Coincidence
The day the battle of Buena Vista began the bill authorizing Mr. Polk to appoint Mr. Benton to the chief command was before the Senate; Taylor has been decided by the people to be placed as president of the US

RW47v24i28p2c1, April 6, 1847, Narrow Escape
Assistant Adjutant Bliss mentions that Taylor received two balls during the battle at Buena Vista

RW47v24i28p2c1, April 6, 1847
Union published a number of extracts from Mexican papers, which show that civil war and anarchy are raging within the capital and the country is without a government
RW47v24i28p1c1, April 6, 1847, Substance of Remarks of Mr. Stanard
Opinions of Mr. Stanard on the resolutions relative to the War in Mexico–speech quoted in full

RW47v24i29p2c3, April 9, 1847, General Taylor's Despatches
Quote from the Charleston Mercury about Taylor's despatches–simple, reserved

RW47v24i29p1c1, April 9, 1847, The New Mexican Tariff
Comments on the adoption of the Mexican tariff

RW47v24i29p1c2, April 9, 1847, More Incidents
Report from Buena Vista about General Taylor–point of article is to show how Taylor inspires his men

RW47v24i29p1c2, April 9, 1847, Meeting in New Orleans
People gathered at the Commercial Exchange in New Orleans to celebrate the victory at Buena Vista; lists off resolutions that were adopted by the people

RW47v24i29p2c4, April 9, 1847: Aristides and Mr. Newton
Mr. Newton given the honor of writing the annexation of Texas

RW47v24i29p2c5, April 9, 1847, To the Whigs of the Metropolitan Congressional District
Comments on the President's calculations of war

RW47v24i29p2c5, April 9, 1847
Comments on General Taylor–giving praise, condemning the misrepresentation of him that has been printed in other papers

RW47v24i29p1c4, April 9, 1847, To the Whigs of the Metropolitan Congressional District
Response to the President's comment that the US was going to conquer peace; information on the land that US holds in their possession–hard to maintain order in those lands

RW47v24i29p1c5, April 9, 1847, From Our Army at Vera Cruz
Two despatches from Vera Cruz by Scott–gives information on troop actions, supplies, continued firing from the enemy, giving safe papers to the consuls of France and Spain within the city

RW47v24i29p1c5, April 9, 1847: Later from Vera Cruz
Information on the loss or horses, placement of vessels, loss of men–drowning

RW47v24i29p1c5, April 9, 1847, Editorial Correspondence of the Picayune
Mexican messenger shot lost night–escaped but lost his bag–found documents dealing with Governor of Jalapa asking for men and supplies; report on hostilities

RW47v24i29p1c5, April 9, 1847, Camp Before Vera Cruz
Report on Gen. Quitman's volunteers–what they are doing; Col. Harney arrived with his dragoons; several vessels leaving; reports of skirmishing with the enemy

RW47v24i29p1c6, April 9, 1847, Official Correspondence of the Picayune
Report on loss of horses by Cap. Ker and Thorton and Col. Duncan–all lost due to weather that ships encountered; information on the victory of Taylor over Santa Anna

RW47v24i29p1c6, April 9, 1847, Latest from Vera Cruz
Arrival of the Mississippi with Com. Perry; probable opening of US fire on Vera Cruz; continued revolution in Mexico City

RW47v24i29p1c6, April 9, 1847, New from the Army in New Mexico
Another great victory in New Mexico by American forces who overwhelmed and defeated 2,000 Mexicans in Santa Fe; details of the battle including men there; news of assassination of Gov. Bent

RW47v24i30p4c4, April 13, 1847: From the Camp
Taylor's orders from the field of battle to his division that has been victorious over the Mexican forces at Buena Vista

RW47v24i29p2c3, April 9, 1847
Letter from New Orleans to the Charleston Courier about Taylor and how much everyone now seems to like him

RW47v24i29p2c3, April 9, 1847, Col. Cushing
Report of a night of entertainment for Col. Cushing; quotes from toasts giving compliments to Taylor

RW47v24i29p4c5, April 9, 1847, A Noble Recruit
Report on barn Van Winckler and his enlistment and despatch to Texas

RW47v24i30p4c4, April 13, 1847, Battle of Buena Vista
Letter written by Lieutenant Colonel Mansfield to a brother officer—gives description of the battles that took place on the 22nd, 23rd of February

RW47v24i30p4c4, April 13, 1847, A Party of Mr. Polk's Tactics
Report on the number of deserters, who happen to tend to be foreigners–Irish and German

RW47v24i30p4c4, April 13, 1847, The New Project for Bombarding St. Juan d'Ulloa
Appointment of Major General Berton by the President for the purpose of blowing up the castle

RW47v24i30p4c5, April 13, 1847, Gen. Taylor's Family
Information on Gen. Taylor's family—who he is related to and what they did

RW47v24i30p4c5, April 13, 1847, Horrors of War
Letter to a St. Louis Republican about the violence taken by some volunteers against Mexicans

RW47v24i30p4c1, April 13, 1847, A Noble Tribute
Tribute by the editor of the Augusta Constitutionalist to those who died in Buena Vista

RW47v24i30p4c2, April 13, 1847
Rough and Ready clubs forming in Philadelphia

RW47v24i30p4c2, April 13, 1847
Report from the Lexington Observer about the deaths from the Battle of Buena Vista which effected those in Lexington Kentucky

RW47v24i30p3c1, April 13, 1847
Information on troop movement using steamers and trains

RW47v24i30p3c1, April 13, 1847, From Santa Fe—Highly Important Particulars
Report on the massacre at Taos—information on how and when it happened and US force response to it

RW47v24i30p2c1, April 13, 1847, War News!
Report on actions of Gen. Scott, position of Santa Anna; list of ammunitions used during the bombardment of Vera Cruz

RW47v24i30p2c1, April 13, 1847
Leake in an electioneering speech gave praise to Taylor; question of Leake's stance on the President

RW47v24i30p2c1, April 13, 1847: The Wilmot Proviso
Response to an article in the Enquirer dealing with Mr. Leake's pledge to not support a candidate who does not favor the Wilmot Provison; comments on the Wilmot Proviso

RW47v24i30p2c1, April 13, 1847
Leake gave praise to Calhoun for his course while Secretary of State dealing with the annexation question

RW47v24i30p2c2, April 13, 1847
Leake defends the President for sending Santa Anna back to Mexico—comments on this stance

RW47v24i30p1c4, April 13, 1847, "Aid and Comfort"
Comments about a speech made by Governor Ramon Adame after the Battle of Buena Vista where the Governor says that Santa Anna was given by God to fight for Mexico.

RW47v24i30p1c4, April 13, 1847, Requisition for Troops
Probable movement of Gen. Taylor and information on exchange of prisoners

RW47v24i30p1c4, April 13, 1847, Claims against Texas and the United States
Report on claims by US citizens arising from the annexation of Texas

RW47v24i30p1c4, April 13, 1847
Article on the report of the Committee on the Judiciary to which was given the case of the memorial of Leslie Combs "praying for the payment by the U. States of certain securities issued by the late Republic of Texas"

RW47v24i30p1c5, April 13, 1847, Later from the Brazos
Letters from Santa Anna—gives details about battle of the 23rd, and the state of the Mexican troops; report that Massachusetts regiment arrived at Matamoros; Two NC companies left Matamoros for Camargo; three VA regiments went to Camargo

RW47v24i30p1c1, April 13, 1847, Vera Cruz and the Castle taken!
Surrender of Vera Cruz and the castle; hopes that this will bring peace; however Mexican government now seems to want to fight more; Santa Anna advancing to capital
RW47v24i30p1c1, April 13, 1847, Gen. Taylor's Despatches
Report of Taylor's successful defense against an Indian attack

RW47v24i30p1c1, April 13, 1847, Our Officers in Mexico
Extract from a Washington letter—shows how our officers do not have the jealously and envy which the Mexican officers have between each other

RW47v24i30p1c2, April 13, 1847, The Discussion
Discussion between Leake, Messer and Bott (opposing candidates for Congress) about various issues—war, tariff, Oregon question, slavery

RW47v24i30p2c3, April 13, 1847, From Our Army at Vera Cruz
Details of the Battle at Vera Cruz from Scott, Morales, Landero; gives information on the battle including troop movement and actions, requests for innocent families being able to leave the city; instructions given to the commissioners appointed by the US; propositions from the Mexican Commissioners to the General—in—chief; response by the Americans to the Mexican propositions; articles of capitulation of the city of Vera Cruz and the castle of San Juan d'Ulloa

RW47v24i30p2c5, April 13, 1847, From our Navy before Vera Cruz
Transfer of the squadron from Commodore Conner to Perry; information on the placement of ships in agreement with Gen. Scott; list of those killed; details of naval fighting and ship movement; weather reports; report of the surrender of the city; list of vessels anchored at Sacrificios

RW47v24i30p2c7, April 13, 1847, Editorial Correspondence of the N.O. Picayune
Information on the battle at Vera Cruz

RW47v24i30p2c7, April 13, 1847, The Dragoon Fight at Medelin
Report on Col. Harney—details on a battle fought by his men—information on troop movement on both sides, hostilities etc

RW47v24i30p2c7, April 13, 1847, From the Brazos
Report on Santa Anna's army; report of General Taylor's position and what troops are with him

RW47v24i31p2c6, April 16, 1847, From Vera Cruz to Mexico
Calculated distance from Vera Cruz to Mexico City

RW47v24i31p2c6, April 16, 1847, Latest from Mexico
Letter, which states, Santa Anna arrived at San Luis Potosi, report that revolution in the capital of Mexico has been ended; report of heads of the opposition rebels were shot

RW47v24i31p2c3, April 16, 1847, General Taylor
Opinion on the despatches sent by Taylor; opinion on Taylor's character;

RW47v24i31p2c3, April 16, 1847, From the Houston, More Indian Difficulties
Report of Indian hostilities; called Capt. T. Smith and his company to help

RW47v24i31p2c1, April 16, 1847
Opinion about even though Whigs opposed the war, now that the US was in the war success is what is important; remarks made by Mr. Botts about the war

RW47v24i31p2c1, April 16, 1847
Quote from the Picayune's discussing the naming Taylor as a presidential candidate in the upcoming election

RW47v24i31p4c1, April 16, 1847, The 21st Rule—The Wilmont Provision—The Principles embodied in the Oregon Bill
Debate on the war, the question of slavery afterwards; gives opinions of others on the same topics; speaks of the Wilmont Provision

RW47v24i31p4c2, April 16, 1847, Mr. Polk and Santa Anna
Quote from Polk justifying the restoration of Santa Anna to Mexico

RW47v24i31p4c2, April 16, 1847, Mr. Calhoun—Gen. Taylor
Mr. Calhoun written a letter to his friends about being the next presidential candidate—says won't take the nomination and that his friends should back Taylor

RW47v24i31p4c2, April 16, 1847
Mr. Diamond, late American Consul at Vera Cruz has been appointed Collector of the Vera Cruz port

RW47v24i31p4c3, April 16, 1847, To the Whigs of the Metropolitan Congressional District
Discussion on the fall of Vera Cruz—author gives his opinion about the Mexican people and the US as conquerors (civilized vs. uncivilized)

RW47v24i31p1c5, April 16, 1847, Col. McClung
Reprint of a letter from McClung—speaks of Santa Anna's army, praises of Taylor

RW47v24i31p1c5, April 16, 1847, General Orders of Major General Scott
Speaks of surrender of Vera Cruz and the castle of San Juan d'Ulloa—gives orders to men not to approach either place, gives orders on where forces will be stationed, gives order on the treatment of the citizens of the city; names Gen. Worth as temporary governor and gives him orders as governor

RW47v24i31p1c1, April 16, 1847, Mt. W. D. Leake and Gen. Taylor
Opinion of Leake on the opinion of the administration's opinion of Taylor

RW47v24i31p1c2, April 16, 1847, Lieut. Col. Clay
Brief bio on Lieut. Col. Clay who died while in service in the war

RW47v24i31p1c2, April 16, 1847
A letter from Matamoras, which informs that Gen. Taylor is preparing to advance on San Luis Potosi

RW47v24i31p1c3, April 16, 1847, Steamboat "Rough and Ready" on the Rio Grande
Death of Paul C. Bank a native of Lynchburg Va

RW47v24i31p1c3, April 16, 1847, Tribute to Valor
Resolutions passed at a court house about Capt. Graham—praises

RW47v24i31p1c3, April 16, 1847, The Gallant Mississippians
Information on those killed and wounded in the battle of Buena Vista from the Mississippian 1st Rifle

RW47v24i31p1c3, April 16, 1847
R.K. Arthur of Mississippi gives a detailed account of Buena Vista

RW47v24i31p2c2, April 16, 1847
Opinion on an article written in the Union about Polk and other Generals fighting in the war

RW47v24i31p2c3, April 16, 1847, To the Whigs of the Metropolitan Congressional District
Opinion on the Mexican personality; information on advancement of US forces; report on rumors of fighting in the capital

RW47v24i31p2c2, April 16, 1847
Brig. Gen. Cadwallader arrived in New Orleans on the 7

RW47v24i31p2c2, April 16, 1847
Gen. Tom Thumb will begin his Public Levees in the city this evening

RW47v24i31p2c5, April 16, 1847, Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot
Complaining about the administration no ordering flags raised and shots fired for the victories in Mexico

RW47v24i31p2c5, April 16, 1847, Compliment to Gen. Wool
Common Council of Troy has given 600 dollars for the construction of a sword for Gen. Wool

RW47v24i31p4c4, April 16, 1847, Great Whig Meeting—Nomination of Gen. Taylor for the President
Whigs in the city and county of Philadelphia ratified the nomination of Gen. Taylor for President

RW47v24i31p4c4, April 16, 1847, General Taylor—Colonel Clay
Letter to the father of Colonel Clay from General Taylor after the death of his son—praises Clay

RW47v24i31p4c4, April 16, 1847, From Tampico
Announcement of the arrival of more troops—under the command of Capts. Gardenier and Plummer, Capt. Marshall, Lieut. Wyse—information on the raising of the troops

RW47v24i31p4c5, April 16, 1847, Later from the City of Mexico
Information on the state of revolution in the capital; report of another US victory with the fall of Chihuahua; Santa Anna's progress to the capital; Mexican reports of their battles

RW47v24i31p4c5, April 16, 1847, The Effects of discipline—the Volunteers at Buena Vista
Report that volunteers who had been trained with great discipline performed excellently at Buena Vista.

RW47v24i28p1c1, April 16, 1847, The Mexican Ports
Letter from the President to the Secretary of War telling him to open Mexican ports to commerce of all nations and have duties paid to our treasury

RW47v24i28p1c1, April 16, 1847, Mr. Polk and Santa Anna
Remarks by the President about Santa Anna's return to Mexico
Mr. Richard W. Heath has been elected first Lieutenant of the Tampico Volunteers

Quote from the Union that stated that ever since Congress adjourned there has been no peace negotiations with Mexico

General Taylor
Quote from the US Gazette about General Taylor—giving praise

Copied from the New Orleans Picayune; information on conspiracy in New Mexico

No mediation of the British Government has been recently tendered to Polk, in the adjustment of Mexico

Capt. George Lincoln was killed at the battle of Buena Vista

Said that after the first day of fighting at Buena Vista some of Taylor’s officers advised a fall back but Taylor said no

Santa Anna has forwarded a recommendation to the Mexican Congress to sue for peace; gives information on Mexican army conditions

Santa Anna on approaching Taylor asked him to let him pass—said had a pass from the President to allow; Taylor said that he would not let Santa Anna pass—not sure if true

Two companies from Missouri—volunteers were cut off by Mexicans near Santa Fe

A continuation of northers has prevented the operation of the landing stores and heavy ordnance

Report of slight skirmishing; Mexicans passing into the city at night and taking the beach north of Taylor; information on the wound of Lieut. Col. Dickenson; Capt. Vinton keeping up rounds of firing; spies have been captured; landing mortars from ships; reconnoitering parties going out

Weather report; notes received from French and Spanish consuls; information on the firing on the castle; vessels have arrived; as soon as weather clears up they will be landing more equipment

Weather improved; enemy occasionally firing

Weather report; information that Santa Anna has retired to Matehuala with his army; Gen. Taylor moved his camp to Agua Nueva; Massachusetts volunteers ordered to stay at Matmoros; ship arrivals

Taylor has returned to Monterey; information on Taylor’s movement and troops and position of troops in regards to Urrea; predictions on Taylor catching Urrea

VA regiment has arrived here and gone up the Rio Grande; Massachusetts regiment arrived a few days ago and left for Monterey via Camargo; rest of regiment expected to leave tomorrow for the mouth of the Rio Grande

Steamer Corvette
Despatches from Gen. Taylor; information on steamboats now loaded and ready to head for Camargo; report that Taylor ran into Urrea

Battle of Buena Vista
Description of Gen. Taylor’s position; cannonading on the 21st; Taylor’s exposed situation; his white horse; battle of the 22nd of February; death of Col. M’Kee, Col. Clay, Col. Hardin, Adj’t Gen. Lincoln, Col. Yell, Capt. Willis; Col. Marshall’s charge; report of the Mississipians good job; Gen. Taylor’s left flank turn; killed and wounded; Minon’s discomfiture

Report of an incident at the battle of Buena Vista involving the Kentucky regiment; details of the battle fought by the Kentucky
regiment

RW47v24i28p; Col. Marshall's charge; report of the Mississippians good job; Gen. Taylor's left flank turn; killed and wounded; Minon's discomfiture

RW47v24i28p2c7, April 16, 1847, The Kentucky Regiment
Report of an incident at the battle of Buena Vista involving the Kentucky regiment; details of the battle fought by the Kentucky regiment

RW47v24i28p4c5, April 16, 1847, The Latest from Gen. Taylor
Santa Anna retreat to San Luis Potosi possibly further; information on Santa Anna's retreat and the position of the Mexican army; comments on the condition of the Mexican army; wonder about how many Mexicans have been lost

RW47v24i28p4c6, April 16, 1847, Correspondence of the New Orleans Tropic
Report on the landing of the troops at Vera Cruz; weather report; information on the role of the navy after the capture of the castle

RW47v24i28p4c6, April 16, 1847, Vera Cruz
Speech by Gen. Juan Morales to his troops—speaking of taking up arms and fighting the Americans; encouraging his men

RW47v24i28p4c2, April 16, 1847, Hard Push!
Comments on the Union and Enquirer's interpretation of General Taylor's word; letter by Gen. Taylor; RW interpretation of what Taylor meant

RW47v24i28p4c2, April 16, 1847, The Battle of Buena Vista
Letter from the New Orleans Picayune regarding the Scourge and constancy displayed by US troops, skillfulness of Taylor during the Battle of Buena Vista—part of the letter is reprinted

RW47v24i28p4c3, April 16, 1847, Official despatches
Union contains Taylor's brief account of the battle of Buena Vista, also contains a letter from the President to the Secretary of War about the opening of Mexican ports—will be printed in the next issue

RW47v24i28p4c3, April 16, 1847, From General Taylor's Camp
Report on the position of the Mexican army; flag sent from Santa Anna demanding a surrender; enemy withdrew further; report that losses have been sever

RW47v24i28p4c3, April 16, 1847, Summons of Santa Anna to Gen. Taylor
Santa Anna asking Taylor to surrender

RW47v24i28p4c3, April 16, 1847, Headquarters Army of Occupation
Taylor saying no to the surrender

RW47v24i28p4c3, April 16, 1847, Headquarters Army of Occupation
Taylor's position maintained and Mexican army withdraw; plan for exchange of prisoners; number of the killed and wounded

RW47v24i28p4c3, April 16, 1847, Headquarters Army of Occupation
Mexican army leaving and Taylor holding original position; Mexican losses seem to be high; Mexicans have made arrangement for retreat

RW47v24i28p4c3, April 16, 1847, From our Squadron off Vera Cruz
Arrival of Scott at Anton Lizardo; information on naval activities—where ships are moving; weather report; information on arms about the ships; information on troop landing and formation of lines around the city

RW47v24i28p4c4, April 16, 1847, Military Appointments

RW47v24i29p3c1, April 19, 1847, Important from Santa Fe
Confirmation of the Mexican victory at Santa Fe; information on where US troops drove Mexicans during the war; report on the battle—how conducted, with how many soldiers, who was in charge

RW47v24i29p3c1, April 19, 1847
From a letter to the St. Louis Union; gives comments on the possible situation now in New Mexico; information on troop movement; rumor that US has taken Chihuahua

RW47v24i32p2c4, April 20, 1847, From New Mexico
Report on fighting in New Mexico, near Santa Fe; Captain killed—Capt Burguin; number of killed and wounded
RW47v24i32p2c2, April 20, 1847, Prospect of Peace
President calling for more troops, therefore believed that peace is not near; Mexicans conducting a guerilla war; information on the Mexican army; prediction of future events in the area–capture of the capital but cont’d war

RW47v24i32p2c2, April 20, 1847, Major General Pillow
Account of the promotion of Gen. Pillow by a correspondent of the New York Tribune

RW47v24i32p2c2, April 20, 1847, General Taylor
From a letter from Washington; giving compliments to Taylor for his behavior during conflict at Buena Vista

RW47v24i32p1c3, April 20, 1847:
Letter from Mr. Kendall, which gives a gloomy account of the situation in Mexico City

RW47v24i32p1c3, April 20, 1847, From the Brazos
Rumors about interactions between Taylor and Gen. Urrea's forces; report from the Flag about Taylor giving provisions to wounded Mexicans; announcement of the arrival of 8 companies of volunteers

RW47v24i32p1c4, April 20, 1847, Battle of Buena Vista–Santa Anna's Report
Details of the battle of Buena Vista from Santa Anna

RW47v24i32p2c5, April 20, 1847, Late from the Brazos
Information on troop movement; orders from Taylor; report of small hostile encounters between the enemy and US forces; brief story on the capture and death of a Mexican

RW47v24i32p2c5, April 20, 1847, From the N.O. Delta, April 11
Information on troops near Caperero, south of Cerralvo; road from Camargo to Monterey and from Brazos to Saltillo is open; rumor of Taylor planning to march to San Luis; arrival of Virginia regiment; meeting to honor Taylor in Matamoros

RW47v24i32p2c5, April 20, 1847, Excerpts from the Flag of the 3d inst.
Massachusetts Regiment now in Matamoros; attempted revolution in Mexico City

RW47v24i32p2c5, April 20, 1847, From Vera Cruz
Newspaper started in Vera Cruz; Scott had a resolution of Congress presenting to thank Taylor; report on an attack by the Mexicans on some US forces who had left camp; condemnation by Scott of actions taken by some US forces; citizens of Vera Cruz to give up their arms;

RW47v24i32p2c6, April 20, 1847, Arrival of Troops
Announcement of the arrival of troops from Pittsburgh

RW47v24i32p2c6, April 20, 1847, The Mississippi Regiment
Report on how the Mississippi Regiment was beaten battle at Buena Vista but kept fighting

RW47v24i32p1c1, April 20, 1847, To the Polls!
Urging voters to vote on Tuesday–come out and vote against those who would expand/continue the war with Mexico

RW47v24i32p1c2, April 20, 1847
Letter from Mr. Kendall states that nothing has been heard from the expedition to Alvarado even though it was believed that the town would surrender without a fight

RW47v24i32p1c2, April 20, 1847, Mr. Polk's Terms
Excerpt from a Mexican newspaper on the US government’s recent terms of peace given to the Mexicans

RW47v24i32p1c2, April 20, 1847, Mexican Official Papers
Report on the Mexican loss at the battle of Sacramento–numbers of those dead on both dies, when the battle took place, names of commanders, number of forces there on both sides

RW47v24i32p2c3, April 20, 1847, To the Whigs of the Metropolitan Congressional District
Explanation of what the war has to do with the upcoming election and comparing the merits of the different candidates

RW47v24i32p3c1, April 20, 1847, Further Call Upon Volunteers
President as called for more volunteers

RW47v24i32p3c1, April 20, 1847
From an extra published by the Government Press in Santa Fe–information on the massacre at Taos, battles fought at Canada, El Emboda, and Taos, report of more US victories

RW47v24i32p4c2, April 20, 1847
Comments on an article published in the Enquirer warning young men of joining with the Whigs in condemnation of the war
When will the end of the war come? What will it entail?

Information brought by Mr. Haile including a memorandum written on one of the last days he was in Vera Cruz; information on the establishment of a government in Vera Cruz; information received about Santa Anna being inducted as president; list of passengers on board the Alabama

Quitman's brigade set out for Alvarado; no information from Mexico city; information on Mexican troops stations between Vera Cruz and the capital

General Order No. 80–congratulations to the army for the capture of Vera Cruz

Santa Anna's address to his army; Santa Anna's arrival in the capital and his inauguration, inaugural address and the policy of his new administration

Forces manage to keep continually on quivipe in expectation of a combined attack and revolt

Letter will be published tomorrow

General Taylor returned to Saltillo

Article published in the St. Louis Reveille about the Illinois Troops–some new, some veterans etc.

Common Council of Troy has given 600 dollars to make a sword for Wool

Most of those who have fallen in the war have been Whigs

Correspondence from New Mexico; gives detail of two battles; confirmation of murders at Taos; troop movement

Article on events in New Mexico; what to do with those who have been caught trying to start a revolution against the US?, can the US punish them?; what would happen if the Mexican government gives up New Mexico?

Rumor that authorities in Jalapa have made overtures to Scott for the surrender of the city; and another rumor that Gen. Twiggs had taken the National Bridge without resistance

Report that a messenger of peace was sent to Mexico by the US government; President has sworn not to give any land to Mexico where US soldiers have been killed

Governor of Missouri called upon to give another regiment of volunteers to serve in Mexico; the regiment is to serve establishing forts on the route to Oregon

General Taylor's detailed report of the Battle of Buena Vista

Report on the recent revolution in the territory from Sterling Price the Col. Commanding the army in New Mexico

Administration want money in order to gain peace with Mexico but now that they got the money reports from the administration say that peace does not look good
Information on movement of troops, US positions; rumors constantly from the capital; information on Santa Anna's position

Letter from Taylor to Gen. Butler giving a detailed description of the Battle of Buena Vista; comments from Taylor about his nomination for president

Report that General La Vega left Puente Nacional and is now fortifying a position at Cerro Gordo

Letter from Waddy Thompson Esq. Comments by the former Minister to Mexico about the war and US actions/use of force and call for peace

Letter from Taylor to Gen. Butler about the battle of Buena Vista and also containing comments about his nomination for the presidency

Report that General La Vega left Puente Nacional and is now fortifying a position at Cerro Gordo

Nothing interesting has occurred on the Rio Grande; depot has been established at China and on just below Camargo at Santa Anna; Capt. Arnold has reached Camargo; Lieut. Leslie Chase has gained an appointment to judge advocate for the western division of the US army; Maj. Gorman, Lieut. J. A. Picket and J. A. Buckmaster have been wounded; post office at Point Isabel has been moved to the Brazos

Gen. Houston of Texas in a speech stated that the commission of Major General was given to him and a colleague and both declined because they held different opinions with the officers who would have been their seniors in rank

Negotiations with Mexico Triste left for Vera Cruz; no new proposals will be given to Mexico; Mexico will now probably acknowledge the Rio Grande as border; if Mexico wont go for peace then Scott and Taylor have been order to fight for more victories; Triste will stay in Mexico until a document is signed

Mr. Poinsett, Mr. Calhoun and the Mexican War Report on the difference of opinion between Mr. Poinsett and Mr. Calhoun on the Mexican War

New Requisition for Volunteers Request by the President to the Governor of Virginia for two more regiments of volunteers

Announcement of the arrival of troops from Louisville; report that the steamer James L. Day has been ordered to Vera Cruz

From the Capital Report of the ceasing of arms hostilities in the Mexican Capital; Santa Anna now president; wealthy want peace and willing to give the Upper California and the left bank of the Rio Grande; popular masses in favor of continued hostilities; information about US troop positions

The Company of Voltigeurs Company leaving for war; under command of James D. Blair and William S. Walker and Washington Terret

General Taylor Article about Taylor's nomination as Whig candidate for president; reports that Taylor is anti-Whig; responses to articles written in other papers about Taylor's opinion on the nomination

Later from California Documents received from California; report that the war has ended in California, Californians want to join the United States; report of the probable loss of the Launch—a ship belonging to the US sloop–of–war Warren; result of an engagement near the Pueblo of los angeles; congratulations to men of the Southern Division by Stockton

Gen. Taylor–Mexican Banditti Letter from General Taylor about the depredations committed by a Mexican banditti on public and private property on the route from Camargo to Monterey; Taylor explains what he is going to do about the actions of the Mexican banditti

From Vera Cruz Information on orders given by General Scott; report of sending prizes from the castle and city to home; announces the arrival of animals

Two orders from Scott (No.80 and No. 87); congratulations on the victory at San Juan d'Ulloa; condemnation of atrocities committed at
Vera Cruz by the army, gives strict orders to soldiers about where to stay/be at all times

RW47v24i34p1c3, April 27, 1847, Details of operations before Vera Cruz
Information about operations before the battle of Vera Cruz including a list of those killed and wounded

RW47v24i34p1c3, April 27, 1847, Artillery Headquarters
Information about a small skirmish including a numbers of those killed and wounded, details about the hostilities

RW47v24i34p1c3, April 27, 1847, Artillery Headquarters
Report of firing on the city; loss of Captain Vinton; information on ammunition used

RW47v24i34p1c3, April 27, 1847, Artillery Headquarters
More information about the firing at the city

RW47v24i34p1c3, April 27, 1847, Artillery Headquarters
Information on the firing of the city; report on the movement of the troops

RW47v24i34p1c4, April 27, 1847, Headquarters, Regiment MD. Riflemen
Information on Mexican troops near the bridge and on the road leading to it

RW47v24i34p4c1, April 27, 1847, General Taylor
Response by a correspondent at a Whig meeting in New York; comments about Taylor’s nomination to the Presidency

RW47v24i34p4c1, April 27, 1847, Nomination of Gen. Taylor
Citizens of York County called together to nominate Taylor for President; prints the resolutions made at the meeting

RW47v24i34p4c2, April 27, 1847, Who is Senor Atocha?
Extract from the New Orleans Delta about Mr. Polk’s late ambassador to Mexico–disagreement with the appointment of Senor Atocha for various reasons one being that he is a Mexican.

RW47v24i34p4c2, April 27, 1847, Letter from Vera Cruz
Letter from a Virginian in Mexico; information on those killed, description of ceremonies of surrender that took place, information on troop activity; details about hostilities

RW47v24i34p4c2, April 27, 1847, From the Pacific Squadron
Report from Com. Stockton–number of men, details on meeting with the enemy; information on the fighting–including numbers of those lost on both sides; Stockton refused to negotiate with Flores; Flores surrendered

RW47v24i34p2c3, April 27, 1847, Official Despatches
Despatches from Com. Stockton; Lieut Gray has left San Diego; information on the movement of officers. Information about fighting, movement of troops, numbers of those killed and wounded; arrival of Lieut. Col. Fremont; Flores sending men to camp to work out a peace

RW47v24i34p3c3, April 27, 1847
Terms of the peace between the forces in California–lists the articles of the agreement

RW47v24i34p3c3, April 27, 1847, Civil and military government of the Department of California
Document from Flores expressing his desire for peace

RW47v24i34p3c3, April 27, 1847, Late from Mexico
Report from a Mexican paper about the situation in the country–loss of Vera Cruz and an address by Santa Anna (reprinted), information on the build up of troops outside the capital at the National Bridge, report that the Mexican army from the North has returned

RW47v24i34p1c4, April 27, 1847, Camp Washington, Before Vera Cruz
Praising about the officers of the engineers who were engaged in the battle

RW47v24i35p1c2, April 30, 1847, Remains of Lt. Botts
Report that the remains of an officer have been escorted to the city; information about the funeral–who was there, when, where.

RW47v24i35p2c2, April 30, 1847, Father Rey
Reverend accompanied the army into Mexico as Roman Catholic chaplain; feared that he has been killed or taken prisoner; Freeman’s Journal said fear was unfounded and reverend with a Mexican family in Matamoros.

RW47v24i35p4c4, April 30, 1847, General Scott at Church
Letter from Vera Cruz speaking of Easter Sunday; Scott at church; opinion about US and Mexico being religious enemies

RW47v24i35p4c4, April 30, 1847, Gen'l Lamar Captured
Gen. Lamar with his company tried to join Gen. Taylor; was attacked and eventually had to surrendered
Announcement of Steamer Mountaineer arriving; gives number of troops and where they are to go in Mexico; tells of who is in command and where the troops came from

Colonel Bankhead arrived in New Orleans from Vera Cruz bringing despatches and trophies from Scott; information on Bankhead's position in Vera Cruz

Washington Union contradicts the rumor that Taylor and Scott are to be delayed until the volunteers arrive

A correspondent of the Cincinnati Atlas nominates Scott for President and John J. Crittenden as VP

A Baltimore Sun correspondent has called for a speedy peace; however information has been received that states that Santa Anna will resist as long and has hard as possible

Despatches giving different scenes of the battle at Vera Cruz

Information of the actions of the 2nd Brigade of the army–names officers involved, reaction of the enemy

More information on the actions of the division–troop movements, names of officers involved, reaction of the enemy to the hostilities,

Report on the movement of the second regiment dragoons–their fighting with the Mexican

Doubt of more fighting with the Mexicans because many have been called to the capital city; enemy forces fell back to Jalapa, which is after the National Bridge; rumors that Santa Anna is set on war

Brevets given to officers of the 3rd or 4th regiments; information on officer status in both regiments; belief that there was some oversight in the promotions–some left out that should not have been

Report that Stockton has assumed a power in suspending Kearny from the position of civil Governor, which Stockton had given Kearny after his arrival in California

Report of the new arriving about the victory at Buena Vista; more volunteers leaving for Mexico; comments about Taylor nomination for President

Predictions based on information from Mexico about the future prospects of peace; unfavorably comments about Triste's ability to be helpful; disagreements on border; extract from the Baltimore American about annexation

Report that the body of Botts, who died in Mexico, reached the city yesterday

Letter from the city of Taos–requests for medical supplies, comments about the battle of Puebla, rumor about an American fighting against the US and killing most of those who died and he was eventually killed by American forces

Ad requesting soldiers
Report of Gen. Twiggs and Gen. Quitman moving with their command upon Jalapa; report of the American crew of a Vermont schooner being taken prisoner by Mexicans; report of location of US bomb vessels; US sloop of war arrived at Sacrificios

Information about forces at Vera Cruz; details on the battle-size or armies, opinion about Mexican language in papers dealing with Americans, information on fleet movement and the capture of Alvarado, Twiggs moving towards the capital; Santa Anna issuing an order about continuing the war

May

Editors ask how Whigs can say war was unjustly waged yet rejoice in victories.

The Washington Union’s commentary on General Taylor’s possible candidacy.

Reports of conflicts between territorial governors from the N.O. Picayune and Charleston Mercury.

Reports the dramatic weight loss of a Capt. McManus just returned from the War.

An unsigned poem from the New York Herald.


State of Mexico’s internal affairs.

Courrier des Etats Unis of New York. Dated April 9. Santa Anna’s heart is inclined to peace.

From New Orleans Picayune, April 24. Latest news carried by the Trumbull.

Reports of lack of Mexican Support.

Their organization and sacrifice.

Extracts from a letter of Capt. Hughes of the Corps of Topographical Engineers dated April 14th. Recently arrived from Vera Cruz published in the Washington Union May 1st.

Summary of his feelings regarding General Taylor.

Picayune remarks on the promotions of Generals Quitman, Pillow, and Cashing.

From the Picayune April 23rd, regarding intelligence, advances, and Santa Anna’s defense preparations.

A proclamation of Winfield Scott. Mexican people should rest easy and go about their daily lives.

CORRESPONDENCE OF NEW ORLEANS DELTA
Various reports from Mexico between March 29th and April 13th.

RW24i36p4c5, May 4, 1847, NOTICE TO COMMERCE
From the Mexican consulate at Havana. Regarding confiscation of goods. April 12th. Faro Industrial.

RW24i37p1c5, May 7, 1847, GENERAL TAYLOR’S PERSONAL APPEARANCE
A "true" picture by a correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger to replace "abominable caricatures."

RW24i37p1c5, May 7, 1847, THE VICTORY TO COME
Prentice says "We have before us maps of the battle grounds upon which General Taylor won his four great victories in Mexico. We have also before us a map of the battle ground upon which he win his great battle of 1848 – that is to say, a map of the United States"

RW24i37p2c1, May 7, 1847, OFFICIAL DISPATCHES
Dispatches from Col. Doniphan and General Kearny fighting in places which get little attention.

RW24i37p2c1, May 7, 1847, UNTITLED
Picayune comments on Taylor’s writing style.

RW24i37p2c2, May 7, 1847, UNTITLED
San Antonio raises four companies of volunteers as others arrive there with enthusiasm.

RW24i37p2c3, May 7, 1847, CAUSE AND CONSEQUENCE
Mass Peace Society offers five–hundred dollar prize for an essay on war.

RW24i37p2c4, May 7, 1847, OFFICIAL: CALIFORNIA
General Kearny's letter between December 12, 1846 and January 14, 1847.

RW24i37p2c5, May 7, 1847, CHIHUAHUA
Col. Doniphan's letters between March 4th and March 20th.

RW24i37p2c6, May 7, 1847, YUCATAN
Extract of a letter from Merida, March 31, 1847.

RW24i37p4c1, May 7, 1847, UNTITLED
Baltimore Sun explains Mexican defenses between Vera Cruz and Jalapa.

RW24i37p4c2, May 7, 1847, THE VOLUNTEERS
Picayune comments on volunteers.

RW24i37p4c4, May 7, 1847, LATER FROM BRAZOS
Papers from Brazos Santiago delivered by steamship telegraph and published in New Orleans Bee April 27th.

RW24i37p4c5, May 7, 1847, GENERAL TAYLOR ON THE FIELD OF BATTLE
Lieut. Corwin writes to Cincinnati Chronicle sketching Taylor at Buena Vista.

RW24i37p4c4, May 7, 1847, A NOBLE VOLUNTEER AT BUENA VISTA
The story of an Illinois Volunteer.

RW24i37p4c4, May 7, 1847, CAPT. BURGWIN.
A deserved tribute to Capt. Burgwin for his efforts in putting down the Taos insurrection. Published in the Charleston Mercury.

RW24i38p1c1, May 11, 1847, THE "TERRITORIES" OF NEW MEXICO
The consequences of occupation.

RW24i38p1c2, May 11, 1847, GENERAL TAYLOR AND THE LOCOS
Locofocos in SW may support his candidacy.

RW24i38p1c3, May 11, 1847, UNTITLED
Coming soon. Scott's official account of Cerro Gordo.

RW24i38p1c3, May 11, 1847, ORGANIZATION OF THE GOVERNMENT IN NEW MEXICO

RW24i38p1c4, May 11, 1847, UNTITLED
From *Picayune* May 1st. An editorial regarding what happens to wounded by George Wilkins Kendall.

RW24i38p1c4, May 11, 1847, FURTHER DETAILS OF THE BATTLE
*American Eagle* published at Vera Cruz. Provides great detail of the battle of Cerro Gordo.

RW24i38p1c4, May 11, 1847, FROM THE CITY OF MEXICO
Printed in *Picayune* May 1st. Papers recently arrived from Tampico dated to April 9th.

RW24i38p1c4, May 11, 1847, CORRESPONDENCE OF THE BALTIMORE SUN
Discussion of Mr. Parish and the possible contents of the dispatches he is to carry to Mexico.

RW24i38p2c3, May 11, 1847, THE PROSPECT OF PEACE
Latest papers breathe fierce spirit.

RW24i38p2c3, May 11, 1847, THE NEW ORLEANS PICAYUNE GIVES THE FOLLOWING INCIDENT OF THE BATTLE OF CERRO GORDO
Particular mention of the bravery of Tennessee.

RW24i38p2c4, May 11, 1847, OFFICIAL: GENERAL SCOTT'S LATEST DISPATCH
Printed in the *Washington Union*, dated April 19th.

RW24i38p2c5, May 11, 1847, MEXICO
State of internal affairs from *New Orleans Times*. May 3rd.

RW24i38p2c6, May 11, 1847, LATER FROM VERA CRUZ
Coverage from *New Orleans Times* and *Picayune* regarding victories, the capture of Tuspan an the triumph of the Navy.

RW24i38p2c6, May 11, 1847, FROM MATAMOROS
Regarding indemnification.

RW24i38p4c1, May 11, 1847, IMPORTANT INTELLIGENCE!
After Santa Anna escaped, warring factions make country weaker with their rallying man gone.

RW24i38p4c1, May 11, 1847, UNTITLED
Volunteers in New Mexico reluctant to reenlist.

RW24i38p4c2, May 11, 1847, THE VIRGINIA REGIMENT

RW24i38p4c2, May 11, 1847, GENERAL TAYLOR
*Washington Union* believes Whigs are just using the General for his popularity and really intend to elect Mr. Clay.

RW24i38p4c2, May 11, 1847, UNTITLED
Rumor that General Lamar has been cut to pieces by Mexicans is discredited by *Houston Telegraph*.

RW24i38p4c3, May 11, 1847, IMPORTANT INTELLIGENCE!
Another Glorious Victory!! Battle of Cerro Gordo! From *Picayune Extra*, April 30th.

RW24i38p4c4, May 11, 1847, LATE FROM MONTEREY
A letter dated April 4th from Monterey arrived at New Orleans from the Brazos. Printed in *Mobile Register and Journal*, May 1st.

RW24i38p4c4, May 11, 1847, LATER FROM SANTA FE
Reports the trials of Mexican Rebels are progressing.

RW24i39p1c2, May 14, 1847, WHAT NEXT?
Does occupation mean peace?

RW24i39p1c3, May 14, 1847, GENERAL TAYLOR'S MOVEMENTS
Determined to advance his current position. National Intelligencer.

RW24i39p1c3, May 14, 1847, OFFICIAL
Brief and only dispatch to the Navy department concerning capture of Tuspan.

RW24i39p1c4, May 14, 1847, MR. BOTT'S POSITION ON THE WILMONT PROVISO
Because Mr. Bott's has been elected we should give his proposal the proper consideration. editorial signed ONE OF THE PEOPLE.
RW24i39p1c6, May 14, 1847, CHARGES AND SPECIFICATIONS
Detailed description of the charges against Lieut. Charles G. Hunter by Commodore Matthew C. Perry. Includes Lieut.'s reference, findings, and reprimand.

RW24i39p1c7, May 14, 1847, FROM SANTA FE
Reports include: finding of Col. Burns' body and a half million dollars remitted.

RW24i39p1c7, May 14, 1847, CORRESPONDENCE FROM BALTIMORE SUN
Commissioners soon to be sent.

RW24i39p2c1, May 14, 1847, EVENTS IN MEXICO
Results of the Mexican Congress extraordinary session called after Santa Anna's defeat at Cerro Gordo.

RW24i39p2c2, May 14, 1847, THE TEHUANTEPEC CANAL
Strict constructionists will require ship canal across Isthmus of Tehuantepec as part of peace terms.

RW24i39p2c3, May 14, 1847, UNTITLED
Whig reaction to the Washington Union's position that Church Property in Mexico be sequestered.

RW24i39p2c3, May 14, 1847, FROM TAMPOCO
Letter from correspondent dated April 15, 1847 about Mexican police conspiracy.

RW24i39p2c3, May 14, 1847, UNTITLED
Discusses a proposition made to Scott by Lieut. Maynard of the Navy to arm sailors with revolvers instead of muskets.

RW24i39p2c4, May 14, 1847, HIGHLY IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO
Latest papers arriving from Vera Cruz on steamship New Orleans, regarding Jalapa, Tuspan, Santa Anna, and the merging of Scott and Taylor's armies.

RW24i39p4c2, May 14, 1847, NEW MEXICO AND CHIHUAHUA
Possession cannot be maintained without fresh troops.

RW24i39p4c2, May 14, 1847, PEACE OR WAR
As discussed by the Eagle, a recently established newspaper by Americans in Vera Cruz.

RW24i40p1c1, May 18, 1847, OBJECT OF WAR
Comments on the administrations unwillingness to speak on the wars causes and objectives. Commentary by a knowledgeable Washington correspondent to the New York Herald.

RW24i40p1c4, May 18, 1847, UNTITLED
Union contradicts rumor that Gen. Scott had been ordered to halt at Jalapa.

RW24i40p1c4, May 18, 1847, UNTITLED
Account of Buena Vista from an Arkansas officer appearing in the Little Rock Gazette.

RW24i40p1c4, May 18, 1847, THE VALLEY OF EL PASO
Washington Union describes the fruitful valley and its importance to the U.S.

RW24i40p1c4, May 18, 1847, GEN. LA VEGA
Thoughts on the distinguished Mexican General.

RW24i40p2c1, May 18, 1847, THE NEWS FROM MEXICO
Picayune reports "cessation of hostilities" likely.

RW24i40p2c2, May 18, 1847, UNTITLED
The gallantry at Cerro Gordo by Capt. Magruder of Caroline County, Virginia, as told by Mr. Kendall of the Picayune.

RW24i40p2c2, May 18, 1847, UNTITLED.
List of killed and wounded at Cerro Gordo. From the Picayune.

RW24i40p2c3, May 18, 1847, LATER FROM THE BRAZOS
All is quiet in Brazos.

RW24i40p2c4, May 18, 1847, OFFICIAL.
Matthew Perry's reports from Flag Ship Mississippi off Vera Cruz. Dated April 19–24.
RW24i40p2c5, May 18, 1847, LATER FROM MEXICO
From Picayune May 11. Topics include: Guerilla War, Santa Anna, and end of hostilities. From Vera Cruz on Steamship James L. Day.

RW24i40p2c5, May 18, 1847, SCRAPS FROM THE AMERICAN STAR
Excerpts from the American paper begun in Jalapa soon after April 19th.

RW24i40p4c1, May 18, 1847, CONFISCATION OF CHURCH PROPERTY IN MEXICO
Should U.S. punish the Church for its financial support of the war?

RW24i40p4c2, May 18, 1847, THE MEXICAN TARIFF
Discussion of the affects it will have on the economy.

RW24i40p4c2, May 18, 1847, UNTITLED
Volunteers committed from Maryland.

RW24i40p4c2, May 18, 1847, KILLED AND WOUNDED
Casualties from Gen. Twigg and Shield’s divisions at Cerro Gordo. From Picayune.

RW24i40p4c4, May 18, 1847, WAR ITEMS: MEXICAN INCIDENTS

RW24i41p1c1, May 21, 1847, A NEW AND BOLD SUGGESTION
The New York Sun suggests ways in which the United States could be indemnified for the expenses incurred in war.

RW24i41p1c2, May 21, 1847, CAPT. STEVENS T. MASON
Severely wounded at the battle of Cerro Gordo, a native of Loudoun country, Virginia.

RW24i41p1c3, May 21, 1847, UNTITLED
New Orleans Times has letter from Mexico City dated April 30th. Writer seems to be unaware of the deputation proceeding to Scott’s head–quarters.

RW24i41p1c3, May 21, 1847, UNTITLED.
New Orleans reports arrival of troops being sent to Mexico.

RW24i41p1c4, May 21, 1847, FROM THE CITY OF MEXICO
From the New Orleans Picayune, May 12. Covers internal state of Mexican affairs as well as the treatment of American prisoners.

RW24i41p1c4, May 21, 1847, THE SEAT OF WAR
From the New Orleans Bulletin, May 12. Discussion of how General Scott is going about reinforcing his army before taking Mexico City.

RW24i41p1c5, May 21, 1847, SANTA ANNA’S DISPATCH FROM CERRO GORDO
Dated April 17th, Santa Anna gives a rich account of the engagement of the first day to the Minister of War and Marine.

RW24i41p2c1, May 21, 1847, JEFFERSON IN 1805, VERSUS POLK IN 1846
A comparison, with Texas being an important consideration for Polk.

RW24i41p2c2, May 21, 1847, CHURCH PROPERTY IN MEXICO
Washington Union reemphasizes that it's suggestion that the United States confiscate Church property as party of the indemnifications was purely their own unauthorized speculation.

RW24i41p2c2, May 21, 1847, UNTITLED
Washington Union says that accounts of possible peace agreements may not be correct.

RW24i41p2c2, May 21, 1847, UNTITLED.
French reaction to General Taylor’s reply to Santa Anna’s surrender summons.

RW24i41p2c2, May 21, 1847, UNTITLED.
Distances from Vera Cruz to other places of note in Mexico, as reported by the Charleston Courier.

RW24i41p2c3, May 21, 1847, LETTER FROM THE ARMY
A letter from a young Virginia officer attached to Gen. Scott’s army. Dated April 25th, 1847 from Jalapa. Signed W.B.B.

RW24i41p2c5, May 21, 1847, AMERICAN PRISONERS IN MEXICO
From the New Orleans Picayune, May 13. Regarding the Letter from Major Gaines, the Encarnacion Prisoners, Mexican Gratitude, and the Route from Saltille to Mexico.
A letter from Monterey dated April 15th, 1847. Carried by the transport steamer Telegraph. Signed J.E.D.

General Scott's report from Jalapa dated April 23, 1847.

Dated May 6, 1847 from Brassos. Reports that Brig. Gen. Cadwallader has just arrived. Gives the opinion that General Taylor should advance on San Louis once he has 10,000 men.

New Orleans Bulletin confirms that the Mexican Government has abandoned the capital and it is now under the protection of General Scott.

General Taylor's army is not on the move to San Louis de Potosi, but is forced to remain due to the expiration of many volunteer's terms of service.

General Taylor's popularity surpasses party lines.

The knowledgeable Washington correspondent to the Philadelphia Ledger speaks despairingly about the capture of Santa Anna, believing that the best hopes for peace rested on his shoulders.

Lieut. Col. Anderson of Tennessee left his hospital bed to join the boys despite opposition from his surgeon. From the N. O. Picayune.

The heroics of young Lieut. French.

From the Philadelphia American. The role of the Marine Corps in the war.

From the N. O. Picayune, May 11. The latest from General Taylor's camp as they face expiration of volunteer terms and the low water of the Rio Grande.

A report from the American Flag, published in Matamoros, containing the depredations of the Camanche Indians. From the N.O. Bee.

From the N.O. Picayune, May 11. Reports the arrival of Major Campbell of Springfield, M.O.

Extracts from a letter written by a young Virginia officer, W. B. B.

Editorial Correspondence of the Picayune. Includes: Three reports from Jalapa: April 29, May 1, May 4, 1847. All signed G.W.K; A proclamation from Jose Mariana Salas; and an article from the American Eagle dated May 5th.

A letter from the Jalapa American Star of April 29.

What action shall the United States take if Mexico continues to refuse peace?

Follow up on the censure of the General and his actions towards certain American prisoners. A letter to the Picayune by one of his aids, Enrique Mejia, attempting to exonerate him. Not found acceptable by the editors.

No army reports from Vera Cruz, only reports of sickness, says Picayune of the 15th.

Report from the Washington correspondent that one of Mr. Polk's dear friends was killed in the battle of Buena Vista. Mr. Polk has adopted Col. Yell of Arkansas's son.

N. O. Bulletin says that if Gen. Taylor has had another clash with the Mexicans it must have been on a very small scale.

FROM THE JALAPA AMERICAN STAR OF APRIL 29.
Mexican officer reports recent losses to be 980, a figure that was supposed much higher. Writers believe hundreds have been shaved off the actual number.

From the Picayune, May 14. Reports of Guerilla activity all along the valley, and warnings that such activities should be of primary consideration.

A letter dated April 4, 1847 from Monterey. Published in the Cincinnati Chronicle.

Many lies have been told to persuade the people that it is in their best interest to go to war. From Jefferson’s Virginia, page 290.

Summary of comments made recently by a Mr. Benton on the nature of Gen. Scott's capture of San Juan de Ulua.

Commentary regarding a speech by Senator Benton at St. Louis praising the Polk administration for its stance on the Oregon question in light of the developments in Mexico at the time.

Commentary on an editorial in the Washington Union that forgets Santa Anna is only in Mexico because of Mr. Polk.

Courrier des Etats Unis encourages optimism.

Latest dispatch from Taylor’s camp at Monterey. Dated April 21, 1847.

More commentary on the Senator’s speech regarding the administration.

The United States’ goal has always been to conquer a peace, but although Mexico cannot defend itself, she is no more willing to settle for peace now than after Palo Alto.

The Baltimore Patriot comments on the Union’s coverage of the issue of taking church property as indemnification.

A letter from Castle of Perote, dated April 25, 1847.

Includes the following reports: April 19 from Gen. Twigs, April 24 from Jalapa by Gen Twigs, April 23 from Jalapa by R. Patterson, April 22 from Perote by W.J. Worth, April 18 from Plan del Rio by G.J. Pillow, and April 21 from Jalapa by W.M. Sharney.

Discussion of the volunteer problems for Gen. Scott. Illegible.

Intelligence from Santa Fe confirms hangings of Mexicans as traitors, but suggests Indians are the biggest problem.

Dated May 1. Unsigned. Describes the geography of the land.

The mystery of Mr. N.P. Trist’s departure from Washington appears to be solved as he has reportedly arrived in Vera Cruz.

The St. Louis Republican reports nothing new in Santa Fe. Only continuing

Union repudiates opinions of the Philadelphia Ledger and New York Sun regarding the administration as "atrociously false". Reports the New York Commercial.

From the Picayune May 19. Nothing new to report from Vera Cruz, only the rumors spreading about Santa Anna and that sickness does not appear to be on the rise. Contains editorial by G.W.K regarding Scott’s movements, as well as a summary of letters from the Mexican capital covering various subjects.
RW47v24n43p1c5, May 28, 1847, DEPARTURE OF TROOPS.
Steamship New Orleans leaves Vera Cruz. From Picayune, May 19.

RW47v24n43p1c5, May 28, 1847, AMERICAN PRISONERS IN MEXICO.
From the Picayune, May 19. A report that Majors Gaines and Borland were allowed the freedom of the city of Mexico. This is not believed due to reports only a short time before that they were in close confinement in the felons’ castle of Santiago.

RW47v24n43p1c5, May 28, 1847, FROM THE VERA CRUZ EAGLE OF MAY 12.
Activities of Com. Perry.

RW47v24n43p2c1, May 28, 1847, LETTER FROM GENERAL TAYLOR.
New Orleans Bulletin publishes extracts of a letter from Gen. Taylor to a distinguished citizen of Louisiana regarding his candidacy. He does not deny his willingness to serve, but states he has no aspirations for the position.

RW47v24n43p2c2, May 28, 1847, THE WHOLE OR NONE.
a letter writer to the Baltimore Sun says this should be the war cry in regard to Mexico as it was in Oregon. Whig editors warn of this sentiment.

RW47v24n42p2c2, May 28, 1847, UNTITLED.
Major John P. Gaines, although a prisoner in Mexico, is the Whig candidate for Congress in the Marysville district in Kentucky.

RW47v24n42p2c2, May 28, 1847, UNTITLED.

RW47v24n42p2c2, May 28, 1847, LIEUT. WILLIE P. HALE.
From the Picayune. The story of a young Virginian who lost his life at Cerro Gordo.

RW47v24n42p2c4, May 28, 1847, LATER FROM GEN. SCOTT’S ARMY.
From the Picayune, May 20. Correspondence from Vera Cruz, May 13 and from Jalapa, May 11. As well as a Proclamation to the Mexican people from Scott and reports from the Flag.

RW47v24n42p2c6, May 28, 1847, THIRD DRAGOON.
Troops previously ordered to join Gen. Taylor have been redirected. This seems to indicate that the Rio Grande Army will not move towards San Louis Potosi at this time.

RW47v24n42p4c1, May 28,1847: THE PEACE RUMORS.
Santa Anna appears to be raising up another army to defend the city, while Scott faces loss of volunteers.

RW47v24n42p4c1, May 28, 1847, UNTITLED.
Col. Butler, who commands the regiment of South Carolina Volunteers, writes to his governor that peace would be welcome.

RW47v24n42p4c2, May 28, 1847, THE NEW TARIFF FOR MEXICO.
Discussion on which country would benefit more from a proposed tariff.

RW47v24n42p4c2, May 28, 1847, GENERAL TAYLOR.
Compares his wild popularity in the army with the opinions of him in Europe.

RW47v24n42p4c2, May 28, 1847, A PROMPT RESPONSE.
Illinois quickly sends more regiments.

RW47v24n42p4c2, May 28, 1847, UNTITLED.
New York Sun publishes outrageous letter supposedly written in England to further their cause of “the whole or none” of Mexico. Similar articles were published in 1844 regarding the annexation of Texas.

RW47v24n42p4c4, May 28, 1847, FROM TEXAS.
Steamship Yacht arrived from Galveston on the 16th with the latest news including fears of the Camanches and movements of volunteers.

RW47v24n42p4c5, May 28, 1847, LATER FROM GEN. SCOTT’S ARMY.
From the Picayune May 18. Includes correspondence on the March on Puebla, Arrival of the Volunteers, and the return of Gen. Patterson, dated May 11 from Jalapa, May 8 from Vera Cruz as well as a proclamation from Santa Anna dated April 22 from Orizaba.

RW47v24n42p4c6, May 28, 1847, LATEST FROM SANTA FE AND CALIFORNIA.
From the St. Louis Republican, May 17. Reactions of the natives to the American occupation as well as reports of troops joining Gen. Kearny.

June
The Train From Vera Cruz
-War munitions

The Army
-About men serving only 12 months

Washington Letter Writers
-About General Scott’s Proclamation

Major General Pillow
-Should not have been promoted

Ole Rough and Ready
-Speech given to new boys

Second Regiment of Tennessee Volunteers

To the Public
-About General Pillow

British Opinions
-About the war with Mexico

Peace or War

General Taylor

Likeness of Rough and Ready

Later from Santa Fe
-Ill health of soldiers

War’s Ravages
-Disease and deaths due to war

From the Army of General Taylor
-Article about no news

From Santa Fe
-Heroes from town

News from the Steamer Palmetto

Colonel Harney
-About his good looks and charm

British Opinions
-US doesn’t care about them

Mexican Territory
-Slavery issues

The Mexican Pirates
-US out to capture them

Further from Mexico

Mexico

From the Brazos

Texas
-Indians there causing trouble
The New Orleans Picayune of the 26th ultimo contains further news from Tampico. A private letter says:

"I can hear of nothing of interest from the interior. The general impression is that Herrera will be elected President of Mexico upon the opening of Congress, and that overtures of peace will be immediately made to our Government. This I conceive very probable, as the citizens are disposed for peace; but as soon as Santa Anna hears of such an occurrence his steps will be turned towards the capital, and whoever is elected President will enjoy his functions but for a short time."

The Picayune has no faith in the opinion above expressed, of the good disposition of the Mexicans, never having met with a trace of such feeling in any of their papers.

The El Echo de Tampico, of the 12th inst. contains a further correspondence between Gen. Taylor and Santa Anna, only one passage of which is important. General Taylor writes from Saltillo, on the 20th of November, acknowledging the courtesy of Santa Anna in releasing seven American prisoners. He then quotes from the terms of the armistice of Monterey, to justify our Government in putting an end to it; and concludes by expressing the hope that the Mexican Congress will accept the offer of the U. States, and enter into negotiations for the termination of hostilities and the establishment of a permanent peace. Santa Anna replied on the 24th, and concludes his letter as follows:

"I will conclude this note by assuring you that I entertain the hope that the sovereign National Congress, which is immediately to be installed, will act as shall be most conducive to the interests of the Republic; but I believe that I do not deceive myself in assuring you, that neither the Congress, nor any Mexican, will ever be able to listen to overtures of peace unless the national territory be first
evacuated by the forces of the United States, and the hostile attitude of their vessels of war be withdrawn. This must be without a doubt the preliminary of whatever negotiation may be opened; and it may be permitted to me to declare to you, that the nation, moved by a sentiment of patriotism, and determined to defend at every hazard and inch by inch its territory, will never cease to qualify as it deserves, and as the world has already qualified it, the conduct of the United States; and it will do whatever it can and ought honorably to deserve the title which it bears of independent and free.”

The Picayune says that no other part of the correspondence is important; but here we have expressed the determination of the Mexican people in the energetic words of their ablest leader.

Com. Conner left Tampico on the 11th ult. for Anton Lizardo. Upon his arrival there an expedition will sail for Laguna, and it is believed to be his intention to occupy Tabasco permanently.

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RW47v24i2p1c3, January 5, 1847 Departure of the Troops.

Four companies of the first battalion if Virginia Volunteers left this city yesterday morning for Old Point:

The Richmond Grays, Capt. Robert G. Scott, jr.;
The Richmond Rangers, Capt. E. C. Carrington, jr.;
The Alexandria Volunteers, Capt. J. H. Corse;
The Carolina Volunteers, Capt. Smith P. Bankhead.
The fifth company, the Petersburg Volunteers, commanded by Capt. Fletcher H. Archer, we understand, were to meet their comrades at City Point.
The Staunton Volunteers, Capt. Kenton Harper, we understand, will go down to Old Point on Wednesday.

On Saturday, the Volunteers were addressed, we learn, in an impressive and eloquent manner by the Rev. Dr. Plumer.

RW47v24i2p1c5, January 5, 1847

Richmond, January 2d, 1847.

To the Editors of the Richmond Whig:

Gentlemen– An article (Editorial) in your paper of this morning relative to the Volunteers, is well calculated to produce and has produced an erroneous impression in regard to my company. You speak of it as one of the companies to compose the 2nd Battalion of the Virginia Regiment, if I shall succeed in making out my roll– (I do not quote your language, not having the paper before me.) I have already a sufficient number of men to muster into the service, but they are scattered over the State, and cannot get here for several days. My company has been accepted by the Governor, and will constitute part of the Virginia Regiment.

You will oblige me by correcting the erroneous impression you have created.

Respectfully, &c.
WM. B. ARCHER.

RW47v24i2p1c5, January 5, 1847:

From the Lynchburg Virginian, Dec. 31

A note from Major Jubal A. Early, of the Virginia Regiment, informs us that he has failed to raise a full company in Franklin and the adjoining counties, fifty–five being the highest number enrolled. The great obstacle has been the want of a place of rendezvous, and the means sustaining the Volunteers while the company is filling up– it being as difficult nearly to re–assemble the men as to recruit them in the first instance.

Major Early expects to be in Lynchburg, on Saturday, and to bring with him as many as possible of those whose names have been enrolled in Franklin, Henry & Bedford. He hopes here to be joined by patriotic young men of the Town and surrounding counties, and that a Company, to represent this quarter of the State, may yet be organized, and, should this be impossible, he will conduct all who may meet him to Richmond where they can join some of the Companies whose ranks are not yet full. Major Early asks if Lynchburg will not follow the patriotic example set her by other Towns in the State and provide quarters and sustenance for the Volunteers whilst here. We think we may safely answer in the affirmative for our citizens.
We sincerely hope Major Early may take to Richmond a full Company, in whose Welfare, though not its immediate commander, he would feel a particular interest.

RW47v24i2p1c5, January 5, 1847, Marriage of a Volunteer.

Yesterday afternoon, at East Boston, Henry Carney, one of Capt. Webster's company, was married to Miss Alvira Bent. Lieut. Kelley, officer of the day, allowed an escort of thirteen men in uniform, with side arms, under Sergeant Stearns, to accompany the bridegroom from the quarters in Pitt Street to East Boston, and witness the wedding. A furlough of forty eight hours was also allowed the bridegroom.

In the forenoon twenty men of this company, in uniform, attended the Rev. Mr. Taylor's church.

The reverend gentleman availed himself of the circumstances to discourse eloquently upon the duties of patriotism, and at the close of the service he prayed that the young defenders of their country present, and their brethren in arms, might go forth to battle armed with the breast plate of righteousness, and be sustained in the hour of utmost danger by a sure hope in Christ.—Boston Post.

RW47v24i2p1c6, January 5, 1847, Revolution in Campeachy– Revolution in Tabasco.


We have received, through a respectable commercial house of this city, accounts from Campeachy to the 9th inst., and from Tabasco to the 18th of November. The documents before us are not complete, but we infer from them there was another pronunciamento made at Campeachy on the 8th of December.

We have an address dated the 8th by Domingo Barret in which he alludes to the formal pronunciamento and yields a reluctant acquiescence the wishes of his fellow citizens, and presents himself as the chief of the glorious revolution which was that day commenced, and swears to discharge his duty with loyalty and purity. We would give the whole of this address, but that these convulsions in Yucatan are of very little moment of themselves, and that the address of Senor Barret does not very clearly point out the wrongs which by the revolution are sought to be redressed.

As the revolution broke out on the 8th and our advices are only to the 9th inst. we are unable to say how far Senor Barret has succeeded.

We come now to the pronunciamento of the garrison of Tabasco. This is dated the 19th of Nov., in the city of San Juan Bautista de Tabasco, so recently blockaded by Com. Perry. The officers assembled at the quarters of the commandant general, Juan Bautista Traconis, allege that full representations had been made to the Supreme Government of the defenceless state of their department, and of the recent invasion of it by the Americans; and that the Government had in substance denied all their prayers for aid. They allege that the Central Government only uses Tabasco for its convenience—drawing a revenue from it and appointing to office therein; but taking no heed to its internal welfare or protection from foreign enemies. They complain that General Salas and his ministers are exclusively occupied in domestic quarrels, and in accruing their own places; that the independence and security of the country are of secondary importance with them. In proof of this the abandonment of Tampico is cited and the indifference manifested towards the protection of Tabasco, threatened by the American squadron. By all these considerations, and others—really "too numerous to mention"—they are induced to declare as follows: First. The State of Tabasco disavows the Government of the Republic, whilst no effort is made to preserve the integrity of the national territory. Second. The same State being compelled by conduct of the said Government to provide for her own security and defence, will regulate her internal administration upon basis more liberal and adequate to the circumstances of the existing war.

These two articles were approved by acclamation, and a third was then adopted, appointing Senor Traconis, named above, as the head of the revolution, in consideration of his heroic defence of the State from the invasion of the American squadron in the month of October. Private letters would lead us to suppose that a design is entertained of uniting with Yucatan in throwing off the Central Government; but the "lights before us" are quite too faint to authorize us to assert this positively. We note that in the document before us there is little of that bitterness evinced towards the United States, when they are mentioned, which we are accustomed to find in all public papers from other parts of the Republic. At the same time, there is nothing in the least conciliatory in the language employed.

RW47v24i2p1c6, January 5, 1847

From the N. O. Picayune, Dec. 26

From Galveston.—The steamship Palmetto, Captain Smith arrived last evening from Galveston, whence she sailed on Tuesday, the 22nd inst.
The Palmetto encountered a heavy gale on her last passage to Galveston. In the midst of it she took fire, and there was for some time the utmost possible alarm among the passengers. The fire was ultimately subdued and found to have proceeded from some spirits of turpentine which was upset in the steward’s pantry, and set on fire by a lamp placed there.

There is a story in the Galveston News, told by a teamster recently from Mexico to the effect that Col. Riley was recently surrounded, at Morelos, by 5000 Mexicans under Gen. Urrea, and that there was no hope of Col. R.’s escape. We do not believe a word of it.

We find a few items of local news in our Texas files of interest. There was some talk that the Indians on the frontiers were making hostile demonstrations, but no actual depredations had been committed.

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RW47v24i2p1c6, January 5, 1847, Desertions from the American Army.

A correspondent of the New Orleans Tropic, writing from Monterey, on the 27th ultimo, says:

This morning three Mexicans were arrested on a charge of trying to induce some of our men to desert—One of them is the son of the Alcalde, and I think it will go hard with them. Gen. Taylor was in town, and told them that unless some three or four men, who had been seduced off, were brought back in a given time, he would hang them in the Plaza. This business induced me to make inquiry as to the number of men who had deserted from our ranks, and was told that not less than fifty had gone over to the enemy since the capitulation of Monterey; but I am proud to state that none of them were native-born Americans.”

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RW47v24i2p1c6, January 5, 1847, The Mexican General Valencia.

The recent advices from Mexico, mention the arrival in the vicinity of San Luis, of General Valencia, at the head of eight thousand men. This force will be a valuable addition to Santa Anna’s army, inasmuch as a portion of it has been raised in the mining districts of Guanajuato, which are inhabited by a bold and hardy class of men. That Don Gabriel Valencia the commander of these 8000 men, is one of the best generals in Mexico cannot be doubted. Santa Anna has lately appointed him his second in command; and he would not have done this, had he not entertained the highest opinion of Valencia’s abilities.—[N.Y. Courier.

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RW47v24i2p2c2, January 5, 1847

Washington, Jan. 3 1847 — midnight.

Col. Baker, of Illinois, left the city for the West this morning, by the Ohio river. He will visit his wife at Springfield, in Illinois, and then proceed to join his regiment in Mexico.

Among the strangers now in town I notice Gen. Waddy Thompson of S. C. who arrived by the Southern boat this evening. Lieut. Potter, who was wounded at Monterey, arrived last night. He is moving about on crutches.

It is said that there will be an explanation tomorrow or next day between Messrs. Davis and Bayly. It is also again said that we are to have a Message on the Lt. Generalship to-morrow from the President.

There is not much news of importance here to-day. Some people expect that Mr. Walker will resign, from the vote of the House yesterday. I do not think he will.

I presume Congress will take hold of business in earnest to-morrow. Is it not time?

The "Colombia Typographical Society" celebrated their Thirty-Second Anniversary, by a supper at Congress Hall, last evening. Among the speakers were Messrs. Ritchis of the Union, and Isaac Hall if New Hampshire. The speeches, toasts, songs, sentiments, &c. were excellent. There were two or three odes, songs, &c. The party did not break up 'til a late, or rather early, hour.

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RW47v24i2p2c3, January 5, 1847, Too Late!

The Rockingham Register of the 2d. inst. informs us that two companies of volunteers are now in the process of formation in that county—(the Tenth Legion.) One company, it says, is nearly full, and expected to proceed to the election of officers last Saturday. The
Taylor, we would have been before Monterey eight weeks sooner, when it might have been taken without firing a gun. And why was

Had not the Chihuahua expedition been planned, and had the force and supplies of that army been promptly concentrated on Gen.

town and forces, or followed on their rear in retreat and eventually have captured or massacred Ampudia’s entire army.

would have had with his army before Monterey one month’s supplies, when he could have enforced an unconditional surrender of the

capitulation,) and had during the engagement to dispatch his train back to Cerralvo. Had this concentration been effected, Gen. Taylor

Cerralvo in his rear, to transport with his Army of 6000 men a supply to subsist it longer than two days after the 24th, (the day of the

having to leave behind him his battery train on that account? Gen. Taylor had not sufficient transportation, with a depot as near as

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with his force and enormous supply of transportation and subsistence, had been concentrated on Gen. Taylor, would the latter have

operations growing out of it are necessarily directly opposed to it. Had we met an enterprising enemy, this defect in the present plan of

offensive. Unfortunately for our Government this principle did not enter as an element in the present plan of campaign, and all

operations of the Army. Such letters are read with deep regret, for they are disparaging to the reputation and good name of the

American soldiery. I suppose the people are, and indeed ought to be satisfied with the achievements of the Army. We have

accomplished a great deal under many difficulties and trammels, and having done so much we must claim the privilege of pointing out

those difficulties and trammels, of showing cause why they never should have existed, and proving that had they not existed we

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should be much further advanced in attaining our object– as advantageous peace.

The fundamental principle in war it “to operate, with superior forces, a combined movement on a decisive point,” and no plan of

campaign can be promptly successful unless framed on this principle, particularly where it is the intention to act entirely on the

offensive. Unfortunately for our Government this principle did not enter as an element in the present plan of campaign, and all

operations growing out of it are necessarily directly opposed to it. Had we met an enterprising enemy, this defect in the present plan of

campaign would have been rendered much more apparent, and its failure much more signal by defeat in detail. Suppose Gen. Wool,

with his force and enormous supply of transportation and subsistence, had been concentrated on Gen. Taylor, would the latter have

marched on Monterey with on 6000 men, not having more than enough transportation to carry subsistence for that number, and

having to leave behind him his battery train on that account? Gen. Taylor had not sufficient transportation, with a depot as near as

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would have had with his army before Monterey one month’s supplies, when he could have enforced an unconditional surrender of the
town and forces, or followed on their rear in retreat and eventually have captured or massacred Ampudia’s entire army.

Had not the Chihuahua expedition been planned, and had the force and supplies of that army been promptly concentrated on Gen.

Taylor, we would have been before Monterey eight weeks sooner, when it might have been taken without firing a gun. And why was
this Chihuahua expedition a portion of the plan of campaign? Was it not reasonable to suppose that after our victories before Matamoros, our enemy would occupy and hold, as strategic points, Monterey and Saltillo, covering the strongest passes in the Sierra Madre and having San Luis Potosi as a base of operations? San Luis should then have been in the plan of campaign, the objective point, and all of our energies should have been exerted on this line. As it turns out, Gen. Kearney takes New Mexico without firing a gun, and after the battle of Monterey Gen. Wool arrives at Monclova, and reports his advance on Chihuahua as useless, whilst our enemy, whipped at Monterey, abandons Saltillo and concentrates at San Luis, which he never could have done had Gen. Wool's army been promptly united with Gen. Taylor's. Owing to this error in the plan of campaign our enemy not only gained time to fortify and fight at Monterey, but as a natural consequence from it, he also gained time to concentrate at San Luis. With the combined material of the two armies the objective point, San Luis, might have been gained, and, by a decisive action with Ampudia's forces alone, at that point, the campaign might have ended, and probably the war. These are some of the difficulties under which we have labored, and but for which our Army could have done much more for the country. By these Gen. Taylor has been trammelled in his operations, and has not had an opportunity to display to the world what he could have done, had the plan of campaign been framed on military principles.

But let us look a little further into the difficulties growing out of and caused by the present plan of campaign. What is the relative position of our own and the enemy's forces at this time? Santa Anna has beyond doubt concentrated at San Luis 37,000 men; he holds a central position which, with his force, cannot be approached from this direction even by superior forces, owing to the scarcity of water, which, on a large portion of the route, is held in tanks, and entirely at the disposal of the enemy. He holds himself invincible at that point, relying on the strength of Vera Cruz to resist attack, which must be taken before we can approach him by gaining his rear.

The number of Gen. Taylor's army is very far overrated, even by the Union, which seems to estimate it at the actual volunteer force sent into the field and the regular force prescribed by law, without any allowance for the diminution of his force from casualties and sickness, which has far exceeded what might have been reasonably anticipated under the most unfavorable circumstances. Whatever may be thought of the strength of our force in Mexico at this date, I assert, and without fear of contradiction, that not more than fourteen thousand effective men could be brought into action to-morrow morning out of the whole army in the field. Now, what disposition of this inferior force necessarily results from the plan of the campaign? San Luis cannot be approached from this direction, and to go at our enemy we must approach him on another line. But the all important passes in the Sierra Madre must be held, to prevent our enemy from gaining our rear; and our forces, although inferior to the enemy in numbers, are necessarily scattered, whilst Santa Anna can operate en masse on any point. Thus we find ourselves compelled to operate on multiple lines, on an extended front, with an inferior force, whilst our enemy holds a single line of operations, and an interior one. This immense advantage to the enemy results entirely from the defective plans of campaign, and the only remedy is to form a new one, by which an increased force of 30,000 men must be concentrated on some decisive point. Vera Cruz and San Juan de Ulloa must be taken; then, and not till then, will Mexican generals and soldiers begin to think that their arms are not invincible, and not till then will the Mexican people mistrust the prowess of their army. The fall of Vera Cruz and San Juan de Ulloa may be a strong inducement to cause them to sue for peace, but I confidently believe that we will even then have to advance and fight the enemy at whatever point he may select. The Mexicans have no idea of making peace– even the private families in this town teach their children to hate Americans, and to lisp the name of Santa Anna as the saviour of their country, who is to whip the Americans whenever he meets them. It is absurd to think of peace unless our Government will take prompt and efficient measure to strike some decisive blow. Our force must be increased, the necessary subordination of military operations to the measure of supplies must be better considered, and the plans of campaign must be in strict accordance with military science. Then will our general in the field show to the world that he is not the man to win a battle and lose its advantages.

Yours truly, N.

[MPR]

RW47v24i2p2c5, January 5, 1847, Latest from the Army.

From the New Orleans Times, Dec. 28.

The U.S. Steamer Fashion, Capt. Fullerton, from Brazos, which place she left on the 24th inst, via. Matagorda Bar and Galveston, arrived here late last night. She brought up a very large mail from the interior of Mexico, and Capt. Yeatman bearer of dispatches from Washington. The letters will not be distributed until this morning. The following items, however, have been kindly communicated to us, by Col. J.G. Langdon, of New Orleans, who came passenger by the Fashion.

General Wool’s Division.– General Wool was encamped within two miles of the cit of Parras, his force amounting, by the field reports, to 2,900 mean. He is ordered there to establish a depot, and to levy upon all supplies belonging to the Mexican Government. He has already taken large quantities of flour wheat and corn.

The first and second Regiments of Indiana Volunteers were on their march from Camargo to join Gen. Wool.

Gen. Worth was at Saltillo, in command of 1500 men, and the command of Monterey has been assigned to Gen. Butler with 2000 men to garrison it.

Gen. Twiggs and Gen. P.H. Smith, with their respective commands, were at Victoria, and Gen. Quitman with his Brigade, left Monterey for Victoria on the 14th inst.

Gen. Taylor with a squadron of Dragoons, also left for Victoria on the 15th inst.
Gen. Patterson was to have left on the 22nd inst., accompanied by the Tennessee Regiment of Cavalry, for Tampico via Victoria.

The Alabama Regiment of Volunteers, and the 2nd Regiment of U. States Artillery, had arrived there already. The city was in command of Gen. Shields.

Lieut. Col. Henry Clay, with six companies of the 2d Regiment of Kentucky volunteers, was at Ceralvo. Capt. Willis was at Mier with two companies of the same regiment, and Capt. (Gen. M.B. Lamar) with a company, is stationed at Laredo.

The U.S. Steamer Major Brown, Capt. Sterling, was at Laredo, the stage of the river being such that she could not navigate it. Lieut. Tilden is about to remove the obstructions in the river, which, if successful, will enable the steamer Major Brown to go up to Camargo.

Col. Marshall is confined in consequence of injuries received in falling from his horse, but was fast recovering.

An express had reached Gen. Patterson to the effect that Santa Anna was advancing upon San Luis Potosi and Saltillo, for the purpose of cutting off Gen. Worth.

About 450 regulars were to have left Camargo on the 20th for Monterey; among them were Captains Keer’s and Hunter’s commands of the second regiment of dragoons.

The Mexican Government Recruiting in the Valley of the Rio Grande.– The Mexicans are making great exertions to raise troops in all the small Mexican towns on the Rio Grande, and with some success. About the 15th inst. Capt. Stone, with a detachment of 70 men, proceeded to a rancho up the Rio San Juan, a distance of thirty seven miles, where he found about 200 Mexicans collected, and among them Capt. Cantooa, who was the particular object of his search. Capt. C. was captured, and the muster-roll of his company, and letters of instruction from Gens. Ampudia and Paredes, with a quantity of blankets, 50 stands of arms, ammunition, &c. were secured. Capt. Cantooa was carried to Camargo, and put in prison.

On the evening of the 16th inst. a Mexican was taken by the guards at Camargo, having made an entry into the powder magazine with a design, it is supposed, of blowing it up.

Passengers.– The Fashion has brought hither, form the Brazos, nineteen cabin passengers, among whom is Captain Yeatman, aide-de-camp to General Wool, and it is understood he is bearer of dispatches to Washington. There are also on board, eighty discharged volunteers, together with the remains of young Allison, from Nashville, Tenn. who was shot at Monterey.

John Christick, one of the Indiana Volunteers, dies at sea, on the 24th inst. thirteen miles north of Brazos Island; and was buried in the mighty deep.

[MPR]

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**RW47v24i2p2c5, January 5, 1847, Tampico Attacked! --- Repulse of the Mexicans!**

We learn from a passenger just arrived from Tampico, on the schooner H.M. Johnson, and who came up to the city from the Southwest Pass, on the steamer Fashion, that on the 16th inst. Tampico had been attacked by 7000 Mexican cavalry, thinking to carry the place by a coup de main: our troops, however, were on the alert, and on their approach, opened on them a brisk fire of artillery, when they broke and fled.

[MPR]

**RW47v24i2p2c5, January 5, 1847**

[Correspondence of the Picayune.]

Tampico, December 9, 1946.

Gentlemen– This little town has shaken of the lethargy incident to blockade, and already presents a very lively and bustling appearance. We not only have the usual activity attendant upon a military and naval depot, but arrivals of vessels from your port, bringing provisions and dry good for the Mexicans, are daily occurring. Much disappointment has been occasioned to the adventurers, as for the present nothing is needed in the way of provisions except for the immediate consumption of such of the inhabitants of the town as have not been frightened off by the advent of los Americanos.

All communication with the interior has been interdicted by the Mexican authorities, and the country immediately in the neighborhood of Tampico is so thinly inhabited that for the present there exists no demand for the cargoes arriving. The cargo of the schooner Home, from New Orleans, was sold at auction on the 5th inst. Flour, 55 bbls., at $7.50; potatoes, 60 bbls., at $1.50, and other articles in proportion. Another, per schooner Velasco, consisting principally of dry goods, has been placed in store.

The state of things will continue until communication with the interior is opened by the American troops, and should San Luis Potosi be taken possession of, doubtless the business of this place will be of some importance, as the Mexicans are willing and ready enough to
trade with us, but are restrained by fear of their own authorities, and without their license have no facilities for transporting goods into the interior. But Tampico, although of immense importance to our government as a naval and military depot, will not possess as great advantages for commerce as Matamoros during the existence of the war.

I find the foreign residents here very much embittered against the Americans, and are greatly annoyed by our possession of the port. We have not only effectually closed their business during the blockade, but now we run in our domestic manufactures at prices that annihilate any competition from their stocks, that have been entered under the exorbitant Mexican tariff. They deny our right to open the port for our exclusive use. This is a question I will leave diplomatists to settle, but I believe it would be policy in our government to establish a custom house here, and admit all foreign vessels and merchandise upon the same terms as if entered at any port in the United States. Then we can claim the same privilege with foreign powers when they get by the ears, which happens more frequently than with ourselves, by which means we will eventually reap more benefits than can accrue to us from the exclusive entrance of all the Mexican seaports.

Tampico, Dec. 12, 1846

Gentlemen– Commodore Conner left yesterday for Anton Lizardo in the Princeton. Upon his arrival there an expedition will sail for Laguna, and I believe it is his intention to occupy Tabasco permanently. At the capture of this place three Mexican gun-boats, among other crafts, fell into the hands of the Americans. These schooners were built by Brown & Bell, in New York, and are the twin sisters of the Reefer, Bonita, and Petrel; so there are now 5 vessels in the Gulf squadron precisely alike, all of them beauties to look at but rather rum tuns to go, their draft of water being too light to make them crack sailors; however, the efficiency of the fleet for the shoal waters of this coast has been enhanced by their acquisition.

The troops here are enjoying the benefit of excellent quarters and a fine climate, and although some cases of intermittent fever were prevalent the general health of the place is good. I hear this town spoken of by the officers as being preferable to any in Mexico where they have yet been. This I can very readily believe– it is sufficiently large to enable one to procure good accommodations and fish, flesh, and fowl abound, and in quality the very best– game of all kinds, with the delicate palm cabbage of the country, and fruit superior to that of Havana should satisfy the fastidiousness of any epicure.

Although there are at present only some 700 regulars stationed here, a considerable additional force could be organized in case of any attack upon the town.

[MPR]

RW47v24i2, January 5, 1847, Government Map of Mexico.

FOURTH EDITION,

Is just published and for sale at the Exchange Bookstore.

A plan of the harbor of Vera Cruz, with the castle of San Juan de Ulloa, &c., have been added to this edition, which now affords a most complete view of the Hest of War. Texas, the Californias, &c., &c.

As this map has been adopted by the Army, the publisher complains that several imitations of it have been issued, and palmed upon the public as original Maps. Among these is one disguised under a Spanish title, which is a copy of the old edition of the Government map, made without the consent of the Publisher, several years ago, and now imposed upon the public as a new map.

C.F. Fisher, Agent,
Under the Exchange Hotel.
[MPR]

RW47v24i2p4c1, January 5, 1847, The Virginia Regiment. The 10th Legion.

As we mentioned yesterday, the first battalion of the Virginia regiment of Volunteers will leave this city next Sunday morning. The second battalion will, we presume, be soon ready for the field– consisting of one company from Caroline, under Capt. Bankhead; one from Montgomery, under Capt. Preston; one from Berkley, under Capt. Alburtis; one from Richmond, under Capt. Wm. B. Archer, (provided its organization be effected in time;) and one from Jefferson county, of the organization of which we were not apprized, until we received the Charlestown Free Press of the 31st ultimo– and which we have not heretofore “failed to notice,” as that paper gratuitously insinuates– with what motives its editor best knows– for the purpose of “disparaging the services” of volunteers from the other side of the Blue Ridge. Whence the editor could have imbibed an impression so ridiculous and improbable, we confess we are at a loss to conjecture. The officers in the Jefferson company are: John W. Rowan, Captain; John Avis, 1st Lieutenant; Lawrence B. Washington, 1st Second Lieutenant; and Wm. McCormick, 2d. Second Lieutenant.

We regret that the companies now forming in Pittsylvania, under the lead of J. Roy Cabell, and in Franklin and Bedford under the lead of Early, Talisferro and others, as well as those in the course of organization in other sections of the Commonwealth, must necessarily be disappointed.
En passant: The Enquirer of yesterday says, "the Richmond Whig continues its work of defaming the Tenth Legion," and charges us with "endeavoring to blacken its patriotism in time of war." How have we "defamed" the Tenth Legion? Will the Enquirer be good enough to tell us in what consists the slander we have uttered? We have said the Tenth Legion has sent no soldiers to the field. Is this not true? We have intimated pretty broadly that she ought to have been more active in sustaining by her services in the field the policy of an Administration which, by her vote, she has contributed to inflict upon this country. Is this defamation? If it be, then her own people have defamed her— for the Rockingham Register, a Locofoco oracle in that region, has, on more than one occasion, declared that the "Old Tenth" ought to send at least one company to the field, to stand by the side in battle of the fine corps furnished by her "federal" sister Augusta! Did we "defame" the Tenth Legion, or "blacken its patriotism," when, a day or two ago, we admitted that "no Whig county in the State can furnish braver men or better patriots, than that section of the Commonwealth— as we verily believed them, and still believe? This, surely, will not be pretended. In what, then, we ask the Enquirer, does the "defamation" with which it charges us consist? We think that it will puzzle the editors of the paper to say, unless they give to the word a definition very different from its received import.

In answer to the Enquirer's catechism, we reply, that it is not "a reproach to any county not to have raised a company" for the war—certainly not to any Whig county, upon which rests no peculiar obligation to furnish soldiers for a war of invasion, brought on, as they believe, without necessity, and by an act of usurpation on the part of the President; and especially while other counties, which assisted by almost an unanimous vote in elevating that President to office, and which, by equal unanimity, it is presumed, still approve of his policy, war and all, stand aloof from the contest, when the bugle calls them, no "To the polls!" but "To arms!" We do think that a peculiar obligation rested upon the counties comprising the district known as the "Tenth Legion," as well upon the Southwestern tier known as "Little Tennesse," to furnish at least one company each, in compliance with the requisition of the President. Their failure to do so is unquestionably a fair subject of comment and criticism— even, if you please, for "sneers." But we have not "defamed," nor have we "blackened the patriotism" of the "sturdy Democracy" of Shenandoah, Page and Rockingham. We have stated a fact in regard to them. If that is defamation, we have defamed them. We have left this fact to speak for itself. If the "patriotism" of those to whom it refers has been "blackened," it has not been by any remark of ours, but by the naked fact itself.

We do not doubt, and never have doubter, that in that fine portion of Virginia, which we have never "defamed," in peace or at war—unless, we repeat, the statement of a fact be defamation—there is as much true courage and ardent patriotism as in any other section of the Commonwealth. We do not attribute its failure to send a corps of volunteers to the field to any deficiency in either of these qualities. But this admission does not in the least conflict with the opinion that the Tenth Legion has, from some cause or other, been strangely derelict in having failed to perform a duty, which, from its past and present relations to the author of the war in which we are engaged, it ought to have eagerly discharged. It ought not certainly to have permitted "federal Augusta," lying upon its very borders, to shame, by her zeal in the prosecution of a war entered into by an Administration not at all to her liking, the apathy and indifference of communities which ought to have felt a livelier interest in the triumph of the Administration of their choice.

RW47v24i2p4c1, January 5, 1847, Col. Matthew Mountjoy Payne

During the recent visit of this veteran officer to Goochland, the county of his nativity, he was invited to partake of a public dinner, but his anxiety to rejoin immediately the army in Mexico, the wound received at Palo Alto having sufficiently healed to enable him to resume active service, compelled him to decline the honor. The correspondence will appear to-morrow.

The Augusta Volunteers, on leaving Staunton, were accompanied some distance on the way by a large number of citizens of that town; and when about to bid them a final adieu, Littleton Waddell, Esq. addressed them in a very feeling and appropriate manner, and Capt. Harper briefly responded on behalf of the company.

The County Court of Augusta ordered a Flag, with suitable devices, to be procured for the company, and Judge Briscoe G. Baldwin consented, as the organ of the court, to present it. In his reply to the application, Judge B., after remarking on the feelings which bind him to the county of Augusta, says: "I am proud to be the bearer of her flag on any occasion, and it is with deep emotion that I undertake to place it in hands by which it can never be dishonored."

[MPS]

RW47v24i2p4c2, January 5, 1847, General Scott.

This officer left New Orleans on the 23d ultimo, in the steamship Alabama, for the seat of war. The correspondent in that city of the Charleston Courier relates the following incident, which occurred prior to his departure.

"Gen. Scott found it necessary to have one in his staff familiar with the Spanish language, and a Mr. Gomes, who was I understand strongly recommended by one or two high government officers, was the one selected. He received yesterday a commission as Lieut. Col. of Dragoons from Gen. Scott, and was formally mustered into the U. States service. Immediately upon this, the strongest representations were made to the General about this man, who is pretty well known as the Editor of a Spanish paper La Patria, which has taken strong ground against our government in the present war, and in which some articles thoroughly Mexican (i.e. almost treasonable,) have appeared and been severely commented on. He was spoken of as a Mexican at heart, and the very last man who should occupy a confidential station about the person of the Commander— in-Chief. These statements, which came from men of both political parties, had their effect, and to—day the commission has been revoked, to the satisfaction of every one."

[MPS]
The following gentlemen are officers in Capt. Bankhead's company of volunteers: Smith P. Bankhead of Caroline, Captain; Thomas Garnett of Essex, 1st; Robert F. Coleman of Fredericksburg, 2d, and [ ... ] Mahan of Philadelphia, 3d. Lieutenant.

[MPR]

The Berkeley Volunteers yesterday paid their respects to Gov. Smith, and were welcomed by an appropriate speech.

[MPR]

Louis G. De Russy, a graduate of West Point, has been chosen Colonel of the new regiment of volunteers from Louisiana, and Frances Degault, Major. The Lieut. Colonel is yet to be appointed.

[MPR]

A Singular Fact.

[Communicated.

The Democracy brought the present war upon the country in spite of all the efforts of the Whigs to prevent it. But, after the war was declared, the parties seem to have changed places. The Whigs are for coming to the rescue and fighting it out, whilst the Democracy hang back!

As a proof of this singular state of things, I refer to the very extraordinary fact, that every company of volunteers which have yet been raised in Virginia, was raised in a Whig county or city. Not one has been raised in a Democratic county or city, (unless Montgomery, in which parties are about equally divided, may be so regarded.) Richmond, Petersburg, Norfolk, and Alexandria are all Whig cities. Berkeley, Jefferson, and Augusta are all Whig counties. Where is the company from the Tenth Legion, or Halifax, or Isle of Wight, or Little Tennessee? Echo answers, where? This is a pretty commentary on the President's Message and the diatribes of his cuckoo of the Union! The Whigs of 1846 are very much like their ancestors of 1776– they go for their country.

A Whig Son of a Whig Father.

[MPR]

Col. John F. Hamtramck.

From the Charleston Free Press, Dec. 31.

It will be seen, in another column, that Major John F. Hamtramck, of Sheperdstown, has received the appointment of Colonel of the Virginia Regiment. This is a most distinguished compliment, as we understand there were upwards of fifty applicants for this post of honor, embracing in their number some of the choicest spirits and most gallant souls in the Old Dominion.

This honor is not confined alone to the officer on whom it is conferred, but may justly be considered as one in which Jefferson county has a right to partake.

Col. Hamtramck is an old and experienced officer, being engaged in various capacities during the late war. He served with Gen. Taylor at the time when that officer "fleshed his maiden sword," and culled the first laurels that entwine his brow.

He served under Gen. Taylor (then Major) as a Sergeant during the war of 1814, in the spring of which year, they were together in an attack on a body of Indians on the North Western frontier. In the spring of 1814, the startling news reached St. Louis, of the capture of Prairie du Chien, (a fort on the upper Mississippi river,) and of the repulse of Capt. Campbell, who had gone up in a boat, with his company of U. States troops, for the relief of the place. This gave the British and Indians command of the upper Mississippi, and fears were entertained for the safety of St. Louis. Fort Madison had been evacuated, Chicago, Green Bay, Prairie du Chien, and the whole of the upper country was in possession of the enemy, and nothing then, apparently, could oppose their descent of the river, and the fall of St. Louis.

But, under the gallant and intrepid Taylor, an attack was made on the foe, and a complete route of the Indians effected which tended to the disbandment of their forces, as was afterwards learned by Col. Hamtramck, many years subsequently, in a conversation with
Koecock, the head chief now of the Sauke tribe.

A thrilling incident connected with this service, at which Col. Hamtramck was present may not prove uninteresting. The American forces had landed at a small island a little above River Rock, and lying close to the western side of the Mississippi, and placed sentinels to guard the camp;– the night waned without disturbance or alarm, but just about daylight, as the Corporal of the guard by direction of the Sergeant (now Col. Hamtramck) was looking at his watch, to see if it was not time to relieve the guard, and stooping for that purpose with the watch in his hand, to the light of a small camp fire, the crack of a rifle was heard, and the watch dropped from the Corporal's hand, and he ran to the boat with his wrist broken.

This is only one of the many narrow escapes, through which Col. H. passed untouched and unhurt; and we trust that the hand of an overruling Providence may again be extended to protect him from those dangers incident to his service, and that he may return to his family, his brow encircled with wreaths of glory, won in defence of the rights of his country.

[MPR]

RW47v24i2p4c3, January 5, 1847

From the Boston Courier, Dec. 28.

A draft of 100 seamen, for the line ship Ohio, arrived at Charlestown navy yard on Saturday from New York. It is said that her complement is now completed, and that she will soon depart for Norfolk, to await there the orders of the government.

We looked in yesterday, says the Newburyport Herald, to see the new boat building for government by Messrs. Picket & Ladd. It is a 24 oared barge, 40 feet long, 12 feet wide, and 4 feet 4 inches deep, and will cost about $500. One hundred of these boats are building, from Baltimore northward, all to be delivered the first of January, and the contracts for none of which were entered into until the first week of December. They are ordered by General Scott, and are intended to be amply sufficient, in case of emergency, to land 20,000 men on any point on the coast of Mexico.

[MPR]

RW47v24i2p4c3, January 5, 1847, How is this?

The Washington correspondent of the U.S. Gazette says:–

You need not be very much astonished should you hear, in the course of a few weeks, that the administration have determined to order our army to fall back and take position on the north side of the Rio Grande, instead of attempting to reach, and dictate a peace in, the Halls of Moctezuma.

[MPR]

RW47v24i2p4c4, January 5, 1847 Army News

The New Orleans papers contain a number of interesting letters from Monterey, the latest being down to the 1st inst. They were received by the steamer McKim. A correspondent of the Picayune, under date of the 25th ult., writes as follows:

"Gen. Taylor arrived at Saltillo day before yesterday, (23rd instant,) escorted by one squadron of Col. May's horse, having left one squadron in Saltillo. The general succeeded in capturing one hundred pack mules, with their cargoes, consisting of subsistence stores intended for Santa Anna's army at San Luis Potosi. The squadron left are said to be in pursuit of four hundred mules, loaded also with the same cargoes.

Col. May had a very severe fall at Saltillo, by his horse tripping on the pavement which inclines towards the centre from each side. He is doing well, and will be ready for duty in a few days."

A correspondent of the Delta, under date of the 30th, says:

"There is much excitement in the city this morning, arising from a murder committed last night at Armstrong's Hotel. A party of Tennesseans from the camp came into town to take supper at the hotel, and whilst eating and drinking, a table was turned over, breaking a number of plates and glasses. Armstrong came into the room much excited, ann commenced a tirade of abuse, at the end of which pay was offered him double for all that was destroyed; but, not content with that, he called in the guard, and, after pointing out a very estimable young man, by the name of Forrest, said: "There's the d-d rascal who broke my dishes;" but before the sergeant of the guard could reach him, Armstrong pulled out a pistol and shot him dead, and escaped before his companions or the guard could put their hands on him. He was, however, subsequently arrested.

"Two Frenchman, in addition to the "big bug" Mexicans, have been arrested on a charge of tampering with out soldiers, and offering them inducements to desert. There will be a pretty hanging match here some of these days. A volunteer Lieut. Colonel dressed himself
in a private’s clothes, and was readily accepted as a **voluntario**, and given an order on a man about 10 leagues distant for the money and horse promised him. The one who gave the order was immediately arrested, and the Colonel started for his reward, but not alone—he took twenty good men with him, and will doubtless return in the course of a day, with several of those who preferred the Mexican to the American service, and also with the individuals who pay out the Mexican dollars.

“The tables have been turned on the Mexicans, and for those who have been assassinated of the volunteers, a double number of the enemy have suffered within a day or two. It is reported this morning, that Gen. Taylor has ordered the 1st Kentuckians to Cerralvo to prevent this killing.”

The correspondent of the Delta, under the date of the 1st instant, writes a lengthy letter, from which we take the following extracts:

“The war between the Kentuckians and the Mexicans, as it is familiarly termed, has created no little excitement both in town and in the camp. It is thought that not less than 40 Mexicans have been killed within the last five days, fifteen of whom, it is said, were killed in one day, and within the scope of one mile. From this you will see that the boys are determined to have and to take revenge for the assassination of their comrades.

The trial of the alcalde’s son, and others engaged in tampering with our men, is set for to–morrow. I should not exactly say trial, for it will be more in the shape of a court of inquiry at first. I saw this young alcalde this morning in prison. He is a young and very interesting man, and was weighed down to the ground with irons, not that they fear his escape, but to deter others from following in his footsteps. At first, it was thought that but few men were engaged in the business; but it is now clearly ascertained that many of the principal men in the place have had a finger in the pie; and since the first arrests, many of the *first* families of Monterey have left, and the population of the place has decreased in that time nearly 1,000. The 7th regiment has lost many men by desertion, and I have since ascertained that the number I spoke of before—forty— as having departed, may be safely trebled; and all since the 25th September. The regulars have invariably gone to the enemy; but what few of the volunteers that have left us *sans ceremonie*, have made tracks for a Christmas dinner in the white settlements. The friends of those arrested—particularly of the alcalde—fear the worst; and if they were hung in the plazas as Taylor threatened, they would not be much surprised.”

“The weather is lovely at this time, and forcibly reminds one of the spring time of the year. It is a great climate, and blossoms half–grown, and ripe fruit can be found on the same tree.”

[MPR]

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**RW47v24i2p4c4, January 5, 1847, Later from the Army. Arrival of the Massachusetts– Later from Tampico– Army Movements, &c. &c.**

By the arrival of the U.S. auxiliary steamship Massachusetts, Capt. D. Wood, we have received Tampico dates to the 15th and Brazos to the 18th inst. We acknowledge our indebtedness to Capt. W. for his kindness in forwarding the latest information, and also to Mr. A. J. Clifton, late mate of the Neptune, for a list of vessels in the harbor of Tampico.

There had been quite an excitement at Tampico, caused by a report that a large body of Mexican cavalry had been seen in the neighborhood. Of the truth or falsity of the report we have no means of knowing.

The British sloop of war Alarm, Lieut. Mays commanding, had arrived at Tampico from Vera Cruz. Her captain was left sick at the former place.

The U.S. steamer Fashion, with Gen. Jessup on board, arrived at Brazos on the 18th inst.

Gen. Pillow left Matamoros on the 14th inst. He was to go 25 miles, and then wait for Gen. Patterson with the rest of his division and train.

Through Mr. Beard, one of the passengers by the Massachusetts, we learn that Gen Taylor was to leave Monterey on the 10th inst. for Victoria, with Gen. Twigg’s division and a portion of Gen. Smith’s brigade. It is also reported that Gen. Urrea, of whom we have not heard of late was at Victoria with 6000 cavalry. Gen. Wool remained at Parras and Gen. Worth at Saltillo. It was positively reported and believed in camp, that Santa Anna had 28,000 men at San Luis.

The following items we copy from the Matamoros Flag of the 16th instant:

“Mexican Reports.– A Mexican just arrived from Tampico, informs us that Santa Anna is purging his army of all officers whom the remotest suspicion of cowardice can be attached; and retaining only such as he has the most implicit confidence in their bravery and skill. Gen. Ampudia, Col. Carasco, and several others, he states have been imprisoned, charged with cowardice, and an order has been issued dooming to instant death any officer who shall disgrace his flag by cowardly or unofficer like conduct in battle. Santa Anna he represents as having the unlimited confidence of the soldiery; and to such a pitch has he raised their ardor by eloquent appeals to their passions that is would be impossible to conceive the enthusiasm that prevails among them. A general desire is expressed to be led against the invaders.”

The following paragraph, in relation to the hospital at Matamoros, we copy from the same paper:
"About two hundred sick have been received into the hospital since Sunday. One hundred and thirty arrived from Camargo, and the remainder were left by the 3d and 4th Illinois Regiments in breaking up their encampments to commence the march for Tampico. Dr. Wright has had his hands full for the last four months—the number in hospital averaging from three to six hundred during this period, and it shows him possessed of more than common energy and industry to have managed so successively the complicated duties of his department. Deaths are much less frequent now than during the fall and summer months, and patients are all doing well."

The editor of the Flag holds the following language in relation to the movement of troops:

"The 3d and the 4th Illinois Regiments broke up their encampments at this place on Monday last, and commenced the march for Tampico. It is the intention we understand, to form an encampment at Moquete, a rancho about six leagues distant, and await the coming supplies, which we hear it stated will take some eight or ten days to send forward. A part of the Tennessee cavalry regiment marched with them and the remainder will follow in due time. The combined strength of the three regiments is not more than 1800 mean— the two Illinois regiments furnishing little over half of the number, sickness and death having reduced them one-third their original strength. Gen. Patterson still has his quarters in the city, and we cannot venture a statement as to any fixed day for his departure, such information not being easily come at—the best way to state it is, to say that he will be off when he gets ready. It is given out that the expedition proceeds first to Victoria, which will lengthen the march to Tampico one-fourth and make it a journey of near five hundred miles. But we shall see what we shall see. We cannot conceive what everybody is to be sent to Tampico for. "What do they in the south when they should be"—somewhere else."

Murders continue to be committed in the interior of the country. The Flag of the 10th inst. says:

"Within the last week three persons are reported to us as having been killed on the road between Camargo and Monterey, but the name of only on we have ascertained—Mr. Wm. J. Downing, clerk for Mr. Mann, butler at Monterey. Mr. Downing left Monterey in company with Mr. Mann, Col. L.P. Cook, and others, for Camargo, and with a Mexican servant of Mr. Mann, was riding some distance in the rear of the party, when he was attacked by Mexicans or Indians and killed, and the servant either killed or made prisoner and carried off. Mr. D. was personally known to us, as also to a large number of the citizens of this city, who will receive the news of his death with the deepest sorrow. He was native of Baltimore, Md. But has resided in Texas for a number of years—Corpus Christi being his home for the last four years, where he was universally known and esteemed." [MPR]

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RW47v24i3p1c2, January 8, 1847, Honor to the Volunteers.

The Petersburg Republican contains an interesting account, for the whole of which we regret that we have not room, of the presentations on Saturday evening last, by Judge Gholson, as the [...] to the ladies of that town, of a beautiful Flag to the Petersburg Volunteers. Mr. Wm. Robertson, as the organ of the members of the Bar, also presented a splendid Sword Belt and Sash to Capt. Archer; and Mr. J.W. Syme, on behalf of Messrs. R.B. Belling, B Jones, Robert Leslie, Jos. Bragg, J.V. Wilcox, John Rowlett, A.G. Mcllwaine, W.E. Hinton, David Dunlop, D.W. Bragg, J. Branch, Goodman Davis, B.H. May, John L. Mertens & Co., James Orr, Moses Paul and A.L. Smith, presented to Lieutenants Pegram, Weisiger and Paterson, each, a beautiful Sword Belt, Sash and Epaulettes.

In Lynchburg, a public meeting was held Thursday evening last, to make arrangements for the reception and accommodation of the Montgomery, Bedford and Franklin volunteers, on their way to Richmond. Judge Wilson presided and eloquent speeches were delivered by that gentleman, and by Messrs. Wm. M. Blackford, James Garland and John M. Speed. [MPR]

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RW47v24i3p1c2, January 8, 1847, Arrival of the Volunteers.

A company of volunteers from Jefferson county, under command of Capt. Rowan, reached the city in the cars yesterday. We have not seen a finer looking body of men—generally young, healthy and athletic. [MPR]

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RW47v24i3p2c1, January 8, 1847, Massachusetts Volunteers.

Eight companies of the Massachusetts regiment of Volunteers have been mustered into service. [MPR]

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RW47v24i3p2c2, January 8, 1847, Presentation of a Flag.

In the midst of a heavy rain yesterday afternoon, the Augusta Volunteers marched to the Powhatan House to receive the elegant Flag, painted by Mrs. Brown, of this city, from the hand of Judge B.G. Baldwin, as the organ of the county court of Augusta, by whose order it has been prepared. In performing the duty assigned to him, Judge B. delivered a truly impressive and affecting address to the volunteers, exhorting them to sustain the honor of their beautiful flag in the perils of the battle, and to return it unsullied to its donors. Capt. Kenton Harper replied, briefly but most eloquently—pledging himself, on behalf of his company, that the flag entrusted to their
We hope to be able to procure copies of both addresses for publication.

RW47v24i3p2c2, January 8, 1847, Reception of the Volunteers.

We omitted to mention yesterday that the Jefferson County Volunteers, on reaching the City, paid their respects to the Chief Magistrate, to whom they were introduced, in an appropriate speech, by John S. Gallagher, Esq. the Senator from that District. The Governor responded, we are told, (for we were not present,) in an impressive manner. The company then repaired to the quarters provided for them. The officers of this company are Capt. John W. Rowan, and Lieuts. John Alvis, jr. Lawrence B. Washington, and ------ McCormick, and Orderly Sergeant Fairfax. Lt. Washington is a descendant of the father of his country, and we are told by the Enquirer, wears the sword of his great ancestor. Orderly Fairfax, the Times says, is a lineal descendant of Lord Fairfax.

Yesterday, the second company from Petersburg, commanded by Capt. Wm. M Robinson, on its arrival, proceeded to the mansion of the Governor, to whom they were introduced by Mr. Drinkard of the Petersburg Republican. The Governor addressed them in an eloquent and appropriate manner; and they then marched to their quarters at the Union Hotel.

RW47v24i3p2c2, January 8, 1847

Lieut. Colonel T.B. Randolph, of the Virginia regiment of Volunteers, has reached the city.

RW47v24i3p2c3, January 8, 1847, The Virginia Volunteers.

In addition to the five companies, constituting the first battalion of Virginia Volunteers, now at Old Point, we understand that there are now six companies in this city or expected soon to arrive, which have been received by the Executive, to wit:

The Staunton company, Capt. Harper;
The Berkeley company, Capt. Alburtis;
The (3d) Richmond company, Capt. Archer;
The Jefferson company, Capt. Rowan;
The Portsmouth company, Capt. Young; and
The (2d) Petersburg company, Capt. Robinson,

which reached the city yesterday morning– and seems to be composed of fine materials.

We had understood that the Montgomery volunteers, under Capt. Preston had also been received by the Governor; but if it has been determined to muster the forgoing companies into service, it would seem that the Virginia regiment will be already more than full without them– that is to say, it will consist of one more company than the requisition of the General Government called for. We hope, however, should this be the fact, that the Secretary of War may be induced at least to receive such of the fully organized corps, as, under the belief that they would be received, may reach the rendezvous in time to proceed to the seat of war.

We understand that eighteen companies have tendered their services to the Executive; and we regret that several of them, after having gone to the trouble and expense of organizing– and more especially those from the Tenth Legion, within the limits of which, we are glad to learn, two companies have been enrolled– must be disappointed.

RW47v24i3p4c1, January 8, 1847, Santa Anna’s Return.

The Enquirer calls our attention to the fact, that two of the three field officers of the Virginia Regiment of Volunteers are Whigs. We were aware of this circumstance; and we take this occasion to say that it is highly honorable to the board of appointment– the majority of whom are attached to the Administration party. We presume, however, that Col. Hamtramck and Major Early were not appointed because they were Whigs, but because the board believed, the among the number of distinguished applicants, they were peculiarly qualified for the performance of the duties of their respective stations. All of them, we feel assured, will show, by their conduct in the field, that their fitness for the stations has not been overrated.

RW47v24i3p4c1, January 8, 1847
A writer in the National Intelligencer has found a parallel case— and but one— to the kind of "aid and comfort" afforded to the Mexicans, by President Polk, in the instructions given to the commander of the Gulf Squadron no to obstruct the passage of Santa Anna to Vera Cruz. He says:

"In a naval fight between the English and the Dutch the Englishman suddenly stopped firing, yet kept his flag flying and his men all standing to their guns. The Dutchman, seeing this, and not wishing to waste his fire upon a non–resisting adversary, also ceased firing, and hailed his foe, "why he did not either fight or strike?" The Englishman answered that, as to striking the flag— never, as long as there remained a plank beneath his feet; as to firing his guns, he would cheerfully do so if his adversary would have the generosity to supply him with powder, his own magazine being exhausted; that if he would not comply with his request, the fight must go on, and be determined hand to hand by boarding, which would lead to a great loss of life on both sides. The Dutchman, being a man of feeling as well as valor, and believing that "in any event it was certain that no change whatever in the circumstances of the English ship which would deprive her commander of the excuse of boarding could be for the worse, so far as the Dutchman was concerned, while it was highly probable that any change must be for the better," agreed to comply with the request of his gallant foe, provided he would pay him for a fair consideration for the article garnished. The sum being agreed upon at something less, than two million of dollars, I think, the Dutchman directed his own boats to place the powder safely on board the enemy's ship. Thus provided with means to renew the fight, The Englishman soon taught the Dutchman that he had been guilty of the folly of furnishing his adversary with a club to beat his own brains out."

Mr. Linder, a member of the Illinois Legislature, seems to have a taken a somewhat similar view of this enigmatical affair. We say enigmatical– for, we confess, the President's message has rather excited than gratified our curiosity, touching the extent and nature of the information possessed by him, and the source through which it was obtained, first, in regard to Santa Anna's intention to return to Mexico at all; and secondly, in reference to his mediated designs, should he effect a landing, and be able to overpower the Paredes Administration and tobanish Paredes himself. On the 21st ultimo, Mr. Linder submitted to the House of Representatives of that State, amidst a general laugh, the following resolutions, which, under the guise of playfulness, give some home thrusts to the President:

Whereas, as appears from the message of President Polk to the Congress of the United States, that Santa Anna has been guilty of the most black–hearted treachery, in failing to perform and make certain promises made to President Polk, (the consideration of said promise being a passport to Mexico,) one of which was that, on his arrival at Mexico he would get up a fight with Paredes and thereby bring the war between the United States and Mexico to a close; therefore–

Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois, the Senate concurring herein, That we deeply sympathise with President Polk, inasmuch as his reasonable expectations have not been realized in consequence of the treachery of the aforesaid Santa Anna.

And be it further resolved, That Santa Anna is unworthy the further confidence of President Polk, and that we most respectfully recommend to the President to place no further reliance upon the promises of Santa Anna to bring the war to a close.

And be it further resolved, That inasmuch as Santa Anna had heretofore on all occasions, been governed by a strict regard to truth, fidelity, and honor in his conduct, that President Polk had good reason to believe that he would hold sacred his word, thus solemnly pledged, and which we still believe he would have done had he received the two millions of dollars as per contract with the President. [MPR]

RW47v24i3p4c3, January 8, 1847

To the Senate and
House of Representatives of the United States:

In order to prosecute the war against Mexico with vigor and success, it is necessary that authority should be promptly given to Congress to increase the regular army, and to remedy existing defects in its organization. With this view, your favorable attention is invited to the annual report of the Secretary of War, which accompanied my message of the 8th inst, in which he recommends that ten additional regiments of regular troops shall be raised to serve during the war.

Of additional regiments of volunteers which have been called for from several of the States, some have been promptly raised; but this has not been the case in regards to all. This existing law requiring that they should be organized by the independent action of the State governments, has, in some instances, occasioned considerable delay; and it is yet uncertain when the troops required can be ready for service in the field.

It is our settled policy to maintain in time of peace as small a regular army as the exigencies of the public service will permit. In a state of war, notwithstanding the great advantage with which our volunteer citizen soldiers can be brought into the field, this small regular army must be increased in its numbers in order to render the whole force more efficient.

Additional officers as well as men, then, become indispensable. Under the circumstances of our service a peculiar propriety exists for increasing the officers, especially in the higher grades. The number of such officers who, from age and other causes, are rendered incapable of active service in the field, has seriously impaired the efficiency of the army.

From the report of the Secretary of War, it appears that about two–thirds of the while number of regimental field officers are either permanently disabled or are necessarily detached from their commands on other duties. The long enjoyment of peace has prevented us from experiencing much embarrassment from this cause; but now in a state of was conducted in a foreign country, it has produced a serious injury to the public service.
An efficient organization of the army composed of regulars and volunteers, whilst prosecuting the war in it is believed would require
the appointment of a general officer to take command of all our military forces in the field.

Upon conclusion of the war, the services of such an officer would no longer be necessary, and should be dispensed with upon the
reduction of the army to a peace establishment.

I recommend that provision be made by law for the appointment of such s general officer to serve during the war.

It is respectfully recommended that early action should be had by Congress upon suggestions submitted for their consideration, as
necessary to insure active and efficient service in prosecuting the war before present favorable season for military operations in the
enemy’s country shall have passed away.

JAMES K. POLK.

[MPR]
orders can be carried into effect, probably not until sometime in May or June next.

Santa Fe– A letter written at Santa Fe on the 19th of November states that Col Prick's Regiment is stationed at that place for the winter, and that great sickness prevailed among the troops. There had been as many as seven deaths a day.

A letter dated Parris, Mexico, Dec. 9 says—


(Correspondence of the New Orleans Bee.)

Head--Quarters U.S. Army,
Monterey, Dec. 4, 1846.

Gentlemen:– The mail came in yesterday from Saltillo, and with it an unusual number of rumors as to Santa Anna's movements. The Mexicans to--day report that lie is eight days on the march to Saltillo, with 27,000 men, and that he assures them that he will be here before Christmas. They seem to think that he will fulfill his promise, but our people attach no more importance whatever to his vauntings. If he wants to come, they say let him come, and we'll give him as good a reception as we can get up. The American soldiers are of opinion situated as the army is at this moment, all Mexico cannot recapture this place. You have no idea how high the boys hold their heads here. Having met the enemy three times, and whipped him against great odds each time, they think the word defeat, so far as applicable to the American army, out of the question, and I begin to believe with the Mexicans, that to whip us they have to kill us all off.

A half an hour's conversation with an intelligent private in the 7th Infantry, a few evenings since, put me in possession of many facts relative to the cause of desertion, the character of the men, &c. He says that for the last two or three years, 4–5ths of the recruits for the regular army have been made up from the foreigners who hang about the large cities of the Union, some of whom have no affinity of feeling with America or any other nation. That immediately after the cessation of hostilities, emissaries from the enemy's camp, began tampering with them and they became lax in their duty; some would go off immediately, others get drunk and fear to return to their quarters after an absence of a few days, and to avoid the punishment consequent on such absence, take "French leave" altogether. He still raises on the number of deserters from his regiment, and says that they will not fall short of seventy-five since the 24th Sept. and this, too, in a regiment embracing only seven companies. I remarked that I presumed two-thirds of them were Foreigners, when he answered quickly and which much feeling, "yes, sir, three-thirds, for although Americans do occasionally desert the service at home and in time of peace, whilst in an enemy's country the most worthless will stick by his colors." He does not think that all who desert go into the enemy's ranks, but that an affinity of religious feeling with the enemy operates so strongly upon them, that they leave us to evade a conflict with the enemy. An English physician who is now in towns peaks of meeting a couple of sons of Erin between Saltillo and San Louis Potosi, one with his belts and gun, ant the other with nothing but his uniform, The doctor who is a considerable wag, and who had some hand in whipping the Mexicans out of Texas, stopped them in the road and asked their reasons for desertion. The man with the musket told him that he had fought too much against his religion already, and that he wouldn't fight for the U.S. again until she "got into a war with England," when he "would go for a volunteer." The other one had thrown away his musket, and would never pick up another one whilst he lived. They had both passports from the Mexican commander, and an order for 25 cts per day until they could get to some port, where they could take shipping to the old country, or could get employment in the country. A horse, $25 in money and an order from $25 more on San Louis Potosi is the inducements held out there.

Monterey, Dec. 5th.

In my letter yesterday I forgot to mention to you the death of Lieut. Desment, of the Macon company, in the Georgia volunteers. He dies of a fever, something on the bilious order, first beginning with the chills and fever. Many soldiers are prostrated with disease now, and from all regiments that expect to remove in a short time, the debilitated are being discharged.

I find something worthy of a man, to record in the conduct of Santa Anna. The first deserters from the American ranks arrived in San Louis whilst these Americans were there. They presented their several orders for money to Santa Anna, when he informed them that he had not enough funds to feed his own soldiers. They were worn down by travel, hungry and without the means of getting a living, so they concluded as a last resort they would join his army. When they applied to him for permission to go into the ranks, he replied...
that they would leave him should he get into a tight place. They affirmed to the contrary, when Santa Anna plainly told them that any man that would desert one army would desert another, and he wanted nothing to do with such men. And so they left him—men who had been seduced off under the bright promises of command and money, denied even the privilege of earning their bread in the ranks of the enemy. The beauty of it is, that neither the French nor English residents will give them work or food, and they would no doubt give their right hands to be back into Uncle Sam’s ranks. No less than 46 were met on the road from San Luis to Saltillo. Nothing new about Monterey to-day.

[MPR]

RW47v24i3p4c7, January 8, 1847, Mexican Items.

From the N.O. Picayune, Dec. 20.

We yesterday saw and conversed with Mr. Phillip Honch, brother of the well-known Santa Fe trader, who left the city of Orizava late in November. From Mr. H. we have learned many particulars in relation to the state of feeling of the Mexicans, in different part of the country, which may be uninteresting to our readers.

At Orizava, which is a city of considerable size to the southward of Jalapa, there were 1000 volunteers already recruited for the Mexican army—miserable wretches collected by promises, force and threats— and to arm this force they have only 300 parts of old, worn out muskets. They all talk right valiantly, however, exceeding great bravery and prowess, and of the perfect ease with which they are to drive los Americanos from the sacred soil of Mexico.

Our informant further assures us that there is really a feeling of deep vengeance aroused in the interior of the country against the United States, and that the farther we advance the greater will be the hostility against us. The few Americans in the country entertain fears that the Mexicans from their superior knowledge of the mountain passes, will lay ambuscades and cut off the advanced detachments of our army in the operations that are to ensue. From his position Santa Anna can at any time throw a heavy force upon almost any point of our extended line of operations, and by taking advantages of ground annoy Gens. Taylor or Scott excessively.

As late as the 27th of November there were no regular troops stationed at the city of Mexico, a few civics—untrained militia—being the entire force to defend it. Arista was there, living in retirement. It is said that Santa Anna was anxious that he should accompany him to San Luis, and offered him an important command; but Arista said he had been arrested for his conduct to Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, and until he had had a full trial would not return to the army.

All kinds of business were dull in Mexico, while a general stagnation of trade pervaded every portion of the country. The only artisans or mechanics who had any work were the gunsmith—they were busy, night and day, in every town and city. Old machetes—short, straight swords with which the Indians under Hidalgo fought the Spaniards during the revolution—were being sharpened, and every old musket was undergoing repairs.

American deserters are scattered through the country and are represented as in most deplorable condition. No less than twenty-five had reached the city of Mexico in most wretched plight, were begging from door to door, and were received and treated with contempt by all. Eight had reached as far south as Orizava and a little work had been given them at a factory to keep them from actual starvation.

Of the Mexican Congress we can learn nothing. Another arrival will give us the particulars of its organization, and for this we are looking with anxiety.

[MPR]

RW47v24i3p4c7, January 8, 1847, Tampico—Martial Law.

By arrival here yesterday of the schr. Henry M. Johnson, Capt. Hardy, from Tampico, which port she left on the 18th inst., we learn that Col. Gates, commanding at that place, declared martial law on the 15th inst, when all the American citizens in the city and in shipboard were put under arms. On the 16th, a search was made in the city, when about 600 stands of arms, and a quantity of ammunition were discovered; about 300 of the guns were found to be loaded. The whole force of troops at Tampico on the 16th amounted to nearly 900 men.

The steam propeller Virginia arrived at Tampico on the 17th from Brazos Santiago, with 300 men, belonging to the Alabama regiment. The steam propeller Tennessee and Jas. Cage with troops and horses from Brazos, were going up the river when the schr. H.M. Johnson was coming out.–N.O. Times.

[MPR]

RW47v24i3p4c7, January 8, 1847

Tampico— The schooner Henry M. Johnson came up to town yesterday from Tampico, having sailed the 18th inst. The captain reports that there was great excitement in the town, arising from the supposed proximity of a large body of Mexicans. All the Americans in the
One of the fearful consequences of the War of Conquest in which we are engaged— for it is in vain to deny that the acquisition of territory, if not the instigating motive, was anticipated as an inevitable incidental result of the contest— is beginning already to manifest itself. While yet we are in the midst of the war, our statesmen, instead of devoting all their energies to its speedy and honorable termination, are wrangling over the disposition to be made of the anticipated “spoils of victory.” The North, through its accredited organs on the floor of Congress, is in imagination defining the metes and bounds of new non-slaveholding States to be formed of the Mexican provinces over which the stars and stripes wave, or which may hereafter be wrested from that Republic. Already they claim that from all the conquered territory which may, at the close of the war, fall into our possession, regardless of its geographical position, whether on the borders of Texas, in the Valley of the Rio Grande, or on the Pacific, the “foul plague—spot” of Slavery, which is so offensive to them, must be unconditionally excluded. Nor is this position assumed by the insignificant handful of Abolitionists alone, or confined to either of the two great political parties to the North. It is the unanimous voice of the representatives of the entire non-slaveholding region, with perhaps the exception of two or three individuals, who, it is naturally presumed, in dissenting from the remainder, misrepresent the feelings and sentiments of the constituent body. The remarks of Preston King, of New York, deliberately written out before they were read in the House, in which the inflexible determination of the non-slaveholding States require, as a preliminary condition to the extension of our boundaries, that Slavery shall not be tolerated within the limits of the territory that may be acquired, wear more the appearance of a Manifesto of the North, especially when the prominence of that member and the nature of his political conexions are considered, than of any ordinary speech, for which the individual alone, who delivered it, is to be held responsible. Hence, the importance attached to it in the House— as evinced by the fact, that, almost abandoning, since that remarkable document was read, the discussion of the origin and conduct of the Mexican war, as well as of the means proposed for prosecuting it with more efficiency than heretofore, the debate has degenerated into an angry controversy between the North and the South, upon the vital question of slavery, to which our anticipated Mexican conquests has imparted momentous importance. Better far would it have been, had Mr. Polk, following the example of his “illustrious predecessors,” Jackson and Van Buren, consented to keep the sword still unsheathed, however numerous and aggravated the causes of war with Mexico, until every avenue of hope had been closed to a peaceful and honorable termination of the various points in dispute between the two governments, rather than to have precipitated, as he has done, a War, which, if it is not to be terminated, as we are told it shall not be, until Mexico pays to the last farthing in territory, what we know she can pay in no other mode, will, in the final disposition of our conquests, lead to violent dissensions among ourselves, and possibly to a dissolution of the Union! Mr. Dargin, of Alabama, who participated in the debate last Thursday, in a speech characterized equally by ability and good temper, gave utterance to what will hereafter become a general sentiment, at least in the South, when he said that “we regretted that the Army of the United States had ever crossed the Rio Grande, after the battles of the 8th and 9th;” since in doing so, the war, whatever may have been original intention of its authors, has been converted, ex necessitate, into one of conquest— and since that conquest must inevitably bring into discussion the great question of the “BALANCE OF POWER” between the North and South, which, rather than hostility to the “sin of slavery,” lies at the bottom of this premature agitation of that topic— this bold attempt to adjust the terms and conditions of the contemplated “ANNEXATION,” even while the war, with all its attendant uncertainties, is in progress, and without the slightest probability, so far as the uninitiated can discern, of its early termination!

We annex a fuller sketch of the Thursday’s debate than we had room for in Saturday’s paper:

Mr. DARGIN said, in regard to the Missouri Compromise, he held it as most sacred, and would abide by it. But would the North— would Northern men— upon this floor say they were ready to abide by this Compromise?— Not one of them.

Mr. VINTON of Ohio asked the gentleman to allow him to explain. He denied that the North had violated the Missouri compromise. There had been no free territory made South of the 36 30, since the Missouri Compromise, and much of the territory beyond was not now in the Union. Moreover, the Missouri Compromise applied to the country then in the Union, and not to the country which had been acquired from foreign countries.

Mr. DARGIN went on and said the country did not understand the Compromise, and he repeated that the Northern men were ready to abandon it. Even more than this— They would violate this compromise which had now been preserved for twenty—seven years, and never violated by the South. And there was not one Southern man who would violate it or suffer it to be violated.

Mr. DOUGLAS— I am not willing to be misunderstood by my silence. I am willing to abide by the Missouri Compromise. I recognized it in the Texas resolutions. I recognize it now, and shall always recognize it.

Several voices of Southern members. “Good. That’s good.”

Mr. DOUGLAS thought also that there were many others who would agree with him, and Mr. Dargin hoped there were.

Mr. DARGIN, coming to the war question, said that he regretted that the army had ever crossed the Rio Grande after the battles of the 8th and 9th . If his hand could have controlled the action of other men, they should never have crossed. And having crossed, he did not think it necessary that the army should go to the Halls of the Moctezumas. He would rather mark out a line and defend it, and [...] show to the world that we had gone to war for the sake of securing peace.

By this remark he did not mean to censure the Administration, but only to express his own opinion. And now he would ask, shall we
take any territory from Mexico if the north will not divide it with us? Shall our sons from Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and elsewhere fight battles to make free states?

I desire, said Mr. D. to see this question settled here, and that we may now know for what we fight, and whether for the North and South or for the North alone. Give us the territory south of 36 30 for a Slave country. This he said to Northern men. If they refuse to do this, this Union at once must sink. There could be no doubt of this whatever. The Union was instituted for our good and our common good. If the Missouri compromise was to be violated, from the day it was done we might date the downfall of the American Union.

Take this as the admonition of a man who may not address you again or represent his constituents hereafter upon this floor. His honest conviction was that the Union could not last one day after the Compromise was violated. He, therefore, beseeched all men to act up to this compromise, and to preserve the Union. But there were real dangers hanging over the country at this time, and it was time for men, without regard to party, to rally as one man to remove the difficulties.

Mr. SEDDON, of Va. Continued the debate, and thanked the member for the cool, temperate and timely remarks he had made. He concurred in all that had been said. For himself he was a Southern man in birth, in feeling and in education, and when he heard some of the remarks which had been made upon this floor, he found it difficult to restrain himself.

His first impulse upon a previous occasion had been to rise and demand a hearing, but when he saw older and abler men remaining silent, he could not venture to speak. Mr. S. then went on to speak of the Slave questions as a momentous woe, and as one which the North had no right to interfere with.

The North had no right to say all this territory shall be free, and the country could not carry on a war upon this aspect of the question.

Mr. GROVER, of N.Y. continued the debate in a speech in reply to the two which had gone before. He thought there was no danger in dissolving the Union, and he believed the Union would last– that even these Southern men would rally under it and enjoy it for ages to come. Mr. G. argued this question with such earnestness and independence as to call up

Mr. BOYD of Ky., Mr. CHAPMAN of Ala. and Mr. SEDDON of Va. All of whom were disposed to put most pointed questions to him, but all of which were answered by declaring that he was in favor of the war– in favor of the acquisition of territory, but that he would demand as he believed the whole Democracy of the North would, that all territory hereafter annexed should be free territory.

He would vote to put Slavery upon no soil where it did not now exist. The Compromise did not require that foreign country, now free, should be converted into Slave territory, and it was selfish to ask it. He had voted for the admission of Texas with Slavery, because the Institution already existed there; but there was no Slavery in Mexico, barbarous as that Nation was.

Robert Greenhow, Esq. of Washington, has presented a copy of his History of Oregon and California to each of the Field Officers and to the Adjutant of the Virginia regiment of volunteers.

The Petersburg Republican furnishes us with the adjoined list of the officers of the "Petersburg Union Volunteers," the second company organized in that patriotic town:

William Murray Robinson, Captain.
James Laurenson Bryan, 1st Lieutenant.
Aurelius Rives Shands, 2d do. (1)
William Johnston McGowan, 2d do. (2)
Benjamin Wyche Collier, 1st Sergeant.
Benjamin Franklin Winfield, 2d do.
James Washington Baldwin, 3d do.
James William Rivers, 4th do.
Nathaniel Pedworth, 1st Corporal.
William Francis Rives, 2d do.
Harmon Thomas Burns, 3d do.
John William Fisher, 4th do.

Robert Greenhow, Esq. of Washington, has presented a copy of his History of Oregon and California to each of the Field Officers and to the Adjutant of the Virginia regiment of volunteers.

[MPR]
The citizens of Philadelphia have determined to present to Lieut. James Lawrence Parker a handsome Naval Sword, a pair of Epaulettes and a full suit Uniform, for his daring exploit in burning the Mexican brig Creole, while moored to the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa, and for his noble conduct in refusing to leave the unfortunate brig Somers, until she had sunk into the depths of the ocean.

The New York Express states that Capt. Walker, of the Texas Rangers, had procured in that city 1000 Revolving Pistols for the new regiment of Mounted Riflemen.

The intelligence from the Army is calculated to excite serious apprehensions for the fate of the small detachment in garrison at Saltillo, under command of the intrepid Worth. If it be true, as reported, and is certainly not at all improbable, that Santa Anna was advancing upon that city with an overwhelming force, it is presumed almost too much even upon the tried courage of our soldiers to suppose that they would be able successfully to resist the mediated attack. We await further intelligence with deep anxiety.

A detachment of Volunteers from Franklin and Bedford counties reached the city on Saturday afternoon, about 20 in number, and attached themselves to Capt. Wm. B. Archer’s company.

The Governor was compelled to decline the services of the Norfolk company, commanded by Capt. O.E. Edwards, the regiment being already full to the overflowing. The company has consequently instructed its commander to tender its services to the Executive of North Carolina.

A letter from Tampico, to the New Orleans Picayune, dated December 17, states that advices from Vera Cruz had been received there of the action of the Mexican Congress. “They declare that they will not think or treat of peace until every hostile foot has cleared the Mexican soil, and every vessel that lines their coast is withdrawn.” The writer adds, “I consider the war now commenced in real earnest.”

The death of Gen. Thomas L. Hamer has created a universal feeling of regret in Ohio, of which State he was one of the ablest and most distinguished citizens. The Legislature, now in session, has taken measures for the removal of his remains, at the expense of the State, to the soil of Ohio.

Gen. Leslie Combs has lately received a letter announcing that O’Blenis, who murdered his son two years ago, has at length met his deserts, having been shot by some Mexicans at Matamoros, where he had settled himself as a trader. Just before his death, he had murdered a gentleman of the name Townsend, who had a claim against him.
From the New Orleans Picayune, Jan. 2.

The steamer Virginia, Capt. Smith, arrived last evening from Tampico, via Brazos Santiago, having left the Brazos on the 27th inst. The brig Empressario, Capt. Collins, which sailed from Tampico on the 26th, also arrived last night. By these vessels we have received letters from Mr. Lumsden, at Tampico, some of which we give below. They contain all the intelligence brought from Tampico, and clear up some points in the accounts previously received which appeared obscure.

We have conversed with a gentleman who came passenger in the Virginia from Brazos, and who is direct from Monterey. He has kindly furnished us with the following information, which is highly important, if there be no error in the accounts. They were fully credited at eh Brazos, and are confirmed by Capt. Brower, of the schooner Robert Mills, who arrived last evening from that port.

An express from Gen. Worth at Saltillo, arrived at Monterey on Wednesday, the 16th of Dec. It brought the news that Gen. Worth had learned through his spies that Santa Anna was within three days march of Saltillo, at the head of an army of twenty or thirty thousand men. The express bore a call upon Gen. Taylor for reinforcements. General Taylor and his staff had left Monterey on the 15th ult.— the day before the express arrived— fro Victoria, to join his command, which was two days march in advance of him.

Gen. Butler, in command at Monterey, immediately sent of dispatches to Gen. Marshall, at Camargo, and to Gen. Patterson, at Matamoros, to send forward without delay all the troops they could spare from their commands.

Gen. Patterson had left Matamoros only the day before the news reached that place. It was at once forwarded to him, and upon learning its purport our informant states that he immediately started on his return with the view to proceed to Monterey.

It was reported at Tampico on the 25th, as will be seen from the postscript to Mr. Lumsden’s last letter, that a portion of Gen. Patterson’s command had entered Victoria, but it is not mentioned that the General himself had arrived, so that we cannot judge how far the news from the two sources may conflict.

The express reported at Matamoros that the road from Moterey to Camargo was lined with troops— regulars and volunteers— on their march to Monterey, having been previously ordered up. Our informant says there were four regiments upon the road. The route from Monterey is infested by predatory bands of rancheros, by which the traveling is rendered insecure. Our train had been attacked a few days before our informant passed over the road, as had also several small parties, and some few men had been killed and wounded.

We need not say that this news possesses the highest interest. As we write we have only verbal reports in regard to it, but hope to receive this morning our correspondence from the army. There is no intrinsic improbability in the news of Santa Anna’s movements, and if he possesses the energy and skill claimed for him, nothing appears more likely than that he should fall like a thunderbolt upon some point in our extended line and hope to crush us. But we have every confidence in the vigilance of General Worth, and his ability to hold the enemy in check until Gen. Wool and Gen. Taylor arrive to his support. We await further intelligence with the utmost interest.

[Editorial Correspondence of the Picayune.]

Tampico, December 19, 1847.

Gen. Shields takes formal command here to-day. He is energetic, thoughtful, and intelligent, and is in every respect fitted for his station. One of the last acts of Col. Gates, previously in command of this post, was to remove a fellow named Labruere from his office as auctioneer, for refusing to take up arms and turn out with the citizens the other day when they had the alarm of which I informed you yesterday “Served him right.”

Lieut. R.P. Hammond, 3d Artillery, aide-de-camp to Gen. Shields, is appointed Acting Assistant Adjutant General of the Command at Tampico.

In obedience to instructions from Maj. Gen. Patterson, Capt. Hunt, 4th Artillery, with his company now here, is ordered to Camargo to relieve the garrison there.

We have various rumors of the movements of the Mexicans in the interior, but nothing of apparent correctness enough to tell you of.

Tampico, December 23, 1846.

The British mail steamer Dee, Capt. Griffith, which has been some days off the entrance to this place, sailed yesterday morning for Vera Cruz. I learned she carried a considerable amount of specie. The officers of the Dee, with one or two of whom I became acquainted here, are very polite and pleasing, free, frank and gentlemanly in their bearing.

The brig Hallowell arrived here three nights ago from Brazos Santiago, with all the remaining Alabama troops but one company. These are the only volunteer troops here. They are, for the most part, a hardy set of men, orderly and quiet in their deportment, and will, no doubt, if an opportunity occurs, show that they are made of good metal.
Except the Ewing, the vessels belong to the U.S. Squadron, mentioned in my last as being here, have not yet sailed, but they will soon be off. What is to be their point of destination I do not certainly know; but I have gathered enough to assure me that Tuspan is to be looked in upon. The steamer Spitfire, [...] Tattnall, is certainly to run in by way of a reconnaissance, if nothing more. The officers are all most anxious for something to turn up, giving them a fair chance to do something, and I sincerely wish they may have a chance.

Tampico is a fine little place. I am becoming more and more pleased with it. It is being Americanized very rapidly. At present there are but few of the better classes of the former citizens here; but those few are becoming, apparently, quite satisfied with the new régime. The police regulations are excellent, and every thing goes on quiet. But of this more anon.

I visited, a day or two since, the line of works building by our forces, under the superintendence of Capt. Barnard, of the U.S. Engineers, and I must say it is most beautiful, so far as it is progressed. More substantial defensive works I have seldom seen. They are superlatively grand, in comparison with those constructed by the Mexicans heretofore, and most indubitably must they command all the approaches to the city by land, however large the number of troops advancing. The greatest scientific skill appears to have been displayed in the strength and construction, as well as proper locations of these works. In a word, they will, when completed, be impregnable—at least to Santa Anna's whole army!

Hart has taken a very nice house here, which he is fixing up as a theatre. In the meantime he gives a series of concerts, Mrs. H., Miss Christian and others appearing in songs, and Wells executing dances, &c. The idea of an American theatre in Tampico is rather novel, but nevertheless we are to have one, and I almost venture to prophecy its success.

I could write you pages about Mrs. Chase, the excellent lady of our worthy consul here; but you have been furnished with the details of her unshrinking, noble and daring conduct, as well as in defending herself and home while her husband was in exile, as in furnishing the most important information to our squadron in the Gulf—information which saved Tampico and made it an American possession! I need, therefore, say no more than this— which I must say— that Ann Chase is a great woman! I have had the honor of being presented to the lady, and confess that I lack words to express my admiration of those attributes in her which make woman great, and render her the heroine of a glorious incident in the history of America!

I have nothing to add, but shall keep you informed by every opportunity of what may be interesting.

Yours, &c. F. A. L.

Tampico, Dec. 25, 1846.

I wish you all a merry Christmas. There is every appearance of there being a merry one here—such as Tampico never saw before. Eggs are very plenty and very cheap, and lots of egg nog to be drunk, The "boys" are bound to do it.

The vessels of the squadron mentioned in my last are still here. The prize schooner "Belle," under command of Acting Master Perry, (of the Cumberland,) will sail tomorrow for Anton Lizardo. The steamer Spitfire, schrs. Reefer and Nonato (prize) will remain here until the forces are reinforced—then look out for something in the shape of a fight at Tuspan. I have a little information—authentic—about Tuspan, which I will give you. Gen. Cos, commander of the place, has refused to obey the order of Santa Anna to evacuate the town. He has a force under him of from four to five hundred troops of the line, and a large body of Indians whom he has called in from the mountains of Mazantla and Papantle—two or three thousand in number—but indifferently armed. At Tuspan there are three conical hills—the town lying in the valley. These heights are all fortified with six pieces of artillery each, besides having a strong picketing formed of heavy chijal posts. There is no defence at the Mouth of the river, but about half way from the bar to the town—six miles—there is a battery of 24-pounders. The water in the bar is now about five feet only. Some of the guns are the Truxton's, captured by the unfortunate loss of that vessel under Captain Carpender.

It is thought here by the most intelligent persons, that the only way to successfully attack Tuspan would be by troops, as the town is so situated that a vessel in the river can only bring her guns to bear on two different points, while the guns on the heights not only command the town entirely, but the river also. The most feasible way to attack the place would be to send a force to be landed at the south of the bar [Tuspan being on the north,] abreast of the town, and distant about twelve miles, and proceed to bombard the place at once, when no doubt the third or fourth shell falling in their midst would cause the Mexicans to display a white flag in a very short time.

Now a little bit about Tula, or Tamaulipas. The garrison of this place, [Tampico,] when it evacuated the city, went to Tula. This garrison consisted of the battalion of Tampico, 12th Regiment of Infantry, Permanentes de Tampico, Veteranos de Tampico, a small company of artillery, the remnant of the 6th Regiment, left from the memorable actions of Palo Alto and Resaca, and a small force of cavalry. At present there are in Tula, distant about 180 miles from this place, on the route to San Luis Potosi, some three or four thousand men of various arms, under Gens. Valencia, Carvajal and a half dozen others, who are fortifying the place against an apprehended attack from the American forces at this place.

Private letters from the city of Mexico are in this city, stating that it is expected there will soon be a revolution there against the ministers, who the people say have proved themselves incompetent to manage the affairs of the nation in a proper manner. In fact it is said that everything is in confusion—no money, no credit, and plenty of dissatisfaction.

The people here in Tampico—except those who formerly held office—look upon us as their deliverers, not as enemies. It is well known that the Governor of this State [Tamaulipas] is ready, on the first approach of the United States forces towards Victoria its capital, to surrender, in the name of its Congress, the whole territory to us.
The police regulations here are most excellent. By the following orders you will see that certain classes of people needn't come here:

**Headquarters Tampico Troops,**  
**Orders No. 3,**  
**Tampico, Mexico, Dec. 22.**

I. All persons occupying houses in Tampico or in its vicinity are hereby strictly prohibited from allowing any species of public gambling within the same.

II. All houses or other places kept for the purpose of public gambling will be closed, the persons found gambling in them arrested, those attached to the Army punished, and those who are not, banished.

III. All personal property found in any house or place kept for gambling, and all money or property employed in gambling will be confiscated, and the proceeds thereof appropriated as a hospital fund for the relief of the poor and indigent in Tampico.

IV. Major N. Williams, 4th Artillery, is specially assigned to the superintendence of the police and good order of the town. He will charge himself particularly with carrying the provisions of this order into immediate execution, and with the prevention and suppression of any species of riot, disturbance and disorder whatsoever. And the better to effect this, he is authorized to call upon the commander of the troops in town for any assistance which may be necessary. By order of Brig. Gen. Shields:

R.P. Hammond, A.A. Adj't Gen.

This is about all I have for you at the present writing.

Yours, &c. F.A.L.

P.S. I have just heard that a portion of the troops under Gen. Patterson have reached Victoria, and there was no fighting.

F.A.L.

[MPR]

**RW47v24i4p1c6, January 12, 1847, Further News from New Mexico. Rumored Defeat of the Dragoons.**

We copy the following from the St. Louis Republican of Wednesday, 30th ult.:

A gentleman of this city, connected with the army, has furnished us with the following extract of a letter received from Ft. Leavenworth, by the last mail. It true, the news is painfully important. The letter says:

"WE have dates from Santa Fe to November 15. Capt. Burgwin, with the dragoons, and also three companies of Col. Doniphan's regiment, have gone below to the assistance of the traders. There is a rumor that sixty dragoons have been defeated by the Navajo Indians. Lieut. Noble, of the dragoons, writes that 'he fears and believes the rumor is true.'"

[MPR]

**RW47v24i4p2c1, January 12, 1847, General Taylor.**

Mr. Fricklin, a member of the House of Representatives from Illinois, took occasion on Saturday last, to assail this gallant officer in the most virulent and acrimonious manner– attributing to his want of skill and energy the escape of the Mexican forces after the glorious battles of the 8th and 9th of May, and complaining of the tardiness of his movements since that event. It is scarcely worth while to say that, after the battles of the 8th and 9th, the glorious result of which electrified the whole country, General Taylor's shattered little army was not in a condition to pursue the retreating foe; and that even when, five months afterwards, he reached Monterey, he was but inadequately provided with the material necessary for a successful attack upon a fortified town, from which nevertheless, against fearful odds, he succeeded in expelling the enemy. The annals of war, we venture to say, do not furnish a parallel to the extraordinary triumphs of our armies, on the several occasions referred to, under circumstances so unpropitious and discouraging. Why, then, this assault, by one of the leading champions of the Administration, upon the gallant General, who has thus far triumphed over a superior force, with such inadequate means? Is the disgrace of the intrepid old hero deemed essential to a vindication of the Executive? If this be the motive of the member from Illinois, he ought to perceive that he will not accomplish his object by such a line of defence. If it be true, as he asserts, Gen. Taylor failed to meet responsibilities of his position with the sagacity and energy which the country had a right to expect, does he not see that the Administration is not less to blame than if, in his movements, he has obeyed implicitly instructions from Washington? Why, if he has thus betrayed his signal incompetency, has he been retained at the head of the army? For, why if he has exhibited the want of judgment or the criminal sloth now imputed to him, was he not long ago recalled, and the command–in–chief given to a better soldier? The Administration, it is obvious, cannot make Gen. Taylor the scapegoat of its flagrant errors. Yet we can see no other motive for this cruel assault upon the gallant General, by the sagacious military critic from the wilds of Illinois, who has been quietly sitting by his fireside, while the man he slanders has been patiently enduring the hardships of the camp,
and fearlessly encountering the perils of the battle–field– unless, indeed, it be that he hopes by blighting his well–earned laurels, to remove him from the field of competition for the next Presidency– or perhaps to secure the appointment of “Lieutenant General” Benton, or some other court favorite, to supersede the veterans who have heretofore surmounted the most formidable obstacles and achieved a series of the most splendid triumphs.

We are not surprised at this attack upon Gen. Taylor; nor, so far as he is concerned, do we regret it– since it may have the effect of eliciting, in his defence, facts, yet unknown to the country, which, when they shall be divulged, will show that, while the seeming tardiness of his movements is ascribable exclusively to the inadequacy of his means, consequent upon the imbecility of the authorities at Washington, (and probably to so nothing worse than the imbecility of some of their agents,) his defeat of the Mexicans, under the circumstances, entitles him to rank with the first military commanders of the age. It is not our purpose, however, to anticipate that defence, which this attack upon him, bye a friend of the Administration, in Congress,– and we fear speaking its sentiments,– may render expedient. When it shall be made, we predict that it will fall with a crushing effect upon his assailants, open and concealed.

[MPR]

The Committee of Ways and Means last Saturday reported to the House of Representatives bills making the following appropriations– from which some faint idea may be formed of the amount of expenditure contemplated:

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[MPR]

The Southern mail failed yesterday and the day before– and we have no later news from the army than we published yesterday. The tenor of the last advices from the seat of war naturally creates some anxiety in regard to the probability of the successful defence of Saltillo by Gen. Worth, should an attack be made upon it by Santa Anna. A letter from Saltillo, dated on the 20th of November, anticipating the possibility of an attack upon Gen. Worth, says in that event, “we must fall back upon the Pass de los Muertos, or as far as Monterey. Saltillo we cannot retain with less than 5 or 6000 men and plenty of artillery, as we shold have to fortify several heights which overlook the town, and which, if in possession of an enemy, we could be driven out in an hour’s firing. The place itself is not defensible, being surrounded by eminences on all sides. The Muertos (or Death’s Passage,) we could defend with our present force for a season against a host in arms; and Monterey with a much smaller force then we could Saltillo, and much more effectually.” * * * “If he (Santa Anna) advances upon us, we must fall back, even if reinforced by Gen. Wool, unless we get on some heavy guns, of which we are destitute here. Could we have some 18’s or […], we might make a stand. With our present means, it would be the height of folly to remain, in the face of certain starvation, capture or destruction.”

[MPR]

We have done all in our power to goad the Tenth Legion into action; but our kind offices have been looked upon with suspicion and repelled with some of asperity. Nevertheless we were gratified when we announced the fact, to which our attention was especially called by the Enquirer, that, although too late for service, two companies of volunteers had been organized in Rockingham, (one of the tier of counties upon which the appellation of Caesar’s invincible cohorts have been conferred, for the Mexican war. But we are now informed by the Harrisonburg Republican, that no such companies were raised. It is true (says that paper) that some 30 men had volunteered on Mr. Kenney’s muster–roll, but they had despaired of raising even a single company and disbanded– and […] of their numbers only, William Smith and Calvin Smith, both Whigs, determined to join Capt. Wm. B. Archer’s company in Richmond. SO that, in truth, the Tenth Legion will contribute but two men to the Virginia regiment; and both of them are Whigs! We state the fact without comment. If the Tenth Legion is "defamed by it, surely it is not our fault!

The Republican informs us that the citizens of Harrisonburg gave a dinner to the two gallant Whig volunteers, and presented to each of them a six–barrel revolver. To each of them a Bowie knife was also given– one by Mr. Isaac Aiken, and the other by Mr. Jos. S. Effinger.

[MPR]
RW47v24i4p2c2, January 12, 1847

Gen. Charles Sterret Ridgely, the father of Capt. Randolph Ridgely, who so highly distinguished himself in the Mexican campaign, and who was subsequently killed by a fall from his horse, died at Elk Ridge, Maryland on the 5th inst. in the 65th year of his age.

[MPR]

RW47v24i4p2c2, January 12, 1847

The Anti–Slavery movements in the House of Representatives, in connection with the Mexican War, are virtually admitted, by the N.Y. Evening Post, an organ of Northern Democracy, to have special reference to the next Presidential election, and are designed to aid Silas Wright, whose immediate representative, Preston King, threw the firebrand into the House. What think the Southern Locos of their "natural allies"?

[MPR]

RW47v24i4p2c2, January 12, 1847

Lieut. Thomas P. August, of the Richmond Rangers, has been appointed Adjutant of the Virginia regiment of Volunteers.

[MPR]

RW47v24i4p2c2, January 12, 1847, Letter from Washington.

Correspondence of the Whig.
Washington, Jan. 9th, 1847.

What does the Locofoco press say to the last news from Mexico, received this evening? Gen. Santa Anna, to whom Mr. Polk took care to give a free pass through our blockade, was on his march to Saltillo, to meet Gen. Worth and Gen. Taylor in open battle. This Lieutenant General of Polk’s choice, who was sent to Mexico to assume the command of the army of our enemies, to slaughter our brave troops, and, if possible, annihilate our army– what have they to say of him? They are “as dumb as oysters” about that! If the Whigs had sent him there it would have been wrong– but Mr. Polk sent him there, and it is right! Verily, in these days of modern “Democracy,” whatever the Executive may do is right, while it would not be right for one of the people to do the same. Had Mr. Webster, or any other Whig, sent a friend to Mexico on any business, and had that friend put himself at the head of the Mexican army, we would never have heard the end of it! Mr. Polk sends a man to Mexico, and takes the trouble to order Commodore Conner to let him pass the blockade. If Mr. Polk had put himself at the head of the army of Mexico, we could have easily beaten him, for he does not love the smell of powder! but he sends the treacherous and bloody Tyrant, Santa Anna, to Mexico. Everything Santa Anna does there, Mr. Polk does. Quod factit per alium, factit per se – what a man does through another it the same as if he had done it himself. It almost amounts to a moral certainty that Santa Anna could not have passed our blockade, without Mr. Polk’s order to that effect. Indeed, if Mr. Polk did not suppose it impossible for him to pass our blockade, why did he take the trouble to order Commodore Conner to pass him? Mr. Polk chose to intrigue with Santa Anna. He was exiled by his own people. Mr. Polk chooses him as his instrument in an intrigue, to come the “green game” over the Mexicans, and he is as much responsible for Santa Anna’s doings there, as he is for John Slidell’s. This tool of Mr. Polk, or rather the crafty Tyrant who made Mr. Polk his tool, is now leading a large army to the field to slaughter our men and to squander our money, and ten new regiments are required not to fight against this very chosen friend of Mr. Polk! yet where is the talk of “aid and comfort” of this? These flatterers of power, who cry lustily “The King can do no wrong,” as “silent as oysters” on this affair. It is “Democratic” to praise the Executive for what would be treason in any of the people!

“Aid and comfort,” cry these sycophants, if any one breathes a word against the President! The President is carrying on the war, and if you insinuate any thing about his ability to conduct it, you “aid and comfort” the enemy. No sirs. It is not the President who is conducting the war. It is Gen. Taylor and Gen. Scott, to both of whom the President has entrusted the conduct of the war. Yet here we have, to–day, two Locofocos, one of them looked upon as the especial mouth–piece of the President, who abuse old Gen. Taylor and Gen. Scott; charging them with incompetency! Is not this the worst kind of “aid and comfort” to Mexico, to say to the world and to Mexico, that the men to whom we have entrusted the conduct of the war, are incompetent to discharge their duty! Mr. Ficklin of Illinois, to–day, blamed Gen. Taylor for not following the Mexicans across the Rio Grande, after the battle of Resaca de la Palma, when he must have known, if he knew anything, that Gen. Taylor had not been supplied with any means for crossing rivers. This Mr. Ficklin scolded the brave American army for not plunging into the river, after they had been fighting for about 36 hours. He said they should have eaten before the battle commenced! Yes; there are men at a distance to blame Gen. Taylor for not crossing the river, who would never have crossed it themselves, unless an enemy was behind them! And Jacob Thompson of Mississippi thought fit to ridicule Gen. Taylor, as knowing how to “mark time,” but not fit to conduct a campaign as a chief. Nor was Gen. Scott capable of conducting the campaign, if we take his Florida campaign as a specimen. Now, these slurs cast upon our brave Generals, are the very worst kind of “aid and comfort” to Mexico. Of course these men will escape unscathed in the Locofoco papers. It is wrong only for Whigs to claim the freedom of speech!

The bill before the House to–day, was amended in several particulars; then a substitute offered by Mr. Rathbun, was adopted, by a majority of 8, and immediately afterwards rejected by a majority of one! The question for Monday morning will be the passage of the original bill, which gives the President the disposal of about 400 offices with which he could purchase the votes of men enough of his own party in Congress to carry any measure almost eh might choose. And this is what he wants the bill passed for. Mr. Rathbun’s
amendment, leaving the choice of officers with the men themselves, was rejected to give the President political power. If not they
would have taken Mr. Rathbun’s amendment.

If the bill pass in its original form, it will create ten additional regiments of a standing army, which will not be disbanded at the close of
war, whilst the regiments now in the field are not full by as many men as will compose these ten new regiments.

It will create a great array of office holders, colonels, &c, who will have to be fed forever at the public crib.

It will be a direct insult to the volunteers, whose patriotism and efficiency are doubted and libelled by Mr. Polk and his Locofoco
advisers. It will be a direct and cruel insult to the men who may enlist, inasmuch as they may not have the proper privilege of choosing
the officer under whom they have to fight and fall.

For these and other reasons, I presume the Whigs will generally vote against it in the House. I think it will be defeated in the Senate.
There will be an attempt, on Monday morning, to reconsider the vote rejecting Mr. Rathbun’s substitute– on of the New York delegation
has consented to move to reconsider– but I presume that it will be lost and the original bill will pass; all amendments being cut off by
the previous question.

You will see that the House have taken a decided stand against the Lt. General, (120 to 90.) Will they be whipped into the traces
hereafter? Wait and see.

Mr. Webster arrived here this evening, from the North, with his lady. Mr. Robert Tyler also arrived this evening from the South. Mr.
Lover, the celebrated Irish novelist and poet, is expected here to-morrow.

Mr. Cabell of Florida, who has been here for several days, receiving the congratulations of his numerous friends, returns to Richmond
this evening.

BRUTUS.

[MPR]

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Although the House of Representatives refused, on Saturday, by a vote of 90 to 120, to amend Mr. Rathbun’s substitute, by the
insertion of a clause authorizing the appointment of a Lieut. General, yet the House, in committee of the whole, had previously, by a
vote of 84 to 67, incorporated a provision to that effect in the bill for which Mr. Rathbun’s was a substitute, and which we presume
passed the body yesterday. In that event, the appointment of a Lieutenant General will have been authorized by the House,
notwithstanding it is clearly in opposition to the opinion of a majority of the members, upon a fuller vote. It is to be hoped, however,
that the Senate will strike out this feature of the bill.

Should it pass both Houses, however, Senator Benton cannot receive the appointment– a provision having been inserted, declaring
that “it shall not be lawful to appoint to any of the offices authorized by this act any member of the present Congress.” Rumor says
that Caleb Cushing is to be the man!!!

Of the Virginia Delegation, Messrs. Brown, Johnson, Leake, McDowell and Tredway, voted for the creation of the office of Lieutenant
General, and Messrs. Atkinson, Bayly, Bedinger, Chapman, Hopkins, Hubbard, Hunter, Pendleton and Seddon, against it.

[MPR]

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We briefly noticed yesterday the interesting ceremony of the previous afternoon– the presentation of Judge B.G. Baldwin, at the
request of the County Court of Augusta, of a Flag to the fine company of Volunteers which she has given to the service of her country.

Every spectator was struck with the beauty of the Flag, both the design and the execution of which attest the genius and skill of the
artist. One one side is our national emblem, the Eagle, with the words, “E Pluribus Unum”;– on the other the Virginia coat of arms,
with its appropriate and glorious motto: “Sic simper Tyrannis”

Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, quite a crowd assembled to witness the interesting ceremony.

We have the pleasure of laying before our readers this morning the admirable address of Judge Baldwin and the not less felicitous reply
of Capt. Harper.

Judge Baldwin’s Address.

Volunteers of Augusta!– At the call of your country, you have left the comforts of civil life and the endearments of domestic ties, to
devote your whole energies to her service, and peril your lives in her cause. You have witnessed the deep feeling occasioned by this
movement in the community from which you come. You have observed the generous sympathy in your behalf which pervaded the
county of Augusta, during your brief preparations for an enterprise of such thrilling interest. You could not mistake the manifestations
of kind regard, which attended your departure. You cannot forget the affecting evidences of anxiety for your welfare, exhibited by the
associates and fellow-citizens from whom you have separated.

I speak of no casual and transient excitement—no sudden and momentary burst of emotion. The best wishes, the anxious care of
Augusta, follow you still. Since you left us, the public sentiment has been concentrated by the constituted authorities, who have
resolved that you shall bear with you a mark of her attachment, best suited to the occasion, and most grateful to the hearts of our
citizen-soldiers.

Behold, then, the gift of Augusta to her sons!—who go forth to sustain her ancient honor and renown—to meet the enemies of our
country, and do battle in her cause! It is intended as a memorial of affectionate regard—of intense solicitude—of abiding trust. It is
intended as an emblem of what she expects, and of what you have resolved. It is intended to stimulate you in times of difficulty, and
cheer you in moments of gloom. It is intended as a bond of inseparable union between your hearts and your home. It is intended to
remind you, at every step of your advance, of your duty to yourselves, your country, and your friends.

I have no commission to urge you to courage in the field—towards deeds of daring in the assault—to unyielding firmness in defence. No!
Soldiers of Augusta, no! We leave such topics to your own thoughts—we hold them needless and unprofitable in speech, to the
descendants of the sturdy and dauntless settlers of our land, the pioneers of the wilderness, the conquerors of the merciless savage foe—
to the grandsons of the men who fought at Guilford, at King’s Mountain, at the Cowpens, at York—
to the sons of the men who
drew back from no duty in our last conflict with a mighty foe—
to the men who were lately represented at Palo Alto, at Resaca de la Palma, on the heights and steeps of bloody Monterey. We address no
direction of words to the spirit which swells in the bosoms, and
bums in the veins, of our bold and hardy mountainiers!

Let me turn from what we know, to what we hope and believe—that this banner will never be degraded by those over whom it is to
wave, by any stain of cruelty, of disorder, of rapine, of devastation—
you that you will return it to its donor, however stained with blood,
however torn in battle, unsullied by any crime to be received with joyful acclamations, and placed amongst the archives of your
country, as a proud monument of your worth, as a precious legacy to future generations. And here you will not deem it presumptuous
in an early friend of your fathers, one who has known them long and well, who has been honored by their confidence, who retains a
grateful recollection of their kindness and encouragement, that he should suggest to you a few hints for your guidance, amidst the
difficulties and dangers of the new career upon which you are about to enter.

Learn, then, what you cannot fully know without experience, that the first duty of a soldier is perfect subordination: a cheerful
obedience to the commands of his superiors; a faithful observance of the martial law. Without this subjection, there can be no safety,
no honor, no glory. Let not your pride be hurt but this inevitable necessity—deem it no degradation—consider it no hardship: it is the
common lot of all who leave the mild and gentle pursuits of civic life for the stern and rigid profession of arms. A military authority is
especially despotic, whatever may be the form of government from which it springs. Its sway is indispensable for the citizens of a
Republic as for the subjects of a Prince. Nay more; the armies of the freest nations that ever existed have been most distinguished for
a rigid discipline; and it is the very subjection of a proud and independent spirit to the uncompromising authority of military command,
which has covered them with glory and immortalized their fame.

But bear in mind that though your duties as soldiers are stern, and arduous, and rigid, they are not to divest you of the virtues which
adorn the civic life. Far from it. On the contrary, they often call forth the noblest feelings of the heart, and give scope to the highest
qualities of the soul. But, I can only glance at this fruitful theme. A single example must suffice. The enemy is to be subdued, not to be
torn to pieces, or trampled in the dust. So soon as resistance ceases, forbearance and mercy should resume their sway. At that
moment the fierceness of the Christian soldier is disarmed—
he binds up the wounds of his prostrate foe, extends to him a helping
hand, relieves his distress, contributes to his wants, consoles him in his grief and shame.

To the non-combatant of the hostile nation all unnecessary violence is a crime; and what goes unpunished amidst the din of arms, as
appeal still lies to a high and mighty Judge. And what shall I say, if that violence be offered to the weaker sex? Oh, deep disgrace! Oh,
burning shame! Oh, damning thought! Is there a man amongst you, who deserves the name, that could be tempted to such a deed?
None, not one! If he could, one cry for mercy, one shriek of despair, would send back his thoughts to his native land, and summon his
memory to the mother who bore and nursed him—
to the sister who loved and cheered him.

But the topics of admonition and counsel spring up around me as I progress, and warn me not to advance too far. I must compress
what I may yet venture to say into a few brief words.

Look again upon your flag! Does it sit, as it waves, your inmost hearts—
does it fan the fire of your veins—
does it swell your soul with
thoughts of gallant deeds? I tell you it is nothing—worse than nothing—
it if only moves your passions, and subjects your reason to
their sway. Know, that the first victory you have to gain is over yourselves—
that you must acquire self-control—
that you must temper
enthusiasm with discretion—
that you must seek the guidance of a calm and sober judgment. Learn that you have much to learn. Bear
in mind that you have to gain the art of war—
the discipline of the soldier—
the dexterous use of arms—
the wakeful vigilance of the
veteran, his care of his supplies, his capacity to bear fatigues, his sagacious forecast of his wants. And remember, never to forget that
the same industry and prudence, sobriety and frugality, patience and skill, that crown with success the pursuits of civil life, are quite as
essential—nay, still more essential—
to encounter and overcome the far greater difficulties of a career in arms.

A few more words and I have done. Non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the company: You are volunteers, not enlisted soldiers.
You enter the army not as a matter of necessity, but choice. You aspire to usefulness: you thirst for fame; you cherish the thought of
returning to your friends and your homes, with established reputations, to resume the pursuits of civic life, with energies increased,
with knowledge enlarged, with hopes encouraged. You have associated as a band of volunteers: I trust you will prove a band of
brothers: with mutual confidence and esteem, respect and good will; inspired with a generous emulation; discarding all petty
jealousies and distrusts. You have chosen your own officers; yield them a cheerful and respectful obedience; guard their reputations as you would your own; sustain them by your confidence and zeal.

Subaltern officers of the company: You have been called to duties of much responsibility and trust; you have the capacity and inclination to perform them; lead no temptations lead you astray from the path of usefulness and honor; scorn all vulgar arts and sordid aims; aspire to high distinction; gain it by the cultivation of your talents, and the application of all your energies to the faithful and enthusiastic discharge of all your duties. Let none be nearer your hearts than a parental care over the health, the safety, the good repute, the comforts of your men. Aid them by your friendly counsel, instruct them by your good example.

Kenton Harper, commandant of this corps: To you it would not become me to utter a single word upon the subject of your trust. No one understands it better than yourself. Augusta commits her sons to you with confidence, unbounded confidence.

Volunteers of Augusta: Receive this gift of the mother to her sons. Farewell—fare—well!

To this address, Capt. Harper responded, as follows:

Sir— It is with feelings which no language can adequately express, that I receive, at your hands, this proud testimonial of the confidence of old Augusta that her sons will do their duty, in the perilous service upon which they are about to enter, in a far distant land. Much as I knew we shared of her sympathy—anxiously I believed we should be followed by her prayers—yet I was not prepared to see the honor of the county thus formally committed to our keeping. To you, sir, you know me well, I need not say, how much I am overwhelmed by this act of generous confidence. Still I have a trust, and abiding trust, in the stout hearts and strong arms of the gallant men with whom I am associated, and that they will honorably sustain every just expectation of their friends and the country.

Augusta Volunteers! Behold your Banner, presented to you by your county! Can you ever allow it to be dishonored in your service? What say you?

[No, no,–Never, never;–was responded from all parts of the line.]

Sir—You have our answer! Bear it back, I pray you, to our fellow citizens. Say to them, that, with hearts glowing with affection for our firesides and our friends, we still go forward, cheerfully and confidently, to the discharge of our duty. And may the God of Battles arm us for the fight!

The Addresses elicited loud bursts of applause—and at their conclusion, the Company, with its flag borne in front, returned to its quarters. It left Richmond yesterday morning, for Old Point, whither, as our readers are aware, it had been already proceeded by five companies of the Virginia regiment. It is expected that the first battalion will embark for the seat of war in about ten days.

RW47v24i4p4c4, January 12, 1847, What does this mean?

"Independent," the well-informed Washington Correspondent of the Philadelphia North American hints at some important revelations, hereafter to be made, in connection with the origin and progress of the Mexican war. "Give us but light." Let the "secrets of the prison house" be brought forth. He says:

"A large portion of the written history of the war—of the correspondence between Gen. Taylor and the War Department, and of the other matters connected with secret negotiations just before the war opened, which Mr. Polk and Mr. Marcy will understand, have never been disclosed to the public. There is now ever reason why they should be, and I intend to contribute an humble part in bringing it about.

"I now say, there are facts in the archives of the Government, connected with the advance of the army from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande that disgrace the Administration, and that place this whole war question in an attitude which it has never before assumed. In due season I will present the details, and a Resolution in either House can test their accuracy."

RW47v24i4p4c4, January 12, 1847, Appointments by the President.

By and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Samuel H Montgomery, of Pennsylvania, to be Assistant Quartermaster, with the rank of Captain.
Benjamin S. Muhlenberg, of Pennsylvania, to be Surgeon.
George Dock, of Pennsylvania, to be Assistant Surgeon.
Samuel McGowan, of South Carolina, to be Assistant Quartermaster, with the rank of Captain.
James D. Blaiding, of South Carolina, to be Assistant Commissary, with the rank of Captain.
James Davis, of South Carolina, to be Surgeon.
Elbert Bland, of South Carolina, to be Assistant Surgeon.
Mr. Caleb Cushing has introduced a resolution to the Legislature of Massachusetts now in session, proposing an appropriation of $20,000, to aid in providing for the expense incurred in the support and equipment of the Massachusetts regiment of Volunteers, prior to its being mustered into the service of the General Government. To this resolution we regret to see decided symptoms of hostility. The grounds on which it is opposed are, first, that the government, in raising troops to carry on the war, ought to have made ample provision for their sustenance from the moment that they enrolled their names; secondly, that to the war in which we are now engaged a large majority of the people of that State are opposed, as unnecessary in its commencement, and as being prosecuted not for the purpose of redressing national injuries and wrongs, but exclusively with a view of territorial aggrandizement; and thirdly, that the General Government is still largely indebted to Massachusetts for money advanced during the war of 1812, and which, heretofore, although the justice of her claim has been repeatedly recognized, it has failed to reimburse.

The first and third of these grounds of objection are unquestionably not without force; but we nevertheless hope that Massachusetts, recollecting her ancient fame, will disdain to be influenced by such consideration— and above all, that she will not lose sight of the obligation which rests upon every State, as well upon every citizen, to sustain the country, while it is engaged in a foreign war, whatever may be the opinion entertained, either of the criminality of those by whose rashness or folly it has been precipitated, or of the object which its authors designed to accomplish, but which, fortunately, it will not be in their power to effect without the concurrence of the Legislative Department of the Government. That object, we have no doubt, was the acquisition of a large portion of Mexican territory. But recent indications of the determination of the members of Congress from the non-slaveholding States to exclude slavery from all the territory that may be so acquired, has already exorted the declaration from Southern friends of the Administration in that body, that, with this unfair restriction, they are opposed to any further extension of the "area of freedom." And as it is perfectly apparent that this restriction will be insisted upon, and with the numerical ascendancy of the North in Congress, will be enforced, it is not at all unlikely that the very men who have been most eager to reach the halls of Moctezumas, and who, with the extension of our boundaries mainly in view, have brought about this war, will be quite easily induced to compromise with Mexico for the Rio Grande, as the boundary, a few miles beyond its mouth, leaving to her the undisturbed possession of the territory at and near its source, in New Mexico and Chihuahua, which all our statutes, as well since as before the annexation of Texas, have recognized as Mexican soil.

We rejoiced to hear that Massachusetts had contributed her quota of soldiers to the service of the country— that she was not behind her sister States in this practical proof of her patriotism. We sincerely hope that she may not now discredit her Revolutionary renown, by refusing to follow the example of other States in appropriating a small amount of money to meet exigencies for which the General Government has strangely failed to provide, as it was its duty to have done.

We received no papers by the Southern Mail, which is indeed becoming to be almost and every day occurrence. Since Saturday morning last, we have but once received papers as far South as Raleigh— on Tuesday morning— the mail having failed on Sunday, Monday and Wednesday mornings. There is "a screw loose somewhere?"

The Norfolk Herald, it seems, was misinformed as to the determination of Gov. Smith, to decline accepting the services of the Norfolk Volunteers. Capt. Edwards, the commander of the company, was informed by the Governor that he could not determine certainly whether their services would be accepted or not; but authorized him to keep his company enrolled and ready for further orders, the expense of their subsistence, &c. in the interim, being paid by the State. The Herald expresses the opinion that they will be accepted.

We are glad to hear that North Carolina, thought somewhat slow in her movements, Rip Van Winkle like, will soon be in the field with a full regiment of volunteers.

The Washington Union is preparing for an assault upon Gen. Taylor, should our army unfortunately meet with a disaster, as it did
before the battles of the 8th and 9th of May were fought, by hinting in advance, that his arrangements are defective. It says:—"We cannot suppose it possible that General Taylor would have advanced to Saltillo and scattered his troops so far from each other— with Gen’l Worth at Saltillo, with Gen. Wool at Parras, with Gen. Butler at Monterey, and the forces under himself and Gen. Patterson, so as to incur any serious danger from a concentrated attack by Santa Anna upon any of his divisions." But let General Taylor achieve another splendid victory— and then the Union will extol the Administration for the wisdom of its plans, and the efficiency of its arrangements, precisely as it did after the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. If disaster and defeat ensue, General Taylor will have to bear the brunt— if victory, then the Administration will appropriate to itself the glory of the achievement!


The 3rd company of Volunteers organized in this City, (though many of its members came from other parts of the State,) has been organized by the appointment of

Wm. B. Archer, of Richmond, as Captain.
L.M. Shumaker, of Franklin, 1st Lieutenant.
R.H. Keeling, of Richmond, 1st 2d do.
Jas. M. Blakely, Jr. do. 2d 2d do.

The non–commissioned officers are not yet appointed.

The Marshall Guard yesterday paid their respects to the Governor, and were received with the usual ceremonies.

RW47v24i5p1c3, January 15, 1847

The Legislature of Pennsylvania has adopted, by a unanimous vote, resolutions of thanks to Gen. Taylor, and the officers and men of the U.S. army in Mexico, volunteers and regulars, for their gallantry and good conduct since the commencement of the war. Those astute military critics, Orlando Ficklin of Illinois, and Jacob Thompson of Mississippi, think that censure, instead of thanks, as the hero’s appropriate reward— especially if that hero be a Whig General!

RW47v24i5p2c1, January 15, 1847, To Correspondents.

Several communications have been received, the publication of which we are compelled to defer. They shall appear as soon as possible.

"Scottsville, Jr, " must excuse us. We have already declined two or three articles on the same subject, to which we have already devoted more room than we could well spare.

RW47v24i5p2c1, January 15, 1847, The Virginia Regiment.

We understand that it is expected that the Virginia Regiment of Volunteers will embark at Old Point, for the seat of war, on the 20th inst.
RW47v24i5p2c2, January 15, 1847, News from the South.

Our readers will be gratified to learn, by the intelligence received yesterday morning, from the Seat of War, that the previous advices, exciting our apprehensions for the fate of Gen. Worth’s division of the army, were although not wholly groundless, greatly exaggerated.

A letter from Matamoros to the New Orleans *Picayune*, expresses the opinion that Gen. Taylor will return home as soon as Gen. Scott takes command of the army.

RW47v24i5p2c2, January 15, 1847

To the Editors of the Whig:

Gentlemen– I noticed in your paper, a few days since, a slight mistake which I have not seen corrected; and as it is a matter of some interest to me, you will pardon me for calling your attention to it. The mistake was this: In mentioning the names of the officers of Capt. Bankhead’s company, you had it Thomas Garnett, of Essex, 1st Lieutenant. It should have been, Thomas Stuart Garnett of Westmoreland. It is more necessary that this correction should be made, because there is a Lieut. Garnett now in Mexico from Essex. It may not be improper to add, that Lieut. Thomas S. Garnett is a son of H.T. Garnett of Westmoreland. If you will make this correction, you will greatly oblige your humble servant.

Jan. 11th, 1847. WESTMORELAND.


From the *New Orleans Times*, Jan. 7.

By the arrival here yesterday of the U.S. Transport Steamer Alabama, Capt. Windle, which left Brasos on the 3d instant, we have received intelligence from the several divisions of the army up to a late date.

It appears that the reports which have been in circulation regarding the advance of Santa Anna on Saltillo have been entirely premature, and the statement that was published of his being, at the date of our last advices from that place, within three days’ march of it, is entirely without foundation. There was, however, some cause for the rumor, of which the following are the particulars:

General Worth on the 16th ultimo received information from two scouts that the Mexican General—in-chief had left San Luis Potosi, at the head of a body of 15,000 cavalry, with the intention to fall on the American division at Saltillo, which he imagined he could easily crush. After this, he proposed attacking General Wool, and if similar success attended him, to repair to Monterey and capture or destroy the magazines and public stores which lay there. General Worth, without attaching more importance to the report than it seemed to merit, forthwith dispatched expresses to Generals Taylor, Wool and Butler, acquainting them with what he had heard, leaving it entirely to them to act in the premises. The express overtook Gen’l Taylor a short distance from Monterey, on the rout to Victoria. He immediately returned to his old encamping ground near Monterey, with the whole of his division, and then awaited further advices. After remaining three days, during which he received information of the improbability of the report of Santa Anna’s advance on Saltillo, he again took up the line of march, and proceeded onward to Victoria. Meanwhile, General Wool, who had been informed of the rumor current at Saltillo, called in all his detached commands, and at the head of his division, 3000 strong, quitted Parras on the 18th ultimo, and by arrangements previously made, was to enter Saltillo on the 23d at farthest, pushing forward with all practicable speed. General Butler had previously reached Saltillo from Monterey. During this time the intelligence of the reported advance of Santa Anna had reached other more distant points of the line of occupation; and troops, already under orders to march toward Monterey, hastened their progress onward.

It appears that Generals Taylor and Worth, on mature reflection, readily discovered the improbability of the report of Santa Anna’s advance on, and near proximity to, Saltillo, from the following facts: 1st. The distance between San Luis de Potosi and Saltillo was too great to admit of the possibility of the march of so large a body as 15,000 men, without timely notice being afforded to the American General to prepare for his reception. 2dly. The ground between the two cities is extremely bare of verdure or other means of sustenance for man and beast–90 miles of which, as is well known, being an arid desert, divest of fountain, running stream, or any other source of water, besides affording not the least chance of getting food or fodder, being almost uninhabited, throughout its wide extent. The report of the Mexican scouts, however, is said to have been corroborated, by information received at Saltillo, in a letter from an English merchant at San Louis de Potosi, who stated that Santa Anna had positively left that city, at the head of a numerous body of cavalry. Even now, in those parts of Mexico, occupied by our troops, it is admitted that Santa Anna is out with a considerable mounted force, but with objects far different from those attributed to him, by scouts. It was stated in the letter above alluded to, that the Mexicans’ intention were to hurry forward, and occupy the only practicable pass in the mountains lying between the divisions of...
Generals Worth and Wool, thus intercepting their communications. After realizing his anticipated success against them, by cutting them up in detail, he was then to advance on Monterey, &c. These announcement are now proved to be premature, and things are proceeding in their former train, accelerated a little by the alarm which has just subsided.

For much of the above information we are indebted to Major Butler, [a passenger by the Alabama,] Paymaster U.S. Army, attached to the division of Gen. Wool, who visits this city on business, which will detain him here about a week, when he returns to head quarters. Major Butler left Parras on the 17th ultimo, where General Wool’s division then lay. He states that the troops were in excellent health and spirits, no casualty of moment having occurred for some time. The inhabitants of the country which the troops had traversed from San Antonio, had manifested the greatest good feeling towards the Americans; not a symptom of that hostility which the population of the valley of the Rio Grande had so frequently exhibited, had been observed.

Brasos.– We are under many obligations to Gen. Jessup for his politeness in communicating some interesting particulars regarding the feelings observable amongst the Mexican population, at different points on the Rio Grande. It seems that a species of moral barometer exists there, if we take the trouble to study their character. On the eve of any great event, (the battle of Monterey, for example,) a considerable falling off in the numbers of Mexicans seeking employment takes place. At each new success of the American arms, the applications for service redouble. With the denunciation of the Mexican government staring them in the face, they are afraid to work for the invaders; but as time rolls on, and our conquests seem to be consolidated, their confidence returns, and they are anxious to join us heart and hand.

Monterey.– Major Butler was in Monterey on the 23d ult, at the time Gen Taylor was encamped there. Col Harney was in that city, on his way to Saltillo. Everything seemed satisfactory, regarding the conduct of the inhabitants, as to peace and tranquility. One regiment, it is presumed, will be sufficient to form its garrison.

March of Troops, &c– On his way from Monterey to Camargo, Maj Butler met the Kentucky mounted riflemen, with Gen Marshall at their head, and on of the Ohio regiments– both corps on their way to the former place.

General Scott– On the 1st inst, on his way down the Rio Grande, a days’ distance from Camargo, Gen Scott was met proceeding upward, on the steamboat Corvette.

At Matamoros, Point Isabell and Brazos, things were in statu quo.

The remains of the following officers were brought over on the Alabama:

Col. Watson, Baltimore Regiment.
Capt. Isaac Holmes, Georgia Regiment.
Capt. Ridgely, Flying Artillery.
Capt. Gillespie, Texas Regiment.
Lieut. Graham, Infantry.
Mr. Thomas, Texas Rangers.
Mr. Pierson, Texas Rangers.

Passengers– General Jessup, Quarter Master General and suite; Majors Butler, Boyd and Comstock; Captains Long, Hoyle; Lieut Armstrong; Messrs H McQueen, Mills, Clark and Robinson, and 240 sick and discharged soldiers. Messrs Mills and Robinson are the committee from Baltimore to conduct thither the remains of Col Watson, Capt Ridgely, and Lieut Graham. Lieut Boyle, of the Baltimore battalion, died on the morning of the 6th inst, on board the Alabama, while coming up the river.

Tampico– Who are very much indebted to the gentleman who has so kindly placed at our disposal the following items of intelligence from Tampico. In a letter dated Tampico, the 26th ult., the writer states that a report was current that a body of 500 American troops had taken quiet possession of Victoria, the capital of the department. Indeed the whole of the inhabitants of Tamaulipas are prepared to throw off the yoke of the central Government, provided the United States will guarantee them permanent protection. A letter has been received there, dated San Luis de Potosi, the 23d November, which stated Santa Anna’s force at that time did not exceed 7,000 men– this was from a most reliable source, but the date of the letter is rather distant. Col. Riley, and Gens. Quitman and Pillow, were rapidly advancing on Victoria. The 500 men above alluded to, are no doubt part of the force of Col. Riley.

Saltillo– Major Butler passed through Saltillo on his way hither. Here he found Generale Butler, whose severe wound in the leg was slowly healing. It will be a satisfaction to his numerous friends to learn that he is again able to mount his horse, and in a very short time, will be, in all respects, “himself again.” The two Generals, Butler and Worth, were of opinion that Santa Anna was too astute to risk himself in a field fight; he would patiently await the unfolding chapter of accidents, behind the fortifications of San Luis de Potosi, confessedly, even by our own topographical engineer officers, the strongest place in Mexico, after San Juan de Ulloa.

[MPR]

RW47v24i5p2c5, January 15, 1847, Further from Mexico.

From the New Orleans *Picayune*, Jan. 6.

Since our last we have received files of papers from Vera Cruz from the latter part of November up to the 17th of December. We have reviewed the reports in the papers of the proceedings of the Mexican Congress and do not find a word to add to the statement which we gave yesterday. NO direct action appears to have been had upon the subject of the war with the United States. We cannot find the
Reefer, Lieut. Com'g Rowan, sailed on the 28th ult. for Anton Lizardo, but Lieut. Commanding Sterrett, and Tatnall; schrs. Nonata sailed from Tampico on Wednesday last. There was but little news of public interest. The U.S. steamer Spitfire, Com'r Arispe, returned to the bar on the following day, owing to contrary winds and the prospect of bad weather. The two former got under way again on the 30th, and when the Nonata was inside the bar, and probably did not sail for a day or two.

The papers of the city of Mexico have been much occupied with reports touching Santa Anna’s designs upon the government. The official journal denounces every whisper of an ambitious purpose as slanderous and traitorous. It is evidently deemed most important to keep the public free from all expectations on this score.

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We have already mentioned that the Commodore has supplied them with clothes and money. Our correspondent tells us they are treated with kindness, but yet as close prisoners.

We hear from Santa Anna in another communication. On the 4th of December, he addressed a letter to the Secretary of State, which was published to allay the apprehension excited by rumors in circulation that the General had quarreled with the acting government and was about to return to the city of Mexico and enter into negotiations for peace with the United States. He attributes the reports in circulation, injurious to his character, to certain papers in the United States. His appeals to Gen. Salas and Gen. Almonte as witnesses in his behalf, both of whom he says made the campaign of 1835 with him in Texas, in the endeavor to prevent the dismemberment of that portion of the national territory. He touches upon other events, in the lives of Salas and himself, in which they were associates in misfortune; he expresses his reluctance thus to appear before his country in his own justification. He would rather have trusted to his past services and his wounds for his defence, and concludes with a flourish, which we may faintly render thus: “But I had another reply in reserve, which my cannon and musketry should make upon the invading hosts in the day of national vengeance.”

The locomotor gives a vivid account of the loss of the Somers, and of the exertions of the boats of the different nations to save the drowning sailors. It does not, however, add much to the information which we had previously received. The seven sailors who drifted ashore and were saved, were treated, it says, with great kindness and humanity in Vera Cruz. As they floated ashore, they were so near to the castle of San Juan that they could distinctly hear the beating of the drums within the walls. A correspondent, whose attentions we cannot adequately acknowledge, has furnished us with the names of the men saved, who are now held as prisoners of war in Vera Cruz. They are as follows– Wm. W. Cardy, Wm. W. Powers, John Boyce, Lewis Johnson, James Fennel, Matthias Gravel and Dennis Kelly.

We do not recognise in the tone of this letter any marks of earnest sincerity, nor do we find anything in the papers to throw light upon the military designs of Santa Anna. A letter written by him as feedback as the 21st of November, to justify his abandonment of Tampico, contains one paragraph saying that he had anticipated any operations which Gen. Taylor might mediate by the way of Monterey, and taken the proper measure to repel an invasion from that quarter.

The papers of the city of Mexico have been much occupied with reports touching Santa Anna’s designs upon the government. The official journal denounces every whisper of an ambitious purpose as slanderous and traitorous. It is evidently deemed most important to keep the public free from all expectations on this score.

[MPR]

RW47v24i5p2c6, January 15, 1847, Latest from Tampico.

From the Picayune, Jan. 6.

By the arrival this morning at 3 o’clock, of the schr. Arispe, Capt. Gates, from Tampico, in five days, we have news as late as the 30th ult., which will be fond detailed below:

The Arispe sailed from Tampico on Wednesday last. There was but little news of public interest. The U.S. steamer Spitfire, Com’r Tatnall; schrs. Reefer, Lieut. Commanding Sterrett, and Nonata, Lieut. Com’r Rowan, sailed on the 28th ult. for Anton Lizardo, but returned to the bar on the following day, owing to contrary winds and the prospect of bad weather. The two former got under way again on the 30th, and when the Arispe left, at 3 P.M., were three or four miles to the eastward– the schr. in tow of the steamer. The Nonata was inside the bar, and probably did not sail for a day or two.

The sloop of war St. Mary’s arrived off Tampico bar on the evening of the 28th ult., but sailed again the following day. Her destination was not known. A grand flag–staff, ninety–five feet high, was raised on the morning of the 30th ult. in the principal plaza, directly in the centre of an extensive marble pedestal originally designed for the base of a monument to Santa Anna.

Mr. Chase, our former consul, is appointed collector of the customs at Tampico– a post he eminently deserves.

Occasional rumors reach the city of an intended attack upon it by the Mexicans; but they are only viewed as Mexican tales. A man may eat every Mexican that will attack Tampico while our troops are there for supper, and still follow Dr. Franklin’s recipe for a good appetite for breakfast.
The city remains perfectly quiet and orderly, being under the best possible police regulations. There is no fighting, rowdyism or disturbance of any kind, and it is not possible that the people of Tampico— the former inhabitants— ever saw so still and peaceable a place before.

[MPR]

**RW47v24i5p4c1, January 15, 1847, From the Seat of War.**

The intelligence, in another column, from the seat of war, confirms the previous rumor of the advance of a large Mexican force towards Saltillo, and rectifies our previous information in reference to the position of Gen. Taylor, who, it seems, when he heard of this new and important movement, had left Monterey but a few hours, and immediately retraced his steps, for the purpose of proceeding as rapidly as possible, and with as large reinforcements as he could command, to the aid of Gen. Worth.

Some doubt is expressed by the New Orleans papers whether Santa Anna was in command of the Mexican army. A Mexican, who arrived at Saltillo on the 12th of December, from San Luis Potosi, (says a letter from the former place to the editors of the New Orleans Picayune, ) reported that Santa Anna had gone to the city of Mexico; and a similar statement is made in a letter from one of the officers of the squadron, writing from Anton Lizardo. From the silence of the Mexican papers in regard to Santa Anna’s movements, recently received at New Orleans, (a summary of the most important contents of which may be found in another column,) a like inference is drawn. But, without regarding it as of much importance whether Santa Anna is in command of the advancing Mexican army, or not, since we take it for granted that it is under the command of a capable chief, it is our impression that he is at its head, and that the statement of the Mexican at Saltillo was intended to mislead Gen. Worth; while the silence of the Mexican papers, in regard to the military movements in progress or contemplated, furnish to our minds the strongest reason for believing that a sudden and decisive blow was about to be struck by that cunning commander, the first intimation of which, to our own forces should be, if possible, the roar of his artillery. Fortunately, however, his approach towards Saltillo, unexpected as it seems to have been– for we have not yet learned, we apprehend, to correct the fatal error of our underrating the resources and the prowess of our enemy— was ascertained in time to make preparations for his warm reception. But the comparatively small force at the disposable of Gen. Taylor, after garrisoning the captured cities, and leaving in his rear a sufficient number of men to guard his depots and to keep open the line of communication between his supplies and the advanced posts, justifies, with all our strong confidence in the skill and courage of our officers and in the firmness and intrepidity of our soldiers, the apprehension that they may not be able to maintain the positions hitherto wrested from the enemy. Their splendid achievements heretofore— partaking of they do almost of the miraculous, when the superior numbers of the foe and the great advantages of his position are considered— are, we admit, well calculated to inspire unusual confidence in their ability to re-enact the prodigies of valor which have already signalized their triumphal march into the heart of the Mexican Republic. And most devoutly do we hope that the next arrival from the scene of conflict may bring the tidings of the retreat of the enemy, or of another brilliant victory over his powerful force— the more devoutly, because, should our army sustain any serious discomfiture, the immediate consequences may be most disastrous, by producing a general insurrectionary movement in the valley of the Rio Grande, where, we are told, a feverish excitement already prevails, consequent upon the withdrawal of the main body of our forces from Matamoros, Camargo and their vicinities, which will manifest itself in open and deadly hostility should our army unfortunately be too weak to maintain its present position.

The most intense solicitude prevails to hear the result of the conflict, which is supposed to have occurred about the 25th of December. In the meanwhile, we know that our gallant army has done all that men could do to sustain the honor of their country’s flag, and to win for themselves an additional claim to her gratitude and admiration.

[MPR]

**RW47v24i5p4c1, January 15, 1847**

We understand that a bearer of dispatches, from the Army, passed through this city yesterday morning oh his way to Washington.

[MPR]

**RW47v24i5p4c1, January 15, 1847, Generals Scott and Taylor.**

We adverted yesterday to the first open manifestation of hostility to Gen. Taylor, on the part of leading friends of the Administration in Congress. Cotemporaneously with the disclosure of this feeling, by Mr. Ficklin of Illinois, who had been preceded, by the avowal of similar sentiment in rather more guarded language, by Mr. Thompson of Mississippi, who also assailed Gen. Scott, we received the New Orleans Times, containing a letter from Washington, in which we find this paragraph— “It is said that Mr. Polk has no confidence in Genl. Taylor, and is constantly complaining of him, and that he is loth to commit the command of all the forces and the chief conduct of the war to Gen. Scott. Hence, his desire, which has become strong, to have the office of Lieut. General created, and to fill it by the appointment of Mr. Benton.”

If it be true, that Mr. Polk— differing, as we unhesitatingly assert that he does, with almost the entire country, and what is of more importance far, with the army— believes Gen. Taylor to be incompetent to the discharge of the highly important duties resulting from the position in which Mr. Polk placed him, he ought, as the “Commander-in-Chief of the armies of the U.S.,” to have superseded him; and, if he is “loth” to trust Gen. Scott, he ought not to have sent him to assume the “chief conduct of the war. But if the true reason be here assigned for the power asked of Congress by the President, to appoint a “General Officer,” to supersede both Gen. Scott and Gen. Taylor, why, we ask, did not the President himself have the candor and the courage to say so in his Message, recommending the
creation of this new office? Why did he not say that Gen. Taylor had displayed too little skill in his combinations, or too little energy in his movements, and that he was reluctant to trust Gen. Scott, if such was in truth the reason upon which that application was based? It was, indeed, a fair inference, from the omission of Gen. Taylor’s name in his Annual Message, that the brilliant victories achieved by the forces under his command had excited rather the envy than the admiration of the President. But we could not suppose that, responsible as Mr. Polk is for the energetic prosecution of the war into which he has plunged the country, and naturally desirous to make some atonement for the rashness of that act by the splendor of its results, he would permit it to be inefficiently conducted by an incompetent commander, while he held in his own hands the power of displacing him from the responsible and arduous position. Besides, if, as is now asserted by the President’s friends on the floor of Congress, Gen. Taylor failed from want of nerve or want of energy, in reaping the legitimate fruits of the victories of the 8th and 9th of May, by permitting the Mexican army to escape, why did Mr. Polk, as a token of his satisfaction with the conduct of the commanding officer on that occasion, ask the Senate to promote his from brevet Brigadier to a full Major General? Either the alleged delinquencies of Gen. Taylor on that occasion had then escaped the observation of the Executive, or this tribute to his conduct in those battles was an act of hypocritical homage to public sentiment, which the President dared not brook, in order to gratify his personal resentments.

The only reason which the President gives, in support of his application for the creation of the new office of “Lieutenant General,” for the obvious purpose of placing over the head of Generals Scott and Taylor some favorite of the court, who has yet to show his capacity to discharge the duties of that post, is, in substance, that the army consisting of both regulars and volunteers, it is important that the commander–in-chief should, in the language of the Washington Union, “be acquainted with the qualities of both species of force, and calculated to give the combination the greatest degree of efficiency.” A most ridiculous reason truly! Who, of all the persons named in connection with the high office, can be better, or half as well acquainted with the qualities of either the regulars, or the volunteers, as men who have grown grey in the camp and in the field, in association with both descriptions of force? Where is the evidence that Benton or any other court favorite possesses this [...] qualification in an extraordinary degree, or indeed that he is competent to command even a regiment? The accompaniment of the recommendation with [...] so flimsy upon its face, shows conclusively there was another motive which the President was afraid to avow. That motive is made manifest by the recent malignant attacks upon Scott and Taylor, to get rid of whom, for reasons which the people will instinctively understand, was the sole object of the suggestion.

Yet what would be the result, were Congress to give its consent to the proposed innovation, and, removing men of tried skill and courage, place at the head of the army a man who never led a squadron into fight, and who is to make his maiden effort, not as a subaltern, but as the leader of our forces? What confidence could the army repose in such a commander? Would they follow him to the “imminent deadly breach” with the same reliance upon his knowledge of the art of war, and with the same confidence in his firmness as well in his sagacity, which they would evince if led by a veteran, whose fame had been established in other fields, and who, they would feel assured, would neither lead them heedlessly into danger, nor be unable, in a sudden emergency, to extricate them from a perilous position? We do not hesitate to express the belief, that, if Taylor especially were superseded by a civilian, even if the outrage did not induce most of the officers to throw up their commissions in disgust, as, in the face of an enemy, they might not do, the army would be from the moment half disbanded, and the spirit by which it has been animated would at once be extinguished. Fortunate for the country—fortunate for the President himself—will it be, if Congress shall continue to turn a deaf ear to a suggestion, the offspring of a weak and envious mind, and which, were it adopted, would paralyze the army at the very moment when it most requires to be encouraged and invigorated. Next, indeed, to the permission given to Santa Anna to return to Mexico, we can imagine no more certain or efficient mode than this of giving “aid and comfort” to the enemy.

RW47v24i5p4c2, January 15, 1847, Lieut. Maynard.

We publish the following proceedings of the City Council with unfeigned pleasure. It is a worthy tribute, worthily conferred:

As a meeting of the City Council, on the 11th inst., the following preamble and resolution were submitted by Dr. Chamberlayne, and unanimously adopted—

The Council of the City of Richmond have regarded with high admiration, the heroic valor and disinterested humanity displayed by their townsman, Lieut. Fayette Maynard of the U.S. Navy, on the late melancholy occasion of the shipwreck of the Steamer Atlantic, on the Long Island Sound; and being desirous that so noble an example of self–devotion, fortitude and courage shall be held up for future imitation;

Resolved, That the President of the Council be and he is hereby instructed, in the name, and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to present to Lieut. Maynard a sword with appropriate devices and inscriptions, as commemorative of the exalted estimate in which his native city holds his generous and intrepid conduct, on the occasion referred to.

[MPR]

RW47v24i5p4c2, January 15, 1847

The Enquirer states that it has been "credibly informed that a majority of the men comprising the regiment of Virginia Volunteers are Democrats." Has the regiment been polled? If so, who took the vote? If not, by what means have the political affinities of the men been ascertained? For our own part, we have never doubted that one party is as just as patriotic and just as brave, in the mass as the other. Yet we shall take the liberty of expressing the opinion that the Enquirer’s informant may be mistaken, until he informs us by what means he has arrived at his knowledge upon the subject.

[MPR]
The rumor that Col. James Gadsden of South Carolina, has been appointed Brigadier General of the Volunteers, and that he would command the Virginia, South Carolina and North Carolina regiments, turns out to be unfounded. A writer in the Enquirer of yesterday, strongly urges the claims of Virginia to this honor. While we are not aware that there is anything peculiar in those claims, we shall be highly gratified if the suggestion of that paper shall secure this result– and especially if it shall lead to the appointment of a citizen of this place, whose name has been mentioned in connection with it, and whose qualifications are surpassed by those of no other individual.

There was a rumor in New Orleans, on the 4th instant, that the American forces at Saltillo had been cut to pieces. There was no foundation, however, for the report, though it created for awhile a great sensation.

The Massachusetts Regiment of Volunteers is complete.

The bill authorising ten additional regiments of regular troops, passed the House of Representatives Monday, as reported by the Committee, by a vote of 165 to 45. Subsequently, on motion of Mr. Boyd of Ky., the vote by which it passed was reconsidered, and two or three amendments made to it, when it again passed but the more decisive vote of 176 to 34– every member of the Virginia delegation voting for it.

From Santa Fe.– The St. Louis Republican of the 31st ult. says–

At a late hour last night we received a budget of letters from several correspondents in New Mexico. Those from Santa Fe bear date as late as the 15th of November, and give us in detail all the events of interest which had transpired in that quarter for several weeks previous.

In no part of our correspondence have we been able to find any allusion to the reported defeat of the sixty dragoons, mention of which was made in our paper of yesterday.

A letter from Moro, dated on the 21st of November, announces the arrival there of Mr. N. Colburn, in advance of the wagons belonging to the last company of the traders which left Independence. On the 17th the experienced a severe storm of snow, which killed many of the oxen, but they were able to supply themselves at Moro, and would get safely into Santa Fe. The United States trains could not, it is said, move a wagon on account of snow and the loss of animals, and they were then buying oxen to get the wagon along.

A wealthy Mexican citizen, seeing the embarrassments of the Government’s agent for the want of money, had generously proffered to loan Major Walker, paymaster, one hundred thousand dollars at an interest of only three per cent a month.

From the N.O. Picayune, Jan. 3.

By the arrival at a late hour last night of the U.S. steamer Edith, Capt. Couillard, we have three days’ later dates from Brazos Santiago.
She left Brazos on the 30th ult and brings confirmation of the reported advance of Santa Anna with a large force upon Saltillo. It was reported that the Mexican army was nearly 30,000 strong.

When Gen. Worth’s express reached Monterey, General Taylor had only gone six or eight miles on his march to Victoria, and the troops under Generals Twiggs and Quitman were but 12 miles in advance. Orders were immediately issued to this division to retrace its steps and proceed to Saltillo.

Gen. Butler, who was left in command of Monterey, had already marched with all the troops he could collect to join Gen. Worth at Saltillo.

Before the express reached Camargo Gen. Lane had started from Saltillo with his command—this was the 20th—Gen. Marshall set out next morning, taking with him the remainder of the forces, with the exception of Capts. Hunter and Swartwout’s commands which were left to protect that point. The troops from Camargo were on a forced march, to reach Saltillo in time for a battle, reports having prevailed for several days before positive advices were received of the movements of Santa Anna.

Gen. Wool was ninety miles from Saltillo at the last advices from him, and it was supposed he would join Gen. Worth in season to assist in repelling the enemy.

There was a rumor that Santa Anna had thrown a body of 17,000 men between Gen. Worth and Gen. Taylor, to prevent a junction of the American forces. This report was not credited, nor does it seem probable that it is true, as the main road to Monterey passes through Saltillo. There is a circuitous mountain road which avoids Saltillo, but it is not favorable to the march of an army, and is impracticable for ordnance.

It was the impression of gentlemen who came passengers in the Edith, and with whom we have conversed, that a battle was fought about the 25 ult. It was thought, however, that Gen. Taylor had reached Saltillo before that time, and also Gen. Twigg’s, Gen. Quitman’s, Gen. Butler’s and Gen. Wool’s commands. It was likewise hoped that the troops from Camargo would also arrive at Saltillo in good season. If these expectations were realized, Gen. Taylor had about 7000 men to oppose Santa Anna. Our informants think Santa Anna’s army was overrated; but no positive knowledge was had of his exact numbers.

The whole valley of the Rio Grande was in a state of great ferment. Apprehensions of an attack were entertained at Camargo, Matamoros and other points, from the rancheros under Canales. The withdrawal of so many troops from the river left the valley exposed to danger. At Matamoros, Col. Clark had called upon the citizens to enroll themselves for service, and at the Brazos Gen. Jessup had done the same thing. Both these points were sadly deficient in both men and arms. It was thought Canales had 2000 men under him, and that the large supply of goods at Matamoros, and the exposed condition of that city, might quicken his courage.

Gen. Scott arrived at the Brazos in the 28th ult. The following day he preceded to the mouth of the Rio Grande and was yet at the point when the Edith left, waiting the arrival of the horses belonging to the regiment of mounted riflemen, when it was understood he would proceed immediately up the river to Camargo.

Capt. Wayne has been transferred from the staff of Maj. Gen. Jessup to that of Gen. Scott, and was to accompany him on his tour of observation.

The news leaves a painful anxiety to learn the progress of events. The impression amongst the passengers that a battle had been fought was so strong that we have almost imbibed the belief.

[MPR]
It strikes me that if Santa Anna has the force which is reported, that it would not be policy to bring on a decisive action not at Monterey, but by surrounding the place cutting off supplies and communication, and detaching a portion of his force to attack the depots and connecting links with the Gulf— which must be left weak by the drawing off of supports for Monterey and Saltillo— that such would be his best chance for success. This depot, for instance, which is one from which Gen. Taylor’s army draws its supplies, is without defences, and I am told it to be left with one company of artillery, one company of dragoons (not mounted,) and one regiment of Indiana volunteers; and there are “sinews of war” enough here to make “the game worth the candle.”

From last reports Gen. Wool had not yet formed a junction with Gen. Worth; and it is thought by some problematical whether he would be able to form one, in consequence of the advance of the enemy placing themselves in a position between the two forces. I am not advised of the route Gen. Wool’s column will take from Parras, and therefore can give no opinion as to the accuracy of this reasoning; but one thing is certain— we are on the even of important events, and I think by the next arrival I shall chronicle to you matters of stirring interest. We will see what we will see. Yours truly, &c.

From the New Orleans Picayune, Jan. 5.

By the arrival of the U.S. frigate Potomac at Pensacola from Vera Cruz, we have received letters and papers from that city nearly three weeks later than our advices by way of Havana. The brig Oneco arrived at this port yesterday, having left Anton Lizardo on the 21st December. The Potomac sailed on the 23d. Among the passengers on the Oneco was Lieut. Bowers, of the Navy.

Com. Perry had gone on an expedition, the ultimate destination of which was Laguna. Com. Conner is said to contemplate another expedition against Alvarado, or at least a reconnoizance of that port. The steamer Princeton was maintaining that blockade of Vera Cruz at last accounts.

Through the kindness of our correspondent we have copies of El Locomotor of Vera Cruz of the 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th of December. Unfortunately, they are much less prolific of intelligence than usual. One of the first items we noticed in them was the loss of the U.S. gunboat Union. She was wrecked on the night of the 16th ult, in endeavoring the reach the anchorage at Anton Lizardo, by running on the reef near Green Island. The officers and crew were all saved by the assistance of the John Adams, which was near at hand. The Union was one of the gun boats taken at Tampico, and was in charge of Lt. Winslow at the time of her misfortune. A violent running on the reef near Green Island. The officers and crew were all saved by the assistance of the John Adams, which was near at hand. The Union was one of the gun boats taken at Tampico, and was in charge of Lt. Winslow at the time of her misfortune. A violent running on the reef near Green Island. The officers and crew were all saved by the assistance of the John Adams, which was near at hand. The Union was one of the gun boats taken at Tampico, and was in charge of Lt. Winslow at the time of her misfortune. A violent running on the reef near Green Island. The officers and crew were all saved by the assistance of the John Adams, which was near at hand. The Union was one of the gun boats taken at Tampico, and was in charge of Lt. Winslow at the time of her misfortune. A violent running on the reef near Green Island. The officers and crew were all saved by the assistance of the John Adams, which was near at hand. The Union was one of the gun boats taken at Tampico, and was in charge of Lt. Winslow at the time of her misfortune. A violent running on the reef near Green Island. The officers and crew were all saved by the assistance of the John Adams, which was near at hand. The Union was one of the gun boats taken at Tampico, and was in charge of Lt. Winslow at the time of her misfortune.

Gen. La Vega arrived at Vera Cruz on the 14th ult. on the English steamer Dee. The Locomotor announces the fact in a warm tribute to the character and services of the General.

The afternoon of the 13th ult. one of our frigates entered the harbor of Vera Cruz under a flag of truce. The purpose of the visit was to supply some of our shipwrecked sailors, who are now prisoners, with money and clothing. The case of Passed Midshipman Rogers, too, was probably the subject of discussion, for we learn that he is now treated as a prisoner of war instead of a spy. In making the reconnaissance in where he was captured, it was proved that he was in the undress uniform of his rank.

In regard to the action of the Mexican Congress, the accounts which the papers give us are not complete, but they do not confirm what has been generally said and believed of the rejection of our overtures for peace. They do not, however, contradict our former reports. The belief in the squadron appears to have been that Congress had not settled upon the subject at all. Preparatory sessions of the members elected were held as far back as the 30th of November, but we have a dispatch of Senor Lafragua, the Secretary of State, stating that Congress was duly installed at half-past 11, P.M., of the 5th of December. The proceedings of the 11th ult. are the latest we find in the papers.

We have before us, copied from the Monitor Republicano of the 8th December, the constitution of the committee of the Chamber of Deputies. These appointments are important to those who are familiar with the politics of the leading men of Mexico. The committee on Puntos Constitucionales, on the formation of a new constitution for the country, Senors Rejon, Gomez Farias and Otero. The first is the lately dismissed Secretary of State, who has quarreled with Salas and Santa Anna. The second is the leader of the pure republicans and the friend of Rejon. Senor Otero, if we recollect aright, was a former proprietor of El Siglo XX, since become El Monitor Republicano, a liberal journal conducted with ability. Otero was the gentleman so grossly affronted by the Baron Alleaye de Cyprey in the theatre.

The Committee on Gobernacion, or Government, consists of ex–President Herrera, Godoy, and Riva Palacio—all well–known names. That on Foreign Relations consists of Rejon, Ceballo and Otero. The second of these gentlemen we are unable to recall to mind.

Gomez Farias is chairman of the committee on Finance, and Herrera of that on War and the Navy. We have given enough of the names to indicate that the liberal statesmen appear to be in the ascendant in the new Congress. The other committees are given, but as they are upon subjects of less importance, so the names of the members are less known to fame.

The appointment of committees appears to have been the work of the 7th of December. On the 8th a report was made from the Secretary of the Treasury, with a project for the conversion of the foreign debt. Two resolutions were submitted, are referred to
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Chihuahua for El Paso del Norte under the command of Lieut. Col. Cuilty; with provision, &c. for one month. These forces were to join

From Chihuahua we have some later news. A dispatch is published from Governor Angel Trias, dated the 20th of November, in which
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another occasion.

[MPR]

RW47v24i5p4c7, January 15, 1847

From the N.O. Evening Mercury, Jan. 4.

Interesting from Campeachy.– An arrival this morning puts us in possession of accounts to the 22d. ult. A letter of that date states that
Campeachy has positively dispatched a force of 2500 men, which was joined by five hundred on the road, with 12 pieces artillery, all
well equipped, with a view to compel the government of Merida to succumb to the pronunciamento of Campeachy of 8th December.

The object of the pronunciamento and of this movement, is declared to be to maintain the neutrality of the peninsula as between the
United States and Mexico, and put down the government, which they say has wed the country to Santa Anna.

The people of Campeachy have elected Don Domingo Barret Provisional Governor. He addressed, on the 11th ult., a long
communication to the government of Merida, setting forth the causes of the insurrection in Campeachy. We received this document at
too late an hour to examine it to-day.

[MPR]

RW47v24i6p1c1, January 19, 1847, Extension of Area.

A letter from Tampico to the editors of the New Orleans Picayune, written, as that paper informs us, by “a foreigner of the highest
respectability,” after glancing at the transformation already effected at Tampico since its occupation by the American forces, which, in
his opinion, has had the effect of opening the eyes of the Mexican population to the misgovernment of which they have so long been
the victims, and of inducing them to desire to be “annexed” to the United States, proceeds to make the following suggestions and
remarks:

“This the Government at Washington should do at once: declare that the territory occupied by the American troops belongs to the
American nation, and implant inasmuch as it can safely be done for the present, the laws and institutions of the United States, and so
prepare the Mexican population to become American citizens. Is it not in the human destiny that at some future period Mexico will be
invaded by the Anglo-Saxon race? Why, then, since a proper conjecture offers, not avail ourselves of it, and anticipate the work of
posterity, sparing further bloodshed and heavy expenditures, to attain an object which is just at the point of their bayonets? Now that
the war has been pushed so far, the Sierra Madre should be the limits of the two Republics—Tampico, in the Gulf of Mexico, Mazatlan,
on the Pacific, must be the bulwarks of American dominion. Let the rest of the country belong to Mexico. Let its government be ever so
obstinate, let it be ever so vain or boasting, it must call for peace, deprived of its richest provinces and of all pecuniary resource; but
let it be at once curtailed of the northern part of the country, as far as the line we have just described, and let that part be from this
very moment and integral one of the American Union. I have gone far from my previous object; any intention was solely to speak of
Tamaulipas, and more particularly of the city of Tampico.

“This State of Tamaulipas, bordering upon Texas, is, of all the Mexican territory, that which most deserves the attention of the
American statesman. Its possession will complete that of Texas, and to say the truth, Tamaulipas cannot exist unless annexed to the
United States. Its greater extent is on the sea shore, or little in the interior; its ground is [...] and easy to cultivate. At both of its
extremities is a beautiful river, the River Bravo and the Panuco, which American industry would render navigable to a great distance. It might, perhaps, contain two millions of inhabitants, although in our days it is reduced to fifty or sixty thousand. The different produce that might be cultivated in its fertile soil—such as tobacco, cotton, sugar cane, coffee, &c.—would render it one of the richest States of the Confederation, and under all circumstances it is a possession worthy of envy.

“Tampico is its principal port and principal city. This is where all foreign goods consumed in the interior of the country must arrive, and with a liberal law of customs this place would in a few years count ten times the number of its present inhabitants. Its population is mostly foreign, and of all Mexican cities this is the most ready to receive American institutions. It would be desirable that from this very moment the United States should not be satisfied with its military possession; doubtless there is an anomaly in the existence of two such different powers—hostile, we may say, one to the other. Authority, under all its shapes, should be American—municipal and judicial, as well as military—and it is only then that the benefits of the invasion will be felt by all parties. All this bears a wonderful interest. Tampico, during the war, is destined by its position to be the depot and general quarters of aggression; in peace, let its solution be what it may, it is a key to Mexico, and a security which it might be imprudent to give away—it is, or might become, the Gibraltar of the Gulf of Mexico! Let the people and the Government of the United States reflect over this.

While the question of the annexation of Texas was pending, its opponents urged, as not the least important objective [...] measure, that, so far from “rounding off our frontier” in that direction, and constituting an impregnable barrier to foreign assault, it would only give an uncontrollable impulse to the spirit of territorial aggrandizement, which would, sooner or later, result in a war with Mexico, ostensibly to avenge injuries and insults, but in truth to extend still farther the boundaries of our Republic. The events of the last twelve months have fully vindicated the sagacity of those who assumed this position. It remains for the future to disclose the consequences, immediate and remote, of this ambitious and grasping policy.

Forbearing, at this time, all discussion of the popular, but in our opinion, erroneous assumption, that the peculiar character of our form of government admits of the indefinite expansion of our territorial limits, without danger to the unity of the Republic of to the efficient administration of its laws, we have already afforded, in the character of the debates now in progress in the House of Representatives, a striking illustration of the present danger to be apprehended from that policy, in the addition of new and fearful elements of discord to those which have heretofore agitated our public councils and shaken the Union itself to its foundation. The acquisition of additional territory carries with it another question of transcendent importance, as we have already seen, at the last session of Congress, by the introduction of the Wilmot proviso, interdicting slaver in our new possessions, even before they had been secured b conquest, much less by treaty, and at the present session by the strenuous persistence of the members from the non-slaveholding States, without regard to party divisions, in the same untenable and insulting condition of any further “extension of the area of freedom.” On almost every question which now arrives in Congress, this great issue, like the ghost of Banquo, stares us in the face. And Southern men are forced to enquire, whether if it be the fixed determination of the Northern majority to require, as a condition precedent, the exclusion of slavery from ALL territory hereafter annexed— as well that, which, from its proximity to the slaveholding States and the character of its productions, belongs, by geographical position and by natural alliances, to the slaveholding region, as that lying in a colder latitude—it does not behove them to set their as a [...] against the extension of our boundaries in any direction, and more especially in that portion of Mexico, now in possession of our army, which lies contiguous to the Mississippi valley, and which, if this rule of apportioning the spoils be inflexibly adhered to, must result in the establishment of “a cordon of non-slaveholding States” on our Southwestern frontier? The question cannot be linked or evaded. There is but one mode of meeting it, unless we abandon all idea of future annexation, to which the South cannot give its assent; and that mode is indicated by the principle embodied in the Missouri Compromise. To this mode, however, the Northern men, so far as we may infer their views from the well considered manifesto of Preston King, and the speeches of Messrs. Grover, [...] and others, are almost unanimously hostile. They go for “the whole, or none.” They demand that the territory conquered, [...] conquered it shall be, by the efforts mainly of Southern men— for much the larger portion of the forces in Mexico are from the Southern States— shall be erected into non-slaveholding States exclusively, not from philanthropic motives so much as from a determination to secure forever to the North the political ascendancy in the federal government, which she now wields. To this proposition, which, though prematurely urged, we are glad to see brought forward before the question of annexation has been decided, the South has but one answer to give the North— and that is: If you demand “the whole,” you shall, without consent, have “none.” The question of indemnity from Mexico for spoliations upon our commerce, magnified as those spoliations have been for other purposes, sinks into utter insignificance, when compared with the grave question which the ultimate disposition of the conquered Province brings up with it. It may, indeed, well be doubted whether the acquisition of Mexican territory could, in any fair sense of the word, be regarded as “indemnity” at all for the unliquidated claims of our citizens upon the Mexican government, and for the expenses of the President’s war. That would depend upon the fact whether the soil thus acquired is owned exclusively by the individuals, or whether Mexico has “public lands,” from the sale of which, as in the United States, an annual revenue may be drawn. But, even if the acquisition of such of her Provinces as we most covet, for their imagined wealth or for facilities which it is supposed they would give to the extension of our commercial enterprise, would realize all the dreams of avarice and ambition; still, if the South is to be denied an equal participation in the benefits in the acquisition, to effect which she is called upon to pay at least her equal share of the cost of the struggle, while her sons with as much alacrity as those of the North, peril their lives upon the battle field, she can, we re-assert, give but one answer to the North— and that will be, “we will have none of it!”

RW47v24i6p1c2, January 19, 1847, Duration of the War.

Friday evening’s Washington Union contains a brief synopsis of the proceedings of the Mexican Congress, received through Havana papers, brought b Com. Perry. Gen. Santa Anna had been elected President of the Republic, and Gomez Farías, Vice President. “The Message of Gen. Salas, the acting President, to Congress, expatiated upon the war with the United States, and professes a stern determination to carry it on with vigor, and declared that it was only just begun, and might be expected to continue for twenty years! ” If Mr. Polk had only foreseen this when he determined to bring on the war, he would have hesitated long before he took that step. What, we ask, should it be so long protracted, will be the amount of the National Debt at its termination? Will the whole of Mexico indemnify us for the cost of the contest, even if the whole of it should be subjugated by our arms?

[MPR]
Col. Hamtramck, the commandant of the Virginia Regiment of Volunteers, visited Petersburg on Wednesday last, accompanied by Maj. Gwynn, Mr. Thompson, one of the delegates from Jefferson, and Mr. Syme, the delegate from Petersburg. Mr. S. introduced the Colonel to Thos. S. Gholson, Esq. the representative of the Common Council, who tendered to Col. H. the hospitalities of the town. The guests were then conducted to the Bolingbrook Hotel, where, in company with a few citizens, they partook of a splendid dinner—at which addresses were delivered by Col. Hamtramck, Mr. Thompson and Mr. Syme, and others. Capt. Robinson's fine company was reviewed in the afternoon; after which they were conducted to the hospitable mansion of Geo. W. Bolling, esq. who entertained them in his usual soldierly–like and handsome style. At 9 o'clock, a large company sat down to a Supper; and during the evening addresses were elicited from Col. Hamtramck, Gen. Butts, Col. Swan, Col. Bolling, Maj. Rosser, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Syme and others.

We observe, in several papers, rumors of the probable appointment of Major Walter Gwynn, of this City, to the office of Brigadier General, to command the Volunteers from Virginia, South Carolina and North Carolina. Believing that no better selection can be made, we hope that these rumors may be true, though we shall regret the loss of the services of Major G. in the office which he now so ably fills, as President of the James River and Kanawha Company.

The last New York papers contain accounts of "another revolution," in Yucatan— the city of Campeachy having declared in favor of the United States, and Merida in favor of Mexico. It is said there had been some fighting, and that several lives had been lost.

From the N.O. Picayune, Jan. 9.

By the arrival of the prize schooner Amalio, taken off Alvarado on the 27th ult. by the U.S. steamer Mississippi, our neighbors of the Mercury yesterday received later news from the squadron and an account of the taking of Laguna by Com. Perry.

It seems that Com. P. arrived off that place on the 20th ult. with the steamers Mississippi, Petrel, Vixen and Bonita, and the same day took possession of the place without opposition. Fifteen cannon were destroyed, some 900 lbs of powder taken, and fifty soldiers disarmed, although the latter affected to be favorably disposed to the cause of the Campeachians. The latter had declared themselves entirely independent of Mexico, and had sent their commissioners on the schooner Sisainto to Com. Conner, at Anton Lizardo, to request him to desist from any hostile measures against Yucatan, until commissioners could be sent to the Government of the United States to obtain the recognition of the independence of the State. These commissioners left Anton Lizardo on the 20th, to return, but the result of their conference with Com. Conner is not known. We happen to be among those who do not altogether believe in the sincerity of these Yucatanes. A double game has been played on that coast all summer and the inhabitants require the closest kind of watching.

Our readers may recollect that we mentioned, a few days since, that a boat from the John Adams had made a thorough night examination of the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa. The officer who had charge of the boat, as we learn from the Mercury, was Passed Midshipman Fitzgerald. He had eight men in his boat, with muffled oars, and in the darkness of the night rowed round and round the castle, went under the drawbridge, entered the water battery, and made a thorough reconnaissance of every part. This gallant exploit has proved that men may be landed from boats at night, and that the water batteries may easily be taken.

Com. Perry, on his return to Anton Lizardo from Laguna, looked in at Alvarado and Tabasco, and found that the fortifications of both places have been repaired and much strengthened since they were attacked by the squadron. At Tabasco there were about 3000 troops, and at Alvarado about 4000. Notwithstanding these formidable preparations, the general impression is the Com. Conner will soon attack these places.

On the arrival of Gen. La Vega at Vera Cruz on the 15th, all the prisoners from the squadron in the hands of the enemy were released. It is now ascertained that but eleven of the crew of the Somers drifted to the main land when she was wrecked, and not sixteen, as was first stated. Midshipman Rogers was at Vera Cruz. He had been tried by the civil and military tribunals as a spy, and had been acquitted by the former, but found guilty by the latter. It was believed, however, that the more favorable verdict would prevail, and that he would be liberated.

A Mexican Proclamation!
The following gasconading proclamation of the Governor of Chihuahua, the passant Senor General Don Angel Trias, is the same of which we made mention two or three days since, but for which, until now, we could not find room. This fellow Trias, however much he pretend to burn, and however eager his zeal to encounter the "iniquitous invaders" of his sacred soil, is one of the greatest braggarts in all Mexico, a country that produces rare specimens. Gregg, who wrote that interesting work the "Commerce of the Prairies," had an adventure with him, in 1839, at his own hacienda, and with a force not one–tenth as large as that of his illustrious excellency frightened him entirely out of the little wit that has been vouchsafed him. It may be looked upon as a little singular that all these Mexican generals start out burning and boiling over to meet barbarian invaders, yet never get within even cannon shot of them; we can only account for it on the plea that they fire up so strongly that their zeal burns out entirely before they get in harm’s way. The very last man in all Mexico that cares about seeing Gen. Kearney is Senor General Don Angel Trias, however much desire he may manifest, on paper, to come to bullets when afar off. We give his proclamation entire— not for any importance it may possess, but as an admirable illustration of Mexican character generally, and of that of the Governor of Chihuahua in particular:

*The Governor of Chihuahua to the Vanguard which is marching to the Frontier of the North of the State:*

Soldiers— The iniquitous invaders of Mexico are approaching the town of El Paso, an important portion of this State, where the enemy designs to establish his quarters for the winter, or till such time as may best subserve his ulterior designs. It is necessary that you should go forward, defenders of the glories of Mexico, to give a lesson to these pirates.

The State had relied with confidence upon the valiant and hardy inhabitants about El Paso; but treason has succeeded in diffusing distrust among them, and the patriotic peasantry, dismayed by a contemptible revolt, threw down their arms when they were within thirty leagues of the enemy, who were in small force, and thus, beyond all question, the opportunity was lost of compelling Gen. Kearny to surrender at discretion. Subordination and discipline were alone wanting to our troops.

It is for you to advance and re–establish confidence among these Mexicans, and to chastise the enemy if he should have the audacity to set foot upon the soil of this State, ennobled as it is by the blood of the fathers of our independence. I confide in your valor, and I have only to impress upon you the necessity of obedience to your officers and the most perfect discipline.

All the people of Chihuahua burn with eager desire to accompany you, because they are all good Mexicans and are animated by the highest enthusiasm and the purest patriotism. Like you, they are eager to march at the first signal. Should the circumstances of the war demand it be assured that you will be supported, at whatever cost, by great reinforcements. For the people of Chihuahua no sacrifice is felt as costly when demanded by the honor of the Republic.

The enthusiasm with which you march and the sanctity of our noble cause are the sure presages of victory. Yes! under the guidance of the God of battles, your arms shall be crowned with success. Thus hopes your friend and companion. ANGEL TRIAS.

Chihuahua, Nov. 19, 1846.

[MPR]

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**RW47v24i6p1c7, January 19, 1847**

From the *Washington Union*, Friday night.

We have obtained the various Mexican papers at too late an hour to–day to furnish extracts.

The subjoined paragraph would seem to authorities to authorize an apprehension that the reported advance of Santa Anna with a large army towards Saltillo was in reality a movement towards Tampico, were it not that we have ourselves received letters from Tampico of as late date as the 23d of December, when everything was quiet; which could hardly have been the case had the movement of the body of 5,000 men been in the direction stated in the following paragraph:

From the Vera Cruz Locomotor of the 14th.

"We learn by the express of last night that a division, consisting of 5,000 men of all arms, moved from San Luis in the direction of Tula, with a view to intercept the passage of the enemy who will march their forces by his route in order to place themselves in communication with Tampico."

A file of the "Diaro" of Mexico from the 1st to the 25th of December, inclusive, has been placed in our hands too late to enable our translator to furnish us with any extracts for this evening’s paper.

In the address of Gen. Salas at the opening of the Congress on the 6th of December, he refers to the proceedings of Santa Anna at San Luis Potosi, where, in a few weeks, he says he had assembled and organized an army of more than 22,000 men, a part of whom had already advanced to meet the enemy, so that the armies of the two nations would soon encounter each other; but whatever the result may be, "never shall there be a final or decisive action." He states the reason why he had refused to listen to any overtures of peace; he says that the war is not one of an ordinary character; that it is a war of races, that the causes of it exist in the nature of things; and that the invasion would have occurred as well under the auspices of peace as during war. The president of the congress, in his reply, does not allude directly to war, but says "Mexico shall not be less than France, who was able to conquer principles and establish a constitution at the very time when she was invaded by the legions of all Europe."
The vice president Gomez Farias, took the oath of office before Congress, on the 24th of December, and delivered an address, in the course of which he says "the war which the republic finds itself compelled to sustain against the North American republic, shall be prosecuted with courage and constancy, until the justice of our cause is acknowledged and our territory evacuated."

On the second day of the session of the Congress, the Secretary of the Treasury (Almonte) presented an exhibit of the lamentable state of the treasury, to which the president replied, that the Congress would provide the means "to enable the executive to carry on a war in which the dignity and honor of the nation are concerned."

Later from Mexico.

We learn from a gentleman who has recently arrived in this city from Havana in the steamer Mississippi, that the British mail steamer had reached that port a few days before the Mississippi left. Santa Anna has been elected President of the Mexican republic. His majority is said to have been very small—only one or two votes.

He reports that the first business transacted by the Mexican Congress was to lay on the table the American overture for peace. They then passed a resolution declaring their determination to prosecute the war to the last extremities— in the words of our informant, to make it a war to the hilt. An act was also passed to raise half a million of dollars a month, as required by the Executive estimates for the support of the army—though how the money was to be raised does not yet appear.

There is little doubt, we think, that in the capital and its vicinity a very exasperated state of feeling prevails among the Mexican population. In the remoter provinces all accounts would indicate that there is greater apathy.

The Washington Union of Saturday night contains a number of interesting translations from Mexican papers recently received at the State Department. We regret that we have not room to copy them at length. The subjoined extract from the address of the Acting President Salas, on the opening of the Mexican Congress, is too important, however, to be omitted. It breathes a temper such as the authors of the war believed the Mexican people incapable of exhibiting, and shows that there is too much reason to apprehend, as Mr. Sevier, the chairman of the committee on foreign relations in the Senate remarked a few days since, that "the war has just begun." We confess that we do not see any prospect of its speedy termination. The difficulty of conquering a nation, the population of which amounts to eight millions, scattered over a territory of such vast extent, and animated by a spirit of intense hatred towards their invaders, in whom they recognize not only aggressors upon their soil, but a people of a different race and religion, from whose success they fear not only the subversion of their social and civil institutions, but of the altars at which they and their fathers have worshipped, cannot be over-estimated, though they have been heretofore strangely overlooked. They begin now to force themselves upon the serious attention even of those who provoked the war, under the impression, which very generally prevailed, that the conquest of Mexico could be achieved in a single brief campaign, and with a comparatively insignificant force. It is apparent, however, that unless our Government is prepared to recede from the position to which it unfortunately stands publicly pledged, by the official declarations of the Executive, the war must be indefinitely protracted. If we are to compel Mexico to indemnify us, by the cession of one-half or two-thirds of her territory, for the expenses of the war, as well as for the long-adj usted spoliations upon our commerce, her obligations to pay which she has herself admitted, the "thirty years war" of Europe will be re-enacted upon this continent. But does it not behove us, of the South, to enquire, especially in the new domestic aspect of this subject of territorial indemnity, whether the price to be paid will not be worth infinitely more than the territory to be acquired? Shall the South expend its treasure and spill its blood to ass new provinces to our already overgrown Republic, for the purpose of establishing on the slaveholding frontier of the southwest a cordon of non-slaveholding States, such as environ us now in ever other section of the Union in which slavery exists? Shall we acquire additional territory at such a cost, for the purpose of more rapidly diminishing our already waning influence in the national councils, and thus dooming the South to perpetual inferiority in the national councils, if not of unending vassalage to Northern policy and politicians? For one, we should prefer forgiving Mexico the debt, rather than to seek such "indemnity," by such means, for such objects. It is, at the same time, apparent, however, that we cannot now withdraw our forces from Mexico without dishonor. Involved in the contest by the most bungling statesmanship, and by the most criminal disregard of the prohibitions of the constitution, the national honor is nevertheless concerned in its triumphant termination. It must be prosecuted energetically— but at the same time, we should at once declare, that, whatever may have been the original designs of Mr. Polk, we no longer wage it as a war of conquest, and that we are prepared to put an end to the struggle whenever Mexico herself shall be willing to meet us in a spirit of conciliation and equity. Such, we are sure, will be the universal voice of the South at least, in view of the scenes now enacting in Washington.

But we are detaining our readers too long from Gen. Salas address:

Extract from the address of General Salas on the opening of the Mexican Congress, December [...].

"During the short interval which has elapsed since August, when, overcoming my natural repugnance to the exercise of power, I found myself at the head of the nation, my first obligation has been to sustain with energy the war in which we are engaged, and upon the result of which depends nothing less than the very independence of the nation. The army which, in union with the people, rose for the purpose of overthrowing the domination of those who outraged their sovereignty, and who were threatening us with the establishment of a foreign throne, as soon as the national movement was concluded, marched to the place where danger called it, and is now [...] of the enemy, under the command of the illustrious soldier whom the republic summoned to the defence of its nationality. A considerable body of the troops was immediately sent to reinforce the remains of the old army of the north, and awaited the invading troops in the city of Monterey. The Congress is informed of the fatal result of that encounter, in which American blood flowed in abundance. When the generals who then commanded our troops are brought to trial, the nation will be satisfied, and it is not my part to forestall now the decision of the judicial power."
"The result, however, of this unfortunate affair was to place under foreign power one of the capitals of our States and a vast extent of territory, and transport the theatre of war into the interior of the republic. The [...] General Santa Anna, by a trait in his life which will do him lasting honor, refused the reins of power, and marched to San Luis, where, in a few weeks, he has assembled and organized an army of more than 22,000 men, some bodies of which have already been advanced to meet the enemy. The government of the United States, on its part, compelled, as it is, to hasten the operations of the war in order to bring it to a close, has ordered General Taylor to advance. Thus, a meeting must soon take place between the armies of the two nations. From the number and valor of our troops, the enthusiasm and skill of their chief, and the justice of our cause, we have a right to expect a favorable result. Nevertheless, this shall never be a final or decisive action. Invaded and occupied as is not the only territory in question, but a large portion of what never belonged to Texas, entire States in which the sovereignty of Mexico has never been disputed, involved in a war of races, and aggrieved in the most unjust and atrocious manner that can be conceived, our honor and the future condition of our children— that sacred interest which nations cannot be unmindful of— requires us to sustain a prolonged and obstinate strife, until, respected for our valor and constancy, we can raise a barrier against the immortal ambition of our neighbors, and secure the fortune of our race upon this continent, the greatest portion of which is peopled by it, and which, at some not distant day, will be illustrated by the civilization of the ardent and generous sons of the south.

"If this strife exacts great sacrifices, it would be dishonorable to lose every thing, for the sake of the deceitful advantages of a temporary and illusive peace: in a great crisis, nations should exhibit proofs of great energy and virtue. Our fathers combated eleven years for independence, in a struggle constantly attended with disadvantages, prodigal of their blood at every moment, and never disheartened; thanks to that energy, they raised us from an humble country to the rank of an independent nation. To preserve that task it will be sufficient, without placing ourselves on an equality with them, not to be unworthy of their name. If Mexico combats with constancy and intrepidity, hers will be the triumph, and the respect which she will acquire among the other nations of the earth, deserved.

"On these grounds the government was unwilling to listen to any proposition for peace: the question of the war is submitted to your decision, and the government only recommend is to the Congress the urgent necessity of assisting the army with the necessary supplies for the campaign. The people of Mexico, who know and feel the magnitude of the interests at stake in the war, cannot raise the necessary resources for it.

"This struggle is not one of those wars which pride is every day giving rise to. It is simply a phenomenon attending a fact still more important and transcendent, whose causes exist in the very nature of things, and whose consequences it is difficult to calculate in their whole extent. The northern race is developing itself on our continent with a celebrity and force, of which, until now, there has been no example in any age; and in its progress it threatens to spread over our whole territory, extinguishing in it our race, and establishing the predominance of its own. This invasion takes place as well under the auspices of peace, as in time of war; and therefore, in order to permanently secure our race, we need institutions which will give it our solid increase and prosperity. This truth, which the man of foresight easily discovered long since, has now been trite by danger, and you, gentlemen deputies, are about to solve the difficult problem in giving institutions to the people."

[MPR]

RW47v24i6p2c1, January 19, 1847

The Rockingham Register warns us that a day of reckoning is coming, when the people of the Tenth Legion will "at the ballot box," wreak their revenge upon the "Whig scribblers," who have endeavored to arouse them to the duty of taking some part in the war, the existence of which is in some measure attributable to their votes. We think such threats are in very bad taste just now. However, de gustibus, &c.
[MPR]

RW47v24i6p2c2, January 19, 1847

The New York Herald suggests that Mr. Polk shall send Orlando Ficklin, of Illinois, and Jacob Thompson, of Mississippi, to head our army in Mexico, in place of "old Rough and Ready" and Gen. Scott! The general impression is that these accomplished military critics would be much more active than either of the "Whig Generals," whose conduct they so harshly criticize— but the fear is that it would be in making retrograde rather than advance movements.
[MPR]

RW47v24i6p2c2, January 19, 1847:

We assure the Rockingham Register that we have a very high respect for the "sterling integrity and sturdy virtues which characterize the excellent population" of the Tenth Legion, and doubt neither their patriotism nor their courage— but then it must confess that, though prompt enough on election days, they are entirely too slow for warriors! Indeed, we have heard a very good story of the editor of the Register himself, who was under a pledge to exchange the pen for the sword, if Capt. Harper, the Whig editor of the Staunton Spectator, who is now on his way to the seat of war, would set him the example— and his failure to redeem which pledge has earned for him no very enviable reputation in the Valley— as the following paragraphs, (the first from a Locofoco paper,) will show:

The Martinsburg Gazette suggests that the editor of the Rockingham Register be appointed Lieut. General of Volunteers— and the editor
of the Sentinel of the Valley the Professor and Unraveller of Enigmas. Good suggestion. We second the motion, and hope their claims will not be overlooked– Augusta Democrat.

The office of Lieut. General not yet being created, we would respectfully suggest that our friend of the Register be appointed Brigadier General of the Polk–berry stained heroes of the "Tenth Legion."– Staunton Spectator.

Caleb Cushing has been elected Colonel of the Massachusetts regiment of volunteers; Isaac H. Wright, Lieutenant Colonel; and J.A. Abbott, Major. Mr. C. has not yet determined to accept.

U.S. Frigate Raritan, Dec. 29, 1846.

"I have no doubt you are looking, with great interest at Washington, for the action of the Mexican Congress on our proposition for a renewal of negotiations. You will, of course, be surprised that, after two or three weeks session, the subject has not yet been brought up, and there is not the slightest indication that it will receive any favorable consideration. The Congress has hitherto been engrossed in the business of organizing, appointing committees, determining upon the mode of electing President and Vice President, and lastly the vote for these officers, which took place on the 22d instant, and resulted in the election of Santa Anna for President, and Gomez Farias for Vice President. It is supposed that Santa Anna will continue at the head of the army, and will not commit himself by giving any advice on the subject of peace or war. He will be merely the soldier of the republic, and the servant of the people, and will leave all questions of war or peace to Congress. Farias will probably be left in Mexico, to administrate the government. Santa Anna has been writing to the government, that arms and munitions of war are indispensable for his troops at San Luis Potosi. He will doubtless continue to make similar demands upon the administration, which can only be partially complied with. In the event of the loss of battle, the whole blame will be thrown upon the government in Mexico. I think one may hazard the conjecture that Santa Anna may, at some future time, march on Mexico, and overturn his own administration.

"Some of the reports of the ministers are already published. The subject of a loan for the special purpose of purchasing arms, is already discussed. It is represented that of the corps of the national guard of Mexico, not one–third armed; and a sad picture is drawn of the necessities of the country.

"Some of the journals are down on Mr. Poinsett, and ascribe all the misfortunes all the misfortunes of the country to his intrigues! They say our government sent him to Mexico to commence the work of subjugating the country, by creating secret societies, &c., &c.!

"The officers of the foreign men–of–war believe that Vera Cruz can be taken with a force of five thousand men. From the best information I have received, there are not more than 2,000 regulars in the city. There is, of course, a body of militia besides, but they are badly armed, and would probably be found to have but little efficiency. From an actual reconnaissance, I can say that the approaches to Vera Cruz are not at present very well guarded.

--From Honduras-- The Revolution in Yucatan.– We have a file of the Honduras Gazette to Dec. 19, brought by the brig Mensurado, Capt. Grey, which left Belize Dec. 22d.

The last paper mentions that recent gales had caused great destruction of property, and it was feared of life also, to the Southward of that place. The rivers had been unusually high. At sites the river rose thirty feet, covering the plantations and drowning cattle.

Houses, trees, &c., were swept away by the torrent. So sudden was the rise of the water that many persons had difficulty in escaping to high lands.

The intelligence from Yucatan, though not so late is confirmatory of the advices received by way of New Orleans, and comprises some details not heretofore published:

Revolution in Yucatan.

We have received letters from Bacalar under date of Dec. 3d, from an attentive friend there, furnishing us with the following interesting
intelligence:– A war has broken out between Merida and Campeachy, in consequence of the former proclaiming in favor of Mexico, and the latter for the United States. The people of Campeachy wish to depose the Governor of Merida and establish the seat of government in their own city. Active hostilities have commenced in the vicinity of Sisal and several lives lost, but the particulars have not yet reached here. Campeachy had raised 2000 men and the army is daily increasing; 800 soldiers are marching to join them, from Peto, (an Indian village thirty leagues from Bacalar,) under the command of Gen. Benito Pacheco, a most desperate man, and outlaw. The towns of Tisimin, Valladolid, Tyesuco and Peto have also proclaimed in favor of the U.S.; and Tiscobl, Txeas, Paduke and Saban in favor of Mexico.

Bacalar remains neutral at present, but the people are making great preparations, mounting cannon on the old fort, enrolling volunteers, &c. Having made no demonstration as yet, they will in all probability join whichever appears to be the strongest party.

From the Washington Fountain.

We read in the La Patria of the 31st ult. a Spanish paper published in New Orleans, by Aleman & Gomez, the following extraordinary revelation of the new plan of operations in the war with Mexico:

"The government appears to confide much in Gen. Scott, who has just gone to the field of operations, and from whose diplomatic and military tactics, it hopes to gain great advantages. The plan of operations, we learn, is as follows: General Taylor, instead of moving upon San Luis Potosi, will repair to Saltillo, where he will remain for a short period. Gen. Scott, after having made some arrangements on the Rio Grande, will hasten to Tampico, where he will assume the command of the 7000 volunteers recently called out and ordered to assemble at that point. From Tampico Gen. Scott will march towards Vera Cruz, and Gen. Taylor will make a simultaneous movement towards Tampico with all the troops he can muster, after leaving sufficient force to garrison Saltillo, Monterey, Victoria, &c. and in union with Gen. Worth's division, will join Gen. Scott, who will have at his command the new military are of rocketeers and howitzers. At the proper moment, fifteen or sixteen vessels of the American squadron, with a force of from 230 to 300 guns of all sizes and calibres, will appear off San Juan de Ulloa, and begin the attack upon the castle. According to the new plan of operations the land forces will rendezvous at the mouth of the river at Antigua, which empties into the Gulf a short distance to the North of Vera Cruz, and ascend the same to where the main road to Jalapa crosses it. If this plan be speedily put into execution, there can be no doubt but that Vera Cruz and the Castle will as speedily fall into the power of the American forces; but if any faith be put in Santa Anna's declaration, it is plain he will be able to cut off the advance of Gen. Taylor from Saltillo."

Mr. Gomez, the editor of La Patria, and the author of the above, is the same person who was appointed b Gen. Scott, while tarrying in New Orleans, to be one of his staff, and whose commission was afterwards revoked by the General on the grounds that he was not a friend of the American cause. Did Gomez obtain the above information while he was General Scott's aid?

It may be remembered that we copied, some days ago, a brief extract from a letter of the Washington Correspondent of the Philadelphia North American in which it was stated that an important part of the history of the Mexican War, though written, is et to be revealed. We do not know whether the subjoined curious letter written by our former Consul at Matamoros, to Gen. Taylor, while the General was posted at Corpus Christi, and soon afterwards communicated to Secretary Buchanan, constitutes a part of that unrevealed history:

(Copy.)

Village of China on the River San Juan, Sept. 23d, 1845.

To Gen. Z. Taylor,
Commanding the U. States troops,
At Corpus Christi, (Texas):

Sir– I have the honor to inform you, that I have had several conferences at Monterey with Gen. Mariano Arista, Commander–in–Chief of the Mexican forces on the frontier of the Rio Grande, in relation to the differences at present existing, between the United States and Mexico, and I am pleased to state to you that from the opinions and views he made known to me, the Cabinet of Mexico is disposed to enter into an amicable arrangement with the United States, in relation to the boundary and all other questions. Although I was not clothed with any official authority, I took upon myself as a citizen of the United States, desiring to see the two countries in harmony of friendship, to say, that is has ever been and it is the policy and sincere wish of the government and people of the United States to cultivate the good will and friendship of the sister republics of the American continent, and most especially Mexico, and that I was confident the United States would make a liberal settlement with Mexico relative to the boundary question.
As General Arista was under the impression that I was a secret agent of the United States, though I declared to him quite contrary, and that I was only acting as a private individual, endeavoring to avoid a recourse to arms between the two countries, he nevertheless thought it advisable to send a minute of our conferences to his government, and assured me that there would be no declaration of war on the part of Mexico, until I can proceed on to Washington and lay before the President the views of Mexico, of which I am possessed.

General Arista pledged his honor to me that no large body of Mexican troops should cross the left bank of the Rio Grande; that only small parties not to exceed 200 men should be permitted to go as far as the Arroyo Colorado (20 leagues from the Rio Grande) and that they would be strictly ordered only to prevent Indian depredations and illicit trade. I then had no hesitation in assuring him that you would not commit any aggressive act against Mexico or her citizens, and that you would solely maintain the position you at present occupy at or near the Nueces River. I trust in having made this assurance to him, though, I again repeat I did it as a private citizen of the United States, it will meet with your approbation and be adhered to, as in great measure peace depends on your prudent movements in this particular. General Arista spoke also of Indian incursions on the frontier of the Rio Grande, and is under the impression that they could be prevented by the troops under our command, as the Indians always come from the Nueces River. I expressed my profound regret at the frequent atrocious acts of the Indians, and said that you would no doubt in the future use all endeavors to prevent them, as the United States was bound by the treaty of April, 1831, to prevent them as far as possible. He suggested that if you would station a body of cavalry at the pass of San Salas (headquarters of the Nueces) through which mountain pass they invariably proceed to the Rio Grande, it would effectually check them.

I shall leave this village to–morrow for Matamoros, at which port I shall arrive in three days, from thence I will embark in the first vessel for the U.S., proceeding immediately on to Washington, to lay before the President the information and views of Mexico, which I am possessed of. In the meantime, should you deem this note of sufficient importance, I trust that you will transmit a copy of it by express to the Government, as by timely information much good may result therefrom.

I beg to congratulate you that the door is opened to an amicable adjustment of the vexatious questions between the U.S. and Mexico, and feel happy in having been instrumental in this great and good object.

I am, with great respect, Sir,
Your ob’t. servant,
(Signed) Isaac D. Marks.

(Copy.)

New Orleans, Oct. 29th, 1845.
To the Hon. James Buchanan,
Secretary of State:

Sir,— I have the honor to transmit here with "Copy" of a letter I addressed to Gen. Z. Taylor at Corpus Christi, from the village of China, (Mexico,) I dispatched it by special courier to him, but was subsequently informed that the express was detained at the town of Camargo, (on the Rio Grande,) up to the 7th instant, by reason of the continual and heavy rains. I beg leave to add that I arrived in this city yesterday from Matamoros, and will leave to–morrow for Washington.

I am, with great respect, &c.,
(Signed) I.D. Marks.

The foregoing letters disclose nothing of which we were not before thoroughly satisfied. They confirm, however, what was before only surmised– and that is that the Mexican government, as far as Gen. Arista, the commander of its forces on that frontier, had been informed of its wishes, entertained a strong and sincere desire for the preservation of peace between the two Republics, and for the satisfactory adjustment of all pending questions of controversy, including that of boundary. Had General Taylor been permitted to remain at Corpus Christi, there cannot be any upon the mind of any man who will examine for himself the documentary history of the events that transpired upon that frontier from the day that his army encamped upon the banks of the Nueces, until, in pursuance of orders from Washington, it took up the line of march for the Rio Grande, that the then existing pacific relations between the two countries would have been undisturbed, and that if we were not now in possession of the lower valley of the Rio Grande, negotiations looking to its speedy transfer in perpetuity to the United States would have been in progress, in connection with all other points of difference, and at a cost comparatively insignificant– and when we say comparatively insignificant, we have reference of course to the immense expenditure which must necessarily result from the war into which the country has been so recklessly precipitated by the President. We repeat, that no man, whose mind is free from the influence of preconceived opinion, can read the documentary history of the period referred to, without coming to the conclusion that the war in which we are engaged could have been, and therefore ought to have been avoided, not only without any sacrifice of national rights or honor, but with a certainty that we should by negotiation have secured from the Mexican government both indemnity for the past and security for the future.

But if any doubt previously existed, this foregoing letter of our Consul at Matamoros to Gen. Taylor, (or rather, to Mr. Buchanan,) must dispel it, and induce us the more deeply to regret, that, misled by a paltry ambition to signalize his Administration by a brief and brilliant campaign, resulting in territorial acquisitions vaster in extent than those which we could rightfully claim, in the adjustment of the boundary question, or hope to obtain by way of recompense for the unadjusted claims of our citizens upon the Mexican government, the President disdaining even to consult Congress, the war–making power, though it was in session, ordered Gen. Taylor to make an aggressive movement, which, at the time the order was given, he knew would lead to war.

What, we ask, was the avowed and exclusive object of posting Gen. Taylor at Corpus Christi in the summer of 1845? It was to protect the frontier of Texas, then just admitted into the Union, from an apprehended invasion. But for that apprehension, the troops of the United States would not have been withdrawn from the various posts and garrisons which they had previously occupied on the Atlantic
Seaboard and on the borders of the territory occupied by the Indian tribes, and concentrated on the banks of the Nueces. The instructions given to General Taylor are conclusive upon this point. And we see, by the subjoined letter, that our Consul at Matamoros assured the Secretary of State that the commander of the Mexican forces upon the Rio Grande had pledged his honor that no large body of Mexican troops should cross that river— the Consul, relying upon the supposed pacific intentions of our Government and the known pacific sentiments of our people, assuring the Mexican commander in reply, that no aggressive movement would be made by Gen. Taylor, who, while the Mexicans remained quiet, would not advance beyond the position then occupied by him at or near the Nueces. It is evident, by the unofficial and of course unauthorized arrangement between out Consul and Gen. Arista, that the Mexicans were not disposed to resent the occupation of "the Texas" which had succeeded in throwing off the Mexican yoke, and in establishing its independence, and which subsequently became annexed to the American Confederacy— "the Texas" which formed one of the "Departments" of the Mexican Republic, and which had no more right to extend her boundaries beyond the limits defined by the law of her existence as a member of that Republic, than Virginia, which formerly embraced an immense region beyond her present limits, were she now to secede from the American Union, would have to assert, in the organic law of her new political organization, a right to all that magnificent country which she had solemnly relinquished after the formation of that Union, and out of which other states have since been formed, as Coahuila was in part formed of the ancient Texas. We repeat, that it is evident from the letter of Mr. Marks, the American Consul at Matamoros, that, while Gen. Taylor’s troops remained in the frontier of "the Texas" which had thrown off the Mexican yoke and taken shelter under the wings of the American Eagle,— the only Texas which, by the terms of the resolution of annexation, our Government had a right to occupy with an armed force— the Mexican Government, though dissatisfied with the annexation of her former Province to the Union, had indicated no purpose of resenting it by acts of hostility— none whatever. Not only was this the fact, but our Executive knew it to be the fact, as well from unofficial, but credible sources, such as Mr. Marks, as from the official letters of its own officers and agents. The President and his Cabinet knew more than this. They knew not only that "the Texas" we had acquired did not extend to the Rio Grande, and that no part of that valley, "from its source to its mouth," had ever acknowledged allegiance to the Department or the Republic of Texas, or submitted to the jurisdiction of its laws, or been occupied by its armies; by they knew that its occupation by our troops would be deemed an act of war, and that, at all hazards, the attempt would be resisted by force of arms. Knowing this, as they did, with what force can they now affect surprise that Mexico should have been incensed at the invasion of territory not only "claimed" by her, in virtue of a line defined by the framers of the constitution, but which had been occupied by her citizens, and governed by her laws and officers, without an hour’s interruption, from the first settlement of the country until the flight of those citizens at the approach of the American Army? With what truth can they assert that a war thus brought on by the seizure of territory which, although in debate, unquestionably belonged to Mexico, "exists by the act of Mexico" who had "shed American blood upon American soil"? The President and his defenders may succeed possibly, by the skillful perversion of facts with which so many thousands of our countrymen must needs be unfamiliar, and by the false glosses which they skillfully put upon other more notorious, in deceiving the American people— and, so potent is the influence of all appeals to the patriotic feeling of the country, which, "right or wrong," when war breaks out, every one feels instinctively eager to defend, that they may for awhile be no less successful in covering with odium those who feel it up to their duty to expose the iniquity of the motive in which the war was originated, and the unconstitutionality of the act by which, without the consent of the war-making power, it has been commenced. But they cannot deceive themselves. They know, and the Message of the President as well as the line of argument adopted by his friends satisfy us of it, that they are guilty "before God and their country," of a willful aggression upon a weak neighbor, in order to effect which they have been guilty of a still more criminal usurpation of power, not only granted to them by the constitution, but expressly denied to them but that desecrated instrument.

But we have extended these remarks to a length wholly unexpected when we took up the pen for the purpose of introducing to our readers the foregoing letters, written, as their dates show, long since, but now for the first time published by the Charleston Mercury. [MPR]

**RW47v24i6p4c2, January 19, 1847, Presentation of a Sword.**

We publish with pleasure the subjoined correspondence between Hugh W. Sheffey, Esq. and Capt. Kenton Harper— the former acting as the organ of the citizens of Staunton, by whom a sword had been directed to be presented to the commander of the company of Volunteers from the patriotic county of Augusta. The sword, which is said to be a very handsome one, bears upon its guard this appropriate inscription— "Presented by the citizens of Staunton, Va., to Kenton Harper, Captain of the Augusta Volunteers, as a testimonial of their respect and affection for you as a soldier and a Gentleman."

**Correspondence.**

Sir— You have been summoned by the gallant corps of Augusta Volunteers to command them during the existing War with Mexico. You sought not the position; yet you shunned not its perils and its sacrifices, when called to assume it. Inspired by a chivalric feeling, a high [...] sense of duty, and a generous love of country,— fully appreciated by those, and those only, who know you— you have abandoned the peaceful pursuits of civil life, the comforts of our highly favored Valley, the affectionate intercourse of long cherished friends, and all the tender endearments of domestic life, to bear “the flag of Augusta” to the battle-fields of Mexico.

Augusta has already confirmed that flag to your care. Her eyes will watch it glittering folds in whatever clime unfurled,— in whatever storm of conflict it may wave. Around it she knows her gallant sons will rally in solid ranks, to roll back the threatening tide of war, and bear it aloft amid the shocks of battle. Augusta expects you, sir, to bring back that banner— to return it to her, untouched by the hand of a Mexican in arms, unsullied by a spot that might cause her a blush of shame.

That you may be armed to fulfill this sacred trust and “as a testimonial of their respect and affection for you as a soldier and a gentleman,” your friends in Augusta have requested me to present to you the Sword which accompanies this note. It is the weapon which Brothers place in your hands, to defend the honor of a Mother— to guard the flag of “old Augusta.” That it will leap from its scabbard only in a righteous strife— that no stain but that of a foeman’s blood, shed in an honorable war, will ever mar its lustre— that it will be sheathed at the cry of mercy or the voice of peace, with more pleasure than it will be drawn upon the battle-field, they are well assured. Gird it on, then, Sir, and as its belt encircles your form, remember that a thousand prayers for your safety, breathed from warm and anxious hearts in Augusta, will encompanion you amid all your perils. May God ever bless you!
Your friend,
Hugh W. Sheffy

Capt. Kenton Harper,
Augusta Volunteers.

Richmond, January 13, 1847.

Sir– The Sword, which you have been made the medium of presentation to me, in the name of the Citizens of Staunton, has been received, in the midst of active preparations for immediate embarkation with my command, for Mexico.

While I can but regard the compliments as the prompting of personal friendship, you will believe me, Sir, when I say, it is not the less grateful to me on that account. As the soldier’s meed for deeds of valor already done, make no claim to it; yet I am proud to possess it, as the evidence of a generous confidence on the part of my fellow citizens, and a pleasing remembrance of those to whom I am so strongly attached, and whose friendship I so highly value.

I thank you, Sir, for the flattering manner in which you have executed your commission, and devoutly pray that God may enable me to meet all the expectations of my generous friends.

Yours, truly,
Kenton Harper.

H.W. Sheffey, Esq.

RW47v24i6p4c2, January 19, 1847, More Volunteers.

We learn from the Abingdon Virginian that a full company of volunteers has been organized in that county, by the appointment of the following officers: Arthur [...] Cummings, Captain; James T. Preston, 1st Lieutenant; Jacob Lynch, jr. 2d do; Robert C. Boyd, 3d do. The Virginian states that 7 of the 12 commissioned and non–commissioned officers and a majority of the privates are Whigs– a fact which we mention only because, in Little Tennessee, as our readers are aware, the Whigs are outnumbered my their opponents, at the polls, about 5 to 1.

This company, we apprehend, however, will be too late, as well as the company in Pittsylvania, which we learn is also nearly full. The Danville Herald, by the way, informs us that an effort was made to procure a few recruits at last Halifax court, for the purpose of completing the muster–roll of the Pittsylvania company; but, notwithstanding the strong preponderance of Locofocoism in that county, particularly South of Dan, only five recruits could be obtained!

The fact is, the Locofoco counties have been so much accustomed to have the tocsin sounding “To arms! To arms!” on the even of an election, that it is possible they may be under the impression, after all, that the present appeal to them only means that they shall be ready to go to the polls next April– where we have no doubt they will be, as heretofore, overflowing with patriotism!

[MPR]

RW47v24i6p4c3, January 19, 1847, Letter from Washington.

Correspondence of the Whig.

Washington, Jan’y 14, 1846.

Commodore Perry arrived here to–day, on the steamboat Osceola, from Norfolk. He came by the steamship Mississippi to Norfolk, from the Gulf. He brings later news from the city of Mexico. John L. O’Sullivan, formerly editor of the “Democratic Review,” arrived here also to–day, bringing, I believe, by another route, the same news. I have not learned the exact amount of the information they bring. But, as I presume, they have dispatched from the Government, the Union will probably contain an abstract to–morrow. I learn, however, that Santa Anna has been elected President by Congress, by a majority of one or two votes, and that Almonte has been left out of the Cabinet. As Santa Anna, however, was not in the city of Mexico, I don’t see how he could have called around him his advisers, or how it was known that Almonte was not to be in the Government.

I believe Com. Perry also bring word that a proposition was made to the Mexican Congress to negotiate for a peace, and that it was promptly laid on the table. Supplies have been voted, and efforts are being made to negotiate a loan. Thus, both Governments are urging on the war spirit; both are squandering money and blood, and both are trying to borrow money to carry on the war. Both Governments intend to make the other pay the expenses of this war, while neither can very easily raise the money to prosecute it on their own account. Both nations will probably go for their “Country, right or wrong;” for a sentiment like that works as well in Mexico as in this country– while neither is fairly in the right– and so it will go on for some time, ‘till both get tired of spilling blood, and then negotiation must come– which might have done the business at first, without the aid of war.
The ten Regiments bill was taken up and discussed to–day in the Senate, several amendments were proposed, and the bill was finally laid over for further discussion.

The Senate then took up the bill for the creation of a “Vice King,” or, as it is sometimes called, a “Lieutenant General.” Mr. Dix, of New York, made a long speech in favor of this measure, after which, Mr. Badger of N.C., obtained the floor, and the Senate adjourned. Mr. Badger has a great reputation as an able and eloquent man, and there will be a large audience present to hear his maiden effort. I dare hardly predict what will be done in this case. If the Whigs had a majority, the public could tell pretty nearly what would be done; but the Locofoocos change so quick on what they call principles, that it is difficult to tell exactly what they may do. They are in the situation of the Pennsylvanian Locofocoo who said he did not know for whom he was going, as the man that usually told him how to vote, had not been round yet! So with Locofocoo Legislators: Mr. Walker and Mr. Polk’s Whitehouse agents have not had time yet to go through both Houses, and flatter or threaten the members. As things now stand, the opinion prevails that the measure will not pass the Senate. It is also supposed that if it does pass the Senate, it will likewise pass the House, notwithstanding the majority of 30 against it on Saturday last.

The action of the House on this measure is very characteristic of Locofoocosim. The very next day after it was proposed to the House, they laid it on the table. It had so few friends that they could not muster courage to call for the yeas and nays. That vote, through deference to the Executive, was reconsidered. The Military Committee was opposed to it by a majority of eight–ninths. When the yeas and nays were called upon it in Saturday last, it was voted down by a vote of 120 to 90, and now we are told that if it passes the Senate, it will pass the House. I do hope, independently, altogether, of my own opinions on the measure, that this House, which has shown itself capable of descending to the lowest depths of servility to Executive dictation, may not give the world an illustration of what Milton mentions as a lower deep opening in the lowest depth. If the Legislative branch of our Government is but a mere instrument in the hands of the Executive, we pay too dearly for keeping it in session, and it might as well be abolished altogether.

Mr. Dix, while he gave several reasons for the creation of such an office bestowed full praise on Gen. Scott and Gen. Taylor. Then why make the office?

In the House to–day the Oregon Territory bill was taken up and discussed. The debate was limited, by a vote of the House, to 3 o’clock. Mr. Burt of S.C., and other spoke upon the measure, generally on the question of excluding slavery from the territory.

Mr. Pettit, a Locofocoo member from Indiana, delivered himself of a long lecture on matters and things in general, particularly on slavery. His remarks gave great offence to the South. He spoke till 3 o’clock, and then there was a movement made to prolong the time, so as to give some one an opportunity of replying. In the midst of the confusion created by this the Committee rose and the House adjourned.

There were several communications laid before the House to–day from the several Departments. Among them was one from Mr. Walker, in reply to an inquiry from the House, why the Monthly Financial statement was not published for December. His reply was that, he was waiting for some returns to make it more complete. The real design was to make it appear different from what it really was.

Mr. Seaman of New York, introduced a bill to–day, to prevent the landing of paupers and criminals from foreign countries, into the United States. The bill provides that U.S. Consuls, Vice Consuls, &c., shall examine on oath concerning emigrants bound to the United States, from the ports whence they emigrate. If satisfied that these emigrants are or were not paupers or criminals, each emigrant shall receive a certificate under the Consular Seal. If it appears that any one is a criminal or a pauper the certificate is to be refused. A duplicate of this certificate is to be sent to the authorities of the city to which the ship is bound with the emigrants. The captains or owners of vessels to be held responsible, under a penalty of $250, in each case, to transport back every emigrant who is found without such certificate.

Mr. Davis finished his speech to–day before the Supreme Court, in favor of the Massachusetts License Law. Mr. Webster replied in a very able constitutional argument against the law. Mr. Davis contended for the constitutionality of the law as a police law, regulating the internal affairs of State, over which Congress has no authority. Mr. Webster contended that it was an infringement of the Revenue laws, over which Congress alone has power. A similar case from Rhode Island also comes up under the same head. Mr. Ames, of Providence, opened against the Law. Mr. Hazzard, of the same city, replies in favor of the Law, and Mr. Whipple, also of the same city, replies to him against the law. It will then be submitted to the Bench for decision. It is supposed the decision will be made by only about on majority either way. It is of great importance to several of the Northern States, which have passed these laws. Mr. Choate was engaged in the case two years ago, but will not speak now. It is merely a rehearing of the case which the Bench declined to decide till all vacancies were filled.

I understand that Commodore Perry tells Government that they cannot expect any Peace measures from Mexico. I understand that his representations to Government have made a deep sensation on the Cabinet. He has shown them how difficult it is to conquer Mexico. That our men die under the influence of the climate, and that even the food which can be obtained in Mexico kills our troops. There is one thing certain, that this Administration have not the nerve to get us out of the difficulties into which they so heedlessly plunged us.

Santa Anna is a lucky fellow. He has the good will of both governments. James K. Polk and Locofoocosism have appointed him commander–in–chief of the Mexican Army, and the Mexican Congress have made him President of the Republic! It is difficult to tell whether Locofoocosim or the Mexicans treat him with the greater consideration. Now that he is advanced he ought to appoint Mr. Polk to the office which the latter so generously conferred on him.

And now a word in reply to the Enquirer, and I have done for to–night. The reply is easy and may be brief. I ask any fair minded man to look at the article, published in the Enquirer on Thursday last, and let him say whether the impression left, in reading it, is not that the Hagerstown News is a Whig paper? I happened to know that it is not a Whig paper, and so stated in my letter of Saturday last. "Brutus" does not "want to make" anything of it. He simply appeals to that high sense of fairness so characteristic of the Virginia
people, to say whether it is fair to found an attack upon the Whig party upon a paragraph from a paper which is not, and never was Whig? If your readers, of either party, say that it is, I give in. The Enquirer says: "Many of the Whig press and politicians denounce it (the war) as 'unjust, unnecessary, atrocious, damnable.'" Let me call upon the Enquirer for proof of this assertion. What are the names of two or three presses, not to say "many," known as Whig presses, which have used the language the Enquirer puts in quotation marks? The strongest language I have yet heard used against this war, was that used by John C. Calhoun, when, in his place in the Senate, he said that rather than vote for the bill, recognizing this war, hw would have a dagger thrust in his heart. Is John C. Calhoun a Whig politician? The Enquirer's article conveyed the impression that the News is a Whig paper. I denied the charge. The Enquirer will hear from me again about the politics of the News.

Mr. Lover, who is now in your city, gives an entertainment here on Monday evening next. BRUTUS [MPR]

RW47v24i6p4c4, January 19, 1847, Santa Anna.

By the Mississippi we learn the important intelligence that Santa Anna has been declared by the Congress to be the duly elected President of the Mexican Republic. As it is to be presumed that a good understanding exists between Santa Anna and our President, the further presumption follows, that the official announcement of this event will be followed, in due time, by preliminaries of peace— all indications to the contrary, notwithstanding. If we are disappointed in this— we shall weep for our country. [MPR]

RW47v24i6p4c4, January 19, 1847

Correspondence of the New Orleans Picayune.

Tampico, Dec. 26, 1846.

I am beginning to think that Tampico is not so very bad a place after all. It is true the climate is rather tropical just now for comfort, and we have no ice; but the city is picturesque, clean, and regularly laid out in streets, while its location affords rich and beautiful country from every point. The soil of the adjacent country is more productive— vegetables of all kinds abounding in profusion. Sugar cane, such as I never saw in Louisiana— large, tall and juicy— grow all around the city. Plantains, bananas, pine-apples, oranges, tomatoes, &c. &c., flood the market every morning. Game of all kinds— deer, turkeys, duck and snipe— is plenty. The most delicious fish are taken in great quantities from the river, lakes and bayous, and the best of all is, these things sell at very cheap prices; a fine grouper or snapper, weighing from eight to five pounds, may be bought for three Picayunes, and turkeys, chickens, eggs, &c., equally cheap. The teal duck— the blue-winged teal— is to be found here in astonishing quantities; it is certainly sweeter and more delicate, from some peculiar cause, than our teal at home, and they have been sold in the market for twelve and a half cents a dozen! This I have on the best authority, and I know that half a dozen may be bought any morning for twenty-five cents. You may take my word for it this is "a great country." But more anon. [MPR]

RW47v24i7p1c2, January 22, 1847

The Enquirer of yesterday, commenting upon a paragraph in the Whig of Tuesday, says:

"Without stopping to answer its unjust flings at the causes of the Mexican was, we would remind the Whig, that, throughout, the President has shown the most cordial desire to negotiate with Mexico "in a spirit of conciliation and equity." Minister after minister has been despatched, overtures of peace have been liberally offered; but have invariably been repulsed. What more could the President have done to bring about a pacific settlement? He is now and always has been ready to negotiate "whenever Mexico herself shall be willing to meet us in a spirit of conciliation and equity." He has made no "war of conquest"— but, as in duty bound, has passed the Mexican frontier, to punish her aggression and secure a compensation for the wrongs done to us. Such, we are sure, is the view of the country, "of the South at least."

If Mr. Polk ordered our troops on the Rio Grande to pass the Mexican frontier in no spirit of conquest, but merely to punish an "aggression" (which he designedly, in our opinion, provoked, in order that he might have a pretext for dismembering the Republic of Mexico, and extending the "area of freedom," ) why did he organize that famous California regiment of hybrids— half-soldiers and half-settlers, with the sword in one hand an the plough-share in the other,— and send them on a voyage of circumnavigation around the globe? Is it not obvious that he intended, from the start, not only to conquer but to hold California, at all hazards? And what is that but a war of conquest?

It is our misfortune, too, to differ with the Enquirer in regard to the cordial desire exhibited by the President to negotiate with Mexico "in a spirit of conciliation and equity." Had he been really desirous of preserving peace, he would have sent a Commissioner to Mexico, such as she had agreed to receive, to adjust the single question of boundary,— and not have insisted upon sending a Minister Plenipotentiary, whom she had at no time consented to receive, for the purpose of setting all the questions in dispute between the two Governments. And in regard to the overtures of peace since made, we are constrained to say that the very fact that one of the conditions has uniformly been that the war was to go on even while the Ministers of the two countries were deliberating upon the
terms of peace, evinced any thing but a spirit of "conciliation and equity," and was, in our estimation, calculated to exasperate rather 
than to soothe the already chafed temper of a weak but haughty people. The proposition to smite one cheek with the sword, while we 
imprinted on the other the kiss of peace, could only have been tendered to a nation for which we felt profound contempt, and was well 
calculated, however intended, to gall their pride. It evinces, to our mind, a spirit of offensive dictation, rather than of "conciliation and 
equity;" and it could not have been made with any hope of its acceptance, unless Mr. Polk thinks as meanly of the spirit if the Mexican 
Government as he did of the courage and obstinacy of the Mexican troops, when he provoked the war under the delusive idea that in 
six months our victorious flag would float over the Capitol of Mexico, and our brave troops would be reveling in the Halls of Montezuma.

We are told by the New York Courier & Enquirer that the London Times copies Mr. Webster's speech, delivered some weeks ago at 
Boston, and comments upon it at some length. The Times, offended at Mr. Webster's hostility to the tariff of 1846, so favorable to the 
interests of British capitalists and laborers, sneers at him as another Rip Van Winkle, who, having been asleep some fifty years, is 
unconscious of the change that has been wrought in public opinion while he slumbered. It calls him an arrant "political huckster," and 
congratulates itself that the American people will be too wise to listen to his counsel, by re-enacting those laws, by which, from the 
foundation of the government, American labor has been protected. The Times advises Brother Johnathan to listen to English wisdom 
[for the benefit of the English manufacturers!] instead of giving heed to that "British Whig, " Daniel Webster– and ridicules the idea, 
[which shows that it has been no inattentive observer of Locofoco "progress.""] that the American Constitution should be a rallying point 
of any party!

Will the Washington Union copy this article from the Times– as it has heretofore done similar compliments to the free trade party, from 
the same quarter?

The Washington correspondent of the New York Herald gives the following as the outline of the resolutions, which, it is rumored, Mr. 
Calhoun will soon submit to the Senate:

1. We want peace.
2. We can acquire it by withdrawing our forces, military and naval, from the lands and waters of Mexico.
3. We can gain nothing by the continued prosecution of the war.
4. The question of slave or free territory puts a ban to any acquisitions of land south of the Rio Bravo.
5. And Mexico has no money, and the longer the war is continued, the poorer she will become.
6. We have therefore nothing to gain from the prosecution of the war but peace, which we may as easily obtain at once 
by the withdrawal of our forces.

It is stated that Mr. Owen of Indiana, a prominent Locofoco, will offer similar resolutions in the House. The Union protests vehemently 
against such a purpose, if it be entertained, which it says it will not believe! This is the best evidence we have seen that the rumor is 
not without foundation.

We copied yesterday from the Enquirer a list of the Captains in this regiment, with the dates of their respective commissions, agreed 
upon by the Governor and the Council; but we inadvertently omitted to accompany it, as we intended, with a commentary on the 
apparent injustice of their decision. This we find done in yesterday's Times– whose article we copy and adopt:

"What rule the Governor and Council prescribed to themselves in fixing the rank of the Captains, we do not pretend to comprehend. 
Seniority of commissions or election is the general standard; but this has, manifestly, not been observed; for some officers who were 
elected and mustered into service before others had half formed their companies, are yet placed lower in the list. Nor does it seem that qualification or previous military education, has been the test of preference. Propriety would seem to demand that those who have shewn most energy, most alacrity, most enthusiasm, in answering the call of Government, should be entitled to be placed at the right of 
the regiment, in the position where they would be most likely to encounter danger and reap honorable laurels. But the Governor and 
Council have been influenced by no such considerations.

"Capt. Carrington, who formed the first and largest company under the requisition of last spring, and who came forward at the first
moment after the last call upon the Governor, to reorganize that company, and was the first Capt. elected in Virginia under that call, is assigned the tenth rank in the list. We deem it our duty, where, under other circumstances, we should say much more, simply to call public attention to the measure, as one of the most extraordinary and the harshest injustice.”

Deserters.– By the last news from Monterey, the Louisville Courier has information that a man named Robert Hawley, and another named Smith, both belonging to the Montgomery Guards, of that city, deserted, but were pursued, Smith was caught about one hundred miles distant on the road to Camargo. The court martial was trying him and one John Cassaday, of the Washington Blues, for the same offence. It was thought both would be ordered to be shot.

Though tardy in her movements, the Old North State has at length completed her regiment of Volunteers for the Mexican service. Gov. Graham has appointed the following field officers: Robert T. Payne, of [...] County, Colonel; John Fagg of Buncombe county, Lieutenant Colonel; and Sydney Stokes of Wilkes county, Major.

The Washington Fountain says– with how much truth we know not– that our government is in possession of the ultimate conditions on which Mexico will consent to make peace– and that Mr. Polk has determined to accede to them, if Congress will enable him to meet the views of Mexico. This rumor is rendered [...] by the introduction into both Houses of Congress of bill placing three millions of dollars at the disposal of the President.

The same paper gives circulation to a rumor that the Government has recalled Gen. Taylor from the command of the army in Mexico, and ordered him to repair to the city of Washington. We doubt it.

The Mobile Tribune has received a letter from which we make the following extract;–

The Mexicans have at last performed one feat to challenge surprise and praise. They have cut out and burnt our prize schr. "Confederatione," ashore on Green Island. On the night of the 18th a party approached the schooner in boats, and as there was nobody on board to resist, they fired her and escaped back to Vera Cruz without [...]. The John Adams was anchored at the time about one and a half or two miles distant, and the first notice received of a hostile attempt, was the blaze of the burning vessel.

On the 19th ult the prize schooner Charles Morris arrived from Tabasco. She brought intelligence that in one hour after Commodore Perry had left the place, the Tabasquinos had drawn the spikes from their guns and planted them in a defensive state. They say they are quite ready for another fight from the Commodore, and will give him a more military reception than he received before.

Despatches have been received from General Taylor, dated the 22d of December, near Monterey, representing that he had left that place on the 15th, for Victoria, having previously put in motion the troops destined for that point. At Montemorelos a junction was effected on the 17th with the 2d infantry and the 2d Tennessee regiment of foot from Camargo; and it was intended, with the whole force (3,500 men) to march, on the 19th, for Victoria. But, on the evening of his arrival at Montemorelos, a dispatch arrived from Gen. Worth, commanding at Saltillo, with the intelligence that Santa Anna designed to take advantage of the division of force towards Victoria, and, by a rapid movement to strike a heavy blow at Saltillo; and, if successful, then at Gen. Wool’s force at Parras. Under these circumstances, and with no means of judging how far this information might be well founded, the General returned to Monterey with the regular force in order to be in a position to reinforce Saltillo if necessary. The volunteers under Gen. Quitman, reinforced by a field battery, were ordered to continue their march and effect a junction with Gen. Patterson at Victoria, while Gen. Taylor returned to
Monterey with Gen. Twigg’s division, now increased by the 2nd infantry.

In the meantime General Butler and General Wool, being advised by Gen. Worth of a probable attack upon his position, moved rapidly to join him with all the available force at Parras and Monterey, while orders were despatched by General Butler, to hasten up troops from the rear. The latter General proceeded in person to Saltillo, and assumed the command, agreeably to instructions which had been given by General Taylor before his departure, to meet a case like this.

Gen. Taylor had proceeded beyond Monterey on his way to Saltillo, when he was met on the 20th by a despatch from the post, announcing the early arrival of Gen. Wool’s column, and also that the expected concentration and movement of the Mexican troops upon that position had not taken place—indeed that their advanced posts had rather been withdrawn. Deeming the force there and soon to be at Saltillo quite sufficient to repel any demonstration at this season from San Luis Potosi, Gen. Taylor did not think it worth while to throw forward Gen. Twigg’s division to that place, and after resting it a day, designed putting it again in march for Victoria, to which point he was to proceed himself.

Gen. Patterson was supposed to be then well on his march from Matamoros to Victoria, when his division except the Alabama rangers (in garrison at Tampico) will be brought together. With a force holding in observation the passes from Tula, the garrison at Tampico may be reduced with advantage to the service.– *Union.*

The new Mississippi Regiment of Volunteers nearly 1000 strong, has been mustered into the United States service. Reuben Davis, Esq. formerly a member of Congress from that State, has been elected Colonel commander.

The New Orleans *Picayune* of the 12th inst. contains later accounts from the Gulf squadron and from Mexico. The John Adams was blockading Vera Cruz, and the rest of the squadron were to the leeward on a cruise. From Mexico the news is unimportant. The election of Santa Anna to the Presidency, and of Gomez Farias to the Vice Presidency of the Republic, is confirmed. The Mexican Congress is endeavoring to make provisions for foreign loan.

The *Picayune* has also a long letter in reference to the affairs of Yucatan–the writer of which represents the Yucatanese as at heart with Mexico in the pending struggle, but as affecting to be friendly to the U. States in consequence of the exposed situation of their seaport to [...], and the great advantage to them, in a commercial point of view, of maintaining, as far as practicable, a position of neutrality. The writer thinks the U. States can well afford to let Yucatan alone.

Alexander E. Birchett, a private in the Petersburg Volunteers, Capt. Archer, died at Fortress Monroe on the 15th inst., of Congestive Fever, after a few days illness. The *Petersburg Republican* believes that Mr. B., who was little more than 21 years of age, was a native of Prince George county. His remains were carried to Petersburg for internment.

The Pennsylvania Volunteers continue to be very turbulent in New Orleans. Twenty of the most disorderly were marched to the watchhouse on the 13th with a request from the Colonel that the evil power would take charge of them. They were put in prison. One the same day one of them was dangerously shot in the head by a bar keeper, from whom he demanded liquor, refusing at the same time to pay for it.

The President and Senate have made the following appointments: Henry P. Robinson, Isaac N. Brown, R. Delancey Izard, Napoleon Collins and John L. Warden, to be Lieutenants in the Navy, to supply vacancies occasioned by deaths and resignations. Randolph F. Mason, of Va. and Joshua Huntington are appointed Assistant Surgeons, and Robert Woodworth, Surgeon in the Navy; Edward D.
Rumors are in circulation that Mr. Calhoun will in a few days bring forward resolutions having for their object the restoration of peace with Mexico.

From the Washington Union, of Jan. 18.

Of all the accounts which have been received by the Mississippi steamer, the following extracts of a letter addressed to a gentleman in this city by an intelligent observer at the Havana are among the most interesting. We hasten to lay it before our readers:

Havana, Jan. 7, 1847.

"Sir– I had the honor to address you on the 6th inst, acquainting you with the arrival of the steamer Mississippi from off Vera Cruz, and that Santa Anna had been elected by Congress, with only two majority; that Campeachy had again declared her neutrality, and was marching on the capital (Merida) with six thousand troops, in order to bring her into measure; and that Guatemala had claimed the State of Tabasco, and, in fact, up to the isthumus of Darien, and was supporting her claim with four thousand troops, under General Carrera.

The British steamer is just in, bringing us dates from Vera Cruz to the 2d instant, and from the city of Mexico to the 31st ultimo; and from sources that can be relied on, I have gathered the following information: That General Santa Anna was at San Luis on the 25th ultimo, with, report said, twenty thousand troops, but in fact only about fifteen thousand, and that he talked of marching on to Saltillo; that the Congress was made up of anything but the better part of the community, and, in fact, were composed of what is called in Mexico sans culottes, who had nothing to lose; and of course they were for war; that Congress had agreed to a loan of one million dollars. The clergy were opposed to it, and it was thought even that amount could not be obtained. If they succeed in obtaining this loan, it was to last the war for 6 months. Almonte had retired from the war chair, and Canalizo had taken his seat, who was thought to be pacific. The wealthy citizens of Mexico, and those who have means of living, are for peace, but, for the moment, are compelled to close their lips. Nevertheless they, by voting for Herrera, showed their feelings on the subject. The stepping aside of Almonte at this moment means something that we have yet to learn.

"The troops in Vera Cruz are badly paid and worse fee, numbering three thousand five hundred, and the castle about eleven hundred, with provisions only for a month at a time.

"The information from Tampico, received at Vera Cruz by the last packet, in relation to the conduct of our troops, had calmed the feelings before felt towards the volunteers by the Vera Cruzanos, and they speak in the highest terms of the American General for the measures he took to secure private property and persons, and that the excitement against the Americans at Vera Cruz was daily subsiding. Vera Cruz was indignant against Santa Anna and his government, which was manifested by their late unanimous vote for Herrera.

"All the extra defence that has been made about the walls of Vera Cruz are, that holes have been dug near together along the wall, and pikes put into them and covered over with prickly pears, so that in marching up out troops would fall into them; but we could soon lay plank over them."

The Enquirer makes a strange assertion, when it says that "when Gen. Taylor marched his army to the Rio Grande, not a murmur of disapprobation was heard." It was the President that ordered the army to march to the Rio Grande, and there were murmurs of disapprobation heard. I know of no Whig press that did not denounce it. But I have already taken up too much time in replying to this article at present. BRUTUS.
disposed to doubt. The Union prefaces the letter with these paragraphs:

"In justice to General Taylor, we will not suppose that this letter was ever intended for publication, because its effect will be to place Santa Anna in possession of information which cannot fail to prove most injurious to us and advantageous to the enemy. Santa Anna will thus be encouraged, by the high and authoritative source from which it proceeds, to direct portions of the large force collected at San Luis Potosi to other points where it is clearly indicated by the letter that a blow may be expected, and in this manner it may seriously endanger the success of our arms. We make these remarks on the supposition that the letter truly represents the plan of the campaign, of which, however, we are entirely ignorant.

"It is only in view of the public mischief resulting, we regret that this letter has ever been written or published. We have no fears but that the administration, whose course towards General Taylor is known to the world, will be able to show that there is no just foundation for the complaints made against them in this publication."

As the Washington correspondent of the N.Y. Journal of Commerce, (a quasi Administration paper) well remarks: "Gen. Taylor stands now on impregnable ground. Without efficient supplies, and with a small force, he has gained victories the fame of which will endure as long as the waters of the Rio Grande flow into the Gulf. His movement to Monterey was made with so little of requisite means that, had he failed in the enterprize, as he remarks in his letter, he would have incurred a reprimand, or something worse. He did it, he says, 'to serve the Administration.' They have met the service with a poor requital."

In Mexico they punish Generals for sustaining defeats: Arista is now in durance, and Ampudia on trial. But in the United States, the Administration and its friends are incensed against their General, and slander and persecute him because he has gained a series of splendid victories!

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[MPR]

RW47v24i9p1c6, January 29, 1847, Later from Mexico.

From the N.O. Picayune, Jan. 20.

The British steamer Dee arrived at Havana on the 6th inst. and brings us files of Vera Cruz papers to the 31st December- four days later than we received by the Pensacola. The Dee brought over $171,000 in specie.

Quite the most important intelligence by this arrival touches the action of the Mexican Congress. It is now certain that up to the last accounts they had not acted upon the propositions for peace proffered by the United States, and laid before Congress early in the session by the Government of Gen. Salas.

Gomez Farias was sworn into office on the 24th of December, and that day assumed the functions of the chief executive in the absence of Santa Anna, the President. He pronounced a short discourse on the occasion, in which he pledged himself that he would prosecute the war with valor and constancy "until the justice of our cause shall be acknowledged and our territory evacuated."

Gen. Canazalo was at once appointed Minister of War and took the necessary oaths; Senor Zubieta has accepted the Ministry of Finance, and Senor Ramirez that of Foreign Affairs. Senor Ortiz, a young churchman of Guadalajara, has been invited to accept the portfolio of Justice and Public Instruction.

On the 24th ult., Congress approved a law of the self–denying order, by which it is provided that no member shall accept office under the Government during his term of office and one year thereafter. This law passed by a vote of 73 to 2, and is plainly designed to secure the independence of that body against executive influence.

A Vera Cruz paper on the 31st ult. announces that in response to the urgent call from that city, the Governor of Puebla had engaged to remit them $25,000 very shortly. The troops at Vera Cruz are sadly […] for supplies.

The monthly expenses of the army at San Luis Potosi exceed $377,000.

Gen. La Vega arrived at Puebla on the 22d ult. and at the capital on the 25th. He is called the "illustrious prisoner of La Resaca," and is hailed almost as a conqueror. This is honorable. The general's representations as to the United States were greedily swallowed. He spoke of the very burdensome nature of the war to the United States and encouraged hopes of peace on this ground. He advocated the policy of remaining steady upon the defensive, and thus prolonging the embarrassments of the United States. If we may judge from the Mexican papers, they will find this a very difficult game to play. All accounts agree that so far from paying their troops, the Mexicans have infinite difficulty in procuring for them their daily supplies of provisions.

A court martial has been ordered upon Gen. Parrodi for his abandonment of the city of Tampico, and Ampudia and other officers who served at Monterey were undergoing their trials at San Luis Potosi at last accounts.

We are often asked who is Senor Elorriaga, who disputed the residency with Santa Anna. At the time of the late revolution, which commenced at Jalisco, he was Governor of Durango. His enemies charge him with being opposed to the late revolution, and his friends reply that he was equally opposed to the prior revolution effected by Paredes. He has been in his Government the steady friend of law and order, and he is suspected of being in favor of making prompt peace with the United States.
The Mexicans have their eyes now turned to the State of Durango, which they look upon as the point most seriously menaced by our arms. The Governor has sent to Santa Anna for reinforcements, but declares his determination to make a desperate resistance whatever may be his means.

The intelligence previously received here that Gen. Carrera, President of Central America, is advancing upon the State of Chiapas, is fully confirmed. Gen. Cardona was making preparations to repel the invasion.

A division of 5000 troops, of all arms, had been detached from the main body of the enemy to occupy the pass of Tula. The movement is announced in a paper of Guanajuato as early as the 15th ult. and the composition of the force is given particularly. There is little room to doubt the movement, therefore. It betrays apprehension lest the American General should seek to penetrate immediately to San Luis.

[Correspondence of the Picayune.]

Havana, Jan. 9, 1847.

Everything relative to Santa Anna is, as usual, shrouded in mystery. Rumor even is silent; her voice does not reach this place, and his intentions are not to be guessed at, He won't disband his army, and if Congress don't find means, he will become "the Congress," and do as he pleases. Loperana, in London, has been named as agent to raise a loan of $20,000,000.

I am told that the garrison at San Juan de Ulloa has been several times on the point of “pronouncing” for want of provisions. There are about 1500 mouths in the castle, and of these about 1000 are soldiers. In Vera Cruz the garrison, about 1200, are often on short commons.

[MPR]

RW47v24i9p2c2, January 29, 1847, Southern Brigade of Volunteers.

Messrs. Editors:– Among the names of those who have been mentioned as suitable persons to take the command of the Virginia and North and South Carolina Volunteers, permit me, through your paper, to commend to the favorable notice of the Executive at Washington, Col. Robert Taylor Preston Montgomery. The commandant of the 75th regiment of Virginia Militia– the son of an illustrious patriot and hero, the late Gov. Preston– constitutionally a soldier,– in the prime and vigor of manhood,— he is a man of genius, highly cultivated, of noble and elevated sentiments, and in every way qualified to make an able and efficient officer. Virginina.

[We beg leave to say to the author of the foregoing article that his previous communication was not published, as we stated at the time, in a notice to correspondents, which he must have overlooked, because the appointment of the Colonel of the Virginia regiment had been made before we received it.– Eds .]

[MPR]

RW47v24i9p2c2, January 29, 1847

The company of Volunteers from Orange County, North Carolina, carry with them (says the Raleigh Register, ) a sacred relic, which it says, will never be dishonored while in their keeping. It is their stand of colors, being the identical flag borne by the American forces at the memorable battle of Guilford, during our Revolutionary struggle.

[MPR]

RW47v24i9p2c2, January 29, 1847

Messrs. Barnard and Jewell, of New Orleans, are about to establish a paper, to be called the Sentinel, at Tampico.

[MPR]

RW47v24i9p2c2, January 29, 1847

The Jacksonville (Illinois) Journal says that Wm. B. Warren, of that place, had been appointed Governor of Coahuila! By whom?

[MPR]

RW47v24i9p2c6, January 29, 1847
More "Aid and Comfort."– A resolution was offered in the Missouri Senate on the 8th instant for firing twenty-nine guns in honor of the victories of Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma and Monterey– and rejected by the unanimous vote of the Locofocos! Will Mr. Polk have these negative voters tried under the second section? [MPR]

We make copious selections from the New Orleans Picayune of the latest intelligence from the army, which, though not destitute of interest, is not very important.

In the New Orleans Bee we find the *Diary* of its correspondent at Monterey, which we wish we had room to copy at length. From it we learn the manner in which Gen. Worth was induced to apprehend an attack upon Saltillo. One of his scouting parties had captured a Mexican courier, with despatches, among which was a paper informing the authorities at Saltillo that Santa Anna would leave San Luis on a certain day, which had then passed eight days. It is probably that the courier fell *intentionally* into the way of the scouting party, for the purpose of deceiving Gen. Worth, and of masking some other movement.

The writer speaks in high terms of the energy and activity of Gen. Taylor. Writing on the [...] of December, while on his way from Monterey to Victoria, (whence he returned, however, on the receipt of General Worth’s dispatches by express,) he says:

"About 6 o’clock, the sound of a bugle admonished us that a company of dragoons were approaching, and when they hove in sight, we could easily distinguish the figure of Gen. Taylor at their head. He left Monterey on Tuesdaym and had overtaken during the day the provision train of Capt. Sibly, which also came up with him.

"17th. The brigade was in motion long before sun up, and early as it was, Gen. Taylor had crossed the river, and was out of sight on the road."

On the 20th, he says: "Gen. Taylor stayed ahead of us at Monte–Morelos and reached Monterey about noon on the 19th. His stay was very brief, and before 4 o’clock P.M. he was on the road to Saltillo.”

And again on the 21st: “Capt. May left Saltillo on Saturday and met Gen. Taylor Sunday.” [...] “General Taylor returned to town this morning about 10 o’clock from Santa Catarino. The heavy riding he has done for the last week, shows upon him, and I thought this morning he had better go to his tent and leave others to attend to the business he was superintending.” [MPR]

The New Orleans *Picayune* of the 17th states that the Louisiana regiment of volunteers, under the command of Col. De Russy, and the 1st and 2d Pennsylvania and the Mississippi regiments were to follow in a few days. The South Carolina regiment is to sail from Mobile. Pennsylvania regiment under Col. Wynkoop, sailed the day before for Mexico.

The N.O. *Atlas* infers that some important movement is on foot, from the fact that the volunteers sailed with ninety days provisions, and under sealed orders. [MPR]

Capt. Wm. Claiborne, more familiarly known as the "Old Commodore," has requested us, in behalf of Capt. Kenton Harper, to ascertain whether any arrangement had been made for forwarding letters and papers to the officers and soldiers of the Virginia Regiment, while in Mexico. We have made enquiry of our Postmaster, who informs us that in all cases it will be necessary that the postage be paid in advance,— which, being done, letters and papers will be transmitted by the regular mail to New Orleans, and thence to their ultimate destination. Great care should of course be taken, in the direction of letters, &c. to state the regiment and company to which the individual written to is attached. [MPR]

Captains Scott’s, Archer’s and Bankhead’s companies embarked, on Saturday morning last, at Old Point, for the seat of war. Captain Harper’s, Corse’s and Carrington’s were expected to embark yesterday.

Capt. Preston’s company reached Old Point in Sunday evening.
About 20 or 30 men formerly attached to the company of Capt. Edwards, of Norfolk, organized too late to be received, have determined to attach themselves to the flanking company under Capt. Rowan’s command.

The U.S. Howitzer company, under Capt. Talcott, is to leave Old Point, for Mexico, this week.

RW47v24i9p4c2, January 29, 1847, Late from the Army

From the N.O. Picayune, Jan. [...].

By the U.S. steamer Eudora, Capt. Wilcox, which arrived in Sunday night, we have dates from Brazos Santiago to the 12th inst., her day of sailing. Gen. Scott was at Brazos Santiago, and it was said had dispatched an express to Gen. Taylor announcing his intention of departing in a few days to join him either at Tampico or Victoria.

A report had been brought to Mier, by a Mexican, as we learn from the Matamoros Flag, in a correspondence from Camargo to that paper, dated the 3d inst., that Gen. Quitman, with 2000 volunteers, had given battle the preceding day to 1300 Mexicans under Gen. Urrea, two leagues north of Victoria. The report was not credited by the officers of the army at Camargo. The letter also states that Gen. Taylor is about six days march in the rear of Gen. Q., with 3000 regulars. Gen. Worth was still at Saltillo, and had been reinforced by three regiments of Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana volunteers. Gen. Wool was in camp fifteen miles from Saltillo on the San Luis road, with 1500 Mexican lancers hovering around in his immediate vicinity.

Our own correspondence, which will be found below, furnishes the latest intelligence from Saltillo.

Gen. Patterson and his division had arrived at San Fernando on his way to Victoria. The Flag’s correspondent writes that the ayuntamiento came out from the town to meet and welcome him. The 1st Indiana Regiment, Col. Drake, had arrived at Matamoros from Camargo to relieve the 3d Ohio Regiment, Col. Curtis, who were awaiting orders from Gen. Scott.

The U.S. steamer Giraffe was wrecked anout forty miles south of the mouth of the Rio Grande, on the 7th inst., and four lives lost.

Correspondence of the Picayune.)
Saltilllo, Mexico, Dec. 20, 1846.

Since I wrote to you last the aspect of things has taken a different course, and now there is but little doubt in the mind of every one connected with the army, that before another month has passed, another terrible battle will be fought in the neighborhood of this place.

An express was sent last Tuesday to Monterey, and another to Gen. Wool, for reinforcements. Three companies of Col. Marshall’s Kentucky Mounted riflemen arrived here by a forced march from Monterey on Thursday night last, and yesterday evening the Kentucky and Ohio regiments came in and encamped below town. An express which came in from Parris yesterday evening reports that Gen. Wool, with his command, may be expected in the neighborhood to–morrow evening.

Of the orders which have been issued since the excitement commenced one is, that three days’ cooked provisions shall be kept on hand. A drummer is to be attached to the different guards, ready to beat the long roll and give the alarm; that the accoutrements and arms of the sick shall all be taken to the hospital, and that every man shall hold himself in readiness to be called out at a moment’s warning. Gen. Butler came up with the Ohio and Kentucky troops.

A mail from this place, containing important documents of the future movements of the Mexican army and plans for the recapture of this place, was captured on its way to San Luis by a scouting party of dragoons a few days since. A large body of lancers are known to be scouting the country between here and San Luis, and not far from us at that, and they are almost known to be the advance guard of the main army of the enemy. Of the various accounts of the troops at she disposal of Santa Anna at San Luis, none fall short of 32000 men.

Our officers and men are in fine spirits, and eager to meet the self–styled Napoleon, to administer to him the same kind of dose they have given his predecessors. A portion of our forces, probably Gen. Wool’s command, is to take immediate possession of the Linares pass, which is about 35 miles from here. The three companies of Kentucky mounted men here are to leave early to–morrow morning on a scouting expedition. I pity any Mexican force that crosses their path, for they appear to be a second edition of the Texas Rangers, and any one of them is good for three Mexicans. They have not smelt gunpowder yet, but this only renders them more anxious for a chance to show what the Kentucky boys are made of.

Gen. Worth, who has been sick for the last two weeks, is out again today. The weather is a little too cold here to be pleasant, and the night before last we had ice half and inch thick. I forgot to mention that Webster’s battery [two 24–pound howitzers] is here.

Yours, &c., ALTO.
By the arrival of the U.S. store-ship Relief at Pensacola, in 14 days from Anton Lizardo, we have advices from Mexico, only a little later, but full of interest and importance.

Passed Midshipman Rogers was still a prisoner at Vera Cruz.

Correspondence of the Picayune.

U.S. Squadron, Anton Lizardo, Dec. 30th, 1846.

My Dear Sir– I send you herewith an abstract of the vote of the Mexican Congress for the President and Vice President of the Republic, which took place on the 23d inst., and was received at Vera Cruz by the mail of to–day. The vote was taken by States or Departments (deputaciones) each State having one vote, determined by the majority of its deputies. The only candidates who received the vote of a State were Santa Anna and Francisco Elorriaga. Seventy States voted including the district of Mexico and two territories. Santa Anna received the votes of eight States and the district of Mexico and two territories, being eleven in all. His opponent was the choice of nine States. Of course the election fell in Santa Anna for President. Ninety–nine deputies voted, fifty for Santa Anna, forty for Eliorriaga and nine for other candidates. Gomez Farias was elected Vice President, having the vote of eight States and two territories. Melchor Ocampo received the vote of eight states. Durango cast its vote for Eliorriaga. Of the votes of the deputies 94 in number, Farias had 35, Ocampo 44, Anaya 10, all others 5. It thus appears that Santa Anna is elected by a majority of one of the Representatives, and that Farias has a majority of 9. The election does not appear to have been satisfactory. Neither the Departments of Mexico nor Vera Cruz cast their votes for Santa Anna.

The want of arms is complained of from ever quarter of Mexico. Santa Anna calls the attention of the Government to his destitution of arms and munitions of war. The corps of the National Guard are not half supplied. It appears that arms cannot be obtained from any quarter if the money could be procured, wherewith to purchase them. A proposition has been submitted to Congress to raise a fund for this purpose. It is calculated that 125,000 men may be armed out of the 300,000 fighting men of Mexico, and that from one to two millions of dollars will be ample for this purpose. It is proposed to introduce the arms from sea–ward, by land from Yucatan, and finally to establish foundries and armories.

The day before the election of President the various ministers of State threw up their portfolios.

February

In another column the reader will find the Proclamation of Gen. Kearny, upon which we briefly commented yesterday, declaring, “by virtue of the authority conferred upon him by the Government of the United States,” that the [...] Mexican province of New Mexico is now, without the consent, or even the action of Congress, “the territory of New Mexico, in the United States of America,” and organizing a permanent government, such as Congress, in which body it has been understood this power exclusively resides, has heretofore done, whenever a new territory has been created, and as it is now attempting to do for Oregon. This extraordinary document carries upon its face a more forcible commentary than we can write. If it shall however, fail, as we fear it may, still–born on the public [...], stunned as it has been by so many violations both of the spirit and letter of the Constitution as to be no longer capable of being excited by any shock, however rude we shall not be surprised. Indeed, we expect to see these most extraordinary proceedings defended, if need be, by the champions of the Resolutions of ‘98–‘99, and the exclusive guardians of State Rights– by those who have for so many years affected to dread the “Gulph of Consolidation,” but who, by long standing upon its verge, can now gaze into the dark profound with steady nerves and with unblanched cheeks. Else, why are those warders upon the watch–towers silent now? Have they been all “bought up,” that we hear no note of alarm from those who once scented danger in the tainted gate? Alas for :modern degeneracy”– when, in the midst of the most dangerous innovations, even the most distant allusion to that green era0 “98 and ‘99”– which once fell so trippingly from their tongues, is carefully avoided, or uttered with bated breath!

Let the reader turn to Gen. Kearny’s proclamation– which, by the way, we have not seen re–published in any Administration paper, doubtless from a consciousness of its indefensibility– and ask himself how it is that this flagrant usurpation has been perpetrated in the very infancy of our free government? If it is to pass unrebuked by the representatives of the people– and by the people themselves– all we have to say is, that a written Constitution is the most flimsy defence by which a free people has ever yet hoped to limit the powers of their Rulers, or to protect their own liberties. It is a delusion, a mockery and a cheat, of which we had just as well at once make a bonfire.

[MPR]
From a correspondent at Tampico we learn that on the 1st of January General Taylor sent forward Col. May, of the dragoons, to be recollected that our last accounts from the city of Mexico represented Valencia as on his march to Tula.

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dates, all under command of Gen. Valencia. Gens. Urrea, Romero, Fernandez and others are also reported to be in the vicinity. It may

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by Col. Kinney to Tampico, to the effect that 15,000 Mexicans were to attack Saltillo on the 27th ult., is but the same rumor which has

whose opinions are perhaps equally entitled to respect, regard the movement of the enemy in a more serious light. The report brought

Saltillo are scouting parties of this corps of observation is confidently believed by officers of experience and discretion– though others,

supplies of water as far south as the operations of our army may make it advisable to do so. That the troops spoken of as threatening

the object of the Mexicans only being to keep a watch upon the American forces, to retreat before any advance, and cut off the

position on this side if the desert, between Saltillo and San Luis, to destroy the water tanks in case the American army should move in

any favorable opportunity which circumstances may afford. It may be, and this opinion is entertained by officers of the army high in

Col. Kinney parted from Gen. Taylor at Monte Morales and pushed on with Gen. Quitman to Victoria. From thence he made his way,

almost alone, to Tampico, taking Soto la Marina in his route, accomplishing a distance of nearly 250 miles in three days, and narrowly

escaping from the advanced parties of the Mexicans on several occasions. He spent a part of a night at the old rancho of Croix, where

Sanchez was stationed with twenty dragoons; yet in the morning he contrived to give him the slip. He also succeeded in evading

Romano Falcon, the man who is reputed to have killed Col. Cross. At Soto la Marina he found a company of sixty rancheros. He rode at

once to the alcade, boldly told him that Gen. Taylor had sent him on a few hours in advance to prepare supplies, and by this ruse made

t out to come off safely– the rancheros at once dispersing.

We have no reason to suppose that Generals Butler and Worth have moved from Saltillo, as was reported in town yesterday morning. We believe them, together with Gen. Wool, to have been still there or in the vicinity as late as the 1st inst., with at least 6000 troops, and we farther believe that a division of the Mexican army was not far off, watching our movements and ready to take advantage of any favorable opportunity which circumstances may afford. It may be, and this opinion is entertained by officers of the army high in
rank, that the Mexican soldiers seen in the neighborhood of Saltillo are advanced parties of a force of some 1500 to 2000 men, kept in
position on this side if the desert, between Saltillo and San Luis, to destroy the water tanks in case the American army should move in
force in the direction of the latter city. This view of the case precludes the idea of a serious attack upon General Worth or Gen. Wool, the object of the Mexicans only being to keep a watch upon the American forces, to retreat before any advance, and cut off the

supplies of water as far south as the operations of our army may make it advisable to do so. That the troops spoken of as threatening

Saltillo are scouting parties of this corps of observation is confidently believed by officers of experience and discretion– though others,

whose opinions are perhaps equally entitled to respect, regard the movement of the enemy in a more serious light. The report brought

by Col. Kinney to Tampico, to the effect that 15,000 Mexicans were to attack Saltillo on the 27th ult., is but the same rumor which has

already reached here b way of Matamoros. Col. K. heard the rumor at Monte Morales, probably, and had no opportunity to learn the

sequel of the anticipated attack.

There is little doubt, as we learn from private letters, that there was a large Mexican force, probably mostly cavalry, at Tula at last
dates, all under command of Gen. Valencia. Gens. Urrea, Romero, Fernandez and others are also reported to be in the vicinity. It may
be recollected that our last accounts from the city of Mexico represented Valencia as on his march to Tula.

From a correspondent at Tampico we learn that on the 1st of January General Taylor sent forward Col. May, of the dragoons, to examine the mountain pass between Monte Morales and Labradores. On his return from Labradores he took another pass leading to

and was attacked by a large body of the enemy and his rear guard cut off. This was effect by rolling stones into the pass, which was

scarcely wide enough for a single horseman. May managed to get through with the main body and reached a spot where he was
enabled to dismount and return to the succor of the rear guard, but it was too late, as the enemy had retreated with their prize. At one

time during the passage of the gorge the dragoons would have charged their pieces without any accuracy, for the position they
occupied was directly over the heads of our troops. We cannot ascertain Col. May's loss, or whether he had any men killed or not.

At the present time, there can be no doubt Gens. Taylor, Twiggs, Patterson and Pillow are at Victoria, and with a large force. Had Gen. Taylor but a party of 500 Texan rangers with him, their services, with the enemy's cavalry hanging about him in almost every
direction, would be invaluable.

Special Correspondence of the Picayune.

Tampico, Jan. 11, 1847.

I wrote you yesterday that an expedition would leave that day for Tuspan, but I was very confidently misled. The rumor for the past
few days was allowed to spread, that the force was destined for that place, and the Mexicans despatched couriers carrying the
intelligence. Reinforcements were called in from the surrounding country, and we hear now that there are 2000 men on the qui [...] for
an attack. The Government steamers commenced firing up yesterday at noon, and every preparation appeared to be making to cross
over to Pueblo Viejo, *en route* for Tuspan, when the commanding officer at the lines received orders to march his men towards Altamira. It was a perfect surprise to every one, and whether any good results from it or not, Gen. Shields deserves credit for the *ruse*.

I am assured from headquarters that the object is to open a communication with Gen. Taylor at Victoria, and it is deemed expedient to send the present force to meet this advance. From 2000 to 3000 Mexican troops are known to be between here and there, and very possibly General Shields will have an opportunity to cope with them. But few of the regulars posted here have yet been in action in this war, and all are desirous of sharing the honors of their companions in arms who have heretofore been more fortunate.

Tampico, Jan. 12, 1847– Afternoon.

Gentlemen– Orders and counterorders. Col. Kinney, of Corpus Christi, arrived this morning with despatches from Gen. Taylor– he left Victoria on the evening of the 19th inst, having ridden over 200 miles in 3 days. He was attended a portion of the way by four dragoons, and came through with only two attendants. Gen. Shields receives orders from Gen. Taylor to suspend operations for the present.

The news from both armies, brought by Col. K., is of great interest. He says that the Mexican force at San Luis Potosi amounts to 20,000 men– he estimates their entire force in the field at 50,000.

The capture of Tampico, according to Col. K. has created the greatest excitement throughout the country. Gen. Butler, with Gens. Worth and Wool and 8000 men– considered the flower of the army– were at Saltillo. A Mexican force of 15,000 was reported on its way to attack them, and our men had taken position outside in anticipation, as the town was incapable of fortification. The engagement should have taken place on the 27th ult., and Col. Kinney spoke confidently of our success. The war seems to be commencing in earnest. You may rely upon the accuracy of Col. K.'s opinion of the strength of the enemy. He is perfectly informed, by Mexicans throughout the country in his pay, and I believe is better acquainted with them than any other person in the country. His account of his ride from Victoria is rich in hair breadth escapes and masterly stratagems. He says that he knows the Mexicans better than they know themselves, and I think has given proof of it.

Gens. Taylor and Patterson are at Victoria with 6000 men awaiting orders from Gen. Scott. It is not supposed that any movement will be made against San Luis Potosi. It is pronounced the strongest fortified post in all Mexico, and Santa Anna has said that the man that takes it is welcome to the capital. I believe that a change of warfare will take place on Gen. Scott's assuming the command. The mountains will be retained and Vera Cruz subjected by a land attack– then ho! for Mexico! But you are doubtless better informed of the plans of our Government than ourselves. At all events there yet remains every thing to be done.

I have given you Col. Kinney's ideas of the state of the war and force of the enemy; your readers know the man and I have the information from him direct. 50,000 men looks like a large number, but it is not asserted that they are all regular troops. An army of such a nature as theirs is quickly raised upon its own soil, and frequently as quickly falls to pieces, but it is very evident that the utmost energy of which the nation is capable is aroused to the necessity of checking our advance.

I believe I have not growled about the mail for 24 hours, the fact is that we are becoming resigned to our fate. In haste yours. B.M.

We have received letters from Tampico to the 13th inst., one day later than above, but they contain no later intelligence of importance. [MPR]

RW47v24i10p1c7, February 2, 1847, Official

General Orders, War Department,  
Adjutant General's Office,  
No. 3 Washington, Jan. 28, 1847.

The following regulation has been received from the War Department:

War Department  
Washington, Jan. 28, 1847.

The President of the United States directs that paragraph 650 of the General Regulations for the Army established on the 1st of March, 1825, and not included among those published January 25, 184x, be now republished and that its observance as a part of the general regulations be strictly enjoined upon the army.

By order of the President.  
Wm. L. Marcy,  
Secretary of War.

*The following is a paragraph of the General Regulations for the army established on the 1st of March, 1825, referred to above:*

"650. Private letters or reports, relative to military marches and operations, are frequently mischievous in design, and always disgraceful to the army. They are, therefore, strictly forbidden; and any officer found guilty of making such reports for publication, without special permission, or of placing the writing beyond his control, so that it finds its way to the press, within one month after the
termination of the campaign to which it relates, shall be dismissed from the service." By order:

W.G. Freeman,
Assistant Adjutant General.

[MPR]

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RW47v24i10p2c2, February 2, 1847, Santa Anna’s Plans.

La Patria, the Spanish paper published at N. Orleans, and which is generally well posted up in Mexican intelligence, states, on authority of a letter from a well informed source in the city of Mexico, that Santa Anna will not leave San Luis de Potosi, but will retain there constantly about 25,000 men. His plan is “to take all the means and precautions to fortify well a single point (San Luis,) with all the reinforcements and appliances necessary, within a radius small but well defined; distracting as much as possible the enemy, and dividing his attention by insignificant movements.” It is calculated (says the New Orleans Atlas,) that by this means he will cause loss of time and vast expense to the American army, will scatter their forces, and put off any decisive operation until the hot weather has decimated our ranks, when “los valientes” will pounce upon us in every direction, from “the point in the small radius,” as spiders from the centre of a web upon unsuspecting flies, and utterly destroy our army. This the Atlas thinks a capital plan—original and Mexican. It is not impossible, however, that this fortified point may be passed altogether, and that a blow will be struck in another quarter while Santa Anna is amusing himself with the idea of catching our army in his net. The last accounts from the seat of war, showing that small detachments of the Mexican army are scattered in various directions, seem to confirm the idea, however, that the plans of the Mexican leader are accurately set forth in the letter from Mexico.

[MPR]

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RW47v24i10p2c2, February 2, 1847

The town of Victoria, the capital of Tamaulipas, is not laid down on any map of Mexico which we have seen. In a letter to the St. Louis Union it is thus described: “Victoria is situated about 22deg. 50 min. north latitude, 63 miles south of Santander or Ximines, 250 from Matamoros, lying at the base of the mountains that form the high table lands of Mexico. The river runs near the town.” This location, (says the New Orleans Mercury) will place it about where Llesa is marked on the maps.

[MPR]

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RW47v24i10p2c2, February 2, 1847

We hope the Shenandoah Sentinel will report what success the recruiting officer at Woodstock has met with in obtaining soldiers for war. We are anxious to vindicate the patriotism of the Tenth Legion, which is now somewhat under a cloud. Let us hear from you, Mr. Sentinel, at your earliest convenience.

[MPR]

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RW47v24i10p2c2, February 2, 1847

The New York Herald states that Captain Voorhees, of the Navy, who was suspended some years since, has been restored to his former rank.

[MPR]

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RW47v24i10p2c2, February 2, 1847

The Washington Union correspondent of the Baltimore American writes, on the 31st ult. that it was rumored that Gen. Gaines has written to the War Department, avowing himself to be the friend to whom Gen. Taylor addressed his letter, and by whom it was published. He gives his reasons for so doing.

[MPR]

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RW47v24i10p2c2, February 2, 1847

The ships Indiana and Alabama sailed from New York on the 30th ult. with the U.S. troops for Brazos Santiago.

[MPR]
From the *Norfolk Herald*, Jan. 30.

The following officers, with their respective commands have sailed from Fort Monroe, for Mexico

On Board Barque Mayflower.

Lt Col Randolph, Commanding Detachment.
Capt. Scott,
1st Lt. Garnett,
2d Lt. Fry,
2d do Coleman,
2d 2d Donnan,
2d 2d do Mahan,
Capt. Archer,
Capt. Harper,
1st Lt. Pegram,
1st Lt. Kenney,
2d do Weisiger, Act Commissary,
2d 2d do Peterson,
2d Lt Geiger,
Capt Bankhead,
2d 2d do Harman.

On Board Barque Victory.

Capt Corse, Commanding Detachment.
1st Lt. Ashby,
Capt. Carrington,
2d Lt. Waters,
1st Lt. Potterfield,
2d Lt. Douglass,
2d Lt. Munford, Act. Commissary,
2d do Williamson.

[MPR]

The late Missouri papers furnish us with another proclamation of the Commander of the U.S. forces in Santa Fe, which we regret to say is well calculated to discredit the affirmation of the President of the U. States, in his recent Special Message to Congress, in which he disclaimed all responsibility for certain measures adopted by that officer, by which the province of New Mexico was absolutely and unconditionally annexed to the U. States, and a territorial government, fully organized therein! This last proclamation of Gen. Kearney, (for which we have not room this morning,) proceeds to declare by what officers, Legislative, Executive and Judicial, the territory shall be governed– defines their powers, the tenure of office, &c. &c.– lays off the new territory into election districts– declares that each "free male citizen" (it would not do there, we suppose, to insert the word "white," ) shall be entitled to the right of suffrage– in one word, establishes the entire machinery of a regular and permanent government, and declares that New Mexico is, not a conquered Mexican province, held temporarily by the conqueror, under the laws of nations, subject to the contingencies of war, but "a territory of the United States," to the government of which its ignorant and motley population owe allegiance and duty! And Gen. Kearney declares that all this is done, not upon his individual responsibility, but by virtue of express authority conferred upon him by the Government (meaning, of course, the President) of the United States!

In the special message, above referred to, Mr. Polk assured Congress that the instructions given to Gen. Kearney did not authorize him to annex the province of New Mexico to the American Union, or to establish therein a permanent government. Yet Gen. Kearney has unquestionably exercised these sovereign powers; and he affirms that he has done so in exact conformity to his instructions. It follows either that the General has strangely misconstrued these instructions, or that the President, discovering too late his error, and that he has exercised a high power not delegated to him by the Constitution, now seeks to escape from the fearful responsibility of that act by throwing it upon his subaltern.

For our own part, however painful it may be to call into question the candor of the Chief Magistrate, we are constrained to believe, especially when we see that in California the course of proceeding by Com. Stockton is so similar to that of Gen. Kearney in New Mexico, that the instructions under which the latter officer has acted are fairly susceptible of the interpretation that he has given to them. We cannot believe that Gen. Kearney would have proceeded to annex, by formal proclamation, a foreign territory to the Union– a power, which, according to Mr. Jefferson, the Constitution has not conferred upon the Government itself, by the concurrent action of all its branches– unless he had believed that he was authorized to exercise this kingly attribute, by our Chief Magistrate– who seems to
imagine that a state of war releases him from all constitutional and legal restraints, and clothes him with unlimited and despotic authority.

We take it for granted that this new development will lead to farther action on the part of Congress-- unless, indeed, that body shall be deterred from the discharge of its duty by the cowardly apprehension that every attempt to preserve the Constitution from the Executive encroachment, is to be frowned down as a species of “moral treason” against “our Sovereign Lord, the King!”

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RW47v24i10p4c2, February 2, 1847, North Carolina Volunteers.

The regiment of Volunteers, from North Carolina, has been mustered into the service of the United States, and consists of the following companies:

   “ B,” Louis D. Wilson, Edgecombe.
   “ E,” Tilmor Blalock, Yancy.
   “ F,” W.E. Kirkpatrick, Cumberland.
   “ G,” G.W. Caldwell, Mecklenburg.
   “ H,” Wm. S. Duggan, Edgecombe.
   “ I,” John Cameron, Orange.

Edgecombe, which furnishes two companies, is one of the strongest Locofoco counties in the old North State, and it affords is pleasure to see that its people are as willing to fight as to vote. The Tenth Legion, in this State, as well as some other counties, will we hope profit by the example, should another requisition be made upon Virginia.

Besides the foregoing, a full company has been organized in Rockingham, Stokes and Guilford, of which Patrick M. Henry is Captain, and another, nearly full, in Wilmington, and a third, also nearly full, in Salisbury.

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RW47v24i10p4c2, February 2, 1847, Gen. Taylor.

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore American, writing on the 28th inst. says:– “The rumor has come to be a very current one that Gen. Taylor will be recalled. The partisans of the Administration wish it, and may succeed in mustering courage equal to the purpose designed. It cannot have escaped your notice that there is a systematic attack made and to be made upon old ‘Rough and Ready.’”

Why should Gen. Taylor be recalled? Is it because, under his command, (in the language of the Washington Union, on the 14th inst.) “the success of our arms, viewed in comparison with the extent of means employed, IS ALMOST WITHOUT PARALLEL IN MILITARY HISTORY?” If this be true, who but the commanding General deserves the credit for results so brilliant? And is he be recalled for his extraordinary triumphs, the people will be apt to suspect the envious motive which prompts the act, and will sustain the victim of a petty and malignant jealousy against the President and all the train–bands of Power.

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RW47v24i10p4c5, February 2, 1847, General Wool’s Division.

Extract of a letter from an officer of General Wool’s command.

Camp at Agua Nueva, (Mexico,) Dec. 27, 1846.

Sir: Since my hasty note to you from Parras, we have all been in the midst tumult and excitement, caused by intelligence from Gen. Worth that Santa Anna was on the march to attack him with an overwhelming force. This caused our division to move by forced marches— our infantry marching in one day nearly forty miles to this place— when the rumor was found to be premature. It is believed, however, that the enemy mediated an attack upon our forces in detail, but was deterred from striking the blow by the rapid concentration of our troops— Gen. Butler having, in the mean time, moved up from Monterey, making our army full four thousand strong at this point and its vicinity.

"When our column left Parras I was absent on a reconnaissance towards San Luis, Zacatecas and Durango, with an escort of 38 men,
"My whole party has been so constantly and laboriously occupied since we left Monclova, that while we have collected a good deal of data, we cannot, as yet, give you any additional results. This, however, we shall proceed to do as fast as possible, when we are settled for a short time. I see that our column is to remain in camp, which will enable us to work to great advantage.

"Gen. Wool is an able officer. His command is in excellent order, and well provided; which last was a great convenience to our friends when we joined them. I had a table of latitudes and longitudes, which will do something to a better knowledge of the geography of this country." [Wash. Union.]

RW47v24i10p1c3, February 5, 1847, The Morals of War

While we would not say a word in disparagement of the Volunteers to Mexican as a whole, it is impossible to shut our eyes to the fact that the conduct of a large portion of them, as well before they reach the seat of war as afterwards, has been most disgraceful to themselves and dishonoring to the character of the nation; and, for one, we heartily rejoice that a majority of Congress has determined to augment the Regular army rather than to make another call for Volunteers, among whom the elements of insubordination are always rife, ready to be called into action upon the slightest pretexts. A rare instance of this tendency has just occurred in North Carolina. The company from Rowan county, which was the first to report itself and be received, has disbanded, and cannot be again brought together and another, composed it seems altogether of Locofocons, from Mecklenburg, has unanimously refused to be mustered into service, because, of the three field officers appointed by the Governor, two of them are Whigs; and it has indignantly sent back to the Governor of the State its portion of the fund voted by the Legislature for their equipment and subsistence until mustered into the U.S. service, because the preamble to the resolution asserted the historical fact that the war was brought on by the President’s order to march our forces from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande! Such men may make good soldiers— but it is evident that they will always be an unsafe reliance, unless the Government and its commanding officers shall have every thing in "apple-pie order," according to their own notions. The officers must be all to their own taste, and they must be especially careful to adapt their phrases to the political creed of these sensitive gentlemen!

The last New Orleans Courier brings us the following account of flagrant outrages perpetrated by some of the volunteers now in that city:

"On Friday evening one of the volunteers fired a pistol–ball at the conductor of the Mexican Railcars, which came near giving him a fatal wound. Some of the volunteers had taken possession, according to their custom, of two or three of the cars, answering the demand for payment with a pistol–ball, as we have stated.

"On Saturday, a more dismal affair took place. About 6 o’clock, in the evening of that day, several volunteers went to the cabaret and grocery of Mr. Claude Martin, within the parish of St. Bernard, near the line of that of New Orleans. Martin, who is upwards of 50 years of age, was behind his counter, and asked if they wanted any thing. On their saying no, he commenced passing into an adjacent room, where his wife lay sick; but he was struck with a pistol–ball and fell to the ground, shot through the heart. There were three or four negroes present, who declare that the man who fired the shot instantly fled."

But, outrageous as these scenes are, they are thrown into the shade by these described in the following letter from the Correspondent of the New Orleans Picayune, writing from the camp at Cerralvo, in Mexico, on the 4th of January:

"I must devote one paragraph to a subject that I have too long neglected to allude to, and one that has given me great pain during my whole stay in Mexico; I mean the disreputable conduct of some of the volunteer troops. Below Mier, we met the 2d Regiment of Indiana troops, commanded, I believe, by Col. Drake. They encamped near our camp, and a portion of them were exceedingly irregular in their behaviour, firing away their cartridges, and persecuting the Mexican families at a rancho near by. They were on their return from near Monterey, where they had gone contrary to order, and where they had received positive orders to go back to the mouth of the Rio Grande. A large portion of their officers were behind, and the men were left to do pretty much as they pleased. On arriving at Mier, we heard from indisputable authority that this same regiment had committed, the day before, outrages against the citizens, of the most disgraceful character—stealing, or rather, robbing, insulting the women, breaking into houses, and other feats of similar character! We have heard of them at almost every rancho, up to this place. At Cerralvo, are two Companies of an Ohio regiment, (Col. Morgan’s regiment) to garrison the place. Gen. Taylor has issued proclamations, assuring the inhabitants of the towns in the conquered territory that they should be protected and well treated by our troops. Since this place has been Garrisoned by Volunteers the families have been subjected to all kinds of outrages. At Punta Aguda it has been the same; and most of those who could go, have left their houses. Some have fallen into the hands of the Camanches, whilst flying from the persecutions of our volunteer troops. Recently the people here have received treatment from men stationed here, (I do not know who “commands” them,) that negroes in a state of insurrection would hardly be guilty of. The women have been repeatedly violated—(almost an every-day affair,) houses broken open and insults of every kind have been offered to those whom we are bound, by honor, to protect. This is nothing more than a statement of facts. I have no time to make comments, but I desire to have this published, and I have written it under the approval of Capt. Thorton, Maj. Dixon, Capt. De Hart, Col. Bohlen, Lt. Thor, Mr. Blanchard and my own sense of duty, and I am determined, hereafter, to notice every serious offence of the above mentioned nature. The American arms shall not be disgraced without the stigma falling on the guilty parties, if I can be instrumental in exposing them. It would be criminal in me to overlook these outrages, and, for the sake of our national honor, as well as for that of the U.S. Army, I shall not do."

No American can read these statements, of the truth of which there can be no doubt, without an emotion of mingled shame and indignation. But such are “the morals of war,” and not the least, certainly, of its calamitous effects.

[MPR]
Death of Lieut. Botts.— We regret to learn that Lieut. Archibald [...] Botts, of the 4th Infantry, son of the Hon. John M. Botts of Virginia, died on the 1st of January, at Camargo, of a fever.— *N.O. Picayune, Jan. 27.*

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**From Mexico.**

From the New Orleans *Picayune*, Jan'y 26.

Later from Gens. Worth and Wool— By the arrival of the U.S. steamship Edith, Capt. Crouilard, from the Brazos, we have later accounts from the Rio Grande, and also from Saltillo. Our latest dates from the latter place is to the 3d instant, as may be seen from the letter of our correspondent below.

We learn that Gen. Scott was at the Brazos when the Edith sailed, and it was thought would shortly leave Tampico.

Among the passengers on the E. was Mr. J.W. Weed, who has been for some time living at the city of Durango— the only American in the place save one. He says that after Gen. Wool had taken Parras, which is on the immediate frontier of the State of Durango, it became impossible for him to live longer in the place, so great was the excitement against the Americans. On returning from the theatre he was stoned by some of the lower orders, and the next day some Mexican gentlemen advised him to leave the place at once, fearing acts of greater violence. The authorities would not give him a passport to proceed to Parras, but gave him one to Zacatecas; with this he made a forced ride, and arrived in safety at Gen. Wool’s camp at Parras.

Mr. W. says that at Durango there were about 1000 militia when he left, and they were talking right valiantly of driving the iniquitous and usurping invaders of their soil completely out of their country. Don Francisco Eliorriago, who recently made so close a run for the Presidency against Santa Anna, resides at Durango, is inspector of the troops, and is described as a man of great probity of character and friendly towards Americans. He was Governor of Durango during the administration of Paredes, but was dropped by Salas when that general was driven from power.

Gen. Wool’s column was at Agua Nueva, nineteen miles from Saltillo, when Mr. W. left— officers and men in good health. He says that the best discipline prevails in this column of the army, among volunteers as well as regulars, and farther that all are anxious to signalize themselves.

The weather continued cold at Saltillo at last dates, yet the troops were in good health. At Monterey it was much warmer.

In a letter from Camargo, dated on the 8th inst., we have an account of Col. May’s affair with the Mexicans in the pass between Monte Morales and Linares, but it is no fuller than the statement we received by way of Tampico, nor than that given by the correspondent of the Delta. Our Camargo letter confirms that report that May’s rear guard was either killed or captured, that the pack mules were also driven off, but the writer thinks the Mexicans got but little plunder, as May only had a squadron with him. It is also thought the enemy had a large force at the time. The names of the lieutenant and sergeant with the rear guard at the time, and who escaped, are not given, but that they were arrested is confirmed. Our next news from Mexico will probably give full particulars of this singular affair.

It was reported at Camargo at last dates that Gen. Taylor was to proceed to Tula with the intention of attacking Valencia; but this was only given as a rumor, and is not entitled to credit.

The news by this arrival is extremely barren of interest. The following letter from our correspondent at Saltillo is the latest we have seen:

Saltillo, Jan. 3, 1847.

The 1st Regiment Ohio and the 1st Regiment Kentucky volunteers have returned to Monterey. Gen. Butler is still here, but I presume will return to that city before many days.

We have no further rumors of the movements of the enemy. A fortification is being erected on a hill north of this city, completely commanding the town and country around, particularly the San Luis road. We are now ready for anything that comes along.

Gen. Wool’s column came within four miles of this city. It is now in position some 15 or 18 miles distant on the San Luis road, with the exception of the Arkansas regiment, which I understand has returned to Parras.

You shall hear from me whenever anything of interest transpires. ALTO.
By and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

First Regiment of Artillery.

First Lieut. John B Magruder, to be captain, June 18, 1846, vice Irwin, assistant quartermaster, who, under the 7th section of the act of June 18, 1846, elects to vacate his regimental commission.

Second Lieut. Samuel K. Dawson, to be first lieutenant, June 18, 1846, vice Magruder promoted.

Brevet Second Lieut. Henry Coppee, of the second regiment of artillery, to be second lieutenant, June 18, 1846, vice Dawson, promoted.

Adjutant General's Department.

First Lieut. Wm. W. Mackall, of the first regiment of artillery, to be assistant adjutant general, with the brevet rank of captain, December 29th, 1846, vice Prentiss, assistant adjutant general, who vacates his staff commission.

First Lieut. George Deas, of the fifth regiment of infantry, to be assistant adjutant general, with the brevet rank of capt., December 29, 1846, vice Ridgely, deceased.

Appointments in accordance with the provisions of "an act supplemental to an act entitled ‘an act providing for the prosecution of the existing war between the United States and the republic of Mexico, and for other purposes,’" approved June 18, 1846, agreeably to their nominations respectively, viz:

William S. Kemper, of Va., to be assistant quartermaster, with the rank of captain.

Henry Erakin, of Va., to be assistant commissary, with the rank captain.

John Miller Bell, of Va., to be assistant surgeon.

From the N.O. Picayune, Jan. 27.

The Yucatan schr. Campeacheana, Capt. Puente, arrived yesterday morning from Campeachy, whence she sailed on the 10th inst.

A commissioner, named Jose Robira, came passenger on this schooner, on his way to Washington, to negotiate with our Government for an acknowledgement of the independence of the peninsula, or a portion of it. He will leave in a day or two for the Capital.

We have a paper from Campeachy of the date of the 5th inst. In it we find as official report of the capture of the city of Texas by the forces of Campeachy. The city was summoned in the most formal manner, and the invading hosts drawn up in the most formidable array to await the answer. Upon receiving the refusal to surrender, the signal to lay on was given, and straightway a tremendous onslaught was commenced. We have not time to describe it, but it was altogether successful. As we read the details, we trembled at approaching the lists of the slain, but they proved less terrific than we had apprehended. Of the attacking party two were killed and three wounded, including one drummer. The defenders of the town fled like frightened sheep, unable to resist the impetuosity of the assailants. No doubt was entertained on the part of the commander of the Campeachy troops that the slaughter among their adversaries was great. Many are reported to have gone halting off. This action occurred on the 29th of December. An Havana paper received yesterday gives the report of this action made by the opposite aide, from which you would infer that the days of Leonidas had returned– with this difference, that rather a large number survived the assault of Tekax than returned to tell of the deeds enacted in the straits of Thermopyle. It is ludicrous to compare the two accounts, which we presume to be about equally veracious.

Hostilities have spread over the peninsula, the different cities taking different sides in the contest going on. We judge that the advocates of an entire separation from Mexico are in [...] upon the profession of the inhabitants of Yucatan, of whatever party– more especially when they act under the immediate pressure of the presence of the U. States squadron.

While the resolution calling on the President for such [...] of General Taylor's correspondence as he may think proper to lay before the
The slight manner in which the President, in his annual message, referred to an event in itself so extraordinary as the order given to the commander of our blockading squadron, to permit Santa Anna and his suite to return to Mexico, satisfied us that there were circumstances connected with it, which he was anxious to conceal from Congress and the country. This impression, fortified as it has been by the reluctance with which the presses friendly to the Administration, and enjoying its confidence, have always evinced to speak of the great stroke of policy by which Mr. Polk gave a commander to the Mexican army and a President to the Republic, has been confirmed by the rejection of the foregoing resolutions by the Administration party in the House. Why is information withheld from the country, in regard to an act, which, if it had been done by the commander of our squadron, without express orders from the President, would have subjected him, if not to the pains and the penalties of the "second section," to the imputation of having "given aid and comfort to the enemy" in the most tangible and efficient form? Why is the President excused and justified, in the absence of this information, upon the ridiculous pretense that Santa Anna might have evaded the blockading squadron, had the permission to return to Mexico been withheld from him— a pretence so shallow and absurd, that if it had been urged by the commander of the squadron in his own defence, had he permitted Santa Anna’s return to Vera Cruz, without orders, it would have subjected him to inexpressible scorn for a weakness scarcely less worthy of punishment than the act it is designed to extenuate.

But the remarks of Mr. Sevier, the Chairman of the Committee of Foreign Relations, in the Senate, last Tuesday, in opening the discussion upon the bill proposing to place in the hands of the President three millions of dollars, for the purpose of enabling him to negotiate (buy?) a peace with Mexico, throws new light on the subject and satisfies us that Santa Anna returned to Mexico, in pursuance of an arrangement with Mr. Polk, by which, for a stipulated sum— then two millions of dollars, but now three, which leads us to suppose that the Mexican President has raised his price— peace shall be restored, and certain provinces of Mexico shall be ceded to the U. States, as an indemnity for the spoliations upon our commerce, and for the expenses of the war. Mr. Sevier, for example, stated that the President was of opinion, from communications he had received from Mexico, that peace could be had,” (that is to say, bought,) “and he was willing to assent to it, provided that Mexico would cede to us New Mexico and Upper California.” This remark, in connection with all the antecedent circumstances, has whetted our curiosity to ascertain the precise characteristics of the negotiations between the President of the U. States and the Mexican President, during the exile of the latter at Havana. Was the sum of two millions then the price of Santa Anna’s treachery to his own country— and does he now, in consideration of the greater advantages of his present position, require the addition of another million, to induce him to consummate his Havana arrangement? But the country will not be permitted to know anything on this subject at this time. The “secrets of the prison-house” are too valuable, doubtless, to be disclosed to the constituent body. We must, therefore, be satisfied with the results now– and bide our time for the future development of the curious means by which they may be effected.

We alluded, a few days since, to a letter from a high source in Mexico, published in the New York Journal of Commerce, in which a declaration, heretofore made by Santa Anna in his correspondence with Gen. Taylor— to wit, that Mexico would never consent to resume negotiations for peace while a hostile foot was upon her soil or an American ship of war was seen upon her coast— was emphatically reiterated. And the writer declared that from this position Mexico would never recede, unless it should be through the agency of some “Benedict Arnold.” Is it not probable that he had some suspicion of the secret treaty by which Santa Anna was so generously permitted to return to Mexico, by the President of the nation with which Mexico was at war— and that he was already denouncing in advance an arrangement, which, if it shall be consummated by placing in the President’s hands the three millions of dollars for which he asks, we believe will prove futile in the end? Suppose Santa Anna shall negotiate a treaty of peace with the United States, for the pricey little douceur of three millions— what guarantee have we that the people of Mexico will ratify an arrangement by which that Republic is to be dismembered of two of its Departments? Have we yet to learn the facility with which Governments are overthrown in that country? the ease with which its Presidents are deposed and banished? and the consequent probability that a peace purchased of Santa Anna would be rendered void by his own immediate overthrow, and the transfer of the powers of the State to one less inclined than he to barter away a portion of the national soil? A peace thus obtained must be necessarily precarious— and the probability is that the ink upon the treaty would scarcely be dry before we should be again compelled to take up arms in defence of our newly acquired territory.

Even if, however, despairing at last of conquering a peace,” we resort to the humiliating alternative of buying it, and succeed— how are we to dispose of the territory thus acquired? Is there to be a condition precedent that in all such territory the existence of slavery shall be absolutely interdicted? Or is it to be obtained without the previous condition, but with an understanding that that restriction is hereafter to be enforced? If this be the fact, the outrage and insult to the South will be far greater than those wrongs and indignities, which, even if Mr. Polk’s dark catalogue is to be regarded as a fair and unexaggerated exposition of them, we had so long and so meekly submitted to from Mexico herself. And are we of the South to consent to take, as an indemnity for the past offences of Mexico, and for the expenses of the war waged as it is said to avenge them, large bodies of territory, which, so far from ensuring to our benefit, are to be made the means of our sectional humiliation— which are to be used for the political aggrandizement of the Northern
section of the Confederacy, by augmenting its already preponderating and overshadowing influence in the national councils? For one, we beg leave to say that we vastly prefer circumscribing the "area of freedom"—and such, we imagine, will be the united voice of the South— if its enlargement is to lead to a result so prejudicial to Southern rights—so wantonly insulting to Southern feelings. On this subject, however, we desire not be misunderstood. We do not ask, not does the South, that, in the event of the future acquisition of territory from Mexico, it shall be subjected to slave labor. All we ask is that slavery shall not be absolutely interdicted, and that it may be left as all other sections of the country prior to the Missouri Compromise, were left, to decide this question for itself. If it be adapted to slave labor, leave it to its natural destiny; if otherwise, no restriction will be necessary. But this question is too grave and important to be thus incidentally discussed—and it is only now alluded to for the purpose of showing that even a purchased peace may prove too dear a bargain for the Southern States—and indeed that a peace without territorial indemnity, and which can be more easily obtained or course than one based upon the dismemberment of Mexico, will be to us far preferable to one which should annex half or two-thirds of the soil of Mexico to the Union, with this insulting prohibition attached to it.

RW47v24i11p2c2, February 5, 1847, Official Despatches.

The Union publishes an abstract of official despatches from the Army, which adds, however, nothing to the information previously published. The American force at Victoria is about 5000 men, under command of Genl. Taylor, who would remain there until he should hear from General Scott, and determine upon his future movements. It appears that ten men, belonging to Col. May's rear guard, were recently cut off. No blame is attached to Col. May; but the officer and sergeant, who had command of the rear guard, and escaped, have been put under arrest.

The Union states that newspapers have been received from the city of Mexico to the 19th of December, at which time the Mexican Congress had taken no action in regard to the war.

A letter from Tampico states that a Mexican force, amounting to about 8000 men, is at Tula, between which and Victoria there is almost an impassable range of mountains, under the command of Generals Valencia, Urrea, Fernandez, Romero, Lorbarre and Monte Negro.

RW47v24i11p2c2, February 5, 1847, General Taylor's Letters.

From the New York Express, in which the letter of Gen. Taylor, so much commented on, first appeared, we make the following extract:

"The few Whig presses which have spoken of the publication of the only letter of Gen. Taylor now likely to see the light, as indiscreet little know of the machinations and intrigues which have been going on in Washington. That letter drew their fire, and was, therefore, a necessary publication—just as Ridgey found it necessary to draw the fire of Gen. La Vega's artillery, before the gallant May dashed in upon it with his troop of cavalry. These intrigues were crippling, not only Gen. Taylor, but all the army operations upon the Rio Grande. The war, got up especially and solely to give glory to Mr. Polk & Co., was all redounding to the glory of Gen. Taylor—'a Whig General'—as Mr. Ficklin called him—and to his brave army. To get rid of him, and of this, as we have before stated, Gen. Scott was sent out to prepare to supersede Gen. Taylor, by Lieutenant General Benton, while a fire in the rear of Gen. Taylor was to be kept up by all the partizans of the administration. The carpe knights in Washington were lavish of their abuse, in all the social circles, of Gen. Taylor, the main charge being, that (without magazines, without artillery, without pontoon trains, or any field equipments, nay, without authority from his Government,) he did not, on the instant, cross the Rio Grande, and that subsequently he let the force of Gen. Ampudia escape at Monterey. The reasons why he did not cross the Rio Grande, he unfolds in letters which the gag law suppresses."

RW47v24i11p2c4, February 5, 1847, Tom Benton and Tom Moore.– Old Bullion growing poetic from preferment, has furnished Yankee Doodle with the following amended copy of Moore’s best songs:

The Legacy.

[As sung by the Hon. Thos. H. Benton, in the dress of a Lieutenant General Commanding in Mexico.]

When in the "halls" I shall calmly dine,
Oh bear this word to President Jim:
Tell him, though spoken o'er walnuts and wine,
Tis full of the soundest advice for him.
Bid him not trouble his head in this vile age,
To plant the school house and the ballot-box here,
But leave me alone to gather my mile-age
From Mier to Mazatlan, from Maine to Mier.

Take this barrel of salt from Campeachy,
Which oft I’ve said should be duty free,
And tell, oh tell Calhoun, I beseech ye,
To have it admitted now from me!
From me who here in my sovereign humor,
Won't envy his rival hopes again,
Content in the Halls of Montezuma,
Whoever may now in the White House reign.

To General Cass I bequeath my great measure
For leaguing the whole squatter vote of the west,
The Oregon "do" having left him full leisure
For studying his cardinal principle best.
If he works it well from Rio del Norte
Up to Superior's copper edged brim,
He will find it better than fifty four forty
To raise the political wind for him.

Take this goblet, 'tis now o'erflowing
With mint drops fresh from Potosi's mine,
And tell the people (who ar'n't too knowing)
Such under the Mississippi shine;
And should you meet one who e'er has grumbled
Because they will not to the surface swim,
Tell him the ball on which hither I tumbled
Was just the ball to roll over him.

The **Baltimore Sun** of yesterday publishes a letter from Saltillo, dated on the 21st December, stating that the Mexican Congress has agreed to accept a Minister from the United States, to treat for peace. The writer adds:—"Gen. Worth yesterday received, through a runner from Gen. Santa Anna, a letter, which is said to be of a very pacific character. An individual is in Saltillo, who says he has seen the bill passed by the Mexican Congress, authorizing the appointment of a Commissioner to meet on from us to treat for peace, an that he saw it printed in the form of a handbill, and posted up in the streets of Mexico and at San Luis de Potosi. From the confidence with which some of my Mexican friends speak of the matter, I am disposed to believe it true."

The **Washington** correspondent of the **Baltimore American**, advertizing to this subject, writes as follows:


The city is rife with rumors of propositions of Peace from Mexico, but I can trace them to no more reliable source than a reported Express arrival from Mexico. It would seem, too, from certain givings out in high places, that the Executive may consent to play the Oregon game over again, and while claiming "fifty–four forty," content himself with a sort of forty–nine compromise. This intent has been charged upon him from the first by some of the fifty–four forty men in Congress, but the design may grow out of a weariness with this war, or what is likely to be true, the state of the Slavery question upon the banks of the Rio Grande.

The Washington correspondent of the **Baltimore Sun**, writing on the same day, says:

"The rumors that the Mexican Congress has sent a message to Gen. Taylor, that they will receive a minister from the United States, and that a distinct proposition for peace has been made, seems to be correct; but I doubt whether in the present state of affairs it will lead to anything. At all events, the friends of the administration treat the proposal with great disdain, and the partizans of the Lieut. General have a perfect contempt for it. They believe that nothing but action can secure peace, and that the Mexican government only seeks to gain time, now that they perceive that earnest preparations are making for investing Vera Cruz."

The **Washington Union** of Monday night, speaking of these rumors, says:

"We are not advised of any such report having been officially seen at Washington. If it had come to General Worth from San Luis de Potosi, it would most probably have reached Gen. Taylor at Victoria. But despatches are received from him as late as the 7th of January from Victoria. He is not only silent about any such report, but states that the last account from Mexico had taken no action in regard to the war. In fact, our previous advices from Mexico are later than those which he had received."

The Petersburg Union Volunteers, commanded by Capt. William M. Robinson, took their departure last Friday for Old Point. They were escorted by the volunteer companies of the town to the City Point Depot. On the evening previous a beautiful Flag was presented to the company by Wm. R. Drinkard, Esq. as the organ of the Ladies of Petersburg– and Swords were presented to the Captain and three
Lieutenants, Bryan, Shands and McGowan.

The New Orleans papers speak in terms of just indignation of the sufferings of the Mississippi Volunteers, encamped on the Battle Ground, near that city— the ground being submerged, and the men up to their knees in mud and water. The consequence has been an unusual number of causes of sickness and death. The offices of the government are vehemently denounced for failing to provide the volunteers with comfortable and healthy quarters during their sojourn in the city. Perhaps if the Government would pay some little attention to these details, instead of making war upon General Taylor, the men who have so promptly obeyed its call would not be subjected to privations and sufferings compared with which the perils of the battle field are trifling.

The Union of Monday night contradicts the rumor that Santa Anna had thrown a force of 35,000 men between Generals Taylor and Worth, on the authority of a letter from Gen. Jesup.

Head Quarters of the U.S. Army of Invasion, Victoria, Mexico, Jan. 5, 1847.

Gentlemen,— I wrote you a hasty note from Monterey, on the evening of the 22d ult., and intended to have written again the next day, as an express came in the evening from Saltillo, but the hurry of preparation for the march down here prevented me, and I put it off with the view of sending it from Monte Morales, at which place, unfortunately, General Taylor sent off his express before I got in.

Gen. Taylor and all his officers feeling perfect confidence in the ability of Gen. Butler to maintain his position at Saltillo against any force, and judging that the Black Fort at Monterey would keep all safe in that quarter, the bugle was sounded early on the morning of the 23d, to take up the line of march again for this place, and between 7 and 8 o'clock the columns were in motion, all being assured that nothing but the defeat of our forces would again cause them to retrace their steps. The rest, on Monday and Tuesday, was of great advantage both to men and horses, but the effect of the forced march from Morales was quite apparent.

Col. Harney, of the dragoons, did not start with us. He was ordered on the morning of the march to proceed to Saltillo, and take command of all the mounted men, including dragoons and Arkansas and Kentucky cavalry.

At Monte Morales, we overtook the supply train of Capt. Sibleig, and a train of wagons just from Camargo, with provisions. From this place Col. May, with a topographical engineer and two companies of dragoons, left us on the road, proceeded along the foot of the mountains to ascertain of there were any passes that were not advised of. A pass was found between Linares and Morales, and with great difficulty the command got through it, by leading their horses, as it is reported so narrow, that but a single horse could make any head way. Some of those who were with the expedition represent the scenery as being the most magnificent that was ever beheld. On one side of the pass there is said to be a perpendicular ascent of 600 or 700 feet, with a rock jutting out a foot or more all the way up, and the opposite side of it runs up to the same height, though with a gradual slope. The scenery all around looked wild in the extremest sense of the term, and to use the language of one of the dragoons, some of the peaks of the mountain looked so high, that the Mexican eagle has no the courage to build its nest there. After examining the pass and the nature of the country beyond it, the command began to retrace their steps, and the main body by pursuing the same course they did at first, got safely back on this side of the mountains. The rear guard however, were not so fortunate, and none but the Lieut. and Sergeant got through. What misfortune befell them, and how it happened, had best be given publicity to over the signature of Capt. May, as he has promised to hand it to me before closing my letter. He has placed the Lieutenant under arrest, and is very much mortified at the loss of his men.

At Linares we found out the government of Mexico had $3800 in funds there, and it was demanded from the Alcalde by General Taylor. That functionary stated that the money had been taken away by a government officer, but he was still ordered to produce, and he complied by paying $1000 himself, and matching the merchants of the town out of the residue. We had paid very near $1000 to the people for forage, mules and horses, and little et ceteras, most of which I presume came back in the $3800. Every night of the march, immediately opposite our encampment, a fire was lighted in the mountains, and I have no doubt at all but that they were intended as signals to show our whereabouts on the road.
Victoria is, altogether, a very pretty place, and larger than any town I have seen except Monterey. General Quitman’s command have been here since the 29th, and were the first Americans to enter the town. The Baltimore battalion were in advance, and their flag, which was christened in Monterey, now waves from a two-story house in the plaza. The Mexican cavalry were moving before Gen. Quitman for two days before he got in. They were at the hacienda of Sanlen Gracia in the morning, and our troops there in the evening. It was the same way at the Caballero rancho. There were about two hundred here in all, and some of them left the town on the evening of the 28th, and the remainder the next morning, but they were seen on the mountains by our men after they had encamped, and all the little “tackies” were saddled up to pursue them, but night came on, and it was of no avail. They knew very well that there was no cavalry along, and hence their daring in showing themselves.

The rear of Gen. Twiggs’ division had not got out of town yesterday, en route to the river, before the advance guard of Gen. Patterson had entered the plaza. He left twenty miles this side of Matamoros on the 24th, and must have marched very near as fast as we did to get in so soon. He was not aware that the place was occupied by our troops, and desired to plant the first American standard in Mexico. His command consists of the Tennessee cavalry, the 3d and 4th Illinois infantry, two companies of artillery, and one of sappers and miners. The division was accompanied by a supply train, which with the company wagons made near three hundred.

The simultaneous arrival of the two divisions made quite a show, and everything around wore a martial appearance. The people of the town, loss reserved, or less timid than usual, came into the streets, and to their windows, in great numbers, and looked as though they thought the thing was up with Mexico, as our columns marched through the square. Neither division knew the whereabouts of the other, and their arrival at the same time was not anticipated.

To feed all the horses and men that are now here, it will require untiring exertions on the part of the Quartermasters, and their assistants. The greatest difficulty will be in providing for the horses, although up to this time we have had no difficulty in obtaining forage from the enemy, for which we now pay them one price, 60 cts for corn, and at a proportionate rate for fodder. This is the price we paid on the rout from Monterey, and thus far we have continued it here. But the demand will soon swallow up what is in the vicinity, and then we will have to look for it from some of the depots on the Gulf. Should we remain here for any considerable length of time, it would be advisable to land supplies at Soto La Marina, a port at the mouth of the river of the same name, 65 or 70 miles from this place. But it is not probable that we shall remain here, for the Mexicans will not come to us, and if we are not going after them just now, convenience as well as economy demands that we should be nearer the sea board.

Gen. Scott has signified to Gen. Taylor his intention of taking command of this wing of the army, and I think he will move on to Tampico, when he gets ready, and from there, the only prominent place presented in “my mind’s eye” is Vera Cruz. It has been talked of very much by Gen. Taylor lately, and some of his officers say he dreams of it. I believe I told you before, that he said to the General Government, that if they would send him 6000 troops to Tampico, he would march to that place with 4000 of those now in the field, and would, after adding them together move on to and attack the city of Vera Cruz. If our troops do not go there, where will they go now, last on the result, I have confidence enough in the man to wish him to undertake it, alone, or as the right or left bower with Gen. Scott.

Gen. Scott’s arrival in this country does not give, by any manner of means, general satisfaction, not that the man is unpopular with the army, but that a desire prevails to see the man who commenced the war and who has fortunately carried it on thus far, make a finish of it. I should have been pleased to have seen him at the head of affairs at the start, for I believe he would have had the army better appointed than it was, but since it has succeeded so admirably, with all the inconveniences attendant, I am willing now to trust it to the end under the same guidance. In the first place, Gen. Scott would have demanded and received more men before leaving the Rio Grande, well provisioned and equipped in every particular. He would have made the government furnish such things as were necessary, nor would he have moved until he received the General Taylor, on the other hand, knowing that his troops could not be whipped, and not wishing to get at loggerheads with the powers at Washington, preferred the use of leaden to the paper bullets, moved on when time arrived, to do the best he could. Gen. Scott would have been less obedient to the dictates of the soothing and conciliatory system pointed out by President Polk, and would have taken the responsibility of discriminating. Having the means he would have followed up his victories, and following them up, would have caused the enemy to cry quarter long ere this. I would not for the world be understood as saying or hinting anything prejudicial to Gen. Taylor by the comparison, for he has not only whipped the enemy wherever he found them, but has attempted to do a far more difficult task— that of carrying out the views of the Administration, and I only think Gen. Scott would have done better because I believe he would have acted as his own ideas of policy dictated.

January 6th, 1847.

As I failed to obtain from Capt. May the account of his adventure he had signified his intention of furnishing me, I am forced to the necessity of giving it as I heard it from the officers and his men. After he had retraced his steps through the pass with the main body and proceeded several hundred yards, he heard a rumbling sound behind him as if large stones were being rolled down the mountain. He immediately went back in the direction, and shortly met the Lieut. and Sergeant of the rear guard of whom he demanded “where is your guard?” the Lieutenant answered that they were near, but on turning to look for them none but the Sergeant was to be found. The whole command then proceeded towards the pass again, and came up to it without finding anything of the men; but they found a large number of loose stones that they say had been hurled down from the perpendicular side of the mountain, and traces of blood in several places. They then went through the pass, and travelled several miles, but could not discover any traces of the men, although they heard that a party of Americans had gone through a little village, but it was not said whether as prisoners or not. A few shots were fired from their carbines at persons on the mountains, but they did not reach. Capt. May seems undecided whether these men have been carried off or not.
Two mails will leave here to–morrow, and Heaven knows when another one will start. One will go by the way of Monterey, and the other to Tampico. The latter will be only and express mail if– I can get my letters in I will.

I feel very certain to–day that Vera Cruz is the aim of the commanding General, and I should not be surprised if we were to march to Tampico in a few days. In counting up the number of horses to–day, for which forage is required the number was 3528, and it takes to feed them daily 882 bushels of corn besides fodder, and this of itself will be of great inducement to get nearer shipping, ad we will soon eat out every thing in this vicinity.

The Corporal.

The future course of this gentleman in the Mexican War question continues to be a subject of speculation. The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun says that he will define his position in a few days on the Three Million Bill; and the correspondent of the New York Courier states that he does not hesitate to avow his intention to introduce some measure before the close of the session for the purpose of bringing the war to a close, which he says can be done with honor to both Republics, and without the farther effusion of blood. “He so expressed himself last night (says the writer, on the 2d instant,) and only refused to explain his plan because the details were not fully matured.” Unless he has recently modified his views, the writer thinks he will propose to establish our boundary at the Rio Grande, and to negotiate for so much of California as may be required for our future commerce in the East, and to keep up a chain of communication with our possessions in Oregon.

The last New Orleans papers contain numerous accounts of the flagrant outrages perpetrated in that city by the volunteers. On the night of the 30th, the whole city was in a state of alarm– people armed themselves, and turned out in vast numbers, and the troops were called out and mustered as if the place were beleagured by a foreign force! It turned out, however, to be a false alarm. On that night, however, most of the volunteers were embarked, and had sailed for Mexico; and universal joy was expressed that they were off. The Picayune says: “We hope when we next hear of them that they will have done such valorous things as will purge the memories of the past of their bitterness.”

The Alexandria Gazette informs us that “curses not loud but deep,” are muttered against Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Butler, his colleague, in Washington, in consequence of their course on the resolution of thanks to Gen. Taylor.

The New Orleans Picayune of the 30th ult. has a letter from Tampico of the 16th. All was quiet. The corps of engineers are busily engaged in extending the lines of fortifications from the high ground upon which the city stands to the water’s edge. When these are completed, (the writer says,) the place, with a garrison of 2000 Americans, may be considered impregnable to any army the Mexicans could send against it. Gen. Scott, it was said, had gone to Camargo for the purpose of having a personal interview with Gen. Taylor, who is to join him there. Numerous rumors were afloat of movements in contemplation, but nothing certain was known.

We lay before our readers this morning a highly interesting letter on the Mexican War, addressed by General Waddy Thompson, late Minister to Mexico, to the Editors of the National Intelligencer. Whatever may have been originally the temper of the public mind in regard to the conquest and permanent retention of a portion of the States of Mexico, for the purpose (to use one of the cent phrases of the day, by which the public mind has been so corrupted and misled,) of “extending the area of freedom,” or under the equally deceptive pretence of procuring from Mexico “indemnity” for past insults and injuries,— we say, whatever may have been the temper of the public mind, in the beginning of this unfortunate contest, it cannot be doubted that a decided reaction has taken place, and is new in progress, in the South at least, in regard to the policy of enlarging our territorial limits, by the sword. The unanticipated difficulties and obstacles in the career of conquest, which the authors of the war had flattered themselves with the belief would be both brief and
brilliant, have not been without their effect in producing this salutary change in public opinion. Men are beginning to count the cost, both in blood and treasure, of a conflict to which they can see no end; and they naturally ask themselves whether, if we even secure New Mexico and California, on the restoration of peace, we shall not in expenditure alone, pay too dearly for the whistle. The enquiry, too, is heard on all sides, will not the addition of Mexican territory—particularly that portion of it in the upper Valley of the Rio Grande, and on the western side of that river, prove to be a curse rather than a benefit and a source of additional expense instead of an "indemnity"—and whether it will not introduce into our limits a population unfit for free government, and which we cannot admit to the rights, as they are incapable of performing the duties of citizenship, in a representative government? This view of the question, and others not less imposing, are powerfully presented by Mr. Berrien, the distinguished Senator from Georgia, in his admirable speech on the Three Million Dollar speech distinguished alike by its profound ability and elevated patriotism. We beg attention to the considerations embodied in the subjoined extract:

"Sir, if there be any one thing of national interest to be preserved at the expense of national honor, I know not; but looking to this question solely as one of interest, I ask you, is it consistent with the national interest to acquire such territory? Consider it as already acquired, either by the use of the money which it is proposed to appropriate by this bill, or by the force of our arms; consider that territory as acquired, and I hope senators are now ready to answer the question, how will dispose of this territory? When you get these provinces what will you do with them? Will you remove the existing population and settle the west, which will have been left by emigrants from the United States? That may not be. You cannot do it without violating every principle of the law of nation—every principle which has been recognised by your own courts of peace. Whether these territories be acquired by conquest or purchase, the moment they pass under your domination their inhabitants become the object of, and are entitled to, your protection. What next, then? If you must protect this people and the territory which they inhabit, will you govern them as provinces? Will you send your governors of provinces to superintend and protect theirs? Or what principle will you govern them by? What next? If you may not depopulate them—if you must not govern them as provinces—will you exercise no power given you under the constitution, and obviously given while the view of the framers of it was confined within the territorial limits of the United States! Will you exercise the power of governing them as territories, and, of course, entitle them to the privilege of being incorporated as States of the Union, when they shall have attained the requisite number of inhabitants? Are you willing to put your birthright in the keeping of the mongrel races who inhabit these territories by incorporating them into the federal Union? For myself, I am free to declare non [...] in fadera, and I believe that declaration will be responded to from the remotest extremities of this widely extended Union. Then, what is it for which we are contending? What is the position to which this lust for the acquisition of territory is about to lead us? When we shall have acquired these territories, how are we to surmount the difficulties which will necessarily attend their possession? We cannot, consistently with the constitution, govern it as an independent province. We cannot, consistently with what we owe to ourselves, put it into a condition to be incorporated with the American Union. But, suppose you could. Do not you bring with it that question which more than any other menaces the duration and permanence of this Union? Do you believe that any treaty which may be negotiated with Mexico can receive the constitutional sanction of this body leaving the question of slavery open? Do you believe it can receive the constitutional sanction of this body excluding slavery? Do you believe it can receive the constitutional sanction of this body permitting grant that I am wrong in the opinion which would seem to be indicated by the President— that it would be practicable to obtain the constitutional majority of this Senate which would leave open the question of slavery? And I ask American senators whether they would not slumber upon their posts if their assent were given to a treaty leaving that question open? I ask American senators if it is not their imperative duty to the States which they represent when any acquisition shall be made by treaty to take care that the domestic institutions and interests of the States which they represent are protected by the express stipulations of that treaty? Suppose those overlooked— suppose American senators, under the influence of whatever motive, should acquiescence in the acquisition of territory without such a stipulation as would protect their provinces, what follows? Inevitably, with the certainty of fate, the exclusion of their constituents from their senatorial rights to a participation in the benefits of the territory acquired by common effort. Sir, the process is easy—it is simple—it is obvious—it is undeniable. On the question of the admission of this territory— if you were to govern it as a territory, with a view to its subsequent admission, when the number of its population would satisfy the constitution permitting— on the question of its admission as a State, the numerical superiority of the free States would hold us in chains. We may not hope to secure to our constituents any right to participate in the benefits of such an acquisition unless we agree to surrender, in advance, that portion of our property over which we have the guarantee of the constitution. I say, then, it especially behooves southern senators to oppose themselves to the acquisition of territory in any form, because as it is quite certain that no territory will be acquired by treaty in which the right to exercise their domestic institution will be stipulated, and inasmuch as the territory acquired by a treaty which would leave that an open question, will inevitably result in their exclusion— I say, in my humble judgment, and speaking as a southern senator representing a southern State, that the duty of the south—the interests of the south—the safety of the south—demand that we should oppose ourselves to any and to every acquisition of territory. But the appeal is not merely to southern senators, but to American senators from whatever quarter of this Union they may come. The appeal is to them to exclude from the national councils this direful question. The acquisition of territory must bring before us, with accumulated force, a question which now menaces the permanence of this Union. It cannot be that southern men can silently acquiesce in the denial to them of a common right insured in the constitution of the United States. If we have a right to the acquisition of territory—if that acquisition is made by the common effort of all the States, then all the States are alike entitled to participate in the benefits which result from such as acquisition. But if the inevitable tendency of such an acquisition be as I have described it, then we must be excluded from such a participation in the benefits of the acquisition. In that case, one of two things remains— to assert, at whatever hazard, our rights, and the rights of our constituents, or to give a renewed unexampled manifestation of our devotion to the bond of our federal Union, by submitting to this inequality of distribution in the acquisitions of our common government. I do most anxiously desire that the fearful crisis may not be brought about. It menaces us now, even in the existing state of things; but, in all human probability it may, and I confidently trust it will be averted by the intelligence and by the patriotism of the American people. But if you are to introduce into this Union the vast territories which you contemplate to acquire by occasion from Mexico, it will be a trial of the disinterestedness and patriotism of the south, if they shall be called upon to decide that they are willing to acquiesce in their utter exclusion from all participation in this rich and boundless territory.”

These views address themselves with irresistible force to the people in every section of the Union, but more especially to people of the South, who, under existing circumstances, cannot but perceive, that, if the acquisition of the territory from Mexico, as the condition of peace, may be, in every just sense of that term, regarded as "indemnity" at all, it can be no indemnity to them; but rather a source of sectional humiliation and injury, to which, unless they are utterly insensible to their rights, and recreant to their duty, they never can and never will submit.

We rejoice to see leading Southern men—such men as Waddy Thompson, John Macpherson Berrien and Reverdy Johnson—assuming, at this crisis, the attitude which its importance demands, and with a boldness equal to this emergency. We hope to see other
The Washington Union of Saturday night last contains a long account of the bombardment of Guaymas, (on the Pacific coast,) and the
cutting of the Mexican brig Condor, from under the artillery and musketry of the enemy, by the U.S. sloop–of–war Cyane, Commander S.F. DuPont, on the 7th of October last. There were several hundred troops in the town, to the commander of which Capt. DuPont sent a message, demanding the surrender of the Mexican gun–boats in the harbor, with their equipments. This the Mexican commander refused, and it was determined at once to cut out them. The Mexicans then set fire to the gun–boats, which were consumed before the attempt to capture them could be made. The Captain of the Cyane then determined to cut out the Mexican brig Condor, which was anchored within pistol–shot of the town and within short musket range of the troops, concentrated behind a hill. A launch, with a 12 pound cannonade, and a third cutter, under command of Lt. G.W. Harrison, with Lieut. Ed Higgins, Midshipmen H.N. Crab and R.F.R. Lean, started on the enterprise. The ship at once opened a fire upon the town, with round and shell shot concentrating the fire upon the government buildings which unfortunately formed a space between the hill, behind which the military lay, and the spot where the Condor was lying. The troops were compelled to withdraw a little for better security, the shot and shells doing fearful execution. As the boats approached the Condor, they were received with a hot fire of musketry– but the gallant crew succeeded in cutting the iron cable of the ship and towing her off, amid a shower of balls– and, what seems extraordinary, without a man being killed or wounded. The writer says, “I believe you ma search naval records in vain for a better planned or a more completely executed expedition.” A captain of a neutral vessel informed the officers of the Cyane that one of the Paixham shells had exploded inside a house, and turned it inside out, and that so great was the force of the 32 pound shot, that one has gone through five house walls and buried itself in the sixth. As far as the captain could ascertain, six Mexicans were wounded, but none killed– though some neutral sailors reported that a number had been killed. On the morning of the 9th, the Cyane left, without any demonstration on the part of the enemy.

To the Editors of the National Intelligencer:

In the debate, a few days since, in the Senate, upon the bill to appropriate three millions of dollars to be used by the President of the United States in negotiating a peace with Mexico, Mr. Sevier, the chairman of the committee on Foreign Relations, said, in substance, that the people of this country would never consent to a peace without the cession by Mexico of the departments of California and New Mexico. This declaration is all the more important from the close personal and political relations of the distinguished speaker with the President of the United States, and his position at the head of the committee of Foreign Relations; which justify the inference that he knows and expresses the opinion of the Executive department of our Government.

The President, in his Message at the commencement of the Session, declared that the acquisition of Mexican territory by conquest was not our object. There is certainly some difficulty in reconciling this declaration with that made by Mr. Sevier in the Senate. The only mode of doing so is to suppose that the purposes of the Executive have changed since the time when his message was written. If the purpose was not acquisition two months since, what is there that has since occurred to change it? Is it that the war has been protracted two months longer, although without active operation on either side? If this gives us a right to demand so large a portion of the territory of Mexico, to how much more shall we be entitled at the end of the year? Certainly the extreme southern boundary of Mexico will not satisfy this just and more reasonable demand of ours.

The alleged ground of war at the time of its commencement, and the only ground upon which the war was waged, was our right to the country between the Nueces and the Rio Grande. All that has since been said about Mexican spoliations upon the property of American citizens is an after–thought; and, if this latter case was a just one for the war, the right so to decide rested with the Congress of the United States, not the President. That body had for years refused to declare war against Mexico on this account, when Mexico refused to recognise the justice of the claims of our citizens, or even to promise indemnity. Treaties have since been made for the settlement of those claims, and the payments had been punctually made until Mexico was thrown into a state of disorder and temporary insolvency by one of those almost periodical revolutions which have so much afflicted and impoverished that country. Would it not have been harsh justice, (to say the least of it,) under such circumstances, and for this delay of a few months, resulting from absolute inability, to have resorted to war to enforce payment? If other motives had not existed, will it be pretended by any one that Congress would have resorted to war on account of the claims of our citizens alone? If the purpose of our Government be that which was stated by Mr. Sevier, it is difficult to see any necessity for the appropriation asked for. If we have a perfect right to California and New Mexico, why should we pay for it? If we have no such right, shall we continue the war to force Mexico to sell those departments? The assertion of such a principle as that a war for such a purpose would be legitimate or justifiable, would certainly be an interpolation in the code of international law. Is this the century or is our the nation in which and by which such a principle is for the first time to be asserted?

If we are to disregard all higher and more honorable considerations, it becomes us to calculate at least the cost of such a conquest– its cost in money and in blood, as well as all the other consequences which will result from it. We have no right to suppose that this will be the last in which we shall be engaged; and, if ever involved in another, there is much reason to fear that it will be with more than one of the most powerful nations of the earth. In such an event, would it not be well for us to have a conterminous Republic both powerful and friendly to us? It has been truly said that, as our sole enemy, Mexico is not formidable. But, as an ally of a powerful European nation, the case would be very different. She would furnish a border of great extent from which to invade the weakest and most sparsely populated of our States– soldiers to any extent, and supplies to a very great extent. It is not Mexico alone, however, which will be alienated from us by a protracted war of spoliation and dismemberment, but all the South American States. They are all peopled by the same race. They all offer to our cupidity the same broad and fertile plains and rich mines, and the same great temptation of inability to defend them. They will all think, and certainly not without reason, that the only boon which will be offered to them will be that of the giant– that of being the last devoured.

But what will the World say of this now openly–confessed war of conquest– a war to force a feeble Sister Republic to sell us a portion of her territory, or to dismember that Republic on the ground of indemnity for the expenses of that war? Surely no such right will be conceded to us unless we are clearly in the right and Mexico as clearly in the wrong in the origin of the war.

Is such the opinion of the world? I do not believe that out of the United States that opinion is held by a single enlightened and
impartial man. Many such in our own country, I know, think the war a just war; but such is not the opinion of the world; and we cannot hope to change that opinion by a hundred battles and a hundred victories. On the contrary, the more signal those victories, the stronger and more general will be the sympathy for our more feeble adversaries. Let it not be said that we are indifferent to the undivided opinion of all Christendom. It is true of nations, as of individuals, that the most priceless jewel “is spotless reputation. It is no empty bauble, but is in itself power.”

If we disregard all considerations of this character, is it really practicable to humble Mexico to such an extent as to bring her to these terms? I confess that I do not think so. I am sure that it cannot be done but at a cost in money infinitely transcending the value of the acquisition; to say nothing of the sacrifice of human life, of thousands and tens of thousands of American lives, and the making of an equal number of widows and orphans; to say nothing of the horrible consequences of such a war to our enemies; for, to be successful, it must be conducted in a manner and carried to extremities at which the heart sickens and humanity recoils. Let us at least calmly and dispassionately ask ourselves, first of all, Is it just, is it right, is it honorable? What, after all, is the right of conquest, if any such right exists, but the right of the strongest? It is the right of the bandit. He is stronger and better armed than the traveller, and he takes his purse and keeps it.

Is there any instance in all history of a nation, and a nation thoroughly united as Mexico, with a population of eight millions, and abundantly supplied with all the munitions of war, having been conquered? Why should we expect such a result? Is our enemy the least warlike of nations? Are her people less proud, less pertinacious, less revengeful than others? No; but precisely the reverse— the descendants of the heroes of Saguntum, Numantia, and Saragossa. It is remarked by Napier, in his history of the Peninsular War, that “no country in Europe is so easy to overrun as Spain— none so difficult to retain.” The ultimate fate of the legions of Bonaparte confirms this truth. Where else, in history, do we find a war to have continued for eight hundred years, as did that between the Goths and the Moors? Let us not forget that it is the Spanish race, brave, proud, ardent, melancholy, which is thus to be subdued to our purposes— to be forced to surrender to another race a country discovered and conquered by their arms, and which contains a thousand memorials of their heroic valor and constancy. The constitution of Mexico contains a clause which forbids, under any pretext whatever, the alienation of any portion of the national domain. Not satisfied with this, the same thing forms a part of the oath of office. This difficulty would of itself seem insuperable. But there is another even stronger in the undivided public opinion of Mexico. What Administration of that Government will dare to defy this public opinion, or could successfully combat it?

Is it not known to all that they are not few nor undistinguished amongst ourselves who think the war not only inexpedient, but unjust, yet have not hitherto ventured to breast the torrent of public opinion which they suppose to exist in favor of the war? I do not believe that such is the public opinion of this country. Yet that is the impression which has gone forth, and it has contracted the action of more than one of our public men. Will this influence be less in Mexico, where the opinion is universal that the war is flagrantly and criminally unjust on our part? What ground, then, have we to hope for a speedy peace? None, certainly, unless from the extremity of defencelessness and suffering to which we shall reduce our enemy. How is this to be accomplished? The answer usually of men is, “By a vigorous prosecution of the war.” If any thing is meant by this, it is by advancing to the city of Mexico. We have already penetrated far into the interior of the Mexican Republic. What evil have we thereby inflicted upon her, to say nothing of that extremity of suffering which is to reduce her to sue for peace? The inhabitants of the towns which we have taken are just as secure in their persons and property— as free from molestation in all pursuits and occupations— as they were before the war commenced; and the profits of their occupations greatly increased by the presence of a large additional population, ready and able to pay for all their products, and doing so at extraordinary prices. Will it be otherwise when we advance to the city of Mexico? That is only one of their cities— the principal one, it is true, but not the only one. Are we to march to the city of Mexico, and then march back? How long must our army remain there? It is very clear that to abandon the place as soon as taken would accomplish nothing, but, on the contrary, would protract the war. How long must our army remain there, and how long will it be possible for us— yes, I say possible— to provision the army? To do so for a month will involve a cost little dreamed of by most persons. Of what number must that army consist? Garrisons must be left at Tampico, at Vera Cruz, Jalapa, and Perote, of two thousand men at each place. How many at Puebla— a city of ninety thousand inhabitants, and in the centre of the most dense and warlike population of Mexico— in the neighborhood of the renowned and warlike Tlascalans? I should say that the garrison at Puebla should not be less that six or eight thousand men. The garrisons at Tampico and Vera Cruz will have to be reinforced, or rather renewed, every three months, from the ravages of more than one pestilential disease in those modern Golgothas. If any resistance is offered to the progress of our army, who can say how many men we shall lose in the thousand natural and artificial defiles which the route presents, with more than one walled town to be stormed, and, added to these, the ravages of pestilence. If this enterprise is attempted with fifty thousand men, with a reasonable estimate of loss of life from thousands and tens of thousands of American lives, and the making of an equal number of widows and orphans; to say nothing of the horrible consequences of such a war to our enemies; for, to be successful, it must be conducted in a manner and carried to extremities at which the heart sickens and humanity recoils. Let us at least calmly and dispassionately ask ourselves, first of all, Is it just, is it right, is it honorable? What, after all, is the right of conquest, if any such right exists, but the right of the strongest? It is the right of the bandit. He is stronger and better armed than the traveller, and he takes his purse and keeps it.

I do not believe that, when all the charges of the war, up to this time, come to be settled, in the shape of bounty, land, pensions, losses of property, and the thousand after–claps of a war, that it will be found to be short of sixty or seventy millions. The late Florida war cost us forty–two millions, with never more than one–fifth of the Army now in Mexico, nor one–tenth of that which it is proposed to send there; and supplied, too, at so much less cost. Could not this money be better spent? It would cobweb our whole country with the ravages of pestilence. If this enterprise is attempted with fifty thousand men, with a reasonable estimate of loss of life from thousands and tens of thousands of American lives, and the making of an equal number of widows and orphans; to say nothing of the horrible consequences of such a war to our enemies; for, to be successful, it must be conducted in a manner and carried to extremities at which the heart sickens and humanity recoils. Let us at least calmly and dispassionately ask ourselves, first of all, Is it just, is it right, is it honorable? What, after all, is the right of conquest, if any such right exists, but the right of the strongest? It is the right of the bandit. He is stronger and better armed than the traveller, and he takes his purse and keeps it.
I could extend this article, already too long, by many proofs of the power of the Mexicans to submit to privations, and their readiness to do so. Let one suffice: A most terrific civil war has for many years been raging in Sonora—a State bordering on the Pacific ocean. Houses burnt to ashes, flocks exterminated, and one-third of their men butchered. You will scarcely go five miles without seeing human carcasses hanging from the limbs of trees, for "no quarter" has been the law of that war. Yet it never entered into the minds of these fierce and unappeasable combatants to make peace until this war with us commenced. Can we reduce all Mexico to such an extremity as this? Would we do so if we could? Have we any reason to expect peace from any thing short of it? We may destroy her commerce, it is true. But she has very little of it, and that little not indispensable. Besides all the grains, Mexico supplies itself with salt, sugar, coffee cotton—in short, with every thing that is necessary to man, and then there is the frontier with Guatemala, through which she may supply herself, at very little greater cost, and in spite of us. We may also cut off the revenues from her custom houses. But of those revenues all is hypothecated but about ten percent for the payment of the interest of her public debt. The payment of that interest is now suspended, which relieves the Government much more than the deprivation of ten percent of those customs embarrasses it. Besides this, less than one-twentieth of the income of Mexico is derived from foreign commerce; and, therefore, the same income which would pay for foreign merchandise, and duties upon it, is still in the country, and subject to other and not less efficacious forms of taxation.

Santa Anna is now at San Luis Potosi with not less than twenty five thousand men. If we leave garrisons of not more then 5,000 men at Vera Cruz and Tampico, he can march his whole force upon either of them in two weeks. In the summer, when our army is weakened by the ravages of disease, dejected and broken—spirited by hourly burials of their comrades, who will say with certainty that events will not occur which will shroud our whole land in mourning?

I have thrown together these suggestions, which are the results of much reflection and some personal knowledge of the facts upon which they are based. No evil, certainly, can result from a fair presentation of the difficulties which lie before us. It is better that those difficulties should even be exaggerated that that they should be over looked or underrated.

Am I asked, is the war then interminable? I confess, with such demands on our part as have been indicated, I can see little prospect of its conclusion. With wise and firm men at the head of affairs in Mexico, it seems to me clear that she may protract it until we shall not be able to prosecute it further. Of such men such a crisis as is the present in Mexico has, in all times and countries, been prolific. Sooner or later, we shall be forced to cease active operations. We can never do so more gracefully or advantageously than now. The country between the Nueces and the Rio Grande was the professed object of war. We have undisputed possession of that; and justice and policy both dictate that we should press a gallant but feeble and beaten enemy no further. Let us say how much of the territory now in our possession we intend to retain, and let us be generous and forbearing in fixing the time: and I confess that, if we could even get it for nothing, as a matter of national honor I would prefer to pay for all of it which we have no better title than the right of conquest. If Mexico would then not make peace— as probably for a time she would not— active operations would cease, even to the extent of border forays, if we kept up a line of posts on the frontier: and, if peace was not restored, all the expense of the war would thus be avoided, and all the waste of human life and the unnumbered and indescribable calamities which always follow in its train.

Such is the advice of the gallant and good Taylor, as wise in council and as humane and merciful after victory, as he is skillful and heroic in the conflict on battle. T.

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RW47v24i12p2c6, February 9, 1847, From the Army.

[From the Charleston Mercury, Feb'y 6]

Dr. Holland, of the Army, bearer of despatches from the seat of war in Mexico to the General Government, left in the steamer yesterday afternoon for Washington.

We are indebted to his very polite attention for the following items of intelligence.

Dr. H. left Gen. Wool’s camp on the 8th ult. The camp is situated nine miles beyond Saltillo in a mountain pass called Encantrata. Col. Harney is posted with his dragoons, eleven miles beyond, on another mountain pass on the St. Louis road called Augua Nueva. Col. Yell of Arkansas, with his mounted men stationed at Pathos, in order to keep open the channel of communication with Parras, which is the great granary of Mexico.

Previous to the departure of our Infantry, arrangements had been made for a six months supply of grain for the forces.

The report of Santa Anna’s advance was contradicted at the time of his departure.

Gen. Wool’s army had never been beset by straggling parties of Mexicans, as had been reported, though there had been several false alarms.

Enough was known to justify the belief that the Mexican Congress were strongly disposed to peace.

[MPR]
Mr. Sevier, the Chairman of the Committee of Foreign Relations in the Senate, expresses confidently the opinion, founded upon the correspondence between the President and certain persons in Mexico, exhibited to him by the former, that peace may be speedily concluded between Mexico and the United States, if Congress shall place in the hands of the Executive the sum of three millions of dollars, for which it asks. Yet, in the midst of these pacific indications from the official organ of communication between the President and the Senate, the most clamorous appeals are made, by the "Union," to Congress, to supply the President with men and money, in order to ensure a vigorous prosecution of the war! What is the need of this "fork–tongued talk," as the Indians would call it? Why amuse the country with the hope of a speedy peace, if no such hope can be seriously indulged? And if there be good reason to anticipate its speedy restoration, where is the need of such expensive and costly military and naval armaments? For one, we place no reliance on the opinion, founded upon a correspondence with Mexicans, who are evidently traitors to their own country, and cannot be expected to be faithful to their present employers, that peace can be bought for three millions of dollars, coupled with the cession to the United States of New Mexico and Upper California. And in this want of confidence we are justified, by the contents of a letter which we have recently seen from Genl. Scott, written to a friend-- and which we may, we presume, without impropriety, be permitted to say, holds out no reason to hope for the return of peace before, at least, another decisive blow, the echo of which we may soon hear, shall have been struck.

Mr. Wentworth of Illinois and Mr. Johnson of Tennessee-- heretofore regarded as wheel–horses in the Democratic team-- declare their unalterable purpose to oppose a duty upon tea and coffee, which they say has always been deemed undemocratic since Mr. Clay recommended it in 1841. Mr. Polk and Secretary Walker, they declare, were especially opposed to this tax, and they therefore rather accuse those two gentlemen of deserting the democratic ranks by raking up a Whig "measure," in order to carry out a Democratic "principle"-- a circumstance, by the way, of no rare occurrence. On the other hand, Mr. Wick of Indiana, who boldly affirms that he knows of but one standard of Democracy, (so far as measures are concerned,) and that is obedience to "Executive recommendations," (Wick is honest, at least,) goes for the tea and coffee tax, and thinks Mr. Wentworth but "leetle better than a Whig" for daring to be consistent with himself, in opposing it instead of yielding, as Wick thinks all true Democrats ought to do, to Executive dictation. The Union goes a step further. It thinks that although it may be federalism to levy a tax on tea and coffee in time of peace, it is genuine democracy to do so in time of war-- and regards those, who, like Messrs. Wentworth and Johnson, cannot see the distinction, as rather more of a "demagogue" than a "statesman." In this state of most admired disorder, we shall be very much obliged to the gentleman who are about to unfurl the flag in Virginia, if they will tell us what is Democracy?

The New Orleans Bulletin of the 4th inst. says: "We have seen letters of the 7th of January, from the city of Mexico, and from parties having access to high sources of information, which express, in decided terms, a belief that the difference between the two nations will very speedily be amicably and honorably settled." So mote it be!

The gentleman has defined his position on the Mexican War-- and it will be seen that he fully endorses Gen. Taylor's views-- that he is conservative and anti–Administration. Indeed, in the present aspect of the question, what Southern man can occupy any other ground?

We have received the following letter from our correspondent.

Brazos Santiago, Jan. 29.

Great activity prevails here night and day, in sending off supplies for the Army above, as also in loading and preparing transports for the operations below.

Gen. Worth, with his Division, arrived at the mouth of the river on the 23d, from Saltillo. The next day, he removed his encampment up to the field of Palo Alto, where they will remain until they embark for below. He rode over, accompanied by his suite, to the Island...
to pay his respects to Gen. Scott, shortly after his arrival.

We have had a succession of fresh gales here for the last ten days past, preventing the lighters and boats from being employed to as great an advantage as the wants of the service required. The elements favor the Mexicans greatly, inasmuch as it is found utterly impossible to throw forward supplies and operate with the dispatch that would otherwise be done.

A large party of Mexicans followed up the rear of Gen. Worth’s command, doubtless to observe his movements. Several persons have been murdered recently on the road leading from Camargo to Monterey. Gen. Scott is here arranging and organizing an expedition, the result of which will bring additional laurels to his already honorable fame.

Col. Harney is again in limbo. It appears he was ordered to proceed to Monterey with four companies, whilst Maj. Torrens of the regiment was ordered to take command of the remaining six companies and march for the mouth of the river to join Worth’s division. Col. Harney said he was not to be disagreed, though they might arrest him, and, he accordingly marched with the largest portion of his regiment.

A Court Martial is ordered to convene for the trial of Col. Harney, on the 30th inst. It is probable that a few other officers will be brought before it.

It is generally believed that Col. Harney will plead guilty of the charge, and leave it with the court to decide the offence. None has more character and standing to test the principle than himself.

 Movement of Troops.– Gen. Worth’s division arrived here on Friday morning last, on its way to Brasos. It is composed of the 4th Infantry, under Col. Whistler; 5th Infantry, Maj. Martin Scott; 8th Infantry, Maj. Wright; 2d Dragoons, Col. Harney; Col. Child’s Artillery Battalion; Lt. Col. Duncan’s Flying Artillery; with Lt. P. Kearney’s company of Dragoons, and Capt. Blanchard’s company of Louisiana Volunteers– the latter acting with the 5th Infantry.

The Division left Saltillo, under orders from the Commander-in-Chief, and will probably soon arrive at the theatre of active operations in the vicinity of Vera Cruz. The Dragoons, with Duncan’s and Taylor’s batteries were encamped at this place, from Thursday until Saturday, having arrived one day previous to the infantry regiments, which passed down on steamboats; but yesterday the dragoons were crossing the river, on their way to camp.

Gen. Worth passed down on the Corvette, without making a passing visit. The boat, however, stopped a short time at our landing, during which a salute was fired, and many persons from the town visited the boat, anxious to pay their respects to the hero of Monterey.

The whole command appear to be in fine health and spirits, and the horses in excellent condition– in fact, a more hardy, or efficient body of men than this command, cannot be produced in any country, and we look forward with much interest to their future operations, being satisfied that they “go where glory waits them.”

Gen. Butler was at Saltillo on the 17th, when Worth’s Division left, but it was understood that he would fall back on Monterey with his troops. Gen. Wool was still at Parras, but it is said that he will also march for Monterey– thus abandoning Saltillo, Parras, and the Rinconada Pass to the possession of the enemy. This step is supposed to be taken on account of the indefensible state of those places with their diminished forces. The severity of the climate and the scarcity of wood, forage, &c., combine to render them unpleasant quarters for this season of the year.

Gen. Taylor has established his head quarters at Monterey, and the place is being put in such a state of defence that all the troops of Mexico, with Santa Anna at their head, will not be able to disturb him. We suppose that Gen. Taylor will be left in command of all the forces above, while the invading army of Gen. Scott, consisting of nearly all the regulars now in Mexico, some seven thousand strong, and nearly twice that number of volunteers, will act in conjunction with the Navy in attacking Vera Cruz.

There are two companies of Dragoons with Gen. Taylor, Capt. May’s and Capt. Graham’s; Capt. Washington and Webster’s batteries are at Saltillo, and one company of Artillery at Camargo, which comprises nearly all the regulars above. At Camargo are the Second Ohio Volunteers, and a few others are stationed at Punta Agunda and Cerralvo, comprising nearly all the force between this and Monterey.

The Ohioans are under orders for Tampico, leaving the Third Indiana Regiment at this place, with a company or two of regulars in Fort Brown.

[MPR]
Head Quarters U.S. Army of Invasion,
Cuidad, Victoria, Jan. 13th, 1847.

Gentlemen:— To-morrow morning the First Division [Gen. Twigg’s command.] will take up the line of march for Tampico, which, considering the season, looks more to me like carrying the war in Africa, than any move that has been made lately. Many feared that from the lateness of the season, we would again move in the direction of Monterey, but I believe the order communicating the intelligence of an advance in the direction of the coast, has given universal satisfaction, and for then once left the grumblers without ought to complain of.

On the 11th, a general Court Martial was convened, and the charges and specifications preferred against Bt. Second Lieut. Sturges, of the dragoons, [mentioned in my last as having lost his rear guard in the mountain,] Lieut. Col. May, was laid before it. As the facts set forth by witnesses, differ some from those I sent you, I will now endeavor to narrate, as near as possible, what Col. May give in as evidence on the occasion.

He said he had been ordered by the Commander–on–Chief to take a squadron of dragoons and protect Capt. Menard, a topographical engineer, in a reconnaissance. He left Monte Morales on the 25th of Dec., and reached Labador the next evening, where he remained during that night. The next morning the command halted for some time to shoe horses, but the Mexicans threw so many obstacles in their way that it was impossible to accomplish their object. This and other indications induced him to believe that he should meet the enemy before getting out of the mountain passes. After leaving Labador, and proceeding 4 miles in the direction of San Pedro, a large number of fresh horse tracks were discovered in the road, and a few minutes after, a Mexican was seen on the mountain side watching their movements. Him they took for a spy, and not long after they observed another. At sunset they arrived and remained during the night at San Pedro. On the 29th, they left San Pedro, and in a short time, entered the pass of Santa Rosa, leaving a Sergeant and 10 men to follow 200 yards after them, and to protect the pack mules. After a march of 7 or 8 miles the pass was found to be a succession of defiles, and believing still that they should be attacked, he ordered Lieut. Sturges, through the Adjutant, to stop and take command of the rear guard when it came up. After giving this order, the command marched 4 or 5 miles, the trail become so rugged that it was impossible to ride along, and the men dismounted and led their horses. As they were passing the most difficult defile yet encountered, and the greater part of the command had succeeded in getting through it, the enemy made an attack upon them. He was in the advance and the first he heard of it, “was an explosion like that of a mine.” The bugle was then sounded from the squadron, and answered by that of the rear guard, whilst his bugler sounded the ‘assembly.’ He supposed he was 150 yards from the mouth of the defile, and immediately hurried back to it and urged the men through it. He called to Lieut. Sturges “where is your guard,” and received for an answer, “here, sir.” He then ordered Lieut. S. to mount and get them out of the defile as quick as possible. He then rode up to where I was, and not seeing his guard, asked him where the packs were, “in there,” pointing to the defile, was the answer. “Is it possible, sir, that you have abandoned your packs?” said May, and finding that the body of the rear guard was not with Lieut. S. he said, “rejoin your guard, immediately sir, recover the pack, protect and defend them, until I can come to you with assistance, and if possible urge them through the defile.” On again returning from the squadron, he met Lieut. S. a second time coming from the defile, and he said, “Col. I have been further than where I left my guard and cannot find them, shall I take some men from the squadron and return?” When they arrived once more at the defile, they found it impossible to pass it without great loss to the command, as the enemy were constantly throwing rocks from the right, and occasionally firing small arms from the left. It was necessary then to endeavor to turn the defile, which they ultimately did by sealing the rocks. After remaining near the defile for ten or fifteen minutes, and returning the fire of the enemy, he sent an order to Lieut. Campbell to bring 20 men to the defile on foot, and to hold it until they returned; they proceeded a mile and a half to the rear, in hopes of recovering the packs and rear guard, but could not find them, and returned to the command and resumed their march, not deeming it proper to remain longer in the pass.

Sergeant Beach, who commanded the rear guard, in his evidence, thus alludes to the attack on the rear guard. The attack commenced by throwing rocks from the high cliffs, the first of which fell between him and the man in his rear. It was very large, and the sergeant seeing it descending in the direction of his horse, urged him forward and escaped. These rocks breaking up as they fell, and the pieces flying amongst the horses frightened, jerked him down, and when he recovered himself and rose up, he saw the rear guard retreating, and the enemy on the cliffs directing the stones at them.

I think it a very curious piece of business, this court marshalling the Lieutenant for losing a command which he proved on his trial he never saw after being detailed or ordered to it. It is certain, however, that although the proceedings of the court have not been made public, yet that he will come off in flying colors. His defence was very good, and he has raised in the estimation of the officers rather than fallen. He was rather sarcastic, but considering the circumstances, I suppose you must excuse him for it.

The Corporal.

*The Lieutenant says the Col. May did not understand him correctly— that he said he had been further that “where the attack was”— and I think he is correct, as no evidence proves him ever to have seen the rear guard after he started for it, as the attack commenced before he had time to reach it. Sergeant Beach, who commanded the guard, never saw Lieut. Sturges after starting in the morning. [MPR]

RW47v24i13p1c6, February 12, 1847

[5 leagues on the road to Tampico.]

Santa Rosa, Jan. 14th, 1847.
This morning, shortly after sun–rise the first division, took up the line of march for Tampico, and after proceeding in that direction 14 or 15 miles encamped for the night at this place. A few hours after night an express reached us from Gen. Taylor, who remained behind this morning— ordering Bragg’s Battery, which has up to this time been acting with the First, to return to Victoria. Gen. Taylor received an express after we left from Gen. Scott, who was at Matamoros, but who will leave there in time to reach Tampico by the 1st of February. It is thought that by this movement Gen. Taylor will take all the mounted men— dragoons and Tennessee cavalry— and this Battery, and return to Monterey, for the purpose of commanding that wing of the army, whilst the other General will operate with this. The remainder of the troops at Victoria, and those now here will proceed to Tampico. Those who return would be of no benefit whatever to Gen. Scott, in reducing Vera Cruz. The guns of Bragg’s battery are small, and only calculated for quick manoeuvring.

With Gen. Scott at the head of affairs on the coast, and Old “Zack” in the very bowels of the land, I think the Mexicans will be put to their trumps to keep us from their capital. General Scott, no doubt, understands his position well, and his measures have been taken accordingly. I understand he has plans of the city of Vera Cruz ad Castle of San Juan D’Ulloa, drawn by an experienced officer, and with a well appointed army, which he will not move without, he will straighten affairs in that direction. In the meantime, Gen. Taylor’s operations above Saltillo will keep the enemy busy, and advantage Gen. S. by demonstrations in that quarter. I believe Gen. Taylor, since he cannot neigh alone, will be well pleased with this arrangement, as it will give him a chance to do something more alone, and you may be sure his exertion will be great, and if he is not reined in by the President, the idea of competing with Scott will induce him to strain every nerve.

Yesterday, in Victoria, Gen. Taylor received a voluntary visit, from a Mexican, who reported himself as being direct from San Luis de Potosi. The Mexican army he stated were almost in a state of mutiny, caused by the scarcity of provisions, and lack of clothing and money. Santa Anna had gone to the city of Mexico, on a political speculation, having been advised by special messenger that all was not going on right there for the interest of his party. The Mexican Congress he said, had a flare up after taking the vote on the peace propositions of our government— which were negatived by a majority of over a fourth— and many of the members were on the eve leaving for their homes, fearing an out–break in the City.

The Corporal.

We relinquish our editorial column this morning to the intelligent and able correspondent, to whom we are indebted for the subjoined highly interesting article. Its length, we hope, will not deter our readers from undertaking its perusal. No one, we are sure, who commences it, will lay down the paper without reading it to the end.

For the Whig.

The Mexican War has been attended with difficulties foreseen by very few at the onset. It was expected to be a San Jacinto fight, and the Mexico would sue humbly for peace. After the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, the war was supposed to many to be near its end. So little was known of the topography of Mexico, that we were promised an easy march to its capital; and “to revel in the Halls of Montezuma,” and “to conquer a peace,” were the watch words of the officials. It is proper that the People, who have had no will in its conception, should know something of its difficulties, that they may do justice to those who have involved us in them, and may appreciate aright the arduous service of our Army and Navy, upon whom the disposition has manifested itself in the Halls of Congress to cast the balance of its procrastination. It will, [...], soon be seen, that if the wise injunction, “with good advice, make war,” had been observed, we should not now be asking, why was this war begun? How is it to terminate?

It is proposed to enumerate briefly the difficulties of a war with Mexico— some of which have already been encountered, others are yet to be met. The chief obstacles in the prosecution of such a war arises from the immensity of the Mexican territory, and its conformation. Nature furnishes the most formidable bulwarks for its defence. Its coast upon the Gulf of Mexico has no harbors. From the Nueces to Tabasco river, (near 900 miles,) a vessel drawing over 9 feet water, can find no safe anchorage. The rivers which admit small vessels, have shifting bars, at all times dangerous, which can be crossed in good weather only. It is believed, that from Tabasco river to Cape Catoche, about 600 miles, there are only open roads, unless we may except the Lake of Terminos, which admits vessels of shallow draught. The formidable winds, known by the names of Los Nortes (the Northers), prevail on this coast from October to March. The Hornet sloop–pf–war was lost some years ago in one of these gales off the Bar of Tampico, where she was lying at anchor. The Somers is a later victim. The shores near the Rio Grande are strewed with wrecks of vessels and steamers stranded during the last few months. The Neptune perished on the Bar of Tampico, in her effort to regain the harbor she had just left. Numerous reefs beguile other victims of destruction. The bones of the Truxton lie on one of them. These are the perils besetting our Navy. Thence have resulted the losses we have sustained, and the abortive attempts to cross the bar of Alvarado river. Our gallant and skilful seamen cannot conquer nature. They have been censured most unjustly for the little which they have done. This would not be, if the public were well informed of the obstacles encountered by them. From April to October, a pestilential plague pervades the greater part of this extensive coast. “The port of Vera Cruz is regarded as the principle seat to the yellow fever (vomito prieto orrenego.) Thousands of Europeans residing on the coasts of Mexico during the warm season, fall victims to this cruel epidemic. Vessels prefer arriving at Vera Cruz during the winter, whilst the tempestuous Northers (los nortes) rage, rather than being exposed, during the summer, to the loss of the larger part of their crew from the effects of the vomito,” &c. “The unhealthiness of the coasts, which restrains the trade, facilitates, moreover, the military defence of the country against invasion from an European enemy.” This is the testimony of Humboldt, who furnishes much valuable information concerning this disease. It has prevailed at Tampico, Alvarado, and other ports, with like mortality as at Vera Cruz; but, like New Orleans, they escape its infliction some years, with the exception of Vera Cruz, where it is an annual scourge, as constant and as regular as its rainy season.
We will now advert to the difficulties encountered by our Army—particularly that division of it commanded by General Taylor. The war began with the invasion of Mexico on its Northern frontier. Our want of preparation (arising, doubtless, from a belief that the internal dissensions of the country, or its want of courage, or the fear of waging with it more powerful antagonist a disastrous war, would restrain Mexican hostility,) prevented our gallant soldiers from reaping the advantages won on the hard fought fields of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. The enemy abandoned Matamoros at their leisure, retiring unmolested, because our General had not a sufficiency of troops, munitions, provisions, or means of transportation, to pursue the retreating enemy, who retired to Monterey, three hundred miles distant from Matamoros. It would seem an easy matter to march an army from Fredericksburg, in Virginia, to the city of New York, thro' a thickly settled country, with good roads and waggon transportation. But our General had a harder task than this. He must be reinforced with troops and supplied with munitions of war and provisions from New Orleans—a distance of a thousand miles.

Steamboats of shallow draught, suitable for navigating the Rio Grande, must be procured. The rainy season had then set in, and the shores of that river were inundated—even the encampments were overflowed—and the roads (if they merited this name) were impassable. Three or four months were occupied in overcoming these obstacles. Gen. Taylor was at length enabled to advance with a portion of his force to Monterey, and in September, won that important city from the enemy, after a struggle, in which our arms reaped fresh glory. For a victory such as this, the Romans would have granted a triumph to the General, and voted mural crowns to all engaged in such a gallant fight. "That they [the Mexicans] should have surrendered a place nearly as strong as Quebec, well fortified under the direction of skillful engineers—their works garnished with forty—two pieces of artillery, abundantly supplied with ammunition, garrisoned by 7000 regulars and 2000 irregular troops in addition to some thousand citizens capable of [and no doubt actually] bearing arms, and aiding in its defence—to an opposing force of half their number, scantily supplied with provisions, and with a light train of artillery— is among the unaccountable occurrences of the times." The skill and courage of our officers and men overcame these obstacles. The public will award to the gallant General and his troops the merit they deserve for this "unaccountable occurrence," notwithstanding the direct censure inflicted by the President upon General Taylor for granting liberal terms of capitulation to the Mexican troops—followed by the order to terminate the armistice, which would have been terminated in a few days by its own limitation, and the more recent vote of the House of Representatives Saltillio, about 70 miles from Monterey, is also in our possession. Beyond this point, Gen. Taylor regards it next to impracticable to advance. It is 300 miles from thence to San Luis Potosi—near 600 to the city of Mexico—rather a long march by this route to attain the promised reward of "revealing in the Halls of Montezuma." It would be needless to enumerate other difficulties in the prosecution of the war through the Northern States of Mexico.

Let us now view them from Tampico. The distance thence to San Luis Potosi is about 150 miles. If it were even desirable to reach the enemy at that point, it is wholly impracticable, as this route admits the transportation of nothing but what can be carried on the backs of mules. If artillery could be dispensed with, how many of these would be required to convey the munitions, provisions, &c. of the 20,000 men, who, say Gen. Taylor, "would be necessary to insure success, if we move on that place?" Where can they be procured? From Tampico to the city of Mexico is nearly 300 miles, which can be travelled by mules only, and is, if possible, more impracticable than the route to San Luis. It traverses a desolate, thinly settled country, and presents obstacles so numerous that the diligent traveller, with ordinary luggage, can average only three miles an hour. There is an abundance of water after the first day's journey from Tampico Viejo, where, for 25 miles, none is to be procured, and this scarcely potable. But an army would be compelled to carry its provisions, for nothing could be obtained except plantains and sugar cane, which are sometimes met with. It is hard to convey a just idea of the difficulties of this route. One portion of it leads, for 25 or 30 miles, along the rugged bed of a stream, with high mountains on either hand, amidst a most luxuriant tropical growth, the path crossing the stream, it is said, one hundred and twenty times. At another point, the traveller sleeps in a town the elevation of which gives it a temperature so cold as to require fire;—he then descends to the tierra caliente (the hot country)—crosses a mountain stream—ascends again to a considerable height— and a second time descends to the warm country, and takes his dinner surrounded by tropical fruits. He then ascends to a height exceeding 1500 feet by a steep and rugged path, and sleeps enveloped in his blanket. Here a small body of troops might prevent the advance of thousands. In view of these insurmountable obstacles, Tampico, as a military station, is of no value whatever. To the Navy, it affords a harbor for small steamers and vessels of light draught.

Let us now suppose Vera Cruz to be in our possession. The town may readily be carried by storm. After it is acquired, of what value is it to us? The Castle might, in course of time, be starved out, and forced to surrender. If it be well supplied with provisions, the sickly season may arrive before this stock be exhausted, and out troops would fall victims to an enemy more fat than the Mexicans. The town does not (as has been stated in some newspapers) command the Castle, and the inconsiderable heights in the rear are shifting sand--the latter, which are always shifting, offer for strong resistance by the Mexicans, who would, doubtless, abandon San Luis Potosi for the defence of their capital, and Tampico, is 4334 feet above the sea. Its climate is delightful—like that, probably, of Monterey. The contiguous slopes seem very fertile, and abound in tropical fruits. Our gallant army might readily gain this place, and retain it at pleasure. Nor would it be difficult to maintain its communications with Vera Cruz, though at hazard of great loss by disease during 7 or 8 months of the year. Hence to Mexico, many points offer for strong resistance by the Mexicans, who would, doubtless, abandon San Luis Potosi for the defence of their capital, and take advantage of every mountain pass. From Jalapa, the plains of Perote, of Puebla, and of Mexico must be crossed. Each is more impassable. Three or four months were occupied in overcoming these obstacles. One hundred and sixty miles from Vera Cruz, is Puebla, a large, well built city, with a population of about 50,000 or 60,000. Its elevation is 7181 feet above the sea. Portions of the plain produce excellent wheat; but like the preceding plain of Perote, it is generally sterile where facilities for irrigating it at pleasure do not exist. Fifty miles onward, from the lofty heights which must now be reached, with mountains of eternal snow near at hand, the eye ranges over the plain of Mexico to the city at its farther edge, 3000 feet below.
A Complimentary Supper was given to Col. Jno. F. Hamtramck, of the Virginia Volunteers, by his neighbors and friends in Charlestown, Jefferson county, on the 30th ult.  

[MPR]

RW47v24i13p2c2, February 12, 1847

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[MPR]
The Boston Whig of the 7th inst. informs us that Com. Kearney was in that city negotiating for the purpose of two schooners now running as packets. Two others have been bought in New York, and two more are to be added, each of which is to be armed with one of Alger’s new guns, of the heaviest calibre.

Col. Whistler, of the U.S. Army, met with a severe accident while leaving a boat at the mouth of the Rio Grande, his arm having been broken.

It is rumored that Com. Warrington is to take command of the Gulf Squadron, which is to co-operate with the army in the attack on the Vera Cruz and the Castle of St. Juan de Uloa.

Washington, Feb. 9, 1847.

The Senate was the great attraction to-day. After some unimportant business, the special order came up in the shape of the “Three Million Bill.” Mr. Calhoun having the floor, made a great speech on the War. He was in favor of withdrawing the troops from Mexico, to this side of the Rio del Norte. He said that five Regiments and a few small vessels could protect the whole line of boundary which he advocated, which was, to adopt the Rio Grande from its source to the Pass del Norte, thence West to the Pacific, which would give us Upper California. He deprecated the idea of passing any “Wilmot provisos,” and advocated a moderate course of policy, which would make the North refrain from urging its Anti-Slavery measures, while it would secure to the South all that it could reasonably expect. But I do not intend to make a report of his speech. I hope you will find room for it in full. It was listened to attentively by a crowded Senate, and fashionably attended galleries. It was one of his greatest efforts, and will be eagerly and attentively read by the great mass of people. It was clearly anti-Polk in all its positions.

In the House, a movement was made to expel the Reporters of the Washington Union, for the report in the House of Saturday’s proceedings. As a committee has been appointed to consider this subject, the motion was rejected by a very large majority.

The Three Million Bill was then taken up, and speeches were made by several members. Mr. Rathbun and other Locofocons made strong speeches against Slavery. Mr. Dixon of Connecticut made a very able speech against the Three Million Bill. It is supposed that this bill will pass the House, but fail in the Senate.

An important Bill was introduced to the notice of the House of Representatives to-day. It was moved by Mr. Washington Hunt of New York. It is entitled “A Bill for the Relief of Ireland.” It appropriated half a million of dollars to make purchases of flour and provisions to be sent to Ireland. I believe Mr. Webster and Mr. Calhoun are in favor of the measure. I think it will pass Congress without any opposition of much account.

We had a great meeting to-night, in Odd Fellows’ Saloon. The Vice President of the United States presided among the Vice Presidents–a member of Congress from every State and Territory in the United States–were Hon. Messrs. John C. Calhoun of South Carolina, J.J. Crittenden of Kentucky, J.M. Clayton of Delaware, D.R. Atkinson of Missouri, &c. Mr. Webster drew up the resolutions with his own pen, and made some remarks in introducing them to the meeting. Rev. Orville Dewey, D.D. read a very eloquent address to the people of the United States. Speeches were also made by Mr. Maclay of New York, Mr. Owen of Indiana, and Mr. Crittenden of Kentucky. Mr. Hannegan of Indiana and Mr. Corwin of Ohio were expected to address the meeting, but were prevented by sickness from attending.

Committees were appointed to receive subscriptions to transmit to Ireland the proceeds. The cities of New Orleans, Charleston, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and Boston were made general depots for the reception of contributions to be forwarded to Ireland. The meeting was attended by large numbers of ladies, and by a crowd of gentlemen. The resolutions submitted by Mr. Webster, and the address by Dr. Dewey were received with acclamation. The remarks of Mr. Crittenden were received with great applause. I shall probably send you a fuller account in my next letter.
The New Orleans Bulletin places little reliance in the reported assassination of Santa Anna. It is improbable for every reason, that paper thinks, and particularly for the one assigned for the act on the part of the soldiers.

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun (Locofoco) makes a revelation—which is "important, if true." He says: "After the close of the present session of Congress, President Polk may himself take a trip to Mexico, with Col. Benton, Gen. Cass and Mr. Crittenden as his staff, and if an opportunity should offer, as Commissioners." Not very probable.


A letter from the Camp on the Rio Grande, of the 27th ult. states that "Gen. Worth is confined to his bed, and is quite ill. He looks pale and thin, but issues his orders as minutely and as regularly as when he was able to sit his horse." Fears are expressed that he will have to suffer much before he can walk. His illness is ascribed to the effect of wounds received during the war of 1812, which have been rendered acutely painful by recent exposure and active exercise.

From the New Orleans Picayune, Feb. 3.

By the arrival yesterday of the schooner Mitis, Capt. Thompson, from Anton Lizardo, we have late intelligence of a very exciting nature from Mexico. We have a letter from our attentive correspondent, dated on the 20th ult., containing news of a most startling nature, as well as files of Vera Cruz papers up to the latest date received. The news of the death of Santa Anna, at the hands of his soldiers, needs confirmation; but that there is and has been great excitement against him there can be no doubt.

We see no account, in our files, of the Mexican Congress having touched the matter of a peace with the United States in any way. In all debates, on the contrary, the most hostile feeling appears to have been exhibited.

Santa Anna, in answer to the committee who proceeded to San Luis to congratulate him on his election to the Presidency, said that he had resources sufficient, out of his private means, to support the war for six months, and dismissed his audience highly gratified with the information.

The Mexican Government has raised La Vega from the rank of Colonel with the title of General, to that of Brigadier General, in recompense for his bravery in the action of Resaca de la Palma. A motion has also been made in Congress, by Senor Godoy, which was carried, to present Gen. La Vega with a gold medal bearing the following inscription: on one side, "The National Representation of 1846;" on the reverse, "To Gen. La Vega for his conduct at the Resaca de Guerrero."

By the way of San Luis we have the Mexican accounts, undoubtedly, of the recent attack upon the rear guard of Col. May, in the mountain pass between Monte Morelos and Linares. In a communication of Santa Anna to the Secretary War, he says that he has received the following dispatch from Don Francisco Paula de Morelos, Governor of New Leon, under date of the 28th December, 1846. We copy it entire:

"In my official communication of yesterday I informed your Excellency that one hundred and seven Americans had proceeded through the defiles of Morelos, and occupied Galeana on the 27th. I have now to inform your Excellency, that at 8 o'clock on the morning of the following day they resumed their march in the direction of Linares, through the defile of Santa Rosa. The inhabitants of San Pedro,
however, irritated, at the boldness of the invaders, prepared to attack them on the march at one of those points which I am informed are calculated to repel, with success, any enemy. Accordingly, they attacked them today, at 11 o’clock, A.M., a short distance from the village of San Pedro, having only a force of 25 men and boys. With hardly any arms but stones they succeeded in destroying the whole party, as I am informed. I have not yet received full particulars, but 11 of the enemy, who retreated towards the town, were apprehended by inhabitants, and these I forward, under proper guard, to headquarters."

One of the writers at San Luis describes a general review of the troops at that city on the 2d ult. He says: “they were well armed, equipped and uniformed, it was a pleasure to gaze upon them, and they appeared as though it were impossible to vanquish them.: It can be done, however.

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**U.S. Squadron, Anton Lizardo, Jan. 20.**

There is a report at Vera Cruz that the opposition of Santa Anna to the recent decree of Congress, for the sale of church property, has provoked the vengeance of the soldiers, and that he has been shot. I have heard none of the circumstances attending this alleged outbreak, which of course requires confirmation to be implicitly relied upon. There are many circumstances, however, which render it quite likely that such has been the fate of Santa Anna.

Congress, after a long and stormy session on the 9th inst., approved the first section of a bill which had been introduced on the 7th authorizing the Government to raise $15,000,000 by the hypothecation or sale of certain goods of the church. This project was violently opposed in Congress and out of Congress, and was represented to be nothing less than a scheme to close the churches, suspend divine worship, and starve the priesthood and the inmates of the convents. It was defended on the score of imperious necessity, as being the only means by which money could be raised to save the country from denationalization, the race from extinction, and the very churches from being desecrated. It is said that unless the army at San Luis Potosi could be guaranteed speedy relief and succor by the passing of this measure on that night, that they would disband in the face of the enemy and march on Mexico to subvert the Government. The first article was passed by a vote of 55 to 31. The question upon selling the church property appears to have been taken separately, and to have encountered a stronger opposition, as the vote was 44 to 35. The project emanated from the Government, and the bill was supported by the ministers.

The passage of the law has created the greatest excitement throughout Mexico. The churches are closed, and every indication of mourning and of resistance has been evinced by those who support the religious establishments. The Government have addressed to the soldiers a circular, in which the most stringent measures are authorized for preserving order and enforcing the decree.

Santa Anna declared his opposition to the bill.

If he has been assassinated, as report has it, I am inclined to think there is little prospect of peace, except with the subjugation of the whole country. The Mexican Congress and Mexican press every where make this the [...]– "Ser o no ser." The administration of the country is in the hands of men who have nothing to loss by the misfortune of their country, and the army is conducted by generals who even hail defeat as affording them the best opportunity of filling their pockets with the public funds.

It has been proposed by Gen. Gambos in Congress, to prohibit entirely the exportation of gold and silver without the express permission of Congress during the war with the United States.

It is stated that provision has been made for fortifying the passage between Vera Cruz and Mexico, viz: Puente Nacional, Plan del Rio and Cerro Gordo.

Lt. Rains arrived here a few days ago in charge of 17 prisoners who were exchanged for the "naufrajios" of the Somers, then held in Vera Cruz. Mr. Rogers is still held in confinement, but is I learn from himself treated with great kindness. Gen. La Vega called on him before he left Vera Cruz for Mexico and promised to obtain for him his liberty. It is now said in Vera Cruz that he will be released in a few days.

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**From the Seat of War.**

It will be seen by the intelligence of another column that Gen’l Scott is rapidly concentrating his force, with the intention, now no longer questionable, of taking up a line of march for Vera Cruz– taking Gen’l Worth with him, and leaving “Old Rough and Ready” in command at Monterey.

The rumor of the violent death of Santa Anna, in one of those civil brawls of which Mexico seems fated to be the theatre, is by no means improbable. What will be its effect, if it be true, upon the question of peace or war, it is difficult to conjecture. Indeed, no reliable opinion can be formed as to the future policy of a people so factious and turbulent, and of a government so unstable, that we scarcely hear of the installation of its officers before the tidings reach us of their banishment or their violent death. We shall perhaps receive further and more authentic news by this morning’s mail.

[MPR]
Col. Sterne Simmons, of Madison County, Mississippi, committed suicide, while laboring under an aberration of mind, at Vicksburg, on the 30th ult.

The Washington correspondent of the *Baltimore Sun* says, the Three Million Bill, if not defeated, will have a narrow escape. The two Texas Senators are against it. They go for "conquering a peace," not buying it.

It is understood here that the President will give the appointment of Brigadier General, to command the Southern Volunteers, either to Gen. Cadwallader of Philadelphia, or to Major Gwynn of this city. Independent of the manifest propriety of appointing a Southern man to command the Southern volunteers, it is sufficient, without comparing the qualifications of the two gentlemen, that Pennsylvania has already been honored by the appointment of a Major General, who is no in the field, to incline the scale in favor of Virginia. We hope that the representatives from this State will urge the claims of Virginia, in the person of one of her sons, every way qualified to adorn the station, by pressing the appointment of Maj. Gwynn upon the Executive.

Col. Webb, in a letter to the N.Y. Courier, from Washington, says:— "When the Army Bill will become a law, I dare not venture to predict; but I hope and trust that it will be very shortly, as I stand pledged to the Executive to remain here until it does, to learn whether he intends to send me to Mexico."

The *New York Express* aptly says:— "We never before heard of a people spending a hundred millions of dollars in war to punish a nation accused of robbing us, and of invading our soil, and then giving it three millions to make peace! Among all the originalities of the United States, Europe, we venture to say, will look upon this as the oddest. If any body pays, surely Mexico ought to pay us three millions!"

The last N.Y. *Spirit of the Times* contains a long and highly interesting Diary, from the pen of its accomplished correspondent [Capt. Henry, of the 3d Infantry,] attached to the army in Mexico, for the whole of which we regret that we have not room. We copy from it the following *picture* of old Rough and Ready:

"Winding down a hill, our column was halted to let a troop of horse pass. Do you see at their head a plain looking gentleman, mounted upon a brown horse, having upon his head a Mexican sombrero, dressed in a brown olive-colored loose frock coat, grey pants, wool socks and shoes; from under the frock appears the scabbard of a sword; he has the eye of an eagle, and every lineament of his countenance is expressive of honesty, and a calm, determined mind. Reader, do you know who this plain looking gentleman is? No? Is it Major Gen'l Zachary Taylor, who, with his military family, and a squadron of Dragoons as an escort, is on his way to Victoria. He never has around him any of the 'pomp and circumstance of the glorious war;' but when the battle rages, when the victory hangs upon a thread, when the bravest even dread the galling fire, you will find, foremost among them all, the brave and gallant General, whose presence alone insures a victory."
If, as the Enquirer says, the adoption, by the unanimous vote of the “Democratic” House of Delegates of Virginia, of resolutions of thanks to Gen. Taylor, argues an absence of all “malignity” on their part towards that distinguished officer, what does the refusal to pass similar resolutions by the House of Representatives at Washington imply? And what inference are we to draw from the more than half-expressed approbation of the course of that House by the Executive Organ, speaking doubtless organically on the subject?

From Anton Lizardo.—The schooner Loredo, Capt. Thomas, arrived yesterday from Anton Lizardo, having sailed on the 19th ult. The news by her is unimportant, but we learn that on the day the Loredo came away the U.S. steamer Princeton went into Vera Cruz, with Lieut. Raines on board as bearer of despatches, as sixteen Mexican prisoners who had been taken at the mouth of the Rio Grande.

The frigate Raritan was lying at Anton Lizardo; the rest of the U.S. Squadron were at Sacrificios.—N.O. Picayune.

Col. Mitchell, who commanded a regiment of Ohio volunteers at Monterey and who was badly wounded there, has almost entirely recovered. His friends will be pleased to learn that this gallant officer is now here, on his way to rejoin his regiment.—Ib. [MPR]

Correspondence of the Whig.

Baltimore, Feb. 8, 1847–10 P.M.

The last sad funereal rites of the gallant Col. Watson and Capt. Ridgely, were performed to-day. It was an occasion imposingly grand and solemn. The Military, Odd Fellows and Firemen turned out in strong numbers. The bodies of the honored dead were borne upon two magnificent hearses, drawn each by six richly caparisoned horses. The coffins, covered with black velvet, and beautifully ornamented with gold bullion fringe, plated with silver, &c, were on the top of the hearse. Following immediately in the rear of Col. Watson was the celebrated old soldier, Albert Hart, who lost his arm in the battle of Monterey while fighting under his lamented Colonel. He carried in the remaining left hand the proud banner of his beloved country. The brave Captain Walker, so notorious as a Texas Ranger, was also conspicuous in the solemn train. The entire procession was over a mile in length, and displayed at every point splendid banners, flags, &c. It marched to solemn and appropriate music, which fell in impressive tones upon the ear. The streets and avenue through which the pageant passed, were thronged by thousands, who came out to honor the gallant dead. It was truly an impressive and solemn occasion, and at the silent sepulchre, where the dead patriots now sleep, unheeding the world’s rude strife, many a tear dropped to their memory.

At a meeting of the Stockholders and Directors of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company, this morning, it was agreed to postpone action in regard to extending the road until the 22d inst. when another meeting will take place, and something definite, in all probability, be accomplished. A committee was appointed, who will report to the next meeting. The friends of the Southern Route had great hopes that Virginia would grant the right of way, but the action of your Legislature has destroyed these hopes. This great internal improvement must be extended to the Ohio, but to do so by awaiting further Virginia legislation would be out of the question.

From the N.O. Picayune, Feb. 2.

By the arrival last evening of the steamship McKim, Capt. Philsburry, from Brazos via Galveston, we have dates from the former place up to the 24th January and from the latter up to the 29th. The McKim remained at Galveston long enough for the editors there to make up the intelligences, and from the News we make up the following summary.

By far the most important news is the arrival at the Brazos of Gen. Wool with his command. He arrived there on the 23d ult. by way of Camargo. The news says that Gens. Scott and Worth are to have command of the main and regular army which is now concentrating at Tampico or at some place in the neighborhood. The new recruits have there place of rendezvous at the new island of Lobos, about sixty miles to the south of Tampico. The opinion is almost universal that a movement is now to be made against Vera Cruz. It is understood that that place is to be invested both by land and water. Col. Harney, with five companies of the 2d dragoons, was expected in Matamoros on the 21st ult, on which day Col. Duncan arrived there, and his battery was hourly expected. Lieut. Kearney had arrived with his company the day before.
From the News we also learn that Gen. Taylor has returned from Victoria to Monterey with a small escort. He is to remain at the latter place in command of the volunteers. His orders to this effect proceed from Gen. Scott, who now holds the chief command.

Gen. Wool was in command at Saltillo or in the neighborhood, retaining his original force, 3000 men. He was encamped on an elevated and commanding position ten miles to the south of Saltillo on the road to San Luis Potosi. This place is called Buena Vista, and gives General Wool, with a battery of twelve pieces of ordnance, command of the only passable route to and from San Luis. His orders are to maintain this position.

Col. Hardin and his regiment from Illinois– a part of Gen. Wool’s command– are spoken of in the highest terms. The discipline of this regiment is said to have been carried to an almost incredible degree of perfection. In fact, the whole of Gen. Wool’s army is represented as composed of excellent troops, in whose valor and good conduct every confidence may be placed.

The kindness and hospitality of the Mexican ladies at Parras are highly eulogised. At the time of Gen. Wool’s departure from that place there were thirteen invalid soldiers too much worn by sickness to accompany the army. On this occasion some fifty or sixty Mexican ladies, favorable to the American cause, visited the hospital, every one of whom sought it as a favor that she might be able to take home one of those suffering soldiers, where she might be able to nurse and restore him to health. All, of course, could not be gratified in this benevolent desire, and great was the disappointment of those who had to return without an American soldier. Another similar case is given of the two daughters of Don Lorenzo Yarto, a citizen of Parras, who took a sick soldier in their charge, and after several days in succession they kept a constant watch over him, the one sitting by his bedside by day, and the other performing the same service by night. These instances of kindness and humanity are related by Dr. Woodworth, who is direct from Parras, and should be recorded. They will certainly not be soon forgotten by those who have thus had their sufferings alleviated.

A Mr. Laing, who has been engaged in the wine trade between Parras and Chihuahua, recently returned from the later city, and reports that Gen. Cuyllt, late Governor of Chihuahua, was posted at San Rosalia as early as the 10th of December, with a force of 2000 citizen soldiers or rancheros, with a view to intercept Gen. Wool, who was expected to march upon Chihuahua from Monclova.

The above is all the intelligence of importance we can find. The arrival of Gen. Worth, with his division, at the Brazos, is of moment, as it would prove almost conclusively that an immediate attack upon Vera Cruz, by land is contemplated. We shall soon hear of stirring events.

Postscript– Still Later.

At 1 o’clock this morning the U.S. steamship Alabama, Capt. Windle, arrived from Brazos Santiago, which place she left on Saturday evening last, the 31st ult., making the run to the Balize in forty-eight and to the city in fifty-six hours– the quickest trip ever made.

Among the passengers by the Alabama were Maj. Morris, Captains Irwin and Fulton, Lieut. Hamilton, Dr. W.R. Smith, and Mr. Smith. Besides these were Messrs. J.A. Banks and Dr. Vanvolra, with the remains of Lieut. Woods, Capt. Johnson with the remains of Gen. Hamer, and Mr. C.G. Miller with those of Capt. Williams.

We have received several letters from Mr. Lumsden, who sailed for Tampico on the 30th ult. in the schooner Eliza S. Leper. We have not room for them to-day, but can state that they mention the arrival of the ships Sharon, Archillaus and Ondiaka, with Louisiana volunteers, and their departure for either Lobos Island or Tampico; also that the regiment of “Rifles” have been dismounted; and further, that Col. Harney has been arrested by Gen. Scott for disobedience of orders, and was to be tried immediately by court martial. More full particulars to-morrow.

We have also received letters from Mr. Haile, who is with Gen. Worth’s division, but which the lateness of the hour prevents our giving this morning. His last letter is dated “On the Rio Grande, near Palo Alto,” on the 27th ult, in which he states that Gen. Worth is quite unwell, but still able to give orders. He has between two and three thousand men with him– the pick of the army.

Gen. Scott and staff still remained at Brazos, but it was thought would sail in a few days for Tampico. The news brought by the McKim that Gen. Taylor had returned to Monterey is confirmed.

The vessels with the 1st Regiment Pennsylvania volunteers on board had arrived off the Brazos– all well. They had been ordered, it is said, to Lobos.

From Tampico we have dates to the 26th ult, brought by Maj. Morris. He informs us that Gen. Patterson arrived there on the 23d with 4500 men. Gens. Twigg, Quitman and Pillow were along– troops all in good health.

The steamer Cincinnati was lost on the night of the 22d ult, about 25 miles to the northward of Tampico. She had on board two companies of troops and two 9 pounders, and was bound on an expedition against Soto la Marina. Two soldiers and the two pieces of cannon were lost. The vessel was sold as she lay high and dry for $50.
One of the letters states that Congress, on the 9th ult., after a stormy session, approved the first section of a bill authorising the Government of Mexico to raise $15,000,000 by the hypothecation or sale of certain goods of the church. Santa Anna opposed this, and it is rumored that his opposition so exasperated his soldiers that they had shot him! Our correspondent says that this report required confirmation, but there are many circumstances which still render it not impossible such has been the fate of Santa Anna. The army was in great distress.

The passage of the above law has certainly created the greatest excitement in Mexico. The churches are closed, and every indication of mourning and of resistance has been evinced by those who support the religious establishments.

The Mexican Congress, and the Mexican press everywhere, appear to be thoroughly aroused. The issue they make is “Ser o no ser”—to be or not to be.

Mr. Rogers was still in confinement at Vera Cruz, but was well treated.

We have files of papers, but have no time to look at them before the mail closes. To–morrow we shall give a full summary of the news.

[MPR]

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**RW47v24i14p1c1, February 16, 1847, Mr. McPherson’s Resolution.**

On Friday last, Mr. McPherson, one of the delegates from the Tenth Legion, submitted, in the House of Delegates, a preamble and resolutions, which we have been for some time past anticipating, touching the origin and prosecution of the Mexican War, which we cannot permit to pass without that “full and free expression of opinion,” which, in the words of the preamble, “is demanded by the public […]”–though, according to the modern doctrine of “moral treason,” interpolated into the political code by the party of which the member from Page is so distinguished a leader, we may incur the pains and penalties of “the second section,” for presuming to dissent from such high authority.

We have heard it surmised that the authors of this movement had a purpose in view, in the introduction of these resolutions, which does not appear upon the surface—and that was to compel the Calhoun men to show their hands—either to commit them to the propositions therein set forth, or to throw them in an attitude of open opposition to the Hunkerism on this vital question of public policy. We have scanned the list of delegates for the purpose of ascertaining the course of those who are understood to be the friends of Mr. Calhoun; and we find that about a moiety of them did not vote at all, while only six of them voted for the first resolution, in relation to the origin of the war. On the second, extolling the “eminent ability” with which the President has conducted the war, the number of absentees was dismissed by one, six voted for it, and one against it. Whether the suggesters and mover of the resolutions accomplished their alleged principle object of entrapping the “twenty–three,” therefore, is a problem as difficult as ever (regarding them as a party,) of solution—especially if it be true, as conjectured, that a portion of those who voted in the affirmative did so with decided repugnance, and not without certain mental reservations. Perhaps they had not read Mr. Calhoun’s great speech— or, if they had given it a slight perusal, they had not “learned and inwardly digested” that condensed and masculine argument. But to the resolutions themselves. The first reads as follows:

Resolved, That the present war with the Republic of Mexico, most unrighteously provoked on her part by a long series of outrages towards the United States, presents such an occasion as requires the united action of all true friends of the country in enforcing a speedy and honorable termination of this war, by a vigorous prosecution of hostilities.

We submit to the authors and supporters of this resolution that they have involved themselves and their party in a “predicament,” by not being more careful in their phraseology. They should have studied Senator Cass’ speech, in order to learn how to turn a corner adroitly, and to show two fronts at the same moment. What is the fact asserted in the foregoing resolution? It is, that “the present war with the Republic of Mexico” has been “most unrighteously provoked on her part” by a long series of outrages towards the United States. And what, then, is the inference which the member from Page and the majority in the House of Delegates would have the country to draw from this assertion? Is any man ass enough to believe that Mexico began the war upon us, as is alleged by Mr. Polk and the party generally, because she had been guilty of “this long series of outrages” against us? What had she to complain of, or to avenge? Why should she strike at us because she had thus wronged us? The language of the resolution is an express admission that the existing war, “provoked on her part” by the outrages referred to, running back, according to Gen. Cass, as far as 1817, and which for thirty years had been patiently submitted to by Monroe, Adams, Jackson and Tyler, was commenced by our own act, and not “by the act of Mexico.” And if this be so, by what authority, we ask, was the war waged? Congress, although in session at the time, had issued no declaration on the subject; and the very first act of that body, the exclusive war–making power, was to recognise its existence, announced to them by the President, at whose instigation they inserted in the preamble of the act providing means for its prosecution, the memorable declaration, the falsehood of which is shown by the foregoing resolution, that this war “exists by the act of Mexico.”

Now, we care not how flagrant were the wrongs and injuries we had sustained at the hands of Mexico, or how long they had been continued— which we admit now, as we have heretofore done, might long ago have justified Congress in taking up arms for their redress, and doubtless would have done so but for the peculiar position of that country, in which they can scarcely be said to have been a government at all since she threw off the yoke of Spain. That she has done enough to have “provoked a war,” we admit. But has the Constitution confided to the President the high prerogative of avenging national wrongs and injuries by an appeal to the sword, whenever he may think fit to unsheathe it? This, we beg to say, is the gist of the controversy—the great point in issue between the two
The second resolution is in the following words:

“Resolved, That the thanks of the General Assembly are due and are hereby cordially tendered to the President of the United States, for the justice, firmness, and eminent ability with which he has conducted the war with Mexico.”

This resolution comes with great propriety from a delegate representing a county in the famous "Tenth Legion." The zeal displayed in that quarter of the State in support of the war, ad the alacrity with which the citizen of those counties rushed to the field, at the sound of the bugle, authorize them peculiarly, through their representatives, to thank even the President for the “firmness” and the “eminent ability” with which he has “conducted the war.” A writer in the Washington Union of Thursday last, proceeding, upon an assumption, so flattering to Mr. Polk’s vanity, [...] so false in fact, and so unjust to Gen. Taylor and his gallant associates, has the cool impudence to ascribe to the wise plans of the President the rapidity with which “our victorious eagle had crossed the rivers and the mountains of Mexico, and planted our standard on many of her strongholds.” Do the majority in the House of Delegates intend to unite with the servile courtiers and venal parasites who surround the President, in robbing our gallant Generals and their subalterns of the fame they have won, in order to gratify to ever craving appetite of Power for the flattery and adulation which constitute its hourly food? The President’s “firmness and eminent ability,” forsooth! Where shall the evidence that he possesses either quality be found? We might point to the instances in which he betrayed a consciousness of the flimsiness of this assumption. He felt that it was necessary to expiate upon the outrages perpetuated by Mexico, in order to arouse the passions of the people, and to escape from the consequences of his own rash and unconstitutional action, to which alone the origin of the war is to be traced. He has indeed incurred a fearful responsibility, and we are not surprised that he seeks to escape from it, by an effort to induce the people to trace the war to causes which had nothing whatever to do with it, and which, even if they had been of a character to justify hostilities, it was the [...] of Congress, and not of the President, to make the declaration to the world. We doubt, therefore, whether the Administration will be more obliged to Mr. McPherson for his good intentions, or dissatisfied with the bungling manner in which he has essayed its vindication and defence.

It will be seen by our interesting Washington correspondent, that Mr. Calhoun has at length been openly attacked by a member of the Senate from Tennessee, and thrown upon his defence; and right valiantly has he repelled the assault. We rejoice that from a source it once so distinguished, and so exempt from those party feelings by which the Whigs may be supposed to be biased, the country is emphatically told, that the War in which we are engaged is the President’s War– made by him in violation of the Constitution– that its true origin was the march of the troops from the Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande– and that, when that order was given, by which the President assumed to himself the right to settle a disputed question of boundary, he knew, by information then in the Department of State, that, if our troops were allowed to remain where they were originally stationed, at Corpus Christi, “the Western frontier of Texas,” the Mexican forces would not cross the Rio Grande, and consequently there would have been no rupture. We thank Mr. Calhoun for this development– though we could have desired, for his and the country’s sake, that it had been made long ago. This development accounts for Mr. Calhoun’s refusal to vote for the war bill at the last session, when he declared that he would not make war upon Mexico! We commend these facts to the consideration of Mr. McPherson and the dominant party in the Legislature.

[MPR]
The New Orleans *Picayune* of the 7th inst. learns by a passenger in the schr. *Petrel* from Yucatan, that another Commissioner has been dispatched to Com. Conner, upon whose representations, the Commodore had determined to raise the blockade of Laguna.

[MPR]

We insert this morning the lucid statement of Col. Jefferson Davis, and the Generals Worth and Henderson, the commissioners who negotiated the terms of the capitulation of Monterey, which have been made the occasion recently of such harsh reflections upon Gen. Taylor. It will be seen that Gen. T. did not require the commissioners to subscribe to these terms, as has been heretofore stated with so much confidence, but that they were agreed to by those gentlemen— who still avow their willingness to defend their wisdom and expediency against all assailants— and afterwards approved by the Commanding General. Will Mr. Thompson of Mississippi enter the lists against his late colleague, Jefferson Davis? Will Orlando Fickin take up the gauntlet thrown down to him by General Worth? *Nous verrons*.

[MPR]

Washington, Feb. 12, 1847.

The Senators were all day, to-day, engaged in the discussion of the conduct of the Union. But there were saying and doings worthy of particular attention. There is an old saying which assures us that when rogues fall out, honest men will likely get their own; and when a band of political traitors quarrel, truth may triumph over political falsehood.

The question before the Senate was the expulsion of the Editors and reporters of the Union from the Senate. The principal speakers were Messrs. Allen, Sevier, Yulee, Turney, […] and Mr. Calhoun, and his colleague, Mr. Butler, were drawn in on a side issue. This was the most important part of the discussion. It is worth more than the whole expense of a week’s legislation to have truth laid down with such firmness as Mr. Calhoun stated it to-day. The most remarkable statement was the bold avowal of Mr. Calhoun, to-day, that this war was brought on by the act of the President of the United States. Yes! here we have it acknowledged, by a great Statesman, a leading member of the dominant party, the idol of the Southern Locofocons, that notwithstanding the statement contained in the preamble of the bill recognizing the war, that notwithstanding the reiteration of this statement by Executive flatterers and nonpartizans, and by the Executive himself, the truth is […] avowed by this independent Statesman, who fully endorsed the Whig ground, long maintained, that this was now […] by the daring usurpations of the Executive. Mr. Turney, having made very pointed allusions to the career of Mr. Calhoun, having referred to him as the leader of the ”Balance of Power faction,” and having charged that Mr. Calhoun got the country into the war, by urging the Annexation of Texas, which was the cause of the war:

Mr. Calhoun rose to reply. He said he had been accused of aspiring to be President. He said he aspired higher. He aspired to be an independent Senator; which he would rather be, than be President, as Presidents had been chosen for many years past.

Mr. Turney said Mr. Calhoun had been on both sides of every question before the country for a long time. He prophesied that Mr. Calhoun’s friends would support him for the Presidency against the caucus candidate. He said he admired Mr. Calhoun very much, and would support him is he could; but he had made up his mind, hereafter, to ask as politician from principle. This assertion, involving the acknowledgement, that hitherto he had not acted from principle, caused great laughter.

Mr. Calhoun said that his acts, in the Senate, were not the result of obedience to party. They were done from a sense of […] The only thing he had opposed the Administration on this session, was the Lieutenant Generalship, and in this he but agreed with the great mass of people. Never was a measure so much condemned as this was. He showed that in the Treaty of the Annexation of Texas, which he had sanctioned, the Rio Grande was not the boundary. The Senator from Tennessee contended that Annexation brought on war, and yet the great staple of Mr. Polk’s late Message was that the cause of this war were the acts of Mexico against our citizens long prior to the Annexation. The cause of the war was marching our troops from the Nueces to the Rio Grande. He charged that the Administration knew that if we did not invade the territory between the Nueces and the Rio Grande from the East, Mexico would not invade it from the West. The President may have though the Rio Grande the boundary, but what business had he to think any thing about it? Congress alone had any business to say any thing about boundaries. The marching of our army from Corpus Christi— that was the cause of the war. South Carolina did not do that. The Senator from Tennessee could tell what State the man belonged to that did it.

Mr. Calhoun contended that war could have been easily avoided. The march of Gen. Taylor ought to have been arrested. When he heard that the President had ordered our troops to march to the Rio Grande, he was utterly astonished; and had it not been that the Senate was so eagerly engaged in the discussion of the Oregon question, he would have moved, in the Senate, that the troops should be recalled. But he would not say more about the origin of the war, though the bottom of that business was not yet discovered.

Mr. Yulee made an eloquent defence of Mr. Calhoun. This called to Mr. Turney again, who descended so low as to refer to a conversation between two gentlemen which he had overheard.
Mr. Calhoun said he would relieve Mr. Yulee from the delicacy of replying to this, and said that when Mr. Yulee asked him his opinion of the article in the Union, he said it was utterly disgraceful and that the Editors should be expelled.

But the plainest speech was made by Mr. Butler of South Carolina, who was greatly excited by the attack upon his colleague. He denounced the conduct of a Senator who could overhear and take advantage of a private conversation. He said that he would rather belong to the Balance of Power party than to those who "go it blind" for Party rather than for the Constitution.

He was glad, however, to know that for the balance of his (Mr. Turney’s) life he intended to act from principle! He hoped decency would go with it. Upon this occasion he had made himself the vehicle of the vulgar newspaper slang of the day against his (Mr. Butler’s) colleague. He was sorry that the President did not restrain this licentiousness. He concluded by comparing the conduct of the gentleman from Tennessee to that of the silly Crow, who, seeing an eagle carry off a lamb, stuck his claws in the wool of the ram of the flock, but was soon caught and cooped, and laughed at by the rest of the [...] .

Mr. Turney rose to reply. He said that the gentleman had advised him to continue to act decently. Mr. Butler replied no– but to begin to be decent. And so this ought continue until the Senate adjourned, having been engaged with this business for five hours, without coming to any conclusion thereon. I presume they will finish it to–morrow.

The House was occupied with the debate on the Three Million Bill, upon which they have agreed to vote on Monday.

I understand that ed–Senator Haywood, of North Carolina, will pass through your city in a day or two, on his way North. His numerous friends will be glad to meet him here.

BRUTUS.

[MPR]

RW47v24i14p1c6, February 16, 1847

To the Editor of the Washington Union.

Victoria, Tamaulipas, Mexico,
January 6, 1847.

Dear Sir: After much speculation and no little misrepresentation about the capitulation of Monterey, I perceive by our recent newspapers, that a discussion has arisen as to who is responsible for that transaction. As one of the commissioners who were entrusted by General Taylor with the arrangement of the terms upon which the city of Monterey and its fortifications should be delivered to our forces, I have had frequent occasion to recur to the course then adopted, and the considerations which led to it. My judgment after the fact has fully sustained my decisions at the date of the occurrence; and feeling myself responsible for the instrument as we prepared and presented it to our commanding general, I have the satisfaction, after all subsequent events, to believe that the terms we offered were expedient, and honorable, and wise. A distinguished gentleman with whom I acted on that commission, Governor Henderson, says, in a recently published letter, "I did not at the time, nor do I still like the terms, but acted as one of the commissioners, together with Gen. Worth and Col. Davis, to carry out Gen. Taylor's instructions. We ought and could have made them surrender at discretion," &c. &c.

From each position taken in the above paragraph I dissent. The instructions given by Gen. Taylor only presented his object, and fixed a limit to the powers of his commissioners; hence, when points were raised which exceeded our discretion, they were referred to the commander; but minor points were acted on, and finally submitted as part of our negotiation. We fixed the time within which the Mexican forces should retire from Monterey. We agreed upon the time we would wait for the decision of the respective governments, which I recollect was less by 34 days than the Mexican commissioners asked— the period adopted being that which, according to our estimate, was required to bring up the rear of our army with the ordnance and supplies necessary for further operations.

I did not then, nor do I now, believe we could have made the enemy surrender at discretion. Had I entertained the opinion it would have been given to the commission, and to the commanding general, and would have precluded me from signing and agreement which permitted the garrison to retire with the honors of war. It is demonstrable, from the position and known prowess of the two armies, that we could drive the enemy from the town; but the town was untenable whilst the main fort (called the new citadel) remained in the hands of the enemy. Being without siege artillery or entrenching tools, we could only hope to carry this fort by storm, after a heavy loss from our army, now numbered less than half the forces of the enemy. When all this had been achieved, what more would we have gained than by capitulation?

Gen. Taylor’s force was too small to invest the town. It was, therefore, always in the power of the enemy to retreat, bearing his light arms. Our army— poorly provided, and with very insufficient transportation— could not have overtaken, if they had pursued the flying enemy. Hence the conclusion that, as it was not in our power to capture the main body of the Mexican army, it is unreasonable to suppose their General would have surrendered at discretion. The moral effect of retiring under the capitulation was certainly greater than if the enemy had retreated without our consent. By this course we secured the large supply of ammunition he had collected at Monterey— which, had the assault been continued, must have been exploded by our shells, as it was principally stored in “the Cathedral,” which, being supposed to be filled with troops, was the especial aim of our pieces. The destruction which the explosion would have produced must have involved the advance of both divisions of our troops; and I commend this to the consideration of those whose arguments have been drawn from the facts learned since the commissioners closed their negotiations. With these introductory
we had parted from the Mexican commissioners; they were tardy in joining us, and slow in executing the instrument of capitulation. Commission reassembled, and the points of capitulation were agreed upon. After a short recess we again repaired to the room in which the negotiations were conducted. Gen. W. G. Worth asked permission of Gen. Taylor, and addressed some remarks to Gen. Ampudia, the spirit of which was that he manifested throughout the negotiation, viz: generosity and leniency, and a desire to spare the further effusion of blood. The terms of the demand were refused by the Mexican commissioners, who drew up a counter proposition, of which I only recollect the following:

Copy of demand by United States Commissioners.

"I. As the legitimate result of the operations before this place, and the present position of the contending armies, we demand the surrender of the town, the arms and munitions of war, and all other public property within the place.

"II. That the Mexican armed force retire beyond the Rinconada, Linares, and San Fernando, on the coast.

"III. The commanding general of the army of the United States agrees that the Mexican officers reserve their side arms and private baggage; and the troops be allowed to retire under their officers without parole, a reasonable time being allowed to withdraw their forces.

"IV. The immediate delivery of the main work, no occupied, to the army of the United States.

"V. To avoid collisions, and for mutual convenience, that the troops of the United States shall not occupy the town until the Mexican forces have been withdrawn except for hospital purposes, storehouses, &c.

"VI. The commanding general of the United States agrees not to advance beyond the line specified in the second section before the expiration of eight weeks, or until the respective governments can be heard from."

The terms of the demand were refused by the Mexican commissioners, who drew up a counter proposition, of which I only recollect that it contained a permission to the Mexican forces to retire with their arms. This was urged as a matter of soldierly pride, and as an ordinary courtesy. We had reached the limit of our instructions, and the commission rose to report the disagreement.

Upon returning to the reception room, after the fact had been announced that the commissioners could not agree upon the terms, Gen. Ampudia entered at length upon the question, treating the point of disagreement as one which involved the honor of his country, spoke of his desire for a settlement without further bloodshed, and said he did not care about the pieces of artillery which he had at that place. Gen. Taylor responded to the wish to avoid unnecessary bloodshed. It was agreed the commission should reassemble, and we were instructed to concede the small arms; and I supposed there would be no question about the artillery. The Mexican commissioners now urged that, as all other arms had been recognised, it would be discreditable to the artillery if required to march without anything to represent their arm, and stated, in answer to an inquiry, that they had a battery of light artillery, maneuvered and equipped as such. The commission again rose, and reported the disagreement on the point of artillery.

Gen. Taylor hearing that more was demanded than the middle ground, upon which, in a spirit of generosity, he has agreed to place the capitulation, announced the conference at an end; and rose in a manner which showed his determination to talk no more. As he crossed the room to leave it, one of the Mexican commissioners addressed him, and some conversation, which I did not hear, ensued. Gen. Worth asked permission of Gen. Taylor, and addressed some remarks to Gen. Ampudia, the spirit of which was that which he manifested throughout the negotiation, viz: generosity and leniency, and a desire to spare the further effusion of blood. The commission reassembled, and the points of capitulation were agreed upon. After a short recess we again repaired to the room in which we had parted from the Mexican commissioners; they were tardy in joining us, and slow in executing the instrument of capitulation.

Jefferson Davis.
Camp Near Monterey, October 7th, 1846.

yielded my individual views and wishes; and, under that conviction, I shall never be ready to defend the terms of the capitulation. I am satisfied that our government would be pleased with the terms given by the capitulation; and being myself persuaded of that fact, I replied, that he would run no risk where it could be avoided— that he wished to avoid the further shedding of blood, and that he was Ampudia; and, at the same time, gave it as my opinion that they would be accepted by him before we left the town. General Taylor, ought to have been given, and so I said to General Taylor when I found him disposed to yield to the request of General.

The above is a correct statement of the leading facts connected with the transactions referred to, according to my recollection. It is, however proper, that I should further state, that my first impression was, that no better terms than those first proposed, on the part of Gen. Taylor, ought to have been given, and so I said to General Taylor when I found him disposed to yield to the request of General Ampudia; and, at the same time, gave it as my opinion that they would be accepted by him before we left the town.

Much has been said about the construction of article 2 of the capitulation, a copy of which is hereto appended. Whatever ambiguity there may be in the language used, there was a perfect understanding by the commissioners upon both sides, as to the intent of the parties. The distinction we made between light artillery equipped and maneuvered as such, designed for and used in the field, and pieces being the armament of a fort, was clearly stated on our side; and it was comprehended on their’s, appeared in the fact, that repeatedly they asserted their possession of light artillery, and said they had one battery of light pieces. Such conformity of opinion existed among our commissioners upon every measure which was finally adopted, that I consider them, in their sphere, jointly and severally responsible for each and every article of the capitulation. If, as originally viewed by Gen. Worth, our conduct has been in accordance with the peaceful policy of our government, and shall in any degree tend to consummate that policy, we may congratulate ourselves upon the part we have taken. If otherwise, it will remain to me as a deliberate opinion, that the terms of the capitulation gave all which could have followed, of desirable result, from a further assault. It was in the power of the enemy to retreat, and to bear with him his small arms, and such a battery as was contemplated in the capitulation. The other grants were such as it was honorable in a conquering army to bestow, and which it cost magnanimity nothing to give.

The above recollections are submitted to Generals Henderson and Worth for correction and addition that the misrepresentation of this transaction may be presented by a statement made whilst the events are recent and the memory fresh.

Jefferson Davis,
Colonel Mississippi Riflemen.

Camp Near Monterey, October 7th, 1846.

The above is a correct statement of the leading facts connected with the transactions referred to, according to my recollection. It is, however proper, that I should further state, that my first impression was, that no better terms than those first proposed, on the part of Gen. Taylor, ought to have been given, and so I said to General Taylor when I found him disposed to yield to the request of General Ampudia; and, at the same time, gave it as my opinion that they would be accepted by him before we left the town. General Taylor replied, that he would run no risk where it could be avoided— that he wished to avoid the further shedding of blood, and that he was satisfied that our government would be pleased with the terms given by the capitulation; and being myself persuaded of that fact, I yielded my individual views and wishes; and, under that conviction, I shall never be ready to defend the terms of the capitulation.

J. Pickney Henderson,
Major General Commanding the Texan Volunteers.

I not only counselled and advised, the opportunity being offered the general—in-chief, the first proposition; but cordially assented and approved the decision taken by Gen. Taylor in respect to the latter, as did every member of the commission, and for good and sufficient military and national reasons— and stand ready, at all times and proper places, to defend and sustain the action of the commanding general, and participation of the commissioners. Knowing that malignants, the tremer being off, are at work to discredit and misrepresent the case, (as I had anticipated,) I feel obliged to Col. Davis for having thrown together the material and the facts.

W.J. Worth,

Brig. Gen. commanding 2d division.

Monterey, Oct. 12th, 1846.

[Here follow the articles of capitulation agreed upon by the parties, which we deem it unnecessary to republish.] [MPR]

RW47v24i14p1c7, February 16, 1847

Mexican Privateers at Sea.– The New York Commercial Advertiser has received the following important notification, from its London
Correspondent of the *Daily Commercial List*. It is dated London, Jan. 19, 1847.

Three privateers sailed from the port of London on the 9th of Jan., 1847. They are British ships but have been renamed according to Spanish regulations, and they carry letters of marque. The names are as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Captain</th>
<th>Tons</th>
<th>Men</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reino de Castilla</td>
<td>Moody</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sebastian del Cano</td>
<td>Smith</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magallances</td>
<td>Lash</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>20</td>
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</tbody>
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These three vessels cleared out at the port of London for Mantilla, but are really for privateering on the broad Atlantic.

[MPR]

RW47v24i14p1c7, February 16, 1847

U.S. Ship *Ohio*,
Hampton Roads, Feb. 10th, 1847.

*To the Editors of the Baltimore American*–

Gentlemen:– Will you be kind enough to give the following a place in our valuable paper, and oblige many officers of this ship:

The U.S. ship of the line "Ohio," Captain S.H. Stringham, from Boston, arrived in Hampton Roads on the 10th inst. The Ohio has taken Norfolk in her passage to the Gulf of Mexico for the purpose of completing her crew from the Receiving Ship "Pennsylvania." She will take on board 100 men in a few days, by which time orders are expected from the Navy Department for her to proceed to the Gulf of Mexico and join our Squadron off Vera Cruz.

[MPR]

RW47v24i14p2c1, February 16, 1847

Senator Wallace, we understand, indulged in some very severe criticisms, in the debate last Saturday, upon Gen'l Taylor's military character. The Senator has some pretensions himself as a military man, having graduated at West Point, and being now, we believe, a Militia General, and his opinions are therefore entitled to some weight. Nevertheless, we doubt whether the country will condemn General Taylor, upon the judgment of one, however well versed in the theory of war, who has yet to win his spurs on the field. It is easier to play the critic than the soldier. Indeed, it is no uncommon thing for book makers to sit in judgment upon the campaigns of Napoleon and Wellington, and to point out the blunders of those great Captains. Gen. Taylor's will therefore probably survive Gen. Wallace's attack, as Gen. Harrison's has done that of Gen. Crary's! The criticism of the Senator, too, it strikes us, is not altogether in keeping with the *unanimous* vote of thanks to Gen. Taylor, tendered by the Legislature last week. Did the Senator thank him for his blunders?

[MPR]

RW47v24i14p2c1, February 16, 1847

We said yesterday, that it was surmised that "the McPherson resolutions," on the Mexican War, had a purpose in view which does not appear upon the surface. We were not then aware that this purpose was openly avowed, in the Senate, last Saturday, by Mr. Cox, who, we are informed, stated that they were intended to force the Calhoun men to show their hands. As most of them, however, were absent, the design was measurably frustrated.

[MPR]


On Saturday last, the following important communication was addressed by the President to both Houses of Congress:

*To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.*

Congress by the act of the 13th of May last declared that by the act of the Republic of Mexico, a state of war exists between that government and the United States, and "for the purpose of enabling the government of the United States to prosecute said war to a speedy and successful termination," authority was vested in the President to employ "the naval and military forces of the United States."

It has been my unalterable purpose, since the commencement of the hostilities by Mexico, and the declaration of the existence of war
by Congress, to prosecute the war in which the country was unavoidably involved with the utmost energy, with a view to its "speedy and successful termination" by an honorable peace.

Accordingly all the operations of our naval and military forces have been directed with this view. While the sword has been held in one hand, and our military movements pressed forward into the enemy's country, and its coasts invested by our navy, the tender of an honorable peace has been constantly presented to Mexico in the other.

Hitherto the overtures of peace which have been made by this government have not been accepted by Mexico. With a view to avoid a protracted war, which hesitancy and delay on our part would be so well calculated to produce, I informed you, in my annual message of the 8th of December last, that the war would "continue to be prosecuted with vigor as the best means of securing peace, and recommended to your early and favorable consideration the measures proposed by the Secretary of War, in his report accompanying that message.

In my message of the 4th January last, these and other measures deemed to be essential to the "speedy and successful termination" of the war, and the attainment of a just and honorable peace, were recommended to your early and favorable consideration.

The worst state of things which could exist in a war with such a power as Mexico, would be a course of indecision and inactivity on our part. Being charged by the constitution and the laws with the conduct of war, I have availed myself of all the means at my command to prosecute it energy and vigor.

The act "to raise for a limited time an additional military force, and for other purposes," and which authorizes the raising of ten additional regiments to the regular army, to serve during the war, and to be disbanded at its termination, which was presented to me on the 11th instant, and approved on that day, will constitute an important part of our military force. These regiments will be raised and moved to the seat of war with the least practicable delay.

It will be perceived that this act makes no provision for the organization into brigades and divisions of the increased force which it authorizes, nor for the appointment of general officers to command it. It will be proper that authority be given by law to make such organization, and to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, such number of major generals and brigadier generals as the efficiency of the service may demand. The number of officers of these grades now in service are not more than are required for their respective commands; but further legislative action during your present session will, in my judgment, be required, and to which it is my duty respectfully to invite your attention.

Should the war, contrary to my earnest desire, be protracted to the close of the term of service of the volunteers now in Mexico, who engaged for 12 months, an additional volunteer force will probably become necessary to supply their place. Many of the volunteers now serving in Mexico, it is not doubted, would cheerfully engage, at the conclusion of their present term, to serve during the war. They would constitute a more efficient force than could be speedily obtained by accepting the services of any new corps who might offer their services. They would have the advantage of the experience and discipline of a year's service and will have become accustomed to the climate, and be in less danger then new levies of suffering from the diseases of the country. I recommend, therefore, that authority be given to accept the services of such of the volunteers now in Mexico as the state of the public service may require, and who may, at the termination of their present term, voluntarily engage to serve during the war with Mexico, and that provision be made for commissioning the officers. Should this measure receive the favorable consideration of Congress, it is recommended that a bounty be granted to them upon their voluntarily extending their term of service. This would not only be due to these gallant men, but it would be economy to the government; because, if discharged at the end of the twelve months, the government would be bound to incur a heavy expense in bringing them back to their homes, and in sending to the seat of war new corps of fresh troops to supply their place.

By the act of the thirteenth of May last, the President was authorized to accept the services of volunteers, "in companies, battalions, squadrons, and regiments" but no provision was made for the filling of vacancies which might occur by death, or discharges from the service, on account of sickness or other casualties. In consequence of this omission, many of the corps now in service have been reduced much in numbers. Now was any provision made for filling vacancies of regimental or company officers who might die or resign. Information has been received at the War Department of the resignation of more than one hundred of these officers.

They were appointed by the State authorities, and no information had been received, except in a few instances, that their places have been filled; and the efficiency of the service has been impaired from this cause. To remedy these defects, I recommend that authority be given to accept the services of individual volunteers, to fill up the places of such as may die, or become unfit for the service and be discharged; and that provision be also made for filling the places of regimental and company officers who may die or resign. By such provisions, the volunteer corps may be constantly kept full, or may approximate the maximum number authorized and called into service in the first instance.

While it is deemed to be out true policy to prosecute the war in the manner indicated, and this make the enemy feel its pressure and its evils, I shall be at all times ready, with the authority conferred on me by the constitution, and with all the means which may be places at my command by Congress, to conclude a just and honorable peace.

Of equal importance with an energetic and vigorous prosecution of the war are the means required to defray its expenses, and to uphold and maintain the public credit.

In my annual message of the 8th December last, I submitted for the consideration of Congress the propriety of imposing as a war measure, revenue duties on some of the articles now embraced in the free list. The principal articles now exempt from duty, from which any considerable revenue could be derived, are tea and coffee. A moderate revenue duty on these articles, it is estimated, would produce annually an amount exceeding two and a half million of dollars. Though in a period of peace, when ample means could be derived from duties on other articles for the support of the government, it may have been deemed proper not to resort to a duty on
these articles; yet; when the country is engaged in a foreign war, and all our resources are demanded to meet the unavoidable increased expenditure in maintaining our armies in the field, no sound reason is perceived why we should not avail ourselves of the revenues which may be derived from this source. The objections which have heretofore existed to the imposition of these duties were applicable to a state of peace, when they were not needed. We are now, however, engaged in a foreign war. We need money to prosecute it, and to maintain the public honor and credit. It cannot be doubted that the patriotic people of the United States would cheerfully, and without complaint, submit to the payment of this additional duty or any other that may be necessary to maintain the honor of the country, provide for the unavoidable expenses of the government, and to uphold the public credit. It is recommended that any duties which may be imposed on these articles be limited in their duration to the period of the war.

An additional annual revenue it is estimated, of between half a million and a million dollars, would be derived from the graduation and reduction of the price of such of the public lands as have been long offered in the market at the minimum price established by the existing laws, and have remained unsold. And, in addition to other reasons commending the measure to favorable consideration, it is recommended as a financial measure. The duty suggested on tea and coffee, and the graduation and reduction of the price of the public land, would secure an additional annual revenue to the treasure of not less than three millions of dollars, and would thereby prevent the necessity of incurring a public debt annually to that amount, the interest on which must be paid semi-annually, and ultimately the debt itself, by a tax on the people.

It is a sound policy, and one which has long been approved by the government and people of the United States, never to resort to loans unless in cases of great public emergency, and then only for the smallest amount which the public necessities will permit.

The increased revenues which the measure now recommended would produce, would, moreover, enable the government to negotiate a loan, for any additional sum which may be found to be needed, with more facility, and at cheaper rates than can be [...] without them.

Under the injunction of the constitution which makes it my duty “from time to time to give to Congress information of the state of the Union, and to recommend to their consideration such measures” as shall be judged “necessary and expedient,” I respectfully and earnestly invite the action of Congress on the measures herein presented for their consideration. The public good, as well as a sense of my responsibility to our common constituents, in my judgment, imperiously demand that it should present them for your enlightened consideration and invoke favorable action upon them before the close of your present session.

James K. Polk.
Washington, Feb. [...] , 1847.

[MPR]

RW47v24i14p2c3, February 16, 1847, Gen. Taylor’s Letter.

Dr. D.F. Bacon, the medical advisor and friend of Gen. Gaines, details at length in the New York Express, the circumstances that led to the publication of Gen. Taylor’s letter. The letter was addressed to Gen. Gaines, who it seems is a second cousin of Gen. Taylor. He read it to Dr. Bacon, and they mutually agreed that it ought to be published, in order to counteract the violent assaults made upon “old Rough and Ready” by certain carpet–knights, who, although they know nothing of the art of war, to which he has been all his life accustomed, feel no delicacy in criticising and condemning his conduct, notwithstanding he has achieved a series of brilliant victories, unparalleled, when the disparity between his forces and that of the enemy, and his inadequate means are considered, in the annals of war. Dr. Bacon therefore, with the consent of General Gaines, published the letter. Gen. Gaines appends a note to Dr. Bacon’s article declaring that “in no possible contingency could its publication do any injury to the U. States or any service to Mexico.”

[MPR]

RW47v24i14p2c3, February 16, 1847

The New Orleans Picayune publishes Santa Anna’s letter accepting the Provisional Presidency of Mexico– for which we have not room. It is written in his usual strain of self–abnegation. He assumes the high station with reluctance, and will lay down and retire to private life, as soon as “the audacious foreigner” who has invaded Mexico, shall be expelled from her soil. He professes to be anxious only to vindicate his patriotic solicitude for the establishment of public freedom, and to leave an untarnished name to posterity. To accomplish this, however, he must efface the history of the past.

[MPR]

RW47v24i14p2c5, February 16, 1847, Awful Predicament of Poor old “Rough and Ready!”

For the Whig.

Mr. Shelton F. Leake voted, a few days since, in Congress, in favor of a proviso virtually censuring Gen. Taylor for permitting the Mexican army at Monterey to enter into terms of capitulation.

It is greatly to be feared that this censure from our very distinguished representative, will entirely destroy General Taylor’s military
Mr. Leake’s generosity will surely come to the General’s aid upon so momentous a question. He will not, it is trusted, permit “Rough and Ready” to agonize under the heavy weight of the censure of so great a military genius as that of the member from the Fifth Congressional District of Virginia! The amendment of the Senate to the House resolutions will give Mr. L. an opportunity to retract his vote, and affords some ground to hope that he will yet save General Taylor from the extreme mortification of classing HIM among his enemies! Whilst, however, the General’s friends may hope for the best, the momentous importance of Mr. Leake’s views, founded upon his deservedly exalted military reputation, fills them with alarm– aye, with terror; for high as is Taylor’s military standing, Leake’s is to his as Napoleon’s to Terrenne’s.

RINGGOLD.
Albemarle, Feb’y 5, 1847.

Extract of a letter to the Editors of the Whig:

Old Point, 9th Feb’y, 1847.

Messrs. Editors:– To–day is a solemn time in our “Barracks.” We have just paid the last last sad duties of respect to a fellow soldier! Poor young Black of our core has just gone to his fathers: he was seized two days since with that most fatal disease, Conjunction of the brain, and expired in a very short time. The tear which is stealing its way down my cheek at present renders me wholly unable to describe the feeling that pervades our quarters.

Mr. Black was quite young, and promised much future usefulness. He sacrificed private interest, as most of us did– cut the tender ties that bound to home and friends, and started for the field of honor– but alas! he has been taken off. Owing to the change of climate, (from the Mountains to the Seashore) there is now about sixty of our core upon the sick list– most of whom, however, I am happy to say are no ways dangerous; but it is a source of much distress to all of us, that in the face of all these facts, the Government sees fit to keep us at this Point, and to plunge us on that doleful stream the Rio Grande, right in the warm season. But I do not wish to hold out the idea for a moment, that any of our core regrets our lot, not at all: WE are composed of better material, and old Montgomery is the county to send the right stuff; but I have merely mentioned this, hoping that it may be noticed at Head–Quarters, and that it may have the salutary effect to have our transports forwarded to us immediately, and thereby we will be enabled to leave for the “Tented Field,” without delay. Yours, &c., R**** of Montgomery Volunteers.

The Norfolk papers announce the arrival of Governor Smith at Old Point. The principal object of his visit, we learn, is to present to that portion of the Virginia regiment remaining at that place, the Flag prepared for it, by order of the Legislature.

A Sword was presented to Capt. O.E. Edwards, of the Norfolk corps of Mexican Volunteers, by a few of his friends, in the 3d inst.

We did not hear the speech of Gen. Wallace in the Senate; but we do not understand the Enquirer as denying that he criticized and censured some portion of Gen. Taylor’s military conduct. The Enquirer, however, states that Gen. W.’s review of Gen. Taylor’s conduct was made with a declaration of the high opinion he entertained of that officer, and that “he would no pluck a leaf from the chaplet which encircled his brow.” But the question is, did he not attempt to pluck that leaf? That, we regret, is not denied. We are also told by the Enquirer that Gen. W. was not in the Senate on the day the resolutions of thanks were passed– a fact of which we were not cognizant, and which of course relieves him from the imputation of inconsistency founded on his supposed vote in favor of those resolutions.
We do not deem it necessary to publish the yeas and nays on the Wilmot Proviso. The vote was, with the exception of a few Northern men, a sectional one—every Southern member of both parties voting against it, except Mr. Houston of Delaware, who can scarcely be regarded as belonging to that category—Delaware being nominally only a slaveholding State.

The Senate will unquestionably reject the Bill with the Proviso. Indeed, its passage in that body without it, is exceedingly doubtful.

But the fact is now known that Slavery is to be interdicted in any territory that may be acquired from Mexico; and that fact being fixed, another, just as certainly follows, and that is, that the South will never consent to the acquisition of any territory; and with her voice unanimous against it, that purpose—the original purpose, as we verily believe, of Mr. Polk, in making the war, of which, if he had possessed even ordinary sagacity, he ought to have foreseen that this would be one of the legitimate and necessary fruits—will be frustrated; unless, indeed, that expedient, which we of the South unfortunately invented, of annexing territory by joint resolution, in our hot haste to bring Texan into the Union, shall "return to plague the inventors."

We shall indulge in no bluster or bravado on the subject. Of this, however, the North may be assured, that, whenever the South shall be called upon to act, it will present an undivided, stern, inflexible front to its fantastical assailants.

A Washington letter in the New York Herald says—

I have been informed that the war department, under the Ten Regiment Act, will accept seven companies from New York and three from New Jersey, making one regiment for these two States. From Rhode Island, one company; Maine, three; New Hampshire, two; Connecticut, two, and Vermont, two; or one regiment for New England. From Maryland, four companies, Delaware, one. It is said that Pennsylvania and Ohio will each furnish a regiment; and that North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia, conjointly, will furnish one. Three companies will be accepted from Illinois. The mounted regiment will probably be raised in Tennessee and Kentucky. I have not been able to ascertain the proportion from other states.

The Virginia Regiment of Volunteers is full—twelve companies. Six companies are at sea, on their way to Point Isabel, under Lieut. Col. Randolph, and six more are at Fort Monroe awaiting transports, to leave, as soon as Government furnishes them, under Major Early. Col. Hamtramck, Colonel of the Regiment, goes by orders by land to New Orleans on business, and thence to Point Isabel.

The House of Representatives, to-day, have tried to offer another insult to Gen. Taylor. Their former vote of censure was corrected in the Senate, by substituting for that censure a vote of thanks, and voting a Medal to Gen. Taylor. Well, to-day they have modified the Senate's amendment, so as to have medals struck for a lot of Locofoco Generals, and they insert the other Generals' names in the resolutions before the name of General Taylor! If the resolutions should ever descend to posterity, it would seem as if Gen. Taylor was but a star of the 7th or 8th magnitude in that brilliant affair. Surely this insult to General Taylor has been carried far enough, for even Locofoco malignity, and might now be properly discontinued.

The House was engaged all day to-day on Reports from committees. Among other bills passed, was one for the admission of the State of Washington.

The Senate were engaged during the morning hour on miscellaneous business; after which, Mr. Badger of N.C. made a very able speech on the Mexican war. He believed that we were got into it unnecessarily and unconstitutionally; but being in it, we were bound to prosecute it to an honorable close. Mr. Colquitt of Ga. has the floor for to-morrow.

The city is full of office-seekers, looking for high military appointments. I believe Mr. Pearce, formerly Senator from New Hampshire, is to be one of the Colonels.
Capt. Walker, of Texas, returned to town to-night.

Mr. Collins, the celebrated Irish actor, leaves to-night for Richmond, where he performs a short engagement. Since the death of the lamented Power, we have had no such Irish actor as he. He sings some of Lover’s songs in such a style as the Richmond people never heard before. He is on his way to New Orleans, and will remain with you but two or three evenings.

I do not see the Enquirer of Monday will this evening. Whenever I have seen any criticism upon my letters, I think I have been able to meet them. If I do not answer, it is because I do not see, the attacks. It quotes an extract from my letter, which it says is a specimen of my extravagant style of endorsing Mr. Corwin’s speech. Unfortunately for the Enquirer, there is not a sentence in my whole letter endorsing Mr. Corwin. If the Enquirer be very anxious about it, I will tell it what parts of the speech I endorse. Nor shall I be afraid to endorse what I approve. It was not because I did not approve of the speech, on the contrary, that I refrained from endorsing it. Nor would I cavil at the assertion now— but to show that the Enquirer represents me as doing what I did not do.

Now, I will refer to what I said about the speech, including what the Enquirer prints in *italics*— I said the audience was kept spell-bound; that the speech was sarcastic, witty, eloquent; that it was one of the greatest efforts ever made before the Senate. Now I ask is this endorsing the speech? I might show that the Enquirer’s attacks on Gen. Jackson; Mr. Buchanan’s denunciations of Democracy; Mr. Polk’s and Mr. Walker’s denunciations of a tax in tea and coffee; Mr. Bancroft’s tirades against slavery; were eloquent, witty and sarcastic, without *endorsing* the Enquirer’s anti-Jacksonism, Buchanan’s old Federalism, Bancroft’s Abolitionism, or Polk’s and Walker’s demagoguism. The extracts which the Enquirer makes were given by me as specimens of the sarcasm and eloquence of the speech. If it please the Enquirer, I shall now say that though I differ in some points from Mr. Corwin, yet, there are very few sentences in that long address which I might not endorse. The references to the menials gaping for fly-blown meat around the Executive chamber— the inconsistency of a nation which ran from a strong enemy in Oregon, to rob and plunder a poor crippled nation in the most senseless limb, (California) and then boasting of heroic deeds, by 20 millions, which a few thousand Texans excelled some time ago— the profligacy of the pirate chaplains, who insult Heaven by pretending to pray, while they are plundering the weak and studying revolvers instead of Revelations— the infernal scenes to follow upon this Abolition storm, which Locofoco policy has evoked from its slumbers, are more easily sneered at, then proved untrue or unpatriotic.

Does the Editor of the Enquirer deny that there are such creatures as Mr. Corwin describes, who gorge themselves on the offals of the Locofoco shambles? Read Mr. Westscott’s (Locofoco) speech in the Senate on Saturday last.

Does he doubt the weak character of the Mexican enemy? Read the sneering remarks of the Locofoco presses and Locofoco orators on the insignificance of a war with Mexico, when we prophesied that war in 1844.

Does it doubt the danger of this Wilmot Proviso, and its consequent influence upon our institutions? Read the Southern Locofoco speeches on this subject, during this session, taken in connection with the proceedings yesterday.

Does it doubt that Mr. Polk deliberately demagogued in his Message, and falsified history? Read Mr. Benton’s speech showing that Mexico had territory this side of the Rio Grande. Read Mr. Ingersoll’s speech (Locofoco chairman of the committee on Foreign Relations,) which says that the first nation crossing the territory between the Nueces and the Rio Grande would be the aggressor. Read Mr. Calhoun’s speech on Friday last, that the marching of our troops from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande was the cause of the war. Read these and other Locofoco declarations, and then see Mr. Polk’s “atrocious misrepresentation” that Mexico commenced the war! Will the Enquirer go further, or is it satisfied?

BRUTUS.

[MPR]

RW47v24i15p1c4, February 19, 1847

[ Correspondence of the *Baltimore Sun.* ]

Washington, Feb. 17, 1847.

The officers for the ten new regiments are fast being created. The names of the officers of troops which were already organized, waiting to be received, have been sent in by the President, and some confirmations I understand have been made. Among the nominations, is paymaster Andrews, of this city, to be Colonel of the dragoon regiment; John P. Moore, clerk in the Quartermaster’s department, to be Assistant Quartermaster of the same regiment; and another gentleman named Moore, clerk in the comptroller’s office, to be a Captain in the same Dragoons.

[MPR]

RW47v24i15p1c4, February 19, 1847

The *National Intelligencer* has translations from Vera Cruz papers to the 15th ult.

The city of Mexico *Diario del Gobierno* of the 30th December gives a letter from Acapulco, on the 15th December; which says they have
their intelligence direct from Monterey de California and the Port of San Francisco to the following effect: That, since the late expulsion of the Americans from Ciudad de los Angeles, they rallied a force of 400 men, and returned to attack it; but that at San Pedro, three leagues from Los Angeles, they were encountered by the Californians and driven back to the coast with considerable loss. It is probable that the news of this unexpected resistance of the Californians has led to a proposal of about the same sate, in the Mexican Congress, to raise a special loan of half a million to aid the New Mexicans and Californians in their efforts to expel the invaders from those territories.

RW47v24i15p2c7, February 19, 1847

According to a paragraph in the Baltimore Clipper, President Polk has selected the following captains of companies to be taken from Maryland under the Ten Regiment Act: Capt. Oden Bowie, of Prince George's county, now a Lieutenant in Capt. Kenly's company in Mexico; Capt. John Eager Howard, jr. of Baltimore; Capt. Richard Merrick, [son of Ex–Senator Merrick,] of Frederick county; and Capt. James P. Archer, of Baltimore city.

RW47v24i15p2c7, February 19, 1847

The Mexican Privateers.– The Salem Register thinks that the Mexican privateers, reported as having sailed from the Thames, will turn out to be nothing more than vessels destined for the opium trade. A gentleman from Manilla, now in that city, states it as a fact within his knowledge, that before he left there, an agent was on his was to England fort he purpose of procuring such vessels, and these are probably the fruits of his mission.

RW47v24i15p4c2, February 19, 1847

We have received glorious tidings from New Hampshire. We have, among other evidences of the rising sentiment of the people, before us the proceedings of a great meeting at Concord, in which Gen. Joseph Low came forward in a manly speech, declaring his separation from the Federal party, and his support of the administration and the country in this war with Mexico. Gen. Low is one of the ablest and most influential Whigs in New Hampshire.—Washington Union.

We know nothing of General Low, whose accession to the Administration party is deemed so very important. We may congratulate the Union, however, that the Republican measures of the Administration has won over on more "Federalist “ to its support!

It may be well to enquire, too, whether Gen. Low may not have been induced to sustain the Administration in its war against Mexico, by the prospect of aiding an immense territory, to the non–slaveholding section of the Union?

RW47v24i15p4c2, February 19, 1847

Yesterday's Republican states that the Handsome swords ordered by the City Council for Captains Scottland Carrington, for Lieutenants August, Fry and Donnan of the Greys, commanded by the former gentleman, and for Lieutenants Porterfield, Munford and Williamson, commanded by the latter, have been received, and are now at the store of Messrs. Mitchell & Tyler. The Swords were manufactured by Ames of Massachusetts, and each bears the inscription, "Presented by the city of Richmond," to the several officers named.

RW47v24i15p4c2, February 19, 1847

The following is the amendment offered by Mr. Stanard, on Saturday last, in the Senate, while the "McPherson resolutions" were pending in that body. It was not palatable to the dominant party, and was of course rejected—though we should be glad to know to what sentiment in it they objected:

"That the present war with Mexico, however provoked on her part, could be constitutionally commenced, on the part of the United States, only by Congress, the war–making power, and not by the act of the President; and while this General Assembly is prepared by the use of all proper means, and to the full extent of its ability, to sustain the Government and the Country in the prosecution of the existing war, it can never subscribe to the doctrine (abhorrent to freedom in all ages) that a government which once succeeds in involving the country in war is thenceforth safe from censure, and that an act of oblivion is passed for its misconduct."
We are glad to hear that Mr. Stanard and Mr. Moore intend to prepare for publication the able speeches delivered by them in the progress of the discussion. Of both of them we have heard the highest commendation.

The proviso, interdicting absolutely the existence of Slavery in any territory to be acquired from Mexico, has been engrafted, in the House of Representatives, on the Three Million bill. With this evidence both of the power and intention of the representatives of the non-slaveholding States to monopolize all such territory as may be obtained by conquest or purchase, from Mexico, will Southern men consent to the annexation of an acre of her soil. For one, we say, "we'd non of it"– and such, we undertake to say, will be the unanimous sentiment of the Southern people.

On Monday, Mr. Webster submitted the following resolutions, which, on his own suggestion, were laid upon the table.

Resolved, That the war now existing with Mexico ought not to be prosecuted for the acquisition of territory to form new States to be added to the Union.

Resolved, That is ought to be signified to the government of Mexico, that the government of the U.S. does not desire to dismember the Republic of Mexico, and is ready to [...] with the government of that Republic for peace, for a liberal adjustment of boundaries, and for just indemnification due by either government to the citizens of the other.

We received no New Orleans papers yesterday. By the way of Baltimore, we have the following paragraph from the New Orleans Jeffersonian of the 8th inst.: 

Latest from Tampico.– The schr. Rob Roy arrived yesterday afternoon, from Tampico, reports having left on the 28th ult. Capt. Harkness states that four days previous to his sailing, the master of the U.S. steamer Cincinnati arrived at Tampico, having lost his vessel in a tremendous storm on the coast of Mexico. During the gale the steamer Fashion was seen a few miles distant, and serious fears were entertained for her safety, she having not arrived when the Rob Roy sailed. It was supposed that General Scott was on board the Fashion at the time. This, however, was not the case, as recent advices from the Brazos assure us that Gen. Scott was still at that post, concentrating the troops, as was supposed, for Tampico.

To the Editors of the Whig:

Gentlemen– The late attempt of the President, to fasten upon the country, in the person of the Military Senator whose name stands at the head of this article, an officer designed by the Constitution to exist only in days of extreme danger– such as in Rome was supposed to justify the appointment of a Dictator, whose business it was to provide ne quid detrimenti capat Respublica – calls to mind certain occurrences which took place many years ago. In the winter of '34-'35, while the question of a French war was agitating the country to its very foundation, a letter, said to have been from a gentleman of high distinction in Washington, in which Col. Benton was charged with a disposition to exasperate the angry feelings already existing, in order that a war might ensue, and he receive the office of Lieut. General, was published in the Richmond Compiler. Many persons ascribed the authorship to Gen. Duff Green, but of the justice of their surmises it is not my intention to speak. Certain it is, that he took up the subject in the Telegraph, and produced many, and as I thought at the time, unanswerable proofs of the justice of the charge. He went further than I presume was reasonable; for he did not hesitate to ascribe to Benton a thirst for, and a determination to secure, absolute power. The whole imputation was indignantly repelled by the entire Locofoco press. Do not recent events prove that there might have been some justice in the charge?

I have been surprised that these facts have not been noticed in Congress or the Newspapers.

A COUNTRYMAN.
Mr. Merritt, one of a company of thirty, who started from New Mexico on the 2d of last November, has recently arrived at Booneville, Missouri. He says several of their company were badly frostbitten, and three perished. The names of the men frozen to death were Bartlett, Long and Thomasson, from Buchan county.

The company came in on foot, and were fifty-seven days on the route—about four hundred miles of the journey through snow eight inches deep.

The volunteers were selling their Government checks in Santa Fe at 25 per cent discount.

The Washington Correspondent of the Charleston Courier makes a statement, which, if it be not true, ought at once to receive an authentic contradiction—and which, if it be true, ought, in the emphatic language of the Charleston Mercury, to consign Mr. Polk to the unmitigated condemnation of the people of the South. The statement follows:

"I have learned, to–day, that the President and his friends have given assurances to the Northern Democratic members, that if they will suffer the Three Million Bill to pass, without amendment, the North shall have no occasion to complain of the treaty that will be made with Mexico. That is to say, the President promises that he will take no cession of territory to the south of the parallel of 36 deg. 30 m., and that, therefore, the slavery question will be avoided. This is said to be the reason for the determination of many of the Northern Democratic members to vote against Wilmot's proviso. The proposition for a boundary made by Mr. Sevier, comes very near to this line, and is probably intended to hit it. The line of 36 deg. 30 m., leaves Santa Fe 20 m. to the north of it, and every point on the Pacific that is desirable to the non–slaveholding States."

The Charleston Mercury, which says a similar statement has reached its editor "from high authority," declares, that if it be in accordance with facts, "the treason to them (the slave States,) their institutions, their character, and their very existence, would be so deep and unnatural a [...], that language would be wanting to give expression to the universal indignation which would consume the author. It is impossible (the Mercury thinks) that a Son of the South would sign a treaty which would be a libel on the people and institutions of fifteen states, and which would deprive them, for reasons the most humiliating to their feelings and degrading to their self–respect, of any share in the lands they had aided by their best blood and their best treasure to win." Nous verrons! We confess that we are not so incredulous— not in regards to Mr. Polk's purpose, but as to the fact that he has given the assurances referred to. If he has not, he owes it to himself and to the South to nail the rumor to the counter.

We invite attention to the eloquent and scathing speech of Senator Moore, of Rockbridge, on the Mexican war.

The declaration of the Missouri Senator, that in 1812, he outranked every General now in service, and had a right to command the whole of them they had met in the same field, has led to some investigations and curious developments. A correspondent of the St. Louis Republican, for example, divulges the following rather discreditable facts:

"Some doubts having been expressed whether Mr. Benton ever was a Lieutenant Colonel in the Regular army, an examination of the records of the United States Court in [...] placed the matter at rest. After the peace, an action was commenced by the United States against Lieutenant Colonel Thomas H. Benton, for the recovery of a considerable sum of money, placed in his hands during the war, as superintendent of the recruiting service, which money he had appropriated to his private use; a judgment was rendered against him for several thousand dollars, as any one may see who chooses to examine the records. Mr. Benton stated the truth, then, when he says he was a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. army. At a period, too, when those small fry, Gaines, Scott and Taylor, were fighting at Erie Niagara, he was recruiting somewhere in Tennessee, and had plenty of Uncle Sam's money in his hands."

And a writer in the New York Courier and Enquirer invalidates the accuracy of the would–be Lieutenant General's statement, by the subjoined citations from the records:

[From the N.Y.Courier & Enquirer]
"Col. Benton in his speech in the Senate on the 25th inst in vindication of the President, and of his own fitness for the office of Lieut. General, is reported in the National Intelligencer (usually very accurate) to have said— "Even in the Regular Army, in 1813, I was Lieut. Colonel, while most of the present Generals, were company officers, and only one of them of the rank of Colonel." He had previously said, in the same speech— "In 1812 I was the Military Superior of every General now in the service, and had a right to have commanded the whole of them, if we had chanced to serve together. I was then Colonel in the service of the United States, commissioned by President Madison under a law of Congress, and led a regiment of my own raising from Tennessee, to the lower Mississippi, &c. &c."

Since the famous "East–Room Letter" of Col. Benton, we presume no one questions the veracity of that gentleman, or at least no one accuses him of intentional misrepresentation; for habit, is oft-times more controlling than intention.

Now what says "the Record?"— The 12th vol. of the American State Papers, from page 384 to page 424 contains "a corrected list of all the officers in the army of the United States, transmitted by the Secretary of War to the Senate of the United States, in Dec. 29th 1813, in pursuance of a resolution of that body. An official document.

From this list it appears that Thomas H. Benton was Lieut. Colonel of the 39th Regiment of Infantry, with rank of 18th July 1813, and that this regiment was one of 14, raised for one year.

The same list, shows that at the same time, the following officers, whose names appear in the Army Register of 1845, as General Officers (we have no later Register at hand) held rank in "the Regular Army in 1813" as follows.

- Hugh Brady, Col. 22d Reg. Inf., 6th July 1813,
- E P Gaines, do 25th do do 12 March 1813,
- Winfield Scott, do 2d Art do 1813,
- W K Armstead, Lt Col Engineers, 31st July, 1812,
- G. Gibson, Lt. Col. 5th Reg. Inf. 15th Aug. 1813,
- M. Arbuckle, Major, 3d do. do. do. do. 1812,
- T. S. Jessup, Major, 19th Inf. 6th April, 1813.
- J. E. Wool, do. 29th do. 13 do do.

As all of the foregoing were above the rank of company Officers in the Regular Army in 1813— will the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs, inform the public, how many General Officers we now have in the Regular Army, if his assertion be true, that "most of the present Generals, were Company Officers" in 1813? Or must this declaration be classed with the "East Room Letter?"

If the document sent to the Senate in 1813 told the truth, at that time, the Senator from Missouri, misstates it now.

As to the other statement of Col. Benton, viz:– that "in 1812 he was the Military Superior of every General now in the service, and had a right to have commanded the whole of them, if they had chanced to serve together," he does not give us the date of commission as Colonel, nor the laws under which he 'raised regiment'– but it was probably a regiment of Volunteers. The same document of the Army, with which the Chairman of the Senate's Committee on Military Affairs accustomed, in that character, to communicate on military subjects with all Administrations, for about a quarter of a century last passed, who was also in 1812 the Military Superior of every General now in the service, must have been familiar.

Among these 'rules and regulations, we find the following "Officers of the Regular Army of the same grade with those of Volunteers and Militia, have precedence of missions." Would then Col. Benton of a Volunteer regiment of his 'own raising' have commanded Col. Brady of the Regular Army?

But the gallant Missourian certainly has had great experience. He says that in 1812, he was Col. of a Regiment of his own raising,— if so the record shows that in 1813 he was promoted, possibly on account of his great skill and experience, to be a Lieutenant Colonel— in a regiments of 12 months-men. Can any one doubt his claims to be Lieutenant General?

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RW47v24i16p1c2, February 22, 1847, From the Volunteers.

The Times of yesterday says— "We learn from a letter received from a young officer in Capt. Scott's company, that the May–Flower, with Captains Scott's and Harper's companies on board, arrived at Havana on the 4th instant, nine days from Old Point. They had very rough weather the first three of four days, but pleasant afterwards. They were all pretty well, and put in to get a supply of medicines. Expected to be off the next day for the seat of war."

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RW47v24i16p1c2, February 22, 1847, A Wasington Letter

A Washington letter in the New York Herald says—

I have been informed that the war department, under the Ten Regiment Act, will accept seven companies from New York and three from New Jersey, making one regiment for these two States. From Rhode Island, one company; Maine, three; New Hampshire, two; Connecticut, two, and Vermont, two; or one regiment for New England. From Maryland, four companies, Delaware, one. It is said that Pennsylvania and Ohio will each furnish a regiment; and that North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia, conjointly, will furnish one. Three companies will be accepted from Illinois. The mounted regiment will probably be raised in Tennessee and Kentucky. I have not been able to ascertain the proportion from other States.
We find in the New Orleans "Picayune" a translation of the letter from Gen. Santa Anna to the Congress of the Republic of Mexico, announcing his acceptance of the Provisional Presidency, to which he has been recently called. This letter professes sincere reluctance to accept the office, which circumstances yet do not allow him to refuse, but declares his unchangeable determination to retire to and remain in private life, as soon as he has "put a happy conclusion to the war" which exists between the United States and Mexico, "by one or more feats of arms" which "may show him on the pages of history entitled to the applause of posterity!"

A very brief extract or two from this reply of his will enable the reader to judge, as far as professions go, what probability there is of the realization of the expectations from Santa Anna which induced the Executive of the United States to assist him to return from his exile and place himself at the head of the Armies of Mexico:<

"Since lately I set my foot upon the soil of my country, as I had not returned to obtain the Presidency of the country, but only to fight the audacious foreigner who professes with his presence the sacred soil of the country--I have reflected much whether I should accept the situation which for the fifth time in the course of my life has been conferred upon me, but at last, overcoming my natural repugnance, stifling within my breast considerations of a private nature which influenced me, and, more than all, convinced that my fellow citizens will not do me the injustice to believe that I resolved upon the sacrifice, for this is nothing which I am not prepared to do in obedience to my dear country."

"My ambition is for glory and a posthumous fame. The only thing to which I aspire--I will repeat it a thousand times--is to put a happy conclusion to the war which we are raging against the neighboring Republic, by one or more feats of arms which may conclude the story of my services--by some signal actions which may show me on the pages of history entitled to the applause of posterity.

"May Heaven grant that soon, very soon, I may have the happiness to present, with the most profound respect, to the august Congress, trophies conquered from the enemy by the brave men whom I have had the honor to command, and who clamor with eagerness for the arrival of the hour of combat."

[MPR]

Occupying the position which Mr. Calhoun does on the vital question of Slavery, which must of necessity intrude itself upon us, whether we will or no, when the spoils won from Mexico, or to be won, are to be disposed of, we need scarcely say to his friends, that, in an emergency not at all unlikely to happen, the eyes of the WHOLE SOUTH will be turned to him as to one of its leaders in the conflict that must ensue. From this position the political managers, however artful, cannot dislodge him. Prejudice, artfully fomented, and the powerful influence of past associations, may for a while alienate a few of his friends temporarily--but the instincts of self-preservation will dispel this prejudice and destroy this influence. Mr. Calhoun stands upon the Southern platform in regard to the Mexican War; and, though he may now seem to stand almost alone, the entire South will eventually be with him. We pray him to be nothing daunted!

[MPR]

For the Whig.

In reading the President’s Annual Message of December 8th, 1846, I was much struck with the following passage:

"If the war should be continued until the 30th of June, 1848--being the end of the next fiscal year--it is intimated that an additional loan of twenty-three millions of dollars will be required. This estimate is made upon the assumption that it will be necessary to […] the treasury four millions of dollars, to guard against contingencies. If such surplus were not required to be retained, than a loan of nineteen millions of dollars would be sufficient."

Here we find, that the President, having all the facts and documents before him, about two months ago, said that if the war continued a year and a half longer, it would be necessary to borrow twenty-three millions of dollars. Not having the data before me, I would be obliged to you to inform me how much money the Government has been authorized to borrow directly by loan, and indirectly by issuing Treasury Notes? I don’t know, but I think the answer will expose still farther the stupidity and incompetency of the President and his “constitutional advisers,” and will lay before the country the short-sighted policy by which Polk has temporarily succeeded in blinding his party to the consequences of his measures. I wonder that this admirable financial calculation has not received more attention; and can only account for it on the supposition, that through its invincible dullness and inordinate length, the Message defied a searching criticism; and by its innumerable follies, sickened all persons before they came to the extract quoted above. Albemarle, Feb. 15th, 1847.

A WHIG.
RW47v24i16p2c7, February 22, 1847: Interesting from Tampico and the Army.

The correspondent of the New Orleans Delta, writing from Tampico on the 27th January, details the movements of Gen. Twiggs's pioneer force, and the arrival of Gen. Patterson's division. We copy a few paragraphs from his journal.

28th—I learned last night that Lieut. Ritchie, of the 4th Infantry, was assassinated at Villa Grande, by a Mexican. He was on his way to Victoria, escorted by a company of Kentucky Cavalry. General Taylor encamped there for the night, and the Lieutenant was sauntering about the town when it happened. The next morning the General had arrested the alcalde, but I have not learned whether the perpetrator of the outrage had been taken.

One of the officers of Gen. Quitman's division stated to me yesterday, that the Mexican cavalry were in sight of them for more than half the march from Victoria. On some clear place on the mountain side, they would arrange themselves for a charge, and then start pell-mell in the direction of the column. But I need not sat to you that they never came within musket-shot. Several of the men who lagged behind were killed by them. One, a member of the Baltimore battalion, was killed close to the rear guard—being first shot, and then lanced in the breast. I have not ascertained to what corps the other missing ones belonged.

We hear nothing of an early movement from this place, and from the preparations that are being made, it would be difficult to say when one would be made. At the encampment of Gen. Twiggs, they are clearing off ground and building wharves, as though they contemplated a six weeks' rest, and I understand Gen. Pillow will move nearer to the town then he now is.

Tampico, Mexico, Jan. 30, 1847.

Gentlemen—Yesterday was quite a busy day in Tampico, and every thing in the military line wore an active appearance. Besides the numerous wagons that were moving to and fro about the forage and commissary departments, the hundreds of Mexican carts that were hauling the public stores from the wharves, the division of Gen. Pillow moved through town, on their march to their new encampment, and taking all things together, it was with great difficulty that either horseman or pedestrian could make headway against the moving mass. I was on the Plaza, when the head of Pillow's column was passing it, and I do not believe my anxiety to cross the street caused me to exaggerate, when I estimated the time of their passing an hour and a half. The Tennessee cavalry were in front, numbering over 700 men, and they seemed to stretch out to the length of two miles; then the two regiments of infantry from the same State, and in the rear, the third regiment of Illinois Volunteers. The natives were out in large numbers, and many were the speculations, as to whether the mounted men were sure enough Rangers from Texas, or merely Voluntario caballeros. The place selected for the encampment of the division is about two miles from the town, on the edge of a lake, and near a conspicuous white house, which can be seen from all parts of the town. Gen. Quitman has also moved in from the 10 miles encampment, and is now about ten miles in the rear of General Twiggs.

There are rumors here that Gen. Taylor's rear-guard had been attacked, near Linares, and that he had lost a number of wagons and mules, but I will not believe it until I hear something more, although it is a section of country where an attack of that sort is most likely to be made. Besides the numerous hiding places about there for Mexican soldiers, and the large settlements, the Mexicans would like to trouble old Taylor, for that money transaction in Linares. You may kick a Mexican, and he will probably forget it, but touch his pocket, and he'll remember you the longest day he lives.

Bigelow, the beef contractor, who was shot by the Mexicans a day or two since, has been brought into Tampico, and will get well without a resort to amputation. I learned last night, that an Illinois volunteer was killed on the first days march of Quitman's division, this side of [...]. He had lagged behind the rear-guard, and a party of lancers rushed upon him, shot and lanced him. He was found during the day, and at night his company returned and buried him.

Gen. Worth, with the 8th and 4th infantry, has been some time on the road to this place, and may be looked for here in a very short time. When he arrives all the regular force, as Scott desired, will be on the sea board.

[MPR]

RW47v24i16p3c1, February 22, 1847, From Yucatan.

From the New Orleans Picayune, Feb. 13.

By the way of Havana we have accounts from Merida to the 16th January.

At that date, the forces of the insurgents of Campeachy were in the immediate vicinity of Merida in hostile array. To avoid the effusion of blood they summoned the city to surrender, giving it twenty-four hours for consultation. [...] commissioners to settle all their difficulties amicably. This suggestion was promptly rejected and the surrender insisted upon. To this the government would not accede, and there matters rested at 11 o'clock on the 16th, immediate hostilities being expected on both sides.

In another quarter we have accounts of hostilities. The Faro Industrial gives an official report of the taking of the village of Tabi by the forces of the government of Merida. The action took place on the 11th of January. The Government troops amounted to 400 infantry and 29 dragoons. They had also one piece of artillery. The force of the rebels is not given, but they fought for two hours with unheard
of fury, but the valor of the Government troops far surpassed any of which we have any record, and in the end prevailed. They gained possession of the village and the rebels fled most shamefully. The loss of the rebels was between forty and fifty men killed and seventeen prisoners. How many were wounded was not ascertained, but the number of “missing” must have been very large, judging from the manner in which they are said to have fled.

Tabi is a village situated far to the east of Merida and a little South, and on no direct route between any two points of the least note, so far as we can judge by the map. The commander of the Government troops remarks that he does not consider its possession important to his ulterior operations, and he has accordingly withdrawn his troops from it. Why it should have been the scene of so sanguinary a strife, we do not well understand.

The rebels of Campeachy have seized all the letters intended for Merida received from Havana by the brig Martin. The simplest commercial letters were not allowed to go through.

From Havana– The brig P. Soule, Capt. Thompson, arrived last evening from Havana, having sailed on the 1st inst. The only news of any interest by this arrival is from Yucatan. We give the details in another column.

The papers mention the death of his Excellency Senor D. Santiago de la Cueta y Manzanar, Conde de la Reunion de Cuba and Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Order of Isabella the Catholic; also, of Don Francisco Javier Blanchie y Palms, a young author and poet very much esteemed.

The local news of Havana is totally uninteresting. Not a word more has been received there from the city of Mexico.

The brig Adela, Capt. Watson, arrived here yesterday, from Havana, in 8 days passage.

Capt. Watson has furnished us with the following intelligence from Mexico, communicated to him by Mr. Campbell, our Consul at Havana. It was received by the packet from Vera Cruz, arrived at Havanna 6th inst.:
Mr. M. said he could not vote for either the preamble or the resolutions. He would not vote for the preamble, because it asserted that

sentence of condemnation being pronounced against him there? If all these conjectures were wide of the mark, he wished someone

by members of Congress, with a gross impropriety of conduct– that he may, by a display of the extent of his power here, avert a

his Administration, here, in Virginia? Or were the resolutions brought forward, by order of the editor of the Union, who stands charged

against Mr. Polk, for a fraud practiced upon them by him, in relation to his opinion on the Tariff, to make a show of great confidence in

was it deemed necessary, since sentence of condemnation had been pronounced by the great States of Pennsylvania and New York

judging of the propriety of his acts, and that it was therefore necessary to dictate to them what sentence they must pass upon him? Or

reached the Senate. That could not, therefore, be the reason for bringing them forward. Was it because the friends of the

the session? Was it because all the important and appropriate business of the session had been acted on, and nothing else remained to

Mr. M. said he desired to be informed in the first place, why the resolutions were brought forward at all, especially at this late period of

States, to which they referred.

Mr. Moore rose and said, that, before proceeding to submit the remarks which he desired to offer, in support of the motion he had just

say one word calculated to give personal offence to any member of that body– that the relations of friendship subsisting between all

Mr. M. said he desired to be informed in the first place, why the resolutions were brought forward at all, especially at this late period of

went off once, for a second attempt to enter.

"The May Flower arrived in Havana on the 6th inst with Lieut. Col. Randolph’s command of 318 men. The object is to supply medicines,

which it appears had not been furnished in sufficient quantities previous to her leaving Norfolk. The men are fine looking, zealous and

anxious to meet the Mexicans in the field of battle, or to plant the standard presented to them, on the walls of St. Juan de Ulloa. The

standard is a beautiful one, having on one side the arms of the United States, and the arms of their idolized State of Virginia on the

reverse side.

"Col. Randolph’s command are in fine health, except some 18 men. It was for these men that additional medicines were needed. The

May Flower will sail 7th inst., (to–morrow,) for Point Isabel, that being the original destination of the vessel.“

RW47v24i16p4c2, February 22, 1847, A Washington Letter

A Washington letter in the Philadelphia Ledger says that the companies accepted from Pennsylvania under the Ten Regiment Act are

Captain Butler’s dragoons, Capt. Biddle’s infantry, Syberg’s and Barnard’s, Thurster’s, from Carlisle; Guthria’s from Pittsburgh; Irving’s,

Juniata; Moore’s, Bedford and Franklin, making eight companies from Pennsylvania. The field officers will probably be– Colonel Gen.

Ramsay, of York county, an experienced military man; Lieut. Colonel, Col. Johnson, of Maryland, an officer of the regular army in

Mexico; Major, Major Morgan, of Bradford, a graduate of West Point, who served through the Florida war; Surgeon, Professor Gibson,

of Baltimore. [MPR]

RW47v24i16p4c3, February 22, 1847: Substance of Remarks.

Made in the Senate of Virginia, on Saturday, the 13th of February, 1847, by Mr. Moore, of Rockbridge, upon his motion to postpone

indefinitely the Resolutions from the House of Delegates, relating to the Mexican War.

Mr. Moore rose and said, that, before proceeding to submit the remarks which he desired to offer, in support of the motion he had just

made, he deemed it proper to say, that in submitting his vies upon the important subject before the Senate, he would not designedly

say one word calculated to give personal offence to any member of that body– that the relations of friendship subsisting between all

the members of the Senate and himself, if no other consideration, would prevent his saying anything to which any member would have

a right to take exception. The duty, however, which he owed to his constituents, and to his country, required that he should express

his opinions frankly and unreservedly in reference to the resolutions themselves, and to the conduct of the President of the United

States, to which they referred.

Mr. M. said he desired to be informed in the first place, why the resolutions were brought forward at all, especially at this late period of

the session? Was it because all the important and appropriate business of the session had been acted on, and nothing else remained to

be done? No– Scarcely a single bill of importance (of which a great many were pending in the other branch of the Assembly,) had

reached the Senate. That could not, therefore, be the reason for bringing them forward. Was it because the friends of the

Administration believed that the people, by whom Mr. Polk was elected, and to whom he was responsible for his acts, were incapable of

judging of the propriety of his acts, and that it was therefore necessary to dictate to them what sentence they must pass upon him? Or

was it deemed necessary, since sentence of condemnation had been pronounced by the great States of Pennsylvania and New York

against Mr. Polk, for a fraud practiced upon them by him, in relation to his opinion on the Tariff, to make a show of great confidence in

his Administration, here, in Virginia? Or were the resolutions brought forward, by order of the editor of the Union, who stands charged

by members of Congress, with a gross impropriety of conduct– that he may, by a display of the extent of his power here, avert a

sentence of condemnation being pronounced against him there? If all these conjectures were wide of the mark, he wished someone

who designed voting for the resolutions, to state why they were brought forward, and what purpose they were intended to accomplish?

Mr. M. said he could not vote for either the preamble or the resolutions. He would not vote for the preamble, because it asserted that
which every member of the General Assembly knew to be palpably untrue. He spoke of the resolutions now pending, as a “free and full expression of opinion on the great question of peace and war which now agitates the Union.” It was notorious that this was not designed to be a free, full, or candid expression of opinion. The previous question had been called in the House, in which the resolutions were offered, in the very outset, so as to cut off all debate and everything like a free and full expression of opinion, and strong indications were given of a disposition to pursue the same course in the Senate. No time for consideration or reflecting had been allowed after the resolutions were brought forward. With what show of propriety, then, could it be said that this was a free and full expression of opinion by the General Assembly? And yet it was the obvious design to impose this preamble and these resolutions upon the public, as a free expression of opinion, given after due deliberation, on an important subject, by the Representatives of the people of Virginia!

The same objection applied to the first resolution, and in a still stronger degree— that is, it asserted that to be true, which every man knew to be the very reverse of the fact. [Here Mr. M. read the first resolution.] The evident design of the resolution, if it did not say so in so many words, was to convey the idea, that the war grew entirely out of aggressions on the part of Mexico; whilst it was perfectly clear, that the immediate and obvious cause of the war was an unnecessary, unwise, and unauthorized act of the President of the United States. The immediate cause of the war unquestionably was the order given by President Polk to General Taylor, to march from Corpus Christi into the disputed territory, and to station his army opposite to Matamoros. The outrages on the part of Mexico, alluded to in the resolution, could not have been the true cause of the war. They had transpired years before— they had been considered by Congress, which had refused to declare war on that account— and cannot, with any show of propriety or truth, be said to have brought on the war. The order given to General Taylor, not only did in fact bring on the war, but it was the natural, if not the inevitable effect of the order, that it should do so, and Mr. M. confidently appealed to the candor of gentlemen on the other side, to say, if they did not believe, that no war would have broken out between Mexico and the United States up to this time, if the order referred to had not been given by the President.

The territory beyond the Nueces had never been in the possession of the United States, or of Texas, though claimed by the latter; but had been always, and was then, in the actual occupation of the Mexicans, who claimed it as their own; and the invasion of that territory, by an armed force, under those circumstances, was upon every principle acknowledged by the laws of nations, an act of war. But even if that did not amount to war in itself, the erection of a fortification, or stationing of an army, so as to overlook a large and important town, situated on territory acknowledged to belong to Mexico, was a flagrant insult, to which no nation having the slightest regard for its honor could submit. If any foreign nation had offered a similar insult to the United States, the whole nation would have been unanimous and clamorous for war. Suppose, for example, [said Mr. M.,] that Virginia had a town situated like the town of Matamoros, and the State of Maryland to be a foreign state; and even if the ground on the opposite side of the river actually belonged to her, and she should station an army so as to overlook the Virginia town, and command it by their guns, does any one believe there is a man in Virginia who is so very a dart that he would not be willing to go to war to resent the insult? Such a man cannot be found in the Old Dominion.

The war, then, was actually commenced by the President of the United States. And it was done without constitutional authority or necessity for so doing. If it be said, that Mr. Polk did not intend to bring on a war by his order to invade the disputed territory, and that he did not know that the invasion of the territory claimed by Mexico, and in her actual possession, amounted to an act of war, it only shows a want of common sense, and a degree of ignorance, utterly incompatible with any idea of his fitness for the station which he holds as President of the United States. It is only necessary for any man to reflect for a moment what this country or England would have done under similar circumstances, to satisfy him that war was the natural and almost inevitable consequence of the order given by Mr. Polk to Gen. Taylor, even if the taking possession of the territory in dispute had not, under the circumstances attending it, amounted to war in itself.

The second resolution tenders to the President of the United States, the cordial thanks of this General Assembly “for the justice, firmness and eminent ability with which he has conducted the war with Mexico.”

Mr. M desired to be informed, in what the evidence of the justice and ability with which Mr. Polk conducted the war consisted? Was it, said Mr. M. wise or prudent in the President, to order Gen. Taylor to advance with out Army, of less than three thousand men, into a country in the possession of Mexico, inhabited by her citizens, and claimed as her own, and to offer a flagrant insult to the nation, by fixing his cannon in a position to command and overawe the city of Matamoros, when he knew, or ought to have known, that the Mexicans would have a right to regard the act as a commencement of open hostilities— and that they had a well disciplined army of from seven to fifteen thousand men, in the immediate vicinity? Was it just to the Army to expose it to such imminent danger of being overpowered by superior numbers— and that, too, in a position so distant from our own borders as to preclude the possibility of its receiving timely assistance from the United States? Was it just, or magnanimous, or fair, in the President, to cause or permit his Organ, a newspaper set up by himself, and paid out of the public treasury, (in the shape of contracts for public printing,) for the purpose of libeling all who may dare to differ with the Administration, to make an insidious attempt to throw the whole blame of anticipated defeat on the Commander of the Army, when he knew the Gen. Taylor acted in obedience to his own orders in all that he did? Neither the serious apprehension which prevailed throughout the country for Gen. Taylor and his army, from the time the Mexicans crossed the Rio Grande up to the time that the glorious victories of the 8th and 9th of May were achieved— nor the effort to throw the whole blame of his situation on the Commander of the army, by the Union— can be forgotten. But no sooner than those victories, which covered the army and its leader with glory, and redounded to the credit of the nation, been achieved, than this same Organ claimed the whole credit of our success for the Administration! A success he (Mr. M.) would venture to say, obtained in spite of the failure of the Government to furnish Gen. Taylor with a sufficient force, or with necessary supplies. Was this an evidence of the President’s justice towards our own brave army? Was the act of recalling the volunteers, called out by Gen. Gaines, (with the approbation of all parties in the State of Louisiana, and of others who had the best opportunity of judging of the imminent peril in which the army had been placed by the order of the President)— and of turning them loose in a strange country, without the means of subsistence or of reaching their homes, an act of justice to those patriotic citizens? Was it wise to dismiss them at all, and then call for thousands of others to supply their places, this incurring double cost? Was it just to drag Gen. Gaines a distance of a thousand miles to fix his cannon in a position to command and overawe the city of Matamoros, when he knew, or ought to have known, that the country in the possession of Mexico, inhabited by her citizens, and claimed as her own, and to offer a flagrant insult to the nation, by
by the Mexicans? Did the President display his justice, or his ability, or his humanity, when, after the victories of Palo Alto and Resaca de Palma, he induced thousands of our patriotic citizens to volunteers, and sent them to encamp on the shores of the Rio Grande on the wet ground, and at an unhealthy season of the year, without tents to shield them from the drenching rains of the season, until two thousand of them fell victims to the diseases of the climate? Did the President display great ability in suffering the army to lay for months at Matamoros for want of boats to convey them up the river? Or was it when he ordered the army forward to attack the strongly fortified city of Monterey, defended by twice its own numbers, and failed to supply it with wagons to convey provisions for the support of the men, that he displayed his skill and ability in conducting the war? The fact that a large portion of the army were without any food for days, during the attack upon Monterey, except raw corn, and surrendered, was one which could not be controverted. Did the friends of the Administration rely on these facts as evidencing the eminent ability with which Mr. Polk had conducted the war?

Mr. M. would bring to the attention of the Senate one or two other matters proper to be considered, as tending to show Mr. Polk's justice and ability, displayed in conducting the war. Col. Twiggs had been promoted over the heads of all the other officer of the Army, after the battles on the Rio Grande; and why? If he had been rightly informed, Col. Twiggs had been perhaps less conspicuous for courage and good conduct than any other officer in the field, in the estimation of the whole army; and his promotion could only be accounted for on the ground of his political opinions.

Mr. M. would state a singular circumstance, said the have occurred about the time that the army were stationed on the Rio Grande. A Lieutenant had been sent on from Washington, having no other claims to the office than his being a brawling partizan of the Administration; and after remaining three weeks in the army, it was discovered that he had managed to draw, within the three weeks, pay for seven weeks. Finding that the fraud had been detected, he wrote to the President or some of the officers at Washington, and before a Court Martial was detailed to try him for the offence, an order arrived from Washington directing Gen. Taylor not to convene a Court Martial trial of the guilty officer, if one had not been convened, and if it had, to dismiss it at once. Mr. M. said he could not speak in reference to this matter as of his own knowledge; but if any friend of the Administration desired it, he would put him in possession of the names of the means of ascertaining whether the story was well founded or not. He believed if the matter were enquired into, the story would be found to be strictly correct.

Perhaps (said Mr. M.) it was in the conduct of the President towards Gen. Taylor, that he displayed his great regard for justice. The President, had, in his letter to Gen'l T. after the capture of Monterey, expressed, or strongly insinuated, his disapprobation of the terms of capitulation. It was known that the partizans of the Administration had become alarmed at the rapidly growing popularity of "Old Rough and Ready," and a servile press had begun, almost openly, to censure him– the fire on his back (like that apprehended by Gen. Scott) had actually commenced: Under these circumstances, Taylor, probably actuated by a desire to place the means of defending his reputation in the hands of a friend, if he should fall on the field of battle, wrote to a relative a letter, evidently not intended for publication, in which he set forth the facts in relation to the capitulation of Monterey. That relative, finding that a base and insidious attempt was being made, by the partizans of the Government, to blast the reputation of the old General, whilst absent fighting the battles of his country, thought proper, without the knowledge or consent of Gen. Taylor, to publish a part of his letter. The President of the United States, seeing that his own criminal neglect to supply the Army with provisions and the means of conveying their artillery to Monterey, was exposed by the letter, although he knew it had not been written for publication, determined to make its publication a ground of serious complaint against its author. Actuated by a spirit of malignity and meanness, peculiar to men of inferior intellect, and not daring to assail him openly, he raked up an old Army regulation of 1825, forbidding the writing and publication of letters giving an account of the movements and plans of our armies by officers, and orders it to be published; intending thereby to subject Gen'l Taylor to the imputation of a gross dereliction or breach of duty, in the public estimation. It would not suit his purpose to censure Taylor openly for the letter he had written. It was only necessary for men of intelligence to examine the regulation of 1825, to perceive that its object was to prevent the future movements of the armies and plans of the Government becoming known to the enemy, by means of letters written or published by the officers of the Army, and that it could have no application to such a letter as that of Gen. Taylor to Gen'l Gaines, which only spoke of the past, and which would not have been of any value to the enemy had it fallen into their hands. But still, the terms of the regulation or order of 1825 were very broad; and with the aid of a servile and corrupt press, it might serve to fix in the minds of the multitude, an impression that Taylor had been guilty of a great impropriety, and afford some sort of justification for superseding him in the command of the Army; and therefore the President ordered it to be published.

The fire on his back was now fairly commenced, and was soon followed up with a proposition to appoint a Lieutenant General, avowedly designed to place the command of the army in the hands of Col. Benton. One word, said Mr. M., as to Col. Benton: that modest, meek and humble man, who was to have received the appointment of Lieutenant General had the bill passed creating the office. He [Mr. Benton] told the Senate of the United States that he has been an officer in the war of 1812, higher in command than any of the officers now in the Army. He had, however, it seemed, omitted to tell us "where he buried his dead," during the time he was in office. Mr. M. had never heard of his having been in any battle at all. Yes, he must retract that; he had heard of his being engaged in one battle, but not against the enemies of this country. He [Mr. M.] had happened, many years ago, to be on the field or locality of the battle, in the city of Nashville, and had the particulars of the fight detailed to him, by a citizen of the place, professing to know all about them. It seemed that when Col. Hays, (a friend of Gen. Jackson,) entered the tavern in which the fight took place, the old General had received a shot fired at him by Jesse Benton, and lay weltering in his blood on the floor, whilst this Lieutenant General had pointed a pistol at him and was pulling the trigger, when the old man, pointing at him, remarked to Hays, "look at the d-- coward– he has forgotten to cock the pistol." Whether this account of the affray was correct or not, Mr. M. could not undertake to pronounce; "he told it as it was told to him."

Mr. M. thought the experiment of appointing men to the command of an army, upon the ground that they had held the office at a remote period, had been sufficiently tried in the war of 1812, when the command of an army in Canada was conferred on Gen. Hull. And he did not think it exactly fair, that a man who had abandoned the army to pursue other objects of ambition, should be placed over the heads of those who had stuck to the flag of their country through thick and thin, from 1812 to the present moment. Such a policy on the part of the government was not very well calculated to prompt the officers of the army to acts of noble daring. Nor did it furnish strong evidence of the "justice, wisdom and ability" of the President who recommended it.

Mr. M. expressed an earnest desire to be informed whether the partizans of the President meant to claim any especial credit for him, for the sagacity, wisdom and ability displayed by him when he permitted Santa Anna and the able officers who were with him, a pass through our fleet, on their way to the city of Mexico? It was notorious that up to that time, Mexico was directed by the contests of
contending factions. She had no acknowledged head, in whose ability to conduct the war all the people had confidence. She had but one man in the world in whose ability and courage all parties could confide, and him they had expelled on account of his alleged tyranny, but not from any want of confidence in his capacity. And that man was Santa Anna. And that was the man whom our wise President gave orders to our fleet to permit to enter Vera Cruz, together with all his officers. He did enter. He was immediately placed at the head of the Government; and from that hour, the dissensions which had previously existed among the Mexicans have almost ceased. New energy and confidence have been infused into the Government and its Armies; and our Government has been compelled to change all its plans, and it is probable will soon have to abandon the idea of "conquering the country." Did Mr. Polk display his eminently able in thus giving to the enemy a head, and thus uniting their whole power and strength against us? Will any friend of the Administration have the courage to get up and say that he approves of that act? No, not one; and yet we are called on, said Mr. M., to declare, in general terms, that the President has conducted the war with "eminence ability!!"

Mr. M. desired to know whether the policy displayed by Mr. Polk in directing the commanders of our armies to cause all supplies for their support procured in Mexico, to be paid for, instead of levying contributions on the enemy, and quartering upon them, as was customary in all the wars of Europe, was considered as evidence of his wisdom and ability? Mr. M. believed that Bonaparte was reputed to have possessed some little military skill, and some ability in conducting a war; and it had been his invariable practice, and that of every other great General, except Mr. Polk, he had ever heard of, to support their armies, as far as practicable, by contributions levied upon the enemy. It was only by pursuing such a policy that any motive for desiring to make peace could be created in the minds of the Mexicans. By Mr. Polk’s policy, not only the whole burden of supporting our armies fell upon the people of the U. States, but we actually contributed the means by which Mexico could support her armies and her Government. Mr. M. insisted that if Mexico could only be able to hold San Luis Potosi and her other posts, it would be to their interest to protract the war as long as possible, since the money received by her citizens in payment for provisions and other supplies for our army would be worth five times as much as all she would lose by the interruption of her commerce. We had already incurred a debt of from fifty to an hundred millions of dollars.– thousands upon thousands of the lives of our patriotic citizens had fallen a sacrifice to the climate, owing to the criminal neglect of the President to furnish them with tents, clothing and other necessary supplies– the enemy had been furnished by Mr. Polk with an able leader, who had healed all their dissertations, and little or no progress was being made in "conquering a peace." And yet we were called on to assert that the President had conducted the war with "eminence ability"!!

Mr. M. could not undertake to say what the National Debt, already incurred by this war, would amount to; but he confidently believed that when all the sums advanced by the different States and territories to clothe and equip the volunteers called out by the President, were taken into account, as undoubtedly they would and must be, the debt of the nation would scarcely fall short of a hundred millions of dollars. Mr. M. said, the sums thus advanced by the States and Corporations for the use of the volunteers ought in the first instance to have been paid by the General Government. They would have been so paid, but for the pitiful policy on the part of the President, in attempting to conceal the enormous amount of debt in which he had involved the country, by rashly, unwisely and without authority, pushing us into a war, by an act of folly, to say the best of it.

The wisdom and propriety of the policy of the President, in pretending to make a distinction between the great body of the People of Mexico and their Rulers, admitted of very great doubt– especially when attempted by the head of a nation situated as we are. The condition of Mexico was, to some extent, like our own. The descendants of the Indians, constituting the great mass of the people, enjoyed but little if any more liberty, than the Slaves in the Southern States; and an attempt to array them against their own government was but little better than an attempt to excite a servile war, the most horrible of all wars;– a policy condemned by all civilized nations, and universally denounced in this country as cruel, monstrous, and inhuman.

There appeared to be a total want of magnanimity in a great Republic, pursuing such a policy in waging war against a sister Republic of less than half her own strength. The attempt, however, had proved eminently successful; and the whole Mexican nation are timely informed of the policy of the President, in pretending to make a distinction between the great body of the People of Mexico and their Rulers, admitted of very great doubt– especially when attempted by the head of a nation situated as we are. The condition of Mexico was, to some extent, like our own. The descendants of the Indians, constituting the great mass of the people, enjoyed but little if any more liberty, than the Slaves in the Southern States; and an attempt to array them against their own government was but little better than an attempt to excite a servile war, the most horrible of all wars;– a policy condemned by all civilized nations, and universally denounced in this country as cruel, monstrous, and inhuman.

Mr. M. believed that President Polk had withheld from the public, under circumstances which could furnish no justification for such conduct, information which they had a right to receive; and that he had, from improper motives, suppressed evidence which, if known, would convict him of having involved the Nation in a useless and expensive war, without and against the consent of Congress– of having been criminally negligent in supplying the Army with wagons, provisions and other necessary means of subsistence– of having sought to destroy the reputation of General Taylor, by means of false, covert, underhanded, and dishonorable means,– and of a degree of folly and criminality, in reference to the whole conduct of the war, which, so far from entitling him to a vote of thanks, would, when all the facts come to be known, call down upon his head a sentence of universal condemnations.

Note– Mr. Woofolk was understood, in his reply to Mr. Moore, to admit, though he did not say so in so many words, that there had been an understanding between President Polk and Santa Anna, at the time of his return to Mexico; that Santa Anna was to bring about a treaty of peace between the two nations as speedily as practicable; but that such was the state of excitement among the Mexican people against the U. States, that his purpose could not then be effected; and that the feeling against this country was still too strong for him to succeed in bringing them to agree to a peace. And it was inferred from his remarks, that the President still expected that the understanding between Santa Anna and himself would ultimately be carried into effect. Whether Mr. W. spoke from any knowledge of the facts come to be known, call down upon his head a sentence of universal condemnations.
A LOCOFOCO PUZZLE

The Locofoco papers affect to be exceedingly surprised at what appears to them to be the inconsistency of the Whigs, who, while they express the opinion that the war with Mexico has been both unconstitutionally and unnecessarily waged, yet rejoice over the victories of our arms, and even intimate the desire and the purpose to confer upon the heroic commander of our forces on the Rio Grande the highest reward which a grateful people can bestow upon a faithful public servant. There is, however, in truth, nothing inconsistent in condemning the authors of the war and the war itself, and at the same time uniting, heart and hand in its vigorous prosecution. It is, in fact, a beautiful illustration of the trite sentiment of Decatur, "Our country: may she always be right; but our country, right or wrong." We may denounce the authors of a war which we believe to have been declared without just and sufficient cause, and for purposes and objects in themselves unworthy and improper – a war which neither the outraged rights of the nation nor its wounded honor required to be waged, in defence of the one or in vindication of the other. And yet, the war being begun, we may not only consistently, but we are bound by our allegiance to our country and by our obligation to obey the powers that be, to aid in its efficient and successful prosecution. Influenced by motives of this sort, we have seen that while Whig Legislators have promptly united with their political opponents in placing under the control of the President large bodies of men and millions of dollars, to the full extent of his own estimates of the wants of the public serve, Whig Soldiers have been equally prompt in rushing to the field of battle, and sealing with their blood their devotion to their country, and attesting their determination, under all circumstances, to sustain the honor of its flag, whenever and wherever their Government may cause it to be unfurled. They separate the Administration, [fold] and denounce, from the Country, to which they owe undivided allegiance. They proclaim their opposition to the one, therefore, while they obey, as good citizens, the laws of the other. They regret that unwise or vicious Rulers have unsheathed the sword; but they regret and censure the futility which brought on the war, yet, once involved in strife, they urge and aid in a vigorous prosecution of hostilities as the most effective mode of restoring peace. As the Baltimore American, commenting on an article in the Union, in which the Whigs are denounced for applauding Taylor, while they condemn Polk, well asks;

"For what other purpose are we now striking such fearful blows in Mexico? Who is pleased with this war on its own account? Is there any one who professes to be delighted with it and does not wish to see it ended? Nay, the public anxiety to see it satisfactorily ended is every day growing stronger and stronger – so much so that the Administration will not be sustained in any exorbitant demands which may drive Mexico to desperation, and defeat the hope of a peace within a reasonable time. With all the martial enthusiasm of our people, they are not blind to justice and reason, nor steeled against the dictates of humanity – whatever may be the reckonings of those who calculate every thing for political effect.

As for Gen. Taylor, he is now fighting in Mexico upon the same principles which animated the Whigs to unite in supporting measures, in Congress for the efficient prosecution of the war. He obeys the government in whose service his is; they obeyed the requisitions of duty to their country to whose honor and welfare they are devoted. Yet both are anxious to see the war ended; and both are in the habit of believing that it might have been avoided, if wise and prudent counsels had prevailed.

But the idea of 'stealing all the honors of a war' which the Administration got up for its own especial behead – this is the crying enormity. If this be not Hat burglary, then Dogberry, like necessity, knows no law. But the truth is, this Texas business, from first to last, has proved a bad speculation. Mr. Tyler went into it, and suffered. Mr. Polk is following in the footsteps of his illustrious predecessor. Both accumulated capital for others to use."

[MSH]
claims, which it adds, it "shall weigh in the best spirit," being entirely uncommitted to any candidate. Whereupon the Baltimore American well remarks:

"Here is an indication of some promise. Approving of Gen. Taylor’s views of the constitution, and of the policy in which the government should be administered, what will the Union do? Support Gen. Taylor? No. It will merely be able to appreciate his claims to the Presidency.’ – Unlike the player queen, the Union does not promise too much.

"Speaking however of 'claims to the Presidency,' the political paper should know that Gen. Taylor makes none. The people make claims upon him.”

Tuesday, May 4, 1847: RW24i36p1c2  284 words.

CALIFORNIA

The exploits of Cortez have been a favorite source of illustration during the Mexican war. We have concluded that what he did, we may do. It happened to this famous hero once, that a successor was appointed to him, and that instead of relinquishing his authority, he turned his arms against his rival, took him prisoner and sent him back from whence he came. The nature of man seems not to have essentially changed since that, as the last news from California indicates that there is some chance of a civil war between two of Mr. Polk’s Governors. The N. O. Picayune says:

"We are much concerned to learn that a serious difficulty has arisen between Gen. Kearney and Com. Stockton, touching the civil government of California. Our information is to the effect that Com. Stockton refused to acknowledge Gen. Kearney’s right to assume the civil magistracy of the province and that Col. Fremont joined with him in resisting the orders of the General Government conferring the office of governor upon Gen. Kearney. This misunderstanding, it was feared would be of serious disadvantage to the American interests in that distant region.”

There is a terrible amount of mystification about this matter. Com. Stockton’s despatches imply that he was at the head of all operations, and especially that he commanded the forces in the battles of the 8th and 9th of January. Lieut. Emory, who is Gen. Kearny’s bearer of despatches, states positively that the latter commanded in both of those battles. We shall hear soon of the establishment of a new empire, with Com. Stockton, by the grace of God, King of California. The days of Cortez’ and the Pizarros have come back. – Charleston Mercury.

Tuesday, May 4, 1847, RW24i36p1c2  59 words.

COMING FROM THE WAR

Capt. McManus, the commander of the State Fencibles, has just returned from the seat of war, to Jackson, (Miss.) He left the city weighing about one hundred and eighty pounds; but come back reduced to ninety. Though unable to command his company at Buena Vista, he was furnished a horse and remained with it all day on horse back.

[MSH]

Tuesday, May 4, 1847, RW24i36p1c4  981 words.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE BATTLE OF BUENA VISTA, IN SCRIPTURAL STYLE.

1. And it came to pass in those days when the war between the children of brother Jonathan and the children of Ishmael, known as the Mexicans, was prosecuted with rigor.

2. With the object of conquering a piece of Mexico.

3. That the army of the Mexicans crossed over the wilderness which stretches from Matehuala and Agua Nueva, some forty leguas, headed by their chief captain Antonio, whose surname was Lopez de Santa Anna.

4. And Zachary, one of the mightiest of Brother Jonathan, was the chief capitain of the host of the Americans at Agua Nueva, or the New Water, in the heart of the enemy’s country.

5. Howbeit, the chief captain over all the American armies in Mexico was Winfield, a mighty man of valor, who stood like Soul, the first king of Israel, a head and shoulders above has peers.

6. Who after supping a “hasty plate of soup” in the chief city of Washington, put on all the panoply of the war, and
with ships and transports, a great fleet and huge engines, and twelve thousand men of war, set sail to Vera Cruz, the chief seaport of the Mexicans.

7. Where, also, there was a prodigious (illegible) black as thunder, and grim as death, settling out like a huge prison in the midst of the sea.

8. And Antonio, the chief captain of the Mexicans, had a wooden leg.

9. For the Gauls had bombarded the castle, once upon a time, when Antonio was its defender, and a stray shot from the enemy wounded him (illegible).

10. And Winfield, when he repaired to Vera Cruz with his mighty host, hearing that Antonio was at San Luis Potosi, midway between Vera Cruz and Agua Nueva.

11. And Hearing that the Mexican armies were fast for provisions, and could not budge a peg from the want thereof;

12. And thinking that Antonio would be utterly unable to cross the desert to the discomfiture of Zachary;

13. And called upon Zachary, and took from him the mail body of the regular soldiers, and told him to "lay low and keep dark," and in order to be perfectly safe, to fall into Monterey, under the shadow of the mountains, where the enemy could not reach him, if peradventure they should cross the desert.

14. But Zachary was exceeding wroth, and determined to have a crack at 'em any how.

15. Moreover, the water at Agua Nueva was wholesome to the men; and as it was on the edge of the desert, he could see further that under the mountains of Monterey.

16. And though left with but 5,000 young men, he resolved to stand the racket.

17. And hearing from the spies which were sent out to sour the country that Antonio was approaching with a mighty host of cannoneers, rancheros, lancers, horse, foot and dragoons.

18. And furthermore, that the chief captain of the Mexicans was anxious to immortalize himself in a great battle with the Americans.

19. Old Zachary put both hands in his pockets, and said he would give him a chance.

20. And Santa Anna, which is Antonio, drew nigh unto Agua Nueva, with 17,000 men.

21. And Zachary fell back to the hacienda of Buena Vista, of Good Prospect, where he could have a Good Prospect, of the enemy.

22. Where he planted his men by regiments, battalions, squadrons, and companies, among the hills and ravines, flanked by the barren and sun burnt mountains.

23. And in the second month, and on the 221 day of the month, and on the eleventh hour of the day, the two armies were pitched for the battle.

24. And the Mexicans were spread around just like a host of starving wolves, while the army of Brother Jonathan mustered like a small herd of tigers among hills.

25. And Antonio, sent to Zachary a messenger asking him respectfully to surrender, as it would be a great accommodation.

26. And Zachary respectfully declined.

And the Battle began with some heavy cannonading in the afternoon of the day on which the great Washington was born.

27. So that the Mexicans unwittingly joined the Americans in the celebration.

28. And again on the next day, the battle war renewed and sustained all the day with great slaughter on both sides.

29. And the enemy being starved, fought over dead bodies of the Americans for the meat and drink which was in their knapsacks.

30. An Antonio had to drive others at the (illegible) of the lance into battle, so exceeding hot was the fire of the American Volunteers.
31. And there tell of the enemy near two thousand men. And at night the Chief Captain of the Mexicans, with his shattered army, fell back upon Agua Nueva.

32. And carried with him three of the great guns of the Americans which were taken by reason that their defenders were shot down.

33. And issued a proclamation, that on the morrow, when his men had eaten a mouthful of provisions, he would finish the work.

34. But instead thereof, he precipitately retreated across the desert to San Luis Potosi, on the pretence that Gen. Patterson was coming to town.

35. And Zachary resumed his position at Agua Nueva, for his men were dry.

36. An he sent a messenger to Washington with dispatches of all that had been done, and exhibited his loss to be near eight hundred men in killed and wounded.

37. And told the Adjutant General to tell the Secretary of War, surnamed old leather breeches that it was, perhaps, as well to keep the desert between humans the enemy as to admit them down to Monterey.

38. And there was great joy among the Americans albeit may hearts were grieved, by reason of the slain.

39. And Old Zachary was pronounced by acclamations as one of the b'hoys.

Tuesday, May 4, 1847, RW24i36p1c5

OFFICIAL

Letters have just been received at the War Department from General Taylor. The last bears date on the 28th of March. A previous letter runs as follows: and it pays the proper tribute to the gallant conduct of Col. Morgan, of the Ohio volunteers:

See: Niles National Register, /Niles/Nilesg1847MayJun.htm#DATE72.151TaylorCAMARGO

The last letter from General Taylor, of the 28th March, reports that our communications with the rear are now measurably secure, no interruption having taken place since that reported on the 20th ult. A train arrived on the 24th, under escort of the 1st Indiana regiment, and another was daily expected. It is understood, that the regular cavalry of Urrea had retired from that quarter across the mountains; a natural result of the retreat of the main army towards San Luis and of our precautions to secure the trains. All was quiet at Saltillo. The troops in good health and the wounded rapidly recovering. The inhabitant, both at Saltillo and Monterey, were generally returning to their homes, and, in the country, are engaged in planting their crops.

[MSH]

Tuesday, May 4, 1847, RW24i36p2c2

GENERAL TAYLOR IN KENTUCKY. Illegible.

Tuesday, May 4, 1847 RW24i36p2c2 664 words.

INTERESTING FROM MEXICO.

The fact that Santa Anna, on saving enough of Mexico, carried with him his cabinet to the scene of action has given rise to the very plausible surmise that his object is to negotiate and not fight.

A letter from “a highly respectable and reliable source” in the city of Mexico, [fold], the Spanish paper in New Orleans, gives a very gloomy account of the state of affairs at the rapid consequent upon the dissentious and discords of the […] factions into which the Mexican people are divided. The writer says:
“There is the war party, who are not only in favor of war, but of one conducted with decision, energy and real earnest. There is the peace party, which is desirous of effecting an accommodation with the United States, even at the sacrifice of a large portion of their territory. Another party – that of the clergy – hate the Americans as heretica and Jews, but they are unwilling to open the purses of the church to contribute to prosecute the war against the ‘enemies of their religion.’ Gomez Farias has a party which is in favor of hypothecating the property of the church to raise funds to carry on the war. This party is weak, for Santa Anna publicly repudiates it, though it is said he secretly encourages their design. Lastly, there is a party which has always existed to a considerable extent in Mexico, intent upon selfish purposes, disregarding the circumstances of the State – in peace or in war, regarding nothing but the promotion of their own self-interest and ambitious. This party has seized the present occasion as affording an opportunity of promoting their interests, entirely oblivious of the calls of patriotism.”

The writer adds the following interesting facts and speculations:

“Santa Anna leaves to–day [April 1] for Jalapa, where he will unite his force with that of Gen La Vega, who is now at the defences of the National Bridge. Santa Anna says that he goes to conquer or die; but this he has said so often, that we cannot put much reliance in the threat. He takes with him about 20,000 men of all arms, the greater part of them being taken from [jarochada] the lowest class of the people, who are very good for fighting. They will, however, have no other advantage over the army which marched from San Louis, except that they will not be compelled to the same dreary march through vast wildernesses, and exposed to continual cold and rain. But they are equally destitute of resources and means, having no provisions and no money with which to buy any. We have, therefore, no reasons for expecting any other results than have characterized the former enterprises. It is said that if the Americans pass the National Bridge, and march towards the capital, the whole people of Mexico will rise en masse against the invaders. But we do not doubt that a force of 10,000 or 12,000 Americans will not encounter on the march, a Mexican army sufficiently large or determined to resist their onward progress.

“What do the Mexicans hope for when, during a whole year they are permitted so many favorable opportunities of repelling the invaders to pass buy unimproved? Witness the battles of Monterey and Buena Vista – the debarkation of the American troops in the very face of Vera Cruz, and when the expedition had become so universally known and so generally expected.

“Santa Anna says there shall never be peace as long as there is on American in Mexico. But Santa Anna is, in truth, most desirous of all other persons for peace, and will be the first to recommend it, when it is safe to do so. – There are many persons in Mexico who have learned to understand an appreciate the Americans, their laws, government and institutions – but there are many Mexicans who thoroughly despise the Yankees, their manners and customs. [fold] yet they call themselves freemen, and mockingly call their nation a republic!”

Tuesday, May 4, 1847 RW24i36p2c2, 325 words.

A LETTER FROM VERA CRUZ.

The Courrier des Etats Unis, of New York, of the 1st instant, contains a letter from Vera Cruz, dated the 9th of April, said to be from a reliable source, which expresses the opinion that Santa Anna is at hear inclined for peace, and that “an arrangement is not beyond the reach of probability.” The Courrier’s correspondent states that he has seen an authentic copy of a letter written by Senor Atocha (Mr. Polk’s messenger) to Senor Rejon, in which the proposition of the United States Government to that of Mexico is thus stated:

“The adoption of the Rio Grande as the boundary between the two republics, from its mouth to the parallel of California. This parallel strikes the Rio Gila between the 33rd and 34th degrees of latitude; the line, therefore, would by no means come down as low as the 25th of 26th degree, as has been pretended. Such a line would take from Mexico a third of their territory, whereas Senor Antocha’s would cut off only New Mexico and California.

“The United States would pay for this acquisition from fifteen to twenty millions of dollars, besides taking upon themselves the settlement of the old claims, amounting to eleven millions. Adding the expenses of the war, which Senor Atocha estimates at sixty millions, the whole amount thus paid for New Mexico and California would be from 86 to 91 millions; a large price, and perhaps even more than the territory can be worth.

“A treaty of commerce and of alliance, offensive and defensive, to be established, by which the United States should engage to protect Mexico, by force of arms if necessary against any European attempt to introduce a monarchical system. And the Cabinet of Washington would bind itself not to recognize the independence of any Mexican confederation, as also to defend the frontier of both republics against Indian hostilities, keeping up for this purpose a force of give or six thousand men.”

Tuesday, May 4, 1847 RW24i36p2c5  716 words.

LATER FROM THE BRAZOS.

From the New Orleans Picayune, April 24.

The U.S. propeller Trumbull, Capt Stotesbury, arrived yesterday from the Brazos, having sailed on the 18th inst. She brings no news of
importance.

Gen Taylor was at Monterey on the 5th inst., while the army remained at its old position under Gen Wool. Gen Taylor was pushing up supplies from Camargo to Saltillo with all rapidity, and with a view to a forward movement upon San Luis. Men only will be wanting for that purpose.

The volunteers are returning towards the mouth of the Rio Grande as their terms of service are expiring. The right wing of the Kentucky Legion had reached the Brazos, and was awaiting there the arrival of the other wing, prior to sailing for this port. We learn that none of the volunteers scarcely are re-enlisting.

In the total absence of letters from our correspondent, we copy a number of items from the Matamoros Flag of the 14th inst.

ROBBERY. – The sum of fifteen hundred dollars was abstracted by some scoundrel from the money of the Subsistence Department in this place on Friday night last. One thousand dollars was done up in a box constructed to hold that amount of money, and the balance was contained in a small bag, and both deposited into a large wooden box, the lock of which was torn off. There was no relaxation of vigilance on the part of those whose duty it was to watch over the funds at the time of the theft. The robbery must elude the keenest watchfulness.

The North Carolina regiment, as we learn from one of its very clever lieutenants, Staton, is at San Francisco, nine miles this side of Camargo. On the 8th inst. they were joined by their commander, Col. Paine. Capt. Wilson, our readers will recollect, has been appointed colonel of infantry, but prefers remaining with the Edgecombe boys, whose mothers constituted him their guardian during the war.

Lieut. Staton, of the North Carolina regiment, came down the river on Friday last in charge of a number of sick volunteers belonging to his regiment. On the passage down two of the died, viz: Geo. W. Barnes, 1st sergeant, company A; J.J.F. Stokes, 3rd corporal, company E.

MURDER – Wm. C. Gladman, a free mulatto who owns a barber shop in Galveston, but who has been tarrying in our city for the last month or two, was missed from his employment for three of four days. On Saturday morning last his body was discovered by our carrier boys floating in the lake back of our office. It bore the marks of violence, and as he was known to have had a considerable sum of money in his possession, it is supposed avarice prompted the deed.

MORE VIOLENCE – A Mexican was horribly mangled by cuts with a knife, in a fight near the Plaza, on Monday night last. The unfortunate man is not expected to live. On Tuesday night, as we have been informed, another one was shot at a fandango, and it is thought will not survive the wound.

Col. Cushing has issued the following stringent order, with a view to put an end to the disturbances which have prevailed so long in Matamoros:

ORDER – No. 71.

HEADQUARTERS, MATAMOROS, April 13, 1847

For the better maintenance of safety and good morals at this post, and in special regard to the well being of the troops stationed here, also in execution of previous orders emanating from the commanding general, and from officers in immediate command at the post, It is ordered:

1. All houses or other places of gambling of whatever name or nature, or of public dancing, at this post are hereby closed.

2. All sale or traffic in distilled spirits at this post is prohibited.

3. The proprietors of all buildings or other places in which gambling or public dancing occurs, or distilled spirits are sold, as well as the occupants or other persons engaged or employed in an about the same, will be held severally responsible after the present date for any infraction of this order, and will be summarily dealt with according to martial law.

4. Maj. Abbott is charged with the execution of this order.

By order of C. Cushing, Col. Comd’g.

W. W. H. DAVIS, Adj’t.

[MSH]

Tuesday, May 4, 1847 RW24i36p2c5 247 words.

THE CHANCES OF PEACE.
We saw a private letter from a very intelligent officer at Vera Cruz, dated the 10th inst., in which he says that several of the States of the Mexican confederacy have denounced the war with the United States, and threaten to secede unless peace should be made. Many Mexicans predicted a peace within sixty days, but our correspondent puts little faith in auguries so favorable. He thinks the great difficulty in the way of peace is the fact that Santa Anna is so nearly crushed that he dare not make a treaty. – Nor does there appear to be any one else in Mexico strong enough to incur the great responsibility. None of the old politicians will venture upon the step. Our correspondent adds: “Some man now unknown to fame, with nothing to lose, and every thing to gain, may arise and advocate a peace policy successfully. His want of ambition or the little chance of his obtaining power may prevent him from becoming obnoxious to the jealousies of parties, and gain for him adherents generally. He may succeed in making a peace which everybody will be glad of; but how long before it will be used as an element of political warfare?”

The Legislature of the State of Vera Cruz, sitting at Jalapa, was said to be deliberating at last accounts upon the propriety of making peace, independent of the General Government.

The State of Zacatecas has declared itself independent – so writes us an intelligent correspondent!

Tuesday, May 4, 1847, RW24i36p2c5  166 words.

THE MARINES OF THE GULF SQUADRON

During the late events at Vera Cruz, the marines of the Gulf Squadron were formed into three companies under the command of Capt. Edson, a popular and gallant officer, assisted by Lieuts Garland, Slack, Simms, Adams and Mayson, of the Marine Corps, and placed at the disposition of Gen. Scott by Com. Conner. They were attached to the 3d Artillery under Col. Belton, and constituted about a half of his command. They landed on the 9th March with the line of the army, and were very actively employed during the investment, and were the first to open and the last to leave the trenches. The first man killed in the trenches was a marine. They were detached by Gen. Scott when the city had surrendered, and after marching into the city returned to their respective vessels. Their services have been warmly acknowledged both by Gen. Scott and Gen Worth in their respective general orders, and elsewhere, and also to Capt. Edson on the occasion of detachment.

[MSH]

Tuesday, May 4, 1847 RW24i36p2c7  465 words.

FROM THE ARMY.

From the Washington Union, Saturday 1st.

Letters were received by the Department of the War and Navy, by last evening’s mail, from Vera Cruz, in the Massachusetts steamer; arrived at New Orleans. General Scott’s last letter bear date on the 11th April. It states the arrangements he was making for the advance towards the capital. It contains no intelligence that is as late or more interesting than what was received at New Orleans by the Picayune and the Delta. The General states that Gen. Twiggs had passed the National Bridge, and was on the road to Jalapa. The first report was that Santa Anna had only 4,000 troops – then the account increased them to 6,000 – and, finally, Gen Twiggs’ despatch augmented them to about 15,000 entrenched at the pass of Cero Gordo. Another letter, written on the 14th, has been received at the War Office, stating that Gen. Scott had left Vera Cruz on the 12th, and Gen Worth on the 13th. They refer to the same rumors that were published last night in the “Union” with this variation, that only two members of the Mexican Congress were reported to be with Santa Anna, for the purpose of making overtures for peace. But nothing has been positively ascertained about it.

Com. Perry’s despatches to the Navy contain nothing that we can, at this time, lay before our readers.

Extract from a letter of Capt. Hughes, of the Corpus Topographical Engineers.

Vera Cruz, April 14, 1847

“Yesterday despatches were received here from Gen Twiggs, at Plano del Rio, dated 12th instant, stating that Santa Anna, with about 15,000 men, had occupied the strong pass of Cerro Gordo, (five miles in his advance) about fifteen miles from Jalapa, where he had an additional force of 7,000 or 8,000 men. Gen. Patterson being ill, Gen. Twiggs proposed to attack the enemy to-day, [14th instant,] but I presume orders have been sent him to defend it until the arrival of the commander-in-chief, who will reach the place to-day. It is now believed that a great battle will be fought at Jalapa, or a few miles the other side, at a formidable pass, called La Hoya, which is gained, opens to us the road to Perotec and to Puebla.

“It is not thought that anything serious will occur at Cerro Gordo, as it is represented that the position may be turned. I am sorry to tell you that Capt. Johnson, of the Corps of Topographical Engineers, [recently appointed lieutenant colonel of voltigeurs,) was very dangerously wounded in two places, while [illegible] on the 12th instant. His wounds had been dressed, most of the balls extracted, and the wounds pronounced not to be mortal. God grant his valuable life may be spared to his family, his friends, and his country!”

[MSH]
A LETTER FROM CAPT. HARPER OF STAUNTON.

A letter from Capt. Harper of Staunton, dated near Monterey, on the 18th of March, after complimenting the Virginia Regiment, speaks thus of old Rough 'n Ready: – "Gen. Taylor has just returned to this place from Catarreta. The General is a remarkably hale, hearty looking man, of medium height, thick set and stoop shoulder'd, and would weigh, I suppose, about 175. In dress, &c. he might be readily taken for a wagon master. The Army, I find, are enthusiastic in his praise."

THE LATE APPOINTMENTS.

The New Orleans Picayune makes the following very just remarks, upon the recent promotion of Generals Quitman, Pillow and Cushing:

"The task of a fault finder is an ungracious one always, yet we may be permitted to say that those promotions, (with one exception) were not indicated by the confidence of the army in the persons selected, nor suggested by any display of great military abilities on the part of the appointees. – Gen Quitman distinguished himself, it is true, at Monterey, and on this account his promotion will be more acceptable to the army; but for the other two we look in vain for services entitling them to exalted rank. Gen Pillow's defences of Camargo were the laughter of the service. In throwing up intrenchments he actually made the ditch on the wrong side – converting a breast work designed for the protection of the city into a convenient cover for an assailing party. Now that he is a major general, it is reasonable to suppose that the next time he tries his hand at the business he will dig his ditches on both sides.

"Gen. Cushing has yet to smell gunpowder. He is a man of talents and distinguished above his compeers as a tactician in civil matters. If his strategy in the war prove equal to his manoeuvring in politics he will make a very extensive general. Yet there is great doubt whether his civil instincts qualify him for command in a service where the majority is with the enemy.

"There were at Monterey men whom a crowd would spontaneously look to as leaders in a crisis of difficulty. – Such men as Gen A S Johnson, of Texas; Col Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi; Col Campbell, of Tennessee, & c., who disting dished themselves in battle, and who possess the military knowledge and actual experience necessary for high command. They enjoy also the confidence of the soldiery. If gallant deeds, as in the case of Gen. Quitman, are regarded as claims to promotion, these gentlemen were equally conspicuous at Monterey. Colonel Davis has since then freshened his laurels at Buena Vista, and Col Campbell was before Vera Cruz with his regiment. The country will acknowledge the right of these brave officers to complain of neglect, and the service will suffer from a species of favoritism calculated to drive the best men out of it. There is that in every Southern mind, or Northern, or either, which rebels at the idea of making the gallant and distinguished Davis subordinate to an untried officer Gen. Cushing. We would not disparage Gen. Cushing, but his sword has not yet tested the dint of the battle, whilst Col. Davis has fleshed his sabre in fields all reeking with carnage. Gen. Cushing has gone to join Gen. Taylor, where he will rank officers whose prowess decided the issues of combat. This is all wrong to our thinking, and we would not be surprised if the twelve months' enlistments refused to a man to prolong their stay in Mexico. It is a hard service that in which chivalry and successful valor are not rewarded by rank and command."

LATER FROM VERA CRUZ.

From the N. O. Picayune, April 23rd

Important Intelligence – Advance of the American Army – Santa Anna's Preparations for Defence – Battle Supposed to have been Fought on the 15th inst., &c.

The U.S. steamship Massachusetts arrived here last evening from Vera Cruz, which place she left on the evening of the 14th. Our correspondence is down to the latest hours. The news is of the most stirring interest. The best advices lead to the impression that a battle was fought at Cerro Gordo, nearly midway between the Puente Nacional and Jalapa, on Thursday or Friday last. We have heretofore announced the advance of Gen. Twigg's division into the interior. When last heard from he was beyond the Puente Nacional and in close proximity to the Mexican army. Gen Scott was expected to arrive at Gen. Twigg's headquarters on the night of the 14th inst. Gen. Worth left Vera Cruz with the last division of the army on the 13th, and bivouacked that night at San Juan – about 12 miles in the interior. He probably joined the advance on the 15th. Santa Anna was said to be at Cerro Gordo, where La Vega and Canalizo were posted with a considerable command. The Mexican force at that point, when joined by Santa Anna, was estimated at fifteen thousand strong – consisting of two thousand regular infantry, there thousand cavalry, and the remainder irregulars. The pass of Cerro Gordo is forty-four miles from Vera Cruz and is naturally a very strong one. Some difficulty is anticipated in forcing it. – Rumors state that Santa Anna can obtain any amount of irregular force he may desire. Reconnoitering parties from the American army had been fired upon and several wounded – amongst who was Capt. (now Lieut. Col.) Johnson, of the Topographical Engineers, who was shot in
the arm and hip whilst examining the Mexican works at Cerro Gordo. Intelligent officers who arrived in the Massachusetts, entertain very little doubt that a general engagement has taken place.

A number of soldiers have been shot in passing the road to and fro. All accounts represent the Americans as confident of victory, and the Mexicans burning for vengeance. Our next advices from Vera Cruz will, we doubt not bring us the details of an important engagement.

We subjoin the news from the Vera Cruz papers and our correspondence. The letter from Mr. Kendall of the 14th, written at camp San Juan, is the very latest from the army. The soldiers were suffering at Vera Cruz from sickness, but the vomito had not appeared.

[Editorial Correspondence of the Picayune]

So many vessels are leaving almost every day that it is hard keeping the run of them. I send a line by every one I hear of.

A German gentleman has just told me – it is now 10 o’clock, A.M. – that Santa Anna was at his old hacienda of Errcerro day before yesterday. This place is close by Jalapa. Canalizo and La Vega are at Cerro Gordo, where no less than three heights have been fortified. Gen. Scott went out last night; Gen. Worth, with his division, marched this morning, and will bivouac to night at San Juan, on the other side of Santa Fe. Gen. Twiggs is at Plau del Rio, close by the Mexicans, and there are those who think it more than probable that he has already has a brush with them. It is thought the position at Cerro Gordo can be turned, and in case La Vega and Canalizo make good their retreat that they will make another stand at Los Dios. Time will show.

The hospitals are full, and the sickness is said to be on the increase. I still cannot learn that there has been any well authenticated case of vomito, although many have died of fever. I am off to-day for the headquarters of the army.

Yours, &c.
G.W.K.

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Vera Cruz, April 14, 1847

The Massachusetts sails in half an hour, and I hasten to send you the latest intelligence received from the advance of our army on its march towards Jalapa. Despatches were received here yesterday evening from Gen. Twiggs, stating that the enemy had been discovered, and that in a reconnaissance some eighteen miles beyond the National Bridge, at a point called the Black Forrest Pass, Capt. J.E. Johnson, of the Topographical Engineers – now Lieut. Col. of voltiguers – was severely wounded with a shot through the arm and another through the thigh. It is more than probable that Gens. Twiggs and Pillow have had something of a “brush with the enemy.” Santa Anna is known to have arrived at this pass with a force said to be 15,000 strong, consisting of 2,000 regulars and the balance of irregular troops – of whom 3,000 are cavalry. The point above named is a very strong one, and naturally affords great advantages to the enemy, but my word for it, they will not hold it long after our troops assail it.

Shut up as I am in my room I cannot know much of what is going on. Mr. Kendall started last evening on the way to the advance of the army; he will probably be in the camp sometime to-day. He wrote you a letter before starting, which goes with this. It is becoming quite sickly here, but as yet I hear nothing of the vomito amongst the soldiers [fold] excepting those who stay to garrison this city, will soon be beyond the influence of the impure and sickly air of the coast.

I am still slowly recovering from my accident, and hope to be with you ere many days. It is entirely out of the question to think of following the army in my condition, and I wouldn’t stay in Vera Cruz a month for it. I learn that the steamship New Orleans, now here, is to make one more trip to Tampico for mules, which are much wanted here, and after that she goes to your city.

Yours, &c.,
F. A. L.

P.S. – When Capt. Johnson was wounded in his reconnaissance, he was with an escort of the 2d Dragoons, under Capt. Hardie.

F. A. L.

Camp at San Juan, April 14, 1847.

I arrived at this camp at 11 o’clock last night, the road from Vera Cruz running for the most part through heavy sand. The division of Gen Worth, from the excessive heat and weari some road, suffered incredibly.

The news in camp is stirring. An express has come down from Gen. Twiggs to the effect that Santa Anna was before him, at Cerro Gordo, with 15,000 men, as near as could be judged from reconnaissance made by Capt. Hardie and other officers of dragoons. Lieut. Col. J.E. Johnson has been severely but not mortally wounded while examining Santa Anna’s works, which appear to be a succession of breast works on the eminences in the vicinity of Cerro Gordo. Everything would now go to show that Santa Anna is determined to make a bold stand.

A dragoon, who had been sent down express by Gen. Twiggs, was yesterday found shot by the roadside just beyond this. His papers had not been touched. The Mexicans are playing a bloody and at the same time bolder game than is usual for them, as it is thought
they have killed no less than fifty of our men within the last three days on the road.

Gen. Scott stopped last night nine miles from this – to–night he will reach Gen’l. Twiggs’s position. If Santa Anna is as strong as he is represented, he probably will not be attacked for two or three days.

I write in great haste.

G. W. K.

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On the 11th inst. Gen. Scott issued the following proclamation, which no one will doubt was written by him:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, VERA CRUZ,
April 11, 1847


To the Good People of Mexico.

PROCLAMATION.

Mexicans! At the head of a powerful army, soon to be doubled – a part of which is now advancing on your capital – and with another army under Maj. Gen. Taylor in march from Saltillo towards San Luis Potosi – I think myself called upon to address you.

Mexicans! Americans are not your enemies; but the enemies for a time, of the men, who, a year ago, misgoverned you and brought about this unnatural war between two great Republics. We are the friends of the peaceful inhabitants of the country we occupy, and the friends of your holy religion, its hierarchy and its priesthood. The same with devout Catholics, and respected by our Government, laws and people.

For the church of Mexico, the unoffending inhabitants of the country and their property, I have from the first done every thing in my power to place them under the safeguard of martial law against the few bad men in this army.

My orders, to that effect, known to all, are precise and rigorous. Under them several Americans have already been punished, by fine, for the benefit of Mexicans, besides imprisonment; and one, for a rape, has been hung by the neck.

Is this not a proof of good faith and energetic discipline? Other proofs shall be given as often as injuries to Mexicans may be detected.

On the other hand, injuries committed by individuals, or parties of Mexico, not belonging to the public forces, upon individuals, small parties, trains of wagons and teams, or of pack mules, or on any other person or property belonging to this army, contrary to the laws of war, shall be punished with rigor – or if the particular offender be not delivered up by Mexican authorities, the punishment shall fall upon entire cities, towns or neighborhoods.

Let then, all good Mexicans remain at home, or at their peaceful occupations; but they are invited to bring in, for sale, horses, mules, beef, cattle, corn, barley, wheat, flour for bread, and vegetables. Cash will be paid for everything this army may take or purchase, and protection will be given to sellers. The Americans are strong enough to offer these assurances which, should Mexicans wisely accept, this war may soon be happily ended, to the honor and advantage of both belligerents. Then the Americans, having converted enemies into friends, will be happy to take leave of Mexico, and return to their own country.

WINFIELD SCOTT.

[MSH]

Tuesday, May 4, 1847 RW24i36p4c4  1,048 words.

CORRESPONDENCE OF NEW ORLEANS DELTA.

Mexico, 29th March, 1847

Eds. Delta – The city of Montezuma is in a most extraordinary situation at the present writing. Farias and the "Constitutionalists" had a civil war of twenty–three days duration, in which nobody was killed, and neither party lost or gained an inch of ground. That is, no one was killed of the fighters, unless we count some accidental deaths; but a great number of harmless citizens lost their lives by the incessant firing up and down the streets, with which the belligerents amused themselves instead of going within reach of each other. Santa Anna wrote lovingly so both parties, and did his best to urge them to each other up, but as soon as he could reach the city with some force, he threw them all overboard. He is playing for the Dictatorship; and is in fact, clothed with absolute power at this moment. He has induced the clergy to aid him with money to meets and, as he says, to exterminate Scott and “the perfidious invaders.” But his
plan undoubtedly is to make peace, and while he is yet entrenched behind American bayonets, and perhaps with the help of American gold, he will put his enemies where they cannot interfere with him. As soon as he has a clear field, he will [...] his army to seize the possessions of the church, to maintain and increase it as the foundation of a throne. Whatever he pretends, he has his eye on the church property, and has twice put forward Gomez Farias as a cats’-paw to grasp it, but when he found the clergy too strong for him, he made no scruple to sacrifice his tool and come out of the other side.  

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Vera Cruz, April 14, 1847:

EDS. DELTA – There has been a skirmish at Puente Nacional, and we hourly look for the intelligence of the capture of Cerro Gordo, a strong mountain fort, twenty–two miles from Jalapa. A decisive battle is expected at this point, for it is the best vantage ground this side of Perote. General Santa Anna was at or near Jalapa, at the last accounts, but by this time there is scarcely a doubt that Cerro Gordo is carried by assult, and the army in snug quarters at the healthful and delightful city of Jalapa.

Vera Cruz is as quiet and well governed as any city in the United States. It would improve the health some to throw down the walls, and let in the fresh air, as the commandant thinks of doing.

If the army takes any more of those beautiful brass 24's, I hope they will be sent home as trophies. There are in the town and castle nearly one hundred of them. They are of splendid workmanship, and superior to any the U. States has of the same caliber. They are worth about 5000 dollars a–piece, and would look extremely well in the "white settlements."

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Vera Cruz Anchorage, April 12, 1847.

Eds. Delta – A large detachment of the squadron leaves to–day for Tuspan, commanded by the Commodore in person.

The officers anticipate something of a fight at the place. It is believed that there are upwards of 2000 troops at that place, under the command of Gen. Cos, with some sixty pieces of cannon.

The squadron captured at Alvarado sixty pieces of heavy cannon, all serviceable and in fine order with the exception of three.

The greater portion of the army is now on the road to Jalapa; rumor has it that Santa Anna is there with a large force and intends to dispute the pass near that place. The vomito has not yet made its appearance.

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From the Vera Cruz Eagle of the 13th April

A PILOT DISCOVERED – Some day last week a number of Mexicans were discovered in the act of inciting the citizens in Tampico to revolt and drive the Americans from the place. We are not advised of the particulars, but learn that Col. Gates banished them from the city, forbidding their return under penalty of death.

THE CASTLE – The castle of San Juan de Ulua has undergone a thorough cleansing throughout, making it approach much nearer a place in which an American soldier ought to reside. We are informed that a more filthy place could scarcely be imagined, at the time our troops took possession.

TROOPS– The steamship New Orleans arrived yesterday from Tampico, having on board a company or irregular infantry, from Fort Snelling. Moses Y. Beach, of the N.Y. Sun, who is very recently from the city of Mexico, via Tampico, was a passenger on the New Orleans.

[Mr. Beach came aa a passenger on board the Massachusetts to this city yesterday. – Eds. Delta.]

EXECUTION – The execution of the colored man, Kirk, a citizen of the United States, convicted of committing a rape upon a person of a Mexican woman, and theft, took place on Saturday evening last. A large concourse of people were present, to witness the first execution under American authority, which has ever taken place since our occupation of this country. It will, no doubt, prove a salutary lesson to many who would destroy the safeties guarantied to good citizens, were not such punishments sometimes inflicted.

THE HOSPITAL – Many of our gallant soldiers are now prostrated by disease, and the hospitals are filled to overflowing with them. The disease most prevalent is diarrhea, which in many cases has proved fatal.

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From the Vera Cruz Eagle of the 10th inst.

MILITARY COMMISSION – Besides that of rape, two other cases have been adjudged before the Military Commission. They were for theft committed by two privates of the 1st Pennsylvania Regiment of Volunteers. They were sentenced to one moth’s imprisonment in
the Castle of San Juan de Ulua, and a fine of one moth’s pay.

DEATHS – It is with feelings of deep regret we feel ourselves compelled to announce the death of T.J. Lott, late of Covington, Miss. Also on the 7th inst., private Henry Dickson, of company F, Charleston, S.C., Division Volunteers. The deceased was the son of one of the most respectable Professors in the Medical College of his State, and will be long remembered for this urbanity of manners and kindness of department towards his fellow soldiers, one of whom pays this passing tribute to his memory.

Tuesday, May 4, 1847 RW24i36p4c5  151 words.

NOTICE TO COMMERCE.

The following Notice from the Mexican Consul at Havana, we translate from the Faro Industrial of the 17th.

I have the honor to give notice to Commerce that the supreme government of the Mexican Republic has instructed me, that goods and merchandise which may be carried from this port to Vera Cruz, and which do not appear to have be cleared (despatchados) at this Consulate, by the invoice which according to the existing revenue laws, is to be sent to the Minister of Finance, will be confiscated on their passage from Vera Cruz to any party of the Republic.

The Supreme Government also commands me to announce, that passengers coming to the Republic, whose [...] have not been examined by this Consulate, will not be permitted to either the country, but will be compelled to return to the place or places where they embarked.

BUENAVENTURA VIVO

Friday, May 7, 1847 RW24i37p1c5  344 words.

GENERAL TAYLOR’S PERSONAL APPEARANCE.

A Correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger, who says that he has seen the old General in all conditions – on foot, horseback, sitting, standing, and snoring – on and off parade, and that all the likeness of him yet published are abominable caricatures. He adds: –

The General is not over 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, is stout, and inclines to corpulency, would weigh, I should think, near 200 lbs., and the most prominent thing about him is an unusual shortness of legs. When he is sitting, he looks like a tall man – not so when standing. His face is intelligent, and it is usually lit up with a benevolent smile. He is in the habit, when speaking to any one, of partially closing his left eye. His hair is grey and grizzly. In one word, gentlemen, if you can imagine a plain, old Pennsylvania farmer, who has a farm paid for worth $5000, and nothing else in the world – an independent, jovial, don’t care a–fig kind of an old coon – you have “old Zack” before you. One word now as to the Presidency.

When the army last summer was at Matamoros, a Mr. Reeder, (I think), from Baltimore, came there to distribute medals to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers who had distinguished themselves at Palo Alto, &c. It is reported that while there, Mr. R. informed “old Zack” that he had been nominated by some persons in New York for the Presidency. The old General’s reply was characteristic. “Mr. Reeder, I don’t want it – I have no other or higher ambition than to remain at the head of my noble little army. I have always considered myself an honest man – my neighbors so considered me – but were I to accept a nomination, there are persons who would call me every thing that is bad, and others who would say of me, as they said of General Harrison, that I never was within two miles of a field of battle. No! no! – I don’t want it! I don’t want it!”

Friday, May 7, 1847 RW24i37p1c5  52 words.

THE VICTORY TO COME

Prentice says “We have before us maps of the battle grounds upon which General Taylor won his four great victories in Mexico. We have also before us a map of the battle ground upon which he win his great battle of 1848 – that is to say, a map of the United States.”

[MSH]
OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.

We lay before our readers this morning official despatches from Col. Doniphan, whose march, at the head of a single regiment, to the capital of a populous Province, which, after a sanguinary engagement, in which he triumphed over thrice his own force, fell quietly into his possession, deserves to be ranked among the most adventurous and brilliant exploits of the Mexican War. It appears, however, from his letter to the Adjutant General, that the movement to Chihuahua formed no part of a well digested plan of operations, but that, with the small force under his command, beyond the reach of aid from any quarter, he was left exposed to all the hazards of defeat and massacre from the superior force which it might have been foreseen he would encounter, and which fortunately he overthrew. – That he was not cut off is ascribable not to the “eminent ability” of those by whose orders he undertook this fruitless expedition, but to the skill and courage of himself and of the men he commanded. Left unsupported as he is, too, when he expected to have been sustained by the whole force under Gen. Wool, and in command of troops whose term of service expires on the 1st of May, the expedition [...] to have been undertaken without any object – as the conquered territory will be necessarily abandoned, after remaining some weeks in possession of the conqueror. Whether the “glory” won by Col. Doniphan and his men is deemed sufficient recompense for the hardships and perils they have successfully encountered, must be left for wiser heads than our’s to determine.

We also publish official despatches from Gen. Kearny, the military commander in our remote “territory” of California, of which Commodore Stockton (as Gen. Kearny writes) has “assumed the title of Governor,” as the General himself had formerly done in New Mexico. The date of those despatches will give the reader some idea of the remoteness of this Pro–Consulate from the seat of government, and of the vast extent of our already “ocean–bound Republic.” The battles of our countrymen there, as at all other points of the extended line of military operations, though on a small scale, have been characterized by an indomitable spirit, and resulted in the most decisive triumphs. The Californians, too, have evinced more bravery and determination, in resisting the invader, than have been elsewhere displayed – but they have been forced to succumb to their “manifest destiny.”

What is to be the end of these things? Fortunately, perhaps, we cannot lift the curtain which hides the future from our sight. But it needs no prophet’s vision to see that they bode no good to the cause of free government – or at all events, none to the Union, as it was formed by the men of ’76, and to the Constitution which has been aptly called its Palladium. Our Pro–Consul [or self–constituted “Governing”] Commodore Stockton, is already “playing King” in California, with a “pomp and circumstance” commensurate rather with the extent of his empire than with the number of his legions or the magnificence of his Court. We have before us, for example, a programme of the arrangements made at San Francisco for the public reception at that place of the “conquering hero.” As a cotemporary remarks, it is certainly one of the richest things, in its way, ever seen. We publish it, in order that our readers may catch a glimpse of the Fernando Cortez–like style in which an American Commodore can enact the monarch in the new “territory” which he has “annexed” by proclamation to the American Union, and over which he has “assumed,” unrebuked, if indeed it be not authorized by the Administration, the title and functions of Governor! The following is the programme referred to:

PUBLIC RECEPTION
OF HIS EXCELLENCY
ROBERT F. STOCKTON,
Governor and Commander–in–Chief
of CALIFORNIA, &c., &c.

The Citizens of the District of San Francisco and vicinity, having united for the purpose of giving a public reception to His Excellency, Robert F. Stockton, on the occasion of his landing, on Monday, Oct. 5th, 1846; the following is the ORDER OF THE DAY:

1st. The citizens will assemble in ‘Portsmouth Square’ at 8, A.M., and form in procession in the following order:

CHIEF MARSHALL.
AID. AID.
MUSIC.

Military Escorts, under command of
Capt. J. Zetlin, U. S. M. C.
Capt. John B. Montgomery, U. S. N.
(Commanding the Northern District of California,) and Surte.
Officers, U. S. N.
Captain John Party,
Senior Captain of the Hawaiian Navy.
Lieut. Commanding Bonnet – French Navy.
The Magistracy of the District, and the
Orator of the Day.
FOREIGN CONSULS.
Thomas O’Larkin, and Win. A. Leidendorff, Esqs.,
(Late U. S. Consuls for California.)
U. S. Navy Agent,
and the
U. S. Collector of the District.
Gentlemen who hold Civil or Military Commissions under
the late Government.
STRANGERS OF DISTINCTION.
COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.
MASTERS OF SHIPS IN PORT.
CITIZENS GENERALLY.

2. The procession will move at half–past eight o’clock, to take up a position to receive His Excellency at the point of
landing.

3d. The Governor and Suite will land at 9, A. M., under a salute of seventeen guns

4th. The Governor will be received by His Honor, Washington A Bartlett, Magistrate of the District, attended by the
Corporation.

5th. The Governor will be addressed by Col. William H. Russell, Orator of the day.

6. The procession will then move through the principal streets to the residence of Wm. A. Leidendorff, Esq. where the
Ladies will be presented to His Excellency, after which a cavalende will be formed to escort him on his tour of inspection.

7th. On returning from the tour a collation will be served up at the residence of W. A. Ceidesdorff, Esq.

8th. The following gentlemen will be known as Aids to the Marshal, viz. C. E. Pickett, Wm. H. Davis, Frederick Teschmaket,
and J. K. Wilson, Esq.; the Aids will appear in uniform.

FRANK WARD, Marshal.
Yerba Buena, October 5th, 1846.

Tuesday, May 4, 1847, RW24i37p2c1 108 words.

UNTITLED

The New Orleans Picayune, on publishing General Taylor’s official account of the battle of Buena Vista, remarks, that like all the others
from his pen, this document “is written in the clear and forcible style which has obtained for his compositions a celebrity but little short
of the fame of his military operations. It is couched in the severe language of history – elegant from its simplicity, and eloquent in
truth. No one can arise from its perusal without feeling his admiration for the brave old General increasing within him by participators
in the action, that the first element of the victory of that bloody day was Zachary Taylor.”

Friday, May 7, 1847, RW24i37p2c2 95 words.

UNTITLED

Late Texas papers have been received in New Orleans, from which we learn that four companies of Volunteers were to leave San
Antonio for Camargo about the 8th of this month. Other companies and detachments of companies were fast arriving at San Antonio,
full of enthusiasm for the service. There has been a rumor at Houston, that Gen. Lamar and his company, formerly stationed at
Laredo, had been surrounded by a large company of Mexicans and cut to pieces. The Texans have it in contemplation to open a direct
trade between San Antonio and Chihuahua.

Friday, May 7, 1847, RW24i37p2c3 91 words.

CAUSE AND CONSEQUENCE
The Massachusetts Peace Society some months ago offered a premium of $500 for the best essay on the origin and result of the Mexican war. The New York Express gives the following, and claims the premium for its author. It is brief and comprehensive:

AN ESSAY

Upon the

WAR WITH MEXICO,

Its Origin, and its Results;

Carefully Considered, and Methodically Digested,

BY

An Odd Sort of Fellow.

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Chapter I.

On the Origin of the War.

1. Texas

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Chapter II.

On the Result of the War.

1. Texas

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FINIS.

Friday, May 7, 1847, RW24i37p2c4


See: Niles National Register, /Niles/Nilesg1847MayJun.htm#72.170171May151847Lettersfrom

Friday, May 7, 1847, RW24i37p2c5  2,779 words.

CHIHUAHUA – Col. Doniphan’s Letters.

See: Niles National Register, /Niles/Nilesg1847MayJun.htm#72.172–172May151847LettersofCol

SIR:-- The forces under my command are a portion of the Missouri volunteers, called into service for the purpose of invading New Mexico, under the command of Brigadier General (then Colonel) Kearney. After the conquest of New Mexico, and before General Kearney's departure for California, information was received that another regiment and an extra battalion of Missouri volunteers would follow us to Santa Fe. The service of so large a force being wholly unnecessary in that state, I prevailed on Gen. Kearney to order my regiment to report to you at this city. The order was given on the 23rd September, 1846; but after the general arrived at La Joya, in the southern part of the State, he issued an order requiring my regiment to make a campaign into the country inhabited the Navajo Indians, lying between the waters of the Rio del Notre and the Rio Colorado of the west. This campaign detained me until the 14th of December, before our return to Del Notre. We immediately commenced our march for El Paso del Notre with about 800 riflemen. All
My position here is exceedingly embarrassing. In the first place, most of the men under my command have been in service since the 1st of June, and have never received one cent of pay. Their marches have been hard, especially in the Navajo country, and no forage; so that they are literally without horses, clothes or money, nothing but arms and a disposition to use them. They are all volunteers, officers and men; and, although ready for any hardships or danger, are wholly unfit to garrison a town or city. "It is confusion worse confounded." Having performed a march of over 2,000 miles, and their terms of service rapidly expiring, they are restless to join the army under your command. Still, we cannot leave this point safely for some days--the American merchants here, oppose it violently, and have several thousand dollars at stake. They have sent me a memorial, and my determination has been made known to them. A copy of both they will send to you. Of one thing it is necessary to inform you: the merchants admit that their goods could not be sold here in five years; if they go south they will be as near to the markets of Durango and Zacatecas as they now are. I am anxious and willing to protect the merchants as far as practicable; but I protest against remaining here as a mere wagon guard; garrisoning a city with troops wholly unfit for it, and who will be wholly ruined by improper indulgencies. Having been originally ordered to this point, you know the wishes of the government in relation to it, and of course your orders will be promptly and cheerfully obeyed. I fear there is ample use for us with you, and we would greatly prefer joining you before our term of service expires.

All information relative to my previous operations, present condition, &c., will be given you by Mr. J. Collins, the bearer of these dispatches. He is a highly honorable gentleman, and was an amateur soldier at Sacramento.

The Mexicans report your late battle as having been entirely favorable to themselves; but taking it for granted they never report the truth, we have fired a salute for our victory in honor of yourself and General Taylor, presuming from report, you were both present.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A.W. DONIPHAN,
Comd’g 1st reg. Missouri Mounted Vols.

Should the horses or mules of those bearing this express fail, or prove unfit to return upon, I have to request that they may be supplied by the government with the proper means of returning,

A.W. DONIPHAN.
Colonel 1st Reg. Missouri Vols.

Brig. Gen. Wool, U.S.A.

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Battle of Sacramento – Defeat of the Enemy – Capture of Chihuahua

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY IN CHIHUAHUA,
City of Chihuahua, March 4, 1847.

I have the honor to report to you the movements of the army under my command since my last official report.

On the evening of the 8th of February, 1847, we left the town of El Paso del Notre, escorting the merchant train or caravan of about 315 wagons for the city of Chihuahua. Our force consisted of 924 effective men, 117 officers and privates of the artillery, 93 of Lieut. Colonel Mitchell’s escort, and the remainder the 1st regiment Missouri mounted volunteers. We progressed in the direction of this place until the 25th, when we were informed by our spies that the enemy, to the number of 1,500 men, were at Inseneas, the country seat of Gov. Trias, about 25 miles in advance.

When we arrived, on the evening of the 26th, near that point, we found that the forces had retreated in the direction of this city. On the evening if the 27th we arrived at Sans, and learned from our spies that the enemy, in great force, had fortified the pass of the Sacramento river, about fifteen miles in advance, and about the same distance from this city. We were also informed that there was no water between the point that we were at and that occupied by the enemy; we therefore determined to halt until morning. At sunrise on the 28th, the last day of February, we took up the line of march and formed the whole train, consisting of 315 heavy traders’ wagons and our whole commissary and company wagons, into four columns, this shortening our line so as to make it more easily protected. We placed the artillery and all the command, except 200 cavalry proper, in the intervals between the columns of wagons. We this fully concealed our force and its position, by masking our force with the cavalry. When we arrived within three miles of the enemy, we made a reconnaissance of his position and the arrangement of his forces. This we could easily do--the road leading through an open prairie
valley between the sterile mountains. The pass of the Sacramento is formed by a point of the mountains on our right, their left extending into the valley or plain, so as to narrow the valley to about one and a half miles. On our left was a deep, dry, sandy channel of a creek, and between these points the plain rises to sixty feet abruptly. This rise in the form of a crescent, the convex part being to the north of our forces. On the right, from the point of the mountains, a narrow part of the plain extends north one and a half miles further than on the left. The main road passes down the centre of the valley and across the crescent, near the left or dry branch, The Sacramento rises in the mountains on the right, and the road falls on to it about one mile below the battle field or entrenchment of the enemy. We ascertained that the enemy had one battery of four guns, two nine and 6 pounders, on the point of the mountain on our left, (their left,), at a good elevation to sweep the plain, and at the point where the mountains extended furthest into the plain. On our left (their right) they had another battery on an elevation commanding the road, and three entrenchments of two six pounders, and on the brow of the crescent, near the centre, another two 6 and two 4 and 6 culverins, or rampart pieces, mounted on carriages; and on the crest of the hill or ascent between the batteries and the right and left they had 27 redoubts dug and thrown up, extending at short intervals across the whole ground. In these their infantry were placed and were entirely protected. Their cavalry were drawn up in front in the intervals four deep, and in front of the redoubts two deep, so as to mask them as far as practicable. When we had arrived within one and a half miles of the entrenchments along the main road, we advanced the cavalry still further, and suddenly diverged with the columns to the right, so as to gain the narrow part of the ascent on our right, which the enemy discovering, endeavored to prevent, by moving forward with 1,000 cavalry and four pieces of cannon in their rear masked by them. Our movements were so rapid that we gained the elevation with our forces and the advance of our wagons in time to form before they arrived within reach of our guns. The enemy halted, and we advanced the head of our column within twelve hundred yards of them, so as to let our wagons attain the highlands and form as before.

We now commenced the action by a brisk fire from our battery, and the enemy unmasked and commenced also. Our fires proved effective at this distance, killing fifteen men, wounding and disabling one of the enemy’s guns. We had two men slightly wounded, and several horses and mules killed. The enemy then slowly retreated behind their works in some confusion, and we resumed our march in our former order, still diverging more to the right to avoid their battery on our left, (their right) and their strongest redoubts, which were on the left near where the road passes. After marching as far as we safely could without coming within range of their heavy battery on our right, Capt. Weightman, of the artillery, was ordered to charge with two 12-pound howitzers, to be supported by the cavalry, under Captains Reid, Parsons, and Hudson. The howitzers charged at speed, and were gallantly sustained by Capt. Reid; but, by some misunderstanding, my order was not given to the other two companies.— Captain Hudson, anticipating my orders, charged in time to give ample support to the howitzers. Capt. Parsons at the same moment came to me and asked permission for his company to charge the redoubts immediately to the left of Capt. Weightman, which he did very gallantly. The remainder of the two battalions of the first regiment were dismounted during the cavalry charge, and, following rapidly on foot, and Major Clarke advancing as fast as practicable with the remainder of battery, we charged their redoubts from right to left with a brisk and deadly fire of riflemen, while Major Clarke opened a rapid and well-directed fire on a column of cavalry attempting to pass to our left so to attack the wagons and our rear. The fire was so well directed as to force them to fall back; and our riflemen, with the cavalry and howitzers cleared after an obstinate resistance. Our forces advanced to the very brink of their redoubts and attacked them with their sabers. When the redoubts were cleared, and the batteries in the centre were silenced, the main battery on our right still continued to pour in a constant and heavy fire, as it had done during the heat of the engagement; but as it had done during the heat of the engagement; but as the whole fate of the battle depended upon carrying the redoubts and centre battery, this one on the right remained unattacked, and the enemy had rallied there five hundred strong.

Major Clark was directed to commence a heavy fire upon it, while Lieut. Cols. Mitchell and Jackson, commanding the 1st battalion, were ordered to remount and charge the battery on the left, while Major Gilpin was directed to pass the 2nd battalion on foot up the rough ascent of the mountain on the opposite side. The fire of our battery was so effective as to completely silence theirs, and the rapid advance of our column put them to flight over the mountains in great confusion.

Capt. Thompson, of the 1st dragoons, acted as my aid and advisor on the field during the whole engagement, and was on the field during the whole engagement, and was of the most essential service to me.— Also, Lieut. Wooster, of the United States army who acted very coolly and gallantly. Major Campbell, of Springfield, Missouri, also acted as a volunteer during part of the time, but left me and joined Captain Reid in his gallant charge. Thus ended the battle of Sacramento.

The force of the enemy was 1,200 cavalry from Durango and Chihuahua, with the Vera Cruz dragoons, 1,200 infantry from Chihuahua, 300 artilerists, and 1,420 rancheros badly armed with lassos, lances, and macheteos or corn knives, ten pieces of artillery, two nine, two eight, four six and two four pounders, and six culverins or rampart pieces.— Their forces were commanded by Major General Heredia, General of Durango, Chihuahua, Senora, and New Mexico; Brigadier General Garcia Conde, formerly minister of defence; General Uguert, and Governor Trias, who acted as brigadier general on the field, and colonels and other officers without number.

Our force was nine hundred and twenty-four effective me, at least one hundred of whom were engaged in holding horses and driving teams.

The loss of the enemy was his entire artillery, ten wagons, masses of beans and pinola, and other Mexican provisions, about three hundred killed and about the same number wounded, many of whom have since died, and forty prisoners.

The field was literally covered with the dead and wounded from our artillery and the unerring fire of our riflemen. Night put a stop to the carnage, the battle having commenced about three o’clock. Our loss was one killed, one mortally wounded, and seven so wounded as to recover without any loss of limbs. I cannot speak too highly of the coolness, gallantry, and bravery of the officers and men under my command.

I was ably sustained by the field officers, Lieut. Colonels Mitchell and Jackson, of the first battalion; and Maj. Gilpin of the second battalion; and Maj. Clarke and his artillery acted nobly, and did the most effective service in every part of the field. It is abundantly shown, in the charge made by captain Weightman with the section of howitzers, that they can be used in any charge of cavalry with great effect. Much has been said, and justly said, of the gallantry of our artillery, unlimbering within two hundred and fifty yards of the enemy at Palo Alto; but how much more daring was the charge of Capt. Weightman, when he unlimbered within fifty yards of the redoubts of the enemy!
On the 1st day of March we took formal possession of the capital of Chihuahua in the name of our government.

We were ordered by General Kearny to report to General Wool at this place. Since our arrival, we hear that he is at Saltillo, surrounded by the enemy. Our present purpose is either to force our way to him, or return by Bexar, as our team of service expires on the last day of May next.

I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

A. W. DONIPHAN,

Brigadier Gen. R. Jones, Adjutant General U.S.A

Friday, May 7, 1847, RW24i37p2c6  253 words.

YUCATAN

[Extract of a letter dated Merida, March 31, 1847.]

“This ill–fated country is in a most deplorable situation – a general opinion is prevailing, even among those who brought on the last revolution at Campeachy; that the only remaining chance of permanent peace is that the war between the United States and Mexico be shortly brought to an end, so that the latter be able to intervene and stop the anarchy, and kill the hydra of civil war. Valladolid and Titzimel have witnessed the most dreadful murders. In the former city, the whole white population, male, female, and children, have been murdered or burned alive. This wholesale murder lasted three days. The future is pregnant with storms.

The whole government can be said to be vested in one man – Don St. Jago Mendez – who, without any official appointment, plays about the same game as did Dr. Francia in Paraguay. He assumed upon himself a most dangerous responsibility. His chief political measure consists in expelling from the country every one he is suspicious of. – Those already amount to a formidable number. Many who had concealed themselves, relying on a promise of amnesty, came out, and how they have to choose between a prison at Campeachy or exile. All prefer the latter alternative, fearing to be made victims of a horrible massacre, such as took place in February 1843, of dreadful memory. – Many rich persons, such as Don Fabricio Lopez and Don Esteman Quijaria, are disposing of their property and preparing to embark for foreign countries.”

Friday, May 7, 1847, RW24i37p4c1  231 words.

UNTITLED.

The Baltimore Sun, though it can of course have received nothing later from the seat of war than had already reached us through other channels, contains some interesting particulars which we have not elsewhere seen. The Mexicans, (it states,) had erected a series of fortifications, between the city of Vera Cruz and Jalapa, extending, with occasional intervals, several miles, which were occupied by squads of men, who, instead of defending them, however, fled like scared sheep, when some 300 dragons, dismounting, scrambled up the mountains for the purpose of attacking them.

The Sun has also private advices from Gen. Twiggs’ camp, near Cerro Gordo, as late as the 13th ult. Gen. T. had moved forward to take the pass of Cerro Gordo on the 12th, but found it so strongly fortified that he was compelled to talk back: General Patterson afterwards joined him with 3,000 men, making their combined force 6,000, and the pars was to be attacked by them on the 14th. Lt. Col. Johnson, on the 13th, made a daring reconnaissance of the Mexican works at Cerro Gordo, where Santa Anna is said to be at the head of 12,000 men, well posted. Col. J. examined the works within musket range, and was shot in the right leg and right arm at the moment he was raising a spy–glass to his eye. His wounds, though severe, are not dangerous.;

Friday, May 7, 1847, RW24i37p4c2 615 words.

THE VOLUNTEERS

The Washington Union, on the 17th inst. accompanied the annunciation of the President’s determination to call out 6000 additional volunteers, to supply the places of those whose term of service is about to expire, exposed the opinion, that many of the latter class would renew their engagements and agree to remain in Mexico. But our last accounts from the seat of war show that in this expectation the Executive will be disappointed. Large numbers of the twelve months volunteers are already on their way home, and others would follow as the periods of their enlistment should expire. The New Orleans Picayune says, it is not supposed that a single
The Picayune says:

“The volunteers who won the glorious battle of Buena Vista are on their way home. One of the Kentucky regiments is already at the Brazos. Col. Jefferson Davis’s regiment will soon be there, and the Illinois and Indiana troops will follow. We learn from officers and men that there is no disposition to re-enlist. The accounts from Gen. Scott’s column is no more satisfactory. The determination to return home, as soon as their enlistments expire, is universal. The officers are as little desirous as the men of remaining in the service; so that the whole of General Taylor’s Buena Vista army, with the exception of a few regulars, and a large portion of Gen. Scott’s, will shortly leave the field.

We hope our citizens will make some preparations to welcome these brave soldiers back to their country. The 2d Kentucky Regiment will return without its colonel or lieutenant colonel, the 1st Mississippi will bring home its colonel and lieutenant colonel upon litters, the Illinois troops leave the gallant Hardin where he fell, and Col. Yell comes back no more at the head of the men from Arkansas. These noble regiments have melted away under the severities of a campaign in which, if they have not won the lasting gratitude of their countrymen, they have won nothing.”

[MSH]

Friday, May 7, 1847, RW24i37p4c4 1,402 words.

LATER FROM BRAZOS.

From the N. O. Bee, April 27.

By the arrival of the U.S. steamship Telegraph, Capt. Auld, we have received papers from Brazos Santiago to the 18th inst. They contain intelligence of special interest.

Gen. Taylor has his headquarters at the Walnut Springs, a few miles outside of Monterey. The old hero has but a meager force under his immediate command, the main body of his army being with Gen. Wool at Agua Nueva. – The 1st Mississippi Regiment (“Gen. Taylor’s Own,” as it is called,) forms what may be considered his body guard, and is with him at the springs. In and around Monterey, are the Kentucky cavalry, 2nd and 3d Ohioans, 3d Indianians, six companies of Virginians, and a few companies of Texan rangers. Six companies of Virginians are occupying China and Cadreita, which places are being fortified. – The 2d Ohio regiment is probably by this time on its way down to Camargo – its term of service is nearly up and the boys are homeward bound. Five companies of Kentucky cavalry were in Camargo a few days ago, but were to return to Monterrey as an escort to a train – this regiment has also but a brief time on its way down to Camargo – its term of service is nearly up and the boys are homeward bound. Five companies of Kentucky cavalry were in Camargo a few days ago, but were to return to Monterrey as an escort to a train – this regiment has also but a brief time to remain in service and will soon be returning.

It is pleasing, remarks the Flag, to hear the returning volunteers, those who have battled under him, speak of old Rough and Ready. With one accord they all unite in his praise, and his bravery and military skill, as displayed in the battles and brilliant victories to which he has led them, have stirred up feelings within their breasts which can never be effaced. Napoleon never had more the love and confidence of his troops than has Gen. Taylor – we have heard volunteers say, not in a spirit of barggadocia, but in cool, sober earnest, that under him they would cheerfully go into battle, with odds against them six to one, and feel assured of victory. Many with whom we have spoken, disclaim ever having looked to the possibility of a defeat at Buena Vista – victory, nothing but victory was thought of. The countenance of Gen. Taylor during the long engagement wore, throughout, the appearance of triumph, and all who noticed him augured victory from his look.

The Rio Grande rose several feet a few days ago, leading to the belief that the tiny season had set in; but its waters are again receding, and are so shallow as greatly to retard the operations on the Quarter Master’s Department – only a few of the boats being able to reach Camargo, and they not freighted. Should the river continue to fall Reynosa will be the highest point to which they can ascend.

A most fiendish murder has been committed on the road between Camargo and Monterey. Father Ray, long and favorably known as Chaplain to the Army, was killed by a party of Lancers while in the exercise of his divine vocation. Truly, remarks the Flag, these children of the Montezumas are treasuring up a dreadful punishment that ere long will descend upon their heads with the fury of a tornado.
The country watered by the Rio Grande, between Matamoros and Camargo has suffered greatly from the long continued drought. So long an absence of rain has never before been known, and the destitution among the inhabitants is already considerable. The Mexicans are proverbially improvident, and seldom raise more than sufficient corn for their own consumption, and the demands of the army have exhausted their stress. Distress may follow, but not starvation, since the forest and prairie yield food too abundantly to allow of such apprehensions.

A private in one of the companies of the 2nd Mississippi regiment at Walnut Springs, named Carson, formerly a member of the Mississippi Legislature, was recently waylaid by two Mexicans and inhumanly murdered. The Flag says:

"His mutilated body was discovered in the chapparal a few feet from the road, by Capt. Jack Everitt and Mr. John Hays, who were journeying up to Mier – the warm blood was yet trickling from him, which induced them to think his assassins were still near, and they commenced a search in the thicket and came in sight of the two Mexicans, not more than two hundred yards from where the murdered man lay. Chase was given and they were soon overtaken and their guilt sufficiently proved by their blood stained hands and garments and the property of the murdered man found upon their persons. The first impulse was to kill them upon the spot, but reflecting induced their being taken forward and turned over to Col. Davis, who, with his regiment, was not many miles in advance. The fate of the assassins, after being given over to the Mississippians, we have no learned, but infer their punishment to have been as severe as could be devised by the exasperated companions of the butchered man.

The transport ship America, from this port arrived at Brazos, Santiago, on the 22d inst. all well, and commenced landing her troops when the Telegraph sailed.

List of the passengers names who came with the Telegraph: Col. R. Davis, of the 21 Regiment Mississippi volunteers; Col. Rogers, of the Kentucky Legion; Capt. J. G. Tod, of Texas; Capt. Kent, of the U.S.A.; Lieut. Fisher, do.; Lieut. Wilson, do., Lieut. Stone, of the Louisville Legion; Lieut. White, do.; and 50 discharged volunteers.

ACCIDENT – Robert White, of Capt. Bulhos's company, Louisville Legion, lost his hand by the explosion of one of the rockets, found during the fire on Friday morning. The hand was so much shattered by the shock, that amputation above the wrist became necessary,

ACCIDENT – Robert White, of Capt. Bulhos's company, Louisville Legion, lost his hand by the explosion of one of the rockets, found during the fire on Friday morning. The hand was so much shattered by the shock, that amputation above the wrist became necessary,

We learn, with pleasure, that the rank and file of the 1st Ohio Regiment have taken measures to present Major L. Giddings with a sword, to cost $500, as a token of their respect and thanks. This token of approbation could not be bestowed on a more worthy person, or one in whom the characters of a soldier and a gentleman are more truly combined. – Ib.

A few days since, the 2nd Regiment of Mississippi Volunteers arrived in this city. They are as fine a body of men as we have seen lately, numbering about seven hundred effectives. They are all armed with rifles, of the same make as those of the 1st Regiment. – Ib.

We would respectfully call the attention of the Governor of this city to an outrage which has ever since the American army came to the city of Monterey, been allowed to pass unnoticed – it is the assessing and levying a tax by the Alcade, on all merchants in the city. We hope that the authorities will look into the master and see with what justice and propriety such a thing can be tolerated – a revenue of from three to four thousand dollars is, we believe, procured every month, which, in the present state of affairs, is far too much to be appropriated for the Mexican government of the city. We firmly believe that one half of this revenue is sent to the central government, in order to assist in prosecuting the war. We deem it improper for the Americans to be compelled to assist and enhance the prospectus of our enemy, in order that they may prosecute their aggressive war. – Ib.

SHAMEFUL. – Persons recently from Monterey, informs us that in coming down, they believe strewn along the roadside, where had been massacred, he teamsters who fell into the hands of Urra's assassins in that attack on the wagon train, the decayed and mutilated remains of upwards of fifty of these unfortunate men. Where they fell, there still they are suffered to remain, their flesh made the food of vultures and wolves, and their ones scattered about by these beasts and birds of prey. Then after train has passed them by, with no more notice than a passing commentary upon their sad face – none have stepped forth to give them burial. Humanity sickens at mass indifference to man – death parts friend from friend, and brother from brother, and in one brief hour all the ties which bound them together are forgotten. Such is a consequence of war – it deadens the sensibility and brings man to a level with the unreasoning brute. – Ibid.

[MSH]

Friday, May 7, 1847, RW24i37p4c5 450 words

GENERAL TAYLOR ON THE FIELD OF BATTLE

Lieut. Corwin writes to the Cincinnati Chronicle, and gives the following interesting sketch of Gen. Taylor on the battle-field of Buena Vista:

"By way of illustrating an important characteristic of Gen. Taylor, to wit, determination, I will briefly relate a scene that occurred on the battle ground of Buena Vista, during the action of the 23rd. At a time when the fortunes of the day seemed extremely problematical – when many on our side even despair of success – old Rough & Ready, as he is inaptly styled, whom you must know, by the bye, is short, fat, and dumpy in person, with remarkably short legs – took his proposition a commanding height overlooking the two armies. This was about three or, perhaps, four o'clock in the afternoon. The enemy, who had succeeded in gaining an advantageous position, made a fierce charge upon our column, and fought with a desperation that seemed for a time to ensure success to their arms. The
Capt. Burgwin, of the Dragoons, who fell at Taos, was a native of North Carolina; he graduated at West Point in 1830, and at the time of the letter, the following deserved tribute is paid to the gallant Burgwin, of the 1st Dragoons:

The Charleston Mercury has an excellent original account of events in New Mexico, in putting down the Taos insurrection. In the course of the letter, the following deserved tribute is paid to the gallant Burgwin, of the 1st Dragoons:

Capt. Burgwin, of the Dragoons, who fell at Taos, was a native of North Carolina; he graduated at West Point in 1830, and at the time of his death was high up on the list of captains. He was one of the most popular officers in the army, from his high–toned, gentlemanly character. – His conduct and courage in the late battles are the theme of universal praise. After being wounded, Col. Price rode up to him and told him that, whether he recovered or not, he should bear testimony of his gallantry. Capt. B. replied, “I hope, colonel, you will also bear witness that my company did its duty.” Lieut. Van Valkenburg, of the Infantry, died of his wounds in a few days: he had both jaws broken.

Captains Burgwin and Henley were buried a few days since, with military honors. Their graves occupy a picturesque spot under the guns of Fort Marcy.

[MSH]
THE “TERRITORIES” OF NEW MEXICO AND CALIFORNIA.

Illegible.

GENERAL TAYLOR AND THE LOCOS.

The New Orleans Bulletin, among other reasons for hosting the Taylor flag, stated the fact that various influential Locofocos in the Southwest were talking measures for a demonstration in his behalf as their candidate, and were anxious to adopt him without regard to principles or politics. The intelligent and reliable correspondent of the Philadelphia North American, after advertising to this statement, goes on to make this further curious development:

"It is within my power to vindicate the statement of the Bulletin. Such a movement was in contemplation; and the preliminaries had progressed to a very considerable extent. Neither was it hatched yesterday, nor within the last fortnight. It commenced during the last session of Congress and was headed by that remarkable individual, rendered somewhat notorious as the projector of the war, and more particularly as the manager of the Plaquemine frauds, by which Louisiana was carried in the Presidential election for Mr. Polk, – upon which he had wagers of a large amount depending, and which were won by that proceeding – I mean Mr. John Slidell, Envoy Extraordinary, &c. Through his agency, and that of others, a private correspondence was opened all over the Union towards the close of the winter, for the purpose of bringing forward Gen. Taylor. Whether this was the information upon which the Bulletin acted, I am no proposed to say, but the facts as now sated, are unquestionable and can be substantiated.

Mr. Slidell, like other keen sighted politicians, saw that the days of locofocoism were numbered, and that the work of regeneration which had extended over other quarters of the Union, must go on in Louisiana, unless some successful diversion could be made. Indifferent to any consideration but the immediate one of triumph, he and his compatriots resolved to appropriate Gen Taylor's services and popularity to accommodate their own selfish designs. Mr. Slidell has used Mr. Polk as long as he was profitable, and seeing the current of public opinion settling him, had abandoned him at the first opportunity. This fraudulent scheme to seize upon the name and character of a Whig General for locofoco purposes, is consistent with the whole policy of our opponents and shows that they are utterly regardless of the means they employ, so long as they can ensure success and command the spoils. It is the threatening aspect of political affairs that makes the editor of the Union howl as he does at the prospect of losing the fat patronage upon which he and his party is fed. Give them the spoils and they care not who is President, or upon what policy the government is administered."

ORGANIZATION OF THE GOVERNMENT IN NEW MEXICO – POWER OF THE COURTS – TREASON – WHAT DOES IT ALL TEND TO?

Correspondence of the Missouri Republican.

SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO, March 18, 1847

Gentlemen: When Gen. Kearney, under Mr. Polk's orders, established the hermaphrodite government – half military and half civil – in this country, (a province taken from Mexico,) and called it a territory of the United States, he did not foresee many of the events which have since occurred. Together with many others who came here with him, the General was mistaken in regard to this character of this people. Accustomed at home to a population who can appreciate human liberty and human progress, he did not anticipate internal difficulties, nor suppose that the boon of free and just government, which he seemed at least to proffer, would be rejected by any portion of the New Mexicans. Still, as to all his strictly military arrangements, they were made (if not for the purpose) capable of the effect of suppressing domestic insurrection; though it may have been that this capability arose, not so much from an expectation that the troops would ever be called to such a duty, as from the necessity of posting them in the positions assigned, in order to sustain the
animals, and also to protect the Mexicans, while peaceable, against their Indian enemies.

It is important, in writing of things here, that we treat all with justice. A false estimate of the value of New Mexico had prevailed in the United States, and so extensively, too, as to deceive statesman of even the general and accurate information of Col. Benton, for the resources of this province were greatly overrated. As was the case in Texas before the expedition in 1841, the character of this people, their feelings, and views, were misunderstood in the United States; for it was supposed that they were at least willing, if not desirous, to come under our government. And another error existed in regard to the amount of military force which it was supposed Mexico could draw from this province, during the war.

For these reasons, the military as well as political and economical ones, being all unfounded, it is believed that Con. Benton advised, and Mr. Polk ordered, an army to be marched to this province. WE CAME (may we be forgiven) – WE SAW – WE CONQUERED!

Possession was taken by the General, in the name of the United States. It was but a military possession, and was only expected to be such. But the solemn farce was enacted of administering the oath of allegiance to the United States, with nearly two thousand American soldiers, with loaded arms, around each village, and 16 pieces of ordnance ready to fire into it. No wonder the Alcaldes, under such a duress, would swear by the whole calendar of saints! The Governor had fled when we reached the capital, or he too, with a row of cannon fronting his palacio, would have been made "a citizen of the United States, can, during the war, become a citizen. He would have been metamorphosed, by a speech from the General, (and an oath, probably taken with a mental reservation what it should be broken as soon as convenient,) into an AMERICAN CITIZEN, by virtue of Mr. Polk’s orders, and here, on foreign soil, himself an alien enemy, would have been entitled to the protection of the United States government, as fully as any native-born or duly naturalized citizen and patriot in the States! Such was the doctrine implied in all the General’s acts; but as it did not lead at once to its practical consequences, we suffered it pass.

There was a sort of interregnum in the government here when we reached the capital. Some civil government was necessary for the convenience of the people, and, a very good one was, in fact, established. It was right enough that crimes against natural laws and good morals should be punished; that rights civil and social rather than political, should be protected; and laws for this purpose were promulgated by the conquering general. We saw the necessity for this arrangement, during the war, or until our doings here could be examined by the people’s representatives at home. The move, by the General, was a bold one, but, under the circumstances, it had to be made or the conquest abandoned; and we did not think it worthy of very serious animadversion.

There was an “Attorney of the United States for the district of New Mexico” appointed, and a marshal, &c. But we only regarded the attorney as a very agreeable young gentleman with a very high sounding title, and never expected to see him in the position he has since occupied. – We may have thought that if the United States should have any pecuniary claims against any delinquent officers here, he might be useful enough in enforcing them, using for that purpose the machinery of the courts, which we knew to be necessary for other purposes. It was plain enough that the process of the United States Court for Missouri, could not run into New Mexico, nor even that of Texas and it might do no harm, some may have thought, to have a process for some such purposes, when there was no very very serious principle involved, except that no authority, in constitution or law, appeared for the proceeding!

But we did not then regard as hardly possible, what is now history; for since the departure of Gen. Kearney, the aspect of affairs has changed very materially; and the District Attorney, who was regarded as only an item of the Territorial appendages of no great public consequence, is now acting a part of no little interest in the farcical, though still important, proceedings here. He prosecutes, in the courts here, individuals who were never citizens of the United States – who owe a national and local allegiance to Mexico – for the crime of treason against the United States!

The consummation of the “annexation” of this province to the Union, by Mr. Polk, is already before us. One Mexican has already been convicted of "TREASON." He was indicted before the court here a few days ago, was found guilty of counseling the late attempt at revolution; and on the 16th, sentenced to be hung! Trae, en the petition of the Judge and others, the execution of the sentence has been postponed by the acting Governor, until the whole case can be referred to President Polk – the real father of the Government here for His consideration. The ultimate decision of the case involves important principles.

The name or this TRAITOR is Antonio Maria Trogillo. – His counsel contended strongly that the whole proceedings were without law to support them, but in vain. The Judges thought it his duty to go on.

Thus, under the orders of Mr. Polk – so far as the machinery here can do it – the political relations of this people towards the United States are changed. If this conviction is legal, then "annexation" is complete; and the people of New Mexico must now be recognized as "fellow citizens." A country which, with but few exceptions, is inhabited by ignorant, dishonest, treacherous men; and by women who are believe scarcely to know what virtue is, beyond its name, is now part of the American Union!

You, who have voices in the States, may do well, perhaps, to think and speak of these things. Reconcile them, if you can, with your regard for law – the constitution – liberty. And ask yourself if Mr. Polk is not advancing rapidly, not as a component part of the law-making power, but as that power itself.

Carry out the propositions and see where they will lead you. This people, if citizens must be represented in Congress. If they elect a delegate – and we have now here candidates feeling their way – will you give him a seat? Will you let him speak? Nous Verruns. Perhaps, under the new order of things established by Mr. Polk. (and for which, as the instrument, Gen. Kearney has been rather too severely blamed, having been bound, as a military man, to obey orders,) the delegate may even claim a VOTE! – What say you? The doctrine which sustains a prosecution for TREASON against the United States, would at least entitle him to a seat and oblige you to have him; or, otherwise, you will not eustain the already consummated “annexation.”

Again, we wish you to be prepared to protect the property and lives of all MEXICANS, born and reared in this Province, or domiciliated here, who may chance to be imprisoned or otherwise improperly dealt with by any foreign power. Almost the entire population in New
Mexico hate us a little worse than they do the devil; yet, according to Mr. Polk’s court, if a single one of these “CITIZENS” gets into any unpleasant dilemma in the hands of any foreign power – he must be rescued by the United States. This is a consequence of the positions taken here. The relations of “citizens” towards their government impose duties on the former, but obligations on the latter also; and every government owes protection to its “citizens.” But we are doing that now, said, in court, the District Attorney – towards whom I mean not the slightest personal disrespect – for we defend the New Mexicans against the Nabajo Indians!

The attorney, however, was a little inconsistent, I thought, in one part of his ingenious argument. First having claimed this barren tract as a TERRITORY, he next claimed it, if not as a territory of the United States, as part of Texas! Now, I was in favor of annexing Texas, because the people had established their independence voluntarily first, and being mostly emigrants from the U. States, wished to be annexed – a very different case from that of the mongrel and motley population of New Mexico – but I did not dream, when I wrote a brief article for your paper some years ago, in favor of annexation, that I was urging the annexation of this province of Mexico! Till this day I never can understand how New Mexico became part of Texas – New Mexico has been regarded as ONE province by the Mexican government – Texas as ANOTHER. But how the latter swallowed up this worthless part of the globe, I never can understand.

Or, if this is really part of Texas, I beg of some enlightened friend of Mr. Polk to tell me why Gen. Kearney, under the orders of Mr. Polk, established a separate government here? Or, to go back a little, why did the free voters of Texas establish their government so near the Gulf, adopt a constitution, and organise even to the distribution of all officers, without asking a participation by the “citizens” of Texas here? And why did not the General give back to Texas her own, after we came here and conquered it? – When Armijo ran, and the General took the reins, he became the trustee of Texas, and should have rendered to his eestut qui trust an account of the property. Why did he appoint a Governor, make up courts, create attorneys, judges, &c., under the government of the United States, instead of referring all these matters to Texas? As an independent State, Texas owes sovereignty over her own territory: then what right had the agent of Mr. Polk to appoint a Governor over this portion of the “free and enlightened” – this extremely well–read and republican portion of the “citizens” of Texas? And then these courts, why they claim to be territorial courts, but are within the limits of a State! Are they not anomalies? But we have ? by things here which seem to be sui generis. Let me ask – is there a U. S. Court for the district of Texas? If so, let its sphere be extended, and drive out these usurpers! Even our “District Attorney of the United States for the Territory of New Mexico” would, in that event, find himself somewhat superfluous.

But, if this is now a State or Territory, how unfortunate for us that there are no orders here to draft the ?. – We might in this way, soon have the army filled up from these “citizens,” and then go home to our wives and children – those who have not yet fallen victims to the rigor and unhealthiness of the winter climate here, operating on constitutions from the climate of the old States, to say nothing of the other causes of disease and death – causes which still sustain a most distressing mortality among the troops.

It is difficult to treat with due gravity, all the ridiculous propositions advanced regarding this “Territory,” yet they are of no little consequence. If Mr. Polk, by the act of his Presidential volition, can create territories, and make citizens thus, by a dash of his pen adding to the population as well as extending our boundaries, we must be careful to frame some new question for the part Presidential candidates.

I would suggest the following among the number absolutely necessary: 1. ?, how many new territories do you think ought to be admitted to the Union? 2. How much, and what part of Canada would you annex? 3. What say you to Nova Scotia? 4. With you extend the boundaries of Oregon to Behring’s Staits, and if so, how much and what part of Kamsohatka will you send a General to conquer? 5. And will you, or will you not, convict the Kamschaikadas of TREASON against the United States, if they speak of revolt against the authority which you have forced upon them? These questions might do; but I have still one or two more: What do you say in regard to Cuba? and what Do you think of the annexation of HATTI?

Let me not be misunderstood. Let murders here be hung; let rogues and thieves be imprisoned, or as is sometimes done, take the lash in the public square. All this is well enough, and may prevail under the present Government very properly, in order that we may hold conquest until the war is over. But if the conquered do not relish our Government; let us not violate its laws – its constitution – its principles – by attempting illegal and unconstitutional punishment. I have no sympathy with those who are opposed to the American Government here; but I love my country, and it is painful to reflect how rapidly the one many power is advancing. Let it be checked.

These thoughts are hastily thrown together, to turn the attention of able minds to the subject, rather than with a design of attempting its full and due elucidation; and all reflecting Americans here, of whatever party at home, concur in these views with

A VOLUNTEER.

[MSH]
In this connection all will read with pleasure that Capt. Johnson is doing so well. This gentleman, captain of the Topographical Engineers, and appointed lieutenant colonel of the Voltigeurs, was so desperately wounded that little hope was felt for him. He has a strong constitution and is in fine spirits, and Capt. Hughes thinks he will recover.

The health of the troops at Vera Cruz is absolutely improving. Great ameliorations are making the city, but above all things it has been undergoing a thorough purification. There is no yellow fever nor other malignant epidemic. This is good news.

Ampudia was in the battle of Cerro Gordo, but neither he nor Santa Anna ventured within the lines which their countrymen so strenuously defended. They were prepared to run the moment the day should seem to go against them, and run they did. Ampudia came near being taken close to Jalapa, and to save himself had to take to the fields! But we will not longer detain the reader from our correspondence.

Meeting Lt. McLane of the navy this afternoon, at Puente Nacional and on his way here, I joined his party and rode over. Maj. Beall, with a small squad of dragoons, was also along with us. On the road, some six miles back, we came up with a forage party of the 2nd Dragoons under Lieut Anderson, and also Capt Caswell's company of Tennessee volunteers which had been out after beef. The latter had had a brisk skirmish with a party of rancheros, in which Capt. C. had two men wounded, one of them, a young man of great promise, named J L Roberson, badly. His thigh bone was completely shattered, and the poor fellow's sufferings were most acute as they bore him along in a wagon over the rough road. The Mexicans stood their ground in the chaparral with some little bravery at first, but were finally routed in every direction.

I find all excitement and bustle here. The Mexicans, under Santa Anna, are occupying a chain of works along the road, the nearest of which is about a mile and a quarter from Gen. Scott's headquarters in a direct line. The road this side is cut up and barricaded, and every possible means of defence and annoyance has been resorted to. Beyond the first work there are there or four others, completely commanding the gorge through which the road to Jalapa runs – these fortifications on hills, and rising so as to defend one another. It is thought that Santa Anna has 20,000 men with him – the lowest estimate gives him 15,000 – and with these he has 24 pieces of field artillery, besides some 14 heavy cannon in position. Some of the prisoners and deserters from the enemy's camp even place higher estimates, both as to the number of men, and guns.

To turn these different works a road has been partially cut through the rough ground and chaparros to the right; and although the reconnaissance is as yet imperfect, it is still thought that a point near the enemy's farthest work can be reached. Gen. Twiggs, with his division, is to march at 8 o'clock tomorrow morning by the new road, and on the following morning it is thought the attack will commence on the words on this side. If Gen. Twiggs succeeds in reaching the rear of Santa Anna, and he will use every exertions, I do not see what is to save him. He is generally fox enough to have plenty of holes out of which to escape, however, and from the great difficulty of reconnoitering his position fully he may have some means of escape here. The general impression now in camp is, that this is to be the great battle of the war; and the immense natural strength of Santa Anna's works would justify the belief.

The Mexicans are more on the alert than they have ever been before, and more bold in throwing out their pickets. Not a party can go near their works without being fired upon, and yesterday a soldier of the 7th Infantry fell with no less than seven bullets in his body. It is said that Almonte is with Santa Anna, as also the principal generals of the country.

Gen. Worth left Puente Nacional this afternoon with his division, and will be up during tonight. He started a little after 1 o'clock this morning, with nearly 2000 picked men, determined to make a forced march through; but learning on the road that the attack upon the Mexican works was not to commence as soon as anticipated, he returned to Puente Nacional after marching a mile and a half. Capt. Pemberton, one of his aids, rode over here last evening after dark, and returned with the information that the attack had been postponed.

The wounds of Capt. Johnson are doing well. I regret to state that Gen. P.F. Smith is confined to his bed – utterly unable either to ride or walk. He has a violent inflammation of the right ankle and knee, resembling erysipelas, which from neglecting several days when he should have remained in his cot, has finally compelled him to lay up. I will write again tomorrow.

G.W.K.

FURTHER DETAILS OF THE BATTLE

The "American Eagle," published at Vera Cruz, issued an extra on the 29th ult., from which we extract copiously, though there are many repetitions in it:
On the 18th, Lieut Jarvia, of the 2d Infantry, was wounded in ascending the first hill. Shot off. Severely wounded, having lost his left leg. Lieut Ewell, of the 7th, Infantry, was severely wounded. Capt. Patten, of the 2d, left hand them. The generals will be sent to New Orleans; among them you will have the second appearance of La Vega, he having refused again and with their soldiers are being sent about their business – our commander being of opinion that he can whip them easier than feed them. The force of the Mexicans, at the lowest, is set down at 12,000. The officers of the Mexican army are being paroled whilst I write this, and the volunteers had time to renew the attack, the enemy had surrendered – driven, as they had been, from their favorite position on Cerro Gordo.

Taking all things into consideration, this has been a great fight, and a great victory, on calculated to shine brilliantly in the chapter of those achieved in Mexico by our arms.

The Mexican forces on the height of Cerro Gordo were the 3d and 4th Light Infantry, the 3rd and 5th Regiments of the line, and 6 pieces of artillery, with the requisite number of cavalry. Col. Obando, chief of artillery, was killed, and Gen. Vasques, general of division. Many of our officers were of opinion that this general was no other than Gov. Morales.

Our force consisted of the 2d, 3d and 7th Infantry and Mounted Riflemen, and Steptoe’s battery. Capt Mason, of the Rifles, was severely wounded, having lost his left leg. Lieut Ewell, of the 7th, Infantry, was severely wounded. Capt. Patten, of the 2d, left hand shot off.

On the 18th, Lieut Jarvia, of the 2d Infantry, was wounded in ascending the first hill.

On the top of Cerro Gordo, the scene was truly horrible. From the Jalapa road, dead bodies of the enemy could be seen on every spot where the eye was directed, until they literally covered the ascent to the height. There is about half an acre of level ground on the top of the mountain, and here was collected together the wounded of both armies, and the dead of our own. Side by side were lying the disabled American and the Mexican, and our surgeons were busy amputating and dressing the wounded of each – lotting them in turns, unless the acute pain of some sufferer was further along caused him to cry out, when he would be immediately attended to.

The pioneer parties of our men were picking up the wounded and bringing them in from every part of the ascent to the height. From the side towards the river, where the storming party of Gen. Twiggs’s division made the charge, most of our men suffered, and many of the enemy, also, for they made a desperate stand; but when they gave way, and started in confession down the hill, was the time they most suffered, many of them received the balls of our men in their backs.

The charge on Cerro Gordo was one of those cool yet determined ones so characteristic of the American soldier. From the time that our troops left the hill nearest that prominent height the fire was inconsistent, and they had to fight their way foot by foot, til they gained the summit, from which place the enemy gave way after a very short resistance.

Our victory is complete. Those of the enemy who escaped were driven in all directions by their pursuers, and many of them cut down on the road.

Gen. Twiggs, who followed them after taking Cerro Gordo, approached within three miles of Jalapa, and finding no force of the enemy, encamped for the night. He is in the town before this time.

Capt. Merrill, of the 2d Dragoons, returned from Twiggs’s camp last night, and is of opinion that nothing but a small body guard is with Santa Anna.

Santa Anna’s private carriage was captured, and amongst his effects was found the sum of $18,000, which is now in the bands of the quartermaster and an additional leg of cork for his Excellency’s use in case of emergency.

I noticed one officer of the enemy shot through the head on Cerro Gordo who was a conspicuous man at Vera Cruz.

Gen. La Vega, who is again in our clutches, looked as dashing and fine as ever. He did not seem the least disconcerted, but rode in from the battle field, by the side of Gen. Scott, laughing and talking as though he was once more on his way to New Orleans.

Gen. Shields was mortally wounded, and I hear this morning that he is dead. He behaved most gallantly and his mishap is deeply deplored.

Gen. Pillow was wounded in the arm, but slightly.

The force of the Mexicans, at the lowest, is set down at 12,000. The officers of the Mexican army are being paroled whilst I write this, and with their soldiers are being sent about their business – our commander being of opinion that he can whip them easier than feed them. The generals will be sent to New Orleans; among them you will have the second appearance of La Vega, he having refused again
Tuesday, May 11, 1847 RW24i38p1c4  955 words.

FROM THE CITY OF MEXICO

From the N. O. Picayune, May 1.

By the arrivals yesterday from Tampico and Vera Cruz we are in possession of files of papers from the city of Mexico to the 9th of April. We have only been able to bestow upon them a cursory examination, but will recur to them hereafter.

The following is a translation of the most interesting document which has met our eye – the translation and original have been sent to us by Mr. Kendall. Our readers are requested to contrast the magnificent promises of this address of Santa Anna to his countrymen with “the lame and impotent conclusion” presented by his personal prowess at Cero Gordo.

Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, President ad interim of the Mexican Republic, to his compatriots:

Mexicans: Vera Cruz is already in the power of the enemy. It has succumbed – not under the influence of American valor, nor can it even be said that it has fallen under the impulses of their good fortune. To our shame be it said, we ourselves have produce this deplorable misfortune by our own interminable discords.

The truth is due to you from the Government – you are the arbiters of the fate of our country. If our country is to be defended, it will be you who will stop the triumphant march of the enemy who now occupies Vera Cruz. If the enemy advance one step more, the national independence will be buried in the abyss of our past.

I am resolved to go out and encounter the enemy. What is life worth, ennobled by the rational gratitude, if the country suffers under a censure that stain of which will rebound upon the forehead of every Mexican!

My duty is to sacrifice myself, and I will know how to fulfil it! Perhaps the American hosts may proudly tread the imperial capital of Aztecs. I will never witness such an opprobrium, for I am decided first to die fighting!

The momentous crisis has at length arrived to the Mexican Republic. It is as glorious to die fighting as it is infamous to declare ourself conquered without a struggle, and by an enemy whose rapacity is as far removed from valor as from generosity.

Mexicans! you have a religion – protect it! You have honor – then free yourselves from infamy! You love your wives, your children – then liberate them from American brutality! But it must be by action – not by vain entreaty nor barren desires with which the enemy must be opposed. The national cause is infinitely just, although God appears to have deserted us; but His ire will be appeased when we present, as an expiation of our errors, the sentiments of true patriotism and of sincere union. Thus the Almighty will bless our efforts, and we will be invincible! for against the decision of eight millions of Mexicans, of what avail are the efforts of eight or ten millions of Americans when opposed by the fiat of Divine Justice.

Perhaps I speak to you for the last time! I pray you listen to me. Do not vacillate between death and bravery; and if the enemy conquer you, at least they will respect the heroism of your resistance. It is now time that the common defence, should alone occupy your thoughts! The hour of sacrifice has sounded its approach! Awaken! A tomb opens at your feet! Conquer a laurel to repose on it!

The nation has not yet lost its vitality – I swear to you I will answer for the triumph of Mexico, if unanimous and sincere desire on your part second my desires. Happy will have been, a thousand times happy the unfortunate event at Vera Cruz, if the destruction of that city may have served to infuse into the Mexican breast the dignity and the generous ardor of a true patriotism! Thus will the country have been indubitably saved: but if the country succumb, she will bequeath her opprobrium and her censure to those egotists who were not ready to defend her – to those who traitorously pursued their private turmoils to trample upon the national banner!

Mexicans! your fate is the fate of the nation! Not the Americans, but you, will decide her destiny! Vera Cruz calls for vengeance – follow me, and wash out the stain of her dishonor.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

MEXICO, March 31, 1847.

We learn that Gen. Morales, who so gallantly defended Vera Cruz, and Gen Landero, who signed the capitulation, were both immediately put under arrest by Santa Anna and ordered to Guanajuato.
In the city of Mexico civil order appears to reign, but the tone of the papers breathes nothing but vengeance towards the United States. The exploits of Gens Urrea and Romero in cutting off our mule trains between Cerralvo and Monterey afford occasion for congratulation to the Mexicans, which is eagerly embraced. It is about all the consolation they have left them. They counted with all confidence, both in the city of Mexico and in Vera Cruz, upon whipping us at Cerro Gordo. Their confidence has begun to waver ere this.

The papers announce the death of the widow of the illustrious Guerrero at an advanced age. She died on the 7th of April.

The Government organ denies that Gen Paredes is seeking in Paris the interposition of the French Government.

The clergy of the archbishopric of Mexico have bound themselves to the Government for a million and a half of dollars, payable monthly. The clergy of the different bishoprics are to do the same.

The subject is again agitated of removing the seat of Government from the city of Mexico. But our limits will not allow us to go further today into the examination of the paper before us.

WASHINGTON, May 7, 1847.

Mr. Parish, who has left this morning with despatches for the army in Mexico, had, on yesterday, long interviews with the Secretaries of War and State, and with the President. It is supposed that he may also carry some verbal message to Gen. Taylor, which, infested as the roads in Mexico are with banditti and robbers, it would, perhaps, have been imprudent to entrust to his care in writing.

All sorts of speculations are, of course, afloat in regard to the probable contents of the despatches sent down to Mexico; but it may safely be guessed that they relate to the disbanding of the militia, whose term of service is about to expire, and the re-enlisting of those who may choose to serve again. And it may also be presumed that orders have gone out to pursue the war with a little additional vigor.

Mr. Buchanan was suddenly taken ill, last evening, so much so that Dr. Thomas had to be called in, and prescribe for him. He is still confined to his bed; though evidently doing better.

Mr. Walker is still unable to speak, though otherwise doing better.

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should happen— if we should consent to such a surrender without the strongest resistance— the whole world would forever refer to us as an example of the vilest, most cowardly, and contemptible place on earth, and we should not deserve from any nation the slightest regard or compassion. I will not propose what I would wish to see— that ism that the Mexicans should imitate the Numidians and Carthaginians, when attacked by the Romans in ancient times; or should follow the example of the memorable Saragossa, which, under the command of that great hero Palafox, was reduced to a pile of ruins, burying 100,000 combatants beneath them; but I do wish to see that we should do what has been done throughout the world on similar occasions— that is, we that shall resist the enemy to the last possible extreme.

"Paris, in 1814, did not capitulate against the whole forces of Russia, Prussia, England, and Austria, until it had suffered considerable losses under generals Marmont and Mortier. That same city, Paris, after the battle of Waterloo, where the immortal Napoleon lost forever his glory, endeavored to defend herself against the immense torrent that threatened to destroy her, and, organizing an army with the divisions of General Davoust and Grouchy, they still fought hard battles at Serves and Izly.— Even Madrid, the capital of the nation to which we were once united, did, by herself, resist the powerful army that France sent against her; and, notwithstanding her oppression, a popular movement was formed against the French, and there Murat exercised his most bloody vengeance.

"And can it be imagined that the Mexicans will be frightened and quail at the sight of a handful of adventurers? Such a conquest would surprise the world more than that which Cortez obtained over the Empire of Montezuma; for at the time it was necessary, in order to cause this city to surrender, that it should be besieged by more than 200,000 Fascaltecs, united with the Spaniards, and that very resources of subsistence should have been exhausted. And at the time the natives had not the incomparable means of defence which we now possess— means which I will not mention here—as by so doing I suppose it would be an insult to persons of common sense.

"In accordance with what I have here manifested, I am of opinion that the city should be immediately put in a state of defence, and this is the object of my first proposition.

"I also beg that congress should not be removed, unless the extreme case should arrive of the occupation of the city by the enemy. My object is not a request of the representatives of Mexico to repeat before the world the pathetic scene of the Romans, when Brennus, general of the Gauls, attacked Rome when sitting in open ground in their council chairs, they awaited the enemy and challenged the death which they received. I repeat that this is not my desire, but I wish that we may not act on the opposite extreme— deserting this place with a shameful fury— that we may remain here until the moment when prudence and necessity should dictate that we must move elsewhere, as in similar cases has been done by the civilized assemblies.

"When the Spaniards, had nearly lost all their peninsula, a regency was established at Cadiz, which provoked the Cortes of the kingdom, and immediately promulgated the political constitution of the Spanish monarchy. These events took place in the midst of the bombs and shells which the French army was throwing into the city, and then they were (unsuccessfully) besieged by Gen. Victor.

"In France, when the allies conquered for the first time, the senate did not change its residence, and instead constituted a provisional government. The like happened after the fall of Napoleon, and the chamber of representatives appointed a commissioner of government, of which Fouche was the president.

"All foreign nations have their eyes fixed on our war. – And what judgment can we expect them to form of our valor and our cause, if we are thrown into dismay and disquietude? It is utterly necessary, for this very reason, that we should by our extraordinary efforts prove the justice our rights; and lastly, we must show that we come from the unconquerable Spanish race, and we have in our veins the blood of Guatimozin, Hidalgo, Morelos, and thousands of others, who shed the last drop of it in honor and defence of their country, and who taught us by their examples the course we are to pursue." [MSH & KAM]

All the speeches and addresses are said to be in the same vein. Not a single voice is raised for peace; and we may expect that the course now generally recommended of a guerilla war, and one of posts, will be resorted to,— in which event, it will be almost interminable. Such, too, it is said, is the opinion of Maj. Gen. Jesup, who has recently returned from the seat of war to the City of Washington.

We await with great anxiety further intelligence from the city of Mexico. It is barely possible that the recent signal route of the Mexican army and the flight of Santa Anna may conflict— though we confess, reasoning from the past, and judging from the temper evinced by her people, in and out of power, we have but a faint hope of a result so much to be desired.

[MSH]

Tuesday, May 11, 1847 RW24i38p2c3  228 words.

THE NEW ORLEANS PICAYUNE GIVES THE FOLLOWING INCIDENT OF THE BATTLE OF CERRO GORDO:

"We may be permitted to make particular mention of the check which the brave Tennesseans met in their assault upon one of the Mexican positions. That they were checked, if not temporarily repulsed, appears undoubted. – A letter which we publish in another column upon the death of a young officer from Memphis shows this. The explanation we understand to be briefly this. In leading his brigade into action, Gen. Pillow. It opened a terrific fire upon the regiment, which the men encountered with the most manly hearts and rushed upon the foe. Gen. Pillow distinguished himself by his personal gallantry upon the occasion, being in the thickest for the fight. Finding his force inadequate to seize the position, he drew off his men, but not until a fourth of them had been killed or wounded. The rest of the brigade was immediately ordered up, and the whole formed with the brave Tennesseans in the midst, and the attack was upon the very point of being renewed, when the Mexicans ran up the white flag. We have endeavored to give the facts as we believe them to have occurred, and shall willingly modify this statement if it be in any degree erroneous. The hardhood and daring of the Tennesseans were proved and applauded at Cerro Gordo, as were the like qualities in another regiment from that State.
Cerro Gordo was carried, and before Twigg's division reached the national road above. President Santa Anna, with Generals Canalizo and Almonte, and some six or eight thousand men escaped towards Xalapa just before success, they contributed much to distract and dismay their immediate opponent's. Brigadier General Pillow and his brigade twice assaulted with great daring the enemy's line of batteries on our left; and though without command the advanced forces towards Xalapa. Major General Patterson left a sick bed to share in the dangers and fatigues of the day; and after the surrender went forward to an hour or two. Nearest portion of the enemy towards the batteries below, sent out Cols Harney and Childs to hold a parley. The surrender followed in assault, but not in time. The General, reaching the tower a few minutes before me, and observing a white flag displayed from the breast works, drover the enemy from them, planted the colors of the bayonet. 1st artillery, 3d and 7th infantry – the enemy's flag still flying – and, after some minutes of sharp firing, finished the conquest with the execution, which I had the pleasure to witness, was most brilliant and decisive. The brigade ascended the long and the tremendous fire of artillery and musketry with the utmost steadiness, reached the breast works, drover the enemy from them, planted the colors of the bayonet. It is a most pleasing duty to say that the highest praise is due to Harney, Childs, Plymton, Losing, Alexander, their gallant officers and men, for this brilliant service, independent of the great results which soon followed. In this hurried and imperfect report I must not omit to say that Brigadier Gen. Twiggs, in passing the mountain range beyond Cerro Gordo, crowned with the tower, detached from his division, as I suggested the day before, a strong force to carry that height, which commanded the Xalapa road at the foot, and could not fall, if carried, to cut off the whole, or any part of the enemy's force from a retreat in any direction. A portion of the 1st artillery, under the often distinguished Brevet Col. Childs, the 3d infantry, under Captain Alexander, the 7th infantry, under Lieut Col Plymton, and the rifles, under Major Loring, all under the temporary command of Col Harney, 2d dragoons, during the confinement to his bed of Brevet Brigadier Gen P F Smith, composed that detachment. The style of execution, which I had the pleasure to witness, was most brilliant and decisive. The brigade ascended the long and the tremendous fire of artillery and musketry with the utmost steadiness, reached the breast works, drover the enemy from them, planted the colors of the 1st artillery, 3d and 7th infantry – the enemy's flag still flying – and, after some minutes of sharp firing, finished the conquest with the bayonet. It is a most pleasing duty to say that the highest praise is due to Harney, Childs, Plymton, Losing, Alexander, their gallant officers and men, for this brilliant service, independent of the great results which soon followed.

Worth's division of regulars coming up at this time he detached Brevet Lieut Col C F Smith, with his light battalion, to support the assault, but not in time. The General, reaching the tower a few minutes before me, and observing a white flag displayed from the nearest portion of the enemy towards the batteries below, sent out Cols Harney and Childs to hold a parley. The surrender followed in an hour or two.

Major General Patterson left a sick bed to share in the dangers and fatigues of the day; and after the surrender went forward to command the advanced forces towards Xalapa.

Brigadier General Pillow and his brigade twice assaulted with great daring the enemy's line of batteries on our left; and though without success, they contributed much to distract and dismay their immediate opponent's.

President Santa Anna, with Generals Canalizo and Almonte, and some six or eight thousand men escaped towards Xalapa just before Cerro Gordo was carried, and before Twigg's division reached the national road above.
I have determined to parole the prisoners – officers and men – as I have not the means of feeding them here, beyond today, and cannot afford to detach a heavy body of horse and foot, with wagons, to accompany them to Vera Cruz. Our baggage train, though increasing, is not yet half large enough to give an assured progress to this army. Besides, a greater number of prisoners would probably escape from the escow in the long and deep sandy road, without subsistence – ten to one – that we shall find again, out of the same body of men, in the ranks opposed to us. Not one of the Vera Cruz prisoners is believed to have been in the lines of Cerro Gordo. Some six of the officers, highest in rank, refuse to give their paroles, except to go to Vera Cruz, and then perhaps to the United States.

The small arms and their accoutrements, being of no value to our army here or at home, I have ordered them to be destroyed; for we have not the means of transporting them. I am, also, somewhat embarrassed with the – places of artillery – all bronze – which we have captured. It would take a brigade, and half the mules of this army, to transport them fifty miles. A field battery I shall take for service with the army; but the heavy metal must be collected, and left here for the present. We have our own selgetrain and the proper carriages with us.

Being much occupied with the prisoners, and all the details of a forward movement, besides looking to the supplies which are to follow from Vera Cruz, I have time to add no more – intending to be at Xalapa early tomorrow. We shall not, probably, again meet with serious opposition this side of Perote – certainly not, unless delayed by the want of the means of transportation.

I have the honor to remain, sir, with high respect, your most obedient servant.

WINFIELD SCOTT.

P.S. I invite attention to the accompanying letter to President Santa Anna, taken in his carriage yesterday; also to his proclamation, issued on hearing that we had captured Vera Cruz, &c., in which he says: “If the enemy advance one step more, the national independence will be buried in the abyss of the past.” We have taken that step. W.S.

I make a second postscript to say that there is some hope, I am happy to learn, that Gen Shields may survive his wounds.

One of the principal motives for paroling the prisoners of war is, to diminish the assistances of other garrisons in our march.

W.S

Hon. Wm. L. Marcy, Secretary of War.

Tuesday, May 11, 1847 RW24i38p2c5 2,453 words.

MEXICO

From the N. O. Times, May 3

Important changes in the Government – Retirement of Gomez Farias, and election of a President substitute – Choice of Senor Anaya – His Inaugural Address – Santa Anna’s Address to Congress – Project for Fortifying the Capital, &c., &c.

In the last news from the interior of Mexico which we gave, derived from late Havana papers, we announced that Santa Anna had left the Capitol, to assume the chief command of the troops concentrated in the mountain passes of the Jalapa Road, to oppose the advance of Gen. Scott and his army; and that he had left Senor Anaya at the head of affairs during his absence. Gomez Farias, the Vice President, had entirely disappeared from the scene; he had been swept away, as if by magic; in fact, no authentic statement of the means by which that unquiet spirit had been so summarily disposed of, had reached this country. Simultaneous, however, with the arrival of the news of the battle of Sierra Gordo, came intelligence from the city of Mexico, which has cleared up the whole mystery. Gomez Farias, although a man of enlarged views, and undoubted patriotism, was, perhaps, one of the most unpopular public men in Mexico. His ultra reform projects brought him into collision with the powerful hierarchy of the country, whose influence, principally, united with other circumstances, at length succeeded in hurling him from power. Santa Anna found, on his arrival at the capitol, from San Louis, whither he had been brought for the ostensible purpose of putting an end to the species of civil war which was raging within its walls, that Gomez Farias must retire. How was this to be effected? Some proposed one plan, some another, but Santa Anna would hear of no departure from regular constitutional action. As Santa Anna was to leave for the army, it would not do to let things remain in statuo quo, as the moment Gomez Farias again became President, ad interim, a renewal of the divisions, conflicts, & c., & c. which had just ceased, would inevitably take place. In this dilemma, the Congress were induced to pass a bill, suppressing the office of Vice President. This occurred on the 31st of May, and in the debate which followed the introduction of the bill, Gomez Farias seems to have been well supported by his friends. The division for and against, 38 to 35, shows how close are party positions in that assembly. On the 1st of April, a decree was promulgated to this effect:

1. Permission is granted to the actual President of the Republic, to take command in person of the forces which the Government may place under his command, to resist the foreign army.
2. The Vice Presidency of the Republic, established by the law of the 21st December last, is suppressed.

3. The place of the provisional President shall be filled by a substitute named by Congress, according to the terms of the law just cited.

4. If in this election the vote of the deputations should be tied, in place of determining the choice by lot, Congress shall decide voting by person.

5. The functions of the substitute shall cease when the provisional President shall return to the exercise of power. States shall proceed to the election of a President of the

6. On the 15th day of May next, the Legislatures of the Republic, according to the form prescribed by the Constitution of 1824, and with no other difference save voting for one individual only.

7. The same Legislature shall at once transmit to the Sovereign Congress the result of the election in a certified despatch.

PRESIDENT SUBSTITUTE. – SENOR ANAYA. – Gomez Farias having thus been confined to private life, it was necessary to provide a provisional successor to Santa Anna, who had announced his intention to proceed to Vera Cruz and its vicinity to make head against the victorious foe. An election was therefore held by Congress, on the disposition of the Vice President for a President Substitute, as the novel term is. There were two candidates, Senor Don Pedro Anaya and Gen. Almonte. The former received 60 votes, and the latter 11, voting by person; or 18 votes against 3, count by deputation.

Senor Anaya being thus elected, was sworn into office on the 1st of April, and entered on the duties of President the next day; Santa Anna setting forth for the North and East to join the army, at 2 P.M.

Senor Anaya is a man of high character and considerable talent. The Mexican papers state that the selection is a good one; since under him, all grades of Mexicans can harmonize, and thus show a firm, united, and imposing front to the enemy. He had done good service to his country at a variety or epochs, beginning with the days of her struggle for independence; and was a rare example of disinterestedness, never having been a candidate for office.

THE PRESS AT THE CAPITAL. – Notwithstanding all the reverses attending the Mexican arms, the papers breathe nothing but a spirit of determined hostility to us. They announce that they much henceforth conquer or perish; that nothing can preserve their nationality save concentrating their energies and readily sacrificing all on the altar of their country. The struggle, they emphatically state, is for "independence.” The following is from the Republican:

In the front of an enemy conquering and menacing we conjure all Mexicans who love the honor and even the existence of their country, that henceforth they have but one party – that of Independence; and but one device – VENGEANCE AND WAR.

The Diario del Gobierno urges the different States to send in their contributions, &c, to the General Government to sustain the war, instead of doing as they do now, which is, to be each looking after its own protection and preservation exclusively. No effectual resistance can be made to the Americans unless they concentrate their means and strength.

SANTA ANNA. – At the moment of his departure for the army, Santa Anna submitted a very long address to the Supreme Constituent Congress, in which he reviews his personal career since he was recalled from exile to assume the reins of Government. He says, on the moment when he first heard of the commencement of hostilities between Mexico and the United States, he felt a strong desire to return to his native country to assist in her defence. He returned, and without any feeling of personal ambition, he devoted himself to organize an army to make head against the victorious Americans. He traces his course of conduct at San Luis – points to the raising, as if by enchantment, of the "brilliant and numerous army” collected there. He inveighs against the Government for leaving the soldiers without the first necessaries of life. He then narrates the march across the desert, to attack Gen. Taylor at Angostura or Buena Vista. Here:

The daring of the soldiers during the combat can only compare with their endurance while crossing the desert, with their resignation under the want of food and raiment and with their patience when suffering by the wounds of ball and knife inflicted by the Americans, without any medical attendance. If it be true, as has been asserted by Napoleon, that the quality of soldiers is to support fatigue and privations, and that valor is only the second quality, then the Mexican army has proved, in the memorable expedition of the month of February, that it is not deficient in either.

RETREAT FROM ANGOSTURA. – He offers the following as an excuse for not continuing in front of General Taylor:

Although for the reasons which I gave in my official despatch, I could not purpose the enemy, I had concentrated my forces in such places as offered some prospect of subsisting the troops, in the hope that the moment would shortly arrive when we could consummate our triumph. Such were my intentions, which I should have carried into effect had it not been for the news which I received of two important events: First, the danger with which Vera Cruz was threatened; and, the secondly, revolution which had broken out in the capital, and which obliged me to change my plans. The first showed me the necessity of sending assistance to Vera Cruz, one of the keys of the Republic, and its garrison having nothing to sustain it but their heroism, could not hold out any length of time. The second, informing me of a pronunciamento by which, to the scandal of all the world, Mexicans were going to destroy each other, when the foreign enemy was threatening its independence from all sides, forced me to fly to the rescue to establish public order and tranquility. To meet these two evils, of equal importance, it became necessary to return with the army to San Luis, whence I ordered a respectable division to proceed to Vera Cruz, while I proceed in person to put a stop to civil war.
NO PEACE – He renews, for the hundredth time, perhaps, his determination to listen to no terms with us, while our troops occupy any portion of Mexico.

In the face of the nation and of the whole world, I have stated that I am determined to fight the usurpers of our soil as long as there is the print of their foot left on our sacred soil. My sentiments, in conformity in every respect with my pledges, separate me from the Government, and call me to the army, and in obedience to both I have determined to march this week to Vera Cruz to take charge of the military operations.

The State of Vera Cruz, of which I know every inch, and which I love with intense favor, as it is the place of my nativity, is invaded by the force of the foreigners, its sufferings cannot be indifferent to me, because, as a Mexican, I feel the misfortunes of every State, and doubly of that State were I first saw the light.

DENUNCIATION OF OUR TROOPS. – In concluding his address, Santa Anna incidentally alludes to the barbarity and vandalism displayed by our soldiers. This is amusing enough, when we reflect on the mutilations of our Teamsters, the assassination of our stray soldiers, and the bestial ferocity which seem innate to the Mexican, who, as on the field of Buena Vista, and Urrea’s attack on our wagon trains, only see in the wounded and unarmed, a fresh incentive to vindictive cruelty. But Santa Anna speaks to his countrymen, and not to the world at large; the former, in their ignorance, still believe in the magnanimy of the great Mexican nations, and in the valor, honor and humanity of their redoubtable chief.

Before concluding, I think it my duty to state clearly and openly my opinion respecting the war which we are maintaining. To no man it is given to life the veil of futurity, and no one can say what will be the result of the events which will pass under our eyes, but favorable or fatal, they must not influence our opinion, which must be based on other considerations. If Divine Providence should have in store for us more trials – if again our fields should be devastated, our cities bombarded, our villages destroyed; our brave soldiers should die on the field of battle, and, even if fortune should be propitious, the calamities inseparable from war be terrible, particularly when conducted with the barbarity and vandalism displayed by the Americans, without any mitigation of civilization, and to the disgrace of their arms: but fatal as all these evils might be, far more pernicious beyond comparison would be a peace forced upon us at this moment. Peace, yes, peace is what that nation wants, but a peace that must be won by our valor and constancy, bought by victories obtained by a people that detests oppression. A peace of this kind will save us, and make us respected by the powers that observe us, and give us the place due to the Mexican nation. If we cannot give us the place due to the Mexican nation. If we cannot obtain such a peace it is better to bury ourselves under the ruins of our cities, and better to die than live without honor.

As to myself, I am determined to breast the dangers of the campaign, confident that my conduct will gain the approbation of my fellow citizens. If I am crowned by victory, and succeed in driving the enemy from our soil, I shall retire to private life, satisfied that I have rendered my country some service; or if the lead of steel shall cut the thread of my life, I shall die contented, as I shall leave to my country an honorable memory, and to my children a name at which they need never blush.

Here he concludes, dating his address, Mexico, 2d April, 1847.

Fortifying the Capital – The President Anaya, immediately after taking the reins of Government, called together the principal military officers in the city, with a view to consult on the best manner of putting it into a state of defence. They were unanimous in recommending fortifications to be constructed, and the work to be begun forthwith. In the Republican, it is stated, that the Chief of the Engineer Corps present, had been instructed to prepare a plan for presentation to the Government immediately. Senor Gamboa, a public man of some weight in Mexico, has presented an address to Congress calling on them to remain stationary in the capital, and advising prompt measures towards preparing for a victorious defence. These facts prove the little confidence entertained in the efficiency of the means provided by Santa Anna, on the Jalapa road, to arrest the further progress of our arms. The populace were still very restive, although the insurgents had laid down their arms for the supercession of Gomez Farias.

Preparations. – The cannon foundary of Chapultepec was in full blast. There were two Paixhan guns of large caliber, and two eight pounder field pieces cast there on the 4th ultimo.

A robbery was committed on the passengers in a stage coach, close to the capital, on the 2d ultimo, by two men who were supposed to be disbanded soldiers.

For the above news from the capital of Mexico, we have drawn largely from our friends of the Picayune and the Patria of yesterday.

THE MEXICAN TARIFF. – We learn that up to the departure of the steamer M’Kim from Vera Cruz, the 20th ult. goods were entered at the rate of duties prescribed by Gen. Scott, no official notification having been received, at that date, of the new Tariff prepared by the Secretary of the Treasury.

[MSH]

Tuesday, May 11, 1847 RW24i38p2c6  581 words.

LATER FROM VERA CRUZ.

From the N. O. Times.

ANOTHER VICTORY – CAPTURE OF TUSPAN – TRIUMPH OF THE NAVY.
The U.S. transport schr Gen. Patterson arrived at New Orleans Monday morning from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the 24th.

By this conveyance (says the Delta,) we have to gratifying intelligence of the capture of Tuspan, by the gallant Com. Perry and the equally gallant squadron under his command; thus showing that our Navy wants but the opportunities which have been presented to the Army, to be like them wherever they triumphed.

The Gen. Patterson fell in with Com. Perry and his squadron, on their return from the Tuspan Expedition, on 24th ult, 25 miles north of Vera Cruz. Se was boarded by an officer from the U.S. steamer Scorpion, who put letters on board, and who reported to Capt. Jackson, that on the 19th Tuspan had been taken, after a fierce and determined resistance by the Mexican troops. We lost some four men killed and some fourteen wounded, among whom were four officers – Capt. Tatnall, (slightly,) Lieut. Parker, (severely,) Lieut. Harstein and Passed Midshipman Lowndes, (slightly.)

The Mexicans, finding further resistance unavailing, spiked all their guns, raised the defences of the place, and then abandoned it.

From the Picayune.

Gen Shields was still alive at last accounts, but it was thought he could not survive – Capt. Johnston, of the topographical engineers, remained in a very critical state. Gen. Pillows’ wound is not serious.

The Mexican officers, on their way to the United States, were sent over to the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa, on the 21st ult. They were in fine spirits.

Sergeant Tucker, of the 2d dragoons, was shot at and wounded in the hand while riding an express from Gen. Scott to Vera Cruz on the 19th ult. On the 21st a teamster was picked up on the road, having been killed by some cowardly Mexican.

We annex a letter from a correspondent at Vera Cruz, which is the latest we have from that city:

VERA CRUZ, (Mexico,) April 23d, 1847.

Gentlemen – We are now four days without a word concerning the movements above, and are beginning to think it possible that an express has been cut off – particularly as the last express which came through received a volley of about fifty muskets. It only wounded one of the five dragoons, (the sergeant,) a musket ball having passed through his hand. An express left here with a mail on the 21st and after proceeding twenty-five miles overtook our provision train under a strong escort, the commander of which deemed it prudent to take charge of the mail himself – feeling confident that nothing but a strong body of well armed men would be at all safe in trying to make their way through to Jalapa.

This city appears to be filling up every day with both Mexicans and Americans. The former are gaining confidence in the Americans, and the latter are flooding the market with Yankee merchandise. Uncle Sam’s warehouses are chock full of provisions, and his magazines full of combustibles. As yet the business is confined to the city and suburbs, but as soon as the communication has been well opened between this and Jalapa, we may expect to see Vera Cruz the most active business place of its size on the continent. The weather is very warm, and all we want to cool ourselves is ice. There has been a little brought on shore and retailed at 25 cents per pound.

[MSH]

Tuesday, May 11, 1847 RW24i38p2c6 172 words.

FROM MATAMOROS

We have a copy of the American Flag, of the 21st ult. The following is the most important paragraph we find in it:

DOWN UPON THEM. – We stated not long ago that Gen. Taylor had resolved on a requisition upon the States of New Leon, Coahuila and Tamaulipas, for indemnification for the destruction of the public property of the United States by Mexican robbers in these departments of Mexico. Since then Col. Cushing has received an order directing him to call upon the Alcades of this place, and will accordingly pay his respects to their honors this morning. The proportion of this department is $47,500, and can be liquidated in mules at twenty dollars a head, beef cattle at ten, or corn at three per fanega, (three bushels.) The Alcades here will confer with the authorities of other towns as to the amount of taxable property in their several districts, to serve as data in fixing the proportion of each. The quartermaster here will receipt for all that may be “forked over.”

[MSH]

Tuesday, May 11, 1847 RW24i38p4c1 989 words.

ANOTHER GLORIOUS VICTORY!

Santa Anna has been again signally defeated, and his army scattered like chaff before the wind – escaping himself from the fate which
befall so many of his Generals and other distinguished officers, by the precipitancy of his flights from the field of battle – a precipitancy perhaps not altogether inexcusable, inasmuch as, being a "lame bird," it was expedient that he should have a fair start in the general stampede. Besides, he is not without illustrious predecessors. The Napoleon of the old Continent, as Santa Anna claims to be of the new, fled post haste from Waterloo, as soon he perceived that Victory, in earlier life the inseparable companion of his Eagles, had forever deserted his standards. But, for one, we are not disposed to impute to cowardice an act which in truth have been dictated by policy rather than by fear. Santa Anna is the rallying point of all the factions in Mexico, which, warring upon each other in his absence with the most unmitigable ferocity, are fused, temporarily at least, into compactness, by his name, which, though it coupled with epithets of derision very naturally in the United States, unquestionable? a magic influence in Mexico. With his death or captivity, so far as we can judge from the events that have transpired since his return from exile, the national spirit, embodied in his person, would find no leader of sufficient influence and capacity to awaken its enthusiasm and to concentrate and give direction to its energies. He is, besides, the Government of Mexico – and he knew that as the probable if not the inevitable consequence of his capacity, Anarchy and Discord in the capital would be superadded to the perils and calamities of War. It was important, therefore, less to himself personally than to his country, that he should not be taken prisoner; and doubtless this consideration did more to accelerate his flight, if it be true that he fled while the battle still raged, than the promptings of cowardice, to which it is attributed.

Santa Anna’s escape may be important in another respect. If he be now inclined to terminate the hopeless struggle against the invaders of his country, and to put a stop to these scenes of “blood and carnage,” he, and he alone, it is supposed, possesses sufficient influence with the Mexican people to secure their assent to a consummation so devoutly to be desired. What may be his purposes, after this additional and most signal proof of the inability of the Mexican troops, to cope with the Anglo-Saxon in combat, even with all the advantages possessed by an invaded people over the invader, and with all the motives to exertion inspired by the consideration that they are fighting near their own hearth–stones and altars, we cannot surmise. We had, supposed that the "bloody instructions" he had heretofore, we are at a loss now to determine whether the disastrous result of this last brilliant battle, fought under circumstances more favorable to the Mexicans, who had selected their own position, than any perhaps which has taken place since the campaign opened, except those at Monterey and at Buena Vista, will have the effect of subduing their proverbial pride and obstinacy. If such should be its effect, however, it is obviously fortunate that Santa Anna, who alone can bind the antagonist factions into one, and important some thing like organization to the dismembered Government; has been enabled to return to the city of Mexico – thought, on the other hand, if he should be still for war, his escape will be not less unfortunate than was his return to Mexico, with a passport from Mr. Polk in his pocket. It is scarcely worth while, however, to speculate upon future contingencies, when all conjecture founded on the usual motives of human action must be baffled, as it has been heretofore, so frequently, by the extraordinary character of the Mexican people.

The Hero of Lundy’s Lane, who, like General Taylor, has been for many months past, a target for the shafts of malicious writings, has vindicated anew his claim to the gratitude and admiration of his countrymen. As the Charleston Courier remarks, "It gives us pleasure to know that the name of SCOTT is associated with this brilliant victory. The hero of 182 has not degenerated, but has proved that the laurels that then encircled his youthful brow are held in fond remembrance, and that the sword that then gleamed amid the battle’s storm is yet wielded by one who can strike as truly, and perhaps with more efficiency, than in former years, when life’s purple current flowed more freely and rapidly through his excited veins. The names of SCOTT and TAYLOR, as military chieftains, now stand pre-eminent among modern heroes. They have no competitors for military fame."

This victory, however, is not unaccompanied by the usual causes for mourning over the gallant dead by whose heroism it has been achieved, but who shall never hear the applauding shouts of their countrymen, as the tidings are heralded through the land. The voice of praise, though grateful to the survivors of the conflict, cannot "pierce the dull, cold ear of death." Their friends, indeed, may cherish the memory of the slain, and feel an emotion of pride when their deeds of valor are rehearsed; but the wall of anguish from widowed and orphaned hearts will drown even the shout of triumph with which it will be mingled in unnatural union. We cannot forget, even in the memory of the slain, and feel an emotion of pride when their deeds of valor are rehearsed; but the wall of anguish from widowed and orphaned hearts will drown even the shout of triumph with which it will be mingled in unnatural union. We cannot forget, even in the first glow of exulting pride, that this brilliant triumph with which it will be mingled in unnatural union. We cannot forget, even in the first glow of exulting pride, that this brilliant triumph will carry desolation to many scattered households and pain and sorrow to many bereaved hearts. Such is the costly sacrifice, however, which the Mouth of War exacts as the price of the crimson wreath by which his brow is encircled.

[MSH]

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**Tuesday, May 11, 1847 RW24i38p4c1 100 words.**

**UNTITLED**

The St. Louis Reveille has been informed by Mr. Sublette, recently from Santa Fe, that very few, if any, of the volunteers now in our “territory” of New Mexico, can be induced to re-enlist. The desire to return home is general; and if troops do not arrive, (as it is now certain none will,) to relieve them at the expiration of their term in the country – and, as a necessary consequence, New Mexico will re-assume its former relations to the Mexican Republic! What, that event, will have been gained by this expensive, and worse than profitless expedition to Santa Fe?

[MSH]

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**Tuesday, May 11, 1847 RW24i38p4c2 673 words.**

**THE VIRGINIA REGIMENT**

The following letter, which we copy from the Staunton Spectator, and which we presume is from the pen of its Editor, Capt. Kenton Harper of the Augusta company, though not as late as other advices from that part of the theatre of warlike operations in Mexico,
CAMARGO, Mexico, March 27, 1847

Dear -----: We of the Virginia detachment, comprising the four companies heretofore mentioned by me as having proceeded to Monterey, with the Ohio regiment under Col. Curtis, arrived here last evening, having been ordered by Gen. Taylor to take charge of a return train of about one hundred waggons. No incident of much interest occurred on the route back. We had several demonstrations, indicating a disposition to attack us, but no actual fight. The parties were all small that were seen, and I doubt whether the enemy now is in any great force on the road. We had expected to return by a different route, and such were our orders up to the evening before we left. It was designed by Gen. Taylor that we should open a new communication by Catarela and China – an enterprise at some hazard, in the opinion of all military men at Monterey with whom I conversed – particularly with our small force, namely the four Virginia companies, Capt. Marshall's dragoons, and one six pounder of Bragg's battery under Lieutenant Kilburn, a young officer of merit, who did good service in the late battle of Buena Vista. Our next move from this, however, will be on that route. The entire Virginia regiment, where is now here, with all its field and staff officers, it is understood, will take up the line of march for China during the present week – six companies to remain there and garrison the place, and the remainder to proceed to Monterey under Col. Hamtramck and Major Early. The Augusta Volunteers are to be armed with rifles, and form a part of the detachment stationed at China, which, report says, is one of the pleasantest places in Mexico. Capt. Preston's company is made grenadiers, and goes with Colonel Hamtramck.

Our company have had a good deal of diarrhea among them, but no case of much seriousness. We left one man ill with it (Jacob Long) at the hospital in Monterey – another (John Peer) with the effects of an injury received on ship-board, not serious I hope – and another, Lieutenant Geiger, ill of mumps. I saw all of them before I left, and think there is little doubt that they are able to be about by this time.

While at Monterey, I visited Arista's gardens. They are on a grand scale, but too new to possess very great beauty. The trees and shrubbery are small; but the fine baths and ducts for irrigating the grounds, all of solid masonry, give indication that the proprietor intended to spare no expense to make it one of the loveliest spots on earth. The flowers were generally in pots, and to the credit of our army be it said, that, although, the gardens are much visited, not the slightest injury has been done to any thing. I also visited several other gardens, filled with orange trees loaded with ripe fruit, blossoms, &c. The perfume was delicious. Also with the lime, lemon, and fig, the latter, however, had no fruit.

Camargo is a miserably dirty place, and although at rest, we see little comfort. But for the momentary fueling, it is hardly worth while to think of putting on a clean shirt. While on the march we do no pretend to make an effort to keep clean. All complexions are confounded by the dust, and it is often difficult to tell even the color of our clothes. Our Virginia blue makes a pretty good grey mixed to think of putting on a clean shirt. While on the march we do no pretend to make an effort to keep clean. All complexions are confounded by the dust, and it is often difficult to tell even the color of our clothes. Our Virginia blue makes a pretty good grey mixed.
Resolved, That the Legislature cannot refrain from expressing the hope and the belief, that seems so rapidly laying hold of public opinion, that the services the distinguished chief of this gallant little army may lead to his being called, by the acclamation of the WHOLE PEOPLE, to the highest office in their gift.

Resolved, That the Governor of the State be and he is hereby authorized and requested to have struck, by a competent artist, a gold medal, with suitable devices, to be presented in the name of the State to Gen. Z. Taylor.

Resolved, That the Governor be requested to forward to Gen. Taylor a copy of these resolutions.

These resolutions were made the order of the day for the 30th, said the vote upon them, we presume, will be received in a few days. [MSH]

Tuesday, May 11, 1847 RW24i38p4c2  52 words.

UNTITLED

The rumor that Gen. Lamar and his small command had been surrounded and cut to pieces by the Mexicans, is discredited by the Houston Telegraph of the 5th ult. That paper thinks it is but a new edition of the old story that Ben McCulloch and his command had been cut off. [MSH]

Tuesday, May 11, 1847 RW24i38p4c3  3,450 words.

IMPORTANT INTELLIGENCE! ANOTHER GLORIOUS VICTORY!!  BATTLE OF CERRO GORDO!

Santa Anna again Defeated in a Pitched Battle by General Scott – Six Thousand Mexicans taken Prisoners – Five Hundred Americans killed and Wounded – Gen. La Vega again a Prisoner.

DAILY PICAYUNE OFFICE.

Friday Evening, April 30 – 5 o'clock.

By the steamship McKim, Capt. Phillipsbury, which left Vera Cruz on the 20th inst., we have glorious news from the army under Gen. Scott. Mr. Bugbee, who was sent from the scene of action by Mr. Kendall, with despatches for this office, left the McKim 20 miles below the city, and came up to the city, express, with the glorious tidings.

On the afternoon of the 17th, the advance under Gen. Twiggs encountered the enemy, when a severe but indecisive conflict ensued. As the general orders, which we give below, show that it was Gen. Scott's intention to give battle only on the 18th, it may be that this engagement was brought on by the Mexicans. The main battle occurred on the 18th, and resulted in the complete triumph of the American arms.

Santa Anna made his escape after his army was routed. Gen. La Vega is again among the prisoners. Besides him there were five generals taken and a long list of colonels and subordinate officers as are coming to this place. They were to leave Vera Cruz about the 25th.

We will give further particulars tomorrow morning in our regular edition.

PLAN DEL RIO, April 17 – 11 A. M.

The division of General Twiggs started two hours since, and a heavy cannonade has already commenced upon his line from the farthest of the Mexican works. At intervals, too, the rattling of small arms can be heard distinctly from the dragon camp where I am writing this. I am going out, withCols. Duncan and Bohlan and Capt. Pemberton, to the seat of action, and will return here at night to report the progress of the fight.–it was not intended, I believe, that General Twiggs should opened the fight to-day, at least to bring on a general action, and it is therefore presumable the Mexicans have commenced upon him. I write in great haste. GWK

5 P.M.–I have just returned from the scene of conflict, and a bloody one it has been considering the number engaged. A hill this side of the farthest Mexican work; and on which there was no one seen last evening, was found occupied by the enemy's light troops this morning, and to force it was at once deemed indispensable. For this purpose the rifles under Maj. Sumner, besides detachments of artillery and infantry, were ordered to charge up the rugged ascent. This they did in gallant style, driving the Mexicans, after a resistance which may be put down as most obstinate. Great numbers of the enemy were killed, while on our side the loss was also severe. Major Sumner was shot in the head by a musket ball–severely but not mortally: Lieutenants Maury and Gibbs, of the rifles, were also wounded, but not severely, as was also Lieutenant Jarvis of the 2nd infantry. I could not learn that any of our officers were killed. The entire loss on our side, in killed nd wounded, is estimated at about one hundred; but from the nature of the ground–broken,
The loss on both sides has been heavy—how could it have been otherwise? The rough and rocky road, cut through rugged defiles and wooden leg, have fallen into our hands, together with all the money of his army. No one anticipated, when they arose from their hard the want of dragoons on the other side of their lines. As it is, his traveling coach, together with all his papers, valuables, and even his Pinson, Manuel Uruaga, and Jose Obando. The names of the colonels I have not been able to gather. Nothing saved Santa Anna but Among the prisoners is our old friend LaVega, who fought with his accustomed gallantry. The other generals are Jose Maria Jarero, Luis Pinson, Manuel Uruaga, and Jose Obando. The names of the colonels I have not been able to gather. Nothing saved Santa Anna but the impossibility, of finding a road of the dragoons to the rear of the enemy's works saved any part of Santa Anna's grand army, including his own illustrious person.

The American arms have achieved another glorious and most brilliant victory. Out numbering General Scott's force materially, and occupying positions which looked impregnable as Gibraltar, one after another of their works have been taken to–day, five generals, colonels enough to command ten such armies as ours, and other officers innumerable, have been taken prisoners, together with 6000 men, and the rest of their army driven and routed with the loss of every thing, ammunition, cannon, baggage train, all. Nothing but the impossibility, of finding a road of the dragoons to the rear of the enemy's works saved any part of Santa Anna's grand army, including his own illustrious person.

Among the prisoners is our old friend LaVega, who fought with his accustomed gallantry. The other generals are Jose Maria Jarero, Luis Pinson, Manuel Uruaga, and Jose Obando. The names of the colonels I have not been able to gather. Nothing saved Santa Anna but the want of dragoons on the other side of their lines. As it is, his traveling coach, together with all his papers, valuables, and even his wooden leg, have fallen into our hands, together with all the money of his army. No one anticipated, when they arose from their hard barric this morning, such a complete victory.

The loss on both sides has been heavy—how could it have been otherwise? The rough and rocky road, cut through rugged defiles and dense chaparral by our troops, is now lined with our wounded. The rifles, Col. Haskell's Tennessee volunteers, the 1st artillery, the 7th infantry, and Captain William's company of Kentucky volunteers, have perhaps suffered most. Gen. Shields was severely, and I am fearful, mortally wounded, while gallantly leading his brigade to storm one of the enemy's farthest works. General Pillow was also wounded, although slightly, while storming a fort on this side, commanded by La Vega. All the field officers of Col. Haskell's regiment were wounded at the same time, save himself. Of the rifles, Capt. Mason has lost a leg, Lieut. Ewell has been badly wounded, Lieut. McLane slightly. I have already mentioned the gallant Maj. Sumner and other officers wounded yesterday.

I have specified some regiments above which signalized themselves: it happened to be their fortune, in the disposition of the battle, to fall upon what all good soldiers may term pleasant places—the most difficult works to storm—and bravely and without faltering did they execute the perilous duties assigned them. At 1 o'clock this afternoon General Twiggs, whose division has been in the hardest of it, was pursuing the flying enemy towards Jalapa. Pinson, who commanded the forts nearest Plan del Rio, asked of Gen. Worth time to consider before the capitulated. Desirous to come to terms, Gen. Worth gave him fifteen minutes, and he surrendered unconditionally. Had he not done so, the slaughter would have been terrible.

I write in great haste, and have no time for particulars. The names of the killed and wounded I will ascertain as soon as possible. I think that five hundred will cover our entire loss. Had it not have been for the positive cowardice of Santa Anna and Canalizo, who ran, before the battle – at least in brave men's hands – was [?] lost, it would have been far greater. No one, at present, can estimate the loss of the Mexicans – they are scattered on the hills, in the roads, every where.

What disposition Gen. Scott is to make of the prisoners is yet unknown. He may get them all at liberty on their paroles, from the difficulty of feeding them; and to accelerate his own advanced movements. We shall hear by tomorrow. I wish he could send the officers at least to the U. States, for there is a fine string of them.

It is now impossible to name officers who have distinguished themselves. I cannot, however, omit to mention Colonels Harney, Riley and Childs, of the regulars; Colonels Baker, Forman and Haskell, of the volunteers, as every one is talking of them.

I write this in great haste, and with noise, confusion and every thing else around me. You cannot appreciate the victory. To describe the ground and fortifications of the enemy, and the difficulty of training their outer works, and the toil and peril undergone by the...
troops were impossible.

No time to say another word. I send this off by an express. It is Gen. Scott’s intention, I know, to push on towards the city of Mexico with all haste. To-morrow I will write more fully, and send by Gen. Scott’s express.

Yours,
GWK

CAMP AT PLAN DEL RIO,
April 19, 1847 – Forenoon.

The rout of the Mexicans last evening was complete. They were pursued within 4 miles of Jalapa by Gen. Twiggs, at which point there were none to follow. Santa Anna himself, instead of entombing himself as he threatened, escaped by cutting the saddle mule of his team from the harness of his magnificent evach, mounting him, and then taking to the chaparral. His service of massive silver, nearly all his papers, his money—every thing in his carriage, even his dinner, was captured. I have a capital story to tell about this dinner when I have a moment to spare.

The Mexican loss upon the heights was awful—the ground in places is covered with the dead! Among the bodies found was that of General Vasquez, and near him was Colonel Palacio, mortally wounded. Their loss in the retreat was terribly severe—every by-path was strewn with the dead. Had our dragoons been enabled to reach them in season, all would have been killed or captured—Santa Anna among them. Canalizo, with his noted lancers, had the prudence to "vamos" early.

Even up to this time it is impossible to give any thing like a full or correct list of our wounded officers—it is surprising that many of them were not killed. Lieut. Darby, a gallant young officer of the topographical engineers, was badly but not mortally wounded while storming one of the heights. Lieut. Ewell, of the rifles, is supposed to be mortally wounded. This regiment has suffered terribly. Lieut. Dana, of the 7th Infantry, was badly wounded; Capt. Patten, of the 2d, slightly. Lieut. Davis, of the rifles, was very badly wounded in the hip. Major Sumner, of the 2nd Dragoons, but commanding Rifles, is improving.

The list of killed and wounded officers in Col Haskell’s command yesterday I have been able to obtain. It should here be stated that Capt. William’s company of Kentucky and Capt. Chas. Naylor’s company of Pennsylvania volunteers were attached temporarily to this regiment. Here is the list:

KILLED – 1st Lieut Fred B Nelson, commanding company; 2d Lieut C G Gill, company E. Both these officers were from Memphis.

WOUNDED – Lieut. Col. D H Cumming, slightly; Maj Robert Farquharson, (of the 1st Texas volunteers, assigned to this regiment for the day) severely, 1st Lieut Wiley P Halie, adjutant severely; 1st Lieut Wm Yearwood, mortally; 2d Lieut George T Sutherland, Kentucky volunteers, severely. The regiment, when in action, numbered less than 400 men, and its loss was 79 in killed and wounded.

La Vega was in command of the Cerro Gordo on the first day of the fight, but a deserter from our dragoons, a German, going into their camp at night, and informing them that the main attack was to be on the right of their line—the work so fiercely attacked by Gen. Pillow, he changed places with Gen. Vasquez. The latter, as I have already stated, was killed—La Vega defended his post until the lines of the enemy were completely turned. Several Mexican colonels have been killed, but their names I have been unable to learn. A brother of Gen. La Vega, a colonel of artillery, was severely, and, as is supposed, mortally wounded.

Hundreds of cases of Individual gallantry, in storming the different heights, are mentioned. Col. Childs led on his command on the first day until he had only some forty or fifty men with him. It is also said that Capt. Magruddez followed up a change until he had but nine soldiers left. I cannot now recollect one-tenth part of the instances of almost reckless daring displayed, but shall endeavor to pick them up. I shall also send you on a full return of the killed and wounded if I can obtain it, but at present it is almost impossible to get hold of anything. The wounded are still along the roads for miles, although they are bringing them in as fast as possible.

The army is to advance towards Mexico immediately. Gen. Worth’s division marched this morning—Gen. Scott is to march at noon. Santa Anna’s coach is to be harnessed up for the purpose of carrying on Major Sumner—better use than it was ever put to before.

The officers and men of the Mexican army—I mean such as are prisoners—are to be turned loose on their parole not again to take up arms during the war. Perhaps it is the best disposition that could be made of them, as any other course would delay Gen. Scott’s forward movement. Fifteen of their officers have refused to sign, but have given their parole of honor to report themselves, without delay, to Col. Wilson at Vera Cruz, as prisoners of war. Among these are Gens. La Vega and Jarero, the latter Governor of Perote during the time the Texan prisoners were there, and I believe distinguished for his good treatment of them. There officers will either be kept in the Castle of San Juan de Ulua, or else proceed to the United States.

Gen. Shields is still alive, but it is considered impossible for him to survive. The ball went through his lungs as he was leading his men to storm the farthest work of the enemy.

I write this amid confusion of all kinds, and with no other table than knees. A hundred Mexican officers are around me, making out their paroles, while our own dead are being carried by and consigned to their long resting place by the road-side.

I shall start for Jalapa this afternoon, and will write by every opportunity. I send you some Mexican papers, as also Santa Anna’s last proclamation. It is rich.

GWK
PS – I have just learned that there is some hopes for Gen’l Shields. God grant he may live.

Col. Baker, who charged on the last fort, lost 45 men in killed and wounded out of only a portion of his regiment. Lieut. Cowardin, killed; Lieut. Murphy supposed to be mortally wounded; Lieut. Johnson wounded in three places, and thigh amputated; Lieuts. Scott, Froman and Maltby, wounded.

GWK

The following general orders were issued by Gen. Scott the evening before the battle of the 18th:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Plan del Rio, April 17, 1847

General Orders, No. 111

The enemy’s whole line of entrenchments and batteries will be attacked in front, and at the same time turned, early in the day to–morrow – probably before 10 o’clock am.

The second [Twiggs’s] division of regulars is already advanced within easy turning distance towards the enemy’s left. That division has instructions to move forward before daylight to–morrow, and take up position across the National Road in the enemy’s rear, so as to cut off a retreat towards Xalapa. It may be reinforced to–day, if unexpectedly attacked in force, by regiments – one or two taken from Shield’s brigade of volunteers. If not, the two volunteer regiments will march for that purpose at daylight to–morrow morning, under Brig. Gen. Shields, who will report to Brig. Gen. Twiggs on getting up with him, or the general–in–chief, if he be in advance.

The remaining regiment of that volunteer brigade will receive instructions in the course of this day.

The first division of regulars (Worth’s) will follow the movement against the enemy’s left at sunrise to–morrow morning.

As already arranged, Brig Gen Pillow’s brigade will march at 6 o’clock to–morrow morning along the route he has carefully recommended, and stand ready as soon as he hears the report of arms on our right, or sooner, if circumstances should favor him – to prepare the enemy’s line of batteries at such point – the nearer the river the better – as he may select. Once in the rear of that line, he will turn to the right or left, or both, and attack the batteries in reverse, or it abandoned, he will pursue the enemy with vigor until further orders.

Wall’s field battery and the cavalry will be held in reserve on the National Road, a little out of view and range of the enemy’s batteries. They will take up that position at 9 o’clock in the morning.

The enemy’s batteries being carried or abandoned, all our divisions and corps will pursue with vigor.

This pursuit may be continued many miles, until stopped by darkness or fortified positions towards Xalapa. Consequently, the body of the army will not return to this encampment; but he followed to–morrow afternoon, or early the next morning, by the baggage trains of the several corps. For this purpose, the officers and men of each corps will be left to guard its camp and effects, and to load up the latter in the wagons of the corps. A commander of the present encampment will be designated in the course of this day.

As soon as it shall be known that the enemy’s works have been carried [?] that the general pursuit has been commenced, one wagon for each regiment and one for the cavalry, will follow the movement, to receive, under the directions of medical officers, the wounded and disabled, who will be brought back to the place for treatment, in general hospital.

The Surgeon General will organize this important service and designate that hospital, as well as the medical officers to be left at it.

Every man who marches out to attack or pursue the enemy, will take the usual allowance of ammunition, and subsistence for at least two days.

By command of Maj. Gen. Scott:
H.L. SCOTT, AAA General.

Prisoners

List of Mexican Officers captured at Cerro Gordo, on the 18th April, who have ? their parole of honor to report themselves without delay to the Commandant of the American forces at Vera Cruz as prisoners of War:

Jose Ma Jarero, Brigadier General
Romulo de la Vega
The above prisoners under the charge of Captian George W Hughes, Corps of Topographical Engineers, arrived at Vera Cruz on the 21st inst. about one hour previous to the departure of the McKim.

It has been left to their election by Gen. Scott whether they should remain close prisoners in the castle of San Juan de Ulua or proceed to New Orleans, where they should be allowed such personal liberty as their condition and conduct might seem to require of the commandant at that post. It is understood that all the foregoing captured officers have expressed a desire to be transferred to the United States, and that Col Wilaoa, Governor of Vera Cruz, has acceded to their wished and had directed that a vessel should be held in readiness to sail, for their accommodation, about the 25th of April.

Tuesday, May 11, 1847 RW24i38p4c4 705 words.

LATE FROM MONTEREY

[From the Mobile Register and Journal, May 1]

The schr. Heroine arrived at New Orleans on Thursday from the Brazos. The Delta contains a letter dated Monterey, April 4, from which we make the following extracts:

Three days ago the Alcalde and Priest of a small town some 20 miles distant, on the road to China, came in and reported to Gen. Taylor the murder of 24 Mexicans, at Gualopa, a small ranch about six miles from Ramus. The murder was committed, they say, by a party of Americans numbering about 20, and was done in the night. The murdered men were first made prisoners, tied, and afterwards all shot, through their heads. The murder is said to have been committed on the 28th ult. On that night a train of loaded wagons, escorted by 200 infantry, and about the same number of horse, under the command of Col. Mitchell, of the 1st Ohio Regiment, encamped at Marin, which is about five miles from the scene of the murder. The mounted men were composed of the U.S. Dragoons and Texas Rangers, under the command of Maj. Graham, of the 2d Dragoons. Suspicion rests upon some part of this corps, though no clue has yet been found to discover the guilty. The officers in command – gentlemen, and rigid disciplinarians – are using every means in their power to investigate the matter:

Gen. Taylor has got his team up on the subject, and is determined to have hung everyone who, it can be proved, had taken part in the murder. The town where these men were killed is but a few miles from the place where the large train was captured, and so many wagoners massacred on the 22d of February. Some 15 or 20 of the wagoners who escaped from that massacre came up in the last train, yet there is no evidence that they were engaged in the Gualopa murder.

I passed over the place of the massacre of the 22d February a few days ago, and the scene is truly the most horrid and revolting that I have ever witnessed. The remains of the murdered men, yet unburied, stripped of every particle of clothing, lay upon the plains, their flesh devoured by Mexican wolves and buzzards, and their bones bleached in the sun.

The train was a very large and valuable one, and stretched out from three to four miles in length. The attack was made upon the escort, who were in the advance, by a large body of Lancers. The escort, forty men, under Lieutenant Barbour of the Kentucky Legion, were all taken prisoners, and are now in the possession of Urrea. The Lancers charged down the train and lanced without mercy the wagoners as they ran for their lives to the chapparal. More than three-fourths of them, it is thought, were killed – and their bodies shockingly mutilated and disfigured.

Those who passed the scene a few days after say that some had their hearts cut out and suspended upon the bushes, or thrust into their mouths; the eyes of others were dug from their sockets, and inserted in the wounds made in other parts of their bodies; and other mutilations were performed that would make even a North American savage blush to look at. Yet these were committed by Gen. Urrea’s men – the regular soldiers of the Mexican army!

Urrea, by last accounts, was at Lipares, expecting reinforcements. It is rumored that he had four pieces of artillery with him. Marin, Carrelvo, Mier and China will all be garrisoned by our troops, which will render our communication with Camargo entirely safe. The troops here are in excellent health and condition.
I have this moment landed from the West, and hasten to send you an item of news that I have selected from the St. Louis Republican crying in justice has excited universal disgust in the Army, all the accounts from the camp concur in declaring. What incentive is there such as Hopping of New York, and Caleb Cushing of Massachusetts, who have never yet seen the face of an enemy. That this rank and consummate skill on the field of battle, and who bear in their persons the bullets of the enemy, in order to reward political favorites, such men as Jefferson Davis and Campbell and Miller and Smith and a host of others, who have exhibited both undaunted courage and taken away by the suicidal course of the Administration, in passing by contemptuously the claims (we use the word emphatically) of them.” And what inducement have men to encounter these hardships and perils for the miserable pittance of seven dollars a month, the lasso – bacon and corn bread – pebble stones or drifting sands for a bed, and the sky for a roof – with hard knocks, and plenty of golden ‘Halls of Montezuma’ in the distance. It has come down to sober realities – to rough roads and narrow defiles – the knife and editors of the National Intelligencer,) cannot be recruited to its full complement, and the day of volunteering is rapidly coming to an in the field, will soon return home. How are their places even to be supplied? “The Army proper (says a letter from New Orleans to the heard no response to the call. And this is but a sample of the feeling now every where prevalent. Some ten thousand volunteers, now weeks, for example, have elapsed, since a requisition was made upon Virginia for two companies of Infantry – and we have as yet heard no response to the call. And this is but a sample of the feeling now every where prevalent. Some ten thousand volunteers, now in the field, will soon return home. How are their places even to be supplied? "The Army proper (says a letter from New Orleans to the editors of the National Intelligencer from New Orleaus: "I dread the result to our army of an advance on the capital, even not withstanding the recent victory. I do not mean as to any actual open resistance; for in all fighting we shall drive them before us but the certain effect of the constant wear and tear, from disease, battle, guerillas, hardships, and exposure, which the army has to encounter; so that, if Santa Anna knew the best policy, it would be to let us advance without opposition, to and into the capital, and let the army waste away there, as the best informed men say it would do, like a ball of snow in July, whilst the Mexicans combined their operations to cutting off or harassing convoys, curtailing our supplies, picking up stragglers, and obliging us to keep compact and in large bodies, without the ability to send out even a foraging party. When in the city of Mexico, we could not keep open the communications with Vera Cruz, or received supplies or reinforcements, except by large detachments which could fight their way; and if posts are garrisoned at intervals on the route, they must all be with a force that can resist a heavy attack, or they would be carried in detail. In the march that Gen. Scott has now undertaken, he must go in close and compact columns, as the Mexican cavalry will hover round them like Cossacks, driving in their foraging parties and small detachments, and wasting their strength and resources by this petty warfare. At present, however, it is, I believe, understood that he will not go beyond Jalapa.” Should Mexico still refuse to negotiate – and that she will do so unless the terms which it is understood the Administration has determined to insist upon dictating to her shall be greatly modified, is seriously apprehended – there is but one course left open to our Government, and that is the military occupation of the country, as suggested by the Vera Cruz Eagle. But, leaving out of view the expanse of that system, whence are we to obtain men enough to supply the annual decimation of our forces by disease and the casualties of a guerilla war? Can it be believed that we can keep an army of forty of fifty thousand men in foreign service, should the war be protracted for a series of years? – Already we see that enlistments for the regular service languish, while the enthusiasm, which, at, the commencement of the war, enable the Washington Union to proclaim that 350,000 soldiers had tendered their services to the War Department, has so far subsided, that it is now difficult to muster, in any State, a single additional regiment. – Some weeks, for example, have elapsed, since a requisition was made upon Virginia for two companies of Infantry – and we have as yet heard no response to the call. And this is but a sample of the feeling now every where prevalent. Some ten thousand volunteers, now in the field, will soon return home. How are their places even to be supplied? "The Army proper (says a letter from New Orleans to the editors of the National Intelligencer,) cannot be recruited to its full complement, and the day of volunteering is rapidly coming to an end. It is no longer considered a fine summer’s frolic, through a garden of Eden, with gold and silver images all along the road, and the golden ‘Halls of Montezuma’ in the distance. It has come down to sober realities – to rough roads and narrow defiles – the knife and the lasso – bacon and corn bread – pebble stones or drifting sands for a bed, and the sky for a roof – with hard knocks, and plenty of them.” And what inducement have men to encounter these hardships and perils for the miserable pittance of seven dollars a month, with all the "glory" thrown in? Military promotion might tempt some ambitious spirits – but that, the most powerful stimulant, has been taken away by the suicidal course of the Administration, in passing by contemptuously the claims (we use the word emphatically) of such men as Jefferson Davis and Campbell and Miller and Smith and a host of others, who have exhibited both undaunted courage and consummate skill on the field of battle, and who bear in their persons the bullets of the enemy, in order to reward political favorites, such as Hopping of New York, and Caleb Cushing of Massachusetts, who have never yet seen the face of an enemy. That this rank and crying in justice has excited universal disgust in the Army, all the accounts from the camp concur in declaring. What incentive is there...
for other to take the place of these gallant men, when they may expect to meet a like fate – to win their country’s applause by their gallantry, but, when rewards are to be bestowed, to see themselves neglected by their Government, and men taken from the pursuits of civil life – more political favorites – and placed over them in the field?

Friday, May 14, 1847 RW24i39p1c3 92 words.

GENERAL TAYLOR’S MOVEMENTS

The National Intelligencer publishes an extract of a letter from New Orleans, which states that “General Taylor is determined, (though opposed to the plan,) to advance from his present position. Two thousand iron-bound 18 gallon kegs are now (says the letter) making for him here, and many of them have gone forward, intended for carrying water across the desert, between San Luis and Saltillo. A mule, with a pack-saddle, will carry two of them, one slung on each side. A thousand horses are also being bought for him, with other large supplies.”

Friday, May 14, 1847 RW24i39p1c3 118 words.

OFFICIAL.

The following brief despatch is the only one which has been received at the Navy Department concerning the capture of Tuspan:

UNITED STATES FLAG SHIP MISSISSIPPI,
At sea, 20 miles north of Vera Cruz.
April 24, 1847.

SIR: I have the honor to inform the department that I am now on my return from an expedition against Tuspan which has resulted in a complete success – the forts and town having been carried with trifling loss, and the guns either destroyed or brought away.

Further particulars will be transmitted by the first opportunity.

With great respect, I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

M. C. PERRY,
Commanding Home Squadron,

Hon. JOHN Y. MASON,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D.C.

Friday, May 14, 1847 RW24i39p1c4 3,299 words.

MR. BOTT’S POSITION ON THE WILMONT PROVISO

For the Whig

Messrs. Editors – Previous to the recent election in this District for Congress, there was a continued and studied effort made, by the Democratic party and press, to convince the people that Mr. Botts occupied a false and dangerous position upon the Wilmont Proviso question. Repeated efforts were made, by essay writers and editorial phillippines, both in the Washington Union and Richmond Enquirer, to induce the Whig party of this Congressional district to reject Mr. Botts as an enemy to the peculiar and cherished institutions of the South.

The election is now over. Mr. Botts is the member elect, and destined to occupy a deservedly high and influential position in the next Congress. There can now be no occasion to abuse public confidence or mislead public credulity; all excitement has passed away, and the conflict of pasty prejudice may well give place to calm and enlightened judgment.

I propose, with all possible frankness, to consider and review the position which Mr. Botts really occupies on the Wilmont Proviso question; as also his position on the delicate and vexed question of slavery, as it stands affected by past legislation, and is likely to be influenced by the future action of our national government.

It seems to my mind (and I can discover in my own bosom no latent motive for deliberate self delusion) that if there is any one public
man who, more than another, occupies the vantage ground of true principle, fortified by enlightened judgment and sound practical statesmanship, on the slave question, that man is John Minor Botts. A candid review of the history of the rise and progress of this agitated question, connected with the peculiar circumstances attending the development (political) of the Wilmont Proviso question, will result in the honest conviction, on every unbiased mind, that Mr. Botts has chosen for himself, and will maintain for his country, the precise position suggested by sound wisdom and designated by the plain doctrines of the constitution.

We live in an age of rapid developments, and characterized by feverish popular excitement. The onward march of American greatness, in the path of national power and political strength, unless guided by the sure and steady lights of the constitution, may result in the ultimate overthrow of our chartered liberties – to be followed by the uncontrolled influences of wild political faction, and an unbridled lust for national aggrandizement. In the political and party tendencies of the day, the cautious and reflecting statesman can easily descry the elements of future discord, which, if left to themselves, will, sooner or later, involve the structure of our national government in inevitable ruin. The unhealthy influence of sectional and geographical prejudices, heightened and expanded by the not less dangerous manifestations of partisan fealty, betoken the rapid approach of a fearful sectional conflict, in our national councils, between the North and the South. There are not wanting those in each grand division of this approaching contest between the slaveholding and the non-slaveholding influence, who seek to nourish the feuds in their respective sections, for the most sinister purposes. In the view of such a conflict, it behoves the nation to estimate and rightly appreciate the chief actors in this, perhaps the last drama in our national career. To those who are honest and true to the constitution, in so trying a conflict, it is proper, in advance, to accord the merit due to their elevated patriotism. The bitterness of mere party strife should cease to exist at the bidding of our country – when every supporter of the constitution should be at his post.

The sectional and geographical distinctions which characterize the peculiar sentiments between the North and South – on the slave question – denote the outlines of a fearful and dangerous conflict, in our national Government, irrespective of all other party considerations. The elements which constitute the controversy rise above and reach beyond the influence of party organization; they spring, unbidden, from the moral structure of society, and fasten their baneful influences on the mind and heart of each citizen, from the cradle to the grave. Habit, education, paternal instruction, with maternal sympathies, all combine to cherish in the hearts of the people of the non-slaveholding States, those feelings, that moral tone of character, bordering on religious conviction, which has hitherto slept in restless anxiety – restrained only by a sense of political and national duty under the constitution. More than once has the concentrated influence of this individual feeling in the non-slaveholding communities, developed itself, in Congress, as a grand sectional move, antagonistical to the institution of domestic slavery as it existed in the South. – At each successive period, heretofore, has the voice of patriotism silenced the clamors of sectional discord. Mutual concessions and reciprocal compromises, between the North and South, have hitherto stayed the spirit of national discord and preserved the Union, by maintaining the constitution. It is still in the power of the friends of the Union to pursue the same course, and yet longer quell the factious disturbers of public peace, by rigidly adhering to the strict construction of constitutional provisions, and abiding by the compromises made under it.

I will now endeavor to show that Mr. Botts is one of those firm supporters of the constitution, on whose patriotic exertions both the North and South are to rely for the further maintenance of our institutions under the constitution.

The Wilmont Proviso question dates its parentage from the present war with the Republic of Mexico. Since the first commencement of this unfortunate and ill-advised war, there have been those, high in authority, and supposed to speak the sentiments of our Government, who claim, as one of [fold] made, on the part of the South, than we again hear the distinct annunciation of the sectional prejudices of the North, on the slave question. In the particular case under consideration, that anti-slavery feeling exhibited itself, in the Wilmont Proviso resolution, as an accompanying qualification, to be attached to any money advanced by Congress, as a means of procuring a peace with Mexico.

Here there are two distinct and independent questions presented. The first, as to whether any of the MEXICAN TERRITORY shall, as a consequence of peace with Mexico, be annexed to the American territory, subject to the jurisdiction and occupancy of American citizens, under the Constitution. To this proposition, Mr. Botts, with a sagacity characterized of his enlarged public views, has anticipated the recurrence of the past controversies in Congress, on the slave question, and seeks to ward off the approaching danger, by arresting its cause in its incipient development. Here, at least, he manifests no enmity to Southern institutions, while he, with the firmness and the integrity of a pure Statesman, cognizant of the source of our true national greatness, assures that the North is avers, as a Southern man, to the acquisition of any portion of the Mexican soul. He desires to adhere to our present territorial limits, and to maintain inviolate THERE, the Constitution and laws of our Government. There is certainly, in this position, no evidence of enmity to Southern institutions, as they exits and are protected under the Constitution.

Those who seek to avail him, and thus weaken his influence, assert an entirely different DOCTRINE. They, the Washington Union at their head, are using every exertion to force the public mind to the conviction, in the face of the Wilmont Proviso question, that the people of the United States are destined to receive and possess a large territorial accession, and to be enriched by the occupancy of Mexican territory, under American jurisdiction. Mr. Botts occupies the safe and conservative ground – while his political enemies occupy the dangerous and untried ground, of forcing, by national legislation, on the American people, FOREIGN TERRITORY. If we are to have enacted another joint resolution annexation, where the will of a majority, under the constitution, is to be supreme, how are the Southern institutions to subsist, when they are in a decided minority?

The proposition contained in the Wilmont proviso is a resulting consequence from the first, though in its nature independent of it. It distinctly announces that should any additional territory, to be derived by purchase or conquest from Mexico, be annexed by treaty or otherwise, then, and in that event, the North will contend for the legislative suppression of slavery, or involuntary servitude, in all such territory. Here arise the true and serious difficulty, involved in this whole question. If it ever becomes a practical one, by the actual acquisition of Mexican territory, as a part and parcel of a foreign territory, all the considerations attached to the first proposition will have ceased to exist, and a now and original question be presented to the American people. We shall then be called on to decide how far and under what restrictions the United States have the constitutional right to acquire, by treaty stipulations, resulting from a state of actual war, any portion of the territory of the conquered party to such treaty. This will be a new question, unprovided for by express grants in the constitution, and must be controlled by the sound exercise of powers derived, by necessary implication, from the granted powers in that instrument. If we consider the position occupied by Mr. Botts on this point, we shall readily perceive that he occupies safe and reliable ground – under the constitution. His position is distinctly announced in his letter before referred to:
Mr. Botts expressly denies to Congress any and all right to legislate over the subject, and occupies precisely the same ground assumed and announced by Mr. Calhoun, in his celebrated resolutions, offered in the Senate of the United States last winter. While Mr. Botts utterly denies to Congress the power to legislate over the subject of slavery, he expressly refers this question, as to each State, to be carved out of any new territory, to the people occupying such territory. Under the constitution, the only allowable condition which Congress has the power to affirm to any portion of the people of the United States, occupying the territory of the United States, is, that when they seek to be admitted into the Union, as an independent State, they shall guarantee a "Republican Constitution." This condition Congress has the express power of expressing. Any and all other conditions, touching the internal social or political institutions of the citizens of such new States, would be an assumption of power not granted by and in derogation of the constitution.

This position of Mr. Botts is in strict keeping with the constitutions, and assures to the States a perfect guarantee of their rights, political and social, reserved to them in the original compact.

Here then we discovered in Mr. Botts, not only an OPPONENT OF THE WILMONT PROVISO RESOLUTIONS, BUT AN ADVOCATE, UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF TRUE PRACTICAL STATES RIGHTS. Is the position if his political adversaries as well fortified? It would seem not. They have derided the Missouri compromise – characterized it as a fraud upon the South – asserted the right of annexing, by joint resolution, slave territory – avowed the right, and threatened its utter execution, of establishing slave territory north of 36 30 north latitude – and denied the power to Congress, in any manner, to adjust the scale of politcalequality, resulting as a consequence from the EXTENSION OF NEW SLAVE TERRITORY. – Be it remembered that the Missouri compromise has, up to the present moment, served to shield Southern institutions from every aggression on the part of the North – and Texas received its admission into the Union as a slave State by Northern voices, thus acknowledging the right to preserve our institutions in the territory which belonged, or was even supposed to belong to the United States, AS OF RIGHT, IN 1819.

Now that a new era has dawned upon our destinies as a nation, and new and foreign territory is to be acquired – when we find the Vice President of the United States asserting the right to PURCHASE AND ANNEX CUBA – the loading Democratic men of the South assert the RIGHT OF CONGRESS TO LEGISLATE OVER THE SUBJECT OF SLAVERY, AND TO ANNEX NEW AND FOREIGN TERRITORY AS SLAVE TERRITORY, the morale of this proposition is too obvious. The Missouri compromise has effected its holy purposes, and our Southern territory is nearly exhausted – more is desired, and we seek to dismember a sister Republic, that we possess ourselves of a part her territory. In this territory there gentlemen desire Congress, by legislation, to allow the existence of Slavery. Mr. Botts denies the right entirely, and refers this domestic question to the people who may hereafter occupy such territory. Is there any thing unsafe, unsound or dangerous in all this?

If we consider Mr. Botts’ position on the general question of Slavery, it is not less sound and reliable. In his recent letter, before referred to, he uses this express and emphatic language. He refuses to support or countenance any man for the Presidency or Vice Presidency who is “JUSTLY LIABLE TO THE SUSPICION EVEN OF A DISPOSITION TO INTERFERE WITH THE INSTITUTION OF SLAVERY IN ANY MANNER AS IT EXISTS UNDER THE CONSTITUTION.” Nothing could be more explicit and candid. Here we again find Mr. Botts the fearless advocate of the chartered rights and constitutional liberties of the people.

In the one case, we find him opposed to the dismemberment of the Mexican Republic, for the purpose of annexing any part of her territory to the United States – as the source of present discord and future difficulties. In the other, he assumes the high constitutional ground, that should such territory be acquired, the question as to whether Slavery shall or shall not be allowed within its borders must be referred back to the people who occupy this territory, when they seek admission into the Union. As slavery now exists, in the Union and under the Constitution. Mr. Botts is its unflinching friend, and will sustain it in every manner, and refuse to put in power any man who “is justly liable to the suspicion even of a disposition to interfere with it.” In every aspect, then, of this vexed question, it does seem to me that Mr. Botts is not only a friend to the Union, but a fearless champion of Southern rights and institutions, as they “EXIST UNDER THE CONSTITUTION.” To require him to do more, would be to violate every rule of right and unsettle every principle of sound legislation. If properly cherished and steadily pursued, the line of political action, indicated by Mr. Botts, in his recent letter, seems to afford the only safe refuge from the impending storm. Those who differ with him, in policy, on this question, may well ponder over the consequences attending their course, before they seek to poison the public mind, North and South, by a studied perversion of his conduct and principles. In the dark hour of our history as a nation – when the unadvised haste of the South or the ill-fated zeal of the North, shall have drawn around our closing existence, as a great and united people, the last struggle for constitutional liberty – there will be found at least one champion, bold to declare and mighty to defend the only safe reliance in such a crisis – the Constitution; and that champion will be JOHN MINOR BOTTS.

There is, in our system of national legislation, two fixed and reliable sources, from which the minority can even derive an adequate protection from the over–legislation of the majority. These are –

1st. The Constitution, as it is written.

2d. That system of social and political equity which results, as a necessary consequence, from the social and political compact, which gave birth to the Constitution.

In call cases, where the powers granted or withheld are expressly given or denied, the rule of legislative action is fixed, and cannot be denied, the rule of legislative action is fixed, and cannot be deviated from, on any occasion or under any circumstances, without “a deliberate, palpable and dangerous exercise of powers not granted by the constitutions.” Where, then, the constitution expressly and provides for the existence and maintenance of any one class of vested rights, necessarily attached to a portion of the American people, however few, or in whatever section of the country they may reside, Congress has no power, by subsequent legislation, to divest, impair and endanger such vested rights. Characterized and acknowledged in the constitution as being legal vested rights, with all the qualifications of property attached to their existence, no majority in Congress, however great, can assume to itself the power to disturb or destroy them. In such case, the minority will ever discover a safe and certain indemnity under the constitution, so long as the spirit of republicanism remains the chief feature in our government, or the law of the land holds sway over the passion of the multitude. Slavery “as it exists under the constitution,” is one of this class of vested rights, and will ever find a safeguard in the legislation of
Congress, so long as the constitution stands. To this standard, Mr. Botts refers this question.

In a government like ours, held together by mutual “checks and balances,” which are cemented by MORAL AFFINITIES, and strengthened by reciprocal compromises, there must be some common LEGAL MEDIUM, by which each and every antagonistical interest must be graduated; otherwise, the local and geographical interests of the different sections of the country would be in active conflict, and eventually result in the overthrow of the constitution. This legal medium happily exists, in that NATURAL POLITICAL EQUITY which flows, as a consequence, from the spirit and genius of our institutions. From this source are derived those mutual concessions, thitherto so often resorted to, in the hour of danger, by one greatest and surreal statesman as the chief palladium of our constitution. This SPIRIT of the constitution, forms around our institutions a protection and gives to them an energy. It acts on the body polite, like the pericardum to the heart, shielding its vital functions, while it deserves its own powers of action from the healthful action of that which it contains and covers.

To this spirit of mutual concessions and reciprocal compromises was the preservation of the Union indebted in the Missouri compromise. By it was the Union saved in the darkest hours of its existence. The principles of that compromise shall remain inviolate. The rights established under it shall continue protected — the institutions of the South, guarantied by it, have gradually progressed and widely extended. Then let it not be disturbed. Permit not the unhallowed spirit of local discord to sever the ties of social brotherhood, which in that celebrated compromise were wound round the columns of the Union. There are those in the South who rashly seek to disturb its principles and repudiate its validity, on the ground that it was but a NUDE PACT, giving ever thing to the North and reserving nothing to the South. Such politicians are dangerous, and are not the men to assail Mr. Botts. They are pursuing the course which is most likely to endanger the Union, jeopard Southern institutions, and sacrifice on the altar of local pride the future safeguard of our nearest and best interests.

In conclusion, permit me to add, that the write of this communication has never held any conversation with Mr. Botts on this or any other political subject — is very slightly acquainted with him — and has been induced, in the hurried moments of his daily employment, to prepare the defence of that great and distinguished friend of the constitution, simply by a desire to see him properly and honest represented before the public on this truly delicate and dangerous question. ONE OF THE PEOPLE

Richmond, May 7th, 1847.

[MSH]

Friday, May 14, 1847 RW24i39p1c6

CHARGES AND SPECIFICATIONS.

See: Niles National Register, /Niles/Nilesg1847MayJun.htm#72.189–72.190May221847LIEUT

Friday, May 14, 1847 RW24i39p1c7  111 words.

FROM SANTA FE

We have St. Louis papers of last Monday, with news from Santa Fe, received by a trader, who left eight days after Mr. Soblette, and came by the way of Fort Leavenworth. The body of Colonel Burns was found in a ravine, where it had doubtless been concealed after the perpetration of a horrid murder. He had been missed for some time. Generally speaking all was quiet at Santa Fe, and the inhabitants exhibit a more pacific feeling. Nothing had been received from Col. Doniphan and his command in Chihuahua of a later date than has already reached the United States. Another half million dollars have been remitted to Santa Fe.

[MSH]

Friday, May 14, 1847 RW24i39p1c7  175 words.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM BALTIMORE SUN

WASHINGTON, May 11, 1847.

I learn that commissioners are soon to be sent, by our government, to Mexico, with a view to ascertain the dispositions of the Mexican government in regard to peace, and to conclude a peace, if Mexico should accept our terms. – The preliminaries, thus settled, will be submitted to the Mexican constituent Congress, for ratification, and will, of course, await the sanction of our treaty making power.

Senator Benton will be one of the commissioners; Senator Soule may be another. I do not think Mr. Buchman will consent to be one of them, unless, in the meantime, Mexico should make some positive advances towards peace. He would not go to Mexico, I think, upon any uncertainty.
EVENTS IN MEXICO

A mass of highly interesting intelligence, which reached us by yesterday's Southern mail, is laid before our readers this morning. Gen. Scott is in possession of Jalapa, and of the famous Castle of Perote, both of which, as had been anticipated, surrendered without a blow. But the great question is, are the Mexican authorities and people staggered in their resolution to maintain the integrity of that Republic inviolate? This question is answered by the action of the Mexican Congress which, on the receipt of the news of Santa Anna's defeat at Cerro Gordo, held an extraordinary session, and adopted the following preamble and articles:

"The sovereign constituent Mexican Congress, in use of the full powers with which the inhabitants of the Republic, have invested it for the sacred object of saving its nationality; and as a faithful interpreter of the firm determination with which its constituents are decided to carry on the war which the United States are now making on the nation, without desisting on account of any kind of reverses; and considering that under these circumstances the first public necessity is that of preserving a centre of union to direct the national defence with all the energy that circumstances demand, and to avoid even the danger of a revolutionary power arising which might dissolve the National Union, destroy its institutions, or consent to the dismemberment of its territory, has determined to decree as follows:

ART. 1 – The Supreme Government of the Union is authorized to dictate all necessary measures for the purpose of carrying on the war, defending the nationality of the Republic, and saving the federal republican form of government under which the nation is constituted.

ART. 2 – The preceding article does not authorize the Executive to make a peace with the United States, conclude a negotiation with foreign powers, nor dispose, in whole or in part, of the territory of the Republic.

ART. 3 – Neither does it authorize him to make contracts of colonization, impose punishments, nor confer any civil or military employments other than those whose appointments are expressly entrusted to him by the constitution.

ART. 4. – Every agreement or treaty shall be null and void which may be made between the Government of the United States and any authority whatever, which, subverting the actual order of affairs, should set aside or take the plate of the legally established supreme powers of the Union.

ART. 5 – Every individual is declared a traitor, let him be a private person or public functionary, who, either in his private capacity of invested with any authority, incompetent or of revolutionary origin, may enter into treaties with the United States of America.

ART. 6 – In the event that the actual Congress finds it impossible to continue its sessions, a permanent committee shall be immediately installed, to be composed of the oldest individuals then found present of each deputation.

ART. 7 – This committee, in the absence of Congress, shall perform the duties of a Government Council; shall appoint, in case of vacancy, the person who is to take charge temporarily of the Executive powers of the Republic, shall regulate the counting and taking of the votes in the election of a new President; shall give possession to the elected person, and shall call together the national representation.

ART. 8 – The powers which the present decree confers on the Government shall cease as soon as the war is concluded."

Such (says the New Orleans Picayune) is the amount of the proceedings of the Mexican Congress, held immediately after the news reached the capital of the disastrous defeat of Cerro Gordo. The editor of El Republicano, in speaking of this extraordinary session in his paper of the 21st of April, says that "to the honor of the Legislative body, it ought to be observed, that yesterday more than eighty members assembled, and that no other than sentiments of patriotism were heard expressed. May the common danger thus unite all Mexicans, and cause to disappear even the names of our sad dissensions!"

It appears, however, that the spirit of jealousy, distrust and discord is still widely prevalent among the leading men of Mexico. One of the Mexican papers, for example, openly charges Gomez Farias, the deposed Vice President, Rejon, and others, who, it is supposed, are the leaders of a party in favor of peace, with treasonable designs; while the late defeats of Santa Anna, both at Buena Vista and at Cerro Gordo, are ascribed some to his cowardice, and by others, with more plausibility, to corruption. The Mexicans are beginning to express doubts of Santa Anna's fidelity to their cause; and they refer to the passport given to him by Mr. Polk on his return from Havana, and to the appropriation of three millions of dollars by our congress at its last session, to be used in negotiating a peace, as strongly corroborative of their freshly awakened suspicions that Santa Anna has all along had a secret understanding with Mr. Polk, to which they attribute his long inaction at San Luis Potosi, and the reverses which have since befallen the Mexican armies under his command. Whether these suspicions are so generally entertained as to lead the Mexican Government to transfer the command of the Mexican forces to some other General, it is not possible, with the imperfect information in our possession, to determine – more especially as these statements are derived from sources not altogether reliable – we mean those Mexican soldiers and citizens who
have fallen into our power, and who may be influenced, in their denunciations of Santa Anna, by a design either to conciliate or to
deceive their captors.

One thing only is certain – and that is, that the recent victory of Cerro Gordo, like all that have preceded it, has failed to produce the
slightest change of tone of the Mexican authorities. Their spirit, indeed, so far as it may be inferred from the action of their Congress,
seems to raise with each successive disaster; and, though we have no doubt the Halls of the Montezumas will soon be, if they are not
already, in our possession, we see but little reason to hope that even the subjection of their magnificent capital will induce them to
hasten for a moment to a proposition for a renewal of negotiations, coupled as that proposition will in all probability be, with such
terms as they have repeatedly heretofore declared to be wholly inadmissible.

What, then, are they to do, it may asked? It is reasonable to suppose that they will risk no more pitched battles – unless, indeed, they
shall make one more desperate effort at Puebla, and another, should that result, as it will, disastrously, in defence of the ancient
metropolis of the Republic – though perhaps Gen. Taylor, who is by this time on this march towards San Luis, with a view of forming a
junction with Gen. Scott, preparatory to the attack, should resistance be offered, upon the city of Mexico, may be compelled to take
the former city by storm. But, the city of Mexico in our possession, the Guerilla system of wartime, in which there is less to be lost by
the invaded nation, and which, if energetically and skillfully conducted, must prove so harrowing and so destructive to the invaders,
will, we presume, be resorted to. There will be no longer fields in which glory can be won, to compensate for the toils and dangers of
an active campaign, but an incessant series of attacks will [fold], who will find behind every rock and bush an armed assassín,
prepared to take advantage of the inferiority of numbers or of a momentary relaxation of vigilance – a species of warfare, of the
sanguinary character of which some idea may be formed by those who have read the details of the Peninsular campaigns, when every
city of town of note in Spain being garrisoned by French troops, the mountains swarmed with this armed banditti, ever ready to pounce
upon and destroy every accounting and foraging party, which the necessities of the garrisons compelled them frequently to send into
the country, and every detachment moving from one part of the line of communication to another.

We will not relinquish the hope, however, that Mexico may be induced, by the persuasion of neutral powers, if not by her own
conviction of the impolicy of father protracting a contest so unequal, to consent to its termination though this can scarcely be
anticipated if the invitation to do so, which it is said Mr. Polk is about to renew, shall be accompanied, as heretofore, by the
annunciation, as a sine qua non on our part, of those harsh and rigorous terms, which, with a spirit that even her enemies must
admire, in whatever contempt they may hold the feebleness of her efforts in the field, she has hitherto so promptly and indignantly
rejected. For our own part, as we have heretofore had occasion to say, we believe that the acquisition of Mexican territory is in no
manner desirable to the United States, except perhaps it may be a port upon the Pacific – and even the advantages of that, we have
no doubt have been greatly exaggerated. Even, indeed, could we be satisfied, that it would indemnify us for the expenses of the war,
we should depurate its acquisition, if we must necessarily take with it its degraded and turbulent population, to keep whom in
subjection would require an immense standing army for years but more especially, because in the final disposition of it must arise that
agitating question that has already more than once shaken the pillars of the Union, the existence of which must be more than ever, as
the signs of the times clearly indicate, endangered by its renewal, in connection with our Mexican conquests. We believe that it will be
safe and wiser ourselves to pay the expenses of the war, thrice multiplied, rather than bring into the Union a race of people so different
in all respects from our own – and especially rather than endanger its existence, by giving occasion for the revival of the discussion of
the Slavery question, in connection with the territory that may be acquired, and upon which it is impossible that the North and the
South can ever agree.

But we are going much farther into these speculations, perhaps, than the occasion justifies – certainly much farther than we intended
when we took up the pen. The drama may be perhaps soon brought to a close by the submission of Mexico, to the terms dictated by
our Government – or, if not, we must prepare for an interminable “war of races,” unless our people shall determine, as we think they
will, that the cost of the game promises infinitely to exceed the advantages of playing it out. We may soon expect to receive from
Mexico such information as will enable us to judge more accurately than we can now do of her final determination; and of the duties
which that determination will impose upon our Government, and in default of its own proper action, upon the People who it has so
 rashly and recklessly involved in this unnecessary and bloody strife.

[MSH]

Friday, May 14, 1847 RW24i39p2c2  262 words.

THE TEHUANTEPEC CANAL

We fear that Mr. Benjamin H. Wright, of New York, ha clapped an extinguisher upon the determination of the Strict Constructionists to
dig a Ship Canal across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, as soon as the “right of way” can be coerced from Mexico, as one of the
conditions of peace. In a note to the editors of the New York Courier & Enquirer, that gentleman states that a charter for this purpose
has been already granted by the Mexican Government to Don Jose Garay, who has transferred his privileges to a Company in London,
who are only awaiting the subsidence of faction in Mexico and the restoration of complete tranquility, in order to proceed with the
enterprise. Mr. Wright goes on to say

"Mexico having thus formally, for a term at least, conveyed away her right over this channel, and this having become vested in
neutrals ANTERIOR to the commencement of hostilities with the United States, it will, I suppose, become a question how far the United
States Government may interfere in respect to rights and privileges legitimately held, and each as custom hitherto has recognized in all
international intercourse. If the work was already executed and legally in the possession of foreigners, though a regularly chartered
privilege, no one would think of disturbing the latter. The right is as perfect now, although the work is not thus advanced, unless it has
reverted to Mexico and been taken advantage of by the latter on account of noncompliance with some of the conditions, working
thereby a forfeiture. Of this I am not aware."

[MSH]
The *Washington Union* recommends the sequestration of the "Church Property" in Mexico. The pretext for this semi–official foreshadowing for a forthcoming Executive edict, is that the Church has loaned the Mexican Government money, to enable it to prosecute the war! – Would the Union confiscate the property of Mexican citizens who should evince the same loyalty to their native land? If not, why shall the loyalty of the Church, to the Government which protects it, subject its property to sequestration?

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**FROM TAMPICO**

The *New Orleans Times* has the following letter from a correspondent, dated April 15, 1847:

"In my last I alluded to the discovery of a conspiracy among the Mexican police of this place, and of the arrest and imprisonment of a number of the conspirators. Since which time all their plans have been made known to the American commandant of this post, and the consequence is, that seven of the ringleaders, including the Alcade, have been banished and given to understand if they return to this city, on any pretext whatever, they will be treated as spies and shot. The "Policia de Tampico" have been abolished, with the exception of three, who have been detained in office to assist in the collection of market and other revenues, and a detail from the military, composing the City Guard, substituted in their place.

A private of company C. named Rufus Parker, was shot by the guard on the night of the 3d instant. He was under arrest and in the guard house, and seized one of the muskets of the guard and threatened to shoot any man who attempted to lay their hands on him. After being repeatedly ordered to put down the musket and deliver himself up, and being in the act of firing on the guard, the officer in command ordered the guard to fire, which order was instantly obeyed, and he fell dead on the spot, a ball piercing his heart."

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A proposition was made to Gen. Scott before he started from Vera Cruz by Lieut. Maynard of the Navy, that he should be permitted to organize a company of 50 sailors, armed with revolvers and boarding pikes a block or so, and a little rope, to make a whip or pulleys, with which he would pledge himself to scale a height and whip up a field piece while a soldier would be looking at it. He proposed taking boarding pikes because he said, a sailor could not shoot a musket to hit the broadside of a house, and a pike being light, would answer the double purpose of charging and assisting to climb the side of any hill or mountain; he maintained that they would be more useful than soldiers, for such purposes, because more active and more enthusiastic. There was something so perfectly novel and original in the proposition, that the General was halt inclined at first to accede to it, but finally declined it; after complimenting him very highly for the originality and boldness of the project.

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**HIGHLY IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.**

*From the N. O. Delta, May 6.*

Continued triumphant progress of the American Areas – Jalapa takes without a struggle – Perote, the powerful Perote, delivered up to Gen’l Worth, with all its Armament, without a shot from the Enemy – Reported Removal of Gen. Santa Anna from the command of the Mexican Army – Particulars of the taking of Tuspan – Probable junction contemplated between Gen’ls Scott and Taylor.

The U.S. transport steam–ship *New Orleans*, Captain Wright, from Vera Cruz, arrived last evening. She left on the evening of the 29th ult., and brought us our correspondence and the latest papers to the day of her sailing. – We proceed to lay their interesting contents before our readers.

We would, in the meantime, state that we have conversed with an intelligent passenger, who came over on the New Orleans. He says, that he understood Gen’l Taylor had succeeded in communicating with General Scott, and that the object of his despatch was the
formation of a mutual understanding between them, with a view of joining their forces preparatory to a descent upon the city of Mexico.

Santa Anna boasts that there is still another Thermopylae on the road between Puebla and Mexico.

Scott pushes on without stop or falter; the destructive storm at Cerro Gordo delays not a day or an hour his onward march; with a boldness, an energy, and a masterly activity beyond all parallel, he has passed through the considerable town of Jalapa, traversed the dangerous and difficult road thirty miles beyond, and appears with the old vanguard of the army, under the gallant Worth, before the far–famed castle of Perote. This Bastile, so renowned in Mexican history as the gloomy asylum of disgraced and unfortunate Revolutionists, of the unhappy victims of anarchy and table rage, but still more familiar to all Americans as the dungeons of those brave men whose cruel wrongs gave the first impulse to the spirit whence this war sprung – this strong prison castle, with its battery of enormous guns and powerful defences, surrenders to our arms without a blow. If one stone still stands upon another of this gloomy monument of Mexican servility and imbecility, the flag of the "stars and stripes" waves over it, and American cannon and American bayonets bristle around its now invincible walls. Not here does Scott’s army rest its wearied limbs. A three days’ march will precipitate our victorious columns into the warlike town of the ancient Tlascalana, Puebla – whence marched the valiant warriors with whose bodies, slain in hand–to–hand combat. Cortez made his famous "Bridge of Corpses" – with its 60,000 inhabitants, will yield to our little army. And then – but let us look no further – let us await until the event will justify it, before we raise the cry of exultation and rejoicing over the last great achievement left to American valor – the capture of the city of the Montezumas!

[Correspondence of the Delta]

Letters from Chaparral.

JALAPA, Mexico, April 21, 1847

Eds Delta – I arrived at this lovely place yesterday, and found that Gen. Twiggs had hoisted the American flag in the city the day before. He followed the retreating heroes of Cerro Gordo to within a few miles of Jalapa, when all traces of them, as a body, disappeared, and he encamped for the night within three miles of the town that evening, and entered and took possession of it early the next morning.

Santa Anna did not pass through Jalapa, but, in company with Ampudia and Torrejon, turned off to the left at his hacienda, and halted for the night at the "nine mile pass," which was being fortified, but which, on second consideration, it was deemed prudent to evacuate. This evacuation took place yesterday morning, and in the evening Col. Harney’s dragoons took possession of the Pass. – Gen. Worth following in their footsteps. A number of small arms was taken at the Pass, but they are all of little or no value.

Gen. Worth, it is said, will move on to Perote, at which place many think he will have a fight, as it is reported here that additional defences are being made.

All along the road between Perote and Puebla, the Mexicans here say we will be opposed, and contrary, to the general belief, it is said the commander–in–chief will shortly move in that direction.

The list of killed and wounded, on our side, is much larger than was at first reported – it is over 350. Colonel Childs is the military governor of Jalapa.  [JLM]

I send you a Mexican paper. There are two days later dates here, but this contains all the important information.

CHAPARRAL.

JALAPA, April 22, 1847.

Gen. Worth approached last evening within four or five leagues of Perote, and entered the city today. We had accounts last night that it had been evacuated by the soldiery, who spiked all the guns before leaving.

I am extremely glad to have it in my power to state to you that Gen. Shields has improved much since my last, and Lieut. Hammond, who came from him this evening, thinks there is probability of his recovery.

Most of the wagons here will leave for Vera Cruz in the morning, and if it is the intention to remove early, it will retard it for ten or twelve days. [JLM]

The number killed our wounded, on our side, will not fall far short of 400. I have collected about two–thirds of the names and will send you a copy when it is complete. The alteration in some of the reports plays the devil even with what I have, but in two days, all will be right.

CHAPARRAL.

JALAPA, April 23 – 10 A.M.
Eds. Delta – An express has just got in from Perote. General Worth reached that town yesterday, at 11 o’clock, A.M. He found it completely evacuated by the soldiers of the enemy, and a Col. Vasquez left behind to surrender it with decency. An immense number of small arms, the big guns of the castle and city, and ammunition were taken possession of. It was unfounded, the report that the guns had been spiked in the castle; they were found in excellent order. Gen. Ampudia, with about 3,000 cavalry, in a wretched condition, was near the town when our troops entered it, when he put off.

Santa Anna had not been in Perote since the fight at Sierra Gordo, and he is supposed to be somewhere in the mountains.

    In haste,          CHAPARRAL

[From the Vera Cruz Eagle for the 28th ult.]

We understood yesterday that information had been received at Jalapa, that Gen. Worth had thrown his outposts towards Puebla, and would March immediately in that direction himself. We are somewhat doubtful as to its truth, however, not being able to trace it to any positive source. The latest information received from Perote, which might be relied on, (we think) is that issued by us in an extra on Monday last, and republished in this day’s paper. Genls. Scott, Patterson, Twiggs, Pillow and Quitman were in Jalapa. Genl. Shields is still in a very doubtful state in an hospital on the battle-field of Cerro Gordo. Rumor says that Puebla will yield without discharging a gun; if so, they will show more wisdom that has been evidenced by several other Mexican cities, with hardly a hope of success against us.

It is now certain that Santa Anna is at Orizaba, a little town at the lost of the mountain of that name, with about 1,000 troops around his standard. He was seen at that place on Sunday morning last, and was heard to express his desire of remaining there until he could insure a sufficient force to make another stand. In regard to the sincerity of his assertion much doubt is entertained, as it is supposed that he is exceedingly desirous to leave the country, but fears to attempt a movement of this kind openly, lest he should be assassinated immediately, which will no doubt be his fate ultimately, however long he may prolong it. –He will not dare return to the city of Mexico, is the universal opinion, until some success should crown his efforts to redeem his thousand promises to the deluded people and the clergy, the latter being now his only backers.

JUAN MORALES, General of brigade of the Mexican Republic – To the Nation and her Allies –It having arrived to my knowledge that some chiefs and officers of the invading army of the United States, which has operated against Vera Cruz, say that Gen Scott had previously advised me that the families could leave to avoid the evils attendant on a bombardment and consequently, those which have happened are chargeable upon me.

In order that neither now, nor at any future time, any accusation of justice may stigmatize the defence of Vera Cruz, I declare that it is false that any such advice was given – that the only communication I have received from Gen Scott in general terms, to surrender; that even the ? prevented from leaving the place; and that if the Mexican families could have left, the enemy would not have occupied the place without first burying its defenders in the ruins.

    Jalapa, April 4, 1847.
    JUAN MORALES.

COMMAND OF THE MEXICAN ARMY –It is generally reported that the Mexican government have removed Gen. Santa Anna from the chief command of the army, and appointed Gen. Valentine Canalizo as his successor.

Vera Cruz Chronicle, 28th ult.

By a person just arrived from Orizaba, we know that Gen Santa Anna arrived there with about 200 dragoons, and immediately commenced recruiting, having under his command about 6,000 men of the fugitives from Cerro Gordo. He also assures us that a correspondence had been seized by the authorities at Mexico, addressed by a great personage to Senor Rejon, offering a certain sum of he would bring about an early peace, and to place all the requisite means at his disposal.

In Puebla Gen. Inclan is commanding –They are fortifying the town for resistance. – Ibid.

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[Correspondence of the Commercial Times]

VERA CRUZ, April 27.

A letter from Mr. Black, American Consul at the city of Mexico, was received today; by a friend of his, in this city, from Tampico, at which place he had taken refuge after being harshly driven from the capital, and prevented from taking the road to Vera Cruz. He will probably be in the U. States before this letter is received; it is, therefore, unnecessary to enter into particulars regarding his ?. It is a matter that give me no surprise: I have only wondered that he was not sent off months ago. During the whole of the war, Mr. Black has kept up a regular correspondence with the Government of the U. States, keeping it well informed of the facts occurring about him, and, in fact, pretty such throughout Mexico; for his correspondence has been extensive, and his acquaintance with the people and States, thorough. Perhaps there is no other man who could have been so serviceable, and no other people who would have permitted him to hold the ground which he has too long occupied.
April 28 – Our news today, from the interior, is of but little importance. Reports of more murders on the road, and the confirmation of some, of yesterday’s rumors, regarding the movements of Gen Scott and Santa Anna, are the only ones worthy of notice. It is said, that Gen. Worth has penetrated 18 leagues beyond Perote, but I cannot find any one who knows it to be so.

Gen Scott is said to have despatched a messenger to Mexico, or to the point occupied by the legislative Juncto, with the old song, and the olive branch. No go, of course.

Yours, very respectfully,
INDICATOR.

April 29 – At express is in this morning, bringing intelligence of the continued advance of Gen. Worth, and some disconnected rumors from the city of Mexico.

The citizens are throwing up walls – of ?, I fancy – around the place, and expect the soldiers to defend them. How far their expectations will be realized, we may judge by the past.

The public voices is openly heard in opposition to the late Mexicans demigod, Santa Anna. ”Down with the coward!” “Down with the traitor!” are the cries that are now heard in the capital.

I am very happy to learn by this express that General Shields is not dead; he is improving. The steamer is expected to move every moment, and I must close.

Yours,
INDICATOR.

From the Picayune, May 6

The vomito had not broken out in Vera Cruz.

The New Orleans brought over Lieut. Col. Don Jose Maria Mata, Lieuts. Ant. Piedras, Henry Mejia, and Bartolome Amable, Mexican prisoners, under charge of Major H. G. Beanett, Paymaster U.S.A., and W P Clements. These officers were taken prisoners at Cerro Gordo. Gen. La Vega and others were shortly to leave Vera Cruz for the United States.


Lieut. Andrew Ross, late of the Westmooreland Guards, 2d Pennsylvania Regiment New York, died on the voyage.

[Editorial Correspondence of the N. O. Picayune.]

JALAPA, Mexico, April 25, 1847.

The Mexicans here, one and all, denounce Santa Anna as a coward, a traitor, and everything else that is bad; and I verily believe that a majority of them would rejoice exceedingly had General Scott captured him the other day and hung him upon the first limb strong enough to bear his weight. That he is playing them false you cannot beat out of their heads– that he has sold the battles of Buena Vista and Sierra Gordo for a consideration they are equally confident, and in proof they are internally talking about the $300,000,000. They do not understand why it was that President Polk allowed him to pass freely into Vera Cruz from Havana, unless there was bribery and corruption at the bottom – the idea that our troops are a whit better than theirs, or that they can whip them, even two to one, when posted behind batteries, has never entered their heads – and hence, as a better excuse than none, there are many of them who say that they have been sold by the “Hero of Tampico.” Again, there are doubtless many – perhaps the larger portion – who have lost all confidence, either in his honesty or bravery; and although they may not desire a peace with us, they are still anxious to get rid of the tyrant on any terms. Such is the state of feelings here in Jalapa.

The diligencia or stage coach is just in from the city of Mexico, from whence they have received papers up to the 22d. inst. The news of the terrible defeat at Cerro Gordo had reached the capital, and which astonished and overwhelmed all classes; the tone of the papers, of the public men, and of the Congress itself, would also shoe that it had served to inflame the people still more against the United States. Anaya has been appointed provisional President. I believe, and has been gifted with full powers on every point except that in relation to making peace with the United States –this no one thinks of Congress in extraordinary session, has even declared any one a traitor who talks of peace. The editor of El Republicano says that we may take Puebla, that we may even capture the city of Mexico, but there must be no peace. The duty of the people is to see their cities sacked and destroyed, and themselves immolated, before they talk of peace. The guerrilla system of warfare appears to be recommended on all sides as their only salvation: by this means they drove out the Spaniards, and in the same way they say they must expel the inquisitors, usurping and grasping North Americans from their sacred soil. Better all die, and be blotted from the seals of nations, than come to any terms an long as single hostile front is on their soil of a hostile vessel is on their coast – such in the language of the papers, of the civil bodies, and the military.
From a passenger, a Spaniard, who arrived in the diligencia, we learn that is yet they have done little to nothing towards fortifying Mexico. He also says that there is a strong party in favor of peace, although the members hardly care above themselves. There are no regular troops of consequence on the route, and all those who escape at Cerro Gordo, with the exception of a portion of cavalry, have dispersed in every direction. On the 20th April immediately after the receipt of Santa Anna’s defeat, Gen. Mariano Salas called a meeting of officers to devise some measure by which to preserve the nation from other obliteration. No one here thinks that the Mexicans can ever make another stand, and give another great battle, but the impression is prevalent that small parties will be organized to annoy the roads, cut off the supplies, and kill and stragglers. How great, in this case, is the necessity for two or three, of ever one regiment of Texans.

G.W.K

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JALAPA, Mexico, April 25, 1847 – Afternoon.

I have borrowed the copies of El Republicano for an hour. They are dated at the city of Mexico, April 21 and 22, and the latter gives a full account of the battle of Cerro Gordo.

The Mexican particulars of the combat as usual, are peculiarly rich. They say that Santa Anna sustained the combat with 6000 men against 14,000, and fought valiantly to the very last. When, finally, he found himself entirely surrounded by enemies, he forced himself entirely surrounded by enemies, he forced a passage through “los Yankees” with a column of the 4th Regiment of Infantry of line! The fact, as every one knows, is that Santa Anna left early – all the cutting he did was to cut the saddle mule from his coach, and then cut and run.

The Mexicans admit that they had two Generals killed, but give no name save that of Vasquez.Cols Cosio and Calatayud are also named as among the killed. Gen Scott’s loss, on the 17th and 18th, is put down at over 4000, while the loss of the Mexicans is admitted to be 2000 men in killed and wounded. They say that the Americans fought like hordes of savages, killing all that presented themselves, whether wagoners, old me or women.

Don Pedro Maria Anaya has been appointed temporary President [presidente sustituto]. One of his first acts was to concede full pardon to all prisoners who have been confined for political offences since 1821, and entire forgetfulness of the past.

Gen. Salas, who was President ad interim before the arrival of Santa Anna from exile, has issued a proclamation announcing that he is empowered to raise a guerilla corps, and calls upon all good Mexicans to join his standard. In his concluding sentence he says that “war to death, without pity, shall be the devise of the guerilla warfare of vengeance!”

President Anaya has issued a grand proclamation to the Mexican nation, calling upon one and all to turn out to the rescue. He dwells particularly upon the achievements of their fathers – the fathers of the present generation – and earnestly petitions their sons to do likewise.

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JALAPA, Mexico, April 28, 1847.

The diligencia came this morning from Perote but from no pint on the other side, as the Governor of Puebla has ordered it to cease running this way. Passengers came through however, bringing papers and verbal news and in as concise a form as possible I will give you the amount of the intelligence.

Among other rumors brought by passengers is one to the effect that Mr. Bankhead, the British Minister, has renewed his offers of meditation between Mexico and the United States, and that when the last diligencia left the city of Mexico the Congress was acting upon his propositions, whatever they may have been. Not withstanding the fixed and denunciatory tones of the public press, there is certainly a peace party in Mexico, and there may be something in this report of English intervention in the distracted affairs of Mexico.

Col Garland’s brigade left the Castle of Perote yesterday morning at daylight for Tepe Aguaca, and will reach that place tonight. –Major Smith’s light battalion, a troop of dragoons, and Colonel Duncan’s battery accompanied Col. G. We learn here that General Worth has been very successful in collecting supplies.

An intelligent man with whom I have conversed, says that the Mexicans neither will of can make any opposition at Puebla. The population is one the worst in Mexico, and the most inimical to strangers; yet the dreadful defeat at Cerro Gordo has completely paralized them. At the city of Mexico, a few light breast–works have been thrown up not only as you enter the place by the Vera Cruz road, but on the road leading to the Convent of our Lady of Guadaloupe, but nothing like a regular system of defense has been as yet undertake. –Not only the Government but the citizens appear, with all their vaunting, to have come stupid at the succession of defeats which have be taken their country, and know not which way to turn nor what to do. Santa Anna has written to the Government from Orizaba, stating that he has 1500 men, and wants reinforcements and money; but his demands have been unheeded. At the city of Mexico, as well as in other places, the people appear to have lost much of their confidence in the “Hero of Tampico,” and many have openly accused him of cowardice at Cerro Gordo, as well as of having solid the battle to the Americans. I am living at the Casa de Dilligencias, or General Stage House, and at breakfast this morning some of the foreigners were peaking of a body of men, under Gen. Leon, who were on the march from Oajaca to join Santa Anna, and they also said that Leon had shot two muleteers on the plea that they had aided the Americans.
Majors Borland and Gaines, Capt. Clay with the other prisoners taken at Incarnacion some months since, are said to be at liberty in the city of Mexico. No less than six of the party, as it is reported, have already been assassinated by the Mexicans.

Senor Atocha, who came out from the United States with some propositions of peace; or something of the kind – it turned out to be a species of tools errand, at all events – catches it severely in El Republicano of the 19th inst.

The sending of such a person as Atocha to this country – a man universally hated and despised by all save a few Government stock jobbers – was certainly most humiliating to the people here and say thing but calculated to open a door for a peaceful settlement of difficulties; and hence no one can blame the editor of El Republicano, or any other editor, for openly speaking their minds in relation to such an agent. But the writer in El Republicano has neglected to inform us on one important point.

It is difficult sending to Vera Cruz since the outrages commenced upon the roads. I think I shall spend you a package of letters and papers tomorrow by stage, however, although I may wait for a regular wagon train.

Yours, &c.
G.W.K.

[Special Correspondence of the Picayune.]

VERA CRUZ, April 29, 1847.

GENTLEMEN – An express arrived last evening from Lieut. Dixon in command of 102 convalescent soldiers from the hospitals in this city on their road to join their respective regiments at and near Jalapa, stating that the party has been attacked by about 300 Mexicans. The express rider met, two miles this side of where he left Lieut. D., a train of about forty wagons, in charge of Capt. Croghan Ker. – Some fears are entertained for a train that was some five or six hours ahead of them. In fact, the Mexicans had great rejoicing amongst themselves last evening in consequence of the capture of one of our wagon trains by the enemy. Their accounts had it that our men (the guard) has been literally cut in pieces; but we have little faith in anything that comes from such sources.

The Mexicans have a fine chance now to work upon our trains if they could only raise courage enough to do it. Col. Wilson’s force at this place it too weak to spore many from it, and if the enemy should, go to work with determination they might trap a handsome reward almost without opposition. The scarcity of cavalry is severely felt – The New Orleans on her last trip from Tampico found it necessary to throw overboard about thirty of the best horses belonging to the Tennessee cavalry during a severe northern. A few cases of vomito are said to have occurred, but is a very mild form. [MUL] & [MSH]

From the Vera Cruz Flag, 28th ult.
Capture of Tuspan.

See Niles National Register, /Niles/Nilesg1847MayJun.htm#72.194May291847TheCaptureof

From the N. O. Delta, 6th inst.

Later from Gen. Taylor’s Army.

We yesterday conversed with an officer direct from Saltillo. He left there on the 14th ult. The force stationed there and at Buena Vista, under command of Gen. Wool, was composed of the 1st and 2d Illinois regiments, the 2d Kentucky regiment, the 2d and 3d Indians, and the Arkansas cavalry. The 1st and 2d Illinois were about to leave; the term of enlistment of the whole of them will have expired between the 1st and 20th proximo.

The artillery force that was in the battle of Buena Vista, are still stationed there as are also Col. May’s dragoons. A squadron of the latter, numbering some 200, under Lt. Rucker, made a scout in the adjoining country. They found Gen. Minon in the neighborhood of Encarnacion, at the head of a thousand of fifteen hundred lancers. They thought to draw a fight from Minon, but were unsuccessful. Three of the party, who separated themselves from the main body, got killed before they returned to the camp by some prowling Mexicans who hung about their lines.

The troops at Buena Vista and Saltillo were in excellent health; and the wounded, who were daily visited by Gen. Wool, and who saw that all their wants were attended to, were rapidly improving. With the wounded Mexicans, who are in a separate hospital, attended by their own surgeons, it is different. The place is in a most filthy condition; the American governor of the town had to compel the alcalde to pay more attention to their wants and to the cleanliness of the place.

Gen. Taylor is still at the Walnut Springs. He has heard of his nomination for the Presidency by several presses and persons in the United States, but avoids referring to it or saying aught about it. He evidently appears chagrined, but at or about what he does not communicate to those about him. Our informant left his camp on the 18th ult.

The Kentucky Rifles, who were then at the Walnut Springs, were to start for Camargo, on their way home, with the next down train.

The headquarters of Humphrey Marshall’s Kentucky cavalry was Cerralvo. Tom Marshall’s Company was at Camargo. But few or none
Friday, May 14, 1847 RW24\(\text{p}4\)c2 910 words.

NEW MEXICO AND CHIHUAHUA.

Unless fresh bodies of troops have been already sent to both these point – and we have heard of nothing of the kind – it will be impossible to retain possession of wither of them – the term of service of the volunteers already there having expired, or being on the eve of expiration, meet if not all of whom will refuse to re–enlist. Indeed, we take it for granted, form Col. Doniphan’s last official letter to the War Department, that Chihuahua has been already abandoned, and is again in quiet possession of the Mexicans – a fact, if it be so, which may well suggest the enquiry, why was it captured at all, at so much hazard to the small body of troops by which that adventurous enterprise was accomplished? We should be glad to have this question answered by those who boast of the “eminent ability” with which “Mr. Polk has conducted the war.”

So far as the “territory” of New Mexico is concerned, its abandonment can be no cause of regret, if its worthless be considered, notwithstanding it appears to be conceded on all hands that its “re–annexation” to the United States is to be a sine qua non of peace. A letter from an officer in our army at Santa Fe, to the editors of the St. Louis Republican, speaks in anything but flattering terms of that “beautiful but unfortunate” portion of the State of Texas, which Mr. Polk permitted to remain in the hands of the Mexicans so long after the admission of Texas into the Union, and to which, after taking possession of it, in utter contempt of “State Rights,” he gave a separate territorial organization. He says:

"It is to be hoped that the Province of New Mexico will not be retained by the United States, on any mistaken estimate of the value of the country. It is supposed that this is one of the finest grazing countries known; yet we are told that the reason why we cannot procure fresh meat is, that our animals have destroyed all the grass. Now, there have not been, in all, more than eight or nine thousand horses, mules and oxen, brought here from the United States, and we have since consumed a considerable number of the Mexican stock; besides which, nearly all of our animals have starved to death. If the animals brought by us have consumed all the grass, is it not manifest that there could have been but little of it to depend on? Mr. Gregg, usually so correct in his ‘Commerce of the Prairies,’ overrates entirely the resources of the province in respect to its facilities for supporting flocks and herds. It is truly almost worthless country.

The troops now in New Mexico, have mostly been paid up to the last of December, and are nearly unanimously in favor of getting back to the States as soon as possible. You will get accounts of this El Dorado, when all get back, who do not die, that will perhaps open the eyes of the public. You may talk of a road to California, of ‘extending the area of freedom,’ or of any other object, for which it may be considered proper to retain this province; but you will find it difficult to convince many of the American soldiers who have been here, that New Mexico, for any purpose, is worth half the lives already lost in it.

It is a most miserable country, in my opinion, full of a most miserable population, as contrasted with the United States, or any other part of the globe that a man of taste and knowledge should desire to live in. About 1200 soldiers, even after a treaty of peace, will be necessary to preserve securely the conquest. This army must be brought from the United States, kept here all the time, and in a great measure subsisted on provisions brought from the States. There must also be a civil government supported. It will thus cost, in one way or another, about two millions of dollars, or nearly so, to the United States every year."
The quantity of duty-paying goods now consumed in this province, is not $100,000 in value per annum. The long trains of wagons for the 'Santa Fe trade,' as it is called, are NOT loaded for New Mexico, but for Chihuahua, Durango, and other departments south of this. But suppose one hundred thousand dollars worth of duty paying goods annually consumed in New Mexico, they would yield to the treasury at 20 percent ad valorem – the highest rate of the low tariff party – exactly twenty thousand dollars. This would be the annual revenue from a country costing two millions of dollars every year! I have given a high estimate of the duty paying goods to be consumed. This year they cannot, I think, amount to thirty thousand dollars in value.

What a magnificent acquisition to the Union we have made! But I regret that I cannot, at this time, go into other particulars to sustain my opinion of its utter worthlessness.

Ah! but, says some one, there are the minerals. Those, too, I suspect, most strongly, have been exaggerated. At present, I shall pass them by; but will endeavor, before my return to the States, to investigate the subject. Heretofore, the mines have certainly not been very productive. The specie which the Santa Fe traders carry to the States, is drawn from Chihuahua, Durango, Sonora, &c."

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Friday, May 14, 1847 RW24i39p4c2  476 words.

PEACE OR WAR.

This question is briefly discussed by the "Eagle," a paper recently established at Vera Cruz by American citizens. – Its remarks are not without interest at this moment – particularly as it presents the question in a practical aspect, and in such a manner as will enable the people to form some idea of the probable cost of the war, if it be protracted, as many of the most sagacious minds fear it may be, indefinitely. The Eagle thus treats the subject:

"Will peace follow our most glorious success at Sierra Gordo? This is a reflection which occupied the thoughts of every rational man. Some, however, these are, who are well acquainted with Mexican politics, that believe otherwise; and that the people of this country, rather than enter into terms of peace, either honorable or dishonorable to it and the United States, would prefer a military occupation. Well, then, be it so – it behoves the Government of the U States to look around; let it sum up the force in time, if requisite, and see if that plan can be accomplished. We think, candidly speaking, the following force will be required only.

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Making in all 17 regiments, amounting, according to the present regulations of the United States, to 40,000 infantry, which to a certainty would be enough to carry out the military occupation of the country. The expenses of these 40,000 troops will amount to $15,000,000 per annum, which we shall have to pay."

The Eagle goes on to say that our Government can raise twenty millions of revenue by customs and direct taxes, besides the sales of the public lands in Mexico; and if this be so, it will of course be a money-making job, rather than a tax! But, as the New Orleans Bulletin well remarks, this estimate is about as wild as that of Secretary Walker, who expects a revenue of $15,000,000 from the "Mexican tariff," which, usurping the legislative power, the strict constructionists now wielding the Executive power in this country, have recently enacted.

But independently of the question of expense – itself one, it will be conceded, of no little magnitude – will the American people, losing sight of that just jealousy of large standing armies, which has always characterized them, sanction a policy which requires, for the occupation of our conquests in Mexico alone, fifty regiments of armed mercenaries, who, some ten or twenty years hence, under some military adventure, may return from foreign service to employ their parricidal arms against the institutions of their own country? [MSH]

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Tuesday, May 18, 1847 RW24i40p1c1  676 words.

OBJECT OF WAR.

It has been impossible to obtain from the Administration or any of its champions an answer to the interrogatories, frequently propounded to them, how did the War commence? who began it? what is its object? At one moment, it is true, we are told that "war..."
exists by the act of Mexico;” but in the next, a long list of wrongs and injuries, inflicted upon us by that country, are detailed, for the purpose of showing our own obligation to strike in defence of our outraged rights and honor. These positions, it is manifest, are directly antagonistical, and cannot both be true – though each of them is urged as if neither was false. Just so it is in regard to the objects of the war. At one time we are told it is to secure “indemnity” for the capture and confiscation of the property of our citizens, and for the expenses of the war into which we have been forced; while at another, all ideas of “conquest” is repudiated. The facts of the case, we shrewdly suspect, have looked out, through the indiscretion perhaps of a Washington correspondent of the New York Herald, who has frequently shown a surprising knowledge of the movements and plans of the Administration, derived doubtless from his intimacy with some person who has access to official sources of information.

He says, "that the war may be assumed to have been commenced for the acquisition of California; and the march of Gen. Taylor to the Bravo, ostensibly for the protection of this frontier, may have looked to results far more comprehensive and magnificent.” * * * “The march of Gen. Taylor to the Rio Grande was designed to act as a persuasive to the reception of Mr. Slidell. It was thought his presence in front of Matamoros might be an inducement to the Mexicans to negotiate; as the only means of escaping a war with the United States, so powerful in all the elements of war. It was expected, that, in negotiations thus brought about, the cession of California, in quit-claim for indemnities, would be easily attainable. In December, 1845, the Administration did not dream of overrunning Mexico; but it was hopeful of intimidating the Mexicans into a treaty and the acquisition of California, without war, and without manufacturing Whig Generals to perplexy Father Ritchie with regard to the succession.”

That this development, whether derived from official sources or not, is the key which solves the whole mystery, we don not doubt. The march to the Rio Grande, of which the war is the result, was never intended, we believe, to lead to hostilities. It was not believed that Mexico would dare resist a nation which had more than once boasted of its ability to march to the Halls of Montezumas with a single regiment in six weeks. It was designed as a menace to induce Mexico to cede California to the United States, as "Indemnity" for the greatly exaggerated claims of our citizens against her, which it was evident she was unable, though she had manifested her willingness, to pay in cash. Had Mr. Polk anticipated the events that have occurred, we are entirely persuaded that Gen. Taylor would have been permitted to remain at Corpus Christi ("the Western frontier of Texas," by Mr. Polk’s own admission) until other means had been resorted to for the purpose of inducing the Mexican authorities to acquiesce in the cherished purpose of the Administration still farther to extend the "area of freedom.” It is unfortunate for both parties that he understood both the spirit and the prowess of the Mexican nation – and it is degrading to our national character that he resorted to the arts of a bully to alarm a week neighbor into a compliance with his designs. It is not the first time that the error, scarcely pardonable in a Government, of holding an adversary in contempt, has led to such grave and perilous consequences for which the President and his advisors will be held responsible by his constituents and by posterity.

[MSH]

Tuesday, May 18, 1847 RW24i40p1c4  77 words

UNTITLED

The Union contradicts a prevalent rumor that Gen. Scott had been ordered to halt for the present at Jalapa. No one doubts, it says, that Gen. Scott will push on to the capital, and that he will take it. "By this time, in all probability, (exclaims the Organ,) he is treading the imperial capital of the Aztecs” – a new, and certainly not an improved version of the old song about "reveling in the halls of the Montezumas.”

[MSH]

Tuesday, May 18, 1847 RW24i40p1c4  244 words.

UNTITLED

A very long and deeply interesting account, in detail, of the great battle of Buena Vista, from the pen of one of the Arkansas officers appears in the Little Rock Gazette. The writer, after a vivid sketch of the scenes on the battlefield, during those two days of fearful carnage, says:

"No man living could have won the battle but General Taylor. His presence gave confidence to the men. While he sat there unconcernedly on his white horse, a target for the balls and yet unhurt, every man felt like May, when he said to his men at the gloomiest moment – ‘men, the day can be gained yet, and the dragoons have to do it.’ – The same confidence would not have been felt in any other man; and to Gen. Taylor it is owing that our arms are not disgraced, and this brave little army sacrificed. What punishment from an indignant people does not that administration deserve which, either from spite, malice, fear of a successful General’s popularity, or stupidity, voluntarily and without any necessity, leaves 5000 men hundreds of miles in an enemy’s country to be sacrificed! It is frightful to think of! Had we been defeated, not one man in ten would have reached the Rio Grande. How many homes and hearths would have been made desolate – how much misery and run, cause by its insane acts, would have drawn down legions of curses, loud and deep, on the Administration’s imbecile head!”

[MSH]
**THE VALLEY OF EL PASO**

The *Washington Union* publishes a letter addressed by John T. Hughes, a resident on the Del Norte, “for the consideration of the War Department,” giving a glowing description of the fruitful valley of El Paso, in Mexico, and showing “its importance to the United States.” Of course it must be annexed – especially as Mr. Hughes asserts that “it would be an act of charity to the people to rid them of their present Governors, and throw around them the shield of American protection.” It may, to be sure, be asked, whether Mr. Polk is a political Don Quixotte, charged with the charitable mission of ridding the world of bad Governors, and forcing “trial by jury” upon all the oppressed people of this Continent at the point of the sword. If so, some people might think that he had better begin at home!

[MSH]

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**Tuesday, May 18, 1847 RW24i40p1c4   230 words.**

**GEN. LA VEGA.**

The *Courier des Etats Unis* contains a paragraph in relation to this distinguished Mexican General, which seems to verify the opinion of the

“The ancient philosopher,

Who had read Alexander Ross over,
And swore the world, as he could prove,
Was made of fighting and of love,”

For, according to this authority, it would appear, that the gallant Mexican, at the very time he was fighting our countrymen in Mexico, was himself subdued by one of our equally irresistible countrywomen.

Says the “Courrier,” speaking of the captured Mexican Generals, “among them was Gen. La Vega, who, who, doubtless calling to mind his previous captivity, appeared delighted to return to the United States, and chatted quite gaily with Gen. Scott the very evening of the battle.”

“If certain chronicle is to be believed, which we have reason to think is predicated on good information, General La Vega goes to New Orleans to recommence a pleasant, sweet romance, which his release and return to Mexico had interrupted, and the denouement of which seemed postponed to the conclusion of the war. This is the explanation of the resignation with which he meets his new captivity.”

Gen. La Vega, perhaps, may settle down in New Orleans, and, after having served a sufficiently long apprenticeship as citizen of the United States, represent Louisiana in Congress. Why not, as well as Gen. Houston, Texas? – *NY Tribune.*

[MSH]

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**Tuesday, May 18, 1847 RW24i40p2c1,   439 words.**

**THE NEWS FROM MEXICO.**

We lay before our readers the intelligence from Mexico, received by yesterday’s Southern mail. The most important item of the news is a statement, which it appears was received at Vera Cruz by express, just as the steamer was about to sail, that a deputation from the city of Mexico had waited on Gen. Scott and requested him to take the capital under his protection. This statement is so vague and indefinite, that we are unable to form an opinion, satisfactory to ourselves, in regard to the probabilities for or against the conclusion to which it seems to have led the intelligent editor of the New Orleans Picayune, that a “cessation of hostilities” may be speedily anticipated. This would be a very legitimate inference is such a deputation has been sent to Gen. Scott by the existing Government of Mexico; while it would by no means be so, if, as we apprehend will turn out to be the fact, the capital had been abandoned by the Government functionaries, and the citizens, thus left without means of defence, and having more to fear from hostile factions in their midst than from its peaceable surrender to the [fold] to announce to him that no resistance would be made to its occupation by his forces. That this deputation, if any such has been really sent to Gen. Scott, is the organ of the citizens of the capital, and not of the Government, is, we think, inferrible, as well from the improbability that the civil functionaries would be willing to put themselves wherever they can with safety to do so, and murdering every straggler from the American camp, as well as those small bodies which occasionally adventure too far from the protection of our guns.

We have never been very sanquine in the hope of the restoration of peace founded upon the occupation of the Mexican capital. It is probably, indeed, that there may be no more forts stormed, nor cities bombarded, nor pitched battles in the open field; but we have seen nothing yet to induce us to relinquish the apprehension that the Guerilla system of warfare will be resorted to, and that this harassing mode of resistance may be protracted for many months, and probably many years. The next advices from the seat of war, however, will probably furnish us with fuller and more accurate information upon this point; and we shall be grafted if it shall be of a character to justify the conclusion to which the New Orleans editor has, we fear, prematurely arrived, that there is a probability of a speedy “cessation of hostilities” between the two countries.

[MSH]
Tuesday, May 18, 1847 RW24i40p2c2  117 words.

UNTITLED

Mr. Kendall, of the N. O. Picayune, relates in one of his letters, the following case of individual gallantry, at the battle of Cerro Gordo, on the part of Capt. Magruder of Caroline county, Va. a son of Mr. Thomas Magruder of Charlottesville:

“Hundred of cases of individual gallantry, in storming the different heights, are mentioned. Col. Childs led on his command on the first day until he had only some forty of fifty men with him. It is also said that Capt. Magruder followed up a charge until he had but nine soldiers left. I cannot now recollect one tenth part of the instances of almost reckless daring displayed, but shall endeavor to pick them up.”  [MSH]

Tuesday, May 18, 1847 RW24i40p2c2  124 words.

UNTITLED


The total of killed and wounded in this brigaded is 103, which, added to 308, the list published by us a day or two since, gives 411. Besides these, 14 msn, belonging to Capt. Magruder’s company of 1st artillery, were killed or wounded, and from Company F, Illinois volunteers, no returns have been received. [MSH]

Tuesday, May 18, 1847 RW24i40p2c3, 1,334 words.

LATER FROM THE BRAZOS

The schr. Florida, Capt. Cammon, and schr. North Carolina, Capt. Farwell, arrived last evening from the Brazos, whence they sailed on the 1st inst. We are indebted to both of these attentive officers for late Matamoros papers. We received no letters by either of these arrivals and the verbal intelligence is Col. Davenport, U.S. Infantry, had arrived at Matamoros or Capt. Merchant, 2d U.S. Artillery, was in command of Fort Brown. Major Abbolt, of the Massachusetts regiment, was in garrison with nine companies. The Flag reports all the boats up the river aground. Capt. Webster, or the Massachusetts Regiment, had been ill for some time, but was convalescent and expected soon to resume duty. The Flag reports the schooners Mary and Emma and Virginia as having been stranded at the mouth of the river on the 24th ult. – N. O. Picayune. [MSH]

Tuesday, May 18, 1847 RW24i40p2c4,  1,334 words.

OFFICIAL

UNITED STATES FLAG SHIP MISSISSIPPI,

At sea off of Vera Cruz, April 24, 1847.

SIR: Tuxpan being the only fortified place of importance, situated on the gulf coast, not in our possession, and conceiving it to be a point of honor, as well as duty, to reclaim the guns taken by the enemy from the wreck of the Truxton, and mounted with others for the defence of the river and town, I determined on attacking it, and left Sacrificios in this ship for that purpose on the 12th instant, having in tow the steamers Spitfire, Vixen, and Scourge, and the gunboats Bonito, Petrel, and Reefer, with a detachment of three hundred officers, seamen, and marines from the Ohio, distributed in this and the smaller vessels. On the following day we arrived at Lobos, the appointed place of rendezvous. The Raritan, with a detachment of one hundred and eighty officers, seamen, and marines from the Potomac, added to her own complement. The Albany, John Adams, and Germantown, with the bomb-vessels Vesuvius, Etna, and Hecla, had been previously despatched for Lobos, where they arrived in good time, and were subsequently joined by the Decatur.

On the 15th, all the vessels left Lobos for the anchorage, under Tuxpan reef, but were separated during the night by a norther. Having again concentrated on the morning of the 17th, the whole of that day was employed in lightening the small vessels, in sounding and buoying the channel of the bar, and in other preparations for ascending the river.
The following morning (the 18th) the bar was safely crossed by the steamers and gun-boats, with about thirty barges filled with detachments from the different vessels at anchor outside, having with them four pieces of artillery.

After crossing the bar I hoisted my flag on board the *Spitfire*, and immediately led up the river to the attack; the steamers having the gun-boats and barges in tow, until we got into the range of fire of the enemy, when I ordered them to cast off; the gun-boats to follow up the river under sail, and the detachments in the barges to land with the artillery and storm the forts and town. These orders were executed with extraordinary rapidity while the Flortilla continued its course up the river, and driving by its well directed fire, the enemy from his defences.

The dispositions of the enemy for defence were judicious; they consisted of two forts on the right, and one of the left bank of the river, with positions well selected for commanding the reaches of the stream. They had seven guns mounted and detachments of infantry firing from the forts and the thick chapparal along the margin of the left bank.

Gen. Cos, chief of Winward military division of the Mexican army, was in command, and had with him, as is believe from the evidence of his order – book, about 650 rank and file.

But if the dispositions for defence were judicious, the defence itself was feeble; though, had been more obstinate, the results would have been the same, for I cannot exaggerate the intrepidity of our officers and men, or say too much of the spirit that animated them.

The *Truxton*’s guns were brought off, and the others destroyed; the forst were also destroyed.

Our loss in the attack has been small – fourteen killed and wounded. The enclosed papers, lettered A,B,C, and D, will furnish all necessary details.

The *Albany* and *Reefer* have been left to watch Tuxpan; the *Hecla* is ordered to blockade Soto de la Marina; the *Etna* to occupy the river Tabasco; and the *Vesuvius* and *Porpoise* the port of Laguna, while the Germantown is securing the coast of north of Lobos.

I am, sir, with great respect, your most obedient servant,

M. C. PERRY,
Commanding Home Squadron.

The Hon. JOHN Y. MASON, Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

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UNITED STATES STEAMER MISSISSIPPI, Off Tuxpan Bar, April 22, 1847.

SIR – I have to report the following list of killed and wounded in the action of the 18th inst. viz:

KILLED – Lewis Clayton, seaman, of the United States ship *Ohio*; Antonio Francis, seaman, of the United States ship *Decatur*; John Griffin, seaman, of the United States ship *Raritan*, was murdered by the rancheros, on the 19th instant.

WOUNDED – Commander Tetnall, of the United States steamer *Spitfire*, flesh wound of right wrist; James McCann, seaman, United States steamer *Spitfire*, severe wound of right elbow joint; Flag Lieutenant James L. Parker, United States ship *Ohio*, flesh wound of right leg; Lieutenant Hartstine, United States B. brig *Hecla*, flesh wound of right thigh; Andrew Sweeney, seaman, United States ship *Germantown*, flesh wound of left shoulder; Henry O. Hart, boy, United States ship *Germantown*, slight wound of the right cheek; James McCullen, boy, United States steamer *Mississippi*, slight wound of right hand; Commander Mackenzie, United States steamer *Mississippi*, sever wound in left hand, with loss of thumb, white on duty at guard-house, on night of 21st.

It is with pleasure I inform you that the above wounded are doing well.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SOLOMON SHARP, Surgeon.

To Commodore M. C. PERRY,
Commanding Home Squadron.

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TUXPAN, April 19, 1847.

SIR: I have the honor to report that, in obedience to your order of this morning, directing me to visit the enemy’s batteries, and remove the *Truxton*’s guns, and such others as might be worthy of removal, and to destroy the remainder, I proceeded first to La Pena, the enemy’s principal fort. – It was situated on the right bank of the river, a mile and a half below the town, on a bluff about 69 feet high projecting into the stream, and commanding the downward course of the river for two miles. In it I found two 32-pounder carronades, of 21 cwt, formerly of the *Truxton*, mounted in barbette on half circles, and between them one long 9 inch embrasure,
behind a breastwork, faced within and without with sawed timber, and filled in with dirt. Between the guns was a barbette for the service of infantry. The Truxton’s guns and carnages have been embarked, and the 9-pounder destroyed. The breastwork and shed for the protection of the garrison were set on fire.

The next for in ascending the river, called La Palmasola, was a water battery, placed at the junction of the Tuxpan with one of its tributaries. This also looked down the stream. It had also a breastwork liced on both sides with sawed timber and filled in with dirt. It had three embrasures, and a banquette between them for infantry. — Only two of the embrasures had guns mounted on them. These were two long eights of iron, which have been destroyed. One of these guns had been struck by our shot, and the exterior facing of the for, particularly about the embrasures, was much cut, bearing testimony to the accuracy of our fire. The shed for the shelter of the garrison was burnt, and a fire set to the breastwork.

On the left bank of the river, near the centre of the town, and on the beach to defend the landing, was a 9-pounder carriage gun of iron, which has been destroyed.

On the centre of the steep bluff, in the centre of the town, was the fort called the Hospital surrounded by a ditch, and having a 32-pound chambered gun of 27 cwt., formerly of the Truxton, mounted on a pivot, and commanding the approach up the river to the extent of its range. This gun with its carriage has been embarked.

The launch’s gun of the Truxton, an iron six-pounder caronade, was found not mounted in a remote part of the town. It has been embarked with its carriage, together with a considerable quantity of the arms and munitions of the Truxton, a list of which is herewith enclosed.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,
Your most obedient,
ALEX S. MACKENZIE,
Com’r and Asst’l Inspector Ord. U. S. N.

COMMODORE M. C. PERRY,
Commanding Home Squadron,
Headquarters, Tuxpan.

Tuesday, May 18, 1847 RW24i40p2c5, 836 words.

LATER FROM MEXICO

From New Orleans Picayune, May 11.


The steamship James L. Day arrived at the Levee early this morning from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the 5th inst. By this vessel we have received our regular correspondence and files of Vera Cruz and Jalapa papers. Apart form the intelligence contained in our letters, we learn verbally that an express reached Vera Cruz a moment before the sailing of the James L. Day, with information that a deputation had come down from the city of Mexico to request Gen. Scott to take the capital under his protection. This news is almost incredible; but when it is remembered that the system of guerilla warfare has been adopted by Mexico, and that the banditti who engage in this service are as dangerous to their own countrymen as to the enemy, the report gains some probability.

The impression was gaining ground in the army that there would be no more fighting. It was not expected that there would be any opposition this side of or at Puebla; and it was even doubted if the Mexicans would defend their capital. Expectations of this nature have proved deceitful so often that we indulge them with much misgiving.

The Mexican papers continue their declamatory strictures upon the mission of Atocha. It would appear that the sending of this miserable fellow on any important mission to Mexico has given greater umbrage than all else that has been done by the United States. They regard him in the light of an official pimp, a treasonable pander, a perfidious miscreant, and indeed the concentration of baseness. They think he was sent there by the American cabinet in mockery and scorn.

We have already copied the article of El Republicano upon Atocha. That paper— the very best in all Mexico— the highest tone and the sturdiest defender of the republican institutions when the monarchical part was in the ascendant— after noticing the arrival of Atocha on a mission from this country, and recounting his past history in Mexico, exclaims:

"O, God! This is the greatest sign that thou hast forgotten us. Send upon us bombs, rifles, grape shot and every class of projectile and misfortune; burn us, reduce us to ashes, destroy us, annihilate, but do not dishonor us. Send the entire north to subjugate and rule over us, but do not let Atocha be the broker of a contract of piece, because that, devolving upon us the greatest scorn and the greatest
The proprietors we are glad to see, are highly pleased with their whereabouts. Of the goodly city of Jalapa they hold this discourse.

The whereabouts of Santa Anna is somewhat problematical. The last authentic intelligence located him at Orizaba with a miscellaneous command of 3000. Subsequent rumors report him as having gone South to recruit his ranks in Oajaca. It is certain that he has not shown himself at the capitol since his defeat. There is a report that he desires to leave the country; but Mr. Kendall thinks he may make a dash upon detached parties in the rear of the army, or upon wagon trains, with a view to reinstating himself in the good opinion of the nation.

It was the intention of Gen. Scott, upon the arrival of the wagon train that was to start from Vera Cruz, about the 6th inst. To cut off all connections with the sea coast, rely upon the country for sustenance, and push forward for the city. This general Order dated as Jalapa, 30th April, intimates as much. But Mr. Kendall’s letter of the 4th – the very latest news – throws some doubt upon the speedy adoption of this plan, in consequence of the determination of the twelve month’s volunteers, in a body, not to re-enlist. This may retard the advance of the army, unless indeed the reported readiness of the city to surrender be confirmed. If the rumor proves true, the guerilla troops are mere marauders – a band of pirates, and should be treated accordingly.

Gen. Worth was gathering up all the grain he could, and has all the [?] at work, as if in anticipation of breaking off communication with Vera Cruz.

It will be gratifying to all to learn that Gen. Shields was thought to be in a fair way to recover. We have always regarded him as about the best appointment from civil life yet made by the President.


Lieutenant Colonel Anderson, of the 1st Tennessee regiment, came over in the Day also. He has seen much service, both under Gen. Taylor and Gen. Scott, at Monterey and Cerro Gordo, and now returns on account of ill health.

Tuesday, May 18, 1847 RW24i40p2c5, 1,046 words.

SCRAPS FROM THE AMERICAN STAR

From the New Orleans Picayune, 9th inst.

The advanced division of the American army entered the city of Jalapa on the 19th of April, and during the following days the remainder of the force came up. Before the week ended a regular out and out American paper was established there, and on the 25th the first number was issued, abounding in interesting and important intelligence. The paper is owned by the enterprising publishers of the Vera Cruz Eagle, Messrs. Jewell, Peoples and Barnard. – It would seem, from the first article under the editorial head, that our adventurous contemporaries have adopted the military maxim of: foraging on the enemy,” as the types, preses, and material of the “Star” were part and parcel of a Jalapa paper, which, whilom, belabored the “Yankees” with grandiloquent objurgation. The Star makes its obeisance to the public in this wise:

"THE AMERICAN STAR. – Another glorious victory has been achieved, and we have followed up the army to chronicle it. Reader, you have before you the American Star. It is American in every sense of the word, and shall never disgrace the stars and stripes it advocates. It is printed on the same tyre that this day week spoke such bitter things against us: but we trust that they are civilized as well as naturalized . . . they are the same naughty characters that so much slandered us. Verily, “change makes change,” and those that were our bitterest enemies six days ago now speak to us in the most dulcet accents they are capable of.

We have known strange changes in the free press of this country ‘ere now. We have even whig papers converted to the democratic faith and democratic ones pass into the hands of foemen dire, but never was there such a revolution in type craft as those Spanish founts have undergone. They have changed sides and languages too, in a trice. – An American paper in Jalapa! Why the stones in the streets might prate round Castilian against such innovation. But to the Star.

The following observations upon the “rank and file” will awaken an echo in many bosoms:

"The Rank and File. – With what pride must ever American review the conduct and bearing of the rank and file of our army in battle. They go to work with heart and soul in the cause, and each private works for an exults in the glory of our arms as if he were the commander—in—chief and the responsibility of the action rested upon his shoulders. In the late fight this feeling was indulged into an unusual degree, and the manner in which they stormed and carried the principal height – opposed as they were by men apparently as determined as themselves – deserves the thanks and gratitude of the whole American nation. It is said that the strength of our army lies in the fact that every man is a hero and every one capable of being a commander. This is true, they are all heroes, because they are all actuated by the same proud feeling – that of seeing their arms victorious or freely shedding their blood in the attempt. The rank and file, as we said before, deserve the gratitude of the nation, and we would fain see them mentioned among the more fortunate of the army.”

The proprietors we are glad to see, are highly pleased with their whereabouts. Of the goodly city of Jalapa they hold this discourse.
"JALAPA. – If there is any one place in Mexico that we deem superior to all else we've seen combined, that place is Jalapa. It is the prettiest town, has the handsomest buildings, loveliest gardens and most delicious fruits of all others taken together, and what adds more than all this to the interest of the place is the fact that it seems to be peopled with a race distinct from those we have encountered elsewhere – possessing more ideas of refinement, more intelligence, more industry, and more neatness. The women are decidedly pretty, and there is not a man who will say aught to the contrary; and in their habits – we mean of course the "upper ten" – they approximate nearer to American refinement. Naught can be said of the men but what is to their advantage, and many a time, whilst passing up the principal street, we imagined ourself in some thriving Yankee city. Taking Jalapa, all in all, we are highly pleased with it and its people, and cannot conceive that there is any difference of opinion on that subject amongst us Americans."

The only account of military stores taken at Perote, which we have seen, is contained in the following paragraph:

"THE ADVANCE – On the 22nd inst, at 12 M., General Worth entered Perote, without opposition. The enemy's forces had all left that place, and our general took possession of the cattle, with its armament in perfect order. Col. Velasquez had been left behind to surrender all things in the name of the Government. Fifty cannons, 3 mortars, 4 stones mortars and 4 or 5 howitzers, together with a large number of round shot and shells (no particular quantity of other ammunition) and small arms were delivered up to us. Gens. Morales and Lander to, who had been imprisoned by Santa Anna for capitulating at Vera Cruz, were prisoners in the castle, and of course released by our troops. Ampudia was in the vicinity of Perote on the approach of Gen. Worth, but had not the politeness to visit him before taking his departure, which is said to have been hurried. Some two or three thousand infantry and cavalry of the enemy were also in the neighborhood, but they were disorganized and in a most pitiable condition.

On the road the inhabitant complained bitterly of outrages perpetrated by the retreating soldiers from Cerro Gordo, and many of them had left their homes.

Midshipman Rogers was removed from Perote to Puebla the same day the fight commenced at Cerro Gordo."

The last preceding sentence is all that has been heard of Midshipman Rogers since the army left Vera Cruz. It is sheer wanton cruelty to keep that gallant young officer in prison. We trust that the next time a batch of Mexican officers fall into our hands his release will be specially treated for.

[MSH]
cease until it had shaken the Imperial Throne of France into the dust.

And are we, with this example before our eyes – disregarding the warning of history – deaf to the voice of experience – are we expected, in these enlightened days, to imitate an example so recent – so memorable – and so disastrous in its results? Forbid it reason – forbid it justice – forbid it all the principles of man’s nature, which lead him to eschew strife, where strife can be avoided, and to cultivate peace, friendship, and good feeling with his fellow man.

We have thus far treated this proposition as on of “policy”. Is it sanctioned by “justice” – in whose name as many crimes have been committed as the celebrated Madam Roland once said had been perpetrated in the name of liberty. Why is the property of the Church alone to be sequestered? If the principle be a sound one; it ought to be made applicable alike to all; – and every Mexican citizen who may furnish his Government with “the fuel of war” should be subjected to the like summary punishment for his devotion to the country in which he was born and reared, and to which he owes, by a law stronger than human enactments, and especially in the hour of her extremity, his fortune and his life? Is patriotism, then, a crime, in the vocabulary of the Executive Organ? We are aware that strange readings have been given forth to the Constitution and to the Laws of Nations, in order to justify some of the remarkable incidents of this remarkable war; but we had not supposed that its authors were prepared to push their new doctrines quite so far as to require the citizens of Mexico to play the part of traitors to their own Government in order to secure them against the rapacity of our own. – And we confide too much in the integrity of the American people, and in those instinctive impulses which lead all men to love and to defend their own native land, above and against all others, to permit us to tolerate for a moment the idea that any considerations of expediency can induce them to give their sanctions to a proposition so repugnant to the feelings as well as to the convictions of mankind.

It is not irrelevant to add that the adoption of the measure suggested by the Washington Union would be in direct conflict with the solemn declaration made “to the good people of Mexico” by General Scott, in the proclamation addressed to them by that officer, and which was doubtless sent to him from Washington for that purpose, after the capitulation of Vera Cruz, and as he was about to take up his line of march for “the Halls of Montezumas.” In that extraordinary document, in which, in imitation of the Propagandists of the French Revolution, the people of Mexico were separated from their government – as if the one were in collision with the other, and we had sent thither our fleets and armies to aid the oppressed multitude in throwing off the yoke imposed upon their unwilling necks by despotic Rulers – in that singular document, the Mexicans are expressly told: “Americans are not your enemies; but the enemies, for a time, of the men, who, A YEAR AGO, misgoverned you, and brought on this unnatural war between two great Republics. We are the friends of the peaceful inhabitants of the country we occupy – AND THE FRIENDS OF YOUR HOLY RELIGION, ITS HIERARCHY AND ITS PRIESTHOOD.” With this solemn assurance staring us in the face, with semblance of policy can we now violate it, by the confiscation of the property of that Church to which this assurance has been given, in the face of the world?

*This, by the way, is an expression which exceedingly puzzles us. It seems, according to Gen. Scott’s proclamation, that we are not the enemies either of the Mexican people or of the men now in power, but that we are enemies, “FOR A TIME.” of the men, who, “A YEAR AGO,” were at the head of affairs in that Republic! But who are those men? Paredes and his counselors, who are now in exile – while Santa Anna, who entered Mexico by permission of Mr. Polk, is now the ruling spirit in her public councils! How this declaration is to be reconciled with daily transpiring events, however, we know not. Perhaps the Washington Union can enlighten us!

[MSH]

Tuesday, May 18, 1847 RW24i40p4c2, 320 words.

THE MEXICAN TARIFF

This “great measure,” – the conception and elaboration of the sagacious financier at the head of the Treasury Department, in open violation of the constitution, which carefully denies to the Executive the legislative power that it has boldly exercised – is received by the American merchants at Tampico with unqualified denunciation. We have before us the proceedings of a meeting of American merchants and others interested in the trade of the United States, held in that place on the 26th ult. in which this famous measure, so often eulogized by the admirers of Secretary Walker as the ne plus ultra of financial wisdom, is declared to be “unjust, illiberal, and unbecoming any American in heart or principle” – imposing “a duty of not less than 70 to 150 per cent on American products, while on British articles,” [the Secretary is remarkable for discriminating against his own country and in favor of the British,] “it is not over 40 per cent” – And, to cap the climax, they declare, that, “if it be carried into effect, it will GIVE AID AND COMFORT TO THE ENEMY, not in WORD but in DEED.” This, surely, is the unkindest cut of all. “Aid and comfort to the enemy”! Who could have expected that from the master–spirit of Mr. Polk’s Cabinet? At all events it is gratifying to see the Doctor thus dosed with his own physic!

Letters from Tampico, published in the New Orleans papers, speak similar language. One of them expresses the opinion that the importations under the former system, estimated to be of the value of $3,000,000 annually at that port, will be less that $100,000 under Mr. Walker’s scale of duties. And yet it is from this wise measure, the offspring of gross usurpation of power, that we have been flattered with the hope of obtaining money enough to defray at least a third of the expenses of the war! Most lame and impotent conclusion.

[MSH]

Tuesday, May 18, 1847 RW24i40p4c2, 173 words.

UNTITLED

The Annapolis Republican states that Maj. General John Spear Smith, of Baltimore, had tendered to the President the services of a
brigade of volunteers from Maryland, to serve during the war with Mexico. Should the offer be accepted, no doubt is entertained that
the requisite number of men can be secured within a very short time. This speaks well for the patriotism and public spirit of Maryland.

By the way, we would inform our patriotic friends in the Tenth Legion, who were disappointed last winter by the rapidity with which the
requisition upon Virginia for a regiment was answered, that the two additional companies recently called for from this State have not
yet been mustered into service, nor do we hear of any movement towards their organization. Will they not send at least one company
to the field, for the honor for the Old Tenth? We call upon Col. McPherson, especially, who offered the warlike resolutions last winter, to
gird on his sword and beat up for recruits in Page, Shenandoah and Rockingham.

KILLED AND WOUNDED

The New Orland Picayune furnishes us with a list of the killed and wounded, in Gen. Twigg’s and Gen. Shields’ divisions, in the battle of
Cerro Gordo, of which the following is a recapitulation:

OFFICERS.

Regulars – None killed, 14 wounded.
Volunteers – 1 killed, 7 wounded.

RANK AND FILE.

Regulars – 39 killed, 195 wounded.
Volunteers – 3 killed, 48 wounded.

Total killed 43 – wounded, 264.

The name of the only officer killed is Lieut. G. M. Cowardin of the Illinois volunteers. Wounded: Brig. Gen. Shields, dangerously; Lt. Col. Joseph E. Johnston, very slightly; Major E. V. Sumner, severely; Captain Stevens T. Mason, severely; Geo. W. Patton, severely; Lieutenants Thomas Ewell, (since dead;) Thomas Davis, (since dead;) George McLane; Dabney H. Maury, severely; Alfred Gibbs, slightly; N. J. T. Dana, severely; Charles E. Jarvis, slightly; B. E. Bee, do; J. N. Ward, severely; George H. Gordon, slightly. All the foregoing belonged to the regular service. The following were attached to the volunteers: Capt. – Pearson of the New York regiment; and Lieut. Robert Murphy, (since dead;) Robert C. Scott, severely; S. J. Johnson, dangerously; Andrew Forman and Chas. Maltby, slightly, all of the 4th Illinois regiment. We do not publish the names of the privates, as none of them, we suspect, are known in this party of the country.

Reports from other divisions of the army will of course considerably augment the number of killed and wounded.

WAR ITEMS: MEXICAN INCIDENTS

From the N. O. Picayune, May 4.

We cull from our correspondence such items and incidents as have not altogether been anticipated, and which may be interesting to
the public:

The Storming of Cerro Gordo.

Mr. Kendall, in one of his letters, gives the following account of the storming of Cerro Gordo. But for the illness of Gen. Smith the
assault would have been lead by that gallant officer. In his stead Col. Harney has reaped the laurels of this glorious achievement, and
long may he wear them. The mischance of one chivalrous spirit made way for the valor of another, who approved himself, upon this as
upon other occasions, capable of the most daring feats of gallantry.

See: Niles National Register, /Niles/Nilesg1847MayJun.htm#72.183May221847thestormingand

Jalapa.

JALAPA, Mexico, April 20, 1847.
Here we are at last, in one of the most delightful places in all Mexico. As we came in this morning, along a road fringed on either side with the richest vegetation, the white crest of Orizaba, piercing the very vault of heaven, was plainly visible, and a busy hum of admiration ran along the line is the snow-clad mountain first broke upon the view. A spectacle of greater magnificence or grandeur is not to be seen the wide world over. Here we were, in a soft, bland ax, and with verdure and flowers of rarest beauty and fragrance all around – above us, as it were, towering to the very ?, yet in plain view, was old Orizaba, clad in his eternal rument of snow. But this has place been so often spoken and written about that I shall now dwell upon it.

Santa Anna.

Santa Anna entirely disapproved of the surrender of Vera Cruz of course, in proof of which he sent Morales and Landero to Perote for trial. They stand a most excellent chance of being liberated in a few days by Gen. Worth. What is to be done with Santa Anna himself? how is he to answer, after swearing he would shed the LAST drop of his blood at Cerro Gordo, for running off without shedding the FIRST drop? There is a question for somebody to answer.

I send you files of El Republicano. I also forward several copies of papers published at this place, (Jalapa,) previous to the great battle of Cerro Gordo. The exulting tone of the editors, and the perfect confidence they express in the ability of Santa Anna to arrest the progress of the "vandals," read funny enough now that the sequel is known. I cannot recollect anything more amusing than Santa Anna’s flowing proclamation announcing his victory over Gen’l Scott on the 17th April, unless it was his disgraceful flight on a mule on the 18th.

In the number published on the day of the great battle at Cerro Gordo, and under the head of "LONG LIVE THE MEXICAN NATION"!, the following account of the skirmishing on the 17th is given. It reads as follows, and is most decidedly fat:

"Yesterday, between 11 and 12 o’clock, a column of the enemy, composed of 5 of 6000 men, attacked our position at Cerro Gordo. They came commanded by General Scott, who, inflamed or puffed up (engrecido) with the assassinations he committed with impunity at Vera Cruz, hoped with the same impunity to penetrate our camp here. At the commencement of the firing, Gen. Santa Anna ordered our troops to retire, in order to attract the enemy to a point nearer our batteries. It had the effect. Scott advanced, and then our columns displayed in such manner as to facilitate the action of our cannon. Then commenced a vivid fire of both artillery and infantry, encircling the enemy, who was obliged to retire; and having twice afterwards attempted to force our positions, he was twice compelled to retire. These three changes have cost the enemy 1000 men in killed and wounded: we have lost 160, of whom we count 30 as killed and the rest wounded.

[MSH]

Friday, May 21, 1847 RW24i41p1c1  1,773 words.

A NEW AND BOLD SUGGESTION

The New York Sun – one of that numerous and by no means unimportant class of journals in the United States, which, wearing the mask of neutrality, render most efficient partisan service to the Administration, by sustaining its most objectionable measures, from the support of which even the regulars sometimes flinch – makes a suggestion, which is calculated to attract some attention by its novelty as well as its boldness.

It asks, "What are we to do with Mexico?" And it proceeds to develop its own notable plan of indemnifying the United States for the expense incurred in its subjugation. That paper does not seem to be disposed, any more than ourselves, to take Mexican territory as indemnity; but it rejects this mode of liquidating the obligations of Mexico and the cost of whipping her, for reasons very different from those that influence our judgment. Its proposition, indeed, gives a bow shot beyond anything which has yet been suggested – being nothing less than the subversion of the nationality of Mexico, for a period not very definite, but certainly very protracted, and it subjection to the dominion of the United States, not exactly as a permanent Province of the "Model Republic," or as a member of our Confederacy, but as a pro tempore dependency, in a state of pupilage, and required to pay its tutors a pretty high price for the "bloody instructions" it has received at our hands, and which, if they shall not return to "plague the inventors" in after times, we may well congratulate ourselves upon our fortunate escape from the fate which has befallen other conquerors from the beginning of the world, and which will be the destiny of all, we apprehend, to the "last syllable of recorded time." The Sun says:

"We believe there is but one course to pursue, and that is the entire occupation of the country, taking it revenues until the expenses of the war, including all losses sustained by our commerce and otherwise during the war, and our old debt, principal and interest, with all expense of collecting the same, are paid. No treaty should be made short of expecting all this, and insisting upon such a disposition of things for the future in Mexico, as will promote our interests without abridging hers."

"In the mean time we can institute such government in Mexico, as will better conserve the peace and prosperity in that country, than any likely to be devised by its present military rulers."

According to the mode indicated of estimating Mexican ?? to the United States – especially if the exaggerated claims preferred against her, now on file in the State Department, are to constitute items of our account current – the amount will be scarcely less than one hundred and fifty millions of dollars, even if the war shall be terminated within the next month or two. According to this scheme, then, our armies are to hold possession of Mexico during all the period that may be necessary, by the proportion of her revenues, after paying the necessary opponents of the new government, which, in our abundant charity, we are to ? for her, (like the Holy Alliance in Europe dictating a Monarch to France after the dethronement of Napoleon, at the point of the bayonet,) to his immense sum, together with all the accruing expenditure necessarily consequent upon the armed occupation of Mexico, while this process of liquidation is going on. Why, who does not see that this proposition amounts to the permanent conquest, not "of a piece," but of the whole of the
Mexican Republic? The annual expense of an Army of Occupation large enough to keep the peace in Mexico, after we shall have conquered it, will in amount her annual revenues – unless indeed, the Church property, estimated to be worth $150,000,000, still, in conformity with the suggestion of the Washington Union, be sequestered, for the purpose of shortening this period of quasi war, and as a means of inflicting suitable punishment, at the same time, upon the hierarchy for being faithful to their Government at a period of imminent peril, when it might have been more profitable to sell themselves to the enemies! This latter proposition, however, we are glad to perceive, for the honor of our own country, has found so little favor, that the Executive mouthpiece has found it necessary to take the back track, by relieving the Administration of all responsibility for it, and by softening its own language in regard to it. – It was mere “speculation” on the part of the Executive paper, it seems, whose position ought to hold in check the prurient fancy of its conductor; and it does not know that its speculations on this subject: have the least shadow of support from a single member of the Government.” Leaving the Church property, then, untouched, has the New York Sun taken the pains to calculate the cost of the armed acquisition of Mexico, and to compare that cost with the profitable amount of its revenue, under that better system of Government, which, in imitation of the Holy Alliance of Europe depicts, an in violation of the principle of non-intervention, which springs from the great doctrine, so often asserted by ourselves, of the right of the people in all countries to organize such forms of government as to them may seem best calculated to protect their liberties and to promote either prosperity, we are to establish for them? How many years does the Sun suppose, will elapse before Mexico will be able, from her revenues, to pay the one or two hundred millions of dollars, expended by us in “constructing a peace” in addition to the annual sum of twenty or thirty millions more, during the existence of the armed occupation, necessary, after we shall have whipped her to ?, to keep down the rebellious spirit of her citizens, under the gallant sense of their new impositions, forever clanking in their ears, while their spirits will be perpetually chafed by the presence of the armed guards who have forged and riveted them upon their once free lands. The cost of holding the country would be double larger than the gross receipts of its treasury; and consequently, the conquest must be permanent of the mode of securing “indemnity for the past,” recommended by the ? should be resorted to.

But in order to show the wisdom and propriety of adopting its suggestions, the New York paper, remembering doubtless the effect produced by a similar outcry while the suggestion of Texas annexation was pending, endeavors to harm the country by reference to the supposed ambitious designs of Great Britain. We are gravely told by the Sun – and this as its reason for rejecting the idea of territorial indemnity – that “a powerful party is anxiously waiting for us to make peace with Mexico, – a party that wishes nothing as much as a treaty for territory – and the moment we return behind our boundary line, that party will step in and seize the balance of the country.” Alas for Mexico, if this be true? Escaping, mutated and dismembered from the fangs of one enemy, another, quite as powerful, and who, if she actually mediates such a thing, ought to find in the United States an ally of Mexico, to repel her encroachment upon American soil, stands ready to seize upon the ?ments that my be left! But who is this new enemy? “The English,” says the N.Y. Sun – the same grasping Government which we were assured intended to convert Texas into a colonial dependency, and she not have thwarted by its annexation to the American Union: “The English Minister,” the Sun tells us, (though we doubt whether that gentleman has made our New York contemporary, although an Editor was really in the city of Mexico, his confidante is so important a matter,) “has been instructed by his Government, the moment peace is declared, to make a demand on Mexico for the important a matter,) “has been instructed by his Government, the moment peace is declared, to make a demand on Mexico for the debt due to England; and, in case such a demand is not acceded to, to take forcible possession of all the territory unoccupied by us.” And, taking… illegible – that is, to take Mexican territory in payment of Mexicans debts?

If the design imputed to Great Britain be really entertained by her, which we do not for a moment believe, the position taken years ago by Mr. Monroe, when the Spanish American States began to assume their position in the family of nations, indicates our policy and our duty as the oldest born and the most powerful of the American Republics – a position since re-assumed by more than one of Mr. Monroe’s successors, under circumstances far less imposing than those by which that last of the race of Revolutionary Presidents was surrounded. That position, briefly stated, is this: EUROPEAN COLONIZATION HAS EASED UPON THE AMERICAN CONTINENT. Great Britain, powerful as she is, will scarcely be permitted by us to acquire permanent territorial possessions in Mexico – though we might, perhaps, find our mouths shut by our own arguments, if her claims against Mexico, valid as our own, can only be liquidated by the cession of territory, which our Government insists upon as not only legitimate and proper, but as indispensable to the vindication of our own rights and honor! Wish what propriety could we, for example, while urging such claims, and such a mode of satisfying them ourselves, object to their assertion by Great Britain and their liquidation by the same means – the only means, as is contended by our Stock conductor; and it does not know that its speculations on this subject: have the least shadow of support from a single member of the

Friday, May 21, 1847 RW24i41p1c2  117 words.

CAPT. STEVENS T. MASON

This gallant officer, a native of Loudoun county, Virginia, was severely wounded in the Battle of Cerro Gordo, whilst leading his men in the thickest and hottest of the fight. His fellow citizens of Loudoun have resolved, in public meeting, to present him a Sword with suitable insignia, commemorative of his valor, and as an evidence of their approbation of his gallant conduct in that hard fought action – and for this purpose, a subscription has been opened under the superintendence of Messrs. Robert P. Swann, Asa Rogers, Jamca D. McPherson, John Leslie, H.D. Magill, John Matthews, S.A. Buckner, Asher W. Gray, G. Cuthbert Powell, R. G. Saunders, Charles Douglass, Conrad R. Powell, and A. T. M. Rust.
We yesterday had the pleasure of a conversation with Mr. Black, late American Consul at the city of Mexico, who left there on the 3d of April and arrived yesterday morning on the brig E. F. Pierce; Capt. Carr, in nine days from Tampico. Mr. Black on the 31st March, shortly after the arrival of Santa Anna from Buena Vista – when no doubt the one-legged here was exceedingly annoyed at the immense labor he had been at to manufacture a victory out of the battle of Buena Vista, and felt in any thing but an amiable mood towards to barbarous North Americans – received an order through the Governor to quit the capital immediately. This preparatory order was given too in Passion Week – a time when no business, public or private, is transacted, and when it is almost an impossibility to obtain the assistance necessary to depart. Mr. Black, however, succeeding in getting ready to leave in a day or two, and in having the archives of the legation packed, which he brought with him, and demanded an escort, which was at first refused. A variety of petty artifices were resorted to entrap him into a position that would afford a pretext for his arrest and imprisonment, but finding them fruitless, he was granted an escort, and left the city on the evening the 3d of April. The order required him to embark from Tampico, and although he was promised and was according to the usages of civilized nations entitled to an escort the whole distance, he was furnished with one for only thirty leagues from the capital, to a place called Rio del Monte; from this place to Tampico he was obliged to employ escorts – and sorry escorts they were. One of them, consisting of two men, had a sword and a musket between them, the barrel of the musket being fastened to the stock with a cord; another, composed also of two men, had two old swords between them: both escorts traveling on foot. Notwithstanding all this he was not molested on the journey.

From Mr. Black we have learned much that is interesting and important in relation to the state of affairs in the capital. We have later dates than he brings, but his information is of a character that can only be obtained from an intelligent observer, who has had the advantage of a long residence among the people he speaks of. The sincere federalists, both moderate and ultra, are the most urgent for the prosecution of the war; not because of a feeling of hostility to the United States, for they desire, if there is no other means of establishing their system of government, an union with the United States; but because they wish the whole race of military tyrants exterminated, and to destroy thoroughly the basis of their power, they look to the continuance of the war and the annihilation of the army. Many men of property, not belonging to this party, and a number of the priesthood, seeing the utter hopelessness of success in contending with our armies, are also looking to the subjugation of the country as the only means of restoring tranquility and securing them in their possessions. Mr. Black confirms the report that many of the Mexicans suspect Santa Anna of treachery, and the clergy and the people, poor and rich, are murmuring against exactions to support a war which has resulted in nothing but disasters to the country. The country is without arms, there being scarcely any thing left to them, since their recent defeats, but old and almost useless small arms and very few cannon. Mr. Black, for this reason, holds the idea of resistance of consequence to General Scott's march upon the capital as preposterous. Santa Anna is already nearly reduced to the position the federalists wish him in, being left but a guerrilla party to operate with, and whether he ever sought peace or not, he cannot now be expected to make an attempt at bringing it about, while a hope remains to him of being able to recover the ground he has lost. Whether those who look to American rule for amelioration of their condition will endeavor to bring about peace, remains to be seen. When Mr. Black left, affairs were in such a state of confusion; that no idea could be formed of what might take place within 24 hours, but the Government had determined upon removing to Lagos, distant about 100 leagues from the capital, whenever our army reached its vicinity. There is but little means of resistance at the capital. When Mr. Black left there was not over half a dozen pieces of artillery there, and knowing of no source from whence sufficient ordinance can be obtained, he is of opinion that a defence will not be attempted.

We regret to learn that Majors Gaines and Borland and Capt. Clay, and the other prisoners taken at Encarnacion, notwithstanding...
Santa Anna’s engagement to release them when prisoners were exchanged after the battle of Buena Vista, are closely confined and their wants neglected. – Even La Vega, who was treated with so much respect and consideration in this city, turned a deaf ear to their complaints when military commandant of the city of Mexico.

[MSH]

Friday, May 21, 1847 RW24i41p1c4  601 words.

THE SEAT OF WAR

From the N. O. Bulletin, May 12.

We give below some further details from Mexico. We stated, yesterday, on the authority of Gen. Pillow, that Gen Scott had determined to advance without delay on the capital. This determination was probably made, with the intention of retaining for the march, all the volunteers whose time of service was about expiring, but which would not take place, until after the army could reach the capital, and they could be replaced by reinforcements, now on their way to Vera Cruz.

By letters, however, received from headquarters, dated several day after Gen. P. left there, it appears Gen. Scott had concluded to discharge at Jalapa, those volunteers, whose terms were nearly expired, consisting of the two Tennessee, and the Georgia and Alabama regiments, and though nothing positive is known, that this will alter his previous intentions, of marching without delay for the city of Mexico, the belief is, that he will not attempt going beyond Puebla until reinforcements shall join him.

Notwithstanding all that has been said, as to the disorganization and dispersion of the Mexican army, there would evidently be great risk for Gen. Scott, with his greatly reduced force, to advance so far into an enemy’s country, where, the whole population is known to be hostile, and where they would rise like bees and overwhelm him in case of his army meeting with any check or misfortune. – It is also very evident, and indeed so is stated, in his general orders, that the army will be principally dependent on the country for its supplies, and being thus cut loose from the sea coast, it will be highly requisite he should have a sufficient force for the enterprise, which, under any contingencies that may arise, will enable him to look down all opposition.

The whole force that landed at Vera Cruz did not exceed 13,000 men – of these the garrison and the sick left at Vera Cruz, are about 1500 – the loss at Cerro Gorda, 500; the sick and garrison of Jalapa, 1000; a garrison at Perote, 500; and the volunteer regiments now discharged, say 2500, makes an aggregate of 6000; leaving an effective force of only 7000 men for the march on Puebla. We have placed the garrisons at Jalapa and Perote at a very low, and in the disturbed state of the country, we think, in a very unsafe number. Less than 2000 would also be a safe unsafe garrison to leave at Puebla, which is a city of 80,000 inhabitants, who could even overpower a much larger force. This would still further reduce Gen. Scott’s force, and leave him only 5000 men, with which to proceed to the capital, without counting any further dedication for the casualties and losses on the march. Under such circumstances, we think there can be little doubt, that for the present he will not attempt going beyond Puebla.

If, however, Gen. Scott should continue in the intention of marching for the capital, with his present means, the bettes plan would be to push forward with his entire force, leaving 20 garrisons behind, and cutting himself entirely loose from his communications. The move would be a bold one, but probably safer than to weaken his main body, by attempting to leave garrisons in his rear, with a view to maintain his communications, which could be reopened by the reinforcements now on the way to join him.

We learn that the troops which have been and still are, constantly arriving here, and which were to have reinforced Gen. Taylor, have their destination changed, and will be sent forward, with all possible tastes, to Gen. Scott.

[MSH]

Friday, May 21, 1847 RW24i41p1c5

SANTA ANNA’S DISPATCH FROM CERRO GORDO

The following is a translation of the despatch addressed by Santa Anna to the Minister of War and Marine, from Cerro Gordo, on the 17th of April, giving a rather rich account of the engagement of the first day:

Your Excellency: – I have to inform you, in order that you may acquaint the President substitute there with, that we have thrown up fortifications hastily in these gorges, in order to arrest the march of the invader, whose intention it was to make his way to Jalapa, and thence continue his course towards the capital of the republic. In spite of the failure of provisions and innumerable difficulties, I have achieved this important result.

To–day, at noon, the enemy commenced an attack on one of my positions on Telegraph hill; and for four hours I sustained a struggle against the greater part of his forces, commanded by Gen. Scott, and repulsed them with great loss; for he has left on the field of battle a large number of killed and wounded. On my own side, I have lost one officer and 25 soldiers (killed) and 128 wounded, of all ranks. It is given out that the efforts of the invader will be resumed to–morrow, the contest will be likely, for the troops I command are determined to sacrifice themselves for the services of their country. I shall acquaint your excellency by express with what may transpire hereafter. It is indispensable that the government should come to the aid of this army, by sending it money and all possible aid, and that as promptly as in necessary in order to render available the sacrifice these brave men are going to assume.
As to myself, I have done all I could; but the efforts of one man alone will always amount to nothing, when they are not ... by the care of the supreme power and of the nation itself. In communicating these details to his excellency the President substitute, be pleased to congratulate him on the occasion of this, the first triumph, which our army has achieved, and receive the assurances of my consideration.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA

To this notable despatch of the Mexican generalissimo, we may as well append here, by way of contrast, the narrative of Canalizo, describing the result of the battle so "triumphantly" commenced by his superior the day before:

[MSH]

See: Niles National Register, /Niles/Niles1847MayJum.htm#72.186May221847Mexicanaccountof

Friday, May 21, 1847 RW24i41p2c1 1,678 words.

JEFFERSON IN 1805, VERSUS POLK IN 1846

A Case in Point

In the year 1805, the relations existing between Spain and the United States bore a remarkable resemblance, in all their leading features, to those existing between Mexico and the United States, poor to General Taylor's march to the Rio Grande. A question of boundary was in dispute between Spain and the United States in 1805, as between Mexico and the United States in 1846; and the first as well as the last was complicated with a long standing controversy growing out of unsatisfied claims for indemnity for spoliations committed by persons acting under the authority of Spain upon the commerce of the United States. A convention was entered into by the Envoy of the United States at Madrid and the Minister of that Government for Foreign Affairs, by which Spain agreed to pay for the spoliations committed by her subjects – as a similar agreement was some years since entered into between Mexico and the United States for the like purpose. But before the stipulations of the treaty with Spain could be fully complied with, the cession of Louisiana by France to the United States had taken place – as, before Mexico had fulfilled the provisions of her treaty, Texas had become, by her own act, one of the States of this Union. From the moment of the transfer of Louisiana, as Mr. Jefferson informs Congress, in his Confidential Message of the 9th of December, 1805, Spain "seemed to changer her conduct and disposition towards us," – as Mexico did after the annexation of Texas. Spain first "protested against the right of France to alienate Louisiana to us," as Mexico denied the right of Texas to become a member of the American Confederacy. "Then, (says Mr. Jefferson,) high offense was manifested (by the Spanish Government) at the act of Congress establishing a collection distinct on the Mobile," and she finally "refused to ratify the Convention signed by her own Minister, under the eye of his Sovereign, unless we would consent to alterations of its terms, which would have affected our claims against her for the applications by French subjects carried into her ports" – in this respect going much farther in her insulting and injurious policy than had ever been done by Mexico, who faithfully complied, even though compelled to raise the money by forced loans, with the stipulations of the treaty of indemnity into which she had entered, until the annexation of Texas disturbed the amicable relations of the two countries, and led to the cessation of all diplomatic intercourse between them, and in fact to a state of quasi hostilities.

What course did Mr. Jefferson pursue, under a state of facts so similar to those which existed between Mexico and the United States, when Mr. Polk, transcending the limits of his constitutional authority, made war upon Mexico, by ordering the invasion of territory, which, though claimed by Texas, (as Santa Fe even has always been,) was never for a moment occupied by Texan citizens or subject to the jurisdiction of her laws, but which, on the contrary, had been, as no one is bold enough to deny, but as Mr. Donnelson, our Minister to Texas during its separate existence. Mr. Marcy, Mr. Benton, and Mr. C.J. Ingersoll admit, and as the whole volume of testimony on the subject, official and unofficial, proves, in undisputed and uninterrupted possession of Mexican citizens and Mexican garrisons, until they fled at the approach of Gen. Taylor's columns? Did Mr. Jefferson undertake to settle the question of boundary by the military occupation of the territory in dispute between Spain and the United States? Did he claim, either in express terms or by inference, the power usurped by Mr. Polk, of summarily determining the controversy with Spain by the grand military demonstration, which, but for the delusion under which he and his adviser labored, that Mexico could not be "kicked into a war," Mr. Polk would have known must have resulted, as it has done, in a protracted and sanguinary conflict – a conflict thus brought on by the Executive, without the previous sanction of the war-making power? No: Mr. Jefferson did no such thing. He had a juster appreciation both of his constitutional and moral responsibility. He sent a Minister to Spain, – James Monroe, – "to endeavor to procure a ratification of the former Convention, and to come to an understanding with Spain as to the boundaries of Louisiana" – (Mexico, including Texas, to the Sabine, being then under the dominion of the Spanish Government.) How did Spain meet this pacific overture? Very much as Mexico met the overture made to her through Mr. Slidell. She did not, it is true, refuse to receive our Minister, as indeed she could not, but diplomatic relations not having been formally suspended between the U. States and herself, as they had been, previous to the appointment of Mr. Slidell, between and the United States and Mexico. But although she received, the trifled with him. "It appeared at once (says Mr. Jefferson) that her policy was to reserve herself for events, [illegible] circumstances so closely resembling those that existed in 1805 – Mr. Jefferson took the same view of his powers as Chief Magistrate, which the Whigs now insist, that Mr. Polk should have taken, and which, had they been adopted by him, for his guidance, would unquestionably have prevented the war in which we are now engaged; or, if not, would at least have given it the sanction of constitutional authority, the want of which is one of the principal grounds of attack upon its usurping authors. What is that reason? "Considering (said Mr. Jefferson) that CONGRESS ALONE is constitutionally invested with the power of changing our condition from Peace to War, I have thought it MY DUTY TO AWAIT THEIR AUTHORITY FOR USING FORCE in any degree which could be avoided. I have barely inducted the officers stationed in the neighborhood to protect our citizens from violence, to patrol within the borders actually delivered to us, and not to do out of them but when necessary to repel an inroad , or to rescue a citizen or his property." Such was the tone of policy adopted by the Apostle, whose disciple Mr. Polk professes to be – and that, too, although, as he stated to Congress, the circumstances then existing required prompt action – the crisis in Europe being, as he remarked, favorable for pressing a settlement, in making which no moment should be lost. But yet, although speedy action was necessary, he properly declined usurping a power expressly withheld from him by the Constitution
to which he had solemnly sworn to conform his action. He declined, because, in his own words, "the course to be pursued will require the command of means which it belongs to Congress exclusively to yield or to deny. To them, (he continues,) I communicate every fact material for their information, and the documents necessary to enable them to judge for themselves. To their wisdom, then, I look for the course I am to pursue; and will pursue, which sincere zeal, that which they shall approve."

How refreshing to turn back to those times of ORIGINAL REPUBLICANS – to search out the “old parts” trod by the fathers of the Constitution, whose footsteps have been obliterated by the destructive march of MODERN PROGRESSIVE DEMOCRACY! What can be more striking than the contrast between JEFFERSON in 1805 and POLK in 1846? What can more forcibly exemplify the rapid “progress” which had been made in effacing the ancient landmarks of the Constitution – in subverting the legitimate and wholesome authority of the Legislative department of the Government, the responsible representatives of the People and of the States, and the pr?med exponents of public opinion – and in the creation of an irresponsible and omnipotent Executive, clothed with powers as comprehensive as those possessed and exercised by any Monarch in Christendom?

Were Mr. Jefferson now alive, he would be among the foremost in denouncing the infraction of the Constitution by which the country had been recklessly plunged into a war, involving an expenditure of uncounted millions of money, and the sacrifice of thousands of valuable lives, with all its contingent evils, and all the dangers involved in the new and delicate questions to which it must give rise. – Consistently with his principles, and with his proverbial veneration for that instrument, the provisions of which are now mere cobwebs, to be swept away by the breath of the President when they conflict with his designs, the Sage of Monticello would have been compelled to occupy the ground upon which the Whigs now stand. He would have recognized doubtless, as the Whigs do, their obligation to unite in all proper measures for the successful prosecution of the war while it shall last; but he could not hold him guiltless in whose assumption of power that war had its origin. Indignant as he might have felt at the obstinacy with which Mexico refused to renew pacific relations, and to adjust by negotiation the matters in controversy between the two Governments, much more intense would have been his indignation against those, who, in order to punish real or imaginary grievances, had usurped the war-making power, and thereby inflicted upon the Constitution, the bond of our Union and the charter of our rights, an immedicable wound. Against foreign foes we have always a sure, defence in the valor of our people; but against the assaults of those more dangerous usurpers at home, sustained as they are by the strength of party association, and the cohesive power of public plunder,” there is no defence but in the intelligence and virtue of the people. If that fail us, the days of the Republic are numbered. To them, therefore, in the name of the great Apostle of Republicanism, whose disciples these usurpers profess to be, and whose example we have cited in contrast with their course, we appeal, to rebuke and condemn, by their verdict, the men, who, in order to make war upon Mexico, have likewise made war upon the sacred charter of our liberties.

[MSH]

Friday, May 21, 1847 RW24i41p2c2  283 words.

CHURCH PROPERTY IN MEXICO

The Washington Union repeats, in still under emphatic terms than at first, as if the Administration were alarmed at the consequences of its indiscretion, that its suggestion in regard to the sequestration of the Church property in Mexico, was its own unauthorized “speculation,” and that “it was published not only without the knowledge of the President or any member of the Cabinet, but is opposed to the sentiment of one and all of them.” What a predicament for the Official Journal to be caught in!

"Certainly (as the National Intelligencer well remarks,) this explanation was necessary, to relive the Executive from the odium of so extraordinary a proposition as that of employing the army of the United States in the desecration of the churches of Mexico. The suggestion was, to say the least of it, as great a 'mistake,' as the thing itself would have been a crime.”

But, as it will, in the fact of this remarkable discrepancy between the views of the Executive and of its Official Organ, as to the best mode of conducting the war “vigorously,” and “with eminent ability,” be difficult hereafter to "understand what is official revelation and what the mere random dictates of the editorial brain," we unite in the admirable suggestion of the Intelligencer, that, to prevent mistake in future on so important a point, the Union shall have an official, a semi–official and an editorial column. It will save a world of trouble to all parties, and especially the Union itself from the mortification of again eating its own words, and of treating as a mere "speculation" what seemed to us to be put forth with all the gravity of a well–considered Executive edict.

[MSH]

Friday, May 21, 1847 RW24i41p2c2  279 words.

UNTITLED

The Washington Union of Tuesday night, after stating that the letters its editor has seen “do not exactly go so far as the articles in the New Orleans papers,” (we presume in reference to the rumored deputation from the city of Mexico to Gen. Scott, which from the first we regarded as somewhat apocryphal,) adds:

"We understand from a letter received from Vera Cruz as late as the 4th inst., that a gentleman had arrived on that morning in that city, who had left Santa Anna at St. Andreas, on the Orizaba road, about thirty–five or forty miles from Vera Cruz. Santa Anna had with him about 2,000 troops, half armed and badly equipped, and he threatened to make an attack upon Vera Cruz. The gentleman considered him crazy. The same gentleman had left Puebla a short time before, and he heard it confidently said that her citizens would send a deputation to Gen. Scott to put themselves under his protection – being, in fact, more afraid of the leperos than they were of our own people. We understand, indeed, from Capt. Hughes, who arrived in Washington last evening, that the liberal conduct of the
Americans had made the most favorable impression upon the Mexicans, and that Morales and Landeros had advised the citizens of Jalapa to remain at their homes, and even the ladies of Vera Cruz to return to their houses.

The letter from Vera Cruz, which we have seen, also reports that the British agent at Mexico, Mr. Bankhead, had been requested to mediate, and open a communication with the Americans to treat of peace. It is not certain, however, that this account is correct.

Friday, May 21, 1847 RW24i41p2c2  153 words.

UNTITLED

It is stated that old Rough & Ready’s reply to Santa Anna’s summons to surrender, is greatly admired in Paris, for its noble simplicity. A letter from that city says: “I have heard several French gentlemen declare that it will live in history, like Napoleon’s appeal to his soldiers at the Pyramids, or like his spirit-stirring address on seeing the ant rise on the field of Austerlitz.” The Administration, it would seem, from the state of inaction to which General Taylor is condemned, does not intend to give the old Hero an opportunity to write any more such laconic and emphatic epistles, or to illustrate them by his achievements in the field. Very well. He has done enough to secure the affections of his countrymen and the administration of the world. – The people will do him justice, in despite of the open and secret machinations of his enemies, in and out of office.

Friday, May 21, 1847 RW24i41p2c2  82 words.

A correspondent of the Charleston Courier, writing from Jalapa, gives the following table of distances between points already noted or hereafter to become so:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Distance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vera Cruz to Rio de Media</td>
<td>6 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Fe</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lopitota</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass of Obejas</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Puente Nacional</td>
<td>6 fortified place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jalapa</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Solla, [a pass]</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Las Vegas</td>
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Friday, May 21, 1847 RW24i41p2c2  1,072 words.

LETTER FROM THE ARMY

We have been politely favored with the following interesting extracts from a letter just received from a young Virginia officer attached to Gen. Scott’s army:

JALAPA, Mexico, April 25, 1847.

I last wrote to you from Plan del Rio, near Cerro Gordo, on the day of an immediately after the victory of our troops over the Mexicans fortified at the pass of Cerro Gordo. – This last is a high hill, something in the shape of a sugarloaf, that rises alone from the surrounding hills, its base being nearly round, and its height being about 300 feet. – The highway passes immediately at the foot of his
The battle was won on the 18th. On the 19th, all the prisoners, men and officers, were released on parole. One of our divisions marched for this city the same day, leaving the ground about sunrise. The Mexicans left about 9 o'clock; but being without lead soon overtook our troops, and it was a curious spectacle to see two armies that had so lately been composed in deadly hostility, moving together, intermingled, the one in good order, armed and equipped, the other a rabble, unarmed and in disorder, outnumbering their conquerors two to one.

This city is certainly beautiful, independent of comparison, delightfully situated on the ascent to Mexico, well built, the streets paved, and enjoying a climate unsurpassed for comfort and healthfulness. The buildings are in the Spanish style, cold and forbidding on the exterior, with but one entrance through a massive door always kept locked. Enter this, however, and you are introduced into a little paradise of verdure and perfumes. To every house there is a court, generally surrounded with apartments, always with a wall, the whole space except a walk on each side planted with beautiful and variegated flowers, interspersed with shrubbery.

Frost being unknown, perpetual verdure reigns, and every nook and corner has its flower always blooming, while the walls and eaves of the piazza are hung with vines and air plants.

Fancy yourself entering Thorburn's hot-house in the depth of winter, from a snow covered street, and you will imagine the delight with which I saw one of those scenes after entering the cold walls that the dismal portals made colder still.

The people are of a different class from any I have seen. They are fairer, and have more retirement and more intelligence than those of the lower country.

There is in case hostility to us in all parts of the country. Here, just now, it is exasperated because of our victory at Cerro Gordo, and I cannot but respect the feeling towards the enemies and conquerors of their country.

W.B.B.

[MSH]

June

June 1, 1847, RWv24i44p1c2, General Taylor

A New Orleans correspondent of the New York Tribune writes as follows:

"The Volunteers who were with Taylor are returning, full of the warmest admiration of his character as a soldier, and a humane and good man, but overflowing with wrath against the Administration that they believe did its best to sacrifice them. They cannot be convinced of the contrary. I am informed of this by an officer who is among them on the Rio Grande. The people of this country will be astonished and indignant when they know fully the manner in which the concern at Washington has treated Gen. Taylor. I know, from unquestionable authority, that for five months not a single despatch of his has been answered, (unless within the last few weeks,) and nothing sent him except an insulting letter enclosing the letter written by hi to Gen. Gaines, and demanding to know whether he wrote it. I am glad to say that Gen. Taylor's reply was in every way worth the spirit of a high–toned, free, American citizen, who has never
learned to fawn that thrift may follow. He replied that he did write it, and as he did not intend it for publication, had not before examined it very carefully, but now, on a re-examination, he found not a word or expression that he wished to alter. He asked no favors—they might make the most of it. They took away all his regulars save a hand full, and left him none but raw volunteers. Had he retrenched on Monterey, as directed by the War Department, the whole country from Saltillo to Matamoros, in the opinion of all military men there, would have been lost. There is much more yet to be told on this subject at another time. Thank God, he has survived and broken down the base conspiracy, for conspiracy it is considered here by all good judged, military men and others."

"Of Gen. Taylor himself, I wish space would allow me to say all that we know. He unites so many excellences of character, that, opposed as I am to Military Presidents, and detesting War and everything pertaining to it, to a degree of disgust and hatred, yet I sincerely look upon Taylor as one providentially raised up in regenerate and reestablish the respectability of this Government. I go for him, not because he is a successful general, but in spite of it. A good Whig on every point—able and honest—opposed to the Annexation of Texas, and to this war, humane, unassuming and unaspiring—what more can any honest man, North or South, require?"

[BJM]

June 1, 1847, RWv24i44p2c1, General Taylor

The lately published letter from Gen. Taylor to a distinguished gentleman in Louisiana, in which, although intimating his willingness to obey the call of his countrymen, with characteristic distrust of his own qualifications for the Chief Magistracy, he expressed a desire that some one of our distinguished Statesmen should be elevated to that high office, has elicited from the Washington Union the following paragraph, in almost every line of which, even when the writer affects to be most complimentary, hostility to the old Hero, who has thus far Providentially survived, as he defies the efforts of the Administration and its friends to destroy him, is (perhaps unconsciously) betrayed. The Union thus prefaces the letter;

"The following letter bears marks of the modesty which the New Orleans Bulletin attributes to Gen. Taylor. But we hazard the remark, that it might have been equally, if not more modest, if, ‘casting away all ambitions,’ he had stood aside for the present, and firmly passed over the honors of an election to one of the ‘eminent and deserving’ citizens, whom he considers better ‘qualified for so high and responsible a station.’ Whilst the gallant and distinguished General, however, removes ‘all the doubt (as the bulletin supposes) as to his acceptance of the nomination for the Presidency,’ we are free to state, with all respect, that this is not going far enough. The people ought to know—and a free people will never be satisfied without knowing—how far his principles suit them. Is he a Democrat, or is he a Whig? He goes for ‘a strict observance of the constitution’. What does the General mean by a strict observance? Is he of the school of Jefferson, or of Webster and Clay? Does he go for a national bank—for a national system of internal improvements—a protective or revenue tariff—the law of 1842, or of 1846? We have no idea that the old soldier affects any mystery upon these questions. He will scarcely pursue the advice of his ‘committee of secrecy’ at Philadelphia. But let some friend call upon him for another letter, and let the old General come out. This is what the country has a right to ask; and nothing short of this requisition ought to satisfy an enlighten people, who value ‘principles more than men.’"

We have no doubt the Union would have been greatly gratified, had Gen. Taylor peremptorily refused to permit the use of his name as a candidate for the Presidency. But “the gallant and distinguished General” does not so understand his duty—and that, we venture to say, he will perform, fearless alike of open and secret, official and unofficial assailants, should he be called upon, from a quarter entitled to such a respect, to exchange the military for the civil services of his country. Acting upon the maxim of the patriotic Lownder, while he does not seek the high position to which so large a portion of his countrymen have evinced a determination to elevate him he will not decline it should it be conferred upon him.

Nor need the slightest apprehension be entertained, should he become hereafter a candidate for the Presidency, that he will fill to give a clear and candid exposition of his views upon all questions of public interest, upon which, in the event of his election, he may be required to act. Reared in the camp, he has all the frankness of the soldier, and none of the arts of those who have been trained in schools of Jefferson, or of Webster and Clay? Does he go for a national bank—for a national system of internal improvements—a protective or revenue tariff—the law of 1842, or of 1846? We have no idea that the old soldier affects any mystery upon these questions. He will scarcely pursue the advice of his ‘committee of secrecy’ at Philadelphia. But let some friend call upon him for another letter, and let the old General come out. This is what the country has a right to ask; and nothing short of this requisition ought to satisfy an enlighten people, who value ‘principles more than men.’"

In its devotion to a literal interpretation of the constitution, which has been certainly signalized in a remarkable manner since it became the organ of the Executive author of the Mexican war, the Union seems not to be satisfied with the declaration of Gen. Taylor that he is in favor of a “strict observance” of the provisions of that instrument. The suspiciousness of the Union is not at all strange—since it has seen how little Gen. Jackson, Mr. Van Buren and Mr. Polk, all of whom went into office, pledged to a “strict construction” of the constitution, according to the straitlaid definition of the powers of the General Government, set forth in the Resolutions and Report of’98–’99, have been restrained by their pledge, whenever they had an object to accomplish by its violation. The Union, therefore, asks, “what does the General mean by a strict observance?” We cannot, of course, tell that paper, in detail, what he does mean; but we may venture to say what he does not mean. He does not mean, we are very sure, that the Executive, has the power, either to make war, or to render it inevitable, by invading in time of peace, a foreign territory, for the purpose of settling by force a question of boundary, which Congress has expressly declared was left open for future negotiation! He does not mean that the
Executive has a right to annex conquered territory to the Union, by the proclamations of military and naval commanders, to form territorial governments therein, to appoint officers to administer them, and to punish Mexican citizens, from whom an oath of allegiance to the United States has been exacted at the point of the Bayonet, as Traitors, for acts of fidelity to their own Government, and for defending their own soil. He does not mean that the Executive has a right to usurp the essentially Legislative function of enacting laws for the collection of duties upon imports in Mexican any more than in American ports! He does not mean, that while the constitution prohibits the General Government from improving our own rivers and harbors, (according to the doctrine laid down in Polk’s veto message, or to build ship canals in any portion of the Union as it exists, it has a right to buy or to conquer from Mexico the “right of way,” and to construct afterwards, either by a direct appropriation, or through the agency of incorporated capital, such a canal through the Isthmus of Tehuantepee, in order to connect the Atlantic with the Pacific! He may, for aught we know, believe with Madison, the father of the Constitution and the author of the Resolutions and Reports of’98–’99, in the constitutionally and expediency of a Protective Tariff. But he does not belong, we are confident, to that school of pretenders and purists, who, shrinking with well–feigned horror from these measures, have no scruple of rendering the constitution a dead letter in its most essential and vital parts. He does not strain at a gnat, after having swallowed a camel. When he speaks of a strict observance of the constitution, he means, doubtless, to give it that interpretation, in regard to questions of domestic policy, which has the sanction of the fathers and founders of the Republican church—not that infinitely more latitudinous model of construction by which the acts of the Modern Democratic Administration, beginning with Jackson and to end, we hope with Polk, has been uniformly characterized—a mode of construction th uniform tendency of which has been to consolidate all the powers of the Federal Government, wrongfully or rightfully claimed and exercised, in the hands of THE EXECUTIVE—converting Congress into a mere registrar of the edicts of one man, who, by the unity of his will and the judicious use of his patronage, has, to all intents and purposes, become “The Government.”

June 1, 1847, RWv24i44p2c2, The Battle of Buena Vista

Brilliant as was the victory achieved by Gen. Taylor’s army at Buena Vista, the consequences resulting from that victory stamp it with a degree of importance which has scarcely been fully appreciated by the country. As a feat of arms, the New York Journal of Commerce, (a paper friendly to the Administration,) truly remarks, it has never been surpassed in our history, and perhaps never will be. But who has reflected on the fearful consequences that would have resulted from the defeat of Gen. Taylor at the place? –The same paper, on this point, forcibly remarks:

"By maintaining his position, Gen. Taylor secured his whole line of operations from Buena Vista to the mouth of the Rio Grande, by failing to carry that position, Santa Anna, with the remains of his army of 20,000 men, was left in a most forlorn condition, with scarcely a day’s rations, and a desert between him and the means of subsistence. Bu making this attempt upon Gen. Taylor, Santa Anna in effect abandoned Vera Cruz to its fate; and the losses which he sustained in the battle and subsequently deprived him of the means of successful resistance, even in the difficult and seemingly impregnable defiles of Cerro Gordo. It is now evident, (indeed it was so at the time,) that the battle of Buena Vista was the key to the whole campaign. Upon that issue Santa Anna hazarded every thing; and he knew it well. Hence the intensity of the struggle. What has since followed, was the natural and almost necessary consequence of his defeat, (or want of success, if you choose to call it so,) at Buena Vista. For the almost superhuman efforts there made by the small army under General Taylor, they and he deserve the lasting gratitude of the country. –They will receive it.”

June 1, 1847, RWv24i44p2c3, To his Excellency James K Polk

A majority of the people of the United States have placed you in the highest office within their gift. They have elevated you to one of the most august positions in the world. It is true that you are a tenant for years, and have no estate of inheritance in the potential office you hold; but you have therefore the more dignified positions—one supposed to result from some personal excellence, and not the accidental honor of being born to rule. That has grown to be a vulgar distinction, and has fallen upon the foolish and the wise, the virtuous and the viscous alike.

From one situated as you are, the thoughtful of all lands and ages will demand a high and lofty bearing—something above the common level of character—and they will be satisfied with nothing less. To attempt a different line of conduct is to condemn your friends, and destroy your page of history—to tear if from the record, or to blot it with a stain of most foul pollution.

When you entered upon the duties of your responsible office, two paths lay out–spread before you— the one leading to a high and enduring renown; the other to end in the execution of the present generation, and the scorn and contempt of future ages—the one not only to lead you to fame, but your country to a higher rank among the nations of the earth; the other to lead you not only to disgrace, but your country to a lower place that you found it occupying among the governments of the world. One of those paths you have trod midway its distance, and you can begin to understand its bearings. Wither, think you, it is tending? Do you feel in your own heart and conscience, that, with purity of purpose, you have been pressing forward, with manly strides, to Fame’s “proud mountain tops”? Or do you the secret monitions of your conscience convict you of having crept along the other path, with stealthy pace? If you are a high–toned Patriot and a wise and virtuous Statesman, will you explain to the American People how it comes to pass that you have stricken the Sword from the hand of the gallant and virtuous Taylor —striped him of soldiers, and left him inactive in the mountains about Monterey? Why have you drawn the teeth of that Lion, and left him to crouch idly beneath our proud Eagle, which looks the more proudly because it soars over so brave, generous, and wise a soldier? Did the shadow of his mane obscure your heart and conscience, that, with purity of purpose, you have been pressing forward, with manly strides, to Fame’s “proud mountain tops”? Or have you “read Humboldt”? I s
the old soldier do "Rough and Ready" of speech for you –not supple enough in the "pliant hinges of the knee"? Is it true he is not courtely; not a fawning sycophant; not an automaton, to twist and turn, as one may like a thing to do, when one holds the wires –but then he is honest; he is brave; he is generous; he is modest; he is a Lion in battle, but merciful to the vanquished.

How comes it that you do not admire these qualities! –The Good Book says that "anger is fierce, and wrath is outrageous, but who can stand before envy?" A great man in this land had somewhat against Mr. Van Buren, and gave the casting cots against his nomination as Minister to England. If you will consult the Enquirer for 1831–2, you will find that that fact gave Mr. Van Buren the nomination (in Virginia) for Vice Presidency, whence he ascended to the Presidency. Thus you see it is possible for one’s enemies to help him on the honors they least desire to confer. So will it be in your case. You cannot destroy Taylor –Every blow you aim at him will elevate him. But what will it do for you? Will it "pluck up (your) drowning honor by the locks," or add a leaf to the wreath with which you would fain adorn your brow? No air, no! It may be that he will, in a great suit before the jury of the country, recover the Presidency from you, though "Snap, Quirk and Gammon" may be your counsel, and start you, a second Tottlebat Totmouse, to seek your own level amid the hisses and groans of a great multitude of people. No, sir; you are mistaken, if you think the people of the United States think the King can do no wrong. In this country, thank God! That is indeed an obsolete idea. And writes against you now, on the tablet of the public mind, is the fearful sentence, : "Thou hast been weighed in the balances and art found wanting."

I am, as ever, your loving friend.

NOUS VERRONS. [BJM]

June 1, 1847, RWv24i44p2c4, Later From the Brazos


The U.S. steamship Trumbull, Capt. Stoteabury, arrived last evening from the Brazos, whence she sailed on the 19th inst. The following passengers came over on the Trumbull: Capt A B Lansing, Assistant Quartermaster, U.S.A.; Capt E Webster and servant, and Captain Crownsnield, Mase. Volunteers; Capt Claiborne, of the U.S. steamer Col Cross; Lieut Frost, of the Voltigeure; Father MecElroy, Chaplain U. S. Army; Mr. Coolidge, Mase. Volunteers; Mr. Field; Mrs. Reed, and 39 deck passengers mostly discharged volunteers. Capts Lansiag, Webster and Crowninshield return, to the States for a short time for the benefit of their health.

Quite the most importance intelligence by this arrival concerns the safety of Col Doniphan command. According to the letter of our correspondent, dated the 3d inst. from Monterey, the most grave apprehensions were entertained in regard to that command. The rumor was, as will be seen by that letter, to which we refer, that Col D. had been defeated by the Mexicans and lost all his artillery. We are greatly in hopes that this will prove to be a mere Mexican rumor, and we are encouraged in this hope by the fact that the Picket Guard, published at Saltillo on the 3d, makes no mention of the rumor, and anticipation the speedy arrival of Col. Doniphan and his command at that place.

By this arrival we learn that Brig. Gen. Calwalader is forthwith to proceed with his command (excepting the dragoons) now encamped at Palo Alto, to Vera Cruz to reinforce Gen. Scott. The transports were being prepared at the Brazos when the Trumbull left.

Major Cross, 3d Dragoons, had arrived at the Brazos and proceeded to take command of the three, companies of his regiment stationed for the present near Palo Ito.

Col. Humphrey Marshall’s regiment of Kentucky cavalry was at Camargo at last accounts, on their way home. –They will not be disbanded until they reach this city.

A rumor had prevailed in Matamoras of a duel between Capt. Montgomery, quartermaster at Monterey, and Capt. T. F. Marshall, of the Kentucky cavalry, in which one of the parties fell. The rumor was false. There had been a serious misunderstanding between the two gentlemen, but a reconciliation was brought about without a hostile meeting.

The 3d Ohio Regiment, under Col. Curtis, was expected at Monterey during the second week in May, on its way home; and the 1st Ohio Regiment, long stationed at Monterey, would leave about the same time.

At last accounts the most intense curiosity was felt at Monterey and Saltillo to learn news of Gen. Scott’s movements. They had not then heard of the victory of Cerro Gordo, but had innumerable false rumors of operations on the Vera Cruz road to Mexico.

The Picket Guard contains the result of a court martial in the cases of Gen. Lane and Col. Bowles. We make no apology for giving the proceedings in full in justice to those officers and to the Indians regiments. The proceedings will be read with great interest, especially in the West.

*Inquiry in the Case of Gen. Lane.*

Facts. –That at the battle of Buena Vista on the 22d of February, General Lane commanded the 2d and 3d Regiments of Indiana Volunteers; that on the 23d, he was in immediate command of the 2d Regiment of Indiana Volunteers and three pieces of artillery under the command of Lieut. O’Brien, and that the 2d Indiana Volunteers retreated from the field without any orders from Gen. Lane, on the 23d of February; but through the exertions of General Lane and other officers, from one hundred and fifty to two hundred men
of the 2d Regiment Indiana Volunteers were rallied and attached to the Mississippi regiment and the 3d Indiana Regiment, and remained with them on the field of battle during the remainder of the day.

Opinion. –The court are of opinion, that during the whole period of the 22d and 23d of February, 1847, Brig. General Lane conducted himself as a brave an gallant officer; and that no censure attacked to him for the retreat of the 2d Regiment Indiana Volunteers. [BJM]

June 1, 1847, RWv24i44p2c4, Inquiry in the case of Col. Bowles

Facts. –In reference to the first charge, in appears from the evidence that Col. Bowles is ignorant of the company, battalion an dbrigade drills and that the manoeuvre of the evening of the 22d February, indicated in the third specification of that charge, was indicative of an ignorance of the battalion drill.

In relation to the second charge, it appears from the evidence before the court that Col. Bowles gave the order, “Cease firing and retreat,” that Gen. Lane was present, and that he had no authority from Gen. Lane to give such order.

It also appears that Col. Bowles retreated after having given the aforsaid command; but that he did not shamefully run away from the enemy, nor did he hide himself in any ravine from the enemy or from his regiment.

It appears, too, that Col. Bowles dismounted from his house in rear of his regiment; but there is no evidence to show that he did so to protect himself from the enemy.

The court find that the fact of Col. Bowles having given the order above mentioned did induce the regiment to retreat in disorder.

Col. Bowles gave this order with the intention of making the regiment leave its position; but the court dies not find that he had been particularly ordered to maintain and defend it.

Opinion. –With reference to the first charge, the court is of opinion that Colonel Bowles is ignorant of the duties of colonel; but the court would remark that ill health, and absence on the account of ill health, have in some degree prevented him from fitting himself for the duties of that office.

The court is of opinion that at the time Col. Bowles gave the order “retreat,” he was under the impression that the artillery had retreated, when in fact the battery had gone to an advanced position under the orders of General Lane, which orders had not been communicated to Col. Bowles.

And in conclusion, the court find that throughout the engagement, and through the whole day, Colonel Bowles evinced no want of personal courage or bravery; but that he did manifest a want if capacity and judgement as a commander.

[There is in the Guard a very full discussion of the conduct of the Indiana regiments at Buena Vista, but we have not space to give more on the subject to day than the above official proceedings.]

The Guard says that several English gentlemen who arrived at Saltillo on the 3d inst., (illegible) Durango, report Col. Doniphan to have started from Chihuahua on the 1st April for Saltillo, by way of San Jose du Parral. This agrees with the report we have in the papers of the city of Mexico, but the later allege that the force returned to Chihuahua after having proceeded twenty odd leagues south. We have great hopes this is true, and that thereop already alluded retrograde movement. The guard thinks the whole command must be within a few days’ march of Saltillo, but it had not probably heard of the return to Chihuahua; or, hearing of it, did not credit it.

The same English gentlemen from Durango make the following report, which we copy from the Guard:

"On the route they saw Gen. Garcia Conde on his way to Durango, with 150 men, having as a prisoner Gen. Heredia, who commanded at the battle of Sacramento. He is accused of treason and of being fond of American gold. –All the rest of the troops had dispersed for their homes. –Durango was in a great state of alarm, dreading the arrival of Gen. Wool, who was expected by them daily. Mr. James Magoffin was a prisoner, with the city for his prison limits, but well treated by the Mexicans.

"Everything was quiet in California, the whole country in possession of the Americans, and a very great influx of families and settlers from Oregon."

The Monterey Pioneer thinks that an advance upon San Luis is designed by Gen. Taylor, as usual activity prevails in all the departments, and four trains loaded with subsistence stories, have recently arrived at that place.

A man named John Doss, confined in jail at Matamoras, charged with selling arms and ammunition to the Mexicans, recently affected his escape.

The Matamoras flag says that Gen. Urrea has issued a proclamation to the citizens of Cadareyte, very similar in tone to that of Santa Anna. He calls upon the town for a contribution towards supporting the war, and also orders under arms all able–bodied males between the ages of 16 and 45. Immediately after having issued this proclamation he set off for the city of Mexico.
The following interesting items are all from the Flag:

"Gen. Cadawalader and staff, are at the camp of instruction, Palo Alto, 14 miles below this place. Also, Col. Ramsay, Pennsylvania regiment, Lieut Col Fay, 10th Regiment; Maj. Morgan, 11th do; Maj. Talbott 16th do: Capts. Carr, Lyberg, Moore, Irwin, Waddell and Cummings, 11th Regiment. Two companies of dragoons, Capts. Bernard, Biddle, Howard, Edwards and Churchill. Tow companies of the 16th Regiment, Capts. Hendricks and Breman –three companies of the 10th and Capt. Pittman's company of the 9th. These troops will remain at Palo Alto under strict discipline, and from thence, it is rumored, be transferred to Vera Cruz.

"Romano Paz, a notorious Mexican robber and murderer, was captured in the vicinity of Old Reynosa, by Capt. Reid, of the steamer Corvette, and brought down to this city on Wednesday last, where he is now imprisoned. It appears that he holds the rank of captain under Canales, and visited the settlements near Reynosa for the purpose of inducing the rancheros to join his standard. The people were not disposed to join him, and sought an opportunity to place him in the hands of the Americans. This was effected by informing Capt. Reid of his whereabouts and designs, who collected a force from the boat and made him prisoner at a rancho where he had been quartered for several days.

"It is stated in the Monterey Pioneer, upon the authority of a gentleman from San Luis Potosi, that but a few rumored effective troops were in that city, and that the hospitals were filled with the sick and wounded, who were dying for want of attention. A report reached there, that General Taylor was within three days' march of the city, which caused hundreds of inhabitants to vamos with their property."

The Flag accompanies the following card with a warm tribute to the virtues and piety of Rev. Mr. McElroy.

A CARD –The undersigned, being about to return to the United States, takes this opportunity of expressing his gratitude to the citizens of Matamoras, with whom he had the pleasure of an acquaintance, for their marked regard to religious opinions. To the officers of the army he acknowledges continuous acts of controversy, during his sojourn with them –the recollection of which will be cherished by him through life, and will enable him to appreciate their noble deeds, accompanied, always, by traits still more glorious –the humane, kind, and truly Christian treatment of their vanquished enemy, whether as prisoners of war or wounded on the battle-field. My fervent wishes and prayers, though absent from the army, shall be elicited for its members, and of a speedy and honorable peace.

JOHN McELROY,

Chaplain U. S. Army.

[BJM]

June 1, 1847, RWv24i44p2c5, Latest from Vera Cruz

The schooner Whig, Captain Rayner, arrived yesterday from Vera Cruz, having left there on the evening of Saturday, the 15th inst. Lieut. A. J. Brock and thirty-three privates being company F of the Tennessee cavalry, came passengers on the Whig. She brought no mail, that having been put aboard the schooner Allen Stevens, which has not yet arrived.

Verbally we learn that there had been no later arrival from the army of Gen. Scott. We have a copy of the American Eagle of the 15th inst., which has not a word of later news from above.

From the Eagle we learn that the U.S. sloop of war Germantown, Capt. F. Buchanan, arrived off the castle on the 13th inst., but sailed immediately for Anton Lizardo, to await the orders of the commodore. The U.S. steamer Spitfire, Lieut Com'g Lee was lying at Vera Cruz awaiting dispatches expected daily from the interior.

The Eagle is or opinion that Gen. Scott will remain at Puebla until the beginning of autumn, withouth marching upon the capital.

The Eagle gives a somewhat different version of the recent surprise and murder of dragoons at Santa Fe, near the city, from that we have published. We copy a greater portion of its article.

"It appears that a detachment of some seventy odd dragoons, belonging to the command of Col. Harney, left Jalapa some day since, in command of Lieut. Hill, with the intention of visiting this city, to procure a further supply of horses. On arriving at Santa Fe, nine of the men were left behind, in consequence of illness on their part, and fatigue on the part of their horses, Lieut Hill and his command continued on, feeling that those who were behind were perfectly safe, and soon after reached this city, where he has since been detained, although it was his expectation that he would return the next morning. Nothing further was heard form the men until Thursday morning, when news reached here informing us that a large party of Mexicans had attacked and liberally cut them to pieces in the most shocking manner. One of them was killed upon the spot, and five others mutilated in such a manner as to strike one with horror at sight.

"Means of transportation were furnished and the survivors brought to the city as soon as possible, but another of them died on Thursday night, and two others were last evening reported by the surgeons as unable to survive their wounds during the night. The hand of one is cut off above the wrist –the abdomen of another is cut in such a manner as to allow the bowels to protrude. Another has several several cuts on the head, penetrating the skull –and the arms and bodies of others are literally hacked and mangled so as to render description almost incredible.
“Captain Walker left the city on Thursday morning, accompanied by his mounted riflemen, in search of the murderers, and, we learn, encountered a large party of Mexicans, whom he attacked and succeeded in killing, four. —Yet, we believe there has not been anything received of a positive nature in regard to the number killed.”

The Eagle complains (illegible) good set terms of the dullness of Vera Cruz and the excessive heat, which threatens to become yet more intense. Nothing is said of the health of the city. From the report of the proceedings of the city council we perceive that our countrymen have brought a good deal of American energy to the task of cleansing the city, providing a police, supporting schools and the like. —Before we are done with Vera Cruz we hope it may become quite an attractive and health city.

There arrived at Vera Cruz on and after the 12th inst. the bark Adeline and Eliza and brig Tasso, of this port; the brig N. G. Browne, from Philadelphia, and sloop Wm. R. Creak, from Brazos Island, Among the clearances during the same time for this port were the shop Pharsalis, bark John Oalin, brigs Importer, Harriet. R. Tussell, Lincoln and Osceola, and schooners Oreends and Selim. (BJM)

June 1, 1847, RWv24i44p3c1, Latest from Santa Fe

CRITICAL STATE OF THE COUNTRY —ANOTHER REVOLUTION (illegible) —We have five days later news from Santa Fe. The news was brought to St. Louis on the 22d inst, by Mr. J. McKnight, a trader from Santa Fe. He represents the country to be in a most critical state, and that a revolution was daily anticipated. The executions which had taken place, had caused a great sensation, particularly at . . . (illegible) . . . .

An Indian express had been received at Vegas, from . . . (illegible) . . . , for a large body of men to hold themselves in readiness to march there.

It was the general opinion that another and speedy effort would be made by the Mexicans to revolutionize the country from American sway.

The chief . . . (illegible) . . . and others at Vegas, who were peacefully disposed, were trying to prevent such a movement, which is evident that nothing can effect it except the presence of a strong force to overawe them.

The Camanche Indians are very troublesome, and have announced their intentions to attack every party.

The party of a Mr. Brown, a Sante Fe trader, who left the settlement not long ago, was attacked at the crossing of the Arkaneus, their horses and mules taken, with about half of their merchandise. (BJM)

June 1, 1847, RWv24i44p4c2, Movements of Troops

The Raleigh Star of the 27th inst. announces the departure from that city, on the day before, of a fine company of troops for the regular service in Mexico, enlisted by Capt. William J. Clarke in that vicinity, numbering between 85 and 90 men. They are to be joined by 30 more at Wilmington. Prior to their departure, the Ladies of Raleigh presented Capt. Clarke with a handsome Sword, and a Bible was given to each of the numbers of the company, by the Rev. Mr. Cameron, as the organ of the citizens, accompanied with an impressive admonition and exhortation.

On the 22nd instant, a company of 83 recruits enlisted in North Alabama, commanded by Capt. H. C. Bradford, and Lieuts. H. L. Clay and Nicholas Davis, and 16 privates of the 3rd Dragoons under Lt. W. B. Cook, arrived at New Orleans, on their way to Mexico.

On the same day, Col. T. P. Andrews of the Voltiguers, accompanied by Capt. J. D. Blair, with 120 men of that corps, and Lt. Charles F. Vernon with 35 men, sailed from New Orleans for Vera Cruz, on board the steamer Massachusetts, on board of which were the rocket and howitzer batteries belonging to the Voltiguer regiment. Capt. Bethell, of the Infantry, with 60 men, also took passage on board the Massachusetts, to join Gen. Taylor.

The U. S. Steamer Telegraph sailed from New Orleans on the same day, having on board R. A. Parrish, Esq. Bearer of despatches to Gen. Taylor, Gen. Agur, and several officers, together with Capt. Gaither’s company, 3rd Dragoons, about 80 men.

The Fashion also sailed for Vera Cruz, with Lt. Col. E. W. Moore, Capt. Duperu’s company, and about 250 men of the 3rd Dragoons.

GENERAL TAYLOR

Resolutions were adopted by a public meeting in Trenton, (N.J.) some time ago, in which the conduct of the administration towards Gen. Taylor and his Army was strongly condemned. These resolutions were transmitted, by the Secretary of the meeting, to Gen. Taylor, who has replied as follows:
Camp near Monterey, Mexico, April 15 1847.

Sir: I have read with much gratification, and with feeling of warm respect and gratitude, the resolutions adopted by a meeting of the citizens of Trenton, enclosed in your letter of the 18th of February, and which express the approval of the operations of our army in the enemy’s country, and a desire to watch over and guard the rights of all engaged in the laborious and hazardous duty for sustaining the national honor in a war with a foreign enemy.

While thus braving danger and death for the common country, our troops will ever find an ample reward in such warm expressions of approbation and of real justice, while a greater stimulus to the endurance of privations and to renewed exertions in vindicating the honor of the country, is impressed upon all.

Be pleased, dear Sir, to accept for yourself and the citizens of Trenton the sincere thanks of all of us, who are thus honored by your sympathies, and warm interest, and be assured that beyond these we ask no more glorious reward. Your most obedient servant,

Z. Taylor,
Major General, U.S. Army.

Dr. John T. Clarke, Sec’y of Meeting of Trenton.

June 1, 1847, RWv24i44p4c2, U.S Army Recruiting

Wanted for the United States army able bodied men, between the ages of eighteen and thirty-five years, being above five feet three inches high, of good character, and of respectable standing among their fellow citizens. None need apply to enter the service, but those who are determined to serve—the period of their enlistment—honestly and faithfully “during the war” with Mexico.

A bounty of TWELVE DOLLARS will be paid to each recruit enlisted for the Artillery, Infantry, or Mounted Regiments—also, ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY ACRES OF LAND, or $100 on being honorably discharged.

Besides the monthly pay, as above stated, one ration per day is allowed every soldier, which is amply sufficient for his subsistence—also, a large supply of comfortable and genteel clothing. Good quarters and fuel are at all times furnished, and every attention will be paid to making those men who may enlist, and are determined to serve their country in good faith, comfortable and contented with their situation. The best medical attendance is always provided for the sick soldier, and no deduction of pay is made during the period he is unable to perform is duty. Should the soldier by disabled in the line of duty, the laws provide a pension for him.

By the above, it is seen that the pay and allowances are respectable and that, with prudence and economy, the monthly pay of the soldier may be laid up, as every thing requisite for his comfort and convenience is furnished by the Government, including his sugar and coffee.

The sum of TWO DOLLARS will be paid to any citizen noncommissioned officer or soldier, who shall bring to the rendezvous an able-bodied recruit, who shall be regularly enlisted. The citizen should present his recruit to the Lieutenant or Captain, and not to the Recruiting Sergeants.

CAPTAIN JOHN TYLER, JR.

Recruiting Officer.

June 4, 1847, RWv24i45p1c1, General Scott’s Proclamation

The Bugbear of European Intervention.

The style of Gen. Scott’s late proclamation to the Mexican people has been as severely criticized as its sentiments. But we submit that it is scarcely fair to hold either the signer of that paper, or its writer, (If they be, as we believe they are, different individuals) responsible for its verbally and grammatical inaccuracies—since, as we are informed, it is not the original version, but a translation of a translation, having been first rendered into Spanish, and afterwards again Anglicized. Its style, however, is altogether a matter of subordinate interest. The sentiments embodied in it impart to this document its chief importance.

Satisfied, as soon as we perused it, that Gen. Scott ought to be held no more responsible for its contents, than an Envoy at a foreign court, who faithfully carries out, as he is bound to do, however they may conflict with his individual opinions, in instructions of his Government, is for the character of the positions he is required to maintain, every additional development only serves to confirm our original conviction. The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, a clerk in the State Department, and, as his letters show, having generally quite an intimate and accurate knowledge of the acts and purposes of the Cabinet, in his last letter, says: “The proclamation was substantially written by Gen. Scott, Mr. Trist having been, at the time, I Vera Cruz, and in communication with Gen. S. and no doubt approving of the matter contained in it. The text of the proclamation COINCIDES PERFECTLY WITH THE VIEWS OF THE
One of the most startling grounds assumed in General Scott’s proclamation, is the unequivocal admission, that, so far from “war existing by the act of Mexico,” as asserted in the preamble to the act of Congress recognizing a state of hostilities, and providing for their effectual prosecution—so far from its having resulted from the shedding of “American blood upon American soil,” as asserted by Mr. Polk—in his Message to that body—so far from its having been undertaken to enforce the payment of the long standing claims due from the Mexican Government to our citizens, whose property it had seized and confiscated, and whose persons it had subjected to indignity and outrage—THE WAR WAS BEGUN BY OURSELVES, AND FOR A CAUSE NEVER THERTOFOR EVEN HINTED AT BY THE PRESIDENT:—Reasons of high policy and of Continental American interest,” says the Proclamation, “precipitated events in spite of the circumstance of the Cabinet at Washington, which ardent desired to terminate its differences with Mexico.” The allusion in this remark, some what obscure, standing alone, is lucidly interpreted by a recent elaborate editorial in the Washington Union, though evidently not written by the editor, in which a design, founded upon the filmsiest possible testimony, is ascribed to the leading European Governments, to re-establish, with the connivance and assistance of Paredes, then at the head of the Mexican Government, monarchical institutions in that country, and to place a Spanish Prince upon the newly erected throne. This article—the leading assumption of which is disproved by one of the very extracts from the English papers of the time, cited by the Union for the purpose of imparting plausibility to this new version of an old romance, fixes with entire certainty the meaning of the following quotation from the remarkable Proclamation, addressed by the Administration, through Gen. Scott, to the Mexican people. (illegible) they always deem themselves safe, when driven from every other subterfuge, they can entrench themselves behind this—notwithstanding it has been worn almost threadbare by the frequency to which it has been resorted, under pretext the most absurd, and which, as after events clearly demonstrated, were INVENTED, as this is, for the occasion.

But, even suppose it to be true, that England, France and Spain really meditated the re-subjugation of Mexico to European dominion, and were preparing to place a Spanish Prince upon the throne, to be sustained by their bayonets, and that Paredes was the instrument through whom this revolution was to be effected—suppose this fable to be a fact, was curse did it become our Government to pursue? Was it our policy to overrun Mexico with fire and sword, because a new European Alliance meditated the subversion of its independence and its re-subjection to colonial bondage? It strikes us that instead of whipping our neighbor, we should have directed our resentment against the European authors of this new “Gunpowder plot.”—This view of the subject, we perceive, has naturally suggested itself to others also, upon whose reflections we pursue liberally to draw.

June 4, 1847, RWv24i45p1c2, From the City of Mexico

The New Orleans Picayune and Delta furnish us with (illegible) transfer them to our columns. Without furnishing any fact of special importance, it is sufficient to say, in the language of the Delta, that if their contents are to be considered a fair index to the popular mind, they would go to show that “the war spirit” is daily increasing, and that new measures are being constantly adopted to carry on the war with vigor and perseverance. Almost every number of the Mexican journals is filled with appeals to the people and to the authorities, urging action—prompt and incessant defensive actions. Individual subscriptions of money to furnish the government with means, numbering several thousand names, the amounts varying from 12 ½ cents to 1000 dollars, were in circulation; and we perceive that the Clergy of San Luis Potosi have issued an address to the people, announcing their intention “to preach three days in each week in order to incite the people to the proper religious enthusiasm,” which will doubtless be excited to the highest pitch when the number of the Washington Union, proposing the sequestration of the Church property, shall be received in Mexico, and read from their pulpits! At San Luis it is said there are 7000 muskets and 50 pieces of cannon, 26 of heavy caliber, with which to arm the expected recruits, who are to be placed under the command of Gen. Minon or Gen. Ureña. A letter from San Luis says: “We will have a large number of guerillas in about a month from this; and a base of 4500 men which we have now here will facilitate the defense of the State,” and assistance was promised by the adjoining States. The writer adds: “A general enlistment, to take place in 48 hours’ time, has been this day agreed upon by the government. Above all, there is a strong determination here to resist treaties of peace, which Mexico would wish to enter into, with the ‘hated Yankees,” as has been suggested in the letters of very late date from the capital.”

Gen. Bravo seems to be preparing for the defense of the capital. He issued two decrees on the 6th ult.; one ordering every person having two or more horses in his possession to deliver one of them to the commissary at or before the expiration of the sixth day, and the other ordering all citizens, from 15 to 60, to enlist at the shortest notice, and be prepared to present themselves armed and equipped, when they should be called out.

Santa Anna has been joined by considerable detachments of troops (doubtless a portion of those paroled at Vera Cruz and Cerro Gordo,) and has had a battery of artillery mounted, under command of Col. Aguado.

Gen. Guzman has taken charge of the works of fortification near the capital, and three strong positions leading to the city were being fortified. President Anaya had declared the city in a state of siege, and had completely silenced the press, forbidding it to engage in military and political discussions, while the siege continues. (It seems that even in Mexico the press has been heretofore free to criticize the conduct of the acts of their Rulers—though the “Union” would, without a Presidential decree, silence the Whig press in the United States! How fortunate it would be, if President Polk, like his Mexican contemporary, could spike the guns of the Intelligencer by a similar Executive prescripts. And why not? Is it not such now substantially the doctrine broached by the Washington Union? If not, what mean its learned lectures on moral treason?) El Republicano violently protests against this measure, and urges the President to retrace his steps. This paper likewise vehemently assails the military conduct of Santa Anna, which is as zealously vindicated by the Diario del Gobierno. El Republicano, however, is as decidedly in favor of prosecuting the war as the latter paper; and its chief complaint against Santa Anna is, that he has not conducted it with proper energy and skill.
June 8, 1847, RWv24i46p1c1, THE ARMY

Some weeks ago the Union stated, on the authority of the Adjutant General, that Gen. Scott would have received reinforcements, "more than sufficient to replace the twelve month's men before their term expired," and from the 'unusual rigidity" with which the new recruits were pushing forward to his camp, it estimated that he would have near 220,000 troops under his command. Upon this assumption, the Union declared that Gen. Scott was "under no necessity of lingering on his march to Jalapa, but he may proceed, if he sees fit, to the Capital." This official declaration is pronounced to be wholly untrue by a correspondent of the New Orleans Time(a neutral paper,) who writes from Vera Cruz, May 10, a follows:

"The man who penned that article, could not well have been so ignorant as to believe the facts which he asserts or to trust in the calculations of probabilities based upon them. He must have know, or the Adjutant General, whose authority was thus drawn into contempt, could or ought to have informed him, that General Scott had not probably at that moment one half of twenty thousand men under his command, in the sense intended, by the writer to be understood; and, at this time, 'let me assure you, upon authority better than that of the Adjutant General, that General Scott in this heart of Mexico, has not eight thousand efficient men in the fields, counting every soldier able to bear . . . [illegible] . . . , from Vera Cruz to Puebla. And where are those much–talked of reinforcements–those "recruits which are joining him with unusual rapidity." Very few pass this way; and I fancy Gen. Taylor is kept waiting for "the reinforcements which will be sent to him in time," entirely too long to enable him to open another passage for them."

[BJM]

June 8, 1847, RWv24i46p1c2, Washington Letter Writers

WASHTON LETTER WRITERS – GENERAL SCOTT'S PROCLAMATION

We find in the Washington Union of Thursday night, the following paragraph, the principal object of which seems to be to discredit certain Washington letter writers, of its own party. It is due to a portion of the, however, to say, that, on many occasions, their statement have been shown to be much more accurate and reliable than those of the Organ itself, and that, by whatsoever means they obtain their information, they not infrequently foretell with remarkable precision, as after–results demonstrate, the purposes and designs of the Administration. Some of the, it must be confessed, however, occasionally reader themselves ridiculous by their oracular airs, and by the solemnity with which they utter their predictions, if one of which happen to be fulfilled, though ninety–nine turn out to be false, they never fail to glorify their own sagacity and prescience, and to cite if as proof that their relations with the chief Executive officers are of the most familiar and confidential nature, although the very fact of their betrayal of that confidence would seem to show that they are unworthy of it. Among the most stilted of this class is the correspondent of the Baltimore Sun–who, we learn, is not a clerk in the State Department, as we had supposed, and a few days ago said–who has predicted the speedy restoration of peace almost daily for months past, only to find his vaticinations as often falsified by the event–but who, we presume, will go on repeating the prophecy, until, sure enough, peace will be restored, (unless the war shall last till the "crack of doom,")–and then, with the self–complacency characteristic of his class, he will exclaim, "Ah! I told you so," Men would . . . [illegible] . . . he prophets as well as wits; but in both departments,

"A thousand fails, for one that hits."

The Union says:

"We are authorized to state, unequivocally, that no letter–writer in this city has any means of knowing the "views and purposes of the administration," in advance of the public. Such pretended revelations must be merely the conjectures of their authors from facts within the knowledge of every person. This is especially true in regard to the State Department; because, from its very nature, it is a confidential branch of the government. The discretion of the head of that department is well known to the public; and he never even converses with any person concerning diplomatic arrangements, either in embryo or in progress, except with those directly interested. After negotiations are brought to a conclusion, whether fortunate or adverse, Mr. Buchanan is always proud to submit his labors to the public, unless a just regard for foreign nations renders this improper. This is the rule by which he has been guided ever since he came into the Department. Whether, therefore, General Scott does, or does not, possess diplomatic powers, or what are the objects of Mr. Trist's visit to Mexico, are known to no persons in the United States, beyond the President and members of his cabinet; and one confidential clerk in the Department.

"It may be proper here to add, that it is highly unjust of Gen. Scott to assert, or to insinuate, that he is not the author of the proclamation which bears his name. It is very certain that neither the administration nor Mr. Trist had any agency whatever in its production."

We do not know why it was proper to add, in connection with the Union’s disclaimer, on the part of the Administration, of all responsibility for the statements of the Washington letter–writers, that neither the Administration nor Mr. Trist had any agency whatever in the production of Gen. Scott's proclamation; as to our mind there seems to be no sort of relationship between the two subjects. There is a motive for it, doubtless–but what that motive is, the future alone can disclose. Does the Union intend to say that the Administration disavows Gen. Scott's proclamation? Does it mean to say that the sentiments embodied in it are not in strict accordance with the instructions given to that officer? Or is it one of those diplomatic equinoxes, characteristic of Court Journals, in all
If sacrifice in the service of the country entitle patriotic and brave men to a hearing before the tribunal of public opinion, the 2nd
heads of detachments have been heard. That regiment now asks to be heard also, and this is all the recompense it seeks for the loss
unsuccessful enterprise in the ambitious phraseology of a military despatch. The commander–in–chief, the general of divisions, and the
may be judged how far the commendation of official reports is deserving, and how far it has been attempted to smother up an
of the men and gallantry of its officers, the regiment is concerned that the public shall know the circumstances of the assault, that it
only one of the battle of Cerro Gordo that failed; and although the general orders announcing this fact bear testimony to the courage
through the principal cities of the Union. It is such appointments as these, and the willful oversight on the part of the Administration of
butt of ridicule by the whole Army. As it is, he will doubtless hold on long enough to display an additional star upon his shoulders,
and was not the most abject slave to vanity, self conceit and selfishness, would at once resign and save himself from being made the
honorable men to a height seldom surpassed under any circumstances. Gen. Pillow, if he has the first particle of common sense left,
Harney, the two latter of whom so greatly distinguished themselves in the battle of Cerro Gordo, aroused the indignation of all
an emergency. And to see such a man’ appointed over such men as Worth, (only a Major General by brevet,) Gen. Twiggs, and Col.
Major Generals, in the place of Messrs. Benton and Cummings, declined and of Col. Cushing as Brigadier, in the place of Gen. Quitman,
promoted. The appointment of Gen. Quitman gave general satisfaction; that of Gen. Pillow and Cushing excited the most unbounded
indignation and contempt, especially that of Gen. Pillow. If ever I heard tall cursing, and from Locofoocos at that, it was at the
appointment of Gen. Pillow. It was well known to the few persons he is allowed to designate by the title of "friends: that he is left here
perfectly satisfied of his utter incompetency to discharge even the most ordinary and common place military duties, and by their
advice, with the intention, on his arriving in the United States, to resign and return to civil pursuits for a livelihood. It was a subject
also, of momentary conversation, that he was ridiculed and denounced by most of the brigade he commanded at the battle of Cerro
Gordo. And that his command being repulsed, and Colonel Haskel’s regiment unnecessarily cut to pieces without receiving the slightest
support from the residue of the Brigade, as promised him by General Pillow, when he led his brave and fearless little command to the
very mouth of the enemy's cannon, was the result entirely of Gen. Pillow’s ignorance and total want of conception how to act in such
an emergency. And to see such a man' appointed over such men as Worth, (only a Major General by brevet,) Gen. Twiggs, and Col.
Harney, the two latter of whom so greatly distinguished themselves in the battle of Cerro Gordo, aroused the indignation of all
honorable men to a height seldom surpassed under any circumstances. Gen. Pillow, if he has the first particle of common sense left,
and was not the most abject slave to vanity, self conceit and selfishness, would at once resign and save himself from being made the
butt of ridicule by the whole Army. As it is, he will doubtless hold on long enough to display an additional star upon his shoulders,
through the principal cities of the Union. It is such appointments as these, and the willful oversight on the part of the Administration of
those officers who not only have merit, but have greatly distinguished themselves, that makes every man willing to quit the service as
soon as possible. But as Mr. Polk has probably no more nephews or other connections to appoint to office in the Army, there may
possibly be a chance for the meritorious hereafter.”

June 8, 1847, RWv24i46p1c3, Ole Rough and Ready

"OLD ROUGH AND READY" AND THE VIRGINIA VOLUNTEERS

Taylor paid a visit to our officers yesterday morning. He looks like an old Virginia Farmer, and says we are a very good looking set of
boys, but have got here too late to see any fun. He thinks there will not be much more hard fighting, but if there should be he will give

[BJM]

June 8, 1847, RWv24i46p1c4, Second Regiment of Tennessee Volunteers

CERRO GORDO.

Address of the 2nd Regiment Tennessee Volunteers

If sacrifice in the service of the country entitle patriotic and brave men to a hearing before the tribunal of public opinion, the 2nd
Regiment of Tennessee Volunteers may surely claim that privilege. The attack upon the enemy’s batteries by that regiment: was the
only one of the battle of Cerro Gordo that failed; and although the general orders announcing this fact bear testimony to the courage
of the men and gallantry of its officers, the regiment is concerned that the public shall know the circumstances of the assault, that it
may be judged how far the commendation of official reports is deserving, and how far it has been attempted to smother up an
unsuccessful enterprise in the ambitious phraseology of a military despatch. The commander–in–chief, the general of divisions, and the
heads of detachments have been heard. That regiment now asks to be heard also, and this is all the recompense it seeks for the loss
Gen. Pillow’s plan of attack was arranged by himself, as follows; The command of Col. Haskell, supported by Col. Roberts, 2nd Twigg’s division, with Shield’s brigade, was assigned the duty of carrying the height of Cerro Gordo. The sympathies of the people were excited on account of a wound, which was reported to have nearly severed his sword arm in twain, whilst in fact he carried the ball that hurt him in his breeches pocket. And now the remnant of the only regiment of his brigade which was actively engaged in battle, and which was repulsed with terrific slaughter, without having accomplished anything, comes forward and asks the calm judgment of their fellow countrymen upon the facts as they transpired. The survivors of that fearful and needless slaughter have the reputation of being driven from the field, whilst from the blood of the slain incense is exalted to glorify an officer, who, in the language of the address, “neither led, nor followed in that assault.”

We have had before now, and from sources which left no room to doubt its truth, a narration of the events of the battle similar to that no made public. We have heard these same facts from parties, who were not interested in the unsuccessful assault, beyond the concern which was felt by soldiers and officers of different corps for brethren in arms. And we have no doubt that public opinion will settle down in the conviction that the 2nd Regiment of Tennessee Volunteers did all that men could do under the circumstances, and that the assault miscarried solely because they were commanded to do an impossible thing by an officer who enjoys the exclusive credit of having every order a regiment from that gallant State to make a charge which necessarily resulted in a repulse. The fact that this regiment immediately rallied for another assault, and was ready to repeat an attack over ground upon which in three minutes time, one-fourth of its members was shot down, is an evidence of courage of strongest signification. These brave men were prepared to sacrifice themselves for the honor of their State and the United States, and they will no be the less cherished by their fellow citizens for that, the most devoted chivalry, when misled, would only achieve an honorable martyrdom.

June 8, 1847, RWv24i46p1c4, To the Public

Certain impressions which are abroad with the public in reference to the operations of the brigade of Gen. Pillow, at the battle of Cerro Gordo, seem to require of the undersigned officers of the 2nd Regiment Tennessee Volunteers, a simple statement of facts. It will be seen that the statement differs materially from the accounts which have heretofore reached the public ear, and that the idea it conveys to the military talents of Gen. Pillow is by no means complimentary to that officer. But the undersigned utterly disclaim any other motive in making this publication than such as arises from a desire to do justice to others and to have justice for themselves. They are unwilling to accord to the uncharitable the privilege of yielding to the brave men they commanded only that questionable sort of reputation which often attaches to men who have been engaged in an unsuccessful enterprise, unless it be shown that impossibilities were required of them.

On the evening of the 17th April late Gen. Scott promulgated to the army his orders for the action on the ensuing day. To General Twigg’s division, with Shield’s brigade, was assigned the duty of carrying the height of Cerro Gordo, of turning the enemy’s left wing and securing the Jalapa road, in his rear, to intercept his retreat: while Gen. Pillow was to make “along the route he had carefully reconnoitered, and stand ready, as soon as he heard the report of small arms of our right, or sooner if circumstances should favor him, to pierce the enemy’s line of batteries—the nearer the river the better, as he may select.”

Gen. Pillow’s plan of attack was arranged by himself, as follows; The command of Col. Haskell, supported by Col. Roberts, 2nd Pennsylvania Volunteers, was to assault No. @, the centre fieldwork on the enemy’s right; while at the same moment No. 1 on the extreme right of the enemy’s line, was to be attacked by Col. Wynkoop, 1st Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, supported by Col. Campbell, of the 1st Tennesseans.

The right of the enemy extended from the left of the Jalapa road to the gorge in the mountains through which the river flows. Along this line the enemy had established himself on three different heights, divided from each other by almost impassable ravines. Each of these three heights were strengthened by admirably constructed fieldworks, known to our engineers as No. 1, 2, and 3. These works were manned by upwards of 3000 men, 1500 of whom occupied the central field work.

There can be no doubt but that Gen. Santa Anna, relying on the great natural strength of Cerro Gordo, and the apparent impassability of the ground on his left, had not taught himself to believe that Gen. Scott should endeavor to turn his position there, but that he had strengthened his right under the impression that it was to be the great point of attack.

On the morning of the 18th the brigade of Gen. Pillow was moved by him from the camp in the following order—Col. Wynkoop in front, followed by Col. Haskell, behind whom came Col. Campbell, while Col. Roberts brought up the rear. Diverging from the Jalapa road to the left, nearest the fieldworks, the regiments moving in the same order, each by the right flank, entered a narrow path leading to a point near the centre of the enemy’s line of works. In this order the brigade was moved to the scene of action. Continuing along the path, the right of Col. Wynkoop’s regiment had reached a point of rising ground about 350 yards from the enemy when Gen. Pillow, fearful that the enemy had either discovered him or would do it, suddenly withdrew Col. Wynkoop by the left flank, filing him by the left flank square off to the left from the path, and directed him to cross the ravine which was immediately on the left of the path, and form his line of battle parallel with the enemy’s works, undercover of the hill and chaparral, and hold himself in readiness to assault No. 1.

While Col. Wynkoop was executing this order as rapidly as the ruggedness of the ground would allow him, the general commenced the work of placing the command of Col. Haskell in position. This he did by directing Col. Haskell to rest his right on the right of the path, extending his left square off the left so as to form his line of battle parallel with the centre fieldwork of the enemy. By this maneuver it will be perceived that the ranks of Col. Haskell’s command were reversed, the front rank becoming the rear and the right of the...
while slaves furnish a practical satire upon their boated love of freedom; while their recent battles in India and China, to go
correspondent with their professions, they might be justly cited as models for the imitation of all other people. But alas, their
corruption, How charmingly British writers discourse on the loveliness of universal freedom and philanthropy! If their practice were at
garrison, and the city of Vera Cruz with a redundancy of helpless population, he deliberately made his election to war upon women and

The London Spectator breaks out in this strain of bitter invective: “The Americans continue their triumphant progress, but without
strength and preparation for defense.

One inquiry and we drop this painful subject: Why did Gen. Pillow assail No. 2 at all, and why did he do it with so small a force, and
before he was ready? It cannot be said that Gen. Scott’s order directed him to do it. This is the language of that order: “Gen. Pillow’s
brigade will march at 6 o’clock tomorrow morning along the route he has carefully reconnoitered,” and stand ready as soon as he hears
the report of arms on our right—or sooner, if circumstances should favor him, to pierce the enemy’s line of batteries—the nearer the
brigade will march at 6 o’clock tomorrow morning along the route he has carefully reconnoitered, and stand ready as soon as he hears

We have performed an unpleasant task. We are sorry that we had it to do; but justice to ourselves, to the great fame of the States
represented by the command of Col. Haskell on that field, and to the memory of the dead who fell there, require that we should tell
“the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.”

Here two inquiries naturally present themselves: Where was Col. Wynkoop that he was not assaulting No.?–Where was Col. Roberts
that he was not supporting Col. Haskell? Col. Wynkoop, speaking for himself answers the first enquiry. He declares that he was ordered
not to advance from his position until ordered to do so by Gen. Pillow, either through one of his aids or by a concerted signal. He states
that he received no order, heard of saw no signal. If he had assailed No. 1 it would have been better for us. Then the guns there,
instead of annoying our rank, would have been directed at him. No. 1 was in fact the real point of attack. If the whole brigade had
assailed that work, it would have been easily carried. Then we could have turned his own guns on the enemy, and attacking him in
reverse, have driven him from the field. This was really what Gen. Scott desired Gen. Pillow to do, if circumstances favored him, with a
proper opportunity "to pierce the enemy’s line of batteries."

The second inquiry is answered by the orer in which the regiments were moved too the scene of action. Gen. Pillow had actually placed
Col. Haskell between Col. Wynkoop and Col. Campbell, who was to support Haskell! Moving a the regiments did by a flank toisomely
along a narrow defile, often in single file, it will be readily perceived what a great distance there was between the assaulting and the
supporting regiment. In fact when the command of Col. Haskell returned to the spot from whence it commenced the assault, Col.
Campbell’s regiment was in the act of filing past that point for the purpose of gaining its position in the rear of Col. Wynkoop, while Col. Roberts was still in rear of Col. Campbell, and of course had not reached that point.

It is generally believed that Gen. Pillow led the assault on No. 2. The General neither led nor followed in that assault. So far as we are
advised, he did not advance any nearer to the enemy’s line that the point from whence the assault commenced. We do not make this
statement because we deny to Gen. Pillow personal courage or gallant bearing in action—we are willing to yield him both: we simply
correct the error.

One inquiry and we drop this painful subject: Why did Gen. Pillow assail No. 2 at all, and why did he do it with so small a force, and
before he was ready? It cannot be said that Gen. Scott’s order directed him to do it. This is the language of that order: “Gen. Pillow’s
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the report of arms on our right—or sooner, if circumstances should favor him, to pierce the enemy’s line of batteries—the nearer the
rider the better—as he may select.” The italicizing is our own. Gen. Pillow preferred to have “carefully reconnoitered” this line of
batteries, and frequently spoke of his ability to carry them and of the fact that he was satisfied from his

June 8, 1847, RWv24i46p2c1, British Opinions

The leading English Journals, without manifesting any sympathy for the Mexicans, whom they bitterly reproach for effeminacy and
cowardice, speak, nevertheless, very harshly of our own proceedings in that county.

The London Morning Chronicle, after expressing its surprise at the fall of the Castle of San Juan, which, well victualled, and in ordinary
hands, it says, should have been for months impregnable, adds: “We can scarcely lament over the calamities of Mexico; but still less
can we rejoice in the success of the Unites States.”

The London Spectator breaks out in this strain of bitter invective: “The Americans continue their triumphant progress, but without
glory. It appears to be fairly inferred from the despatches of Gen. Scott, that, having before him the fortress of San Juan d’Ulloa with a
garrison, and the city of Vera Cruz with a redundancy of helpless population, he deliberately made his election to war upon women and
children! Crimes like that can never be committed with impunity. The race that commits them bears within itself the curse of internal
corruption,” How charmingly British writers discourse on the loveliness of universal freedom and philanthropy! If their practice were at
all correspondent with their professions, they might be justly cited as models for the imitation of all other people. But alas, their
wretched while slaves furnish a practical satire upon their boated love of freedom; while their recent battles in India and China, to go
June 8, 1847, RWv24i46p2c2, Peace or War

Several of the Washington letter–writers continue to repeat their prognostications of a speedy peace. Upon what facts they base these anticipations, however, we confess we are at a loss to conceive. Nothing that we have seen from the seat of war, justifies such an expectation. What may be the consequences of the next battle, which all seem to be apprehensive of, between General Scott and Santa Anna, between Puebla and the city of Mexico, we cannot foresee. Another victory may incline the people of that country to submit to such terms as may be dictated, though reasoning a priority, we have no right absolutely so to conclude. At present, we coincide with the generally well–informed Washington correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce, who writes, under date of, June 3rd, the following interesting letter:

Washington, June 3rd

Mr. Black, late consul in Mexico, has arrived here; also Major Bohlen, the later with despatches. I do not learn that the despatches embrace any thing of importance unknown to the public.

But I do learn that information has been received here from the most intelligent sources in our army, all of which tends to convince men high in office here that we are not on the eve of peace with Mexico. So far as official facts go, there is nothing in them to warrant the belief that the Mexicans will make peace. So far as the inferences of individuals go, they are uniformly and strongly adverse to all hope of peace. Some of our most intelligent men in Mexico state that the question of peace or war is to be decided by the Mexican clergy, and that they are all practically hostile to peace.

One letter from Jalapa, which has been shown to me, states that Gen. Scott is in a state of extreme anxiety as his condition, in respect to the prospect of keeping up his supplies, and of obtaining, in time, adequate reinforcements. This letter does not confirm the impression that Gen. Scott is so willing, as has been stated, to cut off his communications, and throw himself, with a small force, upon his own resources, as did his type, the first conqueror of Mexico, Cortez—when he burnt his ships. The same letter, however, states that the citizens of the Mexican capital have determined that their property shall not be hazarded by a defense; but that the plains and passes will be defended.
June 8, 1847, RWv24i46p2c2, General Taylor

The New Orleans Bulletin has been authorized to state—we presume by Gen. Taylor himself—that the General never used the expression, which has obtained such general currency through the public press, that, "if there had been only regulars in the battle of Buena Vista, he would probably have lost the day, as the Mississippi volunteers were whipped three times without knowing it." This General Taylor considers is doing great injustice to the regular army.

The letter under which we make the above statement adds the Bulletin continues; "So far from entertaining such a sentiment, the General lamented nothing more strongly than his entire want of regular infantry, as a brigade or even a strong battalion would have enabled him to carry the enemy's artillery, and to have entirely destroyed his army.

The Bulletin is farther authorized to deny the report, that the officers next in rank to Gen. Taylor were opposed to giving battle, which is entirely untrue, and is calculated to injure those officers if allowed to circulate uncontradicted.

[BJM]

June 8, 1847, RWv24i46p2c3, Likeness of Rough and Ready

We have been presented with a finely executed Portrait of Gen. Taylor, engraved by A. Huffy from an original portrait, taken at Camargo, by Capt. Eaton, one of his aids.

The fidelity of the likeness is attested by Com. Conner and other officers both of the Army and Navy; and purchasers may feel assured therefore that they will have a faithful delineation of the features of the old hero.

The portrait is for sale by Messrs. Yockney & Drenan, the latter of whom was with Gen. Taylor at Monterey.

[BJM]

June 8, 1847, RWv24i46p3c1, Later from Santa Fe

The St. Louis Republican, of the 28th ultimo, contains later intelligence from Santa Fe. The Republican says: "About a dozen of volunteers, discharged from service in Col. Price's regiment at Santa Fe, on account of ill-health, arrived in the city yesterday on the John J. Hardin. They left Santa Fe in detached parties—the latest on the 21st of April, and reached Independence on Sunday last. They brought a mail with them; but as I was deposited in the Post Office at Independence, our letters have not yet reached us.

We learn, generally, from these volunteers that every ruling was in a tranquil state when they left Santa Fe. The natives of the country were deprived of the means of doing mischief, even if they were so disposed, having no arms upon which they could rely and no ammunition. The courts for the trails of the rebels had closed both at Taos, and Santa Fe. And the sanguinary executions, which had taken place under the adjudication, were at an end. The old man at Santa Fe, under sentence of death for the part which he had played in the drama of rebellion, was waiting the decision of the President of the United States in his case—a representation of all the facts, as contained in papers which passed through this place some weeks since.

Col. Price was in command at Santa Fe, which has provided the graveyard for many young and gallant men. Our informant states, that nearly four hundred persons were buried there; and I the company commanded by Capt. Horine, of St. Genevieve, eleven deaths had taken place. Thirteen others were discharged from the same company, on account of ill health. One hundred had been discharged from Col. Price's regiment, on the same account.

No intelligence of a late date had been received from Chihuahua—nothing so late as we have by the Mexican papers. The extra battalion, under the command of Major Willock, and two companies commanded by Captains Murphy and Angney, were all stationed at Texas.

In coming in, these parties met great numbers of Indians, whose principal object seemed to be the stealing of mules and horses. On the 12th inst. they were attacked at Pawnee Fork, by about one hundred Dumanche and Arrapahoe Indians, and in the fight one Indian, the leader of the bank, was killed, and several wounded—one or two of the Americans were slightly wounded. The Indians succeeded in driving off one hundred and five head of horses and mules, principally the property of a party of Mexican trades, travelling in company. The party, on their arrival at Independence, numbering sixty-five men, with eighteen wagons, and 865,000 in specie, belonging to Mexican traders.

The winter at Santa Fe had been excessively severe, and of great duration. A man by the name of Hicks was killed at a fandango in Santa Fe, shortly before the last of the company left.

Of the number of volunteers at Santa Fe, very few will enroll themselves for a new term of service.

The St. Louis New Era, of the 28th ult says: A party of Mexican traders arrived this morning from Santa Fe, bringing with them 865,000 in specie. They contemplate going back to purchase goods. Another party are on their way in, and bring with them also a large amount
June 8, 1847, RWv24i46p4c1, War's Ravages

The *New Orleans Delta* draws a vivid contrast between the appearance of the Tennessee Regiments of Volunteers, as it passed through that city, twelve months ago, on its way to the scene of war, 900 strong, most of the men in the vigor of youthful manhood, and full of ambition and hope, and the spectacle it presented, a few days since on its return from the camp, reduced in number to 350—two thirds nearly of that gallant band having fallen victims to disease and to the sword. And of the comparatively few who have survived the disasters of a twelve month's campaign, how many will return to their homes decrepit from wounds or wasting away under incurable maladies? We hear much of the "glory" of the battle-field, but how rarely do we look at the reverse side of the medal, to see at what a costly sacrifice of life and health and comfort the blood-stained laurels that encircle the brows of the survivors have been won.

June 8, 1847, RWv24i46p4c3, From the Army of General Taylor

The schr Sea, Capt. Flanders, arrived yesterday from the Brazos, whence she sailed on the 20th inst. Though no later from that port, she brought a mail through from Gen. Taylor's headquarter4s at Monterey. Among her passengers were Capt. J. M. Hill, of the Quartermaster's Department, and Dr. J. W. Russell, U. S. A.

There is almost no news from that quarter, but as little was expected, we were not disappointed. There has been no confirmation received of the rumored defeat of Col. Doniphan; we are therefore more than ever persuaded that there was no good foundation for the original report. When he learns at Chihuahua that the insurrection in New Mexico has been effectually put down, and the guilt of those concerned in its expiated on the gallows, he will probably resume his original purpose of joining Gen. Wool near Saltillo. This is but conjecture.

We have a copy of the American Pioneer of the 6th inst. It is published, it will be remembered at Monterey. From it we learn that the Kentucky Cavalry was to proceed homeward in a few days.

Maj. Chevallie had gone down to Cadereyte with a part of the Rangers to procure corn. The Pioneer says Carvajal was still lurking about that town at the head of a hundred men, robbing on the road and selling his plunder at a store he has in the vicinity. This lucrative business the Texans are very likely to break up.

The house of a Mr. Samuel Still, in Monterey, was burglariously entered and robbed of a large amount of money on the 3rd inst. while he was off at a fandango. We see no other local news in the Pioneer.

June 8, 1847, RWv24i46p4c4, From Santa Fe

– The *St. Louis Era* of the 26th May says–

Messrs. Hartz and Steinbury, members of Capt. Fischer's company of artillery, now serving in Santa Fe, arrived this morning direct from the above place, which they left on the 12th of April. Everything was quiet up to the time of their leaving. We have no news by this arrival, nothing having transpired with our army since our last advices worthy of notice. Mr. Hartz represents the health of our forced in Santa Fe as being very bad, and many deaths occurred of late. The volunteers seem to be quite anxious to return home, and of the eight hundred men now with Col. Price, we are informed that not one hundred will re-enlist.

June 8, 1847, RWv24i46p4c5, News from the Steamer Palmetto

Jalapa, Mexico, May 19, 1847

There are occasional deaths among our wounded men, but the most of those injured at Cerro Gordo are doing well. Speaking of the wounded men, I will relate one little incident. When Gen. Shields was brought out from the spot where he was wounded, to a place where several others had already been taken, I happened to be present. After the wound of the gallant general had been dressed, the wants of the others—perhaps there some ten or fifteen of them—were attended to. Among them was one stout Illinois man, named Ford, the half of whose head at least appeared to have been carried away by a heavy cannon ball. One of our best surgeons, Dr. Wright went up to the poor fellow when his turn came, and to my astonishment commenced clipping the shattered portions of his face, jaw and ear which still hung to him and afterwards dressed the wound as well as circumstances wold admit. I say wound; it was worse than a wound, and a description of it would be too horrible. The battle was now over, and every moment they were bringing in some
Two or three days since, when nearly a month had passed away, I met Dr. Wright here in the streets of Jalapa, and asked him how long the man I question lived. If I was ever astonished in my life, it was when he told me that he was still alive, and what was more, that he was well and hearty! A portion of his face, his jaws on one side, and his ear are gone, but the man will soon be strong enough to shoulder his musket again, and is said to be more anxious than ever to have another turn with the Mexicans.

Four men belonging to the army are to undergo most severe punishment this afternoon: they are to receive thirty nine lashes each in the Plazs, are to have their heads shaved, and after the word “robber” is pasted on each of their backs they are to be drummed out of camp. This thing of publicly whipping a man is most degrading; but their crime was the premeditated robbery of the house of a Mexican, and under circumstances deserving of the most severe punishment. Three of them belonged to the 4th Artillery and one to the 2nd Pennsylvania regiment. Yours, G. W. K.

June 11, 1847, RWv24i47p1c1, Colonel Harney

Colonel Harney, of the 6th Infantry, a gallant officer, who has fought in every battle, since the Mexican campaign opened, except that of Cerro Gordo, in a letter to the New York Spirit of the Times, gives a description of the personal appearance and qualities of the dashing and intrepid Harney, which we are satisfied our readers will be gratified to see. He says:

“Sandy hair, very light complexion, a frank, generous expression of countenance, form perfect in symmetry, without one particle of superfluous flesh, fit “to run for a man’s life,” in the prime of manhood, with a mild but determinate blue eye, and you have him standing before you. Mount him on his noble charger, excite that blue eye until it almost scintillates, and give animation to that form until it appears to expand, and you have one of the most gallant, dashing cavalry officers in any service. He is a man of an iron will, and if necessary of desperate courage. As a partisan officer he is conspicuous. I deem him the best in the service. Like all men of such temperament, he is a warm devoted friend and a bitter enemy. Think of his towering form carrying his Brigade to the storming of that terrible height. What a picture for an artist! Harney with arm outstretched and sword drawn, pointing to the height, with his gallant Brigade regardless of all obstacles, rushing into the enemy’s breast works! All accounts represent him as conspicuous, and that the clear shrill tones of his voice, calm almost to frigidity, could be distinctly heard all the way up the mountain side.”

We copied, a few days ago, a brief extract from a long article of the London Times, commenting, with its wonted asperity, upon the attitude of the United States in relation to Mexico, and upon certain incidents connected with the prosecution of the war and we took occasion to intimate, I order to prevent misconception, that while we conceived some of his remarks to be forcible and true, others we believed altogether unjust. The Enquirer professes to be surprised that an American paper should endorse any portion of such bitter vituperation upon our own country, accompanied by the expression of a “wish” that we “had been more explicit as to what portion” of this article we commended for its truth and force. We have no objection to gratify it now, but before we do so, we beg to cite, as somewhat of a coincidence, the fact, that the Norfolk Herald inserted the entire article from the London Times, the most vituperative part of which we omitted, accompanied by the remark that, it mingles strong prejudices, ill feeling and error with much truth and serious reflection.”

The conflict with Mexico, if it be, as we believe it is, unnecessary, because all the legitimate and proper objects sought to be effected by it might have been accomplished, with less money, and without the loss of life and other serious evils that result from the war, is, as the London Times remarks, “the opprobrium of the age we live in”—a remark true and forcible, in regard to all wars waged unnecessarily and with a view to conquest, whether on this or the other side of the Atlantic—but especially by this country, because, as the Times proceeds to say, truly and forcibly, we profess “to have planted our institutions on a higher basis than the loss of bloodshed and the aggrandizement which have so often desolated the elder Continent.” And the remark is both true and forcible, as the introduction of the Wilmot Proviso, in advance of its termination, abundantly proves, that “every hour of success in this fatal war will be expiated by years of trouble and embarrassment” to the people of the United States. No—less so is the declaration that although the “revenue of years” has been expended in its prosecution, “there is no reasonable prospect of terminating the war by a sound or stable peace;” and by the farther remark that our conquests, if they are to be permanently annexed to the Union, will give us a population which we “can neither govern nor abandon”—and the result is more than probably, that whatever may be the basis upon which a hollow truce may be patched up, between the two countries, growing out of the inability of the Mexicans now to fight us any longer, we shall be hereafter “continually entangled in the anarchy of the sister Republic”—for as the Times both truly and forcibly observes, “A foreign dependency, incapable of self-government, yet detesting its Northern rulers, will, under one form or another, be connected with the Union; for, whatever form of government it may be possible to re-establish in Mexico, will only exist in servile fear of Anglo–American ascendency.” These are the remarks of the Times in which we perceive much both of truth and force. As for the vituperative portions of its article, we have only to say that we are as little the habit of endorsing such things as our neighbors, and not a whit more backwards, on all suitable occasions, in repelling them.
June 11, 1847, RWv24i47p1c2, Mexican Territory

We are glad to see such articles as the following in the columns of a leading Locofoco paper, and especially of a Southern journal. When it is gravely contended that we cannot honorably make peace with Mexico without requiring her to cede a large portion of her territory, we ought to be at least satisfied that the coveted acquisition is of sufficient value to justify us in encountering the perils to our national tranquility and to the perpetuity of our Union, to which, it is apparent, its attempted annexation must expose us. But, for the possession of such a country as is describe below by an evidently intelligent correspondent of the Mississipian, who would think of hazarding the peace and the perpetuity of the Union? Indemnity! How can a country so barren and sterile—a country fit only for Mexicans to live in—indemnify us, in any proper sense of the word, for the outrages of which we complain, and for the expenses of the war which we are sometimes told has been undertaken to avenge and redress them?

It is our solemn conviction, that, independently of the agitating controversy upon the slavery question, to which its attempted annexation to the Union must of necessity give rise, its acquisition would be an evil of no little magnitude, especially if we are to take with it the wretched population which nature seems to have adapted to the soil they occupy; for, if they are too big expelled, what need have we for the uninhabited desert which it must in that event become? It were wiser, if the region described below were already ours to pay the Mexicans millions of dollars to take it back, rather than to force or purchase from them a title to the worse than worthless soil, the imaginary wealth and fertility of which, it is to be feared, have tempted our Rulers to hazard a war for its conquest.

But let us see what terms the correspondent of the Mississipian speaks of that portion of the Mexican paradise, which, lying alongside of Texas, must necessarily form a portion of our new territory, if we acquire any in the valley of the Rio Grande. He writes:

“...The country between Camargo and Monterey is a miserable desert waste, producing nothing but stunted thorny shrubs and vast beds of cactus in all varieties. The soil is absolutely worthless. No water is to be found, except in the single stream—the Sand Juan—which winds its way from the mountains unaided by brook or rivulet in its whole course from this point to its confluence with the Rio Grande del Norte. I pronounce the whole of the two States I have named, as utterly worthless, for not withstanding there are points from 6 to 20 miles apart, at which you will find a Mexican village or rancho, yet such is the climate of the country, and so incomparably vast is the desert compared to the few fertile spots, that no value is to be attached to the latter. I believe I utter the opinion of every well-informed man in the army when I say, that the whole of the Northern Mexican provinces west of the Californias, are not worth governing—not will they ever be to the Anglo-Saxon race. The politicians at home, who have been disputing about the annexation of slave States, about to be carved out of this portion of the conquered Mexican territory, may as well save their breath, or expend it on some other subject. The time never will be when an African slave population can subsist in any part of this country. The miserable Mexican serfs, who live without meat and almost without bread—feeding upon the dust, like the reptiles to which they seem nearer akin than the human species—can alone inhabit such a country.”

[BJM]

June 11, 1847, RWv24i47p1c3, The Mexican Pirates

The Princeton to be sent to the Mediterranean!—The President has issued orders directing the steamship of war “Princeton” to be got ready for sea to proceed to the Mediterranean, in quest of the Mexican privateer “Unico,” and any other vessels that may be insulting our flag there. The Princeton is to be made ready to sail on or about the 15th of the present month.

[BJM]

June 11, 1847, RWv24i47p1c4, Further from Mexico

We mentioned earlier the activity of our squadron union the Pacific coast of Mexico. We now insert a letter which we find in a paper of the 13th inst. It is dated.

San Blas, April 30, 1847.

At 7 o’clock this morning there arrived at this port in two days from Maxatlan, a boat dispatched by a commercial house, with the single object of advising the officers of two small vessels, which were about to sail from Maxatlan with provisions, that they should not go to sea. But at once place their vessels in safety by them or running them in into some unfrequented creek.

The occasion for the despatch of these instructions by the parties interested is, that the 25th inst two of the enemies vessels of war presented themselves Maxatlan, establishing a new blockade which had been interrupted by the departure of the cruisers. From the vessels which had arrived information was obtained that by the 29th eight other vessels would reach there with sufficient force to occupy the town by force of amiss, and then the town of San Blas. A like lamentable fate was preparing for Acapulco, whither a large naval force had already sailed from California.

I communicate this information with the vie that it may be laid before his Excellency, and Gen Bustamente, that he may take such measures as he may deem fitting for the critical circumstances in which our unhappy country is placed.

J. NERVO

To the administrator of the Customs at Tepic.
In the Iris, a Spanish paper published in Mexico. It was announced on the 7th ult, that a convention has been concluded by the
Anays, It now opposes him. It has even compelled, by its influence, the recent change of Ministers.

They are threatened with official and popular displeasure.

Many, too, of the clergy made not acknowledgement of or reply to the circular of the Government calling upon them for
liberal editors. Some bishoprics are highly commended for their liberality, while others are as strongly condemned as niggardly in their
appropriations. The contributors of the clergy of the country by no means correspond to the demands and expectations of the government or the
Spanish in Mexico, but the sons of those who were born in the Republic. The Republicano takes the alarm at this, and demands an
explanation from the official organ. Subsequently we do not find the subject mentioned. The Republicano takes fire at every indication
of European influence in the affairs of the country.

The proclamation of Gen Scott to the Mexican nation was produced in the Mexican Congress on the 14th of May. From the statement of
the Minister, it would seem to have been found among some intercepted papers. The Republicano trests the document with little
ceremony, and without attempting to reply to its reasoning’s, denounces it as impertinent and disrespectful. The Government has
conceived suspicion that the document was concocted by some Mexican acting in conjunction with Scott, and "the fury of the nation
and the severity of the law" are held up in terrorism against all who thus connive with the enemy.

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The law suppressing the liberty of the press has been found futile. The press appears to us as bold as ever, and instead of supporting
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Government with the Spanish Minister, by which it was agreed that the flag of her Catholic Majesty should protect not only naturalized
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explanation from the official organ. Subsequently we do not find the subject mentioned. The Republicano takes fire at every indication
of European influence in the affairs of the country.

We have before us the letter of Senior de la Rosa accepting a place in the Ministry. The only notable passage in it is a follows: " I am
honored in taking part in the labors of a Cabinet which I am sure will devote all its energies to save the independence and nationality
of the country, sustaining the war at every cost, until a peace honorable and useful for Mexico may be possible."

Another candidate for the presidency we perceive is Melchor Ocampo. He is now, we believe, Governor of the State of Michigan. He is a
friend of the President substrate, Ansay and a strenuous advocate of the war. We find a long letter in the papers advocating his views. He
called upon the people to join the guerrillas, and to abandon the large cities and to carry off their property to the mountains.
Souled Mexico content to make peace with the enemy who will fight, he says against the inhabitants of that State as well as foreign foe.
Such is his aversion to peace that were the country to consent to it—even were his own Michocan to do it—he declares he will rather
expatriate himself than yield to it and live in a dishonored country.

We have no belief nor expectation of a treaty whilst Santa Anna remains in power. He dares not make peace, at least, on such terms
as our government will expect and ask for. His military misfortunes, and his supposed understanding with Mr. Polk, whether true or
false, render him unable to negotiate. Every thing he might say or do, towards such a result, would be rewarded with suspicion., if not
with actual denunciation. Mr. Polk's official announcements, respecting him, have spread suspicion far and wide among his
countrymen, and the impression, now, cannot be done away with.

The election of Herrera would not only indicate a desire of peace, but the mere choice of him, under present circumstances, would
strengthen his hands towards making it. The selection would induce many influential parties, openly to avow specific views, but not
who dare not to do so. And if the peace party once obtain sufficient confidence and power to publicly declare and promulgate their
views, converts will flock rapidly around them.

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The law suppressing the liberty of the press has been found futile. The press appears to us as bold as ever, and instead of supporting
Anays, It now opposes him. It has even compelled, by its influence, the recent change of Ministers.

In the Iris, a Spanish paper published in Mexico. It was announced on the 7th ult, that a convention has been concluded by the
Government with the Spanish Minister, by which it was agreed that the flag of her Catholic Majesty should protect not only naturalized
Spaniards in Mexico, but the sons of those who were born in the Republic, The Republicano takes the alarm at this, and demands an
explanation from the official organ. Subsequently we do not find the subject mentioned. The Republicano takes fire at every indication
of European influence in the affairs of the country.

We have before us the letter of Senior de la Rosa accepting a place in the Ministry. The only notable passage in it is a follows: " I am
honored in taking part in the labors of a Cabinet which I am sure will devote all its energies to save the independence and nationality
of the country, sustaining the war at every cost, until a peace honorable and useful for Mexico may be possible."

Another candidate for the presidency we perceive is Melchor Ocampo. He is now, we believe, Governor of the State of Michigan. He is a
friend of the President substrate, Ansay and a strenuous advocate of the war. We find a long letter in the papers advocating his views. He
called upon the people to join the guerrillas, and to abandon the large cities and to carry off their property to the mountains.
Souled Mexico content to make peace with the enemy who will fight, he says against the inhabitants of that State as well as foreign foe.
Such is his aversion to peace that were the country to consent to it—even were his own Michocan to do it—he declares he will rather
expatriate himself than yield to it and live in a dishonored country.

We have no belief nor expectation of a treaty whilst Santa Anna remains in power. He dares not make peace, at least, on such terms
as our government will expect and ask for. His military misfortunes, and his supposed understanding with Mr. Polk, whether true or
false, render him unable to negotiate. Every thing he might say or do, towards such a result, would be rewarded with suspicion., if not
with actual denunciation. Mr. Polk's official announcements, respecting him, have spread suspicion far and wide among his
countrymen, and the impression, now, cannot be done away with.

The election of Herrera would not only indicate a desire of peace, but the mere choice of him, under present circumstances, would
strengthen his hands towards making it. The selection would induce many influential parties, openly to avow specific views, but not
who dare not to do so. And if the peace party once obtain sufficient confidence and power to publicly declare and promulgate their
views, converts will flock rapidly around them.

Mr. Trist will also be on the spot, with the views and intentions of our Government, and he, or Gen, Scott, will, no doubt, have been
fully authorized to act, should occasion offer.

We perceive by El Republicano, that the citizens were abandoning the capitol, and many of them had removed to Tolaca, a large town to
the westward of the city of Mexico. The citizens of tolaca, El Republicano says, had demanded extravagant prices for their houses,
under the expectation of a large emigration from the city: but such government had issued a decree, forbidding any such extortion.
June 11, 1847, RWv24i47p1c4, From the Brazos

The schooner "Sovereign" Capt Peterson, arrived last evening from Brazos Santiago, whence she sailed on the 28th ults. Although no faster than the James L Day she brings copies of the Matamoros Flag of the 22nd and the 26th ult, which we had not before seen. Lieut Mehaffy, of the 11th Infantry, and Dr. Chaloner, of the amry came passengers.

The news [of] yesterday of the arrival of Col. Doniphan at Parras was communicated to Gen Cushing by a letter from Monterrey. Col Doniphan was shortly expected down the river with his command.

Mr. Parish, bearer of dispatches to Gen Taylor, from Washington passed through Matamoras on the 25th ult, so his destination.

Gen Cushing had received orders to join Gen Taylor immediately at Monterrey. Although he has not yet recovered from his recent injury, he had determined to set off in a few days. The Massesuses regiment would go up with him. The Flag mentions that Capt Edward Webster, now in this city, had been appointed aid to Gen C.

Brig. Gen. Cavallader had ordered an election in the Massachusetts regiment, to supply the vacancy in the colonelcy made by the promotion of Gen Chishing. It was to have taken place on the 27th. But we have not heard the result.

Three men of this regiment recently deserted and attempted to reach the Brazos. They crossed the river above Matamoros, and had not gone far before a party of Camanches came across them and murdered them all. The Flag says that a few days proto this, as the Kentucky cavalry were on the march from Camargo to Reynosa, they arrested another deserter from the same regiment. On being interrogayted he replied that he was going to Monterrey, to take a boat to go back to Massachusetts, whether he’s insanity was real, or only feigned, the Flag had not been informed.

The body of a white man has recently been discovered about seven miles below Reynosa, shot through the breast. No clue has been discovered to the circumstances of the murder or the name of the victim.

The news from Monetery is no later than we have already given. The 1st Ohio Regiment was to leave there on the 19th, and the 1st Indiana Regiment on the 20th ult on their way home. The last train coming down met 1500 pack mules near Cerralvo, going up with supplies.

The Government has been erecting a large hospital at Poing Isabel. 186 feet by 68 encircled by a 12 feet gallery. It is situated on the most elevated spot in the town and according to the Flag, which gives a glowing account of it, will compare favorably with similar structures in the United States.

There was a copious shower of rain on the 25th at Matamoros, which is mentioned by the Flag as if it were an occurrence deserving of a thanksgiving. Between the 19th and 22nd ult the Rio Grande rose ten feet and fell as much. It was low at last account.

A company of Tennesee calveary, which has been at Matamoros for the last eight months, is about to return home.

The steamer Telegraph arrived at the Brazos on the 24th ult and left again immediately for Vera Cruz.

The Indian among the settlements on the Rio Grande and the frontiers of Texas are attracting attention. It was supposed that Col. Hays would devote a little time to them, if Gen Taylor could spare him. [ . . . rest of article illegible . . . ]

[BJM]

June 11, 1847, RWv24i47p1c5, Texas

The Indians in this state are still troublesome. Form the papers received by the steamship Galveston, we learn the Camanches had visited Austin three nights in succession and had killed or captured eight or ten horses. The Indians were pursued several miles by the Rangers, under command of Lieuts. Smith and Chandler, but they were too fleet for their pursuers and escaped unharmed. The treaty with these Indians is looked upon as of no benefit and a cessation of their aggressions, it is said, can only be obtained by summary chastisement. Several companies or Rangers for frontier defense have been organized, and when they get on the frontier we may expect to hear of the marauders being properly dealt with.

The town of Independence, in Washington county, was lately visited by a violent thunder storm. The rain fell in torrents and the wind blew with such violence that fences were blown down, several houses were unroofed, and we regret to add, a child, the daughter of Dr, Robinson, had a limb fractured by the falling of a piece of timber.

In relation to the great poisoning case at the wedding party at Mr. Wilkinson's in Sabing county, the Houston Telegraph says: "Among the numerous reports that are in circulation, there is one ascribing it to the stupidity and carelessness of a shopkeeper residing in the neighborhood. It is said that this shopkeeper residing in the neighborhood. It is said that the shopkeeper sold arsenic for separates, and this poison was mixed in the cake that was served to the guests."
A new settlement has been commenced directly at the head of Towaccarro creek, by Col. Boyd. He is making arrangements to enact a saw and grist mill, and the population is increasing rapidly. Twelve months ago this part of the country was in the undisturbed possession of the savages.

June 11, 1847, RWv24i47p2c1, Letter from Santa Anna

The subjoined official letter from Santa Anna to the Mexican Minister of War and Marine is translated for the Mobile Tribune from the El Republicano of the 16th May:

Army of Operations—Excellent Sir—the commandant of the flying revenue guard of tobacco of Orizaba, the Col. D. Juan N Caraveo, whom I left with his command near the National Road, between Perote and Nopalucan, to observe the movements of the enemy and to harass him when the opportunity might offer, has remitted to me the accompanying documents which were taken from the enemy’s mail which left Jalapa for Col. Worths camp.

Among them you will find General Scott’s proclamation to the Mexican Nation, which from its style appears to have been written originally in Spanish and not translated from the English.

This proclamation of Scott is written with the most refined hypocrisy and with the most infamous perfidy. It is the greatest insult yet offered to the Mexican people, whom it has attempted to lull to make the victim if the　　　ambition of that nation which is the enemy of our race, with another place it feels no embarrassment in proclaiming, by the press in official documents, that it carries on against us a war or conquest and that this war must be made at the cost of blood and treasure of this unfortunate country.

Your Excellency will note in one of the accompanying intercepted letters, that Scott, the Inspector General of the United States Army, considers the above proclamation well adapted to aid the views of the invaders.

You will observe that this letter harmonizes with others which have been lately published in this capitol, and which with reason have been regarded by all well disposed Mexicans as more prejudicial for the venom which they conceal than the loss of a battle.

But in the midst of the malevolence which Gen Scott shows he has against me, he does me too much honor when he says that they had been deceived as to my real intention, and that on account of this mistake his Government permitted me to pass to my country. Indeed, most Excellent Sir, the United States did deceive when they dreamed that I was capable of betraying my country, Before this should happen, I would prefer to be consumed by fire, and that my ashes should be scattered that not a single atom be left.

Would to God the Mexicans would open their eyes to discover the poison in the Golden chalice that the perfidious Scott proffers to them, and that the reply to his proclamation may be one shout of universal indignation against the invaders of our soil. Let a war be made against them without period, that when we may no longer be able, because providence may have decreased the subjugation of this unfortunate country, there may remain to our children or grandchildren, when the wrath of the Omnipotent shall have passed, the noble war of revenging the outrage committed by the republic of the United States on Mexico.

“God and Liberty”
Santa Anna

June 11, 1847, RWv24i47p2c2, Conditions of Peace

The leading article in the Democratic Review for the present month is upon the state of the country and has especial reference of course to the war with Mexico. This article is chiefly worthy of attention on account of its developments in regard to the views and purposes of the Administration as received by the writer at the latest moment, and as he affirms, from a course entitled to satire confidence. Whether the fact be so or not, the writer manifestly intends that he shall be understood as speaking, if not “by authority,” certainly with a fell and accurate knowledge of the truth of every thing he asserts. If he correctly declines the policy and purposes of the Administration, we must confess that the terms upon which it is willing to make peace with Mexico, though not at all to our liking, are less harsh and exacting than, from intimations proceeding from other high sources, we had previously supposed, The writer, for example says:

“We believe, in the first place, that the administration is willing to make to Mexico every possible concession in point form, and to allow the defeated party in the war to prescribe its own rule of diplomatic etiquette in settling the preliminaries of peace. It has for this purpose clothed Gen Scott, the commander in chief of the American army, with power to treat with the authorities he may find in Mexico, and sent Mr. Trist, the second officer in the state department, down to aid and instruct him in carrying out the views of the President. Nay, should the Mexicans desire or consider it a special mark of attention, Mr. Buchanon the distinguished secretary of State, will himself go down and negotiate in the city of the Aztecs.

“As to the cessation of territory demanded of the Mexicans, the administration will not claim it as a forfeit, but offer to pay for it, so as to acquire it by purchase, We want a clear title to it; and the administration considers purchase the very best of all titles.
"The expense of the war we will not claim from the Mexicans, and the indemnity which she owes our citizens will be assumed by the government of the United States. We shall then claim no money of Mexico in any shape and are willing to accept land in payment of our just demands.

"As to the territory to be ceded or sold to us by Mexico, we are of opinion that it will not comprise more than upper California and New Mexico, and that our government will not insist, as a condition of peace, on the right of way across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec; but rather make this a subject (illegible)

If it be true that the Administration is really disposed to conclude a peace with Mexico upon the terms above stated, what stronger evidence can be required that the war itself was unnecessary and ought to have been avoided? If Mr. Polk is willing to permit Mexico to prescribe her own rule of diplomatic etiquette, for example at this time, why was he so indignant at her refusal to permit him to prescribe that rule when he sent her, in the person or Mr. Slidell, an Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, to negotiate upon all the subjects in a dispute between the tow countries instead of the Commissioners, to address the question of boundary, to whom alone she had agreed to receive? Had the Administration exhibited the conciliatory and complying spirit at that time which is said to be prepared to display now, there can scarcely be a reasonable doubt that Mr. Slidell would have been recognized, that the question of boundary would have been settled by mutual agreement, and that the adjustment of all other points in dispute would naturally have followed, without an interruption of the pacific relations.

But if the Administration is not only willing to disregard the ordinary rule of diplomatic etiquette in the renewal of negotiations, but to renounce likewise all idea of claiming any party of the Mexican territory in virtue of the right of conquest, preferring to ply for whatever lands it may acquire, so as to hold "by purchase", the very best of all titles" is it not still more clearly apparent that the war was wholly unnecessary? If , after having conquered all that portion of Mexico which we want , we have nevertheless still intend to buy it, what have we been fighting for? Why did we not purchase it in the first instance. Had Mexico been conciliated by the exhibition of friendly feelings towards her, after the annexation of Texas had been consummated, instead of bring farther exasperated, as she was by the claim set up to the valley of the Rio Grande, which had never been for an instant in possession of the Texans, but which was Senator Benton Demonstrated, had been in undisputed possession of the Mexico Spanish race from the first settlement of the country until its inhabitants were driven from chief houses by the advance of Gen Taylors army, it cannot be reasonably doubted that, if she is willing to sell it now she would have been disposed, for a fair equivalent, to cede it to us then. Why , then conquer it first, in order to buy it afterwards? But suppose that she had refused to relinquish the valley of the Rio Grande for any pecuniary consideration which our Government might have been willing to offer her, and had insisted that we should confine ourselves to the limits of the Department of Texas as defined by the laws of Mexico, to which Texas prior to her successful revolution, belonged suppose she had told she could not consent to our crossing the Neues, which Mr. Benton demonstrates was the true boundary of Texas, and which both Mr. Domelson, our minister to Texas and Mr. Polk emphatically recognized as the western frontier of that state—or suppose she had been willing to permit us to extend the frontier of Texas to those stupendous deserts between the Neues and the Rio Grande, which Mr. Ingersoll affirms to be the natural boundary between the two republics, but no farther—What then? When was it claimed to be a just cause of war with a weaker neighbor, that she refuses either to cede or to sell a portion of her territory; the possession of which the stronger Power may deem necessary, either to roun off its frontier, or for nay other purpose? Such ethics are to be found in only one page of the history of the nineteenth century—and that has been well characterized as "The bloodiest picture in the Book of Time"

We refer to the partition of Poland, and the extinction of its national existence, by the unsurping triumvirate of Russia, Austria and Prussia.

But whatever may have been the ultimate determination of our Government on this subject, it is obvious that if, deeming a title by purchase better than a title by conquest, it now proposes to relinquish its claims as a conqueror, and go into the market as a buyer of that portion of the Mexican Territory, the possession of which it may deem desirable, sound policy as well as true wisdom should have induced it to exhaust every effort to effect its object by peaceable means before it unsheathed the sword. It would have been time enough to resort to force when the gold had been found inadequate to its accomplishment. The amount expended in the prosecution of the war, to say nothing of the lives that have been sacrificed, and of other evils scarecely less do be depreciated that have followed in the result, so far as territorial acquisition is concerned, but attended by irreparable mischief's to both countries, and leaving behind feelings of mutual bitterness and hate, the effects of which will endure as long as the tow races shall preserve the antagonistic features by which they are so strongly characterized.

After all, however, the Democratic Review may be really as unformed, or misinformed notwithstanding the ex cathedra tone in which it speaks, as are frequently those Washington letter –writers, who affect to be so thoroughly acquainted with the designs of that Administration, but who have been lately so decisively discredited by the Washington Union. The position of the Review as a recognized party organ, gives to what it says, however, more claim to credence, than is due generally to the disclosures of the correspondents of newspapers, most of whom are mere retailers of street rumors—the catchers up of the "unconsidered trifles" which may be always found floating in the atmosphere of Republican as well as of Royal Courts.

[BJM]

June 11, 1847, RWv24i47p2c6, To Arms To Arms!

Young men who wish to serve their country can have an opportunity by calling at the Military Hall and enrolling their names in the Volunteer Company now being formed in this city. It is hoped that this company will be filled up immediately, as only a few men are wanted to enable us to go into quarters.

[BJM]
June 11, 1847, RWv24i47p4c4, Very Late from the City of Mexico

By the way of Tapamico we are placed in possession of a file of El Republicano from the city of Mexico down to and including the 19th of May—eleven days later than our previous advices.

The election of President for Mexico was to have taken place on the 15th of May. As the election was made by the Legislators from the different States, it is even yet quite too soon to know the result, which is likely to disappoint all expectations. In the State of Mexico, Angel Triss, the Governor of Chihushus, received the vote. Upon the first ballot Trias received 9 votes: Gen Alvarez, Gen Almonte, and Senor D Melchor Ocampo. Upon proceeding to elect between Trial and Alvarez, the former received 10 and the latter 9.

In the State of Queretaro there was a tie between Senor Almonte and Sewnor D.J. Joaquin Herrera. Lots were cast between the two and the chances favored Senor Herera, who thus secured the vote of that state. If we recollect aright this is the last President.

The state of Puebla gave its vote to Senor D Melchor Ocampo. The particulars of the voting are not given—Some time will elapse before we shall have the results of the election.

The Republicano of the 19th announces that Gen Santa Anna had left the command of the Army of the East to assume the duties of President of the Republic. He was to make his entry into the capital the evening of the 19th. He had issued a manifesto to the nation, but we regret to have no copy of it. It was published in the El Republicano of the 20th, which is a day later than we have received.

We have two letters from the valorous general, giving an account of his military conquests. The first is dated May 28th and in it he tells the Secretary of War that since his arrival at Orizava he had been organizing guerilla parties, both infantry and cavalry, in the vicinity of Orizava, of Cordova, and Vera Cruz; that he had collected the scattered remains of his Corro Gordo forces, improved the brigade from OsJaca, under Gen Leon; reinforced and remounted a cavalry force, which he has stationed at San Andres and lastly, fitted for service seven pieces of artillery, which are at Orzava and Cordova. The result of all these labors is, according to him, that guerilla parties are already at work between Japala and Vera Cruz. Three battalions, organized with 1470 men of those dispersed at Cerro Gordo; more than 200 horses collected a quantity of infantry equipments prepared; and finally 4500 men with seven pieces of artillery put in movement, who would enter Puebla on the 12th May.

He tells the Secretary that he had left in command in the Tierra Col Genobio; in the district of Cordova, D. Thomas Marili, who commended at Alvarado when Com Conner attacked it

June 11, 1847, RWv24i47p4c5, From the Army of General Taylor

By the steamer James L. Day, Captain Wood, we have accounts from the Brazox to the 28th ult, and later mail from the army of Gen Taylor.

Col. Jeff Davis’s regiment of the 1st Mississippi Rifles and the 2nd Kentucky Infantry under the command of Major Fry; were at the Brazos on the 28th and to sail on the following day for this port. The Kentuckians have with them the remains of Col. McKee, Lieut. Col Clay, Capt Willis and Lieut. Powell of their regiment, and also those of Capt George Lincoln, all of whom fell gloriously at Buean Vista. Both regiments, Mississippi and Kentucky, were in fine healty.

In conversation with Lieut. Aken, of the 2nd Kentucky foot, we learn that a most deplorable duel occurred at China about the 21st ult., between two lieutenants in the Virginia regiment. The news was taken to Camargo by Mr Dowd, beef contractor at China, and was fully credited by all at Camargo. According to this report, the two lieutenants—one of whom named Mahan, and the name of the other not being recollected—fought with muskets loaded with ball and buckshot, and both parties were killed. Most sincerely do we hope that there may be some exaggeration in the statement but Lieut. Aken leaves little room for hope. He fully believes it and it was generally credited at Camargo.

June 11, 1847, RWv24i47p4c6, Later from Vera Cruz

The steamer James L day, Capt. Wood, arrived yesterday from Vera Cruz via the Tampico and the Brazos. The Day left Vera Cruz on the 25th ult, and touched at Tampico on the 27th and Brazos on the 28th.

From Vera Cruz she brought over Midshipman Stewart, and eleven wounded privates from the hospitals of that city. From Tampico she
The steamer Fashion arrived at Vera Cruz on the 24th and the New Orleans on the 25th ult.

By this arrival we have no papers or letters from Vera Cruz or the army of Gen Scott. There had been no news received from Japala subsequent to the departure of the Palmetto. Such news as we have by this arrival from the city of Mexico and Santa Anna reaches us by way of Tampico and will be found in another column.

From the N. O. Delta, June 1.

Col Perry has returned to Saccrifios from his cruise during his absence, he touched at Laguna, Frontera, and other parts of the coast. At Laguna he raised the blockade, giving instructions to the officer in command to levy the new tariff on all imports, and a war tax of ten percent ad valerian on all exports.

He took possession of the fort at the mouth of the river Guasacualco, destroyed the guns of the enemy found there, raised the American flag on the fort, where it now floats and saluted it with a savvo of twenty one guns. He proceeded to a down, up the river some twenty miles of which he took peaceable possession, and where also with a national salute, he raised the American Flag. The alcedors of some neighboring village, while there, came in, offering him peaceful possession of their respective bailiwicks.

What may prove of importance to the Government and save it much trouble and expense, he succeeded in securing ad this place a map of chart of the line for the complicated canal across the isthmus of Tehauntepec, with accompanying topographical notes. He had it taken from the original. Drawn out for an English company, at whose instances the survey was made.

As soon as the vessels under Com; Perry taking in at Vera Cruz, the necessary coal, he means we understand to make a dash at Tabasco, where it is said the enemy is in force, numbering as many as 2000 of the regular army, waiting to give him resistance.

[BJM]

June 15, 1847, RWv24i48p1c1, Affairs in Santa Fe

We adverted, in general terms, in an article of Federalism; in Saturdays Paper, to the unparalleled stretch of Executive Authority, since the present administration came into power, as evidenced both by the existence of hostilities between Mexico and the United States, without a previous declaration of war by either of them, and by many of the incidents that have occurred during its progress. That article had not been put to press before we saw, in the St Louis Republican, some very interesting letters from Santa Fe, furnishing at once a forcible elucidation of our remarks and striking commentary on the claim of the Locofoco party of the present day to be regarded as the successors of that school of politicians, which, contending for a strict and liberal construction of the Constitution, in all its provisions, exhibited a peculiar jealousy of the Executing department and an earnest desire to confine it rigidly within the limits of its chartered powers. We invite the particular attention of our readers to the facts stated by the writer, and to the reflections naturally suggested by them:

Santa Fe, April 22, 1847.

Gentlemen: The Mail, which arrived here a few days ago, brought us but few papers, but among them I observe that Gen, Kearny’s proceedings in annexing this country to the United States, continue to be discussed. It seems that Mr. Polk says that General Kearny went beyond his instructions. Not having seen the instructions, I cannot speak to the point; but it is certain that there is something wrong on the part of somebody, though I am still inclined to believe that the full extent to which his “Organic Law of the Territory of New Mexico” might be carried, was not forseen by the General. I am very sure that he did not anticipate trials and convictions for treason against the United States; though he should have gone the length of appointing a Marshall and U. S. District Attorney at all, seems a little incomprehensible. Mr Polk, I believe says he was only instructed to promise a Territorial Government but instead of that, has established one. Be this as it may, the whole proceeding, beyond the civil jurisdiction of the Territory itself—something of which was absolutely necessary—is not pretty generally condemned.

The “organic law” is very positive in its provisions—The first sentence is as follows: “The government of the United States of America ordains and establishes the following organic law for the Territory of said Government”

This was a bold position for the General to assume, unless he expected his acts to be sanctioned at once by the congress of the United States, which he probably did. For, when did Mr. Polk become “the government” so fully as to justify the following passage from the said organic law?

Article1—Sec. 1. The country heretofore known as New Mexico, shall be known hereafter as the Territory of New Mexico and the United States of America; and the temporary government of said territory shall be organized and administered in the manner hereinafter prescribed.

Now although this only speaks of a “temporary Government” not the body of the organic law provides for the appointment of a District Attorney of the United States, a Marshall, and the said attorney was actually appointed by Gen Kearney. Since then, we have had indictments for treason in a court here called a District Court of the United States, one of which indictments opened in these words; “Trinidad Barcelo, a citizen of the United States charging the said Barcelo with forgetting his “allegation to the United States”
Perhaps you will wonder how Mr Barcelo became your equal in citizenship, but you must ask Mr. Polk.

The "organic law" also provides for the election of a delegate to Congress in August 1847. Doubtless Gen Kearney supposed that his conquest would have been acted on by the congress of the Union before the period of election would arrive. Ad we believe here that such is not the case, we are curious to know whether the delegate, if elected, will be recognized; but many of us hope not.

The voters find their qualifications thus laid down in the organic law:

"All free male citizens of the Territory of New Mexico. Who then are, and for three months next preceding the election, shall have been residents of the county or district in which they shall appear to vote, shall be entitled to vote for a delegate to the Congress of the United States,"

Here is naturalization on a grand scale. But what a blessed collection of voters! Not one in five hundred of the will know any think of size, form, locality, arts, commerce, or interests generally of the United States. Such are our new fellow citizens. Very few, indeed can read or write, and the most intelligent have no clear or accurate ideas of our country.

Verily, "annexation" of such a horde of barbarians and slaves, is a novelty in our history. I say slaves, for a large proportion of the Mexicans population are actually slaves, though not in the same sense in which we use the term in the United States. Refer to Gregg’s Commerce of the Prairies for an accurate account of the kind of slavery, which prevails here, embracing many ignorant wretches whom we must hereafter hail as our fellow citizens. You cannot at a distance possibly appreciate the character of the people of New Mexico. A faithful picture would seem exaggeration. But I believe there is not American here who does not regard them in the same light. Even those who imagine that this province has resources to recommend it, entertain but a low opinion of the people.

We fear, however, that the province will remain part of the Union. I do not wish it because it can never be well peopled, unless by men born east of the great prairies and it is not such a country as to justify its settlement by industrious Americans. The present inhabitants, in that event, can only have the destiny of the Indian before them— to fade away. They cannot be made to assimilate to our. [ . . . Rest of article illegible . . . ]

June 15, 1847, RWv24i48p1c2, Waste of Public Money

In one of its features, at lest, the Mexican war is likely to prove a second edition of that which was the opprobrium of Van Buren’s Administration—we refer to the protracted and costly contest with the Seminole Indians in Florida in which Uncle Sam’s pocket bled much more profusely than his veins, although blood enough in all conscience then flowed to satisfy even professed amateurs in the business of human slaughter.

The Vera Cruz correspondent of the New Orleans furnishes the following inklings of the recklessness with which public money is squandered in Mexico. When, after the restoration of peace, the bill shall be footed, we shall, we presume, have a second edition, "revised and improved" but we fear not” corrected” of the bills of expenditure in Florida, which amazed the nation by their enormity. That there is some ground for this apprehension, the reader will admit, when he reads the following extract from Vera Cruz letter to which we have referred:

" I fell that I can do my country no better service in my idle moments of garrison duty, than by calling the attention of the government the wanton and extraordinary waste of public money and property. It is a matter of comment wherever I go—everyone is talking about it—yet no one lifts up his voice to direct attention to it.—Since the surrender of Vera Cruz there has been anchored at this place, at Sacrificos, Lobos, and Anton Lixzardo, vessels varying in number from 50 to 80 in the government employ—all chartered by the day at prices varying from $40 to $100 per day. Some of them have been here three months, with stores—the original cost of which one month’s demurrage would pay for. You will see anchored which a pistol shot of each other, five and six vessels, with coal for the army, the quantity contained in the whole size not being sufficient to fill the hold of any one of them. The demurrage of not one of these vessels is less than $60 per day. It is not the duty of those who have charge of such matters here, to attend to these things? Could not the coal in the five vessels be transferred to the one and let the four be discharged? This Measures Editors is not an overdrawn picture. It would take more time than I can spare at this particular moment to give a faint idea of the immense waste, and I might add, barefaced plundering of the government property, as carried on here. The case of the coal vessels as given about is but the history of the coal in the five vessels be transferred to the one and let the four be discharged? This Measures Editors is not an overdrawn picture. It would take more time than I can spare at this particular moment to give a faint idea of the immense waste, and I might add, barefaced plundering of the government property, as carried on here. The case of the coal vessels as given about is but the history of the vast squandering of public money. I say squandering, for a large proportion of the Mexicans population are actually slaves, though not in the same sense in which we use the term in the United States. Refer to Gregg’s Commerce of the Prairies for an accurate account of the kind of slavery, which prevails here, embracing many ignorant wretches whom we must hereafter hail as our fellow citizens. You cannot at a distance possibly appreciate the character of the people of New Mexico. A faithful picture would seem exaggeration. But I believe there is not American here who does not regard them in the same light. Even those who imagine that this province has resources to recommend it, entertain but a low opinion of the people.

We fear, however, that the province will remain part of the Union. I do not wish it because it can never be well peopled, unless by men born east of the great prairies and it is not such a country as to justify its settlement by industrious Americans. The present inhabitants, in that event, can only have the destiny of the Indian before them— to fade away. They cannot be made to assimilate to our. [ . . . Rest of article illegible . . . ]

[BJM]
Intelligence up to May 3rd has been received here via Santa Fe.

On that day Col. Doniphan, Col. Mitchell and Major Clark, started on the route to Paretol with their entire command, except four companies left to guard the city.

The cause of Col. Doniphan's return to Chihuahua has been now definitely ascertained to have been a contemplated outbreak in that department.

June 15, 1847, RWv24i48p2c1, The Mexican Tariff

The loud complaints of the injurious operation of the tariff of duties recently enacted by the Executive, by a glaring assumption of Legislative power, for the regulation of commerce in Mexican ports in possession of the American forces, have at length attracted the attention of the Secretary of the Treasury. In the Union of Saturday night last appears an official notice from that Department, announcing several important modifications of that Executive Statute, to which, as to all other laws is affixed the approval of James K. Polk! The Secretary, it seems, enacts laws, and the President approves or vetoes them!—One advantage of the exercise of this power by the Executive rather than by Congress, is seen in the facility with which, if a system works badly, it may be amended, without the tedious and embarrassing process of legislation. An Executive edict, the work of a single mind, may correct on the instant any defects in the revenue system, while Congress might be engaged for weeks and months in a fruitless effort to remedy the evil! Who can tell but that the exemplification thus afforded of the advantages of Executive legislation, may lead to the transfer from Congress in that branch of the Government of the power to regulate our home tariff—if not by an amendment of the Constitution, by its unrebuked assumption. Indeed, we have yet to be informed whence the President and Secretary of the Treasury derive authority to make a tariff for Mexican ports in our possession, which will not justify them, in regulating the duties upon imports entered at the custom houses of New York and Boston. Essentially a Legislative power, its exercise by the Executive is not less a usurpation in the one case than it would be in the other. Doubtless, however, it can be shown to be in exact accordance with the Constitution, and in a strict conformity to the Resolutions of '98–'99!

June 15, 1847, RWv24i48p2c3, General Taylor

The following is a copy of Gen. Taylor's letter acknowledging the reception of the resolutions adopted by the Legislature of Virginia at its late season:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION,

Camp near Monterey, Mexico,
May 10th, 1847

Sir: Your communications of February 22nd transmitting a copy of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of Virginia on the 9th of that month, was delivered to me by Col. Hamtramck.

It is with deep sensibility that I receive this evidence of approbation from a State to which I am attached by many ties, and beg leave to return to the General Assembly for myself and in behalf of the troops of my command, our heartfelt thanks.

Allow me, Sir, to express to you, personally, my acknowledgments for the flattering terms in which you have communicated the resolutions of the General Assembly. I have the honor to be, Sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,
Z. Taylor,

Hon. Williams Smith, Governor of Virginia, Richmond, Va

[BJM]

June 15, 1847, RWv24i48p2c4, Later from Mexico

Arrival of the Steamship New Orleans

The Steamship New Orleans, Capt. Wright . . . [illegible] . . . from Vera Cruz, having left there on the . . . [illegible] . . . She touched on the 4th at the Brazos.

Gen. Shields is doing well, we are most happy to hear, and was shortly expected at Vera Cruz.
We regret to say that Maj. R. Hammond of Paymaster J. S. Army, died on board the New Orleans at sea on the 2nd inst. on his passage from Vera Cruz.

The following is a list of the passengers on the New Orleans:


Gen. Scott left Jalapa on the 23rd ult, for Puebla, at the head of nearly 6000 troops. Mr. Kendall’s letters have not yet come to hand, having been entrusted to private conveyance. We have, however, the following brief note from him:

PUEBLO, MEXICO, May 29, 1847

The division of Gen. Twiggs entered this city today, as well. There were rumors in the morning that Generals Bustamente and Leon were advancing to attack Gen. Scott with an immense force, but so far we have heard nothing confirming the reports. Almost every thing that the Americans are to have another grand battle, but where no one can divine.

The diligencia does not run between this and the city of Mexico, and so far I have found it impossible to lay hands upon any papers.

No one as yet knows that Gen. Scott’s intentions are as regards his future movements yet small as his force is many think he will advance upon the capital. We will know in a day or two.

The news from the city of Mexico by this arrival is most important. Our intelligent correspondent from Vera Cruz has furnished us with the annexed extracts from letters written at Mexico, and from the best sources of information. The resignation of Santa Anna is an important event in the history of the war.

The diligence, the easure of which has caused so much excitement, it appears, was robbed on its way from this place to Jalapa. It is said that no one was injured but that the vehicle was partially destroyed and plundered of every thing it contained.

Gen. Shields was doing well and may be expected here on his way home I the course of ten days.

Strong suspicions were entertained at Jalapa of an attempt to retake the place, but Col. Childs is always wide awake for any thing of that kind, and will do them up brown if the attempt is made.

Some Mexicans also came down yesterday from Jalapa, having been robbed on the road of ever thing they had of value, but the high . . . [illegible] . . . showed their generosity and kindness to the unfortunates afterwards, by returning them twenty–five cents each to pay their expenses to this place.

The force of the rancheros, robbers, etc. on the road, is estimated at 500 men disposed of as follows, 300 men near the road, and 100 on each side of it, ranging at a sufficient distance to prevent small parties from taking the bypaths.

Gen. Scott left Jalapa for Puebla on the 23rd inst. at the head of about 6,000 men.

I cannot hear of any later news than what has been forwarded to you, from Gen. Worth’s column at Puebla.

The train which came down was escorted by about sixty men, mostly discharged soldiers and some of the wounded at Cerro Gordo, in charge of Capt. Whiting. They saw frequently on the route men o the heights, and in the distance men on the look out. As for local news, I have none to give you. The rainy season has, it is thought, fully commenced, as we have had a sample of it during the last three days.

I have seen a private letter from Jalapa, which states that Col. Lawrence, bearer of despatches, and one of his escorts, were killed on the road, but no doubt the writer was mistaken in the name, and that the rumor emanated from the murder of Col. Sowers.

[BJM]

June 15, 1847, RWv24i48p2c5, Later from the Army of General Taylor

By the steamship New Orleans we have later dates from the Rio Grande and the army of Gen. Taylor. The letter of our correspondent below announces the arrival of a portion of Col. Domphan’s command at Saltillo, after a sharp encounter with a body of hostile Indians.
We have a copy of the Matamoros flag of the 2nd inst. The individual found murdered below Reynoss, as before mentioned by us, turns out to have been a private in Capt. Paul’s company of Massachusetts volunteers. A company of Massachusetts men, under Capt. Walsh, escorting a train to Camargo, passed the spot a few days since, and identifies and buried the body. Capt. W. demanded of some Mexicans residing near the scene of murder to produce the murderers or he would burn down their ranches. The threat had the desired effect, and three incorrigible scoundrels were handed over to him—one of whom was killed in endeavoring to make his escape, and the other two are imprisoned at Reynoss. The clothes of the murdered man were upon the Mexican who was killed.

From the Flag we learn that Lieut. Col. Abbott, with four companies of Massachusetts volunteers, escorting a wagon train and a number of artillery horses, took up the line of march for Cerralvo on Saturday, the 29th ult. Col. Wright, with the remaining six companies was to proceed by boat to Camargo, thence to Monterey, as soon as transportation could be had.

The troops remaining at Matamoros after the departure of the Massachusetts Regimen will be three companies of the 3rd Dragoons–Hagan’s, Butler’s, and Merrick’s. These dragoon companies are not yet furnished with horses, and it is uncertain when they will be mounted—probably (says the Flag) not until they are called into active service, without affording an opportunity to drill.

We copy the following from the Flag:

"Murder—A Mexican, Joseph Marie Lara, a carpenter by trade, who has a shop near the lower end of Commercial street, was found about ten o’clock on Saturday last lying dead on the floor of his house, having been stabbed in the breast. It has not yet been ascertained by whose hands he was killed. His wife represents that she left him in the house in conversation with a volunteer, and when she returned he was found as described. Circumstances tend to a belief that she committed or instigated the murder herself, and we understand that she has been imprisoned until the matter can undergo investigation."

Col. Curtis of the 3rd Ohio Regiment has received the appointment of Assistant Adjutant General to General Wool.

At the election of officers in the Massachusetts regiment, Lieut. Col. Wright was chosen colonel; Major Abbott lieutenant colonel; and Capt. Webster chosen major.

SALTIMO, MEXICO. MAY 17 1847

A long tedious, eight days fever having partially left me, I am able to write you again with some little idea of what I am doing, and to furnish you with a few items of news. I mentioned that a squadron of dragoons had gone out in pursuit of the party of Indians who had committed a recent outrage, but it appears I was mistaken, and that their mission was pacific and merely intended to endeavor to get back from out excellent friends, the Camanches, some American horses and mules which had accidentally found their way into their possession. Justice, however, swift and terrible retributive justice has overtaken them, spoil laden as they were, and half their number have been sent to overtake their victims.

Lient. Col. Mitchell and a portion of the advance of Col. Doniphan’s command arrived here yesterday morning from Parras, having arrived at camp the day before. This morning, before breakfast, a number of men came in and announced that on Friday last a detachment of Col. Doniphan’s regiment, under command of Capt. Reed, consisting of fifteen men and accompanied by Don Manuel Ibarra, a very wealthy citizen of Parras, who owns an extensive vineyard, set out for the Rancho del Poco, about thirty miles from Parras, after the Indians. He furnished them all with fresh horses and they made a rapid march for del Poco. At the rancho they were joined by a party of some twenty men, an advance of Col. Doniphan’s main command, and before long the Indians came up. The conflict was quite desperate, for the Indians fought like devils. Capt. Reed was wounded in the chin and shoulder by arrows, and several horses were killed. On the side of the Indians the slaughter was more deadly. The all powerful rifle caused seventeen bold warriors to “bite the dust,” and the rest fled, leaving most of their plunder and the greater portion of their women and children. We also captured about 2000 head of horses and mules, which they had stolen. Don Manuel, who is spoken of as being as brave as he is generous and hospitable, fought desperately. Most of these Indians were Lippans and not Camanches, it is said. You will hardly believe that after this generosity on the part of out troops in riding an enemy’s country of a marauding party, some of the grateful Mexicans at Parras were detected in the act of stealing some of the horses belonging to the command.

The whole of Col Doniphan’s command will be here in a few days and after remaining a while to recruit their men and horses will proceed down towards the mouth of the river. They have now been in the service eleven months, and when they reach here will have marched two thousand eight hundred miles from Fort Leavenworth, Mo., their place of rendezvous. They have been constantly on the march for eight months and have been without tents since last (illegible); nor have they drawn a single dollar of pay since they have been in the service. We all look forward here to the prospect of a speedy movement upon San Luis with confidence and daily expect the arrival of fresh troops from below. It is thought that the Parras route will be selected and it is represented to me as a most delightful one. A train is about starting off and I have not time to write more. It is the 21 Ohio regiment that goes today. They are now entering town.

[BJM]
June 15, 1847, RWv24i48p4c3, From General Taylor’s Army

The following “orders,” issued by Gen. Taylor, have been transmitted by him to the War Department:

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF OCCUPATION,
Camp near Monterey, May 6, 1847.

Under the instructions of the Secretary of War, the commanding general has the gratification to publish to the troops of his command the following communication, received by him from the War Department:

"WAR DEPARTMENT, April 3, 1847.

"SIR –Your communications of the 24th and 25th of February, and the 1st of March, accounting the brilliant success of the troops under your command at Buena vista, against the forces of he enemy vastly superior in numbers, have been laid before the President; and I am instructed to convey to you his high appreciation of distinguished services rendered to the country by yourself and the officers and soldiers of your command on that occasion.

"The victory achieved at Buena Vista, while it adds now glory to our arms, and furnishes new proofs of the valor and brave daring of our officers and soldiers will excite the admiration and call forth the gratitude of the nation.

"The single fact that five thousand of out troops, nearly all volunteers, who, yielding to the impulse of patriotism, had rallied to their country’s standard for a temporary service, were brought into conflict with an army of twenty thousand, mostly veteran soldiers, and not only withstood and repulsed the assaults of this numerous hose, led by their most experienced general, but in a protracted battle of two days (illegible) a glorious victory, is the most (illegible) evidence of the (illegible) skill and gallant conduct of our officers, and the devoted heroism of the troops under their command. It will ever be a proud distinction to have been in the memorable battle of Buena Vista.

"The (Illegible) which the intelligence of this success of our arms has spread through the land is mingles with regret that it has been obtained at so great a price –that so many heroic men have fallen in that sanguinary conflict. –They died in the intrepid discharge of a patriotic duty, and will be honored and lamented by a grateful nation.

"You will cause this communication to be published to the troops under your command. "I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

(Signed) "W.L. MARCY, “Secretary of War.” By order of Major General Taylor:

W.W.S. BLISS Assistant Adjutant General.

[BJM]

June 15, 1847, RWv24i48p4c5, Later from Vera Cruz

The steamship Fashion, Capt. Ivy, arrived at this port yesterday from Vera Cruz, having left there on Sunday forenoon, the 30th ult.

On Tuesday, the 1st inst. the Fashion saw the steamer Mary Kingsland running to the southward and westward, under a crowd of canvass and steam.

The following officers came passengers on the Fashion:

Lient W. Muryr, Company E, 2d Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers; Lient L.H. Kane, Company D, 1st Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers; Lieut W Gregg, 11th Regiment Regulars; Lieut Fellnagle 1st Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers; James Johnson, quartermaster a sergeant, 2d Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, and about forty discharged volunteers, many of them wounded and
very sick.

The Fashion brought a small mail to Col. Hunt, and it is understood that the steamer New Orleans, to sail on the 31st (Monday last) would bring the principal (illegible). She is looked for every hour.

Verbally we learn that the Mexicans were busy fortifying the pass at Rio Frio, between Puebla and the City of Mexico.

Gen. Scott with the rear of the army, was to have left Jalapa on the 29th ult., and would arrive at Puebla on the 4th inst. where it is presumed he will await the arrival of the reinforvements being forwarded to him, before he advances further.

We have heard a rumor that Herrera has been elected President, but cannot trace it to a reliable source, and we think the result of the election could scarcely be known at the capital so soon.

From the American Eagle we learn that the diligence which left Vera Cruz for Jalapa on the 22d ult, without passengers, but with three trucks filled with very fine goods was stopped two miles beyond the National Bridge and robbed, and then burnt and destroyed. The driver and postillion who accompanied it were released and made their was to Jalapa. The diligence which should have come into Vera Cruz on the 24th ult. only came down to where the other had been destroyed and at once returned. This, it is feared, will put an end to the use of diligence on the road. The robbery was no doubt the work of Mexican banditti. We come now to a more atrocious act by the same (illegible) We copy the facts from the Eagle of the 29th:

"(illegible) –It is with pain mingled with a desire for revenge that we undertake to relate another massacre of our country (illegible) the most cruel and brutal manner. In our paper of last Saturday (only one week ago) we announced the fact that Col. Sowers was in the city as bearer of dispatches to Gen. Scott, and today we are called upon to inform the public of his horrid death –not with his enemy in front to oppose him, but cowardly shot by those who dared not show themselves.

"It appears that he left this city on Saturday last with an escort of five men and Lieut. McDonell of Capt. Wheat’s company, expecting to find the captain at Santa Fe, or at most a very short distance thee other side. They arrived at Santa Fe and Lodged there during the night, finding that Capt. Wheat had left ni the morning, anxious to push forward (although it was ascertained that Capt. W. was some thirty miles ahead) with an addition of two more to the escort Col. Sowers set out for Jalapa. The next that we know of this little party is by the arrival of onw of the men, who returned and reported its surprise and destruction. IN consequence of this falsity of the greater number of similar stories, Col. Wilson, our Governor, had the man arrested as a deserter. Thus matters stood until yesterday, when developments were made by an arrival from Jalapa –the first that has reached us for a week –tending to confirm our worst fears.

"We conversed yesterday with a gentleman who arrived in the morning and he informs us that at a point about two miles on the other side of Puenta National, he saw the ruins of the diligence, underneath which was a human body stripped with the exception of a pair of drawers, and mutilated in the most beastly manner. This is supposed to be the body of Col. Sowers. Near him lay another perfectly naked and likewise dreadfully mangled. Our informant was assured that five other bodies lay in some thick chaparral a short distance from the road. Now the number of killed, with the man who escaped, exactly corresponds with that of the party which accompanied the unfortunate Col. Sowers, and leaves no doubt in our minds of its destruction."

Our readers will recollect a party of Mexican robbers recently captured near Vera Cruz by a party of amateurs under Col. Banks. Ten of them have been tried for robbinf, secreting arms and ammunation, &c. Five have been acquitted and five convicted. The latter were sentenced to four and a half month’s work upon the public streets and through fares in chains. Two more yet remained to be tried. We always affords no pleasure to correct any errot into which we may have been betrayed, and to repair any act of injustice, when apprized fo it in a proper manner of which we may have been unintentionally guilty. We therefore hasten to lay before out readers the subjoined letter, from Capt. George P. Upshur, of the U.S. Navy, in regerence to the statement made by us, some days ago and of the
truth of which we had not the slightest doubt at the time, that his brother, Judge Upshur, when, as Secretary of State, he arranged the preliminaries of the treaty of annexation with the Government of Texas, held a large proprietary interest in its soil. The correction of that statement will have a tendency to dispute the minds of others as well as ourselves, as we happen to know, that we were not alone in entertaining the opinion, no confidently, but, as it now appears, so erroneously expressed.

It is perhaps due to J.H. Gilmor, Esq, to say, that, when our first article on this subject appeared, believing it to be susceptible of a construction unfavorable to the personal honor of his deceased brother, (Gov. Gilmer,) he addressed us a note, inquiring whether we intended any imputation upon his integrity. Of course, having no such intention, we so said to him, and proffered so to say to the public, as we did in our explanatory remarks the next day. Or design, as we stated, was to meet an assertion of Ex–President Tyler by a fact which seemed to us to be in conflict with it, and not to deduce from that fact inferences unfavorable to the integrity of either of the gentlemen, named or unnamed, to whom it had reference:

U.S. NAVAL SCHOOL, Annapolis, Md., 12th, June, 1847.

[BJM]

June 18, 1847, RWv24i49p1c3, General Pillow

We lay before our readers this morning the reply of General Pillow to the recent exposure, by the officers of the Tennessee regiment, of his unofficer–like conduct by which so many valuable lives are said to have been sacrificed, in the battle of Cerro Gordo. It will be seen that he attributes the assault upon him exclusively to the personal and political hostility of Col. Haskell, the commander or the Tennessee regiment; but it can scarcely be supposed that all the other officers who concurred in it could have been base enough to put their names to a statement which they knew to be false, or which they did not know to be true, under the influence of the paltry motive to which General Pillow ascribes their acquiescence in that exposition of his incompetency for the responsible station to which he has been elevated by the favor of the President. Besides, how happens it, that letters from the camp characterize General Pillow’s conduct in the battle of Cerro Gordo in terms even harsher than those employed by Col. Haskell and his (illegible) officers? There is, at all events, one mode, and bat one that we know of, by which the truth of the matter can be ascertained, and that is suggested by the New Orleans Bee. Let Gen. Pillow demand a court of inquiry, by which all the facts will be elected and a judgement pronounced in accordance with them. If an impartial tribunal of this kind decide in favor of the General, his triumph will be complete –if otherwise, it is not too much to say that the lives of our troops should not be again recklessly sacrificed by placing them under the command of an incompetent officer.

[BJM]

June 18, 1847, RWv24i49p1c3, General Taylor

In the New Orleans National, which goes for Gen. Taylor, noleans colens, we find the following paragraph:

"We were much gratified recently by the visit to our office of the two officers of the army, well known to fame, when came to congratulate us upon the appearance of Gen. Taylor’s name at the head of our columns. They said they were unterrified Democrats, and did not intend to abandon their principles or party, but they were determined to support Gen. Taylor against any other man started in the next Presidential contest; alleging that they considered such a course demanded of them, by every principle of justice to themselves and to their country."

[BJM]

June 18, 1847, RWv24i49p4c3, Prospect of Peace

The New Orleans Bulletin of the 8th inst. states positively that Herrera has been elected President of Mexico, and that the Clergy are in favor of peace; and says, that Herrera would immediately make a public declaration to that effect. The Bulletin adds, that a letter from an officer in Gen. Scott’s army, brought by the last arrival, and whose situation was highly favorable for obtaining correct information, said, “peace would shortly be made.”

In corroboration of this opinion, we find the following article in the New Orleans “National,” of the 8th inst.:

"PROSPECT OF PEACE WITH MEXICO.—We have had the pleasure of conversing with one of our gallant officers, just returned from the seat of war, and we have reason to believe that the prospect of peace with Mexico is not altogether chimerical. The British residents of Mexico begin to speak of such a thing as necessary, and they no doubt represent the feelings of their government; and the British nation, having great interests to look after in Mexico, can exert an influence that will greatly facilitate a peace, if it chooses to do so. Before the taking of Vera Cruz, the British residents of that city were very cedulous about our conquering Mexico. The battles of Buena Vista and Cerro Gordo have forced them to acknowledge the thing as done, and they now speak of the Mexican nation as no longer competent to carry on a civilized warfare.

"Again, the most intelligent native citizens of Vera Cruz and Jalapa, and the intervening country, agree that the war should no longer be carried on. They acknowledge that the Mexican arms cannot prevail that the resources of the people are exhausted. The people are
hourly becoming reconciled to the Americans. The destruction of the enormous tariffs, and annoying tolls upon the road, has facilitated internal commerce, and destroyed the monopolies that every where weighed down the laboring classes.

"Lastly, the Clergy of Jalapa, among whom are many of the most intelligent of Mexico, openly avow their desire for peace. They have learned that we are not making war upon religion, but upon the military despoties that have reduced Mexico to its present degradation; of course their sentiments will have an extended influence.

"Although our reasons for expecting a peace may appear at first sight somewhat superficial, still we find more substance on which to ground a hope that the war is nearer at an end than has heretofore been presented to us."

June 18, 1847, RWv24i49p4c4, American Prisoners

June 18, 1847, RWv24i49p4c4, Further from Mexico


We have had the pleasure of an interview with Mr. Trenwitt, a merchant who was taken prisoner on the 24th of February, in company with Lieut. Barbour and some thirty men composing the escort of the train that was attacked that day between Monterey and Camargo. Mr. Trenwitt informs us that Urrea had with him at the time of the attack about 2,000 men. The train was nearly two miles in length. When the enemy approach, Lieut. Barbour formed his men in a chaparral impracticable for Calvary. The lancers dashed by, made an onslaught upon the train, massacred the wagoners, and afterwards completely surrounded the small escort. Lieut. Barbour then surrendered upon terms and was taken prisoner. The party was marched off to Mexico, and on the route encountered hard usage, but was much better treated than the Encarnacion prisoners.

They arrived at Mexico on the 16th of April, and found Major Gaines and his companions yet closely confined in prison. Mr. Trenwitt was liberated through the interference of the British Minister. He reports to us that shortly after the arrival of Lieut. Barbour’s command, the American officers nine in number, were let out of jail on parole—the men were yet closely caged on the 12th of May—the day he left the city.

Whilst Mr. Trenwitt was at Jalapa, La Vega was in that city. He (La Vega) gave a similar excuse for his neglect of the America prisoners his friends did here. Mr. Trenwitt informs us that there was no foundation in truth in these excuses. He states that the revolution only lasted three weeks, and that Gen. La Vega was in the city of Mexico during five weeks of the incarceration of the Encarnacion prisoners in the penitentiary of Santiago. During this time Capt. Clay addressed him a letter in regard to the cruelties and privations they were suffering, contrary to the usages of war and the rights of capitulation, and that La Vega treated the letter with silent contempt. The prisoners did not even know their enlargement was arranged for. They were subjected to needless humiliation and cruelty on their march to Mexico, and when there subjected to cruel privations.

P.S.—Since writing the above the following letter from Capt. Heady was received by the New Orleans. Capt. H. is a personal friend of one of the editors of this paper and his word is worth more than the oaths of all the Mexican apologists of La Vega this side of Hades. When he wrote it he was under the impression, which was general at the time, that La Vega would again come to the United States. [BJM]

June 18, 1847, RWv24i49p4c5, General Taylor’s Movements

Mexico, May 12th, 1847

We give place to the greater part of an interesting article upon the subject of Gen. Taylor’s movements from the American Flag of the 2nd inst. The belief has been assiduously propagated in various influential quarters for months that Gen. Taylor was to move upon San Luis Potosi. From various statements from time to time made in the Union the country has been led to believe that Gen. Taylor has had, or shortly would have, forces adequate to commence his march; while letters from Gen. Scott and his army for the army of Gen. Taylor are addressed, “Headquarters Gen. Taylor’s Army, San Luis Petosi,” It will not be long before we shall hear reproaches cast upon the hero of Buena Vista for his inactivity, while it is the purpose of the writer of the following article from the Flag to show that it is beyond the power of Gen. Taylor to move upon San Luis, even if the Government should divert no more of the troops ostensibly intended for him. The article will command itself to all fair–minded men: (N. O. Picayune)

FACTS AGAINST FICTION—Most of our readers have no doubt noticed, from the tone of the public prints in the United States that a vague impression seems to prevail that Gen. Taylor either already occupies San Luis Petosi, or is marching on that city. In connection with this state of public opinion, an article in the Washington Union should be considered, from which it will require but little ingenuity to discover a common origin for both the paragraph and the rumor, and no ingenuity at all to perceive that the injury of Gen. Taylor is the design of both.

The article alluded to states in substance that the twelve month volunteers would be replaced by fresh troops sufficient to swell the force of General Taylor’s division to near 10,000 men.
This information purports to come from the Adjutant General’s Office, and if so only proves that the Adjutant General's arithmetic is sadly at fault, or else our rulers at Washington have such an extraordinary opinion of General Taylor’s invincibility as to suppose him capable of crossing deserts and storming batteries with paper men, fresh from the manufactory of Roger, Jones, Marcy & Co.

Now the truth is, fortunately, very easy to arrive at, and we hope the fact and the fiction will at least be allowed to travel together, even to the Federal city, albeit at the risk of invading the sanctuary of the above firm.

But four regiments of the late ten have been allotted to Gen. Taylor and of the seven but a few companies have arrived, although the twelve months’ volunteers are being mustered at with the utmost celebrity. But supposing these four regiments to be complete, and here is all the force that is even promised to this division of the army:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The three and a half regiments above alluded to</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four regiments consisting of North Carolina,</td>
<td>2,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia, Massachusetts and Mississippi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Six companies of artillery</td>
<td>420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four companies of dragoons</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>And of mounted Texans, about</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From this deduct for sickness and other casualties at least twenty per cent</td>
<td>1,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>And we have Genera Taylor’s real effective force</td>
<td>4,646</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From this small force garrisons are to be supplied for the longest line of communication known to modern times, extending from the Gulf of Mexico to the confines of the desert beyond the Sierra Madre. By stripping this line almost to the verge of total abandonment, jeopardizing immense depots of provision and military stores, &c, &c, General Taylor would only be able to leave Saltillo at the head of about 2000 men.

This, with one deference to the later edition at Washington, is the Rio Grande arithmetic, where we count muskets in the field instead of parading unfilled muster rolls, or, in plain English, the fact as it really exists, instead of the round assertion of warrior–politicians.

By this as it may, figures speak for themselves, and I know with the facts before me assert that after receiving all the troops that are promised him, Gen. Taylor cannot defend his lines and march upon San Luis Potosi with an effective force of Two Thousand Men.

Knowing the foregoing facts as he certainly does, having stripped this line himself, we have no comments to make upon Gen. Scott for addressing Gen. Taylor at San Luis Potosi, nor will we pretend to determine the difference between affectation, ignorance, or promptings from Washington.

[BJM]

June 18, 1847, RWv24i49p4c5, From Texas

By the arrival of the steamship Yacht, Capt. Crane, we have Galveston papers to the 5th inst., and corresponding dates from other parts of the State.

By the last arrival we had accounts that timely falls on rain in Southern Texas had dissipated the apprehensions of short crops produced by the long drought, and now we find that almost every part of the State had been equally favored. As might be expected after so protracted a drought, in some sections it is said the crops have suffered severely, not, however, to any considerable extent.

The cousin Democrat contains the following abstract of a treaty by Maj. Neighbors, special agent of the Government Baron Meusebach, agent of the German Emigration and Railway Company:

"Friendly relations, in the form of a private treaty of peace, were entered into. The colonist, by this treaty, are allowed to survey their colony, established by the laws of the Republic without molestation, and to introduce sentiments between the Liano and San Salva—the Indians promising to refrain from all hostile acts towards the settlers, and to notify the colonists of the approach of any hostile bands of other tribes towards the settlement. Presents and provisions to the amount of $2,000 were quarantined to the Indians, most of which have already been distributed. The contract also stipulates, that all future intercourse, trade, etc, shall be carried on under the supervision of the United States’ Indian Agents. The Camanches and other tribes appear to be well satisfied with the treaty ratified by the United States Senate, on the 15th of February last, and seemed disposed, on their part to carry it into full effect.

"All the surveyors in the German settlements, some twelve of fifteen in number, are progressing rapidly with their work, in perfect friendship with the Indians."

In relation to the great poisoning case at San Augustin, the Houston Telegraph says that Wilkinson, at whose house the party was poisoned, confessed that he had given the arsenic to the cook purposely to be mixed in the cake, and he cautioned the bride and other members of the family not to eat the cake. He belonged to the moderator party of Sabine, and he stated that he took this opportunity to destroy as many regulators as possible, to avenge himself for the injuries they had inflicted upon him and his friends. He has made a fearful atonement for this horrid crime; but we fear others may be implicated, and the bloody feuds of the regulators and moderators may be renewed.

June 22, 1847, RWv24i50p2c1, Mexico

See, in another column, the latest news from the seat of war and from the city of Mexico. The intelligence from the capital authorizes the belief that disorder and confusion reign there, and that, I the language of a letter from that city, published I La Patria, of New Orleans, no one knows what is to be done. The letter to La Patria gives the following account of the reception or Santa Anna I Mexico, who it seems was roughly treated, on suspicion of having sold his country to "the Yankees"—not an unnatural suspicion, when Mr. Polk's "pass" and the three million bill, coupled with his inglorious defeats by inferior forces at Bueno Vista, and at Cerro Gordo, are remembered:

"It appears that on the 17th, the Republicano published a complete and triumphant vindication of Gen. Minon, in which Santa Anna's conduct was exhibited in a most odious light. The populace were furious against their lately idolized General, and when, two days after, Santa Anna entered the City, he was received by the rabble with the indignant cries of "Death to Santa Anna," "he sells us to the Yankees," and volleys of stones in all directions. The General–in–chief made his way to the National Palace with all convenient speed, and the guards were doubled to prevent more dangerous outbreaks. Thus far, observes the writer, the press has been prevented from making public these outrages."

The city of Mexico is represented by this writer as entirely defenseless, and he adds, that, with the exception of the military, almost all, the clergy included, are in favor of peace.

June 22, 1847, RWv24i50p2c6, Army of General Taylor

From the Brazos, by the arrival of the Telegraph, our news is later.

From the Flag of the 7th inst. we learn that Col. Doniphan, with a portion of his command, passed down the Rio Grande on the 5th inst. The Flag thus speaks of them:

"The unshorn beards and goat and deer skin clothes of many of them reminded us of descriptions we have read of the inhabitants of some of the countries of the . . . [illegible] . . . . They stopped in town a couple of hours, Col Doniphan is a stout, rough–featured, good–natured–looking sort of a man. He brought along with him Clark's battery, and ten pieces of cannon captured at Sacramento. The sick, etc, forty of fifty wagons, with . . . [illegible] . . .

"A private belonging to this command fell off the steam boat on the 5th inst. and was drowned."

June 22, 1847, RWv24i50p2c7, Important from the City of Mexico

We have received, by the way of Tampico, our files from the capital as late as the 29th of May. This is a week later than the papers received last week by the Oregon, and full as late as the private advices from the capital.

Santa Anna's letter of resignation, which we gave on Friday last, is published in the papers of the th ult, but we know nothing of the action taken by Congress on the subject. We find also a long manifesto addressed to the nation by him a few days earlier, which we have not time to translate before the mail goes, if it be worth a translation.

In the city of Mexico every thing is manifestly in a state of confusion and almost unlicensed anarchy. Gen. Bravo has resigned not only his command of general–in–chief but also his commission of general of division. Gen. . . . [illegible] . . . is said to have done the same thing. More of the . . . [illegible] . . . our next.

It is true that Gen. Almonte is under arrest, though the causes of his imprisonment are not avowed. He is confined in Santiago Tialtelolco.

Gen. Ampudia ha been directed to await further orders at Cuernavaca. What suspicious thing he has doe or contemplated we are not informed.

Gen. Valencia and Gen. Salas, were ordered to leave the city of Mexico on the 24th ult, for the city of San Luis Potosi, to take command of the army of the North.

The accounts we find in the Mexican papers of the disaffection in Zacatecas confirms those we published a few days since. The official
June 22, 1847, RWv24i50p4c1, General Scott and his proclamation

"Nil advisors" is our motto, or we could not but be surprised to witness the extreme solicitude of certain leading Administration journals to shield Gen. Scott from the criticism of his "ancient friends," Have the present champions of Gen. Scott—whom, it is easy enough to see, they intend to use as a foil to Gen. Taylor, at this time more an object of fear, as being more a popular favorite—have they forgotten their former illiberal and unjust treatment of the Hero of Lundy's Lane, when he was supposed to be the most formidable candidate for the Presidency? When the ... [illegible] ... of war first sounded, and when, Gen. Taylor being then comparatively unknown to the country, all eyes were turned to Gen. Scott as the commander—in-chief of our forces in Mexico, why was he deprived of the position to which his rank and his services entitled him, by the very men whose Organs are now his warmest eulogist, and its honors and responsibilities continued in Gen. Taylor's hands? We are well aware of the pretext by which that course was then justified. But what, we are curious to know, subsequently occurred to obliterate the recollection of the offensive language, which so exasperated his "Enemies in the Rear," filling "high places," and to induce them so suddenly to change their original determination? It is very certain that Gen. Scott was not permitted to go to Mexico until Gen. Taylor's increasing reputation and popularity had excited the jealousy and apprehensions of the Administration and its friends. Whether that was the motive by which they were impelled to place General Scott in command of the Vera Cruz expedition, and to ... [illegible] ... Gen. Taylor at Monterey, upon which he was offered to fall back, with a force too small for active operations, others can judge as well as we. We have an opinion upon the subject, to be sure; and that opinion is, that jealousy of Gen. Taylor, rather than love of Gen. Scott, prompted this sudden change in the tactics of the Administration, and it does the tone of admiration in which now, happily oblivious of the past, they generally speak of him who but yesterday was the subject both of their reproaches and their sneers.

We are confirmed in this impression by other circumstances. The attempt, avowed even before Gen. Scott reached his camp to supersede both himself and Gen. Taylor, by the creation of the new grade of Lieut. General, which was to be filled by that renowned Military Chief, Senator Benton, who was forthwith to proceed to Mexico as commander in chief, is, to our minds conclusive as to the fact, that, in the appointment of Gen. Scott, the Administration was influenced by the motive we have ascribed to it. For if it was unwilling to see General Taylor monopolizing the honors of the way, it was not less averse to their division with another Whig General. But, having no alternative, after the failure of its efforts to send Senator Benton to Mexico as Lieutenant General, it submitted with the best grace in its power to the necessity which induced it to change its original determination in regard to the active employment of Gen. Scott.
Nor is this the only circumstance that justifies this presumption. Why has Mr. Trist, a clerk in the State Department, been sent to Gen. Scott’s camp? In what capacity is he to act? What duties is he expected to perform? What authority is he to exercise? In one of his letters a few days ago to the New Orleans Picayune, Mr. Kendall says: “Mr. Trist is going on with the army, but in what capacity is best known to himself. He has certainly had no personal communication with Gen. Scott.” This fact seems to us to be both remarkable and significant. It is undeniable that Mr. Trist has gone to Mexico as the agent of the Government, with instructions in his pocket: How is it, that he thus keeps aloof from the commanding General? Why is General Scott, who seems to be such a favorite all at once at Washington, kept in the dark, both as to the character in which Mr. T. appears in his camp, and as to the instructions upon which he is to act? In what light this mysterious movement is regard in camp, may be inferred from the following extract of a letter from the camp to the editors of the St. Louis Republican, the writer of which thinks not without a show of plausibility, that Gen. Scott’s “enemies in the rear” are even now those who seem to have taken upon themselves the task of defending him against his “ancient friends.” He says:

“General Scott is laboring under embarrassments of which the public of the U. States entertain not the slights idea.—He ha emphatically ‘an enemy in his rear,’ as well as in his front. When he consented to come to Mexico and assume the chief command of our invading forces in their operations against the enemy, it was under the most solemn pledges on the part of Mr. Polk that he should have the countenance of the President and Secretary of War, and that his plans, which were fully laid before them, should not be interfered with until after Gen. Scott had had a fair opportunity to test them. Yet, how has this pledge been kept by the Chief Magistrate of the Union? No sooner is Gen. Scott’s back turned, and long before time was given him for the least trial of his skill as a General, than the most insidious attempts are made to supersede him in command, by the appointment of Col. Benton as Lieutenant General, a hackneyed and broken down politician. Failing in accomplishing the object of this exhibition of bad faith towards Gen. Scott, what is the next step taken? Why notwithstanding his brilliant achievement at Vera Cruz, and still more brilliant one at Cerro Gordo, the Administration [ . . . illegible . . . ]

June 22, 1847, RWv24i50p4c2, The resignation of Santa Anna

June 22, 1847, RWv24i50p4c5, Important from Mexico

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**IMORTHANT FROM MEXICO**

*Santa Anna’s Letter of Resignation*

The schooner *Zenobia*, Capt. Brown, arrived yesterday from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the 3rd inst. The steamer *Telegraph* was to sail from Vera Cruz in two or three days.

By this arrival a copy of the *American Eagle* of the 2nd inst. was received in town, and through the kindness of a friend we have obtained the use of it. It contains Santa Anna’s letter of resignation, which we give below, as translated by the editors of that paper, Congress had not acted upon it at last accounts.

The *Eagle* says that this resignation was followed up by that of Gen. Bravo, as Vice President. There is probably some confusion in this. As we understand it, the Vice Presidency was abolished to get rid of Gomez Farias, and has not been re-established. Gen. Bravo was recently in command at Puebla, and yet more recently was at the head of what is called the “Army of the Centre.” He may have resigned this post.

The *Eagle* says that the election for President will take place on the 15th inst. By this we presume is meant that the votes will then be officially counted and the result declared. We have no further returns by this arrival, but the *Eagle* thinks Gen. Herrera will be the President.

Gen. Scott reached Puebla on the 28th ult, the day before Gen. Twiggs arrived there. Every thing was quiet in the city, our soldiers and the inhabitants being apparently on the best terms.

A small reconnoitering party of our troops had been met some twenty miles beyond Puebla. They had encountered no enemy so far. The Mexicans are erecting works a short distance this side of the capital but the *Eagle* treats them as unimportant and not likely to be completed.

The *Eagle* gives it as a report that Gen. Almonte is a prisoner on an accusation of holding correspondence with Gen. Scott.

Benj. Thomas, sergeant major of the 1st Infantry, died on Sunday morning with military honors. The sergeant was a valuable officer, says the *Eagle*, and his demise was regretted by all who knew him.

It ha been ascertained that only the one man was killed with Col. Sowers. The imprudence of the colonel in venturing a head of his party cost these two lives.

A naval expedition against Tabasco, under the commodore in person, was talked of at Vera Cruz as about to start at once. The following vessels were mentioned as likely to compose it: The frigate *Raritan*, sloop of war *John Adams*, from Germantown, the . . . [illegible] . . . (now at Frontiers,) the *Spitfire* (illeg) the *Scorpion*, and the gun-boats *Bonita* and . . . [illegible] . . . Should the sloop of
The province of Texas, where the Spaniards have had settlements from the 17th century, bounds by the east with Louisiana, and Cevallos, the Spanish Minister, in one of his letters to Messrs. Monroe and Pinckney, in 1805, says:

The editor of the Nashville Whig cites other historical facts to show the correctness of Mr. Carey's map. According to that paper, Mexican departments.

Grande) from its mouth up, for many miles, and the "Province of Texas" did not touch the Rio Grande at all. In defining the boundaries other maps, the Neuces,) west of "Passo del Cabello," and considerably east of even the "Bay of Santiago," and much farther east is of "Mexico or New Spain," and he defines the boundaries of the "Provincia de Texas" as commencing at the mouth of the Sabine the following authorities:

The river Medina (says our Nashville contemporary) is considerably to the eastward of the Neuces. And the Whig then proceed to add

abandoned," (See American State Papers, vol. 12, page 298)

The march of Gen. Taylor to the Rio Grande, in obedience to instructions from Washington, has begotten a political necessity for the extension of the jurisdiction of Texas beyond the Neuces, which Mr. Polk, before that necessity arose, officially designated as its "western frontier," and even beyond those "stupendous deserts" between the Neuces and the Rio Grande, which, according to Mr. Charles J. Ingersoll, constituted the "natural boundary" between Texas and Mexico, the crossing of which, by either party, when no such movement was anticipated as probable, at least on our part, he said could never be justified, and would never be att3mped until the "spirit of conquest," overruling all other considerations, should investigate the act of aggression. If Mr. Polk was right, as we have no doubt he was, when, adopting the language of Mr. Donnelson, our Envoy to that Republic, he spoke of the Neuces as "the western frontier of Texas," or even if we admit of the extension of that frontier to the natural boundary to which Mr. Ingersoll referred, the conclusion is undeniable that, in ordering Gen. Taylor to go beyond those points, Mr. Polk transcended his constitutional power, by invading and taking possession of a portion of the territory of Mexico, and thereby rendered himself responsible for all the consequences that have resulted from that act. For, although it be true that Mexico struck the first blow, she struck only after giving fair warning that she regarded the movements of Gen. Taylor as itself an act of war, as, if the territory invaded belongs to Mexico, it undeniably was, which she was compelled to resist by force, as the only means of averting that national humiliation and disgrace that would necessarily attach to a tame submission to an armed invasion of her soil.

It is now, however, boldly asserted that the Rio Grande, and not the Neuces, is the western frontier of Texas. We are of course not surprised at this assumption, on the part of the Administration and its defenders; because they cannot otherwise relive the President and his constitutional advisers from the serious charge of having usurped the war-making power, even while Congress, to which body the constitution has expressly and exclusively delegated it, was in session, as it was when the order to occupy the valley of the Rio Grande was prepared and transmitted to Gen. Taylor. This assumption, however, is wholly unsustainable, confronted as it is by the whole current of facts bearing, upon the question. The act of the Texan Congress, extending its jurisdiction to the Rio Grande, so much relied upon by the Administration as the foundation or our title, is destitute of the slightest claim to consideration—just as much so as if, instead of the Rio Grande, that act had claimed to the Sierra Madre. Texas never had possession, at any time, of the territory west of the Neuces, (except perhaps one or two isolated spots;) while the entire Valley, from the source to the mouth of the Rio Grande, which was populated at all, was held, as it had been from the first settlements of the country, by Mexican citizens, recognizing their allegiance to the Mexican government, and ruled by Mexican officers. This fact alone is sufficient to show that the claim of Texas, resting alone upon a law of he Congress, was unfounded and untenable—as much so as would be a claim, set up by the Congress of the United States, should it be silly enough to enact such a law, to the British provinces upon our borders.

A writer in the Nashville Whig, in discussing this question, refers to an edition of Mathew Carey's "General Map of the World," published by him in Philadelphia in the year 1814, "before there could be any political interest or influence to serve." The 29th map in that edition is of "Mexico or New Spain," and he defines the boundaries of the "Provincia de Texas" as commencing at the mouth of the Sabine river, and extending west, on the Gulf of Mexico, to the mouth of a river (which although not named, must be, from comparing it will other maps, the Neuces,) west of "Passo del Cabello," and considerably east of even the "Bay of Santiago," and much farther east (more than two degrees) of the "Rio Bravo del Norte." The province of Tamaulipas extended on both sides of the Del Norte, (or Rio Grande) from its mouth up, for many miles, and the "Province of Texas" did not touch the Rio Grande at all. In defining the boundaries of the several departments of Mexico in 1814, Mr. Carey had no motive, of course, to enlarge or curtail the limits of either of the Mexican departments.

The editor of the Nashville Whig cites other historical facts to show the correctness of Mr. Carey's map. According to that paper, Cevallos, the Spanish Minister, in one of his letters to Messrs. Monroe and Pinckney, in 1805, says:

"The province of Texas, where the Spaniards have had settlements from the 17th century, bounds by the east with Louisiana, and contains the extensive country which lies between the river Medina, where ends the government of Coaquila, to the post now abandoned," (See American State Papers, vol. 12, page 298)

The river Medina (says our Nashville contemporary) is considerably to the eastward of the Neuces. And the Whig then proceed to add the following authorities:
In 1844, Gen. Almonte, by commission of the government of Mexico, visited Texas and drew up a statistical report of the country. Texas and Coahuila at that time formed one State, and Gen. Almonte was informed by the State Government of Coahuila and Texas, that instead of the River de los Neuces, as was generally supposed, and as then appeared on the map, forming the boundary between Coahuila and Texas, this assumption was founded on a geographic error. The true limit ought, it was alleged, to commence "at the embouchure of the river Aransaso, and follow it to its source, continuing thence in a direct line, until it reached the junction of the Medina and San Antonio rivers; from which it ought to proceed along the eastern bank of the Medina towards its source, and terminate on the borders of Chihuahua. (Kennedy's Texas, page 4.)

Mrs. Holley, in her work on Texas states its western boundary to be the Nueces, separating it from Tamaulipas and Coahuila.

We have on our table a History of Texas, published in 1836 and written by David B. Edward, who describes himself on the title page as "formerly Principal of the Academy, Alexandria, Le. Late Preceptor of Gonzales Seminary, Texas." It is a volume of 336 pages. On the 14th page he says:

"It (Texas) is bounded on the North by Red river, which divides it from Arkansas, Ozark District and New Mexico, on the South by the Gulf of Mexico and the Rio de los Nueces, which divides it from the States of Coahuila and Tamaulipas, on the East by the Eastern branch of the river Sabine and the State of Louisiana, on the West, by the State of Coahuila and the territory of New Mexico."

Accompanying the work is a map of Texas with the boundaries, as given above, laid down. In a note on one corner of the map, speaking of the Rio Grande, he says: "If this river should ever become the western boundary of Texas (a desired by the inhabitants) it will add a hundred miles to its sea-coast and 50,000 square miles to its superficies; the southern section of their surface, sandy, barren prairie, almost destitute of water; and its northern, rocky, sterile mountains nearly as destitute of timber.

We have before us "the form of a proposed Constitution of Texas drawn up by the Texas Convention in 1832 and 1833." It begins thus:

"In the name of God, Omnipotent Author and Supreme Legislator of the Universe--

We, the people of Texas, being capable of figuring as a state, in the manner contemplated in the second article of the decree of the general Congress of the nation of the 7th of May, 1824,—do ordain the following Constitution; and do mutually agree with each other, to form ourselves into a full and independent state of the Mexican Confederacy, by the name of the STATE OF TEXAS." Art. 1 of the schedule is as follows;

"The State of Texas shall include all the country formerly known as the Province of Texas."

What the Convention regarded as the western boundary of "the province of Texas" they clearly make apparent I the 10th article of the schedule, where they proceed to divide the State into Senatorial districts. In this division, THEY GO NO FURTHER WEST THAN THE RIVER NUECES. THEY STOP THERE!

June 22, 1847, RWv24i50p1c3, General Scott and Mr. Trist

In the course of some observations, a day or two ago, on the peculiar relations existing between the commander–in–chief of the Army of Investon and the Diplomatist who has been sent to his camp for purposes and objects not very clearly comprehended by the country, we adverted to the striking resemblance between the apparent design of Mr. Trist’s mission and that of the agents of the French Revolutionary government who were sent to the camps of Dumouriez, Lafayette and others, to watch, and sometimes to direct their movements. The following extract of a letter from Jalapa to the St. Louis Republican satisfies us that if we were at all wrong in our surmise as to the duties devolved upon Mr. Trist, it was in underrating the extent of his powers, which it seems are not altogether of a supervisory character. Indeed, it would seem that it is intended that Mr. Trist, shall really occupy the position in which Congress refused to place Senator Benton—that of Lieutenant General, in order that he may control General Scott’s military movements, while, should it be found practicable to substitute negotiation for war, he is to snatch from that officer the credit of preparing and sanctioning a treaty of peace. Altogether, it is quite a curious spectacle, this thing of a Clerk in the State Department, leaving his duties at Washington, taking his position in the camp, and, although having no military rank, assuming to command the commander–in–chief. Is the President carrying out the Bentonian plan, through the agency of Mr. Trist, who is content, as Mr. Benton would not have been, with the substantial power attached to the position, without the title, of which the Missouri Senator was so tenacious? We shall see hereafter.

The correspondent of the St. Louis paper writes as follows:

"A warm and somewhat severe rupture has broken out between Gen. Scott and the Clerk of the State Department, Mr. Trist, who has been sent here as a sort of . . . [illegible] . . . of the American army.

"This Mr. Trist, in the exercise of his mongrel plenary, civil and military powers, addressed a letter to Gen. Scott, directing him as to what move he must make with his troops. A portion of those directions were such as Gen. Scott believed were at war with the best interests of our Government, and the tendency of which would be the protraction, rather than a termination of hostilities. It was the correspondence growing out of this difference of opinion that was the immediate result of this rupture. Copies of all the correspondence, I learn, have been transmitted by Gen. Scott to the War Department; and if at the next session of Congress, they are
Our columns are almost exclusively occupied this morning by the late, interesting intelligence from the seat of war. While we are gratified to learn that a train of invalids, with a small guard, has succeeded in fighting its way, with comparatively trivial loss, from Gen. Scott's rear, that officer, we are informed, is advancing from Puebla upon the city of Mexico, having marched as far as the famous pass of Rio Frio, without encountering opposition, and having been met at that place with propositions for peace, which however, from the inadmissibility of the terms, were rejected. We lay all the accounts that have reached us before our readers, leaving them to draw from them their own inferences. For ourselves, we rarely feel much confidence in any conclusion which we tenor of the advises from the seat of war seem occasionally to justify us in adopting. At this moment, for example, if we were to judge alone from Gen. Scott's forward movement, in connection with the civil dissensions said to be raging in the capital, and with the fact, (if it be true) that the existing Government had been induced to tender the olive branch, we should infer that the restoration of peace is not very remote—for, although the terms proposed are said to have been inadmissible, and were therefore promptly rejected by Gen. Scott, it shows that there has been a change of tone on the part of the Mexican leaders, who have heretofore evinced an inflexible purpose to refuse to listen even to proffers of reconciliation while their soil is pressed by a hostile foot. If they have been induced to relax this determination so far as themselves to propose a cessation of hostilities, it is not improbable, that, although the conditions with which their proposition was accompanied led to its prompt rejection, it may be succeeded by another, so modified as that Gen. Scott's instructions may justify its acceptance.

On the other hand, from the spirit with which the guerillas movements are characterized on the road between Vera Cruz and Jalapa, and the hostile movements in the vicinity of Tampico, the inference would at least seem to be plausible, that, even, should a treaty of peace be extorted from the central Government, unless its terms should be approved by the people of Mexico, it will not be acquiesced in by the military leaders remote from the seat of government, who seem to be fighting upon their own book, and who, like those of Spain, will refuse to be bound by the orders of their superiors, contending that, if not actually in duress, they have been overawed by the force they are unable to resist.

We shall indulge in no farther speculations, however, upon the confused and unsatisfactory state of facts now before us. The next news from the seat of war, which we may daily expect to receive, may enable us to form a more intelligent and satisfactory opinion in regard to the duration, and perhaps to the immediate results, of his unhappy contest.

OBERON EMIGRANTS—The St. Joseph Gazette, of the 11th, after stating that four hundred and thirty three wagons had passed through Independence this spring, with emigrant for Oregon and California, says that the number which have passed through that place will make the aggregate upward of thirteen hundred wagons—which, if they average five persons to each wagon, will swell the number of emigrants to six thousand five hundred, large and small. The emigrants, in small numbers, were still coming to St. Joseph.
The following highly important intelligence was communicated to us by Lieut. Floyd and M'Williams, of the 2nd Pennsylvania Volunteers, who came over on the steamship Galveston this morning, at 6 o'clock. On the 8th, a small recruiting party, together with some citizens, and disbanded soldiers, in number about 150, with 75 armed men, and 30 mounted, left Puebla for Vera Cruz. This party was under command of Capt. Bainbridge, of 3rd Artillery. On leaving Jalapa and getting near Cerro Gordo, this party was informed that it would not be prudent to go through the pass, as there were about 1000 Mexicans in the chaparral along the pass. Previous to this, two officers who had gone to the rear of the train were fired at from the chaparral. At the mouth of the pass the party was organized and marched through without meeting an enemy. Arrived at the Bridge that evening. Whilst they were bivouacked on the other side of the bridge, being so fatigued that they were unable to furnish a guard, they were informed that some persons were barricading the bridge. A guard was then stationed between the bridge and encampment, to prevent the party being surprised. At this time signal lights on the ridges and cliffs were distinctly seen.

Before daylight the sick and wounded of this little party were removed to Santa Anna's hacienda—a quarter of a mile from the bridge. A scouting party was then sent out, and also a party to clear the bridge, which was done without any opposition. The main body of the party then passed over the bridge. Every thing appearing then to be safe, and all danger being passed, Lieut. McWilliams and Mr. Frazer were sent back to bring on the train on the other side of the bridge. Just as they were entering the bridge, a party of twenty-five Mexicans appeared on the ridge, and fired several volleys on them. The wagon mater and four others, who were passing the bridge, were fired on and the whole five were killed, and a wagon was captured of no great value.

After the fire had ceased, a party lancers appeared on the bridge and seemed to be preparing to charge, but seeing that Captain Bainbridge's party were preparing to receive the, they wheeled their horses and galloped off.

Captain Bainbridge resumed his march in good order, followed by 400 or 500 of the lancers, who hung upon his rear and . . . [illegible] . . . for four or five miles, but at a respectable distance. Thus hemmed in, this little party pursued its way until it arrived at the Pass of La Voilta, where Colonel McIntosh had encamped with his large train. The Mexicans who had attacked Bainbridge's party were the same who had compelled Col. McIntosh to halt and wait for reinforcements. The arty remained that night in McIntosh's camp, and during the whole time the Mexicans kept a continual fire on the camp approaching, with the greatest boldness, very near to our sentinels.

On the next day Capt. Bainbridge's party resumed its march to Vera Cruz, being joined by Capt. Duperu's Dragoons, who were sent back to get their horses. This company, with its gallant Captain, had behaved very handsomely in the attack on McIntosh's camp. Its gallantry was the theme of universal praise and admiration in the army. Indeed, it was generally admitted that Col. McIntosh's command was saved by the gallantry of Duperu's party. Bainbridge's party continued their march to Vera Cruz, where they arrived in safety. In the meantime Duperu's party having a long return train to guard, and being threatened by a large body of lancers, halted at Santa Fe, where they were charged by a greatly superior force, which they gallantly repulsed, killing many of the enemy, and suffering no loss themselves. D It was said however, that some of our wagons were cut off and the drivers taken prisoners. Capt. Duperu arrived safely in Vera Cruz, having lost three killed and three wounded.

On the day Capt. Bainbridge's party left McIntosh's camp, Gen. KCadwallader had arrived, with a force of 800 men and two howitzers. The two commands were then joined making, in all, about 1600 men, with two howitzers, under command of Gen. Cadwallader, and pushed on towards the National Bridge.

On approaching the bridge Gen. Cadwallader occupied the heights commanding the bridge, from which the enemy had fired on Capt. Bainbridge's party, where he was attacked by a large force of the Mexicans, posted in the ridges and chaparral, and some hard fighting was carried on for several hours, the Mexicans losing some 15 killed and some thirty of forty wounded. The Mexicans were repulsed; the bridge was successfully passed by Gen. Cadwallader, who was on his way to Jalapa.

The estimated loss of Col. McIntosh's party is about $40,000. For miles the road is strewn with empty boxes and bacon sides, which had been captured by the enemy. There is a great deal of dissatisfaction in the army, respecting the conduct of the command, which had charge of this train. There will be a court of inquiry into the subject.

The garrison at Jalapa has been broken up, by order of Gen. Scott, and all the sick and Government stores have been sent to Perote Castle, so that this line of communication is entirely closed. Gen. Scott has had a road operated from Perote to Taxpan, from which, in future, all our stores and men will be sent, in preference to the old road. The Engineer corps have completed a fine road from Taxpan to Perote, the distance . . . [illegible] . . .

The success of the attack on McIntosh's command has given great confidence to the guerillas who are advancing in great numbers through the country, and attacking all our parties, large and small.

[BJM]
June 22, 1847, RWv24i50p2c6, Later from Mexico

The steamer James L. Day arrived at New Orleans from Vera Cruz on Monday morning. She left Vera Cruz on the afternoon of the 16th inst. touching at Tampico, on the morning of the 17th, and brazos St. Jago on the afternoon of the 18th.

Her news is one day latter, and we are indebted for it to the Delta office. The main interest excited by this arrival, (says our slip,) centres in the report communicated to the James L. Day, by Mr. Clinton, the pilot of Tampico, who boarded her on the 15th, off that city. He stated that they were in daily expectation of an attack from the Mexicans who were reported to be 1500 strong in the vicinity of the city. On the night of the 12th inst., a demonstration was made by the Mexicans in Tampico to rise. The American authorities, however, had timely information of the contemplated movement, and to suppress it, if attempted, called out the troops, who lay on their arms all night. There was then no demonstration of revolt made.

On the 15th inst. a party of Mexican lancers, attacked the outposts at Tampico and drove the sentinels into the city. On the 16th a party of rancheros attacked the pilot station and were greeted by a discharge from half a dozen muskets, when they retreated.

The Barque Mary, of Baltimore, put into Tampico on the 16th instant for supplies and repairs. She was bound for Vera Cruz with 200 volunteers, which she landed at Tampico.

The most important part of the intelligence brought by this arrival is the flattering prospect of peace. Capt. Wood, of the Jas. L. Day. Informs us that information had been received at Vera Cruz before the Day left, that Gen. Scott and Worth, with the main body of the army, had advanced as far as Rio Frio, without opposition, and were met at that place by a deputation from the capital, with propositions for peace. The exact tenor of the propositions were not known; they were, however, of such a nature, that Gen. Scott refused to accept the, and was determined to put on his forces to the capital. From the deep anxiety felt by the new government, if the term government can be applied to any party or power in Mexico, to stay the march of our forces on the capital, it was thought further concessions would be made to Gen. Scott before he took up his line of march from Rio Frio.

VERA CRUZ, June 14, 1847

Gentlemen—I have just seen Capt. Duperu, who came in this morning from the train, which he left about three miles this side of the bridge, at a stand.

It is his opinion that the train will not move forward for some days, if at all. The guerillas are gathering in great numbers and from all quarters, and the chief danger is the delay. Every hour readers its advance more difficult. Within the past three days a number of young Vera Cruz. . . . [illegible] . . . have gone out, and are now under arms against us, after enjoying our protection for the past two months, during which time their property and persons have been more respected than they have for any two months together since they were born. The city has several emissaries within its walls from Jaranta and Rebolledo, one of which, in a gray friar’s dress was just pointed out to me. Persons in the interest and pay—or promise of pay—of the Mexican authorities. Mexicans by birth as well as Spaniards, are also in the employ of our authorities in this city, some of them receiving large salaries and holding offices of trust connected with our Courts, and different departments in administrative and clerical capacities ready at any moment to turn over their files and books to parties with whom their natural sympathies lie; people openly rejoice in the recent success—for success it is—of the guerillas over our troops. The Spanish paper here daily teems with covert appeals to the sympathies of the foreigners, and the patriotism of the Mexicans; magnifies our losses and the Mexican gains, makes a great display of wrongs inflicted on our side, and patients suffering on the part of injured Mexico, and all passes unnoticed as far as I can see.

I am informed, and I know my authority too well to treat it will contempt, that six men, Spaniards, from Havana, have landed, or will today in Vera Cruz, and who will each in less than four days command a party of guerillas. I also learn from the same authority, that two hundred Spaniards, with six of eight small field pieces, are expected to land on the coast, within fifty miles of this city, during the next ten days, when they will at once organize into formidable and desperate guerilla bands. These men are to come from Cuba, but not, I believe, all from Havana.

All the leading men amongst the guerillas now are Spaniards, and also many of the rank and file. A Spaniard General, Saturnino de la Vega, has been in this city for some days, and has just left for the interior, where I learn he is to find a command, or an office giving him the control of several commands. It is doubtless to his influence that we own the departure of the young Mexicans to which I have before adverted, and he and others have inspired all the native classes with more hope than they have before enjoyed for a long time.

By an arrival, which gives us later intelligence than that brought by Duperu, from the train, we learn that it was again moving cautiously forward, and expected opposition at the Bridge. Jaranta was falling back upon Encerro, where he expects to be able to keep the Americans in check until reinforced by Rebolledo, and the rancheros from the surrounding country, who are drawn rapidly around by the prospect of sharing in the division of the specie—about half a million of dollars—in the train. Rebolledo is said to have fifteen hundred men that he can bring forward, and they hope to have a force, such as will enable them to take our fellows in front and rear, and route them completely. When this is done, a descent is to be made upon Vera Cruz!

Now in all this there is nothing ridiculous, although three men out of four laugh at such calculations. I would not guarantee a successful defense of Vera Cruz with our present force, particularly if the onset were made suddenly, and at night. I now, too, that there are hundreds in the city who would assist the assaulting forces.
The latest intelligence from the seat of war has not only put to flight the hope that had been faintly indulged, founded upon the apparent anarchy and apathy existing among the Mexicans, of the speedy restoration of peace, but has naturally excited serious apprehensions for the safety of our troops both upon the coast and in the interior—at Vera Cruz and at Tampico, as well as at Jalapa and Puebla. The reader will find very full, though as yet imperfect details in another column, together with some pertinent reflections from the New Orleans Picayune upon the present threatening aspect of affairs in that quarter. Nor is that paper alone in apprehensions, which we earnestly hope may not be realized. The Bulletin, while it has no serious fears for the safety of Col. McIntosh and his charge, considers the indications that are put forth by the attack upon his train, and the inferences that may be reasonably drawn from the facts of the case, as giving a sinister complexion to the advises. "It shows (says that paper) an organized system of resistance on a large scale, for it is no roving band of small marauding party that would have ventured to attack a force of 800 regulars, and which has succeeded in capturing a considerable portion of the train, and obliging our troops to entrench themselves until reinforced."

From Gen. Taylor's division of the Army the intelligence is only so far interesting, as that it shows the utter impossibility, in his weakened condition, of making a movement toward San Luis. The Washington Union has, within a few days past, reiterated a statement, founded upon information obtained from the War Department, that General Taylor would very soon be at the head of a force sufficiently formidable to enable him to resume active operations. A similar statement, which appeared in that paper a few weeks ago, was not without a prompt denial by letters from Gen. Taylor's camp, and by an article in the Matamoros Flag, which, by an enumeration of the actual force now occupying the several posts from that place to Saltillo inclusive, together with the new corps expected shortly to arrive, exhibited a remarkable deficiency, as compared with the official statement. These contradictions, however, only served to elicit another publication from the War Office, in which the Adjutant General's muster-rolls are for the second time adduced to impeach the testimony of the eye-witnesses of their variation from the actual state of facts, in regard to which it is impossible these eye-witnesses can be mistaken. The official muster-rolls, as well as we remember, place Gen. Taylor at the head of about 10,000 men; and yet passengers arrived at New Orleans, direct from the camp, state that the General has now with him only about 4000 effective troops, and will not have exceeding 5800 when all his expected reinforcements reach him! The Adjutant General must reckon his "men in buckram" after the Falstaff fashion. At all events, facts like these furnish a striking commentary on the alleged "eminent ability" with which this war is "conducted," so far as its management depends upon the Administration!

[BJM]
June 22, 1847, RWv24i50p4c3, From Vera Cruz

Arrival of the Mary Kingsland—Additional particulars of the late attack on Col. McIntosh's train—Slender Garrison at Vera Cruz—Yellow Fever.

The United States steamer Mary Kingsland, Captain Davis, arrived here yesterday, from Vera Cruz the 9th, and from Brazos, the 13th inst. Although the Mary Kingland left Vera Cruz two days previously to the departure of the Massachusetts, she brought us more details of the most important event that has lately happened in that part of Mexico, viz.: the attack on Col. McIntosh's train. We also received, by this arrival, letters from our correspondent, who resumes the thread of his narrative of daily occurrences, broken off at the receipt of the last full mail by the New Orleans.

ATTACK ON THE TRAIN.—We learn that the whole of the immense train, under the escort of Col. McIntosh and 800 men, proceeding onward to the head quarters of General Scott, were attacked by a guerilla party at a point just fifteen miles beyond Santa Fe, a village eight miles from Vera Cruz. The moment the attack was made on the head of the train, the dragoons charged on the enemy, and dispersed them. After the lapse of a very short time, the Mexicans again made their appearance in seemingly overwhelming numbers, at least 17,000 strong, and opened a fire on several points at once. Here a considerable number of pack mules fell into the hands of the foe, from the extended line which had to be kept up, on the march, owing to the narrow defiles through which the train was passing. Col. McIntosh, after a rather severe contest, got off the assailants, and then fortified himself behind his wagons, deeming it imprudent to continue on without a reinforcement, particularly requiring artillery. An express reached the city on Monday the 7th inst. in the evening, and on Tuesday morning, Gen. Cadwallader marched to his relief, with a section detailed from the Howitzer battery, 10 guns, attached to the Voltigeur regiment, under Lts. Bakeley and Cochrane; four companies of the 11th regiment, under Col. Ramsey; one company of the 8th and one of the 7th Infantry; and company K. of the 3rd Dragoons. Twenty wagons accompanied. The Mexicans are said to be posted in considerable strength in the vicinity of the National Bridge, (Puente Nacional,) close to which the train is entrenched. They are determined to dispute the passage with us. Gen. Cadwallader, on his junction with Col. McIntosh, will be at the head of about 1500 strong, and he has declared that he shall soon be able to clear the road of those desperadoes, the guerrillas.

Although the name is not given, there is little doubt of the Mexicans being under the command of Padre Jatuata, the Spaniard, of which exploits we have already spoken n these columns. The exact sum, in specie, conveyed by this train is $350,000. There is no authentic intelligence of the loss sustained by either party, in this encounter. Dr. Harney, brother of the Colonel, it is said, received a musket ball in the leg, which was, however, but a flesh wound.

HORSE ROBBERY—A daring robbery of some forty of fifty horses and mules is said to have been perpetrated by the Mexicans, on the 5th inst., close to the walls of the city. Company K., 3rd Dragoons, went in pursuit the next day, and after remaining out scouring the country, until the following morning, the 6th inst., returned, and reported that they saw no vestige of an enemy.

GARRISON OF VERA CRUZ—We have been informed that the number of troops at Vera Cruz, since the departure of Gen. Cadwallader, has been reduced to so low a figure as to give rise to some apprehensions for the safety of the city, in case of an attack by any thing like the number said to be under Pedro Jatuata. There were not more than forty men fit for duty in the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa, when the Massachusetts left.

June 25, 1847, RWv24i51p1c2, French Opinions

In one letter of his late letters from Paris, the editor of the N. York Herald commenced on the somewhat singular fact that in not one of the French Journals, except the Gazette de France, is it possible to procure the insertion of an article, at all complimentary to the U. States—a fact the more remarkable as the Gazette de France is the organ of the Legitimist (or ultra Royalist) party! In the Herald of the 21st inst. we find a long article translated from the "Gazette," in which a bold and vivid contrast is drawn between "Old Europe and Young America," highly flattering both to the institutions and to the people of this country. We regret that we have not room to copy it entire. Its general tenor, however, may be inferred from the tone in which it speaks of the progress of our arms in Mexico. It says:

"Open a map of the United States and Mexico, look at the line of operations by the sea and land forces of the Union, and one would be inclined to believe that the great genius of Carnot and Bonaparte, suggested the plans pursued by the American Generals in Mexico, and the brilliant successes of France during the invasions of Belgium, Germany and Italy had been translated across the Atlantic."

The Gazette then proceeds to give a detailed sketch of our land and naval operations; and after contrasting the vigor and energy of this Republic with the decrepitude and effeminacy of European Governments, the write concludes with a remark, which we hope future events may show to be prophetic, so far as this country is concerned: "Henceforward, (he says,) Young America is destined to enjoy a flourishing and permanent tranquility, whilst Old Europe will be exposed to perpetual and bloody convulsions."

June 25, 1847, RWv24i51p1c3, General Taylor and The War

The New York Commercial Advertiser publishes the following extract of a letter from a Southern gentleman, who is said to be one of the most shrewd and far-seeing men in the country:

"It is now certain that Gen. Taylor will be our next President; that is, if Providence will continue its protection over his life as to this time it has done. His bright prospects are gall and wormwood to many a leading politician, and his advent to the Presidency will purify
The war with Mexico is becoming more and more serious; every victory we achieve defers the prospect of peace. The capture of the capital, which will soon be effected, will only add to the exasperation of that people. It is a strange infatuation with Mr. Polk and his Cabinet, which induces them to believe a peace possible. The Mexicans look upon it as a struggle for their national existence, and for their religion; and in this view they are not very wrong. They know that any peace they can make will be attended with a sacrifice of part of their country, and that the extent of our demands will be in a great measure regulated by our power to enforce them.

“They have constantly before them the French invasion of Spain and its consequences. It cost France 7000,000 men, and in the sequel Napoleon his throne and they think that similar policy on their part will ultimately lead to our abandonment of their country. We may capture all their cities, but the 8,000,000 people of Mexico will yet remain to be conquered. In my opinion the plan brought forward by Mr. Calhoun, in a speech on the Mexican war in the Senate, is the true one, and it will ultimately be adopted, but not until some 20,000 men and fifty millions of dollars have been sacrificed.”

June 25, 1847, RWv24i51p2c1, Col. Doniphan’s Expedition

The expedition of Col. Doniphan, at the head of about a thousand men, from Santa Fe to Chihuahua, and thence, by the way of Monterey, to New Orleans, is perhaps the most remarkable incident of the enemy’s country, at the head of only one thousand men, who met in conflict and overthrew thrice their number, with all the advantages of position on their side, he possessed himself of the capital of one of the most flourishing Mexican States, in which, the authorities having fled, by exercised the governing power until the approaching expiration of the term of service of his gallant comrades compelled him to abandon his conquest. It the expedition has been productive of no permanent results, it possesses all the attractiveness of romance; and its slightest details cannot fail to inspire emotions of admiration and wonder—admiration at the intrepidity of this little band of heroes, adventuring fearlessly into the midst of a hostile people—and wonder that the population of the country, even though unarmed and abandoned by their leaders, had not annihilated them by mere weight of numbers.

Col. Doniphan is described, by the New Orleans National, as “a man of giant frame and of that loose carriage peculiar to the west that deceives the eye as to proportion and strength.” “His officers and men (that paper tells us) have a strange, uncouth appearance: Piece-meal, the ill-made clothing of the volunteers has fallen from them, and they have supplied its place with what chance and the wild beasts of New Mexico have thrown in their way. Their sunburnt faces, grizzly beards, and withal their devil—may—care air, is perfectly irresistible. Yet beneath those rough exteriors are concealed minds of educated and high-toned sentiments, full of lofty thoughts and love of liberty—minds that are destined to be felt in the councils of the nation, and to play a prominent part in the stirring events of the times.”

We have copied from the Picayune a brief sketch of the march of Col. Doniphan’s regiment. In the National we find another, not less interesting, from which, not having room for the whole, we propose to make several extracts.

When Gen. Kearny left Santa Fe for California, he ordered Col. Doniphan to make a campaign against the Navajo Indians, living in the Rocky Mountains between Del Norte and the Pacific Ocean, and who had been at war with the Mexicans for two hundred and fifty years, and lived entirely upon plunder taken from that people. The object of this expedition, which was attended with great toil and labor, was successfully accomplished. A treaty was concluded with the Indians, binding them to keep the peace towards both the Mexicans and Americans. The description given of the Navajoes, and likewise of another tribe, called the Sumai, living near them, possesses great interest, as giving information of the curious habits and customs of a race of people of whom little or nothing is known in the United States. The writer of the narrative says:

“The Navajo Indians are a warlike people, have no towns or houses, or lodges; they live in the open air or on horseback, and are remarkably wealthy, having immense herds of horses, cattle and sheep. They are celebrated for their intelligence and good order. They treat their women with great attention, consider them equals, and relieve them from the drudgery of menial work. They are handsome, well made and in every respect a highly civilized people, being, as a nation, of a higher order of beings than the mass of their neighbors, the Mexicans. About the time Col. Doniphan made his treaty, a division of his command was entirely out of provisions; the Navajoes supplied its wants with liberality. A portion of the command returned to Cuvano; Major Gilpin’s command, together with Col. Doniphan, went to the city of the Sumai Indians living on the Rio Piscow, which is supposed to be a branch of the Geyla, made a treaty of peace between the Sumai and Navajoes, and then returned to the Rio Del Norte.

“These Sumai, unlike the Navajoes, live in a city, containing, probably six thousand inhabitants, who support themselves entirely by agriculture.

“The city is one of the most extraordinary in the world. It is divided into four solid squares, having but two streets crossing its Centre at right angles. All the building are two story high, composed of sun-burnt brick. The first story presents a solid wall to the street; and is so constructed, that each house joins, until one fourth of the city may be said to be one building. The second stories rise from this vast solid structure, so as to designate each house, leaving room to walk upon the roof of the first story between each building. The inhabitants of Sumai enter the second story of their buildings by ladders, which they draw up at night, as a defense against any enemy that might be prowling about. In this city was seen some thirty Albino Indians, who have, no doubt, given rise to the story that there is an albino town in the Rocky Mountains a tribe of white aborigines. The discovery of this city of the Sumains might be prowling about. In this city was seen some thirty Albino Indians, who have, no doubt, given rise to the story that there is an albino town in the Rocky Mountains a tribe of white aborigines.
The city of Chihuahua, the capital of the State of that name, which for several months was the headquarters of Col. Doniphan, contains about 14,000 inhabitants, and is said to be of remarkable beauty. The narrator says:

"It is situated on a plain between two high mountains that rise in the east and west. At the north and south, the country, as far as the eye can see, is open and interspersed with farms. The buildings, many of which are very handsome, are composed of white porphyry, that is easily wrought when first taken from the quarry, but be exposure to the air becomes very hard. The old Spaniards, who originally built it, conveyed from a mountain four miles distant, through a stone canal, the waters of a spring. This abundant fountain rises in the centre of the grand plaza, overflows an octagonal basin, and then pursues its way over the whole city. The plaza is surrounded by seats, with backs carved out of the solid stone. At this place could nightly be seen the entire population of Chihuahua, indulging themselves in gossip and idleness.

"As an evidence of the richness of the mines of Chihuahua, under the Spaniards, it is stated that the magnificent church of that city, which is of immense proportions, and ornamented by three towers of solid stone was built at a cost of six hundred thousand dollars, and that this immense sum was raised by a tax of one bit on every eight dollars coined in the mines. These silver mines are as rich as they ever were, and inexhaustible; but the Indians have driven the Mexicans from the richest of them, and the people are too lazy to work those in their possession.

"When our army left Chihuahua, there was no organized government; the Mexican Governor, Trias, fled on Col. Doniphan’s approach, and left him sole arbiter of the country. Col. Doniphan departed, leaving the city and the State to take care of themselves, a prey to the first aspirant that wished for temporary power."

We alluded yesterday to the sterility of those portions of the Mexican Confederacy, which have been represented as peculiarly desirable, and the acquisition of which we have been told, is to be insisted upon as a sinc qua non, in the negotiation of a treaty of peace—we refer, of course, to New Mexico and the Californias. What sort of "indemnification" they will be for the long and dark catalogue of wrongs and injuries which it is alleged we have sustained at the hands of Mexico, to say nothing of the lives sacrificed and the millions of money expended in the prosecution of the war waged to secure it, maybe learned from the following brief but comprehensive description of the El Dorado which Mr. Polk is so obstinately bent upon embracing within the “area of freedom:

"The country of New Mexico, and the two Californias, are represented by our troops to be perfectly worthless, except for the harbors on the Pacific coast. No Americans will ever make a home in either of the States, and its possessions will be a curse to the country. The whole of it is an arid plain, almost destitute of water, with but here and there a green spot, and never would have been occupied by any civilized people, but for the rage of gold that inspired the early and adventurous Spaniards.

If this brief description give any thing like an accurate idea of the value of the three Mexican provinces, the “annexation” of which to the United States has already been decreed by the American commanders, acting under the orders of the President, we beg to know of any disciple of the “Manifest Destiny” school, what advantage do they promise the people of this Union by their acquisition? We are sometimes tauntingly asked, are we to close this war without being able to pint to our territorial acquisitions, Mexico having nothing else to give, s the remuneration for the blood that has been shed and the treasure that has been expended in its prosecution? We answer the question by another: Shall we prolong the war for the purpose of coercing the Mexican government into a relinquishment of such a country as New Mexico and the Californias, wholly unfit as it is for the habitations of a civilized people, and in which "no American will ever make a home?" If, it be true, as is asserted, and as we believe, that "its possession will be a curse to the country," why shall we continues to fight for it? And especially when, if we annex the barren waste, we re to bring into the Union, with it, the wretched and debased population who procure a precarious subsistence from its parched and sterile soil? In our judgment, were Mexico willing to transfer these provinces without striking another blow, we should act most wisely . . . [illegible] . . . [BJM]

June 25, 1847, RWv24i51p2c5, Later From Vera Cruz

The U. S. ship Massachusetts, Capt. Wood, arrived last evening from Vera Cruz whence she sailed on the evening of the 11th inst. The Massachusetts brings over 155 sick and wounded soldiers, under charge of Dr. Tudor, besides the following passengers: Mr. Joseph Harrod, Dr. Tudor, U.S.A. Purser Bryan, of the navy, and Mr. Beeworth and two servants.

The vomita is represented as on the increase at Vera Cruz. We regret extremely to say that Paymaster Bosworth, who sailed from here only on the 18th ult, sickened and died in Vera Cruz of the vomita. His remains were brought back on the Massachusetts in charge of his brother.

Quite the most important intelligence brought by this arrival relates to an attack upon a large train by the Mexican guerrillas, which has been partially successful. By the Fanny we learned that a train was to leave Vera Cruz on the morning of the 5th inst., for Puebla, under command of Lieut. Col. McIntosh. The train had in charge $225,000 in specie, of which sum one hundred thousand belonged to the Paymaster’s Department, the remainder to the Quartermaster’s. One hundred and twenty-five wagons and six hundred pack mules were in the train, which was escorted by 800 troops.

The train left Vera Cruz on the night of the 4th inst., and on Sunday the 6th, when it had advanced about twenty-five miles, it was attacked by a large party of guerrillas.
The place was well selected for the purpose by the Mexican’s being represented as a defile broad enough for a single wagon only. It is said, too, that slight works had been thrown up by the Mexicans to obstruct our advance. The attack was made upon each extremity of the train and upon the centre at the same time, the principal point however being the wagons, which were supposed to contain the specie.

Private accounts represent that the attack was so far successful that forty of our wagons were destroyed—though not those containing the specie—two hundred mules loaded with subsistence were taken, and thirty of our men killed. The American Eagle of the 9th says our loss is variously estimated at from four to twenty, but private accounts, from responsible sources, give the loss as we have done, at thirty men. The check was so severe that Col. McIntosh determined not to hazard an advance without reinforcements. Our troops accordingly entrenched themselves behind their wagons, and despatches were sent off to Cadwalader at Vera Cruz. The General left on Monday evening, the 7th inst., with a force of about five hundred men and four howitzers. Private accounts say further that on the 10th a part of the voltigeurs also left, with four howitzers, to join the train.

The Eagle represents that our troops received the attack with the utmost coolness, and that the enemy, being repulsed, fell back towards the Puente Nacional, which some suppose they may attempt to defend. No later news from the train had been received the morning of the 11th, the day the Massachusetts left. On the 10th a large mail was despatched to this port on the propeller Washington, which may be hourly expected. Her letters may bring us further details.

No later news had been received from the army of Gen. Scott. The reason is obvious; for the present at least the communication has been entirely cut off. We do not regard this as at all alarming, for Gen. Cadwalader will no doubt open a passage to Jalapa at once; but it indicates a necessity for some cavalry force upon the line to clear away the brigands which infest it, and who must have mustered in greater force than had been anticipated to attack a train guarded by 800 troops.

But the audacity of these guerrillas does not stop here. They are entering Vera Cruz and stealing our horses. For several nights alarms had been created in the city by these predatory attempts. Private letters say “that sixty horses were stolen from one pen in the immediate vicinity of the town. A regiment of Texas Rangers, it seems to us, would find ample scope for employment in the vicinity of Vera Cruz.

The Steamers Palmetto and Edith arrived at Vera Cruz on the 8th inst. The schooner Gen. Worth had also arrived with one company of voltigeurs. On the Palmetto a lady is said to have arrived from New Orleans in search of a runaway slave. Her pursuit is represented as successful.

We await anxiously our letters by the Washington.

From the N. O. Bulletin, June 17

On the evening of the 10th, a body of 25 guerrillas made an attack on 14 Americans, and 2 Mexicans, who were in charge of horses, about five miles from the city. The Mexicans not answering to the challenge, were fired upon by the guard and six killed, but they succeeded in carrying off 10 horses. The next morning, the two Mexicans persuaded the second in command, to accompany them in search of the horses, and so soon as they were out of sight of the guard, they hung the officer, and mounting another Mexican on his horse, succeeded in driving off sixty of the best horses. A stronger force was sent from the city, but neither the Mexicans nor horses were to be found.

The route from Vera Cruz was infested, and completely blocked up, by the guerrillas—and communication with Gen. Scott’s army was cut off, and there had been no recent intelligence from him. The road could only be opened by escorts, as all messengers and small parties were wounded and murdered.

On the day the Massachusetts left, there was a report of a new revolution in the city of Mexico, but nothing positive was know, nor how far the report might be depended on.

It was fully believed at Vera Cruz, that there would be another Cerro Gordo battle, after Gen. Scott received his reinforcements, before he could reach the capital.

The vomito existed to a considerable extend, and was increasing; the daily deaths were about 20, chiefly Americans.

The Garrison was weak, but no fears are entertained of an attack, as the Mexicans, from the country, have a greater dread of the vomito, than the Americans.

[BJM]

June 25, 1847, RWv24i51p4c1, March to the Rio Grande

If the armed occupation of the territory between the Neuces and the Rio Grande was an act obligatory upon the Administration, in the discharge of the duty imposed upon it by the annexation of Texas to the United States, the President is entitled to commendation for ordering Gen. Taylor to take possession of it—although it must be obvious that, even were the obligation admitted, the Administration would not be exempt from censure for permitting so large a portion of the territory of the United States to be held by the Mexicans, from the Spring of 1845, when the act of annexation was consummated, until January 1846, when the order to General Taylor to move to the Rio Grande was given. If the territory belongs to the United States, in virtue of the act of annexation, General Taylor ought to have taken position on the Rio Grande at once, instead of on the Neuces; and doubtless if the former river, instead of the latter, had
really been regarded as “the western frontier of Texas,” the order to proceed thither would not have been delayed until the winter of 1846, the Mexicans meanwhile holding quiet possession of our territory, having armed forces in some of the towns, and a custom-house, with its retinue of officers, at Point Isabel. If it be alleged, therefore, that Mr. Polk did no more than his duty in taking armed possession of this territory in January, 1846, it is obvious that he was grossly derelict in his performance for several months previously, while Gen. Taylor remained at Corpus Christi. From this dilemma, it seems to us, there is no escape.

But it is very obvious that the defenders of the Administration are, by no means satisfied that the responsibility of the order given to Gen. Taylor in January, 1846, shall attach to the President, notwithstanding they assert our “clear and unquestionable” title to the territory between the Neches and the Rio Grande quite as boldly as they formerly . . . [illegible] . . . which he performed, of directing the Army of Occupation to take post on the Neches, for the purpose of protecting “the western frontier of Texas,” and which, as late as December, 1845, he informed Congress had been efficiently executed by stationing our army on the Neches! Efforts are now made to transfer this responsibility from the shoulders of the Administration to those of Gen. Taylor, (which it is supposed are broad and strong enough to bear anything,) because, as it is gravely alleged, he recommended the march to the Rio Grande—an allegation than which nothing can be more untrue, or more easily disproved. The National Intelligencer, by a masterly analysis of the correspondence between the War Department and Gen. Taylor has effectually refuted this attempt to make the latter responsible for an act, which, if it were right in itself, and if the champions of the Administration felt no misgivings in regard to its wisdom and propriety, would be rather cited as an evidence of the sagacity of Mr. Polk, than attributed to his commanding officer, of whom, by this course of argument, Mr. Polk is made the mere puppet, instead of the superior!

Extracts from Gen. Taylor’s official letters to the War Department, from August 20, 1845, until the 7th of January, 1846,(the order for his march to the Rio Grande bearing date at Washington on the 13th day of the latter month,) show that throughout that whole period, there had not been the slightest demonstration of hostility on the part of the Mexican troops—indeed, he uniformly represents, as the result of constant inquiries and of information obtained from the most reliable sources, that so far from any reason existing to apprehend any attack from the Mexican forces, the inhabitants on the Rio Grande were peaceably disposed, and anxious for a treaty with the United States. So late as the 7th of January, only six days before the day of the order to advance to the Rio Grande, Gen. Taylor writes: “A recent scout of volunteers from San Antonio struck the rive Presidio Rio Grande, and the commander reports everything quiet in that quarter.” Indeed on the 4th of February, he says, “I have every reason to believe that the people residing on the river are well disposed towards our Government.”

After Gen. Taylor, in pursuance of the order from the War Department, took up his line of march, the whole scene underwent a sudden change, and the contents of his despatches consequently wear a different aspect. He was occasionally met by armed bands of Mexicans, who proclaimed that the advance “would be considered an act of hostility,” and that our troops would “in that case, be treated as enemies.” “The first occasion in which the Mexicans showed themselves in an . . . [illegible] . . . told by Gen. Taylor, was on the 3rd of March, when he had reached the Arroyo Colorado river, against his right to cross which the Adjutant General of the Mexican army, in the name of his nation, protested, as an act of aggression, (such as Mr. Benton, in his celebrated speech on the Tyler treaty, said it would be!) And these manifestations of hostility, now for the first time exhibited, continued until the war commenced by the bombardment of Fort Brown and the battle of Palo Alto.

It is manifest that the march to the Rio Grande, whether wise or unwise, proper or improper, is the true origin of the war. We are not surprised, therefore seeing the grave questions which must arise from the acknowledgment of this fact, at the willingness of the Administration to transfer all the credit of the movement from itself to Gen. Taylor, by an attempt to show that the order to make the movement was given in pursuance of the advice of Gen. Taylor himself. But let us look at the facts, which we condense from the National Intelligencer’s lucid exposition.

Gen. Taylor was ordered, on the 15th of, June 1845, to advance to a point convenient for an embarkation, at the proper time to the western frontier of Texas. Gen. Donelson, our Minister in Texas, had stated that “the most western point occupied by Texas was Corpus Christi. —To that point Gen. Taylor proceeded, and there he remained until the order of the 13th of January 1846, reached him. While he was at Corpus Christi, intimations were frequently given to him that the Rio del Norte was the point of his ultimate destination, our Government claiming that the river was the true boundary between Texas and Mexico, but no positive instructions were given to him to advance. Under these repeated declarations to him that the Executive regarded the Rio Grande as the western boundary of Texas, and that to be his “ultimate destination,” Gen. Taylor wrote the letter of the 4th of October, 1845, which, according to the organs of the Administration, contains the advice or recommendation, to which, three months afterwards, Mr. Polk is alleged to have conformed his action. Let us see whether this letter, taken in connection with the documents to which it refers, is fairly susceptible of the construction given to it.

June 25, 1847, RWv24i51p4c2, Great Taylor Meeting

At a large and enthusiastic meeting, held in Knoxville, Tennessee, on the 14th inst. Gen. Taylor was nominated with entire unanimity, for the next Presidency. Judge . . . [illegible] . . . delivered an able speech in support of the nomination, and he was followed by . . . [illegible] . . . formerly a Democratic U. S. Senator from Tennessee, who (says the Knoxville Register) came out boldly in favor of Gen. Taylor, and gave his reasons for being desirous of seeing the old her elevated to the Presidency at the next election.”

Col. Humphrey Marshall, of the Kentucky Volunteers, in a letter to the New Orleans Picayune, states that a formal arrangement was entered into, after the battle of Buena Vista, for the exchange of Majors Gaines and Borland and the officers and men captured with them between Major Bliss and Capt. Fauaco, one of the aides-de-camp of Santa Anna. The Mexican prisoners were at once given up, and a pledge given that the American prisoners should be promptly released, and shipped to the most convenient port in the U. States. He complains of the failure as a flagrant breach of faith, justifying and requiring retaliatory measures.
The intelligence from Mexico leaves no reason to doubt that confusion and disorders are the order of the day in that capital. Among the prominent men arrested is Gen. Almonte, late Minister to the U. States. The Picayune says the cause of his arrest is unknown, but a letter from Vera Cruz to the New Orleans... [illegible]... says he is charged with holding a treasonable correspondence with General Scott.

Captain John Paynor, of Dinwiddie county, came to a sudden and painful death on Thursday last, in the following manner: Having just had a chill, or apprehending one, he went into the office of his brother-in-law, Dr. John H. Edwards, to take a dose of quinine. By a most unhappy accident, he mistook morphine for quinine, swallowed it, and was in a very few minutes numbered with the dead. He was in the bloom of manhood, and has left a widow, and three little children.

June 25, 1847, RWv24i51p4c5, From the City of Mexico

We have seen a letter from one of the American officers now a prisoner in Mexico. It was dated May 28th. He had been promised his liberty again and again, but expected to be released on the 30th beyond a doubt. He writes that Gen. Scott was expected to enter the capital within eight days and he did not anticipate that any formidable opposition would be made to him.

Gen. Worth found in Puebla a large amount of tobacco belonging to the Government. It might readily have been removed, and those by whose fault if fell into our hands are severely censured in the papers.

The papers give several extracts from despatches intercepted with that containing Gen. Scott’s proclamation. They are not all very intelligible and amount to very little.

Whilst exercising supreme power, Santa Anna, on the 22nd ult., directed that every prosecution against military persons should be discontinued, and all accused of offences be at once set at large. The services of such men are thought to be of sufficient importance to the Government to justify this clemency. It looks to us like an attempt of Santa Anna to strengthen himself with the soldiery.

Senor Pacheco was named Minister of Justice on the 27th ult.

In El Republicano of the 28th ult, there is an article upon the defence of the capital and the propriety of removing the seat of Government into the interior. The editor urges upon the authorities to defend the capital to extremities, and says that the work of erecting fortifications is going on actively. But this part of the article is not in his usual bold strain. From the tone of it, and from private letters from the capital which we have seen, we feel persuaded that little opposition to Gen. Scott’s entrance into the city will be made. El Republicano urges strenuously that the seat of Government should at once be transferred.

Then, should the capital fall, it urges, the Government will still exist, and form a centre of union and a rallying point. The editor urges the point with such force that we are persuaded he anticipated no formidable opposition to Gen. Scott’s advance.

In an earlier article upon the subject of the defence of the capital, El Republicano sets down the troops available for the purpose as follows: The garrison then I the capital (the 26th of May) was not far from 10,000 men, while there were to arrive, says the editor, from the State of... [illegible]... We infer from allusions to his article, in El Razonador that the latter paper ridicules the idea of making any defence of the city.

We see nothing in the papers about the formidable works said to... [illegible]... at Rio Frio. We are inclined to the opinion that the resistance anticipated at this point has been much exaggerated. The Mexican papers, which we have seen, say nothing about it, and speak only of the fortifications in the immediate vicinity of the capital. It is mentioned in the papers of the capital that an advance party of Gen. Worth had reconnoitered the road as far as Rio Frio.

The resignation of Gen. Bravo and Riucon were induced by an order of the Government bestowing their command upon Gen. Lombardini during their indisposition. The latter general is not celebrated for genius. Gen. Bravo’s letter to the Government breathes a fine spirit. The only title he retains is that which the people formerly thought him deserving. “Benemerito de la Patria.”

Five hundred infantry, perfectly armed and equipped, arrived in the city of Mexico on the 24th ult from Queretaro. They belonged to the National Guard of that State and were sent to aid in the defence of the capital.

The causes of the arrest of Almonte are not given. El Republicano says that various vague charges are made against him, but it does not name them. Subsequent to his arrest a correspondence between him and the Government was published. On the 21st May, Alcosta, the Minister of War, announced to Almonte that he has been appointed commandant general of the State of Vera Cruz, and directs him to start for Cordova within twenty-four hours.

This note was not delivered till the 22nd. Almonte replies to it by putting various questions to the Government as to the nature and extent of his powers, the forces to be put at his command, etc. He also demands that he may be accompanied by several officers whose names he gives—The Government in reply refers him to Gen. Bravo. This note Almonte answers on the 23rd and makes some new demands. If any reply was made to him we have not seen it, but the next we hear of him is that on the 24th he is placed under arrest and remained a prisoner on the 29th.

We find in the papers an address of the valiant Ampudia to the nation vindicating his conduct at Monterey. AS this worthy is quite well
understood and appreciated in the United States, we shall not dwell upon his defence.

We are at a loss to understand these various movements among the military chieftains of Mexico. We have the resignation of Santa Anna, Bravo and Rincon and the arrest of Almonte all within the space of eight of ten days, and the departure of other generals to remote points, and Santa Anna during the time was exercising full away, and extending every indulgence to the soldiery. It looks as though parties were marshalling their forces for a struggle for power among themselves, rather than to defend their country against a foreign foe.

[BJM]
The Mexican-American War and the Media, 1845-1848

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Says he's a Whig and not a Democrat

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Tuesday October, 12 1847  RWv24i82p4c2  Speculations
[N.Y. Courier]  condemns Mexico for rejection of treaty proposal

Tuesday October, 12 1847  RWv24i82p4c2  From Gen. Taylor’s Camp
[N.O. Picayune] News from Gen. Taylor’s camp at Buena Vista about problems with deserters

Tuesday October, 12 1847  RWv24i82p4c3  Untitled
Letter describing Scott’s demeanor in battle

Tuesday October, 12 1847  RWv24i82p4c3  Official
Letter to a soldier in Vera Cruz, talks about battles and fights with guerrillas

Friday October, 15, 1847  RWv24i83p1c2  Mexican Documents
[N.O. Picayune] copy from Diario del Gobierno, letters and information about troop activity and the Irish Regiment captured by the Americans

Friday October, 15, 1847  RWv24i83p1c3  Untitled

Friday October, 15, 1847  RWv24i83p1c3  Untitled
[Washington Union]  short remark about Santa Anna returning to Mexico

Friday October, 15, 1847  RWv24i83p1c3  Mutiny on the Plains
Troops in route to Santa Fe are in open mutiny

Friday October, 15, 1847  RWv24i83p2c2  Gen. James Hamilton, Jr.
Writing about the death of his brother

Friday October, 15, 1847  RWv24i83p2c2  Upper California
Soldier talks about dreary conditions of lower California

Friday October, 15, 1847  RWv24i83p2c2  Incentives to Desertion
[N.O. Picayune] says Santa Anna is offering money to American soldiers to desert

Friday October, 15, 1847  RWv24i83p2c3  Col. Jefferson Davis
Letter to the President turning down a commission to become Brigadier General

Friday October, 15, 1847  RWv24i83p2c4  The Late Col. Butler
[Charleston Mercury] letter lamenting the loss of a friend in battle

Friday October, 15, 1847  RWv24i83p4c2  The Nueces
 Says Whigs gave up title of Nueces to Mexicans, this is rebuttal and condemnation of that

Friday October, 15, 1847  RWv24i83p4c2  Intelligence from Mexico
Says that the rumors of the deaths of Gen.’s Worth, Smith and Pillow were rumors
Friday October, 15, 1847   RWv24i83p4c5   The News from Mexico
[N.O. Picayune] news about the war copied from the N.O. Picayune

Tuesday October, 19, 1847   RWv24i84p1c1   The Annexation of Mexico
Article saying that the president might consider taking all of Mexico into the United States, and condemns this possibility

Tuesday October, 19, 1847   RWv24i84p1c2   Anecdote of Santa Anna
[Washington Union] story says Santa Anna felt compassion for an enemy officer and let him live even though he had tried to kill Santa Anna

Tuesday October, 19, 1847   RWv24i84p1c3   Untitled
Letter to the editor about the safety of the Army

Tuesday October, 19, 1847   RWv24i84p1c3   From Frontera and Tabasco
News and ship arrivals from Tabasco

Tuesday October, 19, 1847   RWv24i84p1c3   Departure of Troops to Mexico
News of troop movement

Tuesday October, 19, 1847   RWv24i84p1c4   From Gen. Wool's headquarters
[N.O. Picayune Oct. 9] arrival of ships and letters. Reporter talks about his expedition with the Army hunting for guerrillas. And other stories from his travels

Tuesday October, 19, 1847   RWv24i84p2c2   Gen. Waddy Thompson's views
Opinions from the former Minister to Mexico about the Wilmot Proviso

Tuesday October, 19, 1847   RWv24i84p2c2   The Whole or None
The U.S. should take Oregon and Mexico, also lists reasons why the paper disagrees with admitting them into the U.S.

Tuesday October, 19, 1847   RWv24i84p2c3   From the South
News about Scott

Tuesday October, 19, 1847   RWv24i84p2c4   From the Brazos
[N.O. Bulletin Oct. 11] News and troop movements from other papers

Tuesday October, 19, 1847   RWv24i84p2c5   The Mexican Poet
Poem about the Battle of Churubusco

Tuesday October, 19, 1847   RWv24i84p4c2   Bloodless Achievement
Polk announces Annexation of Texas is an achievement

Tuesday October, 19, 1847   RWv24i84p4c3   The Virginia Regiment
Letters from Mexico, soldier complains about conditions

Tuesday October, 19, 1847   RWv24i84p4c3   The Administration Views
Opinion about how the war should be handled

Tuesday October, 19, 1847   RWv24i84p4c3   What will the Whigs Do?
What will they do in Congress about Mexican War [too light to read]

Friday October, 22, 1847   RWv24i85p1c1   The Country and the President
About the war and its costs

Friday October, 22, 1847   RWv24i85p1c1   Vigorous Prosecution of the War
Letter calling for a using all forces necessary to fight the war. Says war would be over if we used all our troops at once.

Friday October, 22, 1847   RWv24i85p1c3   A Rich Mexican Mine
Brief, U.S. could soon have a rich silver mine

Friday October, 22, 1847   RWv24i85p1c3   Late and important from Mexico
News from Mexico

Friday October, 22, 1847   RWv24i85p1c6   The Deserters
About Americans deserting

Friday October, 22, 1847    RWv24i85p2c1   The News from Mexico
News and letters

Friday October, 22, 1847    RWv24i85p2c1   Return of Gen. Taylor
Might be going back to the United States

Friday October, 22, 1847    RWv24i85p2c2   Another letter from Gen. Taylor
Letter argues that Gen. Taylor is a Whig, and also might be considering a presidential nomination

Friday October, 22, 1847    RWv24i85p2c3   Our Victories fully confirmed
[N.O. Picayune Oct 14] Battle reports and list of dead and wounded

Friday October, 22, 1847    RWv24i85p2c6   Affairs of Vera Cruz and on the Road
Troops movements and battles around Vera Cruz and the National Bridge

Friday October, 22, 1847    RWv24i85p4c2   The Natural Boundary
Says the problem with getting more territory into Union is bringing into it the Mexican people that lived there

Friday October, 22, 1847    RWv24i85p4c3   From Texas
Reports of fever and sickness spreading through camp

Friday October, 22, 1847    RWv24i85p4c4   Interesting Mexican Documents
Mexican views about the war, says they should fight a guerrilla war, or even sell California to England to bring them into the war

Tuesday October, 26, 1847    RWv24i86p1c1   An Erroneous View
Opinions about the war, debates whether or not parts of Mexico should be included in the United States

Tuesday October, 26, 1847    RWv24i86p1c2   Important from Jalapa
News about Mexican War

Tuesday October, 26, 1847    RWv24i86p1c3   Additional Mexican News
[N.O. Picayune] Gen. Scott placed Mexico City under martial law, also a list of some of the laws

Tuesday October, 26, 1847    RWv24i86p1c5   Correspondence from the army
[Washington Union] letter about how U.S. troops are battling guerrillas as they try to take possession of National Bridge

Tuesday October, 26, 1847    RWv24i86p1c6   Extracts from a Letter
** {blacked out}

Tuesday October, 26, 1847    RWv24i86p2c2   Gen. Pillow
A tribute to Gen. Pillow

Tuesday October, 26, 1847    RWv24i86p2c2   Untitled
Eulogy for a soldier killed in battle

Tuesday October, 26, 1847    RWv24i86p2c3   Capt. J.B. Magruder
Short tribute letter about a heroic soldier

Tuesday October, 26, 1847    RWv24i86p2c3   From Havana
News and letters about Mexico [N.O. Picayune] ** too light to read

Tuesday October, 26, 1847    RWv24i86p2c3   Later from the Rio Grande
[N.O. Picayune Oct 10]

Tuesday October, 26, 1847    RWv24i86p2c4   Letter from Gen. Shields
[Union] About battles

Tuesday October, 26, 1847    RWv24i86p4c1   Mexican Territory– Northern Sentiment
Opinions about what to do with Mexican territory taken in the war

Tuesday October, 26, 1847    RWv24i86p4c2   Santa Anna
Short blurb about Santa Anna
Tuesday October, 26, 1847  RWv24i86p4c2   Gen. Pillow and Shields
Tribute to two fallen officers

Tuesday October, 26, 1847  RWv24i86p4c2   Virginia Officers
Casualty report of Virginia Officers and battle reports

Friday October, 29, 1847  RWv24i87p1c1   Views of Gen. Waddy Thompson
Thompson was minister to the Mexican Republic. His thoughts on the war
** too light to read

Friday October, 29, 1847  RWv24i87p1c3   Vigorous Prosecution of the War
Thinks war is too peaceful, it must be more “warlike”

Friday October, 29, 1847  RWv24i87p1c3   Capt. Larkin Smith
Letter from soldier, talking about his condition

Friday October, 29, 1847  RWv24i87p2c1   Congress and the War
Argues against taking all of Mexico and its inhabitants into the United States

Friday October, 29, 1847  RWv24i87p2c2   Reveling in the Halls
Letter from Gen. Smith letting people know he is not dead as previously reported

Friday October, 29, 1847  RWv24i87p2c3   Untitled
Eulogy of a fallen soldier

Friday October, 29, 1847  RWv24i87p4c1   Mexican Whigs
Mexico wants boundary at the Nueces, says territory between the Nueces and the Rio Grande should be neutral ground

Friday October, 29, 1847  RWv24i87p4c1   Gen. Wool's Army
** too light to read

November

RWv24i88p1c1 Monday, November 1, 1847, The Herkimer Convention

RWv24i88p1c2 Monday, November 1, 1847, The Philadelphia Inquirer contains

RWv24i88p1c2 Monday, November 1, 1847, Official notice is given in the Washington papers

RWv24i88p1c2 Monday, November 1, 1847, An extract of a letter from Major Turnbull

RWv24i88p1c2 Monday, November 1, 1847, Official notice is given in the Washington papers

RWv24i88p1c2 Monday, November 1, 1847, A letter from Tampico to the Baltimore Sun

RWv24i88p1c2 Monday, November 1, 1847, Major Downing

RWv24i88p2c3 Tuesday, November 2, 1847, Letter from Capt. Harper

RWv24i88p2c3 Tuesday, November 2, 1847, We lay before our readers

RWv24i88p2c3 Tuesday, November 2, 1847, The New Orleans Delta gives the following

RWv24i88p2c3 Tuesday, November 2, 1847, Gen. Kearney has arrived

RWv24i88p2c4 Tuesday, November 2, 1847, A letter from Buena Vista

RWv24i88p2c5 Tuesday, November 2, 1847, Late from Vera Cruz

RWv24i88p2c5 Tuesday, November 2, 1847, Five Days Later News from Vera Cruz

RWv24i88p4c1 Saturday, October 30, 1847, The adroitness with the people
Saturday, October 30, 1847, Gen. Gaines and the War
Saturday, October 30, 1847, The Union and Gen. Scott
Saturday, October 30, 1847, The State of the War
Saturday, November 6, 1847, We have filled our columns
Saturday, November 6, 1847, We have later accounts from Texas
Saturday, November 6, 1847, Trial of Col. Fremont
Saturday, November 6, 1847, Annexation and its Consequences
Saturday, November 6, 1847, From the Plains and Santa Fe
Saturday, November 6, 1847, Arrival of the Steamship Alabama
Saturday, November 6, 1847, Important Mexican Documents
Saturday, November 6, 1847, From the Rio Grande and Saltillo
Monday, November 8, 1847, Effect of acquiring Territory on the South
Monday, November 8, 1847, The Spirit of Jefferson
Monday, November 8, 1847, Trial of Col. Fremont
Monday, November 8, 1847, Mr. Calhoun and his friends
Monday, November 8, 1847, General Taylor
Monday, November 8, 1847, Mexican Whigs
Monday, November 8, 1847, From Vera Cruz
Monday, November 8, 1847, Trial of Col. Fremont
Monday, November 8, 1847, From the Rio Grande
Monday, November 8, 1847, From Gen. Wool's Headquarters
Monday, November 8, 1847, Later from Santa Fe
Thursday, November 11, 1847, The Fremont Court Martial
Friday, November 12, 1847, Defensive Line – No Territory
Friday, November 12, 1847, Mr. Clay and Gen. Taylor
Friday, November 12, 1847, General Scott
Friday, November 12, 1847, The New York Sun publishes a letter
Friday, November 12, 1847, The third regiment of Tennessee Volunteers
Friday, November 12, 1847, The last Alabama papers inform us
Friday, November 12, 1847, Col. Fremont's Trial
Friday, November 12, 1847, The Fremont Court Martial
Friday, November 12, 1847, From Texas
Wednesday, November 10, 1847, Northern Sentiment
RWv24i91p4c4 Wednesday, November 10, 1847, Prosecute the War Vigorously
RWv24i91p4c4 Wednesday, November 10, 1847, Latest from Santa Fe
RWv24i92p1c1 Monday, November 15, 1847, Executive Patronage
RWv24i92p1c2 Monday, November 15, 1847, We learn, by a letter
RWv24i92p1c2 Monday, November 15, 1847, The veteran Colonel Bankhead
RWv24i92p1c3 Monday, November 15, 1847, The Fremont Court Martial
RWv24i92p1c5 Monday, November 15, 1847, The News from Mexico
RWv24i92p2c1 Tuesday, November 16, 1847, Gen. Scott's Despatches
RWv24i92p2c1 Tuesday, November 16, 1847, Mr. Kendall's Letters
RWv24i92p2c1 Tuesday, November 16, 1847, Trial of Col. Fremont
RWv24i92p2c1 Tuesday, November 16, 1847, The Charleston Mercury states that
RWv24i92p2c2 Tuesday, November 16, 1847, Gen. Taylor
RWv24i92p2c2 Tuesday, November 16, 1847, Com. Stockton and Gen. Kearny
RWv24i92p2c2 Tuesday, November 16, 1847, Most of the new regiments
RWv24i92p2c2 Tuesday, November 16, 1847, From the Brazos
RWv24i92p2c3 Tuesday, November 16, 1847, Later from Tampico
RWv24i92p2c4 Tuesday, November 16, 1847, Mr. Kendall's Letters from the Army
RWv24i92p2c6 Tuesday, November 16, 1847, Mexican Political Affairs
RWv24i92p2c6 Tuesday, November 16, 1847, From Vera Cruz
RWv24i92p2c6 Tuesday, November 16, 1847, Santa Anna
RWv24i92p2c7 Tuesday, November 16, 1847, The Battle of Huamantia
RWv24i92p3c1 Tuesday, November 16, 1847, Mr. Clay's Lexington Speech
RWv24i92p4c1 Saturday, November 13, 1847, Mr. C. C. Cambreling's Speech
RWv24i92p4c2 Saturday, November 13, 1847, From the Seat of War
RWv24i92p4c2 Saturday, November 13, 1847, The President of the United States
RWv24i92p4c3 Saturday, November 13, 1847, The Fremont Court Martial
RWv24i92p4c3 Saturday, November 13, 1847, Later from Mexico
RWv24i92p4c4 Saturday, November 13, 1847, The Fremont Court Martial
RWv24i93p1c1 Thursday, November 18, 1847, Mr. Clay's Resolutions
RWv24i93p1c1 Thursday, November 18, 1847, Official Dispatches
RWv24i93p1c2 Thursday, November 18, 1847, Pena y Pena and Santa Anna
RWv24i93p1c3 Thursday, November 18, 1847, A letter from Vera Cruz
Wednesday, November 24, 1847, Policy of the Administration

Wednesday, November 24, 1847, The National Dept

Wednesday, November 24, 1847, The Syracuse (N.Y.) Journal publishes a letter

Wednesday, November 24, 1847, Annexation

Wednesday, November 24, 1847, Among the recent deaths

Wednesday, November 24, 1847, The second regiment of Tennessee Volunteers

Wednesday, November 24, 1847, Lieutenant Shackelford

Wednesday, November 24, 1847, Major Iturbide – Son of a former Mexican President

Monday, November 29, 1847, The Charleston Courier – a neutral paper

Monday, November 29, 1847, A Washington correspondent of the New York Herald

Monday, November 29, 1847, The Washington correspondent of the Journal of Commerce

Monday, November 29, 1847, Cost of the War

Monday, November 29, 1847, Lieut. Sidney Smith

Tuesday, November 30, 1847, Mr. Clay's Speech

Tuesday, November 30, 1847, Referring to the vehemence

Tuesday, November 30, 1847, In February last, Mr. Calhoun

Tuesday, November 30, 1847, On Friday last, the examination

Tuesday, November 30, 1847, The New Orleans papers announce

Tuesday, November 30, 1847, Gen. Samuel Houston in out in

Tuesday, November 30, 1847, From Mexico

Saturday, November 27, 1847, Opinions of Mr. Clay's Speech

Saturday, November 27, 1847, South Carolina ––– "Signs!"

December

December 3, 1847, California
Difference of opinion about the value of California; might have cost 1/2 million to gain California; only portion of drafted men have been paid; delay of payments is cause of insurrections in California; Com. Stockton has offered to go to Lima to borrow the money but Col. Biddle will not allow him

December 3, 1847, Fremont's Trial
Lt. Col. Emory under examination; he has been showing strong hostility to questions; his testimony has not altered the previous aspect of the case

December 3, 1847, Resolutions have been adopted by NY to give thanks to Scott and the army, and inviting Taylor to visit the state during his leave of absence from Mexico

December 3, 1847, Lieut. John M. Gardner of the US Navy died; death caused by an attack which required him to return home from the Gulf Squadron

December 3, 1847, Mr. Clay and Gen. Taylor
Mr. Clay and Gen. Taylor are friends
Telegraphic despatch reports that D.R. Miller has been elected Governor of Texas.

The Philadelphian Pennsylvanian of yesterday says Hon. John Y Mason, Secretary of the Navy and Commodores Warrington and Smith arrived at the United States Hotel yesterday and left for NY on official business this morning.

Colonel Wynkoop the commander of the Pennsylvania Regiment in Mexico has written a letter in which the Whigs are violently assailed and accused of moral treason; object of the writer was to please the President.

Report to Adjutant General by Major Lally about the operations of his command on the march from Vera Cruz to Jalapa; comments on engagements with the enemy at Paso Ovejas, the national Bridge, Cerro Gordo, and Las Animas, near Jalapa; comments about troops under his command, number of dead and wounded.

At a meeting held in Cincinnati of men of all parties, Mr. Clay's resolution on the Mexican war was adopted by the majority of the Whig population that was present.

Swords created for Generals Taylor, Butler and Col. Barber; gives a description of the swords.

Comments about Clay's position on war in 1812; and on his position dealing with the War in Mexico; he was unfavorable to both wars from the beginning, he supported the war of 1812 once it began and he holds Mexico partly to blame for the current war.

Comments about the administrations and its supports stance on the war–what they blame the war on; comments on the administrations dealing with Taylor advancing to the Rio Grande–who's idea was it?

Statement issued by the Treasury Department about the cost of the war with Mexico; gives figures; comments about what the government plans to do about the growing expenses.

Letter from Lexington Ky. States that the Rev. Robert J. Breckenridge preached a thanksgiving sermon in the city with a very warlike tone towards Mexico; he looks to overthrow the catholic hierarchy after the US wins the war.

Com. Stockton and his arrival in the city; information on incidents in California–the Commodore's actions in Cali

Arrival of Col. Harney's train at Vera Cruz; return home of Gens. Quitman, Shields,Cols. Harney, Garland; organization of the Mexican Congress; removal of the Mexican government from Querataro Morelia; information on where troops are stationed; arrival of Gen. Butler at Vera Cruz; no positives on the whereabouts of Santa Anna; election of the president has been postponed in Mexico

Trial of Col. Fremont drags on; witness for the prosecution have all been examined by Fremont's counsel; comments about Lieut. Emory's hostility toward the Col.; Lt. Emory has been summoned by the defense.

Letter of Capt. Wm. H. Merrill from the army outside Mexico City; information on a young Virginian–tells a story about Burwell's murder.

Statement about Gen. Pillow; Pillow made untrue statements in his reports

Letter from Captain Wilkes who commanded the exploring expedition; comments on the Pacific harbors–that they are not as good as the ones in the East

Mr. Kendall's Letters from the Army
Comments about the weather; report that there aren't enough members in the Mexican Congress; member of Congress has come out denying Pena y Pena as President; earthquake in Guadalazars was violent; comments about a Mexican reporter's article on the daughter of a Mexican Officer–details on what happened to the report after the article; rumors that there is to be a meeting among the influential men about raising troops and supplies to fight the...
Americans; ends with more comments about the weather

RWv24i97p4c6, December 3, 1847, Later from Vera Cruz
Report of the capture of a suspicious vessel–US Steamer brought into port a Spanish topsail schooner; Taylor accompanied by Wool left for Monterey on the 8th of November

RWv24i97p4c6, December 3, 1847, Latest from Santa Fe
Col. Newby was about to move South because of the approaching winter; wagons at Los Vegos had skirmishes with Mexicans and Indians–Americans had no losses, but the attacking party lost several men, and horses

RWv24i98p1c1, December 7, 1847, Mr. Gallatin and the War
Comments about an essay Mr. Gallatin wrote about the war with Mexico; gives quotes which tell Mr. Gallatin's opinion about the war–seems to view the war as unfair and wrong

RWv24i98p1c1, December 7, 1847, Reception of General Taylor
Preparation for Taylor's arrival in New Orleans are underway; sword made for him will be presented when he arrives in New Orleans

RWv24i98p1c2, December 7, 1847,
Celebrated letter of "Leonidas" in which Major General Gideon J. Pillow is made the hero of the Mexican campaign has fallen into the hand of Gen. Scott

RWv24i98p1c2 December 7, 1847,
Rumored that Col. Burnett of the NY Regiment will be appointed Brigadier General; will Col. Wynkoop be disappointed?

RWv24i98p1c3, December 7, 1847,
New Orleans Bulletin has learned from officers who have just arrived from Mexico there thoughts on finding peace; there exists a great diversity of opinion

RWv24i98p1c3, December 7, 1847,
Sickness of Major Graham a member of the Fremont court Martial has suspended the proceedings

RWv24i98p1c5, December 7, 1847, Honor to the Brave! Serenade
Citizens in New Orleans gathered in front of the St. Charles Hotel and gave a serenade to the distinguished officers who had just arrived from Alabama, from the seat or war–Gen. Quitman, Shields and Col. Harney

RWv24i98p2c1, December 7, 1847, Governor's Message
Comments about letters received from Taylor about Resolutions adopted by the Virginia general assembly, giving honor to the gallant soldiers; gives congratulations about the success in Mexico; comments on the health and condition of the volunteers there; comments about what should happen with the Mexico–US policy towards it

RWv24i98p2c7, December 7, 1847,
News has arrived that Capt. Calwell died in September at Jalapa from a wound that he received soon after he reached Mexico

RWv24i98p2c7, December 7, 1847; From Washington (begins on 2nd page and ends on 3rd page)
Report that the administration might send a new commissioner to Mexico in place of Triste; suppose to be composed of four or five men, and Bishop Huges and Mr. Crittenden might be appointed; is not believed that this will be more successful than Triste.; Santa Anna was first Polk peace commissioner and that obviously didn't work

RWv24i98p3c2, December 7, 1847, From the Army of Gen. Taylor
Mail from Buena Vista, Monterey and Cerralvo; Lt. Col. Webb had a scouting party fall to guerrilla chief Elmojah Martinus and his party, but in the fight Martinus was killed; many guerrillas near Cerralvo under Ganales, Bosques, Mendez, Arispe, Col. Travinia and other; Gen. Taylor expected at Cerralvo on the 10th; Col. Hamtramck has been in command of the troops at Encantada, Buena Vista and Saltillo by Gen. Wool until further orders

RWv24i98p4c1, December 7,1847: Mexico and Slavery
Comments about the slavery of the Texas state; Africans if slavery is abolished can leave through Texas, into Mexico and down in Central America; if Texas is not a slavery holding state, then it will be a refuge for the Africans when it was really suppose to be their outlet

RWv24i98p4c1, December 7, 1847,
Rumored that Mr. Calhoun will not stick to his policy of withdrawing troops to a defensive line butwill bring forward some new way of ending the war and the boundary question.

RWv24i98p4c2, December 7, 1847,
Objection to the acquisition of Mexican territory applies to the diminished force to Upper California; the area can be taken without involving the issue of slavery–this can be done by allowing California to be its own independent
RWv24i98p4c2, December 7, 1847: A Prediction
If Mexico continues without a recognized government and refuses to adopt the peace terms given by the US then the Americans will take the defensive line policy; people think that at this Congress the war will be ended

RWv24i98p4c2, December 7, 1847,
Meeting of the Whig of the city and county of Philadelphia will be held to respond to the resolution of Mr. Clay on the Mexican War

RWv24i98p4c2, December 7, 1847, The 'Beautiful and Unfortunate!'
A letter from Texas describing the beauty of the area

RWv24i98p4c2, December 7, 1847, Gen. Kearny and Com. Stockton
The Fremont trial might cause personal conflict between Kearny and Stockton; letter have been written to friends to urge them to help prevent any conflict between Kearny and Stockton; comments about Fremont’s guilt

RWv24i99p1c1, December 10, 1847, The Governor’s Message
Not expecting the governor to comment on brining the war to an end; he is in favor of occupation and looks forward to a time when the US will extend to the Isthmus of Darien; anxious to annex part of Mexico; quotes of the governor's about the inhabitants of Mexico

RWv24i99p1c1, December 10, 1847, The Fremont Trial
Col. Fremont's counsel opened their defense; submitted a large mass of documents–some are letters showing that Fremont followed orders given by Com. Stockton

RWv24i99p1c2, December 10, 1847, Reported that the Whig had stated that Taylor might be nominated for president–denied, said that they never stated it

RWv24i99p1c2, December 10, 1847, General Taylor
Taylor arrived at Matamoros on the 18th and he will leave from there for New Orleans; preparations are underway in New Orleans for his arrival; comments about how Taylor might act or think about the New Orleans reception for him

RWv24i99p1c4, December 10, 1847, The Latest from the Rio Grande
Reports on the movement of Gen. Taylor; what troops are going where, how many there are etc.

RWv24i99p1c3, December 10, 1847, From the City of Mexico
Rumors of peace in Mexico City; report that the majority are in favor of peace; earthquakes are present and frequent in Mexico; village of Octola was destroyed by an earthquake a few days ago

RWv24i99p1c3, December 10, 1847, Fighting the Mexicans with New Weapons
Religious men are trying to exert a new kind of influence in Mexico; American Tract Society have sent large quantities of instructive tracts to Mexico; Catholic Bishop so pleased with one of the tracts that he had it printed for the public; two liberal donations have allowed the Society to send a man to the country

RWv24i99p1c4, December 10, 1847, Later from Vera Cruz
Santa Ana to return to the government–problems with his previous resignation; Santa Ana said that he never did resign entirely; no separation between civil and military so Santa Ana wears his military uniform; Pena y Pena's removal of Santa Ana has been decided as being void; no one can land in Vera Cruz as a transport unless his belongs to the army or navy; reports on the movement of Gen. Butler and Gen. Patterson; much has been done about breaking up the guerrillas

RWv24i99p1c4, December 10, 1847, President's Message
Comments about the peace process with Mexico–Mexico having rejected the peace offer; Mexico began the war; comments about what Polk did after he learned of Mexican hostility; comments about the army–gives praise; comments about the affairs in California–why it would be good for the US to take Upper California; comments about the terms of peace presented by the Mexicans; comments about the official stance on the border is

RWv24i99p2c2, December 10, 1847, Clay Meeting in Philadelphia
Resolutions passed by the meeting in Philadelphia; resolutions deal with the war with Mexico–no in favor of it and what should be done to stop it

RWv24i99p2c1, December 10, 1847,
Believed by all that the march of Taylor to the Rio Grande caused the war with Mexico

RWv24i99p2c2, December 10, 1847, Mexican Political Speculation
Comments about the events within the Congress of Mexico; attacks on Paredes have been found in several papers; comments about positions that the army has been ordered to take; all papers attribute to Pena y Pena the design of getting rid of the old army
December 10, 1847, Arrival of Gen. Taylor at New Orleans
Report that Taylor has arrived in New Orleans; Taylor will enter the city tomorrow; more comments about the atmosphere of the city; a letter sent to Taylor invites him to be the guest of the city

December 14, 1847, Reception of Gen. Taylor in New Orleans
Description of Taylor as he arrived, what he did, his character etc. reception being postponed to the 3rd of December; comments about changes made to the reception of Taylor—where Taylor will ride his horse and in what order; Taylor's horse is sick, so Taylor might have to ride a brown horse instead; comments about how the 3rd of December must have been a joyous day

December 14, 1847, Troops for Mexico
Boat has been chartered to take troops now at Fort Monroe to Vera Cruz; wish these Virginians a pleasant voyage and victory on the field; hope that Virginians will conduct themselves in a manner worthy of the state

December 14, 1847, All misunderstanding between Gen. Kearney and Com. Stockton have been explained away

December 14, 1847, Oregon
Congress has not established a territorial government in Oregon; extension of mail into Oregon; US will not abandon the people of Oregon; believe that the US can profit from Oregon; President will direct US vessels of war to visit Oregon ports—letter to John M. Shively appointed Deputy Postmaster in Oregon

December 14, 1847, Gen. Worth and American Prisoners
Letter to Gen. Worth from American officers recently imprisoned by the Mexicans; writing because they had been offered up for release at the battle of Buena Vista but the US army said no;

December 14, 1847, The President's Message
Opinion about the President's statements on the Mexican War; comments on how the began

December 14, 1847, Fremont trial still in progress; Com. Stockton was examined today

December 14, 1847, New Orleans Delta is regarded as the favorite organ of Gen. Gid. Pillow

December 14, 1847, Sword made for Gen. Taylor was presented to him by Gov. Johnson and the Legislature of Louisiana; quote of the address given by Taylor after the presentation

December 14, 1847, General Taylor
Taylor left New Orleans yesterday; comments about Taylor's presence and how it effected the city

December 14, 1847, The Reception of General Taylor
Description of the reception of Taylor in New Orleans—very detailed—what things looked like, how things were decorated, when Taylor arrived (time), description of the vessels, address the Mayor gave to Taylor, who was there

December 14, 1847, The Dinner
Description of the dinner held in honor of Taylor; list of toasts given; activities that took place after dinner

December 14, 1847, Col. Henry T. Washington has been promoted to fill the office vacated by Brigadier General J. R. Wallace; comments about Washington's character

December 14, 1847, Gen. Taylor leaves New Orleans this morning headed towards his home in Baton Rouge; he asked for his leave while the situation in Mexico is quiet

December 14, 1847, Letter from Mexico talking about the extensive system of field fortification that exists around Mexico City

December 14, 1847, Report of the Secretary of War
Comments by the Secretary of War about the War with Mexico—gives details about battles, troops and movements of the army; gives suggestions for provisions for payment; suggestions made about raising troops, improving medical; comments about Indian affairs and what to do about them—very detailed (takes up all of page 4)
More remarks about the President's speech; comments about the boundary of Texas—what happened causing Taylor to advance to the Rio Grande.

Capt. E. C. Carrington Jr. of the Virginia Volunteers has been ordered to report to Fortress Monroe with the men he has enlisted.

New Orleans Delta gives a glowing account of Gen. Taylor's ascent up the river to his plantation.

Editor of the Boston Atlas contradicts the authority that stated that Adams was in favor of annexation of all of Mexico.

Quote for the Trenton State Gazette that says that Mexico caused the war—comments about how that is not true.

Comments about Taylor for president—why Taylor is worth the nomination; commitment of the paper to neither candidate; why Taylor could not be elected.

More comments about the President's remarks about Mexico beginning the war—how the President supports his claims and how they cannot possibly prove true; letters written by those who visited Texas stating that the Nueces is the boundary.

Give a table of figures; President ordered money to be raised in Mexico to be used to help support the war effort there—will enforce duties; is not known how large a sum can be gathered from these duties—gives reasons for why the duties might raise a lot of money; if money cannot be raised to fund the war a growing debt will occur; favor of establishing a port entry in Oregon.

Comments about Taylor being nominated for the Presidency.

Several recruiting officers arrived in Santa Fe to recruit 800 to fill up battalions from Illinois and St. Louis; fifteen hundred troops and twelve pieces of artillery were to be despatched against Chihuahua; American troops will meet with resistance; Col. Gilpin arrived with his battalion; Col. Price expected to started to Santa Fe by December 1st; arrival at St. Louis has suffered because of the cold.

Comments about political elections in Mexico; how the Congress feels about the elections; comments about the inaugural address of President Anaya; Scott has been issued the order to demand payment from the Mexicans for the cost of occupying their country until the Mexicans sue for peace.

Appears to be in god health but skinny and therefore conclude that our troops are having a hard time in Mexico.

Taylor expresses admiration and friendship for Mr. Clay, but they disagree on Mexico.

Santa Anna has issued another pronunciamento against the provisional government and called on the country to organize men and renew the war; reports on the Louisiana battalion of Mounted Men running in with some guerrillas; successful expedition of Capt. Kerr; comments on rumors and conditions of troops.

Indian population in the neighborhood of Huajtla has risen upon the troops; comments about the US steamer Gen. Butler; loss of the Barque Dunlap.

Santa Anna in charge of 18,000 men and threatening to overthrown the Congress; Gen. Worth sent to Queretaro to protect the Congress; Gen. Anaya elected President of Mexico, comments on who he kept in his cabinet; arrest of Gen. Worth, Gen. Pillow and Lieut. Col. Duncan by Gen. Scott; a letter from Mexico about the political activities there—Santa Ana's complaining; reports of guerrilla activity.

Train will leave for Vera Cruz; no officers can leave unless given permission, wound and sick who can travel can go.
home; honorable discharges can leave on the first train as well; 1st Regiment of US Artillery will go to Vera Cruz to escort the wagon train and upon its arrival this regiment will relieve 1st Infantry at the garrison.

Orders that the army will raise money in Mexico to support the war until Mexico sues for peace; army will not pay rent, if rent is charged the army will just take buildings to house their men in; martial law order.

The Maria Burt has driven ashore north of Vera Cruz; two teamsters were executed in Jalapa for the murder of a young Mexican; Gen. Pena y Barragan has been appointed military commander of the State of Vera Cruz; trains left under the command of Gen. Butler; members of Congress unhappy with the election of the president in Mexico gave up their seats; pronunciamiento has been made by Santa Ana; Santa Ana leaving for Queretaro–expecting to hear news of the overthrow of the government; comments about guerrillas again.

Printed in the paper are views of Albert Gallatin on the Mexican war; cannot fit all so they will be concluded tomorrow.

Malek Adhet captured by the US was sold at auction; San Francisco intolerably warm; people of San Francisco elected a town Council–list of who was elected; passing of ordinance–desertion of seamen, enticing sailors from ships or aiding in their desertion, gets a labor penalty; emigration to California will not exceed ninety wagons this year; mountain snow might be difficult to pass; emigration to Oregon is still going.

Taylor gives up command because he received a leave of absence; Wool is now in charge.

Infamous and horrid massacre of Indians by American soldiers; description of the event.

More comments about Taylor and the nomination for president; what Taylor’s political affiliation is.

Democratic war meeting was said to have been a disaster; held in Philadelphia on Saturday.

Died from burns; fought at Palo Alto where he lost an arm.

Comments about Taylor and his interactions around women–proves to be timid.

Comments about conquering the Mexicans–what that would mean for them and for Americans; Americans have a false hope about conquering the Mexicans; comments about the Texas border will be the biggest problem for peace; what should be done to get peace.

Report of a fight between American troops and the Camanches.

All the papers give much attention to the Mexican war; congress has assembled at Queretaro, Anaya voted President; train expected in Puebla which is said to be escorting troops; all in favor of the continuation of hostilities save those of Puebla and Mexico; list of the ministers in the new administration.

Adopted that the Whig General Assembly finds Taylor an acceptable candidate for president.

Debate between Mr. Clay and other senators about the conquest of Mexico, and the annexation of territory – very detailed, is a dialogue between the men.
The opinion of Albert Gallatin about what is required for a peace with Mexico; problems with the US stance on the situation—such as the border of Texas; history of what has already taken place dealing with negotiations and the war in general; what the US should be doing.

He is in Richmond with his family; fought in the Mexican war.

Report on the meeting held about the war on Monday night—what was discussed, what happened, summary of Mr. Seldon’s speech; also the complete speech given by T M Bleakely.

Order of Col. Gates that state that ship stationed at Altamira use their best efforts to protect all traders, regardless of their nationality; escort ships—those both coming and going.

Comments on Mr. Botts resolution presented to the representatives of Congress—gives a list of the resolutions included in Mr. Botts resolution; there was also a resolution submitted by Mr. Toombs of Georgia—lists the one resolution; comments about Mr. Gaines vote in the Senate and opinion about the war.

More comments about the debate between Clay and Taylor for the presidential nomination; comments about Taylor’s political affiliation, character, ability etc.

Comment that most of the paper consists of war news.

Report of the arrests of Worth, Pillow and Duncan; Twiggs was to have come down by train from Mexico but because of the arrest of Worth was detained; occupation of our naval forces in Mazatlan and Guaymas; correspondent alludes to a protest by the English Government against forced loans from English resident in Mexico.

Report on the revolt Chiapas; newspaper called the Yankee Doodle appeared yesterday; all in favor of peace but the Governor of San Luis; Anaya has no line of policy; Gen. Busramente has been nominated by the Supreme Government general-in-chief of the army of reserve, and commandant general of the state; announcement of Santa Anna making himself head of an armed force to prevent negotiations of peace with the Americans; general orders given by Scott; other information about the conduct of American soldiers.

Difficulty of prominent officers appears to have been a quiet a problem; orders by Scott about the conduct—letters bad-mouthing the army are forbidden; false credit for achievements not honorable; Duncan replied with a letter stating he wrote the letter which has been described as scandalous and he calls for justice for Gen. Worth; after the publication of that letter Duncan was arrested and then Pillow the next day; Gen. Pillow might not have been arrested for the letter writing.

Weather report; Col. Wynkoop left town to find the head of the guerrilla forces; he returned with a group of men; Col. Rebolledo confesses that he was taken prisoner at Vera Cruz but then released, he was at Cerro Gordo but was taken prisoner there, the Capt did not go further than Jalapa because that was where his family was; Lieut. Ambrosia Alcaldo said he belonged to the 11th Mexican Infantry and was taken prisoner at Vera Cruz; Wynkoop’s scouting party learned that 800 troops were on their way from Orizabab to attack the train at Passo la Bejia.
Mr. F War bearer of despatches from Col. Mason passed through the city yesterday; the Columbus was to sail home and she may be expected in a month; at Panama Mr. war found Col. Barton with his family.

They passed through the city on the way to Washington; in a hurry and could not stay; they are going to return quickly so that the citizens can gives honors to them.

War offices have received trophies of war; two beautiful brass wall pieces sent by Scott; black flag of the guerrillas.

Number in navy will be reduced at end of the war; report that commerce is not begin disrupted; Ohio has orders to remain at the Rio until the 15th of November; men under Com. Stockton have entered Cuidad de los Angeles—squadron in the Gulf has captured a number of ships; have been collecting duties since the taking of Vera Cruz; strengthening of the army through transportation; comments about mail service between Ohio and the Atlantic states.

His recent essay about Mexico has brought him again prominently before the people.

Whigs in Georgia decided to hold a State Convention to determine their presidential candidate; meeting held by friends of Taylor.

Arrival of the British Steamer Teviot below New Orleans; Gen. Patterson and his large train in the City of Mexico; rumors of peace.

Col. John Garland, Lieut. Johnson of Chesterfield and Lieut. Worcester of Massachusetts were welcomed by the House of Delegates; address given by Mr. Floyd; all men had served in the Mexican War.

German settlers in Fayette county have divided into opposing faction, have armed and are preparing for combat; conflict broke out a few weeks ago and many have been killed and wounded all ready.

Report of a successful revolution in Oajaca; disturbances in Guanajuato continue; Gen. Ampudia arrived at San Luis Potosi; Gen. Urrea is in Tula de Tamulipas; Gen. Scott visited the archbishop; Paredes is looked upon with strong suspicion by the Mexican people; Cap. Sanderson discovered the whole apparatus and machinery which has been used in casting cannon near Molino del Rey; a greaser was whipped in the plaza; 4th, 5th, and 6th Infantry paraded in the principal plaza; three propositions have been passed to the first reading in Congress; Senor Anaya has nominated don Manuel Pena y Pena for Minister of Relations; wagon–master and teamster hung in plaza; Gen. Patterson has been implored by the population of the town to pardon a condemned man; El Monitor Republicano published the details of the bombardment and capture of Guaymas—details on the capture; on 22nd of February the last sacraments of the Catholic church were given to Gen. Herrera at Queretaro; conflict between Texan Rangers and a band of Camanches—details; Col. Gates has issued an order to the troops at Atamara to protect and escort any considerable number of traders; Governor of Tampaulpias has denounced Urrea; some of the dragoon companies have flanked out in the direction of Victoria; weather update.

July 1847

July 2, 1847, RW47v24n53p2c2 Army of the General Taylor

[From the N.O. Picayune, June 24]

From the Army of the General Taylor.

The fashion touched at Brazos Santiago on the 20th inst., on her voyage from Vera Cruz, and brought over thence the following gentlemen: Col. J P Taylor, of the Sub. Assistance Department; Capt. Chase, Adjutant Caldwell, 2d Kentucky Regiment; and Lieuts. Wooster, Montgomery, Allen and Mizner, of the army. The Fashion also brought over about forty discharged soldiers.

From the Flag of the 19th inst. We learn that Capt. Eaton relieves Col. Taylor in the charge of the Subsistence Department, and will make his head–quarters at Brazos Island. Major Colquhoun acts as subsistence agent at Matamoros. The Flag makes grateful mention of Col. Taylor’s services while stationed there.
Major Ben McCulloch has arrived at the Brazos with 150 horses for the service. Fifty of them, says the Flag, will be reserved for his own spy company, and the rest probably used in mounting Col. Butler’s dragoons. The Flag suggests that Col. B. should range the country between Matamoros and Victoria.

Capt. W. R. Andrews, of the 10th Infantry, has been ordered North on account of sickness, resulting from injuries received in the wreck of the Mobile on Orange Keys.

Two robberies are mentioned in the Flag as occurring within limits of the city.

The same paper also mentions the death of John Comegys, a man well known here as a printer and reporter. He was accidentally shot on board the steamer Whiteville, just below Reynoss, on the 16th inst., under the following circumstances:

Mr. Comegys, while resting upon a cot on the boat, amused himself playing with a Mexican boy about ten years of age. The boy, in a sporting mood, picked up an old horseman’s pistol that had been throwing about the boat, and which no one even dreamed was loaded, pointed it at Mr. C. and pulled the trigger. A ball issued from the muzzle and penetrated one of his temples, killing him instantly. He was buried at Reynosa. Mr. Comegys was a native of Pennsylvania, a printer by profession, and had worked in this office. He was for some time a clerk in the Quartermaster’s Department, and at the time of his decease officiated in that capacity on the Whiteville. His fate will be lamented by all who knew him, and furnishes another impressive lesson to show with what exceeding care firearms should be handled.

July 2, 1847, RW47v24n53p2c2 Correspondent at Monterrey

We give below a letter from our correspondent now at Monterrey, thought it is not late as accounts received here several days since.

[Special Correspondence of the Picayune] Column B

Monterrey, Mexico, June 6, 1847

Once again I am enabled to resume my pen, which a severe relapse of fever under which I suffered so severely at Saltillo has prevented me from using for several days. I have had a tough time of it, but thank Fortune, am now on “the improvement Committee,” and hope soon regain my strength. At present no scales save an apothecary’s would weigh a sufficiently small quantity to make a correct estimate of my weight. I wrote you a letter on the 30th ult. And the 1st inst., but you will probably get this letter as soon. Since the 1st inst., until to-day I have been confined to my bed.

The Illinois volunteers and Capt. Pike’s quadroon of Arkansas cavalry have been here several days, but leave tomorrow for Camargo and home.

Since I left Saltillo has reached us of quite a successful scout of Lieut. Tobin, with a party of McCulloch’s Rangers, which I presume Col. BELKNAP WILL HAVE NO OBJECTION IN MENTIONING. When a long distance from Buena Vista (near what place I have been unable to learn) he discovered a party of ten or a dozen of armed persons, and gave chase. It proved to be a Mexican express rider form General Sanchez at Patos to the Governor of San Luis, with an escort, mostly deserters from our army. The bearer of dispatches and his horse and papers were captured, but the men escaped. The contents of the dispatches conveyed the information that there were very few American troops in the neighborhood of Saltillo, at that city, or along the line; people smarting under injuries and wrongs and, anxious to fight to the last for their country, but prevented from want of means from resenting their injuries, and recommending that troops be dispatched with all possible speed to re take Saltillo, an easy task! This information I derive from, I am induced to believe, an authentic source, and the above is the purport of the despatch. They would hardly come with any very large force, except perhaps cavalry, and they are of no account. They can scarcely have any artillery now to spare, and I am little afraid that Gen. Sanchez, if he it was who sent the despatch, would not realize his expectation of its being such “an easy task.” There is “a pretty smart chance” of artillery in that neighborhood.”

The horse which Mexican despatch bearer rode, singular to say, was one stolen from Lt. Sturgis some months since. Gen. Wool, I am told despatched some of the rangers and a company of dragoons after the residue of the party as soon as Capt. Tobin reported. If they are taken and are deserters they will have hard time of it.

I have alluded in my previous letter to the murders committed at Saltillo by Mexicans upon Americans. THEY KILLED ONE TOO MANY. On the 31st ult, a member of the Arkansas cavalry, while leading his horse in a grove near the Alameda, used as a race track, was accosted by two Mexicans, who extended their hands to him in a friendly manner; but, instead of the grasp of friendship, the assassin’s knife was plunged into his heart, and he was cast into a ditch, while his horse was made away with. Some of the companion of the deceased, who came to join him on the track soon after, discover traces of blood, and on pursuing them, found the wounded man breathing his last, with
just life enough to tell them the cause of his situation. Not far from the place, two Mexicans were shortly afterwards discovered, whose conduct was suspicious and they were captured. It was afterwards deemed inadvisable to permit them to be regularly tried; a party of men demanded them; and they were taken out and shot. In the sleeve of one was found a bloody knife corresponding with the size of the wound. This was not enough! I regret to state that many Mexicans were killed that day—some say seventeen, and some say more. Comment is unnecessary.

We have had no more news of Urrea, and heard nothing of any guerrilla parties as yet. The 2d battalion of Virginia volunteers garrison this place, but will move on as soon as they can be relieved. There is still a good deal of sickness here, but of a mild character, and but few deaths. —For the last few days, we have had several showers during the day, and I imagine it is brewing up for the rainy season. You will probably have and opportunity of seeing the portrait of Gen. Taylor by Mr. Atwood in New Orleans—Mr. R G Brown, a portrait painter from Virginia, has also come out to take portraits of the General and the members of his staff.

It seems there is still a bare possibility of our going to San Luis at a more advance period than contemplated by Gen. Taylor at first, but all depends on whether troops can be had.

The despatches brought from Washington by Mr. Bradish, who left your city on the 21st ult., were of no importance, and their date was no so late by several days as Washington paper received by mail. I believe I have given you all the items of news that have reached me, farewell for the present. J. E. D.

July 2, 1847, RW47v24n53p2c3 Letter from General Taylor.

The following letter from General Taylor is published in the Cincinnati Signal, to the editor of which paper it purports to be addressed. We imagine it was not designed by the writer for the public eye; but the editor of the Signal professes to think that the circumstances under which he received it warrant its publication. He says he felt it to be his duty, when the first demonstrations were made in favor of Gen. Taylor for the Presidency, to dwell upon the subject at considerable length. "We were desirous (he continues) that some of the suggestions contained in our article should meet the eye of the General Taylor, and therefore enclosed it to his address, with a few words of reference to our position as a journalist. In reply to the communication we have received the admirable and significant letter, which we take pleasure in laying before our readers."

We published this letter, without, for the present, any comment:

Headquarters Army of Occupation

Camp near Monterrey, May 18, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, with the enclosure of your editorial, extracted from the "Signal" of the 13th April.

At this time, my public duties command so fully my attention, that it is impossible to answer your letter in the terms demanded by its courtesy, and the importance of the sentiments to which it alludes; neither, indeed, have I the time, should I feel myself at liberty, to enter into the few and most general subjects of public policy suggested by the article in question. My own personal views were better withheld till the end of the war, when my usefulness as a military chief, serving in the field against the common enemy, shall no longer be compromised by their expression or discussion in any manner.

From many sources I have been addressed on the subject of the Presidency, and I do violence neither to myself nor to my positions as an officer of the army, by acknowledging to you, as I have done to all who have alluded to the use of my name in this exalted connexion, that my services are ever at the will and call of my country, and that I am not prepared to say that I shall refuse if the country calls me to the Presidential office, but that I can and shall yield to no call that does not come from the spontaneous action and free will of the nation at large, and void of the slightest agency of my own.

For the high honor and responsibilities of such an office, I take this occasion to say, that I have no the slightest aspiration; a much more tranquil and satisfactory life, after the termination of my present duties, awaits me, I trust, in the society of my family and particular friends and in the occupation most congenial to my wishes. In no case can I permit myself to be the candidate of any party, or yield myself to party schemes.

With the remarks, I trust you will pardon me for thus briefly replying to you, which I do with a high opinion and approval of the sentiments and views embraced in your editorial.

With many wises for your prosperity in life, and great usefulness in the sphere in which your talents and exertions are embarked, I beg to acknowledge myself most truly and respectfully your obedient servant, Z. TAYLOR. Major General U.S. Army.
July 2, 1847, RW47v24n53p2c3 One day later.

The New Orleans paper of the 24th ult. Announce the arrival of the steamship Fashion, with one day’s later advices from Vera Cruz. The Picayune says, it has no letters from Gen. Scott’s army by this arrival or from the city of Vera Cruz, nor can it learn that there had been any later arrival in that city from the army above. The most contradictory rumors are said to prevail in Vera Cruz in regard to Gen. Scott’s movements, but the Picayune, having no faith in them, forbears to give them circulation. There is no confirmation of the truth of the report brought by the preceding arrival that Gen. Scott had marched from Puebla to the Rio Frio, or that the Mexicans had made overtures to Gen. Scott for peace, though such a rumor was prevalent in Vera Cruz. The Bulletin and Picayune both express the opinion that the story is without foundation.

July 2, 1847, RW47v24n53p2c4 General Taylor Superceded

From the N.O. National, June 24.

General Taylor Superceded! –We have what we conceive to be undoubted authority for stating, that Gen. Taylor has been superceded in his command. An express passed through Matamoros some weeks since, with the credit of bearing such news to Gen. Taylor; in due course of time the rumor comes from Monterey that such is the fact, and that Gen. Taylor is hereafter, as a SUBORDINATED, to report to Gen. Scott, thro’ him to the War Department at Washington. This last act of an unhappy Administration will seal its fate with the American people. Its conduct towards Gen. Taylor from the commencement of actual hostilities, has been characterized by neglect, and not an opportunity has been permitted to pass, that could be taken advantage of, to annoy and harass him. The intention has been to force Gen. Taylor into some act of indiscretion that would render him unpopular before the people, and compel him to resign.

So far, the enemies of the old hero have been disappointed in their expectations, as they will ever be; but Mr. Polk has lost his judgment, and pursued precisely the course of conduct he should to elevate the man he wished to destroy. We cannot imagine a more total ignorance of the feelings that govern the people of this country, than has been shown in the treatment Gen. Taylor has received from the Administrations. Three time has he saved it on the battle field, when his defeat would have involved it in total ruin, without effecting his own military fame; and for such vast services so highly appreciated by the nation, he is without ceremony deprived of his troops, and finally has the insult put upon him of a nominally independent command. But this war on Gen. Taylor is all fruitless, for the old chief submits patiently, and looks to a higher tribunal than a sinking Administration for his defence.

July 2, 1847, RW47v24n53p4c2 Despatches from the Army

From the Union of Monday night.

Despatches from the Army

Despatches were received on Saturday night by the War Office from General Scott’s camp. Several of the soldiers were sick in the hospital of Vera Cruz, Jalapa, Perote and Puebla; but, with the reinforcement that were en route form Vera Cruz, he would probably have troops sufficient by the 22d to march to the capital, perhaps without any serious opposition. He had ordered all our troops to evacuate Jalapa, in order to strengthen his active army. The last account by the steamer James L. Day are from Vera Cruz to the evening of the 16th instant, witch state that General Scott had advanced to Rio Frio, where a despatch is said to have met him with a proposition for peace. If this last report be true, it is probable that he will remain at Rio Frio, and not forthwith march to the capital but, according to the intimation in his own dispatches, waits till about the 22d both to give himself the opportunity of receiving reinforcements, and to allow the Mexicans more time to negotiate with the better grace.

Among the paper that were received on Saturday form Gen. Scott is the following interesting letter from Gen. Worth, witch we lay before our readers:

Headquarters, Puebla, May 15, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor to report, for information of the general in chief, that the forces under my command, including the brigade of Major General Quitman, took military possession of this city at 10 o’clock to-day. Halting yesterday at Amosoque, to await the junction of General Quitman, (for which purpose I had shortened the marches of the leading
brigades the two previous days) I found my position suddenly menaced, at 8 o’clock, a.m. by a large body of cavalry. This force approached somewhat stealthily by a road ou our right unknown to us. A rapid examination, as it unmasked itself, exhibited, as was supported, some 2000, but, from accurate information obtained here, 3000 cavalry of the line, unsupported either by infantry or artillery, and moving a mile on our right and toward the rear, lead to the conclusion that it was a RUSE to attract attention in that quarter, while the real attack was to be looked for on the high road in front, or a movement on Gen. Quitman who might have been supposed the usual day’s march in the rear. It was presently reported that a heavy column was actually approaching on the main road. Thus it became necessary, while directing a portion of the force against the visible enemy, to guard our large train, reserve ammunion, & c., packed in the square, against the invisible.

The 2d artillery, with a section of Duncan’s battery under the brigade commander, Col. Garland, the 6th infantry under Major Bonneville, with Steptoe’s battery, was promptly moved, and so directed as to take the enemy in flank. The head of his column having now reached a point opposite the center of the town, and distant about half a mile, the batteries soon opened a rapid and effective fire. After some twenty–five rounds, the entire column broke without attempting a charge or firing a shot, and hastily fled up the sides of the convenient hills. Only one company of infantry [of the 6th] was enabled, from distance, to deliver its fire. The broken column was seen to reunite and resume its march in the direction of Gen Quitman’s approach. The 2d artillery and the 8th infantry, with two sections of the light batteries, was put in its track, when the enemy again swerved to the left, and disappeared in the hills. Two miles distant Gen. Quitman was met by the last–named detachment. He had already discovered the enemy, of whose proximity the firing had admonished him, and promptly taken his order of battle. The discomfited enemy reached Puebla late at night, and evacuated the place at 4 in the morning. We took some prisoners, and found a few dead. The enemy acknowledge a loss of 89 killed and wounded. General Santa Anna conducted the enterprise.


July 2, 1847, RW47v24n53p2c3 General Walter Jones, Military Disputes

Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun.

Washington, June 25, 1847.

General Walter Jones has resigned his commission as Major General of the Militia of the District of Columbia, or rather of Washington county, for a part of the military district has gone back to Virginia. The vacancy cannot be filled till the President shall return. Gen. Jones has written a letter, said to be very severe, addressed to the Secretary of War, and commenting upon the refusal of the Executive to appoint Col. C.L. Jones to the command of the battalion which he himself raised here on his own expense, and with some encouragement from the government.

Explanations have been demanded by General Walter Jones, and perhaps also by Col. Jones, on this subject. – The correspondence going on will, I learn, be published in a few days, and it will no doubt be found quite piquant and interesting.

It is said that Capt. Hughes was personally requested and expected by the President and the Secretary of War, to take command of this battalion, and that if he had from any motive of delicacy declined it, some person other than Col. Jones would have been appointed to that command.

[NO]
Le Courrier Francais translates a powerful article from the Razonador. The greater part of it is written to show that the guerrillas system will be a thousand time more disastrous to good Mexican citizens than to the armies of the United States, that the inevitable tendency of the system will be to leave the honest, well-disposed and thriving inhabitants at the mercy of the lawless, needy desperadoes; and that such worthy inhabitants will inevitably apply to the Americans for protection, who are too sagacious not to grant it in full.

To prolong the war by a guerrilla system the writer deems, therefore, suicidal for Mexico. The only other practicable mode, he says, is the levee en masse of the inhabitants, attacking the Yankees in front, in rear, and upon their flanks. Such a rising, if executed with spirit, vigor and courage he thinks won be successful, although the Americans might gain advantages in the outset. Such a rising the editor fully approves of and still advocates, but it will never take place, he says; not because it is impossible in itself, but because the Mexicans do not heartily desire it and no intention of making it. Such being the case, he calls upon his countrymen not to solicit a peace, but to listen to the overtures which may be made to them. He writes with great clearness and force, and had we room we would reproduce the article. Such appeals must tell powerfully in Mexico for peace. The people are unused to them.

One of the last acts of Gen. Bravo while he remained in command, was to sanction a plan for the preservation of order in the city, which was adopted by the municipal council. We should give the plan at length had it not been ultimately rejected by the Government, but the design was to enroll the citizens, foreign as well as natives, for the single purpose of watching over the security of private persons and property, and maintaining public order. Of these citizens companies of thirty and forty were to be formed, who were to elected their own officers, & c, & c. The project was approved by Senor Anaya, by the Governor of the city, and finally by Gen. Bravo. When it was submitted to Senor Baranda, the Minister of the Interior, it was rejected by him summarily as being scandalous, imprudent and detestable in every respect. The council, nevertheless, promulgated the plan, when the Government arbitrarily interfered and suspended the operation of it. It receives no praise for this act from the Monitor; quite the reverse.

The resignation which Gen. Rincon tendered of his office, as second in command to Gen. Bravo, had not been accepted by the Government on the 29th ult.

In the Courrier Francais we find an extract from the Boletin de la Democracia, the organ of Farias. It is a witty, caustic review of the defence of Santa Ana at Cerro Gordo, made by Senor Jimenez. We can understand that Santa Ana finds his position uncomfortable with a few papers of this kind, as witty as remorseless, pouring hot shot in 'o him all the while, and he unable to defend himself by pointing to a single act successful gallantry in this war by which to deprecate the contempt excited against him.

July 2, 1847, RW47v24n53p2c4 Proposed Treaty

The Proposed Treaty with Mexico.

The Washington Union says that any treaty of peace which may be concluded between the United States and Mexico, "must embrace, in some form, indemnity for past injuries, and for the war itself, together with due security for the future peace and good neighborhood of the two countries." It also says, "there is no reason to suppose that any treaty of peace which will be made, will undertake, in the slightest degree, to interfere with the internal polity of Mexico."– This last we are glad to hear. It would be the greatest folly in the world for us to undertake to guaranty ANY thing to Mexico– even a Republican form of government. – Should other nations attempt to FORCE a monarchical form of government upon her against her will, the United States might feel obligated to interfere to prevent it; but if the PEOPLE of Mexico want a monarchy, an aristocracy, or even a dog–ocracy, by all means let them be accommodated. The United States can find better business than attempting to force upon Mexico even a good thing. Some would take this opportunity to secure religious toleration in Mexico, the free circulation of the Scriptures, &c. But we say no –not by force. Let France propagate what she calls religion by force if she will, but not the United States. – Neither let us become security for every Mexican who may be elevated to the supreme power, nor for the tranquility of the country. If we become responsible for Mexico in any way, we shall have treble. – Journal of Com.

It is due to our officers serving in Mexico that the greatest caution should be observed by the press in giving publicity to complains against the manner in which they discharge the various and sometimes anomalous duties confided to them; and we know speak of certain imputations respecting the management of the interest of the United States at and about Vera Cruz, because they have become so general as to excite a belief that the service is suffering serious detriment, by reason of a lack of vigor and efficiency in the system of regulations enforced there. It is more from a sense of justice to the officers in command at that point than with a desire to prejudge them, that we say there is not an arrival from Vera Cruz which does not bring accounts of losses of United States property, which are attributed to neglect. It may be that the commandant at that depot has not the force necessary to keep up an effective police to protect the public property from depredators. It may be from very lack of material to prevent it that horses are stolen nightly, and the guerrillas are permitted to prowl hard by the depots of government property. If this be the case the fact should be stated, else the reputation of the officer in command will suffer a serious evil.

One of the last acts of Gen. Bravo while he remained in command, was to sanction a plan for the preservation of order in the city, which was adopted by the municipal council. We should give the plan at length had it not been ultimately rejected by the Government, but the design was to enroll the citizens, foreign as well as natives, for the single purpose of watching over the security of private persons and property, and maintaining public order. Of these citizens companies of thirty and forty were to be formed, who were to elected their own officers, & c, & c. The project was approved by Senor Anaya, by the Governor of the city, and finally by Gen. Bravo. When it was submitted to Senor Baranda, the Minister of the Interior, it was rejected by him summarily as being scandalous, imprudent and detestable in every respect. The council, nevertheless, promulgated the plan, when the Government arbitrarily interfered and suspended the operation of it. It receives no praise for this act from the Monitor; quite the reverse.
scattered through the country or skulking about the towns. Be this or other the cause of the loss of property, often accompanied with loss of life, a reformation is needed in the conduct of our officers in Mexican cities – either a change in the policy, or a more rigid and effective mode of enforcing that adopted.

In regard to the late attack upon the wagon train, we have heard the most deplorable accounts. The partial success of the Mexicans, before Gen. Cadwalader came to the rescue, should engage the attention of a court martial. They are charged to a remissness so gross that we forbear to state the circumstances as told as by passengers lately arrived here, and by a correspondent who was with the train at the time. The current reports of the Day and Galveston give no flattering picture of affairs in Mexico – We hope to have better things by the next arrivals. N.O. Picayune.

July 2, 1847, RW47v24n53p2c4 Taylor defenses stripped

General Taylor

The Matamoros Flag, received by the latest arrival at New Orleans, mentions a few of the many rumors prevalent in that place. It is stated, that the last despatches sent to Gen. Taylor instruct him to strip his line to the very minimum point of defense, in order to reinforce Gen. Scott; but that, nevertheless, old Rough and Ready is concentrating provisions and transportation at Saltillo for a forward movement, in which case he launches forth into the enemy’s country, abandoning all dependences on his line of communication, which is to be broken up from Saltillo to Matamoros, which place and Fort Brown are to be strongly garrisoned.

We can scarcely credit the latter rumor, however, if the former be true, of which we apprehend there can be no doubt. Gen. Taylor is prudent as well as bold. He is always ready to encounter “fearful odds” when forced into a position where he must of necessity either fight or retreat; but it is not probable that he will voluntarily undertake, with his reduced force, a march across the “waterless desert” between Saltillo and San Luis, encountering in front probably a greatly superior force, and leaving his rear almost entirely undefended, and exposed to the assaults of the enemy. There is more truth, we suspect, in another rumor to which Matamoros paper alludes, to wit, that Gen. Taylor has asked the Government whether he is to be quartered upon a camp stool for the balance of the war – and if so, that he has applied for leave of absence to visit his family. This latter rumor, says the Flag, we fear is too true. And it will not be deemed remarkable, if for his past victories, he has been sentenced to future inactivity, that he should prefer to enjoy his enforced holiday in the bosom of his family, from whom he has been so long absent, rather than in the camp, where, the scene of active preparations having been transferred to another part of Mexico, his presence is no longer indispensably necessary.

The Union asserts that “the best results, as relates to the durable well-being of this Republic, have proceeded from the President policy in allowing the return of Santa Anna to Mexico.” This is news, which the people will be glad to hear! The Union has now but one thing to do, in order to silence all complaints on that score – and that is, to specify the “results” to which it alludes. We confess that they are not at all perceptible to us, nor have we yet seen the man, Whig or Locofoco, who has the remotest conception of what they are. The Union will render a most invaluable service, therefore, to the Administration, of which it is the organ, as well as gratify public curiosity, by ENUMERATING the results that have followed Santa Anna’s return to Mexico, and which it tell us are (XX) intimately connected with the “durable well-being of this Republic” The assertion may be true; but we should like to see some proof of it.

July 2, 1847, RW47v24n53p2c4 Kentucky Volunteers

Kentucky Volunteers

The remains of Colonel McKee, Lt. Col. Clay, Capt. Willis, Adjutant Vaughan and private H. Totter were received at Louisville, on the 21st inst. By the military companies and citizens, with every demonstration of public esteem and honor. Business was entirely suspended, and all the stores closed along the streets through which the funeral procession moved.

The two companies of Volunteers that went from Lexington, one commanded by Capt. Beard, and the other (Capt. C. M. Clay’s) by Lt. Woodruff, have reached that city, – or rather the remnant of them. Of Capt. Beard’s company, which mustered 78 when it left home, only 43 have returned – and of Capt. Clay’s, numbering 75 originally, the same number, 43, have come back – the remainder having been killed, or fallen victims to the diseases of the climate, or been discharged on account of sickness, except 11 of the latter company, who are prisoners in Mexico.

Though these companies reached Lexington unexpectedly, preparations were soon made to give then a cordial reception; and they were greeted with every demonstration of the respect and admiration of their fellow-citizens.

[NO]
Additional Particulars

The subjoined letter to the editors of the New Orleans Bee gives more minute particulars of the attack of the Mexicans upon the train under the command of Col. McIntosh than we have elsewhere seen:

Paso de Ovejas, Mexico, June 11, 1847.

The train of wagons and pack mules under the direction of Col. McIntosh, left Vera Cruz on the 4th inst., escorted by Capts. Duperu, Ford and McReynolds's companies of Dragoons— the two latter mounted— and three hundred Infantry commanded by Maj. Lee, and arrived in this village on the 7th inst., after a march of three days.

The train, consisting of 150 wagons laden with specie and ammunition, and 500 pack mules with provisions, &c., proceeded without molestation until about noon on Sunday last, 6th inst., when our advanced guard of Capt. Ford's Indiana Dragoons was suddenly attacked by a large body of Mexicans.

J.Q. Adams and the War.

From the Washington correspondence of the Baltimore Sun we copy the following paragraph:

"Mr. John Q. Adams, just before he left this city for Massachusetts, held a conversation with a friend of mine, on the subject of the Mexican war. He gave his views very friendly, and, in substance they were, that the war with Mexico would not end until the United States had conquered the whole of it. He believed that the matter had gone so far that it was no longer under the control of this government, and that our people would subjugate, acquire, appropriate, and annex the whole of Mexico. It was his opinion, moreover, that, from the war, would arise a military enthusiasm in this country, leading the people to prefer military man for all elective offices. He was quite certain that, for years to come, all successful candidate for the Presidency must be military men, connected with or grown out of the Mexican war.

Mr. Adams has but expressed opinions which many intelligent men in this country entertain, that Mexico is to be thoroughly renovated and regenerated, and ultimately brought within the influence of our institutions, whether annexed to or independent of this Union, If so, the war will not be regarded, hereafter, as unfortunate; and will be attributed less to policy than to Providence."

A very sage conclusion certainly, but one to which we beg leave to express our dissent. Whatever may be the results of the war, we believe that 'Providence' will have had nothing more to do with it than to "educate good from evil," by converting the bad passions of man into a means of his improvement and renovation: But, if one of the results of the war shall be the annexation of Mexico, or of any considerable part of it, to this Union, we shall doubt whether the agency has been even so far exerted—for, at all events, we shall look upon that as an irreparable misfortune to the United sates, however, beneficial it may prove to Mexico.

Later From the Army

[From the New Orleans Picayune, June 25] c4

Important from Mexico.

Later From the Army of Gen. Scott.


The steamship Palmetto, Capt. Smith, arrived last evening from Vera Cruz, having sailed thence on the 18th inst. She touched at Tampico on the 20th and Brazos Santiago on the 21st inst.

Although we are not in possession of letters from Mr. Kendall, we have advices upon which we place every reliance as to the movements of Gen. Scott. An express from Puebla, by the route of Cordova, had arrived at Vera Cruz, announcing that Gen. Scott commenced his march upon the city of Mexico on the 16th inst.
We hear not a word more in regard to the overtures for peace said to have been made to Gen. Scott. That he marched on the 16th we have no doubt.

Another express had arrived at Vera Cruz from Jalapa, which announces that all the sick had left there on the 15th inst. for Perote under a small escort. Col. Childs was to leave the following day with all the garrison. Gen. Shields would accompany him. The road between Jalapa and Puebla is represented as free from guerrilla parties os any kind.

About one thousand troops left Vera Cruz on the 17th inst., under the command of Maj. Gen. Pillow, to join the army of gen. Scott.

The Spanish renegade named La Vega, who lately repaired to Vera Cruz in company with the veracious Col. Mata from this city, is represented to us as already in command of a strong guerrilla party.

By the express from Jalapa we have no intelligence of Gen. Cadwalader, as the rider came by a circuitous route to avoid the predatory parties on the road.

By this arrival we have received paper from the city of Mexico of the 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th of June. Our previous files came down to the 29 of May. The intermediate dates we have not yet received, and presume they have been forwarded by some sailing vessel. We have only had time to glance hastily at the papers before us, from which we glean the following:

Santa Anna still remains in power. His resignation we presume was withdrawn; for it is intimidated that a majority of Congress was anxious to accept it. His administration, in consequence of this feeling in Congress, has entirely changed its policy and thrown itself into the arms of the puros. One great section of the puros, however, is not conciliated by this movement; the adherents of Gomez Farias and gen. Almonte still continue their oppositions to the Administration. Senor Rejon, the former friend of Farias, is said to be the main support of Santa Anna’s administration, although he holds no public office. He is denounced as a man without principle, a truckler, &c.

It is represented that opinions were never more divided in the capitol that at the present. No party seems to have decided upon what course to take. At one time the puros and the moderados appear inclined to unite upon a dissolution of Congress, and leave every thing in the hands of Santa Anna; and then again the puros talk of recalling the absent members of their party, and having a working majority to carry their measures. In the mean time a quorum of Congress cannot be collected. If we can give no intelligible account of the designs of the parties and the Government, it is because such confusion and anarchy never before existed in the city of Mexico, by the admission of all.

An important financial measure of Anayas’s administration has been summarily abrogated by Santa Anna, in deference, as he says, to public opinion. This has lead to the resignation of Senor Baranda, who was not consulted as to the repeal of the measure. Senor Lafragua was then nominated in his place as head of the State Department, but this appointment gave dissatisfaction to the puros, who demonstrated against it. The result was not known.

Gen. Almonte was still in prison, nor are we able to learn any thing more definite as to the nature of his offence, his trial not having yet come on.

The State of Chihuahua voted unanimously for Gen. Santa Anna for President. This is the only additional State the vote of which is given in papers before us. The votes were to be opened on the 15th of the present month. Our impression is that Congress will have to make choice between the two highest candidates, as no one will probably receive a majority of all the votes. On various occasions Congress has displayed great respect for Gen. Herrera, which leads to the opinion that he will be chosen.

We find no mention made of the measures taken for the defence of the capital. The papers said that gen. Scott pretended to his troops that they would march into Mexico on the 15th inst, but that this was a mere boast in order to keep up the spirits of his men; that he was in no condition to move, lacking reinforcements.

Letters from Puebla to the capital represent Gen's. Scott and Worth as saying that if Santa Anna has charge of the defence of the city of Mexico, they will be able to take it with the loss of two or three hundred men only; but that if Bravo or Valencia command, it will cost them more dear. The Republicano derides this gossip, though it sounds very natural ... (unintelligible)

The Government is urged by letters form Puebla and its vicinity to fall upon Scott, noe he is weak, and crush him. They say he has really but a little over 5000 men, though he pretends to have 7000. They seem to dread lest Gen. Taylor should proceed to join Gen. Scott.

The propositions which Mr. Trist is authorized to make are said by the Mexicans to be that each Republic shall name three commissioners to discuss the claims of the United States, and that if Mexico will not consent to this, then the war is to be prosecuted.

We find in the Republicano of the 7th inst. a long dispatch from the Secretary of War to gen. Scott, dated the 30th of
April. It informs him that by the end of June the President supposes Gen. Scott will have twenty, and Gen. Taylor the thousand men under their respective commands. It ask for the views of Gen. Scott on various questions suggested; and gives him directions how to operate with disaffected Mexican States. The Republican regards this latter portion as very important, but pronounces the Secretary’s representations as to the number of troops to be in the field utterly false. How this letter was intercepted we are not informed.

The Mexicans appear to have intercepted a good number of private letters. Several to Col. Chidls are particularly referred to. One is from Mrs. Childs and contains much pleasant gossip as to the state of parties in the United States. Other letters of an entirely private nature are commented upon.

The success of some of the guerilla parties near Vera Cruz are duly chronicled and commended in the papers.

The afternoon of the 6th inst. Santa Anna reviewed at Tealpam the troops from the South of Mexico under Alvarez. This general’s command had not all arrived, but it was expected to reach 8000 men in a few days.

Senor Pedro de Castillo has been removed from the command of the regiment of Hidalgo in the National Guard. The act is strongly censured.

Gen. J. Gomez de la Cortina has resigned the command of the battalion of Victoria, of which he was colonel.

Three hundred troops from Morelia arrived in the capital on the 7th inst.

Diligences have been established between these two cities. One of them has already been robbed.

The Vice Governor of Oajaca has resigned his office, and his resignation has been accepted.

Gen. Scott appears to preserve perfect discipline among his troops at Puebla. The Mexicans admit this indirectly, though letters are published complaining of our excesses in general terms. The case of a New York volunteer is mentioned, who was tried by a court martial for assaulting a woman with the view of robbing her of a silver crucifix.

The casting of a piece of cannon at Toluca on the second inst. is formally mentioned.

We have thus glanced at the papers before us, but will recur to them again, and should they contain anything of importance, lay it before our readers.

From Tampico we learn little news by this arrival. – The only thing which gives animation to the town appears to be the false alarms which frequently occur. We are informed by an officer of Dragoons that he went out with a party on a scout on the 18th inst., and proceeded some 40 miles from the city in the direction of Altamira, but saw no armed Mexican. The country people appeared friendly, and like the rest of the inhabitants of Tamaulipas did not seem ill affected towards our Government.

The Louisiana regiment stationed at Tampico has suffered severely from sickness. Many have died and there are yet many sick – not less than 150 accounts say. Not more than 180 men are reported fit for service, and yet this is the only regiment doing duty. Reinforcements have been daily expected, but in vain.

Lieut. De Groote, of the Dragoons, who arrived on the Palmetto, has been ordered hither to recruit men to fill up his company to the full complement. It consists now of only fifty-four men. This is a company with which it is intended to open the road from Tampico to San Luis Potosi.

July 6, 1847, RW47v24n54p2c3 Intercepted Despatch

The Intercepted Despatch.

The passage in the intercepted letter of Secretary Marcy to Gen. Scott which attracts most attention in Mexico is the concluding portion, which is substantially as follows:

"Intimations have been given to the Government that a portion of the people of the State of Veracruz, and also of some other states is disposed to refuse obedience to the Central Government. Should such be the case, you will adapt such measures as may encourage this spirit, using the utmost discretion, nevertheless, that the United States may not appear compromised; as it may occasion embarrassment to the Government when negotiations for peace are entered upon. Should you judge it proper you might offer aid or protection when the war terminates.”

Another portion of the Secretary’s letter announces that Gen. Taylor had made application to the war department, for two or three thousand regulars who had been in the service in case he should be expected to advance into the country. The Secretary says that much as the Government may be disposed to reinforce Gen. Taylor’s division, it
hardly deems it prudent to do so at the expense of Gen. Scott's command, who appears more particularly to need troops of the description indicated by Gen. Taylor. He leaves it therefore to Gen. Scott to decide, as commander in-chief of the forces in Mexico, whether the suggestion of Gen. Taylor should be acceded to.

We do not attempt to translate the despatch, as from the two-fold process errors may well occur, and the original will no doubt surely be given to the country. – N.O. Picayune

July 6, 1847, RW47v24n54p2c3 Prospect of Peace

(short news)

The Philadelphia ledger has the following paragraph – We sincerely hope that the rumored prospect of an early peace with Mexico may be speedily realized:

Important.– Prospect of Peace.– We learn from a reliable source at Washington that there is a prospect of a speedy peace with Mexico. The letter communicating the information says it might be in less than twenty days The Mexicans have had the whole text of the treaty, which Mr. Trist carried with him, communicated to them, and they are satisfied with it. The President will call an extra session of the Senate, and this news will probably shorten his visit to the North. This is an important fact, and we have no doubt from the source whence it came that it can be relied upon.

July 6, 1847, RW47v24n54p2c4 Correspondence

[From the National Intelligencer.]

Editor's correspondence

We were thrown quite into a flutter yesterday by receiving in our bag from the Post Office the following letter from the Public's old friend Major Jack Downing, who seems to have written it to us for the purpose of communicating to the Public in his plain way, some views of the President Polk – young hickory, as he delights to call him – which that distinguished functionary had not thought necessary to confide his most confidential friends before he met with the major.

On board the steamboat on Long Island Sound, bound to Connecticut and Down East, June 28, 1847.

MR. GALES & SKATON:

MY DEAR OLD FRIENDS: I and Mr. Buchanan and the rest of us overtook the President last night at York, where we found him pretty well tuckered out, having got true with all his birds-egging in that everlasting great city, and ready to push on this morning down East. I was going to write a line to friend Richie, as he is the Government Editor, as soon as I could catch up with the President, and let him know how the old gentleman stood the journey. But I happened to look into your paper, and I see brother Ingersoll, of Philadelphia, sends his letter to you. This puzzled me a little at first, because I knew he was a on Mr. Richie's side. But I looked along, and I see he called your paper a "powerful journal;" and then the thought struck me that I have read somewhere that "there is a power behind the throne greater than the throne itself". Well, thinks I that Ingersoll is a cunning feller, but he ain't a going to get ahead of me. If he writes to the power behind the throne, I will too. So, if Mr. Richie complains, and says I ought to wrote to him, I wish you would just smooth it over to him, and tell him the reason of it, and tell him when the old ship gets on 'tother tack, and his paper gets on behind, I'll write to him.

As I had come right on from Mexico the shortest cut, and had brought a letter from Gineral Scott to the President, as soon as we got to York I run right up to the tavern where he stopped to give him the letter. Folks told me he was at the Astor House – that great tavern made out of hewed stone. So I went up, and went in, and asked one of the waiters if Colonel Pok put up there?

"Is it Jemmy Polk ye mine; Young Hickory, the President?" say he.

"Sartain," says I.

"Yes," says he, "he's here; up stairs in his room."

Says I, "Show me his chamber as quick as you can; I must see him."
"You can't see him to-night," says he; "Young Hickory is tired out, and can't see nobody at all. Why wasn't ye on hand in the Governor's room if ye wanted to see him? All the boys had a chance there."

Says I, "That's nothing to the pint; I was on the road from Washington then, and I'm going to see the President to-night if I have to go through the stone walls of this house for it."

Then along come Mr. Stutson: and says he, "Patrick, what's the row here?"

"Here's a fellow getting wrathy," says Patrick, "because I won't let him go up to the President's room."

At that Mr. Stutson turned around to me, and, as soon as he see me, he ketched told of my hand, and, says he, "Major Downing, I'm very happy to see you. I'll show you right up to the President's room myself. I'm sorry you wasn't here before. We've had some very pleasant tea parties since the President's been here."

When I got in the President's chamber he was laying down on the bed to rest and looking as tired as a rat that had been drawed through forty knotholes. But as soon as he see me, he jumped up, looking rather wild, and says he, "Major Downing, how are ye? I didn't think of seeing you back from Mexico so soon as this. How does things go on there now?"

Says I, "Colonel, they don't go on hardly at all. They are waiting for more help. Scott and Taylor both are growing rather red and angry to think you should chuck them away into the middle of Mexico there and then not send 'em help to fight the way out again. And it seems to me, Colonel, you do hold back in this business a little too much. If you don't send 'em help pretty soon, them guerrillas will eat our little armies all up. Why, Colonel," says I, "if this war had come on in the time of the old Gineral, my old friend Hickory, he would a had them Mexicans half whipped to death by this time. But here's a letter from Scott, to tell ye what he thinks about the business. I come in post-haste to bring it. He says he won't stir from Puebla till you send on more men to take the place of all them that's coming home."

The President took the letter and read a few lines, and threw it down upon the table; and, says he, it's no use; Scott may grumble and growl as much as he's a mind to but it's no use. This war is a concern of my own getting up, for my own use, and I shall manage it jest as I please." Says he, "Major Downing, there's reason in all things. I don't want them Mexicans whipped too fast, especially them upstart Generals get all the glory of it. When I found Taylor as swelling up too large, I meant to a stopped him at Monterey and draw off a part of his glory onto Scott. But that Taylor is a headstrong chap a dangerous man. He overstepped is duty and blundered on that victory at Buena Vista that sent everything all in a blaze. I shan't overlook it in him very soon. If the selfish creature had only let Santa Anna give him a handsome licking there, we might have had peace in a little while, for I had things all arranged with Santa Anna to wind the business right up in such a way that we might each of us have made a handsome plume out of it. But that unpardonable Taylor must cut and slash round with his handful of men, untutored volunteers, that I thought were as harmless as a flock of sheep, and contrive by that awful blunder at Buena Vista, to pour all the fat into the fire."

"Well, then, Scott hasn't behaved much better." He licked the Mexicans too fast by a great sight, and is swelling himself up in the eyes of the people. I thought if I could a sent Col. Benton he would a squeezed the glory out of 'em in a little while, and settled 'em down so they wouldn't a been dangerous. But that vagabond Senate wouldn't let me do it. That was too bad, Major, when them two Generals were [unintelligible] all the glory that belonged to me, that the Senate wouldn't let me do any thing to offset them. But I'll let them know that Young Hickory isn't to be beat anymore than Old Hickory was. I've sent Mr. Trist on to look after matters, and to see that the armies don't go too fast; for I am determined Scott and Taylor shan't whip the Mexicans any faster than is prudent. All the glory that's to come out of this war fairly belongs to me, and I'll have it."

"But," says I, "Colonel you are a going to send on more men, ain't you? Or what are you going to do? How are you going to wind the business up?"

Says he, "I am too tired to talk over my plans to-night. But there's no need of you going right back to Mexico yet. Mr. Trist is there, and I can trust him to look after matters, and you better jump into the boat with us in the morning and take a trip down East, and we can talk the subject over at our leisure."

About five o'clock in the morning the President rattled away at my door and waked me out of a sound sleep; and, when he found I wasn't up, says he, "Major, you must be spry, or you'll be too late, for we're off at six."

I was up and dressed about the quickest, and went out, and fact, there was a quarter of a mile of soldiers, all ready to escort us to the boat. And down we went, through whole streets full of men and women, and boys and gals, of all sorts and sizes, some running and crowding, and some hollering and hurrahing, and in a few minutes we were aboard the steamboat, and the bell rung, and the steamer puffed, and off we went on the Sound towards Connecticut.

The President had a little room all to himself and he made me go right into it, and he sot down in an easy chair, and put his feet upon another, and says he, "Major, I'm glad to get out of the crowd again; we'll take a few hours to rest and comfort on this voyage. This being President Major is mighty hard work; but, after all, I like it. I've had a glorious time of it in New York. Every body was running after me, and it seems as though I have seen every thing. I feel as though I had lived through a whole year in these three days, and I don't believe any body ever received more
honors in so short a space of time in this country.”

“Well,” says I, “Colonel, it seems to me a pity you told the folks at Baltimore the other day that you should retire when this term was up. You might go two terms, as Old Hickory did, jest as well as not, you are so popular.”

At that he give me a tuck in the ribs and a sly wink, and, says he, “Major, don’t you understand that telling of ‘em I shouldn’t stand another term is just the right way to make them the more fierce to have me. Don’t you know Anthony said Caesar refused the crown three times, jest so as to be more sure of having it placed on his head? And jest see how Santa Anna is working it now in Mexico. When he gets pretty near ran down, and shivering in the wind and nothing to stand upon, he sends in his resignation, with a long patriotic speech about shedding the last drop of his blood for his country, and all that, and the people refuse to receive his resignation, and cry out ‘long live Santa Anna” and away he goes again and drums up another army of soldiers.

“But, to tell the truth, Major,” says he, “when I made that remark at Baltimore I had some little notion of retiring. Our party was so cut up, things looked rather dark ahead; and I find this Mexican war something of a bother after all. Taylor and Scott commit so many blunders, I had really then some notion of retiring when this term is up. But, since I got along to New York, things seem to look brighter. I’m popular, Major: I know I am. I shouldn’t be surprised if the Whigs made a demonstration in my favor yet. They seemed very fond of me in New York; and so did everybody, everybody you could mention; even the market–woman took me by the hand and called me young Hickory, and gave me lots of fruit. There, do you see that pineapple on that table there?” says he. “That was given me at the Fulton market, as we were going over to Brooklyn on Saturday. Cut away, Major, and help yourself to it; it’s a nice one. And here’s a paper of the most excellent tobacco,” says he, “that was presented to me at the same time. You go into the pineapple and I’ll go into the tobacco, and then we’ll have a little more talk about the war.”

Jest as we got cleverly under way they sung out aboard the boat for the passengers to get ready for landing. So I musgt cut my yarn off here for the present; but likely as not you’ll here from me again. Your old friend, MAJOR JACK DOWNING

July 9, 1847, RW47v24n55p1c3 LATER FROM THE ARMY

[From the New Orleans Picayune, June 30]

Important from Mexico

LATER FROM THE ARMY OF GEN. SCOTT.

General Scott still at Puebla –His advance postponed till reinforcements arrive –Surprise of a Guerrilla party by General Cadwalader – General Pillow’s march and his repulse of Guerrillas –Preparations for the defence of Mexico – March of Alvarez towards Puebla, &c, &c, &c.

The schooner Iona, Capt. Stevens, arrived yesterday morning from Vera Cruz, and in a few hours afterwards the steamship New Orleans, Capt. Auld, came in. The latter left Vera Cruz on the 25th instant, and brings us letters of the 25th and papers of the 24th. One hundred and fifty–six discharged soldiers and teamsters came over on the New Orleans.

A rumor reached Vera Cruz on the night of the 24th inst. That Gen. Cadwallader’s command had fallen in with a guerilla party a few miles beyond Jalapa, and by a movement unperceived by the guerrilleros, succeeded in surprising them and killing about thirty of them, without losing a man. Our correspondent thinks there is some truth in the report.

There are a great many guerrilla parties upon the road, and a small body of our troops left San Juan on the 21st. Hoping to overtake Gen. Pillow, but after proceeding two or three miles they encountered some guerrilleros. These they charged upon and dispersed, but they saw so many others on the road in small parties that it was thought prudent to relinquish the design of coming up with Gen. Pillow.– As this officer is somewhat famous for exciting from his men long marches, it is well that no further attempt was made to overtake him.

We regret to learn by this arrival of the death of Mr. Thomas G. Banks. He died at Vera Cruz of the vomito. Mr. Banks was connected, we believe, with the Quartermaster’s department.

A Mexican named Lara, a carpenter by trade, has been found lying dead on the floor of his own house in Vera Cruz, having been stabbed. The author of the dead was not known.

A watchman, said to be a Dutchman named Charles, have been trapped by a guerrilla party just outside the walls and murdered, after having been cruelly whipped. His body was left in the road with an inscription affixed to it, “Whoever wishes may carry it off.” The police of the city are making an attempt to ferret out the guilty party.
The news by this arrival from the city of Mexico is important. We have received our accounts of it through an express despatched by Mr. Kendall from Puebla expressly for this office. His letters come down to the 14th inst. Though we see it noted in one Vera Cruz paper that advices to the 14th had been received, yet it gives none of the news; the sole statement made relates Gen. Scott’s departure from Puebla, and is erroneous. Other papers of Vera Cruz give the news copied from the press of the city as being the latest from the interior of Mexico.

The Arco–Iris of the 22d has letters from the capital which appear to be late, though the dates are not given.— The purport of them is that the work of fortifying the environs of the city is going on rapidly, and that seventy pieces of artillery had arrived from Acapulco and other points which they were mounting as fast as possible. They mention the arrival of Alvarez at the head of 8000 men, and they set down the entire force in the city as 20,000 armed militia and 16,000 troops of the line. These letters further say that the clergy are taking an active part in the business; that arms of all kinds were pouring into the capital and considerable sums of money. All these topics are touched upon in Mr. Kendall’s letters transmitted by express, and very full details are given of the extent of the preparations to defend the city.

Before entering upon Mr. Kendall’s letters we may remark that by the way of Orizaba, a letter has been received here which announces that “Santa Anna had been elected Dictator, provided he will not make peace,” and that he has 30,000 men with him. It appears from what follows below that Santa Anna has attained to all the power of a Dictator by the arrest or removal from command of such generals as are opposed to him, and by the more adroit maneuver of inducing Congress to postpone the counting the votes for President till the 15th of January next. The 15th of June was the day fixed by law for that purpose. By the postponement Santa Anna prolongs his own power indefinitely, and for the time being may be deemed Dictator in fact, if not in fame. He will plead in extenuation of this perpetuation of his power that it was hazardous to risk a change of Government at a moment when a foreign foe threatened the capital, and there is force in the idea.

A private note from Mr. Kendall says that Mr. Trist was at Puebla. Nothing further had transpired in regard to his mission. “The Mexican papers,” writes Mr. Kendall, “know as much about his mission as we do.”

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July 6, 1847, RW47v24n54p2c3 Correspondence of the Picayune

[Editorial Correspondence of the Picayune]

Puebla, Mexico, June 8, 1847.

The result of the election for President of this so–called Republic is not known, nor it will be until January. Congress has passed a decree to the effect that on the first day of the coming year the new Congress shall be installed, and that on the 15th of the same month the votes for the President shall be counted. This may be some new trick of Santa Anna’s getting up, as until that time he can have everything his own way. The refusal of the present Congress to accept his resignation as President INTERINO, gives him unlimited ways, and he will not be slow to exercise all power of a dictator. That there will be GRITOS and PRONUNCIAMIENTOS against him before January is as certain as that the intervening months will come and go; but he may be cat enough to fall upon his feet –[qu. foot?]– with every new revolution. An anarchist himself, his very element is anarchy, and the only peaceful moments he probably spends are passed amidst confusion.

Report now has it –we can learn nothing positive– report now has it that Santa Anna has between 30,000 and 40,000 men of all classes under arms at and near the city, and that this force is rapidly augmenting. The peace party dare do nothing, for the moment a main is even suspected he is sent off or thrown into prison. The American residents have all left, many of them in such haste that their business must suffer a most ruinous extent, while it is reported that all the American prisoners, contrary to the laws of nations as well as of humanity, have been cast into a more loathsome prison and treated more rigorously than ever. Such are the verbal reports we received from the capital.

Yours, &c. G. W. K.

[NO]

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July 6, 1847, RW47v24n54p2c3 News from Puebla

Puebla, Mexico, June 11, ’47.

Full files of papers from the city of Mexico, up to the 8th inst. Inclusive, have just been received here. I have only had time to skim over their contents, and send you an abstract of such intelligence as may be interesting.

The Monitor Republicano of the 8th inst. Says that Alvarez, with his Indians, was to march on that day for Puebla, and was to be followed up by the regular cavalry.— The same paper intimates that the rest of the army is also
immediately to take up that line of the march for Puebla, and the inference is that the enemy intends fighting the
great battle of this neighborhood. In fact, the editor openly comes out and says that by this course they will avoid
having the beautiful city of Mexico the scene of a grand battle. He hopes that by a well combined effort the glory of
the Republic may be preserved, and that Santa Anna may wipe off some of the stain which at present sticks to his
character. The editor does not exactly says this, but he means it. Every one here in Puebla hopes that the battle or a
battle may be fought in this neighborhood –the Mexicans will not make another stand this side the capital in that
case.

There was a rumor in Mexico, at last dates, to the effect that some of the officers of the regular troops were about to
raise a PRONUNCIAMIENTO in favor a dictatorship. The editor of El Monitor ridicules the report –believes that there is
no foundation for it, Santa Anna may be at this bottom of a movement of the kind. Quien sabe?

Yours, &c. G. W. K.

July 6, 1847, RW47v24n54p2c3 More from Puebla

Puebla, Mexico, June 12, 1847,

The city is to–day full of rumors and reports, some of these of a most startling nature if they could be relied upon.
The story is that the Mexican army is so advanced upon and surround this place entirely. Even the names of the
leaders –Valencia, Gubero, Lombardini and Alvarez– are given. That Alvarez has started with his command there can
be little doubt, but the impression is that he has gone in the rear of Puebla –somewhere in the neighborhood of
Nopalucam or Acajate– with the hope that he may be enabled to cut off some of the wagon train known to be on
their way up. The Mexicans are known to have seven or eight thousand cavalry, and their true policy would be to
fight Gen. Scott in the open field; but he who judges of the Mexicans by the ordinary rules which govern mankind
will find mistaken nine time out of ten –so there is no knowing what they will do.

A Frenchman who left the city of Mexico yesterday reports that he saw two thousand men busily at work upon the
fortification at El Penon. This is a hill of no great size or elevation, about nine miles this side of the city and on the
direct road, with a lake immediately in the rear of it and at its base. Another Frenchman, and one who appears to be
intelligent, says that the Mexicans intend to make three or four stands –one between this city and San martin or
Tlascala, where they can use their cavalry, another this side of Guadalupe, and the last at Guadalupe itself.– Amid
such a multiplicity of reports it is hard to coming to the truth, and perhaps the only way to ascertain the real
intentions of the Mexicans at the capital is to pay them a visit with the army.

July 6, 1847, RW47v24n54p2c4 Still more from Puebla

Puebla, Mexico, June 14, 1847,

For a wonder, yesterday we did not have anything even in the shape of a rumor from the city of Mexico, nor could
we learn anything positive of the movements of the enemy in this neighborhood. I saw a man, who arrived from
Atlixco in the morning, who said that 600 of the Indians of Alvarez were expected there immediately –this was the
only report received, Atlixco is eighteen or twenty miles from Puebla, and not on the road to the capital.

As yet no one knows when the army is to make a forward movement. Gen. Scott certainly will not march until
reinforcements arrive, which are now with out question on the way. A delay is certainly of more importance to our
army than to that of the Mexicans, for even if the latter are enabled to augment their forces they will be beaten –
that is certain: and then there is a strong probability that so straightened are the Mexicans for means that a delay of
a month will find them despairing over the country for the very means of subsistence, or else cut up by internal
disorders.

As regards the prospects of a peace, they appear just as distant as ever. A peace patched up as the city of Mexico at
this time would hardly last until the ink is dry with which it may be signed; certainly not until the Americans are out
of the country. Without doubt there is a large and influential party in favor of it, but they dare not [unintelligible]
themselves for fear of after consequences. I know not how it may turn up, but as I said in a former latter, I do not at
present see any other course then for the United States to hold and retain possessions of the country –and to govern
it, too.

Yours, &c. G. W. K.
Virginia Volunteers

The two additional companies of Volunteers, some months ago asked for by the President from Virginia, not having yet been organized, –and hearing of no movement to obtain recruits in the patriotic tier of counties known as the Tenth Legion, –we are gratified to learn, from the last Lynchburg Virginian, that Major William A. Talbot, of that town, (a very accomplished officer,) has undertaken to raise one of them, and that, within a few days, he had succeeded in procuring 17 fine–looking soldiers. We hope the Major may be successful. Residing in a strong Whig county, and on the borders of two or three others, we presume he will find no difficulty in obtaining the requisite number of “Mexican Whigs,” to supply the lack of zeal which characterizes the flaming War Patriots of Shenandoah, Rockingham andp. They content themselves with extolling “the eminent ability of with which Mr. Polk has conducted the war;” leaving it for others, less patriotic than themselves, to endure the hardships of the camp, and to encounter the hazards of the battle-field.

July 6, 1847, RW47v24n54p2c3 Health of Vera Cruz

In a letter to Gov. Johnson of Louisiana, Dr. Barton of the Army says, there are few cases comparatively of yellow fever at Vera Cruz, and that the mortality would be much less than it is if he had “the appliances” they possess in New Orleans, So far, he says, there has been no epidemic, and the fatal cases have occurred mostly among men who would have died any where with fever of some kind. If he could regulate the habits and modes of living of our countrymen, the Doctor thinks very few would take the disease, and, still fewer would die.

Dr. B. furnishes the following statement of the deaths in Vera Cruz from the 1st of May to the 16th of June: From Vomito: Soldiers 20; Qr. Master’s Dep. 13; Mexicans 11; Others 7; Total 51. Other diseases: Soldiers 112; Qr. Master’s Dep. 49; Mexicans 84; Others 50; Total 295. Nation: American 178; Mexicans 106; Other Foreigners 47; Unknown 15; Total 346.

Taylor to Gaines

The following extract from a letter of Gen. Taylor to Gen. Gaines, written as long as November last, may furnish a clue to his opinions in regard to the policy (or rather the impolicy) of prosecuting a war of conquest in Mexico. That he was, in November last, opposed to the invasion of Mexico, by way of Vera Cruz, and indeed of carrying on farther offensive operations in any quarter, is unquestionable. We know of no “anti–war Whig” who has gone farther indeed than the General, in urging the termination of an offensive war; which, if it shall not result in the permanent occupation of the conquered territory, cannot compensate us for the blood and treasure expended in its prosecution – and which, if it shall lead to the acquisition of that territory, ought still more to be deprecated. But let Gen. Taylor speak for himself, He says:

"If we are, in the language of Mr. Polk and Gen. Scott, under the necessity of ‘conquering the peace’ –and that by taking the capital of the country –we must go to Vera Cruz, take that place, and then march on the city of Mexico. To do so in any other direction, I consider out of the question. But admitting that we conquer the peace by doing so, say at the end of the next twelve months, will the amount of blood and treasure which must be expended in doing so, be compensated by the same? I think not, especially if the country we subdue is to be given up; and I imagine there are but few individuals in our country who think of annexing Mexico to the United States.”

How does the Enquirer relish these sentiments?

Where are the Men?

The Union, some weeks ago, published elaborated statement from the War Department, showing, “as clear as mud,” that by the 1st of July, Gen. Scott would be at head of 20,000 men, and Gen. Taylor would be at the head of 10,000. The 1st of July has passed; and we ask, where are these men in buckram”? At the last dates form gen. Scott, his force did not exceed 8000 effective men, including the garrisons of Jalapa and Perote, while only about 3000 were
on the march from Vera Cruz to reinforce him; and Gen. Taylor has only about 5000, including every man bearing arms, from Brazos to Buena Vista! The Adjutant General should correct his figures, which are so widely different from the facts.

July 13, 1847, RW47v24n56p4c3 LATER FROM MEXICO

LATER FROM MEXICO

Our "pony teams," notwithstanding the oppressive heat of the season, still continue to bestow their favors on our readers, bringing us New Orleans papers, by the overland route, in six days from that city.

They brought us last night copies of the New Orleans Delta and Picayune of the 2d instant, the main items of interest from Mexico and other points contained in which we annex:

The New Orleans Delta of the 2d inst, says:

We yesterday received files of Mexican papers from the Capital, to and of the 12th ult., dates three days later than any previously received. We make from them a series of extracts, which are given below. We find in them no evidences of that formidable, fearful supposition to the advance of Gen. Scott, the apprehensions of which, for the last day or two, so alarmed the nerves of some of the more sensitive of our contemporaries.

The War. –The files before us contain full reviews of the opinions of the different newspapers throughout the country, which number about twenty, and with but one single exception (in Durango) they are fully in favor of the war.

The Dictatorship. –El Monitor Republicano of the 12th ult. contains a lengthy article on the subject of the Dictatorship. Up to that date, Santa Anna was not proclaimed, nor did he proclaim himself, Dictator. Indeed, The Monitor ridiculed the idea that he designed to become one. The rumor to that effect which prevailed in the capital, is alleged to have originated with and been propagated by his enemies and the enemies of the country.

No Change of Policy. –The Monitor asserts that the new cabinet is not to be entirely formed of PUROS [Democrats] as stated in some of the journals, and that the new Ministers will carry in the policy of their predecessors. –Santa Anna thinks that without a full Ministry –with the Ministers of War and Finances together with the clerks in the Bureau of Foreign Relations– he will be able, for the time being, to carry on the government.

An article published in the same paper of the 10th, we find the following paragraph: “There is no doubt but that the majority of the nation is in favor of carrying on the war, and we are, consequently, convinced that it is impossible to enter into any arrangement for peace; war e it to be concluded, it would prove fatal to the nationality of Mexico. –The defenders of the nation are, therefore, encouraged with brilliant hopes of final success, notwithstanding our former disasters. All of us who sincerely wish the continuation of the war, look upon an equivocal policy as dangerous, and all overtures of peace a perilous means to secure it; for this reason we are opposed to any change in the politics which may give it pacific appearance.”

The Peace Party. –El Razonador, the peace paper, says that it has recommended peace only because it is convinced that the government would not or could not carry on the war; but at the same time it approves Santa Anna’s withdrawal of his resignation, and praises him very much saying that he is the only man in the country who can keep alive the war spirit.

Gen. Valencia. –Gen. Valencia has reported having arrived at San Luis Potosi on the 5th June, where he took immediate command of the army. General Salas had also arrived there, and taken charge of his post.

Gen. Bustamante. –Gen. Bustamante was at Irapuato on the 5th where he was to begin immediately to raise forces from the State of Guanajuato. It was thought that Gen. Alcorta had issued an order by which Bustamante would be obliged to go as far as Sinaloa, in order to take command of the forces there –which, according to El Monitor, are NONE.

Canalizo Pardoned. –It seems, from what we see in the Monitor of the 11th, that Santa Anna and Canalizo had “made friends” once more, and, consequently, the examination of the latter for his conduct at Cerro Gordo was dropped. Although it was reported that he had been appointed Governor of the State of Vera Cruz, he was to be employed in the defence of the capital.

Gen. Scott’s March to the Capital. –El Republicano of the 11th has accounts from Puebla, in which it is stated that the American forces would not move towards the capital before six weeks (from the 10th June) as they were awaiting reinforcements and heavy artillery from Vera Cruz. El Monitor of the same date, publishes a letter, in which the writer states that he has been informed that the whole forces will move towards the capital in all from the 15th to the 20th, as they had resolved and were determined to spend and CELEBRATE the 4th of July at the capital.
Movements of the American Troops. –A letter from Puebla, addressed to El Monitor, states that Gen. Worth went as far as Cholula with 200 men, and had returned alone with his stuff, without being troubled by any of the guerrillas.

Assistance Solicited from Gen. Scott. –A letter received at the Capital on the 10th, from Tlaxcala, says that the inhabitants of that place had addressed a petition of Gen. Scott, asking protection of him, as a chief of guerrillas, Portillo, was constantly annoying them. The Monitor says that it seems the Tlaxcaltecos wish to imitate their predecessors during the time when Spaniards went to conquer them.

Attack on Gen. Scott. –A correspondent from Puebla, writes on the 7th to a friend in the capital, that the American forces are scarcely 6,000 men, and as General Scott could not leave that place for some time, it would be good policy to have the Mexican forces marched to Puebla and there attack the Americans, who were not prepared for an effective defence.

July 13, 1847, RW47v24n56p4c4 From the Brazos

From the Brazos

The schooner H. L. Scranton, arrived at New Orleans on the 2d inst. From Brazos Santiago, having sailed thence on the 26th ult.

By this arrival the Picayune has the Matamoros Flag of the 23d ult.

It reports that four members of the 1st. Illinois regiment on the march from Camargo to Reynosa, unarmed and having fallen in the rear of the regiment, were attacked by a party of about 20 Mexicans and loosed and robbed of their money, without doing them further injury.

July 13, 1847, RW47v24n56p4c4 From Tampico

From Tampico

The schooner Sarah Elizabeth, Capt. Webb, arrived at New Orleans on the 1st inst. From Tampico, having left there on the 24th of June.

The Picayune learns from Mr. Mitchell that the English steamer Avon was lying of the bar, landing quicksilver. –She would shortly proceed on her voyage, touching at her several appointed ports, but she would take little or no specie with her, as in consequence of the guerrilla parties it is deemed unsafe to transport even merchandise in the interior without a large escort of troops. Tampico feels sensibly this state of things.

The accounts of the health of the city are at variance. –While Capt. Webb represents that the Louisiana regiment is suffering dreadfully from the fever –less than one–fourth fit for duty– the Sentinel, of the 20th ult, says the health of the town continues good, with the [unintelligible] of some cases of intermittent fever.

The U.S. bomb–brig Hecla. Lieut Com’g Fairfax is blockading the port of Soto la Matina.

–Another requisition. –The Secretary of War has made another requisition on Louisiana. The present one, just received by Gov. Johnson, is for two companies of mounted gunmen. The scene of their duty is to Vera Cruz and its environs.

July 16, 1847, RW47v24n57p1c4 Interesting from Tampico

Interesting from Tampico

By late arrivals at New Orleans, advices have been received from Tampico to the 27th ult. A letter to the Picayune, of the date, says:

*Cassins M. Clay, Major Borland and the American prisoners are expected in town to–morrow or next day. –The three companies of the 11th Regiment of Infantry, now awaiting transportation to Vera Cruz, have been ordered up
The Picayune has received information, from other sources, corroborating the foregoing statement, as to the release of the prisoners, and their being ordered to Tampico, guarded by a strong detachment; and adds, what is calculated to excite some uneasiness, that “the verbal reports are to the effect that when the prisoners had reached within 150 miles of Tampico, they were met by Urrea, who detained them as prisoners; and further, that Urrea had ordered out all the men of the country for the purpose of making an attack upon Tampico. It appears to be certain that three companies of the 11th Infantry, which were waiting at Tampico bar transportation for Vera Cruz, were ordered up into the city. Every man there was under arms, expecting the town to be attacked. The Picayune adds, however, that it has heard such frequent rumors of an immediate attack upon Tampico, that very little attention is paid to them, though the present alarm, it says, appears to be better founded than usual.

If it be true, as stated by the Washington correspondent of the Charleston Couriers, that the President, six weeks ago, in conversation with a military man, said that General Scott was at that moment in the city of Mexico, he must have been very much disappointed by the latest advices from that quarter. The officer, in reply, is said to have assured the President that he was mistaken, and farther, that Gen. Scott would do well to get to Mexico by the 1st of January next. For our own part, we think it very unimportant, so far as its capturo will influence the duration of the war, whether Gen. Scott be at this time in Puebla or in the Halls of the Montezumas; unless, indeed, it be true, as the Washington correspondent of the New York Courier, who speaks generally in an eracural vein, and in whose opinion therefore we have very little confidence, says "is suspected by some of our friends at Puebla, that is the determination of Santa Anna, when next defeated by Gen. Scott, to permit himself to be captured, and ask to be sent out of the country, under our protection, as the surest means of escaping death or expulsion." Should this surmise, however, be verified by the result, it is to be hoped that Mr. Polk will not again send Santa Anna back to Mexico, to aid him in "conquering a peace."

July 16, 1847, RW47v24n57p2c1 Rumors of Peace

From the Seat of War.
Rumors of Peace.

The intelligence from the seat of war, to which we devoted so much space this morning, is interesting, though not decisive in its character. Gen. Scott was still at Puebla on the last of June, and it is not at all probable therefore that he celebrated the 4th of July in “the imperial city of the Aztecs,” especially as it was understood that he was awaiting the arrival of the new levies on their way to reinforce him, about 2000 of which, under Generals Cadwallader and Pillow, were daily expected, while 2500 more, under General Pierce, would soon take up the line of march from Vera Cruz.

The reader will observe, from the interesting letters of Mr. Kendall to the Picayune, that it was the prevalent opinion at headquarters that peace would soon be restored, although the writer was not without misgivings as to the authenticity of the rumors upon which this opinion was founded, and the accuracy of which is rendered still farther questionable by accounts received by the editors of the Picayune, direct from the city of Mexico, of a contrary tenor. We shall look for the termination of hostilities not until a treaty shall have been signed; and even then, it will depend materially upon the character of its provisions and upon the circumstances connected with its negotiation whether we may feel justified in congratulating the country upon the actual cessation of hostilities.

What may be the nature of the ultimatum which Gen. Scott (or Mr. Trist, if he has been clothed exclusively with diplomatic authority) has been instructed to propose to the Mexican Government, it is of course impossible to conjecture; and yet it is obvious, that should the Mexican authorities and people de willing or even solicitous to terminate the war, it will materially depend upon the character of the terms offered to them whether that result is likely to be speedily attained. They may be anxious to discontinue a contest in which they cannot hope to be finally or even partially successful; but they may nevertheless, should the conditions exacted of them be in their judgment too onerous and humiliating, determine to protract the conflict, at the risk of their total subjugation, and the annihilation even of their national existence.

In a late editorial on this subject, in the Washington Union, which we supposed expresses the views and purposes of the Executive, we observe a paragraph, in which, after dwelling upon the desire of the Administration to secure a just and honorable peace, we are told, that “it is resolved now, as it has been from the first to accept no terms of peace from Mexico, save such as will do full justice to the rights of the country, to the claims of our injured fellow citizens, to the objects of the war, and to our nations honor.” Although these are phrases of vague import, with a single exception, perhaps no one will be disposed to demur to them. "The objects of the war” are of course locked up in the breast of the Executive, with whom it originated. We should indeed be very much gratified if we could be enlightened upon this point by the President’s Organ. What are “the objects of the war,” apart from the vindication of our rights and honor? Is the acquisition of territory by force, which the President knew he could not obtain by negotiation, one of them? If so, (and we believe that it was its main object,) most fortunate for the country will it be if the Administration shall be thwarted in its purpose, if not by the obstinacy of the enemy, by the voice of the people of the United Sates, a large majority of whom, we are satisfied, do not desire an extension, by such means, if by any means, of our territorial limits.

[NO]
Texas and Oregon

The passion for enlarging our boundaries has been already, we apprehend, fully gratified. The people begin to perceive that the bargain by which Texas was acquired will prove to have been a most disadvantageous one in the end, even in a pecuniary point of view; while the fallacy of the assumption, so boldly maintained while the question of annexation was pending, that its acquisition would increase the facilities of defence for our Southern frontier, is already clearly shown, as it would have been still more disastrously demonstrated had not the wisdom and moderation of the Senate, on the Oregon question, averted a war with Great Britain. For, with Mexico as her ally, she would have found a pathway through Texas, insusceptible in that event as it would have been of defence, into the very heart of the Southern portion of the Union. And yet had the settlement of that grave question been left to the "pre-eminent ability" of Mr. Polk, we should at this moment have been at war both with England and Mexico; and we leave it for his partizans to tell us what in that event would have been the probable condition of our Southern frontier, so greatly extended by annexation of Texas, and so much more exposed to the inroads of an enemy by its sparse population, and by its total destitution of artificial means of defence? Instead of overrunning Mexico and bombarding her towns and cities, we should have found full employment in defending our own. Justly censurable, therefore, as Mr. Polk is for unconstitutionality making war upon Mexico, he is far less worthy of indignation for the mischiefs that have resulted from the act of usurpation, than he is for the evils which he has only failed to bring upon the country by the firmness with which the Senate rebuked the ignorance which claimed a territory that did not belong to us, and the obstinacy with which that claim was pressed to the very verge of war.

Never we venture to say, when the Swedish Chancellor bade his son "behold with how little wisdom a nation may be governed," had he witnessed so wonderful a combination of folly and perverseness in the Rulers of a nation, as that exhibited by the present Administration in the conduct of our foreign relations –one of the results of which has been the war with Mexico, all the legitimate and proper "objects" of which could have been as certainly as attained, without it while a far more serious war with Great Britain would have been another of its necessary frits, had the President found in the Senate men equally as ignorant as himself of the grounds of the controversy between the two countries, and equally as reckless in maintaining a claim the justice of which he was unable to show, while he had not the magnanimity to withdraw it except on compulsion, when its injustice had been demonstrated by his own friends.

Gen. Scott and Mr. Trist

We copied, a few days ago, the emphatic contradiction, by the Washington Union, of the various statements, in relation to the controversy between Gen. Scott and Mr. Trist, growing out of an alleged interference by the latter with the proper authority of the former as commander in chief of our armies in Mexico. The Union stated "positively, that all these accusations against the Administration, of giving Mr. Trist any authority to interfere in any form, or in the slightest degree, with Gen. Scott's military command, are absolutely and totally without foundation."

The New York Courier and Enquirer, which had been prominent in making the accusations thus positively and officially denied, repeats them in the face of that denial, and reaffirms their essential truth. It says: "Mr. Trist did enclosed to Gen. Scott a despatch from the Department of War, giving him (Trist) power to conclude an armistice with the Mexican Government; and Gen. Scott, in reply, informed Mr. Trist, that, from the perusal of that despatch, it was evidently the intention of the Department of degrade him from the command of the army, and to make him subordinate to Mr. Trist. We assert this (says the Courier) as a fact within our own knowledge; and if the editor of the Union speaks the truth when he says he has inquired carefully into the matter, and if he has has had access to papers now on file in the War Department, the fact is within his knowledge also. Whether the Administration did actually give to Mr. Trist all the power he attempted to exercise or not, the Union may consider matter of opinion. Gen. Scott from a perusal of the Secretary's letter, had no doubt whatever of the intention of the Executive virtually to supersede him, by making him subordinate to Mr. Trist; and he at once informed that gentleman that he could not exercise the power which he had claimed, and which the instructions of the War Department conferred upon him, while he (Scott) remained at the head of the army."

We shall doubtless hear more of this action. [From the N. O. Picayune, July 8]

Important From Mexico
Latest from the Army of Gen. Scott.


The steamship Alabama arrived at an early hour yesterday from Vera Cruz, touching at the Brazos. She left the former port on the 2d of July and the latter on the 4th.

The following passengers come over Alabama from Vera Cruz: Capt. A.R. Hetzel, assistant quartermaster; Dr. A.H. Saunders, late bearer of the despatches from the Government to Gen. Scott; Messrs E.G. Elliot and C. Finley, of the army, and Messrs Fisher, Tobler, Folly, Richards, Carpenter, Tenbrick, Hardin, Tai, Moore, McCall, Mrs. Goates, and thirty discharged teamsters. The following passengers are from the Brazos: Capt. Carrington, Lieuts Kinney and Ashby, and Messrs J.T. Weisger and Wm C Hogg, of Virginia Regiment; and Capt. Chas Clarke and Acker, and Lieut Gouvenoux, of the 2d Mississipi Regiment.

By this arrival we have direct advices from Mexico to the morning of the 29th of June, and from Puebla to the 30th.

Gen. Scott had not then been able to leave Puebla. He was awaiting the reinforcements under Gen. Cadwalader and Gen. Pillow, who had not then arrived. [Some of the papers mention that Gen. Cadwalader arrived at Puebla on the 30th. Letter from Mr. Kendall of that date make no mention of it, though he was constantly expected. He was at Perote about the 20th, awaiting Gen. Pillow.]

The news from the city of Mexico is very indefinite. –Gen. Scott is said to have communicated to the Government that Mr. Trist was with him authorized to negotiate for a peace. Santa Anna had been in vain endeavoring to procure a quorum of Congress to lay Gen. Scott’s communication before it. Mr. Kendall’s letters rather encourage the prospects of an early peace; but we have had access to letter from a very responsible source in the city of Mexico which take a very different view of the subject. The writer thinks Gen. Scott will have to march into Mexico to secure a peace.

The censorship of the press existing in Mexico prevents us from knowing what measures to defence the city will be taken. Santa Anna was to leave the capital on the 30th ult. Intending to pass three days in the country for the benefit of his health. It is said that every avenue of entrance into the city is fortified, but the writer in Mexico, upon whom we very much rely, thinks the American army will easily overcome all such obstacles –that the defence of their fortifications will only embarrass the Mexicans.

We are unable to throw much light upon the movements of Gen. Cadwalader and Gen. Pillow. The latter is said to have been compelled to contest the road with the guerrilla parties, till he was beyond Cerro Gordo. Guerrilleros took advantage of every defile to resist his progress. His loss is said to have been severe.

We have by this arrival a file of the “American Star No 2,” published twice a week at Puebla, by Messrs. Peoples, Barnard & Callahan. The file extends from the 12th to the 27th June, and we glean from its columns several items of intelligence.

The Government of the city of Puebla has been entrusted to Lt. Col. Belton, of the 3d Artillery.

Gen Alvarex was at Atlixco on the 14th of June with 300 Mexican cavalry. The Star thinks his forces have been greatly overrated.

A long elaborated letter is published in the Star, in Spanish and English, addressed to the people of Mexico, by and officer of the American army. We have read but portions of it, but it appears a calm, familiar statement, aimed and well calculated to teach Mexicans how unfounded are their inveterate prejudices against the United States, and the futility on their part of a further prosecution of the war. We may recur to it.

A correspondent of El Monitor Republcanico, writing from Puebla, says: “Gen. Scott, with all his engineer corps and a number of other officers, proceeded to Cholula the other day, and, after ascending the pyramid, agreed at once to fortify the place.” He thinks it is only throwing salt to the fishes to fortify so out of the way a place. The truth of the business is, says the Star, that Gen. Scott never went there at all, but that Generals Quitman, Twiggs, Col. Harney and a party of officers, hearing of the pyramid and wishing to see the spot rendered so notorious by the massacre of Cholulans by Cortez, did go; but the idea of fortifying was farthest from the thought.

The Star says there is three months’ provisions in the city for the army, and that the fields around the city supply all the forage necessary.

A Mexican named Heredia has been detected by his countrymen on his way from the capital to Puebla with drawings of the different fortifications around the capital. –He was tried and condemned as a spy and a traitor, and was condemned to be shot on the 21st ult. The fellow made his escape the morning of the 21st.

The Mexicans are using every inducement to make our men desert, and with some success, but those who have
We were told yesterday by a person who had advices from Mexico as late as the 20th, that the American prisoners residents knocking about as usual. extended to them, and as far as I can see has had very limited effect, for I observe the well known American troubles them –I see Maj. Gaines and others daily. –The decree ordering the other Americans away was not is not the case. They have been at liberty for a long time past, and saunter about the streets like other people. No "I observe in the 'Star' you sent me, that it is said that the American prisoners are kept in confinement here, which does not credit this report.

The following paragraph is extracted from a letter dated in Mexico on the 17th instant:

"On Sunday morning last, the 20th, a party of Americans, not connected with the army, left here for a hacienda on the road to Mexico –say about eighteen miles distant. The object in view by the party, eight in number, was the purchasing of mules for the Government; and after they have bargained for a number, to be brought in the next day to Puebla, they prepared to leave, but were prevailed on to defer their departure until after dinner. The repast was served up in good style, and after it was partaken of, the host refusing to receive any pay whatever, the horses were brought out and the party mounted. They were warned not to go too near a village on their left, as some five or six hundred soldiers were quartered there, and if we mistake not, a Mexican was preparing a horse to accompany them along a bye path in the mountains, when a party of lancers were discovered riding up to the hacienda. The little party of Americans started off in a slow gallop, their leader telling them to save the horses until it would be necessary to run. In this way they proceeded some distance, the soldiers continuing to decrease the distance between them, when it was proposed to go a little faster. A half a minute had not elapsed with the increased gait, before they came upon another party of the enemy, formed across the road. To attempt to pass them would have been foolishness; so they halted, and through their interpreter, informed the captain that they were Americans, but not connected with the army. The pursuing lancers were now close upon them, and before a proper answer had been returned, came charging down the hill in such manner as to leave the boys doubtful as their intentions; so they prepared themselves for an attack, which was soon commenced by the Mexican force, numbering near eighty men. After a brief engagement, during which the Mexicans crowded upon one another so fast that they could scarcely use their arms, Mr. Dickinson, who had been severely wounded in the thigh with a lance, touched his blood mare with the spur, and she made an opening in the enemy's ranks running down one or two horses, and showing the others aside so as to effect his escape. During this operation another of the party who had been unhorsed and wounded, slid off into a ditch, where he concealed himself until night, and got into the city next morning. Dickinson was chased by two lancers to the river, closed by, at which place he shot the foremost one, and then making his way to an Indian hut, concealed himself until next morning, when he started for and entered the city about 9 o'clock."

All the Americans in this affair were wounded, and one named John Kinsey is supposed to have been killed. Another man Wallbridge has written a letter back to Puebla from Atlixco. He had been ordered to Mexico. The rest of the party, not named, are supposed to be prisoners also, although there was a report that all had been shot. –The Star does not credit this report.

The following paragraph is extracted from a letter dated in Mexico on the 17th instant:

"I observe in the 'Star' you sent me, that it is said that the American prisoners are kept in confinement here, which is not the case. They have been at liberty for a long time past, and saunter about the streets like other people. No one troubles them –I see Maj. Gaines and others daily. –The decree ordering the other Americans away was not extended to them, and as far as I can see has had very limited effect, for I observe the well known American residents knocking about as usual."

We were told yesterday by a person who had advices from Mexico as late as the 20th, that the American prisoners were in confinement in Santiago. It may be that our friend on the 17th is not a strict observer of affairs, and that the reincarceration of our men was not known to him. It may even be that Major Gaines and Borland are at liberty, and none others.

We give this paragraph as we find it. The inference from it to our minds is that the prisoners were yet in Mexico as late as the 20th ult. If this were so, the report brought here on Tuesday from Tampico is likely to be unfounded. We regret that we have no means of clearing up the doubt.

The Star reports that the Prefect of Puebla recently ran off to Atlixco, taking with him all the city funds. He published and address to the people, giving an explanation of his conduct.

By this arrival we have the result of Com. Perry's second expedition against Tabasco. This time he was entirely successful. We have a letter from a gallant officer, enclosing to us a sketch of the river Tabasco from Devil's Bend, so called, to the city, showing the landing and march of Com. Perry's force, which consisted of eleven hundred seamen and marines and ten field pieces. An account of the expedition by an accomplished surgeon in the navy, which accompanied the map, has failed to reach us as yet. But the map almost tells the story. The town was taken on the 16th of June. The expedition anchored in a very sharp turn of the river called the Devil's bend, and was fired into from an ambuscade. A little higher up the landing of Com. Perry is marked upon the left or north bank of the river. The route from this point which the commodore pursued is traced on the map up to Fort Iturbide, which is a short distance below the city. The fort was manned by 200 regulars under Gen. Echagaray, commandant general of the State. The point is marked on the map where Bruno’s Civicos fired into the commodore's steamer from an ambuscade this is below the Devil’s Turn. The next point of interest is the breast work where Lieut. May was wounded. So far our map tells us the story; the rest requires but few words: the forts which defend the town yielded
to the guns of the fleet, before the land expedition could get into action. The enemy stood but one discharge of artillery. Lieut. May, it is said, had his harm broken and one other officer was wounded. A sufficient force was left behind to hold the town, and the commodore returned to the station off Anton Lizardo on the 29th ult.

A rumor was current in Vera Cruz on the morning of the 1st instant, that Gen. Scott had entered the city of Mexico, and that Gen. Pillow had been captured by the guerrilla parties. We know the former report to be false, and believe the latter to be. Our Vera Cruz correspondent put no faith in either story.

Our letters from Mr. Kendall were dispatched by him, by a special courier, and reached Vera Cruz the evening of the 1st instant. We have a few Mexicans papers by the same conveyance.

We append two letters from Vera Cruz correspondent, for the local news contained in them, though not of the latest date.

July 16, 1847, RW47v24n57p2c4 Vera Cruz

[Special Correspondence of the Picayune]

Vera Cruz, June 28, 1847.

I wish I had something in the shape of interesting news to communicate, but although I have seen letters one day later than has been forwarded to New Orleans, they contain nothing of interest.

The expedition which left here on Saturday to try to recover some goods captured from the train under Col. McIntosh, which were said to be near Santa Fe, as well as for other purposes, returned last night without effecting anything.

So many reports have been started and published concerning the health of the castle that I beg leave to furnish you with the following facts, which I have been kindly permitted to extract from the reports and journals kept there.

Since the capitulation of the city and castle of San Juan de Ulua, the latter has been garrisoned permanently by company G of the 1st Infantry, under the command of Brevet Major Backus. The Phoenix company of Louisiana volunteers were on duty there for about two weeks, and there were also in the castle a number of American and Mexican prisoners undergoing sentence or awaiting trial, varying from ten to twenty.

The deaths at the castle from the commencement to the present time are as follows:

Month of April, Co. G, 1st Infantry 2

Month of May, Co. G, 1st Infantry 1

Month of May, Phoenix Co. 2

Month of May, Prisoners 3

Month of June, Prisoners 1

Total deaths 9.

There were also two or three prisoners carried to the city hospital for treatment who are said to have died at vomito, but there were but one or two of them who died at the castle which were pronounced vomito. Dr. Wickham was also carried to town and died several days after.

The proportion of sickness was greatest in the month of May, and least the 20th June, when it was reduced to one man. The sick report yesterday called for eight, but seven of these were able to walk. The most common disease is diarrhea but in so trifling a form that it is easily stopped.

One death from vomito has occurred on board the Potomac, as I have been informed by an officer of the ship, but there is but little sickness on board.
Vera Cruz, June 28, 1847

On Saturday last about 800 horses and mules escaped from the pen through either the carelessness of the man in charge, or, as some suppose, it may have been done intentionally, and although a considerable mounted force has been sent out to try and recover them, they returned last night without success. There is no doubt but that the guerrillas had a hand in it, and as soon as the horses and mules reached the point where they were prepared to receive them, they no doubt hurried them out of the reach of the party sent to recover them. The misfortune will be severely felt by the Quartermaster's Department here, as these horses and mules were intended particularly for the transportation of the baggage and provisions of the troops which are daily arriving, and who may be detained for the want of them. There may be sufficient number left to despatch the troops now here, who will doubtless leave the latter part of the week, but for the others who are expected I fear that we shall have to look to New Orleans for the means of transportation, and in the meantime our poor soldiers will have to lie here subject to all diseases of the climate.

June 29th. –Lieut. Merryfield, of Capt. Ford's company of 3d Dragoons, committed suicide this morning, in Capt. Duperu's tent, by blowing his brains out with a pistol. His appearance indicated a free use of opium, and it is generally supposed the he was laboring under its effects when he committed the horrid act.

The guerrillas have threatened a descent upon Tlacotalpan, and are said to be about 300 strong in the neighborhood.

Although there is a sufficient number of troops here to hold the city against an attack, there are not the means to keep in subjection the marauding parties which constantly hover about the city, and until we get about 300 Rangers here to scour the country daily, there will be no security for such Government property as it is impossible to keep within the wall of the city.

The vomito is rather on the decrease, which I think, is partially owing to the want of subjects of the city. The troops that have arrived are encamped three miles distant and few cases of yellow fever occur there, but those who are brought in with other complaints frequently turn into the vomito.

Yours, truly.

July 16, 1847, RW47v24n57p2c4 From Puebla

[Editorial Correspondence of the Picayune.]

Puebla, Mexico, June 29, 1847.

The ever–varying, ever–changing kaleidoscope of Mexican politics, which but few days since presented a phase all red, sanguinary and belligerent, by the single turn which the rising and going down of the sun has given it, presents a new and most pacific aspect this morning. As another revolution of the machine may bring another change, and that within the tolling of a few short hours on the city clock, I shall wait until the last moment before I give you what may be termed the prospects of a peace.

Within the last two days some twelve or fifteen prisoners, Mexicans, who have been confined for different periods from one to ten or more years, have been liberated by Gen. Scott. That some of them have been guilty of gross and most heinous crimes there can be no doubt, but that they are any worse than those who incarcerated them is questionable. So long have some of them been confined, that even the original charges against them have been lost—one of them says that all he ever did against the law was to strike an officer for insulting his wife. It was a study to watch the faces of the poor devils as they were brought from their dens to be questioned as to their past delinquencies, and again to see their eager looks as they once more stepped forth free and saw the face of the blessed sun of which they have been so long deprived. Their families, too, hearing that they were to be liberated, crowded around the threshold of the prison; and the different groupings fromed a picture which will not be forgotten by those who witnessed it. The hair of one prisoner, although his face denoted that he had not even yet reached middle life, was perfectly white. Another prisoner, a Frenchman, was one of the most noble specimens of humanity I have ever seen. He had been incarcerated several years, charged with aiding in some robbery on the road, but had never been brought to trial.

Our latest paper form the capital are to the 22d inst., from Atlixco we have El Nacional of the 26th. Santa Anna is striking boldly at the liberty of the press, and hence we are unable, through the papers, to come at the true state of affairs at the city of Mexico. Senor Sojo, the printer of the Bulletin of Democracy (Boletín de la Democracia) has been sent to Acapulco, whilst Senor Eufemio Romero, the principal writer of the la Calalvera, has been packed off to San Luis at a moment's warning. Torres, the editor of El Monitor Republicano has been repeatedly threatened by the authorities with imprisonment, but notwithstanding these threats keeps up a constant fire at Santa Anna and his ministers. Why he, too, is not sent off, it is hard to say.

Ibarra has been appointed Minister of Foreign Relations, and Vicente Romero, of Justice. Both are said to be ultra
Puros, and with little or no character. It is asserted that no honest man will take office under the present Government, and a dishonest one does not appear to retain it more than eighty–and–forty hours.

The Mexican papers continue to brag about the successes of the guerrillas between Vera Cruz and Jalapa. We shall know with what reason when the train comes up.

A letter from Mazatlan, dated June 2d, states that that neighborhood has been declared under martial law. The U.S. ship Independence sailed from Mazatlan on the 1st instant, destination not intentioned, leaving Cyane only off the bar.

The only article I have seen in any of the Mexican journals, relating particularly to the action of the Congress on the question of peace, is the following in El Monitor Republicano of the 22inst. The editor says:

“A communication has been addressed to our Government form gen. Scott, at Puebla, in which the arrival there of a commissioner from the United States, fully empowered for the adjustment of a peace, is announced; but it has been sent to the Congress for that body to deliberate on so important affair. We think that a sufficient number of deputies will no assemble; and should this be the case, the absentees will appear in our columns, in order that the public being made acquainted with them may never return them again.”

This is the English of the entire article, but what the editor is driving at in the last clause it is difficult to make out. It may be that he threatens to expose the absent members because he wishes them to appear and vote against listening to any propositions of peace, and it may be exactly the reverse. He must be a shrewd observer who can tell from what a Mexican editor says one day what his feelings will be the next.

I wrote you a few days since, giving you a small specimen of the ravings of one the San Luis editors on the subject to coming with the vile North American vandals. He said that his State would never listen to propositions of peace until gen. Scott was on his knees kissing the hands of Santa Anna, and Gen. Taylor was chained in one of the Gen. Valencia's stables, but the man was evidently excited when he said all this. A wag of an officer at my side says that if they do chain old "Rough and Ready" in a stable, they will find him standing up to the rack. The writer form the same paper –El Estandarte de los Chinacates– handles Gen. Scott severely for his Jalapa proclamation. I shall endeavor to forward you the paper, with the hope that you may read and transfer his ravings for the benefit of those fond of tomahawking and scalping style.

We have a thousand and one conflicting rumors in relation to the upward bound train under Gens. Pillow and Cadwalader, and as many reports about the movements, who are said to be leagued in the attempt to cut it off. The train, maugre all the attempts of the Pintos, guerrillas and others, will be along in the course of a day or two.

Yours, G. W. K.
[NO]

July 16, 1847, RW47v24n57p2c4 More from Puebla

Puebla, Mexico, June 30, 1847

All the talk now is of peace, immediate peace, with the great Mexican nation, and those who talked but a short week since of revealing in the halls of the Montezumas, now appear to think they are just about as near the aforesaid halls as they ever will be. I hardly know what to think of the matter. The arrival of heavy reinforcements known to be on the way for Gen. Scott, combined with the loss of confidence the Mexicans leaders have in themselves and their followers, have turned their feelings to a degree, and the most belligerent among them may now really be in favor of coming to terms. Santa Anna himself, although he will be very far from starting the ball, will doubtless help to keep it in motion when it is once under way. His very salvation depends upon it. He knows that he will be defeated and lose all if he makes another stand; by making cat's–paws of some of the members of Congress, and getting them to look with an eye of favor upon propositions of peace, he thinks he may be able to second their movement's if everything looks favorable, and finally himself reap all the benefits that may grow out of it. What the propositions are that have been made to the Mexican Government few here know; but what with British interference, and the timidity of the Mexicans leaders, they have evidently been listened to.

Three days since and hardly a man in Gen. Scott's army thought that there was a hope of coming to terms with the enemy; now, the tune has changed, and many of the officers are even talking of the chances of avoiding and escaping the vomito on their way home. With all the cry of peace, I am not one of those who think that our affairs with Mexico are yet settled. A great deal depends upon circumstances. Should the upper train, containing as is supposed a large sum of money, meet with a reverse, the Mexicans would be emboldened to offer fresh resistance; should Santa Anna find, on counting noses, that a majority are against him in any committee appointed by Congress, he will be found among the first to scoff at any idea of terms with the perfidious Yankees; should in fact, anything turn up out of which the Dictator may make capital himself, no matter whether for or against the best interests of his dearly beloved (?) country, he will embrace it for his own aggrandizement. He wants time, he wants to procrastinate, he wants to delay the approach of Gen. Scott upon the capital —in short, he wants to do anything which may aid and further his own ambitious schemes.
I might run on for hours with speculations as to the present condition and future prospect of this war with Mexico; but as it would all end in speculation, I shall close with a few remarks which may be taken for what they are worth. Santa Anna, tired of fighting the Americans, is anxious to make peace with them, although fearful of openly to avowing it. The military are anxious to see the war continued, as the only means by which they can support themselves; the leperos, the ragamuffins of the country, care but little, one way or the other, how affairs go, so that they can steal enough to supply themselves of blankets, chinguirite, and frijoles and tortillas sufficient to support life. The Indians care for nothing and they are the most numerous class. The priest—perhaps I should have placed them at the top of the list—are anxious to preserve their position and their riches. All these feelings and interest—after taking into consideration that all hate and despise us—you may mix up and then make out the chances for a peace.

I do not know that any one has reflected much upon this subject, but to me it seems that this thing of making peace is to be a more difficult matter than making war upon the Mexicans, and will be surrounded with greater perplexities. Texas has to be brought into question, other boundaries taken into consideration. California is to be a bone of contention, indemnifications and cost of war are to be called into account, and a thousand other matters will be found in the catalogue of stumbling blocks in the way of an amicable arrangement of the difficulties. The “three millions,” after Santa Anna has helped himself—for the must be thought of first will not go far, in way of salve or cordial for the many wounds under which poor Mexico is suffering, and there will be other provisos than Willmot’s for increasing the sum.

Let me conclude this hasty scrawl. The talk, as I said at the outset, is now of peace; but it will all end in Santa Anna’s advancement or his utter downfall. In all his diplomatic arrangements—whenever he has been allowed to argue his point—he has invariably a winner; at this game, so no how or other, he always turns everything to his own advantage, or at least always has so far. How he will succeed in his present scheme remains to be seen, but he should, and probably will, be closely watched. A few days will bring us out of the doubt and uncertainty in which every thing is at present enveloped, and I shall make opportunities to keep you informed of every thing that transpires.

G. W. K.

[NO]

July 16, 1847, RW47v24n57p2c5 From Mexico City

From the City of Mexico

We have papers from the city of Mexico to the 22d of June, but not a perfect file. Santa Anna has again been tampering with the freedom of the press. One of his first acts upon resuming the reins of government on the 20th of May was to abrogate the decree of Anaya shackling the press. The press enjoyed their freedom thus obtained nearly one month. On the 18th of June Sr. Vicente G. Torres, the proprietor of El Monitor Republicano, was summoned to the presence of Gen. Gutierrez and informed that President Santa Anna had ordered that he should be sent off at once to Acapulco if he continued the publication of such articles as had hitherto appeared in the Monitor in opposition to the Government. He was expressly forbidden to speak of the generals, to say anything disrespectful of the army, or to discourage the war. Senor Torres replied in a very spirited manner to the governor, and his papers have not ceased its opposition to Santa Anna and his measures. The editors affect to believe that the verbal threat was merely intended to frighten to the proprietor.

A like message was communicated to the Republicano. Thereupon Senor Otero, who has been acting as editor of that able paper, in the absence of Senor Cumplido, at once withdrew from the paper. He refuses to write under the restrictions imposed upon him.

The editor of the Calavera, a satirical paper, was sent off by an order of the President to san Luis Potosi, and the paper discontinued by the proprietors. The editor of the Boletin de la Democracia, Senor Sojo, has been sent off to Acapulco. His paper was considered the organ of Gomez Farias. While such measures are taken to keep the press in subjection, our readers will not expect to derive much information from such papers as have reached us.

To test how far the laws will protect the citizens against the arbitrary edicts of Government, Senor Torres had determined to bring the acts of Gen. Gutierrez before the Supreme Court, and demand punishment upon him for his infractions of the constitutional rights of the citizens. This will probably lead to some yet more arbitrary act of the Government, and we shall perhaps hear that Torres has been packed off to some remote prison. He is accustomed to these things.

The papers contain accounts of the assaults of the guerrilla parties upon the trains from Vera Cruz. It was supposed that Gen. Alvarez would join Father Jarauta and continue to harass the trains. Several communications are published from Governor Soto in which he assures the Government that he will take the promptest measures to cut off all communication between Vera Cruz and Jalapa. He says that guerrilla parties were rapidly collecting upon the route, and he contemplated taking possession of Jalapa. He announces in one of his letters that the American sick and wounded at Jalapa were all to be left their “entrusted to the generosity and humanity of Mexicans.” We believe, on the contrary, that all our sick and wounded were removed early to Perote. The impression is that the command of Gen. Cadwalader awaited at Perote the arrival of Gen. Pillow, but in regard to the movements of these generals we
are let almost entirely in the dark.

An official statement is given in the Mexican papers of the forces under the orders of Gen. Taylor on the 20th of May, with a minute account of the strength of each position from the mouth of the Rio Grande to Saltillo. The volunteers which have lately returned are included in this enumeration. The Mexicans were aware that they were to be disbanded and their places supplied by fresh troops.

The Monitor of the 22d ult. Says that our army at Puebla had lost from 250 to 300 men by sickness, death and desertion. It mentions, too, that four or five months’ pay was due to our troops, and that in consequence of this the 6th Infantry had refused on the 18th ult. to turn out when ordered for drill. This all gammon, of course.

The American army is twitted with having boasted that they would spend the 4th of July in the capital, while the truth is, say the Mexicans, that their reinforcements instead of reaching Puebla, have got stuck in the mud upon the route.

An opposition paper says that when Americans learned that Canalizo had been appointed to the command in the State of Puebla Gen. Scott was highly delighted; and that Worth and old Twiggs (thus irreverently are they named) declared that if these 8000 cavalry were under his command they were safer than in their own houses.

An official letter is published dated the 14th June from Sna Juan de los Llanos announcing that an American train had been attacked above Cerro Gordo, and forty wagons were taken. This probably refers to the attack upon the trains under Col. McIntosh, which is often alluded to.

In Mr. Kendall’s letter allusion is made to a loan called for by Santa Anna. The decree referred to is dated the 17th of June and imposes contribution of one million of dollars upon the Federal district, and the States and Territories not occupied by the enemy. The apportionment of the amount among the different States would not interest our readers. The contribution is to be enforced by the authorities of the different States, &c. respectively—no one to be compelled to pay over $2000, or less than $25. Ten days are allowed to apportion the contributions among individuals in the most equitable manner. Individuals are allowed just three days to pay their respective quotas; if they make default, they are condemned to pay twice the amount.

The entrance of Victor Romero into the ministry of Justice and Religious Affairs is scolded at by the Mexican papers. The Monitor Republicano pronounces it equivalent to another defeat by the enemy.

The pressure upon our time columns has been such that we have done little more than glance hastily at the Mexican papers before us. They do not, however, contain news of movement; yet we may recur to them another day.

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July 16, 1847, RW47v24n57p2c5 From Vera Cruz

From Vera Cruz Sun

Late and Important Intelligence form the city of Mexico.

Letters were received in this city, yesterday afternoon, bearing date Mexico, 15th June, from which we gather the following intelligence:

The Presidential election did not take place as it was previously reported, and the Mexican Congress has adjourned after giving Gen. Santa Anna extraordinary powers, with the restriction that he shall not enter into negotiations for peace. Measures have been taken for the most vigorous defence of the capital. The election for President having been postponed until Sep. Next, General Santa Anna will act as such till then.

Gen. Lombardini, has been nominated General in-Chief of the Mexican army, which is gathering in the city of Mexico. It is very difficult to state the correct amount of the troops, the regiments not being all composed of the same number of men; some of them are only 150 strong.—One of the letters states that the forces in the city amounted to 20,000, and that they were daily increasing.

Gen. Alcorta has written a document recommending a plan of campaign in the guerrilla system: marching 10,000 men to the rear of Gen. Scott, to cut off his supplies and preventing him from being reinforced; and with the remainder of the forces, attack his front. This plan is the favorite of the Mexican people, but Santa Anna is opposed to it, and intends giving the Americans another general battle. —(A Cerro Gordo affair.)

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July 20, 1847, RW47v24n58p1c1 This War and Its Generals
Once more to history and I am done: “When Presidents, Kings or Emperors confide armies to soldiers of common
states. Now, may doctors suddenly turn judges; carpenters, saddlers; and cabinet-makers, statesmen and
White House presided over the levees of the East room, or the merest pettifogger be Chief of Justice of the United
Col. Haskell and others, would command the whole army in Mexico!! Far, far better had the door-keeper of the
Gen. Scott now from his command, Gen. Pillow, late of the Tennessee militia, now under the serious imputations of
elevated from merited mediocrity over the heads of scientific, experienced and able Generals. Should any thing take
Mr. Jefferson, but reversed it –by which the soldiers are lead by untried and inexperienced civilians, suddenly
them, rejoiced in being lead by tried and experienced men.” President Polk has not only disregarded the system of
“Continental officers were substituted IN THE HIGHER COMMANDS, for those of the militia; which although not
Administration have set at nought one of his bets examples When Governor of Virginia, he adopted a system by
"Little minds,” says the author, “always, in difficulty, resort to cunning, miscalling it wisdom: this quality seems to
have been predominant in the Cabinet of Great Britain, and was alike conspicuous in its efforts to coerce and its
proffers to conciliate.”
What quality predominated in our Cabinet, when the miserable cunning was resorted to letting Santa Anna into
Mexico, in hopes that he would prove traitor to his country? Or what, in the proffers of conciliation to the Mexicans,
in the various proclamations issued, and the proposal to seize all their church property? Or what, in the various
arrangements for "conquering a peace" by force of arms? The field of discussion is wide and inviting, but I shall only
briefly survey it.
But again, if Col. Lee had been announcing the appointments and promotions in our army, or describing the various
efforts to put Thomas H. Benton over it and its veterans officers, or giving an account of the battle of Cerro Gordo,
how could he have closed more appropriately than in the following language?
"Thus it is,” says he, “that the lives of brave men a re exposed, and the public interest sacrificed. Yet,
notwithstanding such severe admonitions, rarely does the Government honor with its confidence the man whose
merit is his sole tittle to preference: the weight of powerful connections, or the art of intriguing courtiers too often
bear down unsupported though transcendant worth.”
And how often has this war changed its face? First, volunteers for six months –then, for twelve, and many ardent
ones offended by a violation of the terms of their enlistment; now they are called for the whole war. This should
have been done sooner. Here comes in the wise voice of the :Father of his Country;” and how forcibly has the
immortal hero of Buena Vista, –as his troops have daily melted away from him, leaving him on the borders of
Mexico’s sultry deserts with a handful of men –felt the truth of Washington’s sentiments and the strength of his
apposite and original figure. Washington to George Mason of Va., October 22, 1781, says: "We must have a
permanent force; not a force that is continually fluctuating, and sliding from us, as a pedestal of ice would leave a
statue in a summer’s day; involving us in expense that baffles all calculation.” Such expense will be the sad result of
this mismanaged war.
President Jefferson is the Political stock from which the modern Democratic Party claims to have descended. Yet, this
Administration have set at nought one of his bets examples When Governor of Virginia, he adopted a system by
which "Continental officers were substituted IN THE HIGHER COMMANDS, for those of the militia; which although not
very well relished by those who retired, was highly grateful to the soldiers; who perceiving the ( unintelligible) before
them, rejoiced in being lead by tried and experienced men.” President Polk has not only disregarded the system of
Mr. Jefferson, but reversed it –by which the soldiers are lead by untried and inexperienced civilians, suddenly
elevated from merited mediocrity over the heads of scientific, experienced and able Generals. Should any thing take
Gen. Scott now from his command. Gen. Pillow, late of the Tennessee militia, now under the serious imputations of Col. Haskell and others, would command the whole army in Mexico!! Far, far better had the door-keeper of the
White House presided over the levees of the East room, or the merest petitfogger be Chief of Justice of the United
States. Now, may doctors suddenly turn judges; carpenters, saddlers; and cabinet-makers, statesmen and
philosophers!

Once more to history and I am done: –“When Presidents, Kings or Emperors confide armies to soldiers of common
minds, they ought not to be surprised at the disasters which follow." This observation, too, is called forth by a review of the carrier of such men as Gage, Howe and Clinton, –British Generals bred and inured to arms. It is true that few disasters have befallen our arms; but their splendid success have been achieved by those whom the Administration endeavored to supplant and dishonor.

May its unworthy favorites never have an opportunity of verifying the evils of a system which has called them to such responsible stations –a system so unjust, impolite and imbecile, that it requires no disasters to cover it with opprobrium.

SUUM CUIQUE.

July 20, 1847, RW47v24n58p2c3 Arrival of McKim

[From the N.O Picayune, Extra, July 12 –A.M.J.]

Arrival of the Steamship McKim.

Later from Vera Cruz.

The steamship McKim arrived at this port on Sunday afternoon in charge of her first officer Capt. Pilsbury having died on that passage of yellow fever.

The McKim left Vera Cruz on the 3d inst. There had been nothing later received from the city of Mexico than was brought down the night of the 1st inst. but fuller accounts had transpired at Vera Cruz than were received by the Alabama.

We have no further information of the March of Gen. Pillow. Had any disaster occurred to him, the news of it could scarcely have failed to reach Vera Cruz promptly. –Our letters makes no mention whatever of him or his command.

By this arrival we have files of papers from the city of Mexico to the 29th ult. inclusive. In the Diario del Gobierno of the 26th June appeared an important diplomatic correspondence. The first note is from the Mexican Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Secretaries of Congress, referring to that body a communication from Mr. Buchanan, which announces Mr. Trist's appointment. We learn that this letter was communicated to Santa Anna by or through the British Minister at Mexico Mr. Banhead, who has exerted himself to bring about negotiation for peace between the two nations.

Mr. Buchanan's letter is dated April 15th. It acknowledges the receipt of the Mexican Minister's letter of the 22d February, declining to accede to our proposition to send commissioners to Jalapa, Havana or other point before the blockade of the Mexican ports should be raised and the Mexican territory evacuated by our troops.

Mr. Buchanan writes that the President holds such a condition absolutely inadmissible –neither demanded by national honor nor sanctioned by the practice of the nations. –He urges that such a preliminary condition would render war interminable, especially between contiguous nations, unless by the complete submission of one of the belligerents.

He shows how puerile a course it would be for a nation which had scarified men and money to gain a foothold in an enemy country, to abandon all the advantages it had won and withdraw its forces in order to induce negotiations, without any certainty or security that peace would ensue from such negotiations.

He then cites the case of our last war with Great Britain, to show that we never considered for a moment that our nation required us to insist upon the withdrawal of British troops before consenting to treat for peace. We sent commissioners to Ghent when portions of our territory were in the possession of British troops; and it was notorious that while negotiations were going on at Ghent, hostilities were carried on upon both sides with unwonted vigor; the most memorable action of the war taking pace after negotiations had been concluded. Such a preliminary condition to negotiation cannot be cited in modern times; at least Mr. Buchanan knows of none.

He then exposes the unusual conduct of Mexico under another aspect. The President, in his desire to avoid the war, had sent a minister to negotiate peace. Even after the war was commenced, by the attack of the Mexican troops upon Gen. Taylor, the President had retired propositions with a view of opening negotiations which should put an end to hostilities. He had declared to the world that he would exact no conditions that were not honorable to both parties; and yet the Mexican Government had refused to receive the minister sent to her, and after refusing to accede to the opening of negotiations, Mexico had never made known upon what basis she would consent to a settlement of the differences between the two Republics. –There will never be a termination of hostilities, Mr. Buchanan proceeds, if Mexico continues to [refuse to] listen to the overtures which have been proffered, and which tend to the establishment of peace.
The President will not, therefore, make further overtures for the opening of negotiations until he has reason to believe that such will be accepted by the Mexican Government; but nevertheless such is his desire for peace, that the evils of the war shall not be prolonged one day later than the Mexican Government makes it absolutely necessary. Accordingly, to carry his determination into effect, he had sent in the quality of Commissioner, to the head quarters of the army of Mexico, Mr. N.P. Trist, First Clerk in the State Department, with full power to conclude a definite treaty of peace with the United Mexican States. Mr. Trist is recommended as possessing the full confidence of the President, and worthy of that of the Mexican Government.

In conclusion, Mr. Buchanan forbears from commenting upon the closing passages of the last letter from the Mexican Minister, lest it should give to his present note a less conciliatory character than he desires for it. He recurs with pleasure to another passage in the same letter wherein is expressed the pain with which the Mexican Government has seen altered the cordial friendship which it had cultivated with this Republic, the continued advancement of which it had always admired, and whose institutions had served as a model of its own. Such sentiments, continues Mr. Buchanan, the President deeply feels; his strongest desires as prevails with us, may protect and secure the liberty of their citizens, and maintain an elevated position among the nations of the earth.

Such is an outline of Mr. Buchanan's letter of April 15th. We have not translated it, as the original will no doubt at once be made public. There is no indication in it of the basis upon which Mr. Trist is authorized to conclude a treaty.

This letter the Mexican Minister acknowledges on the 22d of April, saying that the President had instructed him to reply that the whole subject matter of it had been expressly reserved by the Sovereign Congress of the nation for its own control, and that the letter would be at once transmitted to it for its action.

We learn by the Mexican papers that Congress was at once convened to take the matter into consideration, but up to the 29th of June no quorum had been procured.

By a letter from a source entitled to great respect, we further learn that Gen. Scott gave the Mexican Government till the 30th ult. to act upon the letter, when, if nothing should be done he would march in.

The best opinion in Mexico, in our judgment, we have had an opportunity to learn by this arrival. That opinion gives but poor encouragement for peace, but does not entirely despair. Other gentlemen, with very ample opportunities for judging, write from the city of Mexico, that there is no hope of a settlement of the difficulties; that the Mexicans have not yet been sufficiently whipped; and that Gen. Scott will have to reach the city of Mexico. None of the letters we have seen mention any thing about the number or position of Mexicans troops.

July 20, 1847, RW47v24n58p2c3 General Order

From the Sun of Ananuac of the 2d inst., we copy the following order issued by Col. Perry upon returning to the mouth of the river from his Tabasco expedition:

General Order –No.3.


The commander in chief, in returning to his ship from the expedition undertaken to capture and occupy the city of Tabasco, seizes upon the earliest moment to offer his warmest thanks to the officers, seamen and marines composing the force engaged in the attack for the gratifying proofs of zeal and courage manifested by them on the occasion.

Notwithstanding the extensive and judicious arrangements made by the Mexicans for defence, they exhibited little gallantry in maintaining their well chose position.

M.C. Perry, Commanding Home Squadron.

The commodore arrived at Anton Lizardo on the 30th June, with the squadron.

We have no time to make use of our Mexican files, the mail closing at so early an hour.

July 20, 1847, RW47v24n58p2c3 Arrival of steamship

Arrival of the Steamship James L. Day
Later from the Brazos.

The steamer *James L. Day*, Capt. Wood, arrived this morning from Brazos Santiago. By her we have received the Matamoros Flag of the 7th inst. The news is without importance.

The steamboat *Enterprize* has been sunk in the Rio Grande, fifteen miles above Reynosa. Boat a total loss.

Capt. Dunlap's company of mounted men from Illinois had arrived at Matamoros, the men in fine health and the horses in tolerable condition.

McCulloch's company has returned from Camargo to Matamoros. We copy the following from the Flag:

From the Interior of the State. –Mr. Holliday, a gentleman well known in this city, returned on Tuesday evening last from a journey into the interior sixty miles beyond San Fernando. The object of his journey was to purchase mules for Government, which was frustrated on account of an irregular competition in the same business by the band of Carabajal, who were spread over the country taking forcible possession of all the mules and horses fit for service. The alcades of several different villages beyond San Fernando advised Mr. Holliday not to prosecute his journey further, assuring him that would be impossible to obtain mules, and he was running a great risk of being killed or made prisoner. He was informed that a part of Urrea's forces was in Victoria, and that the mules and horses which were being collected by the Mexican were intended for a force which was raising and was to rendezvous at Victoria for the purpose of making a descent upon Tampico. This he learned from many different sources, and he believes that an attack on that post is intended, the weakness of the garrison there strongly favoring such a design.

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**July 20, 1847, RW47v24n58p2c3 News from Tampico**

[From The N.O. Times]

Tampico.

The brig Harriet, Capt. Brovn, arrived here on Saturday, from Tampico, the 29th ult., but brought no news.

The rainy season had set in at Tampico, but the health of the troops was satisfactory. Not a single case of yellow fever had occurred since the commencement of the occupation.

Papers from the capital had reached Tampico to the 19th ult, but they contain little of importance, except the reiteration of the forced contribution of a million of dollars, and stirring appeals on the part of the journalist, to the patriotism of the people, in view of the anticipated advance of Gen. Scott from Puebla.

Mrs. De Russy, the wife of Col. De Russy, and his two sons, had arrived there; also Mrs. Daily, the wife of Lt. Daily, of the Louisiana volunteers. There was to be a grande fete on the 4th inst, Capt. C.S. Hunt, being appointed orator of the day.

Col. Gates, on the 25th ult, issued an order prohibiting the importation of spirituous liquors.

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**July 20, 1847, RW47v24n58p2c4 New from Vera Cruz**

Vera Cruz

By the arrival of the steamship M'Kim, Capt. Pillsbury, from Vera Cruz, the 3d instant; via Brazos; the 6th inst., we have accounts from both places up to respective dates of departure. No news had yet arrived from the interior since the receipt of the last advices; consequently nothing has transpired, in relation to the expected on ward movement of Gen. Scott's army.

We regret to announce the death of Capt. Pillsbury, of the M'kim, who caught the yellow fever at Vera Cruz, and died on the 7th instant, at sea. Capt. P was a son of the Hon. Timothy Pillsbury, a member of Congress form the State of Texas.

Left at Vera Cruz aon the 3d, the brig. Velasco, Capt. Bell, up for this port, about the 8th inst.
July 20, 1847, RW47v24n58p4c2 California

Our Territory of California.

We have late accounts from our new territory of California, both from the North and the South. What has become of Com. Stockton we are not apprized, all the letters and papers being wholly silent in regard to that distinguished gentleman. Between Com. Schubrick, his successor, and Gen. Kearny there seems to be perfect harmony, the latter officer being nor the Governor of the territory, as will more fully appear by the following proclamation:

To the People of California.

The president of the United States having developed upon the undersigned the civil government of California, he enters upon the discharge of his duties with an ardent desire to promote as far as the interest of the country and well being of its inhabitants.

The undersigned is instructed by the President to respect and protect the religious institutions of California, to take care that the religious rights of its inhabitants are secured in the most ample manner, since the Constitution of the United States allows every individual the privilege of worshipping his Creator in whatever manner his conscience may dictate.

The undersigned is also instructed to protect the persons and property of the quiet and peaceable inhabitants of the country, against each and every enemy, whether foreign or domestic; and now, assuring the Californians that his inclinations no less that his duty demand the fulfillment of these instructions, he invites them to use their best efforts to preserve order and tranquility, to promote harmony and concord, and to maintain the authority and the efficacy of the laws.

It is the desire and intention of the United States to procure to California as speedily as possible a free Government like that of their own territories, and they will very soon invite their inhabitants to exercise the rights of free citizens in the choice of their own representatives, who may enact such laws as they deem best adapted to their interests and well being. But until this takes place, the laws actually in existence, which are not repugnant to the Constitution of the United States, will continue in force until they are revoked by competent authority; and persons in the exercise of public employments will for the present remain in them, provided they swear to maintain the said Constitution and faithfully to discharge their duties.

The undersigned by these present absolves all the inhabitants of California of any further allegiance to the Republic of Mexico, and regards them as citizens of the United States. Those who remain quite and peaceable will be respected and protected in their rights; but should any one take up arms against the Government of this territory, or join such as do so, or instigate others to do so –all these he will regard as enemies, and they will be treated as such.

When Mexico involved the United states in war the latter had no time to invite the Californians to join their standard as friends, but found themselves compelled to take possession of the county to prevent its falling into the hands of some European power. In doing this there is no doubt that some excesses, some authorized acts were committed by persons in the service of the United States, and that in consequence some of the inhabitants have sustained losses in property. These losses shall be duly investigated, and those who are entitled to indemnification shall receive it.

For many years California has suffered great domestic convulsions; from civil wars, like poisoned fountains, have flowed calamity and pestilence over this beautiful region. These fountains are now dried up; the stars, and stripes now float over California, and as long as the sun shall shed its light they will continue to wave over her, and over the natives of the country, and over those who shall seek a domicil in her bosom, and under the protection of this flag agriculture must advance, and the arts and sciences will flourish like seed in a rich and fertile soil.

Americans and Californians! From henceforth one people. Let us them indulge one desire, one hope, let that be for the peace and tranquility of our country. Let us unite like brothers and mutually strive for the improvement and advancement of this our beautiful country, which with a short period cannot fail to be not only beautiful, but also prosperous and happy.

Given at Monterrey, capital of California, this 1st day of March, of the year of our Lord 1847, and of the Independence of the United States the 71st.


There can be no doubt, from the language of this document, that Mr. Polk considers California already annexed, even without a joint resolution, which was deemed to be a decent regard for the forms of the Constitution when Texas was made a member of the Confederacy. "I am the State," says the modern Louis; and really when one reads the accounts from our new regions –how Governors are made and Legislatures organized– and whole communities of foreigners absolved from allegiance to their own Government, and manufactured into citizens of the United States – he may, without any tax upon his imagination, well conceive that an absolute Sovereign is on the throne, that Congress exists by his mere sufferance, and the People are entitled to no voice in the decision of questions affecting the national weal! "If such things are done in the green tree, what may we not expect in the dry?"
In Pursuance of the plans of Mr. Polk, we perceive that elections are going on in California for members of the Territorial Legislature, which was about to assemble at Monterrey. We are "going ahead" rapidly to the consummation of our "manifest destiny." But what it is to be, requires a prophetic vision to foretell.

July 20, 1847, RW47v24n58p2c3 From San Francisco

We copy the following letter from the N.Y. Journal of Commerce:

Harbor of San Francisco,

On board U. U. transport ship T. H. Perkins,

March 7, 1847.

We arrived at this port yesterday, in 160 days from New York. Before we had dropped anchor, a boat from the U.S. ship Cyane came with despatches from Gen. Kearny from Col. Stevenson, ordering him, with his whole regiment down to Monterrey, about 80 or 90 miles from this by sea.

The captain having asked a most exorbitant price to carry us, an express was immediately sent to general, and we shall be obliged to wait here until a despatch comes, ordering the captain to proceed at once. The captain is an obstinate man, and is "out" with every one of our officers on board. We expect trouble from him, and an officer from the slopp–of–war will no doubt be sent down in command.

Gen. Kearny has been here three months, and has settled everything that we expected to do. Col. S. is a mere cypher, therefore; a governor having been sent out, who is here now.

We are all sorry for not having remained in New York and gone with the regiments direct for Mexico; for after the glorious news from our army in that quarter, we have no doubt that some of the regiments were ordered thither.

This vessel is the only one yet arrived, but we expect the others here every minute.

This is a magnificent harbor, about 60 to 70 miles to the farther end.

The town of Yerba Buena is small, only about 500 inhabitants. Our flag flies on shore, and there are six American vessels in port. In fact there are no others.

Col. Fremont has had a difficulty with the officers and men under his command. Seven captains and lieutenants resigned in one day! We could fill a column or two, if we had space to spare, with curious extracts from the California papers, but we are compelled to limit our selection to-day to the subjoined paragraphs from the Buena Yerba Star:

Jan. 23.–We noticed on the morning of the 19th instant, in the streets, ice nearly a quarter of an inch thick, the first that we have seen this season. It is said by those who have lived in the country several years that this is an unusually cold season. Our friends on the Atlantic coast in lat. 38º N, who are in snow to their knees for three months in the year will probably find difficult to account for this great difference in the temperature of the climate of the two oceans.

The Russian brig. Constantine, from Sitka, arrived on the morning of the 16th inst. She was 17 days out; ten days at the mouth of the bay, being prevented by unfavorable winds from getting in. She brought nothing but stone as ballast.

General Kearny has arrived there from Monterrey, where he spent a few days examining that point, with a view to the erection of permanent fortifications. He came up here in the U.S. sloop of war Cyane.

We received no important news from below, since the publication of our last number. At the last accounts Col. Cook, with five hundred United States dragoons, was encamped between San Diego and the town of the Angels. Col. Fremont had not left for Monterey.

The Star of the 27th says: –We learn from a gentleman who just arrived from the South, that all was quiet in that part of the country. There had been no indications of a disposition on the part of the Californians to renew hostilities since the treaty made with them by Col. J. C. Fremont. Col. Fremont was still acting as civil Governor.

February 27 –Gen. Kearny sailed from this port in the U.S. frigate Savannah, Capt. Mervine, on Tuesday last, for Monterrey, where it is understood, in conjunction with Com. Shubrick, he will immediately commence the important work of organizing a civil government for California.—Shubrick and General Kearny are, we understand, full in this
point, and invest them with plenary powers to carry into effect the intentions of the Government.

The precise form of Government that will be established in California, and the mode by which it will be put in operation, until Congress shall have the necessary time and information to take charge of the subject, we do not suppose has yet been determined upon. This, we presume, has been left altogether to the discretion of the gentleman above named, who doubtless will be governed by what they shall deem most practicable, and most conducive to the general prosperity in the present crisis, after full and through observation and mature reflection.

July 20, 1847, RW47v24n58p2c3 General Scott

General Scott

The New Orleans Bulletin gives the following estimate of the Gen. Scott’s strength, when all the troops now on their march to join him, shall have reached this camp:

At Puebla, about 7,000 men; Col. Childs, from Jalapa, 1,400; Gen. Cadwallader’s column 1,400; Gen. Pillow 1,800; Gen. Pierce’s 2,500; making together 14,100.

Will the Union tell us what has become of the remainder of the 20,000 troops, which, it proved, by statistics from the War Department, would be under Gen. Scott’s command on the 1st. of July?

July 20, 1847, RW47v24n58p2c4 Johan Botts

Letter of Johan Botts

To the Whig Committee of Philadelphia. Richmond, June 26, 1847.

Gentlemen: – I have received your letter inviting me to a Whig festival to be held in the city of Philadelphia, in celebration of the anniversary of American Independence.

I regret that a prior engagement on that day will deprive me of the gratification I should derive from an association with my Whig friends and brethren of Philadelphia so interesting an occasion.

In your letter you say –“It is the duty of every true hearted Whig to unite with his brethren, on every proper opportunity, in a laudable effort, to harmonize, and impart union and strength to the general movement, and thus to secure an ultimate triumph, calculated to promote the national prosperity, and give harmony to our free institutions.”

It certainly is proper, and desirable, that on all suitable occasions, the member of a political party, having common interests at stake, common objects in view, and a common country to serve and save, should meet and confer together as to the most judicious mode of accomplish their common purposes –and as I could not be present to enjoy your society, and participate in your festivities, and interchange views, I have thought it might not be out of place or altogether unacceptable, if I were to commit to paper some views that may not have struck the minds of all our friends, in the same light, or with the same force that they have struck mine.

If the anniversary of the American Independence is a day for thanksgiving and rejoicing, it is also a day for sober and solemn reflection and the first subject that naturally presents itself to the mind, is our present condition as contrasted with that on the day, the anniversary of which you are just about to celebrate.

Happy would it be, if, in drawing this contrast, we could confine ourselves to wonderful advancement in population; extent of territorial space, (legitimately acquired,) power, greatness, improvement in science and art –in short in all that tends to make a people at once great, prosperous, and free: in all this, we have much to excite our admiration and our pride; but in other respects, how painful to the patriot’s mind, and how the good man’s heart grows sick, as he contemplates the change; when he reflects upon the mass of rottenness and corruption that has slyly crept into every branch and ramifications of our government “until increase of appetite has grown by what it fed on,” and now “the spoils of office” are used only as the sure reward of fealty to power in all its profligacy: when we look upon the degeneracy of our Politicians, who barter principles for spoils, and exchange their country’s interests and blessings for honors and wages, how the apprehension is excited, for the ultimate fate of the Republic, which can only be preserved, in the spirit it was conceived, by harmony and concession, high and dignified morality, pure and lofty virtue, sublime and unadulterated patriotism.

On the fourth of July, 1776, our fathers like us of the fourth day of July 1847, were surrounded with difficulties and troubles –and were involved in all the horrors of war: but theirs was a war demanded, and openly declared, by the voice of the people, a war for the establishment of the Independence, for the protection and preservation of great
national inalienable rights, a war for a nation's deliverance, and a people's freedom; but how is it with the war in which we are engaged?

We have made a war made without the knowledge or sanction of the people, the responsibility for which no one will assume, and every one is anxious to shift from his own shoulders to those of his neighbor; a war, the conception of which is veiled in mystery and darkness; its progress only tolerated and reconciled by the unexampled success that has attended our arms; the object of which is left to fancy and speculation, and the end of which no man can foresee; a war instigated and provoked, from a meretricious lust of conquest, and acquisition of our neighbor's goods, by men spoiled and besotted with place and power, that nature never designed them to fill or wield. And when we, the conservative party of the country, and its constitution, propose to enquire the cause of the war, we are stigmatized as "federal Mexican Whigs" as "allies of Mexico," and "moral traitors to our country, giving aid and comfort to the enemy," and none are patriots and statesmen worthy to trust, but those who bow to the immaculate purity and infallible wisdom of Mr. Polk, the dispenser of power, and patronage, and spoils.

For one, whether a traitor or no traitor, whether in favor at court or out of it, as a friend of my country who never was yet muzzled, nor feared the frowns nor courted the smiles of men in power –I venture to lay down two political axiom as incontrovertible, and such as will be adopted by the whole nation, if they desire or deserve to be free. The first is, that this country ought not to be engaged in any war that can't stand the test of scrutiny and investigation – and the second is, that it can't be engaged in any war that ought not to be fully and searchingly enquired into, and fully understood by those who have to fight the battles and pay the cost, and whose national honor is at stake "in doing unto others, as you would do others should do unto you," –and I might add a third, that no man and no party, that were honest, upright, and innocent, conscious of the rectitude of their own conduct, and the integrity of their purpose, would labor under the awful and dainning responsibility of having needlessly and wantonly brought such a calamity upon the country, but would court and demand such an inquiry and investigation, as would wipe the bloody and damned stain from their guiltless hands. But how is it with Mr. Polk who stands charged with this terrible crime? –does he come forward like an innocent man and invite his country men into an examination of his conduct? –does he court enquiry? Does he demand a hearing? –does he claim a fair trial and a just verdict? No! but like the guilty man who was arraigned at the bar, and who was assured by the Judge that he should have a fair trial and full justice, at once replied –"May it please your Honor, that is the last favor I have ask of the court."

Starting events have transpired with such fearful rapidity within the last twelve months –one daring encroachment has followed so quick upon the heels of another, that our people seem upon each occasion to forget the first in wild and almost bewildered contemplation of the last.

Gen. Taylor and the American army have been ordered by the President to the banks of the Rio Grande, (which brought on the war;) but whether he transcended his authority, and whether this was Mexican territory, then, and at all times in their possession, invaded by the U. States, or whether it was American territory invaded by Mexico, must not be enquired into, for the Mexican will hear us, and we will prolong the war by "giving aid and comfort to the enemy" in whose halls HE promised to reveal in three months from its commencement. True, he withheld the information form Congress and the people, that he had done an act that he knew must lead to conflict until two bloody battles had been fought, and it was necessary to call for men and money to prosecute a war that he had provoked and brought upon the people –true, he was determined that his friend, Mr. Slidell, should be received by the obstinate and presumptuous Republic of Mexico, in the character in which it had pleased him to send him, (of full Minister,) although he had been notified, that, with due regard to the national honor, he could only be received in the more humble character of commissioner:–True, he sent Santa Anna back to the Mexicans, to head their armies and encourage their men, to give battle to our brave people, whose bones are mouldering in the charnel houses, and whose blood has made rich the barren plain of Mexico: True, he has dismembered the Mexican Empire, instructed his subordinates in command to declare by proclamation the provinces of California and New Mexico a part of this great Republic, to administer the oath of allegiance to their people and make them citizens of the United States: True, he has established civil governments, appointed Governors, Judges, Attorneys, and Legislative Councils; an if an insolent Mexican dares to raise his hand or voice in favor of his native land, or his own countrymen, the summary process has been adopted of trying him by a drum head court martial, and hanging him by the neck as a traitor and rebel: True, he has enacted laws for Mexico, and is now collecting customs, under tariff regulations, suggested by the wisdom of his profound financier, and free trade Secretary, Sir Robert Walker, as being better qualified for the discharge of that "high duty" (the only high duty he favors being those he exercise himself) than a Federal Mexican Whig Congress. We have seen a proclamation recently issued by the Commander–in–chief in Mexico, as explained by his organ, the Union, makes it manifest that it was under instructions from the seat of the Government, in which it is set forth that the war was the consequence of a design on the part of European Governments to destroy the Republic of Mexico and establish a monarchy on its ruins –which not only contradicts all his former declarations relative to the origin of the war, but convicts him of having committed a most egregious and unpardonable blunder, (if he was determined to have a finger in the pie, on his own authority and responsibility,) of taking the wrong side of the question by fighting against Republican Institutions instead of for them.

What has been his course in regard to the conduct of the war? In the first place we have seen him withhold the command of our gallant army, from the accomplished General–in–chief, who was entitled to claim it, and who did claim it, and he conferred it upon another, then almost unknown to the country –and no sooner did he find that gallant and invincible old soldier performing deeds of valor and achieving victories with vastly inferior numbers and under disadvantages, that exited the wonder and admiration of the world, than he attempted supersede and disgrace him by the appointment of a Lieutenant General from political life, in the ranks of his own party without experience and without skill –thus jeopardizing the honor of the nation and the safe of the army. Finding now, there was more perhaps to apprehend from the rapidly increasing popularity of Taylor than there was at first from Scott, and that he had jumped out of the frying pan into the fire, he endeavored to get back from the fire into the pan, by sending Scott to the field, and stripping Taylor of his command, and leaving him in the heart of the enemy's country.
with only 4000 men, to meet and conquer 20,000 under a general of his own selection. On the other hand, what have we seen of Scott? He reaches Vera Cruz, bombards the city, takes it, with the almost impregnable Castle of San Juan—marches on toward the Capital, exhibiting the highest military skill, performing prodigies of valor, overcoming all difficulties, surmounting all obstacles, achieving a victory at Cerro Gordo that vies in brilliancy with that at Buena Vista; and now not knowing which is the hottest place for him—the fire or the pan—in order to get rid of both he send off some thing of a Lieutenant General in the person of a clerk of the Department of State to watch over, if not control, the movements of Scott and his gallant band. Has his course not justified the suspicion that the brilliancy of our arms in Mexico has mortified and chagrined him, from an apprehension that the benefits of the war were not likely to enure to him and his political friends? We have seen him too tampering, and sporting with the honor and character of the Nation, by proclaiming that there was more virtue in Mexican dollars than in American powder and lead, and it was more desirable and manly to buy, than “conquer a peace,” and he gave assurance that with an appropriation of $3,000,000 to be placed at his disposal for secret purposes, peace should be restored; which could only be effected by a system of bribery for which every American check should blush; (for with the “indemnity” he claimed, there could be no need for purchase of territory;) and yet for all this high pretensions are set up for his disinterested patriotism, and for the pre-eminent ability with which he has conducted the war; and as if acknowledgements of his greatness did not pour in with abundance (unintelligible).

All this is true, but if we complain, or propose an enquiry into his conduct, if we do not speak "with of (unintelligible), if we discredit his infallibility, we are admonished that we shall be held us traitors to our country for "giving aid and comfort to the enemy," and we shall be denounced, and stigmatized by Executive sanction and endorsement, as "Mexican Allies" and "Federal Mexican Whigs."

Is not the recital of, and reflection upon, these high fantastic tricks enough, I ask, to pain to the patriot’s mind, and make the good’s man heart grow sick? And yet we are told, that the only remedy is to be found in the ballot box; and that impeachment is a dead letter of the law. Possibly it may be so, but if it be, and the Whig party shall adopt that creed, farewell I say to free institutions; farewell to limited powers; farewell to written constitution; for our president is a sovereign, with powers absolute and unlimited. What more is left for him to do, that he may not do, with impunity?

Let me ask—How can this war be brought to a close by this administration, or the party which sustains and justifies its position? The position taken by Mr. Polk and his party is, that he cannot bring the war to a close with honor, that he cannot negotiate for peace, without claiming and obtaining indemnity for the expenses of the war; that is to say, we may not look for peace unless be gets Mexican territory (and a pretty large slice too, I should think, if he should make a fair trade, and get land enough to compensate for all expenses incurred.)

If a man claims property in possession, and undertakes by force to put me off, and instead of that I putt him off, and follow him, and trash him to his heart’s content, and my own satisfaction—do I sacrifice my personal honor by returning him the world over, and beat him until there is no more of him left than there was of the Kilkenny cats? Yet such seems to be the view of our ruling men, who are fearful their patriotism or courage may be suspected unless they swallow the whole Mexican family at a gulp: it is a false notion of honor, and ought not to be endured.

We have at last direct accounts from the American prisoners in Mexico, which enable us to clear up the contradictory rumors we have had in relation to them. Letters were received here yesterday from Maj. Gaines by his brother A. L. Gaines, dated in the city of Mexico, the 26th of June, with the use of which we have been favored. It appears from them that the rank and file of the prisoners have been released and sent to Tampico. These were doubtless the individuals at Huejutla, as mentioned in our last. The officers had not been released on the 26th of June. We give the greater part of Maj. Gaines’s letters, which, it will be seen, throw great light on Gen. Scott’s movements as well as upon the fate of the American prisoners.

City of Mexico, June 26, 1847.
Dear Sir —I am very sorry that I have it not in my power to advise you of our release from bondage. This execrable Government in violation of repeated promises and a solemn engagement entered into with Gen. Taylor the day after the battle of Buena Vista, still retains us as prisoners of war.

On the 3d inst. I received a note from the Government to present myself at the Castle of Santiago, our late prison, and there receive the final determination of the authorities in our case. At the Castle we were informed that we were exchanged, and that we should depart the next day for Tampico —the officers only, without the men— and were directed to go the place, receive our instructions, expense money, &c, &c, preparatory to our departure. At the palace we were told to call the next day, and on the next day we were informed that they were without means to send us and that we could not go. This disappointment was the more galling because the reason assigned was known to be a mere subterfuge, and it turned out that four days afterwards our men, one hundred and seventy in number, were sent off to the same place without our knowledge, which required a much larger sum than it would have required to send the officers. By sending off the men without our knowledge, they were subjected to great suffering and inconvenience on a long road to Tampico, without the preparation necessary in the way of clothing, shoes, &c, which more then in fact being furnished them. The true reason why officers were not allowed to accompany them remains to be seen.

Since that time (the 4th) I have heard nothing from this infernal Government, if Government it may be called, but today I have received an assurance from Gen. Scott that immediately upon his arrival in the vicinity of the city, which will surely be within twelve days, be will make a peremptory demand for us. IT WILL BE COMPLIED WITH, AS I THINK. You may therefore look for me early in August.

Gen. Scott we are assured has made every possible effort to procure our enlargement, but to no purpose. His approach to this city will certainly take place in a very few days. His measures preparatory to moving are all taken, and preparations nearly complete. He comes with a force sufficient to accomplish his object eventually.

I have received no letters from the States except one from A. K. since my captivity, so that the world as to me may be said to be hermetically sealed up. [Here follows passages of a nature altogether private and domestic, and the letter concludes as follows.]

I have now the most positive information of Gen. Scott’s readiness to move on this capital within the next three or four days. He will have an easy conquest.

Your affectionate brother. JNO. P. Gaines.

July 23, 1847, RW47v24n59p1c4 State Department and Mexican Government

[From the Washington Union]

Correspondence between the Secretary of the State and the Mexican government, relative to the mission of Mr. Trist.

An extra of the Republicano of Mexico, of the 28th of June, has been received at the Department of State, containing copies of two notes from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, dated the 2d of June last. We presented here translations of the two notes first mentioned, together with a copy the original of Mr. Buchanan’s letter; all of which (unintelligible) be read with interest in every part of the country.

Department of Internal and Foreign Relations.

God and Liberty —Mexico, June, 22, 1847.

Most excellents Sirs: by order of his excellency, the President ad interim of the republic, as resolved in a council of ministers, I have the (unintelligible) to place in the hand of your excellencies, that you may submit it to the sovereign Congress, at its first meeting, a copy of the official note, addressed by the Secretary of the State of the United States to this government, under date of the 15th of April last, in which he declares that the President of that republic intends to dispatch, as a commissioner, to the headquarters of the army operating in Mexico, Nicholas P. Trist, with full powers to conclude a definitive treaty of peace with the Mexican United States.

I likewise transmit to your Excellencies, for communication to the sovereign Congress, a copy of the answer which the most excellent President resolved, in a council of ministers, to have made to the above—mentioned note; his excellency feeling assured that the august assembly, to which is reserved the determination on the affair to which the present communication relates, will despatch it with the promptness and wisdom to be expected from its patriotism and its distinguished enlightenment.

Domingo Ibarra.
To his Excellency the Minister of Foreign Relations of the Mexican Republic.

Department of State, Washington, April 15, 1847.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your excellency’s note, of the 22d February last, in answer to mine of the 18th January, proposing, on the part of the President of the United States, immediately to “dispatch either to Havana or Jalapa, as the Mexican government may prefer, one or more of our most distinguished citizens, as commissioners, clothed with full powers to conclude a treaty of peace with similar commissioners on the part of Mexicans, as soon as he shall be officially informed that the Mexican government will appoint such commissioners.”

The President deeply regrets the refusal of the Mexican government to accede to this friendly overture, unless the raising of the blockade of our (the Mexican) ports, and the complete evacuation of the territory of the republic by the invading forces, shall be previously accepted as a preliminary condition.

The President has instructed me to inform you that this “preliminary condition” is wholly inadmissible. Such a condition is neither required by the honor, nor sanctioned by the practice of nations. If it were, this would tend to prolong wars, especially between conterminous countries, until the one or the other power was entirely subdued. No nation which, at the expenditure of blood and treasure, has invaded its enemy territory could ever consent to withdraw its forces, as a preliminary condition to the opening of negotiations for peace. This would be at once to abandon all the advantages it had obtained in the prosecution of the war, without any certainty that peace would result from the sacrifice. Nay, more: should such a negotiation prove unsuccessful, the nation which had thus imprudently withdrawn its forces from the enemy’s territory, might not be able to recover, without a cost of blood and treasure equal to that first expended, the advantageous position which it had voluntarily abandoned.

Fortunately for the cause of peace and humanity, the history of nations at war affords no sanction to such a preliminary condition. The United States are as jealous of their national honor as any power on the face of the earth; and yet it never entered into the contemplation of the great statesman who administered our government during the period of our last war with Great Britain, to insist that the later should relinquish that part of our territory of which she was in actual possession before they would consent to open negotiations for peace. On the contrary, they took the initiative, and appointed commissioners to treat for peace, whilst portions of our country were held by the enemy; and it is a remarkable fact, that the treaty of Ghent was concluded by the plenipotentiaries of the two power whilst the war was ranging on both sides; and the most memorable of the conflicts to which it gave rise took place upon our own soil after the negotiators had happily terminated their labors. History is full of such examples. Indeed, so far as the undersigned is aware, there is not to be found, at least in modern times, a single case, except the present, in which it has been considered a necessary preliminary that an invading army should be withdrawn before negotiations for peace could commence between the parties of the war.

It would, also, be difficult to find a precedent for the course pursued by the Mexican government in another particular. The president, anxious to avoid the war now existing, sent a minister of peace to Mexico for this purpose. After the Mexican forces had stacked the army of Gen. Taylor on this side of the Rio Grande, and thus commenced the war, the President, actuated by the same pacific spirit, made repeated overtures to the government of Mexico to negotiate for its termination; and although he has, from the beginning, solemnly declared before the world that he desired no terms but such as were just and honorable to both parties, yet the Mexican government, by refusing to receive our minister in the first place, and afterwards by not acceding to our overtures to open negotiations of peace, has never afforded to this government even the opportunity of making known the terms on which we would be willing to settle all questions in dispute between the two republics. The war can never end whilst Mexico refuses even to hear the proposals which we have always been ready to make for peace.

For the purpose of carrying this determination into effect with the least possible delay, he will forthwith send to the headquarters of the army, in Mexico, Nicholas P. Trist, esq. The officer next in rank to the undersigned in our Department of Foreign Affairs, as commissioner invested with full powers to conclude a definitive treaty of peace with the United Mexican States. This gentleman possesses the entire confidence of the President, and is eminently worthy of that of the Mexican government.

This feeling is most cordially reciprocated by the President, whose earnest desire it is that the United States, under institutions similar to our own, may protect and secure the liberty of their people, and maintain an elevated standing among the nations of the earth.

James Buchanan.

[NO]

July 23, 1847, RW47v24n59p2c1 Buchanan and Mexican minister

The Correspondence

The attention of our readers will be attracted by the correspondence between Mr. Buchanan and the Mexican Minister of Foreign Relations. No satisfactory inference can be drawn from the language of the Mexican Minister, in regard to the final determination of the Government; the Executive of Mexico, even in the midst of a war of invasion, the
exigencies of which might well warrant its assumption of extraordinary if not Dictatorial powers, absolutely paying
decereference to the will of Congress, than the President of the United States is in the habit of exhibiting towards
the Representatives of the American people; for, in the first place, he made war without consulting them, and ha has
since prosecuted it in a manner which evinces an utter contempt for the constitutional functions of the Legislative
department, some of the most important of which he has daringly usurped. We hope, however, that this effort to
renew negotiations may be successful, and that it may result in the speedy restoration of peace, on terms
satisfactory and honorable to both nations—for only such a peace can be a permanent one.

The correspondence furnishes no means of ascertaining the terms which Mr. Trist has been instructed to propose to
Mexico, and upon the nature of which, of course, will materially depend her willingness to terminate the war. It is
obvious, however, that the prospects of a speedy termination of hostilities is not very flattering—for, judging from
the temper heretofore displayed by the Administration, and from the tone of its Organ, it may very reasonably be
apprehended that its demands will be characterized by any thing but moderation.

The Secretary of State dwells with peculiar self–complacency upon the pacific dispositions exhibited by our
Government in its unsuccessful efforts to induce the Mexican authorities to renew diplomatic intercourse, with a view
to the restoration of peace. If this would be true, there would be immeasurable degradation, instead of generous
magnanimity, in the pertinacity with which we have urged her to terminate the war. If she were the guilty aggressor,
she ought to be compelled herself to sue for peace, instead of being so often asked to make it. The statement of the
Secretary is contradicted by all the facts in the case, as well as by repeated official averments, which must be false if
this be true.

July 23, 1847, RW47v24n59p2c1 An Unwritten Constitution

The Duke of Wellington is said to have remarked, on one occasion, that “there can be no such thing as a little war”—
and, judged by the effects of national collisions up on the morals and the liberties of any people, the remark may be
deemed axiomatic. When a war with Mexico was only apprehended as a possible event, it was likewise spoken of as
a mere bagatelle, which would end in a blaze of glory, by the triumph of our arms, after a single brief and brilliant
campaign, to be consummated by the occupation of the magnificent capital of the Aztecs, almost without fire a gun.
But the stubborn resistance we have every where met with, and, the immense loss of life, and expenditure of money
that have already attended our efforts to "conquer a peace" which ought never to have been interrupted, have
dispelled an illusion as remarkable as it was universal. While no one doubts any more now than at first, that,
however long the contest may be (unintelligible), it must eventuate in the complete overthrow of the enemy and his
submission to such terms of peace as the conqueror may dictate, it is already apparent, that, terminate as speedily
as it may, it will not have been “a little war,” whether we regard its immediate results or its remote consequences.

To some of the results and consequences of this war, we have therefore occasionally adverted; but, perhaps among
them all there is not one of more sinister aspect and import than the frequency and the boldness with which the
Federal Constitution has been violated, by acts of usurpation on the part of the Executive. Infractions of the written
Constitution, to which we allude, are clearly pointed out, and the gradual growth of an unwritten Constitution, like
that of Great Britain, made up of precedents, is shown to be progressively superseding it. No one doubts—and very
few did—the expediency of the purchase of Louisiana from France; but, on the other hand, no one, we believe, at
the time of its acquisition, doubted that it was an unconstitutional act. Florida was never afterwards brought into the
Union by a similar exercise of an ungranted power; and these cases were subsequently referred to as justifying the
annexation of Texas by a wholly different process, as the three will hereafter be relied on to authorize the acquisition
by conquest of California and such other portions of Mexico as may be ceded to us by that Republic. A new power
has thus unquestionably been engraven upon the Constitution, by the precedent established in the acquisition of
Louisiana. Mr Polk has enlarged the powers of the Executive department of the Government, under dangerous and
delusive plea of “necessity” and, if the acts of his Administration in this regard shall be acquiesced in by other
departments of the Government and by the people, they too will be thereafter quoted as precedents for similar
outrages, and our written Constitution will be entirely superseded in several of its vital features.

July 23, 1847, RW47v24n59p2c2 War or Peace

(no title)

The Washington correspondent of the New York Courier & Enquirer, who professes to have access to sources of
authentic information not open to others, makes the following revelations, which, if they be true, are not without
interest:

Washington, July 17, 1847.

We must now be on the eve of the most important intelligence from Mexico; and the problem will soon be solved
whether we are to have war or peace. My own opinion, formed upon the latest intelligence from Puebla, is still that it
will be peace. It is quite certain there is a large party, even in the present Congress of Mexico, in favor of peace.
Notwithstanding all that has been said to the contrary, the mediation of Great Britain for peace has not been rejected by the Congress of Mexico, neither has it, as yet been accepted.

The terms proposed by Mr. Trist have not yet been rejected by the Congress of Mexico at the latest dates from the Capital. If they are rejected, or their acceptance delayed, Gen Scott will advance and take the city. But, if, on the other hand, as is extremely probable, these terms should be accepted and the treaty ratified at once by the Congress of Mexico, Gen. Scott, in that event, will not advance beyond Puebla, but will await orders from the Government immediately after the battle of Cerro Gordo, we should have had peace long before this period.

July 23, 1847, RW47v24n59p2c3 Spy in Washington

The Spy in Washington.

[From the N.O Picayune, July 15.]

Arrival of the Steamship Galveston.

One day Later from Vera Cruz.

The steamship Galveston, Capt. Haviland, arrived yesterday from Vera Cruz touching at Tampico and the Brazos. She left Vera Cruz at 2 o'clock on the afternoon of the 8th inst., Tampico on the afternoon of the 10th, and Brazos, Santiago on the evening of the 11th. She arrived at the S. W. Pass on the night of the 13th, having made a very fine run.

The Galveston brought no later news direct from the army of Gen. Scott, for there had been no further arrival of couriers at Vera Cruz. We learn nothing more of the march of Gen. Pillow, and remain still in the dark as to his position. The Palmetto left Vera Cruz shortly after the Galveston and arrived at Tampico on the 10th. She may shortly be expected, and possibly may bring later news.

From Tampico we have some verbal intelligence, not without interest. The American prisoners had not arrived there, but were at a place about forty leagues distant –probably Huejutla. On the 8th inst. Col. DeRussy, of the Louisiana regiment, left Tampico, at the head of about two hundred men, intending to proceed to the relief of the prisoners. He took with him a small force of the regular artillery, a portion of his own regiment and some of the mounted men of Tampico – serviceable description of force raised in the town. It is more than probable that the colonel will have a brush with the enemy before he gets back. There are said to be pretty strong parties of guerrillas on the route to be followed.

Our accounts of the health of Tampico, and especially at the Louisiana regiment, are more favorable. The number of the men on the sick list has rapidly decreased, but the remaining cases are somewhat more severe. They are mostly cases of intermittent fever; a few cases of bilious fever have occurred, some of them terminating fatally. –There is very little yellow fever in the town and the cases have been confined to the civil hospital. The fevers which prevail are becoming more malignant as the season advances.

From a file of the Sun of Anahuac, published at Vera Cruz, we have a few items of intelligence. The night of the 7th inst. a fight occurred in Vera Cruz between two Mexicans, in which one stabbed the other so severely that he died instantly. No names are given.

Capt. Mayo of the Navy and Governor of Alvarado having received intelligence that Father Jarauta was in the vicinity and designed to surprise and take Alvarado, went off in pursuit of him at the the head of one hundred and fifty men, proceeding up the river. At last dates the expedition had not returned to Alvarado, nor had any account been received from it.

The editor of the Sun of Anahuac has seen the Republicano of the 28th June, containing Mr. Buchanan’s letter, with which we are all familiar, and the pretended proceedings of an American council of war. Upon the information thus derived the editor founds an article which we give below.

From the Sun of Anahuac of the 8th inst.

What course will Gen. Scott pursue? – The late intelligence we have received from Mexico of the correspondence between Mr. Buchanan and the Mexican Minister of Foreign Relations, treating of peace, has, it seems to us, altered the course which General Scott was to pursue.

We have deferred our remarks until now, because we were afraid to be hasty in our speculations.

It seems most likely to us that Gen Scott will not advance any further until he receives orders from Washington to do
It must have struck the mind of everyone who has read the correspondence above alluded to, that the tone of the Mexican Government has altered very much, if we should judge from the few lines addressed to Mr. Buchanan by the Mexican Premier in answer to his propositions of peace. —We do not see, in his letter, any of that arrogance which in every instance before has characterized the Mexican diplomatic correspondence — but on the contrary a pretty polite, thought short answer, in which he says that he declines answering to the arguments of Mr. Buchanan, until Congress, to whom he refers the matter and who have solely the power to decide, shall have acted upon them. In a note which he addresses to Congress, hepresses them to take immediate action upon them.

But in the meantime what is Gen. Scott to do? Will he take up his line of march for the capital while there are hopes entertained of peace? This is not at all probable. We therefore come to the conclusion that he will not make a step forward until all hopes for concluding a treaty of peace is lost.

By the way of Tampico, we yesterday received a copy of El Republicano, from the city of Mexico, of the 30th June; also the number of the 28th, which was missing from our previous file. Both papers contain matters of great interest.

A postscript in the paper of the 28th contains a report of the proceedings of a council of war said to have been held in Gen. Scott's camp on Thursday, the 24th, the business of which vastly determine whether or not to advance upon the capital. One General, whose name is not given, is said to have argued that it would be imprudent, nay, an act of madness to advance upon the city with less than twenty thousand men; that upon the supposition that every thing should work favorably for them, it was evident that they could no enter to the capital without resistance; and that supposing in their different engagements they should lose half of their force or more, they would be left with some four thousand men, with which number it was extremely hazardous to attempt to hold so populous a city.

Gen. Worth was of a different opinion. He maintained that every invader who hesitated was lost; that in their situation a single (unintelligible) movement involved the most disastrous consequences, and that this had already been proved. He added loudly that six or eight thousand Americans were sufficient to conquer twenty thousand Mexicans; that their triumph was certain and there was no reason for not pressing on Gen. Scott and others are said to have approved these sentiments, so that it was at last determined that they should commence the forward movement on the 28th, but upon the suggestion of some one that it might not be proper to act so promptly after having just despatched the communication from the Government of the United States with renewed offers of peace, Gen. Scott replied that he would wait some days at Rio Frio to receive the answer of the Mexican Government.

The American force at the time of this council was set down by the Mexicans at eight thousand five hundred men, thirty pieces of artillery and one mortar.

The Republicano remarks upon this information: "We believe that the Americans have compromised their situation beyond measure: and even in the event, certainly very difficult, that they win triumph upon triumph their very victories will cause their ruin."

The council above spoken of was held on the 25th. It is not alluded to in the Star of Puebla of the 26th or in Mr. Kendall's letters which came down to the 13th. Yet the facts are said to be derived for a responsible source and they look plausible —Gen. Worth's opinions particularly so. The Republicano of the 29th says nothing about the subject, but in that paper of the 30th is another postscript to which is prefixed in large letters "Very Important." This postscript mentions the receipt of letters announcing the debarkation of one 1800 men at Vera Cruz from Tampico, who had marched immediately for Puebla. The letters further say that General Scott had already ordered the march of the first brigade consisting of fifteen hundred troops with ten guns and a mortar, towards the city of Mexico, when he learned that the train was detained at Nopalucan (forty--two miles this side of Puebla) that he thereupon countermanded the march upon Mexico, and despatched a force to the assistance of the train coming up. The letters then speak of the review of the troops which took place on the 26th. The number of the troops is again set down at 8,500 men without including those who occupy the fortifications of San Juan Loreto &c. But the most important paragraph is that Gen. Scott with probably postpone his march upon the city until the 10th July, to allow this reinforcements to come up. We give this very pieces of news as we find them, but the reader will constantly bear in mind that our advices direct from Puebla are later than those by the city of Mexico.

The Republicano, in this same postscript, thinks it very probable that Gen. Taylor will abandon Saltillo, Matamoros, and other towns in the north of Mexico, and shortly proceed to Vera Cruz to insist in the taking of the capital, which is now, it adds, the object of the aspirations of the Americans. It is very anxious that the Government should direct
Gens. Valencia and Salas, now at San Luis, that they harass the retreat of Gen. Taylor.

We see an order of Santa Anna issued on the 29th, admitting provisions of various kinds into the city free of duty. This is two last only as long as martial law prevails.

Another order has been issued modifying a previous one directing the closing of shops every afternoon. They are now to be closed only on Thursdays. They object of closing the shops was to compel every body to turn out for military drill.

On the 28th Gen. Santa Anna issued through the Secretary of War a brief stringent decree to this effect: --"The army of the enemy being upon the eve of moving upon this capital with a view to attack the same and the moment having arrived to act boldly, energetically and uniformly, to repel our common enemy in a manner decisive and happy for our arms, it is decreed that, martial law having been declared, it shall be strictly enforced, and that no one authority whatever shall be recognised then that of the general in command of the army of the East. This General is Lombardini. The decree is followed up by another greatly restricting the intercourse between the city and the country, and pointing out who may go and come. The details would be uninteresting here.

The Republicano urges the formation of a body of troops under the name of Columna de Honor – something like the Legion of Honor – in which officers of all grades not actually on duty in defence of the city shall serve as private soldiers. Quite an eloquent article is devoted to the support of this subject, but Santa Anna will look with the jealous eye upon every suggestion coming from this quarter.

The Republicano blames the Government for not communicating at once with Mr. Trist, without referring the subject matter of Mr. Buchanan's letter to Congress. However, it concludes its article by trusting that the Executive as well as the Congress will show themselves "extremely difficult" in relation to peace, and not consent to one unless the conclusion of it should protect in every particular the honor, the good name and the interests of the nation. We regard this as a concession on the part of the Republicano and of good omen for peace.

We hear not a word of the American officers, prisoners in Mexico. We fear their hopes of liberation are to be again for some days deferred.

The papers contain accounts of several outrages committed by Americans in Puebla. We do not believe a word of them. Some of the [unintelligible] are utterly preposterous.

One paper pretends that Gen. Scott is driven to make a desperate attempt upon the capital by the scantiness of his resources and the discontent of the volunteers! Mexicans are not unprepared for him, it adds.

We have the decree of Santa Anna, by which he endeavors to prevent the introduction into the country of goods entered at ports in our [unintelligible]. It declares such goods forfeited. We have not room for the [unintelligible] today.

Our readers may recollect that some time since our correspondent at Saltillo informed us of a great excitement occasioned there by the arrival of two Mexican officers from San Luis with despatches for Gen. Taylor. They were supposed to be propositions for peace, but turned out to be solemn enquiries whether it was the general's intention "to conduct the war according to the manner adopted by the Camanches." The wrath of Gen. Taylor at this preposterous insolence of the Mexicans was described as ludicrous, but we have never seen his reply till now. In the Mexican papers lately received the whole correspondence is in Spanish. The letter to Gen. Taylor was from Gen. Mora y Villamil, and dated the 10th May. The letter is long and we have no idea of translating it, and the impudence of it was not a whit exaggerated by our correspondent. The nature of it will be sufficiently disclosed by Gen. Taylor's reply, which we translate although we feel what injustice his terse and elegant style will suffer by the double translation. The letter is said to be dated.

[Letter omitted]

July 23, 1847, RW47v24n59p4c1 Origin of the War

The Mobile Advertiser informs us that Mr. John T. Taylor, the Locofoco candidate for Congress in that District, in his speeches before the people, endeavors to relieve Mr. Polk from all responsibility for the origin of the existing War, not by adopting Mr. Polk’s own declaration that the first aggressive movement was made by Mexico herself – which, if it were true, would destroy the force of his own labored argument to show that we were justified in waging it by the unredressed injuries and insults to which his less patriotic predecessors in the presidency so meekly submitted – but by throwing it upon the shoulders of Mr. Calhoun and Gen. Taylor! We are aware that Mr. Benton last winter, setting aside the antagonist and suicidal position previously assumed by Mr. Polk – first, that Mexico began the war, and secondly, that the United States Government stood justified before the world, by the untroubled catalogue of Mexican outrages, for seeking redress by the sword – endeavored to hold Mr. Calhoun responsible for the interruption of pacific relations, by tracing the war to the unwise precipitancy with which that gentleman sought to effect the annexation of Texas, and to the unstatesman-like manner in which that event was finally consummated.
But, what had General Taylor to do with Mr. Calhoun’s actions upon that question? We can not imagine by what fact Mr. Polk can in any manner identify General Taylor with the origin of the war, unless it be by ascribing it to his march from the Nueces to the Rio Grande – and for that movement assuredly Mr. Calhoun was in no manner responsible, either in advising or in executing. It is evident, indeed, that Gen. Taylor himself has no share in this responsibility. The Administration, which gave him the order to move, must be held entirely and exclusively accountable for the movement and all its consequences. If left to his own judgment, Gen. T. would never have crossed, in a "spirit of conquest," the “natural boundary” between the Anglo–Saxon and the Mauritanian races, pointed out by the sagacious chairman of the Committee of Foreign Relations, Mr. Ch. J. Ingersoll, at least until an attempt had been made to adjust by negotiation the question of territorial jurisdiction between the two countries. He would have been as forbearing towards Mexico as we were towards Great Britain in ascertaining the boundary between the possessions of the two countries in Oregon. Gen. Taylor would not have consented to browbeat and trample upon the weak, after he had succumbed to “a foul man worthy of our steel.”

We believe that there are yet facts to be revealed, which will demonstrate the truth of these accusations beyond the shadow of a doubt. No one will hesitate to concur with him in the declaration that “the war was unnecessary even to accomplish the most grasping views of the administration relative to Mexican territory.” The National calls the special attention to the Union to its question, as it says there is not more behind them than the Union can know if it will examine all the papers of the Secretary of State relative to our relations with Mexico, received at Washington, just before the battles of the 8th and 9th of May, 1846.”

SERIOUS QUESTIONS FOR MR. BUCHANAN TO ANSWER.

1st. Were you not, as well as Mr. Polk, informed by letters, that if Gen. Taylor moved his forces, and took a position opposite Matamoros, a collision would take place?

2d. Were you not shown the correspondence of Gen’l Arista with a gentleman of high standing in the United States, one who had filled an important diplomatic office in Mexico, in which Gen. Arista stated that the Government of the United States could get by treaty or purchase to the line of the Rio Grande?

3d. Were you not shown a note of Gen. Arista’s in which he stated that if the Government of the United States acquired title by purchase or treaty to the Rio Grande, the provinces of Tamaulipas, St. Leon, and Zacatecas would unite themselves with Texas, and come into the Confederacy of the United States! Is not the letter alluded to above, on file in your department?

4th. Were you not informed by an express direct from the camp of Gen. Arista, that the Government of Mexico would receive a Commissioner to settle the boundary question, but would not receive a Minister, and was not Mr. Slidell sent off on his useless errand after you received the express from Arista’s camp?

5th. Did you not have several private interviews in Washington, with the gentleman who sent the express from Arista’s camp, in which you thanked him in behalf of the United States, for the services he had rendered the government, and did you not, as well as Mr. Polk, entirely approve of his views?

6th. Did you not, at a Cabinet Council, lay before the members the whole correspondence, and did you not conclude with Hon. R. J. Walker, and other members that the time for aggressive measures on the part of the United States had arrived: and did not the Hon. R. J. Walker, at that meeting, propose a plan to subjugate Mexico with a standing army of 5000 men?

7th. Have you not been urged by men in and out of power, to produce the letters alluded to above to relieve you of the charge of acting with duplicity towards Mr. Polk, and of pretending ignorance of the facts contained in the correspondence we have called for?

[NO]

July 23, 1847, RW47v24n59p4c3 Important from Mexico

[From the N.O. Picayune, July 13]

Important from the city of Mexico.

Our files of papers from the city of Mexico, by the way of Vera Cruz, come down to the 29th of June.

A summons for Congress to assemble we find in almost every paper we open. We presume it is summoned to take into consideration Mr. Buchanan’s letter announcing Mr. Trist appointment. It is certain that no quorum had been assembled up to the 29th ult. The Republicano publishes daily the list of members present and absent. They have several times come very near a quorum and there is doubtless a sufficient number of members in the city to form one.

On the 26th ult. rumors which the Republicano calls “very alarming” were in circulation in the capital. It was said that
Mexican Government had acceded to the mediation of England; that the terms agreed upon between them would be
the surrender of the Californians to the Americans, the recognition of the independence of Texas, and the
acknowledge of the line 36˚ as the northern boundary between the United States and Mexico. (This line would give
Santa Fe and over a third of New Mexico to the United States.) The Republicano has no faith in these rumors. The
existence of these rumors confirms the information we derived from a distinct source in Vera Cruz that Mr.
Buchanan’s letter was transmitted through the English embassy.

The Independiente of San Louis Potosi announces the arrival there of fifty commissions from the Minister of War for
officers who distinguished themselves at Angostura –our Buena Vista. These commissions are promotions to
advanced grades.

The Republicano demands of Santa Anna the release of Gen. Arista from the fortress of Acapulco. He is sharply
censured for sending him there without any trial.

On the 14th June, Santa Anna issued a decree of indemnity for all political offences of whatever kind up to that date.
All in confinement for such offences were ordered to be at once released.

The Republicano gives the result of the election for President made on the 15th May. The 81st article of the
constitution provides that to make an election valid, three-fourths of the States entitled to vote must vote. As there
were 23 States entitled to vote at the election, and only 15 votes were cast, being less than Three-fourths, the
election has failed.

Our limits constrain us to break off here, but without having exhausted at all the contents of the paper we have
received.

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July 27, 1847, RW47v24n60p1c3 Americans leave Puebla

Mexico –In the Curier Des Etats Unis of Thursday last is published a letter from the city of Mexico of the 20th ult.,
written, as the editors states, “by a wholly disinterested spectator,” and therefore entitled to full belief.

Mexico, 29th June, 1847.

We are upon the point of seeing the Americans enter this city; they were to leave Puebla yesterday, according to
some to-day according to others. Preparations are making to give them a warm reception; in the interior of the city
the Alameda and Paseo have been fortified. I think those gentlemen will have occasion to regret not having availed
themselves immediately of the stupefaction produced by the victory of Cerro Gordo, and the entry into Puebla.

It is said that Gen. Scott has not more than 8000 men. We have twice that number here and if the last advantage be
obtained over him, be sure that more than 30,000 guerrillas will be ready to cut off the retreat of the Americans,
who are represented as a bounding in gold.

[NO]

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July 27, 1847, RW47v24n60p2c2 Latest from New Orleans

From the South

We have no later tidings from Gen. Scott’s army, intelligence from which in now looked for with intense interest and
anxiety.

The last New Orleans Times insists upon the truth of the rumor to which it gave currency some days ago, to the
effect that the Mexican Government had peremptorily rejected the proposals for peace recently made to them
through Mr. Trist, and that Gen, Scott was on his march to the city of Mexico. We doubt is true, however.

The New Orleans Mercury of the evening of the 17th inst. has a letter from Mr. Chase, our former consul at Tampico,
written on the 11th, in which it is stated that “on the 30th ult. Gen. Scott was within nine miles of the city of Mexico,
and I presume has planted his flag there ere this.” But the Picayune of the 18th thinks there must be some error in
this statement. Gen. Scott it says, was unquestionably at Puebla on the 30th ult., awaiting the arrival of Generals
Cadwallader and Pillow.

[NO]

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July 27, 1847, RW47v24n60p2c2 Interesting speculations.
In the absence of news from the seat of the war, we copy the following letter from the Washington correspondent of the New York Courier and Enquirer, who claims to be behind the scenes, and who seems certainly to speak by the card.

[Correspondence of the Courier and Enquirer]

Washington, Thursday morning, July 22, 1847.

You will ere this have had time to reflect upon Mr. Buchanan’s despatch of the 15th April, containing full authority to Mr. Trist to conclude a definitive treaty of peace. Mr. Trist having such full authority to conclude a definitive treaty of peace, must have had, as I told you, that definite treaty with him, which I now again aver that he then had and now has; and that this treaty embraced California, subsequently extended to Lower California also, and in addition the Isthmus, or at least a perfect right of way over the Isthmus of Tehuantepec.

What sum was to be given to Mexico I do not know; but I do know that Gen. Scott and the Mexican Government, and the British Minister were appraised that Mr. Trist was authorized to pay down the three million appropriation in cash upon the ratification by the Government of Mexico of the treaty which he took with him; and if the treaty is ratified by that government, that sum will be paid at once to it, by Mr. Trist, without waiting for its ratification by the Senate of the United States.

I think some further sum also, beyond the three millions, was to be paid, if essential to secure a peace; but of this I do not speak with certainty; but as to the three millions I do. We are all waiting here in anxious suspense the next arrival from Mexico, which certainly ought to bring decisive intelligence whether Mr. Trist’s terms will be accepted by Mexico. If they are not positively accepted, the present determination of Gen. Scott is to move on forthwith and take the city; for which purpose, with the reinforcements which have now joined him, he will probably have a force not exceeding eleven thousand effective men.

Gen. Scott himself, and the military men who are with him, are of opinion there will be no serious difficulty in taking the city. Gen. Scott was of the opinion that the best plan was for him to have moved immediately on, after breaking up the garrison at Jalapa and take the city, as a preliminary to the offer of any definitive terms of peace. Mr. Trist was of a different opinion and actually sent on his despatch at that critical moment, not through Gen. Scott, but through an attache to the British legation of Mexico.

It is certain that the British Minister is exerting himself to the utmost to induce the government of Mexico to accede to our proffered terms of peace, and that he has hopes of success even before the capture of the city, although he regards the prospect as better when the city shall have been taken, especially if there shall be another battle in which Santa Anna will be disgracefully beaten, and probably seek shelter by becoming a voluntary prisoner of General Scott. Under all the circumstances it is difficult to form any decided opinion whether the Government of Mexico will or will not accept these terms; but if rejected now, the capture of the City, and another defeat of Santa Anna, will in my judgment ensure a pacification. It is quite possible, however, that even when this shall be accomplished, Gen. Scott and his army may still be required to spend some short time in Mexico to prevent another of those political revolutions which is as much one of the staple productions of Mexico as the lava of their volcanoes.

There is one of my previous statements which I wish you to bear in mind, if there should now be further delay in accepting the terms offered by Mr. Trist, and that is this, which the papers and events, whenever laid before Congress, will clearly show, that if Mr. Trist, instead of waiting until the 22d of June, had sent on his despatch to the Mexican government shortly the battle of Cerro Gordo and before the return of Santa Anna to the city of Mexico, the treaty of peace would ere now have been ratified by that government.

The Spy in Washington.

July 27, 1847, RW47v24n60p4c2 Volunteers in Mexico

The Staunton Spectator of the 22 d inst. says:

We have received a letter from the editor, dated at Buena Vista on the 15th ult. in which states that there was a good deal of sickness in his company. His report of that morning told a melancholy tale—twenty-nine on the sick list, and but two officers, seven non-commissioned officers and thirty-one men fit for duty. He refrains to mentioning the names of the sick—thinking it probable that many of them will recover in a short time—to avoid giving undue alarm or uneasiness to their friends.

July 27, 1847, RW47v24n60p4c3 Escape of Eight American Prisoners
The schr Home, Capt. Kinney, arrived here yesterday morning from Tampico, bringing over eight of the American
prisoners who have been so long and so unjustly detained in Mexico. The names of these men are A W Holeman, W
P DeNormandie, Wm Funk, Jno Thomas, John A Scott, S Cockrill, John Swigert and Wm Russell.

July 27, 1847, RW47v24n60p4c3 Gleaning from Mexico Papers

We passed some hours yesterday in examining a file of Mexicans papers extending through the month of June. We
found the labor fruitless, but we gleaned from them a variety of miscellaneous matter which we proceed to lay
before our readers.

The Diario del Gobierno finds a text in that part of Mr. Marcy’s intercepted despatched which encourages Gen. Scott
to foment domestic dissensions and promise aid and protection to disaffected States when the war terminates. –
From this text it denounces our Government as treacherous; declares that any peace with it must be eternal infamy,
and concludes by declaring that Mexico can never be tranquil, until the nation of Yankees disappears from the face of
the earth. This is terrible, but it is so written in the Mexican papers.

In reasoning upon the project for a Dictatorship, which some honest men among the Mexicans have supposed might
be the most efficacious remedy for the anarchy existing in their country, and might concentrate the whole power of
the nation, the Republicano takes strong grounds against it. The Republicano opposes the Dictatorship as
unnecessary, in consideration of the immense power which the Government is already invested by a law of
Congress, passed on the 20th of April last, which powers have been constructed with the utmost latitude.

In reading the Mexican papers it is very clear that the different States have ceased to anticipate a prolonged
resistance on the part of the capital to the American arms. –in view of the speedy fall of the city they are
congratulating themselves upon the wisdom of the Federal system. The federal system, they reason, has created
new centers of action, and even if the capital succumbs the States, each one for itself, will resist the ascendancy of
the American arms and refuse to recognize a treaty which may be forced upon the Central Government.

Out of views of this nature has grown a Coalition among the States of Jalisco, San Luis Potosi, Zacatecas, Mexico,
Queretaro, and Aguascalientes –the later claiming to be a State, though not so recognized by the constitution of
1824.

This Coalition has been thought worthy of several able denunciatory articles in the Republicano, although in the
principle end it has in view –the prevention of peace with the United States– it has had the Republicano for an ally.
This is but one piece of evidence we could present of the hostility of the different States to a peace, even should the
Central Government enter into a treaty with us.

July 27, 1847, RW47v24n60p4c4 From Mexico City

[From the N.O Bulletin, July16.]

From the City of Mexico.

By the papers from the capital to the 30th June, received via Tampico, by the Galveston, we learn that though there
was a quorum of the members of Congress actually in the city, they had not yet been able to get them together. It
would, therefore, appear, that the report was not correct, that Congress had declined to treat for peace under the
recent letter of Mr. Buchanan.

The probability is, that such will be the result so soon as they can get a quorum together, but up to the 30th ult. no
action whatever had taken place on the subject. It was stated there were 86 members in the city, and that 71 was a
quorum.

The force with Alvarez was said to be 5 to 6000 men. The same paper states that the force in the capital amounts to
23,000 men, and boasts that if Gen. Scott attempts to enter the city with his 8,500, they should be destroy his army
with stones, witout using their arms!!!

They seem to forget that Gen. Scott has a battering and mortar train with him, that can knock down their city,
without rendering it necessary to enter at all.
Arrival of the Steamship Jas. L. Day

Later from the Army of General Taylor.

The steamship James L. day, Capt. Woods, arrived at a late hour last night from the Brazos. We are indebted to Capt. Wood for the prompt deliver of papers.

We learn that the schr Equiv, bound out from the mouth of the Rio Grande for New Orleans with a cargo of hides, grounded on the bar, where the remained thumping for two days.

Papers from San Luis Potosi to the 6th inst. have been received by the Mexicans at Matamoros. It was reported that Gen. Scott had marched from Puebla and then countermarched, upon learning the resistance to be offered him twenty-five miles from the capital. [We have no faith in news thus half disclosed and half kept back.]

The Mexican forces at San Luis Potosi were variously reported at from four to fourteen thousand. They are commanded by Gen. Valencia. A march against Gen. Wool had been determined upon, but appears to have fallen through. Gen. Wool received (unintelligible) notice of it on the 26th ult. and made arrangements for a hearty welcome. (unintelligible) the brigade of Gen. Minon, (commanded now by another officer,) forming the advance (unintelligible) approached within sixty or eighty miles of Saltillo. Here the soldiers began to desert and dissensions arose, which induce a countermarch and rumor said that Gen. Valencia was en route from San Luis to join Gen. Santa Anna at the city of Mexico. [We can contradict this rumor upon the authority of San Luis papers received in this city within the last few days. –These papers state Gen. Valencia to be still in San Luis, making preparations for the reception of Gen. Taylor. –They mention that despatches ordering Gen. Taylor to form a junction with Gen. Scott, by the way of San Luis, had been captured, and they feel certain that Gen. Taylor will march upon that place. The regular troops of Valencia are stated at nine thousand, and strenuous appeals are made to the people to assist in the defence of the city.]

The troops at Buena Vista (2900) are in good health, and under Gen. Wool’s command progressing rapidly in the "school of a soldier."

Gen. Taylor is still at Walnut Springs, quietly awaiting the arrival of those reinforcements so often promised and always delayed.

It was rumored along the road that Urrea was on this side of the mountain, but it was not generally believed in Camargo or above there on the line; the country wore the appearance of perfect quiet, and there was no interest in either present or perspective operations. We have positive information of his being in Victoria five days ago, and of his having arrested the Governor of this State, and sent him under guard to the city of Mexico, charged with hatching treason against the Mexican Government. The Department of Tamaulipas is put under contribution for a large sum of money, and Urrea is deputed to enforce its collection with the bayonet.

[NO]
We are indebted to a gentlemen recently from Vera Cruz, for some accurate and interesting information. General Pierce was in command of full 4000 men, who were encamped upon the beach. It is probable, indeed, that but this time Gen. Pierce has joined the advance, and that the whole body of 4,000 men is now in full march to Puebla.

The entire number of American soldiers between Vera Cruz and the city of Mexico is estimated at from fifteen to sixteen thousand men. About the last of June, gen. Scott had with him a force of 8,500. The detachment under Gen. Cadwallader numbered a little over 1500; when it left Vera Cruz, and must have entered Puebla in the early part of July. General Pillow was in command of 2,500 men, and at the last accounts was pushing forward as rapidly as circumstances would permit. Lastly, we have Gen. Pierce with 4,000 men, who will probably join the main army in the course of the present month.

The statement of the Government paper were therefore incorrect in point of time, as well as numbers. General Scott, instead of having 20,000 men under him, will be in command of about 15,000. Instead of receiving all the new levies, by the end of June, he will not receive them until the close of July. Gen. Scott did not expect to make a forward movement upon the capital, until an answer was received to Mr. Buchanan’s propositions of peace. If these overtures have been rejected, as is again asserted by a contemporary, we presume that he will hasten his departure for the city of the Aztecs with characteristic energy and decision.

July 30, 1847, RW47v24n61p4c3 From the Rio Grande

[From the N.O. Picayune, July 20.]

From the Rio Grande.

The steamship Mery Kingland, Capt. Davis, arrived yesterday morning from Brazos Santiago, having sailed on the 15th inst.

There was a rumor at the Brazos when Capt. Davis left that Urrea with a force of 3000 men was about to make a descent upon Reynosa. One company on the way to the camp of instruction have been landed at Reynosa, and the quartermaster was making every preparation to defend the place.

Several bodies of the enemy have lately been seen on the river and it is supposed to be Urrea’s object to attack some of the depots or wagon trains between Camargo and Monterrey.

A gang of desperadoes commanded by a man, named King, composed of Mexicans and people of other nations, has been found near Brazos. Some of the members of the gang have been taken prisoners and the rest dispersed. The rancho frequented by them was burnt to the ground.

[NO]

July 30, 1847, RW47v24n61p4c4 American Prisoners in Mexico

American Prisoners in Mexico

We have been allowed to make use of a letter from Lieut. Barbour, of the 1st Regiment of Kentucky Volunteers, who is now a prisoner in the city of Mexico. The letter will awaken new alarm for the fate of the handful of brave men now prisoners in the city Mexico. The perfidy of Santa Anna in the case of these prisoners is sufficient to justify every stigma which has ever been cast upon him. It is eminently cruel and contemptible, and far more shameless than most of his unworthy acts, for often the man endeavors to propitiate universal regard by traits of apparent magnanimity:

City of Mexico, June 29, 1847.

On the 4th of this month 190 of our prisoners left the Castle of Santiago in this city for Tampico, where we were told they were to be released, but it was with regret, that we learn through the city papers here that they wee stopped at an Indian village 150 miles from this by order of Gen. Santa Anna, and that they were starving.

We have suffered great hardships, particularly the men. They have been in state of nakedness, famine and disease for the last 5 months, and many of them would have died had it not been for the foreign here through whom aid was given them. This government, or rather Santa Anna, has no idea of releasing any of us. It is his wish to send us to Acapulco on the Pacific. The most rigid and compulsory measures on the part of our Government will [alone] do us any good.

Respectfully your friend and serv’t. WM.T. Barbour.
Santa Anna and Cerro Gordo.

We promised the other day to pay our respects to Santa Anna’s detailed report of the Battle of Cerro Gordo. It is in the nature of an autobiography, extending from the moment when the Army of the North was retiring to its former quarters, “covered with glory on the field of Angostura,” down to the 18th of April. The difficulties he had to encounter occupy much of the long narrative and do not require to be told. His minute description of the works at Cerro Gordo would hardly be intelligible without the plan accompanying the report. The most rapid and condensed portion of the narrative describes the fighting, but the events are not new, as he confines himself, principally to the storming of the height known as the Telegraph. –The dead of General Vasquez and the faltering of the Puebla brigade are the most notable of the events of the day in his story.

Such is the exact and genuine account of my operations at Cerro Gordo during the few days which elapsed from my arrival till the morning of the 18th. By this it will be seen by the Supreme Government, that surrounded by a thousand difficulties I spared no means or efforts to assure a triumph for the nation in the position selected; that there were no grave errors or faults committed, as malevolence or cowardice has whispered; and that as my interests and my glory were identified with those of the nation, so it is but justice to me confess that it was not my fault that the result did not correspond to my efforts and my most ardent desires. Grant, if you please, that there should have been somewhat more firmness and intrepidity shown by our soldiers; but they should be excused in consideration of the little experience of war which they had had during the few months that they have been enlisted. The fortifications, too, upon the hill known as the Telegraph, were deficient; but it should not be forgotten that they enemy did not allow time for the completion of the works designed and commenced, nor was it possible to complete them without sufficient laborers, without tools, and even without materials. The people did not afford the aid which was required of them, and some of them contiguous to the seat of the war deserve the denunciations which the Governor of the State did not spare them, notwithstanding his well known moderation.

Besides the deficiencies above indicated, more infantry of the line were wanting, which it was impossible to procure. You will have noticed that among the few bodies of permanent infantry which I enumerate, there were only a few more than 3000 men, and even of these some had just been recruited. The remainder, enough to bring up the number to a little over 6000 men, belonged to the National Guard, recently enlisted, and yet to burn their first cartridge in presence of the enemy. It is not true, therefore, that there were assembled there a force of from 12,000 to 14,000 men as has been hastily or maliciously circulated. But there is nothing strange in the victory won by the enemy, if it is considered that their number was almost double ours, that they possessed all those elements which we were in want of, and that their courage in the action was as desperate as would have been their situation if they had lost the battle. At some future day, when political passions and personal rivalries have passed away, entire justice will be done those Mexicans who, notwithstanding their disadvantages, opposed their generous breasts to the arrogant invader on the 17th and 18th of April, and sold dearly the victory which was won on the second day of combat.

A favorable moment gained the triumph, which was in a measure brought about by the want of time to fortify our position properly, by the scarcity of good troops, by the blameless inexperience of others newly enlisted, by the want of laborers and of the tools indispensable for fortifications erecting in haste, and the want of other materials and elements which are reasonably required to assure a successful result.

Nothing of all this was concealed from me, nor was my resolution shaken by it. When a great people is invade by an unjust enemy, which aims at wounding its rights and trampling on its dignity, it cannot excuse itself from a fight, even though it should be unprepared for the combat. It will suffer defeats, but weakening the enemy, even in its own disasters, it will acquire experiences, and sooner or later it will exterminate the invader or at least give him a positive defeat. In this conviction, which is deep rooted within me, I have sought the enemy in every direction, and inflicted heavy losses upon him in both the actions which I have thought. If Mexicans discover that we do not fight the enemy as often as an opportunity occurs, they will abandon themselves to despair, when there are abundant reasons for looking forward to a happy day in which the country may secure again unfading glory. My faith in her destinies has never abandoned me; and I leave to others the pleasure of exercising their malevolence or their envy, whilst I strive with all my powers to wrest victory from the hands of the enemy, or to meet death –the only possible term of my determination to serve with zeal and loyalty the nation which has so constantly honored me.
The New Orleans papers are alive with speculations upon the subject of the news lately received from Mexico, and its authenticity is canvassed with minute care. Being unable to insert all that is written, the public must be content with our views, derived from an attentive perusal of those journals.

The great question is, has the Mexican Government, in reality, appointed commissioners to meet Mr. Trist? We will merely state the facts, in order that the reader make up his own mind according to his estimate of them.

It is certain that no papers have been received from Mexico of a later date than 30th of June, up to which (unintelligible) there had neither been any commissioners announced, nor was, any thing publicly known about negotiations of peace, except that Congress had been summoned from day to day to receive Mr. Buchanan’s proposition, and that no quorum had attended.

(Unintelligible) have arrived at Vera Cruz form Puebla, which left on or about the 4th of July, bearing letters for several commercial houses in the former city. Upon the strength of these letters, and this verbal intelligence, two papers in Vera Cruz, both [says the Picayune] edited by Spaniards, announce to the public, that Mexico has appointed three commissioners to meet Mr. Trist at San Martin, and settle terms of peace. The information which these papers profess to have, is detailed with so much minuteness, descending even to the names of the commissioners, that but for the evidence of the other side, we should have no hesitation in yielding implicit faith to it. That evidence is contained in a letter from Tampico, to the editor of the La Patria, in New Orleans. The writer says he has conversed with a gentleman direct from Mexico, which city he left on the sixth, and that the information derived from him, “to contradict the news published in Vera Cruz” relative to the appointment of the commissioners. This is all we have to contradict the appointment, and unless we learn that the informant was a person conversant with public affairs, we shall be disposed to place very little hesitance on it. The appointment of commissioners would be on the part of Santa Anna, an act abhorrent to the feeling of a strong party in Mexico, and its first announcement might create an outbreak. There can be little doubt that an attempt might be made to force the Congress by threats of violence, to cancel the commission. It is probable, therefore, that the crafty Dictator, acting in connivance with Congress, might have sent off the commissioners, without announcing it, thereby rendering the act irrevocable. In that case the appointment of the commission would be known in Puebla before it was announced in Mexico.

Two of the objections enumerated by the other papers of New Orleans to this report, are disposed of very properly, we think, by the Picayune. The first is, that Santa Anna has no power to open negotiations, as he has himself acknowledge by referring the whole matter to Congress. But since he has been unable to get quorum of that body together, and since the emergency demands immediate action, as the acting Executive, would he not be justified in proceeding as if Congress had adjourned? Nay! Is it not his sworn duty to do so? Upon this point there may be doubts, Santa Anna however, is not a man to be restrained by any very nice scruples. The other objection is, that Mr. Trist is not authorized to conclude a treaty of peace. This is certainly a misapprehension of the extent of his powers, as the following extract from Mr. Buchanan letter, as translated from the Spanish, will clearly show.

"Desirous, nevertheless, that an honorable peace should be reestablished, he [the President] is resolved that the evils of war shall not be prolonged a day beyond what the government of Mexico may make absolutely necessary, and in order that this determination may be carried into effect, he has concluded to send to the headquarters of the Army of Occupation in Mexico, in the quality of commissioner, Mr. Nicholas P. Trist, second in rank to the undersigned in the administration of Foreign Affairs, who bears full powers to conclude a definitive treaty of peace with the United State. The gentleman possesses the entire confidence of the President, and is worthy of that of the Government of Mexico.

Four our part, we do not hesitate to express the belief that negotiations have been commenced —because as the Picayune observes, where there is so much smoke there must be some fire —because it is well known that the British Embassy is extremely anxious to produce an accommodation —because the British Ambassador has despatched his Secretary of Legation to Puebla with this avowed (unintelligible) —and because, in general, we know the interest of England is deeply pledged to bring about a peace if possible. The delay of General Scott at Puebla, which can hardly be accounted for otherwise, seems to confirm this view, as does the fact that the Republicanos has already said, more than once, that peace was desirable, and the Republicanos is latterly Anti–American. Santa Anna, even, (unintelligible) that his character as a general in the field cannot be retrieved in any contest with our troops, is said to be secretly inclined to an accommodation, and inasmuch as (unintelligible) gain neither glory nor influence by war, we are prepared to believe that such is the fact.

A very few days, however, will decide the question. As to the very important question of what are to be the terms, we have no lights to guide us.

[NO]

August 3, 1847, RW47v24n62p1c3 Further particulars

[From the New Orleans Picayune.]

Further Particulars by the N. Orleans.

The town of Huejutla, is spelled sometimes Guautla. It is thus on Ward’s map, it lies almost directly south of Tampico, and apparently seventy miles only distant, on the road to the city of Mexico. Tantoyuca is on the same
road, about fifteen miles north of Huejutla—we follow this spelling, because we find it so in the Mexican papers. We now recur to another and more important part of the intelligence brought by the New Orleans.

On the Spanish side of the Sun the names of the commissioners are given as follows: D. Manuel Eduardo de Gorostiza, D. Manuel Baranda and D. Jose Maria Tornel. In further says that letters have been received by a commercial house from Mexico, which declare that Santa Anna is positively in favor of peace, but he was waiting until the peace party should acquire the undisputed ascendancy before declaring himself.

The same paper says further on its Spanish side that it was reported in Vera Curz that Alvarez had returned to the South, having had some difficulty with Gen. Canalizo.

The Sun of the 14th inst. has some speculations upon the subject of the negotiations for peace, but they are only speculations. It was unknown in Vera Cruz whether the three commissioners had been selected by Santa Anna or Congress, or whether Congress had assembled at all. It was understood that Congress would assembled, or had been summoned to assemble, on the 7th inst., but the Sun thinks it would be impossible to get quorum.

Of the commissioners the Sun says that Gorostiza represents the party of the moderados, while Baranda is a mere creature of Santa Anna. Of Tornel it says that although he was a partisan of the administration of Paredes and a monarchist, yet he could not have obtained a place in the commission unless he had previously become reconciled to Santa Anna. The Sun therefore regards the commissions as representing Santa Anna, and is decidedly of opinion that Santa Anna’s real views are favorable to peace.

The Arco Iris of the 13th speaks of letters received from Puebla on the day previous, and gives the substance of them in an article which we translate, regretting that no dates are given:

Mexico. –The Government has just named Senores Tornel, Gorostiza and Baranda as commissioners to repair at once to San Martin Tesmelucan (seven leagues of peace made by the Cabinet of Washington through its minister, Mr. Trist. They have accepted the appointment and departed to discharge their duties. This course was approved by a majority of the men of influence, who by their persuasions in a great degree contributed to its adoption. –Another letter mentions that the individuals appointed upon this commission were Senores Cuevas, Cortina and Zurutuza.

Gen. Santa Anna remained in power, the ministry has undergone no change, and a majority of it is in favor of an adjustment.

The same letters add that orders had been issued for withdrawing towards the capital the troops which had been stationed at Huamantla, and they conclude by saying that Mexico is a faithful picture of Babylon, (Babel?) inasmuch as opinions cannot be concentrated upon any one measure—society being composed of the most heterogeneous members, and divided into innumerable fractions, who continually cry out against every description of measure proposed, and in nothing united. The emigration of respectable families was increasing every day, and the military dictatorship which in fact prevailed was every way irksome and insupportable.

The American train, they say, was very near its entrance into Puebla, without having suffered any interruption or obstacle after skirmished near Jalapa.

The information contained in these letters is confirmed by what we learn verbally by an individual who arrived yesterday from Puebla. We therefore incline to put confidence in the facts mention in the letters, except in regard to the commissioners.

This is the substance of all the news we can extract from the Vera Cruz papers about the commissioners. The Sun’s articles are but speculation, and we do not give them.

Gen. Pillow’s division arrived at Puebla on the 8th, all well. The American army would march on the city of Mexico to a certainty of peace were not soon made. [We never supposed there was any doubt about this.] The postscript, dated the 11th inst., says that peace was the order of the day. The writer placed no faith in the prospect; he considered that Santa Anna’s sole object was to gain time, a principle of general policy with the Mexicans, especially with the great map.

Meager as this news is, it is later than any we can find in the Vera Cruz papers from the Gen. Scott’s army. It establishes Gen. Pillow’s arrival at Puebla on the 8th, and the pendency of peace negotiations in some form as late as the 11th at which time Gen. Scott had not moved towards Mexico. So far as we have been able to ascertain, this is the latest date received from Puebla.

The express rider was a Mexican. He lost what little money he had and his two horses, besides being severely wounded. When we reached Vera Cruz, he was still unable to get about without assistance. Owing to this unfortunate accident we have not a letter or paper from Mr. Kendall, save the brief note from him to our agents at Vera Cruz.

Our correspondent writes that a large part of the command of Gen. Pierce left on the 14th and 15th. The general was expected to get off the evening of the 16th. Our letters say nothing about the force collected at the National Bridge
The five companies composing the Louisiana battalion have arrived at Vera Cruz, and are said to be enjoying excellent health.

We are again favored by Dr. Barton, with a statement in regard to the health of Vera Cruz, which we annex.

An account of the Mortality of Vera Cruz from the 1st to the 18th of July: From Vomito: Soldiers 27; Qr. Master's Dep 17; Mexicans 5; Others 0; Total 49. Other Diseases: Soldiers 13; Qr. Master's Dep 9; Mexicans 29; Others 3; Total 54. Nation: Americans 66; Mexicans 34; Other For'rs 3; Unknown 0; Total 103.

The fate of Lieut. Whipple, of the 9th Infantry, is a very sad one. The following letter is the most minute account of the circumstances attending it that we have seen:

Camp Bogardo, Near Vera Cruz, July 12.

Gentleman –I am sorry to say to you that yesterday afternoon Lieut. Whipple, of New Hampshire, adjutant of the 9th or New England Regiment U.S. Infantry, was taken by a party of rancheros, and we fear foully murdered. Mr. Whipple rode into the city in the morning, and after transacting business there, took a ride to the cemetery, about a mile from the walls, accompanied by private Barnes. Fastening their horses, they walked over the burial-ground, and upon reaching the gate again were met by three rancheros, who, dismounting, presented their carbines and ordered them to mount. Lieutenant Wipple drew his sword, the only weapon he had, but was struck and prostrated by one of the rancheros. Barnes knocked aside the carbine aimed to him, and dodging under a horse, escaped into the cemetery, and thence through the chaparral into the city. The last he saw of Lieut. Whipple was as he was struck by the carbine.

Officers from the city were in pursuit within twenty five minutes after receiving intelligence of the capture of Lieut. Whipple. When the news reached the camp, Cap. Bowes's rifle company and the dragoons started in pursuit, but nothing has been heard of the lieutenant. Seven or eight Mexicans were taken and brought into camp, but whether any of them were concerned in this business is not known. It is to be hoped that they will be summarily dealt with. Major Seymour goes out this morning in pursuit, but I fear much that we have seen the last of Adj. Whipple. He was a gentleman of fine education and an accomplished officer. A lawyer in good practice in New Hampshire, he received a first lieutenant commission in April, repaired to Fort Adams, and on his passage to Vera Cruz was appointed by Col. Hanson adjutant of the 9th Regiment. He was ambition of distinction, and it is a matter of unusual regret that he should have been cut down in so cowardly manner, while just entering upon his career of honor and usefulness.

The Arco Iris of the 14th inst. copies several items from the Boletin de Noticias, a new paper published at Jalapa. The Boletin of the 6th says that a Mexican, acting as a spy for the Americans, was that day arrested in the vicinity of Jalapa, and was speedily to be tried. The public of Jalapa were clamorous against the spy, charging him with having killed two Indians in that town just before he was taken. Upon the spy, were found 25 or 30 letters –among them various articles for the paper of the United States [newspaper correspondence, we take it.] the letters generally were said to contain exaggerated accounts of the encounter at La Hoya, representing that the guerrilla force was 2000 strong and lost 70 killed, twice that number wounded and a considerable number of prisoners; the American only having eight horses lost and one soldier slightly wounded. The Boletin of Jalapa says this is absolutely ridiculous, that every body knows that the loss of the Americans exceeded thirty men; that their guerrillas lost only seven or eight, and that their whole forces was about 700 only. The Boletin makes the statement to prevent people at a distance from being misled.

Among the letters found on the spy was one from Gen. Pillow, written in pencil 20 miles beyond Perote, with instructions for Gen. Pierce. It represented that the men were dying on an average of eight a day in Perote, and gives some other details which the Boletin deems it imprudent to print. According to this authority all the letters agree that the person arrested was a courier, and some made him a spy. The letter to Gen. Pierce represented that he was the same person who had previously taken a letter from Gen Pillow to Perote, and that he would return with letters from Vera Cruz to the garrison of Perote. We treble for the poor fellow's life.

August 3, 1847, RW47v24n62p1c3 Poisoning Americans in Mexico

Poisoning Americans in Mexico

We mentioned some time since the rumor, not our own, that the Mexicans at Jalapa and elsewhere in Mexico, were
reconstituted separately into two independent empires. The God of the Battle decided that we, the American

determine whether the two great subdivisions of the British race, one inhabiting Europe and the other inhabiting

of bondage. The war of the revolution was not a war for liberty. On the contrary it was a struggle in arms to

attached to the very name of our national independence. But the people of the United States were never in at state

anniversary of our emancipation from bondage, and vague ideas of that vaguest of all things, called liberty, are

Men who have but superficially studied the history of the United States are accustomed to speak of this day as the

bestow on this day.

Meanwhile let us be just to the memory of our fathers, and just to ourselves in the measure of regard which we

pride which our country's career awakens –no homage of the soul is profound enough to render due adoration to

And well it is for us that it is so, since no warmth of gratitude is intense enough to be commensurate with the debt of

thankfulness we owe to our patriot sires, no language is powerful enough to express adequately the emotions of

pride which our country's career awakens –no homage of the soul is profound enough to render due adoration to

that gracious Providence which continue to guide and to guard the destinies of the Union.

We come to rejoice with you on this day of glorious memories, in the prosperity and greatness of our country, and to

rekindle in our hearts the sacred fire of patriotism by remembering together the virtues and the sacrifices of our wise

battles of their country, are not the less animated with the same devoted love toward her which we feel –have

desired on this anniversary of our separate existence as a sovereign people, to present their respectful salutations to

you as the official representative here of the power and authority of the United States.

General. –The veteran officers and soldiers whom you have so many times led on to victory and to fame –those yet

untried in the field, who ardently long for the day when your voice shall bid them also tread triumphantly in the

same noble path of honor and of duty– and others your fellow–citizens present, who, though not called to fight the

companies of Massachusetts volunteers were assembled, all but the guard, with the colors of the regiment presented

them by the Governor of their State, and a little after 9 o'clock they formed and marched out towards Camp Taylor.

An American flag born by a citizen was carried near the regimental colors. Colonel Wright and the members of the

Regiment staff, and others, preceded the regiment, and on the road received the marching salute. At Camp Taylor

all was ready; under the wide–spread awning in front of Gen. Taylor's tent were the brave old hero and the members

of his staff and the officers attached to the forces stationed at camp. On the right of the awning the soldiers of Major

Brag's Light Artillery were drawn up in line on the left the 2d Dragoons, and in the front the Massachusetts regiment.

As soon as the latter had formed into line, Gen. Cushing made his appearance, and Gen. Taylor and his officers all

rose. Gen. Cushing then proceeded to address him as follows:

General. –The veteran officers and soldiers whom you have so many times led on to victory and to fame –those yet

untried in the field, who ardently long for the day when your voice shall bid them also tread triumphantly in the

same noble path of honor and of duty– and others your fellow–citizens present, who, though not called to fight the

battles of their country, are not the less animated with the same devoted love toward her which we feel -have

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We come to rejoice with you on this day of glorious memories, in the prosperity and greatness of our country, and to

rekindle in our hearts the sacred fire of patriotism by remembering together the virtues and the sacrifices of our wise

and brave forefathers, who have transmitted to us the splendid heritage of the land hallowed by their blood; of the

institutions they founded, of their own immortal names.

It is indeed a day never forgotten by an American; for, whether in the home of our affections and interests, surrounded by all that is dearest to the human heart, or on the broad expanse of the fathomless ocean, or wandering over some far distant land, on this anniversary, wherever we may be, our thoughts are turned spontaneously to the same point, as truly as the needle to the pole, as devoutly as the Moslem to his holy Mecca.

And well it is for us that it is so, since no warmth of gratitude is intense enough to be commensurate with the debt of

thankfulness we owe to our patriot sires, no language is powerful enough to express adequately the emotions of

pride which our country's career awakens –no homage of the soul is profound enough to render due adoration to

that gracious Providence which continue to guide and to guard the destinies of the Union.

Meanwhile let us be just to the memory of our fathers, and just to ourselves in the measure of regard which we

bestow on this day.

Men who have but superficially studied the history of the United States are accustomed to speak of this day as the

anniversary of our emancipation from bondage, and vague ideas of that vaguest of all things, called liberty, are

attached to the very name of our national independence. But the people of the United States were never in at state

of bondage. The war of the revolution was not a war for liberty. On the contrary it was a struggle in arms to
determine whether the two great subdivisions of the British race, one inhabiting Europe and the other inhabiting

America, and both equally free, should continue to constitute a single empire, or whether they should be

reconstituted separately into two independent empires. The God of the Battle decided that we, the American

in Europe and the other inhabiting

world, and the bite of

poisonous reptiles, by showing the weed and swallowing the extract. The extract is also used to put in the place of a

bite of a poisonous reptile, and always with success. A Mexican never travels, if it can be, avoided, without a small

package of the huaco weed, to be provided for against accidents.

{NO}
Colonies, were as competent for independent self-government as the mother country; and England, with that practical good sense which distinguished her from other nations, manfully acquiesced in the decision which split her power asunder, and gave to us separate dominion in America.

And the mysterious order of the Providence seems to have predestined the American to surpass the European subdivision of the original empire, for, of that high-minded, bold-hearted, and strong-handed British race, which, wheresoever it appears separate but to command; the more numerous part will ere long he found in America; and the British Isles have already reached that fatal term in the history of the nations when their native land can no longer feed its sons; while the people of the United States are still expanding with a rapidity and strength of possession which defies calculation, over the rich virgin soils of the New World.

This reflection acquires new force from the circumstances under which we this day we meet, a conquering American army, here, in the heart of the Mexican Republic, in sight of the captured redoubts and heights of Monterrey, amid the venerable trees, and by the side of these living waters of the wood of San Domingo; which, occupied by you, general, and your victorious troops, has acquired a place in history as enduring as poetry ever gave to the fountain of Vaucluse, or eloquence to the grove of Academus.

Yes, millions of men will have assembled to–day within the broad limits of the United States, to do honors to the traditions of the Revolution, to ponder on the excellent beauty of the Federal constitutions, to congratulate one another on the happy condition of our country, and to look forward with inquisitive eye into the sublime future of the American Republic. They will call to mind the names of the stricken fields of that first war of independence which vindicate our national rights on the land, and of that second war of independence which vindicate our national rights on the sea, and of the heroes who illustrated each; but while Bunker Hill, and Saratoga, and Yorktown, and New Orleans will not be forgotten, Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterry, Buena Vista, Vera Cruz and Cerro Gordo, will yet more

"Be in their flowing cups freely remembered,"

and earth and sky will re–echo with shouts of enthusiasm at the mention of the names of Scott and Taylor, and of the brave men who under their lead have borne the banner of the Union in triumph over the wild plains and through the mountain passes of Mexico.

But we assembled in this grander than all human templates, the outspread sky of the bright firmament of heaven, treading with our own feet the conquered savannahs of New Leon, surrounded by that lofty Sierra, which rises on either hand, as though placed by nature to be the boundary of the empires, we, I say, can best appreciate with the sober but strong conviction of the palpable reality, how vast are the strides which the United States have made in greatness, since the day, not yet remote, when we were humble colonies scattered in a narrow line along the shore of the Atlantic, until now; when we have swarmed across the great central valley of the continent, have struck over to the shores of the Pacific, and unembarrassed by the burden of a foreign war, which has already given to us the possession of the two–thirds of Mexico, are yet able, from the superabundance of our overflowing prosperity, to nourish at will the starving nations of the Old World.

Honor them to the bold hearts, who, on the great day whose anniversary we celebrate, dared to comprehend their country’s capabilities and to proclaim it independent! –Honor to the heroes and the sages who have conducted it so gloriously on to our times! Honor to the statesmen whose vigorous hands at this time so ably and successfully administered its Government! Honor to the generous minded people of our country who freely send forth their sons so fight her battles in this foreign land! Honor to the brave soldiers whose lives and to enjoy the renown, they have so nobly earned in the battle field! Honor above all to the gallant men who fell in the hour of their country’s triumph, whose blood was the sacrificial incense of victory, and who, tho’ dead, yet live immortal in the affectionate memory of their countrymen!

We trust and believe that our brethren in arms, whom Scott has been leading in triumph from Vera Cruz to Puebla, will celebrate this day in the capital of the Mexican Republic, and on the site of the great teocalli of the Aztec. And if Mexico shall then continue in the blind obstinacy of her fatal infatuation, and still refuse the proffers of peace which the President of the U. States, with honorable solicitude to terminate the evils of the war, has at all (unintelligible) been ready to conclude, –then we look to you, sir, m the undoubted confidence of perfect faith in your generalship, your wisdom, your courage, and your fortune, to conduct us in similar triumph along that lofty table land before our eyes, and to complete, on the plains of the Bajio, that which you so gloriously commenced on those of the Rio Grande, namely the total subjugation of New Spain.

Once more, general, in the name and as the humble instrument of your fellow–soldiers and fellow–citizens, whom you see before you, I tender to you their felicitations on occasion of this suspicious anniversary, with sentiments of admiration for the high achievements which have marked your life, of deep respect for your personally, and of the sincerest aspirations for your future happiness and honor in whatever else of danger or duty you may hereafter be called to by the providence of an all wise God.

Gen. Taylor, who had listened with great attention to the remarks of Gen. C. and evidently powerfully affected by the mention of his name, briefly but feelingly responded as follows:

General –In replay to your eloquent and complimentary allusions to the services of the army under my command, I can only briefly express my thanks and those of the brave men of my command, to whose exertions and gallantry
alone our success are due. For myself I can claim to merit beyond that of sharing and encountering danger with them. You have traced up and depicted in most faithful colors the rapid progress of our country from the commencement to its present condition of greatness and prosperity –occupying the front rank in the nation of the world. The existing war may show the world that in great national enterprise and interests are firm and united –and that the flower of our country, without distinction of party, is always ready to vindicate the national honor on the battle-field. Should it be our lot to resume offensive operations on this line, I shall move with every confidence in the gallantry and success of the forces. I have but little doubt that those who have but recently come into the field, and have not been able to participate in active service as yet, will distinguish themselves as greatly as those who have gone before. That thousands of volunteers who have many of them, been brought up in affluence, have left their pursuits and comfortable homes, to encounter the hardships of an active campaign, is a sufficient guaranty that the rights and honor of our country will always be maintained.

A general shaking of hands and congratulations here took place for some moments, after which Col. Wright of the Massachusetts volunteers by invitation, read the Declaration of Independence. The company then partake of a substantial lunch provided by the hospitable commander, who had an smile and a pleasant word for all, and seemed happy in being able to make other so. –He was dressed in undress uniform, and looked a little more like the brave old hero that he is and a little less like the plain, unaffected country gentleman –a very little– than I have yet seem him. At 12 o'clock, while the company were yet at camp, a national salute of the last gun bad died away, the booming of cannon from the black fort seemed to echo back the salute.

About 3 o'clock Gen. Taylor and staff with an escort of dragoons came into town, and with Gen. Cushing and the officers of the Massachusetts Regiment proceeded to Arista's garden or Arista's house I should say, where a table was spread in the broad corridor opening into the garden with its bright green shrubs, its crimson rose bushes covered with fragrant flowers, its well kept walls, and the gurgling stream that meanders through it. The smell of the bright gems of nature's handiwork were not more pleasing than the odor which arose from the savory viands prepared for immediate consumption. Everyone was surprised at the profusion of good things and the variety that was placed upon the table, all owing to the exertions of Capt. Glover, a merchant residing here for some years, one of the committee of arrangements, whose peculiar providence it was to see that nothing should be wanting. He performed his duty to perfection. Claret, Madeira, and Champaigne in abundance served to give zest to the repast and aid in the sentimental expression of feeling.

When the substantials had been discussed and removed, Gen. Cushing, who presided at the head of the table, with Gen. Taylor on his right, arose and after some remarks complimentary to the committee of arrangements for the faithful manner in which they had cared for their guests, proceeded to announce the following regular toasts, which I think you will admit are better than regular set toasts generally are:

The Day we Celebrate –As dear to us in a strange clime and the midst of war as when welcomed at our peaceful homes.

The President of the United States.

The Memory of Washington –Brightening with time, all nations will at last behold and admire its lustre.

The Army and the Volunteers of the United States –They have conquered all but peace.

The Navy of the United States –With amphibious facility, finding no enemy on the waters, it has constantly sought and successfully encountered him on the land.

The Constitution –May it ever be administered in the spirit which controlled its first formation.

The Surviving Heroes of the Revolution –Length of days has been vouchsafed to them that they might behold the marvellous results of their youthful toil –all honor to their venerable names.

Our Brethren in Arms at the South –They have lighted their paths with a blaze of victories.

Mexico –Blessed with a genial clime and the physical elements of greatness and power, she is a prey to civil strife and bad government; may the influence of wise rulers and free institutions restore her to her proper rank among the nations of the earth.

The Spirit of '76 –It burns as brightly among the mountains of Mexico as of old at Trenton: "Skies, not souls, they change who cross the sea."

The Mexican War –Waged to secure a honorable and a lasting peace, may such be its early consummation.

The Illustrious Dead –From Palo Alto to Cerro Gordo every field is consecrated by the sacrifice of gallant spirits; a sympathising country yields spontaneous and grateful homage to their memory.

The American Fair –Worthy descendants of the women of the Revolution their hearts and prayers are with those who uphold their country’s cause in a foreign land.
These sentiments were all drank with the strongest testimonials of admiration, and all was harmony. About seventy persons, including a number of citizens, partook of the repast.

Volunteer toasts being called for, Lieut. Crowningahield of the Massachusetts Regiment gave:

Andrew Jackson –Sacred be his memory (Drank standing in silence.)

Lieut. Fuller, of the Massachusetts Volunteers, gave:

Gen. Taylor– We hail him as the next President; may his civil be as brilliant as his military career. (This sentiment was drunk with three times three.)

Gen. Taylor rose to respond to this sentiment and said: Mr. President and Gentlemen –I have never had the vanity to aspire to or look for that elevated situation which has just been alluded to, but if my fellow–countrymen think proper to elevate me to so distinguished and honorable a position, I certainly shall do my best to discharge the duties of that responsible position faithfully. But if any other candidate is preferred and offered who may be competent than myself, I need to say that I shall acquiesce most cheerfully in their decision, and shall rejoice that there is one more worthy to represent them in the highest office in their gift.

He then gave as a toast:

The State of Massachusetts and the city of Boston –The place where our liberties were cradled; whose sons have borne so conspicuous a part in the establishment and maintenance of the principles of our independence and the constitution, and have gallantly maintained the same by sea and land.

Col. Wright responded:

Massachusetts and the city of Boston; it is my native state and my native city, and the State where many of us who have been complimented this day were born. We have just received a compliment and a great one from the commanding general. Massachusetts has therefore done her part; her name reads well, her star shines brightly in the national galaxy. In former times, she was known well and did well. She then held, and does now, as her most sacred spot, what we call " the Cradle of Liberty" –old Faneuil Hall. We may all securely praise the past because it cannot be changed, and now may it be our lot to make the future as brilliant as the past has been, and perhaps more so. We are here with our arms in our hands, her colors, bearing the figure of that proud warrior and that good old shield with its lone star, a twin star to that of Texas. I do not believe, gentleman, Massachusetts has a son on this soil but who comes with the same feelings and sentiments that inspired their sired of old; whose whole heart is not in the cause and who will not do all he can in supporting the name and the honor of his country; in maintaining that bright chivalry of which she is so proud, and displaying courage and good conduct when the foe is in sight. I will give you, gentlemen–

The Past and Present –Palo Alto, Resaca, Monterrey and Buena Vista, the Bunker Hill, Princeton and Yorktown of the present century.

By Capt. Montgomery, USA. –The orator of the day, scholar, statesman and soldier. An ornament of his country at home and abroad. We doubt not that his sword will prove as irresistible as his eloquence.

Gen. Cushing rose and said:

Gentlemen –I beg to return you my heartfelt thanks for the sentiment just presented and the kindness with which you have received it. I know and see that those who are bravest in the battlefield are the most courteous in the saloon; that the best soldier is the best gentleman. I appreciate the kind feelings which dictated this sentiment, and when I look on them I am ready to say, as Marshal Bouriscault said in the face of the chivalry of France, “they are not only competent to sustain their country’s honor, but Heaven itself upon their lance points.” Let me repeat what has been said at home, a fact which has struck them with well founded admiration, that whereas in all the contests of the American and Mexican Armies the Mexican officers have followed, the American officers have lead. –Our officers not only made the plan of battle, ordered the contest, and planted themselves in the first rank, but placed themselves in the post of the danger, and where the cry of danger was loudest, the boom of cannon heaviest, and the iron hailstorm thickest, there were found the gallant general and his officers. It was not in the cathedral of Monterrey that the American commander was found, beneath the impervious walls of the city that our gallant officers sheltered themselves (unintelligible) in the deep ravines of Buena Vista that the general and his officers took repose; to Gen. Santa Anna and his staff was left that post of security. The men of America; they whom their country has selected to fight for her honor and who have given evidence that their confidence was not misplaced, need I say where they were found? When the blood of the brave streamed the fastest, the leaders were the first to be struck, and died on the bosom of honor sending up to Heaven that cry of glory which shall enkindle all the young souls of America. But gentlemen, we, the remote hearers of the stupendous events occurring here, we were forbidden to stop at the leaders in our admiration; for we saw, and were proud to see, that common soldiers, men in the ranks, regular soldiers, to whom the prospect of promotion is remote and casual, with nought to animate them but that love of liberty which is inherent, were worthy of their officers; and whatever Taylor would lead, there would the brave soldiers gallantly follow. Wherever that victorious foot was placed, there stood to back him the invincible legions of the army of the United States.
Gen. C. made some additional remarks, but the limits of my letter, already swelled to an extraordinary extent, will not permit me to give them any more at length. I could not refrain from giving these remarks so complimentary to the regular army. In conclusion, he offered his sentiment:

The United States –Baptised in the blood of the revolution, consecrated by the sacrifice of our fathers, rendered glorious by the courage and glory of their sons, may her future prosperity correspond with her present grandeur.

A number of volunteer toasts were given, but I have only time to give a very few.

By Capt. Montgomery, A.Q.M. U.S.A. –Henry Clay: Ha has devoted a life to his country and a son to his country’s glory.

By Capt. Hoyt, A Commissary U.S.A. Mass Reg. –Peace: Whenever it comes may it be a permanent one which shall result in the national prosperity of both the United States and Mexico; a peace which shall bring to the people of Mexico liberty and happiness –to the people of the United States union, and all the blessing of a free and united nation.


By Lieut. Sturgis, 2d Dragoons –Henry Clay: He brought to the altar of this country, the highest talents that ever adorned it and sacrificed his favorite son upon the plain of Buena Vista.

You will perceive that the dinner and the celebration was got up entirely without distinction of party, and the prominent men of each of the two great political divisions were indiscriminately toasted, and the sentiments net with equal applause, a proof of the good feeling and harmony which prevailed, and that it was not intended to have and did not have any party purpose.

Gen. Taylor and his staff and Gen. Cushing and his aid decamp are to start on a little excursion to-morrow morning to Arista’s plantation, about thirty five miles from here. It is a pleasure trip, strictly, I believe, and will only occupy three or four days. An escort of dragoons will accompany the party. As it may not be an uninteresting occurrence I think I shall accept an invitation, to make one of the party, so for the present adios senores.

J.E.D.

[NO]

August 3, 1847, RW47v24n62p4c1 Trist and DeRussy

The Mexican News

It will be a subject of congratulation to our readers, of all descriptions, that at last there is a prospect of peace. – They will find the details in the news which we publish from the New Orleans Picayune in another column. We know not what terms Mr. Trist, on the part of our Government, may propose, nor what concessions the enemy will be willing to make. Yet, tired as both parties evidently must be of the protracted war, a war full of disasters to Mexico, and thus far productive to us of nothing but barren laurels won at a great expense of blood, suffering and money, we should conceive it not very difficult to settle such preliminaries as would be acceptable to both.

The gallant conduct of Col. De Russy and his little band seems to meet with general admiration. We regard it as far from being the least brilliant feat of the war. Col. De R. is another of those “Mexican Whigs,” who after a very peculiar fashion have on so many occasions of late given “aid and comfort” to the enemy.

[NO]

August 3, 1847, RW47v24n62p4c2 From Army of Talyor

From Gen. Taylor’s Camp.

The N.O. Picayune has received the Matamoros Flag on the 17th instant, three days later than any it had before received. A letter is alluded to as not having come to hand containing an account of a splendid fourth of July dinner, at Monterrey, at which Old Zac being toasted in connexion with the presidency, made a speech which is said to have elicited great enthusiasm. It was said to be in the same spirit with his letters already published, the General saying that it he consented to allow his name to be used, it must be at the call of the country. A report of the speech was made by the correspondent of the Picayune, and will be published as soon as it comes to hand.
Gen. Taylor made an excursion to Arista’s hacienda, Mamalequi on the 7th, a full account of which is given in a letter from the Picayune’s correspondent. Gen. Cushing and his aid accompanied the party, which was escorted by a dozen dragoons. The following account is given of the hacienda:

"Arista’s hacienda is situated upon or near the Rio Pecacho, and at the foot of a spur of the Sierra, in a north easterly direction from Monterrey, about twelve miles from Salinas, and from a distance has quite the appearance of a baronial estate. His plantation is a very extensive one, comprising fourteen square leagues; but miles of it are useless, low chaparral, only relieved by the tall Spanish bayonet plant, which bristles up in every direction. Arista purchased the place about four years ago from a lady residing in the city of Mexico for $35,000, and has since expended about $40,000 in improving it. There is a very fine sugar and saw mill upon it, the motive power of which is water of course. The dam across the river forming the mill–pond is a very fine solid piece of mason work, and was estimated in the bill sale at $14,000. The state is managed by an administrator, who has under him an overseer. – There about ninety men and boys, peons, upon the place, and as many women and girls, all of whom are fixtures for life, as are all peons in ninety nine cases out of a hundred, and quite as bad off as slaves in your section of the country –worse even, as when they become past work their landlord (?) is not compelled to support them, and this duty devolving upon their relative, serves to bind them the firmer."

The correspondent thinks Arista does not find farming quite so profitable as arms, the state, according to the Administrator yielding little or nothing. The nominal wages of the peons (from two to ten dollars a month, out of which they are compelled to purchase every article of food clothing, and other necessaries of life,) being insufficient to support theirs, they are always in debt to the landlord, and as he is allowed a lien on their persons for payment, they slavery is as real as that of our negroes. Two crops of corn are raised, and twenty four fanegas are planted. The yield is an hundred fold! The bean crops is 800 fanegas 2200 lbs. There about 1000 head of cattle and a few sheep. A beef is killed every day; of course, few are sold off. Not more than 40 arobas (1000 lbs.) of sugar is raised.

The Administrator came out to meet Gen. Taylor. –The residence of Arista is spacious, very strongly built of sun–dried brick, with walls three feet thick, perced with loop–holes for musketry, &c. In the evening, the party, by the invitation of the Administrador, attended a fandango on the state. About sixty females were present, as brown as berries, and as ugly as sin. Some national dances, accompanied by wild and discordant singing and resembling the negro–dances of the South, were given, followed by waltzes and quadrilles, the music consisting of a guitar and two violins. The Administrador had received a letter from Arista, purely on business, dated Mexico, 16th June.

The next day the general and suite left for Villa Real, owned by a wealthy Mexican, Senor Don Jose Maria del Villa Real, who met them en route, and gave them a hearty welcome. Their entertainment here is highly lauded. As soon as they had gotten under his roof, the host had a cart load of melons (water and musk) and a bushel basket of ripe figs brought in for them. The Senor insisted, though it was early in the day, that the party should take “a little refreshment.” The little refreshment consisted of seven courses of meat and fowl, well cooked, served up on a waiter in massive silver dishes, the garniture of the table consisting of an enormous quantity of plate, of the richest description. While at Mamalequi, the alcalde of a small town applied to the General for a force to capture a band of robbers, headed by Mucho Martini, a one armed robber, who had committed many outrages, but the request was declined. The party arrived at Cam taylor the same day, where the correspondent learned that a private of the Massachusetts Regiment had been killed by robbers near Marin.

Gen Taylor will return to the U. States in November. He is said to have written to the War Department, to the effect that if he is to remain at Monterrey he has men enough and could even spare a regiment; but if he is to advance to San Luis, he require 10,000 men. There was a splendid review at Gen. Wool’s camp on the 4th –The discipline of the troops of 25 Illinoians from Alabama, is in the vicinity of Matamoros. Col. Gorman’s regiment (4th Indiana) had reached the Brazos, with regiments under Hardin and Bissell. High praise this, and just, not doubt. Captain M’Gee’s company of mounted men Virginia and North Carolina Regiments is spoken of in high terms. It is said to be quite equal to that of the Illinois San Luis, he require 10,000 men. There was a splendid review at Gen. Wool’s camp on the 4th –The discipline of the
August 3, 1847, RW47v24n62p4c4 Important from Vera Cruz and Tampico

[From the N.O Picayune, Extra July 20

Arrival of the Steamship New Orleans

Important from Vera Cruz and Tampico.

The steamship New Orleans, Capt. Auld, arrived at an early hour this morning from Vera Cruz, via Tampico and the Brazos. Her latest dates from Vera Cruz are to the 17th inst.

Her news is very important. First of all we give Capt. Alud's report, by which it will be seen that he left Vera Cruz for this port as early as the 14th and then returned thither, going no further than Tampico.

Report of the U.S. Steamship New Orleans, Edward Auld, commander, from Vera Cruz, via Tampico and Brazos:

On her departure from Vera Cruz on the morning of the 14th inst. Gen Pierce with his command of detachments, from the 3d Dragoons, 4th Artillery, 3d Infantry and the 7th, 8th, 9th, and 14th Infantry, a detachment of voltiguers and a large detachment of marines, amounting 2500 men and 150 wagons, had taken up their line of march towards Puebla.

We arrived in Tampico on the morning of the 15th inst. at 8 o'clock. Col. Gaines informed us the two hundred American prisoners who had been released from the city of Mexico had been ordered down to Tampico and recaptured by Gen. Garay at or near Huejutla, about ninety or one hundred miles up the river, and Col. DeRussy, with detachments of Louisiana volunteers, parts of Capt. Wyse's company of artillery and Capt. Boyd's (formerly of the Baltimore battalion) company of infantry, amounting to 115 or 120 men and officers; had left there by the way of the river on the steamers Undine and Mary Summers, on the morning of the 8th inst., for the purpose of releasing the American prisoners. They had landed sixty mile above unmolested, and the two steamers had returned to the city. At 2 o'clock P.M. an express arrived from Col. DeRussy stating they had been permitted to march up unmolested until they got in a narrow pass near Huejutla, where they were surrounded by twelve or fourteen hundred Mexicans under Gen. Garay. They had suffered considerable loss, but by the assistance of Capt. Wyse's artillery they had cut their way out and returned towards the river and wanted assistance. Col. Gates despatched the New Orleans back to Vera Cruz with a requisition on Col. Wilson for four companies of infantry, and also the steamers Undine and Mary Summers up the river with 150 men to the relief of Col. DeRussy. The New Orleans arrived at Vera Cruz on the 16th at 2 o'clock P.M., when we found the city in a great excitement.

Gen. Pierce had marched out and encamped about ten miles form the city, when the scouts or out guards came in and reported a large force of Mexicans at the National Bridge and marching toward the city. Everything was got ready for an attack. The shipping was removed from between the city and the castle. Gen. Pierce came in and took a reinforcement of seven hundred men making in all thirty two hundred. In consequence of the late difficulty the requisition of Col. Gates on Gov. Wilson could not be complied with. We received on board twenty-five marines from the U.S. sloop Saratoga, and on the morning of the 17th at 7 o'clock sailed for Tampico, at which time Gen. Pierce had marched out to meet the enemy. At 7 o'clock on the 18th inst. we arrived at Tampico, and heard that two detachments had returned; and the result, as near as we could ascertain, was as follows:

The detachment had marched up towards their place of destination, unmolested, until, they came in a narrow pass – several miles from Huejutla, when they were surrounded by 1200 or 1400 Mexicans, who cominenced a heavy fire on them from all directions. Capt. Wyse got his piece of artillery to bear on them, after giving them six or eight rounds of grape, which cut lanes through their lines, they gave away and fled through the chaparral, on each side of the road. This was in the morning of the 12th. They continued lightening their way back towards the river, at intervals, until the morning of the 16th inst., when they were released by the reinforcement of 150 men sent by Col. Gota. They returned to the city late on night of the 16th inst, with a loss of twenty killed, ten wounded and two missing, and fifteen or twenty horses and sixty pack mules. I regret to state that Capt. Boyd was the first who fell with three ball through his body. Also, his 1st lieutenant fell mortally wounded, and was left dying on the field. Col. De Russy had several balls through his clothes. Capt. Wyse had three horses shot from under him. The Mexican loss, by report
of a Mexican was 150 killed and wounded. Their general fled and left the charges to the second in command. –The names of the officers who accompanied Col. De Russy are not recollected.

Lieut. Whipple, acting adjutant of the 9 h Infantry, was assaulted by a small party of guerrillas on the 10th inst., when returning from the cemetery, within four hundred yards of the walls of the city of Vera Cruz. They were pursued by the Americans who could not overtake them. The chaparral has been searched for miles around but his body could not be found.

Capt. William Duff, of the 3d of Dragoons, died of vomito at Vera Cruz, on the afternoon of the 16th inst.

The New Orleans sailed from Vera Cruz on the 17th inst. arrived at Tampico on the morning of the 18th, took in 1100 barrels of coal, 1000 gallons of water, and sailed on the same day at 6, P.M., arrived at the Brazos at 2, P.M., on the 19th; sailed for this port at 6, P.M., and arrived in the South West Pass at 3, P.M., on the 21st, making the passage from Brazos in 45 hours.

August 3, 1847, RW47v24n62p4c4 Colonel DeRussy

We give another report of Col. De Russy’s expedition from our own correspondent:

[Correspondence of the Picayune]

Tampico, July 18, 1847.

Dear Pic. –The expedition under Col. De Russy returned here on the 16th inst. at 9 P.M. John the express arrived here on the morning of the 15th. Col. Gates immediately ordered Lieut. Col. Marks, of La. to take command of the three companies of the 11th U.S. Infantry and a detachment of 3d Artillery with two field pieces and proceed at once to reinforce Col. De Russy. Col. M. with his command embarked on the Mary Summers at 3 o’clock the next morning. When the express left Col. De Russy he was fifteen miles of that place, his men being utterly exhausted by fatigue and want provision, having but three rounds of artillery cartridge and but a small stock of muskets. He succeeded in making his way, however, to Panuco where he was joined by his reinforcements. At the time of the arrival of the Mary Summers the people of the country were raising en masse armed with cane knives for the purpose of making a rush upon our men while asleep, and fortunate was it that Col. Marks arrived at the moment; every one seems to think that they would have been indiscriminately massacred.

On the night of the 11th inst Col De Russy encamped at Tantayuca, a village some twenty miles distant from Huejutla, where the Americans prisoners were detained. –He resumed his march at 6 o’clock the following morning nine miles to the Rio Calabosa. Capt. Boyd with his company of dragoons, being in the advance, was fired at immediately upon the bank of that river, the enemy lying in ambuscade in the chaparral, (the enemy estimated variously from 500 to 3000.) Captain B. charged across the stream, but was not supported by his men, Lieut. Tannyhill and five men only crossing with him. Finding the fire of the enemy too severe he started back to his command, and was about midway in the stream when he was struck by a musket ball in the body, and immediately afterwards two shots struck him in the head, killing him it is supposed instantly.

Lieut. Tannyhill at the same time was mortally wounded, two musket balls taking effect in his thigh. The men immediately fled back to the main party, as the Mexicans commenced firing on this side of the river from every direction. The colonel on hearing the firing had immediately advanced the main body to support of Boyd, and not knowing the nature of the ambuscade, the pack mules with all his provisions fell into the bands of the enemy, who were-quite numerous in his rear as in his front.

A retreat now became actually necessary, and was made fighting every foot of ground until we reached Tantayuca again. Here he entrenched himself and remained until midnight, when he started in the direction of Pamecho. –Daylight brought the enemy again, and until his arrival at that place he was continually harassed by the enemy.

Lieut. Tannyhill was left at Tantayuca, being unable to be carried any further. No hopes are entertained that he survived twelve hours.

The New Orleans is ringing its bell. I will give you the official report when published.

Yours in haste,

B.A.
From Vera Cruz the news are less satisfactory than we could wish. On the 13th, our correspondent writes that two expresses had arrived from Puebla. The news had not fully transpired, but the report had got into circulation that the Mexican Government had sent three commissioners to San Martin Tesmelucan, about nine leagues from Puebla, to meet Mr. Trist and hear through him the terms offered by the President. This was but a rumor, in which we place little confidence.

Our correspondent writes on the 16th from Vera Cruz that an express from Gen. Scott (a Mexican) while on his way from Puebla to Vera Cruz was murdered near Jalapa. The guerrillas report that he fought desperately, and before he fell killed two of their number. Our own express rider arrived at Vera Cruz on the morning of the 16th inst without his letter and severely wounded. He came by the route of Orizaba, and when six leagues from that place he was attacked by five guerrilleros and captured. They took from him his letters and inflicted seven severe wounds upon him with a poniard and left him for dead. Had he not played possum a little he thinks they would certainly have finished him. After they had left him he found a business letter to our agents in Vera Cruz torn into fragments, near him. He gathered up most of the pieces and took them safe to Vera Cruz. Our correspondent writes that after putting the pieces together as well as he could he could only make out the following items:

Gen. Pillow's division arrived at Puebla on the 8th all well. The American army would march on to the city of Mexico to a certainty if peace were not soon made. [We never supposed there was any doubt about this.] The postscript dated the 11th inst, says that place was the order of the day. The writer placed no faith in the prospect; he consider that Santa Anna's sole object was to gain time, a principle of general policy with the Mexicans, especially with the great man.

Our correspondent writes that a large part of the command of Gen. Pierce left on 15th. The general was expected to get off the evening of the 16th. Our letters said nothing about the force collected at the National Bridge to oppose our advance. Gen. Pierce had been ill but had recovered from his (unintelligible).

The Governor of Vera Cruz had received such information (unintelligible) to suppose an attack would be made upon the city as soon as Gen. Pierce left, and precautions had been taken to defend the place. General orders were issued for every citizen to enroll himself under Capt. Tibbits and hold himself in readiness for an emergency.

Lieut. J. L. Parker, of the navy, died on the 12th inst. on board the steam-frigate Mississippi. Lieut. Parker was saved from the Somers, was severely wounded at Tuspan, was at the capture of Tabasco and had been amongst the foremost in almost every enterprise undertaken by the navy. He was noble, brave and generous, and beloved by all who knew him.

We copy the following from the Sun of Anahuac of the 13th inst. it is not so late as the advices subsequently received, but contains some of the rumors afloat:

A private express arrived here night before last from Puebla, bringing interesting intelligence from that place, from Mexico and from Gens. Cadwallader and Pillow’s trains.

The express left Puebla on the 3d inst., and brought private letters dated the same day.

News have been received the day previous from Mexico, that commissioners had been appointed by the Mexican Government to confer with Mr. Trist at San Martin Tesmeluoan, eight leagues from Puebla, and it was supposed they would meet him on the 4th of July.

The express rider met with Gens Cadwallader and Pillow and their respective commands at Perote. They had been attacked at La Hoya and had completely route the enemy, having sustained but little loss. No property was lost, and both trains had arrived in Perote; which place, a correspondent says, they were to leave on the 9th inst.

We have seen a letter dated Mexico, July 2d. The writer says that he does not doubt that a treaty of peace would be concluded at once by the commissioners. He also says that the peace treaty has become so considerable in the capital that he thinks that Santa Anna, (who is always on the side of the strongest,) will soon pronounce himself in favor of peace.

A letter from Puebla, states that there had been some sickness among our troops. We do not give our readers the whole contents of this letter because it is full of rumors which had not been realized at the latest dates.

The Mexicans were still fortifying the city of Mexico, but the means of the Government are so limited, that we do not doubt that it will not be more than a day’s work for Gen. Scott to demolish, in case they should show resistance.
The letter of this gentleman to the Philadelphia Committee (unintelligible) of Invitation, having become a subject of animadversion in a late number of the *Enquirer*, he transmitted to the editors of that paper the following note, which was published on Tuesday morning last:

To the Editors of the *Enquirer*:

Richmond, July 29, 1847.

I submit to daily misconstructions and misrepresentation of my political view without complaint or correction, because I take it for granted that time will prove the best corrective to all errors and misstatements that have been, or may be, made respecting me. There is a statement of fact, and not of construction, however, in your paper of this morning, of a nature that if I were to permit it to pass in silence would be taken by your readers as acknowledgement of its truth. The statement I refer to is as follows:

"It will be also seen that Messrs. Wilson and Tuck, along with Messrs. Botts and Corwin, are pledged to vote against giving a dollar for the prosecution of the war."

Will you be so obliging as to state when, where and how I stand pledged to any such course? for if it can be shown that in my public speeches, or writings or private conversations, I have given any such pledge that I have not intended to fulfill, and that I have expressed a sentiment I never entertained. On the contrary, I have uniformly said, that whilst I thought the war ought to be brought to a close, by withdrawing our troops to the boundary line between Texas and Mexico, yet, while the army continued in Mexico, they were entitled to the protection of government and that they must be sustained; and I would therefore give all the men and money asked for necessary for that purpose. You surely, however, have not made this grave assertion without some authority, and you will oblige me by publishing it in connection with this note.

Respectfully JNO. M. Botts.

The following paragraph in the editorial comments of the *Enquirer*, explains the process by which the conclusion that Mr. B. stood on the same ground with Mr. Corwin is arrived at:

"But to the particular specification complained of by Mr. Botts. We said last Thursday, that "Messrs. Wilson and Tuck (of the New Hampshire) along with Messrs. Botts and Corwin, are pledge to vote against giving a dollar for the prosecution of the war." Mr. Botts denies the position and calls upon us for our authority. We meet the issue and refer him to his own letter to Philadelphia, which has been made so famous by its many bold assertions and false arguments. The particular passage of that letter we have cited over and over again. After denouncing the war was instigated and provoked from a meretricious lust of conquest, and acquisitions of our neighbor's goods, by men spoiled and besotted with place and power, Mr. Botts proceeds to avow his own opinion as to the proper means to "stay the hand of mischief." In his own language "It is to disclaim promptly all purpose and intention to take one foot of Mexican soil on any terms, either by conquest or negotiation; to ascertain the true boundary line of the beautiful but unfortunate Texas, withdraw our troops to that line, and defend it if assailed, (which would never be attempted) and thus bring the war at once to a speedy and honorable termination. Surely, neither the honor of the nation, nor the glory of our arms, calls for the prosecution of an offensive war."

Comment. –The Enquirer professes great admiration of and gratitude to, Gen. Taylor. It will not, of course, the willing to have him set down in the same category with (unintelligible) to whom it is wont to speak of as "moral traitor." The following paragraph fro his letter to Gen. Gaines, already widely known, may be compared by the reader with these sentiments of Mr. Boots. In order that the comparison may be the more easily made, we place them in parallel columns.

Mr. Botts. –(Unintelligible) promptly all purpose to take one foot of Mexican soil on any terms, either by conquest or negotiation; to ascertain the true boundary line of the beautiful but unfortunate Texas, withdraw our troops to that (unintelligible) and defend it, if assailed which would never be attempted,) and thus bring the war at once to a speedy and honorable termination. Surely, neither the honor of the Nation, nor the glory of (unintelligible), calls for the prosecution of an offensive war."

Gen. Taylor.–"If we are (in the language of Mr. Polk and Gen. Scott) under the necessity of 'conquering a peace,' – we must go to Vera Cruz, take that place, and then march on the city of Mexico. To do so in any other direction, I consider out of question. But, admitting that we conquer a peace by doing so, –say, at the end of the next twelve months– will the amount of blood and treasure, which must be expended in doing so, be compensated by the same? I think not, –especially, if the country we subdue is to be given up; and I imagine there but, few individuals in our country who think of annexing Mexico to the United States.

I do not intend to carry on my operation (as previously stated) beyond Saltillo, –deeming it next to impracticable to do so. It then becomes a question as to what is best to be done– It seems to me the most judicious course to be pursued on our part; would be to take possession, at once, of the line we would accept by negotiation, extending from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific, and occupy the same, or keep what we already have possession of."
That Mr. Boots, in common with the Whig party, and with many (aye, very many) too who formerly belonged to the Locofoco party, is opposed to this principle, we very well know. But we know, likewise, and every man who has conversed with him on the subject knows, that he always held it to be the solemn duty of Congress to sustain the Army, since it is already there, by every possible reinforcement both of men and money. He and the Whig party would have prevented the war if it had been in their power; but since that is now impossible, they would sustain it to the end, whatever that ends may be. If it be possible to bring it to a close in the manner proposed, they are in favor of doing so. If, on the contrary, their wishes be overruled, they are in favor of furnishing all necessary supplies render our forces efficient, and prevent them from suffering more than can be avoided. We think we have truly stated the position of Mr. B and the Whig Party.

It should be unknown to the Enquirer, that Mr. B. has already given practical proof that his sentiments are such as they are here represented. He has already lost in the service one gallant son, in the bloom of youth, who, but for this war, might have been still alive to cheer the declining years of his father, when he shall be sinking in the down (unintelligible) march of life. Nothing would have been easier than for him to have kept back that son from his country’s service. But he heard her voice, and he gave him up at her call, deprecating all the time, the measures from which had originated the necessity.

Our readers will see, at once, that the position of Mr. Boots is nearly identical with that of Gen. Taylor.

But if it be true that any man who may oppose this war is guilty of “moral treason,” what can be said of those who oppose the last? We presume that not even Locofoism itself will draw a comparison in favor of this war, with that in which we contended for our very independence –which is, in fact, called “the second war of independence” by Charles J. Ingersoll, himself a rabid Locofoco, and an unwavering supporter of the present Executive. And if the editor or the speaker who shall venture to question the property or morality of this war, be, in very truth, a “moral traitor,” what shall we say of him who not only denounced that, but proclaimed James Madison the “degenerate successor of Washington,” and stigmatized the peace as “bad and disgraceful?” Can such a man, you will ask, yet venture to show himself, with the evidence of “moral treason” so palpably staring him in the face?

The curious reader will no doubt, enquire, who is this “moral traitor?” Is it Clay, or Webster or Adams? No reader, it is none of these. It is a man filling the second office in this Nation. It is JAMES BUCHANAN, Mr. Polk’s PATENT DEMOCRATIC STATES RIGHT SECRETARY OF STATE.

In a speech delivered at Lancaster, Pa before the Washington Association, on the 4th day of July, 1815, that gentleman, after denouncing the Republican party of 1789, in the most unmeasured terms, and assailing the doctrine of the State rights as the invention of the Demagogues, who wished to keep the country divided into small States for their own advantage, because they could not hope to rise on so large a theatre as the Union presented, speaks as follows of the war then just concluded:

“Time will not allow me to enumerate all the other wild and wicked projects of the Democratic Administration. Suffice it to say, that after they had deprived us of the means of defence, by destroying our navy disbanding our army;
after they had taken away from us the power of re-creating them, by ruining commerce, the great source of our national and individual wealth; after they had, by refusing the Bank of the United States a continuation of their character, embarrassed the financial concerns of the Government, and withdrawn the only universal paper medium of the country from circulation; after the people had become accustomed to, and, of course, unwilling to bear taxation, and without money in the Treasury, they rashly plunged us not a war with a nation more able to do us injury than any other in the world. What was the dreadful necessity for this desperate measure? Was our country invaded? No. Was it to protect our little remaining commerce from the injuries it sustained by the orders in Council? No. Commerce was not such a favorite, and the merchants wished for no war account. Besides, if the existence of the orders in council had been its true cause, after their repel our country would have accepted the olive branch which was offered by England. What then was the cause? The one for which we professed to draw the sword, and risk our all, was to determine an abstract question of the law of the nations, concerning which, an opinion different from that of our administration was held by all Europe, --to decide whether a man can expatriate himself or not. In the decision of this questions our administration pretended to feel a deep interest. The greater part of those foreigners who would be affected by it, had long been warmest friends. They had been one of the great means to elevating the present ruling party, and it would have been ungrateful for that party to have abandoned them.

"Superficial observers may suppose this to have been the real source of the war; but whoever will carefully and impartially examine the history of our country will find its true origin to have been far different. It took its rise from the over weaning partiality which the Democratic Party have uniformly shown for France, and the consequent hatred which they felt against her great adversary, England. To keep this foreign feeling alive has been the labor of their leaders for more than twenty years, for it has been one of the principal causes of introducing and continuing them in power. Immediately before war, this foreign influence had completely embodied itself with every political feeling of a majority of people, particularly in the West. Its voice was heard so loud at the seat of government, that the President was obliged either to yield to its dictates, or retire from office. The choice in this alternative was easily made by a man, who preferred his private interest to the public good. We were therefore hurried into the war utterly unprepared.

"What has been its result? Exactly what every reasonable man expected at its commencement. We declared our intention of conquering Canada; whether for the purpose of annexing it to the United States, or of compelling our enemy to yield the doctrine of impressment, is immaterial to the present question. Instead of conquering it, we have ourselves invaded in every quarter, and the best blood of the country has streamed in defence of own soil. The very capitol of the United States, the lofty temple of liberty, which was reared and consecrated by Washington, has been abandoned to its fate by his DEGENERATE successor, who ought to have shed his last drop of blood in its defence.

After the Administration had entered upon the war, instead of coming forward with manly confidence, and taxing the people for its support, they basely shrunk from their duty, in order to maintain their popularity, and adopted the ruinous system of carrying on the contest by borrowing money. What were the effects of this policy? Does not every man in the country know, was it even disguised by the Administration, that the United States would, in a short time, have become bankrupt, had not peace been concluded? Thanks then to heaven, that we have obtained a peace, BAD AND DISGRACEFUL AS IT IS; other wise, the beautiful structure of the Federal Government, supported by the same feeble hands, might have sunk, like the capitol, into ruins.

"Instead of exempting seamen sailing under our flag from impressments by the war, we have altogether relinquished that principle; because it is a well established truth in the law of the nations, that if war be waged by one country against another for a specified claim, and the treaty which terminates the contest, is silent upon that subject, it is forever abandoned. Thus the Government have at last yielded the very point for the maintenance of which they professed to go war, after having expended nearly $200,000,000.

"We have not only not obtained by the war anything which we are taught to expect, but we have lost many valuable privileges. All the numerous rights and advantages guaranteed to by Jay’s treaty have been relinquished, nay, we have not only compelled to conclude a treaty which does not contain any solitary stipulation in our favor, except that there should be peace, but which unsettles the boundaries of our country, and leaves to the decision of commissioners whether we shall longer retain a part of our own territory, which we have held in quiet possession for more than 20 years.”

[NO]

August 6, 1847, RW47v24n63p1c3 Officers at Camargo

[From the N.O Picayune.]

The Officers at Camargo

We do not feel at liberty to deny the use of our columns to an officer who in the following letter vindicates the character of the service, which suffers under the aspersions cast upon those members of it who happen to be stationed at Camargo or on that line:

Camargo, July 13, 1847.

Gentlemen –In a newspaper recently started in your city and called, I believe, the National, there appeared on the
26th ult. a letter from this town dated June 9th, 1847, full of false statements of a nature most injurious to the character of many officers on this line –the writer going so far as even to single out one of these objects of his malignity by name. And not only have these been published to a world which, ignorant of the truth and unacquainted with the person thus assailed would be already sufficiently disposed to believe in the verity of the charges alleged against them, but they have been published, moreover, with the endorsement of the editor of this paper, since has taken the trouble to call his reader’s special attention to them by a long editorial encomium on their author. Now this being so, justice to an energetic and deserving officer, whose whole crime consists in the honest execution of an order imposed upon him by his superior, demands that these statements should meet with that flat and emphatic contradiction due to their egregious falsity. And, for this reason, I would respectfully beg for the use of a small space in the columns of the Picayune.

Taking these charges, then, in the order in which they occur, I, in the first place, deny that any merchant “has been prohibited from selling his goods, except at wholesale, under penalty of incarceration, street–sweeping, ball and chain, and finally transportation.” The only sales prohibited here have been those of liquors and of articles contraband of war; the later under the general authority of the law of the nations, the former by Gen. Taylor particular command. And this charge is therefore utterly false.

The story of “secret partnership between officers and their favorites, to whom they give the exclusive privilege of vending merchandise ad libitum, whom they protect and furnish with public transportation, together with every other facility, to the exclusion of all others,” is equally false, and the writer can point to no instance of it.

In the next place, the assertion that “Capt. Hunt, 4th Artillery, commanding Camargo, is a partner of any house enjoying such privileges” is another falsehood; and that “every one in Camargo believe this,” is certainly news to me who live here. It is false that “he has a favorite house,” false that “he dresses up his own men as citizens, others as Mexicans, and sends them spying and eaves–dropping about tents and stores, telling them to beg for a glass of wine, ale or cider, that they may impeach the giver.

The Capt. Hunt “broke into a ware–house here upon information that there was liquor to be found in it, and took thence three barrels of whiskey, and “put one of the partners in prison for a few hours,” is true; such was his duty, which admitted of no discrimination between “respectable merchants” and poor devils of teamsters or others, when engaged in the same prohibited traffic. Thus march, I say is true; all the rest of the paragraph is wholly false.

Finally, Capt. Hunt is a graduate of West Point, has served faithfully and well in the army for eighteen years, was in the Black Hwak, the Creek war, the Florida war, and will again do his duty, whenever the opportunity is afforded him, in this war against Mexico. He has always borne a high character, both as an officer and a man of honor, and those who know him will surely have felt only indignation and contempt on reading the scurrilous article in which it was sought to defame him, I have the honor to be, your obedient servant.

Julius P. Gareschi, 1st Lt. 4th Art’y.

[NO]

August 6, 1847, RW47v24n63p1c3 Spanish Gossip

Spanish Gossip.

In La Patria of Sunday last we find the latest invention of the day in the space of a letter from Havana, dated the 16th inst. This letter pretends that a report is current at Havana, especially in commercial circles, that the three millions voted by Congress for the use of the President in making a treaty are employed in subserving influential personages in Mexico. This reporter of the pretended little tattle of Havana has been unable to learn the names of the Mexicans bought by the money of the “Yankees,” but has heard the name of Arista, Ampudia, Almonte, Canalizo and Rejon mentioned, and other whom he does not recollect. The editors of the Patria here intervene to screen some of the individuals mentioned by declaring that they “do not believe that all these names deserve to be classed among those sold!” The letter writer goes further and insinuates that others have been tampered with, mentioning that he has heard that Basadre, Gomez de la Cortina, Lombardini and two or three more proved incorruptible.

What a precious mass of folly have we here! The editors of La Patria in introducing the letter to their readers disclaim giving credence to its infamous revelations, but by their intervention to save some of the Mexicans enumerated form the suspicions attached to them, they show themselves not totally incredulous. Passing by the preposterous nature of the charges thus brought against the United States Government, which no citizen will credit for an instant, however,, deep–rooted his opposition to the Administration, what a state of political ethics does this letter reveal among our Havana and Mexican neighbors, who may reasonably be supposed to know something of each others moral qualities.

Our readers may be curious to know how these Spaniards pretend that the purchase of these broken down Mexican generals is to be made available. “They are to use all their influence to bring about a peace, or at least see that the war is so conducted that the Americans, if they do not come therefrom” –[bien librados.] One cannot but be struck by the fatuity imputed to the Americans in buying up such rank of cowards as Ampudia and Canalizo, and two Mexicans like Arista and Almonte, both in complete disgrace at home and in no condition at present to exercise
August 6, 1847, RW47v24n63p1c4 A Battle

Highly Important Intelligence

A battle.

[Correspondence of the Commercial Times.]

Tampico, (Mexico,) July 18, 1847.

Gentlemen: Considerable excitement has existed in this city for the past two weeks, in relation to the detention by General Garay, at the town of Guautla (pronounced Wahoutla) 140 miles from here, of one hundred and eighty Americans, who were recently liberated in the city of Mexico, and sent towards this city with a small escort. They are those who were taken last February at Encarnacion. —The renowned General Garay, in true Mexican style, pretended that they passports were not correct, and that he would be under the necessity of detaining them at Guautla, until he could hear from his Government.

Six of them made their escape, and arrived in safety in this city, and immediately communicated the above facts to our Governor, Col. Gates.

An expedition was fitted out on the 8th instant (unintelligible) of Colonel Gates, and the command of it given to Colonel De Russy, of the Louisiana regiment. This expedition consisted of one hundred and twenty men, and (unintelligible) pound field piece —forty men third artillery (unintelligible) by Capt. Wyse —forty dragoons, mounted on (unintelligible) musting horses, and commanded by Capt. Boyd and Lieutenant Tannehill, late of the Baltimore battalion —and forty mounted men from Louisiana regiment, commanded by Captains Mace and Seguine —Lieutenants Linderburger, Campbell and Heimberger, of the Louisiana regiment, accompanied the expedition, to act in such capacities as might be required.

Their march for four days was uninterrupted, passing through the town of Puebla–Viejo, Tampico–Alto, Ozuania and Tantoyuca, in all of which the people made professions of friendship, and had got within seven miles of Guautla, eight miles, beyond the last mentioned town, and one mile from Rio Calabasas. Here the Col. Met an Indian, who informed him that a large force of Mexicans, under the command of Garay, had heard of his approach, and was in ambush on both sides of the river. Col. De Russy immediately despatched Lieut. Lidenburger, acting Adjutant, with an order to halt the column (advance guard) under command of Capt. Boyd. The Captain had halted at the river for the purpose of watering his horses, and while in that act, he received a destructive fire from an unseen enemy. As I said before, the horses were all mustangs, and at the report of the musketry they became unmanageable, threw most of the riders, and created great confusion. Capt. Boyd dashed across the river, followed by his Lieutenant and six men. In crossing the Captain was shot in the head, and of course died on reaching the opposite shore. Three of the men were also killed. All this took place before Lt. Lindenburger reached him. The remainder succeeded in recrossing the river, and joined the main body. Thus fell one of the bravest and finest men that ever lived.

On hearing the report of musketry from the opposite bank of the river, the Mexicans concealed on this side, commenced firing on the main body of the expedition from every side, when Capt. Wyse, came gallantly into action with his field piece, and opened a destructive fire on the enemy, with grape and canister. At the same time, Captains Mace and Seguine charged the enemy on the right and left, in the most spirited manner. The battle now raged with great fury on both sides for one hour, when the Mexicans sounded a retreat, at least that portion of them in front.

The Colonel now discovered a large body of lancers approaching him in the rear, but before he succeeded in getting within reach of them, they capture a portion of the pack mules and then took to their heels.

During the engagement, Lieut. Tannehill was mortally wounded, a ball passing through his thigh and breaking the bone. The six men at the cannon were all severely wounded; three bullets passed through Col. De Russy’s coat, and as many through Capt. Wyse’s. Capt. Mace was struck twice with apent balls, but not hurt.

After the engagement, to the astonishment of all, only one round shot and one charge of canister was left for the gun, when our troops, having fired away the greater part of their ammunition, it was deemed prudent to fall back on Tantayoca, which was accordingly done.

The road from the river Tantayoca lay through a narrow defile, the summits of the mountains nearly hanging over the heads of the men as they passed through it. The deep and precipitous sides were covered with a dense chaparral from base to top. Here the enemy rallied, and concealing themselves from view, poured a destructive fire down upon our gallant little band, which, from the nature of the ground, they were unable to return.
On approaching Tantoyoca, in which they had encamped the previous night, and from which they had started peaceably that morning, our men found, to their surprise, that the plaza, church and streets were crowded with lancers and other troops. They marched up boldly to the enemy, until they got within a few hundred yards of the plaza, when they opened to the right and left, and gave Capt. Wyse an opportunity to discharge his last round shot. It did some execution, killing and wounding some three or four, and also making a tremendous hole in the walls of the church. Col. De Russey, with Capt. Seguine, at the same time made a charge up the street, when the Mexicans, for the second time, took to their heels, returning only a few scattering shots. The lowest estimate I have heard made of the number of Mexicans engaged in this affair was 1000. Some say as many as 2000 and 3000. Our troops now took possession of the town, and encamped on the same ground they had occupied the previous night, (Sunday, the 11th inst.)

A detachment was now sent through that town to search for ammunition, and they succeeded in finding enough to make five rounds of canister, which at this moment was an invaluable prize.

A number of the men, contrary to orders, broke open both stores and houses, and helped themselves to everything valuable they could lay their hands on, and foremost among them were the Mexican muleteers who accompanied the Colonel. They appeared to be told hands at the business.

After our troops encamped, they could see large bodies of the enemy moving to the rear of them for the purpose of cutting off their farther retreat, but both men and horses were so exhausted, that it was determined to remain in their present position for a short time to retreat.

Near dark, Gen. Garay’s aid-camp and a Major of the staff, came near Col. De Russey’s camp with a flag of truce. The Colonel did not allow them to enter his camp, but met them at a short distance outside of it. The Colonel was accompanied by by Capt. Wyse. The aid handed the Colonel a letter. The Colonel told him, in substance, “that it was too dark to read it, and that he had no candles or light, probably he, the aid, could tell him the purport of it.” The aid, (who spoke English fluently) replied, “that it was a summons for an unconditional surrender, as Gen. Garay had sufficient men and means to conquer him, and he wished to spare an effusion of blood.” Col. De Russey immediately returned the letter, unopened, to the aid, and he told the aid to “tell Gen. Garay that the idea of surrender had never entered his mind, and he therefore declined any correspondence on that subject” –when the aid and Major, after the usual compliments, retired.

Col. De Russey now ordered camp fires to be made, and all the horses to be unsaddled, and every thing had the appearance, to the Mexicans, of his remaining there all night. In this, however, they were deceived; for the Colonel took up his line of march at 2 o’clock A.M., during one of the heaviest rain storms ever experienced, and passed silently through the city. They took the road for Penuca, passing in a country direction to the one he came by, and on which Garay was encamped, and was ten miles from Tantayoca when daylight overtook him.

At 10 o’clock A.M., the lancers and guerillas again came in sight, and hung in the rear of the detachment all day, spearing and shooting down, without mercy, such unfortunate persons as straggled off from the main body. On one occasion, a large body of lancers collected in a group, when Capt. Wyse gave them a salute with a charge of canister, and made great havoc among both horses and riders, killing and wounding about 30 men, and from that time they kept at a respectful distance.

The Mexicans followed our little detachment for two days, occasionally exchanging a few shots. Lieut. Heimberger was shot in the arm during the retreat the first day. When Col. De Russey got within 15 miles of Penuca, he dispatched Mr. Geo Lefler, an old citizen of this place, to Col. Gates, giving him an account of his position, and informing him of their being entirely out of ammunition, and a large body of the enemy in his rear.

Col. Gates immediately despatched Lieut. Col. Marks to his relief with 160 men, two pieces of cannon, and plenty of ammunition. Lieut. Col. Marks went to Penuca with his command per steamboat, where he met Col. De Russey and his command, completely tired out, and almost without a cartridge. As there was an attack anticipated, the following night, on this place, both parties returned.

Thus ended one of the most brilliant affairs, for the numbers engaged in it, (terminating with a masterly retreat,) which has taken place during this war. Col. De Russey was every where in the hottest of the fight, and pointed his solitary gun several times, while bullets were falling around him as thick as hail.

P.S. –I have this moment learned that official reports have been received in town, that the number of Mexican engaged in the late battle was 1850. So you may judge for yourselves, of the gallant defence of 120 men against such odds. I had nearly forgotten to mention that we lost thirty horses killed in the battle.

Yours in haste,

P.

[NO]
Funeral Honors to the Gallant Dead!


The notice given, was unfortunately so short, that the citizens from distant parts of the State, were not able to attend; indeed, we learn that several of the companies belonging to the regiments to which the deceased belonged, were not advised of the day fixed for the ceremonies until it had passed. The intense and almost overpowering heat or the weather, prevented many from attending; but notwithstanding these things, there came together on that day, the largest concourse of people ever assembled in Kentucky.

General Taylor and the Locos

It is amusing to watch the course of Locofocoism relative to this redoubtable champion of our country. When the news of his triumphant success at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma reached the United States, the politics of the conqueror became immediately a subject of most eager enquiry. It was soon found that he was a Whig --a Clav, Crittenden Whig-- and Locofoism ceased to talk about him as far as possible. Then came Monterrey, and the terms of the capitulation offered a theme for vituperation, which was not to be neglected. Accordingly, every (unintelligible) hero that could wield a pen, entered the arena against old Rough and Ready.

But this did not do for the people. They had taken a far more accurate measure of the man's stature than their rulers, and they know him to be a giant. His name was on every tongue, and his services had sunk deep into every heart. The famous letter to General Gaines, which gave an insight into his true situation and led the people into full view of the difficulties with which he had struggled and ever which he had triumphed, the genuine, unaffected modesty of the man, and his forbearance under provocation that must have severely tried his temper, raised enthusiasm in his favor above fever heat. To throw cold water upon this spirit, the little party leaders in Congress were induced to try their feeble laurels against the iron–cased form of the old hero, and they shivered in their hands up to the very grasp. The Administration was in despair. Its organ did not come out directly, but all that could be done by sly hint and innuendo, was attempted in vain. A bolder game was necessary. Withholding forces and supplies had been tried censure, indirect unmistakable, from the war office, had been tried, almost to an insult had been tried; but it was of no avail– Old Rough could neither be whipped by the Mexicans, nor disgusted by the Secretary of war, nor bullied by Benton, nor forced to resign by Congress. Onward, he kept the even tenor of his way –marching, fighting bivouacking, and conquering. It was important to stop his progress; indeed, it was absolutely necessary to do so. An attempt was made to put Lieut. General Benton over his head, but Congress had too much sense to do that, Locofoco as it was. In the very midst of their machinations, after they had left him without reinforcements, and while they were indulging the consoling reflection that now he must halt in his career, the astounding news but upon the country, that he had not only disobeyed the order to fall back, given by an ignorant Secretary two thousand miles off, but that he had advanced and gained a most unheard victory, over forces five times as numerous as his own! At that very moment his destruction was expected to be heard from, and the President had already begun to say "Shake not your gory backs at me," "thou canst not say I did it."

No, that was the simple truth. No matter what happened, the President was not to blame for the fight at Buena Vista, for he had ordered to fall back. But he was very anxious to come in for a share of the glory, and his followers even talk about the "eminent ability" &c.

After the battle of Buena Vista it was found impossible to restrain public sentiment, which broke through to the trammels of party and flowed irresistible towards General Taylor, Whig though he was. A new plan was then adopted. The democrats made haste to have themselves dubbed Taylor men, and strove to bias the old General's mind by declaring in his favor. But it was no go; and at last, with all the evidence before it, the Washington Union says:

"In no case, nor under any circumstances, will General Taylor agree to, or submit to, any one of the three, circumstances to which we referred –viz: that the Presidential candidate for the Republican party should be a Democrat in his principles –the he should avow his sentiments beforehand –and that he should be nominated by a Democratic Convention."

And again:

"is it to be believed that any of them (the Whigs) would support General Taylor, unless they believe him to be a Whig. Some of them cry him up as a no–party candidate; but, at the same time, they have reasons to
them, as they think, that he is a Whig in his principles. The New York Courier, 'the North American,' even the 'Cincinnati Atlas,' &c. &c, affirm their conviction of his Whig principles. Do they not believe that he is a 'Whig –a Clay Whig?' Otherwise, who believes for one moment that they will support him for the Presidential chair?"

Certainly they will not. Spoken like an Oracle for once. In future let Locofocoism keep its hands clear from Gen. Taylor. They can neither rule him off nor steal him.

August 10, 1847, RW47v24n64p1c2 Attack on a train

From the N.O. Picayune, July 30

Further from the Rio Grande.

Successful Attack upon a train.

The schooner Sarah Churchman, Captain Errikson, arrived yesterday from the Brazos, having sailed thence on the 23d inst. By her we have a Matamoros Flag of the 21st inst. –four days later than the number previously received.

The ship Edgar, Capt. Smith, also arrived yesterday from the Brazos, having sailed on the 24th inst. this vessel took out a detachment of two hundred and eighty regulars from New York to the Brazos.

Quite the most interesting news in the Flag is the following in relation to an attack upon a train, which was partially successful:

The last arrival from Camargo brings an account of a recent attack by the Mexicans, supposed to be a detached party of Urrea's troops, upon a train on its way to Monterrey. The wagon train was attended by a small escort, and following in the rear were some sixty or eighty pack mules, freighted with goods belonging to merchants of Matamoros. The train was attacked near Marin, and the assault was direct against the rear, with a view of cutting off the pack mules, in which the Mexicans were completely successful –all the mules with their packs were captured by them. –A considerable booty has thus fallen into their hands –some say about $30,000 worth of dry goods and a quantity of tobacco. The principle loss is sustained by Mr. Tarniver, one of the most respectable merchants of Matamoros, who loses upwards of $25,000 in dry goods, Mr. Kingsbury was the owner of the tobacco.

August 10, 1847, RW47v24n64p1c2 From the Matamoros Flag

The following items are all from the Flag:

Tenth of Infantry. –This regiment left on Monday last in the steamers McKee, Col. Hunt and J E Roberts. They go to Mier, there to remain until called to a field of greater activity by Gen. Taylor as a portion of the detachment under Brig. Gen. Hopping, forming a school of instruction which has been established at place. Lieut. Edward Harte, formerly connected with the press in the United States, has been appointed regimental quartermaster and acting commissary of subsistence by Col. Temple, making the list of the staff officers complete. The regiment has been drilled regularly during its sojourn here, and it has conducted with more property and given less annoyance to citizens than any regiment that has been stationed here. We are sorry to lose them.

Fourth Ohio Volunteers. –This regiment has arrived here and is now encamped on the lake, taking the position recently occupied by the 10th Infantry. They are commanded by Col. Chas. H. Brough, formerly editor of the Cincinnati Enquirer. The other field and staff officers are, Mr. Wernet,of dayton, lieutenant colonel, Wm. B. Young, of Hamilton, major; Lieut. Kessler, adjutant. The Regiment numbers upwards of nine hundred men and is enjoying excellent health –but one death having occurred since its organization. Three companies of the regiment, with its lieutenant colonel and adjutant, are Germans, who have made the United States the country of their adoption.

Ms. M L Fulton, of this place, has shown us several letters from E B Lundy and E Montily, who were mentioned in our last paper as having been taken prisoners near San Carlos, by a party of Mexicans under Caravajal. These letters were dated "La Marina, July 4th," and state that they were taken prisoners on the day previous, by Col. Caravajal, who has treated them with great kindness, and assured them they would be released upon proper evidence being furnished that they were not in the employ of the United States Government. They were awaiting the order of Ge. Urrea, whose headquarters was at Tula. Mr. Lundy has sent a note to the British Consul at this place, stating that he is a Canadian by birth, and has never become a citizen of the United States. We understand from Mr. Fulton that he was engaged in connection with Mr. Lundy in the purchase of mules for the purpose of taking them to Louisiana, and that Mons Montilly and Don Carlos were employed by them to assist in "driving in" mules of ten from the interior, and the party proceeded beyond San Fernando on account of the high price which they were compelled to pay on this side of that town.
We take it back.– Lieut. Simon Doyle, Illinois cavalry sent us a communication denying positively that any lieutenant, or troop of the Illinois cavalry, made any such display of verdancy as we impute to them in our last paper. He says no officer or man of the company ever held such conversation with Col. Fitzpatrick, and furthermore, that on the day we state this conversation took place, (the 15th) no scouting party of his company was ordered out in any direction.

August 10, 1847, RW47v24n64p1c3 News from Vera Cruz

From the N.O. Picayune, July 31

Letter from Vera Cruz.

We are permitted to make an extract from a letter of the latest date from Vera Cruz, written by a gentleman who certainly possesses more than ordinary facilities for getting at authentic news. It shows how meager are the materials of the Vera Cruz editors for forming opinions of the course of events about. The letter is dated:

Vera Cruz, July 22, 1847.

Gen. Pierce, with his brigade, is fairly off at last, with, I am told, some three thousand men – a pretty good force, but not enough, however, to frighten off the guerrillas, who commenced firing on them by the time they were well out of sight of the city. This place is quiet now; all fear of an attack seems to have died off. Pickett was ordered by the quartermaster last Sunday to divide off the quartermaster’s men – there are about five hundred of them in all – into companies of fifty or sixty men each, and select a captain and two lieutenants to each, in order that they might receive arms. This was done, but the officers would not receipt for the arms, and the matter seems to be dropped.

There is no news here from headquarters that I know of, the last from Puebla was up to the 22d ult. It was stated that Gen. Scott would certainly leave there on the 15th of this month for the city of Mexico. It is very difficult to get anything from the interior in an authentic shape; we have nothing but rumors and reports. Everything from Mr. Kendall goes through to his paper, of course, and whatever comes to Col. Wilson or is intended for the government does not transpire here.

The Quartermaster’s Office in a building [the Mexican Treasury Department] which is within a few feet of the waters of the Gulf, and directly fronting the castle. The building is, I suppose, 350 or 400 feet inland, very substantially built of this coral rock, and stucco or cement in and outside. The gateway, or “entrada” and “salida” – which are in large golden letters overhead – gives ingress and egress to the Mole and water and the city. The floors of this building are all of flag marble. The other end of the building is occupied by the Governor and by the collector of duties. The wide steps of the second story are of white marble. The windows are very large and defended by heavy cooper gratings which are, I am told, worth 200 dollars each. There could not be a house placed to be more comfortable than this in a hot climate. The sea breeze blows in the whole day, and frequently so strong that you must have a pound weight on every piece of paper you lie down or it is off. A man can wear clothing in this building all the time with comfort; in fact, if one keeps out of the sun there is no danger of being too warm. In may and the first part of June it was rather hot, but since the middle of the latter month the rain has fallen almost nightly, and the air has been much cooler than before. The quartermaster, Maj. Smith, is very sick, though as yet not considered in danger. I hope he will recover shortly, as he is much liked by all in the department. Captain Plummer, of the First Infantry, is acting at present in his place.

This is probably the most important quartermaster’s post in the campaign, and there is enough business for a half (unintelligible) of them, and yet there has been but one acting quartermaster here since the bombardment, and he of course liable to be sick, as in the present case, and not regularly authorized quartermaster to fill the post.

August 10, 1847, RW47v24n64p1c3 From Tampico

From Tampico.

The U.S. schooner Velasco, Capt. Draker, arrived at this port yesterday from Tampico, whence she sailed on the 22d inst.

Capt. Martin M. Moore, of the 11 Infantry, died on board the Velasco on the 25th inst. of yellow fever. His remains were committed to the sea. Capt. More was from Pennsylvania, we believe.

The verbal news from Tampico is to the effect that the American prisoners at Huejutla have been sent further into the interior of the country.
We have a copy of the Tampico Sentinel of the 18th, but it does not contain a report of the expedition of Col. Russy, although one is promised the following day in a supplement. The fight is termed the battle of Tantenuca in the Sentinel.

This paper says that Tampico is healthier than it has been for years; that most the cases in the hospital arise from exposure and imprudence.

From the ship news of the Sentinel we copy a paragraph, though it may be no late:

The U.S. propeller Washington, Capt. Pratt, at Tampico on the 15th inst., two days from the Brazos, bound to Vera Cruz, reports that on the 13th inst., in lat 23º 15, lon. 96º 18, she spoke the U.S. bomb vessel Hecla ten days from Santander, in distress –her crew on half rations. She would try to get to Vera Cruz; had been expecting to be relieved from blockading the ports for two months; she was ten days in getting thirty miles to the southward. Supplied her with all the provisions that could be appeared.


Also spoke the U. S. sloop of war Germantown, in lat. 23º 40, lon. 27º 30, on a cruise. All well.

August 10, 1847, RW47v24n64p2c1 Investigation of the conduct of the War

Investigation of the conduct of the War and the causes which led to it.

From the very commencement of this war with Mexico, the adherents of Mr. Polk have assumed the astounding position that no enquiry is to be made into its origin—that all investigation calculated to enlighten the people upon this subject is to be entirely stifle—that those who are called on to fight the battles and pay the expenses of the country, have no right to ask what they are fighting and paying for—and that he who shall express any curiosity upon a subject so well adapted to excite it, is no better than a “moral traitor.” It is, it seems, the business of the Executive to know what we are at war for, and his business alone, the duties of the people being confined to the very narrow circuit of seeing that it is successfully waged. –This new doctrine, which might well suit the latitude of Constantinople or St. Petersbug, seems strange enough in a country, (unintelligible) very existence of whose liberty depends upon the vigilance with which its public officers are watched—in which freedom of speech and of thought are among the rights most carefully guarded by the constitution—and where public opinion, only properly made up, when it is fully enlightened, has been held to be the only natural and legitimate basis of all Government.

These startling doctrines have been maintained, in spite of the fact, notorious to all the world, that in no country where Freedom exists can any subject, even the most unimportant, arise, upon which there will not be a contrariety of opinions; and that, of course, unanimity upon one of such magnitude as is implied in the existence and conduct of a war, is a sheer and literal impossibility. The men who formed the Constitution of the United States were well aware of these facts, which the present supporters of the war seem altogether to have overlooked. They knew that in times of trouble, differences of opinion, sometimes pushed to a degree of exaggeration very nearly approximating an open rupture, would unavoidable arise, and yet, that both sides might be perfectly honest, thoroughly loyal, equally zealous for the honor and interest of their common country. They made every possible allowance for the different lights in which the same subject would present itself to minds differently organized; and knowing that in the heat of party strife, those who entertain opposite views are but too apt to regard each other with more bitterness than a foreign enemy, they determined to deprive the strong of all power to proscribe and destroy the weak, unless upon such evidence of hostility to their native land, as it was impossible for the understanding to reject. In this view of the subject, founded on a deep knowledge of history, of man, and of the springs which regulate and control the action, of individuals, and of communities; the definition of treason by the constitution had its rise; a definition which, though founded in common sense, and amply sufficient to secure every object which could be obtained by the multiplication of treason to any extent; however indefinite, has not its like upon the statute book of any nation, even the freest in Europe. The proof of treason must be confined to the "over act;” speeches, writings, publications of every kind, be their nature what they may, are only evidence to prove the intention, where the act has been committed.

That the advocates of this war would most gladly (unintelligible) for the present law of treason one by which they could put a curb upon the tongues of those who oppose it, is evident, enough to all who have observed the course they have pursued since its commencement. A new phrase has been invented, sufficiently significant of the wishes of those who claim its paternity. "Moral treason” is the phrase—a species of offence, of the existence of which there can be no proof—for which the law has provided no punishment—the possibility of which it did not recognize, since it did not define its nature—which is referrible to the secret heart of the accused alone—and for which, since there is no punishment by law, it has been thought proper to substitute one in the shape of slander and detraction. The Revolutionary Government of France invented a description which it denominated incivism and which was wide enough to cover all offences no cognizable by any statutory provision previously in existence. This offence of "moral treason" seems to be precisely of the same nature, its meaning being "the crime of differing with the Executive.” There is some difference in the punishment, however, for which we are well assured that neither Mr. Polk nor those
who take their cue from him are in the least to blame. Thy have indeed shown their zeal to the satisfaction of all who may be disposed to doubt, by substituting slander for the (unintelligible), that being the (unintelligible) hunt to which their power at present extends.

We should judge, however, that Democratic opinion was undergoing a change, and that the time was approaching when men might be allowed to investigate the origin and causes of the war, without danger of the "moral" guillotine. Our opinion is founded upon the following extract from an editorial in the Washington Union of Thursday last, upon a work which it says is forthcoming, and which is to be styled "a complete comprehensive history of the war between this country and Mexico."

"It is proper that all Governments and Nations should be seen in their true light by the people who live under their respective laws and constitutions, when engaged in enterprises so important as that which has called our brave and patriotic soldiers to the battle fields of Mexico; and the people of the United States have a peculiar right to see their Government in its true and undisguised position toward a country with which it is engaged in a sanguinary war; or rather, it is the peculiar duty of the people who live under a government like ours, to inquire carefully, (unintelligible) into the circumstances, motives, and principles which control their Government in the prosecution of a war against a foreign country. The incongruity of our institutions with military exploits, and the immediate relation of the American people with the machinery of their Government, make it peculiarly their right and their duty to become acquainted –familiarly acquainted– with the history of the cause and events which bring their country into belligerent contact with other Powers."

August 10, 1847, RW47v24n64p2c2 The Mexican News

The Mexican News

Our reader will see accounts from the seat of war in another (unintelligible) and will be able to form their own opinions. Opinion (unintelligible) divided in New Orleans at the latest dates. We are inclined to put confidence in the main incident, the entry of Gen. Scott into Mexico, for in opposition to the positive testimony of the National's Matamoros correspondent, we regard the various surmises and conjectures of the press, as of very little value.

Supposing Gen. Scott then to be, at this moment, in the Halls of the Montezumas, the question occurs, What is to be done next? Will Mexico be more disposed to treat for peace now than she was six months ago? We hope she may, but we confess it looks to us very much like "hoping against hope." If Buena Vista, which so utterly destroyed the morale of the Mexican army as to leave them almost helpless prey at Cerro Gordo, had not the effect of taming the pride of the enemy, we cannot be made to see how the capture of Mexico can. If the war were a combined national movement it might be different. But the very reverse of this appears to be the case. Every State, every town, every political division of every kind –every individual, in fact, seems to be fighting on its or his own hook, without any regard to the movements at the capital: So very many neighborhoods, all indeed in which the American Army, or any portion of it, is stationed, are thriving under the war, that we doubt whether they would not regret to see it ended. They are well paid for every thing saleable, and have learned better than some of our own citizens, to estimate the value of a Home Market.

If then the war is approaching its end, we can not believe that the capture of Mexico will have any part in hastening the result. The Washington Union scolds the Mexican furiously for not finding out that they are beaten; but the Mexican are an ignorant and conceited race, and will not listen to the Union. The war will, we presume, change its character. We shall have no more of (unintelligible) battles, in the open field, but the guerrillas system seems to be fully organized and to that there is literally no end.

Apart from the glory necessarily involved in the (unintelligible) the capital of an enemy in triumph, we do not see (unintelligible) much will have been gained by the capture of (unintelligible), it may be that the necessity of holding it may welcome somewhat of a drawback upon Gen. Scott's future operations, and that he may find himself in the condition of Sir. William Howe after the Battle of Brandywine, when Dr. Franklin said "Howe has not taken Philadelphia; Philadelphia has taken Howe!"

By the next post we shall doubtless receive full accounts (unintelligible) the news will be affirmed or contradicted.

August 10, 1847, RW47v24n64p2c2 Expenses of the Government

Expenses of the Government

Are the public aware at what enormous expense this war is conducted, and what a bright prospect exists of a nice little National Debt to be paid off when we shall have gotten out of it? The official quarterly return of the Secretary, for the quarter ending on the 30th of June, estimates the war expenses alone at $16,572,594, and the whole expenses of the Government at $22,474,505. There are more troops employed now than were then, and
consequently the expenses for the next quarter will be greater; but allowing them to remain in status quo, at the end of the year the Government will have spent $90,000,000! Pretty well for an economical Government! The receipts from customs, and other sources, for the same time, were scarcely eight million –so that, in the year, if there is no falling off, they will reach thirty two million. Take 32 from 90, and $68,000,000 are left of debt with which the country will be saddled, at the end of that time.

August 10, 1847, RW47v24n64p2c4 Quarrel between Santa Anna y Canalizo

[From the New Orleans Bee, Aug.2.]

Gen. Scott in the city of Mexico

Quarrel between Santa Anna y Canalizo.

Such is the title of an extra issued from the office of the National on Saturday evening last. Our Sunday contemporaries of the Picayune and Delta appear to entertain opposite views on the subject. The one “fears the announcement is entirely premature,” the other “has every reason to believe it is substantially true,”–a third paper – the Patria– ridicules the entire statement and says that the last accounts from Puebla were to the 11th, and at that time General Scott had made no preparations for a forward march; yet to reach the city of Mexico on the 17th he must have started about the 11th or 12th. Knowing that he had no idea of moving at that time, the Patria stigmatizes the whole account as preposterous and untrue.

We shall not probably remain many hours longer in suspense, as later news from the army may be received before this paragraph meets the public eye.

There is news in the city of Mexico, as late as July 17th. It came through by a Mexican courier, who came by the way of Orizaba and Alvarado to Vera Cruz. General Scott entered Mexico on the 17th of July. He met with no opposition on his way from Puebla, until he arrived at Penon, about eight miles from the city. Here a slight skirmish ensued between his advance and the Mexicans, when the latter fell back. Stipulations were entered into, by which the persons and property of the citizens of Mexico were to be respected; this accomplish, our army marched quietly into the city of the Montezumas.

This important news reached here in the Massachusetts, but has been withheld for purposes that we do not understand. The authority upon which we publish it, seems to us undoubted. The courier that brought this news could come from the city of Mexico via Orizaba to Vera Cruz in 5 days, if the weather is good, seven under any circumstances. –the Massachusetts left Vera Cruz on the 23d. It will be perceived that this allows seven days for the news to reach Vera Cruz by the route he have stated.

We know upon the highest authority, that there is a letter now in the city, of the 17th of July, from the City of Mexico. The gentleman who gave us the information has a letter of the 15th, in which is mentioned the preparations of families about leaving, from the approach of the Yankees.

Santa Anna and Canalizo had quarreled about the defence of the city. Canalizo did not want the city injured, as there was no hope of successful resistance. He preferred to meet our troops in the plain and there decide the contest. Santa Anna would not agree to this, so no opposition was made.

The entrance of Gen. Scott into Mexico is a rumor –from the letter of the 15th we know positively of the preparation of the families in the city to move on the approach of Gen. Scott, and of the quarrel between Santa Anna and Canalizo, as to the defence of the city, and we know that there is a letter in the city, of the 17th from Mexico.

The courier that brought through the letter of the 17th, brought news of Gen. Scott entering the city. We have no doubt of the truth of the report.

P.S. –Since the above was in type, we learn by passengers from Matamoros, on board the propeller Washington, which arrived last night from Brazos, which place she left on the 27th, that on the day they left Matamorors an express arrived from the city of Mexico with letters to Mexican merchants of that place, stating that Gen. Scott met the Mexican army at Rio Frio and had a battle, in which the enemy were defeated and totally routed, with a loss on the part of the Americans of 300 men; after which Gen. Scott, with his victorious troops, entered and took possession of the city of the Motezumas.

The news was publicly read to the troops at Matamoros and although it savors somewhat of impossibility, may nevertheless, be wholly true, for our readers will bear in mind that of all the battles fought and victories won on the fields of Mexico, our first news of them was received from the Mexican authority and afterwards confirmed through American sources. Ve incline to the opinion (though somewhat doubtful) that our army under Scott has again been victorious, and we then, as now, in possession of the city of Mexico.
August 10, 1847, RW47v24n64p2c4 Scott in Mexico City

From the N.O. National, August 8

Arrival of the Washington. Confirmation of General Scott’s entrance into the city of Mexico –Less of 300 men – Express from San Fernando to Matamoros.

The steamship Washington, Capt. Pratt, arrived yesterday, (since the above was in type) from Vera Cruz, via Tampico and the Brazos. By her we have received the Sun of Anahuac of the 22d ult., the Tampico Sentinel of the 25 ultimo, and the Matamoros Flag of the 24th ult. These papers containing nothing of particular interest. But the following letter, received by a gentleman of this city, furnished us for publication, is of exciting interest, and fully confirms the news we gave in our extra of Saturday, that Gen. Taylor had entered the city of Mexico.

Brazos, Sr. Jaco, July 27th.

Sir: I hasten to inform you that MR. Fracher has just arrived here from Matamoros, and was informed that Col. Commanding had read on parade last evening, that Gen.. Scott had entered the city of Mexico, with a loss of 300 men. The news was brought by express to Matamoros from San Fernando by a Mexican to the Alcalde, and was generally believed to be true.

There is no doubt as to the information having been imparted to the troops at Matamoros. I would have given you more particulars, but Mr. Fracher has gone back two miles, in hopes to get his baggage here in time for the Washington. I cannot give you more, as the boat goes, and he has not returned in time to go to New Orleans in her.

In haste, yours, W.

[NO]

August 10, 1847, RW47v24n64p4c1 News from Mexico

The news from Mexico

Our readers will find from the news from Mexico, that not only is every prospect of peace banished for the present, but that active preparations are in progress for a renewal of the conflict.

A great battle is shortly expected, the result of which will doubtless be another triumph of the American arms, and another glorious (unintelligible) in the military history of our country. The dauntless valor of our troops—the irresistible impetuosity with which they surmount every obstacle, and carry all opposition before them at the point of the bayonet are subjects of just and lasting pride to every citizen of the United States. But at what a fearful sacrifice is this high distinction purchased! We are far from being among the number of those who affect an extraordinary horror at war, or surprise at the bloody and demoralizing scenes it presents.

We know that where there is a battle, there must be bloodshed—that where hostile armies are engaged, upon any theater of war, in doing each other all the mischief they can, that theatre must present a desolate and terrible appearance—that (unintelligible), burnt cities and trampled fields, are part and parcel of the "circumstance of glorious war." With this knowledge before our eyes, we yet believe that there are cases in which war is absolutely necessary—in which it is far better to encounter all its hazards than to submit to the (unintelligible) and injuries which are its moving causes—in which, whatever may be the suffering, it is better to endure it all, with a firm (unintelligible) and a cheerful countenance, than to take such an alternative as the continuance of peace would imply. Yet we do hold that war should be, in fact, as it has been somewhat improperly called, the last argument of Monarchs and nations—that the reasons which induced it should not only be strung but imperative—that it never should be resorted to until every other expedient of remonstrance and negotiation had been fairly exhausted without success.

In the most fortunate event, the triumphs of the field (unintelligible) A French lay once said to the Duke of Wellington, "a great victory must be a glorious affair," "Madam," replied he, "I conceive it to be the most deplorable catastrophe that can possibly happen, except a great defeat." The experience of our man, who had been witnessed to so much (unintelligible)

Deep, the, must be the responsibility of God, to mankind, and to History, of that Government; which, either upon slight provocation or for the sake of adding to his territories, or for any other than a most controlling reason, prunes a people into this fearful state.

How far the Executive of the United States is implicated in bringing the present war upon us—whether he was
Strict Construction as it is understood by Mr. Polk

When the people of the Great West are prevented by Mr. (unintelligible) regard for the great doctrine of "Strict Construction" as he understands it, enjoying the benefits to be derived from any improvement of her great "Island (unintelligible)" and when the Lakes are every year strewed with wrecks in obedience to, and in consequence of the President's scrutinies, the doctrine is operating very singularly in other quarters. We allude of course to Mexico.

It is well known that the President through his Secretary, has established a tariff for the port of Vera Cruz, and that duties, to a considerable amount, have already been collected under it. This act is one of purely despotic power, neither recognized by the Constitution, nor the possibility of even so much as (unintelligible) to by that instrument. It places the President precisely in the position of Emperor in his own person al the attributes of Sovereignty, Legislative, Executive and Judicial, and renders him entirely superior to responsibility for all acts committed on his name, in that country, to Congress or to any power whatever. By assuming the power to impose and collect duties without the intervention of the Congress, he assumes, that from the circumstances, this is case of necessity, the power of Congress no extending to the laying a tariff for foreign ports. If then the necessity exists in this case, it exists also in that of establishing courts, trying causes, and every other accident belonging to or springing from sovereign in its largest and most irresponsible sense.

What is the President of these United States? Clearly a creature of the Constitution. From that he derives (unintelligible); by virtue of that he exercises his functions; by his words his action is limited, restricted and confined. By the grants of that instrument, the President is made entirely the Executive officer of Congress, to whom all Legislative functions are given. If, Then, the city of Vera Cruz belongs to (unintelligible) and it be advisable to levy duties upon vessels entering the harbor, it is the province of Congress to prescribe the tariff, which cannot exceed that laid upon other parts of the Union, and of the president to see that the duties are collected. If on the other hand, it belongs still to Mexico, then neither Congress, nor any other power recognized in the Union, has the authority to levy duties there.

Leaving out of view the fact that the duties there are higher that they are in the ports of the Union, and that they are (unintelligible) contrary to that express provision of the constitution which says that "taxes shall be equal and uniform" we maintain that in every aspect of the case, the President has acted in open violation of law. Even Congress itself, in the ports of the Union, cannot lay a tariff for one, and another tariff for another. It cannot compel our own vessels, cleared from our own ports, manned by our own sailors, and laden with our own merchandise, to pay duties upon entering any harbor of this Union. Yet if Vera Cruz be in truth an American port, this is precisely what the President has undertaken to do, without any regard to the powers vested in Congress, and utter contempt of that exposition, so much insisted on by strict constructionists, that the duties of the Legislative and Executive Departments are entirely separate, and that what belongs to one, cannot, without usurpation, be exercised by the other.

All these monstrous absurdities – this assumption of power to levy duties by the Executive, and to levy them in a foreign port – are justified by strict constructionists, under the "General Welfare" clause of the constitution! And yet complaints are made that the Whigs, because they wish to place it in the power of Congress to advance the commercial prosperity of the country, under the clause granting to that holy power to "regulate commerce, &c." are stretching the constitution until it is likely to tear.

It has well been asked by the National Intelligencer, since law implies the right of resorting to tribunals, and (unintelligible) by making laws to the port of Vera Cruz, the President has erected himself into a legislator, where any relief to be found for the wrongful administration of his enactments there! There is no Court there, and surely our Courts have no jurisdiction beyond the limits of the Union. Suppose the collector, appointed by virtue of this newly assumed Presidential power, should collect a sum of money, say a million of dollars, if you please – put it in his pocket, and refuse to pay it (unintelligible) How is it to be gotten out of him? – what court has cognisance of his case? – what process can be served on him? – and what Marshal or Deputy Marshal can serve it? Suppose even a bond be taken (unintelligible) large amount, with all due security – where (unintelligible)

All these are subjects of reflection for the serious, and doubly so for those among them who, professing to belong to the Strict Construction (unintelligible) dangerously in banks, railroads and canals, while the very Constitution is abolished under the general welfare clause.

[NO]
From the N.O. Commercial Times, July 30

Mexico. Late and Important Intelligence.

Failure of Peace Negotiations – Gen. Scott to march on the City of Mexico – Santa Anna prepared (damaged) of 22,000 men (this part of the newspaper is quite damaged) with the Guerrillas – (damaged) of Gov. W(unintelligible) Vera Cruz – Health (damaged).

(damaged) states that rumors were (unintelligible) quite unfavorable to the success of Mr. Trist’s mission. Indeed, from letters which had come by hand from (unintelligible), it was certain that the commission had not been installed and "consequently, that the hopes of peace which had been (unintelligible), had completely vanished." He adds, on the other hand, that (unintelligible) the continued inaction of Gen. Scott’s army, the duty (unintelligible) on which can possibly rest the probability of a commission for the (unintelligible) difficulties, and the total (unintelligible) of news for some time from the interior, it may be that the Commander–in–Chief is waiting the arrival of fresh instructions from Washington. The immediate nomination of commissioners, and the designation of the place of meeting, would seem to indicate a sincere desire on the part of the Mexicans, for some kind of a pacific arrangement.– Difficulties of an accidental nature, delays, etc. may have intervened to obstruct the consummation of the treaty – English mediation, it was stated, had been proffered and accepted, which had progressed as far as to have brought the Secretary of Legation to the British Embassy at the (unintelligible)–quarters of General Scott at Puebla in (unintelligible) to the last means to which the Mexicans (unintelligible) recourse, the Sol de Anahuac expresses its dissent from any foreign interference, as being always (unintelligible) and sometimes most fatal in its results. In (unintelligible) the news, however, which has reached us by this arrival, we are bound to contest that everything seems all status quo as (unintelligible) receipt of intelligence. Nothing (unintelligible) either of the sentiments of the Congress of whose meeting not a word is said or of the (unintelligible) acting of the Mexican Government. Gen. Scott had not (unintelligible) when the last accounts were received at Vera Cruz from that city.

Affronts in Battle – In opposition to the foregoing speculations, however, we find that a letter of the 17th, which has not come to hand as (unintelligible) circumstance we much regret is (unintelligible) by our regular corresponder "Indicator” and which, as we glean from his remarks on the 20th (unintelligible), thereto, he states that all hopes of peace are entirely crushed and that Gen. Scott was to march on the Capital on the 15th inst. Santa Anna, at the head of a large army, supposed to be 22,000 strong, intended to give (unintelligible) point between Puebla and Mexico.

Gen. Pierce – This officer (unintelligible) with his train on the day indicated in our last advices. During his advance, firing had been heard along the road, by which it seems he must have met with some obstacles from the guerrillas. His (unintelligible), however, was so overwhelmingly strong – three thousand men with one hundred and fifty wagon – that he no doubt brushed away these predatory birds with ease. In reference to that we learn that two hundred men (unintelligible) from Vera Cruz (unintelligible) the train which left a few days before were attacked a short distance from Santa Fe. The Mexicans had a strong force but were defeated.

August 10, 1847, RW47v24n64p4c3 Burning of Santa Fe (in central Mexico)

Burning of Santa Fe – Lieut. Fitzgerald had been sent on an expedition with twenty–five men. They went to Santa Fe, took away some provisions belonging to the army, and set fire to that town, a place of refuge to guerrillas.

August 10, 1847, RW47v24n64p4c3 Vomito

Vomito – This disease, the terror of foreigners at Vera Cruz, still continues its ravages, but it is quite certain that the health of the civilians immensely improved in comparison with that during past years, (unintelligible) the enlightened measures introduced by the Americans. The Board of Health are increasing in their labors to prevent and (unintelligible) the ravages of this horrid scourge.

August 10, 1847, RW47v24n64p4c3 Colonel De Russy and the Battle of Huajutla

We take the following from the Sol de Anahuac of the 22d instant.

Col. De Russy and The Battle of Huajutla – The following extract of a letter from Col. Gates, addressed to Gov. Wilson, who had the kindness to permit us to publish it, will show that Col De Russy’s loss was not so great as we have announced it:
August 13, 1847, RW47v24n65p1c1 General Scott

General Scott.

It has been a matter of considerable astonishment, not only in this country, but in Europe, and even in Mexico itself, that this officer did not take advantage of the panic occasioned by his overwhelming success at Cerro Gordo, and advance immediately upon the capital, before it had had time to recover from the blow. Such an advance, it is said, would not only have been consistent with the rules of war, but with the well known character of Gen. Scott, always terrible in attack, and seldom taking into consideration the possible necessity of a retreat. It would have been highly gratifying to his army, flushed as they were with victory, confident in the talents of their leader, exulting in their well ascertained superiority, and firmly impressed with the belief that no force of the enemy, nor any obstacle he might be able to oppose, could for a moment stop them in the career of conquest. The force which had conquered at Cerro Gordo was sufficient not only to have planted the stars and stripes on the towers of the Montezumas, but to have borne them triumphantly from one end of the Mexican Republic to the other, with as much ease as Wellington and Blucher penetrated to Paris, after the flower of Napoleon's army had been destroyed in the disastrous battle of Waterloo. The eyes of the whole world were turned upon the American General; the utmost terror existed in Mexico; where disorder reigned triumphant, and organised resistance was not even among the dreams of its inhabitants; the feelings of this country were wrought up to a pitch of excitement, only allayed, by an extraordinary degree of confidence both in our men and our officers; and Europe could ill disguise her chagrin at the prospect of our approaching success. Suddenly the whole world was taken aback in the career of victory — that the enemy had been allowed time to recover from the stupor of despair — that he was actively engaged in organizing new means of resistance to our victorious than which had just taken place, would probably be fought (unintelligible) our troops could arrive at the goal to which all their (unintelligible) pointed. This apparently strange neglect to make use of the success which he had obtained by his own skill, not less than by the valor of his troops, has subjected Gen. Scott to much, and in our opinion very undeserved censure. The cause of it is well known to be found in the discharge of a great number of volunteers who had assisted him to gain the victory of Cerro Gordo, and the loss of whose services entirely paralyzed his movement advance. It is well known, likewise, that these men were actually discharged six weeks before their terms of service expired, upon the absurd pretext that such time should be allowed them to return their homes. That General Scott was the author of such a interpretation of the law, an interpretation at variance with common sense, and calculated to produce incalculable mischief to the service, we have never for one moment been able to believe. He was the last person, in a word, to insist upon such an interpretation of the law, as would deprive him of a large portion of his men at the very moment when he wanted them most, and when he better knew their value than any other person could be supposed to do. We should not have been surprised to have heard, even that after their term had really not constructively expired, he had stretched his authority so far as to compel them to serve until he had reached the city of Mexico.

If a man enlist here, and his term of service expire in Mexico, upon the very day of the expiration of that term, and not one hour before, is he entitled to his discharge; and thus far the volunteer and the enlisted soldier stand on precisely the same ground. No man knows this fact better than General Scott himself, and to suppose that he would make an exception in favor of the volunteer, because he would return to the body of the people, and be enabled to exert a political influence in his favor, is to attribute to a most gallant officer a want of patriotism, the bare suspicion of which is put to shame by his many and valuable services.
With far greater appearance of justice, Secretary Marcy has been charged with inventing this interpretation of the law, and the date of the invention is fixed in February last. To him, then, be all the praise, honor and profit of the new invention; to him we are indebted for the delay of three months, and revival of Mexican spirit from the terrible overthrow of Cerro Gordo; to him should full credit be given for all the blood that may flow in a new battle, and for the necessity of doing now that which should have been done three months ago.

We hope all these things will be duly remembered to the praise and glory of the present administration, but more especially to the benefit of Secretary Marcy.

[NO]

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*August 13, 1847, RW47v24n65p2c2* Scott and the *Union*

General Scott and the *Union*

The *Courier and the Enquirer* asserts positively, that the policy of discharging the volunteers in Mexico, six weeks before their term of service expired, originated with Mr. Secretary Marcy. To this *Union* replies as follows:

"We have no disposition to censure Gen. Scott. We will not examine the force of the reasons which induced him to discharge the volunteers before the expiration of their service. We will not apply to him the language which the New York *Courier* hypothetically employs. We will not draw the inferences which that paper makes; nor will we animadvert upon the "folly" or "insanity" of which the *Courier* is mistaken; that Mr. Secretary Marcy expressed no such decision to Gen. Scott, in the month of February, or at any time before the General had issued his general orders of May 4th, for the discharge of the volunteers. Gen. Scott was no doubt at first anxious to retain them, and he threw cold water upon his wishes of the volunteers. But when he advanced to Jalapa, his views appear to have changes; and on the 4th of May he issued the following general orders, which we take from the print before us:

General Orders, № 135.

Headquarters of the Army, Jalapa, May 4, 1847.

Extracts of a recent act of Congress, published in the general orders, № 14, dated at the War Department, March 27, 1847, provide for and invite the tender of the "services of such of the volunteers now in Mexico, who may, at the termination of the present term, voluntarily engage to serve during the war with Mexico."

The general order containing these extracts reached the General–in–chief at this place some nine days ago, and was immediately sent to the headquarters of the volunteers for prompt circulation among the regiments present; and appealed to, viz: the Tennessee infantry, the Illinois Infantry, the 1st and 2d Tennessee infantry, the Georgia infantry and the Alabama infantry, whose several terms of service will, it is understood, expire in four, five or six weeks.

The General–in chief regrets to learn, through a great number of undoubted channels, that, in all probability, not one man in ten of those regiments will be inclined to volunteer for the war. This predetermination offers, in his opinion, no ground for reproach –considering the long, arduous, faithful and gallant services of those corps– however, deeply all will regret the consequent and unavoidable delay in the prosecution of this war to an early and honorable peace; for the General–in chief cannot, in humanity and good faith, cause regiments to advance further form the coast in the pursuit of the enemy, and thereby throw them upon the necessity of returning to embark at Vera Cruz at the season known to be, at that place, the most fatal to life.

Accordingly, the regiments of old volunteers, and the independent company of Kentucky volunteers, serving with this army, will stand ready, on the return of the large train from below, to march to Vera Cruz; and thence to embark for New Orleans, where they will be severally and honorably mustered out of the service of the United States, and paid off by the proper officers on duty there.

This order will be sent to these officers; and the government and commander of Vera Cruz, who has been instructed to have the necessary transports ready by the early arrival of the returning troops.

There is nothing in the foregoing intended to interfere with the invitation presented by Congress and the President to re–enlistments on the part of the old volunteers. –On the contrary, the General–in–chief ardently hopes that many new companies will be formed out of those old troops, and presented for continue service, according to that invitation. He will gladly accept them for the war, and cause them, if not embodied into battalions, to be temporarily attached to the weaker regiments of the regular army, as indicated in the President’s orders, №14, above recited.

Horses of the Tennessee cavalry, as well as officer’s horses generally, if desired by their owners, who may decline re–volunteering, will be paid for by the Quartermaster’s Department here, at a fair valuation. The same disposition may be made of saddles and bridles, if needed for the public service.

The four regiments of new volunteers, present, will be formed into a brigade under Brig. Gen. Quitman, who will
designate one of the four for Jalapa, and another for Perote, to constitute parts for garrisons of those places. He will receive orders, for the commencement of his march, at general headquarters.

Major Gen. Patterson, rendered for the moment supernumerary with his army, will accompany the returning volunteers of his late gallant division, and render them (unintelligible) assistance on the way as he well knows how to give. He will report, in person at Washington, or by letter, from New Orleans, for future orders from the War Department.

This distinguished general officer will please accept the thanks of the General—in—chief for the gallant, able, and efficient support uniformly received from the second in rank of this army.


It will be seen that the Union merely "ventures to affirm," &c. It does not offer a decided and authoritative denial, such as should come from Mr. Secretary Marcy, were he speaking in his own behalf. There have been occasions enough, of late, to show that the "organ" is very moderately trusted by the Government it is understood to represent, for it has more than once, as if by authority contradicted statements made in other papers, which nevertheless turned out be perfectly true.

As for the general orders quoted above, we see nothing in them to weaken the force of the Courier's statement, or to controvert the truth of its assumption, that the policy in question originated with the Secretary of War. It is well known that the Executive sent to General Taylor his famous proclamation to the Mexican nation, already written, and it is believed that the proclamation of General Scott was dictated at Washington. When, therefore, gen. Scott says that humanity and good faith require him to carry the volunteers no further into the interior, there is nothing therein to show that the mandate did not come from Washington, any more than there was in the two proclamations above alluded to.

The Courier certainly has means of getting accurate information from Washington, and we should sooner trust to the statements of its correspondent than to those of the Union, for the simple reason that they have oftener been verified by the event. Besides, they are supported in this instance by every consideration that can possibly give plausibility to an assertion of fact. It is impossible to believe that General Scott would have so far reduced his army as not only to render it ineffective, but even to expose it to attack, at the very moment when the interest of the service and his own glory, alike required the most energetic measures on his part. He is known to be an officer of great ability; to suppose him voluntarily guilty of such an act as this, were to make him out a fool.

August 13, 1847, RW47v24n65p4 From the Army of Gen. Taylor

From the N.O. Picayune.

From the Army of Gen. Taylor.

The propeller Washington, from Vera Cruz and Tampico, touched at the Brazos on the 27th ult. and received a mail from the army of Gen. Taylor.

The American flag of the 24th ult contains not a word of any interest here.

Passengers from Matamoros, who came over on the Washington, tell us that the day they left that city news was received there by Mexican merchants that Gen. Scott had had an action with the Mexicans at Rio Frio and defeated them totally, with a loss on his part of 300 men. This news the Bee says was read at the head of the troops at Matamoros.. We presume this was done on the 26th – the day before the Washington left the Brazos. If Gen. Scott entered Mexico on the 17th ult, this would give nine days for the news to have reached Matamoros – a distance of nearly 250 leagues by the way of San Luis Potosi and the Tula pass. The time is amply sufficient for the transmission of the news. But we have dates to the 26th from Tampico also, which is several hundred miles nearer the capital, and yet not a word of Gen. Scott's victory.

Furthermore, our correspondent at Monterey, writing on the 13th, says they had then received a rumor there that Gen Scott had defeated a very large force under Santa Anna near the city of Mexico. This was a Mexican rumor, and very possibly was as authentic as the one which reached Matamoros a few days later.

We annex the latest letter we have received from Monterey. We have others on hand, some of which should have been received long ago.

[NO]
As I leave for Saltillo manana, as the Mexicans say, which, being translated into a respectable language, signifies early to-morrow morning, I will jot you down a few lines by way of bringing up matters here. In the first place, let me correct a blunder I made in my last about the direction in which Salinas lies from here. Instead of northeast, as I had it, it lies northwest from Monterey, and the Villa Real is a little south of west of Mamalequi, almost directly north from Monterey. The day we started for Mamalequi rather an interesting incident occurred at Gen. Taylor's camp. A Mexican lady residing in Monterey, drove up to the general's tent, accompanied by three young children, two girls and a boy, and solicited advice from him. She stated that she was extremely anxious that her children should be properly and thoroughly educated at some good institution in the United States, and particularly that they should be taught the English language, and she was desirous of taking them herself to the United States for that purpose, but being totally unacquainted there, wished the advice of some competent person as to what course she should pursue. The general gave her good advice, and promised her conveyance and escort to the Brazos by the next train that goes down. She appeared to be a very intelligent and lady-like person, and of very pleasing manners. A happy thing would it be for Mexico if she had a few more such mothers as this one – quickly would her destiny be changed.

The party of dragoons who started on a reconnaissance on the 7th inst. have not yet returned, but will be back in a few days, as they contemplated being gone about ten days.

The stamped train, which I alluded to in my last, arrived here the day before yesterday, and much to the satisfaction of everybody it appears that the train was ordered to return to Cerralvo from the best and most prudent motives. There was quite a force of mounted men forming part of the escort of the train, and Lieut. Col. Abbott recalled it that he might employ them to make a scout in different directions in that vicinity, to satisfy himself as to the reports of Urréa's presence which had come to him in such a shape that he felt it his duty to ascertain their truth. It was found that there was no foundation for them whatever. I understand that a Mexican robber was brought into Gen. Taylor's camp last night by two Mexicans, bound in something more substantial than "slumber's chains." – As a matter of course he will be turned over to the Mexican authorities, unless they have evidence that he has committed some offence against our people.

Everything is perfectly quiet here, but I suppose Dr Lushington will be on hand this afternoon, creating some little confusion, as the five companies of the Massachusetts regiment are to be paid off to-day. The unruly ones were taught a pretty severe lesson on Sunday last. Six or eight have been tried by court martial for drunkenness, disobedience of orders and offences of that character, and they received their sentences in the presence of the battalion. One surgeon was reduced to the ranks, and the rest were sentenced to do police duty and wear a ball and chain, for various periods of from one week to one month. It will do a world of good if followed up properly. Intelligence was received here a few days since from San Luis, via Saltillo, that Gen. Scott had met a very large force under Santa Anna near the City of Mexico and defeated them. It is reported here that Maj. Chevalie, of the Texas rangers, met with a very serious accident a few days since at Saltillo, from which it is feared he will not recover. He was about starting for Parras, and while on horseback was taken with a fit and fell to the ground, receiving severe and serious injuries thereby. This may perhaps delay the expedition to Parras for some days. Gen. Cushing proceeds to-morrow morning to Saltillo to take command of his brigade, or such portion of it as is in the field there.

The inhabitants of Monterey seem to be gradually returning to the city. At mass in the cathedral on Sunday morning, there was full four hundred able-bodied men upon their knees, and nearly as many women and children. As they were emerging from the church with the solemn tones of the organ reverberating through the arch of the cathedral, the drum and fife struck up a martial air in the center of the plaza for "guard mounting," telling them, in shrill tones, that "grimm-visaged war" prevailed in their midst.

I announced to you some time since that Mr. Brown an artist, was in Gen. Taylor's camp for the purpose of painting portraits of Gen. Taylor and staff. I have had an opportunity of examining the gentleman's performances as far as completed, and unhesitatingly pronounce them beautiful productions – such as would do credit to any artist in the country, not only from the faithfulness of the likenesses, but from the general excellence of their execution. He has already completed a splendid portrait of Gen. Taylor and of Maj. Bliss, both of which are most admirable likenesses – that of Gen. Taylor particularly. He has also finished a painting of Gen. Taylor and most of his officers in camp, on a canvas about four feet by three, representing the general standing under the awning in front of his tent, bare headed, about to leave for a ride; his orderly surgeon is standing near by, holding his old grey horse, and Maj. Bliss is in the act of calling his attention to a letter just received, which he holds in his hand. In various positions, seated and standing, and variously occupied, are Col. Mansfield, of the Topographical Engineers, Col. Monroe, of the Artillery, Col. Croghan, Inspector General, Maj. Eaton, 3d Infantry, Maj. Bragg, Light Artillery, Capt. Garnett, 7th Infantry, Capt. Ramsey, Ordnance Department, and Capt. Linnard, Topographical Engineers. The figures are all in miniature, and executed with a most life like faithfulness and exquisite finish. I cannot pay the artist a greater compliment than by saying that there is perceptible in all his faces that peculiar delicacy and exquisite softness of finish that was so distinguishing a feature in the production of the lamented Inman. Mr. B. is now engaged upon a battle piece, the scene of Buena Vista. It is contemplated by Mr. B. to exhibit these pictures all together in the States, and a very handsome and interesting collection they will be, too. A rumor is current here to-day, brought in by a Mexican, that a party which started from here day before yesterday morning, numbering something like 20, were attacked near Agua Frio, on their way down, by a party of rancheros, and near half their number killed. The party consisted of Col Reuben Davis, second Mississippi Regiment, Capt Davis, assistant quartermaster USA, and...
others, and by Capt D. I sent you a package of letters. I place little confidence in the report, as it comes from a
Mexican source, although the informant most positively avers that he saw six dead bodies himself. [This rumor was
totally false; all the parties mentioned arrived here duly.] The health of this city is good – at Saltillo not so good as it
has been, the North Carolina and Mississippi troops suffering severely from diarrhea. I shall write you again on my
arrival at Saltillo.

J.E.D.

[NO]

August 17, 1847, RW47v24n66p1c3 Scott still at Puebla

From the N. Orleans Picayune, Aug. 7

Arrival of the steamship Fashion.

Gen. Scott Still at Puebla.

Thirty Days Later from Puebla and Mexico.

The U.S. steamer Fashion, Capt. Ivy, arrived late last evening from Vera Cruz, bringing us dates from that city to the
2d inst. her news is most important. She brings a large mail.

Capt. Ivy will accept our best thanks for his courtesy and prompt delivery of our packages.

Gen. Scott was still at Puebla on the 30th of July. The news of the National’s extra was totally unfounded, as we
believed and have contended from the first.

Before going further we may mention that since the Fashion has been absent she has made one voyage from Vera
Cruz to Tampico and back. The Mary Kingland had arrived at Vera Cruz from Mobile with troops, and the Telegraph
and New Orleans from this port.

The courier of the British legation arrived at Vera Curz on the 31st ult., with correspondence from Mexico to the 29th
of July and from Puebla to the 30th.

Our letters from Vera Cruz differ somewhat from Mr. Kendall’s regard to the probable movements of General Scott.
They represent the chances of peace in a more fashionable light than Mr. K., and think the resistance to our advance
will be almost (unintelligible). Mr. Kendall thinks differently and gives (unintelligible).

In Mexico every thing was at sixes and sevens. Congress has referred Mr. Buchanan’s letters back to the Executive,
and thrown upon him all the responsibilities of the war. About 26,000 men are collected for the defence of the city,
but the peace party in the town is yet strong and increasing, and they have no faith in their generals.

Gen. Pierce, whit his train and convoy, had arrived safely at Perote. Gen. Scott, it will be seen, despatched Gen.
Smith’s brigade from Puebla to meet him. It will be seen that Mr. Kendall believes that Gen. Scott would advance the
first week in August upon Mexico, and that there would be the severest battle of the war. The Mexicans fully
prepared to receive him.

The Sun of Anahuac gives the following account of an encounter between Gen. Pierce’s train and the guerrillas. It
must be regarded as rumor, says our correspondent, and so too says the Sun.

A respectable person of the city has informed us that a letter has been received yesterday morning by a citizen of
this place, (unintelligible) stating that the guerrilleros, about 600 in number, attacked the train commanded by Gen.
Pierce, near the National Bridge. The letter says the Americans approached under the fire of the Mexicans until they
arrived within a hundred yards of them, when the American infantry opened d deadly fire on them, forcing them to
retreat. While the Mexicans were retreating the American cavalry rushed on them, sword in hand, and killed about
one hundred Mexicans. The position of the Mexicans was one of the strongest that can be found in the country. The
Americans passed the bridge after this successful engagement.

A gentleman who conversed with Santa Anna since the middle of July –we are told this on the best authority in Vera
Cruz– found him in favor of negotiating, but dreading to assume the responsibility. Gen. Valencia had arrived at the
capital with 4000 men from San Luis Potosi –all full of fight. This embarrassed Santa Anna. He left himself strong to
give up without a fight.

Our letters mention the death of Lieut. Tipton, of the Ritles, and Liuet. Sturgeon, of one of the Pennsylvania
regiments. The former was the son of the ex Senator Tipton, of Indiana –the latter of Senator Sturgeon, of
Pennsylvania.
Gen. Shields’s health is nearly reestablished, as his many friends will be delighted to hear.

Two letters from Lieut. Whipple are published in the papers. He is treated kindly as a prisoner of war and expects shortly to be exchanged. He was on his way to Cordova at last accounts. The letters are too long for us to-day. Gov. Soto has him in charge, to whom Gov Wilson has written, thanking him for his civilities.

August 17, 1847, RW47v24n66p1c3 Evacuation of Tabasco

The following in relation to the evacuation of Tabasco is from the Sun of Anahuac of the 27th ult.

The U.S. steamer Mississippi, Com Perry, arrived yesterday at Lizardo, bringing with him the steamers Scorpion, Spitfire and Vixen.

The forces have been withdrawn from the city of Tabasco, in consequence of the severe sickness which prevailed among them, till the sickly season shall have passed.

Every thing was taken on board, and the evacuation was effected without molestation from the enemy, who was in considerable force outside. The defences were all destroyed when the place was first occupied six weeks since.

Com’r Van Brunt, with the bomb brig Emma, the steamer Scourge and the gunboat Bonita, were left at Frontera, a few miles from the mouth of the river, (it being a healthy location) to take charge of the custom house there, and guard the passages leading to the capital.

It is due to truth to say that the Sun of Anahuac on its Spanish side represents the evacuation of Tabasco in a less favorable light for our arms than the above account –It attributes our withdrawal to the overwhelming forces of the enemy. Our commandant feared he would be unable to resist an attack and determined to evacuate the place rather than risk the issue.

August 17, 1847, RW47v24n66p1c3 Orders from Perry

Com. Perry has issued the following notice and order:

U.S. Falgship Mississippi, Anton, Lizardo, July 28, 1847.

Notice is given that the war tax of 10 per ct. ad valorem hitherto imposed on exports from the ports of the Gulf of Mexico occupied by the naval forces of the U. States is hereby ordered to be discontinued.

All officers under my command having charge of the collection of duties under the war tariff of April 7th, 1847, will act accordingly.

M. C. Perry. Com’g Home Squadron.

August 17, 1847, RW47v24n66p1c3 Lieut. Kendall stabbed in Vera Cruz

A drunken Mexican the other day stabbed Lieut. Kendall, of the Vera Cruz police, and two other men. Some Mexican horses thieves have been caught outside the walls of Vera Cruz with ten of our horses in their possession.

The health of the city of Vera Cruz is improving, say the (unintelligible). We will give the official statement in our next but the (unintelligible) daily mortality is about nine. The vomito is decreasing.

The Sun tells of various exploits of Mexicans robbers near Vera Cruz, but they are (unintelligible) worth repeating, stealing horses being the greatest feat. The following paragraphs from the Sun of the 23d ult. touches Father Jarauta:

This priest and his band of robbers having robbed some of the property belonging to the U. S. Government, from Gen Cadwaller’ train, delivered it over to the Governor Orizaba, who sold it and pocketed the proceeds. It is said the
August 17, 1847, RW47v24n66p1c3 News from Puebla

We have a copy of the American Star of the 29th July. This paper it will be recollected and published at Puebla –It contains little news from the capital and is not as full as Mr. Kendall’s letters. We annex the last general order we see in it.

General Orders No 238.

Headquarters of the Army, Puebla, July 28, 1847.

Experience has shown that the safety of the persons and property of this army cause for a more regular system of a police and activity on the part of patrols, guards and sentinels.

In addition to the means heretofore prescribed, (see general order, No 206,) the commander of the cavalry brigade will detail daily for night duty, beginning at 12 o’clock in terminating at sunrise, a mounted patrol of a sergeant, a corporal and twelve men, for every two hours, to make the entire circuit of the environs of the city.

The cavalry patrols, like those of (unintelligible) interior, will receive the standing instructions to sees and to turn over to the nearest guard all suspicious and the disorderly persons for examination or trial.

The field officers of the day will see that the patrol duty, both exterior and interior, be duly perform, and distribute that duty between the foot patrols, so that every part of the city may be regularly patrolled several times in every night.


August 17, 1847, RW47v24n66p1c3 American prisoners

We have letters from the Americans officer prisoners in Mexico which we cannot find room for this morning. The latest date is the 15th July. The health of the party is good, but they see no prospect of release. They long for the arrival of the army. Gen. Scott has made another effort in their behalf, but we do not yet know the result.

Gen. Almonte has been sent to Tulancingo. The nature of the charges against him we have not yet been able to ascertain. More of him in our next.

Gen. Alvarez was in the capital the middle of July and had several long interviews with Santa Anna.

Mr. Kendall (unintelligible) in sending couriers to Vera Cruz, though he has had three captured. One has been killed. He fought bravely for his life and was faithful to the last. By singular good fortune the letters by this courier we have recovered. They are not of a late date, but it is rather singular that they should have reached their destination against the wishes of the Mexicans, when once in their possession. We have not yet had time since even to read them. Mr. K. will continue to despatch messengers to the coast.

Mr. Trist must have been indisposed., A private letter written on the 29th ult. says: “Mr. Trist’s health has improved.”

[NO]

August 17, 1847, RW47v24n66p1c3 Mexicans defeat American at Atlixco

We have a copy of the Nacional, of the 24th and 21st ult. this paper is published at Atlixco, the present capital of the State of Puebla. From it we learn that Gen. Garay has reported to the Government that he had defeated one hundred and fifty American riflemen at the river Calabozo. He sets down pur loss at one captain and fifteen soldiers killed, five drowned and fifteen made prisoners. –Besides he says he took forty horses and some mules and arms. His own loss is not mentioned.

We are unable to make further use of our papers and correspondence to–day. To–morrow we will present every thing to our readers which we can find of interest. Our correspondence from Puebla and the city of Mexico is
August 17, 1847, RW47v24n66p1c4 More news from Puebla

[Editorial Correspondence of the Picayune]

Puebla, Mexico, July 25, 1847.

Since despatching my last courier, three days ago. I have not written you, for the simple reason that I had nothing to say. Even rumors have not been as abundant as they were a week since, the jade who circulated them with so prolific a hand on our first arrival having either tired herself down or worn herself out. Not ten days since, and we had twenty different stories in relation to Santa Anna in as many different hours—his stock, if I may be allow to use the term, was purely of a fancy description, rising and falling with every puff of wind form the capital. Now, we simple heard occasionally that he continues to lead Congress and the people by the nose—in short, that he is having everything in his own way. Dictator he was, at last accounts, two all intense and purposes, and his measures, whatever they may have been, he was carrying out with a high and most unscrupulous hand. The law of one day, if is stood the least in his way, was to abolish the next, and he who (unintelligible) a word of opposition of dissent was placed where his voice could not be heard, let him shout at his loudest—Such was the state of affairs at the capital four days ago—they may have altered since then.

In my last, I mentioned the capture of a Mexican mail by a part of dragoons. Since then another package has been taken, and the contents of one of the letters was outrageous beyond belief. The writer, a young men half crazy and two-thirds (unintelligible), spoke of women being daily outraged by not only our men, but the higher grades of our officers; says that the most gross excesses were perpetrated in open day; that females were not safe even in their own houses; that many good citizens of Puebla have already died of rage, and he himself could not possibly live much longer and witness such horrible crimes as were hourly committed by the savage and perfidious Yankees—he must die from an excess of cholor. He winds up his letter by swearing to the truth of all ha has written, and then seeks his friends in the city of Mexico to read and circulate the precious documents. He is now safely ledged in prison, and gives as an excuse that he only wrote the letter in joke! As he has been told that he must remain in prison until he proves one of the statements he has so solemnly sworn to his incarceration is likely to be a long one.

I have seen an order, issued at the city of Mexico on the 19th inst. Gen. Lombardini in which, after stating that it is now time for the great Mexican nation to show the world that her sons have not degenerated, the commander—in-chief goes on to decree as follows: That on the American’s first appearance in sight of the capital a gun shall be fired in the plexs; that instantly all the band shall stroke up the alarm; that all the military shall at once hurry to the appropriate stations; that all (unintelligible) save those where charcoal and provisions (unintelligible) shall be immediately closed; that no change shall be allowed in the streets, and that there shall be no assemblage of persons any part of the city. Such is the plan of giving the first alarm, and the after government of the city. The idea of showing to the world that her sons have not degenerated is purely Mexican, but what (unintelligible) a deal of hard fighting and bloodshed to place them where they stood previous to the battle of Palo Alto.

In one of my letters I noticed the death of Lieut. Tipton, of the Rifles—a son of Senator Tipton, of Indiana. Since then a son of Senator Stugeon of Pennsylvania, a lieutenant in one of the regiments from the State, has died, and he too, I have been told, was a young of much promise. I cannot learn that any of our officers are now seriously indisposed, and the health of the army generally is improving. To be sure there are 1500 or 2000 men still on the sick list, but a larger portion of them are convalescing.

I wrote you a short time since that I had despatched a man to Vera Cruz with letters, and that after his departure I was obliged, in virtue of a verbal contract, today all the expenses of his family during his absence, to keep a candle continually burning and have a function performed in one of the churches for his safety and buen viaje. I have just learned that the fellow was captured on the road by the guerrilleros, stripped, beat most unmercifully, his horse—I paid for the annual—taken from him, and was turned loose to make the best of his way back to Puebla. The story of his adventures and capture is most amusing, and I will gave it if (unintelligible)I live to get home; at present I will only say that I thought the family made too much fuss from the first.

Last evening, on the strength of a letter paid said to have been received from the Spanish Minister in Mexico, peace stock went up. It was rumored that the contents of his communication made peace inevitable—that the Congress and Santa Anna were disposed to agree to any thing is order to insure it now, while I am writing, intelligence has come in from which it would appear that there is no earthly chance for an amicable adjustment of our difficulties. From all accounts, it would appear that Santa Anna and Congress passed an act declaring any one traitor who would even entertain the idea of a peace with North America. So far so good. When Santa Anna received Mr. Buchanan’s last proposition, a few weeks ago, he at once submitted them to Congress for that body to act upon the matter in the (unintelligible); but what did Congress do but send the papers back with an answer that the initiatory steps belonged exclusively to the Executive. At this Santa Anna became enraged—said that he did not send the papers before Congress to ascertain what prerogatives were—he knew their full extent well— but he had laid the matter before that body in order that the members might rescind their former decree declating any one a traitor, &c., if they saw fit. That he thought they would do this, and thus give him all and every power, is highly probable; but Congress took a stubborn fit, and here the whole affair rests for the present. I do not even see who is to deign to offer an
answer to Mr. Buchanan's propositions, which seem to have been transferred into a species of foot–ball to be kicked backwards and forwards by Santa Anna and the Congress –neither party, in the present distracted state of the country, daring to lay hands upon the unfortunate document– Bold and unscrupulous as even the tyrant is all matters of state policy, he dare not take a responsibility so heavy upon his shoulders as to come out alone and advocate a peace. The impression now is, that he has determined to hazard the defence of the capital, and this impression gains strength when it is known that he has Congress to lay the blame upon in case he suffers another defeat.

Another battle, in my humble opinion, will be of immense advantage to the United States; for if Gen. Scott moves upon the capital the Mexicans will certainly be defeated, and if he remains here, and there is no more fighting, the enemy will contrive to come out of the war conquerors. They will endeavor to make it appear that the Yankees, fearful of risking a battle at their principle city, (unintelligible) for peace, and in the eyes of the world they will be able to make a tolerably clear case.

Santa Anna has recently levied a contribution –a force loan it may be called– upon the inhabitants of the capital, in which he calls for $280, 875 to carry on the war. The churches and convents, as well as private individuals, are (unintelligible), and it is hinted that the tyrant has left the names of some of his few friends off of that tax list. The foreigners who have been called upon without (unintelligible), have made regular protests it is said against the unjust exaction, but Santa Anna does not stand trifles in his money transactions.

From every indication it would appear that Gen. Scott intends an immediate movement upon the city of Mexico –at least within a week or ten days. Hard bread is being baked for the march, the quartermasters have been ordered to hold themselves in readiness, and in every department all is bustle and activity. It being found impossible to receive clothing from the United States, hundreds of Mexicans are hard at work putting our men in uniform. Some even think that the army will move before Gen. Pierce comes up; but it is hardly probable that Gen. Scott will march before that officer gets within one or two day's march. At least 1500 hundred of the sick will be left behind, but a majority of them would be in a situation to take up arms in case the garrison was attacked.

Speaking of sickness, the South Carolina regiment has suffered more than any other in the service. This was not expected. It was thought that the Northern regiments would suffer most (unintelligible) in the tropics, but the New Yorkers and South Carolinians, out of 900 strong with first mustered, now turn out but about 400. –Of the other 500 some 140 have died, 200 have been left sick in the rear, and the rest are now in hospital here. The health of the regiment is improving, however, and many are convalescing.

Yours, &c. G. W. K.

[NO]

August 17, 1847, RW47v24n66p1c5 Kendall from Puebla

Puebla, Mexico, July 30, 1847

We have s story, tolerable well authenticated, that over a million of dollars has recently arrived at Vera Cruz for the army. A day after the (unintelligible), again, for how is this money to find its way up in season to relieve the great necessities of those who have so long suffering? The straits to which our commissaries and quartermasters have been driven, as well as the army agent, Mr. Hargous, to raise the means for the absolute support of the men, has beat the kite–flying and skinning days of '37 all to pieces. A dollar is a dollar, and more than a dollar, here in Puebla.

In relation to the movements of the army, I can give you no other than the impression that Gen. Scott intends immediately on the arrival of Gen. Pierce. The men composing the division of Gens. Worth and Twiggs are probably better soldiers than any at present in the world. In the first place, the material is equal if not superior to any they are equally well drilled; have the best of officers to lead them; and, what is of the greatest importance, a great portion of them; have been in the front rank of battle in numerous fights. Nor is the division of Gen. Quitman, which will doubtless take an active part in any operations yet to take place, much behind the others. The regiments composing it, the New York, South Carolina, and the 1st and the 2d Pennsylvania, have been long enough in the field to become well drilled, while Stetpee's admirable battery is attached to it. The army that will set down before Mexico will be the strongest and the best appointed we have yet had in the field, and let the Mexicans fight as they will the result of any contest that may take place cannot be doubted (unintelligible).

I have seen a gentleman who left the careful awaiting (unintelligible). The story that the city was partially overflowed is confirmed, but the report of the extent of the fundation, and of the (unintelligible) it had occasioned, have been exaggerated. There was a strong belief among many of the foreigners that there was a perfect understanding between Gen. Scott and Santa Anna, and that a peace would grow out of it. The Congress was still al leggerheads with the President, all business was completely at a stand and the only law known was that of the military.

The obstinacy of Congress, the deep hatted of the Mexicans to the Americans, and the slight hold Santa Anna has upon the people, may, probably will, prevent his own schemes and those of the English from being carried out –the coming fortnight will tell the story. No wonder the English are anxious to see this war brought to a close, for it has
already proved most disastrous to their heavy mercantile interests in the country, and its continuance must hasten (unintelligible)

Difficult (unintelligible) it now is to get letter off to the case, I shall continue to attempt it, for the events of the coming month must be pregnant with interest.

Yours, &c. G. W.K.

P.S. –I might mention, as an item of interest to his numerous friends, that Gen. Shields is here and in good health. The health of the army continues to improve, and a large portion of the soldiers may now be said to be acclimated.

[NO]

August 17, 1847, RW47v24n66p4c2 Later from Army of Taylor

From the N. O. Picayune, Aug. 6

Later from Gen. Taylor's Army

The steamer Ohio, Capt. J. Swiler, Jr. arrived yesterday morning from Brazos Santiago, touching at Galveston. She left the Brazos on Saturday, the 31st ult, and Galveston on the 2d inst.

The Flag says that Col Gorman, with four companies of Indiana volunteers, passed up the river on the 24th ult, on the Big Hatche; Lt Col E Dumont, with two companies on the 25th, on the Col Hunt; and the remaining four were on the Col McKee, at the mouth of the river, all bound for the camp of instruction. the regiment is nearly 1000 strong, and has suffered a loss of but four men since leaving Indiana.

For the particulars of news from Monterey and Buena Vista we refer our readers to the interesting letters of our correspondent, who were glad to find in improved health writing from the battle field of Buena Vista. The following items are all from the Flag of the 28th ult:

The Third Dragoons. –A letter was received on Monday, by our commandant, form Gen. Hopping, stating that he had received information that Gen Urrea was on this side of the mountains whit some 4000 men, and requesting a squadron of dragoons –but we learn that their colonel chooses to remain here until he has received his complement of horses, in the meantime drilling his men as throughly as could be done elsewhere. A company of mounted men form Ohio, who had recently arrived here, was, therefore, sent up by the first boat, and will report to Gen Hopping immediately for duty.

Col. Caravajal. –We understand form several sources entitled to credit that this worthy was on Friday last at a rancho called La Vacaria, some twenty–five leagues distant, on the road to Linares, with a force numbering about 250 men, having been joined by Galan, another guerrilla chief. They are said to have detained a large number of mules loaded with corn, soap, sugar and other produce, destined for this place; beside one hundred cargoes of goods which had been sent from here to Monterey. They appear determined to spare neither friends nor foes, but confiscate all they can intercept as fair booty –looking upon those interested as given “aid and comfort” to the enemy. A party of sixty men are reported to have been, a few days since, within two or three leagues of this place, picking up deserters form the Mexican army, and impressing others into their service from the various ranchos in our neighborhood. A squadron of mounted men could soon open the way for the trader; and we understand that our commandant has an eye upon the proceedings of these commissioned parties, and we hope soon to hear that the roads are cleared and made safe for the transmission of merchandize of all descriptions.

Capt. E. A. Ogden has been relieved at his own request from the post of quartermaster at the mouth of the Rio Grande, and Major Anderson assigned to duty at tha place. The occasion of Capt. Ogden’s retirement demands of us a word in praise of the zeal and untiring industry he has displayed in the discharge of the duties which have devolved upon him since the commencement of the war. In taking charge of the affairs of the department at the mouth of the river, a world of obstacles had to be encountered and a vast of responsibility assumed. How he has discharged the trust reposed on him, the regularity and order with which every thing have been conducted gives sufficient evidence. An uninterrupted navigation of the Rio Grande form the mouth of the river to Camargo has been kept up throughout the whole year, against obstacles which by nearly every one were considered insurmountable. In the transportation of the troops and supplies there has been no delay; they have been forwarded with a despacth and safety deserving the highest commendation. At his immediate post the enry of the man shows more apparent. One year ago the post at the mouth of the Rio Grande was a barren sand–beach; and millions of dollar worth of public property was being landed there without any protection from weather, and immense losses were sustained in consequence. In a brief space of time commodious and secure storehouses were erected , and as we viewed the place a few days ago it has the appearance of a thriving commercial town, with an industrious population busted at the various avocations. A substantial long wharf, several hundred feet long, has been completed, a ship yard for the repair of steamboats and vessels is in operation, and nothing seems to have been left undone which it was in Capt. Ogden’s power to accomplish for the advancement of the Government interest. The zeal he has displayed in the discharge of his multifarious duties is the theme of universal praise, and as a memento of the esteem in which he is
August 17, 1847, RW47v24n66p4c2 News from General Wool

[Special Correspondence of the Picayune]

Communications were received from General Wool last night by Gen. Taylor, transmitting papers from the city of Mexico to the 26th ult. they contain the intelligence of the offer of the United States Government to negotiate, made by Mr. Trist, which is stated as the Rio Grande to 36 degrees, and from thence to the Pacific ocean for a boundary, the Unites States to indemnify Mexico by money for the land thus ceded. The British Minister has expressed his opinion that this offer is highly favorable to Mexico, and such a one as she can accept in justice to herself without compromising her dignity or honor. The Mexican press, however, regard this offer as quite as outrageous as all former ones, and pronounces it out of the question to accept it, still (unintelligible) the most warlike language, denouncing the United States and striving to incite the people.

J. E. D.

August 17, 1847, RW47v24n66p4c2 From Buena Vista

Camp Buena Vista, July 18, 1847.

I arrived to Saltillo from Monterrey on Friday at noon, in company with Gen. Cushing and staff, and came out here to camp in the afternoon. The general comes to assume command of his brigade, consisting of the 2d Mississippi, Virginia and North Carolina regiments. The encampment really presents a most beautiful and picturesque appearance, spreading over a vast plain just sufficiently inclined to enable the water to run off rapidly. The volunteers brigade is encamped according to the regulation, and every tent and camp–dire is its appropriate place. The artillery and the dragoons are in the left of the field, Gen. Wool and staff in the center, and the infantry brigade on the right. The discipline of Gen. Wool is extremely strict; and enforced, and discipline is nine points in the game, especially where volunteers are concerned. Company drills take place every morning, battalion and regimental drills every afternoon, and brigade reviews every Sunday. As regards the climate, it suits me, being an Eastern man, to a degree --the air being delightful cool and bracing at all times, except during the middle of the day for a few hours; a shower lays the dust almost every afternoon. With respect to the health of the troops, I regret to say that the Mississippi and North Carolina regiments are suffering severely, and have been for some time, form chills and fevers and diarrheas, but principally the later. The average number of diarrheas in each regiment is about three a day for a fortnight; the sick list of the North Carolina regiment is now about 150 --that of the Mississippi regiment about 100. There are about 120 on the sick list of the Virginia regiment, not one death has occurred during the three weeks they have been up here. This sickness is manly attributed to the imprudence of the officers and men in eating too heartily of fruit, which abounds here now, and in keeping up the practice after they are attacked. Recently Gen. Wool has prohibited fruit from being brought into camp, and the beneficial effects to this proceeding have begun to felt, the sick list decreasing gradually every day. It seems rather a hard matter to deprive the men of fruit, which if eaten in moderation would prove beneficial, but as the men will not take care of themselves they must be taken care of. It does seems as if they required as much looking after as children.

Yours, truly, J. E.D.

August 17, 1847, RW47v24n66p4c2 More from Saltillo

Sunday Night, July 18, 1847.

Since writing my letter of this morning, Capt. Rucker has returned from his expedition to Mazapil, and confirms the report received from him. He found no troops there, but had every reason to believe that Minon's cavalry (under whose command is not know) were at or in the neighborhood of Matehuala. An express was despatched by the Mexicans at Mazapil, immediately upon the approach of Capt. R., to the enemy wherever he was, informing them of his approach that they might be cut off. Capt. R. saw nothing of them on his return, although I have no doubt it would have afforded him infinite satisfaction to do so. --Information has been received from Parras to--day to the effect that Don Manuel Ibarro had received an express two days since, announcing the approach of a body of upwards of 300 Indians, who had burned and destroyed three ranchos on their way and killed three hundred
unjustice, and did not think of calling their rulers to account for involving them in them.

foreign wars, for believing them always inevitable, they troubles themselves very little about their justice or

The civil strife and turmoil with which the pages of her history are (unintelligible), was not connected with her

But why bring up the example of Rome? Rome was a nation of warriors; her descent was proudly claimed from Mars the God of Battle; with her, military genius comprised all that mankind admire of great and noble; the very term from which our word virtue is derived, with her signified valor. Trained to battle from his youth, the Roman was

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But the American people, we rejoice to say, are altogether a different nation from the Roman. Peace, honorable (unintelligible) is their true policy. In order that it might not be possible to disturb it upon every slight occasion – in order that a state of war might not be rashly entered by ambitious and designing rulers – in order that the full sense of the whole people might be brought to bear upon a question of such momentous importance – the power of declaring war was especially reserved to the Representatives of the people and of the States, by the Constitution. It is the privilege of freemen to watch the proceedings of their delegated rulers, to investigate their acts, to scan their motives, and to hold them to a strict accountability. The consequence is, that in this country, no war can be entered into without its exciting a spirit of eager inquiry among the people. If a President, by merely saying “we are at war,” and calling upon Congress to endorse his assertion, can put a padlock upon the lips of a whole nation – if it is, after such declaration on his part, no longer lawful for the people to enquire even whether it be true, that we are at war – (unintelligible) Congress, under pain of being denounced as moral traitors, dare do nothing more than register the rescript of the Executive officer – then we ask of what avail is the clause of the Constitution to which we have alluded? The President, undoubtedly, has it in his power to declare war at any moment he may think proper. He may march a hostile force into Canada, and do some act which may lead to a collision with British forces – he may then send a message to Congress declaring that we are at war – and Congress dare not make any inquiry into the fact, because by so doing they lay themselves liable to the charge of “moral treason.” The power of Congress to declare war, is thus entirely superseded – usurped by the Executive branch of the Government – and the right of questioning the act, let it have been as illegal as it may, is utterly forbidden to the people.

But let us proceed:

“The problem of such an opposition has been once worked out. Such was the opposition of the federal leaders to the war of 1812, and what was the result? A nation’s and a world’s contempt. Degraded and self-despised, the guilty men sought to avoid universal scorn by disavowing the name which their fathers had assumed, and under cover of which they had wrought treason against their country, in their frantic opposition to its constituted authorities. In discarding their once-cherished name, and adopting one not associated with crimes against their country, they abandoned no principle, and changed no feeling. On the contrary, having been joined by a few renegades from the old republican party, and assuming the name of the whig, they are now carrying on against their country, through its public authorities, a campaign which bids fair to exceed, in boldness and atrocity; that of the federal party during the war of 1812. By perfidy in her foreign relations, and the contempt Mexico has brought upon herself by her internal administration, she finds nothing in the wide world base enough to sympathize with her, and become her ally, except the whig leaders in the United States. If she does not receive from them men, money, and arms, she receives that which is more essential to her success in her system of robbery and murder – she receives assurances that she is right, and we are wrong; that it is a war of the Executive, and not of the people of the United States; that it is looked upon with abhorrence by the mass of our population, who would if they could, and will when they can, withdraw our armies from her territories, without exacting indemnity for the past or security for the future, and perchance will pay her all the damages and expenses she has sustained by the war! With this encouragement and those assurances before them, is it a wonder that the Mexican leaders will not listen to the voice of peace on any terms short of those the federal leaders propose – the entire withdrawal of our armies from Mexico? Is it a wonder that Jarauta and his robber band beset the roads for the purpose of shooting down not only our soldiers, but every American who may incautiously come in front of their coverts? Is it a wonder that Urrea's bandits murder our fellow-citizens in the highways, tear out their hearts and thrust them into their mouths, mutilate and hang them by their heels in the trees? Is it a wonder that the Mexican lancers feel at perfect liberty to ride over the field of battle, and murder our wounded officers and soldiers, who, their whig allies tell them, have invaded their country without justice or right, to rob and destroy them?”

Before proceeding any farther, it may be proper to remind the reader that one of these “degraded and self-despised” men, here spoken of, is at this moment Secretary of State – that another fills the seat left vacant by Marshall – and that t third is the Locofoco Chairman of the Committee of Foreign Relations.

It cannot be denied that a part of these allegations at least is true. There has been sympathy and alliance between prominent Mexicans and prominent Americans; nay, the most prominent men of both nations. There is a small mistake, however, as to the party to which the American portion of them belonged. The Whigs had no hand in restoring Santa Anna to his country – they are not responsible for the sudden order brought out of disorder upon that officer’s return – their souls are not stained with the blood of their brethren shed in the bloody battles of Buena Vista and Cerro Gordo. The man who permitted this author of all the mischief which has occurred upon these occasions to return to his country, there to reanimate the drooping spirits of the war party and to reorganise the broken forces of their army, was JAMES K. POLK – the party which has justified the proceeding, is the Locofoco party – the journal which has been foremost in applauding the policy, is the Washington Union. “With this encouragement before them,” it is not, indeed, a wonder that the “Mexican leaders will not listen to peace.” It is, indeed, no wonder that “Jarauta and his robber bands beset the roads for the purpose of shooting down, not only soldiers, but every American who may incautiously come in front of their coverts.” Under such circumstances, it is not, indeed, strange that “Urrea’s bands murder our fellow-citizens in the highway, and that the Mexican lancers feel at perfect liberty to ride over the field of battle and murder our wounded officers.” Under the encouragement afforded them by the only man who could encourage them thus far, all this was to have been expected, and everybody foresaw it but James K. Polk and the editor of the Government Journal.

[NO]
We publish the next paragraph for the sake of its peculiar atrocity:

“There is a fearful responsibility resting upon the Whig leaders. On their heads rests the blood not only of the Mexicans who are encouraged to persist and perish in a hopeless war, but of their own countrymen, of their own sons, brothers, and friends, whom they encourage those Mexicans to waylay and kill in their chapparals and among their mountains. The guilt of a double crime – of two crimes the most atrocious known to human laws – rests upon their souls – treason and murder; treason to their country, and the murder not only of Mexicans, but of their own countrymen, kindred, and friends.”

It appears, then, that if those 100,000 volunteers, from the Southern and Southwestern States, who the Union told us in three months would be revelling in the halls of the Montezumas, are not forthcoming – if General Taylor contrary to his own judgement was pushed forward without a force sufficient to advance as he wished, and left exposed to the attack of five times his number – if the ten Regiments, voted by Congress in February with all the money asked for, have not yet arrived in place – if in spite of the fact that he had a majority in both branches of the Legislature, the President’s conduct of the war has been marked by doubt, indecision, and inertness – the responsibility rests upon the Whig party, who had no power to restrain, and who have proved their devotion by shedding their choicest blood upon the field of battle.

The opposition of the Whig party to this war has been sustained – triumphantly sustained – by the people of these United States. There is no mistaking the voice in which they have just spoken. It is the majority of the people then – of that people to whom he owes the office that he fills – whose creature he is, and by whose breath his presidential life exists – that Mr. Polk, through his organ, charges with treason. Treason against whom? Against themselves? Or against the majesty of James K. Polk? And has it come to this? Has the President already assumed the substance, as he has heretofore done the forms of royalty, and is there such an offence as treason against majesty in the person of James K. Polk? Murder! The majority of this nation guilty of murder? Murder of whom? Of their own sons, and brothers, and kinsmen; for chiefly of Whigs have the armies been composed, and Whig States have contributed largely to its rank and file.

[To Be Continued]

August 17, 1847, RW47v24n66p4c3 News from Vera Cruz and Matamoros

From the New Orleans Picayune, August 11.

Arrival of the Steamship Telegraph

The steamship Telegraph arrived last evening from Vera Cruz, having touched at the Brazos on the voyage.

We understand that she left Vera Cruz on the 4th inst., but brings no news whatever. We received no news or letters from that city.

Passengers by the Telegraph – Col. Randell; Capt. Ogden and lady; Maj. Arthur, Quartermaster U.S.A.; Miss Townsend; Capt. Walker; Lieut. Conch; Lieut J.J. Mun; Dr. Beard; L.A. Whitley; J.S. Holt; J. Lawrence; W.W. Enethro; J. Fatterson; Mr. Carr; Capt. Clendew; Downdsend, Clough and Wells.

We are indebted to the commander of the Telegraph for a copy of the Matamoros Flag of the 4th inst.

Quite the most important article in the Flag is the following:

Advance upon San Luis. – From Major Arthur, formerly quartermaster at Cerralvo, we learn that Gen. Wool has received orders to proceed with the advance of Gen. Taylor’s column, on the 20th inst., in the direction of Encarnacion, some twenty leagues from Buena Vista, where he will establish a depot, into which three months’ rations will be thrown. The army will then advance upon San Luis and communication be opened with Tampico or Tuspan, from whence supplies will thereafter be received. All the mules and other means of transportation have been ordered above and activity prevails throughout the whole department.

The Flag gives sad accounts of outrages perpetrated in the vicinity of Matamoros, by Mexicans upon their own countrymen and countrywomen. The same paper mentions that the resident Mexicans near Parrass, lately applied to Gen. Taylor to protect them from armed bands of their own countrymen, sent thither for the express purpose of ravaging the country and destroying the crops. The Flag thinks that aid should be furnished them.

The Flag has more rumors from Gen. Scott’s army, but this time we are happy to known that they are false, being entirely Mexican. We do not repeat them.

Col. Davenport inspected the Ohio regiment on the 31st ult. The result was very creditable to the appearance and discipline of the troops. They generally enjoy good health, there only being a few cases of diarrhea among them.
August 17, 1847, RW47v24n66p4c3 Captain Aulick

From the Washington Union, of Thursday

Capt. Aulick. – We lay the following correspondence between Capt. Aulick and the Secretary of the Navy, with great pleasure before our readers. It is calculated to put down an idle rumor from an anonymous source in a newspaper, which Capt. Aulick never would have condescended to make the basis of official action, if it had not also been suggested that this rumor had reached the department. It appears from the Secretary’s letter, that there was no foundation for any such supposition. We do not mistake Capt Aulick’s character when we say that he defies any one to produce the slightest evidence of the truth of such a rumor. Let it be submitted to the department, and Capt. A. is prepared to meet it, let it assume whatever phase it may.

Washington, 11th August, 1847.

Sir: Since my return to the United States in command of the United States ship Potomac, I learn, with a sensibility which you can readily appreciate, that reports are in circulation affecting my character as an officer of the Navy, and especially my conduct when I was in command of the navy battery during the bombardment of Vera Cruz. I respectfully inquire if any report has been made to the department by my commanding officers, or any others, (as rumor says there has been,) of conduct on that occasion unbecoming the honor of the service, or my own character.

After a service of more than thirty-seven years, and having in the last war, and since, been often placed in circumstances which would at least have evinced a want of personal courage, if it had been my misfortune to labor under such an infirmity, I feel very acutely such an accusation. If I had exhibited it on the occasion referred to, I presume that some of the officers who were on that service, or in the squadron, and whose duty it is to protect the honor of the navy, would have taken the steps necessary to an examination; and I therefore respectfully ask if any such report has been made to the department? If there be any such report, I may hope to be excused in asking that such measures may be taken as speedily as may be deemed proper, as will establish the charge, if true, or vindicate me from the aspersion.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, &c.

J.H. Aulick.

Hon. J.Y. Mason,
Secretary of the Navy, Washington.

Navy Department, Aug. 12. 1847

Sir: I have received your letter of the 12th instant, in which you state that reports are in circulation affecting your “character as an officer of the navy,” and especially your conduct when “in command of the navy battery during the bombardment of Vera Cruz,” and inquire whether any report has been made to the department by your commanding officers, or any others, of conduct, on the occasion referred to, unbecoming the honor of your service or your own character.

In reply to your inquiry, you are informed that no report of unbecoming conduct on your part, on the occasion which you mention, and no statement in which your “personal courage” is called into question, has been made to the department by your commanding officers, or any others.

In the despatch of your commanding officer, Com. Perry, dated at Vera Cruz, on the 25th of March last, your name is mentioned in the following terms: "Capt. Aulick, assisted by Commander Mackenzie and several lieutenants, had the direction of mounting the guns and opening the fire, and well and bravely was the duty performed;" and in the General Order of Commodore Perry, dated March 29, ’47, congratulating those under his command upon the surrender of Vera Cruz, he states that he "feels called upon, by a high sense of duty, to tender his warmest thanks to the commanders, officers, and men of the squadron, for the admirable zeal and courage with which they have executed their respective duties.”

There is nothing on the files of the department which would justify a belief that these terms of commendation employed by Com. Perry are, so far as respects yourself or others, undeserved.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

J.Y. Mason.

August 20, 1847, RW47v24n67p2c1 Security on the Frontier

Mr. Brownson's Article

We republish and append this article at the suggestion of a friend, who seemed to think that the position assigned to it the other day was not sufficiently prominent. It should be read by every man in this country; nay, it should be gotten by heart. Never was there sterner, juster or more well–timed rebuke. At the very moment when the Whigs, those who voted against Mr. Polk are denounced by the organ in his pay as traitors and allies of Mexico for saying that this war was made in violation of the constitution, one of the most prominent men of the party, and the man who edits the Review which is supposed to represent Democratic feeling says the same thing. The myrmidons of government may thus see what the people think of them and their master.

From Brownson's Quarterly Review

The course the President should have pursued is plain and obvious. On learning the state of things on the frontier, the critical condition of our army of occupation, he should have demanded of Congress the reinforcement and supplies necessary to relieve it, AND SECURE THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH IT WAS AVOWEDLY SENT TO THE RIO GRANDE; and if he believed it proper or necessary, to have in addition laid before Congress, a full and truthful statement of our relations with Mexico, including all the unadjusted complaints, past and present, we had against her, ACCOMPANIED BY THE RECOMMENDATION OF A DECLARATION OF WAR. He would then have kept within the limits of his duty, proved himself a plain constitutional President, AND LEFT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF WAR OR NO WAR TO CONGRESS, THE ONLY WAR MAKING POWER KNOWN TO OUR LAWS. Congress, after mature deliberation might or might not have declared war – MOST LIKELY WOULD NOT, but whether so or not, the responsibility would have rested with it, and no blame would have attached to the President.

Unhappily, this course did not occur to the President, or was too plain and simple to meet his approbation. By declaring that the war already existed, and by the act of Mexico herself, the President relieved Congress of the responsibility of the war, by throwing it all on Mexico. But since he cannot fasten it on Mexico, – FOR WAR DID NOT ALREADY EXIST, OR IF SO, BY OUR ACT, AND NOT HERS, – it necessarily recoils upon himself, and he must bear the responsibility of doing WHAT THE CONSTITUTION FORBIDS HIM TO DO, – OF MAKING WAR WITHOUT THE INTERVENTION OF CONGRESS. IN EFFECT THEREFORE, HE HAS TRAMPLED THE CONSTITUTION UNDER HIS FEET; SET A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT, AND, BY THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF A PALPABLE FALSEHOOD, SULLIED THE NATIONAL HONOR. It is with no pleasure that we speak thus of the chief Magistrate of the Union, FOR WHOSE ELEVATION TO HIS HIGH AND RESPONSIBLE OFFICE WE OURSELVES VOTED. But whatever may be our attachment to party, or the respect we hold to be due from all good citizens to the civil magistrate, we cannot SEE THE CONSTITUTION VIOLATED, AND THE NATIONAL HONOR SACRIFICED, whether by friend or foe, from good motives or bad, without entering, feeble though it be, our stern and indignant protest.

[NO]

August 20, 1847, RW47v24n67p2c1 The Union and the War

[Concluded] (fromp1)

The more we examine the extraordinary article in the Union, upon which we commented yesterday, the more fully we are confirmed in an opinion adopted at first sight, that it was not written by the senior editor of that paper. The style is entirely unlike anything we have seen from that quarter. It is more vigorous, and less guarded – not, however, that the vigor is at all remarkable. We continue our extracts:

"Is it not so? What, in effect, is the language of the federal leaders to the Mexicans? "Mr Polk has made this war without cause, and in violation of the constitution, and our armies ought to be withdrawn from your territory – Fight on until we can turn him out, when those armies shall be withdrawn, and we will give you just such a peace as you want!" This, and nothing short of it, is the substance of the language held by the Whig leaders to the military chieftains of Mexico. The consequence is, a perfect concert between our Whig leaders and the Mexican chieftains. The Whig leaders say, our armies ought to be withdrawn from the Mexican territory; which is virtually a promise to withdraw them when they get the power. The Mexican chieftains say, "we will not even treat for peace until your armies are withdrawn" – in other words, "Until the Whig leaders are made the rulers of the United States." We do not say there is an express written compact between the Whig leaders and the Mexican chieftains, in which it is stipulated that they will make common cause against the democracy of the United States; but we do say there is a palpable practical concert, the effect of which is perfectly understood by both parties. The federal wolf, under the whig sheepskin, knows that he has no chance to acquire power but to put down the democracy of the U. States; and that he has no chance, amidst the flood of prosperity that rolls in upon the country, to effect that object, but by making the Mexican war unpopular. The Mexican chieftains know that the continuance of their power to plunder their own country and insult the United States, alike depends upon putting down our democracy, and siding men who publicly proclaim their intention to yield all that their country’s enemy demands. To put down the American democracy is, therefore, the common object of the Whig leaders and the Mexican chieftains – Both know that a
We will pass over the scurrility of this paragraph, leaving it to work its own destruction. We only regret that it cannot be read by every man in the United States, in order that it might be fully understood to what the President, speaking through his organ, can descend – in order that the people might learn what offence they have given to our high and mighty rulers in Washington, by their late demonstrations against them – in order that those who have heretofore considered themselves the sovereign power in the land, might be taught to exercise their privilege of voting for their representatives in such a manner as to give least possible umbrage to the royal personage at Washington. – There can be no doubt that the result of the late elections has sunk deep in the royal bosom, and that his majesty has taken this method to rebuke his liege subjects, and to remind them of the duty due to his sacred person. To doubt his power of making war when he may think proper – to dispute even the proclamation issuing from the palace that the country was at war – to pretend to scrutinise the acts of so high a personage – to criticise his military appointments, even to the point of asserting that royal favor cannot in one month make a great general out of an obscure attorney, and to give still higher color to the “treason” by voting down the men whom kit was his majesty’s express wish to see in his councils – what is all this but lese majestie – a direct insult to the sovereign in person?

But let us look in another direction. It has now been four months since the battle of Cerro Gordo destroyed the force of the Mexican generals. We were told by the Union, before this war broke out, that if Mexico dared to wag a finger in defiance of our repeated threats – if she did not do precisely what she was required to do by the United States – the western and south-western States would furnish 100,000 men for the invasion of her territory, who, in three months, would plant the stars and stripes, on the towers of the Montezumas! No fish-woman ever scolded longer, louder, and in a higher tone of exasperation, or in more wretched taste, than did the editor of that paper from one week’s end to the other. “The infatuated Mexicans” said he; “are they mad?” he exclaimed. “they are bent on their own ruin,” &c. These were common phrases, addressed, not to the Mexicans, for they could not hear them, but to his own partizans. Well! at last the war came. Instead of the 100,000 men, that were to be revelling in the halls of the Montezumas, at the end of three months, Gen. Taylor, after two splendid victories, found himself at the head of not a tenth part of that number; instead of being in Mexico, they were but a short distance, comparatively, from the Rio Grande; instead of being furnished with every thing necessary for an army of invasion, which was expected to terminate a war of such magnitude in six months, they were deficient in means to transport the little baggage which they had – To put the crowning stone upon all this – at the end of six months, after that gallant little army had made marches, endured hardships, fought battles, and gained victories, such as we read of in romance – while it was yet at an immense distance from its home, surrounded by enemies, with the greatest of all the Mexican generals let loose by the inconceivable folly of Mr. Polk, in their front – as if to offer up a sacrifice to confirm the new friendship struck up between them, and to bind the victim hand and foot, so that there could be no possibility of escape – all his regular forces were withdrawn from Gen. Taylor, and he was left with nothing but raw volunteers, who had never seen service before, to encounter Santa Anna with five times his number. So inconceivably stupid, was the whole affair of the withdrawal of these troops and the exposure of Gen. Taylor, that we have seen it stated, that Santa Anna, when first informed of it, said it was utterly impossible! In spite of all obstacles, interposed by executive jealousy, that glorious old man triumphed; but that jealousy, or something else has prevented him, thus far, from reaping the reward of his labors. It has now been six months since the glorious battle of Buena Vista put the seal to his fame; yet he is still inactive – still unable to advance – still crippled in his projected and ardently desired operations, for want of both men and money. Congress has furnished the Executive with all that it asked for of both, yet General Taylor is still inactive, notwithstanding his express wishes to pursue a different policy.

But let us look in another direction. It has now been four months since the battle of Cerro Gordo destroyed the force which Buena Vista had already seriously shaken. In that time Mexico has had an opportunity, under the skillful direction of Mr. Polk’s pet, to re-organize the war, and to present a front even more formidable than that which it showed at Cerro Gordo. We have been told, over and often by the Union, that Gen. Scott was to have 20,000 men in the field, ready to march on the capital by the 1st of July; yet on the thirtieth he was still at Puebla, unable or unwilling, from the inferiority of his force, to advance.

And does the Union, in the face of all this mismanagement, crippling, as it does, the operations, and marring the combinations of our most skilful generals, at the same time that it encourages the enemy, and enables their leaders to persuade the populace that we are afraid of them, pretend to ascribe the feeble and inefficient manner in which this war has been conducted, and the inordinate length to which it has been protracted to the speeches of Whig leaders, or to paragraphs in Whig newspapers? Are any of its readers so thoroughly stupid as to think, for a moment, that paragraphs published in the papers here, two thousand miles from the scene of action, are going to keep those in the ranks whom the utmost efforts of their own generals, aided by the example of hand and voice, can scarce induce to stand a volley from our troops?

“We do not say there is a written contract.” Indeed! that is very liberal; why not say so? it would be far more effective, and equally true, with the positive declaration that “there is a palpable practical concert” between the Whig leaders and the Mexican chieftains. Truly this is a modest accusation from the organ of James K. Polk, the man between whom and Santa Anna there was a “concert” so “palpable,” that he cannot venture to deny it, and so “practical,” that it has already cost us the lives of hundreds of brave soldiers, who might otherwise, at this moment, be alive and well.

The object of this paragraph is apparent enough. It is to induce the people of this country to believe that their honor is concerned in supporting James K Polk, the author of those feeble and inefficient measures, from the effect of
which it required the combined genius of Scott and Taylor to extricate the country with credit – the man always ready to stand noun–substantive to any epithet won by the valor of these great generals and their invincible troops – the man who would gladly, were it possible, appropriate all the laurels which he has been unable to blast upon the brow of another – the man who would reap where he has not sown, and would claim credit for the great deeds his utmost efforts have been unable to mar.

Such articles as that we have been commenting on, can do serious injury only to those who write them. They bear with them their own condemnation – they require only to be read to be generally denounced. If the elections were to go over again, the Whig candidates would require no better text–book than this turgid mass of insane fury, to prove the utter incapacity of those who are placed at the head of affairs. We trust in Heaven the time may be far distant when the Whig cause shall stand in need of such a defender as the author of this article, or such excuses as he has offered, for the deplorable mismanagement of his superiors.

Judgement has already been pronounced upon this most feeble and most corrupt Administration, and all that the fury of politicians, parting with the spoils with as much complacency as a man would with the whole of his teeth may dictate; cannot alter the decree, or stay the execution. The great West – they who have had most to do with this war – whose sufferings have been greatest and whose glory has been chief – have just spoken in tones which cannot be mistaken. In the midst of all the pride, pomp and circumstance of war – with their sons in the midst of them bearing on their brows the laurels still green from the bloody fields of Buena Vista and Cerro Gordo – they have pronounced upon James K. Polk, the author of this war and the man who expected to derive from it unfading glory and a new lease of power.

August 24, 1847, RW47v24n68p2c3 News from Vera Cruz and Tampico

Arrival of the Steamship New Orleans

Later from Vera Cruz and Tampico.

The steamship New Orleans, Capt. Auld, arrived yesterday afternoon, having sailed from Vera Cruz the evening of the 7th inst, and from Tampico the evening of the 10th. Capt. Auld reports the steamship Mary Kingland having left Tampico via the Brazos, for this port on the 6th inst.

The steamship Fanny arrived at Tampico on the 7th, and was to have left for Vera Cruz on the 10th inst.

The New Orleans brings mails from Vera Cruz and Tampico. We regret to learn that Tampico mail was stolen at an early hour yesterday morning and rifled of a portion of its contents. Some of the letters were subsequently recovered, though had supposed he disposed of them by casting them in a water closet. In the mail was a letter addressed to Wm wift, Esq, from the contents of which it would appear that three U.S. treasury notes, numbered 321, 322 and 323, for 500 each have been abstracted. They were dated Oct. 31, 1846. It is supposed that the other valuable letters have been stolen.

August 20, 1847, RW47v24n67p2 Mexican guerrillas

Lieutenant Waters, with a detachment of Capt. Besancon’s company, returned from a scout of the 6th inst. about 15 miles from the city while riding along the banks of the Medellin river, they were fired by some Mexicans concealed in the bushes on the opposite side of the river, but no harm was done. The (unintelligible) that one of the party, Mr. Wilkinson, being in advance, entered a house which had from all appearance, been abandoned with precipitation, and found in some papers, among which was the following pass;

2d Company of the East.

The chiefs of guerrillas all please let the bearer, Crespin Marin, pass unmolested with ten mules, as he goes to Vera Cruz to get provisions for the guerrillas.

God and Liberty!
To the Commanders of guerrillas.

A train left the evening of the 6th inst for the army above under the command of Col Wilson of the 12th Infantry. The trains was escorted about 1000 men. The following officers are enumerated by the Sun as commanding them: Capts. Clarke, Morris, Alord, Hoke, Hornsby, and Williams, of the Infantry; and Luis Jones, Cantwell, Waddell, Wheedeen, Wilkins, Dole, Sears and Creanor, of the artillery. Some accounts set down the number of troops in this train at from 1500 to 2000; our own correspondent says one thousand. Verbal reports say that Col Wilson was taken suddenly ill and could not proceed, and that the command devolved upon another officer whose name is not recollected. Our letters say nothing of this.

On the 3d inst. a mail arrived in Vera Cruz from Jalapa. The Boletin de las Noticias was received by it as late as the 30th of July. This is a little paper thoroughly Mexican, published in Jalapa. From it we learn more particulars of Gen. Pierce’s march through that town than had before been received. The Boletin says that the train which the general escorted passed by without halting, but he with 300 dragoons entered the city and addressed the following note to the corporation –(we give the Sun’s translation)

To the Corporation of Jalapa: a brigade of the Americans army, now encamped near Jalapa, are in want of provisions. I therefore ask this corporation of Jalapa to furnish, at a reasonable price, all this brigade is in need of. I will take the necessary steps to protect those who will furnish those provisions. If, at two o’clock this evening, precisely, the provisions demanded are not forwarded, all member of the corporation will be sent to Perote as prisoners.

F. Pierce.

W K Van Bonlin, Brigade Q.M.

The reply of the corporation is given on the Spanish side of the Sun. The members are very indignant at what they consider the harsh language of the general. They make no difficulty about the provisions; these could have been had at reasonable rates without any threat. They deplore their unfortunate position, being defenceless. –This they say should have protected them from insult. –Gen. Pierce is the first American officer, they say, who has thus had occasion to find fault with them. The reply is pretty "sharp" upon the general, but it is hardly worth translating.

We give from the Sun of Anahuac the following summary of news made from the Boletin:

The same paper says that a Mexican (‘traitor,” it says) was encountered by a party of guerrillas, and being suspicious, he was required to undergo an examination; but having offered resistance, he was killed. Three large packages, containing letters from the officers of the army, to their friends in the United States, were found in his possession.

The Boletin adds: “In said correspondence it is stated that great discord exists between the volunteers and regulars of the American army, and that this may cause them to fight among themselves.

That paper is delighted at this, and takes that opportunity to call the Americans "highway robbers,” and “Yankees,” &c. it also says that it appears from intercepted letters, that Gen. Pillow and other American chiefs are of opinion that the attack upon the capital will not be successful –that the commanding officers consider the capital to be in a very strong state of defence, as much for its fortifications as for the number of men who will be brought into action – and finally that the guerrillas had completely interrupted the correspondence between Puebla and Vera Cruz.

The letters after having been read were sent to the Government at Mexico.

Four Americans deserters arrived at Jalapa, on the 30th ult., three of whom were from Puebla and one form Gen. Pierce's train. They were to leave Jalapa for Coatepec. The Boletin says that the desertion was very great from the ranks of the American army, and that seventy-three deserters were advertised in one day, at Puebla. The one from Gen. Pierce's train, is said to report that waggons full of sick follow hum. We don't believe one words of this.

The Boletin further says that the inducements held out to Americans to desert are not enough; that if the government would promise them money or any other rewards, Scott's army would be destroyed. It counsels the Government of States to take measure to foment and encourage desertion.

The same papers says assassination are frequent in Jalapa, as well of Americans as Mexicans. A small garrison is required there for the protection of the inhabitants.

The Boletin of the 30th ult. says its paper of the 27th was so far from giving offence to the Americans that it was bought by many officer and soldiers. The Boletin expresses its surprise that the Americans had not rebuked its freedom with them, as Santa Anna would have done with the press of the capital.
We have received no letter from Tampico by this arrival. Can the following order of Col. Gates have anything to do with this? We hope, at all events, that Mexican papers will be allowed to come through. We underscore one paragraph in the orders.

Orders No. 67.
Headquarters, department of Tampico, August 7, 1847.

1. The following extract from the "Army Regulations" is published for the information of all concerned:

"Private letter or reports relative to military marches and operations are frequently mischievous in design and always disgraceful to the army. They are therefore strictly forbidden; and any officer found guilty of making such report for publication without special permission, or placing the writing beyond his control, so that it finds its way to the present within one month after the termination of the campaign to which it relates, shall be dismissed the service."

2. Any citizen of Tampico found guilty of making similar reports for publication without the sanction of the commanding officer, will be dealt with according to the nature of the case.

By order of Col. Gates: WM. H. Gray, A.A.A.G.

August 20, 1847, RW47v24n67p2c4 From Army of Taylor

From the Army of Gen. Taylor

The U. S. transport schooner Belle, Capt. Morgan, arrived yesterday from Brazos Santiago, having sailed thence on the 6th inst. the papers from Matamoros are no later than have been before received but we have a mail through from the army of Gen. Taylor. Below we give two letters from our correspondent at Buena Vista, first marking out several passages of Mexican rumors which our later advices from the city of Mexico, enable us to stamp with false hood in the outset.

[JSpecial Correspondence of the Picayune.]

Camp Buena Vista, July 24, 1847.

The town has been full of rumors for the last week relative to the movements of the enemy and the prospect of peace, and the camp has of course been fruitful and multiplied, bringing forth the most splendid improbabilities. – [We omit these rumors, as they were all unfounded.] The news supposed to have been brought by express from San Luis, of which I spoke in my last, was of no importance whatever. The dragoons who went on a reconnaissance under Capt. Arnold from Monterey on the 14th inst returned a few days since to that place, and without meeting any of Urrea’s band or hearing of them – everything was perfectly quite.

It pains me to say that the health of the troops here, the infantry brigade, continues to be very bad and the sick list very large. The deaths are principally confined to the North Carolina regiment, which has lost fourteen men within a week. The Virginia regiment has lost three only, old cases, and the Mississippian about the same number. There is very little of interest in this column now, but the other division furnishes enough to make up for it – our turn may come after a while – in the hope of which, adios.

J.E.D.

Camp Buena Vista, July 25, 1847.

As this is the last opportunity I shall have of communicating with you for some ten or twelve days probably, I will give you the only item of news there is afloat. This morning four Mexicans came to Encantada, about 12 miles from here, and stated that in the Zacatecas pass, so called, 25 or 26 miles from here, they had been attacked by a Mexican guerrilla band and robbed of everything about them of the slightest value; that they had been taken to a place near by, blindfolded, and tied and kept there for two days when they were released. The band of robbers they say consisted of 15 armed men. The prisoners were en route from San Luis Potosi for this place, and one of them, an agent of an English firm in Saltillo, had a letter from the city of Mexico postmarked the 7th inst written by a correspondent of the firm. The Mexicans arrived at Encantada this morning and reported their story to the commander of the Texan Rangers there who immediately despatched a party with one of the Mexicans in search of the robbers. This all the news I have for you until I return from an expedition upon which I start to–morrow morning in company with a party of dragoons. Where I am going I will tell you when I come back, as an Irishman would say, and what the purpose of the expedition is for, of neither the one or the other have I the remotest conception. It is sufficient for me to know that I shall have a chance of seeing something, and that it promises variety and adventure, so farewell for the present.
August 24, 1847, RW47v24n68p4c1 Far from peace

The News from Mexico.

It will be seen from the intelligence which we published this morning, that we are as far from peace as ever, and that if the Mexican Congress can have their way, the capture even of the Capital, will have little effect in producing that desirable result. The Enquirer is publishing long articles every morning, asking what the Whigs will do? –It had better tell us what the Executive will do, for beating the Mexicans does not seem to have the effect of inclining them to peace, the least in the world. Before plunging into war, it seems to us, the President should have brought him, how we were get out of it. He was well aware of the obstinate nature of the people he was about to come in contact with, or at least portions of their ante colonial history were often enough told him, in proof of their stubborn disposition.

The information relative to the British ambassador is important and interesting.

August 24, 1847, RW47v24n68p4c1 Editorial on War

Brownson on Polk,

We find, in the Philadelphia North America, a fuller extract from Brownson’s Quarterly Review, upon the subject of the war, which we append. The latter paragraph, it will be seen, is that published yesterday; but the reader will like to see the connection; and the truths there uttered cannot be too often repeated, not too strongly impressed. In the meantime, it is proper to call the reader’s attention to an error, into which we inadvertently fell in describing this article as an extract form the “Democratic” Review; an error into which we were led by the knowledge that Mr. Brownson was long editor of that periodical, to which he was likewise the ablest contributor. –His Quarterly Review is as much Democratic as the other, and is regarded by a large portion of the Democratic party as their organ.

From Brownson’s Quarterly Review.

"Four ourselves, we have regarded the Mexican war from the first as UNCALLED FOR, IMPOLITIC AND UNJUST. We have examined the documents published by order of the government; we have read the official defence of the war in the last annual Message of the President to Congress, and with every disposition to fund our own government in the right; BUT WE ARE BOUND TO SAY, THAT OUR ORIGINAL IMPRESSIONS HAVE BEEN STRENGTENED RATHER THAN WEAKENED. The president, undoubtedly, makes it clear that we have many just causes of complaint against Mexico, which at the time of their occurrence might have justified reprisals, perhaps even war, –but we cannot plead these in JUSTIFICATION OF THE PRESENT WAR; FOR THEY WERE NOT THE GORUND ON WHICH WE PROFESSED TO ENGAGE IN IT. The official announcement of the President to Congress was that war already existed between the two republics, by the act of Mexico herself, and whatever use we may make of old grievances in adjusting the terms of the peace, we can make no use of them in defending the war. We can plead in its defence only the fact on which we grounded it, namely, war exists by the act of Mexico herself. But unhappily, at the time of the official announcement, WAR DID NOT EXISTED BETWEEN THE TWO REPUBLICS AT ALL, for neither republic had declared war against the other. –There had been a collision of their forces, BUT THIS WAS NOT WAR, as the President would probably have conceded, bad he known or recollected the distinction between WAR AND HOSTILITIES. By placing the war on the ground that it existed by the act of Mexico, AND THAT GROUND BEING FALSE, he has left it wholly indefensible whatever the old grievances we may have to allege against Mexico.

'The act of Mexico in crossing the Rio Grande, and engaging our troops on territory which she had possessed and still claimed as hers, but which we asseted had, by a recent act against which she had presented, become ours, –that which the President chose to inform Congress and the world as war— may or may not have been A JUST CAUSE for declaring war against her, BUT IT ASSUREDLY WAS NOT WAR ITSELF. We have no intention to justify Mexico. She may have had no valid title to the territory of which the President.

[NO]

August 24, 1847, RW47v24n68p4c2 General Taylor and the justice of the war

General Taylor and the New Orleans Courier

While the Enquirer is laboring to prove General Taylor no Whig, its coadjutor in New Orleans seems to be be–
laboring him with as much hearty good will as though the point were entirely concealed. Commenting upon the letter which appear in our columns on Thursday, and which we dis–cover was addressed, not to the editor of the Floridian, as the paper from which we took it said, but to Dr. Delony, a Locofoco of Clinton, La., the Courier (La.) says

“The General’s reply to the first question relative to "the justice and necessity of the Mexican War," sets froth that "being a soldier to inquire about its justice, or any thing else connected with it." One would suppose that a high–minded American soldier, like Gen. Taylor, commanding his country’s troops in presence of the enemy, would have formed an opinion on the justice of the war, and feel no repugnance or hesitation to express it in the face of the world. We venture to assert that no other general officer attached to our army in Mexico, would refrain from publicly avowing his sentiments on the justice of going into the war and continuing it.

August 24, 1847, RW47v24n68p4c3 Mexican Congress and Peace

From the N. O. Picayune, Aug. 12.

The Mexican Congress and Peace

We find room to lay before our readers this morning the report of the Committee on Foreign Relation of the Mexican Congress, to which had been referred Mr. Buchanan’s late latter to that Government. The document is full of importance as expressive of the feelings and views of the Mexican Congress and nation. In endeavoring to adhere closely to the original we are apprehensive lest the report should be deemed somewhat obscure to a hasty reader. Thoughtfully pondered, however, it will be found a lucid, condensed and most significant exposition of the views of a majority of the Mexican Congress and nation. The report is directed to the Secretary of Congress:

Committee Room of the Sovereign Constituent Mexican Congress.

Sir –The majority of the Committee on Foreign Relations deem it not improper to represent their report with the promptitude which the Chamber has thought fit to allow, as well because the legal question involved appears to be perfectly clear, as because the same subject has for a long time been the object of their mediations, and also of the debates of the national representation.

In the judgment of the committee our fundamental code is perfectly clear in this part of it. The 110th article of the constitution places among the powers of the executive authority of the Union that of the directing diplomatic negotiations and concluding treaties of peace, friendship, alliance, truce, federation, armed neutrality, commerce, and every other kind whatsoever; but it says that to a grant or refuse the ratification of any one of these the approbation of the General Congress must first be obtained. The executive power is also exclusive, according to the 15th number of the same article, to receive ministers and other agents of foreign powers.

These articles prove in a manner incontrovertible, that by our constitutional laws, as among other civilized nations, the direction of the foreign relations is entrusted exclusively to the executive; but without conferring on it the power to conclude any thing, definitively or to bind the nation to any thing, without the consent of the legislative body. – The same federal constitution places among the power of the Congress, that of “approving treaties of peace, of alliance, of friendship, of federation, or armed neutrality, and every other kind whatsoever which the President of the United [Mexican] States may conclude with foreign power.”

For these reasons, therefore, the majority of the committee cannot propose any other course than to return to the Government the despatch; and if this report appears subscribed by only two members of the committee, it should be borne in mind that our associates Sr. Ceballos, who worthy presides over the committee, but who from his well known illness is unable to co–operate with us, has authorized us to express his agreement with us, and he even offered to subscribe that report which we should prepare expressive of our views, which we conclude with the following proposition:

Mexico, 13th July, 1847

Otero, Lafragua.

[NO]

August 27, 1847, RW47v24n69p1c1 Editorial continued

The Enquirer and Mr. Brownson

Concluded.
We shall commence this article by the correction of an (unintelligible) that appeared near the conclusion of that of yesterday. We said "our troops had passed through 150 miles of (unintelligible) cultivated by persons who spoke the Spanish tongue." This is certainly not correct in its entire extent. They had passed through 150 miles of territory, but the latter part of it was barren waste. At the time of the (unintelligible), however, they certainly were in the midst of fields cultivated by persons who spoke the Spanish tongue –descendants of Spaniards who had settled the country more than one hundred years before – who had always owned (unintelligible) either to Spain or to Mexico – who had taken (unintelligible) part whatever in the revolutionary movement of Texas who felt not the least desire to become incorporated in the Union as the Texan did – whose habits and inclinations (unintelligible) them to favor the Mexican domination – whom the Republic of Texas had never conquered – who had conquered and made prisoners of the only party that had penetrated into the country – who, in fine, considered themselves, and were considered by the Mexican Government, portion of the province of Tamaulipas – a province over (unintelligible) the long arm of the Texan Republic had never existed.

If there ever was a time when a distinction, such as Mr. Brownson establishes between hostilities and actual war would have been taken, then certainly was the time. The President has already ordered the commission of a hostile act – he had marched into territory subject to adjustment, as all acknowledge, by treaty, thereby justifying war on the part of the enemy – and on that account he should have hesitated before he gave the name of war to an act of hostility, seeing that the whole blame must lie at his door. When therefore, the Enquirer admits that there may be hostilities without war, it is undoubtedly correct; but when it goes farther and claim this as the exception and not the rule, we beg leave to differ with it. The rule is, we conceive, that there is no war until war is formally declared, otherwise there would be no necessity for determining where he war-making power is to be lodged. It would in fact exist in the bosom of every officer who chanced to have a command on the frontier, and might be exercised by him at discretion to the great damage of his own country, and to the perpetual danger of the peace of the whole world. The circumstances upon which it relies to alter the case are, as we have already shown, decidedly against it; for the position of our army commencing in a tort, might allow it to repel an attack, but nothing more.

Does not the Enquirer perceive from this exhibition of dates, how futile its attempt is to justify the march to the Rio Grande, on the ground that Mexico had rejected our minister, when it shows conclusively that the order was issued at least ten days before the application was made, at least twenty-five before it was rejected, and just twenty-eight it was known at Washington? [NO]

August 27, 1847, RW47v24n69p1c3 Polk in Mexico

For the Whig.

Mr. Polk in Mexico.

The legality of the President’s "Orders in Council" has been defended by those whose interest it is to justify every act of the great Dispensed of Patronage, by quoting the laws of war, which in the regulation of belligerent rights, allow one belligerent to take and convert to his own use the property and possessions of whatever kind belonging to the other. It is lawful for either party in this way to reimburse himself the amount of his outlays, no augment his own resources and diminish those of the enemy. This unquestionable the law of nations.

No one, therefore, pretends that Mexico, standing in the attitude of the most determined hostility to our Government, ought to complain that her revenues, or a part of them, have been seized for the use of the enemy. It is one of the stern rights of war to which every nation, when she has assumed the helmet and shield, must submit, who cannot defend her property. It is the law on land and sea defend all nation of the earth.

But the question between Mr. Polk and the Whig party is not thus easily disposed of. When it comes to be discussed in the Senate at the next Congress, it will cause the feeble administration to totter on its base.

The true question appear to be, to whom does the property which the enemy has this lost belong? And if it belongs to the conquering nation, who has the authority under our government to take possession of it for the use and benefit of the nation? it will be seen that things taken from enemy neither belong to the commander, whose skill and conduct may have mainly contributed to the enterprise, nor yet to the soldier whose courage and strength may have achieved the success; but to the sovereign or nation under whose banners, by the aid of whose resources, and in whose cause he is doing battle.

"It is asked to whom the conquest belongs, – to the prince who has made it, or to the State? This question ought never to have been heard of. Can the prince, in his character of sovereign, act for any other end than the good of the State? Whose are the force he employs in this war?" All advantages which accrue for the war, of whatever kind and of whatever value, from the public treasure and rich provinces of the enemy, to ornaments stripped from the slain, all go to the nation whose arms have won them. Upon this part of the subject, the author is more full in the following extract – [The italics are the author's]: "As the towns and lands taken from the enemy are called conquests, and all moveable property taken from him comes under the denomination of booty. The booty naturally belongs to the sovereign making war, no less than the conquests; for he alone has such claims against the hostile nation as to warrant him to seize on her property and convert it to his own use. His soldiers and even auxiliaries, are only instruments which he employs in asserting his rights. He maintained and pay them. But the sovereign may
grant to the troops any share of the booty he pleases. At present most nations allow them whatever they can make on certain occasions, when the general allows plundering, —such as the spoil of the enemies fallen in the field of battle, the pillage of the camp which has been found and sometimes that of a town taken by assault” Vattel, 366.

As soon as the duties are collected they become national property, and “belong to the nation making the war;” the they have been collected in virtue of Executive decreed does not alter the case. As the nation in its primordial capacity cannot exercise this right of acquisition without the intervention of agents to act for it in the premises, our constitution has delegated Congress to receive the public property and expend it for the benefit of the people. Hence Congress can sell publics land, and dispose of their proceeds, and receive and dispose of the national property in the shape of taxes, and is the guardian of the public treasury. Why, the, does not property acquired in war fall under the jurisdiction of the Congress, as the trustees for the nation?

When it is borne in mind that to Congress is entrusted the power to declare war, and that it is clothed by the Constitution with powers necessary to conduct it, —to raise and discipline armies and vote the necessary supplies, —no right admitted person can for a moment doubt that Congress in war, or in peace, is the legal representative of the sovereignty of the people and to whom the laws of nation declare belong all acquisitions of property made by our arms.

Had the Constitution been silent and Congress, as incidental to the power to declare war, would (unintelligible) had the appointment of the Commander–in–chief. But that (unintelligible) President might be the better enabled to discharge the duty of executing the laws of the Union and maintaining its internal peace, the Constitution committed to him likewise the duty of commanding our armies in war, and made him Commander–in–chief. But that it was ever designed by those simple words to give him the power of collecting revenues in the conquered province, and thus be enabled to carry on the war, in many cases, without the concurrence of Congress, no man in his senses can believe. If this claim be once admitted, all power of the people over the warlike operations of the government, is at end, and this boasted “government of the people’ becomes the government of one ma.

B.D.

[NO]
friend, Pepe Zamora, borrowed forty ounces, three horses, hat, coat and servant, and was past the gates in less than thirty minutes, with a fast horse and a clear track.

We are deeply pained to learn of the death of Colonel Wilson, of the 12th Infantry. He was represented to us by the last arrival as convalescent, but he died the evening of the 12th inst. He was to have commanded the train which left Vera Cruz on the 7th inst. He was buried on the 13th inst, the following orders having been issued for the occasion:

Orders No. 34.

Headquarters, Vera Cruz, Aug. 12, 1847.

It is announced to this command the melancholy intelligence of the death of Col. Lewis D. Wilson of the 12th Regiment U.S. Infantry, who died on this date.

The escort for his funeral will be commanded by Lieutenant Colonel, commanding, and consist of the 1st U.S. Infantry, stationoned in the city. The funeral will take place at 5 o’clock, P.M., on to–morrow, to which all the U.S. Navy, citizens and strangers are respectfully invited to attend.

By order of Lieut. Col. Miles.

Correspondence of the Picayune.

Vera Cruz, Aug 14, 1847.

It is with mortification and regret that I have to inform you that Gen. Paredes passed through our city this morning, about 7 o’clock, in disguise, and before it was ascertained that such was the case, he was far out of our reach on his way to the city of Mexico.

He arrived this morning on the royal mail steamer Teviot, under an assumed name, and entirely unknown to the captain of the vessel. As soon as the vessel came to anchor he immediately came to the Mole in a pilot boat, and proceeded to the heart of the city to the residence of a Mexican merchant, to whom he had made himself known, and obtained from him a round–jacket, a sombrero and horses for himself and servant and “vamosed the ranch” without ceremony. One hundred dollars reward was offered for his arrest as soon as information reached Col. Wilson that he was or had been in the city, and every effort was made to arrest him, but the “bird had flown” and given us a specimen of assurance and cunning that would do credit to the father of Yankee tricks.

The Mexican merchant who assisted in the escape is Pepe Zamora, and during the search for Paredes his house was surrounded. The officer entered and was assured by Sr. Zamora that Paredes was not in the house. ”Has he been here,” was the question asked. “Yes,” replied Sr. Zamora, very coolly. ”What did he want,” asked the American. ”He introduced himself to me as Gen. Paredes, and asked me to befriend him, and I told him that I would. He then asked me to let him have a jacket, hat and horses, which I furnished him immediately, and he has been gone from here two hours. You are welcome to search, but I can assure you that you will not find him here, and what I tell you is so. There are his coat and hat, which you can take along if you like.”

I forgot to mention that a letter was sent by the American Consul at Havanna informing the authorities here that Gen. Paredes was on board, but it came to hand too late to do any good.

There is hardly an American here but what felt that he could crawl through a gimlet hole when the astounding news that Paredes, the sworn enemy to Santa Anna, to Americans and to peace, and the only man who at the present situation of affairs can partially restore the confidence of the Mexican people and inspire them once more with a hope to conquer their enemies, had passed, unknown and unmolested, into and out of the gates of our city. He will no doubt make every effort to reach Mexico before Gen. Scott does. The consequence will no doubt be the overthrow of Santa Anna, and most likely he will take in hands the reins of Government, crush all attempts at negotiation, and head the army in person against Gen. Scott, should he think it expedient; but if not, fall back to some place beyond the city and prepare himself for another and perhaps better occasion. At all events he is just the man that the Mexicans have been wanting ever since the battle of Cerro Gordo, and now that he is with them once more, there is no telling what mighty events may be the result of his return from exile.

Last evening the remains of Col. L.D. Wilson were escorted to the grave by the 1st Infantry, and a large concourse of American and Mexican citizens. The coffin was placed in a vault in the cemetery, where it can be conveniently obtained by his friends.

P.S. Aug. 15 – Not even a rumor from above. I enclose a slip from the Sun of Anahuac office published yesterday.

[NO]
The official organ of the 25th instant says:

“It is nothing to the purpose to say that the Whig leaders will not all refuse to stand by their country. Nothing is more probable than that even some of those who have betrayed the cause of their own country in war, will then turn round and betray the public enemy whom they have chosen for their ally. The real question as to the responsibility of protracting war, is now what the Whig leaders will do, but what they say they will do – what they tell our public enemy they are resolved to do, or, rather, what effect will their present declarations have now upon the policy of the enemy. The Whigs dare not stop the war, nor the supplies for it. But Mexico will learn this too late. – Meantime peace will have been lost to our country; our victories will have been robbed of their moral force; and all the horrors of murderous war will have been multiplied and prolonged, because the Whig leaders, for the basest purposes of faction have dared to promise to the public enemy a moral treason, which yet they do not dare fully to perpetrate.”

We shall say nothing of the extremely dignified nature of these remarks, coming as they do from the official organ, which is always supposed to speak the language of the President, and certainly is not apt to make use of any which may chance to disapprove; we pass over the “aid and comfort” daily afforded by it in paragraphs intended to prove that one half of the nation are traitors, and that the Mexicans have firm allies in them; we shall not dwell upon the immense comfort such paragraphs must afford to Santa Anna, in his final struggle with the army of General Scott, when he finds, from the showing of the Official, what he would never believe upon the assertion of any other paper – that the President distrusts the people, and is in his turn distrusted by them. But when the Government editor tells the world that the Whig leaders have chosen the public enemy for their ally, it becomes us, and other Whigs to disclaim all such inferences as are to be drawn from the passage of Santa Anna into Mexico at a time when his presence was most needed, and the consequences which have already ensued, and the end of which is not even yet. No Whig leader would ever have been guilty of such folly as this – a folly which, though we acquit the President of evil intentions, is so very glaring that, where he a shade less weak, it would be mistaken by the whole world for downright treachery. Surely Gen. Arnold, when he signed the pass giving John Anderson permission “to go to White Plains, or lower down if necessary, he being engaged on the public service,” did not commit an act from which stronger conclusions could be drawn against his fidelity, than did Mr. Polk. We repeat, we acquit Mr. Polk of all treasonable designs, though a strong case could be made out against him; we believe him to have been guilty only of an indiscretion, sufficiently demonstrative, it is true of his utter incapacity to fill the station he occupies; but if he had been an English or a French minister, he would have run the most imminent risk of losing his head. Ill does it become him, then, for this reason, if none other were to be found, to charge others with consorting with the enemy, and giving them “aid and comfort”; and if he really intends to stand the hazard of the die in the game for another term, his first step should be to put a curb upon the tongue of his editor, already exasperated to a pitch of frenzy at the prospect of losing the spoils of his office. It ill becomes a man whose father has been hanged to talk of ropes, and no better does it behoove the President, whose conduct is, to say the least, vastly more suspicious than that of the men he accuses, to deal in accusations of so serious a nature.

September

The latest number of the Civilian copies from the victors advocate the following, at the same time indicating doubts of the authenticity of the intelligence contained in it:

We learn, from a friend recently from San Antonio, in whose sentiments the utmost reliance may be placed, that on the 24th of July Col. Hays, returned from the pursuit of a body of Lipan Indians who had been committing depredations upon the frontier. A fight took place on the Leon, one of the head waters of the Nueces river, in which six of the Lipans were killed. A Mexican girl, about fourteen years old, and a boy about ten, who had been prison are among the Indians, were brought in. The girl was first taken at Laredo, about a year since. She was afterwards released and sent home by the people of San Antonio---She has been a second time taken, and is now a second time released by them, Col Hays also took a number of horses and mules, which are said to have been stolen from the Americans. Our informant gathered the above information from the members of the company. He did not talk with Col. Hays. He left San Antonio on the evening of the 24th, via Corpus Christi. Twenty-five miles above San Patricio he passed a large body of Indians, which supposed to be Camanches, encamped on the Nueces. He thinks they numbers about one hundred and fifty, and had three hundreds head of horses in their procession.—They came from the Rio Grande region, and crossing the Nueces at their encampment, were traveling north.

Our informant also states that on the day before he left San Antonio an express arrived there, bearing despatches to Colonel Hays from Major Neighbors, Indian agent---The express stated that the Camanches had become hostile and had ordered all persons who were surveying lands to leave that part of the country. The express also states that five surveyors, under Mr. Robert Hays, a brother of Col. Hays, who were missing, had been certainly
The Enquirer of yesterday, in an article headed, “The Richmond Whig and the Mexican War,” says:

“We hardly know to whom the enemies of the Administration, we should give precedence for the thoughtlessness of their complaints of the war in which we are engaged. Really we are afraid to speak as we feel in the matter, least we should give offence; for harsh language alone could express our ideas of the groundless complaints and silly objections which some of the Whig papers which of all the anti-war advocates---are most to blame, we are utterly at a loss. A few days ago we thought that Mr. Brownson had gone as far as any. The absurd position which he had taken, we thought, could not be surpassed by any one.---He admitted that the causes which we had for a war against Mexico were entirely sufficient. This he entirely conceded; yet, said he, Congress has, under the Constitution, the power to declare war--the President, in fact, has declared war; therefore the United States is responsible for the war. This is absurd as well as ridiculous. But a few days ago we exposed the bald fallacy on which it was founded, and invited refutation of our reasoning. No refutation has come---none has been attempted; and we challenge either or both of the Whig papers of this city to take up the gauntlet. In making shit challenge thus confidently, we do not mean to intimate that we are superior to them in any respect, except that we have the vantage ground of right and justice; and, having that, we are ready to meet them. Let them leave declamation. Let them come down to the realm of sober argument. Let them bring their accusations and we will meet them.”

The first idea which any man, previously unacquainted with the facts, would entertain upon reading this paragraph, would be that Mr. Brownson was a Whig, and the editor of a Whig paper; a position which we are very certain he would be among the last of men to assume voluntarily. The editors very well know that he is, whatever else he may be, at least no Whig; that he was among the foremost in zeal as he was likewise in talent, of those who sustained the present Executive in the race for the Presidency; that he gave to the Democratic Review, the leading Locofoic Periodical of the day, all the character for ability so which it can lay claim. That he agreed, in one very remarkable point, with a party from whom he differed in every thing else, we regard as a strong piece of testimony in favor or the correctness of their views; for it has never been alleged, as far as we know, that his opinions had their origin in interest, or in any other motive that the most thorough conviction of their justice. That his arguments were overwhelming, the Enquirer itself has tacitly acknowledged, for while it affects to treat them as absurd, it takes very good care not to allow its readers to form their own opinions by publishing his article in its columns. True, as it says, it attempted a refutation, but it failed so signaly that we did not think it worth while to push the discussion farther, convinced that among all men, who understood both sides of the question, the position assumed by My. Brownson would be seen at a glance not to have been touched. As the whole of his argument is based upon facts and as these facts have not been refuted, to enter into additions, and the deductions he has drawn from them. To take up the gauntlet, therefore, which the Enquirer throws down to the Whig editors of city papers, would be an useless assumption of labor, unless the Enquirer will let its readers know what we are disputing about by publishing the article which forms the ground of the controversy, or at least so much of it as we have used already. If that shall be done, we shall not hesitate to accept the challenge made by that paper, and even to publish its articles, provided it will publish ours in return.

The Enquirer continues:

After quoting an extract from a speech delivered by the Hon. C. J. Ingersoll, relative to the power of the President in time of war, the Whig says:

‘Now admit that the President of the United States has, in fact, all these enormous powers--admit that, when once at war, like Napoleon, or Mahmoud, or Nicholas, he is no longer responsible to any but God alone--admit too, that at his pleasure he may say the country is at war, and no man dare dispute it---can any many any longer pretend that this government is a Republic? Is it not, to all intents and purposes, the government of a single individual? Is not James K. Polk, at this moment, the autocrat of all these States, just as decidedly as Nicholas is autocrat of all the Russias? To say that the war--making power is not lodged in his hands, is to trifle with the public understanding.--He can order his troops to march where he may wish them--he can compel them to commit any act of aggression he may think proper--he can even order them to assail the enemy, before they shall have given any provocation--and than if they resist, he can call it war, and call on Congress for men and money. It is vain to say that Congress, before declaring a state of war to exist, would first enquire into the circumstances, and if it found the original act unjustifiably aggressive would refuse to recognize it. The doctrine of Locofocism is entirely different: It holds that any enquiry into the President's motives of his acts, though in theories to be found the true origin of the war, is nothing less than treason!’

Now we ask our readers--nay, we ask the Editors of the Whig, if this is not superlatively ridiculous, when supplied as an argument against the justice of the present war? What, in fact, is this complaint, but a complaint against the Constitution, if, indeed, it is any thing more than the idle words of one who opposes the interests of his country,without being able to cite any thing which will tend to justify his unnatural conduct. For ourselves, we can find but one opinion to entertain. That we will elucidate more fully, when we comment at large and at leisure upon the unparalleled enormity of the Editorial of the Whig. We had hoped that when that paper had taken sides against
It will be seen that the *Enquirer* does not publish the extract from Mr. Ingersoll’s speech, to which we alluded, and which goes farther, much farther than even we have intimated; which declares that when once the war making power is entrusted to the hands of the President, “that all power was as great as the power of the autocrat of all Russias, of the Sultan Mahmoud, or of Napoleon in the utmost culmination of his authority—–that it was a great mistake to suppose that there was in that respect any difference between the sovereignty of the European despot and that of the United States—and that the Sultan Mahmoud the autocrat of all the Russias have no more sovereign power than that which was in full exercise for waging war with Mexico.” Such were the sentiments of Chas. J. Ingersoll, the Locofofo Chairman of the committee of Foreign Relations, and Mr. Polk’s nominee for the place of Ambassador to France, “who would have been a tory had he lived in the days of the Revolution.”—–We ask the reader to read these enormous assumptions with care, and then to say whether the remarks on which the *Enquirer* comments are either ill-founded, or overstressed. It is not clear, if they are just, and the *Enquirer* does not say a word against them, that the sovereignty of the States, the rights of the people, and the powers of Congress, are alike merged, during war, in the stupendous prerogative of the President? Congress, by the Constitution, has the power to lay taxes, and raise money, &c. If during war, the power of the President be as great as that of the Sultan Mahmoud, or the Emperor Nicholas, is not this clause, the most thoroughly conservative of the whole Constitution, entirely abolished? The Emperor Nicholas and the Sultan Mahmoud both have power to collect taxes, &c; and if, in a state of war, the President’s power to be equal to theirs, cannot he, too, lay taxes, &c. as they can? Far from being a complaint against the Constitution, our article was only a complaint against those who would thus construe it, and by thus construing, literally abolish it.

But the *Enquirer* charges us with having taken sides against the South! We should be sorry to leave the decision of what is Southern in the hands of the *Enquirer*, or its Natural Allies of the north. It is true, we oppose, and shall continue to oppose a war of conquest on the part of the Executive, and the addition of any more territory to the Union. True we deplore the recurrence of the sectional dispute which arose upon the introduction of the Missouri question, and which could not fail to recur, were any territory taken from Mexico. True, that in company with William Lowndes, we asserted and still maintain that the “constitution gives to Congress the power to admit States in the broadest terms.” But we have yet to learn how the maintenance of any one or all three doctrines can be construed into taking sides against the South. The *Enquirer* is not the South, nor as far as we can learn is it the exponent of Southern opinion; nor constitution, under the entire control of Congress, a sovereign State, does it speak Southern sentiment, which never construed any restriction proposed by Congress, into any thing but a dangerous abuse of a delegated power.

No! it is the *Enquirer*, and such as it, that are dealing the most fatal wounds to the interest of the South. It perfectly well knows, that the majority in Congress, is in favor of the Wilmot Proviso, and that by bringing more territory into the Union, it will give occasion for the question to arise. When it does come on, the Missouri compromise will be broken down, and the Wilmot Proviso will be carried. It is as certain as any future event can possibly be, and it will be a most disastrous day for the South when it shall have arrived. This day, the *Enquirer* and those who claim to be the peculiar guardians of the South desire to hasten. This day we desire, for the sake of the South and the Union, never see arrive. The *Enquirer* would most unnecessarily, place the South in a position where it must inevitably sustain a defeat; we desire so to arrange matters, that it can never be placed in that position. Which of us, we ask any candid man to say, is the truest and safest friend of the South?

The United States, the Southern portion more especially, can gain nothing by the dismemberment of Mexico. We learn that there are no public lands in that country worth the trouble of entering them, but that on the contrary, all lands of any value of long since been appropriated. The rich men of Mexico live in a semi–barbarous style of federal magnificence, one person sometimes owning several hundred thousand acres of land. Kendall speaks of one estate, somewhere in the Western States of Mexico, which was more than fifty miles (as well as we recollect) long, by nearly as many broad. In this way the whole country is private property, and the Government would get nothing, not even the mines, for they, in a great measure, are in the same category. What, then, does the United States, what does any body, but land speculators, want with it? Are all this blood and money lavished for their benefit, and are they the only persons whose interest it if worth while to take any care of?

[BRM]
And again—“The Autocrat of all the Russias—-the Sultan Mahmoud—have no more sovereign power, than that which was now in full exercise for waging the war with Mexico.

Now admit that the President of the United States has, in fact, all these enormous powers—admit that, when once at war, like Napoleon, or Mahmoud, or Nicholas, he is no longer responsible to any but God alone—-admit too, that at his pleasure, he may say the country is at war, and no man dare dispute it—-can any many any longer pretend that this government is a Republic? Is it not to all intents and purposes the government of a single individual? Is not James K. Polk, at this moment, the autocrat of all these States, just as decidedly as Nicholas is autocrat of all the Russias? To say that the war making power is not lodged in his hands is to trifile with the public understanding. He can order his troops to march where he may wish them—he can compel them to commit any act of aggression he may think proper—he can even order them to assail the enemy, before they shall have given any provocation—and then if they resist, he can call it war, and call on Congress for men and money. It is vain to say that Congress, before declaring a state of war to exist, would first enquire into the circumstance, and if it found the original act unjustifiably aggressive would refuse to recognize it. The doctrine of Loco-Focoism is entirely different: It holds that any enquiry into the President’s motives or his acts, though in itself is to be found the true origin of the war, is nothing less that treason.

By such a system has Mr. Polk succeeded in erecting, out of the shattered constitution, a stupendous despotism, while he is deluding the ears of his followers with the syren cries of “Democracy” and “equality!” he has stolen alike from the people, and the Congress, every privilege to which they were entitled either as a birth–right or by the grant of the Constitution. He may make war when he pleases, and no man dare say nay! When he is at war, none dare question his authority. He is as absolute, according to Mr. Ingersoll, as Mahmoud or Napoleon, and he may push his lust of conquest to any extreme, without either let or hindrance on the part of Congress or people.

The form of our government, essentially altered as it is in the eyes of the Democratic rulers, is far better adapted now for the purposes of conquest, than it was when the constitution still existed, and a formed the rule of all political action. The sinews of government, to use a phrase of Blackstone, are knit into one hand, and of course are more effective for action than when dispersed. The President may do any act which the Queen of England in council can do, He may order seizures at sea of vessels belonging to any power, at peace with us, and as soon as he shall have alleged that they, and not we committed the first act of aggression, every body is estopped to dispute his word, or to enquire even into the actual state of the case. He may speak the truth or he may be guilty of uttering a falsehood! It makes no difference whatever. No man must even ask is this true or is it false. If the nation, whose commerce has been thus assailed, should resist, why we are at war, at once, and then the more than dictatoral powers of the President come into full operation. Whenever he may covet a piece of territory belonging to one of our neighbors, he may pursue a similar policy. He may march his forces into it, and upon their meeting with resistance, may say, as he did in the case of Mexico, we are at war, and forthwith there is an end to all complaint or enquiry.

That such a power in the hands of a President, is far more effective for aggression and conquest, than the old distribution of powers allowed by the constitution, we presume there is no one who will deny. Republics, as long as they are worthy of the name, are not adapted to wars of conquest, and the passion for such has often proved their ruin. Thos who originally establish them are generally more eager to secure their own liberty and happiness, than to crush the freedom of others. Patrick Henry, when the present constitution was under consideration, said he did not want a splendid Government. What he wished for, was one which would ensure the happiness of the citizen. For that, or similar reasons, doubtless, the power of declaring war was confined by the constitution to Congress, the framers believing, no doubt, that they had effectually secured the country thereby against wars upon light and frivolous pretexts, or what are far more dangerous, wars of ambition and conquest.

It is for the people to say which of these two Governments they prefer; safe and happy one, founded by our fathers, and transmitted in all its purity to us, having for its object the preservation of freedom, which it attempted to secure by a system of checks and balances, recognized and established by the constitution, or the splendid and arbitrary one, which now, for the first time, has been boldly avowed to be in actual operation. We cannot doubt the virtue of our countrymen so far, as to believe that they will hesitate long. They have before them too many, and too fatal examples of the evils which follow in the train of conquest; they see the three principal powers of Europe, at this moment, each engaged in the most disastrous and destructive wars, for no other object that the acquisition of territory. They see France annually whitening the desert sands of Africa with the bones of tens of thousands of her brave soldiers, for no other object than the reduction of a few barbarians, who never did her any harm, and who, before she appeared as an enemy, knew not her existence as a nation. They see England moistening the fertile plains of India with the blood of her unoffending inhabitants, whose great crime is the richness of their lands, and the temptation it offers avarice. They see the same power murdering the helpless Chinese by myriads, for no better reason than that they do not wish to sacrifice their independence to foreigners whom they have been taught to abhor, and whom their own conduct has made appear to them in the most odious of all possibly lights. They see Russia, already possessing a territory, compared with which, in extent, the Empire of Rome, at the period if its greater extension, was but as a point upon the map of the world, sacrificing thousands of lives, every year, for the purpose of robbing a few daring mountaineers of the independence which they inherited from their fathers, and which they regard as far more valuable than life itself. When our people see all this, and reflect upon the waste of life and treasure with which it is done—when they remember, likewise, that they who are engaged in this crusade against the rights of man, are Kings, Queens, and Czars, they will hesitate before they will consent to follow such revolting examples. Even supposing the conquest effected, it must be kept up at the point of the sword. The whole theory of our Government will have been revolutionized, and like the ancient despotism of Europe, we shall, be found holding provinces, in times of dead peace, by means of a standing army, often more dangerous to the citizens that to the enemy. For it is impossible to suppose, that nine millions of people will ever submit to our domination,
It is well known to many of our readers, that an attempt has already been made to induce the belief that Mexico, (or a party in that country at least,) entertains a design to erect herself into a monarchy, for the benefit of some sprig of royalty in Europe. That the attempt to create such an impression, would be revived by those whose trade it is to humbug and deceive the people, we felt convinced from the moment we first heard of Paredes’ arrival in Mexico.---That we were not all wrong in our suspicions, the following feeler from the Union, thrown out to see how much the public will stand, sufficiently proves:

"In any event, it was certain that no change, whatever in the government of Mexico which would deprive Paredes of in the government of Mexico which would deprive Paredes of the power could be for the worse, so far as the United States, were concerned, while it was highly probable that any change must be for the better."

Paredes is a monarchist---a friend of a foreign monarch, there is some reason to believe; and his presence in Mexico, if it looks to any change, looks rather abroad than to America, for the change of her rulers. It will remain for the British Captain to explain how and why he, as a neutral, introduced so decided an enemy into our ports at all, and without acquainting us with his character.

As to Paredes, we regret to state that the Captain of the British steamer must have been acquainted with his true name and character, as Paredes did not hesitate to speak freely on board vessel. He spoke freely of Santa Anna’s want of energy, ability and principles, and declared that unfortunate Mexico would have to throw herself into the arms of America, or of some European power. (This last allusion is suspicious, and confirms what the President stated in his Message to Congress:)

We have marked the most conspicuous portion of this extract for italic. Those who have been accustomed to the ally, hinting, insinuating style of the editor of the Union, who [illegible] arrives at any conclusion save by indirection, will readily understand what is here meant.----It is meant, that Paredes has come to Mexico with the intention of engaging her to erect herself into a Monarchy, and to confer the crown upon one of the sons of the French King--for he is the monarch spoken of as the especial friend of Paredes. The public, then, is to be cheated with another tale in confirmation of the reputed foreign interference, and this is to be the apology for continuing this war of conquest!

Hardly has General Houston’s letter exposed the ridiculous tale of British designs on Mexico, when this still more ridiculous story is revived, for the purposes of a similar nature. We must confess, that if the people, with that example before their eyes, are so blind as to be cheated by such a monstrous story as this, they deserve to be--that is all.

Let the reader examine the extreme improbability of this tale. The monarchial party in Mexico is, according Co.l. Benton, very small, and entirely unimportant. The rest of Mexico, if it agrees nothing else, at least does on one subject; that of hating the very names of King and Spaniard. Upon these people, without their own consent, it is proposed to fasten a prince of the House of Orleans---of that very House, and that very Nation, which but a few years ago humbled the pride of Mexico, and forced her to pay an enormous indemnity for alleged spoliations on French property. This family of Orleans, French as it is, and therefore detestable in the eyes of all full–blooded Mexicans, is allied by marriage to the Crown of Spain, one of the sons having married the heiress apparent, and the children of that issue being the rightful heirs of the Crown. This operation, therefore, not only restores Monarchy in Mexico, but it brings in a French King, with the certainty of restoring the influence of the Spanish Crown, which Mexico detests even more than she does the French.

Really, this humbug is too bald, even in the hands of those who managed the Texas business.
The New York Express, in the course of an article of great vigor on this subject, says:

"THE CONQUEST OF MEXICO, it is daily becoming more and more clear, is the object of the administration of the Government is daily becoming as distinct as it dare to be. The longer the war lasts, we are told, the more territory we must have as a renumeration! Our destiny, we hear, often, is to conquer and annex, that is, to steal--!!-- No party, it is just given out, can, will, or dare recall our troops! The war must go on, till Mexico is humbled and subdued! That is, the United States must re-enact in America the scenes that for half a century, every man, woman and child have denounced as cruel and atrocious, in Europe, to wit the subjugation by a strong power of a weak neighbor, the exercise of the law of force against feebleness and imbecility. In short, our glorious old Eagle, that never knew what it was to be dishonored, is now to be sent out from its eyrie, to head the armies that are to dismember the Poland which is contiguous to us, and to degrade our country to a level with the despots and tyrannies of Europe! Peace is made impossible for Mexico, and by our Government, because, as a preliminary, it demands the dismemberment of Mexico; or its annihilation from the roll of nations. The grave, the awful question arises, and one that should startle every man to answer,—shall we, ought we, may we, will we, be led from our homes and our firesides thus to, crusade against a neighboring State? Are we ready with more men and more money? Shall thirty millions lives be sacrificed a year, (for that is the cost by disease and the sword) and a hundred millions of treasure?"

Such, it seems, is the fixed and unalterable determination of the Executive of free, happy, and independent America; of her who should shelter the oppressed, not become oppressor in her turn; of her who should regard a younger sister, struggling to free herself from the chains of a foreign tyrant for twenty years, and coming out of the conquest free but exhausted, with favor and compassion; of her, who is she determined to take part in her affairs, should close the door against her murderers "not bare the knife herself." The parallel between Poland and Mexico, is in this case, neither far-fetched nor unnatural. The wretched government of Poland, one of the cardinal principles of which was, that a measure must be unanimously carried in the diet before it could become a law, had made that unhappy country, for ages, the scene of everlasting strife. Those estimable philanthropists, Frederick of Prussia, Joseph of Austria, and Empress Catherine, offended with the ambitious rulers of that fine country, and taking compassion on its unfortunate people, determined to put an end to their sufferings, and very quietly took possession of them and enacted them thenceforth into Russian, Prussian, and Austrian subjects! It is true, the Poles were not so grateful for this favor as they might have been—true, their new allegiance sat upon them somewhat awkwardly at first—true, they had the folly to prefer a bad government of their own to their paternal scepters of their new monarchs! But what own good, and they were to be forced to adopt that which these wise and potent monarchs had found so beneficial to their old subjects. One of them (Frederic) was a great philosopher and had written a book (Examen du Prince) against tyranny, and if he did not know what was for their good who could possibly know?

Now our Executive is also philosophical; at least if he is all deficient, his short coming can be readily made by the genius who grinds the Organ. He has discovered a fact Which the Mexicans were rather slow in arriving at themselves, that the Government under which they have hitherto lived, and which they waded through blood to establish, is not at all adapted to their genius, capacity and taste; and in imitation of his Royal and Imperial predecessors, he has determined to give them a better. Hence the Proclamation, written at the War Office and transmitted to General Taylor, in which the tyranny of Mexican rulers is set forth in strong terms, and the people are assured that it is the design of this Government to relieve them of it. Hence, too, the proclamation of General Scott, in which they are invited to turn traitors to their own Government, and to throw themselves into the arms of those whom they might under other circumstances be disposed to regard as enemies. There is, however, one essential point of difference between the two cases. The great patrons of Poland were invited to mediate between her nobles and her people, and to settle the Government upon something like a stable foundation. Our Frederick waited for no such invitation. Like the Irishmen at the wedding, he invited himself. His good-natured officiousness did not, it appears, prove altogether so agreeable to his entertainers as it might have done, but that was a matter of small importance. Another slight difference is also to be found in the manner in which the difficulties of Poland were actually settled, and that in which it is proposed to arrange those of Mexico, arising out of the difference in the number of parties interested. There were three in the care of Poland, and it was found necessary to divide the spoils among them all. Our Frederick, on the contrary, "solitary and alone has set this ball in motion," and he proposes to take all under his protection. That is a matter, however, likewise, of small importance; the effect will be precisely the same; Poland ceased to exist, and Frederick means to blot out Mexico from among the nations.

In one point of view, we have the decided advantage of the great European confederates. Poland owed their subjects, as far as we have ascertained, nothing at all. Now Mexico did owe one of our citizens for fifty—six—dozen bottles of porter—it must have been prime, too, and no mistake, for it is set down at sixteen hundred and ninety—three dollars a dozen. We have said the article was prime; when we have explained to him that the best porter which we have ever heard may be bought all over the world for three dollars a dozen! No doubt it was a mortal of fence to three dollars a dozen. We have said the article was prime; when we have explained to him that the best porter which

It is true, the greater part of these claims existed during the administrations of Jackson and Var Buren, and...
that if war was ever to be adopted as the best means of collecting them, then was the time. It is true likewise, that it is rather inconsistent in us, who have our confederacy, repudiating States to the number of four or five, and who were so lately thrown into a flame on account of Lord Palmerston’s threats, to offer any such apology as this. But what of that? Any excuse is better than none at all.

Serious as the subject is, we cannot but treat the pretexts for the conquest of Mexico with derision. Yet it presents considerations which are far better calculated to elicit sorrow than ridicule. The United States have for the first time, assumed that attitude so formidable to liberty in the Old World, and which has been so destructive of the interest of weaker powers. We are at this moment threatening the independence of a neighbor, and the ground we allege is, that she owes us money. To use the words of Sheridam, with slight paraphrase, “towns are to be besieged on a note of hand, and governments subverted for the balance of an account.” How much more manly would it be, to say at once to Mexico, we long for your rich lands and your inexhaustible mineral wealth—-we are stronger than you—we mean to take them and you may get them back as you can. There would be a certain degree of magnanimity in this, if one species of that virtue, as has been alleged, consists in boldly conceiving a bad plan and undauntedly pursuing it to its execution.

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot, under date of the 2d. Sept. says:

"I wrote you the other day that I had been assured upon the most reliable authority, that the administration had resolved upon making conquest of the whole of Mexico.—This information has since been confirmed to the fullest extent. A military gentleman, who has recently held conversation with the President and the Secretary of War, says the determination now is to push on the war of conquest until the entire republic of Mexicanos shall be ours: and that, if Mexico wishes for peace upon honorable terms, she must henceforth come to us in the character of a supplicant."

This is one only of numerous proofs which we have, to some of which we already alluded, that it is the design of Mr. Polk to conquer Mexico. And for whose benefit? Not for that of the public, for there fare no public lands, and Mexico, is so poor that she cannot pay her own debts. Who then is to receive the benefit? That highly favored generation the land speculators. Them it will enrich, but no one else.

The same correspondent makes the following statement:

"Military gentlemen who talk with members of the administration, assure them that there must be more mounted men in the army to pursue and punish the guerillas——that there is already a sufficient infantry force in Mexico——and that the last call for five more regiments should have been accompanied with a direction for the whole force to be mounted. But Mr. Polk and Governor Marcy both cry out against the enormous expense, and say they can't do it!"

"The Ohio Regiment which has recently volunteered and been accepted, desired, and, I believe, stipulated to be mounted, and a gentleman from Cincinnati is her now, trying to beat into the brains of the administration the expediency, propriety and utility of mounting the Regiment in question——but all to no purpose! The expense would be too great! Mr. Polk and Governor Marcy can see great economy in sending the Regiment to Mexico in a condition to render no available service, and saddle the expense upon Uncle Sam with a clear conscience! But to add a little to the expense and thus render the Regiment really valuable, is a step which they could not think of doing! O No!"

This is precisely what we should have expected Secretary Marcy and this penny–wise pound foolish, save–at–the–spile–and–lose–at–the–bung–administration.

The following statement with regard to the President's present vies, from the same source, we can hardly believe just:

"I understand, from pretty good authority, that the President makes no count at all upon a speedy peace, and that, for the future, he is not going to be over anxious to bring peace about. The cost of the war troubles him some; but by degrees he hopes to get over that. He knows and partially feels that the people are saying, that if Mr. Clay had been elected President this war and its expense of blood and treasure would have been avoided, and we could have had California by treaty and the Rio Grande for a boundary——but he hopes to get over it all! He thinks the people, honest souls, will forget what might have been and get reconciled to what now exists!"

We feel sure that Potomac must be mistaken here. We have no doubt that Mr. Polk, if he had his own way, would gladly be rid of this war; but the fact is, he does not know how to get rid of it. The speculators and land-jobbers will not let him rest without the whole of Mexico, and as he was elected by them, he is in a great measure under their thumb.

[BRM]
The steamship *Ohio*, Capt. J. Swiler, Jr., arrived yesterday from Galveston. She left there on the 23d ult.

The following is from the News of the 21st inst.

The steamer *Reliance*, arrived this morning from Houston. She brings a few more bales of new cotton. Some gentlemen just from the interior represent the season as extremely favorable for picking cotton. The worm has every where disappeared, doing very little, if any, damage, and the cotton is opening rapidly and in the greatest abundance.—The prospect was never before so encouraging. Corn is so abundant that it is said contracts can to made for almost any amount at 20 cents per bushel.

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From the St. Louis Republican, Aug. 27.

CALIFORNIA.—In the Californian, a paper printed at Monterey, on the 24th of April last, it is stated, that the “new mail arrangement has gone into effect,” and that the first arrival brought a number of letters and paper. The Quartermasters at the several military posts were constituted Postmasters, and it was expected, that where there was no military posts, the Alcaldes would perform the duties of the office.

Monterey is improving, [illegible] said, rapidly. Several American families have settled there. The houses are all occupied. The editor says, that, being compelled to give up the Government House, to make room for a portion of Col. Steveson’s regiment, he was obliged to us a slightly built shed, on the corner of Dr. Stokes’ yard. “A small paper, a small press, and a small house, but rather a lengthy editor.”

Among the advertisements, we notice a “great tale of city lots,” laid out upon a pretty extravagant scale. The lots are fifty yards front, running back ninety-six yards.—The city is called Francisca. In front of [illegible], there is said to be a commodious bay, in which two hundred ships can ride at anchor in safety. MC Vallego and R [illegible], late of Illinois, are the proprietors.

One man advertises that he is constantly supplied with “that precious beverage, sparkling cold water,” which he sells at the rate of two reals per week for each family.

Two proclamations of Gen. Kearny, ”by virtue of authority in him vested,” and issued April last, constitute John A Sutter ”sub–agent for the Indians of and near the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers,” and on the Mariana G Vallejo a similar agent in another direction.

The schooner *William*, “recently condemned in the Court of Admiralty,” with her cargo consisting of a hundred and eighty bales (about 26,000 pounds of Mexican sugar,) thirty packages panoche, and one bale of [illegible], assorted, was advertised to be sold at auction, on the 24th of April. Two or three of the papers are filled with the judicial decision of Judge Walter Colton, in this case.

Another sale of lots, in the town Francisco— not the one above named— is advertised by “Edwin Bryant, Alcalde and Chief Magistrate of the town and district of San Francisco.” The prologue of this sale is so curious, that we must give it in the words and figures of the advertiser:

By the following decree of his Excellency, Con. S. W. Kearny, Governor of California, all the right, title and interest of the united States and the Territory of California, to the beach and the water lots on the east front of the town of San Francisco, have been granted, conveyed and released to the people, or corporate authorities of said town.

**DECREE OF GOV. KEARNY.**

“*I, Brig. Gen. S. W. Kearny, Governor of California, by virtue of authority in me vested by the President of the United States of America, do hereby grant, convey and release unto the ton of San Francisco, the people, or corporate authorities thereof, all the right, title and interest of the Government of the United States, and of the Territory of California, in and to the beach and water lots on the east front of said town of San Francisco, included between the points known as the Rincon and Fort Montgomery, excepting such lots as may be selected for the use of U. States Government by the Senior Officers of the army and navy now there; provided, the said ground hereby led shall be divided into lots, and sold by public auction to the highest bidder, after three months’ notice previously even—the proceeds of said sale to be for the benefit of the down of San Francisco.*

“*Given at Monterey, capital of California, this 10th day of March, 1847, and the seventy–first year of Independence of the united States.*

*S.W. KEARNY,*
The sale is made in pursuance of this decree, and the site of the town is said to be the “most commanding commercial position on the entire western coast of the Pacific Ocean.”

Col Benton lately addressed the following note to the Editors of the National Whig:

To the Editors of the National Whig:

“Gentlemen—On seeing the article from the Louisville Journal, headed, ‘Mr. Benton and Mr. Polk’ in your paper of this day, I have to request that the papers be no longer left at my house.

Yours, respectfully,

Aug. 23, 1847.

THOS. H. BENTON.”

The article alluded to, is the same with that of which we spoke last week. It is as follows:

“Mr. Benton and Mr. Polk.----It is certain, says the Louisville Journal of the 17th instant, that Mr. Benton is preparing himself for a terrific attack upon the Administration next winter in the Senate chamber. At a town in the interior of Kentucky, a few days ago, he got into a conversation upon the subject of the Mexican war, and became immensely excited—perfectly infuriated. He stated that he should go to Washington and make one speech on the subject—only one—and that it would be the greatest speech of his life, and he was willing that it should be the last. In speaking of the administration, his language barely, if at all, fell short of downright cursing. His wrathful declamation lasted a full hour.”

It will be observed that Col. Benton does not say that he means to support Mr. Polk, nor does he deny having used very strong language in speaking of the present Administration. If all be true that the Journal states, he could not deny it. We have heard of his having done so, from more sources than one.

From the Charleston Courier, Sept. 4

FIGHT WITH THE MEXICAN GUERILLAS

By our exclusive Express we yesterday received the slip which follows from the office of the New Orleans Picayune, dated on Monday last, being one day in advance of the mail.

It will be perceived that General Scott has advanced to within a short distance of the Mexican Capital, and has already passed the Rio Frio, where it was anticipated that a severe battle would take place, without a gun being fired. This naturally leads us to hope that no resistance will be made to the entrance of the American army into the City of Mexico.

NEW ORLEANS, AUG. 30–10 A.M.

LATER FROM VERA CRUZ

GEN. SCOTT’S ADVANCE TO AYOLTA.

SAFETY OF MAJOR LALLY’S TRAIN

REPULSE OF AMERICANS AT NATIONAL BRIDGE.

The schr Mississippi arrived from Vera Cruz on Sunday, having sailed thence on the evening of the 21st inst. At that time the Fashion had not arrived there, though constantly expected. She left here the evening of the 17th.
The most important news by this arrival concerns the movements of Gen. Scott. There had been various rumors on the subject in Vera Cruz, many of which our correspondent knew to be unfounded, but he writes us on the afternoon of Saturday, the 21st instant, on what he considers the "best authority," that the vanguard of Gen. Scott's army was at Ayotla on Friday, the 13th instant, and up to that date had not fired a gun. This news reached Vera Cruz by a gentleman whom left Ayotla on the 13th, coming down by the war of Orizaba. Ayotla is but twenty-one miles from the city of Mexico, being twenty miles beyond the pass of Rio Frio. We now turn for a moment to other subjects of great interest.

The expedition which left Vera Cruz about the 13th inst. To reinforce Major Lally's command was composed o Capt. Wells. They returned to Vera Cruz on the 17th, after having proceeded as far as the National Bridge; where they expected to overtake major Lally's command. Major Lally, however, had gone on, and by subsequent advices at Vera Cruz it is known that he had carried up his train in safety beyond Jalapa.

The command of Capt. Walls were compelled to fight their way to the Bridge; and they made the attempt to pass it, but found all the heights occupied by the guerrillas, who opened a heavy fire upon them, killing nearly all of the mules and forcing the whole party to retire. They left the whole of their wagons save only one in the possession of the enemy. All the baggage of the officers and knapsacks of the men, which were in the wagons, fell into the hands of the Mexicans, and little else besides the mail was saved. The loss of men in this affair have been five or six killed and two or three wounded, and several men have subsequently died from fatigue and exposure on the march.

About eight miles this side of the Bridge, Capt. Wells, on his advance detached twelve dragoons, accompanied by Dr. Cooper, with directions to go forward cautiously, and, if they found it prudent, to report to Maj Lally; but if they encountered any obstacle, to return and report that fact at once. Nothing has since been heard of this party, and it is supposed the whole have fallen into the hands of the Mexicans. These twelve dragoons we supposed to be a portion of Fairchild's company. Dr. Cooper was the surgeon who went up with the train.

Capt. Wells had five successive engagements with the enemy before the final affair at the Bridge. In this the Mexicans had one piece of artillery engaged, from which they fired grape, and were thus able to make their stand against the command of Capt. Wells.

Maj. Lally on going up with the train is said to have had a sharp skirmish with the guerrillas at Cerro Gordo, and to have expected another brush with them at La Hoya. No accounts of these affairs have been received, but our latest letters say there where is no doubt of the safety of the train. No news had been heard at Vera Cruz of Capt. Besancon's company for a fortnight. It was out on a scout when news reached there that Major Lally required reinforcements, and it is by many supposed that the company fell in with the train, and, crossing the National Bridge, continued up with it. Others again think differently, and suppose the whole company has been cut off by the Mexicans. Such is the tenor of our latest letters.

In regard to Gen. Scott's march, there were rumors at Vera Cruz that he had met the enemy and repulsed them after a sharp engagement, in which he lost 800 men. This the Mexicans regarded as a victory on their part, at their loss was insignificant. Notwithstanding these details, our correspondent writes that there is no truth in them whatever. He also considers the announcement of the Sun of Anahuac that Gen. Scott arrived at Ayotla on the 11th as a statement hazarded upon mere rumor. He has confidence in the veracity of a man who arrived on the 21st, and only states that the last divisions of the American army left on that day 4000 strong.

We have more minute accounts on board the ship Agnes of the various engagements with the guerrillas mentioned above. The Mississippi, being a fast sailer, has anticipated those accounts, but without supplying all the details.

We have no letter direct from the army. The Boletin de las Noticias, of Jalapa, says that more correspondence from the army has been intercepted by the guerrillas.——This paper appears to have advices from Pueble to the 10th inst., but only states that the last divisions of the American army left on that day 4000 strong.

Despatches have been received at the Navy Department from Commodore Biddle, of as late a date as May 3, 1847, at Monterey, from which we obtain the following intelligence of the movements of the squadron under his command. The "Independence," the "Cyane," and the "Portsmouth" were one the coast of Mexico, enforcing the blockade of Mazatlan and Guaymas. The frigate "Congress" was on her way from San Diego, and the "Dale" had sailed from Panama to Monterey. The "Warren" was at San Pedro. The "Preble" arrived at Monterey on the 33d April, with Mr. Norris, bearer of despatches from Washington. The store ship "Erie" was at Monterey.
You have before us files of California papers as last at the 5th of June, for which, we are indebted to a gentleman who returned with Gen. Kearny from his late expedition to California. They contain a good many matters of interest to our readers, and to the people of this country, which we shall briefly sketch.

Very marked discontent seems to have pervaded the "California Regiment," at the time of his discharge from service. This regiment had been enrolled by Col. Fremont, and promises of pay were held out, which, it seems, were not realized. We infer from what is stated, that a portion, only, of the pay was given to the men, and that they were compelled to receive certificates for the balance, and that the payment of this amount is made to depend on relief to be granted by Congress.

News of the battle of Buena Vista and the capture of Vera Cruz was received at Yerba Buena, or San Francisco, of the 29th of May, and occasionally great rejoicings. The town was illuminated.

The thieving propensities of the horse and mule stealers, is the subject of a long letter from Santa Barbara, and the new government is censured for not being able to check these depredations.

A letter from Sonoma, on the 8th of May, says that Gov. Boggs had received a letter from Gen. Kearney, appointing him Alcalde of that town. But Mr. Nash, the old incumbent, who was elected under Com Stockton's Proclamation, refused to surrender the books of the office; and that in consequence they had no civil magistrate. The writer says, that in consequence of this state of things a man who had stolen four horses, another accused of stealing a saddle and a bridle, and a third who was charged with breaking open a trunk, all went unpunished.

Two Sabbath Schools were in operation in San Francisco.

The California Star, in announcing the departure of Gen. Kearny and Col. Fremont for the United States, indulges in some pretty severe structures upon the conduct of the latter, while in California. It charges that his movements while in that territory have been ill–judged, and producing complete dissatisfaction. His proceedings are said to have been "in direct opposition to the best interests of his countrymen in California," and it is remarked, that "it will require an effort, and an immense one, to reinstate his lost fame in California."

Of Gen. Kearny, the editor speaks mincingly: he can neither "commend nor condemn." “It may be that he has need his best endeavors to promote the welfare of the people, and that he has been over regardful of their interest. We are not to determine.”

Almost every numbers of these papers has something to say in reference to the sufferings of the emigrants who died in the California mountains, last winter; and it is rightly argued, that the news of the horrible fate which befell them, will deter emigration from the States to that country. We have copied as complete a list as could be made out of the names of those who perished, as well as those who survived. One of the papers contains the journal of Capt. Fallon, who, with a party of six others, left the settlements last April to relieve the emigrants, and brought in all the property which they could find belonging to the company. Kiesberg, the monster whose cannibal propensities and him to delight in the living upon human flesh and drinking human blood, was the only person in the camp alive. Fallon’s account confirms, every thing we have herefore stand in regard to the villainous conduct of this man, and we shall not reiterate them.

The exportation of quicksilver from California, a strictly prohibited from an order of Com. Biddle.

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FROM CHIHUAHUA.----Intelligence to about the 20th of June, has been received in this city from Chihuahua. Every thing was then quiet in that town. The citizens who fled on the approach of Col. Doniphan’s army, and remained away from during his stay there, were returning and resuming their accustomed pursuits. The American traders were employed in the sale of their goods, and it was observed that the Mexicans took unusual pains to testify their friendship for them and their determination to protect them from attacks from any quarter.

[BRM]

The return of this man from Europe, where he must have been known to thousands, through Havana, where he certainly was known to our Consul at Havana did not send on some one to arrest him at Vera Cruz, is unaccountable. Then, how he could have come ashore, without undergoing a strict scrutiny, is still more so. We can believe any thing of the folly of Mr. Polk, after his avowal of the part he took in the return of Santa Anna, and we are disposed to think this one of his wise schemes for distracting the enemy.

We take the following extract from a latter of Col. Wilson’s to the Secretary of War, from the Union:
"HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF VERA CRUZ, Aug. 15.

"I have the honor to report that on the 14th instant British steamer Tevoit, Captain May, arrived here from England and the Havana, having General Paredes on board, under the assumed name of M. Martinez; who in consequence of the tardiness of the boarding officer, (Capt. Clark,) landed at between 6 and 7 A.M., incognito, from a four-oared boat, apparently prepared for the occasion. In his transit through the gate of the mole, he was recognized by an inspector, who took no notice of him. Therefore, I immediately ordered the discharge of both him and Capt. Clark—the former for having lost sight of the main [illegible], notwithstanding my office is but a few yard from the mole.

"The General, having arrived at the house of a Mr. G. Zamora, a native merchant, he presented a letter of introduction from Paris, and requested that horses might be directly furnished for himself and servant—a request immediately compiled with; and but ten minutes after his landing he passed through one of the gates of the city on his way to the interior, without myself or any of my officers being able to avoid it, from the circumstances of his arrival and presence here being unknown, and the letters from the United States consul at the Havana, giving notice of his having left, not being delivered to me until after the General’s departure, owing to their being in possession of a lady passenger on board."

Dear Sir—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your esteemed letter of the 16th inst., which has just reached one, accompanied by certain resolutions entered into by a Democratic meeting of my fellow–citizens at Clarksville, Tenn., on the 7th of June last, in relation to certain important matters and principles connected with the management of our national affairs, desiring to know my views and opinions in regard to the same, as they might have an important bearing on their courses, should my name be before the country as a candidate for the Presidency at the coming election; which I must beg leave to decline doing, for even if disposed to do so, I cannot spare the time from my official duties to devote to the investigation of those subjects which their importance seem to require, to enable me to reply to them in a way that would be satisfactory to myself, much less so to your honorable committee. I must therefore say in this instance what I have stated to others on like occasions, which is, that I am no politician, near forty years of my life have been passed in the military of the Republic, most of which in the field, the camp on our western frontier or in the Indian territory, and I may say with great propriety, for the most port constantly on duty, the last two in Mexico, or on its immediate borders, during which time I have not passed on night under the roof of a house; you may therefore very readily suppose under such circumstances, I have had but little time to devote to the consideration or investigation of important political matter, or to their discussion, nor have I attempted to do so, or been mixed up with political men or matters in any way, not even having voted, for one of our chief magistrates or any one else since I have been in the public service, having been stationed or serving for the most part beyond the limits of the States.

I can say in all sincerity I have no aspirations for the Presidency, an if I am a candidate, or to be one, it must recollected I am or will be made so by others, and by no agency of mine in the matter; under this state of things should a majority of the good people of our country think proper to elevate me to the first office in their gift, or I may say the first in the world, I will feel bound to serve them, and will do so honestly, and faithfully to the best of my abilities, strictly in conformity to the provisions of the Constitution, as nearly as possibly in the way it was acted on and construed by our first Presidents, two of whom at least participated in creating and putting into operation that glorious instrument. But many important changes in our affairs at home and abroad may take place between this and the time for holding the election for filling said office, so much so, as to make it desirable for the general good, that some individual other than myself should be selected as a candidate for that station, and could he be elected, I will not say that I would yield my pretentious to that distinguished position, for I have not the vanity to believe I have any, but I would not only acquiesce with pleasure in such an arrangement, but would rejoice that the Republic had on citizen more worthy and better qualified than I am, and no doubt there are thousands, to discharge the arduous and important duties appertaining to that high office. Be this as it may, should I ever occupy the White House it must be by the spontaneous move of the people, and by no act of mine, so that I could enter on the duties appertaining to the Chief Magistrate of that country untrammeled and unpledged beyond what I have previously stated as regards to the Constitution, so that I could and would be the President of the nation and not a party.

For the interest you and other kind friends of the committee and those you an they represent take in my continued success against the enemy while this war continues, which I sincerely hope will soon be brought to an honorable close, as well as I fear for the too flattering manner you have been pleased to connect my name with the distinguished office in question, and especially for the handsome and complimentary terms in which they have been communicated, are duly appreciated, and I beg leave to tender to you and through you to the gentlemen of the committee, collectively and individually, my most cordially thanks for the same. With considerations of highest respect and esteem, I remain gentlemen,

Your ob't. and devoted Serv't.
To Dr. C. L. Wilcox and others of the Committee

Z. Taylor
Major General, U.S. Army.

RW47v24n73p1c4, September 10, 1847, FROM THE RIO GRANDE

The propeller Secretary Buchanan, Capt. Corser, arrived yesterday from Brazos Santiago, having sailed on the 24th inst. By her we have a copy of the Matamoros Flag of the 24th inst. It contains no news whatever of the army above. There seems to be some question of the jurisdiction between Col Davenport and the Texas, which has given occasion to the following notice by Col Davenport, which may be important to those engaged in trade on the Rio Grande:

HEADQUARTERS, MATAMOROS, Aug. 19, 1847.

Sir,—It was reported to my yesterday that the steamers Eagle and Lama are engaged in the business of transporting goods from the mouth of the river to points above this place, on the Texas side of the river. If this be so, you must, in the multiplicity of business, have overlooked my instructions to you, on the 5th of July last. There being so few consumers of goods above this, on the Texas side of the river, the object, it is almost certain, is to smuggle them into Mexico, and it is the duty of all custom house agents to prevent this by all lawful means. Being required to collect Mexican duties, in accordance with the late tariff, it becomes my duty to determine the boundary between Mexico and Texas. This I understand to be the left bank of the river, and consequently all good brought into the river are in Mexico, and subject to Mexican duty.—In the execution of your duty as deputy collector, I wish you to act according to this contraction. Should any departure from it be necessary, the cases may be referred to the collector for decision.

Respectfully, your obd’r serv’t
WM. Davenport,
Colonel 1st Infantry, Commanding.

Lieut. Thos. B. J. Weld,
2d Artillery, Mouth of the Rio Grande.

The following are the instructions of the 5th of July, referred to above:

HEADQUARTERS, LOWER RIO GRANDE DISTRICT,
Matamoros, Mexico, July 5, 1847.

Sir.—The Hon Secretary of War having decided that Mexican duties are not collectable on the east of the Rio Grande, I hereby appoint you deputy collector, for the collection of duties under the Mexican tariff, on all goods and other dutiable articles for the Mexican market coming into the Rio Grande. Tonnage duty, if not collected there, will but seldom be collected anywhere; I have, therefore, to desire that you give your attention, particularly to this branch of that service. You must decide what vessels are to pay this duty. My opinion is that Texas only claims to the river, and consequently all vessels not freighted for the public, entering its mouth, are liable to this duty.

When the importer desires to pay duty on his merchant, dize at this post, you may, after satisfying yourself that the packages or parcels agree with the bill of lading, allow him to bring it up, when he shows you the authority of the collector this post, or his agent for it. In every such case give immediate notice here, which the business may receive timely attention. If the goods are to go higher up the river than this post, as we have no collector above, the duties should be paid at the mouth of the river, for it may not be convenient to stop her for that purpose.

Respectfully, your obd’r serv’t
WM. Davenport
Colonel 1st Infantry, Commanding.

Lieut. Thos. B.J. Weld,
2d Artillery, Mouth of the Rio Grande.

[BRM]

RW47v24n73p2c5, September 10, 1847, A GLANCE AT A MEXICAN PAPER

[From the New Orleans Picayune, August 31.]
By the arrival of the ship Agnes we have received copies of the Boletin de las Noticias of Jalapa of the 13th and 15th inst. When the latter number was issued the train under Major Lally had not, so far as the editor knew, crossed the National Bridge, and he felt great hopes of over powering the train. Senor Aburto and Father Jarauta had been the leaders in the attacks made on the train. They are represented to have killed or wounded over 300. We have not a doubt that this is ridiculous exaggeration. Senor D. Juan Soto, the Governor of the State of Vera Cruz, was in the vicinity of the train, giving confidence to the guerrillas. The editor repeats the story that the train has in charge a million of dollars in specie, most of it concealed in bags of golf in the loads of forage.

The Boletin announces the arrival of Paredes in Vera Cruz and his escape thence. It does not extend to the ex-President a very cordial reception. It thinks his return very indiscreet, and doubts if his object be to take part in the defence of the country, as it asserted. We can get no clue to the whereabouts of Paredes by the article.

We have read all the editor of the Boletin has said of the last intercepted courier. He was taken at Cordova, and appears to have been formerly connected with the convent of San Francisco at Vera Cruz. The editor invokes justice upon him, from which we presume he is to be shot. The contents of some of the letters cut off the editor thinks would be imprudent in him to commit to paper, lest his sheet should fall into the hands of the Americans. The contents of the other letters make the editor blush for his countrypmen, he says. The American officers, according to the Boletin’s version of these letters, confess themselves astonished at the debasement of the Mexicans, especially of those of high position in society. The higher their rank the more indifferent do they show themselves to the conquest of the country. According to the Americans, the Indians upon the frontiers display a much greater share of love of country. We are sorry that we cannot discover from the general terms employed by the editor something more definite of the contents of the intercepted letters.—The editor is too crafty to reveal much, but he concludes as follows: “What chastisement shall an outraged nation, an indignant people inflict upon these despicable members, who have slandered and vilified the nation, degrading it in the eyes of its enemies?”

The Boletin has an article running into two numbers of the paper upon the general aspect of affairs. He mentions that the last division of General Scott’s army was to leave Puebla on the 10th inst. 4000 strong—he does not say it left that day. He then goes on to speculate about the chances of victory in the battle to be fought at the capital and its vicinity. He reasons that a victory gained by the Americans would not advance their cause substantially, while if it were won by the Mexicans it would be decisive of the whole question. Mexico by a victory would be in a situation to listen to terms of peace. The fruits of victory would be so immense that he sees not how the Mexicans can fall short of the vigorous and desperate and heroic efforts necessary to win it. He points out the disastrous position of Gen. Scott should he meet with the slightest reverse. Hitherto the Americans have owed their successes, he tells us, to their superiority in numbers of to accidental circumstances which do not now exist. If they now suffer any defeat it will be ruin for them, as there is no retreat. The editor then goes on to tell his countrypmen how they should follow up their victory. They should not be too exacting towards the Americans; they should not drive a hard bargain with them about the terms of a peace. In the editor’s opinion, they should at once give up the conquest of the country. According to the Americans, the Indians upon the frontiers display a much greater share of love of country. We are sorry that we cannot discover from the general terms employed by the editor something more definite of the contents of the intercepted letters.—The editor is too crafty to reveal much, but he concludes as follows: “What chastisement shall an outraged nation, an indignant people inflict upon these despicable members, who have slandered and vilified the nation, degrading it in the eyes of its enemies?”

We are utterly at a loss to know what is to be made out of this intelligence, so the reader must spell it out for himself. That it is true, is we think, beyond doubt. But the fact is of such a bewildering nature—so entirely unexpected—so singular and so anomalous, that we know not what to think. We presume the appointment must have been made by the Mexican Congress, and that the object is, to place the entire executive power in the hands of General Scott, in order that he may make such a treaty as may seem good to him. Under any circumstances, it is impossible for him, we take it, to accept the office in these terms, for it is expressly forbidden by the terms of the constitution. The 9th section of the 1st article says “no person holding any office of profit or trust under them, shall, without the consent of Congress, accept of any present, emolument, office, or title of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State.” Thus far, therefore, the bestowal of the office is a mere nullity.

It is nevertheless a transaction of the highest importance, inasmuch as it demonstrates the hopeless condition of the Mexican people, as represented by their Congress, and their willingness to submit to any terms which our commissioners may think proper to dictate. We are induced, therefore, to hope that the day of final settlement of all our difficulties it at least near at hand, if it has not already arrived. We have triumphed signally; we have humbled Mexico, by the force of our arms, in spite of all the obstacles that could be thrown in the way of a feeble executive—a national honor has been vindicated, and the national arms have acquired a luster, which will
What now remains for us to do? To make a peace as honorable to ourselves as the course of the war has been, or to take advantage of our position, and thrust into the very earth, those who have been unable to resist us? We hope there are not many who will hesitate in their choice of alternatives. We went to war, so says the President, in order to punish certain aggressions on the part of Mexico, and to obtain redress for spoliations committed upon the citizens of the United States. So far as the punishment is involved, we have had ample satisfaction. The redress for spoliations is yet to be settled, and it is a matter of great importance to settle it in the proper manner. Those who have been despoiled, we presume, will only desire that they may be reimbursed, and the question then arises, how is this to be done?

We know that there is a class of persons, generally defenders of the President throughout this war, who look to the lands of Mexico as a remuneration for all losses on our side, as well as for the reimbursement of the expenses of the Government in this war. That such a source of revenue is vain and illusory, we think sufficiently evident from the fact often stated in the controversy arising out of the war, and as far as we know, not yet controverted nor even denied, that Mexico has no public lands, but that on the contrary the whole country, with the exception of certain barren regions in California and New Mexico, not worth having, have already been appropriated. There can, therefore, be no probability of settling the claims of the sufferers, or paying the expenses of the war, from this source, while it would open the door to speculation and fraud on a gigantic scale, resulting only in the enriching of that tribe, which is the bane of a new country, and which has in a very great measure, we doubt not, been at the bottom of the war. We allude of course to the tribe of land speculators.

The payment of the claims of the sufferers will at last devolve upon Congress, and Congress will have nothing, besides the ordinary sources of revenue, to pay them with.----In this view of the case, we can see no possible reason for dismembering the Mexican Republic, seeing that we will gain nothing by it, in a pecuniary point of view, and that we shall incur the everlasting hatred of the nation whose weakness we take advantage of. The whole of Mexico, we hope, will no longer enter into the dreams of Mr. Polk and his kitchen cabinet of land speculators, since Mexico seems to have surrendered at discretion, and to have thrown herself upon America mercy, appealing, in the most striking manner thereby, to American magnanimity.

We have left out of consideration the question upon which we have hitherto so much insisted, and with which is involved the ultimate destinies of this free and happy country. It will be a most disastrous day for the Union when the principles involved in the Wilmot proviso shall have been brought under discussion, not upon a prospective and probable case, but in actually practice. We conceive the man who would willfully provoke it, to be little better than an open enemy to the future happiness of his country, and if the odious doctrine of "moral treason" could ever fall, justly upon any set of men, we take them to be more fully entitled to all its benefits, than any other whom we have heard. The incendiary, who would throw the torch of civil war into the midst of such a land as this, deserves no mercy at the hands of the press of the people.

We should state that we are not aware what degree of our credit our correspondent attaches to the news which he was so kind as to send to us. He dates from Charleston, and says the steamboat is just in; whether at Charleston or at New Orleans, we cannot undertake to say.

[BRM]

The statement transmitted to us in a letter from Charleston, received on Saturday morning last, that Gen. Scott had been declared President of Mexico, is not confirmed by the last Southern advices. The improbability of such an event induced us at the time to entertain some doubt of its authenticity, and we should have treated it as a quiz, but for the fact that is purported to have been written by one of the editors of the New Orleans Picayune, who we were aware had passed through this city a few days previously, on his return from a visit to the North, and because w could not suppose that any individual would attempt to palm off upon us so sill a hoax.

There is no later intelligence from Gen. Scott’s army than that received some days ago, and which left Scott in front of the City of Mexico, negotiation with the Mexican authorities. The New Orleans Picayune is of the opinion that this negotiation has reference exclusively to the terms upon which the City should be surrendered, and not to the restoration of peace. We hope that this may not be the fact, although it must be admitted that the suggestion is not without plausibility. We have always believed that the occupation of the Mexican capital would exert but little, if any, influence on the duration of the war; for it certainly would be remarkable, if the Mexican Government is willing to terminate hostilities, on the terms proposed by our Government, and of the character of which it was doubtless fully apprized before Gen. Scott left Puebla, that it should not have acceded to them when they were tendered, rather than to have deferred its submission until it had been reduced to the signal humiliation of seeing it magnificent capital in the possession of the conqueror, and a foreign flag waving in triumph over its public edifices. We are strengthened in this impression, too, by the fact, some time since made public, that the Mexican Minister in London had been instructed by his Government, in evident anticipation of the occupation of the city of Mexico by the American army, to ascertain from the British Ministry what would be its course should that event occur, and the Mexican rulers be forced to take refuge in some other city. Lord Palmerston’s reply, it will be remembered, was that the British Ministry would acknowledge the existing Government of Mexico, and that the British Minister would consequently be instructed to follow that Government, whithersoever it might go. It may be, however, that the pacific councils have prevailed, and that, it dispirited by the unbroken series of disasters that have attended their
efforts to repel the invader, and torn to pieces by the violent factions, which, even with a foreign enemy at their gates, have not ceased to make war upon each other, the Mexican Congress has determined to submit to the terms of reconciliation tendered them by Mr. Polk's ambassador. We sincerely hope that this may be the case and that we may very soon have it in our power to announce the termination of a war so unnecessary in its origin, notwithstanding its end threatens to be so pregnant with danger to ourselves, in the disposition of the new territory, the acquisition of which is unquestionably to be made a *sine qua non* of peace.

We have later accounts from General Taylor's division of the army, which it is now certain will not advance farther into the interior of Mexico in that direction——a large portion of his force, already inadequate for offensive operation, having been detached, and ordered to proceed immediately to Vera Cruz. Some of the New Orleans papers ascribe this change in the plan of operations to the determination of the President to doom Gen. Taylor to inactivity during the remainder of the war, old Rough and Ready having already rendered himself far too formidable as arrival to the next in line of succession of Locofoco Presidents. *The New Orleans Delta*, on the other hand, applauds the wisdom of this arrangement, which it says, is rendered necessary, in order to keep open the communication between Gen. Scott's army and his depot at Vera Cruz. The Delta thinks that the present aspect of affairs indicates very clearly that we shall be "under the necessity of occupying and holding Mexico after its conquest," the Government of that country having neither the will nor the power to make peace; and consequently, while a mere garrison force, sufficient to hold the principal points now in possession of the Rio Grande, will be entirely adequate in that quarter, Gen. Scott will require a much larger force than that with which he marched from Puebla. "The mere conquest of the capital, (says the Delta, and we concur with it in opinion,) will not be the great difficulty of this war. Our serious difficulties commence with its capture and occupation. A line of 350 miles, through thickly settled and inveterately hostile country, admirable adapted for partisan and guerrilla warfare. Will have to be fortified and garrisoned——and valuable trains will have to be continually guarded and escorted form the coast to the capital. To perform all these difficult duties it will require at least 30,000 men." But if this opinion shall be confirmed by events, when, in the name of heaven, is this war to terminate, and the incessant drain upon our treasury, rendered necessary by its prosecution, to cease? The expenditures for the army, navy, &c., for the past year, are about fifty millions of dollars, or nearly a million of dollars per week. At this rate, how long will it be before the departments of New Mexico and California, which we have been led to believe were at one time supposed to embrace a sufficient "area" to atone for all the wrongs that we have suffered at the hands of Mexico, as well as to pay all the cost of punishing her for their infliction, will be regarded as wholly in sufficient for that purpose? Nothing less, indeed, than the whole of Mexico, may be requisite finally to satisfy our claims, increasing as they do thus rapidly; and we presume the Delta has an eye to this result when it says, "we shall be under the necessity of holding and occupying Mexico, (referring to the entire Republic,) after its conquest!" *Nous verrons!* [BRM]

**RW47v24n74p2c1, September 14, 1847, FROM THE VIRGINIA REGIMENT**

The mail of yesterday morning, brought two letters form Captain Robert G. Scott, to his father. The one dated at Buena Vista, August 8th, and continued on the 9th, and the other from the same place, commenced on the 14th of August, and closed on the 15th of the same month. This last letter brings the intelligence of the death of Capt. Fairfax, expressed in the following terms:

"**TUESDAY, MORNING, Aug 15.**

"Capt. Fairfax, who has been sick for three or four weeks, died in Saltillo, last night, at 8 ½ o'clock, He was a most excellent man, and a good officer. We shall feel his loss most sensibly. Just before his attack, he boasted to me, that nothing could hurt him in this country——that he had not been sick for twenty years, and apprehended no danger form the climate.

"My Company enjoy good health. I have only two o three in the hospital, and they not seriously unwell. The routine of camp duty becomes so monotonous that men and officers complain a good deal. Yet an attentive and industrious officer will find enough to employ and engage him. Since coming here, I have not visited Saltillo, nor indeed been much from the camp. The drill of my company commands now my undivided attention. The North Carolina regiment has suffered much from sickness, and the effect has been to dispirit the men. Our regiment has but little sickness in it, and its condition for active service is at least respectable.

"When we shall move forward, I am unable to inform you, nor do I believe Gen. Taylor himself is informed on the subject. When we do, the Virginia regiment will be in the advance, and I fain hope will not disgrace the Old Dominion."

[BRM]

**RW47v24n72p2c2, September 14, 1847: (no title)**

The last *Raleigh Register* publishes the following correspondence:

*Raleigh, July 5. 1847.*
To Maj. General Z. Taylor:

Sir—In obedience to a Resolution, passed at a very large and respectable meeting held in this city on the 3d instant respecting the next occupancy of the Executive Chair of our Republic, I have the pleasure of enclosing a copy of the proceedings of that assemblage of the people, and sincerely hope their perusal will afford you as much pleasure, as their passage, without a dissenting voice, did your numerous of friends on that occasion. We all cordially esteem your many virtues, and great abilities, and well–tried patriotism, and desire, with your approbation, to manifest our sincerity, by voting for you to fill the highest office in the gift of a free people. We hold in grateful remembrance your services to our common country, and are enthusiastic in your cause; because we believe the true interest of the country will be promoted by your election to the Presidency.

With sentiments of high esteem and respect,
I am your obedient servant,
GEO. W. HAYWOOD.

HEADQUARTERS, AMRY OF OCCUPATION,
Camp near Monterey, Aug. 2, 1847.

SIR—The copy of the Resolutions, recently passed in the City of Raleigh, N.C., on the 3d of July, and which you were charged with communicating to me, has been with your letter, duly received.

Be pleased to convey to the voters of that District of N. C, my deep appreciation of the high honor they have conferred upon me in their nomination. While I am ever willing to yield to the popular will, and serve the country in any capacity to which I may be freely and unanimously called I may be permitted to say, that I have the assurance to believe, that my abilities are suited to the discharge of such responsible duties as rest upon the office Chief Magistracy. My best efforts, however, will always be exercised in the cause of the country, in whatever position may be my fortune to be placed.

Accept for yourself, sir, my best acknowledgements for the very courteous and flattering manner in which you were pleased to communicate these Resolutions, and my wishes for your continued prosperity and health.

I am, sir with high respect,
Your most obedient servant,
Z. Taylor
Maj. Gen. U.S.A.

Geo. W. Haywood, Esq.
Chairman late Public Meeting,
Raleigh, N.C.

RW47v24n72p2c3, September 14, 1847, PORTRAITS OF HEROES

Mr. Wm. G. Brown, who left this city on the 1st of May, for the purpose of transferring to canvass the lineaments of Gen. Taylor, the Hero of the Rio Grande, and his principal subaltern officers, reached home yesterday morning, having successfully, and we understand most admirably accomplished his undertaking. Gen. Taylor constitutes, of course, the principal figure of his attractive group—besides whom are the following: Majors Bliss, Eaton and Bragg, Colonels Mansfield, Monroe, Whiting and Belknap, Captains Garnett and Leonard, and Dr. Craig.

We understand that the Paintings will be open for public examination in a few days.

[BRM]

RW47v24n72p2c3, September 14, 1847, DEATH OF SERGEANT POLLARD OF THE 1ST COMPANY OF PETERSBURG VOLUNTEERS

The Southern mail of yesterday morning brought to this place the melancholy intelligence of the death of Orderly Sergeant Pollard, of Capt Archer’s company of Mexican Volunteers.

Sergeant P. was forced, by sickness, to get leave of absence from the army some weeks since, and had got as far as New Orleans, on his way home, where, being too weak to continue his journey, he stopped, in hope of recruiting his strength. The hope, however, proved to be vain—The hand of the fell destroyer was upon him, and he yielded to disease that life which he had nobly offered to the service of his country.
The deceased was a son of our worthy fellow–citizen, Capt. John Pollard. He took an active part in raising the 1st company of Volunteers from this place, was elected to the office of 1st Sergeant of the company, and while in Mexico won for himself the good opinion of all who knew him. It was not his destiny to fall upon the battlefield, but his life was not the less given to his country than if he had perished amidst the clash of arms and din of battle. To him may well be applied the lines of one of our own Poets:

"And they who for their country die,
    Shall fill an honored grave;
For glory lights the soldier's tomb,
    And beauty weeps the brave."

[BRM]

The steamship Telegraph, Capt Wilson, arrived here Sunday forenoon from Brazos Santiago, whence she sailed on the 1st inst.

The intelligence by this arrival is interesting and important. We have at last the execution of the design of the Government to withdraw from the column of Gen. Taylor all the troops which can be spared by the General with due consideration for the safety of the line of the Rio Grande and thence to Buena Vista. The General was also directed to detach to brigadier generals; by the following general orders it will be seen how he has directed the views of the Government to be carried out:

ORDER No. 96.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF OCCUPATION
Camp near Monterey, August 16, 1847.

1. Five companies of the 10th Infantry, under the colonel will proceed to Matamoros and relieve the Ohio regiment of volunteers now in garrison there. The Ohio regiment will then proceed to Brazos Island and be held ready to embark fro Vera Cruz. The remaining companies of the 10th, under lieutenant colonel, with Capt Hunt's company of artillery and Capt Reed's company of Texas cavalry, will form the garrison of Camargo and its dependencies, relieving the other troops now on that duty.

2. The Indiana regiment of volunteers will proceed to Brazos Island and will then, with the Ohio regiment embark for Vera Cruz. Brigadier General Lane will take the command of these regiments at the Brazos and conduct them to their destination.

3. Six companies of the 16th Regiment, under the colonel, will take up the line of march for Monterey, when they will relieve the present garrison, composed of six companies of Massachusetts regiment. The remaining four companies, under the lieutenant colonel, will in the like manner relieve the battalion of the Massachusetts regiment at Cerralvo. The troops thus relieved will proceed to the Brazos and be there concentrated under the command of Col. Wright.

4. The 13th Regiment will proceed to the Brazos as soon as practicable after the companies of Massachusetts regiment, now at Cerralvo, shall have passed down the river.

5. Brig. Gen. Cushing will take up the line of march, no latter than 23d inst., with Capt. Deas' light battery, (company B, 4th Artillery.) He will proceed to the Brazos, when he will bring under his orders the 13th Regiment and Massachusetts regiment, and thence conduct his entire command (one battery and two regiments) to Vera Cruz.

6. Brig. Gen Hopping will remain in command of the district of the Upper Rio Grande, and will establish his headquarters where he may select. Should it be found necessary to retain the general hospital at Mier, a sufficient guard will be furnished for its protection, and also sufficient force of medical officers and attendants must be detailed from the regiments which leave their sick. Great care will be taken to furnish descriptive rolls of all attendants and patients thus detached. Col. Belknap is specially charged with the rigid enforcement of this order.

7. Col. Hays, with his command of Texas horse, will march for the Brazos, and there embark for Vera Cruz, in conformity with the instructions issued to him by the War Department.

8. The above movements will be executed with the least possible delay. The quartermasters and other staff departments will furnish the necessary transportation and other facilities for this purpose.

By order of Maj. General TAYLOR:

W. W. S. BLISS, Ass't Adj't Gen.
The Ohio and Indiana regiments under Gen. Lane, and the 13th Infantry and Massachusetts regiment, with Deas’s (late Washington’s) battery, under Gen Cushing, being ordered to Vera Cruz, and Hay's regiment being sent to the same point, let us see what troops are left on the Rio Grande line.

Gen Wool's command at Buena Vista and Saltillo will consist of the Virginia, North Carolina, and 2d Mississippi regiments of volunteers and Maj Chevalie’s three companies of Texas Rangers.

Gen Taylor at Valnut Springs will have only Lieut Col Fauntleroy’s squadron of dragoons and Maj Bragg’s battery.

The 16th Infantry, Col Tibbatts, and the 10th Infantry, Col Temple, will garrison the Monterey, Cerralvo, Camargo, Reynosa and Matamoros.

The squadron of the 3d Dragoons, Col Butler, and two companies of volunteer cavalry from Alabama and Illinois remain unassigned. A portion of the dragoons are at Mier, and it is conjectured that they will remain on the line for escort of trains and like duties. [A correspondent of the National thus sums up the troops who remain between Brazos Island and Buena Vista.]

Distribution of forces on the line of the Rio Grande, after the departure of the force now under marching orders for Vera Cruz:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Troops</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brazos Island</td>
<td>1 Company 1st Artillery 111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Point Isabel</td>
<td>1 Company 4th Artillery 109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Brown</td>
<td>1 Company 2d Artillery 93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matamoros</td>
<td>6 companies, 5 of 10th Infantry 511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camargo, &amp;c.</td>
<td>12 companies, 5 of 10th Infantry, 5 of 3d Dragoons, 1 of 4th Artillery 1133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cerralvo</td>
<td>4 companies 16th Infantry 403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monterey</td>
<td>6 companies 16th Infantry 604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp near Monterey,</td>
<td>5 companies 3d Artillery, 2 2d Dragoons, 1 Mounted Volunteers 413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buena Vista, Saltillo, &amp;c.,</td>
<td>42 companies 2191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number of troops</td>
<td>5568</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A few weeks since it was supposed that Capt. Raylor and his command had been cut off. The Flag gives the following letter from its correspondent, which assures us of Capt. B.’s safety:

Editors Flag——My letter to you of a recent date gave information of an attack by a large body of Mexicans upon a detachment of twenty–seven Texas rangers, commanded by Capt. Baylor, and the probable destruction of the whole part save three, who had effected their escape and got back to this place. So positive were they in their statements that no more could have escaped, that I did not hesitate to express to you my belief that all the rest had been killed. Such was the opinion of ever one here until this morning. Greatly to our relief and much to our astonishment, composing part of an escort to a train which arrived this morning from Monterey, there came Capt. Baylor and all but four of his reported dead companions. There escape was truly miraculous, and knowing that you would like to have a history of it, I have obtained from Capt. B and Lieut. Lee the full particulars.

After visiting and searching several ranchos without finding anything in them which would convict the inhabitants of being concerned in the late robberies of the trains, Capt. B. left them unmolested and proceeded on to a rancho, called Las Tablos, situated on the river Salinas. Here a large quantity of good were found, and $500 in American money. The goods and money were taken and packed upon the mules, the rancho was burnt, and several Mexicans made prisoners. With the booty and prisoners, Capt. B started for the Monterey road, and had proceeded about a mile and a half from the burnt rancho, when he found himself in the presence of 300 Mexicans, who were ambushed in the chaparral skirting a plain over which the road ran. Between the road and the river was another chaparral thicket extending to the river. The lancers charged before Capt. B could gain the thicket next to the river, and in this charge four of his men were killed. The thicket gains, the rangers dismounted, and protected by the bushes twice repulsed the lancers, killing fifteen, and forced them to retire beyond the reach of their rifles. Taking advantage of this, the rangers left their horses, boot and prisoners, and descending an almost perpendicular bluff, fifty feet high, they crossed the river. Marching by circuitous routes and avoiding ranchos, the party at length reached Monterey, where they were again remounted for service and arrived here this morning as I have mentioned above. The three who made their way to this place and gave the account which I sent you, were separated from the main part by the first charge, and judged that they were all killed, by the firing having ceased, and seeing the enemy in possession of their horses.
Capt. Baylor leaves to day with the train for Camargo and on his return, if I am not misinformed, the Mexicans will hear from him again. Maj. Graham commands the escort going down with the train, and has with him upwards of one hundred dragoons and rangers. With this force he will return and go in search of the robbers who have been so bold of late.

The following is from the Flag of the 25th ult.:

Retaken.---The report which was noticed in last Wednesday's paper of the taking of some thirty or forty pack mules beyond Cerralvo, by a party of Mexicans, is confirmed. The attack was made between Ramos and Marine, and we regret to learn that a clerk of Mr. Taniere, of this city, by the name of Merchant, was killed. Gen. Lane, who was proceeding to headquarters, in company with the escort immediately collected ten men—his son among the number—who volunteered their services and made after the robbers. The general, being an old back woodsman, proceeded to headquarters, in company with the escort immediately collected ten men—his son among the number—who volunteered their services and made after the robbers. The general, being an old back woodsman, soon ascertained their "whereabouts," and his party no sooner appeared to the Mexicans, than the latter "vamoosed," leaving the pack mules and all the booty which they had taken, in the hands of the Americans, who delivered the property safely to Monterey. The goods belonged to Mr. Taniere.

[From the Flag of the 28th ult.]

The attack on the mule train near Papagallas, on the 31st of July, of which mention was made in the Flag of the 11th inst., was incorrectly reported to us, as we are informed by one of the party present at the time, and we make the following correction from his statement:

The train consisted of thirty-eight mules, and one wagon loaded with merchandise belonging to individuals; two of them were proceeding with the train. The escort consisted of only four persons, C. R. Gleason, John Brennan, Daniel Dowty and James Bartlett, the three last named late members of Capt. Gray's disbanded company. In company at the time of the attack were Dr. Dickenson and two French gentlemen sent out by the authorities of New Orleans to take the bust of Gen. Taylor—the Frenchmen traveling in an ambulance. About 1 o'clock on the 31st ult., the day being excessively hot and the escort wearied, a halt was called at a shady spot near the road, and the party dismounted to refresh themselves. They had remained in this situation a half hour or more when they were alarmed by the Mexican bugle charge sounding from different directions. As soon as the charge was sounded Mr. Gleason ordered all to mount, and they did so, with exception of Dr. Dickenson who horse took to fright and ran off. Mr. Gleason, who is an old Texan and one of the Mier prisoners, immediately ascertained that the attacking party numbered several hundred, and remarking that the only hope was in flight, dashed off into the chaparral, followed by the remainder of the escort. The Frenchman sprang to the ambulance and the driver put his horses to their speed on the Monterey road. Mr. Dickenson was unable to follow, and before he could secrete himself in the chaparral the Mexicans were in sight. As soon as he was discovered they commenced firing and advancing upon him. Having a six-shooter, the doctor determined to sell his life as dearly as possibly. Allowing four of them to come close up, he was enabled to kill two, mortally wound a third, and after a hand-to-hand encounter with the fourth, finally effected his escape.

A few pursued the ambulance, but the main force was drawn towards the train, and as soon as the possession of it was obtained, the bugle sounded a recall and the pursuers all returned without having overtaken the ambulance, which had not proceeded far before a train was met coming down from Monterey escorted by a detachment of dragoons.

The two teamsters were killed, one receiving six balls in his body, and the other had his skull crushed with the butt of a musket and a saber cut across his abdomen nearly severing him in two. All the mules and packs were captured, also the baggage wagon containing much valuable clothing and about $1500 in money.

Some ten or a dozen cases of yellow fever are reported at the Brazos, and several persons have died. The fever originated on board vessels from New Orleans, and is as yet confined to the crews of those vessels. There is no hospital on Brazos Island, and we understand objection has been made to yellow fever patients entering hospital at Point Isabel.

Ex. President and Gen. M. B. Lamar, (now Capt. Lamar, commanding a company of Texan rangers) was in Mier a few days ago, with a detachment of his command on his way from Laredo to Gen. Taylor's camp. Capt. Lamar, we understand, is anxious to be relieved from his post at Laredo, and will apply to Gen. Taylor for this purpose.--We are happy to hear that he is in excellent health.

FATAL AFFRAY.---On Saturday last two Mexicans having quarreled about the paltry sum of three rials, made a "affair of honor" out of the quarrel, and betook themselves to a convenient spot near Fort Paredes to settle the difficulty. With well sharpened knives the parties commenced stabbing and cutting one another, and continued to fight until both were severely wounded. One of them received a cut in the arm, which bled so profusely as to cause him to sink exhausted on the ground and the fight ended. He was conveyed home and received surgical aid, but died on Tuesday last.

PASSENGERS BY THE TELEGRAPH—P. Henley, lady and 2 children; Dr. Craig, U. S. A. Capt. L. H. Curtis, 3d regiment Ohio Volunteers; Mrs. M. Black; R. Schuyler, R. L. Ogden, Capt. Webster, Dr. Dickerson, Capt. C. Rains, W. G. Brown, A. Phelps, M.J. Ferris, A. Leader, Capt. Geo. W. McCerren and son, and 37 sick and discharged soldiers. [BRM]
By the arrival here, yesterday, of the steamship Yacht, Capt. Crane, from Galveston the 1st inst. We have received papers from that port to the date of our departure. We take the following from the Civilian of the 30th ult.:

A Wreck.—The brig Kimbal, Capt. Burpur, from East Thomaston, which left this port six days ago for Mobile with 500 bbls of lime, experienced a heavy gale on the Gulf, and on Friday last, the captain being apprehensive of fire, or rather thinking a fire had actually broken out from the smoke of the slaking lime, attempted to put back to this port; but in the storm of that night—a violent gale blowing all night—this vessel went ashore on the beach several miles below this city. On the next day (Saturday) the vessel having been abandoned, was sold with every thing belonging to her, by the wreck master, for the benefit of the underwriters. She sold for $700. By great exertions, we learn that the purchasers had been able to secure most of her tackle yesterday. But last night, about one o’clock, the fire broke out, and, as we learn consumed the hull to the water’s edge, with the exception of the anchors, rigging, &c. the whole it a total loss.

The following articles are from the Austin Democrat, of the 21st ultimo:

Five companies of Col. Hays’s new regiment left San Antonio, for Mier, on Friday the 13th inst. The companies of Captain Highsmith and Gillet, we believe, are the only ones of the regiment left on our frontier. The former is stationed, for the present, at Fredericksburg, and we are informed that the latter is placed at some point on or near the Nueces, not yet designated. Lieut. Colonel Bell is now in command of the remaining frontier forces.

Through the politeness of Capt. Highsmith, we have been favored with the perusal of a letter from San Antonio dated the 17th inst., in which it is stated that some person recently arrived in that place from Monterey, who brought the intelligence that Major Chevalle’s command had not long since been attacked by about eight hundred guerrillas and after a short skirmish, was compelled, from inferiority of numbers, to sound a retreat; though, as the writer of the letter from San Antonio says, “not without giving a good account of themselves.” It is also stated that there is a large increase of the guerrillas between Mier and Saltillo.

CROPS—The News of the 28th ult. Says: Our account of the Cotton crop from every part of the State continues extremely favorable. Every planter is now engaged with his whole force in picking. The weather could not be better for gathering the Cotton in the finest condition.”

Extract of a letter dated, Marshall, Harrison county Aug. 3d, 1847: “The crops here are of luxuriant perfection, and unprecedented abundance crowns the labors of the husbandman. Wealth and population are flowing in and the whole country bears the marks of prosperity.

“The election for Governor is exciting some degree of interest among us. Mr. Van Zandt has the popular strength throughout this region, and his popularity is advancing with rapid strides.”

THE INDIAN TRIBES.—Santa Anna, the principal chief of the Camanches, came into Fredericksburg on the 14th ultimo, and held a talk with Captain Grumbles, commanding the Ragern there. He stated that he had feared a hostile attack from the Americans, which induced him to move off and take the women and children of the tribe to a place of safety. He said he knew that the Americans suspected his tribe of having taken or killed the four men of Hay’s party sometime since, and though it prudent to take off the women and children, so that they would be safe in case that there should be any troubles with the whites. So soon as he had removed the women and children to a place of security, he hastened to Fredericksburg, in order to explain to Major Neighbors, if he should find him there, the cause of his sudden departure. He regretted very much that Major Neighbors had left before his arrival, and stated that he would hasten to the Trading House on the Brassos, where he was told Neighbors had gone. He informed Captain Grumbles that the four men of the surveying party were taken and subsequently killed by Wacoés and that he was present at a dance over their scalps. He intimated the great necessity of some step being taken forthwith by the Americans to put a stop to the depredations of the Wacoés; and stated his determination of causin them all to be killed by his own tribe, if the whites should fail to act in the matter immediately, inasmuch as the depredations committed by them were attributed to Camanches. He professed the sincerest friendship towards the Americans, and expressed a desire to continue friendly. He has recently been made Head Chief of all the bands of Camanches that are in the habit of hunting on our border, and says he will, as far as possible, preserve peace with our people.

He received a pass to enable him to go to San Antonio, whence he would repair to Torry's trading house to meet Maj. Neighbors.

THE NEXT LEGISLATURE.—At Austin, they were making preparation for the coming session of the Legislature, New dwellings are being erected by some; others are repairing, painting and whitewashing, and some of the merchants are enlarging their store houses in order to make ample room for the extensive stocks of fall and winter goods, provisions, &c., which they have ordered. The tavern keepers are also busy in fitting up their premises.
and moving their houses, so as to be fully prepared to accommodate those who may favor them with their patronage during the ensuing season, with all the comforts and conveniences that are necessary to give perfect satisfaction.

[BRM]

RW47v24n72p4c1, September 14, 1847, THE MEXICAN NEWS

Our city was thrown into as much excitement on yesterday, by the arrival of the long expected news from Mexico. Of it accuracy in the main, we do not entertain a doubt. We have never had the smallest doubt that our troops would disperse those of Mexico whenever they met them in the field, nor were our impressions at all weakened by the report that they had occupied in great force the almost impregnable pass of Pinon. Col. Napior pronounces these so called impregnable passes in ranges of mountains, a humbug after all, for he says they may in front, there is always some way to turn them, and get in their rear. No general would attack them, of course, in front when he could pass around them, and thus render their strength of no avail.—This, it appears, has been the course of Gen. Scott on the present occasion. While the enemy were looking out for him in front, he was amusing them with a feint in that direction, at the same time that he was quietly gaining their rear, with the main body of his army.

Various reasons have been assigned for general’s not having entered the city before the 21st. Apart from the wish which he might very naturally entertain to avoid wounding the feelings of a crushed enemy, any farther that he could possibly avoid, it is probable that he had deep reasons of a military nature for not taking his entrée at that time. The Spaniards in the Peninsular war, though they proved themselves to be what the French called them "lambs in the field," were nevertheless[illigible]ions behind walls. Napoleon blamed his generals for attacking them as they did at Saragossa, thus causing an immense waste of blood, and rendering the almost entire destruction of the city so absolutely necessary before they could be driven from their strongholds. The plan had pursued at Madrid, was essentially different. Had he entered that city before it was evacuated by the forces of the enemy, it is more than probable, that when the columns of his large army had become entangled in its long and narrow streets, they would have been attacked by the Spaniards, when the scenes of Saragossa might have been anticipated by several weeks. Knowing these facts, he encamped with fifty thousand men, and two hundred pieces of cannon, in such a position that he could burn the city to the ground in a few hours, and sent them word that he gave them twenty–four hours to evacuate it. Finding that he did not intend to give them the opportunity to attack him at a disadvantage, the Spanish soldiery, mingling with the populace, gave way to all the excesses of brutal and hopeless fury, quarreling with each other, and spending the night in mutual destruction. Napoleon himself compared the appearance of Madrid, to that huge beast caught in the toils, and venting its impotent fury in loud and terrific, but unavailing cries. However, his threat had its due effect, for on the morrow, Madrid was evacuated and the French army entered in triumph.

Some such reasons as this, may probable have induced Gen. Scott to delay en'ering the city, hereby exposing his troops to an attack—an exposure which, we take it, would have been entirely unnecessary, since he had the game in his own hands. We have no doubt that before shi day, he has already realized the long promised feat, of reveling in the Halls of Montezumas.

The question which every man most naturally will first ask is, are we now to have peace? We hope so with all our hearts, and we think we can see very evident signs of its near approach. It is true, we dread the return of peace on one account, and that is, the settlement of the terms—compromising, as it is but too apt to do, the surrender of territory on the part of Mexico, and the consequent introduction of the terrific sectional question with which it is so intimately connected. We say terrific, and we say so from the bottom of our hearts; for there has never been one in our time at least, nor do we believe there has never been one since the Revolution, involving consequences of such fearful, such absolutely awful moment. Still we want peace first—peace above all things—peace at the sacrifice of anything but the national honor. By a speedy peace, we hope the Executive may be induced to forego its cherished design of conquering the whole of Mexico, and destroying its national existence; a design, upon the execrable nature of which, it has been our duty more than once to express our opinion.

The character of the Spaniard has stood out most conspicuously throughout the whole of this Mexican war.—The same overweening arrogance—the same pompous pronunciamentos—the same spirit of gasconade and braggadocio—distinguish each era, and both people. It may be said too, that the Mexican proclamations, like the Spanish, have always been the prelude to defeat, and that loud professions of patriotism and resolutions to die in the last ditch, have always ushered in shameful flight or still more shameful capitulation.—The Mexican seems to be the true son of the Spaniard, with every trait of descent most distinctly preserved.

The next arrival from Vera Cruz will no doubt bring the official account of these proceedings. It is expected with intense anxiety by every body, but more especially by that very considerable class of persons who have friends and relatives in the army of Gen. Scott.

[BRM]

RW47v24n72p4c3, September 14, 1847, AMERICAN ARMS AGAIN VICTORIOUS
New Orlean’s Picayune, Sept. 3rd.

The Mexicans defeated by Gen. Scott in two distinct engagements.

THE CITY OF MEXICO IS AT OUR MERCY.


The steamship Fashion, Capt. O’Brady, arrived yesterday evening from Vera Cruz, by the way of Tampico. She left Vera Cruz on the 27th of August, and Tampico on the 29th.

The News of this arrival is the most important we have received in many months from Mexico. Our army has not only advanced to the city of Mexico, but it has had two engagements with the enemy close under the walls of the city and defeated them. The Mexicans have been brought to supplicate a suspension of arms, and General Scott has granted it. The Mexican Congress has been convoked to take into consideration Mr. Trist’s propositions.

The news was received in Vera Cruz on the evening of the 26th ult. By an express courier from Orizaba, who brought down the following letter to Mr. Dimond, the collector at Vera Cruz, to whose courtesy we are indebted for the use of the letter, which we proceed to give:

Orizaba, August 25th, 1847.

My dear friend—The Mexican mail, which has at last come in, brings the following intelligence, which the copy from the Diario Oficial del Gobierno. Being of so great importance, I send you this express, courier, who will be with you to morrow about 12 o’clock.

On the 20th two brigades commanded by General Valencia and Santa Anna, went out to attack the Americans near San Angel. Valencia’s division has been completely defeated, and Santa Anna after the first recontre, fell back also in disorder to the city.

They immediately after this asked for a suppression of hostilities, and offered to hear the propositions of peace from Mr. Trist.

The next day the minister of foreign relations invited the congress, through the newspapers to meet for that purpose.

These are the great facts which no doubt will bring after them peace. Your, truly.

F.M. Dimond, Eq.

*Another letter say Los Llales de San Angel.

Another express arrived in Vera Cruz on the 26 th with letters containing the same news in substance and the following:

[Translated from the Diario Oficial del Gobierno]

On the 20th August Scott’s troops, who intended marching on Penon, turned [away from] it and arrived near Tacubaya. As soon as the news was known at Mexico Valencia’s division went out to attack the Americans at Los Llanos de San Angel, and was completely routed. Next came Santa Anna with another division, which shared the same fate after some fighting. The Mexicans retreated to the capital in great disorder, and such was the panic created by their defeat that the minister of foreign relations immediately convoked the congress to take into consideration Mr. Trist’s proposition. A suspension of arms was demanded by the Mexicans and granted. The Americans are around Mexico, but had not entered the city on the 21st.

Such are the meager details which we have of these important events. No couriers from Gen. Scott’s army direct have been able to get through, so far as we can learn.—But from the foregoing statements it is manifest that Gen Scott holds the city of Mexico at his command. That Gen. Scott did not choose to enter the city is manifest. He was doubtless deterred from entering it by a desire to save the pride of the Mexicans when upon the even of important negotiations. It is now supposed that the extraordinary courier which left Vera Cruz for Mexico on the 12th ult, a day in advance of the regular English courier, was the bearer of instructions to the British minister to offer again his mediation; and we think we may safely say that he was instructed to do so if possible before Gen Scott entered the capital. We believe the instructions were positive, and no doubt they were obeyed. Having absolute confidence in this representation of the acts of the English Government we think it reasonable to suppose that Gen Scott was influenced by a knowledge of this mediation to trust again to the efforts of Mr Trist to negotiate a peace, and so spared the Mexicans the humiliation of the armed occupation of their capital. His characteristic humanity may also be presumed to have strongly influenced him to save Mexico from the violence of a hostile occupation. We may recur to
this point and to the prospects of peace which some may now entertain.

We have given some of the rumors current in Vera Cruz as to the fall of Mexico. They are evidently founded on imperfect rumors of the real state of facts. The rumors circulated here that Santa Anna and Valencia were taken prisoners we believe are totally unfounded.

In regard to the train under Maj. Lally, the intelligence is favorable. We are informed from a very responsible source that he is known to have passed Perot and been on his way in safety to Puebla. He made some delay in Jalapa. Our readers may be interested in what is said of the movements of the train prior to its leaving Jalapa in the Sun on Anahuac.

The Boletin of Jalapa, says that the train, after having been attacked at Cerro Gordo, retired to the Plan, at the same time the guerrillas also retired. On the following day the train commenced marching for Jalapa, and on Thursday evening, had not yet entered that place. On the 19th it was reported at Jalapa that the Guerrillas would attack our troops near that place, and all the evening the road from near a mile was covered with men, women and children, whom curiosity had attracted there. This have rise to a firing of cannon and musketry from our troops, and the citizens succeeded in reaching their home without receiving any injury.

At 11 o'clock on the 19th Major Lally inquired of the alcalde whether the citizens of Jalapa would commit hostilities against the Americans if the entered, or not. To which the alcalde answered, that the population was unarmed; but that a number of guerrillas being in the neighborhood he could not take the responsibility of their actions. On the morning of the 20th the train of wagons and the troops entered the city. The Boletin says that the wagons are filled were sick and wounded.

Yesterday [the 24th. ult.] it was rumored in Vera Cruz that Father Jarauta had attacked the train a short distance the other side of Jalapa, but that he had been driven back by our troops, with loss on both sides.

In addition to the foregoing we have been favored with the two notes following, the first of which is a translation from the Spanish:

JALAPA, August 20, 1847.

The American army, after much suffering on the road, has been again attacked at Dos Rios by 700 guerillas, and badly enough treated. Even before the entrance into Jalapa there was some firing. Last night, at 9 o'clock, the Americans entered the city firing and retreated on minus. He was lassoed by one of the guerillas. This morning they sent a flag of truce to the Ayunta Miento (City Council) to ascertain whether they should enter as friends or foes, but without awaiting an answer they began to enter and continued up to 1, P.M., when all got in. There are 76 wagons and 895 men, among whom 317 are wounded and sick.—Major Lally is sick—the horses are worn out—for which reason it is supposed they will remain here some time.—It is said that Father Jarauta will attack them to-night but nothing positive.

The other note is as follows:

JALAPA, August 23, 1847.

Major Lally, with his command, is still here, and will probably remain here some time. The guerillas have all disappeared from this neighborhood, but to where they have gone I am unable to say. Aburto, the guerilla chief, died in Jalapa a few days since, some say of a wound received in one of the attacks on Major Lally’s command, and others by fever.

We do not entertain any doubt that the train, as mentioned above, has passed Perote and gone on in safety to Puebla.

Intelligence reached Col. Wilson on the morning of the 17th ult., that Lieut. David Henderson, of Capt. Fairchild’s company of dragoons, and his party, who were sent out by Capt. Wells, on the 15th of August, to apprise Major Lally of the approach of reinforcements, were all shot by the guerrillas. There is little or no doubt of the correctness of this sad intelligence. Lieut. Henderson was a resident of New Orleans, and but recently embarked as a volunteer in his country’s service. He was a printer by profession, a man of courage and enterprise, and his fate will be sincerely lamented by his numerous friends.

It is now very generally believed that Capt. Besacon’s company went up with the train under Major Lally.

The following letter gives some facts that we have not before seen, though news promptly reached here of the insurrection on in Yucatan.

[Correspondence of the Picayune]
Gentlemen—On Sunday last the city was startled with the intelligence from Yucatan that the whole Indian population of that State had risen against the whites, and in some districts massacred entirely the whole population with the exception of the women, whom they only spared for a fate still worse than death. The news was received here by the French Consul in a communication from the French Consul at Campeachy, and the massacre he says was universal, no distinction being made except between Indians and whites. In some of the districts the whites have succeeded in reaching the cities and were there waiting succor. There is good reason to hope they will be able to defend themselves until they are reinforced. At Campeachy they were in expectation of an immediate attack.

The French brigs of war La Peyrouse and La Pilate have, it is understood, been ordered to Campeachy, and there is a report that Com. Perry is about ordering down one of the vessels of our squadron. There is, perhaps, some exaggeration in the accounts of the extent of the massacre, but of the main facts there is not a doubt. The Indians in Yucatan have been more oppressed than in any other part of Mexico, because the landholders are generally absentee residents in Spain, and entrust the management of their estates to stewards, who to subserve their own interest, grind the unfortunate Peon to the dust.

An express arrived here on Tuesday from Alvarado to Com. Perry, with information that the guerrillas had attacked that place the night before and killed a surgeon and two marines in that town. The steamers Petrita and Scorpion were immediately dispatched to reinforce those in possession of the place.

D.S.

In the Sun of Anahuac, of the 25th ult., we find the following note from Mr. Hayes:

Mr. Editor will you do me the favor to correct an error into which you have inadvertently fallen in the account of the march of the small train under the command of Capt. Wells. In the article you give me the command of the detachment—–it was under the command of Corporal Meredith. I accompanied the train on the invitation of Capt. Fairchild, and was of course, temporarily attached to his command; but am entitled to no credit, as I merely performed the usual routine of duty.

I regret the necessity of troubling you, but my silence might be construed into a desire to take credit for acts performed by others.

Respectfully yours,
A.H. HAYES.

The same paper also contains the following orders, no doubt suggested by the escape of Paredes from Vera Cruz:

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 10.
U.S. Flag Ship Germantown,
Anton Lizardo, Aug. 18, 1847.

The senior U.S. naval officer, next in rank to the commander-in-chief, who may be stationed at or near Vera Cruz, is hereby instructed to act in conjunction with the senior officer of the U.S. Quartermaster’s Department at Vera Cruz, and the collector of the port, as a commissioner to make the necessary appointment of pilots, officers connected with the duties of the port, light-house keepers, superintendent of signals, &c., to establish regulations for their government, and to have cognizance of all matters connected with the departments above mentioned, being careful not to interfere with the military authorities of the city and castle.

M.C. PERRY
Commanding Home Squadron,

To the senior U.S.N. officer stationed at Vera Cruz.

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GENERAL ORDERS, No. 11
U.S. Flag Ship Germantown,
Anton Lizardo, Aug. 18, 1847.

All vessels, excepting army steamers and transports, arriving at ports in Mexico held by the United States forces, are to be visited by a boat from the general ship of the day, or any single vessel of the squadron, that may be in port for the purpose of tendering the usual compliment of services to foreign vessels of war, and detecting any irregularities in foreign mail steamers or merchant vessels, whether foreign or American.

It is desirable when it be practicable, that the boarding officer should be a lieutenant.

M.C.PERRY,
Commanding Home Squadron.
The following notice from the collector of Vera Cruz is important to travelers:

NOTICE.—Passengers arriving at this port without passports from the American Consul, resident at the port they embark from, will not be allowed to leave the vessel, and the master of any vessel permitting such passengers to land will be fined $500 for each and every passenger landed and the vessel held responsible for the same.

F.M. DIMOND, Collector.

Collector’s Office, Vera Cruz, Aug. 25, 1847.

The following passengers came over the Fashion:


From the N.O. Delta, 3d inst.

Extract of a letter from an officer at Vera Cruz under date of the 27th August, 1847

“Your correspondents have doubtless informed you that Gen Scott reached the city of Mexico on the (I have not the date at hand.) Worth went around behind the city, and cut off the water. Valencia, with a larger force salied out of the city, met Gen Scott, fought a little while, and then vamoosed into the city. Santa Anna then brought out a force and fought some time, but retreated into the city in great disorder---convoked the Congress, and sent out for a cessation of hostilities, expressing himself willing to treat with Mr. Trist. Hostilities ceased---Scott surrounding the city. There is no doubt of the correctness of this information. Some think peace will soon be established, but nobody thinks so in Vera Cruz. Maj Lally was heard from beyond Ponce, on his way to Puebla, not molested.”

The following from our regular Vera Cruz correspondent, was scribbled off very hastily, just at the Fashion was about to leave:

August 27, 1847:

EDITORS DELTA—Every conceivable variety of rumor relative to the movements of the Great General and his generals, have been afloat for several days past, but none having the color of authenticity about them. I omit sending them to you. This morning, however, a rumor found its way from the interior, which leads to the belief that Scott has had two most decisive battles, in both of which the American arms were successful. The first of these was with Valencia who hid his shard of the amusement with the advance guard; and the other was between the General himself and Santa Anna. The best and most authentic information I have received is, that the armies of both Valencia and Santa Anna have been dispersed; that the city is in the state of confusion and panic, and Congress has been summoned together, to take into consideration the propositions of Mr. Trist. That these rumors are better founded than any that have been received for some time I have no doubt. But in a day or two more, when the regular news comes here from Mexico, we shall either a confirmation of it, or otherwise.

P.S.—I have just time to inform you that the prisoners taken from Well’s train, (Lieut Henderson an 13 men,) have been, according to a Mexican who arrived here this morning, SHOT. He says he saw them shot.

D. Harden, of the Louisiana Battalion, died this morning, after a protracted illness. He will be buried this afternoon. Capt. White’s company is still at Tampico.

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Official Report of Capt. Wells

CAMP BAGARA, Aug. 19, 1847.

Sir—I have the honor to report for the information of the Colonel Commanding, that on the morning of the 13th inst., in obedience to his orders, I proceeded, with my command, composed of Captain Haile’s company 14th Infantry, E company of the 12th Infantry, commanded by Lieut. Wyche, and Captain Fairchild’s company of Louisiana Rangers, in all seven officers and two hundred and one rank and file. The train was composed of two ambulances, each drawn by four good horses, fit for the service in which they were employed, and nice wagons drawn by half broken down but still unbroken Mexican mules, with which it would have been difficult for me to have fulfilled my orders even I there had been no enemy to contend with. The commanding officer was not mounted and was under the mortifying necessity of dismounting a dragoon and taking a horse when circumstances were such that he could not possible perform his duty on foot. Such was the command with which my orders required me to traverse a
country and pass a bridge and fortification which no less than eight hundred men, supported by artillery, had heretofore attempted. I had not proceeded four miles from camp when it became necessary to throw out a part of my provisions; and it was then only with the aid of my infantry, and the extraordinary exertions of the active and efficient wagon master (Mr. Booley) who accompanied the train that the wagons could be forced up the sand hill. I reached Santa Fe and encamped for the night. The next morning I pursued the march, the enemy appearing on the flank, but evidently with no intention of attacking us. A few shots were exchanged between them and Captain Fairchild’s company, who had left the road to give chase. I arrived at Juvento del Rio about nine o’clock at night and encamped. Here I judged myself to be within six miles of Major Lally’s camp. The next morning I directed Captain Fairchild to detach an officer (Lieutenant Henderson) and thirteen men with the orders to proceed to Major Lally’s camp, and report my advance, provided he could prudently do so and the distance did not exceed six miles, but by no means to go beyond that distance, but to return and report the condition of the road to me. This command was accompanied by Dr. Cooper of the army and two of the Georgia Volunteers. I regret to inform you that I have not since heard of this detachment, and I am ignorant of its fate. I pursued the march until about ten o’clock, with difficulty getting the mules along, and at Pass La Beja, whilst the train was on the bridge, and the troops were getting water, the enemy appeared in force in front, on the hill, and commenced a fire upon us; some of the shots were also fired from the rear. After the necessary preparations were made, I detached Capt. Haile. Haile with his company through the chaparral to gain the flank, and if possible the rear. This service was promptly and gallantly performed, whilst the command was ascending the hill. He gave them a fire which put them into immediate flight. I ordered Lieut. Morrelle, of Capt. Fairchild’s company, with twenty men mounted to hold the horses near the bridge until the train had ascended the hill. The rear, however, was not attacked at this place. We continued our march, dispersing the enemy before us, until dark; when, as the train was passing a bridge within three miles of Puerto Nacional, the enemy opened his fire from the hills, within two hundred yards of the command, the balls generally ranging too high; the fire was so promptly returned that they were soon driven from their position, and, I think, with considerable loss.---Here, as I had previously intended, I ordered the troops to encamp. The wagons were placed in a safe position, the white covers taken off, the horses placed under shelter, and everything disposed for a quiet night’s rest, which my men so much required. At three o’clock next morning I had the men under arms, and detached Lieut. Wyche with a part of his company through the chaparral, to gain a position on the hill side to be ready when the enemy should advance to attack. Just at daybreak they appeared on the hill with a drum beating and firing into our camp. I did not return the fire, but ordered Capt. Haile with his company to pass up the hill to the left of the road and again their flank. They continued their music for about twenty minutes, when Capt. Haile suddenly fired upon them and was after them with the bayonet, much to the amusement of our troops, who could see them from the opposite side of the bridge. Lieut. Wyche had gained his position and was lying in wait, but they did not approach sufficiently near. I held the hill with my infantry until the train was ready to move. I was now within about three miles of Puerto Nacional. The enemy had attacked us three times in force, and was always routed, with the loss, on our part of a man. The only loss sustained was on horse wounded and three muskets rendered unserviceable by musket balls. It was so reported to me this morning by the wagon master that one of the mule teams could proceed no farther; I was compelled in consequence to destroy my tents and leave one wagon. The other mules I had no hope of getting much beyond Puerto Nacional, and had determined that if I did not find Maj. Lally near there, to destroy all the wagons and property, and with four days provisions in the haversacks, and the mail and ammunition, and some light baggage in the ambulances, to join him by forced march. Every thing being in readiness I commenced the march about half-past nine in the morning. Before this time I was fully satisfied that the enemy occupied Puerto Nacional in force. The tracks of unshod horses in the road left no doubt of that. My orders were positive; no direction was allowed me, and according to my ideas of military service, I felt bound to proceed in the execution of my order, until it was proved without the possibility of a doubt that it could not be carried out. My force was too small to detach any part of it to endeavor to turn the position. I accordingly made my dispositions so as to sacrifice the least possible number of my troops. With thirty picked men under the command of Lt. Cheney, 14th Infantry, extended to six paces, I descended towards the bridge. This detachment was ordered to keep at least one hundred yards in front of the mounted men. After the mounted men with some interval, marched Lieut. Wyche’s company; next came the train followed by Capt. Haile’s company, who were ordered to close on and protect it, in case it should be charged. The rear guard, commanded by Lieut. Morrelle, of Captain Fairchild’s company, followed after Capt. Haile’s company. I halted the command on the slope of the hill, continuing to [illegible] myself, with Lieut. Cheney’s command, hoping to draw the enemy’s fire, without further ex[illegible] my troops. All was, however still—nothing could be seen. I directed the advance to move upon the bridge, ordered up the main body, and took my position in person near the bridge, where I could direct the advance, or order a retreat as one might prove practicable, or the other necessary. The rear of the command had scarcely got in motion, when the enemy opened their fire from the forts and heights with muskets, escopets, and artillery, and shoved themselves in such numbers and position, that I perceived at once that in passing the bridge, they must necessarily inflict upon me such a loss in killed and wounded, that it would be impracticable for me to advance or retire. I therefore directed the fire to be returned, and the retreat commenced; and withdrew my troops from under the fire of this strong place, with the loss of only four men killed, and one man and two horses wounded. One of the ambulances was quickly turned and gained the top of the hill—the other, in the act of turning, had one of his horses killed, and could not be brought off. The mules were of course more unmanageable than ever, and as soon as the enemy perceived that we were retiring the concentrated their whole fire upon the train. Half the mules were almost instantly shot down and the teamsters compelled to abandon their wagons. The enemy now displayed a strong force outside the fort, and was moving to gain our rear. I now moved off my command, which had been halted at the top of the hill, just beyond the effective range of the enemy’s guns, and abandoned the train, which I could not possibly have brought off, nearly all the mules having been either killed or wounded; and to have blown up the ammunitions or saved anything from the wagons would have been to sacrifice men, which it was not evident I had not to spare, and would have compelled to leave my wounded, as I had not the means of transporting them. All the property, as well the personal baggage of the officers, was lost, and some despatches

Which I ordered Capt Haile to keep in his trunk as the safest place, were also lost. The mail intended for the army was, however, saved, and the only wounded man brought from the field.
The enemy’s force occupying the forts I could not estimate with any degree of accuracy; it was certainly several times my own, and there was also a considerable force outside. Nothing was left now for me to do but force my way through the enemy in the rear and return by rapid marches to this place. The enemy appeared on every side during the day, and I was compelled to proceed with the greatest caution, always holding one hill until my infantry gained possession of the next in front, by a fatiguing march through the chaparral. This laborious duty fell principally upon Capt. Haile. I continued my march at night, but after dark I met with no further opposition from the enemy, and arrived the next morning at Santa Fe.

The next day I arrived and encamped at this place. In conclusion, I must be permitted speak of the officers who so ably sustained me on this trying march; Capt Haile, of the 14th Infantry, I had frequently to detach on laborious and dangerous service, and it was universally performed in a manner that called forth my warmest admiration. Lieutenant Wyche, 12th Infantry, though sick, was with his company, and rendered important service. Lt. Cheney, 14th Infantry, who commanded the advance on the 16th, I was compelled to glance in a most dangerous position at the bridge, and his coolness and bravery were conspicuous. To Lieut Morrelle of Capt Fairchild’s company, and the twenty brave volunteers who composed his command, my thanks are also particularly due. I had assigned him the duty of holding heights and protecting the rear. He selected his positions with judgment, and I frequently saw from the front his men charging and firing upon the guerrillas who were annoying the rear. Mr Hayes, of N. Orleans, accompanied the command as an amateur, and was always a volunteer whenever dangerous or difficult service was to be performed.

I am, sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J.M. Wells,
Capt. 12th Infantry, Com’dg Detachment.

LIEUT. ARTHUR,
A.A. Adjutant General, Vera Cruz
[BRM]

RW47v24n72p4c5, September 14, 1847, GEN. PAREDES

We have a letter from Vera Cruz, dated the 19th of August, which mentions a rumor current there that General Paredes had reached Orizaba, and was at the head of three hundred men. No other particulars are mentioned. From the tone in which our correspondent speaks of the rumor, we infer that he attaches no consequence to it. We observe in the Vera Cruz papers speculation upon the probable designs of Paredes and his chances of success. They are not of a character so plausible that we deem it necessary to reproduce them. But a few days will elapse before we may expect to receive authentic accounts of his movements. New Orleans Picayune, 3rd inst.

[BRM]

RW47v24n73p1c1, September 17, 1847, THE GREAT BATTLE

We have at length authentic and highly interesting intelligence from Gen. Scott’s camp—intelligence of a brilliant but bloody victory, after perhaps the most severely contested battle fought since the commencement of the war. The letter of Mr. Kendall, of the Picayune, gives a more connected and satisfactory account of the events of the 19th and 20th of August, than any other narrative we have seen, though it is not so full as that of the Delta’s correspondent in its history of the skillfully planned and courageously executed affair of the morning of the 29th, in which Gen. Persifer F. Smith so signalily distinguished himself. We subjoin that portion of the Delta’s narrative:

"At 3 o’clock on the morning of the 20th, the movement commenced, which was so slow that daybreak appeared before the head of Caldwell’s brigade commenced ascending the ravine at the village. As soon as Col. Riley ascended the hill and came in full view of the enemy, they opened a severe fire on Riley’s forces.

"Our correspondent then continues—"Col Riley threw out his two advance divisions as skirmishes, and said—’Now boys give them hell; close in with them, and let the bayonet do its work,’ and his command rushed down the slope with a yell and enthusiasm enough to strike terror to the heart of the boldest, while the rear of his command moved steadily forward as if they were all made of one piece. The Sappers and Miners and Rifle Regiment, which had been thrown across a ravine intervening between the one they passed up, and under the brow of the slope Col. Riley came down, from that position poured in a fire which swept in front of Col. Riley’s column, then inclining towards their left, joined in the attack of the troops outside of the left flank of the fort. Gen Cadwalader followed the route taken by Col. Riley and soon as his troops were formed, moved on to his support. The first brigade, which was bringing up the rear, had been ordered to follow the same route—while it was on its march by the right flank of the ravine, and nearly opposite the fort, Gen Smith ordered the brigade to face to the left and advance in line to attack the enemy’s force in flank—this movement was executed in less time than it takes me to write it—they met the enemy outside of the fort just as Col. Riley’s brigade rushed into it—the enemy was completely routed, and commenced a precipitate retreat—their cavalry and infantry had been formed to receive the
The reader will find, in our columns to–day, a list of the officers killed and wounded in the late sanguinary conflict near the city of Mexico. Among them he will recognize the names of several Virginians,—Thornton, Easley and Johnson among the dead, and Graham among the wounded.

But all of the incidents which go to illustrate the horrors of war, we have seen none which presents them to the mind in a more striking and powerful manner than the present condition of the South Carolina regiment of volunteers. They left their homes six months ago, about 800 strong. Of this number, 140 died at Vera Cruz or on the way, in the fort at Veracruz, and 1200 more are left in Mexico, of whom 500 are in hospital, and the remainder in the army. The list of names is a long one, and we shall not attempt to give it here. It will be more interesting to read the experiences of some of the survivors, who have been through the horrors of war, and to hear their own accounts of what they have seen and suffered.

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march to Puebla; 360 were left sick in the various hospitals. About 272 were in a condition to fight at the late battle, and of that number 137, including their gallant Colonel, Pierce M. Butler, were killed—leaving a meager remnant of 135—a moiety of whom may yet perhaps fall in battle or perish by disease before the war shall terminate! What a contrast will the return home of this shattered corps present to the "pride, pomp, and circumstance" which attended their enlistment and departure for the seat of war!

RW47v24n73p1c3, September 17, 1847, FURTHER ACCOUNTS

The Washington Union of Tuesday night publishes several letters from officers of the army to the Departments in Washington. The following is the only one, however which adds any thing to our previous information:

VERA CRUZ, August 31, 1847.

"SIR: I have the honor and satisfaction to inform you that our army has again been crowned with victory; 31,000 Mexicans engaged, with Gen. Santa Anna at their head, our little army, who, with the bayonet, drove them, in two hours, to the gates of the city.

Commissioners were immediately appointed, and negotiations are going on. The protocol appears on the face of it to be dictated by our commissioners. I had an English copy of it to send to you, but Colonel Wilson, for some cause best known to himself, begged it to send to the President.

"I send despatches which I received from Mr. Trist, to the hon. James Buchanan. I cannot conclude without congratulating you, sir, on the mighty conquest, for I feel assured it will result in peace. Paredes will, in my opinion, hurry the conclusion of it. He ought never to have got out, after he got into the city; nevertheless, I firmly believe it will hasten a peace. Valencia made his escape with only two companions to Toluca, where he pronounced against Santa Anna and peace.

"I enclose a copy of a letter which I have received (from a very distinguished officer of the army.)

"With great respect, your obedient servant.

Hon. WILLIAM L. MARCY,
Secretary of War, Washington City.

"I am pleased to add, that the following named persons are the commissioners on the part of Mexico; and more so, because they are considered most friendly disposed for peace, viz;

General Herrera,
Sor. Couto, Lawyer.
General Mora y Villamil,
Sor. Atristain, Lawyer,
Sor. Arroya, Secretary (formerly secretary of legation the United States.

"I have just seen a letter from one of the most respectable English houses to their house here; they say that the Mexicans are so out generalled and so cornered, that they must make peace; but that Gen. Scott says if they do not at once, he will occupy the city with a territorial government—place 5000 troops to open the roads, &c. They speak of the Americans with admiration.

"The country people were already commencing to supply the army with every thing."

Mr. Trist writes to the Secretary of State that the American and Mexican commissioners had had two meetings, and were to have a third and probably last interview on the 30th of August. The Union, however, although it says Scott's victory places the Mexican capital at the mercy of our army, adds: "The issue of this negotiation is not to be counted on with confidence;" as the Mexicans, "after the panic of the moment is passed, may again manifest their insane obstinacy in prolonging the war."

[BRM]

RW47v24n73p1c4, September 17, 1847, BRILLIANT VICTORIES

From the New Orleans Picayune, Sept. 5.

Important from Gen. Scott's Army
BATTLES OF CONTRERAS AND CHURUBUSCO.

Total Defeat of the Mexicans---General Scott encamped within two and a half miles of the City of Mexico---Armistice between the two Armies---Negotiations with Mr. Trist for a Peace commenced.

The U. States steamship Mary Kingland, Capt. John Davis, arrived at an early hour this morning.–By her we have received our letters from Mr. Kendall from the 22nd to the 28th of August, all dated from Tacubaua. A courier dispatched by him on the 29th with the first account of the battle fought on that day, was cut off.

From a map and plan of the battle fields before us, we note that they are called the battles of Contreras and Churubusco--so called from field works of the enemy of those names. The victories were decisive, but as far as we can judge from a hasty perusal of a portion of our letters, the proposition for an armistice was made by Gen. Scott--probably at the suggestion of the British Embassy. The report we have hitherto given that the city of Mexico was at our mercy, appears to have been unfounded.

Should peace not follow from the negotiations now pending, another battle must ensue, the enemy having a force of from fifteen to twenty thousand men yet left. But the road appears to be completely open to us, and the city is only two and a miles form our encampment.

Our victories have been purchased at a vast loss of valuable life, as will be seen by the following list. We see names of men at the loss of whom we weep; but all have their friends, and we make no distinctions.


Our entire loss in killed and wounded is short of eleven hundred; that of the enemy is not well known. His loss in killed alone is believed to be fully equal to our entire loss, and it is estimated that at least 3,000 prisoners were taken. The number of his wounded was not ascertained, but is supposed to be very large. Gen. Scott himself received a wound n the leg below the knee, but from the manner in which Mr. Kendall speaks of it, we are led to hope the injury a slight one.

[EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE PICAYUNE.

Tacubayo, (near Mexico,) August 22, 1847.

The celebrated Archibishop's Palace of Tacubayo is now occupied by Gen. Scott, and a portion of the army, after twice defeating the enemy in two of the hardest fought battles of the war, are quartered immediately around him. I have already sent you off a hurried sketch of the glorious events of the 20th, and even the present letter must be but a hurried synopsis of the battles, which have shed such additional glory upon the American arms.

On the 14th inst. A reconnaissance made by Col. Duncan having proved that a road for artillery and wagons
At 7 o'clock on the morning of the 18th, Gen. Scott arrived at San Augustin, and at 10 o'clock Gen. Worth was in full march for the city of Mexico by the main road. Majors Smith and Turnbill, Capt. Masori and other engineer officers, were sent in advance, supported by Captain Blake’s squadron of dragoons, to reconnoiter, as it was known the enemy was in force at or near San Antonio. The party, when withing a thousand yards, was fired upon from a battery, which was masked by trees, and the first ball from a 12–pounder instantly killed Capt. Thornton of the 2d Dragoons, besides severely wounding a guide, Jonathan Fitzwalters. Col. Garland’s brigade was now ordered to occupy the hacienda of Carrera, within plain sight and range of the enemy’s batteries at San Antonio, while Col. Clarke’s brigade and the battery under Col. Duncan took a station in the rear close by. The engineer officers were at once sent out to reconnoiter by Gen. Worth, to ascertain the practicability of turning the strong works of the enemy, and in the mean time Gen Scott had despatched Capt Lee with a supporting party, composed of Gen’l Kearney’s squadron and a body of the 11th Infantry under Col Graham, to ascertain the practicability of finding a read by which the village of San Angel could be reached, and thus turn the strong hold of San Antonio. This latter party had a sharp encounter with the advance of this enemy, the main body being found posted at a strong point not far from the factory of Coutreras. In the skirmish some six or eight Mexicans were killed, and as many more taken prisoners—on our side not a man was touched. The result of the reconnoissance proved favorable. It was ascertained that a road could be made which would enable the army to reach San Angel, and thus turn the strong batteries of San Antonio and perhaps others the enemy might have upon the road between the and the city of Mexico. The Mexicans were plainly seen in force at a commanding position near Coutreras, and it was evident that they had a number of cannon in position; but at a council held at night, it was determined upon to attack them the following day.

In the meantime, while the reconnaissance was in progress, Gen. Worth had established his headquarters at the hacienda of Curera, while from the windows countless numbers of the enemy could be seen at work upon the batteries of San Antonio. About noon they opened upon the hacienda with both round shot and shell, nearly every one of which took, effect, but without doing other injury than to the building. Late in the evening of the batteries again opened, but with no other result than showing the position of the different guns. For a marvelous the batteries were silent during the night. Had the fire been kept up, the hacienda might have been torn in places and the entire command compelled to retire. Before going farther it may be well to state that the city of Mexico lies about nine miles nearly north of San Augustin, that San Antonio is about 3 miles in the same direction, while the point occupied by Gen. Valencia, near Coutreras, for he had command at that place, is at least three miles in a straight line and in a direction nearly west. It was ten miles the way many of our troops had to march, for you cannot imagine a more rough, uneven and jagged surface.

At 8 o’clock on the morning of the 19th the batteries again opened on Gen. Worth’s position at the hacienda near San Antonio, the balls crushing through the way and filling the rooms with fragments of plaster and broken furniture. Shells also burst in the air over the building and the pieces dropped among the men stationed in the rear. So hot was the fire that the troops were obliged to gain shelter behind the building, but still did not give up the position. About 9 o’clock the divisions of Gens. Pillow and Twiggs were ordered to advance in the direction of Coutreras and by one in the afternoon were in plain sight of the enemy’s batteries, and within range of his heavier
guts. The brigade of Gen. P. F. Smith was ordered to advance directly towards the enemy’s works, while that of Col. Riley moved towards a small village to the right, with orders to gain the main road and thus be enabled to cut off any reinforcements which might be sent to Valencia from the city. An incessant firing of cannon was opened upon the advance of Gen. Smith, and soon the Rifles were engaged in skirmishing with the pickets of the enemy and driving them in. The 12-pounder battery of Capt Maguder, was pressed forward with all speed, as was also the rocket and mountain howitzer battery, now commanded by Lt. Callender of the Ordinance Department. As soon as the could gain a position they opened upon the enemy, but were so much exposed to the fire from heavier guns that they were soon silenced. Lt. Johnson, of the 1st Artillery, but attached to Magruder’s battery, was mortally wounded, while Lt. Callender was severely wounded in both legs. At 3 o’clock the brigade of Gen. Cadwalader was ordered out to support Col. Riley, heavy reinforcements being soon on their way out from the city, while Gen. Pierce’s brigade was sent to sustain Gen. Smith. The firing from the batteries of the enemy continued incessant, while from a hill just outside of the range of their guns, the spectacle was most grand and imposing. At about 4 o’clock Gen Scott arrived, and seeing the immense strength of the Mexicans, at once ordered Gen. Shield’s brigade from San Augustin—a part of Gen, Quitman’s command—to the right support Riley and Cadwalader, and prevent, if possible, a juncture of the forces coming out from the city with those of Valencia. But few of the movements of our own troops could be seen from the hill where we were posted, owing to the dense chaparral, sharp rocks and ravines, but not a motion of the enemy but was plainly visible. The order of battle of Valencia was certainly most imposing—infantry were seen drawn up to support the batteries, while long lines of the enemy’s cavalry were stationed in the rear, as if awaiting the shock of battle. Two separate charges of the latter were distinctly seen repulsed by Col. Riley, who had moved his brigade at one time to a position partially in the rear of the enemy’s work. Col Harney was exceedingly anxious to march his cavalry to the sense of actions, but it was deemed utterly impracticable. The nature of the ground was such that the infantry even had great difficulty in finding the way across the pedregal, as the Mexicans term it—ground covered with sharp, jagged rocks.

Until the night had fairly closed in the fire from the enemy’s batteries did not slacken—it had been a continuous roar for nearly six hours. Gen. Scott retired to San Augustin about 8 o’clock, an in the midst of a hard rain which had just commenced falling. Gens. Twiggs and Pillow came in about 11 o’clock, wet and completely exhausted. It was impossible to use horses on the rough and exceedingly broken ground on which they had been operating for nearly twelve hours. Not anticipating the immense strength of the works of the enemy, or the almost insurmountable difficulties of reaching them, it had been at first thought that the batteries would be taken at a dash, and that the troops would be all comfortably quartered in San Angel for the night; instead of the a large portion of them were compelled to bivouac without blankets in the midst of a pitiless rain, and on ground where they could not even stretch themselves out. Add to this, the prospects of the morrow were far from flattering—were enough to dismay any but the stoutest hearts—that the enemy would doubtless reinforce and strengthen his works during the night, having every superiority in knowledge of the ground—add again to this that the men were weakened by long exertions, want of food, and chilled by the continuous night rain, and it is not saying too much assert that the bivouac of the 19th August was gloomy in the extreme.

Early on the morning of the 20th, Gen. Worth was ordered to move with a part of his division—Garland’s brigade—towards the scene of action at Coutreras, to aid in the attack upon Valencia, for to force this position was deemed indispensable. A few discharges of cannon were heard about 7 o’clock, and a heavy rattling of musketry, and some even said that in the distance they had seen large masses of Mexicans in full flight towards the city; yet few dreamed that the batteries at Coutreras had been stormed and carried. Yet so it was. Gen. Scott himself accompanied by Gen. Worth, started for the scene of action, when they were met by Capt. Mason, with the joyful intelligence that Valencia had been completely routed, after a short but terrible struggle. The attack upon his works was planned by Gen. Smith, and resulted in the capture of fifteen pieced of artillery, some fifteen hundred prisoners—among them, Gens. Bianco, Garcia, Mendoza, and the notorious Salas; all the ammunition and camp equipage, while the road along which those who escaped fled was strewn with muskets. No less than 700 of the enemy, among them many officers, were left dead on the field—the number of wounded was undoubtedly far greater. I have no time now to enlarge or comment upon this well planned and brilliant achievement, but reserving a more full description for some other time, must pass on to other exciting events. The works at Coutreras completely in the power of the American army, Gen Scott at once ordered Gen. Worth to fall back upon San Antonio, to turn and capture that work and then to push on towards the main road, while the main body of the army under Gens. Twiggs, Pillow, Smith, Pierce and Cadwalader, moved on towards San Angel and Cohoycan.—Scarcely had the advance of Gen. Twiggs got half a mile beyond the latter village, before a rattling fire of musketry announced that it was actively engaged with the outposts of the enemy, and the heavy booming of cannon now gave token that noted 2d division had fallen upon another strong work. But a few minutes more and tremendous firing from the right, and immediately in the main road from San Augustine to the capital, made it evident that General Worth’s division was actively engaged. He had completely turned the strong works of San Antonio, but while doing so the enemy had abandoned the place with the loss of their heavy guns, and had fallen back upon his second and stronger line of works. It was now at the commencement of the battle, about 1 o’clock in the afternoon, and sure such a rattling of firearms has seldom or never been heard on the continent of America, accompanied with such booming of artillery; and this was continued over two house and until the enemy was fully routed from every point, and until those who were not killed or taken prisoners were in full flight for the city. Let me endeavor in words to give the reader an idea of the position and works of the enemy. As you come along the road leading from San Augustine to the capital, and immediately this side the Puerto del Roseana, the Mexicans had thrown up a strong and exceedingly well-built battery, commanding the road completely. On the right as you faced the city, stretching for a long distance was a continuous ditch, behind the bank of which an immense number of Mexican infantry were posted. On the left of the tete de pont, or work at the bridge, and about three hundred yards distant, was the church of Churubusco, or San Pablo, strongly fortified with works for infantry, and also having a well constructed battery containing a number of guns of heavy caliber. This work was a little advanced from the tete de pont, and nearly in a line between it and the village of Cohoycan—Further on, on the other side of the work at the bridge, and about three hundred yards from the road, was a large building, well adapted for the protection of infantry, an in which the enemy had also posted an immense body.—The ground in the vicinity of all these points was completely covered with corn, and other fields,
cut up in every direction by wide and deep ditches, presented obstacles innumerable to the advance of our troops. No reconnaissance of the position of the enemy had been made, and consequently its strength could only be ascertained by hard blows and knocks.

The divisions of Gens. Twiggs and Worth were at once engaged, the former with the church and strong-hold of Churubusco, and the latter with the batteries at the bridge; and in the meantime Gen. Shield’s brigades—the New York and South Carolina volunteers—together with the 9th, 19th, and 15th regiments of Infantry under General Pierce, were hurrying onward from Cohoycon to attack the hacienda. Soon they were engaged, and the battle now became general. The enemy had over twenty pieces of cannon, all in admirable position, and served with more than ordinary skill, while but few of our guns could be brought to bear. The battery of Capt. Frank Taylor, it is true, opened a well directed fire upon Churubusco, but so exposed was its situation that it suffered most terribly, both in officers and men.

To describe the fierce conflict, even now that two days have elapsed, or to give an account of the part taken by the different regiments, were impossible. From the opening of the strife up to the time the Mexicans were entirely routed and in full flight for the city, was one continuous roar of cannon and musketry, accompanied by the loud shouts of the Victoria as some new vantage ground was gained; and high above the din rose a dense column of smoke, at time completely shrouding the combatants.—The strength of the enemy at this battle is known to have been 15,000 at least, many say 20,000, all fresh troops in a position of uncommon strength. Opposed to them were about 6000 Americans, jaded and broken down by marches and countermarches, and by incessant toil before the stronghold of Courtwras and San Antonio. At Churubusco, the Mexicans themselves say, Santa Anna commanded in person, but that he left early. The noted battalions of Hidalgo and Victoria, and of Independencia—the Polkas, or young men of the capital, from whom so much was expected—nearly all fled without firing a gun.

In the different works (but mostly in the church) taken by Gen. Twiggs, near 2000 troops were captured. Among them were Gen. Rincon, who commanded in person, Gen. Anaya, lately President Substitute, and Gen. Arevallon, as also Col. Gorentega, formerly Minister at Washington.—Gen. Garay was captured near San Antonio by General Worth, and several influential officers, among them Col. Miramon, by Gen. Shields at the hacienda; but the most important capture of all was the entire Foreign Battalion, mostly made up of deserters from our own army, with their commander, notorious Riley himself. They are all now under close guard, and I trust will be strictly dealt with.

The loss on our side has fallen most heavily upon the South Carolina and New York volunteers, the 6th Infantry and Smith’s light battalion, attached to Worth’s division, and the batteries of Capts. Magruder and Taylor. The S. Carolina regiment was nearly cut to pieces losing 137 out of 272 men, with which it went into action. The 1st Artillery has suffered severely in officers.

The Mexican accounts acknowledge the loss, in killed, wounded and prisoners, or no less than thirteen Generals, (among them three Ex. Presidents,) and forty-five pieces of cannon. One of our officers says that we have captured more ammunition than Gen. Scott has used since he has been in the country. Yours, &c. G. W. K.

The Armistice.

The undersigned appointed respectively—the three first by Maj. General Winfield Scott, commander-in-chief of the armies of the United States; and the two last by his excellency D. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, president of the Mexican republic and commander-in-chief of its armies, met with full powers, which were duly verified in the village of Tacubaya, on the 22nd day of August, 1847, to enter into an armistice, for the purpose of giving the Mexican government an opportunity to receiving propositions for peace from the commissioners appointed by the president of the United States, and now with the American army; when the following articles were agreed upon:

ART. 1. Hostilities shall instantly and absolutely cease between the armies of the United States of America and the United Mexican States, within 30 leagues of the capital of the latter states, to allow time to the commissioners appointed by the Mexican republic, to negotiate.

2. This armistice shall continue as long as the commissioners of the two governments may be engaged on negotiations, or until the commander of either of the said armies shall give formal notice to the other of the cessation of the armistice, and for 48 hours after such notice.

3. In the mean time, neither army shall, within thirty leagues of the city of Mexico, commence any new fortification, or military work of offence or defence, or do anything to enlarge or strengthen any existing work or fortification of that character, within the said limits.

4. Neither army shall be reinforced within the same. Any reinforcements in troops or munitions of war, other than subsistence now approaching either army, shall be stopped at the distance of twenty-eight leagues from the city of Mexico.

5. Neither army, nor any detachment from it, shall advance beyond the line it at present occupies.

6. Neither army, nor any detachment or individual of either, shall pass the neutral limits established by
the last article, except under flags of truce bearing the correspondence between the two armies, or on
the business authorized by the next article; and individuals of either army who may chance to straggle
within the neutral limits, shall by the opposite party be kindly warned off or sent back to their own
armies under flags of truce.

7. The American army shall not by violence obstruct the passage form the open country into the city of
Mexico, of the ordinary supplies of food necessary to the consumption of its inhabitants, or the Mexican
army within the city; nor shall the Mexican authorities, civil or military, do any act to obstruct the
passage of supplies from the city, or the country needed by the American army.

8. All American prisoners of war remaining in the hands of the Mexican army, and not to heretofore
exchanged, shall immediately, or as soon as practicable, be restored to the American army against a
like number, having regard to rank, of Mexican prisoners captured by the American army.

9. All American citizens who were established in the city of Mexico prior to the existing war, and who
have since been expelled from that city, shall be allowed to return to their respective business or
families therein, without delay or molestation.

10. The better to enable the belligerent armies to execute these articles, and to favor the great object
of peace, it is further agreed between the parties that any courier with dispatches that either army shall
desire to send along the line from the city of Mexico or its vicinity, to and from Vera Cruz, shall receive
a safe conduct from the commander of the opposing army.

11. The administration of justice between Mexicans, according to the general and state constitutions
and laws, by the local authorities of the towns and places occupied by the American forces, shall not be
obstructed in any manner.

12. Persons and property shall be respected in the towns and places occupied by the American forces.
No person shall be molested in the exercise of his profession; nor the services of any one be required
without his consent. In all cases where services are voluntarily rendered, a just price shall be paid, and
trade remain unmolested.

13. Those wounded prisoners who may desire to remove to some more convenient place for the
purpose of being cured of their wounds shall be allowed to do so without molestation, they still
remaining prisoners.

14. Those Mexican medical officers who may wish to attend the wounded shall have the privilege of
doing so, if their services be required.

15. For the more perfect execution of this agreement two commissioners shall be appointed, one by
each party; who in case of disagreement shall appoint a third.

16. This convention shall have no force or effect unless approved by their excellencies the
commanders respectively of the two armies within 24 hours, reckoning from the sixth hour of the 23rd
day of August, 1847.

A. Quitman,
Major Gen. U.S.A.

Persifer E. Smith,

Franklin Pearce,
Brigadier Gen. U.S.A.

IGNACIO DE MORA Y VILLAMIL,

BENITO QUIJANO

A true copy of the original.
G.W. Lay, U.S.A.
Mil. Sec. to the General in chief
[BRM]
The following is the letter addressed by Gen. Scott to Gen. Santa Anna:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY U.S. AMERICA.
Coyoacan, August 21, 1847.

To his Excellency the President and General in Chief of the Republic of Mexico.

Sir—Too much blood has already been shed in this unnatural war between the two great Republics of this continent. It is time that the differences between them should be amicably and honorably settled, and it is known to your Excellency that a commissioner of the part of the U. States, clothed with full powers to that end, is with this army.—To enable the two Republics to enter on negotiations, I am willing to sign, on any reasonable terms, a short armistice.

I shall wait with impatience until to-morrow morning for a direct answer to this communication; but shall in the meantime seize and occupy such positions outside of the capital as I may deem necessary to shelter and comfort this army.

I have the honor to remain, with high consideration and respect, your Excellency’s most obedient servant.

WINFIELD SCOTT.

To this letter a reply was returned by the Mexican Secretary of War, of which the following is a hasty version:

Ministry of War and Marine,
Mexico, August 21, 1847.

To His Excellency Gen. Winfield Scott, Commander in Chief of the Army of the U.S. America.

Sir—The undersigned, Minister of War and marine of the Government of the United States of Mexico, is instructed by his Excellency the President, commander-in-chief, to reply to your communication in which you propose to enter into an armistice, with a view to avoid the further shedding of blood between the two great Republics of this continent, for the purpose of hearing the propositions which may be made for this purpose by the commissioner of his Excellency the President of the United States of America, who is at the headquarters of the American army.

It is certainly lamentable, that in consequence of the disregard of the rights of the Mexican Republic, the shedding of blood has become inevitable between the first republics of the American continent; your Excellency with
great propriety qualifies this war as unnatural, as well on account of its origin as the antecedents of two people identified by their relations and their interests. The proposition of an armistice to terminate this scandal has been received with pleasure by his Excellency the President, commander–in–chief, as it will enable the propositions to be entertained which that commissioner of the President of the United States may make for the honorable termination of the war.

Accordingly, the President, commander–in–chief, directs me to say to your Excellency that he accepts the proposition to enter into an armistice, and for this object he has appointed the brigadier generals D. Ignacio Mora y Villamil and D. Benito Quijano; who will be present at the time and place which may be designated.

His Excellency also instructs me to communicate his satisfaction that the army of the United States should occupy convenient and fitting quarters, trusting and hoping that they will be our of reach of the fire of the Mexican fortifications.

I have the honor to be with high consideration and respect, your Excellency’s most obedient servant,

ALCORTA.

The same day Senor Pacheco, the Secretary of State, issued the following summon for the assembling of Congress:

MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AND FOREIGN RELATIONS,

Mexico, August 21, 1847.

Most Excellent Sir—All Mexicans, but especially the inhabitants of this capital, have been witnesses to the extraordinary exertions which have been made by his Excellency the Provisional President to collect an army capable of meeting that of the United States, and restoring the luster of the arms of the Republic. They are witnesses also that he has fought with intrepidity, exposing his own life, until the moment which the victory was lost and the enemy was at the gates of the capital.

In these circumstances, and when the numerous inhabitants of Mexico have made ever kind of sacrifice to carry on the war, it is one of the most imperative duties of the First Magistrate to prevent the calamities inseparable from an assault, and to avoid all consequences of a violent occupation of the city. To this end, and in the exercise of his constitutional powers, and in conformity with the wishes of Congress communicated to him on the 16th July last, he has determined to hear the propositions which Mr. Nicholas Trist has to make on the part of the United States, and to consent that in the meantime there shall be a suspension of hostilities.

At this question is of the utmost interest to the Republic, his Excellency desires that the national Congress should take their appropriate part, and accordingly directs me to notify your Excellency that you may take measures diligently to summon the Deputies to assemble at 12 o’clock to–day.

I reiterate the assurance of my distinguished consideration. God and Liberty.

JOSE RAMON PACHECO.
[BRM]

RW47v24n73p2c2, September 17, 1847, From Vera Cruz

We learn from the New Orleans Picayune of the 9th inst. That the Spanish Ambassador to the Republic of Mexico arrived at Vera Cruz, on the 31st ult. On his return home, having been recalled, it is understood, in consequence of his intrigues to establish a Monarchy in Mexico, with the Duke de Montpensier [on of Louis Phillipe’s sons] throne. It is said that the Governments both of France and England disavow having ever entertained this scheme; but the Picayune thinks they would not have been so ready to disclaim it, had it been successful. At incident which occurred on the Ambassador’s journey to Vera Cruz, and which must have disturbed his equanimity, is thus stated in the Picayune:

“A squad of Capt. Fairchild’s company of rangers happening to be in a scout, espied a body of Mexican lancers in a valley, advancing along a road from the city of Mexico. –The men had not forgotten the fate of some of their companions who accompanied Captain Wells to the Natural Bridge. Thirsting for vengeance, they were soon charging down the hill with sabres drawn. As they approached the Mexicans, a gentleman was to spring from a litter borne by a pair of mules endeavoring by gesticulations and speech to keep the squad off. Some few of the boys who understood Spanish, learned that the gentlemen who was making such a liberal use of arms and tongue, was no less a personage than the Spanish minister, and that the lancers were sent with him from the city of Mexico. The squad mistrusted there might be some trickery in the matter, and escorted the party to the gate of the city, where his Excellency, followed by numerous trains of mules, entered; and the lancers wheeled about and made their way back.”
Letters from Mexicans at Jalapa, received at Vera Cruz, state that Capt. Walker, with a detachment of about 300 men from Perote, arrived there on the 25th or 26th ult. And took several of the inhabitants prisoners, but released some of them when they proved to his satisfaction that there were not concerned in the murder of several Americans and caused two or three to be shot who were pointed out to him as murderers. Capt. W. then went to Caotepec, frightening the guerillas, who, with the Mexican Governor of the Department of Vera Cruz, fled, leaving every thing behind them. It is also stated that there was some trouble between Major Lally and Capt. Walker, the latter acting independently of the former, and doing some things that did not exactly meet with the Major’s approbation. The Major consequently ordered the Captain’s arrest, who cavalierly disregarded the order, and moved off to Caotepec! The Captain is said to be the terror of the country.

Nothing authentic has been heard of Lieut. Henderson and the 14 men who it is supposed were taken by the Mexicans recently near Puente Nacional. A Mexican in Vera Cruz, however, states that he was present when the detachment was taken into the chapparal after surrendering to twenty times their number, and shot. It is to be hoped this statement untrue.

Paredes, it is stated, halted before he reached the city of Mexico, at a place called Callenta, and communicated with Santa Anna; but Santa Anna would have nothing to do with him, and ordered him to leave the country on penalty of death. Paredes refused to obey, and was attempting to raise a party to put down Santa Anna.

It was rumored, but not credited, that Jarauta, the guerrilla chief, emboldened by his recent partial successes, mediated a descent upon Vera Cruz.

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RW47v24n72p2c2, September 17, 1847, FURTHER PARTICULARS

We are again so crowded with advertisements that we are compelled to defer many articles, as well as to abridge the highly interesting particulars from the seat of the war, furnished by the correspondence of Mr. Kendall of the New Orleans Picayune. We have, however, omitted no important portion of his letters.

The Picayune of the 9th inst. Also contains a letter from an English commercial house in the city of Mexico, dated on the 29th of August, which says there were about 15 or 20,000 Mexican troops in the city, and adds would be another brush unless an honorable peace should result from the pending negotiations. The writer’s opinion, however, is, that a treaty would be made, and such he says is the opinion of the better classes of Mexicans, as well as of the English residents.

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RW47v24n72p2c3, September 17, 1847, LETTER FROM THE ARMY

We have been favored with the following extract of a letter from an officer attached to Gen. Scott’s staff:

TACUBAYA, Aug. 25, 1847.

We have had another brilliant but bloody battle, which brought us triumphantly up to the very gates of the city. We should now be in the capital but for an armistice which was agreed upon to enable MR. Trist to treat. As it was supposed the prospects of peace would be greatly lessened if we occupied the capital, the army has made this sacrifice upon the altar of patriotism. It seems to be a bitter one, but excellent hopes are entertained of its resulting well.

Our loss has been severe, but that of the enemy utterly ruinous, so as not to leave him any power of resistance.---Gen. Scott has outdone, by far, all his former achievements; and the army has done, with the bayonet alone, probably as much as was ever accomplished by any troops without artillery. You are aware that we have had no opportunity of sending letters for months past; I am not even sure that I shall be able to slip this in with the despatches. From where I write I overlook the city (but two miles distant) and the whole valley of Mexico—a view scarcely less charming from association than itself. So many officers have been killed and wounded, that I fear there will be great distress and anxiety on account of many who are safe. No one from Richmond was hurt; my friend, Capt. Craig, who is known there, received a smart flesh wound, but not at all serious* * * *Our loss is about 1000 killed and wounded. The Mexican loss about 5000 killed and wounded—and about 10,000 more prisoners and dispersed—15,000 in all. We had about 9000 to 30 odd thousand.

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RW47v24n72p2c4, September 17, 1847: LETTERS FROM THE ARMY OF GENERAL SCOTT

[Editorial Correspondence of the New Orleans Picayune]
I have spent not a little time in endeavoring to collect a list of the killed and wounded officers in the great battles of the 20th, not a difficult matter, inasmuch as the different divisions are quartered in villages several miles apart. The entire loss in the division of Gen. Twiggs was 266, in that of Gen. Worth 339, in that of Gen. Quitman (Shield’s brigade), 240, in that of Gen. Pillow 212.

The New York Volunteers suffered severely, but not in proportion to the regiment from South Carolina. Col. Butler, who commanded the latter, behaved in the most gallant manner. In advancing upon the hacienda attacked by Gen. Sheldes, at the head of his regiment, his horse was shot dead. He then advanced on foot until he received a severe wound in the leg, which caused him to fall.—In a fainting condition he was carried to the rear, but soon rallying he again advanced to the head of his regiment, when a musket ball struck him in the head and he died almost instantly. South Carolina lost on of her bravest and most generous spirits when Col. Butler fell.

I have not had time to obtain a full list of all the killed and wounded in the different divisions of the army, but shall endeavor to do it at the earliest opportunity. A great proportion of our loss—perhaps ninetenths—was in the attack upon the strong works at Churubusco—Santa Anna’s second line as he called it. As I have previously stated, no reconnaissance whatever of this strong position had been made. The brilliant success of the morning had inspired both officers and men with the highest enthusiasm, and they rushed pell mell into the position the post exposed, and where they were mowed down by hundreds.

It will be seen that our own loss falls short of eleven hundred—about 6,000 men were actively engaged.—When the works of the enemy are examined, one naturally wonders that Gen. Scott’s entire force was not swept away. Put his army in the same position and since the days of the viceroys there have not been Mexicans enough to born to drive them out.

White flags are now constantly passing and repassing between the Palace here and the Palace in Mexico. At this game the Mexicans can beat us. Yours, &c.

G.W.K.

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TACUBAYA, August 25, 1847.

The armistice has finally been settled and signed, and I do not tell half the story when I say that it had produced universal dissatisfaction in the army—in the entire army. In the first place let me give you, from recollection, its main provisions, and then I will give you an idea as to the mode by which it was brought about.

The articles of the armistice first go on to say, that hostilities between the two armies are at once to cease., in order that the peace propositions of the United States may be listened to, and that they, the hostilities, are not to be renewed until either commander shall give the other forty eight hours’ notice; that in the meantime all work or fortifications on both sides shall cease, and that no further reinforcements or either party shall be allowed to approach nearer than twenty–eight leagues of the capital; that no persons other than citizens shall be allowed to either the city, and they only with passports from the Mexican authorities; that certain persons of the American army shall be allowed to either the city to borrow money and purchase supplies, but no officers are allowed to pass in except upon special business and under a flag. Such are about the amount of the different articles of the armistice, signed on our part by Gens. Quitman, Smith and Pierce, and on the part of the Mexicans by Gens Mors and Gujano.

Let me now give my speculations as to the mode by which this armistice was brought about. On the night of the 10th inst. After the great Mexican army was thoroughly beaten, broken to pieces and routed, Mr Thornton, or the English legation, accompanied by the British Consul, Mr Mackintosh—a man who regards Santa Anna, hates the Yankees and never moves unless his own ends are to be gained—came out to the city post haste on a visit to Gen. Scott. The next morning Gen Mors, accompanied by Mr Arrangoiz, who was formerly Mexican consul in New Orleans, came out, also on a visit to Gen Scott, and on the same day the latter wrote a letter to the Mexican authorities, hinting an armistice between the two armies with a view of opening negotiations for a peace. This proposition was eagerly jumped at by the Mexican Minister of War, at the instigation of Santa Anna of course, and the result has been a treaty of armistice in which, according to rumor nearly every thing the Mexicans asked for was conceded. I know nothing of the proceedings of this commission except from hearsay. There are many who believe that Gen. Scott has been compelled to adopt this policy, at the threshold of the Mexican capital by Mr Trist and his instructions, but there are a few, and I must acknowledge myself among the number, who think that a peace honorable and satisfactory to the U.S. is to grow out of this matter. The whole affair, on the face of it, looks like on of Santa Anna’s old tricks to gain time to plan some new scheme of trickery and dissimulation, and as he has British influence to back him he will be likely to carry out what he undertakes. I have always said and always believed that Santa Anna was favorable to peace—to peace from policy only—and still believe he may endeavor to bring it about; but great as is his power, like a sail vessel he can only go with the wind and current, and has too many and too powerful enemies to carry out his present schemes, at least without strong assistance from the United States.

Santa Anna accuses Valencia of having lost the capital by not obeying his orders to abandon Coutreras on the 19th, and has ordered him to be shot wherever found; on the other hand, Valencia accuses Santa Anna of having
lest every thing by not coming to his assistance, and it is now sad that he has pronounced against him and peace
with the Yankees at Toluca. Thus matters stand between these great Mexican leaders. Again, it is reported that
Paredes is advancing from Oriziba, which place he successfully reached from Vera Cruz, breathing nothing but death
and utter annihilation to the infamous North Americans, while it is further stated that Bustamente is at or near the
capital with 6000 men, breathing the same amiable sentiments—The papers of the capital are almost silent about
every thing—they do not even give an account of their terrible defeat.

The number of deserters and other foreigners found fighting against us the other day, and who are now
prisoners, is 72. A court martial, with Col. Garland as president, is now in session here, for the trial of a portion of
this precious set of scoundrels, and it is to be hoped they may have full justice done them. Riley, the Irishman who
commanded the battalion of San Patricio, as it is called, openly makes his brags of what he has done, and says he
expects no mercy.

Gen. Scott was himself wounded on the 20th inst. By a grape shot. It struck him on the outside of the leg
below the knee, and gave so little a pain at the time that he said nothing about it, but it has since caused him more
uneasiness.

Our own loss, in killed, wounded and missing, is put down in the numbers at 1000—it may possibly range a
little under. The Mexican loss in killed alone amounted to nearly that number, their prisoners to about 3000, while
their wounded we have no means of computing. Among the officers taken prisoners were three member of Congress,
and I believe they are to be liberated to take part in the proceedings of that body in relation to peace.

Yours, &c. &c.
G.W.K.

P.S.—Since the above was written, we have received a thousand and one rumors from the city. The report
that Bustamente is approaching with some 6000 troops is renewed, as well as the account of the advance of Paredes
upon the capital. All the shops in the city are closed, and consternation reigns. Many will have it the evidence being
their own proper eyes, that the Mexican are throwing up breast works and constructing batteries at different points,
and they say too, that Santa Anna either is desirous of gaining time, or else to make one of the main conditions of
peace that he is to be supported by American Arms against any faction that may rise against him. In this they are
probably more than half right. A train of wagons, which was going in this morning headed by Capt. Wayne and an
escort of dragoons, were turned back by Mexicans on the pretence that there were regular soldiers with the envoy. I
don’t know how the matter will be settled, but Santa Anna will probably have his own way. Our own officers are
many of them outrageous at the occurrence.

Yours, &c. &c. &c.
G.W.K.

TACUBAYA, August 27, 1847.

The official report of Gen. Salas, who was second in command at Cotureras, and who is now a prisoner, has
been published in Mexico. He admits that his defeat was total, but as usual lays the blame on some of his brother
officers. He says that on the afternoon of the 19th—(this was while no one was returning their fire)—The Mexicans
fought with uncommon valor and enthusias, but that early on the morning of the 20th August they were suddenly surrounded and at once thrown into confusion, and in the end utterly routed. Salas says that at the outset of the disorder he shouted "Victory for Mexico," ordered the trumpets to sound, and directed Gen. Torrejon to charge with his lancers; but according to the same account that officer fled in the most cowardly manner, the infantry got mixed up with the cavalry and also fled, and the rout of all was complete and most disastrous. Salas says that Gen. Valencia ran off at the commencement of the fight, that he does not know what has become of him, and for this reason has felt himself called upon to make the report. Sch is the account given by his Excellency Gen. R. Don. I. Mariano de Salas, of the defeat at Coutreras—one of the most brilliant victories achieved by our arms since the commencement of the war—brilliant and most important for the great results produced with so little loss on our side, and for which Gen. Smith, as well as Col. Riley and the other officers engaged in it, are receiving the unqualified approbation of the entire army.

Gen. Salas himself acknowledges that in this battle Gen.Fronteras was killed, that besides himself Generals Mendoza, Bianco and Garcia were wounded and taken prisoners, in addition to a list of over 100 others—Colonels, Captains, &c. who were either killed, wounded or are now in our hands. And here let me mention one fact in relation to the after battle of Churubusco, which will show how near Gen. Scott was to capturing the entire Mexican army. At the time Gen. Worth was pressing upon the tete de pont, Gen. Twiggs upon the church, and Gen. Shields and Pierce upon the hacienda farther on, the commander–in–chief ordered Major Sumner to take command of the Rifles, and by circuitous march to reach the road between the enemy and the city. Nothing but the daring impetuosity of our own men in front prevented this plan from succeeding—had the Mexican held out or our own soldiers held off ten minutes longer, the enemy would have been in a bag as it were, and killed or captured to a man. Santa Anna might perhaps escaped, as he has a peculiar way of his own; but he would not have taken even the remnant of an army with him.

The trial of the deserters—the celebrated battalion of St. Patrick—is still going on, but how the affair will terminate, no one but those on the court martial can say. A strong influence is at work in favor of the prisoners. In the first place, all the Mexican ladies in this town, La Senora Cayetano Rubio among the number, have signed a warm petition in their favor, which has been sent to Gen. Scott. The lady whose name I have given, is the wife of the rich Rubio, who has a country house here in Tacubaya. The English, and perhaps some of the other foreign ministers, have also interested themselves in behalf of the scoundrels. I might here state that the celebrated flag of the foreign battalion was captured by the 14th Infantry, attached to Gen. Pillow's division.

Two o'clock, afternoon.------New has just come in from the capital which has caused great excitement. At an earily hour a train of wagons, under charge of Captain Wayne, dressed in citizens' cloths, started for the city. Scarcely had they reached the Plaza before the wagons were surrounded by an immense concourse of leperos, who at first commenced cursing at jeering the wagon–masters and wagoners. Soon, however, they began to pelt the poor fellows with stones and other missiles, and notwithstanding the pretended exertions of a squad of Mexican soldiers, who acted a guard, the entire train was driven out of the city. Several of the wagoners received bruises and contusions from the showers of stones thrown at them, and foremost in the mob were said to be the women of the town. One Mexican was shot by the wagon masters, and another by a Mexican officer, but not until they had half killed an American. In the crowd of loafers or leperos were soon [illegible] apparently of the better class from their dress, who excited the mob to acts of violence, while in the balconies were ladies looking on and evidently enjoying the sport. Even the Mexican cavalry guard, or many of them, sat upon their horses—not indifferent spectators, for they fairly laughed to see the unfortunate and unarmed teamsters beset in a manner so cowardly. I suppose that Santa Anna will apologize for the outrage, and that thus the matter will be settled; but this done not prevent many from thinking that the tyrant instigated the whole affair. He is up to all sorts of trickery. There are others who think, and probably with good show of reason, that the mob was set on by the enemies of Santa Anna and peace, with the intention of involving the whole party and breaking off all negotiations. Be this as it may, the Mexicans have won a great battle in driving our wagons from the city, and will not fail to exult over it. I know not what measures Gen. Scott will no resort to in order to obtain his money and supplies from the city.

Yours, &c.

G.W.K.

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TACUBAYA, August 28, 1847.

The accounts this morning from the city would go to show that Mexicans are chuckling over the defeat of the wagon train yesterday, and its expulsion without the walls—they absolutely term it a victory! The authorities pretend they did everything in their power to suppress the row, but no one who understands the Mexican character believes them. If anything in this world can be driven easier than Mexicans with arms in their hands, (vide Churubusco and Coutreras,) it is Mexicans without arms. A Mexican mod can be likened to nothing save a flock of sheep—as easily routed and dispersed --and now the authorities pretend they did everything in their power to suppress the one which was raised yesterday. A single squadron of our dragoons could have ridden over the rioters as easily as they could over a lawn. I suppose now that the wagons will not be allowed to enter the city—another point gained by the enemy. They certainly have not been in to–day.

The Diario del Gobierno of yesterday is almost entirely filled with documents and letters, all undertaking to prove that Valencia was the sole cause of the defeat of the Mexican army. Santa Anna’s friends are at the bottom of all this of course. Several of Valencia’s letters are lugged into the document, in one of which, dated at 8 o’clock on the evening of the 19th, at Coutreras, he speaks of having routed the entire American army at all points, and that
the liberty and honor of his country had been saved by the glorious victory. He further discloses the fact that General Frontera was killed while leading on a charge of cavalry, and that Gen. Farrodi was wounded. This is news; we shall get all the truth out of them after a while. The last we hear of Valencia he was at Toluca, whither he had gone, according to his own published statement, to collect forces to vindicate the honor of his county.

The same number of the *Diario* contains an account of the attack upon the wagon train. It makes light of the whole affair, says that a few persons were slightly injured, that Gen. Tornel, Herrar and Quijano soon dispersed the rioters, and that the fact of the wagons going as far as the Plaza Principal was an error or oversight. Among these who received a shower of stones on the occasion was Mr. Harous, the gentleman, who has mainly fed and clothed the army since it marched from Jalapa. He was in the city after supplies at the time.

I believe that up to this time I have neglected to mention that Major Gaines, who recently escaped from Mexico, was on the staff of Gen. Scott during the recent battles, and that Midshipman Rogers was on that of Gen. Pillow. After the route at Coutreras, and while our troops were on the way to Churubusco, a house where Capt. Danley and Major Borland were secreted was passed. The former was quite unwell at the time, but the latter came out, shouldered a musket, and was in the defeat of Churubusco. I hear that Clay and all the other prisoners will now soon be released.

Yours, &c.

G.W.K.

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TACUBAYA, Aug. 29, 1847.

The peace commissioners met again yesterday, and at a point near this place. Nothing positive in relation to the proceedings of this second meeting has transpired—some say that everything went on smoothly, others say not, which is tolerably strong proof that but little is known one way or the other in relation to the deliberations. The new commissioner, Barnardo Couto, was present, as was also Atristain. The latter is represented as a tool of Mackintosh’s; but if he can do anything towards bringing about a peace this makes no difference. They say that in the city they indulge the hope that the commissioners will agree upon the Neuces as a boundary. This is carrying the stakes and stones a little too far. “Give them an inch and they’ll take and ell” is applied to many people in the world—give a Mexican and inch and he’ll take at least seven miles and a half.

I must close this letter haste, as a messenger has just come in to say that the express man is about to start. You shall be kept informed of everything.

Yours, &c.

G.W.K.

[BRM]
In war, an accident—a circumstance apparently the most insignificant—may frustrate the most skilfully devised combinations. A glance at the defences which I caused to be constructed around the city is sufficient to discover the plan which I had proposed to myself.

The troops which I had advanced, by one of the flanks, supported by others posted en echelon at convenient distances, were to have made a concerted retrograde movement, which I commanded at the proper moment. A general who commanded a strong division of 5,000 men and 24 pieces of artillery, whose headquarters were at the town of San Angel, was ordered by me on the 18th, and 11 o'clock in the morning, to fall back on the village of Coyocan, in order to effect the concentration of forces, in consequence of demonstration already made by the enemy, and for the purpose of exactly carrying out my plan of operations. But this general, forgetting that there cannot be two commanders on the field of battle, and that the execution of a plan will not admit of comments which annul or retard it, suffered himself to himself to object to the orders which he had received; and obedience and discipline, so indispensable in military movements, having been banished from among us, thus rendering it necessary, in order to avoid greater and imminent evils, to tolerate what it would be absurd to approve of, I suffered him, in spite of myself, to persevere in his purpose, and charge himself with the whole responsibility of the consequences. They were not less disastrous than they had been obvious. He advanced, motu proprio, [of his own accord,] more than a league to choose a position from which to meet the enemy, without acquainting me either with his movement or his intentions. His refusal to obey the order sent him was the first notice which I had of this temerity; and soon afterwards the report of cannon enabled me to ascertain the position he had taken, and apprized me that an action had commenced.

Although weighed down with the presentiment of what was to follow, I instantly placed myself at the head of a splendid brigade of four thousand men and five pieces of artillery. I arrived at the moment when the enemy had cut off the rear of the position of the ill-fated general by a considerable force, whose operations I was then hardly able to check, for it was now nearly night.

But I observed, with the greatest grief, that the position in question was isolated—that a large ravine intervened, and a neighboring wood was occupied by the enemy; the troops under my immediate command could not advance by the only road which existed, without being exposed to the same fate as the others; and a single battery, which arrived late, was my only means of attack. The firing having ceased, our brigade took up their quarters in the town of San Angel; for the rain fell in torrents, and to keep the troops in the field would have been equivalent to their being routed.

Previous to this, I ordered that my aid-de-camp, Col. Ramiro, should, taking as a guide the deputy, Don Jose Maria del Rio, who was acquainted with the ground, proceed to the head of the terrible ravine in front of us, and along the skirt of a distant hill, and, making all haste to the camp of the general referred to, order him to retire that night, without fail, with his infantry and cavalry, to San Angel, by the only road which was left him, firing spiking his cannon, if it already impossible to save them. This my aid accomplished, and communicated my order between 10 and 11 at night; but instead of punctually obeying the order, the general hardly suffered my aid to speak, interrupting him by saying that what he wanted was 6,000 men and munitions, and sent him off, after giving him two official letters, which he had signed and sealed, one of them containing a report of the action of the evening, in which he stated that he had beaten the enemy, and put him to shameful flight, and that he had, in consequence, granted promotions of the generals, field officers, and others.

The following day, at dawn, I repaired again to the same field, reinforced by the brigade which I had ordered to be brought from the capital, and determined to effect the enemy made his attack, which lasted about ten minutes, and I witnessed, in the midst of despair, the rout of those troops, worthy of a better fate, and unfortunately commanded by a general who was himself the cause of their being cut off.

The consequences of this affair were, in my view, terrible. The enemy could, by a rapid movement, reach the capital before it would be possible for me to succor it; he could, by a flank movement, cut off my detached forces; he could, by a flank movement, cut off my despatched forces; he had obtained, as the result of his victory, the power of falling with the main body of his troops upon a part of mine; the enemy, in fine, through the unskilfulness and insubordination of a general, converted to his own benefit all the advantages of my situation.

The advanced fort of San Antonio could not sustain itself; for our time had been intersected, and I ordered its garrison to retire, while I covered the fort and tete de port of Churubusco. The enemy advanced, cutting off a portion of the troops as they were retiring, and presented himself in front of our nearest defences. I there placed myself again in front of our soldiers, and my efforts cost the enemy not a little bloodshed. The losses ensued, although lamentable, were the natural result of the retreat, which was sudden, unexpected; and embarrassed by the trains, marching along a narrow causeway flanked throughout its whole extent. The defence was from line to line, until the third was reached, where I personally opposed the enemy, and a saved the capital, which was suddenly placed in danger. While I was engaged, on the 22d, in reorganizing the forces and covering the batteries, and again in person at the head of a column, which would have continued the defence to the last extremity, I received a communication from the enemy’s general-in-chief, proposing to me to conclude an armistice, which would afford time to consider the propositions which may be made by the commissioners of the United States, for ending the struggle between the two nations. I consented to the armistice; and, after consulting the ministers in cabinet, I determined that the propositions referred to shall be taken into consideration.

The suspension of hostilities is always a good thing, because war is always an evil; and much more so, after great combinations have been frustrated. To save the capital from the horrors of war, or at least defer them, was a consideration which I could not overlook, more particularly when viewed as a means of arriving at an honorable
When two nations find themselves in a state of war, they have the reciprocal right to make propositions. A perpetual war is an absurdity, because it is a calamity; and the instinct of self-preservation, which is even stronger and more powerful in nations than in individuals, counsels that no means shall be disregarded which may lead to an advantageous adjustment. The constitution gives me full authority to adopt this course.

Devoted to interests so great and of such pre-eminent importance, I must maintain at all risks the respect and consideration due to the supreme authority which I exercise—now especially, when, if factions beset and harass the government, they will deprive it of the power of deliberating, and it will become contemptible in the presence of the enemies of the nation, I will be still more explicit—commotion and sedition shall be exemplarily punished.

I have preserved a considerable body of troops, and the nation will support me in maintaining its honor and vindicating its reputation. I consider myself as free as if I had just obtained a signal victory, and there is no fear that I shall be imposed on by the enemy's negotiators, when his troops and a cannon have failed to alarm me. We shall adjust our differences, provided honor, above all, is saved; and we shall renew the combat, if the sword is thrust between our justice and acknowledgment of the rights of the nation.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA
Mexico, August 23, 1847.

[BRM]

The following is General Taylor’s letter to the Natives, to which we referred yesterday. Notwithstanding the General declines to express his “frank opinion” touching the One Idea of that very insignificant faction, its Convention gave him a quasi nomination—in other words, it recommends him as a candidate for the Presidency! Its members were easily satisfied:

HEAD QUARTERS, ARMY OF OCCUPATION,
Camp near Monterey, July 13, 1847.

Sir: I have had the honor to receive your letter submitting, on the part of the Nominating Committee of the N. A. Convention, the request to be informed of my views relating to several points of national policy entertained by the body of Native Americans in our country.

Limited leisure from my public duties constrains me to reply in very general and brief terms, that to the points cited in your letter I do not feel myself at liberty to express my frank opinion. My willingness to yield to the wishes of the people at large, and to serve them in the office of the chief magistracy, should they fully and unanimously place its weighty responsibilities upon me, has been more than once expressed; but I am not willing to be the candidate of any political party, or to pledge myself to any political creed save that which proceeds directly from the constitution, and the best and paramount interests of the county, and which they solemnly demand. If elected to the Presidential office, it must be without any agency of my own, (it certainly will be at variance with my most cherished aspirations,) and to these duties I must go untrammeled by party pledges of every character.

Should the people nominate and elect, (and there is ample space for this, previous to the time of election) some one of the gifted statesmen of the country to represent its highest interests, I should hail the measure with joy.

With sentiments of high respect, I have the honor to subscribe myself.

Your most obedient servant,

Z. TAYLOR,
Major General U.S. Army.

Wm J.A. Birkey, Esq.
President N.A. Convention, Pittsburgh, Pa.

We subjoin also Mr. Clay’s letter in reply to the Natives:

ASHLAND, 2d April, 1847.

Dear Sir—Your favor of the 19th ultimo, transmitting the proceedings of “The American Ratification Meeting,” reached here a few days prior to my return from New Orleans. Owing to my absence, and to a great domestic affliction, which has befallen me in the death of a beloved son, who fell in the battle of Buena Vista, of which intelligence arrived here a few days ago, a delay has arisen in my return of an answer to your letter, which I hope you will have the goodness to excuse.
You require of me, 'at the instance of the Native American Committee of the State of Pennsylvania,' of which
are the Chairman, whether, if it be tendered to me—and that unanimously—I would be disposed to accept the
nomination of President of the United States from the National Native American Convention to assemble at
Pittsburgh in May next, for the purpose of nominating candidates for President and Vice President of the U. States.

Waiving all inquiries into, and the expression of any opinion on the principles and objects of your
Association, as being unnecessary from the conclusion to which I have come, I can perceive no public good likely to
result from my acceptance of the propose nomination; and that, if tendered to me, I should be constrained to decline
accepting it.

I request you, nevertheless, and the other member of the Executive Committee to be assured that I justly
appreciate the compliment intended me, and to accept my cordial thanks for the personal confidence and kindness
which prompted their attention to be directed to me.

I am, with respect, your friend and obedient servant.

H. CLAY.

Gen. Peter S. Smith

RW47v24n72p5c2, September 17, 1847, FROM THE SOUTH

The New Orleans Picayune, of the 7th inst. Announces the arrival of the Stanton from Tampico, having sailed
thence on the 7th inst., three days later than the Fashion. The intelligence brought by her is thus summed up:

"It is said than an express arrived at Tampico on Monday, the 30th of August, with the intelligence from
capital confirming the news we have already given General Scott’s operation, and adding that he had actually
entered the city. Another version has it that "Scott has taken the city." The day when the courier left Mexico we have
no learned. We received no letters or papers by this arrival, and give the above entirely upon verbal report. We hope
another day will not go over without authentic accounts from the city of Mexico."

The Picayune publishes a number of letters from its correspondent in Gen. Taylor’s camp—some of them
written under the belief, which by a General Order of the 9th of July we perceive Gen. Taylor himself entertained,
that the army would make a forward movement, and which have now, since it is certain that he is not to do so, lost
their interest.

Writing from the Camp at Buena Vista on the 13th of August, the Picayune’s correspondent gives us the
following information:

"A report similar to that which was brought in some days since reached us last night, that a force of about
1000 strong (cavalry) where marching from Durango, but whether towards Mazapil or Zacatecas was not known.
Information has also been received that there is a party of guerrilla robbers, composed partly of Americans, in the
neighborhood of Salado, who plunder every Mexican they come across, and would our people, as a matter of course,
if they came in their way. In order to ascertain the truth of these reports, and also the condition of the country, Gen
Wool despatched Major Chevallie with two companies of Texan Rangers in the direction of El Encarnacion, to make
reconnaissance in that quarter. Lieut Benham, of the topographical corps, accompanies the expedition, and also
Kendall’s old friend of Santa Fe memory, Major Howard.

"Night before last corporal and nine men belonging to Capt. Dess’s battery of horse artillery, which had been
paid off in the morning, deserted from camp. Among them were some very bad fellows. Their desertion was
discovered at reveille yesterday morning, and measures were immediately taken to capture the scoundrels. A reward
of $300 has been offered by Gen. Wool for their apprehension. It is supposed that they made their way towards
Monclova, to go to the States, as it is not supposed they would go over to the Mexicans at the present crisis."

On the 16th of August, he writes as follows:

"I mentioned in my letter of the 19th inst. That Capt. Carleton, with a company of dragoons, left that
morning for Parras. Gen. Wool received a letter this morning from the captain, dated "Parras, August 13th," which
contains some interesting intelligence. It was currently reported that place that a force consisting of 400 cavalry and
600 infantry, with four pieces of artillery, under the command of Gen. Vincentia Filosola, had moved from Durango—
sire accounts said to Masapil, others to join Gen. Reyes at or near Zacatecas. A spy was sent out by Capt. C., to
to endeavor to ascertain if there was any truth in these reports. It was also reported at Parras that a force had moved
towards Cuenca, probably to advance upon the former place. A small party arrived on the 12th from Chihuahua,
among whom was an intelligent American, from whom Capt. C. gleaned the following information: That Gen. Trias
had passed up from the south with ten pieces of artillery, 2000 stand of small arms and 1000 horses, under the
Mr. James Awl, the partner of Mar. Samuel Owens, who was killed at Sacramento, has been assassinated in Chihuahua. He was a wealthy trader from Lexington, Missouri, and much respected. All his goods have been seized and confiscated by the Mexican authorities. The inhabitants in that region are said to be growing more hostile to the Americans each succeeding day. They had received no news from New Mexico at Chihuahua later than the 9th of June.

"Such information contained in the letter of Capt. C., and if any member of the Peace Society can make out anything that gives the slightest indication of peace from all this, they can do more than I can.

"In camp here matters go on much the same as usual and the health of the troops continues about the same. It gives me pain to announce that the Virginia regiment has lost one of its most accomplished captains. Virginia one of her most worthy and respected sons, in the person of Capt. Henry Fairfax, of Fairfax county, Virginia, who died in Saltillo evening before last, of fever, at the age of forty-three years. He commanded the 13th company, and came out after the regiment had been some time in the country. He had received a military education at West Point, but did not remain in the army after he graduated. A brave, chivalrous spirit, and an ardent desire to give his country the benefit of his services in the field, induced him to sever the ties that bound him to the domestic hearth, around which gathered an affectionate wife and smiling children, and lead on his neighbors to a distant country; and now in the prime of life, with the prospect so gratifying to a soldier, of marching on to meet the enemy and wielding the good right arm for victory, he has met the enemy against whom none can combat—Death! Who has taken him prisoner and borne him to the grave, where legions have been borne before.---Although it has been denied him to die upon the field of battle, his death is not the less glorious that it has a peaceful one. Friends watched over his sick bed, cared for his wants and wept over his demise. His remains will be conveyed to the States to-day by two of his late companions in arms, Lieuts. Fry and Donnan, who had resigned their commissions and were about returning home. Two of the Virginia companies stationed in town, and the staff camp, will escort the remains to the edge of the town. Gen. Wool has also signified his intention of being present with his staff upon the occasion, as a toke of respect for deceased."

In a later letter the Picayune's corresponded relates the following singular occurrence:

"An occurrence took place last evening which I had no purposed relating, fearing that something more distressing might grow out of it, but as everything seems quiet now, I will briefly relate the circumstance. Col. Paine, of the North Carolina regiment, form the rigid system of discipline which he has pursued, has become very unpopular in his own regiment and in the Mississippi and Virginia regiments, with which he has been thrown in connection as officer of the day. Many Insults have been offered him by members of the two letter, and this feeling has gradually been ripening till it came to the head last night. A crowd assembled about different tents of about thirty men, some of his own and some privates of the Virginia regiment; and subsequently stones were thrown at his tent. A number of men also assembled in front of his lieutenant colonel's tent, who was sick and vomiting, and indulged in brutal laughter at his illness. These crowds were dispersed and two men ordered to be taken to the provost guard. The men of one company ordered to perform the duty refused, but were compelled to obedience by the colonel. One of them, however, refused to take his arms until the colonel held his sword over him and threatened to cut him down if he refused. That company having evinced a determination not to obey, were ordered to the rear of the colonel's tent, and obeyed, contrary to his expectations, and were dismissed after answering to their names. Subsequently, quite late in the evening, another posse assembled in front of the colonel's tent, but as he came in sight they began to disperse in different direction. He ordered them to halt, but they refused. The colonel then cried out that he would fire if they did not halt, and ordered them again, and upon their refusing, discharged his pistol into the crowd, bringing down two men, wounding one of them mortally. This prompt and decisive step quelled the mutiny, and the colonel reported to Gen. Cushing and Gen. Wool, who approved of his conduct. They both repaired to the camp, but everything was quiet. I regret to say that the colonel did not receive any very unanimous support from his officers on the occasion. The man who was so badly shot died last night. I have no time to write more, for the mail is on the point of closing.”

[BRM]
The steamer *E.A. Ogden*, Capt. Bowman, arrived yesterday morning from Brazos Santiago, whence she sailed on the 7th inst. Making a very fine run. Her news is not without interest.

We learn with great regret that Brigadier General Hoping died at Mier on the 1st inst. The general was appointed from the western part of the State of New York, and was a gentlemen of ability well known in the politics of the State. The brigade under his command at Mier has been broken up, the 10th Infantry garrisoning Matamoros and Camargo, and the 19th Infantry Cerralvo and Monterey.

Gen Lane’s brigade was at the mouth of the river, expecting to embark about the 8th inst. The first transport which reached there would proceed to take the troops on board.

Gen. Cushing arrived at Matamoros on the 3d. inst. Accompanied by Lieut. Col. Abbott. Gen. C. is concentrating his brigade, as the several detachments come down at El Savinito, near Palo Alto. Desse’s battery, which was to have accompanied Gen. Cushing, has been ordered to remain with Gen. Wool, at the express request of the latter. Our correspondent alludes to the matter in a letter below. Capt. Shover passed down the river with Gen. Cushing, on his way to Washington. The *Flag* says he hopes to bring out a battery and join Gen. C.’s brigade in place of Capt. Dess.

Capt. Clinch was at the mouth of the river on the 6th inst., with a detachment of recruits for the 13th Infantry, and would leave the next day for Gen. Cushing’s camp at the El Sabinito.

Despatches have passed through Matamoros for General Marshall, at Monterey, to proceed to Vera Cruz without delay. The despatches were forwarded by Lieutenant A. M. Henry as far as the mouth of the Rio Grande, where he was taken ill and transferred them. He subsequently proceeded to Matamoros, where he was doing well at last accounts.

Col. R. E. Temple arrived at Matamoros on the 1st inst, with four companies of his regiment, the 10th Infantry.

The *Flag* says that Col. Tibbatts, who was proceeding from Mier to Monterey with six companies of the 16th Infantry, escorting a train, was attacked by a large party of Mexicans near Ramos, and succeeded in driving them off, with a loss of two wounded. We have the best reason for believing that the whole object of the Mexicans in this attack was plunder. Only the day before Lieut. Givens passed up from Cerralvo to Monterey with only twenty dragoons, and Gen Cushing, (who met Col Tibbatts at Ramos) passed down the day after with a guard of only 25 mounted men, and neither of them saw any thing of the guerilleros. Col. Tibbatts and his men were under fire for some time, and conducted themselves with great intrepidity.

Intelligence was received at Buena Vista on the 20th of August, in a letter from San Luis Potosi, by the way of Parras, that Gen. Scott’s column had marched from Puebla, and two days afterwards a rumor reached there of the capitulation of the city of Mexico. This illustrates the rapidity with which intelligence travels in Mexico by verbal report.

The *Flag* says that Mr. E B Lundy and Mons. Montilly, who were tken prisoners some four weeks cine Carvajal, have been set at liberty, and arrived at Matamoros on the 3d inst. They state that they were liberated by representing that they were not Americans. They were taken as far as Tula. Mr. L. says that Gen. Urrea left that place a few days since with 1200 men, for the purpose of taking trains or good between Camargo and Monterey. They represent that Col. Carvajal—a-[the *Flag* and other papers always give this name Carrabajal. *He* writes it Carvajal]—was in the vicinity of Soto la Marina with a small force.

The *Flag* publishes the following letter from Urrea, designed to encourage desertion among our troops:

Gen. Joseph Urrea, of the Mexican Army, Commandant General, Inspector of the Interior Easter States, and in chief of the Division of Observation, to the American Invaders:

Soldiers and Volunteers of the American Army! The war that you carry on against Mexico is the most unjust and barbarous that can conceived. Civilized nations detest it—they do not see in you the defenders of the rights of an injured country, but merely the tools of a man without foresight, without calculation, who, to obtain an unfortunate celebrity, has not feared seriously to compromise a great people. Do not doubt it. Every sensible American will consider this war on of the most atrocious nature—sent by Polk to Mexico, and essentially iniquitous, because it is vandalic, and by lies the severe republican principles that you all profess, because it serves to convert the children of Washington and Franklin into robbers and assassins.

Sons of America! Let the world see you in a better than in the miserable and odious character you now represent. Do no serce any longer the caprice of a man destitute of virtue of good feeling. Abandon his lines,
because they are not those of honorable men—throw yourselves into the arms of the Mexican nation, who
magnanimous and forgiving, will forget the injuries you have committed. Here you will find ground to cultivate, and
honest occupation whereby to gain the necessaries of life without great fatigue. You will find the sympathies of a
generous people, and the tranquility of conscience otherwise not to be obtained; because the man who attacks and
destroys the principle of Universal Moral, which brings together nations as it does individuals, cannot obtain it.

Soldiers and Volunteers! Come to us, and abandon the cause of crime—I was your appearance, and will receive you as brothers.

JOSEPH URREA
Tula de Tamaulipas, Aug. 12, 1847.

[Special correspondence of the Picayune]

CAMP BUENA VISTA, August 19, 1847.

“There’s many a slip twixt the cup and the lip,” as I have seen in my short experience. All our fond
anticipations of an immediate advance have been “dished and diddled quite.” The flaw when the War Office has gone
forth and no advance can be made from this line. The unwelcome intelligence was received yesterday in an order
from headquarters directing Gen. Cushing to take command of the Massachusetts Regiment and 13th Infantry as his
brigade and proceed with the least possible delay to the Brazos, there to embark for Vera Cruz. Brig Gen. Lane, who is
below, has been assigned the Ohio and Indiana volunteers, two regiments and also ordered to Vera Cruz. An order
also came from Gen. Taylor directing Capt Dens to proceed to Vera Cruz via Brazos with his battery (late
Washington’s battery.) Gen. Cushing will probably leave wit Capt. D’s battery to–day or to morrow. You should have
heard the “curses not loud but deep” at this news, which very naturally creates the greatest dissatisfaction.—Many
officers of the volunteer regiments declare their intention of resigning, and the only thing that will tend to keep them
together is the bare, faint prospect that we shall be again attacked in the front with a large force. General Taylor, I
understood, has been ordered to maintain this line either as far as this post or Monterey, leaving it discretionary with
him. This point is all–important. Col. Hay’s regiment of Rangers has also been ordered to Vera Cruz.

Since my last, Major Chevallie and his command have returned from their reconnaissance. They went to La
Punta and struck across to La Encarnacion. At the latter place they heard the same reports of troops in front, and
also that there was a force at the Salado. A report has also been received here that Urrea was at Potosi, not San
Luis—but the hacienda of the name—with a considerable force. Rumor would gift him the power of ubiquity, Capt.
Carleton has not yet returned from his expedition, but is expected in to day.

The mutiny in the North Carolina regiment has been effectually quelled. On the morning after it broke out a
number of the officers of the regiment signed a petition to the colonel to resign, which he very properly refused to
listen to, but laid it before Gens. Cushing and Wool. It was considered by the commanding general that there was a
participation in the mutiny and two of the signera were dishonorably discharged from the service. As soon as this
was known seventeen officers, I think, tendered their resignation, but after twenty–four hours had elapsed they
thought better of it and begged leave to withdraw, expressing all due contrition, and leave was granted. Thus quiet
and subordination has been restored. The three regiments have all been separated; the North Carolina ordered to
the rear, and the Virginians to the front. The soldier who was wounded by Col. Paine at the time he shot the
mutineers was a Virginian and has been dishonorable discharged from the service

Yours, in haste,
J. E. D.

CAMP BUENA VISTA, August 23, 1847.

Yesterday morning two horsemen came galloping across the plain in front of headquarters, and the tout ensemble of
one soon made it evident that he was no less celebrated a person than the eccentric Capt. Tobin of your city. With
the captain was a Mexican in a very brown leather breeches who forth with presented himself to Gen. Wool. He had
just arrived with a small stock of cigars from San Luis Potosi, which place he left on the morning of the 14th inst.,
having made the trip in eight days.

This man reports that there were but about 1500 troops at San Luis and that he saw none on the route
except at Matehuaia, where there were about 1500 also. He knew that troops had been raised at Durango and
Zacatecas, but was not aware of their destination. He did no come by the way of Zacatecas and Mazabil and heard of
no troops being at the latter place. There were several guerrilla parties on the road between San Luis and this place
who had robbed a number of Mexicans, but he did not, luckily for him, fall in with them, or they might have puffed
his cigars more than was agreeable to a modest, unpretending dealer in the article.
BUENA VISTA, AUGUST 21, 1847.

Last evening was received a mail from the States with dates as late as the 31st ult from New Orleans, and about 5 o'clock the express which was sent down to Gen. Taylor on the evening of the 18th returned, bringing an order from Gen. T. countermanding the order for Dess's battery to go below at the solicitation of Gen. Wool. Capt. D. had completed all his arrangements in order to start this morning, and had brought his battery out in front of Gen. Cushing’s quarters, everything in splendid order. His chagrin at having his marching orders countermanded may be easily conceived. The express to which I have alluded brought a number of letters received at Monterey by express, containing copies of the Picayune of August 7, with the highly exciting news from Gen. Scott as late as the 20th ult, by which we learn the gratifying intelligence that Gen. S. would move in a few days.

Since my last, two companies of the North Carolina regiment have been ordered to the support of Capt. Prentiss’s battery on the hill above Saltillo. One of these companies, commanded by Capt. Henry, is the crack corps of the regiment and has been stationed in town ever since their arrival. It had no participation whatever in the late mutinous outbreak. Mr. Buck, formerly adjutant of the regiment, but recently appointed aid-de-camp to Gen. Cushing, has been elected captain in the regiment to fill a vacancy and will not go to Vera Cruz. The express sent to Gen. Taylor on the morning of the 19th, relative to the reported advances upon this quarter has not yet returned.

Yours, &c.
J. E. D.

[BRM]

RW47v24n73p4c4, September 21, 1847, THE BATTLE

We lay before our readers some further details of one of the proudest events of the present day. In addition to the letter of Mr. Kendall of the Picayune, embracing many of the incidents of the several engagements, and the list of the honored dead, and of those who have been wounded and shed their precious blood in the cause of their country, we publish a letter from a highly gifted officer of the army, which presents the most graphic and correct details which we have yet seen. It is a letter never intended for the public eye; but it bespeaks a taste and talent which would do honor to any writer. The details are, of course, correct; because they come from an eye-witness and an actor in the stirring scenes, who has the judgement to seize the most important event, and the power to describe them. We add to his description the Mexican account of the same events, as they are presented by two Mexicans, who write without reserve to their intimate friends at Tampico.

Extract of a very interesting letter received in Washington:

TACUBAYA, (in full view of the city of Mexico,)

August 24, 1847

“The army left Puebla on the 8th of this month, and after a few day’s march, reached Ayotla, immediately on the margin of the valley of Mexico. Between this place and the city, about four miles distant, we knew there was a strongly fortified position, called St. Pinon; it is a small isolated mountain, surrounded by water, on one side of one of the principal causeways leading to the city. After spending a day or two in reconnoitering this place, and which it would have caused a great loss of life to have taken, it was ascertained that there was a practicable road south of Lake Chaleo. The General determined to take this route, and put the army in motion, leaving our division to watch the enemy in our rear. The march was a dreadful one, being the rainy season. The road was in many places, where it passes at the foot of the mountains, and on the margin of the lake or narrow causeway, nearly covered with water, and excessively muddy; at others it was over rocky spaces of the mountains, and in places entirely obstructed by huge rocks rolled down by the enemy; but nothing seemed to damp the ardor of the army—all obstacles vanished before them. In two or three days, when the whole army was in motion, they could be seen from the front stretched out over a distance of seven or eight miles. On the 18th, the General reached a small town called San Augustin, about twelve miles south of the city, the leading divisions having arrived there the day before, Gen. Worth had placed his pickets in advance for the arrival of the General; he ordered the whole division to advance and take possession of a hacienda within striking distance of a strongly fortified place called San Antonio, and also that reconnoitering parties should be pressed forward still in advance; the party was supported by a squadron of cavalry and a battalion of infantry. In passing to the front, I found that a troop which had been place as a picket had gone forward; and as I came up with it, it made a turn in the road which brought it in full view of the enemy’s battery, which opened upon them. The first fire killed Capt. Thornton, mangling his body in the most horrid manner. The ball, a 16-pounder, afterwards struck the road, and literally covered me with mud and fragments of stone, one of which made a slight bruise on my right thigh. A guide was knocked from his horse within five feet of me, with a shocking wound in the head by a piece of stone.---It is thought he will recover, but with the loss of an eye. The reconnoissance was continued right and left with some hopes of storming the battery that afternoon; but night and the rain came on, and it was given up. Very early the next morning, I discovered from the top of the house in which we were quartered in San Augustin, a large body of the enemy, some 12,000 or 15,000 on our left, about three miles distant, The general had ordered reconnoissance in that direction towards San Angel, where I reported to him. He immediately ordered two divisions forward under Pillow and Twiggs, and followed soon after himself. The enemy were found in an entrenched camp, at a place called Conrreras, with twenty pieces of artillery, some of them very
heavy siege pieces. The attack commenced at noon, and the firing continued incessantly until dark, when it ceased on both sides, our troops maintaining their ground and occupying a village near by. During the afternoon we watched the different movements of our troops with the most fearful anxiety, and could plainly see one of our columns resist a charge of a large body of cavalry, and the enemy falling from their saddles and taking to their heels, or rather to their horses’ heels. During the whole of the fight, we could see on the right a body of at least ten thousand infantry, and cavalry in reserve, towards the city; but they had not the courage to advance, although Santa Anna himself was said to be there. The attack was ordered to be renewed at 3 o’clock next morning, and the general returned to San Augustin. He left at an early hour, taking with him General Worth’s and one-half of his division as a reinforcement; but en route he was met by an officer, who reported that the batteries had been carried by our troops in a most gallant style, Colonel Riley leading the assault. As he approached the scene of action, it seemed most incredible how our men got over the ground to the attack. It was over immense masses of lava thrown up in the roughest, sharpest possible shapes, and covered with dense brushwood. Streams had to be crossed and deep ravines; and most of them having passed the night in a pelting rain without shelter, it appears almost incredible that they should be able to drive double their numbers from a battery of 23 heavy guns. The scene of the arrival of the General was most exciting. The cheering of the troops left to protect the property taken, and their delight on seeing him, was very gratifying. Many of the guns taken have been added to our siege train. The amount of ammunition taken, exceeded by three times the whole which we brought from Vera Cruz, so that we are well provided. But the greatest cause of exultation was the recapture of two of our own guns, brought from Buena Vista, the last battle of General Taylor. When I saw the U.S. on them, I felt like dismounting and embracing them. What is remarkable about their recapture, it was made by the 4th artillery, to which the regiment they formerly belonged. They, with other small captured pieces, were immediately fitted up as a light battery, and the Captain (Dunn) who took them in command of it. The General when he received the intelligence of this victory, sent Gen. Worth back to make a demonstration on San Antonio, whilst he, with the portion of the army which was pressing the enemy, should get in it rear. I will not stop to describe the scene on the field of battle. On leaving it, the road was literally strewn with dead Mexicans, arms, broken carriages, &c. In passing a bridge, I looked over, and saw the bodies of at least twenty, piled on the other, and the bank of the stream was strewed with them, and it was some distance before we got out of sight. Going on we came to a church, in which were confined 700 prisoners. The General halted a few minutes, and addressed the officers very kindly. Amongst them were four generals. He then hurried out to join pursuing army. We came up with them at San Angel, where they had halted. As the General passed along the line, it was on continued shout. After a few minutes we passed on to a village called Coyoacan, where we heard firing on our right, about two miles off, in the direction of San Antonio. The General immediately sent me, with Captain Kearney’s troop, to ascertain the state of affairs. We galloped on; and on approaching the place, I found that Worth had turned the place by both planks, and driven the enemy from it, and was in hot pursuit of them. I returned to the General as quickly as I had gone, and as I galloped along I heard a brisk firing in front. When I reached him I found that he was fiercely engaged with the enemy at another strongly entrenched position—San Pablo. This action lasted more than two hours, and the firing was more general and more continuous than any I had heard yet. The enemy’s grape and canister flew like hail, and the fire of our infantry was one continued volley. Capt. Taylor’s batter was obliged to retire, being most sadly crippled––lost two officers, a great many men, and left the field with only two horses to a gun; but the enemy although behind entrenchments, with heavy guns, could not withstand the impetuosity and valor of our troops. The place was carried by assault, and the whole armament and a great number of prisoners were taken. In the meantime, Worth having hotly pursued the enemy, come up with him at another fortified place in advance of San Pablo, called Churubusco, and after an obstinate resistance, carried it, made many prisoners, and drove the enemy before him. The dragoons pursued and followed him to the very gates of the city. Two officers are said to have been killed inside the entrenchments of the gateway. Thus ended the day; and I think you will agree with me that it was a TOLERABLY active one—four distinct battles having been fought and won, and the enemy out numbering us in each at least three to four times. They acknowledge to have had thirty thousand men in the field on that day; and yet we drove them one very occasion, and, in the end, made more than twenty–three hundred prisoners, among them seven of their principal generals, and about forty pieces of cannon. Our loss, I am sorry to say, as may be expected, has been very great. It may possibly reach one thousand killed and wounded; but the returns are not yet in; but enough is known to satisfy us that we have lost many valuable officers. Among the prisoners taken, I was mortified to see between 50 to 70 deserters from our army, with the Mexican uniform on. A court is in session to try them; and I trust that many of them will be punished. It is pretty well known from their position in the battle at San Pablo, that a volley from them killed and wounded sixteen out of seventeen of the second infantry, including an officer, and leaving one officer (the adjutant of the regiment) standing.

“There are many of our friends, I am sorry to say, among the killed and wounded; but I can hardly enumerate them now. Young Captain Hanson, of Washington, was killed. Colonel Butler, of the South Carolina regiment, was killed; Smith, badly wounded in the arm and thigh; hopes are entertained that his army may be saved. Lieut. Irons shot through the wind–pipe, slight hopes of his recovery. Captain Phil. Kearney lost his arm in the charge towards the gate of the city; he is doing well. There are other, no doubt, which I cannot recollect at this moment; but many that we are equally interested in are safe. Hagner and Galt are both safe.

“The next morning, the General, leaving a hospital and a garrison in San Augustin, set off with a determination of reaching this place before night. Halting at Coyoacan a short tie, to allow time for his various orders for the movement of the troops to be executed, he was met by a flag from the city, asking terms. After making his reply, the bearer of the flag, a general of engineers, very civilly proposed to the General, knowing his intention of coming here, that if he would halt a few hours longer he would request his government to send word to the castle of Chapultepec not to fire on us as we approached. But the General replied that it was his intention to come here, and he would take the risk, on he went. On approaching the town, the General sent me forward with an order to Col. Harney, of the dragoons, to take possession of it, and make the necessary disposition of pickets,&c., and wait the arrival of Gen Worth before unsaddling his horses. We rode into town without molestation; but a troop, which had accompanied Gen Captain Lee, in advance, had proceeded. We was lucky for us that Chapultepec did not fire upon us; for the tow is in perfect range of its guns, and might have knocked us into a cocked hat. Worth’s division did not arrive until near dark, and we had none but dragoons with us. The same evening another flag was received from the
city. I will not pretend to give the objects. Several have been interchanged since; and I am happy to say, that an armistice was this day agreed upon, with the object of negotiation for peace. The terms were dictated by the General, very magnanimously, and very discreetly, no doubt, too, did not ask a surrender of the city, as it is virtually under his control; and to have taken the army into it, would have been productive of some trouble, as it would be next to impossible to control the troops. We are occupying the Bishop's Palace, a huge pile of buildings with magnificent gardens attached, but as uncomfortable as can be, there being no furniture. The view from here, though, is beyond description. Chapultepec, a little on the left, looks frowning down upon with is heavy guns, and the city, with it innumerable spires, nearly surrounded by water, is directly in front. But I have not space for further description.

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The Mexican Rout,—Account by the Mexicans themselves.

It is amusing to see the accounts which are given by the Mexicans themselves of the great battle which was fought near the walls of Mexico. We are indebted for the two following letters to a gentleman of this city. They were forwarded by an officer of distinction at Tampico. Who obtained the Spanish copies at that place. They were addressed to Mexicans at Tampico—the one written from the capital itself on the 21st, August, and the other at Huijatlal, between Mexico and Tampico, written on the 26th. They are sufficiently piquent, and very interesting in the views which they present of the progress and result of the battle of Churubusco.

CITY OF MEXICO, August 21.

MY DEAR FRIEND: I am in the blackest of humors; I am overpowered by the most profound melancholy; the whole has gone to the devil. The Yankees—the hateful Yankees—have triumphed, because our inefficient generals cannot even command four soldiers. Generals Valencia and Santa Anna have been routed successively at the stone quarry of San Angel, and at Churubusco bridge; and Scott with his army occupies the hacienda of Portales, distant five miles from here.

That gang of miscreants would have occupied the capital to-day, but General Santa Anna, in order, is reported, to prevent such ignominy to the nation as to have the hateful flag of the stars waving over the palace of the Montezumas, has decided on hearing the proposals for peace from the United States commissioner; and, as a preliminary, tomorrow they will discuss the terms of an armistice. The Generals Mora, Villamil, and Quijano.

Malediction and eternal hatred to the perversed who have usurped the title of leaders of the nation only to head revolutions they promoted for their own aggrandizement, and to demoralize all classes of society. A treat of peace appears to me inevitable, under the most shameful conditions to us; for, without an army or public spirit, which has been deadened by civil dissensions, and in the face of the treasonable selfishness shown by the authorities of some of the States, what advantages is possible to obtain from a proud enemy who is conscious of its power.

I will not continue discussing this point, because I feel my soul is burning with despair. Poor country! She has been buried in the mire by those of her sons that she most distinguished.

HUIJALTIA, August 26, 1847.

MY ESTEEMED FRIEND: I have learned the following letters to the 21st, received from Mexico:

At dawn on the 19th, the enemy made false attacks on the farm of San Antonio and on Churubusco, which is supposed they did so as to execute their real maneuver, which, as was afterwards seen, was to advance on Tacubaya—This was done by sending their troops along the thickets and ravines between Tialpam and that town. Valencia was not taken unawares, who, you will recollect, was in charge of that post, and was timely advised by his explorers of the advance of the enemy, and therefore received them with a terrible fire of artillery and musketry. When the enemy found they were discovered, they took the direction of the heights where our batteries were placed, sustaining an active fire from their infantry, aided by some artillery shots, with the object of succeeding in getting up; but everytime they attempted it, they were checked and disordered by our troops, and immediately threatened to charge with bayonet, which was never done. They were therefore retreated four times to the ravine, where they kept their reserve, and whence they returned organized and reinforced. The day was spent in this manner. It is calculated the enemy lost in their attempts more than one thousand men. Valencia repeatedly asked for assistance, or to call the attention of the enemy that he might flank them, but he was always answered in the negative. Not withstanding, at 3, p.m., one of our divisions was seen flanking the enemy with 5,00 infantry, 2,000 cavalry, and 6 field pieces, commanded by Gen. Santa Anna.

This so intimidated Scott that he showed by his maneuvers a disposition to retreat; but when he saw that the said division had remained as simple spectators, he returned to the charge until the close of the day.

In the early part of the night, Gen. Santa Anna marched to Churubusco, and the enemy, who knew this movement, sent the greater part of their force to the rear of Valencia's and as this general had no information of the withdrawal of Gen. Santa Anna, slackened his vigilance in that quarter. And at dawn the 20th he found himself hemmed in by the enemy, who, reinforced with 2000 men, charged along the ravine with such fury that they were not intimidated at our soldiers charging them with the bayonet; on the contrary, when our troops advanced, their fell
It appears our loss in this action amounted to 400 killed, and more than 1000 prisoners.

On the afternoon of the 10th, Gen. Rangel left Mexico with a brigade of 3,000 men, and orders to reinforce Valencia, or attack the enemy in the direction the former might think proper; but on the road he received instructions from Gen. Santa Anna to remain in San Angel until further orders. As Valencia was posted on the hills and farm of Contreras, he knew nothing of this force. The remnants of this general's forces pursued by the enemy, joined Rangel's, who, as soon as he knew of the defeat, countermarched to the citadel. In this affair we lost 20 pieces, most of them of heavy caliber, all the train, ammunition, &c. that came from San Luis, and above all, the name of military men, which, until now, we had well or badly borne. Gen. Scott immediately fell on San Antonio, and before mid-day, he was molesting our troops with the artillery he took at Contreras, which, united with his own, and with the whole main body of his army—emboldened by a triumph which, in my opinion, they had not even dreamed of—routed ours in a moment, but so shamefully, that at the first fire they took the farm with all the ammunition and park of artillery, which, it is said, they spiked; and from that very place they went to attack Churubusco. Here the attack was very brisk on both sides, both parties losing many men. On our part, we have lost battalions Independence and Bravo, of the National Gueard. Scarcely 400 have been rallied of 1,300 forming No. 11. The 4th light infantry was destroyed, and nearly the whole of the company or legion of St. Patrick; the few that remained were the Polks—i.e. the Victoria battalion—who were the last to retreat. The enemy, therefore, took possession of the post at 5 p.m., after having obtained four victories. These they have, in spite of the unskillfulness of our general, purchased at a very high price, because, it is said, their dead amount to more than 3,000. Notwithstanding this they advanced as far as the farm of Portales, distant one and a half leagues, when they fortified themselves, believing they would be attacked on the 21st. This was not the case; because that day was employed in going in and out of the gates, and in talking a great deal. On the afternoon of the 21st there were quartered at the Palace the battalion Sur Morelas, the remnants of the 4th light infantry Victoria, and the Grenadiers of the Supreme Powers, and many ammunition wagons, and some artillery, of which we had too much left in the direction of Chapultepec. It is said a charge on the enemy was expected this night. However this is, Gen. Santa Anna moved for an armistice, the terms of which will be discussed on the 22d. As a preliminary to this, Gen. Santa Anna offered to listen to the proposals of peace from the United States commissioner. In order to arrange the armistice, Generals Mora, Villamil, and Quijano were appointed. So far, we know among the killed are Generals Torjon, Frotera, and Mexis, and Col Perdijon; and among the prisoners, Bravo, Goresteago, Rincon, Gezoman, and Parrodi, and Capt Tabera, and Choss, and Major Cera; but there is no doubt there are a great many of both. The capital was in the greatest consternation.

By the next post I will tell you whatever else may occur. Fare you well. From your affection friend, &c.

[BRM]

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TACUBAYA, MEXICO, Aug. 26, 1847.

SIR: I trust a cordial intimacy and friendship of twenty-five years with your late Brother, the gallant Col. Butler will excuse the trespass of a stranger. Your Brother fell most gloriously in the great battle of the 20th, before the gates of Mexico. In that bloody conflict, no man gave higher evidence of valor and patriotism, or exhibited a brighter example. He fell when it was God's will, precisely as he would have desired to die. His body rests here; his memory in the hearts of his countrymen; his spirit, bright and pure as his blade, with his God.

The enclosed letter, written the day before the battle, I did not receive until the day after, through the hands of Dickinson; and it is not because of the kind things said by a friend's partiality, but because it is probably the last letter he penned, that I send it to you; begging that some future day it may be returned to me, to be preserved and cherished.

The gallant Palmettos, who showed themselves worthy of their State and Country, lost nearly one-half. This victory will carry joy and sorrow into half the families in South Carolina. Col Dickinson is getting on well, and will, it is hoped, save his leg. An Armistice is concluded, and Commissioners meet to-morrow to treat of Peace. God speed them.
Very truly, your obedient servant,
W. J. WORTH

Hon. A. PICKENS BUTLER.

SAN AUGUSTIN, August 19, 1847.

Letter from Col. Butler to Gen. Worth.

Dear General; We are here in tribulation. I can but hope, however, it is but temporary. It is ordered that this division remain as protection to the train. There is gloom on us all: while I am one who believes there will be fighting enough for all. The moral effect is withering. The regiment, though weak in numbers, is up to the fall point, and I trust South Carolina may have a place in the picture. We have been watching you and your division for the last two days with fraternal affection; but the entire voice of the army, where I have been, or heard, is unbounded confidence in "Worth" "So mote it bed." But I have strayed from the principal point or purpose of my note, which is to say, our friend, Col Dickinson, more impatient, and not so long a soldier as myself, desires a place nearer the flashing of the guns; and with good taste, wishes to get near you. If you can make him useful, he will feel much gratified. I am aware you are surrounded by a talented staff, but a littler more of a good thing will render it not the less complete or effectual.

I am, my dear General, yours sincerely,

P. M. BUTLER, S. C. V.

General W. J. WORTH, Comd'g, &c.

We are now located in one wing of the Archbishop's palace, Chapultepec, with its significant grove, is before us, and we overlook the great city, surrounded by its [illegible] and embosomed in its mountains. I never recalled the beauty of the valley of Mexico until I reached this spot. To see it now, lighted by the soft, bright moon with every village, spire, hut, and mountain reflected in its silver lakes, you would think it even surpasses the descriptions we read of it. There are also some stupendous works of art around us. I can tell you nothing, for I have not been in the city, of something more interesting, I shall have to tell you of the operations of the army.

On the 7th inst. Gen Twigg's division left Puebla.---It was followed on the 8th by Gen. Quitman's on the 9th by Gen. Worth's, and overtook Gen. Twiggs that night at San Martin. Our march over the mountains was undisturbed, except by rumors of guerrillas and resistance. Both disappeared as we approached, and we left their abandoned works as we found them. On the 11th Gen. Twiggs encamped at Ayotla, 15 miles from Mexico, 15 miles from Mexico, on the direct road. The other divisions, on each succeeding day, came up in order, and took positions in the rear---Gen. Worth occupying Chalco. The reconnaissance of the 12th and 13th satisfied us of the strength of the enemy's defences n our front. Their principal defence was at El Penon, commanding the causeway between the lakes of Tezecaco and Chalco. The hill of El Penon is about 300 feet high, having three plateaus of different elevations. It stands in the waters of Lake Tazeuco. It haze is surrounded by a dry trench, and its sides arranged with breast works from its base to its crest. It was armed with thirty pieces of cannon, and defended by 7,000 men, under Santa Anna in person. The causeway passed directly by its base---the waters of the lake washing each side of the causeway for two miles in front, and the whole distance seven miles to the city. There was a battery on the causeway about four hundred yards in advance of the Penon, another by its side, a third about a mile in front of the entrance to the city, and a fourth at the entrance. About two miles in front of the Penon a road branched off to the left, and crossed the outlet of Lake Hochimilico, a the village of Mexicalingo, six miles from the main road. This village surrounded by a marsh, was enveloped in batteries, and only approached over a paced causeway a mile in length. Beyond, the causeway continued through the marsh for two miles farther, and opened upon terra firma at the village of Churubusco, which was also fortified, and which we shall see more presently. The reconnaissance of the 14th satisfied us that the route south of Lake Chalco was practicable for our wagons, or could be made so. That day Gen. Pillow's division closed upon the village of Chalco, and the next morning (15th) gen. Worth led off south of the lake. The divisions took up the line of march in succession, Gen. Twiggs bringing up the rear, and we turned our backs upon the fortifications of the Penon and Mexicalingo. General Valencia, with 6000 men, made an attempt to annoy our rear as it turned Lake Chalco; but General Twiggs having his train in front, and his division well in hand, wheeled into line to the left, and, with one discharge of Taylor's battery, tumbled over some men and horses, and
sent the rest flying over the hills like the wild ducks from the lakes. He then broke again into column, and resumed his march. The racheros and guerilleros hovering about our front gave us little trouble, and the working parties filled up the trenches, and rolled away the rocks that had been placed there to retard us, without stopping our march.

On the 17th Gen. Worth encamped at San Augustin, on the Acapulco road, and moved down on the 18th two and a half miles, in front of San Antonio, or make room for the other division to close upon him. The 18th was devoted to reconnoissances. San Antonio was situated similarly to Mexicalcingo. Batteries commanded the causeway in front, and swept over the marches to the left as far as the lake. The pedregal, or volcanic rocks, rendered the right impassable for everything but infantry, and difficult for them... one and a half mile in the rear were situated the defences of Churubusco, commanding the approach over the pedregal, and by the way of Mexicalcingo, A route was discovered west from San Augustin over the spurs of the mountain, to the San Angel road, by which these positions could be turned. Gen. Twigg's division coming up the morning of the 19th, was thrown forward on this route, to cover the working parties formed from Pillow’s division. By 1 p.m., we had surmounted the hills and approached the two divisions of the army, with their field batteries, &c., within cannon range of Valencia’s entrenchments, situated on the San Angel road, and commanding the only approach through the pedregal, or volcanic rocks. The working parties were returned to their regiments, the tools repacked, and preparations made to dislodge the enemy, before continuing the road further. On approaching his front within canister range, and driving in his advanced parties, posted behind breastworks across the road, with Magruder’s and the howitzer batteries, it was found that the ground on his left offered the greatest advantages for the attack. He lay entrenched on rising ground, behind a deep ravine about midway between us, to which the ground gently descended from both directions. His front was defended by four 8-inch howitzers, and three long 16-pounders, one 18-pounder, and some smaller caliber, His right was almost equally strong; and, after crossing the ravine, approached over smooth ground in form of a natural glacis, and taken in reverse by a body of racheros and lancers. The heads of the different divisions were accordingly changed to the right; and, each leaving their horses and batteries behing, slowly worked their way, among the volcanic rocks, to the ravine, which they passed in front of the small village of San Raymond, out of gunshot of Valencia’s batteries. They were now on the firm San Angel road, between the ravine and the head of Valencia and relief; but Santa Anna coming out to his support with seven thousand infantry and cavalry, drew up in battle array on the hill of Contreros, to our right. Col. Riley’s brigade, that had been moved to the right earlier in the day, to co–operate with a front attack, and had passed beyond the San Angel Road, now falling back upon the village which we had take possession of, General Smith at once determined to drive away the force threatening our right. By the time his dispositions were made, the sun had set; and night drawing on, it was feared we should not have light enough for our work. The attack was therefore suspended till morning. The troops bivouacked around the village, without food, without shelter, and without fire. It was afterwards determined to return the original intention of assaulting Valencia’s entrenchments, as the dispersion of Santa Anna’s force affected but little our principal object.

At 3 a.m., Col. Riley’s brigade was pt in motion, followed by Gen. Smith’s and Gen. Cadwallader’s; Gen Shields holding the village. During the night, the 9th and 12th regiments, with a company of rifled and some detachments that had been thrown out the previous day, were moved to the ravine in front of the enemy’s position, and, after driving in their picquets in the gray of the morning, filed off to the right, an took sheltered position on their left, ready to co–operate with the attacking force in rear. This force moving around the base of the hill on which the battery was placed, covered from their view and fire, began about sunrise to show themselves over its crest. Col. Riley’s brigade, sweeping around their rear and right, moved down with great impetuosity, while Gen Smith attacked their left from the rear. In the meantime Col Ransom, pushing across the ravine the force in front, opened his fire upon their front and left. The enemy fiding himself thus attacked, and apprehending the main attack from the direction in which we approached the previous day, opened his heavy battery on his front. But Riley’s brigade carrying everything before them, on that of Shields. They broke at all points, abandoning artillery, pack train, ammunition, &c. We took 800 prisoners—4 generals: Salas, Mendoza, Blanco, and Garcia; 4 colonels; 2 commanders of brigades and squadrons, and other officers in proportion. Among the twenty–two pieces of artillery taken, were the two belonging to Washington’s battery, taken at Buena Vista. They were retaken by the 4th artillery, the regiment to which they originally belonged. We buried 600 of their dead found on the field. Our loss did not exceed 60. After allowing the troops a little time for refreshment, they were put in march down the San Angel road, to take in reverse the positions of San Antonio and Churubusco. The enemy, finding himself turned, immediately commenced to evacuate his lines at San Antonio; but we moved upon him so rapidly that he had to abandon his guns. Gen Worth’s division, that had masked him in front, followed so close upon his heels as to drive his rear into the defences of Churubusco. In the meantime Gen. Twiggs had taken his position in the front on the battery surrounding the convent, while Gen. Worth seized upon that defending the bridge, and blocking the main road to Mexico. The battle opened fiercely on that side. Generals Shields and Cadwallader advanced to the right of the convent, and General Pierce, following quickly up, took position to his left, and the howitzer battery opened on his right. The Mexicans made a stout resistance, and the reverse under Major Sumner, composed of the rifle regiment and a squadron of dragoons, was brought to their support. By the time they broke into the cornfield, the enemy began to give way. Worth and Twiggs had forced their front, and they were being driven upon the capital. As soon as the way was clear for the dragoons, they swept over the causeway, charging up to the very gates. Many a fine saddle was emptied by the discharge from their last battery. Capt Kearney, whose troop was leading, lost his left arm, and the rest of his officers were wounded. Our men had done their work well faithfully. Their exhaustion required rest. The recall was sounded and we returned to the care of the killed and wounded. Of these we have a goodly number. I fear they will reach nearly 1000. Many gallant officers are at rest. Col. Butler, of the South Carolina regiment, bringing his regiment into action, had his horse shot under him; continuing the charge on foot, he was wounded in the leg, and finally shot through the head. Of the regulars, Capt. Thornton, of the dragoons, Capt. Burke, 1st artillery, Hanson, Lieut. Irons, Easly, Hoffman, and Johnston. About 40 are wounded more or less severely. All the engineers
are safe. We cannot be sufficiently thankful, nor repay the interest or prayers of our friends in our behalf. The
greeting of General Scott, by the troops after the action, on seeing the success of all his plane, was loud and
vociferous. It must have shaken the "Halls of the Motezumas." Their enthusiasm seemed to cheer the Mexican
officers in their captivity. The army has implicit confidence in him, and apprehend nothing where he commands. He
sees everything, and calculates the costs of every measure; and they know and feel that their lives and labor will not be
uselessly commanded. During the day, we too 9,700 prisoners, 6 generals, 37 pieces of artillery, and ammunition
enough for a whole campaign, their defences were completely turned and their plans upset. We could have entered
Mexico that evening, or the next morning, at our pleasure, so complete was the disorganization of their army of
38,000 men. We learn that 27,000 men were opposed to us at all points on the 29th, and they acknowledge is killed
and wounded 5000 men. On the 21st, as the army met by a proposition for a cessation of hostilities, for the purpose
of taking case of the killed and wounded. This he refused, but in the evening agreed to an armistice, or enable
commissioners to meet Mr. Trist, and to treat for peace.—The armistice has been officially ratified. It is difficult to
foresee the result; though I can very well see that it is for Santa Anna’s advantage to make peace. So far I can trust
him.

The Lieutenant Johnson killed, was the nephew of Lt. Col. Johnson, of the voltigeurs. I was standing by him
when his leg was carried off above the knee by a cannon ball. He was gallant little fellow, and an merry over his
work all the morning as a boy at play. He fell by the side of the gun he had been effectively serving, and died that
night, 19th instant. The Colonel did not hear of his death until next morning. He was standing in Valencia’s captured
entrenchments, flushed with the recent victory; his frame shrunk and shivered with agony, and I wept to witness his
grief. It is the living for whom we should mourn, and not the dead. The engineers did good service on both days; nor
was the engineer company behind in any under taking.

The telegraph of the 6th inst has the following paragraph about the crops of Texas:

"DROUGHT AND THE CROPS.—We were not apprised until within a few days that the drought that has
prevailed in the undulating region had been so extensive and disastrous. We have been informed that it has
seriously injured the upland cotton through the whole tier of counties from San Antonio to the Trinity. On the San
Antonio, many of the settlers have been compelled to cut up their corn as it was withering in the fields. The settlers
near Bexar have raised so little corn that the crop is insufficient for the consumption of the citizens, and large
quantities have been transported from Guadaloupe to that town. It is selling at Bexar for a dollar a bushel. We are
informed that the cotton has suffered more upon the uplands than the corn. In many places but little or half a crop
will be made. In the bottom lands, however, the crop is immense; some of the planters are already complaining that
they cannot procure hands to pick it out as fast as it matures."

From the Telegraph of the 6th inst, we take the following:

"BEXAR.—Several Mexican traders have lately visited Bexar and purchased a large quantities of goods.
Some of them brought a quantity of silver in bars. This silver is remarkably pure. We learn that there are several
silver mines in the vicinity of Santa Rosa, and Monclova, which are quite productive, and as the Government can no
longer monopolize the profits, the people in that section will probably work them to a greater extent than they have
been worked in any previous year. The trade of Bexar would doubtless be increased to a very great extent, if a
company of rangers were stationed near the Nueces or the route to the Presidio. The Lipans and Camanches are almost constantly watching on that route to intercept the Mexican tradres and it is believed that several renegade Mexicans are also connected with these marauders. It has been reported in Bexar, that the guerrillas have appeared in considerable force between Saltillo on the road to Mier. A large party of guerrillas lately appeared in the vicinity of Parras, and their [illegible] cause they had befriended the Mexicans; but he retired without fulfilling his threat. A large number of Shawnee and Delaware Indians have recently encamped near Bexar. They are engaged in hunting and are remarkably friendly.”

The Houston Star says a large number of Mexican families have removed from the Rio Grande to that town, and other are expected to follow them this season. These families, however, possess little property, and appear to have removed from Mexico to avoid the oppressive exactions of the numerous guerrilla parties that now infest all the eastern States of Mexico. According to their representations the people in the valley of the Rio Grande are in a deplorable condition. Unprotected in any manner by their own Government, almost without laws or officers who are empowered to restrain marauding bands of their own countrymen, or to check the incursions of the savages, they are unable to enjoy the least security of person or property.

The Star learns that Bexar is not the only town that has been benefited by the emigration from Mexico. Laredo, which has enjoyed comparative security since the ranging company of Gen. Lamar has been stationed there, seems to be slowly recovering its former prosperity. We have been informed that its population is now even greater than that of Bexar, and it is estimated that not less than five thousand souls are now residing in the town and the neighboring settlements. The number of Mexican votes that will be polled in Western Texas, at the election in November next, is estimated at about three thousand.

The Houston Star of the 9th inst. Has the following paragraph:

“GERMAN COLONY.—We learn that MR. Meusenbach, the agent of the German Colony, has raised a company of about sixty men, and gone out to the Conchos to protect the surveyors, who are engaged in running the boundary lines of the colony. The Camachens threaten that they will kill any surveyors who attempt to make surveys in that section, and he in his turn threatens to fire upon any Indians that may molest the surveyors. No Camaches have recently been seen near the frontiers, and the rangers who lately went out to visit one or two of the lodges they occupied a few weeks since, found them deserted. It appears that they have retired with all their women and children far into the interior, and the settlers fear they have gone back to the mountains to secrete their families with the intention to make war upon our settlements.”

[BRM]

The following letter from the city of Mexico to the Tampico correspondent of the New Orleans La Patria, by whom it has been forwarded to that paper, though of no later date than they accounts previously received by way of Vera Cruz, was deemed of sufficient interest to authorise its publication in an extra sheet. We copy it, in the absence of later intelligence, but we do not at all confide in its statements:

MEXICO, August 29, 1847.

Esteemed Friend——I have already informed you that Gen. Scott proposed a suspension of arms on the 21st, and it was followed by an armistice agreed to on the 22d inst. A negotiation was forthwith opened with Mr. Trist, and I have just been assured that up to yesterday it had progressed very satisfactorily. Very shortly a treaty of peace, it is expected, will be concluded. The principal articles are the following:

“The United States shall restore to Mexico the Californias, together with all the ports, cities and towns which the Americans forces occupy in our territory.

“The United States shall forever retain the State of Texas, whose limist shall exted to the left bank of the Rio Bravo del Norte, comprising Matamoros, by means of a canal which shall be cut for that purpose.”

In Respect to this latter point it appears that nothing definite has been agreed upon. It has been found impossible to assemble Congress, consequently a junta of “notables” will be formed for the express purpose of revising the treaty. There are other articles, but as they are of secondary importance they re not given.

Gen. Alvares is announeed as intending to reassemble his troops, for the purpose of attacking the Americans on the first favorable opportunity.

Gen. Paredes, it is stated, is marching on the capital with a respectable force, which he has succeeded in bringing together, with a view to assist his countrymen. This he persist in doing, notwithstanding the order that has been transmitted to him from Santa Anna to quit the country—-to return again to the place of his exile.

GEN. SALAS.—I have just seen a communication from Gen. Salas, dated from Coayacan, where he remained a prisoner. In this, he declares that it was by the unskilfulness of Valencia, and the cowardice of Torrejon,
that the orders of Salas, which directed him to charge the Americans with his cavalry, pusillanimously fled, and in this manner brought ruin and destruction on our infantry.

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RW47v24n75p2c2, September 28, 1847, THE ARMISTICE

A letter from a field officer of the Army to a friend in New York, published in the Journal of Commerce, says, that, after the battle of the 20th, "it was known in our camp that the panic-sticken remains of the Mexican army could oppose only a feeble and ineffectual resistance to the entrance of our troops into the capital; but Mr. Commissioner Trist, who is charged by the Administration at Washington with the negotiation on our part, announced, as his deliberate conviction, that if the army were to follow up the victory and enter the capital, all hope of a speedy peace would be destroyed, while, on the other hand, forbearance promised that happy result. On the morning after the battle, Santa Anna sent out a flag and asked for a truce preliminary to negotiations for peace. The General in Chief, desirous to carry out the views of his Government, and acting in concert with the Commissioner, Mr. Trist, assented to the armistice, to afford opportunity for the negotiation under the most favorable auspices."

The writer thinks that peace will be the result; but the opinion of the majority was that the Mexicans would practice their usual chicanery and treachery, and compel Gen. Scott to resume hostilities—in which event, he says," the city will be captured—and if by assault, fearful will be the consequences."

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RW47v24n75p2c4, September 28, 1847, THE LATE MEXICAN BATTLES

The following narrative of the late Battles near the city of Mexico, is extracted from a letter by an officer of the U. States Army, to a friend in Virginia. The writer is a Virginian and held a conspicuous position in the conflicts he describes:

"MEXCOAC, 3 miles from the City of Mexico,} August 25, 1847. }"

"My Dear----: 'We have met the enemy and he, is ours'--Santa Anna has been completely out--Generalized, and though his men fought like Devils ours fought like ----Angels! With an army of less that 10,000 men and about 27 pieces of Artillery we have beaten Santa Anna with about 35,000 men and 100 pieces of Artillery behind well constructed fortifications--each knowing that victory or death must be his fate---the flaming cannon’s mouth had no terrors for any. Our men charged batteries shot down cannoniers, routed Infantry and turned the enemy’s own cannon upon them, with a rapidity and impetuosity that nothing could resist, in all cases led by their officers. Of 15 officers in our regiment, 8 have fallen, 5 killed and 3 severely wounded. We have lost at least 1000 men, but we have taken 50 pieces of Artillery, which makes us stronger than before our loss. The City is at out feet, sueing for mercy—but what Soldier has so well done, the Diplomatist may spoil. An armistice has been concluded, the terms of which are, in substance—that hostilities shall cease, to be renewed at the option of either party at forty eight hours’ notice—that free trade shall be allowed with the city to supply the army with necessities—that no officer or soldier other than those connected with the Commissary and Quarter Masters' Departments is to enter the city, with or without arms—that an express can pass though the city with a safeguard to the Coast—that no more fortifications are to be erected be either part—and no reinforcements to be received by either----that this armistice is agreed to, to give the U. States the opportunity of proposing terms of peace!!! I am a solider, to make no comments.

It is but just to state, however, that the reasons given for the armistice are,“ that if Santa Anna and his army are entirely destroyed or dispersed, there will be nobody to make peace with—that we shall be compelled to assume the government and become entangled in Mexican politics—and that such a state of things would be the worst that could happen to our country.” We are therefore to treat with Santa Anna, and strengthen him, as far as is proper, to enable him to make peace—but when we go, he must fall as he knows: hence when he is sufficiently strengthened, he may turn upon us again, and fortune cannot always be with us. He is treacherous and unprincipled in the extreme, with great talents as a general and intriguer; and though he is said to be without personal courage, his firmness of purpose and confidence in himself are absolutely marvelous. Whilst all this is going on, much course to the dissatisfaction of the army, the troops are quartered in the little villages around the city, and are anything but comfortable. I myself, however, with my company, occupy a beautiful country church, the food Padre having kindly given up his library to me as a sleeping room. At the head of my bed stands a waken image of the Virgin Mary, and opposite its foot two figures as large as life, each having a hand of the infant Saviour, all covered with glass cases; the books are all theological, and on every side there are images of saints—leaving nothing earthly in the room except your humble servant, and a Daguerreotype of Bocanegru, who, I believe, is a relative of the Padre.

My battery has been much injured in this fight. I was ordered to attack with 6 light pieces a Fort furnished with 23 guns, among them 18 pounders and three 8-inch howitzers—the latter being the same caliber as 68 lb Paixhan guns. I was obliged to go within their grape to be felt by them with my light guns, and to open on them from the road without any cover for my battery. However, it was necessary to hold the position at all hazards, in order to give time to the storming parties to turn uninterruptedly the enemy’s left. I held it from 2 o’clock, P.M. until I was relieved by a brigade of infantry, at 10 o’clock at night—having in the meantime been repeatedly urged by the
Engineers, and ordered by others, to retire; which I did not think myself justified, however, in doing, being better acquainted with the state of affairs in that part of the field that others whose orders I received, but who were engaged elsewhere. I have the satisfaction of knowing that my conduct met with the entire approbation of my commanding officers. I had three pieces dismounted—the 1st Lieut. Of my battery, J. P. Johnston, 1st Artillery of Virginia, killed by my side, (one of the brightest and most valuable officers of the army,) several privates killed and wounded; and I lost ten horses killed or so badly wounded as to be unfit for service. Poor Irons is dreadfully wounded, with a grape-shot through his neck; he may recover—God grant he may. Martin of the 1st, I deeply regret to say, has lost his arm. I hope he is doing well.

In the Fort of San Angel, we captured the pieces lost at Buena Vista; 'tis said they were captured by the 4th Artillery, the same regiment which lost them.

I hope we now shall have a peace—but I distrust diplomacy. The Mexicans ought, in my opinion, to have been made to treat during a fight. Nothing makes them so much disposed to peace as the roar of our artillery and the cheers of our men. They will beat us to death at diplomacy carried on in tranquility. I hope for the best, and am not disposed to condemn what I may not fully understand. One thing is certain, that the Army has the most unbounded confidence in Gen. Scott—he has proved himself great in all things. Mr. Trist is the negotiator on the part of the Government, and I am told, with the fullest powers. Quitman, Persifer Smith and Pierce (Generals) were the Commissioners to arrange the terms of the armistice on our side—all fighting men and all Administration men.

I am naturally most anxious to return home—I am glad there is a prospect of peace. Having participate in five great battles, the last the greatest in numbers, and perhaps in consequences, yet fought during this war, and been engaged in several skirmishes, I am not so ferociously ambitious as to desire a continuance of the war, when I cannot see that any good end is to be attained other than the advancement of our own profession.

I cannot give you an intelligible account of the battles without describing our operations in detail, which would fill a small volume. From the reports which will soon be published, you will gain a tolerably good idea of this short campaign. It is sufficient at this moment to say, that the City of Mexico was not so well fortified in rear as in front, though strong on both sides; that Gen. Scott amused Santa Anna in front, whilst he turned the city by the left; taking a road 30 miles in length, supposed by the Mexicans to be totally impracticable for artillery and wagons, we thus were enabled to fight him with better chances of success.—As Santa Anna said, "the enormous rocks we rolled into the road to stop the Americans, they kicked out of the way with their feet; deep ditches we cut to impede their progress, they filled up in a moment, without halt in their march."

The private correspondent of the *Diario de la Marina* represents that the Mexican Government had some difficulty in inducing any one to accept the office of commissioners, but the commissioners we have before named.—Gen. Herrera, Gen. Mora y Villamil and Señores Cuoto and Atristain, were engaged on the 28th of August in negotiating. According to some accounts, if Gen. Santa Anna did not obtain fair terms, and such as would save national honor, the war would be continued. Others said that peace would be made at all hazards. In regard to this, however, the editor of the *Diario* says that there are two notable letters from Mexico touching the matter. One of them declared that Congress would not consent to convene in the capital but offered to meet in Queretaro, from which fears were entertained that it was their design to disapprove of any treaty which might be made. This view of their probable action was confirmed by the fact that the Executive, by his own confessions, did not possess the power to make peace. And furthermore, says the *Diario*, there were many general officers in Mexico at the last dates who declared that the would resign, or which is the same thing, abandon Santa Ann if a treaty should be concluded.—From all which it would follow that the position of the President was extremely critical.

In a subsequent number of the *Diario* the editor enters into a more critical examination of the news and gives the following digested summary of the results:

The Americans under the command of Gen. Scott arrived in the immediate vicinity of Mexico a little before the middle of August. The Mexican troops who left the capital to observe their movements, and to cut off their retreat in case they should make a decisive attack upon any one of the points of the defence had no encounter with the Americans before the 19th, on which day Gen. Valencia, contrary to the orders of the commander-in-chief,
My Dear Friend—I have the pain of announcing to you that on the 21st inst the Mexico arms suffered an unexpected disaster. The first action which took place at Rio Frio was favorable to us, our loss being 2000 men, while that of the enemy was 1000 and odd. This was occasioned by the imprudence of Gen. Valencia, who disobeyed entirely the orders of the commander—chief. The second action took place at El Penon, and there our army was overwhelmed the following day. Gen. Santa Anna, in immediate command of the auxiliary forces which left the capital to assist Gen. Valencia, succeeded in checking the Americans and preventing their entrance into the city of Mexico on the same day. Gen. Scott having proposed to Santa Anna an armistice, the latter accepted it, the American troops stationed within cannon-shot of the city, and the Mexican troops inside the city—the latter being the principal portion of the army, inasmuch as the troops who served under Valencia did not exceed 6000 men, though for the most part veterans. The armistice being accepted for the purpose of negotiating a peace upon honorable conditions, the negotiations had been commenced, and on the 29th were yet going on, notwithstanding that the summons of the Government of Congress had not effect. From preceding occurrences and from the fact that Congress had offered to meet at Queretaro, that place being the centre of operations for those opposed to peace. The conclusion of a treaty was no less offensive to several chiefs, although they had been adherents of Santa Anna. And finally, the disappearance of Gen. Valencia as well as the existence of a league of the States, of which Queretaro was the centre, and the arrival of Gen. Peroles, who some letters say already pronounced at Toluca all threatened to prolong the war, thus rendering useless all the efforts of those in the capital who were at work to secure peace, and threatened to wrest power from the hands of Santa Anna, whose acts in favor of the conclusion of a treaty it was thought would require even the support of the American troops.

Our readers,—the editor of the Diario continues,—will recollect that when the invitation of the envoy of the United States the Mexican Government consulted Congress to know whether it should listen or not to the propositions which it was proposed to make to it, Congress did not respond to the demand made upon it save in an evasive manner, that the settlement of that business belonged to the Government. But they will also recollect that the Government replied to Congress that it possessed no such powers, inasmuch as they were not granted by the fundamental law, and as in conferring extraordinary powers upon the Executive in April, the power to make peace was expressly withheld. Accordingly, the necessity of the co-operation of the legislative body to sanction any treaty which should be made being recognised by the Government itself, if Congress should refuse to meet, as it was supposed would be the case, this want of their concurrence, even should they make no express declaration against a treaty, would be a powerful weapon for those united by the league of Queretaro, as well as for all who might be disposed to join them out of hostility to a treaty, or from their personal dissatisfaction with the Provisional President. Notwithstanding, we do not think it improbable that the commissioners will bring their labors to a successful conclusion, and that for the ratification of the work, and to supply in a measure the absence of Congress, that an assembly of notables will be formed in Mexico,—At the same time we foresee by the General tenor of the conclusion, and that for the ratification of the work, and to supply in a measure the absence of Congress, that an assembly of notables will be formed in Mexico,---At the same time we foresee by the General tenor of the correspondent from Mexico, that the end of hostilities has not yet arrived, and that assuredly the treaty which may be concluded will not terminate them.

Such are the views of the Diario de la Marina, a journal conducted with great intelligence and industry, and with ample facilities to obtain information from Mexico. We have gone at length into its views, thinking that nothing, in the absences of news from any quarter, would give more interest to our readers.

In the Diario de la Habana we find the following letter from Mexico.

"MEXICO, August 29, 1847.

"My Dear Friend—I have the pain of announcing to you that on the 21st inst the Mexico arms suffered an unexpected disaster. The first action which took place at Rio Frio was favorable to us, our loss being 2000 men, while that of the enemy was 1000 and odd. This was occasioned by the imprudence of Gen. Valencia, who disobeyed entirely the orders of the commander—chief. The second action took place at El Penon, and there our army was compelled to retire by the destructive fire of their artillery.—The same day Gen. Scott demanded an armistice, which was granted. Santa Anna fought personally in the most brilliant manner, but I believe that he will find himself compelled to resign, as parties are agitated in a most alarming manner.

"Many think that peace will now be made, but my opinion is that Congress, which is to reassemble at Queretaro, will oppose whatever treaties may be made."

[BRM]

Letters were received in this city yesterday, from Chihuahua, of as late date as the 1st of July. From one of these, we are glad to learn that a very satisfactory state of things existed, up to that date, between the American traders and the citizens and government of Chihuahua. The Mexicans adhered rigidly to the terms of the treaty made with the traders after the departure of Col. Doniphan’s command, and the latter were kingly treated. The only exception was in the case of the murder of James Aull, but that was for the purpose of plunder; and the Mexican authorities were active and unwearied in securing the murderers, and it was supposed that they would suffer the penalties due their crimes. In regard to Mr. Aull’s property, it is aid that the authorities had possession of it, but it was for the purpose of keeping it safe, and not with the view of confiscating it, as it seems to have been supposed. The traders were permitted to go to any part of the State, for the purpose of selling goods, and some advantageous sales have been made.

James Magoffin was in Chihuahua, acquitted of all charges which had been made against him.
Another letter is speaking of the respect paid to Mr. Aull, says: "He was buried in the Catholic graveyard. The church beautifully ornamented with roses, and the ceremonies were very long. The funeral was attended by all the principle citizens of this place, who have universally expressed the greatest horror and detestation of the perpetrators of the murder, and have spared neither trouble nor expense in their endeavors to arrest them."

FROM SANTA FE.—Letters as late as the 8th of August, were received in this city yesterday. The information which they contain, so far as we have been able to ascertain, is not important. Fourteen companies of volunteers had then left Santa Fe for Fort Leavenworth, leaving only four companies of volunteers in New Mexico. The number of men composing the returning companies has been greatly reduced, by death and by discharge from the service before the term of enrollment had expired. A letter remarks, that the companies will not average forty men!

Two companies were organized, it is stated, out of the volunteers in Santa Fe, to serve "during the war," and they remained at Santa Fe.

Lieut. Love, of the Dragoons, having in charge $300,000 for the pay of the troops in New Mexico, arrived at Santa Fe on the 7th of August. The money, as our readers recollect, was in the custody of Major BODINE, Paymaster of the United States.

It was expected, that the remaining four companies of volunteers would leave Santa Fe, for Fort Leavenworth, about the 15th of August. Major WALKER, Paymaster, and other officers of the government, would return in company with the volunteers.—St. Louis Republican, Sept. 18.

The administration at this moment presents itself before the people as having done, thus far, all that military policy and prowess could do to secure just and honorable peace. The events of the war seem almost to have obeyed our word of command."

"In estimating the glory of our arms, the people now feel, and have a right to feel, that the men charged by the voice of the nation with the maintenance of its rights and fame, have foreseen and provided for, and prepared beforehand the whole process and transaction of their recent noble triumph."

It is difficult to describe the unmitigated and unalloyed feeling of disgust and indignation with which every man, who has made himself acquainted with the progress of events during this war, must witness this attempt to pluck the laurel from the brows of our brave officers in Mexico, and transfer them to an Executive whose whole course has had a tendency to thwart their most wisely conceived plans, and to leave them continually exposed to the danger of defeat and destruction. Instead of thanking God that his imbecility has been productive of no worse consequences that the indefinite protraction of a war, which he boasted the capacity to finish in a few weeks--- instead of blessing the fortune of the Republic, which secured to it, in the hour of danger, General whom no neglect could paralyze, and no danger appal---instead of asking pardon for the past, and promising amendment for the future----the Executive of this country, without shame and without remorse, comes forward to claim credit for all the happened in spite of him---to war the laurel which his neglect could not wither---to steal the soldier's hard earned glory, after his utmost efforts had failed to him its luster. To stigmatise such conduct as mean, would be to do it too much honor. Infamous would be a term more appropriate.

In what manner, we venture to ask, has the Administration done "all that military prowess and policy could do to secure a just and honorable peace?" Such praise implies the personal performance of military achievements, and can be understood in no other sense. On what fields, we ask, has the prowess of Mr. Polk been conspicuous? For what achievement, either of tactics or strategy, in the numerous battles and marches by which the war has been distinguished, are we indebted to his policy? Has his sword been found gleaming foremost in the fight? Have his councils directed the maneuvers of the intricate and bloody campaign? If he has ever been at the scene of action, he has kept the fact most profoundly secret. The public has believed him to be "snugly concocted" (to use the phrase of a Democratic friend) in the White House, two thousand miles from the theatre of war, quietly enjoying his twenty-five thousand per annum, and never interfering, but to produce heart-burnings and disgust, among the gallant
had detained the light battery of Captain Deas, to strengthen his line. A mixed force of dragoons and Texas was to Vera Cruz, to join the column of General Scott. In addition to the troops which he kept upon his line of defence, he had made the necessary arrangements for carrying out his late general order for sending the troops he could spare

"Letters have been received from the camp of General Taylor, who was then near Monterey. The General had made the necessary arrangements for carrying out his late general order for sending the troops he could spare to Vera Cruz, to join the column of General Scott. In addition to the troops which he kept upon his line of defence, he had detained the light battery of Captain Deas, to strengthen his line. A mixed force of dragoons and Texas was
been heavy. With this small army we could not afford to purchase many such victories at such a price; one of the
field of battle commenced in the morning at Contreros, and the loss in the afternoon was much greater. Our loss has
The Mexican loss in killed and wounded must have been immense. Our troops buried 500 Mexicans upon the
during the day, thirty-five pieces of artillery—an immense quantity of ammunition—eight hundred mules and
although spoken of in official reports as one engagement under designation of "the battle of Mexico." We took,
consisted of less than nine thousand men; the Mexican force, within supporting distance and engaged, undoubtly
exceeding thirty thousand. We attacked him in position upon ground of his own selection, admirably fortified. You
On the 6th of August I reached Puebla, without the loss of a single wagon, with my command in fine
vomitory region, as it is called) I left the dreaded city on the 10th of July with 2500 men of all arms, and a train of
transportation, to remain for more than three weeks at Vera Cruz, and for more than four in Terra Caliente, (the
The Mexican force, as they said afterwards, consisted of 500 men. Had the possessed courage and skill in
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use of arms our loss must have been very great. You can hardly conceive the strength of the natural defences
over which we passed. Rumors came to me almost every night that we would be attacked by large forces the next
do, but they made no where anything like a brave and stern resistance. The official reports of the great battle of
Mexico will probably reach you as soon as this letter, and I shall therefore not attempt to give the minute details. It
reports are renewed of the General’s intention to visit the United States; but he does not yet mention such
an intention in his recent despatches.”

La Patria, of New Orleans, deriving its information of course through Mexican channes, gives us some
apparently authentic information in regard to the origin of the proposition for the armistice between Generals Scott
and Santa Anna. Immediately after the battle, it says, Senor Arrangolz, formerly Mexican Consul at New Orleans,
and Mr. Mackintosh, acting Consul General of Great Britain, went under a flag of truce to visit Gen. Scott, and, after
a conversation of some hours, returned to the capital. This visit, it is sad, was made by authority of Santa Anna, who,
through his agents, represented to Gen. Scott that he was disposed and anxious to enter into negotiations for
peace, but that his situation hindered him from taking the first step, account of the opposition of the people; but that
if Gen. S. would propose an armistice, he would enter into negotiations with Mr. Trist, and that he was confident he
would put an end to the war. We have no doubt this statement is in substance true.

A SOLDIER’S LETTER.—The following letter from Gen. Pierce is one of the most interesting that we have yet
seen, from the army in Mexico, inasmuch as it gives more of individual experience—enables the reader to fix his eye
upon a single figure amid the struggling mass, and so obtain a clearer idea of what a battle is. The letter was not
intended for publication, as will be readily perceived, but it fell somehow into the bands of our friend of the Boston
Poet, and he, very properly as we think, has made it public:—

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Poet, and he, very properly as we think, has made it public:—

Headquarters 1st Brigade, 3d Div. U.S.A.,
Mexsoque, Mexico, Aug. 27, 1847. 

Since I left Vera Cruz to this hour I have had no means of communicating with the States. Although but a
few months in the service, I know what are fatigue, anxiety and exposure. Contrary to expectations, and contrary to
my orders from the Department at Washington, I was compelled, for the want of the requisite provisions for
transportation, to remain for more than three weeks at Vera Cruz, and for more than four in Terra Caliente, (the
vomi–to region, as it is called) I left the dreaded city on the 10th of July with 2500 men of all arms, and a train of
wagons which, when closed up, extended more than two miles.

On the 6th of August I reached Puebla, without the loss of a single wagon, with my command in fine
condition.—My command was attacked six times on the march, but the enemy’s force in each instance was easily
dispersed, with trifling loss on our side. The National Bridge afforded the enemy great natural advantages, to which
they added breastworks on a high bluff which commanded the bridge perfectly; across the main bridge they had also
thrown a barricade. I soon discovered that there was no way in which his position could be turned, and that my
artillery was ineffective from the most commanding point where it could be placed. I determined, of course, to cross
under the plunging fire of the enemy’s escopetas. My order to advance was admirably executed. At the moment Lt.
Colonel Bonham’s battalion rushed forward with a shout; the enemy poured down a heavy fire, by which several of
my shot near men, and a ball passed through the rim of my hat in a very disagreeable proximity to my face. Our
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use of arms our loss must have been very great. You can hardly conceive the strength of the natural defences
over which we passed. Rumors came to me almost every night that we would be attacked by large forces the next
do, but they made no where anything like a brave and stern resistance. The official reports of the great battle of
Mexico will probably reach you as soon as this letter, and I shall therefore not attempt to give the minute details. It
was fierce and bloody beyond anything that has occurred in this war. The battle differed in many respects from that
of Buena Vista. There Gen. Taylor received the enemy in a strong position selected by himself. Our force on the 20th
consisted of less than nine thousand men; the Mexican force, within supporting distance and engaged, undoubtly
exceeding thirty thousand. We attacked him in position upon ground of his own selection, admirably fortified. You
will distinguish, so far as numbers are concerned, between the battle of the morning and that of the afternoon,
although spoken of in official reports as one engagement under designation of “the battle of Mexico.” We took,
during the day, thirty–five pieces of artillery—an immense quantity of ammunition—eight hundred mules and
horses, and more than two thousand prisoners—among the eight generals and any number of colonels.

The Mexican loss in killed and wounded must have been immense. Our troops buried 500 Mexicans upon the
field of battle commenced in the morning at Contreros, and the loss in the afternoon was much greater. Our loss has
been heavy. With this small army we could not afford to purchase many such victories at such a price; one of the
It was exceedingly dark, the rain poured in torrents, and being separated from my servants and baggage, I was without tent or covering; add to this, that during the afternoon of the 19th we had gained no advantages over the enemy, who remained firmly entrenched with 7000 men opposed to about 4000 on our side, without the possibility of bringing our artillery to bear, and you will readily conceive that our situation was not the most agreeable. The morning of the 20th was, however, as brilliant as the night of the 19th was dark and gloomy. Soon after daylight the enemy’s works were carried with the bayonet, and of their 7000 men, regular troops, under the command of Valencia, probably 4000 cannot be found to-day. As we passed this field in pursuit of the fugitives, the scene was awful, the road and adjacent fields every where strewed with mangled bodies of the dead and dying. We continued the pursuit until 1 o’clock, when our front came up with the enemy’s strong works at Churubusco and San Antonio, where the great conflict of the afternoon commenced.

At San Angel, dispositions having been made to attack in reverse the enemy’s works on the San Augustin road. Gen. Scott ordered me to march my brigade in concert with that of the intrepid Gen. Shields, across the open country between Santa Aclerina and the above named road, in order to cut off the enemy’s retreat. We gained the position sought, and although the enemy’s line was perfectly formed, and extended as far as the eye could reach in either direction, they were attacked vigorously and successfully. Arriving at a ditch which it was impossible for my horse to leap, I dismounted and hurried forward without thinking of my injury, at the head of my brigade, for 200 or 300 yards, when turning suddenly upon my knee, the cartilage of which had been seriously injured, I fainted and fell upon the bank in the direct range and within perfect reach of the enemy’s fire. That I escaped seems to me now providential. The rout and overthrow of the whole Mexican force soon became complete, and we could easily have taken the city; but Gen. Scott was met with a proposition for an armistice, (after demanding the surrender of the city,) with a view to open negotiations for peace.

In my judgment the army, full of ardor and confidence, was humanely and wisely restrained. Major Gen. Quitman, Gen. Persifor F. Smith and myself were appointed [illegible line] to the terms of the armistice. I had not taken off my spurs of slept an hour for two nights, in consequence of my engagements and the pain of my knee. I obeyed the summons, was helped into my saddle, and rode two and a half miles to Tacubaya, where the commission assembled at the house of Mr. McIntosh, the British consul general. Our conference commenced late in the afternoon, and at four o’clock the next morning, the articles were signed.

That I was thoroughly exhausted you will readily imagine. I slept an hour or two that morning at Gen. Worth’s quarters, and my sprained knee, which was by far my most serious injury, has been daily improving and to-day I ride without much inconvenience. I have lost several dear friends, although our acquaintance had been of short duration. I visited the hospital yesterday, and saw officers and men with shots in all parts of their persons. Although all who were not really dying seemed cheerful, and many who had lost limbs in high spirits, still I sickened at the sight.

My general health has been good. I have been either in my saddle or on my feet every rod since I left Vera Cruz, which can be said by few officers in my command; for almost all were obliged at some point of the march, in consequence of the change in climate, water, exposure, &c., to avail themselves of the ambulance. Col. Watson, with his marine corps, accompanied me, and has been uniformly well. He is an excellent, agreeable gentleman, and admirable officer, and I regret, that, having been left with Gen. Quitman’s division at San Augustine, he had no opportunity to participate in the battles of 19th and 20th.

Now a word with a regard to the great object of this war—peace. There is no doubt that Santa Anna is sincerely desirous of peace. Commissioners to treat have been appointed, and met Mr. Trist this afternoon at four. My belief is that peace will be the result, although no man can speak with confidence.

[BRM]
In the outlines of the treaty presented by Mr. Trist to the Mexican commissioners, certain passages appear, which, we are told by the Union are not in the draught furnished to Mr. Trist by his own Government. Mr. T. must consequently have taken the responsibility of modifying the terms upon which he was instructed to insist. The first of these interpolated clauses is in the 2nd article of Mr. Trist's draught, in these words:

"Besides, it is agreed that if any Mexican citizens should be prisoners of the Cumanches, or of any tribes of Indians within the limits of the U. States, the Government of the U. States will endeavor to obtain their returns to their homes could not oppose himself to our soldiers and that he was losing his men rapidly, Gen. Scott took possession of the convent of San Isador, which extends back to the center of a block, and at once set his sappers and miners to cutting a way directly through the blocks of buildings. In some instances whole houses were blown up to facilitate his progress; but after several hours he again emerged into the street, and finally regained the Plaza with great loss. On entering the Plaza heavy fire was opened on him from the Palace and Cathedral, which were filled and covered with our patriotic troops.

Finding himself thus assaulted, the enemy drew out his forces in the Plaza, and opened a cannonade on the Palace and Cathedral, firing over one hundred shots, which did immense damage to the buildings, and cause a severe loss of killed and wounded. Seeing further resistance useless our soldiers ceased firing, and on the 15th September (sad day!) the enemy was in possession of the Mexican capital. Though we inflicted havoc and death upon the Yankees, we suffered greatly ourselves.

Many were killed by the blowing up of the houses, many by the bombardment, but more by the confusion which prevailed in the city, and all together we cannot count our killed, wounded and missing since the action commenced yesterday at less than 4,000, among whom are many women and children. The enemy confessed a loss of over 1,000; it is no doubt much greater. What a calamity! – But Mexico will yet have vengeance. God will avenge us for our sufferings.

Santa Anna has gone with his generals and all the troops he could draw off to Guadalupe. He is said to be wounded severely. We have lost heroic officers and brave men in these two days. I cannot foresee what is to come. Thousands are gathering upon the hills around the city determined to cut off all supplies and starve the enemy who has so audaciously entered it. Gen. Scott may yet find that Mexico is not vanquished. He may find our lakes berating their barriers and filling this beautiful valley, to annihilate the infamous Americans.

We scarcely hope, yet do not quite despair. Our brave generals may recover what is lost, and Mexico with her ten millions of people arise to sweep the invader from the land he has desecrated.

[JKM]

Friday, October 8, 1847, RWv24i81p1c3 Letter from General Taylor words: 669

The National Intelligencer of Tuesday last publishes the following very interesting letter recently received by Dr. Bronson from Gen. Taylor. It is more explicit, in reference to the political predilections of the General, than any thing which has yet appeared from his pen, and will be read with pleasure by the Whigs throughout the Union – by those who, like ourselves, have deemed it "premature" to commit themselves to his support for the next Presidency, as well as by those, more ardent or more sagacious, who have long since hoisted his flag:

Headquarters Army of Occupation,
Camp near Monterey, Aug. 10, 1847.

Sir: Your letter of the 17th ultimo, requesting of me an exposition of my views on the questions of national policy now at issue between the political parties of the United States, has duly reached me.

I must take occasion to say that many of my letters, addressed to gentlemen in the United States in answer to similar inquiries, have already been made public, and I had greatly hoped that all persons interested had, by this time, obtained from them a sufficiently accurate knowledge of my views and desires in relation to this subject. As it appears, however that such is not the case, I deem it proper, in reply to your letter, distinctly to repeat that I am not before the People of the United States as a candidate for the next Presidency. It is my great desire to return at the close of this war to the discharge of those professional duties and to the enjoyment of those domestic pursuits from which I was called at its commencement, and for which my tastes and education best fit me.

I deem it but due to candor to state, at the same time, that, if I were called to the Presidential Chair by the general voice of the people, without regard to their political differences I should deem it to be my duty to accept the office. But while I freely avow my attachment to the administrative policy of our early Presidents, I desire it to be understood that I cannot submit, even in thus accepting it, to the exaction of any other pledge as to the course I should pursue than that of discharging its functions to the best of my ability and strictly in accordance with the requirements of the constitution.

I have thus given you the circumstances under which only can I be induced to accept the high and responsible office of President of the United States. I need hardly add that I cannot in any case permit myself to be brought before the people exclusively by any of the political parties that now so unfortunately divide our country, as their
It affords me great pleasure, in conclusion, fully to concur with you in your high and just estimate of the virtues both of the head and the heart, of the distinguished citizens [Messers, Clay, Webster, Adams, McDuffie and Calhoun] mentioned in your letter. I have never yet exercised the privilege of voting; but had I been called upon at the last Presidential election to do so, I should most certainly have cast my vote for Mr. Clay.

I am, sir, very respectfully your obedient servant,

Z. TAYLOR,
Major General U.S. Army.

F.S. Bronson, M.D., Charleston, S.C.

The emphatic approbation expressed by General Taylor of “the administrative policy of our early Presidents,” in which the Whigs find ample authority for all their leading principles and measures, taken in connection with his frank declaration that he should have certainly voted for Mr. Clay in 1844, had he voted at all, can leave no doubt of his entire concurrence with the Whig party in sentiment. – While on this point we have never been ourselves in doubt, we are nevertheless gratified that the General has been sufficiently explicit to satisfy others, who, not content with the positive declarations of third parties, have insisted upon waiting for the “best evidence” – that of General Taylor himself.

Friday, October 8, 1847, RWv24i81p1c3 High Tribute of Gen. Taylor words: 641

The New York "Literary World" of the 2d inst. is enriched by a brief paper from the pen of Mr. Stephens, who acquired both celebrity and fortune, a few years since, by his interesting "Incidents of Travels" in the Holy Land, and at a later period by his discoveries in Central America. Mr. S. was one of the passengers on board our splendid steamer Washington, on her first voyage to Europe, and he availed himself of her brief detention at Bremen to pay a visit to Baron Alexander Von Humboldt, whom he found residing with the King of Prussia in the place at Potsdam, 30 miles from Berma. After --------- of the Baron's personal appearance and pursuits in his green old age, Mr. S. Stephens proceeds to say:

"Out of Europe, Mexico seemed to be the country which interested him the most; perhaps from it’s connexion with those countries which had brought me to his acquaintance, or more probably, because it was the foundation of his own early–fame. He spoke of Mr. Prescott’s History of the Conquest, and said that I might, when the opportunity offered, say to that gentlemen as from himself, that there was no historian of the age, in England or Germany, equal to him.

"And he was keenly alive to the present condition of Mexico: he was full of our Mexican war: his eyes were upon Gen. Taylor and the American army. I was well aware, that in the conduct of this war Gen. Taylor was drawing upon himself the eyes of all Europe; and that whatever might be the differences of opinion as to its necessity or justice, it was producing everywhere, in monarchical and anti–republican countries, a strong impression of our ability and power for war – which, in enlightened (?) Europe, even at this day, more than all the fruits of peace, industry, and extended commerce, more than the comforts of life, raises as to the rank off a first rate power, and makes us 'respected.'

"Baron Humboldt said that with one of his own maps before them, the King and his military council had followed General Taylor from his encampment at Corpus Christi to Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palms, through the storming of Monterey, and the bloody scenes of Buena Vista – They had fought over all his battles, and with his positions all marked on the map, were then looking for further tidings. They had seen and appreciated all his difficulties at Buena Vista. In Prussia was is a science, and according to the leading policy of Europe, to be always ready for war, every male in Prussia, the highest nobleman’s son not excepted is compelled to serve his regular term in the army. In the teeth of all settled opinions, and as it were upsetting the whole doctrine of standing armies, General Taylor, with a handful of regulars, and a small body of volunteers who had never been in battle, had stood up for a whole day against a murderous fire and had finally defeated four times his number. Field Marshals and Generals of Prussia, among them veterans who had studied the art of war on the great battle–fields of Europe, were struck with admiration at the daring and skill displayed at Buena Vista; and this admiration Baron Humboldt said, they expressed without reserve, freely, publicly, and everywhere. Amid the bitterness and malignity of the English Press, it was grateful to hear from such lips, that the leading military men of a military nation did justice to the intrepidity and firmness of our volunteers, and to the courage, skill, and high military talents of General Taylor: while Baron Humboldt's comments upon his dispatches and orders, and in fact upon all that related to him personally in the conduct of the war, were such as no American could listen to without feeling proud."

Friday, October 8, 1847, RWv24i81p1c6 Government Plans words: 276
If anything can equal the recklessness with which the present Administration has exposed the lives of our gallant soldiers in Mexico, it is the effrontery with which it claims applause for every achievement which its own imbecility has been unable to paralyze. This trait, always prominent, has never been so fully exemplified as in the following passages from a late number of the Union, which had escaped our notice until we met with them in the Philadelphia North American:

"The administration at this moment presents itself before the people as having done, thus far, all that military policy and prowess could do to secure just and honorable peace. The events of the war seem almost to have obeyed our word of command."

Again, in the same paper:

"In estimating the glory of our arms, the people now feel, and have a right to feel, that the men charged by the voice of the nation with the maintenance of its rights and fame, have foreseen and provided for, and prepared beforehand the whole process and transaction of their recent noble triumph."

It is difficult to describe the unmitigated and unalloyed feelings of disgust and indignation with which every man, who has made himself acquainted with the progress of events during this war, must witness this attempt to pluck the laurel from the brows of our brave officers in Mexico, and transfer them to an Executive whose whole course has had a tendency to thwart their most wisely conceived plans, and to leave them continually exposed to the danger of defeat and destruction. Instead of thanking God that his imbecility has been productive of no worse consequences than the indefinite protraction of a war, which he boasted to complete in a few weeks – instead of blessing the fortune of the Republic, which secure to it, in the hour of danger appeal– instead of asking pardon for the past, and promising amendment for the future – the Executive of this country, without shame and without remorse, comes forward to claim credit for all that happened in spite of him – to wear the laurel which his neglect could not wither – to steal the soldier's hard earned glory, after his utmost efforts had failed to dim its lustre. To stigmatise such conduct as mean, would be to do it too much honor. Infamous would be a term far more appropriate.

In what manner, we venture to ask, has the Administration done "all that military prowess and policy could do to secure a just and honorable peace?" Such praise implies the personal performance of military achievements, and can be understood in no other sense. On what field, we ask, has the prowess of Mr. Polk been conspicuous? For what achievement, either of tactics or strategy, in the numerous battles and marches by which the war has been distinguished, are we indebted to his policy? Has his sword been found gleaming foremost in the fight? Have his councils directed the maneuvers of the intricate and bloody campaign? If he has ever been at the scene of action, he has kept the fact most profoundly secret. The public has believed him to be "snugly concocted" (to use the phrase of a Democratic friend) in the White House, two thousand miles from theatre of war quietly enjoying his twenty-five thousand annum, and never interfering, but to produce heart–burnings and disgust, among the gallant officers who have been fighting the battles of the country. The world has given him credit for converting the army into a sort of hospital, for the reception of his damaged favorites, whom he found it inconvenient or impossible to employ elsewhere, and for spending the greater part of his time in promoting this agreeable and ennobling amusement. If he has been otherwise engaged – if having made this war himself, he has magnanimously fought it out at the peril of his own life – if his policy and prowess have been so conspicuous as he tells us – it is due to himself – it is due to the public – it is due to justice, and to history, to say what field has been the theater of his martial exploits – what corps has witnessed the display of his valor – what success is due to his military councils. Let him recollect that the credit of organizing and directing alone, is no longer claimed for him; his prowess is openly spoken of by his organ, and he public has a right to know where he earned a title to the praise.

So much for the "prowess and policy" of Mr. Polk – We now come to that portion of the eulogy in which the people are warned to remember that the Administration has "foreseen, and provided for, and prepared beforehand the whole process and transaction of their recent noble triumph." This is high praise, certainly, and if it were true would doubtless entitle Messrs Polk and Marcy to be ranked with Carnot and Bonaparte. Let us toast its verity by the unfailing crucible of fact.

In the summer of 1846, Gen. Scott, being desired to lay before the Executive such a plan as he thought most efficient for the speedy termination of the war, obeyed the instruction. His plan was precisely such as that afterwards indicated by Gen. Taylor in his celebrated letter to Gen. Gaines. It was not only consistent with common sense, but it had in its favor, we had been told, the united testimony of all the military men in the army who's opinions were worth asking. Does Mr. Polk suppose that the people have forgotten the manner in which his plan was received by the Administration, and the whole host of its hireling presses from Maine to Texas? Have the storm vituperation that followed it – the denunciation of its author – the insinuation even that he, whose noble courage on the field of Bridgewater was the admiration of Europe and America, was afraid or unwilling to meet the enemy – have all these things slipped the memory of the Executive? – Has it been blind to the fact, likewise, that every step of the war was justified – aye! Justified most triumphantly – the genus and forethought of the General whom it ungenerously sought to crush, because it believed that in doing so it was removing a rival? And is it not ashamed of this effort to seal the honor of a man whom it attempted, without success, to destroy?
But what has been the course of the Administration since the rejection of that plan, and the attempted disgrace of its author. Has it always furnished means to prosecute war? Have men always been found when they were wanting? Has the army never suffered anything for supplies and munitions? Has it undergone no exposure but what was inseparable from the condition of war? Let the indignant letter of Gen. Taylor answer. Let the fact that after the battle of Monterey, he was found without the means of transportation sufficient to justify a march in front answer. Let his inaction at Saltillo – let his contest at Buena Vista with five times his force – let the fact that he was pushed forward, with a handful of men, far from his resources – in the midst of an enemy’s country – without reinforcements – let his inaction for six months after a glorious victory answer.

Was the matter mended, after General Scott had been a second time called to head the army? The public has not forgotten, if Mr. Polk has, that even before General Scott left New Orleans, he complained bitterly, that the Administration had neglected to redeem its pledge, solemnly given, to furnish every thing necessary for the prosecution of the war. Nor has it ceased to remember the delay of the operations at Vera Cruz, all caused by the want of the most necessary munitions, and all due to the criminal imbecility of the Federal Administration. The same public very well knows, that since that period, even after the glorious victory of Cerro Gordo, our army has been suffered to waste away by disease and inaction – to have its supplies cut off by a hostile population rising in its rear – to delay its march until its enemy could recover from the stunning effect of Cerro Gordo – and after all, when only six thousand strong at the gates of Mexico – to encounter twenty-five or thirty thousand Mexicans, infuriated with the prospect of beholding their capital the prey of an invading army – fighting on their very hearths, in sight of all they loved and for all they held dear – stimulated by every passion that can inflame the human breast, to slaughter their enemy, whose inaction had afforded them their only chance of making head against him. And shall the people, in view of all these occurrences, the hearts of many of them still bleeding from the loss of friends at Churubusco, which might have been the Administration, be called on to kiss the hand that has smitten them, and even sing hosannas to its praise?

The boast of Mr. Polk is simply this. That he has exposed an American Army for months to all the failures of inaction and disease, and at the end of that time to the bayonets of five times its own number.

Friday, October 8, 1847, RWv24i81p2c2 Gen. Taylor  words: 130

From the Washington Union of Wednesday night we copy the following paragraphs:

"Letters have been received from the campo of General Taylor, who was then near Monterey. The General had made the necessary arrangements for carrying out his late general order for sending the troops he could spare to Vera Cruz, to join the column of General Scott. In addition to the troops which he kept upon his line of defense, he had detained the light battery of Captain Deas, to strengthen his line. A mixed force of dragoons and Texans was employed in clearing the country between Camargo and Monterey of the roving guerrillas.

"Reports are renewed of the General's intention to visit the United States; but he does not yet mention such an intention in his recent dispatches."

[JKM]

Friday, October 8, 1847, RWv24i81p2c3 The Armistice  words: 152

La Patria, of New Orleans, deriving its information of course through Mexican channels, gives us some apparently authentic information in regard to the origin of the proposition from the armistice between Generals Scott and Santa Anna. Immediately after the battle, it says, Senor Arrangoiz, formerly Mexican Consul at New Orleans, and Mr. Mackintosh, acting Consul General of Great Britain, went under flag of truce to visit Gen. Scott, and after a visit, it is said, his agents, represented to Gen. Scott that he was disposed and anxious to enter into negotiations for peace, but that his situation hindered him from taking the first step, on account of the opposition of the people; but that if Gen. S. would propose an armistice, he would enter into negotiations with Mr. Trist, and that he was confident he could put an end to the war. We have no doubt this statement is in substance true.

[JKM]

Friday, October 8, 1847, RWv24i81p2c3 Gen. Taylor's Politics  words: 112

The Enquirer has not yet noticed the emphatic affirmation of "A Plain Democrat," in New Orleans Courier, that Gen. Taylor is not only a decided Whig, but that his antipathy to Locofocoism is actually inveterate. Well, here is "more of the same sort," which we hope will be satisfactory to all doubters. The Lexington (Ky.) Gazette, giving an account of the late meeting in that city, to consider the expediency of nominating Gen. Taylor, informs us that Gen. Coombs said "he had spent a week with Gen’l Taylor in the South, had conversed with him upon all political questions at issue in the contest of 1844, and found him a good Whig."
Friday, October 8, 1847, RWv24i81p2c4 A Soldier's Letter  words: 1710

A Soldiers Letter – The following letter from Gen. Pierce is one of the most interesting that we have yet seen, from the army in Mexico, inasmuch as it gives more of individual experience – enables the reader to fix his eye upon a single figure amid the struggling mass, and so obtain a clearer idea of what a battle is. The letter was not intended for publication, as will be readily perceived, but it fell somehow into the hands of our friend of the Boston Post, and he, very properly as we think, has made it public:–

Headquarters 1st Brigade, 3d Div. U.S.A.,

Mexsoque, Mexico, Aug. 27, 1847.

Since I left Vera Cruz to this hour I have had no means of communicating with the States. Although but a few months in the service, I know what are fatigue, anxiety and exposure. Contrary to my expectations, and contrary to my orders from the Department at Washington, I was compelled, for the want of the requisite provisions for transportation, to remain for more than three weeks at Vera Cruz, and for more than four in Terra Caliente, (the vomito region, as it is called.) I left the dreaded city on the 10th of July, which, when closed up, extended more than two miles.

On the 6th of August I reached Puebla, without the loss of a single wagon, with my command in fine condition, – My command was attacked six times on the march, but with trifling loss on our side. The National Bridge afforded the enemy great natural advantages, to which they added breastworks on a high bluff which commanded the bridge perfectly; across the main bridge they had also thrown a barricade. I soon discover that there was no way in which his position could be turned, and that my artillery was ineffective from the most commanding point where it could be placed. I determined, of course, to cross under the plunging fire of the enemy’s escopetas. My order to advance was admirably executed. At the moment Lt. Colonel Bonham’s battalion rushed forward with a shout, the enemy poured down a heavy fire, by which several of my men were severely wounded. Col. Bonham’s horse was shot near me, and a ball passed through the rim of my hat in very disagreeable proximity to my face. Our men leaped the barricade, followed by Capt. Dupera’s company of cavalry, in less than ten minutes the enemy were in flight in every direction, and the American flag waved upon the high bluff which they had occupied.

The Mexican force, as they said afterwards, consisted of 500 men. Had they possessed courage and skill in the use of arms our loss must have been very great. You can hardly conceive the strength of the natural defenses of the road over which we passed. Rumors came to me almost every night that we would be attacked by large forces the next day, but they made no where anything like a brave and stern resistance. The official reports of the great battle of Mexico will probably reach you as soon as this letter, and I shall therefore not attempt to give the minute details in this war. The battle differed in many respects from that of Buena Vista. There Gen. Taylor received the enemy in a strong position selected by himself. Our forces on the 20th consisted of less than nine thousand men; the Mexican force, within supporting distance and engage, undoubtedly exceeding thirty thousand. We attacked him in position upon ground of his own selection, admirably fortified. You will distinguish, so far as numbers are concerned, between the battle of the morning and that of the afternoon, although spoken of in official reports as one engagement under the designation of “the battle of Mexico.” We took during the day, thirty-five pieces of artillery – an immense quantity of ammunition – eight hundred mules and horses, and more than two thousand prisoners among them eight generals and any number of colonels.

The Mexican loss in killed and wounded must have been immense. Our troops buried 500 Mexicans upon the field of battle commenced in the morning at Contreras, and the loss in the afternoon was much greater. Our loss has been heavy. With this small army we could not afford to purchase many such victories at such a price; one of the regiments of my brigade (the 13th) lost in killed and wounded one third its entire force. In killed and wounded we number not less than 1000, and among them I lament to say an unusual portion if valuable officers. The New England regiment suffered severely, and behaved throughout in the most gallant manner. My horse, at full speed on the evening of the 19th, when leading my brigade though a perfect shower of round shot and shells, fell under me upon a ledge of rocks, by which I sustained a severe injury by the shock and bruises, but especially by a severe sprain in my left knee, which came under him.– At first I was not conscious of any serious injury, but soon became exceedingly faint, when Dr. Ritchie, surgeon of the 12th, [a portion of my command], who was following the advancing columns closely, administered to me as well as he could under the circumstances. In a few moments I was able to walk with difficulty, and pressed forward to Capt. McGruder’s battery where I found the horse of poor gallant Lt. Johnson, who had just received a mortal wound, of which he died that evening. I was permitted to take him [my own having been totally disabled] was helped into the saddle, and continued in it until 11 o’clock that night.

It was exceedingly dark, the rain poured in torrents, and being separated from my servants and baggage, I was without tent or covering; add to this, that during the afternoon of the 19th we had gained no advantages over the enemy, who remained firmly entrenched with 7000 men opposed to about 4000 on our side, without the possibility of bringing our artillery to bear, and you will readily conceive that our situation was not the most agreeable. The morning of the 20th was, however, as brilliant as the night of the 19th was dark and gloomy. Soon after daylight the enemy’s works were carried with the bayonet, and of their 7000 men, regular troops, under the command of Valencia, probably 4000 cannot be found to-day. As we passed this field in pursuit of the fugitives, the scene was
morning of the 20th, thanks to the bad position which we occupied, and to the neglect to counteract the movements
the valor and decision with which they were ready to sacrifice their lives in defense of their nationality; but on the
checking him at all points until night put an end to the conflict. During this time all ranks of the army gave proof of
cannon and muskets, as fast as he showed himself at the points defended by our troops, and we succeeded in
position which the army occupied on the height of Contreras. Immediately an active fire opened upon him from
and on this account I believe them entitled to the consideration of the Supreme Government and to the gratitude of
permitting themselves to be made prisoners rather than abandon their soldiers will always confer honor on them,
endeavored to rally their troops in order to resist the enemy, who was pursuing us with vigor. Their conduct in
must inform your Excellency of the valor of the chiefs and their officers who, in the midst of the confusion,
could be said by few officers in my command; for almost all were obliged at some point of the march in consequence
of the change of climate, water, exposure, &c., to avail themselves of the ambulance. Col. Watson, with him Marine
quarters, and my sprained knee, which was by far my most serious injury, has been daily improving and to–day I
ride without much inconvenience. I have lost several dear friends, although our acquaintance had been of short
duration. I visited the hospital yesterday, and saw officers and men with shots in all parts of their person. Although
all who had lost limbs in high spirits, still I sickened at the sight.

In my judgment the army, full of ardor and confidence, was humanely and wisely restrained. Major Gen.
Quitman, Gen. Persifor F. Smith and myself were appointed ambassadors to meet the Mexican commissioners to
settle the terms of the armistice. I had not taken off my spurs or slept an hour for two nights, in consequence of my
engagements and the pain of my knee. I obeyed the summons, was helped into my saddle, and road two and a half
miles to Tacubaya, where the commission assembled at the house of Mr. McIntosh, the British consul general. Our
conference commenced late in the afternoon, and at four o'clock the next morning, the articles were signed.

That I was thoroughly exhausted you will readily imagine. I slept an hour or two that morning at Gen. Worth's
quarters, and my sprained knee, which was by far my most serious injury, has been daily improving and to–day I
ride without much inconvenience. I have lost several dear friends, although our acquaintance had been of short
duration. I visited the hospital yesterday, and saw officers and men with shots in all parts of their person. Although
all who had lost limbs in high spirits, still I sickened at the sight.

My general health is good. I have been either in my saddle or on my feet every rod since I left Vera Cruz, which
can be said by few officers in my command; for almost all were obliged at some point of the march in consequence
of the change of climate, water, exposure, &c., to avail themselves of the ambulance. Col. Watson, with him Marine
Corps, accompanied me, and has been uniformly well. He is an excellent, agreeable gentleman, and admirable
officer, and I regret that having been left with Gen. Quitman's division at San Augustine, he had no opportunity to
participate in the battles of the 19th and 20th.

Now a word with regard to the great object of this war – peace. There is no doubt that Santa Anna is sincerely
desirous of peace. Commissioners to treat have been appointed, and met Mr. Trist this afternoon at four. My belief is
that peace will be the result, although no man can speak with confidence.

[JKM]

Friday, October 8, 1847, RWv24i81p3c4 Battle of Contreras  words: 550

Army of the North, Second General–in–Chief

Tlalpan, August 28, 1847

Excellent Sir – On the 19th of this month, at about between 12 and 1 o'clock, the enemy made an attack on the
position which the army occupied on the height of Contreras. Immediately an active fire opened upon him from
cannon and muskets, as fast as he showed himself at the points defended by our troops, and we succeeded in
checking him at all points until night put an end to the conflict. During this time all ranks of the army gave proof of
the valor and decision with which they were ready to sacrifice their lives in defense of their nationality; but on the
morning of the 20th, thanks to the bad position which we occupied, and to the neglect to counteract the movements
made by the enemy to surround us, we were beaten at all points by a force exceeding 6000 men; and 3000 infantry,
which were stationed at one point, were cut off from our main body.

As soon as I observed the dispersion of our forces I endeavored to check it Crying “Victory in Mexico,” and
sounding the signal of attack, I succeeded for a moment in rallying our troops, and ordered Gen. Don. Anssatsia
Torrejon to make a charge with his cavalry; but this chief, far from obeying my orders, fled like a coward, and the
cavalry, followed his example, trampled down the infantry in their flight and completed our defeat.

It would appear ridiculous to recommend those who took a part in the unfortunate engagement; nevertheless I
must inform your Excellency of the valor of the chiefs and their officers who, in the midst of the confusion,
deavored to rally their troops in order to resist the enemy, who was pursuing us with vigor. Their conduct in
permitting themselves to be made prisoners rather than abandon their soldiers will always confer honor on them,
and on this account I believe them entitled to the consideration of the Supreme Government and to the gratitude of
their fellow–citizens.
His Excellency the general–in–chief, Don Gabriel Valencia, disappeared from among us at the commencement of the engagement of the 20th, and I am ignorant of his whereabouts. I thought it my duty to address your Excellency, and to send you a list of the chiefs and officers of my command who are now prisoners in this city; also a list of the wounded who are at San Angle; of those that I have thus far known to have been killed, and of those who were made prisoners in the battle of Churubusco.

All this I have the honor to communicate to your Excellency the President, and to represent to him the destitution in which the prisoners find themselves, as they have lost all they possessed, and as the American general has given an order that they shall be maintained by the inhabitants of this city which is in ruins. – They must therefore, perish from want unless the Government should grant them the relief to which they are so much entitled and which their situation imperiously demands.

I present to your Excellency my respect and particular esteem.

JOSE MARIANO SALAS

To Gen. Don Antonio Lopez De Santa Anna, President of the Republic of Mexico and General–in–Chief of the Army.

Friday, October 8, 1847, RWv24i81p3c4 Battle of Churubusco   words: 405

Army of the Vanguard
San Angel, August 26, 1847

Excellent Sir – In compliance with the orders of your Excellency, I took the command of the troops at Churubusco on the evening of the 18th inst. and immediately set about completing the fortifications with activity, as the position at the points facing the west and the south was entirely defenseless, and availed myself of the services of Capt. Don Francisco Palafox to construct the most important and urgently required works.

On the evening of the 19th I received instructions from your Excellency to send to the hacienda of San Antonio the battalions of the National Guard, Hidalgo and Victoria, which I did without delay, and which left to garrison Churubusco the National Battalions of Independence and Bravo.

On the morning of the 20th a 4–pouner with the necessary appurtenances, arrived, and I ordered it to be placed into the “red ente” – [we are ignorant of the signification of this word, and cannot find it in any of our dictionaries] which was on the road to Coyoacan, detaching at the same time 150 men of the Independencia, to occupy the church of that village and watch the enemy. A short time after this I received an order to proceed to this place [to San Angle, where the dispatch was written,] with all the forces under my command, leaving at Churubusco a small garrison; but immediately afterwards I received a counter order (no doubt owing to the unexpected events which had occurred at the height of the Pedregal) on account of which I deemed it prudent to keep at Churubusco, under arms, all my forces.

But a short time elapsed when the commander of the artillery, Don Martin Carrera, with six pieces of artillery if various caliber arrived, which I ordered immediately to be placed in battery on the road to Coyoacan, in the embrasures of the center and oriente which commands the road to San Antonio.

At this moment Gen. Don Francisco Perez passed through Churubusco at the head of his brigade, following the road to the hacienda of Portales, according to the orders of your Excellency; and shortly after your Excellency separated from us the rear guard of that brigade passed us in disorder, resulting from the proximity of the enemy, who sheltering himself behind the mud–houses, farms and fruit trees, was advancing on our lines.

[JKM]

Tuesday October, 12 1847  RWv24i82p1c1 True Boundary of Texas   words: 1714

The peremptory refusal of Mexico to acknowledge the claim of the United States to the strip of territory lying between the Nueces and the Rio Grande has led to the revival of the discussion in regard to the validity of that claim; although it is undeniable and undeniable that the most influential leaders of the Locofoco party – Benton, Ingersoll and others have themselves affirmed, in the most solemn manner, the right of Mexico to the valley of the Rio Grande, while Mr. Calhoun, without expressing a positive opinion upon that point, in his official capacity as Secretary of State, in a letter to the American Charge in Mexico, authorized him to say to that Government, that by the terms of the Tyler treaty of annexation, the boundary of Texas had been "left without specification, so that what the line should be might be an open question, to be fairly and fully discussed and settled according to the rights of each." And so, likewise, when, the treaty having been rejected, the advocates of "immediate" annexation, in their hot haste to accomplish that measure, violated the Constitution, by bringing into the Union foreign territory, by a joint resolution of Congress, even they, with all their disregard even of constitutional forms, were cautious enough
not to claim the Rio Grande as the true boundary of Texas; but, admitting that the line was uncertain, declared that the State of Texas was to be formed subject to the adjustment by this Government of all questions of boundary that may arise with other Governments.”

The last Washington Union dedicates an elaborate argument to this subject; but it does not, as it cannot successfully, meet the true issue. The only ground that it assumes, and which it labors to establish, is, that all our early negotiators has asserted and demonstrated that the Texas which we obtained by purchase from France under the Louisiana treaty in 1803, and which, by the Florida treaty in 1819 we ceded to Spain, extended far west as the Rio Grande. Among the authorities adduced by the Union to establish this position is Mr. Benton! And yet, in Mr. Benton’s speech against the Tyler treaty, that gentleman emphatically said: “The real Texas which we acquired by the treaty of 1803, and flung away by the treaty of 1819, NEVER APPROACHED THE RIO GRANDE, except near its mouth, while the whole upper part was settled by the Spaniards, and a great part of it in the year 1694 – just one hundred years before La Salle first saw Texas. All this upper part was then formed into provinces, on both sides of the river, and has remained under Spanish or Mexican authority ever since.” No man in the Union, we venture to say is so thoroughly acquainted with this subject as Mr. Benton; for as early as 1819 he denounced the treaty by which Texas was bartered for Florida, and had even then, as his writings show, made it a subject of extensive and profound investigation. The truth is, the mere assertion of a title to territory in the process of adjusting a boundary, is the weakest possible evidence of the justice of the claim. Negotiators, like lawyers, are to be regarded rather as counsel employed to make out the best possible case, than as judges to decide agreeably to the rules of equity. What better evidence do we need of this than the fact, that not only our negotiators in the Oregon affair, but the President himself, in a communication to Congress, asserted, without qualification, our “clear and unquestionable” right to the line of 54 40, but nevertheless came at last to accept the line of 49?

But, let us, for the sake of argument, admit that the Texas ceded by France to the United States, and by the United States to Spain, did extend to the Rio Grande: What then? Was that the same Texas which achieved her independence at San Jacinto? Was it the same Texas which was annexed to this Confederacy? It is not a fact, admitted and incontrovertible, that, as a member of the Mexican Confederacy, Texas was shorn of her ancient limits? Then, upon the formation of a new States, the Nueces was, by law and by common consent established as the boundary line between the Mexican Department of Texas on the one side, and Tamaulipas, New Leon and Coahuila on the other? It is pretended, that, west of the Nueces, with the exception of the little village of Corpus Christi, “immediately at its mouth, the jurisdiction of the Republic of Texas had ever been acknowledged by the inhabitants residing in the valley of the Rio Grande? It is not true, on the other hand, that between the river and the Nueces, when Gen. Taylor moved from Corpus Christi, the people were all Mexicans, governed by Mexican officers, and under the rule of Mexican laws? Why, to say nothing of the fact that these people all fled at the approach of the American army, there was a Mexican custom–house at Point Isabel, which was burnt on Gen. Taylor’s approach. If this territory belonged to us, why did Mr. Polk permit it to remain in the quiet and undisturbed possession of Mexico – why did he permit the custom house to remain upon “American Soil,” exacting duties upon our trade – for so long a period after annexation had been consummated? Would he have permitted it at Galveston? If not, why did he sanction it at Point Isabel? But one answer can be given to this question: He knew that Galveston was a part of Texas that had been annexed, and he knew just as well that Point Isabel was not. If this be not so, then he was as criminally negligent of his duty in suffering “American Soil” to be held by the Mexican government, and duties to be collected thereon by Mexican officers, as he was culpable, if it be so, for taking possession of it in May 1846. From this dilemma he cannot escape. If we acquire a “clear and unquestionable” title of the valley of the Rio Grande by the annexation of Texas, he ought to have taken possession of it when the transfer of Texas was regularly made. If we acquired no such title, he ought not to have taken armed possession of it at all.

The Rio Grande may have been the true boundary line of the Texas acquired by us in 1819. On this point we express no opinion, because we have not that precise and accurate information on the subject which is necessary to the formation of a satisfactory one. But admit it to be so, and still it does not follow that it now belongs to the United States. Let us see: At the close of our Revolution the limits of Virginia extended very far west of its present boundary line. Suppose, in the march of events, Virginia should secede from the Union, and annex herself to a Southern Confederacy: would it not be absurd and preposterous in her to setup a claim to her ancient boundary, instead of that since established with her consent? And if Kentucky, Ohio, &c. &c. refused to secede with her, could the Southern Confederacy nevertheless claim those Commonwealths, because they could prove, by ancient title deeds, that they formerly constituted a part of Virginia? It has not been many years since Maine, now an independent State, was a part of the State of Massachusetts: In the event of the withdrawal of Massachusetts from the Union, and her annexation to the British Provinces in her vicinity, could she, with any semblance of propriety, carry Maine with her, against the consent of the people of the latter State, because foreshoof many years ago, the twain constituted a single State, known as Massachusetts? So of Vermont, which has come into existence as a separate State since he establishment of the American Confederacy: Could the State out of which Vermont was formed, reassert their former title to their ancient boundaries, which have been by their own consent obliterated, and new lines drawn? No one will contend for such absurdity. Just so with Texas. Even if Texas, as ceded to us by Spain, extended to the Rio Grande, since that cession was made radical changes has ensued. Mexico has herself thrown off the Spanish yoke, and, since the establishment of her independence, has, by the consent of those interested, created new Departments, and defined their respective boundaries. Whatever might have been the boundary line of ancient Texas, as a Department of Mexico, it extended no farther east than the Nueces for many years before and at the time of her successful revolution, and the establishment of her own independence; and when she relinquished her separate national existence by becoming a member of our own Confederacy, she could not, by a mere legislative act, which she never had the power to enforce, transfer with herself any portion of the territory belonging to the neighboring Mexican departments, which had never participated in her revolution, nor been for a moment after its successful termination subject to her jurisdiction.

If there is a question which admits of no dispute, we think this is that question. Whether it is desirable to extend the boundaries of Texas to the Rio Grande may admit of doubt; but that we had no title, when the war broke out to
that territory, is to our minds as clear as that we had none to the city of Mexico herself. We say it may admit of a
doubt whether it is really desirable to possess the valley of the Rio Grande. Mr. Benton tells us that it is not, and we
have his authority for saying that Gen. Jackson concurred with him in that opinion; while Mr. Charles Jared Ingersoll
affirms that it is not our "natural boundary," and of course he must believe that it is not therefore a desirable, just or
"proper one". For our own parts we are inclined to concur with these eminent Locofoco authorities – though it is not
improbable we shall be stigmatized as a "Mexican Whig," and strongly suspected of "moral treason" for adopting
their sentiments. We hope, however, their cloaks are broad enough to shield us from imputations, which must affect
these great Locofoco luminaries more seriously that ourselves– since we but light our taper at the fire they have
kindled.

Col. James Riley, who was the Texan Minister to the United States in 1842, publishes in the Houston Telegraph a
letter, in which he controverts the position taken by Mr. Tyler, in his late address to the public, that he (Riley)
withdrew the application for the annexation of Texas to the United States. He says he had no instructions from the
government of Texas to withdraw the proposition for annexation, and that he assuredly would not have done so on
his own responsibility.

There is for reflection in the following extract of a letter from Washington to the New York Herald– a paper, as
well as its correspondents, decidedly friendly to the Administration. We submit it without comment.:

"Mr. Trist proposed the Rio Grande, thence a line across to the River Gila, say latitude 33 North. This river runs
thence westward from the Rocky Mountain chain, or southwest to the Colorado, near its mouth, at the head of the
Gulf of California. Mr. Trist proposed to follow the Gulf down to the sea to the tropic of cancer, or about the latitude
of 23 degrees north, so that in addition to New Mexico and Alta California, we should acquire Lower California.

"Describe this Lower California:

"It is a peninsula lying between the Gulf of California and the Pacific, and is from twenty to fifty miles wide, and
about five hundred miles in length, coastwise; said peninsula being almost entirely filled up with a range of barren
mountains. There are, however, a number of harbors in this line on the Pacific; and besides this, the command of
the Gulf of Colorado, and the River Gila, would give us a passage way for a railroad for the Rio Grande to the Gulf of
California, and thence a steamers down the Gulf into the Pacific. Between the termination of the boundary of Mr.
Trist and the mouth of the Gulf in latitude 23 degrees and the latitude 42 degrees, the northern boundary of Mexico
in the Pacific, we should acquire an additional line of coast on the Pacific of from twelve to fifteen hundred miles.

"And yet, for all practical purposes, a straight line, giving us the harbor of San Francisco, (which is north of 36,
30,) would give us all that is worth having on the coast of the Pacific, short of the absolute occupation of the whole
of Mexico; because the construction of a railroad from the head of navigation of the Rio Grande across the
mountains to the Gila, thence to the Gulf, would cost a moderate estimate, (the whole route being through a desert
of mountains, rocks, and sands) for say 700 miles, not less than ($300,000,000) three hundred millions of dollars;
consequently, it would never be built.

"As an ultimatum, therefore, the demand for Lower California and the Rio Grande was an unfortunate
proposition, both for the object of a peace an for a good bargain"

"On the other hand, we find by the Delta, that the Executive Council, with the approbation of Santa Anna, gave in
the instructions to their commanders, and order requiring them to demand the application of the Wilmot Proviso to
the territories ceded to the United States, and substantially their plan of a treaty embraced this future.

"The fact is, this was with Mexico, originated in a profound ignorance of the geography, the topography, the soil,
the climate, and the capabilities of the countries of New Mexico and the Californians.

"They were thought to be a perfect paradise, where all the fruits of every country under heaven grew
spontaneously, and only required the gathering.

"Of course, such a country would pay for a war, and even a long and bloody war, and all the attendant
stupendous expenses, however large.

"But what is the fact? Surveys, explorations, marches, examinations, and eighteen months occupations of New
Mexico and California, Upper and Lower, have resolved those territories into part and parcel of a bona fide African
The great body of these territories never will be worth one dollar to the square mile while the sun shines.

Hence, we are astonished that Mr. Trist should propose to take a large slice of them, not in indemnity for the war provoked by Mexico, as the only means of payment she has to give, but as a purchase, at fifteen or twenty millions of dollars, to be paid to Mexico! We are astonished the more at the idea that Lower California is worth buying! It would be a dead cost to the government of half a million a year, in light houses, petty collectors with nothing to do, and Indian agents.

In one word, for the present, we know not which was the most absurd, the stipulations of Mr. Trist, or the propositions from the Mexican Commissioners!

Among the anxious inquirers, who have endeavored to extract from Gen. Taylor his opinions upon questions of national policy, the reader will remember the name of Dr. Edward Delony of Louisiana. We find in the proceedings of a Locofoco District Convention recently held in Louisiana, to nominate a candidate for Congress, the following among other resolutions reported by the aforesaid Dr. Delony, from which we infer that Gen. Taylor's letter was not at all satisfactory to him. He hoped to find the General a Locofoco, like himself, no doubt, and being disappointed, he thus strikes at him:

Resolved, That, in view of the next Presidency, we hold it as one of the fundamental principles of our Democratic faith, that every aspirant for that high office is bound, by the nature and character of our free institutions, and the right of the people to demand them, to declare his political principles and opinions, when called upon to do so, and that we will not yield our support to any individual who disregards such right, or who, in answering, is opposed to the principles of the republican faith.

Resolved, That we approve of a National Democratic Convention, to be hold in the city of Baltimore, on the second Monday in May, 1848, to nominate candidates for President and Vice President of the United States.

Dr. Delony was himself accordingly appointed a Delegate to the National Convention.

By the arrival of the U.S. transport schooner Heroine yesterday, from Brazos Santiago, which place she left on the 23rd, we have the Matamoros Flag of the 22nd, from which we obtain the following intelligence.

Since Col. Hays arrived, says the Flag, he has learned that the portion of his regiment constituting the late command of Major Chevallie, and now at Saltillo, is not to join him, but remain with Gen. Wool. It is also intimated that Lieut. Col. Bell’s present command, two companies, left at San Antonio, will not be withdrawn from Texas. If so, Col. Hays will have only five companies of his regiment under his immediate command. Major Chevallie, who is supposed had resigned in order to join Col. Hays, as the presumptions was that there would be more active service on Gen. Scott’s line, is a passenger on the Heroine.

The whole of Gen. Cushing’s brigade, also ordered to Gen. Scott’s line, had arrived from above, and was encamped at Palo Alto. The brigade was reported to be in good health. Transports were looked for daily at the Brazos, and as soon as they arrived, the brigade would move down the embark.

Mrs. Ferguson, who it was first reported was not dangerously injured by the explosion of the steamer Lama, died on the 17th, of internal injuries caused by inhaling the scalding steam at the time of the explosion.

We copy the subjoined paragraph from the Flag of the 22nd:

Wanton Murders— On Monday last two Mexicans were shot in the public street by a cowardly ruffian named Thomas McLaughlin, of the Texas Cavalry. We have not heard the full particulars, but it is said to have been a most wanton act, and without the slightest provocation. It caused the greatest indignation in the regiments to which he was attached, and we are gratified to hear that they rendered prompt aid in having the murder arrested. He is not in custody, and we hope that his punishment may be such as the nature of his crime calls for. It is time for the strong arm of the law to be put forth—punishment must follow crime. It sickens us to record such acts, and we trust that the authorities will show that they cannot be committed with impunity. Let it not be urged that the man was drunk. Drunkenness is no excuse for crime— it should make the offense greater.
The copy of the Diario del Gobierno containing a brief account of the battle of El Rey, fought on the 8th, in which it was represented that our troops were ultimately forced to retire to Tacubaya, after suffering a loss in killed and wounded of 1000, has been received by Urrea and the Governor of Tamaulipas, and we find in the Matamoros Flag the following letter from the former:

Tula, September 14, 1847:

To his Excellency, the Governor of Tamaulipas: The Supreme National Government having declined the propositions of the America Minister, as being exorbitant, hostilities were renewed, and on the 8th our troops gave a severe lesson to the hateful invaders, heroically repulsing their assaults and driving them to their positions. I enclose for your information a copy of an editorial in the Diario of the same date.

This event has produced an extraordinary enthusiasm in the capital of the Republic, the defense of which, I have no doubt, will be heroic and grand, although the American army may besiege it on all sides.

Providence is satisfied with or sufferings, and the days of glory and consolation commence to dawn upon the Republic.

I congratulate this government on so brilliant an event, and supplicate you to announce this to the people of Tamaulipas, in a proper manner.

Accept my attentive consideration:

God and Liberty
Jose Urrea

The probability is that this intelligence, and the difficulties which there is reason to suppose Gen. Scott found in taking the capital, will inspire the Mexicans with new hopes. We have recently had an account of a bold attack upon Mier by a guerrilla party, and it will not astonish us soon to hear that the valley of the Rio Grande again swarms with guerrillas, especially since the enemy must know how weak we are on that line. The Matamoros Flag of the 22nd, speaking of the reported victory of El Rey, says:

“The latest rumor which has reached us is, that the Mexicans, inspired by the news of Gen. Scott’s repulse at the capital, are flying to arms throughout the country and determined to be in at the extermination. Three thousand are reported to be already embodied between here and Victoria. Guess there is upwards of considerable exaggeration in this report, but mischief may be prevented if the movements of the Mexicans are closely watched about this time.”

[JKM]

The Hamburg (S.C.) Journal publishes the following letter from Capt. Bragg, giving an account of the late fortunately unsuccessful attempt to assassinate him:

Camp near Monterrey,
Aug. 26, 1847

An attempt was made about 2 a.m., night before last, to assassinate me in my bed. I have no clue to the perpetrator, and can suggest no reason for the act. My escape without injury, is regarded as almost miraculous. As exaggerated accounts will probably reach the press, the truth may interest you. A twelve pound shell, heavily charged, was placed within two feet of my bed, just outside my tent, and exploded by a slow match; the fragments literally riddling my tent and bedding, pieces passing above and below me, some through a blanket spread over me, and yet I was not touched. I was not aware that I had an enemy in the world, and at times, fell disposed to believe now, that I may have been intended as a practical joke, by some fool ignorant of the effect of shells thus exploded. Be that as it may, my escape was almost miraculous, and I prefer not repeating the joke.”

[JKM]

The steamship Alabama, Capt. Windle, arrived at an early hour yesterday morning from Vera Cruz via Tampico. She left Vera Cruz on Sunday the 26th of September, and Tampico on the 30th.
We learn through a source entitled to great respect that in the recent battles of the 8th and 13th the American army had twenty-seven officers killed and forty-five wounded. Capt. Cady, of the 6th Infantry, was among the killed. We have no confirmation whatever of the death of any of our generals.

By the arrival we have no later new direct from Gen. Scott’s headquarters, but we learn that letters have been received by commercial houses in Tampico, from their correspondents in the city of Mexico, confirming entirely our former reports of the barrel of Mil del Rey and Chapultepec heights on the 8th and 13th of September, in which Gen. Scott carried the place at the point of bayonet.

It appears from the following circular that Gen. Santa Anna determined at once, upon the conclusion of the battle of the 13th, to abandon the capital. The verbal report is that he retired to Guadalupe, which is scarcely three miles from the capital, with 10,000 troops and twenty-five pieces of artillery. The accuracy of the letter from Orizaba to Mr. Diamond, and published in this paper, is thus confirmed. The letter made the date of Scott’s command of the capital September 13th, and made no mention of the bombardment of the 14th and 15th, which was so extensively circulated by other papers. Santa Anna evacuated the city expressly to avoid such a bombardment. Our formal entry may not have been made for a day or two, but the city was at our mercy on the 13th.

A CIRCULAR TO THE COMMANDANTS GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENTS
Guadalupe Hidalgo, Sept. 14, 1847

Most Excellent Sir– After the important and great events that have yesterday taken place, there remains no other alternative to the government of the union, than that of abandoning the capital, in order that other means be adopted and pursued for the harassing of the enemy. Accordingly, his excellency of the integral Republic orders me to inform you, in order that through you, the honorable Congress of the State over which you preside, may know it, that his excellency is firmly resolved to prosecute military operations against the invaders. And that whatever be the consequences resulting from the war, yet his Excellency is determined to wage it in every possible manner, and be every attainable means. A heroic resistance was made in the capital, for the space of six days, but at length established himself in places and positions from which his missiles and projectiles could reach the peaceful thousands of the city, then the supreme government seeing the state of affairs to be such as warranted their departure, changed their abode; and very soon I will have the pleasure of announcing to your excellency the site upon which it will fix, which at present is impossible for me to do, as it accompanies the army, and as yet is not agreed upon the resistance of the Supreme Power of the nation. But as soon as the latter is known, I will give your Excellency a detailed account of everything that has occurred; but now I shall confine myself to the single following statement. The American army charged yesterday at daybreak, with all its force upon Chapultepec, which, after a spirited defense of six hours yielded at last to the attack of the enemy, who immediately marched to take possession of a fortification situated between the centry–box of Belen and St. Thomas, St. Como and the citadel. The first advance was checked by the troops his Excellency the President led up, disputing the ground inch by inch, till finally the invader was routed from the citadel, after nine hours hard fighting. The capital being in this situation. His Excellency was anxious to avoid a bombardment, and to spare it the tumult and confusion attendant upon an assault which would have given room for a thousand calamities, and a repetition of those acts in which the army of the foe has manifested so instinctive a spirit of extermination.

His Excellency the President of the Republic hopes that your Excellency will endeavor to preserve and reanimate the public spirit, in order that the war may be carried on with that vigor and energy which the national honor and the rights of the Republic so imperiously demand.

Alcorta

By this letter which we give below from our Vera Cruz correspondent, it will be seen that Gen. Lane has been compelled to send back for a supply of ammunition. Upon an inspection which was instituted upon receiving a rumor that the guerrillas had occupied Cerro Gordo, it was found that he had but eight or nine rounds of cartridges!

Our correspondent, to whose letter we must refer for a variety of details, mentions a rumor that Gen. Santa Anna has resigned the Presidency, and speaks of a proclamation to that effect, which we have not yet seen. We attach little confidence to the stand said to have been made by the guerrillas at Cerro Gordo. Now that they are deprived of the National Bridge as a rallying point, they will of course occupy the most eligible ground higher up on the road, but they will readily be dislodged by a force like that under Gen. Lane.

Capt. White’s company of Louisiana volunteers, and two companies of the 11th infantry, left Tampico on the 28th of September for Vera Cruz.

We regret to perceive that Lieut. Kline, of Capt. Lewis’ company of Louisiana volunteers, had been shot by the guerrillas.

[ Special Correspondence of the Picayune]

The Sun of Anahuac has been suspended, and it devolves upon me to furnish you with what may transpire in the local line as far as I am able to do so, although nothing of real importance has taken place since the departure of the James L. Day. She was hardly under way before a report reached the city that the Vergara camp was attacked by guerrillas, and that they had put to the sword all the Americans who occupied it. Of course there was a general rush
to the gates, and the house tops were covered with citizens eager to witness the fray, but it soon ended in smoke, no attack having been made, although it is positively stated that a considerable body of the enemy were seen within a few hundred yards of the camp on the sand hills.

The information that I sent you yesterday, that Gen. Scott had entered Mexico, has been fully confirmed today; with but few additional particulars; but you shall have all that are authentic, leaving the rumors to take care of themselves.

It appears that on the 15th, the Americans charged and carried the Citadel, and immediately turned all the guns of the fortification on the city. About 12 o’clock at night, all the Mexican Army retreated upon Guadalupe.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs addressed the Civil Governor, directing him to manage affairs as well as he could, until he should receive official information as to where the Government should be established. From what I can learn, the Mexicans will not stand another fight at present, and we may therefore look for temporary tranquility.

The only portion of the news that is not confirmed, is Santa Anna being wounded, of which nothing is said in the address which reached us today.

It is reported that Gen. Quitman is on the way down with dispatches, and has 4000 men with him. If this be the case, he has no doubt been induced to take so large a force from the fact that Paredes is near Puebla with 6000 men; but I can hardly understand how Gen. Scott could have spared so many men after the severe losses which he must have suffered.

We have all sorts of reports about a small detachment that left here the day after the departure of Gen. Lane’s command to overtake him, but as I do not consider any of them authentic I will not recapitulate the rumors.

Col. Wilson was taken very ill yesterday evening, and the duties of Governor consequently devolve upon Lieut. Col. D.S. Miles, who is au fait in such manners, and everything connected with the Department will be sure to be conducted as it should be. I forgot to mention in my last that Lieut. Arthur, adjutant of the 1st Infantry, was thrown for his horse last Sunday, and severely though not dangerously hurt, but he is doing quite well.

I neglected also to mention in my last that your express man informed me that Mr. Kendall had sent down four other couriers since he left Puebla, none of whom have reached here.

The New York Courier and Enquirer, which has been always decidedly belligerent in its tone towards Mexico, and whose views have so often been copied with approbation by the Washington Union, goes farther in condemning the rejection of the Mexican proposition to make the “miserable strip of country lying between the Nueces and the Rio Grande,” neutral ground, than any other paper we have seen. The Courier and Enquirer thinks, as we do, that in obtaining from Mexico the cession of California down to latitude 37 north, we shall secure all that we ought really to covet. “Such a line (says that paper) would give us every foot of territory on the Pacific which is necessary to us, or desirable, and would include even Monterey, as well as the magnificent bay of San Francisco; while on the Gulf coast it would give us all that any reasonable person can desire.” The Courier, therefore, thinks that Mr. Trist committed an error in not at once closing with this proposition; but that paper will perceive, from the indignant manner in which the Union denies, in the face of the positive declaration of the Mexican commissioners, that Mr. Trist even asked for time to consult his Government as to the admissibility of this proposition, that he had not discretion in the premises, and that, had he made a treaty on that basis, it would have been annulled by the Washington Cabinet. Indeed, we take it for granted, if Mr. Trist did ask for time to communicate with the State Department, that he was disposed to accede to the proposition, and that he would have done so had his instructions permitted him so to do. He would scarcely otherwise have proposed the prolongation of the armistice forty-five days for this purpose, and subjected himself to the imputation, which has been already hypothetically cast upon him, by the Executive Organ, of being a “Mexican Whig.” And is such shall turn out to have been the fact, it will show, by the Union’s own declaration, that Mr. Polk has displayed as little sagacity in selecting a negotiator ashen did in instructing Com. Conner to give Santa Anna a free passage to Vera Cruz.

While the Cabinet, however, will hardly adopt the suggesting of our New York contemporary, by sending “a new commissioner to Mexico, with full power to accept of the terms which Mr. Trist has rejected,” we are gratified
a course which it is unfortunate met with no favor when it was first suggested by Gen. Taylor, and was afterwards recommended by Mr. Calhoun. This policy will require comparatively a small force, for sure we are that Mexico will never attack us, as she forbore to attack even Texas; but if, on the other hand, we are to continue a war of extermination for the purpose of punishing the Mexicans for refusing to cede to us 696,000 square miles, or one-half of their territory, we must at once proceed to bring into the field a hundred thousand men, and prepare ourselves for an expenditure, before the close of the war, of from three to five hundred millions of dollars. Whether the people, who are to do the fighting; and to bear the taxation, will deem it wise to incur this expenditure of money and life, for the pleasure of hearing, every week or two, that a Mexican city has been battered down, and thousands of men, women and children have been blown into the air, or cut down by the sword, and with the ultimate prospect, the war being over, of seeing the Indians, Negroes, and half-breeds of Mexico annexed to the Union, and Santa Anna, Ampudia, Arista, Armijo, etc., etc. making laws for us at Washington "remains to be seen," as Mr. Polk said when he endeavored to show that Santa Anna's return to Mexico, by his permission, notwithstanding his belligerent attitude, might contribute to the restoration of peace!

Tuesday October, 12 1847  RWv24i82ip4c2 From Gen. Taylor's Camp  words: 545

The last New Orleans Picayune publishes a letter from the camp at Buena Vista, dated the 28th of August, which represents everything there as unsupportable dull- the troops doing nothing, and have no prospect of doing anything.

Maj. Chevallie has resigned his command of the battalion of Texas rangers, with a view, it is said, of assuming the same rank as Hay's regiment. Lots of resignations are being tendered, owing to the prospect of remaining active.

We copy the following extract from a letter of the 29th;

August 29th– Since writing the above letter intelligence has been received here from the Mexican authorities in Saltillo that five Americans have been killed at a small town some distance from S. They were either deserters or discharged wagoneer's, and had been committing a great many outrages in the neighborhood, stealing from the inhabitants all they could lay their hands on, even the horses and saddles. At some place on the Monclova road they were attacked, five killed and two taken prisoners. An investigation will be made in the affair, and I hope, for the sake of example, it may turn out that they were deserters. A party was sent out last evening to bring in the prisoners. Since closing the last paragraph the party that was sent out for the two men have returned and brought them in from Campana, a pretty little town on the north of the Saltillo and Monterey road, in the valley east of the former place, and about fifteen miles off. One of them deserted on the 24th from the Texas camp, and the other was a discharged teamster. They started in company with seven others for Texas via Monclova, and according to their own account had committed numerous depredations upon the route. When about fifty miles from Saltillo they stopped at a ranch for breakfast, and the inhabitants collected about them and charged one of the party with having a stolen horse. He asserted that he had exchanged it at a rancho they had passed; but not crediting the story, the Mexicans sent back to the designated place to ascertain the truth. After the party came out from their breakfast they found a collection of Mexicans assembled from the various ranchos in the neighborhood, and as they went towards their horses they were attacked by them. Four of the Americans were killed, (two of whom were artillery deserters), when these two men made their escape and got into the mountains. At night their horses became broken down and they were compelled to leave them, and wandered about till morning, when they found themselves within about 15 miles of the rancho where they had been attacked. They were subsequently discovered and taken by a party of Mexicans, who were about to shoot them, but one Mexican persuaded them not to do so, and they were taken before the judge, who appeared to be friendly to them and sent them off under a guard of two men, as he said, toward Saltillo. When they arrived at Campana they were again detained until our party arrived for them. What ultimate disposition will be made of them I do not know, but at present they will remain as prisoners under charge of the provost guard.

Tuesday October, 12 1847  RWv24i82p4c3  Untitled  words: 133

Scott's Demeanor in Battle– A correspondent of the N.O. Delta thus writes of Gen. Scott's demeanor in battle;

"Gen. Scott, at the head of our army, during the engagement received a slight wound in the leg, and what is very remarkable, no person whatever except himself was aware of it until the battle was over. A great deal has been said and written in reference to the ability of Gen. Scott as a military man, but those who have not seen him in command and under fire, cannot form any just conception of his abilities. His cool consideration of everything around him– his quick perception– his firm resolve and immediate execution– equal if they do not surpass those of any of the great generals whose deeds have been made so conspicuous in history."
The following letter from Major Lally was addressed to Col. Wilson at Vera Cruz, and by him forwarded to Adjutant General R. Jones, at Washington:

Headquarters Jalapa, Aug. 26, 1847.

To Gov. Wilson, Vera Cruz:

My command reached this place on the morning of the 20th. We have fought our way triumphantly every inch of the route, but have had severe contests—nay, battles— with the guerrillas: on the 10th at Paso Ovejas, (as before reported,) on the 12th August at Cerro Gordo, and on the 19th at Las Animas, only a mile and a half from this city. Not a wagon has fallen into the hands of the enemy. We have been opposed by at least 1,200 or 1,500 guerrillas on these occasions—perhaps least at the last, for they were badly whipped at Cerro Gordo, where their loss was so large that they could not reorganize. Farther Jarauta commanded them. Our loss is great. During the entire march—7 officers wounded; 12 of rank and file killed; 5 mortally wounded; 66 wounded. Of this number, 4 killed and 4 wounded were at places elsewhere than the four actions named above. I regret to say, that at National Bridge Mr. George Twiggs (expecting a commission, and to be A.D.C.to Gen. T.) was killed while gallantly serving in my staff; Capt. J.H. Calwell, of voltigeurs, and Capt. A.C. Cummings, 11th infantry, were wounded on the 10th, (as before reported.

A large number of sick have accumulated, besides our wounded; and we shall be compelled to remain here many days to recruit. I cannot too much praise the gallantry of the officers— the men, raw and uninstructed, have gradually acquired confidence. Col. Wynkoop arrived from Perote on the 24th, having heard we were in danger at Cerro Gordo. We waited three days for your reinforcement, and hearing of it at Plan del Rio, sent back a body of dragoons to the National Bridge, who, finding it in the possession of the enemy, we concluded that it was repulsed: I am pained at the rumor we heard of the loss of some of the wagons. Dr. Cooper and thirteen dragoons reached us. I cannot too earnestly recommend that you assume the authority to order the reoccupation of this city. Even if Gen. Scott was not before the city of Mexico, and beyond the reach of reinforcements, you perceive trains are constantly endangered by guerrillas, and that their supplies have been forwarded from here. Their spirits have been raised by absence of the troops. I am certain that Gen. Scott, on the spot, would order its reoccupation. Col. Wynkoop concurs in its importance.

Very truly yours
F.T. Lally

[JKM]
manes of the generals or general who there fell! And in what manner did the hang them? Noosing them by the neck as they stood upon the ground, and so suspending them that they died, "by inches," strangled by their own weight, the mode adopted being such that their horrible agony lasted more that one–hour. A spectacle worthy of such men, or rather of demons escaped from hell! This they did with eighteen of these unhappy men, and among them the brave Captain Reilly, whose head they stuck upon a pike and planted at Churubusco. To six others, who proved that they had not volunteered but been impressed, they gave two hundred lashes each, and compelled them to dig the graves of their companions.

Mexicans: These are the men who call us barbarians and say they come to civilize us: these are the men who have plundered the houses of the surrounding villages, who have stolen children from their families, who have slept in the niches devoted to the sacred dead, who have, with blasphemous revelry, clothed themselves in the ornaments of the alters, who have thrown upon the ground the body of Jesus Christ, and have made themselves drunk in drinking out of the sacred vessels. Accursed may they be of all Christians as they are of God!

Countrymen: The Supreme Government commanded its commissioners, as you have seen in already published, that they should inquire of their Commissioners first of all, why they had brought war upon our Republic with blood and fire? What injuries we have done to them that they should thus seek to revenge themselves? Their mode of concealing their confusion at not being able to reply to these inquiries, and of satisfying their displeasure because we would not consent to an ignominious peace, has been to light up anew the flames of war, to send us from the King's Mill day before yesterday our assassinated countrymen who had in no manner offended them, and to glut their diabolical rage upon the defenseless men whom they had in their power.

Mexicans: The Supreme Government conjures us in the name of the honor of our race, in the name of our dignity as men and of God himself, that we should all unite boy unanimous and continues effort to revenge these great outrages, to yield never to dismay, and to wage this war without truce and without relenting.

[too dark to read]

Mexico, September 10, 1847

The following interrogatories were addressed by the Diario del Gobierno to "Scott, Polk, and to that part of the people of the United States in favor of the war, to all that nation and to the world:"

"What is the cause, what the impelling motive that the United States of America have brought pillage, desolation and death upon the Mexican Republic?"

"What offenses has this Republic committed?"

"What reasonable or just aim does that Government entertain, to gain which it has adopted measures so barbarous and unworthy of Christian and civilized people?"

The Diario publishes a communication from the Governor of Guanajuato to the Minister of Foreign Relations, approving the determination of the Central Government to submit to no concessions which shall compromise Mexican honor, and tendering the assistance of that State, in money and men, to the full extent of its resources. The Governor of the State of Jalisco, also, breathes war to the knife. He exhorts the people to give the world occasion to say, that "Jalisco was the cradle of the liberty of the Mexican Republic, and the tomb of the conquerors of the North."– of should the struggle be fruitless that "Jalisco lost her independence, but linker her honor with the tomb." If the Mexicans could fight as heroically as they write, our armies would long ago have been annihilated.– Paredes is said to be in Jalisco, beating up for recruits.

Friday, October 15, 1847, RWv24i83p1c3 Untitled words: 712

Will the Union in its elaborate exposition of the ground assumed by the Administration that the "Rio Grande is the true Western boundary of Texas," please to direct its observations particularly to Mr. Senator Benton! That gentleman wants as much light on this subject as anybody we know of. We don't know that the Union considers him a "Mexican Whig," but it is very certain that Mr. Benton thinks or did think that the Rio Grande is no more the Western boundary of Texas, that it is the western boundary of the moon! – Alexandria Gazette

And a greater than Mr. Benton concurred in that opinion. We mean Gen. Jackson, who, as we are assured by Mr. Benton, after surveying the map with the eye of a soldier as well as a statesman, came to the conclusion that the Nueces would be a more desirable boundary for the United States than the Rio Grande, in reference both to the civil and military aspects of the question. Referring to Gen. Jackson's attempt, in the first year of his Presidency to get back "our sacrificed territory," Mr. Benton said, that the proposition of Gen. Jackson "included no part of New Mexico, Chihuahua, Coahuila, or Tamaulipas. It extended to no part of the River, or even the valley of the Rio Grande. Not a drop of the water of that river– not an inch of the soil of its valley– did he propose to disrupt from its
old possessor, and to incorporate into our Union. Gen. Jackson was a wise man and a just man, and he was assisted by another man (Van Buren) who was also wise and just. They mediated no such crime or folly as that of adding the left bank of the Rio Grande, from head to mouth, to our Union. In seeking to recover the dismembered part of our own country, they did not undertake to dismember the empire of a neighbor. Like a general, he saw the natural frontier of his country on the ridge of mountains at the head of the Red river and Arkansas, which lie east of the Nueces; and like a statesman, he was limiting the domain of his country to this natural frontier. Leaving the whole valley of the Rio Grande to the Mexicans, and taking the whole valley of the Mississippi to ourselves, he sought a line suitable to both parties, more than a hundred miles this side of the Rio Grande, and even east of the little river Nueces, a solitary frontier stream, connected with no system of rivers, and without a single geographical affinity, and falling into the Gulf of Mexico in a shallow and difficult part of the coast. This was his boundary, and not act of his life shows a more wise and enlightened forecast. A less sagacious head would have stood out for our ancient claim to the Rio del Norte: His judgment enable him to see that this would be an encroachment upon the geographical divisions of Mexico– would bring the population of two great countries into contact and collision– give rise to disputes for the navigation of the river and the possession of its mouth– and sow the seeds of eternal dissension in advancing a salient angle of one empire into the natural empire of another. His sagacious mind saw this; and, waving the question of old limits, he took those which the future peace and harmony of the two countries required, and left the whole extent of the Rio del Norte, every inch of its soil and every drop of its waters, and all its fields and flocks, to its ancient possessors, who had held it for centuries.”

Friday October, 15, 1847, RWv24i83p1c3 Untitled  words: 147

What does the Washington Union mean by the following significant remark? “If,“ says that paper, “Santa Anna is not so profound or bold a Statesman as was supposed” (by whom?)-“ If circumstances do not permit him to withdraw, not only from the Sabine, but from the Nueces to the Rio Grande, the President may have misunderstood the man, or the circumstances in which he might be placed.” We understood the Union, the other day, as affirming that there was no understanding between Mr. Polk and Santa Anna: Yet if the foregoing language means anything, it means that there was, and that the President has been deceived by the wily Mexican. It seems difficult to learn the precise reasons which induced Mr. Polk to permit Santa Anna to return to Mexico. We hope, however, that the next Congress will be able to find out the well guarded secret.

[JKM]

Friday October, 15, 1847, RWv24i83p1c3 Mutiny on the Plains  words: 297

Mutiny on the Plains – Indian Movements– The St. Louis Union, of the 30th September, has intelligence of the 24th from the troops en route for Santa Fe, in a letter of that date from the Middle Semirone Spring. After mentioning the extraordinary march of 525 miles in thirty–four days, performed on foot by a detachment of the companies of the Illinois Regiment, the writer states that by far the greater part of the companies F and G were a few days before the date of his letter in open mutiny– absolutely refusing to obey positive orders. The dutiful force, consisting of but one company, was not sufficient to quell the insurrection, and the mutineers had pretty much their own way, till the regiment was joined by Lieut. Col. Boyaken, with a detachment of three companies. Order was then forthwith restored, and the non–commissioned officers who took part in the insubordination, were arrested and reduced to the ranks. The offense being above regimental jurisdiction, final proceedings in the matter had to be postponed until the arrival of the troops at Santa Fe.

Extract from a letter dated at Fort Kearney, Table Creek, Sept. 19, 1847– "A party of Otto Indians came to this place on the 17th. A large party of Sioux had attacked their village, killed twenty of the tribe, burned the village, and destroyed the corn.– Some of the children were drowned whilst crossing the river. The Pawnee farmer came to our camp on the 17th, and reported some seven or eight hundred Ious and the Pawnee village destroying the corn. The hostile operations of Ious against the Pawnees and Ottawas, also the movements of the Omahas against the Mormon encampment, will make it necessary to send an additional force of mounted men to the Plains.”

[JKM]

Friday October, 15, 1847, RWv24i83p2c2 Gen. James Hamilton Jr.  words: 91

We publish this morning a characteristic letter from this gentleman to Senator Butler of South Carolina, condoling with him on the loss of his gallant brother, Col. Butler, of the Palmetto regiment. We have been somewhat surprised, ever since the conflict with Mexico commenced, that we had not heard the “snort” of General Hamilton’s “war–horse,” either “on the banks of the Rio Grande,” or elsewhere. His letter to Senator Butler apprises us that he was an
applicant for a commission, which the President did not think proper to confer upon him. [JKM]

Friday October, 15, 1847, RWv24i83p2c2 Upper California  words: 290

It is conceded, we believe, that Lower California is a sandy desert, the dreary aspect unrelieved by a single oasis. But, with Upper California we had until lately, deceived by travelers’ tales, been accustomed to associate the idea of beauty and fertility— with how much justice may be inferred from the subjoined extract from a letter recently received in Worthington, Massachusetts, from one of the “armed emigrants” dispatched by Mr. Polk, soon after the war began, to go up and possess this modern Canaan—this land flowing with milk and honey. Confessing himself a most egregiously humbugged ass, he thus writes:

“The land here is very poor, not a vegetable is raised. All it is fit for is grass, and that all dries up in summer and blows away. There is no rain from May to September. Not a tree grows within 20 miles of this. A few scrub bushes are seen, and they hardly furnish wood enough to cook with. All I can say about the land here, and I mean without a circuit of 20 miles, is, that it is on large sand bank, where vegetation starts up in the spring, the dries and blows away. If there are any with you that wish the emigrate let them go to any other place in the world than California. Never was any taken in so bad as the 7th regiment of New York volunteers. W expected to find it almost a paradise, and here we are; poor dogs, living on sea biscuit, pork and beans, in face of an enemy, exposed to wind, weather, and bullets rattling among us, and all for seven dollars a month. Blue coats, red patches, stripes and death perhaps—a gloomy prospect indeed.” [JKM]

Friday October, 15, 1847, RWv24i83p2c2 Incentives to Desertion  words: 171

The New Orleans Picayune continues its selections, in the absence of later intelligence, from its Mexican files. In that paper, of the 7th, we find a decree of Santa Anna, offering $10 to each unarmed deserter from the American army, and in case they be armed, an extra allowance to the value of their arms, is to be made. They are also promised a grant of 200 square acres of land. An earnest appeal is addressed particularly to the Irish Catholics, to abandon the flag of a people who burned their temples in Boston and Philadelphia— and “Christian hospitality and good faith” are proffered to all who will avail themselves of the invitation. While on the other hand, they are told that although they may take towns and cities by conquest, they will never possess two feet of ground unmolested as long as there is a Mexican left. Very few of our soldiers have been silly enough to accept the Mexican invitation. It is remarkable that there should have been one. [JKM]

Friday October, 15, 1847, RWv24i83p2c2 Col. Jefferson Davis  words: 363

We find in the Union the annexed letter from Col. Davis to the President of the United States, giving his reasons for declining the appointment of Brigadier General:

Warren County, Miss. June 20, 1847.

My dear Sir: Your very kind and complimentary letter of the 19th May last, was received in New Orleans, together with the commission to which you therein referred.

To be esteemed by you as one whose services entitled him to promotion, is to me a source of the highest gratification; which will remain to me undiminished, though my opinions compel me to decline the proffered honor.

I will this day address to the Adjutant General U.S. Army an official note informing him that the commission has been received, and is declined. To you I wish to give an explanation, being too sensibly affected by your expressions of honorable estimation and friendly regard, willingly to run any hazard of a misapprehension of the motives which have decided my course.

You inform me that my command will consist of volunteers. I still entertain the opinion expressed by me as a member of Congress, in May and June of 1846, that the “volunteers” are militia. As such, they have a constitutional right to be under the immediate command of officers appointed by State authority; and this I think is violated by any permanent organization made after they have passed into the service of the United States, by which they lose their distinctive character of State troops, become part of a new formation, disciplined by, corresponding and only recognized though the head, which the federal government has set over them.

Such I consider the organization of volunteer regiments into brigades, under brigadiers appointed by the President, as provided for in the law of June, 1846; and entertaining this opinion, my decision, as stated to you, was
the necessary result.

For the gratifying notice you have taken of myself and the regiment I had the honor to command, for the
distinction you have been pleased to confer upon me by this unsolicited appointment, and for the kind solicitude you
express for my welfare, receive, sir, my sincerest thanks.

Very truly your friend
Jefferson Davis

[JKM]

Friday October, 15, 1847, RWv24i83p2c4 The Late Col. Butler words: 895

The Charleston Mercury of the 5th, publishes the following interesting correspondence between General Hamilton
and the brother of the lamented Colonel Butler:

Buena Vista, Pine Mountains
Meriwether Co., Sept. 16th, 1847

My Dear Butler:– I know no death at all comparable to that of a soldier in the field, falling in this service of his
country. Your gallant brother has met this fate.

Among the friends who loved him, and whom I know had his esteem, I come to offer you my sympathy, and
mingle my sorrows with your own, if the glorious termination of his career did not almost forbid their indulgence.

You know full well that whilst I was Governor of South Carolina, at a most trying crisis, he was my first and
senior Aid-de-camp. When I had to look out on what many persons supposed, a troubled sky; it was something to
have near a man of his hereditary courage and tried nerve. If, therefore, any one knows him well, I did. The brilliant
flash of glory in which the taper of his life has been extinguished has not, therefore, surprised me. When I was in
New Orleans last spring, and heard of the embarkation of his regiment for Vera Cruz, I said to a friend, if Butler and
these lads get fairly engaged with the enemy, against whatever odds, they will make their mark, and if need be,
leave half their number in killed and wounded on the field.

What was prophecy has ripened into fact.

I knew the stuff they were made of.

This time last year your brother and myself met in Washington. He was stretched on a sick bed.

In the confidence of a friendship, the fervor of which had never been interrupted for one instant, he informed me
that as soon as he was sufficiently recovered he was to meet in meet in mortal combat Col. Mason of the United
States Army, in consequence of a quarrel of some standing, which had been greatly aggravated, perhaps by mutual
misconception. He asked my friendly counsels in the progress of the unhappy affair. I need not speak of his
composure to you, but I will speak of his sensibility– of the tenderness of his noble nature when he spoke of meeting
(on terms which scarcely permitted the hope of the escape of either party) a man with a family as numerous and
dependant upon him as his own. From policy, I rather seem to enter into his feelings as an antagonist, and so
prepare him for the deadly strife.

Without saying one word to him, however, I left Washington the next morning, and proceeded to Virginia to see
Col. McCarthy , the friend of Col. Mason. On reaching Alexandria, I learned that Col. McCarthy was not at his
residence in Loudoun. On my return to Carolina, I wrote him, and proposed an armistice and reference. It was met
by the brave man with a benevolence and chivalry worthy of his exalted courage. Col. Mason’s departure before your
brother’s recovery, for California, under orders which precluded a moment’s delay, suspended our work of
conciliation. Your brother knew nothing of my pacific interposition until Col. Mason’s departure. His life was
preserved for a noble destiny. He perished where he would have liked to have died best. Before embarking for Vera
Cruz he wrote me, entreating me to apply for an appointment as general officer in the army of the United States;
and as the most powerful inducement he could offer, he informed me that he and his command would rather serve
under me than any man in the United States. I state this fact at the hazard of having imputed to me a ridiculous, in
not censurable self–love.

But those, my dear Butler, who know our countrymen, will only recognize in it the fibers which unite one South
Carolinian to another. As little deserved as the compliment may be, why should I not cherish it next to my own
heart, at least, for secret pride and solitary enjoyment? In the burning interest of the progress of events in Mexico, I
found it impossible to resist the invocation. I tendered my services to the President in a post not inconsistent with
the rank I had held in my own State; he preferred, as he has a right, another to myself. I hope I am the last man in
the world to take exception to a preference which the subsequent distinction of this gentleman has so entirely
justified.
If I has been appointed, however, I think I hazard not much in saying that our Palmetto standard, which has never "paled its fires" on any field, would have been borne aloft wherever my command may have been. If I could not have restrained the impetuosity of the darling valor of your gallant brother, and our brave South Carolinians, I should at least have claimed the melancholy privilege that he should have died in no other arms but my own.

My dear Butler, arrest the current of your own grief. Let his widow and his children cease to shed a tear; there is but one transition from death–bed of a Christian soldier, who died for his country, to that realm where tears of care and sorrow are unknown.

Believe me, in sympathy and esteem your devoted friend

J. Hamilton

Hon. A.P. Butler, Edgefield, S.C.

Friday October, 15, 1847, RWv24i83p4c2 The Nueces  words: 716

We cannot forbear expressing our surprise at the long an elaborate vindication in yesterday’s Whig of the Mexican title to the Nueces. It is strange that the Whig should have so little confidence in the patriotism or national spirit of the American people, as to expect to persuade them to surrender, at the insolent bidding of Mexico, any portion of the territory of a Sovereign State.

Enquirer of yesterday

If we have vindicated the Mexican title to the Nueces, it was by the testimony of Democratic witnesses; and if the valley of the Rio Grande be, as Mr. Benton asserts and Mr. Ingersoll admits, Mexican territory, we submit, that even if we had endeavored to persuade the American people to surrender it, (as we did not), it cannot be metamorphosed into a “portion of the territory of a Sovereign State,” (unless it be one of the Sovereign States of Mexico) by the ipse dixit of the Enquirer. So far from advising its surrender, we expressly said, that it “admitted of a doubt its expediency or wisdom to extend the boundaries of Texas to the Rio Grande” – and we surely have a right to doubt its expediency or wisdom, when such men as Gen. Jackson, Mr. Benton and Mr. Ingersoll, three of the most brilliant lights of the Progressive Democracy, have thought otherwise.

As to the “claim” of Texas to the Rio Grande after she asserted her independence, it is of no more weight that a claim on our party to the Enquirer office. Suppose the American Continental Congress had asserted its claim to Canada in 1776– of what value would it have been, in the teeth of the fact, that the large force sent to the province, under Montgomery and Arnold, failed to achieve its conquest? So likewise Texas sent a force to capture Santa Fe, on the east side of the Rio Grande; but every an of them were taken prisoners. Nor is the Enquirer correct in saying “our jurisdiction was extended by special acts to the Rio Grande;” for it will remember that our own Congress expressly recognized Santa Fe as a Mexican town, by regulating commercial intercourse between that part of Mexico and the United States, and kept a Consul there long after the acknowledgment of the independence of Texas. So, too, we permitted Mexican troops to remain in undisturbed possession of that part of that part of the valley of the Rio Grande in close proximity to the Nueces, and permitted a Mexican customhouse to remain undisturbed at the mouth of the river. Would Mr. Polk have permitted such things in any "portion of the Old Dominion?" If not, with what propriety can the Enquirer, which did not complain of Mr. Polk for permitting parts of "the territory of a Sovereign State" to be occupied for many months after the annexation of Texas by Mexican troops and Mexican customhouse officers, now say that "we might as well cut off a portion of the Old Dominion as surrender the portion of territory between the Nueces and the Rio Grande" – embracing a region west of the line which Mr. C.J. Ingersoll, the Chairman of the Committee of Foreign Relations, and in the capacity the confidential organ of the Executive on the floor of the House of Representatives, solemnly affirmed constituted "our natural boundary?" If the assumption of the Enquirer be true, then Mr. Polk deserved to be impeached for permitting the Mexican Government to hold, for so long a time, quiet possession of "American soil" a "portion of the territory of a Sovereign State!" But he knew better–and no such claim was ever seriously made until it became necessary to his vindication from the serious charge of usurping the war–making power, from which there is no escape if the valley of the Rio Grande be in truth Mexican territory0 as Mr. Benton declares it is, and as our own laws regulating the trade between Santa Fe and the United States show that Congress and the Executive knew it to be– and as Mr. Polk’s neglect to take possession of it on the annexation of Texas demonstrates that he also so believed, until it became necessary in order to justify his high–handed outrage to proclaim that “American blood had been shed on American soil.”

Friday October, 15, 1847, RWv24i83p4c2 Intelligence from Mexico  words: 272

The reader will find in another column some additional, though not very satisfactory items of news from the seat of war. It seems now to be almost certain that the rumor of the death of Generals Worth, Smith and Pillow was unfounded; and, if the statements now before us be reliable, that Gen. Scott, in entering the city of Mexico, met with
very little resistance from the army, after the battle of Chapultepec— the assault up on his troops subsequently having been made by the mob, whose plunder of the city, which commenced with its evacuation by Santa Anna, was arrested by the presence of our troops.

The New Orleans Bulletin of the 5th says: "We have covered with a gentleman who came passenger in the Alabama, and who has long resided in Mexico, who says that there is not the least chance of peace, but that, on the contrary, the future resistance will be more formidable than it has been, and that the mass of the Mexican nation is decidedly in favor on the continuance of the war. We believe that the recent events at the capital will only tend to confirm this determination, and that it will emphatically become a national war. From the same information we learn that a report existed of an intention to withdraw our garrison from Tampico, and to abandon the place."

The Bulletin added, that letters from Tampico state that Gen. Smith, who so greatly distinguished himself at the battle of Contreras headed the successful attack upon Chapultepec, which is represented as a brilliant affair, in which our officers and men greatly distinguished themselves.

Somewhat copious details of the news from Mexico brought yesterday by the Alabama, will be found in another column in the appropriate head. Since, however, that article was in type we are placed in possession of further details, and reflection leads us to attach additional importance to the accounts.

Beyond dispute, the most satisfactory feature in the news touches the loss sustained in the recent actions by the army of Gen. Scott and its present position. Our news is rather of a negative nature, but it is hardly less satisfactory than if it were more definite. We have ample ground on which to deny the painful reports brought by James L. Day of the deaths of distinguished American general officers. Our information is positive that Gen. Smith has not been slain, but that he has anew covered himself with glory. Gen. Worth had been appointed Governor of the city of Mexico, and was acting as such as late as the 24th of September, letters of which date have been received by commercial houses at Tampico. We have not been able to learn anything definite of Gen. Pillow and his wounds, but from the total silence of letters in regard to him which make mention of our losses, we are persuaded that he has not been killed, and we hope not wounded. We cannot learn that either Gen. Worth or Gen. Smith have been wounded, Gen. Worth, who came passenger on the Alabama, is entirely satisfied of Gen. Worth's safety. In this connection we may mention that Maj. Capers is the bearer of dispatches from Tampico for Washington. He has with him, also, letters private and unofficial, from various sources in the city of Mexico, which make incidental mention of public affairs, which letters will be communicated to our Government. It is from this gentleman we learn such information as we possess of the loss of our army in the recent engagements, which is unexpectedly small. The Mexican accounts make it exceed one thousand men killed and wounded, while more authentic accounts from English sources set it down at four hundred and seventy or eighty, all told. The number of American officers killed is said to be 27, and the number of wounded 45. The only individual mentioned among the killed is Capt. Albemarle Cady, of the 6th Infantry, and accomplished officer, a graduate of West Point and native of New Hampshire. It is somewhat singular that so little should have transpired in regard to our loss, but with all diligence we have been unable to learn anything more. The Mexican loss is set down in round numbers at 3000 killed and wounded. We do not attach much credit to this estimate. The accounts from Tampico confirm the death of Gen. Bravo, killed fighting bravely, but our Vera Cruz correspondent discredits the report that Santa Anna was wounded, though it is reiterated by the Patria's advices, which say that he also lost his horse in the retreat by the route of Tulancingo.

From the circular to the commandants of the different States of Mexico, announcing the abandonment of the capital by Santa Anna, we are persuaded that the fighting for its possession ended on the 13th of September. From the moment that Santa Anna fell back upon Guadalupe, the position of Gen. Scott became assured, so far as the Mexican army was concerned. The same considerations which influenced Santa Anna not to prolong the defense of the city, would restrain him from molesting Gen. Scott in its quite occupation. But if we are thus relieved from all apprehension in regard to Gen. Scott’s army from this source— and we have not thought the alarm felt for him in some quarters well founded— we have to deplore the calamities which have overtaken the city of Mexico from another source, and which are much more formidable than could have resulted from our occupation; nor do they fail to excite alarm lest our army has suffered from the same cause.

According to the Arco Iris of Vera Cruz of the 26th received by La Patria letters from Jalapa and Orizaba announce, that immediately after Santa Anna abandoned the capital, and as soon as the populace felt themselves relieved from the restraint of his bayonet’s, the Leperos commenced the work of sacking the city, plundering the houses of citizens as well as foreigners and committing all species of excesses. During this pillaging these accounts say that a division of the American army entered the city to restore order— verbal accounts say that their aid had been solicited by the magistrates. A conflict ensued between these troops and the rabble, in which some accounts say that the whole division was cut off, while others say that one portion was driven back to the gates and the citadel, and yet another took refuge in the convent of San Francisco, abandoning two pieces of artillery to the leperos. The accounts go on to say that Gen. Scott was then compelled to bombard the city from the citadel and other commanding points to reduce it to subjection. Such in brief are the rumors we derive from the Arco Iris and La Patria. From Tampico we have another version of the same story.

[JKM]
The entire subjugation of the Mexican Republic and its annexation to the United States, is seriously mediated by the President and his advisors, we will not undertake to assert, because there has been yet no truth of such a purpose. But "coming events" often "call their shadows before;" and it is impossible for those who contemplate with horror the bare possibility of this feared union of two nations, of different races, and between which, in all their institutions, civil, social, and religious, there exists a decided antagonism, and no point of affinity, to close their ears to simi-official intimations of such a design, which find their way to the columns of the daily press. When a people, like those who achieve the independence of Texas– who went out from among us, and who were deeply imbued with the principles of civil liberty, and thoroughly comprehended the obligations as well as the privileges and rights of citizenship in a Republic, asked and obtained permission to become a member of this family of States, however, objectionable were the means resorted to for the accomplishment of the object, it is nevertheless not to be denied that it was correctly described by Mr. Polk, in announcing its consummation to Congress, "as the deliberate homage of each people to the great principles of our federative union." But why? For the very reason which the President himself so forcibly stated– because "the sword had no part in the victory"– because we had "not sough [too dark to read]

If it be true that the Executive meditates this grand scheme of conquest and subjugation, we cannot but apprehend, from the natural tendency of the human mind to be influenced by ideas of national aggrandizement, and more especially from the force of party feeling, which always ensures for the acts of the President the passive acquiescence, if not the active support, of the great mass of those by whom he has been clothed with power, that the most energetic efforts will be made to carry it into successful execution. In this event, the dispute about boundary lines will of course become obsolete. It will be to Mexico no longer a question of territorial jurisdiction, but of national existence; and, though we may finally achieve her subjugation, we shall bring into the Union a people animated by as fierce a hatred of the conquerors, as that which inspired the Greeks, after centuries of servitude, to throw off the Turkish yoke, or as that which now fills every true heart of Poland with a sense of humiliation under the bondage of her oppressors, and a thirst for vengeance which nothing can restrain but their overwhelming power.

So monstrous is the idea, however, of this wholesale annexation– so appalling in its present as well as in its remote consequences, to ourselves even more than to Mexico– that, while we have sufficient reason to believe that it has been already a subject of Cabinet deliberation, and that it is strongly urged by the most influential member of that Cabinet– we have yet that confidence in the people of the country, as to believe that the announcement of such a design will shock the moral sense of the country, and prostrate forever the authors and advocates of the suggestion. [too dark to read]

We find in the Washington Union the following story, translated from "La Patria," of New Orleans, from the Government paper of Mexico. In publishing it, the Union says: "We trust the story as true, not only because it is pleasing to meet with as rare an instance of generosity from so unexpected a source as the breast of Santa Anna; but also because the daring act of the American Captain and his four dragoons reflects honor on the country. If the incident really occurred, the names of the heroic five, it is to be hoped, will long be known." The Union, however, attaches little credit to any report which appears in "La Patria." The story, we confess, savors somewhat of romance; but, if the character of Santa Anna was correctly understood by Gen. Waddy Thompson, there is nothing in the part ascribed to him which renders it improbable. Gen. Thompson narrates several instances of his generosity, entirely in keeping with the conduct referred to in the following narrative.

During the action of the 20th inst., while our troops were retiring from the bridge of Churubusco of Candelaria, still combating with the forces that charged after them, four dragoons and a captain of the enemy threw themselves forward into our column with such rapidity, that they were not observed till they arrived at the works of Candelaria. They were there first recognized as enemies, and fired on by the garrison, by which the four dragoons and the captain's horse were killed. The captain, on regaining his feet, was surrounded by some of the President's aides, and other officers, who came with his column. They were about to kill him, when the President interposed and ordered them only to disarm him. His excellency, after taking a turn along the embattled ranks, returned to the place where they had the prisoner; when one of the officers said to him "General, this man ought to be shot; he has himself confessed that he came here for the purpose of killing your excellency." "How so; what says he?" inquired the President. "He says," was the reply, "that learning in Churubusco from one of our prisoners that your excellency was with this column, he, with the four soldiers who followed him, took the resolution of reaching and slaying your excellency; for if they accomplished this, it would be a most glorious act and still more so if they should perish in doing it." Admiring their daring bravery, the President replied: "Now, less than ever, will I allow any harm to be done him. He is a prisoner of war; and let him who lays a hand on him beware. Alas! If I had many officers like him, Scott would not now be so near us." He then places the officer in charge of young Don Augustin Tornel, with whom he was seen entering the palace last evening.
Messrs. Editors: Although the subscribers to your paper generally belong to that party, which, according to Mr. Polk, are giving "aid and comfort to the enemy," they still feel a deep interest for the safety of our gallant army, which have been required, by the weakness and wickedness of himself and his advisors, to invade, without cause, the territory of a sister Republic, and whose imbecility has left them so much exposed in the heart of an enemy’s country.

Imagine, then, our disappointment and chagrin, when, after hanging around the Post Office till a late hour of the night, to hear the news from Mexico, our eager inquiries are met by the chilling response of “no paper tonight.” This has so frequently been the case, for some months past, that I have only been prevented from informing you of it, by indulging the hope that it would be done by some one else, and from the fear that the fault might be in one Mr. Polk’s Post masters, and that it would not be in your power to remedy the evil. I trust, however, you will make some inquiry into the matter, and do what you can for our relief, as, I assure you, I have received but one of the last five Whigs to which I am entitled.

Lest you should think the fault is at our own office, I beg leave to assure you that it is not so; as our Post master is a genuine, old-fashioned, honest, Whig, who faithfully does his duty. I see you start with surprise at hearing of a Whig— especially such a Whig— even in the humble office of a village Post Master! I know not, how certainly, to account for it, as I have been credibly informed that, early last spring, one or more letters on the subject of his removal were received in Washington city, by a leading Locofoco of this district, and that the subject was solemnly deliberated on, in this place, by a council of the faithful! Still ours is a country of liberty and equality, where freedom of opinion is not only tolerated but encouraged! Where “manifest destiny” points to the extension of the “area of freedom” though it be accomplished by the evil—yet only temporary evil—of wholesale murder and robbery!

Let us sustain our rulers, who are the “elected” instruments by which great things are to be achieved!

K.

Salem, Roanoke County, Oct. 12, 1847

[JKM]

The schooner Arietis, Capt. Marin, arrived yesterday from Frontera, near the mouth of the Tabasco river, whence she sailed on the 22nd. We are indebted to Capt. Martin for the following memoranda of the news brought by him:

Frontera, Sept. 22, 1847

The U.S. bomb brig Etna are lying in Frontera, near the mouth of the Tabasco River, where, up to day, all has been quiet. The importation of logwood I prohibited. Latest accounts from Tabasco state that everything is quiet there, and that a great many of the Mexican soldiers are deserting on account of not receiving any pay for their services— and that those who remained were under the command of the famous Miguel Bruno, who, it is said, has been appointed commander— in— chief of the Mexican forces in the State of Tabasco. Quite a number of our men have been on the sick list, but are now rapidly recovering. There is no very late news from the interior. The greatest number of the inhabitants, who had left this town on account of “war’s alarms,” are now returning, having become satisfied that the Yankees do not eat Mexicans— when they keep themselves quiet. Com. Perry was, at the last accounts, lying at Anton Lizardo, but daily expected at this place.

[JKM]

On the 11th, four companies of artillery sailed from this port for Vera Cruz, on board the ship Empire. They numbered, exclusive of officers, 368 men. The names of the officers we gave yesterday.

These companies have been raised in conformity to the recent acts of Congress, authorizing two more companies to be added to each regiment of artillery. The men appear to be excellent, especially those of the two companies of the 1rst regiment, raised in this city and Poughkeepsie, by Captains Knowlton and Van Ness.

On the 10th, a detachment of the 12th and 13th regiments of Infantry sailed from this port for Vera Cruz on board
The surgeon of the department, sailed in the Empire, is Dr. Washington M. Rye, of New York.

he had for six years for the benefit of the Indians.

spirits. We found an old 6–pounder here, mounted upon a very old rickety carriage which the proprietor assured us

was extremely, and a green one would very naturally have conjectured that he had a most exuberant flow of good

officials: hopped about with the alacrity of a galvanized bullfrog, and all because he was most horribly delighted. It

reach, and summoned Jesus, Jose Maria, Conception, and a host of other peons to attend to the cavalios of the

old fellow, dressed in white, skipped gaily from his domicile and received us with the most excessive demonstrations

of delight, as if we had been the old boy's old playmates a long time ago. He shook hands with everybody within

As we rode into the plaza of the hacienda, the proprietor, as well conditioned, light complexioned, jolly looking

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he had for six years for the benefit of the Indians.

I believe I mentioned that the expedition consisted of a company of the 1rst Regiment of Dragoons, commanded

by Lieut. Buford, and accompanied by Lieut. Sitgraves, Topographical Engineer, and one or two amateurs. We

started on the morning of the 2nd and went as far as Capellania, a small town lying to the northwest of Saltillo and

about ten miles distant, where we remained until the next morning without any incident occurring worth mentioning,

charging the authorities of the town with the same orders that were issued by Gen. Wool to the inhabitants of

Parras– which I have before mentioned in my account of our trip to that place. There is a cathedral in the place, but

the habitations are all poor and the town is evidently going to decay. I must mention one thing, and that is, that in

this town is the country residence of Don Ramos, the father of the belle of Saltillo– and a very pretty girl she is,–

which lies a little east of north of Capellania about thirty miles distant, passing in our route several small ranchos at

a considerable distance from each other. About half way there is a dry arroyo called El Paso de los Carretas, a

famous place for robberies and the scene of a number of events of that character in times past. We met a number of

atofos loaded with corn and sand, the latter used in glazing pottery; the arreros were all armed. The hacienda, of

Messillas was once a very flourishing one, but during the march of the Republican army under Hidalgo and Ayende to

Monclova, in 1809, it was broken up and nearly destroyed, and has never since been been what it was before. The sons of

the proprietor, who was a Spaniard, now occupy the place. The success of the crops depends principally upon the

rain, as the land pertaining to the estate is some distance from the river Venado and but a small portion of it can be

irrigated from its waters. Its vicinity to a broad creek, dry except during the rains, enables them generally to irrigate

their lands sufficiently. The proprietors received us with oppressive civility, and appeared as rejoiced to see us, as

we knew they really would be to get rid of us. I may safely say that a dustier, more uncomfortable place I never

stayed at, and the tank water was extremely disagreeable to that palate. In the valley in which this place is

situated there is quite a number of ranchos where good crops are raised, but from a peculiar failing of most of the

proprietors their crops cannot yield them much revenue. About the time the corn is in roasting ears the worthy

proprietors begin to gamble at monte for their coming crops, and as all cannot win some must lose. Saltillo sharpers

frequently pay them a visit and win from them their entire crops.

As we rode into the plaza of the hacienda, the proprietor, as well conditioned, light complexioned, jolly looking

old fellow, dressed in white, skipped gaily from his domicile and received us with the most excessive demonstrations

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spirits. We found an old 6–pounder here, mounted upon a very old rickety carriage which the proprietor assured us

he had for six years for the benefit of the Indians.

Numerous meetings have been recently held in South Carolina, on the subject of the Wilmot Proviso, and among

them one at Greenville, on the 3rd at which Gen. Waddy Thompson, our late Minister to Mexico, was present, and

made a speech, and abstract of which is reported. He declared his settled conviction of the impolicy of the war with

Mexico, and said he believed that if it were to close now, one hundred million dollars would not pay its cost.

Referring in terms of just exultation to the gallantry displayed in by the South Carolina regiment in the sanguinary
battle of Contreras, in which one–half of the number were killed or wounded, he was naturally led to comment indignantly upon the principle of the Wilmot Proviso, which, in the event of annexation of any part of Mexico to the United States, would deny to the people of the South the right to share in the territory so obtained. But he expressed the opinion that the extension of our limits would not ensure to the benefit of the South.

“He believed the North would not recede from their positions. Ten States, with votes enough to control the popular branch of Congress and to elect a President of the United States, had taken their arrogant and insulting stand – and they were daily gaining strength. Last year 300,000 foreigners landed on our shores – not 2,000 of who settled in the South– the rest spreading over the North and West, with imported sentiments hostile to our welfare. With Oregon and the expected accession of Mexican territory, added to the present non–slaveholding States, the number of free States would be ultimately numerous and strong enough to amend the constitution and overthrow the institutions of the South.

“The true remedy for this state of things, he thought, was to be found in acquiring no more territory. We have already quite enough: that which it is proposed to acquire is not desirable, being sterile, covered with Spanish grants and held by a population accustomed to rebellion and unaccustomed to work; and besides, he said, he would stake his life that no part of the territory could or would be occupied by slave–holders: Upon this point he added, that

“He would consent to be gibbeted, or, if dead, that his bones should be dug up and made manure of, if ever a slaveholding State were formed of any portion of it. We should be satisfied with Texas, every part of which will be slaveholding territory, under the compact of annexation, having the Rio Grande for its boundary and a reasonable margin, where necessary.”

[JKM]

Tuesday October, 19, 1847, RWv24i84p2c2 The Whole or None  words: 492

That this is soon to be the watchword of the Administration in regard to Mexico, as it was in reference to Oregon, we have no doubt, unless the indications of public opinion should in this case, as in that, compel it to modify its views, and to restrain its insane passion for territorial aggrandizement. We laid before our readers yesterday the sensible remarks of the New York Evening Post, one of the ablest organs of the party, on this subject, and we now present them with a condensed view of the objections urged to this plan, which we have no doubt is seriously mediated at Washington, by the New York Journal of Commerce, which, although not recognized as an organ of the Administration, has not on that account been a less efficient supporter of its general policy. The Journal presents the following reasons in opposition to the adoption, by the Government of the United States, of the odious maxims of the Despotic European Triumvirate by which the nationality of Poland was destroyed, and the Spoils divided among her greedy conquerors:

1. We have no right to adopt such a course. Mexico has as good a right to her Independence as we have to ours.

2. We are opposed to the permanent occupation of Mexico, because she is herself opposed to it. The days of the crusades are gone by, whether for the propagation of religion, industry, or the arts. As to her form of government, Mexico is already more like the United States than any other nation in existence; and if she were not, it is not our business to make her so.

3. We are opposed to the permanent occupation of Mexico, because it will cause us infinite trouble. Suppose we establish a territorial government there, as the writer suggests; how long will it stand, without the support of an American army?

Who would pay for it? We, for the honor of ruling a sister Republic? Or they, for the privilege of being ruled? If the former, we have taxes enough already. If the latter, it would only increase their exasperation.

4. We are opposed to the project, because it is contrary

[BREAKS UP]

5. We are opposed to the measure, because it is liable to bring us into collision with European powers. The sympathy of spectators, other things being equal, is always with the weaker party.

6. We object to the measure, because it must lead to great embarrassment in our own political affairs. If Mexico were to be permanently occupied, it would doubtless be with a view to bring her ultimately into the American Union. But upon what basis would this be done? Are we prepared to admit to the ballot–boxes, on equal terms with ourselves, the ignorant, degraded, and superstitious people of Mexico, black, white, yellow, red, and mixed? And how much strength will be added to the Confederacy by the accession of a cluster of unwilling States?

[JKM]
We have received no later tidings from the seat of war, except the following brief notice of Gen. Scott's proceedings since the occupation of the Mexican capital, which reaches us by a circuitous route:

LATER FROM HAVANA AND MEXICO— By the schooner Somers, Capt. Woop, arrived yesterday, we received a copy of the Diario de la Marina of the 8th.

The English steamer Medway, from Vera Cruz, having on board $140,000 in specie, arrived at Havana on the 7th.

The Havana paper is filled with extracts from Vera Cruz Journals, which, however, contain but little in addition to what has already been published.

The only articles of new worth translating, is furnished by a correspondent from Vera Cruz, under date of the 27th Sept. which states that Gen. Scott had addressed Circulars to the several Mexican States, inviting them to send their deputies to the Capital with full powers to conclude a treaty of peace. It is said that a division composed of 1500 men, had been sent by Gen. Scott to take Toluca, a place near the city.

The schooner Panama, Capt. Porter, arrived on Saturday from Brazos, but brings no news of interest.

Gen. Cushing's brigade left the Brazos on the 20th, in four vessels.

Col. Hays arrived on the 29th, and was to leave the next day with five companies of his command, on board the steamship Fanny, for Vera Cruz.

The brig Cruson and schooners Equity and A. Cadmus were at the Brazos on the 29th, to leave for the port in a few days.

The Matamoros Flag on the 25th says:

Gen. Mirabeau B. Lamar has been announced as a candidate to represent the counties of San Patricio and Nueces in the representative branch of the State Legislature. The election will be held at the different election precincts in these counties on the first Monday in November next.

Gen. Lamar has, for about a year past, been stationed at Laredo, in Nueces county, in command of a company for the defense of the frontier, and is very, and deservedly, popular throughout the district which he is a candidate to represent.

The Governor of Texas has authorized Lieut. H. Bee to raise a company of mounted volunteers, to be mustered into service sometime in October. This company will be stationed at Laredo, and supply the place of that now there, under the command of Gen. Lamar, whose term of service expires in three or four weeks.

Capt. J.S. Sutton is also authorized to raise a company, to be stationed between the Nueces and Rio Grande, to supply the place of that recently commanded by Capt. Gray. Capt. Sutton was in Corpus Christi a few days ago recruiting.

They were translated for the Literary World, and probably a considerable portion of that merit may belong to the translator.
THE MEN OF CHURUBUSCO

They'll point them out in after years
The men of Churubusco fight! And tender hearts will name with tears,
The gallant spirits quenched in night,
When each who under Winfield fought,
And kept the field alive,
Was equal, in the deeds he wrought,
To any common five—
They'll point them out, those veterans then,
As far beyond all common men,
And each to each, with stern delight,
Will name the Churubusco Fight.

They'll sing their praise, when they are no more
The men of Churubusco fight!
And when their latest march is o'er
As one by one is lost to sight
Then girls will ask his friends to spare,
From off the hoary brow,
A shred but of the scattered hair
Which waves so richly now;
And loitered by the inn–side hearth
Will pause amid their tavern mirth,
And, filling, fear since he has pass'd
They drink "to Churubusco's last!"

They'll paint their deeds in statued hall
The deeds of Churubusco fight:
And on the smoke dried cottage wall,
Will smile their pictures, brave and bright,
Who fought with stalwart Scott of yore,
That glorious field to win
When every warrior bosom bore
Five hero hearts within:
They'll legends tell of heroes then,
Far, far beyond of modern men,
And still in song will grow more bright,
The deeds of Churubusco fight.

Tuesday October, 19, 1847, RWv24i84p4c2 Bloodless Achievement words: 133

In his Message to Congress in 1845, Mr. Polk announces the consummation of the annexation of Texas in these jubilant strains:

"The accession to our territory has been a bloodless achievement. No arm of force has been raised to produce the result. The sword has had "no part in the victory. We have not sought to extend our territorial possession by conquest, or our republican institutions on a reluctant people. It was the deliberate homage of each people to the great principles of our federative Union."

We hope he will use this paragraph as a text in his next Message. The commentary, from his pen, now that we are seeking "to extend our territorial possessions by conquest," and to force "our republican institutions on a reluctant people," could not but be highly edifying!

[JKM]

Tuesday October, 19, 1847, RWv24i84p4c3 The Virginia Regiment words: 850

The last Staunton Spectator publishes several letters from its editor, Captain Harper, now in Mexico, from which we make the following extracts:

Camp Buena Vista, Aug. 25, 1847

Dear – : We arrived here last evening, the two Virginia companies in Saltillo– Capt. W.B. Archer’s and my own companies– having been relieved by Capt. Fletcher Archer’s and Capt. Thrift’s (late Capt. Fairfax’s,) and we are now
once more established in our tents. The change in considerable, but I hope it will not prove disadvantageous to the health of our men. During the time we were stationed in the city we suffered greatly more from sickness than the other companies of the Regiment in camp, yet it may be as we have been so long housed, that we will have to undergo a new process of seasoning for the field. On this account I was averse to being sent into Saltillo in the first instance, having passed two nights in a house myself since my arrivals in Mexico, and quite as little inclined to the change again, until some movement of the troops was decided upon. A few days, however, will test the matter. Our sick-list, the day we left Saltillo, had dwindled down to six. The company, I am gratified to be able to say, well sustained its character for correct and soldierly deportment in the ten weeks it was stationed in the city, and many regrets were expressed to me at our departure. On marching out of the city, Governor Washington addressed us in a very complimentary manner, and requested me to say to the men, one and all, that their conduct had met his entire approbation. The Governor is a most estimable gentleman, and I sincerely hope, for his sake, as well as for the credit of our Regiment, that he will be equally well served by the companies which have relieved us. The duties of the post are arduous and responsible, being not merely the protection of the public stores and property, but embracing the almost entire government and police of the city.

The North Carolina Regiment, since the serious disturbances which occurred in it, has been detached from our brigade, and itsencampment removed. It is now stationed between this and Saltillo about two miles from the city, a little to the right of the road. I have heard nothing satisfactory from it since its removal; but I doubt whether anything like harmony can exist in the regiment under its present head. Our brigade consists of the Virginia and Mississippi regiment, and is under the command of Lieut. Col. Randolph. Gen. Cushing having left for Vera Cruz and Col. Hamtramck being sick. Major Early is in command of the Regiment.

It is said very confidently, but I do not know upon what authority, that Maj. Gen. Butler is to have command of this division of the Army. If so, I presume it is settled that Gen. Taylor goes home. This is greatly to be regretted: yet with the little prospect he has of being able to do anything more here, I am not surprised at it, nor can I blame home.

The Virginia Regiment, I am proud to say, is pronounced by the Regular officers here, the best appointed and best disciplined Volunteer Regiment that has yet been sent into the field. Our effective strength today, I understand is reported to be 650, which is not quite as great as the conjectural estimate I made of it one of my late letters. A number of changes have taken place in the company officers since we have been in Mexico, which it may be of interest of our friends at home to know. The following list I believe embraces them all. Our recruiting service: Capt. Carrington, Lieut. Ashby and Lieut. Kinney. His health has been bad nearly ever since he has been in the country. And Capt. Alburtis will also probably leave in a few days for Vera Cruz, to take home the remains of his brother, Capt. Alburtis, of the Regular Army, who was killed at the taking of the city.

Camp Buena Vista, Sept. 4, 1847

Col. Hamtramck has now entirely recovered from his recent indisposition, and assumed the command of the Volunteer Brigade. His staff are, Lieut. Porterfield, Va. Regiment Assistant Adjutant General, Lt. Henry, Mississippi Regiment, Aid–de–Camp, Capt. Harper, Virginia Regiment, Assistant Inspector General. The health of our regiment continues about the same that it has been for the last two months. The eleven companies here number 666 sent, of whom 95 are on the sick list. A very good hospital has been erected near our encampment, where every comfort is provided for the sick. The Mississippi regiment has also a hospital which appears to be very conducted. My company reports nine on the sick list this morning– none of whom are in the hospital, and of course the cases as yet are not of much seriousness. I fear, however, from the manifest influences of the climate upon two or three of those now sick, that they will have to be discharged.

[JKM]

Tuesday October, 19, 1847, RWv24i84p4c3 The Administration Views  words: 353

The intimate acquaintance with the views of the President and his Cabinet so often exhibited by the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger, justifies the interference that in the following extract from one of his late letters we have an authentic intimation of the purposes of the Executive, as far as they have been formed, in regard to the farther prosecution of the war with Mexico:

"I informed you, some time ago, that there are various opinions in regard to the manner in which the war ought to be prosecuted against Mexico, how far, and for what ultimate purposes. The result of the election in Maryland may not be without effect of the deliberations of the Cabinet and as those of Pennsylvania are so near at hand, these also may be suffered to pass before a defensive conclusion is come to. The most natural supposition would be that it should be the line across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, when would compromise all that we desired of Mexico, and which, in her folly, she resolved upon refusing us. The time from Vera Cruz to Mexico, and thence to Acapulco indicated in one of my late letters, comes very near it; but, of course, I would submit to anything that held out from the commencement is now wholly administrative in question. It is a vital question which cannot be left hypothetical conclusion, as it will require a unanimous effect of all the branches of the government to bring it to a satisfactory issue. The time is precious, circumstances pressing, events pending within the next hour be resolved upon. The thought once expressed cannot be called back; a million of arms will be raised to realize it– De facto, we are already masters of the Continent; the question is whether we shall have the courage to assert our sway. If the administration finally resolve upon that, we have at least the consolation to know that there never was a period in history of Europe and Asia– more favorable to the enterprise. Half way measures, however, we not answer either in
the Cabinet or the Field."

[JKM]

Friday October, 22, 1847, RWv24i85p1c1 The Country and the President  words: 818

We made a brief extract yesterday, in the sentiments of which we entirely concurred, from a speech delivered a few days since before a WH meeting at Newark, by Senator Miller, of New Jersey, in opposition to a suggestion, which has met with some favor in other quarters, that the next House of Representatives should refuse to grant further supplies for the prosecution of the existing war, unless the President shall satisfy that body that it is not waged for the acquisition of territory. And as the President cannot of course do this, since the failure of the lately attempted negotiation resulted altogether from the refusal of the Mexican authorities to cede New Mexico and the valley of the Rio Grande to the United States, which had been demanded of her as a sine qua non of the cessation of hostilities, the recommendation necessarily assumes an unconditional character. While, however, we are opposed to any course of policy that will embarrass the Administration in the "vigorous" prosecution of the war while it shall last, we are not less so to the able administration of public affairs, and are subject to no impeachment therefore, if the Commons judge it expedient to resort to that mode of trial. Hence, when the measures of the British Ministers fail to receive the sanction of the Commons, they instantly resign, and the King, obedient to the popular will thus expressed by its duly recognized organ, however repugnant it may be to his individual views of State policy, or to his personal feelings, promptly dismisses them, and calls around him individuals entertaining views of an opposite character. Public Opinion is in truth the King. In the United States, however, according to the doctrine of the Administration, as proclaimed and reiterated by "its Organs, great and small," the British maxim is assumed to be literally true—our King can do no wrong—and it is "moral treason" to say that he can! For it is only upon this assumption that this champions can affirm that those who assail the President for involving the country in war, are, for that reason, traitors to the country itself— or that such as denounce the conduct of the Administration, either for originating as unnecessary war, or for the feeble manner of it prosecution, can be reproached with inconsistency when they should their muskets, or when, not feeling called upon to take that step, they give their sanction to every proper measure that may be recommended by the President, to give "aid and comfort" to our gallant soldiers, of whom it is not unsafe to assume that a full moiety are Whigs, and to and to uphold the honor and the rights of the nation. In one word, (to use and idea of Senator Miller,) the Whigs draw a distinction between the war and its authors. We support the war, because it is connected with the honor of the country; but we oppose its authors, because that have unnecessarily involved the country in a sanguinary and costly conflict, from which no benefit can accrue to the people of this country, terminate as it may—certainly none at all comparable with the mischief’s and dangers of which whether it end sooner or later, it will be the prolific source. 

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Friday October, 22, 1847, RWv24i85p1c1 Vigorous Prosecution of the War  words: 560

At a meeting held in Lynchburg, on Friday evening last, Col. Odin G. Clay in the Chair, and Messrs. C.W. Christian and R.H. Glass action as Secretaries, resolutions were adopted, after speeches from Maj. James Garland and Thomas S. Bocock, Esq. in favor of a more "vigorous prosecution of the war." This is all right, and it is to be hoped that the Administration will not fail to profit by the timely admonition. It is, indeed, rather surprising that these evidences of public discontent growing out of the want of ability and energy heretofore displayed by the Administration in the conduct of the war, have not been much more frequent. Look, for example, at the consequences of its imbecility, as set forth in the following extract of a letter from one of the Pennsylvania volunteers, written lately from Puebla:

"General Scott has fought and won a splendid battle at the city: this was followed by an armistice and a talk, which has resulted in nothing, and again "the dogs of war" are loose. I suppose that army will go into the city, and, after it does, we will be about as near to peace as "The Far West" is to sunset. If we had 25,000 more troops on this line, so as to command everything between Vera Cruz and Mexico, victories would be worth something towards a great end—peace. As it is, this country is fooled to the top of its bent by the cry of peace when there is no peace. The Government is wronging itself—wronging its friends—and, worse that all, wronging the country, by its miserable meager supply of forces. It is wretched and cruel economy."

"When we get about thirty thousand additional troops on this line, it is probable that peace will be in sight, but
not till then. Our victories, brilliant and glorious as poetry can make them, are utterly worthless. We have taken possession of the country between Vera Cruz and Mexico, and hold none of it except Perote and Puebla, and here our troops are more like prisoners than victorious tenants."

If Mr. Polk had called out the entire force authorized by law, as soon as the war began, it would now in all probability have been over. But even at this moment, while the Union is breathing nothing but slaughter, what indication is there of the infusion of new energy in the councils of the Government of in the acts of its offices? We look in vain for any such exhibition. So far as the public know, everything is moving on as it was before. It is still “all talk,” as it has been from the beginning.

But Resolutions, it has been well said, will not make railroads– not will they win battles. If they could, the Tenth Legion, which passed flaming resolutions in support of a vigorous war long ago, would have been already crowned with laurel. We hope, however, whenever another requisition shall be made upon Virginia, that the "old Tenth" will not fail to back its resolutions by its acts– to show its faith by its works. The truth is, people are beginning to talk about its backwardness in this matter, and we think it the part of friendship to let it know of the fact in this private way.

[JKM]

Friday October, 22, 1847, RWv24i85p1c3 A Rich Mexican Mine   words: 34

The mine of La Luz, in Guanaxuato, belonging to Don Perez Galvez, is yielding the extraordinary profit of about $100,000 per week.– Mining Journal

The propriety of its “immediate annexation” is of course indisputable.

[JKM]

Friday October, 22, 1847, RWv24i85p1c3 Late and important from Mexico   words: 971

At the late hour last night, the steamship Fashion, Captain Ivy, arrived from Vera Cruz and Tampico– having left Vera Cruz on the 7th and Tampico on the 9th inst. By this arrival we are placed in possession of letters from our correspondent, "Mustang," from the city of Mexico, as late as the 28th of September, and files of the "American Star," a new paper published by Messrs. Peoples and Barnard, at the capital. Our correspondence, both from the city of Mexico and Vera Cruz, is very voluminous. The lateness of the hour at which we received it, precludes the possibility of our giving more than one of the graphic letters of our correspondent "Mustang", entire, this morning, with a brief synopsis of the highly interesting news, hastily gleaned from the mass of documents in our possession.

We have full details of the killed, wounded, and missing; copies of the General Orders issued by the Commander–in–Chief, from the time of the capture of the city up to the latest date; the manifesto of Gen. Bravo, addressed to the Minister of War and Marine, descriptive of the operations of the Mexican forces at and about Chapultepec, on the 12th and 13th of September; resignation of the Presidency by Gen. Santa Anna, etc.,– all of which we will endeavor to lay before our readers tomorrow. Our loss has been severe. The previous rumor of Generals Pillow, Worth, and Smith being killed, we are gratified to learn were without foundation.

Among the wounded, we regret to see the name of our contemporary, Mr. Kendall, of the Picayune. We trust, however, his wound is but a slight one.

The American prisoners, who were sent from the city of Mexico to Toluca, on the approach of Gen. Scott to the capital, have been sent back to the city of Mexico, still as prisoners of war and under parole. It is said they were sent by the governor of Mexico on his own responsibility. The names of the officers, thus liberated on parole, are Capts. Clay, Heady, and Smith. Lieuts. Churchill, Davidson, and Barbour, and sixteen privates.

The city of Mexico we quiet at the latest dates, though daily reports of the rising of the populace and the assassination of our army were rife. Little fear, however, was entertained by our army of any such attempt; for, as our correspondent remarks, “an enemy who could not stand against us in the field will not be likely to attack, much less attempt to overpower us, with the city and its strong holds in our possession.”

The Mexican Congress was to meet on the 5th of this month at Queretaro

The seven Northern States, which some time since formed a coalition to oppose negotiations for peace, have held a meeting be delegates, and denounced Santa Anna as a traitor and an outlaw, and at the same time have passed a resolution pledging each State to furnish 3000 men, armed and equipped, for the further prosecution of the war, and appointed Generals Paredes and Bustamante to command the troops thus to be raised.

The whereabouts of Santa Anna was not known at the capital on the 28th Sept. Rumor placed him in the vicinity of Puebla.
Cols. Dickinson, Baxter, and McIntosh have dies of their wounds; Gens. Pillow and Shields are recovering slowly.

We have received the first two numbers (the 20th and 23rd September) of the "American Star," published in the city of Mexico, by Messrs. Peoples and Barnard. They are principally filled with the General Orders of the Commander–in–Chief, after the capture of the city, which we will endeavor to lay before our readers tomorrow. The following Order, issued by Gen. Scott, immediately after his entrance into the Capital, we cannot, though at the late, or rather very early hour at which we write– omit to lay before our readers:

Headquarters of the Army
Mexico, Sept. 14, 1847

General Orders no.234–1. Under the favor of God, the valor of this army, after many glorious victories, has hoisted the colors of our country in the capital of Mexico and on the palace of its government.

–2. But the war is not ended. The Mexican Army and government have fled only to watch an opportunity to return upon us in vengeance. We must, then, be upon our guard.

–3. Companies and Regiments will be kept together, and all stand on the alert. Our safety is in military discipline.

–4. Let there be no drunkenness, no disorders, and no straggling. Stragglers will be in great danger of assassination, and marauders shall be punished by court martial.

–5. All the rules so honorably observed by this glorious army in Puebla, must be observed here. The honor of the army, and the honor of our country call for the best behavior on the part of all. The valiant must, to win the approbation of God and our country, be sober, orderly, and merciful. His noble brethren in arms will not be deaf to this hasty appeal from their commander and friend.

–6. Major General Quitman is appointed Civil and Military Governor of Mexico.

By command of Major General Scott
H.L. Scott, A.A.A.G

The American Star of the 20th September, in speaking of the execution of the deserters, says that 16 of them were hung at San Angel on the 9th, and immediately after some 10 to 12 were whipped and branded on the cheek with the letter D. Riley, the chief of the crowd, came in for a share of the whipping and branding. The next morning 4 others were executed at Mixcoac, and on the 13th, 30 more were hung upon one gallows at the same place. It appears that Riley, according to our military laws, could not be hung, he having deserted from our army before the commencement of hostilities.

Friday October, 22, 1847, RWv24i85p1c6 The Deserters   words: 146

The Deserters– A former citizen of Columbus hung.– Capt. Sanderson, in a letter from Mexico to the Ohio Statesman, says: "It is said that they (the Mexicans) had twenty thousand troops in this battle; so says Harrison Kinney, from Columbus, whom I found fighting with the enemy– he having deserted from Puebla, and is now a prisoner, and will be shot. This is the opinion of most of the officers." The deserters have all since been hung; and the Statesman adds: – "This Kinney was a tailor by trade in this city, and it is a melancholy record to make of his end. We cannot see what tempted him to this great crime of deserting his country. He has a child in this city, his wife being dead. We did not suppose our city would have such a reproach to bear from one of her volunteers."

Friday October, 22, 1847, RWv24i85p2c1 The News from Mexico   words: 924

Our columns are crowded this morning with the highly interesting details of the recent exciting and important events in Mexico. By a succession of victorious unsurpassed brilliancy by any series of triumphs, in ancient or modern war,our heroic army has won imperishable renown. Indeed, when we contemplate its numerical inferiority, in connection with the fact that it was operating in the heart of an enemy's country, and in the midst of a fiercely hostile population, possessing all the advantages resulting from an accurate knowledge of the strongest natural points of defense, improved as they had been by formidable works of art, the march from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico, and the triumphal entry of our forces into that ancient capital, can be regarded as scarcely less than miraculous. General Scott has established new claims to the admiration and gratitude of his country, by the brilliancy of this wonderful campaign; and we need not add that the accomplished band of officers by whom he was consoled and aided; and the unconquerable soldiers by whom their skilfully devised plans were so fearlessly executed, are not less entitled to the applause and the thanks of their country. These, we doubt not, will be given to them in not
stinted measure. But, if justice be done, a more substantial, though scarcely more acceptable reward, will be promptly tendered by the Government, in the promotion of the survivors in these sanguinary engagements, so far as existing vacancies, or as the creation of offices in new corps hereafter to be raised, may permit. This is the best evidence that can be given them, assuredly, that their heroism— their heroism of endurance as well as of action— is justly appreciated,— which, in view of the contumelious guarded by the appointing power, they might otherwise by well justified in doubting.

The conquest of the capital has not been affected, of course, without a deplorable loss of life, embracing, as usual, a very large proportion of distinguished officers. A complete list of the latter will be found in our columns this morning, as well as of those who were wounded in the several battles. Among them will be found the name of several Virginians— among them Col. Garland, Col. Johnson, who was also wounded at Cerro Gordo, and Captains Larkin Smith and J.B. Magruder. The Enquirer is mistaken in embracing Capt. Calwell in the number. An officer of that name is among the wounded, but Mr. Kendall states that he is from Pennsylvania. Capt. Calwell, of Virginia, is with the detachment under Maj. Lally.

The measures adopted by Gen. Scott, since his entrance into the city, seem to have been equally decided and judicious; and, although many of our troops have been assassinated, we think there is very little reason to apprehend a general outbreak among the population. We do not, nevertheless, think the danger is entirely over. It will be seen, by an extract from the Tampico paper, that one of the most destructive battles, so far as the loss of life is involved, fought since the opening of the campaign, occurred between Maj. Lally's train and the guerrillas under the Priest Jarauta; and there are indications that the whole power of Santa Anna will now be directed to assaults of this kind upon the various detachments on their way to reinforce Gen. Scott. We have now before us Santa Anna's Manifesto, issued after his flight from the city of Mexico, in which he says that it is now necessary "to attack the enemy, in his lines of communication from Vera Cruz to the capital," and that he has taken upon himself that responsibility, because he feels it incumbent upon his ever to place himself in that quarter in which there is the most peril! He talks as bravely as ever; but it is almost impossible, after the splendid achievement of our troops on all occasions heretofore, to feel any very serious apprehension in regard to the result of this effort to arrest the progress of the detachments of their way from Vera Cruz.

"Matters are approaching a crisis, while the great mistake in not entering the capital on the night of the 20th, when the Mexicans were perfectly panic stricken and in full flight, is hourly developing itself. The great sacrifice of life yesterday— the loss of so many gallant spirits— has all been owing to the cession of hostilities and that armistice which followed, and an awful responsibility rests either with the Government or with Gen. Scott and Mr. Trist. The instructions will show, but I am of the opinion that the former is mostly to blame. The latter are censurable for placing faith in Mackintosh, in giving Santa Anna so much time, or even in having any reliance upon his power and ability to make peace under all the circumstances, however much he might have desired it personally. I will say nothing of the bribery— that dark side of the picture is undoubtedly the work of the exceedingly wise men at Washington. Bad advisers have been busy, both here and at home, in recommending measures to bring about a peace, and their consuls have prevailed to the exclusion of the opinions of men who might have been listened to with profit. I trust the experience of the past may prove a lesson for the future, and that by this time our rulers must see—and their consuls have prevailed to the exclusion of the opinions of men who might have been listened to with profit. I trust the experience of the past may prove a lesson for the future, and that by this time our rulers must see

Friday October, 22, 1847, RWv24i85p2c1 Return of Gen. Taylor  words: 160

In the New Orleans National of the 14th, it is stated, on the authority of an officer of the army twenty-four days from Gen. Taylor's camp, that the General might be expected in that city in the course of a week or ten days. "He was preparing (says the National) to leave Walnut Springs when our informant last saw him, and he spoke of his return to the United States freely, and anticipated the pleasure he should have on his cotton farm. He is in good health and spirits." The National adds the following items of intelligence.

"At Gen. Taylor's camp, when our informant left, was the following immense army: Bragg's battery and the skeleton remains of three companies of the 2nd Drag. under Col. Fauntleroy. At Monterey, there was Col. Tibbats, with five companies of the 16th Regiment of Infantry. The city of Monterey, it is said, was under better government, from Gen. Taylor's camp, that the General might be expected in that city in the course of a week or ten days. "He was preparing (says the National) to leave Walnut Springs when our informant last saw him, and he spoke of his return to the United States freely, and anticipated the pleasure he should have on his cotton farm. He is in good health and spirits." The National adds the following items of intelligence.

Friday October, 22, 1847, RWv24i85p2c2 Another letter from Gen. Taylor  words: 451

We find in the last New York Courier and Enquirer the substance of a letter addressed by Gen. Taylor to Joseph R. Ingersoll, Esq. of Philadelphia. It will be seen that the General, in this letter, removes all doubt in regard to his political affinities. He avows that he is "a decided Whig"— and this, we suppose, will be admitted to be "the best evidence" of which the case admits! The Courier says:

The letter is dated the 3rd of August, 1847, at the Head Quarters of the Army of Occupation in Mexico. It commences by stating that he (Gen. Taylor) is "a Whig not an ultra partisan Whig, but a decided Whig;" that no one could have observed the debate in the Congress of the last session on the attempt to censure him for this
capitulation of Monterey, conducted mainly on “party grounds,” and doubt “the complexion of his politics.” That he has held a commission in the army of the United States for forty years,—this commission being one of the last issued by Mr. Jefferson; that in the last Presidential election he advocated the election of Mr. Clay, believing that he and his friends “assimilated” more to the principles of Mr. Jefferson than their “opponents.”

Gen. Taylor proceeds then to define his present position;—that he does not think himself qualified for the Presidency; that he would willingly postpone his name to secure the election of Mr. Clay or any of the distinguished men of the same school now presented to the public. If, however, the people of the United States shall spontaneously elect him, he shall feel himself bound to serve; but that he will not accept of a party nomination “exclusively.” That if he should be elected he will go into office unpledged to any particular course; that he was determined to carry out the intention of the framers of the constitution, of who two (referring to Washington and Madison,) were among the early Presidents of the country, and that he is determined in such case to be the President of the “nation” and not a “party.”

This letter is, we understand, the most full and satisfactory exposition of Gen. Taylor’s views, yet given by him. Mr. Ingersoll will not consent to its publication, because it is an answer to a letter forged by some individual and purporting to have been written by Mr. Ingersoll, when no such latter was ever written by him.

We think Mr. Ingersoll right in the position he has taken; but we hope he will take the proper measures to relieve himself from this difficulty, and obtain the consent of Gen. Taylor to lay this interesting document before the public.

Friday October, 22, 1847, RWv24i85p2c3 Our Victories fully confirmed  words: 421


The steamer Fashion, Capt. Ivy, arrived last evening from Vera Cruz via Tampico, having left the former city on the 7th and the latter of the 9th. From the 3rd to the 7th outward bound vessels were detained at Vera Cruz by a heavy norther, and little communication was had with the shore. The Fashion has experienced very rough weather.

By this arrival we have our correspondence from Mr. Kendall and others up to the 28th of September from the city of Mexico. The news is glorious, ever glorious for the American arms; at the same time our losses are severe, and the details of the killed and wounded heart sickening. Thank God! None of our generals have been killed, but Maj. Gen. Pillow and Brig. Gen. Shields were both wounded severely, but were doing well at last accounts. We are not about to repeat the list of killed here; it will be found in Mr. Kendall’s letters. We may mention, however, that Col. McIntosh and Col. Ransom, Lieut. Col. Martin Scott, Lieut. Col. Graham, of the 11th Infantry, Lieut. Col. Baxter, of the New York Regiment, and Lieut. Col. Dickinson, of the South Carolina regiment, are dead. For the rest of the deplorable list we refer to Kendall’s letters.

In the battle of the King’s Mill on the 8th, Gen. Worth’s division lost about 600 men killed and wounded. In the battles of the 13th— the storming of Chapultepec and the attacks on the citadel— Quitman’s division lost 300, Twiggs’ 268, Pillow’s 142, and Worth’s 138– 848 in all. Worth had scarcely a thousand men in this action. Our entire loss since leaving Puebla in killed, wounded and missing Mr. Kendall sets down at 3000; another authority makes it 4000. And yet Gen. Scott entered the valley of Mexico with an army only a little exceeding 10,000 men. What wonders have not these “ten thousand” achieve! The Mexican accounts representing that we were at any time seriously repulsed are not true. The Mexican loss is not definitely ascertained, but was enormous.

Gen. Bravo was not killed, but was taken prisoner. We do not see that Santa Anna was wounded. It is true that he has resigned the Presidency. We have the act before us, but have not room for it today. Since his resignation he has made an address to his countrymen, which we will give tomorrow.

Friday October, 22, 1847, RWv24i85p2c6 Affairs of Vera Cruz and on the Road  words: 710

Our paper and letters by the Fashion contain much interesting and important information in relation to the state of the road from Vera Cruz to the capital. We proceed to give such items as are of immediate interest.

The report that Gen. Rea was at Puebla is fully confirmed, and the Genius of Liberty, of the 27th, says our troops under Col. Childs were bombarding the city from the surrounding heights. The same paper, of the 2nd, has the following.

“Gen. Santa Anna never so badly discomfited, was by the very latest accounts at Puebla. His force, after its junction with that of Gen. Rea, amounted in infantry and cavalry to 3000 men, and it was quartered in the convent of St. Carmen. The Americans under the command of Col. Childs, were strongly fortified in a massively built and
very capacious convent of the same city, conscious of the strength of their position, and its impregnability, were awaiting the arrival of reinforcements, in the utmost security and tranquility. At intervals bombs were thrown into the city, which, however, we are happy to say did not receive much injury from their explosion previous to the date of our accounts.

From the tenor of our Vera Cruz correspondent’s letters, we have no doubt that Col. Childs would soon be reinforced by the arrival of Gen. Lane with his brigade at Puebla. He reached Jalapa on the 30th, and was to leave the next day for Puebla. Maj. Lally’s command accompanied him. Our correspondents say, writing on the 29th.

"Capt. Biscoe’s command returned yesterday from the National Bridge, whence it had been to escort ammunition for Gen. Lan’s command, which had already started, the general having left orders for the ammunition train to move on and join him. From pretty good information received at the Bridge, Capt. Biscoe was confident there was not a guerrilla at Cerro Gordo, and that the whole command would arrive safe at Jalapa, where it would obtain a supply of provisions.

"Another small train of provisions left the city last night, a part of which was for Col. Collin’s and a part for Col. Hugee’s command. The fact that Capt. Biscoe’s company was not attacked either in going to or returning from the National Bridge, is evidence that the guerrillas have abandoned that road for the present, but I have no doubt they will return when least expected."

Our correspondent, writing from Vera Cruz on the 4th, says that a gentleman who arrived from Mexico on the 15th September, says that he met fully 2000 Mexican soldiers (deserters) on their way to Puebla and other southern places south of Mexico.

Capt. Fairchild’s command returned to Vera Cruz on the 8th, from the Bridge, having escorted provisions to Col. Hughes’s and Col. Collins’s command. On the way back they were fired into, and Lieut. Maralles, of Capt. F’s company, was severely wounded in the left hand, which will no doubt have to be amputated.

Gen. Alvarez has been appointed commandant of the State of Puebla, and is represented to be unceasing in his efforts to organize and equip another force for the purpose of cutting off Gen. Scott’s communication with Vera Cruz, and of preventing any new accession of men and supplies.

The following is from the Genius of Liberty of the 30th:

"Our city looks quite brisk and lively this morning, owing to the arrival of the steamers New Orleans, Telegraph, and Ohio; our harbor, notwithstanding the violence of the wind, is literally covered with boats running backwards and forwards, landing horses, mules and government stores; and the loud peal of the cannon is occasionally heard from Fort Conception, giving a hearty welcome to our gallant officers and brave soldiers.

Our correspondent, writing on the 4th, says Gen. Patterson expected to be able to start for the interior in about a week with 2000 or more men.

The U.S. schooner Flirt had been out eleven days on a cruise in search of a suspicious vessel, supposed to be a privateer, but returned without getting a glimpse of her.

The Genius of the 29th, says a report was circulating in Vera Cruz, that a bearer of dispatches from Gen. Scott was killed at the city of Cordova— N.O. Picayune

[JKM]

Friday October, 22, 1847, RWv24i85p4c2 The Natural Boundary words: 343

We assure the Baltimore American that we have never doubted that the line of the Sierra Madre would constitute an admirable line of diversion between two nations. Our objection to its adoption is, that, in order to reach the line, we shall be compelled to annex to the Union a vast territory, which we are assured is itself wholly worthless, and, with it, a race of people who are worse than worthless.

The Allegheny range of mountains, we suspect, is of not less stupendous height that the Sierra Madre, and is marked by Nature with as bold an outline: But we should not deem it entirely logical to argue from this fact that Nature intended it to be the dividing line between two independent nations, instead of, as it is, and as the Sierra Madre is, a not very inconvenient barrier to the intercourse of one people, owing and owning allegiance to the same government.

The "paramount idea" of the "Unity," upon which our Baltimore contemporary dwells with so much plausibility and earnestness, is far more important in its application to the inhabitants of a country, that to the country itself. The habits and customs of a people exert for more influence upon institutions of government, than mere geographical affinities. Hence, while the Sierra Madre might be, geographically, a very suitable line of division
between Mexico and the United States, the people who dwell between that range of mountains and the Rio Grande would, in our estimation, constitute a very undesirable, not to say a very demoralizing and dangerous acquisition. That other “natural boundary,” long ago pointed out by the sagacity of Gen. Jackson and (perhaps for that reason) adapted by Mr. Benton and claimed by Mr. Ingersoll as the western frontier of Texas, even after Texas has legislated herself into possession of upwards of two thousand miles of Mexican territory in length and some hundreds in breadth, is no doubt quite as good a dividing line, geographically considered, as the Sierra Madre, and is infinitely preferable in its social and political aspects.

Friday October, 22, 1847, RWv24i85p4c3 From Texas  words: 270

By the arrival of the steamship, Yacht, Captain Crane, from Galveston, we have papers of that place to the 9th and corresponding dates from the interior.

There had been a few cases of fever in Galveston, which manifested a tendency to the yellow fever type. These cases occurred in the hospital, and none are reported in private practice. The general health of the city, it is said, was never better. The Austin Democrat says.

“Dr. Veatch, 1rst Lieut. of Gen. Lamar’s company, arrived in this city on Monday last direct from Laredo, and proceeded immediately to San Augustine, in search of the Governor. Gen. Lamar desires assistance if it can possibly be given, as he is of the impression that there is danger of the general rising of the Mexicans at the different small towns on the Rio Grande, and between that stern and Gen. Taylor’s rear. He states that he has various reasons for forming this opinion. Commissions have been issued, and the population seems to be organizing rapidly into guerrilla bands. Mr. Van Ness, of San Antonio, who was at San Fernando with goods, was compelled to leave that place with the utmost precipitancy in order to save his life, leaving the whole of his goods in the hands of the Mexicans. These guerrillas are represented as being well armed, many of them having revolvers, and as they are chiefly rancheros, whose proximity to, and long intercourse with, the Americans has made them familiar with the rifle, and expert in its use, they may justly be reckoned the most formidable and dangerous portion of the Mexican population.

Friday October, 22, 1847, RWv24i85p4c4 Interesting Mexican Documents  words: 1182

The Mexican Views of the War with the United States. The letter of which the following is a translation was sent to the New York Herald by a gentleman in Montgomery Alabama. It was taken from the hacienda of Santa Anna, after the battle of Cerro Gordo. It is a curious epistle and very striking in many of its points.

New York, May 7, 1844.

To his Excellency the President, Gen. Don Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna:

My much–venerated Sir– Of course you have been duly informed of the condition of affairs in this country by Gen. Almonte; and thus, it would be superfluous for me to say anything on that subject.

My object now is solely to call the attention of your Excellency to the articles which have been written latterly in El Noticioso de Ambos Mundos, not for what they are worth, but because all that I say in them is the pure truth; and on this account they afford material for serious reflection.

In order to know this country, it is necessary to be here many years, study it well in all its aspects, undergo many vicissitudes, and experience difficulties. Thus it is that travelers, who have written about this country, have only written nonsense. Gen. Almonte, himself, with all his knowledge of this people, can continually pick up facts which had before escaped his notice; and I, myself, am also learning something new about them every day.

From all which I have been able to observe, I have obtained the thorough conviction that this is an enterprising nation, full of energy, which borders more on rashness than on true courage, ambitions without bounds, and uniting to a childish presumption of what of all fixed principles of justice. The blind vanity with which they are possessed, causes them to regard all other nations, and especially our race, with the greatest contempt, and it will be only by means of some hard lessons that reason can be knocked into these men whose understandings are so far astray in consequence of their never having known adversity; and in my opinion no one can learn these lessons better than Mexico.

To do this it is only necessary to prepare yourself to maintain an endless war against this country; the Russians burnt Moscow and saved the empire; Moscow is now flourishing, and Napoleon terminated his days sadly as St. Helena. Let the people retire from the coasts with all their cattle and effects, and let them guard the mountain passes, continually surprising from thence those who dare to land on the shores, and the army will do the rest. Let them arm the Indians who have been thrust out on our frontiers by these people, in the most perfidious and barbarous manner; arm also the Negroes, promising them lands from those which they conquer; proclaim also the
abolition of slavery, and let an army of 20,000 regular troops be planted in Texas to sustain the movements of the auxiliary troops, who will act as guerrillas; let both these forces retire to safe positions whenever the enemy advance in large numbers, merely endeavoring to fatigue them by continual marches and counter–marches, and then falling on them in all security, when they are thoroughly tired out, and completely exhausted by hunger and thirst.

Finally, in order to accomplish all this, there is no necessity for going hastily to work; but we can imitate the example of Fabius the Tardy, acting with the same vigilance that that famous Roman consul observed, so that the Mexican army may be preserved intact, and the war my last as long as the one between the Spaniards and Moors, whilst our privateers are scouring every sea and annihilating the American commerce; and I will forfeit my head if they do not, on their knees, beg a peace from Mexico before six years have passed, allowing her to dictate the conditions, for it is not killing men which will alarm this people, but the expenses and cost which they are put to.

Beyond this it is necessary to recollect that war can also be made with the pen nowadays, and a manifesto on the part of Mexico, published in three languages – Spanish, English, and French– would attract towards her much sympathy, particularly from the abolitionists in all parts of the world, who are now both numerous, strong, and active, for which it will be necessary to settle all small questions with the rest of the world, even making temporary concessions not perpetual ones. When these Northern and Eastern States see the war is going to be a long one, that they have to contribute much, that their commerce is ruined, and their funds or credit prostrated, they will soon raise the cry against the Southern States, and an issue will be raised which only end with Union, and leave the Southern States alone. And how the rest of the nations would rejoice in the humbling on the pride of the United States, and what glory for Mexico in being the one who "belled the cat!"

Would your Excellency believe that in the contempt with which they regard Mexico, it has never occurred to these people that you have taken any of these measures, or would take them, until I have alluded to it in my articles. The mere hint that I threw out that Mexico, in her despair, would sell the Californias to a powerful nation, has alarmed them in a most inexplicable manner, supposing that this country is England. That article, which you will see in El Noticioso, of the 20th April, was like a rocket in awakening them, and immediately it was copied by all the opposition papers; and, without vanity, I must say that on its account many who were before undecided, have declared against the treaty, and since then the most terrible opposition has been made to it.

Finally, I believe, that at present annexation will not take place; but let your Excellency rest assured that on this account we must not desist; war is the only thing which can save the honor of Mexico and the integrity of her territory, as what I state in the last number of the Noticioso of the 4th is the exactest truth. Moreover, without war, this people will swallow up this country with their deceits and falsehoods, and there is no other mode of restraining them that by a well directed war.

My zeal has perhaps allowed my pen to run too far into matters which your Excellency understands far better than I do; but I hope your goodness will not attribute them to presumption, but to the enthusiasm which naturally inspires me in the good wishes I have to see my country triumphant over its false friends and natural enemies.

God grant that I may see them verifies, and that your Excellency may be the chosen one to direct such a worthy enterprise and oh! That I may be of some service, even from such a very humble servant as I am of your Excellency.

JUAN DE LA GRANJA

Tuesday October, 26, 1847, RWv24i86p1c1 An Erroneous View words: 595

Among the resolutions adopted at the public meeting recently held at Darlington Court House, South Carolina, in reference to the Wilmot Proviso, is the following:

"That to repudiate the conquests won by our victories in our present and just war, beyond the Rio Grande, after the expenditure of so much blood and treasure, for the purpose of avoiding the shock of this collision, would be a futility, and the acknowledgement of a weakness that would justly expose us to the derision of the world; while at the same time, such a puerile policy would only postpone the issue."

"If it could be shown that that portion of the Mexican territory, the cession of which has been demanded by the Administration, were in itself desirable, for the purpose of strengthening our frontier defenses, or that it is necessary for the accommodation of an over crowded population, or even if, being unnecessary for these objects, it contained a large body of waste lands, the title of which being in the Mexican Government, would be transferred to our own and constitute a source of revenue hereafter, to be dedicated to the payment of debt incurred in the prosecution of the war– and if, in addition to this, we might get the soil without the ignorant and turbulent population by which it is inhabited, as alien and hostile race, whom it would cost more to govern that their whole country is worth, if this could be shown, we might be disposed to subscribe to the position embodied in the foregoing resolution. If all this were so, the object view would at least justify, without making an effort commensurate with its importance, and at whatever hazard, might naturally subject us to the imputation of that “fear which betrays like treason.” But if the reverse of all this be true, would we not, by courting the agitation, and peril to the perpetuity of the Union, that
must obviously result from the acquisition of Mexican territory, not only valueless in itself, but absolutely pernicious, if by process we are to transmute whole provinces of Mexican rancheros and lepers into American voters, justly subject ourselves not only to the “derision of the world,” but what would be far more keenly felt, to self reproach, and to the excretion of the friends of civil liberty in this and all other lands, in this and all coming generations? If Mexico were “one entire perfect chrgsolite,” we might well hesitate before, for the glory or for profit of its acquisition, we should consent to put in jeopardy and great and glorious confederacy formed by the men of the Revolution, and which, by the magic rapidity of its growth, the consolidation of its power and the multiplication of its infinite sources of national and individual prosperity, has more than realized the hopes of its founders, and refuted the malignant prophecies of those who foretold because they desired its speedy overthrow. But when that portion of the Mexican Republic demanded by the President is described uniformly by all who have seen it as sterile and barren, as if the curse of God had blasted it, is it wise or patriotic for the purpose of securing an evil, to incur the hazard of forfeiting all the blessings which have resulted from the Union, and which will be perpetuated by its preservation, simply because, if we decline to do so, our motives may be liable to misconstruction, and we may perchance incur the “derision” of foreign despots, in whose vocabulary Might and Right and convertible terms? We think not.

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**Tuesday October, 26, 1847, RWv24i86p1c2 Important from Jalapa**  
words: 65

The Charleston News of Thursday evening last, publishes the following extract of a letter received in that city:

Jalapa, (Mexico) Sept. 30, 1847.

“ We are to march in two hours to relieve Col. Childs at Puebla, who has been attacked by 10,000 men under Santa Anna. Our force is now 4,000, under command of Gen. Lane of Buena Vista. We start right off.”

[JKM]

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**Tuesday October, 26, 1847, RWv24i86p1c3 Additional Mexican News**  
words: 315

The great importance of everything coming from Mexico, and the deep interest felt by all in everything appertaining to the war, induces us to appropriate a considerable portion of our columns today to further details of the news received yesterday: We copy from the Picayune.

From the Picayune we take the following extract from Gen. Scott’s orders proclaiming martial law in the city of Mexico, and levying contributions upon its citizens:

“14. For the ease and safety of both parties, in all cities and towns occupied by the American army, a Mexican police shall be established and duly harmonized with the military police of the said forces.

“15. The splendid capital– its churches and religious worship; its convents and monasteries; its inhabitants and property, are, moreover, placed under the safeguard of the faith and honor of the American army.

“16. In consideration of the foregoing protection, a contribution of $150,000 is imposed on this capital, to be paid in four weekly installments of thirty–seven thousand five hundred dollars, ($37,500) each, beginning on Monday next, 20th, and termination on Monday, the 11th day of October.

“17. The Ayuntamiento, or corporate authority of the city is especially charged with the collection of payment of the several installments.

“18. Of the whole contribution to be paid over to this army, twenty thousand dollars shall be appropriated to the purchase of extra comforts for the wounded and sick in the hospitals; ninety thousand dollars (90,000) to the purchase of blankets and shoes for gratuitous distribution among the rank and file of the army, and forty thousand dollars ($40,000) reserved for other necessary military purposes.”

The following orders will show how solicitations General Scott is, that the religious sentiments of the Mexicans should be respected by his soldiers. All tolerant and good men we think will approve:

General Orders – No. 297
Headquarters of the Army,  
Mexico, Sept. 24, 1847

[JKM]
Extracts of a letter from Col. George W. Hughes, of the District of Columbia and Maryland regiment, dated at the National Bridge, the 30th Sept., 1847, to a friend in Washington.

“You are aware that I had taken possession of this important place with about 400 men, against a very superior force, ten days before Gen. Lane reached us with his 1600 men.

“I have completely broken up the nest of murderous bandits here, so that any individual may travel between it and Vera Cruz with impunity. On arriving at this post, my feelings were greatly outraged at the barbarity of the Mexican guerrilleros, who have so long infested the route. The soldiers who had loitered on the road behind the train, had been savagely murdered, stripped naked, brutally mutilated and exposed and the remains on one of our officers had been exhumed from the grave, and torn limb from limb –food for wolves! I determined to teach these people a lesson, which I believe has been a salutary one. I have shot several who acted with the guerrillas, and have burnt every house within ten miles round, in which public property, plundered from our trains, was discovered. We found knapsacks, camp and garrison equipment, oats, quartermasters wagons, candles, soldiers clothing, caps with the names of soldiers in them, boxes of medicine, and United States ammunition – everything indicating a depot of banditry. We have also discovered and destroyed their place of rendezvous. In no case have quiet and peaceable people – men, women, or children – been disturbed. The result is, that the fellows are panic struck, and have taken themselves off– not a single shot having been fired into my camp. A few still linger about, but rarely show themselves of Watts, of Washington city, a few days ago, both mounted and armed. He killed one from whose body he took a U.S. Dragoon sword and belt; the other he charged upon with his bayonet (after receiving the fire of his esopet) and wounded; but the dog escaped. If I only had a squadron of dragoons, I could most advantageously extend my operations.”

“Having punished them severely, I offered protection to such as would abandon the guerrillas, come in, trade with us, and remain quite. They seem delighted with this, and trade has become quite active. I have assured them that our government wished to wage no war upon the people of Mexico; but that, as this neighborhood has chosen to make war on its own account, in a guerrilla shape, it could not complain of any consequences which has followed, and would certainly follow, its evil conduct. They replied that it was all just– that they had bad men amongst them, and that they were rejoiced that we had at last taken possession of the National Bridge; for that now they would have protection against their own robbers, who had forced them to desert their villages. They have been invited to return, and several families are about to return. This course, if followed up with energy, firmness, and discretion, and a sufficient and proper force, will put down the guerrilla system.”

“ You will see all the news by the next steamer, before this reaches you. The British courier saw Santa Anna yesterday at Puebla, where he was endeavors on to raise money. The impression is, that he is seeking an opportunity to quit the country, knowing his game is up.

George W. Hughes

[JKM]
of Lieut. Twiggs, who was recently killed in the attack upon Major Lally's train. The father and son have both fallen. The widow of Maj. Twiggs and three daughters reside in Philadelphia.

Tuesday October, 26, 1847, RWv24i86p2c3 Capt. J.B. Magruder words: 378

We copy the following notice of this gallant officer from the Baltimore Sun, which, however, is in error in claiming him as a citizen of that place. Capt. M. is a native of Caroline county, in this state:

From The Sun

"Capt. John B. Magruder – the name of our gallant fellow citizen, Capt. John B. Magruder, of the 1rst Artillery, has appeared conspicuous in nearly all the accounts from the seat of war, from the first battle at Palo Alto down to the storming of the gates of the Capital. He joined Gen. Taylor at the first formation of the Army of Occupation, and at the battle of Palo Alto, mingling in the thickest of the fist, we read of him taking charge of Gen. La Vega, and delivering him to Gen. Taylor. After the capture of Matamoros, an increase of the army having been ordered, he gave up his company to another officer, and returned to Baltimore, where he soon raised a company of one hundred of our brave citizens, with whom he sailed for Tampico. On landing in Tampico, he immediately marched to the relief of the five hundred shipwrecked soldiers under Colonel De Russy, and from thence proceeded to Vera Cruz, and took an active part in the bombardment of that city, charging the batteries of the enemy until but five of his men were left by his side. His gallantry on this occasion received the honorable mention and only other reward in the power of the Commander–in–Chief, the charging of his command of Infantry–Artillery to Artillery proper, with a full and efficient battery. The first gun fired by Capt. Magruder's battery was on the hills of Churubusco, engaged with guns twice the caliber of his own, and holding the enemy in check, while Gen. Persifor Smith turned his flank. It was here that the gallant Johnson, a lieutenant in his company, fell, and we read that the loss of life as well as horses was greater at this than any of the "Halls of Montezumas," Capt. Magruder's battery again makes sad havoc among the Lancers charging on our picket guard, and he himself is twice wounded. Baltimore, indeed, should be proud of his gallant soldier, as well as our brave fellow–citizens who fought under him."

Tuesday October, 26, 1847, RWv24i86p2c3 Later from the Rio Grande words: 198

By the arrival of the U.S. Steamship Telegraph, Capt. Wilson, from Brazos Santiago, which place she left on the 12th, we have received papers from Matamoros to a late date.

Capt. Wilson reports that Col. Hays, with one Company of his men, still remained at Brazos, the remainder had sailed for Vera Cruz previously to the sailing of the Telegraph. Col. Hays expected to leave in a few days on the steamer J.L. Day, which was hourly looked for from Vera Cruz.

The Yellow Fever was on the increase at Matamoros. There were also a few cases as the Brazos, and the mouth of the Rio Grande.

Gen. Taylor is to make his headquarters at Matamoros, and is expected there by the 15th November.

The Flag on the 9th, states that upwards of 50 new cases of Fever had occurred since the 6th, but the number of deaths is comparatively small.

The capture of the City of Mexico was known at Saltillo, on the 23rd. The Flag is filled with matter relating to the elections in Nueces County, which were to take place on the 11th. In other respects, the paper is destitute of subjects of local interests.

Tuesday October, 26, 1847, RWv24i86p2c4 Letter from Gen. Shields words: 669

I regret to say that I am again suffering under the affliction of another wound received at the storming of Chapultepec. The wound is from a musket ball, received in the left arm, which has occasioned me much pain, but my surgeons assure me the arm is safe. So entire has been my recovery from the effects of the former wound, that at Puebla I assumed command of a brigade, consisting of the New York and South Carolina volunteers; and the Marine Corps, under Lieut. Col. Watson. We marched from Puebla and entered the valley of Mexico with an army amounting all to ten thousand two hundred men. Our march was one of extreme difficulty– over roads broken up filled and with rocks. We reached San Augustin on the 18th of August, from whence we could see the enemy's troops and works at Contreras. On the 19th I led two regiments – the New Yorkers and Palmettos– across a route that was deemed impassable by Mexicans for everything but goats; joined the other forces in the night; remained most of the night
without shelter or covering, under incessant rain; and joined in the attack in the morning which carried the position, and cut Valencia's whole force to pieces. All this I encountered without suffering any injury from the effects of my former wound. From Contreras I joined in pursuit of the enemy towards Mexico. We came up with the main body of his army at Churubusco. The enemy's force was about 30,000. The position was most formidable. The fortifications were not only exceedingly strong, but their infantry was posted under cover of embankments, which afforded them such protections as to enable them to fire on us with security. The battle at this place was not only a bloody but a terrible one. The Mexicans determined to make it their last great struggle, and the Americans fought with desperation; knowing that nothing was left for them but success. Here I lost over half my command in killed and wounded. Some of the noblest officers and bravest men that ever marched to battle fell on that bloody field. Yet we routed the whole Mexican army, and drove it, panic-stuck, into the city; and had I, who happened to be in the advance, only been permitted to continue the pursuit into the city, I doubt not, form what we have since heard of their fright, that they would have run through the city, and sought shelter in the mountains. Peace, however, being the great object, it was hoped that the moment was favorable for that purpose. Santa Anna, however, whose whole being is a composition of falsehood and treachery, employed the time in preparation for defense, and imposed upon us the further necessity of carrying Chapultepec and taking the city. This was all done too in the most glorious manner.

[Breaks up]

So, my dear friend, you may tell the world that an army of between 6000 and 7000 Americans has taken the city of Mexico, strongly fortified, with an army of between twenty and thirty thousand men within its walls. True, we have suffered, and suffered severely. Many a noble spirit has breathed his last in the valley of Mexico; but the glorious results have proved to the world the invincibility of the American arms. I have been thus diffusive, to show that my recovery has been tested by every species of trial and endurance to which the human system can be subjected. It is a hard case, therefore, that the physicians who contributes so much to this recovery should be accused of incapacity, and that my recovery, in itself so wonderful should be you, had as an instance to prove this incapacity. I trust those journals that gave place, inconsiderately, to the article to which I allude, will do me the favor; in justice to my physician and the medical department of the army, to insert this letter.

I have the honor to be, your friend and obedient servant.

JAMES SHIELDS

[JKM]
La Patria, of New Orleans, has a letter from Vera Cruz, dated the 1rst which states that an aid-de-camp of Santa Anna, and a groom who usually accompanies the latter, had been seen in that city, where they arrived two days previously. The inference is that Santa Anna himself is lurking in the vicinity of the sea coast, intending to embark in the English steamer Medway, which was to sail the next day. La Patria, however, like the New York Sun, has a very convenient, and not very reliable set of correspondents. They write too far from the scene of action!

The Delta’s correspondent informs us the Generals Pillow and Shields were wounded on the 13th.

The hill, whence Gen. Pillow’s command ascended, had been mined for the purpose of blowing up our troops when they arrived at this point, but the rapid movements of the Voltigeur Regiment, and the deadly effect of the fire of their rifles, as they followed up the enemy from the first position, prevented their carrying out their views and intentions. Just as the command of General Pillow rose the hill, and while in the act of assaulting the work, he fell wounded, and Col. Ransom was killed, but so lucidly had Gen. Pillow explained his objects and intentions in carrying the work, and aided by an active and efficient staff, that his command moved on and carried the work without even being brought to a stand. As Gen. Quitman’s divisions was charging on the work in the road, Brig. Gen. Shields received a severe wound in the arm, and as soon as the works were carried he returned and had it dressed and again mounted his horse, which was shortly afterwards killed under him, but he continued to command his brigade, which was actively engaged throughout the day, and the name of Shields will long be remembered in connections with the laurels won by the Palmetto of the South and the Empire of the North.

We have heretofore said that we did not doubt Gen. Pillow’s personal bravery; but we are now willing to go farther, and say, that his gallant bearing, on this occasion, out to “cover a multitude” of faults, such as have been heretofore ascribed to him.

In our enumeration yesterday of the Virginia Officers killed and wounded in the late battles, we inadvertently omitted to mention Lieut. Joseph Seldon, of this vicinity. This is the second wound that the gallant Lieutenant has received, having been seriously injured in the hand at Resaca de la Palma.

The correspondent of the New Orleans Delta, in his interesting description of the operations of the army, which we should publish if it were possible to make room for it, speaks of two other Virginians, Captains Magruder and Steptoe, in these terms:

"On the 11th, a column of cavalry sailed out from the fort on the San Antonio road, either for the purpose of threatening our position or taking Capt. Magruder’s battery, which was stationed with the picket within about 800 yards of the fort, though in a great measure covered from the range of their guns. As soon as they got their column moved out into a place free from all obstructions, Captain Magruder opened two pieces upon them with shot and shell, which passed through them with great destruction, and they took to their heels, and got back to the fort as quick as possible. The fort opened two guns on the battery, but without further effect than killing one man of the 15th infantry. An officer shortly after rode up and inquired of Captain Magruder it the fort had fired upon him. Holding a 12-pound shot, he replied, that he had the gentlemen’s card, and he expected the cavalry would carry back his compliments to the fort.

"In the course of the night three heavy batteries were planted in from of the Castle of Chapultepec: No. 1 commanded by Capt. Drum; No. 2 by Lieut. Hagner; No. 3 by Lieut. Stone— all under the general command and superintendence of Capt. Augur, Chief of the Ordinance. Also, during the night Gen. Twiggs Division planted Capt. Steptoe’s in front of the fortifications on the San Antonio road, it being intended that Gen. Twiggs should make a feint for the purpose of drawing out the enemy in that direction.

"At daylight on the morning of the 12th, all the batteries opened— the feint made by Gen. Twiggs division succeeded admirably. As soon as Capt. Steptoe opened his guns the enemy marched out several heavy columns, and in reaching the fort passed within range of Steptoe’s guns, when he turned a heavy and destructive fire upon them. As soon as they reached the work he turned his attention on the fort, and in the course of an hour’s cannonading drove them out of it; and silenced all the guns. Capt. Steptoe’s fire throughout was one of the most
effective and well directed that has been witnessed during the war, while his position was such that the enemy's shot
had little or no effect upon him.

“The siege batteries continued an uninterrupted fire upon the Castle of Chapultepec throughout the day, which
was answered by eleven guns in the work. Our guns proved to be very destructive, as we found after the work was
taken 500 dead men unburied but thrown in ditches. The building also was completely riddled.

Friday October, 29, 1847, RWv24i87p1c3 Vigorous Prosecution of the War  words: 243

When the war first broke out, we were assured that was to be vigorously prosecuted-- and, following every
battles that has since been fought, from that of Monterey to the entrance of Gen. Scott into the city of Mexico, the
assurance has been reiterated, until at length the phrase has become "a proverb of reproach." The very fact of its
utterance necessarily implies the absence of vigor and energy previously; but, notwithstanding the admission, made
by the Executive Organ only a few days ago, that the war has heretofore "looked too much like peace," and must
heretofore assume a more warlike aspect, any attempt to question the "preeminent ability of Mr. Polk" in conducting
it, which was so emphatically proclaimed by the Virginia Legislature last winter, on the motion of (the since
appointed) Consul to Genoa, is resented as closely akin to "moral treason." That the Executive has not displayed
either wisdom or energy in the prosecution of the Mexican campaigns, is attested by innumerable facts; and the
splendid results, achieved by our gallant armies, in despite of the deficiency both of vigor and sagacity at
Washington-- results scarcely less than miraculous -- have alone saved it from general execration. But if the Union
implied administrations are not to be regarded as conclusive upon this point, we think the facts set forth in the
following brief summary from the Cincinnati Chronicle will leave no doubt on any unprejudiced mind that they are
altogether true.

Friday October, 29, 1847, RWv24i87p1c3 Capt. Larkin Smith  words: 141

From a letter received in this city, written by this gallant and accomplished officer, since the army of Gen. Scott
entered the city of Mexico, we are happy to discover that the wound which he received in the severe battle at King's
Mill, on the 8th September, will not prove fatal.

Without meaning to indulge in any invidious discrimination, where every officer and soldier in our army covered
himself and his country with glory, we may be permitted to congratulate the numerous friends Capt. Smith on his
brave and gallant bearing in his new field of distinction, and indulge the hope that his recent well earned character
for true bravery, military discipline and ardent devotion to the standard and glory of his country, will be properly
appreciated and duly rewarded. Those who know the man can at once appreciate the officer.

Friday October, 29, 1847, RWv24i87p2c1 Congress and the War  words: 494

The intimations thrown out by many of the Administration journals, and more especially by the Organ of the
Executive, that the entire Republic of Mexico is to be subjugated, and that, even if "the whole" of it should not be
annexed, no peace will be concluded with that country which shall not give us at least a moiety of her territory,
including of course the ignorant, profligate and turbulent race of Indians and half-breeds by which it is inhabited,
have elicited from the Baltimore American the following remarks:

"To the people of the United States, this grave subject commends itself, with all the serious responsibilities
which it involves. It will be expected of Congress to represent the public sentiment in reference to it truly and
promptly. The time has gone by when sufficient confidence could be reposed in the Administration to leave to it the
intimation in a business so important as this.

"The country, moreover, has had a solemn warning of the ill results consequent upon a reliance on Executive
discretion. The ill advised counsels which precipitated this war by advancing troops into a territory reserved by
Congress for future negotiations, cannot now be trusted to deliver the country from the troublesome and protracted
hostilities thus wantonly provoked. The two Houses must step in and take the whole matter in hand. If they cannot
succeed in pointing out a mode by which Mexico may be induced to come to a satisfactory adjustment by
negotiation, they can at least define a boundary within which our troops may be withdrawn, to maintain, if need be,
a defensive war.

In this suggestion we most heartily concur; and we rejoice to see it stated by on of the Washington
correspondents of the New York Herald, who generally leans to the side of the Administration, that "the defensive
line policy is gaining ground, gaining confidence, gaining adherents, and, we verily believe, will be the plan of
Congress. The whole of Mexico, (he adds) will be too expensive an enterprise-- too uncertain of duration in the work
of acquiring– too uncertain in its results to the Union– too hazardous an experiment, in every sense, to be entertained for a moment.“ The acquisition even of half, or any portion of it, indeed, is liable, in a modified sense, to the same objections; for, as the correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, (also a friend of the Administration,) well says, whenever a peace shall be concluded with Mexico, “the war will be transferred to our own limits. It will be carried on in Congress and at the polls. There will be a slavery war and a territorial war; and neither of them will be small wars. They will shake this Union to its very center; and, if menaces from sources recommended to attention by the Official Organ are not idle, may split it asunder and divide it in twain, by the line where free labor ends and slave labor begins.”

Friday October, 29, 1847, RWv24i87p2c2 Reveling in the Halls words: 139

A letter from Gen. Persifor F. Smith to his friends in New Orleans informs them that he was quartered in the palace of Gen. Lombardini, and enjoying the good things of life, instead of being numbered, as formerly reported, with the dead. He is "reveling in the halls of Montezuma" after this fashion:

"For breakfast he has nothing at all to eat, but chicken, steaks of beef and mutton, biscuit or rolls made of the finest flour, and as to drink, it is impossible for him to get anything but fresh milk, or fragrant teas, coffee or chocolate. At dinnertime his sufferings is intolerable. Roast turkeys, huge joints of savory roast beef and mutton, fish from the adjoining lakes, wild fowls of every description, every variety of the tropical fruits of the country, together with Tokay and Champagne wines."

Friday October, 29, 1847, RWv24i87p2c3 Untitled words: 270

Col. Martin Scott, who was killed in one of our sanguinary battles before the city of Mexico in Gen. Worth's divisions, was a native of Bennington, Vt. He was educated at West Point, and from that school entered the army some thirty years ago. He has since then seen much hard service, and conducted himself always with great caution, skill, and kindness. In his youth he was famous among the sharp-shooters of the Green Mountains, very few of whom could perform feats to be compared with his. He never shot game in the body; but, at whatever height or distance, always struck the head. He would drive a nail into a board part way with a hammer, and the, taken the farthest distance at which his eye could distinctly see it, drive it home with his unerring bullet. He has always been much respected and beloved by his townsmen for his amiable and benevolent qualities, associated with the most exact integrity. With a moderate income, he has so economized in his personal expenses as to support his own family and very essentially to aid two maiden sisters, several nephews, and other relatives, who, with his wife and immediate family, now at Milwaukee, are left to mourn his loss. How these hearts bleed and ache! How many such circles of bleeding aching hearts have our victories made! The guilt of all this misery must rest on somebody. Who is it? Wretched man. For those losses and this guilt the nation takes its pay in glory. What a pity that men should not reflect that all true glory is in doing good.

Friday October, 29, 1847, Mexican Whigs

The fact that the Mexican authorities, pending the late abortive attempt at negotiations, insisted upon the Nueces as the boundary line between Mexico and the United States, leaving the territory between that river and the Rio Grande as neutral ground, upon which no settlements should be formed be either country, has furnished some of the champions of the Administration with a pretext for renewing their assault upon the Whig party as the allies of Mexico. This coincidence of opinion they pretend to think altogether too remarkable to escape animadversion, and they have not failed adroitly to address themselves to the prejudices of the people, against the "moral traitors" who happen to coincide with the Mexican rulers in regard to the true boundary line of Texas, when the latter asserted and established her independence, and of course when she became a member of the American Confederacy. These astute critics seem to forget, that, had Mr. Trist succeeded in persuading the Mexican Commissioners to accede to the line drawn by himself, there would, in that case, have been a concurrence of opinion between Mr. Polk and Santa Anna– (as there was unfortunately in another infamous instance) – and consequently, in that event, that the imputation of "moral treason" would have been as strictly applicable to our negotiators, as it is at this time to those who are not so anxious to extend the "area of freedom" by the annexation of the Union of more than one-half of the Mexican Republic, including its population, who tell us themselves, constitute the most ignorant, depraved, turbulent and worthless race on the face of the Globe, and whom nevertheless they are determined, by force of arms, to convert into American voters and legislators, and probably at no distant day into Presidents!
Richmond Whig and Advertiser
January-June 1848

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February 25, 1848: THE TREATY OF PEACE
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News From Mexico

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Late and Important From Mexico

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The Trist Instructions and Correspondence

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Col. Haskell's correspondence, from the National Intelligencer

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The Tariff

Letter from Tampico

Lt. Col. Fremont to Leave Washington

From the Rio Grande

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Supper for Capt. John P. Young

General Assembly, Saturday, April 1, House of Delegates

From Col. Hamtramck

Officer to whom swords are to be given for service in the Campaign against Mexico

Late from California

Extract of a letter from a lieutenant on board the U.S. frigate Congress, dateline Mazatlan, February 7, 1848

Late from Vera Cruz

From the New Orleans Bulletin, March 27

From New Mexico - A Reported Battle

News out of St. Louis, March 31

Call for Taylor meeting, Dayton, Ohio
Mexico City Free American predicts Mexican rejection of the treaty

Correspondence with Z. Taylor, Orange County, February

Mr. Botts' Second Epistle

A Word of Warning

Later from Mexico

Proceedings of the Court of Inquiry; Renewal of Difficulties between Scott and Worth; General Scott Coming Home; Arrival of Gen. Twiggs; includes special correspondence of the New Orleans Picayune of March 25, March 15, and March 8; General Orders No. 2; Court of Inquiry; and From Texas

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Later from the New Orleans Picayune, March 23

Mr. Botts' Address to the Whole Whig Party of the United States and Postscript

Address of Mr. Botts, editorial comment

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San Luis Potosi, Paredes

Sevier minister to Mexico

Gen. Kearney reached New Orleans

Henderson of Texas appointed elector

Great Taylor Meeting in Ohio

Coxe and investigation into how the treaty "found its way into" the New York Herald

Worth to be pitted against Taylor

Gen. Taylor's Opinions

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Proceedings of the Court of Inquiry in the Case of Generals Scott, Worth and Pillow, Mexico City, Second Day's Proceedings; Third Day, Fourth Day, to be continued

Mustang to the Delta, dateline Mexico City, March 17

Court of Inquiry Proceedings deferred

Congress, April 10, Senate

Our New Acquisitions, Saturday, April 8

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Later from Vera Cruz

Commander Wilson died at Alvarado
Dr. Badan’s conversation with General Taylor published in Washington Union and Richmond Enquirer

General Scott and His Persecutors

Funeral of Lt. Sidney Smith

From the Fredericksburg Recorder

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New York Tribune says Buchanan did furnish copy of treaty

Rumor of Scott’s resignation in the Baltimore Sun

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Rumors from Santa Fe - Defeat of Col. Ralls at El Paso

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From New Orleans Picayune, April 1; and from Brazos

Mr. Botts and the Whigs

Botts pamphlet against Taylor nomination sent by Locofocos

Parras, Mexico, U.S. man named himself treasurer

Hamtramck now governor of Monterey

Kearney and Sevier sailed from New Orleans for Vera Cruz

Letter to the Editors, signed A. WHIG

New Mexico legislature adjourned without acting on annexation

Col. Rogers died in Louisville

Remarkable Suicide

Death of a seriously injured officer

Letter from Gen. Taylor

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By magnetic telegraph, April 13

From the Far West

Gens. Scott and Taylor

From the Louisville Republican, April 12

Military Execution - Camargo

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From the New Orleans Picayune, April 8

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From the New Orleans Picayune, April 8: The Wilmot Proviso

From the New Orleans Picayune, April 8: No title

New Orleans Picayune opinion that people of Upper and Lower California don't acknowledge themselves conquered

From the New Orleans Picayune, April 8: Proceedings of the Court of Inquiry, Sixth Day

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From the New Orleans Picayune, April 8: Movements of Santa Anna; Peace Prospects; Probable Return of Gen. Scott; Interesting from the Pacific, etc.

Capt. Alburtus arrived in New Orleans

Pillow and Mr. Polk

Speech of Hon. S. S. Prentiss at a recent Whig Meeting in New Orleans

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Two Days Later from Vera Cruz

From the New Orleans Picayune, April 7

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Later from Mexico

From the New Orleans Delta, Departure of Santa Anna

Still Later

No title

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Proceedings of the Court of Inquiry, Seventh Day, Eighth Day, Ninth Day

By magnetic telegraph; from Mobile Tribune, April 14, dateline New Orleans, April 13, have received seventeen days of proceedings of the Court of Inquiry

Later from Mexico

From the New Orleans Picayune, April 13: from the American Star of March 25, items from San Luis Potosi, Zacatecas; and of March 30, item from Durango

Late from Yucatan

From Mexico

Mexican Correspondence

Special Correspondence of the New Orleans Picayune, Mexico, March 22, comment on Court of Inquiry

From Texas

Congress, April 17, Senate and House of Representatives

Fifth Despatches of Major Downing

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Friday, April 21 1848: Congress, April 18, Senate
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April 25 1848: Our New Acquisitions. What We Get, and What We Give

April 25 1848: Very Late from Mexico
From the New Orleans Picayune, April 14

April 25 1848: Correspondence of the New Orleans Delta, Vera Cruz, April 3

April 25 1848: Peace Prospects

April 25 1848: No title
Editorial comment on the Court of Inquiry

April 25 1848: No title
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April 25 1848: General Taylor's Opinions

April 25 1848: Mexican Correspondence
Special Correspondence of the New Orleans Picayune, Mexico, March 29

April 25 1848: Mr. Clay - Gen. Taylor
Dated Saturday, April 22

April 25 1848: Book notice: An Account of the Organization of the Army of the U.S. with Biographies of Distinguished Officers

April 25 1848: Proceedings of the Court of Inquiry, Tenth Day, Eleventh Day

April 28 1848: No title
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April 28 1848: Mr. Toombs' Letter - Mr. Clay and Gen. Taylor

April 28 1848: Scott Correspondence

April 28 1848: Congressional - Californian Bill; and bill to repeal the increase in the number of general officers

April 28 1848: No title
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April 28 1848: No title
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April 28 1848: Proceedings of the Court of Inquiry, Twelfth through Seventeenth Days

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May 5, 1848: The Court of Inquiry.

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RW48v25i38p4c1, May 12, 1848: Great Doings at Santa Fe!

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RW48v25i38p4c1, May 12, 1848: To the Delegates of the People of New Mexico in Convention assembled


RW48v25i38p4c5 May 12, 1848: Congress. May 9, U. S. Senate.

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RW48v25i39p1c1, May 16, 1848: Yucatan.


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RW48v25i39p3c1, May 16, 1848: From the American Star of April 27, News from Mexico


RW48v25i39p4c2, May 16, 1848: General Taylor.


RW48v25i40p1c1, May 19, 1848: Another Presidential War Threatened.

RW48v25i40p1c2, May 19, 1848: Mr. Trist.

RW48v25i40p1c2, May 19, 1848: Gen. Worth’s Letters.

RW48v25i40p1c4, May 19, 1848: Tacubaya, Mexico, April 12th, 1848.

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RW48v25i40p1c6, May 19, 1848: Congress. Washington, May 16-P.M. U. S. Senate.

RW48v25i40p1c5, May 19, 1848: The Court of Inquiry.


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RW48v25i41p4c6, May 23, 1848: Proceedings of the Court of Inquiry. THIRTY-SECOND DAY—April 21, 1848. *From the American Star.*


RW48v25i42p1c1, May 26, 1848: Does Mr. Polk wish a re-election?

RW48v25i42p1c1, May 26, 1848: No title. Mr. Trist, it is said, ...

RW48v25i42p1c3, May 26, 1848: Speech of Mr. Calhoun, Upon the Temporary Occupation of Yucatan.

RW48v25i42p2c1, May 26, 1848: The Yucatan Treaty.

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RW48v25i43p1c1, May 30, 1848: Mr. Polk – the setting Sun.


RW48v25i43p1c2, May 30, 1848: General Scott.

RW48v25i43p1c3, May 30, 1848: Closing Scenes of the Pow-wow.
June, Index only

RWv25i44p1c3, June 2, 1848: Gen. Scott left Washington for Frederick to attend the adjourned meeting of the Court of Inquiry

RWv25i44p1c3, June 2, 1848: Public Meeting
At a town meeting held in Richmond the citizens voted to give great honor to Gen. Scott for his service in Mexico

RWv25i44p1c3, June 2, 1848: Gen. Scott
Meeting at the City Hall on Tuesday invited Scott to partake in the hospitality of the city

RWv25i44p2c2, June 2, 1848: Mexico and Peace
It appears that Herrera has not been elected President but Pena y Pena has; a rumor reached New Orleans that the Mexican Congress has been dissolved

RWv25i44p2c1, June 2, 1848: General Taylor
Gen. Taylor has been summoned to attend the Court Martial at Frederick and is expected in Washington

RWv25i44p2c6, June 2, 1848: Report circulating that a schooner from Tampico brought news that the Mexican Congress had broken up in a row

RWv25i44p4c2, June 2, 1848: General Worth
Polk has assailed the honor and high spirit of the officers of the army; pity for General Worth, he had a brilliant future

RWv25i44p4c2, June 2, 1848: Prospect of Peace
New from Mexico is favorable to the ratification of the treaty; everyday the Mexican Congress holds together is a gain for the treaty; US hopes to acquire popularity with the government and help save it from political and military establishments

RWv25i44p4c2, June 2, 1848: New Republic in Mexico
New Orleans papers report that there is a scheme to establish a new Republic composed of the States of Tamaulipas,
Letters have been received from both Clay and Taylor saying the skies are bright for the Whigs.

Gen. Scott's call to the South is not from the Government but to meet the Court Martial at Frederick.

General Taylor will be nominated for President by the Whig convention in Massachusetts.

General Taylor will be nominated for President by the Whig convention in Massachusetts.

Scott arrived in the city yesterday morning from NY having been called here by recent orders from the Executive.

Should be assured of peace with Mexico; war provoked by Mexico; officers and soldiers in Mexico have earned great honor for their performance.

Nomination of Taylor has been met by most Whigs with great enthusiasm; spirit of hopefulness;

Cass voted against the House resolution giving thanks to Taylor for his military actions in the war.

Sentiments in favor of Gen. Taylor; Whig party has reason to be proud of Taylor; his administration will bring by the halcyon days of peace and prosperity.

Nomination of Taylor and Fillmore is everywhere and hailed with the highest delight.

Meeting of the Whig Central Committee resolved to recommend election of Taylor.

Nominated Taylor for President; chose Taylor as a Whig candidate; Taylor's administration believed would be conducted for Peace, Prosperity and Union; proud of the military services of Taylor.

Citizens favorable to the nomination of Taylor will hold a rally Saturday evening.

Comments about Taylor for President; why he would be good, why citizens should support him.

Comments about Taylor's nomination by the Whigs.

Major Graham arrived from Mexico; comments about how the officers on board the US steamer Water Witch arrived there; treaty of peace sanctioned by the Mexican Senate-gives those who opposed it and those who supported it; many have protested the treaty in Mexico; Mexican Senate has approved the treaty; expedition was in preparation to assist the Yucatan against the Indians.

Number of young men have expressed a desire to go to the assistance of the white in the Yucatan; letter received from Mazatlan has represented the coast as being unhealthy; Pena y Pena has been chosen as President; Gen. Lane arrived here yesterday; reprinting of an article giving a tribute to the "hero of Contreras"-Gen. Lane.

Comments about how there is no doubt that Taylor will be elected; energy is needed to ensure the election of Taylor.
Opinion of a Neutral Foreigner

Editor of the Courrier des Etats Unis, a Frenchman believes that the nomination of Taylor is a good thing and will benefit the US.

Letter from Taylor about his name being brought up at the Whig National Convention

Locofoco Frenzy

Comments about how the nomination of Taylor has unnerved some people.

Invitation to Gen. Scott

Reception of the committee sent from this city to invite Gen. Scott to visit us.

Dissolution of the Whig Party

Democrats distressed about the nomination of Taylor.

For the Whig

Advise Democratic editors to admit that the Whig ticket is strong; article from the Baltimore Sun about the strong ticket the Whigs have with Taylor.

Nomination for the Presidency. Mr. Clay and Gen. Taylor

Comments about both nominees—what they have done, what they bring; cannot dishonor Clay if vote for Taylor.

Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun

Committee arrived here yesterday from Richmond to urge Scott to visit the city—comments about how Scott received the committee.

U.S. Senate

Bill calling for the payment of discharged volunteers was introduced; bill providing for the payment of the officers and men composing the Texas Mounted Regiment was passed.

Court of Inquiry at Frederick

Close of Gen. Quitman's testimony was of great public interest; Gen. Shields followed him and was examined upon various points connected with the battles before Mexico; Lt. Col. J. Howard testified in reply to question as to the time of Gen. Pillow's being carried into the works of Chapultepec.

Gen. Taylor's Alison Letter

Believe that this letter which is reprinted proves that Taylor is a genuine Whig.

A Good Joke

An amusing story about Gen. Pillow; Pillow mistook the band playing outside his Hotel window as playing a serenade for him.

Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot

Colonel Jefferson Davis gave a speech about the character of Taylor; response by one of those listening to the speech; praises Taylor for his military and civil character.

Great Ratification Meeting at the City Hall

The Whig party on Saturday decided resolved Taylor's nomination for President—will back it; resolved that Taylor's administration would be one of peace, prosperity and union; resolved to form Rough and Ready Clubs; resolved that thanks is due our military for their actions in the war.

To the Whigs of the sixth Congressional District of Massachusetts

Comments about how others have approved of the nomination of Taylor for president; even though Taylor was not wanted by those of the district, he is a true Whig and therefore should have their backing.
"Extra Lewis"
Comments about how Taylor has never sought any officer nor asked for favors or shrinks from responsibility; Taylor has received the endorsement of the Baltimore Convention

The Clay Meeting in the Park, NY
By the looks of who turned out for the Clay meeting, Taylor will be receiving the majority of the vote of the northern and eastern states

How the Speech got to Mexico
Speeches made by Americans are suspected of prolonging the war; the speeches got to Mexico by an agency of General Pillow; the agency wanted to produce a reaction at home, favorable to the administration

Cass and Taylor
Comparison of comments made by the two men about the war and Mexico

The War
Report on the amount of money that has been spent on the war with Mexico

Mr. Clay a Taylor Man
Clay has expressed his acquiescence in the nomination of Gen. Taylor and plans on supporting the Gen.

Letter from Hon. John A Collier
Comments made by John A. Collier about Taylor; those who originally opposed Taylor will be okay with him because of his running-mate Fillmore; Collier himself did not like Taylor at first; hopes that the Whigs will unit for the Whig ticket and not vote individually for whoever they like

Letter from Hon. D. D. Barnard
Comments by Barnard about the nomination of Taylor; will support Taylor

The Position of Mr. Fowler
Felt bound by the statement that majority rules to vote for Taylor even though he believes Clay to be a better candidate

Major General Pillow
Proper that the Senate should know why the nominations of certain military figures not sent, one of those figures was Pillow; comments about Pillow-making fun of him

The Late Nomination
Taylor cannot do anything but follow the path of the Whig party which nominated him-it is only right

Gen. Cass and the Two Million Bill
Cass does not want anti-slavery to extend into California which may be bought with the defeat of Mexico; comments about Cass's stance on the war and the acquisition of Mexican land at the end of the war

The Clay Meeting in New York
Cannot imagine why any man would prefer Cass to Taylor

Mr. Webster and Mr. Corwin
Webster does not like Gen. Taylor or so some are saying and wondering about the influence that will have; Webster will hold a meeting tonight addressing his support of Taylor

Complimentary Address to Gen. Scot
Mr. Macfarland's address to Scott; comments about his character, how society supports him; Scott replied with compliments about the men surrounding him and how wonderful everyone has been since his return from Mexico

Whig Ratification Meeting
Uprising in favor of Taylor; results of the Boston and St. Louis meetings are published today and those of Baltimore will be published tomorrow

From Vera Cruz
452 sick from the general hospital at Jalapa; list of officers brought by the ship America

Locofoco Meeting in Alexandria
Comments about how Clay is a Whig but Taylor is not; belief that Taylor will not get votes

Immense Ratification Meeting
Gathering in Boston to give support in the nomination of Taylor and Fillmore; answer to question many had about Taylor-such as is he a Whig; lists the resolutions that were passed at the meeting; copies of speeches given and letters read aloud
Comments about how Taylor is gaining support; comments about a ratification meeting in St. Louis and how the Whigs support Taylor as their nomination

More comments about the rising popularity of Taylor

Report on the Whig Rally held Wednesday night in Richmond; report about what was said about Taylor and who made the comments; comments about Taylor's character, qualities, Whig status etc.

Response of the Baltimore to the nomination of Taylor by the Whig National Convention; the city of Baltimore will unite with the other Whigs in their support of Taylor

List of passengers brought from Vera Cruz; British mail steamer arrived at Vera Cruz and left the next day for Tampico; mail from the city of Mexico arrived at Vera Cruz on the 3rd; now that the treaty has been approved by the Mexican government little interest is shown in the proceedings at Queretaro; Lieut. Col. Hitchcock and Maj. Buchanan left for New Orleans; Gen. Patterson is leaving for Vera Cruz; the sick of the command at Cuernavaca arrived yesterday; the San Patricio prisoners will be taken to New Orleans for their dishonorable discharge; no men will be discharged until after their arrival in the US

Prisoners known as the St. Patrick prisoners have been pardoned by Gen. Butler; Gen. Herrera has been elected President; address of the US Commissioners, upon their presentation as Ministers Plenipotentiary to the president of the republic; reply of the president

At the meeting of the Whigs of Richmond a constitution was put forth for the foundation of a Rough and Ready Club; gives the resolutions of the constitution and a list of the officers of the club

Received news that Taylor has learned about his nomination; comments about how Taylor received the news

Mr. Foote challenged the Whigs to define the political position occupied by Taylor

Reported that some of the Whig papers only fly Taylor's name and not that of Fillmore; RW could not get information about this remark proving it true or false

Enthusiastic reception of the news about Taylor's nomination in New Orleans has been reported in the papers there; takes quotes from the N.O. Picayune and the N.O. Bulletin

More comments about the nomination of Taylor; news received yesterday by telegraph from the Picayune

No late arrival from the interior of Mexico; recruits arriving in Vera Cruz are turned back without landing to try and save them from exposure to the fever; special correspondence of the Picayune reports that there has been a terrible accident-an explosion of powder took place causing the death of 12 to 20 people-details about the incident-how it happened, the cleaning up process, what was damaged etc.

Gives his support to Taylor for the presidency

Report that those who do not support Taylor or the democrats are going to ban together to form their own party; asked to reflect and consider the consequences of doing this

Washington Union states that Lieut. Gardner arrived in Washington with despatches from Mexico but he does not bring a copy of the ratified treaty as it had been reported in the New Orleans papers; Col. Sevier will have the honor of bringing the ratified treaty

News that one of Pillow's important witnesses sold a pay roll more than once for the month of April-gives
documentary proof of the incident

Locofocos, to prevent Taylor's nomination, told their followers that Taylor had no party and was a Democrat at heart

Quotes from different parts of Ohio stating how Taylor will get the votes when the time of elections comes

Whig State Central Committee of Ohio has issued an address to the Whigs of the State asking for their support of Taylor

Gen. Persifer F. Smith Speaks highly of Taylor

Comments on those who have favor in certain areas of the state with regard to the presidential election

Ratification Meeting held in Louisville gave support to Taylor

Call for the Whigs to organize and become undivided with their support for Taylor

Comments about how the democrats have asked for the campaign to be conducted in a spirit of courtesy and forbearance but yet they have sunk to bad-mouthing

General Taylor's Character

Comments made in a speech by Mr. Crittenden to friends of Taylor and Fillmore in Pittsburgh about Taylor's character-he is a Whig, has many abilities, man of learning, humanity and simplicity of character, position on issues and habits

The "Campaign"

Comments imposed into an article from another paper-speak of the first Texas invasion

Mr. Van Buren

Was nominated at the Utica Convention but it will appear that Taylor will make a clean sweep

Speech of Mr. Benton on the Oregon Question

Comments about how the US handled coming to a decision with France and England about their boundaries within the US; comments about how France and England would like to establish the boundary

Is he Brave?

A Locofoco had speaking about Gen. Cass and his military bravery; however, Cass aided Gen. Harrison, who has been called a coward

Extract of a Letter from the Country

Comments about how people have called Taylor an abolitionist; Taylor is popular with the people

Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot

Comments about how Whigs are going to support Taylor

Wilmot Proviso

There is a desire to know what Taylor's opinions are when dealing with the Wilmot Provision; believed that no matter what his opinions are on this subject he has the advantage over his opponent

The Barnburners have a considerable party in most of the Northern States and their being subtracted from Cass' poll will give the electoral vote of every state to Taylor

First whole meeting of a "Rough and Ready Club"

Gen. Taylor in Trenton

Letter stating that no matter who the person votes for Taylor will win or at least that is what is believed by some
January 1848

February 1848

March 1848

From all we can see, the treaty, though destined to meet with violent opposition in the Senate, will eventually be ratified. The addition to our already overgrown territory will be enormous; to say nothing of the population it will bring in to the Union, to form in future a portion of the free and independent citizens of the U. States.

From the first, as our readers very well know, we have depreciated the addition of any territory, from a well-grounded apprehension of the convulsions that must follow upon raising the question of the admission of slavery in to the conquered country. Yet when we take into consideration the still greater perils of the war to our national prosperity and the project, not avowed it is true, by the President, but openly proclaimed by his partisans, of conquering the whole of Mexico, we must confess, that we are glad to get out of the scrape even upon these terms.

And yet a convulsion is destined to agitate this country to its very centre, before two years shall have rolled over our heads, exceeding in intensity that of the Missouri commission. The free States will never consent that the conquered provinces shall admit the institution of slavery, and being strongest in both branches of the National Legislature, they will not fail to carry their point. It was a foresight of the evil, that induced us from the fires to deprecate, with all the earnestness that belongs to our nature, the addition of any more territory. Deplorable will then be the condition of the slave States. On the North and West of us we are bounded by non-slaveholding States, many of whose inhabitants deem it a praiseworthy act to steal our slaves, though they will not risk a cent to rescue them from bondage. We shall now have on our Southern frontier an immense tract of country, offering, in climate, soil and facility of living, every inducement to the natural indolence of the slave, to escape from the dominion of the master. Be the Constitution of the United States, the slave can be reclaimed anywhere in the Union; but the slave stealer, in the North, manages to get him off to Canada, and in the South, will contrive to smuggle him in to Mexico. IN either
case, the master does, and will stand but a poor chance of recovering his property.

The only possible remedy will be a dissolution of the Union; and to that we look forward with horror, which it is impossible to repress. Should such an event occur, (which Heaven in its mercy avert,) the execration of the country, of the world, of all future ages, will pursue these who for the basest of all purposes have first kindled, and then kept in a continual flame, this unnecessary and unnatural war.

Bad as it is, however, we repeat that peace, even on these terms, is better than the protraction of a war, destined to end only in the entire conquest of Mexico. By the terms of the treaty, obliging this Government to pay fifteen millions for the ceded territory, and to assume the payment of the adjudicated claims of American citizens for spoliations, we avoided one great rock of offence, at which so many republics, of ancient and of modern date, have stumbled, and which as invariably proved the fate of them all. We allude to the lust of conquest, which when it once takes possession of the national mind, is but too apt to override all other considerations, and finally, to bury the very names of Justice and Freedom in one common ruin. We shall be spared the shame of seizing upon the spoils of a weak and comparatively helpless neighbor; Mexico will be spared the humiliation of seeing herself partitioned at the will of the conqueror. It becomes the justice and magnanimity of the might nation to take no undue advantage of the weakens of our neighbor, and to allow her, as far as possible, to preserve at least her honor. In this, we shall offer a striking contrast to all the other great Powers that at present, in a measure, divided the earth among them. England excites a war in India whenever she begins to feel a hankering of a new province, and never thinks of paying the wretched Governments of that country for her seizures, nor even allows them to retain nominal independence. Russia appropriates every things she can lay her hands on with as little remorse as a highwayman lightens the traveler of his purse, and with as little design to render an equivalent. France hunts down the wild Arab of the desert, exterminates his tribe, seizes on his possessions, and never thinks of offering him a price for parting with his all. Austria hold Italy and Gallicia at the point of the sword, and makes them both feel that they are slaves, not fit to treat with their masters for the price of their land and their liberty; while Prussia, as fast as she has been able, has followed closely in the Track of her might neighbors.

Not so does this treaty propose to deal with Mexico. It pays her, for her ceded provinces, more than they are actually worth, and leaves her independence intact, and, so far as this Government is concerned, inviolable. By refraining from making her feel her humiliation, we neutralized much of the bitterness which never fails to attend upon conquest, and lay a broad foundation for future harmony, between two nations which should never have gone to war, and the one of which stands to the other in the capacity of an elder sister, whose duty it should be to watch over and protect the weakness of her junior, not be the first to take advantage of her infancy.

We presume the plea alleged in favor of this war, "indemnity for the past," will now be suffered to rest, since we pay more for what we get than it is actually worth. —Surely, if that was one of the causes of the war, our Government, if this treaty shall be ratified, will have shown a marvelous promptitude in abandoning it; a circumstance which obviously indicates that it was without foundation from the beginning.

[AEK]
or usages of the people; in a word, that the whole valley of the Rio Grande, whether on the right or left bank of that river, was Mexican—a Mexican population, speaking the Mexican language, with Mexican laws, Mexican customs, Mexican jurisdiction—as purely Mexican as the city of Mexico itself. These facts are fully sustained by the public records of this Government, known and read of all men.

With a perfect knowledge of these facts, (for we cannot suppose the President ignorant of his country’s history,) the Executive ordered our army into a territory to which we had no just title—a territory in possession of a nation with which we were at peace; and there our forces, under the direction of the President, committed overt acts of war, by blockading the Rio Grande and charging the Mexican lines, before they had fired a gun or obstructed the movement of our army by force. Although the design of this war was at first concealed from the American people, the late avowals of the President and his friends leave no doubt of its object. It was commended and is prosecuted for the unholy purpose of conquest. I will not enlarge upon this point. A bare statement of the case is sufficient to show its injustice, to crown its authors with infamy, and create serious alarm in the breast of every friend of our free institutions. But I will not pursue this branch of the subject. Passing over the causes of the war and the unholy object of which it is prosecuted, I wish to call the attention of the committee to the financial embarrassment in which it has involved us.

At the commencement of the war our finances were in the most prosperous condition, there being a surplus of ten millions of dollars in the Treasury. And now, after the war has been prosecuted some twenty months, we are on the verge of bankruptcy. We have consumed the ordinary revenue, exhausted the ten millions surplus, together with a loan or Treasury notes of thirty-three million and are now called upon for a grant of sixteen millions more, to supply the wants of the Government during the present fiscal year; and this sum, I am persuaded, will be found too small by eight or ten millions, as I shall endeavor to show hereafter. So that, when the war shall have continued twenty-five months, we shall have spent, in addition to the accruing revenue, some $68,000,000. This is but a part of the burdens brought upon us by this unnecessary war. Our munitions of war, which have been accumulating for years in our arsenals, some fifteen millions of dollars worth of our public domain given, or to be given, in bounty to our soldiers, and long lists of pensions and private claims growing out of the war—these should be taken in to the account, and will go far in increasing the sum. These are some of the pecuniary burdens which a weak and wicked Administration has wantonly brought upon the people.

War is necessarily expensive, and is almost another name for oppressive taxation. And I rejoice that it is so; it bears the stamp of a preventive Providence, and is calculated to awaken the people to a sense of their condition, and to induce a strict scrutiny into the conduct of their rulers. I am glad that this war has involved the Government in financial embarrassment, because the burdens of taxation may reach the grand sensurium of some men, who, mad with ambition and drunken with the idea of acquisition, seem insensible to the calls of justice and the pleadings of humanity. And I venture to predict that, if the party now in power—the criminal authors of the are—had the manliness to come forward and impose taxes sufficient to support the war, and sustain the credit of the Government, the people would rise in the majesty of their strength, and hurl indignantly form power those who have abused the trust which a confiding people have reposed in them.

It is, Mr. Chairman, from a view of the documents which have been submitted, impossible even to approximate the amount which has been wantonly wasted in this war of aggression and conquest. The reports of the Secretary of the Treasury are so obscure, and his accounts are so confused, that it is difficult to understand them. There are some items, however which are perfectly intelligible, and to these I wish to called the attention of the committee. I allude to the army expenditures; and when I speak of these, I do not include the whole military establishment, but leave out of the account the armories, arsenals, fortifications, Military Academy, and that part of the civil service which relates to the War Department.

The expenditures for the army alone during the year ending June 1845, were $3,155,027. During the year ending June 30, 1846 7,454,577. And during the year ending June 30, 1847 33,882,068.

Here we perceive at once that the expenditures of the army, including volunteers, have, during the year ending June 30, 1847, exceeded the peace establishment of the year ending June 30, 1845. $30,727,041; and for the present fiscal year the expenditure will be much greater. I am aware that the Secretary of War estimates the cost of the army for the present fiscal year at $27,798,448, being more than $6,000,000 less than it was last year; and I am also aware that these estimates are entitled to very little consideration. The secretary last year estimated the cost of the army at $27,733,096, which was $6,148,972 less than the actual cost. And how was this? What occasioned this increase of expenditure over the estimates which were made when the year had nearly half passed away? The secretary would probably tell you that the President during the last half of the year called out more volunteers than had been anticipated, and that Congress created ten new regiments after the estimates were submitted, and that these were the causes of the increased expenditures. I admit that this new force would swallow up the extra $6,000,000; but still with this increased force the honorable Secretary goes forward at the commencement of this Congress with an estimate for the army for only $27,798,448, being but $65,362 more than that estimate of last year, when it was too small by $6,149,972. The ten regiments which were created, and the additional volunteers called out, could not have served more than six, and most of them did not serve more than two or three months; and if this carried the expenditures from the $27,733,096 estimated, up to $33,882,068, I cannot conceive how this increased force called into service during the war, and consequently serving during the whole of the present year, can be supported for $6,000,000 less than they were last year when they served but a short time. Besides, we have already been informed by the Executive department (see Executive document No. 2, and miscellaneous document No. 14, published by order of this House) that the appropriations of the last winter for the present fiscal year for the army were $14,014,635 too small, and that this additional sum must be provided for. And yet with these facts staring him in the face, the Secretary presents us with an estimate for the army less by $6,083,620 than the ascertained expenses for the last year. Nothing short of a disposition to conceal the real state of the Treasury can
Thus far, Mr. Chairman, I have confined myself to the expenditures of the army alone; but if we look at the whole expenditures of the Government, we shall come to the same result, viz. that the estimates are not at all reliable, being far below the actual expense. The ascertained expenditures of last year. The improbability of this result will appear from the facts already stated. We have already seen that the army in the field the present year is 18,500 rank and file greater than it was last year; and there are now vacancies amounting to more than 15,000 in the regular and volunteer forces, which the president is authorized to fill, and which is now filling with all possible dispatch. The Executive has informed us that they have already ascertained deficiencies in the different departments in the appropriations of the last session for the present fiscal year of $14,229,844. From every view we can take of the subject I am satisfied that the estimates are from eight to ten millions too low. It is difficult and even impossible to estimate the expenses of a campaign with perfect accuracy, but we have data before us sufficient to show that the estimates of the Departments are not at all reliable. Though the Secretary of the Treasury estimates the total expenditure for the year 1848 at $58,615,114, I have no doubt but that we may add $8,500,000 to this estimate with perfect safety, bringing the total expenditures of the year up to $67,100,000. On the other hand, I am satisfied that the Secretary of the Treasury has over-estimated his receipts. He sets down his means for the year ending June 30, 1848, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Customs</td>
<td>$31,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public lands</td>
<td>3,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous sources</td>
<td>400,000</td>
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No man, as it seems to me, can examine these estimated receipts without being satisfied that they are exaggerated if we compare them with the receipts of preceding years, or if we inquire into the amount of imports, we must perceive at once that the receipt of $31,000,000 from customs is out of the question. To obtain that revenue we must import from home consumption goods, wares, and merchandise to the amount of $180,840,021; which would be $68,806,632 more than the average of the four preceding years. The average consumption of imports for the years 1844, 1845, and 1846 was $103,067,692; the consumption for the year 1847, was $138,534,480; being $35,466,788 more than the average of the three preceding years. Seeing the imports for domestic consumption for the last year were $35,466,000 above the former average, I am satisfied that the people cannot, in their present embarrassed condition, pay for an import of $180,840,021; which would be $42,305,541 more than was purchase last year and $77,772,329 more than the average of 1844, 1845, and 1846. —And yet this enormous importation must be made in order to give Mr. Walker his $31,000,000 of revenue from customs. The principal reasons why our imports were so large last year was the famine in Europe, which enabled us to send abroad $41,000,000 of breadstuffs and provisions more than the preceding year; but that cause has now passed away, and to infer that we can import, $77,772,000 more than the average while the famine existed, shows a love of the marvelous hardly consistent with financial calculations.

I believe that the revenue from customs cannot with any propriety be estimated above $26,500,000 for the year 1848; and to obtain that revenue we must import for home consumption $154,059,861; which is more than $12,700,000 above the imports of last year and more than the country can support. In estimating the revenue for the present year I have taken the last year’s imports and revenue as the basis, though that basis is altogether too favorable to the Secretary. Five-twelfths of the last year was under the tariff of 1842, where the rates of duty were from five to ten per cent higher than under the present tariff. So that to realize the $31,000,000 estimated by the Secretary, we must in fact import a larger amount than I have stated; and the $26,500,000 which I have set down as the amount to be received would in fact require an import of more than to be received would in fact require an import of more than the $154,059,000 already stated. But, as I wish to be upon the safe side, I have to adopt the ratio of the last year. If I am correct in my positions, $4,500,000 must be stricken from Mr. Walker’s revenue from customs.

He estimates the revenue from the public lands at $3,000,000 which I believe is at least $1,500,000 more than can be realized from that source. The average income from the lands for the last three years has been $2,423,276, and there are causes which must operate unfavorably upon that branch of the revenue. By the act of February 11, 1847, it was provided that all soldiers who have served twelve months in the Mexican War, or have been killed in battle, or have been discharged in consequence of sickness incurred in the service, shall receive one hundred and sixty acres of land, or scrip to the amount of one hundred dollars. Some twenty-five thousand of these soldiers have been discharged in consequence of sickness incurred in the service, shall receive one hundred and sixty acres of land, or scrip to the amount of one hundred dollars. Some twenty-five thousand of these soldiers have been discharged, and these land warrants are being issued in large numbers, and these warrants will absorb a large quantity of the public lands, an expense the proceeds of the sales from the Treasury. If I am right in these calculations, the balance sheet at the end of the year will be materially affected. The case would then stand thus;

Expenditures estimates

$8,500,000

Revenue from customs less than estimate 4,500,000
Which sum of $14,500,000 added to Mr. Walker's corrected balance, would make $23,314,036 excess of expenditures over means on the 30th of June next; and hence the loan, including 3,000,000 to be left in the Treasury, should be $26,314,000 instead of $16,000,000.

I regard this part of the subject so important that I must beg leave to dwell upon it more in detail. I have already shown that the importations for the last fiscal year, after deducting the re-exports, amounted to $138,534,480, and that this exceeded the average of the three preceding years by $35,466,788. It must be manifest to everyone acquainted with the laws of trade that our importations and exports for a series of years must nearly balance each other. During the last fiscal year our exports of domestic products amounted to $150,637,464, being $50,362,848 more than the average for the three preceding years. But this excess consisted almost entirely of breadstuffs and provisions, and was occasioned by the failure of the crops in almost every part of the eastern continent. The Secretary himself informs us that the breadstuffs and provisions exported during the last year exceeded the exports of the same articles the preceding year by $41,332,282. This fact confirms my position that this large export arose from the failure of foreign crops. This excess over former exports consisted not only in the increased quantity, but also in the increased price. But the improved harvest in Europe has checked this export, and we have no reason to expect that we shall be able to send forth the same quantity; and the reduced price will greatly diminish the value of our exports. In the articles of cotton and flour alone, the reduction of price, even if the quantity was the same, would reduce our exports several millions.

This European famine not only increased our exports and consequently our imports, but turned the balance of trade $12,102,984 in our favor. But nothing can be more fallacious than to reason from a single year. In 1837 we actually imported $4,280,000 worth of breadstuffs; but it would be absurd to argue from that fact that we should continue to import that amount. Equally absurd is it to maintain that we shall send abroad $65,900,000 of provisions and breadstuffs annually because we did during the past year, when the famine was so pinching in Europe that we sent out Government ships laden with provisions as a charity to the starving thousands.

But we need not reason upon this subject. We have facts, official and stubborn facts, which show that the tide of trade is already setting against us. The imports during the first quarter of the present fiscal year amounted to $50,675,599, while the exports amounted to only $37,937,981, showing a balance of trade against us of $12,737,618, which exceeds the balance of trade in our favor during the past year of $634,634. The entire imports and exports for the whole half year have not been received; but I have returns from some of the principal cities, as will be seen by the following tabular statement:

**Imports into and Exports from Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, for the quarters ending September 30 and December 31, 1847.**

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Imports</th>
<th>Exports</th>
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<tr>
<td>Boston</td>
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<td>Philadelphia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baltimore</td>
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</table>

**NOTE.** —During the same period our imports of specie have amounted to $2,344,896, and our exports of specie to $5,937,804.

Here it will be seen that, taking these four cities, which comprise more than three-fourths of the commerce of the country, the balance of thread for the last six months is nearly $30,000,000 against us, and that specie is rapidly leaving the country; the excess of specie exported during this period being about $3,600,000 above the import. We have had pleasing accounts of the great balance of trade in our favor; and golden dreams of specie flowing into the country and filling the vault so the Sub-Treasury, presented to us by the secretary of the Treasury. Be we already see that an average harvest in Europe has turned the tables against us, and dissipated those golden visions.

The present conditions of the money market and the general depression of business must reduce the imports of the last half of the year. All experience shows that prosperity in our industrial pursuits at home contributes greatly to the increase of our commerce; and that we never purchase foreign fabrics so feely as when money is plenty in the country. It is true that our imports at the present time are heavy, but the depression of prices shows that we have a large supply on hand, and leads us to expect that the future imports will be light. The pernicious effects of the tariff of 1846 and of the drain of specie from the country to support a foreign war are beginning to develop themselves—Manufacturers already feel the shock. The cotton, woolen, and iron interests of the country are greatly depressed; and with depressed manufactures we may soon anticipate a paralyzed agriculture and a stagnant commerce. Even if the tide of trade should continue so as to give us a large revenue during the present year, its inevitable effect would be to diminish our revenue for the next; and so leave as great a deficit on the 30th of June, 1849, as though it fell within this year. It should also be observed that the have importations of tea generally coming in the spring, and as this is free of duty, no revenue will be obtained from that source.

A brief view of the finances of the country will show the utter failure of the tariff of 1846 as a revenue measure. — Though the Secretary of the Treasury, and the President in his message assure us that the tariff of 1846 has augmented the revenue of the country, every view I have been able to take of the subject leads me to a very different result. The imports and exports, together with the nett revenue from imports for the three years ending with the 30th of June under the tariff of 1842, were as follows: (see chart)
Here we have an amount of imports for the last year of $35,466,778 above the average of the three preceding years; and yet the nett revenue falls below the average $3,060,252. The nett revenue for the years under the tariff of 1842 assessed upon the imports for home consumption would amount to a duty of 26,01 per cent, and if we multiply the imports of 1847 by that rate, it would give us a nett revenue under the tariff of 1846, from what it would have been under the tariff of 1842, of $12,384,954. While the Administration and its friends are clamorous for a loan of $16,000,000 they should remember that if they had not wantonly destroyed the best revenue system which this country ever enjoyed, they would have had more than two thirds of that sum now in the Treasury; nay, if that system had remained in force up to this day, it would completely have superseded the necessity of this loan, and have left a balance in the Treasury. Here we have a full illustration of the crude digested system of the present Administration, a system which, had it not been for the famine on the eastern continent, would have overwhelmed its friends in disappointment. If the imports had remained at the average of the three preceding years, the revenue under the present tariff would have amounted to only $17,624,575, or $9,283,531 less than the average of the three years under the Whig tariff. Thus, by the miserable policy of the Administration, the best interests of the country have not only been sacrificed, but the Government itself has been robbed of twelve millions of revenue at a time when the largest amount that the country could have afforded would be insufficient to meet the wants of the Government.

The receipts from customs for the year 1847 have not only fallen off $3,060,252 from the average receipts of the three preceding years, but they have fallen $4,087,867 below the secretary's own estimate submitted to Congress in December, 1846.

But it is hardly necessary to point out the blunders of the Secretary of the Treasury, or to show that his estimates are entitled to very little consideration. Of this, however, we may be certain—that his estimates are always in conformity with his preconceived opinions, and designed to recommend his own visionary schemes. In his first annual report on the finances to bring the tariff of 1842 in disrepute, he estimated the revenue from customs for the year ending June 30, 1846, at $24,500,000; but the result showed a nett revenue of $26,712,667, showing that the Secretary's estimate was too low. When he has his own darling system before him, there is no danger or error on the same side of the question. At the opening of the last Congress he estimated the receipts from customs for the year ending June 1847, at $27,835,731, being $4,087,867 more than was realized—true sum being $23,747,864. Thus we see that the secretary's falsehood for is free trade system lead him into an error of $2,212,000 in one year, and of $4,078,000 the next.

But in view of all these blunders, and in the face of all these facts, the secretary says: "The new tariff ahs no been in operation more than twelve months, and has greatly augmented the revenue and prosperity of the country. "—The nett revenue from duties during the twelve months ending the 1st of December, 1847, under the new tariff, is $31,500,000; being $8,528,596 more than it was during the twelve months preceding, under the tariff of 1842."—While this statement may be true to the letter, it is nevertheless calculated to deceive the public, and is so manifestly unjust that I should hardly expect to see it presented as a basis of a settled principle in grave official document—his first annual report to the 29th Congress; he strongly recommended a reduction of duties, and that this subject was agitated for months before the passage of the act; that the bill was reported to the House as early as April 14, and became a law July 30, 1846. Under these circumstances, we know that the importers would naturally keep back their orders in expectation of the reduction of duties. In this manner the tariff of 1846 would operate to check imports long before it became a law. And when the bill was passed, July 30, 1846, it contained an express invitation to importers not to bring their goods into market until the reduced duties had taken effect. The receipts from customs for the year 1847 have not only fallen off $3,060,252 from the average receipts of the three preceding years, but they have fallen $4,087,867 below the secretary's own estimate submitted to Congress in December, 1846.

...
I have, Mr. Chairman, thus far confided myself mainly to the receipts and expenditures of the past and present fiscal years. But, as we are now called upon to provide for the next fiscal year, it may be well to look into futurity, and ascertain, as well as we may, what will be the probably expenditure for the next year. We have the estimate of the Secretary of the treasury, covering those of the different Departments, and it seems peculiarly fortunate that he is able to reduce the expenditures very much in proportion to the increase of the force called out. We have already seen the actual expense for the year ending June 30, 1847, and the estimated expenditures for 1848; and I will now call your attention to the estimates for the year ending June 30, 1849, and that they may be seen at a glance I will place them together:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Estimated</th>
<th>Actual expenditures for the year ending June 30, 1847</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1849</td>
<td>$58,615,660</td>
<td>$59,451,177</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1847</td>
<td>$55,644,941</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It will be sent that Mr. Walker’s estimated expenditures are based on sliding scale similar to the British Corn Laws, where the duty is reduced with the increase of the price. Our force in the field is constantly increasing; and yet our estimated expenditures are reduced from year to year, the cost of the service for 1849 being $3,806,236 less than the actual expenditures for 1847, though the force is much greater. Such is the picture presented to us by the official documents. But every man who will take the trouble to examine the subject will be satisfied that the estimate for the present and for the next fiscal year is altogether too low. There appears to be a systematic attempt on the part of the Executive department to reduce the estimates to the lowest possible point; not, however, as it would see, from a conviction that the sum estimated will meet the wants of the service, but with a knowledge that if greater expenses are incurred Congress cannot refuse to make appropriations to pay just debts. I speak advisedly when I make this remark.

Agreeable to law and usage, the officers of the different bureaus make out their estimates for the coming year, and submit them to the head of the Department. These estimates for the next fiscal year have undergone an unusual degree of pruning. In confirmation of this I will state a fact which will illustrate the principle, and show the reliance which may be placed upon the estimates. The Quartermaster General, on the 4th of November, submitted to the Secretary of War an estimate of expenditures in his department for the next fiscal year. The Secretary returned the estimates, with a request that they be reduced. The Quartermaster General complies with his request, and on the 15th of November submits his revised estimates, saying he has made “considerable reductions.” He says, however, that his first estimates “were made out from data derived from the experience of the last year.” The then adds, ‘whether these reductions be judicious, time must determine. I would not have ventured to make them, but for the fact that two sessions of Congress will have terminated before the expiration of the fiscal year for which the estimates now submitted have been made. The sums asked for averages of the present fiscal year are not more, I am persuaded, than will be required.”

Here, sir, it will be seen that the Quartermaster General, in his second estimates, virtually admits that they are too low; lower than the service in his opinion will justify. In fact, he was so well persuaded that his estimates were too low that he says he would not have ventured to make them but for the fact that he could come in at the next session and ask for additional appropriations. The Committee of Ways and Means, being desirous of obtaining all the information requisite to a proper understanding of the subject on which they were called to act, addressed a note to the Secretary of War asking him for the original estimates of the Quartermaster General. When the original estimates were sent us, we found that it was literally true that he had made “considerable reductions.” And what do you suppose Mr. Chairman, they were? How much do you suppose was cut off? I will tell you: the modest little sum of $7,901,200! But he does it under protest; declaring that he believes it will be wanted, as he founded his estimates upon the experience of the last year.

Again, sir: the Secretary of the navy gives us an estimate of $10,905,558; but after this estimate had been in the hands of the committee some six weeks, the Secretary of the Navy comes forward and informs us that we can reduce the estimate $1,500,000 without any detriment to the public service. And what reason does the honorable Secretary offer in support of this reduction? What new discovery had he made? Why, he had discovered just what he must have known when he made his estimates—that certain unexpended balances would come over from the last year. But would he reduce the actual expenditure by this means? Not in the least. It would show less on paper; but, whether the $1,500,000 were drawn from the Treasury under the law of last year or this, the sum would be the same, and the means must be provided in either case as much as in the other.

I have stated these facts, not because I am opposed to reduction, but because I am opposed to imposition. I have stated them to show that here is a systematic attempt to make the appropriations as small as possible. I do not believe that reducing the appropriations will reduce the expenditures, on the whole, one mill, and am perfectly satisfied that there is a great unwillingness on the part of the Executive to have the enormous expenditures of this
war known at the present time. But the President does not wish to be behind hand in the good work of retrenchment; and consequently he comes in an proposes to cut off the paltry sum of some $18,500 from the grants made to the poor Indians for the purposes of education! In several of the treaties made with the different tribes there is a provision that certain sums shall be paid to them annually, at the pleasure of the president, for their education and civilization. The different denominations of Christians who support their missionaries among the tribes, and accounts to this Government a portion of these funds, which they expend for schools among the tribes, and account to this Government for the manner in which it is expended. The Presbyterians, I am informed, expend two dollars of their won money, for purposes of education, for every dollar they receive from the Government; the Baptists expend about one dollar of their funds for every dollar they receive from the public Treasury; and the Methodists, who always act as pioneers in ever good enterprise, expend their money in aiding the Government to instruct these unfortunate children of the forest. And while these heralds of peace and salvation are willing to spend and be spent in the glorious cause of civilized the untutored savages, and opening to their dark and benighted minds the glories of immortality, the President of the United States come forward, and taking advantage of a clause in the treaties in which a confidence is reposed in him, proposes to strike out these small appropriations granted to them for a valuable consideration. The Executive of a people calling themselves Christian appears to be unwilling that the ministration of life should be dispensed among the savages in our won country at our expense; he wants the money to dispense the ministration of death among the savages in Mexico. He wants all the resources of this country to convert, sword in hand, the wretched hordes of Mexico, not to Christianity, but to citizens of the United States, a nation which has spread slaughter through their country, and treated them, as they believe, with the greatest injustice.

Here, Mr. Chairman, a question naturally arises, why the Administration wish at eh present time to reduce the appropriations? Their motives are in their own breasts. I am satisfied of the fact, for they have revealed it; but they have not disclosed the motive. But, being a Yankee, I shall claim the prerogative of a Yankee, and guess the reason. An important election is approaching, and the Administration do not which to have the troublesome question of the expenses of the war brought before the people in the next Presidential contest. They know that, before we shall assemble here again, that question will have been decided one way or the other, and that at that time, they may safely come forward and ask us to appropriate, not fourteen millions of dollars to supply deficiencies, but thrice that sum. This is a solution of that question; and if any friend of the President on this floor thinks me uncharitable. I will ask him whether he had not a little rather these have appropriations should be put off till the next session. I know he had. If he is frank and candid he will admit it.

But sir, all these artful attempts to blind the eyes of the people will not avail. The note of alarm shall be sounded and the people shall know the fraud that is attempted to be played off upon them. The estimates that are presented are beyond all question too low; and if this miserable war continues, we shall find it so. That we may see what demands the Administration are making upon the taxpayers of this country, I will present a statement of what they ask, directly and by implication.

They ask us to appropriate certain specific sums, and these sums will involve others which are not specified; and these incidental expenses will increase with the continuance of the war. The deficiencies for this year are already ascertained to be more that $14,000,000, and it will be perfectly safe to set down the deficiencies for the next year at $16,000,000. The account, then will stand thus:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appropriations asked for</th>
<th>$55,644,341</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appropriations to supply deficiencies for this year</td>
<td>14,220,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deficiencies next year</td>
<td>16,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$85,861,982</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Here we have direct and tangible appropriations for $85,864,900, in round numbers. But this is not all: they ask us to grant them ten new regiments of regulars, which cannot be enlisted, transported to Mexico, and supported [ . . . ] for a year, judging in from the expenses of the past above of $9,000,000. Then they ask for authority to call out twenty regiments of volunteers, which as it may in some degree save the expense of recruiting, I will set down at $17,500,000. If we comply with the request of the Executive and grant him all the force he asks, and this force thus be called into service, the account would stand as follows:

| Appropriations as above       | $85,864,961 |
| Ten new regiments of Regulars | 9,000,000   |
| Twenty regiments of volunteers | 17,500,000  |
|                             | $112,364,981 |

Here sir, we have the round sum of $112,000,000, and who will say that this statement is exaggerated? Let the whole force now asked for be called out, and let the regiments now in the field be filled up, and every dollar of this sum will be required. There are also several sources [ . . . ] expenditure which have not been taken into this account and which will be constantly increasing. If we go on borrowing money, the interest on eh public debt will make no inconsiderable sum. The pension list will be constantly increasing, and before the end of the year the numerous private claims for injuries sustained in and by the war will begin to come in, and the script which the discharged soldiers will receive instead of their land bounty will be in the character of public debt, on which interest must be paid. The exhausted arsenals must be replenished, and a thousand other charges incident to war must be taken into the account. The incidental expenses of the Florida war, nor the war of 1812, nor even the war of the revolution, are
A distinguished officer of the U.S. army, who reached Columbia (S.C.) a few days since from the city of Mexico, says:

**GENERAL SCOTT.**

**nothing but tarnished honor and a heavy national debt.**

their children, the rich inheritance of freedom but the present administration will I fear, leave us to the successors

day of reckoning by throwing the burdens of the war upon those that come after them. Our father bestowed upon us

plunged the nation in to a war without just causes and now they attempt to avoid the responsibility, and put off the

very fact that the Administration dare [ . . . ] propose a direct tax is a clear confession that they know they have

government in war, whatever may be the aim of taxes, provided they believe the ware to be just and necessary. The

involved us in it. The American people are not wanting patriotism. They stand ready at all times [ . . . ] sustain the

But this fact is a striking commentary upon the character of the war, and of the Administration which have wantonly

there, but because they would be needed and suppressed insurrections, which such a tax would produce.

we should be compelled to withdraw our army from Mexico, not only because we should not be able to support them

But, Mr. Chairman, the fact is that neither the Administration nor their friends upon this floor dare recommend direct

The reason is obvious. He knows that he moment the people are called upon in this manner to support the way they

will begin to inquire more fully into its character and the object for which it is prosecuted, and that such as inquiry

would end in his won condemnation. He knows too, that these States, which are the most clamorous for the war

would be totally unable to pay their portion of the [ . . . ]. I have apportioned fifty millions amongst the several

States agreeably to the federal basis, which I will present to the committee:

An apportionment of fifty millions upon the several states, agreeably to the constitutional basis.

(See chart)

How would the democracy of the Keystone State be pleased with the idea of paying $5,263,000? Could they inscribe

that upon their banners and fight as manfully they did under the banner of “Polk, Dallas, and the tariff of 1842?”

What would the warlike gentlemen from Maryland say to tax of $1,315,000, in addition to the burdens they are now
called to bear? What opinion of the war would be entertained by the good people of Alabama if it was brought home

to them by a tax of $1,535,000 in a single year? Illinois would not find it exactly convenient to pay $1,535,000, nor

Indiana to pay $2,192,000, annually. The sum of $657,000 would, I apprehend, [ . . . ] rather heavily upon

Michigan, and $212,000 would remind Arkansas that the sinew of war were as troublesome end the war itself. The

people of Texas would find the glory of the war a poor investment, when they were required and pay $438,000 as

the purchase money. I might mention Mississippi and Florida, and several other States, apart whom this task would

be rather oppressive; bus as they are clamorous for the war, they ought to be willing to bear their share of the

burden. Particularly should the Democracy of these states advocate direct taxation, because they are in favor of the

war, and of this mode of revising means?

But, Mr. Chairman, the fact is that neither the Administration nor their friends upon this floor dare recommend direct

taxes. They know that the people in those States most clamorous for the war would not sustain it for a single day, if

they thought that they must come forward and pay their fair proportion of its burdens. If such as tax were imposed,

we should be compelled to withdraw our army from Mexico, not only because we should not be able to support them

there, but because they would be needed and suppressed insurrections, which such a tax would produce.

But this fact is a striking commentary upon the character of the war, and of the Administration which have wantonly

involved us in it. The American people are not wanting patriotism. They stand ready at all times [ . . . ] sustain the

government in war, whatever may be the aim of taxes, provided they believe the ware to be just and necessary. The

very fact that the Administration dare [ . . . ] propose a direct tax is a clear confession that they know they have

plunged the nation in to a war without just causes and now they attempt to avoid the responsibility, and put off the
day of reckoning by throwing the burdens of the war upon those that come after them. Our father bestowed upon us

their children, the rich inheritance of freedom but the present administration will I fear, leave us to the successors

nothing but tarnished honor and a heavy national debt.

[AEK]
"Gen Scott is considered by the officers of the army, the great Captain of the age. He has not only their unbounded confidence, but he is in the hearts of his soldiers. It is his habit to receive the mutilated and care worn soldier into his presence, when officers of the army are denied; administering to their necessities, not only by his influence, but BY HIS PURSE, HELPING THEM TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES. In short, he has been their father as well as their General. Not one who has ever served under him will refuse to follow where he may lead.

"There seems to prevail an impression through the United States, that divisions in the army have been, to some extent, the result of the arrest of Gens Pillow and Worth. —So far from it, there never has been greater unanimity than at present. The circumstance was not even a nine day’s wonder. The army is a perfect unit in sentiment. Its discipline and harmony have never been more complete.

"The known justice of Gen Scott would be conviction to every officer in the army, of the military propriety of all his acts; and the arrest of any officer, however high in ranked, from any known breach of military discipline, would cause no more surprise, than that of any subaltern for a like offence.”

"As evidence of returning sanity on the part of Mexico, (if the present government may be said to be a responsible government,) these overtures are gratifying indications and implying concession of our rightful claims to indemnity and reparation, and of the justice of the war on our part, which will be anything but welcome to Mexican partisans and apologists in this country, whose efforts to place Mexico in the right and the United States in the wrong, have been as incessant as they have been effective, thus far, in encouraging Mexico to further hostilities. There can be no manner of doubt—the whole current of evidence which has set this way from Mexico, corroborates (we may say demonstrates) the oft-repeated allegation, that but for this treasonable supply of “aid and comfort” from the Whig leaders and presses, on this side the Rio Grande, we should long since have had overtures of peace from deluded Mexico, and a minister there to adjust the details of a treaty. —As it is, the minister being re-called and his powers revoked, we have at last a proposition for adjustments—but in so questionable and uncertain a shape as to prolong and hazard the ultimate success [if success should result] of negotiations.”

We should be glad to know who are the Mexican partisans to whom the Argus alludes in this letter. Are they Scott and Taylor, Clay Hardin, Morrison, McClung and Haskell? Are they Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, John Minor Botts, who have lost brave and promising sons in Mexico, by the sword and by disease? Or are they Mr. Polk and his Cabinet, who gave to Mexico the only Chief that could unite her distracted and divided population—create new resources—raise new armies—infuse fresh courage into a beaten and disheartened people—and direct the energies of a whole nation against our armies? Who, jealous of one General, in the very moment of victory, left him without means to follow up his successes—who gave by their own supineness, tie to the enemy, beaten at Palo Alto, and almost overwhelmed a Resaca, to recruit his troops, to re-inspirit him, to lead them into the fortification of Monterrey, and to slay our troops by hundreds when they attempted to storm it? Who, while this same General was threatened by four-fold number, sunder the very Chief of whom they had as kindly sent to the aid of Mexico, deliberately took from him all his regulars, and left him with 4,700 volunteers, to sustain the shock of 22,000 veterans? Who left another General at Vera Cruz, to fight his way to the city of Mexico, roughly fifty thousand men, with scarcely one-fifth of the number? Who, after that General had just made one of the most remarkable campaigns on record, reward him by an arrest, and an order for his trial by a broken down political hack, whom the Executive fiat had, ludicrously enough converted into a General, so far as a wearing epaulettes and receiving pay can make one? We ask, which of the two classes are most likely to rank as partisan of Mexico, in the eyes of posterity, the President and his Cabinet, or these Whig officers? Who have, of all others, furnished most “aid and comfort” to the enemy?

The statement that this treaty is an acknowledgment of our just claim to indemnity, and consequently of the justice of this war, is notoriously without foundation. If the war was just, why do we not require the Government of Mexico to pay our citizens for spoliations, instead of engaging to pay them ourselves? These claims amount, all told, not to five million: why could we not have paid them at first, before so much blood and treasure had been wasted, as well as who? As for any indemnity, where is it? We have already wasted at least ten thousand lives in this contest, and spent one hundred and fifty millions of dollars at a very moderate calculation. After all, we pay for the territory which we get, fifteen millions; much more than it is worth. This is indemnity with a vengeance.

SANTA FE IN DISPUTE!
The Houston (Texas) Telegraph seems to be very indignant at the establishment of a territorial government at Santa Fe, the capital of New Mexico—as indeed it has a right to be, if the Rio Grande being the rightful boundary line between Texas and Mexico, that magnificent city of mud-hovels really constituted a part of the Republic of Texas at the time of its annexation to the United States! But then, while if Mr. Polk had not sent Gen. Kearny thither to conquer it, there would have been no “territorial government” in existence there at this time, it is not less certain that Don Amrijo, who slew and captured every individual belonging to the only Texan expedition ever sent thither, would have been still in his palace, administering as aforetime the laws of Mexico, and receiving the homage of the people of Mexico, who, without question, exclusively owned and occupied the soil. We do not see very clearly why the Texans should repine at the change, even if it be an invasion of their sovereignty!

The Houston paper suggests to the legislature of Texas that "a new county should be laid off in that region, of which the city of Santa Fe expedition, under the auspices of the Texan government, will fare differently from that which some years ago terminated so disastrously.

[AEK]

RW48v25i19p4c2 Tuesday, March 7, 1848: The Treaty, from the Baltimore Sun

THE TREATY.

Yesterday's Baltimore Sun has the following letter from its Washington correspondent:

Washington, March 2, 6 P.M.

The Senate adjourned at about five o'clock, the treaty having been up until that time. Its fate is as doubtful as when I last wrote. The opposition to it steadily increases, though the President and his Cabinet, with the exception of one Secretary, were using every human effort to have it ratified. I still hope that the president will be sustained; by he has anew and powerful odds to contend against. The upshot of the matter may be that two commissioners, (one Whig and one Democrat,) will be appointed to negotiate with Mexico in optima form juris. This will satisfy Messrs. Webster and Crittenden. Some new historical features have developed themselves. Of these I will speak in my next letter.

The National Intelligencer of the 2d inst. makes the following remarks on the subject:

"No one can say what developments have been made in regard to its ultimate fate. It is now said, with what certainty we do not know, that the treaty is not acceptable to the Senate in its present shape. Whatever becomes of it the Senate will not decide in one way or the other but upon sufficient motive. The general expectation out of this city undoubtedly is, that the treaty will be ratified."

The Union of Wednesday night says:

"It is generally believed that it will not be ratified without a few modifications—relating principally to Spanish grants of land in Texas, California, &c. The general belief and hope are, that the question will be decided in the course of the week."

The Union of Thursday night almost implores the Senate to ratify the treaty.

The New York Tribune says:

"Major Van Buren, who has just arrived from Washington, states that the clause in relation to Mexican Land Claims, will not be insisted upon by Mexico, and that when inserted, it was in deference to certain influential men, with a perfect understanding by the Commissioners, that it would be objected to by the U. States and would be abandoned by Mexico."

[AEK]

RW48v25i19p4c2 Tuesday, March 7, 1848: Late From Chihuahua

A telegraphic dispatch, dated St. Louis, March 1, says: --"Dates from Chihuahua have been received to the 2d of January. The American force still remained at El Paso, but expected to march during the month. Their march had been delayed by the loss of their cattle, which it was found impossible to replace. —The people had determined to offer no resistance. Governor Frias had made himself very unpopular by an assessment of taxes upon the people, and it was understood that he would retire to Durango upon the approach of the Americans. The trade had become very unsettled in anticipation of that event.

[AEK]
THE TREATY

In the Baltimore Sun of Sunday, we find the subjoined letters from two of its correspondents in Washington. —The writers do not agree entirely; but we presume they reflect only the varying shades of opinion in Washington:

Washington, March 3, 1848


The fate of the Treaty in the Senate is uncertain. The senators themselves have spoken of the result as doubtful. The Whig Senators held a caucus yesterday morning, in relation to the Treaty, and, after an animated debate, adjourned without coming to any conclusion. The Whigs are as much divided in opinion as the Democrats on the subject. More than one Whig Senator expressed, last night, the opinion that the treaty would be rejected. —Others, again, deem it doubtful.

But if Mr. Webster should sustain the objection which he has made to the treaty, it must be rejected. He objects to a clause, deemed essential by the Southern Senators, which is capable of being construed, and was intended to get so construed, as to prevent the U.S. Government from passing any law prohibiting slavery in the Territories which we acquire. There are a number of democratic Senators who will oppose the treaty out-and-out, and these will, of course, combine with those who object to the treaty on some particular grounds.

There were two votes taken yesterday, which resulted in striking out two articles from the treaty—one of them, the 10th, confirming Mexican land grants.

The form of taking questions on a treaty is this—to wit:

The treaty is taken by articles, and each article, in turn, is open to amendment. A motion may be made to strike out an article or a part of an article. The question is, shall "the article or the words in the article excepted to" be retained as a part of the treaty? It requires a vote of two thirds to return the article or part of the article. Thus each separate article or clause must be affirmed.

After going thou with the treaty, in this manner, the question will be, "Shall the Senate advise and consent to the treaty, as altered?" There the vote of two-thirds is against necessary, and upon this last vote all those who may be opposed to the treaty, on whatever ground, may unite and reject it. But, again, it may happen that those who have dissented to particular articles or clauses may still give their assent to the treaty, in preference to taking the responsibility of its rejection. Not a single Northern Senator, Whig or Democrat, can show his fact to his constituents, if he does vote against this treaty.

The votes which have so far, been given against the retention of particular articles or clauses, are therefore by no mean conclusive as to the fate of the treaty as amended. The Senate here adjourned.


The treaty is what the man said of the fever, "getting no better very fast," but while there is life, there is hope;" and while the treaty is being considered by the Senate, the chances of it ratification are not altogether abandoned.

There was as strong article in last evening’s Union in favor of the ratification, accompanied by some singular arguments which present the subject in a new light. We are there given to understand that if this treaty is not ratified, our chances of finding a government in Mexico that will ratify any treaty of the basis of indemnity are indeed small, if not desperate. The government which has made the treaty or sanctioned its being made with Mr. Trist, holds its breath by that treaty, and its rejection by our Senate would inevitably destroy it, and lead the way, perhaps, to a military dictatorship. This is important news, which is corroborated by private letters that have reached here, and which, from personal perusal, I have no hesitation to endorse.

The question then is reduced to ratifying Mr. Trist’s treaty or having no treaty at all. This answer of the Union is categorical, and extended for the Whig Caucus that was held yesterday, and the probable resolutions come to by the gentlemen present. It throws a very heavy responsibility on their heads. It tells them—"You who style yourself the peach party of the country—you who hesitate to vote money and rise for the prosecution of the war, spurn the only means of arriving at an honorable adjustment of our national account with Mexico.” The charge is a grave one and the alternative anything but agreeable Query, will the Whigs in a body oppose the treat? I believe not’ but between them and the Democrats who are opposed to it, the treaty, if acted upon definitely today would undoubtedly be strangled.

But to return to my figure! The longer the patient is under medical treatment, the more likely are the inflammatory
symptoms to subside, the more probably is the recovery.

There is a charm in that word ‘peace,’ which makes the boldest and most determined man hesitates before he ventures to vote against it. His choice is between the positive sacrifice of blood and treasure on one side, and a prospective boon on the other; and the present and immediate considerations are ever uppermost in the minds of men.

The longer the Treaty remains before the Senate, the more public opinion will be brought to bear on the opposition to it, and the more tractable will become the Democratic Senators. It is one thing to oppose a peace and another to oppose the administration.

There is rumor in town, based on a letter received from a very respectable officer now in Mexico, that the English, during the last summer, have surveyed the Isthmus of Tehuantepec. This is said to have alarmed Mr. Calhoun and his friends but I will not positively venture to say which way Mr. Calhoun and his friends will vote. That matter will depend on the bearing of the Mexican question on that of slavery. Further than that Mr. Calhoun, is for peace, and his party with him.

I have heard it whispered that the Whigs intend to let the treaty die on the table; but that experiment is not likely to be successful, from the reason above stated. Neither will the Clay and Taylor Whigs agree as to the course to be pursued, and thus the treaty may escape by a two-thirds majority, saving as many Senators personally as circumstances admit of, and allowing as many to vote against it as can be spaced to save the treat. Were it not for he Presidential election, the treaty would have been handled long ere this.

RW48v25i19p1c4 Tuesday, March 7, 1848: General Scott and the Army

Gen. Scott and the Army.

"Mustang," the correspondence of the New Orleans Delta, in describing the departure of general Caldawader’s command to occupy Toluca, says:

"The brigade formed in the grand Pris at an early hour, when there was an old fashioned "goodbye"—it is so warm, so enthusiastic, and so full of the sincerity of true friendship, and invariably accompanied with the emphatic and expressive sentiment "God bless you!" How strongly does it contrast with the cold, unfeeling, hackneyed phrase of civilians at home, "adieu, my dear friend." As the column emerged from the Plaza and marched by the quarters of Gen. Scott, who hat in hand, exchanged solutions as they passed, the air was filled with the spirit stirring notes of "Yankee Doodle." The rank and file entertains the most remarkable degree of enthusiastic feeling for the chief who has directed them through so many trying and perilous positions, and who has conducted them to the topmost peak of the ladder of fame. When they stand before him, or pass by him, they appear to look better, and assume the more correct character of the soldier than at any other time. This, however, is one of the great secrets of the success which has attended our arms in the war with Mexico. If the rank and file had ever doubted, or even entertained the least want of confidence in the officers who led them, there is no judging what would have been the result.

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RW48v25i19p1c5 Tuesday, March 7, 1848: Editor's Correspondence, Camp Buena Vista

EDITOR’S CORRESPONDENCE.

Dear-------: The report which I mentioned in my last, that the Mexicans were collecting large forces at different points in our front, has not been confirmed, and is now generally discredited. I should not have spoken of it, but of the fact that the source from which the information came has hitherto been regarded as reliable. There is no doubt, I believe that Gen. Urrea is in Durango; but his force is entirely too small for any operations of consequence in this quarter—being not over four or five thousand. Some small force is said also to be embodied in Chihuahua, --That States has all along been exceedingly hostile to us, and I have wondered that a few of us have not been sent among them to teach them a little lore humility and submission. Such an expedition would have been quite a relief to the dull, prosing life who have been compelled to lead while awaiting the means for more important operations.

A most cruel murder was perpetrated upon three of our poor, sick discharged soldiers, on Tuesday last, a few miles below Saltillo, who, in their anxiety to get home, would not await the opportunity for protection afforded by some descending train. Being exceedingly feeble, it is supposed they had grown weary and fallen asleep by the way side, when they were come upon by a party of Mexicans and cruelly butchered. —Such is the e enemy we have to contend with! It was but the day before that one of our soldiers was hanged in Saltillo for murdering gone of their people. — Is it not high time that there was something like reciprocity in this thing? If I had my way, I would have the murderers, or hang the Alcalde in whose jurisdiction these murders were committed. He, undoubtedly, could find them out. The murdered men belonged to the Mississippi Regiment, and were named Walker, Rainwaters and Lantex.
—the latter but a youth of 16 or 18 years of age. Their bodies were brought back on Thursday, and interred with military honors by their comrades.

Our Colonel has had quite a blow up with the Governor (Aguerrí) of this State. As commandant of our Division of the Army, he had issued a proclamation of outlawry against the robber, Gonzales, and also warned the Alcaldes that he would hold them responsible for any injuries done us by guerrillas, if they did not give timely information of them. These he communicated to the Governor, and called upon him to give publicity to them, which his Excellency refused to do, in a most insulting manner, and threatened to retaliate if the proclamation was attempted to be carried out. The Colonel thereupon sent a party to take him, but his Excellency ways on the alert, and made his escape. Since that time (I believe) protection has been offered to the Governor if he would return and behave himself, but he has refused to do so, and the Colonel has taken possession of about $4,000 worth of his moveable effects, which he is determined to hold as a sort of surety ship for his Excellency’s good conduct. This appears to be the present state of the game between them, what is to come of it I don’t exactly know.

CAMP BUENAVIDA, Jan. 24, 1848.

Nothing farther of consequence has reached us from the interior. What the enemy are doing in the way of raising troops if anything, we are as much in the dark about as ever. I do not believe they are doing much however, or we would hear of it.

A new and important measure is now on foot amongst us. Arrangements are being made by the Commanding General, in this and the neighboring States of New Leon and Tamaulipas, for the collection and transfer to our uses of all their public revenue. I have heard large calculations made in regard to the amount expected to be realized in this state (Coahuila,)—not less than $500,000 per annum! Saltillo alone, from all sources, is set down at $10,000 per month, and the rest of the State at over $40,000. Upon what data these calculations are made, I do not know, but if the yield trebles the monthly estimate, I shall think, from all I can see, that we are doing very well. The entire population of the State is not over 200,000, and but a small portion of them own property, or indeed use anything, that could well be made a subject of taxation. But the result will show.

The murderers of the three discharged soldiers from the Mississippi Regiment, whose melancholy fate I mentioned in my last, have been discovered, and five of them taken and executed. There were eighteen in the party, all Mexicans, of most villainous character, and hopes are entertained that we will get more of them, as we have the names of all. The rancho near which the murder was committed, has been destroyed by order of Col. Payne, Governor of Saltillo—several articles of clothing and other effects of the murdered men having been found in it. The order for the executions was given by Col. Hamtramck, as Commandant of the Division, and his prompt action is highly approved, not only by the whole command, but by the better portion of the Mexicans themselves. The names of the men executed, were Juan Morales, Jose Maria Duxan, Samaron, Pasqual Morales, and Philipia Espinosa—several of them notorious robbers—a terror to the whole country. They were hanged at Saltillo on Wednesday, and met their fate with great indifference, smoking and talking amongst themselves to the last.

We have just heard of the arrival of the new company from Virginia, Capt. Talbots, at Monterey, and also fifty-three recruits for the regiment, under Lt. Pegram. They are expected here in the course of two or three days.

The health of the Regiment continues good. My company has two on the sick list, with rheumatic affections, but the cases are not at all serious.
Mexico transfer the soil and people to the United States, the latter must come into the Union with all the rights and immunities of citizens of this Confederacy—entitled not only to exercise the right of suffrage, but to aspire to the highest offices in the country. We shall be gratified therefore, at the success of any proposition the tendency of which will be to diminish the extent of the territory ceded to us by the treaty as it now exists.

Under the date of the 2d inst. The correspondent of the *North American* writes:

“The three most important propositions pending are

1. To ratify the treaty with the amendments.
2. To alter the southern line of the territory proposed to be ceded.
3. To lay the treaty on the table and to appoint here or five ministers plenipotentiary, possessed of the views of the Senate, and authorized to institute a new negotiation.

“The explanations already made, will enable the public to discriminate as to the respective merits of these suggestions.

“The actual cost of the acquired territory, admitting the treaty to be confirmed, will be about twenty-one millions dollars and a half, exclusive of the war expenses, but including the claims against Mexico. This is a pretty round sum for a barren tract of country which nobody desires, and which must be a source of vast increase to our public expenditures.”

The *Washington Union* of Saturday night evinces extreme anxiety for the ratification of the treaty, and makes copious extracts from which papers, favorable to that result, in order we presume to influence Whig Senators to rally to the support of the Administration, which it seems has been abandoned, on this as upon eth Oregon question, by many of its own leading partisans! The Union says:

“The general impression seems to be today more decided in favor of the ratification of the treaty with a few modifications. Some seem to consider that the striking out of the 10th clause, respecting the Mexican grants of land, decreases the chance for its ratification. This would seem to be a mistake. On the contrary, the modification in this respect, which is recommended by the President, increases the chance of its confirmation. The question will probably be taken early in the next week.

“The Whigs have it in their power to reject the treaty. But when it is recollected that they have professed a desire for peace on almost any terms—that peace not only saves the expenditure of men and money, but moreover arrests the objection to an annexation of the whole of Mexico, it can scarcely be supposed that the Whigs will act in such direct contravention of their own professed desires, as to reject the treaty. The Whig papers, too, whilst they condemn certain articles of the treaty, express the greatest anxiety for its ratifications.”

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**RW48v25i19p2c6 Tuesday, March 7, 1848: Later from Vera Cruz; and Special Correspondence of the Picayune**

**LATER FROM VERA CRUZ.**

The U.S. steamer *Edit*, Capt. Couillard, arrived yesterday morning from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the 19th instant, bringing papers from that city of that date. –We have letters from our correspondents in Mexico as late as the 7th inst. But they are not so late as intelligence received by the Dee, although containing interesting matter. We cannot leave that there had been any arrival from the city of Mexico since the Dee left.

A rumor prevailed in Vera Cruz when the *Edith* left, that Santa Anna had made an application to Gen. Scott for a passport to Vera Cruz and permission to leave the country, and that Gen Scott had acceded to his request. Those who credited the rumor believed that he would arrive in Vera Cruz in four or five days, to embark for Europe or Havana. The Arco Iris of the 18th inst. contains the following article on its Spanish side:

Gen. Santa Anna. —We are assured that Gen. Santa Anna has arrived within a few days at Tuxtepec, provided with the passport which he demanded from the Government, countersigned by Gen. Scott. Would this prove to be the case, it is not improbably that we shall see his Excellency in his city, with the view of embarking for a foreign country, in search of an asylum which he has not been able to find in his native land. It is also asserted that he will not proceed to Havana, as the Government of the island has prohibited his entry. We have not much faith in this intelligence, and it would be a pity if it should be true, as it is not easy for Don Antonio to find an asylum where he could give himself up with so much liberty to his natural inclination for intriguing.

A train left for Vera Cruz for Orizaba on the 13th instant, with an escort of 250 men. The roads to Orizaba and the city of Mexico are said to be entirely cleared of the guerrilla parties.
The following named passengers came over on the Edith:


Since writing the above we have conversed with a passenger on the Edith, who states that he had been informed by Gen. Twiggs he had received positive information that Gen. Scott had granted Santa Anna his passport, and that he was expected in Vera Cruz by the 24th inst.

On the 6th inst., as we learn from the Star, four privates of the 5th Indiana Regiment were attacked near the Molino del Rey by a gang of Mexicans, and two of them, named David Lyons and Nimrod Rigglesburger, were killed, the others, David T. Tower and Henry Dawson, badly wounded. Eleven Mexicans were arrested the next day as being concerned in the murderous attack.

Mr. Edwin Tobey, brother to the editor of the North American, died on the 8th inst. In the city of Mexico.

The train under command of Maj. Caldwell, which left Vera Cruzon the 7th inst., was encamped at Jalapa on the 15th and was to remain there another day. It consisted of 350 government wagons, 2300 pack mules and about 50 wagons belonging to merchants. The difficulty of proceeding with such a lengthy train with any rapidity is manifest. The conduct of Maj. Caldwell and all the other officers of this command is very highly commended in a letter from a correspondent who is with the train. But one wagon had been abandoned, which circumstance was occasioned by the loss of the mules, which strayed off. It belonged to the merchants’ train.

We have been most kindly permitted by a friend to publish the following extracts from a letter written in the city of Mexico by an intelligent English gentleman, who has become intimately acquainted with Mexican affairs by a long residence in that country. It will be seen that in the second letter he gives the substance of the treaty which as been signed by the Mexican commissioners and Mr. Trist, obtained from a source which can be implicitly relied upon.

MEXICO, Feb. 3, 1848.

Dear Sir—People say here generally that the peace is signed, and that an indemnification of some ten millions will be given by the Untied States for the territory they take, while a considerable body of troops, say 10,000, will be left to sustain the Government. In the mean time the Mexican Government is in difficulty, wishing to negotiate a loan of some $800,000 only, and cannot effect it until the publication of the fact of a treaty of peace being entered into, as every one is naturally anxious to know what he may expect in future; while unless the Government can obtain this it can hardly march, as the States will stop supplies of all kinds on pretence of being for the war, and that the Government does not proceed on the wishes of the people.

The other day Gen. Scott was invited to a grand party in the Desierto, about seven leagues from here, which has been the subject of much talk. It would seem that a notorious character, named Abraham de los Reyes, a Spaniard, who has been seven times convicted of assassinations and escaped from the Acordada, was there reconnoitering, and it was rumored that the commander-in-chief would go attended only by twenty five dragoons. However, he was disappointed in his expectations of taking the General, as there was in addition a regiment of Rifles, with two pieces, and many sentinels were placed in the woods about, so that he was obliged to make himself scarce. The thing passed off very well; but the Purists, who would now like to rule the destinies of the city, as they form the new Ayuntamiento gave sound toasts, which have been not a little commented on by their discontented fellow citizens. Among these was one against the Priests and Monks; and another wishing that the blood of all the Military (Mexicans) might be poured out “like the wine in this glass;” and another that the seed of the Anglo-American may take root in the soil, and that the army may not retire until it have germinated, &c. &c. I am told that it was one of the handsomest “diss de camps,” that has been given in this country.

Yesterday a body of about 700 men, cavalry and infantry, with some pieces, were dispatched or Cuernavaca, a town to the south about eighteen leagues from Mexico, the key to the Tierra caliente in that direction, and have a population of 5000 souls; though it is probably very considerably augmented now form the influx of many families from Mexico before and subsequent to our entry into the capital.

[Special Correspondence of the Picayune.] Mexico, Feb. 4, 1848

Peace stock, which had been rather on the decline of our President and Senate I have little doubt; that Pena y Pena and his cabinet approve of it; but the great sticking point I conceive to be the Mexican Congress. This body has not yet met, though they will have, in a few days a conrum of members and Queretaro; but a large portion quorum will be composed of men pledged to oppose a peace upon any terms—or in other words to support Santa Anna’s claims to the presidency. Eleven members from Oajaca have declared this in express terms; and last night’s mail brought news of the adhesion of Aguascalietnes and Chispas to the plan of San Luis. La Bandera del Pueblo winds up its notices of these movements in the following terms: “The treason of the Government at Queretaro is everywhere perceptible, and public opinion begins to express itself. The towns will soon rise in a mass against the odious invader, and the capital republic will rise triumphant from the struggle, if not regenerated, as the illustrious Gen.
Santa Anna said in his memorable manifesto of the 16th of August.

At a late meeting of the members of Congress at present in Queretaro, twenty five in number, it was ordered that the members absent be notified, through he Governors or local authorities, that if they do not appear in their seats by the 20th of February, “they shall be adjudged as traitors to their country, guilty of high treason, arrested, treated and punished accordingly.” It was further ordered that this decision be published three times in each official journals of the local and State Governments. At a subsequent meeting, held on the 1st inst the same number of members present, the Government communicated to them the late orders and instructions given to the Mexican commissioners, in their conferences with Mr. Trist, and which “may have terminated in negotiations of peace.”

In San Luis everything remains quiet, although, judging from the tone of the papers, that State will support Santa Anna body and soul. In Durango the Indians were becoming very troublesome, and the Governor was taking measures to organize a sufficient armed force to put them down.

Mexico, Feb. 7, 1848

This morning a courier arrived from Vera Cruz bringing dates to the 27th from New Orleans. Considerable excitement created by the order from Washington for a court of inquiry to be held at Puebla, on the cases of the arrested officers, dated the 17th from Washington, and the letter of “Truth Teller,” in the Picayune, dated the 18th which directly contradicts the order, and announces the recall of Gen. Scott and the release of the other officers. The knowing ones are bothered.

It would bother a brace of Philadelphia lawyers to unravel the tangled skein of Mexican politics, notwithstanding the later declaration of the Oajaca people against the peace policy of Pena y Pen, and their approval of the Pronunciamiento in San Luis—which looked to Santa Anna as the proper person to fill the Presidential chair, after the present occupant has been driven out—the monitor and Eco of today both assert that he has been refused an asylum by the authorities of both the State and capital of Oajaca.

Vera Cruz, Feb. 18, 1848.

Peace continues to be the principal subject of discussion here, and an important one it is to those who have located themselves and made extensive preparations for a long sojourn in Vera Cruz. A large majority of the intelligent proton of the community, and those most familiar with Mexican affairs, do not appear to regard the prospects of peace in any brighter light than they did before the treaty was signed, and argue generally in opinion that neither Mr. Trist nor the Mexican commissioners were properly authorized by their respective Governments to negotiate, but admitting that they were, if the basis of the treaty be such as it is represented to be, the U.S. Government cannot, with honor to itself, after having carried the war so far, and in a manner subjugated the whole country, accept of peace on such conditions as set forth in that precious document.

On the other hand, you may well judge of the future by the past, that the national obstinacy of the Mexican people to hear any propositions of peace from the U. States still continues to reign supreme, and particularly as these commissioners on their part have no doubt acted without authority. It is true that at several meetings of the Deputies at Queretaro, consisting of from eighteen to twenty-five members, a large majority of them were in favor of peace, but this is only about one-forth of the number sufficient to form a quorum, and although every effort has been made for the last six months to bring them together, they are not much nearer to it now than they ever have been since Queretaro was made the seat of Government. Again, admitting that peace will be made, it is the universal opinion that, in the present state of things, the Mexican people would be fighting amongst themselves in less that three months after the Americans should withdraw to the limits which may be agreed upon; and if the peace party be not strong enough to thrash those opposed to it, which is quite unlikely— as those generally opposed to it are the soldiery of the country— we would be just where we were before the war was carried into their old capital. To obtain and secure a permanent peace with Mexico, a strong party must first be raised to support it, and it must be raised independent of American influence and succor. Its leaders must be entirely disconnected with previous efforts to accomplish that end, and must come forth with their own free will and accord for that purpose.

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yet for the whole.

City of Mexico, Doubtful Territory.

February 14, 1848.

Dear Colonel: If anybody asks you that impudent question again, "What are you fightin' for?" jest tell him he's a goose, and don't know what he's talking about, for we aint fightin at all; we've got peace now; got an armistice, they call it; so there's no sense at all in their puttin that question to you any more. We've got the opposition fairly on the hip upon that question, if no other; fairly gagged 'em; they can't say to you any longer now, "What are we fightin for?" This is some consolation of the shabby trick Trist has served us. That fellow has made a bargain with the Mexicans to stop the war, in spite of the orders you sent to him to come right home and let things alone. I felt uneasy about it when I see him hanging about here so long after he got his orders to come home, and I said to him, once or twice, "Mr. Trist, what's the reason you don't go off home and mind the President? This unlawful boldness of yourn is shameful."

"Why, Major," says he, "he that does his master's will, does right, whether he goes according to orders or not. —

The President sent me out here to make peace, and it's a wonder to me if I don't fix it yet, somehow or other, before I've done with it." And then he put his finger to the side of his nose and give me a sassy look as much as to say, Major Downing, you better not try to be looking into diplomatic things that's too deep for you.

Says I, "Mr. Trist, I'm astonished at you; I thought you was a man of more judgment, and looked deeper into things. Don't you see what advantage it gives the President to let things now stand jest as they be? He's offered peace to the Mexicans, and they have refused it. Therefore, the opposition at home can't cry out against him any more if he goes ahead with the war. He's shut their mouths up on that score. He's made the war popular, and can go into the presidential campaign now with a good chance of being elected another term. And now if you go to dabblin in the business any more, I'm sure you'll do mischief. As things now stand, peace is the last thing in the world that the President wants. You've done your errand here and got your answer, and it's turned out jest right; we can go on with our annexin all Mexico now, without such an everlasting growlin among the opposition at home, for we've offered the Mexicans peace, and they wouldn't take it. So you've nothing to do now but to be off home, for the war is jest in the right shape as it is."

Well now, after all this plain advice—for I felt it my duty to be plain with him—he still kept hanging about here, day after day and week after week, and the first I knew we was took all aback by being told that Mr. Trist had made a treaty and General Scott was to order an armistice. I couldn'y hardly believe my ears at first. I posted right off to General Scott to know what it all meant.

"General," says I, "are you going to order an armistice?"

"Yes, Major Downing," says he: "Mr. Trist and the Mexican Commissioners have signed the preliminaries of a treaty, so of course we shall have an armistice."

"Well now, Ginerl," says I, "I don't think the president will thank you for that."

"Can't help that," says he, "I must obey the order of the Government, thanks or no thanks. And when Mr. Trist was sent out here to make a treaty, I was directed, whenever the plan of a treaty should be signed on both sides, to order an armistice, and wait for the two Governments to ratify the treaty. Well, Mr. Trist and the Mexican Commissioners have at last fixed up some kind of a bargain and signed it, and of course according to my orders we have nothing to do but to stand still and wait for the two Governments to clinch the nail."

"But," says I, "Ginerl, you know Mr. Trist has no right to make a treaty any more than I have, for the President has ordered him to come home; and if he has made a treaty it's no better than a piece of blank paper, and you shouldn't mind it."

"Don't know any thing about them matters," says he, "I can't go behind the curtain to inquire what little maneuvers are going on between the President and his Commissioner. Mr. Trist came out here with his regular commission to make a treaty. He has brought me a treaty, signed by himself and the Mexican Commissioners; and my orders are to cease hostilities. Of course we can do nothing else but halt and stack our arms."

"Well," says I, "Ginerl it aint right; it's bad business; it'll break up this grand annexin plan that was jest going on so nice that we might a got through with it in a year or two more; and then it will bother the President most to death about his election of the second term. That treaty must be stopped; it mustn't be sent home; and I'll go right and see Mr. Trist about it."

So off I went and hunted up Mr. Trist, and had a talk with him. Says I, "Trist, how's this? They tell me you've been making a treaty with these Mexicans."

"Shouldn't wonder if I had," says he: "that's jest what I come out here for."
"Well, I must say, sir," says I, "I think this is pretty piece of business. How do you dare to do such a thing? You know the President has ordered you home."

"Yes," says he, "and I mean to go home as soon as I get through the job he sent me to do."

"Well now," says I, "Trist, I claim to know what the President is about, and what he wants, and I'm his confidential friend and private ambassador out here, and I shall take the liberty to interfere in this business. This high-handed doings of yours must be nipped off in the bud. What sort of a bargain have you been making? Jest let me look at the treaty."

"Can't do it," says he, "its half way to Vera Cruz by this time; I sent it off yesterday."

"Blood and thunder!" says I, "then you have knocked the whole business in the head, sure enough. You've committed an outrageous crime, sir, and a great shame; and don't you know, sir, that great crimes deserve great punishments? I don't know what Col. Polk will do; but I know what my friend old Hickory would do if he was alive; he would hang you right up to the first tree he would come at."

"What, hang me for doing jest what I was sent here to do?" says he. "For I've made jest such a bargain as the President told me to make; only a leetle better one."

"That's nothing here nor there,' says I, "you know circumstances alters cases. And you know well enough, or you ought to have sense enough to know, that as things now stand, the President don't want a treaty. Now, says I, Mr. Trist, answer me one plain question: Do you know you have any right at all to make a treaty after the Presidents has ordered you home?"

"Well," says he, "I think circumstances alters cases too; and when the President ordered me home, I suppose he thought I couldn't get through the job he sent me to do. —but I though I could, and so I kept trying, and I've got through with it at last, and done the business all up according to my first orders; and I don't see why the president soudin't be well satisfied."

"Well," says I, "what's the items of the bargain? —What have you agreed upon?"

"Why," says he, "we have the whole of Texas clear to the Rio Grande; we have all of New Mexico, and all of Upper California. And we pay the Mexicans fifteen millions of dollars, and pay our own citizens five millions that the Mexicans owed them. And we stop firing, draw our charges from the guns that are loaded, and go home."

"Well, now," says I, "Trist, don't you think you are a pretty feller to make such a bargain as that at this time of day? The President will be mortified to death about it. Here we've been fightin near about two years to make the Mexicans pay over that five millions of dollars they owed our people, and now you've agree that we shall put our hands in our pockets and pay it ourselves. The whole plan of the war has been carried on by the President upon the highest principle to go straight ahead and 'conquer a peace,' man-fashion; and now you've agreed to back out of the scrape, and BUY a peace, and pay the money for it. You know very well the President has declared, time and again, that the war should go on till we got indemnity for the past and security for the future—them's his own words—and now you've agreed to settle up without getting one jot of either. For the past we are at least a hundred millions of dollars out of pocket, besides losing ten or fifteen thousand men. As for the men, I spose you may say we can offset them against the Mexicans we have killed, and as we have killed more than they have, may be it foots up a little in our favor, and that's the only advantage you've secured. As for the hundred millions of dollars, we don't get a penny of it back. So all the indemnity you get for the past is a few thousand dead Mexicans—that is, as many as remains after subtracting what they've killed of us from what we've killed of them. But the cap-sheaf of your bargain is the 'security for the future.' The cities and towns and castles that we have fit so hard to take, and have got our men into, and all so well secured you now agree to give 'em all right up again to the enemy, and march our men off home with their fingers in their mouths; and that's our security for the future. —As for the fifteen millions of dollars you agree to pay for New Mexico and California, you might hest as well a thrown the money into the sea, for they was ours afore; they was already conquered and annexed, and was as much ours as if we had paid the money for 'em."

Here I turned on my heel and left him, for I was so disgusted at the conduct of the feller that I wouldn't have any more talk with him, and now, my dear Colonel, there is nothing for us to do but to look this business right in he face and make the best we can of it. If there was any way to keep the thing out of sight, it would be best of you to throw the treaty into the fire as soon as you get it, and send word on to General Scott to go ahead again. But that is impossible; it will be spread all of the country and known to every body. And I'm convinced it will be the best way for you to turn right about, make out to be glad of what can't be helped, and accept the treaty. The nominations for the President is close at hand, and you must get ready to go into the election for your second term on what you've got, and make the best show you can with it. If you should reject the treaty, the opposition would get the advantage of you again; they would cry out that the Mexicans had asked for peace and you had refused it; and there would be no end to their growling about this oppressive war of invasion. But if you accept the treaty, it puts an end to their grumbling about the war.

To pacify our friends that are very eager for the whole of Mexico, you must tell 'em to keep quiet till after your next election is over, and may be you'll contrive some plan to be cutting into 'tother half. Keep Mr. Ritchie blowing the organ, all weathers, to the tune of half of Mexico for a song. Tell the whole country, and braze it out to every body that you've made a great bargain, a capital bargain, much better than Jefferson made when he bought Louisiana for
fifteen millions of dollars: tell 'em for the same sum of money you have got a great deal more land and more men on it. I'm satisfied this is the best ground to take; we must go for the treaty, and bitter pill as it is, we must swallow it as though we loved it. I spose it will have to go before the Senate, as the Constitution now stands, (the constitution is very defective on that pint, and ought to be mended, for it's dangerous trusting important matters to the Senate,) but you must drive your friends all up to vote for it; don't let it fail on no account; don't let 'em go to fingerin it over and putting in amendments that will make the Mexicans so mad that they will kick it all over again. For that would put things into such hurly-burly I'm afraid you would lose your election.

Ratify the treaty, and then gather up all the glory that's been made out of this war, twist it into a sort of glory that's been made out of this war, twist it into a sort of glory wreath round our head, and march with a bold step and a stiff upper lip right into the Presidential campaign, and I shouldn't wonder if you bet the whole bunch of all your enemies and your friends. And if you went into your second term on the strength of half of Mexico, it would be a pretty good sign that you might go into a third term on the sterns of the whole of it.

I remain your faithful friend.
MAJOR JACK DOWNING

[AEK]
compact as this will not save these departments, upon which the eyes of the progressive and ultras are already fixed, from the fate of absorption, unless we begin now, by foreclosing the principle of acquisition in the treaty, when and where are we to end?

Among the many striking and imposing objections to the treaty, there is one, which as yet, has not been urged before the Senate, and has not been touched by the press. The ninth article stipulates that the most ample guaranty shall be enjoyed by all ecclesiastical and religious corporations and communities in the enjoyment of their prosperity of every kind, whether individual or corporate. This guaranty shall embrace all property destined to the support of these religious corporations, or that of schools hospitals and other foundations for beneficent purposes. No property of this nature shall be disposed of by the American Government, or ever be diverted to other uses. Those are not the exact words of the article, but they represent the substance fairly.

It has been shown by Mr. Benton and others, that nearly all the valuable lands in California have been granted away under one pretext or another. Some of them in quantities of 40,000 square miles to a single individual, --in document No. 75, recently published by the Senate, entitled "California Claims. Col Fremont and various witnesses testify as to a single grant of 3000 leagues to one Eugenio McNamara, who describes the purposes for which these lands were to be applied in the following words, to be found at page 21 of the document, in an address to the President of Mexico:

"If the means which I propose be not speedily adopted, your Excellency may be assured that before another year, the Californias will form a part of the American nation. —Then Catholic institutions will become the prey of the Methodist wolves, and the whole country will be inundated with the cruel invaders.

The question is not for what object Macnamara designed to appropriate these lands, or to what cause or religion—these are matters entirely foreign to the case, in my judgment. By the treaty we fix forever the absolute right t of the grantees in those lands, and we revive that odious and despotic system which prevailed over and impoverished England from the time of the Plantagenets down to that of Henry VIII when it was uprooted by his power of holding estate with the dead hand. The United States is prohibited from exercising any authority over the lands for the treaty purposes, to ratify them in perpetuo, and stipulate that they shall never be diverted to other uses. The admission of such a feature in connection with any territory to be recognized as under the jurisdiction of the United States is monstrous in the extreme; it is at war with every notion of republicanism, and there is no State in the union which has not protected itself against such a system.

Under this article, the Mormons, now collected in California, could and doubtless would establish an ecclesiastical tribunal as they did in Illinois and try and condemn their people in defiance of the laws of the State or Territory. No civil power could reach them. Let the people and the press ponder upon this odious feature in the treaty, and ask whether an American Senate would be justified in retaining an article, which is to cover California with privileged grants, inalienable from their very nature, and so confirmed by the highest compact known between civilized Governments.

If the treaty is ratified on both sides, it is confidently, predicted, that Mr. Mackintosh will be among the very first arrivals from Mexico, with an assignment or mortgage to cover the whole three millions stipulated to be paid after ratification. This is good democratic prophecy, and is worthy to be remembered.

The indications grow stronger that the present boundary will be expunged or some other leading article, so as eventually to lay it on the table, which requires a bare majority. If this is done, the Senate will then authorize a Commission, and the responsibility will devolve upon the President of selecting persons competent to represent the Government and the Magnitude of the interests at stake.

This course does not involve the rejection of the treaty, for the Senate can still hold it in possession, liable to ratification at any moment, should the pressure of events dictate so odious an alternative.

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Senate, to make treaties, provided two-thirds of the senators present concur." This treaty is, therefore, ratified by more than the constitutional majority of two thirds.

It is also understood that the votes both of the majority and minority are made up of both political parties.

It is said that the original treaty has been ratified with some modifications—as proposed by the President, or adopted by the Senate.

The seal of secrecy has not been removed; and, in fact, we do not understand that any proposition was made to that effect. It cannot, therefore, be expected that we should at this time enter into any specifications of the precise modifications that have been adopted, or of the names of the senators who voted in the affirmative or negative. —It is presumed, however, that the boundary line, as said to have been originally specified by the treaty, or the amount of the money to be paid, has not been changed by these modifications.

We congratulate the country upon the result—as furnishing some hope and some augury of the restoration of peace. We trust that the Mexican government will not be so blind to the true interests of both countries, as to refuse its final ratifications of the treaty, now about to be sent back to them. We have obtained glory enough by our valor. We shall rejoice if the blessings of peace shall now succeed to the clash of arms.

We shall wait, of course, with some anxiety of the decision of the President and Congress of Mexico. We pursue that intelligence of the general result will be immediately forwarded by a special express to our commanding officer in Mexico—to be followed, as soon as possible, by an authentic copy of the ratified treaty, and with accompanying instructions.

The Senate have adjourned over till Tuesday next, for the purpose of enjoying some relaxation after the sever labors to which they have been subjected for these two weeks past.

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**CAPTURE OF MAZATLAN**

The National Intelligencer has the following letter dated—

Mazatlan, Nov. 16, 1847

On the 10th of November the squadron under command of Commodore Shubrick, consisting of the frigates Independence and Congress, sloop of war Cyane, and transport Erie, arrived and anchored near to the town of Mazatlan. At six o'clock the next morning Capt La Valetta, accompanied by Lieut. Henry Lewis, and the Commodore's Secretary, Mr. La Rientrie, went on shore with a flag of truce, the Independence at the same time hoisting one at the fore, to demand the surrender of the place, and granting the authorities until 11 o'clock to respond. Tellis, the military commandant, said that his honor forbade his seeing or listening to any proposal of surrender, and that he should fight us if we landed. His troops, consisting of some six hundred well-armed and well-drilled men, were encamped about a mile and a half from the town. At eleven the Independence hauled down the flag of truce, and the squadron prepared to land their crews. At twelve the signal to land was hoisted, and we all pushed off from the respective ships in high glee and quite ready to meet our expected for. After a pull of some twenty minutes or so, five hundred jolly fellows, full of fight, were landed at the mole, and under the immediate command of the commander-in-chief. Our land was, I am sorry to say, entirely unopposed, and we were greeted by some thousands of inhabitants with looks of what I thought delight and gratification bearing from countenances. The men were formed in sections, and gaily marched through the streets with [ . . . ] playing "Oh whar did you come from?" Men women, and children followed us in all our meanderings through the streets. In the meantime the United States flag was hoisted on the Cuartel of the city, so lately and [ . . . ] deserted, and was saluted with twenty-one guns from the Independence, now under the command of Lieut. Frederick Chatard. The Cuartel was now taken possession of by our men, that is, a portion of them, and the reminder withdrew to their respective ships. The troops remaining on shore to guard the city consisted of one company of fifty men from the Independence and her guard of marines; for companies of forty-five each from the Congress, with her marines, and the marines and one company of forty men from Cyane.

On the 15th of November, landed from the Independence two long 24-pounders and two mortars and planted them in front of the building. The building is now well defended and we defy all attacks from the enemy.

Several skirmishes have taken place between our [ . . . ] and the Mexicans, and in one of them, near a little place called "Nonas," they had some five or six killed and a good number wounded, whilst on our side one man was killed and eight or ten wounded—some badly.

The Portsmouth sloop of war has arrived, and sails shortly for home. The Southampton has been here, and has sailed for La Paz, Lower California. The health of the squadron is generally good. Some few cases of fever have made their appearance.

“We are all well and in good spirits. We have plenty of stores on hand, sent us from the store ship Southampton, now lying here. The sloop Cyane is at anchor in the bay, We have the place well fortified with a deep trench encircling our camp, and a fresh supply of ammunition. We are in a condition, therefore, to maintain a long siege, and the probability is that eh enemy will soon give it up for a bad job.”

There had been some skirmishing between the American forces and the Mexicans, in which the latter were defeated, with a loss of 35 killed and as many wounded. —The Americans had one man killed and one wounded.

March 14, 1848 Approach of peace hailed

Nothing appears to us to demonstrate more entirely, the hearty disgust of all parties in the Union, with the provocation of the present war, then the very general joy with which the approach of peace is hailed. Whig and Democrat, agreeing in nothing else, seem to come together upon this. We never expected to see the day when the Intelligencer and the union, the Enquirer and ourselves, would be found rejoicing together at the same great political event. We should as soon, indeed, have looked for the advent of the Millennium, in our own day. Yet it has actually come to pass.

A remarkable feature of the whole transaction, connected with this treaty is, that no body seems to be entirely satisfied with it, and yet all are so thoroughly sick of the war, that they willingly adopt it as a choice of evils.

In such a light we ourselves regard it, and as such, we rejoice that it has been ratified. The terms, it is true, appear to us to be fraught with danger to their Republic. We adopt as citizens, an immense number of the most worthless of all God’s creatures—creatures with no proper conception of rational freedom, or constitutional Government, depraved in mind, debauched in habits, restrained by no sense of moral obligations, ignorant, degraded and stained by every vice that can possibly pollute mankind, when least elevated above the brute creation—we receive an immense amount of territory, a great part of which is uninhabited, the certain effect of which will be to stimulate to superhuman activity that brood of vampires, the Land Speculators, who are always the bane of new countries—we excite in the nation a passion for conquest, the most deadly of all diseases that ever preyed upon the vitals of a Republic—we throw open for discussion, a question of such fearful import, that Mr. Jefferson compared it to a fire-bell at midnight, at a time when parties are already in a state of bitter exasperation. Yet so thoroughly do we execrate this war, that even with all its disadvantages, we are willing to take as an alternative.

We, as our readers very well know, were from the first opposed to taking any more territory into the Union; but the time has long passed when it would have been possible to prevent it. it is now a question of how much or how little shall be received; and as we believed that this treaty gives us the smallest possible quantity, we are disposed to receive it. Every day’s continuance of the war added to the chances of enlarging our demands, and we verily believe that after one year more of hostilities, it would have been impossible to have stopped short of the whole of Mexico. The same evils, then to which we have already alluded as introduced by this treaty, would have followed in a form, enormously aggravated, under any other that could be ratified. In addition, we should have seen in Mexico a standing army of 50 or 100,000 men—we should have beheld, without being able to counteract it, the patronage of the Executive, already too great, swelled to a degree that would enable it to set law and constitution at defiance—we should have stained our souls with the guilt of trampling under foot the independence of another nation while we were boasting and justly, of our own. All these things, it appears to us, would most certainly have come to pass; and involving most deeply as they do the fate of the Union we are glad that they are put off, by any sacrifice.

THE TREATY.

We announced yesterday the conditional ratification, by the Senate, of the Treaty of Peace recently entered into between Mr. Trist and the Mexican Commissioners. We say, the conditional ratifications, because it is understood that several very essential modifications have been made it its provisions, and we have yet to learn whether or not those modifications will be acceptable to the Mexican Government. Notwithstanding its ratification, however, by more than the requisite constitutional majority of the Senate, the treaty is, we learn, far from being satisfactory to many of those, who, believing that the restoration of peace, upon any terms not actually dishonorable, is preferable to the indefinite prolongation of this most unnecessary and unconstitutional war, with the uncertainty of its results would it be farther prosecuted, were reluctantly persuaded to vote for its ratification.
Certainly, it seems remarkable, that, while the war has been professedly waged, for some time past, for two great objects—"indemnity for the past, and security for the future,"—the treaty by which it is proposed to terminate it requires us to pay to Mexico some twenty millions of dollars, by way of INDEMNIFYING HER for the territory she has been required to cede, while, so far as we are able to learn, there is no stipulation whatever (as indeed we do not perceived very clearly how there could be) having reference to that "future security" about which so much has been said. If the Administration had gone only for indemnity, it would have taken only so much of Mexican territory as would have been sufficient to have satisfied that requirement. But the fact that Mexico has been compelled to sell a large portion of her territory more than was deemed by our own Government adequate as "indemnity"—a fact demonstrated by the payment to her of a sum of money greater in amount than Mr. Jefferson gave for Louisiana, or than Mr. Monroe gave for Florida, the value of either of which is incomparably greater than that part of the Mexican Republic which is hereafter to constitute a portions of this Confederacy—establishes beyond controversy the truth of the assumption, so often denied by the friends of the Administration, that the ostensible pretexts for this war are materially different from the real causes. No one can doubt that it was instigated by a foregone conclusion on the part of Mr. Polk and his advisers to obtain from Mexico, by purchase or by conquest, or by both combined, such portions of her territory as those gentlemen deemed it important to possess. For our own part, while we have been desirous to see the treaty ratified, and while we hope that the changes made in its provisions may be acquiesced in by the Mexican Government, we nevertheless believe that it is on our part, in the pecuniary aspect of the question, a very hard bargain. To the acquisition of Upper California, though we believe that the advantages of its possession have been even more exaggerated than were those promised, but not yet realized, from the possession of Texas, we should have had no particular objection; and that territory we presume, might have been regarded as sufficiently valuable to have fully indemnified the United States. We should not have objected to it, because, in addition to the commercial facilities anticipated from its possession, that province is sparsely inhabited, and may consequently be soon Americanized. But we confess that we do not like the idea of paying twenty millions of dollars for New Mexico, which, although not very densely settled, is nevertheless occupied by a comparatively large number of Mexicans, how are uniformly represented to be the most ignorant and most depraved even of that degenerate race. If twenty millions of dollars be necessary to induce the Mexicans to consent to make peace, we should greatly have preferred to have given that sum to her for California alone, rather than for California and New Mexico together. Indeed, we think it would be wise, even now, to pay Mexico a handsome sum, in addition to the amount stipulated the treaty, to take New Mexico back again. We have no doubt that we should save money by the operation, while we should get rid of territory in no point of view valuable, and the possession of which may give rise to controversies that cannot fail to disturb the tranquility and to jeopardize the existence of the Union. As the prolongation of the struggle, however, might and probably would have led to the acquisition of several other Mexican provinces, on the Rio Grande frontier, we confess that we are gratified at the prospect of its termination upon such terms—even by giving instead of getting "indemnity," and by resting for the future "security" of our rights, upon our power to enforce a proper respect for them from nations far more powerful than the Republic of Mexico is or has ever been.

We subjoin an interesting extract of a letter from the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia North American, giving an account of some of the most important changes made in the treaty towards the close of the Senate's deliberations upon it:

Correspondence of the Philadelphia North American.

The Rubicon is at last passed, and the votes this day given on the treaty, indicate the final result as clearly as if it was already recorded.

At the outset of the discussion, the active opposition was confined entirely to the majority. The Whigs took no part in the debate, but proceeded calmly and dispassionately to investigate and analyse the details and stipulations of the treaty. After a week of anxious solicitude to adopt some effectual means of bringing about a stable and honorable peace, predicated upon the basis of this negotiation, but differing as to the cession of territory, and partly as to the extent of consideration to be paid to Mexico, though the amount would never have interposed any serious obstacle, they frankly submitted their vies to the chamber, and various independent propositions were offered, calculated, in the estimation of their movers, to accomplish more satisfactorily the result so anxiously desired by the good men of all parties. These efforts were not responded to by the majority, and were discountenanced by the Executive, to whom they were communicated. It was then that the most direct opposition of a portion of the Whig party,—of men animated by the highest and most patriotic motives, ranking the first intellects in their number,—discloses itself. From that hour the hostility on the other side began to diminish, until now, it is within the competency of the President to number his majority on the final vote, or to reduce it at pleasure.

From ignorance or from some other cause, those who have been most influential in carrying through the treaty, have been misrepresented to the public, through correspondence from this city, as directly adverse to the positions which they have occupied throughout the whole struggle. Every estimate that has fallen under my eye has been erroneous, and based upon nothing else but wild speculation. Mr. Calhoun, Mr. Butler, Mr. Crittenden, Mr. Mangum, Mr. Dayton, and others, have been gazetted over and over again, as the most irreconcilable among the opponents of the treaty, while it is well known to those who have opportunity of knowing correctly that no other members of the Senate have labored as earnestly and as honestly to procure its passage, upon the conviction that it was the lesser of two great evils.

If any single individual on the Democratic side, is entitled more than the other, to the credit of the adoption of this treaty, though he would greatly have preferred other terms than those negotiated, it is JOHN C. CALHOUN. His repugnance to many of its provisions was never concealed, but still all his efforts were directed to ratification as the preferable alternative. He had it in his power, at any moment during the last ten days, to have rejected it beyond recovery.
I shall take a favorable occasion to explain the reasons that divided our friends on this question, but I may say now, after having enjoyed the privilege of understanding the views that operated on many of them, that no body of men ever acted under purer motives or influences so entirely disconnected from personal or partisan considerations. Had they regarded political policy only, or at all, quite another state of things would have been disclosed, than will be tomorrow or the next day. But I shall leave this subject for the present, to resume it more opportunely.

The debate was animated, but in a better temper than at the adjournment last night. The principal amendment was introduced by Mr. Davis, of Mississippi, to understand which I must explain an article in the treaty. Two modes of payment are contemplated, to liquidate the fifteen millions stipulated for the cession of territory; but both provide for the payment of the three million son the ratification by Mexico, or as the President has recently directed, on the exchange of ratifications. One mode proposes four annual installments, with interest from the date of ratification, payable in gold and silver in Mexico. The other, an issue of six per cent, stock, redeemable by the United States.

If Mexico preferred the latter alternative, as she had a right to do under the treaty, it was apprehended that the Government might at once negotiate a sale of the whole amount, and being subject to popular revolutions, might be displaced before our army could be withdrawn from the country. This would, perhaps, subject the United States to a loss of money and to a renewal of the war.

It was contended on the other hand, that by limiting the treaty to the provision of annual installments, we should be able to preserve a lien on the good faith of Mexico in the execution of the contract, and enable the negotiating government to maintain itself more permanently—at all events, that we should extricate ourselves from the present embarrassing position, by retiring within the boundary prescribed by the treaty.

This argument prevailed and Mr. Davis’ motion to confine the payment of the twelve millions to annual installments, was carried and the alternative of stock was expunged. Ina word, the transferability of the money has been stricken out. It is conjectured, that this amendment will not be particular by acceptable to Mr. Mackintosh and those who are connected with him, for they are really the person who are to receive directly or indirectly, the great bulk of the fifteen millions for advances. They would most undoubtedly have preferred our public stocks, for they are the agents of all the important mining operations in Mexico, and could readily have supplied the specie on the spot, and the difference in their favor would have been the difference of exchange between the countries on the whole amount, or something like a million and a half dollars. There are Senators who think this alteration will be productive of injurious consequences, by diminishing the cooperation of Mr. Mackintosh; but I apprehend that peace is of such urgent importance to him and the capitalist for whom he acts, that this restriction will be forgiven. If I am rightly informed, they have good reason for acknowledging the truth and force of the homely old axiom, that “half a loaf is better than no bread.”

The provision in the Treaty, which limits the claims of our citizens against Mexico to three and a quarter millions, is particularly unacceptable to those immediately interested, who have conjured up demands and damages to the tune of ten millions or thereabouts. There is a remarkable difference of opinion on this subject, for Mr. Calhoun, who gave it a thorough examination a few years ago, is decided in the conviction, that the amount stipulated, will more than cover the just rights of the claimants, --yes, fully by a million at least. A proposition to strike out this clause and to leave the extent of obligations that our government was to assume, unlimited and dependant upon the awards of the Commission that is provided for under the Treaty, was lost without even the form of a division.

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made, and our troops are withdrawn, Mexico throws herself into the arms of the nations of Europe, and a monarchy is the result."

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RW48v25i22p1c5-6 Friday, March 17, 1848: Later From Vera Cruz

From the New Orleans Mercury, March 7

LATER FROM VERA CRUZ.

The arrival, early this morning, of the steamship New Orleans, four days from Vera Cruz places us in possession of Mexican papers to the 2d inst. The Free American of that date contains the official report of Santa Anna, in regard to his surprise by Gen Lane, and request for his passport to retire from the country. This dispatch is dated Feb. 1st and explains how closely the hunters were upon the heels of the fox. He says to the Minister of War:

"At Tehuacan I was preparing the accompanying note, to be forwarded to your Excellency, when the people were suddenly invaded early in the morning of the 25th ult. By four hundred dragoons of the enemy, under the command of General Lane. They came from Mexico, and by the express order of Gen Scott, to take possession of my person some way or other Gen Lane, by hurried marches and journeying by night succeeded in reaching the vicinity of Tehuacan without being perceived. Fortunately, however, I was informed of his approach two hours before he came and thus was safe from his clutches, with my family, and with a small escort which accompanied me, I took refuge in the town of Teotitlan del Camito, where there was a force from the State of Oajaca. My persecutors forced open the door of my habitation, and searched for me with extraordinary activity, extending their search to different houses of the place. The greater part of my equipage was destroyed by the invading soldiers, and their chiefs took my wrought silver plate, two canes, a new uniform, and other things of less value, as I have been informed.

"After two days, Gen Lane proceed to Orizaba, where he remains, having left no very favorable recollections of himself in Tehuacan. I left for this place in order to look about me, and see whether I shall go, and place myself beyond the reach of the enemy, now that I cannot fight against them, in consequence of the mournful condition to which I have been reduced by the Government, which ordered that I should throw aside my arms. I am sensible that spurious Mexicans and the invaders persecute me at the same time—the one calling me a traitor, and the others, the only obstacle to the negotiator of peace. Fatal position in which I am placed by the injustice of some of my fellow citizens.

When I shall have found an asylum which offers sufficient security, I shall make it known to your Excellency, for the information of the First Magistrate of the Republic, in compliance with my duty."

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RW48v25i22p1c6 Friday, March 17, 1848: Rumor

From the Free American.

RUMOR. —At a late hour last evening, we learned that an express had arrived from Mexico. How true it is, there is no saying. All we know is, that it is rumored that an armistice has been agreed upon for two months, by General Butler and the Mexican Commissioners. Strange if true!Mitchell.

[AEK]

RW48v25i22p1c6 Friday, March 17, 1848: Guerrilla Fight

GUERRILLA FIGHT—LIEUT HENDERSON KILLED. A desperate conflict between Lieut. Col. Biscoe's command and a powerful force of guerrilleros occurred on the evening of the 13th of February, at a place called Matacordero, on the Orizaba road, in which Lieut. Henderson, of the Louisiana Volunteers, was killed. He fell in a hand to hand conflict. Four of the Georgia Dragoons, who were part of Col. Biscoe's command, were also killed, and three men of the Louisiana Battalion wounded. The Guerrilleros having been driven from the field, Col. Biscoe's command proceeded unmolested to Oajaca. The body of Lieut. Henderson was brought to Vera Cruz on the 1st instant. It is to be sent to this city for interment.

The following officers were in the engagement: Lieut. Col. Biscoe, commanding; Capts. Wafford and two Lieutenants, Georgia Mounted men; Capt. George Keri; Lieuts Henderson, Berry, Hook, Hunter and

[From the New Orleans Picayune, March 8]
A train of 160 wagons arrived at Very [sic] Cruz on the 29th ult. Escorted by a portion of Lieut Col Boscoe's Mounted Volunteers, consisting of the companies of Captains Fairchild, Connelly and Keri, Capt Howe's company of the 2d Dragoons, and two companies of Michigan infantry—280 in all. According to the Free American of the 1st inst. a Mexican, who arrived with the train, reported that on or about the 23d ult. Gen Santa Anna, with 2000 men, had an engagement with about 400 American at Tehuacan, and that eight men had been killed on the American side.

From the City of Mexico.

The dates from the city of Mexico are to the 25th of February. Letters written that day say that an armistice for two months would be signed by Gen Butler the following. Our correspondent at Vera Cruz agrees with the Free American that such an armistice had been arranged and determined upon.

We have no letters from the city of Mexico so late as the 26th ult., and the New Orleans sailed so soon after the arrival of the express from the capital, that the news by it had not finally transpired. Our latest papers from the city of Mexico are to the 19th ult.

Mexico, Feb. 19, 1848

Gen. Cushing, with an escort of two companies of Dragoons, left here on the 15th for Puebla, to assist in organizing the Court being organized, it will adjourn to this city and here transact its business.

On Sunday night a Texan Ranger named Adam Alsence, of Capt. Robert's company, was attacked by a number of Mexicans in the suburbs of the city and killed. He was mangle din a brutal manner, and the Texans, exasperated at the cruel death of their comrade, sallied into the streets the next evening, to the number of fifteen or twenty, and proceeding to the quarter where Alsence was killed, took fearful vengeance upon a party whom they found armed with pistols and knives. Seventeen of the Mexicans are reported killed, and forty wounded. Alsence was a German, had served in Bonaparte's cavalry, and was a good and faithful soldier.

Yesterday Col. Jackson, bearer of dispatches from Washington, arrived with a small escort from Vera Cruz in six days. Shortly after his arrival it was known that he brought dispatches both to Generals Scott and Butler, and the inference was at once drawn that the former was recalled, and the latter placed in chief command of the army. This proved true, and enclosed you will find the farewell address of the late general-in-chief to the army. It is brief, pointed, and feeling. Now that he is leaving the scene of his glorious exploits, those who shared danger and victory with him in many a great battle, weep like children parting with a father. His recall may possibly have an effect upon the treaty, should it ever be returned from the United States ratified. No doubt the gentleman who succeeds him, will do all that he thinks his duty requires, but Gen Scott had identified his fame with a peace as a result of his operations in this valley, and would have exerted himself more than any other man to bring the war to a close. He, too, from his longer residence here, has a better acquaintance with the Mexicans, and therefore knows better how to operate upon them. It is added that the despatches bring orders to restore the swords of Generals Pillow and Worthe and Col. Duncan. If I can before the mail leaves, I will learn the certainty of this.

We copy from the American Star of the 19th ult. The following article in regard to General Scott’s withdrawal from the command of the army in Mexico in obedience to the orders of his Government, regretting extremely that the whole farewell address of the Commander-in-Chief has not reached us. It has unaccountably, been lost.

MAJ. GEN. SCOTT. —BY REFERENCE TO GENERAL ORDERS it will be seen that Gen Scott has turned over the command of the army to Maj. Gen Butler. We promised to inform our readers of this when officially advised on the subject, and we now do so, though with regret. Although we were told in Puebla that the General had requested to be relieved when active operations ceased, we were not prepared to received the news that such had been the case. We do not think that either the Government or Gen Scott’s inclinations should take him from the army until a peace is made. He has accomplished so much and against such great odds, that we regret to see him part with his companions in arms, and we have no hesitation in saying that such are the sentiments of the American army. It matters not how accomplished and gallant his success may be, under the circumstances his place cannot be filled, and if we know Gen Butler, we believe that he will echo that sentiment, for he is not so much weighed down by ambition as to applaud the re-call, although the act places him in command of the proudest army in the world.

Winfield Scott this morning, takes leave officially of the army, of that gallant band with which he has carried his and their names upon the highest point of fame’s column. Many an eye will fill with tears this morning, when they read
Even in his shortly order he pays the following deserved compliment to his successor—a brother officer, who was his companion in arms in 1812, as he was here until today.

"In taking official leave of the troops he has so long had the honor personally to command in an arduous campaign—a small part of whose glory has been, from his position, reflected on the senior officer—Major Gen Scott is happy to be relieved by a General of established merit and distinction in he service of his country."

The latest dates from Queretaro are to the 17th ult. The American Star of the 19th thus sums up the news.

Queretaro. —Advices have been received from the seat of Government up to Thursday last. Several new deputies had arrived, but the meeting of Congress was going on very slowly, and some were beginning to lose all patience. The Monitor’s correspondent says he shall forward the names of all those who have presented themselves, and also the names of those who have not, with the opinion in regard to the matter, of the States to which the latter belong.

At the meeting on Monday last, thirty deputies were present, though we infer, from previous letters of the correspondent referred to, that more than this number have presented themselves, and are ready for action as soon as there is a prospect of a quorum. A communication was received from the Minister of Relations, stating that he was using every possible means for the assembling of Congress, enforcing the penalties, ordered at a previous meeting of the members, and such as he was constitutionally invested with.

The writer adds that the passport asked for Santa Anna, by Sr. Trigeneros, had been made out for him.

The Arco Iris of the 1st inst. has rumors that Santa Anna had changed his mind about leaving the country and that he was about to try his fortunes again amidst the internal convulsions which threaten to distract the nation. —He is represented as being in the neighborhood of Tehuacan, at the head of eighty followers. His design is said to be to unite his fortunes with the Vice Governor of San Luis and Gen Alvarez and then march upon Queretaro, over throw the Government of Pena y Pena, and establish a Dictatorship. But before executing this grand design, he proposed striking a blow at the Americans, in order to recover the credit with his countrymen. The Arco Iris puts as little faith in this project as we do; but that Santa Anna is still lurking about Tehuacan there would appear to be no doubt.

[AEK]
In searching the town it was evident it had been a recruiting station or rendezvous. Army clothing and arms were found in abundance, all of which were destroyed. —The General, with a view of inducing Rea to attack him in the town, or to give battle the next day on the road to Mexico, gave out that his ammunition was entirely exhausted, sad to complete the RUSE, mad a requisition upon the arcade for a supply, which, as was anticipated, he said he was unable to meet, there not being, he declared, a pound of powder in the town. His word for it was of course taken, but all failed, and the command marched into the city without firing a gun, with the exception of a few of the Rangers in advance, who shot eight or ten straggling guerrillas.

RW48v25i23p1c2 Tuesday, March 21, 1848: Colonel. Fremont and Mr. Mcnamara

COL. FREMONT—MR. MACNAMARA, &C.

Our attention has been attracted, by an article in the New York Courier, to a series of most extraordinary facts developed by the petition of Col. Fremont, for some time under investigation in the Senate, relative to the claims of certain citizens of California, &c.

It is well known that Mexico has always charged upon the United States that she assisted in fomenting the difficulties which arose between her and Texans, and that our Government has always disclaimed it, in he most direct and explicit terms. The press both of England and France, taking their cue from Mexico, has continued, even to the present day, to ring the changes upon our supposed delinquency, and stigmatizes our conduct in this particular as not only insidious and mercenary, but, in view of all the circumstances, absolutely atrocious. The care which has been taken to repel these imputations shows that not only the Government but the public intelligence of the country is well aware of the utterly inexcusable nature of the charge, provided it could be proved. We have no means of ascertaining what was done with regard to Texas, but the petition of Col. Fremont leaves us no room to doubt of the course pursued towards California.

It is evident from that petition, that, before war had broken out between the United States and Mexico, he, Col. Fremont, an officer in the service of the United States, aided in a rebellion in California, the object of which was to sunder that province from Mexico, and erect it into a free and independent Government. He succeeded completely, and after the revolution had been conducted to a successful issue, and the independence of California established, upon receiving intelligence of the war between this country and Mexico, he tore down (not the Mexican flag, but) the flag of the free State of California, and erected the stars and stripes in its stead. The expense of all these proceedings, volatile as they were of all ideas of international law, and even of common justice, Col. Fremont engaged to have paid out of the coffers of the United States. The facts are substantially set forth in the following passage from the petition:

"The petition of John Charles Fremont, a citizen of the United States, Respectfully Shows: --That in June of the year 1846, being then a brevet captain of topographical engineers in the service of the united States, and employed as such in California, he engaged in military operations with the people of the country for the establishment of the independence of California, before the existence of war between the United States and Mexico was known, and was successful in said undertaking; the independence of California, being proclaimed at Sonoma on the 5th of July, and the Mexican forces routed and dispersed. That, immediately on hearing of the war between the United States and Mexico, the flag of independence was pulled down and that of the United States run up in its place, and under the flag military service was rendered to the United States until the conquest was complete, and supplies obtained from the people mostly on credit of certificates given for them. That, after the conquest, a temporary government was formed; the expenses of which, like those incurred for military operations, are mostly yet paid, and should be paid by the United States, to whom all the benefits of the conquest of California has accrued."

From the following letter it will be seen that a portion of the claims which from the subject of the petition, is for services rendered before there was any war between Mexico and the United States:

"WASHINGTON CITY, OCTOBER 8, 1847.

"Sir: in the discharge of my official relations in California, as military commandant and governor of that territory, I incurred liabilities for which the faith of the government, as well as my own, were pledged, and same of which I think it absolutely necessary to bring to your attention. —

These are:

The payment of the volunteers for their services during the war, and for supplies in arms and other necessaries furnished by them.

Payment to citizens of that territory of money loaned to me by them, required and expended in the administration of the government and partial payment of the troops.

"The principal amount required for payment of the troops is comprised in what is due to the volunteer emigrants for
Before it had become so fashionable to set the constitution at open defiance, such conduct as this would have exited one united cry of indignation all over the land; but now, in the midst of a host of more dangerous infractions, it is hardly noticed. We have yet to learn whether or not the officer in question acted under order; whether or not he is up held by the Executive in assisting to establish an independent nation, and then at will subverting its independence.

Col. Fremont states, as an apology for this summary proceeding, that the British Government had already formed designs upon California, which would have been successful but for its own promptitude. In his evidence before the Military Committee, he says:

"There is good reason to believe, and evidence at hand to sustain that belief, that the revolutionary movement prevented a design of the Californians to put their country under the flag of the British, and also prevented the completion of the colonization grant of 3000 square leagues to Macnamara, who was brought to California in the British sloop of war Juno in the month of June, 1846. Admiral Seymour, in the Collingwood of 80 guns, arrived at Monterey on the 16th of July. Macnamara was on board the Collingwood when I arrived at Monterey on the 19th, and was carried away in that vessel. The taking possession of that place on the 7th had anticipated him, and the revolutionary movement had checked the design of the Californians to place the country under British protection and also prevented the fulfillment of the great grant to Macnamara."

The evidence to which he alludes was found at the city of Los Angelos, the most conspicuous of which is the proposition of the notorious priest Macnamara, an Irishman by birth, addressed to the President of the Mexican Republic, which was to the following effect: that unless prompt measures be taken, California will soon cease to be part of the Mexican Republic—that those measures consist in settling the coast with a body of emigrants capable of maintaining themselves in their possessions—that these emigrants should profess the Roman Catholic religion—that men of the right stamp, not existing in Mexico, is it necessary to look to Europe for them—that of all others, the Irish possess the highest and most numerous recommendations—that he has a triple object in view in settling Upper California with a Colony of Catholic Irishmen, viz. to advance the cause of Catholicism, "to throw every obstacle in the way of farther usurpation on the part of an irreligious and anti-catholic nation," and to benefit his won countrymen. He proposes to establish the first Colony at San Francisco, and gradually to settle the whole coast. Four thousand acres of land are required for each family, one thousand of whom were to be imported immediately, and so on until the whole coast is settled. The grant would amount to about 14,000,000 acres.

In a second letter he urges the President to make haste, saying that unless his project is speedily accomplished, "before another year the Californians will form part of the American Union, and their Catholic inhabitants become the prey of Methodist wolves." This proposition was accepted, as appears from a proclamation of the Governor, Don Pio Pico, also in evidence before the committee. It farther appears that immense tracts were granted to British subjects for little or no consideration, in order to give the British Government a pretext for protecting the rights of their subjects, and thereby entering California.

Col. Fremont defends his conduct by saying that these schemes could only have been defeated by his prompt interference, but we regard this as a clear non sequitur; for, had he but had the patience to wait a few months, long before Macnamara could have imported his Irish Colony, he would have found a war ready made to his hand, and might then have proceeded without incurring the guilt of having palpably violated the law of nations.

[AEK]

RW48v25i25p4c5 Tuesday, March 28, 1848: From Monterey

From Monterey

The Monterey Gazette of the 26th ultimo is filled with a graphic account of the celebration of the anniversary of the battle of Buena Vista. The celebration took place at the Governor's palace on the 23d. The officers of the 16th infantry gave a splendid dinner to Gen. Wool and the officers of the army now with the division who shared with him the perils and achieved the victory of the ever-memorable 22d of February 1847. The general was in excellent health and spirits, and entered with zest into the festivities. Toast, story, reminiscence, song, and sentiment went round the sumptuously spread board, and several very pertinent speeches were made. We copy a sketch of that made by Gen. Wool, in giving the following toast:

"General Taylor: He has returned to the bosom of his family crowned with a wreath of laurels, and bearing on his shield the victories of Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterey, and Buena Vista."

Gen Wool remarked that he thought it a proper and fit occasion, seeing so many gallant spirits present, to contradict a statement which had been published in the United States, and recently as coming from the other line, that at some period of the two eventful days of the 22d and 23d of February, 1847, when, as Santa Anna said, blood flowed in torrents, and the field of battle was strewed with the bodies of the dead, that he had advised Gen. Taylor to fall back, or retreat from the position occupied by the American troops at the pass of Angostura. He declared statement to be wholly and totally false, and without the shadow of foundation. The idea of abandoning that position had never for a moment occupied his mind; so far from it, he considered it the only position in the valley of Saltillo where a
small force could maintain itself against a large one; and had selected it as early as the 23rd December, 1846, two
days after his arrival at Agua Nueva, under the earnest entreaty of General Worth to come and assist to repel
General Santa Anna who he supposed was approaching Saltillo with a large army. He was confident that he could
defend it with his column, at the time about 2,700 strong, against any force with it was probably Santa Anna could
bring against it. He further remarked that such was the strength of the position that but for the unfortunate and
most unexpected retreat of Col Bowles's regiment, the 2d Indiana volunteers, the Americans would have defeated
the Mexican army early in the day. The attack in the centre had been repulsed with great loss by Washington's
battery; the advancing columns sent to attack and force the left had also been repulsed and dispersed; when, at this
moment, Bowles's regiment fled, under his order to retreat, the field of battle. The engineer in the staff of Santa
Anna says in his report of the battle that if the Americans at the time they dispersed the advancing columns had
pushed on, the Mexicans would have been defeated; Santa Anna seeing our troops flying the field, hastened up fresh
columns of lancers, drove back Lieut. O'Brien, now captain, and forced our left.

FROM THE NEW ORLEANS PICAYUNE, MARCH 18.

FROM THE CITY OF MEXICO

By the arrival yesterday of the U.S. brig Mary Jane, Capt. Hussey, from Tampico the 8th Inst. we have received
papers from the city of Mexico to the 23d of February. —The papers previously received were only to the 19th.

It will be recollected, however, that a courier reached Vera Cruz just before the New Orleans sailed who left the
capital on the 26th of February. The only glimpse of news derived from him was to the effect that an armistice for
two months had been assented to by Gen. Butler, and that it would be formally signed on the 27th. By this arrival
from Tampico we have nothing so late as this, but by the Star of the 22d we see that both the commissioners to
negotiate and armistice had arrived. They are Gen. Mora y Villamil and Senor Quijano. The Monitor says that Gen.
Scott had had an interview with them, adding, as we learn from the Star, that “though suspended in his functions as
general-in-chief, we understand this presents no obstacle to the negotiation of an armistice.”

The same Monitor says that Gen. Butler had consented to the suspension of the payment of the assessments levied
upon the people of the city for the space of four days, and that this was granted in consequence of the request of
the above commissioners.

The Star gives an extract from a letter dated Toluca, February 18th, which says that Gen. Alvarez was within half a
day’s ride of that city; that the American troops were under arms, and the town full of people. No apprehension is
expressed by the Star or its correspondent.

The Toluca diligence was robbed, as before mentioned by us, on the 16th ult. One of the persons robbed says that
the chief of the robbers is a deputy of the State.

a military duty, he sent to the house of a Lieutenant colonel had him brought out and received twenty-five blows of
the kind known to the Mexican Service. — The unfortunate lieutenant colonel had but a short time before, and in
the same place, in agreement with Perdigon, inflicted some lashes upon two of his assistants for robbery. The colonel
has brought charges against Perdigon.

The following are the first general order issued by Maj. Gen. Butler upon assuming the command of the army of
Mexico:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF MEXICO,
Mexico, Feb. 19, 1848.
Orders No. 1

Pursuant to the order of the President of the United States, and the instructions of Major Gen. Scott,
communicated in his General Order No. 59, of yesterday’s date, Major Gen Butler hereby assumes command of the
army of Mexico.

On entering upon the duties assigned him, Gen Butler cannot be unmindful that he succeeds a general familiar alike
with the science and the art of war, and who has but recently brought to a glorious termination one of the boldest
campaigns to be found in its annals. He feels, however, less diffidence in assuming the important and responsible
command assigned him, from the conviction that the is sided and sustained by many of the talented and experienced
officers who contributed nobly to our recent success in arms, and by a gallant army who have learned too well the
road to victory easily to mistake it.

The orders and instructions issued by Major Gen Scott for the government of this army will be continued in force.
By order of Major Gen. Butler:

L. THOMAS, A.A.G.

The following article is from the Star of the 22:

"Santa Anna—The Mexican papers of yesterday contain a long communication from Santa Anna dated at Coxcatlan on the 5th inst. It is addressed to Senor Ross, the Minister of Relations, in reply to his circular to the Governors of the States on the subject of the late attempt at a revolution in San Luis. It contains a long and rather severe review of that circular, more particularly in reference to the implied charges in it against Santa Anna himself, and closes with an extract from that document as applicable to himself. It is that passage which says that the present generation cannot judge impartially and do justice to those who established the government when the nation was without a head—though posterity will do them justice and perhaps do them honor."

The Star does not translate this manifesto on account of its length. We ourselves received a copy of it by the New Orleans and upon careful perusal of it, we thought it not worth translating, throwing no light upon Mexican politics or Santa Anna's designs. The Monitor and the Eco del Comercio are both sever upon it, indulging in language which would be deemed harsh towards Santa Anna in the mouth even of an American.

A train of eight wagons, under Capt Moore, A Q M., escorted by Lieuts Berry and Cooper with fifty men arrived at the city of Mexico on the 20th ult. from Cuernavaca. —Lieut Williamson, Quartermaster of the15th Infantry arrived with them. Every thing was quiet at Cuernavaca and the troops in good health. Two Mexican Generals arrived in Cuernavaca on the evening of the 18th inst. but their names are not given.

Since Mr. Peoples has returned to the city of Mexico he has had the misfortune to lose four of this expresses. By the following order of Gen Butler it will be seen that we shall not much longer require the aid of expresses:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF MEXICO.
Mexico, February 20, 1848.
Orders—No. 3.

As soon as suitable arrangements can be made a mail will be sent from Vera Cruz to the city of Mexico on the 1st and 15th of each month, and returning, will leave this city the third day after the arrival of the upward mail. — An escort of not less than twenty-five mounted men, to be commanded by a commissioned officer, will be sent with the mail, to be relieved at each of the following stations, viz: National Bridge, Jalapa, Perote, post intermediate between Perote and Puebla, should one be established, Puebla and Rio Frio. The detachment will remain at the station at which they halt, to receive the downward mail. —The mounted corps will furnish the escort, but in the event that this cannot be done—as my sometimes happen at some of the smaller garrisons—horses will be furnished to mount the necessary number of foot troops.

As far as possible, letters and papers for the several stations will be made up in different packages, with way bills, and addressed accordingly, and only those having the addresses of any post will be taken from the general mail on its arrival thereof. Packages marked "Miscellaneous" may be overhauled and examined at any intermediated post between Vera Cruz and Mexico, but none others; unless in very special cases, when it will be done under the personal supervision of the commanding officer of the post.

The quartermaster's Department is charged with making the necessary arrangements for carrying out the above order; and commanding officers of the posts designated will see that no unnecessary delay takes place in sending forward the mail from their respective stations.

By order of Major Gen Butler:

L. THOMAS, A.A.G.

Col Randall, Deputy Paymaster General and Chief of the Pay Department with the army, has been appointed to receive the assessments levied for the support of the army in the Federal District of Mexico. The same order announcing the appointment likewise announces that Lieut. G. W. Lay, 6th Infantry, had been appointed aid de-camp and military secretary to the commander-in-chief. Lieut Lay held the same post under Gen Scott.

The third brigade (Col. Riley's) was reviewed and inspected on the plains of Molino del Rey on the 21st ult. By Major Buchanan, Acting Inspector General. It is needless, says the Star, to speak of the perfection of this command when it is known that the 2d Artillery, 2d4th and 5th Infantry and Voltiguers compose the command.

The Star mentions the receipt of a letter from Rio Frio, now occupied as a military post by Capt Little’s company of Illinois mounted men. A member of the company, John E. Wells, had died; otherwise the health of the company was good.

The 22d February was to be observed in various modes appropriate to the day, in the city of Mexico.
Some idea of how we are raising money in Mexico to pay our troops may be gathered from the following, which we copy from the Star of the 20th:

"Assessments, --Observe at the corners of the streets a large handbill, issued by the ayuntamiento, containing the names of person, shopkeepers of every class, pulque venders, and dealers in every kind of business, with the sums which each is to pay towards the assessment of $100,000 levied upon the district by the American authorities. The catalogue contains about four hundred names, divided into different classes according to their means and standing as person of wealth. The first class of merchants pay $12 per annum and the lowest $2. The lowest contribution per year by different trades is $1.20 per annum. It is stated in this large document that one-third of the amount assessed, or four months, is to be paid at the end of three days after its publication."

We have received a copy of El Iris Espanol of the 23d, but find no news in it. The dates from Queretaro are only to the 17th ult. --the same which we received by the New Orleans. The Government is said to be reduced to straits for want of money, but the agents of stock-jobbers were in the city endeavoring to come to terms with it for a loan. — We may shortly expect later news from Mexico by the way of Vera Cruz.

**NEWS FROM MEXICO.**

The important intelligence just received from Mexico leaves us but little space for other matter. The negotiation of an armistice, which provides for the suspension of hostilities throughout the whole of the Mexican Republic, is the most decidedly favorable indication of the probability of the ratification by Mexico of the treaty lately negotiated that we have seen. It must nevertheless be remembered that the treaty has undergone several material changes, which may deprive it of the support of influential foreigners resident in Mexico, and especially of Mr. Mackintosh, under whose immediate auspices it is supposed to have been formed. It is probable, however, even should his influence be exerted against the treaty, that in the existing prostrate and hopeless condition of the Mexican Government and people, the returned treaty will be confirmed in he shape given to it by the Senate. We hope so, most certainly; for although it be one of which, as has been truly said, no one can be proud, even they who are most ashamed of it will not the less rejoice at the termination of the war upon such terms—terms less humiliating in themselves, that, from the nature of the issues that must grown out of them, they are threatening to the future tranquility and perpetuity of the Union.

**NINE DAYS LATER FROM CITY OF MEXICO**

Punctual to her day, the royal mails team packet Great Western, Capt. Chapman, arrived a Ship Island at 11 A.M. On Wednesday last.

By this arrival we have letters and papers from our correspondents—our dates from the city of Mexico being nine days later than our last accounts.

The Great Western left Vera Cruz on Saturday afternoon, the 18th, bringing letters and papers from that city to her day of sailing.

It is said that Gen Twiggs expresses great anxiety to visit the U. States, having been five years absent from his family.

The Free American of the 17th inst. Announces the death of Lt. Col. Allen, of the 2d infantry. He had but recently arrived in Vera Cruz, in his way to join his regiment in the interior.

Santa Anna has applied to Gen. Twiggs, through Col. Hughes, for permission to pass through Vera Cruz and out of the country. A special express from Jalapa reached Vera Cruz the evening of 16th inst. with the application, and as the General at once granted the permission asked, it was supposed the Ex-President would arrive there in a day or two.

A report is current in the city that the steamer was detained at Vera Cruz from the 17th to the 18th, to receive Santa Anna on board, and that he is in truth a passenger on her. We mention the rumor, but without putting confidence in it. At all events, it was not known to the passengers with whom we have conversed.

We have seen a private letter from the city of Mexico dated the 14th inst. The Mexican and English couriers arrived there on the 12th from Vera Cruz. There was nothing talked of at the capitol but peace. It is said that foreign
In a letter I wrote you on the 8th inst., I enclosed a copy of an armistice concluded at Guadeloupe on the 2d. In my letter of the 8th I briefly adverted to the armistice in terms of censure. More mature reflection has fixed me in the opinion I then expressed in relation to it, and the army, so far as I have been able to canvass its opinion, is unanimous in pronouncing this the most one-sided "military convention" we have had during the war.

Santa Anna and Paredes. —The Monitor states that there is a rumor afloat that Santa Anna and Paredes had made up their minds to issue a joint pronunciamento in San Luis, but this, he adds, cannot be so, as two cats could not live in the same bag, and that a person worthy of credit has assured him that he has seen a letter from Santa Anna to a friend desiring him to place money for him in the island of Jamaica.

The Star of the 9th says Senor Quijano, one of the armistice commissioners, had gone to Cuernavaca, with instructions from the Government to make use of every means in his power to suppress the Indian rebellion in that vicinity, which we have before mentioned.

The North American of the 10th inst has accounts of a revolution in Guatemala. If that paper be accurately informed, Gen. Carrera has been deposed from the presidential chair, and the Vice President is acting in his place, and endeavoring to put down the Insurrection.

This is not the dullest place imaginable and will continue so during the armistice. Several officers anticipating no further active service, have resigned and returned home with the train which left here on the 6th inst. in charge of Col. Black, of the Pennsylvania Volunteers; and others have returned on leave which will not terminate until with peace is made or the armistice ended.

Among them is General lane, who found on his arrival from his last expedition, letters informing him that the great flood of the Ohio had made sad havoc with his plantation in Indians, sweeping off all his stock.

In a letter I wrote you on the 8th inst., I enclosed a copy of an armistice concluded at Guadeloupe on the 2d. In my letter of the 8th I briefly adverted to the armistice in terms of censure. More mature reflection has fixed me in the opinion I then expressed in relation to it, and the army, so far as I have been able to canvass its opinion, is unanimous in pronouncing this the most one-sided "military convention" we have had during the war.

From the tone of the papers received here from the United States, but little doubt exists that the so called treaty will be ratified at Washington, and we suppose the great question with you now is, “will it be ratified by the Government at Queretaro?” It is as difficult to answer than question now as it was a month ago, and judging from the inactivity of the President, and allowing him to be sincerely deserving of peace, the presumption is that he is awaiting to make an energetic effort to assemble a quorum of congress and to obtain its approval. The friends of the administration justify his inactivity in this manner, and say in Congress were assembled before the treaty comes back from Washington, his strength I the body to obtain a ratification would be frittered away by the debates and quarrels fort he break up in a row. This is plausible enough. I do not doubt the President’s sincerity, but the uncertainty of ratification here consists in this ability, first, to bring together a quorum, and next to exercise sufficient influence to control the requisite majority. He has at Queretaro, in Tolaca, in this city, and scattered through the country now between sixty and seventy members, ready, it is said, to meet whenever the treaty is returned from Washington with the approval of our Government, but he considers it necessary to hold elections for other members, in some, if not all the cities and States occupied by our army, not only to secure a quorum, but to secure the assembling of a much larger number in order that his opponents and the opponents of peace may not defeat his object either by non-attendance at Queretaro, or if there, withdrawing from Congress what the question is put and break the quorum. This last is a common trick in Mexican congresses, and among the members who avow their willingness to go to Queretaro, and who are there, some ten or twelve are reported to be either opposed to peace or inimical to the administration.

Your will see by the extracts from the papers which I send to you, that insurrectionary movements against the government at Queretaro still continue to break out it the State of San Luis Potosi, notwithstanding the effects of that Governor to suppress them, and it is also said that Paredes is there fomenting rebellion. Santa Anna also, although it is reported he has applied through the Mexican government to General Butler for a passport to leave the country and obtained it, we hear, at one time, is on his way to San Luis Potosi to head a revolution, and another, that he is in Tehuacan again with eight hundred men, preparing at the first opportunity to upset that existing government. His power, however, is not of the feeblest, and it may be if the has such a force, he is waiting the withdrawal of our arms to re-establish himself in power. Alvarex, too has by the seizure and imprisonment of Governor Olaguibel, and the numerous acts of disobedience manifested contempt for the power of the government. You will notice that the replies of the Governor of the States to [ . . . ] circular in relation to the treaty are various.
Some demand the publication of the treaty; a few express themselves desirous of peace, and in such manner as lead to the supposition they will favor almost any terms that can be obtained, while others openly avow themselves war. Problems in Mexican politics are always difficult of \[\ldots\]-tion, and never more so than now. Notwithstanding however, the demoralized state of the country and the \[\ldots\]indifference of the great body of the population \[\ldots\]War, if the past be a guide to the future, Pena y Pena by a judicious us of the two millions and a half which is advanced him by the parties here peculiarly \[\ldots\] peace, can overcome on opposition of so many condemning elements and obtain a congress to ratify the treaty. \[\ldots\] In this it is impossible to say what will ever in a day week or a month.

Generals Watson and Cushing and Col. Balkasck, members of the court appointed to enquire into the differences between Generals Scott, worth and Pillow, said Capt. Duncan, arrived here yesterday, together with Captain \[\ldots\] the Judge advocate, from Puebla. They were escorted by a company of Louisiana mounted men. Capt. \[\ldots\] came up with the escorts. The court met this morning transacted some preliminary briefness with closed \[\ldots\]. Day after tomorrow the court meets against, when the case to be taken up will be chosen, and the next day the examination of the witnesses will commence. Col \[\ldots\] came up from Puebla with the Court. He intends to return in about a week.

April 1848

RW48v25i36p1c1, May 5, 1848: Gen. Taylor’s Sentiments – Executive Power.

So far as we have had an opportunity of conversing with the Whigs, since the appearance of Gen. Taylor’s letter to Mr. Allison of New Orleans, we are gratified to say, there is a very general concurrence of opinion, that the views embodied in that document are entirely satisfactory; and we do not doubt that there will be a general, if not a universal, acquiescence in the opinion. We have, of course, not conversed with many of the Whigs in the brief period that has elapsed since the General’s letter has reached the city; but among the few we have seen are gentlemen who had heretofore been decidedly opposed to the General’s nomination as the Whig candidate for the Presidency. It is now placed beyond all doubt, to use his own expressive words, that on "CARDINAL PRINCIPLES," Gen. Taylor’s sentiments are in entire harmony with those of the Whig party; and it would be obviously preposterous to suppose that the MEASURES of an Administration recognizing such principles would not be equally in accordance with Whig POLICY. The one must result from the other, as any other effect from its cause. We need scarcely say to the intelligent reader that the limitation and restraint of the power and influence of the Executive, is the prominent idea in gen. Taylor’s letter. Eleven years ago, when the President of the United States had not been bold enough even to dream of the daring encroachments and usurpations that have since been perpetrated with impunity, the then Editor of the Enquirer admonished the country, that the power and patronage of that department of the Government had not only fearfully increased, but that they were daily increasing, and that they must be diminished, if we would preserve the integrity of the Constitution, the just influence of the co-ordinate Departments, and the liberties of the people. We need not recapitulate the great events that have since transpired, beginning with the project for the "immediate" annexation of Texas, which burst upon the country like a bomb-shell, as Mr. Benton well called it, from the laboratory of the State Department, without the slightest premonition to Congress or the people of its approach, and following them successively to the legitimate fruit of that act, the war with Mexico, commenced by the President without the knowledge, much less the consent of the war-making power, and the long train of Executive encroachments by which its brief history has been characterized. The vents to which we refer are fresh in the memory of the country; and, it seems to us that that man who perceives in them no indication of a gradual but thorough revolution in our system—quite as complete, though less violent and sudden than that which has occurred in France—is as blind to the past as he is heedless of the future. Gen. Taylor is not alone in the apprehension, that from the "undue and injurious influence" hereto fore exercised upon the Legislative department of the Government by the Executive, "our system is in danger of undergoing a great change from its true theory." According to that theory, the President, it was feared, had been clothed with even too little power to render the past an object of ambition to great minds; but in practice, it has become almost the sole power in the State—quite as complete, though less violent and sudden than that which has occurred in France.

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The court was here cleared, and after some consultation the following decision was announced.

Before a civil court. That the present witness was called to show that that statement was false.

him to the court, that he had never before been a witness before a military court, and to the best of his recollection

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A—I was a Recorder of a Court of Inquiry which commenced its session at Puebla on the 18th of July last,

Q—Has the witness any recollection of being Judge Advocate or Recorder of some Court Martial of Court of

By the Prosecution

The Court met at the usual hour—the members all present. The proceedings of the last day were read.

Lt. CLARKE called and sworn.

A—I was a Recorder of a Court of Inquiry which commenced its session at Puebla on the 18th of July last, convened by general orders 217 and 220, of the 17th of July, to investigate the circumstances connected with the loss of a certain amount of money, about $2000, whilst being brought from the city of Vera Cruz to Puebla.

At this point the defence interposed an objection.

Maj. Gen. Scott said that Paymaster Burns, when before the court, had stated in an appeal for protection made by him to the court, that he had never before been a witness before a military court, and to the best of his recollection before a civil court. That the present witness was called to show that that statement was false.

The court was here cleared, and after some consultation the following decision was announced.
It does not appear from the record that Paymaster Burns has stated under oath that he never had been a witness before a Military Court, nor to the best of his belief before a Civil Court. The Court is therefore of opinion that Lieut. Clarke’s testimony to show that Paymaster Burns had been a witness before a Court of Inquiry is irrelevant.

The Court requires that hereafter all objections to evidence, either by the prosecution or defence, shall be in so many words—"I object to that evidence," and that the reasons for and against such objections shall be stated in writing.

Gen. Scott said he wished to place upon the record his protest.

Capt. Taylor called and sworn.

**Question by the Prosecution.**—Did the witness chance to see Major Gen. Pillow in the night of the 19th August last; if so, where, at about what hour, and what declaration or remark, if any, did the said Pillow then make respecting the continued attack that night of the next morning by the American forces on the entrenched camp of Contreras.

A—On the night of the 19th August last, some time after dark, I think it was between 8 and 10 o’clock, I am not positive as to the hour, it was after dark, I went to see him and found him outside the guns of my battery, and after exchanging salutations, I asked him, I think, how things looked. He replied, badly, and I remarked, I was afraid so. He said the position of the enemy was very strong, too strong to be attacked, and that he was going to report that fact to Gen. Scott, advising him to leave it and get in the rear of San Antonio. I also asked him if artillery could not get where he had been; he told me not; that it was impossible to get along on horseback; that was the substance, and I believe, nearly the words of the conversation. Gen. Twiggs then called him and asked him if he was not going on, and he went on and we parted.

Q—The witness has said the conversation he has given took place near witness’ battery—where was that battery at the time?

A—Just outside the cornfield, on the edge, or perhaps in the Pedregal, and within range of the heavy guns of Contreras, in front of the enemy’s camp.

**Question by Gen. Pillow.**—Witness will please say who was with Gen. Pillow at the conversation referred to.

A—I do not know. The night was very dark, and I do not know who was with General Pillow. When I say Gen. Twiggs called, I knew by his voice, and not by sight. When I say that I don’t know who was with him, I mean I did not recognize those who were with him. They were on horseback, and I could see that there were horses, but could not distinguish the faces of those on the horses.

Q—Has the witness detailed all the conversation that occurred at the time?

A—I think I have. I think of nothing more. The conversation was a short one, and soon interrupted by Generate Twiggs calling out to Gen. Pillow to come on.

Q—Did Gen. Pillow tell witness that he had been at or near any position occupied at that time by American troops?

A—I don’t think he did; I stated before that he said he had found great difficulty in getting along; that it was no place for artillery, for he could not get his horse along.

Q—Did Gen. Pillow tell the witness, or did the witness understand that General Pillow had attempted to cross the Pedregal to join the troops in the village of Ensaldo, and that he had been unable to cross the Pedregal in consequence of the darkness of the night and the extreme difficulties of the ground?

A—The conversation opened by my asking Gen. Pillow as to the state of things as they then were. My question was put in reference to artillery, whether he said he could not get over himself or not, I do not know. I think, however, on recollecting particularly, that he observed that it was very difficult to get along, even on foot, much more upon horseback; he made, as well as I remember, some remark of that kind, but I am not positive.

Q—Does witness know whether Gen. Pillow referred in that conversation to the work being too strong to be carried or attacked at all, or that it was too strong to be varied by the front assaults?

A—The word front was not used in the conversation, I understood it exactly as I have stated, that the work was too strong to be attacked.

Q—Does the witness know of the repulses of any of the forces or of any new light or information, which Gen. Pillow had received at that time and did witness not know that the American troops cut off the communication of the enemy’s line with the capital, and held possession of the village of Ensaldo?
A—I knew but very imperfectly the position of our troops, and spent a very anxious night, knowing that a large body of the enemy had come out of the city, and the enemy was posted in an entrenched position, with a great deal of artillery. I knew nothing of Gen. Pillow’s information, except what he himself stated, nor did I know of any repulse of any of our forces. About an hour previous to the conversation =, one of Gen. Scott’s staff, I think Lieut. Lay, said that an attack was to be made upon the enemy’s position by Gen. Smith, about 3 o’clock the next morning. That conversation had removed in part my anxiety, until it was brought back by the conversation with Gen. Pillow, which renewed it. I supposed that our troops had interposed between the two forces of the enemy.

Q—Did witness know where Gen. Pillow had been that night?

A—I did not, I suppose he had been with the troops as far as we had gone.

Q—If Gen. Pillow had not been at the position occupied by the American troops across the Pedregal, had not heard from there, had been lost in the Pedregal, in his efforts to cross to the village, can witness conceive to what Gen. Pillow alluded, when he said things looked gloomy—could he have alluded to the gloomy prospect before the army (which had met with no reverse or disaster,) or to the prospect before himself this night?

A—I presumed then, and now think, that he meant that, there was a strong work to take, which our forces would be unable to take, when he said things looked badly. I will alter the answer, and say, I know from that conversation that he alluded to the position of the troops in all respects, as well as our own, as those of the enemy. The conversation is fresh in my mind. I know this, because it was in answer to my question, “how things looked?”

Q—As the witness’ memory is very fresh, he will state whether he can recollect equally well, that it was about 8 or 9 o’clock. Can witness say in fact it was not as late as half past 11 o’clock?

A—My memory is very fresh, as it regards the important matters of conversation, but as regards the exact time my memory is not very fresh.

Capt. Grayson called and sworn.

By the Prosecution.—

Q—Where was the witness early on the morning of the 20th August last; did he chance to see Gen. Pillow on that morning, and about what time?

A—I was in San Augustin on the morning of the 20th Aug. last. I had been woke up by my servant, about 25 or 30 minutes after 6 o’clock. I know it was this time, or about this time, from the fact of having overslept myself, and I looked at my watch when I got up; I dressed myself hurriedly, and in passing by the window opening on the street, I saw Maj. Gen. Pillow pass the window. I remarked “Good morning, General;” the General turned his head, and rested his eye not upon my window, but on that of Capt. Irvin, whose room was immediately adjoining mine; Gen. Pillow answered the salutation, but I do not believe that he saw me. From the time of my getting up, to the time I saw Gen. Pillow, I should suppose it to have been about 15 minutes or about 20 minutes before 7 o’clock.

Lieut. BEAUREGARD called and sworn.

By the Prosecution.—Q—Was the witness present a meeting between Gen. Scott and many General and Staff officers at Piedad, on the 11th Sept. last, and if so, state the general character of the meeting, particularly so far as the witness may remember, in respect to the views and preferences of the said Scott and Gen. Pillow, as to an early general attack upon the enemy?

A—I was present at that meeting; which I entered the room, Gen. Scott was there, exposing his views to the officers present, relative to the advantages or disadvantages of immediate attack on Chapulteepe, or the Garita of San Antonio. In so doing, he expressed a decided preference for the former, but at the same time invited the officers present, without regard to rank, to express their views freely on the subject, unbounded by his own preferences.—Thereupon, many of the officers spoke on the subject without coming to any positive conclusion; their remarks consisting principally in inquiries; made of the engineer officers, relative to the nature of the ground in the vicinity of the enemy’s works, in each of the above places. Among those who spoke, I remember distinctly that Gen. Pillow in concluding his remarks, expressed a preference for the attack in the direction of the Garia of San Antonio. That which struck me the more, was, on the evening preceding, whilst completing a reconnaissance of the same works, I met Gen. Pillow near the broken bridge of the Nino Perdido road, and there, whilst conversing with him on the intended attack of the enemy’s works, he expressed to me his opinion, or belief, that the time of attacking that point had passed by, and I partially coincided with him, stating that we would know better what conclusions to come to, after the reconnaissance of the next day, which then confirmed me in that opinion.

Q—Did the witness himself express any opinion on the questions propounded, and discussed by the said Scoot; at about what time of the meeting, and what were the views and opinions of the witness as then expressed?

A—Yes, I did express my opinions on the subject towards the end of the meeting, not feeling bound to do so before that time, wishing to know first the views and opinions of the other engineer officers present who ranked me, and it was only upon the suggestion of one or more officers present, that I did express them. I coincided, or rather
supported, as well as I could, the opinions expressed by the General-in-Chief, relative to the advantages of an immediate attack on the works at Chapultepec, and I believe I was the only engineer officer present, who entertained those views.

Q—Did the said Scott at the Piedad meeting, or in the discussion of the reconnaissance with the engineers, show or give any evidences of being stunned, cast down, or in any way unnerved by the late event at M__ del R__ (illegible), or elsewhere?

A—Not in the least, to my mind. No doubt we were all under the sad influence of the severe loss we had experienced at that place, but I could discover no other feeling.

By Gen. Pillow—Q—How many guns were in position at the San Antonio Garita, on the morning of the 9th September, and how many were there on the afternoon of the 11th September, when the consultation was held?

A—I was not present at the reconnaissance made on the 9th, but was present at the one made on the afternoon of the 8th, and also at those of the 10th and 11th. On the afternoon of the 8th I counted three guns at the Garita of San Antonio and I believe two on the works leading from the Garita of San Antonio to the Garita of Nino Perdido, of the latter two I am not certain, and by the sketch of the works that I made on the 10th, I find that I have seven guns in position on the works, immediately around the Garita of San Antonio, and late in the evening as I was completing the reconnaissance, I saw the enemy bring 5 more guns to be place in position, as I supposed then, either on those same works or those about the Garita of La Vega, and so expressed myself at the council of war on the 11th, and although on the 11th I did not notice that they had increased the number of guns on the above mentioned works, still they seem to have increased the strength of the works themselves, having strong working parties employed on them during the whole time.

Q—Were the enemy's line of entrenchments in a much more complete state on the 11th then on the 8th, meaning the batteries immediately around the garita, as well as the line constructing there?

A—I should suppose they were. In fact I feel positive of it, from the circumstance of their having such a strong force employed upon them.

Q—Could the lines in the direction of San Antonio have been much more easily forced in your opinion on the 8th, 9th or 10th, than at any subsequent period?

A—I should suppose so, up to the afternoon of the 10th, when all those additional guns were brought into position, because those works derived their principal strength not only from the nature of the ground in front, but also from the number of guns they had in position.

By the Prosecution—The witness has spoken of a council of war, held at Piedad; at that meeting did Gen. Scott call for votes, or take the ayes and noes, on any question whatever?

A—He did not; certainly not whilst I was present.

James L. Freaner recalled:

By the Prosecution—Has the witness ever had any particular conversation with Maj. Gen. Pillow on the subject of the interest he, the said Pillow, took in the newspaper, printed in New Orleans, called the Delta, and respecting what the said Pillow would do for the benefit of that paper? If so, when, where, or in what particular connection was such conversation held? Give also the substance or the words of the conversation, as far as memory may serve?

A—It was on or about the 23d of August last, at Mixcoac, and I think in the afternoon, while in conversation with Gen. Pillow, Gen. Pierce entered the room; Gen. Pillow introduced me to Gen. Pierce, as being connected with the New Orleans Delta, remarking at the same time to Gen. Pierce, that this is one of our friends, and said, I don't recollect whether it was immediately after, or in the course of that conversation that he intended to make it, or words to that effect; I can't use the precise language; I think the words were to that effect; my impression is, those were the words used. I replied to Gen. Pillow, that no one person could make the Delta; that it had met with a success from the time it went into existence, which no other paper ever had I the Southern country, and it was mainly indebted for it to the energy, industry and independence of its proprietors. It was in the course of a general conversation while I was talking to Gen. Pillow, that afternoon.

Q—In the conversation which the witness had given, did Maj. Gen. Pillow hand to the witness any letter or article for the delta; and if so, what letter or article was it.

A—I did not receive any article from Gen. Pillow that afternoon; when I returned, according to his invitation, in the evening, I received the paper marked No. 1, which is before the Court.

By the Defence—State if Gen. Pierce was present, participating in the general conversation which you have detailed.

A—Gen. Pierce was present and I believe about starting for the conference to be held by the commissioners in
Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Court.—I beg that the following statement and protest may be permitted to go upon your record: Major Gen. Scott being before the Court as prosecutor in the case of Major Gen. Pillow, and intending further to impeach the testimony of Paymaster Burns, a witness in the part of the defence, who had been before the Court some days earlier, introduced this day a witness, Lieut. Clarke, of the 8th Infantry, to contradict the said Burns in this particular. The said Burns, after having been examined in chief by the said Pillow, and particularly examined by the said Scott, came into Court the following day, at its re-opening, with a paper carefully written, praying the protection of the Court under the cross-examination; alleging his inexperience in military tribunals, and solemnly declared, in his capacity of witness, that it was the first time he had ever been before a military court as a witness.

And when the said Clarke, called as above, had proceeded to the extent of some sentences, in answer to a question propounded through the Judge Advocate by the said prosecutor, and had evidently shown that he was acquainted with the facts sought for by the question on the record, the said Pillow, the defendant, interposed an objection to the question or to the answer, if not to both.

Whereupon the Court was cleared, and decided to stop the witness’ further answer to the said question.

Against that decision the said Scott protests on these grounds:—1. The said Burns offered his paper to the Court in his capacity of a sworn witness, which paper being read in open court, and with all the benefit to the said Burns sought by him, is, or ought to be, on the record of the Court. 2. The said Scott ought, as prosecutor, to se allowed to contradict, by competent evidence, any solemn declaration made in the said paper in common with any other assertion made by the said Burns, as a witness before this or any other Court; and 3. That being cut off from that, as the said Scott believes, legal resource, he is, to that extent, deprived of the means of attaining the ends of public justice sought for in the institution of this Court. Respectfully submitted.
The Court made the following decision:—The Court will not hereafter receive any protest against any decision it may make; but the parties will be heard in writing, if they desire it upon any question pending, before the same shall have been decided.

The Court then adjourned till 9 o’clock to-morrow morning.

NINETEENTH DAY—April 6, 1848.

The court met at the usual hour—all the members present. The last day’s proceedings were read.

JOHN H. PEOPLES called and sworn.

Question by the Prosecution—Did the witness receive, some time in October last, a note or letter from Maj. Gen. Pillow respecting an article recently published, signed Leonidas; and had the witness, about the same time, any conversation with the said Pillow, respecting the course of a newspaper called the American Star, of which the witness was editor, if so, produce the letter, and state the particular conversation or conversations and when and where it took place?

A—I received a note from Gen. Pillow at his own house on the 22d October, I think. I had given notice on that day or the day previous, that I would republish the Leonidas letter with such comments as I though the production merited. During that day Gen. Pillow sent an orderly to my office and requested I would call on him at his quarters; I did so immediately; when I entered the room, he either showed or handed me this note, saying that it was his intention the day before to publish it over his signature, but that he had been advised not to do so, and he had sent for me on the subject of this letter and of the Leonidas letter. The conversation afterwards turned to the Leonidas letter, and I think Gen. Pillow asked me if I had read it over, or what I thought of it; I remarked, that in my opinion it was a letter that would do the General a great deal of harm; he asked me, I believe, if there were no truths in the statement. I do not know that the word truth was used. I do not recollect my reply, but I ended by saying that I thought still it would do him infinite harm.—He asked me what kind of a notice I intended to preface it with, I answered that I had written nothing yet; well, said he, I have confidence enough in you, to believe that I will be justly dealt with, or that you will do me justice. You must recollect, as I said before, that I never forget my friends nor forgive my enemies. At that time the late Capt. Smith, 3d Infantry, came in, and the conversation stopped. After Capt. Smith had left the room, I asked Gen. Pillow if he would allow me to take that letter which he had addressed, but not sent, to me, that could shape a contradiction, as he authorized, from it. He reminded me again, then I got up to leave the room, that he was second in command, and if Gen. Scott should go home or any thing were to happen to him, he then would take command of the army.

Q—The name of Gen. Pillow at the foot of the letter presented by the witness, and also the postscript, are both canceled, but not the initials to the postscript; does the witness chance to know who made these cancellations?

A—I do not know; they were there when the letter was handed to me, and I suppose he scratched out the name when he declined publishing the letter.

Gen. Pillow said he cancelled the name and address himself.

Lieut. TILTON, Voltigeurs, called and sworn.

Questions by the Prosecution—Has the witness chanced to hear Maj. Gen. Pillow, since the entry of the American army into this city, speak of the effects of the battle of the Molino del Rey upon the energies of Maj. Gen. Scott, and that he, the said Scott, subsequent to that battle, required to be stimulate to further action by the said Pillow? If so, give the remarks of the said Pillow on the subject.

A—On or about the 22d of Sept., I, together with another officer, paid a visit of ceremony to Gen. Pillow. Upon that occasion, the conversation turned upon the battles preceding our entrance into the City. Maj. Gen. Pillow stated to us that the battle of Molino del Rey was an unfortunate affair: He informed us that we had lost 860 men, which loss we (meaning the General officers) sedulously concealed from the army, lest it might have a dispiriting effect on the men, and that Gen. Scott was stunned or paralysed by this lose; and consequently, upon himself, as second in command devolved the subsequent movements—or words to that effect: I don’t recollect exactly the words he used. I was also given to understand at the same time, by gen. Pillow, that the conception, as well as the execution, of the assault upon Chapultepec, originated with himself. With the exception of some personal compliments on ourselves and the Voltigeur Regiment, that was, I believe, the substance of the conversation.

By Gen. Pillow—Witness will state what officer was present with him when this conversation was held which he detailed. And where was Gen. Pillow, and what was his condition?

A—Capt. Barnard was with me. There were one or two officers there when we came,—but I don’t know who they were,—together with a citizen, an Englishman.—Gen. Pillow was in bed, apparently suffering from his wounds.

Q—Witness speaks of Gen. Pillow’s remark that we lost 860 men—did gen. Pillow say there were that many killed and wounded?
A—My recollection is, that the 860 men referred to the general loss, killed and wounded; my impression is, that
the men were disabled for subsequent engagements.

Q—Witness will state if in speaking of the conception of the attack on Chapultepec, Gen. Pillow did not say that
gen. Scott’s plan of attack upon that work was, that Gen. Pillow, with his division, should march along and attack the
eremy and battery stationed on the road north of Chapultepec, and that Gen. Quitman should march along the road
leading from Tacubaya, on the south of that work, and attack the battery on that road, that Gen. Pillow and Gen.
Quitman should shake hands at the junction of these roads, and make Chapultepec feel its isolation, and then that
both commands should attack Chapultepec; which plan of attack, he Gen. Pillow, had opposed so warmely, that Gen.
Scott gave up his plan, and that the plan of attack, that was carried into successful operation, on his (Pillow’s) side
of the work, was the substance of the conversation about the conception of the attack?

A—I have no recollection of the plan of attack: with regard to the shaking of hands, I never heard the expression
before. On that occasion, my understanding was, that the plan, as well as the execution, was that of Gen. Pillow,
and that I believed. The details of the attack I did not understand. Q—Did you understand that Gen. Pillow was
speaking of the plans of attack in which his own division carried that work upon the final assault?

A—At the time, I understood that no other division was in the attack upon Chapultepec proper, but Gen. Pillow’s
division alone. We were speaking at the time of the attack upon Chapultepec, which commenced on the morning of
the 13th of September, which I believed to have been made solely by Maj. Gen. Pillow’s division. Maj. Gen. Pillow
stated that whilst he was lying wounded at the foot of the hill, he received an order from gen. Scott to carry the work
at all hazards, and this led me to believe that that division alone had the main assault.

Q—Was the witness with the Voltigeur Regiment in that assault upon Chapultepec; were you among the first who
entered that work, and was that regiment in the advance in this assault?

A—Upon the Western side, in the redoubt, a storming party of infantry formed with us at the foot of the hill. Being
struck down myself at that place, I know not which party entered first, but on overtaking them a few minutes
after I recovered, I found them pell mell; upon a second rush the Voltiguers got the advance. The first ladders were
planted by my order, by the men under my command, and the five first that went up I knew were from the
Voltiguers, indeed I myself was the fifth, the Voltiguers were certainly the first men in that part of the work. I saw no
other when we got in. What happened on the other side of the hill I know nothing about.

Q—The witness had spoken of the storming party of infantry. Does he mean the 9th and 15th Infantry of Gen.
Pillow’s Division?

A—No sir; I mean the 250 regulars of the old regiment, under a Captain whose name I can’t recall to memory.—
When I stated that they formed with us, I meant that we waited until they came up, by order of Major Caldwell, and
then a rush was made.

The Court was cleared here, in order to consider whether an objection, offered by Gen. Pillow, to a portion of the
witness’ testimony, which he considers as irrelevant to the charges and specification under investigation be received.
Gen. Pillow submitted the following:

Gen. Pillow moves to exclude the following passage of the witness’ testimony, viz: “and consequently upon himself,
as second in command, had devolved the subsequent movements, or words to that effect, I don’t remember the
exact words, but that was the idea I received”—upon the ground that there is no matter in the charges and
specifications to which it has reference, and it is therefore irrelevant and improper to go on the record as proof. The
witness’ testimony was recorded before its character and its irrelevancy were manifest to Maj. Gen. Pillow.

Gen. Scott submitted the following, in opposition to Gen. Pillow’s motion to “to strike out”:

Mr. President, and Gentle me of the Court:

In reply to the motion just made by Maj. Gen. Pillow, the defendant before the Court, in respect to a part of the
testimony of Lieut. Tilton, a witness on the part of the prosecution, Maj. Gen. Scott, the prosecutor, begs to say that
he deems the evidence to be legal, relevant, and material to the support of the fourth specification, second change,
now under consideration.

Nothing is here said in particular of the LEGALITY and MATERIALITY of the evidence, as those points do not appear
to be objected to by the defendant; I shall therefore, limit myself to the remaining point—RELEVANCY.

The specification alleges, in substance, that the said Pillow claimed that, in consequence of the stunned or paralyzed
state of the said Scott’s energies, consequent upon the results of the battle of the Molino del Rey, the said Scott
would not have undertaken or ordered the attack on the castle or fort of Chapultepec but for his, the said Pillow’s
interposition: and the testimony of the said witness, giving the declaration of the said Pillow, is substantially to the
effect of the allegation.

Respectfully submitted.
A—I was in Gen. Scott's room on the night of the 19th Aug. last, at the time when he returned and got back to
between the said Pillow and witness, respecting the said operations, wither that night, or early the following morning?

hearing of each other and the witness respecting the impending operations about and against the enemy's

officers of rank who were present, and add any remarks the witness heard from the two Major-Generals, in the

August last, when Major General Pillow and other officers were present. If so, please give the names of the principal

By the Prosecution.—Was, or not, the witness in Major General Scott's room at San Augustin on the night of the 19th

Twelve minutes after the event. I think that was about the time.

A—I do not know where Gen. Pillow was at the time the place was carried. He gave us the order to enter the

castle of Chapultepec was carried by the American troops, and how long it was after that event before the said Pillow
came or was brought to the top of the hill, or to the captured Castle?

By Gen. Scott—Does the witness chance to know on what part of the field Maj. Gen. Pillow was at the moment the
castle of Chapultepec was carried by the American troops, and how long it was after that event before the said Pillow
came or was brought to the top of the hill, or to the captured Castle?

A—I do not know where Gen. Pillow was at the time the place was carried. He gave us the order to enter the

woods, and I then lost sight of him. I saw him brought in in a blanket by four men into the Castle, some ten or
twelve minutes after the event. I think that was about the time.

Mr. TRIST recalled.

By the Prosecution.—Was, or not, the witness in Major General Scott's room at San Augustin on the night of the 19th
August last, when Major General Pillow and other officers were present. If so, please give the names of the principal
officers of rank who were present, and add any remarks the witness heard from the two Major-Generals, in the

hearing of each other and the witness respecting the impending operations about and against the enemy's

tenent camp at Contreras. Also, please give any separate conversation, after leaving, said Scott's room,
between the said Pillow and witness, respecting the said operations, wither that night, or early the following morning?

A—I was in Gen. Scott's room on the night of the 19th Aug. last, at the time when he returned and got back to
San Augustin, until he was ready to go to bed. During that period, I was absent from his room only a few minutes at
a time, and I think on but one occasion. Besides Gen. Scott that were present Gen. Pillow and Gen. Twiggs, who
came in together late in the night, and among the officers present,—the number of which was quiet large at different
times during the night,—there were Capt. Lee, and Lieut. Stevens, of the Engineers—the officers of the General's
staff, probably all of them. The only conversation that I recollect, after the two General officers came in, was on the
plan of attack to be made on Valencia's entrenched camp, of which Capt. Lee had brought intelligence from Gen.

Smith, previously to the arrival of Gen. Pillow and Twiggs. Capt Lee had not only explained the plan, but a great
many details respecting the relative positions of the forces, and the accidents of the ground about it; and after those

Generals had come in, Gen. Scott made that whole matter subject of explanation to them. The only remarks on their
part, that I recollect, was one from Gen. Twiggs, echoing an expression of great confidence in Gen. Smith, and in the
result of anything undertaken by him. If Gen. Pillow made any remark, it has made no impression on my memory.
The company dropped off until at a very late hour of the night, when preparations were made by gen. Scott to go to
bed, and he had a bed made in his room also for gen. Pillow. Upon my leaving the room to of to my own, Gen. Pillow
followed me, and went with me to me room. He then, in a very solemn tone, said to me, this is going to be a failure;
I answered that things had certainly not looked very bright at nightfall, but my own spirits had been very much
raised by Capt. Lee's arrival and the information he brought with him. Gen. Pillow did not notice my remark, but, in
a tone and manner implying that I had interrupted him, went on to say, that I call on you now to remember and
bear me witness hereafter, that I have had nothing to do with it. At that time, I looked upon these words as the
The Court met at 9 o'clock, agreeably to adjournment.

TWENTIETH DAY—April 7, 1848.

The Court then adjourned until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.
Mr. TRIST re-examined.

By the Defence.—Q—In witness' examination by the prosecution, he stated that Gen. Pillow followed him into the room on the night of the 19th of August, and there held a conversation with witness; was no one present at the interview, and was it entirely private?

A—It was entirely in private; he closed the door after him.

Q—When did you disclose this conversation to Gen. Scott—was it before his charges were preferred, and how long before?

A—A disclosed it to Gen. Scott soon after his position with reference to Gen. Pillow had become decided, as arising out of the correspondence between them, in regard to the statements contained in Gen. Pillow’s report. It was in gen. Scott’s parlor. Col. Hitchcock I know was present and some other officers, whom, I do not recollect. Mention was made of the underscored words in Gen. Pillow’s report, claiming credit for the whole of Contreras. I rose from my seat and said, gentlemen, I will astound you, while stating a thing which I had determined to bear witness to, to the country, but had not expected to do so on that occasion, and then stated what Gen. Pillow said to me at San Augustin that night.

Q—Did Gen. Pillow’s report claim the whole credit of Contreras?

A—I so understood it—the whole credit which a general officer should have had, such as plans, &c.

Q—You say Gen’l Pillow told you this—that the attack upon Contreras was to be a failure. Did not witness know that the order of attack by Gen. Scott that night was the same as that previously given by Gen. Pillow?

A—Did not say the attack on Contreras—I used no such words. I did not know the order of attack given by Gen. Scott that night was the same as that previously given by Gen. Pillow. I never heard of any order of attack given by gen. Pillow; had I known it, I should not have promised to bear witness that he had nothing to do with it.

Q—Did witness understand that under the order of attack given by Gen. Scott on the evening of the 19th, that General Smith was to make an attack at 3 o’clock next morning?

A—Agreeably to the plans of Gen. Smith, as explained by Capt. Lee, the attack was, so far as I can recollect, to take place at 3 o’clock, and, as far as I can recollect, the plan was generally approved by Gen’l. Scott, whatever orders he gave, they were in conformity with them. I could not at this moment recall any precise recollection of those orders, except the one sent Col. Ransom.

Q—As Gen. Pillow was known by witness to be at San Augustin, and intended, under Gen. Scott’s orders, to stay there that night, and as the attack that night, or rather the next morning, was to have taken place at 3 o’clock, how is it that witness regarded the pretended conversation as the dying charge of a man who expected to be killed next day?

A—That question implies that Gen. Pillow was ordered by Gen. Scott to remain at San Augustin, and intended, under Gen. Scott’s orders, to stay there that night, and as the attack that night, or rather the next morning, was to have taken place at 3 o’clock, how is it that witness regarded the pretended conversation as the dying charge of a man who expected to be killed next day?

A—That question implies that Gen. Pillow was ordered by Gen. Scott to remain at San Augustin that night, and by answering it without pointing out this fact, I should make myself a witness to that order having been given. I know of no such order, and I believe it was not given, unless the offer of a bed can be construed into an order. That same offer was made to Gen. Twiggs also, who went off to the battle field.

(Here the President requested that the witness would give his evidence with less of a spirit and tone of hatred than the witness seemed to feel, &c.)

The Witness Resumed—In answer to that part, I said I expected that there would be hot work next day; and took for granted that Gen. Pillow would hurry to take command of his troops.

Q—Did witness hear Gen Pillow express any doubts to Gen. Scott of the success of the movements explained by Gen. Scott in the room where the conference was held?

A—I did not, so far as I can recollect, hear a word from him on the subject.

Q—At what time did the confidential conversation before referred to take place? Was it strictly confidential and where did it occur?

A—The time was on one of the days after the 8th September, and before the 11th. It may have been (possibly) late in the afternoon of the 8th. I think that it was on the day preceding the meeting at Piedad—that is to say, on the 10th. It was most strictly confidential, as appeared from the words that prefaced it. No one was present, that I could see. This was at Tecubaya.
Q—Witness will say if he saw Gen. Pillow—to hold any conversation with him—after he left the battle-field?

A—On the 8th of September after he left the battle-field; I have no recollection now of seeing him.

Q—The witness has said in a previous answer that Gen. Pillow said, that if Gen. Scott were to make any more such experiments as the battle of Molino del Rey, that we would have no army; that the witness replied that it was not an experiment of Gen. Scott, and that he, witness, was a living witness, as long as he lived, of the fact, what does witness mean by that expression?

A—by the expression of being a living witness, I meant that I was always ready to testify to that fact, that it was no experiment of Gen. Scott’s, I should be ready to testify that there were no such experiments, as well as to facts.

Q—Witness will say, if it was not Gen. Scott’s experiment, whose it was, and how is it if Gen. Scott gave the order for that battle, that he did not make the experiment, and what are the facts referred to or understood to be spoken of in witness’ last answer?

A—I did not call it anybody’s experiment, in saying that it was not Gen. Scott’s experiment, I meant merely to repel a slur or insinuation cast upon him, and unjustly cast upon him, as I knew, and as the person who puts the question subsequently told me he knew, whatever there was diss...[illegible] (to use his own expression) in that day. The order given by Gen. Scott in regard to any operations on the morning of the 8th was strictly and peremptorily confined to the destruction of the foundry as its sole object; I never knew him to feel so much anxiety on any point as on this one, that nothing beyond the destruction of that foundry should be attempted.

Q—Does the witness know the fact that Gen’l. Pillow communicated to gen. Scott that the machinery could have been rendered powerless by the withdrawal of the water, also that the machinery was removed from the foundry, and does witness know that that machinery was found in the city afterwards?

A—I recollect that Gen. Scott received from a great many sources information in regard to the existence and nonexistence of the machinery in the building. I have no recollection of his having received any from Gen. Pillow; if I knew it at the time, it had escaped my memory; with regard to turning off the water, the state of my mind at present is similar; it was, I think, mentioned by a number of persons, but I have no recollection of who they were. I do not know that the machinery was removed from the city, although I have no doubt of the fact.

The Court was here cleared, to consult on the admission of evidence of a peculiar nature on the part of the defence. After some time the Court opened, and the Court had some to the conclusion that the testimony given should remain, but it came to no conclusion as to future evidence.

Here Gen. Scott made his objections in writing regarding future evidence being put of similar nature. Gen. Pillow also replied to the objections of Gen. Scott.

Q—The witness has said, on a former occasion, that Gen. Pillow sought to make him the depository of his confidence, and thus constituted him a party to a scheme of villainy, &c; did witness ever object to the reception of confidential matters or did he intimate that he objected to become the recipient of his confidential views?

A—I had, at the time of receiving those confidences, no idea of the uses to which I was to be made subservient, and I did not know, till the expressions made use of by Gen’l. Pillow were poured into my ear, what they were to be. I made no objection, and never sought them by any means whatever.

Q—Does witness recollect that while his negotiations were pending under the armistice, that Gen. Pillow addresses to the President of the United States a letter, opposing, warmly and earnestly, the agreement of witness to receive and send to his Government a proposition of the Mexican Commissioners, to make the country between the Nueces and Rio Grande forever a neutral territory? Say if Gen. Pillow did not show this to witness at Tecubaya; and upon witness declining to read it, did he not tell you the views therein expressed, and offer to permit you to read it? That up to that time the friendly relations between witness and Gen. Pillow had been uninterrupted?

A—I recollect that Gen. Scott received from a great many sources information in regard to the existence and nonexistence of the machinery in the building. I have no recollection of his having received any from Gen. Pillow; if I knew it at the time, it had escaped my memory; with regard to turning off the water, the state of my mind at present is similar; it was, I think, mentioned by a number of persons, but I have no recollection of who they were. I do not know that the machinery was removed from the city, although I have no doubt of the fact.

Q—Has the witness now disclosed all the confidential revelations made to him by Gen. Pillow, in this prosecution? Can he remember any other letter or letters he has written to the American Senate, for the purpose of defeating Gen. Pillow’s confirmation, or the Secretary of State, or any other public functionary, to save them from the deep and damming disgrace, by reason of their connection with Gen. Pillow?

A—With regard to the private and confidential disclosures, the two that I have stated became rooted in my memory, by incidents connecting themselves with them. I have a general impression that many minor matters have
The Enquirer flatters itself that we are in "a sort of dilemma," in regard to Gen. Taylor's late letters. Not at all. When we read the General's letter to the editors of the Republican, which seemed to intimate his determination to be a candidate for the Presidency, whether nominated by the Whig Convention or not, we saw that it was impossible, with such an understanding of his purpose, that his name could be presented to the Whig National Convention even for its consideration. The friends of no man have a right to ask that his claims shall be considered, in a body of that kind, who proclaims in advance of his purpose that he will pay no respect to its decision unless that decision be favorable to himself. As a member of such a Convention, we would not insult it by asking it to deliberate upon a matter already pre-determined—or in other words, to decide by vote whether a certain individual should be a candidate, when that individual had forewarned it, that, having been already announced as a candidate, he would remain so, be its decisions what it might. Nor would we consent to weigh even the claims of such a man, if presented by another. What business has such an one indeed, in a Convention at all? Yet the language of Gen. Taylor's letter to the editors of the Republican, seemed to us to be susceptible of no other interpretation; and consequently, pursuing the course we have heretofore done in regard to that gentleman, and which we shall adopt towards other aspirants, all of whom, in our estimation, stand upon a level platform and have equal rights, we promptly and explicitly expressed our decided dislike of a position, which, while General Taylor had a perfect right, if he thought fit, to take it, must of necessity have been regarded, under the circumstances, as grossly offensive to other aspirants for the Whig nomination, and as a defiance to the Whig party itself. And had it so remained, we, for one, would no longer have considered that Gen. Taylor's friends had a right to present his name to the Whig Convention as a candidate for its nomination. But we had scarcely finished our comments upon that letter, when the Southern mail brought us the much more interesting, explicit and satisfactory letter from Gen. Taylor to Mr. Allison of New Orleans, in which his meaning, upon this point, is distinctly expressed: "I have (says the General) consented to the use of my name for the Presidency.* * * * * Having, at the solicitation of many of my countrymen, taken my position as a candidate, I DO NOT FEEL AT LIBERTY TO SURRENDER THAT POSITION, UNTIL MY FRIENDS MANIFEST A WISH THAT I SHOULD RETIRE FROM IT. I WOULD THEN MOST GLADLY DO SO." This we have said, is entirely satisfactory. It shows that although Gen. Taylor will not withdraw his own name, his refusal to do so results, not from any egotistical or ambitious or envious motive, but from the peculiar circumstances under which he became a candidate, and in consequence of which he does not "feel himself at liberty" to change his position. But he leaves the matter in the hands of his "friends"—by which expression we presume he means something practical and practicable. How are his friends to be consulted, and how are their views to be ascertained? No one will do General Taylor the injustice to suppose that he meant that each one of his friends, from Maine to the Gulf, is to be consulted—and that, in that case, there is to be entire unanimity of opinion on the subject. We take it for granted that the General meant, what every other candidate who consents that his name shall go before a Convention means, when he uses the same expression—and that is, that his friends in Convention shall, before it proceeds to deliberate, announce their intention to abide by its decision—and that announcement will be to Gen. Taylor a sufficient manifestation of their wish that he should not be a candidate, in the event of his failure to obtain its nomination. That the great body of his friends, throughout the country, would concur in the manifestation of this wish, we cannot doubt; because they would clearly perceive not only the impossibility of his election, but the probability of his failure to obtain a single Electoral vote—an attitude in which, as his true friends, they would never consent to place him. Thus understanding Gen. Taylor's letter to Mr. Allison, as giving the true meaning of the less explicit language, upon this point, in his letter to the Republican, we had no hesitation, while we permitted our comments upon the latter to remain as we had written them, to add that we should not have deemed it necessary to write them at all had the former reached us before they were penned. So far, indeed, from being thrown into "a sort of dilemma," by the two letters, that to Mr. Allison extricated us from "a sort of dilemma" into which we might have been thrown by that to the Republican, had its meaning been unexplained.

But the Enquirer thinks the Republican has cut away this last plank from us. How? Because that paper says that not only Gen. Taylor cannot withdraw, but that he "will not be withdrawn;" and, as Gen. Taylor has written a letter to the editors of the Republican, ergo, says the Enquirer, they "certainly ought to know what the Old Hero means." But this is neither logical nor plausible. We have received in our time sundry letters without being able to comprehend the meaning of the writers; and we are very sure that we have sometimes been aided in reaching just conclusions by the acumen of others who had never received a line from our correspondents. It by no means follows, therefore, that our neighbors of the Republican are better qualified to interpret the General's language, because he has written a letter to them, than other folks who have not had the honor of a correspondence with him. Certain it is that the General himself no where says that he will not permit his name "to be withdrawn." He means no such thing, whatever the Republican may mean; and we admit that the determination of the editors of that paper to run him, "nolens volens," has not been at any time matter of doubt, except perhaps during the sitting of the Whig State Convention, when, as its editors were members of that body, we took it for granted they were prepared to abide by, as well as willing to participate in its deliberations. Nor do we suppose that the general means that expressions of this sort, though there should be a hundred of them, in as many different parts of the Union, are to control his course, rather than the embodied sense of his "friends" who may be members of the National Convention, and who, if they go into that body at all, must do so in no such uncompromising spirit as that evinced by the Republican. For it
cannot be expected that the friends of other gentlemen, in that body, (experienced gamesters too, as they have been dubbed,) will consent to play at "Open and Shut" with those of Gen. Taylor or any other man.

The writer of this article voted in the Virginia Convention for the resolution nominating Gen. Taylor; but he is no farther committed to him by that vote, or by any thing that has appeared in the columns of this paper, than are the ultra friends of the General in that body committed to action of the National Convention—the second resolution of the State Convention having referred the whole matter to the decision of the meeting in Philadelphia, by whose determination its members, una voce, pledged themselves to abide. We confess to no such intense affection for Gen. Taylor—whose high qualities both of head and heart we nevertheless duly appreciate and honor—as to induce us to regard the "union of the Whig party" and the permanent ascendancy of Whig principles, as of subordinate importance to his nomination—and so we say of Mr. Clay, and of nay and every other man in its ranks. Hence, while, for reasons, some of which we have already stated, and others we may hereafter have occasion to make known, we have expressed a preference for Gen. Taylor, we do not intend, by any act of ours, to intimate a belief that "the world was made for Caesar." And, if the Corporal's Guard, who talk of running him as an "independent" candidate, should the Whig Convention refuse to submit to their arrogant attempt to dictate to it—as it will refuse, of that attempt shall be made—should "slough off," as they threaten to do, they will constitute a "forlorn hope," and will scarcely be missed when the vote shall be counted; or if they be rather more numerous than we suppose them to be, residing as they do in States which, with perhaps two exceptions, never have heretofore voted for a Whig candidate for the Presidency, they will, like the fly upon the coach-wheel, kick up a great dust to very little purpose. They may render themselves ridiculous, while they place their candidate in the mortifying attitude of having run as the "people's favorite," without receiving an electoral vote in the Union, as he will not if he permit them to keep him in that position.

But Gen. Taylor is not to be held responsible for what a portion of his "friends," isolated here and there, may say. Their opinions are of course entitled to respect, but they are not to be regarded as conclusive. If his friends in the National Convention shall speak that language, it will of course have more weight; and, the effect of it may be to prevent a nomination altogether—certainly to prevent the nomination of General Taylor. But we have too much confidence in their sound judgment and their love of fair play to suppose them capable of taking a position, which, as every one must perceive, must render the assemblage of the Convention itself an act of supreme folly.

Rob. H. Gallaher, esq.

Col. Haskell, of Tennessee, delivered a Lecture in the city of Washington, a few evenings since, on Mexico. His main points were that Mexico can never be subdued or reclaimed—that the country is not adapted to the Caucasian race—that they will become enervated and degenerate in such a climate in a few generations, and that, consequently, we had better give up the idea of annexation, and develop our inexhaustible resources at home. He also gave as his opinion, from the character of the Mexicans, that the treaty will not be ratified, and that we had as well prepare to fall back upon the line we intend to occupy, as our only safe alternative.

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The New Orleans Bulletin publishes the following letter from Gen. Persifer F. Smith, the distinguished commander at the battle of Contreras, written to a friend in New Orleans. It is a beautiful, and we doubt not a just tribute to the character of General Taylor, from one who has had ample opportunities to judge of it. It is at once gratifying to the General's friends, and is a fitting rebuke, though not so intended perhaps, to those who take pleasure in depreciating the capacity of the hero of Buena Vista:

MEXICO, April 8, 1848.

General TAYLOR's military exploits are not the CAUSES of his popularity, they are only the occasions for the display of his sound judgment, energy of character, lofty and pure sense of justice, and incorruptible honesty. He has as much reputation for what he has WRITTEN as for what he has DONE, because, even if the composition is not his own, the sentiments, motives and feelings are his, and every thing he says, as every thing he does, is marked by the purity and greatness of his own character.

I have never heard of any one, however corrupt or base himself, that after five minutes conversation, with Gen. Taylor, has dared to propose, or even to hint, at anything dishonest or mean, and no intercourse in the ordinary events of common life, can give the true idea of the loftiness of his character.

I remember that you asked me at the time he was put in command at Corpus Christi, whether he was equal to the circumstances? I told you in reply, of his sound judgment and inexhaustible energy, as I learned them in Florida, but I did not then properly estimate the other and higher points of his character. In the campaign on the Rio Grande I saw him tried under all circumstances, and he always came out pure gold.

His profession that he will be the candidate of no party will, if he be elected, be carried out in his practice; not that his opinions on matters of policy may not be those of one or the other party, as on most of these he is a Whig, and he is not the man to act adverse to his own opinions, but no party management or power, can ever lead him to do a mean, or what he thinks, a wrong thing.

As soon as Gen. Taylor was furnished by events, with the opportunity to display his character, you see that it was at once properly estimated, and I come back to the proposition I started with, that the people will always properly measure great men. I do not say that they will always reward them properly, for they cannot always give a direct expression to their feelings, and the less worthy may have their vote without their wishes.

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[BWP]
and the confidential correspondence of the departments at Washington, have been ransacked, and every paper that could be brought to bear, directly or indirectly, on the questions at issue, have been copied and sent to the defence, in hopes to influence the decisions; private correspondence to the military bureaus, written at a time when it was impossible to forward regular official communications from here, have been published in the Union, and the letters, with the names of the officers, sent to the defence, in hopes that it would prove that persons belonging to Gen. Scott’s general or personal staff had written letters for publication, or that it was the practice of officers to write letters, in order that they would find their way into the public prints.

“But the Administration have made a great mistake.—When they aimed at the object of their destruction, they selected a gun with too small a caliber.”

It is stated that the President has nominated Colonels Harney and Riley to the Senate as Brigadier Generals.

Why is it that the President has never sent in the name of Maj. Gen. Pillow for the action of the Senate? That General has for more than twelve months held his present commission alone by Presidential appointment. Is Mr. Polk afraid to trust his own friends?

—[BWP]

RW48v25i36p2c4, May 5, 1848: Proceedings of the Court of Inquiry. Twentieth Day – (Concluded.)

Capt. Hager recalled.

By the Prosecution—Q—Did the witness chance to be in Major Gen. Scott’s room on the night of the 19th of August at San Augustin, when he gave some instructions to Capt. Lee regarding the operations of the next morning; was Gen. Pillow also there, and did he make any remarks?

A—I was in Gen. Scott’s quarters on the night of the 19th of August; I did hear the orders and directions given; Gen. Pillow was there, but I do not recollect that he remarked on the orders given.

Q—After the battle of August last, did the witness chance to fall into conversation with Gen. Pillow respecting the plan or plans of battle which had been executed that day, and if so, state the substance of the conversation?

A—I had no conversation with Gen. Pillow, discussing this subject, but accidentally met him at the hacienda of San Antonio on the evening of the 20th, after the battle, I rode up to him to congratulate him on his safety and success of the day, which had turned out as well as we could have wished from the prospects of the previous night. The General replied, Yes, sir, I am getting along very well; I had arranged all my plans, which had been successfully carried out, and that Gen. Scott was perfectly satisfied with it.

Q—When in September last did the witness receive orders to select sites, in connection with the late Capt Drum and others, for batteries to be placed against the castle of Chapultepec, that is how long before the attack by the batteries was it, that such orders were received?

A—The orders received by me to make reconnaissance of the battery, was on the morning of the 11th of September, just before Gen. Scott left Tacubaya to so to Piedad, my directions were to select the sites, and that the General would make up his mind before he returned about making the attack. On his retiring that evening, the erection of the batteries was determined upon, and the engineers instructed accordingly, and I was ordered to bring up the guns that night, and the batteries opened in the morning (the 12th).

Q—Had the witness many official or other interviews with Gen. Scott between the 7th and the 12th of September, and what was the impression received by witness of those occasions, regarding said Scott’s energy compared with earlier occasions in the campaign?

A—I have had frequent interviews with Gen. Scott during the stated time, and as the occasion required any great energy; I think he always displayed as much or more energy, both of mind and body, as I observed on lesser occasions.

Q—Does the witness chance to know any thing about the collection of scaling ladders, and what time the orders were given on that subject?

A—I do not know that scaling ladders were ordered, for I met some of the Quartermasters collecting them about Tacubaya, on the 11th Sept. in the morning; at what time they received their orders I don’t know.

Q—What did witness understand from said Scott to be the object in placing batteries against Chapultepec, or what did the witness learn from the same source, to be the plan of attack upon that Castle?

A—Gen. Scott had asked my opinion of the effect heavy guns would have upon the Castle, and I gave my opinion
in which he concurred; a very considerable effect could be produced on the Castle, by the fire of our heavy batteries, and though we could not approach it so as to make any considerable breach in the walls; but the fire would so annoy and harass the garrison, it would greatly facilitate its being carried by storm, which I understood was his plan. These conversations occurred on the morning, before Gen. Scott went to Piedad.

Lieut. BEEMAN called and sworn.

By Prosecution.—Did the witness chance to hear, previous to the order for this Court, Paymaster Burns say anything on the subject of the Leonidas letter, if so what was it?

A—Some few days after the American army entered the city, I met Maj. Burns at a public Fonda, near the National Theatre; he, without having any particular acquaintance with me, showed me a paper, in which were some verses about Gen. Pillow. Some time after this the Leonidas letter made its appearance, and I then immediately reverted to this affair; my impressions were that Maj. Burns might be its author. Some short time after the appearance of the Leonidas letter, I think about a month, I met Maj. Burns again, he asked me of he had not shown me, before, those verses. I remarked that he had made some change in them; he said he had, as they were going to the United States, for publication, and that when they came back, they would create a great excitement here. I replied, as great an excitement as the Leonidas letter, I suppose? He replied, that he did not write the Leonidas letter, that he had been accused of it before. He said this, in a serious manner, as if it appeared I was taking a liberty with him, in indirectly accusing him of the authorship.

Q—Does the witness know that here were any officers other than Gen. Pillow introduced into said verses?

A—I do not know a single word of the verses; I only know that the tune was JIM CROW, and that Gen. Pillow’s name was introduced into the chorus, and he remarked that he had changed the tune.

Major Woods called and sworn:

Q—Has the witness, at any time since the capture of Chapultepec, heard any remarks from Gen. Pillow, relative to plans connected with that attack, &c.?

A—I heard Gen. Pillow make several remarks concerning the capture of Chapultepec, though I do not think the remarks are called for by the question. This question was withdrawn by Gen. Scott.

Lieut. McConnell called and sworn:

Q—Was the witness present at the taking of Chapultepec? If so, when and where did he see Gen. Pillow during that battle?

A—I was along with the storming party at Chapultepec, which was commanded by Col. ____, 2d Artillery. It was at least twenty minutes after the place had fallen that I saw Gen. Pillow, when he came up. I ascertained the length of time by this circumstance: after every thing was comparatively quiet—that is, when there was no enemy to be seen, except such as were killed or made prisoners, and no firing to be heard from Chapultepec—I collected some of my men together, and went out to search for and collect the killed and wounded of my command; among the killed was Lieut. E. T. Rodgers, of my Regiment; I had his body taken up and accompanied it myself to the building of Chapultepec; when I was near the building, I saw Gen. Pillow borne along on the backs of some soldiers. I remember it was at this time that they were carrying him along, for I stopped a moment to look at him, and, seeing that he did not appear to suffer much hurt, and remembering a circumstance which happened some time previous, I passed on, thinking that he was but slightly hurt.

Q—At what point was Gen. Pillow when the witness first saw him, and how far was that point from the body of the captured work?

A—I did not see Gen. Pillow until I saw him carried along inside the work.

Q—How long, after the place fell, was it before the national flag was hoisted?

A—I am not able to judge precisely as to the time, but I think that all firing was over when it was hoisted; I did not see it when it was hoisted.

Q—Where were the soldiers taking Gen. Pillow when you saw him?

A—they were taking him to a shed against the side of the wall—the same place in which was Lieut. Tower, after he was wounded.

Q—How long had the National flag been hoisted before you saw Gen. Pillow go into the work? Was it before or after you saw Gen. Pillow?
A—I do not remember whether it was before or after. I think it was after; I am pretty positive, from the fact that I saw Lt. Pickett and another in the yard. Lieut. Pickett I believe was on the top of Chapultepec when the National flag was raised.

Q—In what direction was it, from the main gate; was it towards the east end of the building that they were carrying Gen. Pillow, or towards the main entrance of the Castle, or towards the shelter a the east end of the building.

A—They were carrying him almost parallel to the south wall of the building; the shed was about ten or fifteen paces to the right of the main entrance of the Castle as you enter.

Q—Had Gen. Scott arrived before Gen. Pillow, or did he arrive afterwards?

A—I did not see Gen. Scott a the time he arrived.—When I did see him, he was making some congratulatory remarks to our troops at the main gate; how long he had been there speaking, I do not know.

Q—Does the witness mean to say that they were carrying Gen. Pillow to a shed in the main building, or to a shed near the main building?

A—They were carrying him to a shed near the main entrance.

Q—Was Gen. Pillow put by those who were carrying him under or by the shed you speak of?

A—He was placed, to the best of my recollection, a few yards from it, when the men laid him down; he may have been removed afterwards.

Q—Did witness chance to notice on what Gen. Pillow was laid, when laid down?

A—He may have been laid upon a Mexican mat, as there were some about there; whether he was or not, I don’t know.

Q—How close was witness to Gen. Pillow when he noticed him?

A—Within a yard or two.

Q—Is witness sure that Gen. Pillow was carried on a blanket when he saw him?

A—It was either a blanket, or a piece of cloth made to answer the purpose. I am pretty positive it was a blanket.

LIEUT. SIMPSON called and sworn.

Q—Was the witness present at the capture of Chapultepec? If so, at what time and place did he see Gen. Pillow there?

A—I was present at the taking of the castle of Chapultepec, and at a certain time in the morning I saw Gen. Pillow carried by me in a direction to the castle; I had no watch to observe the hour of the day, but to the best of my knowledge, it was more than twenty minutes after the place had fallen. I judge of the time from the happening of certain events, and the probable time between each one of them.

Q—What event transpired between the capture of the works and the moment at which the witness first saw Gen. Pillow in or about the place?

A—I entered the work, passing over the round or second ladders resting on the wall and in the ditch. I passed in front of the building, and entered near the principal entrance of the castle, for the purpose of going into the interior of the building, which I found impossible. I then went round towards that end of the building towards the Molino del Rey, and went into a room where I found a number of pick axes, shovels and other instruments—Some of the soldiers were standing near me, whom I directed to go and break open the doors in the interior of the building. I followed them, and saw the work done. The rooms were found to contain a number of Mexicans, who were made prisoners. I then passed from the interior of the building to the outside, to the south-western extremity, where I saw Gen. Pillow. A soldier of my company accosted me, and desired me to render him some assistance. About the same time we made the capture of Gen. Bravo, who was standing near by. After doing for the soldier all that was in my power to do, I passed to the other extremity of the castle, to see if any more Mexicans were concealed in the rooms. I went leisurely through all the rooms in that part of the building, and not seeing any of my party, I concluded that they had gone round to pursue the enemy. I then left the building, and went in the direction of the aqueduct, stopping frequently to drive soldiers out of houses, and to destroy the liquor they contained. Not finding any of my party, I returned to Chapultepec.
Question by Gen. Pillow.—Where was Gen. Pillow when you first saw him, in or outside of the main gate?

A—Inside the main gate.

Q—Were they carrying Gen. Pillow into the main building?

A—They were carrying him to that part of the main building, or what is now an opening in that part; I do not know whether there was an opening there then or not?

Q—Was it toward what is now called the main entrance and opening in the building?

A—It is not what is called the main entrance; the main entrance was partially covered with sand.

Q—Was it before or after the national flag was raised that you saw Gen. Pillow?

A—I have no recollection of seeing the flag when hoisted upon the works.

Q—Where was the entrance of which you speak, and was it leading into some private room, or through the building into the back yard?

A—It was the entrance which leads to the back yard; I do not know whether it was open or not.

Question by the Prosecution.—Does the witness mean to say that no flag had been raised a the time witness speaks of, or that the flag, if he saw any that forenoon, was hoisted before he observed General Pillow in or about the castle?

A—I have no recollection of having seen any flag at all that day.

The Court here adjourned till nine o’clock next day.

RW48v25i36p2c5, May 5, 1848: From Tobin’s Knapsack. Parras, Mexico, March 20, 1848.

Eds. Delta—I am again in “dear, delightful Pawas.”*—The Camanches have made another descent, and made another clean sweep of horses and mules. Don Manuel y Ibarra tells me he has lost 4000 head. The Indians were only a small party, but the Peons, or rather serfa, had no arms to fight them; and even if they had, they don’t know how to use them. Such is the policy of the Mexican government. The rancheros are a splendid-looking set of men; and when this country is annexed, they’ll make capital Sepoys, if led by American officers, with a few companies of white men sprinkled amongst tem.

Capt. Adams, with his company of Texas Rangers, is here, and four companies of the Virginia Regiment—all under command of Capt. Harper, one of the most gentlemanly officers I have ever met with. You may believe it when I tell you so, and I am not inclined to flatter him, as he has wounded me in the most delicate point, by dancing all night with a lady, who, they say, is going to marry me; but it’s doubtful, ’cos she hasn’t asked me yet, although it is leap year.

The Virginia Regiment is a splendid one: no wonder Col. Hamtramck is so proud of it. It is the best I have ever seen, always excepting the “Washington regiment, Labrigade,” of which said regiment the Mount Zionites, Co. D, commanded by myself, was the flower, as Lieut. Col. Forno used to Say. Give him my love, and kiss him for me, if he will permit you. Ask him, too, if he remembers the day he swore he’d be d—d if he’d let me go over the Rio Grande to Matamoras; and also how I blarneyed him out of it, by taking a testament out of my pocket and reading him a verse. The testament was given me by the Rev. Arthur Meister, British Chaplain at Rio Janeiro, when I was LYING in sick in the hospital there. If this should meet his eyes, I wish him to accept the thanks of one to whom he was very kind when the object of his kindness was very poor and friendless. But, if I talk sentiment, you’ll put it down for the emblem of german literature, viz: a big butcher blubbering over a calf he has just killed.—The verse I read to Col. Forno, was from a letter written by a gentleman named Paul, to a COSSOON called TIM something. It’s in the 1st Epistle, 5th chapter, 23d Verse, and runs thus: “Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach’s sake and thine often infirmities.” The Colonel then told me to do to the realms reigned over by Lucifer, but to be back for the evening parade; I didn’t go to the place directed, but I was back for the parade.

Writing of Paul puts me in mind of a dispute between two sailors, when I served on board the war schooner “Invincible.” One of them said Paul was a saint; the other asserted that he was not. The matter was referred to the boatswain, an old Englishman from the Hard of Portsmouth. He decided that Paul was not a regular commissioned saint, but that he had a brown paper warrant.

Two of the Virginians have just come in, cut up into sausage-meat by the Mexicans. They had been missing some days, and as they were known to be excellent men and not deserters, a search was made for them; and Capt. Harper himself brought in their bodies, beautifully mangled with knives. They had been buried a day or two.
I had a narrow escape here from an inebriated virgin heifer I bought from Dan Manuel. Lieut. McGowan, of the Virginians, and myself, were watching the operation of tying her down, and when the Vacheros had fixed her so that she couldn't move, she got up and made a tilt at us; we both ran at quarter-horse speed, and I had only time to close the door of the corral, or yard, when she came butt on to it, within an inch of Mc.'s posterities. "How do you feel, Mc.?" Said I. "That showed some presence of mind in you; come down to Campo's and take a drink," said he. When we returned, I shot the lady; and on disemboweling her, I discovered a fine little masculine calf which I soon skinned, and I made a pot-pie of the little gentleman. That trick I learned from a Seminole Indian.

An express has come in, stating that Capt. Adams, of the Rangers, has had a brush with the Camanches, and had 7 of his men killed, and that he killed 5 of them. I don't know how true it is, but if we learn anything more before the mail closes, I shall let you know. The incarnate fiends actually came (a fresh band) within one league of us, but vamoosed the ranch when they learned that we were here. Capt. Adams, and all the Virginia officers who could obtain leave, started after them. I could not go, but I loaned all my horses, except one, to the Virginia Officers, and my double-barrel to Lieut. Garnett. I hope none of them are among the killed, or I shall be minus my gun and horses; and I'd rather lend my wife than my horse—that is, if I had a wife. I wonder how I'd look, walking down Chartres street, with a Mrs. T. on my arm, and a dozen little small T's toddling on after us. If I did send her, I'd only have the horses; and I'd rather lend my wife than my horse—that is, if I had a wife. I wonder how I'd look, walking down Chartres street, with a Mrs. T. on my arm, and a dozen little small T's toddling on after us. If I did send her, I'd only follow the example of an ancient philosopher:

"Heroic, Stote, Cato the sententious,\n
Who lent his lady to his friend Hortensius,"

Some of Gonzales' people stole my fine horse "Belzebub," and shot another; the one I now bestride has two eyes, but one of them's out—however, he has speed and bottom.—On St. Patrick's Day he tried to eat the Shamrock out of my cap, and I had to get on the blind side to mount him.—He is most angelically wild, and when we get together there's a pair of us, the boys say. He has received Christian baptism, and bears the euphonious name of "Rip Van Snout." The boys are bothering me, and that will account for all the scratches and mistakes. We gave one fellow fifty lashes this morning for stealing—he was a greaser; and I'm going out now to look for another, who cheated me out of 81. If I catch him, I'll break half the bones in his body, as certain as that the Lord made small apples.

We have just buried the murdered Virginians; their names are Peck and Hurt. If I be not much mistaken, our people mean to immolate a hecatomb to their mates. A Hecatomb used to be 100 oxen, from Hecatos (100) and Bous, (a ox,) but the modern Ancients, (when beef grew scarce,) interpreted it into Hecatos, (100,) and Tombos, (1 foot,) making altogether 25 cattle; thereby whipping the Devil round the stump and cheating, "Jove high thundering," out of the smoke and incense of 75 beeves.

In this isolated place, I have no news, and must make up this letter by a joke or tow. Gen. Urrea, (they say,) is coming down on us, and within one day's march, with 10,000 men; and as the fighting must be done from house to house, (we are but 300,) we'll have "bloody politeful" times.

I caught Lt. Coleman, Va. Reg't in a beautiful fix, making a unique tableau, composed of himself and a calf and a cow, and a little girl. The cow was spanced by the hind legs, the calf engrossed two tits, (have tits two T's or three? The Lord help me, I'm forgetting how to spell,) Coleman had one the girl had the other, and both were milking into one pot, except the calf, who was milking into his own and Coleman's mustache was saturated with the milk and looked like a fresh flake of snow. I should have wished a daguerreotype of the group, taken by Mr. Maguire, and for the trouble of taken it, I should willingly have given him my note, payable 21 days after convenience. Coleman asked me what his friends at home would think if they saw him? Please ask them.

There's a true joke about Major Ben Mcculloch. The day after the battle of Buena Vista, I went to Saltillo with him, and stopped at the Great Western's. I was then Orderly Sergeant of his company, and had on the frock coat I wore when Captain, with the straps, however, taken off. We asked the Great Western for supper; the Major had not a ball dress on; she told me I could have it, but as to the Major, she kept no house for teamsters, although he might eat after the gentlemen got through. I roared and laughed, and the Major was leaving when Col. May came in, and invited him to supper. Master Ben declined, and the madame asked Col. May who he was. On learning that he was Major Ben of the Rangers, she ran out, brought him back, gave him supper, charged him nothing, opened a monte bank and took $18 off him. Next morning I caught Ben adjusting a shawl round her shoulders. Ben's a sly one.

This is perhaps the last time you'll ever hear from me, as Gen. Urrea is close by, according to Mexican accounts; and if he attacks us I shall, as a matter of course, be in the thick of it, and I don't intend to be made a prisoner of, because I've served so long on horseback, that it would be mighty inconvenient to circum-pery-ambulate on foot, through all the country between here and Mexico, and be displayed like a wild beast, instead of the quiet, bashful Christian I am. Yours, G. H. T.

P.S.—The lady says she'll have me, if I get baptized by a priest and become a legitimate good Catholic. I don't like the idea of abjuring the trifle of religion my mother taught me, and if the lady persists, I'll grow desperate, go out and turn regular Turk, and then I can marry every body (wot's willing.) G.H.T.

*The dear, delightful Pawas is a joke, well known among the Va. Regiment here. [BWP]*
Petitions and memorials were presented by Messrs. More, Sturgeon, Bagby, Crittenden, Johnson of Maryland, Johnson of Louisiana, Borland, Cass, chiefly in reference to the purchase of Mount Vernon by the Government, to the duties on timber exported, and to the Western Indians.

Several private bills were reported from committees.

Mr. Hannegan introduced a resolution, providing for the removal of the remains of Mr. Ashley whenever requested by the widow of the deceased. Adopted.

Mr. Bell gave notice of a bill to authorize the holding of a special term of the District Court of the United States in Tennessee.

Mr. Underwood reported a bill for the relief of the American Colonization Society, for the operation of the law relating to passenger vessels.

Mr. Westcott reported without amendment House bill providing for the holding of a term of the United States Circuit and District Court at Chicago, Illinois, on the first Monday in May in each year. Passed.

On motion of Mr. Crittenden, the bill extending the pension of Harriet Barney, widow of Com. Barney, was taken up and passed.

Mr. Butler, from the Judiciary Committee, to which had been referred certain resolutions of the Kentucky Legislature, in favor of the passage of a law in relation to Slaves escaping from Slaveholding to non-Slaveholding States, made a long report, accompanied by a bill, providing for their arrest, and the examination of testimony, before any Judge, Clerk, Marshal, Post-Master, Collector, or Commissioner of the U. S. for the State where the arrest, is made and for their return to their owners. The report and bill were read, and on motion of Mr. Atchison, 10,000 copies were ordered to be printed.

Mr. Hale offered a resolution, which was adopted, instructing the Judiciary committee to inquire whether any legislation is necessary to protect the colored population of the non-slaveholding States in the rights guaranteed to them by the Constitution.

Mr. Douglass moved to take up the bill granting to the State of Illinois the right of way through the public lands, for a railroad between the Mississippi and northern lakes, and alternate sections of these lands to and in the construction of such road.

Mr. Hale moved to take up the question of granting him leave to introduce his bill relative to property destroyed by mobs in the District of Columbia, but the motion of Mr. Douglass prevailed.

A debate ensued, and a few amendments,—one of which stipulating the conditions upon which the U. States Mail shall be conveyed over the road, when completed—were proposed. The debate was participated in by Messrs. Douglass, Crittenden, Cass, Benton, and Foote, in support of the bill, and by Messrs. Clarke, Butler, Niles, Calhoun, and Bagby in opposition; the constitutional question as to the powers of the General Government to aid in the construction of works of internal improvement, being of course introduced incidentally.

In the course of Mr. Baby's remarks, some allusions made to aspirants for the Presidency, supposed to refer to either Mr. Cass or Mr. Calhoun, which called up Mr. Calhoun, and induced a very sharp reply also from Mr. Foote, and not less pointed rejoinder from Mr. Bagby. Mr. B. said that his allusions were mainly directed to the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. Crittenden) and for him had thought them a very small matter. The debate finally took a very pleasant turn, and terminated after this episode, in the passage of the bill, yeas 24, nays 11.

Mr. Cass gave notice that he should to-morrow, at 1 o'clock, move to take up the bill authorizing the raising of twenty additional regiments of Volunteers.

Mr. Atherton gave notice that he should call up the West Point Appropriation Bill.

Mr. Foote introduced a bill for the relief of the West Feliciana Railroad Company, which was twice read and referred.

Mr. Borland gave notice that he should, on Monday, introduce a bill, granting to the State of Arkansas the public lands therein unsold, in consequence of overflow, for purposes of internal improvements or other objects, under the direction of the State.

The Vice President laid before the Senate a communication from Wm. Brent, presenting to Congress a portrait of
Baron De Kalb. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. McClelland reported a bill to set apart a portion of the public lands to aid Mr. Whitney in the construction of a railroad from Lake Michigan to the Pacific. Read twice.

The bill to extend the time for locating Virginia Military Land Warrants in the State of Ohio, was taken up, discussed, and finally referred back to the committee of the whole on the state of the Union.

The House then, in committee of the whole, resumed the consideration of the bill extending the provisions of the act granting bounty lands to soldiers in the Mexican war to those officers who may have been promoted from the ranks, the question pending being the amendment offered by Mr. Thompson of Mississippi, to include officers so promoted during the last war with Great Britain.

The discussion was continued until the hour of adjournment, and a further amendment to the amendment, was proposed by Mr. Lumpkin of Georgia, including also officers in similar cases during the Florida war.

Without any action on the bill, the House adjourned.

[RWP]

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**RW48v25i36p2c6, May 5, 1848: (Correspondence of the N. O. Bulletin.) City of Mexico, April 7th, 1848.**

*Mr. Editor:* The treaty, as ratified by the U. S. Senate, arrived here some days since, and the general impression amongst those having the responsibility of affairs here, is, that we will have peace, but probably not so soon as we generally anticipated some months ago or more.

The great difficulty appears to be the impossibility of getting the Mexican Congress together. All efforts on the part of the Executive up to this period, have failed. Many members held back under plea that they had not means to pay their traveling expenses to Queretaro? The Executive transmitted them the necessary funds, and they have replied to the renewed summons to them to appear in their seats—that the money has not been received!

However, I believe the President and Cabinet are of the opinion, that during all of this month, the Congress will convene. It is hardly expected that they will act upon the treaty with dispatch, the dignity and importance of the assembled wisdom of the great Mexican nation, and the momentous subjects embraced in their decisions, will prevent the ratification of the treaty, until the last moment of the days of grace, allowed them.

We are beginning to reap the fruits of the idleness and demoralization which have been growing up here amongst our officers and troops.

The robberies and murders that were prevailing in the neighborhood of the City, are transferred within the walls, and house breaking and robbing individuals in the streets, are by no means uncommon.

A few nights ago, a most horrible murder was committed by a band of desperadoes, who attempted to rob a wealthy mercantile house, in one of the most populous streets of our city.

Seven or eight of the gang have been apprehended.—Several Volunteer officers have been implicated, and a deep gloom and mortification hangs round the heart of every lover of his country, a the disgrace of the American Flag.

Any observing, reflecting person, long since would have known, that the gambling and debaucheries that prevail here amongst the American officers, to a great extent, must necessarily terminate in degradation to themselves, and distress and mortification to their friends. A great responsibility rest somewhere, for the outrages that are committed here against the welfare of society.

Those who ought to have rebuked vice and frowned upon iniquity, have winked at and tolerated it here; until nothing but a moral courage and firmness, that we need hardly expect from those who look forward to political preferment at a future day, to possess, can stay the torrent of immorality and vice as exhibited in our midst.

The health of the army is improving. We have had several hard rains recently, which has improved the health of the city very much.

[BWP]
We had a rumor last night of the ratification of the treaty. We understand that the President had information of the probability that it will be ratified, direct from Mr. Clifford, at Puebla. If it fails, the defensive line will yet be adopted, unless the Baltimore Convention should throw itself forward upon the annexation of the whole of Mexico.

General Sam Houston has received a magnificent set of Mexican trappings for a charger, saddle, bridle, &c., gold mounted, cost $500, from the city of Mexico. They are now to be seen in the Rotunda. The general is proud of them; and if not nominated for the Presidency, he will probably ride all the way back to Texas before the election on that gold mounted saddle.

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Mr. RUSK, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported a bill to enable the President of the U. States to take temporary military possession of Yucatan, and moved to make it the special order of the day for to-morrow.

Upon this motion, a long debate ensued, in which Messrs. CALHOUN, HANNEGAN, FOOTE, CASS, HALE, and NILES participated. The debate lasted three hours. Finally, the motion making the bill the special order for to-morrow, was agreed to.

After the transaction of some unimportant business, the Senate adjourned.

After sending us the above, the Telegraph ceased operations.

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RW48v25i36p4c1, May 5, 1848: General Taylor’s Letter.

There can be little question that letter-writing has been the death of more than one Presidential aspirant, of not occasionally of a nominee for that office. Yet what is a gentleman who occupies this (in our judgment) most unenviable position, and who is too frank and candid in his nature to desire to stand before the country in an equivocal attitude,—what, we ask, is such an individual to do, when ardent friends as well as curious foes throughout the Union are perpetually pressing him with interrogatories, demanding to know whether he has ever said this, or done that, or thought the other, or what he intends to say, do or think hereafter? An adroit politician, like James K. Polk, need not fear such searching inquisition—for however closely such an one may be pressed, he finds in the ambiguity of language adequate means of confounding those who insist on “putting him to the question,” by the use of phrases—such as those in the Kane letter, for example, which may be cited as the model of an electioneering epistle—that are adapted alike to all shades of opinion and to all degrees of latitude. But when an ingenuous, unsophisticated, unambitious man, like Gen. Taylor, who has nothing of the artifice or chicanery of a trained politician about him,—or when an open, frank and fearless man like Mr. Clay, who although long in political life, has not learned the art of holding two sets of opinions at the same time, or of concealing any that may be unpopular,—when such men are asked respectfully to answer interrogatories, it is to be expected, if they answer at all, as they are very apt to do, that they will reply in categorical and explicit terms.—Hence, the triumph of Mr. Polk in 1844, which may be attributed to the fact that he would write but one letter—and that of so enigmatical a character, that, by the use of phrases—such as those in the Kane letter, for example, which may be cited as the model of an electioneering epistle—that are adapted alike to all shades of opinion and to all degrees of latitude. But when an ingenuous, unsophisticated, unambitious man, like Gen. Taylor, who has nothing of the artifice or chicanery of a trained politician about him,—or when an open, frank and fearless man like Mr. Clay, who although long in political life, has not learned the art of holding two sets of opinions at the same time, or of concealing any that may be unpopular,—when such men are asked respectfully to answer interrogatories, it is to be expected, if they answer at all, as they are very apt to do, that they will reply in categorical and explicit terms.—Hence, the triumph of Mr. Polk in 1844, which may be attributed to the fact that he would write but one letter—and that of so enigmatical a character, that, while Mr. Buchanan proved from it that he was even more in favor of a Protective Tariff, then Mr. Clay, his friends in the South on the contrary, held it up as the condensed manual of the Free Trade School! Hence, too, the defeat of Mr. Clay, who answered all questions, whether from friend or foe, careless of all consequences, and only desirous that his views on all questions of public policy might be understood. But we digress. General Taylor, it be already said, has written too many letter—especially, as, having been precluded, by the very position assumed by him in the outset, from giving a detailed exposition of his opinions, he had necessarily very little to say—a position from which he could only be relieved from flagrant misrepresentations of those opinions, such as have recently appeared, given to the public in the shape of his own positive declarations. We were satisfied, when those publications were made, that they did gross injustice to Gen. Taylor. They bore, indeed, upon their very face intrinsic evidence of their falsehood. But we had other and more conclusive reasons for this opinion; and we had good reason to believe that in due time the most conclusive refutation of these narratives of professed conversations would be laid before the country. This is now done in the following letter from gen. Taylor to the editors of the Republican, I answer to certain questions addressed to the General by those gentlemen, the character of which is sufficiently indicated by his reply.

BATON ROUGE, La., April 20, 1848.

Dear Sir: Your letter of the 10th inst. which alludes to certain statements that have recently been made in some of the papers at the North, and which submits several inquiries for my consideration, has been received.

To your inquiries I have respectfully to reply:

FIRST—That if nominated by the Whig National Convention, I shall not refuse acceptance, provided I am left free of all pledges, and permitted to maintain the position of independence of all parties in which the people and my own
SECONDLY—I do not design to withdraw my name if Mr. Clay be the nominee of the Whig National Convention—and, in this connection, I beg permission to remark that the statements which have been so positively made in some of the Northern prints, to the effect, "THAT SHOULD MR. CLAY BE THE NOMINEE OF THE WHIG NATIONAL CONVENTION," I had stated, "THAT I WOULD NOT SUFFER MY NAMES TO BE USED," are not correct, and have no foundation in any oral or written remark of mine. It has not been my intention, at any moment, to change my position—or to withdraw my name from the canvass, whoever may be the nominee of the National Convention, either of the Whig or Democratic party.

THIRDLY—I have never stated to any one that I was in favor of the Tariff of '46—of the Sub-Treasury, nor that I originated the war with Mexico. Nor, finally, that I should [if elected] select my cabinet from both parties. No such admissions or statements were made by me, at any time, to any person.

The election of another candidate would occasion no mortification to me, but to such a result, as the will of the people, I should willingly and calmly submit. As I have had no ambition to serve, but in the desire to serve the country, it would bring to me no disappointment.

With sentiments of high respect and regard, I remain your most ob't servant, Z. Taylor.

The denial by General Taylor of the authenticity of the conversations ascribed to him by certain Mississippi letter-writers, places him precisely where he stood before those letters were published. We are satisfied not only that he never expressed any such opinions, but that he does not entertain them. The declaration in the above letter, that, in the event of his election, he will, in administering the Government, make "our Earlier Presidents" his model, is, indeed, by direct and necessary implication, a repudiation of the systems and measures of our later Presidents, as emphatic as if his hostility to those systems and measures had been expressed in so many words. In one word, we have not the shadow of a doubt that he is in all essential points "A WHIG UPON PRINCIPLE;" and, entertaining this undoubting conviction, we are prepared to support him cordially and zealously. IF HE BE THE NOMINEE OF THE WHIG PARTY. WE regret, therefore—and it is the only thing we much regret to see in the foregoing letter—that Gen. Taylor, while expressing a willingness to receive, under any circumstances, the nomination of the Whig National Convention, should have deemed it necessary to say, in so many words, that, should he fail to do so, he will, so far as it depends upon himself, remain a candidate. Such a declaration is calculated to deprive him of that nomination, if there were otherwise a certainty of his getting it. "Heads I win, Tails you lose," is rather too strong a game, in politics, as in less important matters. The very basis upon which Conventions are organized is a spirit of compromise,—the members, as well as those who are willing to received the vote of such bodies, consenting, for the sake of a common triumph, to submit to the chances of an individual sacrifice. If this rule is to be violated—if one of the individuals willing to received its vote, may say, "if you nominate me, I will accept the nomination, but if you do not, I will be a candidate in opposition to your nominee," it is manifest that Conventions are themselves solemn farces, or even worse. It can scarcely be expected that some two hundred and fifty gentlemen will consent to meet in Philadelphia, in June next, from the most remote parts of the Union, at great inconvenience and expenses to many if not all of them, simply for the purpose of NOMINATING A GENTLEMAN WHO IS ALREADY IN THE FIELD, "NOLENS VOLENS;" and intends so to remain, whether a majority of them shall think it advisable or inadvisable. For one, we confess we do not like this part of Gen. Taylor's letter; and, foreseeing that it will constitute an insuperable objection with some, who would be otherwise in favor of Gen. Taylor's nomination, we regret that he has been induced to assume an attitude so embarrassing to all of his friends, except the handful who expect to support him as an "independent" candidate, and which may have the effect of defeating his own nomination and election. That the General does not care to be elected, one may readily infer from the language of his letter; but, if he be thus indifferent to his own success, he ought to feel some anxiety for the triumph of sound principles and wholesome measures; and we do not very clearly comprehend, therefore, why he has determined so pertinaciously to cling to his position as a candidate for an office that he does not want, in opposition to both the Whig and Democratic nominees, IF BY DOING SO HE SHALL WEAKEN AND DEFEAT THE FORMER, and render the election of the latter inevitable.

But we have already extended these comments to an unreasonable length, and we commit the whole subject to the consideration of the country.

[BWP]
NAME in the event of the nomination of another individual by the Philadelphia Convention, yet his FRIENDS are at liberty to do so whenever THEY may deem it expedient; and that they will unquestionably advise his withdrawal in the event of the nomination of any other Whig, cannot be doubted. The peculiarity of the circumstances under which the General was brought forward as a candidate, AUTHORIZES and almost COMPELS him to take this ground; and for one we are satisfied with it; as indeed we are with the admirable sentiments—and especially those relative to EXECUTIVE POWER and INFLUENCE—embodied in his letter. But our space is already exhausted, and we must defer further remark until to-morrow:

BATON ROUGE, April 22d, 1848.

Capt. J. S. Allison.

Dear Sir: My opinions have recently been so often misconceived and misrepresented, that I deem it due to myself, if not to my friends, to make a brief exposition of them upon the topics to which you have called my attention.

I have consented to the use of my name as a candidate for the Presidency. I have frankly avowed my own distrust of my fitness for that high station, but, having, at the solicitation of many of my countrymen, taken my position as a candidate. I do not feel at liberty to surrender that position, until my friends manifest a wish that I should retire from it. I will then, most gladly do so. I have no private purposes to accomplish—no party projects to build up—no enemies to punish—nothing to serve, but my country.

I have been very often addressed by letter, and my opinions have been asked upon almost every question that might occur to the writers, as affecting the interest of their country or their party. I have not always responded to their inquiries, for various reasons.

I confess, whilst I have great cardinal principles, which will regulate my political life, I am not sufficiently familiar with all the minute details of political legislation, to give solemn pledges to exert my influence, if I were President, to carry out this or defeat that measure. I have no concealment—I hold no opinion which I would not readily proclaim to my assembled countrymen; but crude impressions upon matters of policy, which may be right to-day and wrong to-morrow, are perhaps, not the best test of fitness for office. One cannot be trusted without pledges, cannot be confided in, merely on account of them.

I will proceed, however, now, to respond to your inquiries.

FIRST—I reiterate what I have often said—I am a Whig, but not an ultra-Whig. If elected, I would not be the mere President of a party. I would endeavor to act independent of party domination. I should feel bound to administer the Government, untrammeled by party schemes.

SECOND—The Veto Power. The power given by the Constitution to the Executive to interpose his veto is a high conservative power, but in my opinion, should never be exercised, except in cases of clear violation of the Constitution, or manifest haste and want of consideration by Congress. Indeed, I have thought that for many years past, the known opinions and wishes of the Executive have exercised undue and injurious influence upon the Legislative department of the Government, and from this cause I have thought our system was in danger of undergoing a great change from its true theory. The personal opinions of the individual who may happen to occupy the Executive Chair, ought not to control the action of Congress upon questions of Domestic Policy, nor ought his objections to be interposed, when questions of Constitutional power have been settled by the various Departments of Government, and acquiesced in by the People.

THIRD—Upon the subject of the tariff, the currency, the improvement of our great highways, rivers, lakes, and harbors, the will of the people, as expressed through their representatives in Congress, ought to be respected and carried out by the Executive.

FOURTH—The Mexican war. I sincerely rejoice at the prospect of peace, My life had been devoted to arms, yet I look upon war at all times and under all circumstances, as a national calamity, to be avoided if compatible with national honor. The principles of our Government, as well as its true policy, are opposed to the subjugation of other nations and the dismemberment of other countries by conquest. In the language of the great WASHINGTON, "why should we quit our own, to stand on foreign ground?"

In the Mexican war, our national honor has been vindicated, amply vindicated; and in dictating terms of peace, we may well afford to be forbearing and even magnanimous to our fallen foe.

These are my opinions upon the subjects referred to by you, and any reports of publications, written or verbal, from any source, differing in any essential particulars from what is here written, are unauthorized and untrue.

I do not know that I shall again write upon the subject of national politics. I shall engage in no schemes, no combinations, no intrigues. If the American people have not confidence in me, they ought not to give me their suffrages. If they do not, you know me well enough to believe me, when I declare that I shall be content. I am too old a soldier to murmur against such high authority.

Z. TAYLOR.
Quite an animated debate arose in the House of Representatives, last Saturday, on the Special Message of the President in regard to the proposed “immediate” relief to the province of Yucatan, with but an ill-concealed expectation of its ultimate annexation. Mr. Holmes, of South Carolina, took occasion to advert, as Mr. Calhoun had done in the Senate, to the President’s reiteration of Mr. Monroe’s doctrine, (as it is called,) and to which Mr. Polk seems to think this Government “pledged”—as any President or any Congress can bind its successors—that European intervention in the affairs of this Continent shall not be hereafter permitted. Whether that doctrine be a sound one or not—whether the United States Government had the right to dictate political institutions to the independent States of this Continent, and force them to accept the gift, any more than Russia has to set herself up as the great REGULAROTR of European affairs, and to prescribe a form of government for France—we agree with Mr. Holmes that there never was a more inappropriate time of occasion for the assertion of that doctrine. As Mr. Holmes proceeded to remark:

"Because the Yucatanese told them that they were about to be exterminated, and, in obedience to the law of nations—salus reipublica suprema Lex—which in all minds should be above all other considerations, to save their lives, appealed to other countries, did this country, in this enlightened age, when all Europe was responding to the sentiment that a people have the right to select for themselves their won guardians in a manner and form agreeable to their own institutions—should we say, while we are unable to rescue them from the difficulties by which they are surrounded, that we will interpose between them and any other country that should attempt to give them the necessary aid and protection? Should we, in advance, throw ourselves before other nations and bid them defiance, and say to them respectively, Stop; if you do afford protection, if you do throw the aegis of your protection over these people to whom we are not able to afford assistance, we will meet you in a conflict of arms? That doctrine of Mr. Monroe was applied, be it remembered, at the time the allied sovereigns were about to interfere with self-government. When the States of South America had disenthralled themselves, the allied sovereigns, fearing difficulties in Europe from the diffusion of free sentiments and the establishment of republics in South America, contemplated bringing back to colonial subjection the southern hemisphere. But we promptly met them; and the people, feeling the justice of the course—feeling a hearty sympathy with South America—were willing to support Mr. Monroe; but did that include the doctrine that Yucatan should not choose who should be her protector? Did it prohibit her from calling upon any nation for protection? He warned gentlemen—he warned this country—while we are assuming this bold attitude, not to be so lofty in their pretensions. There was yet one nation that had not lost the imperial diadem, and such pretensions might involve us in a calamitous war. He protested against that doctrine which the President in his message had promulgated, and he hoped it would not be sanctioned by this House.”

There was a time, indeed—and that, too, long after the proclamation of Mr. Monroe’s doctrine—that James K. Polk, then occupying a position much better adapted to his capacity than that to which he has been since elevated by blind and capricious Fortune, HIMSELF VEHEMENTLY OPPOSED THE DOCTRINE of which he has recently become so violently enamored. In 1828, as a member of the House of Representatives, when John Q. Adams, then President, appointed Ministers to Panama, to confer with those of other American Republics, as to the best means of mutual protection against European aggression—not to set up this nation as the “Grand Protector” of all the rest,—Mr. Polk made the following remarks, which constitute a striking commentary upon his Yucatan message:

FROM MR. POLK’S SPEECH ON THE PANAMA MISSION.

"He had voted for it [a resolution adverse to the message] because he believed it was declaratory of that uniform course of policy so happily pursued by the Government, form the adoption of the constitution to the present period; because it was, as he conceived, still the true policy of the country; and because, being opposed, as he was, to the proposed mission to the Congress of Panama, under any circumstances, he wished to signify to the President and his Cabinet, by a distinct expression of opinion by the popular branch of the Legislature of the Union, the views which they entertained of THE TRUE POLICY OF THE COUNTRY.—That object had been effected by the vote of yesterday.—By that vote it was distinctly announced by a majority the House, as their opinion, that our policy with foreign nations is the same now as that laid down by WASHINGTON, in his Farewell Address to the American People; that no circumstances had occurred in our foreign relations, or in the political connexions of other Powers with each other, which authorized us to change that policy or to hazard the experiment of a new one. We had distinctly declared it as our opinion, by the adoption of that amendment, that our policy was now, as it ever had been, to observe a strict neutrality between all belligerent Powers; that in extending our commercial relations with foreign nations, we should have with them as little political connection as possible; that we should preserve peace, commerce, and friendship with all nations, and form entangling alliances with none; that we should not form any alliance, offensive or defensive, or negotiate respecting such an alliance, with any of the South American Republics; nor should we become parties with them, or either of them, to any joint declaration for the purpose of preventing the interference of any of the European Powers with their independence or form of government; or ‘to any compact for the purpose of preventing colonizan on the continent of America.’ These are sentiments, Mr. P. said, to which he most willingly subscribed. However strong his sympathies might be in favor of liberty and republican institutions, in whatever part of the world they might make their appearance, the peace, the quiet, and prosperity of his own country were paramount to every other consideration.”
RW48v25i36p4c4, May 5, 1848: From the Rio Grande.

By the arrival of the schooner, H.L. Scranton, Capt. Taber, from Brazos Santiago, we have dates from Matamoros of the 8th inst., and Monterey to the 29th ult. There is but little news upon the Rio Grande of much interest, the stirring scenes which have been enacted upon that line having given place to the utter and insufferable dullness of a line of garrisons where a robbery or murder is looked upon as a great event.

The Monterey Gazette of the 25th ult. states that a report is in circulation in that city that several American merchants have been murdered near Mazapil, but is unable to trace it to any authentic source.

The same paper states that the 16th Infantry, who have been garrisoning the city, have been ordered out to Walnut Springs.

Appropriate honors were paid to the memory of John Quincy Adams at Monterey by the 16th Infantry, on the 22d ult. A cannon was fired every half hour during the day from the citadel, and thirteen in the morning and twenty-nine at sun-set.

The Gazette learns from its agent in Saltillo, who had just arrived from Parras, that three Virginia volunteers had been murdered there a short time previous. The perpetrators had been arrested.

The news of the ratification of the treaty by our Congress was received by Gen. Wool at Monterey on the 29th inst.

RW48v25i36p4c6, May 5, 1848: Later from Santa Fe.

Advices have been received at St. Louis, by an arrival from the far West, which contains accounts from El Paso to the 3d ult. and Santa Fe to a correspondingly later date.

Gen. Price had finally marched for Chihuahua with his whole disposable force, in fine order and spirits, and eager to meet the enemy, who were reported to have mustered in strong numbers to oppose their entry into the capital of the State.

At Santa Fe there were indications of another attempt at insurrection, the Mexican population daily becoming more insolent, and appearing disposed to take advantage of the absence of Gen. Price with his command. Precautionary measures had been taken to suppress any EMEUTE.

Intelligence from Iowa, received a St. Louis, has settled the question of the contested election in that State. It is ascertained from the returns, that Harlin, Whig, has been elected Superintendent of Instruction by 75 majority over Thos. H. Benton, Jr. the candidate of the opposite party.—This sets at rest the rumors that have been floating about in favor of each.

An explosion had taken place in a powder and fire work establishment in Cincinnati, by which two persons were killed and three seriously injured. Names not given.—Much damage was done the houses in the neighborhood by the concussion, in broken glass, &c.

[BWP]


The Senate transacted no business to-day. Shortly before 12 o’clock, the Committee of Arrangements and Pallbearers, with the coffin containing the body of the deceased Senator Ashley, beautifully decorated with flowers, entered the Chamber, followed by the Senator and Representative of Arkansas, the widow, daughter and personal friends of the deceased. The President and Private Secretary, with Messrs. Buchanan, Walker and Marcy, entered immediately afterwards, and were soon followed by the members of the House of Representatives.

There were also present several officers of the army and navy, members of the corps diplomatique, and other distinguished gentlemen; but the number of spectators in the galleries and lobbies, owing to the state of the weather was no so large as is usual when the last honors are paid at the Capitol to distinguished men of the nation.

The services commenced with an impressive and eloquent prayer by Rev. Mr. Gurley. The funeral discourse was delivered by Rev. Mr. Slicer, from I. Peter, 24th and 25th: verses: "For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of the grass: the grass withereth, and the flower of the grass fadeth away: but the Word of the Lord
endureth forever."

The Reverend Speaker commenced with an allusion to the fact that within the short period of eighteen months, Death had six times visited that Chamber, Heaven thus demonstrating not only the mortality of public men, but the facility with which that mortality reaches even the most elevated. The only fact stated in the course of the discourse, which has not already been published, was that the last words of Mr. Ashley, to those who surrounded his bed of death, was—"Pray for your country, and prepare to meet me in Heaven."

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House met at 12 o'clock, and the journal was read, when the members proceeded to the Senate Chamber to attend the funeral of Mr. Ashley.

(The remains of Mr. Ashley were deposited in the receiving vault at the Congressional Burying Ground. His remains, it is understood, will not be removed to Arkansas, and the National Cemetery will be his final resting place.)

Mr. Atchison introduced a bill granting the right of way through the public lands in Missouri, and granting alternate sections of the same, for the construction of a railroad between certain points on the Missouri and Mississippi rivers.

The resolution offered by Mr. Johnson, of Md., inquiring of the President whether any officers, civil or military, were acting under commissions from the President, whose ap-ments had not been submitted to the Senate for confirmation, and why? Was taken up and adopted, but the vote was subsequently reconsidered, on motion of Mr. Allen, and held over.

On the motion of Mr. Hannegan, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the Bill to enable the President to take temporary military possession of Yucatan.

Mr. Hannegan addressed the Senate, in reply to the remarks of Mr. Calhoun on the day the message of the President on this subject was presented.

He was unable to discover the dangers in which the Senator had alluded, but had not stated. He could perceive no hidden rocks upon which we were to shipwreck, if the measure was adopted and the old required furnished.

The President, he said, does not ask expressly prohibits, the permanent occupation of Yucatan. Considerations, it is true, might arise, which would render it necessary to turn it into something more than a temporary occupation, and he desired now to make this declaration, for he wished no disguises.

We have positive information not only that England intends but that she has interfered in the affairs of Yucatan. She has taken possession of the Belize, and advanced her troops from Honduras into Southern Yucatan, under the pretence of protecting the interests of her own subjects.

But her desires, he entertained no doubt, were to obtain possession of Yucatan, and he had no more doubt that if she did obtain Yucatan, her efforts would next be directed to the obtainment of Cuba also.

Give her Cuba, and she would control the mouth of the Mississippi as easily as she now controls the mouth of the Thames; and her power would be extended to the entire North American coast. Would the Congress of the United States stand by and see this?

It had come out; in the correspondence with Mr. Sierra, that the agent of England had actually furnished the Indians with the very arms which they are using against the white population of Yucatan.

He represented that it was not the intention of the President, or of the bill, to take permanent possession of Yucatan, unless compelled by unavoidable circumstances, and then the whole matter would be within the control of Congress.

Mr. Clayton gave his reasons which would influence him in voting against the bill. The President says, in his Message, that, during the continuance of he war with Mexico, if he could spare the troops, he would take possession of Yucatan and offer the aid desired. But the bill provides for tan indefinite occupation of Yucatan. It was true the word "temporary" was introduced, but that was a very indefinite expression. He desired to know how long it was contemplated by this bill to continue this occupation?

The bill also, he said, was in violation of the treaty of peace with Mexico, and of the terms of the armistice. A Congress was about to assemble at Queretaro, with a fair prospect of ratifying that treaty. And was not it probable
that when the intelligence that this bill is before the Senate reached them, this would throw the treaty to the wind—reject it—considering the movement not as intended to repress the incursions of the Indians, but to take permanent possession of one of the States in her confederacy.

The passage of this bill would be a violation of the treaty, unless we obtained from Mexico her consent to send our troops into her territory.

Mr. Jefferson Davis said Yucatan was recognized as a part of Mexico, and being so a part, we had the right, during the existence of the war, to send our troops into that territory. The President only asked for troops to carry out objects entirely consonant with the prosecution of the war with Mexico.

As to the question of seizing certain points in the gulf, in the exigency to which the Senator from Indiana had referred, he declared that he would not hesitate for one moment. And even if we had no war with Mexico, he would still stand by the people of that country in their present struggle.

But here there was no such difficulty. We are at war with Mexico, and the only event in which we are allowed, during the existence of the armistice, to take possession of any other territory of Mexico had transpired—it had been rendered necessary by "acts of the Mexicans themselves"—"there had been a military movement by Mexicans."

He moved certain amendments, in conclusion, not affecting the character of the bill, but designed so to modify its provisions as to merely establish a "new military post," leaving the right to take possession to the authority given under the act "recognizing the existence of a war with Mexico."

Mr. Crittenden opposed the feature of the bill which provided for raising additional volunteers, to take the place of those withdrawn from other portions of the service in Mexico. Where was the necessity, he said, of any provision, when there is already another bill before the Senate providing for 20,000 additional volunteers? If the exigencies of the war required it, he was ready to vote for any additional number; but no such exigency had yet arisen.

The measure proposed, so far from having was in view as its object, is presented as a measure of charity, of humanity. And he could not perceive that under the terms of the armistice, we could take possession of a province not in our hands at the time the armistice was made. It could not be contended that such would be a fair construction of the armistice.

He was also opposed to the bill, on the ground of inexpediency. It was contrary to sound policy to involve the country in a difficulty of this character. He was opposed to any such intervention by one country in reference to the affairs of another, even as an act of humanity—to engage in that which might lead to war throughout the world, and thus, by endeavoring to allay one calamity, to create a greater. We should allow every nation, as we would every family, to manage its own affairs.

He would succor the distressed and relieve the needy, but it was impossible to do this by any general system, regulating such intercourse between nations, as here proposed.

The Indians whom it was proposed to put down, were as much citizens of Yucatan as those whom it was proposed to succor, and entitled to the same privileges. But he would rescue the white population if possible, even though they had, for ages, oppressed and borne down their present oppressors. But he would not do it by withdrawing our troops from other portions of Mexico.

We would only make our interposition effectual by placing an army in Yucatan, and that he had no disposition to do until he understood fully everything connected with this question—until he could reconcile the whole subject with the great principle of non-intervention.

Mr. Jefferson Davis replied to a portion of Mr. Crittenden's remarks; and was followed by Mr. Foote. The evidence before them, he said, was of such a character that, if they did not act, they would disgrace the country, and justly incur the execration of the whole civilized world.

In the course of his remarks he expressed, in strong terms, his opinion that neither Yucatan nor Cuba should be permitted to fall into the hands of any European power, even if we were compelled to go to war to prevent it. And he declared also, if he were President of the U. States—a position which he never expected to occupy—he would not hesitate now to apply to the government of Spain to transfer, on just terms, the Island of Cuba to the government of the United States.

At the conclusion of Mr. Foote's remarks, the Senate adjourned to Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

After several unsuccessful efforts were made to introduce resolutions, the Speaker laid before the House a communication from W. W. Brent, stating that he had just received, addressed to his care, from Robert Walsh, United States Consul at Paris, a portrait of Major Gen'l Baron de Kalb, to be presented to Congress, as an offering from the surviving family of De Kalb, persons of great distinction and worth, and asking the decision of Congress in regard to the reception and disposition to be made of the picture—referred to the Library Committee.
Mr. Stewart, of Pennsylvania, asked the unanimous consent of the House to introduce the following:

Resolved, That "the power given by the constitution to the Executive, to interpose his veto, is a high conservative power, which should never be exercised except in cases of clear violation of the constitution, or manifest haste and want of consideration by Congress."

Resolved, That "the personal opinions of the individual who may happen to occupy the executive chair ought not to control the action of Congress upon questions of domestic policy, nor ought his objections to be interposed when questions of constitutional power have been settled by the various departments of the government, and acquiesced in by the people."

Resolved, That "upon the subjects of the tariff, the currency, the improvements of our great highways, rivers, lakes, and harbors, the will of the people, as expressed through their representatives in Congress, ought to be respected and carried out by the Executive."

Resolved, That war, at all times and under all circumstances, is a national calamity, to be avoided if compatible with national honor," that “the PRINCIPLES of our government, as well as its true POLICY, are opposed to the subjugation of other nations and the dismemberment of other countries by CONQUEST—for, in the language of the great Washington, 'why should we quit our own soil to stand on foreign ground.'"

Objections being made, the resolutions were not received.

On motion of Mr. Rockwell, the House then resolved itself into committee of the whole, for the consideration of private bills, and after taking up one or two of this character, found itself without a quorum, the roll was called, the committee rose and reported the names of the absentees to the House, and they were ordered to be entered on the journal.

A quorum having appeared, a number of private bills were subsequently considered in committee of the whole, reported to the House, and passed. And then, at 20 minutes past 1 o'clock, the House adjourned until to-morrow.

RW48v25i37p2c1, May 9, 1848: How Gen'l Taylor come to cross the Nueces.

Notwithstanding the pertinacity with which the supporters of the Polk Administration have defended the order given to Gen. Taylor to march to the Rio Grande, on the false and flimsy pretext, as admitted by themselves in various official acts, that that river, from its source to its mouth, constituted the true boundary between Texas and Mexico—an assumption, which, if it had been well founded, would not only have justified the order in question, but rendered it imperative—they have nevertheless impliedly confessed that it was a great blunder, by endeavoring to divide the responsibility of that act between the Administration and Gen. Taylor—which they would never have done had the act itself been a defensible one. For this purpose they seized, in the first place, upon an expression in one of Gen. Taylor's letters to the War Department, to the effect that the army ought promptly to take its position at some eligible point on the Rio Grande, if the President had determined to insist, as a sine qua non, upon that river as the boundary. But this perversion of a suggestion founded upon a contingency over which the President alone had control, into a positive recommendation, is manifestly so preposterous and absurd that it has been abandoned except by a few of the more unscrupulous party hacks, who, like the witness that had testified that a certain horse in dispute was fourteen feet, instead of fourteen hands high, refused, as he had once sworn to it, to retract his declaration. More recently, however, a convenient witness against Gen. Taylor upon this point was found in one Dr. Kimmell, of Hinds county, Mississippi, who transmitted to one of the representatives of that State in Congress a fabulous narrative of a conversation between Gen. Taylor and himself, in which the General was made to assume the entire responsibility of bringing on the war with Mexico, by the movement of his army from the Nueces to the Rio Grande, and entirely to exculpate Mr. Polk from all censure in respect to it!—Otherwise they would place the President's vindication upon the impregnable ground of right and duty, instead of endeavoring to show that it was necessary that he should be instigated to its performance by Gen. Taylor's recommendation.

The New Orleans National throws some additional light on the subject, by the publication of the following letter from Baton Rouge, (Gen. Taylor's place of residence,) written, it informs us, "by a gentleman acquainted with the facts," (not improbably by Major Bliss.) It not only exonerates Gen. Taylor from all agency in advising that act of war, but shows that he would not even CROSS THE NEUCES until he had received positive instructions from the War Department:

BATON ROUGE, April 27, 1848.
When Gen. Taylor was ordered to Mexico, he was instructed to take up a position NEAR the Rio Grande, POINT ISABEL BEING NAMED AS A PROPER PLACE, but in consequence of having large discretionary powers, he preferred to take a position on undeniably American soil, rather than infringe upon disputed territory. He therefore made his head quarters at Corpus Christi, a place that, beyond its being within the acknowledged boundary of Texas, was inconvenient, and in no way favorable for an encampment—still Gen. Taylor prepared to suffer every evil incident to his situation, rather than in any way compromise his government. After Gen. Taylor had been some time at Corpus Christi, Maj. Donaldson, the representative of the United States government in Texas, came to Gen. Taylor’s camp for the especial purpose of advising General Taylor NOT TO CROSS THE NUECES, lest he should involve the government in a war in Mexico; Gen. Taylor in the mean time having been informed by “the government” that it wished him to confer with Maj. Donaldson. In the course of events, Maj. Donaldson left Gen. Taylor’s camp, and there came on from Washington letters to Gen. Taylor, informing him that he should move part of his force west of the Nueces. Gen. Taylor not wishing to divide his small command and the government having relieving him of the responsibility of crossing the Nueces, he took his whole force over, as he could by so doing, readily obtain a good camping ground, and a depot convenient for his military stores. The events that followed this movement on the part of Gen. Taylor are familiar to the world. The above is a true statement of the preliminaries that led to the advance of our army on Matamoras.—The main facts can be gathered, as I have stated, from the “public documents” already published, containing the correspondence of Gen. Taylor with the war department, previous to the battles of the 8th and 9th of May. Othe facts stated can be proved if denied. The most superficial observer must perceive, that Gen. Taylor originated the order, and marched on to Matamoras by his own will and judgment. That any member of congress should be so unscrupulous or so ignorant of the true history of General Taylor’s movements, is a matter of surprise, as documents already published by the “War Department” give the outlines, if not the particulars, relative to the subject, so clearly, that there need be no justifiable cause of misinterpretation.

The tone of several of the leading Whig presses at the North, heretofore most decidedly opposed to the nomination of Gen. Taylor, or even to the consideration of his claims by a Whig Convention, has undergone a marked change since the publication of the General’s letter to Capt. Allison. Among these is the New York Express, the opposition of which to Gen. Taylor has been of the most decided character, which now says: “The Allison letter is a good enough Whig letter for us, we must confess; and but little or no fault can be found with its promulgation of a Whig creed. Nobody wishes a Whig President to be the President to administer the government trammled by party schemes. It is a Whig doctrine, too, that as Congress represents the people in the matter of the currency, internal improvements, tariffs, &c. the Executive should yield to the people’s will, and not set up any opinion of his own against the public representation in Congress. All this, however, has been the reverse of the Democracy, since Gen. Jackson made the vetoes of one man the “Democratic” doctrine of the many. * * * “We should have no hesitancy in supporting him if nominated by the Whig Convention.””

But perhaps the most significant sign is the letter of the Washington correspondent of the New York Tribune, extracts from which we subjoin: (see next article).
The Union finds fault with the General’s idea of the veto-power. Its own idea would seem to be, that the power was lodged in the hands of the President, to save the people from their own madness—a breakwater against the consummation of their own wishes. The true deduction from which premises is, that the President, elected for a term of four years, should, of his own arbitrary will, interpose and neutralize the action of the people as expressed by their immediate representatives. Such in theory is it under the English constitution; in practice, however, it is less formidable there than with us.

There is a striking resemblance between the views of Gen. TAYLOR on this subject and those communicated by Mr. CLAY in his Senatorial term: it is a resemblance, in truth, not confined to idea, but extending to the words themselves in which the two distinguished gentlemen make known their opinions. The interposition of the Executive veto should never take place where questions of Constitutional power have been established by the uniform practice of the various Departments of the Government, and have been acquiesced in by the People. Such was the opinion of MADISON and MONROE, sanctioned by their practice—such is the opinion of WEBSTER, of CLAY, and of TAYLOR. Of course, this letter of Gen. TAYLOR, will be productive of abundant commentary. At present, perhaps, it requires mostly a paper perusal.

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RW48v25i37p2c3, May 9, 1848: American Deserters in Mexico.

The New Orleans Delta contains a letter from the city of Mexico, under the date of the 8th ult., which says:

Last night, about twenty soldiers and teamsters deserted, taking with them the best horses they could lay their hands on, together with their full arms and equipments. It is supposed, with good reason, that their object is to form a banditti, for the purposes of plundering the highways, the haciendas, and the churches of the small towns: We learn that there is already a band of American deserters and followers of the Army, to the number of about 100, now organized and operating in this way. They may have Mexicans connected with them, for all we know. Active measures have been taken to ferret them out, but as their places of rendezvous are in the mountains, they will be hard to break up, as a party large enough to destroy them could not move as fast as they can, and a small party they would be able to defeat, for there are some very desperate men among them.

Last evening, as the Rev Mr. McCarthy, Chaplain of the Army, was riding through one of the streets in this city, two leperos placed a pistol at his head and made him dismount, and then very quickly robbed him of his watch, all the money he had in his pockets, and his horse. Shortly after Lt. French came along the same place, and they attempted the same thing with him, but with not so much success—he drew his sabre and soon extricated himself.

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RW48v25i37p2c5, May 9, 1848: From the N O Mercury, May 1. Prospects of Peace.

There is much reason to fear that it would be impossible to assemble a quorum of the Mexican Congress at the seat of Government. The absentees arrive very slowly.

The Arco Iris, of the 20th ult. says that at a preparatory meeting of Deputies held at Queretaro, on the 10th ult. it was resolved—

1. That those Deputies who were not present should be called upon, and if they still continued to absent themselves, the Governor of the States from which they were elected should be informed, and they should be published in all the newspapers.
2. That those gentlemen who answered the first call should be again written to, informing them that the number necessary to form a quorum is very small, only their presence being necessary to complete it.
3. That, the substitute who was appointed from Vera Cruz, is place of Sr. Conto, who was elected Senator, be notified.
4. That the substitute for Sr. Solana from Jalisco, who was chosen to represent Zacatecan, be also called upon.

The same paper of the 17th ult says: “Various persons write to us from Queretaro that the disorders committed by the officers are insufferable, and the soldiers have become so infected with their pronunciamento mania, that a certain very well known general, who possesses the confidence of the government asserts, that as soon as the Yankees have left, he will pronounce against the Federation.”

FROM GUATEMALA, YUCATAN, ECUADOR, &c.—A letter from Merida, dated March 21st says:

“Yesterday the Spanish corvette Luisa Fernanda arrived at Sisal. Three other vessels of war, belonging to the same nation, arrived with her. We have received the guns, cannon, powder, and everything we expected, excepting the $200,000, which it was not possible for the authorities of Havana to land us.”
Another letter in the same paper, from Campeachy, dated April 9th, contains the following:

"Concerning the unfortunate condition of our country, I can only tell you that yesterday the schooner Aparecida arrived here from New Orleans. She brings information that the government at Washington had ordered Commodore Perry to this point, with some troops, in order to save those points which have not yet fallen into the power of the Indians, who still continue their advance upon the capital, committing the most outrageous acts of barbarity."

GUATEMALA.—A treaty has been entered into between Great Britain and Guatemala. It was signed on the 22d of February.

Gen. Bustamente is taking measures to suppress the formidable insurrection of the Indians in the State of San Luis Potosi. A part of his division had marched against a large body of Indians who were concentrated at the town of Xichu, to which place they had retired, after having burned the town of San Diego del Biscocho.

Return of Mr. Trist and Gen.Cadwalader.

The steamships Augusta and Virginia left Vera Cruz on Saturday, the 22d inst. The Augusta came up to town, yesterday afternoon, while the Virginia, having got a drift log in one of her wheels, was obliged to come to anchor a Poverty Point, fifteen miles below the city. It is hardly probable that she will come up before our paper goes to press.

Gen. Cadwalader and Mr. Trist came over passengers on the Virginia, and will no doubt come up to town this morning. The great mail sent by the Virginia, but we received a package of letters and papers by the Augusta containing Vera Cruz papers to the 22d, and from the city of Mexico to the 15th. In another column we have given the twenty-sixth day's proceedings of the court of inquiry. We understand that the impression was that the court would not adjourn for three weeks, and that Gen. Scott would await its adjournment. The Star of the 15th says that he is in fine health.

The burden of the editorial articles in the Star is that there is yet no quorum of Congress at Queretaro. It is obvious from the Star's reiterated complaints that there is great fear lest no quorum should meet at all. We have not room to-day for its articles, but this is the burden of them.

Major Stewart, of the Pay Department, arrived in the city of Mexico on the 14th.

Paredes as late as the 11th inst. had not been arrested by the Mexican Government. He was still at San Luis, and, accosting to a letter in El Eco de Comercio, "taking up his residence with the different lawyers in the place." We hear nothing more of his designs.

There is no further news from Chihuahua.

The ship American sailed from Vera Cruz for this port on the 19th inst. with ninety-two sick soldiers in charge of Dr. Wright.

We gather some miscellaneous intelligence from the Vera Cruz papers.

The Senate was not in session to-day.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Under the new rule, Mr. Go.. handed to the Clerk notice for a motion for leave to introduce a bill allowing compensation to the members of the Senate and House of Representatives, and to the Delegates from Territories, and appealing all other laws on the subject.

Mr. Rockwell of Conn. Offered a resolution for terminating the debate in Committee of the Whole on the bill for the relief of the legal representatives of Richard W. Monde, in two hours, after it shall again be taken up.

The motion was modified so as to read "Friday next, at 2 P. M." and then agreed to.
After some unimportant business, the House, in Committee, took up the bill for the relief of R. W. Monde, which was discussed until half past 2, when the House adjourned.

RW48v25i37p2c5 May 9, 1848: (From the True American of the 18th). Arrival of Gen. Cadwalader and Mr. Trist.

A train arrived yesterday from the city of Mexico. The escort was commanded as far as Jalapa by Lieut. Col Emery, and from Jalapa to this place by Major Gardner. The mounted escort was under the command of Lieut. Waters, of the Louisiana Volunteers.

Gen. Cadwalader and MR. Trist, framer of the treaty, accompanied the train.

On the road, near Passa la Vega, a Mexican reported to the commander of the escort that he had been robbed of some mules, and stated that the robbers were in the chaparral. Lieut. Hawkins dismounted ten of his men and started in search of the ruffians, and shortly afterwards returned with them, having surprised and taken them in the most admirable manner. They are now in custody.

This train left Mexico on the 7th inst. and on the 10th day after its departure arrived here.

A grand banquet was given in Vera Cruz the evening of the 16th inst. by the French residents and others in honor of the revolution in France. It is quite out of our power to give place to the enthusiastic proceedings. The Americans were to celebrate the same glorious event on the 22d inst.

The Free American remains of opinion that there is little prospect of peace. On the 19th its language is:

“We announced, a few days ago, that we had conversed with a gentleman from Mexico, who was of opinion that the members of Congress would not vote for the treaty as ratified at Washington. We have since seen two letters from influential men, one at Queretaro and the other at Mexico, who coincide with the opinion of the gentlemen in question. Another letter says that should the members of Congress violate the constitution of Mexico by ceding any part of the territory, the same members will have to ask the United States to leave a force of several thousand men to keep order in the Republic. The writer is of opinion that so soon as the American troops will embark for the United States, the Government will be overthrown, and new causes for war will be given to the United States by the turbulent people of this country.”

We regret to learn that Gen. Kearny has been seriously ill at Vera Cruz; at the same time we rejoice that he was pronounced out of danger and convalescent at last accounts.

The State of Mexico gives its voice for Gen. Herrera as President, he receiving 152 out of 166 votes.

There was a caucus of the members of Congress present at Queretaro on the 10th inst., at which resolutions were adopted to prevent members then present from afterwards absenting themselves, and to fill one or two seats made vacant by promotion or otherwise. It appeared that but few members were then wanting to form a quorum—but this is an old story.

The Congress of the State of Vera Cruz assembled this day; that of Puebla met on the 0th. D. Juan Mujica y Osorio was appointed Governor of the latter State.

There are 2000 Mexican troops in Queretaro, and yet on the 12th inst. a diligence was attacked within half a mile of the city by eight men. They fired upon the passengers, but the latter showed fight and killed one of the robbers. The passengers returned to town, however, lest they should be again attacked.

The Monitor Republicano of the 14th inst. says that, on the 10th, Gen. Bustamente was at the village of Dolores with a party of his division, while another portion had gone against the Indians of the village of Xichu, an insurrection of whom had become formidable. They had had the audacity, so confident were they in their numbers, to sack the village of San Diego del Biscocho.

RW48v25i37p4c1, May 9, 1848: The Locofoco Platform.

In little more than a fortnight the Democratic nominating Convention will assemble in the city of Baltimore; and, in anticipation of that event, to which of course the Democracy are looking forward with deep interest, the Washington Union republishes in part the famous Resolutions adopted at Baltimore in 1844, and urges their readoption in 1848,
as its platform of action. The Union takes care to strike out the Oregon resolution—[the tragedy of Hamlet, with the character of Hamlet omitted “by particular desire.”] We are not surprised at this omission, since its re-publication would have been a stinging satire upon the termination of a controversy which, although it ought not to have constituted a party issue, was cunningly seized upon at Baltimore for the purpose of reconciling the non-slaveholding States to the “immediate” annexation of Texas. “Oregon and Texas” were made the twin-stems of a system of territorial extension—the one in the South and the other in the North—and it was hoped, by the adroit political managers who blended them at Baltimore, (and not without reason, as the result demonstrated,) that, by using this balance-pole, with Texas suspended at one end and Oregon at the other, a safe equip... might be found, and the sectional objections which might be fatal to each, of the questions were separated, be thereby successfully obviated. Thus, if n the North, it was objected that the annexation of Texas to the Union would add to the number of slaveholding States, the answer was at hand—the increase will be more than counterbalanced by the larger number of non-slaveholding State to be formed in Oregon—and vice versa. But the ligament that bound the Siamese twins at Baltimore was severed after the election of Mr. Polk. The joint resolution for the annexation of Texas indeed, had been passed by Congress and hurried off by express to the Executive of that Republic before Mr. Polk had been inaugurated; while the formidable power of Great Britain deterred that functionary from the trial of so summary an experiment in relation to Oregon. In the decision of the Texas question, negotiating the only constitutional process of acquiring foreign territory—if indeed the constitution prescribes any mode by which such territory may be added to the Union—was superseded by legislation: In the decision of the Oregon question, however, the Executive adhered, doubtless for sufficient reasons, to diplomatic arrangement. And the result was, as the country knows, that, instead of maintaining the ground taken in the Baltimore resolution, and from which he had given a solemn pledge not to deviate a hair’s breadth, because, as he declared, our title was “clear and unquestionable,” to all the territory claimed, President Polk surrendered to Great Britain all of it lying between the parallels of 49 and 54-40! We are not surprised, therefore, we repeat, that the Union, in the re-publication of the Baltimore resolutions, omitted that, which, if published, would have shown that its party had been faithless to at least one of the "principles" embodies in them, and its President false to the "pledge" he had given strictly to stick to the schedule.

But have the Democratic Party and its President been true to the great fundamental principles embodied in the Baltimore resolutions, and to many of which not a Whig in the Union would refuse to subscribe? So far from it it is, in part at least, because they have shamelessly violated those principles that we would expel them from power. Let us select a few of the most prominent, and bring these gentlemen to the test of comparison. The first great principle asserted by the Baltimore Convention, and in which we heartily concur, is in these words:

"1. That the federal government is one of limited powers, derived solely from the constitution, and the grants of power shown therein ought to be strictly construed by all the departments and agents of the government; and that it is inexpedient and dangerous to exercise doubtful constitutional powers."

Who denies this proposition? We venture to say that no politician, of any party in the United States, will refuse to give it his assent. But what mockery is it, in one who advocated the annexation of Texas, by a joint resolution of Congress, to prate about the strict construction of the constitution—or for a President who has usurped the war-making power, and who, since the war with Mexico began, has levied duties by a treasury order in Mexican ports, and expended the revenue so collected without the sanction of the law,—and who had organized territorial governments, by his own showing, both within and without the limits of the United States, and appointed legislative, judicial and executive officers without authority of law—what solemn mockery in him and his friends to talk about the danger of exercising doubtful constitutional powers!

The next proposition affirmed in the Baltimore resolutions is in this language:

"2. That the constitution does not confer upon the general government the power to commence and carry on a general system of internal improvements."

The President ha, we believe, faithfully conformed his action to this resolution. But has the Democratic party done so? We have heretofore shown that General Jackson and Mr. Van. Buren expended a muck (sic) larger sum for internal improvements than any President, before or since their time. But, besides this, how many of the members of Congress of that party voted for the River and Harbor Bills that Mr. Polk vetoed? Has not a large majority of that party, in the House of Representatives, at the present session, declared, by a solemn vote, that the constitution does confer upon Congress the very power which the Baltimore resolution denies to that body? Indeed, as if to render the contrast between the declared PRINCIPLES of this Democratic party and its ACTION more striking and vivid, we find, in the very same number of the Union in which the Baltimore resolutions are reproduced, an editorial synopsis of the proceedings of the Senate of the 3d instant, which we proceed to quote for the edification of those who put their trust in creeds and creed-makers. The Union’s Congressional synopsis says:

"On motion of Mr. Douglas, the Senate took up the bill granting to the State of Illinois the right of way and a donation of public land for making a railroad connecting the Upper and Lower Mississippi with the chain of northern lakes at Chicago.

"This bill led to considerable discussion, in which <r. Douglas, Mr. Clarke. Mr. Niles, Mr. Crittenden, Mr. Bagby, Mr. Butler, Mr. Benton, Mr. Cass, Mr. Calhoun, Mr. Foote, and others took part; when the question was taken by yeas and nays on ordering the bill to be engrossed, and decided in the affirmative—yeas 24, nays 11, as follows:

"YEAS—Messrs Allen, Atchison, Badger, Bell, Benton, Borland, Breese, Bright, Cass, Clarke, Clayton, Crittenden, Davis of Mississippi, Douglas, Felen, Foote, Greene, Hanner, Johnson of Louisiana, Mangum, Spruance, Underwood and Westcott—24.
Of the 24 Senators who voted for this bill, which clearly recognizes the power of the General Government to make appropriations for internal improvements, 14 belong to the Democratic party, which, by their Baltimore resolution, has declared that Congress has no such power! And among them the people will see the name of Mr. CASS, perhaps the most prominent, next to Mr. Polk, of all the candidates for the nomination of the approaching Baltimore Convention, which is urged by the Union to re-adopt this same resolution! Why, do these political managers think that the people are fools, to be this gulled with pledges made in Convention, which are daily falsified in the Legislative Halls?

The next item of the Democratic creed is in these words:

"3. That the constitution does not confer authority upon the federal government, directly or indirectly, to assume the debts of the several States, contracted for local internal improvements, or other State purposes; nor would such assumption be just and expedient."

No one in this generation has proposed or suggested any such measure as is here condemned, or contends for the existence of the power in question. This article therefore is just as sound Whig doctrine as Democratic. It was thrown in, we suppose, merely by way of implication, that the opposite doctrine was maintained by the Whigs—though of course the author of it knew that there was no foundation for the insinuation.

But it is not our purpose to go through the entire creed; and we shall refer only to one more of its articles—which reads thus:

"5. That it is the duty of every branch of the government to enforce and practice the most rigid economy in conducting our public affairs, and that no more revenue ought to be raised then is required to defray the necessary expenses of the government."

To this article the Whig party cordially subscribe; and one of the great objections to the present Administration is that it has not done its "duty" in this regard. On this point we shall call upon Mr. Calhoun to testify. In a late speech, that gentleman says, "We have gone forward with a rapidity in our expenditures, far, far, outrunning wither England, France, or any other country in the world. Mr. Monroe administered this government for eight years, terminating in 1825, at an annual cost not exceeding 12 millions of dollars. Twenty-three years have since elapsed, and our population has perhaps been doubled in that time. I suppose we may think ourselves fortunate if we can get along with an expense of thirty millions." [Mr. Calhoun, in this estimate, has reference only to the ordinary expenditures of the government, in time of peace, and leaves out of view the hundred millions worse than wasted in the Mexican war. Including the latter, Mr. C. said "the annual expenditures of the government are now nearly double as much when we had the war of 1812 on our hands."]

The people may judge from this contrast of Democratic professions with Democratic practices, of what value are political creeds, manufactured for the occasion by political conclaves, for the express purpose of gulping the million.—What man, among them all, considers himself bound to conform to these creeds, whether he be in private life or in a public station? What legislator ever has reference to them in his votes? Nay, what man among all those who gave their assent to these principles at Baltimore is 1844, remembered them the next hour? In one word, how can it be expected that a President or a Party will regard as of sacred obligation a string of resolutions written by nobody known who, end adopted without examination or reflection, when even a Constitution, framed under circumstances of peculiar solemnity, and every article and word of which was scanned with peculiar care, is daily violated without hesitation and without compunction?

[WP]

**Major Woods, 15th Infantry, recalled by the Prosecution.**

**By the Prosecution.**

Q—Have you chanced to hold a conversation, or to have been present at one hold with Maj. Gen. Pillow, respecting a plan or plans of attack against Chapultepec, proposed by Maj. Gen's Pillow or Scott, in September last, respectively; and if so, state the substance of said conversation?

A—Gen. Pillow came to Chapultepec some time in November, or the first of December last. I was walking over the Castle with him and other officers. Whilst on the top of the building, on the end next to the city, I was pointing out to General Pillow that operation s of Colonel Garland's brigade on the north side of the Castle, as also the direction in which the enemy retreated from Chapultepec towards the city, and I think while expressing something of admiration of the plan by which that work was carried and put in execution, General Pillow asked me "if I was aware
Q—Was the witness with the 5th Infantry on the 19th of August last? In what position was it before being ordered
officers generally. I mean commanders of divisions and brigades.
A—Yes, sir, I understood that there were several present, and I supposed that he referred to commanding
and other officers.
Q—Did the witness understand or not from Major Gen. Pillow, that the council was attended by many Generals
that council, but am in doubt if I heard it from Gen. Pillow, and I understood that it was at the one held at Tacubaya,
and other officers.
A—I don't know that I could state, I heard there were two or three held, and I suppose it must have been the
one fixing the place of operations of Chapultepec. I think, however, he referred to a council that was held at
Tacubaya. I am not certain that Gen. Pillow stated that it was at that one held at Tacubaya. I have heard much of
that council, but am in doubt if I heard it from Gen. Pillow, and I understood that it was at the one held at Tacubaya,
but I do not know that that was the one referred to.
Q—Did the witness understand or not from Major Gen. Pillow, that the council was attended by many Generals
A—Yes, sir, I understood that there were several present, and I supposed that he referred to commanding
officers generally. I mean commanders of divisions and brigades.
Q—Was the witness with the 5th Infantry on the 19th of August last? In what position was it before being ordered
across the pedregal, and by what superior orders was its position changed before being ordered across the pedregal?
A—I was with the 15th Infantry on the afternoon of the 9th; Col. Morgan was in command of it. The regiment was
halted immediately at the base of the hill for some time, and I supposed by the orders of Gen. Pillow, as he was
present. What time it remained there I am hardly able to say—from half an hour to an hour, I should think. The
regiment was moved from that position to one near to a corn field, which was interposed near to the hill between it
and the enemy's position, where it was again halted—both the movement and halt, I suppose, were by the command
of Maj. Gen. Pillow, as he was the senior officer present, and the regiment belonged to his division. It remained
there half an hour, and was again directed to move to the support of Gen. Cadwallader, who was occupying a
position on the left of the enemy, and across a ravine. The order was given by Capt. Hooker, I think, to Col. Morgan.
Gen. Scott was then on the ground, and I have no idea where the order came from or emanated.
Q—Were the three orders to halt in the first and second positions and to cross the pedregal, all delivered by the
same staff officer, or different staff officers?
A—I do not know who delivered the first two orders for the halt and movement. I only know that Captain Hooker
delivered the order for the advance across the pedregal—Col. Morgan being in command of the regiment, he I
presume. I know nothing but the fact that it was halted and set in motion.
Q—About what time had elapsed from the arrival of Gen. Scott at the position of Gen. Pillow upon the hill, before
the regiment was again put in motion, by an order through Capt. Hooker?
A—I suppose the regiment remained 10 or 15 minutes, at least, after his arrival on the field. I think that one of
his staff officers, who I presumed, arrived with him, passed me, and inquired for Brigadier Gen. Pierce; I directed
him to the side of the cornfield, on the right of the road, by which the troops approached the enemy's position. I saw
him go there, and not finding him, Gen. Pierce, he passed on around the cornfield, in the direction of the troops
advanced, the time necessary for that, and some additional time elapsed from the time the regiment was put in
motion.
Q—Was the regiment at a halt near the cornfield, when the staff officer of Maj. Gen. Scott passed the regiment;
did the witness see the same staff officer, on his return to said Scott, and was the regiment then at a halt?
A—I do not recollect seeing the staff officer on his return, and cannot say whether the regiment had moved
before his return or not. I have stated the regiment was at a halt when he passed on his way to Gen. Pierce.
Q—Does the witness chance3 to know when the regiment was at the base of the hill, or after being halted near the
cornfield, that any intimation was given, previous to the order communicated by Capt. Hooker, after it had taken
that position, that the regiment would be required to support Gen. Cadwallader?

A— I know nothing of the matter; when we were halted in the second position, Col. Morgan remarked that the regiment was held in reserve, and I don't know that he had any intimation as to the direction in which it would move, nor did I hear him say that he had any intimation as to the direction in which it would move.

Q—Did witness chance to see or know anything of a personal combat between Maj Gen Pillow and an isolated Mexican officer or soldier, during any of the battles fought on the 19th and 20th of August last?

A—I did not, sir. I know nothing about it.

Questions by defence:

Q—What other officers were present during the conversation you have related, with Gen. Pillow?

A—Lieut. Tilton, the Adjutant of the Regiment, and also I think Capt. Hooker and Lieut. Ripley.

Q—In the actual assault upon Chapultepec, did Gen. Pillow say, that Gen. Scott left him to exercise his own judgment in the dispositions made for the assault of the work on the west side?

A—I don't recollect that Gen. Pillow made any special reference to that; if he did it has passed from my mind.

Q—After that part if the witness' statement, relative to the two Generals shaking hands, will he not recollect that Gen. Pillow said he had stated to Gen. Smith that his division would be obliged to carry a battery on the north side of the work, while Gen. Quitman's would be obliged to carry the batteries on the Tacubaya road, and thus two battles would have to be fought, and Chapultepec, at last, be assaulted, and did not Gen. Pillow ask why not assault at once?

A—I think the objections referred to in the two roads in the question, were the objections made to that mode of attack, but in reference to fighting the third battle, upon the attack upon Chapultepec, I will not say it was referred to by Gen. Pillow as stated by him. My impression was from the conversation, that the troops were to move on to the attack of the city. This impression, however, may have arisen from the expression of making Chapultepec feel its isolation, and as to the attack upon Chapultepec after the meeting of the two Generals, at the point referred to, I have now no recollection, but would be very unwilling to say that it was not named by Gen. Pillow—the phrase above used may have given me that idea of the plan proposed when it might have referred to the isolation of the Castle after the union of the two Generals, as it would be more easily carried.

Q—Did Gen. Pillow say that Gen. Scott had proposed his plan at a Council of War, or was that your supposition?—Did not Gen. Pillow say that the plan had been proposed at Tacubaya, when Gens. Pillow and Quitman, and a few other officers were present?

A—As to the place where these plans were suggested or proposed, it is supposition with me alone. I don't recollect that Gen. Pillow made direct reference as to at what council these remarks were made, but I inferred that it was at a council, and that it was held at Tacubaya. For the attack alone, I may say that is my impression from the fact alone, that he and others had objected to it. This is my present recollection, whether he referred to the place, and the persons present, I do not remember.

Q—Witness has said that the order given to the 15th Infantry through Capt. Hooker, was for the regiment to go forward and support Gen. Cadwallader. Is the witness clear that such was the order?

A—I don't recollect positively whether I heard it from Capt. Hooker when he delivered the order or from Col. Morgan; such, however, were the orders given, and when we crossed the Pedregal and passed the ravine, Col. Morgan halted his regiment and went and reported to Gen. Cadwallader.

Question by Prosecution—Does the witness now mean to say, on reflection, that he did not understand Gen. Pillow in the conversation referred to as speaking of a Council composed of a number of generals and of other officers.

A—I will state in answer to that, I don't recollect whether he stated positively a council or an assemblage of officers, or whether I inferred it from his conversation. It may be that I inferred it alone; my impression was that it was made in such an assembly, and I so repeated it.

Q—Is the witness clear that he understood from Gen. Pillow that the first step of Gen. Scott's plan was for the divisions of Pillow and Quitman to pass, the one to the north and the other by the Tacubaya road around the base of the hills, and should shake hands at this junction?

A—I am very certain that he made the remark that the two divisions were to pass on the two roads referred to—that this was a proposition on the part of Gen. Scott—but whether or not it was the first one, I don't recollect. It was the first step (my impressions were) towards an attack upon the City, not upon Chapultepec.

Question by Defence.—Does the witness mean to include the operations of the Artillery on the 12th, or that the
A—Well, I presume that this proposition was the first step towards the attack upon the city, without any attempt upon Chapultepec, further than clearing the out works of that castle, which would be obstructions to the passage. I suppose that was the first movement intended to be made by the Infantry; I do not know that any thing was said in reference to establishing batteries.

Capt. LEE recalled.

Q—What does the witness know of Maj. Gen. Scott’s plan of attack, on the Castle of Chapultepec on the 12th and 13th of September last, and was not the plan of attack, as executed by batteries and assaulted with scaling ladders, substantially the same as was executed on the 12th and 13th September last.

A—The plan executed, I believe, was substantially the one contemplated by Gen. Scott at the time that he proposed to attack it at the meeting at Piedad; he then, there, and at that time stated that after cannonading the work for one day that the work would be so shattered as to be abandoned by the enemy, or reduced to a state that they could be easily carried by assault. I recollect that on the 12th, after the batteries had been playing upon the Castle for some hours, and under cover of which I had reconnoitered the approaches to the building on the hill, in company with Lieut. Tower, Engineer, when Lieut. Beauregard came to me and said that Gen. Scott desired to see me. I returned with Lieuts. Beauregard and Tower to Tacubaya, and found Gen. Scott in the Plaza, in front of his quarters, who expressed much disappointment in not having seen me before—he said he had wished to know the effects of the cannonade upon the enemy’s works, that he might decide whether it would be better to assault the Castle that evening or the next morning—that he had directed storming parties to be organized from Generals Worth and Twiggs’ divisions and scaling ladders to be collected—that General Pillow was to attack from the direction of Molina del Rey, and Gen. Quitman along the Tacubaya road, and asked it the assault was postponed until the next morning whether the enemy, during the night, would not repair the damages sustained by the cannonade that day. I expressed my apprehensions that they would, and Lieutenant Tower joined me in the same apprehensions. General Scott said, then we must attack to-night or this evening, and turned towards his quarters. After Lieuts. Beauregard, Tower, and myself speaking of the necessary preparations, I followed Gen. Scott and told him that perhaps, upon the whole, the attack had better be delayed until next morning, for I feared there would be hardly time that evening. He readily assented, as he appeared to be more in favor of the morning attack. Lieuts. Beauregard, Tower, and myself then reported to him more in detail the result of our examination, and explained, by a diagram, the positions of our batteries and those of the enemy, and the approaches to the Castle of Chapultepec. He also (Gen. Scott,) went more fully into the plan of attack—said that he would direct Gen. Twiggs to renew the feint attack upon the San Antonio gate next morning at daylight, and the batteries against Chapultepec to resume their fire a short time afterwards, and after continuing it for one or more hours, to make the enemy believe that we were repeating the game of attack played that day, and at a concerted signal, which would be the cessation of the fire of the batteries, that the attacking columns would move to the assault of the hill.—Gen. Pillow would support one of the storming parties with one of his brigades, and with the other move on the road on the north-west side of Chapultepec to cut off any re-inforcements that might approach it from the city, and take in reverse the batteries on the Tacubaya road, while Gen. Quitman, with his division and the other storming party would make the attack on the south east side—that he had sent to desire Generals Pillow and Quitman to visit him that evening, and that he wished me to return at that time. I did return, and upon the arrival of Gen. Pillow I was called in to an inner room, where Gen. Scott desired me to explain the plan of attack of which he had spoken that afternoon, which I did.

Q—What did Gen. S. say to witness—if any thing concerning our batteries being able in the morning to reduce the garrison to its minimum, if it should be reinforced during the night?

A—He used that argument, among others, to show that we should not lose any thing by postponing the attack until next morning; and he added, moreover, that we should have the remainder of the day to take advantage of circumstances after carrying Chapultepec.

Q—Did the witness ever chance to hear Major General Scott say to Maj. Gins. Pillow and Quitman, or to any body else, that those Generals were to march around the hill of Chapultepec, and shake hands on meeting; or did the said Scott say at any time, to said Pillow or Quitman, or any body else, any thing subsequent to the meeting at Piedad, any thing which was a material modification of the plan substantially laid down at Piedad?

A—I do not recollect having heard General Scott say that Generals Pillow and Quitman were to march round Chapultepec. On the evening of the 12th, at his interview with Gen. Pillow, Gen. Scott said Gen. Pillow was to attack on the side of Molino del Rey, passing through those buildings and the wood or grove with one of his brigades, and assault the work along the ridge. I never heard Gen. S. say any thing contrary to the principles of the attack proposed by him at Piedad.

Q—Had or not the witness many official or other views with Maj. Gen. Scott, between the 7th and 12th of September last, and did the witness perceive any want of energy on the part of said Scott at that time, compared with any prior or subsequent period?

A—I had many interviews with Gen. Scott during that time, and did not perceive any want of energy; but on the contrary, he was very anxious and active in pushing the preparations, establishing depots and hospitals, preparatory to making the attack upon the city. I did not perceive any difference in his acts at that time and any other time during the campaign.
Questions by Defence:

Q—Witness will state if, after Gens. Pillow and Quitman arrived on the night of the 12th, Gen. Scott had not a rough diagram of Chapultepec lying on the table in the room where Gen Scott received those generals?

A—There was a diagram used at that interview, and was the one of which I have previously spoken. I don’t recollect that Gen. Quitman had arrived at that time.

Q—Did he (Gen. Scott) or yourself explain the diagram and Gen. Scott’s views of the movements of the two infantry divisions, to Gens. Pillow and Quitman?

A—I explained the diagram according to Gen. Scott’s request to Gen. Pillow, and the proposed movements of divisions, were also stated by me; Gen. Scott occasionally taking part in the conversation in reference to any particular point under discussion.

Q—Does not witness know that Gen. Scott suggested that Gen. Pillow should pass round Chapultepec, north of that work, and that Gen. Quitman should advance by the Tacubaya road; that the two major generals should shake hands upon their meeting, and thus make Chapultepec feel its isolation? Was not Gen. Pillow’s opposition to this plan expressed on the ground that it would be necessary to fight two battles, and that at last Chapultepec must be assaulted?

A—I recollect distinctly that Gen. Scott proposed that one of Gen. Pillow’s brigades should advance along the north western side of Chapultepec, passing through the grove at the foot of the hill. To this separation of his division Gen. Pillow did object and stated that if Gen. Scott would allow him to make the attack upon the Castle of Chapultepec, with his whole division, that he thought he could answer for the result; but if his division was separated; as he could be with only one brigade, he could not. Gen. Scott then assented that he should make the attack upon Chapultepec with his whole division. The only difference of opinion on this point, that I recollect, between Gens. Scott and Pillow, was, that the former considered one brigade sufficient to carry Chapultepec, whereas the latter desired both, as I have stated before. I do not recollect that Gen Scott desired the divisions of Gens. Pillow and Quitman to pass around Chapultepec.

Q—Did witness hear anything of Generals Pillow and Quitman shaking hands, and making Chapultepec feel its isolation?

A—I do not recollect either that that expression was used, or that that entered into the plan.

Q—Did he hear nothing of the remark of Gen. Pillow, why fight three battles instead of one?

A—I don’t recollect anything of those expressions, or anything like it, at this length of time; I can only recollect the substance or impression made by conversations, but not expressions. I don’t mean to say that I do not recollect the substance of conversations, for I do, distinctly, but I mean I cannot recollect particularly the expressions of individuals.

Q—Does not the witness know that Gen. Pillow did himself voluntarily send two of his regiments, the 11th and 15th, around by the north, and may not, therefore, the witness doubt his memory, as to the points stated?

A—I have seen in his report that a part of his command did advance on that road; I did not know it at the time he made the attack upon Chapultepec; when he, Gen. P. made that attack, I saw a force left in the Molino del Rey, which I supposed was a guard to Magruder’s field battery, and this was the force that subsequently advanced on the road on the North West side, of Chapultepec. I think I have a distinct recollection of a difference of opinion between Gens. Scott and Pillow as regards the movements of the two brigades of this division.

Q—Does the witness know that the 12th Infantry, another regiment of Gen. Pillow’s division, was left at Miscoac?

A—I did not know it.

Question by Gen. Scott, but withdrawn.

Court then adjourned to 9 A. M., Monday.

TWENTY-SECOND DAY—April 10, 1848.

The Court met pursuant to adjournment, and the proceedings were read over by the Judge Advocate.

Col. Riley, 2d Infantry, duly sworn.

Questions by Defence.—Was the witness upon the battlefield of Contreras on the 19th of August last. If so, he will
state his movements of that day?

A—I was upon the battle-field of Contreras on the 19th of August last. After Gen. Twiggs' division joined Gen.
Pillow's division in front of the enemy's works, Gen. Pillow road up and gave me two or three orders to move a little
to the right, and then a little to the left, and then to move forward. Gen. Pillow gave me an order to cross the
Pedregal. I asked if Gen. Twiggs knew of the order, and he said that he did; that he had sent the order to him. I
think the order was, as near as I can recollect, to cross the Pedregal, turn the enemy's left, and he would support
me. We were scarcely done speaking, when Lieut. Brooks, Adj't General of Twiggs' division, camp up and gave me a
similar order. I executed the order, and did not see Gen. Pillow again that day.

Q—Where was witness when the order spoken of was delivered; and where was witness' command when Lieut.
Brooks delivered the order?

A—I was on the left flank of my brigade, near some trees. The command was in position near the cornfield near
the Pedregal, and when Lieut. Brooks, gave me the order it had not moved. I had told Gen. Pillow previously, that it
had moved, but upon a reference I found that it had not moved.

Q—When witness asked Gen. Pillow whether General Twiggs knew of the order, did not Gen. Pillow reply that he
had given the same order to Gen. Twiggs, and that he would probably meet Gen. Twiggs about the cornfield, but that
if he did not, witness would go forward with his command and execute the movement?

A—I said so in my former testimony. He did tell me that I would meet with Gen. Twiggs in or about the cornfield,
but that if I did not meet him, to go forward and execute the movement.

Q—Does witness recollect that Gen. Pillow pointed out any object in or about the village of Ensaldo, and directed
him to make that object his guide? If so, what was that object?

A—I don't recollect of any observation of that kind.

Q—Did witness see and understand from the position of Gen Smith's brigade, and from the explanation and
orders given him, witness, relative to his own movements that it was intended to gain the enemy's left and rear, and
with what object?

A—Gen. Smith's brigade had moved off, I understood, to support Magruder's Battery. I never heard anything of
the attack on Contreras, how it was to be made, or of any thing of the kind at that time. I supposed I was sent
across to cut off the retreat of the enemy and prevent reinforcements coming from the city; it was a supposition of
my own at the time; I never had any explanation given to me.

Q—Where was Magruder's Battery placed in position? Was it in front of the enemy's entrenched camp?

A—I thought it was in front from the firing; I was not near it, but I thought it was in front or nearly so?

Q—Did witness pass the Pedregal; pass through the village, and engage the enemy's cavalry in several conflicts?
If so, why did he pass the village, &c., except with the object to gain and assault the enemy's rear?

A—I did pass the Pedregal and the village, and did engage the enemy in the first instance in front of the village,
between the village and the city. I attacked the Lancers and drove them from their position on to the plain, not in
rear of the entrenched camp, but a little to its left and rear. I passed through the village with a view of
reconnoitering the rear of the enemy's works, and kept them busy with a view of preventing them from interfering
with any reconnaissance; I was not endeavoring to gain their rear with a view to assault. My reason for passing
forward was, I was chasing the enemy.

Q—What was the object in making a reconnaissance, unless with a view of ascertaining the practicability of an
assault in rear? Or, with what view?

A—My object was to get as much information as I could for my commanding General, without knowing when or
where he was going to make the general attack.

Q—If witness had ascertained that an assault upon the rear was practicable, and had been supported, would he
have assaulted that work on the 19th August?

A—I should.

Q—Was it possible, under the circumstances, to have given minute and detailed instructions to you, applicable to
the movement of your command, and did not, therefore, of necessity, great latitude of discretion devolve upon you
in the execution of your instructions?

A—I can't answer the first part of the question. I do not know that it was possible to give me instructions. I now
nothing of any plan whatever, and I always assume responsibility when by so doing I can serve my country.—Not
very great latitude of discretion, for when I am looked over by a superior officer, he is the responsible person; when I am in command I then exercise discretion.

Q—Did witness or not ascertain from reconnoissances that an assault was practicable, and did not witness make such report to Brig. Gen. Smith?

A—I did discover that it was practicable and the best possible place to attack the works at Contreras, and I did cause it to be reported by Lieut. Tower, Engineers, to Gen. Smith, that same evening about sundown.

Q—Did witness, on the 19th, have a knowledge that Gen. Cadwalader with four regiments was in the villages shortly after witness left it, for the purpose of supporting witness, and that he was only prevented by a large body of the enemy's reinforcements?

A—I never knew there was a soul belonging to the army in the village, until I was returning to make a camp for the night, and consequently did not know that he was stopped by a large force of the enemy. If I had known it I should have attacked the entrenched camp at Contreras that evening, on my own responsibility.

Q—Whilst witness' brigade was passing the Pedregal, did any order overtake him to return, and from whom did such order come?

A—No order reached me to return, and I never heard of such order until after the battle next day, when I heard that an order of recall had been sent after me.

Q—What other orders during that day had witness received from any Maj. General relative to movements upon the enemy?

A—None whatever to the best of my recollection.

Q—Had or not any order, oral or written, been received by witness from General Head Quarters directly, or through Brig. Gen. Twiggs, relative to operations against the enemy on the 19th of August?

A—General Order, No. 258, was read to me at San Augustin, either by a staff officer of Gen. Scott, or of Gen. Twiggs. He, the staff officer, said he had not time to copy it—when I say read to me, I mean it was read to brigade and regimental commanders.

Q—Had or not, the order so read nay bearing on the operations which followed, relative to gaining the village, or San Angel road?

A—The order was to make ready intrenching tools, wagons, &c.; that Pillow's division was to move forward and Twiggs to support it, to gain the San Angel road, I think was the expression used. All of which I think bore against the operations of the enemy—every part of it.

Q—When witness, late in the evening of the 19th of August met Gen. Cadwallader and Gen. Smith, did he inform either of them that he had been ordered by Gen. Pillow to move against the enemy's left?

A—I did not. I had forgotten entirely that Gen. Pillow gave me the order at all, until he refreshed my memory afterwards in this city, by the circumstance of recalling my question—p"Did Gen. Twiggs know of the order?"—I said he did not give me any orders.

Q—When was the witness first reminded in person, by Maj. Gen. Pillow, that he had given him an order to pass the Pedregal; where and under what circumstances; and was witness then requested by Maj. Gen. Pillow, to give a written statement of his revived recollections?

A—At his house in this city, shortly after we got in the city—I don't recollect the date.

Above answer continued:

A—I think I was sent for by Gen. Pillow, and he revived my recollection by the circumstance already cited, and he did propound questions to me in writing some time after, though not on that occasion; and I believe I answered them in writing.

Q—From all that witness saw and knew on the subject, was, or was not, the plan of operations or attacks executed against Valencia's camp, on the morning of the 20th, the same given by Major General Pillow, or the same as that pointed out in general instructions from general headquarters?

Motions submitted by both parties as follows:

Maj. Gen. Pillow objects to the question last propounded by the prosecution in the case, because it calls for no fact
or statement of the parties, but calls for the opinions of witnesses about the identity of two movements, which the Court (and not the witness) must determine from all the facts in evidence in the record before it.

This question—calling for witness’ opinion—is equivalent to asking the witness in general terms if defendant is guilty of the 3d Specification, 2d Charge, the very point which the Court is ordered to investigate and report to the Government, not from the opinion of the witness, but from all the opinions in the cases. The objection is not the opinion of this witness, but to that of any witness upon this point. The testimony is illegal as evidence.

After the reply in part was read, Gen. Pillow asked to add a few lines as follows:

Professional opinions upon matters of science are always competent, but professional men cannot be called upon to give opinions about matters of FACT, or the IDENTITY OF FACTS, any more than other witnesses. The witness can never be called upon for his opinion as to the TRUTH OF CHARGES DEPENDING UPON FACTS: This must be shown by the FACTS THEMSELVES, and the Court from these facts, must FIND the truth of the charges. [Signed.] Gid. J. Pillow.

To the objection of the defendant the prosecutor briefly replies—

1. PROFESSIONAL opinion is always good evidence to be heard by any tribunal, not as concluding the matter under investigation, but to aid the judgment of the Court.

2. The defence has several times, without objection from any quarter, asked directly or indirectly for the opinions, impressions and judgment of witnesses, and

3. The question under consideration, asks the witness to speak from what he said and knew.

To the remarks the defendant has been allowed to add to his objection to the interrogatory since the above reply was written, the prosecutor asks leave to add.

The witness has spoken of the facts of the case, so far as he has been interrogated, and he is now asked by the prosecutor to give his opinions on those facts.

In questions touching any mechanical or scientific department of business, person skilled in such pursuits are often called by the parties to give an opinion, and war is a science to the learned, and a trade to others. Respectfully submitted, [Signed] In Court, April 10th, 1848. WINFIELD SCOTT

The Court decided the question should be put, and the witness should answer, so far as any facts within the witness’ knowledge led him to form an opinion.

A—As Gen. Pillow never gave me any instructions, I cannot say. I always conceived that any and every order from General Headquarters has a bearing upon the movements of an army. I don’t know that I can state positively any thing farther in answer to the question; I know nothing of any instructions from General Headquarters farther than I have already stated.

Q—At the interview with Maj. Gen. Pillow at his quarters, referred to by witness, did Maj. Gen. Pillow, in the act of writing his questions to witness, inform him that he had recommended witness for a brevet, or that he would recommend him, and if he had recommended him, did witness read the letter?

A—Not at that time; some time before. I had spoken to him on that subject, and he read me a passage of a letter on that subject. It was not recommending me for a brevet, but that in case I was recommended, a certain date should be affixed to the brevet.

Q—TO whom was the letter Maj. Gen. Pillow read addressed, and did not the letter read contain commendations of the witness?

A—I did not see the direction, but I think he told me it was addressed to Mr. Polk. I do not think he read to me any commendations of myself, but merely asking the President to affix a certain date, that of Cerro Gordo. I think that was what he read to me.

Q—Was the witness under the command of Maj. Gen. Pillow at the time; and if not, why did he apply to him rather than to his actual commander?

The court said they could not perceive the object in putting the question.

Gen. Scott said that he begged the court would turn to the testimony of the case of Col. Hitchcock.

Gen. Pillow said that he had stated his desire to impeach the testimony of Col. Hitchcock; if Gen. Scott desired to impeach the testimony of this witness, very well.
Gen. Scott said, God forbid that I should attempt to impeach the testimony of this witness or his character, wither for truth, honesty, or bravery and prowess before the enemy; but, he added, he had strong reasons for putting the question, and by permission of the court, he would put them in writing; he had no fear of nay one at Washington in stating them.

The Court said the question was decided not to be put, was an improper one, and those remarks were improper, particularly in respect to one person.

Gen. Scott replied—He had said before that he would treat this Court with the same respect that he would treat three Field Marshals, but with no more; and where he thought the rights of the Prosecution trenched upon he would proclaim it, with equal freedom, before fifty Field Marshals.

Q—About what time elapsed between the witness' two interviews with Maj. Gen. Pillow mentioned, viz: that relative to brevet, and that relative to the written questions and answers, and was witness sent for on both occasions, by Gen. Pillow, and did the witness belong to Gen. Pillow's division?

A—I do know I was sent for as to the questions; whether I was sent for as to the first, the brevet, I do not know. I did not belong to Gen. Pillow's division. I was sent for several times, several weeks elapsed between these interviews.

Q—How long was it after Valencia's entrenched camp was carried, before witness first saw Gen. Pillow that morning?

A—Between half an hour, and an hour after the camp was carried, was the first I saw of Gen. Pillow after the 19th.

Q—On meeting Maj. Gen. Pillow that morning did he then claim to have given the plan of attack, which had been so successfully executed?

A—He did not.

Q—By whose order was the brigade of witness put in motion, after the entrenched camp had been carried, and again from Coyoucan, to support Twiggs and Smith?

A—By Gen. Scott in person.

Question by the Defence.—At the time Gen. Pillow first showed you the letter relative to a brevet, state whether any question had arisen relative to the orders above detailed, and whether Gen. Pillow then had any difficulty with Gen. Scott?

A—I do not recollect the conversation between Gen. Pillow and myself. I had some conversation at that time; there was no difficulty that I recollect of between Gens. Pillow and Scott. I knew of no controversy about the order at that time.

Q—Was the passage in Gen. Pillow's letter a simple reference to the service of Riley's brigade, or to the proceedings of a Court of Inquiry held at Puebla, and Gen. Pillow's opinion that if a brevet were given, it should date from Cerro Gordo; and was this done at the request of witness?

A—That was at my request, and there was nothing more read to me than the reasons Gen. Pillow gave from my statement as to why I should be brevetted from Cerro Gordo.

Q—Will witness state if he was not some distance towards the mountain when Gen. Pillow came to the camp; and did not witness first see Gen. Pillow within the camp?

A—Gen. Pillow, I think, was in the camp when I first saw him; I was in the camp; I had just come from towards the mountains, where, I understood, there was a flag. I had directed it to be brought to me, and after a few words, as I understood, he went and received the flag.

Q—Witness has been asked if, on the 20th of August, Gen. Pillow claimed the orders under which the battle was won. Witness will state whether anything was said on the subject?

A—I don't think there was at that time. I don't recollect.

Lieut. Col. SAVAGE, 11th Infantry, duly sworn:

Questions by Defence.—To what corps did witness belong on the 19th of August last, and state whether witness was on the battle-field that day?

A—I was Major in the 14th Infantry, which was part of Gen. Cadwallader's brigade. I was present on the battle-
Q—Did witness hear the orders given by Maj. Gen. Pillow on the 19th of August last, and to Gen. Cadwallader; and if so, state what those orders were?

A—My regiment had been halted on the side of the hill in front of the enemy’s works. I observed a group of officers on the side of the hill nearest the enemy; I left my regiment and approached them; Gen. Pillow was among them, and I think Gen. Cadwallader; a few moments after, I approached where Gen. Pillow was standing; an officer on horse-back rode up from the direction which Gen. Cadwallader’s brigade too through the Pedregal. He said to Gen. Pillow that he had been unable to overtake Col. Riley.—A conversation then ensued between Gen. Pillow and the officer near him; the particular words of which I do not think I could at present recall. The course of Col. Riley’s march was pointed out by Gen. Pillow, and I understood from this conversation that Col. Riley was to turn the enemy’s left and gain his rear. I could not say whether Gen. Pillow said that he had directed Col. Riley to do this, or that Col. Riley had been directed to so it. Gen. Pillow immediately gave orders for the marching of Gen. Cadwallader’s brigade to the support of Col. Riley, and in a few minutes I joined my regiment.

QUESTIONS BY PROSECUTION—Were not the orders given to Gen. Cadwallader made dependent upon those given to Riley, and if the latter had been recalled or returned, would the former have stood fast, or returned also?

A—I can only give my impression, which may be correct or incorrect. My understanding was that we were to support Col. Riley, and of course our action was dependent upon his, and I examined several times for Col. Riley’s trace in crossing the Pedregal—thinking that we had been ordered to take the same march that he had taken.

Q—Did the witness chance to see or know of any personal combat on the 19th or 20th of August last, in or about any battle-fields of those days, between Maj. Gen. Pillow and any Mexican officer or soldier?

A—I did not see or know of one on or about the battle-field of the 19th and 20th of August last, and further I never heard of one until months afterward.

Lieut. J. R. BENNETT, 15th Infantry.

Question by Defence—Were you on the battle-field on the 19th of August last; to what regiment were you attached, and who was its commander?

A—I was attached to the 15th Infantry commanded by Col. Morgan, and was on the battle-field.

Q—Witness will state what he knows about the movements of the 15th Infantry across the Pedregal on the 19th of August; who gave the order; at what time the movement was made, and time of the arrival of Gen. Scott upon the ground? Who delivered the orders to the regiment?

A—the regiment was halted first in the wheat-field on the edge of the Pedregal, which intervened between us and the enemy, probably for half an hour. There was then an order came from Gen. Pillow—understood at the time given by Capt. Hooker. This order I understood was to move across the Pedregal. We moved down to the cornfield near the point where we were to start across, and we had to halt there for a few moments. This halt I understood was made because the troops in our advance had not got sufficiently out of the way to let our regiment move on.—Our regiment was there for a few minutes, as I mentioned before. At the end of that time the advance commenced moving, an while moving I heard cheers given by the Dragoons in the rear, and looked and saw that Gen. Scott had arrived on the side of the hill, where they were cheering. I was in the rear company of our regiment. I would add, Capt. Hooker had ridden towards Gen. Scott; at least he went that way.

Q—In what manner did the regiment move across the Pedregal? Did it march by flank or columns? State also whether the difficulties of the ground did not oblige the rear to wait upon the front some time?

A—It marched by the flank, and by the time we got over we had become exceedingly scattered. Sometimes we were twenty or thirty yards apart. The rear had to wait nearly fifteen minutes on the advance at starting.—My memory is very fresh in regard to moving across. I never was so tired in my life before, moving the same distance, and never was in a place so rough for the same distance.

Q—Witness has spoken of the regiment being halted some time in the wheat filed? Was or not the regiment again moved and halted before being approached to the Pedregal, and was it at the second halt where the order was given to cross?

A—It was at the second place of halting. We halted a third time, but only for troops in front to get out of the way. Capt. Hooker kept along with us until Gen. Scott got on the field and showed us where to start across the Pedregal.

I beg, Mr. President, the attention of the Court to the addition of words to the answers of witnesses, and beg to refer the Court to the passage on its record in reference to prompting witnesses when speaking to the Judge Advocate.

Q—Did Capt. Hooker deliver the order to cross the pedregal before or after you heard the cheering and saw Gen.
Scott; state also where Gen. Scott was when you heard the cheering—was he at the base of the hill, or ascending the hill?

A—He was near the foot of the hill, near the Dragoons, who were in the wheat field; he was moving towards the hill about twenty yards from the Dragoons.

Q—Was the witness in the assault upon Chapultepec—if so state what he knows about General Pillow being wounded; what assistance he got; where was his command? State also what kind of shot wounded General Pillow?

A—I was in the storming of Chapultepec in the 15th Infantry. The Voltigeurs 9th, and 15th Infantry were formed inside of the walls of Molina del Rey, under the orders of Gen. Pillow in person. Gen. Pillow led the three regiments to the advance on Chapultepec through the bottom in about half way of the bottom-land on consequence of its being so muddy, he had to dismount and march with the advance on foot, near the bottom of the hill he ordered a charge on a small fortification on the side of the hill, some twenty yards up while about half way to that charge, he was stepping or rather jumping across a mud hole, and had just arrived on the opposite side, and I myself jumped across immediately after him, and was about to loose my balance, and while in the act of recovering myself, with my right hand on his left shoulder, he was struck by a canister shot, which shot struck a limb in a tree, broke it off and glanced and struck him; I heard the ball hit him and discovered from the appearance of his complexion and face that he was about to fall; I slipped my hand from his shoulder to his back and prevented him from falling, and assisted him to near the root of a tree, and while he was moving towards the tree with my assistance and one other man, he spoke out as loud as he could and ordered the charge, still I laid him near the tree, and by this time some other officer or some men that I had called came to him, and he ordered me to leave him and move on to my company as fast as possible.

That Court then adjourned until 9 o’clock to-morrow.

U.S. Senate

Mr. Hannegan, chairman of the committee on Foreign Relation, reported a bill to enable the President to take temporary military occupation of Yucatan—to employ the army and navy of the United States for that purpose, and to repress the incursions of the savages against the white population of that country—to furnish the white population with arms, ammunition, &c., to repel the attacks of the Indians—and to authorize the raising of additional volunteers, equal in number to replace the troops withdrawn from other portions of the service, for this service in Yucatan.

The bill was twice read, and Mr. Hannegan moved that it be made the special order for to-morrow.

Mr. Calhoun thought the day named too early—more time should be given for reflection. He proposed Monday next.

Mr. Hannegan said it was important that this bill should be acted upon without delay. A day or an hour might be productive of calamitous consequences to the people of Yucatan. HE had seen letters from Lieut. Murray M__ [illegible], now in the Gulf, stating that the whole coast was darkened with women and children, without food or clothing.

Mr. Cass also was in favor of prompt action. Never better occasion presented for them to vindicate before the world the character of the Nation.

Mr. Foote expressed his strongest surprise at the effort to procrastinate action on this bill.

Mr. Calhoun saw enough in the message to require from this body the most deliberate candor. The Executive had been in no hurry, if he had taken from the 7th of March down to the date of the message, to make up his mind on the subject; surely two or three days would not be considered too long for reflection upon the subject. In his remarks the other day he had simply expressed his regret that the President should have mixed up a mere question of humanity with other subjects of high political consideration.

Mr. Foote said that the Senator himself had also mixed up with the subject, another, of high political consideration; he referred to the present was with Mexico, and declared that he had hoped its results had taught the President a lesson—this war which the Senator said had cost the country 30,000lives—a war brought on, in a great measure, by the act of the annexation of Texas—a measure necessary for the protection of the South and of Southern interests—for which the Administration, of which the Senator was then a prominent member, was mainly responsible. In regard to the movement of the army from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande, he had believed that Gen. Taylor would, with some of Jackson’s independence of character, assume the responsibility of his own acts. And he now had it from an authentic source, that Gen. Taylor, scorning to skulk, had assumed such responsibility.
The Senator from South Carolina, he must be permitted to tell him, occupied a peculiar position before the country, on subjects of this kind. The Senator he believed, had once been in favor of a National Bank, and many other measures to which it was not necessary to refer. It has been boasted by some of his friends, too, that he was the father of the system of internal improvements. He said these things with no unkind feelings, but to show that he should be more circumspect in his declarations, when he is himself responsible, to a great extent, for the consequences to which he refers.

The great issues of the campaign of 1844 were furnished by that Senator. We had placed a man in the Presidential chair upon those issues, and who had successfully and gloriously carried out the great principles for which the Senator had contended. Yet who had ever heard him commend the Administration. He had sometimes acted with them, but he had generally been among the first to give the administration a thrust under the fifth rib.

Why had it been he would ask the Senator? Had it been that the Senator had not girded on his armor in defence of the administration—an administration which had secured upon the pages of history a name more glorious than even any administration which had preceded it—one of the wisest, so far as its measures were concerned, ever known in this country?

Why was he seen surrounded after these attacks upon the Administration, by high minded and honorable Senators of the other side, with their warm congratulations? He hoped he would do himself justice before the close of the debate, and take the lead in support of this bill.

Mr. Calhoun denied that he had opposed any measure of the Administration which he deemed right, those only of any Administration did he support. It had been agreed on all hands, Mr. Polk included, that the annexation of Texas was just cause for war on the part of Mexico.

He denied that the present war necessarily grew out of it, and contended that it might have been avoided, annexation notwithstanding. He took his seat in this body with reluctance, and with a sincere desire to give the Administration of Mr. Polk a fair support. He had endeavors to perform his duty faithfully, and if he had failed, it was a question to be settled with his own conscience.

Mr. Hale said that he had been charged with being a fanatic for declaring that the war had grown out of the annexation of Texas. He was happy to have it in his power whenever again so charged, to call the Senator from Mississippi to the stand, and declare upon the responsibility of his Senatorial oath, that this war grew out of the annexation of Texas, a measure necessary for the protection of the south. It did not come this time from fanatics, but from one of the faithful, one of the sachems of the tribe.

Mr. Cass said the question was merely whether the bill should be considered to-morrow or at a later day. He thought that is any thing was to be done, it should be done speedily. The delay on the part of the administration had been occasioned by their efforts to obtain correct and official information. That information had now been obtained and was before them. By delay they would be able to obtain nothing further. Then why delay? He had regretted the remarks made by the distinguished Senator from South Carolina in regard to what he had characterized this wretched war.

Mr. Calhoun. This rash and precipitate war.

Mr. Cass. He begged the Senator's pardon, but his expression had been so quoted here this morning, without contradiction, by the Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. Calhoun. I did not consider it necessary to contradict what that Senator said.

Mr. Foot retorted, but his remark was not distinctly heard.

Mr. Cass proceeded, chiefly on the cause of the war, and insisting that, from all the information before them,—from the declarations at the time of Mexico herself—was a cause of the war; though he said as now universally admitted, no just cause of war.

Mr. Calhoun replied to the remarks of Mr. Cass, the question of boundary being introduced, and Mr. Cass rejoined.

Mr. Hannegan said the object of his motion was proper action, but he debate to day was the poorest illustration of prompt action he had ever known. The question of the annexation of Texas having nothing to do with the subject, had been dragged in, as it always unfortunately was on almost every great measure emanating from the Administration. The motives which had induced him to move the consideration of the bill to-morrow, were better expressed in the concluding portion of Mr. Sierra’s letter than they could be by any thing which he could say. He read the extract, showing the condition of the white population of Yucatan, and expressed his wish that the question should at once be taken on his motion.

Mr. Niles followed. He was wholly unprepared to act now upon a bill involving such great principles—principles entirely new—he desired time to examine the documents. It was not merely a bill involving the question of affording temporary relief, but one of far greater and more vital importance connected with the policy of the country. He was not disposed to act under the "whip and spur"—they should not act without giving the subject all the consideration
which its importance demands.

The question was then taken successively, on motion to postpone until Saturday, and until Monday, and rejected. Mr. Hannegan’s motion then prevailed, and the bill was made the special order for to-morrow.

One or two bills, not of public importance, were passed, several petitions and memorials presented, a great number of bills from the House read twice and referred; and a resolution, offered by Mr. Calhoun, adopted calling on the President for all the correspondence between Mr. Sierra and the Secretary of State. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Murphy reported a bill to regulate the exchange of certain documents and other publications by Congress.—Read twice and referred.

Mr. Grinnell, from the Committee on Commerce, reported a bill to admit certain articles, the growth or production of Canada, free of duty, on condition that similar articles be also admitted into Canada free of duty. Read twice and referred.

Mr. Collamer introduced a resolution, which was adopted, directing the printing for the use of the House of a map of the public lands, showing the amount surveyed and the amount sold.

Mr. Goggin, from the Committee on Post Offices and Postroads, reported a bill to regulate the postage on newspapers and for other purposes. Read twice and referred.

Mr. Jones of Tennessee, from the same Committee, reported back the bill for making permanent arrangements for the transportation of the mails by the steamboats and railroads in the United States, with a recommendation that the committee be discharged from the further consideration thereof. Mr. Tompkins of Mississippi moved a reference of the bill to a Select Committee. The subject was one of great importance, and he desired that a Report should be made and go forth to the people. The reference to a Select Committee after some debate, was accordingly ordered.

Mr. Burt, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill to establish two National Foundries and a National Armory, the sites to be determined by a Board of Examiners. Read twice and referred.

Mr. King, of Georgia, from the same Committee, reported a bill to establish a line of war steamers from Monterey or San Francisco, California, and the Sandwich Islands, and also from Monterey or San Francisco to Shanghai and Canton, China. Read twice and referred.

The bill repealing the section of the act creating an additional number of general officers, which requires that the number of Generals at the close of the was shall be reduced to one Major General and two Brigadier Generals, to be selected by the President without regard to priority of commissions, was taken up and passed.

Several Executive communications on the Speaker’s table were read, referred, and ordered to be printed.

The Rosolation of thanks to Maj. Gen. Taylor, was taken up, and the amendment of Senate was agreed to.

The bill providing for an additional number of examiners in the Patent office was taken up, the House insisted upon its amendment, and a committee of conference was asked on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses.

A great number of bills from the Senate were read a first and second time and passed.

Adjourned.

[WP]

RW48v25i38p1c1, May 12, 1848: General Scott.

The arrival of this distinguished officer in the United States, fresh from a dozen fields, in all of which his genius and valor have triumphed over the combined forces of climate, natural impediments and immensely superior numbers, is calculated to call up mournful reflection in the bosom of every man who loves his country and would fain respect its rulers. The hearts of the people, it is true, are in the right place, and all that respect and admiration can dictate, he will receive from them. But his Government that Government which he has so long and so faithfully served, have prepared no triumph—have not even ordered an ovation. As far as it could effect it, he returns home a disgraced man! Such is the gratitude of rulers, and so entirely correct was Strafford, who exclaimed, when he found that after all his services, Charles I had signed his death-warrant, in the emphatic language of Scripture, “put not your faith in princes, neither in the great ones of the earth.”

We said that the arrival of General Scott, under these circumstances, is calculated to call up mournful reflections in
every lover of his country. Not, however, on his account. He cannot be hurt; and for Mr. Polk and such as he to
assail his lofty reputation, is an act about equal, in point of wisdom, to that which John Randolph once compared to
assailing the rock of Gibraltar with a pocket pistol. True, we doubt not, that had they but the power, they would not
lack the disposition to crush him. But every patriot must feel mortified and humiliated that the Chief Executive office
should be in the hands of a man who could feel it is his heart to reward such extraordinary merit in such an
extraordinary manner. If General Scott had been guilty of the most flagrant dereliction of duty—if he had behaved in
the most cowardly and disorderly manner in presence of the enemy—if his conduct had caused the destruction of the
army, instead of securing it a succession of triumphs as brilliant certainly as any recorded in our history—he could
hardly have received more decided marks of Executive disapprobation.

There is another man, however, of a totally different character—one who can never throw the Executive in the shade
by any brilliant exertion of generalship or valor—one who has, on more occasions than one, been charged with the
most flagrant misconduct by the oldest and best officers of the army. That man the President has taken under his
especial protection. He is his peculiar pet—the recipient of all the honors he has it in his power to bestow. He is
consistent to the last; for if he persecuted worth and genius in the person of Scott, it would be unaccountable that
he should not connive at the attempt to rob others of their laurels, so notoriously proved upon Pillow.

General Scott will doubtless be received with enthusiasm wherever he may make his appearance in the United
States. His majestic form, which has so often towered in front of the battle, will be recognized at once by tens of
thousands of his admiring countrymen; for no man who has seen him once, can fail to know him at the second
meeting.

“He looks the hero that he really is.”

And it is no small addition to his character that in private life he is as estimable as his public services are great. We
heard a friend of his, who had had as many opportunities of understanding his sentiments as any other person, once
say, that he was certain he placed far less value upon his military reputation, than upon that of an upright man.

[RWP]
the deep interest which you evidently take in the welfare of the Whigs. But we assure you that it is wholly unnecessary. They mean to take care of themselves; and from present indications, we have no doubt they will be perfectly successful in the attempt.

Before concluding this somewhat discursive article, it may be proper to state, that we ourselves heard, six weeks ago, from a gentleman who had just returned from New Orleans, that there was precisely such a letter as this Allison letter, in existence. When we say precisely, we mean, of course, to allude only to the sentiments of the letter. Major Bliss, at least at that time, was not within reach of the old Hero.

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RW48v25i38p1c2, May 12, 1848: The Irish Brigade!

Of all the contemptible farces yet gotten up in this age of humbug, we regard the proposition to raise an Irish brigade in the City of New York, to liberate Ireland, as the most contemptible. How do these gentlemen, or their leaders, propose to get to Ireland? Do they mean to do so as one of their countrymen once proposed to do, in order to get from Ireland to here—namely, take their feet in their hands and walk? Have they made any contract for shipping? Are they sure the English fleet will not overawe them on the way? Are they certain, if they once land safely in Cork or Dublin, they can overturn the British power in Ireland? If nine millions of people at home cannot release her from the yoke of England, can fifteen hundred or two thousand coming from the shores of America?

It is the misfortune of the Irish, who are as fine as a race of people as any under the sun, that they have always allowed themselves to be cheated by any Demagogue who would take the trouble to cajole them. It is so at home, and the passion for being cheated seems to follow them all over the world. But this is the baldest piece of cheating yet. There are, no doubt, designing men at the bottom of it all; for the dupe and the deceiver always go together.—In this instance, we learn from the New York Herald, that some hundred dollars have been collected, and if it does not go, in the shape of “rint,” to some leader among them, we shall confess ourselves very much mistaken.

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RW48v25i38p1c1, May 12, 1848: Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot. Washington, May 7, 1848.

I am, as a Whig, rejoiced to see, that Gen. Taylor’s last great letter, is received warmly and cordially by the Whig party in other parts of the country as well as here in Washington. The N. Orleans Whig papers state, that the noble sentiments of the letter have met with the unqualified approbation of all the Whigs in that region. The Whig papers in the North and of the West say the same thing in regard to the reception which the frank old soldier’s letter has met with in those quarters. All this argues well. Everybody knew, that, at the proper time, the old hero, if his friends kept his name before the people for the Presidency, would come out with a manly avowal of his sentiments upon the leading questions of the day. Have I not, from the first, so argued? Have not other friends of the old hero maintained the same thing? And yet, his political enemies affect to believe, that his coming out now is the work of politicians here, and not the free act of Gen. Taylor himself? They have discovered, that the “Nashville Whig,” a short time since, gave out, that Gen. Taylor would, before long, give to the public a letter similar to the one which he has recently addressed to his kinsman, Mr. Allison. They contend, that Gen. Barrow, in Congress, from Tennessee, was formerly editor of the Nashville Whig, and that he must have seen, here in Washington, the letter which General Taylor was to sign and publish as his own, and consequently, that he either sent home a copy or the substance of it to Nashville, when it crept into the Whig? They are very wise, those Locofoco seers!

General Barrow was the editor of the Nashville “Republican Banner,” and not of the “Nashville Whig.” Allen A. Hall, Esq. is the editor of the latter journal. He is the friend and correspondent of a distinguished Whig of Louisiana, who is the devoted personal and political friend of General Taylor his intimations, as to what kind of a letter he designed writing for the public eye, and communicated the same to his friends Hall at Nashville.

But the “Nashville Whig,” contained letters from distinguished Whigs in Washington, one of whom is a member of Congress, stating that Gen. Taylor would shortly appear in a letter, which would put down the slander of the two Mississippi epistles, which Messrs. Brown and Thompson introduced into the columns of the “Union” and into the House of Representatives. Very well, it was generally understood here, a month ago or more, at the time Major Bliss was in this city, that General Taylor, if his friends did not withdraw his name from the canvass, would come out with an explicit enough declaration if his principles, upon the great questions of the day, to satisfy all reasonable men as to his true position.

Everybody here knew this; why then is it so surprising that members of Congress should write the same thing home to their constituents?

But the charge is—and the “Union” thinks it a matter of importance—that Major Bliss, or Mr. Crittenden or some body else, wrote the letter for Gen. Taylor to sign! And this charge is made by those who used to be so indignant at similar charges made against General Jackson. They should hide their head in shame! If Gen. Taylor does not any more than did Gen. Jackson, write with his own hand, all his official reports and all his letters, for the public eye those official dispatches and letters all, as was the case with Gen. Jackson’s, nevertheless, bear the stamp and impress of the old hero’s mind. They are his. NO one denies that he wrote with his own hand the letter to Gen.
Gaines and Col. Butler, which found their way, without their author's knowledge or consent, into the public prints. They show that he possesses strength and ability of mind in the matter of putting his sentiments down in writing. If, therefore he chooses to avail himself of the polished form of his military aid, Major Bliss, who blames him for so doing?

The organ of the Administration at first pretended to think, that Gen. Taylor's Allison letter was no great affair, and would do no harm, because it was explicit only in the matter of yielding up the veto prerogative! But now it is in the greatest consternation imaginable about it and the effect which it will, in its estimation, inevitably have! From this time forward that organ will move heaven and earth to prejudice the public mind against that letter and its glorious old author. But it willavail nothing.

GEN. GAINES.—This veteran of the army arrived in this city in the Magnolia on Sunday evening, and has taken lodgings at the St. Charles Hotel. He is accompanied by his lady.

Important News From Mexico.

Battle at Santa Cruz.—Defeat of the Mexicans—Arrival of Mr. Sevier in Mexico—Court of Inquiry not yet adjourned—New charges to be made against Gen. Scott.

Correspondence of the News. New Orleans, May 4—10 A.M.

The steamer Fashion has arrived from the Brazos, whence she sailed on the 30th ult. Squire Collins, bearer of dispatches for Government and Gens. Price and Wool, are among the passengers.

The above vessel brings full particulars of a battle fought at Santa Cruz, which lasted all day. The Mexicans surrendered at discretion, after having 150 killed and 20 wounded. The Mexican force was 2000 strong, while that of the Americans was but 700. All the Mexican officers, forty in number, were taken prisoners, with all the ammunitions and arms, consisting of fourteen cannon and two thousand muskets. The prisoners were liberated on parole and sent to Chihuahua.

The schr. Heroine has also arrived, bringing dates from the City of Mexico to the 20th.

Mr. Sevier, the U. S. Commissioner entered that city on the 15th.

Governor Michoacan has resigned, in consequence of his opposition to the treaty.

The American flag was flying on the top of Popacatapal, three quarters of a mile above the level of the ocean, being the highest point of elevation in the ancient kingdom of the Aztecs.

No meeting of Congress had yet taken place, but it was expected there would be a quorum on the 5th May.

The Court of Inquiry was expected to adjourn in a few days, though it is probable another would be called, as Government has serious charges to make against Gen. Scott.

Gen. Scott is daily expected in New Orleans.

It is said that several American officers had enlisted in the Mexican army—which is very doubtful.

The body of Mr. S. Andrews has been discovered.

The schr. Heroine arrived last night from Vera Cruz, and we are indebted to the Captain for the prompt transmission of our letters and papers from the city of Mexico to the 20th of April.
By this arrival we have the proceedings of the Court of Inquiry on the 15th, 17th, 18th and 19th ult. The letters of our correspondent, hereto annexed, are all that we can make room for this morning, without detaining our paper from the press. They are extremely interesting, and will be found to contain all the news of importance, the burden of it being that there is as yet no quorum of the Mexican Congress at Queretaro, that the prospects of the ratification of the treaty are waxing fainter, and that Paredes is still at large at San Luis Potosi.

[Special Correspondence of the Picayune.]

CITY OF MEXICO, April 17, 1848.

Enclosed you will find translation of the first letter I have receives from the gentleman employed as your correspondent at Queretaro. You will perceive that he says Senators and Deputies are constantly arriving there from all parts of Queretaro, and yet he adds that the House of Deputies lacks sixteen or eighteen of a quorum, and the Senate four, showing the number of Congressmen present at the seat of Government to be less now than it was a fortnight ago, when the Mexican journals reported that but fourteen were wanted in both houses to make a quorum.

—This tallies with reports here that members are leaving Queretaro for their homes, as fast, if not faster, than new ones arrive. There are few here now that do not despair of the treaty being ratified by the Mexican Government, chiefly in consequence of the tardiness displayed by Pena y Pena, in bringing Congress together, and the non-fulfillment of his promise to have a quorum assembled as soon as the treaty was returned ratified by our Government. Reports are current still, too, that Bustamente is opposed to peace, and, you will observe that you Queretaro correspondent, in speaking of him and Minon going to San Luis Potosi with the army, says they have gone under the pretext of suppressing an Indian insurrection in the Sierra Gordo district, which lies between Tampico and San Luis Potosi.—Paredes, notwithstanding the fulminations of the Government at Queretaro against him, and the order issued to the Governor of San Luis Potosi to arrest him, was still at liberty at the last advices from San Luis. Now, the object of Bustamente in going to San Luis, without doubt, is either to overawe the partisan of Paredes, and arrest him, or to coalesce with him, and, if the latter, farewell to the Government of Pena y Pena and peace. Time alone can reveal the designs of Bustamente, but we shall very soon have a knowledge of them. It is gratifying to know that the men now here will permit no trifling on the part of the Government at Queretaro.

Mr. Sevier arrived here on Saturday. Both he and Mr. Clifford say they can have but very few words with the Mexicans, and these are to ratify the treaty quickly, and the general-in-chief has within a few days declared that he will be very soon either in Vera Cruz or to Queretaro.—This is the only way to deal with Mexico, for their strength is entirely in procrastination.

The trial of the officers and men accused of the late murder and attempt at burglary is going on. I would send you a report of the evidence, but the court has only admitted reporters on condition that the evidence shall not be published here or in the United States, until such time shall have elapsed that there will be a certainty of the publication not reaching here before the trial is concluded.

The Court of Inquiry will be through with the evidence here this week, but if the information I have received be correct, it may be delayed to investigate another case. I am told, and I consider my authority good, that serious charges are to be preferred against gen. Scott by the Government.

You have doubtless heard that a council of war was held when the army was in Puebla, to debate the propriety of “buying a peace,” by advancing a certain sum of money to Santa Anna. It is said that Gen. Scott, although the council of war decided against the pan, entered into negotiations with Santa Anna, through Mackintosh, to bribe him either into a treaty, or not to oppose the advance of the American army upon the capitol; that the sum was agreed upon, and that ten thousand dollars were advanced as “earnest money.” I cannot believe that Gen. Scott is guilty of this, but that a charge to the effect I have mentioned, or somewhat similar, is to be made, the character and position of my informant leaves me no room to doubt.

There is a part of your Queretaro correspondent’s letter that I do not very clearly understand. It is that stating that several American officers have joined the Mexican army. I can only learn of one American officer who has gone from this line of the army to Queretaro, a Lieutenant O’Sullivan, who was promoted from the ranks to a commission in one of the old Infantry regiments for his gallantry at Palo Alto and Rosaca de la Palma. He resigned his commission some time ago, and it is believed went to Queretaro to join the Mexican army. It is probable that many of the deserted from the ranks of our army, with the view of obtaining commissions in the Mexican army, represent themselves on arriving at Queretaro, as having been officers, and thus your correspondent may have fallen into error.

The inhabitants of Zecualtepec, at which place General Lane had the fight with Jaraulita, have petitioned gen. Butler to remunerate them for the losses suffered by them by the fight and the partial sacking of the town. Gen. Butler has requested Maj. Polk, now the senior officer of command engaged in the fight on the absence of Gen. Lane and Col. Hays, to inform him how far those people are deserving of remuneration. Maj. Polk is collecting evidence to show that their reports of their losses are greatly exaggerated, and which will also show that the town must have been almost exclusively inhabited by guerrillas and their accomplices. Nearly every house and store in the town had articles in them, which bore evidence of their having been robbed from the trains. American whiskey and American manufactured tobacco—articles never used by Mexicans—were found in the most of them, and in others, goods of all description marked to American and other merchants in this city.

You will find matter of interest in the enclosed extracts from the “Star.” D. S.
Senators and Deputies are arriving here daily from all parts of the States of the Republic. Those who are here meet frequently in caucuses (juntas preparatories.)

It is generally believed that Congress will meet after the Easter holidays, that is from the first to the fifth of next month.

The number of Deputies wanting for a quorum now is sixteen to eighteen, and the number of Senators wanting is four.

The army of reserve, and the munitions, have left here under Generals Bustamente and Minon, for San Luis Potosi, under the pretext of preserving order and tranquility, which are threatened by the rising of the Indians of the Sierra Gordo.

All opinions expressed up to this time by the members of the new Congress are in favor of peace.

Some officious Mexicans have induced several American officers, as it appears, reluctantly, to come to Queretaro, and they have enlisted in the army. Three of them have been sent to Guadalajara, and the others are waiting here for their appointments. In my next letter I will give you their names. The two battalions of San Patricio consist of from a hundred to an hundred and twenty men.

The stage which left this city for Guanajuato yesterday was attacked by a band of robbers about 5 miles from here. The passengers fired and killed one of the robbers, who was carried off immediately by his companions. The passengers returned to town, and asked the Government for as escort, which was refused. They let the stage go on empty, and entered their protest against the refusal of the Government to protect them under such circumstances.

City of Mexico, April 19, 1848.

Herewith you will find the second letter of your Queretaro correspondent, dated the 14th inst., and had it not been for the breaking down of the diligencia on the road I should have had a letter a day later from him. This letter will be found exceedingly interesting at the present moment, in view of the possibility of the treaty not being ratified at Queretaro, and a re-opening of the war, in as much as it gives in detail the present military resources of the country and what is deemed necessary by the Government in case a prolongation of the war is determined upon; but in case such a determination is thorough of, how appalling must these statistics be to any Mexican of sense, who desires to preserve the nationality of his country. Eleven thousand five hundred men is all they can bring into the field. They say if peace cannot be had they want 53,500 men more, and 155 pieces of artillery, of which latter they have, I learn from good authority, at all points, not more than 40 pieces, and these generally of an inferior quality. To support the force which they say would be required, would involve a monthly expenditure of over a million of dollars, and with all their ports in our possession an a large portion of their richest territory, together with seven or eight of their most wealthy and populous cities, whence, in the absence of all national credit, can they expect to raise so large a sum. So desperate a situation of affairs of the country one should think would bring the members of Congress together at Queretaro in a rush, to ratify the highly favorable treaty that awaits their action; but we have no evidence of such a disposition, and by virtue of the members of Pena y Pena’s Government and the “occupationists,” who are daily growing in strength, the treaty may be rejected, or which would be the same in result, they may prevent the action of Congress upon it until the 2d June, when, as is understood, if the treaty be not ratified, warlike operations are to be resumed.

You correspondent at Queretaro, still refers to desertions, and continues to assert that American officers are among the number. I am yet of opinion that he has been deceived in this matter, and that privates and non-commissioned officers who have gone to Queretaro have, for the purpose of obtaining respectable positions in the Mexican army, represented themselves as having been commissioned officers [which I take it, your correspondent means they have been] in the American army. You will think the statement of your correspondent that several of these deserters have been sent into the interior States to organize companies of Americans strange, but I am credibly informed that there are some 6 or 800 teamsters, discharged soldiers and deserts, scattered through the country, some idling, and others at work in the factories, or engaged in other occupations. The greater part of this number are at Guanajuato and Guadalajara. This attempt on the part of our Government to increase the military force of the country and the efforts to promote desertion from our army would seem to convey belligerent intentions; but it may be that Pena y Pena is looking to the possibility of being compelled, by his own counymen, to continue the war.

The letter ways that several of the States have refused to send their Representatives to Congress, and private letters from Queretaro represent that it is contemplated by the Government, in view of the present position of Yucatan, and the state of the country generally, to decree that fifty or sixty members of congress shall constitute a quorum, and thus declare a quorum to be present now, and thus baffle the designs of the opponents of peace. It is said our commissioners will not recognize a ratification of the treaty that is not constitutional, but with Mr. Buchanan’s instructions to Mr. Trist, to negotiate with a Dictator, should he find one in power, it would not be prudent to believe that our Government will be over nice as to the constitutional organization of the Government at Queretaro.

There is but little news to communicate from this point. The trial of the officers and men charged with the murder
and attempted burglary in the Calle de la Palma is progressing. Lieut. Hare is the only one of the party that has yet been before the commission. The evidence against him thus far proves beyond doubt his connection with the affair, and Armstrong, who has become ‘State’s evidence,’ swears that Hare was the leader.

The treaty was sent to Queretaro on the day before yesterday by a Mexican express, and at the same time a despatch was sent to the Mexican Government by our commissioners. I do not know the purport of their communication, but a reply is anticipated on Friday, when they expect to start for Queretaro. Should they go, Maj. Polk with a hundred or an hundred and fifty men will escort them. I shall go with them, as there is but little of interest to write upon from this place, and I can be more useful to you at Queretaro.

Col. Black, of the 1st Pennsylvania, arrived here on Saturday, the 15th, from Vera Cruz, in command of a military train. He made the shortest march to and from Vera Cruz that has ever been made with infantry. He made the march each way in thirteen days. Col. Loomis, who is escorting a merchant train from Vera Cruz, will be here tomorrow. We received a very large mail this morning, which brought us New Orleans dates to the 8th inst. D. S.

During the last few days from fifteen to twenty American soldiers, deserters have arrived here, who enlisted immediately into the Mexican army. Several of them have been attached to the artillery and ordinance department. Others have been sent to Guanajuato and Guadalajara for the purpose of organizing companies which are to be formed of Americans, [deserters]. There is much talk about a desertion of from four to five hundred men, that, it is said, is to take place in a few days from the American troops quartered about the city of Mexico, and it is further said that several agents have left this place in order to facilitate the desertion.

It is a fact that in the above named departments there are not only American soldiers but also American officers, who have deserted within a short time. Amongst them is an artillery officer, who deserted six days ago, and they have left this place in order to organize in all the interior States.

According to a statement presented to Congress, the Mexican Government require, for the purpose of carrying on the war against the Americans: Sappers and Miners, 531; Foot Artillery, 2640; Mounted do, 536; Infantry of the Line, 47,340; Cavalry, 9440; other disciplined forces, 4500. A total of 65,077 men, to form 60 battalions and 16 regiments, and added to this a train of 145 pieces of Artillery.

To support this force would involve a monthly expense of $1,172,539, without taking into account the extra pay and extra rations during the war, the cost of the horses for the artillery train, train for bridges, ammunition, clothing, hospital stores and other necessary expenses.

The forces existing at present are: Infantry from 6000 to 8000 men; Cavalry, from 2000 to 3000 men; Artillery, 500 men. Total, 8000 to 11,5000, which latter will include all the disciplined forces in the service.

Therefore, the Mexicans, in order to continue the war, will have to arm and equip 531 Sappers and miners, 2140 Foot Artillery, 536 Mounted do, 29,340 Infantry of the Line, 6440 Cavalry, 4590 other disciplined forces—53,577 men in all, and 145 pieces of artillery, as an expenses of one million and some hundred thousands of dollars per month.

The insurgents of Xichu, in the State of Guanajuato, have risen to a formidable body. They already number more than 2000, and they have partisans even as far as the district of San Felipe. They have given the cry for anarchical principles, and are destroying all towns through which they pass. The forces sent against them have not been sufficient to quell the insurrection.

It appears that the South and some of the other States refuse to send their Representatives to Congress, but the number is not sufficient to prevent the opening of Congress.

**Interesting from Chihuahua.**

**THE BATTLE OF SANTA CRUZ DE ROSALES.**

The U. S. steamship Fashion, Capt. Morgan, arrived from Brazos Santiago yesterday, whence she sailed on the 30th ult. bringing us several day's later intelligence from the Rio Grande, and interesting news from Chihuahua.—Among the passengers on the Fashion was J. L. Collins, Esq. bearer of dispatches from Gen. Price and Gen. Wool to head quarters at Washington. Our readers are already familiar with the name of Squire Collins, honorable mention having been repeatedly made of him. He was taken prisoner some months since near Chihuahua, and confined till about the first of February, when he succeeded in making his escape and joining the American troops at El Paso. He participated in the battle of Santa Cruz de Rosales, with gen. Price’s command, and has kindly furnished us with succinct statement of the affair and the events which were connected with it. As we have had no accounts of the engagement save from Mexican sources, an American’s version of the affair will be read with interest.

Mr. Collins informs us that about the first week in February he succeeded in breaking prison at Chihuahua, then in
proceeds on to Washington this morning.

soon after they arrived at Chihuahua. Squire Collins left Chihuahua on the 6th of April under an escort of one
distinguished themselves by their bravery, officers and men. The Mexican prisoners were all liberated upon parole
follow as soon as practicable. Mr. Collins informs us that our troops conducted themselves in the coolest manner and

first under Col. Ralls, the second under Lieut. Col. Land, and the third under major Walker, of
the Snata Fe Battalion. The contest was maintained with great vigor until about 11 o’clock, when a report was
brought in that a force of about 900 Mexican lancers had arrived near by, and were about making an attack upon the
rear. The troops were then withdrawn, and a cessation of hostilities ensued, Lieutenant Colonel Lane being sent to
reconnoiter. The report of the arrival of lancers proved to be false, and about 3 o’clock the action was resumed and
continued until about dusk, when the Americans had succeeded in working their way through the houses into the
plaza, and the Mexicans surrendered at discretion, after having fought with unusual bravery all day. The loss of the
side of the Mexicans was about 150 killed and as many wounded, while on our side there were but five killed and
twenty-two—two of whom subsequently died. The Mexican force was about 1500 to 2000. The officers, some forty
in number were taken prisoners, and the whole amount of arms and ammunition captured. There were fourteen
pieces of artillery, some of a heavy caliber, and about 2000 stand of small arms. On the 18th, gen. Price started back
for Chihuahua, taking with him Gov. Trias and a portion of his prisoners, and leaving Lieut. Col. Ralls in command, to
follow as soon as practicable. Mr. Collins informs us that our troops conducted themselves in the coolest manner and
distinguished themselves by their bravery, officers and men. The Mexican prisoners were all liberated upon parole
soon after they arrived at Chihuahua. Squire Collins left Chihuahua on the 6th of April under an escort of one
company of 1st Dragoons, commanded by Capt. Greer, and arrived at Gen. Wool’s head quarters on the 20th. He
proceeds on to Washington this morning.

It was ascertained that the report of Urrea’s advance was entirely false, and Squire Collins furnishing Gen. Price with
all the information of Gov. Trias’s position and means of resistance, Gen. P. at once determined to march down and
attack him. Accordingly, on the 1st of March, he started with about 400 men and arrived at Chihuahua on the
evening of the 7th, performing the entire distance in the extraordinary space of seven days. A deputation of the civic
authorities came out and held an interview with Gen. Price, informing him of the reported conclusion of a treaty of
peace between Mexico and the United States, and entreated him not to enter the city. Gen. Price very properly
disregarded this request, doubted the information and marched into the city. Ascertaining that Trias was but on one
day’s march removed from him, he determined to follow him the next morning, and accordingly raised all the horses
he could to supply the place of those broken down on the march from El Paso, and the next morning ay 8 o’clock, his
command were all on the march after Trias. Notwithstanding the previous long marches, this gallant command
accomplished the distance of sixty miles that day and halted before the town of Santa Cruz—a place of about 2000
inhabitants, where Trias’s command was in possession. About 7 or 8 o’clock the next morning, Gen. Price sent into
town a flag of truce and demanded the unconditional surrender of Trias. This Gov. T. refused, but subsequently
consented to hold a personal interview with gen. Price, at which he informed him that he had received information of
the conclusion of a treaty of peace, and was in daily expectation of the receipts of intelligence announcing the
establishment of an armistice. Various propositions were made on both sides, both parties, under existing
circumstances, being reluctant to resort to a contest at arms. Gen. Price would not consent to Gove. Trias marching
away with all his arms and munitions, but agreed to permit him to return with them or send them to Chihuahua, and
if they received official intelligence of the treaty, then to permit him to remove them where he chose. Gov. Trias
rejected this, as well as the proposition to surrender, but begged Gen. Price to wait four days, by which time he
confidently expected the return of an extraordinary courier, whom he had dispatched to Durango for information
with regard to the treaty and armistice.

to this Gen. Price consented, and not only waited the four days, but four days longer, at the expiration of which
time, a portion of his force having come up, increasing his strength to about 700, he determined to attack the town.
—The Mexicans had not been idle all this time, having strongly fortified the plaza and streets leading to it, loop-holed
their houses and made every preparation for a firm resistance. On the morning of the 16th, about 8 o’clock, after
another demand for an unconditional surrender had been made and rejected, the attack was commenced by a brisk
cannonade. The American forces were subsequently divided into three parties, to attack the works from three
different positions—the first under Col. Ralls, the second under Lieut. Col. Land, and the third under major Walker, of
the Snata Fe Battalion. The contest was maintained with great vigor until about 11 o’clock, when a report was
brought in that a force of about 900 Mexican lancers had arrived near by, and were about making an attack upon the
rear. The troops were then withdrawn, and a cessation of hostilities ensued, Lieutenant Colonel Lane being sent to
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company of 1st Dragoons, commanded by Capt. Greer, and arrived at Gen. Wool’s head quarters on the 20th. He
proceeds on to Washington this morning.

We are indebted to the St. Louis Republican for some of the most remarkable documents to which the Mexican war,
prolific as it has been of monstrosities of this sort, has yet given birth. One of these is the imposition of a tariff of
duties on all merchandise conveyed to Santa Fe from any part of the United States—which, anomalous as such a
proceeding would be under any circumstances, is rendered still more astounding by the fact, that, if MR. Polk was
right in claiming the Rio Grande as the true boundary between Texas and Mexico—a claim recently affirmed by a
solemn vote of the Legislature of that State—the city of Santa Fe, which is situated on the eastern side of that river,
is already, and has been ever since the annexation of Texas, within the limits of the U. States and under the
jurisdiction, (constructively,) of our own laws. What right, we beg to know, has an officer in command of a
detachment of U. S. troops, stationed at any point, in any one of the States of the Union, to decree, by a General
Order, that there shall be an “import duty” on all merchandize introduced into that State from any other part of the Confederacy! No man will sustain so monstrous a proposition. And yet this *has* been done by Brigadier General Sterling Price, in “General Order, No. 10,” the second article of which reads in this wise;

21. “There shall be levied an import duty of six per centum, *ad valorem*, on all merchandise introduced into the territory of New Mexico, from and after the date hereof, based upon the original invoices, duly authenticated before the officer hereinafter designated.”

If Santa Fe constituted a portion of the Mexican Republic, as every body most certainly *believed* it did until Mr. Polk contended that “the Rio Grande, from its source to its mouth,” was in truth the dividing line between that Republic and Texas—an assertion of which the Legislature of Texas has promptly availed itself for the purpose of extending its territorial limits—this levy of an “import duty,” by the Commanding General, might be plausibly excused, as similar acts, in other parts of Mexico, have been, by the friends of the Administration, upon “the tyrant’s plea, Necessity.” But when, according to Mr. Polk, all that part of the Department of New Mexico which lies east of the Rio Grande, and in which Santa Fe is embraced, *is within the State of Texas*—and when, as is well known, the Legislature of Texas, taking Mr. Polk a this word, has recently passed an act extending her jurisdiction over this territory, and appointed judicial officers to administer her laws there-in,—the outrageous character of this military decree stands out in bold relief, challenging the admiration of mankind, and furnishing a striking exemplification of a remark, made a the commencement of hostilities with Mexico, by one of the champions of the Administration, that “THE CONSTITUTION HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE WAR.”

But the following address of Pro-Consul Price, issued on the eve of his departure from Santa Fe for Chihuahua “cape the climax.” As Orator Phillips would say, it is “grand, gloomy, and peculiar.” Here it is: [see entry, “To the Delegates of the People of New Mexico in Convention assembled.”].

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**RW48v25i38p4c2, May 12, 1848: Proceedings of the Court of Inquiry in the Case of Gen. Pillow.**

**TWENTY-FOURTH DAY—April 12, 1848.**

The Court met this morning at the usual hour. After the records were read by the Judge Advocate—Capt. Hooker was re-called for the defence.

Q—Witness will state if he knows whether or not Gen. Pillow intended to return to the battle field on the night of the 19th August, from San Augustin, after reporting to Gen. Scott—if so, what prevented his doing so?

A—I know that General Pillow intended to return that night, and was prevented. I suppose, by the orders he received from Maj. Gen. Scott to remain in San Augustin—Gen. Scott said to Gen. Pillow, “You will remain here tonight,” or words to that effect, which order was repeated.

Q—Was witness at Gen. Scott’s quarters with Gen. Pillow on the night of the 19th August? If so, state if he heard Gen. Pillow more than once express the wish and determination to return to the field of operations, and what was said by gen. Scott?

A—I do not know what was expressed by Gen. Pillow as to his determination a the time; do not know the language made use of; he told me that he should return, and I heard nothing said by him to remove the impression that I was under, that he was to return. Gen. Scott’s order to Gen. Pillow has already been recorded, in answer to the latter part of the previous question.

Q—Was witness present, and did he hear a conversation between Gen. Pillow and Capt. Taylor on the night of 19th of August, near the cornfield? If so, state what he heard said by Gen. Pillow.

A—I was present a the conversation which took place between Gen. Pillow, Gen. Twiggs, and Capt. Taylor. I thought that I heard all the conversation; but, as it was raining severely, and there were a number talking, I cannot state positively that I heard the whole of it. Capt. Taylor asked Gen. Pillow how matters were looking, and my impression is that Gen. Pillow told Capt. Taylor that he found the enemy in a stronger position than he expected; and that the attack in front would have to be abandoned. There was more conversation with regard to the enemy’s position, &c. Gen. Twiggs had something to say, but I have forgotten what it was.

Q—Where did witness and Lt. Rains sleep on the 19th of August? State what time Gen. Pillow on his way to the field, in the morning of the 20th, called upon yourself and Lieut. Rains to go with him to the field. Was it before or after sunrise, and did he wait for you or leave you that morning and go the field without you?

A—Mr. Rains and myself slept in a house occupied at the time by gen. Quitman; I think it was gen. Quitman. The house was on the plaza at San Augustin, and on the road reading from the quarters of Gen. Scott. Gen. Pillow came in early in the morning; I cannot tell whether it was before it after sunrise; I think it was about sunrise; the room was a dark one. Gen. Pillow said it was time to be off, but I think that he did not start immediately; he may have
been detained by Mr. Rains having his horse saddled. I do not know but it might have been by other causes.—With
regard to myself, he did not wait for me; I lost my horse, and was some time in finding another to go on the field; I
did not know the precise time Gen. Pillow left, as I was not with him.

Q—Was witness at a conference of officers held at Piedad, on the 11th; if so, state what were the views of Maj.
Gens. Scott and Pillow in reference to an early attack upon the enemy, in the directions of San Antonio and
Chapultepec?

A—I was present during the greater part of that conference; I am confident from the views expressed by Gen.
Scott that he was decidedly in favor of attacking Chapultepec; he called on the officers present to express their
views in regard to the proper point of attack; whether Piedad or Chapultepec; several of the officers present (Gen. P.
among the number) evinced a great desire for more information than they possessed on the subject; they appeared
to be anxious to know what position we would occupy in regard to the city and the interior defences, after we came
in possession of either one of the points. The difficulty appeared to be a want of knowledge of what was behind
those two positions. Gen. Pillow suggested, or asked for information with regard to the citadel; other officers present
inquired as to the same fact, and suggested other difficulties on the Chapultepec route. Whether these suggestions
were thrown out to elicit information or not, I cannot state, but they inclined me to the impression that they
preferred the attack on the Piedad. They inclined me very slightly to that impression; there was one officer present
of whose views I could speak with more certainty—which was Capt. Lee, who preferred the attack on Piedad.

Q—What does witness mean by the Piedad works?

A—I mena the works a the San Antonio garits.

Q—Does the witness chance to remember any prominent reasons advanced by gen. Scott in favor of Chapultepec
—if so, state them?

A—I know that Gen. Scott said he would have more elbow room after taking Chapultepec, and also, that he had
reason to believe, or words to that effect, that he would be met by a white flag from the city on taking it. I would
also state, that during the conference Gen. Scott said to one of the engineers present that Capt. Huger could reduce
Chapultepec with his batteries in one day. This was stated in the form of a question; the engineer said he had his
doubts. I do not think of any thing else, at this time, connected with the subject.

Q—At what hour of the night or the 11th September did gen. Pillow move with his command from Piedad to
Tacubaya, preparatory to the operations upon Chapultepec?

A—I think it was between 9 and 10 o'clock at night.—I took no note at the time, and that is my impression.

Q—Has witness any knowledge of Gen. Pillow’s views in relation to the Tacubaya armistice, before or about the
time it was entered into—if so, state whether Gen. Pillow’s views were in favor of or opposed to said armistice, and if
opposed, state if he collects the grounds of Gen. Pillow’s opposition?

A—I think it was about 2 o'clock on the 23d of August Gen. Pillow returned from Tacubaya, and communicated to
me the first information of an official character in regard to the contemplated armistice; he stated that
commissioners were soon to be appointed to determine the terms of it; at the same time he expressed himself
decidedly opposed to the armistice, and immediately seated himself, and wrote a note addressed to Gen. Scott, in
which he expressed his opposition to the proposed armistice. The note was written and given to me before dining on
that day, at 3 o’clock; it was copied after dinner; I conversed with Gen. Pierce during dinner, and with all the officers
of his staff, I think; he expressed similar opinions—

[Gen. Scott suggested that the note itself would be better evidence, and desired its production. The note was
produced, when the witness continued]

I think that same letter was handed to gen. Pierce to take to Tacubaya the same afternoon.

Q—Is the letter shown to witness the same letter alluded to in his testimony—the date of the letter is the 23d,
does witness know if it was written on the 22d—and has he any knowledge when, and through what channel said
letter was transmitted to Gen. Scott?

A—I think this is the same letter, written on the 22d, and transmitted to Tacubaya through Gen. Pierce on the
same afternoon.

Q—Was Gen. Pierce going to Tacubaya at that time, and for what purpose?

A—He left for Tacubaya; I don’t remember for what purpose.

Q—Was or not Gen. Pierce one of the commissioners to fix upon the terms of the armistice?

A—He was; my impression now is that he was going in obedience to an order—and I think as a commissioner.
Q.—What knowledge has witness of Gen. Pillow having continued to direct the operations of the forces after he was wounded, which made the successful assault upon Chapultepec on the 13th September; state also what forces carried that work; was it those under his command or other forces—if other forces, state what forces they were?

A.—On the morning of the 13th, three regiments of Gen. Pillow's Division, with a storming party from Gen. Worth's Division, were ordered to move to the assault of Chapultepec; four companies of the Voltigeur Regiment, under Lieut. Col. Johnston, followed by the storming party under Capt. McKenzie, were the first troops put in motion. The remainder of the Voltigeur Regiment, under Col. Andrews, were the next to move to the attack; Col. Johnston moved without the grounds surrounding the base of the hill of Chapultepec; the others passed through the Molina del Rey, inside of the walls; the 9th Infantry followed the Voltigeurs, under Col. Andrews, and formed in line of battle directly after passing through the gate; the 15th followed the 9th, and formed in line on the 9th; in that order, they moved forward to the attack; with slight interruptions, they progressed until they reached the ditch enclosing a part of the work at the summit of Chapultepec, where the 15th, the 9th and a part of the Voltigeur Regiment, and the head of the storming party, under Capt. McKenzie, were stopped by the wall enclosing the summit of the hill; many of these men entered the ditch, and many of them concealed themselves behind rocks, which lay upon the surface of the ground. The Voltigeurs that I refer to more particularly—a part of Col. Andrews' party—were under the command of Maj. Caldwell at this time. Col. Johnston's command was more to the right; the hill prevented me from seeing the main body of that command. While these troops were occupying this position, the fire from the crest of the work, directly in our front, ceased; I saw several pieces discharged in the air, behind the breastwork, but the Mexicans appeared afraid to expose even their hands above the crest of the work; their [the Mexicans'] fire, however, was delivered, but not from those behind the breastwork; it came from the roofs of the houses and the windows, and at that time the left flank was occupied by the enemy. The fire did but little execution, as the shots were generally too high. The troops that I have named, or the main body of them, were kept in this position, I should think, at least fifteen minutes, but it seemed to me much longer, waiting for the ladders to come up. When the troops of the storming column were put in motion, these ladders were in the rear of the storming party; after waiting some time with the troops at the top of the hill, I went after the ladders, and in descending the hill, and about half way down, I saw the head of the 2d Pa. Regiment, the S.C. Regiment, and what I took to be the N. York regiment, for the colors were with that party, but I have since been told there were only two companies of that regiment under Lieut. Reed; they were all moving up the hill, and moving by flank. These troops, as I stood bear the redan, and facing down the hill, were on my left; on my right was the head of Colonel Clarke's Brigade; on reaching the foot of the hill I found Gen. Pillow wounded; I asked him where the ladder were, and said to him that we had more troops than were necessary at the top of the hill. I asked him for authority to take a regiment to attack the right flank of the enemy to my left; he told me to take any regiment; as the 8th Infantry was partly up the hill, I gave the order for the 6th to go, but only a part of them did so, the others went up the hill—the 6th was immediately in rear of the 8th, ascending the hill a the time. Capt. Hoffman was in advance of the 6th with me. On reaching the point at which the attack was intended to be made, we found that the ascent was very difficult, there was no cover, and that flank was occupied by the enemy, and they were firing very rapidly. I then directed Capt. Hoffman to halt, and to move to the rear of Chapultepec with his command the moment he saw us take possession of the work on the top of the hill. I then returned to the troops who were in advance, and reached the summit of the hill in time to see the first ladder planted to enter the work. It was planted at the bottom of the ditch with one or two others, the others were paid across the ditch. The first man that I saw (and I think I saw the first one) enter the work, was a private that I took to be of the Voltigeur Regiment; following him were officers and men rushing over the work in great rapidity. I think that the greater part of them belonged to General Pillow's division, and to the regiments of his division that I have before named. I think that the first officer who went over the work belonged to the Voltigeur Regiment, and I know that the first colors in the works were those of the Voltigeur Regiment. When I entered the work (and I was not among the foremost) the terreplein was clear of our troops, except those that entered on the side I speak of. We had a number of men shot belonging to our party by the cadets who were occupying the upper terreplein, the ground opposite to the point of our attack. They would not have fired upon us had an enemy been nearer to them than we were. I have said that the Voltigeurs—the 9th and the 13th Regiments were a portion of the storming party—as a body, were the first that entered Chapultepec. There may have been individuals of other regiments, but the regiments that I have named were started in advance, and they kept it until they reached the summit of the hill, where they were so densely crowded together that it was impossible for any other large body of men to pass through.

Q.—Was Gen. Pillow's wound slight or sever; state also if Dr. Slade (the surgeon who attended him) is dead, and if you know the Surgeon General of the army examined his wound, and what he said about it at the time?

A.—Gen. Pillow's wound seemed to be one which gave him a great deal of pain; Dr. Slade pronounced it a serious wound. Some time after coming into town, (I think Gen. Pillow was brought into town on the 13th,) I was present when Surgeon Lawson, Surgeon General of the army, examined his wound, at which time he told Gen. Pillow that he thought he could save his leg, but not his ankle. Dr. Slade is now dead.

Q.—Does witness know at what time the batteries on the outside of the walls of Chapultepec, on the Tacubaya road, which were attacked by Gen. Quitman, fell? If so, state whether it was before or after Chapultepec was carried by Gen. Pillow's division and forces under his command?

A.—It fell after the work at the summit of Chapultepec fell.
A—Gen. Scott had finished his dinner, and followed me within an hour or little more. I probably rode faster than Gen. Scott did.

Q—Did not the witness chance to see the said Scott while the witness and the said Scott were ascending the hills going to Contreras?

A—No.

Q—How many times did you go to the 15th Infantry on the afternoon of August 19th last, with orders from Gen. Pillow?

A—I went but once.

Q—Where was the 15th halted when you gave the order for its advance across the Pedregal to the support of Cadwalader?

A—It was halted near the road between the corn-field and the hill on which Gen. Pillow was standing. The left of the regiment was a little nearer to the hill than the right was to the corn-field.

Q—Was the 15th Infantry delayed or obstructed in the beginning of its march by other troops; an if so, by what other troops? And how long was the regiment obstructed or delayed near the corn-field?

A—The regiment met with no serious impediment.—I was not obstructed after I gave the order by any troops whatever, that is, after I gave the order to Col. Morgan.

Q—How long had Morgan’s regiment been in the pedregal when the witness head Maj. Gen. Scott inquire of Maj. Gen. Pillow what troops those were then seen winding in the pedregal.

A—The head of the regiment was on the pedregal some time before the rear of the regiment, and I believe it was all in the pedregal some time before Gen. Scott asked Gen. Pillow the question referred to. The head of the regiment was out of sight, and only the rear could be seen at the time.

Q—The witness is desired to reflect and say whether he had gone from Major General Pillow’s position on the hill, to the senior engineer, then again to give final orders to Morgan’s regiment, and back to the said Pillow a second time, before the witness was ordered to meet Maj. Gen. Scott in the direction of San Augustin?

A—On reporting to General Pillow after my return from San Augustin, I went forward to Major Smith, returned to General Pillow, soon after carried the order to Colonel Morgan, and conducted his regiment to the pedregal, returned to General Pillow, and it was soon after that I was sent to meet Gen. Scott. His position was on the hill.

Q—Did or did not the witness chance to see, on going to or returning from Major Smith, a staff officer of Gen. Scott, passing or repassing the position of Col. Morgan near the corn field?

A—I think that the only staff officer I saw of Gen. Scott’s, before I met him on the road, was Mr. Lay, who was the first to communicate, so far as I know, that Gen. Scott would soon be on the field—that he was coming. My impression is that I was standing on the hill when My. Lay communicated this information, he at the base of the hill.

The Court then adjourned.

TWENTY-FIFTH DAY—April 13, 1848.

Court met pursuant to adjournment, and the proceedings were read over by the Judge Advocate.

Capt. Joseph Hooker’s examination resumed.

Questions by Prosecution—To whom did Lieut. Lay communicate that information, and was it before or after the witness had returned from the Chief Engineer?

A—I think it was communicated for the information of Maj. Gen. Pillow; he being the senior in rank there, it was after I returned from seeing Maj. Smith; I do not recollect that Gen. Pillow’s name was used by Mr. Lay, but I think it was announced so that Gen. Pillow could hear it, and also others who were near him.

Q—The witness says that upon the arrival of Lieut. Lay, witness had already been to Maj. Smith; about how far in advance was the position of Maj. Smith from Major General Pillow?

A—I think that Maj. Smith may have been 100 or 200 yards this side of Magruder’s battery, which was 1500 or 1600 yards from the position occupied by Maj. Gen. Pillow. I have paced off the distance, and made Magruder’s battery 800 yards from the entrenched camp of the Mexicans, and Gen. Pillow’s position 2300 yards from the same
Q—Had the witness already ascended the hill when Lt. Lay announced the approach of Maj. Gen. Scott?

A—To the best of my knowledge I was standing at the side of Maj. Gen. Pillow, at the time the announcement was made.

Q—How long after the arrival of Lieut. Lay was it before the witness was again dispatched with orders to Morgan’s regiment?

A—To the best of my recollection, Lieut. Lay made this announcement after I had delivered the order to Morgan’s regiment, and return from it. I would state that if any doubt is entertained on the part of any member, or of any person connected with the Court, in regard to the time that Major Gen. Scott arrived on the field, I beg leave to refer them to his official report, dated on the day of the battle.

Gen. Scott objected to the suggestions of the witness, as they thereby made himself a party not to what was said by the witness. The witness then went on to add, “It is there stated,“ &c. Here the Court interposed and stopped him, having refused to do it before, on the ground that the witness had the right to call the attention of the Court to any circumstance corroborative of his testimony. Here general Scott begged that as the witness had gone so far he might be allowed to go on, but the Court would not permit it.

Q—Will the witness reflect again, and say whether Maj. Gen. Pillow did not separate himself to the left from Major Gen. Scott, go towards the witness, and dispatched with orders to Col Morgan?

A—I was despatched by gen. Pillow with the order to Col. Morgan’s regiment. I remember no such circumstances as those referred to in the question.

Q—To what order does the witness allude in his last answer?

A—The order for Col. Morgan’s regiment to be moved to the support of Cadwalader.

Q—If the witness were near Maj. Gen. Pillow, did not witness hear Maj. Gen. Scott offer his staff to Maj. Gen. Pillow?

A—I heard Gen. Scott say to Gen. Pillow:—”My staff are at your disposal,” or words to that effect. This was of course after gen. Scott arrived, and after I was despatched to Col. Morgan.

Q—By what process of memory is it that the witness remembers that it was Lieut. Col. Hitchcock, and no other, who looked at his watch and said it is now a quarter of five, or a quarter past five, and the said Gen. Scott and staff came up at four o’clock?

A—The ordinary process of memory.

Q—If Maj. Gen. Scott then asked the hour, how did it happen that the said Hitchcock should have superfluously added the hour at which Gen. Scott and staff came up?

A—I supposed that Col. Hitchcock read the time to those who were present before any one else, because his watch was more convenient, though I think several watches were taken out at the time, though I do not think any one else spoke a the time. So far as I know, the announcement by Col. Hitchcock, that Gen. Scott arrived on the field at 4 o’clock, was voluntary.

Q—Did the witness make, at or near the time, any written memorandum of what Lieut. Col. Hitchcock said?

A—I made no written memorandum.

Q—If the witness’ memory had recently been aided by conversations with others on the subject, state who are those persons?

A—It has not been aided by any person.

Q—On separating, on the 19th of August, from Major gen. Scott, witness has said that Maj. Gen. Pillow asked if Gen. Scott had any orders. Did gen. Pillow ask if he had any further orders?

A—I did not understand it so. That he had no orders, was my understanding.

Q—At the time of the conversation with Capt. Taylor, referred to by witness, had Gen. Pillow learned more of the enemy’s position in the dark, than he knew before night?
A—We had met with Gen. Twiggs in the meantime, with whom he had some conversation in regard to affairs on the field, the purport of which I am not able to state, as I do not remember it.

Q—Had not the attack on the front of the enemy’s camp at Contreras been virtually abandoned, when Smith’s Brigade marched across the Pedregal; and did no this occur before the conversation alluded to with Capt. Taylor?

A—To the best of my recollection, the firing from Magruder’s Battery in front of Contreras was kept up until night; the 9th Infantry was in front of the work a the time, and there were other troops there that night. I will state there had been a falling off in the attack in front; judging from the firing before night. I was not on the field when Gen. Smith left to go to Ensaldo; a the time, to the best of my knowledge, (I will fix the time,) when Gen. Pillow left gen. Scott to cross the Pedregal, I did not know that the attack had been abandoned in any way.

Q—The last question refers in part to the time of the conversation between said Pillow and Taylor. Between that time and nightfall, had there been any aggressive movements by the American troops in front of the entrenched camp?

A—The interview between Gen. Pillow an Capt. Taylor, as nearly as I can guess at the time, took place I sold think about 11 o’clock at night; after that I know of no aggressive movements in front of the enemy; in the morning, I heard that there was. I can’t tell as to what team the firing and aggressive movements were discontinued, in relation to the movements of Gen. Smith, as I do not know at what time he left his position in front of Contreras.

Q—At the moment of the conversation between the said Pillow and Taylor, was not the witness aware that the said Smith had passed the Pedregal?

A—I think that the first intimation I had of General Smith’s movement, was a the time of joining Gen. Twiggs; I am not able to state whether I learnt it from him, or the officers who were with him. I was not informed, that I remember, that his whole brigade had left their position in front; I took it for granted a portion, if not all of his command, was with him. This occurred before the conversation between Gen. Pillow and Capt. Taylor.

Q—Under the circumstance of the moment, how could the witness understand the said Capt. Taylor and Gen. Pillow to refer in the conversation to the abandonment of the front attack, and not to the withdrawal of the troops from the position?

A—I would stat, so far as I know, this was the first interview between Gen. Pillow and Capt. Taylor. Capt. Taylor asked him how matters looked; gen. Pillow, in reply, informed him, I suppose because he thought it was a piece of information that he had not heard before, that the attack in front was, or would have to be, abandoned. I think it must have been “would have to be abandoned,” as no orders had been given, so far as I know, to abandon it. Gen. Pillow said that he had found the work stronger than he had expected, or words to that effect.

Q—The witness being in hearing, is he sure that Maj. Gen. Pillow did not say that he was going to the said Scott to recommend an abandonment of the attack on the enemy’s camp, or the front of the enemy’s camp; and did or not the said Pillow say anything on the subject to said Scott, on his arrival at San Augustin?

A—As I stated before, it was raining at the time this conversation took place between Capt. Taylor and Maj. Gen. Pillow, an at times several persons were talking, and it is barely possible that something may have passed between them in conversation that I did not hear. All that I did hear confirmed me in the impression that Gen. Pillow intended to return to renew the attack or to be present at the attack on the works in the morning. He had stated to me when I asked him for permission to remain on the field, that he would be absent but a short time, and I heard no conversation on his part either with Capt. Taylor or at Gen. Scott’s that led me to suppose that he had changed his intentions; this was of course before he determined to remain at San Augustin; that I do not remember to have heard Gen. Pillow refer to the attack upon the front at Gen. Scott’s. A long conversation took place there much of which I have no reason to suppose I heard, and I have no doubt I may have forgotten a portion that I did hear.—I did not sit near Gen. Pillow, and part of the time I was engaged eating supper.

Q—When witness came into Gen. Scott’s room, on the 19th of August, did not witness and Maj. Gen. Pillow early learn the vigorous preparations that were made between Gen. Smith and Gen. Scott, through Captain Lee, for the attack of the entrenched camp early next morning?

A—I think, in the early part of the interview at Gen’l Scott’s, at least very soon after going in, Gen. Scott informed Gen. Pillow—I can’t repeat the words, I will repeat the substance—that Capt. Lee was just in from Gen. Smith, and that Gen’l Smith had determined to attack the enemy at daylight the next morning, and that an attack or demonstration, I don’t now which, would at the same time be made in front of the enemy’s position, and about the same time Gen. Scott directed apt. Lee to repair to Gen. Smith, when Capt. Lee replied that it was impossible, or words to that effect. Gen’l Scott then directed him to return with Gen. Twiggs to the position in front of Contreras. His going back on service, as I understood it, was in connection with the demonstration or attack to be made in front of the enemy’s position the next morning. Capt Lee also informed Gen. Scott that the attack would be made the next morning by gen. Smith, whether he heard from Gen. Scott or not, or words to that effect.

Q—Did not Maj. Gen. Pillow in that interview claim, or intimate that the plan was the “ORIGINAL PLAN OF ATTACK” of the said Pillow’s?
A—I did not hear him.

Q—When Maj. Gen. Pillow informed you that he was opposed to an armistice, or the armistice, did witness know that said Pillow had not been called upon as one of the commissioners to negotiate one, and what were the said Pillow’s views before he knew that he would not be called upon?

A—I do not know at what time Gen. Pillow did know he would not be one of the commissioners. I can only state that fro the time I heard of the armistice as agreed upon, that I don’t remember ever having heard him say any thing in favor of the armistice. The first time that he spoke to me on the subject was about 2 o’clock on the 22d of Aug. I had no knowledge that his name had ever been spoken of as a commissioner to determine on the terms of an armistice. I did not now whether he had been called upon or not.

Q—Did the said Pillow say anything about the instructions of Gen. Scott to the commissioners, and if so, did he say that the commissioners were instructed to demand the surrender of Chapultepec?

A—I don’t know that I ever heard Gen. Pillow speak of the instructions—if I did, I have forgotten it.

Q—Who were present when Maj. Gen. Pillow handed to Brig. Gen. Pierce, the letter dated Aug. 23d, to be delivered to Maj. Gen. Scott, besides Brig Gen Pierce?

A—If I recollect right, Gen. Pillow said to Gen. Pierce that he wanted to send a note to Gen. Scott by him; (this idea has been recalled to mind during the time I was giving my testimony and since,) that it was at the close of the dinner, Lieut. Col. Herbert, Lt. Rogers, of the Navy, and Mr. Rains might have been there, also Lieut. Ripley. It was understood by Gen. Pillow that Gen. Pierce was to go there as one of the commission, and the conversation turned upon what concerned the armistice. I don’t know how many of the party beside myself understood that the note referred to was the identical note in question—perhaps Mr. Ripley and Mr. Rains may have seen the same note. I do not know that anyone was present at the time the note was given to Gen. Pierce. I did not see it delivered to him, but as the note had been spoken of previously, in connexion with his going there, and as I had seen the note, I have no doubt the note was sent by him.

Q—Was or not Mr. Freaner present at the time last mentioned by the witness?

A—I don’t remember that he was.

Q—Had the note of August last, been seen or read by Brig. Gen. Pierce, before it was sealed and dispatched?

A—I don’t know whether it had or not.

Q—Did the witness make at the time any written memorandum, or was he at the time desired to not particularly the character, as well as the delivery of the letters of Aug. 23d last, to Maj. Gen. Scott?

A—I made no written memorandum, nor was I requested to be particular in my remembrance of the fact. I remember it from its being the day after our arrival at Miscoac. I have already state I knew nothing of the actual delivery of the letter to Gen. Pierce.

Q—is the witness conscious if any peculiarity of memory which enables him to seize any particular parts of conversation of inferior importance, and forget others of greater importance?

A—I have no objection to answer the question, but I am not pleased with it. I am not conscious that I have, nor am I conscious that I have done so.

The Court here remarked, that had not the witness expressed a willingness to answer, they were about to tell him he need not do so. Gen. Scott said he would argue that point. The Court said they would have listened to the argument. Gen. Scott asked that the remarks of the Court might be recorded. Gen Pillow expressed the same desire. The Court said they did not think it material.

Q—at about what point was Maj. Gen. Pillow lying, pending the assault upon the body of the work at Chapultepec, and how far was that point from the main work?

A—I was not with Gen. Pillow at the time he received his wound. At the time I did see him, he was lying at the base of the hill, about 70 yards from the main work. I have said before, about 100, but I have since measured the distance, by the route which I ascended the hill—it was about 70 yards from the Castle.

Q—Will the witness particularly describe the spot at which he saw Maj. Gen. Pillow lying, after he had been wounded?

A—At the time I saw Gen. Pillow, he was lying on the ground: I am not sure he was lying on the ground; I think he was; I don’t remember any thing peculiar in the spot by which to designate it. He was lying near the foot of the
path which leads directly to a redan midway up the hill on the left hand side; I don’t know of any other way by which to describe the point.

Q—By the left of the redan, does the witness mean, looking up the grove, or the reverse?

A—Looking up the hill.

Q—What, if anything, does the witness chance to know of a personal combat in or about the fields of Mexico, between Maj. Gen. Pillow and any Mexican officer or soldier, or of Gen. Pillow's killing any Mexican?

A—I have no personal knowledge of it.

Q—Was the point where witness saw Maj. Gen Pillow lying wounded, sheltered or not from the fire of the work?

A—A falling shot could strike him.

Gen. Pillow remarked that he was willing to admit that it was pretty well sheltered.

Gen. Scott said it did not enter into the Specification; there was not imputation on Maj. Gen. Pillow’s courage.

Gen. Pillow objected to this going on the record, as he understood the Specification to at least a sneer at his courage, and he was prepared to vindicate his conduct.

Lieut. RIPLEY, A. D. C. sworn.

By Defence.—Q—was witness a member of Gen. Pillow's staff, on the 19th of August last, and if so, he will state what message he bore to Gen. Scott, and the reply?

A—I was a member of Gen. Pillow's staff on the 19th of August last, and after Gen. Pillow's Division had advanced as far as Penal Pobre, a hacienda between San Augustin and the field of Contreras, I was sent back to Gen. Scott, in company of Maj. Kirby, who had just previously arrived with a message from Gen. Scott to Gen. Pillow. Of the message borne by Maj. Kirby to Gen. Pillow, and from him to Gen. Scott, I have no personal knowledge; but was sent back to bring Gen. Scott's reply. I met Gen. S. on the roof of his quarters at San Augustin, shortly after Maj. Kirby had delivered his message, and was directed by Gen. Scott to deliver to Gen. Pillow the message, I the following words, so near as I can recollect them: "Tell Gen. Pillow that he will keep his attention fixed upon making the road and will complete it was far as practicable. Twiggs’ Division is already, or soon will be, in advance of Gen. Pillow, and should the enemy become impertinent, Twiggs will brush them away—if the action becomes serious, and he can go no further with the road, Pillow will support Twiggs with his whole division, and assume the command."

Q—Was witness present on the field on the 19th of August at an interview between Maj. Gen. Pillow and Brig. Gen. Twiggs relative to the disposition of the forces. If so, witness will state what occurred at that interview?

A—I was present on the field at the interview referred to, and the conversation which took place was to the following effect: Gen. Pillow addressed Gen. Twiggs by saying he could go no farther with the road until the enemy was dislodged, and it was necessary to take that battery. Gen. Twiggs replied with one or two oaths, Yes, that we must take it before sunset. Gen. Pillow said that Gen. Scott had placed him in the advance, and that he (Gen. Pillow) did not wish to interfere with him, and that he would open the battle. Gen. Twiggs replied that he would take the battery in one or two hours, I don’t recollect which, and appeared anxious to move off. Gen. Pillow spoke to him again, and I think first there was something said about the batteries, and afterwards said to Gen. Twiggs, that if he would move with one brigade against the enemy's works, and send the other over in the direction of that steeple, pointing in the direction of San Geronimo, to operate on that flank and cut of the communication with the city, that he thought the situation of the enemy would be very precarious. Gen. Twiggs assented to this in very much the same way as he had done to gen. Pillow's previous remarks, when gen. Pillow told him to go ahead and he would support him.

Q—Witness had spoken of Gen. Pillow’s speaking to Gen. Twiggs of certain batteries. To what batteries does the witness refer?

A—As well as I can recollect, Gen. Pillow asked Gen. Twiggs whether he had any artillery with him. Gen. Twiggs replied that the battery of his division had not come up.—Gen. Pillow then offered him the batteries of his division—Magruder's Field Battery and Callendar's Mountain Howitzer Battery; both of which moved forward soon after.

Had Gen. Pillow been on the hill reconnoitering the enemy's works with his glass, during the greater part of the forenoon? And state also whether Gen. Twiggs had not just come up, and passed on without reconnoitering.

A—I know that gen. Pillow was on the hill for some time during the morning; but as I was not immediately present with him, I cannot say whether he was reconnoitering or not. Gen. Twiggs had arrived fifteen or twenty minutes before this conversation took place—perhaps more. During that time, he had been engaged in passing his troops to the front of Gen. Pillow's command, and, immediately after the conversation narrated, he passed on, with
Smith's Brigade, to the front.

Q—Has witness a recollection of the time of Gen. Scott's arrival upon the mound? And if so, state his means of knowing the time.

A—My recollection is that it was half-past three or four o'clock; it may have been later that four o'clock. I had no particular means of noting the time.

Q—Does witness know when Morgan's regiment commenced its movement across the Pedregal, and was it before or after Gen. Scott's arrival on the ground.

A—I recollect seeing Morgan's Regiment in motion through the cornfield entering on the Pedregal, just before Gen. Scott arrived, and understood from Gen. Pillow, I think, that he had sent it off.

Q—Has witness any recollection of hearing Gen. Scott ask Gen. Pillow what bayonets those were in the Pedregal, and what was Gen. Scott's reply?

A—I remember that while Gens. Scott and Pillow were conversing on the hill concerning the disposition of the forces, within five, and certainly ten minutes, after Gen. Scott's arrival, Gen. Scott inquired, "what bayonets are those?" pointing to Morgan's Regiment. Gen. Pillow replied, that it was Morgan's Regiment, and I think added that he had just sent it to support Cadwalader.

The Court then adjourned to 9 o'clock, A. M. to-morrow.

RW48v25i38p4c1, May 12, 1848: To the Delegates of the People of New Mexico in Convention assembled:

I, GENERAL COMMANDING, being about to leave for the South, with the most earnest desire for the happiness, contentment and prosperity of the people of New Mexico, leave, for your consideration, the following suggestions:

The territory of New Mexico, by the movement of armies and military occupation, has become permanently subject to the government of the United States. The acts of you Convention cannot, in that particular, change the destiny of New Mexico; but as delegates chosen by the people, you will be presumed to declare the popular will, whether they desire a dissolution from the government of Mexico, and ask to be immediately constituted a territory under the Constitution, with all the rights and privileges of citizens of the United States, or whether from ancient and unchanged prejudices, they still cling to the idea of returning to the republic of Mexico, thereby rendering it necessary for the government for years, to hold over them the severity of military rule.

Your Convention, as Delegates from the people, for the consideration of a matter so vitally important to their happiness and prosperity, is an event of great interest in your political history. The result of you deliberations may permanently establish your happiness as a people or the contrary.

I sincerely desire that you will carefully and calmly consider the interests of those who represent, and prove yourselves superior to the blinding influence of prejudice.

You are asked to recollect the disgust you suffered under the late Mexican government, from the turmoil and anarchy of revolutions—the oppression you endured from a government ever ready to impose onerous exactions, but ever unable to protect you in person, property and rights. You have it now in your power to establish a civil government, under a constitution which guarantees to you the rights of freemen, which permits no exactions but such as are imposed by the representatives of your choice.

You can now secure the protection of a government which imposes no bounds upon the conscience, which will protect you in the unmolested enjoyment of your personal, political, and religious rights, under the regulation of equal laws. In short, you have it in your power to secure for New Mexico, all the rights and privileges of citizens under the freest government in the world.

You stand in a position of the highest responsibility to those who have elected you delegates, and I express the hope, that in view of your serious and important duties, the deliberations of the Convention will be conducted with the strictest propriety and decorum; and though the right freely and properly to express opinions should not be restricted, yet I desire all clearly to understand, that seditious and indecorous language against the constituted military or civil authorities, calculated to inflame or excite the people against the government, my desire for the peace and welfare of the Territory, will induce me immediately to notice. The utterers of such language will be held responsible and called to a strict account.

With the sincerest wishes that your proceedings will be conducted in harmony and good feeling, and result in the permanent benefit of those you represent, I leave the above for your consideration.
A number of petitions and memorials were presented.

Mr. Johnson, of Georgia, offered a resolution, which was adopted, instructing the Judiciary Committee to enquire into the expediency of establishing a Professorship of international law at the Annapolis Naval School, and to extend the number of appointments, so as to allow the admission of two for each member of Congress.

Mr. Breese reported a bill to grant the right of way through the public lands of Indiana, and alternate sections of the same, for a railroad.

The bill to authorize the holding of a special term of the District Court in Tennessee, was passed—also the bill relative to the public archives of Florida.

Mr. Borland introduced the bill of which he had given previous notice, to grant unsold overflowed public lands in Arkansas to that State, for purposes of internal improvement. Read twice and referred.

The special order of the day—the Yucatan bill—was then taken up.

When Mr. Foote referred to that portion of my report of Thursday’s debate (I believe) in the Senate, which attributes to Mr. Calhoun the remark, that he “had not considered it necessary to notice what the Senator from Mississippi had said,” in his speech of that day. Mr. Foote said, satisfactorily, that the remark referred to had been entirely misunderstood by the reporter.

Mr. Calhoun also disclaimed having used the expression, or any other disrespectful to the senator from Mississippi.

Mr. Houston would be glad if the Hon Senator would point out any instance in which Texas had coquetted with England.

Mr. Johnson said that during the pilgrimage of the Senator to Gen. Jackson, if the papers had correctly quoted him, he had used such an expression.

Mr. Houston thanked the Senator from Maryland for the opportunity to contradict the statement. He had never used such remarks as had been attributed to him.

Mr. Houston then addressed the Senate at great length, in support of the bill, but I have not time before the cars leave to give a sketch of his remarks, which embraced several topics of public importance which now occupy the public attention.

Mr. Foote made a few remarks, and Mr. Hannegan also again urged the importance of prompt action. It had become a question—Shall we or shall England take possession of Yucatan.

Mr. Johnson, of Maryland, followed, and in the course of his remarks referred to the fact, that though the message had only been on their table for a week, the subject had been brought to the attention of the Executive more than six months since. He also alluded to the charge which had been made against Texas, of “coquetting with England.” He was opposed to the bill in its present shape, and expressed his views on the subject at considerable length.

Mr. Hannegan said that the Senator from N. York, some days since, had so clearly laid before the Senate the operations of England on the Yucatan coast, &c., that it was unnecessary for him to refer to the facts. It was well known that the object of England was to seize Yucatan. And Mr. Sierra, in his last communication, said that if the aid asked is not afforded in two short months, Yucatan, as a government, will cease to exist.

Mr. Jefferson Davis said that if this bill was to be passed over, he hoped the twenty regiment bill would be taken up, that the President might be enabled, in this particular case, to prosecute the war with Mexico in such a manner that a new was might not grow out of it; for he agreed with the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign relations, (Mr. Hannegan,) that if delay was practiced, the next question would be whether we shall expel England from Yucatan.

Mr. Calhoun contended that there was not the slightest probability that England would interfere or take possession of Yucatan. He was ready to take the responsibility of this declaration. He had examined the correspondence which had been referred to, and there was nothing in it to warrant such a conclusion.
Mr. Crittenden followed. He desired, before agreeing to the movement authorized by the bill, such information as would warrant the taking of military possession for the objects contemplated, or from the consideration stated. He was in favor of the amendment proposed by Mr. Jefferson Davis.

Mr. Westcott addressed the Senate at length and expressed his conviction that it was the intention of England to take possession of Yucatan, and that once in her possession, she would not relinquish it. And he would vote for any measure necessary to prevent England from taking possession, and to protect the interests of the U. States.

After some further conversation, the bill was passed over informally, and the Senate adjourned, after adopting a resolution calling on the president for further correspondence on the subject.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

After some unimportant business, the House, in committee of the whole, resumed the consideration of the bill granting bounty lands to officers promoted from the ranks, and the several amendments proposed.

The amendments of Messrs. Thompson, of Mississippi, and Lumpkin, of Georgia, to which I have already referred, and numerous others offered to day, were rejected, and the bill was finally reported to the House and passed, with a single amendment, requiring that the officers referred to “shall have been elected or promoted,. After reaching the seat of war.”

And then the House adjourned.

U. S. Senate.

Very little business was done in the Senate to-day.

Numerous petitions were presented.

After some debate on the resolution offered several days since by Mr. JOHNSON, of Maryland, asking the President to inform the Senate why Major General Pillow’s nomination had not been sent in,

Mr. HANNEGAN moved to take up the bill authorizing the President of the United States to furnish the military aid to the people of Yucatan.

Mr. NILES spoke at some length in opposition to the bill in its present shape, denouncing it as a war measure, with conquest for its aim and end. Mr. N. expressed his willingness to afford aid to the people of Yucatan, but was opposed to taking possession of the country.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House had been engages all day discussing the bill for the admission of the Territory of Wisconsin into the Union as a State. Without action an (sic) the bill, however, the House adjourned till to-morrow.

U. S. Senate.

The bill for the relief of settlers in Florida, under the armed occupation act, was taken up and passed.

The Senate, on motion, proceeded to the consideration of the order of the day, viz: the bill affording military aid to the People of Yucatan.

Mr. CASS addressed the Senate, in a speech of some length, in support of the bill. He replied in detail to the speech of Mr. NILES, delivered yesterday.

Mr. DAVIS, of Massachusetts, has the floor on this subject for to-morrow.
After a short Executive Session, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House has been engaged all day in committee of the Whole on the bill to admit the Territory of Wisconsin in to the Union as a State.

The committee finally rose and reported the bill, with several amendments to the House, and the House then adjourned.

RW48v25i39p1c1, May 16, 1848: Yucatan.

About two years ago, it was proposed, in Congress, to make an appropriation to keep alive the Irish population, great part of which was at the time actually dying of starvation. To this scheme President Polk was opposed; and opposed much to our sorrow, for it would have been a great and godlike deed on the part of a magnanimous nation. —Probably he thought he could not spare any of the treasure he was squandering with such a lavishing hand in Mexico to help the poor Irish. The times are changed.

He now proposes to send a military force to protect one portion of Yucatan against the other; for, according to Stevens, the are nearly all partakers of Indian blood; and to say that the Indians are attacking Yucatan seems very much like describing a civil war.

Who are best entitled to our sympathies, who have assisted us most in time of trouble, who furnished most men to our Revolutionary armies? The Irish or the Yucatanos? And if the former, then how does it happen that Mr. Polk could bring his heart to feel no pang of regret for them, while sympathies are all alive for these comparative strangers? We have no objection to his kindly emotion, provided it does not involve us in the difficulties of Yucatan, for we revere softness of heart as the best gift of heaven. But all we wish to know is, why he did not feel for the Irish, our own kindred, when he can feel so acutely for these strangers?


A letter from gen. Taylor, acknowledging a copy of the proceedings of the meeting held at the Exchange some time since, has been received by Brantz Mayer, Esq. one of the Secretaries of the meeting. One passage of the letter reads, “You will please do me the favor to make known my acknowledgements to the citizens of Baltimore for the unexpected and unmerited honors they have conferred upon me, in such manner an terms as you may deem most proper.” To comply with his request Mr. Mayer deems that the most suitable manner would be to publish the letter itself; and he has accordingly handed it to us for that purpose. The letter is in answer to a duplicate—which accounts for the interval that has elapsed since the proceedings of the meeting were forwarded first:

BATON ROUGE, LA. May 1, 1848.

Dear Sir:—I have by this day’s mail received a copy (duplicate) of your letter of March 21, with an enclosed copy of the proceedings of a meeting held by the citizens of Baltimore who are friendly to my election to the Presidency.

The political sentiments embraced in the preamble and resolutions adopted at that meeting, I rejoice to say, meet with my cordial approval and assent. No movements in any part of the country, having the object to offer testimonials of honor and respect towards myself, or to advocate my election to the Presidency, have caused in me more lively pleasure, or demand more my gratitude.

You will please do me the favor to make known my acknowledgements to the citizens of Baltimore for the unexpected and unmerited honors they have conferred upon me, in such manner and terms as you may deem most proper.

They are obligation which, should the votes of the country be cast in my favor, it will most surely be my endeavor to redeem to themselves and to all the people of our country.

I must be permitted to add, that, as they have, with so much confidence placed my name in nomination before the country on their own responsibility, free from party action and the exaction of pledges from myself, I shall serve them strictly as a constitutional and not as a party President (in the event already alluded to)—and as my ability will permit.

Please accept my thanks for the kind sentiments you have, in forwarding the proceedings of this meeting, been pleased to express to me.
With sentiments of cordial respect and regard, your most ob't servant,

Z. TAYLOR.

[to] Brantz Mayer, Esq. Secretary Public Meeting in Baltimore.

[RP]

RW48v25i39p1c1, May 16, 1848: The Washington Union and General Taylor.

The Washington Union, not content with attempting to play the dictator over its own party, has kindly undertaken to superintend the affairs of the Whigs also; and not condescending to wait until their candidate shall have been nominated, takes upon itself to say who should, and who should not be the candidate of the Whig party. Its fears of Gen. Taylor amount to agony. Day after day, and week after week, the editor is engaged in pouring forth the most dolorous jeremiads over the fate of Mr. Clay; in deploring the inconsistency and bad faith of the Whig party. These strains, proceeding from an apprehension which the old man finds its impossible either to restrain or to conceal, are the subject of the most convulsive merriment to all Whigs in and about Washington. But should not this extreme anxiety, from such a quarter, teach our friends in Virginia where their true strength lies? Should not the very fact that the editor of the Union is utterly averse to Gen. Taylor's nomination, be sufficient to secure it? Why is he averse? Does she really care for the dignity or consistency of the Whig party? Is any man simple enough to believe that? No! his aversion arises from a knowledge, shared with every Locofoco in the land, that Gen'l Taylor can dash their party into fragments. The reader will find this subject, as well as several others, discussed with much ability in the following letter from the correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot:

Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot. WASHINGTON, May 11, 1848.

The spasms of the official organ about the nomination of Gen. Taylor for the Presidency, create a great deal of merriment among all clamor of politicians hereabouts.—The Whig National Convention will certainly have to send a committee on to see and consult the editor, as to the proper man to be nominated as the Whig candidate. It will never do to disregard his wishes—never!

The organ of this morning is worth looking at, in regard to the subject. The editor as deeply regrets that Gen. Taylor consents to be a candidate for the "highest office in the world," as he regretted, twenty-five years ago, that General Jackson had consented to run for the same exalted station! His articles now read very much as those he then wrote! He could not then see any qualifications or fitness in Gen. Jackson for the station—he cannot possibly see any now in Gen. Taylor! From the lowest deep of his heart he should wish that the Whig candidate for the Presidency should possess more experience, more general knowledge and better qualifications for the station,—but nevertheless that can dictate, whoever he may be, is to be beaten. The Locofoco watchword is to be "harmony, union, concession, everything for the cause, nothing for men!" and with this rallying cry the Whigs are to be overthrown "horse, foot and dragoon." If Taylor is to be the Whig candidate, the venerable and elastic editor exclaims, why then the stronger the man the "democracy" has to contend with, the greater will be its efforts!

The official organ shows the cloven foot! It cannot disguise its alarm! It sees old Zack acoming! It remembers how the old hero met Mr. Polk's pet friend Santa Anna, and its instinct tells it well, in advance, how he will be apt to meet Mr. Polk himself, or whoever may step into Mr. Polk's shoes!

But if the official organ's party is going to beat General Taylor, if nominated, with all ease, why need the editor feel such deep regret on account of his lack of the proper knowledge, experience, and qualifications for filling the Presidential chair? Can the venerable editor be sincere in the expression of his regrets? If not, he is very wrong to so express them. Is it not settling a good, honest, wholesome example.

But the official organ is not to blame simply in this.—There is another matter it harps upon which presents but little proof of the sincerely of its statements, in regard to Gen. Taylor. It asserts constantly that Gen. Taylor declares he will be a candidate, no matter who else may be nominated! I quote from it:

"Suppose them prepared to submit to his dictation—suppose them nominating him next month at Philadelphia, because he declares that he will oppose any other nomination they might select, even through it be the "Great Embodiment" himself." What then—Union, May 11.

"Gen. Taylor will urge his claims upon the convention while distinctly refusing to abide by that decision of it shall be against him"—Union, May 11.

"Gen. Taylor, whether nominated or not nominated by the Whig convention, when going before that body under the dictatorial terms laid down in his letters, will not be President of the United States, if Mr. Clay and his friends can prevent his electron."—Union, May 11.

"Gen. Taylor has no chance at all, even if he be nominated, to be elected without the most cordial and unanimous and zealous aid of all the Clay men. To that aid he had forfeited every pretense of claim by his open refusal to abide
by the decision of the convention."—Union, May 11.

"We shall fearlessly discharge this duty, if the Whig convention of June 7th should nominate him as their candidate. They may take him up, because he has declared that, if they do not nominate him, he will still run against any other nominee."—Union, May 11.

Now, what ought to be said of the sincerity and candor of a newspaper, professing to be respectable, that will make such unblushing misstatements as those in the foregoing extracts?

Gen. Taylor had not declared, or proclaimed, that he will be a candidate for the Presidency, whether or no. He has not said, that his name shall not be withdrawn, should the Whig National Convention nominate Mr. Clay, or any other good Whig, for the Presidency. He has said, that he entertained no intention of withdrawing it himself—why? Because, he had taken no part in placing his name before the public, for that high office. His friends, who had done it would act in the matter—withdraw it or not—he left it with them. If they decided to withdraw it, he would acquiesce with pleasure! Is this bidding defiance to Mr. Clay, and declaring, that his name should not be withdrawn? No, and they who assert it do gross, meditated injustice to honest old Zachary Taylor! If he is not nominated by the Convention, his name will then be withdrawn by his friends. This is a "fixed fact." If he is nominated, he will take the field, and beat his opponent, as he did Santa Anna at Buena Vista.

Senator John Davits made a very strong and forcible speech in the Senate, to-day, against the bill for taking military possession of Yucatan. Not much else was done. The resolution of inquiry, respecting the neglect of the President to send to the Senate his nominations of Gen. Pillow and Gen. Cushing, was, on the motion of its author, Mr. Johnson, of Maryland, laid over.

In the House, the Wisconsin bill was passed. Afterwards, in committee of the whole, on the annual Revolutionary pension bill, Mr. Rockwell, of Connecticut, took the floor, and made a very able and powerful speech, in continuation of a speech, which he made some two months ago, on the subject of the gross blunders and stupendous errors and misstatements of the Secretary of the treasury, in his reports and explanations, relative to the condition of the finances of the country. He cited the declaration of the official organ, a long time ago, that a refutation of the representations of his former speech should be published by that journal, and asked, why it had never appeared? He produced facts, figures, and vouchers to fortify all that he had formerly asserted, and went on to exhibit still more blunders and misstatements on the part of the Treasury Department. He ridiculed and laughed a the flimsy apologies and excuses, which had been gotten up, and offered to the public, for the bungling conduct of the head of the Treasury Department, and showed how the system would work, if carried out, by charging the blame upon one clerk, and he upon another, and so on, perhaps, all through the Department. He read from the law what were the duties of the Secretary of the treasury, and clearly showed, that Mr. Walker had not performed them, and was far from being a fit and competent person for the responsible station which he occupied. In the course of his speech, he referred to the fact that Mr. Stormh of Pennsylvania, chairman of the committee on the Expenditures of the treasury Department, a very competent and up right man, had taken the errors, committed by the Department, in hand, and had made a most thorough examination of the books, records, and papers, in relation to the subject. He will, in the course of a few days, submit his report, pointing out some astounding errors to the House.

Mr. Rockwell, by this speech, has added much to his already high reputation as a man of most industrious legislative habits, of great clearness of intellect and of untiring industry. The speech will probably appear in the Intelligencer of to-morrow. It will receive a wide circulation. It kills Mr. Secretary Walker, and demolishes the monument of his financial greatness, as the "Union" styled his last annual report.

Mr. Sawyer, however, said it wouldn't hurt the Secretary. The attack, he said, was but a squib, a small innuendo and a small insinuation—all got up for Buncombe. And doesn't Mr. Sawyer know? The House always laughs when Mr. Sawyer takes the floor. He said to-day that he could make a speech. And he would like to speak about several matters—the abolition question and the Presidential question among the number—but he thought the house had been humbugged enough, and so, as his own constituents did not require him to make a speech for Buncombe, he would desist. And so the old gentleman took his seat and looked complacently.

The "Union" begins to think there is but little chance for the treaty to be ratified by the Mexicans, because they cannot agree about the distribution of the money we propose to pay them. Did not the "Union," did not Mr. Polk, know that when the provision in the Treaty, under which the British bankers in Mexico, who got the treaty up, were to obtain a large amount of the spoils, was stricken out here, that those British bankers would not use their influence for its final ratification by the Mexicans?

[BWP]
their choice, although much astonished at so unexpected a reward of most distinguished military services, hesitated to express their condemnation of the administration. They suspected there was something behind the curtain to justify so strong a step as that of depriving a victorious General of his command, and subjecting him to a military tribunal in an enemy's country. The letter of the Secretary of War, obviously written with care, and as the manifesto of the administration against the commander-in-chief of the army, has relieved them from all such apprehensions. In this letter there are no charges of misconduct, none of oppression or injustice.

Much is insinuated as to what would have happened to General Taylor's army at Buena Vista, had a court martial been called for the trial of Gen. Marshall and Capt. Montgomery; and Gen. Scott is arraigned by implication for the delay in his forward movements, because on the 4th of May he discharged the volunteers whose term of service had nearly expired, so as to allow them to reach Vera Cruz, and return before the vomito commenced its ravages.

Whether the American people will regard it as a crime in Gen'l Scott, that he took the responsibility of allowing the gallant volunteers the few weeks remaining of their year, (varying, as the Secretary asserts, from thirty to forty-five days,) to escape the pestilence of the coast, rather than of bringing them within its deadly grasp by insisting on a literal compliance with the terms of their voluntary enlistment, is a question that may be safely entrusted to the country; but it requires no sagacity to ascertain the real strength of the cause of the administration, when its official defender make this one of the chief grounds of complaint against Gen. Scott, and relies upon it as a conclusive defence of the Department for not supplying him with adequate reinforcements.

The grave statements by Gen. Scott all tend to prove an unfriendly feeling towards him on the part of the Administration. The most important facts proving the existence of this feeling, are 1st, the attempt to deprive him of the command when in the face of the enemy by placing a civilian at the head of the army, and 2d, depriving him of the command at the close of the campaign on the complaint of a junior officer against whom charges had been preferred, whilst the complaining officer was released from the arrest to which he was of course subjected when charges were made against him.

To these charges the Secretary of War makes no defence, nor justification. In his long manifesto or seven columns he notices and attempts to refute or excuse the other statements of Gen'l Scott proving the existence of this hostility, and then concludes that it is a "chimerical imagination," because he deems that some of the secondary evidence refuted. How far even this refutation of the collateral evidence is successful may be hereafter inquired into. The American people, however, will not be satisfied with such a refutation, even if true. They are not so ostrich like as to overlook the main body of the charge, because one of its members is covered with mud.

The great question is, has the administration been influenced by any unfriendly feeling towards our GREAT CAPTAIN, and has it treated him with intentional injustice? Is this a chimera of the imagination? Send forth thou master of the pen, who, from the tranquil retreat of the war department, prepares so skillful an attack upon the reputation of an absent general, writing his dispatches upon a drum head in the face of an enemy, and answer these questions. This is what the people wish to know.

Did the administration when it found itself at a loss, apply to Gen. Scott, (after having evinced its unwillingness to do so,) to conduct the war in Mexico? Did not the President, before he left Washington, promise him his most cordial cooperation and support? Was not the secret design then entertained of supplanting him in the chief command by then appointment of Mr. Benton, then Senator of Missouri and wholly undistinguished as a soldier, as Lieut. General as soon as Gen. Scott should be in such position that he could not withdraw from the field without an imputation of his character and patriotism?

Did not the administration urge that appointment, until Congress, alarmed by the indications of popular feeling, evinced its unwillingness to perpetrate so flagrant an injustice? Are these chimeras of a diseased imagination? On the contrary, are they not all facts so notorious that the Secretary has found it safest in his defence of the administration, to avoid all notice of them, and to make the issue upon other and less important points. Whatever advantage Gen. Scott may have given him, by alluding to these as additional proofs of the hostility of the administration towards him, the country will not deem his charges to be refuted while those facts remain unanswered.

With these things staring him in the face, it required no small confidence in the controversial powers by Gov. Marcy to attempt the proof of a cordial feeling of confidence and co-operation on the part of the administration towards the commander-in-chief of the army.

If such be the modes in which the Administration manifests its confidence and friendship, it would be more safe to be on terms of open hostility. Gen. Scott and his army might then, at least, run the hazard of having paced over them a commander, who, like Santa Anna, had given some proof of his ability to command.

It might gain from its capacity to blunder, more than it could hope from its judgment and sagacity.

But no such excuse can be allowed. The Administration in the paltry chicanery or political management is at home, and evinces, in the choice of tools, a power of discrimination that would be commendable were it applied to better ends.

After it had been defeated in its attempt to degrade Gen. Scott, by putting him under the command of Mr. Benton, it gave another manifestation of its feelings, by the appointment of Mr. Trist to negotiate the terms of peace.
I do not mean to make any comment upon the conduct of Mr. Trist. His exposure of the contemptible plot of President Polk and his law partner Gen. Pillow, is a public service of no small merit, and should protect him from any animadversions on the account of the spirit of hostility manifested against Gen. Scott on his first arrival in Mexico. This spirit, however, affords a striking proof of the motive to his appointment, and, indeed, the withholding of these powers from the commander of the army, was in itself sufficient indication of the feelings prevailing at Washington, and how well he divined those feelings when he predicted that he was in more danger “from the fire in his rear than from the enemy” he was sent to encounter.

Other administrations had entrusted to him more delicate and important functions than those in question.

By Gen. Jackson he was sent to maintain and enforce the authority of the Government against the Government of South Carolina. After succeeding in that difficult and delicate mission, without resort to force, the removal of the Cherokees was committed to his charge. All this was skilfully performed. Under Mr. Van Buren’s administration he was employed to pacify, and at the same time to protect the frontier, when the border population were in arms and eager for collision, not only on account of the patriot movements, but on account of the dispute as to the North Eastern boundary.

In all these difficulties, Gen. Scott evinced great tact and ability, and won from the late John Quincy Adams the marked compliment, that he had gained more glory from these diplomatic achievements then from his military triumphs.

How fit and proper was it then to confide to one this qualified, when called to lead its armies, the power to negotiate the treaty that was desired by the government.—Nothing but the unworthy feeling of political hostility could have dictated the appointment of any other person.

So, too, the refusal to appoint an Assistant Adj’t General of his own nomination, to act as chief of his staff, is another evidence of the inimical feeling at Washington.

Notwithstanding the positive averments of the Secretary of War, ”that such an appointment would have been contrary to the rules of the service,” ”and infringement of the President’s power of appointment,” and ”an indignity to all who held the same post with the rank of captain,” I venture to appeal to all conversant with military history, for a confirmation of the fact, that this is the first instance when a commander-in-chief in the field has been denied a head of the staff of his own selection. So much depends upon the cordial co-operation and confidence subsisting between the general and his chief staff officer, that not even Gov. Marcy’s appeal to the democracy, by his allusion to the President’s regard for the rights of officers of inferior rank, can prevent general astonishment that the request was not complied with.

But is it true, that it was the President’s scrupulous regard for the rights of military rank that prevented his compliance with that request?

Where was that regard when the veteran and accomplished officers of the army were passed by, and the political partisans and favorites of the President were taken from private life, and placed over them in command?

Were there no whispers of that conscientious feeling to stay his hand, when it took Gideon J. Pillow from the peaceful drawing of pleas and demurrers, and sent him to Mexico to astonish the universe with his despatches, where the writer was cut down four times in one battle, and then, ”while lying on his back from an agonizing wound,” was employed in writing his despatch?

Such doughty valor has not been witnessed since the days of Witherington at Chevy Chase.

"Who when his legs were smitten off

Still fought upon his stumps.”

After such exhibitions of the President’s views as to his power of appointment, it will be difficult to make the army or navy believe that the refusal to comply with Gen. Scott’s request proceeded from his regard to the rights of rank.

Such stories must be classed among Punch’s “Tales for the Marines.”

J. B.

[BWP]
Mr. JOHNSON of Maryland, moved to take up the resolution which he had previously offered, making the President of the United States to inform the Senate why certain nominations had been withheld.

The motion to take up, was agreed to and Mr. Johnson resumed his remarks and proceeded with his argument. He stated that if the President withheld General Pillow’s nomination because he feared the Senate would not confirm the appointment, he (the President) was pursuing a cause unbecoming his position, and contrary to his duty.

At the conclusion of the speech of Mr. J. the subject was informally laid aside.

On motion of Mr. CAMERON, the Senate held an executive session, and then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House has been engaged all the day discussing the Monde claim; and, finally, it being put to the vote, was rejected, and the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, May 13, P. M.

U. S. SENATE.

Very little business was done in the Senate to-day.

The subject under discussion was the bill providing for occupying temporarily with an army the Peninsula of Yucatan. Mr. MILLER addressed the Senate at great length on the subject, and in opposition to the bill.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On motion, the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole upon Private Bills, (Mr. Stus in the Chair.)

A bill to indemnify the owners for Negro slaves lost during the last war, coming up before the committee, gave rise to a warm discussion on the subject of Slavery, which was participated in by Messrs. TUCK, GIDDINGS, RHETT, BURT, and others.

On the rising of the committee, the House adjourned.

[WB]


We received last night from our correspondent at Macon the following despatch:

MACON, May 9—9 P. M.

The Georgia Whig Convention named Gen. Taylor as their first choice for its Presidency, and recommend him to the Whig National Convention for nomination. They have agreed to send delegates, and will support the nominee of the Convention provided he be sound on questions involving Southern rights.

[WB]

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RW48v25i39p2c4, May 16, 1848: Twenty Eighth Day – April 17, 1848.

The court met this morning at the usual hour. After the reading of the records,

Gen. Pillow rose and proposed that the remainder of the evidence on the part of the prosecution should be gone through with before any further evidence on the part of the defence was produced. He believed that the witnesses for the prosecution, who were absent from the city, and who had been summoned, were now here. After a short discussion in which Gen. Scott opposed the proposition of Gen. Pillow, the court decided that the witnesses for the prosecution should be called. While waiting the attendance of the witnesses for the prosecution, Gen. Pillow desired to ask Lieut. Ripley, for the defense, one question, and he was accordingly called.

Testimony of Lieut. Ripley.

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Q—Was witness present upon the mound on the 19th August when Lieut. Lay passed that position. If so, he will state what he heard Mr. Lay announce, and if that annunciation was made loud enough to be distinguished at the position occupied by Gen. Pillow?

A—I was present upon the 19th of August when Mr. Lay came up and announced the hear approach of Gen. Scott from the foot of the mound, and in a tone loud enough for me to hear. I think I was standing at the time near Gen. Pillow.

Q—How long after Gen. Scott arrived upon the field was it before Mr. Lay returned to the mound?

A—I did not see Mr. Lay for a half or three quarters of an hour afterwards; when I next saw him he was returning towards the mound from the position occupied by Magruder's battery. I met him I think, about half way to that position.

Cross-examined.—The witness had heretofore given in his evidence reasons for knowing or believing that Maj. Gen. Pillow was not at the side of Scott's quarters on the 9th and 10th of September last, nor until the night of the 11th. He has also spoken of the said Pillow's passing from the battlefield of the 8th (Molino del Rey) to the hacienda of San Borjo. Did not the said Pillow call at the said Scott's quarters, in Tacubaya, and there breakfast; lunch or dine, before proceeding to the said hacienda on the said 8th of September?

A—I think I stated in my testimony before, that I rode with Gen. Pillow from Tacubaya after the battle of Molino del Rey to the hacienda San Borjo; I came in from the battlefield to Tacubaya by a different road from the one Gen. Pillow took, stopped some little time a the quarters of my own regiment, afterwards rode down to Gen. Scott's quarters, Gen Pillow came from Gen. Scott's quarters afterwards, mounted his horse and rode off, what happened I know not, as I was not in there at all. This was about 2 or 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

Gen. Scott having expressed a wish to confer privately with the witnesses for the prosecution before they were called to the stand, the court took a recess for an hour to afford him an opportunity to do so. Upon resuming the session, Gen. Scott rose and stated to the court that upon conferring with the two witnesses on the part of the prosecution he desired to have called, he had ascertained that their knowledge of the matters contained in the specifications could not be received as evidence in chief, and would not call them. He might avail himself of what slight knowledge they possessed as rebutting testimony.

RW48v25i39p2c4, May 16, 1848: Testimony of Lieut. Rains.

Lieutenant Rains recalled for defence—Q—Was witness with Gen. Pillow at Piedad. If so, he will state what report or message he bore upon the 9th September from Gen. Pillow to Gen. Scott?

A—I was at Piedad on the morning of the 9th of September, and was dispatched by Gen. Pillow to Gen. Scott at Tacubaya, to detail the result of the reconnaissance made by Gen. Pillow and myself. Having arrived at Tacubaya I gave Gen. Scott the information that the works of the enemy at the garita San Antonio were in an incomplete state. I informed Gen. Scott that there were two guns in my opinion, which bore upon our position, with some two or three more which bore upon other points of the line of entrenchments, but that Gen. Pillow supposed there was a less number of guns than what I have stated. That the enemy had a very large force of laborers engaged in rapidly perfecting their line of works—consequently General Pillow requested that the general-in-chief would come himself if his time served to look at the position of things, but if he were not able to come himself to send his engineers. The general-in-chief replied that he had already intended or resolved not only to make a minute reconnaissance in person of the works in question, but also to send the most if not all of the engineers for the same purpose, and to inform Gen. Pillow that he would follow me at an early moment to Piedad.

Q—Witness will state of after Gen. Pillow established his headquarters at Piedad he was absent from that place at any time long enough to have gone to Tacubaya and back. He will state also what time, on the night of the 11th September, Gen. Pillow and his command left Piedad preparatory to the assault upon Chapultepec, and what time they reached Tacubaya?

A—I am under the strong impression, though not altogether positive, that in the interval in question Gen. Pillow was not absent from Piedad a sufficient length of time to go to Tacubaya and return. Gen. Pillow's command left Piedad about 8 or 9 o'clock on the night of the 11th for Tacubaya, where he and his command arrived probably between 10 and 11.

Q—Was witness himself at Piedad the whole time spoken of from the morning of the 9th till the departure of Gen. Pillow on the night of the 11th, with the exception of the trip to Tacubaya already detailed by witness?

A—I was at Piedad and in its neighborhood; that is my impression.

Q—Witness will state whether or not, to his knowledge, Gen. Pillow was absent from Piedad on the night of the
9th, after or before supper?

A—I feel pretty sure he was not absent during the day of the 9th or the night of the 9th.

Q—Witness will state what he knows of the views of Gen. Pillow in relation to the Tacubaya armistice, before that measure was consummated, and what—if he knows—induced Gen. Pillow to address a note to Gen. Scott on the subject of the armistice?

A—On the 22d of August Gen’l Pillow was returning from an interview with the general-in-chief at Tacubaya to Miscoac, and entered into the following conversation, in substance, with myself: "Well, an armistice has been determined on by gen. Scott, who has appointed, or is about to appoint, commissioners to fix on its terms." I asked, "What are those terms?" The reply was that Chapultepec was not to be required to be given up, and that the army were not to have general access to the city. I replied that I was very sorry for it, that the general-in-chief had a very great popularity in the army, which would raise to enthusiasm by his taking forcible possession of the city of Mexico, and I thought the armistice, particularly its terms, would not be received by the army with much favor. Gen. Pillow replied he thought so too; that he was opposed to any armistice, particularly one which did not require Chapultepec to be placed in our possession. I asked if he had expressed himself in these terms to the general-in-chief. He said he had not, or had not done so strongly, because the general-in-chief did not like opposition to his views. I replied that I thought it due to the general-in-chief, from the terms of intimacy which existed between them, that he should have expressed himself freely on the subject. He said then that he would write a note giving his opinions in relation to the armistice, which he wished I should take to Gen Scott, as I could probably obtain an interview with him, having formerly been his aid-de-camp, and could express to Gen. Scott more clearly possibly then the note could do his opinions on the subject. On our arrival at Miscoac gen. Pillow wrote a note and read it to me. I observed that it was needless for me to return to Tacubaya with the note, as the general-in-chief's time was so much occupied that I could have no means of obtaining a personal interview; by whom it was sent, if ever sent, I do not know.

Q—The witness will examine the note before the court and say if that be the note referred to in his testimony.

A—I judge it to be the same note; it is the same in substance.

Q—The witness will state of he knows what date said note was written.

A—I judge it to be on the 22d, because it was the next day after arriving at Miscoac.

Q—Was witness close to Gen. Pillow’s person when he was wounded at Chapultepec; if so, if he picked up the ball with which he was wounded, and what was its size?

A—I was within three or four yards of Gen. Pillow at the time, and picked up the shot that struck him, which was a large sized grape shot, over an inch in diameter.

Q—Witness will state if he left San Augustin on the morning of the 19th August, with gen. Pillow, with yourself, left there that morning.

A—I did leave with gen. Pillow at the time on question; he had been delayed a few minutes for the saddling of my horse, which had been just brought in, having been lost the day before. As I was awakened out of sleep, and much engaged immediately afterwards, my attention was not called to the time of day, though my impression is that it was before sunrise.

Q—Witness will state if he was separated from Gen. Pillow in the battle of Churubusco, from the time witness was struck upon the head by a splinter of a rock, until after the battle was over. State also where witness joined Gen. Pillow; on which side of the tete-du- pont was it?

A—I was separated from Gen. Pillow a few minutes before the time specified, and remained separated for the reason assigned, (that I could not find him afterwards, as I supposed he was on one side of the road when he was on the other,) after the occurrence in question. When I next saw him, he was at or near the portalles, a short time after I returned from accompanying Capt. Kearney’s charge a short distance.

Q—Where was Gen. Pillow placed when he was brought into the works at Chapultepec, until he was carried into the building?

A—I know nothing of it personally.

Cross-examined by the prosecution. Q—Had the witness a the time he was sent by Gen. Pillow to General Scott, at Tacubaya, on the subject of the defences at the gate of San Antonio, any previous information that he said works had already been or were under the examination of engineers from general headquarters?

A—I think they had been. I derived the information from Lieut. Tower. I don't know that they were under examination at that moment.
Q—Did witness learn from Gen. Pillow on the 22d of August last, that he, the said Pillow, had not been appointed one of the commissioners to negotiate an armistice, and what did the said Pillow further say, if any thing, respecting the instructions which had been given or would be given to the American commissioners by the said Scott on the subject of an armistice?

A—Gen. Pillow told me he had not been appointed as one of the commissioners; he was not on the commission. He declined giving any information regarding the instructions at that time, upon my requesting him to do so. I do not know that what I have stated about Chapultepec and the access to the city were in the instructions; if so, he said nothing about it.

Q—Was Brig. Gen. Pierce present when Gen. Pillow produced the note, dated August 23d, addressed to the said Scott, and if so, was the note read by or to the said Pierce also?

A—I have no recollection of any connection of Gen. Pierce with the note whatever; he may have been present, but I have forgotten it. He was present that afternoon, but I do not know that he was present when the note was read.

Q—Does the witness chance to know whether Mr. Frenner was present when the note was produced and read at Miscoac?

A—I do not recollect; I cannot call it to mind; he was at our quarters several times, and he may have been thereat that time.

Q—How long, as well as the witness can recollect, was Valencia’s entrenched camp carried on the morning of the 20th August, before Gen. Pillow arrived at that point?

A—When we were at or near the foot of the mound next to where the wagoners with their trains were clustered, not being able to get any further, we heard that the battle was then going on. We passed the mound into the open field, beyond where we stopped a few moments, while Gen. Pillow observed the entrenchments of the enemy with his spy glass, saw that our troops were in the works, when he dispatched Lieut. Ripley back to Gen. Scott, and we galloped forward as rapidly as we could to the entrenchments.—That is the only way that I can judge of the time.

Q—Does the witness chance to know at what time in reference to the capture of the main work on the heights of Chapultepec, (September 13th last) Gen. Pillow was brought up on the heights or to the main work?

A—Gen. Pillow being at the foot of the hill, while the assault was going on, there was a shout raised by our troops, I was requested by Gen. Pillow to ascend the hill where the assault was going on, and see what it meant. I did so rapidly, and arrived at the crest of the hill in time to pass over with the rear troops into the work. The shout was raised on the rush of our troops. In the excitement of the moment I continued on with the troops into the body of the work near the east end, before I recollected that I had to go back and report to Gen. Pillow. I returned as rapidly as I could to the foot of the hill. Gen. Pillow had been removed, and was being carried upon the hill. I missed him on the way, and it was some little time before I saw him in the work.

Q—Had the Mexican garrison been subdued, captured or driven out of Chapultepec when the witness turned about to go to Maj. Gen. Pillow?

A—It had. There was firing go on, but I took it to be from the enemy in a grove, and a return for from that direction.

Q—The witness has said that on returning from the castle of Chapultepec in search of Gen. Pillow he missed him; describe, as far as the witness can, the route he took returning and that taken by the said Pillow ascending its heights?

A—In coming down to the foot of the hill and arriving at the place where Gen. Pillow had been, and not finding him there, I went first to the left of the hill, not knowing but what he might have been carried in that direction; finding that he had not been carried in that direction, I returned to the place where he had been, and supposing that he might have been taken to the Molino del Rey to have his wound dressed, I proceeded in that direction until I found that such had not been the case; there was but one other path to get off by, and that was the one leading up the ramp which ascended the hill, which hence must have been the course in which he was carried.

Q—Was there any fire from the enemy in the direction of or upon the witness as he descended or re-ascended the hill at the time alluded in witness’ last answer?

A—The firing had entirely cessed on that part of the hill—the western side.

Q—At what point about the foot of the hill of Chapultepec did the witness leave Maj. Gen. Pillow when the witness left him to go towards the castle?

A—I think a little to the right of the center, at the foot of the hill, looking up. If you were to draw a tangent
parallel to the front of the wood and call that the center, he was to the right of that point.

Q—Does the witness chance to know that Gen. Pillow, passing from the battle-field of September 8th last, called a the quarters of the said Scott, in Tacubaya; and of so, how long did the said Pillow remain at the said quarters on that occasion?

A—My memory is indistinct as to how long he remained. I know he called there, because I stopped with him.

Q—Did Major Gen'l Pillow remain at the said Scott’s quarters on that occasion ten, twenty, or a greater or less number of minutes; and did or not the said Pillow breakfast, lunch or dine there?

A—He did not breakfast there, that is certain. I was behind him when he entered Tacubaya; I think he lunched there after the battle, though I am not certain—that is my impression that we had something of a lunch. As regards the length of time, my memory is, as said before, indistinct—but I think over twenty minutes, if we lunched there.

Q—What does the witness know of a personal combat on or about the fields fo battle in this basin, on the 20th of August last, between Gen'l Pillow and a hostile Mexican officer or man, or of the said Pillow's having slain with his own hand on that day any hostile Mexican?

A—Nothing personal.

Examination in chief resumed. Q—Where were the wagons of which witness has spoken as being the place where Gen. Pillow got the first intelligence that a battle was being fought on the 20th August; were they in the gorge at the base of the hill? State, also, if from that place the party rode as rapidly as possible to the position from which the enemy’s works were observed with a glass?

A—I think the place referred to is at the commencement of a steep ascent at the bottom of the hill called Zecatapec. I am not a tall certain of the ground—I have not been over it since; I know it was a very short distance from there to where the spy-glass was taken out. We passed it in a few moments; we galloped with greater velocity over the ground than we would have done under any other circumstance.

Q—At the time the enemy’s works were observed with the glass witness will state if Gen. Pillow did not say he saw the enemy in retreat from the work?

A—I do not recollect; I saw myself what I took to be the enemy in retreat—I do not know whether that observation was made or not; I had no glass.

Q—Was not Gen. Pillow's own command and a part of Gen. Twiggs' still in and near the works?

A—The 4th Artillery and a portion of Cadwalader’s brigade, I think, when we entered, were in the work. A portion of his command was in the work and the remaining portion was in the neighborhood of that bridge, one hundred and fifty yards off.

Q—What orders did Gen. Pillow give witness about detailing part of the 14th Infantry to guard the prisoners at that place, and what duty did he assign witness personally about the prisoners.

A—Orders were given to the 11th Infantry by himself in person, I think to guard the prisoners; having detached me a few minutes previously to where the prisoners were, to see that they were properly taken care of, and to take a list of the names and rank, which I did, and gave to Col. Hitchcock that same morning.

Q—Was Gen. Pillow necessarily detained some time in getting the troops in motion and making the necessary dispositions for guarding the prisoners before he could leave to assume the command of the entire forces present.

A—He was.

Q—Witness has said he entered the works at Chapultepec with the rear of the troops; will witness say if he entered the work upon the west or southwest front; say also if the troops entered that part of the work before they did the south front.

A—It is not the south front, and I call it the west front because it is in that direction. I entered over the center of that front by a couple of ladders which had been thrown over the ditch, and over which a considerable body of troops passed.

Q—Did Gen. Pillow retain the witness near him after he was wounded, and did he continue to give orders and direct the movements of the American forces against the castle, and did witness know that Gen Pillow three times ordered the charge upon the redan; did he give orders to Gen Cadwalader, Col. Andrews, to Capt. Hooker and Colonel Clarke.
A—At the time gen. Pillow was struck by the grape shot, I advanced towards him as rapidly as the mud and water intervening would permit; this was near the open space at the foot of the hill, near the woods, probably twenty or thirty paces from the open space. Up to this point our troops under Gen. Pillow’s command had advanced rapidly, driving the enemy entirely out of the grove; they were here checked by a very heavy fire from the redan about forty yards off. Gen. Pillow at this moment was being assisted by some officer toward the root of a tree, a few paces to his left and front, now shouted out loudly, still endeavoring to walk, "Forward, men, forward." This he repeated several times. Finding him apparently in great pain, endeavoring to advance, I told him to keep quiet, and to take a seat at the foot of the tree, and that we (meaning his staff) would attend to his troops; he then pointed to the left, looking towards the place where the largest portion of our troops were still in check, telling me to urge them forward. At this moment a large body, or considerable portion of them rushed up the side of the hill to the redan, and after some little time I urged forward the remainder. I now returned to Gen'l Pillow, and found him near Col. Andrews, to whom he was saying something. I observed to him that Gen. Cadwalader was a few paces off; he told me to tell him of his situation, and to request his personal attention to all his command on the hill. I think it was at this time, or just before, that he dispatched Lieut. Ripley to bring up a portion of Worth’s division. Capt. Hooker some little time after this occurrence, while Gen. Worth’s troops had advance to the foot of the hill, (Clarke’s brigade) came down the hill and reported to Gen. Pillow, and requested permission to take a regiment in the direction that he could point out. Whilst the troops were clustered on the crest of the hill, waiting the arrival of the scaling ladders, which probably was some fifteen or twenty minutes, I was repeatedly sent up the hill to report the situation of things a the moment.

Cross-examination resumed: Q—The witness had spoken of a hill ascending by the roadway, and where he saw many wagons clustered and unable to ascend the hill.—Does the witness mean the mound from which the enemy was observed in the afternoon of August 19, by many officers, or some other hill nearer to San Augustin where the wagons were stopped?

A—There are two hills, one a mound from which the enemy were observed on the 19th of August, and one immediately adjoining, higher, in the direction of San Augustin; I think it was at the foot of this latter hill that the ascent spoken of is located, where the wagons were stopped.

Q—At what distance was Gen. Pillow laid upon the ground after being wounded, from the nearest point of the ditch surrounding Chapultepec by the shortest line, and what is about the distance of that position of the said Pillow to the gate of Chapultepec, by the route which the witness supposes the said Pillow was carried to that gate.

A—I think it is about forty yards from the ditch to the crest of the hill, about twenty from that to the redan, and about twenty to where Gen. Pillow was laid—all in the same line. I should suppose it some seventy yards to the round battery on the ramp, not exceeding that, and about as much from that point to the gate of the castle.

RW48v25i39p2c5, May 16, 1848: Testimony of Lieut S B Davis.

Lieut. Samuel B. Davis, 14th Regiment, recalled for defence:

Q—Witness will state whether he received any orders from Gen. Pillow on the 20th of August to return to Gen. Scott and acquaint him with Gen. Pillow’s movements, and to ask him to cause Gen. Worth to cooperate with him in the attack upon San Antonio, while he (Gen. Pillow) would move round and attack the rear—if so, state what was Gen. Scott’s reply?

A—Gen. Pillow sent me back from the village (I do not remember its name) to inform Gen. Scott that he had driven the enemy before him, and that with Gen. Worth’s cooperation—he attacking in front of San Antonio, and Gen. Pillow attacking in rear—he might easily take the work. I met Gen. Scott inside of the fortifications at Contreras, and communicted to him what Gen. Pillow had directed me to say to him. Gen. Scott replied that he was then arranging in his mind the instructions he was to send to Gen. Worth. He directed me to tell Gen. Pillow to proceed cautiously, and I am under the impression that he said he would soon overtake Gen. Pillow.

Cross-examined.—Did the witness leave Gen’l Pillow near the first ...[illegible] below the captured camp, or the next (San Angel) or the third or fourth village; or how long had it been after the said Pillow had advanced from that camp before he detached the witness?

A—I do not remember how many villages we passed; it took me about twenty minutes fast riding to get to Contreras from where I left Gen. Pillow.

Q—When the witness met the said Scott was Gen. Worth then with the said Scott, or had the said Worth already gone back towards San Augustin and San Antonio?

A—I did not see Gen Worth, and did not know whether he had been at Contreras or not.

Q—Did not the said Scott say to the witness that he had already sent Gen. Worth back to San Antonio with instructions respecting the attack in front upon that place?
A—Gen. Scott told me his answer before, that he was then arranging in his mind the instructions he was about to send to Gen. Worth. Those are nearly the words he used, as well as I can remember.

RW48v25i39p2c6, May 16, 1848: Testimony of Capt E Bogardus.

Captain E. Bogardus, of the 14th Infantry, sworn for the defence:

Q—Witness will state what he knows of the orders Gen. Pillow gave, or directed to be given, to Gen. Cadwalader about going forward with his brigade to support the movement on Col. Riley, on the 19th of August last?

A—The regiment to which I belonged halted near where Gen. Pillow stood some ten or fifteen minutes, when Capt. Deas, I think, came from the pedregal and reported that he was not able to overtake Col. Riley, and pointed out the direction Col. Riley had taken. During the conversation he spoke of Col Riley being likely to encounter some difficulties from a large force of reinforcements of the enemy, who were advancing from the city—I did not understand which. Gen. Pillow remarked that he had ordered Col Riley across the pedregal, to attack the enemy’s left and rear, and ordered Gen. Cadwalader’s brigade to go immediately to his support, which was then instantly put in motion across the pedregal.

RW48v25i39p2c6, May 16, 1848: Testimony of Lieut. N McClenahan

Lieut. N. McClenahan, of the 14th Infantry, sworn for defence:

Q—Witness will state what he knows about the orders given by Gen. Pillow to Gen. Cadwalader, on the 19th of August last; what orders he understood Col. Riley had received, &c.

A—Whilst the regiment was halted on the hill in front of the enemy, at Contreras, most of the men lay down, and I, observing Col. Herbert and Major Savage talking, walked up to them. After remaining there some fifteen or twenty minutes, I suppose, I turned to go to my company, but seeing Gen. Pillow and several officers around him, I started for where they were. When I arrived within about a hundred yards of them, I saw an officer come galloping up the corn-field, and supposing him to be a staff-officer, I hurried on to hear what he had to say. When I got up to the crowd he had turned round on his horse, and was pointing towards a very tall tree; he said he had been there. But could go no further; that Col. Riley had passed, and he could get his horse no further. Gen. Pillow then gave the order to follow Riley’s track through the corn-field to that tree, pointing it out, across the pedregal, either to support Col. Riley, who had been ordered to turn the enemy’s left flank, or that Gen. Cadwalader was to turn the enemy’s left flank, I am not certain which, but the order was given to turn the enemy’s left flank. The regiment was in motion then, and I heard no more orders given until we got across the pedregal.

The court then adjourned.

RW48v25i39p2c7, May 16, 1848: Queretaro, April 23, 1848.

The Secretary of the treasury expresses himself as follows in relation to the forced loss of $150,000 or $200,000, which will be employed exclusively by the Government to pay the necessary expenses in assembling the General Congress, and for its support in this city for two months:

“You will perceive according to the last advices published in the papers of the capital, how short a time there remains for us to ratify the treaty of peace, celebrated between our Republic and the United States of America.—In order that that treaty should be exchanged at Washington on the 2d of June, it is indispensably that it should be ratified at the latest, on the 15th of May next, and I doubt if it can be done if the Congress does not get together immediately. A multitude of unfortunate circumstances have prevented, until now, a reunion of Congress, and the principle one has been the want of money to give to (sic) Senators and Deputies for their necessary wants in this capital. Government has made the greatest efforts to realize this sum but without success, and having expended all its resources, his Excellency the President has, in order to facilitate the meeting of Congress, resolved that all the capitalists and persons of easy circumstances in this city, shall, to assist the Government, under the title of a loan, advance a sufficient amount of money to pay for two months the per diem of the Senators and Deputies of the General Congress. Once a quorum had been assembled, Congress will dictate the necessary laws to create such funds and resources as the Government may want to continue its existence.”

He concludes thus:
"His Excellency the President thinks that the salvation of the Republic imperatively demands the prompt meeting of Congress, and in order not to incur the terrible responsibility of losing the nationality of the country, the Executive will dictate extraordinary measures, which he never would have adopted if circumstances were not so very difficult and dangerous. God and Liberty! ROSA."

The priest Sanchez, the clergy’s organ in one of his sermons, preached on Friday night last, the 21st inst [Good Friday,] in the Church of Santa Clara, at which the greater part of the members of the Administration, and of the members of Congress that is about to meet, were present, said:

"Gentlemen—The only way to save the Republic, and—in pardoning the injuries you have received—to prove yourself Christians, is to make peace."

Yesterday, an American officer, a deserter of the 3d Infantry of the line, was baptized in this city with great pomp. He had for his godfather the President of the Republic, Pena y Pena.

CITY OF MEXICO, April 27.

I wrote you yesterday, and enclosed a translation of a letter from your Queretaro correspondent, containing highly important information. Lest my communication may miscarry I now send you the original letter. Our commissioners have not yet received an answer to their communication to the Government at Queretaro relative to the escort. Gen. Butler, a day or two since, was requested by the Mexican Government to allow some Mexican troops to enter this city to take possession of a quantity of army clothing left in one of the convents when the Mexican army evacuated the city. Gen. Butler, instead of granting the request, seized the clothing. It would not now be surprising if the Mexican Government were to ask the arms taken in the different actions to be returned. It would be in keeping with the modest relation to the clothing.

The mail is in from Queretaro, and should there be a letter from your correspondent, I will endeavor to forward it by the Mexican Vera Cruz mail, which leaves here at 10 o’clock to-night, an hour from hence. D. S.

MEXICO, April 27, 9½ P.M.

I have just received a letter from your Queretaro correspondent of the very latest date, and hasten to give you a rough translation:

QUERETARO, April 25, 1848.

The preparatory union of Congress have retaken their usual course, and few of the Deputies are wanting for a quorum. Queretaro, politically speaking, presents a most animated aspect, and nothing is talked of but peace. In every quarter there are warm discussions upon this grand question. The most vehement party for war is, without doubt, the army, but it has fallen so low in public estimation, and is so numerically weak, that it is doubtful if they can get up a pronunciamento, as it was publicly rumored here within the last few days they would.

Attention! To-morrow there is to be a meeting of the officers of the Artillery. The object of the meeting is not positively known. Some say that it is to deliberate upon the possibility of sending reinforcements to Gen. Landero; others say the meeting is called to pronounce against the Government, who have affected a loan to pay the Deputies and Senators their per diem for the last two months, and who have done nothing for the army.

It was rumored to-day that the American Commissioners would be here this afternoon.

The Charge d’Affairs of France, Monsieur le Marquis de Renepont, is here.

General Landero is, as you are aware, the general who signed the capitulation of Vera Cruz and the Castle of San Juan de Ullos.

From the copious files of papers which we have received by the New Orleans, we proceed to make extensive extracts:

[From the American Star of the 24th April]

THE SPECIAL COMMISSION.—The case of Lt. Isaac Hare was disposed of yesterday, but of course the finding is not known.

Lt. Mathison, of the same regiment, one of the arrested, whose names we have before given, was cleared of the charges preferred, but a nolle prosequi was entered, and he was again remanded to prison.

Another officer of the army, Lt. T.B. Tilden, of the 2d Infantry, whom the State evidence implicates in the matter, has been also arrested.
The case of Lt. Dutton will commence, we hear, on Monday next.

Major A. D. Stewart, the senior Paymaster in the field, Col. Randall being ordered to N. Orleans, will, we understand, assume the duties of that office at once.

[From the American Star, of April 25]

The editor of El Eco del Comercio, one of the deputies who left the city yesterday for Queretaro, says there are sixty-four members in attendance, and that by the last if the week there will be seventy-six. If so, we see not why Congress may not organize by Monday or Tuesday. The same paper says Messrs. Sevier and Clifford will leave tomorrow or the next day, escorted by a small cavalry force, instead of by a division. It pronounces the story that they were going to threatened the Government as false—their only object being to present the treaty to the Mexican Government.

THE TREATY.—El Progreso at Queretaro has a long editorial in opposition to the treaty, intended to show the loss which Mexico suffers by it. It says, “though the U. States offer us $20,000,000 they take about $50,000,000 from us.” It urges various reasons why the treaty should not be ratified, and amongst other things says the Government is check mated—placed in a position where it can neither make peace (there being no Congress) nor war. El Progreso, as our leaders know, is the organ of the revolution or the war party. It is a journal of limited circulation, and has but little influence. Many of its articles are so personal and libelous, that were it not for the great liberty which the press in Mexico has enjoyed since its occupation by the American troops, it would long since have ceased to be published.

A CALL.—We observe in the Monitor of yesterday an advertisement, which is a little out of the usual way—For the benefit of the young gentlemen who were present on the occasion referred to, or others desirous of making a most agreeable acquaintance, we translate it, as follows:

“A young lady, who has attended the public balls, bears a strong resemblance to a daughter of mine, and being anxious that the reputation of my family should not suffer for any cause, I entreat those persons who were present at the ball to call at my house, No. 1 Calle de Ildefonso, and (though resembling each other) they will observe the difference between the two.”

[BPW]

RW48v25i39p2c6, May 16, 1848: Later From Mexico. From the New Orleans Picayune, May-1 o'clock, P. M. Arrival of the Steamer New Orleans. Later from the City of Mexico.

The U. S. steamer New Orleans, Capt. Edward Auld, arrived on Sunday evening from Vera Cruz, having sailed thence on Wednesday, the 3d inst. The ship made capital passages both going and coming.

Gen. Scott and suit left the city on Mexico on the 22d ult. and arrived at Vera Cruz on Sunday, the 30th. He immediately embarked on the brig St. Petersburg for New York, under a salute from Fort Conception. He was waited upon by the commander of the fleet and received a salute from the flag ship Cumberland. On Monday, the 1st inst. the St. Petersburg was towed to sea by the propeller Thompson. In passing the store ship Relief and frigate Cumberland their rigging was manned and three cheers given to old hero. On the 3d inst. the General exchanged visits with Com. Perry and was saluted by the flag ship Cumberland.

Among the passengers on the N. Orlenas, a list of whom will be found below, were gen. Pillow and staff, Gen. Towson, Gen. Cushing and staff, Col. Belknap, Col. Childs, Col. Duncan, Col. Withers and a large number of officers.

So desperate at one otime was thought the chance of bringing together a quorum of Congress, that the President had determined to exclude the Staets of New Mexico, Chihuahua and Yucatan in estimating the representation so that a smaller number may constitue a quorum.—Subsequent events led him to believe that a quorum could be obtained, and the President re-considered his determination.

Passengers by the New Orleans. —Major Gen. Pillow and staff; Gen. Towson; Gen. Cushing and staff; Col. Childs; Col. Belknap; Col. Randal; Col. Duncan; Col. Wither; Col. Watson and servant; Major Crutchfield; Capt. Huger; Capt. Swasey; Capt. Toulmin, Assistant Quartermaster; Capt. Brown; Capt. Sibley, 5th Infantry; Capt. Asquith; Lieut. Marshall, 5th Tennessee Volunteers; Lieutenent Mayn, Louisiana Volunteers; Lieutenant W. B. Grey, Michigan Volunteers; Lieutenant A. J. McCullen and servants, 14th Infantry; Lieut. McElroy; Lieut. G. W. May, 9th Infantry; Lieut. S. C. Ridgely; Lieut. Kains, A D C ; Lieut. Augur, A D C; Lieut. Ripley, A D C; Lieut. Thwing Massachusetts Regiment; Lieut. Steeever, 11th Infantry; Lieut. W H Hull, 10th Infantry; Dr. Forniquet; Mr. and Mrs. Walker; John Bridgland, Q M D; J Dubrocs, Q M D; W G Jackson, Q M D; H Hunter, Q M D; H J Perry; Mr. Van Kleck; James Jewell; J Cleland and son, Custom House; J F Bershelot, Custom House; Chas. Maton; Mr. De Haven.

The letters of our correspondent are to the latest date; we annex them.
CITY OF MEXICO, April 26, 1848.

Gen. Pillow left here on Sunday, the 22d inst. with an escort of Louisiana Mounted Men, under command of Capts. Fairchild and Ker. The night before he left he was serenaded by the splendid band of the 2d Infantry, and the next morning a large number of officers accompanied him some distance upon the road. The Court of Inquiry left on the 24th.

In my last letter I stated that Gen. Butler was to review the volunteers in the city on the 22d inst. The review was for more extensive than I was informed it would be, and came off on the plain fronting Molina del Rey. The divisions of Gens. Worth and Pillow, the former consisting of five regiments of infantry of the old line, a squadron of horses, and Col. Duncan’s battery, now commanded by Lieut. Hunt, and the latter of the six regiments of Kentucky, Tennessee and Indiana volunteers, were reviewed, and the line when extended, was over a mile in length. This is the largest review that has been during the war, and all present confessed it was the most magnificent military display they had ever beheld. A melancholy interest was added to the spectacle, by the display of the torn and battered colors of the 4th, 5th, and 6th regiments of Infantry, as they marched by the General-in-chief. On the 24th, the fine division of Gen. Smith was reviewed by the General-in-chief and its maneuvering elicited the admiration of every military man present. These reviews were in anticipation of the possibility of a forward movement being soon required; and you will perceive by the enclosed general order, that the inspection of all the troops in and about the city is ordered on the 30th inst.

HEAD QUARTERS ARMY OF MEXICO, [Orders 75] MEXICO, April 24, 1848.

1—The troops in the city of Mexico, at San Angel, Tacubaya, Chapultepec and Molino del Rey, will be mustered and inspected on the 30th inst.

The regular troops will be mustered by the respective regimental commanders—detached companies by company commanders; the volunteers at San Angel, by such staff officers at Major Gen. Patterson’s head quarters as he may designate; the 3d and 4th regiments Kentucky Volunteers, in the city, by Brevet Major R C Buchanan, acting Inspector General, and Capt. E R S Canby, Assistant Adjutant General, respectively; the 3d and 4th Regiments Tennessee, and 5th Indiana Volunteers, at Molino del Rey, by Capts Cady, 6th Infantry, W. Chapman, 5th Infantry, and B Alvord, 4th Infantry, respectively.

The several officers designated to muster the troops will refer all cases, on which they may desire information, to Lt. Hitchcock, acting Inspector General, and receive his instructions accordingly.

The duplicate "muster role" will be forwarded by the inspectors to the Adjutant General U S Army, and the "muster and pay rolls" for the pay department to Paymaster A D Steuart.

2—Paymaster A D Steurat and 1st Lt. P V Hagner are announced as the chief of the pay and ordnance departments with the army, respectively. All orders relative to their departments given them, in the name and by the authority of the commanding general, will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of Major General Butler:
L. THOMAS, Asst’ Adj’t General.

In my last letter I stated that Col. Withers, of the 9th Infantry, had gone home on leave. I have learned since that he has tendered his resignation.

The letter of your Queretaro correspondent, of the 23d inst., which I send you, is full of interest, and some of his information is important. The extracts from the message of Rosa to the members of Congress now at Queretaro, show that Pena y Pena fully realizes the dangerous position of the nationality of the country, should the treaty not be ratified in season—and also shows an energetic determination to spare no effort to bring about peace. The passage in the conclusion of the message quoted by your correspondent, in which Rosa says—“and in order not to incur the terrible responsibility of losing the nationality of the country, the Executive will dictate extraordinary measures, which he never would have adopted if circumstances were not so very difficult and dangerous”—I presume refers to the intention of the President to decree that, in consequence of the condition of Yucatan, and other States, arising from the war, a certain number (less than the constitutional quorum) shall form a quorum. It is probable he will have to resort to this measure, as it is understood here that several Congress men, who are not willing to oppose the treaty by a direct vote, intend to defeat it by breaking the quorum, whenever the question is put.

The paragraph in the letter relative to the sermon of the Padre Sanchez is at this moment very important. It was
gentlemen, mounted upon superb horses.

another wounded by the American guard which accompanied the diligence. The ladrones were dressed like

MORE ROBBERY.—The stage which left the city yesterday was attacked by ten or fifteen ladrones. One was killed and

appreciated by the American Ministers, he was compelled to decline the invitation—

Eco del Comercio.

Senor Haro y Tamariz was also invited to be present, but from motives of delicacy and patriotism, which were

Clifford gave a supper to the American generals, at which the Mexican Gen. D. Ignacio Mora y Villamil was present.

The Hon. Messrs. Sevier and Clifford have been invited within a few days past to various entertainments. They

received invitations from Gen. Butler, and Senors Hargous and Emilio Voss. Night before last Messrs. Sevier and

Clifford gave a supper to the American generals, at which the Mexican Gen. D. Ignacio Mora y Villamil was present.

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another wounded by the American guard which accompanied the diligence. The ladrones were dressed like
gentlemen, mounted upon superb horses.

The individual referred to as having been baptized with so much pomp at Queretaro, and who had the honor of

having Pena y Pena stand at the baptismal fount as his godfather, is, without a doubt, the Lieut. O’Sullivan I have

already spoken of as having resigned his commission in the 3d Infantry and gone to Queretaro to join the enemy. He

is not a legal deserter, but all the dishonor of moral guilt will ever attach itself to his name.

The Commissioners will not leave for Queretaro, until the 29th or 30th inst. In the meantime, the troops which are to

form the escort are being inspected daily, and are being prepared to present a fine appearance, in point of clothing

and equipments.

A few officers from the train from Orizaba, under command of Captain Howe, came in in advance to-day, and the

train is expected to arrive to-morrow or the day after.

It is reported in town to-day that here is a quorum of Congress at Queretaro, but I cannot trace it to an authentic

source. [BWP]
CAUGHT AT LAST.—A few weeks ago we advertised a reward for a sum of money stolen from the Gran Sociedad. The money belonged to Boyden & co. Yesterday Auguste Royer was arrested on the charge of taking it, and he confessed it $1400 of the money was found deposited in a merchant’s safe in Espirituo Santo.

COL. KINNEY.—We neglected to mention the arrival of the Colonel yesterday. He is still riding Selim, and as fast as ever, for he came from Puebla here in one day.

ROBBERY.—On Friday morning last, the diligence from this city was robbed near Perote, by two ladrones, armed with a knife each. There were eleven passengers in the stage. Two to eleven! The latter could not have been Americans.

Three Deputies from Puebla have arrived in the city, who we understood, will not proceed to Queretaro until the 5th of next month, on account of their not being able to obtain seats in the diligence.”—[Monitor of Friday].

If seats in the stage cannot by any possibility be had, is there no such a thing as obtaining private conveyance.—The Queretaro diligence goes three times a week—so it would seem that the seats in it were all taken up to the 5th of May. The American Commissioners, will probably leave in a day or two, and we presume would have no objection to the Puebla Deputies taking advantage of their escort. If this fails, we feel confident that our patriotic contemporary of the Monitor will see that they are conveyed to Queretaro in some way or other. Their presence may be necessary to enable him to keep his word about that quorum on Monday next.

FOR QUERETARO.—Four Deputies left the city for Queretaro yesterday morning, and three more will leave during the week. Monday next is the 1st of May, the day on which, according to the Eco, a quorum will be in attendance.

Ladrones all about us, committing their depredations in broad day as well as in the night. An American was beset by several of them yesterday near Plaza de Toros, who took his horse, saddle, spurs, money, &c. One or more of them were taken yesterday and carried before the governor. They owned up in regard to the theft, and probably expect to get off.

Herr Alexander has gone to Guanajuato and San Luis to charm the Senoritas in these opulent cities. The papers in those States will, of course, do the fair thing by the Herr, who is really a miracle, an enigma—in other words, a magician.

From the Vera Cruz Free American of April 30. A train arrived yesterday from Jalapa, commanded by Capt. Clendenning, assistant quartermaster, and escorted by a company of the Texas Rangers.

We understand that Maj. Chevalie, bearer of dispatches, arrived yesterday from the city of Mexico.

A train will leave this city this morning for the city of Mexico.

Private George Ealer, of Capt. Fairchild’s company of Louisiana Mounted Men, in company with two of his comrades, about a mile and a half from this city, on the Orizaba road, was shot dead by one of a party of Mexicans, said to have been about twenty strong.

THE COURT OF INQUIRY.—The court of inquiry met at the St. Charles Hotel in this city this morning with closed doors and adjourned until to-morrow morning, when various witnesses now in this city will be examined. We understand that the members of the court will leave the city on the 10th or 11th by the way of the river to hold a session in Frederick Md. Where they will adjourn about the 29th inst. unless something unexpected should turn up in the meantime.

The first business before the Senate this morning was the resolution of Mr. JOHNSON, of Maryland, calling on the President of the United States for his reasons why certain nominations had not been submitted to the Senate.

Mr. BORLAND spoke at some length in opposition to the passage of the resolution.

The subject was then informally laid aside, and the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the order of the day, viz: the bill for the Military Occupation of Yucatan.
Mr. CALHOUN addressed the Senate in a speech of some length in opposition to the bill and amendments.

Mr. BAGBY has the floor on this subject for tomorrow.

A message in writing was received from the President of the United States, transmitting correspondence between the Secretary of the Navy and Commodore Perry, relative to affording aid to the people of Yucatan.

On motion, the Senate the adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

A Bill refunding to the several States advances made to Volunteers in the Mexican war, was taken up and passed.

Mr. STEWART submitted a resolution calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury for a statement of the amount of exports of Cotton and Breadstuffs sent to England from this country for the first three quarters of 1847 and 1848.

An interesting debate sprang up on the subject matter of the resolution, which was participated in by Messrs. INGERSOLL, STEWART, and BAYLY.

Mr. BAYLY offered an amendment to the resolution, extending the statement to the last twenty years, which was agreed to.

The vote was then taken on the resolution, as amended, and it was adopted.

On motion, the House adjourned.

[BWP]

RW48v25i39p4c2, May 16, 1848: General Taylor.


That correspondent of the Tribune must be a wizard. Gen. Taylor HAS published a letter which does satisfy everybody, and he is an unreasonable man, be he Whig or Democrat, who is not satisfied with it.—N O Com Bulletin. [BWP]


We have but little to add to the letters of our correspondent, which we published yesterday, touching occurrences in Mexico. They gave a very complete resume of the state of affairs there. From the papers before us we cull a few items that may possess interest for some of our readers:

From the American Star, of April 20.

QUERETARO.—The Monitor of yesterday says preparations are making at the seat of Government for the reception of the American commissioners. It supposes they have the power to extend the time of the ratification of the treaty, as it would be impossible to have it ratified here and forwarded to Washington by the 2d of June. The best reception the Government could give the commissioners would be to see that Congress is in session to act upon what they have to submit to it. We do not hear of any increase of the members in attendance.

From the same.

FROM THE INTERIOR.—We received by the last mail a number of papers from the most important points in the interior. We find but little in them in relation to the treaty. Indeed the editors seem unwilling to touch upon the subject. El Progresso, at Queretaro, the organ of the revolutionists and anti-peace party, is violently opposed to the treaty. We find nothing, however, either in that paper or in Los Debates, the ministerial organ, in confirmation of the rumor that a pronunciamiento had been got up against the Supreme Government.

El Progresso says Ocampo, Governor of Michoacan, has resigned his place because opposed to recognising the treaty of peace while the Americans hold military possession of the country.

Adame, the late Governor of San Luis, has been released from prison, and sent with a competent escort to Zacatecas. He made this request of the Supreme Government, arguing the state of his health and condition of his
family as a reason. The Progresso concludes an article on this subject in these words: “The alliance with the enemy is complete. Senor Adame, for being a friend to the war, is confined by order of the Government of his country. Senor Trias, at Chihuahua, for the same reason, is at the disposition of the Government. What will the world say to this?”

El Porvenir, at Toluca, has an article on the subject of the assembling of Congress. It says the 15th day of April is that upon which the Congress of the Union should close its ordinary session according to the 71st article of the Constitution. If the Government had succeeded within the few last days in getting the members together, they could, by a motion made to that effect, or by a petition to the President under the same article be prorogued for thirty days. But if the quorum should not be in attendance, the editor says Congress cannot be constitutionally convened. The Porvenir then remarks upon the culpable remissness of the members in not listening to the voice of their country, and attending to the discharge of their duties. He exclaims, “Heaven have compassion upon us!”

CHIHUAHUA.—The Official Register of Durango has an official communication from Munoz, the commanding general, addressed to the Governor of the State, which states that after a siege of eight days, the Villa de Rosales was taken by assault, and Gov Trias taken prisoner by the American forces. We have stated this before unofficially. Munoz adds that in consequence he is obliged to assume the Executive power of the State, according to the constitution. He concludes by complimenting the “poor and abandoned State of Chihuahua” for fighting for the national honor, and defending itself from its perverse invaders.

The same paper says that private letters state that four hundred of the American forces in the capital of Chihuahua and Rosales, were advancing with four pieces of artillery to take up a position at Rio Florido, and that a battalion of five hundred Texans had left Saltillo, in the direction of Balsan de Mapimi, and nine hundred more towards the frontier fo Zacatecas. On the 27th ult. an order was published by the American major general, stating that both Americans and Mexicans would be protected in their persons and Property—that private houses would be taken only for the general and quartermaster—that public and religious buildings would remain under the protection of the United States Government—that a Mexican police be established, and that the municipal and judicial authorities continue in the exercise of their functions until further orders. The Vice Governor of the State sent a note to Gen Price on 24th ult., requesting him to withdraw his forces to the line which they occupied before the 1st of March last, according to the stipulation of the articles of the armistice. The editor adds: We do not know the general’s reply, but private letters state that he has said that he is not subject to Gen Butler, but to his Government at home, from which alone he will received orders.” The Progresso has a similar statement, on the authority of a private letter, substituting the name of Gen Scott instead of Gen Butler.

The Alcalde of San Juan de Guadalupe, under date of the 12th ult. complains that he has heard that a party of one hundred Americans were at Caopas on their way to the mines of San Juan, (in Durango.) One of the military commanders writes to the Governor of the State, that he supposes these men to be a portion of those at Mazapil, who were moving from that place in consequence of the armistice.

[From the American Star, of April 19]

PACHUCA.—Col. Withers, Maj. Lally, Cap’s Bodlish and Sprague, of the 9th, arrived in the city on Sunday, from Pachuca, with an escort of dragoons. We learn that the health of the troops at that post is improving. We have a letter from an officer at Pachuca, giving an account of a recent pleasure excursion in the vicinity, for which we hope to find room in a day or two.

EARTHQUAKE.—We have heard from several gentlemen that there was quite an earthquake on Sunday evening, at about 9 o’clock. It is said to have created quite an undulation among the chandeliers of the city, though it belonged to the perpendicular rather than the class of these subterranean visitors. We felt nothing of it ourselves, and conclude it was “no great shakes” after all.

[From the same]

OUR FLAG ON POPOCATEPETL.—The American flag has been unfurled to the breeze on the highest pinnacle of the North American continent, and the glorious stars and strips have waved in triumphant folds over the eternal snow of the “smoking mountain.” Six of the party which was reported a few days since as having failed to ascend Popocatepetl, remained in camp two or three days after the first unsuccessful effort, to wait a more favorable day for the enterprise; they were soon gratified, and again made the attempt, which was entirely successful, and the party arrived at the highest peak, overlooking the great crater, without accident. Here the flag of the United States was raised at an elevation of more than three miles and a quarter above the level of the ocean, and the party enjoyed a prospect of unsurpassed magnificence and sublimity. The six persons composing the party were Lieut Stone, Ordnance; Lieuts Buckner and Kirkham, 6th Infantry; Lieut, Anderson, 2d Dragoons; Lieut Romford, 8th Infantry, and Mr. Bagley, an English gentleman of this city.

Thus has the American flag waved, not only over the Halls of the Montezumas, but over the highest point of the Land of the Aztecs.

There are in the papers details of robberies and other outrages not uncommon in Mexico, but they would possess no interest for our readers.

[WP]
Brevet Maj. Gen. Wm. J. Worth sworn for defence: Q—Witness will please state if he knows what the views of Gen. Pillow were in relation to the Tacubays armistice, before said armistice was entered into; also, whether Gen. Scott was made acquainted with Gen. Pillow’s views on this subject, and were said views in favor of or opposed to the armistice.

A—I answer that on the morning of the day on which the commissioners were named and instructed, I was, by invitation at the headquarters of the general-in-chief; shortly after my being there Gen. Pillow arrived, whether by accident or invitation, I cannot say. The general-in-chief read to Gen. Pillow and myself the instructions to be given to the commissioners so far as they were written; being incomplete, he desired us to retire a short time until he had completed the paper. While out Gen. Pillow and myself had some conversation upon the subject generally, in which he expressed himself unfriendly to an armistice. I use the word “unfriendly” because it hits the precise degree in which he expressed himself. Not coinciding in the opinions he expressed in that particular point, I briefly gave the reasons from the information I had received shy it might not be improper. In regard to the latter part of the question, I do not know whether Gen. Scott was or was not acquainted with Gen. Pillow’s views.

Q—State the substance of the conversation which took place in the outer room referred to in your last answer; state also what witness and Gen. Pillow finally agreed upon as being in your opinion proper, and whether these views were by agreement of witness and Gen. Pillow made known to Gen. Scott by the witness.

A—I have already stated a part of the conversation which took place when we had retired from the room—Gen. Pillow urged the opinion that if an armistice was concluded that the city of Mexico and Chapultepec should be given up as guarantees. In respect to the city Of Mexico, for the same reasons that induced me to suppose that an armistice might be proper, I also differed with him but coincided with him in regard to the latter opinion as it was also my own; but there was no “agreement” between us in the ordinary sense of the word, but Gen. Pillow intimated a wish to express that opinion to Gen. Scott. (When I say opinion, I mean simply to refer to the fortress of Chapultepec,) to which I assented. On returning to the private apartment of the general-in-chief shortly after, either the added part or the whole paper was read to us; my impression is that the general-in-chief read over the whole paper as completed; after which, when a suitable occasion occurred, I expressed the hope that the possession of Chapultepec might be made a condition, a sine qua non. It is my impression, although it is a point on which I cannot be positive, that I used the expression “we hope.” There was a rapid conversation between the parties, which was shortly interrupted by the arrival of the commissioners. Gen’l Pillow was present when I expressed that hope.

Q—Will witness recollect whether they were the American or Mexican commissioners that interrupted the conversation?

A—I refer to Gen. Quitman, Gen. Pierce, and I thing Gen. Smith afterwards came in. I knew those gentlemen to have been designated to constitute the commission.

A—Witness will please state if he has any knowledge that Gen. Pillow’s sought or desired a position as commissioner to negotiate the Tacubaya armistice? State also, if witness heard any conversation between Gen. Scott and Gen. Pillow on his subject, about the time the commissioners were being selected by Gen. Scott; if so, state what such conversation was?

A—I have no knowledge that Gen. Pillow sought or desired a place on that commission. There was a conversation in the early part of the morning, principally by the general-in-chief, in regard to the composition of that commission, in the course of which the general-in-chief remarked, that he feared he had offended two of the commanders of regular divisions, by not including them in that commission, referring to the commands of the second and third divisions, without naming them. While this conversation was going on and towards the close of it. Gen. Pillow entered the room, when the general-in-chief addressed him, as I thought at the time, jocularly or playfully, saying, “And I suppose I have offended or made an enemy of you, too?” Whereupon Gen. Pillow asked an explanation, saying he did not understand, or some such remark. The general then rapidly went over what had taken place, and explained to Gen. Pillow that for certain reasons he had not included the officers alluded to in the commission, To which Gen. Pillow replied that he had no desire to be on the commission, but was ready cheerfully to obey any orders the general-in-chief had for him. I repeat again that the observations of the general-in-chief appeared to me to be jocular and playful.

The court then adjourned.

[BWP]
transmitted a message communicating copies of certain dispatches, &c. only one of which the Intelligencer was able to obtain, viz: the following to Commodore Perry, written when the Senate was actually debating the question of succor to Yucatan:

"While the United States are engaged in a war with Mexico, the actual presence, without our consent, of the armed force of a neutral Power within the territory of our enemy, co-operating with any portion of the Mexican people in military operations, [even assisting the Yucatanese to resist the Indians, we suppose,] cannot be permitted.—Such a state of things, it is hoped will not occur. If you should have reason to believe that it will, you will communicate it without further delay, that THE PRESIDENT may take such measures as HIS constitutional duty will require at his hands."

We have had occasion, more than once, to notice the extreme callousness with which the present age is accustomed to observe any extraordinary act of the Executive or its officers, civil and military, at home or abroad. This has arisen from their frequency, which has had the effect of blunting public sensibility, and rendering the public mind careless or indifferent. What would have been said, in the days of James Madison, of such instructions as these to a naval officer, given while the Congress of the United States was in session, and while the question which it decides in such a summary way was actually under debate?

RW48v25i40p1c2, May 19, 1848: Mr. Trist.

The Administration papers are already preparing to make an onslaught upon this gentleman, because he had the very uncommon audacity to testify to the truth in favor of America’s “great captain.” The Nashville Union, Mr. Polk’s home organ, has a letter from a Lieut. Col. Whitfield of the Tennessee Volunteers, who, it seems, has been attending the Court of Inquiry, and who delivers his sentiments in the following chaste and elegant language:

“The court of inquiry is still sitting, and what every body says must be so. They say Pillow is making worse than a soup case of Scott. I heard Mr. Trist examined—I can assure you he was tight on Pillow. * * I suppose you will have seen his testimony before this. I think Mr. Trist is the infamous scoundrel. I am of course for peace, and will be glad when this war is closed; but I would prefer to have remained here five years, rather than Mr. Trist’s treaty should have been ratified by our Congress. These are not my feelings alone, but many others think the same.”

What respect can any paper that would admit such an assault into its columns, have, wither for itself or for its readers, and what sort of friends must Gen. Pillow have, in the army, if this writer is a fair specimen?

RW48v25i40p1c2, May 19, 1848: Gen. Worth’s Letters.

The reader will find these singular productions in another column.

When Gen. Worth was in the United States last, after he had resigned his commission, because the President refused to exult him over the head of Gen. Twiggs, he professed himself, on more occasions than one, the warm personal friend of Gen. Scott. He appealed to his situation at that time, when, having resigned his commission, he had given up along with it all ambition or future promotion, in proof of his sincerity.

And well he might be the friend of General Scott. He took him from the ranks, where but for him he might have been to this day, had he continued in the army—held him by the hand throughout the whole of his ascension—gained him a grade, by his own personal interest, wherever he could—and, to use an expression of his own, proved himself, in very truth, more than a father to him throughout his career. There are officers in the army, and many of them—officers of high grade and undoubted worth—men that have grown grey in the service of their country, who we know have conceived unconquerable prejudices against Gen. Scott, for what they conceive to be his unwarrantable and misplaced affection for Gen. Worth, operating, as they have supposed, to their own immediate detriment.

In spite of all these considerations, we find Gen. Worth, without a moment’s previous warning, attempting, to use a common phrase, to plunge a dagger into the bosom of his nearest and dearest friend; and the pretext which he alleged was so shallow, and the act otherwise so unaccountable, that we cannot in our hearts attribute it to any other cause then that indignantly alleged by the gallant victim himself; namely, that he supposed it would be a sacrifice acceptable to the higher powers.

It is not wonderful that he who left the United States as the devoted friend of Gen. Scott, acknowledging towards him the obligation of a child to a parent, and within one year thereafter became his most deadly enemy, should leave Washington a Whig, and find himself in Mexico a Locofoco of the most unmistakable stamp. What these letters are published for at this time we are unable to say; we suspect, however, that the wire-workers at Washington have already begun to despair of electing any but a military man, and that General Worth is though of, by a portion of them, as a counterpoise to the immense popularity of Gen. Taylor. They do not seem to consider, that the moral weight of the latter, far more than any military services he may have rendered, is that which inclines the beam so
decidedly in his favor, and that Gen. Worth has forever relinquished all claims to consideration upon this score. We are pained to be compelled, by a sense of public duty, to speak in harsh terms of one who has often fought bravely and shed his blood freely for his country; yet we cannot, for our lives, regard his conduct towards Gen. Scott as rising greatly, either in dignity or gratitude, above that of Amos Kendall to Mr. Clay.

For one thing, at least, however, we are under great obligations to Gen. Worth. We allude to his exposition of the Locofoco doctrine of the Veto, which is done, as the Union says, with a soldier's frankness, and with far more candor than we have seen any Locofoco do it before. If Gen. Worth does not draw the picture of an Autocrat in this expose, then we confess we are at a loss to know what an Autocrat is. That our readers may form their own opinion of it, we insert it here:

"2d. ‘The Veto Power.’

“This I regard as the tribunitial power, essentially democratic, popular and conservative; placed by the Constitution in the hands of the Chief Magistrate, to represent, in his person, the absolute sovereignty of the people; and it must be an extraordinary abuse, of which we have had no example, that would induce me to vote any change or alteration. I have supposed that the constitution only looked to its exercise in the case of hasty or unconstitutional legislation, or (an insupposable case) fraudulent or treasonable.”

We had thought before that Congress represented the people, and that the President was only the Executive officer. [BWP]

RW48v25i40p1c4, May 19, 1848: Tacubaya, (Mexico, April 12th, 1848.)

MY DEAR SIR: Your favor of the 18th ultimo reached me last evening. The return courier leaves in a few hours; and as another opportunity will not probably occur in the next two weeks, I hope you will excuse me for substituting the enclosed copies of replies to two other friends, as answers, in part, to the inquiries you have addressed to me.—To many communications on the same subject from citizens of different States, these are the only answers, other than simple acknowledgments of civility, that I have felt at liberty to make. In each case, the writer was already named—or looked to be named—a members of the Democratic Convention, to meet in May. To that extent these replies embody, distinctly and truly, my sentiments and opinions. In respect to the additional points presented to yourself, I shall now as distinctly and truly answer.

1st. "Graduation and reduction of the price of public lands."

I would vote any reduction necessary to place farms within the reach of industrious bona fide settlers or emigrants, regarding the early occupation and cultivation of the public domain as the richest public treasure; hoping still to see an annual surplus over and above expenses of administration—as surveys, sales, &c—carried to the public treasury, to be appropriated, among other national objects, to the improvement of our great lakes and rivers, to the extent of constitutional permission. It is my settled conviction, that within twenty years the commerce of the great lakes and western rivers will reach a magnitude far exceeding, and ever thereafter taking the lead of, that flowing to and from the Atlantic; and when our lines of communication with the points now attained on the Pacific are once established and opened to the enterprise of our people, there will hardly be found a term a comparison. We shall exhibit the extraordinary spectacle, under our free and glorious institutions, of clutching and controlling the commerce of Europe with one hand, and the riches of China with the others. I speak of riches; but the fulfillment of our high political and social destiny is the prominent and grand consideration.

2d. "The veto power?"

This I regard as the tribunitial power, essentially democratic, popular, and conservative; placed by the constitution in the hands of the Chief Magistrate, to represent, in his person, the absolute sovereignty of the people; and it must be an extraordinary abuse, of which we have had no example, that would induce me to vote any change or alteration. I have supposed that the constitution only looked to its exercise in the case of hasty or unconstitutional legislation, or [an insupposable case] fraudulent or treasonable legislation.

3d. "The right of the people of the different section of our Union to carry their property” [of whatever kind or complexion] “to, and participate in the territory about to be acquired from Mexico,” [or acquired from any other power on this continent.] I cannot suppose to he seriously questioned. When the acquired territory shall be admitted in to the sisterhood of States, it will be for the admitted States to determine all things relating to their own social condition. Congress, in its recognition of these views, will doubtless ever recur to the principles of that great landmark—the Missouri compromise—to guide its decision.

I remain, my dear sir, your friend and obedient servant, W. J. WORTH.

[to] Hon. F. W. BOWDON, M. C., Washington, D. C.

P. S. May it not be well doubted, whether the public domain and the Post Office Department are legitimate, or other than incidental sources of revenue?—our policy being to people the former, and to make the latter [as it was
designed) a convenience to the whole country, by the rapid transmission of intelligence. If either defrays its own
expenses, will not the national objects be fulfilled, aside from surplus for other great national objects? W.J.W.

The following are the letters referred to above:

TACUBAYA, Mexico, March 12, 1848.

MY DEAR SIR: Your friendly and obliging letter of the 3d ultimo reached me yesterday.

I have never had a party tie, or association, in any partisan sense; nor ever failed, in social and familiar intercourse,
on proper occasions, freely and frankly to utter such opinions as I may have entertained on questions of general
political interest to my country. As a soldier, I have held it unbecoming to mingle in party strife, or take part in local
politics. God forbid that we should ever, even seemingly, witness a union of the ballot-box and the cartridge box.

RW48v25i40p1c5, May 19, 1848: City of Mexico, January 10, 1848.

MY DEAR SIR: In acknowledging your favor of November 12th, it is due to candor to say that I am not aware of ever
having entertained a desire for preferment out of my own profession, probably because of conscious want of
qualification, and distaste for the means whereby preferment is usually attained.

The subjects you pay me the compliment to present, are of high national concern and interest, in respect to which
my humble opinions are equally unimportant and uninfluential; and it is only in courtesy to a generous, although
unknown friend, that, with these remarks, I proceed to answer your interrogatories, viz:

1st. “What are your views of the Mexican war, and do you believe it an unjust one?”

War, ever to be deplored, should be avoided so long as may be consistent with national honor and national rights. IN
my opinion, there has been no war in our history, [always excepting that for independence, which stands out, and
will through all time, a case by itself, nor in that of any other people, commenced under greater provocation, or
waged with higher humanity. Regarding, then, this war as eminently just, I sincerely hope it may be the pleasure of
government, sustained by the people, to prosecute it with vigor, until ample satisfaction for indignities, and full
indemnity for sacrifices, be received.

2d. “Are you in favor of, or opposed to, the chartering a United States Bank?”

When the question was agitated as a measure of financial and political expediency, I looked no further into the
subject than to keep myself informed generally on matters of public interest. During its struggles for a recharter, and
when writhing and reeling under the blows of the patriot President Jackson, my judgment was instructed that such
an institution, however wisely restricted or cautiously guarded, must, of necessity have within itself elements
dangerous to public and private virtue, if not to the appropriate and healthful action of government. So the people
seem to have regarded and decided the question; and it is dif... [. . . INCOMPLETE . . .]

RW48v25i40p1c6, May 19, 1848: Congress. Washington, May 16-P.M. U. S. Senate.

U. S. SENATE.

The Senate transacted very little business to-day. Mr. Bagby offered a resolution declaring that neither the Congress
of the United States the Legislatures of the States, or the inhabitants of the Territories of the United States, had any
power over slavery existing therein.

Mr. BAGBY moved to lay the resolution on the table.

This motion gave rise to an interesting debate, which was participated in by Messrs, BAGBY, FOOTE, BADGER, and
WESTCOTT.

The yeas and nays were demanded on the motion to lay on the table; and being taken, stood as follows: Yeas 27
nays 9.

After the transaction of some unimportant business, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the Yucatan Bill.

Mr. BAGBY spoke at some length in favour of the passage of the bill. He favored the temporary military occupation of
The amendment of Mr. DAVIS was then put to the vote and rejected—Yeas 5, nays 25.

Mr. DIX offered an amendment to the bill, the object of which was to place the army and navy of the United States at the disposal of the President, to act under and by direction of the Government of Yucatan.

Mr. CLAYTON hoped that the friends of the bill would postpone further action to-day, as the Senate was very thin.

Mr. HANNEGAN assented to the postponement, but said he should press the subject to a final vote to-morrow.

On Mr. HANNEGAN'S motion the Senate held a short executive session, and afterwards adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Bills were reported from the various standing committees, read twice and referred, to the Committee of the Whole.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole and took up the Revolutionary Pensions Bills, which was passed.

Mr. BAYLY rising to address the committee, Mr. VINTON asked permission to occupy the floor for the span of ten minutes, to enable him to move to take up the Naval Pension Bill.

Mr. BAYLY declined yielding the floor and proceeded to address the Committee on the subject of slavery in the Territories, and in opposition to the principles of the Wilmot Proviso.

Mr. WILEY followed, and read his speech. He was most decidedly in favor of the Mexican war, &c.

On motion, the Committee rose, and the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, May 17, P. M.

U.S. SENATE.

After the transaction of some unimportant business, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the Yucatan Bill.

Mr. DIX addressed the Senate, and discussed the question at much length.

Mr. HANNEGAN said he had received satisfactory information that a treaty had been concluded between the white and Indian population of Yucatan, and therefore moved to postpone the consideration of the bill until further information should be received... [ . . . INCOMPLETE . . . ]

[BWP]

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RW48v25i40p1c5, May 19, 1848: The Court of Inquiry.

This military tribunal assembled yesterday morning about 10 o'clock at the St. Charles Hotel, for the purpose of taking the testimony of Mr. Alexander Walker, one of the editors of the Delta, and of Mr. McGinnis, also employed in that establishment. The court sat with closed doors, on account of the smallness of the apartment in which it was held, and no members of the press were able to procure admittance for that reason. As the members of the court departed in the afternoon, immediately after dinner, in the steamboat Cincinnati, there was not sufficient time to obtain a transcript from the record of the day's proceedings. The only material fact elicited, however, was in the testimony of Mr. Walker, who swore that the interlineations made in the celebrated "Leonidas" letter, as published in the Delta, were not made by Gen. Pillow, but were in his (W.'s) hand-writing, and made in the Delta office before the publication of the letter.—N. O. Picayune, May 10.

[BWP]

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RW48v25i40p2c1, May 19, 1848: Gen'l Taylor – The Philadelphia Convention.

We perceive, with some degree of surprise, that the resolution of General Taylor, expressed in his letter to our neighbors of the Republican, not to withdraw his name from the canvass whoever may be the nominee of the Convention, still continues to agitate and excite our Whig brethren of the press in a very extraordinary degree. We say we are surprised to see it; for, to us, the declaration of General Taylor appeared natural, precisely such as we might have been led to expect from all his previous letters, an precisely such as we should have expected had we
written to him ourselves on the subject.—Though it would have been far more agreeable to us, and we doubt not to a large majority of his friends, had he thought proper to withhold it, we yet maintain that it is perfectly consistent with every thing he has either said or written since his name was first put in nomination for the Presidency. He has invariably said, that though a Whig he would not run as the candidate of a party—that he would not be the exponent of a party creed—that he had no aspirations for the office—but that if he did run it all, it must be as the candidate of the people, and not of a party. On more occasions than one, too, he has said that he would accept the nomination of any party, or of all parties, provided such acceptance left him totally free and untrammeled—unpledged to act in any other way than according to the dictates of his own judgment—and unbound by any party obligation whatever, to do the requirements of any party, it being his determination, in case of his election, to discharge his duty as it is laid down in the Constitution, and to admit no other rule as a guide. After having taken such strong ground, before the whole country, as this—after having said repeatedly that if run at all, it must be as the candidate of the whole people and not of a party—after having over and often assured the public that he would give no pledges whatever as to his future course—he would assuredly be guilty of the most direct and palpable recreancy to his own deliberately expressed opinions, only a few months old, should he now consent to abide by the nomination of the Convention.

The letter to the Republican, then, may have been injudicious, and we think, under the circumstances, it was—it may have been imprudent, and as such we certainly regard it—it may have been ill-timed, and we surely think it was;—but it was honest, it was candid, it was consistent; it told the whole truth, and spurned all concealments. It appears to us very easy to explain the reason why Gen. Taylor, Whig as he has always been—one, too, who has had a near inspection of Locofocoism in high places, and has learned to despise its narrow and selfish spirit from his own personal experience—should have, from the first, determined to run as the candidate, not of a party, but of the people. After his four great victories, the whole nation, without any distinction of party, seemed to call him with one acclaim to the Presidential chair; and there is little doubt that had the election come on about this time last year, he would have been elected by a majority more than trebly as large as any other candidate ever received.—He was nominated by public meeting of all parties—his name was hoisted by newspapers of every possible political complexion—thousands of letter were written him by persons belonging to every possible shade and variety of party, begging him to come out as their candidate. Because they believed his name to be a tower of strength, and that it could not fail to secure the triumph of their peculiar principles. It was natural for him to believe from these demonstrations’ as he actually did believe, and as many who profess to be far better judges of the popular current than he, believed, that his name was, of itself, sufficient to level all distinctions of party, and that he would go into office as the Chief Magistrate of a great and united people, not as the mere President of a party. That he should prefer to go in as a National, rather than as a party candidate, was not only natural, but highly honorable. It is what any man would prefer, provided it involved no sacrifice of principle. It is what Mr. Clay has already said that he should prefer; for it is understood, that after the result of the late election was known, he declared that he would never again be a candidate, unless called into the canvass by the voice of the whole people. What other man then of high worth, situated as Gen. Taylor was, and believing as he did; would have acted differently? What other man, who believed that he could go in as the National candidate, would have narrowed himself down to become that of a party? Would

“To party give up what was meant for mankind?”

Even though he may have found the opinion which he formed of his popularity, to have been in the main incorrect, yet since he professes to have no desire to be President, (and we doubt not, sincerely,) who has a right to blame him for maintaining his position even now?

Let us say a few words as to the Whig Convention, the day of whose assemblage is rapidly approaching. As a no-party candidate, Gen. Taylor, it is true, does not recognize its authority so far as he himself is concerned; but all his Whig friends constituting nine-tenths of all the political friends he has in the Union, fully recognize it, and will be bound by its decision. The immense majority of them every where throughout the Union, have determined to meet their brethren at Philadelphia—to urge the claims of their favorite candidate to the utmost of their power—to secure his nomination of them can—to push his claims before the people, in every possible way, if he be nominated—to submit without a murmur, if he should undergo a defeat in the Convention. Nay, they will do more than submit. Deeply as they may deplore the loss of their favorite, they will yet exert themselves to the uttermost for his successful rival—they will in all cases act as though Old Zach himself were in the field. Such is the loyalty of the Taylor Whigs to the great principles of their party. Upon the Convention devolves the very serious duty to weigh the respective claims of Mr. Clay, of Gen. Taylor, and of any other candidate who may chance to be brought before them, and to settle in their own minds who presents the most perfect combination of availability and qualification. It is our duty, (the mass,) if we would still continue to be worthy of our political name, to support him upon whom the choice of the Convention may fall.

This, then, is the true state of the case. Gen. Taylor himself will not submit to a Convention, but nine-tenths of his friends will. If he fail to receive the nomination, he will not withdraw himself. Indeed he cannot do so with any degree of consistency. He has always been passive in the matter—he has always said he did not desire the office, and that if his friends chose to nominate him, they must do so of their own motion—he has in fact repeatedly declared, substantially, that he was in the hands of his friends, and that he would have neither lot nor part in any movement that might be made with regard to the Presidency. Now, retiring from the canvass would, we take it, be a very active step, and so far, perfectly contradictory of Gen. Taylor’s passive determination. He cannot consistently do it; but his friends, nine-tenths of whom are Convention Whigs, can just withdraw his name if he should not receive the nomination, without his agency, as they introduced it in the first instance. The two parties, comprising almost the whole population of the U. States, will of course, after their nominations shall have been made, rally each upon their man; so that the party which would be left to support Gen. Taylor should be...[4 illegible words] very small—not such as his friends would wish to see come forward in his support.
It probably does not become us to give advice to the Convention itself; yet we cannot forbear saying, that if in the indulgence of a personal preference, they shall neglect the signs of the times, as they appear upon comparison of notes among themselves, they will expose the cause to ruin, and not only incur, but merit, the excretion of every true Whig in the land.

[FWP]

**RW48v25i40p2c2, May 19, 1848: Gen. Taylor.**

We give below an animated, and we have no doubt just picture of this distinguished man, from an article in the Boston Traveller, the writer of which evidently speaks understandingly upon the subject. It is a full length likeness, full of life an interest, standing out from the canvass like a picture by one of the great masters. And what an opinion does it not give us of the simple tastes, the unpretending demeanor, the moral worth of Zachary Taylor! We have never heard of but one man in this country who combined so much simplicity of character, with such a high standard of moral and intellectual excellence, and that was one of Virginia's greatest sons; probably next to Washington, her very greatest—we mean the late Chief Justice Marshall. Strangely as the would-be-great misunderstand the fact, it nevertheless is the fact, that in the vast majority of instances—a majority so great indeed that the rule may almost be considered universal—the truly great man is remarkable for a certain simplicity of character, and an entire absence of all pretension. Numberless instances abound to prove the fact, of men whose reputation is as wide as the limits of the habitable globe.

In the high moral worth of Gen'l Taylor, as testified by all who have known him, the people have the best guarantee that he will do his duty faithfully and to the best of his ability should he be elected. In his regard for the Sabbath and his respect for religion generally, he bears a close resemblance to the Father of his country, his great model—the glass by which he appears desirous to fashion all his actions. Yet not alone in this point does he resemble him. His calm demeanor, his patience under trials, his respect for law, his humanity, his courage, his skill, his perseverance, are all traits enjoyed in common with Washington. Should a great crisis arise in this country now, as one arose in 1775, the people of the Union would as naturally turn to Zachary Taylor, as the man for the occasion, as their forefathers did to George Washington at that epoch. We do not mean to say that Gen. Taylor is equal to Gen. Washington—he never had his equal—but that his qualities are of the same nature, and fit him for a similar line of duties.

His family relations are honorable—Mrs. Taylor is one of the most elegant women in the army. And that is great praise; for some of the most elegant and accomplished ladies in the country are united in marriage to the officers of our army. She is elegant in her person and manners; a lady of humble, but decided piety, being a member of the Episcopal Church. His son has recently graduated from Yale College. His daughter is distinguished for accomplishments and beauty. She has declined offers from many officers of the army, in obedience to the desire of her father, who does not wish to see her married to a soldier.

Gen. Taylor is not a profane man. He has been accused of profanes. Words said to have been uttered by him on the field of battle, have gone through the Union. But no one who knows Gen. Taylor believes such a report. Men who have been with him in scenes most trying, under circumstances the most provoking, never heard him utter an oath; he refrains, from principle.

Gen. Taylor was two years in a fort as the commander of 1600 men, many of whom were the worst of the race; in that fort, swearing was as common as plumes; the very moral sense seemed to demand an oath as a test of a gentleman. The chaplain was with Gen. Taylor during his whole command, and saw him under circumstances of the greatest provocation, says he never heard an oath from his lips. His principles and practice in this respect are known to the whole army.

Gen. Taylor is a strict teetotaler. He conforms to the customs of the army, and keeps on his sideboard such liquors as are drank in the army; but he pledges his officers only in cold water. At the close of a parade, it is etiquette on the part of the officers to call at head quarters and pay respect to the Commander-in-Chief. It is etiquette on the
part of the commander to allow the officers to drink his health. It has been Gen. Taylor's custom for years to pour out
his glass of cold water, and drink the health of his staff in that alone. When he assumed the command of Fort
Jesup, he found intemperance to be the prevailing sin.—Whipping, imprisonment and fines had been exhausted.—It
was proposed to attempt to reform the men. Gen. Taylor gave the chaplain his warm co-operation by authority and
example. And all know that in the army nothing can be done without the aid of the commander. A change was seen
at once; and in less than two years, more than 600 reformed men marched in procession with badges and banners.
Some of them went home, the shame of their intemperance, obtained their discharge through Gen. Taylor,
and returned home to their families sober men. Some of them are in good business in Boston at this time.

JALAPA, (Mexico) April 28, 1848.

MY DEAR ____ : As I may not have time at Vera Cruz to put pen to paper, I write now, though much fatigued and
half sick with a cold. I am—being too late in the season—pushing on rapidly to embark from the beach, without
entering that city. [Vera Cruz.]

I have written ahead to have ready, if possible, a vessel to take me directly to the Narrows, below New York, whence
I shall proceed, without entering that city, to my family at Elizabethtown, New Jersey.

I have learned on the road that some of the spirited and patriotic citizens of New Orleans—including perhaps the
municipal authorities—are thinking of taking public notice of my arrival among them; and possibly there may be a
few persons in other places on the route to the North (inland) who would give the long-absent soldier a passing
cheer or two. This, my dear sir, is another reason why I should hasten to my family, at its home in the sequestered
village fifteen miles this side of New York; for, laboring as I am under the public displeasure of the Executive, it
would be highly improper in me, as a soldier, to put myself in the way of provoking a cheer or a shout from my
warm hearted countrymen. Should there be any such intention in New Orleans as I have alluded to, please make all
necessary explanations and apologies for me; for I make a great sacrifice of feeling, to a sense of public duty, by
avoiding on my return home some hundreds of personal friends whom I should have the chance of greeting by the
inland route.

Always, my dear —-, your friend, WINFIELD SCOTT.

[BWP]
I had not time to write, last evening, of Mr. Calhoun's effort on the Yucatan question. He spoke with all of his accustomed force and ability. He was very attentively listened to by a full Senate and a brilliant auditory in the galleries and lobbies. His grounds for opposing the bill were impregnable, as it seemed to me.

His elucidation of the sentiments avowed by President Monroe, in regard to the interference of Foreign Powers with the affairs of any of the Republics on this continent, was highly satisfactory. He said, that he was the only surviving member of Mr. Monroe's Cabinet, and that his memory was clear upon the matter in question. What was said in Mr. Monroe's messages, in regard to the interference of foreign powers, was the result of cabinet consultations; but the hasty declaration, respecting European colonization upon this continent, was not, to the best of his recollection, ever brought before Mr. Monroe's Cabinet. He maintained, that there was a difference between interference and possession and colonization, and pointed out the same.

During the morning hour, Mr. Borland, the new Senator from Arkansas, read a prepared speech against Mr. Reverdy Johnson's resolution inquiry, respecting the nominations of sundry Generals, contending, that the inquiry was inquisitorial and unconstitutional, and that the President could make appointments during the recess of the Senate, and the latter body, when afterwards assembled, had no right to meddle in the matter. His style of reading a speech is far from being captivating.

In the House, yesterday, the passage of the bill to amend, . . . MISSING PORTION] . . . Bagby made a long, dull, sleepy speech on the Yucatan bill Mr. Clayton go the floor for to-morrow—and then the Senate went into Executive session.

In the House, the times were unexciting and sadly out of joint. First, bills were reported from the standing committees and appropriately referred. Next, the House went into committee, (Mr. Howell Cobb in the Chair,) and took up the revolutionary pension bill. Mr. Jones, of Tennessee, offered an amendment, which the Chair declared irrelevant and not in order.

Mr. Cumming, of Ohio, made a speech, a loud, windy speech, in support of the decision of the Chair, and with the utmost SANG FROID pronounced that the amendment had no GERMANITY in it! So sure was he of this that he repeated the important declaration once or twice—there was no GERMANITY in it! Pretty well for Mr. Cumming! He'll do.

But Mr. Cumming's brilliancy, or oratory, or something else, drove the greater part of the members out of the House, —or, it may be something more attractive invited them out—surely it could not be Mr. Bagby's speaking in the Senate—and so the committee had to rise for the want of a quorum. The names of the absentees were read over and ordered to be recorded on the journal. After which the House again went into committee, when the bill was further considered and reported to the House with an amendment, and by the House passed.

Again the House went into committee—this time on the Naval Pension bill. Mr. Bayly took the floor, but instead of speaking on the merits of the bill, he banged away for an hour on the right of a territory to hold slaves, and in dead opposition to the doctrines of the Wilmot Proviso—There were but few members in their seats to listen to him. Next, Mr. Wiley, of Maine, took the floor, and, without touching the merits of the bill before the committee, read off a long speech in support of the war with Mexico and in eulogy of the Mexican country, the Bay of San Francisco, &c., &c. At last, his hour being up, he came suddenly to a stand still. When the committee rose and the House adjourned. Beautiful legislation!

The weather is quite warm here to-day, though a high wind makes the dust too abundant. POTOMAC.
FROM MEXICO and QUERETARO.—We received dates from the city of Mexico, last night, two days later than those received by Monday's mail.

A letter in the Monitor, dated Queretaro, April 25, says that nine Deputies were still wanting to constitute a quorum. The same letter states that Senor Rejon, before resigning his seat in the House, left a written speech against peace, and it is probable it will be published.

Gen. Almonte arrived at Queretaro, to take his seat in the Senate. He is opposed to the treaty, and the Government look upon him with suspicion.

The two Senators of the district of Mexico have resigned their seats in Congress.

The writer closes his letter, saying that he would not be surprised to see the Government, before ratifying the treaty, dissolved, and each one take the road home.

The Monitor is of opinion that Congress should meet on the 1st inst.

It is reported that Otero is the leader of the war party in the House of Representatives.

Senor Micheltorena, one of the Deputies, deserted his post, and left Queretaro.

El Progresso, of Queretaro, says, on the 27th ult. that Congress will not meet.

The following is a translation of a letter from our Queretaro correspondent in Mexico, which has not yet appeared in our columns. It is not without interest, though we have published later dates from the same source:

QUERETARO, April 20, 1848.

Yesterday, the twenty-first meeting, preparatory to the session of the new Congress, took place, and after the reading of many documents relative to the Deputies who have not yet made their appearance (for want of money,) a note was addressed to the Minister of Finance to the effect that he should cause remittance to be made to the absent Deputies of the funds necessary to defray the expense of their journey to the capital.

The continued arrival of new Deputies, and the excuses offered by such as have not yet reached here, presage a prompt denouement. The prevailing opinion is that there will be peace.

The troops of the Government have obtained some advantages over the revolters of Xichu. (Sierra Gordo). These last have had six killed and twenty-two wounded and made prisoners. Still, the affair is not yet determined. There was a report yesterday that the revolters had made their appearance within six leagues of Queretaro, at the hacienda of Chichimaquillas, with predatory designs, but they had not time to effect their purposes. This new civil war bodes unhappy results.

By the next courier I will send you the law or programme issued by these revolutionists.

The fetes of Easter have changed completely the aspect of Queretaro. From being political it has become altogether religious. Labor of all kinds is interdicted, and we have nothing more interesting to communicate then the above.

U.S. SENATE.

After the transaction of some business unimportant in the main, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution offered some time by the Senator from Maryland, (Mr. R. JOHNSON,) calling on the President of the U. States for his reasons for withholding from the Senate certain nominations.

Mr. ALLEN opposed the resolution as unnecessary and improper. He spoke upwards of two hours on the subject, and in reply to the speech of Mr. JOHNSON.
The resolution was then informally passed over.

On motion, the Senate agreed to adjourn from Monday next, over to the ensuing Thursday.

On Mr. HANNEGAN'S motion the Senate held an executive Session, and afterwards adjourned.

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**

The House was engaged most of the morning, on unimportant business, when it got through with the morning business, a motion was made and agreed to, that the House go into Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering the Appropriation Bills.

The Bill providing for expenditures in the Post Office Department was taken up; several amendments were offered to the bill, which gave rise to much discussion. Without definitive action on the bill, the committee rose, and the House adjourned.

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The court meet this morning at the usual hour. After the records were read, Private David Ayres, 15th Infantry, was called and sworn for the defence.

Q—Were you in the battle of Churubusco, and what duty were you on that day?

   A—I was orderly for Gen. Pillow, and in that battle.

Q—What do you know about Gen. Pillow's firing at or shooting a Mexican officer? State what particulars you know regarding that fact?

   A—It was near the bridge, or fort that surrounded the bridge on the road towards where Gen. Worth and been engaged with the enemy; there were some three or four officers (Mexicans) who came in a direction towards the bridge, where Gen. Pillow was advancing; he drew his pistol and fired at one of the officers, who fell to the ground; the horse started towards Gen. Pillow in a straight line; and Gen. Pillow gave directions to a soldier that was standing near him to take the horse.

Q—In which direction were the officers moving? Towards or from the city of Mexico?

   A—They were moving towards the bridge, from the direction of San Antonio; this was after the bridge head had fallen.

Q—State if any of Gen. Pillow's staff officers were with him at the time; if not, state if you know where they were gone?

   A—There were none of them with him; Lieut. Ripley had been sent by Gen. Pillow to Gen. Scott; Capt. Hooker had gone towards the church where the white flag had been raised by the direction of Gen. Pillow; what Gen. Pillow's exact orders to him were I do not know, but they were in relation to the flag; where the other staff officers were I do not know.

Q—What work does witness mean that he thought Gen. Worth had been engaged at?

   A—I mean the one on the opposite side of the church from the bridge, surrounded by the main work, and on the road leading to the city along which Gen. Pillow was advancing.

Q—Were the Mexican officers advancing rapidly or slowly.

   A—I should call it rapidly.

A pencil and paper was here given the witness and he was requested by the defence to mark out or draw a plan of the bridge fort, the church fort, and the position of the spot where Gen. Pillow shot the Mexican officer; Gen. Pillow subsequently withdrew that request, and propounded the following question:

Q—From what direction were the Mexican officers retreating, and in what direction were they advancing?

   A—They were retreating from the west, and towards the bridge surrounded by the fort, which was an eastern course.
Q—How near were you to Gen. Pillow when the shot the Mexican officer?

A—I was within some few rods of him, I should think; it was a very short distance.

Q—About how far from the bridge fort was Gen. Pillow when he shot the officer?

A—I could not tell the exact distance; I do not know it.

Q—From the direction the Mexican officers were retreating, did they appear to be coming from the convent fort or some other place?

[Gen. Scott objected to the question as a leading one, when it was withdrawn.]

Q—I witness now acting as orderly for Gen. Pillow, and in what capacity is he engaged?

A—I am not; I am now acting orderly for Col. Bonham, of the 12th Infantry.

Q—How long is it since, witness ceased to act as orderly for Gen. Pillow, and when did he join his company?

A—It was three or four days after the battle of the 20th that I was sent to my company.

Cross-examined—To what soldier did Maj. Gen. Pillow give the shot Mexican’s horse?

A—I do not know; it was an infantry man, however.

Q—How came the witness to know that Lieut. Ripley had been sent at that time to Gen. Scott, that Capt. Hooker had gone to the church? Has the witness’ memory been helped on this subject, and if so, by whom has the witness’s memory been helped?

A—I was with Gen. Pillow when he gave them orders to go; my memory has not been helped.

Q—When did Maj. Gen. Pillow first send for the witness on the subject of shooting the Mexican officer, and where was he stationed at the time?

A—I was stationed at the time at Chapultepec; the length of the time I cannot state; it was near a month before the regiment left for Cuernavaca.

Q—How many times in all had the witness been sent for to come to Gen. Pillow, and what took place on those occasions?

A—I was sent for but once. He asked me if I was orderly for him on the 20th. I told him I was. He asked me if I was with him at the time or knew anything about his shooting a Mexican officer; I replied that I did. He wanted me to state the circumstances, (there were two or three officers present in the room,) and say where it was.—I did so, and he told me that was all he wanted with me. I then returned to my company.

Q—At some visit to Maj. Gen. Pillow, did not the witness sign a certain statement, and if so, who drew up the statement.

A—I did not.

Q—Had not the witness stated to Lieut. Col. Howard, or some other officer that (witness) had made more than one visit to Maj. Gen. Pillow concerning the slain Mexican officer.

A—I did not.

Q—How far from the captured bridge, and on which side of the bridge, was the Mexican officer shot?

A—The distance I cannot say—I do not know. It was on the west side of the road.

Q—At which end of the bridge was it that the Mexican officer was shot, was it the end next to the city, or on the opposite end of the bridge?

A—As I stated before, it was at neither end; it was on the west side of the bridge.

Q—On which side of the creek or canal was the Mexican officer shot, was it on the side next to this city, or on the
A—It was on the opposite side from the city.

Q—Had any American troops already been advanced on the bridge towards this city, when the Mexican officer was shot?

A—I think there had.

Q—Which way did the four Mexican officers appear to be going when they approached Gen. Pillow, and he shot one of them?

A—As I stated before, they appeared to be going towards the bridge or towards the east.

Q—If the bridge had been carried before, and some Americans had passed the bridge, why should the Mexican approach the bridge in order to reach the city?

A—I do not know.

Q—How far off were the four Mexican officers when Maj. Gen. Pillow shot one of them?

A—I could not say.

Q—Were the four Mexican officers at the time approaching in such a manner as to induce the belief that they were going to attack the Mexicans, or to surrender as prisoners of war?

A—If I were going to decide, I would say that they did not appear to me as if they wanted to surrender as prisoners of war?

Q—Did either of the four Mexican officers fire before or after the officer was shot?

A—They did not fire either before or after, as I noticed.

Q—Were Gen. Pillow and the witness alone when the Mexican officer was shot?

A—We were not alone—there was an infantry man near by; the one to whom he gave directions to take the horse.

Q—Was there no American present at the shooting of the Mexican officer but Gen. Pillow, the witness and the infantry man?

A—Not at that place; there may have been others near by and I not noticed them.

Q—How far was Gen. Pillow from other American officers and men at the time of the shooting?

A—I could not state—there were others around on the main road that we had passed; how far I could not say.

Q—Where were the other officers and men of Gen. Pillow's command when he shot the Mexican officer?

A—Where they were I could not tell.

Q—Is the witness certain there was no American officer present with Gen. Pillow when the Mexican officer was shot?

A—I am sure there was none with him at that time where we were.

Q—How did it happen that Maj. Gen. Pillow was detached or separated at the time of shooting the Mexican officer, from the men under his command?

A—That is more than I know. In the fore part of the engagement I was holding his horse and I supposed he was with his men on foot, as I was in the rear a short distance. When he came back to where I was and motioned to me to fetch his horse to him, and he then advanced on horseback. The reason that I was not with him when he was on foot is that there was a very wide ditch which he could not get his horse across; he gave me his horse and told me to lead him around on to the main road; that he would cross the fields with his men. He jumped into the water in trying to jump across the ditch, and I went back through the lot and around into the road near where they were engaged with the enemy, and waited there with the horse until he called for him.

Q—What became of the shot Mexican officer; was he kicked or only wounded, and did Major Gen. Pillow go up to him
after he fell from his horse?

A—I think he was not killed—only wounded—for I saw him move after he fell from his horse. What became of him I do not know, as I turned back immediately after that on the main road, where there were some wagons and some men.

Q—What became of the other three Mexicans officers after the other had been shot?

A—I do not know what became of those; they turned round and went back the same way they had come.

Q—Was the witness in the rear and holding Gen. Pillow’s horse when the Mexican was shot by said Pillow?

A—I was not; he was on horseback.

Q—Has the witness ever served in any regiment of the American army before entering the 15th Infantry; and, if so, how was he discharged from that former regiment?

A—I have; I belonged to company H, 2d Artillery, commanded by Lt. Sedgwick; I was under age—about twenty years old—at the time I was taken out by my mother, authorizing my uncle to get a habeas corpus. The regiment then lay at Buffalo, and now lies at Chapultepec.

Examination in Chief.—Witness has been asked if, upon any visit to Gen. Pillow, he signed any statement of the facts in writing; witness will say if he has signed such statement at any other place; and, if so where he signed it?

A—I have, at the castle of Chapultepec.

Q—Who requested the witness to sign the statement, and who drew it up

A—Lt. Ripley.

Private Bernard Carroll, company E, 2d Artillery, sworn for defence:

Q—Was witness in the battle of Churubusco, and on what duty was he that day?

A—I was employed as interpreter in the Commissary Department, and was in that battle.

Q—State what you know about a Mexican officer being shot from his horse that day, and where it occurred; state also what became of the horse after the officer was killed?

A—I went up to the mud fort on the right and in front of the church; on going there I found it was still occupied by the Mexican troops, which caused me to retire by the road. I heard some big guns firing as I came out from the bridge head, and on looking round to my right, I observed the Mexicans retreating from the church; one of them, whom I took to be a colonel, came over in the direction of the road, where our troops were; I went towards the field which he was in, seeing I could not get my horse to cross the ditch, I dismounted and gave my horse to a musician. At this time, there came up what appeared to me some officers mounted; I then crossed the ditch which, I had some difficulty in doing; while crossing there were some shots fired close to the ditch, at the part where I was crossing. On my gaining the other side of the ditch I observed the officer fall from his horse. Some voice spoke to me that was among the persons who were mounted on the road, and said, "My man, you will catch that horse for me." I turned round to see who addressed me, and from the appearance of the person who I thought addressed me, I thought the person was a general officer. I then advanced and caught the horse, and from the appearance of the saddle and bridle, and sword, scabbard and belt, which was attached to the pummel of the saddle, I believed that he mist have been an officer of some rank. A man came to me and demanded the horse from me. To whom I would not give him up. Lieut. Longstreet, of the 8th Infantry, then came to me and addressed me by name, and wanted me to give up the same horse, which order I obeyed. After I had delivered up the horse, I came out of the field, mounted my own horse, and followed Capt. Kearney’s dragoons within a few hundred yards of the garita. After returning, I reported the circumstance of Lieut. Longstreet taking the horse from me to Capt. Armstrong, Col. Duncan, Col. Garland, Capt. McKenzie and Capt. Brooks.

Lieut. Richard Drum, 9th Infantry, sworn for Defence:

Q—Were you present at the storming of Chapultepec, on the 13th September; if so, state what you know in relation to Gen. Pillow’s being wounded at the foot of the hill, and the dispositions made for carrying him up the heights?

A—I was present at the storming of Chapultepec.—Shortly after we ascended the hill, the enemy being driven from the outworks, I was ordered, I think by Col. Andrews, to give his compliments to Gen. Pillow and tell him that the outworks were carried. I obeyed this order immediately, and after informing Gen. Pillow of what I knew personally, he directed me to have some men brought to have him carried up the hill. I got together six men who I found at the bottom of the hill. After instructing them to carry him up immediately, Gen. Pillow ordered me to my
Q—What does witness mean by the enemy’s out-works in his previous answer?

A—We were lying at the top of the hill at the west side, on the outside of the ditch from the castle. The enemy was driven from the ordinance on the inside of the work; this is what I understood Col. Andrews to mean by the out-works of the castle.

Q—After directing the men to carry Gen. Pillow up the hill, did you get back to the summit before the troops began to cross the ladders in the work?

A—Yes.

Q—Does the witness know the exact time Gen. Pillow was brought into the works at the summit of the hill, and where he was placed?

A—I do not.

Q—Had Col. Andrews, at the time he gave the witness a message to Gen. Pillow, then just left said Pillow?

A—I cannot say.

Q—In returning from Maj. Gen. Pillow towards the castle, was there any fire from the enemy in the castle towards the west or towards the position in which the witness had left the said Pillow?

A—Yes. I considered the danger much greater at the foot of the hill, than while on the hill.

Q—What firing was it from the castle towards Gen. Pillow that the witness speaks of at the moment the witness was reascending the hill?

A—It was the continual bursting of shells in the woods below, at the foot of the hill.

Q—Does the witness know how long Gen. Pillow remained at the foot of the hill after witness delivered the message from Col. Andrews?

A—I do not.

Q—The witness has said that the danger was greater at the foot of the hill than on the top, does he mean that the danger from the fire of the enemy was greater where Gen. Pillow lay, or greater in the grove farther off?

A—It was equally so at the foot of the hill, as it was towards Molino de Rey.

Q—Did the witness leave Lieut. Rains, aid-de-camp, with Gen. Pillow, or had Lieut. Rains preceded the witness in going up to the castle?

A—I do not remember seeing Lieut. Rains.

Cross-examination in chief resumed: Q—At the time Gen. Pillow directed witness to have him carried forward, what did Gen. Pillow say relative to his having wished to be taken forward some time before?

A—He told me that he had used some exertions to have himself carried forward previous to my going to him.

Capt. C. Sprague, 9th Infantry, sworn for defence: Q—Was witness present at the storming of Chapultepec; if so, state whether he saw Gen. Pillow after he was wounded, where it was, and what occurred between Gen. Pillow and witness?

A—I was present at the storming of Chapultepec. My regiment was advancing through the woods. We had arrived very near the base of the hill, when there was a momentary pause by all the troops, and a heavy fire of infantry was poured into the hill. Col. Ransom had led some of his regiment in advance, and had arrived at the foot of the hill. He was standing pointing up the hill with his sword, I think he gave the order to cease firing, as it endangered our own men, some of whom had got partly up the hill; I think they were Voltiguers. I then went back in obedience to the supposed order to stop the firing which was in my rear, as well as to bring the men from behind the trees; and on my return to my position, I saw Gen. Pillow standing, I think, alone; he appeared unable to move or walk. The troops were at the time rushing by him, and did not seem to heed him at all. I immediately went up to him and asked him if he was hurt; he replied he was, I then attempted to assist him myself, but found that I was unable, as he required my entire strength—he was so badly hurt. I then directed some men to assist him, which they did.—They took him out of the foot of the hill and seated him, I think, At the foot of a tree. I then left him and advanced with my regiment. When I arrived at the top of the hill—that is a short distance outside of the ditch—they were lying there...
indiscriminately—the 9th and 15th Voltigeur regiments—and did not advance, as I supposed, for the want of ladders. I was then directed to go down and report to Gen. Pillow that there were no ladders on the top of the hill. I did so, and returned to my post.

Lewis Bates, Company E, 6th Inf’ty, sworn for defence: Q—Were you present at the storming of Chapultepec on the 13th September last?

A—I was.

Q—State if you saw Gen. Pillow on that day; if so, state where you saw him.

A—I saw Gen. Pillow on the day stated, about sixty or seventy paces from the ditch which is at the foot of the hill of Chapultepec.

Q—Did you assist in carrying Gen. Pillow up the hill?

A—Not individually, but I was present and went up the hill with the men that did carry him.

Q—Were the Mexicans firing from any part of the work on the hill about the time Gen’l Pillow started up the hill?

A—Yes.

Q—Did the firing continue while Gen. Pillow was being carried up the hill; and where was Gen. Pillow when the firing ceased?

A—To the best of my opinion, when the firing ceased from the enemy, Gen. Pillow was within sixty or seventy paces from the main gate going into Chapultepec.

Q—Where was Gen. Pillow laid after he was carried in the work, and how long was Gen. Pillow in the work before Gen. Scott arrived?

A—Gen. Pillow was laid upon the wall or breastworks, inside of the main gate to the right, leading to the battery commanding the road leading from Tacubaya to the city. The commander-in-chief entered the work about twenty or twenty-five minutes after Gen. P. had entered the work and was laid down on the wall.

Q—Who is the captain of the company to which you belong, and who commanded the company on that day?

A—On the day mentioned I commanded company E myself. Capt. Hutter is the captain of the company, but he was not along on that day.

Cross-examined.—Q—Where was the witness’s company at the time he was with Gen. Pillow?

A—Part of the company was with me; the 6th Infantry had got orders to charge the hill; a part up the hill and part round it; part of the company got separated from the main command. I could not keep the run of the company as they were much scattered.

Q—How came witness to be absent with part of his company while the castle was yet resisting the attack of the American troops?

A—I was not absent. We only received the order to advance after the attack had been commenced by the troops before us at the castle.

Q—When Gen. Pillow was going up the hill, and within sixty or seventy paces of the main gate, what firing was it that the witness then heard?

A—After Gen. Pillow was removed from the base where I first saw him, the firing was from the enemy retiring from the part where the storming party first entered the castle, keeping up a scattering fire, which ceased when Gen. Pillow was about within the distance I stated in my answer previously.

Q—Was the scattering fire the witness speaks of from the castle or the grove towards the city, outside of the castle?

A—It was from the castle.

Q—Was Lt. Raims, a d.d-camp, with Gen. Pillow when the witness saw Gen. Pillow set out to go to the castle?

A—I do not recollect.
Q—How many years has the witness been in the American army, and has he ever deserted from the American army?

A—I decline answering the question.

The court decided that the question should not be answered.

Lieut. Col. Johnstone, Voltigeurs, sworn for defence:—Q—Was witness present at the storming of Chapultepec; if so, what occurrences took place within the work under your own observation previous to your meeting Gen. Pillow in the work. State also if you know who was the first officer in the work that ranked yourself?

A—I was at the storming of Chapultepec; those around me were engaged in firing upon the enemy between the castle and the battery on the Tacubaya road, and upon the troops within that battery. After the firing ceased, and finding myself the senior officer, I was endeavoring to have the several regiments re-formed. While this was going on I saw Gen. Pillow coming in through the main gate; he was the first officer who ranked me that I saw in the work.

Q—How long did the American troops in the work keep up the fire against the enemy at the base of the hill and against the battery on the Tacubaya road?

A—It is very hard to judge of time under such circumstances. It may have been perhaps near ten minutes.

Q—State what time, in connection with the movements already detailed, did the troops under Gen. Quitman’s command come upon the hill, and what time was the battery on the Tacubaya road taken?

A—I can answer only the last part of the question. I saw from the east end of Chapultepec the head of the troops under Gen. Quitman’s command approaching about one hundred and fifty yards in the front of the battery.

Cross-examined by the prosecution: Q—Had the castle been captured, and how long before was it that witness saw Gen. Pillow enter the gate of the castle?

A—The castle had been captured. I have stated already that when Gen. Pillow had come in the firing ceased.—There was nothing particular to mark the time from which the firing ceased to the time Gen. Pillow was brought in.—That was the first strong point to me after the cessation of the fire.

Q—After witness had, with a portion of the troops, entered the west end of Chapultepec, how long was it before the cessation of the enemy’s fire in the direction of the grove to the west?

A—I did not enter the end of the work. I suppose from the time our troops first came in to the cessation of the firing alluded to was not less than fifteen minutes.

Q—After witness entered the castle, how long was it to the cessation of the firing by the Mexican garrison within the works in the direction of the grove towards the west?

A—It must have been somewhat more than ten minutes. I spoke in my last answer of the time the troops entered on the west, now I speak of the time that I entered by the main gate by the south side.

Q—After the entrance of witness within the ditch and wall nearest to the castle of Chapultepec, what time elapsed before the cessation of the enemy’s fire from within the same limits towards the direction of the Molino del Rey?

A—I was not on that side at all. I entered by the south side, through the main gate; I thought the firing in that direction had ceased as soon as our men had crossed the parapet. The firing was to the south side and the terrace to the east of the building. When I saw our troops inside the castle, I had an impression that there was no firing in that direction.

Q—Had, or not, the witness, some time after the battle of Molino del Rey, a conversation with Gen. Pillow on the subject of that battle, and what were Gen. Pillow’s remarks as to the effect the result had upon Gen. Scott?

A—I don’t remember that I had such conversation. I think I may say that no such conversation occurred.

Q—Has, or not, the witness heard Gen. Pillow say something of the battle of Molino del Rey, that its effects upon the mind or energies of Gen. Scott?

A—I think I have just answered the question. I have never heard any such conversation.

The court then adjourned.
[BWP]
The court met this morning at the usual hour. After the records were read. Ca[pt. T. Loeser, 1st Pennsylvania Regiment was called and sworn for the defence.

Q—Did the witness see Gen. Pillow carried in the work at the summit of the hill—if so, state where Gen. Pillow was first laid after entering the work?

A—On the morning of the 13th of September last, after we had entered the work, myself and command, I was returning under orders to collect some few of the men of our regiment that had remained back; in doing so I met within the walls of the work the party bringing up Gen. Pillow; I assisted in carrying him forward; he was carried to the wall of the bastion fronting Tacubaya or nearly so; the angle of the wall fronting the city was on the general’s left, within ten feet; at that time there was firing through the building, and some considerable firing from underneath the wall; a few moments after I was by the general commanding ordered forward and saw nothing more of Gen. Pillow till I met him in the city.

Q—After Gen. Pillow was carried into the work at the main gate, was he laid upon the wall without ever being laid upon the ground?

A—After I met him he was not let down; he may have been before; I met him within the main gate.

Q—How near the main gate did witness meet Gen. Pillow?

A—The distance I could not exactly state; it was opposite the main doorway going in to the building within a very few feet.

Q—Was or was not Gen. Pillow inside the work before the American national flag was hoisted; and what circumstances, if any, enables witness to recollect when the flag was hoisted?

A—A moment after I had met Gen. Pillow, and had hold of the canvass or cloth on which he was laid, the flag was hoisted; I remember it because there were two separate and distinct attempts made to raise the flag; the first failed on account of some fault in the halyards; at the same time there was displayed from the roof of the building a flag with a yellow ground; I do not know what flag it was.

Cross-examined—Was the witness among the first who entered the last, or immediate defences of Chapultepec, and if not, what troops preceded the witness in that entrance?

A—I was among the first that entered of Gen. Quitman’s division; my hand was upon the rim of the muzzle of the last piece that was fired from the work as I went over it; Capt. Lovell ordered us forward in front of the New York Regiment.

Q—If witness had been sent under orders from the works to collect straggling men below, how came he to return or to stop on meeting with Gen. Pillow?

A—I met the commanding officer of my regiment, who sent the orderly of my company down the hill; and I returned.

Q—Had not the Voltigeur Regiment, the storming party under Capt. McKenzie, the 15th Infantry and other troops, preceded the entrance into the works of Chapultepec, of the witness and his company?

A—We passed the Voltigeurs under the trees, inside the first wall; they at this time had their mountain howitzers with them; the 15th Infantry I know nothing of; there were some troops in the works as we entered, but of what regiments I do not know; the Rifles were detached from us and thrown to our right; I saw nothing of them till we reached the Garita Belen.

Q—Did the witness enter by the main gate, and who then command his regiment?

A—I did not; I entered over the angle of the second bastion, on the side towards Molino del Rey; Maj. Brindle was then in command of the regiment.

Q—The witness has spoken of some firing about the time of meeting Maj. Gen. Pillow; was that firing from our troops within the captured castle, or from any part of the enemy within the same castle, or if there was at the moment any firing about the castle, or if there was at the moment any firing about the castle from the enemy, in retreat, then outside the castle, in what is called “Montezuma’s Garden” below the hill and towards the city?

A—At the time that we entered there was firing through the hall at the extreme end of the building, fronting the city; that firing was from the enemy; below the wall there was also considerable firing—that also from the enemy and from the side towards the city.
A—Witness says when he entered there was firing through the hall at the extreme end of the building, fronting the city; what does the witness mean by “at the time we entered;” does he mean when the witness originally entered the work, or what does he mean by the words “when we entered?

A—By the term “we” I mean the time when we carried Gen. Pillow in. Just at that time the detachment crossed the building and drove the enemy over the wall. Gen. Pillow lay upon the Tacubaya side, and the enemy was driven out on the opposite side, the detachment passing through the hall.

Q—How long was it after the work was carried by our troops before the witness saw the national flag hoisted upon the castle of Chapultepec.

A—I could scarcely give the moment, I think it was over thirty minutes. There were other flags hoisted preceding the national flag.

Q—Did the witness chance to see Lieut. Col. Johnstone or Lieut. Rains, aid-de-camp, in the castle before Maj. Gen. Pillow was brought in.

A—I did not. I do not know either of them. I may have passed them, but do not know them.

Examination in chief resumed:—Q—To what regiment does witness allude in that part of his previous answer, where he speaks of the Rifles being attached to the right.

A—I mean Gen. Smith’s command; he took them off or was present at the time, I think.

Capt. M. J. Bernard, Voltigeurs, sworn for defence:—Q—Did you see Gen. Pillow at the time, or soon after he was brought in the works of Chapultepec on the 13th of September; if so, state about how long was it after the first troops entered the works before he first saw Gen. Pillow, and when was the American flag first hoisted. Was it after Gen. Pillow entered; if so, how long.

A—I saw Gen. Pillow carried into the works about ten minutes after the first troops entered the work. The flag was hoisted about ten minutes after that making twenty minutes after the work was carried.

Q—Were or not the enemy still firing from the grove at the foot of the hill when Gen. Pillow entered that work?

A—There was a scattering fire from the side towards the city, around the base of the hill.

Cross-examined: Q—By what means has the witness ascertained the time of the arrival of Gen. Pillow in the castle on the morning of the 13th September.

A—By personal observation according to the best of my judgment.

Q—About in what part of the attack did the witness himself enter the castle, and how was he employed when he first saw Gen. Pillow in the castle of Chapultepec?

A—I was one of the foremost in the attack. I think I was the third or fourth man in the work, and was employed with my regiment.

Q—From the first passage of our leading troops over the ditch and wall of Chapultepec, how long was it before the firing or resistance of the Mexicans within the same ceased?

A—The resistance of the enemy in the main work ceased, I think, in about five minutes after the body of the troops went in—there was firing upon those who first went in from the end towards Molino del Rey. The firing from the base of the hill towards the city, continued scattering for about fifteen minutes. I should think from the time the troops first entered the work.

Q—Did the witness see, in the captured work Lieut. Col. Johnstone or Lt. Rains before the witness saw said Gen’l Pillow?


Q—After the American forces passed over the ditch at the west end of Chapultepec, was there any farther fire from the enemy within the main works towards the western grove?
A—Yes, after the foremost troops passed in.

Q—How long after the foremost of our troops passed into the work was it before the enemy’s fire to the west ceased; or how many of our troops had followed before that cessation of fire, and name them.

A—The fire ceased from four to five minutes to the west. When the troops first went over the wall the firing was from the main body of the building and the west, and after there was some firing inside the west end of the building; when our troops entered the building, they fired down the stairway; portions of the Voltigeurs, and the 9th and 15th Infantry.

Q—When the witness answered that he saw Lieut. Col. Johnstone in the captured work before he saw Gen. Pillow, he failed to answer anything in respect to Lieut. Rains, a id-de-camp. Did or not the witness also see Lt. Rains in the work before he saw Gen. Pillow?

A—I did not see Lt. Rains.

Examination in chief: Q—Who was the first officer in Chapultepec who ranked Col. Johnstone.


Capt. John S. Perry, Company "H" 15th Infantry, sworn for the prosecution:

Q—Does Private Ayres belong to witness’s company; and if so, what character does he bear in the company?

Major Gen. Pillow objected to the question, and offered the following paper in support of his objection:

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Court—Major Gen. Pillow objects to the question just propounded to Captain Perry, a witness for the prosecution, brought to impeach the character of Private Ayres, as illegal and against the practice and usage of both civil and military courts. No witness' character for veracity can be impeached except by a contradictory proof, by cross examination, or by proof affecting his character for truth. The object of all legal investigation is to arrive at the truth (unreadable) the necessity, when seeking to impeach the character of a witness by proof of his character for truth, the question is and must be confined to his reputation for truth. A man or soldier may have a bad reputation—arising from other causes, and yet, as a man of truth, under oath, he may be entirely unimpeachable. If we depart from the well settled principle of practice of all courts, both civil and military, and launch forth into the boundless field of uncertainty, by asking as to a witness, character, generally, we have no longer any guide or rule by which to proceed, but the indefinite and vague notions or opinions of a witness as to what constitutes a good or bad character, in which men will differ as much as their own moral characters or physical features. Without knowing anything of what the present witness knows or will testify, the defendant, therefore, objects to this question as illegal. If the witness's conduct as a soldier were being investigated it might be competent to go into his general character; but in this case the character and rights of the defendant are sought to be affected before this court and the world by asking for proof not recognised by any civil or military tribunal. The rule of evidence of both tribunals are expressly laid down in all military books as being the same, and that they should be, the wisdom of the rules of civil practice for ages constitutes the best and strongest reason. Respectfully submitted, GID J. PILLOW, Major Gen, U. S. A.

Major Gen. Scott replied as follows:

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Court—In reply to the objection of the defence to the question under consideration I beg leave to say, the practice is universal in military courts, where the character of a private soldier is in question, to ask of his company officers and non-commissioned officers what is the standing or character of the private in his company; and such questions embrace both moral and military character and standing. The question may also be met as to the one or other kind of standing, by cross examination, either to support or impeach the character of the private in question. The practice of military courts is of treat duration, and I trust may not be overturned in the present instance. Respectfully submitted, WINFIELD SCOTT.

In Court, April 19, 1848.

The court closed, and decided that the question should be limited to the general character of the witness for veracity. The question was then modified as follows:

Q—Does Private David Ayres belong to witness’s company; and if so, what is Ayres’s standing in the company in respect to truth or credibility?

A—So far as I have any knowledge, bad.
Cross-examined by the defence. Q—How long has the witness been in command of his company, and how long has he known Private Ayres?

A—I was in command of the company from the time we left Cleveland, Ohio—which I think was some time in March—until it reached Puebla. I joined it again at Chapultepec. I think, in October, I was left sick at the march of the army. I have known Ayres since he enlisted at Cleaveland some time in March, I think. I may be a little mistaken with regard to the dates, but I think they are correct dates.

Q—How long has said Ayres been on duty in said company while under command of witness?

A—That I cannot positively state.

Q—Does witness know if any instance in which the character of Private Ayres for veracity has been impeached or attempted to be impeached before a court, before this one. If so, when, where and in what case?

A—I do not.

Q—if witness has never known Ayres’ testimony to be impeached as a witness, can he say that he would not himself believe Ayres under oath in a matter in which (Ayres) was not interested?

I would not be willing to swear that I would not believe him under oath.

Examination in chief returned. Q—Does the witness know that Private Ayres has been before any other court as a witness until called to testify before this court.

A—I did not.

Q—If Ayres’s testimony before the witness, as judge or juryman, were unsupported by circumstances, or within itself at all strange or inconsistent, though it might by possibility be true, would the witness in such case believe the testimony of said Ayres?

A—If under oath, yes.

Sergeant Samuel Ross, company Hm, 15th Infantry, sworn for prosecution. Q—How long has the witness known Private David Ayres, and what is the standing of the said Ayres in the company in respect to truth?

A—I have known Ayres since the day he enlisted—about the 10th of April; his character for truth and veracity is questionable in the company.

Cross-examined. Q—Has witness ever known Ayres’s testimony to be impeached and questioned as a witness under oath?

A—I have never known him to be a witness before.

Q—Would you believe Ayres under oath in a case in which he had no personal interest?

A—I should believe him under oath and under circumstances where he had no interest.

Examination in chief resumed. Q—From witness’s knowledge of Ayres’s character does he believe said Ayres to be capable or incapable of receiving a bribe?

A member of the court objected to the question, when Gen. Scott offered the following reasons for its being put:

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Court—The witness is now under examination to impeach the character of Private Ayres, a former witness on the ground of want of truth or moral standing; and the present witness has testified that the said Ayres has a questionable standing in the company, common to the two, in respect to veracity and also that the present witness would believe the said Ayres under oath in a matter where he (Ayres) had no interest. The question, therefore, is essential to show the witness’s knowledge of the moral standing of the impeached witness. It does not ask whether he believes that Ayres has actually been bribed, but generally, whether his moral standing is such as to render him incapable of receiving a bribe. This is one test, and a strong one, of moral character.

Respectfully submitted:
WINFIELD SCOTT.

In Court, April 19, 1848.

The court decided that the question should not be put.
Lieut. Beauregard, Eng. recalled for the prosecution. Q—What does the witness know of the movements of the 15th Infantry and the enemy’s reinforcements from this city, both on the hamlet of Ensalda and of the arrival of Maj. Gen. Scott on the mound overlooking that hamlet, all in the afternoon of the 19th August last? State the succession and hours of those several events.

Gen. Pillow objected as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE COURT.—The prosecutor has introduced testimony to show the succession and hours of certain events that occurred about and upon Endalda in the afternoon of the 19th August last, and the defence has since that time, introduced testimony to impeach and overturn that testimony, on the part of the prosecutor. The present witness is now first called to be examined in support of that first testimony, and about which matter he has not before been examined. It is believed by the prosecutor that his rebutting testimony may be important to support the first set of witnesses and perhaps to impugn those on the side of the defence in the same matters.

The court will also please remember that Lieut. Ripley after being examined and cross examined several times was, the other day called up the third time by the defence and then re-examined and cross-examined, without any objection on the part of the prosecutor. Besides it may be remembered by the court that it was agreed upon by the patty early in this case, and with the understanding that the court assented thereto, that no strict rule would be enforced in respect to the examination of staff officers belonging to either of the parties in the present case.

Respectfully submitted.
WINFIELD SCOTT.
RW48v25i41p1c1, May 23, 1848: Col. Wynkoop.

Every party is cursed with base and degenerate spirits who would at any time, barter their principles, their conscience, their country—nay, if the scene of Judas and the forty pieces could be re-enacted—their Redeemer for a price. The Whig party is not more fortunate in this particular, than any other. It has within its bosom pretended friends, who wait but an opportunity to betray it; men whose minds are bent, not upon the good of the party, but upon the money that can be made out of it; to whom it is a matter of supreme indifference, whether the gold they receive be made by supporting or betraying their friends.

Of this number we hold those vile wretches to be, who from the city of Mexico, have filled the Locofoco prints with infamous slanders directed against the Whig party; men of no consideration at home; of worse then none in the army. Their object is, in all instances, the same, and it is palpable to every body. They seek promotion, and they would be willing to purchase it by slandering the very mothers that bore them, provided it could be obtained in no other way. The Government organ has offered a large premium for letters of this kind, by publishing them, whenever received, and accompanying the publication with articles written in terms of the most extravagant eulogy. Such a course of conduct on the part of the Executive organ, is highly detrimental to public morals, in as much as it encourages falsehood, and actually converts slander into a profession.

Among the most active of the new converts is the individual whose name stands at the head of this article, and who commands one of the regiments from Pennsylvania. In order that his denunciations of his late friends might carry along with them a greater degree of force than they would otherwise have commanded, he has been uniformly represented by the Locofoco press, as a man of great gallantry, who had proved his martial prowess on more than one stricken field. The reader will learn to estimate these pretensions at their proper value, after he shall have read the following account of this doughty hero, from the Lynchburg Patriot, the editors of which paper evidently speak by the card. We have not the smallest doubt, that could the names and doings of all those Mexican letter-writers, who have converted the columns of the Union into a receptacle for slander, be dragged into light, then would be found very much on a level with Wynkoop; for any man, who deserting the Whig party—as pure, as patriotic, and as disinterested a party as any that ever existed—under the suspicious circumstances which must attach to every officer in Mexico who is seeking promotion, shall come out in denunciation of those with whom he has acted, on the lying pretexts assigned by these apostates, must be a knave.

The Patriot adds, that Pillow would have brought Wynkoop before a court-martial, had he not been afraid of exposing his own blundering imbecility. And this is the man whose slanderous letters to the editor of the Union, are relied on to impeach the integrity and patriotism of one-half, if not a majority, of this Union! This man, who should have been broken for his shameful behavior, is the witness by whom it is expected to prove that the great Whig party is nothing more nor less than an enormous band of Traitors!

"Prominent among those letter-writing heroes, who have transmitted to the United States, their senseless and slanderous libels, and thus acquired for themselves, a publicity, they never sought on the field of battle, stands Col. Wynkoop, of the Pennsylvania volunteers. This gentleman our readers will recollect, a few months since, published a letter in some Locofoco Journal, which was subsequently copied in every village sheet, of that party, dissolving his connection with the WHIG party, and assigning as a reason for this political apostacy, the course of the Whig members of Congress, and the Whig press in opposition to the war. A few facts in regard to this "doughty warrior," who thus assumes to brand as cowards and traitors, at least a moiety of his countrymen, may perhaps serve to add to the notoriety, he is so desperately seeking and to obtain which he has not hesitated to woo disgrace and contempt.

"The first spot of Mexican ground upon which either he or his regiment landed (excepting the island of Lobos,) was the beach near Vera Cruz. The morning after that splendid debarkation Col. Wynkoop’s regiment, together with 1st and 2d Tennessee regiments underCols. Campbell and Haskell, constituting Gen. Pillow’s brigade, moved on round the city. Arrived at a dilapidated old monastery, these regiments were fired upon from the Chaparral by the foe whom it concealed. The 1st Tennessee regiment under Col. Campbell, was ordered to take the magazine upon a height from which the greatest part of the firing seemed directed, while Col. Wynkoop was ordered to take another height a little nearer the city, and upon which there could be seen a small body of Mexican troops. Both officers proceeded to discharge their duties. Col. Campbell succeeded in taking the magazine without the loss of a man—Col. Wynkoop after conducting his regiment to the base of the hill, led them back again and reported to Gen. Pillow, that the defences of the Chaparral rendered the ascent impassable, who immediately ordered forward Col. Haskell whose regiment charged the hill, and after a slight skirmish, hoisted the Tennessee flag, from its height.—The easy taking of a position, which he had deemed impassable, would have mortified any man, not favored with less ordinary sensibility. It operated far differently upon Col. Wynkoop, who being his own "Leonidas," send back to the United States, a very graphic and exaggerated account of that inconsiderable skirmish, in which he represents himself as being among the first upon top, and the Pennsylvania flag as the first to float from the summits. So much for his "first battle."
"Following him to the field of Cerro Gordo, our attention is attracted by another letter of his in which, he represents himself as being subjected to a most galling fire, and pours out encomiums without stint; upon the gallantry with which his regiment bore themselves in that memorable battle. What, however, are the facts? Col. Wynkoop, never participated actively in the fight, being place as also Col. Campbell’s regiment, in a ravine nearly out of the range of the batteries. Although in this reserve position, he succeeded however in acquiring for himself, no very enviable reputation, as is proved by the fact, that so flagrant was his conduct, that it brought down upon him the denunciation of Col. Campbell, upon whom the command devolved, after the wounding of Gen. Pillow and was proclaimed by this gallant officer as a coward, upon the field of battle. The facts are as follows: Col. Haskell’s regiment being repulsed after losing one third of their number, in less than three minutes, preparations were made by Col. Campbell, the Senior officer, and in command, Gen. Pillow being wounded, to renew the assault. For this purpose Col. Wynkoop’s regiment was ordered forward by Col. Campbell. He refused to obey, trembling assigning as a reason, that he had been previously ordered by Gen. Pillow to hold that position. Col. Campbell told him that Gen. Pillow was wounded and had assigned the chief command to him, as the Senior officer. He still refused to obey, whereupon Col. Campbell, denounced him as a poltroon and coward—and called upon his regiment to follow him as their commanding officer. The surrender of the Mexican garrison, at this time, caused by the successful assault of the gallant Harney upon the main height of Cero Gordo, saved this recreant WHIG, and dastard soldier, from any farther exhibition of cowardice. Such is the character of the wretch, whose libels upon the WHIG party have furnished so delectable a repast for the political gluttony of Loco-Foco presses.

"In regard to these facts, which may be questioned, we assure our readers and the public that they are derived from a reliable source, and are susceptible, if false, of an easy refutation by application to Col. Campbell of Tennessee. The reason of the failure of the trail of Col. Wynkoop, for such cowardly conduct, is found in the fact, that Col. Campbell, who of course, have been the most important witness, was to return in a few weeks, with his regiment, (their term of service having expired) to the U. States, and could not consequently be expected to remain in Mexico."

[BWP]

RW48v25i41p1c3, May 23, 1848: General Scott.

The Mayor of New York, understanding that the “great Captain” had embarked at Vera Cruz direct for that city, promptly communicated the fact to the Board of Aldermen. Measures were taken to render him all possible honor on his arrival.

In Washington, on the 17th inst., a large meeting was held at the City Hall, Major Seaton presiding, when the following highly eulogistic but just tribute was offered to the old hero, by Gen. Walter Jones, in the shape of a resolution:

"Resolved, That the Municipal Authorities of Washington truly understood and fairly represented the feelings and sentiments of the People of Washington, when they invited their fellow-citizens to unite in a reception of Major Gen. WINFIELD SCOTT, with such public demonstrations of honor and respect as are due to the eminent soldier and patriot, renowned in his prime of life for bravery and devotion in defense of his country’s most sacred rights, which were imperiled in the second war waged for national independence; for services and achievements in that vital struggle which had materially contributed to the glory and the safety of his country, and made his own name conspicuous in the rolls of fame; a soldier and patriot who, with all these titles to a name identified with a nation’s glory, has shed a new luster on his country’s arms by his campaigns in Mexico; and, at the same time, exalted and conspicuous in the rolls of fame; a soldier and patriot who, with all these titles to a name identified with a nation’s struggle which had materially contributed to the glory and the safety of his country, and made his own name.

[BWP]

RW48v25i41p1c5, May 23, 1848: Correspondence of the Vera Cruz Arco Iris. Campeachy, April 25, 1848.

"DEAR SIR: I take this opportunity of communicating to you the most important news.

"The country becomes every day in a worse condition; and if, in four months, foreign aid does not arrive, Yucatan will not survive. The negotiations which have been concluded with the Chief PAT will only serve us momentarily. The treaty runs in this wise: PAT, at the instance of his friends, signed articles highly degrading to the whites and their Government, PAT is to be Governor during life of the Indians. Don BARBARNINO is to be Governor of the white during life. Twenty-five hundred guns, taken from the Indians previous to the war, are to be returned to PAT. All debts due by the Indians are to be remitted. The uncultivated lands which had been sold by the Government shall become common property. There shall not be any personal contribution in Yucatan. The right of estola is abolished."
"The other Indian chiefs, however, deny that Pat had any right to make this treaty. His troops are abandoning him, and committing the worst sort of excesses. This army, it is thought, will soon take Izamel, which they were besieging.

"I ought also to tell you that Pat says he has sent emissaries to other parts of the Republic of Mexico to promote insurrection; and they having returned, he, from their statements, anticipated the greatest success."

[This seems to corroborate the intimation made previously in our columns that the Indian insurrections in San Luis Potosi and Guadalajara were connected with the Yucatan revolt.—Arco Iris. [BWP]

RW48v25i41p1c5, May 23, 1848: From the New Orleans Courier.

Hayti has again been the scene of bloodshed and murders. We learn that the brigantine Queen Victoria, (of Trinidad) Capt. Tucker, from Port-au-Prince, bound to Hamburg, with a cargo of coffee, &c., put into Mount Bay on Thursday last to purchase stores, as none could be procured a Port-au-Prince, in consequence of the state of matters at that place; and that Capt. Tucker reports that he has brought despatches from the British Consul there to Com. Bennet, on this station, requesting that a vessel of war should be immediately sent to Port-au-Prince, where a serious disturbance had taken place—a large number (some say upwards of a hundred) of the colored population having been massacred by their brethren. The cause of this outbreak has not been fully mentioned, but it is said that the lives of people of color were daily being sacrificed in large numbers. This determination on the part of the blacks to exterminate the browns had been brewing for a long time, in fact since the tyrant Soulouque has been president; and is now being realized with a vengeance that none but savages would be guilty of committing.

The commodore, we learn, has been unable to comply with the requisition of her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Port-au-Prince, there not being a single vessel of war at Prot Royal at this moment, excepting the guard and store-ships, which are useless in their present state.

It is certainly a cause of much regret that this island should be left so destitute of vessels or war as it is at present. It has been said that we can have no possible cause for alarm, but who can tell what a moment might produce. The present outbreak in Hayti, where the presence of a man-of-war to protect British interests would be much service, is a sufficient proof why Port Royal should not be as she now is—destitute of at least one available vessel of war to be used in cases of emergency. Who knows how many innocent beings have by this time been sacrificed to a merciless mob; who, had protection been afforded by one of her Majesty's vessels, would have been enabled to save themselves and their families from the general massacre, which, we are told, was going on in that unfortunate country.

The Alarm, Daring and Vixen are, it is said, cruising off the island of Cuba, and it is known when they will return to Port Royal.

We hope when this intelligence reaches England that the Admiralty will see the necessity of having a larger number of vessels of war on this station than at present. England seems, as had been said, truly to have forgotten her colonies, and evidently cares little or nothing about their prosperity when she leaves them so unprotected and at the mercy of other nations.

[BWP]

RW48v25i41p1c5, May 23, 1848: From Yucatan.

An arrival at New York, from Balize, Honduras, April 28, brings intelligence that the whole of Yucatan is now in possession of the Indians.

The taking of Bacalor by them has filled Balize with refugees, and, indeed, fears are entertained that they will attack Balize, in fulfillment of their threats. In the attack on Bucalor only five of the inhabitants were killed, but at Valladolid every male inhabitant was put to the sword.

A public meeting assembled on the 27th day of April, at the call of the British Superintendent, and fifteen thousand dollars were voted for the defence of the place. The militia will be called out, the old fort at the harbor repaired, and a cordon of posts established for the better security of the town. If the Indians should venture an attack they will certainly meet with a warm reception. They are represented as being in force to the number of twelve thousand strong.

The transmission of mails through the interior of Central America, was exceedingly difficult, in consequence of the unsettled state of the country.

[BWP]
By Express and Telegraph. AUGUSTA, GA. May 19, P. M.

Your daily Overland Express has arrived here, bringing New Orleans papers if the 14th inst. The following is the only news contained in the Picayune of that date:

LATEST FROM TAMPOCO.

The US propeller Col. Stanton arrived at New Orleans on the 13th inst. from Tampico, whence she sailed on the 7th. Lieut. Jenks, of the Seventh Regiment U S Infantry, is said to have died at Tampico, of yellow fever.

Rumors had reached Tampico that there was at least a quorum of the Mexican Congress at Queretaro, but there appeared to be but little faith in the truth of the report.

LATEST FROM BRAZOS SANTIAGO.

The U.S. steamship Telegraph, from Brazos Santiago, arrived at New Orleans on the 13th inst. She sailed on the 10th, but brings no news of interest.

An American named Towers was murdered at Matamoros recently by a Mexican servant, whose object is said to have been robbery. The murderer escaped, and had not been taken at the last accounts.

United States Senate.

The Senate despatched a great deal of business to-day. Several important bills were passed—among them, one making appropriation for the support of West Point Academy; and, also the bill admitting the Territory of Wisconsin into the Union as a State. The latter portion of the day’s session was devoted to private bills, several of which passed.

On motion, the Senate adjourned over to Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House was to day the theatre of an excited discussion on the Hodges slave case. Mr. STEPHENS made a great effort in behalf of the rights of the South and the preservation of the Union. His remarks were listened to with breathless attention by the House. After Mr. S. concluded, the vote was taken and the bill passed; and, then the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, MAY 20, P. M.

U.S. SENATE.

The Senate did not sit to-day.

The House was engaged nearly all day in Committee of the Whole on the bill for the purchase of the Madison Papers. Mr. McDONALD advocated the passage of the bill, and Mr. BOWLIN and others opposed it. The Committee finally rose and reported the bill to the House; and the question being taken on its passage, it passed the House.

On motion, the House then adjourned.


The question of who “killed the Mexican officer?” is argued with the ability of a lawyer, in the following communication. We think it is pretty clear, that if General Pillow really did kill a Mexican, he has failed to establish the fact so firmly as to command general belief. His only witness is a man of notoriously bad character; one whom all witnesses concur in representing as such. Besides the tale itself is so strange and incomprehensible, that it would shake the standing of any man, however celebrated for veracity. A desperate battle had taken place. The enemy had
been driven towards the West—Gen. Pillow was standing on the field of battle, when up ride four Mexican officers, from the rear—the very direction whence the American army had moved in the morning—as it seems just to swell the glory of Gen. Pillow! The thing is too much made up—there is too much of romance in it—it does not wear the face of probability. Where did these Mexicans come from, and where were they going? To reach Mexico, they would have to pass through the whole American Army; to have reached the position in which Pillow stood, they must already have passed the same lines. What could have been their object in either instance? But we leave the field to our a cute friend, Quivis:

[BWP]

RW48v25i41p1c1, May 23, 1848: Gen. Pillow and the Mexican Horse.

Messrs. Editors—Since the reports of the evidence in General Pillow's case have been in the course of publication, I have been looking with some curiosity for the particulars of the great combat, in which that officer killed a Mexican, and secured his spoils. For a long time no witness of the conflict appeared. "The man, who struck Billy Patterson," did not preserve his incognito more carefully, than the by-standers on this occasion. It occurred to me that something might be effected by and advertisement—"one hundred dollars reward for the man who saw Gen. Pillow kill a Mexican!" It does not appear that any thing of this kind was actually published: but, by some means or other, the General has at last succeeded in bringing out one man, who testifies (after a fashion) to the purpose desired. It is true that the witness is of doubtful reputation—that he has been visited, questioned, and his answers written down, by a member of the General's staff—and it is also true that his story is in itself very strange, and to many people incredible. Still, he is a witness, and he is the only one available: wherefore, it behooves Gen. Pillow to make the most of him for his purpose.

It will be remembered by all who read General Pillow's own report of his share in the day of Contreras and Churubusco, that he was invariably a little too late in every thing he planned, or directed to be done. Just as he had made up his mind to attack this point, or to turn that, he was sure to find himself anticipated by the activity of other officers and troops; and he seemed to report these matters rather to show, that he was not blind to the propriety of the movements, than as claiming any personal share in their achievement. Especially in the affair at the bridge, or tete du pont, there is no doubt that it was carried by the troops under WORTH'S command, and the Mexicans were driven out of it along the road towards the city, long before Pillow came up from the rear to the scene of action. Yet this fortified bridge, so obstinately defended by the Mexicans, so gallantly stormed by Worth's division, one of the most prominent features in the narratives of that memorable day, is the spot selected by Gen. Pillow's witness for the exploit in question. The troops who had stormed it, have all disappeared: the Staff of Gen. Pillow is all gone too: there is no body at hand, save Gen. Pillow himself, and t his witness, His Orderly, who has, until recently, been leading his horse by the bridle, while the General marched on foot. Suddenly, four Mexican officers appear, riding from the rear of Gen. Pillow, and endeavoring to pass him, on their way into the city. How it happened that they were left behind, not only by their comrades, but by the Americans under Worth, and even by the pedestrian Pillow, no one can conjecture. But they come—and the find a lion in the path! The heroic Pillow fires a pistol—one Mexican rolls from his saddle—the horse runs on and surrenders—while the other three Mexicans turn about and make off, no one knows whither. Whether the Mexican is dead or wounded—actually or only "substantially" killed, as the General phrases it, witness does not know. The whole affair seems to be inexplicable, except as a Providential arrangement, to enable the Tennessee champion to shoot a Mexican, and "gather" his horse. Nor is it less unaccountable, that no man should have seen it, except this one questionable witness—not one of the brave fellows who had carried this contested bridge—not a wounded man, nor a straggler, nor one of those left in charge of the post—not a single man of Gen. Pillow's personal followers, saw, or knew, or heard of, this gallant deed! One soldier does turn out of the ditch, and catch a stray horse by command of Pillow: but he saw no Mexican shot by him, and heard noting of any. Doubtless, there was many a fine horse seen riderless that day, without the agency of our hero prepared to sustain Gen. Pillow's account of his own personal prowess!

Is it uncharitable to say that this attempt is even more disgraceful than the original boast? I may be prejudiced, but it does remind me so strongly of Sir John Falstaff and the dead Percy, that I cannot forbear to quote the passage; and with it, I take my leave of this fustian warrior and his boasts.

"Falstaff.—If your father will do me any honour, so; if not, let him kill the next Percy himself. I look to be either earl or duke, I assure you.

Prince Henry.—Why, Percy I killed myself, and saw thee dead.

Falstaff.—Didst thou? Lord, Lord, how this world is given to lying! I grant you, I was down, and out of breath; and so was he: but we rose both at an instant, and fought a long hour by Shrewsbury clock. If I may be believed, so; if not, let them that should reward valor, bear the sin upon their own heads."  [First Part of Hunry IV.—Act. V.]  QUIVIS.

[BWP]
A very summary disposition was made of this debate in the Senate, by the announcement, on the part of Mr. Hannegan, that the parties had agreed upon terms of peace.—Those terms, we learn from the New York Tribune, are to the following effect:

1. That the aboriginal races shall be governed by their own chief; the Yucatocos by theirs; so that neither race can oppress the other.

2d. Twenty-five hundred muskets, taken from the Indians by the Yucatocos, before the war broke out, are to be restored. (The Congressional orators have been particularly careful not to hint at this, or any other provocation offered to the Indians.)

3d. The debts due to the whites by the Indians, are to be remitted. (The Tribune explains the manner in which these debts have accrued. The whites have stripped the Indians of all their lands, and these latter holding under them as tenants, fall hopelessly in debt to their landlords, and being compelled to make it good with their persons, on which the landlord retains a lien, a system of slavery known as peonage, in Mexico, is thereby established. This appears to have been one of the causes of the late rising.—All travellers represent the system of peonage as practiced in Mexico to be exceedingly oppressive.)

4th. The uncultivated lands are to revert to the people and again become common property. The Yucatecos, it appears, had divided them among themselves, and kept them in their wild State.

5th. Certain oppressive and unjust taxes are to be abolished.

These terms appear to be very moderate, and their exaction will afford the reader some idea of the grievances under which the Indians, who seem to be citizens, have long labored. It gives us a must higher idea of the Yucatan Indians than we had before conceived; and if the Yucatecos are like the rest of the Mexicans, and Santa Anna's invasion of Texas may be taken as a fair sample of that Nation's disposition, they are far less bloodily disposed, and are must farther advanced in civilized feelings, than their neighbors.

The correspondent of the Philadelphia North American alludes to a remarkable scene which took place, when the Chairman of the Committee of Foreign Relations announced that a treaty of amity had taken place between the belligerent parties. Mr. Niles declared, that since the Senator from Michigan and the Senator from Illinois had announced that the interposition of this Government was demanded, because intervention was threatened on the part of England he could not see how the re-establishment of peace between the belligerents could render that bill nugatory. These gentlemen attempted to reply; but it was a dead failure, and the bill and debate were disposed of, in the most summary way know to Legislative bodies.

This most lame and impotent conclusion, to a most strenuous effort at humbug, lays bare the hypocrisy of the Democratic party in a manner which, we opine, must be any thing but agreeable. All the world can now see through the whole business from beginning to end. It was never more warmly contended, no, not even in the days of the man with the “white hat,” that England was intriguing to get a foothold in Texas, than it was in this debate that she had her heart fixed upon Yucatan. The object is sufficiently obvious. It was designed to get up a feeling against England—always a powerful lever in this country—by means of which Democracy might continue to rule the Union. What did they care for the Yucatecos? Nothing! The Indians might have tomahawked or scalped the whole nation without a tear from them. It is for the purpose of making capital that the matter has been brought forward at this interesting crisis. These, it will be recollected, are the very men, who, after insisting that our claim to 54 deg. 40 min., was clear and indisputable, shamefully backed out, and give her all that she had ever claimed.

The correspondent of the North American says, the news of peace fell very heavily on Cass and his compeers. No doubt of it! What was it to them whether the Indians murdered a thousand men, women and children a day or not? If it could be made to “enure to their benefit”—could be converted into an electioneering element—what would they have cared had the war been eternal? It might be well enough, to be sure, provided it implied no sacrifice, to put a stop to the war, but when it was so much better for party purposes to let it run on, they would not hesitate in their choice. “The heart of a thorough polemic,’’ says Burke, “is as hard as the nether mill-stone.’’ So is the heart of the politician who makes politics a trade, and whose profits come in the shape of the “spoils of party.’’

That the President himself is, likewise, regardless of the issue of the Yucatan struggle, provided he can make a little capital for himself, we are firmly persuaded. He has known that a bloody war was desolating that country ever since February last—the Yucateco Commissioner, Mr. Sierra, represented to him the deplorable condition of his country—He turned a deaf ear to his complaints—and never, until the sovereignty of the country was offered, did he deem it worthy of notice. So much for the philanthropy of Mr. Polk, who, for his conduct in this affair, has been extolled by the Locofoco press as not inferior to Howard, to Reynolds, or to Benezet. His great aim has been to establish his worthiness of notice. So much for the philanthropy of Mr. Polk, who, for his conduct in this affair, has been extolled by the Locofoco press as not inferior to Howard, to Reynolds, or to Benezet. His great aim has been to establish his

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FROM MR. POLK'S SPEECH ON THE PANAMA MISSION.
He had voted for it [a resolution adverse to the message] because he believed it was declaratory of that uniform course of policy so happily pursued by the government from the adoption of the constitution to that period; because it was, as he conceived, still the true policy of the country; and because, being opposed, as he was, to the proposed mission to the Congress of Panama, under any circumstances, he wished to signify to the President and his Cabinet, by a distinct expression of opinion by the popular branch of the Legislature of the Union, the views which they entertained of the true policy of the country. That object had been effected by the vote of yesterday. By that vote it was distinctly announced by a majority of the House, as their opinion, that our policy with foreign nations is the same now as that laid down by Washington in his Farewell Address to the American People; that no circumstances had occurred in our foreign relations, or in the political connexions of other powers with each other, which authorized us to change that policy or to hazard the experiment of a new one. We had distinctly declared it as our opinion, by the adoption of that amendment, that our policy was now, as it ever had been, to observe a strict neutrality between all belligerent powers; that "in extending our commercial relations with foreign nations, we should have with them as little political connection as possible; that we should preserve peace, commerce, and friendship with all nations, and form entangling alliances with none; that we should not form alliances offensive or defensive, or negotiate respecting such as alliance, with all or any of the South American Republics; nor should we become parties with them or either of them, to any joint declaration for the purpose of preventing the interference of any European powers with their independence or form of government; or "to any compact for the purpose of preventing colonization on the continent of America." These are sentiments, Mr. P. said, to which he most willingly subscribed. However strong his sympathies might be in favor of liberty and republican institutions, in whatever part of the world they might make their appearance, the peace, the quiet, and prosperity of his own country were paramount to every other consideration.

[BWP]

RW48v25i41p2c3, May 23, 1848: Major Gen. Scott.

Pursuant to notice, a general meeting of the citizens of Elizabethtown, (N.J.) was held at the Court House for the purpose of taking proper measures of giving to Gen. WINFIELD SCOTT a hearty welcome to his HOME.

Elias Winans, Esq. was appointed Chairman; Henry Downington, Assistant Chairman; Joseph C. Hinchman, Secretary, and William Ross, Assistant Secretary. On motion,

Resolved, That a committee of thirty be appointed to make suitable arrangements for the reception and welcome of General Scott.

Which committee being appointed, it was

Resolved, That Charles King, Benjamin Williamson, and Edward Sanderson be a committee to prepare resolutions expressive of the views of the meeting—who reported the following, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we rejoice in the near prospect of welcoming home our friend, neighbor and townsman, General Winfield Scott, from his brilliant and arduous field of service in Mexico.

Resolved, That as Americans we exult in the proofs afforded by the campaign from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico, not less of the indomitable valor, eminent military skill and well sustained discipline of our armies, than of the moderation in triumph, and humanity in the midst of conquest, which have signalized and sanctified their victories.

Resolved, That in the inexhaustible resources, the remarkable military foresight, and the unaltering confidence on his gallant troops, of there commander, General Winfield Scott, we find abiding motives of national and personal pride and gratification, and that all these feelings are enhanced by the fact, that this great American is our neighbor, townsman and friend.

Resolved, That while we admire the brilliant achievements of the soldier, we love the virtues of the man, and no difference of political sentiment shall restrain us from greeting his return from the fields of his own, and his country's glory, with the warmest feelings of our heart. We will do him justice, though the Heavens fall.

Therefore, Resolved, That we will voice with the Corporate Authorities of this borough in manifesting in such mode, as shall be judged most fitting, our attachment, admiration, gratitude and respect, to Gen. Winfield Scott.

[BWP]

RW48v25i41p2c5, May 23, 1848: Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot. Washington, May 18, 1848.

In the Senate, to-day, Mr. Allen made a long, an Allen-speech, in opposition to Mr. Reverdy Johnson's call upon the President. It was all thunder, however, without rain or lightning. No damage was done to any body. It was far from being anticipated that any would be done. At the termination of the speech, the Senate went into Executive session.
The principal feature in the proceedings of the House, to-day, was the Presidential speech of Mr. Cocke, of Tennessee, who took uppon the Loco-foco colleagues, who feared to do the work themselves, and, as assigned attorney, brought out Mr. President Polk as a candidate for re-election! He said, the party all maintained, that Mr. Polk had been true and faithful to his principles—was as popular now as he ever had been—and was eminently entitled to the thanks of the whole country! Why, then, he asked, not run him again. Did he not run powerfully four years ago, and what had he done since, that should cause him to be less strong now? All his partisan friends were contending that he had been faithful and true to his country, and had done well. Why, then, discard him—why throw him overboard?

Mr. Cocke said, he was apprehensive, that the office-holders did not dare meet the coming crisis with Mr. Polk as their candidate. They dreaded the terrible retribution which the people would visit upon him for the manner in which he had administered their affairs.

In order to show, that Mr. Polk had been true to his spoils principles, and to his friends who procured his nomination by the Baltimore Convention of 1844, Mr. Cocke furnished a statement as below* [not included, but ran at end of article (copy was incomplete)].

The speech produced some fluttering in the party. Two of the Tennessee members, Mr. Stanton and MR. Jones, wished to interrogate the speaker, but he had no time to waste in answer to such question as they might choose to ask him, and so he went on and concluded his speech, or, rather, spoke his hour our before he had concluded.

If he can do what General Bayly did, day before yesterday, he may get the whole of his speech into the newspapers. In on e hour after the General, from Accomac, had finished speaking his speech on the rights of the territories, he had written out in full for the press, as it appears in the “Union!” I say, in full, for it is very full, containing, certainly, twice as much as he delivered in the House!

Among the distinguished passengers here at this time, is General Cadwalader, looking finely. The Court of Inquiry, and Major General Gideon J. Pillow, are expected to arrive here in two or three days. Whether the Court will be re-opened here or at Frederick, has not been, as I learn, ultimately determined.

Mr. Dave Johnson was in the House to-day. So was Gov. Smith, “Extra Billy,” of Virginia. So also was “the man in the corner,” as Mr.Clay once designated and at the same time immortalized him, Perry Smith, late United States Senator from Connecticut. Doubtless he is a delegate to the Baltimore Convention.

The presence of so many members of that Convention here at this time, and the Locofoco manoeuvering going on, will have a good effect upon the Whigs, and do much towards determining them to complete harmony. POTOMAC. [BWP]

RW48v25i41p4c1, May 23, 1848: Secretary Marcy and Gen. Scott.

From the long period of time which elapsed between the receipt of Gen. Scott’s letters and the answer by Secretary Marcy—from the immense labor evidently bestowed upon the latter document—and from the unconscionable elaboration of all its details—it is fair to presume that he has made the best and most comprehensive defence, which his case will admit. As, however, documents of that length are rarely ever read by any body but editors of newspapers, and a few inveterate quidnuncs scattered through the country, it is a matter of very little consequence whether such be the fact or not. It is too late to change the current of popular opinion. It is the general belief of the country that the conduct of the Administration towards General Scott, has been highly iniquitous; and that it proceeded entirely from jealousy. So palpable is this fact to every mind, that the defence of Mr. Marcy has been

We regard Mr. Marcy’s letter, with all its attempt at sarcasm, and all its special pleading, as a virtual confession of every thing material that has been charged upon him. For first, the Whig press charged, that in May 1846, the Cabinet was guilty of intriguing with Congress to obtain the passage of a bill for increasing the number of Major Generals, with leave to the President to select the Commander-in-Chief, and that the object of the Executive was, to put civilians over the heads of Scott and Taylor, for political purposes. It was further charged that during the next session the President attempted to create the office of Lieut. General, which is known to the Constitution only when the country is in extreme danger, for no other purpose than to put Mr. Benton over the heads of Scott and Taylor, who it was hoped would resign in disgust.

The reader cannot but see at a glance, that these charges involve turpitude of a very deep die; that they imply corruption in its very worst form; and that the authors if guilty, deserve and should receive the severest condemnation of the public. The first was proved at the time by the incontrovertible evidence of concurrent facts. With regard to the second portion of the allegation, (the Lieut. General,) Gen. Scott in his letter says:

*I left Washington highly flattered with the confidence and kindness the President had just shown me, in many long personal interviews on military matters. For more than two months my expressions of gratitude were daily and fervent, nor were they less emphatic towards the head of the War Department. Proceeding with zeal and confidence in my most hazardous duties, I learned, January 27, at the Brazos San Jago, that an attempt was on foot to create a
Lieutenant General, to take command in the field over me. Shocked and distressed, I allowed of no relaxation in my efforts to serve my country, resolved that for the short time I was likely to remain in commission, to be—

"True as the dial to the sun,

Although it be not SHINED upon."

A yet greater outrage soon followed: falling to obtain an act for the citizen Lieutenant General, a bill was pressed upon Congress to authorize the placing a junior Major General just appointed (the same individual,) in command over all the old Major Generals then in front of the enemy!

I will not here trust myself to add a soldier's comment upon these attempts; but I may thank God that He did not allow them, or subsequent injuries, to break down entirely the spirit and abilities (such as they are) with which He had endowed me.

This is a very serious charge. It accuses the President and Secretary, of intriguing against an old and experienced General, while he was at a long distance from home, in the field at the head of the American troops, and even in the actual presence of the enemy. If they were indeed guilty of this intrigue—if the plan actually was conceived to put a pettifogging lawyer, whose only claim to the title of soldier was derived from his military hat and boots, over the hero of Chippewa and Niagara—if they actually did contemplate all this—then it is impossible to find a name sufficiently expressive of their baseness. Does the Secretary, in his enormously elaborated "reply," attempt to refute or deny the charges here directly made by Gen'l Scott, and so deeply implicating his character as an honorable man? Not he. Loquacious as he is upon every other point, on this he is as silent as the rave. This silence is significant enough. Under the circumstances, it is equivalent to a full and unreserved confession of all that Gen. Scott has charged against him.

In the second place, not only the people of this country, but all Europe, whose eyes were fixed with mingled feelings of anxiety and admiration upon the daring career of the 'Great Captain,' are astonished, that without any charge to which it was possible to give credit for a moment, he has been suspended from his command—placed before a court martial—and brought down to a level with Lawyer Pillow. What does Mr. Marcy say with regard to this most anomalous proceeding? Hear him!

"The crowning outrage, as you regard it, is the simple fact that you, and 'the three arrested officers' 'are all to be placed together before the same court—the innocent and the guilty—the accuser and accused; the judge and his prisoners are dealt with alike.' 'Most impartial judge!' you exclaim. And why is it not impartial justice? On what ground of right can you claim to have your case discriminated from theirs? It is true, you have assumed to be their judge, and have pronounced them guilty; and complain and repine that the laws of the country do not allow you, their accuser, to institute a court to register your decrees. But you are not this rightful judge, although they were your prisoners. Before that court you all stand on the same level, and all have equal rights. Though you may have the self-satisfying conviction that you are innocent and they are guilty, the government could act upon no such presumption."

Mr. Marcy must have known, when he wrote this paragraph, that he was guilty of a gross misrepresentation.—He knows that the "crowning outrage" was not such as he represents it to be, and his own conscience tells him, but too truly, what it really was. The whole country—the whole civilized world, knows what the "crowning outrage" was, and Governor Marcy cannot conceal it from them any more than he can from his own conscience. It was that the most renowned General of the age—he who had just performed a series of achievements surpassing in brilliancy any that were ever before enacted on this continent, at least since the days of Cortez—should, without being charged with any moral offense whatever, be dragged before a tribunal of inferior officers, to answer charges which no human being believed in, and which, in truth, were so absurd, that Worthy, who brought them, was ashamed to prosecute them. This the Secretary knew perfectly well when he wrote this hypocritical paragraph. He knew, and the whole nation knows, that when Gen. Scott attempted to enforce order 349, Mr. Polk's own order, he met with the most violent opposition on the part of Pillow, Worth, and Duncan. To say that their conduct was contumacious, would be to give but a faint description of it.—It was full of malice and insult. The Secretary does not attempt to defend the Constitution of his Court, for in truth, he very well knew that it would not admit of defence. According to every notion which we have entertained with regard to military law and etiquette it was illegal; at any rate, it was constituted in total disregard of the feelings of the prisoner.

Gen. Scott applied for a court-martial to try Brig. Gen. Marshall, for a gross violation of the laws of war, and his application having been rejected, he complains of the fact in his letter to the Secretary of War. From the Secretary's reply to this letter, we shall learn how much value is to be placed on any motive he may choose to assign for his conduct. He contradicts himself as flatly as though he were cross-examined in open court, under an oath to speak the truth.

"The next specification in the catalogue of charges preferred against me, is that a court martial was not instituted by the President for the trial of Gen. Marshall and Captain Montgomery on your charges against them. The offenses imputed to them were certainly not of an aggravated character. The one, as was alleged, had been incautious in relation to a despatch under circumstances that might admit of its coming to the knowledge of the enemy, and the other had not carried a despatch with as much expedition as you thought he might have done. As one was a general officer, a court to try him must have been composed of officers of high rank. Before the order for assembling it could have reached Mexico, it was foreseen that your command would be at Vera Cruz, and probably engaged in an active siege of that city."
Let the reader take particular notice of the reasons here assigned for declining to call a court-martial in the case of Gen. Marshall. They are that "the offences imputed to them were not of an aggravated character," and that "as one was a general officer, a court to try him must have been composed of officers of high rank." Why could not these rules be allowed to operate in favor of Gen. Scott? Why should he, of all others, be selected as the object for a trial, upon charges too frivolous to be prosecuted, even by the envenomed malice of an apostate friend? Why should he, of all others, be tried by a court of inferior rank? In fine, why was he alone considered by the Secretary of War, as out of the pale of the law military? It would have been easy to have placed Generals Butler, Twiggs and Shields on that court. Why were they passed over, and Caleb Cushing, the very emblem of venality, and Gen. Towson, who, though as far as we know, an honorable man, is yet paymaster of the army, (an office which is renewed every four years, and as such dependent on the Executive,) placed upon the court?

We shall pursue this subject no farther for the present. If Mr. Marcy's commissions were not sufficient to shew the malignity with which Gen. Scott has been pursued, this letter would furnish such proof in abundance.

Yucatan.

The reader will find, in our columns to-day, much that is interesting with regard to this country and its inhabitants. The communications of the Secretary of War to Commodore Perry, (in another column,) are remarkable documents, and if they do not involve us in several wars, we shall have every reason to bless our stars. The correspondent of the Journal of Commerce says, with regard to them:

"The above order is the most important that has ever been given from this Government on any occasion. It is manifestly intended to carry out Mr. Polk's views and policy, as declared by him in his various messages, in regard to the interference of European Powers in the affairs of this continent. It will involve us in a war with England, Spain and France, if anything can do it. I begin to believe now that Mr. Polk is going for re-election, and is carving out work enough for his second term which is evidently to be signalized by several glorious wars!"

Yucatan Instructions.

The following are copies of the Instructions to our Navy in relation to the contest waging in Yucatan, as recently transmitted by the President to Congress:

NAVY DEPARTMENT, May 15, 1858.

SIR: I have the honor in answer to the resolution of the Senate of the 13th instant, to transmit a copy of my communications to Commodore Perry of the 8th of March and of the 12th instant, on the subject of giving protection to the white population of Yucatan with the naval forces under his command.

No advices have been received at this Department from the commander or officers of the squadron in the Gulf of Mexico of a date later than the 15th of April, ultimo.—All the communication on the subject, received from any of them, have been already transmitted to the Senate.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

The PRESIDENT.

JOHN Y. MASON.

Navy Department, March 8, 1848.

SIR: Your despatch, No. 125, of the 15th February, 1848, with its enclosure, has been received.

During my absence from Washington a communication was received from the honorable Secretary of State, under date 28th December, 1847, enclosing a copy of Mr. Buchanan's despatch to Mr. Sierra, a commissioner from Yucatan. I have acted under the impression that it had been communicated to you, with instructions to conform to the wishes of the President, as made known to Mr. Sierra. On receiving your despatch, I have caused inquiry to be made, and suppose that I was mistaken. I therefore hasten to make to you this communication, and to send to you copies of Mr. Buchanan's letters to the Department and to Mr. Sierra. It is desirable that the Yucatecos shall have
the benefit of the relief which was assured to them; and I therefore request that you will give immediate orders to
carry out the proposed plan of exempting Yucatan vessels and cargoes from payment of duty at Laguna, as
suggested in Mr. Buchanan’s letter; and, as far as it can be satisfactorily ascertained, refund any duties which have
been collected at that place since the date of February 4, 1848, which duties would not have [been] exacted is you
had received this instruction in due time, after the letter of the Secretary of State.

The President has heard with regret of the ferocious and murderous conflict now raging between the Indians and
whites of Yucatan. I am happy to hear of your contemplated visit, and hope that you will be able, by your presence,
to exert a favorable influence in checking the advance of the Indians towards the towns and villages on the seacoast.
An application has been made to the Department, and another by Mr. Sierra to the President, to allow a shipment of
gunpowder, to enable the whites to defend themselves in their war with the Indians, to be landed at Sisal. I enclose
you a copy of my answer. No authority can be given from the Department to land articles contraband, without a
knowledge of its necessity, and without satisfactory assurance that it will be applied exclusively to that object. But
humanity requires that the importation should be prevented, if you shall be satisfied that the powder is not to be
used for other or hostile purposes towards us. If, when the vessel called the "Mary Ann" shall appear off the coast,
the Indians shall have been defeated and dispersed, and, in your opinion, the powder should not be landed, you will
not subject the vessel to any penalty or forfeiture, but will allow her to retire without landing that part of her cargo.
If the contest still rages, and you are satisfied that the powder will not be used against us, you will interpose no
impediment to its being landed at Sisal.

The Department has entire confidence in your discretion, and in your judicious views of the best mode of maintaining
intercourse with Yucatan.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

J. Y. MASON.

Commodore M. C. PERRY, Commanding Home Squadron, Gulf of Mexico.

[BWP]

RW48v25i41p4c4, May 23, 1848: (Confidential.) Navy Department, May 12, 1848.

SIR: Your course of proceeding, in your recent visit to various points along the coast as far as Campeachy, as
reported in your dispatches, beginning with that of the 29th of February, has been highly satisfactory to the
Department.

The deplorable condition to which the State of Yucatan appears to have been reduced by the ferocious and inhuman
war waged by the Indians against the Government and white inhabitants of that State appeals most strongly to the
sympathies of the civilized world, and I am gratified to perceive that you have employed your kind offices, as well as
disposed of the limited force at your disposal, so as to give protection to the inhabitants who are flying from their
homes before a ruthless enemy.

I was very reluctant to order the "Albany" to Laguyra, when your force was so much weakened by the return of the
Mississippi, John Adams, Germantown, and Saratoga to the north; but the dispatches of Mr. Shields represented the
condition of our citizens and their commercial interests in Venezuela as so critical that the President considered it
indispensable that a ship of war should be present to give protection, if required. Your prompt dispatch of the Albany
on that interesting service is highly approved. The Germantown, Commander Lowndes, sailed for Vera Cruz from
Norfolk on the 25th of April ultimo, and the Saratoga, Commander Nicholson has orders to touch at Aux Cayes, and
to give any required protection to American interests in Hayti, and to report to you with the least possible delay.

The questions presented in your dispatches are of very grave import. I send you herewith a copy of a message which
the President deemed it to be his duty to send to Congress, on the second day of the present month, in regard it as
the settled policy of the United States not to permit any colonization of new territory on the North American
continent by European monarchies; and recommends to Congress that means be placed at his disposal for the
military occupation of Yucatan, with a view to save the white population from destruction by the Indian race, and to
prevent the practical occurrence of the question by the Yucatcoes being compelled to receive protection from any
European Power.

During the present war with Mexico, conducted on our part with a humanity which must excite the pride of every
American, it has been our constant policy to repel rather than encourage Indian depredations and incursions even on
our enemy; and the liberal treatment extended to Yucatan, as the just reward of her neutral position, entitles her
people to the full benefit of this policy.

I am aware that, from the necessity of your holding the several points now in your possession, and with your limited
force, you cannot spare the means of effective assistance, even along the coast of Yucatan; and from the danger to
which the vessels would be exposed in the navigation of the Gulf there would be great danger of their loss if their
crews were landed, even if they were in sufficient number, or prepared with camp equipage or field artillery, for
operations inland. I have not, therefore, expected you to do more, with the naval forces under your command, than
to give protection to the fleeing inhabitants, and, acting on the principal of my instruction of March 8th, waiving all
belligerent rights against Yucatan as a part of Mexico, our enemy permit munitions of war to enter per ports, if you are satisfied they are to be used for the defence of the whites against the savage enemy. It will be judicious to strengthen your forces at El Carmen; and, in addition to those already sent by you to Laguna, it would appear to me to be proper to send the entire detachment of marines now at Alvarado, with instructions to repel the Indians if they approach that point; but there is not sufficient force, nor have you the necessary equipment, to justify a march into the interior. Such an operation should only be conducted by a well-appointed military force.

Before the receipt of your despatch of the 29th of February, announcing your intention to sail for Campeachy on the next day, and communicating your purpose in regard to any intervention on the part of Spain, I had received dispatches from Commander Bigelow, communicating the cautiously-guarded instructions of the small Spanish vessels of war which were at Sisal. I am happy to learn by your subsequent report that no occasion has presented itself for you to determine whether the measures of the Spanish authorities of Cuba required interposition on your part.

While the United States are engaged in war with Mexico, the actual presence, without our consent, of the armed forces of a neutral Power within the territory of our enemy, co-operating with any portion of the Mexican people in military operations, cannot be permitted. Such a state of things it is hoped will not occur. If you should have reason to believe that it will, you will communicate without delay, that the President may take such course as his constitutional duty will require at his hands.

The distinguished services of Commander Bigelow are highly appreciated, and you will make known to him the unqualified approbation of the Department of his ready acquiescence in your request that he remain in his command after he had received a permission to return home.

Your despatch of the 29th of March will be made the subject of a special communication.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. Y. MASON.

Commander M. C. PERRY, Commanding U. S. squadron Gulf of Mexico.

[ birçok]
delivered any other order to the regiment on that day.—This conversation was carried on in an ordinary tone of voice, Lieut. Martin being on one side of Lieut. Bennett, and myself on the other, and I presume that Lieut. Martin heard all that passed, though I can recollect that when I first told Lieut. Bennett that I wished to put a question to him he separated a short distance from Lieut. Martin.—This conversation was entirely without the knowledge of Gen. Scott, nor have I at any time during or previous to the sessions of this court knowingly had a conversation with a witness for the defence except in one single instance, perhaps two—those are Major Caldwell and Lieut. Colonel Johnson, of the Voltigeurs, to whom I put a single question as to whether they had heard Gen. Pillow state that Gen. Scott was stunned or paralyzed by the disaster or disasters of Molino del Rey, and then I understood that they would be called as witnesses for the prosecution on that point.—These two conversations were held without the knowledge or instance of Maj. Gen. Scott. I have no knowledge of any staff officer of Gen. Scott's wither having inquired of any of the witnesses of the defence as to what their knowledge was.

By the defence: Q—Is witness aid-de-camp to Major Gen. Scott?

A—I am acting in that capacity.

Q—Witness has said in the conversation with Lieut. Bennett that he, witness, stated his "impressions" as to the orders delivered by Capt. Hooker. If witness was not on the ground and could not, therefore, have any knowledge of facts, what was his, witness's, object in stating to Bennett what was his impression, when witness, in point of fact could have no impression?

A—My impressions were derived from the testimony which has been given, and from conversation with others. The remark was made as to my impressions after Lieut. Bennett had said that Capt. Hooker had delivered the order to cross the pedregal, and he (Lieut. Bennett) did not know or recollect that he delivered any other; I told him of my impressions as the reasons of my asking the question.

Q—Has witness been in the habit of submitting his reports of the proceedings of this court to Mr. Freaner for his information; has witness been in the habit of furnishing other information to Mr. Freaner which, but for the facilities thus afforded Mr. Freaner he could not have obtained—knowing he was the correspondent of the Delta?

A—The witness said he thought as the court had permitted reporters to be present, he did not consider the question put as being a proper one, or connected with the case. He thought it losing the time of the court, still he had no objection to answer it.

Gen. Pillow submitted the following question which he said would follow the former one objected to. It was not allowed to be put.

Q—Witness will state if Mr. Freaner has been in the habit of submitting his letter and correspondence designed for his paper, to witness, for his examination, information and correction, and did Gen. Scott not know that witness was thus furnishing information to Mr. Freaner, and that Mr. Freaner was submitting his letters and correspondence to witness, and was this habit of supervising the correspondence of Mr. Freaner by witness known to and approved by Gen. Scott?

Gen. Pillow submitted the following in support of the question put to witness:

The defence submits the two last questions and desires that they may be answered. He deems them important, as showing the habits of close intimacy and personal relations existing between the witness, Freaner, and prosecutor, so as to enable the court properly to estimate the testimony of that witness. The defence also deems the proof material, as sustaining and justifying the conduct of the defence in himself furnishing the information asked by Freaner, which is now the subject matter of a distinct specification in the charges against defendant, namely, the paper marked No. 1. The defendant admits he caused it to be furnished said Freaner, and the defendant has proved that the paper was furnished upon the application of the said Freaner. The facts in that paper the defendant has proved to be substantially true, he believes. If the prosecutor was himself, through a confidential staff officer, furnishing the same kind of information to the same correspondent, it is a justification of the very act which the prosecutor condemns in the defendant, by doing the very thing condemned in the defendant.

The view of the case is greatly strengthened by the practice already proven of the general staff of the prosecutor having in five different instances written letters which appeared in the public press, giving very partial and inaccurate accounts of the operations of the army in this valley, two of which it is proven were known to the prosecutor himself, and parts thereof read to him. One grossly and scandalously false and abusive of the defendant, misrepresenting the conduct of the defendant, and discussing the very matters which the court is now considering, and intended and calculated, as the defense believes, to poison the public mind against the defence, and to cause it to prejudice the very matter at issue while the defendant was held under arrest, awaiting the application of the prosecutor to the Government for a court martial, for the trial of the defendant. Surely, under the circumstances it is legal testimony, and proper to go before this court, as showing the motives of the prosecution, as well as justifying the act of defendant in furnishing a paper (No. 1) already referred to, and in both points of view it is offered. The defendant does not consider the proof, sought to be made by the two questions above, as calling for proof of conduct which is in violation of regulations or law. If right in the prosecutor it cannot be wrong in the defendant; but as the prosecutor considers it wrong in the defendant, he (the defendant) has a right to prove the defendant did the same thing.
Respectfully submitted.

Gen. Scott submitted the following:

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Court—The question to the witness has not been objected to by him nor by the prosecutor; but if the court allows it to be answered, the prosecutor will ask to be permitted to inquire what papers or notes connected with this investigation the defendant and his staff have furnished to the reporters for the public press; and the court will recollect that reporters openly copy evidence and documents belonging to the case from its records in open court.

In reply to the paper of the defendant I will merely add, that it has assumed as proven a great number of assertions which have not been proven, and which are entirely unsupported by facts.

Respectfully submitted.

The court decided that the question be not answered.

Lieut. Bennett, 15th Infantry, recalled.—Is witness acquainted with the general character for veracity of Private Ayres, and from witness’ knowledge of him would he credit his testimony?

A—I have been acquainted with him for about ten months, and would give credit to his testimony under oath.

Q—Where is the 15th Infantry now stationed?

A—At Cuernavaca.

Q—Does witness know the gambler Miller, a witness for the prosecutor in this case, if so, he will state what he has heard him say within the last few days about Gen. Pillow?

A—I have known him about nine months. I think it was about three evenings ago that I saw Miller at the Gran Sociedad. I heard some person abusing Gen. Pillow; I stepped close to a crowd, there were four persons together; Miller remarked that "Gen. Pillow ought to be taken out of town, or out of the city, (I forget which) and shot.

Gen. Scott submitted the following paper:

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Court—Under the rule you have established, I briefly reduce to writing the remarks which I yesterday submitted orally. I have not had time to consult the mass of evidence which has been spread upon the record of the court, and therefore can only speak from memory. Among the side issues the defence has been allowed to raise by cross-examination in the progress of this investigation and direct testimony, are the following:

1. The merits of the attack upon the Molino del Rey, the 8th of September last, whereas that battle is only alluded to in one of the specification (the 4th charge, 2d) to introduce an assertion of the defendant which the specification alleges to be false.

2. The relative merits of the attack commenced September 12th, on the castle of Chapultepec, compared with an attack that might have been made about the same time upon the gate of San Antonio, one of he southern entrances to the city, whereas the latter attack is only alluded to in the same specification to introduce declarations of the defendant which are alleged to be false.

3. The merits of the temporary armistice agreed upon at Tacubaya in August last, whereas the armistice is only alluded to in the sixth specification (same charge) to introduce the alleged fact that the defendant was not opposed to an armistice until he knew that he would not be a commissioner on the part of the American army to negotiate one.

All the testimony introduced by the defendant touching these matters is entirely irrelevant under the merits of any specification under the inquiry of the Court, and has served to overlay the true merits of the case, and by partial view, to misrepresent the events of the campaign, the motives and conduct of several of the commanders and particularly those of the General-in-chief of the American army in Mexico.

The prosecutor repeatedly admonished the Court in the progress of the investigations of the irregularities in question, without following the testimony, except incidentally and very partially the defendant in these side issues.

It is now asked will the Court permit the prosecution to go fully by evidence into the matters recited above, so as to repel and contradict the partial testimony complained of.

Respectfully submitted.
The court was cleared for some time, Maj. Gen. Pillow and Scott remaining. After the usual daily recess which followed, Gen. Pillow submitted the following:

Maj. Gen. Pillow respectfully submits to the court that he has gone into side issues not further than was necessary to meet the several points set forth by the prosecutor in his charges and specifications, to make such explanation so to put the court in possession of the facts and the circumstances immediately connected with the charges preferred, and to shield his reputation from the imputations, and insinuations (whether true or false, remains for this court, or the evidence to determine) cast upon it by his prosecutor, Maj. Gen. Scott.

Maj. Gen. Pillow expresses his willingness and anxiety to go into proof of his conduct before the investigations commenced in relation to the voluminous charges and specifications preferred against him. This matter (so far as the witnesses in this country were at hand) is now disposed of, he now expresses an equal willingness and anxiety to proceed to the investigation of any other matter the court may think proper to enter upon in the shape of charges or sensations preferred by Gen. Scott or any body else against himself, but if new issues are to be made not connected with the charges against himself, he claims the position of a witness and no longer that of a defendant.

Respectfully submitted.

The court was again closed, and after a short consideration came to the following decision:

The court, not having admitted collateral evidence irregularly, nor gone into any collateral evidence, when objected to by the prosecution in the form presented by the court, decides not to enter upon the inquiry now purposed as it will be seen by the record that neither the merits of the attack on Molino del Rey, nor the relative merits of an attack on Chapultepec and San Antonio Gartis, nor the merits of the armistice of August last are before the court.

There being no witness present in Court, the President stated that the court would then be cleared, at the same time requesting Gen's Scott and Pillow to remain, for the purpose of coming to a decision about arrangements for adjournment to the United States. At same time, the President informed Gen. Scott that if his two witnesses Col. Morgan and Capt. Chase, whom he wished to examine, in reference to the movements of the 15th regiment on the 19th August, and his arrival on the mound, overlooking Contreras, on the same afternoon, should be before the court left this country, they would be both examined.

The court soon after adjourned until to-morrow morning.

[BWP]
the Administration editors, and some Washington letter writers, to create the impression that the letter had been expressly prepared by politicians at Washington.”

Upon what peg will the Union and its echoes now hang their cavils?

No title. Mr. Trist, it is said, ... Mr. Trist, it is said, is going to publish a pronunciamento vindicating his course while in Mexico. Mr. T. was a great pet of Mr. Polk in the beginning, but coming in collision with a still greater pet, Gen. Pillow—"my dear Pillow"—Mr. Polk’s infirmity, as he is called out West—he is fallen into irretrievable disgrace.

Speech of Mr. Calhoun, Upon the Temporary Occupation of Yucatan.

[From Dr. Houston’s Report]

The Senate resumed, as in Committee of the Whole, the bill to enable the President of the United States to take temporary military occupation of Yucatan.

Mr. CALHOUN—The President in his message recommends to Congress to adopt such measures as they may deem sufficient, in the first place, to prevent Yucatan from becoming a colony of any European power; and in the next place, to prevent the white inhabitants of that territory, from being exterminated or expelled. In support of the last recommendation, he informs the Senate that there is now raging a cruel and devastating war, on the part of the Indians against the whites; and that unless some foreign power interpose, they will be destroyed or driven from the country. In support of the other recommendation, he states that the government of Yucatan has offered to the governments of Great Britain, Spain, and the United States, the dominion over the country, in order to obtain aid. The President also informs the Senate, that unless we grant aid, some other power may assert its dominion and sovereignty over the territory—a result which he alleges would be in contravention of the declaration of Mr. Monroe, and which on no account must be permitted.—The committee on Foreign Relation, in order to carry out these recommendations, have reported a bill which is now before us; the first section of which provides for the taking military possession of Yucatan, as recommended by the President.

The subject, sir, is of great magnitude. It is pregnant with consequences, both near and remote, which may deeply
affect the peace and interests of this country. It demands the most serious deliberation. I have bestowed upon it full attention, and have arrived at a conclusion adverse to the recommendations of the President, and the report of the committee. I propose to show, in the first place, that the case of Yucatan, even as stated by the President himself, does not come within the declaration of Mr. Monroe, and that this declaration does not furnish the slightest support to the report of the committee.

In the message referred to, that of 1823, Mr. Monroe makes three distinct declarations; the first, and by far the most important, announces that the United States will not regard any attempt on the part of the Allied Powers to extend their power to this country, otherwise than as dangerous to our peace and safety. To show that the case of Yucatan does not come within this declaration, all that will be necessary will be to explain who were the Allied Powers, the object of the alliance, and the circumstances in which the declaration itself was made. The Allied Powers were the four great continental powers—Russia, Prussia, Austria, and France. Shortly after the overthrow of Bonaparte, these powers entered into an alliance called the “Holy Alliance,” the object of which was to sustain and extend the monarchical principles as far as possible, and to oppress and put down republicanism. England, in the early stages of the alliance, favored it. The members of the alliance held numerous congresses, and declared either in person or by ambassadors, that they would undertake to regulate the affairs of all Europe, and that they would interpose in the affairs of Spain for the purpose of putting down popular doctrines. In its progress, the alliance turned its eyes to this Continent in order to aid Spain in regaining her sovereignty over her revolted provinces.

At this stage, England became alarmed. Mr. Canning was then prime minister. He informed Mr. Rush of the project; and conveyed to him at the same time the assurance that if sustained by the United States, Great Britain would resist. Mr. Rush immediately communicated with our government. It was received here with joy, for such was the power, such the combination of the Holy Alliance, that even we did not feel ourselves safe, from its interpositions. It was anticipated, almost with certainty, that if the interference took place with the governments of South America, the Alliance would ultimately extend its interposition to ourselves. I remember the reception of the despatch from Mr. Rush as distinctly as if all the circumstances had occurred yesterday. I well recollect the great satisfaction with which it was received by the cabinet. It came late in the year; not long before the meeting of Congress. As was usual, the papers were sent round that morning, to each member of the cabinet, so that all were duly apprized of all the circumstances, and each was prepared to give his opinion. The cabinet met. It deliberated. There was long and careful deliberation; and the result was the declaration which I have just announced.—All this has passed away! That very movement on the part of England gave a blow to the celebrated Alliance from which it never recovered. From that time forward it gradually decayed, till it utterly perished. The late revolutions in Europe have put an end to all its work, and there is now nothing that the Alliance ever ordered or formed but has been utterly overthrown.

Now, by what ingenuity of argument—by what force of sophistry, can it be shown that this declaration comprehends the case of Yucatan? The events which called it forth have passed away forever. The next declaration was that we could not regard the interposition of any European power to oppress the governments of this continent, which we had recently recognized as independent, or to control their destiny in any manner whatever, in any other light than as manifesting an unfriendly disposition towards the United States. This declaration, also, belongs to the history of that day. It grew out of the same state of circumstances, and may be considered as an appendage to the declaration to which I have just alluded. By the governments on this continent which we had recognized, were meant the republics which had grown up after having thrown off the yoke of Spain. They had just emerged from their protracted revolutionary struggles. They had hardly yet reached a point of solidity; and in that tender stage, the administration of Mr. Monroe thought it proper not only to make that general declaration in reference to the Holy Alliance, but to make a more specific one, in order to countenance and encourage these young republics as far as we could with propriety. Now, I put the question—does the case of Yucatan come within this declaration? Has there been any interposition in the affairs of Yucatan on the part of any European power, with the design of oppressing her, or changing her destiny? If not, how can the case of Yucatan be comprehended in this declaration?

But it may be said, although the case of Yucatan is not expressly comprehended in the declaration, yet it is so indirectly—although there is not any such interposition on the part of any European power, yet it is mediated by England, for after all, that is the government which is meant in the message, under the general terms “European power.” The message, indicates that England meditates such interference, and the chairman of the committee on Foreign relations distinctly avows that opinion. Has England, then, manifested any disposition to interfere in order to oppress the people of Yucatan, or to change the character of their government from a republic to a monarchy? We have no evidence whatever on that point. It is true that the commissioner from Yucatan, Mr. Sierra, would insinuate as much. He speaks of the Indians who are in hostility to the white people of Yucatan as having obtained their arms from the British. He speaks with some degree of uncertainty, however and is unable to say whether the arms were given or not, and cannot state how they were obtained by the Indians. He speaks also of the hostile temper of England, and gives several indications of that kind. But in answer to all this, his own letter furnishes a conclusive reply. He tells us that the people of Yucatan could themselves have obtained arms from the Balize, without stating why they were prevented, or why they did not obtain them. Bu the arms were cheap, and there was a large supply of them. Now, the reason why the people of Yucatan did not receive those arms is, I think, a different one from that stated by the Senator from Massachusetts. In my opinion, it was owing to the fact that Yucatan was not considered a neutral power, but a part of Mexico; and that, therefore, it was on account of our own act, rather than that of the British settlement at the Balize, that arms were not received by the people of Yucatan. One of the members at the Balize has sent arms and a military force along the coast of Yucatan, without stating any particulars. I do not find any evidence of that. I do not know whether it is the fact or not; but it is be a fact, it still remains to be shown whether that was intended to relieve the people of Yucatan, or for the purpose of seizing and occupying the territory. The chairman of that committee took higher ground, and, without assigning his proof, said boldly and distinctly, that England meditated occupation of the country, and that we ought to pass this measure in order to prevent it. But the President himself does not put it upon this ground. He does not make this charge. He says, if we do not grant these supplies, England may—for I will speak in the singular number—or, the probability is, that she may grant these supplies; and that after granting these supplies, she may—there is no stronger expression used—may ultimately
assert her dominion and sovereignty over Yucatan. This is the utmost charge made by the President.

Now, the question arises—suppose this contingency may possibly happen, would to bring the case within the declaration just quoted? Not at all. England does not interpose as a hostile power. She does not come to oppress Yucatan. She comes only to aid—to rescue the people of Yucatan from extermination and expulsion by the Indians, according to the statement of the President himself. Again suppose England does assert her sovereignty, does that bring the case within the declaration? Not at all; for the declaration is directed against attempts to change the government against the will of the governed. But in this case the tender of sovereignty is voluntarily made on the part of Yucatan. The acceptance of it may be objected to, and it may be contended that we ought not to allow that. But I waive that for the present. I assert, without possibility of contradiction, that the case, even then, does not come within the declaration. The President himself gives strong indications that that is his only fear, although he cites this declaration, he does not say a word in regard to it when he comes to make his recommendation. He calls upon Congress to prevent Yucatan from being what?—A colony to some foreign power. That shows on what basis he locates his recommendation. It is upon the declaration in the same message of Mr. Monroe, on an entirely different subject; the declaration that the continents of America having asserted their freedom and sustained it, will not, hereafter, be considered by us, as the subject of colonization by any European power. It is upon that the President bases his recommendation. Is this case of Yucatan, then, comprehended in the declaration? I expect to show that it does not within as much certainty as it has been established that it does some within the first declaration.

The word "colonization" has a specific meaning. It means the establishment of a settlement by emigrants from the parent country, in a territory either uninhabited, or from which the inhabitants have been partially or wholly expelled. This is not a case of that character. But here, it may be proper in order to understand the force of my argument, to go into a history of the latter declaration of Mr. Monroe. It grew out of circumstances altogether different. At that time there was a question between Great Britain and the United States in one side and Russia on the other. All three claimed settlements on the northwest portion of this continent. Great Britain and ourselves having common interest in keeping Russia as far north as possible, the former applied to the United States for cooperation. That became the subject of deliberation at the [illegible word] session of Congress when the message was communicated containing the declaration in which such frequent reference has been made; and it was in reference to that matter that this additional declaration was made. It was said to be a proper opportunity to make it, and the declaration was made. It had reference especially to that subject of the northwestern settlement and the other portions of the continent were thrown in, because all the rest of it, with the exception of some settlements in Surinam, Maracaibo, and thereabout, had passed into independent hands.

Now, having stated the history of these transactions, I contend that the word "colonization" does not apply to the case of Yucatan. That is the case of surrendered sovereignty over a people already there—or people who have tendered it, and if accepted, freely accepted on the other side. Does that possess any analogy to "colonization"?—No. It is the case of a province, or to use the appropriate term that Great Britain employs, it would become a "possession" of Great Britain—a province, if you please, but not a colony. When the chairman of the committee on Foreign Relations addressed the Senate a few days since, he related a conversation which he had with Mr. Adams, in reference to this declaration, and according to his statement, if I heard him aright, and he be correctly reported, Mr. Adams in applying his observation to the whole of these declarations, stated that it all originated with himself, and was unknown to the other members of the cabinet, until they became the subject of deliberation in cabin council. There certainly must be a mistake either on the part of Mr. Adams, or that of the chairman of the committee on Foreign Relations, as to the first of these declarations. The history of the transaction, the Senator will perceive, if he examine the documents, shows distinctly that the subject came through Mr. Rush, originating in the form of a proposition from England. I recollect, as distinctly as I do any event of my life, that all the papers in connection with this subject were sustained to the members before the cabinet met, and were duly considered. MR. Adams, in speaking of the whole as one, must have regarded the other declaration relative to colonization, and as respects that, his memory does not differ much from mine. My memory goes a little farther than his. He, it appears, seemed to intimate that it became a subject of cabinet deliberation. My impression is, that it never did. I so stated when the Oregon question was before the Senate—I stated it in order that Mr. Adams might have an opportunity of denying it, or asserting the real state of the fact. He remained silent, and I presume that my statement is correct. That declaration was inserted after the cabinet deliberation. It originated, I believe, as had been stated, with Mr. Adams, and it is, in my opinion, owing to the fact, that that declaration is not made with the precision and clearness with which the two former declarations are made. It declares that these continents have asserted and maintained their freedom and independence, and are no longer subject to colonization by any European power. This declaration was not strictly accurate. Taken as a whole, these continents had not asserted and maintained their independence. Great Britain had a larger portion of the continent in her possession than the United States. Russia had a considerable portion of it, and other powers possessed some portions on the southern coast. The declaration was broader than the fact, and exhibits precipitancy and want of due reflection. Besides, there was an impropriety in it when taken in conjunction with the former declarations. I speak not in the language of censure. I do not desire to censure. But I waive that for the present. I assert, without possibility of contradiction, that the case, even then, does not come within the declaration. The President himself gives strong indications that that is his only fear, although he cites this declaration, he does not say a word in regard to it when he comes to make his recommendation. He calls upon Congress to prevent Yucatan from being what?—A colony to some foreign power. That shows on what basis he locates his recommendation. It is upon the declaration in the same message of Mr. Monroe, on an entirely different subject; the declaration that the continents of America having asserted their freedom and sustained it, will not, hereafter, be considered by us, as the subject of colonization by any European power. It is upon that the President bases his recommendation. Is this case of Yucatan, then, comprehended in the declaration? I expect to show that it does not within as much certainty as it has been established that it does some within the first declaration.

In stating the precise character of these declarations, and the manner in which they originate, I have discharged a double duty—a duty to my country, to whom it is important that these declarations should be understood—a duty to the cabinet of which I was a member, and am now the only survivor. I remove a false interpretation, which makes a
safe and proper declaration improper and dangerous.

But it is not only in these respects that these famous declarations are misunderstood by the chief magistrate of the country, as well as by others. These were but declarations—nothing more. Declarations announcing in a friendly manner to the powers of the world in one sense, that we should regard certain acts of interposition of the Allied Powers, as dangerous to our peace and safety, interposition of European powers to oppress the republics which had arisen upon this continent, as manifesting an unfriendly disposition. They were declarations that this continent having become free and independent, was no longer the subject of colonization by European powers. Not one word in reference to resistance. There is nothing said of it, and with great propriety was it omitted. Resistance belonged to us, to Congress; it is for us to say whether we shall resist, and to what extent. But such is not the view taken by the present chief magistrate to resist on all occasions. And not only to resist, but to judge of the measure of that resistance. He tells us in this very message that it is not to be permitted. That is language for us to hold, not for the chief magistrate. And in conformity with that, he sends in a message without giving us one particle of evidence as to these great political considerations which influenced the cabinet decisions as stated in this floor, in declaring whether we shall move or not. I speak it not in the way of censure. I state it only as a matter of fact, deducible from the message itself, as undoubtedly a great and dangerous misconception of this celebrated declaration.

Nut that is not all. He tells you in the same message, that it has become the settled policy of the country. What, not the declaration? No. But that it has become the settled policy of this country to resist what this declaration aims at, to resist, if need be, by an appeal to arms to the utmost extent. Is this the fact? Has there been one instance in which this declaration has been carried into effect? If there be, let it be pointed out. Have there not been innumerable instances in which it has not been applied? Certainly; and more than that. The declaration, under this broad interpretation, was disavowed entirely three years afterwards by the vote of the republican party. Read the debates, and you see that it was entirely disavowed by the chief magistrate himself. It never was the declaration of the republican party. And let me say—for it is proper that I should make the declaration on this occasion—that there has been an entire revolution between the two parties in this country in reference to our foreign relations. At the commencement of our government and down to a late period—I will mark it—the commencement of Jackson’s administration, the policy of the republican party was to avoid war as long as war could be avoided, and to resort to every means to avoid the calamity. The opposite party, without being a war party, had not so decided an aversion to war. The thing is now reversed; and hence, I who have endeavored to stand still—to maintain my ground for years on all questions connected with our foreign relations, have been compelled to co-operate with gentlemen on the opposite side, and to resist those in the midst of whom I stand. Now it is not and never has been the established policy of the country. And if it should ever become so, to the wide extent to which this declaration has been interpreted to go, our peace would ever be disturbed—our gates of Janus would ever stand open—wars would never cease.

What the President has asserted in this case, is not a principle belonging to this declaration; it is a principle which, in his misconception of it, he has engrafted upon it, but which has an entirely different meaning and tendency. This new principle is, that when any power on this continent becomes involved in internal warfare, and the weaker side chooses to make application to us for support, we are bound to give them support for fear that the offer of the sovereignty of the country may be made to some other power and accepted. There it is. IS there any such principle as that in this famous declaration? Not at all. It goes infinitely beyond this—dangerously beyond this—it outs it in the power of other powers on the continent to make us a party to all their wars; and hence, I say, if this broad interpretation be given to this declaration, we shall forever be involved in wars. By not disavowing a principle which will compel is to resist every case of interposition on this continent, I would not wish to be understood as defending the opposite, that we are never to interpose. That is a position which would be nearly as dangerous and absurd as the other. But can a general rule be laid down to guide us on such a question? No; every case must speak for itself—every case must be decided on its own merits.—Whether you will resist or not, and the measure of your resistance, whether it shall be by negotiation, remonstrance, or some intermediate measure, or by a resort to arms—all this must be determined and decided on the merits of the question itself. That is the only wise course. We are not to have quoted on as on every occasion this general declaration, to which any and every meaning may be attached. There are cases of interposition where I would resort to the hazard of war with all its calamities. Am I asked for one? I will answer. I may designate the case of Cuba. So long as Cuba remains in the hands of Spain, a friendly power, a power of which we halve no dread, it should continue to be, as it has been connected with the government to let Cuba remain there; but with the fixed determination, which I hope never will be relinquished, that if Cuba pass from her it shall not be into any other hands but ours. This, not from a feeling of ambition, not from a desire for the extension of dominion, but because that island is indispensable to the safety of the United States that this island should not be in certain hands. Were that island in other hands our coasting trade would be interrupted. The command of our commerce in the whole extent of the coast would be given up. Our commerce would be liable to interruption, accompanied by convulsive effects in the event of war.

In the same category I will refer to a case in which we might most legitimately have resisted a foreign power, and that case is Texas. That case has been greatly misunderstood. It sprang up in the midst of party excitement, when a large portion of both parties decided hastily; and when it was difficult, if not impossible to get a fair hearing. I never supposed, as has been stated on this floor, that Great Britain intended to colonize Texas, and reduce her to her power. That was not my dread. What was dreaded was this:—teas being a small power, and Great Britain having a free and large intercourse with her, and we almost none, although “bone of our bone, and flesh of our flesh,” she would gradually have been [illegible word] of her affection for us. Kindness for England and aversion for us, would have been the result. I know this is the inevitable [illegible word] of [illegible word] relations between nations. At that very time there was a question with this country and Texas, which had it not been for the most amicable relations which subsisted between us, would have ended in hostilities; and Texas, if alienated from us with more than a thousand miles of boundary of woods and rivers, almost an indefinable line, would in the natural course of things, have subjected us to a war with Great Britain, combined with a Texan and a Mexican war. I saw all this. I
saw it clearly. I saw that it was a case in which to act, to resist the interposition, and that there was no there made by which resistance could be made except by annexation, and therefore I was in favor of annexation.

One of the members of the committee on Foreign Relations put this question to me:—Suppose it was certain that Great Britain would accept the sovereignty of Yucatan, and finally take possession of the country, would I resist? I am prepared to answer this question. I would not. And for irresistible reasons. I would not, because the country is, to a great extent, a most worthless one. Nearly one half of the country is destitute of a single stream—rocky and barren throughout the greater part of it and it is only by means of the natural reservoirs of water that they are enabled to live through the dry season. I would not resist, because the possession of Yucatan would contribute nothing to the defence of the passage between Yucatan and Cuba, which is represented to be so important to our commerce. It is not without its importance—it is important to the inward trade, but not as import to the outward trade. There is a constant current of wind and water setting in that direction, of which vessels going to New Orleans, or any other port on the gulf, may avail themselves. But on coming from those ports, they usually make their way between Florida and Cuba, and thus go around Cuba altogether. The passage between Yucatan and Cuba is the [illegible line]. The outlet is entirely, or nearly so, between Cuba and Florida. It is also, to be sure, an inlet, but a most difficult inlet; for they must encounter the current. I speak now of our own coasting vessels. In voyages from Europe they go around the island. Yucatan is not of so much importance if it did not contribute to the defence of the passage, or could be made to contribute to its defence. But I take higher grounds. If it were not an inlet, but an outlet, the occupation of Yucatan by England would add nothing to her power in cutting off our trade. Yucatan is wonderfully destitute of ports—there is not a frigate port connected with the whole Peninsula—there is pretty good anchorage of some depth, but on the sea-coast to the Gulf of Mexico, or on the west, there is not a port even for a sloop until you get to Laguna. But Great Britain possesses an uncontrollable power over the passage whenever she chooses to exact it; and if ever we should be engaged in a war with her there is not a single vessel of ours, even with the possession of Yucatan, that could enter the gulf by that passage. The passage from the Atlantic ocean to the gulf, in and out, is between Yucatan and Cuba through the Caribbean sea, backward and forward. What is the Caribbean sea? It is that immense portion of the Atlantic ocean, having on its north and west sides Yucatan and Cuba; on the east the Windward Islands; on the south all that portion of South America extending from Orinoco to Yucatan. Great Britain has the complete command of that sea, the island of Jamaica being in the middle of it. Jamaica abounds with the finest ports, and the most commodious naval stations. In addition to that, she has the Balize lying to the westward, and nearer the point of Yucatan then any other coast, gives her greater command then any one port in Yucatan. In addition, she possesses the Windward Islands to the east, and hence she has the complete command of the Caribbean sea, and so long as she retains her ascendancy on the ocean, it is locked up effectually against us in time of war; in time of peace we do not need it. I would not take military possession of Yucatan, if I were certain Great Britain would, for another reason—Not only because it is worthless, but because it would impose upon us a very heavy cost, both in men and money; first to take possession, and then to keep possession. The extent to which out expenditures would go, no man can estimate; we have no data on which we can act. The population is five or six hundred thousand. The Indians, originally a very peaceful and quiet people, accustomed to arms, from being frequently called into the contest in which the Mexicans have been engaged, have become somewhat military. They are represented as very active, as being great marchers, and they fly to the mountains to escape their pursuers.—In that climate, the most arid upon earth, when these people fly before us, at what time will this war come to an end? It is nothing for us beat them, to overthrow them at once; but they retire from us, they escape and conceal themselves: it is another Seminole affair. How much money would it take? What number of men? What sacrifice of both? Is any one here prepared to answer? But I am not only averse to incurring the expenditure, but I am in favor of peace, when peace can be maintained. I would never depart from it but for adequate motives. I see no adequate motive here. I am also opposed to it, because of all things I have ever seen, this has the most uncertain future. Events occur with electric rapidity. No man can tell what may come to-morrow, and never was there a time when more caution is counseled, when there has been a stronger motive to husband our resources to avoid all petty quarrels and petty wars, or anything that can involve us in difficulty, in order to stand prepared to meet emergencies as they arise. He who looks abroad—he who looks at the eastern horizon, and does not see the necessity for caution, has bet a slight conception of the future.

I would not take military possession even under the contingency I have stated, for another reason. It would be a breach of good faith. Not long since we agreed upon the terms of a treaty with Mexico. The treaty, before this time, has been acted on or is about to be acted on by the Mexican Government, and until it is acted on we are bound in good faith to observe it. If it is acted on it becomes a paramount obligation. We have considered Yucatan as part of Mexico, as one of the States of the Mexican Republic. It is not comprehended within the line which is proposed to be drawn between us and Mexico. We could not seize upon that state in conformity with good faith, or could we in conformity with the armistice for the same reason. The armistice makes some exceptions, but this is not one of them.

I have not stated my reasons against the measure reported by the committee to carry into effect the message of the President, recommending that we should adopt the measure which we deem most expedient to prevent Yucatan from becoming a colony of a foreign power. I go to the next recommendation of the measures best calculated to prevent the white population from being exterminated or expelled from Yucatan. And here let me express my regret that the President should, in the same message, unite two measures of such different characters—one to appeal to our humanity, which I would, as far as we could with propriety, act upon promptly and at once. The other, involving the highest considerations of policy, which requires much time and much deliberation. It is among the most complicated questions ever presented to this body, and by no means the least important. Why these different questions have been mingled, I am not prepared to say. The emergency for the one seems to have existed long before the other. Danger to the white population has been known to exist since the middle of February; but the message has only recently been communicated to us. During the long intervals, if the case appealing to our humanity had been brought forward, we might long ere this have rendered sufficient aid. But whatever may be the result in reference to these Yucatanese, the result is not chargeable to us. Higher considerations—considerations of policy more important to us—first demand of us deliberation; and that deliberation, I trust, will be given. But I pass on to the question of humanity. If this be a war of races, if the case be in reality, that the race which has been in
power, if not so now, the white race which have not been responsible for this war; if they had used all manly exertion, and exhibited due courage in repelling the danger, strong indeed would be the appeal to my sympathies. I have no aversion to any race, red or black, but my sympathies are for the white race.—I have not been so much affected by misguided philosophy or false philanthropy, as to lost the natural feelings which belong to me. If this is a case of war between races—it the Indians have risen and threatened the massacre and extermination of the white race, who have acted so generously towards them, and have raised them from the condition of slaves or serfs to the condition of citizens and freemen—this would present a strong case for my interposition. Considerations belonging to progress, civilization, and liberty, would in that case prompt me to act. It was the Spanish or white race, and in that we include the mixed races who threw off the yoke of Spain—who overthrew the Spanish power, and they continued to evince the greatest attachment to liberty, refusing to yield in any degree according to the well known Spanish character. They have all the wealth, and comprise nearly all the intelligence of the country; and on their ascendency, in my opinion, depends the future progress of Yucatan. It is true, they are not very elevated in this sentiments, nor very well informed on political subjects; but they are far better informed and far more elevated in sentiment, that the Indian race can possibly be. If they can maintain themselves, there is some hope that Yucatan may go forward, that intelligence may increase, and that, at some future day, they may be prepared to look for a higher position than at present. If the white race be overthrown, and Indian authority established, there will be a directly opposite tendency; a despotic government, like that of Hayti, will be established. Perhaps, a capable man may be elevated to power, and may govern tolerably well, but it will undoubtedly follow the course of Hayti. Its direction will be down, down, until it comes down to the very bottom, and end in a savage state of society.

But if there are powerful considerations why we should interfere as far as we could with propriety, there are very powerful ones why we should act with great caution. The case of Yucatan does not stand alone. All the causes of oppression existing there are operating in all portions of this continent south of is, including Mexico, down on the eastern side of the Andes to Buenos Ayres, and on the south side to Chili; all, all, every one, are in great danger of falling into the condition in which Yucatan is now placed. The history of all has been the same. The white and mixed races led in casting of the yoke that made them provinces. They, everywhere, elevated the Indian race to an equality with themselves. It was done most imprudently, and conveys a solemn lesson. The Indians were elevated politically, but the counter error was committed of not elevating them civilly to their own level. While they gave them the power of voting—the highest political power—they imposed a tax upon them exclusively of a most onerous character, so as to throw the whole burden of supporting the government upon them. If the order had been reversed—if they had given them all civil rights, and dealt out to them more sparingly political rights, elevating the more intelligent, and spreading the basis as the intelligence of the Indian population increased, a very different result might have taken place. All those South American States consist of the same population, whites, mixed, and Indians. There is not a numerous African population. All will, I fear, be agitated in turn. The whole of them it is to be feared, will be subjected to one melancholy fate, and be overthrown in spite of all we may do. But I trust that it may be otherwise. The magnitude of this subject, however, should [illegible word] be caution. Whatever we so in this case we set a precedent; we affirm a principle; and every on e knows the force of precedence and asserted principles upon a population like that of our country. Will you have t repeat it in all other cases? Yes. Even now we are engaged in a war every way similar. It is a war between races [illegible word]. How it may end we know not. Guatemala has gone through the process. She is already under Indian authority. A man of remarkable character, it is said, is at the head of the government—who does very well in his time, but how they are to manage afterwards, who can tell? Look at the case. Are we to declare in all these cases that we are to interpose by force of arms if need be? that we shall become invested in the fate of all these countries?—Should we set such a precedent? No. the first duty of every nation is to itself, and that is the case pre-eminently with the United States. They owe a high duty to themselves. To pursue a line of volley that will secure their liberty and the success of their great political system, will be of infinitely more service to [illegible word], than even the securing the ascendancy of the whites [illegible word] in the southern portion of this continent. But if instead of pursing that wise policy, such a course be entered upon as that recommended in the message of the President, I fear that sooner or later the ruins of our government will be added to those which have fallen within the last few months. But while I see the greatest reason for caution, I think that this government, upon all occasions, ought to give encouragement and sustenance, as far as it can with safety, to the ascendancy of the more intelligent—that it ought to be the guardian of the civilization, progress, and liberty of this continent, in those portions of it where they are exposed to the most danger, I will not say that in no case should we ever give them military aid, but if there be a case which will justify that, it must be an extraordinary one, standing upon its intrinsic merits, and not governed by a general rule. [TO BE CONCLUDED.]

RW48v25i42p2c1, May 26, 1848: The Yucatan Treaty.

We gave an outline of this instrument yesterday, from the New York Tribune, but as the war to which it puts an end was very near becoming a serious matter it us, as, in fact, it was on the point of producing a second Presidential war, and as the President alleged, as a pretext, that humanity required our intervention, though this idea never occurred to him until Mr. Sierra offered the sovereignty of the country, it is well to give our readers as much insight as possible into the character of the respective parties to this instrument. We therefore publish it entire:

The General Secretary of the Government:

In the holy name of God the Father, of God the Son and of God the Holy Ghost, Amen. We the undersigned, D. Jose Canuto Vola, curate, and D. Felipe Rosado, superior political chief, commissioned by his Excellency, the Governor D. Miguel Barbachano; and we who are named in the same capacity by the principal chief of the Indians, D. Jacinto Pat, and whose names are likewise undersigned, Pbro. D. Manuel, Mesa Vales and Captains D. Jose Maria Pat, D. Francisco Cob, D. Pantaleon [illegible name], D. Juan Justo Yani, and the sub-lieutenants, D. Jacinto Mangas and D.
Juan Jose Guerro, being met in this town of Tzucacab, on the 19th day of April, of the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight, for the important purpose of maturely considering whatever may be adopted to put an end to a war which occasions damage, prejudice and ruin on both sides, here in the peninsula of Yucatan, in which our Lord God desired that we might be born to love each other with equality; and considering all that concern the well-being and profit o four neighbors, the Christians, to the end that they may reposes, retiring to the care of their interests, their firesides and their respective families, as is the command of God. Here, before His Majesty, the above mentioned chief D. Jacinto Pat, being present, and the Captains D. Apolinario Zel, D. Petro Baak, D. Jose Benito Vitorin, D. Juan May, D. Saturnio Rodriguez, D. Franciscos Sanchez, D. Juan Jacinto Pat, and D. Doroteo Poot, of common accord, we have set our names and seals, for perpetual memory, to the true desires or resolutions which follow:

ART. 1. From this day and forever personal taxes shall be abolished both for whites and Indians, it being well understood that the tax here spoken of is that established by law for all Yucatecos from the ages of sixteen to sixty.

ART. 2. In the sense of the preceding article the duty on baptism shall be fixed a three reals, [three shillings, York] and the duty on marriage then reals, for the whites as well as for the Indians, and for every Yucateco.

ART. 3. It is also established that forests may be cleared from sowing, or to form ranches in the plains of the towns, in lands called lands of community and in common, without paying any rent therefor; and that from this time forth no portion of said lands shall be sold. And those which are claimed and laid out, but the deeds of which have not been executed by the Government, shall remain un conveyed, a recourse for subsistence for the people, the Government undertaking to refund the value which it had received on account of the said lands.

ART. 4. There shall be returned to the Indians under command of the chief, D. Jacinto Pat, all the muskets which the Government now ceasing have ordered to be taken from them, it being understood that of the two thousand five hundred taken, those which are now existing shall be promptly returned; and that his excellency, the Governor, D. Miguel Barbachano, shall presently buy as many as are wanting, and shall deliver them into the hands of the said chief, D. Jacinto Pat, that he may distribute them to their owners as is just. All the arms which our beloved neighbors, the Indians, now have, shall remain with them for their use. The moveables and other effects which the troops of the said chief, D. Jacinto Pat, have taken, up to the present time, they shall retain for their own, and no one shall ever have a right to reclaim them.

ART. 5. Considering that his Excellency the Governor, D. Miguel Barbachano, is alone charged with the executions of the articles of this great act, and also that he alone will have as a duty the fulfillment of their spirit; he is to remain invariably established in the high office which he exercises by the will of the people of this state of Yucatan; and he shall retain it for life, because that has been a cause of taking up arms; and the people shall take care that he be not removed from his station.

ART. 6. It is henceforth established under a sacred compromise that the chief, D. Jacinto Pat, shall be the Governor of all the captains of the Indians of the people of Yucatan, and this gentleman will agree with his Excellency the Governor, D. Miguel Barbachano, in the best mode of Government under which internal harmony of the two people may be attained, and as to the manner in which they shall be ruled or governed by their justices for their uniform well-being.

ART. 7. Likewise all debtors to manual service shall be released from their debts, and all those who have assisted in the field with arms in their hands as well as those who have not taken up arms, being included in this provision, since all Yucatecos ought to enjoy this benefit. But those who may desire to contract new debts shall be held to satisfy such debts with their personal labor.

ART. 8. All taxes on the distillation of ardent spirits are abolished in all the towns of Yucatan.

ART. 9. When his Excellency the Governor, D. Miguel Barbachano, shall deposit with his secretary the ratification of the stipulations contained in the present instrument, so that it has the necessary value, all the belligerent forces shall alike retire to their residences, only those troops remaining which are necessary to care for good order in their respective towns, and for the re-establishment of peace and tranquility therein. These agreements are established by the commissioners of his Excellency, D. Miguel Barbachano, and of the chief Jacinto Pat, together with their secretaries, &c. &c.

[BWP]
were at the tenor of this document. It proves, beyond all doubt that they are far from being the sanguinary and ferocious race which they have had the reputation of being. Nay! we do not believe that there is a civilized nation in existence at this moment, which, if placed as the Maya now stand, in the attitude of conquerors, with an immense superiority of numbers to back their pretensions, would have stopped short in the career of victory, and offered terms so full of justice and moderation. The Maya are evidently now, what their forefathers were in the days of Cortez, the most enlightened and refined of all the civilized tribes, and evidently have among them men who would do no discredit to any diplomatic circle in Christendom.

It is well known that discord has prevailed in Yucatan for several years, between different portions of the Spanish population, and that insurrectionary movements have taken place, having for their object the expulsion of Senor Barbachano. From the fact that the insurgents stipulated for his continuance in office during life, it is fair to infer that the Maya have been associated with the faction or party that supported him, and that the war has not been one exclusively of Indians against white people. Indeed, in the fifth article, it is extremely stated that his removal was the cause of taking up arms.

The most remarkable part of the whole affair, is the confidence which the parties seem to repose in each other. Not a pledge is required, not a guarantee is exacted, not a precaution is taken, to ensure the fulfillment of the treaty. The parties seem, each, to be perfectly contented with the bare word of the other. The Maya trusts to the Spaniard, and the Spaniard has implicit faith in the word of the Maya. Is not this enough to discredit the tales which were lately rife, of Maya atrocities and treachery? Barbachano has been said by more than one traveller, to be a man of talents and integrity. Can it be believed, that such a man would place himself at the head of a sanguinary and merciless horde of savages, of a race different from his own, to cut the throats of his kindred and friends?

The truth is, the whole matter has turned out to be what we said it was, no longer ago than last week. The war was a civil war; such an one as they are accustomed to have semi-annually in all the Spanish States of North and South America. Senor Sierra was most probably the emissary of the weaker party, and upon his representations, backed by the offer of the sovereignty of Yucatan, which he had no right to offer, our wise and thoughtful President was about to interfere in the domestic affairs of a foreign nation, without once taking the precaution to enquire whether he was not exceeding the just limits of his legitimate authority.

The State of South Carolina determined to take a commanding position in the approaching contest, seems to have been equally resolved that there should be no mistake, ab initio, with regard to her intentions. Accordingly she has sent to the Baltimore Convention a gentleman whose name sufficiently indicates the relation in which he stands to the rest of the Convention, and whose disposition, as manifested in the proceedings, amply justify his name. The individual to whom we allude is General Commander, who, by virtue of his name, we presume, kindly enough takes upon himself the command-in-chief of all South Carolina. He is "solitary and alone," as Col. Benton would have it; no "captain knight or man at arms" follows in his strain; he is not even accompanied by a staff, as any person, bearing such a formidable name, and wielding such extensive power, undoubtedly should be. As he is supposed to represent the Chivalry, who, in their turn, are thought to hold the balance, his name and his duties are not at all incompatible with "existing circumstances."

But we have not yet set forth the entire claim of the South Carolina Delegate, to the name in which he rejoices. He is the sole delegate from a single state; that is much, but it is not all. He is sent by a single town in that State! The town of Georgetown has the honor of furnishing him with the commission by virtue of which he commands the whole State of South Carolina. It is true that State at large refused to send delegates; but what of that? It is the nature of all commanders to be arbitrary; indeed the very nature of their duties requires that they should be so; and this one we presume is no exception to the general rule. Accordingly, we find him bearing down all opposition. The Cass men could do nothing with him; they were but the representatives of one great Commander, while he who was assailed was the very thing itself. He bore, in his own person, the spirit of all South Carolina; and in defiance of opposition, gave her whole nine votes for the two-thirds rule, amidst an absolute roar of applause. All honor to General Commander, the Commander-in-Chief of South Carolina. Mr. Calhoun must hide his diminished head, for a greater than he is risen. The Cass men may "go pray," as Hamlet says, for they can do nothing with Commander. The Convention, if they know their own interest, will nominate him for the Presidency; for he certainly is the most remarkable man of their body. In order that our readers may have no doubt upon this point, we subjoin the following extract from the Charleston Mercury, heretofore the organ of the Chivalry, but how long destined to continue so, now that Commander has taken upon himself the entire burden of the State, it does not become us to say. The Milledgeville Union had been hard upon South Carolina for not sending delegates. In correcting some error of fact perpetrated by the Union, with regard to the election of a single delegate from Georgetown, the Mercury says:

"The Union is also in error in supposing that Georgetown district has chosen a delegate to the National Convention, if it means the Congressional district, which only has a right to send a delegate. Gen. J. M. Commander derives all his authority from a parish meeting in Georgetown, which is only a portion of Georgetown district, which, with the district of Chesterfield, Marlborough, Darlington, Marion, Horry and Williamsburgh, constitute the Congressional district represented by the Hon. A. D. Sims. The meeting at Georgetown invited the remainder of the district to cooperate with them, but so far the invitation has been unheeded. We make these statements out of no disrespect to General Commander, or those who were present at the meeting which nominated him, but simply from a regard to truth, and a determination that neither out State nor ourselves shall be misrepresented upon this subject."
By the arrival of the schooner *Tay*, at New Orleans on Thursday, 18th, the *Picayune* received Vera Cruz dates to the 7th inst., and city of Mexico to the 2d. The Eudora was below.

A quorum was at Queretaro, and was waiting for our commissioners in order to go into session. The latter would set out for Queretaro as soon as officially informed that there was a *quorum*. A story was in circulation, derived from a letter written in Queretaro, that an insurrection had taken place, and that Almonte, Paredes and Bustamente, were at the head of it. It turned out to be a hoax. Desertions from the American army were becoming very common. Later accounts say that Herera has been nominated President. Otero is said to be in favor of peace. It was at first said that he was opposed to it. Herera is an old pesos man. The general impression was against peace; but upon reading the *Picayune* farther, however, we are pleased to see that there is no cause for apprehension.

By the arrival of the Yucatan schooner *Aparecida*, from Campeachy on the 2nd, and Sisal on the 11th, we are pleased to learn from the *Picayune*, that there had been no continuance of the war in the direction of Campeachy. The dates from the latter place are to the 29th, later than those referred to by us on Wednesday. The impression that hostilities were renewed, arose from the fact, that Pat still kept his force under arms in the neighborhood of Merida, from apprehension possibly, of treachery on the part of the Spaniards.

The people of Elizabethtown and the adjoining country, turned out *en masse* on Monday, to do the General honor. A deputation was present from New York, to whom the General stated that he felt himself unable to resist their kind importunities, and that he should meet them on Thursday (yesterday.) Gen. Worth having withdrawn his frivolous charges, there is no longer any reason for his withdrawing from public attention. We will publish the proceedings tomorrow.

I have said that if this be a case of war between races—if the white race be not responsible for it—if they have been patriotic and courageous in their own defence, it would present a strong appeal of my sense of humanity.—Is it a war of races? I have examined the case with all the lights before me, and I shall state the conclusion to which I have arrived. It is war, substantially I believe a war of races, but was not so at the beginning. It seems that from the beginning of this government of Yucatan, there have been violent factions. There was a disposition on the part of one of the factions to call in the aid of the Indians; and in order to obtain their aid as voters, certain promises were made to them, which have not been well fulfilled. A promise was made to relieve the Indians from the capitation tax—a great and enormous burden which presses them to the earth. The present conflict originated immediately, it is said in this wise: in the contest for power between Mendez and Barbachino, the partisans of the former, who were principally about Campeachy, made proposals to the Indians to reduce the capitation tax. Mendez in consequence of these overtures obtained the aid of the Indians and was elected governor. But when he got into power he did not fulfill the obligations which had been assumed. Instead of removing the taxes, he enforced their collection rigidly, which produced some disturbance. It seems farther—for this is an inference rather than a statement—that the question of the war between the United States and Mexico entered into the quarrels, and that Barbachino leaned to the side of Mexico, while Mendez took the side of neutrality, which preponderated. It would also seem that the Indian oppositions at first feeble, and in the midst of the conflicts of the contending factions, neglected, grew and became at length so important and threatening, as to occasion alarm and consternation. There was almost no display whatever of courage on the part of the white population; and very little evidence of patriotism throughout the whole affair. All this tends very much to limit my sympathies. Were the case confined to the male population, I should not have a particle of sympathy. But there are helpless women and children, and they alone excite a desire on the score of humanity, to interfere. I may add, that even was there some information inducing the belief, that it is not altogether a war of races, Barbachino is now in power, and such has been the violence of faction, that a large portion of the forces of Mendez had withdrawn from the army, on the change of the government; and I will state in
this connexion, what perhaps should have been said before, that the intelligence brought by a late arrival at New Orleans, establishes beyond all controversy, that England has not been implicated in the affair. It appears that even the British settlement at the Balize is threatened by Indians—that the last captured city is no more than one hundred miles distant from that settlement—and that a dispatch had been sent for additional troops from Jamaica. All these apprehensions of an attack had resulted from the British settlement having sent down a few vessels to the coast of Yucatan, to pick up the miserable fugitives. If there had been any suspicion as to the conduct of that settlement, or British subjects in that quarter, these facts ought to put an end to it forever.

How far ought we to go then on the score of humanity? I think that all the naval force which we can spare should be sent to pick up these helpless people. We should furnish an ample supply of food and raiment for these miserable creatures and convey them wheresoever they desire—to Cuba or elsewhere. In a word we should do all that humanity requires. But I cannot agree to carry out the provisions of a bill which authorizes the President to use the army and navy, to take military occupation of the country. No considerations of humanity, or of the ascendancy of the white race in Yucatan, justify, in my opinion, the adoption of such a course of policy. It is now clear that the white population, so inconsiderable as, including the mixed race, to amount to not more than fifty thousand, is broken up, and that the Indians have interposed an effectual barrier against the re-establishment of the power of the whites. We can by force put down these Indians at considerable cost. We may put white men in power then. But the moment that we withdraw the former state of things will recur. We will thus be perpetually engaged in this work. Now, I am not willing to incur the danger and the cost of that. I am not willing to have this incident, which does not belong to it, attached to our government.

I come now to the amendment of the Senator from Mississippi, (Mr. Davis.) As between the bill and the amendment, I prefer the bill. They both propose the same thing. It is true the amendment says only that the President shall have the power to do so and so, without prescribing what the President is to do. But the President has told us what he will do. He has told us as clearly as if it was put in the bill. His object is to take military occupation of Yucatan temporary to be sure, but it must end in permanent occupation. Now I would rather do that with our sanction directly, which the President purposes to do, than cover it up by this amendment. Nor am I reconciled to the amendment by the preamble offered by the Senator from Alabama. I think the Senator had not seen all the documents when he offered that preamble. It does not reach the case. It presupposes an obligation on the part of the government of the United States to defend the white race there, because we had to crippled Mexico that she could not afford them protection. I believe I state the substance of the preamble correctly.

Mr. Lewis assented.

Mr. Calhoun—But it is not so. These people in Yucatan are in an awful situation. Alarmed as they are on account of the Indians, they are still more alarmed on account of Mexico. Unfortunately for themselves, they assumed a position of neutrality, as they say of Independence. They thereby became traitors in the eye of Mexico; and no doubt they will be held responsible as traitors. Hence we see Mr. Sierra, the commissioner of Yucatan, makes a strong and powerful remonstrance. Nay, he goes so far as to say that as a matter of good faith, that the United States should not permit Yucatan to be sacrificed. There has been, in my opinion, a good deal of mismanagement in reference to this whole affair. The people of Yucatan are recognized as neutrals or not, just as suited our pleasures. So far as the collection of revenue is concerned, they were not neutral; as far as the importation of arms in the country was concerned, they were neutral; they were treated as belligerents, and the arms were made contraband of war, lest they should be transferred to Mexico. What has been the effect. Among the effects has been this, and they complain of it, that they have been kept destitute of arms whereby to defend themselves in this contest. On reviewing the whole case, however, I think that the white people of Yucatan, have, in a great measure, themselves to blame. The factions conflicts—fierce and maniacal, in which they have been engaged, which have kept them contending to the last, have involved them in these frightful calamities. Not that we are wholly impassable. We know that Mendez had declared neutrality, if not independence. We beheld the progress of those Indians. We witnessed their devastations, and instead of interfering to defend those who had declared themselves to be our friends, we stood by with our arms folded! Thus have we incurred a very heavy responsibility. We ought to have given them no countenance, we ought to have treated them as independent, or taken possession. It has been a mixed policy. While we have been witnesses of the whole progress of events, and have this acted; we are now called on at this last stage when the evil has been done, and mixed up with another, and most complex and difficult question, to interfere on behalf of humanity!

[BWP]
between the Yucatecos and their Indian fellow citizens, and shows that from the very nature of things, a hostile collision of some kind, sooner or later, was literally inevitable. Nor were this cause, and the disasters that sprang from it, confined to Yucatan alone. They embraced all the Spanish Colonies of South America, as far as Buenos Ayres on the East of the Andes, and to the Southern limit of Chili on the coast of the pacific. The aboriginal population having assisted the Creoles in throwing off the Spanish yoke, were of course, *prima factae*, entitled to, and actually exercised, the same political rights with those to whom they had yielded assistance in time of need, without, however, being able to obtain the privilege of exercising the same civil rights. The consequences, to any but men just emerged from the lowest depths of a despotism, and therefore deaf to all the lessons of political wisdom, would have been apparent. In the mean time the Indians, had the right of voting, the highest political right, and constituting the majority by immense odds, had, in point of fact, the whole political power in their hands. Yet strange as it may appear, the Spanish race continued to load them with taxes, sometimes of a most oppressive character, gradually establishing a system of *peonage*, and not only devoting the bodies of the Indians, to a species of perpetual slavery, but appropriating to their own use all the lands of the country, wild and cultivated. It were not possible, in the nature of things, that matters could remain in this state forever; and for our own parts, we are only surprised that they should have continued thus long.

We are glad to see Mr. Calhoun rejecting with just scorn, the absurd proposition that no foreign (that is European nation) shall be allowed to plant a colony on this continent; a proposition to sustain which in its legitimate extend, it might one day become necessary to shed more blood than was split in the wars of the first French Revolution; for there is not a great nation upon earth with which it might not bring us into conflict. That the doctrines of Mr. Monroe never contemplated any such result as this, he makes abundantly evident. Indeed from their face it may be learned with unerring certainty. Yet there are a species of politicians who, from the most wholesome doctrines, are accustomed to extract the most pernicious consequences, as a certain class of religious-pretenders are known to distort the words of Holy Writ, to suit their own nefarious purposes. The failure of their plans, in this instance, however, and the complete fallacy upon which all their sophistry is founded, so admirably exposed by Mr. Calhoun, will, we hope, repress the rage for acquisition, for the present at least, as the tiger shrinks, cowed and abashed to his lair, when he has fairly missed his spring.

When the Court of Inquiry met in New Orleans, Mr. Walker, one of the editors of the *Delta*, declared upon oath that he was the man who interlined the celebrated Leonidas letter. The reader will recollect, that Major Burns had previously sworn, at the trial in the city of Mexico, that it was done by himself. Gen. Scott attempted to impeach the veracity of Maj. Burns, but the Court would not allow him to take the necessary steps in order to do so. At Vicksburg, on his way to Washington, the Vicksburg Whig reports him to have said, that he should receive a pursership in the Navy; that Gen. Pillow had promised him the office. In view of this fact, the reader will not hesitate as to who is most worthy of credit; he or Mr. Walker—for they contradict each other flatly and directly, each claiming to have supplied the interlineations.

Gen. Pillow, the papers state, was much rejoiced at Mr. Walker's statement, supposing that it exonerated him, &c. We cannot see the slightest cause for rejoicing. He interlined, with his own hand, and gave to Mr. Freaner, for publication in the Delta, the letter known as No. 1 on the trial, which is almost identical with the Leonidas Letter.—In order that the reader may note the resemblance we insert them here in parallel columns:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. 1</th>
<th>Leonidas</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Great Battle of Mexico!</strong></td>
<td><strong>MIXCOAC, MEXICO,</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Command on the 19th, under the Command of Maj. Gen’s Pillow,</strong></td>
<td><strong>August 27, 1847,</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Having a force of 3500 men,—</strong></td>
<td>3 miles from the Capital.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>The enemy had 12,000 men (of Whom 5000 were cavalry) and Twenty-seven pieces of artillery.</strong></td>
<td>EOS. DELTA:</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDITORS N. ORLEANS DELTA:</td>
<td><strong>Gentlemen</strong>—I beg leave to hand you the annexed account of our engagement with the enemy, which commenced on the 19th instant, at a strongly fortified position, about four miles west of San Augustin. This engagement with the enemy commenced on the 19th instant, by the third division, under the immediate</td>
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placed at the disposition of Gen'l Twiggs Capt. Magruder’s battery, and Lieutenant Callender’s howitzer battery (both of which belonged to the proper division of Gen’l Pillow.)

Having thus opened the battle, he then advanced Gen. Cadwalader’s brigade to support the brigade of Col. Riley, who had moved to turn the enemy’s left and attack in reverse; and advanced Gen’l Pierce’s brigade to support Gen. Smith, who had advanced to assault the work in front.

The action had now become (with the advancing forces) very severe—and Gen. Pillow, seeing 5 or 6000 men advancing from the city to reinforce the enemy, whom he apprehended would fall upon Gen. Cadwalader’s rear, detached, from Gen. Pierce’s brigade, Col. Morgan’s regiment, (which was yet within reach,) and ordered it instantly to the support of General Cadwalader, who, seeing so large a force approaching his rear, threatening to overwhelm him, halted his forward movements, confronted the enemy in a strong position, and held him completely at bay. The forces under Gen. Smith, Col. Riley and General Pierce were hotly engaged with the enemy’s strong battery and large force of infantry and cavalry, until it was dark. Magruder’s battery and Callender’s howitzer battery were both very much cut to pieces and disabled. Late in the evening General Scott came upon the field, and brought with him Gen. Shield’s brigade of command of Maj.Gen’l Pillow, comprising a force of 3500. The enemy had sixteen thousand, of whom 5000 were cavalry, and twenty-seven pieces of artillery.

Gen. Pillow’s order for the attack was, that Gen. Twiggs should advance with one brigade of his division and assault the enemy’s strong work in front, while the other should turn his left wing and assail the works in reverse. He also placed at the disposition of Gen. Twiggs Capt. Magruder’s battery, and Lieut. Callender’s howitzer’s (both of which belong to the proper division of Gen. Pillow.)—

Having thus opened the battle; he then advanced Gen’l Cadwalader’s brigade to support the brigade of Col. Riley who had moved to turn the enemy’s left and attack in reverse; and advanced General Pierce’s brigade to support General Smith, who had advanced to assault the work in front. The action had now become with the advancing forces very severe; and Gen. Pillow seeing 5 or 6000 men advancing from the city to reinforce the enemy, whom he apprehended would fall upon Gen. Cadwalader’s rear, detached from Gen. Pierce’s brigade Col. Morgan’s regiment (which was yet within reach) and ordered it instantly to the support of Gen. Cadwalader, who seeing so large a force approaching his rear, threatening to overwhelm him, halted his forward movement, confronted the enemy, in a strong position, and held him completely at bay. The forces under Gen. Smith, Col. Riley and Gen’l Pierce were
volunteers, who he advanced to the support of the forces now under Gen. Cadwalader; but it was too late—they did not get into position until the night.

The next morning, before daylight the brigade of Pierce advanced, in execution of the original order of battle; renewed the assault in front, while Riley’s brigade, supported by Cadwalader, turned his left, assailed the enemy’s works in reverse, and gallantly carried it; capturing a large force of the enemy, 22 guns, (among them those lost at Buena Vista,) and killing in the engagement between 600 and 800 of the enemy.

Having achieved this signal and brilliant victory, Gen. Pillow immediately resolved to pursue the retreating forces of the enemy, and, while his troops were flushed with victory, give battle to a large force (1) still at Santa Angel, which he did, and drove them before him. He then sent an officer of his staff back to Gen. Scott, to say to him, if he would cause Gen’l Worth to co-operate with him, he would sweep around the valley and assault the strong works of San Antonio in reverse, and carry that place, so as to open the direct route to the capital for the advance of his siege train upon the other battery on that road. Gen. Scott replied that Worth should co-operate with him. Gen. Pillow moved rapidly around the valley at the head of his triumphant forces, until he reached within one mile of San Antonio, where he halted to give his troops hotly engaged with the enemy’s strong battery and Callender’s force of infantry and cavalry, until it was quite dark: Magruder’s battery and Callender’s howitzer battery were both much cut to pieces and disabled. Late in the evening General Scott came upon the field, and brought with him Gen. Shield’s brigade of volunteers, whom he advanced to the support of the forces then under Gen. Cadwalader, but it was so late they did not get into position until in the night.

The next morning before daylight the brigade of Gen’l Pierce advanced in execution of the original order of battle, renewed the assault in front; while Col. Riley’s brigade, supported by Gen. Cadwalader, turned his left, assailed the enemy’s works in reverse and most gallantly carried it; capturing a large force of the enemy, twenty-two guns, (among them those lost at the battle of Buena Vista,) and killing and wounding, in the general engagement, between twenty-six and twenty-eight hundred of the enemy. Having achieved this signal and brilliant victory, Gen. Pillow immediately resolved to pursue the retreating forces of the enemy, and while his troops were flushed with victory, give battle to a large force, said still to be in San Angel, which he did, and drove them before him. He then sent an officer of his staff back to Gen. Scott to say to him, if he would cause Gen. Worth to co-operate with him, he would sweep around the valley and assault the strong
a short time to recover their breath and exhausted strength before engaging with the enemy at San Antonio. While waiting for this purpose, Gen. Scott overtook the army. At this moment it was discovered at the distance that the enemy (seeing their main work had been carried, and that they were about to be attacked in the rear) had abandoned the work at San Antonio, and fallen back on a second strong work at Santa Martha. Gen. Scott, who now assumed command, immediately directed Twiggs' division to advance upon the left, and to arrest and cut off all the retreating forces of the enemy, while he ordered Gen. Pillow to lead Cadwalader's brigade to advance and assault the enemy upon the works of San Antonio in the reverse, and carry that place, so as to open the direct route to the capital for the advance of his siege train, upon the other battery on that road. — Gen. Scott replied that Worth should co-operate with him. Gen. Pillow then moved rapidly around the valley at the head of his victorious forces until he reached Cuycus, within one mile of San Antonio, where he halted to allow his troops a short time to revive their breath, and almost exhausted strength, before engaging the enemy at San Antonio. While waiting for this purpose, General Scott overtook the army. At this moment it was discovered in the distance that the enemy (seeing their main work had been carried and right and in front. that they were about to be attacked in the rear) had abandoned the work at San Antonio and fallen back upon a second strong work at Churubusco. Gen'l Scott, who now assumed command for the first time, immediately ordered Gen'l Twiggs' division to advance upon the left and arrest and cut off the retreating forces of the enemy, and assault the strong work at this place on the right, while he ordered Gen. Pillow to lead Cadwalader's brigade and assault the enemy upon the left, and in front of the main work at the bridge or causeway.

It is evident that these two letters were copies of the same paper or of one another; for it is impossible that otherwise they could have been so entirely correspondent in every line and word. The two were certainly written by the same individual; this we are sure every man who has been in the habit either of writing much, or often examining the writings of others, will affirm. [BWP]
The entire Locofoco party, we believe with exception, unite in deprecating the nomination of this distinguished gentleman, by the Philadelphia Convention, out of a new-born, but, we are bound to believe, real zeal for the honor and consistency of the Whig party. Their reasoning is identical with that of a certain portion of the Whig party, who indeed appear to us, to resort habitually to the Union at Washington, and the Enquirer in this city, for arguments to confound the men of their own party. We were at first told, by both of these parties, that the General was no Whig—that he had in fact no politics—and that the Whig party in voting for him were voting blind-fold, as they did in the case of John Tyler, with every prospect of meeting with a similar reward. They did not take into consideration the manly and upright character of the old warrior—his long-tried and unflinching patriotism—his open and candid nature—and his detestation of every thing which is not as honorable and as direct as his own mind. Under the force of facts—facts which cannot be denied, and which no one will attempt to controvert—they have both, most unwillingly, been compelled to resign this position. It is now generally conceded by his bitterest enemies, that Gen. Taylor, is nothing else can be said for him, is at least a Whig; as much so as any other member of the party whatever—far more so, than many, who would gladly have read him out of the Church, had it been in their power. Even Mr. Botts is understood to have expressed a willingness to see him run as Vice President on Mr. Clay’s ticket; a confession, if Mr. Botts himself be a Whig, that he regards Gen. Taylor as one also.

There is one point however, upon which there has been very little dispute, either among the Locofocons, or those Whigs whose train of reasoning seems to be derived from them. It is, that there is about Gen. Taylor a provoking appearance of success if nominated, which keeps his opponents in an everlasting ill-humor. The Locofocon prints do not say so openly; on the contrary, they endeavor to make it appear that he will easily be beaten, by the Nominee of the Baltimore Convention. But they say this with white lips, and chattering teeth, betraying their alarm in every word, tone and gesture. His Whig opponents, on the contrary, have been compelled, by the clear evidence which has already been afforded, and to the volume of which every day is adding, to acknowledge, that if nominated, he will most assuredly succeed. This it must be acknowledged, forms a most powerful recommendation to the Convention, if that body is bent upon securing, by all legitimate means, the triumph of those principles in which we all put our faith. Let us see. Gen. Taylor, it is now admitted by friends and foes, is a Whig; friends and foes, likewise, have confidence in his triumphant success. Can any Whig doubt who ought to be the Whig candidate? In addition to this, there is an abundance of evidence to be found in the history of his life, all of which will show confound in the history of his life, all of which will show conclusively, that he is not the man to cheat or to juggle. Nothing indeed, could be farther from his character—a character perfectly understood by people of all parties for many years—and now known to the whole Union.

The fact that Gen. Taylor is not a hackneyed politician—that he has not spent his life in a series of petty intrigues, the utmost aim of which is to obtain an office, or to secure one already obtained—that he has passed the greater part of it far from the pestilential atmosphere of Washington—is to us a recommendation, rather than otherwise. This very fact affords to the people of the Union, a proof, that he has not, at least, been corrupted by the pernicious influences that surround the palace—that he has preserved his honesty untainted, and his good name unquestioned—and that if entrusted with the direction of the Government, he will administer it with an eye single to the honor, prosperity and glory of the nation. Politicians are formed at Washington—the rank atmosphere of the court can generate them by thousands annually.

The statesman is a creature of a different genius, and does not require to be hatched into life by the intrigues of the palace.

It has been said that Gen. Taylor is no statesman; but we would ask what higher evidences can any man give of statesmanship, than he gave in his campaign on the Rio Grande? He was in the midst of a hostile population, at the head of a feeble army, without any prospect of support from home, devoid of the necessary means to carry on his forces after their most signal victories, and an object of jealousy to the Administration. It was at this time, that his administrative talent burst forth with unclouded lustre.—He conciliated the fierce multitude of foreigners, whose every look betrayed the intensity of a deeply settled hatred towards invaders differing from them in language and religion; he not only rendered them innocuous by mild and gentle means, but even made them friends; he was not content with winning them over so far that they offered no serious obstacle to his operations, but he even made them subservient to his plans. In his own army—composed of raw volunteers, who saw service for the first time—to whom habits of obedience and discipline were strange—who were naturally disposed to rebel against the exercise of an officer’s authority—and who were surrounded by difficulties of a nature well calculated to distress even veterans, that had faced death on an hundred fields—he preserved the most exact order, regulating every thing to suit his own wishes, and directing those energies, which, under another, might have been made the agents of disorder and ruin, to the accomplishment of his country’s glory. To say that such a man is no statesman, and to transfer the (article incomplete).

[BWP]
then in the most approved style of Mexican cowardice. News had arrived, that the Indian Chief Ceciliochi had attacked the town of Bacalar, but had met with desperate resistance. The most significant part of the letter in which this is communicated to La Patria, is one in which the writer says that without foreign aid they must be lost. We look for another Yucatan message, bill and debate.


General orders have been issued from the War Department, containing the President’s review of the finding of the Court of Inquiry in the case familiarly known as that of “gen. Pillow and the two howitzers.” The President decides that there was an unintentional error of a material fact in the finding of the Court. He finds nothing in the case for which Gen. Pillow deserves censure, and concurs with the Court and Gen. Scott that there is nothing in the case which requires further military proceedings. The President acquits the young officer who took the howitzers from their carriage and desired to retain them as trophies, of any criminal or improper motive.

The Union tells us that Thursday “was the proudest day of Mr. Polk’s life,” and that “no one occupies at this moment as proud a place as he does.” This is very kind and very grateful of the organ, no doubt; but alas! if it is designed to compensate Mr. Polk for the loss of that power which he sacrificed every thing that a man of sensibility should hold dear to attain—which he has set so many elements of wrath and destruction in motion to preserve—which was as dear to his heart as the very blood which sustains his existence—we fear it will fail utterly of its intention. There is no “balm in Gilead” for such a wound as he has received. The voice of adulation can have no charms for a disappointed politician.

By way of consolation, the Union reminds its master of the glories of his brief reign, all of which it ascribes with out any division to his wisdom, forecast and firmness. We propose to examine the title of the President to this extraordinary eulogy.

Upon the day of his inauguration, standing upon the Eastern steps of the Capitol, near the statue of Columbus, a seas of umbrellas occupying the space in front, (for he spoke not “under an October sun,” but beneath a March rain,) Jas. K. Polk declared to the assembled multitude, that our title to Oregon as far as 54 40 was “clear and unquestionable.” As the Chief Magistrate of a great nation, bound to see that her unquestionable rights, which she could not resign without dishonor, were protected, he should, after this declaration, have died sword in hand rather than yield the, Did he do this? Far from it. After mush discussion—mush agitation—a desperate attempt to make capital—and a failure in that particular—he meanly threw the responsibility on the Senate, and when that body advised the very measure which he and his had rejected with scorn, he eagerly caught at it, and claimed credit of resettling the affair, without involving the country in war. True he resigned the pretensions so boldly set forth in his inaugural address—true he inflicted upon the country the indelible stain of being either afraid or unable to vindicate its just rights—true he left partisans in the lurch at the very moment when their zeal was warmest, and their hopes were already assuming the semblance of reality. But what of war? He got rid of a dangerous war by truckling, and he acquired the reputation of a pacificator at the expense of the National honor.
His next step was to abolish the Constitution of the United States, and to take upon himself the most important of all the powers of Congress conferred by that instrument.—He made war upon his own responsibility, and called upon Congress to adopt it. Of this fact there existed but little doubt at any time; but since the publication of Mr. Buchanan’s instructions to Mr. Slidell, there can be longer be any. In his message of December, 1845, he assumed that the Rio Grande was the western boundary of Texas, as it was when it was ceded to Spain—that the act of the Texan Congress, in 1836, had recognized it—and that this was the Texas which he had annexed. We say nothing of Judge Ellis’ declaration that the Texan Congress never meant really to insist upon the Rio Grande as the true boundary, but had taken it in order to leave a wide margin for future negotiations, nor of the facts which were palpable to all, that the population between the Nueces and that river were Spaniards whose fathers had settled the country at least one hundred years before, and that the only Texan force which ever entered that region was captured and carried to Mexico. But we wish to call attention to the fact, that not much more than one month before this message saw the light, Mr. Polk’s Secretary of State, acting doubtless by his orders, instructed our Minister to Mexico to offer five millions for the very country in question; a damning proof of guilt against the President; for it places in bad relief one fact too palpable to be overlooked or misunderstood, viz: that Mr. Polk did not believe that the country belonged to us, and that when he commanded Gen. Taylor to enter it, he knew that he was virtually making a war.

The various and contradictory pretexts which have been assigned for this Presidential was, are as disgraceful as they are contradictory. We were told, in the first place, that American blood had been spilt on American soil, and that this was the cause of the war. Of course it was to be inferred from this that Mexico had commenced the war.—Very shortly, however, as men always do who are bent upon a wicked action, they contradicted themselves. They told us that the war was undertaken in order to procure indemnity for the spoliation of our citizens. How, then, could it be commenced by Mexico? In a little time the tune was again changed, and we were assured that the refusal of the Mexican Government to receive an ambassador, was the cause of the march to the Rio Grande. In that view of the case, of course, we must have commenced it.—But he truth is, that Mr. Sidell either had not been rejected when the troops were ordered to the Rio Grande, or his rejection had been so recent that the tidings of it had not reached the United States.

We say nothing of the palpable negligence, which with ample materials at hand, permitted Gen. Taylor to waste so much precious time on the Rio Grande, and finally, with a handful of men, to engage in the apparently desperate conflict of Monterey—of the precaution which previous to each battle the Executive organ took to save the credit of his employers, by representing the position assumed by that General, as contrary to the instructions of the Secretary of War, and the meanness which afterwards claimed for the foresight of that officer the glory of all the victories won in spite of his riders—of the perilous condition in which Gen. Taylor was left at Buena Vista—of the appointment of such a miserable wretch as Pillow to the second rank in the army—of the support yielded to him by the Executive, and the dishonorable employment of means to put him in possession of documents for his defence—of the persecution of our greatest General upon charges so false and frivolous, that he who preferred was ashamed to prosecute them. All these things we leave to the judgment of the country, and that judgment is not equivocal. But we would call attention to the enormous public debt which the insane lust of the President from conquest has already accumulated, and to which his policy is daily adding; a debt already variously estimated at one hundred and one hundred and fifty millions. We would call attention to the assumption by the President of the war-making power—a power the most dangerous in its exercise, the most capable of abuse, and the most carefully guarded of all others by the Constitution of the United States. We would call attention to the assumption by the President of the war-making power—a power the most dangerous in its exercise, the most capable of abuse, and the most carefully guarded of all others by the Constitution of the United States. We would call attention to the fact that he has already asserted, and is prepared to maintain by force the doctrine that a President of the United States has a right, and that it is his duty, to interfere in the domestic affairs of a foreign nation, a doctrine odious in itself, which has produced half the wars which have desolated modern Europe, which was the cohesive power that so long kept together the knot of Despots known as the Holy Alliance, which was openly rejected by Washington, and which every free State in the world has discarded as fatal to liberty, peace, and order.

Such is a picture of Mr. Polk’s Administration, by no means overcharged, but falling, in truth, rather below the reality. If our readers can find any thing to admire in the features of such a likeness, we confess their taste is widely different from ours.

[BWP]
When, therefore, the Union tells us that General Cass is "pure in his private life—amiable in his manners—faithful to his friends—liberal to his enemies," we are willing without any personal knowledge of the man, to subscribe to all it says. But when it informs us that he is "honest in his principles" (meaning, we presume, his political tenets) we beg leave to express our doubts. What has he seen, since he made his speech in favor of the Wilmot Proviso, to produce such a tremendous revolution in his political sentiments, at the advanced age of sixty-seven? What new lights have suddenly burst upon his understanding since Mr. Wilmot first brought forward the Wilmot Proviso? If he be that "strict man of business," that he is represented to be—if he actually possess those "powers of mind," attributed to him, "which grasp, as it were by institution, every subject to which they are applied"—if his acquirements be so "various and extensive" as his admirers assure us they are—how does it happen, that after mature deliberations upon a subject of so much importance, his opinions were so badly made up as to require revision and reversal, in the short space of eighteen months? Surely this does not look like the result, either of business habits, or of intuitive perception, or of various and extensive acquirements. It far more resembles the crude conclusions of a weak judgment, and a vacillating will, directed neither by experience in his own person, nor by an acquaintance with the history of the past.

According to the intellect of general Cass all that the Union is pleased to claim for it, we can see no possible solution of the difficulty in which his sudden change has involved the question of his claims to these attributes, save that to which we have already alluded. It must have been the near prospect of the nomination, that caused his mind to swerve from its true balance, and that has placed him with all the assumed clearness and promptness of thought and action which his friends have claimed for him, in the unenviable position of the most inconsistent Statesman of a time remarkable, above all others, for changes among the great ones of the earth. It afforded us no little astonishment to see that the Delegation of Virginia, some of whom were in the State Convention, supported General Cass throughout, nor are we able to imagine how such persons can possibly reconcile such a course with their own unanimous declaration adopted three months ago, and held up with exultation to an admiring people, as forming a direct contrast to the course of the Whig convention, which adjourned without having made a declaration of principle. We were told by that body, representing, we presume, the opinions and wishes of the democracy of the Old Dominion, that no earthly power—neither Congress, nor the territorial Legislature—save the people of a territory themselves, on the adoption of a State Constitution, had a right to interfere in any manner with the question of slavery within its limits! Gen. Cass, on the contrary, holds a doctrine precisely the reverse of this. He tells us that he is in favor of leaving "to the people of any territory which may hereafter be acquired, the right to regulate it for themselves, under the general principles of the Constitution." The one denies to the people of a territory all power over the subject as long as it is a territory, and only allows them to regulate it, when it becomes a sovereign State. The other accords the same power to the inhabitants from the beginning, thereby opening between himself and the Southern Democracy, a gulf, which to any other than the mercurial spirit of Progressive Democracy would have been absolutely impassable. They have passed it, however, and we wait to see how the passage will be explained to the good Democrats of Virginia, who, we are disposed to think, were not altogether prepared for it.

We concur heartily with our friends of the times in the propriety of extending to the "Great Captain" an invitation to visit this, the capital of his native State, where he has many near connections, many warm personal friends, and an untold number of enthusiastic admirers. We all feel a just pride in his glory, conceiving that it reflects upon his native State and upon every individual, however humble, who drew his first breath upon the soil. Often as our citizens have seen Gen. Scott, familiar as is his majestic figure to them all, they yet feel as great a curiosity to see him as though he were an entire stranger. They wish to see how the man who has rivaled, if he has not surpassed Cortez, bears himself beneath the weight of his laurels. They feel that he has been the victim of a heartless persecution; and the warm feelings of this generous population, (and no where can one more generous be found,) which would be excited even in favor of a stranger suffering under oppression, are roused to a high degree of intensity in this case, where an ancient townsman is the victim. We do not conceive that Gen. Scott either will, or has a right to decline the invitation of his old friends and neighbors, united with thousands of others who admire, at the same time that they do not know him. We wish to remind the world that Winfield Scott, the man who proved himself the first military commander of the age, is one of us; that though a resident of another State, we still claim him as a native of ours; and that Old Virginia is determined not to relinquish one iota of her claim to one of the most valuable of her jewels.
The great Democracy seems to have been under no little excitement upon the last day of the session, and the appeal of Mr. Stevenson to the "gentle sire" was, in the opinion of the Alexandria Gazette, not only well timed, but absolutely necessary on the occasion. Mr. Yancey, Ala. and Mr. Foreman of Geo. From very high words, were very near coming to blows.

Senator Rusk, of Texas, offered a series of resolutions, which occasioned no little merriment among the congregated office-holders of the great Convention. The substance of them was, that, in future, no member of Congress should accept office under the General Government, and that the people be requested to appoint no member of Congress a member of any future Democratic Convention. Now, we hold that Senator Rusk must either be one of the greenest of juveniles, or that he is striving hard to perpetrate a humbug. It will be recollected that General Jackson made this a prominent point of his political creed, in his letter to the Tennessee Legislature, in which he signified his acceptance of their nomination of him to the Presidency. So strongly did the democracy of that day insist upon the observance of this doctrine, that when in 1827, Mr. Adams appointed to office Mr. Taylor, who had been defeated for congress in the Orange District, he was charged by a writer in the Richmond Enquirer with an open attempt to interfere with the people's prerogative of discarding a servant whom they considered no longer worthy of confidence. The writer contended that the freedom of election, and the responsibilities of the representative were entirely destroyed, whenever the constituents, displeased with the conduct of their Congressmen, thought proper to show such displeasure by turning him out, and the Executive should interfere and compensate his losses by an office. There was much truth in this reasoning; and had Gen'l Jackson been guided by his own doctrine, there is little doubt that many most disastrous consequences might have been avoided. But he had scarcely been in office a year when he appointed more members of Congress to office than had been appointed before by all the Presidents from Washington down. To have been defeated by the people was a never-failing passport to office; and to such an extent was this carried, that men were sometimes induced to resign lucrative State offices and run, without any hope, for Congress, under an assurance that in case of defeat a better should reward the disinterested sacrifice. Such at least was the impression of the Whigs, both in his day and that of his successor; and such we doubt not, should have been surprised had the Convention adopted Senator Rusk's proposition; but we should have been hugely so, had any Democratic member, not excepting even the Texas Senator, felt himself bound by it to reject a lucrative office.

Gen. Scott in New York

This distinguished officer arrived in New York on Thursday. The committee met him at Elizabethport (N. J.)—He appeared feeble, and complained of temporary indisposition. He was received by Alderman Franklin, who delivered an address suited to the occasion. The General responded in appropriate terms, and in a feeble voice. The Commercial says, however, that he looks hale, and that his indisposition was merely temporary. The Journal of Commerce says, when he closed, he shook hands with Governor Young, ex-Mayor Harper, Ogden Hoffman, Hon. Mr. Clingman, [M.C., North Carolina,] and others, with great cordiality, and then retired to the Lady's Cabin. Coming up the Bay, the steamboat bells sent forth a merry peal, and a salute was fired from the Battery and Governor's Island. He was welcomed at Castle Garden by the Mayor, after which he reviewed the military under command of Gen. Sanford, on the Battery. After the review, the line of march was taken up as follows:

"Up Broadway to Chatham street, through Chatham street to the Bowery, up the Bowery to Astor Place, thence to Broadway, down Broadway to Chambers street, when the military halted and formed a line, when the Common Council with their guests passed through Chambers street, and the Park by the East gate, to the City Hall, where a marching salute will be paid to their distinguished guest."

The ceremonies being concluded, the Guard of Honor escorted the General to his quarters."

Later from Mexico

The New Orleans papers of the 21st, contain 4 days later intelligence from Mexico. The news is to the 4th from Queretaro, and the 8th from the city of Mexico.

There is still no peace, and opinion is as much divided as ever. The Mexican Congress was to open its regular session on the 8th. The election of President to take place on the 9th, and the treaty then to be considered. It is said that the anti-peace party had determined to withdraw from Congress, and leave it without a quorum, if they found a majority in favor of the treaty. To prevent this, its was intended by the peace party to authorize a less number to constitute a quorum.

We copy from the Picayune.

CITY OF MEXICO, May 8, 1848.
Enclosed is a letter from your Queretaro correspondent of the 4th isn't. The letter is brief, but announces the important fact that Congress will hold its first regular meeting, with a thorough organization, to-day. Here, as there exists a profound calm, nothing is spoken of but the probable fate of the treaty, and no reflecting man will attempt to prophecy whether we shall have war or peace.

It is well ascertained that eighteen or twenty of the Deputies at Queretaro are opposed to the treaty, and that there are men of influence and wealth at the seat of Government exerting themselves against peace, and it is said with positiveness by the opponents of peace, that whenever the question is put upon the ratification of the treaty, these men will withdraw and break the quorum. The peace party, however, are urging upon the Government to decree the number who remain a quorum, and thus, by taking the responsibility of violating the constitution, (not an uncommon act in Mexico) baffle the designs of the anti-peace party.

Almonte seems of late to have been one of the leaders in the anti-peace party, and is now at San Luis, where Paredes and Jarauta are, and which seems to be the headquarters of the disaffected. Almonte is an ambitious and a disappointed man; but with him, as well as those who act with him, it is strongly suspected they will carry their opposition to the treaty no further than voting against it, for the purpose of making political capital by their course, and raising themselves to power when our army leaves the country.

Should the Government find it necessary to declare less than a constitutional number of members of Congress a quorum, it is much doubted if Herrera, who it is confidentially predicted will be elected President, will have the nerve to do so. He has the reputation of being an honest man, with some talent, but entirely wanting in moral courage and energy. With the limited resources he can command, it would not require extraordinary efforts to upset his government. But a truce to speculation. Affairs have now arrived at that crisis which Bonaparte, in speaking of a battle, termed “hinging,” and the weight of a pin may turn the scale. Within the next week we expect to be able to predict with some certainty the action of Congress. D. S.

RW48v25i43p1c2, May 30, 1848: Gen. Butler

We said on yesterday, that we knew little of this gentleman. We have heard, however, that in Kentucky he occupied the rank of about a third rate lawyer. He was one of Mr. Polk’s generals, sent out, it was said at the time, to prepare him for the Presidency. At the storming of Monterey, by converting into a real attack upon an impregnable position, that which was only designed by gen. Taylor as a feint, he was said to have occasioned a very heavy loss of life, and would probably have been destroyed with his whole brigade had not Old Zac in person led the troops off from the scene of carnage. This, if true, speaks but indifferently for his qualification as a commander-in-chief, which responsible position he occupies at present. He is allowed to be very much of a gentleman, and very brave; but we have not been enabled, from the lights before us, to discover any very great qualifications as a general. At any rate, we presume he can hardly be expected to fill the shoes left vacant by Gen. Scott’s recall.

[BWP]


There is but one thought, but one wish here—that is the definitive union of Congress. All opinions, all hopes, and even all interests, are suspected until next week. The hall prepared for the meeting of Congress is finished, and Monday (May 8th) is the day fixed for the opening meeting. I will be ready to transmit to you, with the greatest expedition, the acts and documents published by the Chambers. A complete calm.

[BWP]

RW48v25i43p1c3, May 30, 1848: No title. What was said in Vera Cruz.

We took some pains to learn from passengers who came by the Massachusetts, what was said in Vera Cruz on the subject of the treaty. They represent opinions as divided there as here.

A strong report, however, reached us by the steamer, to the following effect: That Gen. Kearny received at Vera Cruz, by the latest mail, orders to march to Mexico with all his disposable force. We have this from two sources, but attach little credit to it. Were it true, it would be a very significant token of the continuance of hostilities.—But probably the story grew out of the following less alarming paragraph which we find in the Vera Cruz Free American of the 12th instant:

We have learned from good authority, that Gen. Kearny received orders from headquarters at Mexico, to send up to the city of Mexico all troops now encamped at camp Washington.

There is at present at this encampment about 1200 men. They will probably leave this camp for Bergarra on
Saturday next, and commence their march on Sunday, the 14th.

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**RW48v25i43p1c5, May 30, 1848: Taylor in Ohio.**

Notwithstanding we have been so often told that Gen. Taylor has no strength whatever in Ohio, the “Cincinnati Atlas,” an anti-Taylor paper, states that eleven Taylor delegates were recently chosen at the Ward Elections in that City. The “Philadelphia Inquirer” says: "Pretty well for Ohio!—the truth is, the old hero’s popularity is confined to no particular section of the Union. His strength with the people is far greater than that of any other candidate. He is, in fact, the only candidate known to be Whig in his sentiments, for whom, nevertheless, thousands of all parties will vote.”

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**RW48v25i43p1c5, May 30, 1848: Cuernavaca, Mexico, March 20th, 1848.**

Sir—It has become my very painful duty to inform you of the loss of your son, Francis P. Hudson. He died from a severe attack of Typhus Fever, in the Hospital, at this place, on yesterday, the 20th of March. He was transferred from Com. M. 4th art'y, to Light Battery G. (formerly Dunn’s), and I can assure you, sir, that though a young soldier, his zeal, activity and intelligence, won for him the esteem and regard of his officers and fellow-soldiers. I had already selected him as gunner to one of the re-captured 6-pounders of Buena Vista, on account of his gre6-pounders of Buena Vista, on account of his gre5-pounders of Buena Vista, on account of his great promise, and should have rapidly promoted him.—The service has lost a fine young soldier; and I do most sincerely sympathise with his affectionate family in their bereavement. Proper care will be taken of his effect, and they will be administered upon, and the balance, if any, of monies in my hands, will be forwarded to the Ad'jt General Washington.

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**RW48v25i43p2c1, May 30, 1848: Winfield Scott – Public Meeting.**

Among the incidents which are now filling the public with excitement, is the return of Major General Scott to his country. Elizabethtown, New Jersey, has been made a scene of rejoicing by his presence, and New York is extending to him every token of honor, and every kind of welcome. It would seem time that Richmond should express the sentiments on this subject which all her citizens doubtless feel. She is the metropolis of the General’s native State. His most intimate connections have been formed amongst her inhabitants, and he himself has been almost one of her citizens. There is but one feeling towards him here, as a man and a soldier, and the desire to render him due honors is as extensive as it is peculiarly becoming to the citizens of Richmond.

It is therefore proposed that the citizens of Richmond assemble in general meeting on Tuesday night, at the City Hall, at 8 o’clock, to consider the proper mode of expressing their feelings toward him. MANY CITIZENS.

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**RW48v25i43p2c2, May 30, 1848: Mr. Polk – An Outsider.**

The following was the only allusion made in the Democratic Convention to Mr. Polk, prior to the reading of his modest epistle. After that, something stemmed to be absolutely necessary. To have been passed by in total silence would have been more reputable than a contemptuous reference. Hence both to prevent his being forgotten, and to seem to decline an honor, which no human being seemed disposed to accord him, he favored the Convention with his letter:

"Morse, of Louisiana, opened with a furious assault upon it, (the two-thirds rule) and denounced it as anti-democratic, and innovation upon party usages and distracting in its effects. He charged that the split among the New York democracy, grew out of the adoption of that rule by the last Convention, and if now adopted, other States would be divided and the ascendancy of the party put in jeopardy. But when he came to speak of the nomination of candidates by that rule, he made a hit that roused the house. He declared that its effects would be to lead now as it did four years ago, to the nomination of an outsider, whom no one had thought of before, and thus the wishes of the Democracy may be defeated.

"This allusion to outsiders, was met with a furious reply from Howden of Alabama, who denounced the term applied to Polk and Dallas, as in the highest degree insulting to the party and their last candidates. They were the successful and faithful representatives of the principles of the party, and five thousand years hence, the young democrats of America would shout, as the ancient champions of their faith, the names of Jefferson, Jackson, Polk!!”—[Tremendous applause.]
From Oregon.

The St. Louis Republican gives the particulars of fresh troubles in this remote territory. The settlers are threatened in this remote territory. The settlers are threatened by the neighboring Indians, and have had four hard-fought battles with them. Dr. Whitman's Missionary establishment has been sacked and destroyed. The Doctor, his wife and nine other persons were massacred. The women and children were taken captive—but by the energetic intercession of Mr. Ogden of the Hudson Bay Company, they were surrendered by the Indians unhurt.

A general war with all the Indian tribes in that quarter is anticipated.

Mr. Meek, who brings this intelligence is on his way to Washington to ask for aid from the Government.

Gen. Taylor in New York.

The Journal of Commerce, a paper which has the reputation of never having its judgment warped by feeling, and has an instinctive proclivity to the strong side, thus discourses on the Presidential nominees:

Democratic Nomination for the Presidency.

The die is cast; LEWIS CASS, of Michigan, is the Democratic nominee for the Presidency. He received 170 votes, being more than two-thirds of the number of Delegates present. The New York Delegation did not vote; the Barnburners having previously withdrawn, and the Hunkers for some reason or other, withholding their tire. The former, we suppose, will come back disaffected, and very probably will nominate GEN. TAYLOR. In that case, Gen. Cass will get but an apology of a vote in the State of New York; and in any case, if Gen. Taylor is the nominee of the Whig Convention, (perhaps even if he is not,) he will have the vote of the State.

We are not sure but Gen. Cass is the strongest man in the Democratic party; yet he is not exactly popular, and can only succeed in case the Whig Convention should nominate Mr. Clay. That Convention meets on the 7th of next month, (a week from next Wednesday.) When its results are announced, we shall know pretty nearly how the cat will jump. If Mr. Clay in nominated, Cass will probably be elected; but possibly there will be no election by the people, in which case Gen. Taylor will be elected by the House. Of this we believe there is little doubt. For although the Whigs will not have strength enough in that body to elect Mr. Clay, nor the democrats to elect Gen. Cass, yet either party can get enough votes from the other to elect Gen. Taylor. If Taylor is nominated by the Whig Convention, he will be elected beyond a peradventure.—Even the rigid discipline of the Democratic party cannot prevent their men from going over to him by regiments.

As to Gen. Cass, he is not the worst man that ever was, and the country would not be ruined if he should be elected,—any more than it has been a dozen times before when ruin was predicted. Yet we own we are not admirers of his political character. He appears to us not to be as safe a man as some others to place at the helm, and especially as Gen. Taylor. While Minister of the U S at Paris, he came near embroiling our country in war, and again in the Senate, on the Oregon question, he showed himself to be rash and impetuous. We more and more feel the necessity of a cool head, as well as uprightness of purpose, in the President of the United States. A proper admixture of the former ingredient in the constitution of President Polk, would have saved the country from the present war with Mexico. Gen. Taylor has it in large measure, and with it a plenty of common sense. As to statesmanship, he can easily surround himself with it to any extent, in the composition of his Cabinet. Mere statesmanship is not half so rare a quality in eminent stations, or wisdom, moderation, firmness without obstinacy, strict integrity, exemption from selfish or ambitious views, a desire to serve the country for its own sake, and not as a means of personal aggrandizement. In all these respects Gen. Taylor stands pre-eminent.

From the New Orleans Bee. Still later and interesting from Mexico – Arrival of the Royal Steamship Tay – Peace Prospects.

The royal mail steamship Tay, Capt. Sharp, arrives at Cat Island on Saturday afternoon, from Vera Cruz, which she left on the 16th instant. The Tay carried out $652,000 in specie, and 482 bales of cochineal. The British Courier arrives at Vera Cruz on the morning of the 16th, from the city of Mexico, and reports that Herrera was elected President by an almost unanimous vote, and that Pena y Pena was appointed Chief Justice of the Republic.

Congress had agreed to take the vote on the treaty on the 25th inst., and it was generally believed that it would be ratified, as there were only fifteen of the members opposed to it, because they fear that anarchy will follow the
withdrawal of our troops.

Gen. Kearny left Vera Cruz on the 14th for the city of Mexico, and the next day 1200 men, under Col. Ramsay, took up the line of march for the same destination.

The American Star, of the 11th announces the formal organization of both branches of Congress, at Queretaro, on the evening of the 7th inst. The Senators and Deputies met at Academia, where they were addressed by President Pena y Pena. The President of the Chamber, Eloriga, replied, alluded to his speech to the position of Congress, and declaring that that body would sacrifice, if necessary, their convictions and feeling, to become the organs of the popular war, and that the sentence they would pronounce would be dictated by conscience, and a stern regard for the laws of honor and of duty.

Don Manuel Gomez Pedraz was nominated for President of the Senate, and Senors Latragua and Covarrubias Secretaries, at a preliminary meeting of the members on the 5th instant.

In regard to the treaty, the Star says: “The indications are encouraging that its ratification will be carried by both branches, and will become the law of the land. Unless the disorganizers persist in their opposition, we see not why the treaty, as modified, may not receive the warm approval of Congress. It is certain that if violent measures are attempted by any of the radical press, their originators and abettors will receive severe punishment a the hands of the Supreme Government.”

The news from the interior is generally favorable to peace.

A train, under the command of Maj. Taliaferro, arrived at the city of Mexico on the 7th from Pacheco. It consisted of ten wagons, laden with sixty bars of silver valued at $1200 each. The train was to return on the 12th instant.

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The VICE PRESIDENT laid before the Senate a communication from LEWIS CASS, of Michigan, resigning his seat in the U. S. Senate.

A message in writing was received from the PRESIDENT of the United States transmitting a memorial from the Legislature of Oregon, in relation to the incursions of the different hostile bands of Indians in their vicinity.

The memorial was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. BENTON was appointed Chairman of the Committee on Military affairs, vice Mr. CASS, resigned.

Mr. BUTLER, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill providing for the punishment of persons violating the Secret proceedings of Congress. The Bill to amend the act for the transportation of the Mails to foreign countries, was taken up, amended and passed.

The Senate spent the remainder of the day in Private Bills.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

A message was received from the PRESIDENT of the United States, in relation to the incursions of the Indians in Oregon. The message recommended the granting prompt assistance to settlers in the Oregon territory.

The message was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

A motion being made that the House resolve itself into a committee of the whole, and proceed with the Appropriation Bills, a warm discussion ensued as to the order of business, many members proposing to take up the subject of the Oregon difficulties in preference to the Appropriations Bills. The House finally decided to go into committee of the whole on the Post Office Bill, which was perfected in committee and reported to the House on the rising of the committee.

The House then adjourned.

[BWP]
The National Intelligencer very justly describes this as the most important question ever submitted to the decision of the United States Senate. The Mexican war involved principles, it is true, equally important; but the President, being determined that no bar should be opposed to his wishes, took very good care that the Senate should know nothing, officially, of the events which he was preparing, and which burst upon the country with the suddenness and effect of a clap of thunder in a clear sky. More fortunate in the present instance, it has had an opportunity of discovering Presidential intentions, and of sifting Presidential reasoning and motives to the bottom. The thorough discussion which both have undergone in the Senate, and the complete exposure of the sophistry, by means of which the Executive would have engaged the nation in a war of intervention, before he had concluded that into which his own precipitancy had hurried it, will, it is hoped, be productive of most salutary effects. The abuse of authority manifested in the instructions of the Secretary of the Navy to the commanding officer on the station, by virtue of which he was empowered and even directed to succor one party in a civil contest at the expense of the other, cannot but excite feelings of alarm in the bosom of every man who desires to see the constitution restored to its ancient vigor and effectiveness. And well is it for the country, that, on this occasion, the President condescended to remember that Congress was a co-ordinate branch of the Government; a fact which has been so little regarded of late by those in power, that it had well nigh become "an obsolete idea."

The doctrine set forth by Mr. Polk, and supported with great vehemence, not only by his adherents in the Senate, but by the Press devoted to his service throughout the land, if pushed to its legitimate extent, would be productive of the most serious disasters, and utterly subversive of the entire policy of our Government from its foundation to the present moment. It is, in fact, the very doctrine of the Holy Alliance,—as proclaimed at more than one congress,—which rendered the very name of that Association odious to all the nations of the earth, and finally shook every throne on the Continent of Europe (that of the Czar alone excepted) to its very foundation. It proclaims, as the associated despots did, that we have a right to interfere in the affairs of nations in no manner connected with, or dependant upon us, and to arrange their domestic dissensions upon principles most convenient to ourselves. The Holy alliance went, and could go, no farther than this. It is true, that in more than one instance, they carried out their principles into actual practice; but Mr. Polk was prepared to do the same, and had not Congress been in session a the time, would have undoubtedly have done it. That he condescended to send in a message upon the subject, before he had involved is in a war, we must take as a great and unexpected favor, for which this nation can scarcely be sufficiently grateful. Certain we are, that should he occupy the chair for the next twenty successive years, we may never expect such another act of grace.

The most extraordinary part of this whole business, is the attempt made by the friends of the Executive, to trace this attempt made by the friend of the Executive, to trace this attempt of Mr. Polk to establish the doctrine of intervention, to the celebrated Message of Mr. Monroe, so often alluded to in the course of the discussion. That paper taught principles precisely the reverse of this. It was a well-grounded apprehension that the Holy Alliance meant to carry their doctrine of intervention to the point of interfering between Spain and her Colonies, that induced him to hold the strong language which distinguishes that remarkable document. So far from feeling any apprehension with regard to England, that eternal bug-bear which is always held up to divert the attention of the multitude from any meditated act of more than ordinary atrocity, he was, from the first, acting in concert with her, and we should have found her fighting side by side with us, had the matter ever come to be settled by the arbitrament of blows. The intentions of the Allies, indeed, were first ascertained by our Minister in London, (Mr. Rush,) who in a conference with Mr. Canning agreed, unofficially, upon an alliance to counteract the great power of the allied Monarchs. It certainly was as much to the interest of Great Britain, professing free principles, though a monarchy as it was, to ours, though a Republic, to put an end to this doctrine of intervention, which had wrought the political ruin of half the Continent, and which, if not checked, might extend to the fast-anchored isle itself.

The doctrine of intervention has been repudiated by every nation in Europe. Each, as it shakes off the shackles, and assumes its just position in the world, takes particular care to say, that it will interfere with no other, unless provoked thereto by aggression. The principles of the great Washington, are recognized as the grand political rule of regenerated Europe; a compliment to the memory of our illustrious countryman, which makes the heart of every American swell with pride. Even Russia—half savage, despotic Russia—has been compelled to acknowledge and observe this rule. And America—free and enlightened America, which gave birth to this wise and wholesome doctrine, is called on by our Democratic President, to repudiate it, and to substitute the cast-off principles of humble and powerless despotism.

[BWP]


By the arrival of the steamship Eudora from Vera Cruz, the New Orleans Bee has advices to the 9th. Files had been received from Mexico down to the 4th. The congress had at last met. Herrera was elected President, but it was feared would not accept. The majority seemed to be in favor of peace, but the action of Congress was considerably embarrassed by the question of whether they had a right to part with any State, or portion of a State, without its consent. The Mexican States all go in very strong for State rights. It is said that there will be strong opposition to the treaty. The Government at Queretaro had yielded reveral (sic) points of etiquette with regard to our Commissioners. One of them was the admission of an escort of sixty men. The Commissioners await the announcement that they may come. Rosa, minister of foreign affairs, had sent a note to the deputies of Zacatecas, warning them of the necessity of meeting and throwing the responsibility on them. They have hitherto been recusant. Paredes and Flores had left San Luis for Aguas Calientes, under a guard. The latter endeavored to create a mutiny among the troops of Gen. Romero. Jarauta was at San Luis on the 26th, attending bull fights. The American Government of Mexico had given orders that the Diligence for Vera Cruz should be attended by an escort every morning to the end of its first day's journey. The case of Lieut. Dutton had been decided: that of Laverty, the Canadian, was before the court. Several
soldiers who had deserted with Lieut. John Smith, had been flogged on the plaza. He was to be sent to the United States with a discharge. The Eudora brought over the remains of Col. Hamilton (La.) and Lieut. Col. Allen (St. Louis.) Charles Wickham, a discharged soldier, died on the passage, of delirium tremens. Also, Joseph Dogherty, a discharged teamster.

La Patria has received eight days later intelligence from Yucatan than has been published in this city, and the statement presented in that paper shows the aspect of affairs in that distracted country to be even more deplorable than heretofore. It appears that a treaty of peace had been formed, but was violated by the Indians, who, on the 7th inst., entered the town of Mani, seemingly with pacific intentions, but at twelve o’clock the same day raised the “grito,” and commenced as indiscriminate massacre of the inhabitants, during which more than two hundred persons were put to the sword!

The garrison and inhabitants of the town of Iturbide, had abandoned the place; but on their retreat, being exposed to the attacks of a large number of Indians, they lost twenty-three filled and eleven wounded, beside one hundred and six who deserted on the road, leaving the commander with only sixty men. Numerous other towns had also been captured by the insurgents. The commander of the troops stationed at the village of Iturbide, did not abandon that place until after a vigorous combat with the Indians, the Yucatanese forces consisting of only 200 soldiers, while the army of the Indians numbered thousands. The fight was maintained for several hours.

The statement made yesterday, that twenty vessels of all nations were engaged in removing families from the country, is not correct. The only vessels employed in assisting the Yucatecoes, were Spanish vessels of war. The twenty-eight vessels in question, consisted of twenty-four small merchant crafts of Yucatan.

A letter to the Patria, dated Sisal, the 10th May, states that the Indians are in actual possession of an entire extent of country from Cilan to Cape Cotoche, and from there to Bacalar—Chico. The writer adds that the whole peninsula will ultimately fall into their hands, unless foreign nations come to the aid of the suffering inhabitants. In the capital, not less than 100,000 souls are collected, and large numbers of fugitives from the interior are hourly swelling the population. The means of transporting them from the country are totally insufficient.

The British Minister residing in Mexico has replied to the Governor of the State, touching the offer simultaneously made by the latter to the United States, England and Spain, of the dominion and sovereignty of Yucatan, on condition that she should be saved from the ruin and destruction which threatens her existence as a free and civilized nation. An English frigate of war, which arrived at the Island of Carmen, brought the official communication from the Minister, which arrived yesterday in this city, having been sent by the British Vice Consul in that Island. The letter was sent by express to the Governor of the State; but we know that the Minister has determined to lay the facts before his government, explaining the critical position of Yucatan, and the absolute necessity of prompt and effectual assistance. The Minister adds that he does not doubt that the English Cabinet will take into consideration the offer of the possession and government of the Peninsula, at the same time that he will afford the necessary succor to preserve it from the dangers that menace it.

The heads of the government had withdrawn from Tecul, and returned to the capital—all efforts to secure peace and quiet with the Indians having proved fruitless.

A Campeachy paper, El Hijo de la Patria, states that upwards of 2000 inhabitants who had been compelled to fly from the Peninsula, had taken refuge in the Island of Cozumel, and formed a settlement there which is already beginning to prosper.

The same paper has the following:

There are no longer any rancheros remaining in the vicinity of Yalahan, as the Indians have burned and destroyed everything. On holy Thursday, there were some fugitives in a small vessel at the Isle of Jolbos, on the coast; when they were in confusion the Indians appeared, and they had to fly, abandoning the vessel. The Indians took possession of her and burned her.

A vessel of war belonging to Her Catholic Majesty is on that station, rendering important services in the cause of humanity.
The Mexican-American War and the Media, 1845-1848

**Richmond Whig and Advertiser**

**July-December**

**Missing: July-December**

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Indexes Only

RWv25i53p1c1, July 4, 1848: Immense Ratification Meeting in New York
Meeting assembled to ratify the nomination of Taylor and Fillmore

RWv25i53p1c1, July 4, 1848: New York for Taylor
Description of the meeting that was held to ratify Taylor and Fillmore-who gave speech; address and resolution read

RWv25i53p1c3, July 4, 1848: General Taylor
Impression has been given that Taylor is not satisfied with Judge Saunders; Louisiana Delegation in the Whig Convention meets with Taylor’s approval

RWv25i53p1c3, July 4, 1848: Dinner to Mr. Pitts
List of toasts given—one to Taylor

RWv25i53p1c4, July 4, 1848
Taylor has not written about his position on politics since his nomination

RWv25i53p1c4, July 4, 1848
*Washington Union* proposes to send out a sheet with all of Taylor’s letters—prediction that he will omit Taylor’s letters to the War Department reporting his glorious victories

RWv25i53p2c1, July 4, 1848: Gen. Taylor’s Election the great Safeguard
Why Taylor will make a great President

RWv25i53p2c3, July 4, 1848: The Worcester Convention
NY will give a majority to Taylor; Pennsylvania will be Whig

RWv25i53p2c5, July 4, 1848: Speech of Mr. Rhett of South Carolina
Comments about Mexico and slavery; US constitution ruled by Senate to extend into Mexico because of the temporary military occupation; sovereignty of Mexico is superseded by the sovereignty of the States

RWv52i53p4c1, July 4, 1848: Sectional Difficulties
Comments about not taking Mexico apart after the war because it would be dangerous

RWv25i53p4c2, July 4, 1848
Democrats giving themselves a lot of unnecessary concern about Taylor’s acceptance of the nomination

RWv25i53p4c3, July 4, 1848: A Sign
Whig papers in Maine have hoisted the Taylor and Fillmore flag

RWv25i53p4c3, July 4, 1848: Political Notice
Alex Stuart begs to tell the people about Taylor and why they should vote him

RWv25i53p4c3, July 4, 1848: Whig Meeting at the Warrenton Springs
All friends of Taylor well hold a meeting at the Warrenton Springs

RWv25i53p4c3, July 4, 1848: Old Zack in Pennsylvania
Ten out of every twelve boats along the line of the Pennsylvania Canal had Taylor flags

RWv25i53p4c3, July 4, 1848: Effect of Van’s Nomination in the North
Van Buren’s nomination means that Taylor will win.

Accounts from Kentucky says Whigs are in favor of Taylor.

Comments about gaining territory occupied by the Mexicans—what to do with it, what laws would apply, what laws already apply.

Taylor has not received a notice of his nomination.

Whigs are preparing to go strong for Taylor.

Approve the nomination of Taylor for President.

People haven't voted for Whigs in the past are going to vote for Taylor.

Letter from the interior says that Taylor will sweep the state.

Immense ratification meetings have been held for Taylor.

Comments about how under Taylor success if certain.

Rough and Ready Club meeting on Tuesday.

Nomination of Taylor has created great enthusiasm.

Quotes about Taylor.

Meeting called for next Tuesday.

Rough and Ready takes like wild fire in Missouri.

Statement in reference to two Regiments; gives description of what it was like in Mexico—how many killed.

Facts about the men comparing them.

Approve nomination of Taylor.

Approved nomination of Taylor.

Taylor accepted as nominee; comments about belief in Taylor.

Message received from the President of the US communicating the Treaty of Peace between Mexico and the US.

Expression applied to the Whig party since their nomination of Taylor.
RWv25i55p4c1, July 11, 1848: Old Zac
Story published where Taylor when asked about Ordinance of ’87 said he never saw it

RWv25i55p4c1, July 11, 1848: Alabama
Meeting ratifies Taylor’s nomination

RWv25i55p4c2, July 11, 1848: This Looks Rebellion
New Orleans Delta calls for a meeting of Democrats who are in favor of Taylor

RWv25i55p4c1, July 11, 1848: Illinois Awakening
Quote from a person from Illinois about Taylor

RWv25i55p4c2, July 11, 1848
Washington Union abuses Taylor for not taking a position

RWv25i55p4c3, July 11, 1848: Congressional. The Presidential Canvass
Comments about Taylor’s position on domestic policy

RWv25i56p1c2, July 14, 1848: The Meeting of the Rough and Ready Club on Tuesday Evening
Report about what happened at the meeting

RWv25i56p1c3, July 14, 1848
Democratic papers trying to prove that Taylor is not a Whig

RWv25i56p1c1, July 14, 1848: Mr. Polk on the Treaty
Comments about Polk’s messaged declaring peace with Mexico

RWv25i56p1c5, July 14, 1848: Whigs of Ohio
Quotes about Taylor’s character

RWv25i56p1c5, July 14, 1848: Presentation of a Medal to Gen. Taylor
Legislature of Louisiana voted Taylor a medal, which was given to him on the 3rd

RWv25i56p1c5, July 14, 1848: The Treaty
President Polk’s Proclamation-talks about the treaty and peace with Mexico

RWv25i56p1c4, July 14, 1848: The President’s Peace Message
President Polk’s address announcing the signing of the peace treaty with Mexico; recommends Congress passing it

RWv25i56p1c6, July 14, 1848: Gen. Taylor Among the Volunteers
Vote among volunteers at Newport barracks on who they want for President

RWv25i56p2c1, July 14, 1848: The Court Martial upon Gen. Scott
People want to know why Scott is being court martialed

RWv25i54p2c2, July 14, 1848: Ratification Meeting at Hampton
Comments about what men discussed regarding Taylor

RWv25i54p2c3, July 14, 1848: Old Zach’s Acceptance
Gen. Taylor has not yet received Gov. Morehead’s letter

Rw25i56p2c1, July 14, 1848: Boundary of Texas &c.
Discussion of the boundary of Texas; list of appointments Gen. Kearny made in Texas; falsehood of Polk’s statement about the Texas boundary

RWv25i56p2c3, July 14, 1848: The Democrats of the North and Gen. Taylor
Letter from a distinguished Whig in Maine speaking highly of Taylor

RWv25i56p4c1, July 14, 1848: Old Zack doesn’t Decline!
Letter from Taylor to a family friend about his nomination

RWv25i56p4c3, July 14, 1848: Mr. Rives’ Speech
Speech given by Mr. Rives’ stating that he supports Taylor for President at the ratification meeting in Albemarle

RWv25i57p1c2, July 18, 1848: Col. Bragg
Given an award and spoke highly of Taylor

RWv25i57p1c3, July 18, 1848: Interesting Correspondence
Summons of Gen. Cass to Gen. Taylor—both Cass’s summons and Taylor’s reply

RWv25i57p1c3, July 18, 1848: The Virginia Volunteers
Col. Hamtramck reached this city on Sunday; Virginia Regiment will be at Old Point between the 25th and 1st of August

RWv25i57p1c1, July 18, 1848: Mr. Wise at Hampton
Speech he gave about the Mexican war

RWv25i57p1c4, July 18, 1848: Fourth of July Celebration at Amelia Court House
List of toasts given—Taylor, Scott, Santa Anna, other officers etc.

RWv25i57p2c1, July 18, 1848: Gen. Taylor’s Principle
Since Taylor is a Whig he holds Whig principles; list of what he believed to be Whig principles

RWv25i57p2c1, July 18, 1848: Letter from Gen. Taylor
Letter responding to the Resolutions of the Young Men’s Taylor Convention in Philadelphia; Taylor saying Thank You

RWv25i57p2c2, July 18, 1848: Gen. Pillow
Report on the findings of the Court of Inquiry

RWv25i57p2c3, July 18, 1848: Gen. Taylor and the North Carolina Volunteers
Story about how Gen. Taylor said that the officers involved in the difficulty should be shot; slander like this will only recoil upon those who write

RWv25i57p2c3, July 18, 1848: Van Buren in Illinois
Signs growing the Buren will be the real competitor against Taylor

RWv25i57p2c5, July 18, 1848: Speech of Mr. Stephens, of Georgia
More comments about how great Taylor is

RWv25i57p2c4, July 18, 1848: Substance of the Remarks made by Mr. Southall at the Ratification Meeting in Charlottesville
MORE Comments about how great Taylor is

RWv25i57p2c4, July 18, 1848: New Kent
Gave support to Taylor at a Whig meeting

RWv25i57p2c6, July 18, 1848
Those who call themselves Whigs in Congress only three decline support for Taylor

RWv25i57p4c1, July 18, 1848: Gen. Taylor and the Acceptance
Letter asking for Taylor’s acceptance of his nomination has not reached him yet; Gov. Morehead said they would right again

RWv25i57p4c1, July 18, 1848: Gen. Taylor and the South
Comments about how Taylor is another North man with Southern feelings; comments about how people in the South do support Taylor

RWv25i57p4c4, July 18, 1848: From New Orleans
The movement of Paredes for Revolutionizing the government of Mexico was fast developing; Paredes has taken possession of the mint at Guanajuato; insurgents have entered Queretaro and Paredes had published a pronunciamento condemning the peace treaty; American troops have evacuated Tampico

RWv25i57p4c5, July 18, 1848: Speech of Mr. Stephens
Offered Resolutions dealing with the boundary lines of New Mexico and California; comments about the jurisdiction of New Mexico and Texas; Polk believes in Gen. Kearney

RWv25i58p1c2, July 21, 1848: General Pillow Confirmed!
Was acquitted by the Court of Inquiry; has confirmed the nomination at the bidding of the President of the US

RWv25i58p1c4, July 21, 1848: Two Day’s Last from Mexico
Paredes has addressed the Governors of Michoacan, Zacatecas and Aguas Calientes, requesting them to join him against the government; Don Pedro de Regil y Entrada and Joaquin Garcia Rejon appeal to the Mexican Government to assist the Yucatecos who have been compelled to take refuge in Merida and Campeachy; Mexican Government approved aid

RWv25k58p1c5, July 21, 1848: 4th of July at Spring Creek in Prince Edward
List of toasts—given to the president, Taylor and Scott, the army and navy etc.
Report that a meeting held to rally the nomination of Taylor was fully attended.

Nominations of Gens. Pillow, Quitman, Cushing and Pearce have been confirmed by the Senate; selection for a committee on the territories of California and New Mexico was proposed.

Always believed that the President would not persecute Scott; charges against him were dismissed.

Charges that the opposition to Taylor has risen at Washington, with the President and his mercenaries; crippling resources and criticizing.

Taylor will get a large number of votes in Henry county.

Housed passed a resolution calling on the President to list all money that has been paid to Cass and Taylor.

Clay has not endorsed the nomination of Taylor.

Proposed a bill to establish government for the territories of Oregon, California, and New Mexico.

Surprised by Congress not moving to renew a resolution calling on Polk to tell why he allowed Santa Anna into Mexico.

Volunteers are returning home indignant at the manner in which they are to be discharged; meeting of he officers and men attached to the volunteer corps and returning from Mexico convened on the steamer M B Hamer and wrote a preamble and resolution about recent orders; in favor of Taylor for president.

Cost of the War estimates about how much the war has cost; based on statements made by Polk.

Forces of Bustamente and Cortazar had consolidated and intend to attack the insurgents under Paredes and Jarauta; Jarauta brought the question of constitutionality of the Treaty before the Supreme Court; Mexican government has dispatched a vessel for the Yucatan with money and troops to protect the inhabitants.

List of toasts given--given to Taylor, president, army etc.

Letter written by Taylor giving his opinion about the Wilmot Proviso.

Favorable to the election of Taylor.

People supporting Taylor.

Gov. written four letters to Gen. Taylor; one of these letters has at last reached Taylor.

Brig Tally-Ho, Capt. Elliott arrived at Hampton Roads with a portion of the North Carolina Regiment.

Virginia Regiment of Volunteers is now returning from Mexico.

Resolved to become a Rough and Ready Club to support Gen. Taylor.

Gen. Taylor’s Letters in the Dead Letter Office.
Two bundles of refused letters, most of them are to Gen. Taylor

RWv25i59p3c1, July 25, 1848: Congress
Response given by the President to the call for information about the boundary of Mexico and the establishment of a civil government in California and New Mexico

RWv25i59p4c2, July 25, 1848: Ohio
Ohio newspaper has declared its support for Taylor

RWv25i59p4c2, July 25, 1848: Montgomery Volunteers
Have held a meeting to make preparation to receive Capt. Preston’s Company

RWv25i59p4c2, July 25, 1848: Characteristic
Story printed in another paper about Taylor

RWv25i59p4c5, July 25, 1848: Old Zack in Salem
Clip from a Salem newspaper about a Taylor meeting there

RWv25i59p4c5, July 25, 1848
Ohio Statesman has published the report of two men who served with Taylor and say that he is profane

RWv25i61p1c1, August 1, 1848: Gen. Taylor’s Letter of Acceptance
Letter complete printed in another column; summarizes the letter and gives its opinion on it

RWv25i61p1c1, August 1, 1848: Capt. Harper’s Company
Two companies of Augusta Volunteers propose to meet Captain Harper’s company at Charlottesville

RWv25i61p1c1, August 1, 1848
Announcement of the death of Capt. T. M. Gleason; died at Vera Cruz

RWv25i61p1c2, August 1, 1848: Gen’l Taylor’s Acceptance
Reprint of Gov. Morehead’s offer letter and Taylor’s acceptance letter; Taylor accepts the nomination

RWv25i61p1c2, August 1, 1848: Fearful Rencontre
Two officers of the Kentucky regiment just arrived at Louisville from Mexico, met at the Exchange Hotel and had an altercation

RWv25i61p1c4, August 1, 1848: Congress
Debate in Congress about whether to make the new territories slave or free

RWv25i61p2c2, August 1, 1848: Taylor and his Battles
Extract from last year; comments about how Taylor’s men fought bravely

RWv25i61p2c2, August 1, 1848: Abuse of Gen. Taylor
Locofocos have blown above furnace heat by the prospects amounting to a certainty, of Old Zac’s triumphant election; go to great lengths to find ways to criticize Taylor

RWv25i61p2c4, August 1, 1848: Another Letter from Old Zac
Taylor turns down a visit because he is in charge of the Western Division of the Army and cannot leave

RWv25i61p2c4, August 1, 1848: Augusta Volunteers
Capt. Harper and his Company reached this city on Sunday from Old point; company is in good health

RWv25i61p2c4, August 1, 1848: Public Meeting in Charles City County
Resolve to support Taylor

RWv25i61p2c4, August 1, 1848: A Matter of Taste!
Locofocos do not like Taylor’s acceptance letter

RWv25i61p2c5, August 1, 1848: Rough and Ready Club in Orange
Committee setup the constitution for the club that will support Taylor in his campaign

RWv25i61p4c1, August 1, 1848: Great Democratic Movement in South Carolina
Democratic meeting took place in South Carolina; In favor of the nomination of Taylor

RWv25i61p4c4, August 1, 1848: Southampton Ratification Meeting
In favor of Taylor
Thirteen of the Pennsylvania volunteers who passed up the river had Mexican wives.

Steamer Alice has been tendered to the Civil authorities and Volunteers of Richmond to proceed to meet and escort the Mexican Volunteers expected to be coming up from Old Point.

Report that a project is on foot and on the very eve of execution for revolutionizing a part of Mexico west of the Rio Grande and creating a new republic to be called "Sierra Madre".

Comments about Taylor's popularity; why he would make a good president.

Debate between Mr. Clayton and Mr. Foote about Taylor; what is Taylor's stance on the Wilmot Proviso; did he think the US was right with the war with Mexico; Mr. Clayton in defense of Taylor.

Taylor fought Santa Anna's large army with only a small force and won.

Mr. Clayton addressed the Senate regarding Taylor; praises Taylor's character and accomplishments.

General Taylor did not mean to endorse the opinions of the Signal; reprint of Taylor's letter.

Californian merchants advanced money to the Navy off the coast; merchants did not get the money back; brought their claim before the Senate; treaty of peace with Mexico ratified; comments on the President's veto power and the annexation of Texas.

Lieutenant Pender made the charge against General Taylor and Taylor's against dealing with the North Carolina Regiment.

Slander was circulated but contradicted by Col. Bragg and Gen. Taylor.

Quote from Mr. Pender about what Taylor said about the NC Volunteers; believed that it is not the whole truth.

No word of Paredes recent movements; city of Vera Cruz was surrendered into the hands of the Mexicans on the 1st.

Reprint of the first or one of the very earliest letters Taylor wrote in regards to the Presidency.

Support Taylor for president.

Mr. Crittenden said that he believed Taylor would give the US the right kind of Administration.

New York Tribune refuses to support Taylor because they regard him as the ultra slavery candidate and they are an anti-slavery newspaper.

An account about a new scheme for "rounding off our territory" as it was put when the war with Mexico first began.
Comments about the proposed scheme to take more land from Mexico—the Republic of the Sierra Madre; some of the establishment other not; act increasing the army is repealed

Messers. Martin and Tredway addressed the county on the claims and qualification of Cass and Taylor for President

Report of the meeting of the Rough and Ready Club—what was said, who was there; sketches of Mr. Underwood’s speech about Taylor—commenting on Taylor’s humanity, firmness, battle of Buena Vista and Patriotism

Many Democrats have taken Taylor’s side because of Polk signing the Wilmot proviso bill and Cass’s friends against the Missouri Compromise

Resolution agreed too for the President to release any information he has about the revolutionizing in Mexico; two messages from the President to the House—one about the boundary of Texas and the other about the peace treaty

Assured of Taylor’s success in that state

Establishment of a Rough and Ready Club to help get Taylor elected President

Mexico abolished slavery within its republic

Taylor Convention has elected Samuel F. Rice as the Taylor and Fillmore elector for that district

Letter from an officer on the Rio Grande states that it is the intention of the Government to occupy two stations in that region

Rumors that Botts does not plan on voting for Taylor; Bott’s says that he does not like Taylor and does not seem him as a good Whig candidate; Bott will vote for Taylor however, because he is the Whig candidate the present administration must no remain

Invited to dinner by a number of Senators and Representatives and other citizens; declines the invitation because of physical debility

The scheme for revolutionizing several of the Departments of Mexico with a view of forming the Republic of the Sierra Madres has been in progress for a while; believed that Gen. Shields has participated

John Churchill Hodges tries to get Taylor to comment on Polk’s presidency; Taylor declines saying that it is unnecessary nor proper

Complimentary Dinner given to Lieut. William Gravait; lists toast—to the volunteers, war with Mexico, Virginia Regiment etc

Red River Republican has stricken from its columns the names of Cass and Butler

Paredes still remains concealed; another pronunciamento has been issued by Don Placencio Miranda at Mazatlan; plans of the insurgents was unknown; government has ordered troops to proceed to Mazatlan in order to suppress the revolt

Hon. Bedford Brown is a support of Taylor; even though he knows Cass personally.
Another Sign
Gen. Quitman is also in favor of Taylor

Yet Another
Commodore Stewart is in favor of Taylor

Latest from Mexico
The revolution in Mexico has been repressed; prisoners taken were discharged and pledged to support the government; most American left Mexico had taken their departure from the Yucatan

Letter from Gen. Taylor
Taylor will not be a party president; he is a Whig but he will not just bow to the demands of his party

President’s Message
Polk has not signed the bill establishing governments in New Mexico and California and Oregon; provisions of the bill are not in line with the Missouri compromise

Congress
Senate took up the bill to provide the necessary officer to run the border with Mexico

Rough and Ready Club
Regular meeting of the Club took place on Tuesday; speeches given by Peacy Grattan and Robert Stanard

Congress
Senate - amendment to the army appropriations bill; debate about how to pay for the war in California; because of annexation of Texas Mr. Hale believed that Oregon should come into the Union has a free state

General Taylor at Home
Letter from a preacher who passed by Taylor while Taylor was at home - gives a description of how Taylor looked sitting on his porch

More of the Buffalo Hunt
Letter confirming the design to take portion of Mexican land and form the Sierra Madre Republic

Gen’l Taylor’s reply to the Democratic Nomination in Charleston SC
Letter giving thanks for the nomination

History of the Mexican War!
Proposition to publish the full and complete history of the Mexican war in detail; describes the contents of the book

Comments about the Washington Union’s bad-mouthing of Taylor

Congress
Communications received and read from Trist diving the history of his agency in framing the treaty with Mexico and charging the President with the intention of conquering and annexing the whole of Mexico, and with abusing the power entrusted to him; document was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

"Sung the Joiner"
Dialogue about a bill that was rumored to have meant to frighten Mexico

General Quitman
Statement that Quitman was a Taylor man was heard from a Mississippi gentleman, who had heard it from Gov. McNutt

A Clincher!
Comments about extending slavery into acquired Mexican territory; stated by Cass that the black man does not belong to the degraded race in Mexico because they themselves are colored

Ohio
Mr. Corwin is perfectly confident of the vote of Ohio for Taylor

Public Meeting at Buckingham Ct.
Resolved to form a Rough and Ready Club to help Taylor get elected; prints the constitution of their club

Reported that only one out of five N C volunteers would vote for Taylor; the Raleigh Register stated that the Editor of the Standard had not even talked to any of the returning Volunteers
Mr. Butler at the Charleston meeting said he objected Taylor because of his party and Cass because of himself.

Congress deliberating on the expediency of reducing the Tariff; government becoming popular; Paredes is generally supposed to be concealed in the Capitol; recent attempt at a revolution has been suppressed; depredations commenced by the Indians on the frontier continue; Vera Cruz is quiet.

Mr. Van Buren states that the President does not listen to the people when deciding slave question in the new Mexican territories; Polk has his own opinions since he is a slaveholder and so is the majority of his cabinet.

Explaination of how Taylor plans on distribution his offices-normal of president to give offices as gifts.

The arrangements for the Republic of Sierra Madre continue.

Washington Union begins the talk of carrying NY for Cass; but it is reported that the state will not go for Cass of Van Buren but for Taylor.

Praising comments spoken about Mr. Taylor.

House of Representatives-discussion of the boundary line between the US and Mexico; Senate bill providing for the carrying of the treaty into effect and causing a boundary line to need to be established.

Resolutions to establish a committee of Vigilance to help with the election of Taylor-will be called the Buckhannon rough and Ready Club.

Letter received from Charleston that stated that Taylor had accepted the nomination for president and then repudiated on his pledge; it caused a great sensation among the Whigs of Albany; a Whig meeting was called last night to restore harmony to the supporters of Taylor.

Is ready to do battle for Taylor.

All in favor of Taylor and Fillmore.

Has agreed to support Taylor.

Comments about General Taylor--he is gallant soldier.

Resolve to support Taylor and Fillmore.

Washington Union says that the Whigs say that to solve the slavery problem they will return the land gained in the war to Mexico-Whigs did not say such things.

Created great enthusiasm for Taylor and Fillmore; hear a report of the committee appointed to consider Taylor's letter to the Democrats of Charleston who nominated him and Butler; meeting decided that it will follow with whatever decision the National Whig Convention decides.

Government is alive to the importance of preserving our friendly relations with Mexico; government going to excuse its good faith with the treaty between the US and Mexico.
Mr. Webster’s Speech at Marshfield
Said that he is in favor of Taylor and that his nomination had nothing to do with the slavery question

Late from Chihuahua
American troops were still in possession of the city; Col. Easton’s battalion was to leave on the 12th of last month for Santa Fe and then home; Col. Rail’s regiment was to leave on the 15th and Gen. Price and Maj. Beal’s were to leave on the 20th; Squire Colline arrived safely at Chihuahua but without orders to evacuate which Gen. Price expected from him; David Morgan who was despatched to tell Price to retire had not reached the destination—he is supposed to have been murdered; Mexicans threatened to collect full duties upon goods—believed Chihuahua not legally occupied by the US; Americans subject to duties put in place

A Cock and Bull story
Story printed by the Union that is not true about Taylor and his political position

The Prospect in Ohio—Cheering for Taylor
Believed that Taylor will take the state

Whig Meeting in Buckingham
Approve of Taylor’s nomination

Another Taylor Letter
Thanks the Whigs of Auburn for their reception of his nomination

Gen’l Shields
Was given a supper at the Montesano House

The Buffalo Hunt
Col. De Russy of Louisiana is to take command of the expedition

Great Meeting in Philadelphia
Meeting of Taylor supporters

Mr. Leake and Gen. Taylor
Mr. Leake compared Taylor to Arnold; Mr. Anderson replied that Mr. Leake did not even shake his head when he did so

Read the Following
Story of how Taylor received a letter from a soldier’s mom who beg Taylor to discharge her only son and he did; the letters that were written between the two are reprinted

Presentation of a sword to Gen. Worth

Sale at Vera Cruz
US property sold in Vera Cruz to raise money to cover the war debt—sold the government ship ST. Louis; and many other ships

Henrico
Approve of the nomination of Taylor

Gen. Taylor a Purchaser of Slaves
Comments about how Taylor is a good candidate

Gen. Taylor a Buyer of Men and Women
It is a lie that Taylor has bought slaves for a plantation on the Rio Grande

Letter from Gen. Taylor
Taylor is a Whig and has accepted the nomination of the Whig Convention

Meeting in NY
Speeches by different people giving praises to Taylor

A Dinner to Capt. Bragg
Dinner given by a few gentlemen at the Astor House; comments about the war—battles that he fought in

Taylor and Fillmore in the South
Have support of slaveholders—believe that the Whig candidate did will not hurt their property
Comments made by Cass about Taylor
He didn't vote for the Mexican peace treaty because it gave land to the US and he didn’t think that that was right.

Letters from Tampico represent that city and section of the country as a prey to internal dissension; Sr. Ortega has brought forward a proposition to allow every man to forward letters by any way he may choose; Indian insurrection of the sierra Gorda is not completely suppressed; Sr. Valdivielso has been appointed Minister to Rome; those members of the disbanded ST. Patrick companies who were allowed to go at large are soliciting alms about the country; continual robberies and thefts committed in the capital; large number of American teamsters now in the country; plan is on foot to introduce an Italian opera company; insurrection of Mazatlan has been suppressed; foreigners Carlos Capdeville and Richard Mafeta have been arrested for conspiring against the government; congress is in session and apparently attentive to business.

Opinion about Taylor and the Whig convention

Strong evidence that the Whig ticket is increasing in popularity

Making wealth in Alta California; lots of minerals in the area; Sur opposed to the introduction of slavery into California;

Formation of a Rough and Ready Club

Letter written by the General to clear up any misconceptions that might have been created because of other articles in papers about his personal correspondence

The attempt to wipe out the Whig ticket has only made Taylor supporters stronger in Vermont

Attempt of Councillor Patton to connect the name of Taylor with abolition; can trust Taylor on the slave question

Comments on the boundary dispute which caused the Mexican war; comments about political actions during the war

Immense meeting of support held for Taylor; gives quotes from speeches given at the meeting; comments about why Taylor will be a good candidate

A gold bed has been found one hundred miles long in California

Correspondence between the Secretary of the meeting held at Bonnettsville and Gen. Taylor; contains Taylor’s response to the proceedings at the time, in which his nomination was concurred at the meeting

Singing praises of Taylor and why he would be a good president

State will go to Taylor

State will go to Taylor
RWv25i77p2c2, September 26, 1848: Ohio State will go to Taylor

RWv25i77p2c2, September 26, 1848: Discussion at Pittsylvania Court House
Comments made about Taylor and how the campaign is going well

RWv25i77p2c5, September 26, 1848: From Vera Cruz and the Pacific
Mr. John Parrott consul and navy agent of the US at Mazatlan will leave Washington city for Vera Cruz all official correspondence of the state, war and navy departments will be conveyed; letters to officers of the army and navy, in California or Oregon will be brogue overland through Mexico

RWv25i77p4c1, September 26, 1848: General Taylor’s Letter
Taylor’s letter published in this paper

RWv25i77p4c3, September 26, 1848: Taylor Transparencies
Protect the beautiful transparent paintings of Taylor

RWv25i77p4c3, September 26, 1848: General Taylor’s Letter
Letter written to a Baltimore man after his nomination by the Philadelphia convention; was read at the final meeting of the Independent Taylor Convention; comments by Taylor on his nomination

RWv25i79p1c4, October 3, 1848: Speech of Hon. John M. Botts
Comments about Taylor as a military man, his opposition to Taylor; prefers Clay

RWv25i79p2c2, October 3, 1848: Go to Work!
Call for those who support Taylor to work to get him elected

RWv25i79p2c1, October 3, 1848: What the Abolitionists say of Taylor
True abolitionists refuse to fraternize with Mr. Patton who is attempting to prove Taylor owns 300 slaves; comments from Samuel M. Janney-an abolitionist-about Taylor

RWv25i79p2c1, October 3, 1848: Georgia and Florida
Taylor’s votes will out number the local candidates

RWv25i79p2c2, October 3, 1848: Gen. Taylor’s Speech at Pass Christian
Comments about the speech given-how it represents Taylor very well

RWv25i79p2c5, October 3, 1848: The Taylor Barbecue
Taylor’s complete Address at Pass Christian; he makes comments about the Battle of Buena Vista and other important actions in the Mexican war

RWv25i79p4c2, October 3, 1848: For the Richmond Whig
Comments about Taylor and where he stands on issues

RWv25i79p4c3, October 3, 1848: To the Editors of the Whig
More comments about Taylor and where he stand on issues

RWv25i79p4c5, October 3, 1848:
Col. Benton’s speech given in the secret sessions of the Senate (the Fremont Trial) has been made public; reprint of the closing paragraph of Benton’s statement

RWv25i79p4c5, October 3, 1848: Ohio for Taylor
Reported that Taylor will take Ohio

RWv25i79p4c5, October 3, 1848: Important Correspondence
Reprint of the summons of Gen. Cass to Gen. Taylor; gives Taylor’s reply

RWv25i79p4c5, October 3, 1848
Governor of Texas has appointed a Judge for New Mexico

RWv25i80p1c2, October 6, 1848: False Rumor!
Rumored that Mr. Pannill had read a letter from Taylor which stated that the Wilmot proviso was satisfactory to the Whigs-not true

RWv25i80p1c2, October 6, 1848
Washington Union takes great credit to the Democracy because Virginia sent a Regiment of Volunteers to Mexico

RWv25i80p1c1, October 6, 1848: Office-holders in the field
Union printed a story stating that the federal party (Whigs) had been circulating different stories about Taylor—catering to certain people

James Blair Glimer says that he is in favor of Taylor; his comments about Taylor

Reported that Taylor drew twenty seven rations per day; Whigs want to know if Taylor is receiving his pay

Letters from Senator Johnson and Adjutant General Jones stating that Taylor has never applied for extra allowance nor received extra

Comments about Taylor’s humility and how it has been criticized by the Democrats

Mass convention will be held by friends of Taylor at Danville, Illinois

Comment made by Gen. Butler about Taylor—giving praise for Taylor’s military action and political stance

Union now denouncing Taylor as signing letters that he does not write

More debate about whether or not Taylor got extra pay; states that he did not receive extra pay; predicts that he will win the election

Locofocos are denouncing Taylor; comments about Taylor’s position on slavery

Writer declaring that the Whigs are not printing information that gives Taylor more than one life

Prospects for Taylor in Ohio are good

Resolution passed condemning the threats made by those who support Taylor; threats will not make them stop talking

Comments about how Taylor is a good candidate for President; problems with the Wilmot proviso in the territories of New Mexico and California

Comments made about Taylor—name calling
Taylor’s remarks at the great Barbecue at Pass Christian, the New Orleans Deltas says were entirely extemporaneous

It is astonishing to see the boldness with which in the face of documents, to prove its utter falsehood the statement that the movement to the Rio Grande was not sanctioned until after Mr. Slidell’s repulse, is continual repeated

Comparison between the pay of Taylor and that of Ritchie and Heiss

In anticipation of the acceptance by Texas into the US, Taylor was directed by the War Department to advance to the mouth of the Sabine River, or another point on the river that might be convenient for the embarkation of Texas—gives more details on Taylor’s actions once he reached the Rio Grande; gives letters sent by Taylor to the War Department and memos sent to Taylor from the War Department

A False Charge Refuted

Tit for Tat!

Tit for Tat!

Second Address of the Whig Central State Committee to the People of Virginia

Long speech—defends Taylor against attacks; Filmore opposed to Texas entering the Union as a free state

Tit for Tat!

Comparison between the pay of Taylor and that of Ritchie and Heiss

The March to the Rio Grande

In anticipation of the acceptance by Texas into the US, Taylor was directed by the War Department to advance to the mouth of the Sabine River, or another point on the river that might be convenient for the embarkation of Texas—gives more details on Taylor’s actions once he reached the Rio Grande; gives letters sent by Taylor to the War Department and memos sent to Taylor from the War Department

A Dirty Deed fixed on the right persons

Comments about how Taylor has been said to be an abolitionist but is not

Resistance to Taxes at Santa Fe

Merchants and citizens want to be relieved of having to pay a duty that was imposed by General Price

From the Brazos

Report on the equinoctial gale and overflow at Brazos Island and loss of US Schooner Capt. Page

Anecdote about Taylor

Quattlebummery

Comments about how good the South Carolina Volunteers were in the war with Mexico

Benton’s History of Fremont’s Campaign

Estimate of the number of words contained in Col. Benton’s famous history of Fremont’s campaign

Penmenship

Poem about Taylor

Comments about Polk’s Generals—another newspaper making fun of them

Infamous

More comments about Taylor’s pay

The Extra Allowance Business

More comments about Taylor’s pay

The National Whig

Taylor will be elected if he maintains the conservative stance that he has already taken

An Appeal

A call to rally around Taylor

Ohio

Hard for the Whigs to get their candidate elected here because he did not give his support to Taylor; comments about Taylor’s popularity

General Washington and General Taylor

Comparison between the two Generals

A Card for Benton

Lieut. Gen. Benton has never seen an enemy in battle; Benton had no right to supersede Scott and Taylor

Virginia

Constantly receiving letters from people who say that they will vote for Taylor
October 24, 1848: Address of the Central National Democratic Committee of Washington

More comments about Taylor’s stance on the issue of slavery

Gen. Harold Smyth
Going to vote for Taylor

Strange Reasoning
More comments about Taylor’s stance on slavery and how others are trying to prove that he is an abolitionist

Old Zac’s Letter
Letter written by Taylor saying that he will not answer questions about the President because it is not important or needed

Cass Free-Soilism
Comments about how Cass supporters are saying Taylor is an abolitionist

Gen. Taylor at Home
Description of Taylor by a friend

Old Zac before he was a Candidate
Letter printed during the Mexican war—gives information on troop location; number of the enemy; praises of Gen. Taylor

Virginia
Assured that Taylor will carry the vote in Albemarle, Charlotte, Orange

Ohio
Comments that Ford will support Taylor even though it had been reported that he would not

Pennsylvania
Call for people to vote for Taylor

To the People of Virginia
Call for Virginians to vote for Taylor

Speech of Mr. Mitchell
Says that he will support Taylor; comments about Taylor—praising Taylor

Alarm of the Office-holders at Washington
Comments about how strong Taylor stands in the election

Rough and Ready Club on Tuesday Night
Mr. Rhodes spoke of the differences between Cass and Taylor

An Apt Illustration
Story told, which explains the reasoning by which southern men are persuaded to see Cass as a safer man than Taylor

Read Pennsylvanians; and decide at the Polls!
Lies told about Taylor—says Taylor in favor of the war, in favor of the Wilmot Proviso, US will eventually govern all of Mexico etc.; was printed by people who speak in the name of Louis Cass

Hon Truman Smith
Encouraging PA. to give its vote to Taylor

More of the same sort
Comments about how it has been reported that Taylor is trying to buy slaves for a plantation on the Rio Grande
Mr. Buchanan on Slavery in the New Territories
Speech given by Mr. Buchanan; comments about the ability to introduce slavery into New Mexico and California; what he thinks and what those who oppose his opinion think

The Quakers of North Carolina
Quakers say that they cannot vote for Taylor

A Slander Refuted
Reprint saying that Taylor wanted the Texas Volunteers gone; statement by Taylor that he did not say that he wanted the Texans gone but they had to go because of their behavior

Great-mass meeting in Baltimore
Report of a Whig meeting in Baltimore where praise was given to Taylor for his military ability

The Taylor and Butler Tickets
Gen. Harold Smith informed that public that he was not the originator of the plan of publishing tickets for Taylor and Butler

The Taylor Men in Grand Council
Grand mass meeting at the St. Louis Ball Room; description of the meeting--who was there, what was said etc.

Late from Mexico
Report that there has been a difficulty in the city of Guadalajara; letter has been received assuring that Santa Anna has no thoughts of returning; a pronunciamento has been made proclaiming the independence and annexation of Tampico to the US-this will prove a problem for relations; Zempoalteca of Jalapa regards the Tampico movement as covering designs of annexation to the US; Governor of the state of Tamaulipas is in favor of the last pronunciamento at Tampico; have been difficulties at Vera Cruz between the military and some of the people, growing out of some personal fights; revolution in favor of Santa Anna maybe coming soon; Minister of War has employed some Spanish assassins to make away with Paredes

Comments made about Gen. Taylor

Zachary Taylor to a Commit of the Mississippi Legislature
Election of Taylor will give the south and west a strong guarantee of their security dealing with the Wilmot Proviso

No. III To John C. Calhoun
Comments about how the annexation of Texas brought about the boundary question with Mexico; comments about Polk and his claim with Oregon

Why Gen. Taylor was Nominated
Published by Hon. John Whipple; comments about why Gen. Taylor was nominated for the presidency; comments about Taylor’s character and comparing him with the other candidates

Major Jubal A. Early
Was the Major of the Virginia Regiment in the Mexican War; is in favor of Taylor-has given several speeches on Taylor

The Author of "Rough Notes"
Defending Taylor after a letter appeared in the Enquirer supposedly from a Virginia Regiment member, who stated that Taylor’s military talent was not that great at Buena Vista

Signs of the Times
Comments about Taylor’s character and person

Hail to the Chief
Poem about Taylor

Pennsylvania and Ohio
Comments about how Pennsylvania and Ohio are likely to go to Taylor

The Navy
Commodore Perry published a letter in which he complains that Gen. Scott has excluded the name of the Navy in his inscription concerning the seven Mexican flags that he recently presented to the West Point; Scott has repaired his omission

Whig count will give 350 majority for Taylor
RWv25i88p2c2, November 3, 1848: Louisiana
Letter saying that the state will give its vote to Taylor

RWv25i88p2c2, November 3, 1848: The Signs
From all over the Union, the signs in favor of Taylor are most auspicious

RWv25i88p2c4, November 3, 1848: First Meeting of the Spanish Rough and Ready Club
Resolved to use all legal means to get Taylor elected

RWv25i88p2c4, November 3, 1848: From the Baltimore American
Comments made about Taylor; description on how Taylor acted before the Battle of Buena Vista

RWv25i88p2c6, November 3, 1848: Patriotic Household
Family that had been Democrats is now laboring for Taylor

RWv25i88p4c1, November 3, 1848: General Taylor and the Washington Union
Defending Taylor from an article printed in the Washington Union; repeatedly states that Taylor will win the election

RWv25i88p4c1, November 3, 1848: Gen. Taylor’s speech at Port Hudson—his Peace Principles
Summary of what Taylor spoke about

RWv25i88p4c3, November 3, 1848: From the NY Courier and Enquirer
More comments about how Taylor will win the election; Taylor being called the People’s Candidate; comments about Taylor’s performance in the Mexican War

RWv25i88p4c5, November 3, 1848: Gen. Taylor’s Address
The full address given by Taylor at Port Hudson to a group of volunteers; comments about the achievements of the army

RWv25i88p4c5, November 3, 1848: From the Boston Atlas
Report in the defense Captain Taylor gave at Fort Harrison in 1812

RWv25i89p1c1, November 7, 1848: The Address of the Washington Democratic Commission to the People of New Jersey
Comments about false information given about Taylor concerning the number of votes he may get in the election; has a table of probable vote for Taylor and Cass

RWv25i89p1c2, November 7, 1848: Attempt to Destroy General Taylor’s Character
Comments have been made in the Washington Union in an attempt to destroy Taylor’s character; comments about how Taylor wrote a letter that said he would not vote the Wilmot Proviso

RWv25i89p1c3, November 7, 1848: Zachary Taylor in the Last War
An biography of Taylor taken from the Western Review and Miscellaneous Magazine; opinion about Taylor’s character; report of his actions in the defense of Fort Harrison

RWv25i89p1c4, November 7, 1848: Trophies for West Point
Scott presented various trophies to West Point taken in the Mexican war; list the trophies that were given by Scott

RWv25i89p1c5, November 7, 1848: The Soldier of Fortune
Another attempt to slander Taylor; report of a letter being received from Taylor that stated that he would not veto the Wilmot Proviso

RWv25i89p2c2, November 7, 1848: The Abolitionists for Cass
Report that Taylor bought a plantation with slaves

RWv25i89p2c3, November 7, 1848: Reply to “A Voter” in the District
Call for Clay Whigs to go and vote for Taylor

RWv25i89p2c3, November 7, 1848: From California
The gold excitement has increased in upper California; at Mazatlan there has been a counter revolution; the leader of the rebellion has escaped; all the ships composing the American squadron are now at La Paz but are destined for Upper California; Com. Jones has appointed commissioners to examine into claims that some people of lower California for losses sustained during the war

RWv25i89p4c2, November 7, 1848: More tricks of the enemy
Parties are busy trying to prove that Taylor will veto the Wilmot Proviso

RWv25i89p4c2, November 7, 1848: More of the same sort
More comments made about Taylor and whether he has pledged to veto or support the Wilmot Proviso

More comments about Taylor and the Wilmot Proviso

Comparing and contrasting Taylor and Cass

Reports number of votes for Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan

Election results from Main, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio

Election results from Missouri, Indiana, Illinois, Connecticut, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania

Ohio has gone for Cass

Election results from Maine

Election results from Massachusetts, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois

Election results from Mississippi, Arkansas, Rockbridge, Rockingham, Princess Anne, Norfolk County, Nansemond, Warwick, James City,

Election results of North Carolina

Reports election results for Pennsylvania, VA, Maryland, New Jersey, Delaware, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Massachusetts, NY, Maine, Tennessee, Kentucky

List where the Whigs gained votes and where they lost

All parties concede to the election of Taylor

In upper California the gold excitement is on the increase; on the 10th a court martial commenced on board the Congress for the trial of deserters from Warren; at Mazatlan there has been a counter revolution; all the ships composing the American squadron are now at La Paz; Com. Jones has appointed commissioners to examine claims of some people of lower California for losses sustained during the war
November 10, 1848: Presidential Election
Reports election results of Richmond City, Henrico, Hanover, Chesterfield and Alexandria

November 10, 1848:
Reports election results for Boston as of 5 p.m.

November 10, 1848: Baltimore City
Reports election result from Baltimore City

November 10, 1848
Reports election results for Massachusetts, Delaware, and Maryland

November 10, 1848: Fairfax County
Taylor has a majority

November 14, 1848: Virginia
Election returns received are so far not decisive of the result; gives the number of votes Taylor has gotten

November 14, 1848: The Results as far as Ascertained
Sufficient information has been received to say that Taylor has won Massachusetts, Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee, Louisiana; lists states that he probably will win

November 14, 1848:
Despatches from giving the election results of Alabama, Georgia, and North Carolina

November 14, 1848: Election Returns
More election returns from Virginia

November 14, 1848: Election
Results from different counties in Virginia, Wisconsin, North Carolina, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Illinois, Mississippi, Ohio, Rhode Island, Massachusetts

November 14, 1848: The Election
The results so far attained have pointed to a victory for Taylor; overthrow of the locofoco party; comments about Mr. Polk's schemes for hurting Taylor; national policy will now be peace

November 14, 1848: Old Zack is Come
After Zack won a man from the South came to Richmond to see about the economy, he said that if Cass had won, he would have stayed home

November 14, 1848: An Impartial Witness
Comments about Taylor's nomination for President

November 14, 1848: Election Returns
More election returns for Bath, Berkley County, Greenbrier, Hancock, Brooke, Pennsylvania, Rockingham Count, Augusta, Appomattox, Westmoreland, Surry, Sussex,

November 14, 1848: From the Union
Election results from East Tennessee

November 14, 1848: Clear the Track. Old Zack's Coming!!!
Diminished the Locofo Federal Abolitionist majority in Wake county
Official returns from Franklin, Johnston, Robeson, Sampson, Dublin, Granville, Wayne, Lenoir, Randolph, Rowan, Chatham, Richmond, Brunswick, Bladen, Columbus, Cumberland, Halifax, Rockingham etc.

November 14, 1848: Election Returns
More election returns for Lunenburg, Nottaway, Buckingham, Hanover, North Carolina; some counties in Maryland; county break down in New Jersey, Maine, Vermont, New Jersey, Georgia, Connecticut, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Ohio, and Illinois

November 24, 1848: Mississippi
Southern papers received induce us to believe that Mississippi has voted for the abolition ticket of Taylor and Filmore

November 24, 1848: Mississippi
Election returns for Mississippi, Illinois, New York

November 24, 1848: Virginia Election--Official
Official election results for Virginia
The Ultraists believe that the election of Taylor will get rid of the fanatics in the North and South. Some believe that the election of Taylor will cause disruptions within the Union, but this is not true; believe that the Union will be brought together under Taylor.

Election results from the states are conflicting; some say Taylor won and others say that he lost.

Taylor won the majority in Georgia. Total number of votes Taylor won.

Partial returns show a gain for Taylor in Arkansas.

Official election results for New Jersey:

Taylor won.

Election results for Texas:

Taylor won the majority.

Official election results for Pennsylvania:

Taylor won.

Results for Gilmer and Doddridge County:

Whigs of Raleigh celebrate the election of Taylor by firing 100 guns together.

Gen. Taylor expected at Louisville. President elect, Taylor is suppose to soon visit Louisville.

The Jubilee! Celebration in honor of the election of Taylor will be held on Friday.

Dr. Dode will be introducing Taylor and Cass to each other before the audience.

Give the number of votes that Taylor won.

Whigs of Raleigh celebrate the election of Taylor by firing 100 guns together.

Union informs Taylor that being president will not be easy.

All the General officers of our army, as they return from Mexico, have been ordered to Washington except Taylor.

Assume that because of the returns Taylor has been elected President.

The Jubilee!
Description of the celebration thrown in honor of Taylor winning the election

RWv25i95p1c2, November 28, 1848: Mississippi
Official returns for Mississippi

RWv25i95p1c1, November 28, 1848: Whig Festival
Description of a toast given at the Whig festival in NY by Hon. John A. Collier; comments about Taylor and how his election has made everyone happy

RWv25i95p1c5, November 28, 1848: Naval
Com. Wilkinson relieved Com. Perry

RWv25i95p1c5, November 28, 1848: North Carolina Election
Presidential election results, split up by county

RWv25i95p1c5, November 28, 1848: Vote of Vermont
Official presidential election results, split up by county

RWv25i95p1c5, November 28, 1848: Another Forgery
Forged letter, supposed to be from Taylor, has been published in Ohio; name of the man who spread this letter has been removed, but he is expected to explain fully and then his name will be made public

RWv25i95p2c2, November 28, 1848: New Jersey
Official presidential results from NJ; split up into counties/cities

RWv25i95p2c2, November 28, 1848: The Vote for President
Official presidential results from MD, split up into counties/cities

RWv25i95p2c2, November 28, 1848: Virginia
Comments about the Whig victory in Virginia

RWv25i95p2c2, November 28, 1848: Telegraphed for the Baltimore Weekly Sun
Gen. Taylor’s reception of the election news; conversation Taylor had with a democrat as he left Baton Rouge

RWv25i95p2c3, November 28, 1848: Results in Virginia--Appeal to the Whigs
Official results of the Virginia presidential elections

RWv25i95p2c4, November 28, 1848: Braxton
Kanawha Republic reports the Taylor majority

RWv25i95p2c6, November 28, 1848: The Election
Election results from Massachusetts, Illinois, Missouri, Tennessee, Indiana, and Ohio

RWv25i95p2c6, November 28, 1848: Alabama
Alabama trying to figure out the immense change of over10,000 votes; some say it is because of Taylor

RWv25i95p4c1, November 28, 1848: Capt. Kenton Harper
Was a Captain of a company of Volunteers in the Virginia Regiment during the Mexican war; he has sold his interest in the Spectator Littleton Waddell and Jos. A. Wadell, Esqrs

RWv25i95p4c2, November 28, 1848: Virginia
Election results from Virginia

RWv25i95p4c2, November 28, 1848: Louisiana
Returns from five more Parishes

RWv25i95p4c2, November 28, 1848: Tennessee
All counties but 18 have given Taylor 6,303 over Cass

RWv25i95p4c2, November 28, 1848: The Whig Jubilee
Description of a Whig celebration held in Petersburg for Taylor’s victory

RWv25i95p4c2, November 28, 1848: The Election
New Hampshire announces the result of the election

RWv25i95p4c3, November 28, 1848: Pennsylvania
Official election results for Penn
Rwv25i95p4c3, November 28, 1848: New York
Official and complete election results for NY

Rwv25i95p4c3, November 28, 1848: Connecticut
Complete election results from Connecticut

Rwv25i96p1c2, December 1, 1848: Gratuitous Advice
Advice to Taylor from the Locofoco

Rwv25i96p1c2, December 1, 1848: Gold in California
Gold found in California in such quantities that it will soon cease to be a precious metal

Rwv25i96p1c2, December 1, 1848: Alarming
Now that Taylor has won, people are wondering what he is going to do

Rwv25i96p1c2, December 1, 1848
Once Taylor finds himself in Washington he find that he is inexperienced

Rwv25i96p2c1, December 1, 1848: Vote of New England
Official and complete election results from Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island,

Rwv25i96p2c4, December 1, 1848: Alabama
Those who had voted for Polk, switched sides and voted for Taylor; results of the election; comments about here Taylor had a majority in the state

Rwv25i96p2c4, December 1, 1848: Virginia
Official election results

Rwv25i96p2c3, December 1, 1848: Louisiana
The unofficial returns for the whole state

Rwv25i96p2c5, December 1, 1848: Presidential Election in Florida
Results of the election from Florida

Rwv25i96p4c3, December 1, 1848: Georgia Election Returns
Election results from Georgia-divided into districts

Rwv25i97p1c2, December 5, 1848
Enquirer very nervous that Taylor will violate his no-party pledge

Rwv25i97p1c5, December 5, 1848: Late Intelligence from Santa Fe
People in Convention have agreed to petition Congress for a speedy territorial organization and had protested against the dismemberment of any part of their territory; Gen. Lane arrived in Santa Fe

Rwv25i97p1c5, December 5, 1848: Gen. Taylor
Not true that as soon as Taylor heard that Pennsylvania voted for him did he get on a steamboat and go to his plantation in Mississippi; Taylor left Baton Rouge for his plantation two days before

Rwv25i97p1c5, December 5, 1848: The Vote of Virginia
Comments about the results of the presidential election in VA

Rwv25i97p1c6, December 5, 1848: From Texas
There has been a vote in Texas for the Presidency; was probably given to Cass but can’t tell

Rwv25i97p1c6, December 5, 1848: California Gold Region
No excitement in California except that produced by the report of gold regions of the Sacramento and its tributaries; mania for gold digging had reached such a length that it is difficult to get workers in Monterey; Company F. 3rd Artillery and the dragoons left at Monterey have suffered little; Lt. Losser brings with him a specimen of gold found in Sacramento; no one knows where the gold particles have come from; attempts to gain capital mining gold have proven disastrous; NY volunteers as soon as they were disbanded went to the gold region; letter from Col. Mason about the troubles the gold has caused;

Rwv25i97p1c6, December 5, 1848: The Gold Mine
The soil constitutes but a little of California’s wealth
Comments about the spread of the discovery of gold; Messers Marshall and Bennett, who were opening a saw-mill found gold; now four thousand white people besides a number of Indians mining for gold; estimates on the richness of the mines; estimates on the value of gold

How to deal if it is decided that slavery will not be permitted in the Mexican territories

And doleful dirges sing
Probable that Taylor may get Kentucky and that’s all - said by Mr. Councilor Patton

Taylor, the president elect, has arrived in New Orleans

Comments about how he tried to do nothing but cause Taylor to lose

Comments about how Botts made remarks about Taylor

Predicting that Gen. Taylor’s administration will disappointed the Whigs

If one wishes to learn Taylor’s private and most profound thought he must go to the Democrats; they know when he plans on coming to DC, who is in his cabinet

Taylor--if Taylor is elected and his administration proves to be in agreement with the Whigs, then the party will unit

Comments about Taylor winning the vote in NY

Results dealing with all the southern states; gives numbers of those who voted for Cass or Taylor in the election

Comments about troop movements out of Mexico; was caused delay in establishing posts on the Oregon route; estimates on the amount of value the capture of property during the war is

More VA presidential election results-comparing it to other elections

Reports from all over about the gold in California

California and Territorial bills will be introduced on Monday; calling to unit California and New Mexico as one state

Election results from Iowa, Illinois and Indiana

North Carolina
Locos in the state gave Taylor an upwards of 8,000 majority

Comments about the gold specimens brought by Lieut. Losser to the Secretary of War from California; comments about how heavy they are

Taylor left New Orleans for his homestead in Baton Rouge; he was received with lively demonstrations

Taylor forwarded his resignation to the War Department; Taylor even though he cannot allow the numerous civilians to follow him, he will receive the ladies in the ladies parlor

Comments given, praising Taylor, and how he will make a good president

More comments about the gold found in California-how much, where etc.

Does Taylor have an organ? It is hoped that he doesn’t

Papers continue to fabricate a cabinet for Taylor

Comments about Taylor and how got elected to president by accident

Fighting in the Congress-Mr. Hale believes that New Mexico should have a government; amendment made to the California bill

Resolutions adopted about NM CA and TX

Report on Gen. Taylor’s busy schedule

More comments about the gold found in California

Comparisons of gold in VA and gold in CA

Comments about how the annexation was annexed

No idea about how Taylor will deal with removals or appointments; Taylor is a Whig

Clay hopes that Taylor will be a good president

Four schemes before Congress for the settlement of slavery in the Territories of California and New Mexico

Letter from Taylor saying thank you for his free passage from Savannah to Charleston
RWv25i102p1c2, December 22, 1848: Texas
Presidential election results from Texas

RWv25i102p1c5, December 22, 1848:
Official presidential election results from FLA

RWv25i102p2c1, December 22, 1848: Mr. Bott’s Address
Defending himself against the accusations made by others about him and how he tried to sabotage Taylor

RWv25i102p2c4, December 22, 1848: To John Minor Botts
Message to Botts stating that the accusations against him are correct

RWv25i102p4c1, December 22, 1848: Mr. Bott’s Address
Comments about Taylor; doubting Gen. Taylor’s ability to lead; had nothing nice to say about Taylor; charged that he
has lost the vote of the state for Taylor [VA]

RWv25i103p1c2, December 25, 1848: Independent
Letter from an Independent about Taylor; Taylor won’t put his administration together until he gets to Washington

Rwv25i103p1c4, December 25, 1848: Letters from the Gold Region
Comments about the discovery of gold; description of California; comments on how much gold was collected on the
first day
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US and the French press
Mr. Calhoun to Mr. King  

Department of State, Washington, August 12, 1844.

Sir, - I have laid your dispatch No. 1 before the President, who instructs me to make known to you that he has read it with much pleasure, especially the portion which relates to your cordial reception by the King, and his assurance of friendly feelings towards the United States. The President in particular highly appreciates the declaration of the King, that in no event would any steps be taken by his Government in the slightest degree hostile or which would give to the United States just cause of complaint. It was the more gratifying from the fact that our previous information was calculated to make the impression, that the Government of France was prepared to unite with Great Britain in a joint protest against the annexation of Texas, and a joint effort to induce her Government to withdraw the proposition to annex, on condition that Mexico should be made to acknowledge her independence. He is happy to infer from your despatch that the information, as far as it relates to France, is, in all probability, without foundation. You did not go further than you ought in assuring the King that the object of annexation would be pursued with unabated vigor, and in giving your opinion that a decided majority of the American people were in its favour, and that it would certainly be annexed at no distant day. I feel confident that your anticipation will be fully realized at no distant period. Every day will tend to weaken that combination of political causes which led to the opposition to the measure, and to strengthen the conviction that it was not only expedient, but just and necessary.

You were right in making the distinction between the interests of France and England in reference to Texas - or rather, I would say, the apparent interests of the two countries. France cannot possibly have any other than commercial interests in desiring to see her preserve her separate independence; while, it is certain, England looks beyond, to political interests, to which she apparently attaches much importance. But, in our opinion, the interest of both against the measure is more apparent than real; and that neither France, England, nor even Mexico herself, has any in opposition to it, when the subject is fairly viewed and considered in its whole extent and in all its bearings. Thus viewed and considered, and assuming that peace, the extension of commerce, and security are objects of primary policy with them, it may, as it seems to me, be readily shown that the policy on the part of these Powers which would acquiesce in a measure so strongly desired by both the United States and Texas, for their mutual welfare and safety, as the annexation of the latter to the former, would be far more promotive of these great objects than that which would attempt to resist it.

It is impossible to cast a look at the map of the United States and Texas, and to note the long, artificial, and inconvenient line which divides them, and then to take into consideration the extraordinary increase of population and growth of the former, and the source from which the latter must derive its inhabitants, institutions, and laws, without coming to the conclusion that it is their destiny to be united, and, of course, that annexation is merely a question of time and mode. Thus regarded, the question to be decided would seem to be, whether it would not be better to permit it to be done now, with the mutual consent of both parties, and the acquiescence of these Powers, than to attempt to resist and defeat it. If the former course be adopted, the certain fruits would be the preservation of peace, great extension of commerce by the rapid settlement and improvement of Texas, and increased security, especially to Mexico. The last, in reference to Mexico, may be doubted; but I hold it not less clear than the other two.

It would be a great mistake to suppose that thus Government has any hostile feelings towards Mexico, or any disposition to aggrandize herself at her expense - the fact is the very reverse. It wishes her well, and desires to see her settled down in peace and security; and is prepared, in the event of the annexation of Texas, if not forced into conflict with her, to propose to settle with her the question of boundary and all others growing out of the annexation on the most liberal terms. Nature herself has clearly marked the boundary between her and Texas, by natural limits too strong to be mistaken. There are few countries whose limits are so distinctly marked; and it would be our desire, if Texas should be united to us, to see
them firmly established, as the most certain means of establishing permanent peace between the two countries, and strengthening and cementing their friendship. Such would be the certain consequence of permitting the annexation to take place now, with the acquiescence of Mexico; but very different would be the case if it should be attempted to resist and defeat it, whether the attempt should be successful for the present or not. Any attempt of the kind would not improbably lead to a conflict between us and Mexico, and involve consequences, in reference to her and the general peace, long to be deplored on all sides and difficult to be repaired. But, should that not be the case, and the interference of another Power defeat the annexation for the present, without the interruption of peace, it would but postpone the conflict, and render it more fierce and bloody whenever it might occur. Its defeat would be attributed to enmity and ambition on the part of the Power by whose interference it was occasioned, and excite deep jealousy and resentment on the part of our people, who would be ready to seize the first favourable opportunity to effect by force what was prevented from being done peaceably by mutual consent. It is not difficult to see how greatly such a conflict, come when it might, would endanger the general peace, and how much Mexico might be the loser by it.

In the meantime, the condition of Texas would be rendered uncertain, her settlement and prosperity in consequence retarded, and her commerce crippled, while the general peace would be rendered much more insecure. It could not but greatly affect us. If the annexation of Texas should be permitted to take place peaceably now (as it would, without the interference of other Powers) the energies of our people would, for a long time to come, be directed to the peaceable pursuits of redeeming and bringing within the pale of cultivation, improvement, and civilization, that large portion of the continent lying between Mexico on one side, and the British possessions on the other, which is now, with little exception, a wilderness, with a spare population, consisting, for the most part, of wandering Indian tribes.

It is our destiny to occupy that vast region; to intersect it with roads and canals; to fill it with cities, towns, villages, and farms; to extend over it our religion, customs, constitution, and laws; and to present it as a peaceful and splendid addition to the domains of commerce and civilization. It is our policy to increase, by growing and spreading out into unoccupied regions, assimilating all we incorporate; in a word, to increase by accretion and not through conquest - by the addition of masses held together by the cohesion of force. No system can be more unsuited to the latter process or better adapted to the former than our admirable federal system. If it should not be resisted in its course, it will, probably, fulfill its destiny without disturbing our neighbours or putting in jeopardy the general peace; but if it be opposed by foreign interference, a new direction would be given to our energy, much less favourable to harmony with our neighbours and to the general peace of the world.

The change would undesirable to us, and much less in accordance with what I have assumed to be primary objects of policy on the part of France, England, and Mexico.

But, to descend to particulars: it is certain that while England, like France, desires the independence of Texas, with the view to commercial connexions, it is not less so, that one of the leading motives for England desiring it is the hope that through her diplomacy and influence negro slavery may be abolished there, and ultimately, by consequence, in the United States, and throughout the whole continent. That its ultimate abolition throughout the entire continent is an object ardently desired by her, we have decisive proof in the declaration of the Earl of Aberdeen, delivered to this department, and in which you will find a copy among the documents transmitted to Congress with the Texan treaty. That she desires its abolition in Texas, and has used her influence and diplomacy to effect it there, the same document, with the correspondence of this department with Mr. Pakenham, also to be found among the documents, furnishes proof not less conclusive. That one of the objects of abolishing it there is to facilitate its abolition in the United States, and throughout the continent, is manifest from the declaration of the abolition party and societies, both in this country and in England. In fact, there is good reason to believe that the scheme of abolishing it in Texas, with the view to its abolition in the United States and over the continent, originated with the prominent members of the party in the United States; and was first broached by them in the (so called) World's Convention, held in London in the year 1840, and through its agency brought to the notice of the British Government.

Now, I hold not only that France can have no interest in the consummation of this grand scheme which England hopes to accomplish through Texas, if she can defeat the annexation; but that her interest, and those of all the continental Powers of Europe, are directly and deeply opposed to it.
It is to late in the day to contend that humanity or philanthropy is the great object of the policy of England in attempting to abolish African slavery on this continent. I do not question but humanity may have been one of her leading motives for the abolition of the African slave trade, and that it may have had a considerable influence in abolishing slavery in her West Indian possessions - aided, indeed, by the fallacious calculation that the labour of the negroes would be at least as profitable, if not more so, in consequence of this measure. She acted on the principle that tropical products can be produced cheaper by free African labour and East Indian labour than by slave labour. She knew full well the value of such products to her commerce, navigation, navy, manufactures, revenue, and power. She was not ignorant that the support of her political preponderance depended on her tropical possessions, and had no intention of diminishing their productiveness, nor any anticipation that such would be the effect when the scheme of abolishing slavery in her colonial possessions was adopted. On the contrary, she calculated to combine philanthropy with profit and power, as is not unusual with fanaticism. Experience has convinced her of the fallacy of her calculations. She has failed in all her objects. The labour of her negroes has proved far less productive, without affording the consolation of having improved their condition.

The experiment has turned out to be a costly one. She expended nearly $1000,000,000 in indemnifying the owners of the emancipated slaves. It is estimated that the increased price paid since, by the people of Great Britain, for sugar and other tropical productions, in consequence of the measure, is equal to half that sum; and that twice that amount has been expended in the suppression of the slave trade; making together $250,000,000 as the cost of the experiment. Instead of realizing her hope, the result has been a sad disappointment. Her tropical products have fallen off to a vast amount. Instead of supplying her own wants and those of nearly all Europe with them, as formerly, she has now, in some of the most important articles, scarcely enough to supply her own. What is worse, her own colonies are actually consuming sugar produced by slave labour, brought direct to England, or refined in bond, and exported and sold in her colonies, as cheap or cheaper than they can be produced there; while the slave trade, instead of diminishing, has been in fact carried on to a greater extent than ever. So disastrous has been the result, that her fixed capital vested in tropical possessions, estimated at nearly $500,000,000, is said to stand on the brink of ruin.

But this is not the worst. While this costly scheme has had such ruinous effects on the tropical productions of Great Britain, it has given a powerful stimulus, followed by a corresponding increase of products, to those countries which have had the good sense to shun her example. There has been vested, it is estimated by them, in the production of tropical products, since 1808, in fixed capital, nearly $4,000,000,000, wholly dependent on slave labour. In the same period the value of their products has been estimated to have risen from about $72,000,000 annually to nearly $220,000,000; while the whole of the fixed capital of Great Britain vested in cultivating tropical products, both in the East and West Indies, is estimated at only about $830,000,000, and the value of the products annually at about $50,000,000. To present a still more striking view of three articles of tropical products (sugar, coffee, and cotton), the British possessions, including the West and East Indies and Mauritius, produced, in 1842, of sugar only 3,993,771 lb., while Cuba, Brazil, and the United States, excluding other countries having tropical possessions, produced 9,600,000 lb.; of coffee the British possessions produced only 27,393,003, while Cuba and Brazil produced 201,590,125 lb.; and of cotton, the British possessions, including shipments to China, only 137,443,446 lb., while the United States alone produced 790,479,275 lb.

The above facts and estimates have all been drawn from a British periodical of high standing and authority, and are believed to be entitled to credit.

This vast increase of the capital and production on the part of those nations who have continued their former policy towards the negro race, compared with that of Great Britain, indicates a corresponding relative increase of the means of commerce, navigation, manufactures, wealth, and power. It is no longer a question of doubt, that the greatest source of the wealth, prosperity, and power of the more civilized nations of the temperate zone (especially Europe, where the arts have made the greatest advance) depends, in a great degree, on the exchange of their products with those of the tropical regions. So great has been the advance made in the arts, both chymical and mechanical, within the last few generations, that all the old civilized nations can, with but a small part of their labour and capital, supply their respective wants, which tends to limit within narrow bounds the amount of the commerce between them, and forces them all to seek for markets in the tropical regions and the more newly settled portions of the globe. Those who can best succeed in commanding those markets have the best prospect of outstripping the others in the career of commerce, navigation, manufactures, wealth, and power.
This is seen and felt by British statesmen, and has opened their eyes to the errors which they have committed. The question now with them is, how shall it be counteracted? What has been done cannot be undone. The question is, by what means can Great Britain regain and keep a superiority in tropical cultivation, commerce, and influence? Or, shall that be abandoned, and other nations be suffered to acquire the supremacy, even to the extent of supplying British markets, to the destruction of the capital already vested in their production? These are the questions which now profoundly occupy the attention of her statesmen, and have the greatest influence over her councils.

In order to regain her superiority she not only seeks to revive and increase her own capacity to produce tropical productions, but to diminish and destroy the capacity of those who have so far outstripped her in consequence of her error. In pursuit of the former, she has cast her eyes to her East India possessions - to central and eastern Africa - with the view of establishing colonies there, and even to restore, substantially, the slave trade itself, under the specious name of transporting free slave labourers from Africa to her West India possessions, in order, if possible, to compete successfully with those who have refused to follow her suicidal policy. But these all afford but uncertain and distant hopes of recovering her lost superiority. Her main reliance is on the other alternative - to cripple or destroy the productions of her successful rivals. There is but one way by which it can be done, and that is by abolishing African slavery throughout this continent; and that she openly avows to be the constant object of her policy and exertions. It matters not how or from what motive it may be done - whether it may be by diplomacy, influence, or force; by secret or open means; and whether the motive be humane or selfish, without regard to manner, means, or motive. The thing itself, should it be accomplished, would put down all rivalry, and give her the undisputed supremacy in supplying her own wants and those of the rest of the world; and thereby more than fully retrieve what she has lost by her own errors. It would give her the monopoly of tropical productions, which I shall next proceed to show.

What would be the consequence if this object of her unceasing solicitude and exertions should be effected by the abolition of negro slavery throughout this continent, some idea may be formed from the immense diminution of productions, as has been shown, which has followed abolition in her West India possessions. But, as great as that has been, it is nothing compared to what would be the effect if she should succeed in abolishing slavery in the United States, Cuba, Brazil, and throughout this continent. The experiment in her own colonies was made under the most favorable circumstances. It was brought about gradually and peaceably, by the steady and firm operation of the parent country, armed with complete power to prevent or crush at once all insurrectionary movements on the part of the negroes, and able and disposed to maintain to the full the political and social ascendancy of the former masters over their former slaves. It is no at all wonderful that the change of the relations of master and slave took place under such circumstances without violence and bloodshed, and that order and peace should have been since preserved. Very different would be the result of abolition, should it be effected by her influence and exertions, in the possessions of other countries on this continent - and especially in the United States, Cuba, and Brazil, the greatest cultivators of the principal tropical products of America.

To form a correct conception of what would be the result with them, we must look, not to Jamaica, but to St. Domingo, for example. The change would be followed by unforgiving hate between the two races, and end in a bloody and deadly struggle between them for superiority. One or the other would have to be subjugated, extirpated, or expelled, and desolation would overspread their territories, as in St. Domingo, from which it would take centuries to recover. The end would be, that the superiority in cultivating the great tropical staples would be transferred from them to the British tropical possessions.

They are of vast extent, and those beyond the Cape of Good Hope possessed of an unlimited amount of labour, standing ready, by the aid of British capital, to supply the deficit which would be occasioned by destroying the tropical productions of the United States, Cuba, Brazil, and other countries cultivated by slave labour on this continent, so soon as the increased price, in consequence, would yield a profit. It is the successful competition of that labour which keeps the prices of the staples so low as to prevent their cultivation with profit in the possessions of Great Britain by what she is pleased to call free labour. If she can destroy its competition she would have a monopoly in those productions. She has all the means of furnishing an unlimited supply; vast and fertile possessions in both Indies, boundless command of capital and labour, and ample power to suppress disturbances, and preserve order throughout her wide domains.

It is unquestionable, that she regards the abolition of slavery in Texas as a most
important step to this great object of policy, so much the aim of her solicitude and
exertions; and the defeat of the annexation of Texas to our Union as indispensable
to the abolition of slavery there. She is too sagacious not to see what a fatal blow it
would give to slavery in the United States, and how certainly its abolition with us
would abolish it over the whole continent, and thereby give her a monopoly of the
productions of the great tropical staples, and the command of the commerce,
navigation, and manufactures of the world, with an established naval ascendancy
and political preponderance. To this continent the blow would be calamitous beyond
description.

It would destroy in a great measure the cultivation and production of the great
tropical staples, amounting annually in value nearly $300,000,000, the fund which
stimulates and upholds almost every other branch of its industry, commerce,
navigation, and manufactures. The whole, by their joint influence, are rapidly
spreading population, wealth, improvement, and civilization over the whole
continent, and vivifying, by their overflow, the industry of Europe; thereby
increasing its population, wealth, and advancement in the arts, in power, and in
civilization.

Such must be the result, should Great Britain succeed in accomplishing the constant
object of her desire and exertions - the abolition of negro slavery over this continent,
and towards the effecting of which she regards the defeat of the annexation of Texas
to our Union as so important. Can it be possible that Governments so enlightened
and sagacious as those of France and the other great continental Powers can be so
blinded by the plea of philanthropy as not to see what must inevitably follow, be her
motive what it may, should she succeed in her objects? It is little short of mockery
to talk of philanthropy, with the examples before us of the effects of abolishing
negro slavery in her own colonies, in St. Domingo, and the northern states of our
Union, where statistical facts, not to be shaken, prove that the freed negro, after the
experience of 60 years, is in a far worse condition than in the other states, where he
has been left in his former condition. No: the effect of what is called abolition, where
the number is few, is not to raise the inferior race to the condition of freemen, but to
deprive the negro of the guardian care of his owner, subject to all the depression
and oppression belonging to his inferior condition. But, on the other hand, where the
number is great, and bears a large proportion to the whole population, it would be
still worse. It would be to substitute for the existing relation a deadly strife between
the two races, to end in the subjection, expulsion, or extirpation of one or the other:
and such would be the case over the greater part of this continent where slavery
exists. It would not end there; but in all probability would extend, by its example,
the war of races over all South America, including Mexico, and extend to the Indian
as well as to the African race, and make the whole one scene of blood and
devastation.

Dismissing, then, the stale and unfounded plea of philanthropy, can it be that France
and the other great continental Powers - seeing what must be the result of the policy
for the accomplishment of which England is constantly exerting herself, and that the
defeat of the annexation of Texas is so important towards its consummation - are
prepared to back or countenance her in her efforts to effect either? What possible
motives can they have to favour her cherished policy? Is it not better for them that
they should be supplied with tropical products in exchange for their labour from the
United States, Brazil, Cuba, and this continent generally, than to be dependent on
one great monopolizing Power for their supply? Is it not better that they receive
them at the low price which competition, cheaper means of production, and
nearness of market, would furnish them by the former, than to give the high prices
which monopoly, dear labour, and great distance from the market would impose? Is
it not better that their labour should be exchanged with a new continent, rapidly
increasing in population and the capacity for consuming, and which would furnish, in
the course of a few generations, a market nearer to them, and of almost unlimited
extent, for the products of their industry and arts, than with old and distant regions,
brose population has long since reached its growth?

The above contains those enlarged views of policy which, it seems to me, an
enlightened European statesman ought to take in making up his opinion on the
subject of the annexation of Texas, and the grounds, as it may be inferred, on which
England vainly opposes it. They certainly involve considerations of the deepest
importance, and demanding the greatest attention. Viewed in connexion with them,
the question of annexation becomes one of the first magnitude, not only to Texas
and the United States, but to this continent and Europe. They are presented that you
may use them on all suitable occasions, where you think they may be with effect in
your correspondence, where it can be done with propriety, or otherwise. The
President relies with confidence on your sagacity, prudence, and zeal. Your mission
is one of the first magnitude at all times, but especially now; and he feels assured
nothing will be left undone on your part to do justice to the country and the
Government in reference to this great question.
I have said nothing as to our right of treating with Texas without consulting Mexico. You so fully understand the grounds on which we rest our right, and are so familiar with the facts necessary to maintain them, that it was no thought necessary to add anything in reference to it.
I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J.C. CALHOUN
William R. King, Esq., &c.

The following is the bill suitited by Mr. Benton to the Senate, providing for a conditional annexation of Texas to the United States: -

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that the President of the United States be, and he hereby is, authorized and advised to open negotiations with Mexico and Texas, for the adjustment of boundaries, and the annexation of the latter to the United States, on the following bases, to wit: -

"1. The boundary of the annexed territory to be in the desert prairie west of the Nueces, and along the highlands and mountain heights which divide the waters of the Mississippi from the waters of the Rio del Norte, and to latitude 42 degrees north.

"2. The people of Texas, by a legislative act, or by any authentic act which shows the will of the majority, to express their assent to said annexation.

"3. A State, to be called 'the State of Texas,' with boundaries fixed by herself, and an extent not exceeding that of the largest State of the Union, be admitted into the Union, by virtue of this act, on an equal footing with the original States.

"4. The remainder of the annexed territory to be held and disposed of by the United States as one of their territories, and to be called 'the South-west Territory.'

"5. The existence of slavery to be for ever prohibited in the northern and north western part of said territory, west of the 10th degree of longitude west from Greenwich, so as to divide, as equally as may be, the whole of the annexed country between slaveholding and non-slaveholding States.

"6. The assent of Mexico to be obtained by treaty to such annexation and boundary, or to be dispensed with when the Congress of the United States may deem such assent to be unnecessary.

"7. Other details of the annexation to be adjusted by treaty, so far as the same may come within the scope of the treaty-making Power."

The bill was read twice, and referred, on motion of Mr. Archer, to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

[GLP]

LONDON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 1845.

In spite of the prolixity of the message of the President of the UNITED STATES, that document conveys a very imperfect notion of the conduct and policy pursued by the Cabinet of Washington with reference to the annexation of Texas during the last autumn; and, in order to form a just appreciation of Mr. TYLER's and Mr. CALHOUN's real proceedings, we must examine the diplomatic correspondence of the past year, which has been annexed to the message, and communicated to Congress. Our analysis of these very extensive documents must unavoidably be of the briefest kind, but we shall be able to show by what means the two States have been brought to the verge of actual war during the recess of Congress, and we shall find, before we conclude, that the interests and honour of our own country, and one of our most important European relations, are mixed up in this important discussion.

Although the Senate of the United States rejected Mr. TYLER's treaty of annexation,
and, consequently, put its constitutional veto on the transaction, the President and his Secretary of State (Mr. Calhoun) appear not to have taken the slightest account of that decision, but to have gone on in all their instructions to their agents abroad to announce the progress of their scheme, and to speak of the question of annexation as one that was still pending before the people of the United States. In every constitutional and legal sense this assertion was false. The question had been negatived by the Senate, principally on the ground of avoiding a rupture with Mexico; and the only matter which was pending at all was the election of a President, which was still so doubtful that it was impossible for Mr. Tyler to have foreseen last August whether his successor would be disposed to promote annexation or refuse it. We now discover, however, that he had in hand a surer and a swifter scheme, and in this he was marvelously seconded by Santa Anna's absurd intention of re-invading Texas, and by General Wool's ferocious intimation of the ruthless manner in which the war was to be carried on.

As early as the 20th of June, 1844, Mr. Shannon, who had recently been appointed United States' Minister at Mexico, received his instructions from Mr. Calhoun. These instructions contain a list of demands for the adjustment of various long-standing claims against the Mexican Government, which the Minister was directed to urge in a tone more suitable to a hostile manifesto than to an amicable communication with a neighbouring State. After a long series of representations of this character, Mr. Shannon was to enter upon the question of annexation. He was to deny in the most formal terms that Mexico could even discuss the right of the United States to make that treaty, and to declare that "the United States could not be deterred by menaces from adopting a measure which, after mature deliberation, they have determined they have a right to do, and which they believe to be essential to their safety and prosperity." Such was the language of the American Executive, immediately after this very measure had been deliberately rejected by the Senate, in whom the ultimate control of the foreign relations of the Union resides! We shall shortly see that the same policy was actively pursued in Europe.

The preparation for further hostilities on the part of Mexico gave a further pretext for continuing this extraordinary demonstration; and President Houston, who was still in office in Texas, hastened to claim (August 6, 1844) the direct assistance of military forces from the Union. This, however, was held to be too great a stretch of constitutional powers even for Mr. Tyler; and in declining to accede to the demand, the Cabinet of Washington acknowledged that the treaty was not in reality any longer pending. A month later, however, Mr. Calhoun wrote to Mr. Shannon, at Mexico, directing him to remonstrate against the renewal of hostilities in stronger language than had been used before.

"There can be but one object (said he) in renewing the war at this time, and that is, to defeat the annexation of Texas to the Union. Mexico knows full well that the rejection of the treaty has but postponed the question of annexation. She knows that Congress adjourned without finally disposing of it; that it is now pending before both houses (!), and actively canvassed throughout the wide extent of the Union; and that it will in all probability be decided in its favour, unless it should be defeated by some movement exterior to the country." . . . "No measure of policy has been more steadily or longer pursued, and that by both of the great parties into which the Union is divided. Many believed that Texas was embraced in the cession of Louisiana, and was improperly, if not unconstitutionally, surrendered by the treaty of Florida in 1819. Under that impression, and the general conviction of its importance to the safety and welfare of the Union, its annexation has been an object of constant pursuit ever since."

We have no space to comment on the shameless effrontery of this avowal, which is made as if the declaration of "this long-cherished and established "policy" sufficed to justify it, and to cancel all the intermediate declarations and treaties of the American Government, by which they have denied and renounced all such claims. As well might Russia boast that her long-cherished policy has been to possess herself of Constantinople, or France to declare that she has for more than a century established her views on the Rhine, and then proceed to act on such a declaration.

Well might the Mexican Minister say in his answer to this note (31st of October, 1844), that "it thoroughly reveals the deceit with which Mexico has so long been treated," before he proceeded to expose the fallacies of legal construction, and the gross violation of all the duties of neighbourhood and of amity, by which alone Texas was wrested from the Mexican Government. This reply led to the angry correspondence to which we on Tuesday alluded; and the result is, that during the recess of Congress, in defiance of a formal vote of the Senate, and by the assertion of claims which that vote had negatived, President Tyler has brought the relations of the two Republics into a state in which a collision appears to be inevitable, and the occupation of Texas itself will probably be the first consequence of a rupture. If this
view of the case be correct, the triumph of the annexation party in Mr. POLK's election has alone saved Mr. TYLER from impeachment and the highest punishment known to the law, for he has assuredly been guilty of the highest abuse of the powers confided by the law to his charge.

Meanwhile, and this is not the least important part of the case, the American agents were not inactive in Europe. It appears from a despatch, which we print in another column, addressed (12th of August, 1844) to Mr. KING, the American Minister at the Court of France, that on the arrival of that gentleman at Paris he at once received a personal declaration from the KING, "that in no event would any steps be "taken by his Government in the slightest degree hostile, or which would give the United States just cause "of complaint."

In a subsequent conversation between Mr. KING and M. GUIZOT, that Minister is reported to have declared, that France had not agreed to unite with England in a protest against annexation; and the American Government inferred that France was not disposed, in any event, to take a hostile attitude with reference to annexation. France was, therefore, understood by the Cabinet of Washington to abandon the principle of Texan independence as completely as if she had never recognized it, or had recognized it only for the purpose of abetting the United States in the plunder of the Mexican territory. Mr. KING was, therefore, to inform LOUIS PHILIPPE that the object of annexation would be pursued with unabated vigour, and to give his opinion that a decided majority of American people were in its favour, and that it would certainly be annexed at no distant day. Such a transaction as this at Paris afforded the most powerful encouragement which the scheme could receive from Europe, since it left Great Britain to maintain the independence of Texas single-handed; and we must add, that it places the good faith of the French Government in a very equivocal light. We require to be informed, categorically, whether or not the French Government was not at the same time affecting to join in our endeavours to maintain the status quo in Texas, whilst it was in reality giving these assurances to Mr. KING?

The charge is a serious one, and we await the answer.

Mr. CALHOUN, however, hastened to avail himself of this opening. He at once placed the question on its true basis - the existence and interests of slavery; and he appeals to France with a confidence which we would fain believe to be misplaced, to combine with him in defeating a policy which tends to the abolition of slavery on the American continent. Admitting that one of the main objects of British policy in this question is to check the progress and ascendancy of slave institutions, he contends that "France can "have no interest in the consummation of this grand scheme, but that her interests, and those of all the "continental Powers of Europe, are directly opposed to it." In other words, he argues explicitly that the interest of the European Powers demands that they should not only tolerate, but encourage and promote slavery in America, and therefore assist America in unparalleled acts of spoliation and bad faith, on which the permanence of slavery on that continent avowedly depends. Thus is the question stripped by its own advocate of all disguise; and the odious motives in which this abominable scheme have originated - namely, the aggrandizement of the United States, for the express purpose of perpetuating the servility of the negro race - are laid bare to the wonder and execration of mankind. On these grounds Mr. CALHOUN appeals to civilized France and civilized Europe for encouragement and support. The principal interest (though it is not the only one) we have in deprecating the annexation of Texas, is our hatred and resistance to that violation of human rights and divine justice, which we have eradicated from the colonies of Britain; and it is by a laboured defence of slavery and slave-interests that Mr. CALHOUN courts the sympathy of the French Government.

We leave unnoticed his sarcasms on our philanthropy and fanaticism; we smile at the motives ridiculously imputed to us of acquiring by free labour a monopoly of tropical productions, and the command of commerce, navigation, and manufactures of the world. The policy of England is sacred in the eyes of the people of England because it is the policy of freedom, justice, and civilization. To measure it by the mere rules of temporary interest is a folly and a deceit; although, if we do stand alone in the defence of these great principles, we stand armed with the most terrible power ever placed by Providence in the hands of a great nation. We know not what part may be assigned to us by the course of events in this contention; nor do we forget that the maintenance of peace is the highest duty of enlightened statesmen, and that the crimes and frauds of the western hemisphere do not rest on the conscience of Britain. But there never was an instance in which our policy was more unjustifiably impugned than in this despatch of an American Minister, written for the express purpose of being used against us at the Court of one of our nearest allies; and we are persuaded that this mention of it will suffice to rouse the just indignation of this country, and to show the real nature of these scandalous proceedings to the
MR. POLK AND HIS POLICY

Mr. Polk has delivered the following, his first speech, we believe, since his election to the Presidency of the United States, in reply to the address presented to him by the citizens of Nashville. The only allusion which he makes to the policy which shall guide him for the future will be found in the last paragraph. It is, however, exceedingly vague and indefinite: -

"I return to you, Sir, and to my fellow-citizens whose organ you are, my unfeigned thanks for this manifestation of the popular regard and confidence, and for the congratulations which you have been pleased to express to me upon the termination and result of the late political contest. I am fully sensible that these congratulations are not, and cannot be, personal to myself. It is the eminent success of our common principles which has spread such general joy over the land. The political struggle through which the country has just passed has been deeply exciting. Extraordinary causes have existed to make it so. It has terminated - it is now over - and I sincerely hope and believe has been decided by the sober and settled judgment of the American people.

"In exchanging mutual congratulations with each other upon the result of the late election, the Democratic party should remember, in calmly reviewing the contest, that the portion of the fellow-citizens who have differed with us in opinion have equal rights with ourselves; that minorities as well as majorities are entitled to the full and free exercise of their opinions and judgments; and that the rights of all, whether of minorities or majorities, as such, are entitled to equal respect and regard.

"In rejoicing, therefore, over the success of the Democratic party, and of their principles, in the late election, it should be in no spirit of exultation over the defeat of our opponents; but it should be because, as we honestly believe, our principles and policy are better calculated than theirs to promote the true interests of the country.

"In the position in which I have been placed by the voluntary and unsought suffrages of my fellow-citizens, it will become my duty, as it will be my pleasure, faithfully and truly to represent, in the executive department of the Government, the principles and policy of the great party of the country who have elevated me to it; but, at the same time, it is proper that I should beware that I should not regard myself as the representative of a party only, but of the whole people of the United States: and I trust that the future policy of the Government may be such as to secure the happiness and prosperity of all, without distinction of party."
started the enterprise of a newspaper in the city of New York, which was to regulate the whole affairs of this continent, and overtop the other newspapers by being a sort of organ of both Europe and America. In this grand scheme Wikoff, the chevalier, was his principal aid, being the capitalist - save the mark! Of the concern. Failing in this also, Duff started for Mexico with dispatches, and has created a crisis in that country. Now he is back in Texas, and no doubt before he returns to Washington he will raise a highly respectable dust in that direction. Duff is, indeed, one of the most interesting characters of the present age. He has a singular mixture of tact, bronze, and plausibility, which give him more weight than people are apt to attach to him. We have some notion of writing the history of his negotiations in London, Paris, Texas, and Mexico. It would be as intensely interesting, and vastly more amusing, than the Adventures of Puss in Boots. - New York Herald [GLP]

LT January 14, 1845, 4a

LONDON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 1845.

President TYLER has exceeded himself in the fifth act of his performance. Whenever we have ventured on a prediction as to his future conduct, which if applied to any other ruler of nations would have been fantastical and injurious, he has not only justified all our expectations, but surpassed them. The end of his Presidency is a multum in parvo of diplomatic craft and political violence; and setting out of account the importance of the questions under discussion with reference to Mexico and Texas, we are divided between amazement and sheer diversion at the language and demeanor of this personage, speaking as never man spoke before in the name of the Executive Government of twenty millions of civilized beings.

The scheme for getting up a quarrel with Mexico has been most actively carried on; but in order to avoid the difficulties which might attend an actual declaration of war by the President of the UNITED STATES - that power being in fact vested by the Constitution in Congress - Mr. TYLER has endeavoured by the conduct of his agents in Mexico, and more recently by his own extraordinary Message of the 19th of December, to throw open the Mexicans the odium of this last and most disastrous step. The Congress of the United States might still have sufficient penetration to see through Mr. TYLER's designs and sufficient power to control them. The desire to avoid a war with Mexico was the main ground on which not only Mr. CLAY and his party, but even Mr. VAN BUREN and his friends, opposed the annexation treaty; but if Mexico can be provoked into taking the first step in hostilities, no part in the United States will be more able to recede or to stop the war than Mr. TYLER is himself. It will be remembered that the angry correspondence between Mr. SHANNON, the United States Minister at Mexico, and Senor REJON, the Foreign Secretary of that Republic, was begun by the former gentleman, who communicated under his own name a note which was, in fact, no more than a repetition of Mr. CALHOUN's own despatch to him. An attempt was made to show that because the United States Government has negotiated at various times in the last twenty years for the purchase of the territory of Texas from Mexico for a price varying from one to six millions of dollars - all which negotiations the Mexican Government steadily and uniformly rejected - that therefore Texas being now a free and independent state, she has a perfect right to dispose of herself as she pleases. It is evident that such an argument as addressed to Mexico was utterly worthless and even insulting, since Mexico never had acknowledged that Texas is an independent state at all; and to admit such an argument was to admit more than the independence of Texas - namely, a right to make over her territories to a foreign Power. Mr. SHANNON, however, pressed it for the purpose for which it was intended and our readers have had before the Mexican Minister's able and temperate answer. Of these Mr. SHANNON presumes to say, in an official communication to Mr. CALHOUN, that -

"They were written for the purpose and with the view of arousing the jealousies, and exciting the prejudices, of the people against the Government and southern people of the United States, and thereby to make political capital for the party in power. To accomplish this object you will see that Mr. Rejon has not hesitated deliberately and purposely to misrepresent, in the most gross and palpable manner, both of my notes, and to charge the Government and southern people of the United States with acts and motives highly dishonourable."

The acts and motives of the American Government in this and too many other transactions stand in needle of no "deliberate misrepresentation" to incur the censure and the scorn of every other political community in the world. Even their intrigues are as patent and flagrant as other men's crimes. In this instance the whole correspondence is public; and as the matter is really only indirectly connected with
the interests of this country, some weight may be attached to our solemn conviction - a conviction shared by every man in Europe who has examined the particulars of this transaction - that from first to last the proceedings of the United States to effect the annexation of Texas are a scandal and a dishonour not only to their country, but to the age we live in.

We proceed, however, with the narrative of the events. No sooner had Mr. SHANNON's despatch announcing his suspension of the intercourse with the United States Government been received at Washington, than it brought down Mr. TYLER's astonishing Message, which had doubtless been prepared in full expectation of the event. The language held by the American Minister at Mexico could have no other result; and the part of the PRESIDENT was to endeavour to kindle as much exasperation at home as he had already occasioned abroad. The Message is a mere rhetorical artifice for this purpose; it is full of fierce epithets and appeals to the passions and sympathies of the American people; and it once mor misstates the case with the most unblushing pertinacity.

In his Message on the opening of the Congress the PRESIDENT had declared that as it was Texas which had sought this union, was the Union to reject her prayer? In this Message, sent down within a fortnight of the last, he says, "Texas had entered into the Treaty of Annexation upon the invitation of the "Executive; and when, for that act, she was threatened with a renewal of the war on the part of Mexico, "she naturally looked to this Government to ward off the threatened blow." The contradiction is direct and in terms, and it is accompanied with a gross inaccuracy. Texas was not threatened with a renewal of war on the part of Mexico for that act, namely, the Treaty of Annexation, but because Mexico had never relinquished her very impracticable design of reconquering her former province.

Mr. TYLER recapitulates, with all the vehemence of a manifesto of war, the grievances complained of by his Government; but having the fear of a hostile Senate before his eyes, he drops his tone as he approaches the close of his effusion, and "contents himself with re-urging upon Congress prompt and "immediate action on the subject of annexation. By adopting that measure the United States will be in the "exercise of an undoubted right; and if Mexico, not regarding that forbearance, shall aggravate the "injustice of her conduct by a declaration of war against them, upon her head will rest all the "responsibility."

The distracted condition of the Mexican Republic itself is now the chief ground for hoping that war may be avoided; but even that hope depends on little more than the apparently entire inability of Mexico to defend her territories. What argument which has ever been deployed to defend the annexation of Texas does not apply with equal forces to the conquest of the whole of the ancient colonies of Spain? Is not one act of rapine and violence invariably the prelude to another? If Mr. TYLER covets Texas, who will set bounds to Mr. TYLER's descendants? These, indeed, are questions of serious moment to all the world; but most of all to such honourable and patriotic citizens of the United States themselves who still respect, though they cannot maintain, the principles of their fathers. This question has already proved fatal to the integrity and prudence of the American Government; it will hereafter prove equally fatal to their national interests; it has blasted their honour, it will hereafter dissolve their power, divide their country, and impose a dreadful burden on their children's children, for it is the first step they will have made in foreign conquest for the gratification of popular ambition. [GLP]

LT January 15, 1845, 6a

MEXICO

We take the following article from the New York Commercial Advertiser of the 31st ult. It was furnished to that journal by Mr. Cushing, the late American Commissioner in China, who has returned from the scene of his mission by way of Mexico:

"The revolution of Mexico was rapidly approaching a decisive crisis, and the utmost confusion and disorder exist in all parts of the republic. The great object of the revolution is to decide whether SANTA ANNA shall be precipitated from power, or whether, on the other hand, he shall be the permanent dictator and arbitrary master of the Government. In order to understand well the actual state of things it is necessary, in the first place, to give a brief explanation of the previous state of
"At the head of the Government in 1841 was General Anastasio Bustamente, under the constitution which then regulated the Mexican Republic. In August, 1841, General Paredes and the department of Jalisco pronounced against the Government of Bustamente. A civil war of brief duration ensued, which was terminated on the 28th of September, 1841, by an arrangement, in virtue of which the preexisting constitution was abolished, and General Santa Anna was invested with the powers of dictator, for the purpose of re-organizing the constitution and the Government. This temporary arrangement is known by the name of the Bases of Tacubaya and the agreements of La Estenzuela. Under the auspices of Santa Anna a Congress assembled in June, 1842, and proceeded to deliberate on a new constitution. Santa Anna himself retired to Manga de Clavo, leaving General Bravo as President ad interim; and the proceedings of Congress not being agreeable to Santa Anna, it was dissolved by General Bravo in December, 1842, and a National Junta, or Assembly of Notables, was convened in its place. On the 12th of June, 1843, a new constitution was completed and made public, by which (among other things) the supreme power was lodged in the hands of a President, to be elected for five years; of an elective body called the Council of Government, and of a Congress composed of a Senate and Chamber of Deputies, and Santa Anna himself was immediately elected President under the new constitution. During this period the republic had been distracted, not only by the civil war which displaced Bustamente and elevated Santa Anna to power, but also by the insurrection of Yucatan and the long civil war which ensued in that quarter, by an extensive rising of the Indians in the extreme south, by incursions of the Indians in the north, by controversies with foreign powers, by the question of Texas, and above all by incompetency and corruption in all members of the Government.

"By the 6th of the Bases of Tucubaya it was provided that 'The provisional Executive shall answer for his acts before the constitutional Congress;' and this was confirmed by the agreement of La Estenzuela. Nevertheless, by a decree of Santa Anna, issued on the 3d of October, 1843 (before assuming the office of constitutional President), it was declared that, as the power exercised by him under the Bases of Tucubaya was, by its very tenour, without limitation, the responsibility referred to in the 6th of the said Bases of Tucubaya was merely a 'responsibility of opinion;' that all the acts of his dictatorship were of the same permanent force as if performed by a constitutional Government, and must be observed as such by the first constitutional Congress. The new Government was completed and installed in January, 1844, when the first Congress under the new constitution assembled. Its early acts seem to have been in accordance with the views of Santa Anna, for it voted on an extraordinary contribution of four millions with which to prosecute the war against Texas. But on his requiring authority for a loan of ten millions, the Congress hesitated to give its assent, though it was notorious that but a small portion of the extraordinary contribution had been realized, and that the Treasury, so far from being competent to supply the means for carrying on a war against Texas, was in fact incompetent for the ordinary daily necessities of Government. Meanwhile, as affairs proceeded, a heavy opposition to Santa Anna began to manifest itself in Congress and throughout the republic. He had been raised to power, though apparently with great unanimity, yet, as the event has shown, by a military revolution, rather than by the spontaneous choice of the people. For, on his expressing a wish to retire a short time to Manga de Clavo for the care of his private affairs (as he had done in 1842), in which case the new constitution required that the Senate should make choice of a President ad interim, to officiate during his absence from the seat of Government the Ministerial candidate, General Valentin Canalizo, prevailed by one vote over his opponent, General Rincon.

"Such then was the position of things in October, 1844, Santa Anna being President propictario, Canalizo President interino, and the Congress assembled in special session, occupied with the foreign relations and the financial embarrassments of the republic, when the revolution broke out in the large and powerful department of Jalisco.

"On the 1st of November, 1844, the Departmental Assembly of Jalisco adopted and published what is called an Initiative, being an act provided for by the constitution, in virtue of which the Assembly suited the proposition following: -

"'The National Congress will make effective the responsibility of the Provisional Government, to which it was subjected by the 6th of the Bases of Tucubaya, which it swore to, and caused to be sworn to by the nation.

"'2. The law of Aug. 21, 1844, imposing extraordinary contributions, is repealed.

"'3. The Congress will occupy itself by preference in reforming the articles of the constitution, which experience has demonstrated to be contrary to the prosperity of things.
"This act was adopted by all the authorities of the department, civil and military, and
made known by public documents issued under the signatures of the civil governor
(Escovado), and of the commandant-general (Galindo), with his principal officers;
and thus far it was in Mexico a constitutional and not a revolutionary act - for in
Mexico the military participate equally with the civil authorities in all political
proceedings. But though nominally a constitutional act, it was in reality a
revolutionary one, skillfully arranged and combined for the overthrow of Santa Anna.
To this intent General Mariano Paredes, who had commenced the revolution of 1841
in the same department of Jalisco, and who had since that time acted with Santa
Anna, was pitched upon to be the agent of his overthrow. The secret movers of
the new revolution obtained for General Paredes the command of the department of
Sonora, to reach which it is necessary to march through that of Jalisco. On the way
to his government Paredes stopped at Guadalajara, the capital of Jalisco, with the
troops under his command, and there pronounced openly and directly against Santa
Anna, and assumed the functions of military chief of the revolution. The four
departments of Zacatecas, Aguascalientes, Sinaloa, and Sonora concurred in the
pronunciamiento of Jalisco; and thus the five north-western departments were in
arms at once against Santa Anna. Between these and Mexico there intervene the two
departments of Guanajuato and Queretaro. Paredes advanced to Lagos, on the
frontier of Jalisco, and there established his head-quarters, with an army of 1,400
men, to await the progress of events. In the contiguous department of Guanajuato
was General Cortazar with 2,000 men, on whom Paredes depended for support; but
the rapid movements of Santa Anna himself prevented Corazar from joining Paredes
(if he had the intention), and compelled him, for the present at least, to declare for
Santa Anna. For instantly on hearing what had taken place in Guadalajara, Santa
Anna, who was then at Manga de Clavo, in the department of Vera Cruz, and in
whose neighbourhood was a large body of troops, professedly collected for an
expedition against Texas, set out for Mexico, being invested by the President ad
interim with the conduct of the war against Paredes. He set out from Jalapa on the
7th of November at the head of 8,500 men, crossed rapidly the department of
Puebla, where he received some additional troops, and on the 18th arrived at
Guadalupe, a town near Mexico, where he fixed his head-quarters.

"He had left the departments of Vera Cruz and Puebla full of professions of loyalty to
his Government; and he found the same professions in that of Mexico, and similar
professions came to him there from Queretaro and Guanajuato; and he prepared to
march from Guadalupe, and to assemble at Queretaro a force of 13,000 men, with
which to overwhelm the little army of Paredes.

"But even at this moment, all powerful as he appeared, at the head of a great army,
and with all the departments behind him loyal, symptoms began to appear at the
uncertainty of his cause, for though the Congress did not professedly support
Paredes, yet it insisted that Santa Anna should proceed constitutionally, which the
latter was unable or indisposed to do. The Mexican Constitution provides expressly
that the President cannot command in person the military force, either by sea or
land, without the previous permission of Congress. Santa Anna had taken the
command, without even pretending to ask the consent of Congress; and in so doing
had himself performed a revolutionary act quite as positive and serious as that of
Paredes. Nevertheless, on the 22d he proceeded on his march to Queretaro, and on
the same day the Chamber of Deputies voted the impeachment of the Minister at
War (General Reyes), for signing the order under which Santa Anna held the
command of his troops. Congress also voted to receive and print the
pronunciamientos of the revolutionized department - in all this indicating a
disposition, not to be mistaken, of hostility to Santa Anna. On arriving at Queretaro,
Santa Anna found that, although the military authorities were professedly in his
favor, yet the Junta departmental had pronounced for the initiative of Jalisco.
Therefore, he made known to the members that if they did not repronounce in his
favour, he would send them prisoners to Perote.

"They refused; and three of them were immediately arrested by his order, and sent
off under a strong guard in the direction of Mexico and Perote. When the report
of these proceedings reached Mexico, the Congress immediately summoned before it
the Ministers of War and Government, to know whether they had authorized the
General Santa Anna to imprison the members of the Junta Departmental of
Queretaro.

"This subject occupied the Chambers on the 29th and 30th of November; and their
attitude had now become so menacing, that the President ad interim, Canalizo (after
consultation with Santa Anna), took the high-handed step of deciding to close the
session of Congress by force, and declare Santa Anna Dictator of the Republic.
"Accordingly, on repairing to the Palace on the 1st of December, the members found the doors shut against them and guarded by soldiers; and on the 2d appeared the proclamation of Canalizo, as Presidento interino, declaring the Chamber dissolved indefinitely, and conferring all the powers of Government, legislative as well as executive, on Santa Anna, as Presidento propietario, the same to be exercised by Canalizo as Presidento interino until otherwise ordered by Santa Anna. For some days this forcible demolition of the constitutional Government by the creatures of Santa Anna remained without producing any apparent effect in Mexico. But on the very day when the news reached Puebla, General Inclan, Commandant-General of that department, in concert with the civil authority, pronounced against Santa Anna; and in a few days (on the 6th) the garrison and people of Mexico rose against the Government, imprisoned Canalizo and his Ministers - Congress re-assembled - the President of the Council of Government, General Herrera, assumed the exercise of the functions of President according to the constitution - and new Ministers were appointed the next day, whose authority was immediately acknowledged in Vera Cruz.

"At the latest dates there from Vera Cruz (December 12th) affairs stood thus: -

"The departments of Sonora, Sinalva, Jalisco, Zacatecas, and Aquascalientes were in a state of revolution, and in military possession of General Paredes."General Santa Anna (with Cortazar) had military possession of the departments of Guanajuata and Queretaro.

"Santa Anna's President interino, Canalizo, and his Ministers, were imprisoned in Mexico. Congress had re-assembled, and a temporary constitutional Government was installed there, composed as follows, viz.: -

"General Jose Joaquim de Herrera, President of the Council of Government, charged temporarily with the Supreme Executive authority.

"Don Luis Gonzaga Cueva, Minister of Foreign Relations, State, and Police.

"Don Mariano Riva Palacios, Minister of Justice, Public Instruction, and Industry.

"Don Pedro J. Echeverria, Minister of Finance.

"Don Pedro Garcia Conde, Minister of War.

"And it was already known that the departments of Puebla and of Vera Cruz had declared their adhesion to the Provisional Government; and there is no doubt that most of the other departments will also support the Congress.

"Meanwhile Santa Anna is constitutional President of the republic, but unconstitutionally in command of the troops against Paredes. The new Minister of War has ordered him to give up his command. If he refuses, he becomes undoubtedly a rebel and a traitor; because the new Provisional Government in Mexico is constitutionally constituted. If he consents, he ceases to have any troops for his support; he is placed at the mercy of his enemies. His position is now an extremely critical one therefore. Everything depends on whether his troops adhere to him against the Congress and the constitutional Government. If they do, he becomes the military dictator of the country. Reports were current at Vera Cruz that a part of his troops had already proclaimed him Dictator, and that another part had declared against him; but upon this point no information in an authentic form had reached the public ear.

"If any sufficient portion of troops adhere to him, to enable him to continue the war, still he is surrounded with difficulties, being in the very heart of the republic, with Jalisco and its concurrent departments to the Pacific against him on the one hand, and Mexico with its concurrent departments to the Gulf against him on the other hand.

"He may recover himself by some new turn in the wheel of fortune, and resume his place as the constitutional President propietario of the republic; but this is hardly probable, as the public sentiment is almost unanimous against him in nearly all departments.
"It seems more likely that he will have to yield to the storm; and if not deprived of his life, he may escape to the United States by a sudden march on Tampico, or to South America by way of the Pacific."

Later accounts state as follows:

"The Government paper of the 2d of December contains a proclamation signed by Canalizo, Rejon, Barando, and other Ministers of the Government, suspending the session of Congress, and appointing Santa Anna Dictator, with powers to use any means he may think necessary to restore the integrity of the republic, this power to extend as well to foreign as domestic affairs.

A REVOLUTION IN MEXICO"

"We learn from Captain Biscoe, of the bark Eugenia, arrived on Monday, that the principal towns, and indeed all the country, have pronounced against Santa Anna, who, with a small force was at Queretaro.

"The revolution passed off quietly, no blood having been shed. The former revolution being carried on by one party of military against another, resulted in much loss of life; but this movement coming from the people, as well as from the soldiery, makes the thing general, and hence the little commotion of a disagreeable nature. "Santa Anna has but little chance of overcoming this movement, and it was a matter of conjecture whether he would attempt to escape or deliver himself up. He will very probably endeavour to gain over the opposite General by bribery or similar means, but in this it is thought he will not succeed. In case that he is taken prisoner, the people will probably demand his execution, as they deem his liberty dangerous to the public safety.

"The commandments of Chilmahua, Durango, and New Mexico have notified to the Central Government that large bodies of Camanches and other prairie Indians are hovering about the frontier, evidently with hostile intentions. The commandments have been requested by the Indian Chiefs to liberate certain prisoners of their tribes, with which request they had complied.

"Large bodies of troops were quartered at Jalapa, four regiments of the line, a picket of Sappers, and two regiments of horse. Afterwards follows a proclamation of Canalizo and of Rejon, ordering all the constituted authorities to pay the fullest obedience to Santa Anna.

"Also one similar by each of the other Ministers. Santa Anna has accepted his charge without comment.

"Furthermore, the chiefs of various departments, among them General Ulloa, have assembled juntas of their officers, and pronounced in opposition to the scheme of Paredes.

"This took place at Vera Cruz. At Jalisco and the other cities between Mexico and the seaboard, similar scenes appear to have been transacted, and anta Anna appears master of the whole of that portion of the nation. "The department of Oajaca, or at least the leaders, have pronounced in favor of Santa Anna.

"The markets were in a very bad state, with little prospect of improvement.

"There were at the Island of Sacrificios the British frigates Spartan, just arrived from New Orleans, and Inconstant and two French brigs of war, but no United States vessels.

"The Courrier Francais of December 7 has just reached us, containing in a nut-shell the result of the Mexican news.

"Santa Anna was proclaimed Dictator, and all seemed to go on well, but about mid-day the troops barracked in the Accordada St. Francis and the citadel pronounced against Santa Anna and Canalizo. At the head of the movement was General Don Jose J. Herrera, President of the Council, who addressed a proclamation to the city, calling on it to sustain him.

"The whole Congress immediately threw itself into the arms of Herrera, who immediately took possession of the National Palace without bloodshed.
"The Congress constituted its sessions permanent. The ex-Ministers fled. Canalizo is in arrest in his own house.

"The statue of Santa Anna in the peristyle of the theatre was broken, and a wish exhibited to break the bronze one in the market-place, but this was prevented by the authorities. On the next night, General Herrera had it privately removed.

"The new authorities maintained perfect quiet.

"The Chambers are occupied in devising means to remedy the incalculable injury the country has suffered.

[GLP]

LT January 23, 1845, 5e

THE AMERICAN BOUNDARY QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

Sir, - It appears by The Times of the 18th inst., that some of the party of Royal Sappers and Miners lately employed upon the survey of the boundary between British America and the United States, as settled by the Ashburton treaty, have arrived in England. It may fairly be inferred from their arrival that the work upon which they were employed approaches to completion. It is satisfactory to know that this causa beli is removed - that a bone of contention is withdrawn from our grasping and not very conciliatory neighbours. Much praise is due to the present Government for their promptitude in bringing to an amicable adjustment this boundary question which helped to perpetuate national jealousies, retarded the progress of civilization and colonial prosperity, and has more than once threatened to disturb the peace of the mother country. The question of ceding or retaining a few square miles of profitless wilderness must appear in the eyes of reasonable men as dust in the balance, when compared with the incalculable advantage of having established in the minds of our transatlantic fellow-subjects confidence in the existence of a desire and power on the part of the mother country to remove the demoralizing system of barbarian violence, mutual reprisals, and the spreading among our colonists of that system of overreaching cunning peculiar to the squatters and sympathizers of the United States. No dispassionate man acquainted with the interests of the two countries can doubt the importance of a good understanding between Great Britain and the United States. No honest man can wish to see that understanding lightly interrupted. The interests of the civilized world, of mankind at large, are indissolubly mixed up with the preservation of peace - firmly-established peace upon equitable, honourable, and high-minded principles - between two such important countries.

Is it premature to offer suggestions upon another subject which may affect our relations with our jealous and unscrupulous neighbours - a question which appears to present considerable difficulty of arrangement - namely, the joint occupancy or the equitable division of the vast Oregon territory?

It may be said, and with some show of reason, that if Oregon were blotted out of the map of the American continent, there would still be ample room and verge enough for emigration from both parent States for centuries to come. Who can doubt this, when we consider the vast unexplored resources of the north on the one hand, and the unoccupied regions of the Missouri on the other? Still, when we see existing in our republican neighbours an ambition more boundless than their unoccupied wilderness, a spirit of unprincipled encroachment almost unexampled in modern times, with but one exception; and when we know that the spirit of the English nation sympathizes in matters affecting the national honour with that of the haughty Percy, who would "give thrice so much land to a deserving friend," but "would cavil at the ninth part of a hairbreadth" at what appeared an unjust assumption of rights, it must scarcely be ascribed to pusillanimity, or distrust in the resources of our country, to assert and maintain her just claims, when we hear sober-minded men express a wish that the cause of our differences with the United States were permanently removed.

There appear two obstacles to the satisfactory settlement of the Oregon question. The first is the unmistakable desire of two branches of the Government, and the vast majority of the people, of the States to possess the whole territory, and to admit of no counter claims: their right to the whole appears to be a foregone conclusion.
However, as the British Minister at present at Washington for the purposes of negotiating upon the subject may possess discretion and abilities equal or superior to a Pottinger, and as there is still an appearance of some reason and sense of justice existing upon the majority of the Senate, it is to be hoped that this difficulty will be surmounted. The second obstacle to the speedy settlement of this important question is the ignorance which confessedly exists upon everything connected with the vast region in question. Our Envoy may possess all the knowledge possible to be attained from the past and existing treaties, but what can he know of the country itself? He may succeed in obtaining an extension of the present treaty, but is not this only staving off the evil day - a day which must sooner or later, come at last? If he found the American Government perfectly willing to fix a definite boundary, has he sufficient knowledge - has any man sufficient knowledge - of the country, even to suggest a feasible direction for that boundary? Empires and states may have their boundaries fixed by nature, but it is necessary that men should know them before they can negotiate upon them. What, for instance, do we know of the actual existing boundary between our colony and the United States from "the Lake of the Woods" to the Rocky Mountains? And from this point in the Rocky Mountains, if any human being knows it, who can tell how our boundary should proceed? If extended due west to the Pacific, we are cut out of the Oregon altogether. The main artery of the country, the Columbia, in that case comes into the possession of our rivals, and we sacrifice the rights of British subjects already in the country. If it is to proceed south by the chain of the Rocky Mountains, surely it should have some defined specified direction. The Rocky Mountains may be said to divide the two countries by nature; so do the Pyrenees divide France and Spain, but the Pic du Midi must be in either France or Spain. If the Rocky Mountains are to divide our territories from those of the States, one part of these mountains must belong to Britain, and another part to the States.

Who possesses the knowledge to decide which part should in justice, expediency, or sound policy belong to each? Further, if our boundary is to proceed south by the Rocky Mountains, from what point in the chain is it to depart in a westerly direction? It must take a westerly direction from some point in these mountains before it comes to the confines of Mexico, otherwise we monopolize the whole disputed territory to ourselves. Who possesses the knowledge where this point of departure should be, and the subsequent directions of the boundary until it reach the Pacific Ocean? No man living. The crude knowledge of the agents of hunting companies, the journals of travellers who estimate distances by days' journeys, and by the pressure of their privations, together with the painted hunting grounds of American novelists, will scarcely supply authentic data for enlightened men to legislate upon; and yet these are the sources from which the inchoate knowledge of our Government is drawn.

Two questions naturally arise from the above considerations - first, should this state of ignorance, where the national interests and honour may be vitally concerned, be allowed to continue? And, secondly, what available means are there of acquiring more precise information upon the subject?

Our country is foremost among the nations of the earth in fitting out expeditions where the interests of science or humanity can be advanced by them, or even where a slight addition to our geographical knowledge can alone be expected to result from them. Large sums of public money, and many valuable lives, have been sacrificed in endeavouring to penetrate the regions of eternal winter within the Arctic and Antarctic circles, and in exploring the deadly swamps and burning sands of Central Africa. I mean not to disparage these laborious and dangerous operations, nor to impugn the motives of those who originate them; but it not fairly be asked, why are not properly qualified men appointed to explore the countries through which our national boundary runs? And above all others, why should we be left in doubt or ignorance of the country for the possession of which, or even a portion of it, we may at no distant day be menaced with open hostilities?

When it is considered that men eminently qualified for this work are now almost upon the spot where their labours would commence, it will be apparent that the present opportunity of acquiring much, if not all, the necessary information, should not be thrown away. If the present means within the reach of the Government are not made use of, equal means will not readily present themselves again, at least without a sacrifice of much time and expense in preparatory training.

It is a well-known fact that Her Majesty has at present in Canada Boundary Commissioners and scientific officers for marking out and fixing by astronomical observations the Ashburton boundary. If this work is drawing to a close, why should not the same persons, who from their experience in these matters, as well as from their previous characters, must be presumed to be most competent persons - why should they not be employed to extend the knowledge of our Government upon
those subjects where ignorance may be most mischievous? Colonel Escott, one of the Commissioners, is nearly related to the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs; but it is not to be supposed that Lord Aberdeen, upon whom the responsibility of the appointments devolve, has selected him on this account. Mr. Featherstoneaugh, another commissioner, is well known to the public as a man of high talent and an intelligent American traveller. The officers for conducting the scientific operations having, according to Professor Airy's statement last year in his address to the "visitors," been trained at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, must be presumed to be highly qualified for their important duties; the Astronomer Royal would not risk his high reputation by sanctioning an improper appointment, when the training was, as he says, in his own hands.

Where could such means be found for removing official and public ignorance on the momentous pending question of determining the international boundaries? Where can such means be collected again, if the whole of the party on the boundary works are permitted to return to England without investigating and ascertaining on the ground, what should be, if not of determining what shall be, our share of the Oregon territories? Better know what we should claim, and then claim it as it becomes our country, than procrastinate until the invaded rights of our fellow-subjects imperatively demand the presence of a British fleet in the North Pacific.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
Jan. 21
W.C.

[GLP]
"annexing," or appropriating, the Texan territory into the American union are now before the House of Representatives. The absolute and plenary "cession" of the territories of Texas to the United States, to be effected by the (of course) purely voluntary act of Texas herself, and, in consideration thereof, the gracious extension to the new republic of the membership and privileges of the Union, - this is one scheme of proceedings - that of Mr. INGERSOLE. Another proposal is simply to "declare" Texas annexed; another to furnish up an old treaty with France, made during the war in 1803, whereby a part only of the present Texan territory was ceded by France to the United States; and upon this title is now proposed to be "extended" to the whole. A fourth is for splitting the difference about slavery, by making half the new State slave-holding and half free, and for disregarding altogether the consent of Mexico; while others again have different nostrums for both of these difficulties; and one illustrious statesman, to crown the whole, "threatens to propose a "bill to satisfy all parties, factions, or sections, who are willing to allow of 'admission.' "All these various proposals proceed upon the comfortable assumption that the prey is secure. Texas is considered to be already "caught," and the question is, how to cut it up.

Nor is the squabbling about Texas either one degree more or one degree less imposing or edifying than the cool quietness which hangs over despatching of the Oregon affair. Resolutions in favour of the immediate "occupation" of the Oregon territory have long since passed both Houses. There was no difference of opinion here. Slavery, Mexico, or the necessity of throwing the seizure into some form of international law, interposed no difficulties here. A bill was introduced, on the resolutions, and is now pending, in the Senate of the United States, for appropriating and occupying the whole line of sea coast on the Pacific, from between the 54th and 55th degrees of north latitude (more than 300 miles north of the most northerly settled part of Canada) downward, and as far inland as the Rocky Mountains.

This valuable acquisition (supposing it is acquired) is to be connected with the Missouri River by a line of stockade forts, "not exceeding 5 in number." And various enactments are further in contemplation for encouraging settlers, and consolidating them when settled. This quiet proposal is now before the Senate.

It is probable that the wiser and more practised portion of American statesmen of all parties, and especially those of them who have the practical management of public affairs, and are conversant with the popular modes of thinking, speaking of, and transacting business, know what all this means, and what it really amounts to, better than we do. Public men in America probably know better how to give their countrymen rope, and how to rely on the usual and ultimate, though not at first apparent, result of such a proceeding, than we do on this side of the water. Debates in the Senate, and quarrels about the mode and manner of any given project, are useful in more ways than one; and in American politics it is premature to jump to a conclusion until all these hitches are settled. It is not to be denied, however, that brother JONATHAN has already, to his own perfect satisfaction, "cast up his accounts" for Texas and the Oregon; however it may be certain that "he has been reckoning without his host." There are as our friends in the United States will probably learn before very long, if they have not learnt it already. Mere unprincipled, profligate, self-aggrandizement is all that the United States have to allege in support of the monstrous breach of all natural justice and positive treaty which would be involved in either of the measures in which they seem so deeply engaged. In neither one nor the other could the States reasonably expect this country to acquiesce; and the annexation of Texas would involve a disturbance of the settled relations of the American continent, in which all the chief European Powers would be more or less interested; yet there seems to be no pause on the part of the States in a headlong adoption of them; and though it would be premature until the measures have passed the Legislature to speculate on them as accomplished, yet they certainly appear to have been already pushed to a point that demands the most serious attention to them.

[GLP]

**THE REVOLUTION IN MEXICO.**

We find in the New Orleans papers of the 29th and 30th of December very full of particulars of recent intelligence from Mexico, brought by the schooner Ventura, which sailed from Vera Cruz on the 13th day of December, and reached New Orleans on the 28th. The news is but one day later than that brought by Mr. Cushing; but as more copious details of the recent important events which have transpired in Mexico
are given than were included in his statement, we present a full and careful abstract, made up from the various New Orleans papers, chiefly the Bee and Picayune:

In the city of Mexico it seems that on the 1st of December a manifesto was issued, protesting against the orders issued by Santa Anna, and denouncing the Government for not having deposed him. This was signed by 55 deputies on the 1st, by 10 others on the 2d, and all the senators except 4. On the 3d Santa Anna's General Canalizo, issued a decree dissolving Congress, Santa Anna being at the head of 8,000 men on his march against the rebels in Jalisco. The decree created intense excitement in Mexico.

Congress made three protests and an address to the people, but before they could be printed General Canalizo closed all the printing offices except Santa Anna's official paper, and forbade all publications. These arbitrary measures increased the excitement, and crowds of the people assembled in the public places. Canalizo shut himself up in the Palace with some 2,000 troops. Baranda, Rejon, and Salas took refuge with him.

In the meantime both the Liberals and clergy in the Capitol united in the revolutionary movement, and began to make preparations against the common enemy. Congress, as well as the Ayuntamiento, succeeded, in spite of Canalizo's decree, in having secret circulars printed, which were actively disseminated among all classes. The Government troops about the Palace, seeing symptoms of the coming storm, began to waver.

During the 4th and 5th the excitement continued, and on the 6th multitudes of the people, armed, assembled at the Convent of San Francisco. Here the members of Congress were assembled, and among them Generals Herrera, Garcia, Conde, and Cespedes. The whole body marched from the convent to the square in front of the Palace, which is near the centre of the city, and summoned Canalizo to surrender, giving him two hours to reflect. Canalizo prepared to attack the citizens, when one of his officers, exclaiming that he was the soldier of no tyrant, but of the people, shouted "Long live the Congress !" The cry was taken up by nearly all the troops, and Canalizo fled in terror to his apartments.

Before leaving the convent General Herrera had prepared a letter, which he now sent to Canalizo, requesting him, in order to spare the effusion of blood, to recognize the government of the Constitution and of Congress, and to allow it to exercise its full powers.

To this Canalizo returned in quick succession the following answers: -"Excelentissimo Senor, - In order to avoid any unfortunate scenes or events in this capital, I am ready immediately to deliver up the command, and to evacuate this place at once, if guarantees are conceded to me.

"God and Liberty !
"National Palace of Mexico, Dec. 6, 1844,
"Half-past 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

"VALENTIN CANALIZO.

"To his Excellency General of Division Don J. Joaquin de Herrera."

In half an hour afterwards, General Canalizo sent another despatch as follows:
"Excelentissimo Senor, - The guarantees of which I spoke in my last despatch, which I have just sent, are, that passports to leave the republic shall be given to myself, to the four Ministers, and to the Commandant-General.

"God and Liberty.
"National Palace of Mexico, Dec. 6, 1844,
3 o'clock in the afternoon.

"VALENTIN CANALIZO.

"To the Senor General of Division Don J. Joaquin de Herrera."

After receiving these notes General Herrera, with his troops, forced their way into the Palace, seized Canalizo, and detained him, with Salas, prisoner in the Palace, the Ministers of War and the Home Department being released on giving security, and Rejon and Baranda making their escape.
General Herrera then issued the following important proclamation:

"JOSE JOAQUIN DE HERRERA, PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT, TO
THE INHABITANTS OF THE CAPITAL.

"Mexicans! - A blind and audacious Government had violated the laws, believing
that society was wholly dependent upon its decrees. But I, having been invoked by
all classes and by the principal commanders and chiefs of the garrison, have re-
established constitutional order, and am proud of having spared to Mexico and her
vast population the anarchy and dissensions arising out of merely isolated efforts. I
therefore invite every patriot to rally around the legitimate Government which I
represent through the constitution; and the national Congress, which has assembled
within a few hours, will accomplish everything which the safety of the country
requires from it. Thus will this momentous event be rendered worthy of national
pride - a hope which is sincerely shared by your fellow-citizen,

"JOSE J. DE HERRERA.
"Mexico, Dec. 6, 1844."

On the 7th of December, the day following this proclamation, a new Government
was organized. General Herrera was constituted Provisional President of the
Republic. His Cabinet is composed as follows: - Don Pedro Echeverria, Minister of
Internal Affairs; Don Luis G. Cuevas, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Don Cariano
Rivapalacio, Minister of Justice and Public Instruction; General Pedro Garcia Conde,
Minister of War and Marine.

The city of Mexico was immediately filled with the most tumultuous rejoicings.
Messages of congratulation were exchanged between the two Houses of Congress,
and the new President was waited upon by thousands of his fellow-citizens. The
demonstrations of the mob were still more energetic and emphatic. Portraits of
Santa Anna in the public places were torn down and dragged through the streets,
and torn into fragments, and every one preserved a piece as a memento of their
oppressor's downfall. The statue of Santa Anna in the plaza was tumbled down,
broken in pieces, and the head borne in triumph through the city. It is also stated
that the crowd, intoxicated with joy and frantic with vengeance, afterwards proceeded
to the monument where the embalmed leg of their Dictator had been buried with so
much pomp a year or two since, broke it into atoms, and then kicked and dragged
the embalmed limb through the plazas and principal thoroughfares of the city.

Thus was achieved without bloodshed in the capital city the overthrow of Santa Anna.
But the movement was by no means confined to the capital. Indeed, not a single
department has been heard from which holds out for the Dictator.

In Vera Cruz, always considered his stronghold, the movement was begun a few
miles from the city of Colonel Senobio, who, with a few hundred followers, declared
in favour of Congress. Soon after, Don Benito Quijano, Governor of Vera Cruz,
pronounced against Santa Anna, and in favour of the Congress, and immediately all
was excitement and rejoicing. The populace first tore the portrait of the Dictator into
tatters, and then burned it in the public square; after which they proceeded in
crowds toward the houses of several citizens who were obnoxious from their known
friendship for Santa Anna, thirsting for vengeance, and threatening to take their
lives. Owing to the efforts of the Commandant-General their lives were spared, he
promising the populace that all those who had made themselves inimical to the best
interests of the people should be banished from the city. On the following day order
was completely restored, the citizens in the meantime forming themselves into
military bodies to resist any attempts that might be made by Santa Anna and his
friends. On the evening of the 12th of December the tragedy of Brutus: Or, Rome
Made Free, was performed at the theatre in honour of the revolutionists.

At Puebla the rising was unanimous. The statue of Santa Anna was tumbled from its
pedestal, and his portrait torn into shreds. At Jalapa a few persons were killed, - and
this is the only blood shed during the entire revolution, so far as appears.

Santa Anna himself was at Queretaro, where he had about 2,500 men, and even
upon these it is most likely he can place but little reliance. His chance of escape
seems but small. It is said that Congress has outlawed him unless he surrenders at
once. It is further stated, that the new Government offers him no terms short of his
paying up the $12,000,000 of the public money he is charged with having uselessly
squandered or appropriated to his own private purposes. This condition it can
scarcely be possible to execute, and in default of complying with it he is threatened
with death. Should he succeed in escaping from the country, it is rumoured that he will proceed to Cuba, where, with his princely revenues, he can still live in his accustomed splendour. His private fortune is estimated at some $4,000,000.

There is no reason to suppose that this event, great and important to Mexico itself as it undoubtedly is, will in any respect change the relations between that Government and foreign Powers, and least of all that it will tend in the remotest degree to promote the peaceful annexation of Texas to the United States. Even Santa Anna, obnoxious as he was, was fully sustained by the popular sentiment in the ground he took with reference to this question. And now that the internal dissensions of Mexico have been quieted by the complete and perfect success of the revolution, we have only to apprehend still more energetic and decided measures with reference to Texas. Mexico, both Government and people, regards Texas as still a revolted province. The domestic difficulties which have just seen their crisis, have greatly embarrassed her attempts at its subjugation. Those are now removed, and the whole power of the nation will undoubtedly be turned to the accomplishment of this object. A nation is never more powerful than immediately after a victory of the popular will. That annexation will still be regarded as a declaration of war on the part of the United States seems absolutely certain, whereas the Government of Mexico is much more able to prosecute such a war with effect than before.

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**(FROM A CORRESPONDENT) SOUTHHAMPTON, Feb. 10**

As the present state of Mexico must, no doubt, be a subject full of interest to many of your readers, I would beg, in connexion with it, to communicate to you such general information as I have been able to glean during a recent visit to that country.

To refer to the causes which have given origin to the important events lately enacted there, would only be to enumerate a series of grievances and oppressions perpetrated upon a people too weak and too debased to resist with either energy or effect. The government of Santa Anna, it would appear, has been characterized throughout by a system of fraud, favouritism, and self-aggrandizement; unjust sentences and cruel punishments have been inflicted upon unoffending parties; and the welfare and prosperity of the nation have been made subservient to the gratification of sordid and avaricious motives. This state of things could not fail in disseminating dissatisfaction and discontent; and it required but the slightest spark to kindle the flame of insurrection throughout the country.

An ostensible cause for resistance was soon presented in the refusal of the President to render, for the examination and satisfaction of Congress, an account of the acts and proceedings of his past government - thus trampling under foot the principles upon which the constitution of the country had been established. The first place to proclaim against this assumption of absolute authority was Guadalajara, where, on the 1st of November, a spirited manifesto was issued at the instigation of General D. Mariano Paredes. This example was soon followed by other departments, so that the President found himself compelled to proceed with an army of about 9,000 men for the subjugation of the increasing insurgents.
No long period, however, had elapsed on his leaving the capital ere the smothered symptoms of dissatisfaction began more clearly to manifest themselves, and his fatal decree of the 29th of November, by which he dissolved the National Congress, sounded the tocsin for a general appeal to arms. The Congress reassembled, with Don Jose Joaquin Herrera as their President, published spirited proclamations, and adopted such general measures as were best calculated to resist his return. The city of Mexico was put into an immediate state of defence, the National Guard called out, and General Nicolas Bravo elected Commander-in-Chief. These resolute proceedings did not fail to receive the approbation of the nation, and day after day brought forth to the Congress the most friendly assurances of fealty and support.

Zacatecas and Oajaca pronounced against Santa Anna on the 11th of December, and the announcement from both of these places was couched in the most firm and heart-stirring language. Puebla, Vera Cruz, Perote, and, finally, the department of Santa Anna de Tamaulipas, which had hitherto remained steadfast to the President, have followed in the train of public opinion, as has done every place of note within the limits of the country.

During our sojourn at Vera Cruz the Mexican steamer of war Montezuma, with Commodore Don Francisco de P. Lopez on board, arrived from Havannah, and the officers and crew took the oath of allegiance to the Congress and constitution. The Guadalupe (sister ship), which arrived on the 26th of December from New York, entered into similar protestations.

At the same time that these active preparations are making for the overthrow of Santa Anna, the periodicals teem with articles in which his life, character, and actions are subjected to severe animadversions, and the most enthusiastic appeals are made to the youth of Mexico to stimulate them to a firm defence of their natural rights.

Under such circumstances it soon became evident to Santa Anna that, so far from being able to stem the current of insurrection, it was incumbent upon him to make provisions for his own safety. He, therefore, retracted his steps towards Mexico, and without attempting any attack upon that city, proceeded as far as Guadaloupe, thus securing for himself a communication with the coast in case of ultimate failure. From this place he conveyed to the Congress a proposal to come to terms, but received for answer that nothing short of his offering himself up for trial would satisfy the nation; and in the event of his suitting to this ordeal, they guaranteed to him his personal safety until the verdict of the trial should be formally pronounced. To these terms, however, he has not thought it advisable to accede, and is accordingly adopting every means within his power to secure to his case the attachment of soldiery.

For some time it was thought that he would attack the city of Mexico, but by the last accounts, brought down to Vera Cruz on the evening of the 1st of January by the bearer of the dispatches of the British Minister, it appeared he had advanced within a short distance of Puebla, with the apparent intention of proceeding to Vera Cruz. At some distance in his rear he was followed by General Paredes with an army of considerable strength, whose tactics, however, did not appear to be to bring him to a general engagement, but rather, by inducing desertion amongst his troops, to so reduce his number as to compel him to suit without discretion. Whether this stratagem will be attended with success, is as yet a matter of doubt, for the army of Santa Anna remains undiminished in numbers.

From this previous precaution of Santa Anna it is not likely that any resistance to his progress towards Vera Cruz can be offered by any of the intermediate places; for a correspondent from Puebla writes, Dec. 25 -

"We have had a formal pronunciation here; but judge of our capacity to stand a siege, when I inform you that we had not powder sufficient to fire a salute to the occasion." Not so, however, with Vera Cruz; here all is bustle and preparation; arms and ammunition have been distributed to the inhabitants, the walls have been repaired where deficient, and guns mounted at every embrasure; and should the garrison and inhabitants only remain firm to their trust, they are capable of making a lengthened resistance.

During this state of things the highway robbers, so numerous in Mexico, have been most daring in their depredations, and scarcely a traveller has escaped being divested of every valuable appurtenance.

A large quantity of specie was expected to be ready for shipment by the next packet, but under existing circumstances there is no prospect of a conducta for a
At noon of the 2d ult the general mail from Mexico had not arrived at Vera Cruz, and the appointed time of sailing having elapsed, the Dee was obliged to proceed on her voyage. It was conjectured that the mails might have been intercepted by Santa Anna, but the general impression was, that the detention arose from the difficulty of obtaining relays of horses, in consequence of his having secured every available animal for the use of his cavalry.

Such is a brief sketch of the present position of affairs in Mexico, in reviewing which it cannot but be hoped by every lover of patriotism that the inhabitants of this ill-fated country will strenuously rally together, and, uniting firmly in the common cause of country and home, expel from their shores this tyrant demagogue; for he is universally denounced as having set at defiance all law, all precedent, all right.

The Dee, by which I have returned to England, left Vera Cruz at noon on the 2d of January, and arrived at Havannah on the 7th. Here trade is rather stagnant at present, the tobacco and coffee crop, but particularly the former, having been very much injured by the hurricane of October, aided by the irregular nature of the dry and wet season. Several murders of a very revolting character have been committed of late, and two soldiers were shot during our stay there for the same crime.

We left Havannah at noon on the 10th ult, having met the Tay from Jamaica, left Nassau on the 12th, and arrived at Bermuda on the 17th, where we met the Trent with the mails and passengers from the Windward Islands.

The Dee then proceeded on her voyage to England at noon on the 21st.

On the evening of the 22d the wind began to freshen from the north west, and increased to a severe gale, which continued unabated for three days. During this period our larboard paddle-wheel became much injured, so as to cause some anxiety, but from the severity of the weather nothing could be attempted with it until it moderated, when it was found necessary to disconnect it altogether, and proceed on our voyage with the remaining wheel. The first impression was to make for some of the Western Isles where we might in security repair our damage, but the captain thought it advisable to proceed for England, hoping for the chance of good weather to arrange the wheel at sea. In this expectation he was happily not disappointed, as the weather, after a little time, abated, and continued very fine for about eight days, thus being enabled to complete the repairs by noon of the 6th of February. We had then run for 12 days by the aid of a single paddle-wheel. [GLP]
pleasure that we turn to certain documents which have reached us, emanating from
a higher source than the clamour of the populace, and conceived in a far higher tone
of policy and justice. The people of New England have offered a constant opposition
to the project for annexing Texas, for many very obvious reasons. The aggressive
and adventurous spirit of that measure is at variance with the austere principles of
their original constitutions; the preponderance of the South is already felt in the
councils of the Union; and the acquisition of Texas would raise that preponderance
into ascendancy, and secure the perpetuity of slavery and all its attendant evils.
These opinions have been very forcibly expressed in the report of a Convention held
for the purpose at Faneuil-hall, in the State of Massachusetts. This assembly
deliberately resolved, that the scheme of annexing Texas to the United States is a
plain violation of the Constitution, and as calculated and designed by the open
declarations of its friends to uphold the interests of slavery, extend its influence, and
secure its permanent duration; and they protested, that "Texas rebelling against
the laws of slavery - Texas wrested from Mexico by citizens of the United States -
Texas the support and defence of American slavery, can never be joined to this Union
but in "bonds of mutual infamy."

One of the most important parts of the argument of the decided opponents of
annexation, in addition to the consideration derived from its inexpediency and
immorality, consists in the acknowledged absence of any positive constitutional
power to extend the territories of the United States. The resolutions of the House of
Representatives for annexing Texas have brought this point directly before the
Senate; and a very elaborate report has been drawn up by a committee of that body
in support of a decision "that the "joint resolution from the House of Representatives
for the annexation of Texas to the United States to be "rejected." The principal
ground of this recommendation is the total absence of any power in Congress to
proceed to such an exercise of authority. All the powers of Congress are named and
defined by the Constitution, and there is no maxim of American public law better
established than that Congress possesses no powers not so named. But amongst
these powers there is none for extending the territories of the Union, and the
partisans of annexation, by act of Congress, have been compelled to resort to every
species of distortion and subterfuge to screen the gross unconstitutionality of their
proceedings. The annexation party rely, in answer to this, on the fact that the
territories of the Union have actually been extended on two several occasions by the
purchase Louisiana and of Florida, which was concluded by virtue of the treaty-
making power of the Executive Government. But in spite of the manifest importance
and unimpeachable motives and equity of the transaction which transferred the
mouths of the Mississippi from France to the United States, Mr. JEFFERSON, who
concluded it, spoke of the Louisiana treaty in the following terms: -

'This treaty,' said he, referring to the then recent fact of the acquisition, 'must of
course be laid before both houses (Congress), because both have important
functions to exercise respecting it. They, I presume, will see their duty to their
country in ratifying and paying for it, so as to secure a good which would otherwise
probably never be again in their power. But I suppose they must then appeal to the
nation for an additional article to the Constitution, approving and confirming an act
which the nation had not previously authorized. The Constitution has made no
provision for our holding foreign territory, still less for incorporating foreign nations
into our Union. The Executive, in seizing the fugitive occurrence which so much
advances the good of their country, has done an act beyond the Constitution.'

Subsequent reference is made to an act of indemnity; and, in another place, an
amendment to the Constitution is suggested to make provision for the case of
Louisiana, and for that of the introduction of Florida, in the contemplation of this last
acquisition."

This is the doctrine still professed to its full extent by the anti-annexation party in
New England. They deny that any power of extending the Union exists either in
Congress, or in the Executive Government, composed of the PRESIDENT and two-
thirds of the Senate; for they contend that such an act, for which no provision was
made by the Constitution, changes the relative position of all the States belonging to
the Union, and subverts the original compact of the existing confederation.

The Committee of the Senate of the United States do not go to this length, nor do
they assent to the self-accusing principles of Mr. JEFFERSON. They hold that no such
power as is claimed by these resolutions can be said to exist in Congress; but they
are of opinion that the treaty-making power, supported as it must be by two-thirds
of the votes of the Senate, equally represented in the Senate, does extend to this or
any other territorial acquisition, to which the power renouncing or surrendering the
territory is a consenting party. The following passage from Mr. ARCHER's report is
highly creditable to the committee from which it emanates: -
The mere aspect, then, it may be permitted to observe, of the resolution in question, is of a character to startle and awaken doubt of its propriety and policy! A joint resolution of the two houses of Congress! To what end? To make appropriation of a neighboring foreign political state. Under what circumstances? On any request, or intimation in any form, on the part of the state appropriated of desire to be annexed? If any such have been made, any desire revealed in the only way in which Governments are permitted to know the purposes of other Governments, none have been disclosed through the sole channel which Parliamentary bodies are permitted to recognize as authority for their official action.

The proposition assumed as the basis of the most solemn form of public action is, that a neighboring state has ambition to become extinguished. Supposing the inference just, in the present instance, that Texas, solicitous for the incorporation which is to annul her separate political existence, will show no sensibility to the disregard so remarkable of the courtesy or forms of official respect - even in this supposition, is no tribute of deference due to the reputation of our own Government? Have we no terms to keep, no observances to respect, as regards to the appearance we have to present to other nations, and their opinion of our proceedings? Is acquisition all, reputation nothing, in the conduct of gravest affairs? We are in the practice daily of arraigning the habit, fast obtaining fixed root in the usages of nations (so prompt to become their law), of domiciliary intrusion of strong powers in the concerns of weak powers. Where are the people or government to be found who have been louder in arraignment of the prevalence of this practice than ourselves? Is no precaution due to the influence which our proceeding in the mode proposed to us may exert, in laying a foundation for authority to plead our own example against us, to stifle the accents of remonstrance which we may have occasion but too often to raise? What reply will we have to employ or distinction to make in our own favor? Will ours have been, on the contrary, accompanied by room for such a distinction?

As far as the affairs will stand out to the world, who are to know of no mitigating circumstances withheld from view, if there had been such, our act has been - dispensing with consultation even, not to speak of waiting for application - to assume an authority to annex our neighbor to us, dictate the conditions, and prescribe a time for their unqualified execution. Suppose the case of dissensions in a neighboring feeble state, let it be Texas, the state of a prey to this last of afflictions, what would be the imputation in that case on the strong neighbor, supposing him not to instigate, yet availing himself of the debauching violence of such distractions to spoil the country? How easily do such examples run into the worst extreme, and how important it is, therefore, that no countenance be given to public acts which may tend in any degree to their introduction.

The fact is but too notorious of the general prevalence at this moment of the lust of territorial aggrandizement among nations. The disease spreads everywhere. No island so retired, no people so inoffensive, as not to be threatened with the visitation. Is not ours the duty, whilst we exclaim, not to give colour to accusation against ourselves of the character of that we are so loud to charge? These remarks are deemed not inappropriate to the subject, in a view of the fact that Texas has given no intimation in any known form - certainly in no form which, according to the usages of nations, can give authority for a proceeding so anomalous as that of our Government, not proposing terms of incorporation, but assuming to set on foot the work of incorporation. Not the charge of irregular proceeding only, but of uncompromising pursuit of objects of aggrandizement, will be incited against the reputation of the country, and with no occasion for incurring them, as the opportunities are so obvious of proceeding in concert, if annexation be the real desire of the people in two countries."

In combating this measure no language has ever been employed in Europe more severe, with reference to the object of annexation and the means of effecting it, than that of this report of the highest authority in the Union.

Whatever the result of the vote in the Senate, it cannot overturn the principle which has been so ably laid down by its own Committee: -

Nothing, then, can be more clear than that a foreign State, in its character of political organization as a state - if an engagement, terms, conditions, be requisite to the admission - can find no lawful passage of admission through the power of Congress; that the jurisdiction on the subject, as far as there is any jurisdiction, is an undoubted appurtenance of the treaty-making power, vested in the President and two-thirds of the Senate; that the only mode of effectuation of the admission of Texas lawfully, supposing this to be an event desirable and desired, is by the resolution of the present State of Texas into its component elements of population and territory, which may in those forms pass through the ordeal sieve of the treaty-
making power in the President and Senate."

This treaty-making power requires the assent of Texas in the first place, and in the second of the American President and two-thirds of the Senate; to attempt to carry such a measure by bare majorities in the two Houses of Congress, such as are sufficient to sanction the ordinary legislation of the country, is to violate one of the most important principles of the Constitution, and in the true spirit of revolutionary violence to create a power for the sake of gratifying a passion. We still hope that so powerful a protest against so flagrant an evil will not have been made in vain, and that it will put a stop for the present to the easy achievement of legislative majorities who may want to add to their power, or signalize their lust "of power, or illustrate the fleeting fortune of a passing Administration by a trophy of distinction" [GLP]

LT March 25, 1845, 5b

SANTA ANNA

The ex-president will take his trial before the Mexican House of Congress on six distinct charges - First, that he was guilty of high-treason in attempting to subvert the Constitution and elevate himself as Emperor of Mexico; secondly, in executing powers not constitutionally delegated; thirdly, in malfeasance in office, in applying the funds of the Government to his own use, and sending out of the country, on his own individual authority, several millions of the public money appropriated by Congress for national objects; fourthly, violating the principles of war at Puebla, opening his batteries upon the city, and cruelly butchering the inhabitants while a cessation of hostilities had been granted to him under the sacred guarantee of a flag of truce; fifthly, rifling the national mint, pilfering cities, and appropriating to his own purposes public and private property; and sixthly, disobedience to orders in refusing to give up his command when ordered by Government. In answer to these, Santa Anna contends, that his powers under the Bases, a temporary constitution which ushered in the establishment of the present governmental system, were unlimited and absolute; that he is and was the constitutional president; and that the present Government is unconstitutionally organized, and its officers mere usurpers. [GLP]

LT March 27, 1845, 4a

LONDON, THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 1845

The consent of Congress to the annexation of Texas is an event so long expected, that the question of its justice has gradually merged in the vision of its certainty. There was a time when the most enlightened and thoughtful men of the Union could venture to entertain a strong moral objection against it; and their arguments are on record. It was clear, however, that the mass of the Union, its newest and most active elements, were in favour of the measure. Their eyes were always reverting to Texas. Texas unappropriated, like independent Megara within sight of Athens, was the eyesore of the Union; not but that there are other eyesores to the ambitious gaze of that people. Whatever they see they love, whatever they love they covet, whatever they covet they expect and endeavour to obtain. But Texas was the first thing in their way, and formed the bold foreground of their hopes. Texas adjacent, revolted, independent, still menaced and molested by the weak and impolitic rulers whose yoke it had broken, already peopled and governed by the citizens of the Union, or adventurers of the same language and principles, was an acquisition absolutely necessary, so much to the happiness, as to the very comfort, the ease, the sleep, the digestion, of certainly more than half the republic.

The only part of the business, therefore, on which there could be any surprise, would be the particular time and manner which republican wisdom and taste would select for the acquisition. To an European understanding there is something quite grotesque in the time and manner actually adopted. The Congress comes to this momentous decision in the very point of time between the two presidencies. Mr. TYLER completes his career with a determination which he cannot have the smallest share in carrying out, and Mr. POLK will be engaged throughout his whole term in the arduous execution of a project imposed upon him at the first moment of his official existence.
The former PRESIDENT, as he approaches his end, seems horror-struck at the
thought of leaving his four years a blank in his country's annals. He must do
something before he dies, though he leaves a legacy of trouble to his successor. Yet
why defer it to such an hour? Was it as CONSTANTINE put off his baptism to his
death-bed, that he might enjoy the unimpaired benefit, without the arduous
responsibility consequent to the rite? Mr. TYLER, a President rather by misadventure
than by popular intention, and not reciprocating to his office the dignity it conferred
on him, procures admission to the line of American heroes by an act which will entail
upon him neither trouble nor risk. Should it even plunge the nation in war, should it
rend the Union, should it finally upset that fearful equilibrium of forces by which the
federation is now maintained against so great a diversity of separate interests, Mr.
TYLER is clear of all that responsibility. It attaches to those to whom the constitution
commits his newborn measure.

The fit of action seems to have seized the whole expiring body. First, the President,
as soon as he finds he must needs quit the scene, urges the deed. Then the House
of Representatives, about to dissolve, eagerly embraces its last opportunity, and,
like the silk-worm, having laid its eggs, immediately dies. The Senate has just time
to pronounce. This it does on the 27th of February, and on the 1st of March a new
President addresses the whole population on the proceedings of the late Congress.
The interval could be but a few hours, but there was time enough, it seems, for the
late PRESIDENT to use the powers given to him by the amended resolution of the
Congress, for the liberty of negotiation. Already had he sent off envoys and
instructions to Texas. Such is the avidity for grasping a personal share in public
actions, which a democracy has always been found to generate. The citizen enjoys
no repose in his patriotism. He does not rejoice that great things are done, but that
he has a share in them. Such, too, is the invariable result of brief terms of office, of
great powers given to the unfettered nominees of popular assemblages, and of
governments that undergo frequent and abrupt transmutations. Every politician, i.e.,
every member of the nation, is devoured with the futile ambition of leaving his own
image on the acts of the State.

The new PRESIDENT, however, is far from quarreling with his hereditary task. His
only complaint probably is, that he was not allowed to initiate as well as to carry on.
One could almost fear from the tone of his address that he is minded to make up for
this wrong by starting a project or two of his own. The tone of a President must
needs be lofty. He must assume a dignity which is not conceded, and he would only
be misunderstood and despised by his fellow-citizens if he adopted the conventional
courtesies and humilities of European Potentates. His office is the most honourable
in the earth; his responsibility is the greatest. To disturb the unanimity of the
Federal Union, even for an imagined object of morality, is the most stupendous
crime of which human nature can be guilty. To extend that union, indefinitely, in all
directions is the citizen's first and noblest instinct; to be comprehended in it, the
greatest felicity that can happen to any race of men. It is the only security for peace.
All this may mean much or little, but in the old world it is the language of men who
are not conducting, but founding an empire.

We in the old world have long since chastised one another's desires to at least the
language of modesty and mutual deference. The PRESIDENT is not overawed by the
presence of one sovereign power in the length and breadth of his continent. Hence
he feels no indecency in expressing, in glorifying every aggressive impulse of the
heart. The citizen, he says, must rejoice when a frontier line is removed, when he
can communicate freely, commercially and politically, with his neighbours, without
the restrictions of trade, or the interference of foreign claims, and foreign politics
and morals. When such rejoicings are arguments, then we may reasonably fear for
the invidious frontier lines of the St. Lawrence, not to speak of that other on the
westward of the Rocky Mountains. But other difficulties will arise before that day.
Neither democracy nor federation can solve the great problem of society.
Government is not so easy a task. The creature of a mob election, addressing his
creators, may talk in the same breath of clustering all nations in a constitutional
unity, and interdicting moral and religious interference between the inhabitants of
adjacent valleys; but human nature has assigned less to system, and more to
spiritual influences. She will soon detect the hollowness of union without unity, and
of a political combination that aims to embrace the world, while it is afraid to
interfere with the grossest social corruptions of its own bosom. [GLP]
The packet-ship Indiana, Captain Bennett, which left New York on the 1st instant, arrived in the Mersey shortly before midnight on Tuesday.

On the 27th ultimo the Senate, by a vote of 27 to 25, passed the joint resolutions from the House of Representatives for the annexation of Texas, having first, however, appended to them, by a similar vote, the provisions of Mr. Benton's bill. We annex the bill as adopted:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that Congress doth consent that the territory properly included within, and rightfully belonging to the republic of Texas, may be erected into a new state, to be called the State of Texas, with a republican form of government, to be adopted by the people of said republic, by deputies in convention assembled, with the consent of the existing Government, in order that the same may be admitted as one of the States of this Union.

Sec. 2. And be it further resolved That the foregoing consent of Congress is given upon the following conditions, and with the following guarantees, to wit:

1. Said State to be formed subject to the adjustment by this Government of all questions of boundary that may arise with other Governments, and the constitution thereof, with the proper evidence of its adoption by the people of said Republic of Texas, shall be transmitted to the President of the United States, to be laid before Congress for its final action, on or before the 1st day of January, 1846.

2. Said State, when admitted into the Union, after ceding to the United States all mines, minerals, salt lakes, and springs, and also all public edifices, fortifications, barracks, ports and harbours, navy and navy yards, docks, magazines, arms, armaments, and all other property and means pertaining to the public defence, belonging to said republic of Texas, shall retain all the public funds, debts, taxes, and dues of every kind which may belong to, or be due and owing, said republic, and shall also retain all the vacant and unappropriated lands lying within its limits, to be applied to the payments of the debts and liabilities of said republic of Texas; and the residue of said debts and liabilities, to be disposed of as said State may direct; but in no event are said debts and liabilities to become a charge upon the Government of the United States.

3. New States, of convenient size, and having sufficient population, may hereafter, by the consent of said State, be formed out of the territory thereof, which shall be entitled to admission under the provisions of the federal constitution. And such States as may be formed out of that portion of the said territory lying south of 36 deg. 20 minutes north latitude, commonly known as the Missouri compromise line, shall be admitted to the Union, with or without slavery, as the people of each State asking admission may desire.

The following are the provisions of Mr. Benton's Bill, appended on the motion of Mr. Walker:

And be it further resolved, That if the President of the United States shall, in his judgment and discretion, deem it most advisable, instead of proceeding to suit the foregoing resolution to the Republic of Texas as an overture on the part of the United States for admission to negotiate with that Republic; then

"Be it resolved, That a State, to be formed out of the present Republic of Texas, with suitable extent and boundaries, and with two Representatives in Congress, until the next apportionment of representation, shall be admitted into the Union, by virtue of this act, on an equal footing with the existing States, as soon as the terms and conditions of such admission, and the cession of the remaining Texan territory to the United States, shall be agreed upon by the Governments of Texas and the United States.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the sum of 100,000 dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated to defray the expenses of missions and negotiations, to agree upon the terms of said admission and cession, either by treaty to be suitted to the Senate, or by articles to be suitted to the two Houses of Congress, as the President may direct." From the above it is apparent that if President Polk deems it best to negotiate, then Mr. Benton's bill will have force and validity; but if otherwise, that the resolutions from the House of Representatives will stand unamended.

A narrative of the proceedings on the 27th ult. may perhaps be interesting. The
general discussion closed in the morning of that day. On re-assembling, when the whole city seemed to have congregated about the Capitol, a deep anxiety pervading the mass of spectators, Mr. Walker's important amendment having been read, Mr. Foster, of Tennessee, offered an amendment, providing that, in fixing the terms and conditions of admission, it shall be expressly stipulated and declared, that in the part of Texas lying south of the Missouri compromise line, slavery may be permitted or not, according to the wishes of the people of that part of Texas; and that the public debt of Texas should be no charge upon the United States. The first branch of the amendment was lost - ayes, 18; nays, 33. The second was also lost - ayes, 20; nays, 31. The next question in order was the adoption of the amendment which Mr. Archer moved to amend by striking out all after the word "Resolved," and inserting a resolution requesting the President to authorize negotiations to be opened for the acquisition of Texas by treaty, with the assent of the people thereof, which amendment was lost by a tie vote, 26 members voting on either side. Among those who voted against the amendment were Messrs. Henderson and Merrick, quasi Whigs, and Bagby, of the Democratic party, who, on the previous night, had solemnly called God to witness that he believed Congress had no constitutional power to admit a foreign State into the Union, nor to acquire foreign territory, but that the territory must be first acquired through the treaty making power, and then Congress could act upon the subject. The chair then announced the question to be on the adoption of the amendment. Messrs. Crittenden, Berrien, Archer, Morehead, and Woodbridge made most impressive appeals to the gentlemen to forbear to enact the deed of violence to the constitution they seemed determined to perpetuate; but all to no avail.

The question was taken, and the amendment adopted by a vote of 27 to 25, Messrs. Henderson, Johnson, and Merrick voting for it. The resolution, as amended, was then reported to the Senate, when the effort was renewed to get the amendment suited by Mr. Archer adopted, but without success. Mr. Berrien also suited a verbal amendment, by which the alternative left with the President, by the amendment adopted, to acquire Texas either by treaty or in virtue of the joint resolutions, would be stricken out and his action be confined to the negotiation of a treaty, but this proposition also failed. Mr. Miller then moved to amend by striking out all after the word Resolved in the joint resolutions from the house, and insert the bill suited by Mr. Benton at the last session of Congress, but that was voted down. The vote was then taken upon the passage of the bill, as amended, on which the vote was as before 27 to 25, and the bill was passed through all its stages. It would be sent to the House on the following day, where it was expected that it would instantly be adopted. The inaugural address of President Polk will now, therefore, be expected with anxiety. We look for it in the course of a day or two by the packet of the 6th instant.

The final vote in the Senate was as follows:


Mr. Pakenham had attended the Senate nightly, and was present, it is said, when the final vote was taken.

The Committee of Finance, in the Illinois House of Representatives, had reported a bill substantially agreeing to all the conditions required by the subscribers to the Canal loan, as reported by Messrs. Leavitt and Oakley.

Foreign exchange was in active demand for the packets of the first; the markets closed firm, at 109 3/4 to 110. Money was in demand. The rate "on call" was 5 to 6 per cent., and for discounts 5 1/2 to 7 per cent. per annum.

GLP]
The Congressional session closed on Monday, the 3d inst., and with it the official career of Mr. Tyler. On the following day the new President, Mr. Polk, entered formally on the discharge of his duties.

Previously the Oregon Bill from the House failed in the Senate, and the provisions for paying to the Mexican claimants the two installments said to have been paid by Mexico, but which the claimants have not received was passed.

The inauguration of Mr. Polk seems to have been regarded in Washington as a splendid show, and descriptions of the ceremony are given in the New York prints in the most glowing terms. The following is a copy of the inaugural address:

Fellow-Citizens:
Without solicitation on my part, I have been chosen by the free and voluntary suffrages of my countrymen to the most honorable and most responsible office on earth. I am deeply impressed with gratitude for the confidence reposed in me. Honored with this distinguished consideration at an earlier period of life than any of my predecessors, I can not disguise the diffidence with which I am about to enter on the discharge of my official duties.

If the more aged and experienced men who have filled the office of President of the United States even in the infancy of the Republic distanced their ability to discharge the duties of that exalted station, what ought not to be the apprehensions of one so much younger and less endowed now that our domain extends from ocean to ocean, that our people have so greatly increased in numbers, and at a time when so great diversity of opinion prevails in regard to the principles and policy which should characterize the administration of our Government? Well may the boldest fear and the wisest tremble when incurring responsibilities on which may depend our country's peace and prosperity, and in some degree the hopes and happiness of the whole human family.

In assuming responsibilities so vast I fervently invoke the aid of that Almighty Ruler of the Universe in whose hands are the destinies of nations and of men to guard this Heaven-favored land against the mischiefs which without His guidance might arise from an unwise public policy. With a firm reliance upon the Wisdom of Omnipotence to sustain and direct me in the path of duty which I am appointed to pursue, I stand in the presence of this assembled multitude of my countrymen to take upon myself the solemn obligation "to the best of my ability to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States."

A concise enumeration of the principles which will guide me in the administrative policy of the Government is not only in accordance with the examples set me by all my predecessors, but is eminently befitting the occasion. The Constitution itself, plainly written as it is, the safeguard of our federative compact, the offspring of concession and compromise, binding together in the bonds of peace and union this great and increasing family of free and independent States, will be the chart by which I shall be directed.

It will be my first care to administer the Government in the true spirit of that instrument, and to assume no powers not expressly granted or clearly implied in its terms. The Government of the United States is one of delegated and limited powers, and it is by a strict adherence to the clearly granted powers and by abstaining from the exercise of doubtful or unauthorized implied powers that we have the only sure guaranty against the recurrence of those unfortunate collisions between the Federal and State authorities which have occasionally so much disturbed the harmony of our system and even threatened the perpetuity of our glorious Union.

"To the States, respectively, or to the people" have been reserved "the powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution nor prohibited by it to the States." Each State is a complete sovereignty within the sphere of its reserved powers. The Government of the United States is one of delegated and limited powers, and it is by a strict adherence to the clearly granted powers and by abstaining from the exercise of doubtful or unauthorized implied powers that we have the only sure guaranty against the recurrence of those unfortunate collisions between the Federal and State authorities which have occasionally so much disturbed the harmony of our system and even threatened the perpetuity of our glorious Union.

To the Government of the United States has been intrusted the exclusive management of our foreign affairs. Beyond that it wields a few general enumerated powers. It does not force reform on the States. It leaves individuals, over whom it casts its protecting influence, entirely free to improve their own condition by the legitimate exercise of all their mental and physical powers. It is a common protector
This most admirable and wisest system of well-regulated self-government among men ever devised by human minds has been tested by its successful operation for more than half a century, and if preserved from the usurpations of the Federal Government on the one hand and the exercise by the States of powers not reserved to them on the other, will, I fervently hope and believe, endure for ages to come and dispense the blessings of civil and religious liberty to distant generations. To effect objects so dear to every patriot I shall devote myself with anxious solicitude. It will be my desire to guard against that most fruitful source of danger to the harmonious action of our system which consists in substituting the mere discretion and caprice of the Executive or of majorities in the legislative department of the Government for powers which have been withheld from the Federal Government by the Constitution. By the theory of our Government majorities rule, but this right is not an arbitrary or unlimited one. It is a right to be exercised in subordination to the Constitution and in conformity to it. One great object of the Constitution was to restrain majorities from oppressing minorities or encroaching upon their just rights. Minorities have a right to appeal to the Constitution as a shield against such oppression.

That the blessings of liberty which our Constitution secures may be enjoyed alike by minorities and majorities, the Executive has been wisely invested with a qualified veto upon the acts of the Legislature. It is a negative power, and is conservative in its character. It acts for the time hasty, inconsiderate, or unconstitutional legislation; it invites reconsideration, and transfers questions at issue between the legislative and executive departments to the tribunal of the people. Like all other powers, it is subject to be abused. When judiciously and properly exercised, the Constitution itself may be saved from infraction and the rights of all preserved and protected.

The inestimable value of our Federal Union is felt and acknowledged by all. By this system of united and confederated States our people are permitted collectively and individually to seek their own happiness in their own way, and the consequences have been most auspicious. Since the Union was formed the number of the States has increased from thirteen to twenty-eight; two of these have taken their position as members of the Confederacy within the last week. Our population has increased from three to twenty millions. New communities and States are seeking protection under its aegis, and multitudes from the Old World are flocking to our shores to participate in its blessings. Beneath its benign sway peace and prosperity prevail. Freed from the burdens and miseries of war, our trade and intercourse have extended throughout the world. Mind, no longer tasked in devising means to accomplish or resist schemes of ambition, usurpation, or conquest, is devoting itself to man's true interests in developing his faculties and powers and the capacity of nature to minister to his enjoyments. Genius is free to announce its inventions and discoveries, and the hand is free to accomplish whatever the head conceives not incompatible with the rights of a fellow-being. All distinctions of birth or of rank have been abolished. All citizens, whether native or adopted, are placed upon terms of precise equality. All are entitled to equal rights and equal protection. No union exists between church and state, and perfect freedom of opinion is guaranteed to all sects and creeds.

These are some of the blessings secured to our happy land by our Federal Union. To perpetuate them it is our sacred duty to preserve it. Who shall assign limits to the achievements of free minds and free hands under the protection of this glorious Union? No treason to mankind since the organization of society would be equal in atrocity to that of him who would lift his hand to destroy it. He would overthrow the noblest structure of human wisdom, which protects himself and his fellow-man. He would stop the progress of free government and involve his country either in anarchy or despotism. He would extinguish the fire of liberty, which warms and animates the hearts of happy millions and invites all the nations of the earth to imitate our example. If he say that error and wrong are committed in the administration of the Government, let him remember that nothing human can be perfect, and that under no other system of government revealed by Heaven or devised by man has reason been allowed so free and broad a scope to combat error. Has the sword of despots proved to be a safer or surer instrument of reform in government than enlightened reason? Does he expect to find among the ruins of this Union a happier abode for our swarming millions than they now have under it? Every lover of his country must shudder at the thought of the possibility of its dissolution, and will be ready to adopt the patriotic sentiment, "Our Federal Union—it must be preserved." To preserve it the compromises which alone enabled our fathers to form a common constitution for the government and protection of so many States and
distinct communities, of such diversified habits, interests, and domestic institutions, must be sacredly and religiously observed. Any attempt to disturb or destroy these compromises, being terms of the compact of union, can lead to none other than the most ruinous and disastrous consequences.

It is a source of deep regret that in some sections of our country misguided persons have occasionally indulged in schemes and agitations whose object is the destruction of domestic institutions existing in other sections—establishments which existed at the adoption of the Constitution and were recognized and protected by it. All must see that if it were possible for them to be successful in attaining their object the dissolution of the Union and the consequent destruction of our happy form of government must speedily follow.

I am happy to believe that at every period of our existence as a nation there has existed, and continues to exist, among the great mass of our people a devotion to the Union of the States which will shield and protect it against the moral treason of any who would seriously contemplate its destruction. To secure a continuance of that devotion the compromises of the Constitution must not only be preserved, but sectional jealousies and heartburnings must be discountenanced, and all should remember that they are members of the same political family, having a common destiny. To increase the attachment of our people to the Union, our laws should be just. Any policy which shall tend to favor monopolies or the peculiar interests of sections or classes must operate to the prejudice of the interest of their fellow-citizens, and should be avoided. If the compromises of the Constitution be preserved, if sectional jealousies and heartburnings be discountenanced, if our laws be just and the Government be practically administered strictly within the limits of power prescribed to it, we may discard all apprehensions for the safety of the Union.

With these views of the nature, character, and objects of the Government and the value of the Union, I shall steadily oppose the creation of those institutions and systems which in their nature tend to pervert it from its legitimate purposes and make it the instrument of sections, classes, and individuals. We need no national banks or other extraneous institutions planted around the Government to control or strengthen it in opposition to the will of its authors. Experience has taught us how unnecessary they are as auxiliaries of the public authorities—how impotent for good and how powerful for mischief.

Ours was intended to be a plain and frugal government, and I shall regard it to be my duty to recommend to Congress and, as far as the Executive is concerned, to enforce by all the means within my power the strictest economy in the expenditure of the public money which may be compatible with the public interests.

A national debt has become almost an institution of European monarchies. It is viewed in some of them as an essential prop to existing governments. Melancholy is the condition of that people whose government can be sustained only by a system which periodically transfers large amounts from the labor of the many to the coffers of the few. Such a system is incompatible with the ends for which our republican Government was instituted. Under a wise policy the debts contracted in our Revolution and during the War of 1812 have been happily extinguished. By a judicious application of the revenues not required for other necessary purposes, it is not doubted that the debt which has grown out of the circumstances of the last few years may be speedily paid off.

I congratulate my fellow-citizens on the entire restoration of the credit of the General Government of the Union and that of many of the States. Happy would it be for the indebted States if they were freed from their liabilities, many of which were incautiously contracted. Although the Government of the Union is neither in a legal nor a moral sense bound for the debts of the States, and it would be a violation of our compact of union to assume them, yet we can not but feel a deep interest in seeing all the States meet their public liabilities and pay off their just debts at the earliest practicable period. That they will do so as soon as it can be done without imposing too heavy burdens on their citizens there is no reason to doubt. The sound moral and honorable feeling of the people of the indebted States can not be questioned, and we are happy to perceive a settled disposition on their part, as their ability returns after a season of unexampled pecuniary embarrassment, to pay off all just demands and to acquiesce in any reasonable measures to accomplish that object.

One of the difficulties which we have had to encounter in the practical administration of the Government consists in the adjustment of our revenue laws and the levy of the taxes necessary for the support of Government. In the general proposition that no more money shall be collected than the necessities of an economical administration shall require all parties seem to acquiesce. Nor does there seem to be
any material difference of opinion as to the absence of right in the Government to tax one section of country, or one class of citizens, or one occupation, for the mere profit of another. "Justice and sound policy forbid the Federal Government to foster one branch of industry to the detriment of another, or to cherish the interests of one portion to the injury of another portion of our common country." I have heretofore declared to my fellow-citizens that "in my judgment it is the duty of the Government to extend, as far as it may be practicable to do so, by its revenue laws and all other means within its power, fair and just protection to all of the great interests of the whole Union, embracing agriculture, manufactures, the mechanic arts, commerce, and navigation." I have also declared my opinion to be "in favor of a tariff for revenue," and that "in adjusting the details of such a tariff I have sanctioned such moderate discriminating duties as would produce the amount of revenue needed and at the same time afford reasonable incidental protection to our home industry," and that I was "opposed to a tariff for protection merely, and not for revenue." The power "to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises" was an indispensable one to be conferred on the Federal Government, which without it would possess no means of providing for its own support. In executing this power by levying a tariff of duties for the support of Government, the raising of revenue should be the object and protection the incident. To reverse this principle and make protection the object and revenue the incident would be to inflict manifest injustice upon all other than the protected interests. In levying duties for revenue it is doubtless proper to make such discriminations within the revenue principle as will afford incidental protection to our home interests. Within the revenue limit there is a discretion to discriminate; beyond that limit the rightful exercise of the power is not conceded. The incidental protection afforded to our home interests by discriminations within the revenue range it is believed will be ample. In making discriminations all our home interests should as far as practicable be equally protected. The largest portion of our people are agriculturists. Others are employed in manufactures, commerce, navigation, and the mechanic arts. They are all engaged in their respective pursuits and their joint labors constitute the national or home industry. To tax one branch of this home industry for the benefit of another would be unjust. No one of these interests can rightfully claim an advantage over the others, or to be enriched by impoverishing the others. All are equally entitled to the fostering care and protection of the Government. In exercising a sound discretion in levying discriminating duties within the limit prescribed, care should be taken that it be done in a manner not to benefit the wealthy few at the expense of the toiling millions by taxing lowest the necessaries of life, or articles of superior quality and high price, which can only be consumed by the wealthy, and highest the necessaries of life, or articles of coarse quality and low price, which the poor and great mass of our people must consume. The burdens of government should as far as practicable be distributed justly and equally among all classes of our population. These general views, long entertained on this subject, I have deemed it proper to reiterate. It is a subject upon which conflicting interests of sections and occupations are supposed to exist, and a spirit of mutual concession and compromise in adjusting its details should be cherished by every part of our widespread country as the only means of preserving harmony and a cheerful acquiescence of all in the operation of our revenue laws. Our patriotic citizens in every part of the Union will readily suit to the payment of such taxes as shall be needed for the support of their Government, whether in peace or in war, if they are so levied as to distribute the burdens as equally as possible among them.

The Republic of Texas has made known her desire to come into our Union, to form a part of our Confederacy and enjoy with us the blessings of liberty secured and guaranteed by our Constitution. Texas was once a part of our country--was unwisely ceded away to a foreign power--is now independent, and possesses an undoubted right to dispose of a part or the whole of her territory and to merge her sovereignty as a separate and independent state in ours. I congratulate my country that by an act of the late Congress of the United States the assent of this Government has been given to the reunion, and it only remains for the two countries to agree upon the terms to consummate an object so important to both.

I regard the question of annexation as belonging exclusively to the United States and Texas. They are independent powers competent to contract, and foreign nations have no right to interfere with them or to take exceptions to their reunion. Foreign powers do not seem to appreciate the true character of our Government. Our Union is a confederation of independent States, whose policy is peace with each other and all the world. To enlarge its limits is to extend the dominions of peace over additional territories and increasing millions. The world has nothing to fear from military ambition in our Government. While the Chief Magistrate and the popular branch of Congress are elected for short terms by the suffrages of those millions who must in their own persons bear all the burdens and miseries of war, our Government can not be otherwise than pacific. Foreign powers should therefore look on the annexation of Texas to the United States not as the conquest of a nation seeking to extend her dominions by arms and violence, but as the peaceful acquisition of a territory once
and yet no opportunity will be lost to cultivate a favorable understanding with foreign countries. All alliances having a tendency to jeopard the welfare and honor of our country or sacrifice any one of the national interests will be studiously avoided, watchfulness. Equal and exact justice should characterize all our intercourse with respect for the rights of other nations, while our own will be the subject of constant stipulations should be sacredly respected.

Union. In the meantime every obligation imposed by treaty or conventional part of our territory can not be long delayed, within the sphere of our federative facilities of intercourse will easily bring the States, of which the formation in that them in the distant regions which they have selected for their homes. The increasing increasing markets for their products.

To Texas the reunion is important, because the strong protecting arm of our Government would be extended over her, and the vast resources of her fertile soil and genial climate would be speedily developed, while the safety of New Orleans and of our whole southwestern frontier against hostile aggression, as well as the interests of the whole Union, would be promoted by it.

In the earlier stages of our national existence the opinion prevailed with some that our system of confederated States could not operate successfully over an extended territory, and serious objections have at different times been made to the enlargement of our boundaries. These objections were earnestly urged when we acquired Louisiana. Experience has shown that they were not well founded. The title of numerous Indian tribes to vast tracts of country has been extinguished; new States have been admitted into the Union; new Territories have been created and our jurisdiction and laws extended over them. As our population has expanded, the Union has been cemented and strengthened. AS our boundaries have been enlarged and our agricultural population has been spread over a large surface, our federative system has acquired additional strength and security. It may well be doubted whether it would not be in greater danger of overthrow if our present population were confined to the comparatively narrow limits of the original thirteen States than it is now that they are sparsely settled over a more expanded territory. It is confidently believed that our system may be safely extended to the utmost bounds of our territorial limits, and that as it shall be extended the bonds of our Union, so far from being weakened, will become stronger. None can fail to see the danger to our safety and future peace if Texas remains an independent state or becomes an ally or dependency of some foreign nation more powerful than herself. Is there one among our citizens who would not prefer perpetual peace with Texas to occasional wars, which so often occur between bordering independent nations? Is there one who would not prefer free intercourse with her to high duties on all our products and manufactures which enter her ports or cross her frontiers? Is there one who would not prefer an unrestricted communication with her citizens to the frontier obstructions which must occur if she remains out of the Union? Whatever is good or evil in the local institutions of Texas will remain her own whether annexed to the United States or not. None of the present States will be responsible for them any more than they are for the local institutions of each other. They have confederated together for certain specified objects. Upon the same principle that they would refuse to form a perpetual union with Texas because of her local institutions our forefathers would have been prevented from forming our present Union. Perceiving no valid objection to the measure and many reasons for its adoption vitally affecting the peace, the safety, and the prosperity of both countries, I shall on the broad principle which formed the basis and produced the adoption of our Constitution, and not in any narrow spirit of sectional policy, endeavor by all constitutional, honorable, and appropriate means to consummate the expressed will of the people and Government of the United States by the reannexation of Texas to our Union at the earliest practicable period.

Nor will it become in a less degree my duty to assert and maintain by all constitutional means the right of the United States to that portion of our territory which lies beyond the Rocky Mountains. Our title to the country of the Oregon is "clear and unquestionable," and already are our people preparing to perfect that title by occupying it with their wives and children. But eighty years ago our population was confined on the west by the ridge of the Alleghanies. Within that period--within the lifetime, I might say--of some of my hearers--our people, increasing to many millions, have filled the eastern valley of the Mississippi, adventurously ascended the Missouri to its headsprings, and are already engaged in establishing the blessings of self-government in valleys of which the rivers flow to the Pacific. The world beholds the peaceful triumphs of the industry of our emigrants. To us belongs the duty of protecting them adequately wherever they may be upon our soil. The jurisdiction of our laws and the benefits of our republican institutions should be extended over them in the distant regions which they have selected for their homes. The increasing facilities of intercourse will easily bring the States, of which the formation in that part of our territory can not be long delayed, within the sphere of our federative Union. In the meantime every obligation imposed by treaty or conventional stipulations should be sacredly respected.

In the management of our foreign relations it will be my aim to observe a careful respect for the rights of other nations, while our own will be the subject of constant watchfulness. Equal and exact justice should characterize all our intercourse with foreign countries. All alliances having a tendency to jeopard the welfare and honor of our country or sacrifice any one of the national interests will be studiously avoided, and yet no opportunity will be lost to cultivate a favorable understanding with
foreign governments by which our navigation and commerce may be extended and the ample products of our fertile soil, as well as the manufactures of our skillful artisans, find a ready market and remunerating prices in foreign countries.

In taking "care that the laws be faithfully executed," a strict performance of duty will be exacted from all public officers. From those officers, especially, who are charged with the collection and disbursement of the public revenue will prompt and rigid accountability be required. Any culpable failure or delay on their part to account for the moneys intrusted to them at the times and in the manner required by law will in every instance terminate the official connection of such defaulting officer with the Government.

Although in our country the Chief Magistrate must almost of necessity be chosen by a party and stand pledged to its principles and measures, yet in his official action he should not be the President of a part only, but of the whole people of the United States. While he executes the laws with an impartial hand, shrinks from no proper responsibility, and faithfully carries out in the executive department of the Government the principles and policy of those who have chosen him, he should not be unmindful that our fellow-citizens who have differed with him in opinion are entitled to the full and free exercise of their opinions and judgments, and that the rights of all are entitled to respect and regard.

Confidently relying upon the aid and assistance of the coordinate departments of the Government in conducting our public affairs, I enter upon the discharge of the high duties which have been assigned me by the people, again humbly supplicating that Divine Being who has watched over and protected our beloved country from its infancy to the present hour to continue His gracious benedictions upon us, that we may continue to be a prosperous and happy people.

The following extracts from the New York Herald give the prevailing rumours as to the formation of the new Cabinet:

Washington, March 1, 1845, 12 o'clock, Saturday.
Texas is triumphant, and Mr. Polk has already determined on at least two of his Cabinet. Mr. Calhoun retires to South Carolina to cultivate cotton and philosophy, having accomplished the work he undertook, that is, finished the Texas question, and put the Oregon in a proper train of settlement. The two Cabinet Ministers thus far determined on are -
James Buchanan, of Pennsylvania, Secretary of State.
Robert J. Walker, of Mississippi, Secretary of the Treasury.

March 8.
Annotation: Following this segment are several more rumors and corrections of rumors about the new Cabinet done in the style above. Also contained is a description of Polk's inauguration ceremony done in the style of describing the decorations on the street and so on. As such, these sentences are basically media fluff pieces and were left out.

[LGP]

LONDON, FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 1845.

If Mr. TYLER strained every nerve in the singular race which has recently taken place between the late and the present Chief Magistrate of the United States to consummate the work which his administration brought to maturity, and to gratify the passions he had roused, it must be acknowledged that Mr. POLK treads very closely upon his predecessor's heels. In the inaugural address delivered by the new President on the 4th of March, we find faithfully reproduced all the worst characteristics of the American statesmen who have been in power since the withdrawal of Mr. WEBSTER from the Cabinet of Washington. If Mr. POLK was chosen as the thorough representative of the party which makes slavery, repudiation, and foreign aggression its claims to distinction, we are bound to acknowledge that he has not swerved from the intentions of his constituents. His language on all these subjects has the same unblushing impudence which belonged to his predecessors, and which we had fondly imagined that no one else could rival; but in his mouth it has this very serious aggravation, that it convinces us he is prepared to begin where the others leave off. We had carefully guarded ourselves against any preconceptions
hostile to Mr. POLK; and we had endeavoured to persuade ourselves that we should find more moderation in his own conduct than in that of his adherents; but the indulgent illusion is completely dispelled by the first words he utters, and the anxiety which was incessantly awakened by Mr. TYLER's strange and incongruous efforts, is rendered indefinitely greater by declarations from the new PRESIDENT of at least equal violence, and, we fear, much more significance.

One of the first sentiments uttered by Mr. POLK, after an exordium, in which "the most admirable "and wisest system of well-regulated self-government among men ever devised by human minds" receives a very ample panegyric, is that of "deep regret at the schemes and agitations of misguided persons, whose "object is the destruction of domestic institutions existing in other sections of the country." Amongst nations the expression "domestic institutions" designates all that is sacred among men; in the United States it expresses that state of bondage which is most abhorred by the free - that system of slavery which other countries have practised, which some have renounced, which all deplore, but which the politicians of America have alone the courage to eulogize and defend.

Mr. POLK reserves his compassion, however, for other objects. "Happy would it be," says he, "for "indebted states if they were freed from their liabilities, many of which were incautiously contracted." That sentiment will, indeed, find an echo in every debtor's gaol all over the world! We who feel for slaves more than for slave-owners, are apt to think unpaid creditors even more to be pitied than profligate debtors; but in the New World these things are reversed. "The sound, moral, and honourable feeling of "the people of the indebted states cannot be questioned," says the PRESIDENT; but whilst sympathies and eulogies are showered upon them, what with one recent exception, is become of their unpaid dividends?

After two such paragraphs as these, our readers will not be surprised at anything that may follow, more especially with reference to the foreign relations of the Union. A lie repeated after it has been contradicted, and scouted by all well-informed and honest men, is a lie raised to a higher power - the square of a lie. Mr. TYLER intimated in a message some time ago that doubts were entertained by some whether Texas had not originally formed part of the territory of the United States, and been improperly alienated from them; but Mr. POLK resolutely affirms, that "Texas was once a part of our country, was "unwisely ceded away to a foreign Power, is now independent, and possesses an undoubted right to merge "her sovereignty in ours." The whole assertion is utterly groundless - first, because Texas formed no part of Louisiana when sold by France; and, secondly, because the boundary treaty which Spain concluded in 1819 definitively wiped out all such equivocal claims forever. But in this discussion no argument is practicable; the wolf is resolved on seizing his prey, and it signifies but little that the lamb stood drinking lower down the brook. Mr. POLK holds somewhat similar, though less precise, language, as to the Oregon territory. He pledges himself at the very outset of his career, and with the full knowledge that negotiations are actually going on between his Cabinet and Great Britain, that the American title to the country of Oregon is clear and unquestionable. But it may spare time likely to be consumed in a very unprofitable discussion, if we express an opinion, at least as decided as his own, that, in spite of his marauders, and what he terms his constitutional rights, the territory of the Oregon will never be wrested from the British Crown, to which it belongs, but by WAR. Mr. POLK avers, that to enlarge the limits of the Union is to extend the dominion of peace over additional territories and increasing millions; but he will find that when they are so far extended as to include the rightful possessions of the British empire, they will encounter the hostility and the resolution of a people not inferior to the populace of the United States in spirit or in resources.

Under all these circumstances, when the fire kindled by Mr. TYLER and Mr. CALHOUN seems likely to blaze up into a conflagration, and when an immediate collision with Mexico is the most probable result of the late vote of the Senate, it is strange that even the Minister by whose activity and hardihood this mischief has been concocted, should be swept away from his post. Such, however, is the fact. Mr. CALHOUN loses his power quite as effectually as Mr. TYLER himself. A new Cabinet is to come into office with the new PRESIDENT and the new Senate; and though the late Ministers would

"Sic vos non vobis sidificatis aves\n"Sic vos non vobis vellera fertis oves
"Sic vos non vobis mellificatis apes." [GLP]
The revolution is over, and perhaps a more moral one has never been effected in any country. Santa Anna, at the head of the whole available military force, after having committed a thousand atrocities in the shape of malversation and Turkish despotism, thought proper to dissolve the Congress, and virtually have himself declared Dictator. A universal burst of indignation hailed this measure, and the country rose en masse to resist it. Every city, town, and village armed itself, and whilst he, full of confidence, was threatening destruction to all those obnoxious to his cause, and by marches and counter-marches vainly thinking to strike terror into the disaffected country, animated every day by a greater abhorrence of his tyranny, found itself in a state to resist him, and bid him defiance. At length he attacked Puebla, and was driven out after having reached the grand place; in the mean time the Provisional Government had collected a respectable force, which, full of enthusiasm, was by extraordinary marches endeavouring to fall upon him, while he no sooner learnt the approach of his enemies than he fled like a coward, abandoning his friends and followers, already harassed by fatigue, long marches, and want of provisions, to their fate. He set off accompanied by four servants, and was captured at Jeco, near Jalapa, by a handful of rural militia, and conveyed to that city, and is now on his way to Mexico, escorted by his own men, to take his trial and await the condign punishment he most justly deserves. Many persons have performed acts of heroism which would not have disgraced the great men of Greece and Rome; in short, the affair has been conducted throughout in a manner that would have reflected honour on the most civilized nations: and I should say that a better state of things may consequently be expected. The foreign merchants here perhaps would have liked the revolution to have lasted somewhat longer, for on all the advances they have been able to make the Custom-house on account of duties, they are allowed a premium of 20 per cent., and this is a very sure operation, as they repay themselves out of the first duties due to the Custom-house from them. A conducta is to leave Mexico on the 1st proximo, which will be eagerly looked for at Vera Cruz, where money is very scarce at this moment."  [GLP]

LT March 31, 1845, 4a Oregon

LONDON, MONDAY, MARCH 31, 1845.

The question arising out of the conflicting claims of this country and the United States to the Oregon territory is essentially different from all the ordinary topics connected with our foreign political relations, and it involves the most serious consequences to both countries and to the world. It is, upon the whole, a fortunate circumstance, and in these days, we must add, an honourable distinction of the people of this country, that we are accustomed to watch the vicissitudes of affairs abroad without passion and without apprehensions, confiding in the vigilance of our own Government for the protection of British interests, but caring very little for the onerous and unprofitable kind of ascendency which is to be acquired by eager meddling in foreign affairs. The first lesson which the plain common sense of England would read to a Minister is to abstain from committing the country by an indiscreet solicitude in managing matters in which success brings with it no reward, and defeat entails humiliation and danger. In all such cases, as we have repeatedly had occasion to remark when such instances have occurred, or when the Opposition has laboured to make them occur, the indirect advantage of a diplomatic triumph or a military flourish is far too dearly purchased by the positive and direct danger of war, and the irritated feelings which such manifestations of power and activity leave behind them.

Will anyone be able to believe a few years hence, that for the sake of restoring to the SULTAN the province of Syria, and humiliating the Pasha of EGYPT, LORD PALMERSTON wasted the blood and treasure of England, and wantonly kindled a strife between ourselves and the French people, which no subsequent prudence or temper has been wholly able to quench? The events of 1840 are a memorable example of what is to be gained, and what is to be lost, by a foreign policy of this impertinent officious kind; and the warning of such success has not been lost on any one but the authors of that notable scheme, who have indeed their reward.

But the more we are disposed to contest the propriety of mixing ourselves up in foreign disputes or revolutions, in which we have no direct interest or concern, except when it can be done under the milder form of mediation and advice, the more we would reserve all the energy and power of this country for those cases which do directly affect us, and in such cases the more resolutely would we have them
In the employment of such resources, the country expects from the Government the greatest forbearance, and the greatest resolution if the case be one in which forbearance is weakness. It needs no argument to prove that a direct aggression on the territorial rights of the British Crown is of all such cases the strongest. Yet if the language of the American President is intended to convey more than an empty threat, such an aggression is contemplated by the Cabinet which has just been formed in Washington. Mr. POLK announces his conviction that the American title to the country of the Oregon is clear and unquestionable, and that his fellow-citizens are already preparing to perfect that title by occupying it with their wives and children. This patriarchal mode of going up into this new land of Goshen is certainly no violation of the existing treaty; but when the President goes on to speak of "the jurisdiction of our laws, the benefits of our republican institutions, and the formation of states in that part "of our territory within the sphere of our Federal Union," he misinterprets the true nature of our agreement on the subject.

This case may be stated in a very few words. When the dispute, which arose in 1789 between Great Britain and Spain, with regard to the possession of Nootka Sound, and the right to make settlements on the north-west coast of America, was amicably terminated by the Treaty of the Escurial, the state of that remote region rendered such an arrangement practicable. The Whigs ridiculed it at the time, and Mr. GREY observed, that "in every place in which we might settle access was left for the Spaniards; where we "might form a settlement on one hill, they might erect a fort upon another, &c."

But, in point of fact, at that time and for half a century afterwards, the recognition of a joint abstract right was sufficient to prevent a collision, since neither state was likely to make an active use of it, and the country was not yet opened practically to the operations of commerce or the authority of a government. It is contended, indeed, on the part of the >United States, that the Treaty of the Escurial was abrogated by the declaration of war between Spain and Great Britain in 1796, and that it was never renewed; inasmuch that when Spain ceded to the United States all her titles to land north of the 42nd parallel of latitude, by the Treaty of Florida signed in 1819, she ceded those titles, not as limited and defined by the treaty of 1790, but as they existed before that treaty. The argument is bad, for the Treaty of the Escurial, being in the nature of a convention declaratory of existing rights, was clearly not liable to be abrogated by a subsequent declaration of war, and it was certainly held to be in force by both Spain and Great Britain after the cessation of their hostilities. But this American argument would rather strengthen than diminish the British claims, for the Treaty of the Escurial was a compromise, and if it be held to have been rescinded, then the British rights become absolute as they were before it existed. The main point, however, in which we would now insist is, that this, and every other arrangement since made with the United States, was essentially temporary in its nature. Joint occupancy is only possible as long as no real sovereignty is exercised. Indeed, in the course of the negotiations between the two Governments in 1827, the British Commissioners proposed that the convention of 1818 should be renewed for a term, with the condition that "neither of the contracting parties should assume or exercise any right of exclusive sovereignty or "dominion over any part of the said country." This suggestion was rejected by Mr. GALLATIN. Each party, then, retains an unquestionable right of making settlements, and even of exercising what is called sovereignty, in the Oregon territory; but it is evident that as soon as both parties proceed to exercise rights, which exclude each other in practice, a collision must ensue. The time is come when such a temporary arrangement has ceased to be possible or secure; but a temporary arrangement can only be terminated in two ways - either by a convention settling the disputed amount of territory and drawing a fixed boundary, or by a recurrence to that state of things in which force alone can between two absolute claimants. If the negotiations undertaken between Mr. HUSKISSON and Mr. GALLATIN in 1826 led to no more satisfactory result than a renewal of the temporary convention of 1818; it is most improbable that any negotiation will now terminate more successfully, unless it turn upon the arbitration of a third Power. This expedient is, however, rejected by the Americans; and the tone of Mr. POLK's address does not lead us to suppose that he would even adhere to the ultimatum of 1826, which was the prolongation of the frontier along the 49th parallel of N. latitude from the point at which it now terminates to the Pacific.
Our position in the matter is a defensive, though not altogether a passive one. England desires an amicable adjustment; but if that be rendered impossible, the untractable policy of her opponent, the aggressive conduct of the American Government, and the unparalleled language of the PRESIDENT, suffice to prepare us for the other alternative. The rights of British subjects in the country of the Oregon must of course be defended; and, indeed, the British positions are sufficiently strong to defend themselves from any sudden attack likely to be made upon them; but if any such attack be made by an American citizen, the American Government must, of course, be held responsible for it, and the people of the United States must take the consequences.

LT April 10, 1845 5f US, Mexican ministers demands his passport and leaves

DEPARTURE OF THE MEXICAN MINISTER.
WASHINGTON, MARCH 9.

General Almonte yesterday demanded his passport, accompanying the demand with a note, in which he set forth the wrong done to Mexico by the course of this Government in the annexation of Texas, and declaring as a necessary consequence thereof the termination of all diplomatic relations between the two countries--leaving it to his own Government to decide upon any ulterior measures. He at the same time addressed a circular to the foreign diplomatic corps here, informing them of the step he had taken, and furnishing them with copies of a protest he had felt himself obliged to present against the course of the Government of the United States.

To all who have attentively followed the question, this step on the part of the Mexican Minister seemed inevitable. He had in advance, and in conformity with instructions from his Government, notified our Secretary of State that they act to annex to the United States a province of Mexico--and so he and his Government consider and describe Texas--would be looked upon as an act of hostility to Mexico.

In utter disregard of this warning, Texas has been annexed, so far as our legislation can effect it; and, consistently with his previous annunciation, General Almonte now proclaims that his mission is terminated. It is quite possible, not to say probable, that this step has been taken, after vain efforts, indirectly, on the part of the other foreign legations, to produce delay. But General Almonte was committed both by his antecedents and by his instructions, and could delay no longer. The public giving out is, that he will embark from New York on the 20th instant, but his health will not, I think, admit of his leaving here so early. He is just recovering from a severe malady, and is by no means in a condition to travel.

A Cabinet Council was, it is understood, held last evening, and another has been held today, in relation to this business. The result, of course, is unknown. The passports will be granted, and the American Minister in Mexico will, as a matter of course, have his sent to him by the Mexican Government, the moment the news reaches there--and thus the two Governments will be without means of Intercommunication in the ordinary form.

The circular addressed by General Almonte to the other foreign legations led to a conference among them, and it is understood as the general result on all hands that moderation was to be enjoined. All deprecated hostilities between the United States and Mexico, and especially were the British legation desirous that any such result should be avoided, and the opinion upon the whole seemed to be that war ought not to ensue, and therefore would not ensue.

In coming to this conclusion, however, much reliance was placed upon the character and composition of the actual Government of Mexico. On all hands it was admitted that if Santa Anna were still in power war would be inevitable. But when he fell, a class of men, moderate, less ambitious, and better instructed, were called to the charge of the government, and the hope was entertained, looking to the distracted state of Mexico, to its feebleness, and its wants, that she might, if proper measures were taken by our Government, be persuaded to consider the whole to honour--if wound there be--and the question of boundaries might be adjusted by that potent resolver of difficulties, individual and national--money.

The facts here stated may be implicitly relied on; the inferences must pass for what they are worth. It is certain that all diplomatic intercourse between the two countries is suspended. It is certain, I presume, that Mexico will not pay another dollar of the indemnities stipulated by treaty; but whether she will go beyond that remains to be
It has been the habit among us of asserting that the British Government was fomenting the difficulties between us and Mexico relative to Texas. It would not very much surprise me, if it should eventually turn out—if we are so fortunate as to avoid war—that is owing to British interposition with Mexico. England knows that a war in the Gulf of Mexico cannot be without injury to her, nor without great risk to the peace of the world. She knows that "the cankers of a long peace and a calm world" are only awaiting the chance of an outbreak somewhere to render it general; and therefore quite as much, we readily admit, from interest as from conscience, she would discountenance Mexico in any hostile purpose. Moreover letters of marque, or commissions to privateers such as Mexico would grant, could not be otherwise than formidable even to neutral commerce, which that of England would be, under the circumstances. Hence we say, without any fear of contradiction, that the policy and the interests of England alike combine in favour of peace.

But, on the other hand, I must in all frankness say, that some of our own most sagacious men express great solicitude about the result. They anticipate that the popular feeling in Mexico against annexation and the antipathy against this country will overpower the Moderados in charge of the government, and that is spite of their prudence they may be driven into hostilities; and for hostilities, even upon the humblest scale, we are wholly unprepared, for this Congress, while provoking war, have actually curtailed all the appropriations for the means of war.

[JSW]

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(From a New York Paper.)

The recent action of our National Legislature in regard to the annexation of Texas turns anxious attention to the proceedings of Mexico. That power proclaimed, repeatedly, and in the most emphatic terms, through her accredited agents, that the annexation of Texas to the United States would be regarded by her as a declaration of war. We have nevertheless, indulged the hope that the modified form in which this great act was consummated, and the reported good offices of the foreign Ministers resident at Washington, might prevent hostile action, and that the whole difficulty might be arranged by mutual negotiations.

This expectation was not a little strengthened by the fact that the Mexican Minister, up to Saturday morning, had not demanded his passports. This ground of hope, it will be seen is removed. The following letter, received in this city yesterday, is from a source which entitles, not only its statement of facts, but its slightest conjectures, to the most respectful consideration:


Mr. Almonte, the Mexican Minister, wrote a letter to the Secretary of State yesterday afternoon, announcing that his mission was closed, and demanding his passports. At the same time, he sent round a circular to the Ministers of other Governments here, protesting in strong language against the resolutions of the two houses for the annexation of Texas. He has said that he shall sail from New York on the 20th of this month.

The general opinion prevailing in the circle of the principal foreign Ministers resident here, and especially of those who have been in Mexico, and who are acquainted with the persons now in power in that country, there is reason to know, is, that Mexico will be remonstrate, protest, and denounce the proceeding in an angry manner, but that she will not commit any immediate breach of the peace. It has been reported that she may even go to the length of non-intercourse, but it is not thought by any of them she will resort immediately to war.

It is said that Mr. Pakenham and Mr. Calderon De La Barca, the Spanish Minister here, both of whom have been long in Mexico, speak very well of the persons now in power in Mexico. They say they are among the wisest and best of the public men in that ill-governed and ill-fated country. It is believed their temper will be pacific, so far as such a temper can be indulged in the excited and indignant state of feeling which it is admitted on all hands exists with all the Mexican people.
For one, I entertain serious fears. Mexico is smarting under a sharp sense of injury; and both Government and people may be willing to plunge into war, reckless of consequences, or counting on the sympathy of other states.

(From another private letter)


Yesterday, at 2 o’clock, the Mexican Minister, Almonte, sent a communication to the Department of State demanding his passports. At the same hour Almonte addressed a circular to the foreign Ministers near this Government, protesting against the joint resolutions of Congress in regard to Texas.

Last evening this matter was the subject of conversation in a circle composed of the leading foreign Ministers and members of our Senate. The present opinion seemed to be that Mexico would remonstrate, and manifest in many ways much indignation, but that it would all end in remonstrance and that she will take no hostile step whatever.

Mr. Pakenham has expressed an opinion that the affair with Mexico will not lead to hostilities. The granting of letters of marque by the Mexican Government would be opposed by the British Government. That proceeding would endanger British commerce, and often involve it in difficulty as well as our own.

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General Almonte, the Mexican Minister, at 8 o’clock yesterday, p.m. addressed a note to the State department, complaining of the late act of Congress resolving to annex Texas, which he considered an act of hostility to the Mexican Government, and in conclusion demanded his passports. In the course of the day General Almonte send a formal letter, addressed to all the Foreign Ministers near our Government, remonstrating in the name of Mexico against the resolutions of Congress for the admission of Texas. The letter is written with some poignancy, and displays no little shrewdness. It is the intention of General Almonte to sail from New York for his own country in the course of 10 days.

Last evening, at a concourse of the foreign Ministers, this subject was discussed. Though in some respects their opinions varied, in one they all agreed—that the men who now ruled the affairs of the Mexican nation had characters for intelligence and respectability. They were men of discretion and of experience; and though among the people Mexico there would be much exasperation, and no little complaint of the conduct of our Government, still they thought that the Administration would not recommend any hostile measure towards our nation. The most it would insist on would be an indemnification from our Treasury for the loss of Texas. Satisfied with this, it would abandon any belligerent intention towards our Government. It may be taken for certain that the Mexican Government will grant letters of marque by the Mexican Government would be opposed by the British Government. That proceeding would endanger British commerce, and often involved it in difficulty as well as our own.


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would be an indemnification from our Treasury for the loss of Texas. Satisfied with this, it would abandon any belligerent intention towards our Government. It may be taken for certain that the Mexican Government will grant no letters of marque—no licenses to affect our commerce. It is impossible that we should be embroiled with her in a naval warfare without implicating England, whose navigation would suffer as much as the American from such a state of things.

Mr. Pakenham is of opinion, as I am informed on good authority, that the only demand Mexico will make with any degree of pertinacity upon our Government will be the indemnification from our Treasury for the loss of her rights to the two Governments. Mexico already is indebted to our citizens, and with the released of that debt, and some additional gratuity, I have no doubt she would be inclined to cede all her rights in Texas to us, without regret.

The first annunciation of General Almonte's course may somewhat affect our funds; they cannot be seriously influenced, however, the true state of things is revealed. I entertain no suspicion of any rupture with Mexico.

(From the National Intelligencer.)

In confirmation of the reports which have been in circulation here, and have already found their way into the eastern papers, we learn that the Minister of Mexico to this country (General Almonte) has signified to this Government the termination of his mission, in consequence of the passage of the act for the annexation to the United States of the province of Texas.

He has addressed a letter to the Secretary of State, entering a solemn protest, in the name of his Government, against that law, which he declares to be an act of aggression the most unjust that modern history records, being, as he alleges, the spoliation of a friendly nation of a considerable part of its territory.

The Minister has further asked for his passports, it being his purpose to leave this city for New York as early as practicable, and there to embark for Mexico.

This step on the part of the Minister is, of course, only what every intelligent person knew would be the necessary consequence of the passage of the act of annexation.

[JSW]

LT April 10, 1845 6a Oregon Territory

THE OREGON TERRITORY

A letter from Multnomah city, Oregon territory, dated the 18th of June, 1844, says the Oregon Legislature convened in that city the day previous. This Legislature is formed by the citizens of the territory, and rests for its authority on a voluntary compact among the people, as in all primitive Governments. Since the General Government of the union has failed hitherto to extend its laws over that region, the emigrants have resorted to their natural rights, and formed a voluntary political association for themselves, as was the case in the early American colonies. Our old friend Judge Burnet is a member of the Oregon Legislature. The crops were very good in June last, especially the wheat crop, surpassing anything known on this side of the mountains. Labourers commanded $1 50c. per day, with board included. The improvements about the falls of Willamette were progressing rapidly. The emigrants were eager for the passage of the Oregon Bill, and insist upon the retention by our Government of every inch of that territory. There is sufficient pasturage for cattle during the whole year, and abundance of timber for building and other purposes. Produce commands a good price, being shipped to the Russian dominions and other points of the Pacific. Groceries, &c., can be purchased at different places in the territory, though at rather high prices at present, the Hudson's Bay Company commanding the market for such articles. In short, the first difficulties of an early settlement in a remote region have been removed, and without the aid or encouragement which our Government ought long ago to have afforded. It must be humiliating to every American that our country deserves, to a considerable extent, the reproach cast upon it by Great Britain with regard to the American colonies, and uttered by Colonel Barre in the House of Commons in 1775, when, in reply to the charge that these colonies has grown up under the protection of England, he declared that, instead of being nurtured and protected, they had increased in wealth, prosperity, and numbers, in spite of the neglect of those who were bound to aid and encourage them. So it has been with Oregon. Emigrants have gone thither,
encountered difficulties, opened improvements, made prosperous settlements, introduced the arts and comforts of civilized life, established schools, built churches, founded cities, engaged in commerce, established a colonial legislature, defended themselves against all encroachments--in a word, laid the foundations of a prosperous empire, in advance of any action by our Government. They now demand, as they have been demanding for years, that the protecting and sustaining arm of the Republic shall be extended to them. Although their greatest and best advocate, the lamented Linn, has paused from the stage of action, yet their cause still remains, strengthening yearly, and demanding with increased force the encouragement which the country could always give to its pioneers. [JSW]

LT April 14, 1845 5d Gen. Almonte's protest against the US

AMERICA

ARRIVAL OF THE CAMBRIA.

LIVERPOOL, SUNDAY.

The British and North American Royal mail steam-ship Cambria arrived in the Mersey at 4 o'clock this morning, bringing advices 13 days later than those received by the Montezuma, and her full complement of passengers. She sailed hence on the 4th ult., arrived out at Boston on the morning of the 18th, sailed from that city on her return on the 1st inst. And Halifax on the 3d, and made the run from the former port, including the usual detention at Halifax, in the remarkably short space of 11 1/2 days.

An attempt to bind President Polk to consummate annexation, through the treaty-making power, had failed in the Senate on the 10th ult.

We annex a copy of General Almonte's protest to the Executive against the annexation of Texas. The Minister, it is now said, intends to remain in New York until he receives fresh instructions from the new Mexican Administration, and he expresses openly his belief that war will ensue. The New York Herald states:--"That it is his intention to issue through the press, and place before the American people, not only the recent diplomatic correspondence between him and our Government, but a number of other views and considerations addressed to the American people against the policy, the justice, and the legality of the recent movements in favour of the annexation of Texas."

The protest of General Almonte is as follows:--

[Translation.]

"The undersigned, &c. has the honour to address the Hon. J. C. Calhoun, &c. for the purpose of making known to him the profound regret with which he has seen that the General Congress of the Union has passed a law consenting to and admitting into the American confederation the Mexican province of Texas.

"The undersigned had flattered himself that in this question the good sense and sound opinions of the citizens meet distinguished and experienced in the management of public affairs in this republic would have prevailed in the deliberations of the legislative body and of the union; but unfortunately this has not been the case, and, contrary to his hopes and most sincere wishes, he sees consummated by the American Government an act of aggression the most unjust which can be recalled in the annals of modern history, such as the spoilation of a friendly nation, like Mexico, of a considerable part of her territory.

"For these reasons the undersigned, in fulfillment of his instructions, finds himself obliged to protest, as he does accordingly protest, in the most solemn manner, in the name of his Government, against the law passed on the 28th of last month by the General Congress of the United States, and sanctioned on the 1st of the present month by the President of the said states, by which the province of Texas, an integral part of the Mexican territory, is allowed to be admitted into the American Union.

"The undersigned, in like manner, declares that the aforesaid law can in no manner invalidate the right which the Mexican nation possesses to recover the aforesaid
province of Texas, of which she is now unjustly despoined, and which right she will
sustain and enforce at all times by whatever means are in her power.

"The undersigned will say in conclusion to the hon. Secretary of State of the United
States, in order that, he may be pleased to inform the President of the said States of
the same, that in consequence of the law against which he has just protested, his
mission to this Government is terminated from to-day. Consequently, the
undersigned requests the hon. Secretary of State to be pleased to send him his
passports, as he has arranged to quit this city as soon as possible for New York.

"The undersigned, &c.

"Washington, March 6."

It appears, from the New Orleans Picayune of the 12th ult., that the Mexican consul
in that city, Senor Anangoiz, has also closed his relations with the United States.

The New York Herald says, "It is now certain, from the best information, that Mr.
Pakenham, the British Minister, has received instructions to open negotiations for a
new commercial treaty with this country, and we really hope our Government may
meet him half way." "We hear from Washington that Mr. Mason, of Virginia, is to be
reinstituted in the navy department, and that Mr. Bancroft will go to England as the
successor of Mr. Everett." Duff Green had returned to Washington.

The members of the diplomatic corps had waited upon the President of the United
States in a body and through their senior, the Minister of Russia, made an address to
him, on the occasion of his accession to the Presidency, expressive of the friendly
sentiments entertained towards the United States by the Sovereigns and
Governments whom they represent, and of their earnest desire to continue to
maintain the existing friendly and peaceful relations between this country and theirs;
to which address the President made a fitting reply, reciprocating these sentiments
on his part, as chief magistrate of his own country.

The Senate had closed the extra session. As the time limited for the confirmation of
the Zollverein treaty will expire before another session, it is of course permanently
lost. It is understood that the cause of the rejection was chiefly that it compelled a
reduction in the tariff on some articles, and thus interfered with what might be
considered the legislative action of Congress and the privileges of the other house.

Great satisfaction was felt at the recent changes in the British tariff.

The health of General Jackson is represented to be very precarious.

No accounts of the missing packet-ships have been received, and all doubt as to
their fate has now died away.

As regard Pennsylvanian affairs, the New York Herald states, that--

"The Appropriate Bill has passed one branch of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, and
there is no doubt but that it will pass the Senate by a large majority. This bill
provides for the payment of the interest on the funded debt, due in August, and the
current expenses of the state, after paying which, the interest on certain certificates
issued is to be paid. If the funds in the State Treasury on the 1st of August are not
sufficient to pay the full amount of interest due then, all demands of $50 and under
are to be paid in cash, and the balance to be divided pro rata , and certificates to be
given for the balance, to be paid on presentation out of the first monies received into
the Treasury. The solvency and credit of Pennsylvania may be considered
established upon a firm basis, and after another year the finances of the state will,
without doubt, be in a condition to liquidate every liability at maturity.

The Legislature of Michigan was still in session. The Legislatures of all the other
delinquent states had adjourned. In Michigan, a spirit to increase and improve the
internal works of the state ran very high, and grants of land had been made to
complete many now partly finished. The payment of the interest on the public debt
had not, and probably would not, be provided for this session.

The money-market was sound, active, and easy, and upon the whole, all looked well
and prosperous in the business condition of the country. The transactions in foreign
exchanges were extensive, the supply of bills extensive, and the market closed firm
at the quotations: on London, 109 5/8 to 109 ½fracs34;
We learn from Canada that the University Bill, granting equal privileges to all evangelical sects in the principal college of Canada West, which has heretofore been entirely under the control of the church of England, was carried on a second reading in the Assembly of the Provincial Parliament by a vote of 45 to 34. In the course of the debate Solicitor-General Sherwood and Inspector-General Robinson stated that they had placed their respective offices at the disposal of the Governor, in consequence of this having been made a Ministerial measure. His Excellency the Governor-General has accepted the Hon. Mr. Robinson's resignation. After it had been decided that the University Bills were not to be proceeded with this session, it was supposed the obstacle to Mr. Robinson's remaining in the Ministry had been removed.

The Customs Bill had passed. In connexion with this measure the Montreal Gazette says:--

"A New York paper says that the bill for allowing British and other goods to pass in bond through the United States has become law. We have considerable doubts that it will work, but if it does, it certainly will produce great changes in the commerce of this continent, and afford an additional reason for 'setting our house in order,' by establishing a railroad communication with the Atlantic.

"No doubt, however, is entertained that the measure will come into operation with the opening of the navigation, and it becomes our statesmen and merchants to direct their immediate attention to a matter which involves, not very remotely, the existence of our commercial cities, the revenues of our public works, the direct British trade, and with that protection and favour in the British markets. And it is a singular contrast, that while the Americans are passing an act for the purpose of securing to themselves the transit trade of the Canadas, the Canadians are doing all that legislation can do to repel the transit trade of the western states, and, not content with thwarting and abusing, as the enemies of the farmer, those who would attempt to secure them the manufacturing of American flour for the New England and West India markets, put an additional duty on that brought through for export to England; an act of folly for which it would be difficult to find a parallel."

The Provincial Parliament was to be prorogued on the 28th ultimo.

The town of Portland (suburb of St. John's, New Brunswick) had been the scene of a fierce riot. Four men were shot, one of whom is beyond recovery. The Royal Artillery, with field-pieces were called out, but before their arrival the ground was in possession of two companies of provincial troops, which restored order. The cause of this riot, for some reason or other, is not explained in the provincial papers. Religious prejudices are hinted at as the primary cause.

W. M'Leod, the Hon. G. Street, and Mr. John Allen had been provisionally appointed members of Her Majesty's Executive Council of New Brunswick.

The Texan advices by this arrival reach to the 8th ultimo. The Texan journalists were then beginning to discuss the annexation question in earnest: --

"The language of the papers generally," says the New York Commercial Advertiser, "indicates that there is either a genuine disposition to prefer the chances of a separate and independent national existence--rendered more favourable now by the strong probability that an amicable arrangement made be made with Mexico, consequent upon the overthrow of Santa Anna and the accession to power of men who are less under the influence of personal objects; or a belief, that the terms of annexation are really unjust and disadvantageous to Texas; or, finally, that a better speculation may be made by holding back and presenting a show of resistance; just as a man who has goods to sell, though willing to accept the price offered, affects indifference or reluctance, in hopes of making a still better bargain. We do not venture at present to offer an opinion on the question by which of these three possibilities the language of the Texan journals is instigated; but it will be admitted, we think, that if the tone of earnest indignation in which they speak is not sincere, it is at least exceedingly well counterfeited."

The following is from the Washington National (Texas), described as the Government organ:--

"If the people of Texas choose to revolutionize their Government and institute some new and different republican organization, they may do so without the leave of a foreign Government 'first had and obtained.' But the United States have acknowledged our title to be recognized as an independent nation, both de facto
and de jure. Should we adopt the course designed by their resolutions we at once lose the benefit of that acknowledgment. We pass into a state of imbecile and hopeless dependence upon that power--to be annexed!--certainly never, until their aspiring partisans shall cease to need the material we now furnish them for the manufacture of political capital. Our relations with other Governments dissolved, and our own nationality renounced, the United States may consent to hold--as they shall have consented to place us--in a state of penultimate but unaccomplished annexation!

"But even this consent of the American Congress, meagre and valueless as it is to the people of Texas, but for which we are required to give to the United States a lien upon our country's sovereignty--this worthless consent, as if begrudged to Texas, is eke out to her at a miser's usury, and is shackled with what lawyers call 'conditions precedent.' Passing by the required sacrifice of our right to adjust the boundaries of our territory, the consent of that Congress, even once more to entertain the Texas question, is coupled with the cold assurance, that it we are ever admitted into the Union at all, we must cede to the United States all our mines, minerals, salt lakes, and springs, also all our public edifices, fortifications, barracks, ports, and harbours, navy and navy yards, docks, magazines, arms, armaments, and all other property and means pertaining to the public defence.'

"We must also yield up our revenue and our capacity to raise one; which single item, under the financial regulations of our fostering step-mother, would bring into her treasure at least $300,00 per annum; for which we have her kind permission to retain our public debt and keep our public domain; subject, however, to the payment of the debt, and circumscribed within such limits as she may hereafter be pleased to assign to our territory, in the exercise of her characteristic and far-stretching diplomacy, which once reached even to the western banks in the Sabine! We must, however, truckle to her pet abolitionists, by obligating ourselves to prohibit slavery north of the parallel of 36 degrees 30 minutes, known as the Missouri compromise line.

"We have always been a warm and hearty advocate for the cause of annexation; but never did we dream that the approval of the people of Texas would be required to a proposition so absurd, so degrading, as the one propounded by this resolution. Our space does not now admit of further detail. Suffice it, that we contrast our present elevated position, as a people, secure in the respect and amity of the great, enlightened nations of the earth; secure in the enjoyment of peace, and in the speedy acquisition of acknowledged independence; secure in the wealth which the commerce of Europe is about to pour into our lap, and in the enjoyment of peace, and in the speedy acquisition of acknowledged independence; secure in the wealth which the commerce of Europe is about to pour into our lap, and in the increasing value of our lands, arising from extended occupation, and the investment of foreign capital; secure of becoming 'the most favoured' by those powerful and wealthy sovereignties whom both interest and policy impel to cherish our prosperity and growth, that their markets may be supplied with our staples; and secure that the increase of commerce will speedily render no less consistent than desirable a great diminution of the present tariff--with the alternative presented by this resolution, of Texas divested of all these high privileges and advantages; shorn of her attributes as a nation; crippled in her commerce, in her prosperity, in her domestic resources; depressed by the burdens of public debt and direct taxation; her land, in consequence, depreciated in value, and, in the event of final annexation on the proposed basis, our public domain not only razeed and mortgaged to secure the payment of our debt, but even eviscerated of its mineral wealth, to swell the federal treasury.

"This is indeed but a dim and totally inadequate view of the actual pit and grace of insignificance and infamy into which the House of Representatives of the American Congress have proposed to plunge this nation.

"Since he, miscalled the Morning Star,

"Norman nor fiend hath fall'n so far!"

The National Register remarks:--

"The removal of this duty on cotton will enable the British Government to throw vast commercial, advantages into the hands of the merchants and planters of Texas. We have every reason to believe that if we conclude to remain independent, this duty will be removed from all Texas cotton introduced into English ports, while it will be retained upon that produced in the United States. Under this discrimination in our favour may be also embraced sugar and tobacco. In this way our rivalship with the
United States will be almost instantly established. These great advantages could not fail to attract hither the planting capital of the southern states; for under such an arrangement they would gain by the change an increase of profits of not less than 40 per cent, per annum.

[JSW]

LT April 14, 1845 6b Mexico, revolution in

REVOLUTION IN MEXICO

The following graphic account of the occurrences in the city of Mexico which attended the overthrow of Santa Anna, is taken from one of the New York papers, and said to have been furnished by an eye-witness:--

"Pueblo, the second city in Mexico, at length 'pronounced.' The capital could no longer resist the contagion. Thousands, yes, tens of thousands, assembled in the Plaza, the great square in front of the Cathedral, and there sealed for ever the destiny of the late despotic President. Shouts of 'vivas' from twice ten thousand voices rent the air; clenched and uplifted hands and gesticulations of the most determined character indicated the deep-seated enthusiasm of the vast multitude. It was indeed a tremendous spectacle. I witnessed many men so impressed and affected at the sight that the tears were streaming down their faces. It was a motley scene; the Mexican gentlemen, the merchant, the lepero in his many-coloured sarape, the officer in his gorgeous regimentals, soldiers, crowds of young men, women, and boys--all combined to furnish a spectacle which those who witnessed it, and the intense enthusiasm which appeared to burn in every one, will never forget. The next day the plot thickened. As soon as it was fairly light multitudes assembled from all quarters; the streets Calle de Plateros and the Calle Monterella, were impassable for the vast crowd, who seemed stimulated to still greater enthusiasm than on the day preceding; they proceeded to destroy every statue, effigy, picture, or memorial of their late chief magistrate, who so long had ruled them with a rod of iron, whose word was law, whose will was inflexible and controllable by no man in Mexico.

"The populace first addressed itself to the beautiful column bearing Santa Anna on the summit, recently erected in the market-place. He was represented in a graceful attitude with outstretched arm, and his forefinger pointing towards Texas, as if to animate his countrymen in the re-conquest of that country. The statue was soon abased from its lofty eminence, and laid prostrate in the dust, amidst shouts, vivas, jeers, execrations, and laughter. I was present at the completion of this monument about three months before. It was a day and night dedicated to rejoicing, and the populace, in honour of the event, were regaled at the expense of the Government with balls, fireworks, and diversions of various descriptions. Little did I imagine that the very people who assembled in crowds round the beautiful column to admire and to read the encomiastic inscription at its base, would in so short a period be among the foremost to aid and exult at its downfall, to obliterate every trace of the letters bearing the now detested name of the Dictator.

"The theatre bearing the despot's name, 'Gran Teatro de Santa Anna,' next became the object of popular fury. This theatre is among the most splendid in the world; it has been but recently finished. It is understood that Santa Anna is one of the principal proprietors. I have seen no theatre either in London or Paris superior to it in luxury, elegance, or comfort. In the spacious porch leading to it there had been recently erected in honour of its patron, the President, a gigantic statue of himself, composed, I believe of bronzed plaster of Paris; this the populace seized, tore from its pedestal, dashed it with fury against the stone pavement, and shattering it into a thousand pieces, threw it upon the dunghill. Santa Anna in his defence of the charges brought against him, justly observes that this transaction was more worthy a nation of savages than of civilized beings.
"The revolution was no at its zenith. Crowds of young men assembled in the church of St. Domingo, and swore to protect the existing Constitution; shouts of 'Viva' and 'Death to the Tyrant!' issued fearlessly from beings who but a few weeks before had better have burnt their tongues than said so. They were supplied with arms and marched down the principal streets, amidst the vivas of beautiful women who crowed the balconies, waving their handkerchiefs, and by their encouragement infusing a still more determined spirit in the defenders of the country. 'If the women are against him,' remarked a gentleman with me, 'Santa Anna's case is indeed hopeless." [JSW]

April 14, 1845 6a

MEXICO AND TEXAS

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIME

Sir, --According to the last advices, the annexation of Texas to the United States may be considered as un fait accomli, at least as regards that Power. By what a series of errors this result has been attained. I shall briefly endeavour to prove to the satisfaction of impartial men on both sides of the Atlantic.

Who are the real authors of this threatened aggrandizement of a nation which, careless of the opinions of a large part of its population, strives to extend the slave system, with its attendant horrors?

The Mexican Republic, in the first place, because it has not used all its exertions to regain the vast territory in question, which is, and always was, an integral part of the state.

France, in the second place, induced probably by the representations of one of her Ministers, who, the day after he had signed a treaty of peace with Mexico, went to fraternize with her declared enemies--the usurpers of Texas,--and recognized the independence of a country which has been unable to retain it, as is clearly shown by the anxiety of the Texans to join the American federation.

Lastly, Great Britain, who, despite her costly sacrifices to extinguish slavery in her own dominions, and to restrain it everywhere, has opened a vast field for its extension by recognizing the independence of a state which can only exist by the slave system, and has, besides, fearfully augmented the power of her most formidable rival.

Thus, the Powers chiefly interested in the abolition of slavery, and in checking the aggrandizement of the United States, have actually assisted powerfully to extend the slave system, and to increase the power of the American federation.

The Cabinet at Washington has skilfully availed itself of the errors committed by its friends and neighbours; but the day is not far distant when two of these Powers will deeply regret the false policy and want of foresight which caused them to abandon Mexico in her struggle against the usurpation of the Anglo-Americans, contrary to their real interests and the dictates of justice and sound policy.

A MEXICAN

[JSW]

1845-4-15-5d Annexation of Texas

Although the recent vote of the Senate of the United States, and the Legislative act of Mr. Tylerin extremis, have rendered all discussion of the annexation of Texas superfluous, so far as the Americans are concerned; yet there are still obstacles to be surmounted, which may prove more stubborn than the constitutional difficulties or the political scruples which suspended the decision of the United States for a twelvemonth. These obstacles consist in the attitude of the Mexican Government and the resistance of a considerable party in Texas itself.
We shall, doubtless, shortly receive direct intelligence from Mexico as to the effect produced there by the measure of annexation, which was carried in Washington on the 28th of February; and we shall not venture to anticipate the result. Meanwhile General Almonte, the Mexican Minister accredited to the United States, has conducted himself with dignity, decision, and moderation. He has protested against the act of annexation, terminated his mission, demanded his passports, and retired from Washington to New York to await further instructions from his own Government. The new Government of Mexico has not yet had an opportunity of giving to the world any proof of its temper or ability; but we have reason to hope that it will not prove deficient in either of these qualities. It is composed of men sprung from the best families of the old Spanish colonial aristocracy, who are described as persons of far higher character and principle than SANTA ANNA—a mere military adventurer, but without even the merits of his profession, for he was a bully in the Cabinet and a craven in the field. If, then, the present Government of Mexico has any pretensions to discharge with honour the important duties it has assumed since the last revolution, it risks less in encountering the dangers of a foreign war than in tamely suitting to an act of spoliation, which at once established the ascendancy of its powerful neighbour, and demonstrates its own inability to defend its rights and its territory. Notwithstanding the great disparity in population, wealth, and energy between the two republics of North America, there are many considerations that militate in favour of the Mexicans. Such a war would not be a war of the United States, but of a party in that country, which does indeed possess a bare majority, but which has identified itself with everything that is most odious to a large and enlightened minority in the best States of the Union. Can anything exceed the dissatisfaction of the States of New England, or New York, or of Ohio, at having to meet the calls of war for the sake of an atrocious encouragement of slavery, which they have long since expelled from their own soil? The military establishment of the United States is very well adapted to the objects contemplated by its founders; for a militia, animated by patriotic unanimity, might suffice to repel a foreign enemy who should invade the Union. But offensive and defensive war are two different things. The regular army of the United States was reduced in 1842 to 9,012 men, who are employed in the garrisons on the coast, where they must remain. But to undertake field operations at all, even if they were to extend no further than the occupation of the Texan territory, an army of 20,000 or 25,000 would be indispensable; and although such a force might be raised among the loose population of the Southern States, it could only be equipped and maintained at the cost of the whole Union. How would such burdens be borne for the sake of such a cause? By what newly-devised system of credit would the partisans of repudiation extract a loan from the capitalists of Europe? Or by what new taxes is the revenue to be raised to meet a war expenditure? The invasion and conquest of a vast region by a State which is without an army and without credit, is a novelty in the history of nations; and although the United States have several times flung abroad marauders and sympathizers in great profusion, they would find it rather more onerous to support the operations of regular war.

Mexico, on the other hand, would be completely united in repelling such an attack. The unsettled state of the country and the independent habits of the people have left them far behind the United State in all that belongs to the parts of peace; but the Mexicans are perhaps less unprepared than the Anglo-Americans for irregular warfare. Strange as it may appear, such a war would be exceedingly popular throughout the ancient Spanish provinces; the people would engage in it en masse; and with ordinary ability n the part of their Generals, they would oppose a formidable resistance to any American force which could enter the country.

Such a war would indeed be a mere prolongation of a bootless struggle if Texas herself took a decided part in favour of annexation; but nothing can be further from the truth. American Presidents have told us on various occasions that Texas was soliciting a humble place amidst the group of United republics; and that her territory was forthwith to be reunited to that of the Union, which was dismembered by the Treaty of 1819; but it appears to be not improbable that, instead of converting the Texans into Americans, the Americans, who went out to settle and sympathize, are fairly turned into Texans.

"What." They say, "are the advantages offered us by this all-annexing Union? They offer to take all we are worth, except our debt. They promise us a high tariff, but the Custom-house duties which may be levied on our trade, will be carried to the revenue of the United States. Why did we come here at all, if the first event that befalls us is to replace us under all the restrictions existing in the Union, and to deprive us of all the peculiar advantages which led us to speculate on the future prosperity of the Texan republic?" These arguments are unanswerable; and although the American settlers doubtless emigrated to Texas for the purpose of seizing the country and annexing it to their own, they will have no scruple in betraying the one any more than the other, and will probably be guided by their own immediate interests, rather than by an political considerations at all.
We most sincerely believe that those interests, was well as the general interests of the country, will be sacrificed by annexation; and GENERAL JACKSON used an argument which was a least sincere, when he endeavoured to raise the jealousy of the United States by describing the progress of Texas, as an independent community, more highly favoured by climate and by commercial legislation than any part of the Union. Some may wish to win Texas as an ally, but many more would be well pleased to crush an argument which was a least sincere, when he endeavoured to raise the jealousy of the United States by describing the progress of Texas, as an independent community, more highly favoured by climate and by commercial legislation than any part of the Union. Some may wish to win Texas as an ally, but many more would be well pleased to crush her as a future rival.

If, at the present crisis, the affairs of Mexico and of Texas were wisely and vigorously managed, it might still be possible to terminate this discussion without any evil consequences. The recognition of the independence of Texas by Mexico has been too long delayed; let it now be granted on condition that the Texan Government binds itself to maintain that independence inviolate. Texas has no claim to render herself independent on the United States. Her independence is absolute, or it is nothing. An if a compact of this nature could be effected between Mexico and Texas, with or without the mediation and guarantee of the European Powers, it is not easy to see by what means the United States could give effect to their scheme of annexation, except by an open violation of all rights and by a direct appeal to force.

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**THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO**

The following is the protest of the Mexican Minister at Washington, General Almonte, against the annexation of Texas:--

"The undersigned, &c., has the honour to address the Hon. John C. Calhoun, &c., for the purpose of making known to him the profound regret with which he has seen that the General Congress of the Union has passed a law consenting to and admitting into the American Confederation the Mexican province of Texas.

"For these reasons the undersigned, in fulfilment of his instructions, finds himself obliged to protest, as he does accordingly protest, in the most solemn manner, in the name of his Government, against the law passed on the 28th of last month by the General Congress of the United States, and sanctioned on the 1st of the present month by the President of the said States by which the province of Texas, an integral part of the Mexican territory, is allowed to be admitted into the American Union.

"The undersigned, in like manner, declares that the aforesaid law can in no manner invalidate the right which the Mexican nation possesses to recover the aforesaid province of Texas, of which she is now unjustly despoiled, and which right she will sustain and enforce at all times, by whatever means are in her power.

"The undersigned had flattered himself that in this question the good sense and sound opinions of the citizens most distinguished and experienced in the management of public affairs in this republic would have prevailed in the deliberations of the legislative body and of the Union; but unfortunately, this has not been the case, and, contrary to his hopes and most sincere wishes, he sees consummated by the American Government an act of aggression the most unjust which can be recalled in the annals of modern history, such as the spoliation of a friendly nation like Mexico of a considerable part of her territory.

"The undersigned will say in conclusion to the hon. Secretary of State of the United States, in order that he may be pleased to inform the President of the said States of the same, that in consequence of the law against which he has just protested, his mission to this Government is terminated from today. Consequently the undersigned requests the hon. Secretary of State to be pleased to send him his passport, as he has arranged to quit this city as soon as possible for New York.

"The undersigned, &c. "ALMONTE.

"Washington, 6th March, 1845."
THE "WAR CONDITION" OF THE UNITED STATES.--

A commission of British naval and military officers and engineers have recently been employed by the Government in surveying the southern and southeastern coasts of England, with a view to the more complete fortification of those coasts against a possible invasion from France, in the event of another war. They have recommended the formation of several new large harbours, to be formed by breakwaters and moles of great extent and strength, and to be so constructed as to form very effective batteries. These, in addition to those already existing, will afford accommodation for a large fleet of steamers ready for any emergency, and at the same time provide a refuge for British merchantmen in distress. The Royal navy of Great Britain already contains about 200 steamers, many of them of the largest size. Since the 1st of April, 1839, 49 have been built, and others are now in progress which will, when completed, greatly increase the effective steam force of the navy. This is also entirely independent of the very large increase proposed by Sir Robert Peel. Besides these, there is an immense number of steamers, which are now employed as packets, &c., but which, in the event of war, could readily be rendered serviceable. There are 60 belonging to the part of Liverpool along. The Government is also busily employed in repairing all the works at places already fortified, and in fortifying these which are not. Guns are to be kept constantly mounted at Portsmouth, Plymouth, and the mouth of the Thames. These vigorous preparations indicate anything, on the part of the British Government, but a strong confidence is the speedy advent of the millennium. The rapid progress of peace principles, the growing hostility among all the nations of the earth, to war, form admirable topics for declamation; but it must be confessed that at present they are among the things to be desired, rather than expected. Our Government has never more strikingly neglected the excellent and safe maxim, which enjoins, in time of peace, ample preparation for war, than at the present moment. With, to say the least, the imminent hazard of war hanging over us, a war which may be a small one, but which may also place the whole civilized world in arms, our Government and people remain as calm as "a summer's morning." We trust that our peaceful slumbers will suffer no unpleasant disturbance.--*New York Courier and Inquirer.* [JSW]

ANNEXATION OF TEXAS

The discussions now going on in the republic of Texas between the American party which seeks to be absorbed in the Federal union of the American States, and the national Texan party, which upholds the independent interests of the new state, are matters of the deepest interest not only to the annexation question of the present day, but to the future destinies of the continent of North America. If Texas at once flings away her national existence, and makes herself subservient to the policy of the United States, it is highly improbable that any other new state will attain to independence in the southern regions of North America, and the progress of the dominions of the Cabinet of Washington will be as rapid as the decay of its defenceless and ungoverned southern neighbours. More than 20 years have elapsed since Mexico threw off her allegiance to Spain, and during the whole of that period the decline of the nation has been inconceivably great and rapid. The result is now pitiable. The country is stated by a recent observer to be as defenceless as it was in the days of MONTEZUMA. Another CORTEZ might march with a few hundred men upon the capital; and as for the northern and western provinces, more especially the magnificent territory of California, since the sequestration of the missions and presidios, they are without even the semblance of a Government. The whole white population of California is hardly more than 5,000, scattered over 2,000 square leagues of territory; the Mexican Administration does not even communicate with the province; and to conquer the whole of it would not be more difficult than to take possession of a desert island. In these thinly peopled regions the inhabitants are manifestly unable to defend their territorial rights; and when they have lost the protection of a great power, whose policy is jealous of all encroachments on the future interests of its subjects, they fall an easy prey to a sort of retail invasion, until the sovereignty of the country is filched away before an effort has been made to challenge the assailant.
The eager, gain-seeking, and roving population of the western states of the Union are fitted beyond all the rest of mankind to carry on this kind of surreptitious warfare. They conquer provinces as the cuckoo steals a nest; and if their irregular enterprises be allowed to carry with them all the political consequences of lawful war, it is evident that at no very distant period they will have made themselves masters of all such parts of the North American continent as are not defended by the forces and the resolution of Great Britain. But the conduct of Texas in the present emergency will determine whether these political consequences are to be realized. It depends on the acceptance or rejection of the proposed measure of annexation by the people and Government of Texas, whether every fresh step of the Anglo-American race is to add citizens and lands to the Union; or whether the new states which may be formed in course of time on either shore of that vast continent may not uphold an independent flag, independent interests, and an independent policy.

When we take into consideration the position of Texas, the decline of Mexico, and the future condition of the unappropriated lands, rivers, and regions lying between the coast of Upper California on the Pacific Ocean and the Rio Bravo del Norte, it is impossible to doubt that such a country ought to possess an original character and an independent existence. Its annexation to the United States, if that measure be consummated at the present time, would only lead the more surely to the eventual disruption of that wide and imperfectly-united confederacy, and to a struggle which would prove injurious to the best interests of the whole continent. But Texas independent is peculiarly qualified to interpose, as it were, the keystone of an arch between the United States and Mexico on the one hand, and between the maritime interests of European and of American nations on the other. These views are so clear and evident that they will probably have a decisive influence on the Executive Government of the United States, provided the Mexicans can be brought to recognize in a liberal spirit an arrangement which is the sole guarantee of their national existence. Nor can we believe that this policy will be defeated by the popular emissaries of the United States in Texas, who are avowedly engaged in promoting the work of annexation solely with reference to the interests of their own party in the United States, and to the cause of slavery with which that party is identified.

The part taken by England and France in this question—-for we are happy to find that the most entire concurrence prevails between the two great Powers by which Texas was first recognized in Europe—has been dictated by no such selfish or exclusive objects. To them individually the annexation of Texas offers no very formidable dangers, and her independence promises no very certain or conspicuous advantages. But they are actuated by a sincere desire to uphold in America that respect for territorial rights which is the only sure basis of peace; and in maintaining the independence of Texas they may hope to establish an important element in the distribution of power over North America. There, as well as in Europe, an universal dominion is impracticable.

If, however, the annexation party be successful, and the patriotic intentions of the President are defeated by the foreign party in the commonwealth of Texas, that result only opens the door to fresh difficulties, and to difficulties of the most serious character. The claim of the United States to Texas is a claim studiously undefined, and purposely obscure; but once admitted, it would be found to embrace the distant objects of American ambition even on the shores of the Pacific. Already several attempts have been made by the Ministers and officers of the United States to obtain the cession of the great harbours on the coast of California. In 1835, MR. FORSYTH offered to the Mexican Government five millions of dollars for the port of San Francisco—-one of the finest naval positions in the world; and a few years later an American commodore actually seized, on some pretended rumour of war with Mexico, the town and harbour of Monterey.

The time is now rapidly approaching when the western coast of North America—hitherto the least peopled, the least productive, and the least frequented portion of the globe—will become the scene of great political interests, and will gradually be animated with the stir of nations and the activity of social life. The United States are seeking to subject these future races and states to their dominion, and, without any army or any of the ordinary instruments of conquest, to extend their sovereignty over nations yet unborn. The scheme for the annexation of Texas is the most decided step they have made in this direction; but that is only the prelude to their ulterior designs. The claim to the exclusive possession of the Oregon territory is another indication of the same policy; it will be followed by an attack, either by force or by fraud, on California. On all these points the same unlimited spirit of aggrandizement prevails. For the protection of the British dominions in North America ample means exist; and indeed, the possession of the Oregon territory by the Hudson's Bay Company, under the joint conditions of the convention of 1818, is practically conclusive on the point. But in provinces in which
no European power has any direct concern, the only check to the rapacious
encroachments of the United States will be found to consist in the establishment of
another energetic and independent power to share the dominion of North America,
and such a power we still hope Texas may become. [JSW]

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**MEXICO AND TEXAS**

The following official communication and protest against annexation has been
addressed by order of the Mexican Government to Mr. Shannon, the United States
Minister in Mexico. It will be seen that the Mexican Government is firm in its
language, and declares that it will resist the aggrandising policy of the United States
by all the means at its disposal:--

"TO HIS EXCELLENCY WILSON SHANNON, ESQ.,
ENVOY EXTRAORDINARY AND MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA.

"The National Palace, Mexico, March 28, 1845.

"The undersigned Minister for Foreign Affairs in addressing, for the last time, his
Excellency Wilson Shannon, Esq., Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of
America regrets to inform him that the law of the Congress of the said union for the
annexation of Texas 86 their territory having been ? the Minister of Mexico, being
retired from his mission at Washington, and the protest against the act of the
Congress and Government of the United States having been made, the diplomatic
relationship with the two countries cannot be continued.

"What can the undersigned add to what he has already aid for his Government on
the serious affront which that of the United States offers to Mexico by usurping a
portion of its territory, and violating the treaties of friendship, which the republic has
observed on its part as long as its harbour and the desire of avoiding a rupture with
the United States have permitted. Nothing is more to be lamented than that free and
republican nations, their neighbours, and worthy of its fraternal union, founded on
their mutual interest and on their joint observance of noble and upright conduct,
should break off their relations for an event with Mexico has endeavoured to avert,
which the United States have consummated, and which is an offensive, in the former
as it is unworthy of the reputation of the United States.

"The undersigned reproduces to his Excellency W. Shannon, Esq., the protest which
he has addressed to him against the annexation, adding, that the Mexican republic
will oppose ? all the firmness becoming its honour and sovereignty and that his
Government ardently desired that that of the United States may pay more regard to
the considerations of honour and justice than to those of an accession of territory at
the expense of a friendly republic, which in the midst of its misfortunes, desires to
preserve an unsullied reputation, and thereby ? the rank to which it is called by in
destiny.

"The undersigned has the honour to offer to his Excellency W. Shannon, Esq., his
entire personal respect, reinstating the assurances of his most distinguished
consideration.

"LUIS G. CUEVAS.

"The undersigned Minister of Foreign Affairs has the honour to address with regret to
his Excellency * * *in order to transmit it to his Government, the solemn and formal
protest which that of the republic desires to express in this note, on occasion of an
event which, offending in the highest degree the rights and the honour of Mexico,
violates at the same time the universal principles of justice, the respect to which free
and independent nations are entitled, and that good faith which civilization has
established as the first basis of international policy. His Excellency * * *will
understand that the undersigned speaks of the law passed by the Congress of the
United States, and sanctioned by their Government, for the annexation of the
department of Texas to the territory of the American union.

"The represent in all its deformity the note of Congress and of the Government of
the United States, and the alarming consequences of its conduct towards the
republic of Mexico, would be a useless labour, when this note is sent to the
representative of a nation equally illustrious and powerful, which nobly sustaining
the rank which it holds in the world, respects the laws of good friendship with other
nations, and founds its glory on the immutable titles of morality and justice. Neither
does the Government of the undersigned find it necessary to state all the reasons on
which it relies for not permitting this annexation to be carried into effect; because
they are as obvious and well-known as the regret will be profound which will be
caused in friendly nations, and even in those which have no relation with Mexico, by
a step injurious and offensive to that country, and unworthy of the good name and
honour of the United States.

"But the undersigned will permit himself to represent to his Excellency * * * that the
American Government having been the first to recognize the independence of the
republic, showing itself as a zealous partisan of its liberty, has been the only one
that has attempted to despoil it of a portion of its territory; and that this view has
been as ancient, as it has lately declared, as the friendship which it sought to
confirm since by a treaty, and by another special boundary treaty, which it now
completely violates. In assisting Texas to separate itself from the republic the
Cabinet of the United States has violates good faith; but in assisting Texas to
incorporate itself with the American Union, and in declaring that such has been the
policy of its Government for the last 20 years, it has pursued a conduct of which
there is no example in the history of civilized nations.

"Mexico, to terminate differences which for the most part were not founded on any
principle of justice, has suitted to serious injuries, has forgotten losses and damages,
and has maintained an uprightness of conduct which, if possible, gives it a greater
right to raise its voice and to protest, as the undersigned hereby protests, against
the annexation of Texas to the United States, and against all its consequences. The
Mexican republic will employ its power and its resources to prevent it, and, relying
on the good right which is on its side, it does not fear to affirm that whatever may
be the result. It will preserve the honour, which it must defend, at whatever cost in
this very serious question.

"And for this purpose the undersigned requests* * * to forward this protest,
accepting the assurances of his distinguished consideration.


"LUIS G. CUEVAS.

"The preceding note is communicated to their Excellencies the Minister's
Plenipotentiary of France, England, and Spain."

[JSW]

LT 1845-5-15-5f Protest of Mexico against annexation of Texas

"United States Legation, March 31.

"The undersigned, Envoy Extraordinary, &c. of the United States, has the honour of
acknowledging the receipt of his Excellency, Senor Cueva's, Minister of Foreign
Relations, &c., note of the 28th of March, announcing that the Congress of the United
States has sanctioned the annexation of Texas to its territory; that the Mexican
Minister at Washington had terminated his official relations, and protested against
the said act of the Congress and Government of the United States, and that
diplomatic relations between the two countries could not be continued.

"The liberal and honourable sentiments entertained by the actual Government of
Mexico had induced the undersigned to hope that the differences which exist
between the two Governments could be arranged amicably upon terms just and
honourable to both. It would appear, however, from the note of his Excellency Senor
Cuevas, that Mexico declines to adjust these differences in this manner, and thus
preserve the peace of the two countries.

"The undersigned can assure his Excellency Senior Cuevas that his (Mr. Shannon's)
Government entertains the livelies; desire to cultivate amicable relations with that of
Mexico, and here he will improve this opportunity to repeat that which he has before
communicated to the Government of Mexico, to wit--that the United States has not
adopted the measure of annexation in any spirit of hostility towards Mexico, and that
the United States are anxious to settle all questions which may grow out of this
measure, including that of boundaries, on terms the most just and libera.
"Having offered the olive branch of peace, and manifested a sincere desire to arrange these questions amicably, and upon principles just and honourable to both Governments, the United States have done whatever is in their power to preserve the friendly relations between them; and it now remains for Mexico to decide, whether they shall be continued, or whether the peace of the two countries shall be broken by a conflict equally injurious to both, and which can give satisfaction only to the enemies of civil liberty and republican institutions.

"The undersigned will pass over in silence the charge made against his Government of having violated the treaty of friendship with Mexico. The right of Texas to cede the whole or a part of her territory to the United States, and the right of the United States to accept such occasion, have already been amply vindicated repeatedly.

"The undersigned has received no official communication as to the action of his Government in regard to the annexation of Texas to the Union; nevertheless he cannot doubt, from the tenour of his personal correspondence, that the measure has been passed by Congress and approved by the President. He expects daily despatches from his Government, with special instructions upon this subject; and before taking any further steps, has resolved to await their arrival.

"The undersigned has the honour, &c.,

"WILSON SHANNON, Minister, &c."

In reply to the above the following spirited letter was sent two days after:--

"National Palace, Mexico, April 2.

"The undersigned, Minister of Foreign Relations, has the honour to communicate to his Excellency Mr. Shannon, Minister, &c., in reply to the note of his Excellency of the 31st of March, that the Government of Mexico cannot continue diplomatic relations with the United States upon the presumption that such relations are reconcileable with the law which the President of the Unitd States has approved in regard to the annexation of the department of Texas to the American Union; that this determintion is founded upon the necessity which Mexico is under of maintaining no friendship with a republic which has violated her obligations--usurped a portion of territory which belongs to Mexico by a right which she will maintain at whatever cost; that the relations between the two countries cannot be re-established before a complete reparation of that injury (aggravio), such as is demanded by good faith, justice to Mexico, and the honour of the United States, is made.

"Moreover, the undersigned will take the liberty to say to his Excellency Mr. Shannon, that if the United States Government thinks that it entertained friendly sentiments towards Mexico at the time of giving such offence, and when attacking the integrity of the republic of Mexico, this Government (Mexico) is very far from entertaining the same views, or of acquiescing in the assurances which his Excellency Mr. Shannon has given, whatever may be its sentiments towards his Excellency personally.

"The undersigned, in making this announcement to his Excellency Mr. Shannon, doing so by the order of the President of Mexico--cutting short a new discussion which the interruption of the relations of the two countries will not permit, and because nothing can be added to what this department has already paid--has the honour to renew the assurances of his distinguished consideration.

"LUIS G. CUEVAS."

The New Orleans Picayunesays,--

"On the 3d ult. Senor Cuevas, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, addressed to the Chambers a long and general memorial appertaining to his department. He places strong apparent confidence in the interference of European Powers, which although assenting to Texan independence, may, he trusts, oppose the further enlargement of United States territory. A large portion of the Secretary's voluminous memorial is occupied with the presentation of the affairs of the departments."

The following passage occurs in it:--

"Texas declared as independent would not care to be annexed to the United States, but not so the latter. The recognition of the independence of Texas would not lead us into a war with the United States, but annexation must. As an independent State,
European Powers will prevent Texas from forming a part of the American republic.

The papers of the city of Mexico and of Vera Cruz continue to be occupied almost exclusively with the subject of annexation. The official paper, *El Diario del Gobierno*, of the 3d inst. Announces that it is in possession of certain movements on the part of the Government of a war-like character, which it is constrained to withhold from the public, as secrecy is the soul of military operations; but expresses a hope that the speedy and successful issue of these operations will soon relieve the public curiosity in regard to them.

The *New York Journal of Commerce* publishes the following important extract of a letter from the city of Mexico, dated the 28th of March:

"The Government has issued orders for the defence of the ports, fortresses, &c., and it is acknowledged that if Texas does not comply with their last request, war will be openly declared."

And the *New Orleans Bulletin* again says,

"A letter from a respectable source in Vera Cruz, under date of the 2d inst. Says, that an act had passed to a second reading in the Mexican Congress, making it high treason for any person to propose a recognition of the independence of Texas, or the peaceable possession of that country by the United States. A majority of the members, it is further stated, are in favour of active hostilities against Texas, in order to provoke a war and throw the onus of it on the United States."

The British frigate Eurydice arrived at Vera Cruz on the morning of the 12th ult., from Galveston, with despatches, which were immediately forwarded to the capital.

An American squadron, consisting of the frigate Potomac, sloop Falmouth, and brigs Fairfield and Somers, was spoken at sea on the 17th ult., bound to Vera Cruz.

The British frigate Eurydice arrived at Vera Cruz on the morning of the 12th ult., from Galveston, with despatches, which were immediately forwarded to the capital.

Santa Anna's trail was slowly progressing. His health is represented as very indifferent.

The people of the department of the Chihuahua refuse positively to pay all direct taxes levied by the Government, on the ground that the irruptions of the Aspache Indians have reduced them to extreme want, and that they need succour from the Government instead of being compelled to contribute to its support. General Woll, of the Army of the North, arrived at Mexico on the 23rd ult., having resigned the command of his troops to General Arista.

The city of Mexico had been much damaged by an earthquake, experienced on the 7th ult.

A Galveston letter of the 17th ult. In the *Richmond Enquirer*, says--

"Mexico has made, through the British Minister, overtures to this Government for the appointment of Commissioners to form a treaty of commerce, &c., on the basis of the acknowledgment of our independence. To these overtures the President gave the British Minister nothing but vague and indefinite answers. This comes directly from Elliott himself, and may be relied upon. He left here to-day in the British man-of-war for Charleston, as it is said--but I do not know to what place he may have gone--I give you only such information as I know to be correct."

Accounts from Buenos Ayres (of an earlier date than those we before published) state, that the Hon. William Brent, jun., United States Charge d'Affaires, had protested against the interference of the French Admiral, on the ground that European nations should not control political parties among the American republics. He alleges further, we learn, that the war in the river La Plata has already been continued seven years by reason of the course pursued by the English and French nations.

They further add the following:

"In the Uruguay Republic there had been several skirmishes between the belligerents, and the department of Maldonado was in the hands of the Rivera party. In other parts of the Republic quietness prevailed. The new French Charge had presented his credentials, and had been received at Buenos Ayres. A new Brazilian Minister Plenipotentiary had been received at Monte Video. There was a report in
circulation, one or two days before the Nautius sailed, that the Argentine Minister at Rio de Janeiro, General Gido, had demanded his passports, the Brazilian Government having granted General Paz leave to set out from Rio de Janeiro and pass through their province to Corrientes.

Accounts from Port au Prince to the 14th ultimo state, that ex-President Herard, in the schooner La Granada, had been seen off the southern part of the island, and attacked one of the gun boats. The whole coast was guarded by vessels and men to prevent the ex-President and his adherents from landing. The Government called out all persons able to bear arms. The whole of that part of the island belonging to the Haytien Government was under martial law. Several of the adherents of Herard had been taken and shot. There was great excitement throughout the island; but although numerous arrests were made in different parts of the Republic, judging from the tone of the journals, there was no general sympathy for Herard, nor any very serious apprehensions felt by the partisans of Government that his attempts to revolutionize the country would be successful. It was rumoured at Port Republican that a revolution had taken place at St. Domingo, which had resulted in the expulsion of General Santana from the Presidency, and in the elevation to that office of Regla Mota, a member of the numerous and highly respectable family of the Alvares de Zaguate (Saint Christophe). His accession to the Presidency of the Domican Republic would be the triumph of an enlightened and liberal party over intrigue and demagoguism personified in Santana and Bobadilla.

Vera Cruz papers contain intelligence from Guatemala to a late date. On the 1st of February an officer, named Mariano Mendez, who was on guard at the public square, liberated the prisoners, gave them arms, surprised the President's house, took possession of all the barracks except those of San Francisco, and proclaimed General Monterosa chief of the republic. Colonel Bolano, with the troops which remained faithful to the Government, attacked the square the next day, and a short conflict brought the insurgents to terms. They were to leave the city on the 6th, and cease all hostilities under the promise of pardon.

A revolution was effected in San Salvador early in February, by conflicts between the military, and civil authorities. General Calixto Malispina, the commandant of the troops, had been displaced. [JSW]

MEXICO

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

HAVANNAH, MAY 9.

I have received important intelligence from Mexico, by the Thames steamer, which left Vera Cruz on the 1st, and brings letters from the capital of the 28th ult. Though an official announcement has not yet been made of the decision of the Government, no doubt is entertained in well-informed quarters that Mexico will immediately consent to recognize the independence of Texas, the Texan Government as an equivalent refusing the proposed incorporation with the United States. In this matter the initiative has been taken by Texas, and Captain Elliot, our Charge d'Affaires and Consul-General, had so far seen the propriety of supporting the proposition, that he left Galveston in Her Majesty's ship Eurydice, and landing at Vera Cruz, reached the Mexican capital on the 14th ult. It appears the negotiation had so well succeeded, that on the 21st thead interim President and the Minister for Foreign Affairs sent down a message to the Congress, informing it of the proposition of Texas, and

TEXAS ANNEXED.--"A few days ago," says the Mobile Herald, "Judge Bragg of the Circuit Court, decided that Texas was a part of the United States. The question came up by a juror petitioning to be excused from the performance of his assigned duty, on the plea that he as a citizen of Texas. The Judge ordered him to take his seat in the box with the other 11, giving for his reason, that Texas was a part of the Union, and all her citizens liable to be called upon to do duty as citizens of the United States. [JSW]"
demanding permission to treat. Captain Elliot remained till the 24th at Mexico, when he left for Jalappa, one day's journey from Vera Cruz, and it was his intention to await there the official declaration of the Government. The Eurydice remained at Vera Cruz to re-convey the Consul-General to his post.

Letters of the 28th from Mexico leave no doubt on the probability of a compromise being come to, as the Government commanded a large majority in the Lower House, though it was in a small minority in the Senate. It is argued that the mere fact of the ad interim President venturing to send a message to Congress indicates a foregone conclusion; as, in the state of public opinion on Texan matters, no Government would dare to do so without having previously become master of the ground. I subjoin a copy of the message, from which it will be seen that the President takes much pains to disguise the pill which the Congress is to swallow, as he speaks much of war and his determination not to suit to the incorporation of Texas with the United States.

The refusal of Texas to the propositions of the American Government does not appear on the face of the proceedings, but is evidently the mainspring of the whole affair. The British Consul-General has probably availed himself of the natural desire of Texas to gain the recognition of Mexico to drive such a bargain as is the interest of both sides to agree to, as well as to throw back the annexation of Texas to the United States, without making his Government a prominent party in so doing. How long that annexation may be postponed, I cannot at present determine; but it is clear that the present proceedings are expedients to gain time, and in similar circumstances the gaining of time is most desirable. Indeed, we may find at last that Texas, recognized by Mexico, may prefer its existence as an independent state to its incorporation with the United States. There is a Spanish proverb which says, "It is better to be a rat's head than a lion's tail," and probably the Texans may apply it.

Should this negotiation be attended with all the desired success, new questions will arise respecting the precise limits of Mexico and Texas, which may lead to difficulties, and afford the Government of the United States fresh pretexts for interference.

The trial of Santa Anna is proceeding slowly. I understand that the ex-President has still a large party in the country, and the present Government will be glad to make a compromise, if he agrees to voluntary banishment for a period of ten years.

The following is a translation of the Message to the Congress above referred to, signed by Cuevas, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and dated Mexico, April 21, 1845:--

"Excellent Sirs,--The affairs of Texas present so serious an aspect, and call so imperiously for the consideration of Congress and the Executive, that, without contracting a great responsibility, the taking a decided resolution preparatory to their termination in a manner honourable to the Government can no longer be delayed. The Government having placed a considerable number of troops on that frontier, and taken such other measures as you have already approved to sustain the dignity and character of the Republic, feels the less difficulty in coming before you on this important occasion.

"Circumstances have arisen which not only make it convenient but necessary that negotiations should take place in order that the annexation of Texas to the United States may be prevented--an event which Mexico could not suit to, and which would render war with the United States inevitable, whatever might be the result. Texas has made an initiative step, and his Excellency the interim President is penetrated with the necessity of taking it into consideration, though at the same time he does not feel qualified to do so without first receiving from you such powers as the constitutions prescribes for treating on diplomatic affairs. The Government, faithful to its duty, willing to suit all its acts to free discussion, and convinced that national affairs should be treated with pure patriotism, heedless of attack from whatever side it may come, has felt that in the present state of the affair of Texas it would be wrong to refuse the negotiation to which it has been invited; but it does not take any further step without consulting the wisdom of the legislative corps. If an honourable arrangement can be made so as to satisfy the national honour, Government will lose no time in suitting it to the Congress; and if no arrangement can be come to, however desirous the Government may be to maintain the blessings of peace in a manner worthy of the republic, it will have no difficulty of adopting the alternative of war, however, painful it may be, as that war must be just in proportion to the sacrifices made to prevent it.

"The preliminary propositions offered by Texas are honourable in themselves and
favourable to the republic, and the Government, without concluding anything, has not hesitated to accept them as a simple initiative of the proposed arrangement. To refuse treating would, in fact, lead to the incorporation of Texas with the United States, and the Chamber, when informed of that refusal, would have a heavy charge to make against the present Administration. To decline listening to propositions of peace which may lead to a satisfactory termination, though not unreasonable on the part of a justly irritated nation, yet would be unwise under existing circumstances, and lead to a war attended with serious consequences to the State.

"The Chambers well know what the conduct of the Government would have been if it acted on its own proper impulse on hearing of the law passed by the United States for the annexation of Texas, satisfied as it was of the support of all true and patriotic Mexicans. The sacrifice is therefore great on the part of his Excellency the interim President and the Ministry when they agree to ask from Congress the authority with which this message concludes. The sacrifice is made from a profound conviction of its necessity, from an ardent desire of the prosperity of the republic, and from the confidence that if, after having done all that was possible to maintain peace, war should become necessary, it will end in a manner honourable to the national arms, and with ample justice to the people who provoked it.

"As a consequence of the foregoing exposition, His Excellency the interim President and the Council of Ministers unanimously suit for the consideration of the Chamber the following resolution:--

"The Government is authorized to give hearing to the propositions which have been made to it respecting Texas, and proceed to an arrangement or celebration of a treaty useful and honourable to the republic, keeping the Congress acquainted with what is done for its examination and approval.'

"To the Secretary of the Chamber of Deputies."

I find that the Mexican Government, to meet its difficulties, has asked leave of Congress to make a loan for 3,000,000 dollars, the interest not to exceed 15 per cent, and I understand it will get about half that amount in cash from persons who have old claims to be recognized.

The slave-trade prospers in this island. The notorious Palmyra landed, within two miles of this city, on the night of the 7th, a cargo consisting of from 300 to 400 slaves.

[JSW]
together with a copy of one which we addressed to you (in triplicate) on the 5th inst.,
communicating the resolution which the Mexican Government had come to, of
removing its agency in London from Messrs. Lizardi and Co. to Messrs. John
Schneider and Co., the official documents relative to which we send forward by this
opportunity.

"With much satisfaction we have now to announce that the Mexican Government has
been induced to assign to the
London, will amount to a very considerable sum, perhaps 70,000/. sterling. By the
same order the whole of the documents belonging to the republic will be handed
over by the present agents to Messrs. Schneider.

The following letter officially confirms the facts mentioned yesterday with respect to
Mexico:--

"Mexico, April 28, 1835

"Sir,--We beg to hand to you herewith duplicate of our letter of the 31st ult.
Together with a copy of one which we addressed to you (in triplicate) on the 5th
inst., communicating the resolution which the Mexican Government had come to, of
removing its agency in London from Messrs. Lizardi and Co. to Messrs. John
Schneider and Co., the official documents relative to which we send forward by this
opportunity.

"With much satisfaction we have now to announce that the Mexican Government has
been induced to assign to the bondholders, to commence from the 1st proxime, 10
per cent of the whole of the duties collected in the Custom-houses of Vera Cruz and
Tampico, until such time as the sum of about $340,000, abstracted from their funds
the commencement of the late revolution, shall be refunded, and we enclose a copy
of the decree to this effect, dated the 17th inst.

"A measure is now before the Senate, having already passed the Chamber of
Deputies, the object of which is to empower the Executive to arrange the public debt
of the nation, and place it on a sound and just basis. Should we be able to procure a
copy of this project before the departure of the packet, we shall send it enclosed for
your information.

    "We remain, &c.,
    "MANNING AND MACKINTOSH.

"To G. R. Robinson, Esq. Chairman of the Committee of Spanish American
Bondholders."

As far as can be learned of the plans which Messrs. Schneider intend to adopt in
their management of the Mexican debt, they seem of a kind to give the greatest
satisfaction to the creditors. Their principle, it is said, will be to court publicity as
much as possible, and to keep no secrets from parties who legitimately desire
information. After the arrival of each remittance, they will, it is believed, post up the
amount where it may be seen by any one entering their office, the former notices
not to be removed upon the arrival of a fresh remittance, but to stand as a lasting
record of all the sums that come into their hands. A plan like this would prevent
every possibility of complaint.

Among the defects of the present arrangement of the Overland Mail pointed out by
the Indian papers, and requested to be remedied, is that of an indiscriminate mixing
of the boxes, so that mistakes frequently occur in the delivery of the despatches. It
is stated that the mails prepared on the 20th and 24th of February last in England for
India were in such a confused state, that the captain of the Calcutta steamer, when
asked at Point de Galle for the letters and newspapers for Bombay, declared that he
had but one box, which he gave to the Bombay steamer, and took the remainder to
Madras, whence they were forwarded after several days; delay.

Some remarks in the Bombay papers about the notion prevailing in England relative
to that presidency being too unimportant a place to receive the advantage of the
half-monthly mail, show the feeling prevailing in that quarter upon the subject. Bombay,
these writers assert, is the only port which, under existing arrangements,
can have the benefit of two direct mails a month. The other points in India were
never meant to have more than one mail direct, and another across the continent of
India. It appears they do not ask that any arrangement shall be made with the
Oriental Company to bring the mails on from Aden, but they only stand on the right
of the Bombay Government having steamers at Aden or Galle to take the mails from the Calcutta steamers. This is an arrangement which, it seems, for the satisfaction of all parties, must at last be suited to, because, taking the average of the Bombay express, which occupies about 15 days, there would be, compared with the ordinary passage of the Oriental Company's steamers, a savings of two or five days, which would give the merchants ample opportunity of answering their letters with certainty and facility. As it is now, the contrary happens to be the case, and the Calcutta steamers commonly pass each other in sight of port. [JSW]

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**MR. POLK'S OREGON DECLARATION**

The official organ, the *Washington Globe*, thus defends Mr. Polk's Oregon declaration:--

"A communication from a European Sovereign to his subjects is no model for an address from an American President to his fellow-citizens on entering upon the discharge of his arduous and responsible duties; nor is he to be deterred on such occasions, by the rules and observances required in diplomatic discussions, from the frankest and boldest expressions of his sentiments; nor is he restricted from openly using his exertions and influence to carry out the views, on any subject, which he believes to be advantageous to his country, by the circumstance that a negotiation is in progress with another nation on the same subject.

"A British Sovereign possesses himself ample powers to protect his subjects in such a case, without reference to another branch of the Government, much less to the people. He can terminate the existing convention with regard to Oregon by a letter from his Foreign office to his Minister at Washington, and can cause the country to be occupied, and forts to be erected in it, by another letter from his Admiralty to the commander of his naval forces in the Pacific, or from his Colonial Secretary to his Governor-General of Canada. He has, therefore, no need, and certainly no desire, to introduce the subject in a message to Parliament; and when legislative action becomes necessary, his Ministers are in both houses to make the necessary arrangements and procure the requisite number of votes in their own way.

"A President of the United States is in a different position; he can take none of the steps until authorized to do so by Congress, which is itself dependent upon the popular voice. His assertion that 'the claim of the United States to Oregon is unquestionable,' means only that he will exert his influence in maintaining and establishing it. From a British Sovereign, the same assertion would announce to the world his intention to employ his power for that purpose. It is as much the duty of the President to use the influence of his declaration upon the people of the United States, or upon the world, for the advantage of the Republic, as it is of the Sovereign to direct his forces for the benefit of his kingdom.

"The President is neither in an address to his fellow citizens, nor in a message to Congress, bound by the rules or observances of diplomatic discussion. His object on such occasions is to suit the course which he means or wishes to pursue to the judgment of the people, or of the Legislature, that they may, in a proper way, express their sense of it. He does so openly; and if he enlightens other parties as to his views, they have no right to complain of it. Offensive language is of course not to be employed by a public functionary or any occasions, but the President may assert what he conceives to be the rights of his nation in terms of strength proportioned to the importance of the subject and the profundness of his conviction.

"It becomes his duty, at all times, while communicating with the people themselves in his Inaugural address, or in his message to their representatives in Congress, to speak in frank, clear language, in relation to the common rights and interests of a free people. While he takes care in performing this duty to give no unnecessary offence to foreign states, he is bound to speak plainly, and to assert, in the clearest and strongest terms, the rights of his own nation. In his diplomatic intercourse with foreign nations, he will seek to guide his course by his conceptions of the rights of his country, and to carry out, as far as possible, the views which he has formed. It depends upon his own discretion to decide what course he shall pursue in the conduct of foreign negotiations. It will remain for Great Britain to decide how far she will assume the responsibility of defeating a wise and amicable negotiation, by making demands which are extravagant in themselves, and well calculated to prevent a most desirable adjustment of our differences." [JSW]
[... some missing...]

...There is no doubt, however, that many persons have undertaken more on their own account than they are fairly entitled to do from their rank as capitalists or their position in society.

By the mercantile letters from America it appears that the dividend on Pennsylvania stock, due next August, will be punctually paid. The statement is the more interesting as serious doubts have been entertained on the subject.

The correspondence below is of such great importance to the Mexican bondholders, comprising as it does the first official declaration of Messrs. Lizardi since the change in the agency, that in spite of its length we have not hesitated for a moment to give it entire. A statement from Messrs. Lizardi has long been expected with the utmost impatience; but we fear that the Mexican creditors will find the one just obtained anything but satisfactory. A meeting is shortly to be held on the subject:


"Gentlemen,—We beg to enclosed to you a letter from his Excellency the Minister of Finance of the Republic of the United States of Mexico.

"Being appointed by the Government of Mexico to act as its agents in this city, we are instructed by the Government to receive from you the funds in your hands which have been remitted to you for the payment of the dividends of the foreign debt of Mexico, together with all papers and documents in your hands relating to this agency.

"We shall be happy to learn at what time it will suit your convenience to carry these instructions into effect.

"We remain, &c.,
"JOHN SCHNEIDER and CO.

"Messrs. F. de Lizardi and Co."

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"Austinfriars, June 6, 1845.

"Gentlemen,—We have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 4th inst. (enclosing a dispatch from the Mexican Minister of Finance), informing us that you had been appointed agents to Mexican Government, and were instructed by the said Government to receive from us the funds belonging to it in our hands, together with the documents and papers relating to the agency.

"In reply we have to state, that from our predecessors in the agency we received no papers or documents whatever; nor have we any others than the books relating to the conversion of the debt and the payment of dividends, which being required for daily reference we cannot consent to part with.

"The Mexican Government has been regularly furnished with the accounts relating to the affairs of this agency.

"Credit has been given to the said Government for all the monies remitted up to the present date, and there is still a considerable balance due unto us from the Mexican Government, which we hope you are authorized to pay, and in such case we are prepared to furnish you with copies of our account-current with the said Government, made up to this date.

"We remain, & C.,
"F. DE LIZARDI AND CO.,
"P.p. MANUEL J. DE LIZARDI.

"Messrs. J. Schneider and Co."
"New Broad-street Mews, June 7.

"Gentlemen,--We have just received your letter of yesterday's date.

"Permit us to state to you that the funds which you are directed to hand over to us can have no connexion with any account which may be existing between yourselves and the Mexican Government. They are funds which have been remitted to you for the payment of the dividends of the Mexican foreign debt. They have been appropriated to that purpose by a special contract between the Mexican Government and the bondholders, effected through your agency, and to which you are parties; and, being so remitted, they can have no connexion with any other account or transaction, whatever the nature of the same may be.

"We are therefore under the necessity of repeating our request for the payment of this money to us agreeably to the order in your possession.

"We remain, &c.,
"JOHN SCHNEIDER and Co.

"Messrs. F. de Lizardi and Co."

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"Austinfriars, June 10.

"Gentlemen,--We have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication, dated the 7th inst. With reference thereto, allow us to say that we do not feel ourselves called upon to discuss with you our reasons for refusing to comply with the request made in your letter of the 4th inst., and in that now under reply.

"We have, therefore, simply to refer you to our letter of the 6th inst. for our sentiments on this subject, and remain, &c.

"F. DE LIZARDI, and Co.
"P.p. MANUEL J. DE LIZARDI.

"Messrs. John Schneider and Co."

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"13, Austinfriars, June 21, 1845.

"Gentlemen,--The Committee of Spanish American bondholders have received from Messrs. J. Schneider and Co. copies of two letters which they had addressed to you on the 4th and 7th inst., and of your replies to the same, dated respectively the 6th and 10th inst.

"From this correspondence it appears that the Mexican Government, having transferred its financial agency in this city to the house of Messrs. John Schneider and Co., had authorized those gentlemen to receive from you the balance of the funds remaining in your hands for the purpose of applying it to the payment of the Mexican dividends; that Messrs. Schneider had applied to you, in pursuance of the authority thus lodged with them; and that you have declined to obey the orders of the Mexican Government for the payment of this money, on the ground that you have claims on that Government to a considerable amount.

"The Committee are under the necessity of calling your attention to the circumstances under which these monies have been from time to time remitted to you. By the agreement dated 14th September, 1837, under which conversion of the original Mexican debt was effected, which agreement was effected through your agency, and bears your signature, together with that of the Mexican Minister at this Court, a certain proportion of the customs' duties at Vera Cruz and Tampico was set apart for the payment of the interest on the foreign debt. Comissioners were appointed to receive the same from time to time, and to remit those funds to you expressly for the purpose in question. They have done so; the dividends have been from time to time paid by you out of those funds; and the sum remaining in your hands is an unappropriated part of the same funds.
"That there may be no possible misunderstanding on the subject I extract from the bonds bearing your signature the following clause:--

"For the better securing the punctual payment of the said interest, the Mexican Government shall appropriate irrevocably thereunto one-sixth part of all the Custom-house duties of the ports of Vera Cruz and Tampico (Santa Anna Tamaulipas). This portion of the duties to be received from the administrators of the Customs by two commissioners to be appointed by the Mexican Government, one of whom to be nominated on the recommendation of the agents of the bondholders in the city of Mexico. These commissioners to transmit by every English packet to the agents of the Mexican Government in London the aforesaid funds; the commission to be paid to the said commissioners for this service by the Mexican Government.'

"The Committee, acting on behalf of the bondholders, are under the necessity of emphatically stating to you, that there is, in their view, no pretence in law, equity, or justice, whereby you can seek to appropriate these monies to any purpose other than that for which they have been specially remitted to you. The bondholders can have no concern with any other dealings between you and the Mexican Government. You have received these monies under a solemn engagement under your own hands, to apply them to the purpose for which they were sent; and the Committee venture to insist that you have no right to deal otherwise with them.

"Under these circumstances, the Committee now call upon you, as you have declined to pay over the funds remaining in your hands to Messrs. Schneider, to proceed at once to pay the same to the bondholders, as a part payment of the dividend due on the 1st of October last.

"I remain, &c.,
"G. R. ROBINSON, Chairman.

"Messrs. F. De Lizardi and Co."

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"Sir,-- We have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 21st. inst. addressed to us on behalf of the Committee of Mexican Bondholders, wherein you inform us that Messrs. John Schneider and Co. had laid before the Committee copies of their correspondence with us on the subject of the transfer of the Mexican agency. We also learn from your communication that the Committee call upon us to pay over either to the bondholders or to Messrs. Schneider and Co. 'the balance of the funds remaining in your hands.'

"In our letter to Messrs. John Schneider and Co., of the 6th June, we told those gentlemen that, after giving credit in account to the Mexican Government for all the monies remitted us, there was still a considerable balance due to us, and such being the case, we of course can have no funds to pay over to Messrs. Schneider and Co. or to any one else.

"Throughout the whole correspondence which we have had with the Committee, we have constantly and uniformly maintained that the funds remitted us by the Mexican Government were for its sole account; that we were the agents of the said Government, and not of the bondholders; and that we could make no payments either on account of dividends or any other purpose without first receiving instructions from Mexico.

"Messrs. F. De Lizardi and Co."

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"Austinfriars, June 24, 1845.

"Sir,--We have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 21st., inst. addressed to us on behalf of the Committee of Mexican Bondholders, wherein you inform us that Messrs. John Schneider and co. had laid before the Committee copies of their correspondence with us on the subject of the transfer of the Mexican agency. We also learn from your communication that the Committee call upon us to pay over either to the bondholders or to Messrs. Schneider and Co. 'the balance of the funds remaining in your hands.'

"In our letter to Messrs. John Schneider and Co., of the 6th June, we told those
gentlemen that, after giving credit in account to the Mexican Government for all the monies remitted us, there was still a considerable balance due to us, and such being the case, we of course can have no funds to pay over to Messrs. Schneider and Co. or to any one else.

"Throughout the whole correspondence which we have had with the Committee, we have constantly and uniformly maintained that the funds remitted us by the Mexican Government were for its sole account; that we were the agents of the said Government, and not of the bondholders; and that we could make no payments either on account of dividends or any other purpose without first receiving instructions from Mexico.

"We are aware that the Committee have asserted that we were only the recipients of these funds on behalf of the bondholders, but this we always have, and now again emphatically deny. We have always received these funds in the character of general agents to the Mexican Government; and nothing can more clearly prove that the said Government entertained a similar idea than the fact of the Mexican Minister of Finance giving the order for transferring any funds in hand to Messrs. Schneider and Co., which we apprehend his Excellency would hardly have done had he entertained any doubt as to the funds being the property of his Government--indeed, on no other understanding could we have ventured to make the heavy advances which we have done.

"We have also to remind the Committee that when we succeeded in obtaining from the Mexican Government the increased assignment of 3 1-3 per cent. Of the customhouse revenues, this fund was charged with the payment to us of a considerable amount; and we imagine that no impartial person will dispute our right to it.

"Since the Committee refer to the year 1837, we think it would be as well that they look still further back, and they will find that from 1832 to 1837 nothing was recovered from the Mexican Government for the bondholders, and that at the latter period the price of the stock, with 23 overdue coupons, was barely half that which it has borne of late years and at present.

"In conclusion, we have to repeat what we have already told Messrs. Schneider and Co., that the entire of the funds remitted us by the Mexican Government have been carried [some missing]

[JSW]

MONEY-MARKET and CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Monday Evening

Excepting in the share-market there has been very little business to-day. The English securities closed as follows:

The only remark of consequence that has been made in the city in favour of Messrs. Lizardi and Co.'s doctrine, that they are not, by the terms of the contract, bound to hand over every dollar received from Mexico on account of the debt is this,—admitting that they were bound so to act by the contract in question, that applied merely to the sixth of the customs originally set apart. The increase of the portion from one-sixth to one-firth has taken place since the date of the contract, and therefore, though the agents may be precluded from retaining any part of the sixth, they are not equally precluded as to an amount equal to the difference between the sixth and the fifth. This argument is not without ingenuity; but we question whether the equity of the case will allow it to be maintained for a moment. The additional portion must have been subject to some conditions, and we may naturally conclude that the conditions were those already expressed in the contract, no new terms being hinted at. Surely, under the circumstances, the terms of the fifth must be looked upon as precisely analogous to those of the sixth.

The Chilian papers contain a copy of a letter from Senor Rosales, the Minister for the Republic in England, relative to the transfer of the agency to Messrs. Baring, Brothers, and to the failure of the former house of agency, Messrs. G. and J. Brown and Co., by which Chili sustained a loss of 37,000l. The Minister is at great pains to explain that the solidity and credit ascribed to the house by the commercial body in
England were chiefly instrumental in inducing him to make a selection which afterwards proved so unfortunate. In the same papers is contained the letter of Messrs. Baring and Co., in which they accept the Chilian agency.

This was the last day of converting Portuguese bonds, and the entire number converted amounts to 5,500,000 l. sterling. In consequence of the success of the operation application has been made to Baron de Folgoso to use his influence with the Portuguese Government, so as to obtain an extension of the time for conversion.

Cape of Good Hope papers to the 25th of April have arrived. The accounts from Graham's Town state that a collision had taken place between the Dutch emigrants and the Griqua tribe on the northeastern frontier, in which the latter had the advantage. The Griquas speak confidently of success, and only ask English troops for the protection of their wives and property. A good deal of bloodshed is expected, and should the Dutch within the boundary join their countrymen, the aborigines will speedily be defeated. The want of a proper Government at Natal is said to be detrimental to the general interests of the colony.

[JSW]

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**MONEY MARKET and CITY INTELLIGENCE**

...The meeting of Mexican bondholders fixed for tomorrow (Wednesday) will disclose the views of the parties immediately interested as to the conduct of the late house of agency. In the mean time it may be remarked, what has struck many impartial persons on reviewing the subject, that it does not look well in Messrs. Lizardi to attach to the production of any account to the new agency a condition that they shall have been authorized by the Mexican Government to pay the balance due from the latter to Messrs. Lizardi. A merchant of high standing may be in a position to refuse an account altogether, under a denial of the authority which demands it; but he will scarcely attach conditions to the rendering such an account, which are, on the face of them, incapable of fulfilment. Messrs. Lizardi must have known that the Mexican Government could not have given any authority to make payments, because that Government at least believed a balance to be in hand at the agency, and that it would be forthcoming immediately on the verification of the appointment of Messrs. Schneider to the trust. It is natural enough, too, to inquire whether the Mexican Government, whose authority, at all events, to demand an account will not be disputed even by Messrs. Lizardi themselves, have been furnished with one, or with any intimation that they were deeply indebted to their late agents. Proper time for that purpose has certainly not been wanting, as no payment since October last has been made for dividends, and all the items subsequently coming forward must consist of remittances from Mexico, and belong to the credit side of the account. If the agency, therefore, had pursued in this case the common course of mercantile dealing, which they seem anxious to take for their model when it suits them, the Minister of Finance in Mexico would have set the matter right before making any new appointment, and not committed to the absurdity of virtually directing the transfer to Messrs. Schneider of the funds in possession, when none existed, but, on the contrary, a large claim against his Government. It follows almost to a certainty that the late agents have not furnished any such account, and they must have advanced a very large sum indeed in October, if all the remittances since publicity known to have been received have not more than liquidated that advance. The notion of a large balance still against Mexico is rejected on all sides as an utter improbability. Hence there is another reason for the production of an account, beyond what belongs to mercantile usage and character, because Messrs. Lizardi have a strong case against them until they prove the contrary by figures and vouchers. If the real cause of their repugnance should be, as some believe, the having yielded too readily to be the instrument of the late President, Santa Anna, in diverting funds which were held in trust for the bondholders to another purpose, the disclosure now could do him or them no further harm, but would assist the present Government in pursuing that investigation into his conduct which has been begun in Mexico. Any result is better than the refusal of an account to a party properly authorized to receive it, and which is a very rare instance indeed, if not wholly without parallel among respectable English merchants. If we contend, therefore, for justice towards the Mexican creditors, we contend no less for the maintenance of that which has always constituted the most envied distinction of this great city--the perfect good faith and honour of all the members of its trading community . . . [JSW]
...The meeting of Mexican bondholders held at the London Tavern to-day was fully attended, and the series of resolutions passed were strongly condemnatory of the conduct of Messrs. Lizardi and Co., the late agents. Mr. Robinson, the chairman of the committee, was the only speaker on the occasion, but the sentiments he uttered were warmly responded to by the bondholders, who agreed in all that he said respecting the manner in which Messrs. Lizardi had dealt with them and their property. Mr. Robinson contended that Messrs. Lizardi were the joint agents of the bondholders and the Government, and receiving the money for a specific purpose were not justified in using it for any other object. In the course of his address Mr. Robinson alluded to the extraordinary position in which the bondholders were placed--first, from the seizure of dollars at Vera Cruz by Santa Anna; and, secondly, from the refusal of Messrs. Lizardi to pay over the funds in their hands to the new agents, Messrs. Schneider and Co. Messrs. Lizardi's proceedings, he said, were quite consistent with the whole conduct they had pursued in the business; and after the surreptitious issue of 900,000 stock, he must himself confess that he was not surprised at anything they did. The first resolution passed expressed satisfaction at the change of the agency; the second and third resolutions expressed the opinion that the refusal of the late agents to surrender the money in their hands was at variance with all principles of law, equity, and justice; and the fourth resolution suggested the appointment of a special committee for the purpose of consulting on the measures to be adopted for compelling Messrs. Lizardi to apply the funds they retained to the use of the bondholders. A special committee of three of the bondholders with three of the present committee were then elected, and the meeting separated, authority being given to Messrs. Schneider, in the event of law proceedings being taken against Messrs. Lizardi, to deduct the expenses pro rata from the first dividend paid.

[JSW]

SOUTHAMPTON, JULY 4.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's ship Medway, Andrews, arrived at Southampton at 11 o'clock on Thursday night, after a rapid voyage of 13 days from Bermuda. She would have arrived some hours sooner but for heavy fogs off the coast.

She brings 94 passengers and the usual mails, except that from Carthagena. Her mails will be despatched by the 2 o'clock train. Her dates are as follow:--From Tampico, May 28; Vera Cruz, June 1; Havannah, June 10; Nassau, June 13; Honduras, May 20; Jamaica, June 8; Demerara, June 4; Trinidad, June 5; Barbadoes, June 8; Grenada, June 10; St. Thomas, June 14; Laguayra, June 7; Bermuda, June 20; and Antigua, June 11. She also brings on freight--1,238,406 dollars; 3,000 oz. of silver; 1,618 oz. of gold and gold dust; 138 serons of cochineal; 246 dozen of pines; 40 turtles; 20 cases of vanilla; and 25 bales of jalap.

The Medway did not call at Fayal.

She spoke the French brig Bordonais on the 28th of June, in lat. 43 23, long. 30 29; and exchanged colours with the bark Persia on the 1st of July, in lat. 47 35, long. 14.

The Scylla was repairing at Bermuda, having been on shore 18 hours. The Admiral left Bermuda for Halifax on the 25th of May.

Two hundred and fourteen Coolies, five having died, arrived at Trinidad shortly before the Medway left, arrived at Trinidad shortly before the Medway left, in the Fatel Rosack, 98 days from Calcutta. The arrival gave great satisfaction to the agriculturists.

The troops appear to be healthy at all the islands.
The 1st West Indian Regiment and part of the 7th were at Demerara; the 23d Fusiliers at Trinidad; two battalions of the 20th at Bermuda; the 81st at Antigua; the headquarters of the 7th at Barbadoes.

The ex-President, General Santa Anna, embarked on board the Medway, from the River Antigua, 13 miles N.W. of Vera Cruz; he was sent down with an escort of 200 cavalry as a prisoner, and was unattended except by his brother, nephew, and wife, with some others of his family. The lady who accompanied him is his second wife, a young and pretty woman, of about 16. It appears he was sentenced to leave the country, and have his property confiscated; he had very considerable sums of money with him, but a greater part of it was stopped, though he ultimately retained a large sum in his possession. Santa Anna stated he was going to Venezuela, but it was not credited. He left the Medway at Havannah.

We have Jamaica papers to the 7th of June, by which we learn that the island has been favoured with the most propitious season that has occurred for very many years past. The account of the sugar cultivation continue to be highly favourable; the wet weather may possibly impede the manufacture of this year's crop, but will be of vast benefit to that of next year. The few Hill Coolies that had arrived continued to give the highest satisfaction; they work cheerfully, industriously, and indefatigable, and it is considered will be a great boon to the colonists. Some attempt had been already made to create dissatisfaction in the minds of the Hill Coolies in one of the parishes, by representing that their contract might have been more advantageous. It does not appear to have had much effect. Indeed, they seem perfectly content and happy in their change; and their work, both as to time and description, is quite surprising. They do not work with the long-handled hoe, but work stooping, using both their hands at the same time. There appears to be a great and general desire in favour of the importation of these people, and of the African free emigrants.

We learn by the Barbadoes Standard that the Committee of the House of Assembly had recommended the purchase of the area laid waste by the great fire, about ten acres in extent, and value 35,000l., for the purpose of improvement, uniformity of buildings, &c.

The Princess Royal arrived on the 5th of June, with detachments of the Royal Artillery and 3d West India Regiment. She spoke Her Majesty's ship Pique the previous evening, which ship arrived the next morning. The head of her foremast was found to be so much decayed that it was expected she would return to England to be supplied with a new one, there being no spar sufficient in the West Indies. The Roger Stewart arrived at Berbice on the 20th of May, with 256 African emigrants, all effective. This arrival appeared to give very general satisfaction. The bark Glanmire had arrived in 23 days from Cork at Barbadoes. The subject of steam communication between Port of Spain (Trinidad) and the Naparimas was exciting considerable interest, and had been brought before the Legislative Government. His Excellency the Governor was very favourable to the scheme, and had declared his intention to do his part towards it. There appears to be every prospect of the project being carried out.

The Medway has made a remarkably fine passage, and is up three or four days before due, notwithstanding she has had some bad weather. We understand she had no mail officer on board. Captain Andrews, now her commander, has been out in the West Indies from the establishment of the company engaged in the inter-colonial trade, from which, after very zealous services, he is promoted to the Medway, one of the company's best ships.

By this arrival we have received letters of the 30th of May from our correspondent in the city of Mexico.

The Mexican Senate, by a majority of 30 to 6, and the Deputies, by 41 to 13, have authorized the Government to negotiate and conclude a treaty for the recognition of the independence of Texas.

Mexico was perfectly quiet, and no opposition has been shown by the people to the recognition of Texas.

The existing tariff is to be annulled. The Chamber of Deputies have adopted bases by which the Government will be enabled to establish a new tariff, to come into operation after six months, nearly similar to the tariff of 1842. The assent of the Senate is looked upon as certain.

The Minister of the United States, Mr. Shannon, has at length demanded his
A general amnesty has been proclaimed. Santa Anna submits to exile for life in Venezuela. The late President of Congress, and the only one of the Ministers in prison, refuses to accept the proffered grace.

Proposals have been sent to England connected with a loan of 3,000,000 of dollars, for consolidating one-half Mexican Passive Stock, and securing to it an interest of 5 per cent, on the tobacco duties.

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BERMUDA, JUNE 20.

When the Medway left Vera Cruz (June 2) there were five American men-of-war at anchor under Isla Verde--viz., the Potomac, 54 guns, Commodore Connor; two 28-gun corvettes, and two 14-gun brigs. There was a French brig-of-war lying at Sacrificios.

The Eurydice left Vera Cruz for New Orleans on the 17th of May, with despatches for Her Majesty's Government, relative (it was said) to the recognition by Mexico of Texan independence, which had passed both the Mexican Chambers. Captain Charles Elliot, R.N., had returned to Texas from Vera Cruz in a French corvette, to resume his diplomatic duties.

Mr. Shannon, United States Minister at Mexico, having demanded and received his passports, left Vera Cruz for New York, in the New York packet, on the 28th of May; he preferred taking his passage in a merchant vessel to weaken in the American naval forces before Vera Cruz by taking from it a vessel of war. The prevailing opinion at Vera Cruz by taking it a vessel of war. The prevailing opinion at Vera Cruz was, that there would be war between Mexico and the United States. There did not seem to be much active preparation making at Vera Cruz to meet any hostile movement on the part of the Americans; the Mexicans seemed to look towards "Los Inglesca" for succour.

General Santa Anna, ex-President of Mexico, his wife, father-in-law, brother and sister-in-law, nephew, and four servants, were embarked on board the Medway, off Rio Antigua, about 15 miles to the north-west of Vera Cruz, far passage, it was said, to Bermuda; but upon arriving at Havannah, the General declined proceeding further, and went on shore, where he intends to remain for the present, most probably in observation. Santa Anna has still a strong party in Mexico.

By an odd coincidences, General Bustamente arrived at Havannah in the Royal mall steam-packet Dee the same day General Santa Anna reached there in the Medway. The former proceeded to Vera Cruz in the Dee.

His Excellency Vice-Admiral Primo de Rivera had relieved Vice-Admiral Ulloa as naval commander-in-chief at Havannah. Orders had been received for Her Majesty's ship Romney, receiving-ship for liberated Africans at Havannah, to be withdrawn; the Spanish Government were to provide barracks on shore for the Africans to be lodged in.

The Medway left at Nassau on the 13th of June Her Majesty's steamer Hermes, which was to leave on the 15th for Turk's Island, with the Bishop of Jamaica and Mrs. Spenser on board, the former being on a visit of inspection through his diocese.

Her Majesty's ship Vindictive, with the flag of Vice-Admiral Austin, left Bermuda for Halifax on the 11th inst.

Her Majesty's ship Boylla, Commander Sharpe, lying in the basin, having been hove down and her bottom repaired, would proceed to Halifax on or about the 24th inst.

The Medway was met at Bermuda by the Royal mail steam-packet Tay, and the letter was to proceed to Nassau and Havannah. [JSW]
The proceedings of the Mexican Government and the acts of the Mexican Legislature are by no means decisive as to the result of the Texan question; and it is obvious that the course of events and the conduct of the American party in Texas at this juncture are of far more essential importance than the dispositions of the Mexicans. A manifesto has indeed been published by the Mexican republic, in which the Ministers of that country protest against the proposed annexation of Texas, as an insidious and unprecedented act of spoliation. They deny that a Mexican province can be converted, with the melting facility of a dissolving view, into one of the United States of America; and they declare that "the law of the United States proposing the incorporation of Texas in no way restricts the claim which Mexico holds and is determined to sustain over that department." This doctrine professes to emanate from the National Congress of Mexico, and is dated the 14th of May; but we are unable to reconcile the assurance that Mexico is determined to sustain her claim over "the department of Texas" with the language of a decree published only three days later, on the 17th of May, by which it appears that the Mexican Government is empowered to hear the propositions which Texas has made, and to proceed to the arrangement of a treaty; or in plain terms, to the recognition of Texan independence. However, the latter course is in every respect preferable to a declaration of war, and much more likely to conduce to a satisfactory adjustment than a levy en masse of Mexican militia.

It is probable that the question of annexation, upon the terms propounded in the last resolutions of the American Congress, has ere this been decided by the Legislature or Convention of the Texan people. Nor can we pretend to anticipate with any degree of certainty or accuracy what that decision may be; for it will be governed, not by considerations of policy or of national interest on the part of the Texans, but by the number of votes which the American party may have contrived to smuggle into the political assemblies of an independent state, or to suborn amongst the ranks of the Texan patriots. If the vote of annexation be carried, there is little to regret, for that fact will prove more than an argument that the independence of Texas is already extinct, or rather that it never was anything more than the mast of American treachery and encroachment. What could be expected of a people amongst whom a foreign element has acquired such an ascendancy, that within ten years of their declaration of independence that independence is put up to auction, to be bought up by a neighbouring Power? But that purchase of intrigue and ambition is not yet consummated. Amongst the Texans, the leading men have not yet despairs of their position, or abdicated their national character; and, if they are defeated, it will be by the effect of universal suffrage and of civil rights too easily bestowed, which enable a party of adventurers from another land to determine the most important question which can be raised amongst the people. The question will, in fact, be decided rather by the absence of Government, or at least of any effective governing power in the southern portion of North America, than by the deliberate choice of the states, most intimately affected by it; and the Annexationists of the United States owe more to the anarchy of Mexico, and the impotence of Texas, than to their own political vigour or address.

The protection to which all feeble states lay claim, and to which they owe the maintenance of their territorial rights and their independence, consists, first, in the jealousy of other Powers, unwilling to tolerate any further aggrandizement of the strong at the expense of the weak, and, secondly, in the restraint of equity and good faith. But of these guarantees neither can be said to exist on the continent of North America, south of the British possessions. European Powers are no longer sufficiently interested in the fate of those vast regions to include them within the strict limits on which the balance of powers depends. The emancipated Spanish colonies have neither established a political system of their own, nor connected themselves with the political systems of Europe. They have, in particular, not responded to the generous sympathy with which our own country watched and encouraged their emancipation; and it is, perhaps, fortunate for us that we are bound to them by no close engagements. As for the restraint of equity and good faith towards neighbours, that has been dissipated among the Americans, by the will of a Power whose only law is the present will of the greatest number; and the act which has been denounced by the wisest and best of the Americans as the most infamous and lawless attempt in the history of democracy, is already, as far as they are concerned, morally consummated.

Under these circumstances, the next question we are disposed to ask is, where is this march of invasion and this extension of power to stop? We are told that Texas is to be annexed. But what are the limits of Texas? Who has ever determined the boundaries of her territory, or, if they were determined, who is to confine within them the pretensions of their Anglo-American invaders? It is impossible, in the present state of the population of central North America, that the compact forces of disciplined armies or civilized communities should at once overrun and occupy the enormous tracts still almost untrodden by white men. But a species of irregular
warfare will probably break out between the two European races in central; and the
horrors perpetrated by the Spaniards on the native Indians may be avenged upon
their descendants by the incursion of another race even more pitiless and rapacious
than they were. In this way it is scarcely possible to doubt that an attempt will ere
long be made by adventurers from the United States--the well-known pioneers of
the policy of the Cabinet of Washington--to pierce their way across the continent,
and to establish themselves upon Mexican or British territory on the shores of the
Pacific. The state of California is so imperfectly known, even to the Mexican
Government, to which it professes allegiance, that it may be regarded as a detached
province. Since the sequestration of the religious establishments, founded by the
Jesuits and transferred to the Franciscans, all moral authority is at an end. Military
power never existed in the country, even in the time of the Spaniards; and of late
years the population and even the head of cattle have dwindled rapidly away.

But the establishment of any fresh Power on the western coast of North America is
pre-eminently a maritime question--a question of maritime interest, and to be
accomplished and maintained by maritime means. We are, therefore, disinclined to
attached importance to the statement which has reached our correspondent in
Mexico, to the effect that the Americans have actually taken possession of the
Russian settlement on the Bay of Bodega; or that the Russians have evacuated Fort
Ross, the Russian fort at that point. The Russian Governor was visited there
by M. DUFLOT DE MOFRAS at no very distant period, and the events of the last few
years on the Pacific are not calculated to lessen the interest which the Emperor of
RUSSIA may take in that settlement, which we sincerely hope he will continue to
hold.

Enough, however, has already transpired to show that the questions of Texas and of
Oregon touch one another, though at a distant point: that they are, in fact, parts of
the same project of aggrandizement, and results of that system of policy first
avowed by MR. MONROE, which claims for the United States a territorial monopoly of
the continent to which they belong. To act with promptitude in Texas, and to
procrastinate for another quarter of a century in Oregon, are the two modes of
acquisition best adapted to crush a weak neighbour in Mexico, and to deceive a
powerful competitor in Great Britain. For ourselves, without assuming an excessive
interest in the concerns of other states, or entertaining the least doubt of the
security of all parts of HER MAJESTY'S dominions, we trust that it will not be
forgotten that our position is precisely what it was after the convention of 1790 had
been signed at Madrid, and the gallant VANCOUVER was directed by Mr. PITT'S
Government to explore the north-west coast of America to the north of the 39th
degree of latitude. That mission was accomplished. The flag of England was planted
along those shores. QUADRA and the Spanish officers acquiesced in VANCOUVER'S
proclamation; and it only remains for us to maintain with firmness the rights which
were established by our fathers along the coast of the Pacific Ocean. [JSW]

THE ANNEXATION OF TEXAS.--The abolitionists, whose great efforts during the 12
past years have resulted in silencing every practical abolitionist in the slave states,
(where there are thousands and thousands, by the way), and who have been the
means of adding to the union the elements of five or six new slave states in Texas,
with the probability of adding California and other states of Mexico as slave states,
can now see another of their great achievements in the additional value they have
given to slave property. We copy the following from the River State Review, a paper-
published in Marion, Alabama:-- "Negroes sold last sale day at the Court-house
rather high it seems to us for the buyers and times, but most assuredly not too high
for those compelled to part with them. Fellows brought near $650, average; one
brought as high at $692. Women sold for from $500 to $610, one only bringing the
latter sum. Girls about 14 years' old sold from $375 to $400. Some families sold in
proportion much less." The annexation of Texas has raised the price of slaves from
30 to 50 per cent, and the effect of this is a most powerful stimulus to the slave
trade, and to the breeding of slaves for sale. The domestic slave trade was never
livelier than it is now, in most parts of the south and west. The rush of emigration to
Texas is prodigious, and the purchase of slaves for that market is beginning to be
prosecuted with astonishing vigour. The roads towards New Orleans, and the routes
via the Red River, are thronged with slaves. In the meantime, as the negroes go up
the land goes down. When we are told that his will abolish slavery in the border
slave states, we will show how the raising of the price of a property creates an
indisposition to give it up, and a desire to multiply and to justify it. The progress
backwards of the northern reader to note. When he began his monstrous and cruel
agitation, the axe was laid at the root of slavery in Virginia, the old colony slave
state of the union, but now new Virginia, has a powerful interest in raising slaves for
PENSIONS.--The following is a list of all pensions granted between the 20th day of June, 1844, and the 20th day of June, 1845, and charged upon the Civil List:--On the 28th of January, to Patrick Frazer Tytler, Esq., in consideration of his eminent literary attainments and merits as an historian, 200l. On the 28th of January, to Mrs. Jane Hood, 100 l.; to William Elliott, M.D., in trust for her, as the wife of Thomas Hood, Esq., author of various popular works, in consideration of his literary merit and infirm state of health. On the 28th of January, to Susan Robertson, 50l.; Mary Robertson, 50l.; Eleanor Robertson, 50l.; Elizabeth Robertson 50l.; the four daughters of Lieutenant Colonel Robertson Macdonald, and grand-daughters of the Late Principal Robertson, in consideration of the eminent literary merits of their grandfather as an historian, and their own destitute situation; is trust to James Rolland, Esq., and John Stewart, Esq., Writers to the Signet, in Edinburgh. On the 31st of January, to Jane Caroline Stoddart, 75l.; Frances Agnes Stoddart, 75l.; sisters of the last Lieutenant Colonel Stoddart, murdered at Bokhara, in consideration of the services of their brother, and of there being no adequate provision for them; in trust to John Kitson, Esq., of Thorpe, near Norwich. On the 5th of March, to Mademoiselle Augusta Emma D'Este, 500l., in trust to Edward Majorbanks, Esq., and Sir Edward Antrobus, Bart., for her, in consideration of her just claims on the Royal beneficence. On the 11th of June, to Clara Maria Susanna Lowe, 50l., daughter of the late General Sir Hudson Lowe, in consideration of the services of her father, and her own destitute condition; in trust to Sir Joshua Rickets Rowley, Bart., Captain, R.N., and Lieutenant Edward William De Lancy Lowe, 32d Regiment of Foot. Total 1,200l. The return is dated Whitehall, Treasury Chambers, July 7, 1845, and signed by Edward Cardwell. [JSW]

Friday Evening

The account in the Consol-market was arranged to-day, and presented no other feature than a slight rise in prices, produced by the satisfactory nature of the settlement. The rate of accommodation for short periods was 2 ½ percent., with a tolerable demand from the leading jobbers. Consols left off this afternoon 98 7/8 to 99 for money, and 99 ½ to ¾ for the account. Bank Stock closed 210 1/2 to 211 ½; Three per Cents. Reduced, 99 3/8 to ½; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 102 1/8 to ¾; Long Annuities, 11 ¾; Exchequer-bills, 54s. to 56s. premium; and India Bonds, 68s. to 71s. premium.

A rumour was current this afternoon, that Lizardi and Co. intend to pay over the funds they have in hand to the new agents; but as not a bargain was done all day in Mexican stock, it does not appear to have been received with much credit. The Actives were quoted nominally the same as yesterday, 36 7/8 to 37 1/8; and the Deferred, 20 ½ to 21. Spanish was steady; the Five per Cents; closed 26 ⅘ to 26; and the Three per Cents, 37 to ¼; Portuguese, 63 to 65; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 62 to ¼; ditto Four per Cents., 99 1/8 to 3/8; Danish, 89 to 91; Colombian, 17 7/8 to 18 1/8; Chilian, 100 to 102; Buenos Ayres, 45 ½ to 46 ½; Brazilian, 90 ½ to 91 ½; Belgian, 99 to 100.

The Railway share-market has been quiet, with a limited amount of business. Generally speaking, quotations continue pretty well supported.

The supply of bills upon foreign places generally was not equal to the demand, and the rates of exchange upon the principal continental places were, consequently, again lower.

The recent fluctuations in Spanish stock have lately been the object of the greatest interest to the speculators in foreign securities; and though there has been the general feeling that the insurrectionary movements in Catalonia had much to do with the downward movements, reasons have not been given in detail. It appears that the concession some time ago by the Spanish Ministry to the Church of part of the national property first operated in producing an unfavourable effect upon the stock, for the Actives always had a value in being the means by which national lands might be purchased, such value existing when all payment of dividends was suspended. This advantage being lost to the creditors, it was no wonder that the securities declined; and although Senior Mon, when making the concession, probably believed...
that the resources of Spain would be so much developed as to furnish an equivalent for the sacrifice, his hopes have been in a great measure frustrated by the clergy expecting more, instead of remaining satisfied with the grants already made to them. The insurrection in Catalonia doubtless had its influence in furthering the decline, but this influence is likely to be of a transient nature, if we may, trust the accounts stating that no political cause, properly so called, is at the bottom of the insurrectionary movements, but merely the dislike on the part of the northern provinces to participate in those general burdens of Spain from which they have been exempted by their special *fueros*. From these accounts, according to some, proceeds the change for the better which has occurred within the last day or two in the value of the stock.

| [table] |
| [JSW] |

**ANNEXATION OF TEXAS**

The British and North American Royal mail steam-ship Acadia, Captain Harrison, arrived at Liverpool yesterday, bringing the Hon. L. M'Lane, United States Minister to St. James's, several members of his family, and a large number of passengers.

The annexation of Texas to the United States, it will be seen, has been agreed to by the Texan Congress. The question as to the course Mexico will adopt is yet problematical. The annexation was announced by President Jones in the following terms:--

"Executive Department, Washington, June 16."

"Gentlemen of the Senate
and of the House of Representatives,

"I am happy to greet you, on this interesting occasion, as the representatives of the people, again assembled in the discharge of your high and important duties. The call of an extraordinary session of Congress at this early day, by the Executive, was not made without the most mature deliberation, and a due reference to the great crisis which has arisen since your late adjournment in the affairs of Texas, as well as the almost unanimous expression of public will which took place throughout the country in regard to the same.

"The Executive has now the pleasure to transmit to the hon. Congress, for such action as they may deem suitable, the propositions which have been made on the part of the United States to this Government for the annexation of Texas, and its incorporation, as a state, into that great and kindred confederacy, together with the correspondence between the two Governments which has arisen out of the same. The correspondence, entering, as it does, very fully into the views and sentiments of the Governments in question, renders it unnecessary for the Executive to add (for the information or consideration of Congress) but little thereto in reference to the proposed measure.

"The Executive has much satisfaction in observing, what, no doubt, will forcibly arrest the attention of Congress, that although the terms embraced in the resolutions of the United States Congress may at first have appeared less favourable than was desirable for Texas, the very liberal and magnanimous views entertained by the President of the United States towards Texas, and the promises made through the representation of that country in regard to the future advantages to be extended to her if she consent to the proposed union, render those terms much more acceptable than they would otherwise have been.

"The state of public opinion, and the great anxiety of the people to act definitively upon the subject of annexation, by a convention of deputies, as prescribed in the resolutions of the United States Congress, induced the Executive to issue his proclamation, on the 5th of May ultimo, recommending an election for 61 deputies, to be held in the several counties throughout the republic, on the 4th of the present month, and to assemble in convention, at the city of Austin, on the 4th of July next. The recommendation has met the sanction of the citizens of Texas generally, and the
deputies in the several counties, so far as heard from, having been elected upon the basis proposed, it is confidently expected the convention will assemble at the time and place fixed upon. To this convention the question of annexation and the adoption of a state constitution will properly belong; and they will determine the great question of the nationality of Texas, as to them shall seem most conducive to the interests, happiness, and prosperity of the people whom they will represent. It is important that the 'consent of the existing Government' should be given to their exercising the powers which have been delegated to them, in order to comply with a requirement to that effect in the resolutions on the subject of annexation passed by the American Congress. For this purpose the present extraordinary session of the Congress of the Republic of Texas has been convoked; and to its wisdom, as a co-ordinate department, the Executive now submits the determination of the matter.

"The services to be performed by the convention will be arduous, and will probably engage it for a considerable period of time; and the Executive would respectfully recommend to Congress the propriety of making a suitable appropriation for the payment of its members, as well as the officers it may find occasion to employ.

"The Executive has the pleasure, in addition to presenting to Congress the propositions concerning annexation, to inform them that certain conditions, preliminary to a treaty of peace, upon the basis of a recognition of the independence of Texas by Mexico, were signed on the part of the latter, at the city of Mexico, on the 19th of May last, and were transmitted to this Government on the 21 inst., by the Baron Alleye de Cyprey, Minister Plenipotentiary of His Majesty the King of the French at that Court, by the hands of Captain Elliott, Her Britannic Majesty's Charge d'Affaires near this Government. In consequence of this signing of these preliminaries, the Executive believed it to be his duty, in the recess of Congress, to make the fact known to the people of Texas, and to declare and proclaim a cessation of hostilities between Texas and Mexico, until the same could be communicated to, and acted upon by, Congress and the convention about to assemble. A proclamation for this purpose was consequently issued on the 4th inst., a copy of which is herewith transmitted. The preliminaries being in the nature of a treaty, will with all the correspondence in relation thereto be forthwith communicated to the hon-Senate for its constitutional advice, and such action as, in its wisdom, the same shall seem to require.

"The alternative of annexation or independence will thus be placed before the people of Texas, and their free, sovereign, and unbiassed voice will determine the all-important issue; and, so far as it shall depend upon the Executive to act, he will give immediate and full effect to the expressions of their will.

"His situation in regard to the important subjects now communicated to Congress has, since their late adjournment, been one of great delicacy and embarrassment. Questions of much difficulty have been presented for his determination, upon which the fate and welfare of the country depended; and without precedent or constitutional guide for his governance, he has been obliged to assume, in consequence, great and severe responsibilities. He trusts, however, that Congress will approve the course he has adopted, and, by their enlightened counsels, relieve and direct him in the course hereafter to be pursued in relation to those questions.

"The Executive is happy to announce to Congress that Texas is at peace with the world; that with all foreign Powers with whom we have had intercourse friendly relations are maintained. The different tribes of Indians on our borders, with whom treaties exist, have continued to observe the same with good faith, and within the last few days information has been received that the only band of Camanches within our limits, who had maintained until then a hostile attitude towards Texas, have sued for peace, and expressed a wish to be permitted to come to Bexar to celebrate a treaty of friendship, which, on the part of this Government, has been complied with.

"The arrangements made at your regular session for additional companies of rangers to be mustered into service have been carried into full effect, and have afforded adequate and very efficient protection to our frontiers. The receipts into the Treasury have been sufficient to meet the various expenditures of the Government. A specie currency has been maintained without difficulty; and all the Exchequer-bills which were in circulation at the period of your late adjournment have been redeemed and withdrawn from circulation; and the Executive is happy to congratulate the Congress and the country upon a state of peace, happiness, and prosperity never before experienced by Texas, and rarely, if ever, equaled by so young a nation.

"It only remains for the Executive to express an assured confidence in your individual wishes to sustain the best interests of Texas, and the fervent hope that He
who holds the destinies of men and nations in His hand may crown your deliberations.

"ANSON JONES."

On the 18th the Senate passed resolutions of annexation and sent them to the house. The house laid them on the table, and, passing their own, sent them to the Senate on the 19th. A strife arose as to which body should have the honour of originating the successful resolutions, and finally the following, which originated with the Senate, were unanimously adopted in both branches:--

"Whereas the Government of the United States hath proposed the following terms, guarantees, and conditions on which the people and territory of the republic of Texas may be erected into a new state, to be called the state of Texas, and admitted as one of the states of the American Union to wit:

"[Here follow the resolutions of the United States Congress.]

"And whereas, by said terms, the consent of the existing Government of Texas is required: therefore--

"Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the republic of Texas in Congress assembled,--That the Government of Texas doth consent that the people and territory of the republic of Texas may be erected into a new state, to be called 'the state of Texas,' with a republican form of government, to be adopted by the people of said republic, by deputies in convention assembled, in order that the same may be admitted as one of the states of the American Union; and said consent is given on the terms, guarantees, and conditions set forth in the preamble to this joint resolution.

"2. Be it further resolved,--That the proclamation of the President of the republic of Texas bearing date May 5th, 1845, and the election of deputies to sit in convention at Austin on the 4th day of July next, for the adoption of a constitution for the state of Texas, had in accordance therewith, hereby receive the consent of the existing Government of Texas.

"3. Be it further resolved,--That the President of Texas is hereby requested immediately to furnish the Government of the United States, through their accredited Minister near this Government, with a copy of this joint resolution; also to furnish the convention to assemble at Austin on the 4th of July next with a copy of the same; and the same shall take effect from and after its passage."

On the 19th, in the Senate, Mr. Geer introduced a joint resolution, relative to the introduction of United States troops into Texas, which was read the first time.

Mr. Kaufman's bill, "setting apart land for the payment of the public debt," &c., was taken up, read the third time, and passed.

It is stated that an American agent, immediately after the passage of the annexation resolutions, proceeded to select military posts for the United States troops.

The following memoranda we copy from the Union, a Texas newspaper, to which they were communicated:--

"Memoranda of the Conditions preliminary to a Treaty of Peace, as agreed upon by Ashbel Smith, on the part of Texas, and M. Cuevas, on the part of Mexico, and the accompanying Papers, as submitted to the Senate by President Jones.

"I. Message of President Jones, transmitting the treaty and papers to the Senate.

"II. Letter from Baron Alleye de Cyprey, transmitting to the Executive of Texas the conditions signed by Ashbel Smith, and the agreement on the part of Mexico to accede to them as the basis of a formal treaty.

"III. Conditions preliminary to a treaty of peace:"
"1. Mexico consents to acknowledge the independence of Texas.

"2. Texas engages that she will stipulate in the treaty not to annex herself, or become subject, to any country whatever.

"3. Limits and other arrangements to be matters of agreement in the final treaty.

"4. Texas to be willing to refer the disputed points with regard to territory, and other matters, to the arbitration of umpires.

"Done at Washington (on the Brazos), on the 27th of March, 1845
"ASHBEL SMITH, Secretary of State.

"Certified copy of the original, presented by Captain Elliott.
"ALLEYE DE CYPREY.
"BANKHEAD.
"Mexico, May 20.

"IV. Acknowledgment by Cuevas of the receipt of these preliminaries, through the intervention of Baron Alleye de Cyprey; and declares that the national Congress having consented, Mexico will accede to the preliminaries proposed by Texas, as the basis of a formal treaty.--May 19, 1845.

"V. Additional declaration of Cuevas.--If this negotiation is not realized on account of circumstances, or because Texas, influenced by the law of the United States on annexation, consents thereto, either directly or indirectly, then the answer which is given under this date to Texas shall be considered null and void.--May 19th.

"VI. Letter from President Jones to Baron Alleye de Cyprey, acknowledging his kind offices in bringing about the negotiations, &c."

To these was appended the proclamation of President Jones, of June 4th, declaring a cessation of hostilities.

This treaty was considered by the Senate in secret session, on the 21st of June, and rejected by a unanimous vote, and the injunction of secrecy removed.

On the passage of the annexation resolution, an express was despatched by President Jones to the Commander of the United States’ troops at Fort Jessup, requesting that two regiments of the United States’ troops should be sent to the frontier of Texas. Simultaneous with the receipt of this requisition, General Taylor is said to have received orders from the War Department to put his troops in motion. Immediate preparations were made for a start, and the 3d and 4th Regiments of Infantry embarked on board the steamboats Yazoo, Cote Joyeuse, Rodolph, and De Soto, for New Orleans; there, according to one account, to await the action of the Texas Convention, which met on the 4th instant at Austin, when they would move by water to Corpus Christi; or, as is more probable, thence to embark as soon as transports could be procured for the mouth of the Rio Grande. The 2d Regiment of Mounted Dragoons, under the command of Colonel Twiggs, at the same time took up their line of march, to strike across to the Rio Grande through Texas.

These movements are made in fulfillment of the assurances contained in Major Donelson’s letter to Mr. Allen, Acting Secretary of State at Texas, dated June 11, 1845, from which we extract the following passage:--

"In answer to the application thus made for the employment of the troops of the United States on the frontier of Texas, the undersigned is authorized to say that, as soon as the existing Government and the convention of Texas shall have accepted the terms of annexation new under their consideration, the President of the United States will then conceive it to be both his right and his duty to employ the army in defending this state against the attacks of any foreign Power; and, that this defence may be promptly and efficiently given, should the anticipated emergency arise rendering it necessary, the undersigned is also unauthorized to say that a force consisting of 3,000 men, placed upon the border adjacent to Texas, will be prepared to act without a moment’s delay, within the territory of Texas, as circumstances may require, so as best to repel invasion."

The Government of Texas has received information from Captain Hays, contradicting the rumour that the Mexican forces on the Rio Grande had been increased to 7,000
men. The forces in the eastern provinces are as weak, if not weaker, than they have
been during the last five years.

The Galveston Civilian says the Nueces has overflowed its banks, and is impassible;
while the whole country beyond is a continuous bog, rendering any attempt to travel
in large numbers impracticable. This very much weakens the chance of an invasion
from Mexico at this time, as the waters in Western Texas are apt to keep up from
the middle of July, at least, until the middle of October, and then the deserts
between the Nueces and the Rio Grande are once overflowed they rarely become
passable, even to single wayfarers, under two months, and are so much the more
difficult of travel to large bodies of men.

The Washington Union gives the following:--

"LATEST AND INTERESTING FROM TEXAS.

"The Executive has been polite enough to place in our hands the following
correspondence between Major Donelson and the Government of Texas, along with a
printed document, communicated to the Congress of Texas, and comprising some of
the mysteries of the treaty with Mexico. It implicates Mr. President Jones in these
extraordinary transactions. We hasten to lay them before our readers. This ridiculous
negotiations, at which the Courts of England and France will have some cause to
blush--every way ridiculous, as well on account of the scheme itself, as of the
conduct of its agents (Elliott and Saligny), and of its unqualified and unanimous
rejection by the Senate of Texas, will reflect some light on the absurd and new
fangled doctrine of M. Guizot about the balance of power on the American continent.
How ridiculous, that after all this "scenery, machinery, and decorations," after all this
elaboration of machinery--all this working of the wires--all these trips of the Eurydice
backwards and forwards, the Mexican treaty should have been unanimously
rejected! The whole drama, indeed, is more ridiculous than an farce which was ever
played upon the French or English stage.

"The Congress of Texas was to adjourn, by resolution, on the 28th of June."

The adoption of the measure of annexation was thus announced by the Texan
Government to the Legation of the United States:--

Department of State, Washington, June 23.

The undersigned, Attorney-General of the republic of Texas, charged ad interim with
the direction of the Department of State, by order of his Excellency the President,
has the honour of transmitting to the Hon. Mr. Donelson, Charge d'Affaires of the
United States near this Government, the enclosed copy of a joint resolution, adopted
by both houses of the Congress of Texas, on the 21st instant, and this day received
and approved by the President, declaring the consent of the existing Government of
this republic to the terms of the proposition for annexation, tendered by the United
States, through the Hon. Mr. Donelson, on the 31st of March ultimo, to the
Government and people of Texas.

To all true friends of the great cause of annexation, and especially to the Hon. Mr.
Donelson, whose energies and talents have been so ably and faithfully devoted to
the success of that cause through the several stages of its recently triumphant
progress, it must be peculiarly gratifying to observe the harmony and unanimity with
which this resolution has passed the two houses of Congress, and received the
executive approval.

[JSW]

LT 1845-7-30-6d Mexican bonds

The result of the last meeting of Mexican bondholders is well-known. They decided
upon taking legal steps to compel Messrs. Lizardi and Co. to transfer to the new
agents, Messrs. Schneider, the funds which they so unaccountably detained. That,
according to every principle of equity, as understood by merchants, the late agents
were bound to appropriate to the bondholders only the money they received on
account of the dividends, nobody seemed to entertain the slightest doubt; and we do
not believe that a single impartial person was to be found who agreed to the doctrine
that debts due from Mexico to Messrs. Lizardi could be justly set off against this
specific fund. Still there has been great anxiety to see some legal opinion of Mr.
James Russell, the Chancery barrister, which has been taken by the Committee of
Bondholders preliminary to their proceedings, will be read with great eagerness. It will be seen that public and legal opinion are precisely in harmony with each other:--

"By the agreement of 1837, one-sixth of the Customhouse duties of Vera Cruz and Tampico is appropriated to the payment of the interest on the bonds; and, in order to secure its due application, it is paid by the administrators of the Customs into the hands of two Commissioners, one of whom is nominated by the bondholders. In the hands of the Commissioners this one-sixth is served from the general funds of the Mexican Government, and it is thenceforth clothed with a trust for the bondholders.

"By a subsequent arrangement the share of the Customs thus appropriated has been increased from one-sixth to one-fifth. Though the Mexican Government could not, without violating good faith, have lessened the fund, it was quite competent to them to increase it; and the one-fifth when received by the Commissioner is equally clothed with a trust, and for the same purposes as the one-sixth would have been.

"The funds are transmitted by the Commissioner to Lizardi and Co., the agents of the Mexican Government but the transmission is merely for the purpose of distribution among the bondholders. The transmission is made for the purpose, not of destroying the trust, but of carrying it into effect. Lizardi and Co. receive the funds subject to a specific appropriation. Of that appropriation--of the trust to which the funds are thus subject--Lizardi and Co., have complete notice: they are themselves trustees of the fund as soon as the moneys come into their hands, and they cannot apply them to any purpose other than the payment of the interest on the bonds, without violating obligations and duties too plain to be mistaken.

"If Lizardi and Co. have made advances for the general purposes of the Mexican Government, and if on this separate account a debt is due to them, they, must seek payment of that debt from the Mexican Government; and they may justly retain any moneys in their hands on the general account of the Mexican Government. But the funds in question were funds which even that Government had no right to divert from the bondholders. If the Mexican Government had directed Lizardi and Co., to apply the one-fifth of the Customs remitted by the Commissioners to the discharge of a private debt due from Mexico to Lizardi and Co. that direction would not have entitled them to retain the money for their own use, and to attempt to do so without the sanction, and in opposition to the orders of the Government, is as unjustifiable in law as it is in morality."

The opinions of Mr. Turner and Mr. Malins have also been taken, and, as the committee state, entirely concur in Mr. Russell's view. It may be worth while to remind some of our readers that the reasoning above as to the change from the one-sixth to the one-fifth is nearly the same as that put forward under this head, when the point was first started. There seems little doubt that the law will now take its course, without any technical impediment. [JSW]

The annexation of Texas, after maintaining for nearly 10 years an almost undue prominence among the political questions of the age, is announced at length as an historical fact. When the equipoise of probabilities had been so long preserved, no rational person could have been surprised at either result. The only real wonder is, that the decision has been so long deferred. If it seems now to take the most indifferent spectators rather aback, it is simply because, when people have long been accustomed to one political mood and tense, it requires a mental effort to realize another. Thus it is, that the most likely or possible changes may come at last to be the least expected. The more unaccountable the delay may be, the more mysterious is the obstacle it seems to denote. There must be some secret bar between the lovers who have courted half their lives. The man who is always contemplating an act of importance is viewed by the public in that inceptive position, even after he has exchanged it for fulfillment. Though in the early part of the month we spoke of annexation as already morally consummated, as a mere question of time dependent on the numerical growth of a State's majority in Texas, and as very possible determined at the time we wrote, yet with the rest of the world we feel the suddenness of the act. We are puzzled at it as we should be at the fall of a leaning tower, which till the moment that it fell had puzzled us much more by its standing.

The event is already proclaimed by a party in the States as a triumph over European interference. They who so speak are evidently unacquainted with that kind of mediation which is sufficiently rewarded if it makes enemies placable and disputants
considerate; if it secures freedom of choice to those who are exposed to overwhelming influences and inspires calmness into those who were excited by fierce animosities, and perplexed by the gravest embarrassments. It certainly is the habitual, the immemorial policy of Europe, to suggest counsels of independence to the weak, and to be jealous of a powerful neighbour. A century or two might possibly have proved that Texas ought to have been an independent empire. It may possibly still turn out that the singular mixture of government and anarchy, of responsibility and irresponsibility, miscalled. Federalism, is not the safest political absorbent. The boasted vortex may possibly not be found in the end the smoothest current or the plainest sailing. The internal dissensions of the States, as well as their external aggressions, undoubtedly suggest the thought that an independent, and even a powerful empire, midway between the States and Mexico and the West Indies, might be the best for all parties. Such may or may not be the discoveries or the conclusions of a future age. It is the part of wisdom, however, to provide for the barest contingencies. Historians and statesmen, and nations also, might some day deplore that the humane and provident Powers of Europe, so familiar as they are with the virtues of independence and the vices of dominion, should have overlooked the weakness of an infant state, and not made one effort to procure it the leisure and the liberty to choose its part. Many a grave judgment is recorded and accredited by all mankind for a neglect of less opportunities.

It may therefore be the future glory of the two leading European policies that they combined to render the annexation of Texas at least a free act. Good or bad, wise or foolish, it has at least been the act of Texas, not the dictation of circumstances. The two alternatives of independence and annexation were jointly laid before q convention assembled to decide that particular issue. Never before had independence been fairly and explicitly offered to the people. It was so offered on the word of Mexico, and the guarantee of the European mediators. It can no longer be said that annexation was the only safe choice--that Texas was driven into the arms of its powerful neighbour. The deliberation was not biased by a desire for peace. On the contrary, the actual choice is the signal, though it may be at present only the signal, of war. Texas, independent and protected, might have been as a wall of brass between the ambitious encroachments of the north and the feverish disorders of central America. It may now be the battle-field of two nations, two characters. It may be the scene of a piratical and predatory warfare between one nation most unprincipled in its aims, and another most reckless in its revenge. The cupidty and license of all nations, sick of peace and order, may gather under the two hostile flags, and make Texas the point of their horrible collision. Should such be the lamentable result, it will prove the wilfulness of the Texan decision, as well as the wisdom of the European mediators.

The question, doubtless, admits of being viewed with great simplicity. Texas, as an independent state, independent in fact and by general recognition, may unite itself to whom it pleases. It is chiefly people by immigrants from the United States and others of the same race. There are many obvious advantages in union, and many encouraging precedents. So far the case is clear. But, if this were all, how is it that annexation has so long struggled in vain to survive the early and now inveterate prejudice of its immorality? How is it that the most impartial writers and the most righteous men in the States have thought it worthy of their most unqualified condemnation? The question cannot be viewed thus simply. It cannot be separated from its history. Admit that annexation is a natural finale of the drama, then the plot has been most unprincipled. The United States allowed a large emigration of the most unscrupulous adventurers into Texas, under contract with the Mexican Government. If it is alleged that the latter did not or could not fulfil its contracts, it cannot be pretended that the former exhibited better faith. The circumstances of fraud and outrage connected with that immigration excited the disgust and remonstrance of every good man in the union. The federal Government allowed it,--encouraged it; saw all the while that the new population of Texas would not bear the Mexican Government and laws;--saw immigration and rebellion, colonization and independence of Mexico, proceeding passibus equis. The declaration of independence was notoriously only the conclusion of a scheme openly concocted within the limits of the union. We are now told the only possible end and aim of that scheme was annexation. Is it possible to forget these dark items in the account? Is the destiny of federalism so inevitable a fact, so bright an idea, as to hide these spots? The fatalism of power and ambition never can efface the lines of morality. Even that which must be, need not be done by detestable means. It is the moral repugnance not only of rival nations, but of America itself,--of the nation most interested and most compromised,--which has struggled all this time against an act, the object of which might be useful and inevitable, but which in itself, in its means, in its actors, was dangerous to the mutual confidence of nations, and to the cause of public morality.

[JSW]
The half-yearly meeting of the United Mexican Mining Association was held to-day, and the resolutions passed at the previous meeting, for altering the deed of settlement so as to enable the directors to declare a dividend without having so large a surplus as 60,000l., were confirmed. Before putting the resolution declaring a dividend of 5s. per share, as previously announced, the chairman stated that further remittances had been received since the last meeting, and that therefore the directors were enabled to declare a dividend of 7s. 6d. This statement was, of course, heard with great satisfaction by the proprietors, and the resolution with embodied it was passed unanimously. They were so much the more pleased as the company has been struggling through difficulties for upwards of 20 years, and this is the first dividend that has been paid since its commencement.

From the circulars of the brokers connected with the wool trade, and from other sources, it may be collected that the trade in colonial wool is in a progressive state. The series of sales commenced on the 3d and ended on the 26th instant, the attendance of buyers having been very numerous throughout. The quantity of colonial wool offered for sale being greater than ever was sold at any one preceding period, might have operated injuriously on prices had the market been in a less healthy condition. To the advance which took place at the late German wool fairs this beneficial result is partly attributed; and it is also observed, that the importation is much improved, especially from Port Philip. Out of 31, 312 bags of colonial wool there were 10,022 Australian, 7,272 Van Diemen's Land, 8,673 Port Philip, 1,762 South Australian, and 3,148 Cape of Good Hope; the quantities from New Zealand and the East Indies being very trifling.

The Banker's Magazine furnishes the returns of the circulation of private and joint-stock banks in England of Wales for the four weeks ending respectively the 28th of June, the 5th, 12th, and 19th inst., and gives the following as the average circulation of these banks for the month ending the 19th inst. Viz.,--

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<tr>
<td>Private banks</td>
<td>£4,478,744</td>
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<td>Joint Stock banks</td>
<td>3,158,779</td>
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THE ANNEXATION OF TEXAS.--While this paper has uniformly advocated the annexation of Texas to the United States, from 1837 to this time, it has as uniformly denounced the manner in which annexation was sought to be achieved by the late Congress. For annexation by treaty, we were every an advocate; but we protested most solemnly against the violation of the constitution by trampling upon the treaty-making Power. With us, then, the question has not been whether it was wise, and prudent, and patriotic, to annex Texas. To all this the Courier and Enquirer has ever been committed; and, from recent events, we are more than ever confirmed in the policy of that great measure. Our only objection, heretofore, has been to the manner of annexation, not to annexation itself; and as we remarked some weeks since, the interference of the Governments of England and France has not only reconciled nearly the whole country to annexation, but even to the manner of accomplishing it. We think we may, therefore, with great safety congratulate our readers that this great measure has been brought to a close, and that Texas is at this time virtually an integral part of the American Union. The mode in which it has been accomplished is altogether objectionable; but the very strenuous exertions of England and France to prevent the measure prove its immense importance to us, while their interference roused an American feeling which prompted nine-tenths of our people to desire annexation, even under the resolutions of the last Congress. The nation was committed on the subject; and rather than see the result which we this day announce. Our firm belief is, that the whole country will be greatly benefitted by the annexation of Texas; but more especially will the commercial and the manufacturing sections of it be directly benefitted by that event, while, instead of weakening, it will add greatly to the strength of the union. Such we know were not the opinions of most of the northern people some months since; but time and reflection have opened their eyes measurably to the true merits of the question. In regard to the question of slavery in this connexion, we have ever denounced it as a bugbear not worthy of a moment's serious consideration. Suppose a slaveholder were working 100 negroes on 200 acres of land, would any sane person think it cruelty to the slaves if he were to extend the size of his farm? Certainly not. And if by so extending
h is farm he increases his ability to clothe and feed, and in time of sickness to care for the slaves, the philanthropist must rejoice at the measure. And precisely so it is with regard to Texas. From this time forward our laws extend to every square foot of land in Texas; and henceforth the introduction of a slave from any quarter save our own slave states, in piracy, and punishable with hanging. From this time forward, then, the slave trade is extinguished in Texas. This is a great measure gained--one in which every honest man in the land should rejoice; and henceforth, instead of the slaves being required to toil upon the comparatively barren soils of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky, and Missouri, where the produce of their labour barely enable their masters to clothe and feed them, they will be transported to the more congenial regions of Texas, where a virgin soil and more genial climate will render their labour far more productive, where their value to their owners will be three-fold what it now is, and where, consequently, they will be better fed, better clothed, and better cared for in the hour of sickness. It follows of course, that the northern slave states will ultimately get rid of the great curse under which they now labour, and thus add to the political weight and influence of the free states. With regard to what Mexico may do, in consequence of annexation, we need not have any apprehension. She has offered to acknowledge the independence of Texas if she would not unite with us. By this act she has virtually admitted her inability to conquer her, and given to all the world a quiet claim of her title. We care not much what she does; but if she declares war her capital will soon be in our possession, never to be surrendered, as we have heretofore said, until the Californias are ceded to the United States.--New York Courier and Enquirer. [JSW]

LT 1845-8-2-8f US and annexing principle

The following highly interesting article we copy from the New York Courier and Enquirer of July 15:--

"It is an old saying in reference to undertakings of questionable morality or expediency that it is 'the first step which costs.' This is true; but, unluckily, costly as that first step may be, it is not with it that the cost of evil, or the propensity to accomplish it, terminates.

"The success of Texas annexation, prepared from long back by emigration from this country, is acting already with wonderful efficiency, in stimulating to other like enterprises--Oregon being considered as already part ours, all peradventure, eager eyes are turned to California, and accordingly we find that a meeting was held at the court-house in St. Louis on the 30th ult., the object of which, according to the new era, was 'to project a plan to form an independent settlement in California.' Speeches were made, and the wind-work of a very flourishing settlement was completed, which leads the democratic organ in St. Louis to think 'that Mexico will find it for her interest to establish there a separate republic, or leave it entirely to the control of the adventurous spirits already preparing to settle it.'

"Thus commenced the settlement of Texas; and as the Californian emigration swells, the necessity will become more and more transparent of annexing that region also to our Anglo-Saxon inheritance.

"Now, on the subject of California, we have already said that the acquisition of that country by honourable means we do consider desirable--of that portion of Upper California at least which includes the Bay of St. Francisco, and the St. Sacravent river running into it; and to our view, the acquisition of that territory, by negotiation and purchase, would be a master stroke of policy.

"Whether now or at any near present time the Government of Mexico, whatsoever it may be, would consent to negotiate with this Government for the cession of this part of this country by honourable means we do consider desirable--of that portion of Upper California at least which includes the Bay of St. Francisco, and the St. Sacravent river running into it; and to our view, the acquisition of that territory, by negotiation and purchase, would be a master stroke of policy.

"For instance, we might consent that England should come down to the Columbia River, and have its navigation in common with us--thus renouncing some six or seven degrees of barren territory in Oregon north of that river, but which, though comparatively valueless to us, would be valuable to Great Britain, as connecting with her Hudson's Bay settlements; provided that England would yield to us the free navigation of the St. Lawrence, with the necessary depot at or near the mouth, and would interpose no obstacle or objection to our purchasing of Mexico some five or six degrees of latitude adjoining our southern boundary of Oregon, which would just
enclose the Bay of Francisco and its tributary waters.

"This, with good faith and fair play all round, seems to us alike desirable and feasible; and on such a footing as this, or any analogous footing, we are for Upper California--but not by rapine--not by revolution prepared in advance in our own country, to be effected by emigrants, sent from here with the preconceived purpose of robbing and spoiling those of whom they go to ask hospitality and a home.

"With the tone, therefore, of the St. Louis paper in speaking of the preparation for emigrating to California, we are little pleased--but for California, as of more value to us--a few dozen leagues of its seaboard, thence running back into the interior--than all Oregon, we go strongly whenever we can go honestly."

[JSW]

LT 1845-8-4-4f

Our accounts from Madrid are of the 26th ult. According to the letters from Malaga inserted in the Heraldo, the Progresista conspiracy discovered in that city had ramifications in the Ronda, Granada, and different other parts of Andalusia. Among the persons arrested were Lieutenant-Colonel Lara, several other officers, a great number of sergeants of the regiment of Jaen, a merchant named Hervas, the lawyer Cardero, Messrs. Canadillas, Saborio, and other individuals known to profess Progresista principles. The Heraldo states, that Madrid was also to have been the theatre of a revolutionary movement, and that the police had seized copies of an incendiary proclamation, printed in the vicinity of the capital on the 23d, and which purported to be the manifesto of the "Liberal Union." Extraordinary precautions were taken for the maintenance of tranquility in Madrid, and the night before the entire garrison had been suddenly placed under arms. The authorities of Malaga had informed the Government that good order had not been an instant disturbed in that city. The political chief of Cuidad Real having seized a treasonable correspondence carried on between the Carlists of that province, had thought proper to banish three of the principal chiefs of that party. A large force was being concentrated in the neighborhood of Vittoria. Some changes were contemplated in the military department. General Aspiroz, the director of the Artillery, was to be replaced by General Loigorry, and General Soria, Inspector of the Infantry, by General Cordova.

The Three per Cents. Closed at 28 11-16 for cash, and 20 at 60 days; the Five per Cents. At 21 1/8 for cash, and 21 ½ at 60 days; and the Debt without Interest at 7 for cash.

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We have received the Madrid journals and correspondence of the 28th ult. It would appear that the speculations put forward of a dissolution of the existing Cabinet were, at the least, premature. With the exception of General Narvaez and M. Martinez de la Rosa, the whole of the Ministers had returned to Madrid from Saragossa.

The Gazette publishes dispatches from Saragossa of the 25th. The Queen was to have left that city on the 28th for Tudela by the canal of Aragon, on the 29th to arrive at Tafalla, and on the 30th at Pampeluna. The dispatch states that she is in the most perfect health.

Petitions have been presented to the Commandant-General of Malaga by Moderados and Progresistas in favour of those compromised in the conspiracy discovered there; and the Captain-General of Grenada has been prayed to stay the execution of the sentences until Her Majesty's pleasure be known.

Large bodies of troops are assembling in Vitoria, and measures are taken to prevent an insurrection of the Carlists.

The Three per Cents. were rather firmer than at the last quotation. They were done at 28 ¾ for cash, and 29 1/8 at 60 days. Amount, 26,200,000. Fives at 21 1/8 cash; 400,000 done. Passives, 7 1/8 from the 15th of August. Amount, 4,000,000.

EPIGRAM.

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THE PRESS AND THE BAR.

The bar bars the press from its traveling mess,
The press from the press bars the bar;
Which shall first be in need, the unfed or unfree'd--
Those who are not in case, or who are

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There were present at Her Majesty’s Theatre on Saturday, the 2d of August, His Majesty the King of Holland, attended by Lord Hawarden, the Baron Boud, and the noblemen and gentlemen of His Majesty's suite; Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester; His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, accompanied by the Prince and Princess Radzivil, and attended by Mr. Edmund Mildmay; His Royal Highness Prince George; His Excellency the Russian Minister and the Baroness Brunow, accompanied by Lady Peel; the Dukes of Bedford, Wellington, Cleveland, and Beaufort; the Duchesses of Bedford, Somerset, Cleveland, and Beaufort; the Marquises of Ailesbury, Donegal, Clanricarde, Huntley, and Titchfield; the Marchionesses of Ailesbury, Westmeath, Essex, and Cardigan; the Earls of Wilton, Sandwich, and Shelburne; the Countesses of Harrington and Jersey; Count Kielmansegge, Count de Noailles, Count and Countess de Jarnac; Lords Francis Russell, W. Grahame, W. Beresford, Templeton, Trimlestown, Beauchamp, G. Paget, Duncannon, and Ernest Bruce; Ladies G. Bathurst, Fitzroy Somerset, Rendlesham, Colborne, Beauchamp, Gardner, E. Fielding, Jodrell, and Clementina Villers; Honourables General Upton, Colonel A. Upton, G. Fitzroy, Mr. Fitzribbon; Honourables Mrs. Ryder Burton, Mrs. Fitzgibbon, Mrs. Tollemache.

TEXAS.--It is very mortifying to perceive that those races in America which upheld slavery and the old aristocracy of colour should be thriving and increasing in numbers, wealth, peace, and power, whilst that race which has proclaimed the great principle of human equality, and acted upon it, should remain poor and divided, its industry paralyzed, its efforts at political organization utter failures, and its very existence threatened by the encroachments of its neighbours. The Anglo-Americans and the Portuguese-Brazilians thrive; the Spanish race, even in the most favoured position, dwindles. Within 20 years the Anglo-Americans have swollen from 10,000,000 to 18,000,000; within the same time, being about the period of their freedom, the Mexicans have increased from 6,000,000 to 7,000,000, that, too being most Indian increase. There are 1,000,000 of whites in Mexico 2,000,000 of mixed race, 4,000,000 of Indians. How can such a population withstand or compete with the expansive power of the Anglo-American? And yet the philanthropist could not hesitate which to prefer. In Mexico the Indian walks armed by the side of the white man, his best support, his free labourer, and friend. The American drives his slave gang before him to the cultivation of a new soil. The worst features of humanity are prominent in the one, the best features in the other; but the bad prevails, and, as we cannot take upon us to set straight by the strong hand what we think unfitting in the ways of Providence, we must deplore and abide. There does indeed seem to be a powerful demon employed counteracting and undoing all that we have done or can do against slavery and the slave trade. Nowhere has it more completely baffled our efforts than on this very land of Texas. But the struggle was from the first a vain one. Has we, indeed, on first recognizing the independence of Texas procured a recognition of it from Mexico, and poured European capital and population into it, we might have reared an independent state; but capital refused to repair thither, the American along migrated to Texas. In such circumstances to hope that Texas would not declare itself politically Anglo-American, as it was left to become in population and commercial connexion, was idle. How strong the national current ran in that direction we see from the unanimity of the Texan assemblies. They are all American to a man. If they ever affected to desire independence, it was to force Jonathan to grant them fair terms.

This they seem to have got, though not with terrifying President Polk, by shaking hands with Captain Elliot. The conditions of the United States were churlish; the grudging Senate of Washington passed them in order that the Texans might demur, that fresh negotiations might take place, that thus the matter should again come before Congress, and allow time and European interference to defeat annexation, and acted thereon promptly by the dispatch of ships and regiments to the Rio Grande. Polk has shown himself in this a worthy son of Jackson; indeed, an improvement upon old Hickory, since he has avoided the violence and bloodshed which accompanied the General's seizure of the Floridas. The question now is, whether the British Government and that of France, having failed, will be content to refrain from all further interference. Will they give up their treaties with Texas? Will Englishmen give up their claim upon Texas, as portion of Mexico to them? Will these European Powers remain strangers to the settlement of a new frontier between Mexico and the 80th state of the union, or will attempts be made, by negotiation at
Washington, to settle these in conjunction with the Oregon frontier? Mr. M'Lane is on his way to England to negotiate the latter affair. The very mission shows a desire on the part of the President to come to some amicable arrangement, and the sooner this is done the better, for the American zeal for territory having been satisfied in the direction of Texas, will now throw itself into the Oregon question with the usual fury of appeals to popular desires. It remains to be seen what attitude will be taken by the American Whigs, by those who stigmatized annexation. If Mexico remain quiet, they will have but weak arguments to bring forward. President Polk's success will add to his popularity, as well as that of the Democrats, and there seems little doubt that these are determined to follow up their victory by reducing the protecting tariff down to a tariff requisite for revenue alone. It seems to be confidently asserted that Mr. Walker will propose this measure at the opening of Congress. Should it take place, it will in some measure reconcile England to the loss of free trade with Texas.--Examiner.

[JSW]

LT 1845-8-5-6a Mexico, state of the Mexican Navy

STATE OF THE MEXICAN NAVY.--It will not be uninteresting to our readers, in the present state of the affairs in the western hemisphere, when the decision of the question of peace or war rests with the Government, or rather the citizens of Mexico, to be informed of the present condition of the Mexican navy. The effective force consists of the steamer Guadaloupe, 778 tons, two 68 shell-guns, four of 12, and a machine for rockets; steamer Montezuma, 1,100 tons, one 68 shell gun, two long 32's, two 32-pound gunnades, two 32-pound caronades, and a machine for rockets; brig Mexican, one shell-gun of 12, and 14 zonnades of 18; brig Vera Cruzana Libre, one shll gun of 32, six gunnades of 18, and 12-pound caronades; brig Tempoalteca, six caronades of 12; schooner Eagle, one shell gun of 32, and six 18-pound caronades, schooner Liberty, one shell gun of 12; schooner Morelos, one shell gun of 12; and four gun-boats, each mounting a long 24-pounder on a pivot. All these vessels are stated to be deficient in men; and, with the exception of the two steamers and gun-boats; require repairs before they would be able to put to sea.--Liverpool albion.

[JSW]

LT 1845-8-6-6b

MEXICO, JUNE 29, 1845.

Since the abortive attempt at revolution, made on the 7th of this month, of which I have already sent you the particulars, Mexico has remained in a state of perfect tranquility. Rumours of plots and intended risings have circulated daily, but no disturbance has taken place, either in the capital or the provinces, and for the moment the Federalist movement is a failure. According to the general opinion, that quiet is not destined to have a long continuance, as the Federalists are numerous and powerful, and the present Government is too apathetic to resist them when they seriously begin to act. Mexico will suffer much if such a change takes place, as the actual Ministers are honest well-meaning men, who do all they can to maintain Conservative principles, and govern according to the strict letter of the Constitution. Unfortunately they want firmness and moral courage, and they seem to encourage future sedition by the very lenient manner in which they have treated the leaders of the last revolt. Rangel, for instance, through whose folly 40 lives were sacrificed, has been sentenced to ten years' imprisonment; and when you inquire, why a man stained with so much crime, and taken with arms in his hands, has not been treated with more severity, they will tell you that the Mexican Government on principle is averse to shedding blood, and that as the President holds his office only ad interim, he as reluctant to proceed to extremities. The enemies of the Government hint at the same time that the Ministers acted from poltroonery, and that they spared the lives of Rangel and his fellow conspirators to secure their own when a reverse of fortune takes place. I have no doubt the latter motive had much influence, and that any other unsuccessful agitator who perils the life of citizens, and the existence of the state, will be treated with the same leniency. Santa Anna was the only man who knew how to govern the Mexicans, but he was morally incapable of filling a great destiny, and his vices and sordid avarice reduced him to the lowest level. Latterly, though dreaded, he was universally despised, and he has not left a single friend of good character in the whole country. I have not doubt he was the prompter of Rangel's enterprise, and that he stopped at the Havannah to be at hand in case it succeeded.
The Congress is to assemble on the 1st of July, an extraordinary session having been called for the purpose of advancing the various reforms which the republic demands. I am sorry to say the alteration in the tariff, of which I gave you an outline in my last, remains over to that period. The Senate, whose sittings have not been interrupted, have discussed it more than once; but thought the two Chambers are agreed in returning to the standard of 1842, nothing official has been done, and we must wait another month for the publication of the new tariff. The bill had a narrow escape in the Senate, as one of the popular members proposed, by way of encouraging native industry, that all articles manufactured in the republic should be prohibited altogether. This appeared quite natural to several, but, fortunately, the Ministers were able to demonstrate its absurdity, and the principle of the tariff of 1842 was generally adopted. This mania of forcing manufactures has bitten the people here, as well as in Spain and Portugal. Imagine a country five times as large as France, with only 7,000,000 to 8,000,000 of inhabitants, two-thirds of whom are miserable Indians, undertaking to manufacture while four-fifths of its soil are uncultivated--a country without roads, cut up into districts which scarcely communicate with each other, but full of natural wealth, if there were only hands enough to cultivate it. The manufacturing experiments have not hitherto succeeded, though the most ample protection had been given them. Few have ventured beyond making a common calico, worn by all classes, called manta, retailed as ls. per vara, or yard; but even that article could be delivered cheaper by the British manufacturer, if its introduction were not severely prohibited. Others have attempted common cloth and ordinary prints; but I do not hear that any factory has succeeded so as to compensate for capital and risk. The amount of protection given to native fabrics can be judged by the fact, that a bale of Manchester prints which stand on board at Vera Cruz at $130, cost, with import and inland duties, carriage, commission, charges on remittance, &c., $412 before delivery to the shopkeeper who is to retail them in the interior. And yet with this protection--so true are first principles--manufacturers do not prosper in Mexico, nor will they until the soil be fully cultivated, and there is a superabundance of labour.

The election of a President will soon be made. Herrera, the presiding interim President, will probably be chosen though it is said Gomez Farias, the head of the Federalist party, has secured several votes. It is fortunate for the country that the person last named is not over-burdened with riches, for Federalist to the core as he is, and enthusiast as he ever will be, no Government could stand against him if he had the means of bribing the army, through whose agency all revolutions are made. Gomez Farias is for the moment labouring under suspicion of having been connected with the Rangel movement, and he is keeping out of the way; but he is a Mexico "waiting on Providence," and as persuaded of the truth of his theory, as if he had been a successful, and not a beaten, man. Some persons expected that Bustamente, who has just arrived from France, would have mustered votes for the Presidency, but his appearance has not caused the least sensation, and his name is seldom mentioned. In fact no event can make a sensation here; and I fancy that the apathetic, almost stagnant, Indian blood has become so infused into the Mexican people, that nothing can arouse them.

We are anxiously expecting news from Texas. The Congress was to meet on the 17th of this month; but the decision on the United States proposal of annexation has been referred to a national convention, to be held on the 4th of July. The result of that meeting you will learn through the States much sooner than I can send it through Vera Cruz and the Southampton steamer; and the train of reasoning consequent on it will be understood in England before my correspondence appears. Annexation will be a fatal blow to Mexico, and prejudice all European interests in the new world. It is clear that the American Government does not limit its views to the incorporation of a state so unproductive as Texas in reality is; but that the vicinity of Texas to the chief mining district of Mexico is the great source of attraction. The United States cove the possession of Chihuahua, San Louis Potosi, Durango, Zacatecas, and Santa Fé, all of which are more or less in its vicinity; and they are determined to have them, without forgetting the more extended plan of incorporating the territory lying between Texas and the Bay of California and the Pacific. I ask if it will suit British interests to see all the country, from which silver in such large quantities is produced, under the dominion of the United States; or will it suit the great European Powers to find, I may say, the monetary circulation dependent on the caprice of the President of the United States? These are remote consequences, you may think, but I reply, in politics our views must not be limited to 50 or 100 years, and we must foresee what may be the result of any given proposition. The United States will of course deny that they have such ambitious tendencies; but I defy them, if Texas be incorporated, not to look with a longing eye on all those treasures of neighbouring province of Mexico contain--treasures which would become tenfold if explored with that zeal and industry that distinguish the Anglo-Saxon race.

As to California, and the western coast of the Pacific, the views of the United States
cannot for a moment be doubted, and gladly do we see that our Government has
determined not to give way on the Oregon question. But we must not forget that the
States are peopling Upper California as they did Texas, and that a regular plan of
emigration is going on through the recently discovered passages in the Rocky
Mountains. Numerous settlers are already hanging on the skirts of the Bay of San
Francisco, one of the finest harbours in the world, whence a large steamer can go to
Canton in from 30 to 40 days; and even the fort of the Bodega lately abandoned by
Russia a short distance from that bay, has not escaped them. The Mexican
Government is well aware of these designs, and it is holding out encouragement to emigrants from this quarter to settle in Upper California, but there is no surplus
population here, and the United States must be checked by immigration into
California from some other quarter. I understand that an Irish Roman Catholic
clergyman who is residing in Mexico at present, but submitted a plan to this
Government for establishing an Irish colony on the farther coast of the Bay of San
Francisco. The Mexican Government favours the proposal. A large grant of
productive land is to be assigned, him, peculiar privileges are promised, and I
understand the gentleman alluded to calculated on locating 5,000 of his countrymen
in that district. The treaty is nearly complete, and if the plan succeeds, a strong body
of Irish peasantry will be no inefficient aid in helping out British policy in that quarter.

The late President Canalizo and the Minister Bassadre have refused to avail
themselves of the amnesty under which Santa Anna submitted to voluntary exile.
The trail of both is to go on, and in the mean time one is confined in the Castle or
Perote, and the other in St. John d'Ulloa.

The regiment of Grenadiers who "pronounced" on the 7th have been dissolved, and
the men who refused to join the movement have been draughted into other corps.

You will find annexed the parting address of Santa Ana, as well as the speech of the
President on closing the first session of Congress, on the 31st of May.

The dispute between the French Minister and the Mexican Government has not yet
been arranged, though the former has been induced by the good offices of the
British and Spanish legation to accept for the present a promise of satisfaction. I
send you full particulars, with the interesting part of the correspondence, in a
separate article; so that I need only say here, that the Mexican Minister of Foreign
Affairs appears to have misunderstood from the beginning the practice of diplomacy,
and imagined that a violation of the "droit des gens" required no reparation but that
administered by the tardy forms of a court of law. The Baron de Cypress has shown
much forbearance in not insisting on the delivery of his passports, as certainly his
arrest and detention by an alcalde del barrio and a sub-lieutenant was a flagrant
violation of his rights, and an insult in his person to the King his master. At one
moment it was generally understood that the French Minister had ceased to
communicate with the Mexican Government, but I am glad to say matters have not
proceeded to that extremity, though it is still possible they may do so. There are
various causes of complaint arising between this Government and French residents
here or in the ports on the Pacific, so that it requires but a little drop more of ill-will
to make the cup overflow. Before closing this topic, I may add that the best
understanding prevails between Mr. Bankhead and the Baron de Cypress, and that
the latter gave his most cordial assistance in the late negotiations for the recognition
of Texas. The entente cordiale is in full operation here.

Since writing thus far, I find that the Federalists are again in movement. A part of
the corporation of Mexico wished to "pronounce" this morning, and it required some
exertion on the part of the more prudent to dissuade them from doing so. We also
learn that General Martinez has "pronounced" in Tobacco, a small province to the
southwest, adjoining Vera Cruz, and a report is likewise in circulation that Tampico
has declared. No importance is attached to the movement in Tobacco, but it shows
that the provinces are open to seduction, and that the Federalists are determined
not to abandon their hopes of governing the country.

I am sorry to find by letters from Galveston, that the affairs of Texas are taking an
unpleasant aspect. Annexation is absolutely certain, though President Jones is doing
all in his power to prevent it. He has declared a suspension of hostilities between
Texas by the States' agents, and if, as is reported, our Chargé d'Affaires is again
about to quit his post, the field will be totally abandoned. I cannot help attaching
great importance to the Texan question, and I fear that annexation will be the signal
for the gradual dissolution of the Mexican republic. I find a strong coincidence
between the actual state of the Ottoman empire and the Mexican republic, and the
aggressive spirit of Russia in the old world and the United States in this, with this
difference only—that, in the one case, the great European Powers have interfered to
prolong the existence of Turkey, while, in the other, not a hand is held out to save
Mexico from ruin. England alone has a strong interest in so doing; but I fear she is
coming into the lists too late, and that the occupation of Texas will render that extremely difficult which a few years since was comparatively easy. It is with pain I add, that there is not a single man in Mexico who has as yet appeared on the public scene capable of saving his country's honour, and that her fate is sealed.

H.

I send you the proclamation of General Martinez and the officers of the garrison at Tobacco, in favour of Federalism, which I have just received.

The following is the speech of the President on closing the first session of the Mexican Chamber for 1845:--

"Gentlemen,--We close the first period of your sessions with the satisfaction of having established order and peace in all the republic, restored liberty and the representative system, and assured the benefits arising from the memorable 6th of December of last year. The changes which have been made--glorious in their origin as in their results--are felt in the difference branches of public administration, in the several departments, and in the additional security given to the rights and privileges of citizens. Six months have passed, and that short period, which has conferred so many benefits on our country, is still more remarkable from the hopes it engenders of the future being worthy of the rank we should hold in the civilized world.

"Our ideas are confounded in thinking on the transition we have made from a state of violence, in which laws and the constitutional system were disregarded, to one where, on every side, are met examples of love and veneration for republican institutions. The Government, nearly ruined by disorders which were foretold, is now recovering itself. The departments have met and, by their patriotic proceedings, the constitutional organization in daily acquiring additional force. The army has been inspected, discipline has been established, actions which degraded the military character have been put an end to, and character and merit are now the only grounds of promotion. In fact, all public employments are disposed of without favour or odious distinctions, and to those persons only who render good service to the nation.

"Our diplomatic relations have been satisfactorily re-established, with the exception of those regarding the United States, interrupted for more than a year, and by the official declaration recently made by the Congress and Government, in which a great aggression on the republic is openly proclaimed. Our Minister at Washington and the United States Minister in Mexico have both withdrawn, and it is not easy to determine what will be the end of those differences which neither the Government nor the republic have directly or indirectly promoted.

"The Congress, whose attention was fixed on the line of conduct to be observed with regard to Texas, has felt the necessity of putting an end to a question so prejudicial in its nature, and it has allowed the Executive to hear the propositions which Texas has made, and to celebrate a treaty useful and honourable to the republic. The necessity of appealing to a peaceful negotiation, instead of resorting to arms, for the purpose of opposing the unjust policy of the United States, has completely justified the conduct of the Government and the Chamber--in this instance actuated solely by motives of prudence and feelings of the purest and highest patriotism. The propositions of Texas having been received, and the supreme Government having shown that it was not ill-disposed to the negotiation, it now remains to be seen how the matter can be terminated in a manner useful and honorable to the nation. If Texas, in contradiction to the initiative which it has made, should determine to join the United States, the Congress may be assured the Government is prepared to take such measures as the rights and dignity of the republic may demand. The Government has hitherto done all in its power to prevent collision with the United States, as well as to impede the annexation of Texas, and it will pursue the same course as long as it is consistent with its national honour and interests; but, if we should fail in these endeavors, we shall not hesitate to act as justice and reason point out.

"A remarkable complication of circumstances, and an urgent necessity which could not be overlooked, compelled the Congress and Government to direct their special attention to the influence which the political trials consequent on the events of last December had on the state of the country. Both saw that through the events which gave rise to those prosecutions were of the gravest nature, yet that society at large had claims which could not be neglected by the Chambers or the Executive. The agitation naturally produced by political offences, prolonged by causes not easily overcome, is an evil of such magnitude that all Governments have been obliged to resort to measures of clemency, as the surest means of ensuring peace and of
depriving the persons compromised in those offences of all temptations to renew
them. It was not possible during the continuance of the trials to proceed in the
election of a constitutional President. The law of amnesty has removed the difficulty,
and we now see that the events of the 6th of December have neither deprived the
Government of its clemency, nor exposed to danger liberty and its institutions. The
election of a constitutional President will soon crown the good work, and place the
Government of the Republic on its true constitutional footing.

"It is no longer possible for those to whom power was intrusted by the confidence of
the people to abuse that trust, and turn against the nation the authority they had
been invested with.

"Much remains to be done by Congress to meet the public exigencies, and the
Government will not hesitate to call an extraordinary session for the purpose of
discussing matters worthy of the zeal and wisdom of the legislative body. Let us
labour, therefore, gentlemen, without repose, in the noble work of doing good to our
country, and of removing the difficulties which naturally accompany the present
state of affairs. Let us sacrifice ourselves, if it be necessary, for the public good--
satisfied that Providence will bless our exertions, that the nation will approve of our
proceedings, and that justice and the laws will be from henceforth the best
foundation for the peace and progress of the Mexican Republic."

Santa Anna has published the following address to the nation:--

"Mexicans,--In quitting the country for ever, my heart tells me that I ought to say a
few words of farewell to you. I do so with pleasure, because, under all
circumstances, your cause has been mine, and my interests have on every occasion
been identified with yours. I have been often honoured with your confidence and
favour; and, as I never can forget your kindness, eternal will be my gratitude.

"Fellow-citizens, when far distant from you, and time has calmed our passions,
examine my public conduct with impartiality, think over all I have said and done,
and become acquainted with the whole truth, which now you cannot discover. The
period of my dictatorship, so acrimoniously reviled, will not be found stained by
cruelty or vengeance. Thanks to Heaven! I can repeat before you with a sound
conscience the following declaration:--'When all was in my power, I did not avenge
political offences. No citizen has been sent by me to eat his bitter bread in a foreign
land, and to weep over his exile. I deprived no one of his property, or arbitrarily
condemned or oppressed. Generosity and clemency were my programme.' In my
conduct for many years, whether as a soldier or magistrate, I might have committed
some errors, but no unworthy actions--no crimes against the country.--which I ever
served with loyalty and truth. Slight errors, or the want of knowledge in the great
affairs of state, may call for reprehension, but not for execration.

"The last movement which succeeded in the republic was directed solely against my
person and power. A revolutionary attempt was made in Jalisco, but it was
abandoned as soon as a better pretext was found out. They said, I was author or
accomplice in the fatal decree of the 29th of November of the preceding year, which
had for its object the control of such elections as did not suit me. I have been
deprived of the first magisterial office, which the nation by its will and in
constitutional form had bestowed on me. I have been declared a traitor, and driven
to acts of desperation, and even at the moment when I found myself at the head of
a force brave, loyal, and enthusiastic.

"Countrymen, to no one do I impute blame. I only mention these facts in order that
you shall think of them at a future period, and recollect that I sacrificed myself to
avoid a civil war, and a triumph gained over the dead bodies and the blood of
Mexicans. Country and power, glory and self-interest, I have sacrificed from
conscientious motives. My rights to the presidency of the republic were
unquestionable. One or two battles, the taking of one or two towns, were sufficient
to recover all, but I preferred to make the sacrifice--the immense sacrifice for me--
which you cannot appreciate at this moment, to separate myself from a country
which I so much love, from a soil where I first saw the light, and on which I have
shed my blood in defence of your rights.

"Mexicans, in advanced age, with a body mutilated in your service, surrounded by
my wife and innocent children, I submit to exile and seek a home in foreign lands.
Forgive the errors I have committed involuntarily, and believe me, in God's holy
name, that I laboured sincerely to make you free and independent, and that if I did
not come up to all your wishes, it was no fault of mine. In whatever foreign land I
may end my days, I will raise my humble voice to the Creator, praying for your
prosperity and happiness, and wishing that you may be elevated to your proper
Although the negotiations conducted by the English and French Ministers in Mexico, for the purpose of establishing the independence of Texas, have been rendered abortive by the unanimous declaration of the Texan Convention, and although Mexico was not brought to acknowledge the political existence of her former province until that existence was on the point of disappearing for ever in the bosom of the Anglo-American Union, we see no reason to regret the course which has been pursued by France and England this occasion. The mediation of these Powers between the rapacity of the United States and the debility of Mexico was ineffectual, from the moment that the leaning of Texas herself was peremptorily declared. But that mediation was the only dignified and consistent course which could be pursued by the great European Powers. The fact that it was jointly tendered sufficiently demonstrated that neither France nor England had in view any exclusive interests of their own upon that part of the continent of North America. It was highly becoming to the honour of the French Government to give this decisive proof of the falsehood of the assertions of Mr. CALHOUN AND MR. KING, from which it could only be inferred that the King of the FRENCH and M. GUIZOT were holding a totally different language on the subject of Texas to the Americans and to ourselves. We believe that Mr. KING’S reports and MR. CALHOUN’S remarks upon them were utterly groundless; and, although France was not prepared, any more than England, to make annexation a casus belli, her agents have undoubtedly laboured as strenuously as our own to avert the annihilation of the Texas republic.

The policy of France and England upon this question has not been guided by their interests along, for it can hardly be said that either Power had any great or direct interest in the solution of the question either one way or the other. No one can venture to predict with certainty whether the addition of the Texan territory to the United States will ultimately strengthen the Union or dissolve it. No one can know whether the extension of a slave population over these vast regions and new states will not rather accelerate than prevent the downfall of institutions based upon a violation of the rights of mankind. In a military, naval, and commercial point of view the acquisition of Texas is not to be compared in importance to that of Louisiana and the Floridas. The United States has already ample means of maintaining a becoming maritime position in the Gulf of Mexico; and the Texan province extends her line of coast, without the slightest increase of her national defences. The Americans, who are still full of the absurd idea that some European Power, and especially England, would establish itself in Texas, and might attack their southern frontier by land, affect to regard the annexation of the country as the only safeguard against such an invasion; but the argument is as worthless as the wild theory in which it originated. It is not, therefore, by such remote and uncertain considerations as these that the views entertained by the statesmen of Europe have been governed. The motives which have influenced the opinion of the public, and the conduct of the French and English Cabinets, were of a loftier kind. The world views the annexation of Texas, if the whole history of the transaction, from first to last, be dispassionately surveyed, as one of the basest frauds and most unwarrantable acts of spoilation ever perpetuated by any nation. In the present state of public opinion in Europe such an aggression on the territories of a weak state by a powerful neighbour would be impracticable. It can only be compared to the policy of Russia towards the Turkish empire—a policy of Russia towards the Turkish empire—a policy which Russia herself is not bold or bad enough to avow, and which she has allowed the other Powers of Europe to arrest by their interference and co-operation in the affairs of the East. As far as public opinion in Europe is concerned, annexation has done for the political character of the Cabinet of Washington what repudiation has already done for the financial credit of the United States; and, indeed, with far more strict justice, since the infamy of repudiation rests upon some of the states only, and that of annexation is the result of the deliberate and determined policy of the American people and their rulers. Whatever the political results of the measure may be, it became the Governments of Europe and the organs of public opinion in Europe to show that the universal laws of public morality and justice cannot be violated, even on the other side of the Atlantic, with absolute impunity. As far as the actual consummation of the
The act of spoliation is concerned, the United States had no direct antagonist to encounter but the feeble Government of a distracted republic in Mexico, a specimen of whose weakness, in the shape of a declaration of war, we give in another column; but for the justification of this extraordinary specimen of democratic diplomacy America stands alone against the whole civilized world. Not for Texas alone, but for the principles which she has basely violated, an indignant protest is sent forth by Europe; and we only re-echo the stern rebuke of the wisest and best of her own citizens, if, indeed, men are still willing to be called American citizens, when they must in that capacity sustain the burden of a transaction which they have themselves denounced as shameful and fatal to the true principles of their country. What says New England to these things? What is thought of them in the cultivated and intellectual society of Boston, which lately possessed in CHANNING an eloquent defender of Christian morality, and still boasts in STORY an unrivalled expositor of law and justice? The pride of the American people used to consist in the traditions bequeathed to them by the purity of WASHINGTON and the integrity of his illustrious companions; it is now stimulated by the artifices of MR. CALHOUN, and the aggressions of MR. POLK. They used to boast of a superiority to Europe in their exemption from those political errors and crimes which have so often deluged the ancient world with blood; but whilst civilization among us daily consolidates and general peace by a firm observance of public duties and international rights, the American continent seems destined to witness the fatal consequences of an eruption of those passions and follies which a wise Government and a virtuous people do must studiously repress.

The mere fact of the annexation of Texas is, we repeat, of small account in our eyes; but the spirit which it indicates on the part of the American people, and the consequences which will inevitably follow it, at no very distant period, are matters of the deepest concern for the future. Henceforward, the passion which has been roused, principally for the purposes of an unprincipled party, must at all hazards be satisfied. Men like Mr. CALHOUN or Mr. POLK, who subsist by stimulating and serving that passion, are the successful rivals of men like Mr. WEBSTER or Mr. CLAY, who aspire to the nobler task of controlling it. The same spirit is not altogether wanting in other free countries; in England it has one representative, in France it has many; but these are men thrown into opposition by the loss of the confidence of their Sovereigns and their countrymen, whilst the Government steadily pursues an opposite course. In the United States, on the contrary, the ascendancy of the restless, unscrupulous party of the democracy is complete, and with such men in power, directly the passions of the people to aggression on foreign states, no limits can be assigned to the wanton excesses which may be anticipated from such a Government. It is vain to conceal, it is impossible to overlook the fact, that the possessions of the Crown of England, and the relations of this country with the United States, are constantly and especially menaced by this detestable party. The fear of the arm of Britain is the only protection of the British possessions in North America from invasion. The possession of such a harbour as Halifax, the navigation of the St. Lawrence, and the command of the lakes, are objects of infinitely greater importance to an ambitious people than the acquisition of the wilds of Texas and of Oregon. At present, indeed, even the democratic leaders are unprepared to rush into a conflict with the forces of England; but no one can doubt that if these possessions were held by any weaker hand, they would be immediately and unscrupulously assailed. They are now defended, not by any respect for our rights, but by the conviction of our power. A man who has just committed one theft is only restrained from attempting another by the dread of resistance or of punishment; and in our dealings with the American Government we are compelled by experience to treat them as a state which respects no adverse rights of others and no engagements of its own. Under such circumstances, and at the very time when the worst part of the people, the reckless majority of a democracy, is flushed by its recent triumph over its opponents at home and its adversaries abroad by the annexation of Texas, we augur little good from the Oregon negotiation; but that subject must be reserved for future consideration. [JSW]
The Minister of Foreign Affairs has communicated to me the following decree:--

"Jose Joaquin de Herrera, General of Division and President ad interim of the Mexican Republic, to the citizens thereof.

"Be it known, that the General Congress has decreed, and the Executive sanctioned the following:--

"The National Congress of the Mexican Republic, considering,--

"That the Congress of the United States of the North has, by a decree, which its Executive has sanctioned, resolved to incorporate the territory of Texas with the American Union:

"That this manner of appropriating to itself territories upon with other nations have rights introduces a monstrous novelty, endangering the peace of the world, and violation the sovereignty of nations:

"That this usurpation, now consummated to the prejudice of Mexico, has been in insidious preparation for a long time; at the same time that the most cordial friendship was proclaimed, and that, on the part of this Republic, the existing treaties between it and those States were respected scrupulously and legally:

"That the said annexation of Texas to the United States tramples on the conservative principles of society, attacks all the rights that Mexico has to that territory, is an insult to her dignity as a sovereign nation, and threatens her independence and political existence:

"That the law of the United States, in reference to the annexation of Texas to the United States, does in no wise destroy the rights that Mexico has, and will enforce, upon that department:

"That the United States having trampled on the principles which served as a basis to the treaties of friendship, commerce, and navigation, and more especially to those of boundaries fixed with precision, even previous to 1832, they are considered as violated by that nation:

"And, finally, that the unjust spoilation of which they wish to make the Mexican nation the victim, gives her the clear right to use all her resources and power to resist, to the last moment, said annexation:

"It is decreed,--

"1. The Mexican nation calls upon all her children to the defence of her national independence, threatened by the usurpation of Texas, which is intended to be realized by the decree of annexation passed by the Congress, and sanctioned by the President of the United States of the North.

"2. In consequence, the Government will call to arms all the forces of the army, according to the authority granted it by the existing laws; and, for the preservation of public order, for the support of her institutions, and, in case of necessity, to serve as a reserve to the army, the Government, according to the powers given to it on the 9th of December, 1844, will raise the corps specified by said decree, under the name of 'Defenders of the Independence and of the Laws.'

"MIGUEL ATRISTAIN, President of the Deputies.
"FRANCISCO CALDERON, President of the Senate.
"Approved, and ordered to be printed and published.
"JOSE JOAQUIN-DE HERRERA.
"A.D. LUIS G. CUEVAS.
"Palace of the National Government, City of Mexico, June 4."

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General Bustamente arrived at Vera Cruz on the 17th ult., and offered his services to sustain the integrity of the Mexican territory and the dignity of the republic. He was rather coolly received by the Government, and it is reported that he refused the military honours tendered him on his arrival. It was believed that his return was not
invited by any party, and that he had no desire to meddle in public affairs.

The people generally were quiet, and not at all alarmed, notwithstanding the war cries made by the Federalists and the partisans of Santa Anna, who are loud in denouncing the Government for want of energy. The state of the public treasury was presumed to be pretty low, as the officers in the employ of the Government found great difficulty in obtaining one-fourth of their salaries.

The acting President, General Canalizo, and ex-Minister of War, General Basadre, not accepting the propositions made them by Government, to be expatriated for ten years, have been imprisoned for the same term, the former in the castle of Perote, and the latter in that of San Juan de Ulloa.


LT 1845-8-13-6c

Sir,--The unblushing effrontery of the United States, which has just received a fresh impetus by the late carrying our of what was generally considered as merely a Yankee threat--namely, the annexation of Texas to the Union--is not likely to stop short at this simple act of "tremendous larceny," and as long as the British possessions of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick hold out a temptation for a further acquisition of territory, the inhabitants of those colonies, exposed and unprotected as they are, can never divest themselves of that feeling of insecurity, which goes no little way to paralyze their commercial enterprise and attempts to improve the state of their colonies.

And there is no doubt but that this feeling does exist both in the Canadas and New Brunswick.

One important arm of defence has been unaccountably overlooked in all late reviews of the available capabilities of these colonies--viz., the native Indians, large bodies of whom are located in the western parts of Canada, dependent and a very heavy burden upon the British Government, but who could be converted into a most formidable and efficient force to defend our North American colonies, not only from the attacks of their greedy neighbours, but also from internal commotions and outbreaks to which the Canadas are, and always will be, subject, until the two races which form its populations are throughly amalgamated.

If I mistake not 160,000l. is the sum yearly expended by the British Government in supporting the Indians. A portion of this sum, judiciously expended, would organize a body of several thousand warriors, forming the most efficient and economical force which could be employed in that country. Indeed, in all military operations in the Canadas the co-operation of Indians has always been found indispensable, as our regular troops are perfectly unable to cope with the cunning backwoodsmen, who form the greater part of an American invading force.

Nothing could be objected to, on the score of humanity, in making use of the Indians. They are now much more "humanized" than in the old wars, and quite capable of being moulded into a most respectable state of discipline.

In the hope that the subject may be taken up by some one capable of doing it justice,

I remain, &c.,

[JSW]

LT 1845-8-18-6a

THE TIMES-OFFICE, Saturday Morning.

[The following appeared in part of our impression of Saturday:]
The British and North American Royal mail steam-ship, Britannia, Captain Howitt, arrived in the Mersey shortly before the departure of the quarter-past 8 p.m. train least evening, after a rather prolonged voyage owing to head winds. She brings 25 passengers.

The Texan Convention had consummated the merging of their country into the American Union.

The Canadian advices communicate no intelligence of moment.

On Saturday, the 19th, at about 3 o'clock in the morning, one of the most terrible fires that has ever occurred in that city, visited New York. It originated in New-street, and then communicated to the rear of a building in Broad-street, which contained a large quantity of saltpetre. The explosion that took place when this ignited was heard in every part of the city, the flames that issue firing the houses on the other side, at 100 feet distant. At half-past 7 o'clock a.m., the whole area between Broad-street, Exchange-place, Beaver-street, and Broadway, and up Broadway to the Waverley-house, was one vast amphitheatre of flame, sweeping along like a hurricane, and bearing before it immense masses of smoke, cinders and flakes of fire falling in all directions. At 10 minutes to 8 the fire had swept down Broad-street to Stone-street, and thence to the ferry, down Beaver-street, to within three doors of William-street; on Broadway from Waverly-house to No. 4, opposite the Bowling-green, and thence down Whitehall-street, nearly to the Battery. At about 1 o'clock the fire yielded to the almost superhuman exertions of the firemen, who are described as having acted in a most heroic manner. It is impossible for us to enumerate, as is done in the Extra of the Tribune, the whole of the buildings destroyed; suffice it to say that 302 houses, and property estimated at nearly $10,000,000, have been utterly destroyed. One of the gallant firemen perished, and several others were more or less seriously injured. Engine No. 22 could not be withdrawn in consequence of being attached to the hose when the explosion took place, and was consequently destroyed. It was said that some persons, who could not escape in time, had fallen victims to the flames, and that at least one half the capital of the largest insurance offices in the States has been swamped by this disastrous fire.

By the proclamation of the Mayor the military turned out to protect the property of the citizens, and their aid in preserving order, as well as that of the new police, had been most efficacious.

We annex the following extracts from the papers relative to the Annexation of Texas:--

"The people of Texas, in Convention assembled, on the 4th of July, with but a single dissenting voice, gave their unqualified assent to the re-union of that fair country to the parent stem."

"OFFICIAL.

"Hon. A. J. Donelson, Chargé d'Affaires of the United States, &c.,

"Sir,--The undersigned, President of the Convention assembled at this place for the purpose of forming a State Constitution for the State of Texas, preparatory to hear admission as one of the states of the United States of American, by order of said Convention, has the honour herewith to transmit to you a properly certified copy of an ordinance adopted by the Convention on yesterday, July 4th, 1845.

"I have the honour to be, with the highest respect,

Mr. Donelson's obedient servant,

"THOMAS J. RUSK.

"City of Austin, Republic of Texas, July 5, 1845."

"AN ORDINANCE.

"Whereas the Congress of the United States of America has passed resolutions providing for the annexation of Texas to the union, which resolutions were approved by the President of the United States has submitted to Texas the first and second sections of the said resolutions, as the basis upon which Texas may be admitted as one of the states of the said union; and whereas the existing Government of the republic of Texas has assented to the proposals thus made, the terms and conditions
JOINT RESOLUTION FOR ANNEXING TEXAS TO THE UNITED STATES.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that Congress doth consent that the territory properly included within, and rightly belonging to, the Republic of Texas, may be erected into a new state, to be called the State of Texas, with a republican form of Government, to be adopted by the people of said Republic, by deputies in Convention assembled with the consent of the existing Government, in order that the same may be admitted as one of the states of this union.

2. And be it further resolved,--That the foregoing consent of Congress is given upon the following conditions, and with the following guarantees, to wit:--

1. Said state to be formed, subject to the adjustment by this Government of all questions of boundary that may arise with other Governments; and the constitution thereof, with the proper evidence of its adoption by the people of said republic of Texas, shall be transmitted to the President of the United States, to be laid before Congress, for its final action, on or before the 1st day of January, 1846.

2. Said State, when admitted into the union, after ceding to the United States all public edifices, fortifications, barracks, ports, and harbours, and navy yards, docks, mazagines, arms and armaments, and all other property and means pertaining to the public defence belonging to the said Republic of Texas, shall retain all the public funds, debts, taxes, and dues of every kind, which may belong to, or be due and owing to, the said Republic; and shall also retain all the vacant and unimproved lands lying within its limits, to be applied to the payment of the debts and liabilities of said Republic of Texas; and the residue of said lands, after discharging said debts and liabilities, to be disposed of as said State may direct; but in no event are said debts and liabilities to become a charge upon the Government of the United States.

3. New States of convenient size, not exceeding four in number, in addition to the State of Texas, and having sufficient population, may hereafter, by the consent of said State, be formed out of the territory thereof, which shall be entitled to admission under the provisions of the Federal Constitution.--And such states as may be formed out of that portion of said territory lying to the south thirty-six degrees thirty minutes north latitude, commonly known as the Missouri compromise line, shall be admitted into the union with or without slavery, as the people of each state asking admission may desire. And in such state or states as shall be formed out of said territory north of said Missouri compromise line, slavery or involuntary servitude (except for crime) shall be prohibited.'

Now, in order to manifest the assent of the people of this Republic, as required in the above-recited portions of the said resolutions,--

We, the Deputies of the people of Texas, in Convention assembled, in their name and by their authority, do ordain and declare that we assent to and accept the proposals, conditions, and guarantees, contained in the first and second section of the resolution of the Congress of the United States aforesaid.

THOMAS J. RUSK, President.

Phil. M. Cuny George T. Wood
H. G. Runnels G. W. Wright
Robert M. Forbes H. R. Latimer
Sam. Lusk John M. Lewis
Jno. Caldwell ;James Scott
Jose Antonio Navarro Archibald M'Neill
Geo. M. Brown A. C. Horton
Gustavus A. Eyerts Israel Standefer
Lemuel Dale Evans Jos. L. Hogg
J. B. Miller C. S. Taylor
R. E. B. Baylor David Gage
J. S. Mayfield Henry S. Jewett
R. Bache Cavitt Armstrong
"Attested--
"JAS. H. RAYMOND, Secretary of the Convention,
"Adopted, July 4th, 1845."
"City of Austin, Republic of Texas.
July 5, 1845.
"I certify the foregoing is a correct copy of the ordinance as adopted and signed by
the members of the Convention on yesterday, July 4, 1845.
"JAS. H. RAYMOND
Secretary of the Convention."

"Sir,--By order of the Convention, I have the honour herewith to transmit to your
Excellency the enclosed copy of a resolution adopted by the hon. Convention this
day.

"Very respectfully, your Excellency's most obedient servant,
"THOMAS J. RUSH, President.

"His Excellency A. J. Donelson, Chargé d'Affaires of the United States.

"Resolution relative to the introduction of the United States forces into Texas:--

"Be it resolved by the deputies of the people in Convention assembled, that the
President of the United States of America is hereby authorized and requested to
occupy and establish posts without delay upon the frontier and exposed position of
this republic, and to introduce, for such purpose and defence of the territory and
people of Texas, such forces as may be necessary and advisable for the same.

"Adopted in Convention, at the city of Austin, Republic of Texas, July 7, 1845.
"THOMAS J. RUSK, President.
"Attested--
"JAS. H. RAYMOND, Secretary of the Convention."

The Great Western, Captain Matthew, arrived at New York, from Liverpool, on the
22nd of July, and sailed for Liverpool on the 31st at 2 p.m., and up to 8 p.m. had not
arrived here.

The Cambria, Captain Judkins, arrived at Boston, from Liverpool, on the 30th of July,
in 11 days 9 hours, being the shortest passage to that city on record.

We copy the following from the Courier and Enquirer of the 31st ult.:--

Wednesday Evening, July 30.

The great event since the departure of the last steamer is the disastrous fire which
swept so large and valuable a portion of the business part of this city on the morning
of the 19th.
It was a most destructive conflagration--annihilating probably not less than five missions of property. Yet strange to say, it seems likely to pass over without serious consequences. The insurance, generally covered, or nearly covered the losses--and these insurances will be paid--in several instances, indeed, to the extinction of the funds of the insurance companies--and in other to their great diminution--but still the great proportion of the lessees will be paid.

The money market continues very easy and tranquil, with more demand on the part of capital for investment, than of urgent applications for capital. Of the fall trade, every one we have talked with augurs well, and upon the whole, except for the mass of blackening ruins that stare us in the face there, where commerce so recently had its richest treasures and most spacious magazines, one might almost feel that no great scourge had fallen upon us.

The Stock market continues very buoyant, and within a few days Pennsylvania's have advanced. It is now known that the interest due on Friday (1st August) will be paid, and hence the rise in the good stocks. All good stocks maintain their value.

The late news from Texas, communicating the acceptance by the Convention of the terms of annexation, excites little sensation, as that result was foreseen. It is satisfactory to add, that, at the latest dates, no Mexican troops were known or believed to be advancing towards the frontier of Texas,--and, therefore, there is little danger of collision between any such force and the troops which the President of the United States has ordered to the western boundary of Texas. We adhere to the belief that Mexico herself is not likely to resort to open hostilities.

Our crops of wheat will turn out abundant. Already some new wheat is at market from the south--and in Michigan and other producing regions of the west, the accounts are, both as to quantity and quality, most promising.

A very long continued and widely extending drought inspires apprehensions as to the yield of the corn crop, and of that of potatoes--both of first necessity; they are yet, however, within reach by timely rains, if any such should fall.

Foreign Exchanges:--London, 109 ¾ to 110 and 110 ¼; Paris, 5 27 ½; Amsterdam, 39 ½ to 38 5/8; Hamburgh, 35 ½ to 35 ¾; Bremen, 78 to 78 ¾.

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES

Tuesday, July 30.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Offered.</th>
<th>Asked.</th>
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<tr>
<td>United States Loan, 6 per cent., 1862</td>
<td>114 ¼</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ditto 5 per cent., 1853</td>
<td>103 ½</td>
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The following sentimental correspondence on the subject of General Jackson's share in promoting annexation had taken place:--

GENERAL JACKSON AND ANNEXATION

MR. ALLEN TO MR. DONELSON.

"Department of State, Washington, 23rd June, 1845.

"The undersigned, Attorney-General of the republic of Texas, charged ad interim with the direction of the department, has the pleasing satisfaction of transmitting to the Hon. A. J. Donelson, Chargé d'Affaires of the United States near this Government, in accordance with the instructions of the Executive, the enclosed copy of a joint resolution adopted by both houses of the Texian Congress, on the 21st inst., 'tendering to General Andrew Jackson, the tribute of a nation's gratitude,' together with the corresponding letter of his "Excellency the President, addressed to General Jackson, in conformity to the requirements of that resolution.

"To share with the Hon. Mr. Donelson in the honour of conveying this testimony of respect and gratitude to the distinguished personage for whom it is designed is to the undersigned a source of gratification.

"Trusting that it may reach its destination before the progress of disease or infirmities shall, in the order of Providence, have terminated the earthly career of this renowned chieftain, and that it may be received by him as one among the many evidences of regard and veneration, whereof, in declining life but increasing honours,
he has so often been the meritorious recipient, the undersigned has the honour of expressing for him a lasting sense of his virtues and his worth, and again conveying to Mr. Donelson renewed assurances of the distinguished consideration with which he remains

"His most obedient servant,

"EBEN, ALLEN."

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PRESIDENT JONES TO GENERAL ANDREW JACKSON.
"Executive Department, Washington, June 23, 1845.

"Sir, -- The Congress of Texas has delegated to me the performance of the grateful office of transmitting to you a copy of their joint resolution, adopted on the 21st instant, tendering to you the gratitude of the nation. In offering to you this tribute of love and admiration, the representatives of the people have concurred without a dissenting voice; and could the expression have sprung from the hearts of the people themselves, without the intervention of their agents, it would, beyond a doubt, have been equally cordial and unanimous.

"The sincerity of feeling, the utter absence of adulation or flattery, the warmth of sensibility, and the purity of heartfelt friendship, in which this testimonial of the 'unfeigned gratitude of a nation' to the exalted merits of an individual are conceived and dictated, will, it is hoped, add value to the offering, and secure for it the merit of your acceptance.

"Could the people, whose sentiments are faintly depicted in this token of their grateful love, or could he, who is made the honoured medium through which it is communicated, be assured that its reception would contribute aught to the gratification or happiness of the illustrious individual to whom it is presented, that assurance would re-act with cheering influence upon them and him.

"Having tendered this offering of gratitude to your acceptance, with fervent wishes for your happiness and usefulness in a continued length of days, I have only to add, that I am your faithful friend and most obedient humble servant,

"ANSON JONES."

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"MR. DONELSON TO MR. ALLEN.
"Legation of the United States, Washington, TEXAS,
June 23, 1845

"The undersigned Chargé d'Affairs of the United States has received the note of the Hon. Mr. Allen, enclosing the joint resolution adopted by the two houses of the Texian Congress, tendering to General Andrew Jackson the tribute of a nation's gratitude; and also, the letter of his Excellency the President of the Republic, transmitting and approving the same.

"Should General Jackson be alive, when this tribute from Texas reaches his residence, he will receive it with the emotions which are natural to a heart that has been faithful through a long life to patriotism; and he will value it as one of the highest honours ever conferred upon him. Should he have descended to the tomb before it reaches him, his country will bless it to his memory, and embalm it in its gratitude.

"In a letter just received from him by the undersigned, he concludes an account of his increasing infirmities by an allusion to the subject of annexation, in which he says--'I rejoice that the lone star will be added to our union, and that your mission has been successful.'

"General Jackson saw, at an early day, that the struggle for Texas independence was the working of a young and free spirit, which was to take shelter under the flag of the stars and stripes, as certain as that flag continued to wave over a united people.

"With this spirit, he defied in his boyhood the despotism of a foreign power, and he learned in its school that freedom could only be maintained by the union of her votaries. He could, therefore, no more oppose the progress of those general causes
that have brought Texas into the family of republican states than he could abandon
the hope that the pledge of those states to preserve and defend the equal rights of
man will be successful. It is not that he would injure Mexico, or aggrandize his own
country by the extension of its territory. Far above such selfish motives was his
patriotism. He looked at government as but the creation of the superior will and
rights of the people; and that these people, if identical in interest, as bound to act
together, or fall a victim to foreign powers. It was territory, not as an extension of
empire, but as a means of preserving and defending those who inhabit it, and who
are destined to the same fate, that he desired for his country.

"On these principles, General Jackson seconded and sustained the exertions of
President Tyler in aid of annexation, and it would long ago have been consummated,
if his wishes could have been realized. But delay produced in his bosom neither
change of hope, nor loss of confidence; because his faith was in the intelligence and
virtue of the people of both Texas and the United States.

"That none of his fond anticipations respecting the fruits of the measure will be
disappointed, and unanimity of its adoption by the people and Government of Texas
is a high guarantee.

"In conveying this tribute to General Jackson, the undersigned will be happy to bear
testimony to the sincerity of the concurrence of his Excellency the President and the
Hon. Mr. Allen in the sentiments and feelings which prompted it; and the
undersigned begs leave to repeat, on an occasion so agreeable to himself, the
assurance of high regard with which he continues to be

"Mr. Allen's most obedient servant,
"A. J. DONELSON."

[JSW]

 LT 1845-8-20-4c

There is a peculiar language which in England it is one of the first signs of
adolescence to understand and despise. It has various names, more or less
honourable, more or less within the range of polite lexicography. It may be
described, however, as the language of profession. All men have sufficient moral
sense, or sufficient of something which for this purpose is equivalent to moral sense,
to know there are such beings as heroes and martyrs, such things as generosity and
sacrifice, and such objects as the public, the universal, or the eternal good. But
there is a class, in England only a class, which looks on these ideas rather as taking
than desirable, as furnishing baits for others rather than motives for themselves.
Such persons employ the melting tones of love and the glowing titles of virtue, when
a much more pedestrian expression would better suit the undiluted cupidity or
baseness of their ends. They talk on stilts, and act like reptiles. They soar in word,
and grovel in deed. In England society is armed with almost too habitual a
preparation against this common foe. It is become a second nature to discern it.
With us the human subject gets its teeth at one year old, changes them at seven,
hates a hambug at ten, and attains to the remaining use of its understanding at
fourteen. At four it knows its right hand from its left, at ten a true man from a
talker. Unquestionably, therefore, hypocrites with us are reduced to a minority. They
are compelled to prey upon the feeblest portions of humanity. They attack old women
and agriculturists, love-sick maidens and people with a small independence,
valetudinarians and young gentlemen in search of the greatest happiness of the
greatest number. They establish an interest here and there, in religion and politics,
in medicine or philosophy, as occasion may offer. But they act under great
discouragement in the public arena. Profession is banished from good society. It is
not in favour at Court. It experiences rough usage in Parliament. It finds little place
in the great acts and documents of the State, in its proclamation and speeches, its
correspondence and its annals. In these regions an unbroken calmness and
neutrality of language conceal the unknown depths of national feeling.

It is not so, however, in the great republic established by our Transatlantic progeny.
Among its rivers and its forests, its unappropriated continent and prolific people,
there deserves to be reckoned its inexhaustible power of profession. The language of
integrity and benevolence, in the absence of other capital, is the great stock in trade
of the Federal Union. The credulity or the shamelessness of the citizen is taxed for
the sustentation of a public hypocrisy. The fund is enormous, though, as usually
happens, the people have been impoverished to produce it; for while the collective
state is the greatest hero, and saint, and philanthropist among the nations of the
The individual American has ceased to blush. That natural act and stamp of virtue, for which the Anglo-Saxon race is so honourably distinguished, is almost extinct in the Anglo-American. The republic may safely profess, when its citizens cannot blush for its impudence.

The annexation of Texas is an act not without precedent. It is not peculiar to the United States to wrest a province from a weaker neighbour by force or fraud, or both together. Such acts are frequent in European story. But it is peculiar to the States to make it a virtue. Our humbler, if not more virtuous, European transgressors have generally thought the less said the better. They have either maintained a prudent silence, or justified the act on the modest grounds of imperial necessity, of inevitable progress, or excusable retaliation. America alone can exalt its aggressions into the arduous and gratuitous achievements of virtue. "The reunion of that fair country "with its parent stem," the name given to the conquest of Texas by an army of Anglo-American adventurers, is an event perhaps inevitable, perhaps ultimately beneficial, but certainly not heroic. Certainly the ways and means were among the basest on human record. An American, a citizen of the Union, and a New Englander, shall describe it for us. We quote from Dr. CHANNING, addressing his countrymen "on the annexation of Texas" eight years since:--

"By whom has Texas been conquered? By the colonists? By the hands which raised the standard of revolt? By foreign Governments espousing their cause? No; it has been conquered by your and my countrymen, by citizens of the United States, in violation of our laws, and the laws of nations. We have filled the ranks which have wrested Texas from Mexico. In the army of eight hundred men who won the victory which scattered the Mexican force, and made its chief a prisoner, 'not more than fifty were citizens of Texas, having grievances of their own to seek relief from on that field.' The Texans, in this warfare, are little more than a name, a cover under which selfish adventurers from another country have prosecuted their work of plunder.

"Some crimes, by their magnitude, have a touch of the sublime, and to this dignity the seizure of Texas by our citizens is entitled. Modern times furnish no example of individual rapine on so large a scale. It is nothing less than the robbery of a realm. The pirate seizes a ship. The colonists and their coadjutors can satisfy themselves with nothing short of an empire. They have left their Anglo-Saxon ancestors behind them. Those barbarians conformed to the maxims of their age, to the rude code of nations in time of thickest heathen darkness. They invaded England under their Sovereigns, and with the sanction of the gloomy religion of the north. But it is in a civilized age, and amidst refinements of manners--it is amidst the lights of science, and the teachings of Christianity--amidst expositions of the law of nations, and enforcements of the law of universal love--amidst institutions of religion, learning, and humanity, that the robbery of Texas has found its instruments. It is from a free, well-ordered, enlightened, Christian country, that hordes have gone forth, in open day, to perpetrate this mighty wrong.

"Let me know ask, are the United States prepared to receive from these hands the gifts of Texas? In annexing it to this country, shall we not appropriate to ourselves the fruits of a rapine which we ought to have suppressed. We certainly should shrink from a proposition to receive a piratical state into our confederacy. And of whom does Texas consist? Very much of our own citizens, who have won a country by waging war against a foreign nation, to whom we owed protection against such assaults. Does it consist with national honour, with national virtue, to receive to our embrace men who have prospered by crimes which we were bound to reprobate and repress?

"Had this country visited with its whole power the lawlessness of its citizens; had these, notwithstanding such opposition, succeeded in extorting from Mexico a recognition of independence; and were their sovereignty acknowledged by other nations; we should stand acquitted in the sight of the civilized world of participating in their crime, were considerations of policy to determine us to admit them into our union. Unhappily the United States have not discharged the obligations of a neutral state. They have suffered, by a culpable negligence, the violation of the Mexican territory by their citizens; and if now, in the midst of the conflict, whilst Mexico yet threatens to enforce her claims, they should proceed to incorporate Texas with themselves, they would involve themselves before all nations in the infamy of the revolt. The United States have not been just to Mexico. Our citizens did not steal single, silently, in disguise, into that land. Their purpose of dismembering Mexico and attaching her distant province to this country was not wrapt in mystery. It was proclaimed in our public prints. Expeditions were openly fitted out within our borders for the Texan war. Troops were organized, equipped, and marched for the scene of action. Advertisements for volunteers to be enrolled and conducted to Texas at the expense of that territory, were inserted in our newspapers. The Government, indeed, issued its proclamation forbidding these hostile preparations, but this was a dead
letter. Military companies, with officers and standards, in a defiance of proclamation, and in the face of day, directed their steps to the revolted province. We had, indeed, an army near the frontiers of Mexico. Did it turn back these invaders of a land with which we were at peace? On the contrary, did not its presence give confidence to the revolters? After this, what construction of our conduct shall we force on the world, if we proceed, especially at this moment, to receive into our union the territory, which, through our neglect, has fallen a prey to lawless invasion? Are we willing to take our place among robber states? As a people have we no self-respect? Have we no reverence for national morality? Have we no feeling of responsibility to other nations, and to Him by whom the fates of nations are disposed?"

Thus does a most impartial authority, "one of their own nation," describe an act which public functionaries, not only of Texas, but also of the States, now adorn with all the colours of patriotism. General JACKSON is the hero on whom they accumulate the honours of this villainous transaction. At the very threshold of another world, if indeed he lived long enough to hear these death-bed consolations, he received, through the Chargé d'Affaires of nation's gratitude. This "tribute of love" and "admiration," solemnly agreed to at the Texan convention, was not simply for his general "virtues and "worth," not simply for his sympathy with the Texan spoliators, but for his actual share in the work from its very beginning. The illustrious "chieftain" and "patriot" receives it from Texans--Texans by conquest and possession, Anglo-Americans in birth, connexions, and cause--from a band of marauders who issued from the heart of the republic, with is connivance, to annex the territory of a peaceful neighbour.

But the testimonial of "unfeigned" Texan gratitude, their "sincerity of feeling, utter absence of "adulation or flattery, warmth of sensibility, and "purity of heartfelt friendship," and all the other unctuous stuff with which President ANSON JONES improves the occasion, are scarcely worth a remark. They are too intelligible. It is the language of the States' functionary which authenticates and seals this unique document, and proclaims it to be genuine Anglo-American. Mr. DONELSON is pleased to remind the Texans that it had been the object of the General's life, and for this purpose quotes his Nunc dimittis. "I rejoice that the Lone Star will be added "to our Union, and that your mission has been successful." "GENERAL JACKSON," the Chargé d'Affaires continues--

"Sawat an early day that the struggle for Texan independence was the working of a young and free spirit, which was to take shelter under the flag of the stars and stripes, as certain as that flag continued to wave over a united people."

"With this spirit, he defied in his boyhood the despotism of a foreign power, and he learned in its school that freedom could only be maintained by the union of her votaries. He could, therefore, no more oppose the progress of those general causes that have brought Texas into the family of republican states, than he could abandon the hope that the pledge of these states to preserve and defend the equal rights of man will be successful. It is not that he would injure Mexico, or aggrandize his own country by the extension of its territory. Far above such selfish motives was his patriotism. He looked at government as but the creation of the superior will and rights of the people; and at those people, if identical in interest, as bound to act together, or fall a victim to foreign powers. It was territory, not as an extension of empire, but as a means of preserving and defending those who inhabit it, and who are destined to the same fate, that he desired for his country. On these principles, General Jackson seconded and sustained the exertions of President Tyler in aid of annexation, and it would long ago have been consummated, if his wishes could have been realized. But delay produced in his bosom neither change of hope, nor loss of confidence; because his faith was in the intelligence and virtue of the people of both Texas and the United States."

In these two quotations, we have the honest American moralist describing the act, and the American functionary commenting upon it. Europe, as we have said above, may supply too many parallels to the act; but the glib effrontery of the comment we might in vain try to match in Europe, or any other continent. [JSW]

The British and North American Royal mail steam-ship Cambria, Captain Judkins, arrived in the Mersey at an early hour this morning, after a fine run from Boston, inclusive of the usual detention at Halifax, of 11 days and a few hours. She brought a large number of passengers.
The advices by the arrival are unimportant, with the exception of those from Mexico, which we subjoin:—

"OFFICE OF WAR AND MARINE.

"SECTION OF OPERATIONS.

"CIRCULAR.—The United States have consummated the perfidy against Mexico, by sanctioning the decree which declares the annexation of the department of Texas to that Republic.

"The injustice of that usurpation is apparent, and Mexico cannot tolerate such a grave injury without making an effort to prove to the United States the possibility of her ability to cause her rights to be respected.

"With this object the Supreme Government has resolved upon a declaration of war against that power, seeing that our forbearance, instead of being received as a proof of our friendly disposition, has been interpreted into an acknowledged impossibility on our part to carry on a successful war.

"Such an error on the part of the United States will be advantageous to Mexico, because, suddenly abandoning its pacific attitude, it will to-morrow communicate to Congress the declaration of war, and excite the patriotism of its citizens to sustain the dignity of the nation and the integrity of its territory, now treacherously attacked, in utter disregard of all guarantees recognized in this enlightened age.

"You will readily appreciate the importance of this subject, and the necessity of preparing the troops under your command to march towards any point which may require protection against these most unjust aggressions.

"I am directed by the Provincial President to enjoin upon you, as General-in-Chief of your division, and as a citizen of this republic, to hold yourself in readiness to repel those who seek the ruin of Mexico.

"The Government is occupied in covering the different points on the frontiers, and in collecting the necessary means, so that nothing may be wanting to those whose glory it will be to defend the sacred rights of their country.

"I have the honour to communicate for your intelligence, and to direct your conduct.

"God and Liberty.—Mexico, July 16, 1845.
'GARCIA CONDE.

"This circular to the authorities subordinate to this office."

"Most excellent Senor,—As my notes of the 80th of March and the 7th of April of this year, concerning the deserters and recruits for the army, have not produced the effects which his Excellency the President ad interim desired, as the governors have not been able to gather a number of men by any means adequate to the wants of the army, his Excellency has ordered your Excellency to provide the materiel, to enable the different departments to furnish their quota and complete the contingent of troops required by the decrees of the 29th of December, 1843, and the 2d of July, 1844; for, although the supreme Government has not exacted with punctuality the complement from these departments, she now sees herself under the necessity of doing so, for the war which she wages against the United States, the perfidy and treachery of which Power has put her in possession of a part of this republic.

"His Excellency the President ad interim requires that your Excellency inform the Governors of the necessity which exists of detailing the number of men, so highly necessary to fill the ranks of the army, and to excite the zeal and patriotism of the authorities, that their preparations shall be so effectual as to fulfil the desires of the Government, and prevent the dignity of the nation from being in any manner compromised.

"I have the hour to communicate to your Excellency the following, to be used as occasion may require:—

"God and Liberty.—July 16, 1845.
"GARCIA CONDE.
"Most Excellent Senor, Minister of Foreign Relations and of Police.

"Transmit to the authorities depending upon your department."

"Most Excellent Senor,—It being necessary that the troops of the line should cover the frontiers of the Republic and march toward Texas to conquer that department now usurped by the United States, his Excellency the President ad interim has commanded me to transmit to you this note to excite the zeal and patriotism of the Governors that they place under arms in their respective districts all the force which can be collected in defence of the laws, to be ready to serve as a safeguard of their respective departments, according to the decree of the 4th of June of this year, and the regulation of the 7th inst.

"Your Excellency will communicate to the Governor this supreme resolution, and will inform them of the obligations under which the citizens are to contribute to the defence of their country, and to sustain rights, violated by a nation which refuses to acknowledge them, and obliges Mexico to maintain them by force, which it most undoubtedly will, or fall in the struggle.

"She will not consent to give up one-half of her territory from the base fear of losing the other. Hoping that your Excellency will furnish me with information as to the number of men which can be devoted to this important object, your Excellency will please to accept my most high consideration.

"God and Liberty.—Mexico, July 16, 1845.
"GARCIA CONDE.

"To the most Excellent Senor, Minister of Foreign Relations and Police."

The whole of the Mexican vessels at New Orleans, with one exception, destined to convey away the Mexican Consul at that city (who is stated to have closed his official relations), had obtained their clearances; and the aspect of affairs was viewed as extremely threatening.

On the 18th of July, there was a counter revolution in favour of the Government in the department of Tobasco, headed by Commodore Thomas Marin, who, with only 80 troops, succeeded in deposing General Ignacio Martinez, who was in command of the insurgents.

The ports of Tobasco, which has been closed by the Mexican Government during the time the province was in the hands of the insurgents, had been since declared open.

The Canadian advices are uninteresting. Those from Texas merely report that the Convention was actively forming a state constitution, and that the President had issued a proclamation for the election on the first Monday of September of senators and representatives to the United States Congress.

(From the New York Courier and Enquirer.)

New York, Thursday Evening, 14th.

The punctuality of Pennsylvania in meeting the interest due on the 1st inst. is a source of gratification here, as it will doubtless be in Europe. The good influences of such a course will not be confined to that state along, but will stimulate other states hitherto in default to renewed exertions to redeem their credit. Already, it is stated in the Baltimore American, that "the revenue laws are now in progress of execution in every county in the state," "thus leaving no doubt," says the writer, "with the means already accruing under the existing financial system, of the ability of the state to resume payment of her debt at an early day after the next session of the Legislature." This is not very definite to be sure, but it shows good will, and especially that the example of Pennsylvania is operative.

If the country should be so fortunate as to escape war, there is, in its present unrivalled prosperity and progress, the surest guarantee that the defaulting states will eventually make good all their engagements.

Whether or not we are to escape war, is not yet decided. More uneasiness has been felt within the last few days, owing to the march of troops in increased numbers for Texas, and the certainty that their orders are to occupy a portion of the territory on the seaboard of that country westerly of the Nueces river, heretofore occupied by Mexico, though claimed by Texas. The apprehension is, that this forward movement
may appear to the Government and people of Mexico as an invasion of their territory, rather than as a precautionary movement against the invasion of Texas by Mexican troops. A week or two will enlighten us as to the view which Mexico may take of this proceeding, and meantime we content ourselves with alluding to it here, as occasioning disquietude and uncertainty.

The inland trade, indeed the trade generally of the country, is prosperous. The canal trade in this state up to the 1st insts. amounts to $1,107,269, which is within $30,000 of the unprecedentedly large receipts of last year. The trade through the Welland Canal in American produce has fallen off very considerably, owing, it is presumed, to the tariff enacted by the last Canadian Parliament.

In money matters there is no change. The banks are quite at ease, and would willingly increase their lines of discount, but have no call. The disastrous fire of the 19th ult. has not produced any perceptible effect either upon the rate of interest or the demand for money, while already new edifices are fast rising amid the ruins; and the burnt district, although still smoking with unextinguished but smothered fires, is alive with workmen preparing to renew what was destroyed.

P. S. The indications of the latest accounts from Mexico, as well as the more extensive preparations making by the United States to strengthen its forces in Texas, and enlarge its supply of munitions, certainly look very warlike.

A declaration of War by Mexico would seem a mere formality; for the state of her Treasury and the general disorganization of the Government, forbid any efficient hostilities. Our naval force in the Gulf of Mexico is sufficient to the complete blockade of the Mexican ports there. We are not, so sure that mischief may not be done among our whalers in the Pacific by Mexican cruisers from San Blas, Monterey, and other ports in that sea.

But the mere fact of the existence of war in the Gulf of Mexico, and the questions to which a blockade may give rise with powerful neutral nations, excite no small solicitude.

The operations in foreign exchange for the packets of the 16th have been to a fair extent, closing firmly at quotations.

Stocks are heavy, and prices continue to have a downward tendency.

Cotton.--The accounts from the south relative to the forthcoming crops are encouraging; and as there is every prospect of an early and bountiful supply, speculators are not anxious to operate at present prices—viz, Uplands, very ordinary to middling, 6 to 7 ½ cents; fair and good, 8 ¼ to 8 ¾ and 9 ¼ cents; Tennessee and Alabama, 6 to 7 ½ Cents; Mobile, Louisiana.

NEW YORK, AUG. 15.

About one month since (July 15), I gave you a short account of the movement of a detachment of United States Dragoons, under the command of Colonel Kearney. It was generally understood, at the time of writing, that these Dragoons were intended as a kind of escort for the American emigrants to Oregon, and that, after proceedings on the trail of the emigrants to the South Pass in the mountains, they would return to their cantonment at Fort Leavenworth. Recently, however, the subject has excited attention, and it is now asserted by some intelligent men, that other objects than the protection of emigrants caused the movement. Whether there is any foundation for such opinions is matter of conjecture.

It is probable that the expedition of Captain Freemont (as it is said) to the Drake River, and thence to the Bay of San Francisco, has tended to increase curiosity respecting the object of Colonel Kearney, with the Dragoons (about 300) under his command. This is the third expedition which Captain Freemont has led into this almost unexplored region.

In times, however, like the present, when the talk of war is fashionable chit-chat, it is not surprising that an unexpected military movement should excite speculative opinions, and particularly so when the object is concealed, and a veil of mystery enshrouds the transaction. While I am uninformed as to the object of these movements, I cannot permit myself to believe that there is anything connected with them calculated or designed to give cause of complaint to any European Power with whom the United States is at peace. A few weeks must lay open the whole affair, and disarm unnecessary secrecy and officious curiosity of the power of doing
There are those in the United States who consider the annexation of Texas to this country as completed so soon as Texas shall adopt a republican constitution. This is a mistake. There is something yet to be done by the American Congress. It is not improbable, however, that the same erroneous opinion may prevail in England and that based may be projected. On this subject a warning voice may not be disadvantageous.

It is apprehended by this Government that attempts will be made by bold and speculative men to import into Texas large amounts of manufactured and other goods, on paying a mere nominal duty, and that by such means they will, with the adoption of the new state, be introduced into the United States, without paying any other, or greater duty. Allow me to warn every such adventurer that the project must prove disastrous. The Secretary of the Treasury, with the aid of the different revenue officers, is at this moment engaged in preparing the necessary precautionary measures to defeat all such projects. It must be recollected that no dutiable goods can be transported without hazard of seizure from one state to another, and the parties compelled to show that the duties have actually been paid, in default of which the goods coastwise, they must come from a part of entry, and such port must be authorized by act of Congress. After Texas is admitted into the Union as a state, a port of entry and clearance may be made. In such an event, rest assured all the necessary safeguards to meet this case, and secure to the United States the full amount of their duties, will be provided. Besides, Congress may or may not, for 12 months to come, create a port of entry in Texas. It is unnecessary to pursue this subject, and I will only add that this warning is not given on light grounds.

The war fever has not yet subsided; far from it. Whether intentionally or not, the movements of the Government are well calculated to keep it up. Other detachments of troops, and among the Flying Artillery, have received orders to hold themselves in readiness to move at a moment's warning. It is very probable, however, that the apprehended danger is from an attack of the Indians; while, on the other hand, there are those who believe that this Government has been too hasty in ordering (if such orders have been given) General Taylor and Colonel Twiggs to take possession of that region of country which lies between the rivers Nueces and Rio del Norte, a territory never under the jurisdiction or within the control of Texas.

The advances from Mexico are as late as the 23d of July, and have, if they are to be depended upon, rather a hostile appearance; but, as you will find them in the public journals, I omit to repeat them. I am, however, as yet, and unbeliever in a Mexican war. It is possible there may be some skirmishing and a majority of the community seem to incline to the opinion that the present state of affairs must terminate in war.

The most thorough Locofoco state in the American Union is New Hampshire. The House of Representatives is that state have recently passed sundry resolutions claiming the Oregon territory to the 54th degree of north latitude. The vote on the main question was,—Ayes, 129; Noes, 5. [JSW]

LT 1845-9-1-4a

The valour of the Mexican Government continues to decrepitate in proclamations, but we have yet to learn when the final explosion is to take place. Mexico, it is said in a strangely cumbrous form of language, cannot tolerate such an injury as the annexation of Texas "without an effort to prove to the "United States the possibility of her ability to cause "her rights to be respected;" and the circular from which we are quoting goes on to exhort the Generals commanding in the provinces "to hold themselves "in readiness to repel those who seek the ruin of "Mexico." All this, however, falls short of actual hostilities; and a week after this circular had appeared the "possibility of the ability" of Mexico to cause her rights to be respected by force of arms was under discussion in the Senate. We can only wonder that such a question was held to be debatable. For if on the one hand the aggression and encroachment committed by the United States on the former Mexican territory of Texas is an event which would justify an appeal to arms, and even demands a vigorous repression in order to provide for the future security of the frontier, as well as to punish a system of fraud and hostility calculated to rob Mexico of her provinces and her independence, it is equally certain on the other hand that Mexico is powerless for all offensive or defensive purposes, and that any serious attempt to resist or avenge this injury will inevitably lead to a more direct attack and more extensive losses.
As a question of military strength and sound policy there can be no doubt that Mexico had better submit to this loss and this affront than expose herself to bear the brunt of that military and adventurous spirit which is now literally raging in many parts of the Anglo-American union. But although the new Republics are very unequally matched in point of strength, there is no such disparity between their respective shares of wisdom. The impetuosity of the United States in the annexation of Texas is a reality almost as great a sign of political weakness as the vain expostulations and ineffectual demonstrations of Mexico; for the Government is in both countries alike subservient to the impulses of the people. The democracy of Mexico is probably quite as untractable a body as that of the United States; and, although their social and political habits have nothing in common with the Anglo-Americans, they are by no means unwilling to try their fortune in war. Between the nations which have sprung from the colonies of England and of Spain, the ancient and imperishable antipathies of religion and of race still exist. To these may be added a territorial dispute, and a sense of injuries which cannot be effaced in Mexico, and which is turned to scorn and defiance amongst the people of the United States. Odisse quem laseris is an old maxim and a true one; and these communities of the New World seem destined to re-enact, under the specious forms of popular government, the most odious political crimes of Europe in past ages. The state of most of the South American republics, ever since their emancipation from the mother country, has resembled the sanguinary and unsettled condition of the Old World during the middle ages. Habitual warfare has become the rule--peace the exception; and we may yet have to witness contests as incessant in the northern part of the other hemisphere, before ever the Anglo-American union can extend its authority over that vast region, and reckon subjects of another race as well as citizens of its own.

The incidents and achievements of such a war must be utterly uninteresting and inglorious, for on neither side are there any of the elements of decisive success of splendid victories. In this respect we are not more affected by the prospect, of hostilities between Mexico and the United States than by the disgusting details of the Indian war in Florida. But, as we observed some time ago, although the events of such a war are very contemptible, the state of war is in itself an event an event and a calamity of the greatest magnitude. To quote a parallel instance nothing certainly can be more uninteresting than the battles and sieges which are going on in the provinces of the Plata--battles in which nothing is ever decided, and sieges which remind one in point of duration, though in no other respect, of the siege of Troy. Yet these miserable contests upon the shores of the Plata have probably cost the merchants of this country hundreds of thousands of pounds of actual loss--we might say millions if the probable profits of the interrupted trade be taken into the account. How then will it be if war be declared between Mexico and the United States--countries with both of which we are carrying on a far more considerable traffic than with the States of South America? The American cruisers in the Gulf of Mexico and the American Court of Admiralty will, of course, apply to neutrals the general principles of maritime law, except in those instances in which the United States have by express stipulations with certain powers adopted the contrary rule of free ships free goods. "During the war which commenced between the United States and Great Britain in treatise on international law, "the prize Courts of the former uniformly enforced the generally acknowledged rule of international law, that enemy's goods in neutral vessels are liable to capture and confiscation, except as to such 'Powers with whom the American Government had stipulated by subsisting treaties the contrary rule, "that free ships should make free goods." In the treaties subsisting between the United States and France, Holland, and Prussia, and some of the states of South America, the principle of free ships free goods has been established. With Great Britain, Spain Portugal, Austria, and Russia, no such stipulation has been made, and these common law of neutrals. It is obvious, therefore, that in the event of a war in which the United States should be engaged, and all the European Powers be neutral, the former states would enjoy advantages in continuing to trade in the produce of the other belligerent state, to which the latter states, and especially this country, could not pretend, without modifying the doctrines of our Admiralty Courts on the rights of neutral Powers. The United States whilst they acknowledge the force of the established principle of maritime law, as laid down by all the authorities on the law of nations, from the earliest period, and as applied by Lord STOWELL during the late war in our own courts, have nevertheless laboured by negotiation and conventions to introduce and establish the contrary principle. Their relations with foreign Powers, considered in the light of neutrals, are therefore of too distinct and even opposite classes, if, indeed, distinctions of this kind can be maintained between countries which have bound themselves by treaty to give to each other all the privileges of the most favoured nation.

These considerations are happily still to be regarded as speculations on the future rather than as arguments on the actual state of affairs. But it is scarcely too much to assume that a rupture between Mexico and the United States is imminent; and if it take place, the first indication of hostilities may be a blow struck at the trade of one
or other of the belligerent parties. The interests of our own mercantile classes are so closely connected with the commercial relations of the two states, that it is scarcely possible for such a rupture to take place without materially affecting ourselves; and it may not be premature for those who are more especially connected with that branch of trade, to take into consideration the position in which they may be placed if an American squadron appears in the Gulf of Mexico with hostile intentions, or if an embargo be laid on Mexican property in American harbours. [JSW]

LT September 9, 1845, p6 e/f: Affairs of Mexico

Message to the Mexican Congress, Presented by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, on receiving Notice of the Annexation of Texas to the United States.

The resolution just taken by the department of Texas, the violent measures of the Government of the United States to increase the American territory, the events which each day give to this affair a character of vital importance to the republic, and the publications that have been made in Texas, in America, and probably in Europe, induce the Supreme Government to communicate to Congress to measure it has pursued in the interests of an honourable peace and the rights and dignity of the nation. Though secrecy be useful in a variety of cases, frankness is not the less necessary when prudence requires a disclosure of what has taken place. The principles that have guided the Government, and the sentiments it has avowed on this subject, give it no reason to fear that when the whole truth is before the chambers its conduct will be disapproved of. The language of truth enlightens public opinion, and that heartless opposition which makes no allowance for the difficult circumstances in which a Government may be placed, but persists in poisoning the public mind, is alone to be confounded by a plain statement of facts, and a candid exposition of the course which, in its duty to the nation, the Cabinet has pursued. Government was in the first instance obliged to conquer the natural repugnance it felt at keeping secret the affairs of Texas, and in maintaining for a certain period the reserve indispensable in the negotiation of a treaty only just commenced. It, however, disclosed all that was needful to be said to place beyond doubt its pacific intentions, and to show that it had no other object but that of securing to the republic an honourable peace. On its side, Texas was equally obliged to take a decision; the functionary charged by the government of that department had already known the position which he held; he had spoken of the engagement since proposed to the republic, the motives which had induced him, by means of peace, to secure the independence of that country, and the alternative which was to be submitted to a meeting called on the determine whether Texas was to continue with Mexico, or incorporate itself with the United States. These simple indications (without speaking of the official news received last night) will explain the conduct we have followed in this thorny affair since the 6th of December last.

On coming into power the actual Government examined all antecedents, and became convinced of the impossibility of longer deferring the resolution which all Governments are obliged to take under similar circumstances. Neither the urgent and important affairs that then pressed on the Government, nor the popularity which attended all its acts, nor the excitement of its friends, could prevent it from deciding on, and avowing its conviction of the course which was necessary for the country to pursue in circumstances admitting of no delay nor dissimulation. The Governments of England and France had constantly made known to our Ministers accredited to them the propriety of recognizing the independence of Texas. These declarations were made in the most formal and explicit manner, in the interest of the republic, and for he purpose of preventing serious injury to it.

The representatives of both Courts near this Government gave us similar advice. At this period the law of annexation, rejected by the Senate of he United States, was brought forward in another form by the Chamber of Representatives, and it was easy to foresee that it would in that shape be accepted by the Senate. In fact, the Senate, by a majority of two votes, passed the bill, and thus all hope was destroyed of seeing that violent and scandalous act repudiated by the American Chambers; and the United States duly solemnized a law which will remain for ever a memorial of their bad faith, equally scandalous to the Congress, and to the Administration that had subsequently to give it effect. Our Minister at Washington instantly retired from his mission, the Government of the republic announced the cessation of diplomatic relations with the United States, and the Minister of he States likewise demanded his passports. These several acts proved on the part of Mexico its determination to oppose the incorporation, and on the part of the United States a resolution to enforce it. The protests then made by the minister of Foreign Affairs were all that could be done in the shape of diplomatic communication. As long as
Nevertheless, though the Government was anxious to prevent or retard a rupture, it was onto forgetful of its duty to the nation and to itself. A desire to make honourable arrangements has become so natural to civilized Governments, that in the present day even the most powerful does not feel itself compromised in taking a step of that nature, when the proposal comes from those who ask, and not from those who are to give. Government took care to do nothing that could offend the national honour or precipitate a foreign war, while it admitted that under existing circumstances it preferred a negotiation based on our rights, worthy of the republic, and consistent with the relations Mexico should preserve towards the United States. Texas, on its side, having received the law of incorporation, could not avoid reflecting on the alternative presented to it. It was the necessity of taking a final step; on the one hand there was certain war, and on the other the suicidal act of destroying by its own hands that independence which would be speedily recognized by all nations. It was natural to believe that Texas would prefer the situation such an arrangement must place it in, to being incorporated as a simple state of the Union, merely to serve the ulterior purposes of the American Cabinet. Offended by the law of annexation, its independence supported by the policy of Great Britain and France. Texas at last decided on proposing to the Government certain preliminary articles that were to facilitate a negotiation, and save it from the embarrassments that pressed round it.

Having taken this step, Texas cold no longer doubt that the Government would give every assistance to hasten an arrangement, and prevent its annexation to the United States. The moral responsibility of the Government became most serious, because it foresaw all the evils which the annexation of Texas would give rise to. Still, to commence a negotiation was in many respects objectionable, as while on the one hand it appeared to be the most simple manner of settling the question, by establishing as a primary condition the non-incorporation of Texas, on the other it compromised the Government with respect to Texas, and favoured in a great measure the ambitious designs of the Cabinet of the United States. Government became convinced that any step taken in advance by it would not lead to a favourable result, but it felt at the same time obliged to take every precaution to prevent a termination to the affair unfavourable to the interests of the republic. It is not difficult to decide how great would have been the consternation of he Government if it had determined not to listen to Texas-or if, because we refused to do so, the annexation had taken place. The Government acted in these difficult circumstances in the most cautious manner, and every lover of his country must give it credit for the patriotism it displayed, and the prudence with which it acted for the advantage of the republic under difficulties of he most distressing nature.

Convinced that the Chambers would examine everything with care and circumspection, as its conduct has proved that it did, and persuaded at the same time that the Executive was bound to ask permission to listen to the propositions of Texas, and celebrate a convention honourable to republic, the Government addressed itself to Congress for that purpose, satisfied that it would meet the support ever given when national interests are at stake. The Congress, resolute in that conduct which it never fails to manifest in critical circumstances, disregarded to outcry of some discontented persons who pretended to see in the Texan question the germ of destruction to the established system; and, as the authority demanded did not extend beyond the permission to make a suitable arrangement, on which the Congress would afterwards pronounce, the Chambers and public opinion, both in the capital and departments, decided in favour of a policy, generous in itself and truly patriotic, which on the one hand secured peace, and on the other put a stop to the ambitious plans of the United States on the Texan territory.

The Government, being authorized to treat, and penetrated with the fresh marks of confidence given by the national representation, proceeded to prepare a negotiation in the manner most suitable to the name and dignity of he nation. The preliminaries presented by Texas were drawn up with such care and with so much respect for Mexico, that we could not find in any article a thought offensive or injurious to the state. We had, therefore, merely to acknowledge the receipt of those preliminaries we had no other idea than that of accepting them as the opening of a negotiation which would be duly followed up by commissioners appointed by both parties. I would not give these explanations if this note was merely addressed to the Chambers; but, as there are many persons who have thrown a false colour on these transactions, I wish to show the true character of the preliminary bases, in order that no Mexican citizen shall be ignorant of the steps taken by his Ministers in
The preliminaries, a copy of which I have the honour to subjoin, should fix the attention of the Chambers, in order that they may be well known and understood. The first presupposes the sovereign right and integrity of the nation, and the term *consiente* [sic, consents] is as honourable to it as it is to the justice and good faith of the Government then established in Texas. The second article undertakes the formal and solemn engagement of Texas not to incorporate itself with any other nation whatsoever. This condition, imposed on Texas by itself, excludes its annexation to the United States; and it was the more readily adopted by us, as we were determined to concede nothing that might hereafter lead to the accomplishment of he policy of the United States. The third article, more general in its nature, alludes to other matters which should be settled by the proposed treaty, including the necessary indemnities. The fourth article expresses the willingness of Texas to submit to arbitration the question of frontiers. In these preliminaries we took care that nothing should be found admitting that the independence of Texas was "a fact accomplished," and from that circumstance I am justified in again saying that the transaction was honourable to the republic. Such is the truth, and, whatever discussion and difficulties any of these articles examined strictly might produce, we took care that in their open and evident sense no term should be found unworthy of the respect and consideration to which the Government and the nation are entitled.

The answer given by the Ministry, of which a copy is annexed, is drawn up in a style suitable to the superior position occupied by the republic with respect to Texas. It contains also the authorization made by Congress, as well as the obligation under which we stood of giving due notice of all ulterior proceedings to the Chambers. The Government, without adding a single thought, or extending in the least the preliminaries alluded to, declared that it received them only as preliminaries, and that it was ready to commence a negotiation, and to receive the commissioner or commissioners named by Texas for the same purpose.

Though this step offered no difficulty, though the initiative made by Texas was in all respects worthy of Mexico, how was it possible for this Government to imagine that Texas would yield to the measures taken by the Unite States to enforce the annexion? Who could suppose that Texas, after having opened a negotiation and gone the length of signing a convention, would succumb beneath the violence and ambition of the American Cabinet? Fortunately the Government took care, as the documents will show, to state in the most decided terms, that if the negotiation, through any circumstance whatever, should fail, or if Texas consented directly or indirectly to incorporate with the United States, all that had been done should be considered null and void. With that additional explanation the rights of the republic were fully respected, and we were left at liberty to treat in the manner most conformable to the ideas manifested by the legislative body.

We do not seek to make reflections on the conduct of any person in this affair; but the question of Texas is so essentially national, and deserves so much to be examined by all Mexicans, that we cannot do otherwise than defend our policy, and submit it without fear to the judgment of the whole republic. When events and time shall have calmed political passions, the patriotism which has influenced the Administration will be duly appreciated. Obliged to adopt a fixed plan, we sought not to act in any other manner; we sought, as every honourable Government should do, to secure an honourable peace, and our policy in that respect renders the less excusable the conduct of the United States.

With this statement of the antecedents in this affair, the Government is not afraid to declare before the Chambers, that it did not offend the national dignity in accepting through this department the propositions of Texas, and that the answer given by this Ministry neither compromised the honour or territory of the republic, nor exceeded the authority given to it by Congress. The conduct of Texas is in contradiction with itself, but we are proud to say that throughout this affair we have acted on fixed principles, and that we have preserved, even on the smallest points, the honour and dignity of the republic.

Texas degraded-losing all consideration even among those nations who, by a policy not happily inspired, hastily recognized her independence, has yielded with shame and opprobrium to the usurpation and perfidy of the American Union. The republic, on the other hand, has shown itself worthy of the sympathy of he whole world, and it has proved that it had no object in view beyond the preservation of peace and the triumph of civilization and humanity. In the course of time the United States will find in this usurpation a costly inconvenience.

They will be despised by all honourable nations, and they will be responsible for
all the evils of a war they have wantonly provoked.

With this note shall be presented all the documents relative to this important question; and notice will also be given of the measures taken by Government to defend the rights, integrity, and honour of the nation. Supported by justice having done all that was possible to prevent a rupture having acted with loyalty and good faith—war, however painful the result, with be a new principle of glory. It will unite the Mexican people, and, all party feelings being suppressed, we shall act together, proclaiming with one voice the necessity of uniting in defence of the rights and the independence of the republic.

Luis Cuevas  
Mexico, July 16.

Documents alluded to:-

Preliminary Conditions to a Treaty to Peace Between Mexico and Texas

Article 1. Mexico consents to recognize the independence of Texas.

2. Texas undertakes to stipulate in the treaty that it will not incorporate or become subject to any other Power whatever.

3. The boundaries and other conditions shall be the object of a final treaty.

4. Texas will be ready to submit all disputed points relative to territory or other matters to the decision of arbitration.

March 29.

Ashbel Smith.

Note By Senor Cuevas

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and of Government of the Mexican Republic has received from Texas the above propositions preliminary to the arrangement of a definitive treaty between Mexico and Texas.

The Government of the republic has asked and received from the National Congress an authority to treat, drawn in the following terms:-

"The Government is authorized to hear the propositions made by Texas, and to proceed to the arrangement or celebration of a treaty suitable and honourable to the republic, giving notice to the Congress for its examination and approval."

In virtue of the preceding authority given by the Mexican Congress, the undersigned Minister of Foreign Affairs and of Government declares that the Supreme Government receive the aforesaid four articles as preliminary to a formal and definitive treaty; and, moreover, that he is ready to commence the negotiation desired by Texas, and to receive a commissioner or commissioners named for that purpose.

Mexico, May 19.

Cuevas.

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Official Declaration.

It is understood that, besides the four preliminary articles proposed by Texas, there are other essential and important points which should be the subject of negotiation, and, if this should fail, from any cause whatever, or if Texas, with reference to the law of incorporation passed by the United States, consents to it, directly or indirectly, the answer of this date given to Texas by the undersigned Minister of Foreign Affairs shall be considered null and of no value.

;Mexico, May 19.
The position of the Mexican Government is now precisely that which we have
long foreseen it would arrive at. They refused to negotiate with Texas until it was
too late even to obtain the terms which were essential to the honour and security of
the Mexican republic, or to rescue the Texan provinces from the rapacity of the
United States. Texas could then neither be relinquished with advantage, nor
defended with the slightest chance of success. The party in Texas which continued
to advocate the independent interests of their country seems not to have
commanded a single vote in the Congress; and the proposals which had been
carried as far as the Mexican Government by Mr. Ashbel Smith, under the mediation of
the agents of England and France, were virtually negatived and annulled by the
unanimous and immediate resolution of those American intruders who have assumed
the name of the Texan people, and the power of disposing by their sovereign will of
territories unlawfully wrested from the states of Mexico.

This mode of settling the question having proved abortive (though, if the
assurances of the Texan Government had been worthy of credit, it did at one time
offer a reasonable prospect of success), Mexico finds herself reduced to the
formidable alternative of war. War is the cry of the people, and war is so clearly the
duty of the state, that as Senor Cuevas observes in one of his state papers, the
republic will resign its political existence if the pecuniary means required by the
Government for carrying it on be for many days delayed. But by what means can
these pecuniary means be raised? A loan which will bring into the Treasury an
effective sum of 15,000,000 dollars must create more than 45,000,000 dollars of
stock, even at the present price of the active Mexican debt; but such a loan would be
brought forward under circumstances of peculiar disadvantage. In a financial point
of view, the disposal revenues of Mexico are already pledged to pay interest on
former loans to an amount which leaves a surplus insufficient to cover the most
pressing wants of the public service; in a political point of view a state which is
without a Government, without a dollar in the Treasury, and without military means
of covering its frontier, occupying its own provinces, or resenting the grossest
aggressions from a neighbouring Power, is really in a state of dissolution. The
events to be anticipated in a country sunk into this deplorable condition are the
excesses of anarchy or the accidents of revolution. The projectors of the annexation
of Texas, like the crowned robbers who effected the partition of Poland, were well
aware that the success of their scheme was insured by the decrepitude of the Power
they attacked; and Mexico would not have been thus audaciously assailed and
insulted if the Cabinet of Washington had not relied on the supreme impotence of its
victim. The politicians who have inoculated their country with territorial ambition
and the vainglorious passion for military enterprise, are not displeased to find that
such powerful causes are operating in favour of their designs; and, however brilliant
the prizes of a war between Mexico and the United States might be, even Mr. Polk
would probably be glad to avoid precipitating his country into so vast a career of
uncertain events.

These considerations tend to render actual war between the two republics
extremely improbable; and if Mexico was unable to put down Texas in rebellion, still
less can she reconquer Texas annexed to one of the most powerful states in the
world. But if the termination of this affair be pacific, it establishes in the most
patent and indubitable manner the superiority of the Anglo-American race and of the
United States Government over their neighbours. These advantages the Americans
will as infallibly assert. It is now proved that no consideration of prudence, justice,
or good faith can restrain them from seizing or acquiring the possessions of
contiguous states. Thus much may be foreseen,—that these excesses and
encroachments will only be limited by opportunity and public caprice, until it become
the interest of some great European Power to oppose them. But what is not
foreseen either by the Americans or by ourselves is the effect of these acts of
violence or fraud, leading to immense extension of territory, upon their own political
social condition. Thus much only we do venture confidently to predict—that these
changes involve the creation of such conflicting interests, the existence of such
opposite characters and designs, the prevalence of such formidable passions, and
the growth of such an enormous and incongruous people, that the feeble Federal
Government of America will eventually forfeit its precarious authority, and the
contests which the neighbouring states to the south of the Union are too weak to
wage will at last break out in its own bosom. We, of our time, have seen the
gigantic growth of the American democracy, as rapid and enormous in its internal
corruption and its external crimes as in the progress of its population and its productive powers; but, unless the eternal laws of public morality and of history be suspended, these same phenomena announce the certain approach of a period of anarchy and retribution. It is not more possible that such a system should be carried on without leading to disastrous consequences, than that society should continue to subsist without government or law; and the reaction of the same principles which have now been allowed to assail Mexico and appropriate Texas will one day be felt in the heart of the Union.

In these great events, extending over a whole continent and embracing the destinies of millions of men, time is a most important element. Even this enterprise against Texas has extended over a period of 20 years, and its consequences, than that society should continue to subsist without government or law; and the reaction of the same principles which have now been allowed to assail Mexico and appropriate Texas will one day be felt in the heart of the Union.

In these great events, extending over a whole continent and embracing the destinies of millions of men, time is a most important element. Even this enterprise against Texas has extended over a period of 20 years, and its consequences will reach to a still more distant day. It may therefore be questioned, in spite of the impatience of a democratic people, and their increasing taste for what they term "immediate action," whether any further demonstration will be hastily or suddenly undertaken. For the present the boundary of Texas is in itself a sufficient morsel; for, not content with absorbing the province which had shaken off its allegiance to Mexico, there can be little doubt that the United States Government will extend its claim from the Nueces to the Rio Bravo, and follow the course of that stream northward to Santa Fe and the mountains of Anahuac. As no frontier line has ever been drawn between Mexico and Texas, and as the frontier of Mexico and the United States was determined by the treaty of 1819, confirmed in 1824, there is in reality no rule to go by but the greediness of one party and the feebleness of the other. Under such circumstances it is not easy to set bounds to the concessions which may be required.

We do not doubt that the American Government would willingly include Upper California, and especially the port of San Francisco, in these acquisitions; but we must not underrate the physical difficulties of such an enterprise. California is, fact divided even from Mexico by vast tracts of uninhabited country; and the difficulties which a detachment of troops would have to encounter in crossing the deserts and prairies that intervene between the Mississippi and the Pacific Ocean will probably be insurmountable for the next half-century.

With reference to California, we adhere to the opinion we have had occasion to express with reference to the Oregon territory. Little is to be apprehended from invasion by land, as long as the coast is open and the country protected by sea. The interests which may hereafter extend colonial enterprise to the shores of the Pacific are inseparable from the commerce of the east and the navigation of that ocean. Great Britain is for all practical purposes nearer to those coasts than the Atlantic states; and we have no apprehension that the American Government will commit itself to acts of violence, which must lead to the total destruction of its fisheries and commerce in the South Seas. They will observe a certain discretion, even in their invasion of all rights; and, however we may lament the deplorable state to which Mexico is found to be reduced in this emergency, we cannot but rejoice that the peace of the world is likely to be preserved. [ANP]

LT September 19, 1845, page 7f: The Annexation of Texas.

To the Editor of the Times.

Sir,—"An American Citizen," in his letter published by you this day, states that the question of the annexation of Texas is "one of honour and good faith," and then argues it as a measure in which Mexico has no interest.

Let the question be tried as one of honour and good faith.

By the Florida, made between the Government of the United States and Spain February 22, 1819, the river Sabine was fixed as part of the boundary line between the United States and Mexico, and in the last clause of that treaty it is solemnly declared, "that the United States thereby cede to his Catholic Majesty, and renounce for ever all their claims, rights, and pretensions to, the territory lying west of the described line."
This treaty was subsequently declared to be binding on Mexico and the United States, and the Governments of these countries carried on negotiations to give effect to its provisions.

Now, is it in accordance with any sentiment of honour for the late President Tyler, or for President Polk, to advocate the annexation of Texas on the expressed ground that it is thought by some persons, who have not taken the trouble to inquire into the truth of the statement, that Texas once formed part of Louisiana, and ought, therefore, notwithstanding the express terms of this treaty to the contrary, to be taken possession of by the Government of the United States? Is it consistent with honour or good faith that the United States should violate this treaty, and by so doing endanger the security of the Mexican Government itself?

The proposal for the annexation of Texas proceeded from the United States, and not from Texas. It was not the act of the weaker power, but of the stronger, and has been the result of intrigues set on foot for the dismemberment of Mexico. You comparison of it to the partition of Poland fails in this, that the distractions of that country and its continued anarchy invited partition to secure the peace of the adjacent states. For the seizure of Texas there is no excuse similar to this, or any except the clamour of dishonest men to perpetrate a gross act of injustice.

2. Mexico had a right to expect, even if Texas became independent, that the treaty of 1819 should be respected. It had the same claim to this that the Governments of Holland and of Prussia have that the limits of France should not be extended, even if the people of the Netherlands were asked to abandon their independence.

3. Is it not the intention of the Government of the United States to take the whole territory on the east side of the Rio Grande? Has the consent of the people living on this river been given to the subjugation of themselves to new laws and new institutions, and to the domination of a people speaking another language? They are as numerous as the American citizen in Texas, and have had no voice in the change about to be imposed on them.

4. By the constitution of Texas, not merely the descendants of blacks, but of Indian blood, are excluded from the privileges of citizens. Most of the people on the Rio Grande, settled and civilized Mexican citizens, are of Indian descent. The state constitution of Texas will be unaltered when annexation is accomplished, and thus the Union will be responsible for a most grievous and crying injustice. The Christian people of the Rio Grande will be reduced to a condition of inferiority and of virtual slavery as galling as any the most despotic monarchs have sanctioned. How can Americans say that this will be consistent with any principle of honour?

5. The "American Citizen" says that the United States have no designs on California. The statement is absurd. California must pass under the dominion of America when it shall seize on the eastern bank of the Rio Grande. On the west side there are few Mexicans even of a mixed race, and none of pure Spanish descent. Will the Indian tribes be respected, or a policy be pursued towards them which Mexico itself cannot even in the observance of treaties made with it?

6. Not merely has the United States violated the treaty of 1819 in this proceeding, but the constitution of the States has been violated in order to effect it. Texas is a foreign state. Agreements or treaties made with foreign states must, according to the federal constitution, receive the assent of two-thirds of the members of the Senate. This assent has not been given, and annexation has been carried by a series of illegal and unconstitutional resolutions of the two houses of Congress. What American, looking to the future, can doubt the effect this precedent will have, or how vain will be the obligations of the law when the people, opposing it, can set it aside?

"And what the people but a herd confus’d,
A miscellaneous rabble, who extol
Things vulgar—and well weighed scarce worth the praise?
They praise and they admire they know not what,
And know not whom, but as one leads the other.”
Let the followers of Polk answer these words of Milton.

Lastly, the "American Citizen," with the flippancy and bad morality which characterise too strongly the public acts of his country, says, that "nations do not observe the severe and narrow rules which govern private morality," and he adds "that his countrymen have probably inherited our vices." When he shall have studied morality he will find that its rules are not narrow, and that the most contracted principles are thoroughly vicious; and when he shall know more of European politics he will find their morality better than that which he defends. The degeneracy of our true and modern republican citizens from those republicans who were bred and educated under the English monarch—from those who thought they had founded a republic which would teach and defend virtue—hardly needed the flippancy of this criticism on us to exhibit its grossness after the many acts that we have seen of the repudiation of public obligations on the part of several of the states of America.

It is no pleasure to criticise Americans. They may be irritated at it, but they may be assured that every man who respects honourable dealings regrets the acts which have excited the censure of the whole of Europe.


[ANP]

LT October 1, 1845, page 5e: The Oregon Question

London, Wednesday, October 1, 1845.

Some recent accounts from the far west indicate very clearly that the Union is about to apply its usual expedient to the Gordian knot of the Oregon question. The game of Texas is to be played over again with the whole of that land of hope to the west of the Rocky Mountains. It is first to be overrun, then declared independent, and in due time to be overrun, then declared independent, and in due time to be formally annexed. Oregon and California are already half absorbed. How much further north and south the successive processes of assimilation and union are to extend is only a question of time; that is, unless something occurs to interrupt the known laws of American progress. Texas is now a matter of history. The beginning and the end are before us, and constitute a perfect specimen of what we must call, for want of a more dignified term, the American dodge. It is neither an act of conquest, nor a triumph of diplomacy, but an annexation. On the shores of the Pacific, as yet, we see but the first steps of the operation. But they are unmistakable. Who can doubt the family resemblance of the two schemes, after perusing the following paragraph in our city article the other day?

"Private letters from America state the curious fact that the emigrants from the more eastern states to the Oregon territory have organized themselves into a sort of separate Government, totally independent of Congress. The slip of land between the mountainous chain and the Pacific Ocean is said to be sought with the greatest eagerness, persons constantly flocking thither by thousands. There is even a notion that independent Governments may thus arise in the west, powerful enough to prove formidable to the United States. Such a condition of things was predicted by President Jefferson, and more recently by Colonel Benton."

Really, it is almost tedious to describe in the way of an Oregon prophecy what has already occurred in Texas. The monotony is, however, in the facts. There is the sameness of a deep and determined policy. There are vast territories over some of which "we have rights," as the Premier said; while Mexico retains, and is at present admitted to have, still more absolute rights over other more southern and more desirable regions. The Union condescends to dispute and negotiate with the more powerful of the two possessors; but that is all. The negotiation lengthens and lengthens, as if, to use the sailor’s expression, its end had been cut off. The boundary line perpetually recedes. The pleas are continually amended. While the diplomats are at work, crowds of settlers are encouraged, escorted, protected, and even deluded and entrapped into the debateable land. Instinct with the indigenous policy of the Union, they form independent organizations. Of course, they know they are safe enough. As soon as they are many enough and strong enough to reduce the original inhabitants, the Mexican natives, or their British fellow-colonists to a minority of numbers and physical force, they will forth with give vent to their noble aspiration for a union with the States; and it will not be long before their
spontaneous advances are gratefully acknowledged. Were it a walled town, and not half a continent, which was in question, there would be no dispute as to the character of the stratagem. The classical reader is acquainted with many such instances on a small scale. While the besiegers were parleying, or perhaps in a time of profound peace, a group of peasants would straggle up to the city gate with faggots, or fruit, or wine. They casually muster, throw off their rustic guise, draw swords, disarm the guard, and admit an approaching body of their comrades. This was once a stale trick. Magnitude will now give it the appearance of novelty. The colonists of Oregon and California will muster and form, and eventually draw their swords, to open a way for the main body of the Union.

It will be said that such is nothing more than the universal and unavoidable mode of organization in the outskirts of a spreading empire. There must be the rude elements of order and justice before they can be formed into a whole. A few straggling settlers must be a law to themselves. In fact, Lynch law is seriously defended, as being the only law of which some portions of the Union are capable. Where the forms of justice are wanting, we must be content with the naked thing. Be it so. This is an unfortunate accident. It cannot be prevented. The necessity of the case, the protection of property, the prevention of outrage, and even he cry of vengeance, bars all discussion. But it is a wholly different thing to adopt so great and fearful and irregularity as part of the national ways and means—as portion alike of its code and its policy. The fact of such disorders may admit of an adequate apology, but cannot be praised and nationalized. It is at once the destruction of all government to build a territorial title on the acts of those who are not and will not be governed.

Independence, as the concerted preliminary of annexation, is not that novel ideal which the self complacency of republican statesmen may possibly imagine. It is a universal necessity in this class of transactions. The marauder first insulates his plunder and then carries it off. The gentleman who gets through your windows or your tiles at midnight, first puts the plate into a sack, and then, if he is not disturbed, takes it away. The more youthful offender first shakes the tree to detach its burden, which he throws into his hat or his pocket. To cut the proper tie, and to make a new one-to deprive and to appropriate at exactly the same instant of time, is a mere jumbling of processes. Nothing would have been more injudicious than to attempt, in the first instance, the appropriation of Texas, or he immediate appropriation of Oregon and California. For sheer credit's sake the rightful owners would fight for their troublesome conflict over a booty not yet ripe for use, or ready for transfer. Even in peace we manipulate and collect before we remove. We do not send the cart into the wheat field close at the heels of the reapers. The Union has been ten years reaping Texas, and putting it in rucks. It has just now carted the crop, and added on more stack to the six and twenty which already adorned the thriving farm.

At present the shores of the Pacific are not worth fighting for. Their distance, their vastness, and their comparative solitude render them almost incapable of military conquest of occupation. Marches of two or three thousand miles over mountains and sandy deserts, agree rather with the airy temperaments of Khans and Czars than with the sobriety of Yankee calculations. Nor, again, is it possible to occupy the whole side of a continent, stretching from the frigid to the torrid zone, with half a dozen scanty posts. There must be not only the soil, but a people, before it is wise or possible to fight for it. While diplomacy is going through its visionary mazes, a surer process is neutralizing and mocking its labours. While it claims the land, the States create the people. It asserts the ownership of the soil, and they proclaim the affinity of the cultivator. One says, "The land belongs to us;" the other, "But the people are of ourselves."

The universal law of nations recognises a right in mere soil. It declares that certain circumstances create a possession in a naked territory. Unless it is antiquated or mistaken, the process of annexation cannot be lawful. Plausible as every step of the process may seem;—natural, convenient, inevitable, and so forth, as the union of two sympathizing, and all but identical, populations may be, still dishonesty and treason vitiate the whole transaction from first to last. Thus, the treaty, whatever its exact meaning or value, on which the rival claims of Britain and the States are founded, recognises only the subjects of the two empires. It allows no independent class. But such organizations as that referred to in our city article constitute a third party, who is a mere interloper. The colonist is bound to allegiance either to one co-ordinate owner or the other; and either one Government or the other must be answerable for his conduct.

Nor can any length of time or succession of processes change the morality of the affair. Honesty is the best policy. What is wrong at first is wrong at last, and if the consummation is bad, so also are the necessary means. It is mere jugglery to
distribute an affair of only ten or twenty years to different parties, and thus to repudiate moral as well as pecuniary responsibilities. The Union which allowed a conquering army to be enlisted from its own citizens against the authorities of Texas, is as much one and the same with the Union under Presidents Tyler and Polk, as the Pennsylavania which endorsed the bonds of its railway companies is one and the same with the Pennsylvania which still offers only a few shillings in the pound. To say the Union of 1835 did not annex Texas, and the Union of 1845 had nothing to do with the rebellion, is only the quibble of the two thieves in the fable, one of whom had not stolen the meat, while the other had not got it. [ANP]

LT October 6, 1845, page 5e America. Affairs of Mexico

Arrival of the Great Western

[The following appeared in a second edition of The Times of Saturday:-]

Liverpool, Saturday Morning.

The steam ship Great Western, Captain Mathews, arrived in the Mersey at a late hour last night, with New York advices to the 18th ult. inclusive, and bringing 48 passengers.

Accounts from Tampico and Vera Cruz to the 30th of August respectively had been received. The French Minister, Baron Alleyne de Cyprey had closed diplomatic communications with the Republic on the 25th, and had intrusted the protection of the French residents in Mexico to the Spanish Minister, Senor de Castro.

The accounts to relative to the movements of the military towards Texas are still vague and contradictory, while an account states that Paredes had induced a large body of insubordinates, who declared that they would not continue their march upon Texas unless they should receive, besides their full pay, all the equipments, perquisites, and provisions of an army of campaign, to fulfil their duties. A second states, that the disaffected portion of the army had incorporated itself with the forces under General Paredes; that the latter refused to obey the Government; that the third division of the army which was under his command was disposed for a pronunciamiento hostile to the Government; and its is added in a third that the objects of the revolutionary movement would be to abolish the central system of government, and re-establish the federal institutions of 1824.

The paper says-

"Letters have been received at Tampico from San Luis Potosi, which announce that a revolution is near at hand. There appears to be a strong demand for the re-establishment of the Federal Constitution of 1824, and, if this be not granted by the Government, it is likely to be carried by force. In the Departmental Assembly of Tamaulipas a proposition to second the initiative of Zacatecas (for the restoration of this Constitution) has already been introduced.

"To induce the belief that disaffection does not prevail through the army, the President on the 21st of August addressed a circular through the new Secretary of War, recalling to the minds of the military his circular of March last; reiterating his reliance upon the army to bring to a victorious issue the Texan campaign, and upon the militia to preserve order at home; denying the intentions imputed to him of destroying the army and breaking down its influence; and particularly applauding the heroism with which the fourth division, under the worthy Arista, had endured privations which the Executive had in vain sought to relieve, and was still anxious to reward, ‘that their example might excite their companions in arms to honour and glory.’

"The appointment of General Bustamente as Commander-in-Chief of the Army of Texas is announced in El Monitor of August 22.

"Efforts were making to organize a militia, but they were merely abortive. In the city of Mexico, which contains 200,000 inhabitants, only 11 recruits were found enlisted.

"The department of Tamaulipas had made, through its Assembly, a pompous tender of the services and resources of the Department to the Central Government for
the purposes of the war, but some of the papers of the same department are quite as clamorous in calling upon the Government for protection against foreign invasion.

"Don Valentin Rios, commanding the companies of the First Brigade, had written a communication to the Minister of War, in which he states that the different officers under his command were ready to defend their country against the perfidious aggressions of the United States, and to Chastise the ingratitude of the Texans.

"Arista, Woll, and the other leaders were quarrelling amongst themselves."

The *Herald* states, on the alleged authority of private letters, that the American settlers on the Oregon were about to send a delegate to the United States Congress at Washington, and adds-

"Furthermore, we have it, from a undoubted source, that that delegate will be received and recognized as a member of the house."

Government Sixes had sold at 112, an advance of 1 ½ per cent, closing at a higher price than for some months. The advance had been caused by the peaceful news from Mexico, which rendered a war more doubtful than ever. The quotation of exchange on London was 109 ½ to 110.

Advices to the 11th of August had been received at Mexico from Guatemala. An effort was making to re-establish the bonds of federation between the states of San Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. For this purpose the two former states had appointed Commissioners to meet at Zonzonate, to deliberate upon conditions. Guatemala had also named a Commissioner to ratify a treaty of peace with Honduras, and another of commerce with San Salvador. The Constituent Congress of Guatemala had also passed two decrees, one introducing some very strict measures of economy, and regulating the order in which the public creditors shall be paid; the other, providing that the products of Mexico introduced into that state should pay the same duties as if they proceeded from any other foreign country.

The screw-auxiliary packet ship *Massachusetts* arrived from New York this afternoon.

The Great Western spoke the Great Britain on the 1st instant, at 6:40 a.m., in lat. 51º 29’ N, Lon. 17º west; all well on board.

[ANP]
The public display the greatest apathy in political affairs.

The state of credit of the Treasury is at the lowest ebb, and there is not prospect of a loan being made.

The army of the north is in a state of absolute destitution. General Paredes if not in open revolt is acting independently of the Central Government, and Filisola has arrived I Mecizo from Potosi to explain the cruel position of the troops.

Upper California has petitioned Congress in favour of federation.

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The New Tariff.

"Jose Joaquin de Herrera, General of Division and President of the Mexican Republic, to its inhabitants greeting, and informs them that the General Congress has sanctioned the following decree:-

"Art. 1.-The Government within 40 days of the publication of this decree will form a new tariff, maritime and frontier, combining all the improvements which experience has shown to be necessary to conciliate the interests of the Treasury of Commerce and Manufacture.

"Art. 2. The tariff shall be formed on the following bases:-

"1. The ports already open to foreign and coasting trade, shall continue to be so.

"2. The prohibition of foreign goods, the introduction of which was not allowed at the period of the original bases, or which has been sanctioned by the present Congress, shall continue in force.

"3. No variation shall take place with regard to those goods which enter free of all duty, and the rules respecting them, which are found in the 5th, 6th, and 7th articles of the tariff of the 25th September, 1843, still continue in force.

"4. With respect to the duties to be levied in future-no increase shall take place on the amount fixed by the said tariff of 1843, nor shall the duties be diminished below the standard of the tariff of 1842. Nor can the time allowed for the payment of duties be shortened; nor the duties now payable on foreign goods similar to those manufactured in the republic be diminished, always with the understanding that, in the opinion of Government, or the Council of Ministers, the said manufacturers are produced in sufficient quantity to meet the actual consumption.

"5. The payment of duties shall take place in the maritime and inland custom-houses in Vera Cruz and Tampico, and in the general treasury of Mexico, with the exception of such portion of said duties as are applicable to the maintenance of the garrisons of those places, and to the interest on the foreign and home debt, all which dispositions shall remain exactly as they are at present.

"6. The new tariff shall come into effect not sooner than six months from this date for goods coming from Europe by the Atlantic. With regard to those arriving from the Antillas, from Asia, and the United States, or which come from Europe by the Pacific, an reasonable period shall hereafter be fixed.

"7. No alteration shall be made in the law of the 19th February last which allots one per cent. Of all duties to the public hospitals.

"Art. 8.-The tariff that maybe formed according to the preceding bases shall not be altered without the concurrence of Congress, which,
according to its Constitutional faculties, has alone the power to do so.

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(Signed) J.J. De Herrera. [ANP]

LT October 6, 1845, page 5f: Affairs of Mexico.

Mexico, August 29

My last despatch, at the close of the month of July, left this city and public opinion generally in the republic in a state of great excitement, in the consequence of the annexation of Texas, and of he avowed and apparent determination of this Government to declare war against the United States. That agitation lasted but for a very few days, and in the course of a week, after the most solemn declarations on the part of the Ministry and of anti-American denunciations of the part of the press, the subject was forgotten, and the Government and newspapers resumed heir usual apathetic course of existence. This change may be attributed first to the influence of wise counsels on the President Herrera, which showed him that a declaration of war would entitle the United States to conquer and retain any part of he Mexican territory, and, secondly, to the profound indifference which reigns here on everything connected with the love of country. Perhaps the impending election of a President, and the contingent resignation of the Cabinet had some influence on the case, as well as the terrific void which existed in the treasury. The result was, as I have stated, perfect forgetfulness of Texas and the United States; and neither in the Senate nor Chamber of Deputies was one word said indicative of hostile intentions.

The election for a President took place on the 15th inst. in all the departments. The only candidates were General Herrera and General Almonte, late Minister at Washington A very few votes were given to the latter, and the former was elected by a great majority in all the departments. As soon as the election of the President was made known, the Cabinet resigned en masse. This step was taken, not from any difference existing between the Cabinet and Herrera, but from an arrangement entered into between all parties after the revolution of he 7th of December last, and the formation of a provisional Government. It was imagined that the Cabinet would have been re-elected, but the several members were too glad to escape from so difficult a position, and nothing could induce any one of them to retain office. A Ministerial crisis was the consequence. The chief offices of a state were begging in the streets, and it was not until all influential persons were tried, and had refused, that a Cabinet was composed as follows;–Foreign Affairs, Senor Pena y Pena; Finacne, Senor Ferdinand del Castillo; War, General Araya; Grace and Justice, Senor Cuoto.

The first of these gentlemen is the friend of Senor Cuevas, at and his entreaty alone he was persuaded to take office. He is an intelligent man, somewhat distinguished by a publication on national law, but he has no diplomatic experience, and is but little known to the foreign representatives here. The Finance Minister is equally without experience, and the banking classes generally are not pleased with the appointment. General Arraya is a good officer, but he is unequal to the talk of cleansing the Mexican army of its impurities. Senor Cuoto is universally admitted to be a man of talent, but it is not in his department that the great evil of the country lies, or where a sufficient remedy can be found. This Ministry, since its coming into power, has remained perfectly passive, and I do not know of a single record it has made, with the exception of its foolish proceedings against the French Minister, of which I shall presently have to treat.

The fact is, the Treasury and the army are in such a deplorable condition that it is almost impossible for a Minister to act. There is literally not a shilling in the Treasury; the Minister of Finance has to borrow money from day to day with the greatest difficulty, for the ordinary expenses of Government, and he sees no prospect of doing better, as the Congress has attached conditions to the initiative of the loan for 15 millions of dollars (such as the no offer can be accepted for less than 1,000,000 or at an interest of more than 6 per cent.), which render its being contracted for impossible, even if the general credit were more healthy than it is. As for the army, its miserable destitution is so great, that except in the city of Mexico the soldiers are without rations. A detachment lately despatched towards California are dying of hunger on the road, and even the division of Paredes, the best in the country, has neither food nor clothing. With such desolation, what can the Government do? And Herrera and the Ministers compelled to remain passive by the very nature of things. The mischief will not, however, stop here, and already, it is
said, numerous conspiracies are on foot to overturn the present system. It is even
rumoured that Paredes has pronounced, and that he who has been the main agent in
all late revolution has determined on now appointing a triumvirate, in lieu of a
president, to be composed of himself and Generals Bravo and Valencia. Paredes is
at San Luis de Potosi, about 200 leagues hence, so that we cannot get very accurate
accounts of his proceedings, but no doubt exists as to his bad understanding with
the Government. His troops, and those of Genera Felisola, were marching to cover
the line of the Rio Grande, but the men refused to move without a supply of rations
being provided, and Paredes, to keep his command, took part with the men, and not
with the Government, and commissioners sent by him are trying to settle matters
with the Minister in Mexico.

The menaces of this Government on hearing the annexation of Texas have, I
find, set the United States in Movement, and a squadron of 10 ships is in the Gulf
of Mexico, with orders to make reprisals should Mexico declare hostilities, and about
2,000 men have been landed in Texas. The United States does not desire war; their
plan is to steal in parcels the Mexican territory, and in the meantime to make every
show of moderation. They are trying to open negotiations with this country, by
treaty, to secure their present footing in the republic, and gain, if possible, the
frontier of the Rio Bravo, leaving the future open to further aggression, and to its
insensible progress to the mining districts, the great object of American
ambition. As yet this Government has refused to listen to any overtures, but its
poverty is so great the plans of the United States are so insidious, that I should not
be surprised if the Mexican Cabinet consented to negotiate. The march of the United
States is progressive, and nothing will content them but the possession of the mining
districts and the chief ports of Upper California. We can understand what is going on
in Texas, but the proceedings in California are not equally clear. A party composed
of American settlers and some natives is at work to declare in the first place
independence, and in the next annexation. That party has been in operation for
many years, and, though defeated in 1836 and 1840, it is still as busy as ever, and
it will ere long declare, "La Estudo Libre y Soberana de la Alta California." The
Americans comprise the great majority of strangers in that department. They have
actually possession of San Francisco, the Rio Sacramento, and Monterey, and when
the proper moment arrives they will be ready to vote for annexation, and put the
parent country in possession of that magnificent province.

I would anxiously impress on the British public, that in my opinion, unless a
miracle takes place, in half a century Mexico must become a portion of the American
Union. It is already breaking up at the extremities. Tobasco and Yucatan furnish no
supplies to the central Government; Texas has gone, California is meditating revolt,
and New Mexico and other northern states are speaking also of annexation. Is it
possible for 7,000,000 of inhabitants, 4,000,000 of whom are Indians, to resist the
encroachment of the Anglo-Saxon? Must not the red skin give way before the
white? Has not the north in all cases overrun the south? And what means has he
central Government of maintaining 150,000,000 of people, and having only 7,000,000, as I have already
stated? The American President Jefferson asserted 60 years ago that in the natural
course of events the American Union must extend to the Isthmus of Panama. The
union is daily occupied in working out that prophecy, and I see no means of
preventing its accomplishment; England must therefore think of her own interests,
and secure the Bay of Francisco and Monterey, on the Pacific, to prevent those noble
ports from being ports of expedition for brother Jonathan for the Chinese
market. As I lately said, a passage has been found through the Rocky Mountains,
and settlers are daily finding their way into Upper California, Americans compose the
great majority of strangers in that department, and, energetic and patriotic as they
are, they will at a suitable moment secure its independence or annexation. We are
totally ignorant of the state of things in California, and even the Government cannot
procure substantial information.

Santa Anna remains at the Havannah, notwithstanding the engagement made
with this Government to fix his residence in Venezuela. Representations have been
made to him on the subject, but he replies that he is too poor to travel, and that he
does not wish, out of consideration for his country to exhibit a Mexican President
reduced to destitution in a foreign land. The fact is, Santa Anna is waiting at the
Havannah in the hope of being recalled by a pronunciamento, and certainly, seeing
the incapacity of all his successors, and knowing that he was the only man capable
of action, I do not know whether Mexico could do better than to recall him. It is
hard alternative, no doubt as Santa Anna was a public plunderer; but he has
capacity, and is the only man capable of playing a distinguished part. He had a
certain prestige, and his appeals to the country were generally answered by men
and money, whereas, under the present system, not a shilling has been subscribed
to the proposed national loan, and only 22 volunteers have answered out of the
whole city of Mexico to the call made by the Chambers for a levec en masse.
The tariff appears at last to be in a fair way of arrangement. The difference between the two Chambers has been arranged. A new initiative has been presented. The commission has been enlarged, and in another fortnight we hope to see the thing closed. The tariff of 1842 will be pretty nearly the standard. I understand that there are four vessels on demurrage at the Havannah, with English goods, bound for Vera Cruz, whose cargoes are worth 1,000,000 of dollars duty. This sum will be a godsend to the Government as well as to the bondholders, and probably it is the hope of speedily receiving it which induces the Ministers to press the tariff question in the Chambers.

I find that General Felisola, who was to command the vanguard of the army destined for Texas, has arrived here this morning. His object is to represent the true state of things to the Government and to show the danger the system runs from the proceedings of General Paredes.

The affair of the French Minister, the Baron de Cyprey, and the Mexican Government, has ended in an unpleasant manner, the Baron having found it necessary after a long negotiation "to demand his passports, and to declare that all relations between the French and Mexican Governments were suspended." This determination was communicated on the 25th, the day fixed by the Baron for either the reparation required being allowed or the demand of his passports, and it appears not to have altered the intentions of the Mexican Ministers, who I understand propose to submit the whole question to the Foreign office at Paris, and there to make the reparation which M. Guizot may insist on. The Baron demanded in the first instance the dismissal of the Alcalde who insulted and the officer who arrested and took him prisoner to the citadel. From that reparation he has never departed, though the Mexican Government declared that, without a judicial inquiry, it could not disturb the officers in question. The Baron more than once explained that the droit des gens was superior to all judicial proceedings, and that, as representing the person of the King, he could not submit to the delay of Mexican tribunals. In short, he notified that, unless the reparation was made on the 15th, he would proceed to extremities. It took place between Senor Cuevas undertook, if M. de Cyprey granted a short delay, to give him full and complete satisfaction. A note to that effect was drawn up, which met the approbation of the four assembled Ministers. In the meantime M. Cuevas resigned, and, as if the complicate the matter more, the court-martial sitting on the officer Olier acquitted him, declaring that the officer did not know the person of the French Minister, and that if he acted erroneously the imprisonment he had already suffered was sufficient. To the renewed demands of Baron Cyprey for the fulfilment of Senor Cuevas's promise, the new Minister of Foreign Affairs declared that the engagement of Senor Cuevas only referred to the trying by court-martial the officer in question, and as an acquittal had taken place, no further satisfaction could be given. This statement enraged the Baron de Cyprey, and after the delivery of a note, in which he showed the true sense of M. Cuevas's engagement, and proved the absurdity of the meaning attached to it by M. Pena y Pena, he ended by declaring that if previous to the 25th inst. full reparation were not afforded, his passports must be delivered.

On the evening of the 24th the Baron addressed the note of which I subjoin a copy, and on the following day M. Goury de Roslan, Secretary of Legation, notified that, as all relations were broken of between the French and Mexican Governments, French subjects resident in the republic were placed under the care of M. Bermudes de Castro, who, as Ministre de Famille, was necessarily charged with that duty. Thus has ended, at a moment when Mexico wants the advice and friendship of such a nation as France, this ridiculous affair, owing to the unwillingness of the Mexican Government to distinguish between the law of the country and the laws of the nations, and between the persons of ordinary individuals and the representatives of Kings. The origins of the dispute was most absurd, and it has only acquired importance from the pertinacity of the Mexican Minister in refusing to give the proper reparation, and from the irregular interpretation given to the promise of Senor Cuevas. Mr. Bankhead would have had the care of the French subjects in Mexico, but etiquette requires that, in such cases, the Ministre de Famille should undertake the duty. The chief retail trade of the city of Mexico is in the hands of French subjects, and, if the Government choose to put the existing law relative to foreign retailers into force, the position of those persons will be most uncomfortable.

Messrs. Lizardi, of London, have published here a long letter addressed to the Mexican Government, intended to show the great advantages its agency had created for this country, and the many obligations which they conferred on Mexico during an administration of 10 years. The letter does not mention the proceedings of the bondholders, or allude in any way to the claims made by that body for sunis remitted to pay dividends. It is merely an answer to paragraphs which appeared in the papers to the prejudice of Messrs. Lizardi, and it possesses no interest for the owners of Mexican bonds.
I find at the moment of closing my despatch that the troops are consigned to
quarters, and that a *pronunciamento* is expected. I do not believe that matters are
yet ripe for the movement, though in all probability it cannot be long deferred.

The Mexican Government has not yet delivered passports to the French
Minister, and I hear that the Baron de Cyprey has determined to constitute himself a
prisoner in case the passports are not sent in.

I subjoin the decree relative to the new tariff which appears in the Government
Gazette of this morning.

M. B. H.

P.S.-I have just received the following petition, which has been addressed to
the Congress by the departmental Junta of Upper California, in favour of
federation. This may be considered as the beginning of the end in that province;

"We petition the Congress to adopt the form of federal government,
abandoning the influence exercised by the central power in the internal matters of
such state, which has been one of the principal causes of the decline of the country,
making at the same time such reforms as may be necessary to guarantee individual
liberty, in order that the different classes of society may be held in even balance,
without any one being able to prejudice the other.

"PIO PICO, President.

"AUGUSTIN OLIVEIRA, Secretary.

"Cuidad de los Angeles, July 26."

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"Note from the Minister of France ot Senor Cuevas.

"Mexico, July 30.

The notes and memoranda which I had the honour to address to your
Excellency on the 21st and 27th of this month should not, it appears to me, have
caused either surprise or regret. These acts were the necessary consequence of the
promises you made to the Minister of the King, in the name of the Mexican
Government, in writing, or in presence of their Excellencies the Ministers of England
and Spain.

"In the answer made by your Excellency to my note of yesterday you appear to
doubt that I have properly received the friendly sentiments of the Government of the
Republic, and the principles by which it has been guided. To that I must observe,
that the sentiments of a nation are better shown by acts than by words which have
been attended by no result.

"As to principles, I must avow that I cannot understand any that are opposed
to those consecrated by the laws of nations. When Mexico sought to be admitted
into the family of nations, the great Powers acceded to her request on the condition
that she, like them, became subject to the 'droit des gens.' This law, superior to all
international legislation, decided that reparation for outrage must be made by one
nation to another. Mexico, therefore, is bound to give France satisfaction for the
attempt made against the inviolability of the Minister of the King by two Mexican
functionaries. That right cannot be set aside by secondary considerations drawn
from the internal legislation of the country. A Government which says (I am far
from applying this remark to Mexico) that it is unable to repair the outrages
committed by its subjects is no longer a Government. For two months I have
displayed, by the most exemplary patience, the spirit of conciliation by which I am
animated; I have even lately asked your Excellency to name the period when it
would be convenient to you to fulfil the promise so distinctly made. Not only has
your Excellency avoided the fulfilment of that promise, but I find by your news of
yesterday that it is indefinitely adjourned.

"The digit of France compels me now to say, that I cannot extend the delay
required by your Excellency beyond the 15th of next month. I hope that then your
Excellency will be prepared to give me the satisfaction required, otherwise the
Minister of France will be compelled to break off all diplomatic relations with the republic."

"The Minister of France to Senor Pena y Pena.
Mexico, August 24.

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"In acceding to the wish expressed by his Excellency the Minister Pena y Pena, to obtain a further delay, for the purpose of coming to a resolution on the reparation due to France for the insult offered to the King on the 25th of May last, in the person of his Minister Plepnipotentiary, the undersigned informed his Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs that he would wait eight days longer, for either the deprivation of the two guilty officers of the delivery of his passports.

"The feeble hope that the undersigned preserved of seeing the reciprocal rights and duties of nations towards each other admitted and acted on by the Mexican Government has vanished, on reading the note which his Excellency Senor Pena y Pena did me the honour to communicate this morning.

"That note contains:-

1. Insinuations which show that no regard has been paid to the declarations of the Minister of he King, of the Secretary of Legation, and of the several respectable persons who accompanied the Minister, but that, on the contrary, an unjust partiality has been shown to false reports and to false evidence, collected with that precaution against strangers which has been exhibited in the whole of this affair.

2. Quotations which, however historically correct, are without application to a case in which the Minister of he King has demanded a just and well-due satisfaction.

3. A voluntary confusion between a sudden insult offered to a Minister whose quality is unknown at the moment of its perpetration, and the continued outrages exercised on a Minister after his condition was made known, and the guilty person had called him by his title.

4. A repeated determination to appear ignorant of the facts of the case in their successive order, for the purpose of creating doubts on the origin of the affair, though it is well known that the affair arose from the violent treatment inflicted on the servants of the French Minister, who had been wounded with the evident intention of getting hold of the property of the Minister.

5. An avowal of the incapability of Government of give the desired satisfaction.

6. An inadmissible interpretation of the laws of nations, tending to show that the promises made by his predecessor in the office are not binding on Senor Pena y Pena, though the promises had been given without reserve by Senor Cuevas, in the presence of he Ministers of Great Britain and of Spain, with extracts of passages from Vatel, affecting to justify that doctrine. The undersigned, far from disregarding the authority of Vatel, insists that that great authority excludes from all negotiations subterfuge and absurdity. For the purpose of elucidating the quotation made from Vatel, the undersigned calls attention to pages 232 and 233 of chapter 15 of the second book, and to the 17th chapter of the same, in which this doctrine is laid down, that an interpretation manifestly false is contrary to good faith; that the true meaning of a promise is that which was openly declared, and that it is only by so understanding the nature of a promise that attempts to elude engagements can be counteracted.

"Certainly the engagement made by the predecessor of Senor Pena y Pena is sufficiently explicit; and, according to Vatel, book the 2d, page 283, it cannot be construed to be null and void. To do so would, in fact, push the absurd to the last limit.

"The undersigned thinks it superfluous to enter further into the discussion. He sees in the note of his Excellency Senor Pena y Pena a positive refusal to fulfil the
That principle of the abhorrence of a vacuum which the elder philosophers regarded as one of the fundamental laws of the natural world, is far more strictly and certainly true of the world of politics. Wherever a community of men exists—wherever society with all its various natural and artificial wants has once been constituted, the power of protecting and regulating its common interests must exist also. The territory must be defended, life and property preserved from outrage, justice administered, and the resources of the commonwealth applied to their present objects and provided for future occasions. How ill or imperfectly soever these duties be performed, an actual and avowed suspension of them would in fact imply the total dissolution of the body politic. In the midst of the wildest anarchy these functions of Government are assumed by the ephemeral and intemperate sovereigns of the hour; and out of the ruins of every state in the crisis of every revolution, something must at least survive which men dignify by their obedience, and which serves to perpetuate the tradition of national existence. Personal ambition conspires with the exigency of the times to fill the vacant throne and to provide servants for the commonwealth; and though power has often fallen into most unworthy hands, there is no example in history of a total failure of men ready to assume its dignity and responsibility.

The present condition of the Mexican republic would, however, seem to be an exception to this universal rule. We seek in vain for any other instance of total collapse in the powers of Government, without any external or internal cause of destruction, except the absence of men competent to govern. In more ancient and settled countries institutions frequently do the work of men, and screed the folly or incapacity of one generation under the traditions of prejudice or of habit. But the labour of founding and improving a new state requires the exercise of a more constant energy. The United States may boast of a series of statesmen, from the declaration of independence to a very recent period, who were eminently qualified to develop the natural resources and the political destiny of their country. The Spanish colonies, on the contrary, have not produced a single individual of political or military eminence since their emancipation; and in cutting off the branch from the parent tree the same disease hangs about it which has blighted the energy and destroyed the power of Spain. We have then before us this most extraordinary spectacle—a people of seven millions of men, of whom half are of the European race, inhabiting the finest portion of the whole American continent, commanding the Gulf of Mexico on the east, and the best ports of the Pacific on the west, equidistant from the shores of China and from those of Europe, a country five times as large as France, and abounding with all the richest productions of the earth—and, in short, every conceivable element of maritime and commercial greatness and of internal prosperity; but all this so dead to improvement, so unconscious of its own resources, so depraved by indolence and ignorance, that the feather-cinctured guards of Montezuma were not more powerless, and the ancient Kings of the aboriginal Mexican people certainly deserve more respect, than the miserable chiefs of the modern Mexican republic. The insurrection which severed the territory of New Spain from the mother-country destroyed monarchical Government in the only form in which it could exist there, and deprived the country of the benefits which it might have deprived from the enlightened administration of European statesmen, and of the protection secured to it by European arms. But what had been done by education, by experience, or by nature to qualify this people or its local leaders for the arduous duties of self-governance? The colonial aristocracy consisted of the degenerate descendants of Spanish adventurers, eager to pawn their estates to English speculators' and utterly unable to direct the affairs of the country. The people were utterly devoid of that spirit which imparts vitality to democratic institutions. From collective indolence and inaptitude for governing, what Government could be erected? In a nation of blind men, who was to have eyesight for the dull untractable multitude? The army along afforded candidates for political; and these were, for the most part, men of contemptible talents and of still more contemptible personal motives. At length, after a series of changes, which were successive steps in the degradation of the country, an event occurred—the
annexation of Texas by the United States—which the Mexican Ministers themselves declared to be the test of their existence as a nation. That test has decided against them, for no resistance has been or can be offered to the act of spoliation; and the territory of Mexico will lose or preserve its independence, according to the cupidity or the forbearance of the rest of the world.

In spite of the pride of the Spanish race, and the love of independence of all communities, even under the worst of Governments, the truth is gradually making its way among some of the most influential classes of the Mexicans, and they are becoming sensible that their Government is contemptible and fatal to the private as well as the public interests of every member of the community. They have in fact before them no other prospect than that of passing under a foreign yoke, and being conquered by the people whose manners, religion, and race are most odious and opposite to their own.

If Spain herself had made any progress in the art of government, and if the revolutions she has undergone had reformed and reinvigorated her powers instead of shaking them to the foundation, she might without much difficulty reconquer her ancient colonies in North America. Such an expedition might be conducted from Cuba at no very great cost; its success after landing on the coast would be certain; and it is not improbable that the same population which threw off the yoke of Ferdinand might be re-united without much opposition to the throne of a constitutional Queen with an assurance that the country would be governed not as a mere colony, depending on the pleasure of the Council of the Indies, but as an integral portion of an empire possessing representative institutions. In the present condition of the Cabinet of Madrid such a project may be deemed visionary and impracticable, but we cannot regard it as impossible. If the Government of Narvaez dared to undertake it, such an enterprise would powerfully strengthen its hold upon the country; and we see no reason to suppose that the re-establishment of the Spanish power in Mexico would be viewed with jealousy by any other European State. It would be infinitely preferable to progressive annexation by the grasping democrats of the Northern American States; and the country itself would probably find in such a revolution the mode of government best suited to its real wants.

[ANP]

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Arrival of the Britannia.


The British and North American Royal mail steam-ship Britannia, Captain Hewitt, arrived in the Mersey with the usual mails from Canada and the United States at noon to-day, bringing 73 passengers.

The advices are of the usual meagre and unsatisfactory character. The question of war had been universally decided in the negative. It was rumoured that official relations would shortly be resumed with Mexico. The domestic affairs of the United States are relieved from absolute sterility only by the accounts of the Mormon disturbances.

The Texan intelligence is detailed below.

The New Orleans Picayune says:-

"The Texan papers have given to the public, for the first time, the secret treaty between Santa Anna and Texas, by which the former obtained his release when a prisoner. Originally the treaty was enclosed in a letter written by Santa Anna to General Jackson, then President of the United States, and the whole accompanied by another letter, written by General Austin, at Santa Anna's request, to the same distinguished man, soliciting his mediation and influence for the settlement of difficulties between Mexico and Texas. General Austin's letter explains fully the grounds upon which Santa Anna obtained his release—all of them having reference to the solemn pledges made by the latter to use all his exertions to obtain the acknowledgment of Texan independence to the Rio Grande. The Mexican Government never sanctioned this treaty, although they regained their army by it."

Another outbreak amongst the Mormonites had taken place. A letter in the St. Louis Republican from the editor of that paper, dated at Warsaw, September 17,
represents the state of things among the Mormons, or rather among the bands of lawless men who had assumed the title of Anti-Mormons, as most deplorable. They were carrying fire and faggot into the Mormon settlements in all directions, and did not confine themselves to the Mormons only, but laid waste the dwellings of all those suspected of favouring those fanatics. Down to the night of Sunday, the 14th, it is stated that 60 houses had been burnt down in Adams and Hancock counties. The Anti-Mormons had entered into an extended combination, and announced their determination not to stop short of the expulsion of every Mormon from Hancock county, in which is Nauvoo; and it was apprehended that a conflict would result between the two parties.

Our dates from New Orleans are to the 22d, and Mobile to the 23d ultimo. Those cities were perfectly free from the yellow fever, and were remarkably healthy. The South has not, this year, been visited by any epidemic.

There had been hostilities amongst the Indians.

The New York Courier and Inquirer says:-

"The Arkansas Intelligencer of the 30th ultimo states that the Indians on the frontier are quiet and peaceable, with the exception of the Kickapoos and Camanchees, who are arrayed in arms against each other. The Comanchees have said that the Kickapoos should not hunt upon the prairie, and the latter tribe, assisted by volunteers from several small and scattered tribes, have proceeded to the hunt fully prepared to meet the Camanchees in battle, if they are molested. The Comanchees lately took a 'little king' of the Kickapoos prisoner, and detained him some time, intending to put him to death, but finally released him. He is very popular with his tribe, and has gone out with the hunting party to revenge himself upon the Camanchees. The Intelligencer further states that the Mexicans have lately had a hard battle with the Camanchees, killing 100 of them, and taking prisoner the wife of the principal war chief."

The Union publishes a letter from Mr. Pakenham, the British Minister, transmitting an extract of a despatch lately received by Her Majesty's Government from the Governor of New Zealand, containing information of the friendly and generous assistance afforded by an officer of the United States navy-Captain M'Keever, of the St. Louis-to the local authorities and the European inhabitants of that settlement, in a case of great emergency; and expressing to the Government of the United States the high sense which Her Majesty entertains of the services rendered by Captain M'keever on the occasion referred to.

The first volume of Ingersoll's Historical Sketch of the Second War between the United States and Great Britain had been published.

Mr. Everett, immediately after his arrival at Boston in the Britannia, received an invitation to a public dinner from the citizens, but replied begging to be excused, n the ground that he should be expected to make an address, and, in the wish to preserve inviolate the confidence of his late official position, he would be forced to speak of uninteresting generalities.

It is stated by the New Orleans Tropic that a steam-packet line was about to be established to Jamaica from that city.

Mr. And Mrs. Charles Kean, after a brilliant reception at Philadelphia, had gone to Baltimore.

The Hon. J. White, ex-Speaker of the House of Representatives, had committed suicide.

The Courier and Inquirer supplies us with the usual summary:-

New York, Monday Evening, Sept. 29.

There is little change to note in political or commercial affairs. The war fever has passed off, and now it seems on all hands agreed that between the United States and Mexico there are to be no hostilities; though in what shape the displeasure of he latter is to be manifested, or how she is to be conciliated, is yet to be ascertained. The accounts by the Britannia gave an impulse to cotton which, is still kept up; the new crop is coming in rapidly, of good quality, and with the appearance of a full crop. The demand for money is regular, but at ordinary rates. Foreign exchange is at about the same quotations as our last (109 ¾ to 110),
with some little more demand occasioned by the remittance of he quarter’s interest on the debt of this state, and by the partial payments in anticipation of the New York Five per Cents. Redeemable on the 1st of January next. The quotations will be found in the subjoined list of prices. The subscription to the Erie Railroad stock, three millions of dollars, is all but filled, lacking only about 200,000 dollars, which will, of course, be taken, and thus the early construction of that new and important thoroughfare to the west will be secured. Our fall trade is sound and active, and generally business is secure and prosperous. Cotton.—The market is firm at the advance noticed upon the arrival of the Britannia. The sales on Saturday and to-day reach 3,500 bales, part for shipment and part on speculation. The new crop comes forward freely, 41,318 bales having already been received, and there is every prospect of a bountiful supply. We quote Uplands, very ordinary to middling, 6 ¾ to 7 ¾ cents; fair, to good fair and good, 8 ¼ to 8 ¾ and 9 1/3 cents per pound. Tennesses and Alabamas, 6 ¾ to 7 ¼ cents Mobiles, Louisianas, &c., ordinary to middling, 7 to 7 ¼ cents; fair to good fair, 9 to 10 cents; good and fine, 11 to 12 and 12 ½ cents per pound. The sales since the 13th inst. are estimated at 16,000 bales. The rates of freight are to Liverpool, for cotton, 1/4d. per pound in square bales, and 5-16d. in round; naval stores and flour, 2s. to 2s. 3d. per barrel. To London: naval stores and flour, 2s. 6d. to 3s. per barrel. To Havre: cotton, 5/8d. and 7/8d. per pound; ashes, $8 to $10 per ton; rice, $10 per ton.”

There had been some slight improvement in most of the state stocks, both dividend paying and delinquent. The Herald reports relative to Pennsylvania, that “the amount of tolls received on the Pennsylvania canals and railroads up to the 1st of September this year was $807,192, being an increase of $4,750 over the corresponding period of last year, and $136,680 over that of 1843.

As to the other delinquent states, it reports:—

“The financial condition of Maryland is rapidly improving, and we have not the slightest doubt but that the Legislature will, at its next session, agree upon some day on which to resume payment. Collectors of state taxes have been procured in all the counties, and so far they have been very successful in their collections. Payments in the first three quarters of the year, on account of the interest on the public debt, have exceeded the interest which accrued in those quarters, and it is anticipated that the collections for the last quarter will be attested with corresponding results. The efforts of the present Executive of the state of redeem its credit having been untiring, and during his administration we expect to see Maryland take rank with Pennsylvania as a solvent state. There is very little change to note in the progress made by the other delinquent states of the Union towards the redemption of their credit, and very little can be said in relation to their financial condition until the meeting of the Legislatures. The prosperity of every class of citizens, in every section of the country, is so great, and there has been such a rapid increase in the resources of the states generally, that we feel very confident that something more will be done this year towards extricating some of the states from their financial difficulties than in any previous single season. We cannot look for an immediate resumption by Indiana, Illinois, or Arkansas, but we expect to see a more favourable report of their finances than has yet been given and some statements from their legislatures giving more encouragement to their bondholders than has yet been given.”

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Government Securities

(table)

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The Canadian accounts, which extend to the usual date, are unimportant. The Earl of Cathcart had made an official tour through the western portion of the province. The arrival of M. Papineau at Boston had excited considerable speculation as to his future political course. It was thought he would support the present Administration. There has been an increase of 175 arrivals from sea this year over last. Up to September 25 there had arrived, by the St. Lawrence, 184 general cargoes, of which about 125 were for Montreal. The total number of vessels arrived this year was 1,294, and the total number cleared from the port of Quebec, including 35 form Montreal, was 1,138.

Vera Cruz advises to the 16th ult. report that the aspect of affairs had undergone no change. The French Minister had received his passports, and, it is stated, was expected daily at Vera Cruz en route to France. A more authentic
rumour, however, stated that the differences had been arranged.

The intelligence from General Taylor’s camp, Corpus Christi, are unimportant. Arista had been at Mier, but not accompanied by a military force, nor was there any indication of the concentration of a Mexican force on the Rio Grande. Spies are said to have been captured by a scouting party. It was reported that 200 Lappans and as many Camanchees had been seen by a party of traders within two days’ march from the camp. The Indians were said to be on their way to Mantamoras (by invitation form Mexico) to join the forces against General Taylor. The report was little credited.

A letter from Pensacola, dated September 8, reports the arrival from Washington of a bearer of despatches, who, it is stated, “from a most authentic source,” would go out on the following day accompanied by three men-of-war, destination unknown.

Accounts from Monterey, California, to June 17, state that the Mexican Government was about to send a Governor and 2,800 men to California, to prevent that part of the Republic from being dismembered.

The Britannia spoke the steam-ship Great Britain, Hoskins, hence for New York, on the 7th inst., in lat. 48 27. Long. 42 56. The Cambria Judkins, arrived at Halifax on the 1st, in 11 ½ days.

A Pensacola letter mentions an unauthenticated rumour to the effect, that Monterey had been taken by the United States squadron in the Pacific.

The Union publishes a proclamation, transmitted by Commander Parker, of the United States frigate Brandywine, issued by Bruat, the French governor of Oceania, decreeing, for various alleged insults and injuries received form Queen Pomare, that “the island of Raiatea is declared to be in a state of blockade, and that the laws and regulations applicable to such a state will be applied to every ship or vessel which shall attempt to violate this blockade.”

Commander Parker, in reference to this proclamation says:-

"Mr. Chapman, United States Acting Consul, informed me that the blockade would not prevent our Whale ships going into the port for supplies; and in a conversation with Governor Bruat, previous to the promulgation of the proclamation, he assured me that, in the absence of our cruisers, our commerce to these islands should be protected by the French.

"Raiatea is a small island to the northward and westward of Papeete, distant 120 miles, where Queen Pomare now resides.

"At Papeete there are no restrictions on commerce, except such as are necessary to prevent munitions of war being distributed among the natives. There are no duties or any charges except for pilotage."

The following account of the success of the English demand for satisfaction from the Peruvian Government is taken from the New York Herald:-

"The demand of the English Government for the cashiering of General Iguin, Prefect of Moquegua, and absolute inability to hold any office, civil or military, in Peru; the removal of Colonel Arancivia, Governor of the Literal of Arica; and the Apology to be written by some subalter, to the commander of an English corvette, had been fully complied with, but not until a strong English force had assembled at Callao, and the merchants had, by order of their Minister, taken an inventory of their property; and he had sent an ultimatum allowing the Executive only 24 hours for a positive and unconditional compliance or refusal, the orders being positive from his Government on these points, and must be complied with before he could treat upon any other subjects. The Executive had been shuffling for a week or two, as Iguin was a favorite of theirs.

"Iguin, on receiving the news from his successor, Colonel Mendaburn, who was immediately sent to take command of the Prefecture, refused to give up, but finding that he would not be supported by any one, as he has no friend except the Executive, and would be compelled to yield to force, surrendered the command. Iguin is an inveterate enemy of all foreigners, and has done more to establish the present unpopular Executive, General Castillo, than any other man."
"Unless the United States take some decisive measures with this Republic, all her demands will be laughed at. The treaty for the settlement of some claims, and the payment of $300,000, ratified by some two or three Executives, and refused to be ratified by the present authorities of Peru, has been submitted to the present Congress, but no payment will be made until force is used by our Government.

"One of the Peruvian men-of-war which had been notified by the English Admiral not to leave the port of Islay at the time the difficulty occurred with Iguin, and after said notifications all were abandoned by their officers and crew, has sunk, and the remaining four vessels will soon follow. The Peruvians claim of the English payment for the squadron, although they never set foot on board of them."

[ANP]

LT October 17, 1845, page 7d: Mexico and California

-We understand from very good authority that a number of enterprising young adventurers, full of youth and enthusiasm, are preparing to start on an expedition to some of the northern states of Mexico or California, with similar views to those which animated the early settlers of Texas, who brought about the revolution and conflict in that state, which have ultimately produced the annexation of that territory to the United States. It is generally well known that the movement in Texas which has led to its present annexation originated in the city of New York, probably 10 or 12 years ago, with some of the same persons who are now the leading men in that country. The success of the revolution and annexation of Texas seems to point out the new way—the novel method by which stable and efficient republican Governments can be extended over this continent,—proceeding as it does from the central republic of the world, the United States. The annexation of Texas to the United States is as much a blessing to the people of that region as life itself. European journalists and reviewers may talk til they are hoarse about national robbery and plunder, but the people of Texas, the independent people of all classes in Mexico, California, and elsewhere, have, according to our notions, an inalienable right to annex themselves to that country under whose laws and institutions they can live peaceably and prosperously, without its being considered robbery or plunder on their part. If Louisiana, or South Carolina, or any other border state, were to choose, in their sovereign capacity, to separate from the Union, and unite themselves to republican Mexico with the same purpose Texas had, they would possess a perfect and indefeasible right to do so. We conceive this right to be an original principle of our nature, which cannot be explained away by abuse and denunciation, such as the European journals use. Heretofore the republic of Mexico has shown herself incapable of self government. Since the first moment of her independence from the military dominion of old Spain, she was during her whole career been but the grave of old soldiers and miserable politicians. The people of the different states of that republic, seeing that Texas has now one expectation of a steady government through its union with the United States, will want to come into the confederacy for the same purpose. An expedition, therefore, starting from New York, collecting materials all over the country, to go into the northern states of Mexico or California, for the purpose of annexing them to this country, of establishing a republican government, and securing peace, will meet with the sanction, we have no doubt, of all good citizens. The expedition to which we now allude will take some time for preparation, but we have no doubt that in less than one year we shall see crowds crossing the Rio Grande to the northern states of Mexico, and passing through the great gap of the Rocky Mountains towards California; and that we shall have a second, third, and fourth edition of the Texan revolution all over again, and at each turn a new extension of the borders of the Union. —New York Herald.

[ANP]

LT October 29, 1845, page 6b: The Affairs of Mexico.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Mexico, Sept. 2.

I have little to add to my despatch of the 29th, which went by the regular packet. The city has remained perfectly quiet, notwithstanding the daily reports of approaching pronunciamientos and the evident alarm of the Government, whose fears are seen by the doubling of the guards and the excess of military precautions that we hourly witness. It is said also that Paredes is on better terms with the Ministry; and I subjoin a proclamation of his to the troops destined for Texas under
his command, which appears in this day's Diorio. This proclamation gives great satisfaction to the Ministry, as it was generally believed that Paredes had determined to pronounce against them.

The Treasury is still in the same unprovided state. The war initiative has not gone through the forms of the Chambers; and I understand that relative to the Texan war has not yet been looked at by the Deputies.

Negotiations have been going on relative to the affairs of the French Minister, the Baron de Cyrey, and this Government, which, I am told, ended in disappointment. Mr. Bank-head has been endeavouring to reconcile the angry parties, but, up to the present hour, his efforts have been unsuccessful. M. Pena y Pena has not yet sent in the passports demanded by the Baron, in the hope of a reconciliation taking place; but the diplomatic intercourse has ceased, and the French Minister is determined not to yield.

The proclamation of General Paredes, above referred to, is as follows:-

"Soldiers,-The supreme Government has determined that the 1st and 3d divisions should form an army of reserve, and has done me the honour to appoint me to its command. This new proof of high confidence calls on me again to consecrate my whole life to the service of so generous a country.

"Companions,-The same country now raises its august presence to resist the usurpations of a neighbouring Power, which fancied that your valour was asleep, and that you are not the sons of those heroes who in a hundred battles proved their loyalty and valour. A rapacious and grasping race has advanced into our territory, persuaded that you would not defend that patrimony which our fathers conquered with their blood. They deceive themselves. Let us fly to arrest the course of these usurpers, and teach them that they are no longer dealing with the Indian undisciplined tribes, whose lands they have robbed and devastated, but with Mexicans, who burn to meet in the field a people that sanction by their laws the most disgusting slavery.

"Comrades,-When the Supreme Government commands, let us march to avenge so many injuries—to sustain the integrity of our native soil, our religion, and the worship of our fathers—the laws which they have transmitted, and the nationality which is ours by right.

"Friends,—your mission is, moreover, one of peace—that of maintaining order, and securing obedience to the laws. We are not only sons of the country, but its defenders and protectors. Honour will keep us for ever in its ranks; let moderation be our guide, and let all our ardour be reserved for the day of battle when the enemy is in our front.

"Soldiers,—To command you is my greatest glory, and to lead you to the field where immortality is to be found. We will share the dangers as well as the laurels, and my best reward will be, to have our names united in the annals of Mexico—Viva the Nation—Viva the Supreme Government."

Mariano Paredes Y Arrilaga.
"Head Quarters of San Luis Potosi, Aug. 27, 1845."

September 5.

It will sometimes happen that the lookers-on are better judges of a game than the actual players, and while the foreign Ministers have been writing home that the affair of the Baron de Cyrey and the Mexican Government was on the point of arrangement, The Times correspondent alone was well informed in stating that the negotiations were broken off, and all diplomatic intercourse between both countries suspended. The delivery of the French Minister's passports to-day by M. Pena y Pena confirms my intelligence, and at this hour there is no representative of France in Mexico.

This is a sad affair, and may lead to very unpleasant consequences, and it is much to be deplored that so serious an event should have arisen from so ridiculous a circumstance, and that the peace of the New World is to be risked for a trifling dispute between the Minister of France and the master of a horse bath. Various attempts have been made to conciliate matters. Senor Cuevas, at one period, entered into a written engagement to give ample satisfaction; but his successor put an end to the affair by giving to that promise a sense which fell short of the
reparation demanded by the Baron. Even at the last moment a verbal communication was passed from M. Pena y Pena, through one of the Foreign Ministers, offering a sufficient apology, which the Baron expressed his readiness to receive; but when the terms were reduced to writing, the Baron declared that they did not contain the reparation he expected, and the matter was again at sea.

Some friends of the Legation wondered that the French Minister, who for so many weeks repeated that he would accept no reparation short of the dismissal of the officer and the Alcalde, could have made up his mind to accept a mere apology; but the Baron de Cyprey is best judge of his own affairs, and if he were content, the public would have been pleased with the transaction. Probably the Mexican Government, having seen the wavering of the Baron, tried to take advantage of his apparent indecision, and imposed hard conditions on him. The result is, however, as I have stated; the game of finesse is at an end, the Baron de Cyprey has receive passports for all persons attached to the Legation, and if the Government at home choose to take advantage of it a *casus belli* exists.

The Mexican newspapers have treated this occurrence in a manner very unpalatable to the Baron de Cyprey, alleging that the dispute arose from his refusal to pay a few pence for the washing of his horses at the bath, and that he commenced the row by applying his whip to the Alcalde's face. The Baron, of course, has disproved these assertions; but so much ridicule has been thrown on the origin and progress of the affair, that every one regrets that the circumstance took place. The principal paper here (the Siglo) has surpassed all others in the violence of its attacks. I will not reproduce them, but I give from that paper of to-day its account of the closing of the dispute:-

"We know that the Minister of Foreign Affairs has sustained with energy and intelligence the right of the Republic in this remarkable affair. We cannot believe that he has taken any step which might deprive the Mexican Government of the advantageous position it holds. If any negotiations did take place, and a hope of a friendly termination was entertained, we are convinced that the Minister acted in a manner not in any way to lower the dignity of the Republic. Moreover, if the imprudence and levity of the French Minister have brought matters to their actual position, we have no reason the resort to underhand intrigues to secure a favourable termination to us. The civilized world will judge of he conduct of the Baron de Cyprey in the proper light, but the Mexican republic cannot yield an iota of its rights."

The committee on the new tariff are working hard; they have rejected the square yard or *vara* duty, but they have admitted the propriety of entering goods of a lesser width on a graduated scale of duty.

The city is perfectly quiet, notwithstanding all the daily rumours we hear of an approaching *pronunciamiento*.

[ANP]

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**LT November 11, 1845, page 6a/b/c/d The Affairs of Mexico.**

Mexico, September 29.

I informed you on the 5th instant that the differences between the Mexican Government and the French Minister not having been arranged, the former had sent passports to the Baron de Cyprey, for himself, family, and all persons composing the legation. Baron de Cyprey is therefore making preparations for departure. He has left the house in which he resided since his arrival in this city, announced a sale of horses and furniture, and means by the November packet to go to Havannah, where he expects to receive instructions from M. Guizot relative to future movements. He will be accompanied by the Baroness, his daughter; the Secretary of Legation, M. Gowry de Rosla; and the Second Secretary, the Baron de Neufflies. The Mexican authorities have, to justify the old adage, nearly exhausted themselves at the same time with the British and Spanish legation. Fortunately there was smoke and no fire, otherwise it would have been amusing to see the republic at this moment of distress in offensive contact with the representatives of the United States, of France, of England, and of Spain.

The Spanish coldness arose out of the too great susceptibility of the young gentleman who represents Queen Isabel in Mexico. He took offence at the celebration of "the independence," which is annually repeated on the 15th of September; and at the speeches delivered on the last occasion, in which Mexico
triumphs over their Spanish masters, was landed with the exaggeration common to the Lingua Castellana. He had the bad or good taste to close his doors and shutters on the 15th, as if his Government had not recognized the independence of Mexico; and it is said bitterly complained of the sorry compliments paid in one of the speeches above noticed to Spanish valour during the war of independence. The Mexican Government has met these remonstra...(illegible) with its usual apathy, and M. Bermudez de Castro who apparently gained very little by his notion.

The case of the British Government was on the point of becoming serious; but happily for all parties the address of M. Pena, of Pena, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, prevented an explosion. As I mentioned some time since, the violent portion of the Mexican Congress had resolved on terminating the contracts made by Santa Anna with the Anglo-Mexican Mint Company, for the carriage of the mints of Zecaticas and Guana juato, under the pretext that all acts of Santa Anna’s Government not ratified by Congress were illegal. Lord Aberdeen, however, whom the parties represented the hardship of the case entertained an opinion totally opposed to the Mexican deputies, and inasmuch as the presidency of Santa Anna was a de facto government, his Lordship holds, that the contracts were good, and he has intimated by notes, which Mr. Bankhead delivered on two occasions, his determination to uphold them. The last of these notes was laid the day before yesterday by the Government before the Congress met in secret session, for the annual purpose of supporting the dictamen of a commission, which quashed the contracts, and advised the mints to be put up to public sale. The anger of the deputies, it appears, knew no bounds, and in their rage, they determined on advising the Minister to send back Mr. Bankhead’s note. At this moment M. Pena, of Pena, interfered, and having explained that the British Government would not be trifled with, and that the sending back the note would instantly be met by a demand for passports, plainly told the Chamber that if Mexico now quarrelled with England, as well as with France, it had no other resource than to place itself at once under the protection of the United States. This hint had the desired effect. The deputies agreed to wait for further information, and the case stands open for another day. I send you the dictamen of the commision, and shall only quote here the resolution it recommends for adoption to the Chamber:-

“The contract made by the Provisional Government with the house of Manning and Manhill, for the mint of Guanajuato, on December 23, 1847, shall not be ratified.

Consequently, the said mint of Guanajuato, as well as that of Zacatecas, with the privilege of coining, shall be put up to public sale, and sold to the highest bidder, in accordance with the general interests.

“It is distinctly to be understood that the corporation, company, or person who may become the purchaser, shall be obliged to make good the sums which Government may have to repay to the contractors for the unexpired term of the contract.”

War with America is not yet declared and everything, so far as hostile preparations are concerned, remain in statu quo. The Government is completely bewildered between its desire of revenge, the taunts of the Opposition, and its utter incapacity to make a single forward step. There is not a shilling in the treasury. English capitalists have apparently determined to avoid Mexican negocios. The army is in an utter state of evamement, and there is no disposition on the part of the people to furnish either men or money. This position of affairs may be very convenient to the apathetic character of the Mexican Government, but I am much deceived if the United States will long suffer it to enjoy that indifferent existence. The States are now about taking the offensive—that is to say, they are bringing again forward their pecuniary claims against the republic, and if Mexico will not agree to negotiate for a settlement of those claims, and likewise of boundaries, the States will take possession of some part of its territory to hold as security, such as Matamoros on the Rio Grande, near the Texican frontier, or Monterez, or San Francisco, on the Pacific. The fact is, the United States will not let go their grasp of Mexico; they are illustrating the fable of the wolf and the lamb, and whether by war or negotiation, they are determined to work out their ends.

The question of boundaries will be fatal to the republic, as, in consequence of the department of Coahuila and Texas having been some years since combined in one, it is difficult to say whether the Texan frontier should not extend the that of ht Coahuila. The pint, if not valid in law and equity, affords an excellent pretext for the aggression of the United States, and of offering, as a middle term, to accept the Rio Bravo, which divides Coahuila into equal parts, and, as I explained in a former letter, if followed from its mouth to its source in Nawa Mexico, cuts off slices from four departments of the republic larger in extent than the whole province of Texas. The question of frontier will also be embarrassing on the Pacific coast, and interfere with
ht negotiation, now going on between the British and Mexican Governments for the adoption of a frontier parallel necessary to British interests. No one can be mistaken as to the views of the United States on these points; and I find by an authority now before me-

"That on the 6th of August, 1835, Mr. Forsyth, Minister of Foreign Affairs at Washington, wrote to Mr. Butler, Charged’ Affairs at Washington, wrote to Mr. Butler, Charged’ Affairs at Mexico, ordered to arrange the affairs to Texas, to make all sacrifices to get possession of the bay of San Francisco, by insisting on a frontier line drawn form the Gulf of Mexico, following the Rio Bravo the 37th degree north latitude, and from that parallel to the Pacific; and they will have them, unless England interferes for the protection of the mining districts of Mexico and the ports of the Pacific.

In the opinion of many, the existence, as a nation, of Mexico, is hastening to its termination, as far as I can see, no great man appears who is equal to the regeneration of the republic. The Government is powerless even in the capital; the departments barely hold on the central State; there is no population to till the finest soil in the world, and riches above and below ground remain unexplored for want of intelligence and hands to work them. If England will not interfere the doom of Mexico is sealed, and in the course of a few years it must be incorporated with the United States. The Government and people of the United States entertain no doubt on this subject. They say that they do not interfere in the affairs of Europe, and that they are determined to European Power shall interfere with them in the affairs of the new world. By aggression, annexation, or conquest, they are resolved on enticing all Mexico down to the Isthmus, within the union, and, come what may, that end must sooner or later be accomplished. I am fully aware of the danger to which the monetary circulation of Europe will be exposed when the silver districts of Mexico are under the control of the American Congress, and of the imprudence of our permitting a naval power, like that of the United States, to become the richest nation in the world; but I cannot help admitting, at the same time, that if Great Britain will not interfere, the general good of humanity must be advanced by the annexation of this country to the American Union. The tide of emigration will, instead of flowing directly take the current of the United States, and even millions of English, Scotch, and Irish emigrants can pass through American ports to fix us settlers in this land of milk and honey. The wretched Indian race must give way before the influx of a white population, and myriads of acre now untitled will team with wealth and abundance. The climate is magnificent, except on the coast, and in particular districts fever does not appear. Every European production can be raised; and I may say there is room for all the emigration that can be poured in a quarter of a century from the British Isles. The next good to the British occupation of Mexico is its incorporation with the United States. We shall find when it takes place immediate employment of our poor, a consumption of British manufactures spread over this great continent, the dispensation of the English language and English feelings over an almost boundless territory. We must, in short, make up our minds to this result, and happy will it be for the common interest of humanity, unless Great Britain should take the matter directly into her own hands, alarmed at the growing power of the United States, and their dominion over the mining districts from which our monetary circulation in furnished-when it is accomplished.

The election of General Herrera as President has been confirmed by the Congress. The new President is an honourable and excellent man, but he is too good for troubled times, and his health is not satisfactory. He made a fine speech on the occasion, promising wonders; but as these discourses are mere sound, and mean nothing, I do not trouble you with them.

The anniversary of Mexican independence was celebrated on the 10th instant, with some degree of pomp and little enthusiasm.

The Cortes, after several weeks’ discussion, empowered, as will be seen by the annexed law, the Government to contract a loan for 15,000,000 dollars—that is to say, if they can find any bewildered capitalist disposed to lend that sum. The several restrictions proposed in the first instance, relative to a maximum of interest of 6 per cent., and the limitation to a fixed amount of each tender, have been withdrawn, but from all that I hear the change will bring no bidder into the market, and the Mexican loan is likely to remain open for many months. Indeed, in the face of unsettled transactions, it is impossible that any capitalist can venture money on such an experiment; and I believe that their hearts the members of the Government are content, as its want of means is the best answer the Opposition deputies, who are constantly urging a declaration of war against the United States. Indeed the Ministerial papers are obliged to court public opinion by adopting somewhat of the same tone; and I find the Diario of to-day saying, that as now the Government has got permission to raise a loan of 15,000,000, troops have been marched towards the
Texian frontier. This is, of course, a vain boast, as Paredes will not move, though he has been furnished with as much money as may keep his troops from starving. March troops, indeed, against the United States! Why, the expedition of California, which was organized eight months since, and on whose arrival probably the safety of the Upper California depends, has not yet set out, because Iniestra, who commands it, declares he will not move until he is assured of pay and subsistence for his men! Tobasco sets the Central Government at defiance. California is all but independent; and Sonora has, it is said, again made its pronunciamento. The Government cannot even protect the road from Vera Cruz to the capital from the bands that infest it, and how can it send troops to the extremities of the Republic. The troops in the capital are tolerably well paid, and some of the regiments have a fair military appearance. The division of Paredes is also said to be in an efficient state, but as to the rest of the army is condition maybe judged from the fact that a general order was lately published from the War-office calling on the officers to check the daily practice of the soldiers selling their muskets and accoutrements.

The stocks of the cotton factories are reduced so low, that unless Government grants licenses for the importation of the raw material several of them will be obliged to stop. No less than five factories at Puebla have closed operation for want of cotton, and I believe the stock of the most provident mill does not exceed three months' consumption. The Government might replenish its exhausted treasury by granting licenses for the importation of a certain amount; but so fatal is the influence of false principles, and so much difficulty exists in conciliating the interests of the manufacturers and agriculturists, that Government is unable to decide. Poverty will force Ministers to grant the desired licenses; but probably they will only do so when a great calamity has befallen the various factories they have so improvidently encouraged. The manufacturing experiment, though attended with some benefits to the persons engaged in it, has hitherto caused a great national loss, and it is now to be dreaded that the speculators themselves will suffer considerably. How absurd is a system which compels the working Mexican to pay 1s. or 1s. 6d. per yard for an article that could be imported at a fair duty, and sold 6d.

The new tariff has at length been accomplished. The following is the publication respecting it which appears in this morning's Diario:

Circular of the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

"His Excellency requests you to forward to all consuls and foreign agents of the Republic the supplement to the Diario of this morning, which contains an extract from the principal bases of the new tariff. You will please to recommend to said agents and consult to give the greatest publicity to this document, in order that merchants and consignees may frame their operations accordingly.

"Ferdinand Del Castillo."

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Extract from the Bases Adopted For the New Foreign and Frontier Tariff, Which is to Come into Action on the 1st Day of February, 1846.

1. No change shall be made in the despatching ships from foreign ports, the present regulation remaining in force.

2. All the ports at which importation is at present allowed shall continue open.

3. All goods now duty free shall enjoy the same advantage, no matter in what ships they maybe imported.

4. The following articles remain strictly prohibited:-

All spirits, except brandy, rum, gin, and such others as are specified in the schedule, which may come in bottles or cases, not containing more than four pounds in each lot; starch; aniseed; sugar of all classes; rice; raw cotton, save in case of special license, when the duty will be specified; indigo; copper and tin ware; firearms and swords, according to the law of the 20th of September, 1840; sulphur; men’s, women’s, and children’s boots and shoes; stamped buttons of all metals; coffee; wax; nails of all sizes; copper plates and utensils for domestic use; tortoiseshell; epaulettes, of all metals; Spanish leather; tin and tin plates; engravings and paintings, and figures of an obscene kind; bridles; bits and spurs, as are made in the
republic; gold and metal lace; all leather, with the exception of those kinds not worked in the country, and that are used in manufactures; coarse frieze; wheat flour, except in Yucatan; cotton thread of all kinds and numbers; ditto thread; ditto, mixed with linen; soap of all kinds; toys and children's playthings; earthenware; books and pamphlets that are prohibited by authority; molasses, butter; woods of all kinds, excepting ships' masts and spars, which are permitted in Tamaulipas and Matamoras by the law of June 3, 1840; saddles; fold leaf, true or false; coarse cloths; parchment; lead; powder, except the finer kinds and that used in mines; ploughshares; rebosos (women's shawls) and their imitations; ready made clothes of all kinds, including ecclesiastical costumes, with the exception of military scarfs; covered buttons of all kinds; shirts and drawers, woven of cotton, silk or wool; shawls, nightcaps; gloves, stockings pocket-handkerchiefs, hats and braces; common salt; saltpetre; sackcloth; tallow of all kinds; tobacco in all classes, which can alone be imported by the tobacco administration; cotton goods, plain or fancy, brown or white, pure or mixed, not exceeding 30 threads of warp and woof in the square, or fast colours (by fast colours is meant such as not only resist water or sun, but as cannot, when faded, be mistaken for white goods); salted pork, not including hams or sausages; wheat and all kinds of grain with the exception of maize, according to the law of the 29th of March, 1827; shoes and slippers; sarapes or blankets of all kinds.

The duties on goods not specified in the schedule shall be 30 per cent. On the declared value as at present, and the same bases will be used in calculating interim duties. Harbour and municipal duties remain as they now are.

All long goods mentioned in this tariff not being 1 vara in width shall pay the specified duty, and those more than a yard wide shall pay by the square vara.

Importation Duties

The Law Relative to the Proposed Loan of 15,000,000 of Dollars.

1. The Government is allowed to contract either a foreign or native loan for the sum of 15,000,000 of dollars, to be received into the Treasury, without, at the same time, depriving Government of the power to seek such other resources as the preservation of the honour of the country may require.

2. The contractors for said Loan shall be subject to the following conditions:-

3. That the loan shall be made on the best possible terms for the state.

4. That it shall be agreed to by the Council of Ministers

5. That no repayment for account of the loan out of the public income be made until the whole sum of 15,000,000 dollars be received by the Treasury.

6. That no portion of the said sum shall be applied to the payment of anterior loans.

7. That notice shall be given to the Congress, with a copy of the terms of each loan that may be made, except in cases where the Minister declares that secrecy be called for. The Congress on such a communication being received will have the power to modify or augment the bases of the loan.

8. For the payment of the dividends on the said loan, and maintaining the sinking fund, the Government is empowered to mortgage the national property and revenues which are not already hypothecated to other loans.

9. The Government is not to apply the proceeds of any partial sum raised in virtue of these powers to the repayment of any other loan contracted under the same authority.
London, Monday, November 24, 1845.

The Washington Union of the 31st of October publishes a declaration on the subject of the Oregon territory, which is regarded in the United States as a precursor of the President’s message, and a distinct intimation of the course which the American Cabinet are prepared to follow. We shall not, however, deal with this reckless and injurious productions as if it were a state paper. The pen from which it emanates is evidently alike unconscious of the restraint of public duty and the decorum of political life, and Mr. Polk will soon answer for himself, without being made to share the disgrace of such anonymous incendiaries as these. We perceive, however, with satisfaction, that the language of the most influential journals of New York, Boston, and Philadelphia continues to be quite as temperate, and quite as averse to war for so miserable an object, as the sincerest friends of peace can desire.

In spite of the efforts which have been made in the United States to disseminate and accredit an exaggerated and one-sided view of the American claims beyond the Rocky Mountains, the pretensions of the Government are not unanimously upheld by the convictions of the most enlightened classes, especially of the Whig party; and the politicians of New York are not so infatuated as to overlook the disastrous consequences of a war with Great Britain, for the purpose of making acquisitions upon the coast of the Pacific which must at least be indifferent or injurious to themselves. They argue that the value of the whole Oregon territory is infinitesimally small compared with the interest, that would be sacrificed by a war, and that a question which has admitted of half a century of discussion cannot be of vital interest to the honour of the United States. In these views, it is needless to say, we cordially concur, and we only wish they were as general as they are sound and sensible.

It cannot be too often repeated that the question has been brought into its present embarrassing and threatening condition by the United States Government, and not by Great Britain. It would have been easy for the negotiators and Ministers of this country at former periods to have put forward a case for the establishment of the exclusive sovereignty of England over the whole country, founded on discovery and occupation, and at least equal to any claim which American statesmen could maintain. But nothing of the kind has been done by us. Throwing aside all the superior and earlier grounds of sovereignty which we might have asserted, we have taken our stand upon the treaty of 1799, and from first to last we have demanded and exercised no more than the right of joint occupancy between England and Spain; and the first use they make of this juggle of rights is to contend for our absolute expulsion from a country we have held, with one exception, for fifty years, and which we only seek to continue to hold on the same terms. Such attempts, especially when they are encouraged by vehement declarations on the part of the President of the Republic, amount to a positive invasion of our existing territorial right. Their object is to deprive us of something we actually possess and have long possessed; and thus farther whole character of the transaction is offensive on the part of the United States, and defensive on that of England. We can scarcely regret the extreme moderation of the conduct of former British Governments in this negotiation (though we hold it to have been below what the facts of the case would have justified), when we perceive the strength it must give our position in the eyes of the world. If we are driven to war itself, the world will comprehend and acknowledge that we are not sacrificing the peace of the globe to the acquisition of a sterile territory—that we are not even denying the right of the Americans to form settlements in that territory, since we admit their joint occupancy, but that we are defending the great and fundamental right of occupation by British subjects under the faith of a treaty and the protection of the Crown; and that such a right is in every part of the globe equally inviolable. The American case is in every respect the opposite of our own: it is a pure aggression; it acknowledges no concurrent right in its rival; it seeks only to drive out the men who have held the country for half a century; and, as if an arrogant presumption could supply the place of real confidence, it refuses to submit these claims to the test of arbitration. We
are not much surprised at the pertinacity with which this last proposal has been rejected, for a slight degree of investigation would satisfy any impartial judge that in the course of the last 30 years the whole question has been shifted, until it has assumed a shape never dreamed of in 1814. At Ghent in that year, and in the subsequent negotiations of 1818, 1824, and 1826, the northern boundary of the United States was considered by the American plenipotentiaries to run along the 49º parallel of latitude. The question then pending between Great Britain the United States, as is repeatedly stated on both sides in the course of those transactions, related to the territory south of that parallel, that is, between latitude 49º and latitude 42º; the Americans claimed the whole of it, the English proposed to divide it. But as to the northern tract of he same region, extending from latitude 49º to latitude 54º40’, no discussion whatever took place; and until very recently no one called in question the exclusive right to Great Britain to that region, to which certainly no Spanish settlers of navigators laid any claim whatever. This claim, therefore, extending form the frontier of Mexico the that of Russia, and excluding us from the coast of the Pacific altogether and from the Straits of Fuca, is a novelty. It was probably originally put forward to facilitate the acquisition of he portion which the Cabinet of Washington did claim; but recent publications have confounded the whole tract together, and we are now gravely told by the organ of the American Government that Mr. Polk is prepared to declare in the most unequivocal terms the absolute right of the United States to the whole Oregon territory down to the Russian line.

It is natural that these exorbitant pretension should meet with little encouragement in New England and New York; but the moderate party which utterly failed in preventing the annexation of Texas, will have still less chance of success in arresting the policy of the President on this occasion. On the contrary, Texas herself will immediately send representatives to the Lower House and to the Senate, who will promote the cause of he party by which they have been themselves absorbed. The rapid and enormous increase of population to the South and West must warn and American statesman ambitious of democratic support, that the real elements of power in such a community are in growth there, and are comparatively stationary in the older parts of he country. The new England states will ere long be to the Union no more than the Welch counties are to Great Britain. They are already quite outnumbered in the House of Representatives; and the party of which they are the nucleus will now be outvoted in the Senate. To form therefore a correct estimate of the policy of such a politician as Mr. Polk we must look not to the reason and experience of her Eastern states, but to the turbulence and numerical strength of the West. There the country runs no risk of invasion. The adventurous habits of anew people are ever disposed to warfare. Even the burden of taxation would fall on the mercantile class; and in the West there is a vague presentiment that another generation will cross the Rocky Mountains, and launch its fleets on the Pacific. Such motives and tendencies as these a wise and firm Government would seek only to correct and to restrain. But we question whether Mr. Polk has the intention or the power to do either one or the other; and we are fully prepared to learn that he is exciting what he dares not attempt to control.

Meanwhile it must be assumed, form the language of he American official papers, that the negotiation is virtually at an end,—that is to say, not that it has been violently broken off, but that the proposals made on both sides have been respectively rejected and that no further proposal is now pending between the two Governments, unless the plan of arbitration be resumed. Such we believe to be the true state of the case. The assertion of some of our contemporaries, that Mr. Pakenham had proposed that the question should remain in abeyance for 20 years, and that the inhabitants of Oregon should then determine their own political relation to Great Britain or to the union, is, we are convinced, wholly unfounded, for it would amount to a disguised surrender of all the rights of the Hudson’s Bay Company. The probability is, that Congress will give notice that the provisional treaty now in force shall expire in twelve months; and we shall then discover whether the American Government is prepared to act upon the views it profess to entertain. As for ourselves, the effectual defence of our own position in the country and on the Columbia is all we have at present to provide for; but if the provisional treaty be terminated by either party, the principle of joint occupation will cease, and our original rights to the country will be revived to their full extent.

[ANP]
The practical question arising out of the termination of the last attempt at an adjustment of the dispute, and out of the threatening intimations of the semi-official journal of Washington, is simply this—What do Mr. Polk and his Cabinet propose to do next? What are the Americans prepared to undertake by way of giving effect to these claims to a remote and almost inaccessible region? We have recently shown that if all these pretensions and declarations are more than empty wind, it rests with the American people and their Government to terminate a state of things which is incompatible with the nature of their claims, though not with that of ours. They must, in short, either do nothing and leave the Oregon territory to the Chapter of accident; or they must discover some means not only of establishing their power in that district, but, what is far more difficult, of expelling our own. They have a right to send emigrants in any numbers across the Rocky Mountains, and to possess themselves of any lands not previously occupied. They have a right to let these emigrants take with them their own laws, usages, and even the jurisdiction of their country; for we have done the same thing, and the rights of both parties are equal and concurrent. But they have no right to infringe upon any existing privilege of any British subject, nor to encroach, in any manner, on our power, which is till north of the Columbia, de facto, undivided and uncontested. This brings us to the point at which these anomalous and imperfectly defined rights may come into direct collision.

The coast was visited by British naval officers at various periods, from Drake to Vancouver; whilst he alleged discoveries of the Americans were merely the expeditions of private merchantmen. But mere discovery, or taking possession by proclamation, is of little avail, unless it be followed by occupation. The Americans have never held any position on the Columbia, save the fort of Astoria, which they long ago abandoned; whilst, on our side, to repeat the position we laid down some months ago in dealing with this subject, the occupation by the North-West Company, and subsequently by the Hudson's Bay Company, recognized by the Legislative and Executive power of Great Britain, is a full and sufficient occupation of the territory according to the law of nations, and therefore absolute as against the adverse claim of any other nation, save and except the concurrent right admitted by the treaty of 1790 with Spain, and now transferred to the United States. To these arguments might be added others derived from the French claim to the country extending from the Lake of Woods to the Pacific Ocean, which is admitted to have been ceded to us in 1763, together with the province of Canada; whilst, on the contrary, the American attempt to stretch the limits of the French province of Louisiana beyond the Rocky Mountains has been utterly confuted.

An uninhabited and uncultivated country, two thousand miles west of the frontier of the state of Missouri, situated on the coast of an unfrequented ocean, cannot by possibility become a theatre of regular war. No army could be conveyed
A very unpleasant circumstance took place here on Tuesday evening last, in which the French Minister, the Baron de Cyprey, who figured in the affair of the Bano de las Delicias, played the principal part. You are aware, that in consequence of the Government having refuse to grant the reparation demanded by the Baron for the insults offered to him at the Bano, M. de Cyprey had asked for and received his passports. The Baron and his family were engaged in making preparations for departure, arranged of the 13th inst., and it was hoped that he and his suite would leave the republic without any further scandal being given. These hopes have not been realized, and a scene occurred at the Italian Opera on Tuesday night, which, whether the Baron be right or wrong, has raised a storm of public anger against him, and renders his authority of Mr. Calhoun himself, backed by the opinions of the Army and Navy Departments in the United States, for the assertion, that "the attempt to assert and maintain an exclusive right to the Oregon territory against the adverse and conflicting claim of Great Britain must prove unsuccessful." The reasons by which he supported this opinion are unanswerable, and cannot have been forgotten by any one who read them when they appeared in these columns.

Are we, then, to suppose that since Mr. Calhoun delivered the memorable speech to which we allude, the progress of the American Democracy in its passion for territorial acquisitions has been so rapid that President Polk will actually attempt in 1846 or 1847 what the ablest and most unscrupulous statesman of the Democratic party pronounced to be a hopeless undertaking in 1845? If we are to believe the Washington Union, such is the case; and to be consistent with this announcement, the first step of the American Cabinet must be to declare that the treaty of 1827 is in twelve months to expire. Such a measure might lead eventually to hostilities, but it would not amount in itself to a casus belli. Perfectly confident of his justice of the cause of England, and no less secure of the superiority of her forces on the northwest coast of America, we should then await the result with composure—still most reluctant to endanger the peace of the world, but most ready and resolved to punish those who may presume to break it. [ANP]
scandalous scene. M. Otero retired, the Baron exclaiming as he went away, M. Otero retired, the Baron exclaiming as he went away, that his residence was known, and that he was ready to give satisfaction in any form. To render that matter more characteristic, I must add that the Baron is double the age and one-half the size of M. Otero, and that if the latter had exercised his apparent strength, the Baron must have had the worst of a personal struggle. This disparity of age and force gives the friends of the Baron, who are hard pushed to find an excuse for his intemperate conduct, the opportunity of saying, that whatever his faults may be, he is a man of undoubted courage, and that as he offered the best satisfaction to his adversary, no reproach for want of spirit can be advanced.

This occurrence made a great sensation in the theatre, crowds collected in the corridors, and rather a formidable group was formed in the patio, or outward square. At one moment it was apprehended that the people would resort to acts of violence, but nothing of the kind took place, and the Baron de Cyprey, the Baroness, and his daughter retired from the theatre without a single word being uttered against them. There is no doubt the public were much excited; but the Alcalde in his report says that he took means to calm their irritation, and otherwise the Mexicans are amiable and well-bred, and, however angry they might be with the Baron de Cyprey, they were incapable, I am certain, of insulting of him or his family. To add pugnacity to this rencontre, I believe the Baron had no means of determining that M. Otero was the author of the article in question, and I am given to understand, and I am certain the fact is so, that M. Otero, though one of the principal editors of the Siglo, was not the person who wrote the answer to the Journal des Debats. It was expected on the day following the event, that M. Otero would have sent a message to the Baron, and curiosity was alive to ascertain whether the Government would connive at the duel, and not put the dreadfully severe laws against affairs of honour into execution. Wednesday and Thursday, however, passed over without a challenge being delivered, and we all had reason to believe that editorial honour would be satisfied by a pen and ink vengeance. Certainly this species of satisfaction was not spared and the Siglo, the Amigo del Pueblo, and Monitor Constitucional were filled with the most violent articles against the Baron, and, indeed, against all Frenchmen. These papers alleged that M. de Cyprey was attended on the night of the rencontre by a band of young Parisians, who, on M. Otero being assaulted, laid hold of that gentleman’s arms, and prevented his defence. The statement is untrue; but it served the purpose of the hour; and the feeling towards La Jeune France was so violent, that a kind of crusade was preached against it, and something like Sicilian Vespers hinted at. The editor of the Monitor Constitucional took a forward place in these attacks; and to show that he was not afraid, he has published a general challenge to La Jeune France, or rather he professed his readiness to accept all challenges that might be sent here as he says, parole d’honneur. Pugnaciousness is a catching malady; and no sooner did the editor of the Monitor challenge the wide world than a certain colonel in the army thought proper to present himself as the Baron’s new residence, offering to fight, in the Irish fashion, for the honour of the thing or for love’ but it appears, however, that M. de Cyprey, though rather fond of sport, had no fancy to stand target for Mexican amateurs, and he declared that his affair was with M. Otero alone, and that he had no satisfaction to give to any other person. This answer satisfied the Colonel, and he retired to reap laurels in the all the coffee-houses of the Portales.

The fracas of Tuesday night caused great anxiety at the Palace, and the President and Ministers became much alarmed lest their unpleasant relations with France should be further deranged by any public outrage befalling the French Minister and his family. They accordingly sent a guard of honour at night to protect the house where the Baron is now residing; and they addressed him on Thursday a note pointing out that his presence was no longer necessary in Mexico, and entreating him to withdraw with the least possible delay, as they could no longer be answerable for his safety. The Baron refused to receive this note, but its contents were afterwards explained to him at the request of the Government by the Spanish Minister. It was stated at the Lonja and elsewhere that the note contained a peremptory order to leave Mexico within three days. But I know that the Government had no intention of writing in that sense, and their communication was framed in the Baron’s own interests, and with consideration for his personal safety. This anxiety was increased by a knowledge of the fact that M. Otero had at last, namely, on the Friday, about 60 hours after the insult, made up his mind to challenge the Baron, and that a certain count, a member of one of the first families here, had undertaken to deliver the message. Of course the town was eager to ascertain the result of this defiance, but up to the hour I write we have nothing definitive on the subject. A duel spoken of in this country is a duel prevented, as the laws without remorse confiscate all the property of the actors and seconds; and, of course, in this instance precaution would be doubly enforced, as the position of the Government would be uncomfortable were the Baron killed, and there would be an uprising against all Frenchmen if M. Otero fell under his fire. A postscript to my letter will explain the result of the episode.
The Congress has acted, as the initiative knew it would, in the affair of the mints of Zacatecas and Guanaxuato, and the Anglo-Mexican Mint Company. They have referred back to the Commission the dictaments of the majority and minority; or, in other words, they virtually confirm the contracts. The company may thank Lord Aberdeen’s interference for this result, for certainly had not Mr. Bankhead delivered the not alluded to in my last, the contracts would have been annulled. How far this interference may lead to annoyance to the Foreign-office by other claims being pressed on the same ground remains to be seen. But the fact is undoubted, that if Lord Aberdeen had not exacted the performance of Santa Anna’s engagements, the highly-profitable lease of the Anglo-Mexican Mint Company would have been abruptly closed.

I am sorry to hear that the President Herrera’s health is so bad that he seriously contemplates retiring from the high station in which he has just been confirmed by a large majority of the Chamber and the Congress. I am assured that this event, though not generally anticipated, must soon take place, and that the only difficulty at present is the choice of the person whom Herrera will recommend as his successor. General Almonte, late Minister at Washington, is the person secretly designed, and as he is a man of activity, probably the present President cannot make a better choice.

We have very bad accounts from Sonora, that large department to the south-east of California Civil war has recommenced, headed by the two rival families who have long struggled for mastery in that province. Th one with a mixture of Indian blood in it has called in the Indian savages to its aid, and deplorable accounts are received of their ravages. The Government is incapable of action in this emergency, as it is well known that its hold of California and Sonora, or, indeed, of any other distant province, is merely nominal.

Tobasco has returned to its verbal allegiance to the Central Government.

Mr. Bankhead on Friday last congratulated, in the name of the diplomatic corps, the President Herrera on the confirmation of his election by the Congress. He did so in the following terms:—

"Excellent Senor,—The diplomatic corps has the honour to felicitate your Excellency on your elevation to the constitutional Presidency of the republic. In offering the sincerest wishes for the prosperity of this country I convey the sentiments which animate the Sovereigns we represent; and I hope with confidence that the election of your Excellency to the supreme magistrature will be and additional motive for drawing closer the bonds of friendship which unite them to the Mexican nation."

To this address the President made the following reply:—

"My administration shall bear the stamp of impartiality and justice towards all nations, but especially towards those which are in friendly intercourse with Mexico, and with particular benevolence I regard those on behalf of whom your Excellency has now spoken, for with one we are bound by the most sacred ties, and for the other we entertain the greatest gratitude, inasmuch as that country was the first in Europe to recognize our existence as one of the great family of nations; and I promise that in all our relations there shall be good faith, truth, and sincerity, which I regard as the most efficacious means of cementing our lasting friendship."

The French paper published in Mexico gives an account of the Baron de Cyprey and M. Otero’s adventure, which is much liked for its impartiality. As the closing remarks represent the feelings of the French residents of Mexico in this affair, I do not think an extract from them will be misplaced. The Courier says—

"If we are now called on to appreciate the conduct of M. de Cyprey as a public man, we are sorry to say that we do not think it irreproachable. He was wrong in giving way to a just resentment. The high functions which he had just laid down required more circumspection. He ought to have more regard for the customs of a country in which he lived so long; he should have foreseen that this imprudent step would render his former conduct suspicious; he out, above all, to recollect that he laboured, against his will to foment that hatred which people like M. Otero so constantly labour to excite against France in the hearts of the Mexicans. Such is, with regard to M. de Cyprey, our frank opinion; but when we look at the other side, what a sad exhibition does it present! Look at those public journals panting like hounds after their prey, tearing with rancorous bite the innocent as well as the guilty. They make of a matter purely personal with the editor of a paper an affair of
party, and go almost the length of menacing us with Sicilian Vespers. One would think from the row made in the streets that an enemy was at the gates of the city. Their provocations are empty boasts, which the nation itself regrets, and we trust that our countrypeople resident in Mexico will not be induced to reply.”

On closing my despatch I find that no duel is likely to take place, as M. Otero is confined by the authorities as a prisoner in his own house, not to be released until the departure of the Baron’s family, which takes place on Tuesday next, the 7th. I understand that the Conde de Cortina was to act as the friend of M. Otero, and M. Bermudes de Castro on behalf of the Baron.

Mexico is perfectly quiet. Much talk of war; but it is all talk.

October 11.

At the close of my letter of the 4th inst., giving an account of the discreditable squabble which had occurred between the Baron de Cyprey, French Minister, and M. Otero, editor of the Siglo; I stated that M. Otero had sent a message to the Baron, and that the Count de Cortina was to act as a second to the former, and M. Bermudez de Castro, Spanish Minister, to M. de Cyprey. It appears that though M. de Castro was applied to, he declined acting, form diplomatic reasons, approved by the Baron, and that > Adrien Lestapis, a French gentleman of fortune, resident here, was appointed to replace him. An interview took place, on the 4th between the Count de Cortina and M. Lestapis, in which the latter stated, that though the time which had elapsed between the insult given and the message sent exonerated the Baron from any responsibility, he was inclined to waive that advantage, as well as the choice of weapons, he having, as the challenged person, a right to name them, and in which the Count de Cortina positively declared that M. Otero would only fight on condition that one pistol should be loaded, the possession of that pistol should be decided by lot. Matters not having been arranged at that interview, a correspondence in Spanish and French, of which the following is a translation, took place:-

“The Count de Cortina to M. Lestapis.”
“Mexico, Oct. 4

“Muy Senor Mio,-As you are the person named by the Senor Baron de Cyprey to treat with me in the affair of Senor Otero, I will thank you to state, if the said Baron accepts the proposition which I made to you yesterday-namely, that the duel offered by M. Otero shall be made with pistols, one charged, the other blank, as such is the firm and unalterable determination of that gentleman.

“I have the honour to offer you my friendship and best service, and to kiss your hand.

“J.G. de Cortina.”

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“M. Lestapis to the Count de Cortina.
“Mexico, Oct. 5.

“I have received the letter which you did me the honour to write relative to the meting proposed to take place between the Baron Alley de Cyprey and M. Otero. That letter is of such a nature as compels me to repeat the facts which were stated in the interviews I had the pleasure of holding with you.

The question of the number of friends was then first discussed. You were of opinion that there should be one only at each side I thought it preferable to have two. Still, as you appeared anxious on the subject, I was willing to make a concession, though the reason you assigned—that of secrecy—no longer existed. From the first steps taken in the affair that reason lost its value. The secret was divulged, though on our part we have not to reproach ourselves of any indiscretion.

“With regard to the choice of arms our right was at least debateable, according to the usages of countries where duels are most frequent. You rejected our right—yes refused to submit the choice of arms to chance. We gave way again, agreeing with you that pistols only should be used. Note this well! Strict justice requires in similar cases chances should be equal. I was strong in right, though in
my quality as representative of the aggressor, I thought proper to remove all obstacles of to a rencontre.

"Unfortunately the series of your demands was inexhaustible. In proposing that the affair should be settled with two pistols, one charged, you wished to change a duel into a game of hazard. I could not agree with yo so far. The letter to which I now answer is but the renewal of that proposition. I have communicated it to M. Le Baron de Cyprey; his opinion agrees with mine. Though I have conceded to you the number of friends and the choice of arms, the Baron de Cyprey desires me to add, that he yields to you the distance, the manner of firing, whether together, by signal, or in succession, chance deciding which of the two is to fire first; but the barbarous mode which you insist on appears to us to approach too near an assassination not to be repulsed as unworthy a gentleman.

"Such, M. le Comte, is the determination we have to transmit to you. The motive which dictates it is too elevated not to induce us to believe that you will conform to it. You would not, no doubt, accept the responsibility of having such a monstrosity in an affair of honour, in which you are made the sole arbiter.

"With assurances of high consideration,

"I have the honour to be,

"The Count de Cortina to M. Lestapis.

"Mexico, October 5.

"Muy Apreciable Senor Mio,-I have just received the answer you have sent to my letter of yesterday, but as that answer does not completely satisfy me, inasmuch as you do not give a categorical answer, I request you to state specifically if the Baron de Cyprey accepts or not the duel as proposed by Senor Otero through me. I trust you will have no difficulty in giving me, under your signature, the negative answer which you gave me yesterday verbally, as the second of he said Baron.

"When you honour me with an answer to this letter, which ought simply be reduced to a yes or a no, I will try to reply to the charges brought against me in your letter of this morning, which otherwise have no weight, under the circumstances that we are treating of a duel to the death, as has been proposed, and will ever be proposed by > Otero. All that does not refer to the above important point is a loss of time, and has nothing to do with the question.

"I am most happy that fate has placed me in an affair of this gravity in communication with a person like you, gifted with noble qualities, and possessing sentiments so worthy of a gentleman. With confidence I trust you will, without loss of time, give me the categorical answer to this letter, which I demand.

"Repeating with the greatest satisfaction the expression of my regard and esteem, I have the honour to kiss your hand.

"J.G. de le Cortina."

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"M. Le Lestapis to the Count de Cortina.
"October 5.

"M. Le Comte,-I have tried everything to keep the affair with which we are charged in the road of honour. I have conceded all that could legally be granted. I repeat that M. Le Baron de Cyprey is at your orders for a regular duel in whatever manner you please; but I reject a proposition of assassination.

"Renewing assurances of my consideration, I am,

"Adrian Lestapis.’

[ANP]
We have received from our correspondent in the city of Mexico letters of the 30 of October.

The Mexican Government had agreed to receive a Minister of the United States, and to negotiate of frontiers and the settlement of claims. The American fleet had left Vera Cruz, that being the first step of the arrangement.

The city of Mexico was tranquil, though reports of Federalist conspiracies were frequent.

The Indians called Camanches had ravaged the departments of Durango and Zacatecas, and one body was within seven days of the city of Mexico.

The financial state of Mexico was deplorable.

The one-third of the new Congress to be renewed on the 1st of January was composed of Radicals and friends to Federation.

The Minister of Justice had resigned; he was succeeded by Senor Montes de Oca.

We learn that the French Minister had left Mexico, in consequence of the disturbances that occurred four or five months ago. He came passenger from Vera Cruz in the Medway, and landed at Havannah to await the instructions of his Government. Santa Anna was still at Havannah.

The Affairs of Mexico

(From our own Correspondent.)

Mexico, Oct. 30.

The Government of the United States has at length succeeded in forcing the Mexican Ministry into the renewal of diplomatic intercourse, the reception of a Minister from Washington, and an agreement to negotiate. I informed you of the fact by the messenger who left this with despatches from the American Consul, as well as from the Mexican Government, on the 18th inst., and I now repeat it in the hope that it will make a due impression on the British public, and convince you and them of the successful perseverance with which the Cabinet of Washington follows up its views on this bewildered country. The policy of the United States has been guided by the most perfect knowledge of the weakness of this Government and the unfortunately apathetic character of the people. It has been most insidiously conducted—by threats one day, offers of friendship the next, and chiefly by insinuations of the bad faith of the only Power whose assistance the Republic could claim in the last emergency. That Power of course is Great Britain, as England and Spain are the sole nations now in diplomatic communication with Mexico; and it appears to be one of the expedients of Brother Jonathan to persuade this Government that our friendship is of a selfish nature, guided merely by the anti-slavery system and our present views on California.

The note delivered by the American Consul to the Mexican Government, either in the text, or in the extract given of the instructions addressed to him by the Minister of foreign Affairs at Washington, speaks of England as the common enemy of the United States and Mexico. I hope before this letter is closed to have a copy of the note in question, but if I should not succeed in obtaining it, you may depend on the accuracy of my statement, and hat in the opening communication from Washington to Mexico England has been mentioned as the common enemy. How far the British Government or the British people may be disposed to bear an uncalled for epithet like this, is not for me to say, but I feel that, important as it may be to our manufacturing interests to maintain a good understanding with the United States, the American President, or the Minister of Foreign Affairs, should not be permitted to apply such language to the British Government. I have no doubt that ere this Mr. Pakenham has demanded an explanation, as the tenour of the note alluded to was known here a few hours after its delivery, and it is probable that competent persons did not allow the opportunity on the 18th of communicating with Mr. Pakenham.
Pacific. I am told that the United States no claim, instead of the 37th, the 36th important bay of San Francisco, the avowed object of American aggression in the Texan side, a territory greater in extent than Texas itself, and it would take in the a line from thence straight to the Atlantic. These frontiers would cut off, on the
which, mind you, she must do, to place herself under their protection. For this the
Government will not be indifferent to their intrigues, as the United States are
Republic, and Commissioners named to adjudicate the claims. I think our
and in a few weeks we expect to see an American Minister accredited to the
States Minister, and into an agreement for negotiation. All its plans have succeeded,
pervasiveness, and not a single energetic step, offensive or defensive, was
attempted; and happy would Mexico have been to continue that passive existence;
but such an (illegible) of things did not suit the United States; and a large float was
sent to menace Vera Cruz; and the Northern Indians, the Camanches, were sent to
ravage the upper departments of the Republic. Moreover, threats, as I explained in
a former letter, were made of seizing on a port of the Pacific, to be held until the
American claims were settled; and every sort of (illegible) dodge“ if I can use so
undignified an expression, resorted to, to force this Cabinet to receive an United
States Cabinet will get out of the difficulty by asserting
that the offensive expression was used by irresponsible individual, and that the
American consul exceeded his authority in applying it; but if my information be
correct, the Consul did not originate the phrase, and I am assured it appeared in his
original instructions. This reading is strengthened by the great pains taken to secure secrecy by the American agents, and by their anger when the result of their
conference and communication became public. The note otherwise was very
common-place, dwelling mainly on the reciprocal advantages which a good
understanding conference on Mexico and the United States, explaining the friendship
which the States must ever entertain towards a neighbor whose form of government
was based on the same principles, pointing out that the opposition of Great Britain to
the annexation of Texas arose solely from its antislavery policy, and urging the
necessity, to prevent future disagreement, of having all pecuniary claims, as well as
the frontiers of California and Texas, definitely arranged.

The Cabinet of Washington has displayed its usual tact in all its operations
towards this assault. We knew that Mexico could not declare war, and that if it
suffered the popular excitement (illegible) from the annexation of Texas subside, the
weakness of the central Government, and the apathy of the people would leave it
master of he field. This system did, in fact, redeem Mexico to absolute
pervasiveness, and not a single energetic step, offensive or defensive, was
attempted; and happy would Mexico have been to continue that passive existence;
but such an (illegible) of things did not suit the United States; and a large float was
sent to menace Vera Cruz; and the Northern Indians, the Camanches, were sent to
ravage the upper departments of the Republic. Moreover, threats, as I explained in
a former letter, were made of seizing on a port of the Pacific, to be held until the
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the annexation of Texas arose solely from its antislavery policy, and urging the
necessity, to prevent future disagreement, of having all pecuniary claims, as well as
the frontiers of California and Texas, definitely arranged.

I wish I could convince you that the United States, in seeking the annexation of
Texas and the possession of Oregon, are pursuing a means, not an end. At one
side, their object is to approach the rich mining district of Mexico, and on the to
establish their claim on San Francisco. Texas, taken apart from other
considerations, is a burden to the Central Government, inasmuch as it gives a
preponderance to the southern and slave-holding states; but it is valuable beyond
measure so far as it secures the line of he Rio Bravo and a sure approach to mines
which furnish 3,000,000 to 4,000,000 sterling of silver annually. Oregon is an
unproductive waste, and the river Columbia, in consequence of he bar and
interrupted navigation, of comparatively little value. The fur trade, which rendered
the Oregon and the mouth of the Columbia as a trading station desirable, is now
nearly exhausted from the avidity of the hunters; and evidently it is not Oregon, but
the extension of Oregon below the 37th and 36th parallel, that the United States are
resolute in maintaining. It has been said at home, that it was absurd to quarrel with
the United States for the possession of an unproductive territory possessing no
interior advantages, nor a good harbour in the Pacific, but we must not forget that
Oregon will embrace the bay of San Francisco, possibly the port of Monterey, and
the upper part of California, should the Mexican Government yield the frontier which
the United States have so long desired. These are the real motives of American
aggression on Mexico; and I can never understand the policy which our Government
pursues while it suffers them to be successfully developed. The present frontier is, I
believe, the 42d degree of latitude. There the Mexican possessions end, and there
commence the disputed grounds, which are commonly called Oregon. If the
Americans can by negotiation reduce the Mexican limits to the 36th or 37th parallel,
more than 300 miles of coast, including the bays of San Francisco and Monterey, and
much fertile land, will be embraced in the litigated territory. If we, therefore, accept
a higher latitude in the settlement of he Oregon dispute, we play the game of the
Washington Cabinet, and relinquish to America the ports for which it has been so
long and perseveringly struggling. We have it on record that in 1835 the United
States offered an immense sum to the Mexican Government for the line of the Rio
Bravo, and the 37th parallel. Think you, that they will now, reduced as this nation is,
relinquish a tittle of their original demands? I repeat it, over and over again, the
object of the United States is to get the above-named frontier, and to force Mexico,
which, mind you, she must do, to place herself under their protection. For this the
United States will fight, if they cannot delude by negotiation, Great Britain or any other European Power that actively interferes on behalf of Mexico. They consider all North America—from the Isthmus to the Lakes—as their natural possessions; and by slow, but sure degrees, they are determined to obtain it. Will it suit us that a maritime power like the American Union shall arrive at such unprecedented greatness; and will our naval superiority long withstand the increased force of such an able and ambitious rival? I lay down these truths because I believe they are too little understood in England. Before I came to Mexico I was ignorant of the true state of the republic, and of the remote consequences of American aggression; and I am anxious to induce others to examine the question in all its details, satisfied that they must arrive at the same result as I have.

I must be confessed that Mexico has played a very inglorious part since the Texan aggregation was proclaimed. The Government, over and over again, declared, that war should take place the moment an official account of annexation was received; and all the papers, Ministerial and Opposition, were filled with the war-cry and denunciations against the United States. The President Herrera was the only person who preserved his temper; he said, from the beginning, that Mexico was not in a condition to declare war, and, no doubt, it was through his influence that the Ministers were to M. Odillon Banet, or Le Baron Gros is to replace the Baron de Cyprey; the Mexican Government has asked for the latter, as during his former mission he gave general satisfaction.

Several insidious but well-timed articles have appeared in the Government papers, enforcing the propriety of the church contributing its share to the relief of the public burden. We expect to hear shortly of a contribution equal to $3,000,000 being levied. Santa Anna had a knowing way of managing these matters; he did not tax the church, regular or secular, but he borrowed from both many millions never to be repaid.

The Minister of Justice has resigned: he is replaced by Senor Montes de Oca. It is said that Senor Pena y Pena, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Senor Castillo, Minister of Finance, have also the intention of resigning. Their successors are not yet pointed out.

Private letters from the Havannah say, that a young man was arrested there charged with the intention of assassinating Santa Anna. These letters add, that the individual in question was hired for that purpose by one of the Mexican senators; and a private session of the Senate was held the other day to inquire into the truth of this assertion. The inquiry terminated in favour of the gentleman alluded to.

The peace of the city is undisturbed, though not a day passes without rumours of plots and pronunciamientos.

October 30.

At the last moment I have got the substance of the American not referred to in my correspondence, taken down by a person who has just read it.

On the 11th a conference took place between the Minister of Foreign Relations and the Consul of the United States, in which the latter presented a note to the following effect:—

"When the Minister of Mexico, General Almonte, retired from the United States, the President and Government expressed their regret that such a step had been taken by Mexico, as it was this anxious desire that the same good relation of friendship and amity which till then had prevailed between both countries, should still continue. In accordance with this feeling, and notwithstanding that Mexico had taken an hostile attitude, the Government of the United States had authorized their Consul at Mexico, Mr. Black, to ask the government of the Republic if it would consent to receive a diplomatic agent, with the object of negotiating a settlement of the differences which existed between both countries in consequence of the annexation of Texas. This result was necessary in order that neither the United States nor Mexico should be made the victims of the machinations of the common, enemy who, in pursuance of its anti-slavery policy, had, uncalled or, interfered in the affairs of Texas.

To this note the Mexican Government, though under the conviction that the United States has not acted with good faith in the affair of Texas, being desirous of peace and good harmony, consented to receive the diplomatic agent proposed by the Cabinet of Washington, in the hope that existing difference should be regulated
in a manner creditable to the Republic. It recommended that the agent in question should be qualified for the negotiation by a previous knowledge of the interests of both counties. But it made and absolute condition, that previous to receiving the said diplomatic agent, the United States fleet, now at Vera Cruz, should be withdrawn, as it was not consistent with the dignity of the Republic to treat with so large a fleet menacing its principal fortress.

"M.B.H."

[ANP]

LT 1845/12/17 The Affairs of Mexico

December 17, 1845: THE AFFAIRS OF MEXICO

We have as yet received no answer from Washington to the dispatches sent on the 18th of October, accepting the renewal of diplomatic relations offered by the American Government. We consequently remain in a state of political inactivity, which is not likely to be disturbed until the arrival the United States Minister or Commissioner. I would gladly say that the Mexican Government had profited by this temporary repose to do something effectual towards relieving the unfortunate position of the country, but nothing whatsoever has been done, and the republic is gradually crumbling to pieces without an effort being made to save it from ruin. I know not whom to blame, for as to good intentions, I believe the President and the actual ministers are animated with excellent sentiments; but these qualities are altogether negative, and it would be difficult to select a set of men more unfitted to struggle with the embarrassments that crowd on every side. The choice of General Herrera has in this respect been most unfortunate. He is an excellent person, honest and honourable, but his constitution is very delicate, and he sacrifices the future to the daily repose necessary to his health. Mr. Pena y Pena and M. Castillo, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and of Finance, are equally well-disposed, but both look on their possession of office as temporary, and neither will risk the great experiments that are necessary to extricate the state.

The task is no doubt difficult, and I know not the public many capable of successfully carrying it through; but I equally well know that unless something decided be done the republic will not exist in a very few years; and it will split up into several petty states, until all that are worth having are annexed to the North American Union. All classes of people are convinced of this truth, but so apathetic is the national character, that nothing is attempted to direct the course of events. Gladly would the people see a despotic power rise up from amongst them; and freely would they receive a foreign prince as sovereign, provided his position was seconded by any leading European Power. But help themselves they will not, and cannot; and they await events with the most culpable indifference.

As a natural consequence of the position thus described, plots and conspiracies are every day talked of, and actually commenced; but these intrigues are so lazily conducted, that not one has been brought to a head. We have had alarms daily and nightly during the course of the month; the troops have been kept under arms, the posts all doubled, and the line of convents which connect the chain of defense all occupied, but no disturbance has taken place; and, with the exception of sending General Ampudia to a respectable distance from town, no act of severity has been committed by the Government. The conspirators are officers on half pay, or rather without any pay, of whom about 20,000 exist to a military establishment of the same number; but they are kept in awe if not by the power of the President and Ministry, by the dread of General Paredes, in whose hands the destinies of Mexico are for the present placed. The two great parties in the republic are the Centralists and the Federalists. Towards the latter the Government

Inclines, as it feels that it has power and numbers; but Paredes, allied with the church, arbitrates between both, threatening the Government if it favours the views of the Liberal side, and openly denouncing the Federalists, should they venture on extreme measures. Parades himself will not accept the Presidency; but he is no less the master of the country, and, as long as he and the church remain faithful to each other, his word must be all powerful. But Paredes cannot always be depended on, and his most intimate partisans cannot determine what his ultimate intentions are. We all understood a few days since that he had pronounced, as the phrase is, and even the official papers gave credit to the news. But we now find that he has not done so, and that his menaces against the Government were contingent on certain supplies of money which he then demanded, and has since received. The division of
Paredes consists of nominally 10,000, but in reality of 6,000 or 7,000 men; but such is the state of Mexico, that even with that small body he is the only man on whose word the existence of the Government depends. He is at present stationed at San Luis Potosi, keeping up a communication with General Arista, who commands on the Texan frontier.

We are daily receiving most afflicting news from the provinces of Durango and Zacatecas, which the Cumanchee Indians have been ravaging, without the slightest effort being made by the Government to check their inroads. The inhabitants of these provinces have made a few attempts to meet the savages, but with plans so badly organized that they have invariably failed. Indeed, on one occasion the people sustained a loss of 40 killed and 70 wounded out of an attacking force of twice that number; and so ineffectual has the opposition been, that all the haciendas or farms have been plundered, and their horses, mules, and oxen carried away, for sale, no doubt, in the United States. The Mexican people do not hesitate to accuse Brother Jonathan of sending in these hordes, as they are better armed and mounted than they have been on former occasions; and whence could they be provided but from the States? The accusation may be groundless, in fact, it cannot be proved; but the effect has been produced, and one of the conditions proposed by the American Government is, as I understand, to force these Indian tribes to retire beyond a respectable distance from the Mexican territory, and which condition will be among the most palatable coming from Washington. The alarm occasions by these inroads was greater in the beginning of the month than it is at present, and it is hoped that the savages have retired with their booty; but at one moment the town of Zacatecas expected to be attacked, and in fact the Cumanchees were within a few days’ march of the city of Mexico itself. These things can scarcely be credited, but how can the Government bring a sufficient force to repel the Cumanchees, when it even cannot insure the safety of any road within ten miles of the capital, or even the very streets of the capital, from nightly robberies and murders? It is absolutely imprudent to go out after nightfall without being armed, and there is not a suburb or road leading in any direction, except that of Tacubaya, which is generally crowded, where a stranger can be secure from robbery at any hour of the day. In truth, there is perfect impunity for crime of every kind - a large proportion of the inhabitants of every town are notorious public robbers; and so audacious are sometimes their attempts, that a plan was lately formed by a band of 500 for sacking the city of Puebla, which was fortunately discovered in time to prevent its execution.

The embarrassments of the Government have been increased by the conduct of General Urrea in the department of Sinolon, bordering on the Gulf of California, and by that of General Alvarez in the district called the Sur of Mexico, in the vicinity of Acapulco, on the Pacific. In the former Urrea, who was arrested by order of Government, was released in triumph by the people at whose head he placed himself, threatening to march on Mazatlan and plunder the custom-house; and in the latter Alvarez has, supported by a peculiar colored race called Pintos, openly pronounced. The Government is equally powerless against both; and these upstarts and their followers are at liberty to plunder as long as they think proper; but their ravages must be confined to their own districts, as beyond these limits they exercise no control. The Central Government, therefore, takes no heed of their proceedings; and it will wait still Generals Alvarez and Urrea of their own accord return to their duty. The province of California remains in the same state of quasi allegiance. It seems to be almost forgotten by the Government, as no means are taken to advance the expedition of Iniestra, planned at least eight months ago; but if it be true that the United States are determined on forcing the fanatical and powerful sect called the Mormons to take up a settlement in California, the Mexican Government must at last awake, or submit to the loss of one of its finest provinces. I need not speak more fully on this Mormon project, as what we hear on the subject comes through the States; whence you are fully supplied with information; but the project excites a strong sensation in the city of Mexico, and all the newspapers discuss it with evident alarm.

Want of money is still the apparently incurable sore of the Mexican Government. The Minister lives from day to day anticipating at an enormous discount every month a quarter's revenue. The utmost he can do is to cover absolute daily expenses; and as to meeting all demands or making provision for the future, such ideas never enter his head, and happy is he at the end of the week if he can supply the pressing exigencies of the army. Various projects are invented to cure this wretched state of things, and to a certain extent the Congress gives facility to the Government. For instance, it has just voted full powers to the Government to recognize contracts made with Santa Anna on receiving adequate compensation, which vote is calculated to draw a bout half a million of dollars from the persons interested in those contracts. It likewise tries to facilitate the import of a certain quantity of cotton wool at a duty of six dollars the quintal, but there it is met by the agricultural interest, and the cotton-growers of the district of Vera Cruz and of the Sur of Mexico threaten to pronounce if that plan be persevered in. The licenses for the importation of cotton...
wool, or of low priced cotton goods at remunerating duties, cannot be granted until two-thirds of the departmental assemblies give permission for the alteration of what is called the organic base. But even then there will be a violent contest between the landed and manufacturing interests, and the Government will find it difficult to carry out the only plan that would effectually relieve the treasury. The evils attending a total disregard of first principles is fully exhibited in this country. The Government in attempting to reconcile the two impossibilities of giving protection, amounting to absolute prohibition, to oppose interests, has entangled itself with both. To save the agriculturists, it prohibited the importation of cotton wool, and now the mills must stop for want of an adequate supply, the quantity raised in the republic falling far short of the demand; and to protect the manufacturers it prohibited the importation of all low cottons, though a large revenue might be raised by even 100 per cent duty on the first cost. The cotton spinners are ruined unless a sufficient quantity of wool be imported, and the cotton growers are destroyed if the desired importation takes place. In the meantime, the people are paying ls.6d. for an article that could be furnished by the British merchant at one third the price, and the Government is deprived of a revenue which would bring in annually several millions of dollars. In short, free trade and encouragement to immigration are the only means of saving Mexico; but though several members of Congress are impressed with the truth of these doctrines, the great bulk of the Chambers oppose them in the most decisive manner.

Nearly all the British merchants of Mexico have left town for the great annual fair of San Juan de los Lagos, in Jalisco, which is to take place in a few days. This is the greatest fair of the year, and buyers from the most distant parts of the republic attend to supply themselves with stocks of British cottons and linens and French articles of taste. About 200,000 l of British goods are annually sold. This year the supply from Vera Cruz, Tampico, and Mexico is larger than usual; but the expected supply from Mazatlan will fail, in consequence of the non-arrival of vessels with cargoes from Liverpool and Glasgow destined for the fair. The dealers in the interior are, generally speaking, out of stock, and a smart market is expected by the British merchants, particularly as the usual quantity from Mazatlan is not to come forward; but on the other hand, the reduction in the tariff may induce holders to keep off, in the hope of lower priced importations specially being made, so that the result of the fair is still problematical. The fair of Aguas Calientes has gone on very well, so that the importers are, generally speaking, sanguine of success at San Juan de los Lagos.

I understand that reductions have taken place in the Real del Monte mining concern to the extent of 500% a month. This should have been done long since, as the concern has been overburdened by expense. But it is still uncertain whether that reduction will be sufficient, as, in consequence of the high price of quicksilver, which prevents a great quantity of ore being realized, and the vast body of water which interferes with the working of the two principal veins, the company has not of late been doing well. I have not yet personally inspected the mines; but I am told that one of the consequences of the tremendous earthquake of the 7th of April last was that such a flood of water has been poured into the two principal veins that all the power of steam cannot keep it under. It is a bold assertion to make after so many years; failure at the Real del Monte, but I am informed by sound authority that under a cheap and efficient management, and a return, in some things, to the Mexican system, the mines could be made to pay.

A shock of an earthquake was felt here about 3 in the afternoon of Thursday last. It was too slight to cause any mischief, but sufficiently strong to alarm the people. The crowds, who are extremely sensitive to such indications, fell on their knees in the great square and public streets; but their alarm and their piety were soon over, as the shock passed away without causing damage of any kind. It is said that earthquakes have been more frequent in this country within the last two years than has usually been the case; and the inhabitants of Mexico still speak with terror of the shock of the 7th of April last, which affected

Almost every house in the city, and which, if it has lasted one minute longer, would have converted this fine capital into one heap of ruins.

The Siglo publishes the following as the plan which the conspirators in the late threatened pronunciamento threatened to enforce:--

"Revolutionary Plan"

"Article I. The existing Legislature and executive powers cease, by the will of the nation, from today their respective functions.

"2. The supreme executive power of the nation shall be temporarily
placed in three individuals, the following being invited to form the junta, namely, Don Nicolas Bravo, Don Juan N. Almonte, and Don Mariano Paredes. In case these persons refuse to act, the following shall be named, -- Senores Jose Maria Jauregui, Don Gabriel Valencia, and Don Cosmo Furlong. But, should these persons decline the task, then the General-in-Chief who may be placed at the head of the garrison of Mexico shall exercise for the present the whole executive power.

"3. The Government, in the space of one month, shall call together a national assembly to be charged with the reconstruction of the republic.

"4. The said national assembly shall commence its sittings in the capital within five months of its convocation, or sooner if possible.

"5. The same sovereign assembly - always bearing in mind the several constitutions by which Mexico has been governed, and the full power which the deputies of departments possess - shall form a code of fundamental laws within the space of six months.

"6. The Government shall be empowered to take all necessary steps for the purpose of making war with due activity and energy on the usurpers of Texas, and of preserving the national entirety.

"7. The Government will call to immediate account the Administration which has this day ceased to exist for the traitorous conduct is observed in the affair of Texas and in the convention which it has initiated with the United States of America.

"8. A new political era having this day commenced, the Government will not exclude from political competition any citizen no matter what his opinions may be, provided he is possessed of honour and intelligence.

"9. The departments until the new constitution is sanctioned and published will be governed by the existing laws.

"10. The army and clergy are guaranteed their rights and privileges conformably to justice and reason, and for the common good of the country.

"11. Government will answer for all its acts before the first constitutional Congress.

"12. The actual council of Government shall continue to act until the promulgation of the new constitution."

Such is the model of a constitution, copied nearly from what has been called the "Plan of Tacubaya," which the disaffected offer to the people. For the present the movement is tranquil, but a revolution must take place when the new deputies take their seats in Congress, on the Ist of January next, unless Paredes and the church should determine to strike the first blow, and enforce by the aid of the army a despotic state of things.

I have just learned that Iniestra has resigned the command of the California expedition, and that the ships so long detained on demurrage, to carry the troops from Acapulco, have been discharged. This is tantamount to an abandonment of the upper California.

At the moment of closing my despatch, I have received information brought by express from San Luis Potosi, that Paredes and his division at length pronounced, and determined to substitute for the present system a dictatorship.

[PGC]
The British and North American Royal mail steam-ship Britannia, Captain Hewitt arrived in the Mersey at half-past 5 o'clock this morning, having on board Lord Metcalfe, who has retired from the fatigues of his responsible office. The Britannia left Boston on the 2d inst., her departure on the usual day having been prevented by fog, and consequently our accounts from Halifax extend to the 4th inst. She brought 75 passengers.

The advices received by this arrival, though indefinite, are yet highly interesting. In New Orleans, as in the northern commercial cities, the inflammatory article published in the Washington Union, under the head

"The whole of Oregon, or none," had created much excitement and alarm lest the peaceful relation existing with this country should be violently disturbed. The Locofoco press of the South had also very generally taken ground against the extreme pretensions of Mr Polk; while the power wielded by Mr. Calhoun will, in all probability, be exercised against any policy which may endanger the preservation of peace.

In Michigan, on the contrary, according to the Detroit Advertiser, the rampant nonsense of the Union was received with pleasure by the Democratic party.

A Washington letter in the Journal of Commerce thus delineates the course chosen by Mr. Calhoun on the Oregon question:--

"But what was the course of Mr. Calhoun, in the Cabinet, on the Oregon question? This I am well prepared to state. He was determined not to yield one inch of that territory to the British claim. In making this statement I use his own words, as often expressed to his friends who counselled with him on the subject.

He went on with the negotiation, however, in good faith, and endeavoured to convince the British Minister, that our title to the whole of Oregon was clear and unquestionable. His last letter to Mr. Pakenham put the question in the form of a dilemma, so that in whichever way the British Minister should answer, Mr. Calhoun would be ready to make good the American claim. To this letter there was no reply, for the reason that Mr. Calhoun was turn out by the incoming Administration. From this statement, however, it will be easy to see which way Mr. Calhoun will go upon the Oregon question, as a senator. He will take the stand that he has always taken - neither relinquishing our title, nor pressing it to a collision with Great Britain. Adopting "a wise and masterly in activity", he will leave the claim to work itself out".

Upon this the Courier and Enquirer of the 25th ult. Remarks:--

"There is reason to believe that this definition of Mr. Calhoun's position on this subject comes from someone who has authority to make it, and to announce the course which Mr. Calhoun will pursue in the Senate. It appears, therefore, that Mr. Calhoun will advise inactivity, in reference to Oregon, as the surest method of securing in the end all our claims - and that should this prove impossible, he will not yield one inch of the territory in dispute to the British claim. We confer we shall be greatly disappointed in Mr. Calhoun should he pursue the policy here indicated. As to the wisdom of his inactive policy, we have no doubt that it is the very best course our Government can adopt. If the territory could be allowed to remain in its present position, subject to existing tendencies for 20 years, the natural course of events would make it American soil and transfer its sovereignty, without a blow, to the Government of the United States. The policy recommended by Mr. Calhoun, is therefore the best adapted to secure the result aimed by our Government. But it must be remembered that Great Britain is perfectly aware of this fact, and that she will therefore by no means be disposed to allow this "wise and masterly" inactivity to work out its natural result in the establishment of the American claim. She may deem it for her interest to terminate the existing convention of joint occupancy and to insist upon a final and immediate settlement of the whole dispute. We deem it, indeed, most probable that this is the course she will pursue. And in this contingency, what will be the position of Mr. Calhoun: This indeed will be the only contingency in which his action can be of much importance. And in that case, we are told that he will not yield one inch of the territory that he is maintaining our title at all hazards, that, in short, he is for war rather than compromise or arbitration. This is not the position we had hoped to see him take. In every aspect from which it can be viewed, in reference alike to the title and the interest of the rival claimants, this question is eminently one for compromise - for adjustment by mutual concession and by a surrender of extreme claims on either side. Arbitration, should negotiation
fail, should be resorted to and in no event should any statesman allow himself to look to war as the probable issue of a dispute in every way so unimportant and so easily settled by peaceful means, without the slightest derogation from the honour of either party. We trust that it will appear in the end that Mr. Calhoun thus regards it, and that he will not allow himself to be made the tool of Mr. Polk, in his aspirations for a re-election, with reference either to this or any other question of public policy.

The *United States Gazette* writes upon the same topic:--

"We have occasion to know that Mr. Calhoun has since his visit to Louisiana expressed himself freely in regard to the Oregon question. He does not doubt as to the right of the United States to the territory, and he has no doubt that the right can be asserted and sustained, without the least disturbance of the present happy state of peace and commerce between the United States and Great Britain. But at the same time, Mr. Calhoun fears that the Cabinet will not be guarded in its language and conduct relative to the claim of Great Britain and will thus impose upon Congress the necessity of a course which might be easily avoided, and which will be full of misery and woe to the people of both countries. Mr. Calhoun looks at the Oregon question, then, as liable to precipitate us into war, not because war is necessary, but because prudence is wanted."

The *New York Herald* gives the following:

"We learn from our private and confidential correspondent at Washington, who has the best means of knowing that a few days since Sir George Simpson, The Governor of the Hudson Bay Company, was there, and had several interesting conversations with Mr. Pakenham, the British Minister, relative to the forthcoming message of Mr. Polk, the the position of the American Government on the Oregon question. The result of the interview between the two British functionaries, was that a visit was made by Mr. Pakenham to the Secretary of Treasury, and other members of the American Government. What was the precise nature of the conversation that ensued between the British Minister and the Government, our correspondent does not profess to know; but he learned that Sir George Simpson departed, and is now in New York, highly elated with the belief that the position which Mr. Polk intends to assume on the Oregon question in his message, is highly favourable to the maintenance of peace between the two countries, and to an agreeable termination of this difficult question. Governor Simpson will probably remain in New York up to the sailing of the next steamer from Boston; the agents of the company being Messrs. Maitland, Kennedy and Co. It is the general belief among the British Embassy here, that Mr. Polk will moderate his views on the Oregon question and such probably will be the rumour in New York.

The *Nashville Union* contradicts a rumour that the democratic members of the Tennessee legislature intend to nominate Mr. Polk for reeelection to the Presidency.

The *New York Herald*, of the 24th ult., revives the remour current many months ago, to the effect that Mr. Pakenham was endeavouring to negotiate a commercial treaty with the United States Government. The Herald justly remarks that, -=-

"This would be an example for the regulation of the commerce of the world;" and that "two leading commercial nations, commencing a reciprocal system of commerce with low rates of duties, would soon cause the principle to extend to every portion of the world;" and "would also exercise on the Oregon question an influence beneficial and advantageous in the extreme.

The *Boston Post* gives currency to a rumour that Mr. Pakenham, "Who, it is understood, has been placed hors decombat in the negotiation about Oregon with Mr. Buchanan, will be recalled, and that a new Minister will be sent out to adjust the differences between the two nations upon more liberal terms than have heretofore been insisted upon by Great Britain."

The *Washington Union*, of the 26th ult., thus attempts by a side blow, to damage the pacific influence of the Whig journals and Mr. Webster: -

"What has been the effect of the course, pursued by the National Intelligence; and other Whig papers, upon the Oregon question? Can any one in this country believe, for one moment, that the policy adopted by these journals, with a view, as we believe, to annoy the Administration to which they are opposed, has not exerted a malign influence abroad? How can it be otherwise? If the English Government shall see us divided in opinion - if it discovers that a large and respectable party, or the editorial representatives of such a part, are defending and sustaining the anti-American side of the Oregon question - will not that Government be encouraged to
"Again, what effect is likely to be produced in Great Britain, when the position of a person of Mr. Webster’s reputation is known upon the Oregon question? Can such evidence of division and distraction in our midst whether partial or extensive, exert any other than an unhappy influence? To establish our rights to get them recognized in their proper extent, we should have harmonious action. Amity, concord will accomplish all. Division, serious division, upon such a question as that of Oregon, may be productive of infinite mischief. With this conviction, we earnestly exhort the friends of peace and of Oregon to act in unison. We invoke the Whig party - numbering, as we believe, so many who are ready to participate in the adoption of all proper measures - to assert and maintain our title to the Oregon territory, to abjure all mere partisanship, and rally, upon this national question, at leas to the support of the Administration”.

Rumors having been afloat that Mr. Buchanan would be transferred from the Secretaryship of State, the "Official journal" reiterates its assertion that Mr. Buchanan will retain his present position in the Cabinet, and states that no effort has been made to "persuade" that gentleman to retire from the executive department of the Government, nor to accept a seat upon the supreme bench, whatever may have been intimated to the contrary.

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[PGC]

London, Saturday, December 27, 1834

It is impossible but that the tone in which the President discusses the questions of Oregon and Texas must grate rather harshly on every Cin-Atlantic ear. In the old world we are not accustomed to hear statesmen and rulers announce new principles of public morality, to demand an insulation from the universal laws and sympathies of their kind, and in their place to erect a convenient system of original and axiomatic claims: we only aspire to develop the old. Whoever declines to rest his claims on the ancient foundations of equity and truth, is immediately asked for his credentials, and nothing less than a heavenly sanction with satisfy us for the absence of admissible human pleas. From the beginning of time the man who promises a new morality, or what comes to the same thing, an exemption from the old, is solicited for a sign. We still confess our dependence on Divine authentications. When a miracle has been performed, and Congress has attested the presence of supernatural powers, then, and only then, shall we yield our convictions to the novelties of the American creed.
Then and then only shall we admit it to be a mortal sin deserving the summary vengeance of the Union, to offer our mediation or advice to any North American state, to enforce ancient treaties and defend ancient occupation in a neutral and unappropriated American territory.

The President himself betrays the novelty of his position, when he claims at the same time independent principles and an independent sphere. Unless he had been prepared to claim a world of his own he could not have represented the obligations of all humanity. He consistently outlaws America before he establishes the laws of the old world. New laws demand a new tribunal. The old world has long been subject to a supreme international Government, which, whether by the regular operation of its rules, whether by continued negotiation, whether by treaties and conventions, in a certain effected way does more or less embrace every civilized realm. It protects the weak from the strong, and brings every claim to one and the same universal test, obviates those disastrous claims, which one allowed, are apt to divide all in a common calamity. The United States of North America proclaims to the whole world and especially to the Family, that they are members of no such system and will be accountable to no such authority.

The United States sincerely desirous of preserving relations of good standing with all nations, cannot in silence permit any European interference on the North American continent; and should any such interference be attempted, will be ready to resist it at any and all hazards.

The people of the United States cannot, therefore, view with intolerance attempts of European Powers to interfere with the independent actions of the nations on this continent. The American system of this Government is entirely different from that of Europe. Jealousy among the different sovereign nations of Europe, lest any of them might become the powerful for the rest, has caused them anxiously to desire the establishment of what they term as the Balance of Power. It cannot be permitted to have any application of the North American continent, and especially to the United nation, than President Polk would give them credit for. They do not cut down their prospects to the compass and policy of a Presidential address. Like all other nations of the earth, they air an exercising what they consider a beneficial influence on all their brotherhood of the human kind. They feel the universally innate desire to regenerate all the world after the image and type of self. To extend the principles of "self-government" and "free institutions", to extinguish tyrants and aristocrats, to level all social irregularities, all over the world, especially where reform is most needed,. and the change will be the greatest, are objects ever on their lips and deep in their bosoms. They only hide their time to fulfill their great "mission" and execute a glorious deliverance from class legislation and territorial bondage for every nation of the earth. That golden vision is circumscribed by no continual bounds. Old and new are all alike to the American philanthropist, and philanthropy in that country is the theory and profession of every citizen. Any substantial and resolute resistance offered by an considerable portion of Europe to the dominion of the altar and the throne may almost reckon on the certainty of Anglo-American cooperation.

The classified reader will find in this theory of political insulation a most exact counterpart of one advanced with much plausibility and eloquence, though without either truth or effect, by an ancient sate, in many respects the prototype of the Anglo-American commonwealth. It was a people of great enterprise, daring, and power; famous in those days, the America of Greece, though of no great consideration now. It was the little island of Corfu; once the "far west" of civilization, now absorbed into its most central recess and innermost bosom. When another country of that colony, long after the actual independence of the latter, had some occasion to resent the arrogance of its offspring, the ambassadors of Coreyra pleaded in the Athenian assembly their distance and separation from all the old world, and independence of interests, and their habitual "practice" of non-interference, in lines which the American President might almost be supposed to have borrowed for his purposes. We will not enter into the arguments adduced on the Corinthian side of the controversy. The facts of the case were certainly against the Coreyreans, who do not appear to have made the last use of their insulation, and their theory of being, as Mr. Polk says,"the best judge" in their own cause. However, they were now forced to solicit Athenian aid, and soon became the focus of a most dreadful and disastrous war, which ended in the utter disruption of the community, and ruin of their state. Such was the end of their theory of political and moral insulation.

It is the misfortune of those who write for the daily press, that they are often called on to do the duty of posterity long before the sun has risen on the momentous and every-varying discussions of a midnight Legislature. In the space of two or three
hours they have frequently to forecast the sentence of ages, and to review the 
umost gravity of sentiment, the calmest circumspection, and most prophetic 
prudence, announcements, the very words and tones of which are still lingering in 
the ear and never attempted to propagate it by intrigues, by diplomacy or by force. 
We may claim on this continent a like exemption for European interference. The 
nations of America are equally sovereign and independent with those of Europe. 
They possess the same rights, independent of all foreign interposition, to make war, 
to conclude peace and to regulate their internal affairs.

As a matter of fact nothing can be more untrue. By the proof of history America is 
inextricably mixed up with European politics. In the last European war the Union 
sympathized with our continental foes, and took advantage of our embarrassments 
to assert its claims. In so doing it only followed the instinct of all its contending 
parties, who, whatever be the nature of the quarrel, or the principles on which they 
maintain it, do in fact select the season of their adversary's weakness as the best 
opportunity of striking a blow, and cannot help feeling a common cause with other 
hospitable parties. France sympathized with the States, and rendered them most 
important service in the war of independence; and that sympathy was long after 
returned. We cannot express the fact better than in the words of Governor Strong, 
addressed to the Legislature of Massachusetts on January 12, 1814:

"The friends of peace (says the Governor) are accused of being under British 
influence, but their accusers ought to reflect whether partialities of an opposite kind 
have not produced the evils we suffer, and whether if our conduct to both 
belligerents had been impartial, a war with either would have been though necessary.

We had assumed the character of a neutral nation, but had we not violated the 
duties imposed by that character? Had not every subject of complaint against one 
belligerent been amply displayed, and those against the other been concealed or 
palliated? It has been suggested we have no connection with regard to the war, but 
when France and England are in a most arduous struggle, and we interfered with 
one of them, will any man doubt our intention to the other?"

And as it happens, and as every one moderately reacts, the more popular Anglo-
American literature knows full well, our republican kinsmen do feel a more generous, 
more expansive, more universal and we may even say, a more humane and social 
ambition, then President Polk would give them credit for. They do not cut down their 
prospects to the States. We must over maintain the principle, that the people of this 
continent alone have the right to decide their own destiny. Should any portion of 
them, constituting an independent state, propose to write themselves with our 
confederacy, this will be a question. For them and us to determine, without any 
foreign interposition. We can never consent that European Powers shall interfere to 
prevent such a union, because it might disturb the balance of power which they may 
desire to maintain upon this continent.

The natural insulation of the new continents must be great indeed, which can justify 
such a social or rather anti-social independence. It must be shown not only that 
there is no necessity for political relations, but not even a possibility, not even a case 
in which such could possibly arise. The fact, however, is far otherwise. The old and 
the new world are separated by much less distances than those which divide the 
constituent nations of each. The western nations of Europe are within a fortnight’s 
voyage of nearly the whole North American population from the Isthmus of Darien to 
the shores of Lake Superior. We have more frequent and more intimate 
communications with the States than we have with Russia. In the same practical 
point of view we are far nearer to North America, we could almost add the South, 
"than we are to Africa and Asia. If America is a world of its own, then also is each of 
the four conventional quarters of the globe. In fact, there is no more reason in 
nature why America should segregate itself from the universal system and universal 
code, than any other quarter. Nor does history present any contradiction to this 
antecedent and natural unity of the whole world; and the President only shows the 
utter groundlessness of his theory, when he affects a reference to the political facts of 
the question:

"It is well known to the American people and to all nations, that this Government has 
ever interfered

with the relations existing between Governments. We have never made ourselves 
parties to their wars or their alliances; we have not fought their territories by 
conquest; we have not mingled with parties in their domestic struggles; and 
believing our own form of government to be the best, we have never attempted to 
propagate it by intrigues, by diplomacy, or by force. We may claim on this continent a 
like exemption from European interference. The nations of America are equally 
sovereign and independent with those of Europe. They preserve the same rights,
independent of all foreign interpretation, to make war to conclude peace, and to regulate their internal affairs."

As a matter of fact, nothing can be more untrue. By the proof of history, America is inextricably mixed up with European politics. In the last European war the Union sympathized with our continental foes, and took advantage of our embarrassments to assert its claims. In so doing it only followed the instinct, of all contending parties, who, whatever be the nature of the quarrel, or the principles which they maintain it, do in fact select the reason of their adversary's weakness as the best. [PGC]

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LT 1845/12/30/4a Diplomatic correspondence with the US

LONDON, Tuesday, December 30, 1845

Our columns of yesterday contained, and were almost monopolized by the prolix and interesting, but no amusing correspondence carried on during the last twelve months between our Minister to the United States and the two Foreign Ministers of the Republic, Messrs. Calhoun and Buchanan. With out at all professing to dissect these State papers with the accuracy and minute criticism which their importance deserves, we may yet lay before our readers a summary of the more important points which this voluminous correspondence presents,

The first letter of the American Minister, Mr. Calhoun, dated September 3, 1841, commences rather ominously:

"The undersigned declines the proposal of the British Plenipotentiary on the ground that it would have the effect of restricting the possibilities of the United States to limits far more circumscribed than the claims clearly entitle them to. It proposes to limit their northern boundary by a line drawn from the Rocky Mountains, along the 19th parallel of latitude to the north easternmost branch of the Columbia river and then down the middle of that river to the sea giving to Great Britain all the country north and the United States all south of that line except a detached territory extending to the Pacific, and the Straits of Fuca from Bulfinch's Harbour to Hood's Canal. To which it is proposed, in addition, to make free to the United States any port which the United States Government might desire, either on the mainland or on Vancouver's Island, south of Latitude 49 degrees." His successor, Mr. Buchanan, concludes his letter of the 12th of July, 1845, by proposing to the British Government, in the name of the President that--

"The Oregon territory shall be divided between the two countries by the 49th parallel of north latitude from the Rocky Mountains, to the Pacific Ocean; offering, at the same time, to make free to Great Britain any port or ports on Vancouver's Island, south of the parallel which the British Government may desire."

It will appear, therefore, on reference being made to the map that the representative of the American Government claimed for his country all the district between the 49th degree of north latitude, including the Columbia River and the land on each side of it, and exclusive only of such port or ports on Vancouver's Island as we might wish to retain, south of this line; whilst, on the other hand, our Minister claimed on our behalf all the territory that lies to the north, and northwest of a line continued from the present boundary in the parallel 49 degrees to the northeast point of the Columbia, and drawn through that river to the sea, with the reservation of a coast district in favour of America. A glance at the map will show that the object of both diplomatists was to obtain for their respective countries the navigation of the Columbia and the possession of the ports at its mouth. The former of these the American Minister claims for the United States exclusively; whilst ours was content to share both the benefits of its navigation and the possession of its banks on equal terms with the counter-claimant. But the terms proposed pleased neither party. Mr. Pakenham expressed a hope that the American Government would be prepared to offer some further proposal for the settlement of the Oregon question more consistent with fairness and with the reasonable expectations of the British Government." And Mr. Buchanan replied to this in a letter which concludes the published correspondence, by withdrawing the proposition previously made by the United States Government to Great Britain.

Such is the aspect, as yet revealed, of our diplomatic relations with the American republic. It is one which presents difficulties, but not such as can only be cut by the sword. The correspondence which has taken place, while it reflects great credit on
The rights on which rest the claims advanced by the Ministers of the two nations are threefold; viz., those of discovery, occupation, and the transmission of Spanish rights. England claims the valley of the Columbia River and the coast to the south of Vancouver's Island, on the authority of discoveries by Cooke, Vancouver and Mackenzie; on the authority of the Nootka Sound Convention in 1790 with Spain, and of settlements effected by American traders. It will be obvious that the right of sovereignty which attends discovery, unless backed by some decisive measures on the part of the Government by whom or by whose subjects the discovery is made is worth very little. Did the rule prevail that every nation was entitled in perpetuity to the sovereignty of any territory discovered and claimed by any of its subjects, without any immediate act on the part of its Executive to enforce such claim, the tenure of most colonial dependencies at the present day would be one of very equivocal legality, and indeed there is so much obscurity and doubt hanging over the history of all territorial discoveries, that it would be difficult to suggest a worse title than that which is formed by the assertion of such a claim, unsupported by any evidence of confirmation by the Government in whose behalf it is represented to have been made. In the present instance, the honours of discovery appear to be due to a Spanish navigator of the 17th century, Juan de Fuca, who has given his name to the strait that separates Vancouver's Island from the mainland. Nor is a much better title afforded by mere occupancy unprotected by the home Government of a state, and unrecognized by foreign nations. The question of right is thus narrowed to the consideration of the original proprietorship and subsequent alienation. The American Ministers assert, that not only the valley of the Columbia, but the whole of the Oregon territory as far as the 52d degree of north latitude - belonged to Spain, and was Spain transferred to the United States at the Treaty of Florida in 1819. They say that they have a title not only to the valley drained by the Columbia, but also to the whole of the Oregon; and they take credit to themselves for evincing no small moderation in proposing the parallel of the 49th degree as a boundary line. The question therefore arises, which is the better claim; that which is founded on the treaty by Spain with England in 1790 or that which rests on the Florida Treaty with the United States in 1819? By the former Spain agreed to give indemnity to British subjects dispossessed of their settlements about Nootka Sound, and to guarantee the same liberty of access to the citizens of both nations "as well in those parts" which were restored to British subjects, as in the other parts of North America, which then belonged to Spain. By the latter, she ceded all her authority and jurisdiction over her provinces in North America to the United States. Now, when it is recollected that in 1789 Spain abandoned her settlements in Nootka Sound, and that from this time she appears to have neglected this portion of her colonies empire altogether, it seems a very questionable doctrine to hold that any treaty made 50 years afterwards could transfer to another nation possessions left, and recognized as left in the hands of Englishmen. The only parties to the treaty of 1790 were England and Spain, The country which was the subject of the treaty was afterwards abandoned by Spain. The parties expressly mentioned in the treaty as to be "indemnified" and "restored" were English. It seems difficult to avoid one of two conclusions on premises like these, viz., that the property and possession of this district were virtually ceded to England, or that Spain and England were to hold it on terms of joint occupancy. In the former case Spain could have no right whatsoever to transfer it by a treaty made 30 years afterwards; in the other she could only surrender her possessions and rights which she shared with England. In neither case can the United States claim the exclusive sovereignty of the Oregon territory.

But we are aware that it is not the equity of a title which is alone allowed to determine questions of this kind. The interests of the litigant parties form an important element in the materials for the deliberation of diplomatists. It is for the advantage of the two countries that the dispute should be speedily settled; it is for the advantage of the whole civilized world that it should be settled amicably. It would be monstrous that two nations which have for twenty or thirty years been enjoying this vast territory on terms of joint occupancy, should not proceed to a violent and sanguinary termination of their several claims. It would be monstrous that claims virtually disallowed by the hitherto existing conditions of settlement, should now be set up to deprive British settlers of some of the chief advantages which they have heretofore possessed in security. If Great Britain had no right to any portion of the Oregon territory, or if the occupation of the Columbia valley was an invasion, how comes it that the United States Government did not remonstrate long ago? Why were Englishmen allowed to settle at all in Oregon? How came they there at first? The answer is plain. There could have been no exclusive right avowed on the part of the United States to the possession of this district at the period of their first settlement. There is nothing of the kind pretended to in this
correspondence. The whole country was probably regarded as open to the colonists of every nation. Afterwards, the Treaty of Florida was pronounced or pretended to have ceded the entire government of it to the United States. But the very policy pursued by them shows that they felt the difficulty of acting upon such a title. And, if there were difficulties then in the way of an exclusive claim, there are no less difficulties now, when the numbers of the settlers have been increased and their relations complicated by time.

It must be a matter of arrangement. Each of the two nations has enjoyed the full advantages of the district, in respect of rivers and harbours. It would be unjust to make such a partition as would take from the subjects of either state privileges to which they have been accustomed. Great Britain proposes to divide the use of the Columbia River with America. Why should the latter reject this offer? The subjects of Great Britain hitherto enjoyed this privilege in common with American citizens. It would be carrying concession to the verge of servility were the English Government to assent to such a deprivation, without obtaining some compensatory benefit; and why did the American Government reject the proposal of submitting the question to arbitration? The English Government has no other desire on this subject but that which inspires the English people to act in the spirit of fairness and peace. It covets no extension of empire; it seeks no unjust aggrandizement; it earnestly deprecates the notion of hostilities between two kindred nations, but as earnestly revolts from the idea of neglecting a few helpless subjects in a remote and unprotected district, or of submitting to any sacrifice incompatible with the national honour. It therefore would willingly confide the decision of its claims and the definition of its rights to any impartial arbiter, if it should be found impracticable to arrive at a satisfactory settlement by negotiation.

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THE FRENCH PRESS UPON THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

December 27, 1845

"The message of the President of the United States respecting the Oregon question, observes the Journal des Debats - "is not of a tenour to indicate that Mr. Polk is animated by a spirit of conciliation. He dwells much upon his moderation, but he shows it so little, and his tone is such, that should a similar tone be assumed by the British Government, the affair must inevitably terminate in a war. Negotiations rejecting the Oregon territory have been pending since the year 1818. Both Powers wish to possess the river Columbia, the only important stream in the west of the New World. In the conferences which were held in 1818, 1824, and 1826, it was agreed that the navigation should be free for both countries, but the United States wished to possess both banks from the 49th degree of latitude to the ocean. England offered the left bank, preserving the other for herself, both countries having the free right of traffic with the Indians. Such is the convention which at present exists, and which Mr. Polk wishes to put an end to. The President, instead of exerting himself to bring the debate to a pacific termination, appears to have done all in his power to render it impossible. During the negotiations of 1844, England gave up to the United States a part of the right bank of the river, and one or more ports in the Archipelago. Thus England evinced every desire to arrange the affair amicably, by offering more than in the former negotiations. Mr. Polk, on the contrary, offered less, and was strenuous in his endeavours to prevent the English navigating the Columbia; as a compensation he consented to give them one or more ports in the island of Quadra and Vancouver - a compensation of little value. He, moreover, declared, that when he consented to leave any portion whatsoever of the Oregon territory to Great Britain, he did it, not as an acknowledgment that she had any right to it, but simply from a desire to preserve peace, and out of respect for those of his predecessors who had negotiated upon the basis of a partition with England. England having refused to listen to the offer made by Mr. Polk (and which he was pleased to consider a most gracious one), the President withdrew it, and then maintained that the whole of the Oregon territory was the lawful property of the Union. Notwithstanding the tone of the President's message, it does not follow that a war must necessarily ensue. How often in Europe have different Powers been as near hostilities? The Chamber of Representatives may vote certain offensive measures for England, it is even to be expected that such will be the case, as the President is doing all in his power to excite it to do so, but it is hoped that the pacific interests will find a refuge in the Senate. The President breathes war, and his message in that respect is a novelty, even after those of General Jackson. Mr. Polk evidently belongs to a new school; and the American democracy, since the taking possession of Texas, abandons itself to an ambition which may prove fatal to it. His message is without precedent, not merely as regards the manner in which the Oregon question is treated, but on account of the general tone which characterizes it. Up to the present time, or at least up to the time of General Jackson, it was customary in the messages to speak in a differential tone to the European Powers. The Presidents were men who had seen Europe, and who duly appreciated the power of the great states of the old continent. In those solemn documents concocted principally for the multitude, they showed themselves proud of the republican institutions, they made a pompous parade of the prosperity sans egale (the favourite term of the country), but they carefully avoided anything which might be regarded at the other side of the Atlantic as vain and ridiculous bravadoes. They exhorted the nation conformably to the last proclamation of Washington to confine itself to domestic affairs and not to aim at other conquests than those which she accomplished so honourably, as well as profitably, over the wild and uncultivated lands at its disposal. Mr. Polk, very different from his illustrious predecessors, reduces himself to the level of the rough cultivators of the valley of the Ohio, in whose opinion Europe is a collection of degraded beings groaning under the weight of monarchical government, and which it would be no difficult matter for the forces of the Union to overcome. It is impossible to explain the imprudent language contained in the President's message in any other manner. But England is not the only Power to which the arrogant message applies. France us likewise roughly handled with respect to the Texas affair. France is reproached with wishing to have Texas made an independent state instead of going to swell the American federation, and the incorporation of Texas is represented as a victory over the European monarchies. The message reminds France that she was an ally formerly of the United States, that she has a common interest with the Union - that of the freedom of the seas. France is, in truth an advocate for maritime liberty; but this liberty was not in question in the affair of Texas. France has been a useful and powerful ally of the United States. She has ever applauded the increase of the prosperity and power of America, but that is no reason that she should applaud the United States when they gave themselves up to the spirit of conquest, when by a procedure ever to be condemned they took from Mexico one of its finest provinces to appropriate it to their own use, and for the express purpose of reestablishing what
the Mexicans had so nobly abolished, viz. The infamous slave trade. France although not republican, is not the less devoted to the cause of liberty. She loves justice, and could not see America openly violate the rights of men without feeling painfully hurt. A propos to that detestable hypocrisy, for in reading that document any person ignorant of the real facts of the case would imagine that it was the United States, and not Mexico, which had a right to complain. France then was acting a noble part when she negotiated with the view to put a period to those encroachments which nothing could justify."

The Press states that "The message of the President of the United States is more diffuse than any previous document of the same nature. It is with difficulty contained in nine columns of small text. The Oregon question being the most important matter eluded to in that document, merits attention before all the others. Upon that question the language of the President is clear and determined, and boldly maintains the pretensions already manifested last year as to the totality of the territory. After having, at considerable length, explained that the different proposals made by his predecessors to Great Britain had been rejected by that Power, Mr. Polk declares that, according to his judgment, the British Government could not legitimately prove any right over any portion of the contested territory, according to the recognized principles of all nations. There were three proposals made by the predecessors of Mr. Polk to the British Cabinet. It was offered to arrange the question in litigation by surrendering to Great Britain the portion situated beyond the 49th degree of north latitude, and on two different occasions it was proposed to declare the navigation of the river Columbia free. Mr. Polk considers that those concessions were excessive and he congratulates himself that they were refused, and that consequently they may be withdrawn. The free navigation of the Columbia appears to him to be a privilege which ought not on any terms to be accorded by the American Government, and on this subject his opinion is so firmly fixed, that Mr. Pakenham, the British Minister at Washington, desiring to convince the President, had abandoned all discussion on that point. A convention passed on the 6th of August 1827, between the two nations, stipulated that, pending a definitive arrangement, the territory should be occupied conjointly by the two parties. One or other of the Governments must, however, give way, or the difference must be settled by force. Notwithstanding the gravity of this question, we believe that the affair will be arranged. Reciprocal concessions will be made. The American Government has never been so absolute as it appears at present. The rights which Mr. Polk affirms to be so clear are on the contrary, contestable. His predecessors opened the way to a compromise, and he will, no doubt, return to the same course. England was wrong not to have accepted at a former period the arrangement proposed to her. She has, as she has frequently done previously, erred through being too obstinate. But at present she will, no doubt, prefer to a war which would be disastrous for the two nations, the proposal which was previously refused. The question, moreover, is now placed on such grounds that no further adjournment is possible, and the attention of the two countries ought, therefore, to be directed to it immediately. It is not doubtful that in the American Chamber of Representatives the views of the President will obtain a considerable majority. The election of Speaker, which took place on the 2d of this month, is in this respect a certain indication. The candidate of the Opposition party, Mr. Davis, was elected by 120 votes to 72 given to the Whig candidate. "We want time and space," says the National - "To appreciate in a becoming manner, the clear, firm and decided language of Mr. Polk. We will content ourselves today with stating, that the measures proposed by the President, from the abrogation of the convention of 1828 to the establishment of military posts, clearly indicate the resolution of the American Government to occupy the contested territory, not temporarily, but permanently. The English press, which affects to find the President's message more moderate than it expected, will no doubt explain to us what more it had to dread than the formal declarations - 1st, that the right of America over Oregon was absolute, and that she was determined if necessary to assert it by the force of arms; 2d, that no compromise is practicable; 2d, that the temporary convention must expire in a year; 4th, finally that the soldiers, laws and post office of the United States shall extend to the contested territory, and render it hereafter a truly American land. Mr. Guizot and his theory of the European balance of power applied to the American continent, will find it difficult to triumph over the principle which Mr. Polk means to uphold with regard to Europe."

"As respects the Oregon question," says the Constitutionel -

"It is easy to perceive that the President was abashed by the bad effect of the philippies of his journal. After the warlike declarations of the Washington Union after the semi-official announcement of some of the Democratic journals that the message would contain a complete vindication of the rights of the United States, and reject all of a compromise, the language of Mr. Polk must appear singularly pale and subdued. President after referring to anterior negotiations and announcing that a compromise being no longer possible, it was time to renounce that course and set up a claim to the entire of Oregon. He next recommended the adoption of measures of
protection on behalf of the Americans already settled in Oregon. He says nothing of the mode of conducting that negotiation with England, nor does he allude in the least to the more or less probable necessity of recurring to arms to terminate the difference. So far from that, Mr. Polk subscribes beforehand and most heartily to any measure different from his own which Congress may think proper to adopt, in order to settle the question. That language is little in accord with the declaration of the Union, or the menacing and provoking tone assumed last year by Mr. Tyler on the subject of Texas and Oregon."

The Sicle observes that the "messages of the Presidents of the American Union exceed in general all the limits assigned to documents of a similar nature in the European States. Mr. Polk has enlarged the practice of his predecessors and the twelve columns of our journal would scarcely suffice to republish the detailed exposition which he thought proper to make of his policy. We shall confine ourselves at present to indicate the principal features of that message, in which all Europe and in particular France and England have been rather rudely cast at the feet of the United States. It will be seen from the perusal of the President's message that without having more intimately conciliated England, M. Guizot has succeeded in producing a serious coolness between France and the United States, which are our natural allies. Not only did not the Minister for Foreign Affairs prevent the annexation of Texas by his unfortunate interventrator, to which he aspired in the contest raised on the Oregon territory. Never, says Mr. Polk, will the United States submit this question to the arbitration of a third power. The President after having given an historical statement of the negotiations, commenced by his predecessors, declares that England, after having refused all the proposals made to her, and not having proposed in return any that were acceptable, the negotiations had closed for the present. Mr. Polk does not refuse to enter into a compromise. He declares himself disposed to follow in this respect the instructions given him by the Congress; but at the same time declares himself determined to dissolve the convention of 1826, by virtue of which a joint occupation has been held, and to solicit from the Congress certain measures to extend immediately the protection of the American laws to the colonists of the Oregon. The joint occupation ceasing after a notice of twelve months, the question must then be solved by force or by diplomacy. But it is difficult to affirm that the Congress will sanction Mr. Polks proposal, although the Democratic party reckons a strong majority in the Chamber of Representatives, and a majority of six votes in the Senate. [PGC]

LT 1845/12/30/6f US, report of the Secretary of War

THE UNITED STATES, December 30, 1845

We subjoin abridged reports from the several Secretaries of State, which are extremely valuable as evidence of the efficiency of the several departments:

REPORT OF SECRETARY OF WAR:

This document occupies five columns of the Union, but the following synopsis from that paper tells the whole of a long story:

It exhibits in the first instance the organization, strength, and constitution of the regular army. The rank and file - embracing every arm of the service - does not exceed 6500men. At this time there is stationed but a single regiment on the whole northern frontier, from Maine to Lake Superior - an extent of 2000 miles and on the whole line from the Falls of St. Anthony to New Orleans (1500 miles) only one regiment of dragoons and two of infantry. The artillery regiments - reduced by detachments of four companies from each - now garrison the fortification of the seaboard from Newport to New Orleans. The remaining and larger proportion of the army is now stationed in Texas. The report gives an interesting account of the political reasons which have induced the government to give them this destination. The secretary does not think it prudent to remove the troops from this position until our relations with Mexico have assumed a more decidedly amicable character. In the event of there being any necessity to increase the army he proposes to build upon the basis of the regiments by adding to the rank and file of each company, instead of creating new regiments. This necessity may be found in the course of Mexico, or in the conduct of the Cumanches, or of the Indians found in Oregon, or that may interrupt the increased current of the emigrations to the Rocky Mountains. By the proposed arrangement of filling up the infantry companies to 68 men and the dragoons to 60 the privates are increased without a corresponding augmentation of the officers.
The report suggests that besides this increase of the number of privates in the two existing regiments of dragoons, another regiment of dragoons or of mounted riflemen may be necessary in the event of extending our posts to the Rocky Mountains.

It states that though the concentration of so large a proportion of the army on the frontier of Texas may have, in some measure, enlarged the expenditures (certainly in the article of transportation), yet it has in some degree been compensated by the improvement which has taken place in the discipline of the troops. It renews the recommendations for establishing a corps of sappers, miners and pontoniers, to assist, among other things, in constructing bridges, in consequence of the military occupation of Texas. 100 men will be sufficient for the purpose.

The report gives a rapid but interesting account of Colonel Kearney's expedition, during the last summer to the south pass of the Rock Mountains, the impressions it produced among the Indians, the number of emigrants which it met on their way to Oregon, to the number of 2325 men, women and children, with 7000 head of cattle, 400 horses and mules, and 460 wagons. This report of Colonel Kearney accompanies the communication of the commanding general, and will furnish, no doubt, an interesting store of extracts at a season of greater leisure. It also refers to the adventures of another detachment of the dragoons, under the command of Captain Sumner, nearly to the northern line of the United States, between Lake Superior and the Lake of the Woods.

Among the Indians whom they met with on their route, and upon whom they made a due impression with their military array, was number of bands, the half-breeds of the Red River of the North, who had come from the region of the Hudson Bay Company into our lines to hunt buffalo. They had even solicited permission to reside in the United States.

The Secretary refers to the considerations which had prompted General Gaines to dispatch the volunteers of Louisiana to the camp of General Taylor. Ample justice is done to their gallantry and Congress is invited to make appropriations for their compensation. General Taylor had also accepted the services of four Texan companies of mounted men for three months.

The estimates for the ensuing year do not greatly vary from those of former years. The item for arming the fortifications is increased 100,000 dollars. The attention of Congress is directed to the state of the fortifications - to the armories of Springfield and Harper's Ferry - to the establishment of a national foundry for cannon - to the preservation of the gunpowder belonging to the Government - to the condition of the mineral lands in the northwest, which the Secretary proposes to transfer from the management of the Ordnance department to some other (The President's message suggests to the land office).

It calls the attention of Congress to the 48 forts in process of construction, and to the propriety of erecting new forts at other points. Among these, as suggested by the reports of the Engineers, are fortifications of the narrows at Staten Island and Sandy Hook, and the condition of the long-suspended fortress at the Pea Patch; an additional work at Solles' Point, for the protection of Baltimore; and projected fortifications on the Florida reef.

The Secretary speaks with great consideration of the school at West Point, and proposes some improvements. He calls special attention to the report of the chief of the corps of Topographical Engineers to the improvement of the harbours on the lakes, which are so well calculated to furnish accommodations to steamers, that in a state of war, may be turned to the most effective purposes, and to furnish facilities to a commerce that now estimated at $100,000,000. Annually.

The secretary speaks with enthusiasm of expeditions under Captain Fremont, and his valuable services. He refers to the reports of the pension office, which has now returned on its books 28,921 pensioners - 2371 added during the last year and 1438 known to have died. He devotes a considerable space to the Indian agency and the Indians - the Pottawatomics, the Choctaws, and particularly the Cherokees. He lays before the President some highly interesting communications from our Indian subagent in the territory of Oregon.

He dedicates the conclusion of his comprehensive and very interesting report to a subject which is of so profound an importance in a free government, viz., the organization of the militia. He suggests various alterations, and, amongst the rest, submits the question, whether it might not be advisable to reduce the period of service from 18 years of age to 21, upon the ground that although citizens of 18 years
of age are not too young to bear arms, they were not generally in a situation to equip themselves with arms as the law requires.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

The communication of the Secretary of the Navy opens, without any preface, with the following sentence: "During the past year the usual squadrons of the navy of the United States have been maintained." In the Mediterranean, Commodore Smith had command of the Cumberland and the Plymouth. The Plymouth was ordered to the Brazil squadron, and the Cumberland returned home, and their places will be taken at the opening of the present season by a part of the present African squadron. The African squadron was organized under the command of Commodore Perry, who was relieved by Commodore Skinner; the Preble and the Truxtun contracted disease on board, and were sent home; the Southampton, with stors, was sent out to remain and was followed by the Marion and Dolphin. The Boxer is destined for the same station; and in January the Cumberland, bearing the broad pennant of Commodore Read, will relieve the Jamestown and Yorktown, which will proceed to the Mediterranean.

The disposition of the remainder of the naval force is thus stated:

On the Brazil station, Commodore Rousseau, the first officer west of the Alleghanies ever selected to command a squadron, relieves Commodore Turner. The Raritan will repair to the home squadron; the Boston is ordered to return to the United States. The Columbia, the Saratoga, the Plymouth, and the Bainbridge, will for the present constitute the Brazil squadron.

Commodore Parker, after a very successful cruise, returned from the Asiatic station in September, bringing home the Brandywine, the St. Louis, and the Perry. At the Bay of Islands, Captain McKeever, in the St. Louis, had the happiness to render valuable service to the inhabitants of an infant British settlement.

In May Commodore Biddle sailed for the East Indies in command of the Columbus ship of the line, and the Vincennes, bearing the Minister to China and the ratified treaty between the United States and the Chinese Emperor. The health of Mr. A.H. Everett, the minister, having induced his return, the exchange of the ratification of the treaty was committed to the charge of Commodore Biddle, who will doubtless show that an able and gallant naval officer conducts satisfactorily all affairs entrusted to him.

The Constitution is on her return from China after having visited different ports and islands in the Indian seas.

The Pacific squadron, under Commodore Sloat has consisted of the Savannah, the Levant, the Warren and the Shark. The first three will return in 1846 and will be relieved by the Congress, the Portsmouth and the Cyane.

The home squadron has been under the command of Commodore Conner, who has distinguished himself by sound judgment in the performance of his duty. His force, which consisted of the Potomac, the Falmouth, the Vandalia, the Lawrence, and the Somers, was weakened by the return of the Vandalia, which visited Hayti, and was driven home by the yellow fever, contracted at Port-au-Prince, where she had been ordered on duty. The squadron was increased by the Princeton and Porpoise, the St. Mary's and the Saratoga, under Commodore Stockton, and soon after by the John Adams, and the steamship Mississippi.

The Secretary visited all the naval establishments but those at Pensacola and Memphis, and they are generally in excellent order.

He recommends that the Naval Asylum at Philadelphia, at which are now more than 100 sailors, be never enlarged, but that new pensioners should be placed "in some salubrious spot near the ocean, where the aged seaman can watch ships as they come and go, and have old familiar objects in sight." There is a dash of romance in this suggestion which is rather unexpected.

He condemns as a fruitless expenditure the employment of professors and instructors on board ship and suggests midshipmen in the intervals of sea duty, may be collected together on shore and be suitably instructed. The instructors being provided, the idea was carried out by organizing a school at Fort Severn, at Annapolis, under the direction of Commander Buchanan.
He recommends that the plates of all the charts engraved by order of Congress be deposited in the National Observatory building.

The grant of a large sum for the establishment of a well furnished and efficient navy yard at Pensacola is recommended, and he disapproves of the grant for the Memphis Depot, as too large for a mere work of preparation. He thinks Congress should confine the use of the money first to the construction of a rope walk, and next to simple arrangements for building and equipping steamships. He justly adds that "the United States should produce all the hemp used in the Navy and that to introduce at the west the manufacture of American hemp for the navy will prove a national benefit.

The subject of lake defenses is reserved for a special communication.

The present contract system requires modification.

No estimates are presented for the increase of the navy. The department awaits in that matter the instruction of Congress; but he remarks, that in comparison with other nations, our own is poorly supplied with sea-going steamers.

The navy is praised for its excellency and efficiency, and its able and skillful officers. He thinks the capable only should be promoted, and his position is illustrated by the following remarks:

"Many of the best among the older officers received high promotion while comparatively in early life. The younger officers of today are equally full of talent and ambition; but the present system refuses to them the opportunity of command while life is in its vigour, and reserves it for the decline of their powers."

[PGC]
# The Mexican-American War and the Media, 1845-1848

## London Times

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We have already spoken in terms of merited approbation of the courteous tone which pervades the communications of Mr. Buchanan with Mr. Pakenham on the Oregon question. Such praise is due not only to the style of his correspondence, but also to the ability by which it is characterized. But whilst we are ready to allow this generally, we see no reason for retracting the charges which we have before advanced of special pleading and verbal sophistries, against his final note to Mr. Pakenham.

It seems to us that Mr. Pakenham's argument is a fair one. The claim of the Americans to the Oregon territory must be founded either on prior occupancy, or on the transfer by Spain. It cannot rest on both. If the occupancy were undoubted both in time and kind - if it had been accompanied by all the external symbols of property as well as all the evidences of undivided possession - then an alienation by Spain after an interval of 30 years would be worth nothing at all, for Spain would have in that case transferred what she had no right to; and the American title would thus be good as one of prior occupancy only. But if on the other hand America founds her pretensions to the Oregon on a cession by Spain made in the year 1819, any previous occupation can only be considered as an usurpation; and a state has no more right than an individual to fortify its title by its own wrong. The prior occupation and the after cession may be cited as distinct facts, but they cannot confer one title. Two bad titles can no more make one good one than two affirmatives can make a negative. By putting forward the cession by Spain the American Minister destroys the claim arising from an earlier right; and likewise by appealing to this antecedent right, he destroys all the validity of the Spanish cession. Instead of the two titles coalescing, they are repugnant and mutually destructive. Nor is this a question of words, but of consequences. For if America's right be founded on the early possession, it can only be of the same kind as the possession itself was. If that was divided and distributed, this right can only be divided and distributive one. Even if that ownership were distributive - if it were, on a grand scale, a permicetpertout tenancy - the argument is not affected by it. Supposing this to have been the case, Spain could only have alienated a moiety of her proprietorship and not the exclusive possession of the whole territory; and most certainly the United States could not acquire a claim to an exclusive sovereignty by such an alienation.

In either case, then, it appears to us that the republic has no right to more than a moiety of the disputed territory upon any ground of right, whether 1st prior occupancy; or 2dly a transfer from Spain be alleged in support of that right. For the first is too doubtful, as a matter of fact, to be relied on singly; and as far as it goes it tends to subvert the second; and the second, if admitted irrespectively of the first is impaired by a previous doubt. First, that since the year 1790, at any rate British subjects have been settled in the Oregon, and have had the privilege of using the river Columbia; secondly, that it is an object of equal interest both to British and American subjects to have this privilege continued to them. Let any man sense and impartiality take a broad and liberal view of the points at issue between the two countries, and what facts present themselves to his notice? Why these - That from a period antecedent to the year 1790 some British settlers, and from a period posterior to the year 1818 both British and American settlers, have cultivated the valley, and navigated the river and enjoyed the harbour of the Columbia. And now, at last, when both British and American colonists have certainly for 30 and probably for 60 years together, been tilling, buying, selling, sailing, anchoring, importing and exporting from and to the banks of the Columbia, an American Minister discovers that the Oregon territory once belonged to Spain, and was with all its rights and privileges transferred by Spain to the republic. What would any man of sense say to such a statement as this? Why, that the title of Spanish alienation, even supposing it to have been valid for 45 years ago, could not stand against the prescriptive use of 60 years; and that British subjects who had for upwards of half a century possessed with American citizens the usufruct of that great district, the easement of its capacious river, and the license of traffic with the Indians, might indeed be driven out by force, but could not be evicted by justice. But if, in addition to this, it were made to appear that long before the treat of Florida - in the year 1790 - Spain had claimed that at that time a British Minister, Mr. Pitt, had described this claim as the "most absurd and exorbitant that could well be imagined - a claim which they had never heard of before, which was indefinite in its extent, had originated in no treaty nor formal establishment of a colony; nor rested on any one of those grounds on which claims of sovereignty, navigation and commerce usually rested: - that similar language was used by the peace-loving leader of the opposition, Mr. Fox - that in return to the remonstrances of the English Court the Spanish Monarch replied, that "His Most Catholic Majesty had at no time pretended to any rights in any ports, seas or places other than what properly
belonged to his crown, and that the rights and immemorial possession of Spain in those parts were still not quite certain;" - that after this repudiation and a second extravagant reassertion of Spanish authority, the Spanish Minister finally consented to make reparation for the insult offered to the English crown, and restitution of property to English subjects of both states should be at liberty to carry on their trade and make settlements, as well in the places which were to be restored to the British subjects as in all other parts of the north-western coast of North America, wherever the subjects of either of the two Powers might have made settlements since April, 1789; whereas in South America it was provided by the same treaty that "no settlement should be formed on the eastern or western coasts of it, either by English or Spaniards, in such parts of those coasts as were situated to the south of the territory already occupied by Spain;" - if we say that these facts were acknowledged - and acknowledged they must be, for they are matters of history - what we ask is the inference that any impartial and intelligent man would draw from such premises? Simply this, that Spain had no exclusive sovereignty in North America; that she had formed settlements on the coast on the same terms and in the same way as England had; that by the express phraseology of the Florida treaty, a contrast is stated between the "not quite"certain" rights of Spain in North America and her recognized authority in South; and that, therefore the United States could only come in as joint tenants with Great Britain, and have no earthly right to eject Great Britain from possession. Spain and Great Britain agreed to share the whole coast district between them, share and share alike. The United States are now in the place of Spain.

LT 1846/1/3/4b Oregon Question

LONDON, Saturday, January 3, 1846

We think it must be tolerably clear to the generality of unprejudiced minds, that, on the grounds of positive right, the American Republic cannot claim the Oregon territory; and we think it is equally clear that the matter cannot be determined at all on grounds of abstract right. In this respect the United States are nearly in the same predicament as Spain was in the year 1789. Spain asserted a proud and unlimited claim to the whole northwest coast of America. In the belief, or assumed belief, of a just title to this vast empire, she seized on the ships, the cargoes, and the persons of British sailors, and destroyed the huts and factories of British settlers. The Spanish Minister, Florida Blanca, supported the violence of Don Esteman in a memorial which justified the pretensions urged by the former in favour of his country to a district extending as far as the 64d parallel of north latitude. But when the matter was sifted, it came out that these gigantic pretensions rested on a vague expression in the 8th article of the Treaty of Utrecht; that no insignia of Spanish sovereignty had been exclusively displayed, no Spanish settlements exclusively founded, on that coast. That there had been Spanish settlers was true. That Spanish vessels had been in the habit of touching there was also true. True, too that those seas had in that and the preceding century were still not quite certain. What, then did England propose, under the counsels of Mr. Pitt; and what did Spain assent to, under the administration of Count Florida Blanca? The one proposed and the other accepted, conditions which every man who loves peace and justice must approve now, as they were approved then by the friends of peace and equity - condition of joint occupancy, extending over the whole of the northwest of North American hitherto claimed by Spain.

LT 1846/1/8/5b Mexico, affairs of

AMERICA, January 8, 1846

The New York Courier and Enquirer of the 10th contains the following:

A letter which we publish this morning from our Washington correspondent contains a statement which may be deemed as having an important bearing upon our relations with Great Britain, and will be found confirmatory of the opinions expressed by ourselves on that subject. An interview of some length had taken place between Mr. Buchanan and the British Minister, undoubtedly on the Oregon question, and if, as the rumour is at Washington, Lord Aberdeen has expressed the feeling imputed to him in relation to Mr. Pakenham's correspondence with our Government, it is certainly of some importance.

RUMOURS OF CABINET CHANGES:

The return of Mr. Calhoun and the elevation of Mr. Walker to the Bench continued afloat. The Oregon question was brought up in the Senate on the 17 ult as follows:

FROM THE NEW YORK HERALD

General Cass moved the adoption of the resolutions which he submitted last week to with instructions to the committee on naval affairs to inquire into the condition of the navy, and to the military committee to institute a similar inquiry into the condition of the land defences, and to the militia committee rejected its reorganization all of which inquiries were to be considered with the view of an efficient preparation by land and sea, against the
dangers apprehended of a foreign invasion. General Cass said it was impossible to read the annual message of the President, and the commentaries of the public press, without the apprehension that a crisis is arriving which will demand the cordial cooperation of the whole country. The President tells us in his message that negotiations are closed - that the claims of the two nations have failed to be settled by arbitration. The influence of England with the European Powers, from which an arbitrator would have had to be chosen, had doubtless decided our authorities against the process - that we had better hold on than submit to a Royal arbitrator. Conceding his entire and cordial adhesion to the views of the President, in the present attitude of the two nations, arising from their conflicting claims, what are we to do? Shall we recede or stand still or go on? To recede was not to be thought of at this stage of the question. There was nothing to be gained from national pusillanimity - we cannot purchase present peace at the expense of the national honour. It would be sowing the wind and reaping the whirlwind. No. General Cass would not repeat what he had expressed heretofore that it was better to fight for the first inch of Oregon than the last to better meet the enemy at the threshold, than await his approach to the hearthstone. And however separated now by party difference, or by space, all parties throughout the Union to its extremities, he knew would be united in defense of the national rights. Our destiny is onward - its westward movement cannot be resisted; you might as well attempt to stay the waves of the Pacific as the tide of our emigration setting in that direction. We cannot recede, we cannot stand still, our claim must be maintained or abandoned. Our hardy population of Oregon demanded the support of the Government, or they would establish a government of their own. We had an explicit and able memorial upon this very subject last week, setting forth that the memorialists were tired of waiting for you and would cast off all diplomatic chicanery and national pusillanimity, and set up for themselves. It was impossible that a people under two distinct Governments at the same, as are the people of Oregon, could under the existing state of things, long remain so. This point Government was not designed for a civilized and growing community, nor adapted to them, and if continued, could not fail to lead to bloodshed. It is hoped that England would yield, rightfully and honourably, in order to the peaceful settlement of this question. But will she? It was safest to act upon the conclusion that she will not. When did she, in any case where she had fastened upon a claim to territory or power, relinquish it of her own accord? Never had she exhibited no symptoms of relaxation of her hold upon Oregon. (Here General Cass referred to the London Morning Chronicle of the 5th of April last, and read extracts from the debate in Parliament of the previous day, particularly from the speeches of Lord John Russell and Sir Robert Peel, bullying Brother Jonathan upon the Oregon title, the President of the United States having assumed that our title to the whole or Oregon is clear and unquestionable.) Sir Robert Peel, on the contrary, roundly asserting that the British claim was clearly irresistible. General Cass, in his commentaries and congratulated our country that we secured Texas in spite of her collusions to wrest it from us. Recurring to what he esteemed as almost an inevitable alternative of the future, General Cass briefly reviewed, in the aggregate the power and dominion of Great Britain. This little narrow island, on the western frontiers of Europe, held dominion over 153,000,000 of people or nearly one-fifth of the population of the globe. She held, subject to her laws, an aggregate territory of 3,812,000 square miles, or nearly one-eighth of the surface of the habitable earth, all of which, from the subjugation of Ireland (saving the acquisition of Scotland, and certain discoveries in the South Seas), she had torn from the original possessors by the sword. It afforded no pleasure to review her ambitious policy; but we could not shut our eyes to the fact, that she had been prosecuting, and is now pursuing, a systematic attack upon our institutions. And yet we had been charged as an ambitious and grasping nation. To this, we can reply that we have made but three acquisitions of territory (Florida, Louisiana and Texas) all of contiguous territory, and all peacefully, and with the assent of the possessors and the inhabitants and our latest acquisition and best (Texas) was a proud example of the moral power of our Republican system. It was our latest acquisition but he hoped not our last. There was nothing to fear from the extension of our borders. If this administration could secure the peaceable acquisition of California, it would receive the lasting gratitude of the people. California, of course California, we must have that and then Cuba. We have started and must go on. We must give the twelve months' notice and if England persists in her claims, war must inevitably follow; and it will be a war in which all the strength and the prejudices of both nations will be brought into force. Let us then make adequate preparation. Le us show to the world that we are a united people, anxious for peace, yet prepared for war. The President had discharged his duty ably and fearlessly. Let us cooperate with him not by words but by deeds. The only means of preventing war is an immediate preparation for prosecuting it will all the means and energies we command. Vast portions of our country are but sparsely settled, and they are without defenses; our navy is not in a condition for active and efficient protection of our coasts. Means and materials are wanted - men are always ready. We have to do with a people who have arsenals, depots, dockyards filled to repletion, and with a Government better fitted than ours for prompt action. But let us show to our constituents that we are ready for duty; and that we meet the assumptions of England, not in a spirit of deprecation, but in a tone of firmness and self reliance. Let us show the world that republics are jealous of their rights and prepared to defend them and well as monarchies. Mr. Mangum, in a very energetic and eloquent manner, followed against the adoption of the resolutions. We regret that our time will not permit even a thread of his remarks. He argued that the resolutions and the remarks upon them by the senator from Michigan were injudicious. This matter could be more properly confided to the Executive - he could advise the Senate, with closed doors, of the means of defense required; and this would be wiser than inviting the enemy by an exposure of our weakness! Besides the committee would inquire, of course into the subjects introduced in the resolutions, with out instruction. He opposed to plunging the country into a war; he prayed to God that this worst of all evils might be averted; but if it did come, then there would not, he believed, be an anti-war man on the continent. He believed, however, there would be no war; but that this dispute would be yet satisfactorily and amicably adjusted. If a war were to break out, it would be, not a war for Oregon, but a war between the antagonistic systems of the European monarchies and republican institutions. It would enlist every man on this continent our side, and half of Europe would revolt against it. He hoped the resolutions would be permitted to lie over. But the Senate refused.
Jan. 8.

Your very obedient servant, John Phillips, Secretary to the Real del Monte Company, 2 Duke Street, Adelphi, Jan. 8.

[PGC]

LT 1846/1/14/5d France on the US annexation of Texas

Wednesday, January 14, 1846: France and the Annexation of Texas.

Paris Jan 20, 1844

Monsieur le Comte - Lord Cowley has read to me a dispatch, written to him by Lord Aberdeen on the project formed at Washington of preparing the annexation of Texas to the United States Confederacy. The principal Secretary for Foreign Affairs expresses in that dispatch the wish to know if the King's Government be disposed to furnish its Envoy to the United States with instructions similar to those which the Britannic envoy will receive to manifest the opposition of his Government to such a project. You may announce to Lord Aberdeen that I shall write to the same effect to Mr. Pagoot. Texas having been acknowledged as independent, by several of the great Powers, and particularly by that which now seems inclined to absorb it, it is evident that we have a right to appreciate the act which now seems inclined to absorb it, it is evident that we have a right to appreciate the act which would annihilate that independence, and to urge the objects to which it may give rise, as respects either right or interests. Those objects are numerous. It is known that even in the United States the wish for annexation in question is far from being unanimous. If the slave states are very anxious for it, in order to subject a system of Customs' duties, by which they are bound, country whose commercial competition they dread, and above all to secure to themselves, by the acquisition of an ally a preponderance in the confederacy, the other states would, by a natural consequence, view it with extreme repugnance; and though it behooves us not to meddle with that internal contention, the consideration on which it rests is certainly not of a nature to make us lean to the side of the partisans of the annexation. Our direct information from Texas seems, besides, to prove that the majority of the Texan people are contrary to it, and that the thought of it is energetically rejected by the existing Government. It is therefore only by the aid of violence more or less avowed, or more or less disguised, that it could be accomplished; and, I repeat it, it would in no respect suit us to accept such a change.

Sir - I have received without opposition the despatched you have addressed me unto No. 36, and the date of the 28th of December last. "What President Tyler's message has disclosed, respecting the projects of the Federal Government, regarding the annexation of Texas to the United States, and what you have written to me about it, could not fail to attract my serious attention. That of the London Cabinet is not less excited as to this question, as you will find by the accompanying copy of a dispatch I addressed on the 29th of January to Count de St. Aulaire, in consequence of a communication made to me by Lord Aberdeen through the medium of Lord Cowley. This communication referred to the opposition which the English Government proposed offering to any project of incorporating Texas with the Confederacy's territory, as well as to the instructions to be forwarded to Mr. Pakenham, Lord Aberdeen having wished to know whether we had the same intentions I have desired Count de St. Aulaire to inform him that you would receive similar instruction." The last reports from the French Legation in Texas, whilst informing me of the efforts of the Washington Government and its representatives at Amstin to forward annexation, represented President Houston as energetically opposed to any arrangement of that description, and protesting that nothing of the kind should take place so long as he should direct affairs. The language held here by M. Ashbel Smith is not less explicit. Nevertheless, it behoves us to know whether both faithfully express the opinion and wishes of Texas and whether the question of the annexation to the States of the confederacy, if agitated in the Texan Congress, would not be affirmatively resolved on there. That annexation would be lawfully justifiable, but only in the event of its being voluntary, and not the result of violence on the part of the United States - and with us, as well as with England, it is above all on the resistance of the majority of the Texan people to the accomplishment of such a project, that the opposition we should
THURSDAY, January 15, 1846

The despatches which have been laid before the French Chambers with reference to the annexation of Texas, and the part taken by France and England in opposition to that transaction, are documents of great interest, and they completely demonstrate the cordial cooperation of the two Powers in this negotiation. One whole year before the correspondence of Mr. King and Mr. Calhoun, to which we called the attention of the public on the 2d of January, 1845, was known in Europe, the French Government had given the most formal and precise instructions to its diplomatic agents in direct contradiction to the system of encouragement and connivance which Mr. Calhoun ascribed to it. In a dispatch from M. Guizot to the French Ambassador in London, dated the 20th of January, 1844, on the Texas question, Mr. Guizot announces, in reply to the question of the Earl of Aberdeen - "Is the French Government disposed to furnish its envoy in the United States with the same instructions as those which will be received by the British Envoy against the annexation? That he will write to Mr. Pageot in the same sense; and adds "Texas having been recognized as independent by several of the great Powers, and particularly by that which now seems desirous of absorbing it, it is evident that we have a right to take into consideration an act by which that independence would be destroyed, and to bring forward the objects to which it is liable, either as regards questions of right or interest." In the despatch to M. Pageot, dated the 10th of February, M Guizot fulfills the promise made to the Early of Aberdeen, and enters with more detail into the subject. Amongst other arguments, he says, "In a political point of view there is connected with the preservation of this independence a a real interest of equilibrium. The union of Texas, by extending the limits of the territory of the United States as far as Rio Grande would as immediate consequence, place the United States in direct contact with Mexico - that is to say in a condition to invade that country whenever it might please the Government of the United States to do so". In concluding this despatch, M.Guizot says "As France was the first of the European Powers to recognize the independence of Texas and to enter into a treaty of commerce and friendship with that republic, it is due to our dignity that what we have solemnly recognized should be preserved and respected.

In spite of the non-success of this negotiation, we see no reason to regret the part assumed by the two great European Powers. They gave the United States and the world a signal proof of their union in support of those principles of political justice and moderation which can nowhere be violated with impunity. They protested against the assumptions of the Cabinet of Washington, when it first affected to deal with the interests of its feebler neighbours on the American continent in the headstrong and arbitrary spirit of unlimited sovereignty; And although the presence of an overwhelming majority of American citizens in the province of Texas had, in fact, extirpated or crushed those parties in the new state which might have maintained its independent existence and therefore rendered our interference in their favour nugatory, the Governments of France and England would have abandoned Mexico and all America to the arrogant domination of the Anglo-American democracy if they had not consistently opposed the annexation of Texas.

The time, however, is now come when the attention of the Governments of Europe must be directed to still more important events, which are already distinctly indicated by the pretensions of Mr. Polk's message, and the whole policy of the United States towards their Spanish neighbours. General Cass's warlike speech in Congress was answered by the cry "We must have California," "We must have Cuba". To the fulfilment of these designs nothing is wanting but opportunity; and unhappily the increasing decrepitude of the native Government of Mexico seems to promise opportunities of spoliation as ample and immediate as the most insatiable aggressor could desire. The letters of our correspondent in Mexico have furnished us with an accurate and lamentable picture of the state of the country. The attempt to send a small detachment of troops into the province of California has proved a miserable failure, and they have not been able, for want of money, to leave the port of Acapulco. The Governor of the province of Sonora has pronounced against the feeble Government of the republic; and every province which is thus successively detached from the confederation may be regarded as a morsel prepared for the next meal of the United States' Government. Finally, it is not improbable that the next mails may bring us tidings of another revolution in the capital, and Herrera will probably sink before Paredes, at
the head of the only body of troops which still follow the standard of a leader. In several parts of the country, the Indians and mixed population have availed themselves of this state of complete anarchy to commit acts of violence and pillage; and the European capital invested in various undertakings in Mexico is, more than ever in a situation of great peril. It is clear to demonstration that such a state of things as we now witness is rapidly preparing the whole country for subjugation, and after having asserted their independence of the Court of Madrid, the provinces of New Spain lie prostate at the feet of the Congress of Washington. There is but one solution of the difficulty. Mexico cannot remain as it is. It must either sink without a struggle under the yoke of a neighbouring republic, hostile and opposed to the whole character of its native population by race, by religion, and by institutions, or it must seek by strengthening its connexion with Europe a protection against the spirit of territorial aggrandizement and dominion which is eager to establish an universal sovereignty over the continent of America. Such a connexion with Europe can clearly have but one form and one origin - the form, monarchical; the origin, Spanish. The results of Mexican independence are before the world. The people of Mexico cannot be insensible to their own ruin, however powerless they may be to avert it. Under such circumstances, what would be the effect of the reappearance on the shores of America of that flag of Spain which was originally planted there by the great discoverers and captains of former ages, and which left indestructible traces of its pristine authority in the colonial descendants of the Spanish people? It would be as easy to accomplish the conquest of Mexico at the present moment with a handful of the troops which form the garrison of Cuba, as in the days of the aboriginal Mexican princes. Would it be impracticable to accomplish such an expedition with political institution, fitted to the wants of the Mexican people and calculated to rescue them from the perils which threaten their national existence: When we threw out this suggestion some months ago, we confess that it wore an air of romance, and might be received with incredulity. But the more the world has learned of the utter weakness of Mexico and the unquestionable designs of the United States, the more urgent has the case become, and the more practicable the application of the only remedy which has been thought of. As far as Spain herself is concerned, such an enterprise would not be unworthy of the man whose military success and whose resolute character have already restored so much of the lustre of the Spanish monarchy. In Mexico, a Prince of the House of Spain, bringing with him a moderate force to restore order to the country, and the guarantees of a constitutional government for the protection of its liberties, would be hailed with enthusiasm by a considerable party, and would confer inestimable benefits on the people, whilst he would re-establish a natural and salutary connexion with the maritime and constitutional Powers of Europe. Amongst the cognate suitors of Queen Isabella it would not be difficult to point out the very individual best fitted for such an enterprise by his personal qualities and his liberal sentiments. And if the pretensions of the United States were thwarted by a measure with which they have not the most distant right to interfere, they are certainly not in a condition to oppose the united policy of the European Powers, when its sole object would be to preserve a national government in New Spain and to repair the disastrous effects of abortive revolutions upon the provinces which were once annexed to the Spanish crown.

[PGC]

LT 1846/1/16/5a Oregon question

JANUARY 16, 1846, OREGON QUESTION

ARRIVAL OF THE ACADIA, LIVERPOOL, TUESDAY

The British and North American Royal mail steamship Acadia arrived in the Mersey this morning, with the usual mails, of the 1st instant, from Canada and the United States. These accounts are of great importance. The position of the Oregon question in the House of Congress is most interesting. We annex the usual excellent summary of the New York Courier and Inquirer, and also an outline of the proceedings of Congress. "The year which began so prosperously, and which in its career has, generally speaking, been one of satisfactory results to commercial enterprise, closes in gloom and uncertainty.

The political sky, overcast during the summer, by reason of the annexation of Texas, and the menace of resentment of Mexico, had scarcely become clear again, when graver and more serious concern is inspired by the aspect of our difficulties with Great Britain.

On this head, we design neither unnecessarily to alarm, nor unduly to impart confidence, which we do not ourselves feel in the ultimate preservation of peace between the two countries. Hitherto, we have expressed the belief that all might be well, notwithstanding present adverse appearances. We are bound now to say that our confidence of such a result is somewhat diminished, not because of any change in the facts of the case, but because of the temper in which, on both sides of the Atlantic, it seems likely to be treated.

The recommendations of the Presidential message respecting Oregon were all subordinate to what might be done without any violation in letter or in spirit, of the treaty of joint occupation; but in both houses of Congress bills have been introduced which go beyond these recommendations and do infringe upon the treaty stipulations. These indeed as yet are only bills, and of course lack the sanction of laws; but that reported by Mr. Douglas, in the House of Representatives is from the Committee on Territories, and comes, therefore, with weight before the House. It proposes the immediate extension of a territorial government over the whole territory of Oregon - thus asserting, or appearing to assert, the sovereignty of the United States over the region in question, and not simply - as it might rightfully do, over citizens of the United States there resident. It also contemplates prospective grants of land to settlers, another assertion of sovereignty. These provisions may possibly be modified, so as to make them conform to the President's recommendations - but the mere proposal...
England should renew the offer made by this Government, and rejected by Mr. Pakenham, of the 49th parallel. On the other hand, and notwithstanding, these unfavourable manifestations, there is a strong impression that if shape an overture to this Government for the cession of any part of Oregon, there may be some hesitation on the part of England - even if otherwise well disposed - to renew in any shape an overtture to this Government for the cession of any part of Oregon.

On the other hand, and notwithstanding, these unfavourable manifestations, there is a strong impression that if England should renew the offer made by this Government, and rejected by Mr. Pakenham, of the 49th parallel, with the freedom of the ports in the straits of Fuca - it must be accepted by us.

In the course of a speech on the resolutions submitted by General Cass, instructing the Committees on Military and Naval Affairs to inquire and report upon the actual condition and necessities of those arms, Mr. Niles, a senator from Connecticut, and a supporter of the Administration, used this emphatic language:--

It was true the negotiation had been broken of, yet it can it probably will be resumed. Whether it was wise in our Government to have renewed the offer made on former occasions, by way of compromise to divide the territory upon the 49th degree of north latitude, he would not pronounce an opinion, but having made that offer and withdrawn it after it had been declined, he could not see how it well could be refused, should Great Britain hereafter propose that as the basis for compromising the dispute."

This is in coincidence with the sound opinion of sound men of all parties, and it would thence seem that the decision of the question of war or peace is in the hands of the British Government. Can they, for the mere barren triangle of land which constitutes the difference between what they ask and we have offered, be willing to put at hazard the peace of the world? For a war between the United States and England would not long be confined to those two powers.

Certainly both countries have much to lose by such a war, but England most of the two; and surely it is wise on both sides to fortify the claims of peace by the consideration of enlightened self-interest. The first blows of a war between the two countries would - because England is always armed, and the United States are habitually destitute of armour - fall heavily upon us; and national hatred, if the passion exist, might be gratified by the injuries it could inflict on our commerce and on our sea-board. But these would not touch the power of the country, while they would kindle all its spirit and nerve it to efforts, which in the end would be triumphant. Meanwhile, English manufactures would be cut off from our cotton. English trade would be cut off from our consumption - while our own manufactures, increasing and multiplying in every quarter, would weaken permanently and irreparably the source of the power of England. There is another consideration to which we advert reluctantly, but which, as we are dealing frankly with the whole subject, we think well worthy of being pondered on the other side - the amount of stock of the different states held there.

There are, it has been computed, about $260,000,000 (in round numbers) of stock of the different states now afloat. Of this amount, two thirds are, it is quite safe to assume, held in England. On many of these, the interest has been, and is regularly paid, and as the period comes round for their redemption, they are punctually redeemed." A case in point in the redemption at this moment of some $1,300,000 by the state of New York - of which almost all was held abroad. But if war should supervene between the two countries, and it should be any possibility be conducted on the part of the British, as there has been some threatening that such a war would be - by burnings and devastations, might there not be danger in a country, where the popular vote gives power and makes the law, that a stop would be put to the payment either of the interest or of principal to those, to whom it would only furnish fresh means of annoyance and injury to ourselves. We desire not to press this point, contenting ourselves with suggesting it for the deliberation of those whose influence, for peace or war is certainly not inconsiderable.

Leaving their ungrateful speculations, which can only find their apology in the deep anxiety we feel for the preservation of peace, we proceed to give an account of the condition of our markets and money concerns.

There has been great fluctuations in the stock since the 1st instant - partly owing to political apprehensions, partly to the large sums locked up in bread stuffs held on speculation and partly to the contraction which the position of the banks requires them to make.

In this state of expansion come rumours of war, which whether well or ill founded, affect public confidence.
JANUARY 17, 1846, LONDON, SATURDAY

The accounts brought by the Acadia from the United States are interesting; but it would, as yet, be premature to draw any positive inference either from the rumours and opinions circulated in that country, or from the legislative transactions which have produced them. Most of the latter are of a formal or preliminary nature, and hardly to be relied on as indications of definite purpose on the part of those who have brought them forward; certainly not as signs of the popular will and determination. It is perfectly natural that, pending the crisis of an indecision, words of swelling import should be uttered, and resolutions of a martial tone proposed; but it would be erroneous to infer from these easy resources of unsettled minds that war is seriously contemplated as the ultimate expedient of our difficulties and aggression desired as the necessary precedent to war.

We attach, therefore, less consequence to sundry vehement speeches and strong propositions in the two Legislative Chambers than the American press seems to claim for them. On the other hand, we feel great satisfaction at the comparative strength and energy of a party which is proverbially weak in all republics, and most obnoxious in young republics - the moderate party; the party which prefers peace to war; compromise to aggrandizement; tranquility to invasion, triumphs, and victories.

An unfavourable impression, however, has been made by the report brought up from the Committee on Territories by Mr. Douglass. It proposes an extension of the American laws and government over the whole territory of Oregon; an extension which supposes the right, and would involve the fact, of American sovereignty over a vast amount of territory which previous negotiations have uniformly and invariably allowed to belong to Great Britain. It suggests that it be considered as part of Wisconsin territory up to 54 deg. 40 min., and that military posts be established therein. Viewed by itself, this is one of the most flagrant projects of injustice which the history of nations records. Nor is it wholly to be condemned. It is not merely the scheme of one man, but the recommendation of a committee. So far it suggests grounds for alarm. But the considerations and modifications which ought to be applied to all strong proposals may safely be applied to this, especially when it is borne in mind that these resolutions must be debated in the House of Representatives before they can assume the form and have the virtue of legislative acts. And we should with very great difficulty, bring ourselves to believe that the representatives of the United States would enact, or the people of the United States ratify, a policy at once heinously unjust and unprovokedly warlike.

Meanwhile, we readily incline to the belief that the opinion of Mr. Niles is one viewed with approbation by the majority of intelligent and influential citizens in the States. He sees no reason why negotiations should not be resumed by an offer on the part of Great Britain to take the parallel of the 49th degree as the line of boundary; and no reason why, in the event of this offer being made by Great Britain, it should be refused by the republic. We have already stated our opinion most fully on this subject and it is hardly necessary now to repeat it. We still retain our conviction that the offer made by Mr. Gallatin, in the Presidency of Mr. Adams, concedes no more and no reason why, in the event of this offer being made by Great Britain, it should be refused by the republic.

The dwellers of the forest and the traversers of the lakes are our countrymen. We have sent them on a mission of commerce to distant and inhospitable climes. It behooves us to see that their mission be fulfilled with safety; that all its purposes be carried out efficiently; and that neither the paucity of their numbers nor the insufficient of their equipments deprives them of the fruits or materials of their occupation. But of what avail will it be to possess a large superficial area of uncultivated district, from the Rocky Mountains to the sea, if we lose that which has hitherto constituted its almost sole advantage, viz., a transit to those engaged in traffic from Hudson's Bay down the southern branch of the Columbia? What is Oregon worth to us without the easement of that river? What would be the inevitable consequence of its loss? Would it not be that immediately the great carrying trade between the northern lakes or the northeast country and the sea would pass into the hands of Americans? - that what our countrymen have hitherto shared with the citizens of the United States, and would be content to share with them in future, would be monopolized entirely by the latter? Does the American Government, does the American Republic, seriously think that an English Minister would tamely yield, would be allowed to yield, benefits which have constituted the chief value of that dependency to English subjects? It is the very essence of our rights in Oregon that we should preserve the free - we do not claim the sole - navigation of the Columbia; take that away, and we lost at once our trade between our possessions in the North East of America and our growing colonies in the Pacific. Such a loss would involve the ruin of perhaps very few individuals, but it would inflict a wound on the honour, it would damage the solid interests of this country; and it would raise immeasurable disgust and unbounded distrust in the breast of every colonist in our most remote dependencies. Give up, if you will, a large strip of territory, cede as much as you like between the Rocky Mountains and the lowest bend of the Columbia; but preserve whatever solid and substantial benefit has been enjoyed by the hardy adventurers of the forest and the lake, who have gone forth in reliance on your faith, in confidence of your readiness, and without a doubt of your power to protect them. To desert them were ignominious enough. But an ignominy of such a kind is among the worst disasters that a nation can suffer. Preserve for your colonists the great and precious privileges of anchorage, navigation and coast settlement. Preserve for them the right of sharing with Americans the trade to the other settlements of their own mother country. Deprive them of this, and you make them poor, helpless and contemptible; but you dishonour yourselves when you damnify them.
We have not reverted to the question of title, because in the reports which have come to hand we have not observed an argument which affects it. But we have noticed several conjectures as to the probabilities and no few suggestions as to the means of carrying on war. We will not dwell on a subject so painful, and we hope so remote. We do not for a moment doubt that it would be in the power of either country to inflict upon the other the most serious injuries, the most dire calamities, that human nature can sustain. We do not doubt that an American war would carry devastation into a thousand districts, ruin and sorrow into families innumerable; that it would give a terrible shock to the mechanism of commercial intercourse, the stability of commercial faith; and do in a few years more evil than a century of peace could repair. We will not dispute this. We will not stay to argue which nation could inflict the greatest amount of evil. It is superfluous. We feel too keenly their mutual powers of mutual injury not to be grateful that the fairest, and most peaceful, and most statesmanlike proposal - that of an adjustment by arbitration - was advanced by an English, and declined by an American, Minister. The hope that a more speedy settlement of the question might be attained by negotiation was the motive assigned by Mr. Calhoun for rejecting this proposal; the negotiation which ensued unfortunately resulted only in an offer of compromise upon grounds which Mr. Pakenham found himself compelled to refuse and as this mode of arranging our conflicting claims to the territory has been, for the present, at least unsuccessful, we rejoice to hear that Mr. Pakenham had, shortly before the departure of the Acadia, once more urged upon the American Minister his proposal of an arbitration.

[PGC]

LT 1846/1/26/4b Oregon question

JANUARY 26, 1846, LONDON, SATURDAY

The conversation which took place in the House of Commons on Friday night, respecting the Oregon question, was eminently satisfactory, as evincing the unanimous desire of all parties to maintain peace with the United States, but their no less determination that the peace so maintained should be consistent with the dignity of a great country, and rest upon the solid foundations of equity and self-respect. The regret expressed by the Premier at a seeming precipitancy on the part of Mr. Pakenham proves how sincere is the wish of the Government that no undue occasion of offense, no casual cause for war, be offered by this country to the American Republic; while the unusual heartiness of Mr. Hume, the accordant cheers of the House, and the concurrent approbation of the Opposition members, in affirming the propriety of increasing our military resources, are no less demonstrative of the tone and temper with which an unjust aggression will be confronted, and an involuntary war will be prosecuted. With regard to the alleged indiscretion of Mr. Pakenham, it seems to us that he has sinned rather against the forms of diplomatic etiquette than the spirit and interest of a diplomatic commission. It appears that the last proposal submitted to him by Mr. Buchanan - viz., a division of the territory - he rejected at once. Now it is urged that he should have communicated with the Home Government before he took so summary a course. It would require a fuller acquaintance with the circumstances of the case than is afforded by Sir. R. Peel's explanation to pronounce positively upon the propriety of his conduct. If by the term "division" be understood a division formed by a line continued from the 49th parallel, we can understand the motives which forced him to reject the offer. This partition of territory would have deprived us of the Columbia river; in fact, of the most essential property - the only beneficial interest in the disputed country. Excluding this, it excluded not only the most important part of our claims, but that which previous conventions and previous proposals had conceded to us. It would have been impossible for an English Cabinet to accept offers so humiliating, or rights so truncated. But would it not have been more prudent to wait for the answer of the Home Government, in order that upon it future negotiations might be based? This is not self evident. If the Home Government could return but one answer to such a reference - the very answer, in fact, which was given by our Minister at Washington - we do not see, what good could have resulted from the delay. But if, in addition to this, it should be made clear that pending these negotiations, or previous to them, the President's Message to the Senate had developed the policy of the Washington Cabinet, then Mr. Pakenham's decision must, we think, be pronounced not only not precipitate, but natural, reasonable, and worthy of his position; for be it remembered, that Mr. Buchanan's proffers were on the most attenuated scale. He receded considerably from the terms of his predecessors. He offered to the British Minister far less than was rejected by a British Minister when Mr. Adams was President of the republic. And if after such an offer the latter had deliberated - if he had delayed - if he had even professed a willingness to consult his Government at home as to the expediency of accepting conditions which he must at the time have known to be derogatory to the just rights of his country, it requires little more than a knowledge of the transactions of the last few years to aver that such an hesitation would have been followed by counter-claims more ambitious and aggressive than before. If Mr. Pakenham had betrayed an undecided or doubtful mind when called upon to cede the navigation of the Columbia and the rich soil upon its banks, what would have been said by the politicians of the United States, by the mob constituencies, by the mob flatterers, by the panders to bad passions and the suitors for popular favour? What but this? See how these English vapour and bluster how easily they can be bullied. They once scouted the notion of accepting half the territory with the notion of accepting half the territory with the Columbia and Vancouver's Island, and now their representative is half ready to yield the latter why should he have what we have offered? Why half or any of it. Strike for the whole country. The whole of Oregon or none. His Government fears to go to war. For peace she would surrender all that she has claimed. It will be our own fault if we do not get more than we once hoped for.

Such would have been the cry; it would spread like wildfire - "The whole of Oregon, or none and whilst relying on the probity of the American Government and the faith of international intercourse, diplomatic modes were exchanged, an American army might have been encamped on the Columbia, and the Oregon proclaimed a part
of the Wisconsin.

We believe Mr. Pakenham as acted as he ought to have acted on such an emergency. Even if he has erred, much allowance should be made for the errors of one whose every word and deed is scrutinized with the most critical minuteness of jealousy - who has no other support than his own self reliance - and the exigencies of whose position demand from him a directness and prompt of action inconsistent with appeals to distant authority and remote counsel. Such allowance should be made for the errors of every diplomatist. It should therefore be made for any which Mr. Pakenham may have committed. But it is not clear to us that he has committed any.

It is not by the tactics of diplomacy or the wisdom of statesmanship alone that a great question like this can be settled. It is a hard thing to raise a cry for war. It is an easy thing to pique the vanity, to wound the pride and disgust the prejudices even of an enlightened people into national hatred. The time may come when an unseasonable joke, a sarcastic allusion, or any other trifle, may spur great kingdoms or republics into mad and sanguinary hostilities.

[PGC]

LT 1846/1/28/6e Oregon question

JANUARY 28, 1846 - The Oregon Question - AMERICA

We have received important advices from New York to the 8th inst. Inclusive by the arrival of the ship, Henry Clay, Captain Nye.

The Oregon question has been taken up in the House, and warmly debated, with a warlike aspect. On the 2d inst. Mr. Adams gave his views at great length in favour of promptly giving the notice to terminate the existing joint occupancy of the Oregon territory. On the 5th the Committee of Foreign Affairs recommended the adoption of that measure. The report was debated and adjourned on the 6th until the first Monday in February, by a majority of 102 to 82.

Some conversation then took place as to the time fixed for the special consideration of the Oregon Bill, reported from the Committee on Territories, and on the motion of Mr. Douglas, the second Tuesday of February was substituted for the first for that purpose.

A bill was introduced on the 2d instant, by Mr. Haralson from the Committee on Military Affairs, for the organization of two regiments of riflemen, and also for increasing the infantry, artillery, and dragoons, to be at the disposal of the President for the protection of emigrants to Oregon or the defense of the frontier. After considerable discussion upon the question of making the resolution of a special order for the first Tuesday in January.

Mr. JQ Adams rose and addressed the house. He referred to the variety of bills providing for the defense of the country before Congress, and asked what reason there was for increasing their military establishment when they were at profound peace with the whole world? Three or four years ago, when the prospect of war was as great as then, they had reduced the military establishment by one third; but he said, I don not believe at all in any danger of war at this time. If there was danger, the first measure should be to give notice to Great Britain of their desire to terminate the existing joint-occupancy of the Oregon. Last session he had declared himself ready, as he did then, to give this notice. He hoped it would be given; and that then they would proceed to a real occupation of the whole territory. He was surprised the Committee on Foreign Affairs had not reported the notice in question, and he should deeply regret if a majority of that Committee should not be prepared to do so. If he hoped that a majority of the house would support him, he would press such a resolution that day. While the existing convention remained, he would vote for no resolution such as that then before them. It did not follow that if they gave notice there must of necessity be war; nor did it follow that they should then take possession. It would only be saying to Great Britain, "After negotiating 20 years about this matter, we do not choose to negotiate any longer; we shall take possession of what is our own; and then, if so settle, the question what is our own you wish to negotiate, we will negotiate as lone as you please. They might negotiate after they had taken possession. I say therefore, he continued - "That I hope the first measure adopted by Congress will be to give, in the most solemn manner, the notice to Great Britain which the treaty requires; then the coast will be clear for us to do what we please. It does not, I repeat, follow as a necessary consequence, that, because we give this notice, we must take possession, though it is my hope that we shall. It does not necessarily draw after it a war; and if Great Britain chooses to take such notice as an act of hostility on our part, and forthwith commence hostilities on hers, we have been told that we shall all be one party, and God Almighty grant that it may be so. If it shall be so, the war will have less of those very extraordinary terrors which my friend from South Carolina (Mr. Holmes) has now just discovered, notwithstanding the extreme military propensities which he manifested on this floor last year with regard to Texas. And of this I am very sure, that in that case Great Britain will not long occupy Oregon, or anything else north of the Canada line. (Great sensation, and incipient indications of applause). But if you will agree to give notice, strong as in my horror of war, and of all military establishments, if there should then be the breath of life in me, I hope I shall be willing to go so far as any in making any sacrifice to render that war successful and glorious. I can say no more. However, we may without giving notice, extend our laws and our protection to our brethren who have settled at least in that part of
Oregon which is not claimed by Great Britain; but there can be no need of increasing our army and our navy to do that. I hope that such an act will not be offensive to Great Britain, and that she will not think of going to war about it. But if we are going to take actual occupation of the country, then some additional force will be needed to our army, and in that case, however unwilling I have ever been to increase our military establishment, I think I should get over my difficulties especially if a disposition should be manifested by Great Britain to take offense at the measure I have just mentioned. I believe it will not be necessary for me to refer to any other part of this subject. There have been, as I understand, two applications made to this house by fellow citizens or ours settled beyond the Rocky Mountains for the protection of this Government. The Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs presented, as I think, one memorial while another from a different quarter is also before the territorial committee - possibly is a copy of the same." [PGC]

1846/1/29/6f US, preparations for war

**AMERICAN PREPARATIONS FOR WAR, January 28, 1846**

We noticed that orders had been sent to Norfolk for estimates of the expense of fitting out all the United States ships at that port. It seems that Norfolk is not the only place where inquiries have been made, but that New York has come for a share. It is stated that a party of naval gentlemen have been in this city on a tour of examination; and, besides examining the vessels at the navy yard, have inspected the mammoth river steamers. The report of the committee in relation to these steamers, if we may judge from what we hear in conversation, will be not a little amusing as well as curious. So far as steamers are concerned, the river boats are entirely unfit for any Government service, except the transportation of troops or munitions of war on the North River. The extreme lightness of their construction, and the mass of top hamper about them all, make them totally worthless as armed vessels. They would be quite as unsafe for their own crews, from the effect of their own guns, as they would be dangerous to an enemy. If Government requires steamers they must build them at once. One of the steamers of John Bull that rejoice in the names of the heathen gods would sink as many steamers like the Colonel Harney, and such as the river boats would make, as would be built in years. We are glad the Government is looking round, and that it has found out that blows are to be received as well as given in a war with England. War or no war, it is indispensable that we have a large addition to our steam marine; and if the present state of affairs stimulate a minute inquiry into our means of defense, it will end in a little good. So far as war steamers go, we are not fit to be named as having a navy at all and the sooner the want is supplied the better - New York Evening Express.

**JANUARY 30, 1846**

The American journals brought over by the last packet are fraught with matter of the most interesting and important kind. The Oregon question is daily advancing towards a definite and positive shape, and as far as it is possible to augur the result of legislative deliberations or popular sympathies, no great length of time can be expected to elapse before some strong decision is expressed as to the occupation of the disputed territory. The first thing that strikes us in the proceedings of the American Congress is the confirmation which that Assembly stamps upon a previous assertion made by ourselves. On a former occasion we declared that, in reference to a mere question of equitable right, the data of history or of treaties were insufficient to establish the claims of either of the two nations to the contested territory and that it would be impossible to adjust the present dispute without considering the peculiar wants and interests of the two litigant parties. It is to use the words of Mr. Rhett in the House of Representatives now a question of interest and policy that we are to settle.

With some of the representatives, as Messrs. Baker and Hilliard, the claim of property as deduced from prior occupancy or from the Spanish title is still in vogue. But it is exceedingly difficult to see the force of the evidence which has convinced them that their title is good on the former ground, and we think that we have already shown that it fails on the latter. The sole evidence of prior occupancy rests on the supposed discovery by Captain Robert Gray, who as Mr. Winthrop said, had no more idea than the man in the moon that he was discovering this or any other country; and who does not appear to have left any permanent or recognized symbol of his country’s power on that coast. But if positive discovery were to be laid down as the foundation a territorial claim, the partial discovery by Captain Gray cannot weigh against that more complete one effected by Broughton, who sailed 90 miles up the Columbia. But we suspect that the statesmen of both countries feel the impossibility of adjusting the question on the authority of what an intelligent American representative acknowledges to be vague traditions.

And musty histories of old voyages."

Disposing then of the question of prior occupancy and original right until the time when it shall be clearly shown that one country or the other exercised unquestioned, undivided, and universally acknowledged Jurisdiction over the coast and northwest continent of the Oregon - which means for ever let us again recur to the validity of the title as deduced from Spain. Now, it cannot be doubted that if Spain was rightfully possessed
of the territory in question, she might rightfully alienate it. But if she had it not, any professed alienation by her
would not be worth the parchment which professed to convey it. Now no one American legislator professes to
believe that Spain had alienated her right over the Oregon to the United States till after 1790. Whatever treaty
was adduced as the Spanish title - whether that of 1796 or 1818 - there is no treaty whatever of or before the year
1790 which confers a claim to the United States, derived from the Spanish title. But there is a treaty on record -
no ignoble or obscure treaty - but one signalized by many coincidental and consequential events of importance -
a treaty dictated by an English Minister who inherited a proud sense of English honour and a firm determination
to maintain it - the treaty of Nootka Sound, ratified at the fall of the year 1790 - which ceded to England rights
and titles, not indeed paramount nor undivided, but totally incompatible with any after alienation or disposition
or demise of plenary jurisdiction to or by any other Power in the world. Whatever interpretation may be affixed
to the 3d, 4th and 5th articles of that convention, no interpretation, however strained, however distorted, can
construe them so as to make them consistent with a reserved license for Spain to transfer her right of full
sovereignty in these regions to any foreign Crown or State whatever. Spain may indeed at a later period, either
by a careless phraseology or al pompous assertion of non-existent rights, have spoken of her possessions even
to the 52nd of north latitude, and proposed to transfer her rights therein. But if she did this, she acted as a
mortgagee who sought to transfer over again an interest in property already encumbered without notice of that
previous encumbrance, or as a simulated proprietor professing to sell land to which he had no title. The right of
the mortgagee in the one instance, and of the vendee in the other, is just that sort of right which the United
States have in this case derived from Spain, and none other.

But we are bound to admit that the terms in which the Nootka Sound convention is couched are curious, and we
believe, unprecedented. As far as relates to North America, they are negative on the subject of sovereignty.
They express an agreement between the two high contracting Powers that it should be lawful for their
respective subjects to fish, erect huts on the coast, trade with the natives, etc. but they reserve no right of
paramount sovereignty to either of them. The British Crown are to fish, settle, trade with the natives, apparently
on a footing of perfect equality. If a paramount jurisdiction
are modified (rather than resisted) by some of the stipulations in the treaty. The subjects of both Powers
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were modified (rather than resisted) by some of the stipulations in the treaty. The subjects of both Powers
have in this case derived from Spain, and none other.

But the relative position of Spain and England at that time appears to have been just such as we have described
it; and such the interest of Spain in those regions - an undivided moiety of the whole possession, not the whole
of an undivided moiety - in fact a distributive and diffused possession. And such was the interest, and only such,
that Spain could transfer to any other power. If therefore Spain in 1796 or 1818 pretended to alienate a plenary
authority over these regions to any other state than Great Britain (which she could have done by a sort of
release on a grand scale), such alienation would be as inoperative as that of Texas by Mexico after annexation
to the United States. Nor is this view materially affected by any war which might have broken out after the first
compact of co-equal possession. The two contracting countries might go to war; but no war could affect the
rights of their subjects already established and settled by a previous treaty. Spain might have quartered her
troops on the northwest coast of America, and have carried on an internecine contest with individual British
settlers, and thus have reconquered the whole settlement by degrees; but the law of 1818 pretended to alienate
a plenary authority over these regions to any other state than Great Britain (which she could have done by a
sort of release on a grand scale), such alienation would be as inoperative as that of Texas by Mexico after annexation to the United States.

There is reason to believe that the Senate will declare against the measures which may be voted. In the interval which will ensue, in consequence of this inevitable conflict, the British Government would do well to commence a decisive negotiation, if it wishes to escape serious complications abroad. This is the course expected on the Stock-Exchange in London and in the city; for although the public mind was excited by the tone which pervades the message, the public funds were not paralyzed by it."

Columbia River and the coast to the south of Vancouver’s Island, on the authority of discoveries by Cooke, Vancouver and Mackenzie; on the authority of the Nootka Sound Convention in 1790 with Spain, and of settlements, effected and maintained at different times by British subjects. The United States claim the territory on the ground of discoveries made by her citizens, Gray, Kenbrick, etc; of the cession made by Spain in 1819, and of occupation and settlements previously, as well as afterwards, effected by American traders. It will be obvious that the right of sovereignty which attends discovery, unless backed by some decisive measures on the part of the Government by whom or by whose subjects the discovery is made, is worth very little. Did the rule prevail that every nation was entitled in perpetuity to the sovereignty of any territory discovered and claimed by any of its subjects, without any immediate act on the part of its Executive to enforce such claim, the tenure of most colonial dependencies at the present day would be one of very equivocal legality; and, indeed, there is so much doubt hanging over the history of all territorial discoveries, that it would be difficult to suggest a worse title than that which is conferred by the assertion of such a claim, unsupported by any evidence of continuation by the Government in whose behalf it is represented to have been made. In the present instance, the honours of discovery appear to be due to a Spanish navigator of the 17th century, Jean de Fuca, who has been given his name to the strait that separates Vancouver’s Island from the mainland. Nor is a much better title afforded by mere occupancy unprotected by the home Government of a state, recognized by foreign nations. The question of right is thus narrowed to the consideration of the original proprietorship, and subsequent alienation. The American Ministers assert, that not only the valley of the Columbia, but the whole of the Oregon territory, and territory as far as the 42nd degree of north latitude - belonged to Spain, and was by Spain transferred to the United States at the Treaty of Florida in 1819. They say that they have a title not only to the valley drained by the Columbia, but also to the whole of the Oregon, and they take credit to themselves for evincing no small moderation in proposing the parallel of the 40th degree as a boundary line. The question therefore arises, which is the better claim; that which is founded on the treaty by Spain with England in 1790 or that which rests on the Florida treaty with the United States in 1819? By the former Spain agreed to give indemnity to British subjects dispersed of their settlements about Nootka Sound, and to guarantee the same liberty of access to the citizens of both nations as well as those parts which were to be restored to British subjects are in the other parts of North America, which then belonged to Spain. By the latter, she ceded all her authority and jurisdiction over her provinces in North America to the United States. Now, when it is recollected that in 1789 Spain abandoned her settlements in Nootka Sound and that from this time she appears to have neglected this portion of her colonial empire altogether.

**THE UNITED STATES**

We subjoin abridged reports from the several Secretaries of State, which are extremely valuable as evidence of the efficiency of the several departments:

**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR**

This document occupies five columns of the Union, but the following synopsis from that paper tells the whole of a long story:

It exhibits, in the first instance, the organization, strength and constitution of the regular army. The rank and file - embracing every arm of the service does not exceed 6500 men. At this time there is stationed but a single regiment on the whole northern frontier, from Maine to Lake Superior - an extent of 2,000 miles; and on the whole line from the Falls of St. Anthony to New Orleans (1500 miles) only one regiment of dragoons and two of infantry. The artillery regiments - reduced by detachments of four companies from each - now garrison the fortification of the seaboard from Newport to New Orleans. The remaining and larger proportion of the army is now stationed in Texas. The report gives an interesting account of the political reasons which have induced the Government to give them this destination. The secretary does not think it prudent to remove the troops from now stationed in Texas. The report gives an interesting account of the political reasons which have induced the Government to give them this destination. The secretary does not think it prudent to remove the troops from this position until our relations with Mexico have assumed a more decidedly amicable character. In the event of this being any necessity to increase the army he proposes to build upon the basis of the regiments by adding to the rank and file of each company instead of creating new regiments. This necessity may be found in the present instance, the honours of discovery appear to be due to a Spanish navigator of the 17th century, Jean de Fuca, who has been given his name to the strait that separates Vancouver’s Island from the mainland. Nor is a much better title afforded by mere occupancy unprotected by the home Government of a state, recognized by foreign nations. The question of right is thus narrowed to the consideration of the original proprietorship, and subsequent alienation. The American Ministers assert, that not only the valley of the Columbia, but the whole of the Oregon territory, and territory as far as the 42nd degree of north latitude - belonged to Spain, and was by Spain transferred to the United States at the Treaty of Florida in 1819. They say that they have a title not only to the valley drained by the Columbia, but also to the whole of the Oregon, and they take credit to themselves for evincing no small moderation in proposing the parallel of the 40th degree as a boundary line. The question therefore arises, which is the better claim; that which is founded on the treaty by Spain with England in 1790 or that which rests on the Florida treaty with the United States in 1819? By the former Spain agreed to give indemnity to British subjects dispersed of their settlements about Nootka Sound, and to guarantee the same liberty of access to the citizens of both nations as well as those parts which were to be restored to British subjects are in the other parts of North America, which then belonged to Spain. By the latter, she ceded all her authority and jurisdiction over her provinces in North America to the United States. Now, when it is recollected that in 1789 Spain abandoned her settlements in Nootka Sound and that from this time she appears to have neglected this portion of her colonial empire altogether.

The report suggests that, besides this increase of the number of privates in the two existing regiments of dragoons, another regiment of dragoons or of mounted riflemen may be necessary in the event of extending our posts to the Rocky Mountains.

It states that, though the concentration of so large a proportion of the army on the frontier of Texas may have, in some measure, enlarged the expenditures (certainly in the article of transportation), yet it has in some
COMMODORE TURNER. The Raritan will return to the home squadron; the Boston is ordered to return to the United

On the Brazil station, Rosseau, the first officer of the Alleghanies ever selected to command a squadron, relieves

The disposition of the remainder of the naval force is thus states:

On the Brazil station, Rosseau, the first officer of the Alleghanies ever selected to command a squadron, relieves Commodore Turner. The Raritan will return to the home squadron; the Boston is ordered to return to the United
States. The Columbia, the Saratoga, Plymouth, and the Bainbridge, as for the present substitute the Brazil squadron.

Commodore Parker, after a very successful cruise, returned from the Asiatic station in September, bringing home the Brandywine, St. Louis and the Perry. At the Bay of Islands, Captain McKeever, in the St. Louis, had the happiness to render valuable service to the inhabitants of an infant British settlement.

In May Commodore Bidelle sailed for the East Indies in command of the Columbus ship of the line, bearing the Minister to China and the ratified treaty between the United States and the Chinese Emperor. The health of Mr. A.H. Everett, the Minister having induced his return, the exchange of the ratification of the treaty was committed to the charge of Commodore Biddle, who will doubtless show that an able and gallant naval officer conducts satisfactorily all affairs entrusted to him. The constitution is on her return from China, after having visited different ports and islands in the Indian Seas.

The Pacific squadron, under Commodore Sloat, has consisted of the Savannah, the Levant, the Warren, and the Shark. The first three will return in 1846 and will be relieved by the Congress, the Portsmouth, and the Cyane.

The home squadron has been under the command of Commodore Conner, who has distinguished himself by sound judgment in the performance of his duty. His force, which consisted of the Potomac, the Falmouth, the Vandalia, the Lawrence, and the Somers, was weakened by the return of the Vandalia, which visited Hayti, and was driven home by the yellow fever, contracted at Port-au-Prince, where she had been ordered on duty. The squadron was increased by the Princeton and Porpoise, the St. Mary's, and the Saratoga, under Commodore Stockton, and soon after by the John Adams, and the steamship Mississippi.

The Secretary visited all the naval establishments but those at Pensacola and Memphis, and they are generally in excellent order.

He recommends that the Naval Asylum at Philadelphia, at which are now more than 100 sailors, be never enlarged, but that new pensioners should be placed "in some salubrious spot near the ocean, where the aged seaman can watch ships as they come and go, and have old familiar objects in sight." There is a dash of romance in this suggestion which is rather unexpected.

He condemns as a fruitless expenditure the employment of professors and instructors on board ship, and suggests that midshipmen, in the intervals of sea duty, may be collected together on shore and be suitably instructed. The instructors being provided, the idea was carried out by organizing a school at For Severn, at Annapolis, under the direction of Commander Buchanan.

He recommends that the plates of all the charts engraved by order of Congress be deposited in the National Observatory building.

The grant of a large sum for the establishment of a well-furnished and efficient navy yard at Pensacola is recommended and he disapproves of the grant for the Memphis Depot, as to large for a mere work of preparation. He thinks Congress should confine the use of the money first to the construction of a rope walk; and, next, to simple arrangements for building and equipping steamships. He justly adds that "the United States should produce all the hemp used in the navy, and that to introduce at the west the manufacture of American hemp for the navy will prove a national benefit.

The subject of the lake defenses is reserved for a special communication.

The care of the reservations and plantations of live oak, should be transferred to the Land department which has the proper means of ascertaining title.

The present contract system requires modification. The estimates for next year contemplate no increase in the force employed during the present year.

No estimates are presented for the increase of the navy. The department awaits in that matter the instruction of Congress; but he remarks, that in comparison with other nations, our own is poorly supplied with sea going steamers.

The navy is praised for its excellency and efficiency, and its able and skillful officers. He thinks the capable only should be promoted and his position is illustrated by the following remarks:

"Age alone now claims precedence, though that claim is unauthorized by the constitution, and unsustained by the law. Seniority demands promotion as its right, and the highest rank and pay are awarded to the longest life. Yet the chances are that the eldest are not the most meritorious. Excellence seeks the opportunity of displaying itself, and is selected for the most perilous and wasting service; while mediocrity fails to be employed, and obtains length of days in safe and affluent retirement. Promotion by seniority is a premium upon inactivity."

"Many of the best among the older officers received high promotion while comparatively in early life. The younger officers of today are equally full of talent and ambition; but the present system refuses to them the
opportunity of command while life is in its vigour, and reserves it for the decline of their powers. In consequence
the average age of captains is constantly increasing, and is already nearly 60. The average number of annual
promotions is about two. The average age of commanders, from whom captains are and should be taken, is not
much less than 50. From their great numbers, the little sea service to which they are called is favourable to
longevity. Continue the present usage 20 years longer, and while hope will be crushed in the young men in the
service, the class of commanders will itself be composted of none but aged men, and there will not be a captain
under three-score years and ten.

"This custom discourages the most worthy, and leads the incapable and the indolent to cling with tenacity to
their commissions".

"Those that are capable, and our service abounds in those, only should be promoted."

He argues against the probably objection that selection will degenerate into favouritism, and asserts that
wherever the principle of discrimination has been carried out, it has been attended with success.

The number of midshipmen in the navy has become so reduced that new appointments begin to be made, and
he suggests that it would be desirable if a system of free competition could be devised.

A remedy in the mode of paying pursers, and against the progressive amount of salary given according to
service, is desirable.

A change is needed to protect the Treasury, and to secure the prompt payment of balances.

An increase of six acting boatswains, and as many acting runners in the navy, is represented as being needful.
The apprentice system will soon be revived, in a simple form, in the hope of better results than heretofore.

The report closes with some general remarks upon the evils which exist in the navy, and the causes whence
they have sprung.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury (RJ Walker) states the receipts for the year ending June 30, 1845,
$29,769,133 to which the balance in the Treasury of $7,857,379 may be added, making the total means
$37,626,513. The expenditure during the same period was $28,968,206 and therefore left a balance in the
Treasury of $7,658,306, July 1, 1845. The total means estimated to accrue up to June 30, 1846 is $34,478,306,
including the balance left over from the former year. The expenditures are estimated as follows:

The actual expenditures for the first quarter, ending 30th of September 1845, amounted to $48,463,682,

The estimated expenditure for the public service during the other three quarts from 1st October, 1845, to the
30th June 1846, are as follows:

Civil list, foreign intercourse, and miscellaneous purposes 6,739,211

Army proper 2,584,735

Fortifications, ordnance, arming militia, etc. 2,346,778 [PGC]

LT February 2, 1846, 4b, Oregon Question

The Oregon Queston

The position which we cited on Friday from Mr. Admas's speech in the House of Representatives is, as
an argument, more of use to us than to himself, as it shows that in the disputed territory the right of
sovereignty has hitherto been intentionally kept in abeyance, and that the United States have no original
indefeasible jus imperii therein. It leads to no inference of American rights; it supports no pretensions of
American seisin. It establishes more evidently than before our own assertion, by an appeal to the actual
manner in which the district has been settled, and the light in which that settlement has been regarded by a
third party, viz., the aboriginal Indians.

But, however refutable any inference my be which he seeks to deduce from such premises in favour of
imperial claims to the Oregon, it will require something more powerful than argument to meet declamatory
exhortations to war, and exulting predictions that, in the event of such a contingency, England would lose not
only Oregon, but all that she now possesses north of those latitudes. We can easily believe that of such an
import, coming from one who, in addition to the inheritance of a time-honored name, may boast the recollection
of long public services and the homage paid to acknowledged merits—we can easily believe that such words, from such a man, will thrill in the hearts of thousands. And indeed to no other cause but an example so authoritative can we attribute the violent and belligerent language which was used by such speakers as Messrs. Ingersoll, Simms, Baker, and M'Dowell.

Now, we readily admit that in the democratic assembly of a republican state, the temptations to exaggerated or menacing language are very great at all time, and in times of international differences almost irresistible. For this reason we feel great admiration for the intrepidity and true wisdom of those men who, like Messrs. Winthrop and Rheett, have ventured to use the language of moderation and peace in the front of a majority clamorous for dissension, and a populace inflamed with the visions of conquest. When, waving the question of right either as inconvenient or indifferent, legislators are found telling the people that it "is their destiny" to commit a great injustice; that they do not fear the odds of a tussle with Great Britain; that the British Lion has, ere now, quailed before the American Eagle, and may soon quail again; that as the power of the Republic has run down south-west as far as Texas and the mines of Potosi, and north-west across the Rocky Mountains to an indefinite extent, and the Columbia, adding state to state and region to region to keep up its balance of power; -- when these things are said, repeated, and applauded, the moral courage of those who scout such morality and repudiate such pretensions cannot be too highly praised or too thankfully acknowledged. They are vindicating the cause of morality and justice in the eyes of Christendom.

But, gentlemen of the House of Representatives, you must be aware that you cannot go on talking thus for ever. These big, swelling words must produce some definite and palpable issue of fact. They must either become utterly nugatory, or lese must be lead to a war. You cannot escape from this dilemma. It follows from your own speeches and protestations. The representatives of a great people cannot discharge their duty by uttering a torrent of declamations about the "destiny" of their country and the invincible strength of its arms. A continuance of such language, not followed by the most vigorous policy, exposes those who speak to some ridicule, and their country to some reproach. Are you, then, prepared to meet the only alternative which is indicated by your own words and shadowed forth by your own predications? Are you prepared for war? Have you calculated its cost, its consequences, its calamities? Have you reflected on the condition in which it must leave your country?--on the revolution which, be its result what it may, it must work in your political and social systems? Are you prepared for military aristocracy, perhaps an autocracy?--for a centralization of power round one governmental unit, and its fortification by the breastwork of a large military force? Are you prepared for the creation of a new and dominant class?--for the display of oligarchical distinctions, the thirst after courtly decorations, the overthrow of republican equality? Yet to this end, to these results, so alien from the intentions of your pilgrim fathers, so adverse to the spirit of your polity, you are driving your country by your advocacy of warlike measures. Even supposing that in the conflict which you provoke, a success greater than you expect attends your arms—that you plant your victorious standard upon the two banks of the Columbia, or advance it to the shores of Hudson's Straits—that you beat the troops of England and the volunteers of Canada or New Brunswick on every field and in every siege between the two oceans which encompass the Canaan of your vaunted "destiny"—what will you have gained? The responsibility of a great empire, the invidiousness of detected pretensions, and the domination of some military chief! But if you fail—if the armies which conquered under Wellington retain their fortune under other leaders—if the pride which has spurned at mediation is chastised in war—if New York is given to plunder, and Washington again beholds the English flag floating over her Capitol—what will you not have lost by the issue of a contest at once unfortunate and unprovoked! In neither case will you resume your former position—in neither will you be as you were before the war. You will have created new pretexts of taxation—you will have called into existence new institutions repugnant to you old ones—you will have laid the foundation of future encumbrances or future despotism. But, more than this, you will have aroused the jealousy, awakened the vigilance, and armed the hostility of foreign Powers. You will have forced them to defend themselves against your aggressive, or to punish your defeated efforts. But in the long interval that separates the commencement of a war from its conclusion, what enormities may be practised! What calamities inflicted! Have you thought on these? Have you reckoned their cost, or their guilt? You remember the scenes of 1774: will you re-enact them? You might do us great injury; but your country would suffer dreadfully in the attempt. You might invade our colonies by guerilla detachments, but we should lay our ships of war against the cities of your pride and the homesteads of your wealth. You might destroy our merchant vessels, but we should devastate your provinces and depopulate your towns. We might lay Washington in ashes; but could you invade England with effect? And have you forgotten the secret danger which you nourish in your bosom? Can you forget that to the horrors of a foreign would be added the greater horrors of a servile war?—a war not of lines, columns, or camps, but a war waged against heads of families, in houses, by ambuscade, and every species of treachery complicated with every kind of cruelty that vengeance could devise and opportunity provoke? Again, do you not remember that a war with England could not be a little war, nor confined to two states; that it would up the world in its conflagration, and add to the cruelty of an unnatural contest the inconvenience of unnatural of faithless alliances? You rely on France, and forget Russia. But do you forget the traditinary fickleness of the former, and the antidemocratic mission of the later? Do you not know these things? do you not fear them? We seek not to intimidate you with vain menaces and unreal bugbears. But we bid you, as patriots who love your country, as statesmen who are legislating future times, above all, as men who profess to adore justice and to sever truth—we bid you pause, and reckon the fearful risk which you are running and the monstrous misery which you are courting.

What is your case? You lay claim to a greater amount of territory than Great Britain says is yours by right. She offers to refer the dispute to arbitration—you reject this offer. What is the obvious and fair inference suggested by such a refusal? Again, what are the facts of your claim? Make a "Case" of it—state it fairly, and lay it before the jurists of the world. It would run thus:—

"There is a vast extent of territory lying between the 43d deg. north latitude and the 52d deg. north latitude. It was settled some time towards the close of the last century. The accounts of its discovery are conflicting and
The house having resolved itself into committee of the whole, Mr. Yancy said, he considered that the discussion upon the Oregon notice question in the House of Representatives had been reassured on the 7th. These accounts are important. The proceedings of Congress present, in the Senate, the introduction into that house of resolutions for giving the Oregon notice, and in the other house the continuation of the former debate.

He reviewed the course of the President in relation to this question, and exhibited his inconsistency in having in his inaugural address considered it as a war measure, and that war was expected by the Administration as the result of this measure. They exercised a joint protection, and gave such of their subjects as chose a joint interest in it. Afterwards a war broke out between them; and many years after Spain made a conveyance of 'all her sovereign rights' in this country to another Power--the United States--a Power as yet in the obscurity of infancy when the first settlements were made. After this cession citizens from this new Power immigrate in to this country. Not content with holding a distributive possession, and giving to her colonists the divided tenancy of this tract, the Republic of the United States, relying on the vague phrase contained in the Spanish conveyance, claim entire sovereign dominion over it as far as 52 [degrees] north latitude, and offer, as a matter of compromise, to take the parallel of 49 [degrees] as its boundary line. But while it offers this, it obstinately claims the sole usufruct of the principal river, which for 60 years has been shared on equal terms by previous occupants--the English and Spanish at one time, the English and Americans at another--in those parts wherein alone it is navigable. It refuses the offer of Great Britain to share this river, or the harbours on the coast. It thus seeks force Great Britain into surrendering for ever the only commercial advantage--the only benefit indispensable to a naval country--which the district affords, and which she has hitherto enjoyed; and it proposes, as a solution of the dilemma, to seize on the whole of the territory of which the limits are thus contested.

American representatives, would you submit such a case for the consideration of just men all over the world? Would you abide by their opinion? Or will you go to war to decide the righteousness of your claims?

LT February 3, 1846, 5b, U.S. Congress, Oregon Debate

"AMERICA"

[The following appeared in the greater part of our impression of yesterday:-]

We have received New York advices to the 13th of January inclusive, by the arrival of the packetship Stephen Whitney, Captain Popham, after a fine run of 19 days.

These accounts are important. The proceedings of Congress present, in the Senate, the introduction into that house of resolutions for giving the Oregon notice, and in the other house the continuation of the former debate.

A bill to repeal the existing tariff had been introduced into the Lower House.

The discussion upon the Oregon notice question in the House of Representatives had been reassured on the 7th. The house having resolved itself into committee of the whole, Mr. Yancy said, he considered that peace had given them the territory of Oregon, and he believed it could only be lost by war. He was for all the Oregon--would take no line of compromise--but he could not sympathize with the cry of "Now or never." If they were not now prepared to assert by force of arms their right to Oregon, it would be well to delay it. He regarded that to give the notice would be a measure of war, and if it had been considered by previous Administrations as a measure of peace, why had it not before been given? He maintained that Mr. Adams in his speech considered it as a war measure, and that war was expected by the Administration as the result of this measure. He then considered the relative condition of the two countries to enter into war, and as regarded their own want of preparation, he charged it to the votes of western men, who were now furious for war and who had voted against all appropriations for Atlantic fortifications and for the increase and supply of the navy. He did not think there was anything offensive in the refusal of Mr. Pakenham to accept the offer made by Mr. Polk. A better offer had been repeatedly made and refused, and, as the negotiations were opened on the basis of compromise, Mr. Pakenham was justly surprised at receiving a proposition offering less than had before been refused. He thought the true course to lose Oregon was to precipitate action on this question. If they wished to preserve it, they must call time to our aid and people the territory.

Mr. Smith repelled the charge that the west were desirous of involving the country in war; but said there was a deep and absorbing feeling in the west, that the honour and interests of the nation were deeply interested in the maintenance of our rights in Oregon, and he had no fear that the United States would ever yield those rights to negotiation or to force. It was a mistake to suppose that the west would not suffer as well as other sections of the country in the event of war, as it was also that they were controlled by selfish considerations. If war should come, the west would do its duty, and would furnish its full quota of men and of treasure. He reviewed the course of the President in relation to this question, and exhibited his inconsistency in having in his inaugural
In the Senate, on the 7th, the bill to raise a regiment of mounted riflemen was taken up and enforced by the committee.

President Polk declares himself decidedly in favor of giving the Oregon notice, and expresses his discretion. The Washington correspondent of the New York Times writes, on the 7th ult., that "in speed, designed to arouse feelings of hostility, but containing no argument, and exhibiting neither sense nor the whole of that territory, even if war should come. He then proceeded in a most violent and inflammatory war provided for in the treaty. He would not, however, consider this question; their right to Oregon was complete, occupancy, and if undisturbed in these she would suffer things to move on as they were.

War would rest upon her. Great Britain claimed no exclusive jurisdiction, but the right of settlement and of would, give the notice. This he did not think probable, but if she did so the responsibility and the guilt of the their interest suffered from letting things remain as they were. It was said Great Britain might, and probably it would be arbitrated, but he much preferred that things should remain as they were. Neither their honour nor prosecuting a war of supremacy over Great Britain. If the question must now be pressed to an issue he trusted was perfect for protection, but inefficient for conquest, and its whole character would inevitably be changed in would change the character of their domestic institutions, and establish a military despotism. Their Government a period, while more favourable terms would not be procured unless Great Britain was utterly humbled. War accepted in preference to war. If war arose, it would involve Mexico, and their fellow-citizens in the Oregon, could not be peacefully settled by negotiation, he would wish that arbitration, if again proffered, should be would change the character of their domestic institutions, and establish a military despotism. Their Government was perfect for protection, but inefficient for conquest, and its whole character would inevitably be changed in prosecuting a war of supremacy over Great Britain. If the question must now be pressed to an issue he trusted it would be arbitrated, but he much preferred that things should remain as they were. Neither their honour nor their interest suffered from letting things remain as they were. It was said Great Britain might, and probably would, give the notice. This he did not think probable, but if she did so the responsibility and the guilt of the war would rest upon her. Great Britain claimed no exclusive jurisdiction, but the right of settlement and of occupancy, and if undisturbed in these she would suffer things to move on as they were.

Mr. Kennedy did not believe that the notice was a war measure. It was a simple exercise of a right provided for in the treaty. He would not, however, consider this question; their right to Oregon was complete, and they had a right to take possession of it. He was for giving the notice and for extending jurisdiction over the whole of that territory, even if war should come. He then proceeded in a most violent an inflammatory war speed, designed to arouse feelings of hostility, but containing no argument, and exhibiting neither sense nor discretion. The Washington correspondent of the New York Courier and Enquirer writes, on the 7th ult., that "in conversation President Polk declares himself decidedly in favour of giving the Oregon notice, and expresses his strong desire that the resolutions now before the House of Representatives should be adopted as reported from the committee."

In the Senate, on the 7th, the bill to raise a regiment of mounted riflemen was taken up and enforced by Mr. Benton. It had nothing to do, he said, with war, or rumours of war, but was a kind of force peculiarly required on the western frontier. The appropriations are as follows, viz., $76,500 for raising and equipping the regiment; $3,000 for each military post which may be established on the route to Oregon; and $2,000 to buy the land for the site of such posts from the Indians. This last item was added by Mr. Benton at the suggestion of Mr. Calhoun. The bill was passed.

The St. Louis New Era refers to the declamation founded on the extension of British laws over subjects of the Crown in Oregon by American orators and writers, and draws attention to the fact that "two acts of
Congress of 1834, under the provisions of which our laws regulating Indian intercourse, and the criminal laws which apply to places over which the United States have exclusive jurisdiction, are all extended to that country; not confined in their operation to American subjects, but extending to every case of crime, except offences committed by Indians against Indians. We refer to the act to regulate intercourse with the Indian tribes, and the act to establish the Indian Department, and under that act men have been tried for capital offences and convicted in the Circuit Court of the United States at St. Louis."

"It may be added," says the New York Courier and Enquirer, "that under the other act 'establishing the Indian Department,' and Indian sub-agent has been appointed for, and resides in Oregon - the same Dr. White who is now, or recently was, at Washington."

The following excellent letter is taken from the correspondence of the New York Courier and Enquirer:---

"Washington City, Jan. 10, 1846.

"The anxiety in New York, in regard to the question of war or peace has been so great that newspapers and their correspondents have seized upon every rumour, no matter how improbable, which appeared to offer a hope that the Oregon question would be speedily and satisfactorily adjusted. To these rumours of pending negotiations, &c., the readers of the Courier and Enquirer well know that we have given no countenance; while we have always said, and still think, that the Oregon question will be settled without a resort to war, although the whole commercial community have to a certain extent experienced, and will continue to suffer, from many of its consequences. I now desire to state, however, for the benefit of all concerned, and I do so upon the very highest authority, that from the day on which Mr. Buchanan transmitted to Mr. Pakenham his letter of, I think, the 29th of August, in which he withdrew the proposition of our Government, and virtually suspended all negotiation on the question of Oregon, -- from that day up to this time our Administration have not received directly or indirectly through Mr. McLan, Mr. Pakenham, or any other source whatever, either here or in London, the slightest overture or intimation of any kind or description whatsoever. This declaration is intended to cover the whole ground, and to guard against misconstruction, he who made this declaration added, -- 'the administration knows nothing of the intentions, the wishes, or the expectations of the British Government wish to is equally known to the whole people of the United States.'

"Of the truth of this there is no doubt whatever; and while it is with me a subject of regret that the fact should be so, it is best that the truth should be known in order that all may form their own conclusions from this state of things. I have no doubt myself, that if Mr. Paknham had forwarded to the British Government the correspondence up to and exclusive of the last letter from Mr. Buchanan, he would have been informed that his rejection of the offer made by our Government was premature, and that it should have been accepted. But when that rejection was followed by the withdrawal of the rejected proposition and the abrupt suspension of all negotiations, the British Government apparently arrived at the conclusion, that they had nothing more to do but to prepare for any and every contingency which might arise; and accordingly, they have observed the most studied and profound silence on the subject, while the whole energies of the nation have been devoted to preparations for war. Wellington truly said, that England could never again wage a 'little war;' and if war comes, it will be of a character far more serious than any in which she has heretofore been engaged.

"England, then, is quietly awaiting the action of our Government; and, in my humble opinion, the question of peace or war depends solely and exclusively upon the fact whether we do or do not give notice of the termination of the convention for joint occupancy. I know there are those who think differently, but they are very few in number; and nine-tenths of all who hold such language believe in their inmost souls that, if we give notice, war in inevitable. Mr. Adams, whose hatred of England is only surpassed by his malignity to the south, has recently declared in the most solemn manner that the contemplated notice is a peaceful measure, and that it cannot possibly produce war. And yet this same gentleman only one year ago as solemnly, and far more honestly, proclaimed to the House of Representatives, and through it to the people of the United States, that the giving of this notice was the exercise of the war power of the house, and that the house had a right to entertain it, because war could not be declared without its sanction, and that the giving of this notice was virtually a declaration of war: that, once given, war was inevitable! Beyond all question he was honest in the expression of this opinion last January; and, whatever he may now say to the contrary, in the hope of involving us in a war with England to punish the south, not a man in this city doubts but he is still of the same opinion.

"It is to be deeply regretted that one so distinguished should thus sacrifice even the appearance of a decent respect for truth to his hatred of England and the south but his friends point to his almost second childhood as an apology for such conduct. I wish I could in charity attribute his inconsistency and want of truth to this cause; but his reply to Mr. Rhett on Wednesday conclusively proves that his mind is too vigorous to have been so, it is best that the truth should be known in order that all may form their own conclusions from this state of things. I have no doubt myself, that if Mr. Paknham had forwarded to the British Government the correspondence up to and exclusive of the last letter from Mr. Buchanan, he would have been informed that his rejection of the offer made by our Government was premature, and that it should have been accepted. But when that rejection was followed by the withdrawal of the rejected proposition and the abrupt suspension of all negotiations, the British Government apparently arrived at the conclusion, that they had nothing more to do but to prepare for any and every contingency which might arise; and accordingly, they have observed the most studied and profound silence on the subject, while the whole energies of the nation have been devoted to preparations for war. Wellington truly said, that England could never again wage a 'little war;' and if war comes, it will be of a character far more serious than any in which she has heretofore been engaged.

"The passage of the resolution requiring the Executive to give notice of the termination of the convention of 1826 is not in itself an offensive act; and, had it been given pending negotiation last winter, very probably no injury would have resulted from it. But the whole aspect of affairs is no longer the same, and the circumstances under which the notice would be now given entirely change its pacific character. All negotiations have been abruptly suspended, and not only has our proposition for compromise been withdrawn, but the Executive in his annual message virtually apologizes for having made it. Under these circumstances, the President recommends a termination of the joint occupancy, accompanied with a declaration that we are entitled
to every inch of Oregon, and that at the expiration of the year's notice we are to take possession of and govern it as a part and parcel of the territory of the United States. In addition to this, the military committee, and prominent members of both houses, proclaim from their places that at the expiration of the notice of England is to be forcibly driven from Oregon.

"Most assuredly, all these circumstances take from the notice its peaceful character, and make it (as Mr. Adams once truly said) a war measure! No man in his senses--certainly no honest man, who is capable of reasoning upon the current events of the day and exercises his reason,--either does or can believe that the giving of the contemplated notice will not involve us in war. Many, doubtless, desire to think otherwise, and that they may do so, and have an excuse for their conduct, refuse to reason with themselves or any other person upon the subject; and it is only these, together with the fools who cannot reason, and the knaves who desire war to make money out of it, who are prepared to vote for the notice. True, there are in the House of Representatives men of both parties, so weak that.

"I ask of the honest, intelligent, and considerate members of both houses of Congress a carefully and calm consideration of this aspect of the question, and of the very decided advantages which this country platted notice. Beyond all manner of question, if we refuse to give such notice, England will be placed in a most awkward and embarrassing position, while our country will have a re-acquired that which slowly but most certainly, was securing to us all we desire. Every consideration, then, of patriotism and interest; every motive which can or should operate upon the minds of public men--of men representing alike the wishes, the feelings, and the interests of the people--of men presumed to be jealous of the honour of the nation--demands a prompt rejection of the resolutions before both houses of Congress. I say a prompt rejection of them, because we know not what intelligence the next arrival from Europe may bring us. Now we may act without fear of any, the slightest apprehension, of a misconception of the motives which guide us; but if we postpone action until after the arrival of further intelligence, it is by no means impossible that it may embarrass our actions. Our true course, then, is to act promptly; and to repudiate the ridiculous idea that England is averse to a war with the United States, or that such a war would be injurious to her interests.

"This is the great error of the age. Bullies imagine that England is not in a position to go to war with us, and therefore, resort to bullying; yet at no period in the last 100 years has a war been so necessary or desirable for her; at no previous period in her history has it been so universally demanded by her people; never before has she stood before the civilized world as the injured party; and never, since she was a nation, was she so thoroughly prepared, and so capable of bringing into action all her immense resources. War would add but little to her expenses; it would restore to her the China and South American markets for her manufactures, whence we have driven her; it would lessen her population, divert public attention, and revive a spirit of nationality, the deadening of which by 30 years of peace is threatening all those institutions upon which is based her monarchy.

She will not go to war with us unless she can secure to herself the sympathies of Europe; but give her these--and they are now with her--make her the injured party by threatening to drive her out of Oregon after 30 years of peaceable residence there--and she will bless the statesman who thus forces her into hostilities. But I repeat, there will be no notice; and consequently, no war.

"J.W.W."

Mexican accounts to the 8th of December, published in the American journals, contradict he reports formerly received, that Paredes had declared against the Government. The General, it is stated, had addressed a despatch to the Secretary of War, dated San Luis Potosi, November 26, in which he says that, having learned that Colonel Barragan had circulated reports of his intention to pronounce for a dictatorship, he had ordered Barragan to be arrested, and proceedings to be taken against him.

We further find it stated, that the Diario de Gobierno of the 3d of December publishes this dispatch with an editorial paragraph, affirming that all the reports imputing to General Paredes designs hostile to the Government are utterly without foundation.

Accounts from the British Guiana to the 16th of December, received in New York, possess no features of importance.

Our Canadian accounts are unimportant. The previous rumours of Cabinet dissensions had died away.

[AEK]

AMERICA
London Times: Liverpool, Feb. 3.

We have received important advices from New York, to the 18th ult. Inclusive, by the arrival of the packet-ship Yorkshire, Captain Bailey, after a fine run of 15 days.

These accounts are of a more satisfactory character than those published in The Times of this morning. The excitement created by the warlike tone of the discussion in the House of Representatives had in a great measure subsided, and apparently more moderate counsels prevailed. The Senate had refused to discuss the question of giving Great Britain notice with regard to the joint occupancy of the Oregon until the 10th of February; and in the Lower House the speeches delivered were less hostile in their character. As will be seen below, a bill of appropriation towards increasing the navy in both branches of the service had been received in
Tuesday, the 10th of February. The votes are as follows:--

Upon this vote the Washington correspondent of the New York Courier and Enquirer terminated the joint occupancy of the Oregon be made the special order for the 27th of January, Mr. Calhoun appropriating the sum of $11,190,000 for the addition to the United States navy. On a motion that the notice to terminate the joint occupancy of the Oregon be made the special order for the 27th of January, Mr. Calhoun and other senators urged further delay; and the question having been put to the vote, the order was delayed to Tuesday, the 10th of February. The votes are as follows:--


Nays.--Messrs. Allen, Ashley, Atchison, Atherton, Breese, Bright, Cameron, Cass, Dickinson, Dix, Fairfield, Hannegan, Jenness, Niles, Semple, Sevier, Sturgeon, Turney.--18.

Mr. Hannegan's resolutions, deprecating a compromise on the 49th parallel, were also postponed to the 10th of February. Upon this vote the Washington correspondent of the New York Courier and Enquirer remarks--

"This, though not clearly indicative of the course that Senate will take on the question of notice, shows that that body is determined to proceed with proper deliberation and with the benefit of all the information that time can give them. What the final action of the Senate will be on this question cannot now be said with certainty; a majority of that body is unquestionably in favour of a but pacific course, and it is probable that a measure will yet be devised con which they can unite, and which will satisfy the hour of the country while it shall maintain our rights to Oregon, and at the same time preserve the peace of the country."

The proceedings of the 13th were devoid of interest.

On the 14th Mr. Allen offered the following

"JOINT RESOLUTION.

"Resolved, &c.,--That recent manifestations of a disposition, by certain Powers of Europe, to interfere in the political arrangements of this continent, with a view to the enforcement of the European principle of 'the balance of power' upon the independent nations of America, having made it, in his judgment, the duty of the President of the United States to call the attention of congress to this subject in his annual message, and to announce, on the part of the United States, the counter-principle of non-intervention, it is the judgement of Congress that the announcement thus made by the President was demanded by the manifest hazard to which such interference would inevitably expose the relations of peace now subsisting between the old world and the new.

"Resolved. -- That Congress, thus concurring with the President, and sensible that this subject has been forced upon the attention of the United States by recent events, so significant as to make it impossible for this Government longer to remain silent without appearing ready to submit to, and even to invite, the enforcement of this dangerous doctrine, do hereby solemnly declare to the civilized world the unalterable resolution of the United States to adhere to and enforce the principle that nay effort of the Powers of Europe to intermeddle in the social organization or political arrangements of the independent nations of America, or further to extend the European system of Government upon this continent, by the establishment of new colonies, would be incompatible with the independent existence of the nation, and dangerous to the liberties of the people of America, and therefore would incur, as by the right of self preservation it would justify, the prompt resistance of the United States."

Some discussion ensued. Mr. Calhoun said--

These resolutions embraced a principle of action which called for the most solemn declarations on the part of the Senate. It afforded matter for consideration how far this resolution could be efficiently acted upon, if adopted. No man could view with stronger feelings of opposition all impertinent intervention of the Powers of Europe in the affairs of this continent than himself. And he would not take occasion to say, that the late extraordinary interference of Great Britain and France in the political domestic relations of Buenos Ayres was an outrage unprecedented in its character. But the great question here suggested was, were they now prepared to take this whole continent under their protection? Had they reached that state of maturity to admit of this wide and exclusive guardianship? Were they prepared to take all the consequences that must grow out of the assumption of such a policy as was there indicated? If they were determined to take the course indicated by the resolutions, if they were determined to take the course indicated by the resolution, if they indicated anything, they might as well at once call into action the whole energies of the country. They wanted time. Mr. Calhoun was of the firm opinion that at this moment the resolutions of the hon. Senator could have no good result--no good effect upon the nations of the world. The President had announced the principle--why not be
The Oregon discussion was resumed in the house on the 12th by Mr. Toombs:--

The subsequent proceedings of the Senate are devoid of interest.

be recommitted to the Committee on Territories.--The motion prevailed, and the house adjourned.

As a means of military defence, he would vote for appropriations to construct a railroad from the Missouri to the

giving the notice, and of the house taking the responsibility of giving it without transferring it to the President.

that giving the notice would not be a measure of war.  It was the duty of the Government to extend the

terminating the existing joint occupancy.--Mr. Hamlin argued that the democracy were the peace party, and

resolution authorizing the President to open negotiations with the Government of Great Britain, for mutually

it could peaceably be accomplished; but if all peaceful expedients should fail, he and the people he represented

himself as voting against no method of settling this question--he was in favour of any and every mode by which

prevent their not planting themselves upon the territory of Great Britain.  In voting for the notice he considered

Columbia.  The exact line of boundary between the two title he wished to be ascertained, and for that reason he

by her. He next considered the title by contiguity, which he considered as giving to the United States a title up

Lewis and Clarke, and the future settlement at Astoria--they had perfected their title to the whole region

that territory, by the discovery of the Columbia by Captain Gray, the discovery and exploration of its sources by

good to 54 40.   Their title by discovery was the only one by which they could claim to 54 40, and he knew of no

that this question should be now, in some manner, settled.  He did not consider the title of the United States

rather have war with honour than peace with dishonor.  He thought that time had arrived when the policy of

He did not think the question before the committee on of peace or war.   He deplored war but would

The notice of introduction was laid on the table by a vote of 28 to 23.  Mr. Crittenden then, on leave,

reported a preamble and resolution on the subject of the Oregon controversy. The preamble recapitulated

treaties and the inconvenience of the existing state of things; the resolution gave discretion to any time after

the expiration of the President to give the 12 months' notice, provided, however, that he should be limited in

that discretion to any time after the expiration of the present session of Congress.  After some remarks

between Mr. Calhoun and Mr.   Crittenden as to the order of this proceeding, Mr. Calhoun waved his objection;

the resolution was read, ordered to be printed, and made the special order for the 10th day of February, when

the whole subject would come up for discussion.

The subsequent proceedings of the Senate are devoid of interest.

He did not think the question before the committee on of peace or war.   He deplored war but would

Mr. Allen said that he had been apprehensive that even this proposition might be resisted in the senate,

but he had not supposed that the bare introduction of it would encounter opposition.  He would not now go into

a general examination of the resolutions, but would simply remark that the President, in his official message to

congress, had denounced the principle of foreign interposition in American political affairs, and without the

approval of congress, he would stand, in the eyes of the world, as taking a stand unsupported by the

concurrency of the balance of the Government.  Never, since the declaration of Mr. Monroe against foreign

interference in the domestic relations of this continent, had Mr. Allen heard the justice of the policy of this

position question, nor had known it to meet with opposition from any American mind.  Mr. Allen further

expatiated upon the propriety of Congress confirming this position of the President. He did not ask the

consideration of the resolution now; it would be referred, if received, to the Committee on Foreign Relations,

who would doubtless give it that serious reflection which the case required, and would report accordingly.

Mr. Calhoun inquired if the chairman on Foreign Relations had submitted the resolution on his own

individual responsibility?  (Mr. Allen replied in the affirmative.) Mr. Calhoun said that he considered that an

unprecedented proceeding, and entirely out of order.  He was not disposed now to rush forward into any

measure that would further entangle foreign relations.  If they were resolved upon this measure, they ought at

once to put forth the whole of their strength.  They ought to declare themselves military republic,  and that the

whole continent was under their especial protection.   Why did not the senator at once come forward with

specific resolution touching the affairs of Buenos Ayres?  It was the part of wisdom to look to wise ends from

wise means.  Mr. Calhoun positively objected to the reception of the resolutions, and called for the ayes and

noes.

The notice of introduction was laid on the table by a vote of 28 to 23.  Mr. Crittenden then, on leave,
On the 13th, Mr. C.J. Ingersoll submitted a resolution calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury for his plan of a Constitutional Treasury, as suggested in his report and in the message of the President, but being objected to it had to lie over.--Mr. Baker then submitted a resolution declaring it to be the sense of the house that the President of the United States has no right to offer to cede any portion of the territory of the United States, to which its title was clear and unquestionable, either by treaty or arbitration. The resolution was laid on the table. A resolution of inquiry was offered, whether any negotiations had taken place about Oregon since the President's message was delivered.

On the 14th, the policy of giving the notice under discussion to Great Britain was argued by Messrs. Staunton, Godon, Brinckerhoff, and Wentworth, and further continued on the following day by Mr. Cooke:--

He was not prepared to say that the British nation had no rights in Oregon; if he were to deny that she had, he would thereby cast reflections upon the eminent patriots and statesmen who at various times have offered to divide that territory with Great Britain on the 49th degree. He believed the giving of the notice was not within the competency of Congress, but was an executive function. It was not a question in which our honour was concerned, and he was in favour of settling it by negotiation; and, that failing by arbitration.

Mr. Bedinger believed their title to the whole of Oregon to be perfect, but it was their policy to remain quiet. He did not know that the would ever listen to a proposition from Great Britain to compromise the matter.--Mr. Morse was in favour of the notice, and did not believe that it would produce war.

The jealousy previously noted as being entertained in the Untied States as regards the Mormon emigrants to the borders of the Pacific, we find again started in the St. Louis Reporter. "It is quite time," says that journal--

"The United States Government had taken notice of the treasonable practices of these declared enemies of our country. There are now many respectable witnesses in St. Louis ready to make oath that, the twelve have held secret councils, in which they have concocted treasonable plans of hostility to the citizens and Government of the United States, and that they have numerous agents now among nearly all the Indian tribes, for the avowed purpose of embittering their minds against us and preparing them ultimately to join them in a war against us. Will the United States allow 200,000 of these bitter and irreconcilable foes to take possession of any portion of the Pacific coast that is now or may hereafter by purchase become ours? The President of the United States should be authorized by a law of Congress, if he has not now the authority, to issue his proclamation, forbidding them to settle on the United State' lands or to pre-empt them, and to inform them that they will not be allowed to remain on any lands that we may acquire hereafter, while these hostile views against us continue to be cherished and taught to their people. If war should ensue between this country and England about Oregon, there is little doubt that one of England's most efficient forces will be the Mormons. Will the country supinely permit this important item to be thrown in the scale against us in the settlement of our apprehended difficulties in that quarter? The writer believes, from information that has reached him, that treasonable correspondence might now be found in Nauvoo. At all events, there is sufficient evidence now in St. Louis to warrant the immediate arrest of the twelve, and to hold them to answer to the country for treason. The proper authorities can be furnished with the names and residences of witnesses for that purpose. If the twelve are arrested and tried for treason, more of a better stamp and more pacific views towards this country are likely to become leaders in their stead, and trouble with them, as well as emigration to California, might thereby be avoided. Let the country look to it in season."

In the fears thus expressed the New York Courier and Enquirer concurs.

Washington letters contain the rumour that despatches had been received by the Government from the United States' Minister at Mexico, Mr. Slidell, and that upon these several Cabinet meetings had been held. It is added, that no intelligence confirmatory of the reputed revolutionary movement of General Paredes had been received.

Mr. Parrott had been appointed Secretary to the Mexican Legation.

The celebrated corn law announcement of The Times had arrived out at New York by the packetship Oxford, on the 14th of January, and had created a great sensation. The Courier and Enquirer thus remarks:--

"There seems, indeed, to be no good reason to doubt the announcement of The Times, and none appears to be entertained. Assuming that it is substantially correct, the intelligence is of the utmost commercial moment, and the effect which it must necessarily produce in the United States can hardly be overrated. It is proper for us to state, at the same time, that the London Standard, understood to be the Ministerial organ, gives an apparently flat and emphatic contradiction to all the asseverations of The Times on this subject, but The Times reiterates them with an increased boldness, and submits its own statements to the decision of the country, exultingly remarking that a very short time will show which of the two journals (the Standard or itself) is most entitled credit.

"We do not see anything in the London papers to change the view we have expressed, or to shake our confidence in the important statements of that paper, for we do not see that they materially invalidate the substance of The Times article."
We learn from Indiana that bills, providing for the adjustment of the public debt of the state, had been introduced into both branches of the State Legislature from the Joint Committee appointed to consider the subject. The bills, it is stated, appeared to be formed on the plan suggested by Mr. Butler, the agent of the bondholders.

The New Orleans journals censure the recent proposition advanced to Congress by Senator Levy for the annexation of Cuba.

The New York Legislature was discussing the anti-rent question.

Canadian accounts are interesting. The journals were very generally occupied in discussing, with patriotic warmth, the doubtful state of our relations with the United States. To the "patriotism" of the two races of settlers, the Albany correspondent of the New York Courier and Enquirer bears the following testimony:

"I have to-day seen a letter from a reliable an well-informed source in Canada West, and it alludes to the sentiments and feelings of the population there in reference to the question of war with this country. They are, the letter states, united firmly and warmly in loyalty to the Government, and the French part of the population especially have become convinced of the friendship of the present Government towards them, and they hold the same loyal language as their English fellow-citizens. There seemed to be a general expectation in the Canadas that war would come, and the population generally would be prepared for such an event."

The Canadian journals are also urging upon the Government the necessity of providing for a more efficient drilling of the militia, should any difficulty ensue from the Oregon question. New fortifications were about being erected at Kingston, and the Montreal Courier states, that--

"A board of officers of high rank has been sitting for some time in this city to consider the steps to be taken for the defence of the colony; and another board is engaged for the inspection of the military stores." [AEK]

LT London Times: February 9, 1846

From the Madrid Eco del Comercio

An article in The times, of London, written in view of the preponderance of the United States of America, and the weakness to which Mexico is reduced by her internal revolutions, appears to us a very remarkable one. The London journal—a journal of sound doctrines of government, and the most influential in the politics of that country—deplores the condition at which affairs have arrived in America, and laments because the emancipation of the ancient Spanish colonies has entailed an evil upon Europe. We have at sundry times turned our attention to this question, and some years ago we embodied our views in political pamphlet. If Europe contributed in no small degree to promote and assist the insurrection of the Spanish colonies, she did not perceive that she suicidally sacrificed her political influence in an equal ratio, even if she gained in her mercantile and industrial enterprises. It is not easy to combine everything at once. For the manufacturing interests of England, the rapid progress of the North American Union has been useful, and the emancipation of those states has been more profitable to Great Britain than if they had been maintained as an English colony. Under colonial domination, and subject to the mother-country, the states of the Union would not have attained the rank of a first-rate power; their population would no doubt not have increased in a greater proportion than has been observed in those parts for 50 years; and for a corroboration of this truth it is only necessary to turn our eyes to the English colonies in those regions.

England finds in the markets of the United States of America the principal outlet for her commerce and manufactures; and without doubt, the amount of the value of her exportations may be placed as the first and greatest of the commercial balance between the other nation of the world.

If, in this part, she gained in wealth, she lost in power, and from her colonies arose a colossal flag which at present curbs and restrains her.

Political economists will be able to calculate the exact value of this difference.

We have adduced this example in order to prove that the Machiavellism of foreigners, although the Spaniards contended with the great captain of the age; has been fatal to us. Instead of assisting us, and being grateful for and compensating our sacrifices, they contributed to the emancipation of our colonies; and as there was no Washington in them, neither were they customs of our colonists like those of Philadelphia, they have been torn for the last 30 years by civil discord, the fruits of which the United Stated and Brazil will gather in course of time. Behold here the grand error of European Governments, and principally that of England, which had the greatest interest in the non-separation of those countries from Spain.

This is acknowledged by The Times, and this illustrious journal would now desire to see a monarchy erected in Mexico, which would serve a centre and basis of peace, in order that, under its shadow, the wars
between the republics of that extensive territory might cease; and with this motive our contemporary, after some luminous reflections, says,--

"As far as Spain herself is concerned, such an enterprise would not be unworthy of a the man* whose military success and whose resolute character have already restored so much of the lustre of the Spanish monarchy. A Prince of the House of Spain, bringing with him a force capable of restoring order to the country, and the guarantees of a constitutional Government for the protection of its liberties, would be hailed with enthusiasm by a considerable number of Mexicans, and would confer immense benefits on that people, re-establishing its relations with the maritime and constitutional Powers of Europe. Amongst the cognate suitors (relations) of Queen Isabella, it would not be difficult to point out the individual best fitted for such an enterprise, by his personal qualities and his liberal sentiments. And even if the United States should attempt to interfere in this question in a manner for which there is not the least justification, they would not certainly be able to oppose the political march of the united Powers of Europe, when their sole object would be to preserve a national Government in New Spain, and to repair the disastrous effects of abortive revolutions upon the provinces which were once incorporated with the Spanish crown."

We approve the idea of our English contemporary; but a few amendments suggest themselves to our minds.

If the Mexicans, for example, looking to their interests, should say spontaneously--"We wish to be transformed into a constitutional monarchy; and without wars, without disasters, without opposition, we accept a Spanish prince, in the same way that the Swedes, the Belgians, and the Greeks accepted foreign princes, who must have entertained less sympathy with them than he whom we adopt,"--we at once agree that this declaration would be a blessing to Spaniards, to both the Americans, to Europe, and especially to England. But does our esteemed contemporary believe that Spain could oppose any force, if the slightest opposition were offered? Does it imagine that the United States would not use those forces which are being organized diplomatically, and without ostentation for the purpose of impeding the creation of a monarchy which might be extended to the Pacific, which might annex the Californias, and oppose, farther on, its rights in the Oregon? Would it not also secretly influence, in opposition to our idea, the ponderous sceptre which rules in South America? What will France say to this? Without an European league we deem the proposal of The Times impossible. Will this be possible without promoting a maritime war? Will Europe wish to undertake one? This is a question of much interest, and we leave to our contemporary the right of solving it with the masterly skill which we acknowledge it to possess.

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We are very willing that our American correspondent "A 'States' man" should put the finishing stroke to the diplomatic reputation of Mr. King, the American Minister in Paris, and to the little controversy in which we happen to have found ourselves engaged with reference to that person. Our correspondent assures us, and he doubtless speaks from competent authority, that Mr. King "attached no signification at all in writing" to the words which he was transmitting to Washington. Whatever M. Guizot may have said, and whatever Mr. Calhoun may have thought, Mr. King neither said nor thought anything; and, with this assurance on the part of his champion, we take leave of him.

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I expected by this packet to describe a revolution ended; but I cannot do more than announce a revolution commenced, the result of which, in the opinion of many, is all in favour of the General who has the courage to undertake a radical change in this ill-governed country. I informed you by the December steamer that General Paredes had pronounced, in San Luis Potosi, against the present Administration. The fact was communicated by express at the moment of the departure of the British courier for Vera Cruz. Since that period to the middle of the present month the further intentions of Paredes were involved in mystery, as he made no forward military step, with the exception of advancing his cavalry four days' march on the road to the capital, and it was understood that the heads of the church had induced him to remain inactive. However, the post of the 15th from San Luis put an end to all uncertainty, as it brought us the formal pronunciamiento of all the officers of his division, and the actual manifesto of Paredes himself. The former of these documents I subjoin, and the latter I incorporate in my correspondence, as it gives a true and well drawn picture of the unfortunate situation of this country, and explains at full length the motives that induced the General, who a twelvemonth since set up the present Government by banishing Santa Anna, not to work its destruction.

Paredes in one sense is right, for certainly the system pursued by the actual Administration must have reduced the republic in the course of a few years to the lowest stage of misery; but who has constituted Paredes an umpire in the case, and what principle gives him authority to build up and know down Governments at his pleasure? The nation at large has given him no such mission, and the representatives of the nation in Congress are openly opposed to his designs. His conduct is prima facie unconstitutional; but still such are the crying
evils of the ruling system--so degraded is the country by former corruption and present weakness--that many thinking men accept the pronunciamento as a great good, believing that Paredes, as an honest and intrepid man, will, if he succeeds, root out the cause of all these evils.

There is only one fear mixed up with these favourable anticipation, and that is the dread that Paredes is but the creature of the Santa Anna Party, and that the support he now receives proceeds from those who are determined to have back that notorious character. I know not how far this apprehension be true, as Mexican intrigue is too profound for our own common-sense examination; but the fact is patent, that the heads of the conspiracy in the metropolis are Santa-Anistas. It is possible, at the same time, that Paredes may be using them, as they imagine they are cajoling him; and from all I hear of the sound headstrong resolution and honesty of Paredes I do not think it possible that he is working for such an end. Santa Anna at one time might have been saviour of his country. He had popularity, prestige, and means of success in his hands; but he lost all these by selfish and avaricious proceedings, and his return to power would be looked on by all classes as the treaties affliction that could befal the nation. More over, Paredes and the heads of the church, with whom he is identified, have, it is said, conceived a project for constitution Mexico into a monarchy, and seeking a sovereign from one of the roman Catholic Royal families of Europe. Their great difficulty is to fix from what race the monarch is to come. There are objections to Carlstein and Christino, so far as Spain is concerned; and Austria and Bavaria offer no advantages; and Naples has no strength beyond her territory. France, to be sure, has scions of Royal race, but the French are radically unpopular in Mexico, and how would Great Britain like this extension of Bourbon influence and power? these speculations are uppermost in the minds of several families of wealth, who admit that republican institutions are totally unfitted for the country, and I should hope that Paredes's personal views have amore a tendency that way than in favour of Santa Anna.

With this introduction I give the manifesto of Paredes before I proceed to narrate the various circumstances that have followed his pronunciamento:

"To the Mexican Nation.

"In undertaking the duty which the general voice of the army and the will of the people confide to me, my first care is to address the nation. A soldier of the country, elevated higher than my merits deserve, I owe to it a so solemn a moment an account of my conduct, plans and intentions.

"it is now 24 years since Mexico appeared before the world as an independent and sovereign nation. The army of the three guarantees then occupied the capital, and all Mexicans hailed with enthusiasm the promise of happiness which presented itself. The independence of the nation was then an irrevocable fact; the long and sanguinary contest of independence, ending by a fusion of all parties by the constancy, valour, and patriotism of the heroes of Iguala, destroyed the hopes of those bands who had opposes its progress, and general confidence and public satisfaction anticipated many and long years of peace to our beloved country.

"The state of the Administration justified these hopes. The tact, moderation, and prudence of the leaders of 1821 had conquered our independence in an honourable manner; and by casting an eye on our interior position, we shall see what was the brilliant inheritance they received form our former masters. The revenue was sufficient, without pressing heavily on the country, to maintain the State in all its proper splendour, as well as the magistracy and the many charges on its vast administration, to assist the defective colonies of the Philippine Islands, and to give a considerable surplus to the peninsula. The tribunals were models of integrity, and the Mexican army--that army which made the independence--was numerous, warlike, and well disciplined.

"Then, indeed, we possessed all the elements of a great nation, and in the first years q four independence the entire world believed that we were about to establish on the new continen a strong and powerful empire. The fetters of monopoly being removed, our commerce acquired importance and our agriculture consideration, and both sent to European markets productions till then unknown from the Mexican soil. Mines recovered their former splendour, and from all parts of the globe foreign capitalists hastened to give life and movement to our national industry. All American nations acknowledged our independence, some European monarchies followed their example, and we confidently hoped that all the States of both continents would speedily establish with us relations of mutual interest and reciprocal alliance.

"Nothing was wanted to justify our hopes. We had a prosperous revenue, greater than our wants, a vigorous and skilful administration, a numerous and valiant army, a laborious and obedient people, the support of the sympathy of the civilized world, and the more fully to develop the elements of prosperity given to us by Providence, we had a perfect union of all parties, public confidence, the benefits of independence, and the hopes of liberty.

"The actual state of the country will show how far these expectations have been realized and these promises fulfilled. Selfish parties, without patriotism, without faith, have followed in command, to tyrannize over and ruin the republic. Civil discord exhausted its rage; confusion entered into society. We have spent 23 years in trying every species of system and that time has been marked by continual revolutions. What fruit have these revolutions yielded? The slightest glance at our condition will show how the action has been insulted and humiliated by foreign arms or policy. The weak and thoughtless Governments that have succeeded each other have allowed Texas to be separated from the national territory: and now to conquer that rebellious department, we have to engage in war with a powerful state. Our relations with other countries are not satisfactory, and our neighbors say, and the statesmen and journals of Europe maintain, that the stars of North
American shall rule over all Mexican lands, and reach the Isthmus of Panama. Such is the opinion formed by the civilized world or our division, weakness, and misery.

"If we look at what is going on in the interior, we only see chaos and anarchy. Texas is separated from the national union; the rebels of other department, speculating on the impotence of the Government, openly preach insurrection; and the Executive, ruled by party, and occupied solely by its miserable quarrels, abandons to the sanguinary incursions of savages all our frontier departments. The impoverished army is unequal to watch over the interior security and protect us from foreign war. Its patience and constancy are beyond all praise; but the soldier is naked and without food, and the military administration in the most lamentable disorder. The revenue, which in former times exceeded all demands of the State, has been frittered away by tricks and quackery. The old servants of the republic, the magistrates and the army, are in miser; while in Mexico, and in some departments, the corrupt amass colossal fortunes. Our finance is bankrupt at home and abroad; we are devoured by a debt which daily increases, and which must one day swallow up all the property of the nation. The revenues are pledged to our creditors, and the Government is seen begging from hour to hour, at exorbitant usury, the common expenses of the garrison of the capital. The balance of justice ahf been perverted in the hands of faction, and recently we have seen a solemn tribunal consecrate the impunity of sedition. Our agriculture fails for want of protection and security, and that commerce which at one period fertilized the whole country is daily abandoning our coasts.

"This wretched picture is unhappily not overcharged. It is the faithful image of that which all thinking men believe and lament. Let us compare what we are and what we were 24 years ago, and our true situation will be understood. In vain hope of improving our position daily revolutions have been got up, but these, made from personal motives, have not touched the true source of evil. Congresses and Presidents are hourly changed, but the sore has been touched; and the same scandals, and the same abuses, still consume the substance of the land.

"No movement could be more popular than that of last December. The nation rose en masse to put down a disgraceful dictatorship. But has our situation been improved? Have the evils been remedied? The Democratic party sought to fit to destroy the power of the General Santa Anna; but, not satisfied with the concession since made to it by the Government, it has preached war merely to arm its adherents, trying, at the same time, by all means in its power to lower the spirit and character of the army. Concealing beneath the pretence of a stupid federation, its well known plans of vengeance, and its instincts of revenge, this party seeks to ruin a country with which it has no common interest, and for which it feels no attachment. It has paralyzed the Government, which, either afraid or lazy, has yielded to its concession on concession. It has worked by defamation and calumny, and now, having weakened the Executive by the most treacherous means, it organizes a force for the purpose of once more imposing its shackles on the nation.

"The army, however, is determined to save the country, and terminate at once the precarious and dangerous state in which the nation has for some time been. I, who had the honour of fighting for the independence of the nation—i, who had the glory of fist raising in Salisco the standard of revolt against an odious tyranny—feel bound to secure for the people the due results of that national movement. Mexico has not risen against the despotism of a soldier to sink under the tyranny of demagogues. If such were not my proper conviction, it would have been forced on me by the prayers that have been addressed on all sides, by the entreaties I have received, the common accord of the army, and by the wailings and fears of the whole people.

"In marching on the capital to crown the great work in trusted to my care I declare, in the most solemn manner, in face of the nation, that we do not seek a revolution of persons only; we look for one more great, complete, and productive. We think not of usurping a presidency or of changing a Congress. We have in view the calling together a whole nation, in order that, undisturbed by faction, it may use its sovereign will, and erect a barrier against that ruining by which it is threatened. We prevent the supreme power falling into the hands of rebels, lest as we have often seen, the country should again be scandalized by outrage. Our object is to restore to the productive classes their long lost influence, and to give to wealth, to industry, and labour the share due to them in all good social government. The nation, wearied by useless changes and barren revolution, will hail, after its long fatigues, the promise of order and stability. For this I have resolved—for this have the army resolved—to undertake a new revolution, determined that it shall be the last, and that the country under the shade of peace shall develop the elements of our wealth.

"I do not aspire to personal power or distinction. I seek not that dictatorship which has hitherto served to foment ruin and destruction. On this head my opinions are well known; I have proved them more than once in my difficult career. The stain of corruption or of party has never fallen on my character. My ambition is of a higher order. I despise political intrigues and irresponsible authority, but I aim at effecting a solid, a great and lasting change.

"These are not the hypocritical protestations with which ambition covers its design. The moment the army enters Mexico a national assembly shall be convoked, invested with the fullest power, and without limit to its sovereign will. This convention shall, at the very instant of this installation be invested with sovereign body. Its sole mission shall be to constitute the nation in a solemn and efficient manner; and from the moment of its meeting no other power shall exist in the country but such as may emanate from it.

"Satisfied, then, with the approval of my conscience, convinced of having performed my duty, I will retire into private life, or ask leave to march to the frontier as a private soldier to fight against the usurpers of our country and the enemies of our independence and prosperity."
This manifesto, immediately on its arrival in Mexico, was communicated by Government to the Chambers, and I must say to the credit of both houses, it was received in the most spirited term of open defiance. Several members in the lower house denounced Paredes as a violator of the constitution, as a military despot, as an usurper and a tyrant, and all without exception agreed to give the ministry the powers it might demand, to raise troops and levy money to resist his pronunciamento. The extra senate was held at night, and a little circumstance occurred which threw some doubt on the vigour andsteadiness of that patriotic body. An alarm of a rising of the garrison having been spread, all the senators cut short the subject under discussion, scampered away like frightened hares, and left the Government to take care of itself. Fortunately the alarm was unfounded, and the august body had the honour, on the following day, of confirmiting by its votes the plenary powers conceded by the deputies. These good dispositions were encouraged by every account that came in from the several departments which the news of Paredes's movements had arrived. All declared in favor of the Government, and offered men and money to support the President. Unfortunately these were moral, not physical demonstrations, as none of their departments possessed any armed troops, and the vain promises came from corporate bodies, whose downfall would be sealed by the triumph of Paredes. To understand this, you must be informed that one of the first acts of the Government after the fall of Santa Anna, was to return to the departments the collection and control of their local revenues. This unwise measure has been one of the principal causes of the poverty of the treasury for the last six months. But it is sufficient to show that the departments have a strong interest in supporting the present system, and every reason to dread the presence of Paredes, whose ideas are all for central government, and the determined enemy of that minor species of federation established by the concessions of Herrera.

The inhabitants of the city of Mexico, as far as their opinion could be collected, also exhibited a strong distaste for the extraordinary conduct of Paredes. They declared that his plan was subversive of all order—that he offered the country no guarantees—that whatever the faults of the present Government might be, it was strictly legal and constitutional, and that public liberty was sager in its hands than it would be under the rule of military despotism. Satisfied by the vote of the Chambers, and the expression of general sympathy, the President and Minister determined to stand their ground; and General Herrera opened the campaign by the publication of the following address to the nation:—

"Fellow countrymen.—The division of reserve failing in the sacred duty it had undertaken of defending the integrity of our territory, has, after avoiding the presence of the enemy, turned its arm against the Government to which it owed obedience, and the General-in-Chief of that division, who, under various pretexts, had constantly refused to move against the usurper of Texas, is now marching on the capital.

"The same General in Penasco corrupted the good faith of an army anxious to fight the battle of its country. He then abused the credulity of a Government unconscious of the existence of treachery like his, and then, under the cloak of judicial forms, he contrived to save from punishment the partners in his criminal acts.

"A plan ill-conceived, false, and perfidious, which omits to state by whom the Congress it invokes is to be called together, which under the name of liberty disguises slavery, is the plan now offered to you by a general whose monarchial and despotic tendencies are well known—by a general author of the monstrous plans of Jalisco, and the chief actor of Tacabaya.

"Mexicans, is he who seeks to restore the position of the country to the same state that existed at the epoch of our independence—is he who regrets that Mexico formed a free republic out of the ruin of a powerful empire, the man to proclaim sound republican principles, and to establish a system consonant to the warmest wishes of your hearts? Consider that his vain and confused plan offers no guarantees and that marching, as he was ordered, to the field of battle, deceived both his Government and the army he commands. Is this the man to lead you to the Texan frontier? He who under so many false pretexts refused to send assistance to the brave and suffering fourth division.

"The good sense of the nation, the love of liberty, and of republican institutions the loyalty of the army and the firmness of the authorities, will cement a barrier against one who seeks once more to involve hi country in revolution. The ministry of the 6th of December of last year, called on the nation, throws itself into the arms of the people, determined to follow its sovereign will whatever course events may take.

"But persuaded that several persons who follow the standard of rebellion are led astray by error and ignorance, the Government commences by offering pardon to all who recognize their faults and return to their duty, as servants of the republic and defenders of the laws.

"Fellow-citizens—Your liberties are at stake; hasten to assist me in defending them, as I swore to do on the 16th of September last. With your aid we shall be invincible.

"Your compatriot.

"JOSE JOAQUIN DE HERRERA"
The Senate, the Chamber of Deputies, the Corporation, the Garrison, and, in short, all public bodies in the metropolis, followed the President's example, and all the walls were placarded with volumes of patriotism. I will not fatigue you with translations of the manifestos, as they are all set to the same tune, breathing defiance to Paredes, and calling on the people to unite for the preservation of the Constitution. The Congress voted extraordinary powers to the Government of the space of six months—the Civicos or National Guard were called out—the city declared in a state of siege—all men between the ages of 16 and 60 compelled to take arms, and fines of 100 dollars each inflicted on those who refused to answer the appeal. Barricades were erected at the entrances to the town, roads cut up to prevent the approach of artillery, and, in short, all due preparations were made to give Paredes a warm reception. The Government went even the length of issuing warrants of arrest against suspected person, and a few gentlemen of known respectability were put into close confinement.

These measures were approved, with the exception of the army of the Civicos, as every person recollects the sue made by such patriots of their power in the pronunciamento of 1828. On that occasion they sacked the city, plundered all shops and stores, and sold their plunder in the open market under the protection of the successful faction. The citizens are naturally apprehensive of a repetition of the same scenes, though greater care is now said to be used in the selection of the Leperos to whom these dangerous services are to be entrusted. Indeed, so much alarm did the organization of the Leperos inspire, that Mr. Bankhead, the British Minister, addressed a note to M. Pena y Pena, stating "that as he understood the Government was arming the populace of Mexico for the purpose of opposing General Paredes, who, with a large portion of the army, had pronounced against the existing order of things, he, in conformity to the treaty of 1826, thought of to notify that, in the event of collision taking place between the troops and the populace, he would hold the Government responsible for injury that might arise to the persons or property of British subjects." This menace, however, had no effect, and not only did the arming of the Leperos continue, by M. Pena y Pena answered Mr. Bankhead in a decided tone, stating "that the Mexican Government was arming the people in defence of the laws and constitution, for the purpose of protecting the lives and properties of foreigners as well as natives, against the insurgents; and that as foreigners incurred no further risk than the natives did, they Government could not hold itself responsible for any accidental injury arising to them during the present contest."

The next step taken by the Presidents is to name General Bustamente, a former president, and who lately returned from a long exile in France, as commander-in-chief and to make temporary arrangements with some of the Mexicans capitalists to obtain temporary supplies. Excellent terms were offered to foreign bankers, but so little reliance do strangers place on any established order of things here, that none yielded to the temptation.

In the mean time, the usual festivities preceding Christmas went on among the great body of citizens—the theatres were attended as usual, and balls and parties were given every night. The streets were perfectly quiet, no agitation of any kind, save that of amusement was visible, and no one could suppose that a revolution was at hand. The support of the different departments, given freely to the Government; no doubt aided in tranquilizing the public mind and as the garrison, consisting of 3,000 men, apparently remained true, and as 2,000 men more were expected from Puebla, it was supposed that Government would put down the insurrection. This confidence was increased by the failure of an attempt made by General Ampudia to ensnare a part of the garrison into a pronunciamento. This officer, who has been for some time concealed in the city, suddenly appeared a few nights since at the barracks of one of the regiments, and stating that he was sent by Bustamente to conduct them to the citadel, got the men under arms, and was marching to the place where the pronunciamento was to be made. Fortunately for the Government, Ampudia fell in with the officer of the night, attended by a strong escort, and he and his partisans taking flight, ran away leaving the men who were passive instruments to be reconnected to their quarters. The hopes of the people were likewise supported by the tardiness of Paredes operations, who, though he had pronounced on the 15th, within 120 leagues of Mexico, was not heard of in the vicinity of the capital at the close of the month. It was said that he and the committee in Mexico had disagreed, and it was even hoped that as so many departments pronounced against him, he would see the propriety of abandoning the enterprise.

This favourable state of things continued up to Friday evening last, when the confidence of the Government was shaken by a courier from Vera Cruz, announcing that the garrisons of that important place, and of the citadel, of San Juan de Ulloa, and the crews of the flotilla in the harbour, had all pronounced in favour of Paredes and that they had been joined by the small garrison of Jalapa. It was at the same time made known that Paredes and his division had arrived at Tala, but one day's ride from Mexico. So that between the loss of Vera Cruz and the absolute approach of the insurgents, the friends of the Government began to be disheartened, and the wavers threatened to change sides. News, at the same time, came in from several of the departments where the municipalities were supporting the Government, that the people refused to answer the appeal, and it was still further stated that the inhabitants of Pueblo to whom the President particularly looked for assistance, where getting up a pronunciamento of their own, both against him and Paredes, and in favour of federation. These adverse symptoms did not, however, prevent the Chamber of Deputies doing its duty. All the forms for installing the new Congress, which is to commence its labors on the 1st of January, were complied with, and the Congress resolved to continue its sessions until that day. The Government likewise sent off doers to suspend the march to Tampico and Mexico, lest British dollars should fall in the way of Paredes, and the temptation be too great for him or his division.

The Chambers passes a law authorizing the Government to sanction the contracts made with Santa Anna about which so much noise has lately been heard, and a sum of money was obtained from the Mint Companies and other persons interested in these affairs, which afforded a seasonable supply. On Sunday the bold step was taken of confining the archbishop with a guard of surveillance to his palace at Tacabaya, half a
In the meantime Paredes kept steadily advancing, and he and his vanguard arrived yesterday at a farm called the Lecheria, about three leagues from Mexico. We presume he will remain there until the whole of this division comes up, and consequently we calculate on his division comes up, and consequently we calculate on his opening a fire on the city on Wednesday or Thursday, unless a pronunciamiento should take place in the interim by the garrison, when, of course, resistance by the Government would be totally useless. The Government and the people are equally apprehensive of this event, and I find that the theaters are ordered to be closed, the convent and church bells silenced, and the shops are half shut, as in time of public mourning.

The division of Paredes consists, I am told, of 5,000 foot, 2,000 cavalry, and 32 pieces of artillery. The men are the best disciplined in the Mexican army, and the artillery are highly spoken of. The Government have, in the city of Mexico, about 3,000 regular troops and 2,000 Leperos, or Civicos, as they call the scum of the people in whose hands they have placed arms.

The places that have, by their civil authorities, pronounced for the Government, are--Pueblo, Guanazato, Jalapa, Guadalaxara, and Vera Cruz. The officers who remain faithful to the Government are General Rincon, at Vera Cruz; Inclan, at Peubes; Gaona, at Perote; Arista, on the Texan frontier; and Romas, at Guanaxato.

The principal persons arrested are Senores Lombardo, Under Secretary of State to Santa Anna; Villamil, private secretary; and Sierra y Rosas, agent of the same.

The persons suspected of connection with Paredes, but against whom no steps have been taken, are General Almonte, late Minister to the United States; General Tornell, and Senores Alaman and Canera, bankers and manufacturers.

It is very strange, how the Government finds money, but its payment for the last nine days are unprecedentedly regular. The daily expense of this state of siege are 9,000 dollars, all of which are paid with unexampled punctuality. Paredes's expenses amount to 7,000 dollars a-day, and he pays his troops with the same punctuality.

At the moment of closing my dispatches for the courier of the British Legation going to Vera Cruz, I find that the revolution is nearly accomplished. The citadel pronounced last night for Paredes. The troops in the convent of San Paulo followed that example. The rest of the garrison has given in this morning, save the 4th Foot and the one regiment of Cuirassiers, and they remain on duty at the Palace, not for the purpose of opposing the insurgents, but to guard the persons of the President and Ministers from injury. General Valencia, who has taken the command of the Pronunciados in the citadel, has offered to negotiate between the Government and Paredes. He proposes that a Junta, consisting of two members of the Supreme Court of Justice, six senators, and six deputies, elected by their respective Chambers should be named to appoint a President, and that the present organize bases should be respected. If the Government accede to their propositions they will be submitted to Paredes; but I do not believe that Paredes will accept them, or have anything to do with the Chambers as at present elected. Not a shot has been fired--the city is perfectly quiet--and the people pass more freely in the streets than they did yesterday. The alarm of a conflict has subsided in a great measure; but the Civicos have still muskets in hands; and until those gentry are disarmed, I do not consider the peace of the city assured.

Paredes will probably enter to-day or to-morrow. He has accomplished a bloodless, though illegal revolution. He has a noble field opened before him; for a man of honesty and intellect, with supreme power, would soon make this country one of the most flourishing in the world.

I have already informed you that the new American Minister, Mr. Slidell, arrived here about a fortnight since and a second letter would have communicated the fact that the Mexican Government refuse to acknowledge him, on the ground that they consented to receive a Minister ad hoc to regulate the affairs of Texas, and not an evenly accredited for general purposes. This decision has given much umbrage to Mr. Slidell, who has determined to leave Mexico for Jalapa, and there await the orders of his Government, and it will, most probably, give still greater offence to the Cabinet of Washington, and produce the rupture, with seeming right at its side, which it is desirous to bring on. We even think here, that it will be converted into a casus belli, or at least, into a greater offence to the Cabinet of Washington, and produce that rupture, with seeming right at its side, which it is desirous to bring on.

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THE FOLLOWING IS THE MANIFESTO OF THE AMRY ADDRESSED TO GENERAL PAREDES.

"In the city of San Luis Potosí, on the 14th December 1845, being assembled at the request of the general commanding this department, Don Manuel Romero, the undersigned general chiefs and officers of the army of reserve, as well as of the garrison, the beforesaid general stated to them that although, in every well constituted nation, the mission of the armed force was no other than that of sustaining the institutions and the authority derived from them, our country, by a series of misfortunes, had failed to attain the social perfection for which so many sacrifices had been made by the soundly thinking portion of the state; and as the national movement of last year produced no better results than the establishment of an administration, which commencing its existence at the auspicious moment when party spirit had disappeared, and supported by the votes and hopes of all, frustrated those expectations by an inconceivable blindness, conduction the republic to the border of a precipice, from which it cannot be saved by those who pretend to establish the most ridiculous theories as axioms for our internal policy, evading a just and necessary war by concessions which stain our dignity and destroy the only barrier capable of opposing the ambitious pretensions of a nation equally powerful and treacherous, proposing a law of unexampled atrocity, having for its object to arm, and thereby let loose, the mob, composed of men destitute of morality, and devoid of interest in the peace and prosperity of society--endeavoring, by various artifices, to get rid of the army, whose existence was opposed to the views of a Government that destroyed its means of support--disregarding the repeated applications of the same army to march and expel from our territory the invading enemy--permitting, at the same time, the Ministerial press to calumniate the troops for a state of inaction which they were the first to lament, while admitting a commissioner with whom they were to submit to an ignominious loss of part of our territory; and finally provoking the most disastrous anarchy, exciting different factions, and attempting to carry on a Government without revenue, without force, or the support of public opinion; and the said general having further stated that these evils require a prompt and efficient remedy, which cannot be expeditious from those who, attaining power under happy circumstances, behave led the nation to this present state of chaos; who, by their own confession, have no remedy to propose; and who have lost the respectability so essential to every government, when a plenipotentiary of the United States is actually resident in the capital, being there with the consent of the present Cabinet, to purchase our independence and nationality; and finally, the said general and the whole army, considering themselves in the same position as they were in 1821, when, sustaining public opinion, they effected the independence at present endangered; and having no doubt either of the nature of the evils referred to, or on the national opinion respecting the proper remedy, as manifested by the press as well as by repeated solicitations from respectable and influential men of all parties, the said general proposes for the consideration of the meeting the following resolutions:

"1. The army sustains the protest which the nation makes against all future acts of the present administration, and which acts from this day are null and void.

"2. As neither the actual Chambers, or executive power can continue in the exercise of their functions--their functions now cease.

"3. Immediately on the occupation of the capital by the army, an extraordinary Congress shall be convoked, with ample powers to constitute the nation, and free it from all restrictions in its august functions.

"4. In the formation of this Congress, the representation of all classes of society shall be combined.

"5. Immediately on its installation, and on entering on the exercises of its high functions, the said Congress will establish an executive power, and no authority whatever can exist without its sovereign sanction.

"6. In the Departments the existing authorities shall be continued, until replaced by those appointed by the National Congress.

"7. The army names for its chief in this political movement the Most Excellent General of Division Don Mariana Paredes y Arrillegara, who shall be invited for that purpose by a commission appointed from this meeting, the meeting remaining in session until his answer be received.

"8. Another commission shall be appointed to invite the governor and assembly of this department to adhere to these resolutions.

"9. The army protests in the most solemn manner that in no case will it purpose the personal elevation of the chief it has elected.

"10. In like manner the army declares that it will punish severely all shot who with arms oppose the present plan.

"(Signed by 300 officers of the division of Paredes.)"
FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

SAN JUAN DE LOS LAGOS, DEC. 18, 1845.

I have just closed the business that brought me to the fair of San Juan de los Lagos, and write you these lines in the hope that a few particulars may be of some interest to you.

The village of San Juan is situated in a small valley, in the state of Jalisco (or Guadalaxara), and the fair annually held there in commemoration of the feast of "La Purissima," on the 8th of December, has risen into great importance as a general mart for all the northern departments of the republic, for all kinds of produce and manufactures, as well foreign as domestic. There was an unusually large concourse of people upon the present occasion, and I think that from 100,000 to 150,000 would not be an over-estimate of the number of souls crowded together into this small spot. All the principal foreign houses of Mexico, Tampico, Guanaxuato, Zacatecas, and Guadalaxara, were represented in the fair, and the value of the foreign goods brought here for sale must have exceeded a million sterling, although it is impossible to make the calculation with any great accuracy. The competition amongst the foreign merchants was likewise greater than usual; and this may be accounted for by their anxiety to get rid of their stocks before the new tariff comes into operation.

There was a new feature in the fair this year, to which I beg to call you particular attention, as it cannot fail to be of interest to those who, like yourself, are watching with a jealous eye the perpetual encroachments of our northern neighbors--I allude to the arrival of about 100 Yankee waggons, loaded with the manufactures of the United States. They brought principally "Domestics," or white cotton goods. By an extraordinary regulation of the Mexican Custom-house, these waggons are allowed to pass the frontier upon the payment of a fixed duty, viz., 750 dollars per waggon, no matter what be their contents; and I heard it computed that this will not much exceed 10 per cent. Of the duties which, upon an average, would be levied upon the same goods imported through Vera Cruz or Tampico; and the necessary consequence of this is, that British goods of this description stand no chance whatever in the competition. The annexation of Texas must greatly tend to promote this kind of traffic; and I beg to impress upon you most strongly, therefore, the necessity of opening the eyes of the British authorities to this important fact; for should so enormous a preference be continued in force much longer, now that the opportunities for availing themselves of it are daily increasing, the Americans will soon be able to supplant European manufactures throughout all the northern departments of the republic.

THE AFFAIRS OF MEXICO.

The following resolutions, arrived at by the Mexican Congress before it so tranquilly submitted to the General they so energetically denounce, are a fine specimen of bluster, and might serve as a model for some of those to be proposed by an equally fierce but equally impotent party nearer home:--

RESOLUTIONS OF CONGRESS.

"1. The powers of the Executive are enlarged, with the privilege of exercising them in all the republic for the term of six months, in conformity to the 198th article of the Base Organicas.

"2. The pronunciamiento made by the army reserve, adopted and proclaimed by its General-in-Chief, and seconded by the Assembly of San Luis Potosi, is declared subversive to the laws of the realm and the authorities established by them.

"3. The rank held by the General-in-chief and other officers of the army of reserve previous to the said pronunciamiento, shall be insured to them if, within the space of one month from the date of this decree, they place themselves in the capital at the disposal of the Government.

"4. It is likewise decreed that no officer shall continue to belong to the Mexican army who does not present himself to support and obey the legitimate Government.

"5. The nation is called on to sustain the actual order of things, and the power of ameliorating our institutions in a legal manner, to support the Government and free the republic from the new dictatorship by which it is menaced."
"6. It is resolved that pecuniary assistance given to the revolted forces shall in no case be considered as a national debt.

"7. All acts of civil or military authorities adhering to the plan pronounced by the revolted forces, shall be null and void.

"Mexico, Dec. 22, 1845."

"ADDRESS OF SENOR PENA Y PENA, MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR AND FOREIGN RELATIONS, TO THE GOVERNOR OF DEPARTMENTS.

"By an express received this morning, the Governor of the Department of Queretaro has communicated to the supreme Government a plan proclaimed by General D.M. Paredes, having for its object the upsetting the established order of things and the removal of the supreme powers of the nation, affecting to consider that society has returned to its primitive state, and proposing the convocation of a convention to constitute the nation as it may judge convenient without any restriction, and establishing in the interval a dictatorship nearly similar to that of the execrable decree of the 29th of November of last year.*

"The pretences alleged for this movement are--that the war of Texas has not been commenced; the favourable disposition shown by the government to hear the proposals which the United States have evinced a desire to make in order that this question may have a pacific solution; the arrival of a commissioner from the United States; they extension given to the superior powers of the departments; and others which your Excellency will see in the accompanying documents. So extravagant a pronunciameinto has caused profound grief to the President of the Republic, who sees thus frustrated his noble and constant efforts for the preservation of peace, the consolidation of order, the gradual and legal reform of the constitution, the correction of old abuses, and the improvement of every branch of administration.

"The President, however relying on the good sense of the nation and the justice of his cause, and firm in his determination to sustain, at every cost, the popular representative system and the basis of the political organization of the republic, with such reforms as the supreme legislative power may think necessary, will, since he is obliged to do so, oppose force by force; and the result is not doubtful.

"But as in the question now raised the departments are mainly interested, hi Excellency the President desires that each of them, through the medium of their superior authorities, should manifest publicly their decided reprobation of this new germ of anarchy with the expedition which the case demands.

"The Supreme Government, compelled to sustain with arms a contest which it has not provoked, will put in action the whole force at its disposal, and expects that the Governor, in the mean time, will attend to the tranquility and security of the inhabitants of the departments both in the town and on the roads.

"God and liberty.
"PENA Y PENA.
"Mexico, Dec. 20, 1845."

[AEK]

LT London Times: Feb 18, 1846 page 5, column b Oregon question

It would be as yet premature to assume a speedy and satisfactory settlement of the Oregon question as certain, or the disposition of the American congress as decidedly pacific. But at the same time the recent advices from the United States are of such characters to dispel all fears of a hasty resort to warlike counsels, and to encourage a hope that a question of international right--a great question, and one almost without a precedent--may be adjusted without injury to the interests or detraction from the honour of the two contending parties. We acknowledge, indeed, that in the discussion to which this matter has given rise, many irritating words have been uttered, many offensive and aggressive schemes have been recommended, against Great Britain. But we are too conscious of the personal motives which often sway legislative assemblies, we are too well aware of the diverse interests by which the different states of the Transatlantic republic are distracted, and of the influence which these exercise on the conduct of individual representatives, to feel undue uneasiness at bombastic threats or turgid declamations. We know that the American republic has many parties; the American states many debts. We are not surprised, therefore, that some orators should encourage the clamor for war to earn a cheap popularity; nor that others should hail it as the most effectual sponge for the absorption of claims which cannot otherwise be discharged. But we trust that there are other men in the Congress of the republic besides the panderers to a sanguinary passion, or the advocates of a dishonourable insolvency. And if we be disappointed in the opinion we have formed of her senators and her representatives, we believe that America contains men of thought, of judgment, of honesty, and ability, who, knowing the substance of the matter in dispute, and the value of the interests depending on its termination, reject the notion of embroiling two kindred nations in a frightful conflict, as at once unnatural and unnecessary. We trust that the proper influence of such men will, even if not felt with in the walls of Congress, be recognized throughout the country.
by the agency of that powerful and extra-legislative instrument, the American press. We have good reason for believing that the great mass of the wealth and intelligent citizens will be rather induced by the reasoning of such men as Mr. Everett and Mr. Gallatin to study the elements of the question with impartiality, than be inflamed by the ad captandum invectives of interested politicians into a hostile jealousy or an aggressive policy.

It is well for the republic that she has citizens honest enough to examine and bold enough to assert the truth. Otherwise she would be urged into the commission of a great crime. We should, doubtless, see the honest advice of General Cass carried out—an advice which we would vain hope was received with other than the reported feelings of mirth—and the whole Oregon would be occupied by an American army, and severed from the British Crown, pending negotiations of professed amity between the American and the British Governments. We would be loath to underrate the influence of honest statesmen or the eventual preponderance of a moral sense in the American mind; and we reflect with just pride, that the press, no less than the Government of this country, had done all in its power to pave the way for an honorable and pacific settlement.

The question has been considerably narrowed by the admissions of American jurists and diplomatists. The round of prior occupancy is virtually surrendered by nearly all. The coalition of different titles is repudiated by some, the title grounded on the war between Spain and England by others. The merits of first discovery are contested with equal reason on both sides; and, as far as the principles of juis gentium apply, or inferences deduced from it avail, it is confessed, at the very least, to be impossible to make out a better title for the United States than for Great Britain. If it were worth while to argue the point of discovery, the voyages of Meares might be pitted against that of Gray; and the objection that the former was sailing under foreign colours might be met by a counter-objection, that the latter was sailing in a private vessel; whilst the very appeal to priority of discovery by the United States must be held fatal to an assertion of their title grounded on Spanish cession. Again, if the prior entrance into the inlet of the Columbia be cited in favour of the American title, the more complete exploration of its banks by Vancouver and Broughton may be cited in favour of ours, to say nothing of a more recent claimant in behalf of the British Crown. And should the extravagant claim made to the whole of the Oregon be supported by the title derived from the possession of Louisiana, than on the same principle—viz., that discoveries made on the coast give a title to the whole breadth of the contiguous continent—on this principle the possessions of the Hudson's Bay Company to the north of the parallel 49 [degrees] would give us precisely the same title to the whole continent above that parallel which some Americans now arrogate to the whole continent below it.

We mention these things, not as new arguments for us, but as admissions made by our opponents. They reduce the question to narrower limits. They do away with the necessity of re-enacting an old farce, and reiterating the old forms of diplomacy. They show us and the world that sensible and honest men in America are conscious of the difficult and debatable points which beset the dispute. They indicate the impossibility of adjusting it on principles of abstract right, and the necessity of having recourse to a more obvious and easy solution. It then becomes a question, what are the circumstances which ought to regulate the future demarcation to the territory, and what are the considerations which it is the duty of both countries to act upon? Upon this head it will be sufficient to say, that two opinions have been expressed—the one, that a partition of a region like the Oregon is not desirable; the other, that supposing it to be decided on, it can be made in such a way as not to be derogatory to America, nor prejudicial to Great Britain. There are many considerations of a prospective kind—considerations of the character of this district—its capacity for being colonized—its great extent—not less than of the necessity which may hereafter be acknowledged of organizing some new state on the north-west coast of America—which give importance to this suggestion of Mr. Gallatin, and will induce us to recur to it. But we cannot dismiss the subject for the present without laying it before our readers, not as a proposal to be definitely accepted or rejected at once, but as a sign of the temper and spirit with which a respectable diplomatist of America is disposed to conduct negotiations between his country and ours. Mr. Gallatin's offer is this,--to draw the line of partition through the middle of Fuca' straits from the entrance to a point on the main situate south of the mouth of Frazer's River, which should leave to the United States all the shores and harbours lying south, and to Great Britain all those north of the line, including Quadra and Vancouver's Island. This would be along the parallel 48 1/2 [degrees]. The great cause of objection to such a division—namely, the reservation to the United States of the River Columbia—and the feasibility of surmounting this, and retaining the joint use of that river, without traduce to American interests, will form the subject matter of a future article.

[AEK]

LT London Times: Feb. 26, 1846 page 4, column d Oregon question

The great importance of the present debate, and other matters of domestic interest, have hitherto prevented us from recurring, as we had intended, to Mr. Gallatin's proposal. It is of a twofold character. It first intimates a doubt whether the Oregon territory should be partitioned at all. Secondly, it proposes that any partition made should give to Great Britain all the region north of the parallel 48 1/2 north latitude from the sea, through the Straits, including Quadra and Vancouver's Island, leaving to the United States the country south of that line, and the sole possession of the Columbia River, and the harbours in the south of the Straits.

Both these suggestions are worthy of being weighed, not only on account of the position and character of the person from whom they emanate, but of the various and prospective interests which the adoption of either of them must affect. Now we will, in justice to Mr. Gallatin, suppose that the first suggestion is made bona fide. The consequence, then, of its being carried out would be this,—both England and the United States would either continue in precisely the same relation as that in which they now stand towards each other in Oregon, that is,
the sovereignty of both states would remain in abeyance; they would each be joint tenants in the use rather
than in the Seikan of the Oregon; or else the Oregon would be recognized as an independent state, guaranteed
in its rights, and protected by the joint guardianship of the American Republic and the British Crown. It is
to the latter contingency, rather than to the former, that our attention should, for the present, be confine,

Inasmuch as the tone of American politicians hardly encourages the notion that the joint occupancy of the
contested country is possible for any length of time, and the character of the possible for any length of time,
and the character of the present dispute must ah warned the statesmen of both countries that to leave the
question of sovereignty open can only complicate the difficulties of the ease, and increase the embarrassment
of their successors. Recurring, then, to the alternative left by the first suggestion, let us ask what must be the
inevitable consequences of erecting Oregon into an independent state? In the first place, it is almost impossible
not to foresee that its government would be democratic. It is almost equally certain that its tendencies would
be anti-Anglican. This result necessarily flows from the anterior condition of its settlement. Its contiguity to
the republic of the United States has within a few years caused a migratory influx of citizens from the latter, and
hold out the prospect of a continual immigration for some years to come. Those who understand the feelings of
all emigrants, and particularly of American emigrants, will at once agree that the new Government thus
constituted must have prejudices and sympathies of an anti-British nature. Nor would any counterpoise to this
general prejudice be supplied by an extensive influx of British subjects. The colonization of the Oregon has
for the last two or three years been almost entirely conducted by Americans; whilst the settlement of our own
people has been considerably thwarted, if not wholly prevented, by the exclusive privileges of the Hudson's
Bay Company. Their servants have been settled and their forts and huts erected on different sites throughout
the territory in dispute; but no extensive colonization has been carried on by other subjects of the Crown. This
circumstance alone, apart from all others, would operate to our prejudice, if the Oregon became an independent
state; but, when it is viewed in conjunction with the vicinity of a great republican Government, it is impossible
not to foresee that British interests would be swamped, even if they were not openly disregarded or wantonly
insulted, by the hostility of American prejudice, and the collision of democratic influence. It would be
impossible for the British Government to urge as a precedent stipulation, that the traditionary rights of British
subjects or the former privileges of a British company should be respected in a new republic. And, even if such
a stipulation received the assent of the other contracting parties, it would be impossible for the British Crown to
insure its fulfillment, without recourse to a conflict which duty and humanity enjoin it to avoid or to defer.
However adapted, there fore, the Oregon may be for extensive colonization, --however its magnitude and
extent may entitle it to the rank of a separate state, --no English Minister who cares for the interests of English
subjects can propose or accept a proposal for a scheme which, at the outset, would injure the interests of the
latter, and hereafter sacrifice them, by aggressive violation or collusive intrigue, to American ambition. No one
who has attended to the recent debates of Congress, and remarked the sentiments which are most popular in
the United States, can be ignorant that the American Government contemplate the extension of their great
empire from the shores of the Atlantic to those of the Pacific, and that the American people look forward to the
time when no European Power shall dare to interfere with the mutual policy of the numerous states spread over
the great continent of the west. How far such a consummation is desirable for the peace and happiness of
nations it is not for us to say. It is sufficiently apparent that it is not the interest of the English people nor the
duty of an English Minister to play into the hands of the United States by assenting to the organization of new
Governments, which must either become merged in the growing dominions of their powerful neighbours or
subsidiary to their designs. It were wiser to wait the time when the conflicting interests of the separate states
and the encroachments of the Federal Government shall dissolve an union incompatible with intestine jealousy
or foreign dears. The proximity of British possessions and the establishment of British principles in North
America will always afford a resort and a protection to those who fear the growth of popular license, and seek
an escape from popular turbulence. For this reason, no less than for the preservation of national honour, it is
the duty of our Government to see that we secure for our subjects a firm footing, for our laws a permanent
validity, on that continent which has been peopled by our countrymen, and governed by the maxims of our
constitution. It is not extent, so much as certainty an definitiveness of dominion, that we ought to care for. It
insure its fulfillment, without recourse to a conflict which duty and humanity enjoin it to avoid or to defer.

Let us now turn to Mr. Gallatin's second proposal. He would give us all north of 481/2 degrees north
latitude, in a line running east from Fuca's Straits to the present recognized line of division. He would reserve
for his own country Admiralty Inlet and its sounds, and the sole possession of the Columbia River. Now, the
very first thing that strikes us is this:--It has been urged that it would be anomalous or inconvenient to divide
Th use of the Columbia River between English and Americans. Supposing (that Americans say) that we retain
possession of both banks of the Columbia, how can English vessels pass and repass without danger of collision
between the sailors the two Powers? Now, we ask, is there not the same chance of collision between them
when the two Powers have an equal right to the navigation of Da Fuca's Straits? To concede an equally divided
possession in the straits, and to make such a partition of the adjacent land as shall exclude either of the
possessor nations from the harbour of the other, is at least as like to breed frauds and contests as the equal
right of navigation in a river. The navigation of the coast is difficult, the threading of the bay is intricate, and it
is easy to conceive that in rough weather disputes may arise between American and British seamen as to the
right of their respective countries. Each of them have been accustomed to enjoy equal privileges, and to regard
themselves equally as masters on these seas and this coast; it will hardly, therefore, be wondered at that they
should reciprocally feel exclusion and resistance to be arbitrary and offensive. So that, in truth, the argument
against the division of the Columbia would apply with equal strength to the division of the straits and partition of
the harbours, with this difference--that if the harbours, with this difference--that if the harbours of Admiralty
Inlet, &c., are the best, exclusion from them grounds a greater grievance on our side. But the fact is this,--
partition and division are now matters of expediency. Both parties are sensible that the claims founded on
discovery and occupancy are very debatable, and admit of being cited on both sides alike. It is, therefore, the
object of both parties to effect such a compromise as shall damnify neither party. now, if we only get one half
the harbours in Da Fuca's Straits, and are wholly excluded from the Columbia, a great injury will be done to those of our countrymen who have thereto enjoyed the use of both. But if the harbours which are given to us be the worst, then we are both injured and insulted at once by the arrangement. Our object, we repeat, is not extent of territory. We wish to have our territory accurately defined, in order to prevent heartburnings and quarrels between the colonists of the two nations. But we contend only for the joint use of those privileges which have always been enjoyed in common by both nations, and the exclusive possession of which we feel that we have as much right to as our competitors, and are more able to enforce, if we so choose. But we are unwilling to provoke a war which we know would be unnatural, and hope may be unnecessary. We are willing to cede the title of sovereignty and dominion over the greater part of the Oregon. We only require that the commercial advantages of the country be continued to us. We will not give up to the United States places "restored" to us by Spain. We will not renounce our right to participate in the navigation of that great river which, if not discovered first, was certainly traced furthest by our own people. The joint navigation of the Columbia--and the right of traffic for the Hudson's Bay servants on one band of the river, are, we think, demands neither unjust nor extravagant. Nor do we think that their concession would be incompatible with the reserved sovereignty of the United States in the districts which are washed by the waters of the Columbia. [AEK]

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Sir George Clerk, it is stated, will proceed immediately to Calcutta. Major-General Sir George Pollock retires from the Council on account of his health.

The Revolution in Mexico.--In reference to this subject, the news of which had just reached Madrid, El Universal observes, "Now that General Parades represents, according to all appearance, the monarchical feeling indispensable to the restoration of New Spain, our Government is bound to use every effort that the sceptre shall not be seized by any hand but that of a Spanish Prince. The glorious conquest of Mexico in the 16th century was that of Spain; and they were her sons who, for the space of three centuries, ruled that country. The natives of Mexico owe to us the customs and habits which distinguish them, the language they speak, and the Deity they adore. They are our descendants, and they honour themselves with our names. They have always called us brothers. If the fortune of war emancipated them from our rule, the voice of nature has preserved the sympathies they feel towards the nation to which they owe their existence. Let us not doubt it; if in the city of Mexico a throne be raised, and a Spanish Prince occupy it, no other will rival him in authority and influence. For the present, we shall content ourselves with merely offering a suggestion on a question of such importance. We shall at a future period again refer to it, and at greater length." [AEK]

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The packet-ship Sheridan, Captain Cornish, arrived in the Mersey this morning from New York, bringing advices from that city to the 5th inst. inclusive.

With regard to the Oregon question, these advices indicate further improvement in the feelings and opinions of the citizens in and out of Congress. Rumours were prevalent that Mr. Pakenham had resumed correspondence with Mr. Buchanan, and had been received with great favour. The democracy entertained more pacific views, and an impression gained ground that a compromise on the basis of the 49th parallel would be effected. In the senate the question had remained in abeyance, but the proceedings of the House of Representatives are highly interesting. On the 2d instant the following resolutions were introduced by Mr. Dargan:--

"That the differences existing between the Government of the United States and the Government of Great Britain, in relation to the Oregon territory, are still the subject of honourable negotiation and compromise, and should be so adjusted."

And,

"That the lines separating the British provinces of Canada from the United States should be extended due west to the coast south of Fraser's river, and thence through the centre of the Straits of Fuca to the Pacific ocean, giving to the United States that portion of the territory south, and to the Government of Great Britain that portion of the territory north of said line."

By Mr. Tibbalt's,

"1. That the President forthwith cause notice to be given to the Government of Great Britain, and that the President of the United States accompany said notice with an assurance of the sincere desire of the Government of the United States for a speedy and amicable settlement of all disputes between the two Governments in
2. That the President is authorized to repel any and all aggressions upon the commerce of the United States; to resist any attempt which may be made to exercise exclusive jurisdiction over any part of the territory claimed by the United States, and to repel invasions of the same; and, for these purposes, to imply such portions of the militia of the United States as he may deem advisable, agreeably to the provisions of the second and third section of an act entitled 'An Act giving to the president of the United States additional Powers for the Defence of the United States, in certain cases, against Invasion, and for other purposes,' approved the 3d of March, 1839; to accept the services of any number of volunteers, not exceeding, to serve during the war, or for any less period, in the manner provided for by an act entitled 'An Act authorizing the President of the United States to accept the Services of Volunteers, and to raise an additional regiment of dragoons or mounted riflemen,' approved the 23d of May, 1836; to employ the regular military force of the United States, and to expand and increase the same to any number not exceeding men; to complete the public armed vessels now authorized by law, and to equip, man, and employ, in actual service, all the naval force of the United States; and to build, purchase, or charter, arm, equip, and man such vessels and steam-boats as he shall deem necessary for the purposes aforesaid.'

And 3d,

"That the sum of millions of dollars is hereby appropriated and placed at the disposal of the President of the United States, for the purpose of executing the provision before said; to provide for with, the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to borrow money on the credit of the United States, and to cause certificates to be issued therefore, agreeably to the provisions of the fifth section of the act aforesaid, approved March 3, 1839."

By Mr. Peltat--

"That the President of the United States forthwith cause notice to be given to the Government of Great Britain, that the convention between the United States of America and Great Britain, that the convention between the United States of American and Great Britain, concerning the territory on the north-west coast of American, west of the Stony or Rocky Mountains, of the 6th day of August, 1827, signed at London, shall be annulled and abrogated 12 months after giving said notice."

And by Mr. G. W. Brown,--

"That, whereas the friendly relations now existing between the United States and Great Britain are in danger of begin interrupted, in consequence of the unsettled claims of the respective countries to the territory lying on the north-west coast of America, west of the Stony Mountains; therefore, with a view to a speedy and amicable settlement of their differences, the President of the United States cause notice to be given to the Government of Great Britain."

A resolution was then offered to terminate the debate on the 9th of February. This was rejected; and the ordinary Oregon debate was resumed by Mr. Thompson.

On the 3d instant, Mr. Black, of South Carolina, introduced a series of resolutions in relation to Oregon, which were referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union. Mr. Dromgoole on leave reported the following bill:--

"Whereas by the convention concluded on the 20th day of October, 1818, between the United States of America and the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, it was, in the 3d article thereof, agreed that any country that may be claimed by either party to the northwest coast of America, westward of the Stony Mountains, shall, together with its harbours, bays and creeks, and the navigation of all rivers within the same, be free and open for the term of 1 years from the dated of the signature of the present convention, to the vessels, citizens, and subjects of the two powers, it being well understood that this agreement is not to be construed to the prejudice of any claim with either of the two high contraction parties may have to any part of the said country; the only object of the high contracting parties in that respect being to prevent disputes and differences among themselves: whereas by a convention between the same party, concluded on the 6th of August, 1827, it was agreed to continue in force for an indefinite period the provision of the 3d article of the convention of the 20th of October, 1818, and was also further agreed and provided that it shall be competent, however, to either of the contracting parties, in case either shall think fit at any time after the 20th October, 1818 and was also further agreed and provided that is shall be competent, however, to either of the contracting parties, in case either shall think fit at any time after the 20th October, 1828, on giving due notice of twelve months tot he other contracting party, to annul abrogate this convention; and it shall in such case be entirely and abrogated after the expiration of said tem notice; and whereas is thought fit on the part of the United States to annul and abrogate said convention--"

"Be it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that the said convention shall be annulled and abrogated at the expiration of 12 months after the date of delivery to the Government of Great Britain of the due notice required to be given:
"Be it further enacted, That the President of the United States is hereby authorized and required, in such solemn and respectful mode as he may deem proper, to cause the said due notice to be given in the name of the United States, one of the contracting parties, to the Government of Great Britain, the other contracting parties, to the Government of Great Britain, the other contracting party:

"Be it further enacted, that for the purpose of enabling the President to comply herewith, at as early a day as he may think advisable, there be appropriated a sum not exceeding--dollars, to be used, if necessary, and to be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated; but nothing in this act is intended to interfere with the right and discretion of the proper authorities of the two contracting parties to renew or pursue negotiations for an amicable settlement of the controversy respecting the Oregon Territory."

The house then went into committee of the whole, and resumed the consideration of the Oregon question.

Mr. Collamer, of Vermont, submitted a resolution, requesting the President to communicate to the house copies of all correspondence that have passed between this Government and that of Great Britain since the date of his last annual message, which was received. The resolution was adopted, and the house adjourned.

The domestic affairs of the Union present no feature worthy of note.

Foreign exchanges were dull. The quotations were, on London 108 to 108 1/2; on Paris, 5.27 to 5.26 1/2. The money-market was easy, and the banks were discounting freely.

The interest on the Pennsylvanian debt had been paid on the 2d inst., but three-fourths in depreciated securities, one quarter only in specie. This policy had given rise to strong complaints.

Freights were scarce, and the rates very low.

There were some indications of the opening of the spring trade.

Canadian accounts report that an increase of 55,000l. will be exhibited in the revenue return of the province for 1845, as compared with the previous year.

Important accounts from the city of Mexico to the 8th., and from Vera Cruz to the 13th of January; had been received, via New Orleans. These advices announce the elevation of Paredes to the Presidency of the republic, and the formation of a Cabinet headed by Almonte. We have no further accounts respecting Mr. Slidell.

[AEK]

LT London Times: Mar. 2, 1846 page 5 column e Mexico, affairs of

AFFAIRS OF MEXICO.
(From our won Correspondent.)

Mexico, Jan. 3.

General Paredes and his division entered Mexico yesterday, and at once took possession of the citadel and the principal points of the city. He was not received with the enthusiasm I expected; indeed, I did not hear a single vivat; but I believe that active demonstrations of joy are not consonant to the habits of the people, and that successful revolutions are of too common occurrence in this country to cause excitement of any kind. If we can get over the staring facto f the illegality of Paredes' pronunciamento against a Constitutional Government, we must admit that his conduct in this affair is perfectly irreprouachable. Instead of occupying the apartments of the Palace, which any other conqueror would have done, he retired to his private house, and at once set about the convocation of notables charged with the formation of a provisional Government. He showed a great deal of pluck in getting rid of the clique of notorious public robbers, who aided the pronunciamento in Mexico for their own corrupt purposes. He told them in plain words that he did not make a revolution to place them at the head of the Government, and applied expressions which cannot be translated for "ears polite."

The public were delighted on hearing his unceremonious treatment of these designing men, as from the readiness with which they had seized on the chief off ices of state, and parcelled out the best lots among the band, it was feared that Paredes would not have the means or the power of dislodging them. You must, therefore, consider all lists of Ministers or appointments sent home by the last packet as non avenues, and that up to the present moment Paredes held the supreme power in his hands. He is in hourly communication with the Junta charged with the nomination of an interim President, and though the fact is not yet quite positive, I understand their choice is fixed on General Almonte. Paredes himself declines the Presidency, and as Almonte is a man of the world, of superior intellect, I must consider the selection as the best that could be made.
The provisional Government is to last four months, by which time the National Convention, which they are to convene, will have elected a President and established a permanent form of Government.

Such has been the result of the San Luis pronunciamento, that the whole army has given in its adherence; but it remains to be seen if the civil authorities in the departments at large be equally obedient. On this point opinions are much divided—as, on the one hand, the people are apathetic and indifferent as to how or by whom they are ruled, while, on the other, the interest of the departments is federation, and the country, if it can be moved by anything, it will be by the desire of obtaining that. Some well-informed persons, therefore, contend that the revolution is not yet over, and that though Paredes may hold the capital, his power is but nominal in the departments. It is also hinted that the persons who assisted the movement in Mexico, and whom he has sent to the right-about, are quite capable of calling back Santa Anna, and opposing the influence of that once popular name to the prestige of Paredes. I place very little reliance of the value of the departments, or of the power of the Santa Anna party, but I give these statements for the purpose of showing the many difficulties that lie in the way of the would-be regenerator of his country.

The probability of a war between Mexico and the United States is also a serious impediment to Paredes. Unfortunately for him he has made the willingness to treat with the States a main cause of complaint against the Government of Herrera, and he is almost pledged to commence hostilities; but if he does so, what will be the result? Why—without speaking of the long odds against Mexico in such a contest—the very General who may be placed at the head of a sufficient army marching on Texas will probably pronounce against the Government, as almost every general officer in the Republic does who commands a large body of troops; and if Paredes weakens the capital, the Federalists will take advantage of the fact to get up what they call a popular movement. War with the States is the stumbling-block of Mexico, against which even Paredes has contrived to run his head. In his address to the army he insists on the necessity of at once marching against the usurpers of Texas; and General Valencia, the ad interim President of a day, by way of giving his helping hand to mischief, declares that the presence of the American Minister, Mr. Slidell, in the capital, is an insult to the republic. I am greatly mistaken if the Cabinet of Washington will hear with patience the refusal to receive it’s minister, the avowed purpose of Paredes to march on Texas, and the insulting language of General Valencia; so that I look upon war as imminent, and I hourly expect to hear of the declaration of a blockade, and the occupation of Matamoros.

The great blunder committed by Paredes is this anti-American manifestation, as time and tranquility are essential to him for the rectification of the enormous and numerous abuses that prevail here in every department of state. I am told he is bent on the task, and none but a bold and honest man like him can effect it. I am not able to specify all the abuses that exist, or the various shifts by which the public revenue is turned away from the public service; but I can give a short statement, to show how easily a good result can be obtained by a man determined to secure it. For instance, the whole revenue of Mexico, customs, Excise, and taxation, amounts net to 4,500,000l. to meet the interest of the home and foreign debt. I take the revenue as it now stands, but a reduction of prohibitory duties, the doing away with inland custom-houses, and breaking down monopolies, would give 3,500,000l. more and augment the net revenue to 8,000,000l., from which, if we deduct the 3,000,000l., all sufficient for the ordinary expenditure, we shall have an absolute surplus of 5,000,000l. sterling.

Will it be believed in the face of these figures, which by the wary are not in the least exaggerated, that out of the revenue at present raised, not 2,600,000l. reach the Treasury, the rest being consumed by robbers, money agents, usury, and every species of corruption, and that the estimate of the standing army alone is 4,000,000l.? Yes, for the Mexican army, which counts 30,000 officers to 20,000 soldiers, and in which, of general officers alone, there are, I believe, 500.

The fact is so painful in Mexican finance, stript of the various disguises which corruption has raised about it, that an honest Commander-in-Chief, and a good bank clerk as Minister of Finance would make it one of the most flourishing treasures of the world. President Herrera had not the courage to venture on the broad road of reform, and, therefore, it is fortunate that his mile-and-water Government is at an end,—but Paredes is the man to do it; and, if he be not outmaneuvered by the intriguers of Mexico, he will. It is with the hope of seeing a result so favourable to British holders of Mexico stock, that I have evinced—perhaps for a Briton—too great an inclination to the unconstitutional proceedings of Paredes. But, of what use are forms when the substance is rotten, and what great moral revolution has ever been effected without the prominent agency of one distinguished man? I do not know Paredes personally, and I hear many faults attributed to him which are inconsistent with true greatness, but I am struck by his integrity, which is unimpeachable, and his abnegation of power at a moment when he is the master of the whole country and may dispose of its wealth and dominion as he pleases.

Herrera, the late Ministers, and the Commander-in-Chief made a most ignoble termination of their career. It is true they had treason in the camp, and that their apparently most violent partisans were wishing secretly for Paredes; but their inefficient measures almost invited treason, and I cannot learn anything they did during the 15 days of preparation but expend money on ridiculous fortification that would not have held out five minutes. Had they one smart man among them, they might cut off Paredes, when he advanced within ten leagues of the city with only 400 horse, leaving even the most advanced of his troops two days' march behind him. The Senate and the Chamber of Deputies gave up the ghost in the same manner. After all their protests, not a member was to be found at the hour of danger. In truth, the apathy of the Government invited defection, and no one seemed inclined to help those who would not help themselves. It is truly ridiculous to see the walls of Mexico still barricaded with enthusiastic manifestos against Paredes, and to observe the men who signed them foremost in the conqueror's suite. But here there is no feeling when politics are concerned, and every one
applauds the man who turns round at the proper moment. The officer sent by Herrera to summon Paredes to
an immediate surrender under pain of death, traveled with Paredes in his carriage one or two stages, and I have
no doubt he would bear a similar message to the former president from his new mast to-morrow. Heaven help
the country where this is no political principle, and no political shame!

I must say that Herrera maintained his personal dignity to the last, and that, though fallen, he is as much
respected as before. The following is the address he published on abdicating the presidency:--

"Fellow countrymen--Raised to the supreme magistracy of the republic by the free and unanimous vote
of the people. I have fulfilled the programme of administration exhibited by me solemnly before the Congress
on the 16th of September last. Persuaded that the observance of constitutional order is the only means of
securing the peace and felicity of a nation, I have invariably performed that duty; and true to my oaths, I have
followed no other guide in my administration, but the exact fulfillment of the laws. I promoted all the useful
reforms which I submitted to congress for examination. I enforced economy, and a careful collection of the
public revenue. I respected the independence of judicial authority; and, in a word, I bestowed on all classes of
society the same protection. All the acts of my administration are before you, and I am satisfied that the nation
will not accuse them of injustice or illegality.

"The army of reserve, commanded by General Paredes, proclaimed in San Luis Potosi a plan
destructive of our national institutions. He has been seconded by fractions of the army in other places whence
accounts have been received, with the exception of San Luis, have declared solemnly against him, and adhered
to the established order of things. the Government lost no time in taking measures to place the capital in a
state of defence; but this morning the garrison of Mexico has proclaimed a plan somewhat different from that of
General Paredes, and all having deserted it, the Government is left without the means of resistance. Therefore,
and not wishing that any person should serve as the pretext for the shedding of Mexican blood, or for injury to
the fortunes of our fellow-citizens, I have sent to the Chamber the formal resignation of the supreme command.
I separate myself from it, protesting at the same time in face of the nation, against both these plans and
against all others that derange constitutional order. The consequences of civil war shall not weigh against the
government, as it in no manner provoked them. I leave the nation to judge of the acts of your fellow citizen.

"JOSE JOAQUIN DE HERRERA,
MEXICO, 30th Dec. 1845."

I must not omit at the same time to give you the address published by Paredes yesterday, on taking the city.
It is as follows:

"Soldiers--I congratulate you that, without effusion or blood, you have consummated the great work which your
enthusiasm commenced at San Luis and I have the satisfaction to salute you in the capital of the republic.

"Soldiers--you have performed a sacred duty in uniting cordially so save the country from the evils of
anarchy. The nation admires, and will so recognize the service you have done it. Your generals and officers
are now arranging the political principles adopted in San Luis, in order that the vacuum indispensably left out of
respect for public opinion, and due regard to the rights of the people, shall be adequately filled up.

"Mexicans--In leading the army to the capital I have no other view but the good of the country. I offer
you all guarantees of society until a Junta, named in the most popular manner, shall appoint the ad interim
Government, charged to watch over your interests, and to convocate the extraordinary congress which is given
to the nation to constitute and secure its facility.

"Mexicans--I entreat you to wait with that patience worthy of true republicans, and to place full
confidence in the chief of any army which offers all the guarantees of order and peace."

"Mexico, Jan. 2, 1846.

"MARIANO PAREDES.

The intentions of General Paredes are well known; but some mystery hangs over those of the heads of
the church and several leading personages who have been working for some time past on her behalf. It is said
they are determined on converting Mexico into a monarchy, and that one of Royal family of Spain is to have the
offer of the Crown. The peace of the city has not been disturbed for a moment, and so anxious are the people
to give in there adhesion to Paredes, that I saw the chiefs of many noble families, senators, and deputies, who,
a few days since, signed formal protests against him, this day going in grand toilette to a levee he held at his
private house.

The American Minister has not yet left us, as a military escort all the way to Jalapa cannot be arranged.
We are most uneasy on the subject of Mexican affairs, and I have every reason to dread an immediate blockade
of the Gulf ports, if not the taking of Matamoros.

It is said that Puebla pronounces for federation, and that the people are armed.
The congress is dissolved.

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LT London Times: Mar. 3, 1846 page 6, column e America, Oregon question

America.
The Oregon question.
Liverpool, Monday Evening.

By the packet-ship Patrick Henry we have received New York advices to the 9th ult. Inclusive.

These advices contain the following outlying of the correspondence which has passed since the 1st of December last between Mr. Pakenham and Mr. Buchanan, the American Secretary of State, and with Mr. M'Lane, on the Oregon question, from which it will be perceived, that the twice repeated offer of the British Minister to decide the whole question by arbitration has been rejected, and that the extreme pretensions advanced by Mr. Polk in his inaugural message are now again enunciated. The full correspondence has not yet reached us. It is however, looked for hourly, a clipper schooner, of large tonnage, having sailed in company with the Patrick Henry for this port, supposed to bring despatches for Government.

The following is the outline referred to:--

(From the New York Express)

Washington, Feb. 7.

A message was received from the President of the United States, covering the correspondence which has transpired since August last, upon the subject of our foreign relations. The President states that the correspondence is furnished in answer to the resolutions.

The first letter is dated Dec. 13, 1845, and is addressed by Mr. Buchanan to our Ambassador at the Court of St. James. He desires Mr. M'Lane to call upon the Earl of Aberdeen, in order to procure the reasons of the warlike preparations then making by England. Mr. M'Lane is also required to give his own opinions as to these preparation.

January 3, 1846, Mr. M'Lane answers, that on the day after the receipt of Mr. Buchanan's he called upon the Earl of Aberdeen, by whom he was received with great kindness. It being difficult to obtain a categorical answer to questions upon so delicate a subject as this, Mr. M'Lane put his questions frankly, and received frank answers. Definite and precise information was not expected. The Earl of Aberdeen, however, informed him that the preparations making for defence had reference to the possibility of a rupture—that they were commenced before any difficulties between England and the United States—they, however, had no particular reference to the possibility of such a rupture—that they were commenced before any difficulties between the two countries were remotely apprehended—that they would have been made had not the difficulties between the two countries existed—they he believed the nature of these preparation shad been overstated—that they had no reference to the defence of remote places, but to all places peculiarly exposed. They were defences proper in time of peace to meet the possible dangers of war, and such as every prudent nation would make for the security of his own Government. In conclusion, he again declares that the defences made and making have no immediate reference to the United States.

For himself, Mr. M'Lane says, his opinions are that the preparations have no immediate reference to the United States. They originated, in his judgement, in the state of affairs in Europe. Mr. M'Lane says that his interview confirmed him in the unabated confidence he had before entertained in the frankness and straightforwardness of the Earl of Aberdeen. Mr. M'Lane further says that he is not prepared to state how far the United States have a right to demand a disclaimer form England in making preparations for the deviance of the country. As to the defences made, it is to us, in the even of a rupture, immaterial what their object may have been. We should feel their full force, whether made for one object of another. England will exert her utmost power, and to the utmost of her ability, to inflict injury upon us in case of war.

On the 27th of December, 1845, Mr. Pakenham sends a letter to Mr. Buchanan, in which he says, that under instructions from his Government, he now renewably offers to refer the question of the disputed part of the territory to any Sovereign State which may be jointly agreed upon by the two Governments. It is argued that the effects of this reference will be conducive to the best interests of the two countries—that it would have been better for both had the United States previously accepted it. The fact that England consents to renew the offer affords proof to the world of the fact that she still retains the highest confidence in her own claims, and of her sincere desire to preserve the peace between both countries.

Mr. Pakenham, in the same letter, speaks of the smallness of the territory disagreed about, compared with the importance of preserving the friendly relations between two such Governments as England and the
On the 3d of January, 1846, Mr. Buchanan replies, that as the proposition submitted merely names a partition of the territory in dispute, to be referred to the powers of arbitration, and not the question of title, he cannot consent to such an arbitration. The very terms of the proposition received would exclude arbitration upon the question of title to the whole territory which is here claimed by the United States. The President, he says, does not believe that arbitration would lead to a clearance of difficulties; upon the contrary, he thinks it would involve the two countries in new difficulties. In conclusion, the President expresses the hope that the present aspect of this question may not lead to a disturbance of the friendly relations so happily existing between the two countries.

Mr. Pakenham makes two answers to this letter. In the first, he says he will submit the reply of Mr. Buchanan to his Government, and in a letter, dated January 16, he says that he has reflected upon the letter of Mr. Buchanan, dated the 3d, declining, for reasons named, to accept arbitration in the form proposed. He now wishes to state to the American Secretary of State, that England has claims to the Oregon territory wholly incompatible with the exclusive claim set up by the United States. But supposing the British Government would consent to refer the entire question of title to arbitration; thus removing the form of reference objected to by Great Britain, he wished to know if it would be accepted by the United States; and if there should be objections to the reference to a crowned head, he submitted that it might be made to a mixed commission, with an umpire, or to a board of Commissioners of legal ability, and in whom there should be a mutual confidence. If such reference should result in a disagreement as to an equitable division of the territory, would the United States agree upon the division which might be recommended?

Mr. Buchanan, in a letter dated the 4th of February, answers this letter. He says at first that the last clause named would prevent the acceptance of arbitration, if presented in the form which had been named. The United States, if it would consent to arbitrate at all, would never consent to submit to any other question than that of title. A reason is then given why the United States, will admit of such an arbitration. Our claims are referred to again, and the whole disputed territory claimed again by the President. The question is presented as offering a very different amount of importance from that between us and England. There were 13 degrees of boundary upon the Pacific, and but one good harbour, near the 49th degree of north latitude. The territory would make many valuable states, will to England they would be a matter of small advantage. To no Power, however intelligent or respectable, nor to any body of citizens, could the United States consent to refer a claim of a character like that she possesses to the Oregon country.

The correspondence having been read, was immediately referred to the committee of the whole and ordered to be printed. The proceedings of Congress in the interval since the departure of our dispatches by the Sheridan were important. The discussion on the Navy Increase Bill had been resumed on the 5th ultimo. Mr. Westcott advocated the measure as one peaceful in its tendencies. The Senate adjourned, on the termination of his address, to Monday, the 9th ultimo. The Oregon debate would commence on the Tuesday. The debate in the House of Representatives had continued until the 5th ult.; then, after three several divisions, it was determine that a vote should be taken on the following Monday. The speeches present no features worthy of note.

The House having called for information respecting the relations of the Union with Mexico, a message from the President may shortly be expected.

Mr. Bancroft, the Secretary of the Navy, in reply to the chairman of the committee on the naval affairs, had transmitted to the Senate, on the 6th ult., a letter requiring larger appropriations for the navy than was contemplated, in consequence of the condition of the foreign relations of the country. He especially urges the accumulation of stores in the naval depots, and the increase of the number of steamers fit to cruise at sea.

Commercial accounts are unimportant, the operations of commerce having been violently disturbed by the publication of the Oregon correspondence.

Our Canadian accounts are unimportant.

We learn from Yucatan that the alliance with Mexico had been thrown off.

The above outline of this extraordinary correspondence having reached new York but shortly before the departure of the packet-ship, we have yet received but few comments of the American journals upon it.

"This correspondence," says the Courier and Enquirer of the 9th ult.,--

"Is of very high importance, and diminishes very much the grounds upon which we have been hoping for a peaceful solution of pending difficulties. It will be seen by our correspondent's letter, that our Government had declined to accept an offer of arbitration, made in two different forms by Great Britain, and that, too, upon the very offensive ground that to accept it would be to admit that Great Britain had rights in Oregon, and that the British Government has informed our Minister at London, that her military preparation, though not commenced with special reference to that question. The whole matter, not only with reference to pacific settlement, but with regard to the honourable and defensible positions of this country, seems now to be in the worst possible position."
"The position of the Oregon question," says the New York Herald of the same date,--

"Has now reached a most important crisis. According to the best information, there is not doubt that negotiations, which have been re-opened at Washington by Mr. Pakenham, will result, probably in good time, upon a basis of compromise similar to the offer which had been twice made by the United States, but which had been refused by England. The position of England within the last few years has compelled the Government of that country to moderate some of the conditions on which her various negotiator planted themselves, and to meet in a more compromising spirit the propositions heretofore offered by the United States. But while England has, by the change of time and the gradual progress of affairs, been led to the necessity of coming nearer to a point of settlement in the matter, the United States, from the course of public opinion and the growth of natural events, have been reducing farther form their former opinions, and limiting a greater extent of territory in that region. It is now said, on such authority as will satisfy reasonable men, that Mr. Pakenham has received full power from his Government to open negotiations, either on the old basis of the proposition which was formerly offered by Mr. Gallatin, or on nearly the same as that offered by Mr. Buchanan.

It is further said, that while the British negotiator approximates the offer made by the United States, the United States are receding, and the Government actually has been deliberating to insist upon having the whole territory, down 54[degrees]40[degrees], and have, therefore, refused the offer of the British Government to arbitrate, and will take the chance of accomplishing their purposes by future events and contingencies. In the mean time, Mr. Pakenham will send the last correspondence, by express, to London, and bide his time to make perhaps another proposition, a most important and delicate crisis in the affairs of Oregon. The United States have now, through the action of our Government, reached the turning point of the century in our foreign relations. This country will have been an independent nation 70 years on the next 4th of July. It is now a full-grown power of the civilized world, exercising a most important influence on all the Christian nations of the earth, both in peace and war--in civilization, commerce, and everything that can benefit the human race. It is important, therefore, that the Government of such a country should take such a position, and adopt such a course of conduct, as will tend to promote the happiness of the human family, and command the respect of nations. It is evident that the Oregon negotiation has now reached a crisis from which will spring the turning point in the destinies of the human family. If peace be secured by reasonable compromise between the two leading countries of the world, we may presume upon a long career of prosperity, religion, intelligence, literature, and everything that can benefit or delight civilization. In a state of peace, we are the rivals of the greatest nation of the Old World. We are also the leading spirit of the age, in all political and religious reforms. Our example will tend to produce great rational and peaceful reforms in the Old World, and, in process of time, change society, religion, and government, throughout all the nations of Europe. The conflict will be continued, but it is a conflict of peace. It is the war of mind, of morals, and of intellect--the campaign of genius; and not that of rude and barbarous arms, and the elements of death. Such is the prospect in the event of a peaceable termination of this controversy. On the other hand, if by any influence a change should occur--if the United States Government should throw themselves upon the whole of their rights, and insist upon having the whole of the Oregon territory, down to 54[degrees]40', as they apparently seem disposed to do--then the course of things will be entirely different;--excitement in our own country--alarm abroad--everything that can provoke the two nations gradually to put themselves in a hostile attitude to each other, will be encouraged by the circumstance of the time, and the estrangement of the two Governments; the consequences of which would be a tremendous political struggle throughout the country, and a complete revolution in parties. In due course of time, the example of the United States, on American and Europe, according to the inevitable laws of nature, would produce a change in Government, and a revolution in dynasties, which the reforming spirits of the age in this country would seek through war, battle, fire, and the sword. Thus, the refusal to submit to reasonable terms, and to persist in the whole of our claims to Oregon, would naturally lead to a hostile feeling in both countries, which, by little and little, would lead to war of the most desperate kind. It will be seen, therefore, that the position of the Oregon question is most important, as regards the future history of this country and of the world. If reasonable terms be offered and accepted, we may have years of peace before us, during which we may cultivate the attainment of those arts which are of the highest benefit to civilization. On the other hand, if the approaches of the British negotiator continue to be repelled, and our Government believe that the mass of the people would sustain them in insisting upon claiming up to 54[degrees]40', that mighty fact would lead to events of the most exciting character, far different from those that would grow out of peaceful relations. All eyes will be turned towards Washington during this negotiation, in order to discover from the decision what the probable history of the country and civilization for centuries hereafter may be." [AEK]

LT London Times: Mar. 4, 1846, p4/f The Oregon Question

The rejection of the renewed proposition for terminating the Oregon dispute by arbitration has not take any one by surprise; but this proceeding on the part of the English Minister at Washington has enabled him to renew the negotiation which had been suspended since his absolute refusal of Mr. Buchanan's last scheme of adjustment. It appears, indeed, from the dates of the last communications received by the packet-ship Patrick Henry, that the Oregon question had reached a most important criticism which could not fail to remove all uncertainty within a very few days. On the 29th of January the Senate had adopted a resolution of inquiry as to the state of negotiations. No answer was given to that resolution for several days; and, in fact, the final reply of Mr. Buchanan on the subject of arbitration was not made until the 4th of February. On the 7th a message from the President was sent down to congress, together with the whole diplomatic correspondence which had been exchanged between the British and American Governments since last December. Meanwhile, the House of Representatives had resolved that the debate on the question of giving notice should be terminated by them before 3 p.m. on Monday, the 9th ult.; because the senate was expected to resume the adjourned debate on
The principle question for us to decide--the point upon which it is essential for us to arrive at a clear and correct conviction--is simply what are the bona fide intentions of the American Government. As to the views and intentions of England, we presume than not uncertainty can be alleged, even by our opponents, to exist. Adhering firmly to rights which have been recognized and confirmed by several treaties, and which are now connected with the mercantile and personal interests of British subjects, we, nevertheless, have invariably professed our readiness to submit these rights to any equitable arrangement, either as a voluntary compromise of under the award of an arbiter. The difficulty on the side of England has never been a difficulty on the side of England has never been a difficulty of principle, but of detail and application. On the side of the United States there has been a much more devious course, more undefined pretensions, and more suspicious designs. Even when the American Ministers have proposed a species of compromise, they have only done so as if it were a dereliction of public duty and a surrender of the acknowledged rights of the Union. They offered to give up what they have not got, and have never held, as if they were sacrificing a portion of New England; and they propose, a species of compromise, a plan which would expel the agents of the Hudson's Bay Company out of territories and hunting-grounds which they alone have occupied ever since they have been trodden by civilized man. More or less openly avowed, more or less boldly asserted, the intention of all American policy on this question has been the acquisition of the whole territory in dispute. If both parties had honestly and sincerely sought a compromise, a compromise would infallibly have been effected, and may be effected yet. But, instead of that auspicious prospect, Mr. Buchanan has declared, that "if the United States would consent to arbitrate at all, they would never consent to submit to any other question than that of title." As if the very fact of arbitration, like the fact of the actual offers of partition which they have repeatedly made, was not a conclusive admission of the imperfection of title by both parties, which leaves nothing to be determined but the relative value of the conflicting claims!

We cannot persuade ourselves, therefore, that we thoroughly comprehend the intentions of the American Government, or if we comprehend them, it is in a sense which belies the occasional moderation of its language. Whilst the British government has been calmly continuing the preparations which were thought necessary to place the naval establishments of the country on a most efficient footing, contenting itself with the resolute but reserved intimation given to both Houses of Parliament last spring by the Ministers of the Crown, the extreme moderation of its language may have been as much misinterpreted upon the banks of the Potomac as upon the banks of the Sutlej, and in both cases we may pay the penalty of an excessive forbearance. To the Cabinet of Washington we have offered a compromise under forms which the haughtiest Power on the earth might and would have accepted. To the people of America we offer the advantages of a system of free-trade, not, as is suggested by one of our correspondents, within the stipulations of a commercial treaty, or as the purchase-money of a settlement of Oregon, but as the spontaneous and enlightened act of the first mercantile nation in the world. To such measures as these they have hitherto responded by a narrow, grasping policy, or by captious objections which indicate the petty motives in which they originate. We are solicitous for the maintenance of peace and the welfare of mankind; they are intent on the chances of the next Presidential election; and if war appears likely to contribute to the success of a candidate, his party would not scruple to wage war upon the human race. Happily for the chances of peace, we must still believe that war would not only be prejudicial but fatal to the party which should render it inevitable. Mr. Calhoun's meritorious exertions in the cause of peace will, we trust, not only be rewarded by success now but by higher honours and a more extended influence hereafter. But he has to deal with ungenerous rivals and insincere allies. The Government to whish he give a partial support cannot command his confidence or esteem; and Mr. Polk's conduct has certainly tended to embitter the question on the eve of the great debate, which has by this time probably terminated in the abrogation of the existing convention. [AEK]
aggravated by the notice. But this resolution having been irrevocably taken, the peace of the world depends
upon the next step which may be set along this slippery path. Is Mr. Polk now prepared to reopen the
negotiation on an admissible basis, or must we infer from his silence that the settlement of this question is not the
really object of his policy, but that he entertains very different designs, which the next twelve months will
dislike to the world?

In贵宾 the causes which guide human conduct and govern the destinies of the world, there is
unhappily a very wide distinction to be drawn between good reasons and probable motives: and the history of the
defiencies and disasters which befal mankind is nothing more than the result of the preponderance which the
worst incentives sometimes acquire over the best convictions. That form of government is undoubtedly safest
and wisest which is best able to preserve the balance of a temperate and reactional policy from the accidents of
passion and popular delusion. But the more a Government tends to the extreme of despotic power
democratic license, the less can we rely upon this salutary control, and the more reason have we to dread the
predominance of its inane impulses over its sane reasons and its true interests. The other day, when the
Governor-General of India doubted the intentions of the Sikh army, and affirmed that they would not cross the
Sutlej, until he was actually apprised that their whole force had taken up a strong position on the left bank of the
river, his opinion was formed on reasons which would have been conclusive if they had applied to a rational
Government and prudent General, but which were false with reference to the sots and strumpets of Lahore and
to the Sirdars of that licentious camp. Sir Henry Hardinge miscalculated the course of event by giving the
enemy credit for more self-control and for less fool-hardiness than the Sikhs really possessed. They were, no
doubt mistaken in the objects and prospects of their invasion, but it required three days of frightful slaughter to
convince them that they had better have stayed at home.

The same remark may be applied, matatus matandis, to the attitude which has now been assumed towards this
country by the Cabinet and Congress of the United States. Excellent, innumerable, and unanswerable
arguments and wickedness of a war between the United states and Great Britain—the immense disproportion
between the forces of the contending Powers—the close relation of their common interests—the worthlessness of
the territory in dispute—the enormous injury which war must inflict on the states engaged in it, and may
possibly on the whole world—and the infamy which such a catastrophe must heap upon the heads of the
accidental statesmen and the popular dupes by whom alone it is provoked. Nothing can be truer, nothing more
certain; but is it ascertained that truth and reason are exclusively the guiding lights of the policy of Mr. Polk?
Must we not rather argue against truth and against reason, if we would arrive at a correct calculation of his
perseverance? From the portentous declaration contained in his inaugural address down to the very last act
of his Government, which was to heap fuel upon an angry debate by the precipitate publication of the
negotiation so lately renewed by Mr. Pakenham, every part of his conduct has evinced a direct tendency to war,
which we have only treated lightly, because it seemed, in spite of himself, to be utterly incredible/ the good
reasons against war are so evident to the public in this country and throughout Europe, --and the bad motives
which may lead to war are so obscure, so peculiarly American, and in part so nefarious, that we have never
condescended to acknowledge that the cause of peace could be sacrificed to such considerations. But, since
the repeated messages and the public acts of the President have thrown off all disguise, and rejected every
alternative, he must be judged of as a man actuated by the most deplorable motives, and who can only be
arrested in his disastrous career by the reaction which the consequences of his policy must occasion. No doubt
that reaction will occur; it is the rettributive punishment of the excesses of democratic governments; but we are
compelled to add, that it seldom acts with sufficient energy and opportunity to prevent them; and it is more
likely to pursue Mr. Polk’s Administration that to restrain it in its course. At present, the recent votes of
Congress have placed the game in his hands.

An American President is raised for a limited period to the exercise of a limited power. As nothing but
impeachment can shorten the duration of his term to office, whilst it may be doubled by his re-election, he has a
strong inducement to play the highest stakes of ambition, to repay a hundredfold to his party the support which
that party has given him, and to make all the power he enjoys, and all the interests of the state, contribute to this
personal and party object. The outbreak of war, and especially of a war, and especially of a war which has
been rendered popular by artful appeals to the passions of the democratic party, is the only event which can
suddenly enlarge the powers of the executive Government in the United States. It places at once at the
disposal of the Administration immense sums of money, loan contracts, army and navy contracts, and military
and naval patronage on a great scale. The whole people are constrained to concur in strengthening and
concentrating the forces of the executive power; and in the excitement of success, or the terrors of defeat, they
become alike insensible to the effects of measures which would be regarded at another time as dangerous
inroads on their freedom. Mr. Polk probably does not aim at any serious encroachment on the liberties of the
United States; but we have no doubt that he does aim at securing, by every possible means, the unbounded
ascendancy of the democratic party. If war be possible, if its horrors and disgrace are to be inflicted on the
world, there is not a man in either hemisphere who will not clearly know that such a war could only be caused
by the democratic party in America, and for the supposed interests of that party. That execrable motive, that
false and deluded policy, may, we are told, prevail over all the higher considerations which stand forth so
prominently before that he who runs may read. We disbelieve it, for we refuse to attribute to our own American
descendants, in this civilized age, a conduct which was discredited even in the barbarians of the Sikh camp.
But the resistance to this dangerous and alarming tendency must not be looked for in the Cabinet of
Washington; it can only arise amongst the American people. upon them the hopes of peace now rest. The
courage of moderation is the rarest of all courage in popular states, but the tone of the greater part of the press
in the United States has of late much improved, and we trust the nation will pause to weigh the consequences of
the resolution which has just been carried. The guarded and dignified expressions of the Queen’s speech, the
temperate language of the Government, the opinion delivered by Lord John Russell at Glasgow, the free trade
measures of Sir Robert Peel, and the attitude which has been assumed by France for the maintenance of a strict
neutrality in this dispute, implying her disapproval of the aggressive and warlike policy of the American
Government, are all important circumstances which cannot fail to act on public opinion in America. They were not known there upon the 9th of February. The next step upon the path of Mr. Polk has hitherto pursued must be one of active preparation for war. Congress must be prepared to give into the hands of the rashest Government which ever assembled at the White-house the means of sustaining the most formidable and the most wanton conflict the Union has ever engaged in. The real pressure of danger will then be felt; and at the same time easy and honourable means of preserving the amicable relations of the two countries will lie open to the choice of the people. If in that choice they err, the curse of all that may ensue will rest upon their country. [AEK]

The latest intelligence received from the army of the Sutlej is dated January 19. No official information has been received of any action having taken place since the 22d of December between the British troops and the Sikh force.

We received yesterday, via Havre, New York papers to the 16th ult., four days later than our last previous advices. They bring, however, little intelligence of interest. The Oregon question, having as our last accounts informed us, been decided in the House of Representatives, was discussed in the Senate on the 12gh ult. Mr. Clayton, who is in favour of giving notice to England for the terminations of the joint occupancy of that territory, was the chief speaker, and at the close of the sitting the further discussion of the subject was adjourned until the 16th ult. The papers thus received publish at length the late correspondence between Mr. Pakenham and Mr. Buchanan: but the precis of these documents which appeared in our impression of Tuesday last was so ample and correct that it is unnecessary to inflict them upon our readers. [AEK]

The Oregon Question

In the way of concession and of argument on the Oregon question, little now remains to be said or done by the British Government. The strongest desire has been repeatedly expressed on our side to terminate this controversy. Our case has been stated with such moderation, and our claims confined to such narrow limits, that nothing but extreme presumption, or rather a species of hostile infatuation, on the part of the American Democrats, could lead them to suppose we should make any further abatement of our rights. We are in actual possession of rather more of the Oregon territory than we have ever claimed as our own, because as long as the joint occupancy lasts the concurrent right of both parties extend over the whole country. We have at our disposal ample means of defending our rights. We had never, at any period in the history of this country, less reason to recoil from a war, or to fear the result of a contest with any Power, but more especially with the United States. Yet we, on our side, have strenuously and sincerely labored to effect a compromise. We have not alluded to the superiority of our maritime strength; from a misplaced respect for the American Government, no use has been made of those blunt arguments to which alone they now appear to be accessible; until at length we learn with more contempt than surprise, that Mr. Polk and his advisers are embarking in a course which can only lead, if they are allowed to persevere in it, to aggressive hostilities.

In our zeal for the maintenance of peace, and our deference for a nation with which we have so much in common, we have gone so far as to admit that their claim to the Oregon territory is equal to our own, and to argue that a partition is the fairest solution of the difficulty. The Americans, however, are not to be satisfied until they convert this concession of a part into a surrender of the whole. Their claim is, to say the most of it, not better than our own, since they themselves do not dare to submit to the arbitration of a third party, knowing that the public opinion of the world has already pronounced against it. Yet from this most imperfect and controvertible claim they seek to extract twice as much as we contend for -nay, they raise their own pretensions to absolute and total sovereignty, whilst they altogether annihilate the rights we have practically enjoyed for more than half a century. Thus in fact, the question in dispute has never been brought to a true issue. The two quantities have not been reduced to a common denomination; they differ in their very nature; and whilst our position not only admits of a compromise, but suggests and requires it, theirs is utterly at variance with the first principle of such an agreement. Mr. Buchanan's last note says too much, unless indeed it says inadvertently what is the truth; for the arguments by which he endeavors to show that the United States cannot submit their claim to arbitration, are equally cogent to prove that their claim will not admit even of negotiation. Mr. Buchanan appears to forget that the United States have negotiated; that he himself, by his last proposal, for the fourth or fifth time conceded that point; that the House of Representatives, by their second resolution, have in fact sanctioned the principle of negotiation, which is, in other words, the principle of mutual concessions. When the American Secretary of State says he cannot do what the manifest interest and dignity of the two countries require, he must either mean that the Government to which he belongs will not do it, or that the Government is acting under the compulsion of the party, excited to madness on this question, which carried Mr. Polk's election. The practical question for us is to ascertain the intentions of the American Government. If Mr. Polk and his advisers are sincerely pacific, they cannot but succeed: there is no obstacle, no impediment, no difficulty in the way, except those which they have themselves created. To bring about a war with us under such circumstances, they must be the worst statesmen in the world if they do not seek it, or the
We are informed by the prodigious volume of American statistics recently prepared for both Houses of Parliament by the diligence of Mr. Mac Gregor, that the standing army of the United States consists of one regiment of dragoons, one regiment of riflemen, four companies of artillery, and eight regiments of infantry. The whole number of troops now in the service is 9,847, exclusive of 781 commissioned officers. An act of Congress of 1842 reduced the rank and file of the army 3,920 men; this reduction is now proceeding, and when it is completed the standing army will consist of 7,590 non-commissioned officers, musicians, artificers, and privates. It is true, that if this corps should appear rather small for the defence of the United States, and the invasion of a region situated 2,000 miles off, on the other side of the American continent, its number at least, have excited the envy of Xerxes or Bonaparte. The Army Register for 1843 contains the appalling announcement, that this multitude of host is commanded by 627 generals, 2,670 general staff officers, 13,813 field officers, 44,933 company officers, being in all 62,205 officers; nor are the forces under their command consist of 1,385,645 men! For the purposes of defence against a foreign invasion we have no doubt that these American citizens would exert themselves creditably. A considerable number of the younger men may even volunteer to take a part in offensive operations. But we have no hesitation in saying that to bring an efficient army of even 30,000 men into the field, prepared to march beyond their own frontiers, is the most arduous task which has ever devolved upon the Federal Government of the United States, and with its present powers and resources we believe it to be absolutely impracticable.

The navy of the United States consists of 11 ships of the line, two of which are afloat, three are receiving ships, and six on the stocks or under repairs. The 14 first-class frigates of 44 guns are the best part of the fleet; of these four are on the stocks and three ordinary. The two 36-gun frigates are old. The smaller vessels are 17 sloops of war, 8 brigs, 9 schooner, and 6 steamers. The navy list contains 67 captains, 94 commanders, 324 lieutenants, and 133 passes midshipmen, 410 midshipmen, and 31 masters. No estimate can be formed of the real strength of the crews of the American navy, because it is well known that a considerable proportion of this fleet is manned by British seamen, who are attracted by the high pay of the American navy in time of peace. But that very circumstance shows the extreme difficulty of manning an American fleet in war, and especially in a war with England their ships are, in fact, worked to a great extent by English mercenaries, a large proportion of whom would unquestionably return to their own colours on the outbreak of hostilities.

We content ourselves with this simple enumeration of the forces of the United States by land and by sea, which we hope is correct. We know not what course Mr. Polk may intend to pursue after the notice for the abrogation of the treaty of join occupation has been duly given; and we shall await with more curiosity than alarm the enterprises which may be projected for the purpose of expelling British subjects form a district where we happen to command the coast and the interior, the Indians and the forts. The world is perfectly aware that England is not the attacking party, and that we are content to leave matters in Oregon as they now are. If the Americans mean anything, they mean to dispossess us of what we hold. At the same time, if this intention be avowed by the Cabinet of Washington, or if it be disclosed by votes of money and warlike preparations which imply a fixed determination to engage in the is absurd and flagitious contest, no state is bound to wait to be attacked. Mr. Polk has already instructed the American Minister in London to ask for an explanation of activity in our dockyards. His own conscience might have given it to him; his own language has put us upon the defensive: and although the termination of the convention of 1827 by notice is no casus belli, yet the disposition indicated by that notice, and the means which may be taken to carry that disposition into effect, may hereafter furnish ample ground of suspicion, of remonstrance, and finally hostilities. A bold and manly course on the part of the British Government will probably not be without a good effect in the United States; and it will undoubtedly command the unanimous support of the people of England. [AEK]

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**LT London Times: March 10, 1846, p6/c Mexico, affairs of**

(From our own correspondent)

Mexico, Jan. 10.

I wrote you on the 1st that Paredes had successfully accomplished his revolution; and on the 3d, that he entered the city with the whole of his division, and that once commenced the good work of reform by sending to the right about several suspicious characters, some of whom were connected with the late Ministry, and others who had joined in the pronunciamento in the hope of making the military chief their instrument and dupe. I am glad to say that Paredes still continues the same efficient and unsparing course, and that he has established a Ministry in all respects approved by the people, and well disposed to carry out the plans indicated by him. I can only observe once act of inconsistency on his part, namely, the acceptance of the ad interim Presidency; but his friends say that the dignity was forced on him, and that he had no other means of concluding the great object for which he pronounced in San Luis. This excuse may be well-founded, but Paredes should have struck out of his manifesto and correspondence those passages in which he renounced all personal elevation or advantage, or adhered to the letter and spirit of his promises and placed the Presidency in other hands; but putting aside the inconsistency, so far as the author of the revolution is concerned, it is fortunate for the country that Paredes is at the head of affairs, as there is every reason to believe that an underplot was formed in the midst of the general conspiracy for throwing him over the moment he accomplished the downfall of the late...
Government. Had this plot succeeded, the position of the republic would have become disastrous, and a fatal civil war commenced between the old leaders of corruption and the Federalists; but Paredes's straightforward and decided conduct has set at rest both parties, and he is now going on unfettered in all respects, apparently determined to renovate the nation.

To follow the regular order of things, I should state that a Junta of Notables was held on the 3d inst. at the Palace, and that the following additional articles to the plan of San Luis Potosi were agreed on by it:--

"1. The persons charged with the legislative and executive powers are suspended in the exercise of their functions, in consequence of not having corresponded to the wishes of the nation, and not having supported the dignity or secured the integrity of its territory, in accordance with the first and second articles of the plans of San Luis Potosi of the 14th of December, 1845.

"2. A junta of representatives, composed of two persons from each department, named by the General-in-Chief of the army, shall immediately elect the person charged with the supreme executive power until the meeting of an extraordinary Congress, which is to be called in accordance with the 3d article of the plan of San Luis.

"3. The junta of representatives shall be dissolved as soon as the ad interim President be elected and sworn to sustain the independence of the nation, the popular representative republican system, and the existing administrative plan of the republic.

"4. The faculties of the ad interim President are determined by the actual laws, he having no power to exceed them except for the defence of the national territory, and even then they are to be subject to the guarantees established by existing laws.

"5. The Ministers of the ad interim President are responsible for their acts before the first constitutional Courts, but the acts themselves are at no period revisable.

"6. Within eight days of his acceptance of office the ad interim President shall issue warrants for the convocation of an extraordinary Congress, which is to meet in four months in the capital of the republic; and until the constitution be determined by that congress, he shall not touch or alter the principles adopted by the interim regulations of the existing Constitution.

"7. The existing Council of State shall be maintained, and the ad interim President will consult it on all important occasion.

"8. Such functionaries only of the departments who may oppose the regeneration of the republic shall be suspended, and their places be given to others, in conformity with the actual laws.

"9. The judicial power shall continue to exercise its important functions without any variation from the existing law.

"10. No person shall be persecuted for political opinions anterior to this declaration."

The day after this declaration was signed a Junta of Notables was assembled, in accordance with the second article of the above additional plan; and after some immaterial proceeding a ballot for an ad interim President took place, and Paredes, as already stated, was elected unanimously. A difficulty arose about the form of the oath which was to be administered to him, as some persons desired to incorporate in it an obligation to make war against Texas; but the majority being convinced of the impolicy of such a clause, the following oath was drawn up and taken by Paredes:--

"I swear before God to preserve the independence and integrity of the national territory against all foreign aggression, the republican system, popular and representative, and the administrative plan of the republic as determined by the act of the 2d inst."

The installation was then confirmed by a grand Te Deum and ceremony at the cathedral; and thus, without a shot being fired or a sabre drawn, in one short month after the pronunciamento at San Luis, the supreme power of the State was placed in the hands of General Paredes.

I am sorry to say that neither the Senate nor Chamber or Deputies displayed any energy on this occasion. They surrendered to the mandate of dissolution without either remonstrance or protest, and made no attempt to place the new President in the false position which he must have been in, had they met in their respective Chambers, and compelled him to expel them by force. Only two persons acted with spirit--Generals Minon and Alcorte--both of whom protested against the proceedings of the Junta of Notables but so fallen is public feeling in the republic, that I hear no one praises those officers for their independence, and I fear they are left alone with their glory.

Two articles of the additional plan merits your attention--namely, the third, by which Paredes undertakes to maintain the representative republican system; and the fourth in which it is determined that the Ministers shall be responsible before the first Congress for their acts; the acts themselves shall not be
I have now to give the list of the new Cabinet, and I do so with great pleasure, as I find on all sides the selection much approved:

War, General Almonte.

Finance, Senor Luis Parres.

Foreign affairs and Interior, Senor Castillo y Lanza.

Grace and Justice, the Bishop of Chiapas.

The first is well known as late Minister to the United States and as a man of talent and courage; the second is the Aristedes of Mexico--the honestest man in the republic; and the third has natural gifts improved by an education in England. I know nothing of the fourth; but I must say for the three others, that even their enemies cannot speak in their disfavor; and that Paredes, with their aid, will find no difficulty in carrying on good government. The Cabinet will, I believe be supported by M. Castillo, the late Minster of Finance, who agrees to take the head of the Treasury, an efficient chief in that department being essential to the good working of the whole machine. I hope for great things from this Cabinet; and I shall be grievously disappointed if it does not succeed, as if even only one sound measure be enforced, one half of the public disabilities disappear--I allude to the simple plan of compelling the whole of the revenue to be paid into the Treasury, instead of having it frittered away in the collection and distributed to the different persons who have liens on it, as present.

I maintain, of course, that good faith should be held with all creditors, whether honest or usurious, but the very fact of the revenue being paid directly into the Treasury would create so enormous a saving, that even in its present dilapidated state the public income would cover expenditure. As to what may be done by opening the ports to European manufactures at reasonable duties, removing inland custom-houses, and remodeling the system of customs and taxation, I cannot ascribe a limit; and I adhere to what I said in a late letter, that under a new and efficient system a surplus of five millions sterling beyond all necessary expenditure for the payment of interest on national debt could be raised without the slightest pressure on the country. From this calculation of course I exclude the chances of civil war, or a contest with the United States. I hope Mexico may be saved from the former evil by the energy of the Government, and I think I already see symptoms of wavering on the part of the President and the new Minister of Foreign Affairs on the subject of American Affairs.

I find that an escort is constantly refused to the Minister of the States under one pretext of another, and I take that to be a gentle hint to him not to hasten his departure. The true state of affairs with America we cannot determine until Mr. Slidell receives fresh instructions from his Government; but I should think, from present symptoms, that if the United States yield the point of etiquette, and accredit him ad hoc, Paredes will see the propriety of abandoning Texas, and then settling the north-western and eastern frontier.

The command of the army on the Texan frontier has been taken from General Arista and given to Ampadia. It remains to be seen whether Arista will submit, or whether his troops will not prefer adhering to the pronunciamento of San Luis instead of to him. That is the only quarter from whence evil may be expected, as nearly all the departments have joined the present order of things. Civil war at this moment would be a great evil, as it would interfere with the determination taken by the President to clear all the roads of the republic from the bands of robbers that infest them. When Paredes undertook the government of the province of Guadalaxara, he found all the roads covered with banditti, who plundered and murdered at their pleasure, but before six months elapsed not a robber was to be found in the department. The plan he adopted was, to send scouring parties of cavalry, attended by a priest, and whenever a robber was taken half an hour was granted for confession, and he was shot on the spot. Paredes is now following up the same plan in this vicinity. A squadron of dragoons, attended by half a dozen friars, has been despatched on the road to Vera Cruz, with orders to shoot without mercy every culprit against whom a prima facie case can be made. A few examples will be enough to disperse the bands that at present infest that route, and by whom nearly all the diligences, as well as muleteers charges with the transport of British goods, are plundered.

Your readers may think it strange that the correspondent of that great constitutional journal The Times should speak favourably of a revolution which commences by dissolvign the regularly organized Chambers and vesting the supreme power, even temporarily, in the hands of a military chief. It is also possible that you may reprove me for taking a course so dissimilar to that followed by The Times when public principles are at stake. But I hope your readers and yourselves will, for a short time, place confidence in me, and be convinced of the distinction that exists between sound government at home and the management of a country like this, where not a single element of a constitutional system can be found. In 20 years 24 attempts at establishing representative forms have been made, all of which have failed; and so little reliance has latterly been placed in the Senate of the Deputies, that their proceedings were never thought of, and the only quality they possessed was that of being a drag on the execution of public business. No one now complains that their sittings are at an end, and I am convinced the people will not be pleased if the National Convention, to be held next month, decide on their re-establishment. The late Chambers neither promoted reform, improved the revenue, nor cut
The city of Mexico is perfectly quiet, and the new President and Ministry are very popular.

I understand that a Junta of Hacienda, or committee of finance, has been installed to-day, for the purpose of pointing out to the Minister such reforms as are necessary in that department, and how money can be raised with least injury to the public service. It is supposed that the Junta will recommend the granting of licenses of the importation of a certain quantity of raw cotton, as the manufacturers are nearly out of stocks, and a large sum can be easily raised in that manner.

4,000 troops, under the orders of General Ampadía, march towards Zacatecas to-morrow.

Puebla has submitted.

The president has declared that he will not commute the punishment of General Rangel, who, you will recollect, attempted an unsuccessful pronunciamento on the 7th of June last.

The city of Mexico is perfectly quiet, and the new President and Ministry are very popular.

[AEK]

LT 1846, March 11, p5/a US, biblical right to Oregon Territory

The 26th, 27th, and 28th verses of the 1st chapter of Genesis are, in the opinion of Mr. John Quincy Adams, the foundation of the American title to the Oregon territory, and his case finds some additional strength from a passage in the 2d Psalm. There are moonstruck madmen both in and out of Bedlam, whose lunacy takes a colour from Holy Writ, and is the more awful and distressing from the distortion and debasement of the sublimest truths which are embodied in human language; but when we learn that the ravings of one of these fanatics were listened to with interest and excitement by one branch of the most important legislative assembly of the New World,—when we are told that the text of Scripture, which was to be polluted by this insane commentary, was read by the clerk at the table of the House of Representatives at Washington,—and when we remember that all this blasphemous extravagance is uttered as the apology or the pretext of an atrocity war, and that the promises of GOD are invoked to justify the capacity and the lawlessness of man, we look in vain for any parallel for such an exhibition except in the midst of anarchy and revolution. A democracy intoxicated with what it mistakes for religion is the most formidable apparition which can startle the world. It defies its own excesses; its desires and its passions seem to be direct emanations from the law of GOD; its will claims a divine authority. The hypocrisy of the popular leaders feeds the enthusiasm of the multitude; and crimes are committed of which human nature itself is hardly capable until it is inflated by presumption and falsehood beyond all the bounds of reason and truth.

The speech of Mr. Adams, which will be found in another place, deserves to be recorded as the most recent and astounding instance of this species of popular delusion. Yet the affairs of the United States and the peace of the world are intrusted to the prudence of an assembly in which this scene could take place! Secular prudence and political integrity are bent on nothing more than an equitable and amicable termination of this controversy; but they have arrayed against them the arrogance of a Government too feeble to restrain the bad impulses which drive it along; the excitement of a populace apparently unconscious of the consequences of its acts; and, lastly, the frenzy of a religious enthusiasm which confounds the rudiments of right and wrong. Such is the aspect of the United States under their boasted forms of popular government. Their democrats are aping the crimes of despotism, and resuscitating the claims of priestcraft. The rights of neighbouring nations, the fundamental principles of public law, the common suggestions of humanity, are all sacrificed with a recklessness worthy of the worst enemies of mankind. To advocate a war on such motives for such objects as these is to preach an insurrection against the very principles on which society is based. Such a war becomes a revolution, and, if it be tinged with religious fanaticism, a revolution of the most unscrupulous kind.

We cannot believe, with one of our most esteemed correspondents, that these elements of evil exist only at the surface of this democratic society, and that the Senate of the United States is prepared and resolved "to hearken to no measure calculated to inflame the passions, and to produce a desolating war!" Can "the Senate do its duty faithfully?" Or, if that duty be now performed, and the negotiation be reopened under the auspices of the Senate, will the temperate and pacific portion of that body be able to hold its ground against the excitement of the people and the cabals of the Executive? In the hands of a man like WASHINGTON, resolutely co-operating with the Senate for the maintenance of peace, and executive power was strong enough to resist the popular impulse. But when we have a President inciting the popular part of the community to do its worst, and intriguing in and against the Senate, we have no trust in the resistance of that body. The odds of the constitution are against it; and the impediments it may oppose to the popular will would only add a fresh impetus to the agitation of the question. Such was the fate of the annexation of Texas, which was rejected by
Whatever may be the infatuation of the people and the comparative weakness of the moderate party, and the main responsibility of the crisis rests on the members of the executive Government of the United States. With them rests the initiative of negotiation, of war, or of the preparations of war. They alone are enabled to estimate the dangers of the position in which their imprudence has placed themselves and the country. These dangers, or at least the difficulties with which they have to deal, are materially increased by the state of the relations of the United States and Mexico. In the latter republic a revolution has been successfully consummated, which has placed the temporary exercise of the supreme power in the hands of a man who is at least resolved to oppose the further encroachments of the United States on the Mexican territories, to rescue California from the projected inroad of American emigrants, and, if opportunity serve, to avenge the annexation of Texas. In Texas the United States have acquired another doubtful question of boundary, and an immense additional extent of coast and of territory, which they are bound to provide with adequate means of defence by sea and land. It would be a singular consequence of Texan annexation, if the first result of its union to the territory of its northern neighbours was to make it the theatre of war. But, in the event of hostilities between the United States and Great Britain, such an event is highly probable. The Mexican Government is evidently influenced by the probability of such a catastrophe in its own relations with the Cabinet of Washington. Mr. SLIDELL, the American Envoy, has not been received, and he awaits the further orders of his Government of Jalapa. The first indication of hostilities towards England by the American Government would be followed (if it be not preceded) by a declaration of war against the United States by Mexico. The whole continent of North America, beyond their own frontiers, would then resent the excessive pre-tensions of the democrats of the north. The whole coast of the Pacific would be closed against the vessels of the United States: that of the Atlantic Ocean would be open to the attacks of the greatest maritime power. Without an army, without a fleet, without a revenue, without credit, with a divided public opinion, a strong party opposition, a fluctuating populace, and in the southern states a slave population, Mr. POLK has thought fit to raise up difficulties which might appall the best generals, the most experienced statesmen, the mightiest states of the old world. We shall see how he surmounts them; but he will not surmount them by inducing England to stoop to conditions she has already rejected, or to engage in a fresh negotiation on any other terms than those of perfect equality of right to the Oregon territory.

I send you duplicates of my dispatches of the 3d and 10th inst.,* but I hope the originals have long since reached, and put you in possession of all the leading facts connected with the revolution so peaceably accomplished by General Paredes. I have now the satisfaction to say, that every event confirms my anticipations, and that, in my opinion, Mexico has now fairer prospects of arriving at good government than she has enjoyed since she effected her independence. Such are appearances; but, warned by experience, I must be cautious in not being over sanguine as to results. Corruption is so engrained in the daily habits of the people-sound principles of government are so little understood—so much apathy succeeds every unusual exertion, that I cannot venture to do more than express a strong belief that the republic has now a chance of gaining that elevation to which by position and internal wealth she is so well entitled. Paredes has begun well, and is inclined to pursue the same straightforward course. He has selected the most honest and most able men in Mexico to form a Cabinet; but he finds the army so disorganized, and the finances in so dreadful a state of disorder, that time must be allowed before a cure can be effected, and then, if he succeeds, a miracle will be accomplished.

One great good he has already done—namely, freed the roads leading from the republic from the organized bands of robbers who plundered the diligences four days out of seven, and stripped every traveler who had property to lose. Since Paredes sent forth detachments, accompanied by a chaplain, with orders to shoot, with half an hour’s grace, every robber caught in the fact or with stolen goods on him, all the well-known practitioners in that line have disappeared. I have myself made the experiment, and having lately had occasion to undertake a journey of 250 miles, I traveled with full confidence in the terror of Paredes’ name, and had no reason to regret what others called my temerity, in carrying a watch and a reasonable sum of money about me.

This is a social reform of such practical utility that one forgives the despotic order of preceding, and well it would be for Mexico if the other great evils of the country could be cured in the same effectual manner, even at the sacrifice of the like abandonment of principle. I must of course except the measures taken with respect to the public press, as I cannot see the necessity of the interim President’s reviving Santa Anna’s laws of 1839 and 1843, by which all superior authorities are allowed to arrest, and imprison in the fortresses of Acapulco and San Juan de Ulloa, the proprietors and editors of newspapers containing notorious libels, submitting at the same time the libels in question for decision to the regular tribunals. This you will admit is a very Irish mode of proceeding, punishing first and trying after; and few newspapers will risk articles open to the misconstruction of some dependent of the Government, and I have only to hope that Paredes has revived the law more for the purpose of inspiring terror among the Federalist writers, than for carrying it absolutely into effect. Indeed, judging from the abundant creation of new journals within a few days, no alarm has been excited in editorial circles, and I find one paper, the Tiempo, advocating a monarchy with considerable ability in the very teeth of the programme laid down by Paredes.
The convocatoria, or warrant for the calling together a national convention charged with fixing definitively the Constitution, has just appeared. It consists of 156 articles; but I need not trouble you with more than a general abstract. The Congress is to consist of 160 deputies, 38 of whom are to be chosen by the landed interest, 20 the commercial, 14 the mineral, 14 the manufacturing, 14 the literary, 10 the public administration, 20 the church, and 20 by the army. The right of voting for deputies is limited to Mexican subjects of 24, and of being deputies to those of 30 years of age. Persons paying to the department of Mexico 150 dollars a year of direct taxes, for the districts of Puebla, Vera Cruz, Michocan, Guanajueto, Zacatecas, and Jalisco, 90 dollars a year, in all other departments 60 dollars, are eligible as deputies. The qualifications of electors vary in the several departments, but the rate of payment of taxes is fixed so high that none but the better classes of society can appear at the hasting. Each province is allotted a number of deputies from the different professions according to its extent and property. The elections are all to take place before the 1st of May, and the Congress is to assemble within four months of that period. The Congress must determine of the Constitution within six months of its formation, with power to postpone the decision for three months more, should extraordinary circumstances require delay. All deputies to be inviolable for opinions expressed in the Congress. The Congress is based on the principle that according to the last census the population of the republic was 7,000,000 inhabitants, and that one in 70,000 shall be represented.

What the result of this national experiment may be, it is impossible to foresee, but it is evident that in the mean time, nearly for 10 months, Paredes will be absolute master, and that the fate of the country is vested in his hands. I hope for the best, but it is hard to say what use he will make of these extraordinary powers. Santa Anna had the same authority with greater prestige; but he was a public robber, while the breath of suspicion has not yet soiled Paredes name. I understand that Paredes has declared he will not accept the pay of President; he lives in his private house, no in the palace; and he does no pilfer himself, he will not allow others to rob the State. Good intentions, a firm will, and a hand of iron he possesses, but his allies are the church and the jobbers in Government, negocios as they are called, and I know not how improvement can take place under the control of thousands of lazy friars, and of the habitual vultures of the Treasury. The influence of the latter has been shown lately in too decided a manner for one to neglect the warning it contains. Paredes a few days since declared he would put down the gaming tables with which Mexico abounds, and in which some of the great capitalists, general officers, and colonels of the army are partners and agents, but he was obliged to give way to the power of these people, and though he refused the large yearly contribution they offered, the order against monte has not appeared. The influence of the former is less apparent but equally efficacious, and I am told that public institutions for improvement of science and art have been suppressed in consequence of secret intrigues, which could alone arise from that suspected quarter. Paredes' good intentions are greater than his capacity, and therefore am I slow to anticipate the future, though I cheerfully admit that all his actions, save that relative to the monte tables, up to the present hour are admirable and well-timed.

I see that all opposition to the new order of things has ceased in the army and the departments. General Arista made a show of resistance and marched on Tampico, but finding that his troops were not warm in their cause, he gave up the command, and retired to his farm, to use his own words, "because the country no longer required his services." The departments that a few weeks since spoke, by the months of their civil authorities, open defiance to the revolution, have likewise submitted to Paredes. Yucatan alone has ventured on a great game. It has declared its independence, and means to set up for itself. The connexion between Mexico and this province has been for some time past merely nominal, as it refused to contribute a soldier to the public service or a shilling to the revenue, so that little is lost but the name, and the pretext that the example holds out to other departments that hang equally loosely on the Central Government. We are afraid, for instance, of its effects on Upper California, and on New Mexico, as both provinces daily show strong symptoms of declaring independence, with a view towards annexation with the United States.

The want of money is, as you are prepared to expect, the great difficulty which the Government of Paeedes is destined to meet, and I hope to overcome. It has agreed to admit an unlimited import of cotton wool on payment of 10 dollars the quintal when the license to import is taken out; but this plan does not produce the expected addition to the revenue, as speculators do not like paying so large a sum in advance with the prospect of an American war, or at least a blockade of the ports, before them. Claims have likewise been set up by private individuals, as no doubt they will be by the agents of British bondholders, for their percentage on the said revenue, as they contend that cash paid for a license to import is tantamount to customs paid on imports at Vera Cruz. This is a question which may give trouble to the British Minister at Mexico, and probably to the Foreign-office at home; but, in my opinion, the case is quite clear in favour of the British claimants, and the evasion of granting licenses instead of receiving duties is too palpable to command a moment's respect. The Mexican Minister has shown but little tact in this affair, for had he declared the port of Vera Cruz free for the importation of cotton, and then put an internal duty on its removal to any part of the interior, he would have escaped the difficulty. The Minister's object, however, is the supply of ready cash, and in trying to attain that object he overlooks the serious difficulties that interpose. Moreover, an agricultural opposition will arise from the cotton-growers, whose harvest of good prices is destroyed at the moment is should be gathered in; so that the Government has to contend with manufacturers whose works are nearly stopped for want of cotton; with the landed interest, who have just reason to complain of broken faith; and with the public editors, who are strong enough to prevent faith being broken with them.

We received only a few days since the American President's message. One passage in it relative to Mexico excites general astonishment, and the unblushing boldness of it should open the willful blindness that appears to exist in England with regard to the designs of the United States-I allude to that sentence in which Mr. Polk declares that the Union has now carried its frontier to the Rio Grande; as well might we say that the Union extended its frontier to the Isthmus of Panama, for it has just as much right to one as the other. Texas is
incorporated with the United States, that is a *fait accompli*, and whatever Mexico may say we English have no right to question the transaction. But how does the incorporation of Texas extend the frontier to Rio Grand or Bravo el Norte—both being names of the same river? The frontier of Texas is the Nueces, and beyond that is Mexican land, as clearly as that south of the Bidassoa belongs to Spain. Many moths since I advised you of these intentions; I regret to see thus soon my anticipations realized.

Let us look for a moment at the extent of the territory thus swallowed by the insatiable maw of the States. Texas Proper contains 21,000 square leagues; the part of Chihuahua between the Rio Grande and Texas contains 8,600 square leagues; that of New Mexico, in the same condition, 4,000 leagues; of Cohuilla, 1,175 leagues; and of Tamaulipas, 6,000 leagues. So that with one dash of the pen President Polk, in addition to the 21,000 square leagues of Texas, cuts off from the republic of Mexico no less than 11,075 square leagues. And this, let me persuade you, is but one step toward its final object namely, the possession of the mining districts. We may be indifferent to this plunder; but shall we be equally indifferent when the silver currency of Europe is controlled by the President of the United States, and when the States in the possession of the Mexican mines become the richest nation in the world. I have repeated this idea in almost every letter addressed you since I came here, and I shall never cease to repeat it as one of those homely truths which statesmen resist till the evil result be accomplished and beyond belief.

I now find, by late intelligence from Washington, that negotiations between England and the States are reopened with respect to the Oregon, and on the basis that the 49th parallel from the Rocky Mountains to the sea is to be the final boundary. If such be the case, and Great Britain cedes to the United States the Oregon south of the 49th parallel, Mr. Polk has accomplished the great object for which his predecessors so long struggled in vain. By it the fate of Upper California, from the 36th parallel, is decided; and in a short time we shall see another state added to the Union, embracing the Bay of San Francisco and the river Columbia, with 700 miles of the coast of the Pacific. As the policy of the United States has been to secure Texas as a stepping stone to the mining districts of Mexico, it is equally desirable to obtain any portion of the Oregon as the sole barrier between the Union and the Bay of San Francisco; and England, in agreeing to terms by which the States attain legal and undisputed possession of the land above the 43rd parallel, or Mexican boundary, abandons the finest harbour in the world, and the command of the Northern Pacific. I hope we do so with our eyes open, and that the sacrifice is made for objects substantial in reality, though not apparent to persons unacquainted with secrets of state. The Oregon has been the pretext, but California is the end of the United States, and the noise and bluster they made about the former have been raised for the purpose of covering their real views on San Francisco. Had we insisted on the 45th instead of the 49th parallel, it would have been granted. All that the States desire is to get such a footing above the Mexican frontier as will prepare the way for seizing the coveted portion of the territory of that country. Thieves take possession of an empty house for the purpose of more securely robbing the rich man's residence next door; so the United States obtain the barren lands of the Oregon, with the intention of plundering their Mexican neighbour at their ease. We must call things by their right names, and learn at last to understand that when the United States speak of Texas they mean the Mexican mines—and of Oregon, they mean the Bay of San Francisco. I suppose we shall find the President of next year announcing that the frontier of the States has been extended to the 36th parallel, with the same unblushing boldness that Mr. Polk announces this year the extension to the Rio Grande. The next step will be the annexation of the department of New Mexico; and thus in the center, and on each flank, the Mexican territory is disposed of at the pleasure of its grasping neighbour. Indeed, I see, by late American papers, that nothing less than the possession of the whole of Mexico will content the States. One writer, for instance, says, "Any one can see where these things will end; they will cad in the annexation of Mexico to the United States—silver mines, gold mines, cathedrals, and plantations. Hell cannot stop the rapidly approaching climacteric of the annexation of Mexico, and the compromise upon the 49th parallel for Oregon will give us Mexico. The work of annexation is just beginning, we cannot stop short of the Isthmus of Darien. This is the realization of more than a poet's dream—the onward progress of our model republic." I believe that every man in the United States participate in these anticipations; and I venture to add that our cession of any part of the Oregon is the proximate step to their accomplishment.

The new tariff will come into operation on the 1st of next month. It will afford some relief to British trade, but I fear the duties are still too high to bear competition with smuggling through Texas, or the wagon trade to Santa Fe. English houses are already, I understand, turning their attention to the establishment of depots at Galveston, and of passing goods through the undefended frontiers of the Rio Bravo, and I find that Englishmen are already on the prairies competing with American enterprise to Santa Fe. I understand that every year a large convoy of wagons is formed at a town called Independence, in the far west, about 3,000 miles from New York, to which goods are brought by rail and steam on the Missouri; and that the journey is accomplished from Independence to Santa Fe in 60 to 70 days over the prairies, and through the midst of hostile Indians. At Santa Fe an arrangement is made with the Mexican Custom-house-office for $750 duty on each waggon load, after which the journey is continued for 90 days more to the great fairs of San Juan de los Lagos, or of Aguas Calientes. Large profits have been made in this trade, as the duties paid at Santa Fe, and all expenses of the road, do not amount to one-fourth of those which would be charged at any seaport of entry, and as coarse goods, which are prohibited in a regular way, can thus without difficulty be introduced. This trade, which has been for some years past in the hands of natives only, is now opened by a few spirited Englishmen; and next season I have some reason to believe that all the north of Mexico will be supplied from our fabrics with goods prohibited at Tampico and Vera Cruz. A late enactment made by the United States, which entitles the importer of goods seaward to a drawback of the whole duty on receiving the certificate of the American Consul at Santa Fe, is an absolute bounty to our countrymen; and if it be continued, few American manufacturers can compete with them in the articles suited to that particular trade. Goods that are prohibited in the several Gulf seaports of Mexico are thus introduced overland into the heart of its territory, and British mantas undersell the home made at San Juan de los Lagos.
Mr. Slidell, the American Minister, continues at Jalapa, one day from Vera Cruz, waiting definitive orders from his Government. The Mexican Cabinet refuses to receive him, under pretence that it only agreed to accept a Minister ad hoc for the settlement of the Texan affair; but the correspondence between the Consul at Mexico and the Government, which I subjoin, proves that the Mexican Cabinet made no such condition, and for once the United States are in the right. Mexico may pay dearly for this duplicity, as a fleet may be hourly expected at Vera Cruz, and the Constitution frigate has arrived at Mazatlan, with orders, it is said, to seize on one of the Pacific ports, should Mr. Slidell not be received. An opinion generally prevails at Mexico that war is inevitable between England and the United States, and that idea renders the Government more difficult in acceding to the terms of the Washington Cabinet.

Late advices from the Havannah state that M. de Cyprey, the ex-French Minister at this place, continued there with his family, waiting orders from home. I'm also glad to find that illicit importation of Negroes at the Havannah had altogether ceased. Santa Anna is still living at the Havannah, occupied with his favourite amusement of cock-fighting, and apparently indifferent to the march of events in Mexico. His friends here are still numerous, at least to judge by the letters which, I understand from good authority, he receives from this---one-half of the correspondence between Mexico and the Havannah being addressed to him.

The Spanish Government is intriguing here with the hope of establishing one of its princes as sovereign, should the advocates for monarchy succeed in gaining a majority in the Convention. Two agents have been lately secretly employed here under the orders of the Captain-General of Cuba, and a new journal, called the Espectador, is announced under the direction of Colonel Valdes and the son of one of the most notorious Christino partisans at Madrid, for the purpose of supporting these pretensions. The Infante Don Sebastian, who married the sister of Donna Christina, and a son of Don Francisco de Paula, are the candidates. [CCB]

LT March 13, 1846, 5b, "AMERICA"

We have received Washington advices to the 19th ult. Inclusive by the packet-ship Rochester, Captain Britton, arrived from New York, whence she sailed on the 21st ult.

The adjourned debate in the Senate had been resumed on the 16th ult. in accordance with resolution; and during the interval between that date and the dispatch of our latest accounts from Washington the house had been addressed by Mr. Hannegan, Mr. Colquitt, Mr. Dix, Mr. Benton, and Mr. Dickenson.

We extract from the New York Courier and Enquirer a brief resume of the speeches delivered by the gentlemen named.

The proceedings of the House of Representatives are totally uninteresting.

The new Tariff Bill, so late as the 19th ult., had not been reported from the Committee on Finance. Upon this subject we make the following interesting extracts from the Washington correspondence of the Courier and Enquirer: --

"WASHINGTON, FEB. 16.

"Repeated efforts were made in the House today to have the Tariff Bill, framed under the direction of Mr. Walker, and now in the possession of the committee on finance, laid before the House, but none of them were successful. The members generally know nothing of the bill, except through the correspondence from this city which has come back; and its importance, together with the fact that its provisions are directly at variance with the laboured theory of the Secretary of the Treasury, as set forth in his annual report, creates a strong desire among members to have possession of the bill. Its provisions please neither the Protectionist nor the Free trader, and unless it shall win friends to its support which it has not now got, the indications are that it cannot be enacted into a law; but its fate is so intimately connected with that of the great question of the day---that of Oregon--that it is impossible to predict with any degree of confidence what will be the action of Congress upon it.

"FEBRUARY 19.

"You will observe that there have been several unsuccessful efforts in the House to reach the Tariff Bill prepared under the supervision of the Secretary of Treasury. The reason is that it does not suit the chairman of the Committee on Finance, Mr. M'Kay, who prefers the bill reported by himself at the last Congress. It is also rumoured that he and the Secretary have had interviews on the subject which have partaken more of the character of altercation than consultations. The article in the Union of last evening headed 'A War for Oregon Preferred to a Reduction of the Tariff,' has attracted very general attention. It purports to be in reply to an article in the Baltimore Patriot, but its perusal leaves the irresistible impression on the mind that the Government have it in contemplation to sacrifice the protection of our home industry, and accommodate our tariff to British interests, for the purpose of securing the whole of Oregon. That this had been suspected from former articles in the Union, and this suspicion is, in the minds of many, verified by the article of last evening. If it is true, as intimated in the Union, that unless we sacrifice the tariff we shall have to fight for Oregon, if
The coast had been visited by terrific storms of wind and snow. The New York papers teem with accounts of the disasters received by the shipping.

The money-market was easy. Discounts were effected at 6 to 7 per cent. Exchanges were inactive, 5 28³⁄₄ to 5 27¹⁄₂.

The Cambria, with the mails of the 4th of February, had arrived at Boston on the 18th ult., communicating the remarks made by Sir R. Peel upon Mr. Pakenham's rejection of the proposal made last autumn by Mr. Polk. The Courier and Enquirer remarks,--

"The news from England is important, as exhibiting the anxious desire of the British Government to settle the Oregon question if this country will consent to any arrangement compatible with the honour of Great Britain; and now, more than ever, the question of war or peace rests solely with this Government. We sincerely hope that the Cambria brings instructions from the British Minister to offer to our Government the propositions rejected by him in July; because if it does not, we doubt whether the British Ministry will feel disposed to make any offer after the rejection of the proposition to arbitrate, in an offensive manner, and upon the distinct ground that to agree to an arbitration would be to admit that Great Britain has some rights in Oregon, which Mr. Buchanan in that correspondence again denies. The uncourteous character of that last correspondence is, in our judgment, the principal difficulty in the way of an early adjustment of existing difficulties between the two countries. True, the Administration may in its obstinacy and folly presume upon the pacific disposition evinced by the British Cabinet, and in the hope of getting the whole of Oregon, refuse all compromise; but this, we think, Mr. Polk dare not do without first submitting the question to the people's representatives, who will never countenance such folly. But be this as it may, we must now look solely to Washington and our own Administration for the settlement of the question, for beyond all doubt, if we renew the original proposition made by Mr. Buchanan, it will be transmitted to England for the decision of the British Government, if it should not be at once accepted by Mr. Pakenham. And why would we not renew that proposition? It was made in good faith--not to Mr. Pakenham, but to the British Government; and now that we are officially informed that it did not reach the Government before it was withdrawn, surely good faith, self-respect, and a desire to promote an honourable and equitable settlement of the question, require that it should be renewed for the specific action of those for whom it was originally intended. Such, we contend, after the manly declarations of Sir Robert Peel in the House of Commons is the course which this Government owes it to pursue. Let them do this--and not to do it is to fail in self-respect--and there can be no doubt but the whole difficulty will be promptly and honourably arranged. This proposition to reduce the duties on Indian corn, beef, pork, &c., is only another evidence of the pacific character of the English Government, and if adopted will add largely to our export trade."

Our Canadian advices are uninteresting. No later accounts had been received from Mexico. [CCB]

LT March 16, 1846, p4/e US, France, and the Oregon question

When the Cambria left Boston on the 1st inst. it was known that the Senate of the United States had adjourned the debate on the abrogation of the Oregon convention to the 2d of March; but there was no doubt that Mr. Colquitt's resolutions would be carried by a large majority in that assembly. These resolutions are substantially the same as those adopted by the House of Representatives, although in a more qualified form; but they express with greater energy an "earnest desire that this long standing controversy may be settled by negotiation and compromise." In fact, they impose upon the Cabinet of the United States the duty of reopening the negotiations on such terms as may convince the American people that a sincere attempt has been made to effect a peaceful settlement of the dispute; and we sincerely hope these terms may be admissible by England. Mr. Allen, however, in the course of the debate, declared that the President's views and determination to assert his title to the whole territory up to 54 40' had undergone no change. On the part of the British Minister, Mr. Pakenham, no fresh overture has been made.

Whatever may be the motives which induce the Congress of the United States to voted the abrogation of the convention of 1827 for the joint occupancy of the Oregon territory, we are chiefly concerned to examine the effect of that measure on the relative rights of the two claimants. As soon as the Senate shall have concurred in these resolutions, and the President proceed, as he undoubtedly will, to give the notice, the whole question will assume a new shape, or rather it will revert to the condition in which it stood before ever the conventions of 1818 and of 1827 were thought of, that condition being only modified by the actual settlements in the country made under the specific protection of those very instruments. It may, we think, be demonstrated by strict reasoning that the abrogation of these conventions under the present circumstances of
Under the agreement which the Americans are resolved to cancel, two kinds of claims have existed: the first conventional, which were on the footing of strict equality; the second claims of settlement, which depend on the relative extent of occupation by either party. If the convention be annulled, the conventional privileges of the Americans, which were equal to our own, cease and determine, as far as we are concerned; their right is reduced to a mere abstract title; whilst we stand upon the British rights of occupation, sanctioned by all the arguments in support of our claim, and especially by the treaty of 1790 with Spain. The settlements of the Hudson's Bay Company in the Oregon territory have been made under a right recognized by these conventions; but the right existed before the conventions, and the settlements, with all the rights accruing to their founders, will subsist after them. Dr. Twiss, in his most interesting and elaborate survey of the whole question, points out the passage of Vattel by which such a case must be determined. "If," says that great authority, "two or more nations at the same time discover and take possession of an island or any other desert land without an owner, they ought to agree between themselves and make an equitable partition; but, if they cannot agree, each will have the right of empire and domain in the parts in which they first settled."

In this particular case, the effect of occupation and priority of settlement as conferring sovereignty is more than usually decisive. For the right of fishing, landing for the purpose of trade with the natives, and of making settlements, having been formally secured to Spain and to England by the treaty of 1790, the settlements made in pursuance of that right by either Power became absolute possessions of the Crown. Let us now ascertain from an unquestionable witness, Mr. Greenhow himself, the champion of the American claims, what the relative importance of these settlements is. He observes that the difficulty of the negotiation undertaken in 1826 had been materially increased since 1818--

"By the great inequality which had been produced in the relative positions of the two parties as regards actual occupation. After the union of the two great North American Companies in 1821, and the establishment of civil and criminal jurisdiction throughout their territories, the Hudson's Bay Company became a powerful body; its resources were no longer wasted in disputes with a rival association; its regulations were enforced; its operations were conducted with security and efficiency; and encouragement was afforded for the extension of its posts and communications by the assurance that the honour of the Government was thereby more strongly engaged in its support. Many of these posts were fortified, and could be defended by their inmates--men inured to dangers and hardships of all kinds--against any attacks which might be apprehended; and thus, in a few years, the whole region north and north-west of the United States, from Hudson's Bay and Canada to the Pacific, particularly the portion traversed by the Columbia and its branches, was occupied, in a military sense, by British forces, although there was not a single British soldier, strictly speaking, within its limits.

Such is the American account of the state of district in 1826, when Mr. Gallatin proposed as his ultimatum the cession by England of the territory up to the 49th parallel. Nor is it now materially altered. Two or three thousand American emigrants have formed a village on one of the southern tributaries of the Columbia; but neither their means nor their objects extend to any command of territory beyond the valley of the Willamette. They have an undoubted right to form such settlements under the convention; but they owe the means of completing their journey across the vast and rugged wilderness to the liberality and hospitality of the agents of the Hudson's Bay Company. Captain Fremont, who conducted the United States exploring expedition beyond the Rocky Mountains in 1843, attests the fact. On arriving at Fort Nez Perce, a British post situated at the confluence of the River Wallawalla and the Columbia, he observes that at this point, which is just 2,000 miles overland from the western frontier of the state of Missouri, the emigrants who arrive by the South Pass and from the valley of the Mississippi may embark on the broad stream of the west. He himself and the heads of the emigrants there at the same time were hospitably entertained by Mr. Mackinsley, the commander of the post. At Fort Vancouver, Captain Fremont was received with the greatest courtesy by Dr. M'Loughlin, the executive officer of the Hudson's Bay Company in the territory west of the Rocky Mountains, and the expedition was furnished with all necessary supplies. He adds--

"I found many American emigrants at the fort; others had already crossed into their land of premise--the Wallahmette Valley. Others were daily arriving, and all of them had been furnished with shelter, so far as it could be afforded by the buildings connected with the establishment. Necessary clothing and provisions (the latter to be afterwards returned inkind from the produce of their labour) were also furnished. This friendly assistance was of very great value to the emigrants, whose families were otherwise exposed to much suffering in the winter rains; at the same time, they were in want of all the common necessities of life. Those who had driven their stock down the Columbia had brought them safely in, and found for them a ready market, and were already proposing to return to the States in the spring for another supply."

We quote these facts, which are given on American official authority, because it is impossible to place the relative importance of the British and American settlements in the territory in stronger contrast. In fact, if the emigrants from the United States had not been liberally and humanely assisted and protected by the British agents, they would probably have perished miserably on that bleak shore, beyond the reach of all human aid. But what is the return the instigators of the American people propose to make for these offices of humanity? What effect has this information, officially presented to Congress, upon the deliberations of the Legislature? It only incites them to endeavour to expel their benefactors from the country, and to wrest from the Hudson's Bay Company those very forts which have sheltered their own emigrants from the hardships of the wilderness.
No appeals have been made to public opinion or to Parliament by the Hudson's Bay Company, probably because that body feels sufficiently strong in its own resources and in the resolution of the Government. But a stronger case for public interest and support we have never known. A great trading company enters upon the enjoyment of certain rights secured by a treaty between the Crowns of Spain and England, with the full sanction of royal charter and acts of Parliament; it occupies a vast uninhabited region, where settlement was all that was needed to assert and establish indefeasible rights of dominion; it exercises those rights with so little jealousy, that even the emigrants from the rival state are housed within its walls and supplied from its magazines. It has organized the sole system of regular communication and traffic that the present state of the northern parts of America admits of. All this has been going on actively for the last quarter of a century, and less actively ever since 1790; when suddenly, by the mere will and pleasure of a democratic community, whose nearest possessions are distant 2,000 miles of land travel, this company and the power it represents are summoned to evacuate, surrender, and renounce their forts, their posts, their settlements, the navigation of the rivers, the possession of the country, and to retire beyond the 54th parallel of latitude. Such a cession of territory would at once paralyze the whole operations of the Company and the North-Western coast. Yet, such is the extraordinary perversion of public opinion in America on this subject, that we are expected to abandon a title, supported by effectual occupation, in favour of another title, which rests upon no superior legal claims, and is backed by no occupation whatever!

As soon as notice of the abrogation of the treaty of 1827 is given, we trust that no mere formalities will deter the British Government from informing the Cabinet of Washington and the world what are the definitive claims of this country and what are the concessions England is prepared to make. Nothing is gained by the secrecy of diplomacy in treating with the United States, because public opinion in that country is the last arbiter of the national policy and the Government has shown itself less disposed to peace than the more enlightened part of the community. Whatever be the proposals of the American Executive, we must trust to the fairness of our own views, to our ability to defend the ground on which we stand, and to the magnitude of the alternatives. But, as we observed more than two months ago, in an article which has been much discussed in the United States, we cannot acquiesce in the surrender of positive long-enjoyed benefits; and the navigation of the Columbia, the harbour of St. Juan de Fuca, and Vancouver's Island are included in those we undoubtedly and rightfully possess.

LT March 16, 1846. 5E.

AMERICA

Liverpool, Saturday, March 14.

The British and North American Royal mail steam-ship Cambria arrived here this morning from Boston and Halifax, with a portion only of the usual mails of the 1st instant.

The advices received from Washington are important. The discussion in the Senate had not been resumed until the 24th ultimo, when Mr. Dickenson addressed the house in favour of the notice and "the whole Oregon."

We subjoin the subsequent proceedings of Congress:--

Washington, Wednesday, Feb. 25.

There was an interesting debate in the Senate to-day on the Oregon question, and the character of the late intelligence from England.

After Mr. Dickenson had concluded his speech,

Mr. Dayton moved that the further discussion of the subject he postponed to Monday fortnight. He did not think that any good could come from a discussion at this time. The character of the late intelligence had impressed him as very amicable, and it was proper to meet it in the same spirit. We could not, in a better manner, meet that amicable disposition than by showing that we were in hot haste.

Mr. Allan said,--In regard to the pacific news of which we had heard so much men might well differ in opinion. He had seen nothing in the language of Ministers or in that of the press which afforded any evidence of a change in the designs of England. The British Cabinet were too sagacious to disclose their designs in advance; and, if we were to gather any thing from their declarations, it would be the very reverse of what they professed. But the British Government had had the President's message before them for two months, and they knew what measures were proposed by us. There was no propriety in our taking counsel from the movements of Great Britain; and if we now postponed the subject it would show that we lacked nerve and heart for the work we had undertaken. This subject had now become connected with another of greater importance--our political relations with other countries. He alluded to the project of a monarchial government, under European guarantee, for Mexico.
Mr. Dayton,—The senator from Ohio may be right. The sentiments of the British Ministers and press
might not be a fair exponent of the designs of the British Government. If so, he wished that a little of the same
discretion could be manifested here. He did not propose a postponement with a view to shrink from the
question, but with a view to more deliberate action. The Senate was not now prepared to act, and the
discussion had become stale.

Mr. Cass made some remarks with a view to justify his former inferences as to the position of the
British Government on this question. Nothing in the Queen’s speech or in Parliament showed any pacific
intention towards the United States, but the reverse. He was astonished at the remark of the Government
paper (the Union) that the news from Great Britain was pacific.

Mr. Berrien was disposed to support the motion, but he agreed that our right to give the notice was
indisputable.

Mr. Dayton withdrew his motion to postpone.

Mr. Colquitt wished to submit an amendment which would express the sense of the Senate that the
question was a proper one for negotiation and compromise.

Mr. Calhoun said, he hoped every senator would come tomorrow prepared to vote on the amendments.

The Senate went into consideration of executive business.

Thursday, Feb. 26, Half-Past 4 O’Clock

The following is the form of the notice proposed by Mr. Colquitt yesterday, and which, it is believed,
meets the views of Mr. Calhoun, Mr. Crittenden, and others of both parties.

Upon the adoption of this resolution, it is surmised that Mr. Buchanan will retire from the Cabinet, and
the negotiations will be renewed.

The following are the joint resolutions:--

"That notice be given, in terms of the treaty, for abrogating the convention made between Great Britain
and the United States on the 20th of October, 1818, and continued by the convention of 1827, immediately after
the close of the present session of Congress, unless the President, in his discretion, shall consider it expedient to
defer it to a latter period.

Sec. 2. And be it further resolved, that it is earnestly desired that the long standing controversy
respecting limits in the Oregon territory be speedily settled by negotiation and compromise, in order to
tranquilize the public mind, and to preserve the friendly relations between the two countries."

Mr. Webster, after alluding to the importance of an expression of opinion on this subject, by the Senate,
in reference to the interests of the business community, which were suffering by the state of suspense, inquired
whether the senator from Kentucky (Mr. Crittenden) had determined to accept the proposition of the senator
from Georgia (Mr. Colquitt)?

Mr. Crittenden had determined, he said, to accept the point alone; and he would accept the latter with
some qualification. Mr. Crittenden went on to say, that whatever might be the occasional popular
effervescence in this country, or the fervour of debates here, he trusted that it would be found that the Senate
would come to a wise and temperate conclusion on this subject. There was a great desire that action should
take place to-day, in order that the result might be transmitted by the steamer, but he did not see its
importance.

Mr. Webster did not differ a hair’s breadth in opinion from the hon. Senator from Kentucky as to the
propriety of the course that he proposed. He went on to say that the exercise of the treaty right to give the
notice was in just cause of offence, but the circumstances attending it were to be considered. The house
accompanied the naked notice with a proposition qualifying it. Some such proposition had been offered here.
It seemed to be the sense of the Senate that some qualifications ought to be adopted. It was desirable that we
should know the opinion of the executive Government as to the effect and use of this notice. The President did
not expect war; but how did he propose to escape it? The question must be settled, and, if so, by negotiation.
But what was to be the bias of the negotiation? What were to be the terms? All that we heard from the
Government was, that they claimed the whole of Oregon or none. He could not understand the position of the
Government. It would not treat for anything less than the whole of Oregon, but propose negotiation. Did they
expect by negotiation to persuade Great Britain to give us the whole of Oregon? He wished success to the
project. There seemed to be a gross inconsistency in the positions of the Government. If they did not intend
to compromise, the result often predicted by the senator from Michigan must happen. Mr. Webster, in the
course of his remarks, said that a majority of the Senate would vote for the two propositions of Mr. Colquitt.
Mr. Mangum here said,—Two-thirds will vote for it.

Mr. Breese, Mr. Hannesan, and Mr. Allen opposed the amendment of Mr. Colquitt; and Mr. Breese declared that he did not wish the President to negotiate further. Mr. Allen, in the course of the debate, asserted that the President's views and determination to assert our title to the whole territory up to 54 deg., 40 min., had undergone no change.

Mr. Calhoun said it as now evident, if not before, tat the point in controversy was whether this question should be settled by arms or by negotiation and compromise. It was the most important question that had ever come before the American people since the revolution. He dwelt on the importance of an early expression of the opinion of the Senate upon it.

Mr. Cass said the resolutions could not take anything from the constitutional power of the President.

Mr. Breese moved to adjournment.

The Senate adjourned to Monday.

The New York Herald, of the 28th ult., rumours that Mr. Pakenham had submitted a new proposition to the American Executive. We believe this rumour to be altogether unfounded.

It was stated that a large fleet would shortly be assembled in the Gulf of Mexico.

Our Canadian advices are unimportant. The recent diplomatic correspondence on the Oregon question had been received as rendering war almost inevitable. The new commercial scheme propounded by the Premier had caused considerable excitement and alarm; and the Board of Montreal had determined to memorialize the home Government to admit Canadian corn and flour duty free, without a certificate of origin, and with other advantages.

We learn from Mexico that the hostile movement of Arista had failed.

[CCB]

LT March 17, 1846, p5/b Oregon question

The statement of the Washington correspondence of the New York Herald, that Mr. Pakenham submitted his ultimatum to the consideration of the American Government on the evening of the 26th of February, and that a Cabinet was immediately held to deliberate upon the definitive proposal, is, we have reason to believe, wholly without foundation. It is equally false that "Mr. Crampton brought out instructions to Mr. Pakenham to re-open negotiations by an offer of the 49th parallel, the whole of Vancouver's Island, and the navigation of the Columbia for 20 years." These statements are, however, made by certain organs of public opinion in the United States with such an air of confidence, that we are not surprised that some of our contemporaries in this country should have been imposed upon by them, in spite of the manifest absurdity of the terms suggested. The correspondent of the New York Herald even affects to know what the nature of the British Minister's proposition was, although unwonted scruples deter him from revealing it. The fact is, that no such proposition could have been made at all, especially pending the debate on the resolutions which was then actually going on in the Senate of the United States. The last attempt made by Mr. Pakenham, in pursuance of the instructions he had received from home, to re-open the negotiation by a proposal of arbitration, was abruptly frustrated by the prompt and peremptory rejection of that expedient in Mr. Buchanan's dispatch of the 5th of February, and by the immediate publication of that correspondence. On the following day but one the debate on the resolutions for terminating the convention by notice began in the House of Representatives. A similar debate soon afterwards commenced in the Senate, and was not finished when the last advices left Washington. It is clear from the position in which the question stood after the rejection of the last overture made by the British Minister, and also from the positive injunction to negotiate which is contained in the second of the resolutions under discussion in both Houses of Congress, that the American Cabinet should make the next step towards the adjustment of the controversy. If, however, Mr. Polk and his advisers should give the notice to terminate the existing convention, without accompanying that act by a fresh proposal calculated to promote an amicable settlement, we trust that there will be no hesitation on the part of the British Government in replying to that act by a precise intimation of what our definitive claims to the Oregon territory really are. It would have been premature and ill-timed for Mr. Pakenham to anticipate the "action of Congress (as they call it in the United States) by offering an ultimatum, or any other proposal, at that particular moment. But as soon as the decision of Congress, and the course which the President is prepared to take upon it, are officially known, we have no doubt that Mr. Pakenham will be furnished with instructions to enable him to meet the emergency with conciliation and with moderation, but without the slightest surrender of the dignity or the interests of this country. At present no such final instructions have been called for by the state of the question.

We have read with regret the language of the Washington Union, the avowed organ of Mr. Polk's Government, upon the receipt of the pacific intelligence which had just reached the United States from England. The construction which that journal puts upon the pacific tone of the British press and of some of the leading
It is unnecessary to point out to any human being in this country, capable of reading these lines, the total delusion, the perverse misconstruction, and the fatal consequences contained in these expressions of the Washington Union. It is in the highest degree dangerous to the peace of the world that such statements as these should go forth with authority in a foreign country to convey the supposed feelings and intentions of the people of England. When we see the labours of the British statesmen traduced in this manner, we could almost regret that we have not employed a rougher language and coarser arguments in the discussion of this question, as better adapted to the comprehension of trans-Atlantic controversialists. Our reluctance to irritate and embitter public feeding on this question, either at home or abroad, is misrepresented into a doubt of our own rights and a recognition of the superior rights of the other party. We are dispassionate, therefore we are about to yield; we are calm, that is a sing that the violent policy and language of Mr. Polk are on the eve of accomplishing a signal victory.

Whoever knows anything of Englishmen and England knows how false and mischievous these views of our national conduct are. Few instances have occurred in the history of nations of a people more completely and unanimously resolved than we are not to maintain the rights we have long possessed and enjoyed; yet England has not shown the slightest indication of a brutal passion for war, but, on the contrary, an earnest desire to avoid a conflict, in which we have nothing to fear and everything to inflict on our antagonist. This full confidence in the justice of a cause, which claims no more than half the object in dispute, and actually less than the territory now in our possession--this reliance on the conciliatory disposition and on the firm resolution of the Cabinet--this consciousness of possessing the most tremendous naval resources which ever hurled destruction on an enemy--have allowed the English people to remain calm, even to apparent indifference. But the American Government which builds its hopes of a speedy triumph on this foundation, deceives the people of the United States. No such indifference, no division of opinion, no hesitation as to the course it may be necessary to pursue, exist at all in England. We are told of the unanimity of the United States in the face of debates and divisions, even on the preliminary resolutions, which indicate an extreme diversity of opinions, and great doubt on all hands as to the result. In this country and in the British Parliament we are confident that the unanimity would be absolute. It is absolute both ways. Nobody is for war if it can be avoided by an equitable partition of the territory; nobody will hesitate to give the war the whole support of our national power and our individual might, if it be forced upon us by the presumption, the exorbitant demands, and the delusions of the opposite party.

Mr. Polk stands in a fearful predicament. He has endeavored to persuade the people of America that England will yield without much further difficulty to the demands he has reiterated in so peremptory a manner; and if he has failed in intimidating us, he has succeeded in deceiving them. Hence his own organs and his own declarations have made him powerless to negotiate. How can he negotiate, who assures the country that England is about to abandon to him the sum total of his demands? What concessions can he make to avoid war, when he asserts that is by refusing all concessions that England will be brought to yield? Such policy is of the most short-sighted and perilous kind; for in the position in which he now stands, the President of the United States must either make concessions, perfectly inconsistent with all his declarations, or he must run al the risk of plunging the country into a contest, which he has pretended to avoid, but which he alone may render inevitable.

[CCB]
They are grossly and dangerously mistaken. Whatever reserve may be imposed upon peers of Parliament by courtesy or by official prudence, we are confident that not one of the English statesmen who spoke last night upon this subject, contemplates the abandonment of a territory in which our rights are equal to those of any Power. The time and the place might not be fitted to a more precise and emphatic declaration of the views and intentions of England, but it would be absurd to suppose that they are a whit below the level which the interests and the dignity of the country prescribe. It would be foolish to overstate our just pretensions, but it is dangerous and unwise to allow them to be thought less than they are. We have offered to submit them to any fair arbitration; we are ready to assent to terms of equitable partition, on a principle of equality. But arbitration has been rejected, and partition itself is scarcely compatible with the claims advanced on the other side, since they are absolute and paramount. Nothing in fact remains for us to concede, since a divided right is all we are contending for, and the very principle of division is not yet admitted by the American Government.

The declaration which it now becomes us emphatically to repeat is, what we have "rights in the Oregon territory which we are resolved and prepared to maintain." That expression of Sir R. Peel and Lord Aberdeen was certainly to intemperate and ill-considered; and we have no doubt that subsequent events have not in the slightest degree diminished their resolution to adhere to it, and to all that it was understood to imply. We see nothing in the present posture of affairs which calls for, or can justify, a more subdued language on the part of the English Government; and we are persuaded that the false construction which has been put upon the very guarded declarations of the English Ministers is one of the circumstances most calculated to mislead public opinion in the United States, and possibly to enhance the unwarrantable presumption of the American Government.

Preparations for War--The American Government must be in earnest about the Oregon question, for we have just heard that General Tom Thumb has received an order to return immediately to his country to take the command of the Yankee army. -Pench

Money Market and City Intelligence

The English funds were without particular variation to-day, the amount of business transacted being exceedingly small. The last quotation for Consuls was 96 1/4 to 3/8 both for money and the account. Exchequer-bills closed 26s. to 29s. pm., and India Bonds, 25s. to 20s. pm.

The foreign securities continue much the same as yesterday. Mexican supports the advance then attained both as respects the Active and the Deferred stock. The latest bargain in the one description was at 32 3/8, and in the other at 17. Chilian was done at 96 ex div.; Colombian, at 16; Peruvian, at 36; Portuguese; at 57; Spanish Five per Cents., for the account, at 25 1/2; Venezuela, at 43 1/4 ex div.; the Deferred, at 13; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents., at 59 1/8; and India Bonds, at 25 1/2 ex div.

The Government broker's purchases to-day consisted of 21,000 l. Consuls for the National Debt Commissioners, and 5,000 l. for the savings-banks.

The rumours current yesterday respecting the transfer of the money from the former Mexican agents to their successors prove to have been not without foundation, though much which has been confidently stated on the subject turns out to be incorrect. We have the best authority for asserting that the following is the definite settlement of the point in dispute between Messrs. Lizardi and the bondholders:--Messrs. Lizardi admit the total sum due from them to the bondholders to be 65,651 l. 7s. 9d., and give bills for the amount payable in 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, and 18 months, with interest at the rate of 4 per cent from the 10th inst. At each of the first two periods one-tenth of the sum is to be paid, and at each of the four others one-fifth. The bills are already accepted, and placed in the hands of Messrs. Schneider, the present agents.

A case has recently occurred at Liverpool which has created much interest in the commercial circles of that place. It appears a person engaged in manufactures having failed, called a meeting of his creditors, when a committee of inquiry was instituted, and a compromise of 12s. 6d. in the pound was offered. This was accepted by all the creditors excepting one, who had bought a returned acceptance of the insolvent's at the rate of about 11s. in the pound. This one creditor, it should be observed, is in the same line of business as the insolvent, and he purchased the bill from one of the parties who formed the committee of inspection. He now serves a notice of bankruptcy for the full value of the bill, and the fact (say our letter) is not concealed that "the object of the bankruptcy is solely to break up the materials of the establishment, and thus stay competition."
The result is, that a large number of creditors lose the present advantage which a compromise would afford, and will have ultimately to sustain a certain loss (as no one expects 10s. in the pound under the bankruptcy), because one creditor, for some private object, refuses to take 12s. 6d. in the pound for a bill for which he gave 11s.

[CCB]

LT April 6, 1846, p6/b Addresses from English cities to American citizens to advocate peace

The Boston Address.

"Esteemed Citizens of Boston, in New England.—We, the inhabitants of Boston, in Old England, assembled at a public meeting convened by our Mayor, in the Town-hall, January 26, 1846, beg leave respectfully to present you this friendly address on the subject of international peace.

Two centuries ago, the inhabitants of your city, because they had received from this place the persecuted but truly venerable minister of the gospel, Mr. John Cotton, honoured our town by changing the name of their own, and adopting that of Boston. We trust that the respect then showed will always continue to be deserved; and that friendship, along with commercial intercourse, will for all generations be perpetuated, never to be interrupted by national jealousies, or by the horrors and crimes of war.

We believe war to be an evil—a pure evil, unattended by any good in its motives, actions, or results—an evil so tremendous that no earthly consideration can justify it.

We are convinced that war is destructive to all the interests of humanity, to happiness and liberty, to commerce and wealth, to science, arts, and civilization, to learning and intelligence, to philanthropy and religion.

We regard war as unreasonable; for even should it prove which party had the most strength, it would never show on which side was the most right: and we doubt no that any good which may in some cases be supposed to have resulted from fighting, could have been secured in a greater degree, more rapidly, more effectually, more widely, more permanently, and far more cheaply, by negotiation.

We observe that any Government designing an attack on the rights, liberty, happiness, and commercial prosperity of any other nation, in all cases commence by assailing the rights, liberty, property, happiness, and commerce of their own people.

We consider war to be condemned alike by the voice of conscience and experience, by natural and revealed religion; and to be unworthy of the nature of man, and contrary to the will of God. We therefore protest against our being called out to fight either against you or any other portion of the one family of man. We hope to see the day when it will be proved that war is as needless as it is pernicious; that it may be avoided; that the friends of reason and religion are able to awaken such a public sentiment on the subject, as will render it impossible for the selfish and the ambitious to turn the hand of man against his brother.

Citizens of Boston! permit us to exhort you to cherish and to spread these pacific principles; till all nations shall repose amid all the blessings of a universal and perpetual peace."

"On behalf of the Meeting, J. NOBLE, Chairman, a Member of the Town Council of Boston, Lincolnshire, England.

B. FARRINGTON (Baptist Minister), Secretary."

The Huddersfield Address

"From the Manufacturers, Merchants, and other Inhabitants of Huddersfield and its Neighborhood, To the Citizens of the United States of North America. Friends and Fellow Christians,—Permit us to take this mode of communicating with you in a spirit of friendship and brotherhood on a subject which is at present agitating the public mind, both in this country and in yours—a subject of immeasurable importance in every point of view, to our mutual interests.

We have observed with regret in many of the public papers, on both sides of the Atlantic, the manifestation of a warlike spirit, in reference to the disputed boundaries in the Oregon territory. As it is not our business, so we have no inclination to enter upon the merits of the respective claims of the two nations: our object is to induce you to unite your efforts with ours to avert the threatened calamity.

That war under any circumstances, and especially a war between two countries bound together by innumerable ties, as are England and the United States, would be a terrible calamity, is a self-evident proposition, whether as regards the severance of the nearest domestic bonds, the disturbance of our ever-growing commercial and political relations, or the disgrace of our common Christianity.
And shall it be, that two nations so far advance in civilization and refinement must, in the middle of the 19th century, adopt the brutish maxim of the most barbarous ages and countries, that 'might is right?'

Shall it be that two professedly Christian countries, both engaged in instructing and evangelizing the heathen, must set such an example to the Pagan world? Forbid it, humanity! Forbid it, justice! Forbid it, Christianity!

When private individuals adopt such a mode of settling their differences, and loss of life ensues, so great a crime is visited with the extreme penalty of the law. Happily, this manner of acting in private life is now chiefly confined to the most illiterate and depraved portion of the community; and why should we, in a national capacity, adhere to a barbarous practice, condemned by our own laws, in the relations of social life? If two intelligent and reasonable tradesmen differ, they settle the matter by arbitration; and why should not all international disputes be settled by arbitration also? It is not only more sensible, more humane, and more Christian, but far more likely than a resort to arms to terminate the disagreement to mutual satisfaction, and certainly with incomparably less expense to the exchequers of both countries.

We therefore appeal to you, the intelligent merchants and citizens, in all parts of the Union, to exert to the utmost your powerful influence with the public, and with the Federal Government, to prevent the occurrence of a war in which it would be the extreme of folly and wickedness to engage, whilst we are endeavoring to exercise a similar influence in this country. We feel confident that were the moral power thus possessed but exercised to its full and legitimate extent on both sides of the Atlantic, it would not fail to effect the object we have in view—the preservation of peace and prosperity, both in your country and our own.

Ardently desiring this happy result, we remain, &c. 16th of January, 1846. [This Address has been received the signatures of most of the leading firms in Huddersfield.]

The Plymouth Address

"Friendly Appeal from the Inhabitants of Plymouth, Great Britain, to the Citizens of the United States of America, for the purpose of averting War between the two Countries.

To the Legislators and Citizens of the United States of America.

Friends and Brethren,—We are deeply concerned to perceive that there are any indications, how remote soever, of threatened hostility between your country and our own. Towards your nation we entertain, in common with the vast majority of our fellow-subjects, feelings of sincere good-will. As the friends of peace throughout the world, we desire that all those who delight in war may be scattered; but with you, to whom we are allied by community of national origin, by identity of language, by similarity in many of our laws and institutions, we earnestly and especially deprecate hostility. Moreover, by War our commercial intercourse would be seriously impeded, the progress of civilization and of science be obstructed, immense pecuniary loss be incurred, domestic ties be broken, humanity be outraged, life to a fearful extent be sacrificed, and dire offence committed against the laws of our beneficent Creator. By war we must both lose much; and what could the victor gain that would be worth one-thousandth part of the cost of the conflict?

Again, whatever be the value of the Oregon territory, it would be a poor compensation to the owner for the blood and treasure which would be spent in acquiring it; and then, and treasure which would be spent in acquiring it; and then, too, the dispute respecting it may be easily be settled by arbitration, if other and simpler means to be ineffectual.

Let us, we entreat you, agree to exert all our influence, personal and political, on each side of the Atlantic, to frustrate the devices of those ambitious and reckless spirits, in either country, who, by precipitating us into conflict, would render us the scorn of the world; while the energies and influence of two great nations, which ought to be combined for the benefit of the entire human race, would be foolishly and wickedly employed in inflicting mutual and widely-spread injury and destruction.

Allow us, then, to hope that your cordial response to this appeal may strengthen the bonds of amity between us, and promote the interests of universal peace.

Dated Jan. 27, 1846."

[ Signed by several hundreds of the inhabitants of Plymouth, headed by the mayor, and six borough and country magistrates, and two clergymen of the Establishment.]

To work upon the feelings of brotherhood between the inhabitants of the two countries, it will be observed, that when it is possible, a town in Great Britain addresses a town of the same name in America.

To the documents which have been collected in this country, in the form of a little pamphlet, we are enabled to add another—namely, an address from New York, a copy of which is inserted in the New York Journal of Commerce:—
"To the friends of peace throughout the British realm, and especially those in Manchester, Boston, Huddersfield, Plymouth, and other places, who have issued 'Friendly Addresses' to the people of the United States.

The undersigned merchants and other inhabitants of the city of New York, earnestly desiring the preservation of the North America, and the more encouraged to expect it when they find the hearts of so many in the father-land beating in unison with their own. No triumphs of brute force over moral right ever did or can command our admiration as do these peaceful overtures, coming from a nation so powerful as England, and so well prepared for a conflict of arms, and none, we are sure were ever so approved by the Prince of Peace. The effect of these 'Friendly Addresses' upon the public mind in this country will be eminently favourable, and will do much to promote that hearty good-will which ought ever to prevail between nations bound together by so many sacred ties. Go on, then, respected friends, in your labour of love and mercy. Tell your people that our noisiest men are not the best exponents of the national sentiment towards Great Britain, or in regard to war. Tell them that in the nation at large there is a vast aggregate of moral worth, which, when called into action, as it is beginning to be, by the threatened calamities of a causeless and unnecessary war, will assurably-repress ambition, or turn it into a more peaceful channel. Tell them that this effect is already visible to a most gratifying extent, not only I your maritime cities, but throughout the land; and that it has been aided by the realization of the restrictive features of your commercial policy.

"A war of concession, compromise, mutual forbearance and good fellowship, resulting, as they necessarily must, in increasing trade, intellectual advancement, and progress in everything truly great and good, is the only war which we wish to see waged between the two nations.

As to Oregon, although from comparative proximity we naturally desire our proper share of that extensive territory, yet we will gladly concur (and we believe such is the general voice of the nation) in any fair measures of compromise, or reference, which the two Governments may see fit to adopt, for the peaceable adjustment of the question. It is clearly one which ought not, under any circumstances, to breed a war between the two countries; and we hold that without the most deplorable obstinacy and the blackest guilt on the part of one or both of the claimants, such an issue is impossible. As a matter of profit it would be infinitely better that the whole of Oregon should be sunk to the bottom of the ocean, than that two such nations as Great Britain and the United States should go to war about it, to the disgrace of civilization, Christianity, and rational freedom.

With a firm belief in the pacific disposition of both Governments, and that they will yet be enabled to settle the controversy in a manner at once just and honourable to all concerned, we look forward with hope to the future, and in the mean time beg leave to subscribe ourselves your friends and well-wishers."

[CCB]

LT April 10, 1846, p5/b Oregon question

The United States
Liverpool, Thursday, April 9.

Important accounts from New York to the 9th ult. inclusive, and from Washington to the 7th ult., have been received this morning by the packet-ship Independence.

On the 4th and 5th ult., as will be seen from the summary annexed, the Senate had been addressed by Mr. Heywood on the Oregon question, attacking those of his own party who held up the President as pledged to the whole Oregon, and intimating the desire of the President to compromise the question on the basis of the offer previously made by him to Great Britain. The speech created great excitement, and spread consternation amongst the extreme war party. We extract the following comments from the American journals.


"Is supposed to be an intimate friend of the President, and the end of his speech was to prove that the President stood on 49, that he held the door open for negotiation, and that he recommended Congress to give notice for the termination of the convention, with the view and expectation of bringing the controversy to a peaceful close. He insisted that the country was committed by 40 years' negotiation to agree to the parallel of 49 degrees as the boundary; that the President felt bound to act in obedience to the opinion of the country, though in his private opinion convinced that our title was clear to 54 40, and that by what he had done, and he had omitted to do, it was evident he was desirous of adjusting the controversy on the principles of compromise and peace. He had such confidence in the President, that he would vote for giving the notice without conditions. But if it should be found (of which he had no fear) that it was sought by the President as a weapon of war, and not as a means and instrument of peace, he would oppose his Administration. While then, I presume, the notice will be given by a large majority of the Senate, it will be upon conditions expressed or implied that negotiations proceed, and that should Great Britain offer to compromise on the parallel of 49, it be accepted. Such is the present aspect of the case. But these indications, auspicious to the peaceful settlement of the Oregon controversy, may, be hidden, subtle, and at present imagined causes, be darkened and disturbed. So many elements, interests, and passions are involved in the case, that to calculate their results is hardly less
The Washington Union remarks:---

"May we be permitted to say that we did not ourselves understand Mr. Haywood as intending to speak authoritatively in the name of the President, except from the printed documents. We say, with all respect, that no man, out of his Cabinet, is authorized to speak cathedra for him on this delicate and important question. He has expressed his opinion in his own message, or through the letters of the Secretary of State. We presume, that no one has a right to speak for him but from the documents which he has submitted to his country. His future course must be judged by his past conduct. Mr. Allen was himself interrogated the other day upon this question by the senator from Maryland, and Mr. Alllen referred to the President's documents for his answer. We can entertain no doubt that such was the meaning of the senator from North Carolina; and nothing but the extraordinary character of the passing scene probably prevented him from making a similarly prompt explanation. But the scene is over, and we have no doubt any little irritation, and all hasty remarks, have passed with it. The generous spirit of the senators will prevent their repetition. They are all the friends of the President. No evanescent remarks will swerve him from his course, nor disturb that self-balanced equanimity of spirit which graces the chief magistrate, who is determined to do his duty amid all the difficulties that beset his path, whether they proceed from political enemies or his friends at home, or from the Cabinets of foreign nations. Let us add that our true policy seems to us to be written in sunbeams. Decision of action and promptitude in carrying out the measures that the message recommends--the notice, the means necessary to protect our emigrants to Oregon, military preparations to meet any contingency, and the utmost harmony in our party, and unanimity in our public counsels. Are not these better (we frankly and respectfully inquire) than any speculations as to the precise terms on which we may settle the question--terms which should not now be communicated to foreign nations, or any remarks or hypothetical opinions which may be unauthoritatively attributed to the President. Upon one other topic we must venture one more remark. The question of the next presidency came into the debate. Were we to point out the most direct way of breaking down any man, it would be to start him now, or soon, on the presidential track. Those who try it all this early day would be sure to be defeated; for it would be an evidence of an ambitious and selfish spirit, which would be sufficient to forfeit the confidence of a great, enlightened, and free people. What is the this noble country, the like of which sun never shone upon, to be converted into a mere plaything of any man's ambition? Is this great people to be moved backwards and forwards like the pawns upon the chess-board, at the foolish and mischievous bidding of any reckless aspirant? This country belongs to the people. It is their Government--their offices to give, and theirs to take away. And it is a duty they owe to themselves, to tell all men to wait their will, and bide their time. When they want a man to serve them, they will call upon him, and not before."

"The debate in the Senate," says the Journal Commerce, on the 9th ult.,

"Has taken a turn which must awaken through the land an interest like that which it excited in Washington. The speech of Mr. Heywood, exhibiting the subject in its present position, touching its main points with great force, and claiming distinctly and repeatedly that the President is pledged to accept the offer, should it be made, of a settlement on the basis of the 49th parallel, might well be expected to create the sensation it did among the war members of the Senate. The interlocutory altercation respecting the President's position and pledges made some startling expositions. It would seem, from their own statements, that such men as Messrs. Allen and Hannegan still insist on 'every inch of Oregon' at all hazards, and would fain commit the President to that extreme demand, with the full expectation of its leading sooner or later to war. They go, 'neck or nought,' for the whole of Oregon; talk of the President as turning traitor (to whom or what? To his country or only to the clique of a party?) if he should compromise upon the 49th, and in hot passion declare, 'he would be sunk in an infamy so profound, a damnation so deep, that the hand of resurrection could never draw him forth.' It is, however, an ill wind that blows no good; and even from this hurricane of disappointed wrath we gather new hope of peace. The bear, driven to the wall, growls and gnashes his teeth in sheer vexation at his own impotence; and the war spirits of the Senate, the sticklers for a claim so extravagant as to be discarded by all fair minds, betray by their extreme sensitiveness to the statements of Mr. Heywood, how fearful they are of being abandoned by the President to the recoil of their own suicidal folly. They must, if their ears are open, hear every day echoes from the people calling for peace, on such terms of fair and honourable negotiation or compromise as are still within the reach of either party to the pending dispute. Even their own West will not sustain them in the mad policy of plunging 50 millions of people into war about such a bone of contention; and, left in so small a minority of the Senate and the country, we wonder not that they should write under the speech of Mr. Haywood, and threaten to empty the vials of their wrath upon the President if he does not lend himself to the execution of their favourite, but fatal plans. To us it seems quite clear that these men are really bent on war. No other supposition can account for their course; because they must know that England will never yield to the exorbitant claim which they make. On looking again over the map of Oregon, drawn by the late exploring expedition, we have just counted nearly a dozen English forts in the country north of 49, and about half as many in the regions drained by the Columbia river. If we take the number of places thus occupied as the basis of comparison, we shall find the British claim, on the score of actual possession, much better than ours; and it would seem from this very map of our own, that a compromise on the 49th parallel would oblige England to yield far more than we should, and give us decidedly the best bargain. Indeed, we should give up nothing that is now in our possession, while she would relinquish a considerable number of places which she has occupied for a long time. No man, looking at this map, and seeing how extensively England has dotted it over with her forts, can for a moment suppose she will ever yield the whole territory to a claimant occupying not a quarter so many places as she does, and none at all between 49 and 54 40, of which tract she has had actual possession for some 40 years. We wonder at the strange demands of these men; and
we feel a thrill of honest pride as co patriots, when we hear Mr. Heywood boldly avowing, in the name of our Government and our country, that 'we would not demand the whole of Oregon, even if we could obtain it without a war.' That was a noble anewal; the world will admire it; all fair-minded men through the land will cordially respond to it; and, if such a spirit were carried into renewed negotiations, we should confidently anticipate a speedy adjustment, to the substantial satisfaction of both parties. We think it clear that the question of peace or war now rests with ourselves. England has evinced a spirit decidedly pacific; but our rulers and people must take care not to calculate too much on her continued forbearance. The war passion once roused there in earnest would render a collision inevitable; and, should popular sentiment here second the demand of the war-men in our Senate for all Oregon at all hazards, then war must come. Here is the alternative; and it is time for the nation to look it full in the face; and, as they wish for peace, to rebuke the spirit and policy which would provoke war."

The secret position of the Oregon question still continued to excite many and varied rumours. The official organ at Washington remarks upon them, declaring that the Cabinet at that city had decided to submit a proposition to Great Britain for the settlement of the question upon the basis of the 49th parallel:

"We have no doubt that these are all visions of the imagination. No ultimatum has been sent-no offer has been made--none will probably be made, because we humbly conceive it becomes the duty of the British Government to offer one in its turn. The theatre of any negotiation has no been shifted to London. And yet the President has not abated in the slightest degree the desire which has been twice expressed by his Secretary of State, to adjust the whole question in a harmonious and peaceful manner. Certainly these rumours are not calculated to advance their object, because they deceive the people of both countries as to the views and designs of the American Government. They only tend to prevent the adoption of the measures which may consummate this desirable object."

The Journal of Commerce of the 9th ult. contains the following interesting statement:

"The expectations which have been formed in New York, and I may say here too, of a speedy renewal of the Oregon correspondence are too sanguine. It is true that, on Wednesday morning, the 25th ult., Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Colquitt had an interview of two hours on this subject with the President; and all the rumours of another offer to Great Britain--of the transfer of the negotiation to London--of a renewal of the negotiation to London--of a renewal of the negotiation by Mr. Pakenham, &c., have grown out of that circumstance. It appears that the interview spoken of had some reference to Mr. Colquitt's proposition, which was that day offered, and the next day discussed. But you will see from Thursday's discussion, that Mr. Calhoun was very far from entertaining the belief that the question very near to an adjustment; and, indeed, he exhibited in his manner, as well as in his remarks, more than usual anxiety on this subject. He was exceedingly anxious Mr. Colquitt's proposition should be adopted at once, and sent out to England by the Cambria, as a sort of invitation to an overture from the British Government. He said that he was convinced that the British Government would make no further offer until the action of Congress was known. If Mr. Calhoun had been apprised that this Government will make an overture. He thinks the British Government may, when the Senate have shown an 'earnest desire that the question be settled by compromise and negotiation;' and he justly infers that the President will be influenced also to accept an overture for a compromise, by so strong a majority as to show that he will be sustained by the Senate in any treaty that he may make. Nothing can be more manifest than that the initiation of the renewed negotiation belongs to the British Government. The most that Mr. Polk will do, in my opinion, is possibly to intimate, through Mr. M'Lane, that the United States Government expect another overture, inasmuch as theirs was not received not entertained by the British Minister. Unless the British Government choose to make some overture similar to that which their Minister refused to communicate to his Government, then the two Governments are much farther off from an adjustment of the question than they have ever been--as far off as they could be, even in case of the refusal of Mr. Polk to negotiate any further."

Relations with Mexico excited little attention, and remained apparently unchanged.

The domestic affairs of the Union are unworthy of note.

Money was easy, and stocks buoyant. Bills were steady at 1081/2 to 9 premium, though with low sales since the departure of the steamer.

Twenty-Ninth Congress. Senate, March 4.

The Oregon Question.

On the motion of Mr. Servier, the Senate resumed the special order of the day, being the resolutions from the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the various amendments proposed in reference to the abrogation of the convention with Great Britain establishing the joint occupation of the Oregon territory.

Mr. Heywood took the floor, and if the Senate were startled at the bold and fearless positions he assumed, they were not less interested and attracted for upwards of two hours by the singularly fearless and unshaken spirit which characterized the senator's argument. Mr. Heywood, in the outset, said he should discuss the subject in the love of man and in the fear of God. He denounced that spirit which had sought to take the subject of our foreign relations from the authority of the Executive department—that spirit of faction which would break down great men and great measures for the elevation of very little men into great offices. He
justified the patriotic motives of the President in the policy he had pursued. He disapproved of the reproduction in this debate of a certain old speech of Colonel Benton, which had been abridged, but not improved. He bore down heavily against the practice, which had become so notorious, of decrying and carping against the Treaty of Washington, for the settlement of the north-east boundary, and wondered why some one of the 39 senators voting for that treaty had not refuted the factious clamours by which they had been assailed. He did not (to use a familiar term) like this singing of old psalms over dead horses; that in this treaty we had been overreached, and cheated, and the country dishonoured. No, the President, in adopting that treaty resolved all hazards of this sort into the sense of moderation, and prudence, and national justice, that forms the higher character of this Senate. Mr. Heywood denounced the clamorous spirit of discord which had characterized the discussions in Congress upon this subject—which would urge the President to issue his mandate of defiance against all the nations of the earth. The great and patriotic question which now presented itself was, what shall we do for the country, and what is our position? On the 12th of August, 1845, the President stood on the line of 49 degrees; he offered it; it was refused. The British Government had offered arbitration, and that had been refused by the Executive; and if this were with a view of shutting off all compromise, the Executive; and if this were with a view of shutting off all compromise, the Executive had, indeed, incurred a fearful responsibility. But the line of 49 was not now inadmissible. Mr. Heywood challenged any senator to show that 54 40 was mentioned in the President's Message. No, Sir, if the line of 49 is proposed to him, he is bound to accept it; a different policy would provoke certain differences, a national dishonour and irremediable war. The door of negotiations was still open. Mr. Heywood had said so at the opening of the session; he said so now. He was prepared for a compromise at 49 without disputing about inches. He was prepared, then, to go for the notice, with a view to the facilitating a pacific adjustment. He wanted no finesses in this matter; he believed there would be none; that there was none on the part of the Administration. Our title, however "clear and unquestionable," was not unquestioned. It had been in dispute for 40 years. 40 years ago, we had offered that line as the boundary westward, as it was eastward to the Rocky Mountains. The convention of 1818 had been approved by a vote of 38 to 1, and yet, in the opinion of gentlemen, all but the one man were traitors to their country. This was the necessary conclusion from their opinions of the treaty. The convention with Russia was held with an especial design to negotiate Great Britain to the concession of the 49th degree; and in the very treaty with Russia settling the northern boundary of the territory at 54 40, which under the Spanish claims should have been at the 61st degree, our ancestors had sanctioned a dismemberment of the union; we had been bullied, so to speak, by Russia, out of our national rights. And yet that treaty passed by a vote of 41 to 1. (Voices--"Who was he? Who was that one, pray?") Mr. De. Wolf. (A laugh.) He was from Rhode Island, and was therefore, perhaps, infavour of large states. In 1826 our Minister at London renewed the efforts of our Government for a settlement upon the line of 49—he almost implored that settlement. Had he threatened, he might, for all we know, have had better success. The treaty of 1818 was adopted by the Senate by a full, a very full two-thirds, notwithstanding the opposition and the prophecies of the Senator from Missouri (Colonel Benton), and under that convention we have been living ever since. When was the discovery made that all these proceedings, so often renewed by our predecessors, involved a surrender of national soil, of the national honour, and the rights of the people? Where was the warning voice against Mr. Jefferson, Mr. Monroe, and Mr. Adams? Are all these lofty precedents to be overruled by the dictation of the Baltimore Convention? And are we to assume that the Government is now released from its policy and concessions of 40 years? The President was right in his offer of 49. He felt that his official character was of greater moment than the declarations of James K. Polk. The President and James K. Polk were two different personages. And if the President was right in offering the line of 49, he was right in holding himself in readiness to meet that offer. The President was not released by the pitiful appeal to the Baltimore Convention. Mr. Heywood took occasion to say, that "if the Administration, as assumed, after all that has transpired to a contrary conclusion, be inexorably fixed it 54 40, the, God knows, I'll turn away from it." Mr. Heywood then said, in opposition to the Radicals, that if truth was logic—if there was faith in public servants, and meaning in the English language, he should demonstrate that the administration was open to all compromise on the Oregon question. If there was an Englishman here, if you were an Englishman (looking to a senator), and it was proposed to kick you out of a territory (north of 49), which you had occupied exclusively for 40 years—would you not fight, Sir? It was useless to talk about it. President Tyler had negotiated for the line of 49, and there had been no complaint. Mr. Heywood continued by an examination of the President's message, his acts of omission and commission, in the prosecution of his argument. One of the omissions of the President was a failure to recommend preparations for war. The estimates were even less than usual. And yet while Mr. Heywood knew that a treaty of compromise would meet the concurrence of the Senate by a vote of two-thirds or three-fourths, there were gentlemen who would make an after-use of their clamours, by saying "if my advice had been followed, there would have been no surrender of a foot south of 53 40." In a most scathing strain of criticism upon the position of the advocates of the northern extreme of 54 40, Mr. Heywood came down to the remark of Mr. Allen in his last speech, that in the formal occupation of the whole territory we had nothing to fear—that upon the Oregon question, single-handed, England dare not fight.

Mr. Allen explained his remark. England would not dare to go to war upon the Oregon question alone; but that, if she did go to war, there would be other state questions embraced in the issue.

Mr. Heywood replied, that as Chairman on Foreign Relations, the hon. Senator might have information in his possession not accessible to the Senate, in reference to those other causes of war. He had understood the senator to say, however, that England dare not go to war about Oregon, and Oregon was the question now under discussion.

Mr. Allen desired the senator should report truly what he had said.

Mr. Heywood said he was very much in the habit of doing so. He was not, however, in the habit of carrying printed speeches about him, and he believed the senator had not reported his yet. They were told by the papers, too, not to rely on what had been reported as the senator's speech, so that they were left at a loss
Some further remarks, of no particular moment, passed between Mr. Heywood and the Chairman on Foreign Relations, and the former was again about resuming the thread of his argument, when, upon suggestion, he suspended till to-morrow, and the Senate adjourned.

March 5.

The adjourned debate was resumed by Mr. Heywood. He said, at the close of his remarks yesterday, that in the acts of omission and commission, which were charged on part of the President of the United States, it was manifest that his object was pacific, and not such as one (looking at Mr. Allen) would have the Senate believe. The President had not closed the doors of negotiation, nor had he an intention to trap us into war. He would ask, what was there in the President's message to justify the conclusions drawn by some senators, to justify these opinions in relation to war? Mr. Heywood here cited that portion of the President's message, commencing at page 10, having reference to the question of Oregon, and then went on to say that the President had not closed the doors of the Executive department against negotiation, which was abundantly evident from the tenor of his remarks in the message. These very passages in the message were yet the passages which a certain senator held up as tending to close all negotiation. In addition to this the President expressed a "hope" in his message, that "some further proposals shall be made to settle this question. What other proposal that was, or whether it was or was not offered, was another question. He (Mr. Heywood) was defending the President and the Administration against the inference drawn by certain senators which gave so warlike a character to his message. The message spoke of the "wholly inadmissible demands of the British Government;" but nothing could be inferred to show that negotiation had closed. The President had marched up to 49; but as regards 59 40, the ground was yet open. If there was any senator in the Chamber who would stand up and say that he believed the President was abusing the trust reposed to him, by the introduction of this notice, he should wish to see him. The President was, by withdrawing his proposition as to the 49th parallel, did not close the doors of negotiation. He (Mr. Haywood) would give way this moment, to shut the doors, and dispose of the question; but there was a difference between making a speech, and giving a vote. (Laughter). Some members could make a speech one way, and voted another. (Laughter). When asked how he thought upon the subject he had discussed, he could, if he chose, say to one party. "Look at my vote," and to another, "Look at my speech." (Renewed shouts of laughter.) It reminded him of an advice which a member had received, "never to vote with the majority;" for, if he did, and the law happened to be a bad one, the people would condemn him--if a good one, they would then give him credit for great sagacity. (Loud laughter.) His (Mr. Heywood's) first appearance in public life was in compliance with a call from his political friends to attend a meeting for the purpose of adopting measures to alter the constitution. He attended, but gave them an (Mr. Heywood's) representation on the 6th protocol, as quoted by Mr. Heywood. It was irregular action in any shape, and expressed his faith in the controlling supervision of Providence. He deprecated the consequences which would result from a rash or precipitate, or unwise, or irregular action in any shape, and expressed his faith in the controlling supervision of Providence.

Mr. Johnson.--Three, if you please.

Mr. Heywood--Yes, the "Tyler Convention" was the third. (Loud laughter.) As to the charge of "Punic faith" against the south, which it was stated had been bound by the Baltimore Convention, he repudiated that charge. He should be glad to know if the President himself knew the terms of the Baltimore convention when he accepted the nomination? He had not known the terms, for he had only time to respond to the nomination. He was merely asked, "Will you accept the nomination?" and he answered as quick as the magnetic telegraph, "I will, to be sure; and I wish you may elect me." (Loud laughter). Much declamation had been used, much discussion in distrusting political opponents--some saying it was a western question--others damning the British, (laughter)--some saying it was an American question, others turning it into a question of party politics and President-making among the people. Mr. Heywood deprecated the idea of allowing the people to have a share in the treaty-making power, which was reserved by the constitution exclusively for the Executive department of the Government. This was southern democracy; and if it were "Punic faith," they might make the most of it. He denied that the people, organized by factions and instructed by demagogues, had a right to instruct the Senate in the discharge of its public duties. If this was democracy--as was held by some to be--it was that democracy that grows at the root, like the potato, and not at the blossom; it was going backward. If it were, however, to be viewed as a national question, he, in common with the Senate, would be found by the side of his country. But according to the terms of the Baltimore Convention--they went by the terms of the Convention, for the "reannexation of Texas," and for the "reoccupation of Oregon." The 49th parallel was the highest degree to which any American foot ever went in Oregon. The south would go for that; and if that was "Punic faith" in going for the "reoccupation of Oregon," let them make the most of it. He was in favour of the simple "notice," but would not vote in favour of the resolution of the house. He also objected to the propositions contained in the resolutions of some senators in the Chamber, and had a particular objection to the word "forthwith," which accompanied the resolutions from the Committee on Foreign Relations. He was willing to give the President legislative aid, if he required it; but if not, and he preferred to manage it himself, he would allow him to do so, for he had a right to do so if he pleased, under the clauses of the constitution. Mr. Heywood, after expounding his objections to the amendment of Mr. Colquitt, recommending negotiations and a compromise, advocated the adoption of the house resolutions as covering an all-sufficient ground. He wished no interference or advice with the duties of the executive, until the case should imperatively demand it. He then extended his thanks to the Senate for their indulgence; and said that if he had, perhaps, wearied the Senate, his heart felt lighter and his conscience easy. He deprecated the consequences which would result from a rash or precipitate, or unwise, or irregular action in any shape, and expressed his faith in the controlling supervision of Providence.
simply a part of a letter of Mr. Pakenham, and not of the protocol paper. It related to the Oregon boundary.

Mr. Hannegan apologized to the Senate that his remarks should be limited. Before he proceeded, he wished to ask of the senator from North Carolina whoever had authority, direct or indirect, for saying that the President was desirous of settling the question upon the line of 49?

Mr. Heywood replied, that what he had said he had written down beforehand, that he might not make a mistake; and that was, that it would be indecent and impolite for the President to communicate the progress of negotiations.

Mr. Allen then said he should construe the reply of the senator to mean that he had no authority form the President for his declarations.

Mr. Heywood said that he had already endeavoured to prove that the senator was erroneous in his constructions.

Mr. Allen demanded it as a right, that the senator should answer his question. If not, he should deny that he had any authority.

Mr. Heywood said, that if he were a chairman of a committee, say, for instance, the Committee on Commerce, and he were not accessible to the executive confidence, he would quit.

Mr. Westcott--I call the senator to order.

Mr. Heywood--Don't be alarmed. There is no harm done. He did not recognize the right of any body to make demands upon him upon that floor. Out of doors he was disposed to accommodate a gentleman in anything reasonable; and for the sake of order he had submitted to circumstances which were humiliating. He repeated what he had said, and he would print it afterwards.

Mr. Allen did not demand his answer of the senator as a personal, but as a public right. The senator from North Carolina had assumed to be the exponent of the President; and he desired to know--

Mr. Westcott called the senator to order.

Mr. Heywood contended that he had denied the right of any senator to catechize him, and refusing to answer such demand, the senator was out of order in persisting in it.

Mr. Allen--Then the senator takes back his speech.

Mr. Heywood--No Sir, but I am glad to see the speech takes. (Laughter.)

Mr. Allen exclaimed, amid the excitement, "Its British, British."

Mr. Hannegan did not see the senator's (Mr. Heywood's) speech in print, in any of the papers, &c. He (Mr. Hannegan) assumed that the President's position at 54 40, was as clear as proofs from Holy Writ--clear as the Bible--and that he would be a recreant to his pledges and his party if he deserted this stand. Referred to the Baltimore Convention Oregon resolution, and thought the senator had misapplied it.

Mr. Heywood said he saw it in the speech of Mr. Breese, the only place, perhaps, where ever he did see it, and read it, and again commented upon the re-occupation of Oregon.

Mr. Hannegan read the resolution, and contended that the interpretation stood at 54 40; and spoke at some length under evident excitement in denunciation of the speech of Mr. Heywood. He said that if the President did desert, the 54 40 standard, he would become a traitor to his faith, and would meet with an infamy so profound, a damnation so deep, that the resurrection trumpet would not wake him. (General laughter and some applause.) Mr. Hannegan was proceeding to some commentary upon the constructions put upon the President's message by Mr. Heywood, when

Mr. Mangum called the senator to order.

Mr. Hannegan thanked the senator, and resumed his retaliation. He referred to Mr. Heywood's declaration that there was a movement on this question to elevate very small men into very large offices. He had heard such talk before to day--"Glass houses," &c., old maxim, but true. But Mr. Hannegan would prefer to be one of these small men to the mere tool of power, courting its becks and nods. If the President was in the position in which the senator from North Carolina had placed him, then had he spoken the works of falsehood with the tongue of a serpent.

On the motion of Mr. Evans, at ten minutes past 4, the Senate adjourned.
There is a split, and there will be the deuce to pay.

LT April 11, 1846, p4/b Oregon question

We acknowledge our inability to follow the devious and interminable course of the American debate on the resolutions for the abrogation of the Oregon Convention, for it bids defiance to all the ordinary limitations of space and time. On the 4th of March we find that the Senate resumed the special order of the day upon this subject, and Mr. Heywood, the senator for North Carolina, took possession of the floor for that and the following day, and delivered a speech which was understood to convey a very mitigated version of the President's own opinions and intentions. Upon the announcement of this gentleman that the President was by no means indisposed to renew the negotiation for a compromise upon the 49th parallel, Mr. Hannegan, a member of the "whole of Oregon faction," declared, with that felicity of expression which belongs to Transatlantic Parliamentary eloquence, that "if the President did desert the 54 40' "standard, he would become a traitor to his faith, and meet with an infamy so profound, a damnation so deep, that the resurrection trumpet would not wake him.” The excitement produced by this memorable sitting and this awful announcement appears to have disturbed the wanted composure of even the reporters' gallery; for the account of the proceedings of the day concludes with as much portentous information as could be crammed into a single line,—"there is a split, and there will be the deuce to pay;" and in that condition the American newspapers of that date barbarously leave us.

It happens, however, that some loose papers of the 18th of March have since been received through Havre, and from them we learn that on the 16th ult., nine days after Mr. Heywood's speech and Mr. Hannegan's adjuration, the debate was going on with unabated activity, though we have fortunately escaped the flood of eloquence which must have been poured forth between Mr. Heywood and Mr. Calhoun; and we may pass at once to the consideration of the speech of the latter eminent politician. Mr. Calhoun's declaration were eminently pacific and courageous. He did not flinch from telling the people of America those wholesome but unwelcome truths which can alone restrain them from plunging their country into a disastrous war. Under a popular form of government there is no greater danger than that the multitude should be amused by pleasing delusions, and the no one should have the courage to address them in the stern language of truth. Louis XIV., surrounded by his mistresses and his courtiers, was not more unlikely to learn unwelcome and disparaging fact, than the American people in the pride of their democratic power; but men are apt to palliate this species of deception under the name of loyalty, or of patriotism, and the more so as it seems dangerous to disclose to the world at large a weakness which is so imperfectly known at home. Such disclosures, however, teach nothing new to foreign Governments, whatever they may do to the people of America. Every fact brought forward by Mr. Calhoun in his last speech has long been familiar to the more impartial observer of Europe. We ourselves have repeatedly argued, almost in the words of the American senator, the "war would involve the United States in a new and irremediable national debt—lead to the establishment of a rotten paper system—concentrate all the powers of the state into a federal Government, and terminate in a central military despotism."

Mr. Calhoun's language is plainer and less courteous than that in which we have asserted the same truths; but in Europe they need no vigour of expression or subtlety of argument to enforce them, whilst in America the statesman who would save his country by these means must drive them home to men's minds in sheer opposition to the vanity, and ignorance, and presumption of a whole community. In other states the Government may be silent on its own weak points, provided it has the address to avoid those occasions and collisions which expose them to the light of day. But the weakness as well as the strength of the United States must, to use one of their own metaphors, be "written in the sunbeams," and asserted with all the known patriotism and experience of Mr. Calhoun, before the people can be brought to descend from the preposterous and inflated claims which have been made in their name to the reality of their rights and their situation.

But we rejoice to find that a stout resistance is at length offered, by men who may be ranked, with Mr. Calhoun, amongst the most distinguished of American citizens, to the mischievous delusions and pretensions which have been so industriously propagated and upheld in the United States. Nothing so able, so just, or so strong has been written upon this controversy on our side of the Atlantic as a pamphlet entitled Tracts on the Oregon Question, by an American, which has just reached us from New York. The writer has dealt with the fallacies of the American Secretary of State with signal justice and severity. He has reduced the whole question to those general propositions upon which alone it can ultimately be decided, without sinking the argument into that labyrinth of minute and irrelevant detail from which American sophistry has endeavored to extract a claim, and into which the congenial spirit of a Quarterly reviewer has recently pursued it. We hope this excellent pamphlet may be republished without delay in this country, and in the meanwhile our readers will not be sorry to peruse the observations with which it concludes: --

"we have no hesitation in saying that England has made our Government a liberal offer;--the offer to relinquish to us all those parts of the country of which she is not already the first occupant, under a fair and reasonable, or at any rat, not extravagant application of the doctrines of constructive possession an deconstructive sovereignty. She has even offered to share with us the navigation of the Columbia river, of which she is without doubt the first occupant, the pretenses of the United States to the contrary no withstanding. To say that we will not accept this offer, nor submit the question to arbitration, is unequalled
infatuation;--it is taking a stand in which the people of this country, we predict with confidence, will not sustain the Administration. You may depend upon, Mr. Polk, this thing will never do. They will cheerfully go all lengths in vindicating the clear and just rights of the country, either against England, or against the world, if needful; but if you persist in urging your mistaken views of their right, and causelessly assume an aggressive attitude towards foreign nations, you may rest assured that you will soon feel the weight of popular resentment. It is a great national controversy, on which the attention of the whole world is fixed. There is scarcely a lawyer on earth who will not rigidly scrutinize every word which you and your secretary have uttered; and we will venture to affirm, that an immense majority of the profession will condemn your pretensions, will ridicule your arguments, and reprobate your folly. They will tell you that you are wrong altogether wrong; that the United States are shut up by the convention of 1818 to an equitable partition of the country; that such was, no doubt, the meaning of the statesmen and diplomatists who acted on behalf of the United States in framing that convention, whatever any of them may now say, that such is the legal import, the fair construction of the instrument, and that after a quarter of a century of acquiescence in such an arrangement you cannot now evade it. They will tell you, that if the negotiators of the United States on that occasion had considered the exclusive claim of the United States to be 'clear and questionable,' and had intended to keep the question open, they might and ought to have protested against any use or occupation of the country by England in any shape; that the reason why they did not do this was, that the question manifestly depended upon the first occupancy of the country; and it was clearly seen by them, that they should allow England, without any conventional arrangement, to become the first occupant, as she was then likely to become, and has since in fact become, of a large proportion of the country, the claim of the United States, even under a protest, would be foreclosed; that they were therefore willing to make sure of an equal undivided moiety of the country, subject only to the claims of other nation; and to the condition that the arrangement should not be construed to prevent either party, so long as it continued in force, and until it should be superseded by a partition, from asserting any claim to the country, or making any use or appropriation of its soil or its waters, which should not necessarily involve the exercise of exclusive sovereignty. They will tell you that this was the meaning of the subordinate saving clause above discussed--nothing more; and that all your late proceedings are a violation of the spirit of that convention, an insult to the common sense of the world."

The chief valued of these remarks is, that they are essentially American, and that they are dictated by a sound and enlightened view of the American interests which are engaged on the side of peace and good faith. Mr. Polk and his adherents have excited and abetted the warlike declarations of the party which has declared for the whole of Oregon, chiefly with a view to popularity, indirectly perhaps with a view to the effects of military patronage and influence on the community. Reasonable hopes may now be entertained that their policy and their designs will be frustrated and rejected. That popularity which they have dared to seek in false, incentives to war would bring them, in less than six months of hostilities, within the grasp of an impeachment: and the evils they may draw down upon the United States as a nation could fall with tenfold weight upon their own heads as a party. As far as we can judge from the tone of this debate in the Senate, from the press, and from our own correspondence, the reaction has now commenced, and the disposition of the American people is pacific. If that be the case, the termination of the convention of 1827 will not actually take place before the whole question has been equitably adjusted. Mr. Polk will have the rare good fortune of being defeated by a people less rash than the men who govern it; and he will retire from his office unregretted indeed by any one, but free, at least, from the lasting disgrace of having broken the peace of the world.

[CCB]

LT April 11, 1846, p6/b Mexico, affairs of

"The Affairs of Mexico" (From our own correspondent.) Mexico, Feb. 27.

The arrival of the January packet from England was looked forward to by most persons here with considerable anxiety, as some strong manifestation was expected from the English press on the subject of the President's message, and hopes were entertained that its warlike tone would be more than re-echoed from your side of the water. The Mexican Government, anxious not to humble itself to its powerful neighbour, hoped to make some advantageous terms in case of a rupture; and, although they make the "grasping policy of England"--its designs on the Californias, a pretended fear of its intervention in the affairs of this country--a constant theme of declamation and complaint, they cannot shut their eyes to the fact that England has always been her steadiest friend.

They cannot forget that England was the first Power to recognize, their independence, the first to lend their infant republic immense sums on more that doubtful security, and to send out large capital to work their mining district. Later in the day England stepped in to offer her mediation with France; and even the Texas question would have been honourably arranged by her for them if the absurd pretensions and wavering policy of the Mexican Government had not frustrated endeavors.

Thus, in the event of war, they trusted again to the same influence in their favour, although their conduct to England has ever been the reverse of meritng it. Their whole fiscal regulations have been directed against the introduction of British manufactures; and their obnoxious duties on the export of silver, and their manner of enforcing them, have been directed to paralyse British operations. The result may be seen in the effects produced. After 20 years of an open market, British imports have not increased. The exports from England annually to all the ports of this country fall for short of a million sterling, and instead of British mercantile houses, extending themselves over the country, even in the capital the number is yearly diminishing,
and I am within the mark when I assert that the number of British houses in all parts of the republic do not exceed 30.

Whatever politically might be the effect of American aggression on this country, commercially speaking, it would be beneficial to the interests of Great Britain. By giving a security to property in the suppression of annual revolutions, by the construction of roads, and rendering their transit free from the now constant attacks of bandits, by giving tolerance in religion, and restraining the benumbing influence of the priesthood, this country, blessed with a splendid climate and fertile soil, now sunk in apathy and degradation, would put forth its dormant energies, would raise bread-stuffs enough to feed the world and cotton to clothe it, and its vast crops of sugar, coffee, tobacco, and other valuable tropical products, would give employment to a vast mercantile marine. An increase of communication and intelligence would create an appetite for the wants of civilization; and that period arriving, Mexico would be a market worthy of the attention of British commerce, and not, as now, only left to those who entered it when the prospects were alluring, and only remain from the difficulty of diverting capital from a channel where it has been once invested.

Speculating thus, if America from no goodwill to us, but following up her grasping policy at the modern Carthage, were permitted by European Powers to plant at any future day her eagles in the city of Mexico, the preponderance of the Southern States would be so great, the slaveholders and cotton growers so much brought into collision of interest with the Northern, that more than probably a dissolution of the Union would violently take place, and two great republics spring out of the disruption. The Northern Republic, having New York for its commercial port and emporium, and the Southern New Orleans, would thus form, when railroads and steam-boats induce a rapid communication, compact republics of what are now disjointed and barely communicable provinces. Suppose this were to occur 20 or 50 years hence? What would Great Britain lose by it? I confess I see on the contrary a positive gain. She would hold the balance between two republics, whose very jealousy would soon convert them into rival and implacable enemies; she would have created for her a vast new market for her ever-progressing commerce, and she would command a choice for raw material, for which she is now mainly dependent on one source. Years may elapse—must elapse—before the semblance of what I have written may come to pass; but the mind of interest tends onwards to this consummation, and the parallel events of the former his of a monarchy and the speculations of this party on the advantage of a monarchy and the choice of a foreign Prince to rule over them, they forget that there must be two parties to a bargain. Few Princes would accept so precarious a crown as Mexico would be, unless Europe, in spite of the blistering of the United States, should at once in this disturbed republic adopt and maintain the policy of armed intervention, and send 40,000 bayonets to maintain him.

With respect to the present state of this country, the recent revolution does not seem to present greater securities or advancement and permanence than the former ones. General Almonte has resigned his post as Minister of War, and has been succeeded by General Tornel; and these changes, occurring so shortly after the formation of the Cabinet, have given rise to distrust and speculation.

The law for calling together the new Congress, or the Convocation as it is called, has been published: it provides for the election of 160 deputies, of which the clergy, commerce, and military each send 20 members. Its further provisions would not be interesting, more especially as it is an extremely verbose document. It seems to have given satisfaction; all events it has been received with the usual apathy, and will be carried out until some newer plan is struck or by some new adventure.

Among the singular features presented by the late revolution is the appearance of a monarchial party here, whose cause is sustained by a new paper established for that purpose, called the Tiempo. Its articles have been written with singular vigour and ability, and are attributed to Don Lucas Alaman, a name known to many in Europe, and formerly a member of the Government. But in the speculations of this party on the advantages of a monarchy and the speculations of this party on the advantage of a monarchy and the choice of a foreign Prince to rule over them, they forget that there must be two parties to a bargain. Few Princes would accept so precarious a crown as Mexico would be, unless Europe, in spite of the blistering of the United States, should at once in this disturbed republic adopt and maintain the policy of armed intervention, and send 40,000 bayonets to maintain him.

It is supposed that General Paredes favours this consolidation of affairs, and his opinion will have great weight; he is a well-meaning man, and although not supposed to be a man of talent, his integrity and honest intentions have never been questioned.

That he has influence, the quick result of his late political movement is a proof; but to captivate these sons of Spanish origin so much verbiage is obliged to be used in professions of faith previously, that expectations are raised that some important changes and improvement are immediately to follow a revolution; then comes disappointment and dissatisfaction, and already unquiet spirits are beginning to foment new projects. I do not think we shall have an outbreak soon, but it will arrive, and it will be a contest for principles; formerly it has merely been a struggle for military successions, but a growing spirit is springing up of inquiry and discussion, which must bring into collision matter and mind.

The new tariff came into operation on the 1st inst. Its reduction of duties weight lightly on woolen and linen goods, but on cottons there is a relief of from 20 to 25 per cent., which must tend to increase consumption. We advance slowly here in the first principles of free trade, and have yet to learn that low duties increase both the demand and the revenue, giving protection by their nature to the fair trader, and an increased income to the Treasury.

The mining accounts are generally favourable, and new mines are commencing to be worked. I believe, on a rough estimate, the produce of the whole mines in the republic last year was nearly 25,000,000 of collars,
The Exchange by this packet, 43d.

Postscript.--The American Minister, Mr. Slidell, is still in Jalapa, watching the progress of events, and it is rumoured that shortly some American claims will be forced on this Government.

This Government have granted licenses for the importation of American cotton into the port of Vera Cruz on the payment of $10 per quintal, and several houses have taken them out for large quantities.

The Minister of Finance has contracted with a commercial house here for 1,800,000, half in cash and the other half in bonds of the 26 per cent., giving to the contractors securities of various kinds, among which is the Vera Cruz Custom house; the part already appropriated for the English dividends and other funds is, of course, requested.

In exchange, or sales of goods, the operations have been very trifling.

The Exchange by this packet, 43d.

El Tiempo, a daily paper established here since the last revolution, and regarded as official, advocates without reserve the establishment of a monarchy in Mexico, with a Spanish Bourbon on the throne--the plan originally proclaimed by Iturbide in Iguala. A Protectorate is perhaps the form of government best suited to his country under present circumstances; and a leader enjoying the popularity which Santa Anna sacrificed to gold would have no great difficulty in establishing such a system, preserving the name and some of the forms of a republic. Paredes may do as much, but without foreign aid the monarchial project is impracticable, and even with such of doubtful success. Young Mexico is altogether republican, and of the old stock there remain no elements from which to form an aristocracy. In a country where the broad distinction of colour has ceased to be regarded, the pride of lineage is, of course, unknown. A few counts and marquises do indeed exist, whose titles (abolished when the republic was established) are still occasionally conceded by courtesy; but no influence is attached to mere rank, no do the habits of those noble personages elevate them in any degree above the rest of the community. At this moment the wealthiest noble of Mexico, owner of vast estates and highly productive mines, is at the same time an eminent wholesale butcher, deeply versed in the mysteries of the slaughter house, though ill-adapted to adorn a court. But while El Tiempo is supposed to speak the sentiments of General Paredes on this question, his Ministers are not all believed to entertain the same views. General Almonte, Minister-at-War, has just resigned, it is said, on the ground. He has lived much in the United States, and is considered a stanch Republican, though not without ambition; he probably speculates on deriving greater advantage from "coming events" out of office, than if attached to the Cabinet of Parades. General Tornel has been named his successor. This versatile personage, though identified with the late, as with most preceding revolutions, had been rather coldly treated by Paredes, and was understood to be occupied in the composition of a work demonstrating the superiority of republican over monarchial Governments, when the retirement of Almonte corrected his opinions by opening to him the doors of his old office at the War Department. If anything could give Santa Anna a chance of recovering his influence in this country, it would be this monarchial scheme, and his re-appearance on the scene as the champion of republican institutions would be quite consistent with some of his former exploits.

In financial matters General Paredes is disposed to proceed with the utmost economy consistent with the maintenance of the army, on whose support his power rests; but so small a portion of the revenue is unencumbered that he has been obliged to solicit assistance from the same parties who have been in the habit of dealing with former Governments here, and whose terms (always severe) are not likely to be relaxed in favour of one who has himself shorn the facility with which a Government may be overthrown. He has obtained some funds by granting licenses for the introduction of raw cotton from the United States on payment, by anticipation, of a duty of 10 per quintal (100lb. Spanish); but his right to the exclusive appropriation of this duty has been disputed and I am of opinion that the British creditors are as fully entitled to their share of it as of that on any other article of merchandise introduced from abroad. The subject has, I believe, been brought
under the notice of the Earl of Aberdeen by Mr. Bankhead.

From the want of the sinews of war the expedition to California has not yet moved, and those fine provinces remain abandoned to their fate, which, in the absence of European intervention, must be annexation to the colossus of the north. No settlement of the difficult affair of Texas has yet been made, nor, as far as the public are aware, attempted, by this Government. In proclaiming the presence here of Mr. Slidell, the American Envoy, as one reason for displacing the late Government, Paredes appears to have raised a barrier to his own reception of that gentleman, though he is doubtless well aware that the matter must ultimately be arranged by negotiation. Mexico has everything to apprehend, and nothing to hope, from war single-handed with her powerful neighbour; but hopes have been entertained here (perhaps still are) that Great Britain may be involved in war with "the common enemy" on the Oregon question, and so cause a powerful diversion in favour of fallen Anahhuae. Mr. Slidell remains at Jalapa, waiting instructions from his Government, and Mr. Polk is taking measures to support those instructions, and retain his "peaceful conquest," by replacing the American squadron in the waters of Vera Cruz. Four or five United States vessels of war (one of them with a commodore's pendant) are now at anchor at Sacrificios.

The restoration of the chapel of Santa Teresa, in this city, of which the dome was thrown down by the severe earthquake of last year, is proceeding rapidly. An image standing in the chapel, and denominated Nuestro scour de Santa Teresa, was grievously injured on that occasion (earthquakes having no respect for persons), but having been since repaired and beautified, it was carried in procession two days ago through the city, and lodged provisionally in the cathedral, to the great delight of the inhabitants of all classes, who thronged the streets in dense numbers. This image enjoys a well establish reputation for miracles performed in other days, on which it would have been well to rest its fame, but the indiscreet zeal of its adorers would now attribute to it other more recent and more astonishing performances; however, on these subjects Mexican credulity knows no limits.

MIRON.

[CCB]

LT April 15, 1846, p5/d "The United States and Mexico."

We have received the following, dated February 25, from Tampico:--

"We had an express to-day bringing the intelligence that the American troops had taken possession of the Fronton de Santa Isabel, situated near to Matamoras--so near that it is considered Matamoras is already taken by the Americans, for what can the Americans do with such customers? The Fronton de Santa Isabel was taken without a fight, and there were only some Mexican Custom-house officers and pilots, who were made prisoners." [CCB]

[CCB]

LT April 15, 1846, p6/f "Mexican Outrage on British Shipping."

To the Editor of the Times

Sir, --Knowing your readiness to expose a gross injustice, and give publicity to any outrage committed on British shipping by foreigners, I take the liberty of making the following statement, which I doubt not you will insert in the columns of your widely-spread and influential paper:--

The schooner Lord Anson, of Jersey, commanded by me, was chartered to carry a cargo of logwood from Tabasco, in the republic of Mexico, to Liverpool, with liberty to discharge a cargo at Barbados, and from thence to proceed to Tabasco. On my arrival at the Bar of Tabasco, I delivered to the boarding officer my clearances from Jersey and Barbados, containing the articles I had on board-viz., 55 tons of coals, 1,500 bricks, and 9 casks of lime; and which were indispensably necessary to ballast my vessel, she drawing 13 feet, when loaded, and with the above ballast only 8 feet.

To my surprise the hatches of my vessel were sealed, and the Lord Anson was ordered to sail 25 leagues up the tortuous river to the city of Tabasco, which is quite unusual, my cargo of logwood being ready at the bar, the ordinary loading place for vessels arriving in ballast. It took my 15 days to perform the voyage up to the city of Tabasco, myself and crew being exposed to the deleterious effects of a pestilential climate, and the bite of numerous and venomous insects; the many windings of the river and the strong current render the navigation not only tedious but even dangerous. To all these hardships and dangers my vessel and crew were wantonly exposed; and if it be asked for what purpose, I must answer, in order to be notified by the Collector of Customs, Don Manuel Escoffie, and first officer Ramon Pasquel, that my vessel, the schooner Lord Anson, and everything belonging to her, was seized. I appealed, of course, from this unlawful decision to the tribunal of the country, the judge of which condemned me to pay a fine of 550, and to forfeit the 1,500 bricks and 9 casks of lime, however; declaring the 55 tons of coal free, as this article pays no duty on importation. I submitted to
this decision under protest, and requested my consignees to forward the judiciary proceedings to the British Minister resident in the city of Mexico.

It is evident that fiscal laws are enacted to prevent fraud and protect the public revenue; no criminal intention could be alleged against me, as I delivered to the boarding officer the clearances of the articles which I had on board to ballast my vessel. It was found on discharging that the bricks and lime were so entirely valueless that the greater part were thrown into the river, by order from the Custom-house, and certainly no better proof than this was wanting to refute the argument of the collector that brickbats and spoiled lime constitute cargo. Besides, coals and bricks have been considered as ballast in other parts of Mexico, and American as well as French vessels have been permitted to carry them as ballast to Vera Cruz and Tampico.

I am confident that had I offered a bribe, I should have been saved all this annoyance as well as the 550 fine. As the Custom-house officers at Tabasco seldom receive their fully pay, owing to the scarcity of funds, it is the interest of the said officers to levy fines upon foreign vessels on the slightest pretence, as such penalties are divided amongst them.

It is to be hoped that the representation of the British Minister, Mr. Bankhead, will convince the Mexican Government of the arbitrary and illegal treatment I have met with from the Custom-house at Tabasco, and that my owners will be indemnified for the heavy loss inflicted on them.

I have the honour to remain, Sir.
Your most obedient servant,
Charles John Benouf,
Master of Schooner Lord Anson, of Jersey.

[CCB]

LT April 16, 1846, p4/a "America. The Oregon Question."

[The following appeared in part of our yesterday's impression:--]

Liverpool, April 14, 6 P.M.

The British and North American Royal mail steamer Hibernia, Captain Ryrie, arrived in the Mersey this afternoon, from Boston and Halifax, bringing intelligence from the United States to the 1st inst., from Canada to the 3d inst., and late accounts from Texas, Mexico, &c. She has brought 148 passengers.

We note briefly the proceedings of the Senate.

On the 16th ult. the committee appointed to inquire into certain charges of collusion with Mr. Pakenham on the part of several senators on the Oregon question, advanced by the Washington Times, which were to the effect that "there was corrupt conversation and collusion with the British Minister at his table," reported to the House, and much discussion ensued.

Mr. Calhoun then rose and addressed the Senate on the question of notice.

On the 17th Mr. Berrien occupied the floor, supporting the views and policy of Messrs. Allen, &c.

On the 18th a resolution inquiring for the latest correspondence with regard to the Oregon had been offered, and another resolution instructing the Committee on Militia to inquire into the propriety of organizing the militia of the United States.

Mr. Archer then spoke upon the Oregon question in hostility to the notice, and on the binding power of the Baltimore resolutions. Mr. Allen, as on former days, had to re-explain the texoup of his remarks.

On the 19th Mr. Miles addressed the Senate against a "party war," but in favour of the notice, as tending to a quick compromise, and referring to "the prospect of annexation at the southward."

The Senate resumed, after adjournment, on the 23d. Mr. Webster called for correspondence regarding the old boundary question, to defend himself from aspersions.

Mr. Allen then rose and endeavoured to fix the termination of the debate unsuccessfully.

After a few words,

A resolution from the Legislature of Louisiana demanding proper defences for New Orleans was read.
The Oregon debate was then resumed by Mr. Chalmers, in a just and liberal speech in which he accorded warm eulogy to the free trade movement of Great Britain. The following President's message was then read:--

"The Special Message.

To The Senate of the United States.

In answer to the inquiry of the Senate, contained in their resolution of the 17th inst., whether, in my 'judgment, any circumstances connected with or growing out of the foreign relations of this country require at this time an increase of our naval or military force;' and if so, 'what those circumstances are,' I have to express the opinion that a wise precaution demands such increase.

In my annual message of the 2d of December last I recommended to the favourable consideration of Congress an increase of our naval force, especially of our steam navy, and the raising of an adequate military force to guard and protect such of our citizens as might think proper to emigrate to Oregon. Since that period I have seen no cause to recall or modify those recommendations. On the contrary, reasons exist which, in my judgment, render it proper not only that they should be promptly carried into effect, but that additional provision should be made for the public defence.

The consideration of such additional provision was brought before appropriate committees of the two houses of Congress, in answer to calls made by them, in reports prepared, with my sanction, by the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy, on the 29th of December and the 8th of January last; a mode of communication with Congress not unusual, and, under existing circumstances, believed to be most eligible. Subsequent events have confirmed me in the opinion that these recommendations were proper as precautionary measures.

It was a wise maxim of the father of his country, that 'to be prepared for war is one of the most efficient means of preserving peace;' and that, 'avoiding occasions of expense by cultivating peace,' we should 'remember, also, that timely disbursements to repel it.' The general obligation to perform this duty is greatly strengthened by facts known to the whole world. A controversy respecting the Oregon territory now exists between the United States and Great Britain; and while, as far as we know, the relations of the latter with all the European nations are of the most pacific character, she is making unusual and extraordinary armaments and warlike preparations, naval and military, both at home and in her North American possessions.

It cannot be disguised that, however sincere may be the desire of peace, in the event of a rupture these armaments and preparations would be used against our country. Whatever may have been the original purpose of the preparations, the fact is undoubted that they are now proceeding, in part at least, with the view to the contingent possibility of a war with the United States. The general policy of making additional warlike preparations was distinctly announced in the speech from the Throne, as late as January last, and has since been reiterated by the Ministers of the Crown in both houses of Parliament. Under this aspect of our relations with Great Britain, I cannot doubt the propriety of increasing our means of defence both by land and sea. This can give Great Britain no cause of offence, nor increase the danger of a rupture. If, on the contrary, we should fold our arms in security, and at last be suddenly involved in hostilities for the maintenance of our just rights, without any adequate preparation, our responsibility to the country would be of the gravest character. Should collision between the two countries be avoided, as I sincerely trust it may be, the additional charge upon the Treasury in making the necessary preparations will not be lost, while in the event of such a collision, they would be indispensable for the maintenance of our national rights and national honour.

I have seen no reason to change or modify the recommendations of my annual message in regard to the Oregon question. The notice to abrogate the treaty of the 6th of August, 1827, is authorized by the treaty itself, and cannot be regarded as a warlike measure; and I cannot withhold my strong conviction that it should be promptly given. The other recommendations are in conformity with the existing treaty, and would afford to American citizens in Oregon no more than the same measure of protection which has long since been extended to British subjects in that territory.

The state of our relations with Mexico is still in an unsettled condition. Since the meeting of Congress another revolution has taken place in that country, by which the government has passed into the hands of new rulers. This event has procrastinated, and may possibly defeat, the settlement of the differences between the United States and that country. The Minister of the United States to Mexico, at the date of the last advices, had not been received by the existing authorities. Demonstrations of a character hostile to the United States continue to be made in Mexico, which has rendered it proper, in my judgment, to keep nearly two-thirds of our army on our southwestern frontier. In doing this, many of the regular military posts have been reduced to a small force, inadequate to their defence, should an emergency arise.

In view of these 'circumstances' it is my 'judgment' that 'an increase of our naval and military force is at the time required,' to place the country in a suitable state of defence. At the same time, it is my settled purpose to pursue such a course of policy as may be best calculated to preserve, both with Great Britain and Mexico, an honourable peace; which nothing will so effectually promote as unanimity in our councils, and a firm maintenance of all our just rights.
Washington, March 24, 1846.

It was ordered to be printed for the use of the Senate.

Mr. Webster rose to inquire into the matters referred to in the message, without any comment or remark upon it whatever. We perceive from the reading that in the judgment of the Executive it is necessary to increase our means of defence, military and naval, from increasing necessities. The amount or extent of this necessary increase is not stated in the message. What does the President suppose will be the estimates required? What the extent of the necessities of increase of the military and the navy? Have these estimates emanated from the appropriate committee of this or the other house of Congress, is it highly important to know how and from what authority they do arise. The document before us explains that the practice pursued in this instance is not unusual. Recently it is not unusual; but in my judgment it appears to have commenced with the existing Administration. I do not know whether any member of the Senate has been commissioned to lay these estimates before the body. I would ask the Senator from Missouri (Chairman on Military Affairs) to state what communication has been made to his committee, and why it has not been laid before the Senate? I appeal to the hon. Gentleman from Missouri.

Colonel Benton.--It is proper in the outset that I should state how it happened, in the first instance, that these communications were made to the committee. Colonel Benton then referred to General Cass's resolutions, passed at the beginning of the session, instructing, among others, the Committee on Military Affairs to inquire into the expediency of increasing that branch of the service, &c. The committee, in pursuance of instructions, had addressed an inquiry to the Secretary of War, who had returned an answer, many parts of which it was appropriate to make public, and some not, but it was all in their hands. The committee did not think the present the time to take notice of it.

Mr. Fairfield stated, as chairman of the Committee on Naval Affairs, a similar course of proceeding, and the bill for the 10 war steamers was based upon the secretary's published recommendations.

Mr. J.M. Clayton was understood to ask if there was communicated to the committee any other official information not reported to the Senate?

Mr. Fairfield replied, that there were estimates from the heads of the Naval Bureau, who had reported to the Secretary the data of the recommendations. But these papers were voluminous, and it was deemed in other respects not necessary to bring them before the Senate.

Mr. Webster would pursue the subject a single remark further. He would ask the chairman of the Naval Committee whether the Secretary of the Navy, who had furnished these estimates for the information of the committee, had received the sanction of their recommendation from the President of the United States? Second, why the committee had failed to state to the Senate the sanction of the President?

Mr. Fairfield said that the sanction of the President was verbal—it was not communicated in writing.

Mr. Webster asked if the verbal communication to the Secretary of the Navy was regarded as of the same effect as if in writing? If not equal, why was it communicated to the Committee of the Senate? We now see the posture of things. I hope the chairman on military affairs will, as soon as convenient, state whether he has received his information of the direction or sanction of the President in the same way? I desire him to communicate this information to the Senate as far as is proper, and no further. What are those communications before the committee?

Mr. Benton said, he should answer fully as soon as the sense of the committee could be ascertained. No Secretary at War would, however, recommend so large a measure as this, unless as the organ of the President.

General Cass desired a part of the message from the President to be read again (and accordingly that part was read in which the President declared he sanctioned the recommendations made to the Military and Naval Committees). General Cass congratulated himself on the resuscitation of his resolutions, which he had feared were sleeping the sleep of death.

And with some passing conversation, on the motion of Mr. Berrien, the Senate went into executive session to talk the matter over more explicitly.

On the 25th,--

Mr. Berrien submitted a resolution requiring the heads of the Committees on Military and on Naval Affairs, respectively, to communicate to the Senate the estimates furnished them by the War and Navy Departments, under the sanction of the President, as referred to in his message transmitted to the Senate.
Mr. Fairfield said that the estimates from the heads of bureaux had been returned to the Navy Department from the Naval Committee.

Mr. Benton said that the Military Committee had all the papers in their possession from the War Department, and were ready to communicate them to the Senate. A portion of the papers, however, it was not appropriate to publish; and it was not necessary to do so, as the report of the Secretary at War embodied all the estimates.

[The estimates relate to the organization of the militia, and the purchase of munitions for the several military stations.]

Mr. Yulee hoped the resolution would be so amended as to require the Secretary of the Navy to return the Senate the papers transmitted back from the Naval Committee. They would be useful to the Senate. They would certainly be useful to him.

Mr. Fairfield opposed the furnishing of these documents, and the suggestion, also, to that effect.

Mr. Westcott, with his usual earnestness, protested that the estimates should not be detained from the Senate, because, if unfit for publication, they could be communicated confidentially. The resolution was adopted, by 25 to 11.

Mr. Benton delivered up the papers in his possession.

A motion was made to print these papers for the use of the Senate.

Mr. Allen suggested, as some portions of these papers were not properly subject matter for publication, that thus far they should be excluded from printing.

Mr. Benton explained that the report of the Secretary at War embraced, substantially, all the information of the other papers.

Mr. Berrien then moved, that the order to print be confined to the Secretary's letter to the committee, which was agreed to.

Mr. Sevier then resumed the notice question. He would not vote for a "compromise" resolution; but would accept a treaty. He would leave it in the hands of the President.

The House Bill, for increasing the rank and file of the United States army, was then read a first time.

Mr. Allen again endeavoured to fix a termination for the debate. Considerable discussion ensued. No result.

Mr. Clayton's resolution of inquiry as to the Oregon correspondence was read. Mr. Allen wished for postponement. Mr. Crittenden and Mr. Morehead supported. No result.

Mr. Miller resumed the debate.

The Senate adjourned to Monday, the 30th.

The house proceedings were unimportant until the 23d, the Harbour and River Bill having engrossed attention. No movement on the Tariff or Sub-Treasury scheme.

On the 23d a discussion arose on a bill for the augmentation of the army. The house resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the state of the Union, and took up for consideration the bill to raise two regiments of riflemen, and for other purposes.

The bill was read. It proposes--1. That, in addition to the present military establishment of the United States, there be raised, by voluntary enlistment, two regiments of riflemen, citizens of the United States, to serve for the term of three years, unless sooner disbanded. 2. That each regiment shall consist of one colonel, on lieutenant-colonel, one major, one adjutant wit the rank of first lieutenant, &c. 3. The President and the Senate to appoint all officers proper to be appointed under this act. 4. The President is authorized, by voluntary enlistment, to add 10 privates to the present number in each company of the existing regiments of Dragoons, Infantry, and Artillery, whenever, in his opinion, the exigencies of the public service may require the same. 5. An appropriation of money, sum not stated.

Much discussion arose.

On the 24th the subject was resumed, and towards the close of a lengthened discussion--
Mr. Adams rose and remarked, that he had been informed that in another part of the Capitol an important message had been received from the President of the United States and which would have a very great effect on this house with reference to the bill before them. If good and substantial reasons, after a perusal of this message, should exist for its passage, it should have his hearty concurrence. If not, he would vote against it. He moved the reconsideration of the resolution to which he referred, in committee, to enable the house to delay action on the bill, and ascertain what effect the message should have upon their action. However, a motion was made to adjourn, which prevailed.

On the 25th the bill was again resumed in committee. After much discussion the bill was adopted. Yeas, 164; nays, 15. Adjourned.

The committee of the Senate appointed to consider the expediency of a month mail to Oregon had reported in favour of that measure.

LT 4/18/1846, 5/c Oregon question

We publish in another place an extract from the speech delivered by Mr. Calhoun, on the 16th of March, in the Senate of the United States, which reflects the greatest credit on that eminent statesman, and does honour to the assembly in which it was delivered. The progress made by the Oregon question within the last two years has convinced Mr. Calhoun himself of preserving in that silent and inactive course of policy which he had hitherto recommended as the surest method of establishing the ultimate sovereignty of the United States in that territory. He has been driven from that ground to the alternative of supporting a compromise, or of declaring for a forcible occupation of the country; and whilst he cordially adopts the principle of compromise, he votes for the abrogation of the existing convention, in order to bring the discussion to a speedy termination. Thus far we are perfectly agreed with Mr. Calhoun. We are happy to adopt as our own every one of the pacific sentiments and the sensible opinions he has so eloquently expressed; and although in his warning of the disastrous consequences of war is especially addressed to the American states, his advocacy of the cause of peace will nowhere be read with more sincere admiration than in this country. Thus far the spirit of the great majority of the Americans is favourable to a peaceful settlement of this difference. We may assume that Mr. Polk's message and declarations, in which there is not the slightest intimation that any compromise is expected, or the slightest expectation that any admissible offer will be made, do not contain the opinion of the most influential American statesmen. Even Mr. Polk's personal friends give very different accounts of his own views; and, if we look to the men out of office, who, as senators, are members of a branch of the executive Government and exercise a portion of the treaty-making power, the preponderance of numbers and of political authority is unquestionable in favor of a compromise. This step, then, may be considered as virtually gained; but it is only the first step towards the solution of the difficulty, and Mr. Polk's pretensions were less formidable when they were carried to an excessive and ridiculous extent than when they are reduced within those limits which have, throughout this protracted negotiations, formed the true basis of the American claim. For though there are differences of opinion between compromise and no compromise, notice or no notice, there is a singular unanimity in all the opinions which have reached us from the United States as to the extent of the only compromise which is regarded as at all admissible. The word "compromise" is synonymous in the mouths of the Americans with the 49th parallel of north latitude. Mr. Calhoun says, -

"The past history of the affair, the fact that it had been frequently offered by us substantially as an ultimatum, added to the fact that 49&deg;730; was the boundary on this side of the Rocky Mountains, left no doubt on my mind that, if settled by compromise, it must be on that basis. It is true that our offer heretofore on that basis had been rejected, and that it might thence be inferred that Great Britain could not accede to it consistently with her honour. I am not of that impression. Things have greatly changed since our offer were made and rejected by her. Then the advantages under the convention were all in her favour; but now they have turned in favour of us"

Mr. Haywood, in a speech intended to be of a pacific character said: -

"I am come to the conclusion, as a senator of the United States, that we cannot, ought not, must not, compromise this controversy in any manner very materially different from that of which the President, as I understand his position and these records, stands committed, and rightly committed; and I shall, therefore, vote to give him the notice, and with it all the moral weight of an American Senate's settled opinion, that if Great Britain will not, or if she cannot, consent to do justice, by yielding her pretensions of dominion over the territory below the line of 49&deg;730; as a compromise, then we will fight. I repeat, we must then fight for it. In a word, we ought to refuse the notice unless there is a solemn determination to make the compromise line of 49&deg;730; our FIGHTING LINE- if it must be so."

After these public and peremptory declarations on the part of men who are comparatively moderate in their tone upon this subject, the Cabinet of Washington may, and probably will, intimate, in the event of the negotiation being re-opened after the notice has been given, that its hands are tied beforehand. There is no diplomacy left in the question. The game is to be played with the cards on the table; and the 49th parallel must be regarded as the ultimatum of the Senate rather than the President and his immediate advisers. We believe this to be a matter of fact; and whither the Americans be right or wrong, prudent or foolish, is beside the
question, since it is evident that when all the leading statesmen of a country have deliberately pledged themselves to a particular position, they will rather go to war than abandon it. They have chosen, therefore, to assume for the purposes of their justification that this concession (as they term it) is a sufficient sacrifice for the maintenance of peace, and that although England positively rejected that offer 20 years ago, and on many subsequent occasions, she will accept it now. We are really at a loss to conceive to what circumstances Mr. Calhoun attributes this supposed change, or what imaginable circumstances could release us from the duty of upholding territorial right. But the fact is, that the valley of the Columbia is as much and as exclusively occupied by the British agents of the Hudson's-bay Company as it ever has been, and to suppose that our rights to the country are weakened is a childish invention. They are precisely what they have ever been since 1790.

In the whole course of these negotiations that which has changed most completely is the claim set up by the Americans. In 1818 and in 1826 the territory in dispute was expressly asserted and clearly understood to be comprised between the 42˚ and 40˚; and 40˚ and 49˚; parallels of latitude. As for the more northern tract between 49˚ and 54˚; and 54˚ and 40˚, we are not aware that the paramount claims of Britain to that part of it were then called in question. The proposals for partition ranged between the mouth of the Columbia and 49˚; but not beyond; and the American plenipotentiaries unsuccessfully claimed the whole of that region, but no more. Since that time, and in the more recent discussions, they have raised their demands; they have laid claim to the whole country; and then, as if it were the furthest limits of condescension and concussion, they revert to their original offer, the very same which was before rejected. A man bargaining with another offers to sell him a horse for 80%. The buyer says it's too much, and goes away. Some time afterwards the seller asks him for 100% for the same horse, and, after and elaborate attempt to outwit his costumer, he ends by offering him the horse at 80% as a great bargain. That is precisely the course of the American dealing. They have raised the claim to the whole of Oregon, not with any expectation of acquiring the entire province, but in order to reconcile us to the terms we have before declared to be inadmissible. But the truth is, that the bare 49th parallel is to all intents and purposes the same thing that it was twenty years ago.

We intimated an opinion some time ago that the 49th parallel might conveniently serve as the basis of an arrangement; but it is clear that such a proposal must be accompanied with more extensive conditions than those heretofore annexed to it by the Americans. It must leave us the whole of Vancouver's Island, the navigation and harbour of the straits of Fuca, the free use of the Columbia and its northern branches down to the sea, and an indemnity or compensation to the Hudson-bay Company for the posts they would be called upon to surrender. We do not pretend to point out all the stipulations which it would be the part of a prudent and just policy to require as an equivalent for a concession so much below our original claims, and, as we firmly believe, our just rights. But the cession of the vacant soil might be politic and endurable, provided the private rights already long acquired and enjoyed by British subjects were duly respected; and they must, beyond all question, be protected by the ultimatum of England.

Between these two proposals lies the question of peace and war- narrowed, as these controversies are, to a small issue; but, nevertheless, broad enough to swallow up the peace of the world. The moderate members of the Senate make the 49th parallel their "fighting line." President Polk is evidently more disposed to lean to the side of resistance than of concession; and, on our side, we can really discover no motive or argument to justify us in any farther departure from the position assumed long ago by the British Government, and confirmed by the emphatic declarations of the Ministers of the Crown.

[SCM]

LT 4/22/1946 8f Monarch In Mexico

(From the New York Courier and Enquirer, March 18)

The establishment of a paper in Mexico, apparently for the express purpose of advocating the substitution of monarchy for the existing government of that country, as we have already remarked, must be regarded as a very significant indication of the probable future. Nor does the rumor, which we published yesterday, of the extreme unpopularity of the suggestion, diminish its importance. On the contrary, it makes still more probable the suspicion, that foreign powers are the prime movers in this whole project-that it neither originates nor is accordant with the wishes of the people- that public opinion there, to make it acceptable, must be greatly modified- and that the establishment of the paper referred to is the first step, taken by those interested in the movement, to effect the necessary change. We have watched the development of this scheme from its first public appearance; and it may be well to revert to the several steps which thus far have been taken.

When it was finally ascertained that the hostility of England and France to the annexation of Texas would be unavailing, attention was drawn to the condition and prospects of Mexico. The weakness of the Government, the anarchy which has become the only established order in the country, the poverty of the treasury, the lack of attachment on the part of the people to the institutions of the country, and the general and rapid decay of the whole system, led these European powers to regard as highly probable the future annexation of the whole country, one department after another, to the American Union. The overwhelming importance which such a result would give to the United States, as one of the leading nations of the earth, excited their alarm; and suggestions were made as to the most effectual and most feasible means of preventing it.
The first public suggestion was made by The Times, which had just then dispatched a special correspondent to the city of Mexico. In a leading editorial, that paper set forth very clearly and strongly the conditions of the country, the probability of its future absorption in the American Union, the effect of such a result upon European powers, and especially England, and the necessity of some prompt action by which it might be prevented. The Times closed its article by saying that no more fortunate event for Europe and the world could possibly occur than the reconquest of Mexico by Spain; and the assurance was ventured, that whatever means, in force or money, for so bold an undertaking, Spain might lack, would be furnished by those powers of Europe which had the deepest interest in its consummation. We copied a large part of this article at the time it appeared, and spoke of it then as a sufficient indication of designs likely to be entertained in the highest quarters. Next came the letters from the Mexican correspondent of The Times, from which we have repeatedly given copious extracts, and which constantly urged upon the attention of the English public the necessity of some speedy action to prevent the result so much deprecated by England and France, and the feasibility of the plan suggested by the Times itself. In several of these letters it was represented that the people of Mexico would acquire in such a movement, that they felt the weakness and inadequacy of their existing Government, that they were thoroughly sick of their political institutions, which had given them nothing but discontent, and that they wanted the advent of an European prince. These representations were kept up for some months. And the manner in which they were put forward, the familiarity evinced by the writer with diplomatic official documents, not only of England and Mexico, but of the United States clearly showed that he was writing, if not at the dictation, at least with the knowledge and aid of the British Minister at the Mexican capital.

The next step in this development was still more significant, being a simultaneous declaration, on the part of The Times and the Journal des Debats, the organs respectively of the Governments of England and France, so far at least as foreign relations are concerned that a foreign Prince, of the Bourbon family and from the Spanish branch, should be placed at the head of the Mexican Government, and his authority supported and guaranteed, against other nations and especially the United States, by the two European powers already named. These announcements were accompanied, in each paper by manifold details of the plan proposed, and very strong and earnest representations of its necessity and feasibility. Nothing else, it was urged by both, could possibly prevent Mexico from becoming a portion of the American Union; and such an accession to the power and wealth and greatness of the United States, it was confessed, would destroy the supremacy of England and France among the nations of the earth.

Following close upon this joint declaration of the two organs of the English and French Governments, was the establishment in the city of Mexico of a foreign Prince, of the Bourbon family and from the Spanish branch, as the head of the Mexican Government, and his authority supported and guaranteed, against other nations and especially the United States, by the two European powers already named. These announcements were accompanied, in each paper by manifold details of the plan proposed, and very strong and earnest representations of its necessity and feasibility. Nothing else, it was urged by both, could possibly prevent Mexico from becoming a portion of the American Union; and such an accession to the power and wealth and greatness of the United States, it was confessed, would destroy the supremacy of England and France among the nations of the earth.

"To establish a monarchy, we must choose a foreign Prince, and he must be of the Spanish branch of the Bourbon family. We want a king to strengthen our alliance with the European powers; to restore us order by their respectability and influence; to govern us by their wise measures, and save us from our own foolish and backward policy."

This, even to its details, is the scheme first broached by The Times; and it seems to us difficult to avoid the belief, that the whole project, from its inception, has been that of the Governments of England and France, and that the newspapers by which it has been urged, have acted not so much upon their own responsibilities as upon suggestions from those of either country who are in authority. And on that account, as we have repeatedly stated hitherto, we regard the subject as one of the gravest interests. That the movement is contemplated, and will be attempted, we have little doubt. What effect it will have upon this country with regards to it, and how far their hostility to its consummation may be carried, are questions as yet for simple speculation; but, whenever action upon them shall become necessary, they will become the graves, most important, and perchance, the most difficult of solution, which our Government thus far in history has ever encountered.

[SCM]

LT 4/28/1846 6a AMERICA

(The substance of the following appeared in part only of our impressions yesterday:-)

We have received accounts from New York to the 5th inst inclusive, and from Washington to the 2d, by the arrival in the Mersey of the packet ship Roscius, Captain Eldridge.

The Oregon discussion still remained undecided at the date of our Washington letters. On the 30th ult the "compromise" policy was advocated with great ability by Messrs. Webster and Barrow. The navy estimates were produced. On the 31st General Cass delivered a second speech, designed "to prepare the hearts of the people for war," and in which he took especial care to dwell upon those topics which were calculated to excite national antipathies and to exasperate the public mind of the two countries. On the 1st inst Mr. Benton advocated a compromise on the 49th parallel. The 2d was occupied with explanations.
The Journal of Commerce comments with much approbation upon the speech delivered by Mr. Benton, as follows: -

"Thanks to Mr. Benton for his straightforward manly speech! A friend in need is a friend indeed. Has his great influence been exerted in favour of extreme measures, there might have been some doubt of the result, even in the Senate; but now that he has taken his position alongside of Calhoun, Webster, Haywood, Berrien, Colquitt, Crittenden, and their comppeers, what hope is there for the 54& 40' men, the Aliens, cases, Hannegans, Breeses, &c.? They are left in vocative wanting. They are defeated and the country is safe. There has not for a long time been such a triumph of principle over party dictation, or attempted dictation, in any public body as this in the Senate where democrat, after democrat, to the number, we should judge, of at least one half of the whole, has declared in favour of moderation, compromise, peace, and against the enforcement of claims which can be sustained neither by argument nor arms. Indeed this whole discussion is a delightful comment on the power of truth, and safety of republican institutions. At the first go-off, it seemed as if the whole country, Congress and all, were demented. "Fifty-four forty" was the watchword, and "fifty-four forty" echoed back from all directions. But the examination which the subject had since received in Congress and out, has brought nine-tenths of the people, if not 99-100ths, to the conviction that not 54˚40', but 49˚, is the proper boundary, with such variations as the mutual interests of the parties, and a mutual regard to each other's convenience, may suggest. Upon this basis, substantially, we have strong expectations that England will meet us. The bugbear of the free navigation of the Columbia ought to be no impediment; for we defy any man to show that the interests of our citizens would suffer in consequences of such freedom."

The period which we vote would be taken upon the question of notice still remained undecided. "There appears to be a disposition in the Senate," writes the Herald of the 2nd inst.-

"To put off coming to vote on the notice resolutions as long as possible. It was once understood the Friday the 3rd inst. was set apart as the day to end all debate and settle the question at issue, but from certain indications we settle the question at issue, but from certain indications we judge that a further postponement will take place. It is evidential the intention of many senators to defer taking the vote until after the arrival of the April steamer from Liverpool, that they may be better able to form some opinion, if possible, of the intentions of the British Government in the premises, and govern themselves accordingly."

A meeting in favor of the "whole or none" policy had been convened with much display in Philadelphia, but notwithstanding, the means used to get up an excitement on the subject, it was a complete failure.

The proceedings of the lower branch of Congress are interesting. The Sub-Treasury scheme had, on the 2nd inst, passed by a strict party vote. An amendment we adopted exacting that all payments and disbursements from and to the United States shall be made in coin on and after the 30th of June next, instead of one-third thereof, as provided originally in the bill. No movement had been made with the tariff.

Advices received from Mexico are most important, if true. "We are indebted," says the New York Evening Gazette, "to a gentleman who arrived here to-day from Havannah, via Charleston, in the short passage of eight days, for the following important intelligence: -

"The Juanita arrived at Havannah on the evening of the 22nd, from Vera Cruz, from which place she sailed on the 16th, bringing advices up to that day, and by the Captain we learn that a great change had taken place in the state of our relationship with Mexico. It appears that Paredes has been induced to alter his tone, owing to strong manifestations exhibited against a war with the United States, and that Mr. Slidell, our Minister, had been duly notified that the Government were ready to consider the propositions he had to make on behalf of our Government, and that there existed no doubt but that the matter would be speedily adjusted. Arista and the "troops" under his command had pronounced against Paredes and the war party"

The truth of this report is to be doubted.

Accounts from this port to the 5th March had been received in New York, on the 1st instant, by the packet ship Yorkshire. The advices being un-important excited no comment.

The importations into New York during March had exhibited a large increase. The duties received in the present, as compared with the past years were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1845</th>
<th>1846</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>$1,347,534.33</td>
<td>$1,266,663.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>1,602,302.94</td>
<td>2,572,959.00</td>
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</tbody>
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The exchange in London is quoted at 109 1/2 to 110.

Accounts from Texas to the 21st ult so not furnish any further intelligence relative to the movement of the United States army under General Taylor towards Mexico. General Houston, previously to his departure for
Washington, had announced his determination to support the Administration of President Polk. A new tribe of Indians, the Canges, are reported to have joined the Camanches in the hostilities of that nation to Mexico. The corn crop in Texas was rapidly advancing in growth.

"Accounts from Yucatan," says the New York Enquirer-

"Have been received by the New Orleans Picayune, confirming the intelligence respecting the willingness of the present government of Mexico to concede everything to the demands of Yucatan, and ratify those treaties the violation of which led to the alienation of that department. Mexico is pressing if her eagerness to win back Yucatan; but sensible men are fearful of the stability of the administration of Paredes, and they would have Yucatan disentangled from Mexico, in case the latter country should become yet more involved with foreign Powers. It is added that they think of sending commissioners to the United States for what purposes is not agreed. Their Congress meets on the 23rd of the present month."

[SCM]

LT 4/30/1846  Oregon Question

In the whole course of the Oregon negotiation, and the protracted debate to which it has give rise upon the other side of the Atlantic, nothing has been advanced by any side to equal the absurdity of Mr. Benton’s peremptory assertion that the whole question was settled more than 130 years ago by the Treaty of Utrecht. The American public was evidently unprepared for so far a deep plunge into the history of European treaties. Several of the newspapers appear to have a vague notion that the Treaty of Utrecht was signed about the year 1803 or 1813. Mr. Benton, however, resolutely goes back to the Duchess of Marlborough and Mrs. Masham, though he subsequently averred that he had not looked into the English history for 40 years; and it is upon the labours of the Commissioners appointed by France and England under the 10th article of the Treaty of Utrecht, that he claims the 49th parallel as the established frontier between the two States to the Pacific. The following passage from the fourth edition of Mr. Greenhow’s work may supply, in a brief form, the proposition which Mr. Benton laboured to establish, though Mr. Greenhow himself rejects it:

"Mr. Monroe, Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States in London, in his letter of September 5, 1804, to Lord Harroby, the British Secretary for Foreign Affairs, makes the following statement with regard to the adoption of the 49th parallel of latitude, as the northern boundary of Louisiana.

"By the 10th article of the Treaty of Utrecht it is agreed that 'France shall restore to Great Britain the bay and straits of Hudson, together with all the lands, seas, seacoasts, rivers, and places situated on the said bay and straits, which belong thereto; and it is also agreed, on both sides, to determine within a year, by commissaries to be forthwith named by each party, the limits which are to be fixed between the said bay of Hudson and the places appertaining to the French, which limits both the British and French subjects shall be wholly forbid to pass over, or thereby to go to each other by sea or by land. The same commissaries shall also have orders to describe and settle in like manner the boundaries between the other British and French colonies in those parts.' Commissaries were accordingly appointed by each Power, who executed the stipulations of the treaty in establishing the boundaries proposed by it. They fixed the northern boundary of Canada and Louisiana by a line beginning on the Atlantic, at a cape or promontory in 58 degrees 30 minutes north latitude, thence southwestwardly to the Lake Misrissin, thence farther southwest to the latitude line of 49 degrees north from the equator, and along that line indefinitely. This statement was made agreeably to the instructions of Mr. Madison, the Secretary of State, contained in his letter of February 14th, 1804, in which he refers to an accompanying paper as showing 'the authority on which the decision of the commissioners under the Treaty of Utrecht rests.' This paper was not printed with the other documents, and no copy of it can now be found, so that the authority for the statement is not known.

"Mr. Madison, however, seems to have derived his opinion chiefly from the Summary, Historical and Political, of the British Settlements in North America, by William Douglas, published at Boston in 1794, which contains the assertion in the words used by Mr. Monroe; and Douglas probably derived it from the 31st column of the Modern Universal History, by Salmon, 1738, Salmon, however, in his Geographical and Historical Grammar, published in 1758, says expressly with regard to these provisions of the Treaty of Utrecht, 'these limits are not settled to this day.'"

In point of fact the statement was utterly unfounded. Nothing whatever is known or recorded of any act or decision of commissaries appointed under the Treaty of Utrecht to settle the line of separation between the Hudson's Bay territories and the French possessions, or the northern boundary of Canada and Louisiana; and the whole argument rests upon a very questionable foundation. But even if such a boundary had been drawn at that early period, and drawn even beyond the Rocky Mountains to the then unknown coast of the Pacific, there is still a complete answer to the argument, though none of the American orators have been so ingenious as to use it. They have chosen to assume for the purposes of their claim that when mention is made of discussions with reference to the territories of the Hudson's Bay Company and the French possessions in North America, Louisiana is the province designate by the latter appellation; and as Louisiana was transferred to the United States by the sale of 1803, they infer that all the standing claims of the French possessions in North America were included in that excellent bargain. The misrepresentation is so gross that no amount of mere ignorance can be supposed to cover it. At the time of the Treaty of Utrecht, and throughout the first half of the 18th
century, France was mistress of two great provinces in North America—Canada and Louisiana. Repeated discussions had arisen during the preceding reigns of Charles II, and William III, as to the proper limits of the Hudson's Bay territories and the French colony of Canada, in consequences of the alleged hostile invasion of the lands of the British company in 1686. The French company established in 1627 held under the letters of patent of Louis XIII granted in 1628, "the fort plantation of Quebec, and all the country of New France called 'Canada, up to the Arctic Circle in latitude, and in longitude from the island of Newfoundland westward to the lake called the 'Fresh sea' and beyond, together with the lands and coasts of the rivers which fall into the St. Lawrence." But throughout these discussions it was never alleged on the part of the French that Louisiana was at all affected by the question. They were defending the limits of Canada, and no more. The Treat of Utrecht provided for a final settlement of that controversy, and the labours of the commissioners to be appointed under the 10th article must have been confined to the Canadian claims against the Hudson's Bay territories. Louisiana nowhere came into contact with them.

In 1793, however, the position of England and France in North America was wholly changed. Canada and its dependencies were ceded by the latter Power; Louisiana was retained. The French Government was certainly able and willing to defend its just rights, but from that hour we hear no more of French claims on the territories of the Hudson's Bay Company, until half a century afterwards these pretended claims are resuscitated by the Americans, as part of their purchase of Louisiana. The claims, whatever they might be worth, were clearly attached to, and included in, the ceded dependencies of Canada; and if any Power can rely upon them at the present day it is England, as the representative of France in Canada and the north-west, not the United States, representing France by the purchase on the Mississippi and in the interior. The whole argument of Mr. Benton rests on a juggle, by which he first endeavors to establish his proposition in favour of "the French possessions," and then applies to Louisiana exclusively to Canada; so that, in truth, his argument not only does not make for him, but makes directly against him.

We have never attached much importance to the attempt to settle the Oregon question by an appeal to the wisdom of our forefathers. The continent of North America was, during the last century, the scene of several fierce contests between European Powers, which laid claim to dominions the have now, with the exception of England, wholly lost. But in all these disputes, in the negotiations for peace, and in the treaties by which they were terminated, not an allusion is to be traced to the north-west country, to the coast of the Pacific Ocean, or even to the Rocky Mountains. Whatever rights may before have existed in a general and indefinite form, it was the treaty of 1790 which first brought those regions within the public law of Europe. In 1763 the French had the strongest interests in extending as much as possible the boundaries of the province they were to retain; but we are confident that at that time no French Minister would have contended that Louisiana was to be taken to extend westward to the Rocky Mountains and to the Pacific beyond them. No European Power raised any formal pretensions to those territories. It was hardly known whether Lower California was an island or peninsula. The coast was unexplored till Cook and Vancouver visited it for the purpose of scientific inquiry; and occupation or sovereignty were still more remote. If France had chanced to have retained Louisiana to the present day, we should like to know what the United States would think of a claim advanced by her to hold the Oregon territory up to latitude 49 by virtue of the original charters of that province and the Treaty of Utrecht.

These questions must be settled in our day upon the great principles of policy and justice, not by quibbles on the construction of an old treaty, or by artifices which can impose nothing but the grossest ignorance. It is, however, of little importance for what reasons American spokesmen recommend a compromise, provided a rational compromise be adopted; but we confess that we grudge the time wasted in negotiation; and, however we may deplore the sluggish and reluctant progress of corn and coercion at home, these representative nuisances are even more intolerable when they lay hold to foreign affairs of a great nation.

[SCM]
Meanwhile some incidents of a novel and peculiar character have diverted the attention of the Senate from the artificial excitement created about the Oregon resolutions; and we hope the lassitude displayed by the orators on this threadbare topic is favorable omen for the ultimate adjustments of that difficulty. In the midst of the failing attractions of the peace-and-war question, Mr. INGERSOLL has given a powerful stimulus to the passions of the Senate by personal charges of the gravest character against Mr. WEBSTER--charges which either inflict indelible disgrace on the politicians who can resort to such means of party warfare, if they are disproved, or which, if they are brought home to Mr. WEBSTER, must ignominiously terminate his political career. Mr. INGERSOLL has alleged with the greatest formality in his place in the Senate, that certain papers for which he moved would furnish "proofs of Mr. Secretary WEBSTER'S misdemeanours in office, his fraudulent application and personal use of the public funds, and corrupting party presses with money appropriated by law for the contingent expenses of foreign intercourse." And he adds, that when Mr. WEBSTER "was discharged from the department of State he was a delinquent, a public defaulter:" implying the he did not account for various sums of what we should term the secret service money; that some of this money was applied to his own uses, some to the release of M'LEOD; and hinting that as Mr. WEBSTER'S talents have hitherto placed him amongst the wisest and greatest of the citizens of the Union, so the turpitude and corruption of his official conduct makes him a match for the disgraces as well as the honours of Lord BACON. These extraordinary observations terminated by the adoption of a resolution for the production of the accounts for the contingent expenses of foreign intercourse from the 4th March, 1841, to the retirement of Mr. WEBSTER, and a variety of correspondence relating to the negotiations in which that gentleman was successfully engaged.

These accusations have been stoutly resisted by Mr. WEBSTER'S friends, though not as yet personally contested by himself; and a counter motion has been made for the production of the secret service money accounts from a much earlier period, in order to establish the fact that Mr. WESTER'S conduct is sanctioned by precedent from the time of Mr. ADAM'S Administration.

We have no hesitation in saying that, until these charges are established by irrefragable evidence, we shall continue to hold Mr. WEBSTER to be a man of honour, and vehemently to suspect his accusers of a base design to destroy his political reputation and influence by the arts of calumny. At this time more especially, it is not difficult to detect strong bad motives amongst a certain party in America for an attempt to defame the negotiator of the treaty of Washington, and the most conspicuous leader of the Whig party in Congress. To that party and to that man we in great measure owe the maintenance of peace upon terms equally honourable to both countries, and the settlement of controversies far more irritating and perplexed than that of Oregon. We repeat, that until the contrary be solemnly proved, we shall refuse to believe that the hands of Mr. WEBSTER have been contaminated by the mean and dishonest acts imputed to him. We are rather struck and disgusted with the air of levity and party triumph with which these ignoble accusations are brought forward. It is only the other day that the editor of a libelous and worthless American paper was brought under the solemn notice of the Senate, for having asserted that corrupt bargains with American senators had been made at Mr. Pakenham's house, and that the whole strength of the compromise party was counted and ascertained at the British Minister's dinner-table. This absurd invention was at once confuted; the journalist was expelled from the gallery of Congress, and his paper ceased to appear. But what is such a charge as this compared to the attack now made upon Mr. WEBSTER? To hear a man who but lately filled the highest office but one in the commonwealth, and who still takes an active part in the present debates of the Senate, publicly called a defaulter, makes the blood boil in any country in which the general notions of the connexion between common honesty and political integrity have not been strangely relaxed. If such a charge can really be sustained against Mr. WEBSTER, the day of his conviction ought to be a day of mourning in the country which his frailty would have in part disgraced.

The mails brought by the Medway, in charge of Lieutenant Percival, Admiralty agent, are of the following dates:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From Tampico, Mexico</th>
<th>March 22.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-Vera Cruz,</td>
<td>April 1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Havana,</td>
<td>April 10.</td>
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<tr>
<td>-Nassau,</td>
<td>April 13.</td>
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</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>From Martinique, Guadaloupe, Antigua,</th>
<th>April 11.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dominica,</td>
<td>April 11.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guadalupe,</td>
<td>April 11.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Antigua,</td>
<td>April 12.</td>
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LT 5/7/1846 4f, Mexico, affairs of, proclamation by Paredes

THE WEST INDIAN MAILS.

The Medway, Royal West Indian mail-packet, arrived at Southampton yesterday. She brought 78 saloon passengers, 20 children, and 8 servants. Among the passengers is Colonel Yturregui, Minister from Peru to this Court.

The Medway has on freight 289,581 dollars (of which 46,003 are on account of the Mexican dividends), and other coin and gold of the value of 30,000 l. Her cargo consists of 59 serons of cochineal, 138 bales of tobacco, 24 bales of jalap root, 115 cases of cigars, 38 cases of preserved turtle, and 94 turtle alive, in fine condition.
Throughout the West India Islands the crops were deficient. The want of rain had been much felt, and especially in Demerara. Very little had fallen up to the 3rd of April, but there was every appearance of its setting in in the Windward Islands, where they had already been visited with many refreshing showers. All the islands were healthy.

The Royal Mail Company's steamer Forth sailed from Bermuda for Nassau on the 21st of April; the Tay was at St. Thomas's on the 14th, bound to Porto Rico; the Thames was at Jamaica on the 8th; the Trent sailed from Havannah on the 9th, for the Gulf of Mexico.

The Medway left at Tampico, inside the bar, two Mexican gunboats; at Sacrificios, Her Majesty's ship Rose, Captain Pelly; the French covettes Perouse, 20 guns, and Mercure, 16 guns; the Spanish corvette Habanera, 18 guns, and the American frigates Cumberland and Potomac, 50 guns each, and covettes St. Mary, Falmouth, and John Adams, 22 guns each. The American steamer Mississippi arrived at Vera Cruz on the 30th of March, and sailed again on the 31st, with Mr. Slidell, the American Minister, on board. Off Havannah on the 10th of April, the Medway met Her Majesty's ship Canopus, on her way to Halifax, New Brunswick, from Jamaica. There was at Havannah on the 10th of April, the Spanish ship Solonora, 74; corvette Fernanda, 24; brig Patriota, 20; and two schooners; at Bermuda on the 18th, Her Majesty's ships Vindictive, Admiral Sir F. Austen; Alarm, Endymion, Hyacinth, Persian, schooner Viper, and the steamer Hermes. The Endymion sailed on the 21st for Barbadoes.

We have, by the Medway, letters from our correspondent in the city of Mexico dated 30th of March, which we publish elsewhere. The Mexican Government had refused to receive Mr. Slidell, the American Minister, who had in consequence demanded and received his passports to leave the country.

General Paredes avowed his intention to adhere to the defensive system, and not to be provoked to declare war against the United States.

A new revolution was thought to be at hand, and the recall of General Santa Anna was openly talked of.

General Almonte had been appointed Envoy Extraordinary to the Court of France, and had arrived at Havannah on the 10th of April, where he remained in close communication with Santa Anna.

Senor Parres had retired from the Ministry of Finance, and was succeeded by Senor Gorostiza.

The following proclamation had been addressed by General Paredes to the Mexican nation:

"At this critical moment, when the nation is perhaps on the brink of war with the United States, in consequence of one of the most unjust usurpations of which history make mention, it becomes my duty to detail to my fellow-citizens the circumstances in which we are placed, the dangers which threaten us, and the sacrifices which may be necessary in order to sustain with valour, enthusiasm, and decision, rights which should be defended at whatever cost, and with and energy corresponding to the extent of the offence received. The dignity of the nation, the march of an American army to the river Bravo, where the headquarters of our troops are stationed, the threatening presence of the American squadrons in both seas, and the previous occurrences known to the civilized world, obliged me to refuse to receive the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States, in order not to sanction by an act of debility a usurpation that, unsupported by any plausible reason or motive, is sustained through the hope of intimidating us by force. The American Minister, whose mission was nor limited to the question of Texas in the terms agreed to with the former Mexican Government, has demanded his passports, and I have not hesitated in ordering them to be give to him. I confess that war is one of the greatest evils opposed to the civilization of the are, which suggests rather the progress of industry, commerce and the most intimate relations under the auspices of a universal peace. But this peace must be consistent with the prerogatives and independence of nations, who are called on to repel force by force, when all the means of conciliation are exhausted.

"The Mexican republic having been stripped of the rich and extensive territory of Texas, which has always belonged to it, by acts emanating directly from the supreme authority of the neighbouring republic, whose designs to posses themselves of some other of our frontier provinces have also been discovered, the Mexican
A letter from San Luis, dated 12th of March, states: - “General Ampudia entered the town on the 8th inst with
“MARIANO PAREDES Y ANILLAGA.
extend His protection to ours, and permit its elevation to power and glory.
wheredestiny may call it, the people will support its efforts, and I trust the sovereign Arbiter of nations will
order, without any sacrifice but those indispensable for the preservation of such blessings.
The army will combat itself - union and reciprocal confidence between the Government and the people- the maintenance of internal
acquire the only reward to which I aspire- the gratitude of my countrymen.
Here then is the plan of my national objects.
My ambition points to the purest glory, and if my fellow citizens do justice to my intentions,
article of the General Act of the Army, I will only use the faculties necessary for the preservation of eminently
manifested by the 4th Infantry; the General immediately seized the colours and placed himself at the head of
mutineers took their departure for San Miguel Allende (this, instead of being the road to Texas, is the road to
exercise of that power, cannot be suspected of imprudent innovations; and I protest that, adhering to the 4th
or perish, the liberty and independence of the nation, and the integrity of its territory against enemies that wish
supported by the people whom they invoke, will maintain public order against every aggressor, and will defend ,
whose acts have, however, been as pure as their intentions. Let all alarm, then, cease; and my Government,
I have hastened to explain my political faith, in order to strengthen public confidence in my Government, all
have fastened to explain my political faith, in order to strengthen public confidence in my Government, all
I, who limited the powers of the Executive in the triumph of the resolution, and fixed a term for the
sworn. Can it be forgotten that it was I who, at the general meeting in this capital on the 2nd of December,
proposed that the President should swear to sustain the popular representative, republican system? Did not the
representatives of the people hear my vows? And did they not observe that my feelings corresponded to my
clear and explicit words? Why then do me the injustice to suppose that at the close of a career loyal and
patriotic, if not glorious, I should discredit the wounds which I have received in defense of the sacred rights of
my country? The nation shall maintain, while it desires to do so, the republican system which it adopted with
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my country? The nation shall maintain, while it desires to do so, the republican system which it adopted with

"Desirous of depriving our external enemies of the sources of discord of which they wished to avail themselves,
I have hastened to explain my political faith, in order to strengthen public confidence in my Government, all
whose acts have, however, been as pure as their intentions. Let all alarm, then, cease; and my Government,
supported by the people whom they invoke, will maintain public order against every aggressor, and will defend ,
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exercise of that power, cannot be suspected of imprudent innovations; and I protest that, adhering to the 4th
article of the General Act of the Army, I will only use the faculties necessary for the preservation of eminently
national objects.
My ambition points to the purest glory, and if my fellow citizens do justice to my intentions,
while my country preserves my rights, and under every circumstance augments the luster of her name, I shall
acquire the only reward to which I aspire - the gratitude of my countrymen. Here then is the plan of my
administration: - fortitude and constancy to sustain the nation against foreign attacks - liberty to constitute
itself - union and reciprocal confidence between the Government and the people- the maintenance of internal
order, without any sacrifice but those indispensable for the preservation of such blessings. The army will combat
wheredestiny may call it, the people will support its efforts, and I trust the sovereign Arbiter of nations will
extend His protection to ours, and permit its elevation to power and glory.

"MARIANO PAREDES Y ANILLAGA.
"Mexico, March 26, 1846."

A letter from San Luis, dated 12th of March, states: - "General Ampudia entered the town on the 8th inst with
8,000 men, en route for Texas; on the 11th, the first division was ordered to march, when defection was
manifested by the 4th Infantry; the General immediately seized the colours and placed himself at the head of the
column, and the troops followed him until they reached the outskirts of the town, when, being encouraged by
the populace, they again refused to march. The General then made a retrograde movement, and took
possession of the church tower and other strong positions, when order was restored. On the 12th (this day), the
mutineers took their departure for San Miguel Allende (this, instead of being the road to Texas, is the road to
THE AFFAIRS OF MEXICO

One the 1st of this month Mr. Slidell, the American Minister, addressed a letter from Jalapa to the Minister for Foreign Affairs here, referring to his communications with the former Mexican Government, and desiring to know whether he would be received by the present one in his capacity of Minister Plenipotentiary from the United States, intimating at the same time in tolerably plain terms that a refusal would be followed by a demand for his passports, and an open rupture between the two countries. On the 12th Senor Castillo y Lanzas replied to Mr. Slidell, that the Mexican Government would not receive him as Minister Plenipotentiary from the Government of the United States, that the former Government had agreed to receive a commissioner for the question of Texas only, and had objected to his reception, when it was perceived that, under this pretence, it was attempted to fix a plenipotentiary here, as if the diplomatic relations of the two countries had never been interrupted; and that the present Government adopted to the fullest extent the same objection to his credentials. Senor Castillo took advantage of this opportunity to reargue the whole question of Texas in terms by no means interrupted; and that the present Government adopted to the fullest extent the same objection to his credentials. Senor Castillo took advantage of this opportunity to reargue the whole question of Texas in terms by no means complimentary to the Untied States. On the 17th Mr. Slidell demanded his passports, and replied at length to the arguments of Senor Castillo, "not from any novelty which they contained, but lest his silence should be erroneously interpreted as acquiescence in their justice;" finally, on the 21st, Senor Castillo, in a brief note, transmitted to Mr. Slidell his passports, as required. At the close of this correspondence each Minister congratulates himself on having completely refuted the arguments of the other, and renews to his opponent the assurances of his distinguished consideration. However, the affair has become serious. Mr. Slidell is by this time on board one of the American vessels of war at Sacrificios, and Mr. Polk stands pledged by all that is sacred in democratic sovereignty to exact an exemplary satisfaction.

Intelligence having been received here that a party of the United States troops in Texas had moved to, or towards, the Brazos de Santiago, which is the real port of Matamoras (the bar at the mouth of the Rio Bravo, excluding all but vessels a small burden), about 2,000 men under General Ampudia (the butcher of Tobasco) were ordered to reinforce the garrison at Matamoras. On reaching San Luis Potosi a majority of those troops refused to proceed, alleging, with some show of reason, that Paredes himself had preferred coming here to undertaking the same expedition, though with a larger force. The affair has been kept as quiet as possible, and is not known by what means the meeting was quelled; but the troops are again on the march, consoled, probably, but the reflection that an enormous distance still separates them from the country.

General Paredes, assailed with violence by the Opposition press for his supposed acquiescence in the monopolistic doctrines of El Tiempo, publishes a decree forbidding all discussion respecting forms of government, and recently a proclamation, explaining the state of affairs with the United States, and vindicating his own conduct with respect to the monarchal question. The proclamation contains the usual quantity of bombast, and in substance is rather republican, but it bears the Jesuit's mark, and betrays conscious weakness. He avows that the presence of the American troops on the left bank of the Bravo will not provoke him to any act of hostility against the United States, affecting to consider the right of declaring war as a prerogative of the future Congress. This hypocrisy has disgusted every one, and the Opposition press criticizes the proclamation with unsparing severity; indeed, one paper, La Reforma, goes the length of declaring that Santa Anna should be immediately invited to return here and assume the reins of government. If this advice be followed, and that it will be seems not improbable, what a picture of versatility and weakness will Mexico exhibit to the world!

Since Almonte's separation from the Cabinet he has been looked on by Paredes with distrust, and in consequence has just been named Envoy Extraordinary to France, a species of honourable exile, which Almonte's republicanism does not prevent him from accepting. Two well known writers in the Opposition papers are attached to the mission as secretaries!

Senor Parres has just retired from the Ministry of Finance. He is a man of old school, honest, ignorant, and obstinate. He claimed the right of revising the contracts, made by Santa Anna's Government, and on his own sole authority declared many of them null, some as, "usurious" and others as "burdensome to the Treasury," directing the contractors to refund the money they and received, under pain of embargo, which in one case (that of an American house) he actually made effective. This step excited general reprobation, and is said to have contributed to his fall. While in office, he borrowed 1,800,00 dollars (half money, half bonds of the 26 per cent. fund) on terms quite as bad as any of his predecessors, and in the last days of his Ministry granted a license for the exportation of 2,000 bars of silver (equal to 2,000,000 dollars) at an unusually low rate. The exportation of silver in bars is prohibited, but various Governments have had recourse to this expedient in order to raise money. When the circulation and expert duties on dollars were five and a half per cent., the Real del Monte Company paid eight per cent for a license to export silver in bars. The duty on dollars is now 10 per cent., yet the present contractors pay only 9 1/2 per cent for their license. The Mint of this city will, of course, be injured by the loss of the of the coinage of this sum, but that establishment has long been in a declining condition; and a deficit is known to exist in its funds, which occasioned serious alarm to persons sending silver there. The concern will probably pass ere long into the hands of the Anglo-Mexican Mint Company.

The new Minister of Finance is Don Manuel Eduardo Gorostiza, a gentleman known in Europe and the United
States, and who is, in many respects, the opposite of his predecessor.

At the moment of closing this, the mail from Vera Cruz has not arrived, from which the friends of Santa Anna draw an inference unfavourable to the stability of Government, while the adherents of Paredes attribute the delay to the breaking down of the mail-cart.

[SCM]

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**LT 5/7/1846 7b US, preparations for war**

PREPARATION FOR WAR.--Every vessel built, every soldier armed, by our Government is a preparation for war. No nation, however infinitesimal its proportions, is wholly without the protection which nature gives to the elephant and the insect. It is passing strange that our Government, our statesmen, and our journals should consider it necessary to beg the world's pardon for daring to add a few ships to our marine, or a few thousands to our army. All this may be done without the sky falling. Mr. President Polk is in the right in assuming that no foreign Power has reason to take exception to our adding to our army and navy an increase which will leave them of less force than the municipal and revenue police of England. Should this deference to foreign opinion in small matters be cultivated, we must ask Europe for permission that our militia should substitute guns for corn stalks, and powder for pea nuts. This apprehension of foreign jealousy is the means of vanity--the fear that we are so magnificently great that the world trembles before us, and that if we condescend to blow our republican noses the earth will shudder with the reverberations. What folly! Our military and naval force increased tenfold would, in comparison with the relative force of a German principality, be nothing to boast of; and the proposition to defend a territory so extended, a population so vast, by increasing our military police--by some 5,000 or 10,000 men, and our navy by some ten or a dozen vessels, is more likely to excite ridicule than resentment abroad. After having left our fortifications destitute of defenders, we boast an army of 5,000 men. Double it, and the world is in danger! Were our future halcyon, prudence dictates an increase of our means of defence. But, encompassed with storms, and contemplating a deadly issue with the foremost Power of the world, to neglect the means of defence is to invite ruin. A false security is ever boastful; it is easy to defy a danger supposed to be distant; but those who think at all must know that the course of our administration involves imminent danger of a collision with Great Britain, and that such a contest, unless every energy of the Republic be at once put forth, must leave our country to raise its laurels from the ashes of its prosperity. There is nothing in the relations of the two countries to justify to history or to heaven a war. Yet, with the passions excited by the administration through its organs, and which now, when the Executive has kindled the blood of the people to fever heat, rise in opposition to a compromise, it is idle to regard our country as safe without protection. An error, an act of passion or folly on either side, may precipitate the calamity and our people, with the torch at their doors and the sword at their throats, would have reason to complain of the imbecility of the Government that had betrayed them. The diplomacy of armed power is ever more auspicious than that which begs the grudged right that it is not prepared to enforce. It is as necessary for our country to be strong as to be in the right.--- Philadelphia North American. [SCM]

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**LT 5/8/1846 4c Oregon question**

LONDON, FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1846.

The resolutions authorizing the PRESIDENT of the United States to give notice for the termination of the Oregon Convention of 1827, have now, as we announced yesterday, received the sanction of the Senate by a majority of 40 to 14 votes. Nine weeks of continuous debate may be supposed to have exhausted the most sturdy powers of Parliamentary endurance; and, from the senators of Massachusetts to the newly-arrived representative of the state of Texas, not a member of the sedate assembly seems to have let this important topic pass in silence. The doubts and difficulties which are commonly confined to a Cabinet on questions of this nature have here been extended to a species of popular assembly, and aggravated by publicity and party spirit. But the result has been the same as if the resolutions had been introduced by Mr. POLK; and public opinion throughout the Union has been informed and invigorated by the debate. In spite of the length of time during which we have contemplated the approach of this notice—the clear certainty of the result of the discussion—the unanimity which we may be said to have arrived at in both countries as to the expediency and necessity of putting an end to the doubtful condition of the question—and the impatience with which we desired that this preliminary step should be taken, in order that the definitive negotiation might be promptly resumed, it cannot be doubted that the solemn act of the American Government, which is about to assign a term to one of the most important territorial conventions existing between Great Britain and the United States, must be a considerable, and may become momentous, event. In America the debates on this subject have almost exclusively monopolized the time of the Legislature and the attention of the public since the commencement of the session of Congress. In this country, Parliament and the nation have been content to wait the course of the events, and to leave untouched by premature controversy one of the most important functions of the executive Government, and one of the highest prerogatives of the Crown. But, in spite of the excessive discussion to which the Oregon territory has given rise on the other side of the Atlantic, and the extreme reserve which has hitherto been maintained on this, there is at bottom the same deep and earnest hope in both countries that this question will be amicably settled, and we trust there is an equal resolution in the Governments of both countries to make every exertion, consistent with their true interests and honour, to terminate the controversy. It is in this spirit that we are willing to receive the notice for the termination of the existing convention. In this spirit, and with an express recommendation to that
effect, the resolutions have been framed and carried in both houses of Congress; and in the same spirit we do not doubt that the negotiation will be forthwith renewed. The alternative is now distinctly indicated. The utmost term to which the peace of the world can be prolonged is one twelvemonth, if indeed circumstances do not bring about a much earlier rupture, unless the partition of the Oregon territory be finally settled within the period. Never was a heavier responsibility incurred by public men; never was a graver question poised in the balance of Providence. The provisional agreement under which our pacific relations with the United States have subsisted for 30 years is to be superseded by a final definition of our respective rights upon the north-western coast of America, or to be succeeded by war. The vessel is already loosened from the moorings at which she lay in peace. The convention of joint occupancy is virtually ended; and the destinies of these two great nations—if, indeed, they can be called twain, which have so great a name, a language, and a freedom in common with each other,—are exposed to the fluctuations of adverse and conflicting claims. The emergency is, doubtless, a most serious one; but, happily for the honour of this country, it is accompanied by none of those feelings of excitement amongst ourselves which have so often perplexed the affairs of the world, and it will be met with the deliberate energy of men as conscious of our duties as of our strength.

The form in which the resolution has been ultimately adopted by the Senate of the United States is extremely dignified and becoming, and in this respect may be regarded as a triumph of the moderate party over the violent and excessive pretensions of the gentlemen who act with Mr. Allen. In the final division which took place, 22 votes out of 40 belonged to the Whig party; whilst only 2 Whigs voted with the extreme party against the form in which it was proposed that the notice should be given. So that, although the division had nothing of a party character, the adhesion of the Whigs secured that moderation of language for which it is remarkable. It seems that, according to the forms of Congress, the House of Representatives must concur in the resolution as amended by the Senate, and for this purpose it will undergo some further debate in the lower house. As the notice stands in Mr. CRITTENDEN'S motion, there is not an expression in the preamble with which we do not cordially concur; and it forms a striking contrast to the peremptory and unqualified expressions used by MR. POLK in his official communications. In fact, when the Senate of the United States speaks of the "evil consequences of the divided allegiance of an American and British population and of the confusion and conflict of "national jurisdiction" in Oregon, they substantially recognize that principle of division which MR. POLK has hitherto denied, and they impose upon him the prosecution of a negotiation which he has endeavoured to render impossible.

Thus far, the, and in more respects than one, the American notice materially improves the prospect of a speedy settlement. It recognizes, in general terms, the basis upon which alone such a settlement can be attempted, and, by putting an end to the period of joint occupancy, it prepares us to maintain to the fullest extent the rights we derive from present occupation. Whatever be the fate of the provisional treaties, we presume that no one will presume that no one will contest that the rights and interests which have grown up by their protection and authority are sacred, both under the letter of those treaties, and under the original rights to which we now revert in all their force. Our positions as claimants upon an equal footing with the United States for the partition of the whole territory in dispute is rather strengthened than weakened by the abrogation of the treaty, and we cannot doubt that the Ministers of the Crown will be ready, upon the receipt of the notice, firmly and explicitly to declare to the cabinet of Washington what those rights are which they have long been "resolved and prepared to maintain." Every incident which has occurred in the course of these discussions has more and more fully convinced us that whilst a compromise is necessary, and, indeed, our own statement of our claims suggests a division, no surrender of those claims can be attempted. We are not conscious of having advanced any argument, or made any assertion, which is not greatly within the strictest limits to which British rights might have been carried; and below the line which has been traced for the policy of this country lies nothing but insecurity and disgrace. To that position we therefor adhere; we have no doubt that the Ministers of the Crown will adhere to it no less firmly, confident that in the maintenance of just rights, as well as in securing peace, they are supported by the unanimous resolution of the people of England.

[SCM]

LT 5/8/1846-5d The Oregon Question

America.

The Oregon Question.
The Notice.

[The following most important intelligence appeared in a second edition of The times of yesterday, exclusively:--]

We have received, via Havre, most important advices from Washington to the 16th and from New York to the 18th ult. inclusive. They bring the result of the debate in the Senate upon the Oregon Question.

The proceedings in the Senate are thus detailed by our correspondent:-

Washington City, (United States,)

Monday, April 13.

In the Senate this morning there was a conversational debate between Mr. Allen, Mr. Crittenden, Mr. Morehead, Mr. Clayton, and others, which resulted in an understanding (informally) that the vote on the resolutions respecting the 12 months' notice to terminate the joint convention relative to the Oregon territory should be
Mr. Huntington, of Connecticut, addressed the Senate to-day at length in favour of a settlement of the Oregon controversy by a compromise of the 49th degree.

A message was also received from the President in reply to Mr. Clayton's resolution of inquiry, which stated that no further correspondence on the subject of Oregon had passed between the Governments of the United States and Great Britain since the 4th of February (the arbitration correspondence).

Tuesday, April 14.

Mr. Westcott, of Florida, addressed the Senate in support of the title of the United States up to 54 deg. 40 min., but in opposition to the notice, which, he believed, if it is not bring on a war immediately, would at the expiration of the 12 months; and, as the United States were not prepared for war, he should vote against the notice in all shapes and forms.

Mr. M'Duffie, of South Carolina, said a few words by way of addenda to Mr. Westcott's speech, as that gentleman had attempted by appealing to "Hansard" to show that Great Britain had admitted the title of Spain to the territory in dispute. Mr. M'Duffie showed, by quotations from the following page of the same volume from which Mr. Westcott had been quoting, that Great Britain had always denied the right of Spain to exclusive jurisdiction in Oregon.

Wednesday, April 15.

Mr. S. Houston, of Texas, addressed the Senate to-day in a speech in favour of the American title to 54 deg. 40 min, and advocating the "naked notice" as it is called, or a simple resolution giving the notice without preamble or qualifications of any kind. He intimated in the course of his speech, however, that a treaty which settled the matter on the 49th degree would receive his vote.

Thursday, April 16.

The Senate Chamber and galleries were very much crowded this morning by persons anxious to see and hear the closing scenes of this long protracted debate, which has extended over nine weeks, and also to see to what results it would lead.

Mr. Crittenden, of Kentucky, led off in a very able and eloquent speech, in support of the preamble and resolutions which he had offered, authorizing the President to give the notice at his discretion.

Mr. Allen moved to lay the resolution reported by the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs on the Table, in order that the resolutions adopted by the House of Representatives might be taken up and acted upon, which was agreed to.

Mr. Reverdy Johnson, of Maryland, moved the adoption, as a substitute, of the following preamble and resolution, which is the same as that offers by Mr. Crittenden, with the insertion of the word "amicable" before the word "settlement" at the conclusion of the preamble, and the omission of the following proviso at the end of the resolution:—

"Provided, however, that, in order to afford ampler time and opportunity for the amicable settlement and adjustment of all their differences and disputes in respect to said territory, said notice ought not to be given until after the close of the present session of Congress."

"Whereas by the convention concluded the 20th day of October, 1818, between the United States of America and the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, for the period of ten years, and afterwards indefinitely extended and continued in force by another convention of the same parties, concluded the 6th day of August, in the year of our Lord 1827, it was agreed that any country that may be claimed by either party on the northwest coast of America westward of the Stony of Rocky Mountains, now commonly called the Oregon territory, should, together with its harbours, bays, and creeks, and the navigation of all rivers within the same, be 'free and open' to the vessels, citizens, and subjects of the two Powers, but without prejudice to any claim which either of the parties might have to any part of said country; and with this further provision, in the second article of the said convention of the 6th of August, 1827, that either party might abrogate and annul said convention, on giving due notice of 12 months to the other contracting party;—

"And whereas it has now become desirable that the respective claims of the United States and Great Britain should be definitely settled, and that said territory may no longer than need remain subject to the evil consequences of the divided allegiance of its American and British population, and of the confusion and conflict of national jurisdictions, dangerous to the cherished peace and understanding of the two countries;—

"With a view, therefore, that steps be taken for the abrogation of the said convention of the 6th of August, 1827, in the mode prescribed in its second article, and that the attention of the Governments of both countries may be the more earnestly and immediately directed to renewed efforts for the amicable settlement of all their
"1. Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives, of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorized, at his discretion, to give the British Government the notice required by its said second article for the abrogation of the convention of the 6th of August, 1827."

Mr. Allen moved to amend this substitute, by striking out the second and third paragraphs of the preamble, and inserting an extract from the President's Message, commencing and whereas it has now "become the duty of Congress," &c.

Mr. Pennybacker, of Virginia, then rose, and spoke at some length in explanation of his reasons for opposing the substitute.

The question being taken on the amendment to the substitute proposed by Mr. Allen, it was decided in the negative by a vote of - Yeas, 22; Nays, 32, as follows:-

In the Affirmative.

Allen, of Ohio          Fairfield, of Maine
Ashley of Arkansas      Hannegan, of Indiana
Atchison, of Missouri   Jenness, of New Hampshire
Atherton, of New Hampshire  Niles, of Connecticut
Bagby, of Alabama       Seple, of Illinois
Benton, of Missouri     Sevier, of Arkansas
Breese, of Illinois     Sturgeon, of Pennsylvania
Bright, of Indiana      Turney of Tennessee
Cameron, of Pennsylvania  Westcott, of Florida
Cass, of Michigan       Absent-2
Chalmers, of Mississippi
Dickinson, of New York  Colquitt, of Georgia
Dix, of New York        Yulee, of Florida.

In the Negative.

Archer, of Virginia.    Jarnagin, of Tennessee
Barrow, of Louisiana    R. Johnson, of Maryland
Berrien, of Georgia     H. Johnson, of Louisiana
Calhoun, of South Carolina  Lewis, of Alabama
Thomas Clayton, of Delaware  M'Duffie of South Carolina
John Clayton, of Delaware  Mangum, of North Carolina
Corwin, of Ohio         Miller, of New Jersey
Crittenden, of Kentucky  Morehead, of Kentucky
Davis, of Massachusetts  Pearce, of Maryland
Dayton, of New Jersey   Rusk, of Texas
Evans, of Maine         Simmons, of Rhode Island
Mr. Breese, of Illinois, then moved to amend the substitute by striking out the words "at his discretion" in the resolution. The question being taken, the motion was decided in the negative by a vote of Yeas, 22; Noes, 32.

In the Affirmative.

Allen, of Ohio
Ashley of Arkansas
Atchison, of Missouri
Atherton, of New Hampshire
Bagby, of Alabama
Semple, of Illinois
Sevier, of Arkansas
Breese, of Illinois
Bright, of Indiana
Turney of Tennessee
Cameron, of Pennsylvania
Cass, of Michigan
Dickinson, of New York
Dix, of New York
Fairfield, of Maine
Hannegan, of Indiana

In the Negative.

Archer, of Virginia
Barrow, of Louisiana
Benton, of Missouri
Berrien, of Georgia
Calhoun, of South Carolina
Chalmers, of Mississippi
T. Clayton, of Delaware
J. M. Clayton, of Delaware
Jarnagin, of Tennessee
R. Johnson, of Maryland
H. Johnson, of Louisiana
Lewis, of Alabama
M'Duffie of South Carolina
Mangum, of North Carolina
Miller, of New Jersey
Morehead, of Kentucky
The question was then taken on the adoption of the substitute, and decided in the affirmative by a vote of -
Yeas, 30; Noes, 24 as follows:-

In the Affirmative.

Archer, of Virginia. Barrow, of Louisiana. Berrien, of Georgia. Calhoun, of South Carolina.
Chalmers, of Mississippi. Thomas Clayton, of Delaware. John M. Clayton, of Delaware. Corwin, of
Greene, of Rhode Island. Haywood, of North Carolina. Huntington, of Connecticut. Jarnagin, of
Tennessee. R. Johnson, of Maryland. H. Johnson, of Louisiana. Lewis, of Alabama. M'Duffie, of
South Carolina. Mangum, of North Carolina. Miller, of New Jersey. Morehead, of Kentucky. Pearce,
of Maryland. Phelps, of Vermont. Simmons, of Rhode Island. Speight, of Mississippi. Upham, of
Vermont. Webster, of Massachusetts. Westcott, of Florida. Woodbridge, of Michigan.

In the Negative.

Allen, of Ohio. Ashley of Arkansas. Atchison, of Missouri. Atherton, of New Hampshire Bagby of
Pennybacker, of Virginia. Rusk, of Texas. Semple, of Illinois. Servier, of Arkansas. Sturgeon, of
Pennsylvania. Turney, of Tennessee.

Absent.

Colquitt, of Georgia. Yulee, of Florida.

Mr. Allen then spoke at some length in opposition to the resolution as thus modified, declaring his intention to
vote against it, even if he voted alone.

Mr. Crittenden replied to Mr. Allen, who rejoined, and Mr. Crittenden surrejoined in a strain of great severity
towards Mr. Allen.

The committee of the whole having reported the amendment to the Senate, it was concurred in.

The question then recurred on ordering the joint resolution to be engrossed and read a third time, which was
decided in the affirmative by a vote of- Yeas, 40; Noes, 14;--

In the Affirmative.

Archer, of Virginia. Ashley, of Arkansas. Atherton, of New Hampshire. Bagby, of Alabama. Barrow,
of Louisiana. Benton, of Mississippi. Berrien, of Georgia. Calhoun, of South Carolina. Cameron, of
of Kentucky. Davis, of Massachusetts. Dayton, of New Jersey. Dix, of New York. Greene, of

In the Negative.


Absent.

Colquitt, of Georgia. Yulee, of Florida.

So the Senate agreed by a majority of 26 out of 54 votes to adopt the resolution as amended, which will now have to be sent back to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

The House of Representatives have been engaged since Monday in discussing a bill to protect the rights of American settlers in the territory of Oregon until the termination of the joint occupation of the same.

Of this bill you had a copy several weeks ago. It meets with strenuous opposition from the Whigs and a portion of the Democrats. The House has ordered debate to cease, and the vote to be taken on it to-morrow (Friday), the 17th inst. It is not likely that it will be adopted in the House without being essentially modified, but if it should be, it will be very summarily disposed of in the Senate, by being laid on the table.

On Tuesday the Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means reported a bill to the House, "reducing the duty on imports, and for other purposes." It is probable that it will be brought up for discussion in about a fortnight. It is modelled on the same plan as the project of the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Walker, but differs from that materially in the rates of duty which it levies; for instance, Mr. Walker's project levied 25 percent on woollens, and 30 percent on cottons, while the bill reported to the House levies 30 and 25 per cent. respectively.

Mr. Slidell has returned from his mission to Mexico without having accomplished anything whatever, Paredes positively refusing to receive him as a Minister Plenipotentiary, though, it is said, they are willing to receive a special commissioner to settle pending difficulties.

Simultaneously, as it would appear, with the orders for Mr. Slidell to return to the United States General Taylor received orders to march troops under his command from Corpus Christi to the Rio Grande, and they are now opposite the city of Matamoras, having put the Mexicans into a tremendous fight, so that the Government official there set fire to the Custom House, and ran off as fast as he could.

It is said that the Senate will not act upon any measure of any importance sent to it by the House until that body has acted definitively upon the resolutions of notice which the Senate passed yesterday.

The Tariff Bill, which has been reported by the Committee of Ways and Means, is hardly expected to pass Congress this session, or perhaps next either.

[SCM]

LT 5/11/1846-5b Naval and military resources of the United States


The United States' Government have cautiously abstained from submitting any specific demand to Congress for supplies of finance and of war calculated to meet the emergency in which they have placed the United States. Mr. Polk has, indeed, intimated in an official message, that in his opinion the time is now come for augmenting the military and naval establishments of the Union; by the has omitted to state the amount of the deficiency which has to be supplied, of to point out the means by which he proposes simultaneously to fortify the coast, to construct a fleet, to equip an army, and to replenish the treasury. We are left to extract from a scanty correspondence of the army and navy departments the only glimmering of light which has reached us on this
subject; and that feeble ray serves rather to indicate the huge extent of the task, than to suggest the means by which it is to be accomplished. The old maxim "Si vis pacem para bellum" has certainly not been observed by President Polk; but though not observed we hope that has not been inverted; and we are unwilling to deduce a great alacrity for war from a total absence of preparation for it. The truth is that Mr. Polk is well aware that, unless the conduct of English Government is such as to rouse a strong fit of excitement and resentment in the United States, the first serious indication of war, the first heavy loan brought into the market and the first proposal of a war budget, would be the signal for a most vigorous and active opposition to the President's Government. So great an increase in the demands of the Federal Government upon the nation would at once indicate the change which has really, though covertly, taken place within the last few years in the policy of the dominant party in the United States. As long as they observed those rules of forbearance, peace, and good faith towards their neighbours which were inculcated by the illustrious founders of their constitution, they were too strong to run any risk of foreign aggression, and too wise to provoke a contest they were unprepared to meet. But since those primitive virtues have disappeared from amongst them, their foreign policy and their military establishments have yet to learn that no State can annex provinces and impose peremptory conditions upon its neighbours, without accepting the great and permanent burdens of standing armies and immense arsenals. Nothing is more certain than that the present tone and conduct of the Cabinet of Washington lead straight, and by a rule of invincible necessity, to the expenditure, patronage, and influence which attend the maintenance of the public forces; and everything seems to indicate that our Transatlantic descendants will not be more free than all the great States which have flourished in the world from the costly and perilous passion of arms.

We recently showed from some American statistics how very inadequate the present military and naval establishments of the Union are, even to the demands of the service in time of peace; and for some time past attention of the American Government has been fixed upon this fact, though they evidently require some incident which shall excite the popular mind in that direction to enable them to carry their measures of augmentation. The necessity of defending the territory of Texas, where the population is too sparse to defend itself from the probability of a Mexican incursion, and the very precarious relations of the United States with the Mexican Government, have, in fact, drawn to the southern frontier the whole disposable force of the Union. The Secretary-at-War recommended, in his letter to the Chairman of the Military Committee of the Senate, in a letter of the 29th of December last, that, considering the amount of the force actually required in Texas and on the Indian frontier, as well as to garrison the existing fortifications on the coast, the President should have authority to accept the services of volunteer companies and State troops for a term not exceeding one year. He adds, "Our situation may be such that for the mere purpose of defence, these volunteers or militia to the number of 50,000 may be needed. This number, in addition to our regular force, would not be more than sufficient to put the country in a reasonable state of security in case of a war with Great Britain. On the northern Frontier, where there are now stationed only 480 men, provisions should be made for placing, on the shortest notice, a force equal to that in Canada, where there are at this time about 7,000 regular British Troops." As for the fabrication of heavy ordnance and materiel, the department had not even ascertained what means would be placed at its disposal; and for the essentials of war; the Chinese were scarcely worse provided to repel our squadrons than the Americans.

The following return of the naval force of the United States was used in a recent debate in the Senate, and may, we presume, be relied on:-

"Naval Force of The United States."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of Ships</th>
<th>In commission</th>
<th>Building</th>
<th>In ordinary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No. of guns</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ships of the line</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>374</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frigates and razees</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>374</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sloops of war</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>314</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brigs of war</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steamers of war</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schooners</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Small unarmed vessels</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>and storeships</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Aggregate</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>1,155</td>
<td>11</td>
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*Official documents, January, 1846.
"Total number of Government vessels of all classes 77
"Total number of guns, when all armed 2,345
"Total number of seamen and boys employed in the naval service, 1845 and 1846 7,500
"Total number of marine corps (exclusive of officers) 1,224
"Total 8,724

"Of the four line-of-battle ships marked as in commission, one only is at sea. The other three are used as receiving ships. Of the five marked as building, one is at Sackett Harbour.

"Of the steamers, one of the three in the column of 'ordinary' is for harbour defence. One other is a steam-tug."

Since this return was made, we believe that orders have been given for the construction of 10 steamers of war; but, at present, the Princeton and the Mississippi are the only two steam-ships which bear the United States' flag.

Some months have elapsed since these facts were brought under the notice of Congress, but as yet nothing has been done on a scale of any importance to remedy the evil and provide against the danger. Such supineness is certainly the best proof of the confidence which must prevail in the United States, that the British Government has no intention of abusing its superior force; for no ally ever displayed a more complete reliance upon the disposition of this country for peace than has been, and is still, shown upon the other side of the Atlantic. But we cannot doubt that if Mr. POLK could have acted with more vigour, he would have done so. No Executive Government ever before placed itself in such a position as he has taken up, with so total an absence of the first elements of military and naval power. But the Cabinet of Washington has probably discovered by experience and inquiry, that the first element of all is of all the most embarrassing to obtain. The United States come into the field not only with a volunteer army and a fleet manned in part by foreigners, but with a blighted credit. Long before a cannon is fired, and whilst war is still no more than a remote contingency, they man discover that the pecuniary transactions of the last few years between America and Europe have done more to lessen their power than the defeat of an army or the destruction of a fleet. What power has Mr. POLK of contending against difficulties of finance, aggravated an hundred-fold by the past policy and present attitude of his Government? Already we understand that his views upon the tariff, which might have given a permanent and pacific lustre to his administration, have been abandoned, or at least postponed-doubtless because they involve sacrifices of revenue which it is absolutely impossible to make. And if the United States are to make preparations, even for the decence of their own territories, at all in proportion to the arrogance of the language in which some of their representatives speak of the territories of other States, the Cabinet of Washington must have in preparation some considerable financial expedient which will reveal their designs to the world, and their weakness to themselves.

[SCM]

LT 5/13/1846 5d America

Wednesday, May 13, 1846 - AMERICA
LIVERPOOL, TUESDAY, MAY 12.
Important accounts from Washington to the 21st ult. and from New York to the 23d inclusive have been received this day by the packet ship Liverpool, Captain Eldridge.

We learn by these advices that the Oregon notice passed by the Senate had been amended by the House of Representatives. The amended form was rejected by the Senate, then insisted upon by the house, and, ultimately, committees of conference were appointed by the two houses to compromise the dispute. The members of the Senate Committee were Messers, Berien, Hayward, and Corwin; those of the House, those of the House, Messers, Ingersoll, Owen, and Hilliard. The amendments of the House of Representatives were as follows:-

Where, in the Senate resolution, one object of giving the notice was declared to be, "that the attention of the two Governments may be more earnestly and immediately devoted to renewed efforts for the amicable adjustment of all their territory," the House substituted "be the more earnestly directed to the importance of a speedy adjustment of all their differences and disputes in respect to said territory." The word "amicable," it will be observed, is here stricken out. The second section of the Senate resolution authorizes the President, at his discretion, to give the notice; the House proposes to authorize and request the President to give the notice,-the phrase "at his discretion," being stricken out.

Should the Committee of Conference fail to arrive at an understanding, and the Senate still refuse to "recede" from its disagreement, the notice will entirely fail.

On the 18thult. the Oregon Occupation Bill passed the House of Representatives in the following amended shape; Ayes, 103;Nays, 46:-
"A bill to protect the rights of American settlers in the territory of Oregon, until the termination of the joint occupation of the same."

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that the jurisdiction of the supreme court of the territory of Iowa, and the laws of said territory, so far as the same may be applicable, as they now exist, are hereby extended over all that portion of the territory of the United States which lies west of the Rocky Mountains; and also over all that portion of the intermediate country west of the Missouri river, and between the 40th and 43rd parallels of north latitude. Provided, that this act shall not be construed nor Great Britain of any of the rights and privileges secured by the treaty signed in London, October 20, 1818, and continued in force by the treaty of August 6, 1827."

"Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, that all the country described in the first section of this act shall constitute one judicial district, and a district court shall be held therein by the judge to be appointed under this act, at such times and places as he shall designate; and the said court shall possess all the powers and authority vested in the present district of the supreme court of the territory of Iowa shall be appointed, who shall hold his office by the same tenure, receive the same compensation, and possess the same powers and authority as are conferred by law upon the other justices of the said court, and who shall hold the district courts in the said district as a foresaid."

"Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, that the President be hereby authorized to appoint the requisite number of justices of the peace and such Ministerial officers as shall be necessary for the due execution of the laws: Provided, that any subject of Great Britain who shall be arrested under the provisions of this act, for crime alleged to have been committed within the territory of the United States west of the Rocky Mountains, while the same remains free and open to the vessels, citizens, and subjects of the United States and of Great Britain, pursuant to stipulations between the two Powers, shall be delivered up for trial, on proof of his being such British subject, to the nearest and most convenient authorities having cognizance of such offence by the laws of Great Britain."

"Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, that provision shall hereafter be made by law to secure and grant to every white person, male or female, over the age of 18 years, 320 acres of land; and to every white person, male or female under the age of 18 years, 160 acres of land, who shall have resided in the said territory described in the first section of this act for five consecutive years, to commence within three years from the passage of this act; provided, the said land shall be located in said territory."

"Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, that there shall be appointed, in the manner provided by law for similar officers, a superintendent of Indian affairs, and such Indian agents and sub-agents as shall be necessary for the public interests, to whom may be intrusted, under the direction of the President, and in accordance with the existing laws, so far as they may be consistent with the purport of this act, the regulation of trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes, and the execution of the laws herein extended over the country described in the first section of this act."

"Sec. 6. And be it further enacted, that the President be, and he is hereby authorized to cause to be erected such blockhouses, stockades, or military posts as shall be necessary to protect emigrants, settlers, and traders on the route to and in the territory of Oregon against Indian depredations and aggressions, and to furnish such ammunition and supplies as shall be necessary to their defence."

"Sec. 7. Be it further enacted, that a post-route be established from Fort Leavenworth, via Grand Island, on the Platte river, Fort Loramie, the South Pass of the Rocky Mountains, Fort Hall, Fort Boise, Fort Wallawalla, and Oregon city, on the Willamette river, to Astoria, at the mouth of Columbia river, on the Pacific Ocean."

"Sec. 8. And be it further enacted, that it shall be there duty of the Postmaster-General to cause the United States mail to be transported on the said route from Fort Leavenworth to Astoria and back, at least once a-month, by such means of conveyance as he may deem most advantageous to the public service, and on the best terms that can be obtained by contract, in the mode now provided by law for the transportation of the United States mail. Provided, that if, in the opinion of the President of the United States, it be expedient to cause the mail on the route aforesaid to be carried by detachments of mounted men in the service of the United States, he may order the said mail to be carried in that way, instead of having it transported by contract, as above provided."

"Sec. 9. And be it further enacted, that the sum of $100,000 be , and the same is hereby, appropriated to carry the provisions of this act into effect."

The charges against Mr. Webster had fallen into universal discredit, and had recoiled upon Mr. Ingersoll with most damaging effect. On the 20th ult. a message was received from the President, in the house, in response to the resolution calling for the accounts of the disbursement of the secret service fund, which Mr. Webster was accused of having appropriated in part to his own use, and in part applied to improper purposes. The president refused to send the accounts' vouchers, and replied that by a law of 1810 this fund had been used by the President, upon his certificate only, without any account or statement of the object; that the amount used during Mr. Webster's administration of the State Department was only $5,169; that he could send President Tyler's certificates, upon which the money was drawn, but that they would furnish no means whatever of judging of the propriety of the expenditure, or even of its objects. In a case of impeachment a committee could
examine the confidential papers, but the executive would not, under any light occasion, allow them to be published, for it would destroy the object of the fund. He had not yet used any of the fund, but should not hesitate to do it if occasion required. No President would use the fund except in extreme cases.

Mr. Ingersoll then alleged that Mr. Webster proposed a special mission to settle the Oregon question and make a commercial treaty. Mr. Webster has denied this, and Mr. Adams, being appealed to declared as chairman at that time of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, that Mr. Ingersoll's allegations were utterly untrue and unfounded. The affair ended in the President's message establishing the failure of Mr. Ingersoll's charges being printed.

The President, in a message communicated to the House of Representatives on the 20th, had declined to furnish the information in relation to the secret service fund called for by Mr. Ingersoll. This provoked some further discussion:

"Mr. C.J. Ingersoll said the resolution had been answered in a manner different from what he had expected. It had been said, since this subject was up before, that there had been a conspiracy on this subject. If there was a conspirator, he (Mr. Ingersoll) was the only one. Nobody knew of this assault but himself, and all that had been done had been instigated by himself. He had, when provoked by the attack in the other house, gone to the State Department and spent an hour, where he found information very unexpected to himself, and which had led to the introduction of resolutions which he regretted the President had not thought proper to answer. Mr. Ingersoll said he had information in his possession by which he expected to prove the charge that Mr. Webster did make application to the Committee on Foreign Relations to England for a special mission through the gentleman from Massachusetts - Mr. Adams.

"Mr. Adams denied this charge too, so that Mr. Ingersoll's only resource was to do as he had done in relation to the other charges, and persist in his declaration that they were all undoubtedly true; but, unfortunately, he could not adduce one line of proof."

"Mr. King of Georgia, replied, with many interruptions, upon points of order. He denied that the member from Pennsylvania had sustained a single one of all the charges which he had made. He was surprised when they were made; but he was more amazed at the attempt to substantiate such charges, though not one scintilla of proof had been offered; and upon the head of the member who made the charges all the responsibility would rest.

"Of course, the whole thing recoils upon its author, who richly merits the contempt and scorn of every true-hearted American."

The prospects of the Sub-Treasury Bill in the Senate had assumed a doubtful aspect; and it was thought that, should it pass that body, it would be in an amended and ameliorated form. The New York Chamber of Commerce had petitioned against it.

No advance had been made with the Tariff Bill.

The American journals publish, in extenso, the correspondence which has passed between the Mexican Executive and Mr. Slidell. The documents add nothing material to the information we already possess.

"By the latest accounts from the Army of Occupation," says the New York Herald of the 23d ult.,-

"We learn that the Mexican army is now 8,000 strong and continually increasing. To oppose this large force we have about 3,000 men, who, by daily desertion and sickness, are decreasing fast. To increase our difficulties, the Mexican authorities have committed an act which, in all probability, will lead to a general engagement between the two armies. It appears that two men, who were the videttes thrown out by the advanced guard of dragoons, have been captured by the Mexicans; and, on being demanded by General Worth, who proceeded with a flag of truce for the purpose, the Mexican officers who answered him declined to convey any propositions to their commander until the American army should withdraw from its present position. This, of course was not done. Meanwhile the greatest activity appeared to prevail in the Mexican camp. Four redoubts were thrown up in one day and one night, in expectation, no doubt, of a general engagement."

The Herald remarks:-

"It would appear that the same desire to avoid responsibility that marked the course of the Executive in our relations with England has characterized him in the measures taken to maintain the national honour with Mexico. Instead of demanding appropriations from Congress sufficient to equip an army of 10,000 or 15,000 men, General Taylor was despatched to the Rio Grande with a paltry 3,000 men, many of whom have deserted, and many fallen victims to the climate. Such a contemptible display of the military resources of this great country, instead of intimidating the Mexicans, and striking terror into their Government, had quite the contrary effect. Indeed, so insignificant did this force appear in the estimation of the Mexican officers, that they were not afraid to post their forces on their own side of the river, immediately opposite the camp of General Taylor, and point their cannon in such a position as to sweep the American camp and army to the shades. Such is the view the pusillanimous Mexicans, as we are accustomed to call them take of Mr. Polk's measures of intimidation."

"If, under these circumstances, an engagement should take place, we must reasonably conclude that it will end
disastrously to the American name, and that a considerable portion of our little but brave army will be sacrificed. The eternal boasting without acting, and the intrigues of the President-makers at Washington, have lowered the American name immeasurably in the eyes of Europe, and defeated the settlement of the Oregon question. The same policy towards Mexico—the same big talking—has inspired the feeble Mexicans with contempt for us; and the probability is, that if the anticipated engagement has taken place, and the American forces have been defeated, a long and bloody war, which may cost millions of dollars, will have to be resorted to before our relations with Mexico will be settled. It would appear, indeed, that the same vacillation which characterized the administration of John Tyler will attend that of James K. Polk.

The New Orleans papers mention a rumour that General Taylor, in an action with the Mexican forces, had sustained a defeat. The statement was entirely discredited.

The Caledonia had arrived at Boston on the 20th ult. The Unicorn had left that port for Halifax on the preceding day.

Lake Champlain was clear of ice, and navigation will shortly be resumed.

Our accounts from Canada are of much importance, and bring reports of a probably resignation of the Ministry, in consequence of an adverse majority in the House of Assembly. The house was in committee on the proposed repeal of the duty of 3s. per quarter now levied upon wheat from the United States, such repeal having been suggested in a despatch from the home Government. The Ministry advocated the repeal. A postponement of the subject, moved by Mr. Merritt, was opposed by the Ministry, but carried by a majority of 7; whereupon Mr. Draper, the Attorney-General, moved that the house adjourn, in order that he might have time to consult with his colleagues as to the course they should pursue. The papers anticipate a resignation, as we have said, but those which support the Ministry express their belief that it will not be accepted by Lord Catheart.

The Montreal Courier of the 18th ultimo contains the following:—

"In consequence of a vote given in the house last night, Mr. Draper moved to adjourn, in order to give himself and colleagues an opportunity of considering what course they ought to pursue, or in plain terms whether they should not resign. The house was in committee to consider the expediency of repealing certain duties, and the resolution under consideration was for the repeal of the duty of 3s. per quarter now levied upon American wheat intended for export, in accordance with a suggestion in a despatch from the Colonial Secretary, which we published some time since. A long and able exposition of the necessity of making this and other changes in our tariff, in order to meet the commercial policy of England, was made by the Inspector-General. He was followed by Mr. Attorney-General Draper, Mr. Sherwood, Messrs. Moffatt, Gowan, McDonald, of Cornwall, and other members, who spoke in favour of the measure. But there were on the Ministerial side some members who thought differently, and the expression of their opinions brought about a result little expected. Mr. Baldwin seized the opportunity of a division of opinion to attempt by a coup de main, to effect what which under ordinary circumstances he could not have done. In speaking to the question, without using one argument for or against the policy, announced by the administration, he said that he was not prepared to vote for the repeal of this duty—that he considered any action the reason as premature; and that even allowing that the position of the colony might call for such a change this was not the time to make it."

He was followed by Mr. Cauchon, who complained of the attempt to take a vote on this motion at so short a notice.

Mr. Attorney-General SMITH replied, that if a delay was required, Ministers were willing to grant it. Mr. Cauchon upon this, taunted the Administration with attempting to force the motion through the house, and being only desirous of granting a delay when they saw they were about to be defeated by the defection in their ranks.

Mr. MERRITT then moved to adjourn the consideration of the question.

Upon a division the motion was carried by a majority of seven.

Among those who voted for the adjournment we may mention the following:—Messrs. Moffatt, McDonald (Cornwall), Gowan, and Ermatinger. The numbers were merely counted, and the names not taken down, so that while stating the names of a few of those who voted postponement, on the Ministerial side, who caught our eye, we cannot give a complete list.

Upon this Mr. Draper made the announcement we have given above.

We believe it possible that Ministers will resign; but we think it highly improbable that the Administrator of the Government will accept that resignation, or that ministerial majority will allow it. This is no defeat, for we believe every member who usually acts with the Government, who voted for the postponement, had no other object in view than to afford more time for the consideration of an all important question, and as an act of courtesy to those members of the opposition who asked for delay, among whom were Messers. DeWitt, Merritt, Chauveau, and McDonald of Glengary. They had no idea that their action would be taken up in the way it was, or the vote would have been a very different one. We think Mr. Draper has not done well; he has allowed himself to be led away by private feeling, instead of consulting higher interests, and being guided by those broad and comprehensive principles on which he usually acts. Had the resolution before the house been negative, we do not think that he would be justified in retiring from the councils of the country, without there...
The English funds were a little flat in appearance to-day, though there was no great decline in prices. The speculators profess to be alarmed at the prospect of war with America, and an attempt was made to "bang" the market this afternoon, but without success. Consols for money closed 96 1/2, and for the account 96 5/8 to 3/4;
Bank stock left off 205 to 1/2; Three per Cents. Reduced, 95 1/2 to 3/4; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., 97 3/8 to 5/8; Long Annuities, 10 1/4; India Stock, 265 to 266; and Exchequer-bills, 23s. to 26s. pm.

The foreign securities were not much altered. Mexican activities closed at the better quotation of 33 for the account; Deferred was nominally quoted low, but no actual bargains were recorded. Austrian stock was done at 110; Chilian at 97; Peruvian, at 39 1/2; Russian, at 110; Spanish Five per Cents., at 243/4; the Three per Cents., at 36 7/8; Venezuela Deferred at 13; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents., at 59 1/2; and the Four per Cents., Certificates, at 92 1/8.

The Government broker's purchase to-day amount to 10,000l. New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., at 97 1/2, for the friendly societies and savings banks. Yesterday they were to the same extent.

The premium on gold at Paris is 16 1/2 per mille, which at the English mint price of 3l. 17s. 10 1/2d. per oz. For standard gold gives an exchange of 25 56; and the exchange at Paris on London at short being 25 70, it follows that gold is 0.54 cent dearer in Paris than in London.

By advices from Hamburg, the price of gold is 435 1/2 per mark, which at the English Mint price of 3l. 17s. 10 1/2d. per oz. For standard gold, gives an exchange at Hamburg on London at short being 13s 11 1/2d., it follows that gold is 0.57 per cent dearer in London than in Hamburg.

The Lords of the Treasury this day issued a notice that they are about to dispose of the sycee silver lately received by Her Majesty's ship Serpent, which is L, 682,000 ounces in weight, and of about $2,000,000 value. The tenders, none of which are made before 1 o'clock on Friday next, and gold exceeding 5 grains per pound troy is to be paid for at the rate of 77s. 9d. per ounce standard.

From the opinions which are expressed in the city as to the terms now offered by the Mexican Government, it may be inferred that there is no great disposition to accept them.

In the first place, setting aside all considerations of value, the greatest disapprobation is expressed as to the principle of the offer. The creation of a new set of bonds, secured on the tobacco revenue, and distinguished from another set of bonds secured on the Customs revenue, would, it is thought, create much confusion in the market. Two descriptions of Active stock issued by the same Republic would be regulated by different circumstances, and discrepancies might arise, embarrassing in the transactions of business.

In the next place, the terms offered for the Deferred Bonds are by no means considered sufficient. By the very nature of these documents they are to become Active next year, and they therefore have commanded a price of about 16 or 17. These, as well as the Debentures, would, by the new term, be converted into Active stock, at the rate of 40l. New Active for every 100l. Deferred. Now, 20l. of these New Actives, which, of course, would be without the overdue coupons attached to the present Active stock, would not command a price higher than 12l. in the market, and the holders do not see why they should sacrifice 4l. or 5l., and part with the position they hold under the original terms. It may be remembered, too, that when these Deferred Bonds were originally issued, another value was attached to them besides that arising from the promised conversion into Actives in 1847. The prospect was held out of giving tracts of land in exchange for the documents, and these were regarded by the Mexican Government as a great temptation. By the operation now announced, all such hopes are of course dissipated.

What may be the decision of the creditors when they attend the meeting on Monday next, is nevertheless extremely problematical, for though the most experienced persons are unequivocal in their disapprobation of the plan, many may be tempted by the offer of a half-yearly dividend, to be paid immediately, when they have so long waited in vain, and the Republic appears to be in so unsettled a condition. At all events, if the terms are accepted, it will be a sign that the credit of the country is held in no high estimation the present moment. [SCM]

LT 5/14/1846-4f  Oregon Question

The difference which has arisen between the Senate of the United States and the House of Representatives, as to the form of the resolutions authorizing the President to give the notice for the termination of the Oregon convention of 1827, is so minute that nothing but the most captious spirit point. It is utterly unimportant to the interests ad the dignity of this country whether the President be "authorized, at his discretion," or "authorized and requested" to give notice; and we are perfectly content that "the attention of both Governments should be the more earnestly directed to the importance of a speedy adjustment of all their differences and disputed in respect to the Oregon territory." It is probable, however, that the more courteous form of the resolution adopted by the Senate will prevail; unless, indeed, this ridiculous verbal difference between the two Houses is to be made a pretext for allowing the resolutions to drop altogether, which would be the case if they cannot agree on the terms used. This solution, however, is as childish and improbable as the conjecture of the Whig organ in this countrymen which argues that President Polk has formally intimated that in his opinion the notice ought to be given at the earliest possible period; and unless he is prepared to retract his own spontaneous declaration, he is of course only waiting for the sanction of Congress to carry it into effect.
Mr. Polk is himself the author of all the agitation springing out of the discussion of the Oregon question, which has engrossed the attention of the American people. To the exclusion of far more important subjects, ever since he assumed the reins of government, fourteen months ago. He must bear the responsibility of all the political perplexity, the mercantile embarrassment, and the national burdens, which are already felt in the United States. At present he has displayed no qualities adapted to such an emergency, but a strange aptitude in multiplying the causes of dissention and offence, combined with a sluggish indifference as to the means of carrying on the negotiation or of preparing for war. We are more curious than anxious to uncover the effects of such a novel and inscrutable course of policy. But, if there is any truth in the precedents of history of the maxims of common sense, a statesman who unites the two extremes of arrogance in language and debility in action is preparing for himself and his country the inevitable retribution of humiliation and disaster.

The American politicians appear to us to have formed lost inaccurate notions of the position in which they really stand. Their ignorance of the resources and powers of European Governments is kept alive by the pernicious flattery of the popular leaders, who tell them they are the first people on earth; and they are encouraged in a stupid disbelief of danger, which they mistake for courage. The state of the relations with Mexico is a striking exemplification of this inconsistent and foolhardy line of policy. When the United States Government, with the full sanction of the American people, consummated the annexation of Texas, and answered the protest of Mexico in a tone of defiance, they should, according to all the usages of civilized Governments, have proceeded to take military means for the protection of the Federal flag. The Cabinet of Washington disdained these precautions, and such has been the neglect of the most obvious and military arrangements on the part of the Americans, that even the Mexicans have collected an army of thrice the strength of the United States' forces on the Rio Grande. When the last advices left the frontier a collision appeared to be imminent; and there are strong reasons for doubting whether the Americans would have the advantage. It would be strange if Mr. Polk was to undergo a defeat from the troops of the least of the Powers of the world, at the very moment when he affects to brave the armies and fleets of the greatest; but certainly his present for way are hardly equal to a contest with Mexico, not to say with England.

It is a common fallacy in political speculation to impute to rivals and opponents a profundity of design and a vigour of character very much beyond their real merits, and these considerations, whether well or ill-founded, are quite as much calculated to inspire caution and to insure respect as a reputation for prowess or strength in arms: but we are not likely to fall into this mistake on the present occasion; for Mr. Polk has neither inspired the world with confidence as a friend of peace, nor with a salutary terror as an author of war. In professing to raise and uphold the character of the United States' Government, he has allowed it to forfeit a character for strength, and the only suggestion which appears to us to account for his conduct is that of extreme incapacity. He has done everything to aggravate the difficulties of negotiation, and nothing to provide for the possibility of their failure. What would have been thought or said in this or any other country of a Government which should deliberately leave its coasts unprotected, its fleets unmanned. Its armies unequipped and undisciplined, whilst its policy provokes a simultaneous resistance from the Powers on each side of their territories? The thing is without a precedent; and it is also without a precedent to have to deal with an adversary so just and temperate, that even this extreme inequality of forces will not induce us to raise our terms. But forces will not induce us to raise out terms. But most assuredly this is no time for us to reduce them. The honourable desire to avoid war will go far to maintain peace; but the fear of a war which it is physically impossible to maintain with advantage ought to go much further in the councils of any wise Government. Before Mr. Polk placed himself in this ridiculous position, he ought to have calculated the means he has at his disposal for getting out of it. A few months ago he might have settled the Oregon question on equal terms, with complete honour and dignity. At present, whatever by the turn given to the negotiation, the President will not escape the imputation of yielding to the necessity of the case, and accepting terms which are backed by the whole force of Great Britain. His own folly deserves this punishment, and it will not be long before the public opinion of the Union will assign him a place in the annal of the Presidents behind even Mr. Tyler.

The chief, if not the only ground of apprehension as to the ultimate effect of this state of affairs, arises from our uncertainty as to the direction it may give to Mr. POLK's own conduct. To suppose that he is capable of kindling a conflagration between two great and cognate states for the sake of covering his own blunders, by calling forth an energetic national demonstration in support of a bad cause, is to impute to him, not weakness, but wickedness. But weak men are apt to resort to the most desperate expedients at the last extremity; and nothing excites our apprehension so much as the fact that Mr. POLK appears to be incapable of any settled policy, and to live by the accidents and vicissitudes of the time.

We only trust that he will not fall into the serious error of imputing to the English Government the same uncertainty and hesitation which so strongly mark his own course. The packet which will sail from Liverpool in a few days will convey to the United States the real impression produced here by the late intelligence. If the resolution was intended a threat or a hostile measure, it has totally failed to have any effect whatever, except that it is probably Mr. PAKENHAM will be at once empowered to bring the controversy to a prompt and final issue. Setting aside all popular clamour and national prepossessions, the object of both Governments must be to effect a settlement upon the basis which they conceive to be practical, honourable, and just. The confidence of the people of England rests with perfect composure on the determination of the Ministers of the Crown in this momentous debate; and we cannot suppose that the American Government, boasting as it does a more popular origin, possesses the confidence of the nation to a less degree, or is less able to carry into full effect the terms of an equitable compromise.
The intelligence published in The Times of this morning from America was read with interest in the city, but it produced no change in the value of Government securities. The market was a little flat towards the close of the day, and the operating cause appeared to be an increasing scarcity of money. Consoles for immediate transfer were finally quoted 96 1/2; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents. Reduced, 95 5/8 to 1/2; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., 97 1/4 to 3/8; Long Annuities, 10 3-16; India Bonds, 28 to 33 pm.; and Exchequer-bills, 20s to 26s. pm.

The business in the foreign stock-market was not of an important character. Process continue steadily maintained, notwithstanding the gradual decline of speculation. The latest operations were Brazilian, Small at 83 1/2; Granada, at 22; Mexican Activities, at 33; for the account at 33 1/8; the Deferred, at 16; Peruvian, at 38 1/2; Portuguese Three per Cents., at 57 1/2; Russian, at 110; Spanish Five Per Cents., at 24 3/4; the Three per Cents., at 36 3/4; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents., at 59 1/2; an the Four per Cents., Certificates, at 92 1/4.

The Government broker has purchased to-day 10,000l. New Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents. At the price of 97 3/8.

The new terms for the settlement of the Mexican debt continue to be the theme of discussion among the parties interested, who are by no means a small class. The general argument advanced against the plan is, that it will be absurd for the holders of Deferred bonds to take 40 per cent. new Active Stock for their bonds, when these will become real Active bonds in less than 18 months by the mere operation of time, and without any expense or delay in providing new documents. The paper which is now called a Deferred bond is provided with its regular series of coupons, commencing in April, 1848, and, without any new operation, will be called on Active bond after October, 1847; therefore, say the opponents of the new scheme, let the Mexican Government go on as well as it can with the present Active bonds, and when October, 1847, comes, if it finds itself unable to provide for the total liabilities. Let it call all its Active creditors together, including those whose bonds have become Active by lapse of time, and make some arrangement by which all these claimants shall be placed on the same footing.

On the other side, an argument is advanced in favour of the new measure, which is entitled to consideration, because there is reason to believe it will be adopted by some influential members of the Spanish American committee. The whole reasoning of the objectors rests on the assumption that the Deferred bond, when it becomes Active, is in precisely the same condition as the active of the present day, supposing that no new financial operation takes place. This the defenders of the new plan utterly deny. The peculiar guarantee of the present Actives-namely, the appropriation of the fifth part of the Customs; revenue-belongs, they say, not to Active stock in general, but to the particular bonds which are now Active by a certain definite arrangement made with their holders. According to this view, when October, 1847, comes, there will be a class of Active creditors who have a definite fund appropriated to their claim, and another class who will be indeed "Active" by name, but who will have no fund of the kind, and may not inaptly be called "quasi-Active." Hence the two parties are not so fully demand to be placed on the same footing. Indeed, the Deferred claimants, according to this argument, will be better off by the new arrangement than portion of their nominal claim, they take what they never had before--a portion of the revenue definitely appropriated.

From the present state of opinion on this much-contested subject, it may be inferred that the Active and Deferred interests will take opposite parties at the meeting. The Active bondholders may, indeed, be a little dissatisfied at the composition which is offered them for their three overdue coupons, but they will be pleased to find the large quantity of Active stock which threatens to flow into the market in the autumn of 1847 reduced to less than half its original amount. The Deferred holders, on the same footing as the present Actives, and oppose the arguments upon which the distinction is founded. This position may be illustrated by the fact that the Active stock has advanced nearly 1 per cent. since the plan has been made known, while there has been a depression in market for the Deferred.

A correspondent writes thus on the practice of selling shares by public auction:-
"If I understand the advertisements of the different auctioneers, they solicit orders from the country by post. A man might, therefore, live for a few days in the country, and having sold his shares and received the money, remove to some other town, whence, under another name, he might send more shares for sale.
"There may be some advertising brokers who would execute orders from strangers, but no broker of any standing would do business for any person without an introduction. It is not sufficient to know when and how you receive shares unless you can trace them to some responsible person."

The Bankers' Magazine furnishes the returns of the circulation of the private and joint-stock banks in England and Wales for the four wills ending respectively the 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th let., and gives the following as the average weekly circulation of these banks for the month ending the 25th of April, viz.:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Private banks</td>
<td>4,742,396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joint-stock banks</td>
<td>3,301,967</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average weekly circulation of private notes in England and Wales during the past month . . . . . .8,044,363
On a comparison of the above with the returns for the month ending the 28th of March last, it shows—
An increase in the notes of private banks of . . . . 227,042
An increase in the notes of joint stock banks of. . . . 125,312
Total increase last month . . . . . . . . . . . . 352,354

And as compared with the month ending the 26th of April, 1845, it shows—
An increase in the notes of private banks of 61,185
A decrease in the notes of joint-stock banks of 4,289
Total increase as compared with the same period
Last year . . . ........56,896

On comparing the above returns with the amounts of the fixed issues of the several banks, after making allowance for those banks which have given up the privilege of issue since the passing of the Bank Restriction Act, and which amounts are stated in the Banking Almanack for the present year as follows, viz.-
197 private banks allowed to issue . 5,009,021
70 joint stock banks allowed to issue . 3,469,872
267 banks is all allowed to issue 8,478,893
it appears that the following is the comparative state of the circulation in England and Whales, with reference to the fixed issues, viz.-
The private banks are below their fixed issue . . 266,625
The joint stock banks are below their fixed issue . . 167,906
Total below the fixed issue . . 434,531

The bank of Messrs. Latham and Co., of Dover (the Dover Union Bank), having ceased business since the publication of the last returns, the actual limit of the fixed issue is reduced 9,577L., that being the amount they were authorized to issue under the new act. The bank is now omitted from the last in the Gazette.

LT 5/16/7b  THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

(From the New York Herald )

Under the present aspect of matters in Mexico, it is impossible to hazard a conjecture even as to the time when the unfortunate condition of our relations with that unhappy country will be settled. It is likewise impossible to say whether it will be settled without bloodshed or not.

From the latest accounts, down to the 6th inst.(ult.), from Vera Cruz, it appears that Parades is in the midst of difficulties and threatened revolutions, which preclude him from adopting any settled line of policy, were he inclined to do it. Although the recent attempt at revolution in Vera Cruz was a failure, through the indecision and want of unanimity among the junta, there is no doubt that a pronunciamiento against Parades will eventually succeed, and that either Almonte or Santa Anna will be put at the head of the Government. By suppressing some newspapers which advocated freedom, and overpowering the National Assembly Parades has made himself very unpopular; and in that country, when the people take a dislike to a governor, his overthrow, sooner or later, is certain. This most obnoxious part of his conduct was his attempt to invoke the aid of the French and English Governments in settling upon him the title of "Constitutional Sovereign of the Mexican Kingdom". This was particularly objected to by the Mexicans, who, notwithstanding their weakness and imbecility, are unwilling to have their Government changed into a monarchy.

There can be no doubt that Parades, in taking this latter step, acted in concert with the Governments of France and Europe, whose proposition to establish a monarchy in Mexico created so much excitement at the time it was first published and made known. We are assured by our correspondent that every proposition to that end will meet with the greatest opposition, and that a more hopeless task never was undertaken than to attempt to establish a monarchy there. It is true that the clergy are in favour of a monarchy, but sooner than have a King again, the Mexican people would prefer being annexed to the United States.

While the Mexicans are discontented with Paredes, and are determined to overthrow him, and almost unanimously in favour of any other man, there is still a great deal of disagreement as to whom they should out in his place. There is a large party in favour of Almonte, and a still larger party in favour of recalling Santa Anna, and putting him again in office. The party favourable to Almonte compromises that part of the population which is exasperated at the conduct of the United States on the annexation of Texas, and which would, at every hazard, engage in hostilities with us. On the other hand, the party favourable to Santa Anna is rather favourably disposed towards the United States.

The election of either of these gentlemen in the place of Paredes will be attended with important consequences to the United States, and will bring our affairs with Mexico to a crisis one way or the other in a very short time after their election. From the admissions and declarations made by Almonte while in this city we are certain that he would rush into hostility immediately, and depend upon the interference of France and England, and his good
luck, to extricate him. A war would thus be commenced which would cost us millions before it would be concluded. On the other hand, if Santa Anna were recalled, to judge from his past conduct, there is no doubt that our affairs would be very shortly and peaceably settle, soon after his accession. Were it not that he was suddenly overthrown and banished while negotiations were on foot for a settlement of this sort, all questions of difference between the United States and Mexico would have been settled long since.

In the mean time the aspect of affairs looks threatening, and unless a revolution occur soon, the present state of things will speedily be changed. Conduct towards the United States looks hostile. He has despatched a body of 3,000 Mexican troops to Matamoras, under General Ampudia. The Rio Grande has now rival armies, of equal force, on either side, and a collision is hourly expected. They cannot in the nature of things remain long in their present condition. A stray shot, a false alarm, or something else, will break the monotony; and the battle, once begun, will not be ended until the whole of our difficulties are adjusted. Everything is uncertain, and no one can tell what a day may bring forth. Paredes certainly has his hands full, and is surrounded by difficulties of every kind. The threatened revolution in California demands his attention, or that valuable and rich department will slide from him in the same way that Texas did. Already the inhabitants have declared against the Government, and are ready to revolt and declare themselves independent. To quell these symptoms of disaffection Paredes had despatched an army to that department, and thousands of Americans are crowding there from the West. Ere long we may possibly hear of the battle of San Jacinto being fought over again there.

We are not advised what course our Government will take in this matter, but we hourly expect that the President will send a special message to Congress, and propose some course. The present condition of things cannot be tolerated any longer. We have exercised patience until it has ceased to be a virtue, and we must now pursue a line of conduct that will end in something defensive, or the very end we had in view—viz., an exhibition of our magnanimity in refraining to attack a weak neighbour—will be defeated, and our pacific intentions imputed to cowardice and indecision. Our best policy, probably, would be to follow the classic example of our venerable and merciful Anglo-Saxon mother in her treatment of the Sikhs. These unruly fellows defied her authority, and actually invaded her territory. As a punishment, she thrashed them, butchered 20,000 or 30,000 men, and then annexed the Punjab territory as a compensation for the trouble she had in inflicting the thrashing. We could not do better than follow our mother's example—thrust the Mexicans, and Punjab all Northern Mexico, so as to balance Texas. When all was arranged to our satisfaction, we could have a Te Deum sung in all our churches; and although, unfortunately for us poor republicans, we could not confer any titles of nobility on those who carried out our plan of operations, we would, nevertheless, do them some honour, which would probably be as of much benefit to them as it they were made knights of the garter or of the round table, or some other similar nondescript. We could make them senators in Congress, or members of the State prison.

[SCM]

LT 5/18/1846  7a  MONEY-MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE

Saturday Evening

The English stocks remain quiet. Very little business was done in this market all day, and prices indicate no remarkable change. Consols for money finally closed at 96 1/2 to 5/8, and for the account at 95 5/8 to 3/4; Three per Cents. Reduced, at 95 1/2 to 5/8; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., at 97 1/2 to 3/8; Bank Stock, at 204 1/2 to 205 1/2; Long Annuities, at 10 3-16; India Stock, at 264 to 265; and Exchequer-bills, at 20s to 24s. pm.

There was a rumour to-day in the foreign stock market that the members of the committee of Spanish American bondholders were not unanimous in their determination of supporting the proposal of the Mexican Government. It is stated that several of them being convinced of the soundness of the views expressed in reference to the injustice of the terms proposed, are prepared on Monday to vote against the acceptance of the measure, and hence the decline which occurred in the value of Active stock towards the close of the day. Some persons have been free enough to express an opinion on the probable course of business at the meeting, and these seem to think that the result will be either an adjournment or a positive rejection of the decree. The meeting is looked forward to with great interest, and the "Active" as well as the "Deferred" holders are expected to muster in great strength. The latest quotation this afternoon was 32 1/2. In other securities the business transacted was exceedingly limited. Brazilian was done at 82 1/2; Buenos Ayres, for the account at 41; Chilian, Deffered, at 51; Ecuador, at 31/2; Portuguese Four per Cents., for the account, at 58 1/2; Russian, at 110 1/2; Spanish Three per Cents., at 37; and the Four per Cent. Dutch Certificates, at 91 3/4.

The question of money having been shown to be the chief ingredient in this new proposal from the Mexican Government for a compromise with its creditors, it may be useful to throw some light upon the system of finance pursued for several years past in that country, and which is extremely important in establishing the degree of credit and confidence to which it is entitled. A letter has been furnished by a "Deferred bondholder" too long for insertion entire, which goes very fully into this subject, and the leading points of which are well worthy a this time of the attention of all concerned. Perhaps in no country, not even in Spain herself, have such ruinous expedients been adopted to meet the exigency of the moment. A license, not long ago, is stated to have been granted to a mercantile house for the exportation of $2,000,000 in bars, at a reduced rate of 9 1/2 per cent., in return for an advance of one half the duty in cash, and the remainder in paper of the home debt, then worth only 23 to 24 per cent. in the home-market, but received by the Government at par! This hard bargain, it should be observed, had the further consequence of lessening those receipts at the Custom-houses, of which one-fifth is declared to be set apart for the English bondholders, but who are thus wronged of a portion of them. Similar
results have arisen, it is stated, from licenses at three different times, for the introduction of raw cotton, producing $800,000 in anticipation of duties, no portion of which has passed through the Custom-houses. No doubt the Mexican Government will be in a situation to plead extreme necessity for these desperate sacrifices, but if the facts can be verified, they form a legitimate consideration for capitalists, who will not dispense with the same inquiry in the case of a Government to which they would subject any private firms who offered their paper in the money market.

As to Mexican Deferred Bonds a correspondent suggests that as part of the security was certain vacant lands in departments of Texas and California, the holder of which is absorbed by "brother Jonathan," and the latter likely soon to follow, the bondholders should meet and petition Lord Aberdeen to represent to the American Government that the lands which they will no doubt offer for sale among their other state-lands are saddled with a mortgage.

The great interest felt on the subject at this moment induces us to insert another letter from a correspondent who has before written on the subject:-

"In order that the greatest unanimity may prevail at the meeting of the Mexican bondholders in rejecting the proposition of the Mexican Government, which has been so carefully concocted on order to create disunion among them, I purpose showing that it will be against the interests of the Active bondholders themselves to separate their interests from those of the Deferred bondholders."

"Of the 4,650,000 new stock which is to be created, the Active bondholders will receive in exchange for their overdue dividends. 420,000
The holders of debentures. . . . 200,000
620,000

Of course the holders of Deferred bonds will reject the proposition, therefore a balance of 4,000,000 bonds will be in the hands of the Mexican Government throw on the market.

"Even supposing the 4,625,000 Deferred bonds cut down to 1,850,000 of the new bonds, there will remain 2,180,000 of the 4,650,000 created to be sold by the Mexican Government, which must tend to depress the value of the 5,600,000 Active bonds at present in circulation, and 2 1/2 per cent. on the depression, or the prevention of the rise, of the Active bonds is equal to the whole benefit they will derive from the conversion of their overdue dividends, taking the price of Mexican bonds at 33."

"If, therefore, the holders of Active bonds seek their own interest, they will reject that part of the proposition which relates to the conversion of their overdue coupons until such time as the Mexican Government, or their Ambassador in London, who has full power, enters into more favourable terms with the Deferred bondholders."

By this unanimity the position of the Active bondholders will not be injured, whereas that of the Deferred bondholders will be improved, for let it be borne in mind that if the Active bondholders were to accede to the proposition of the Mexican Government, whatever is taken out of the pockets of the Deferred bondholders does not go into the pockets of the Active bondholders, "but into those of the Mexican Government."

In compliance with the terms of the Railway "Relief" Bill, a variety of meetings have taken place this week, to receive the opinion of shareholders and scrip holders whether the projects specially mentioned should be proceeded with or abandoned. In the following cases a determination to proceed has been announced either by a large majority or the unanimous voice of the persons interested:- Manchester and Southampton Railway; Ambergate, Nottingham, and Boston, and Grand Union Railway, Buckinghamshire, Oxford, and Bletchley Railway; Leeds and Carlisle and Yorkshire and Glasgow Union Railway; Birkenhead, Lancashire, and Cheshire Junction Railway; Cheltenham and Oxford Railway; Maldon, Witham, and Braintree Railway; Glasgow, Paisley and Greenock Railway; Norwhich and Dereham Direct Railway; Reading and Reigate Amalgamated Railway; North Staffordshire Railway; Manchester and Lincoln Union and Chesterfield and Gainsborough Canal and Railway; North British Railway; Great Western and Wycombe Railway; Great Western and Uxbridge Railway; Leeds and Bradford Railway; Dublin and Sandymount Railway; Direct Birmingham and Leicester Railway; Windsor, Slough, and Staines Atmospheric Railway; Enfield, Edmonton, and Eastern Counties Junction Railway, Wexford, Carlow, and Dublin Railway; Fermoy Railway; Mountmellick Junction Railway; Malton and Driffield Junction Railway; Bridge of Weir Port Glasgow Junction Railway; Glasgow, Dumfries and Carlisle Railway; Birmingham and Oxford Junction Railway; East and West India Dock and Birmingham Junction Railway; Ely and Bury St. Edmond's Railway; Ilford and Epping Railway; North Gravesend Railway; Edinborough and Glasgow Railway, Irish Great Southern and Western Railway; Killarney Junction Railway; Leeds, Walskefield and Midland Junction Railway; South Staffordshire Junction Railway; and Blackburn, Chorley, and Liverpool Railway.

The Eastern Countries, the London and Brighton and the South-Eastern Railway Companies, like the Birmingham, Midland, and other great companies, held their meetings for sanction to branches, &c., in each of which cases the shareholders were unanimous in their decision, and passed votes of confidence to the directors.

Among the meetings of the week, seven railway companies have determined on the more prudent course of "winding up". The Chester and Manchester Direct is the first on the list. It appears the shareholders in this scheme will receive back about 1l. 1s. per share, if they can throw overboard the unpaid claim of Sir John Rennie, in amount 10,000l, for engineering expenses. The vote for dissolving the Grand Trunk, or Stafford and Peterborough Union line, was all but unanimous. About 1l. 1s. per share is to be returned at once, and a further
dividend may be expected before the accounts are finally closed. The scrip holders of the Buxton, Macclesfield, and Crewe Railway receive 30s. per share forthwith, and if any further - [illegible line] The directors - a circumstance rather unusual at assemblies of this description. In the midland and Eastern Counties Railway accounts the two most alarming items were "engineers and surveyors," 13,455l., and "law expenses, including local agents," 15,597l. According to the statement of the directors, only 11s. 9d. can be expected on each share, and though another meeting is convened finally to settle the affair, the result may be readily guessed from the general wish manifested on this occasion to see the company abandoned. The Northumberland and Lancashire Junction Railway "winds up," but its has not yet appeared what sum will be returned to the scrip holders. A first installment of 1l. 1s. per share is to be paid to the shareholders of the Great Grimsby, Louth, Horncastle, Lincoln, and Midland Junction Railway; the vote against proceeding was carried by a very large majority. The Scottish Central and Caledonian Junction directors have been authorized by the scripholders to "dissolve" and "distribute" with all possible despatch.

The Railway Chronicle contains the subjoined sensible observations on the progress of the meetings held under the provisions of the "relief" bill. When we see such remarks emanating from a railway paper itself, we may reasonably judge that the most experienced in the system perceive danger from the further prosecution of the majority of the schemes brought into existence during the late era of railway speculation:-

"We observe, with regret, that the events of the week- the meetings under the new resolutions. Of which we record so many- are meetings not of dissolution, but of confirmation. The commercial interests of the railway world appear now about to be placed in more peril than ever. The panic we have had will be nothing to that which we shall have, if the shareholders in the new undertakings, instead of allowing them quietly to drop, continue to prosecute them and spent in Parliamentary contests all the money, k out of which, by stopping at once, they might have realized a good dividend. The 'wind-up' is likely to be a failure, and to become, in short, a wind-up in which nothing is wound up. There is one cause for this to be found is the transitory rise in the value of shares which took place on the announcement of the probable 'wind-up'. The improvement in the share-market is again gone back under the reaction caused by the fact that there is in reality no general 'wind-up' taking place. We shall soon. Therefore, be as ill off as before. The cause of the 'no wind-up' is manifold. Many scrip holders have mistaken the sudden recovery of the market for a return of public confidence, and for on in the hope that their shares will rise in public favour; whereas the prospect of their extinction was the only ground of that short and mistaken revival. If there be any means more certain than another of preventing a return of confidence, it is the return of the folly which led to the original withdrawal of that confidence. We would now entreat the scrip holders in the great majority of the new schemes to realize what they can, and 'wind-up' concerns of which the ultimate dividend will be diminished in the exact proportion of their present misplaced confidence"

The return from the Bank of England for the week ending the 9th of May gives the following results, when compared with the return of the previous week:-

Public Deposits, 3,031,375 ; increase, 452,924
Other deposits, 16,256,526; decrease, 523,854
On the other side account-
Government securities 13,023,065; decrease 280,000
Other securities 17,734,025; decrease 167,123
Notes unemployed6,836,405; increase, 427,935

The amount of notes in circulation is 20,408,590, being a decrease of 255,235, and the total showing an increase of 146,389, when compared with the preceding return.

The rest shows an increase of 9,744 during the same period.

[SCM]
Passing over the minor considerations, which were brought forward at this meeting, we may say that two grand principles are established. In the first place the bondholders recognize no difference between the Active and the Deferred bonds, except the time when they become due, and are determined to reject any plan in which any such difference shall be adopted. This was carried, not as a matter of expediency, but of justice; and Mr. Levy, who stoutly declared for the "share and share alike" doctrine; and at the same time stated that he was speaking against his own interest, for he held more Active than Deferred, was applauded with enthusiasm. In the next place it is established that no proposition will be entertained in which a request for more money is one of the elements. The part of the terms that referred, not to the conversions of existing bonds, but to the creation of new debt was always alluded to in a tone of derision, and probably acted as a damper on the ardour of those who, without it, might have been zealous in favour of the propositions. Whatever terms may be next brought forward by the Mexican Government, they will at any rate have been taught what to avoid.

The amount of business transacted in the English securities was limited, and the prices were consequently heavy. The absence of news to influence the dealers in their opinions was the chief cause of the dullness in the market. Consols for money left off 961/2 to 5/8; for the account, 96 5/8; Three per Cents. Reduced, 951/2 to 5/8; Three and a Quarter per Cents. Reduced 971/4 to 5/8; Long Annuities, 10 7-16; India stock, 265 1/2 to 266 1/2; India Bonds, 29s., to 30s. pm.; South Sea Old Annuities, 93 7/8; Exchequer bills, 20 s to 23s. pm; and Bank Stock, 204 1/2 to 205 1/2.

The foreign securities were little affected by the business transacted in the various descriptions. Mexican Activities closed flat this afternoon at 321/4, and the Deferred rather firm at 153/4: the result of the meeting of bondholders could not of course be considered favourable to holders of the first-named security. Brazilian was last done at 83, Danish, at 87 1/2 Portuguese Three per Cents., for the account, at 57 1/2 Russian at 110 1/2; Spanish Five per cents., for the account at 24 1/2; the deferred at 15 1/8; and Dutch Four per Cents., Certificates at 91 5/8.

The returns of the circulation of notes in England, Scotland, and Ireland, for the month ending the 25th of April, were inserted in this paper on the 14th and 15th inst. These returns, combined with the average circulation of the Bank of England for the same period, give the following statement of the total paper circulation for the United Kingdom as compared with the previous month.

[SCM]

LT LT 5/19/1846 8f United States And Mexico

(From the New York Tribune, April 20.)

That Mr. Slidell has returned disappointed and mortified from his Mexican mission is generally known; that Messrs. Polk and Buchanan are now concocting war measures or war fulminations to be submitted to Congress thereupon is highly probable. At the same time we cannot perceive that out Government has any right to take offence at the result of this mission. Mexico apprised us, years ago, that the annexation of Texas to this country would be regarded by her as an act of war: she has since reiterated that statement on every fitting occasion; and has in nothing departed from its purport to this day. Our own Secretary of State, Mr. Forsyth, took identically her view of the matter, when annexation was first formally solicited by Texas, with the concurrence of Mr. Van Buren and his entire cabinet. Mr. Van Buren proclaimed his adherence to this view of the matter so late as 1844, and Mr. Clay heartily concurred with him. A decided majority of all those among our countrymen to whom the designation of statesmen may be applied without seeming irony were of the same opinion. And when our rejected Minister argues that Mexico, in offering to acknowledge the independence of Texas provided she never see the Texan flag displayed save by two or three bands of adventurers, who were promptly captured or chased off by the Mexicans. The left bank of the Rio del Norte, and the whole region watered by the eastern tributaries of that river, is and ever has been just as much Mexican territory, so far as it is not possessed by the aboriginal savages, as Vera Cruz or Xapala. Now the ostensible purpose of sending all such differences to Mexico was the protection of Texas from apprehended Mexican invasion; and for this purpose that position was well chosen. Texas has remained unmolested and secure; she has not felt a shadow of apprehension from the hour General Taylor landed his troops at Corpus Christi, nor has she had a pretext for fear. Not for her sake, therefore--certainly not to afford her increased protection or security--is our army marched down to the great Mexican river, far from resources or reinforcements, in the very heart of Mexican nationality and military power. Up to this time, both banks of the great river have been occupied by Mexican troops, we have dispossessed them of the eastern by a display of a temporarily overwhelming force: can we expect them to remain quiet on the other? Suppose the Mexican forces concentrating in front of General Taylor should speedily be swollen to 8,000 or 10,000 men, does any one suppose they will quietly look on until our army has fortified its position and reinforced its numbers in what the Mexicans cannot but regard as their national territory? General Taylor himself appears to act with all possible circumspection and forbearance; had
his place been filled by a Napoleon or Jackson we should have had a murderous battle to chronicle ere this.

General Taylor plainly will not act on the offensive unless to anticipate a meditated blow; but his position is an offensive one, and hostilities are postponed only till the Mexicans feel strong enough to strike with confidence. Let our troops simply hold their ground a month longer, and balls will forestall the yellow fever with many of them. We don't doubt whether half the gallant array which first formed on the beach at Corpus Christi are destined ever to repass the Mississippi, and greet their kindred in their cherished homes. Meantime, the nation lies in listless apathy, hardly asking what is to come next. The tidings of a battle on the Rio del Norte--probably a triumphant, but in any case a deplorable one--will startle hundreds of thousands from ignorance into amazement. They have been told by smooth-tongued orators and current-riding demagogues that annexation was consummated--settled--a "fixed fact," and no longer a subject of discussion or action among us. With a President who is punctual in his Sunday attendance at a popular church, and who allows no dancing at the White House on any day, it is of course to be presumed by the indolent, listless millions that our national affairs are managed in a most Christian and blameless manner. When the tidings shall burst upon us of a battle between our army and the Mexicans, in which some 1,000 or 1,500 fellow Christians have butchered each other to feast the wolves and the vultures, who shall bear the awful responsibility of that wanton, wholesale murder? Not those, surely, who have manfully, actively, resisted the whole Texas iniquity, speaking out decisively at the first, and never faltering to the last. But who beside these can truly exclaim to the specters of our recklessly sacrificed countrymen,

"Shake not thy glory locks at me,
Thou canst not say I did it!"

[AKS]

LT 5/20/1846 5c US and Mexico

THE WEST INDIA MAILS

The Royal Mail Packet Company's steamer Thames, Captain Hast, arrived at South Hampton yesterday evening at 6 o'clock, bringing mails of the following dates:-- From San Jago de Cuba April 19; Jamaica 25, Jamel 27, Puerto Rico 29, Demerara 19, Tobago 21, Trinidad 20, Barbadoes 27, Grenada 28, St. Vincent 28, St. Lucia 28, Martinique 29, Dominica 29, Guadeloupe 29, Antigua 30, Montserrat 30, Nevis 30, St. Kitt's 30, Tortolos May 1, St. Thomas's May 1, 6p.m.; Fayal 13.

The Thames brings 70 passengers, including his Excellency Sir Henry Macleod, late Governor of Trinidad, and on freight 58 tierces of coffee, 126 barrels of ginger, and 283 packages of arrowroot.

We have our usual files of papers by the Thames, but they are very barren of interest; some of them, however, give a more favorable account of the weather than we have learned from private sources; indeed, almost at the time of the mails leaving the drought appeared to be breaking up. C coolies had arrived in several colonies, and had produced some effect in causing more regular labor; in Jamaica and Trinidad they were much prized, and working steadily, showing great aptness, as were the Portuguese emigrants from Madeira at Demerara and St. Vincent. The colonial newspapers have little interesting local news, if we except those of Trinidad, which are filled with regrets on losing their governor, Sir Henry Macleod, who it appears, had resigned his office in consequence of some misunderstanding with the Colonial Minister. His successor, Lord Harris, left Grenada on the 27th ult., and would arrive next day at Trinidad.

General Richi, the new President of Hayti, was still in the northern part of the island, where all was quiet at the last dates. Pierrot, the late President, had retired to his plantation; it is rumored he will not be allowed to remain there (as a few partisans my still cherish the hope of his return to power), but be compelled to reside near Port-au-Prince, where all his movements can be better watched. In the south, a few hundred men, chiefly cultivators, had risen against Richi's Government; their object, it seems, was to pillage the town of Aux Cayes. The commenced by massacring several persons of respectability, who fell into their hands, and committed all sorts of depredations; but General Jeffran, at the head of the six regiments, had obtained signal and advantages over them in three different combats, when from 500 to 600 banditti were killed. Nothing had been decided upon respecting the Dominicans. Despatches had been received from Santa Anna, the President of the Spanish port, and it is believed that a suspension of hostilities will take place until something more decisive is determined on. The foreigners thought well of the present Government, having in office, clear headed ministers who had been abroad, and had held intercourse with foreign Powers.

By the most recent accounts the Royal Mail Company's steamer Tay left Grenada for Jamaica April 27; the Teviot arrived at St. Thomas's May 1; the Trent left Jamaica for the Spanish Main April 15; the Tweed was in the Gulf of Mexico; the city of Glasgow left for Trinidad April 27.

Her Majesty's ships Imaum, Daring and Pickle were at Jamaica; Her Majesty's ship Pique at Barbadoes, waiting to be relieved by the Endymion.

The Thames passed on the morning of the 18th two of Her Majesty's steamers lying to in a gale from N.N.W.; also passed the Royal Mail steam-ship Dee off Portland, at noon yesterday.
The Thames had remarkably fine weather until nearing the Channel, when heavy N.W. and westerly gales were experienced, particularly on the night of the 16th and morning of the 17th.

LT 1846 5 22 5c US and Mexico, America: Arrival of the Great Western

THE TIMES OFFICE, Friday Morning.
Liverpool, Thursday Evening.

We have received advise from the United States to the 7th inst. Inclusive, together with late accounts from Canada, Mexico, and South America, by the steam-ship Great Western, Captain Matthews, which arrived in the Mersey shortly after 4 o'clock this afternoon, after a fine run of 14 days.

The Great Western conveyed special messengers from the American Government to Mr. M'Lane and from Canada to the Home administration. It is stated, and confidently so, that the former brings the Oregon notice to Mr. M'Lane, with instructions for its due delivery to the British Government. The bearer entertains that belief.

"The form in which the notice was sent," says the Washington correspondent of the Courier and Enquirer, "was to set forth the preamble and resolution as it passed Congress, and then to append to it a formal notice on the part of the Government of the United States."

The proceedings of the House of Congress are entirely uninteresting. The Webster and Ingersoll Committees had sent into Maine for witnesses. The Administration party in Congress are stated to design an adjournment from the 31st of May to the 1st of October. The Union denies the statement, however.

Relations with Mexico had assumed a more threatening aspect. The latest accounts from Rio Grande state that Matamoras was blockaded by General Taylor. Lieutenant Porter and three men had been shot by the Mexicans. Further desertions had taken place. Fears for the safety of the American force prevailed at Washington.

The receipts into the United States Treasury during the quarter ending the 31st of March last were $7,808,870; expenditure. $4,483,897 9c.

It would appear that considerable doubt exists as to the payment of the interest due on the debt of Pennsylvania.

The Princeton steam-frigate was under orders for the Gulf of Mexico.

Late accounts from Canada have reached us. The journals publish an additional dispatch from the Hon. W.E. Gladstone, dated April 1, upon the memorial of the Montreal Board of Trade:

"It announces," says the Montreal Courier, "that should the repeal of the Corn Laws pass the British Legislature, the Canadian Parliament will be allowed to do as it pleases with the 3s. Duty on American wheat. And it does not appear that any opposition will be shown to the repeal of the 2s. Imperial duty on flour. It also enunciates plainly the principle that Great Britain will not in the future grant better commercial terms to her colonies than she allows to other countries, and will not revive the system which once prevailed, of allowing the introduction of goods from colonies t colonial duties with reference, not to their origin, but solely to their place of export, or in other words doing away with the certificate of origin."

Accounts from Vera Cruz to the 18th of April had been received. Mexico is stated to continue uneasy. The threatened return of Santa Anna had called forth Government measures of protection. Despatches for the United States Government had also been received.

Accounts received from Oregon and California, via the Sandwich Islands, are unimportant. Extensive immigrations from the United States are noted. A slight dispute had arisen at San Francisco between the Americans and Mexicans.

Rio intelligence to the 19th of March, from Pernambaco to the 9th of April, and from the River Plate to the 19th of March, had been received. The blockade of Buenos Ayres still continued. At Rio, in consequence of long continued rainy weather, coffee was very scarce, and in demand at rising prices.

Report states that the Cambria ran ashore at Boston; but we are happy to say that the passengers, crew, and all the baggage were saved.

[AKS]
AMERICA. THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

We have received advices from the United States, by the Cambria Royal mail-steamer, to the 16th inst., inclusive, announcing the most important intelligence that the United States had declared war against Mexico.

We subjoin the formal proclamation of war:--

"PROCLAMATION of THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

"Whereas, the Congress of the United States, by virtue of the constitutional authority vested in the have declared by their act bearing date this day, that 'by the act of the Republic of Mexico, a state of war exists between that Government and the United States:'

"Now, therefore, I , James K. Polk, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim to all whom it may concern, and I do specially enjoin on all persons holding offices, civil or military, under the authority of the United States, that they be vigilant and zealous in discharging the duties respectively incident thereto. And I do, moreover, exhort all the good people of the United States, as they love their country, as they feel the wrongs which have forced on them the last resort of injured nations, and as they consult the best means under the blessing of Divine Providence of abridging its calamities, that they exert themselves in preserving order, in promoting concord, in maintaining the authority and the efficacy of the laws, and in supporting and invigorating all the measures which may be adopted by the constituted authorities for attaining a speedy, a just, and an honourable peace.

"In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents.

"Done at the city of Washington, this 13th day of May, 1846, and of the independence of the United States the 70th.

"By the President,

"JAMES K. POLK.

[AKS]

On the 11th ult. the President transmitted to the Congress the following message:-

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

"To the Senate and the House of Representatives,"

"The existing state of the relations between the United States and Mexico renders it proper that I should bring the subject to the consideration of Congress.In my message at the commencement of your present session, the state of these relations, the causes which led to the suspension of diplomatic intercourse between the two countries in March, 1845, and the long continued and undressed wrongs and injuries committed by the Mexican Government on citizens of the United States in their persons and property, were briefly set forth.

"As the facts and opinions which were then laid before you carefully considered, I cannot better express my present convictions of the condition of affairs up to that time than by referring you to that communication.

"The strong desire to establish peace with Mexico, on liberal and honourable terms, and the readiness of this Government to regulate and adjust our boundary, and other causes of difference with that Power, on such fair and equitable principles as would lead to permanent relations between the two countries.Every measure adopted on our part had for its object the furtherance of these desired results.In communicating to Congress a succinct statement of the injuries which we had suffered from Mexico, and which have been accumulating during a period of more than twenty years, every expression that could tend to inflame the people of Mexico, or defeat or delay a pacific result, was carefully avoided.An Envoy of the United States repaired to Mexico with full powers to adjust every existing difference.But though present on the Mexican soil, by agreement of the two Governments, invested with full powers and bearing evidence of the most friendly dispositions, his mission has been unavailing.The Mexican Government not only refused to receive him, or listen to his propositions, but, after a long-continued series of menaces, have at last invaded our territory, and shed the blood of our fellow-citizens on our own soil.
"It now becomes my duty to state more in detail the origin, progress, and failure of that mission. I could not for a moment entertain the idea that the claims of our much-injured and long-suffering citizens, many of which had existed for more than 20 years, should be postponed or separated from the settlement of the boundary question.

"Mr. Slidell arrived at Vera Cruz on the 30th of November, and was courteously received by the authorities of that city. But that Government of General Herrera was then tottering to its fall. The revolutionary party had seized upon the Texas question to effect or hasten its overthrow. Its determination to restore friendly relations with the United States, and to receive our Minister to negotiate for the settlement of this question, was violently assailed, and was made the great theme of denunciation against it. The Government of General Herrera, there is a good reason to believe, was sincerely desirous to receive our Minister; but it yielded to the storm raised by its enemies, and on the 21st of December refused to accredit Mr. Slidell upon the most frivolous pretexts. These are so fully and ably exposed in the note of Mr. Slidell of the 24th of December last to the Mexican Minister of Foreign Relations, herewith transmitted, that I deem it unnecessary to enter into further detail on this portion of the subject.

"Five days after the date of Mr. Slidell's note, General Herrera yielded the Government to General Paredes without a struggle, and on the 30th of December resigned the Presidency. This revolution was accomplished solely by the army, the people having taken little part in the contest; and thus the supreme power in Mexico passed into the hands of a military leader.

"Determined to leave no effort untried to effect an animicable adjustment with Mexico, I directed Mr. Slidell to present his credentials to the Government of General Paredes, and asked to be officially received by him. There would have been less ground for taking this step had General Paredes come into power by a regular constitutional succession. In that event his administration would have been considered but a mere constitutional continuance of the Government of General Herrera, and the refusal of the latter to receive our Minister would have been deemed conclusive, unless an intimation had been given by General Paredes of his desire to reverse the decision of his predecessor.

"But the Government of General Paredes owes its existence to a military revolution, by which the subsisting constitutional authorities had been subverted. The form of Government was entirely changed, as well as all the high functionaries by whom it was administered.

"Under these circumstances, Mr. Slidell, in obedience to my direction, addressed a note to the Mexican Minister of Foreign Relations, under date of the 1st of March last, asking to be received by that Government in the diplomatic character to which he had been appointed. This Minister, in his reply, under date of the 12th of March, reiterated the arguments of his predecessor, and, in terms that may be considered as giving just grounds of offence to the Government and people of the United States, denied the application of Mr. Slidell. Nothing, therefore, remained for our Envoy but to demand his passports and return to his own country.

"Thus the Government of Mexico, though solemnly pledged by official acts in October last to receive and accredit American Envoy, violated their pledged faith, and refused the offer of a peaceful adjustment with our difficulties. Not only was the offer rejected, but the indignity of its rejection was enhanced by the manifest breach of faith in refusing to admit the Envoy, who came because they had bound themselves to receive the want of opportunity of discussing it; our Envoy was present on their own soil. Nor can it be ascribed to a want of sufficient powers; our Envoy had full powers to adjust every question whatever. Nor can it be objected that we, on our part, would listen to any reasonable terms of their suggestion; the Mexican Government refused all negotiation, and have made no proposition of any kind.

"In my message at the commencement of the present session, I informed you that upon the earnest appeal both of the Congress and convention of Texas, I had ordered an efficient military force to take a position between the Nueces and the Del Norte. This had become necessary, to meet a threatened invasion of Texas by the Mexican forces, for which extensive military preparations had been made. The invasion was threatened solely because Texas had determined, in accordance with a solemn resolution of the Congress of the United States, to annex herself to our union; and, under these circumstances, it was plainly our duty to extend our protection over her citizens and soil.

"This force was concentrated at Corpus Christi, and remained there until after I had received such information from Mexico as rendered it probable, if not certain, that the Mexican Government would refuse to receive our Envoy.

"Meantime, Texas, by the final action of our Congress, had become an integral part of our union. The Congress of Texas by its act of December 19, 1836, had declared the Rio del Norte had been represented in the Congress and in the convention of Texas, had thus taken part in the act of annexation itself, and is now included within our Congressional districts. Our Congress had, moreover, with great unanimity, by the act approved December 21, 1845, recognized the country beyond the Nueces as part of our territory, by including it within our revenue system; and a revenue officer, to reside within that district, has been appointed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. It became, therefore, of urgent necessity to provide for the defence of that portion of our country. Accordingly, on the 13th day of January last, instructions were issued to the Generals in command of these troops, to occupy the left bank of the Del Norte. This river, which is south-western boundary of the state of Texas, is an exposed frontier. From this quarter invasion was threatened; upon it and its immediate vicinity, in the judgement of high military experience, are the proper stations for the protecting forces of the Government.
In addition to this important consideration, several others occurred to induce this movement. Among these are the facilities afforded by the ports of Brazos Santiago and the mouth of the Del Norte, for the reception of supplies by sea, the stronger and more healthful military positions, the convenience for obtaining a ready and a more abundant supply of provisions, water, fuel, and forage, and the advantages which are afforded by Del Norte in forwarding supplies to such posts as may be established in the interior and upon the Indian frontier.

"The movement of the troops to the Del Norte was made by the commanding General, under positive instructions to abstain from all aggressive acts towards Mexico, or Mexican citizens, and to regard the relations between that republic and the United States as peaceful, unless she should declare war, or commit acts of hostility indicative of a state of war. He was specially directed to protect private property and respect personal rights.

"The army moved from Corpus Christi on the 11th of March, and on the 28th of that month arrived on the left bank of the Del Norte, opposite to Matamoras, where it encamped on a commanding position, which has since been strengthened by the erection of field works. A depot has also been established at Point Isabel, near the Brazos Santiago, 30 miles in the rear of the encampment. The selection of this position was necessarily confided to the judgement of the General in command.

"The Mexican forces at Matamoras assumed a belligerent attitude, and on the 12th of April, General Arista, who had succeeded to the command of the Mexican forces, communicated to General Taylor that 'he considered hostilities commenced, and should prosecute them.' A party of Dragoons of 63 men and officers were on the same day dispatched from the American army up the Rio del Norte, on its left bank, to ascertain whether the Mexican troops had crossed with a large body of these troops, and, after a short affair, in which some 16 were killed and wounded, appear to have been surrounded and compelled to surrender."

"The previous wrongs perpetrated by Mexico upon our citizens throughout a long period of years remain undressed; and solemn treaties, pledging her public faith for this redress, have been disregarded. A Government unable or unwilling to enforce the execution of such treaties fails to perform one of its plainest duties.

"Our commerce with Mexico has been almost annihilated. It was formerly highly beneficial to both nations, but our merchants have been deterred from prosecuting it by the system of outrage and extortion which the Mexican authorities have pursued against them, whilst their appeals through their own Government for indemnity have been made in vain. Our forbearance has gone to such an extent as to be mistaken in its character. Had we acted with vigour in repelling the insults and redressing the injuries inflicted by Mexico at the commencement, we should doubtless have escaped all the difficulties in which we are now involved.

"Instead of this, however, we have been exerting our best efforts to propitiate her good will. Upon the pretext that Texas, a nation as independent as herself, thought proper to unite its destinies with our own, she has affected to believe that we have severed her rightful territory, and, in official proclamations and manifestoes, has repeatedly threatened to make war upon us for the purpose of reconquering Texas. In the meantime, we have tried every effort at reconciliation. The cup of forbearance has been exhausted, even before the recent information from the frontier of the Del Norte. But now, after reiterated menaces, Mexico has passed the boundary of the United States, has invaded our territory, and shed American blood upon the American soil. She has proclaimed the hostilities have commenced, and that the two nations are at war.

"As war exists, and, notwithstanding all our efforts to avoid it, exists by the act of Mexico herself, we are called upon by every consideration of duty and patriotism, to vindicate with decision the honour, the rights, and the interests of the country.

"Anticipating the possibility of a crisis like that which has arrived, instructions were given in August last, 'as a precautionary measure,' against invasion, or threatened invasion, to accept volunteers, not from Texas only, but from the states of Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Kentucky; and corresponding letters were addressed to the respective governors of those states. These instructions were repeated; an in January last, soon after the incorporating letters were addressed to the respective governors of those states. These instructions were repeated; and in January last, soon after the incorporation of 'Texas into our union of States' General Taylor was further 'authorized by the President to make a requisition upon the executive of that state for such of its militia force as may be needed to repel invasion or to secure the country against apprehended invasion.' On the 2d day of March he was again reminded, 'in the event of the approach of any considerable Mexican force, promptly and efficiently to use the authority with which he was clothed to call to him such auxiliary force as he might need.' War actually existing, and our territory having been invaded, General Taylor, pursuant to authority vested in him, by my direction, has called on the Governor of Texas for four regiments of state troops-two to be mounted, and two to serve on foot; and on the Governor of Louisiana for four regiments of infantry, to be sent to him as soon as practicable.

"In further vindication of our rights and defence of our territory, I invoke the prompt action of Congress to recognize the existence of the war, and place at the disposition of the Executive the means of prosecuting the war with vigour; and thus hasten the restoration of peace. To this end I recommend that authority should be given to call into public service a large body of volunteers, to serve for not less than six or 12 months, unless sooner discharged. A volunteer force is, beyond question, more efficient than any other description of citizen soldiers; and it is not to be doubted that a number far beyond that require'd would readily rush to the field upon the call of their country. I further recommend that a liberal provision can be made for sustaining entire military force, and furnishing it with supplies and munitions of war.
"The most energetic and prompt measures, and the immediate appearance in arms of a large and overpowering force, are recommended to Congress as the most certain and efficient means of bringing the existing collision with Mexico to a speedy and successful termination.

"In making these recommendations, I deem it proper to declare that it is my anxious desire not only to terminate hostilities speedily, but to bring all matters in dispute between this Government and Mexico to an early and amicable adjustment; and in this view I shall be prepared to renew negotiations whenever Mexico to an early and amicable adjustment; an in this view I shall be ready to receive propositions or to make propositions of her own. Foreign Affairs; and so much of the correspondence between that Envoy and the Secretary of State, and between the Secretary at War and the General in command on the Del Norte, as are necessary to a full understanding of the subject.

"JAMES K. POLK
Washington, May 11, 1846"

This document was immediately acted upon by Congress. Both branches, by overwhelming majorities, declared in favour of recognizing a war against Mexico, and in providing means for its energetic prosecution. The regular army was increased to about 15,000 men; a special War Bill authorized an additional force of 50,000 men, to be placed at the disposal of the President; and $10,000,000 were appropriated for the payment of the troops. The naval force was increased in an equal ratio.

The latest accounts from the force under General Taylor represent his position as one of great danger. His army was surrounded on every side by the Mexican force, and his supplies were in danger of being cut off; and apparently a more serious conflict was impending.

The utmost excitement prevailed throughout the Union, and in the southern states large companies of volunteers were being formed to march to the relief of the army on the Rio Del Norte. Great fears were entertained throughout the commercial classes that the Mexican Government would issue letters of marque. The American journals are far from being unanimous in support of the aggressive war sanctioned by Congress.

We have accounts from Montreal to the 13th inst. Inclusive. A committee had been appointed by the House of Assembly on the 11th to frame an address to Her Majesty, praying that whatever alterations may be made in the duties on the admission of foreign grain, respect may be had to the interests of Canada. The Parliament would separate on the 23d inst.

Advises from Mexico to the 17th of April, and from Vera Cruz to the 22nd, had been received. The Vera Cruz Locomotor of the 22nd states, that a revolution had broken out in the south of the department of Mexico, and that General Alvarez had proclaimed the federal constitution, and the return to the power of Santa Anna. Fears of the immediate blockade of the port of Mazatlan by the American naval force there assembled were entertained; and the Mexican steamers Montezuma and Guadaloupe had been sold.

[AKS]

LT 1846 5 30 4b Mexican War

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 30, 1846.

The collision which the increasing arrogance of the American Government and the apparent weakness of Mexico rendered inevitable, has at length taken place. Hostilities have begun upon the Rio Bravo del Norte. An American detachment of 63 men has been surrounded and compelled to lay down its arms, after a considerable loss. General Taylor; the American commander appears to have placed himself, with an excess of presumption or of incapacity, in a position of great danger; his small forces being divided, his supplies cut off, and his line of operations intersected by the Mexican army. The news of this defeat and this danger instantly roused the passions of the American people to the highest pitch of excitement. The population of the southern states is preparing to flock in arms to the scene of adventure. The state Legislatures nearest to the frontier have voted money and troops to proceed at once to reinforce the detachment at Point Isabel. The Federal Government, upon the receipt of this intelligence, took the most vigorous measures, and within four days a bill passed the Congress and received the sanction of the President, "to provide for the prosecution of the existing war between the United States and the Republic of Mexico." All the efforts of the peace party to resist or control this torrent of national enthusiasm for war were wholly unavailing.

These events are manifestly calculated to produce the most important effects on the several Powers of the North American continent, on their institutions at home, and on their relations abroad; but they are no more than the fulfillment of the anticipations we have long entertained and expressed. When a nation like the United States of America forsook all the maxims of its established policy, and violated the laws of good faith an international duty, to gratify the popular passion of territorial aggrandizement at the expense of an inoffensive neighbour, and at the instigation of the audacious leaders of the democratic party, it was vain to hope that an act like the annexation of Texas could be consummated without giving birth to a formidable and uncontrollable series of
those events which interrupt the pacific progress of nations, and convulse the world. It was vain to hope that even amidst the savannahs and the solitudes of the new world the wildest of human passions could exhaile their strength with impunity; or that the political crimes, which are now almost banished from the confraternity of European states, could be perpetrated without check or a penalty under the colours of a republican flag, and the defenseless frontiers of an American neighbor. The annexation of Texas, as was repeatedly predicted till within a short time of its accomplishment by almost every American statesman, has ended in war. It could end in nothing short of war, unless Mexico were already dissolved, and the race which occupies the ancient provinces of Spain extinct. The immediate cause of hostilities may be the advance of General Taylor, by the orders of the Cabinet of Washington, into the disputed territory lying between the Nueces and the Del Norte; no one will be deceived as to the true cause of this rupture. The annexation of Texas must be taken as one entire transaction, originating with General Jackson nearly twenty years ago, and ending with Mr. Polk's declaration of war; but twenty years of fraud and hypocrisy have not lessened the enormity or mitigated the violence of this depredation. The interval has only been rendered the resistance of the Mexicans less possible, the booty more attractive, and the designs of the American Government more extensive. To the last moment, indeed, and down to the very preamble of the bill which crowns this masterpiece of double dealing by a declaration of war, the Congress of the United States is made to legislate a lie, and to declare that by the act of the republic of Mexico a state of war exists between that Government and the United States. Every incident of the transactions and negotiations of the last ten years between the United Stated and Mexico demonstrates the falsehood of this assertion. No state ever endured more injuries from another than Mexico has received from the Cabinet of Washington, for no state was ever worse prepared to resent them: but after all these provocations and wrongs, the war declared by the United States is now imputed to Mexico, because she has refused to receive an American emissary to dictate terms in her capital, and has ordered her scanty forces to assemble on a disputed frontier. The territory lying between the rivers Nueces and Del Norte is at most an unsettled and debatable ground; if, indeed, any doubt has ever existed as to the full right of Mexico to the whole province of Tamaulipas, extending to the former and more northerly of these streams. The occupation of the left bank of the Rio Bravo del Norte was therefore an unwarranted and rash act on the part of the American General; and his blockade of Matamoras, a town situated on the right bank of the stream, was a direct aggression on the territorial rights of Mexico.

We cannot suppose that Mr. Polk is do blind as not to have foreseen these events. He must not only have foreseen them, but intended to bring them to pass. In his Message upon the opening of Congress he laid open wide grounds of remonstrances and retaliation against Mexico. Mr. Slidell was dispatched with a message ill calculated to promote any pacific object. General Taylor was ordered to advance by land beyond the true boundary of Texas; a demonstration was made by an American squadron in the Gulf; and we have strong reason to believe that orders had already been given to the American Commodore in the South Seas to seize upon Monterey, Port St. Francis and other positions on the California coast, upon the first intimation which should reach him of the withdraw of Mr. Slidell from the Mexican Territory. This combination of measures, following closely upon the extraordinary language of the President in his public address upon several occasions, and viewed in connexion with the electioneering interests of Mr. Polk's party, leave no doubt that the head of the American Government has, with as much deliberation as he is capable of, plunged his country into this most flagitious war. The evil which must result from it flow straight from the democratic institutions of the United States, from the popular vices of these institutions have fostered when they most needed to be watched, and from the character of the political Empedocles whom they have raised to office. To the calamities caused by such incendiaries there is no remedy but a firm resistance, a severe retaliation, and eventually a popular reaction; but these results are distant, and in the meanwhile Mr. Polk has got possession of the patronage of an increased army and navy, and of the resources of a war expenditure.

The regular army of the United States will be immediately raised to 15,000 men—about double its present force. Provision will be made for 50,000 volunteers; and we are informed that the Government is empowered to build 16 ships-of-the-line, 40 frigates, and small craft in proportion, and to provide for the defense of the sea-board and the protection of trade. Already two English schooners, the Equity and Floridian, have been turned back from the mouth of the Rio Grande by the United States brig Lawrence, before any notification of blockade has been made at all. And, in addition to these dangerous, but inseparable concomitants of war, Great Britain has other and more momentous interests at this moment in dispute. The tie is come when the Oregon negotiation must be brought to close; and there is reason to anticipate that we shall have to encounter a more intractable and excited spirit on that question amongst the American people, of the war party has once asserted its
The tumultuous excitement occasioned throughout the United States by the announcement that a small Mexican army had been collected at Matamoras, and that 2,000 men had crossed the Rio Grande and placed themselves betted General Taylor’s camp and his supplies at Point Isabel, is certainly disproportional to the actual magnitude of the event; and it presents a strange commentary on the aggressive policy and the warlike measures which have been gaining ground in the United States for the past few years. Nothing can be more ridiculous than the contrast between the zeal of the Americans in provoking a war, and their real state of preparation for it; and a defeat will probably be sustained by the American forces, worsted by troops whom they have affected to despise, before the people of the United States have learned that bluster does not win battles, though it may begin brawls. What, we may venture to inquire, would have been the result if the British Government had chanced to be animated by sentiments akin to those which the Cabinet of Washington has so shamelessly disclosed; and if the late preempory declarations of the President on the subject of the Oregon territory had been followed by the advance of well-appointed British army across the Canadian frontier, and the appearance of a British fleet on the coast? The hypothesis is purely imaginary; but if it tends to impress upon the Americans the necessity of remedying their present defenseless position, it also renders it incumbent on the British Government to seize this moment for the adjustment of our controversy with the United States. It is not England that has awakened these dormant claims and kindled these deplorable passions. It is not England that has given notice for the termination of the convention of joint occupancy, and chosen this particular time for the settlement of the dispute by treaty or by war. Still less has England any hand in the recent measures taken by the Mexicans in defense of their territory—an opinion which is too absurd to need contradiction in Europe, though it may begin brawls. What, we may venture to inquire, would have been the result if the British commander done the same, and kept at Corpus Christi, the Nueces, contented with protecting the territory from invasion, no collision could have taken place, for the Mexicans remained strictly on the defensive. But General Taylor not only crossed the Nueces and seized the whole of the disputed territory, but, under some idle plea, he proceeded also to blockade Matamoras, and cut it off from the sea. In this, General Taylor was only commenced hostilities; as indeed, the Whigs and the Senate are prepared to maintain, as they insist that he should not have gone beyond Corpus Christi. Collisions having taken place, it was impossible to refuse the vote of levies and of money, although the leading members of the Senate; Calhoun amongst others, protested that the country could not consider itself at war. The united bodies of Congress could, indeed, alone declare that. War, however, it is, if President Polk chooses to make it so. This he seems scarcely prepared to go upon the land frontier of the Rio del Norte. He may, however, give orders to the fleet in the gulf to operate on the Monterey or the forts of California. And, as compensation or that unlimited store of grievance, which has been amassed on the supposed wrongs done to American citizens by Mexico, Mr. Polk may insist on retaining such provinces or possessions. Federalist movements, too, may be got up at the same time under American influence to paralyze the efforts of the Mexican Government and facilitate the work of spoliation. Is Europe prepared to see Mexico thus dismembered, and the autopsy made before her eyes? It is to be feared that such is the case. A serious measures of effective war would alone be likely to make the Americans hesitate. And neither France nor England is prepared to volunteer in such a struggle. We have had little or no thanks from Spain for having fought and won its independence. We might risk still less profit or gratitude from the Spanish race in Mexico. The age of political, as well as of religious, crusades is past.
which even success in such a cause must impose on the American Union. The war party is everywhere triumphant. The Whigs are discouraged and defeated, even in their faint attempt to modify the preamble of the War Bill. The immediate effect of this rupture with Mexico is, therefore, to weaken the influence of the party which had recently succeeded in smoothing down the form of notice to be given Great Britain—to increase the authority and ascendency of the Executive Government, which is the very core of the war party—to place large sums of money and vast patronage at their disposal—to augment the United States army and navy—to call out a large body of volunteers and drill them into troops, and to promote that martial spirit amongst the population at large to which democratic communities are too prone. In short, if Mr. Polk were to propose to himself the most effectual mode of preparing the people of the United States for a contest with one of the great powers of Europe, he could not have hit upon any scheme more likely to suit his purpose than that of training the country by a little war, in which there is no serious risk, no formidable enemy, but just enough of éclat to whet the passions which the leaders of the American democracy are wont to flatter and to obey. If the Oregon question be reserved until the United States have dictated terms to Mexico, and perhaps possessed themselves of California, no American Government will be able to accede to terms of partition, and they will be better prepared for war with England than, than they are for war with Mexico now. A wise government would, indeed, most carefully have avoided plunging into two quarrels at the same time; and the frontiers of Texas ought to have been settled by treaty before those of Oregon were discussed. But these sage maxims are disregarded on the other side of the Atlantic; and Mr. Polk seems rather to glory in the multiplicity of his dangers, and to act as if one embarrassment was a set-off against another.

If the overture which Mr. Pakenham has been instructed to make in reply to the notice for the termination of the convention be favourably received we may hope that in four or five weeks the Oregon controversy may be settled, and a final treaty of partition signed. But the best means of arriving at this most desirable result are vigorous measures and a strong demonstration of our resolution not to recoil before any alternative. Symptoms have already reached us of an intention on the part of the American Government to convince us of the extreme moderation of their designs towards Mexico, and of their earnest desire to terminate this war. But the American Government must be judged of by its public acts and declarations, not by assurances which we can only regard as subterfuges and pretenses. Its evident object is, if possible, to postpone the settlement of the Oregon question until Mexico has been reduced to terms; and then to put forward its pretensions to Oregon with the whole strength of the democratic party. This scheme must be defeated. Another month will bring us either a treaty of partition and peace, or an answer which would call for more decided steps on the part of the British Government.

With regard to the mode of prosecuting the war against Mexico, we apprehend that whatever may be the feebleness of the Mexican troops, the Nature of the country offers most serious obstacles to an invading army. The city of Mexico is 700 miles from the Rio Bravo del Norte. The roads are bad and ill-provided with water or supplies; and a host of ill-disciplined adventurers, like the American volunteers would inevitably be cut off in detail in the interior of the country by the Rancheros and the Spanish population. The military operations must therefore, be confined to desultory warfare on the frontier. If a blockade be announced of the eastern and western coasts of Mexico, including the ports of Vera Cruz, Tampico, and the mouth of the Rio Bravo on the Atlantic, and the immense extent of the coast from Port St. Francis to Acapulco on the Pacific, the maritime Powers of Europe, whose subjects are so largely interested in the commerce of Mexico, will, of course, require that this blockade should be everywhere enforced by a competent American squadron. But he whole American navy now afloat would not suffice actually to blockade this extent of coast, even if its services were not likely to be required in other places for the protection of American commerce. Whatever may be the laws of particular countries, or the stipulations of treaties as to the rights of privateers, there can be no doubt that if the Mexican Government issue letters of marque, there are seafaring adventurers enough in the world to risk their lives in this species of legalized piracy, and to defy restrictions which can only be enforced here and there by the American vessels of war. In mercantile cities of the Union it was generally expected that the Mexicans would resort to this expedient. A war clause has been inserted in the policies in insurance a New York, and premiums had risen 3 1/2 per cent. in consequence of the additional risk. Some of the American packets for Liverpool were already preparing to sail armed. It is evident that whether these apprehensions be exaggerated or not, a state of war existing along the whole coast of North America and interrupting the vast commercial relations both of the United States and of Mexico with other countries, as well as with each other, is a position of affairs fraught with danger to the general peace of the world. We shall await with anxiety the measures which may be anticipated from the Mexican and American Governments with reference to these maritime questions; and as a proper precaution we hope the British squadron in the West Indies will be at once reinforced. Without any direct interest in the disturbed and declining affairs of Mexico, and without caring in the slightest degree what form of Government exists in that country, since none can be worse than the military anarchy which has existed there for the last 20 years, there are important British undertakings and investments in Mexico which have frequently been the subject of communication between the two Governments, and which cannot be now left unprotected. Nor can we be blind to the fact that the Americans are, to use an expression of their own, about to fight a battle of Oregon in Texas, and that the same passion which is now launching in full career against their weakest neighbor, will ere long incite the most stirring portion of the American people to lay hands upon the American possessions of the British Crown. This then, is the time to prepare resistance—firm, absolute resistance—to pretensions which are incompatible with the safety of neighboring states or the peace of the world.

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LT 1846 6/5 6a Mexican bonds

The meeting of Mexican bondholders, held today in the London Tavern, has resulted in the acceptance of the
MEXICO AND THE UNITED STATES

War has at length been declared between the United States and Mexico, and President Polk has been invested with all the necessary powers for raising an army. When the election of the President took place, the democratic party were divided into two distinct factions on the subject of foreign politics. The one considered a country eleven times more extensive than France to be sufficiently vast, while the other portion was of opinion that the union ought to extend from the Isthmus of Panama to Hudson's Bay and Bearing's Straights. Mr. Polk was elected President, with the express conditions, viz., that Texas should be incorporated with the Union, the whole of the Oregon territory to belong to America, the invasion of Mexico, according to Jefferson's prediction, and the duty on silver, in addition to the fifth part of the Customs' receipts, is a sufficient consideration for parting with a certain portion of capital, even during the present critical circumstances of the republic. Whether the decision will be acceptable to all the bondholders who did not attend the meeting, we cannot tell, but from the letters received on the subject we should be inclined to doubt it.

The temper and tone of this meeting were as different as possible form that of the stormy assembly by which the former terms were rejected. There the feeling was that the terms presented were such as ought never to have been proposed; here the principal discussion was the expediency of coming to any compromise at all, during the present condition of the Mexican republic. The most strenuous opponents of the former terms were in favour of the new ones, and the only opposition that they offered to the recommendation of the committee consisted in a motion to adjourn the consideration of the subject till fresh intelligence from the seat of American hostilities should arrive. One or two persons, indeed, protested against the principle of giving up any portion of the capital debt, but they were not powerful enough to form a party. The question whether the meeting should adjourn for a fortnight was put, and decided in the negative, and then the acceptance of the terms was carried by a large majority.

The principle adopted by the meeting is this---that the special pledge of the tobacco revenue, and the export duty on silver, in addition to the fifth part of the Customs' receipts, is a sufficient consideration for parting with a certain portion of capital, even during the present critical circumstances of the republic. Whether the decision will be acceptable to all the bondholders who did not attend the meeting, we cannot tell, but from the letters received on the subject we should be inclined to doubt it.

The committee of the South-American and Mexican Association have memorialized the Government on the state of affairs between the United States and Mexico, suggesting a friendly interposition for the prevention of hostilities.

The English funds were steady to-day, but the amount of business transacted was particularly limited. Some small purchases made by the Government and Chancery brokers gave support to prices, which were previously firm, owing to the "shutting" about to take place in preparation for the payment of the July dividends. Consols for money left off 96.75; and for the account, 97. Bank Stock closed 205.5 to 206.5; Three per Cents. Reduced, 95.75; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., 97 to .75; Long Annuities, 10.25; India Stock, 264 to 266; India Bonds, 22s. to 27s. pm.; and Exchequer-bills, 17s. to 22s. pm.

Although the Mexican bondholders accepted the proposition for the arrangement of the debt, no business was done in the Active Bonds. They were quoted nominally 29.75 to 30.25. The Deferred were firmer, being actually purchased at 16. Brazilian were last done at 82.5; Ecuador at 3; Granada; at 21 ex div.; the Deferred, at 4.25; Portuguese Four per Cents., at 53.5; for the account, at 53; Spanish Passives, at 5; the Deferred, at 15.5; Venezuela, at 42.5; the Deferred, at 12.5; and Dutch Four per Cents., Certificates, at 92.

A great deal of amusement has been created in the city by the arrival of some cotton from President Polk's plantation, marked with the letters and figures--"P.49thD." The connoisseurs of the cotton trade declare that this is no ordinary cotton mark; and, therefore, the question remains as to what it can mean. Two or three explain that "P" means Polk," and that "49th D" means "49th degree," and refers to the Oregon affair. We give this as a mere city anecdote of the day, requesting our readers not to take it at more than its worth.

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every such vessel in liable to seizure. Whatever may be the vigilance of the officers of Customs and Excise, and
or commit hostilities against the subjects or citizens of any state with which Her Majesty shall not then be at
own Government, equipping, furnishing, fitting out, or arming any vessel, with intent or in order that such
England can be treated as a capital felony by the law of nations.
not justify the infliction of the penalty of death upon British subjects privateering under foreign commissions, as
understood to recognize certain principles of international jurisprudence, such as the inviolable character of
injurious to the best interests of the world that provisions tending to limit and reduce the evils of war should be
Oregon negotiations, these particular stipulations, not having been renewed after the war of 1812, must be held
"The subjects and citizens of the two nations shall not do any acts of hostility or violence against each other, nor
accept commissions or instructions so to act from any foreign Prince or State, enemies to the other party; and if
any subject or citizen of the said parties respectively, shall accept any foreign commission or letters of marque,
for arming any vessel to act as a privateer against the other party, and be taken by the other party, it is hereby
declared to be lawful for the said party to treat and punish the said subject or citizen, having such commission
or letters of marque, as a pirate.”
The same article was literally repeated in the treaty of commerce and navigation concluded in London for 10 two
States; and it will be observed that both these treaties of 1794 and 186 are of very doubtful authority at the
present moment. If, indeed, we adopt the rule for which the American jurists have lately contended in the
Oregon negotiations, these particular stipulations, not having been renewed after the war of 1812, must be held
to have lapsed altogether. On this point, however, we express a reserved opinion, because it is manifestly
injurious to the best interests of the world that provisions tending to limit and reduce the evils of war should be
classes amongst obligations of a temporary and exceptional character; and the general stipulations of this
nature which were sanctioned by Washington and Mr. Pitt, as the basis of the neutrality of the United States,
and of their mercantile relations with Great Britain, deserve the perpetual respect of both countries.
It is, however, certain that these treaties have not the force of positive law at the present time; they may be
understood to recognize certain principles of international jurisprudence, such as the inviolable character of
public debts, and the impropriety of privateering by neutrals under the flag of a belligerent Power, but they will
not justify the infliction of the penalty of death upon British subjects privateering under foreign commissions, as
if they were still in force. It cannot be admitted that an offence which is a simple misdemeanor by the law of
England can be treated as a capital felony by the law of nations.
He Foreign Enlistment Act, though it provides a check for these clandestine modes of warfare, does not go so far
as the laws of many other countries, in making them felonious and piratical. Persons, without the license of our
own Government, equipping, furnishing, fitting out, or arming any vessel, with intent or in order that such
vessel shall be employed in the service of any foreign State as a transport or store-ship, or with intent to cruise
or commit hostilities against the subjects or citizens of any state with which Her Majesty shall not then be at
war, are guilty of a misdemeanor, and punishable by fine and imprisonment at the discretion of the Court, and
every such vessel in liable to seizure. Whatever may be the vigilance of the officers of Customs and Excise, and
However the British Government may be disposed to put in force these powers of the law, it must be acknowledged that these restrictions may prove a very insufficient bar to illicit privateering. There appears to be no power and no precedent for authorizing British cruisers of war to treat such privateers, sailing under a foreign flag, as delinquent vessels; and whatever may be the powers of the law for prosecuting the authors of such enterprises, being British subjects, in the courts of Westminster, it is probable that great difficulty would occur in defeating all the modes of evasion which might be practiced, or in arresting vessels holding such commissions on the high seas, The American Government has already announced that it is prepared to rely on some of the treaties prohibiting the subjects of neutral Powers from accepting letters of marque from a belligerent State; and possibly it may not abandon the clauses of the English treaties of 1794 and 1806 without an effort to maintain that principle of its own maritime jurisprudence. But even if it were admitted that the stipulations are now in force, they only confer upon the contracting parties the right, to render the penalty truly formidable, it must be supported in every part of the world by numerous and efficient naval force, which the American navy does not supply. Our own experience of the extreme difficulty of defeating the practices by which the slave trade is carried on, even though it is confined to a small portion of the coast of Africa, may serve to illustrate the impracticability of putting down a mode of warfare which offers enormous inducements to private avarice, however little it may be sanctioned by law and justice. The subterfuges which may be resorted to are innumerable: the means of defeating them are very limited, since they are confined to preventative measures on the part of the neutral State, and to a imperfect resistance by the injured belligerent. A nice sense of honour and an enlightened regard to the true public and private mercantile interests of this country will discourage all such speculations, and support the cause of strict neutrality. But if the Mexican Government should think fit to issue letters or marque, it will undoubtedly offer a stimulus to a large body of adventurers in various parts of the globe, which will probably prove stronger than the risk of seizure and fear of condign punishment.

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**AMERICA**

Liverpool, Monday, June 8

Important accounts from the seat of hostilities on the Rio del Norte have this morning been received from New York by the packet Yorkshire, Captain Bailey, which left that city on the 18th ult.

The position of the American force under General Taylor had become still more threatening and precarious. Surrounded by a superior force, with his supplies cut off, and harassed by constant desertions, no movement had been made for the relief of Point Isabel; a second party, of some 70 Rangers, had been completely cut off by a Mexican force, variously estimated at from 1,000 to 3,000 men, at the distance of 20 miles from Point Isabel; and it is confidently stated that the point of land commanding the bar of Brazos Santiago, through which alone supplies and reinforcements could reach the Point from the sea, had been secured and strongly fortified by the Mexicans. The advantage thus gained is one of most essential importance, should the American volunteers decline or fail to carry the battery by storm, the whole of the reinforcements would be compelled to adopt the route via Corpus Christi. This would protract the arrival of relief in General Taylor’s camp for several days, and increase most materially the dangers of his position. Considerable fears for his safety were entertained.

It is stated that Mexican letters of marque had been issued in New Orleans, and to American merchants at Havana.

The Washington Union has the following:

"There was a report circulating through our streets today, which produced some surprise and excitement--viz., that Mr. Pckenham had protested against our troops crossing the Rio Grande. As this rumour may have flown by this time half the way to New York, and may affect the price of stocks, if it were not even designed to effect that object, we deem it our duty to say at once, that the story is, so far as we are advised, without any foundation."

The Washington correspondent of the Courier and Enquirer writes,

"Washington, May 16.

"As men's minds are, although anxious for news from the army, beginning to grow somewhat calm after the flurry into which they were thrown by the war message, the war bill, and the unseemly haste with which the obnoxious war clause was forced by the majority down the throats of the minority, more attention is being directed to the message, and the statements it makes relative to the state of affairs, and the steps taken by the Executive. The more these are scrutinized, and the more they are examined, the more clearly will it appear that Mr. Polk's reason for sending the troops to the Rio Grande was with a view of provoking war if he could not force the Mexicans into receiving Mr. Slidell as a Minister Plenipotentiary, when they asked for a special commissioner.

"I have also received an inkling of some facts bearing upon the course of events, on which I shall endeavor to inform myself more fully, and which, if true, will show that Mr. Polk has contemplated having a war with Mexico for considerably longer time than January last, although he has so long kept his intention and the facts secret from Congress."
The proceeding of the Houses of Congress are unimportant.

The Hon. T.C. Reynolds had been appointed Minister to the Court of Madrid.

Accounts from Mexico state, that the project of Alvarez was to erect a triumvirate, composed of Santa Anna, Herrera, and Rincon. The fortifications of St. Juan de Ulloa were receiving considerable additions of strength in men and metal.

Accounts from Rio de Janeiro, to the 9th of April, published in the American journals, mention a report that an engagement had taken place about the 15th of March between the Argentine and Montee Videan forces, in which the latter are stated to have been defeated. The blockade was still strictly enforced.

LT 1846 6/9 6e US, War meetings

NEW ORLEANS, MAY 9

Volunteering is proceeding here with all alacrity, but there is no clothing or arms ready for the men already offered. A strange mismanagement of the War Department has been permitted, else the want of equipment and the military stores received here cannot be accounted for.

The Mexican force on this side of the Rio Grande is 3,000 half are above and half below General Taylor's camp. Thus communication is effectually cut off until our volunteers open it. Taylor is about out of the regular provisions of the army, but has 700 head of cattle in camp.

The New Orleans Delta, May 9, says, "that 954 soldiers, rank and file, have received the amount of their bounty money, and one month's pay; that 186 men, rank and file now in the barracks, will receive their pay today; and that 708 men, comprised in different companies, are now ready for inspection, and to be mustered into the service of the United States. Including the latter; there are 1,848 men who may be regarded as ready for service, up to last night. The companies expected from the country, and those still forming in the city, may make up the requisite number."

We take the following from a New Orleans paper of May 9:--"The steamer Hannibal, arrived last night from St. Louis, brought down from Jefferson barracks a portion of the 1st Infantry, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Wilson. They number 242 non-commissioned officers, musicians, and pirates."

It appears that Louisiana's quota of soldiers called for by General Taylor must be raised by conscription, and the order has already gone forth from head-quarters at New Orleans, to "cause an accurate enrolment to be made of all persons subject to military duty within the State, with a view to an immediate draught of troops." It seems from the following paragraph, which we clip from a New Orleans paper, that the patriotism of some who had already enlisted, "oozed out at the ends of their fingers," or some other place, just as they were on the point of embarkation for the seat of war:--

"CAPTAIN BLANCHARD.--This gentleman, regularly educated in the Military Academy, and who served 11 years in the army, had been actively engaged in raising a company of volunteers, but when he thought he was ready yesterday, more than one half were found to have deserted his flag. This is not creditable conduct, and is one among the many instances which have occurred to show that a draught for troops in the first place would have been much better. As to Mr. Blanchard, there are a few who have higher qualifications to lead a company into the field, and it affords us pleasure to see such an old citizen and esteemed officer again offer to take his sword in defence of the country. We really hope that those who have volunteered under him, and others wishing to volunteer, will come forward and behave as men should do."

At Baltimore a company of 200 men has been organized for the Rio Grande. Captain J.E. Stewart has been chosen temporarily to the command, and will probably be elected Captain. Between 60 and 70 have enrolled themselves in Richmond, Virginia, and elected Edward Carrington as their Captain.

WAR MEETINGS

PHILADELPHIA--One of the largest meetings ever assembled in this city was held on the 14th, to respond to the proclamation of the Mayor, upon the present condition affairs here, and on the protection of the country.

Mayor Sift presided, assisted by the Recorder, Presidents of the Councils, the Mayor of the Northern Liberties, the Presidents of the Board of Commissions, and the Chief burgess of West Philadelphia, as vice-presidents.

The spirit of the meeting may be seen by the principal resolution, which was as follows:--
"Resolved.--That while this meeting deeply regrets that negotiations of a friendly character have failed to effect a pacific settlement with our sister republic, we deem it a duty to make known to the nation at large, and particularly to the Government, that our full and entire sympathies are with our country; and that, should the exigencies of the nation require it, our services, our fortunes, and our lives are hereby pledged for the preservation of the integrity of the national domain, the security of the lives and the conservation of the rights of our fellow citizens, and the honour of our beloved country."

The meeting was ably, effectively, and eloquently addressed by many distinguished citizens, among others by Josiah Randall, Mr. Page, General Peter S. Smyth, Judge Conrad, Mayor Swift, P.A. Browne, B.H. Brewster. A fair sprinkling of Whigs, democrats, and natives.

In the Senate, on the 15th, in reference to this meeting, Mr. Cameron presented the proceedings of the war meeting in Philadelphia, and said he was proud of that city for the opportunity she had given him of laying before the Senate this evidence of patriotism of her sons. What she had done for the country she would do again. She had coal enough in her mountains to warm her friends, and iron enough in her mines to repel her enemies.

NEW YORK.--In this mart of commerce the same active movements are in progress—the citizens are beginning to arouse to a sense of the importance of the present war crisis, and of the necessity of strenuously cooperating with the Executive in prosecuting the war with vigour.

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LT 1846 6/11 3e Mexico, war with US

WAR WITH MEXICO--

Mexico has commenced offensive war by the invasion of our territory and the slaughter of a detachment of our regular army within our own borders. In less than 33 hours after the official announcement of the actual existence of war by the President to Congress, both legislative bodies, with unexampled unanimity, determined to prosecute it with the utmost vigour, and placed at the disposal of the Executive the militia, naval, and military forces of the United States, and 50,000 volunteers, with an immediate appropriation of $10,000,000 to meet this extraordinary emergency. Such patriotic dispatch, supported, as it is, by the unanimous sanction of the whole people, is the best evidence to the world that we are on all questions of national honour a united nation; and that we will never lay down our arms in so righteous a cause until we receive full and ample reparation for this unprovoked invasion of the soil of our free and happy republic. The only example to the civilized world of a regular and systematic form of Republican government, it became us to bear with the insults and contumely of a neighbouring people torn by intestine divisions and the prey of successive military despots, until the blow accompanied the word, and then forbearance ceased to be a virtue. No strong nation ever bore so much without a resort to the ultima ratio gentium; and we can appeal with safety to the whole course of the administration towards Mexico, as showing that nothing but actual war and bloodshed could induce it finally to dissolve those ties of amity which we had solemnly contracted with our nominal sister republic. The whole has been the deliberate act of Mexico, and the United States stand before all nations absolved from all blame, and offering a bright example of the exercise of those Christian virtues which great communities so usually profess and so seldom practice. This is not, on our part, a war of aggression; but to hasten its conclusion and to limit the loss of life and property, the territory of Mexico must be reached by an American army, so as to dictate those terms which will secure us from future injustice and injury. The temporary possession of the soil of Mexico must decide the fate of the country, and our views should therefore be turned not only to the chastisement of the army of Arista, and the blockade of her ports, but to the bold and speedy occupation of her strongholds. The Mexican population can offer but a slight resistance to the North American race. Its motley character and physical structure are the certain indications of defeat for, out of 7,000,000 of souls, 4,000,000 are Indians, and of the remainder 3,000,000 but 1,200,000 are whites. Whilst thus asserting our rights, and yet strictly maintaining our treaty stipulations with Mexico, which survive the commencement of hostilities, we are bound to protect our citizens on the ocean from the wanton grant of letters of marque and reprisals to foreigners and foreign vessels sailing under the Mexican flag. Mexico has literally no commercial marine, and her navy is a merely nominal one. She has but two or three ports on the gulf, and no Mexican vessels which can be legitimately converted into privateers. The treaty with Spain itself, as was shown in the last evening's Union, treats all such vessels as piratical, and condemns the offending Spanish seaman to be hung up at the yard-arm as a pirate. Mr. Berrien has shown the proper degree of vigilance, by moving yesterday a resolution instructing the Judiciary Committee to inquire whether any, and what, legislation is necessary to give effect to the 11th article of the treaty of the 27th of October 1795. Between the United States and Spain ("by which the subjects of Spain are prohibited from taking out letters of marque against the United States, under the penalty of being treated as pirates"), and that they report by bill or otherwise. Mr. Berrien explained the necessity of looking into this matter, in consequence of the passage of the bill recognizing the existence of a war with Mexico, and the probability the privateers might be fitted out in the island of Cuba." Another consideration also deserves to be noted. A vessel purporting to sail under a Mexican flag can scarcely pass into a Mexican port, because it may be blockaded. What, then, will she do with any prize she may make? She cannot carry the captured vessel into any other port for condemnation; and if she undertakes to condemn the prize at sea, without going into an admiralty court for adjudication, she acts like a pirate, and would be treated as such. We regret deeply that our country has been actually forced into war by unwearied hostility of the Mexican military aristocracy, but we have unlimited confidence in the rectitude of our cause, and in the energy, patriotism, and valour of a brave, free, and virtuous people.--Washington Union, May 15 [AKS]
REDUCTION OF THE AMERICAN NAVY.--A highly important report was made the other day to Congress, by Mr. Bancroft, Secretary of the Navy, proposing an extraordinary reduction and radical reform in the present armaments and arrangements of the naval service, equal to 1,000,000 dollars a year. It would appear from the spirit of this report, that the idea of any conflict with a foreign nation could not exist in the Executive mind; yet it is doubtful how long Mr. Polk's thoughts may remain in this complexion. The propositions of Mr. Bancroft, which are stated with much power of eloquence, and with much clearness, will, no doubt, be received with sentiments of a mingled character by the officers of the navy. The whole reduction of expenses proposed by this new plan is equal to 1,000,000 dollars. This consideration will, no doubt, be a recommendation of the plan to the tax-paying people of this country; but it requires much moral courage in the head of the navy department to make a proposition of such a nature, which touches radically the incomes of those who live upon the public. We may expect a great storm of indignation from the friends of the navy, and much excitement growing out of this subject. Mr. Bancroft must know well his ground, and meet the hurricane coolly. Remember the fate of Paulding. This may be called a Government strike for lower wages. One obvious reflection springs up in the mind on reading the masterly and able report of Mr. Bancroft, and also those of his colleagues. While we must acknowledge generally the great talent, ability, and industry, displayed by the Cabinet Ministers, all in their several spheres of action, we cannot overlook the sublime incongruity--the splendid inconsistency, of the directing mind in the White House, by whom the separate views of these Ministers have been devised. The policy of one department of the Government is directly in the teeth of that taken by the other. The State Department argues for 54° 40', the alternative of war, and vast expenditures--while the Treasury and the Navy area bit for economy, radical reduction and peace. Even the same departments, within the interval of a few short weeks, have exhibited the strange anomaly of a tendency to war and expenditure--and then to peace and reduction. Such a strange and contradictory system of government can arise only from imbecility of mind, infirmity of purpose, or incapacity in the intellect that should control the whole in harmony and compactness of difficulty, it will be a miracle. Mr. Polk, no doubt means well--and so does the unfortunate engineer in the midst of an awful explosion of his boiler. Capacity, not motive is the point in question.---New York Herald, May 8.

BELGIAN FUNDS, June 8.--Loan 1840, 100 3/8 E; ditto, 1842, 102E; ditto 1844, 102E; ditto 1844, 99 7/8; ditto 1838, 74 1/2; of the city, 1832, 100 1/4E; ditto, 1843, 100 1/8; Bank of Belgium, 888E; Exchange on London, 25 E 80c.; two months, 25E 60c.; Antwerp, June 8.--Exchange on London, 25E 77 1/2; ditto, two months, 25E 60c. --Journal de Commerce d'Anvers. June 9.

LT 1846 6/11 3f US, reduction of the navy

LT 1846 6/11 4e War of the US with Mexico

That inconsistency of resolutions which marks the character of democratic states, and that salutary retribution which follows in the track of political injustice, have seldom been more swiftly or strikingly exhibited than in the revulsion of public feeling which has taken place in the United States on the subject of Texas, and in the hostilities with Mexico, which have originated in the rapacious annexation of that province. We do not doubt that strong exertions will be made by the American government to carry on and to conclude the war. We do not doubt that, partly from patriotism, even in a bad cause, and partly from those incentives of passion and adventure which all wars apply to an energetic population, the United States' forces will soon be in a condition to take the field without dishonor. The regular army will be raised to 15,000 men; and General Scott, who has sometimes been mentioned as a future candidate for the Presidency, will take the command of 25,000 militia in the field; the same number being called out for the reserve. But the few months which have elapsed between the act of annexation and the necessity of accounting for it, have singularly, damped the ardour of that great party whose clamour made Texas the national question of last year. In the insolence of fruition no impending sacrifice or effort was thought too great for the purpose of bullying Mexico, and extending the frontiers of the Union from the Sabine to the Rio del Norte; but the momentary excitement, which gave so intense an interest to the Texan territory, is past. Texas has been annexed, but without benefit of inventory. A vast tract of country has been added to the Union, but the men who are to defend it must be brought down from the healthy states of the west to face the yellow fever and the enemy on the southern coast. The new possessions of the Union must be occupied by an army of American citizens, whose political opinions (in a part of them at least) must be absolutely hostile to the cause in which they are engaged. The funds of the nation and the credit of the Federal government will be expended, and very probably exhausted, in the effort; and yet even at the commencement of a war which will ere long require these vast and increasing sacrifices, so feeble is the enthusiasm excited by it, that scarcely a party of volunteers can be raised in Galveston or New Orleans. The exertions which must now be made by Mr. Polk's Cabinet, the burdens of taxation and conscription which must be borne by the people, the inevitable necessity of bringing the financial credit of the Union to the test in the money-market of the world, and the disgust and dismay which may already be traced in most of the respectable organs of public opinion in the United States, are more than ordinary grounds for hoping that the war party will be unable to stand its ground against the reality of war. To call out 40,000 men, to provide them with equipment and maintenance, to lead this citizen-army across the boundaries of the United States, as they were established by the last treaty with Mexico, and to assume all the powers of government which are indispensable to the conduct of a foreign war, are novel events in the history of the United States; and we may venture to predict either that these military demonstrations will seriously modify the institutions and impair the Union of the American states, or...
that the influence of those institutions and the authority of that Union will ere long give a sever chivk to the warlike tendency of the time, and inflict upon the authors of the policy the chastisement they deserve. The occupation of the territory between the Nueces and the Rio del Norte is an act for which Mr. Polk is exclusively responsible. That act, which, with the forces under General Taylor's command, was beyond all measure rash, culpable, and provocatory, has been followed by war. It is the drop which has made the bitter cup of Texan fraud and violence overflow. And now, with a perfect knowledge of the infamy of the cause in which they are engaged, and with a thorough contempt for the mischievous folly of the Government, by which these evils have been caused and aggravated, the whole American people, the Whig party, the States of New England, the mercantile cities of the coast, are plunged into this aggressive war, which has begun by two humiliating disasters, and cannot terminate, even if it be successful, without branding with a deeper shame the whole policy of the United States towards their sister-republic. These are not mere words; they are things. They are facts, which the necessities of the war, and the consequences of a state of war, will soon bring home to every American citizen; and it is not too much to add, that to suppose the United States to be in a position to wage a vigorous war, and to hold a hostile territory by military means, is to anticipate a social revolution in that country. Mr. Polk, however, must at least be acquitted of inconsistency. He has done all he could to engage his country in war, not only with Mexico, but with England; and he now announces his determination to carry on his military and naval preparations on a scale which proves that England as well as Mexico is in his thoughts.

We know little of the real forces under the Mexican generals, and we rely less upon their strength and discipline. But it is evident that the principal dangers the Americans will have to surmount will not be from large armies in the field. The country, the climate, the season, the irregular movements of partisan corps, and the enmity of the Indian and Spanish races to the Americans, are by far the most formidable defences of Mexico. The larger the force the Americans may bring into the field, the greater will be these obstacles. The want of water, local supplies, or carriage roads, and the scarcity of beasts of burden, render it a matter of extreme difficulty, not to say impossibility, to advance far into the Mexican territory at the head of a numerous regular corps, unless it took with it all the resources of one of our Indian armies. If its base of operations be on the coast, the malignant fevers which prevail there, more especially at this time of year, would depopulate a host; and if war is to be carried on in countries so thinly peopled and imperfectly civilized, it must be on principles quite distinct from the rules of regular warfare. The loose and indecisive operations which are constantly going on between some of the South American republics are more likely to be imitated in a Mexican campaign. If a blow be struck, it will be rather from the absence of the enemy than from his defeat or submission; and the result of such success may be eminently embarrassing to the conqueror.

At present the military interest of the case is confined to General Taylor's position on the Rio del Norte, and to that of the detachment guarding his supplies at Point Isabel, near the mouth of that river. The Mexicans appear with considerable skill to have crossed the river in two places, above and below Matamoras, so as to place the American General between two divisions, one of which has turned his right wing, and the other is interposed between his left and the sea. Point Isabel was selected by the Americans as the post to which supplies could most easily be conveyed by sea; but the bay in which it is situated is divided from the Gulf of Mexico by a long strip of land, leaving a narrow and shallow passage at its southern extremity call the Brazos Santiago. This passage is now said to be closed by Mexican troops and fortifications on the point of land under which all communications with the open sea must pass. If this information be correct, the detachment at Point Isabel cannot be relieved from the sea, and the passage would only be re-opened by a successful attack of the American naval forces on the Mexican position. One other passage in this Bay del Espiritu Santo, as it is called, is marked in our maps about 2 degrees to the north of the mouth of the Rio Bravo, under the name of the Pasa del Caballo or Corpus Christi; but the American papers do not appear to contemplate the possibility of sending maritime reinforcements by that route.

The subject of letters of marque still attracts great attention in the United States; but it is not a little characteristic of this scandalous war, and of the people who are carrying it on, that American merchants and adventurers at Havannah will probably be the first to avail themselves of Mexican letters of marque to prey upon American commerce; and if the war continues, we have no doubt they will organize a system of privateering which will make their country regret the day she produced such miscreants, and eclipse the atrocious frauds of the slave-trade itself.

[AKS]

LT 1846 6/11 5c Mexican cruisers

Mexican Cruisers- It will be recollected that before Almonte broke up his mission in this country, he stated positively, that in the event of war between the United States and Mexico, the latter would cover the sea with privateers under the Mexican flag. There is a great deal of anxiety beginning to me manifested for the result of this threat. Almonte, at the last accounts, was at Havannah. It seems that he was sent there under the pretext of being accredited as a Minister to France; but instead of proceeding to Europe he remained at Havannah, and sent his secretary back to Mexico. Who knows that this was not a mere feint, and that Almonte knew what was about to take place on the Rio Grande, and he went to Havannah for the purposes of issuing letters of marque, as he threatened when he was in Washington? This is certainly a menacing and important view of the case; and what makes it more disastrous is the probability that it is true. The amount of American property in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, and in the South Seas, is worth probably $100,000,000, belonging to all the sea ports in the United States. The tonnage enrolled and belonging to the United States, approaches 3,000,000 about one-half of which is actively engaged in the foreign trade. This tonnage, estimated at the moderate sum of $60 per ton, for vessel and cargo, would make the amount of property now at sea $90,000,000. But this is a low
War of the United States of Mexico

LT 1846 6/15 4b War of the United States of Mexico

LONDON, MONDAY, JUNE 15, 1846.

Whoever has thought fully studied history, whoever profoundly realized that the universe has a Ruler, must condemn the counsels which are now urging our country on to war against eternal justice—a war in which heaven must take part against us. But it is said that Mexico has made war upon us. How can this be pretended? Our army was long encamped at Corpus Christi, on the extreme western limit of all that ever was Texas, either the province or the republic. There our flag waved unmolested—not a Mexican came near our little army. Not an act of hostility was committed on either side. All at once without an imaginable pretext, our army broke up and marched for the Rio Grande. Thus, it will be seen, that while the Atlantic cities and coasts will suffer terribly, the west and the southwest will be benefited, by the vast expenditures that will be required to bring the war to a successful and honourable termination. These expectations are on the gloomy on one side, and glorious on the other. We must take them as they come, and do the best we can. An imbecile Government has brought us into this condition; and, as we elected them, we must make the best we can of a bad bargain, and fight it out with the best energy and courage we have. --New York Herald.

[AKS]
The arrival of the Britannia with the American mails of the 1st instant has put us in possession of the decisive intelligence from the theatre of war on the Rio Grande. The Mexican forces have been wholly unable to support by their courage or discipline in the field the operations which had been conceived and directed, not without considerable military skill, by their commanders. In spite of a numerical superiority amounting to three-fold the American force under General Taylor, the Mexican troops on the left bank of the river have been totally routed; and an opportunity, which is not likely to recur, of inflicting a summary blow upon the enemy in a position of great difficulty, has ended, on the contrary, in a signal triumph of General Taylor's little corps, and a shameful repulse of the Mexican forces.

It will be remembered that by the last accounts which had reached us we learned that General Taylor, with about 3,000 men, was encamped opposite the town of Matamoros, and under the protection of a small fort or earthenwork on the left bank of the Rio Grande. An unsuccessful attempt had previously been made by a party of about 70 American soldiers to force a passage from this camp to Point Isabel on the coast. But on the 1st of May General Taylor resolved to move down the river with the main body of the forces under his command, for the purpose of relieving the post on the coast, and likewise of incorporating with his army the recruits and volunteers he had reason to expect the recruits and volunteers he had reason to expect from New Orleans. He left the position opposite the town of Matamoros to be defended by the 7th regiment of infantry, and a company of artillery, this garrison being under the command of Major Brown. It may here be observed that a brisk fire was kept up between this fort and the Mexican mortar battery on the other side of the river for several days--General Taylor says 100 hours; and that Major Brown was killed by a shell from the enemy's battery.

The principal movement of General Taylor's corps from his camp to Point Isabel was effected, as far as we are informed, without opposition; although at that moment his small force was subdivided into three detachments, incapable of assisting one another. The garrison of the camp was fully employed in the bombardment, the garrison at Point Isabel was afraid to move after the disaster of Colonel Thornton, and the main body of the army was exposed to an attack, at a great disadvantage, whilst it was passing from one position to the other. No such attack was, however, made, and on the following morning (the march having been apparently accomplished by night) General Taylor reached Point Isabel in safety. He remained there five days, during which time some reinforcements arrived and he was able to collect those supplies which he knew to be greatly needed in the camp. On the 7th of May he resumed his march back again to the relief of Major Brown, resolved to fight the Mexicans in whatever force they might oppose his progress. Nothing but the most determined resolution and a signal victory could rescue the American General from the critical position in which he stood. On the 9th of May the Mexican army, on the left bank of the river, being about 6,000 strong, with 7 pieces of artillery and 800 cavalry, met the American corps on its march up the river, near a place called Palo Alto. The American forces did not exceed 2,300 men. The engagement of this day was, however, no more than a protracted and somewhat indecisive cannonade; and the artillery deserved all the honours of the action. Towards evening the Mexicans fell back, and were supposed to have recrossed the river. This following day the Mexicans were again discovered to have taken up a position, flanked by their artillery, in a ravine crossing the road at Resaca de la Palma, a place only three miles from Matamoros. This position was vigorously assailed by the American troops; the batteries were carried, the guns taken, the enemy driven back with considerable loss, and the victory complete. The loss of the Americans was severe. Both these engagements were sharply disputed; but General Taylor's forces displayed an incontestable superiority, under very disadvantageous circumstances, which deserved to be rewarded by success.

The dispatches of that officer, which will be found in another place, are remarkable for their succinct energy, and the absence of those verbose and grandiloquent strains which we are accustomed to meet with in narratives of Mexican exploits. General Taylor writes like a man of sense, skill, and courage; and we have not the slightest wish to detract from the honours he has gallantly earned under the flag of his country. Whatever opinion we may entertain of the causes of this war, and of the political motives in which it originated, the behaviour of the American general and his troops deserves to be judged of by a much higher standard than the policy of the Government which it is their duty to serve.

The conduct of the Mexican army, on the contrary, demonstrates the utter inability of that Government to protect any portion of its dominion from invasion; and it degrades the descendants of the Spanish Americans still lower in the rank of nations.

We are curious to learn what the effects of this victory will be in both countries. In the United States it will probably stimulate to excess the military fever of which so many symptoms are already perceptible; and volunteers, who were slow to relieve General Taylor at his utmost need, will sally forth in thousands to join a victorious captain. But if the American army is yet to undertake a campaign south of the Rio Grande, its greatest perils are yet to come. The hot weather has set in; the yellow fever is raging on the coast; and to advance into the interior of Mexico at this time will be an operation of extreme difficulty. In Mexico, it is not improbable that some fresh revolution will change the aspect of affairs.

[AKS]

**LT June 15, 1846: 5e US, war dispatches**

America,
Arrival of the Britannia
The Royal mail steam-ship Britannia, Captain Hewitt, arrived in the Mersey from Boston and Halifax about midnight, bringing most important accounts from the seat of hostilities in the south.

The American army, we now learn, had completely retrieved their former disasters, and, it is stated was preparing to cross the Rio del Norto, and carry the war into the enemy’s territories. It was also intended to establish an immediate blockade of the Mexican seaboard.

It will be remembered, that in our last summary it was stated that Captain Walker had with daring courage started from Point Isabel for the purpose of conveying dispatches to General Taylor’s camp. Our advices now received state that this enterprise having been successfully accomplished, the American Commandant immediately determined to march a portion of his army to the relief of Point Isabel. On the 1st ult. Accordingly he left his intrenchments opposite Matamoras with a force of from 1,000 to 1,200 men, cavalry, artillery, and infantry, and on the morning of the following day reached the Point without encountering a single Mexican. On the morning of the 3rd ult. the booming of artillery being heard in the direction of Matamoras, Captain Walker was dispatched to ascertain the cause; and on the 5th, having again safely accomplished his enterprise, that officer reported that the Mexicans, discovering General Taylor’s absence from the camp, had opened upon it from their batteries at Matamoras and on the left bank of the Rio del Norte, an attack being also made upon the rear of the camp. The Americans returned the fire upon Matamoras from a battery of five guns, and in 30 minutes, it is stated, succeeded in silencing the enemy. One life only was lost. On the evening of the 1st, having effectually strengthened the defenses of Point Isabel and obtained supplies for his camp, General Taylor set out on his return, and on the 8th found the enemy in position in front of a "chapparal," lying in the vicinity of a stream named the Palo Alto. An engagement ensued. The details will be found in the accompanying dispatch of General Taylor:


"Sir,-I have the honour to report that I was met near this place yesterday, on my march from Point Isabel, by the Mexican forces, and, after an action of about five hours, dislodged them from their position, and encamped upon the field. Our artillery, consisting of two 18pounders and two light batteries, was the arm chiefly engaged, and to the excellent manner in which it was maneuvered and served is our success mainly due.

"The strength of the enemy is believed to have been about 6,000 men, with 7 pieces of artillery, and 800 cavalry. His loss is probably at least 100 killed. Our strength did not exceed all told 2,300, while our loss was comparatively trifling—4 men killed, 3 officers and 37 men wounded, several of the latter mortally. I regret to say that Major Ringgold, 3rd Artillery, and Captain Page, 4th Infantry, are severely wounded; Lieutenant Luther, 2d Artillery, slightly so.

"The enemy has fallen back, and it is believed has re-passed the river. I have advanced parties now thrown forward in his direction, and shall move the main body immediately.

"In the haste of this first report, I can only say that the officers and men behaved in the most admirable manner throughout the action. I shall have the pleasure of making a more detailed report when those of the different commanders shall be received.

"I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

"Z. Taylor, Brevet Brigadier General, Commanding, United States Army

"The Adjutant General, United States Army,

"Washington."

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"Headquarters, Army of Occupation, Camp at Resaca de la Palma, three miles from Matamoras, May 9, 10p. m.

"Sir,—I have the honour to report that I marched with the main body of the army at 2 o’clock today, having previously thrown forward a body of light infantry into the forest which covers the Matamoras Road. When near the spot where I am now encamped, my advance discovered that a ravine crossing the road had been occupied by the enemy with artillery. I immediately ordered a battery of field artillery to sweep the position, flanking and sustaining it by the 3d, 4th, and 5th Regiments, deployed as skirmishes to the right and left. A heavy fire of artillery and musketry was kept up for some time, until finally the enemy’s batteries were carried in succession by a squadron of Dragoons and the regiments of infantry that were on the ground. He was soon driven from his position, and pursued by a squadron of Dragoons, battalion artillery, 3d Infantry, and a light battery, to the river. Our victory has been complete. Eight pieces of artillery with a great quantity of ammunition, three standards, and some 100 prisoners have been taken; among the latter General La Vega, and several other officers. One general is understood to have been killed. The enemy has recrossed the river, and I am sure will not again molest us on this bank."
"The loss of the enemy in killed has been most severe. Our own has been very heavy. The extent in killed and wounded is not yet ascertained, and is reserved for a more detailed report.

"The affair of today may be regarded as a proper supplement to the cannonade of yesterday, and the two taken together exhibit the coolness and gallantry of our officers and men in the most favourable light. All have done their duty, and done it nobly. It will be my pride, in a more circumstantial report of both actions, to dwell upon particular instances of individual distinction.

"It affords me peculiar pleasure to report that the field work opposite Matamoras has sustained itself handsomely during a cannonade and bombardment of 160 hours. But the pleasure is alloyed with profound regret at the loss of its heroic and indomitable commander, Major Brown, who died today from the effect of a shell. His loss would be a severe one to the service at any time, but to the army under my orders it is indeed irreparable. One officer and one non-commissioned officer killed and 10 men wounded comprise all the casualties incident to this severe bombardment.

"I inadvertently omitted to mention the capture of a large number of pack mules left in the Mexican camp.

"I am, Sir, very respectfully your obedient servant,

"Z. Taylor, Brevet Brigadier General, Commanding the United States Army.

"The Adjutant-General of the Army, Washington."

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"Head-quarters, Army of Occupation, Resaca de la Palma, May 11.

"(Orders, No. 59.)

"I, the Commanding General congratulates the army under his command upon the signal success which has crowned its recent operations against the enemy. The coolness and steadiness of the troops during the action of the 8th, and the brilliant impetuosity with which the enemy's position and artillery were carried on the 9th, have displayed the best qualities of the American soldier. To every officer and soldier of his command the General publicly returns his thanks for the noble manner in which they have sustained the honour of the service and the country. While the main body of the army has been thus actively employed, the garrison left opposite Matamoras has rendered no less distinguished service by sustaining a severe cannonade and bombardment for many successive days. The army and the country, while justly rejoicing in this triumph of our arms, will deplore the loss of many brave officers and men who fell gallantly in the hour of combat.

"2. It being necessary for the Commanding General to visit Point Isabel on public business, Colonel Twiggs will assume command of the corps of the army near Matamoras, including the garrison of the field-work. He will occupy the former lines of the army, making such dispositions for defense and for the comfort of his command as he may deem advisable. He will hold himself strictly on the defensive until the return of the Commanding General.

"By the order of Brigadier-General Taylor,

"W. W. J. Bliss, Acting Adjutant General." [JTW]

LT June 15, 1846: 9a Mexico, letters of marque

**Letters of Marque.**

*(From Le Siecle)*

The eventualities of the war opened between the United States and Mexico, strongly preoccupy the attention of the public mind in England. Amongst these eventualities to which, perhaps, the full attention is not paid which they demand there is one, at least, which we cannot exempt ourselves from examining seriously; we allude to privateering, a barbarous practice still authorized by the right of nations.

To require that a maritime nation, at war with another, shall not attack the commerce of the latter, is a political absurdity. Commerce is an instrument of wealth; wealth, and instrument of power. Now, nations fight to diminish or destroy the power of each other; to require, in the name of the rights of nations, that the trade of the belligerent shall remain free is to falsify the conditions of the contest, is to put an injustice in the place of an extension of natural right. For instance, France, possessing a military marine which may, seeing the number of points to be defended, attain a proportionate equality to that of England, and that Power keeping up a merchant fleet five or six times more considerable than ours, it is evident that the freedom of the commerce of the belligerents would rob us of a great advantage, supposing (which is not very supposable) that such liberty could receive sufficient guarantees.

But the right of privateering, conceded by the state to private individuals, and exercised by means of corsairs, is not necessarily derived from the right of attacking the enemy's trade with ships of war. Privateering, which has rendered services to France which we are far from forgetting, variably engenders passions of lucre, and hatred, from which it is of the highest importance to purge a well organized society. The delivery of letters of marque...
ought, therefore, to be interdicted by a declaration of France, England, and the United States, to the effect that in future every corsair (privateer) should be deemed a pirate and treated as such by Admiralty law. All the other Powers would certainly hasten to give in their adhesion to this declaration.

The following are the news, we will not say the facts, which determine us to publish the foregoing reflections:

The Mexicans cannot attack the Americans by sea, except by privateering. The law requires that the crew of a corsair shall consist (one-third at least) of men belonging to the nation from which the corsair holds its letter of marque. Nothing can be easier than the evasion of this arrangement. Supposing that the crew consists of 120 men, 40 of them and a sham captain, born or naturalized Mexicans, will first be taken; then a real captain, without any legal title, and 80 "sea-wolves" of all nations will be engaged, including men who have been dragged by love of gain into all the hazards and sometimes all the excesses of an adventurous life. A corsair, thus constituted, will pillage the commerce of Mexico by the hands of Mexicans; for there are on the shores of South America bold Guineamen who will not refuse to enlist on board corsairs bearing the Union flag. Already, even, letters now before us announce that every arrangement is being made for practicing on a large scale this system of pillage legalized by letters of marque.

Ought not this kind of cruising, where you see the legal crew doing the kitchen work and washing the deck, whilst the real crew often belong, if not all, at any rate the larger part, to the nation whose vessel is captured, to excite the reprobation of right minded men in all countries? But this is not all; the neutral cruisers will contest the nationality of many of these corsairs, will stop them, cannonade them, and thence will arise demands which will end in the most grievous results. Never was the necessity for abolishing corsairs more urgent, and never was the opportunity for attaining this object more propitious, than at present.

LT June 16, 1846:  5f Arsenal of New York

THE ARSENAL OF NEW YORK.- A visit to this department would prove interesting to the tourist or citizen, at this crisis in particular, when our capabilities for defence in case of a hostile attack, demand the attention of every patriot and citizen. This building, which is situated in Centre street, contains the enormous amount of 50,000 stand of arms, together with 500 pieces of ordnance of different caliber. The trophy room contains several field-pieces which were taken from the British in the last war. The whole are in excellent condition, and capable of immediate use. There has been much agitation, for the past few years, in the board of common council, about the location of this necessary and useful public building. In comparison to its size, the vast quantity of arms contained in it, and arranged with extreme neatness and regularity, would astonish any person viewing the outward dimensions of the building. The erection of a suitable building for the safety and protection of our military stores, will doubtless soon excite the attention of the authorities. We learn that New York could in 24 hours, bring into the field an effective force of 40,000 troops! Good.- New York Herald.

LT June 16, 1846:  8b Mexico, rancheros

THE RANCHEROS OF MEXICO.- The Rancheros part of the material part of the Mexican army, are half India and half Spanish in their extraction; gaunt, shriveled though muscular in their frames, and dark and swarthy visage as they are, these men are the Arabs of the American continent. Living half of the time in the saddle, for they are unrivalled horsemen, with lasso in hand they traverse the vast plains in search of the buffalo and wild horses. The killing of these animals and the preparations and sale of their hides are their sole means of livelihood. Their costumes generally consists of a pair of tough hide leggings, with sandals of the same material, bound together with leather thongs, over which is a blanket with a hole in the center large enough to allow the head to be thrust out, and which falls not ungracefully over their shoulders, leaving ample room for the play of their arms. Add to this a broad straw sombrero, and the lasso hanging ready for use in his girdle, and you have the Ranchero as he appears in the time of peace. Join to this a long lance with a sharp spear head, and his belt plentifully supplied with pistols and knives, and you have the Ranchero as a member of a troop of banditti, or as a soldier in a body of cavalry. Their power of enduring fatigue is almost inexhaustible, and scanty meal per diem of jerked beef and plantain suffices them during months. These are the men who comprise the great body of the Mexican cavalry, and they are to the armies of that nation what the Cossacks are to the Russians—ever on the alert, never to be surprised, and untiring in the pursuit of the foe, when plunder, no matter how trifling, is to be obtained.— Philadelphia Public Ledger.

LT June 18, 1846:  4b Mexico and the US

The urgent pressure of political controversy at home has hitherto prevented us from recurring to the intelligence lately received from the United States, and more particularly to the diplomatic correspondence between the two Republics. As elucidating the causes of the war, or the grounds on which it is undertaken, however, these
documents deserve no notice at our hands. The whole tenor of the communications which have passed between
the two Governments with reference to the annexation of Texas for several years, has demonstrated that no
terms could satisfy the aggressive policy of the United States. The acquisition of Texas was only a name given to
indefinite aggrandizement; and the frontiers of that province were purposely represented by the American
immigrants as imperfectly defined, in order that when the principle of annexation had once triumphed over the
restraints of justice and of treaties, it might be so enlarged and extended as to engorge the largest possible
amount of the Mexican territory. In short, it requires no discrimination of political motives, and no minute
acquaintance with the secret springs of events, to recognize in this transaction all the ancient characteristics of
those vulgar crimes which have in all ages disgraced human nature, disturbed the relation of States, and
sacrificed the feeble to the arrogance and ambition of the strong. The war has now broken out, and the American
arms have been crowned with success. But, as we had long since anticipated, this contest, this shedding of
blood, this excitement and stir of arms, has kindled amongst the American democracy a fiercer passion than
would have been dreamt of a few years ago. The severest censors of the declining public morality and the
increasing social defects of the Anglo-American communities, have scarcely ventured to predict enormities so
great as those which have already been committed. If we had ventured to tell them a few years ago, that they
would ere long reject the policy of peace for that of war, appropriate vast sums of money to military and naval
purposes, and arm the population of the United States, for the purpose of plundering and bullying a powerless
neighbour, we should have been told with indignation that such excesses were incompatible with the principles
of the American constitution, and repugnant to the spirit of the American people. But the declivity on which the
policy of the United States has for some time been launched, admits of no rest, and has no turning. All the
restraints which the prudence of statesmen, the resistance of certain classes of society, and the authority of
enlightened and humane opinions, may elsewhere put upon popular impetuosity, are absent or annulled. The
passions, as well as the convictions of the majority, are absolute. So that no act is so monstrous that it may not
be committed under sufficient excitement by the American people, and sanctioned by the scandalous maxim—
*Our country, right or wrong.* "These are precisely the consequences which have invariably followed the
experiment of pure democratic government in all ages; and the Americans have bid fair to give the most
complete and the most unblushing exhibition of a democratic policy abroad as well as at home.

It is very uncertain to what length Mr. Polk may think fit to carry this experiment, or by what means he may
expect to surmount the difficulties by which it may be followed; but it is evident that as far as his party objects
are concerned, the Mexican war has already served his purpose in a variety of ways. The President has little to
apprehend from a hostile investigation of the causes of a war which has armed him with so much patronage and
popularity; and he has opened a vein of influence, which will probably raise even his own mediocrity to
distinction, and lead his successors to bid for popular support by the same reckless means.

The effect of these general considerations, and of the recent success of the American army on the Rio Grande, is
to render it improbable that the war will be terminated by a mere arrangement of the frontier of Texas. The
American troops had already crossed the river, and taken Matamoros. No enemy was in sight; and the recruits
now arriving in great numbers from the north will not be easily persuaded to return to their homes, without a
campaign in Mexico. Even the plunder of the Mexican churches has been publicly recommended by the
democratic newspapers of the United States, as an inducement to adventurers to join the army of invasion; and
the spirit in which these hostilities are likely to be prosecuted, and are supported by the war-meetings in all
parts of the Union, is more like the irritation of a horde, than the systematic operations of a regular army, sent
to effect a specific political object and no more. The next intelligence which may be expected from California,
where Captain Fremont is preparing to consummate the purpose of his "exploring expeditions," the establishment
of the blockade, and the assembly of troops prepared to advance to Mexico itself, will give a still further
vehemence to this conflagration, and it is impossible to assign limits to the incidents which may arise in the
course of such a war, affecting the interests of European as well as American States. The questions connected
with the blockade of Vera Cruz, the blockading squadron was directed not to intercept the transmission of the
precious metals in British vessels of war from the ports of Mexico: it is a matter of great interest to ascertain
how far this limitation will be observed.

A prudent Government might readily avail itself of the momentary energy with which the public mind in the
United States has been turned from the discussion of the Oregon controversy to the seizure of Mexican territory,
in order to terminate the former difficulty, and re-establish amicable relations, on that point at least, with this
country. The present war, therefore, appears to us to render an adjustment of the Oregon more practicable at
this time, though less probable at a more advanced period. This inference confirms the confident anticipations
which are entertained in the best-informed quarters in this country, that the proposal taken out by the Hibernia,
and which reached Boston on the day Britannia sailed from that port, will be accepted by the American
Government: and if so, the Mexican war will perhaps prove the means of averting much greater calamities from
the world. But whatever may be our hopes on this subject, we cannot ourselves carry them to the height of
implicit confidence. It is impossible to doubt that the general tendency of the American policy is rather warlike
and aggressive than pacific and conciliatory. The present successful hostilities will complete the destruction of
the Whig party, and render the exaggerated confidence of the American people in their military resources more
intense than ever. No nation in such a condition, and animated by such a spirit, ever paused within the limits of
a little war. Reaction may follow excess, but it will not produce the benefits of preventative restraint; and if we
take into account the effects which the present aspect of American affairs must have on our maritime and
mercantile interest, on our colonial dependencies, and on the independence of other States, we cannot allow
ourselves to expect that a firm or lasting peace can prevail in the presence of so many elements of discord and
hostility.

[JTW]
BORADIL IN AMERICA. - The following account from an American officer engaged in the recent battles on the Rio Grande is highly characteristic of the modesty of the nation. - "At half-past 11 o'clock the enemy opened their batteries, and how awful was the scene; the balls flew in every direction, and the killed and wounded lay on all hands. I was attached to a squadron of Dragoons. I felt perfectly cool, and in truth minded it no more than eating breakfast. About 20 minutes after the commencement of the action poor Major Ringgold was struck by a six-pound shot, and mortally wounded: he has since died. I had lent him my pistols on going into the fight. The shot struck one holster, cut it and the pistol in two pieces, cut all the flesh off the upper part of the Major's thigh, passed through the shoulders of his horse, cut the other pistol in two, and the flesh off the other thigh. He fell from his horse, and Lieutenant Sherer offered to assist him; but he said, 'No, Sir; let me stay-go on-you have enough to do-go ahead.' The action lasted about two hours, and the enemy retired. We rested on our arms until 3 o'clock, and then commenced the action again, and fought them till night closed the scene of carnage. We slept on the field of battle, amid the dead, dying, and wounded, without refreshment, upon the bare ground, and with our arms by our side. In this engagement I lost my mare; in extricating myself from a party of seven Mexicans who had fired at me whilst executing an order on the extreme left for Colonel Twigg's. I snapped her shoulder in wheeling to shoot a Mexican who rushed at me with a lance. On the next day we commenced the fight-the most awful ever known; and the old officers say equal only to New Orleans or Fort Erie. I was in the front rank during the fight, and, thank God, escaped without a wound, though unhorsed, a ball (shot?) through my coat, and my horse struck! We whipped them to death. I took the sword of a captain just wounded by me, and mean to keep it-you shall see my trophy one of these days. Among the officers killed was poor Lieutenant Inge-he had just joined, and was killed in the charge on the enemy's batteries. I charged by his side, and was unhorsed, and doubtless thus escaped. I am too grateful, first for the opportunity of being in the fight, and then to escape unhurt." [JTW]

ARRIVAL OF THE GREAT BRITAIN.

LIVERPOOL, Monday,

The steam-ship Great Britain, Captain Hosken, arrived this morning in the Mersey, from New York after a most remarkable passage of little more than 23 days. She reached the bar at 3 o'clock a.m. The Great Britain brings advice from New York to the 8th inst. Inclusive, 42 passengers, and important dispatches, received at the last moment by special messenger from Mr. Pakenham, at Washington. These documents Captain Hosken himself conveys to London.

The important facts of the intelligence by this arrival may be summed up in a few words. Matamoras had been occupied, without opposition, by the American army under General Taylor, and the blockade of Vera Cruz had been established.

The last accounts, it will be remembered, left the American army preparing to cross the Rio del Norte. The advice by this arrival resume, that on the 17th ult. a large portion of General Taylor's force moved down the river for that purpose, the General remaining at the fortifications with about 300 men. The Mexican Commandant Arista, having observed this movement towards the ford, sent a flag of truce to General Taylor, requesting an armistice for six weeks, giving as a reason for his request that he desired to communicate with his government. The Mexican Commandant Arista answered that he would give till 8 o'clock the next morning to evacuate the city of Matamoras, and would permit him to take the public property under his charge. The flag then returned. On the next day, the 18th ult., the army crossed on floats of their own construction, and the bodies of wagons caulked. The passage was made about four miles above Fort Brown. On arriving at the city it was discovered that Arista with his forces had departed, leaving only the mounted batteries. All the mortars, and such of the military apparatus as could not be moved in their haste to escape, were thrown into the wells. A party from the American army went out to reconnoiter immediately after the entrance into Matamoras, and overtook a portion of the retreating Mexicans, 22 of whom were made prisoners. It was understood that Arista's head-quarters were at San Fernando, about 90 miles distant from Matamoras. The Mexican soldiers, it is said, refused to defend Matamoras against the American army, having had no rations served to them for five days. The United States squadron had sailed from the Rio Grande to Pensacola, to refit. Commodore Conner, according to report, intended afterwards to follow up the blockade of Matamoras by the attack of the Castle of San Juan d'Ulloa. The probable plan of the campaign continued to excite much speculation. The journals generally demand that the war shall be short and decisive. The Washington Union professed to have some knowledge concerning the plan of the campaign against Mexico, of which it does not give the details, but which will authorize the belief that the war well be pushed with the utmost vigour. It adds that General Taylor will soon advance into the enemy's country, and that it would not be surprised "to hear of his reaching Monterey, about 130 miles from Matamoras, about the commencement of the table land, at no distant day."

The American victories continued to excite increased gratulations in the principal cities. The citizens of New Orleans had adopted an address to General Taylor; and the Legislature of Louisiana had made an appropriation of 500 dollars for the purchase of a sword on behalf of the State, to present to him. [JTW]
We entertain a confident assurance, from the nature of the communications which have been received by the Great Britain from the United States, that the progress of the negotiation for the settlement of the Oregon dispute was completely satisfactory up to the time of the departure of the last mails. Mr. Pakenham had at once proceeded to communicate to the American Government the proposal which was conveyed to him from this country by the packet of the 18th of May; and the reception given to this overture by Mr. Buchanan and by the President himself was such as to leave little doubt of the prompt conclusion of the transaction. The terms of this agreement will probably be submitted by Mr. Polk to the Senate of the United States before the convention is finally drawn up for signature; but the protracted and violent debate which took place this winter upon notice for the termination of the existing convention, appears in a great measure to have exhausted the acrimony of parties on this subject; whilst the Mexican war has at once diverted public attention into another channel, and impressed upon the American Government the necessity of extricating itself without delay from the danger of a twofold war, accompanied by hostilities on all its frontiers. These considerations, and the moderation as well as firmness of the British Government, have produced their full effect in Washington; and we have little doubt that the next arrivals from the United States will enable us to announce the final adjustment of the Oregon controversy.

The intelligence just received by the Great Britain adds little to what was already known of the position of the belligerents on the banks of the Rio Grande. For although the American General has rejected the proposal of the Mexican commander for an armistice of six weeks, the operations of the campaign are unavoidably suspended, on that point at least, by the various obstacles which we have one than once pointed out. Even if it be supposed that General Taylor's small army was perfectly equipped and provided with all necessary supplies to carry on hostile operations in the enemy's territory, the reinforcements of men who have been suddenly raised and marched southward to the theatre of war require a large additional amount of stores, &c., which certainly were not to be found in the arsenals of the State of Louisiana. In short, the systematic invasion of Mexico by an Anglo-American army is an enterprise of very considerable difficulty; and it is by no means improbable that the two armies may remain for some time watching each other, neither of them being able to strike a vigorous blow at a distance from its own frontier. The coast is protected by the yellow fever more effectually than forts or garrisons; and the castle of St. Juan d'Ullao is said to be in a far better condition to resist an attack than it was at the time of the hostilities with France in 1838. The squadron under Admiral Baudin on that occasion consisted of three 60-gun frigates, 2 corvettes, 5 brigs, 2 bomb-ketches, and 2 steamers—comprising a weight of metal far superior to that which the Americans can now bring to bear on this strongly fortified position.

No country suffers less than Mexico from blockade, for the restrictive policy of the Government and the prohibitive duties of the Mexican tariff have the effect of a self-constituted blockade even in time of peace, and the different provinces produce all that is required by the inhabitants in their present half-civilized condition. The export of the precious metals, an the importation of quicksilver for the use of the miners, which was not prevented by the French cruisers during the last war in which Mexico was engaged, are the principal commercial interests of the country; and with them we trust the Americans will not interfere.

In estimating the amount of moral resistance, if not of physical force, which Mexico may offer to the progress of American invasion, the most important element in the social condition of that country is the Church. The State is impoverished, but the clergy are still possessed of all the landed wealth which was lavished upon them by the profuse piety of the Sovereigns of Spain; their churches are immense depositories of votive offerings made of the precious metals, and accumulated ever since the soil of Mexico first opened its abundant metallic wealth to the European adventurer. Nor is their spiritual authority over the population less unbounded than their possessions. The clergy have, therefore, every reason to resist the approach of a foreign force of heretical and grasping volunteers; and they may even think fit to sacrifice in such an emergency some portion of the unprofitable splendour of the church ornaments to save the power of the Church and the independence of the nation. As yet, however, we have no trustworthy account of the effect produced in Mexico by the events on the Rio Grande, and the defeat of the Mexican troops. Probably the pending Oregon controversy between England and the United States has had as much effect in inciting the Mexicans to resistance as the Mexican war has had in bending the American Cabinet to conciliation and peace with ourselves; and the termination of this threatening discussion may also lead the Mexicans to make overtures for peace on the terms originally offered to them, and which they might still, we trust, obtain.

[JTW]

THE BATTLE AT MATAMORAS.- A letter from an American officer says—“The battle was still uncertain, when General Taylor sent for Captain May, and told him he must take that battery if he lost every man of his squadron. May said he would take it, and assembling his men, he placed himself at their head, and rushed at full speed upon the enemy's battery. As he approached it, at the distance of some 20 yards, he and his squadron received a furious charge of grape from the pieces, and a shower of bullets from the infantry on the right and left, mowing down nearly the whole of his first and second platoons, but leaving him unhurt. In a second he and his remaining force passed through the battery, sabreing the artillerists as they passed, and then reining up
their horses in the rear of the battery they charged again through it. As captain May reached it the second time he saw a Mexican officer defending himself against some of his men, when, flying to the rescue, he received the sword of General de la Vega, a gallant officer of the Mexican army, who surrendered himself a prisoner at discretion. May received his sword, and, putting him under the protection of an officer, rode back to General Taylor and said 'General, I have taken the enemy’s battery, and have the honour to present you the sword of General de la Vega, whom I captured gallantly defending his guns, and who is now your prisoner. Glory enough for one day! When the 8th Regiment was ordered to advance to support the bold charge of the dragoons, led by Captain May, the company to which Lieutenant Jordan was attached, rushing on the enemy, compelled them to break their ranks, and fight in detached squads, which, after a brief but severe contest, were destroyed or dispersed. Lieutenant Jordan seeing a group of five Mexicans firing on our forces, rushed upon them sword in hand, thinking that he was supported by three soldiers of his regiment. Two or three shots were discharged at him when at the distance of only a few paces, but they fortunately missed him; and at this moment he perceived he was alone, his men having met with other enemies, and his foes were prepared to receive him with the bayonet. It was no time for hesitation; he made a blow with his sword at the nearest Mexican, which wounded him severely, although it was partly parried by his musket, and at this critical moment his foot struck something, he stumbled, fell forward to the ground, and lost his sword. Before he could recover his feet he received three bayonet stabs in his body, but he instantly threw himself on one of the Mexicans, wrenched a cutlass from his hand, when he was fired upon by another, and a buck-shot was lodged in his arm near the shoulder, and one passed through his arm. He fell upon his back, and his enemies were about to dispatch him, when Lieutenant G. Lincoln, having vanquished those previously opposed to him, hastened with others in good time to the rescue. Lieutenant Lincoln cut down one of the Mexicans, whose comrades were immediately subdued. We are happy to learn that Lieutenant Jordan’s wounds, although severe and painful, are not considered dangerous. No bones are injured, and with care and attention he will probably soon recover." [JTW]

LT June 25, 1846: 8f US and Mexico

UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.

(From the New York Journal of Commerce)

In an article under this head, some days since, we undertook to show the process by which we had become involved in the present war with Mexico.

To sum up all, we may say that the Mexicans were first in declaring war, and first in making it. They alone shut the door to negotiation; they shed the first blood; they made the first prisoners; they commenced the cannonading at Matamoras; they attacked General Taylor, and not be them, on the 8th and 9th of the same month.

Resting, then, the blame of the war chiefly upon Mexico, the question is, what is due to that republic from the United States, if not on the score of justice, at least on that of magnanimity? And again, what is due to ourselves, as the most ancient and powerful of the American republics—a nation vastly superior to Mexico in strength, population, and resources, and claiming to be so in every other desirable respect? A savage nature would perhaps cry for vengeance, and demand that so insolent a foe should be crushed and despoiled. But Christian principle, which remembers that vengeance is not a fit attribute of erring man, and that might does not make right, calls for moderation, forbearance, even-handed justice; and the more loudly in proportion as the enemy is feeble, ignorant, distracted and miserable. The very fact that the present Government of Mexico, which by its blind obstinacy and deliberate insults, and at last by open war, has brought these great evils upon that country and our own, was self-created—forced upon the people at the point of the bayonet—and that the deplorable consequence which have since followed are the result of this forced revolution, is reason enough why we should not visit the sins of the administration and army upon the people at large, beyond what is absolutely necessary for the vindication of our own rights and honour. Another reason why we should be tolerant with Mexico is because, by the annexation of Texas, we have come into possession of a territory once Mexican, and so have inherited as a nation, the ill-feeling which originally attached to the revolted province alone. And although we believe and know that for eight or ten years before her annexation to the United States, Texas was as independent as Mexico, and as likely to continue so; and although her independence had been long since acknowledged by England, France, and other countries is Europe, as well as by the United States; yet we must make allowance for human nature, and especially for Spanish nature, which never counts that lost which by an y possibility, even the remotest, may yet be recovered. The independence of Mexico herself was not acknowledged by Spain until a dozen or twenty years after it was achieved; although during the most of that time nothing was done, or attempted, towards a re-conquest.

As we have got into a war without designing it, the next question is, when and how are we to get out; and what are the objects we propose to accomplish? It is commonly easier to commence a war than to finish it. How it may be in the present case, the event will show. Possibly, the Mexican Government may be convinced by the experiment thus far that it is useless to attempt to cope with "the Colossus of the North," as the Mexican correspondent of the London Times denominates the United States, and that thus impressed they may "be ready to receive propositions, or make propositions of their own;" in which case President Polk is bound by the terms of his war message to "renew negotiations." But we confess we have not much hope from this source. A more probable result is, that the party opposed to Paredes, strengthened by the difficulties in which they find their country involved through his instrumentality, and the ill-success of his measures thus far, will create a counter-revolution, by which his administration will terminate as it began, and thus the way be opened for an
immediate cessation of hostilities and resumption of negotiations. On the other hand it will not greatly surprise us if the pressure from without should tend rather to unite the jarring elements of opinion, and strengthen the party in power. In that case we should find even a Mexican war no boy’s play. There is not a country in the world better formed by nature for defence, and every nation is comparatively strong on its own soil.

But to go back to the question, what do we propose to accomplish by this war? Not the conquest of Mexico we hope. The mission of our republic is a mission of peace; not of conquest and carnage. God has given us right arms capable of defending ourselves, but the whole structure and genius of our institutions is unfavourable to offensive war. We are glad it is so. We covet not for our country the glory of crushing the weak, or distressing the mighty. Hitherto no conquered territory has ever been added to our happy union; we trust non ever will be. Purchase and voluntary annexation are the only weapons we have used, and they have been found far more efficacious than the sword. Louisiana cost us $15,000,000, and Florida $5,000,000. This war with Mexico, if it continues a year, will cost us $50,000,000 at least. What territory can we acquire which will at all compensate for this heavy outlay? And yet the expenditure of money is almost the least of the evils we shall suffer and inflict. Besides, we can acquire no territory in this way, which peace would not give us in better time, and in more perfect possession. If we wait till the fruit is ripe, it will fall into our hand. Why, then, should we pluck it while it is green? The vast unoccupied regions of America God has given to the oppressed of all nations. If we but honour our destiny by peace and liberality, it will all be peopled under the flag of these United States. The policy of inactivity is a mighty policy, for it is the policy of destiny, or more properly, of God’s providence. We cannot hurry it but to retard it and mar the perfectness of its work. Armies cannot stop it. The combined nations of the Old World can do nothing against it. We alone can interrupt its mighty march. Inactivity would have given us Oregon to 54 degrees 40’, if only our people would have settled those worthless regions. By hurrying our destiny we have lost all beyond 49 degrees, at least for the present. The same policy will perhaps add Canada to the stripes one day, but since our own Government, after 20 years of importunity, have consented that we should trade with Canada, her more perfect union is of little importance, especially to us. Mexico may one day be joined to us now. Poor and miserable as she is, she has set the noble example of abolishing slavery, and we should take care that this terrible scourge or our country does not cross the Rio Grande. To conquer Mexico would but show our folly, and stamp us with disgrace. What American, with a proper American heart, would take away from Mexico her independence, and her liberty to act freely? There can never be any dignity in treating with a subjugated power. We say, then that in the further progress of this war, though victory should declare for us in every battle, and our armies should march triumphantly.

LT June 30, 1846: 4e Oregon question

Whatever may hereafter be said of the precise terms upon which the Oregon controversy has been settled, there can be but one feeling of satisfaction throughout the two great nations which are thus restored to amity and peace at the termination of a dispute which had threatened to sacrifice some of the principal interests of the civilized world for the sake of one of the least important tracts upon the surface of the globe. If the question was to be decided, or even argued, as one of strict right, we have frequently repeated our strong conviction that in opposition to the vast and exclusive claims put forward by Mr. Polk and the ultra-American party, the paramount claims of Great Britain, resting upon discovery, occupation, and treaties, might be, and have actually been, effectually advance and maintained. But it was equally clear, in a controversy which involved so much obscurity and so direct a contradiction of title, supported by such slender political interests on either side, that the practical solution of the difficulty which should be most beneficial to both parties, least injurious to existing interests, and most consistent with the honour and character of civilized states, would be the best. As long ago as the 3rd of January of this year, when the whole negotiation was suspended, and very serious and not unfounded apprehensions as to the result were entertained in every part of the world, we expressed a clear opinion to this effect, to which we now revert with a natural satisfaction in the accurate fulfillment of the views we then took. The maintenance of all existing rights of property, which have been created under the treaties of 1790 and 1818; the use of the great water-privilege of the Columbia; the possession of the whole of Vancouver’s Island, and of the harbor of St. Jan de Fuca, which is in reality the only safe port on the Oregon coast, were the conditions upon which we then contended that the 49th parallel might be adopted as the boundary; and it is precisely on those conditions that Mr. Pakenham’s treaty has been negotiated.

If we compare these terms with the exaggerated and unmeasured language repeatedly used by Mr. Polk, and with “the assertion, in the most solemn form, of the title of the United States to the whole territory,” contained in Mr. Buchanan’s dispatch of the 30th of August of last year, we shall not be surprised that the entire credit of this pacific arrangement has been transferred from the Cabinet of Mr. Polk to the Senate of the United States. That body has felt the responsibility of its executive office. It is less accessible to the influences of popular excitement and of personal ambition any institution of the Commonwealth; and has more than once done before, it has displayed a degree of statesmen like prudence and responsibility sufficient to grasp the true interests of the commonwealth and correct the aberrations of the nominal Executive. In spite of the declamation of excited parties have no doubt that the decision of the Senate will prove highly popular in the United States where people were anxious for means of escaping from the consequences of their own folly, and the Mexican war had already given them some slight (?) burdens and embarrassments, which would have been increased a hundredfold by a war with that land.

As far as the honour and interests of this country are concerned, we have every reason to be satisfied with the stipulations of this treaty. The interests of the Hudson Bay company are fully protected with the whole term of their charter, with an amendment for the indemnity and the purchase of their establishments situated south of
the American front upon the expiration of the rights they now have under the British Crown. When we have taken care that no British interest is sacrificed or impaired, and that no British possession ceded without an adequate consideration, there is more of honour and true pride in a Government which can afford to deal with conditions of this kind in a liberal and magnanimous spirit, than in the haggling and grasping at which commonly overreach themselves, and sacrifice character, to gain what is of infinite value to nations. The district of Oregon retains a vast uninhabitable and uncultivated territory, and two points of peculiar interest for maritime and trading nations,—the river Columbia, and the straits of Fuca. The territory is not unequally divided, nor is it of importance what the division of the soil is. But of the other points we share equally with the United States, the navigation of the Columbia being used mutually.

[JTW]

LT June 30, 1846:  5d US, war meetings with Mexico, Arista's account of the Battle of Palo Alto

AMERICA.

We subjoin a few extracts from the American papers, received by the Hibernia, for which we had not room yesterday.

THE WAR WITH MEXICO

"Despatches from the Army of invasion' had been received, dated Matamoras, the 24th ult. The investment of Matamoras, as stated in another column, is confirmed by General Taylor's accounts. The following details respecting the future proceedings of the army we copy from the New Orleans Picayune. They are authenticated by the official accounts:-

"We understand that the next demonstration of General Taylor will be upon the city of Monterey. This place is about 90 leagues from Matamoras, and is approached by a difficult road running through an arid and ill-watered country. It is the principal city of the province of New Leon, and commands the entrance of the Table Lands, or the interior of Mexico, through the passes of the Sierra Madre.

"To make the operations of the army upon Monterey more secure, if not absolutely certain, General Taylor designs occupying the town of Camargo, about 250 miles, by water, above Matamoras. To do this securely, it is necessary for him to have transports of a draught suitable to the navigation of the Rio Grande. Camargo will be the basis of his operations upon Monterey, and this point must first be made the depot of supplies, and entrenched in a style capable of sustaining a siege.

"It was the design of General Taylor, as we learn, to be at Monterey by the 1st of July; but the want of transports to convey his stores to Camargo compelled him to delay further progress in the enemy's country till this deficiency is removed. Camargo is situate upon the Rio Grande, and presents an admirable foundation for a display upon the interior, and from Camargo to Monterey is about 40 leagues, or 120 miles. The country lying between that town and Monterey; consequently, it is altogether better for the army to proceed from Camargo upon Monterey than from Matamoras.

"With a view to expediting the march of the army, Captain Sander, who has distinguished himself in the admirable defences he has constructed about Point Isabel, has been dispatched to this city to procure the necessary transports. He is in the city of New Orleans, but will proceed up the river immediately to supply the deficiency in transports which his purchasers here may leave. From the mouth of the Rio Grande to Matamoras, vessels drawing four feet water can run without obstruction; above that placed up to Camargo, there are not more than three feet water in many places. Steamers of the proper draught can scarcely be got in sufficient numbers here to answer the purpose of an invading army, and, therefore, Captain Sanders will go west to find them.

"Before reaching Camargo the army will have to take the town of Reynosa, which is between Matamoras and Camargo. It is not expected, however, that any defence will be made of such villages.

"General Taylor designs now to be at Monterey as soon in July as possible. At that place, it is believed, the Mexicans will make a stubborn stand, if at all during the war. If the troops under General Taylor occupy Monterey, the whole of Mexico this side the Sierra Madre will be in the possession of the United States, including the mining districts of New Leon, New Mexico, Santa Fe, Chihuahua, &c. This calculation is based somewhat upon the idea that the United States will order an exhibition from the Missouri river upon the northern provinces. If this be done, the whole of North Mexico will be in our possession. Such a disposition of the forces of the United States would end the war at once. But it did not, our army would hold the key to the whole of South Mexico, and the gates of the capital would, speaking in a military sense, be in possession of General Taylor."

"Colonel Kearney's expedition against Santa Fe (New Mexico) was expected to start early this month. It would consist of upwards of 3,000 volunteers and a few hundred regulars."

GENERAL ARISTA'S ACCOUNT OF THE BATTLE OF PALO ALTO
From the Boletin de la Division del Norte, published at Matamoras on the 14th of May, we translate the following official document relative to the battle of Palo Alto, on the 8th ult.:

"General-in-Chief,-Constant in my purpose of preventing General Taylor from effecting a junction between the forces he was taking from Santa Isabel and those which he left at the fortifications opposite Matamoras, I set off today from the Tonguas del Ramireno, from which place I addressed to your Excellency my last dispatch, and I marched toward Palo Alto as soon as my spies informed me that the enemy had left Santa Isabel, determined to introduce into their fortifications a number of wagons loaded with provisions and artillery.

"I arrived opposite Palo Alto about 1 o'clock p.m., and saw that the enemy was entering the place. With all the forces I had I proceeded to form my line of battle on a large plain; a woody elevation supported my right flank, with a quagmire on the left, difficult of penetration. Scarcely had we fired our first gun, when the second commander-in-chief, General Don Pedro Ampudia, arrived, as I had warned him to join me as soon as he had well reinforced the several points which were necessary to besiege the enemy's troops that were left in the fortifications opposite Matamoras.

"The forces under my command were 3,000 men and 12 pieces of artillery; those of the invaders were 3,000 men, or a trifle less, and a superior force of artillery, as they numbered 20 pieces of 16 and 18 pounders.

"The battle commenced with such ardour that the firing of cannon did not cease or a moment, during which the enemy endeavored to follow their course towards Matamoras, in order to suspend the siege of their troops at the fortification; and with such object they set fire to shrubbery and grass, so as to form opposite their line a thick smoke, by which they succeeded in hiding themselves from our view; but I, through necessary operations, defeated their object on two different occasions.

"General Taylor maintained his attack more as defensive then an offensive one, using chiefly the best part of his forces—the artillery, protected by one half of his infantry and all his cavalry; reserving the rest to fortify the turf, at a distance of about 2,000 yards from the battle field.

"I was anxious to make a charge on the enemy, because the cannon balls cause great loss on our files, and I ordered General Don Anastasio Torrejon to execute it with the greater part of the cavalry, on our left flank, in order to give the charge at the same time with the infantry and the rest of the cavalry on the right flank.

"I was waiting the moment in which General Torrejon should commence the charge, and that the enemy should begin to feel its effect, in order to give the impulse on the right; but the effort was checked by a counter-movement of a portion of the enemy's force that defended a march, which prevented the attack.

"Some of our companies were impatient on account of the loss we had suffered, and they commenced to get out of order, asking that I should give the command to advance at once, or retreat. At such a moment I ordered a column of cavalry, under command of Colonel Don Cayetano Montero, to charge, with the view that the parties thrown out of order should resume their position, and in all possible manner march on the enemy, who, owing to the great distance at which they stood, had time to fall back on reserve, and night approaching fast, the battle ended, and we remained master of the field.

"After this result every measure necessary to the circumstance was taken, and our division encamped on a more concentrated ground in the same battle-field.

"The combat was a long and bloody one, which may be better explained by the calculation of the Commander-in-Chief of Artillery, General Don Thomas Requena, who assures me that the enemy fired over 3,000 cannon shot from 2 to 7 o'clock p.m. (at which hour the battle terminated), and our artillery fired only about 650 shot.

"Our arms were supported with honour to the nation, as we did not yield an inch of ground. Notwithstanding the superiority of the enemy's artillery, they suffered great loss.

"Our troops had the misfortune of losing 252 men in this battle, among dead, wounded, and dispersed. Those that lost their lives in defence of the most just and holy of causes are worthy of a national remembrance of gratitude for their bravery and valour.

"Your Excellency will oblige me by giving notice, with the foregoing account, to his Excellency the President; stating that I will take care to give a full and detailed dispatch of this battle, and at the same time recommend the valiant conduct of all the generals, chiefs, officers, and men that are under my charge; for they sustained the bloody combat in a manner which honours our nation, and shows the discipline and fine order of our troops.

"Please admit the assurances of my consideration, &c.
"God and liberty! General quarters at Palo Alto, opposite the enemy's camp. May 8, 1846, at 11 o'clock p.m.
Mariano Arista.
"To his Excellency the Minister of War and Marine."
We have at length received the Mexican accounts of the late collision with the American forces on the Rio Grande, and it is satisfactory to find that no attempt has been made to disguise from the people of Mexico the fact that they have sustained a severe defeat, and that their armies are wholly unable to carry on the war with any hope of success. The blockade of Tampico, Vera Cruz, and the other Atlantic ports, appears to have been conducted with due consideration to neutral interests by the American Commodore Conner, and to be supported by a sufficient force. That officer has under his command the Cumberland, Raritan, Potomac, John Adams, Somers, St. Mary’s, and the steam-ships Mississippi and Princeton. It remains, however, to be seen whether he will venture to attack St. Juan d’Ulloa, which is at all times an operation of great difficulty and danger, from the sudden northern gales which expose a squadron to destruction on the reefs that protect the fortifications to the seaward. St. Juan de’Ulloa, moreover, now mounts 200 guns in the castle, and 50 in the two forts and walls of the city commanding the anchorage. All these guns are new and of heavy caliber, with a number of 8-inch and 10-inch Paixhan guns. There are said to be 2,000 men in the fortress, and about the same number in the town. Under these circumstances we doubt whether the American Commodore will risk an attack on the strongest...
For the protection of British interests in the Gulf of Mexico the Endymion frigate and the Alarm have been ordered down from Bermuda. Commodore Pring will probably be able to increase the squadron from Jamaica, where he hoists his broad pennant of the Imam; and the Albion has been sent out, we believe, from this country. In the Pacific, the British and American squadrons were both at Mazatlan; but no news has yet arrived of any operations on the western coast.

We trust, however, that without any further effusion of blood, and without a prolongation of those risks which are inseparable from active hostilities, we may look forward to the termination of this deplorable strife. It cannot be doubted that the extreme repugnance of the Mexican Government to come to terms with the United States upon the subject of the boundary of Texas, and the pertinacity with which these delicate questions have been kept open until they have led to positive hostilities, are attributable in great part to a vague expectation that the differences between England and the United States would eventually secure to Mexico a powerful diversion, if not a powerful ally. The intelligence of the settlement of the Oregon question, and the happy removal of the last of those subjects of discussion which have for so many years endangered the amicable relations of the American and British Governments, will, therefore, probably produce as much effect upon the present heads of the Mexican republic as the new of another victory gained by the Yankee rifles in the banks of the Rio Grande. We sincerely trust that the influence of the pacific termination of our own controversy will be felt in the speedy restoration of peace between Mexico and the United States; and at this time the mediation of British agents has been offered with peculiar propriety, to complete between other states the triumph of that policy which has been so successfully maintained by our own Government. Throughout the Texan question, the ill-timed delays and ridiculous scruples of the Mexican Government have invariably led to a condition of things a step worse than that which had preceded it. From Santa Anna to Paredes not one of the Mexican rulers has been disposed either to make the best of the past or to provide for the future. They were for ever protesting against former injuries and calamities, whilst some greater misfortune was stealing upon them. They might, by recognizing the independence of Texas, on certain conditions, have created a barrier, for some considerable time at least, between themselves and their northern neighbors. They might, by adopting an enlightened system of commercial policy, instead of a bigoted adherence to the worst traditions of old Spain, have established relations of such magnitude and importance with the trading and maritime Powers of Europe, that the independence and prosperity of Mexico would have found defenders in every state on this side of the Atlantic. But they refused to recognize the independence of Texas until annexation had transferred the quarrel from a revolted province to an ambition nation; and they have persevered in the abuses of their infernal administration to such an extent, that the allegiance of those classes who have anything to lose or to gain has been not a little affected by the consideration of the increased value and security of property when it exists under the control and protection of a regular a enlightened Government. The landowners of Mexico, occupying a soil rich in the precious metals and adapted for every species of cultivation, are beggars. The church lands include one-sixth of the whole surface of the country; and the whole region is of far less value to its present possessors than it was to that ingenious and unfortunate people who were fated to fall beneath the sword of Cortes. However galling may be the superiority of the Anglo-American race to the degenerate descendants of the Spaniard and the native Mexican, and however monstrous the pretences under which acts of violent aggression or convert hostility have been masked, it is impossible to doubt that a people will fall a prey to any conqueror rather than rot on the vices of its own political and social condition until its cities are depopulated and its fields abandoned.

If, therefore, it be possible that the mediation of England should be exerted with any effect, not only to restore peace at this time between the United States and Mexico, but to remove the causes of future discord and the pretexfs of future aggression, it can only be by endeavouring to encourage the Mexican Government to undertake, with rather more vigour and intelligence than it has yet displayed, the task of governing the country. British interests, arising out of the provinces, are directly involved in these questions; and that security is perfectly illusory if we are not prepared to assert the claims which will at no distant period accrue under it.

We do not believe that the United States’ Government will be disposed to prolong so unequal a contest as that which recently begun on the Rio Grande, if Mexico can be brought to terms, which her interest and her political position command her to accept. For Mr. Polk’s purposes a little war is very preferable to a great one; and military glory on a grander scale, instead of casting éclat upon his own presidency, would render inconveniently prominent the claims and expectations of his successor. As it is, we are much mistaken if this Mexican war does not determine the next election for the supreme magistracy of the Unites States in favour of a military candidate; for in America, as well as elsewhere, the first impulse of a democracy is to throw itself at the feet of a successful soldier; and the names of General Taylor and General Scott are already celebrated in the most heroic strains. The prosecution of the war would at once impose great burdens on the federal Government, which is bound to provide the means of carrying it on, and it would place a formidable amount of power and popularity within the grasp of the officers in command of the army. Mr. Polk has therefore a double interest in terminating the contest by a speedy peace, if that can be obtained; and the sincere co-operation and influence of England will not, we are persuaded, be wanting to assist in effecting so desirable an object.

[JTW]
The Mexican ports on the Atlantic were blockaded by the American squadron, and an attack on the castle of San Juan de Ulloa was expected immediately.

The port of Mazatlan and city of Guadalaxara had both declared against the Government. The republic seemed to fast verging on anarchy.

Arista's army in the north was understood to have dispersed in great confusion.

About half the members of the new Congress had been got together. They elected General Bustamante President of the body.

Senor Gorostiza had retired from the Ministry of Finance, and was succeeded by Senor Iturbe, who had seized all the funds in the ports, including the English dividends.

The light is removed from the castle of San Juan de Ulloa, at Vera Cruz, during the blockade.

[JTW]

**LT July 6, 1846: 6a Blockade of Vera Cruz**

**VERA CRUZ.**

The blockade of this port commenced the same day (May 20) with that of Tampico; Commodore Connor having dispatched the squadron one day earlier than the corvette appointed to watch the latter port. The squadron consists of the Raritan frigate, the Mississippi first class steam ship, the Falmouth corvette and Somers brig. The notification of the blockade was only sent to the neutral vessels of war anchored at Sacrificios, and not to the Consuls, as at Tampico, a circumstance which naturally gave umbrage to those gentlemen. Commander Pelly, of the Rose, whose indefatigable zeal for British interests is beyond all praise, and deserves the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, succeeded in obtaining permission for the packets to land specie, and negotiated for permission also for other merchandise; but the question is left pending until the arrival of Commodore Connor, expected about the 10th or 11th of this month (June). Passengers, of course, are to be landed, but no Mexicans permitted from port to port within the republic.

The American squadron, when united, will, it is said, consist of two sail of the line, one from Boston, the other from New York; three frigates, including the one already here, and the other two are at Pensacola, with the commodore, and of the largest size; two first-class steam ships, the Mississippi and Princeton; one or two corvettes, some brigs, and smaller steam-vessels to tow the ships into position. The inhabitants are apprehensive of an attack upon Fort San Juan de Ulloa and the town; in consequence, most of the families are removing to the interior. On the 29th of May, 600 men of the line arrived from Jalapa, and the day following about 200 Dragoons accompanied the specie from Mexico, making a total amount of troops in the town and fort of San Juan de Ulloa of about 2,200 men; but I am sorry to add that the military hospitals are full, and I am afraid to mention the number they are said to contain. Accounts vary, but I was assured by one of the most respectable English residents that there were not less than 600; and of the late reinforcement eight died on the march the day previous to their arrival, a Dragoon fell from his horse in the streets, and others were obliged to be carried to the hospital; in fact, never was Vera Cruz in a more deplorable state that at the present moment; what with an unusual season of sickness and the stagnation of trade, added to the blockade, those whose circumstances oblige them to remain there are truly to be pitied.

So sudden have been the events brought on by the affair at Matamoras, that for the protection of the British interests, there is only the Rose sloop-of-war at Sacrificios; the French have the Mercurie brig and La Perouse bark-of-war; the Spaniards the Christina frigate and the Habanero brig; and the Luisa Fernandez, first class corvette, has left Havana, and is expected soon to increase their squadron. Expecting three French barks, almost all the vessels have quitted the anchorage, and the American commander, in a visit to Captain Pelly, of the Rose, expressed his anxiety that the packet should take an early departure; as, were she by any accident detained beyond the 4th of June, he could not be accountable for the consequences. The value in specie and cargo on board the Tay cannot be estimated at less than 3,000,000, dollars.

The Mexican war steam-vessels Montezuma and Guadaloupe have been disposed of to the firm of Manning and Mackintosh, and sent to the Havannah, in the hope of their being purchased by the Spanish Government. The remainder of their squadron, consisting of a few brigs-of-war and some small schooners, have taken shelter in the port of Alvarado, about 40 or 50 miles south of Vera Cruz.

The courier from Mexico, who did not leave until a day beyond the time specified for the sailing of the packet, brought the following news, from a source in which every confidence may be placed: - The new Minister of Finance (Iturbe) suspended all payments in the Custom-house, including the dividend fund, as a temporary measure, before making an arrangement with the different creditors, and a committee, consisting of Rondero, Echevarria, and Dursina, was named to offer proposals to Government. Upon this Iturbe, the Minister of Finance, resigned. It is supposed the new Minister will be Antonio Garay, and Mora Minister at War. Paredes, the President, was to set out to the north with 10,000 men, to endeavour to effect some arrangement with the Americans.
On the morning of the 20th of May, at daylight, a corvette was seen at anchor about two miles beyond the shipping lying off the bar of Tampico, but without a flag to distinguish her nation.

Shortly afterwards an officer, fully armed, came aboard the mail-packet Tay, and stated that he was sent by Commander Saunders, of the United States corvette St. Mary’s, to declare that port in a state of blockade; and having obtained information as to the different nations to which there were at the time the unusual number of vessels there as usual, he took his leave, and visited them all in succession. Communications were then sent to the different Consuls residing at Tampico informing them of the blockade, and that 15 days (until the 5th of June) would be allowed to the vessels now in port to dispose of their cargoes, or ship those already in transit. Upon receiving the official notification the Consuls went in a body to wait upon the commander of the corvette (the English Consul excepted, who was detained by sickness) to solicit a prolongation of the time specified previous to commencing a rigid blockade, but their request could not be acceded to. The French Consul remarked to the American commander, "that when they blockaded these ports they were more liberal to the English, as they permitted both the silver to embark and the quicksilver to disembark." "True," was the reply, "but we know the influence that of England has over this country, and we are in hopes that this prohibition may be a means of inducing her to use her endeavours to persuade these people to hear reason." The mail-packet Tay has every reason to speak highly of the politeness and civility experienced from the commander of the American corvette, especially in trusting to the honour of Captain Sharp, the commander, to embark and disembark whatever was not prohibited by the blockading instructions.

In reply to a communication from the Admiralty agent, the commander of the corvette informed him that no opposition would be experienced on the part of the British Government in landing and receiving the mails during the existing state of affairs, and so long as the packets abstained from all commercial transactions, all passengers (military of the Mexican Government expected) would be permitted to embark and disembark as usual.

The Mexicans are, and have been for some time, employed in placing the town and mouth of the river in a better state of defence. On an eminence which commands the north-east side of the town, and the approach to it by the river, they have replace a dilapidated mud battery by a good substantial stone-built fort, in which the guns are mounted and the Mexican flag is flying. There is also a circular brick seat at the lower end of the town, which terminates the evening promenade; this has been converted into a battery a fleur d'eau, to guard the approach by the river, in which they have place three long guns of about 12 English pounds caliber, raising the parapet with bags of earth, and surrounding the whole by a fosse. The bar is defended by three small schooners, carrying one long gun each, and placed across the entrance of the river; on shore, on the left hand side, are the remains of a battery, with a sandy foundation part of which has lately been swept away by the river changing its course, but on which remains are place two small field pieces pointing seaward and protected by a detachment of soldiers. Most of the troops have been drawn off to increase the army, and General Parode, the commandant of Tampico, cannot at present command more than sufficient men in the town to relieve the different guards. The Mexican regiment name "Tampico" is noted for behaving well upon all occasions, and particularly distinguished itself in the late affair of Matamoras; many of the men are reported to have returned their foyers, having quitted General Arista and the retreating army. The bar of Tampico has for some time past become almost impassable, excepting for vessels in ballast, having but a few feet of water in the channel; in consequence, a sloop belonging to Mr. Jolly, the agent to the Mail Company, took the ground with 500 flasks of quicksilver on board; but all was saved excepting one flask, which fell overboard by accident, and was instantly buried in the sand. On Sunday, the 24th of May, a boat belonging to the Marie, French bark, was upset in crossing the bar, and of five men on board, three remained with the boat, and were saved; the other two, who were good swimmers, endeavoured to gain the shore, but were drowned.

The Aztec Eagle has fallen. Mexico has tried her strength with the children of the Anglo-Saxon, and has been beaten. From the United States you will doubtless receive ere this can reach you full accounts of the defeat of General Arista by General Taylor near Matamoras on the 8th and 9th instant. It is therefore unnecessary for me to give any details of these actions, which, moreover, the Government here does all in their power to suppress.
Mounted on their diminutive, but spirited horses, the Mexicans fancied they could ride down the world, but when the light cavalry was brought to face the well-served artillery of the north, the riders discovered the chief advantage of their steeds to consist in the velocity with which they escaped from the scene of danger. The Mexican have been playing this event, and the Americans are quite in earnest; hence the result. As an Englishman, I might be inclined to regret this event, but as a foreign resident of Mexico it has not occasioned me any very poignant grief. The present is not merely a territorial dispute between Mexico and a neighboring nation, it is felt to be a contest between Mexican bigotry and the world; and therefore, without palliating the aggression which the northern republic has committed, little sympathy is felt by foreigners here with Mexico her distress. Without the patient industry of the Chinese, these people possess the same exclusiveness, and in boasting are quite equal, if not superior to the Celestials. The despondency occasioned by the late rout having subsided, they now talk of it as a mere check, during which the enemy received new proofs of the indomitable valour of the Mexican soldier!

Notwithstanding these important events no declaration of war has yet been made here, nor, as far as we know, by the United States; but war in all forms exists, and the Mexican ports on the Atlantic are now regularly blockaded by the American squadron. Neutral mail packets (not commercial) will be allowed to come and go without obstruction, and 15 days have been granted for neutral merchant vessels in port to leave, with or without cargo. It is understood that the packets will be allowed to carry specie as before, but not cochineal; and it is doubtful whether they will be allowed to introduce quicksilver. If the introduction of an article so necessary to the working of the mines should be prevented, it is thought this Government will retaliate by prohibiting the exportation of specie. During the French blockade of the Mexican ports no objection was made to the importation of quicksilver in the British packets.

After the battle of the 9th, General Taylor remained encamped on the left bank of the Bravo, but Arista's army falling into a state of complete disorganization, abandoned Matamoros, and the American General was requested by the Prefect to send some troops across the river for the protection of the inhabitants. General Taylor has complied with this singular request, which certainly goes far to vindicate Mr. Polk's policy towards Mexico. We now look with interest for news from the Pacific, where an immense field is open to American aquisitive.

At Vera Cruz an attack on the castle is expected immediately and the merchants have applied for permission to remove bonded merchandise, for safety, to Jalapa. The castle of San Juan de Ulloa, built on an island surrounded by reefs in front of Vera Cruz, and deemed impregnable by the Spaniards, was taken in a few hours by the French under Admiral Baudin; but it was then in a very dilapidated condition, and the French were allowed to anchor their ships and open their fire before the castle replied. It has since been repaired and strengthened, and some very large pieces of modern artillery are now mounted in the batteries, the first discharge from which may do some damage; but the Mexicans are deficient in artillerists, and, as they would be greatly exposed while loading these enormous guns, they are not likely to fire many rounds from them.

The position of General Paredes, difficult from the first, has become doubly so since the disaster at Matamoros, to which he was impelled by the restless vanity of the Minister at War, who (himself in perfect safety here) insisted on Arista's crossing the river Bravo. The port of Mazatlan and the city of Guadalaxara are both in open revolt, their garrisons having seconded the cry of "Federation and Santa Anna" raised by Alvarez in the South. A more incongruous union than this can scarcely be imagined, for Santa Anna, when in power, was the scourg of the Federalists, and all their efforts were directed to the destruction of the army, with which he has ever been identified. But such is the spirit of faction by which Mexico is torn; and he were indeed a gifted seer who should predict with certainty what party or what principles may be uppermosts here three months hence.

Since my last letter Gorostiza has retired from the Ministry of Finance, having held office exactly 20 days. He has been succeeded by a person untried in office, and whose history is not calculated to increase public confidence in the Government. Don Francisco Iturbe's relations with the Financial Department hitherto have been those of a speculator in its embarrassments, through which he has succeeded in amassing a considerable fortune. His first measure has been to lay hands on all the funds in the ports, not excepting the dividends on the English debt, or those due to British subjects in consequence of diplomatic arrangements with Her Majesty's Government. Another act of his, alike indefensible, merit a detailed explanation: - The tariff imposes a duty of 3 per cent. On gold an 6 per cent. On silver coin exported from the republic, which it was the custom to collect in the ports where the shipment must necessarily take place; but Santa Anna, with his accustomed rapacity, chose to assume (and his successors have continued the abuse) that all specie remitted from the interior to the coast was destined for exportation (though a part is notoriously and necessarily sent there for the payment to Government of import and other duties on foreign merchandise), and to exact the payment, at once, in the interior, of export duty on the whole amount, this proceeding being unsupported by any Mexican law. Of course, on the arrival of each remittance of specie from the interior at the ports, a part only being exported, the Government was bound to refund the excess of export duty unduly exacted; but, instead of doing so, they adopted the plan of giving certificates for the amount, admissible in payment of future export duties, and these documents accumulating in the hands of houses on the coast, have fallen to a considerable discount. Thus fat the immediate predecessors of Senor Iturbe have acted both unjustly and illegally, and the complaints of the British Merchants on this subject have, I believe, been made known in the proper quarter. But it was reserved for Senor Iturbe to leave all competitors in the career of injustice at an immeasurable distance, by refusing to receive the export certificates when an opportunity presented of tendering them in payment of export duty paper, most of them British subjects, must be most serious.

By extraordinary efforts of Government, 81 members of the new Congress were collected yesterday, the minimum number fixed by the convocation. They commenced business by electing as president of the body
General Don Anastasio Bustamente, and this being quite work enough for one day, the deceased prelate, was an indulgent father of the church, and, if he has gone to his account with few claims to canonization, he has at least left no enemies behind him.

LT July 10, 1846: 5e Mr. Wyld's map of Mexico

MAP OF MEXICO, &C.- Mr. Wyld, of Charing-cross, a most indefatigable illustrator of the geography of all parts of the globe, has just published a new map of Mexico, the British possessions in North America and the United States. The map is of large dimensions, but folds up and becomes portable as a thin octavo volume; it describes with great accuracy, distinguishing the different and respective territories by different colours, a portion of the globe from below the 7th degree of south latitude to the 49th parallel of north, and from the 45th meridian of west longitude to the 140th. The whole of the country included in the immense extent are accurately laid down, the names of towns, rivers, lakes, &c. were engraved, and the various places marked with careful attention to modern improvements in map-making. The boundary lines are shown, and the relative positions of the territory of the three countries. This map is valuable as an illustrative picture of the Oregon and the Mexican questions, and claims to be, and should be, studied by all who wish to know the respective countries. It is remarkably well engraved, showing that this branch of science keeps pace with the increasing speed at which other sciences and other arts progress.

LT July 10, 1846: 6b US, Mexican war, damage to US merchandise

AMERICA AND MEXICO.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,-Perceiving from your journal of yesterday, and other newspapers of the day, that there exists generally a strong impression that the war between America and Mexico will be short duration, it affords me, as a lover of peace, sincere gratification to add another and important corroboration of your views, in calling to your notice the fact that the American merchant ships, in consequence of the present state of things, are lying in port idle; no one will freight them on account of the war risk, and as the American mercantile navy may be called the general conveyance company of at least one half of the globe, it is very evident that all American shipowners must most sincerely wish for peace, and will doubtless force upon the American Executive the necessity for a speedy termination of hostilities.

LT 7/14/1846 OREGON QUESTION

The honour of ratifying the recent treaty for the settlement of the Oregon boundaries now devolves upon the Minister who denounced in no measured terms the last “capitulation” entered into with the United States; and we have no doubt that Lord Palmerston and the new Administration will at once subscribe to the terms which the American Government has acceded to upon the proposal made by Lord Aberdeen. It is needless to inquire what reception this treaty might have met with from the more active members of the late Opposition at a less fortunate moment, or with what degree of candour Lord Ashburton’s treaty was stigmatized as a disgrace to the late Government, whilst the present convention is accepted with the strongest marks of satisfaction by its successors; for we cannot regard the arrangement by which this dispute has been terminated as more favourable to the rights of the British Crown than the terms upon which the north-eastern boundary question was settled in 1842. But it is fortunate for the true credit of English statesmen and the most solid interests of this country and of the United States, that no factious spirit or lust of political contention can interfere in this instance to impugn the wisdom and propriety of a compromise so necessary to the general peace of the world. The treaty signed by Mr. Pakenham, and brought over by General Armstrong, after it had received the ratification of three-fourths of the Senate of the United States, arrives under circumstances which originates in party motives. Each party in the State, and each of the leading statesmen who have been or now are engaged in the conduct of our affairs, has an equal interest in securing the fruits of this pacific termination of an awkward and threatening question; and although Lord Aberdeen has bequeathed to Lord Palmerston on many points the benefits of that temperate and dignified system of foreign policy which has been followed by this Government for the last five years, yet there is no part of this reversion more deservedly prized by the successors of the late Cabinet than the amicable arrangement of our controversy with the United States. That one fact makes an incalculable difference in the prospects of Lord John Russell and his colleagues. The nation looks forward with far greater confidence to the long continuance of peace; and the Oregon question, which has never excited a strong interest in this country, except for it might have had on our relations with America, will soon be as much forgotten by the public as Mr. Pitt’s quarrel with Spain in 1790 for the possession of Nootka Sound. Since it became evident that no party warfare would distort or exaggerate merits of the question, the Oregon territory sank in public estimation to the slender importance which really belongs to so remote and uninviting a portion of the globe, and there has been very little disposition to contend for the full amount of abstract right, which we
TO THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES. In answer to the resolution of the Senate of the 3d. inst., I

THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

The following Message has been sent to the Senate of the United States by the President, in answer to a resolution of the Senate of June 3, 1846, calling for information relative to the mode of raising funds for carrying on the war with Mexico:---

"TO THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES. In answer to the resolution of the Senate of the 3d. inst., I
communicate herewith estimates prepared by the War and Navy Departments, of the probable expenses of conducting the existing war with Mexico during the remainder of the present and the whole of the next fiscal year. I communicate, also, a report of the Secretary of the Treasury, based upon these estimates, containing recommendations of measures for raising the additional means required. It is probable that the actual expenses incurred during the period specified may fall considerably below the estimates submitted, which are for a larger number of troops than have yet been called to the field. As a precautionary measure, however, against any possible deficiency, the estimates have been made at the largest amount which any state of the service may require.

"It will be perceived, from the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, that a considerable portion of the additional amount required may be raised by a modification of the rates of duty imposed by the existing tariff laws. The high duties at present levied on many articles totally exclude them from importation, whilst the quantity and amount of others which are imported are greatly diminished. By reducing these duties to a revenue standard, it is not doubted that a large amount of the articles on which they are imposed would be imported, and corresponding amount of revenue be received at the Treasury from this source. By imposing revenue duties on many articles on which they are imposed would be imported, and a corresponding amount of revenue be received at the Treasury from this source. By imposing revenue duties on many articles now permitted to be imported free of duty, and by regulating the rates within the revenue standard upon others, a large additional revenue will be collected. Independently of the high considerations which induced me, in my annual message, to recommend a modification and reduction of the rates of duty imposed by the act of 1842 as being not only proper in reference to a state of peace, but just to all the great interests of the country, the necessity of such modification and reduction as a war measure must now be manifest. The country requires additional revenue for the prosecution of the war. It may be obtained to a great extent by reducing the prohibitory and highly protective duties imposed by the existing laws to revenue rates, by imposing revenue duties on the free list, and by modifying the rates of duty on other articles.

"The modifications recommended by the Secretary of the Treasury in his annual report in December last were adapted to a state of peace; and the additional duties now suggested by him are with a view strictly to raise revenue as a war measure. At the conclusion of the war these duties may and should be abolished, and reduced to lower rates.

"It is not apprehended that the existing war with Mexico will materially affect our trade and commerce with the rest of the world. On the contrary, the reductions proposed would increase that trade, and augment the revenue derived from it.

"When the country is in a state of war no contingency should be permitted to occur in which there would be a deficiency in the Treasury for the vigorous prosecution of the war; and to guard against such an event it is recommended that contingent authority be given to issue Treasury notes, or to contract a loan for a limited amount, reimbursable at an early day. Should no occasion arise to exercise the power, still it may be important that the authority should exist, should there be a necessity for it.

"It is not deemed necessary to resort to direct taxes or excises--the measures recommended being deemed preferable as a means of increasing the revenue. It is hoped that the war with Mexico, if vigorously prosecuted, as is contemplated, may be of short duration. I shall be at all times ready to conclude an honourable peace, whenever the Mexican Government shall manifest a like disposition. The existing war has been rendered necessary by the acts of Mexico; and whenever that Power shall be ready to do us justice, we shall be prepared to sheathe the sword, and tender to her the olive branch of peace."

"JAMES K. POLK. Washington, June 16"

[PTH]

LT 7/15/1846 4F US MEXICAN WAR

The last arrival from the United States brings us intelligence from New York down to the 30th of last month, and from the theatre of war on the Rio Grande down to the 3d ult. The armistice which had been proposed by the Mexican commander and rejected by General Taylor has, in fact, been imposed upon both armies by the circumstances in which they are respectively placed; for, as we had anticipated, the American forces were by no means in a condition to take advantage of their late successes by a rapid march into the interior of Mexico, and the Mexicans, in the other hand, had neither political authority nor military power to expel the invading army from their territory. The consequence has been that both the belligerents have remained in a state of inaction; and both are looking for reinforcements to sustain the war. These reinforcements will, it is needless to add, only increase the disproportion between the forces brought into the field by the two States; and it is not easy to account for the infatuation or the patriotic ardour which induces Paredes, who appeared to have just secured his own political position in the commonwealth, to risk everything by taking the actual command of an army which has so few chances of victory on its side.

If the accounts which reach us through the American papers are to be believed, the effect of the war has been far more disastrous to the political condition of Mexico than had been anticipated. The approach of an insolent
and aggressive enemy, distinguished from the people of Mexico by all the characteristics of religion, of manners, and of blood, might reasonably have been expected to call forth the latent energy of the nation, and incite them to a vigorous and united effort in defence of their national existence. At one time it was believed that war with the United States would be popular in Mexico, and that, in spite of the danger from without, the internal government of the republic would be rather strengthened than weakened by it. These hopes were entirely fallacious. Several of the provinces of Mexico have already shown a disposition to avail themselves of this opportunity to throw off the Federal tie, and to assert a precarious independence. Some of the most influential classes of society appear to indicate their acquiescence in a species of conquest which they begin to think inevitable, and which may at least secure to them the rights of property more effectually than their present worthless and unstable Government. Yucatan has already declared her independence, and the United States have immediately acknowledged it by exempting the coast of that province, and the flag it has assumed, from the operation of the blockade; and opinions favourable to the advance of the Americans are said to be entertained in many parts of the northern provinces of the republic.

This state of things may, however, be changed to a considerable extent, as far as regards the internal dispositions of Mexico, by the restoration of Santa Anna to power—an event which we must now suppose to be by no means improbable.

It is easy to perceive that the operations of a protracted, unhealthy, expensive, and inglorious war will not long gratify the American democracy, or be popular in the United States. At no distant period the Cabinet of Washington will be as eager to make peace in the midst of its anticipated triumphs as the Cabinet of Mexico under the pressure of defeat; for, if the war be carried on by the United States with superior forces and superior success, it is at the same time far more onerous to the American population than to the ill-paid and irregular forces of the enemy. We may hope, therefore, that both parties will seize the first decent pretext for putting an end to this wanton and absurd quarrel.

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**ARRIVAL OF THE CALEDONIA**

(*the following appeared in a second edition of the Times of yesterday:*--)

Liverpool, Tuesday Morning

The British and North American Royal Mail Steam-ship Caledonia, Captain Lott, arrived in the Mersey from Boston and Halifax shortly before midnight, bringing a large number of passengers and the usual mails of the 1st instant from Canada and the United States.

Our accounts from New York by this arrival extend to the 30th ultimo, inclusive. The contents are of great interest.

From the "Army of Invasion" we learn that Canales with a few men had surrendered Regnosa without resistance to the expedition under Colonel Wilson. Camargo, where General Taylor desired to establish a large military depot, had also capitulated in advance. The army, which according to official accounts amounted on the 3d ult. to nearly 8,000 men, was in good health, the main body being encamped on the right bank of the river Deshas. No authentic intelligence relative to the numbers and position of the Mexican forces in the vicinity had been received. A despatch from General Taylor, dated Matamoras, June 3, however, says--"Our last accounts of Arista represent his force to be halted at Coma, an extensive "hacienda" on the Monterey road, about 100 miles from this point. He has pickets covering the roads leading to Matamoros, with a view to cut off all communication with the interior. The departmental authorities have issued a decree denouncing as traitors all who hold intercourse with us, or with those who do so. I am, nevertheless, disposed to believe that in some quarters at least our presence is not unfavourably received." Ampudia is said to have left for the capital. The death of General Torresom is noted.

Important advices had been received from New Mexico. Armigo had been superseded as Governor of Sante Fe by General Urrea, who was taking the most vigorous measures to defend the place, as well as for offensive operations; 2,00 men were under arms; a requisition for 5,000 men had been made upon Chihuahua; a draught of every third man in Sante Fe had been ordered, and fortifications and military preparations of every kind were going on. The Indians were reported to be unfavourable to the Americans, and the Mexicans relied much on their aid. General Urrea had despatched 300 troops to march to Bent's Fort, and to meet Spier's company on the prieries and conduct it into Sante Fe. This company was said to have taken a quantity of arms and ammunition to Sante Fe, and Colonel Kearney had sent a party of Dragoons in pursuit of it. A large portion of the American expedition under Colonel Kearney had already started on its course.

The American journals very generally call for a speedy termination of the war. Some few advocate the policy of despatching an embassy to Mexico, to endeavour at once to restore peace. Public opinion appeared to have settled upon the possession of California in compensation. In some quarters hopes were entertained that the
Northern States of Mexico would throw off the central yoke, and erect an independent republic, to be annexed in time to the American Union. According to the Philadelphia north American, indeed, a proposition has already been made at Washington in behalf of a number of the leading inhabitants of the states of Tamaulipas, Chihuahua, and Zacatecas, entreating a cessation of hostilities on the part of the United States, on the ground that being equally aggrieved by the Supreme Government of Mexico, the American Government should be the friends and allies rather than the devastators of the country north of the Tropic. All the educated classes (including many of the priests) are said to be in favour of coming under the government of the United States as a provisional territory.

The proceeding of Congress in the interim since the despatch of our last accounts had been of little importance. Another unsuccessful attempt had been made in the Senate to determine the adjournment of Congress; Messrs. Benton and Julee opposing the motion, on the ground that the period was about to arrive when Congress should legislate for the cities of the Union beyond the Rocky Mountains. The discussion upon the Tariff question continued to progress tamely in the Lower House.

It is stated that Mr. M'Kay had determined to strike at the section imposing duties upon tea and coffee, in consequence of the strong opposition offered to that section of the bill. The Warehousing Hill appeared to be received with general favour. Several military nominations had been made by the President--General Taylor to be Major-General of the Army; Colonels Twiggs and Kearney to be Brigadiers-General; and Colonel Butler to be Major-General of the volunteer forces. Rumours relative to changes in the Cabinet still continued to afloat; and it is said that letters were addressed to Mr. M'Lane by the Great Western re-inviting him to become Secretary of State; other rumours point to Mr. Calhoun. The Washington correspondent of a well-informed journal, the Baltimore Patriot, also states, that Mr. Buchanan's nomination to the Supreme bench had been communicated to the Senate by the President. Mr. King also, it is said, returns from the Parisian Embassy. Mr. Webster's speech of the 24th, upon the revenue question, and relative to the duty of the State to proffer terms of amity to Mexico, while pursuing the war with all due vigour, had produced a considerable sensation.

The organization of a corps of snappers, miners, and pontoniers, had been commenced.

Rumours of the appearance of privateers in the Atlantic, under the Mexican flag, similar to those received via Jamaica, were current.

The President is said to have ordered General Gaines to be tried by Court-martial.

The Mormons were still threatened with hostilities. Their enemies had collected in force, threatening to burn the temple at Nauvoo, and to expel the sect from Illinois. The State forces sided with the mob. The new German inhabitants of Nauvoo had organized a force 600 strong to resist the anti-Mormons.

Exchange on London is quoted to 1073/4 to 108.

Our advices from Canada by this mail are unimportant, and do not supply any further information relative to the melancholy catastrophe of the Theatre Royal, Quebec. The Canadian papers seem to be at fault as to the breaking up of the Ministry. Mr. Sherwood has resigned, Mr. Papineau goes out, and Sir Allan M'Nab is to be Adjutant-General. The bark Maria, from London, with 275 men, detachments for several of the regiments serving in Canada, had arrived at Quebec on the 20th ult., and on the following day, the bark Horatio, also arrived from Cork with nine officers and 154 men, detachments for the 46th, 52d, 60th, and 89th regiments.

Advices from Vera Cruz to the 4th of June, received via Pensacola, state that the blockading squadron were enjoying good health. The steam-frigate Princeton had arrived on the 1st. No further intelligence had reached the fleet from the interior. There appeared little doubt, however, but that Paredes designed to take the command of the army operating against General Taylor.

Intelligence had been received at Philadelphia from Tampico to the 18th ult. Official despatches had arrived at Tampico, announcing that General Arista had been removed from the command of the northern division of the army, and that General Mesia had superseded him. These advices further state that Paredes was to leave the city of Mexico for the Rio Grande, at the head of the army of reserve, on the 6th of June. Meanwhile the appearances of an approaching revolution were becoming more and more perceptible. Mazatlan had revolted on the 6th ult. Against the existing Administration, and had issued a pronunciamento in favour of Santa Anna. In Tampico the authorities formed two parties--one headed by General Parrodi, supported by the military, favouring Santa Anna and federalism, the other party supporting the federative principle simply.

The three-gun boats lately built in New York for the Mexican service were lying in the river, above Tampico.

Accounts had been received from Campeachy announcing that the Legislature of Yucatan had formally declared the independence of the department, and its disseverance from the Mexican republic. It was intended to appoint Senor Barbexeno the Acting President to the new state. It is hinted that in time the alliance of the United States will be sought. In consequence of the declaration of independence several Yucatan vessels had cleared for New Orleans and other ports of the American States. The United States brig Somers was at Campeachy on the 4th ult. [PTh]
THE STANDING ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES--In many parts of Europe, and particularly in England, the most erroneous ideas prevail in relation to the military strength of this country. An opinion is prevalent that our standing army being so small, for the first two or three years of a war with any powerful nation, we should suffer defeat after defeat; and that consequently it would be madness for us to engage in war, at least with any standing army being so small, for the first two or three years of a war with any powerful nation, we should suffer defeat after defeat; and that consequently it would be madness for us to engage in war, at least with any strong European power. The events of the last two months have shown conclusively that this opinion is, in fact, founded in ignorance of our real strength and resources, and that the first speck of war on our horizon is sufficient to call forth into full play all the latent energies of the American people. This erroneous impression arises from the fact that our standing army does not amount to over 8,000 men. The people of Europe are not aware that this force forms but the nucleus of an army of citizen soldiers, that could be numbered by the million; and how much soever we may regret the occasion of the Mexican war, yet it may be considered as not
When the requisition for troops was first made upon the Governor of Louisiana, it was imagined that it would be necessary to resort to a draught to procure the required number. At that time the people of Louisiana did not believe in the existence of war with the Mexicans. They had such a contemptuous opinion of their army, that they thought the handful of men in General Taylor’s camp amply sufficient to maintain the occupation of the Rio Grande, as they had no expectation that the Mexicans would attempt offensive measures. But no sooner was it known that it was no sham war, and that they would have an opportunity of meeting the enemy, than thousands volunteered their services, not only in Louisiana, but all over the country. The number required by the President from the several States is 50,000, and more than double that number, according to the best calculation, have already volunteered. In Louisiana nearly a thousand mounted gunmen, who had volunteered, have been disbanded, as there is no need of their services. The state has already sent six regiments to the seat of war, and those two regiments were mustered in two weeks. In Alabama several companies more than were necessary volunteered their services, and the order to remain at home caused a great deal of disappointment among them. That state will probably have sent between 2,000 and 3,000 men to the seat of war. In Mississippi more volunteer companies have been raised than can be mustered into service. It will probably send 2,000 men to the field. In Indiana double as many men have volunteered as were required to fill up the quota demanded of the state. In one division of the state 13 companies tendered their services when only three were wanted, and the choice had to be made by ballot; those who were so fortunate as to be chosen receiving the announcement with shouts of joy. In Kentucky the two regiments required by the Government, were filled up by the 26th of May, and the governor was obliged to issue his proclamation to put a stop to the volunteering. The greatest disappointment prevails among those who were not mustered into service. 10,000 men could have been mustered in Kentucky in a few days, if necessary, of troops that are not surpassed by any in the world. In Missouri the complement called for was in progress of formation, the only difficulty being to choose from the numbers offering themselves. One thousand mounted men were required for a descent on Sante Fe, and by the last accounts there was more than half that number mustered. This is the spirit that prevails over the entire Western country. Several members of Congress have left the seat of Government and started for the West, to enroll men and proceed to Mexico. Ohio, the greatest abolition state in the Union, was the first to fill up the complement called for by the President, and the same spirit prevails among the New England States, that were most violently to the annexation of Texas. New York and all the Atlantic States are pouring out thousands and tens of Thousands, and there are many companies that will not be restrained from going to the scene of action, whether their services are accepted by Government or not. The volunteers are fitted to make excellent soldiers. They are well drilled and disciplined, and they have, withal, a national and state pride that will make them as efficient troops as any in the world. When men in flourishing business, upon the first indication that their services are needed by their country, sell out their stock, equip themselves for a campaign, and enlist as common soldiers, as has happened in many instances, they must by actuated by some motives stronger than the desire to appear in regimentals. Such men, fighting for their country, are worth hundreds of mercenary troops. The citizens of foreign birth have not been at all inferior in ardour and patriotism to the natives of the soil. In Ohio there is an entire regiment of Germans, numbering 900 men, and in every State in the Union the Irish and German companies are among the first to offer their services. There is no doubt as to the efficiency of these foreign companies. Their national pride, as well as their devotion to their adopted country, will make them signalize themselves in the field, and indeed they have always done so. From present appearances, if the muster were to continue, we could, in six months, bring into the field an available force of 750,000 men, and of such troops, as for valour, discipline, and endurance, will compare with any in the world. This is an army greater than ever Eastern monarchs brought into the field, and one that could withstand the combined armies of all Europe. This force could be increased from time to time to any extent. Such an army actuated by feelings of patriotism and glory, and withal brave and intelligent, would be such a sight as the world has never seen. But we trust the occasion that would call together such a force is far distant. The best policy of every country is peace, and we hope that the harmonious relations that now exist between this country and all the nations of Europe will long remain undisturbed. Indeed, there is every indication at present of a lasting peace; but we deem it, nevertheless, well to show what the United States are capable of, should any occasion arise to call forth the latent energies of the nation. Our present brush with Mexico is a slight indication of what those energies are when called into play.--New York Herald.

[PTH]
One or two vessels, we learn, are about being sent to the same destination, freighted with stores, small arms, and ammunition, together with a very large number of heavy pieces of ordnance, more than half of which are 60 and 120 pound Paixhans guns.

It is stated that the United States' ship of the line Pennsylvania, 120 guns, and the North Carolina and Ohio, rated as 74's, but each carrying 100 guns, are ordered to be fitted immediately for sea; but what is to be their destination is as yet a secret of the Administration.

True it is, there never has been so much activity in our several navy yards as at this moment, where there are between 3,000 and 4,000 mechanics and labourers most actively engaged in putting things to rights. These movements, we had supposed, would cease after the settlement of the Oregon question; but the same secret energy and activity continues now that existed for some time previous to the profitable arrangement with us of that question. Mr. Benton asserted that the 49th parallel was the fighting line for us, and on that line the Government evidently intended to "drive stakes;" but what the move now is more than has been allowed to see the light. Something is evidently in the wind. The probability is, if we mistake not, that the President will make good his assertion in his annual message, that "no European Power would be permitted to interfere with the political affairs of this continent."

General Taylor is probably at this moment at the head of an army of 12,000 men, on his way to Monterey. Instead of opposition, the gates of Mexican towns are flung open for the reception of his forces. The enemy may concentrate and give him battle at Monterey, though the General himself thinks there will be no decided engagement until he reaches the city of Mexico.

Colonel Kearney is pushing on his western forces for Santa Fe, which is being strongly fortified by the Mexicans. The force concentrating there will number probably 8,000 or 10,000, under the command of General Wool, who, after overrunning New Mexico, will join his forces with those under General Taylor, and march for the Capital. Nothing can save the existence of the republic of Mexico but early proffers of peace, made in good faith.

Yucatan, one of the best states of the Republic, has declared herself independent, and is anxious to blend her stars with those of the "republic of the north." The voice of her people must decide. From all appearances this war cannot long continue. The well-timed and energetic action of the Administration, and the sagacity and bravery of General Taylor and his brave little army, have evidently carried dismay into the enemy's country, and we may say that Mexico is, in fact, at this moment in possession of the United States.

Where we would ask, is M. Guizot's balance of power? [PTH]
in the Republic is to retrieve in person the honours lost at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. He was to leave the capital on the 6th inst., at the head of 3,000 troops, but orders had been issued that large bodies should join him at the different points on the line of march, so that his entire force, including Arista's command, should not fall short of 16,000 men.

Although we have now received intelligence by way of Havannah and Tampico, and by the Falmouth, that Paredes would certainly take the command of the army in person, yet there was an impression prevalent among men of sagacity in Vera Cruz, when the Falmouth left, that he would not and could not venture to leave the city of Mexico during the session of congress. It is said that nearly one half of the country is in open revolt. The news received here a fortnight since of the revolt at Mazatlan is confirmed, and, as we then anticipated, Sonora is now in state of rebellion against the Central Government.

So ripe for revolution is the department of Vera Cruz, that upon the departure of the Falmouth it was said there were 1,500 men outside the city of Vera Cruz ready to attack it at any moment, upon the signal being given. Some of the guns had actually been removed from the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa, and placed around the city for its defence, and troops had been withdrawn from the castle for the same purpose.

The intelligence received from Tampico on Sunday shows how that city was rent by internal dissensions, and in considering the deplorable state of the country in every quarter and under every aspect, it would by no means surprise us were Paredes compelled to forego his cherished purpose of placing himself at the head of the Mexican Army. But suppose he carries his resolution into effect, what better fate awaits him at the hands of General Taylor and our troops? Truly his chances from every point of view appear desperate.

To illustrate the treachery of General Alvarez towards Paredes, the story is circulated at Vera Cruz that the former, who had the command of the forces at Mazatlan, was supplied with 1,500,000 dollars with which to act against the America squadron in the Pacific. No sooner had Alvarez obtained the funds than he pronounced against Paredes, kept all the money, and even sold the cannon in the forts.

The British brig Reliance, Captain Doane, arrived at this port yesterday from Tampico, having sailed on the 5th inst. The Reliance was chartered at Liverpool to proceed to Tampico, and thence to Tobasco, to take in a cargo of cork. She was prevented from performing her voyage by the blocking squadron, and left Tampico on the 5th inst. in company with several vessels previously reported at Tampico, the time allowed by the terms of the blockade for loading and departing having expired.

We received yesterday a copy of EL Locomotor, of Vera Cruz, of the 8th inst., which is four days later than any advices received by the Falmouth. The news is important.

A revolution had broken out in the department of Jalisco. It commenced on the morning of the 20th of May in the city of Guadalaxara. The battalion of Logos, followed by other bodies of military and by the enthusiastic populace, attacked the palace of the Governor.

The assault of the insurgents was so prompt, that the guard had only time to make one discharge, by which one man was killed and one wounded.

Some of the defenders recognized friends among the assailants, and refused to fire. The disaffection then became general, and some of the leaders of the Government troops were arrested to save them from the fury of the insurgents. Some skirmishing ensued, and preparations were making for a general engagemens, when General Dugue, who had taken command of the government troops, proposed a parley. This was agreed to, and the result of the deliberation was that the troops under General Dugue should be allowed to retire with the honours of war, by a route designed by them, directly to the city of Mexico. Provisions were given them, and they were allowed till the 22d to prepare for their departure.

Don Jose Maria Yanez was at the head of the insurrection. A formal declaration was drawn up by the insurgents, proclaiming Santa Anna their Chief, and declaring that a new Congress should be summoned to be elected by the people, according to the electoral laws of 1824, to form a new Constitution, in which the monarchical principle is to be excluded.

It also provides that the Congress should meet four months after the liberating army shall gain possession of the capital. Don Juan Camplido is recognized as Provisional Governor of the Department, and his oath includes the repulsing of the infamous usurpation of the Americans.

[PTH]

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LT 7/31/1846 3C MEXICAN SOLDIERS, VOLUNTEERS

VOLUNTEERS FOR MEXICO--The volunteers in Mexico find army work no sport. One of them writing from Point Isabel, says:--"from Berita we were marched about 18 miles from 9 or 10 o'clock in the morning till 4 or 5 in the evening, under the hottest sun I ever felt. One of our men, Dreyfous, was sun struck, several left the ranks, and when at evening we halted we found only half of our company with the captain and lieutenants, and not one
non-commissioned officer. Our men rested once more on the banks of the Rio Grande, and the next day we started for Matamoras, where we saw the American flag waving. We have crossed the river, and are now encamped near the garden of some rich Mexican, whose house has been destroyed by our artillery. The climate is very hot, but as yet healthy. In the garden grow thousands of pomegranates, and oranges, and lemons, &c. Marching through the Chaparral, we saw geraniums growing wild, an infinite variety of cactus in full bloom. The pepper cayenne grows wild in this luxuriant land. Lest I should seem only to see the favourable side of the picture, I must inform you that this country has a greater number and greater variety of insects, of all kinds, than I ever saw in all my life before,--ants, lizards, worms, and black spiders, said to be as poisonous as the rattle-snake. I killed one in my tent last night. But worst of all are the flies that swarm about us. For the first time in my life I have seen fresh meat fly blown in a few minutes. Our chaplain's horse was galled on his side yesterday morning; the poor creature was on the injured side a mass of maggots. A man of the camp went a hunting; he returned almost crazy, he was fly blown in the ear. Another soldier has suffered in the same way. Woollen blankets are fly blown. The wild horses in this part of the country always die when attacked by the flies.-- Lexington True American. [PTH]
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**LT 1846/10/1 6a Mexican war**

**LT 1846/10/1 6b Military riot near Matamoras**
The Royal mail steam-packet Clyde, William Symons commander, arrived at Southampton yesterday at 3 p.m., bringing 80 passengers, and mails of the following dates:--

From Tampico, June 21 and 29; San Juan Nicaragua, June 23; Chagres, June 25: Carthagena, June 29; Santa Martha, June 30; St. Jago de Cuba, July 5; Jamaica, July 9; Honduras, June 22; Jacmel, July 11; Martinique, Huly 12; Dominique, 12; Guadalupe, July 12; Antigua, July 13; Montserrat, July 13; Nevis, July 13; St. Kitt's, July 13; Tortola, July 14; St. Thomas's, July 16; and Bermuda, July 21.

She also brings on freight 349,106 dollars on merchants' account, 3,656 ounces gold dust, 175l. British coin, 221lb. Platina, 11,159 ounces silver, 2 serons cochineal, 102 bales tobacco, 53 bales sarsaparilla, 51 cases cigars, 76 packages sundries, 2,386 plata bruta.

By the most recent accounts of the Royal Mail Company's steamers--

The Avon arrived at Bermuda July 20.
The Dee left Havannah for Vera Cruz July 10.
The Medway arrived at Grenada from England July 10.
The Severn left Granada for Jamaica July 10.
The Teviot arrived at Jamaica July 9.
The Eagle left Barbadoes for Demerara July 9.
The Reindeer arrived at St. Thomas July 15.
The Clyde left at Vera Cruz on the 2d of July--

Her Majesty's frigate Endymion, 44, Captain G. R. Lambert; Her Majesty's sloop Rose, 18, Commander R.W. Pelly; Her Majesty's steam sloop Vesuvius, 8, Commander W.V. O'Callaghan.

Her Majesty's surveying ship Thunder sailed from Nassau for Bermuda July 14.

The schooner Lark had arrived at Nassau.

There were also at Vera Cruz--the United States frigates Cumberland, 60, Commodore Conner; Raritan, 54; Potomac, 54; corvette John Adams, 22; brig Somers, 16; steamers Mississippi, 8; Princeton, 7. French corvette La Perouse, 22; brig Mercure, 18. Spanish frigate Christina, corvette Louisa Fernanda, brig Habanero.

The corvette St. Marys, 22, off Tampico.

The brig Falmouth, 18, off Alvarado.

The brig Cuxton, 16, arrived at Havannah July 5, and sailed on the 9th in quest of Mexican privateers reported to be cruising off Cape Antonio.

At the time of the Clyde's leaving, the Fort St. Juan de Ulloa was well supplied with men, and the two forts adjoining were defended by 1,000 men. It was thought that if the Mexicans stood to their guns the present American force would produce no effect.

In addition to our usual Mexican correspondence, the following interesting news has reached us from another source:--
"The Mexican Congress was installed on the 6th of June. General Paredes was elected President, and General Bravo Vice President of the Republic, and powers were delegated to the President to effect an arrangement of the public debt, and to raise money to meet the pressing wants of the country; but the financial condition of Mexico was most lamentable—the ports blockaded, the revenues anticipated, the payment of the dividends suspended, the salaries of all public officers reduced one-fourth, and the Government compelled to adopt ruinous loans to meet the exigencies of the day; added to which, a great portion of Southern Mexico was in open revolt against the Government, which had been forced to despatch the troops destined for the frontiers to the disturbed districts.

"The Californias had declared their independence of Mexico, and orders, transmitted by the American Government to their senior officer off Vera Cruz, had been forwarded through Mexico to Commodore Smith, in command of the American squadron in the Pacific, to seize on every Mexican port that coast.

"The states of Durango and Chihuahua were about to form an independent republic, under the title of the Republic of the Rio Grande, to be protected by America. General Arista, who had been deprived of his command and ordered to repair to Mexico to account for the loss of the battle of Matamoras, but who had declined to obey the summons, was to be President.

"General Taylor had occupied the villages on the right bank of the Rio Grande, and was about to march on Saltillo, where he intended to wait instructions from his Government, preparatory to marching on Mexico.

"Vera Cruz was declared in a state of siege, and martial law proclaimed on the 30th of June, as it was reported that the American squadron would attack the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa on the 10th of July. The greater portion of the British, foreign, and Mexican residents had consequently left the city for the interior.

"The Clyde was permitted to enter the port of Vera Cruz, land quicksilver, and embark specie, under terms of an arrangement entered into by Captain Pelly, of Her Majesty's sloop Rose, and the senior officer of the blockading squadron. Captain Pelly deserves great credit for securing such exclusive privileges for the Royal Mail steamers. His services have been highly appreciated by the British Minister and merchants resident in Mexico. Contrary to the established rules of blockade, the captain of the United States corvette St. Mary, stationed off Tampico, refused to admit the arrangement of his senior officer, and prohibited the landing from the Clyde of 1,080 bottles of quicksilver, destined for that place. They were subsequently landed at Vera Cruz, and confirmed his senior officer's arrangements, extending the privilege of landing quicksilver and shipping specie to both ports.

"Her Majesty's steamer Vesuvius had gone with despatches to Tampico to bring away all money the property of British subjects. Ninety thousand dollars were shipped, and afterwards transferred to the Clyde at Vera Cruz.

"General Santa Anna remained at Havannah. His friends were active in exciting disunion amongst the Mexican troops, on the plea that he alone could save the country at this critical juncture; it was very generally believed that a portion of the soldiers would pronounce in favour of his recall."

The Clyde spoke the Prince Albert on the 11th of July, off Havannah, bound to Havannah; the Feliza, on the 1st of August, in lat. 46degrees 20', same day.

By this arrival we have our usual files of West Indian papers, containing, however, very little news. The Trinidad Standard speaks highly of the new Governor, Lord Harris. He had become the patron of the Trinidad Agricultural Society, and presided at the late general meeting. He has given much satisfaction in following the example of the Earl of Elgin in giving prizes for agricultural essays and improvements.

A very able report to the Kingston Chamber of Commerce on the sugar question is given in the Jamaica papers. The following are the conclusions at which the committee to whom the drawing up of the report was intrusted arrived:

"1. That the interests both of the mother country and of the colonists require that the sugar duties question be finally and equitably adjusted with as little delay as possible.

"2. That from the many important consequences it involves to the British nation, the maintaining of the cultivation of sugar in the British West Indies should be
considered by them a political axiom.

"3. That the admission for home consumption of all foreign sugar and molasses
might not be attended with injurious consequences to the cultivation of sugar in the
British West Indies, provided effectual means be taken to enable the colonists to
withstand the extensive competition to which the measure will subject them.

"4. The according to the colonists every facility for the procuring of additional
labourers."

The following is from *De Cordova's Mercantile Intelligencer*:

"Our market is at this moment in a much more depressed condition than it was but
two weeks ago; and, reeling as it is under the effects of over-trading to an extent
which has, until this period, been unknown here--suffering from the confined and
narrowed stated of the money market, which is producing prejudicial results on the
stability of some dealers--and a continued want of confidence--reeling, we repeat,
under all these adverse circumstances, we cannot picture to ourselves a worse
position than that in which we are now placed.

"Unless shipments to this island shall entirely cease for at least three months, a
great proportion of the goods now on hand must perish before they can be called
into consumption. The supplies of all articles, but particularly of fish and bread-
stuffs, are enormous. The stock of flour is equal to six months' consumption, whilst
that of pork, soap, lard, butter, meal, rice, and corn is for beyond the necessities of
the place. Further arrivals to meet the present overstock must entail disastrous
results on the shippers. The fine rains which have fallen within the last six or eight
weeks will also cause a yet further decline in the demand for bread-stuffs, as there
will be soon thrown into the market very large quantities of native ground
provisions. We cannot too strongly impress upon shippers in general the absolute
necessity which exists for refraining for some time to make further consignments to
this market; and this is required not only as a means to revive the depressed and
drooping condition of our trade, but also to enable their correspondents here to
realize their accounts."

The *Jamaica Despatch* gives the following notice of the weather:

"Our correspondent from Manchester informs us they have had fine rains since
Friday for the ground, but very little for the ponds, which are very low. The coffee
crops, in consequence of the severe drought, will be very small, as the rain comes
too late to expect any blossom of consequence. The cattle generally have suffered
much, and in many pro parties great loss; this makes the third successive bad year
for pens, which, like most other Jamaica properties, have become scarcely worth the
anxiety of carrying them on." (From the Falmouth Post.)

Thanks to a merciful Providence, we have been blessed in this parish for the last
week with several partial but refreshing showers of rain, and we are glad to learn
from many of our agricultural friends, that the effect on the soil already begins to be
perceived, as the pastures and fields of cane are assuming a green and healthy
appearance. The May seasons may now be said to have set in, although they are
rather late, we sincerely trust that they have come in sufficient time to secure a
good yielding for the next year's crop. The late drought has nearly ruined many
industrious planters, whose little capital was embarked either in the purchase or
leasing of properties, and it will now require some years of prosperity to relieve them
from the difficulties into which they have been unfortunately thrown.

On Sunday, the 26th ultimo, a melancholy accident occurred on board the Royal Mail
ship Clyde, on her voyage home from Bermuda. A seaman, named Patrick Welch,
was engaged very early that morning in furling the fore-top-gallant sail during a
squall, when he missed his hold, and fell from the yard with such violence that the
died in about an hour afterwards. The unfortunate man was a native of Dublin, and
bore and excellent character among his shipmates. So far as is known he has left no
one behind him dependent on him for support, but the passengers, to show their
sympathy with men exposed to such perils in discharge of their duty, set on foot a
subscription, and the sum of 16l. sterling having been collected, it was placed in the
hands of Captain Symons, to be given by him to the "Shipwrecked Fisherman and
Mariners' Benevolent Society."

Our letters from the city of Mexico are up to the 29th of June.

The Mexican Congress was installed on the 6th, and addressed by General Paredes,
in explanation of his policy and the situation of the country.

The Californias had declared their independence of Mexico, it was supposed through American intrigues.

General Taylor, with the American army greatly augmented by volunteers, remained in possession of Matamoras, and had occupied the villages of Reynosa, Camargo, and Mier, on the right bank of the Bravo (or Rio Grande del Norte). He was expected to advance on Monterey and Saltillo, where no resistance could be offered.

General Paredes had been elected President, and General Bravo Vice-President of the Republic. With the exception of some privileged British credits, no arrangement of the public debt had been made; but the President had received powers to that effect, and to raise money. Commodore Conner had arrived at Vera Cruz in the United States frigate Cumberland, and was supposed to be the bearer of an ultimatum from his Government. [PTH]

The Affairs of Mexico (From our own correspondent)

General Paredes opened the new Congress on the 6th instant, with a speech replete with good sense and moderation. He commenced by reviewing the whole policy of his administration, declaring that the pronunciamiento of San Luis was imperiously called for, from the debility and want of prestige of the former government; that the measures he had taken for suppressing the liberty of the press were necessary, from the acrimonious feeling which was springing up from the polemical warfare of the Republican and Monarchical parties; that although, at first, he had wished for a free discussion on the future form of government to be adopted, he, however, himself being a friend to Republican principles, yet that eventually it was requisite to restrain that discussion with a strong hand. He then reverted to the revolutionized state of the country, the disturbances in the south, in Sinaloa, and Sonora, and other parts of the Republic, and stated that the Americans in their aggressive acts counted on and profited by their internal dissensions.

In allusion to the war with the United States, he remarked that on assuming the reins of power, he government, to receive a Minister from the United States to treat on the question of Texas, and however firmly resolved never to suffer the dismemberment of any part of the territory of the Republic, still he was willing to listen to the propositions of that Government; but he found, as was to be expected from the double policy of the United States, that the American Envoy, Mr. Slidell, was not named ad hoc, but regularly accredited as a resident Minister to this country, just as if friendly relations still existed between the two governments. This he looked upon as a fresh outrage, and consequently not only would he not receive him, but sent him his passports, and on the 21st of March declared the Mexican Republic at war with the United States.

He then communicated the results of the actions of the 8th and 9th of May, blaming General Arista for his subsequent abandonment of Matamoras; stating that in consequence he had deprived him of the command, and ordered him to Mexico, to answer for his conduct before a council of war.

With respect to financial measures, however much convinced that credit is the first element of power to a government and reliance on its good faith the greatest resource of its strength, he had been reluctantly compelled to suspend provisionally the payments of Government; an extreme measure, rendered however imperative to save the nation from ruin, a ruin that must equally have been shared by its self-same creditors; and, in conclusion, he urged Congress to adopt some method of Finance, capable of assisting him to carry on the war with vigour and support the honour of the country. These are the cardinal points of his speech which were re-echoed in the usual address by the President of the Senate.

The first step of the Congress was to declare General Paredes ad interim President, and General Bravo Vice-President. Subsequently the Congress somewhat superfluously declared this country at war with the United States, and gave the President the permission he had solicited, to command in person the army, Paredes having stated his determination personally to head the new campaign.

The news from Matamoras is to the 6th instant, the greatest activity reigns in that
city; every day a steamboat arrives there from New Orleans with reinforcements for
the army, and emigrants of all nations and classes, anxious to try their fortune in
this new land of promise. The first number of a paper of the date of the 1st instant,
under the title of the Republic of Rio Grande, has been published in that city, half in
Spanish and half in English, and which requires to be rather more than cursorily
noticed. This gazette calls on all the northern States of Mexico to form themselves
into a republic under the title assumed, and to withdraw altogether their allegiance
from Mexico, on the plea that Mexico, supported by England, purposes to establish a
monarchy on the ruins of the republic. The policy of England is denounced in the
grossest terms, but the embryo republicans of the republic of Rio Grande are
consoled with the assurance that England's power is in a state of decadence, her
throne tottering, and her sun set; that her people are themselves tired of monarchy,
and will shortly adopt the republican institutions of the north. I am that General
Taylor does not countenance this publication; still its sentiments, so much in unison
with the declaration of President Polk in his message of December, denouncing
European interference with the affairs of this continent, seem to me a sort of
manifesto summons from head quarters.

I hear that the boundary now claimed by General Taylor is one league south of the
Bravo, on the plea that to render the river navigable for large vessels it will be
requisite to appropriate at least that portion of its margin. The fighting seems over;
the remnant of the Mexican army has retreated to Linares, about 60 leagues from
Matamoras, and are in complete state of demoralization, without provisions,
munitions, or artillery.

The internal state of the country is most discouraging. Mazatlan, Guadalaxara,
Acapulco, Sinaloa, and Sonora have declared against the Government. On the 26th
inst. an express arrived from Topick, announcing that a convention had been held in
Santa Barbara, on the Californian coast, in which the Californias declared themselves
sovereign and independent states, renouncing their connexion with Mexico. In the
south, although General Alvarez has received a temporary check, he is still roaming
about with a disorganized band of lawless adventurers, committing excesses of the
most horrible nature. To sum up the melancholy catalogue, the Indians alive to the
general disorganization, are ravaging the northern provinces with fire and slaughter,
and only so lately as the 7th instant Durango attacked and killed a company of
cavalry, and filled the adjacent villages with well founded fears for their lives and
property.

This picture is, I assure you, not at all exaggerated; we feel it so true here, that the
wisest head can suggest no solution for these calamities, and for those still heavier
ones threatened by the American invasion. The Government habitually apathetic,
without resources, without credit, can do nothing. The Congress, after days of idle
discussion, has at last suggested some sort of a plan on the basis of a general
contribution, which nobody will pay and no one can enforce. The people, what we at
home emphatically call the people, worn out with constant changes, take no interest
whatsoever in a probable future change of masters. The army stripped of its prestige
by its late disgraceful rout--a prestige which it only had acquired from the reiterated
fulsome adulation of its leaders--has ceased to be looked upon as a bulwark. This
standing army is, indeed, the fons malorum of this country. One of their own papers
asks "in a country like ours, where the army consists of individuals, without the
common rudiments of education, without the common principles of political
knowledge, without the common principles of morality, how can it resist the more
intelligent race of the north, who at least know for what they are fighting? Indeed
the Mexican army is strangely constituted, its composition strongly resembles that of
the whole community; consisting of half breeds of all shades and colours, without a
even the animal quality of valour. Whenever this nation, tired of its worthlessness
and its excesses, shall have energy sufficient to disband this host of vicious and
degraded men, whose only military type is their dress, they will easily merge into
bandits requiring neither further training nor experience. This army is, I say, the
curse of this country, draining its energies, diverting its population from their natural
agricultural pursuits, eating up five-sixths of its revenue, and so long as it continues
to exercise any influence on public affairs I see little hope of the restoration of
permanent tranquility or renewal of public confidence.

Foreign governments, especially the English Government, whose subjects have
millions invested in their mines, their funds, and their import commerce, should insist on Mexico making peace with the Americans. However they may depredate
intervention it must come; their capabilities for self-government have been tried and found wanting. Their ignorance is equaled only by their presumption; profoundly ignorant of their own weakness they view the forbearance of foreign powers as an homage to their strength. For so many centuries, *penitus toto orbe divisos*, processions, rockets, bells, military music, bulls, and friars, have so engrossed and absorbed their faculties, that they have remained in a state of non-progression, covering the rearguard of civilization. The Americans now, however, have discovered their weakness, and they will now owe their political existence more to the forbearance of the invaders than to their own means of averting its termination.

When the United States Government have driven them to terms, it will then be necessary that the claims of British subjects be properly represented here. Governments may be generous, but individuals cannot always afford to be so; and unless more zeal is adopted than what hitherto has been shown, the result will be that France by bombardment, and America by invasion, will get their claims settled, and England, the generous creditor (for which from the peculiar character of this people she gets neither respect nor gratitude) will be left unpaid, and possibly, in their papers, her forbearance attributed to astute and perfidious policy. In Spanish America gratitude is too painful a tax ever to be paid.

The local news is unimportant. Señores Lombardo, Trigueros, &c., are still in confinement, political arrests and trials are too frequent here to excited much attention. These gentlemen will probably remain in prison until a new revolution (not a probably remote event) will enable them to exchange places with their present jailors.

The Government have acceded to the wishes of the merchants, and allowed the goods that were in deposit in Vera Cruz, to be transmitted to Jalapa and Orizava.

The blockade has had a trifling favourable effect on British manufactured goods, and holders are asking higher prices, though but few sales are making.

The stocks of British manufactured goods are very limited, and perhaps not above 1,000 bales are in first hands.

Some very heavy failures here have cast a gloom over the city. Jose Maria Landa, Fost, Serment, and Co., Cécillon Berne and Co., have suspended their payments. The first are parties principally engaged in government transactions, and their engagements are for upwards of a million of dollars. The suspension is attributed to the law of May 2, suspending government payments.

Money is excessively scarce, and first-rate bills are difficult to discount at 2 and 3 per cent per month. The Guanaxuata Conducta is expected here in a few days with a million of dollars, which will relieve the pressure of the money market. Exchange on London 60 days, 44 1/2d., and very few takers of bills. [PTH]

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**AMERICA**

**ARRIVAL OF THE CAMBRIA.**

**LIVERPOOL, Wednesday**

The Royal mail steam ship Cambria, Captain Judkins, arrived in the Mersey at 1 o'clock this afternoon, from Boston and Halifax, having accomplished the run from the former city in the remarkably short space of 10 days and 18 hours. The Cambria brought a large number of passengers, including Lord Falkland, the late Governor of Nova Scotia, and announces the arrival of the steam ship Great Britain at New York on the night of the 20th ult., after a quick passage of 13 1/2 days. She had, however, encountered some trifling mishaps on the coast.

Our advices by this arrival extend to the close of the past month from New York, and are of a highly important nature.

From Washington we learn the gratifying intelligence that the liberal measure of commercial reform pending before the Senate at the date of our last accounts had finally triumphed in that assembly, and had received likewise the assent of the House of Representatives, no alteration of the slightest moment having been made in the bill. The contest upon its fate, we learn, was throughout close in the extreme.
further announce the gratifying fact, that the 10th of August had been fixed by the House refused to receive the resolutions by a vote of 95 to 54. Our letters day offered a series of resolutions proffering a formal mission of peace to Mexico. The terms of the levy were most remarkable. Not only are the men entitled to the pay and rations of the regular soldier, but protection to the Mormon emigration destined for California--is to become owner of the arms and supplies he possesses as

The accounts from south-east state, that Colonel Kearney, with the Santa Fe expedition, had made considerable progress in route; and that he had received levies from a Mormon emigrant camp in the Platte River, tot the extent of 500 men. The terms of the levy were most remarkable. Not only are the men entitled to the pay and rations of the regular soldier, but protection to the Mormon emigration movement is promised; and each man, at the termination of the movement--

The town having been quietly invested by the 7th Regiment, and the troops were being pushed forward as rapidly as possible. This, however, was work of extreme difficulty. The river, notwithstanding that there had not been a single fall of rain, being swollen in an extraordinary degree, in somuch so, indeed, as to cause serious damage in Camargo, and to destroy the previously plentiful and excellent harvests in its vicinity, upon which General Taylor had, in some degree, calculated for supplies. We have still to report the fact of authentic intelligence relative to the position of the Mexican forces. All accounts, however, represent that the Army of the North--as it is termed--had concentrated at Linares, to the extent of 4,000 men, under Messia. At Montenez, according to the report of a reconnaissance made by Captain Walker and party of Rangers, there was but little force. The inhabitants were much alarmed at the prospect of their city being invaded, and it is stated, were busily employed repairing the old and erecting new fortifications. Meanwhile, general Taylor had issued a proclamation, calculated to crush the power of the Administration of Paredes, by spreading disaffection in the northern department of the republic, and to extend through their territories the principle of independent government. The newspaper entitled the Republic of the Rio Grande had ceased, failing in its object. The accounts from south-east state, that Colonel Kearnay, with the Santa Fe expedition, had made considerable progress in route; and that he had received levies from a Mormon emigrant camp in the Platte River, tot the extent of 500 men. The terms of the levy were most remarkable. Not only are the men entitled to the pay and rations of the regular soldier, but protection to the Mormon emigration movement is promised; and each man, at the termination of the movement--

The reputed organ of the Administration reiterates former contradiction that Mr. Pakenham had made any offer of Mediation to the American Government relative to the Mexican war.
We learn that the expedition organized under Colonel Stevenson, for California, had departed for Governor's Island previous to embarkation. Each volunteer was enlisted with the stipulation that he should be discharged in California. From the Pacific coast we have no intelligence subsequent to the reception by our squadron there of the news of war existing between the United States and Mexico.

From Vera Cruz we have advices to the 25th ultimo, by the United States steam frigate Princeton, at Pensacola. These advices, in the opinion of the American journals, and in that of Mr. Webster also, lead to the impression that a determined effort is to be made by that country to repel the hostile attacks of the United States; and it is said that the Executive had received authentic information to that effect. Paredes, up to the 7th ult., had not left the capital, deterred by the fear of an immediate revolt. A slight attempt in the city had been successfully suppressed. The blockade of Vera Cruz was still maintained. A collision had taken place on the 8th. The Princeton, with the Cumberland and Potomac, having proceeded 12 miles up th coast from Vera Cruz to take in supplies, the enemy concentrated a force of 300 Mexicans, who fired on the boats and wounded one man. The Princeton, lying close by, opened her fire upon the chapparal and concealed breastworks, and soon silenced the battery. The Mexican account is, that the Mexicans had six or eight wounded and three killed, and on their own side only one man wounded. Arista had issued a proclamation to the troops of the division, declaring that his and their honour was affected by the disastrous action of the 9th of May, and he states that he has demanded an investigation, which the Government had granted. Late advices from Yucatan would seem to throw some slight doubts upon the entire separation of the department from Mexico. Accounts from Havannah to the 20th ult. State that Santa Anna and Almonte remained at that port.

From Canada we have advices to the 29th ult. The contents are unimportant. The free navigation of the St. Lawrence was the topic of much discussion in the public journals, the Free Trade Association of the province having addressed a memorial advocating that measure to the home government. The Montreal Gazette opposes this movement, backed by the Courier, and urges the propriety of Canada bearing without ill-temper the slight cost at which she receives the political protection of Great Britain. Rumours are mentioned that Earl Cathcart would shortly be removed from the Government. American wheat had been declared admissible into Canada, in bond, for the purpose of being ground and exported duty free. Despatches had been received from the Home Government, in reply to Mr. Wall's memorial, adopted by the Assembly, on the question of admitting from the United States supplies for Her Majesty's troops in the province, assenting, in effect at least, to the prayer. The subscriptions for the relief of the St. John's sufferers were progressing favourably. The ship Erin, from Liverpool to Montreal, had been lost by fire off the bay of Seven Island; crew saved.

Halifax papers announce the secession of Lord Falkland from the Government. His successor, Sir J. Harvey, was daily expected.

Jamaica accounts to the 13th ult. Are unimportant.

Advices from Chagres to the 13th June state that the United States frigates Savannah and Constitution were daily expected at Valparaiso, to take in provisions and sail for the United States. The recent disturbances at Santiago, Chili, had been completely suppressed. The republic enjoyed tranquillity. The Peruvian Government is in a very settled condition; much more so than it had been for some years.

Intelligence is published in the American journals from Oregon, to March 5, containing the speech of the Governor. The place was rapidly improving. [PTH]
volunteers in the Mexican war, has been regarded with curious interest by thinking
men, as an index of what would be the case should our country unfortunately be
engaged in a war with any of the great Powers of Europe. In such a case, no
drafting of men for soldiers would be tolerated or even necessary. The military
enthusiasm natural to Republican would cause our citizens to volunteer by regiments
and brigades, instead of squads and companies, as at present; and these forces
collected and disciplined in every part of an immense country, would be ready to
centralize themselves by our network of railroads upon any point of attacked, and
to annihilate an invading force of any possible numerical strength.

But though all have viewed with pride and satisfaction this demonstration of our
military resources; and the mass of the people seem to have forgotten the navy,
which has as yet had no opportunity of winning its laurels, as of old; its interests
have not been overlooked by those in power, nor forgotten by those who recollect
the incidents of the last war with England, or who are directly engaged in foreign
commerce. They have borne in mind the importance of being prepared to meet the
foe where he will most probably seek us, on the ocean, and on our sea coasts.

The promptness with which very considerable forces have, at short notice, been
thrown upon the two coasts of Mexico, are an evidence of this; and the alacrity
observed in all the navy yards in the outfitting of our ships of war have convinced
us, that the same energy and confidence which enabled our gallant little navy to
measure strength in single actions with the "mistress of the seas, " would not be
want amounting now, should it be necessary, to convert the immense of materiel at
present accumulated at the arsenals and ship yards into as large a fleet of ships and
war-steamers as might be required under any circumstances. Our resources in this
respect are as inexhaustible as our forests, and the genius and skill of our machinists
and artisans as unfathomable and boundless as the mines of the metals they work;
and, with the thousand of brave and hardly seamen which an immense unemployed
mercantile marine would supply to the service, we might defy the world afloat. While
impressed men would work and fight the ships of the enemy, without any other
interest in the event than the prize money, our cool and calculating tars would turn
over their quid of "honey dew, " with a smile at the absurdity of a ship ever yielding
when every man on board is one of the owners.

We furnish below a table, corrected to the latest dates, of the squadrons of the Gulf
of Mexico and on the coasts of California. The former is now employed in blockading
the several ports of the enemy, but is available, should it be decided to possess
ourselves of the castle of St. Juan d'Ulloa, and the city of Vera Cruz. The latter
squadron is employed in blockading the ports, and taking possession of the most
important positions on the Californian and Western Mexican coasts. We daily expect
interesting news from this squadron.

SQUADRON IN THE GULF OF MEXICO, AND FOR THE ATTACK ON SAN JUAN D'ULLOA
David Connor, Commodore.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ships</th>
<th>Guns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States Ship of the Line Pennsylvania</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States Ship of the Line North Carolina</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States Ship of the Line Ohio</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States Ship of the Line Delaware</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frigate Brandywine</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frigate Potomac</td>
<td>44</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frigate Raritan</td>
<td>44</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frigate Cumberland</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frigate Constellation</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sloop of War Falmouth</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sloop of War John Adams</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sloop of War St. Mary's</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sloop of War Austin</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sloop of War Boston (supposed)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steamer Mississippi</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steamer Princeton</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steamer Spitfire</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steamer Vixen</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steamer Legare</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steamer Spencer</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Squadron on the West Coast of Mexico
William B. Shubrick, Commodore

Ship                  Guns
United States ship of the line | Columbus  | 74
Razee                 | Independence | 64
Frigate               | Savannah     | 44
Frigate               | Congress     | 44
Frigate               | Constitution | 44
Sloop of War          | Portsmouth   | 20
Sloop of War          | Vincennes    | 20
Sloop of War          | Levant       | 20
Sloop of War          | Warren       | 20
Sloop of War          | Cyane        | 20
Sloop of War          | Dale         | 16
Sloop of War          | Preble (supposed) | 16
Sloop of War          | Albany (supposed) | 24
Schooner              | Shark        | 10
Store-ship            | Erie         | 8
Store-ship            | Lexington    | 8
TOTAL                 |             | 452

It must be remembered that the above are the number of guns rated on board each vessel. Their actual force is considerably greater. For example, the Pennsylvania, rated 120, carries 144 guns in her broadsides. All the 74’s are 90 gun ships, except the Columbia, 80; the 44-gun ships, except one, all carry from 54 to 62 guns. The sloops of war are generally heavier than they are rated. Thus it will be seen that our available naval force threatening Mexico at this time is about 1,500 guns. Of these, a proper proportion are Paixhan guns, of sizes suitable to the different ships that carry them. The frigates are of a size and force that would justify their taking a place in the line of battle in a fleet engagement, as they throw much greater weight of metal at a broadside than the old English and French line of battle ships.

Altogether this is a very formidable armament, and it can be increased very considerably, as several line of battle ships and large frigates are preserved in houses on the stocks, and might be launched and sent to sea in six weeks. [PTH]
the army, and of ladies and gentlemen. The gallant colonel who was honoured with this acceptable mission was himself engaged in these memorable scenes, and was wounded on the morning of the 9th, in his hip, by a musket ball, which has not yet been extracted from the vicinity of the spine. For the satisfaction of his relations in Virginia, and his numerous friends everywhere, we are happy to state that his general health is good, and that he flattered with the hope of recovering the full use of his limbs at no distant period. The following is his address to the President of the United States:--

"Mr. President, --Under the direction of my commanding general, I am the honoured instrument (and I here take occasion to express my thanks for the distinguished compliment) of presenting to your Excellency these trophies of victory won in the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. It is not in the spirit of triumph over a defeated, and I must say, gallant enemy that they are presented on the part of the army, but rather in conformity with usage, to gratify popular curiosity, and as some evidence that the soldiers of the republic have done their duty."

The President received the flags, lances, &c., with the feeling which became him. They are almost all of them torn by cannon ball or musket bullets, and the staffs of some of them have not escaped the fortunes of war. --Washington Union. [PTH]

LT 8/17/1846 5D RAILWAY OVER ROCKIE MOUNTAINS PROPOSED

America
Arrival of the Great Britain
Liverpool, Saturday

The steam-ship Great Britain arrived in the Mersey at an early hour this morning from New York, whence she has made a remarkable run of 13 days 8 hours, including a detention of 18 hours to repair driving chain. This is an evil which will be immediately remedied. A large number of passengers arrived in the Great Britain.

The advices from New York by the arrival are one day later than those before given, and contain but few features of interest. The Tariff Bill had been signed by the President on the 31st ult., and will, therefore, come into operation on the 1st December. The stability of this change in the commercial policy of the republic, in a letter received from Washington, is held to be extremely doubtful, and several grounds are given for the belief--firstly, that already the Whigs have raised the hostile cry of "repeal;" secondly, that that party is, though almost imperceptibly, regaining its former strength and influence; thirdly, that the experiment of a more liberal tariff is instituted at a time when the expenses of the state are enormously increased by the existence of a war; and, fourthly, that the danger of a deficiency naturally arising from a state of change and transition will be materially increased by the delay which ensues before the measure comes into operation. Still another, though less powerful, argument is mentioned, the prospect that in a brief space of time the territories of American Oregon will require to be represented at the seat of Government. The session of Congress was rapidly drawing to a close, and up to the close of the 31st ult. The Senate had not decided upon the merits of the Sub-Treasury Bill, nor had the House of Representatives arrived at any decision upon the Warehousing Bill. The investigation into the publication of the secret Oregon correspondence had failed to elicit any information criminating those senators upon whom suspicion had fallen, and, the editor of the North American having affirmed that the documents were anonymously communicated to him, the inquiry was brought to a termination. A curious report was made to Congress on the 31st ult., relative to the absurd project of a person named Whitney to construct a railroad from the Atlantic shore, across the Rocky Mountains, to Oregon. It will scarcely be believed, yet is it nevertheless true, that the Senate Committee of Public Lands gravely recommended that a grant of land be granted for that purpose 60 miles in breadth along the whole length of the line--a strip of land some 2,000 miles long by 60 wide! And, notwithstanding an exposure of the jobbery by Mr. Benton, the Senate ordered that the report be printed! The oft-repeated rumours of Cabinet changes are again renewed. Mr. Bancroft, it is said, is to be removed from the Navy Department, to be succeeded by Mr. Slidell, a southern man. Of the secession of Mr. Buchanan there would seem to be little doubt.

No further intelligence has reached us from the army of invasion on the Rio del Norte, from the blockading squadron, or from the California expedition, by this arrival. Accounts from Illinois, however, state that the additional command under General Wool, numbering about 10,000 men, was fast concentrating, and would towards September set forth en route, its surmised object being to take on the flank
any Mexican force which may oppose the march of General Taylor. The army under this commander, when fully concentrated, will amount to 20,000 men.

From Mexico we have no later advices. The New Orleans Picayune, however, publishes a minute and instructive account of the internal state of affairs in that country up to the close of June last. The election of Paredes as President, the proceedings of Congress, the formal recognition of the American war, and the melancholy spectacle presented by the Assembly weakly and ineffectually struggling to devise means by which the Treasury may be recruited and the State rescued, are all detailed with painful accuracy. One fact must not be overlooked, however, that apparently the idea of succumbing to its sister republic has never yet crossed the public mind of Mexico.

From Canada we have little news of interest. A full copy of the memorial of the Free Trade Association has reached us. The document is of considerable length, and, though rather inelegant in composition, yet argues with great force, primarily for the opening of the St. Lawrence to the vessels of all nations, secondly for the repeal of the duties discriminating in favour of British over foreign goods. The statistics of shipping at Quebec to the 27th ultimo exhibited a decrease of arrivals to the amount of 197 vessels and 334,1470 tons; 1846, 747 vessels and 273,473 tons.

From the River Plated important advices, dated Monte Video, June 14, had been received at Baltimore by the bark Creole, arrived from Corrientes. We extract the following from the Baltimore Patriot:--

"Monte Video, June 14.

"On the 4th inst., at 9 o'clock in the morning, the fleet weighed anchor about three miles above the Burancas of St. Lorenzo, in the river Parana, where there were placed 25 pieces of cannon, belonging to Buenos Ayres, to stop the expedition from passing. At half-past 9 the fort opened a fire on the five steamers, the English steamers Gorgon, Fire-brand, and Electra, the French steamers Gacende and Fulton, which took their position abreast of the batteries, whilst the English brig-of-war Dolphin led the van of the merchant vessels, amounting to 100 sail.

"From the time the Dolphin passed, being the first vessel, at half-past 10 o'clock, to the time the last vessel of the convoy passed, after sundown, made seven hours and a half firing. It appears very singular that in such a large fleet of vessels, passing so many pieces of cannon and within musket-shot of the infantry, which played their part, not a man was either killed or wounded; and still more strange, that no accident should have happened of either killed or wounded on board any of the vessels of war, amounting to 12 sail, especially the five steamers, which were under the fire from the batteries, which the English and French naval commanders set on fire to prevent them falling into Rosas's hand, one being the English bark Caledonia, of Hull, the other three being schooners from Corrientes; their cargoes consisted of amber, hides, wool, yerba, and tobacco.

"There are as yet but a few of the convoy arrived at Monte Video; only the large vessels. The weather being boisterous, all the smaller vessels were lying at the island of Martin Garcia.

"There is not such a large quantity of hides come down as was expected, but there is a larger quantity of yerba, tobacco, and wool. Salt hides none. Small quantity of tallow, packed beef, on cargo horse hair, a great deal of timber, &c." [PTH]
the absence of the President.

This decree was passed on the 10th of June, and on the 12th the election was held. General Paredes was elected President, receiving 58 out of 83 votes. General Bravo received 13 votes, and General Herrera 7 votes. General Bravo was then elected Vice-President, receiving 48 out of 82 votes. The highest opposing candidate was D. Luis G. Cuevos, who received 17 votes.

General Paredes took the oaths of office on the 13th as provisional President, and at the same time pronounced another discourse, in the most notable passage of which he expresses his confidence that Congress will grant all the supplies and make every effort necessary to defend the national cause. He reviews at length the wrongs which Mexico has endured at the hands of the United States, and concludes with desiring permission to assume the command of the army in the field.

In the absence of Senor Bustamente, who was ill, Dr. D. Louis Gonzaga Gordoa presided over Congress. He replied to the President in substance, that every question of domestic policy shrunk into insignificance compared with the invasion of the country on the frontier of the Rio Bravo; that the Mexican who should think of aught else than the injustice and treachery with which their soil was trampled, and the necessity of avenging their outraged honour, had no right to claim a share in their patriotic devotion.

On the 18th permission was granted to Paredes to place himself at the head of troops, and proceed to join the army of the north. General Gonzalez Arevalo was to leave the capital on the 19th, in command of the advance of the forces of Paredes. General Mejia was in the actual command of the army of the north, Arista having been ordered to Mexico, and Ampudia to remain at San Luis Potosi. (A paper of the 27th ult., says that General Arevalo, instead of proceeding to the frontier, had marched for Guadalajara to put down the insurrection. )

The committees of Congress upon foreign relations and upon war made a joint report on the 16th on that part of the message of Paredes relating to the United States. The report recommends the passage of a bill declaring Mexico to be "in a state of war with the United States." We do not find that the bill will be found below.

The cannonade between St. Mary's and the three Mexican gun-boats Quereiana, Union, and Poblana, at Tampico, is mentioned in all the Mexican papers. They claim no great victory, but express themselves satisfied with the valour displayed by the Mexicans. We see no mention of any loss which was suffered. A report is mentioned in our correspondent's letter and in the papers before us, that the Americans had taken Altamira, a sea port lying directly north of Tampico, and only a few miles distant. There seems no improbability in the report.

The General left in command of Vera Cruz, on the 30th ult., formally declared that city to be in a state of siege, in order to prepare all the people for an anticipated attack upon it. The garrison of the castle had received orders to be on the alert, particularly at night, as the danger of a night attack was thought imminent. Our correspondent writes--"It is said" an attack was to be made on the 10th instant, but we know nothing more on the subject. The General to whom the command of Vera Cruz was intrusted is Rodriguez de Cela.

A report had reached Vera Cruz that the Californias had separated themselves from Mexico, but nothing is said to let us know whether Commodore Sloat had anything to do with the separation. The subject is mentioned by our Havannah correspondent.

A communication has been received in Mexico from the commander of the troops sent to put down the insurrection in Jalisco, in which he attributed little importance to the events which occurred there, and expressed the hope that he should be able promptly to chastise the authors of the movement.

The latest despatch from Guadalajara is dated June 18, at which date General Pacheco informs the Government that he has possession of a good portion of the public buildings of the city, and the insurgents numbered only 1,200 and were daily dispersing.

General Tornel has again assumed the functions of Minister of War.

A large quantity of ammunition has been sent to the city of Mexico from the Castle of Perote, together with some mounted cannon and Muskets.
The papers are full of individual tenders of money to aid in carrying on the war.

The Mexican Government has declared the ports of Mezatlan and Matamoros closed to foreign commerce.

The publication of *El Tiempo*, the Bourbonist paper, has been discontinued since Congress has commenced its session.

*El Indicador*, of Vera Cruz, of the 23d ult, states that the English war steamer Vesuvius (which arrive at Sacrificios on the 14th ) had left for Tampico to demand from the commander of the St. Mary's explanations as to his motives for not permitting the steamer Clyde to take on board specie, as the English steamers had hitherto done. It also says that the commander of the Vesuvius would take it on board his own vessel.

In this connexion we may mention, that beside the Vesuvius, another English war steamer, a 50 gun frigate, and a brig-of-war, arrived at Sacrificios on the 14th, from Jamaica. The Vera Cruz editor is at a loss to account for the concentration of such a force there by the English. A Spanish frigate and brig, and a French bark and brig, all vessels of war were lying there on the 18thult.

On the 21st news was received at Vera Cruz that an American brig-of-war was blockading the port of Alvarado. The next day intelligence reached there that some boats from the brig had pursued a Mexican boat across the bar. Some boats from the Mexican vessels of war went to the assistance of the boat, and the people were called to arms. The Mexican boat made its escape. Say the Mexicans, "The victory was ours; but there was none killed or wounded, as the Americans did not venture to measure strength with us." The American boats were by signal ordered back to the brig. Subsequently to this tremendous affair the brig went to sea. The whole is reported as a great outrage.

An American sloop-of-war arrived off the port of Vera Cruz on the 30th ult., and an American brig-of-war at the same date was seen sailing towards Isla Verde. On the 18thult., there was an American frigate at Sacrificios, and a brig-of-war. On the 20th, the Spanish ship Flar de Llanes spoke an American vessel-of-war 20 leagues from Vera Cruz, which he supposed to be the flag-ship Cumberland.

The Committee of the Mexican Congress to which was referred the report of the Minister of Finance, in relation to obtaining resources for the war, on the 20th of June, reported a law to the following effect:-

"1. During the existence of the war which the United States is making upon the Mexican nation, the Government is authorized to raise the sums necessary for the war in the manner most convenient and efficacious, (but without taking possession of the private of individuals or corporations) allotting to each class the amount of money which it should contribute to the public defence, in the order it should judge equitable.

"2. The Government is authorized to make use of all the national revenues, taking care to apply them in the best manner the circumstances will admit, to the fulfillment of the objects to which each of them is appropriated.

"3. The Government is authorized to regulate the payment of the national debt.

"4. To take measures for the regulation and improvement of the public revenues and their administration; consulting in everything relating to the organization of the bureaus and the administration of the revenues the superior junta of the treasury, which it will organize in the manner which it shall deem most suitable."

This report, signed by Senor Alaman among others, was objected to at once and in toto, as being too indefinite as to the powers with which it would invest the Government. Two members were then added to the committee, and the subject referred back to them.

On the 23d June, Paredes issued a decree for the organization, in the capital, of a battalion of infantry and two squadrons of cavalry from the commercial classes, which were to find their own equipments, and whose sole duties should be the preservation of order in the capital, and the protection of private property.
On the 20th a Committee of Congress upon the form of a constitution was appointed. Pena y Pena, Couto, Arrillaga, Bonilla, Tagle, Romero, and Valencia were appointed.

We annex a translation of the project de loi, or bell, reported in relation to the war, by the committee to which it was referred. Bocanegra and Valencia were among the members of this committee. After a short report upon the circumstances of the case, the committee proposed the following:--

"The extraordinary National Congress of the Mexican Republic considering:

"That the Republic of the United States of America, with notorious violation of all right, has instigated and protected openly and perseveringly the insurrection of the colonists of Texas against the nation which had admitted them upon its territory, and generously shielded them with the protection of its laws.

"That it has not maintained the solemn assurances and reservations in regard to the rights of the Mexican Republic, which by means of its agents it had made in conformity with those treaties.

"That in time of profound peace, and during established relations of amity between the two countries, it has invaded by land and sea the territories of the Californias.

"That it has authorized a levy of troop against Mexico.

"That it has declared war against the Republic, under the pretext that the said states had been invaded, when in fact they made the invasion.

"And lastly, considering that the nationality of the Mexicans is seriously compromised by the power and the spirit of usurpation, flagrantly manifested by the neighbouring nation of the United States--Decrees.

"1st. The Mexican nation, in the exercise of its natural defence, is actually in a state of war with the United States of America.

"2d. In consequence there of the Government will employ all its resources and powers to render the war effectual to the reparation of the injury done to the Mexican nation; it will complete the bodies of permanent militia, and levy new forces at once to the extent it shall deem necessary, to fill up the bodies at present on foot, and to created others of the same description; and if it shall need other special powers Congress will confer them."

This report bears date the 16th ult., but we find it in a paper of the 27th, and we know not at all what action was taken by Congress upon it.

The diplomatic corps paid their respects to the President upon the 21st, to felicitate him upon his election. The British Minister, Mr. Bankhead, addressed the President on the subject very briefly, and in very general terms. The reply of the President is of the same character--not a line in it possesses any interest.

Advices have been received from Durango, giving account of an action between a body of Mexicans and a band of savages, in which the Mexicans were utterly defeated, with the loss of their commander and others, left dead on the field. This occurred early in June.

The situation of Matamoros and the north-eastern department is represented in the Mexican papers as deplorable. Without the speedy arrival of aid they are lost irrecoverably, say the Mexicans. Copies of the Republic of Rio Grande had been received in Mexico. The papers say they are written in bad Spanish. Shocking!

At 4 o'clock on the morning of the 21st inst. there was a slight shock of an earthquake felt at Vera Cruz, which lasted some seconds. It was accompanied by great agitation and roaring of the sea. The papers pray heaven to spare them from the calamities of the elements, while they are suffering from the evils of a foreign war.

The people of Tlacotalpam, on learning of the blockade of Alvarado, enlisted to the number of several hundreds to defend the bar, and a few thousand dollars were raised by subscription to erect fortifications.
Both the departments of Chihuahua and Durango are suffering from the ravages of the Comanches and Lepans. Their outrages are partially attributed to the intrigues of the North Americans, some of whom have been seen with the Indians. [PTH]

LT 8/26/1846 5A MEXICO

No one can be surprised that the precarious condition of Mexico, and of British interests in Mexico, should have excited amongst a portion of our mercantile community that anxiety which was very naturally and forcibly expressed on Monday night by Lord George Bentinck in the House of Commons. We ourselves have been repeatedly solicited by anxious and injured correspondents to endeavour to rouse the public opinion of this country against the enormous wrong done to Mexico by this aggression of the United States, and the probable consequences of that wrong to British interests in the invaded country. But neither the English Government nor the English press postponed to the extreme hour of danger those warning counsels which the occasion required. Mexico was urged to recognize the independence of Texas upon conditions which would have secured the existence of that state as a barrier between herself and the United States. Mexico was told that she must openly and resolutely decide between a closer connexion with the European Powers or the prospect of subjugation and dissolution by American invasion and American intrigues. She would do neither, but seemed to view both alternatives with the same stupid and inert suspicin, alike incapable of grasping the hand of a friend or parrying the attacks of a foe. Last autumn, when the incessant changes of the Mexican Government under the republican form had demonstrated that such a republic was condemned to perpetual anarchy, a suggestion was thrown out in Europe that a return to the monarchical form of Government would most probably be found the only effectual means of restoring stability and dignity to the Stare of Mexico. This idea was not unfavourably entertained by several of the leading statesmen in Europe, provided it should appear that the Mexicans themselves were disposed to adopt it, for there is certainly no motive or encouragement for any European Power to contribute to the restoration of a Government which would not possess the essential condition of the respect and attachment of the Mexican nation. Shortly afterwards a revolution was effected by a man to whom these monarchical views were not new or unwelcome, and who had directly adverted to them in his proclamation. A convention was called to regenerate the institutions of the country. Every species of calamity, from internal bankruptcy and dissolution to foreign conquest, were impending over Mexico; but in the midst of this crises, even General Paredes seems to have, not a good policy or a bad policy, no policy whatever; and we do not believes that an attempt has been seriously made by the Mexican Government to improve their lamentable position, either abroad or at home. They will neither make peace nor wage war, for the same inertia and incapacity retrain them from making concessions, and from offering resistance; and they live on from day to day without a spark of political life or national vigour.

The contemptible weakness of this people, however, justifies no part of the arrogant and unjust dealings of the United States towards them; but, on the contrary, it gives a more odious character to unequal conflict now going on upon the Rio Grande. But as far as the interests of British capitalists who have private investments in Mexico, and as far also as the general mercantile interests of this country, are concerned, we do not believe that there are reasonable grounds of apprehension from the possibility of the progress of the American arms in the Mexican territory. No Government ever did less to protect foreign enterprise and encourage foreign trade than that of Mexico. Our mining companies and our merchants have had to contend there with all the obstacles belonging to a state of society relapsing into barbarism--personal insecurity, detestable laws corruptly administered, no roads, fiscal restrictions on the precious metals, and a prohibitive tariff. With extraordinary patience these evils have been endured; and the British adventures in Mexico have done their duty to the Government on their gratitude? Why should they seek to support its authority? They have submitted with patience to every vicissitude of domestic anarchy, and we are convinced they have now more to hope than to fear from the chances of foreign invasion. Belligerent Powers do not make war on private property. It is the interest and the duty of the American Government to respect British property in Mexico as much as the Mexicans would do; and in the event of any transfer of territory, all private property, but especially the property of neutrals, is clearly protected by the laws of the dominant Power. This opinion is so strongly entertained in Mexico, that many of the principal landowners and proprietors in Northern Mexico are better affected to the United States than to their own Government, on the express ground of the superior protection which the former would afford to private property, and the immediate increase which would take place in the value of land and the transactions of foreign trade.
There are political and territorial reasons of great weight which induce us to view
with regret, though not with alarm, the progress of the United States towards the
southern limits of North America. But if we look at this contest on the ground of
British interests exclusively, it may be questioned whether the consequences of the
utmost conditions Mr. Polk is likely to exact from Mexico would inflict any injury
whatever on private British interests in that country. The public creditors of Mexico
are indeed in a different position, but their misfortunes must be attributed to the
absurd legislation, prodigality, and final bankruptcy of the Mexicans themselves; and
the prospects of the foreign bondholder have, of course, sunk with those of the state
to which he entrusted his money.

No case for the interference of this country, either alone or in conjunction with the
other European Powers, has been made out: it has not been solicited in any definite
form by Mexico; it has not been warranted by any act of the United States, since
they have carried on the war with propriety towards neutrals. The only species of
intervention which could be of use is, therefore, that which Lord Palmerston have
both successively proffered--namely, an amicable mediation between the two
countries. The Americans would, we have no doubt, be glad, if possible, to terminate
this affair as soon as they can. The war is disgusting and unpopular to all the better
classes of the American people, although they were unanimous in their resolution to
extricate the army from the critical position in which Mr. Polk had dared to place it.
The volunteers are troublesome, and the expenses of the army enormous. The force
collected in the Gulf of Mexico to attack St. Juan d'Ulloa is thrice as strong as that
with which Admiral Baudin carried that fortress, and yet its success is doubtful, from
the peculiar nature of the coast. To fail in such an enterprise would be an intolerable
humiliation to the American navy; and yet to succeed in it is only to do what the
French had done before with a smaller squadron. Upon the whole, then, the Cabinet
of Washington must be aware that they have no reasonable prospect of termination
this war by any action of extraordinary lustre; and if they are wise statesmen, they
will put an end to hostilities in which so little credit is to be won. [PTH]

The following message had been sent to Congress by the President:--

"To the Senate and House of Representatives:--

"I invite your attention to the propriety of making an appropriation to provide for any
expenditures which it may be necessary to make in advance for the purpose of
settling all our difficulties with the Mexican Republic. It is my desire to terminate, as
it originally was to avoid, the existing war with Mexico, with a peace just and
honourable for both parties.

"It is probable that the chief obstacle to be surmounted in accomplishing this
desirable object, will be the adjustment of the boundary between the two Republics,
which shall prove satisfactory and convenient to both, and such as neither will
hereafter repent. In the adjustment of this boundary we ought to pay a fair
equivalent for any concessions which may be made by Mexico.

"Under the circumstances, and considering the other complicated questions to be
settled by negotiation with the Mexican Republic, I deem it important that a sum of
money should be put under the control of the Executive, to be advanced, if need be,
to the Government of that Republic immediately after the ratification of a treaty. It
might be inconvenient for the Mexican Government to wait for the whole sum, the
payment of which may be stipulated by this treaty, until it could be ratified by our
senate, and an appropriation to carry it into effect made by Congress.

"Indeed, the necessity for their delay might defeat the object altogether. The
disbursement of this money would, of course, be accounted for not as secret service
money, but like other expenditures. Two precedents for such a proceeding exist in
past history during the administration of Mr. Jefferson, to which I would call your
attention. On the 20th of February, 1803, an act was passed appropriating 2,000,000
dollars for the purpose of defraying any extraordinary expenditures which may be
incurred in the intercourse between the United States and foreign nations; to be
applied under the direction of the President of the United States, who shall cause an
account thereof to be laid before Congress as soon as may be; and on the 13th of
February, 1806, an appropriation may prove indispensable in accomplishing this
object. I would therefore recommend the passage of a law appropriation may prove
indispensable in accomplishing this object. I would therefore recommend the
passage of a law appropriating 2,000,000 dollars to be placed at the disposal of the
Executive for the purpose I have indicated. In order to prevent all misapprehension,
it is my duty to state that, anxious as I am to terminate the existing war with the least possible delay, it will continue to be prosecuted with the utmost vigour until a treaty of peace shall be signed by the parties, and ratified by the Mexican Republic. "James K. Polk."

The following documents, transmitted confidence to the Senate, and by the body considered in executive session, have since been released from the bond of secrecy:

"Mr Buchanan to Commodore Connor.

"Department of State, Washington, July 27, 1846.

"Sir, --I have the honour to transmit herewith a sealed note addressed to the Minister of Foreign Relations of the Mexican Government determine to accept the offer, and enter upon negotiations, it may, and probably will, propose to you to conclude an armistice during their pendency. If such a proposition should be made, you will promptly, by kindly, reject it, giving, at the same time, every assurance that the President will do all in his power to bring the negotiations to a satisfactory termination with the least possible delay.

"If an armistice were concluded, the two parties would not stand on an equal footing. The United States, at a heavy expense, now have armies in the field, and navies upon the ocean, in successful progress to conquer an honourable peace. Should their operations be arrested by an armistice, and the negotiations for peace should finally fail, we would then lose nearly all the advantages of an entire campaign. Besides, this sacrifice, great as it might be, would scarcely equal the evils, in every form, which a season of inactivity could not fail to inflict upon our troops, the greater portion of whom consist of patriotic citizens who have volunteered to serve their country in the confidence that they would be actively employed. Whilst, therefore, the President sincerely desires, with the utmost promptitude, to restore our friendly relations with Mexico upon fair and liberal terms, the war must continue to be prosecuted with the utmost vigour, until a definite treaty of peace shall be signed and ratified by Mexico.

"You will not fail with all the despatch in your power to transmit the answer of the Mexican Government to this department.

"I have the honour to be, Sir, Very respectfully, you obedient servant,

"James Buchanan.

"To Commodore David Connor, Commanding the Naval Force of the United States in the Gulf of Mexico"

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"Department of State, Washington, July 27, 1846.

"To his excellency the Minister of Foreign Relations of the Mexican Republic

"Sir, --The President of the United States, no less anxious to terminate than he was to avoid the present unhappy war with the Mexican Republic, has determined to make an effort to accomplish this purpose. He has accordingly instructed the undersigned Secretary of State to propose, through your Excellency, to the Mexican Government, that negotiations shall forthwith commence for the conclusion of a peace just and honourable to both parties. Should this offer be received and responded to by the Mexican Government in the same frank and friendly spirit by which it has been dictated, he will immediately despatch an Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the city of Mexico, with instructions and full powers to conclude a treaty of peace which shall adjust all the questions in dispute between the two republics. If the Mexican Government should prefer to send a Minister to Washington to conduct the negotiations here, he shall be received with kindness and respect, and every effort shall be made to accomplish the object of his mission with the least possible delay.

"In the present communication it is deemed useless, and might prove injurious, to discuss the causes of the existing war. This might tend to delay or defeat the restoration of peace. The past is already consigned to history--the future, under Providence, is within our own power.

"Commodore Conner will transmit this despatch for your Excellency to the Governor of Vera Cruz, under a flag of truce; and you are respectfully invited to adopt the same channel for communicating your answer.

"James Buchanan, Secretary of State,

"To Commodore David Connor, Commanding the Naval Force of the United States in the Gulf of Mexico"
"I avail myself of the occasion to offer your Excellency the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

"James Buchanan."

The papers were read and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, which, on the following day, reported two resolutions—one expressing a desire for peace, and the other resolving that the President’s desire for an appropriation should be gratified. After debate, Mr. Hannegan presented and amendment, resolving that the Senate, with their present information, declined giving any advice. These resolutions were debated and then referred back to the Committee on Foreign Relations, and on the next day--Thursday, the 6th instant--Mr. M’Duffie reported the following resolutions:--

"Resolved, that the Senate entertain a strong desire that the existing war with Mexico should be terminated by a treaty of peace, just and honourable to both nations, and that the President be advised to adopt all proper measures for the attainment of that object.

"Resolved further, that the Senate deem it advisable that Congress should appropriate a sum of money to enable the President to conclude a treaty of peace, limits and boundaries with the Republic of Mexico, and to be used by him in the event that such treaty should call for the expenditure of the money so appropriated, or any part thereof." [PTH]

The lassitude and the quiescence which mark the waning period of this eventful year seem to have extended from this country and the other states of Europe to the continent of America, and the Hibernia brings us the intelligence of a concluded session and a subsiding war. Since the declaration of their independence the United States of America have not passed through a more remarkable and momentous session of Congress. They have stood upon the brink of a war with the Power most formidable by land and by sea to the security of their territory and the interests of their commerce. They have been plunged into rash, wanton, and ineffective hostilities with their only other neighbor in the American hemisphere. They have set afoot a considerable army acting beyond their own frontiers, whilst the largest squadrons which ever sailed under the American flag are blockading the ports of Mexico in the Gulf and on the Pacific. They have appropriated vast sums of money to these military preparations, and by the Sub-Treasury Bill, which received the sanction of the Legislature at the close of the session, the Government has resumed the dangerous power of tampering with the public securities of the Union.

Meanwhile, whatever may have been the real intentions of Mr. Polk and his immediate advisors, the diplomatic prudence of the British Ministry and of the American Senate brought the Oregon controversy to a timely and fortunate termination. In all these transactions the Cabinet of Washington may have successfully promoted its own party ends, but the political conduct of the President with reference to the English negotiation and the Mexican war has done little to raise his own credit as a statesman, or to do honour to the American nation.

The Oregon correspondence, including the instructions transmitted from time to time by Mr. Buchanan to Mr. M’Iane at this Court, has now been communicated to the Senate and published by the American journals. It proves to demonstration how far the real views of Mr. Polk fell short of the claims he had thought fit to encourage and adopt in his public discourses; and it further proves, that in the final settlement the Americans gave up one of the points—namely, the navigation of the Columbia—to which Mr. Polk and Mr. Buchanan had repeatedly expressed an unalterable determination to adhere. On the 12th of July, 1845, Mr. Buchanan declared that, "with his present impressions, the President can never yield to Great Britain the free navigation of the Columbia." On the 26th of February, 1846, he added—"The President cannot, however, anticipate any possible change of circumstances which would induce him to submit to such a proposition (that of a temporary joint occupancy), if it should contain a surrender to Great Britain of the perpetual right to navigate the Columbia. A grant of the free navigation of St. Lawrence to the United States would be no equivalent for such a concession!"

Nevertheless this concession was made; and nothing can be more shallow than the attempt of Mr. Buchanan to loak this strong inconsistency by asserting that the Senate voted the treaty under the conviction that by the true construction of the
second article of the project, the right of the Hudson’s Bay Company to navigate the Columbia would expire with the present license to trade with the Indians on the north west coast of America, on the 30th of May, 1859. Mr. Buchanan must have been perfectly aware that the Hudson’s Bay Company is a permanent corporation, nearly two centuries old; and the navigation of the Columbia is secured to it and to all British subjects trading with it in perpetuity.

In the conduct of the Mexican war the President has, if possible, displayed a still more marked falling off from the course he had proposed to himself and promised the country. The hostilities originated entirely with his own instructions to General Taylor, for it is clear that the Mexicans would never have marched a man beyond Matamoros, and the territory between the Nueces and Rio Grande might with perfect security have remained neutral, until the boundary treaty could be negotiated. Mr. Polk, however, required a war—he required military patronage and military expenditure, and he boldly drew a bill at sight on the folly and enthusiasm of the people. The drum turned their heads, and the object of the Administration was gained. We have all along foreseen that the conduct of this war would present almost insuperable military difficulties, and that the cry of marching to Mexico, investing the principal cities, and occupying the country, was the mere dream of an ignorant populace. Without roads, without local supplies, with little water and a great deal of disease, the march of an American army into the heart of Mexico would have led to its destruction. And so it has proved. General Taylor has shown himself a prudent as well as a gallant commander, and he has therefore not even advanced to Monterey. Nor has Commodore Connor been more enterprising. The American officers by sea and land deserve great credit for the resolution with which they have abstained from those inconsiderate, though sometimes brilliant, undertakings which the impetuosity of a popular Government is so apt to force upon a commander. Their discretion is praiseworthy; but what shall we say of the still more laudable and placable dispositions of President Polk? He has allowed the Congress to separate after having unsuccessfully proposed to them a contingent appropriation of two dollars, “providing for any expedition which it may be necessary to make in advance for the purpose of settling all our difficulties with the Mexican Republic.” The meaning of this peculiar phraseology appears to be, not that the army should make an expedition in advance for the subjugation of the Mexican territory, by that the Treasury should advance whatever may be needed “to pay a fair equivalent for any concessions which may be made by Mexico.” Mr. Buchanan has the pen of a pleasant writer, and he evidently thought the advances of the Treasury entitled to a preference over the advances of the troops. In short, after having held the most arrogant and uncompromising language to Mexico at the sword’s point, President Polk was anxious to present to the astonished descendants of Cortes and of Guatimozin the pleasing alternative of a well-filled purse. So considerate is the Cabinet of Washington become towards the sister Republic, that Mr. Buchanan suggests “it might be inconvenient for the Mexican Government to wait for the payment of the whole sum until the treaty could be ratified by the Senate and the appropriations made by Congress.” Congress, therefore, had it not been for the well-timed prosing of Mr. Davis, would have left a handsome balance in the Treasury, for the express purpose of relieving the necessities of their enemies and honouring the draughts of General Paredes. The Mexicans will regret Mr. Davis’s prolixity, for, upon such terms as these, they would willingly be conquered every morning. It reminds us of the ancient practice of administering a couple of guineas to cure a black eye somewhat lightly inflicted on a slender antagonist. Humanity approves; and Justice smiles: but what becomes of the just and necessary cause of the dispute? If it be fitting that Mexico receive two million dollars for a full release, how comes it that she has hitherto only been paid in knocks? Above all, what are we to think of Mr. Polk, who begins with steel and lead what he is so anxious to terminate with paper and gold? Such questions need no answers. Mr. Polk has discovered the difficulties and evils arising out of the state of war, even with Mexico; and we are not disposed to blame him for his fruitless, though novel, scheme of terminating it, even if it be at the expense of his own character as a politician and at some loss to the dignity of the United States. [PTH]
getting into the shade whenever they can during the day, taking a nap at noon, or
lying about under walls or in shady places, the upon the ground, to play at cards for
reales or medios (and dollars, if they have any), they are so enervated that the
climate during the sickly season is very apt to affect numbers of them, if much
exposed during the fiercest hours of the day; to which, in fact, they have never been
accustomed. They very often take the yellow fever, and even die of the vomito
Negro (particularly at Vera Cruz, Tampico, and Alvarado), as well as the temeritious
foreigners. They even fear it beforehand. A Mexican soldier who has been drunk over
night with aquardiente, and has a sick headache next morning, will ask permission of
his sergeant to leave the ranks during parade or guard duty, as he is very unwell,
and will go and squat down under a wall or shed. If you ask him what is the matter
he shakes his head with a melancholy, much injured, but resigned air, and answers,
"Calentura, senor-calentura." I will answer for it that any moderately strong English
grenadier--not a regular boxer, but who can only "hit straight"--would knock down
10 or a dozen Mexican soldiers, equally unarmed, one after the other, as fast as they
presented themselves. Put a sword into their hands, and give a stout Highlander a
claymore, or a raw-boned Irishman a good shillelah, and the 10 soldiers would be
very likely to tumble to the right and left with broken blades and broken heads. The
Mexicans are by no means deficient in courage. They have fiery spirits and fear of
cold steel. They are "always ready to die." I have even heard them in hours of
danger use that very expression. What they want is physical force; the power to
justify their feelings. The Mexican officers are for the most part not good. They are
valiant but have no judgment. They are far too excitable, and without self-
government. Moreover they are very often much too young; many of their lieutnants,
and even captains, being mere boys. I was once acquainted in Vera Cruz with a
Mexican colonel of artillery who was not two-and-twenty. He was a very well
informed, high-spirited, amiable young man, a good mathematicians, and a good
swordsmen; but, of course, without any adequate experience for such a post. The
Mexican cavalry is admirable--in respect of horsemanship. The artillery is food in all
respects. In the recent battles (as well as in former wars) they seldom failed to
throw their balls and shells directly into the works of the fortress attacked; and
before General Vega's little fort was taken, his guns had destroyed one-third of the
assailants; but when the strong-armed men got close in amongst the Mexican ranks
it was all over in a minute. -American paper. [CCB]

**LT September 2, 1846/7C THE AMERICAN NAVY.**

--The New York Herald publishes a list of the American squadron in the Gulf of
Mexico and for the attack of San Juan de Ulloa. As this list is running from the
rounds of the press, we think it right to state that it is in some respects erroneous.
For instance, it sets out by enumerating among these vessels the United States ship
of the line Pennsylvania, 120 guns; North Carolina, 74; Delaware, 74. Not one of
these vessels is in commission, neither prepared for sea, nor in a state of
preparation. At no period, perhaps, was our naval force in a more efficient state of
equipment than it is at this time, under the auspices of the present secretary. It was
early prepared for service in the Mexican war, and it was dispatched to every point
where it was wanting in the Gulf of Mexico or the Pacific ocean, for operating against
the enemy. We understand that its economy is equal to its efficiency. The great
inconvenience which the department has to sustain arises at this time from the want
of seaman to man the vessels; but every possible exertion is making to remedy this
defect, and to give the ships that are getting ready for sea the utmost efficiency of
which they are susceptible. -- Washington Union. [CCB]

**LT September 5, 1846/5F "AMERICA."**

[The following appeared in a third edition of The Times of yesterday:--]

LIVERPOOL, FRIDAY MORNING.

The steam-ship Great Western, Captain Mathews, which arrived in the Mersey
shortly before midnight, has put us in possession of accounts from New York to the
20th ult., inclusive.

These advices are entirely unimportant, and even with regard to the naval and
military operations on the frontiers of Mexico we have little intelligence worthy of
note. From Vera Cruz we have advices one day later, and from these we learn that
affairs at that port remained unchanged. From Matamoras we are advised that
General Taylor was still employed in the work of preparation. A military depot was
being formed at Camargo, and the troops were concentrating at that place with all possible speed. Fears of pestilence were entertained by those stationed at Matamoras. Of the position of the Mexicans we have still no authentic accounts. According to letters from the seat of operations, ten heavy pieces of artillery had been mounted at Monteroz for the defence of the city; according to other statements a call for 7,000 men made upon the department of Nueva Leon had failed to evoke from the citizens any measures to repel the projected invasion; and to these reports it is further added, that the Mexican General Mejia had concentrated at Lenaures his force of 3,000 men. These reports are, however, altogether too doubtful in their character to meet ready acceptance. General Taylor was expected to move forward about the middle of August. Of General Wool's expedition we have no late news. From Fort Leavenworth, however, we learn that the expedition under General Kearney had, by the latest accounts, advanced to within 130 miles of Bent's Fort, and that the General had determined to push on past that point without delay. The Mormon troops remained at Fort Leavenworth. Rumours were in circulation among the traders and the Mexicans to the effect that General Urrea was marching at the head of a large Mexican force for the protection of the Santa Fe.

From New York we are advised, that vessels had been chartered for the immediate conveyance of the California expedition. We learn, also, that the tow war-steamer purchased by the United States Government were almost completed, and would shortly proceed to the Gulf of Mexico. Rumours of a privateer having appeared off the Isle of Pines are mentioned in the journals.

Domestic affairs in the Union present few features of interest. The elections in North Carolina had resulted in a most complete Whig triumph, ensuring the return of two Whig members to the Senate. The Secretary of the Navy is stated to be actively introducing valuable reforms into that branch of the public service over which he presides. The emigration from Arkansas to Texas is said to have recommenced. The public journals continue to relate fresh instances of the reappearance of the potato rot. The commercial accounts by the Caledonia occasioned no change of importance in the markets. Exchange on the 19th, sterling bills 8 to 8 1/4 premium.

From Canada our accounts are to the 17th ultimo. The journals contain loose rumours of a re-constitution of the Ministry being in completion. [CCB]

LT September 5, 1846/6e "The Affairs of Mexico"

(From our own Correspondent. )
Mexico, July 30.

Matamoros remains in the hands of the Americans, and Vera Cruz and Tampico are blockaded by their ships; but the rains prevalent at this time of the year, and which have fallen with unusual violence in that part of the country, have paralyzed the further operations of the American army on the Bravo under General Taylor. Nor has any attack yet been made by Commodore Connor on Vera Cruz or the Castle. General Taylor has now under his command about 14,000 men, a force sufficient to penetrate to San Luis Potosi. A great proportion of these, however, are volunteers from Texas, and the western states of North America, men who spurn at all control, and whom it will be difficult to subject to military discipline. It is known that they intend to march to the interior as soon as the weather permits, and that the first point of attack will be Monterey, the capital of Nuevo Leon, distant about 85 leagues from Matamoros. Some preparations for defence are not growing on there, and Megia has led the wrecks of the army of the north to strengthen the garrison; but Monterey is an open town, and the result will no doubt be a capitulation as soon as the Americans appear. General Arista has frankly expressed his opinion that Mexican soldiers, in their present state of discipline, cannot be brought to face the North Americans. It might be thought that this Government would see the wisdom of negotiation for peace before the Americans penetrate further into the country; but the national vanity and a touch of obstinacy, which they inherit from the Spaniards, forbid them to take the initiative. A rumour which has reached this of the offered mediation of Great Britain in the contest, has however given much satisfaction. Intelligence has been received from New Mexico of the invasion of that province by 6,000 Americans. Armigo, the governor, has applied for assistance to the authorities of Chihuahua, Durango, and Zacatecas, all of whom promise aid, but in reality can give none.

Civil war continues to augment the woes of Mexico. The insurgents of Guadalaxara are besieged in the center of the city, from which the troops of the Government are unable to dislodge them. General Arevalo, commanding the Government forces,
effected, by mining, an entrance to a convent within the line of the insurgents; but
the building was retaken, Arevalo and several of his officers and men killed, and the
remainder made prisoners. Pacheco, the second in command, is accused of not
supporting his chief on this occasion. Arevalo was a good officer, a native of Spain--
and perhaps for that reason sacrificed.

Paredes has published a code of rules and regulations for issuing letters of marque
against the Americans. Mexico has no marine, the few vessels sailing under her flag
belonging to Yucatan; but the peninsula takes no part in this contest, and for the
present considers itself an independent state. The only parties likely to solicit letters
of marque here are slave-traders and other desperados from the Havannah, who
make no very nice distinction between privateering and piracy.

A general amnesty to prisoners accused of political offences, was published a few
days ago, by which means Senor Trigueros, ex-Minister of Finance, recovered his
liberty after about two months' close confinement, on a charge of conspiring in
favour of Santa Anna. The same clemency was extended to a British subject confined
in the castle of Perote on the same grounds.

On the 28th inst. General Paredes surrendered the reins of Government to General
Bravo, now Vice-President. Paredes goes to command the army, nominally against
the Americans, but probably in the first instance against the pronunciados of
Guadalaxara.

I send you a translation of Bravo's speech to Congress on taking possession of the
Government. It has the merit of conciseness, and the rarer one of truth. The
situation of the country is there faithfully depicted. No one attributes much ability to
General Bravo; but he is considered a man of good intentions, although it is not
forgotten that he forcibly dissolved the Congress of 1842 in obedience to the
mandate of Santa Anna, and that he used that brief interval of power to confer the
most extraordinary privileges on the port of Acapulco, near which his own property is
situated, all which immunities Santa Anna immediately revoked.

All the Ministers of Paredes have resigned.

The blockade of the Atlantic ports, of course, renders arrangements for the payment
of the public debt, the means for which must be derived from the maritime custom-
houses, mere matters of theory. Before retiring from office, however, Senor Iturbe
produced, and General Paredes decreed, a new financial scheme, the leading feature
of which is the resumption by Government of one-half of the customs' revenue,
while the other half is appropriated to the payment of the debt 20 per cent. of the Vera
Cruz and Tampico custom-houses going to the English bondholders, and to the
payment of British claims adjusted by diplomatic intervention, the quota assigned by
those conventions. I do not observe, however, that any provision is made for the
repayment of the sums seized in the violation of all agreements by Senor Iturbe. His
answer, when applied to on this score, is a remarkable specimen of assurance. "If I
had to repay those sums, " said the Minister, "I should gain nothing by having taken
them." This logic may do in Mexico, but will hardly be considered satisfactory in
Downing-street. The new scheme would place the future control of the custom-
houses very much in the hands of Iturbe himself, and a few of the other large
holders of the 26 per cent. fund, to the level of which it is proposed to reduce the
copper certificates, and a variety of other credits against the Government. But the
holders of these credits have demurred and protested, and it is thought that the next
Minister will alter or repeal the decree. This is the great evil of Mexican legislation;
nothing is permanent. On the formation of the 25 per cent. fund, they did their best
to tie themselves down by printing the decree in the body of the bonds, but the
terms of that decree have already undergone several modifications, and now a
sweeping measure is attempted, giving the fun an entirely new character.

The list of the new Cabinet has not yet been published. It is said that the war
department will be given to General Mora, and that of finance to Don Antonio Faray.
Both are men of experience and ability.

The arrival of a conducta, with about 800,000 from Zacatecas and Guanaxuato, has
relieved in some degree the pressure in the money market; but a general want of
confidence still prevails here, the result of recent failures and the unsettled state of
the country. Robberies on the roads have multiplied in an extraordinary manner. In
the short space of ten days nice diligences have been robbed. A muleteer, bringing
goods from Vera Cruz, has sent to solicit assistance from this, finding himself
surrounded by robbers at Rio Frio. Cotton wool has reached the extraordinary price
of 32 per quintal; but scarcely any other article has advanced in price since the
declaration of blockade. [CCB]
Speech of General Bravo to the Mexican Congress

I have taken an oath, the solemnity of which forbids me to forget that the obligations it imposes are closely united with the future destinies of the country. In its present struggling position, divided by the political opinions of its children, and threatened by the voracious ambition of the United States of the North, the task of governing it is difficult, and hard the lot of him who is called to the helm of the sinking vessel in the midst of such tempests. Eleven years of an obstinate and glorious struggle to emancipate the nation from its ancient rulers, left the people satisfied, although wearied. But the successive and almost continued disturbances of the last 25 years appear to have exhausted their patriotism. For who, gentlemen, does not observe (and painful it is to refer to the fact) that the critical situation of the republic, when our attention should be fixed on the melancholy picture it presents, does not excite the public spirit which should animate it? What true patriot, what honourable man, does no give way to the most melancholy reflections at seeing the country languid and spiritless, waiting for its enemies to come and gather the fruit of the discord which their crafty malignity has sown amongst us? To the wisdom of Congress it belongs to find a fitting remedy for so great an evil, a remedy so important and efficacious, as to create and reorganize every thing under the established system.

This is, indeed, a difficult task. To accomplish it, the collision of a thousand private interests is inevitable; but let us not forget that the chief object our labours should be the support of the war to defend the independence of the country--a war which is now a sacred duty to every one who bears the name of a Mexican, and desires to leave an honourable name to posterity.

Gentlemen! let us save the Republic; let us prepare the glorious trophies which, dyed with the blood of our progenitors, gave it a place amongst the distinguished nations of the universe. Let us save the country; all her sons burying for this object, in oblivion, the quarrels which divide them; and check with strong and energetic hand the disturbers of order and public tranquility.

I solemnly offer the sacrifice required of me for so laudable an object. The Congress may accept it with the confidence that my words have never been falsified, for they are the expression of my real sentiments.

Mexico, July 28, 1846.  
NICOLAS BRAVO.

Address of the liberating republican army

"City of Mexico, August 4  
"Liberating Republican Army.

"In the morning of this day almost the whole of the garrison of this capital, who are at this moment under the orders of the undersigned and of General Don Juan Morales, occupying the citadel, declared against the Government, and will soon be in possession of the whole city, as the troops who remain under the orders of Generals Bravo and Paredes are insignificant, and are extremely disaffected, and almost in union with us; for it cannot long be concealed from any good Mexican that the holy cause which we defend is the cause of the people and of national independence.

In the name of these, then, we invite your Excellency--and rely confidently on your sincere patriotism--immediately to second an enterprise so noble, and give thus a day of glory to the country to which you have rendered so many services. It is, beyond all doubt, certain that the cause which we defend will speedily triumph, not only because the Government (so called) may be said to be already overthrown, but because the whole nation is in commotion, and resolve to vanquish those who wish to sacrifice it. The triumphs obtained by our arms in Guadalaxara, and the pronunciamento of the whole department of Vera Cruz, attest this truth; and for the complete information of your Excellency, it only remains for me to state to you, that the valiant generals Landero and Perez declared themselves in the city of Vera Cruz on the 31st ultimo, inviting, through a commission, the illustrious General Santa Anna to come and place himself immediately at the head of the army sustaining the
national independence and liberties, in conformity with the plan which we have
proclaimed, and of which I herewith transmit copies to your Excellency. The
enthusiasm among the united people are the army cannot be greater; chiefs,
officers, and men of all classes of society are presenting themselves to us by
hundreds.

We congratulate ourselves, in the name of the nation, which will soon be able to
show its gratitude to its worthy servants.

"God and liberty,
"J. Mariano De Salas.
"Valentin Gomes Farias."

"To his excellency the Commandant-General of the Department of Vera Cruz." [CCB]

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\text{LT September 16, 1846/4d Mexico}
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The intelligence just received from Mexico will increase the disgust with which the
conduit of the people of that country has long been viewed, and will greatly diminish
the sympathy hitherto felt for them on account of the ill-treatment they have
experienced at the hands of the American Government. There is no possibility of
helping those who are unwilling to help themselves, and such appears to be the
conditions of the Mexicans. They are wasting upon internal discord the little energy
and limited resources they possess, while standing almost in the presence of a
powerful enemy. We might with justice cease to feel an interest in the fate of a
country so perversely bent upon its own ruin, were it not that our own commerce is
suffering severely from the present condition of the relations between the United
States and Mexico. A squabble, however contemptible, which impedes the progress
of trade on the part of neutrals, and renders private property liable to those dangers
that are inseparable from a state of domestic anarchy---such a contention between
two litigants who seem both unable to bring the quarrel to an end is a nuisance
which a third party should be allowed to terminate. Friendly offers of mediation have
already been made by our late as well as our present Minister for Foreign Affairs; but
the United States and Mexico seen disposed to "fight it out"---a process which
threatens to prove exceedingly tedious. On one side we find large resources
injudiciously applied, and on the other internal discord dividing the force that needs
the utmost concentration to give it the smallest chance of proving successful. We
can scarcely hope for the triumph of the Mexican cause, after the specimens we
have seen of the incapacity of the Mexican people to provide efficiently for their own
government. Were they to retain their nominal independence, it is only too probable
that they would continue to be the slaves of that spirit of vacillation which subjects
them to a constant change of rulers, and dooms the country to a condition
practically amounting to anarchy. No sooner does the last new President turn his
back on the seat of Government, than, almost in a night, there springs up in his
place some mushroom rival. He, in his turn, is superseded by another, equally rapid
in growth and with as little hold on the ground he occupies. Santa Anna has by this
time returned to such power as can be held by the nominal head of a body whose
members cannot be brought to cooperate in any sustained effort for their general
benefit. He is said to be determined on continuing the war; but it is not improbable
that, with the fatal tendency to disunion which prevails among the people, their
sentiments may take a pacific turn when the President is known to be bent on an
opposite policy.

The downfall of Paredes cannot be deplored, for in the midst of the crisis to which
Mexico has been exposed, with conquest threatening from abroad, and every social
evil preying on the vitality of the country at home, the President who has just been
replaced remained at least inactive, if not indifferent. His imbecility, which might
have kept him harmless under ordinary circumstances, rendered him wholly unfit to
retain the office of President in a country whose greatest evil is the want of a strong
Government. If Santa Anna can supply such a desideratum, his restoration will be a
happy event, of which not only Mexico itself, but all who are interested in its
commerce, will speedily feel the benefit. Whether the war is to be continued or
concluded, a strong Government is equally essential for the security of neutrals, who
will naturally feel disposed to sympathize with that party which affords them most
efficiently the protection to which they are entitled. The Cabinet of the United States
is scarcely to be blamed for evincing an indisposition to negotiate with men who,
though nominally rulers to-day, may be deposed and treated as traitors to-morrow.
A country must be itself untied before it can inspire the confidence of those who are
disposed to become its allies, or obtain the respect of such as are in the position of
its enemies. Mexico can neither make a honourable peace, nor prosecute a war with
the chance of success, until its interests are placed under the protection of an
efficient Executive. [CCB]

LT September 25, 1846/5a US and Mexico

Liverpool, Thursday.

By the packet-ship Columbia, Captain Rathbone, we have received New York
accounts of the 1st instant.

The intelligence contained is important.

From Mexico we learn that Santa Anna had passed the blockade and landed at Vera
Cruz. Paredes had been seized and imprisoned; and the once exiled chief would now
appear to reign supreme chief over the unstable and degraded citizens of the
"republic." We learn, also, on the authority of the American accounts, that the United
States squadron in the Pacific had seized upon California. From the Rio del Norte we
are advised that the town of China, situate about 60 miles about the central depot of
Camargo, had been invested by a small American force. Gradual advances en route
to Monterey were being made by the troops. In New Mexico Armijo was making vain
efforts to induce the citizens to arrest the progress of General Kearney's army.

From Canada our accounts are of no moment.

Half-past 4 o'clock p.m.

A ship with several days' later intelligence is announced as off the port.

(Correspondence of the Express.)

The steamer of M'Kim arrived at New Orleans on the 23d, with dates from Point
Isabel to the 17th, and from Camargo to the 13th. She brought 100 volunteers on
the sick list. General William O. Butler was confined to his tent at Point Isabel by
sickness. China, 60 miles above Camargo, was taken by M'Culloch and his 75
Rangers on the 5th of August. Seguin, with 100 mounted Mexicans, took flight from
the town, which contains 700 inhabitants. There were 300 regular troops at Camargo
on the 9th, ready to start for Monterey.

The volunteers were pouring in. General Taylor arrived on the 9th with his staff.
Baylie Peyton also arrived on the 9th. A grand review of the troops took place, and it
is said General Taylor expressed himself in terms of admiration of their discipline.
Duncan's battery, and M'Culloch, with a portion of his men, left Camargo on the 12th
in the direction of Monterey.

The steamer Arab arrived off Vera Cruz on the 15th inst., with Santa Anna on board.
He immediately placed himself at the head of the movement in that department. The
departments of Puebla and Mexico have declared for Santa Anna, and Paredes has
already been taken prisoner. The revolt at the Capital was headed by General Salas.
Before Santa Anna left Havannah, he took letters from General Campbell to
Commodore Connor, and avowed himself, in reply to some inquiries as to his
intentions, as follows:--If the people of my country are for war, then I am with
them; but I would prefer peace.

News has been received in Mexico and Monterey and California had been taken by
one of the vessels of the United States squadron. Another account says that all
California has yielded to the Americans.

A letter dated at Vera Cruz on the 16th of August says that advices have been
received by express of the formal annexation of California to the United States, that
is, the United States forces have taken possession of California. This news came to
the British Consulate at Vera Cruz.

Despatches were to be sent to England and to New Orleans by special express.

Later from Santa Fe.
Baltimore, Monday Evening.

The St. Louis Reveille publishes a letter from Santa Fe, dated July 17, from which we learn that Governor Armijo had ordered the people to be in readiness to march against the United States army. It is suggested that he makes this demonstration of resistance without really intending to execute it, although he intimates that he would rather fight than surrender the country. He assured the merchants and traders that they would all be protected.

Late from Pernambuco.

Liverpool, Thursday

The Swordfish, Captain Green, arrived from Pernambuco this morning, with advices to the 25th of August. She brings, however, no political advices of moment. Exchange is quoted at 261/2. [CCB]

LT September 28, 1846/4C California

here must be a limit to that tendency to absorption which a great historian has described as the great territorial law of modern times. An overbearing desire of aggrandizement, superseding for its own satisfaction the usages of public law and the dictates of common equity, is as dangerous to the peace of the world now, as it was when every century was characterized by the blood and treasure expended in checking it. New political terms do not change the realities of political conduct. It was observed after the peace of Westphalia, that the word secularization, with which the ecclesiastical negotiations at Munster had enriched the language of diplomacy, was destined to such notoriety as was hardly dreamt of at its first introduction. Such seems likely to be the fate of the term "annexation"--a simple and unobjectionable expression of a new world which will hereafter imply what in the old would be stigmatized as a treacherous and tyrannical invasion of the property of others. European history offers no parallel to the territorial condition of the North American continent, unless, indeed, a faint resemblance be traced in the consolidation of the Germanic empire after the dismemberment of the realms of CHARLEMAGNE. An enormous district, scarcely yet reclaimed from its aboriginal savages, possessed by a nation of Saxon settlers powerful enough to overrun any single portion, but not numerous enough to colonize all--a country in which the formation and consolidation of states is yet in progress--in which few boundaries have acquired the sanctity of a prescription, and not all even the advantages of certainty--in which many frontiers are as vague and as wild as the marches of the tenth century--and in which the revolutionary disorders of an empire's childhood appear not yet to have been passed through--such is America; offering to an observant eye a living and moving illustration of those peculiar chapters which open the history of every old country of Europe. What will be the result of a century's changes it would be hazardous to predict. Whether the magnificent aspiration will be realized of a new Saxon with its capital on the Potomac--whether states now united will be isolated into independent Governments--whether the hitherto neglected districts of the north-west will be absorbed in a central power, or revolt into a distinct maritime state giving law to the Pacific--all these questions will be resolved by time alone. But as the operations on which they depend differ in this form their European precedents, that they are carried on not in the night of ages but in the light of day, and before the eyes of intelligent nations, they can be exempted neither from strictures nor intervention, if they are attended with breaches of those eternal laws of justice which should rule both worlds alike.

If the tone of the American papers did not convey so unequivocally the sentiments of their countrymen, we should not for a moment have conceived that the seizure of California by the United States, announced in our paper of Friday, could have been possibly contemplated, as leading to a permanent occupation, even by the Americans themselves; nor are we now willing to believe that these barefaced avowals of the people can really represent the sentiments of the Government. That one nation at war with another in a most trivial cause should coolly seize upon its largest province upon no other plea than that it was "unnecessary to the enemy but of the greatest importance to themselves," or that the new line of demarcation would "square off the territories of both nations," is nothing but a most extravagant assertion of the right of the stronger. The province of California embraces in its extent nearly one-half of the territories of the Mexican republic, its splendid natural advantages have been barely touched, and a land, in many places as fertile as the plains of Champagne, with a climate compared to the suns and skies of Andalusia, lies still open to the settler. An immense line of sea coast contains one of the finest
harbours in the world, within which it is stated that the whole navies of Europe and America might ride in security together. To the Power from which it thus coolly proposed to abstract it, this province is of such vital importance than its loss must almost inevitably entail the loss of all the national interdependence, and the absorption of all the remaining provinces, whenever it may seem fit to Congress to change the form of the southern boundary of their territory from the quadrilateral shape now preferred into some more graceful and irregular termination.

It happens, too, that the interest of England in this transaction is somewhat beyond that necessarily felt by every nation in whatever affects the validity and the influence of public law. That a stronger state should so gratuitously "annex a weaker, is a precedent dangerous enough to demand at least a protest, but the matter is graver still when the property seized is already charged with liabilities honestly and openly contracted towards a third party. For some of the numerous monies with which our capitalists have been induced to support and stimulate Mexican enterprise this province is, we believe, our only security, and the rights of mortgagees for which we exchanged our advances are not to be demolished by the unscrupulousness of the invaders of the imbecility of the sufferers. In the character which each nation sustains in the commonwealth of nations we may protest against a piratical infraction of the international code, but in our capacity of honourable creditors we are bound to demand that our lien upon a mortgaged territory be preserved in its full integrity and value. Republics are really more tyrannically aggressive than despotic monarchies. Within three years after the emancipation of the Helvetic cantons from Austrian rule they exhibited a true criterion of nationality by seizing the territories of their neighbours. The reunions of Louis XIV were equitable assertions of right compared with the "annexations" of the American President, nor does the outward show of decency which protracted the existence of Alsace and Lorraine appear to be in store for Mexico. Already are we sufferers by the lingering and useless squabble which gives opportunity to these outrages on justice. A country indebted to others for all the sinews of its strength foregoes the right of independent folly. Mexico is not entitled to the indulgence of a gasconade at the expense of English capital, whatever it might choose to do at the risk of its own security. Our arbitration was spoken of some time ago as likely to be in request, and certainly there have been very few instances in late times where we might give it with greater advantage, or impose it with greater reason. [CCB]

LT October 1, 1846/6A-B Mexican War

"UNITED STATES AND MEXICO; ARRIVAL OF THE BRITANNIA."

[A portion of the following appeared in a second edition of The Times of yesterday:--]

We have received by express from Liverpool our dispatches from the United States by the Royal Mail Steamship Britannia, Captain Hewitt, arrived in the Mersey shortly after 4 o' clock on Wednesday morning, from Boston and Halifax, with the usual mails of the 16th of September.

The contents of these advices are not of striking importance. The operations and prospects of Mexican war continued, up to the dates of our letters, as indecisive as ever; and, beyond the general statement that further, though slight, advances had been made by the several columns of invasion marching against Mexico, we have little intelligence to communicate differing in tenour from that brought by the last steamers.

From Vera Cruz advices to the 29th of August are published in the American journals. The landing of Santa Anna had been attended with great demonstrations of joy, and that chief had taken his departure inland, but of his arrival in the capital we have no accounts. Despatches from the President had been received by the commander of the blockading squadron, and immediately afterwards a communication was had with the shore under a flag of truce. These dispatches are supposed to contain the proposition of the Cabinet to offer a resumption of negotiations with the Mexican Government.

The United States brig of war Truxton had been totally wrecked on the 15th, near the mouth of the river Tuppan. Two lieutenants and 19 men reached the squadron at Vera Cruz in boats: the remainder of the officers and crew, including also the captain, landed with the intention of surrendering themselves prisoners of war. The Princeton steam-frigate proceeded to the assistance of the brig on the arrival of the boats; but, finding her rescue to be impossible, set fire to the hull, and after ascertaining that the remainder of the crew had set out for Tampico, she returned to
Vera Cruz. Tampico and Tobasco had joined in the revolution. The yellow fever is stated to have broken out on board the British vessels of war at Sacrificios. A portion of the United States squadron was suffering from scurvy.

From Camargo we learn that it was the intention of General Taylor to leave that place with the main body of the army about the 5th of September. 300 mules, 200 wagons, and 160,000 rations had been sent on in advance; and it is stated that the General intends, if unopposed by the Mexicans, to proceed at once to Saltillo. Other accounts state, however, that his means of transport were still deficient. Meanwhile, parties of rangers were actively scouring the country around the destined line of march, and had visited en route several of the small towns of the district without encountering resistance or discovering any signs of an opposing force. According to general report, however, the Mexicans had concentrated at Monterey, to the extent of some few thousand ill-paid and ill-clothed men. Disgraceful riots, we also learn, had taken place among the volunteers at Barita, arising from a feud existing between an Irish company and two of the Georgian corps. The affair took place on board of a steam-boat which was anchored near the shore. Guns, swords, and bayonets were used with reckless violence. The colonel of a regiment of Illinois volunteers, who, at the head of two of his companies, attempted to quell the disturbance, was wounded, and his men were driven back; and when at length the rioters submitted, a considerable number of men had been either killed or wounded.

Colonel Harney had marched from San Antonio (Texas), on the 23d, with 120 United States Dragoons, 500 mounted Texans, and 18 Delawares, for Monclovia, Mexico.

From St. Louis we learn that General Kearney's command had left Bent's Fort for Santa Fe on the 3d. Kearney had lost 100 horses, and the troops were on half ration.

The California expedition was on the point of leaving New York.

Rumours were current that an agent from the Mexican Government was at Washington.

The domestic affairs of the Union continue to be unimportant. Mr. Bancroft had been appointed Minister to London. Mr. Mason had received the vacant Navy Department, and the journals mention Mr. Pickers, of South Carolina, for the French mission. Mr. M'Lane had been addressed with congratulations by the merchants of New York, and had accepted an invitation to a public dinner, to take place at some future day. The Mormons of Nauvoo were apparently in a precarious position. The Anti-Mormons were encamped in large force in the immediate vicinity of that place, and a collision appeared imminent. Numerous disasters to the shipping had taken place on the coast, and amongst other losses we note that of the Olive Branch from Briston to Boston. The New York journals state that the people of Mercer's county, Ohio, had at a meeting resolved to expel from their boundaries, by force, if necessary, the coloured people then residing in the county. Major-General Gaines had been appointed to the command of the eastern division of the United States army. A great flood had occurred in Crooked Creek, near Madison, Indiana. Much damage was caused, and six lives were lost. Mr. Pakenham was on a visit to Mr. Webster. Mr. Webster was expected to make a great speech, reviewing the course of the Administration on the Mexican war, at the public dinner to be given to him in Philadelphia about the 1st of October. A case of yellow fever had at length occurred in New Orleans on the 1st ult.

Our accounts from Canada are unimportant. Her Majesty's ships Vindictive and Gulnare were at Quebec. The Quebec Gazette states that the late grain crops were generally secured. The potato crop was almost ripe, and had not sustained any material injury.

Advises from Yucatan state that a forcible attempt had been made to overturn the Presidency of General Barbachan. The effort was, however, unsuccessful.

The American journals publish advices from the River Plate, containing the credentials of Mr. Hood. With the exception of this document, the intelligence given has been anticipated.

Havannah papers to the 26th had reached Mobile. The Spanish flag had been hoisted upon the steamers Montezuma and Guadalupe, lately of the Mexican navy. The journals publish some interesting statistics relative to the commerce of Havannah, from which we glean that--

"The number of vessels arrived at Havannah from the 1st of January to the 22nd of
August, 1846, was 439, measuring together 92, 570\(\frac{1}{2}\) tons. Out of this number 277 were American vessels, with 61,708\(\frac{1}{2}\) tons measurement, 84 were Spanish vessels, with 13, 840 tons, and 35 English vessels, with 5,003 tons. The 43 remaining vessels were divided among 13 different nations. The number of vessels that left the port of Havannah during the same period was 442. Out of these 291 were Americans, 77 Spanish, and 33 English; the other 41 were divided also among 13 different nations. The table of exports from Matanzas from the 1\(\text{st}\) of January to the 22\(\text{d}\) of August gives the following figures of the principal articles of exportation:--

219,111\(\frac{1}{2}\) boxes of sugar, 5,521 hogsheads ditto, 618 barrels ditto, 45,179 hogsheads of molasses, and 18,907 arrobas of coffee." [CCB]
General Worth. Three steam-boats arrived at Camargo on the 21st ult., with General Shields, M.M.O. Butler, and several colonels and majors.

Colonel Harney marched from St. Antonio (Texas), on the 23d, with 120 United States Dragoons, 500 mounted Texans, and 18 Delawares, for Monclova, Mexico. This astonished General Taylor very much, who does not like Colonel Harney's moving in advance of Wool.

General Twiggs, with the 2d Dragoons, Light Artillery, and the batteries of Captains Taylor and Ridgley, arrived at Camargo August 22.

The 1st and 2d Regiments of Ohio Volunteers, six companies of the Louisville Legion, and the Baltimore Battalion, arrived at Camargo on the 23d. They suffered much from the want of water, but stood the fatigues of the march pretty well. One of them died on the way up from Matamoras. General Worth establishes his first depot at Seralvo; he will then go on and establish another, half way between that place and Monterey.

The steamer Rough and Ready arrived at Camargo, with Colonel Croghan, Inspector-General, and other officers on board.

The news of the revolution in Santa Anna's favour reached General Taylor's camp on the 27th, and created a great sensation. No one knew what to think of it.

A letter dated Camargo, 20th ult., says General Taylor would leave on September 5 for Monterey. [CCB]

LT October 9, 1846/4E Operations of the Army

(From the Washington Union. )

We are indebted to the head of one of the bureaus for the following extracts of letters "from officers of General Taylor's command, which he thinks will be found full of interest":--

"EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER OF THE ENGINEER STAFF (TOPOGRAPHICAL) WITH GENERAL TAYLOR'S ARMY."

"On the 4th of August I received verbal orders form General Taylor, with my assistants, to accompany Colonel Garland's command for the purpose of reconnoitering the road between Matamoras and Camargo.

General Worth having been ordered to advance and establish a depot at Seralvo, he was engaged on the 19th of August in passing the river St. Juan, as the best route is found to be by the vicinity of Mier. Lieutenants Meade and Pope have been ordered to report to him. They began their march on the 20th inst. The command consists of about 1,000 men, inclusive of Captain Duncan's artillery.

Seralvo is at a distance of 66 miles from Camargo, and about 70 from Monterey, and is generally regarded as the half-way point. It is in a direction from Camargo W.S.W. The last portion of the road, in approaching Seralvo, is through a hilly district, and passes many small mountain streams; the mountains are distinctly visible from Seralvo.

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From Camargo to Mier the road lies in the valley of the Rio Grande; it then follows up the valley of the Alamo to Seralvo, either passing by Agua Loagua or Purito Aguda.

The road over which Lieutenant-Colonel Garland's command passed from Matamoras was that by Gaetano and Reynosa, as the river road was too wet and miry for heavy trains. It is called the 'upper road,' is 17 miles longer, and is very dry weather impracticable for troops, owing to the deficiency of water. In rainy weather, or when the snow melts at the head streams, the Rio Grande rises at a great elevation, and overflows the back country. It is a topographical feature of this region worthy of note that the rivers generally rise and fall through an unusual vertical space; and it is asserted that in some instances the fluctuation reaches as much as 90 feet.
In the late flood the water was two feet deep in the plaza at Camargo; this came from the St. Juan, but it was an unusual rise, as many of the houses were destroyed by the inundation. The rise at this point was not, however, more than 30 or 35 feet.

In my reconnaissance of the 'river road,' long after the flood was at its maximum, and had begun to subside, I found the water across the road, is various places, up to my saddle skirts. This was the back-water from the Rio Grande.

The army in the field between Seralvo and Point Isabel amounts to, volunteers and regulars, perhaps 16,000 men, the volunteers being portions of the quota from each state that has been called upon; the remainder, perhaps about 8,000 volunteers, are yet to arrive.

At Point Isabel there remains but one company, and the place is commanded by Major Gardner; it is the depot of ordnance, and the general hospital. In the vicinity of the Brazos and Barita are encamped two brigades of volunteers. At Matamoras and Fort Brown, three companies of regulars, and one regiment of volunteers.

Captain Vinton was expedited from Camargo to Mier with a small command about a fortnight since, in consequence of an irruption of the Indians, and for the protection of the inhabitants against their incursions. At Seralvo General Worth was about 1,000 strong, as before stated.

The brigade of Colonel Smith has crossed the river and is awaiting the means of transportation, to enable him to move towards Seralvo. The rest of the army are either en route towards this place, or are encamped here.

The transportation of troops from the Brazos is generally operated by steam-boats, after marching them across from the Brazos to near the mouth of the Rio Grande. The river is navigable for steamers of small class to a distance of about two miles above the mouth of the St. Juan, at which point they are arrested by rapids. A similar obstruction occurs in the St. Juan, about six miles above this place; but, overcoming it, it is said the river is navigable for 60 miles. It would almost be worth while, should the position of the army be permanent at Monterey, to take advantage of high water in the river to get a boat above rapids, which I presume might be effected; it would be a vast economy of transportation.

It is understood that it is the wish of General Taylor to advance upon Monterey, but that he is delayed by the necessary arrangements for depots of various kinds, and the throwing forward of the necessary munitions; or, in a work, in perfecting his line of communications. The difficulties encountered in operations of this nature seem to be very formidable, for very little reliance is placed upon the resources of the territory in which we are engaged; and it is difficult to procure any supplies from the inhabitants, who are utterly thriftless and lazy, and who require for the little they do supply the most extravagant prices. We pass through a country richly provided with grass, and covered with herds of thriving cattle, yet they supply the camp with fodder, beef, milk, &c., at a price far exceeding what it can be purchased for in the most populous cities of the United States.

Such a people can obviously never meet us in battle with success; they will abandon the field, though their numbers should triple our own.

From news received this morning, the force at Monterey consists of about 6,000 men, of whom about 2,000 are regulars, being the remains of the army defeated on the 8th and 9th of May. They have likewise a force in advance of Monterey of about 700 Cavalry (at Cadarna, 25 miles from Monterey). The informant represents them as well prepared for action, and states that the horses are in miserable condition.

They have at Monterey two pieces of artillery, 24 pounders, and four of small caliber; he states they are fortifying, but that their works and not in a state of completion.

General Taylor received the news last evening of the movement, without orders, of Lieutenant-Colonel Harney from San Antonio towards Monclova; it is now almost a month since he set out upon the expedition.

Under existing circumstances, it is believed that General Taylor will make the utmost exertion to reach Monterey, and it is believed that no resistance will be made of any moment to the entrance of his army. The person who brings this intelligence asserts that the people of Monterey and the country adjacent are anxious for the arrival of the Americans.
The station of my camp has been determined by me. I find it in latitude 26 degrees 20, 01.8; about one-third of a mile north of the Plaza. I regret extremely that I have not the means of determining longitudes; it would be one of the best means of verifying our reconnaissances, and establishing geographical points." [CCB]

LT October 7, 1846/5F "State of Affairs in Mexico."

(From our own correspondent. )
Mexico, August 29.

The political scene here has again changed. The outlawed Santa Anna has returned, and is called to the head of affairs; while Paredes, who so lately ruled the destinies of Mexico, is a prisoner in the castle of Perote. The alliance of Paredes with the monarchical party, and his persecution of the press (even here an engine of power) caused the formation of a strong coalition against him, and the misfortunes experienced in the campaign against the Americans deprived him of the little influence which, as a soldier, he still retained. The army (irregularly paid) shared the discontent of the people, while the friends of Santa Anna laboured incessantly to increase the embarrassments of Government. The military force concentrated here was, however, put in motion for the north, and General Paredes, with the rear guard, composed of troops on which he relied, was preparing to follow, leaving General Bravo, as Vice President, at the head of Government; when, on the morning of the 4th, General Salas, with about 1,000 men, chiefly cavalry, quartered in the citadel hoisted the standard of revolt, proclaiming the recall of Santa Anna, and the reconstitution of the Government on democratic principles. With the name of Salas (hitherto rather an obscure one) is associated, in this revolution, that of Valentin Gomez Farias, the man of the people, half whose life has been passed in prisons, in hiding places, and in exile, the result of his systematic opposition to almost every government which has existed here. In 1833 he was Vice President, and for a short time acting President of the Republic, of which he availed himself to carry his favourite theories into practice, and effected the abolition of the civil obligation to pay tithes, a measure which has naturally made the church his irreconcilable foe. Then it was that the Centralists, uniting the Santa Anna, overturned the Federal Republic, and compelled Gomez Farias to fly for safety in to the United States. He has since reappeared at intervals, like the messenger of the storm, whenever a popular insurrection was at hand, but with invariably bad success. Nothing daunted, he again enters the arena, and lays all personal feeling so completely aside to join the military in recalling Santa Anna, on the condition of return to the federal form of Government. In this alliance both parties probably set with, duplicity; the military, believing that with Santa Anna at their head there will be no necessity to keep faith with the Liberals; and Gomez Farias, confiding that the people, once more in the exercise of power, will use it to the destruction of the army, which he detests.

On the announcement of this revolution, General Bravo refused to surrender, though with inferior numbers and no artillery he could not hope to offer an effectual resistance. The days of the 4th and 5th were passed here in a gloomy uncertainty, of all the shops being closed, and anarchy apparently at hand. On the night of the 5th, Paredes left the city with a guard of 40 Lancers; but the revolters having timely notice of his movements immediately sent a larger body in pursuit, who effected his capture without resistance, and consigned him to a prison in the citadel, there to meditate on the instability of fortune. During the night Salas advanced his forces in all directions towards the palace, and in the morning it was announced that Bravo had submitted, without any stipulation in favour of Paredes; or, indeed, of any sort, except that of a guard of honour for himself. In this movement the moderate Liberals took no part, the breach between their leaders Gomez-Pedraza, and Santa Anna being still unhealed. Intelligence of the revolution being communicated to the army on their march to the north, it met their immediate concurrence. But the civil authorities in the departments have shown no haste to adopt it. Their recollection of Santa Anna's tyranny, venality, and profound hypocrisy is still too recent to permit their desiring his presence, or feeling any confidence in his promises. However, they offer no resistance, and appear inclined to wait the course of events, with the consolatory reflection that nothing in Mexico, good or bad, can, by any possibility, be lasting. On the 16th, Santa Anna landed at Vera Cruz, having come from the Havana in a private steamer (the Arab), hired from an enterprising Irishman, who seems always to have a steamer on sale or charter some where in the Gulf. His reception, except by the military, was cold, and he has since lingered at his estate, the Encero, in no hurry apparently to assume the reins of government. He has published a manifesto, in which he reviews his own political career, and takes credit for the most patriotic intentions, though he admits having entertained mistaken opinions. He now sees no safety for the country except in a return to the purest democracy. His oldest
friends, the Conservatives, are dismissed with contempt, and he seizes the occasion to have a sneer at the church. "Habits of passive obedience," says he, "are no more, and if a religious feeling still exists time has mined the political power of the directors of consciences." He professes the utmost horror of a dictatorship, and at his suggestion the Federal Constitution of 1824 is declared in force, until a popular Congress shall reconstitute the country.

While "the great Mexican family," as they delight to call themselves, are performing this wretched farce, the Anglo-Americans are appropriating whole provinces of their territory without resistance. New Mexico is already invaded by a strong body of adventurers; Chihuahua, one of the richest districts of the north, will soon share the same fate; and at Monterey, on the Pacific, Commodore Sloat has "annexed" California to the United States by a simple proclamation. At Matamoros, General Taylor has found his most formidable enemy in the heavy rains, which have rendered the roads to the capital of Nuevo Leon impassable to his wagons and artillery. When the rains cease, Commodore Connor will probably attack Vera Cruz and Tampico. It has been ordered at Washington, that in the Mexican ports occupied by the forces of the United States, American manufactures only, or foreign goods which have been nationalized by the payment of duty in the United States, shall be admitted, the latter to be conveyed to this country in American bottoms. As a natural consequence of these disorders, commercial affairs here are wholly prostrated. The conductas of silver, appointed to leave Zacatecas and Guanajuato early in next month, will probably be deferred, both from the want of a sufficient escort, and from the uncertain position of Tampico, already threatened by an American corps detached from Matamoros. From the circumstance of Santa Anna's being allowed to enter Vera Cruz notwithstanding the blockade, it was supposed that an understanding existed between him and the Americans, which might lead to peace; but "his voice is still for war," and with matchless assurance he promises to present Congress with laurels gathered on the banks of the Sabine, thus pledging himself to the reconquest of all Texas. The United States' bring of war, Truxton, has been lost off the bar of Tuxpan. The officers and crew are prisoners in the hands of the Mexicans, and are said to be well treated. I subjoin the proclamation of the Commodore Sloat:

"Inhabitants of California, --The Central Government of Mexico having commenced hostilities against the United States of America, by invading their territory, and attacking their troops on the northern side of the Rio Grande, with a force composed of 7,000 men, under the command of General Arista, which army was totally destroyed, and all its artillery, baggage, &c., taken by 2,300 men under General Taylor on the 8th and 9th of May last, and the city of Matamoros occupied by the forces of the United States; the two nations being consequently at war, I shall immediately hoist the flag of the United States in Monterey, and carry it through the whole of California. I declare to the inhabitants, that though supported by a powerful force, I do not come amongst them as an enemy to California, on the contrary, as their best friend, for in future California will form part of the United States, and its peaceful inhabitants will enjoy the same rights and privileges as the citizens of any other portion of that nation, equally with those which they at present possess, including that of electing their own magistrates, and other officers for the administration of justice amongst themselves, and the same protection will be given to them as to any other state of the union. They will also possess a permanent government under which life, property, constitutional rights, and the legal privilege to adore the Creator in the mode most congenial to the belief of each will be secured--advantages which the Central Government of Mexico unfortunately cannot offer, destroyed as its resources are by internal factions and corrupt functionaries, who excite continual revolutions in order to advance their own interests, and oppress the people. Under the flag of the United States, California will be free from those sufferings and exactions, and will consequently advance rapidly both in agriculture and commerce, for the same fiscal laws will rule there as in other parts of the United States, allowing the introduction of the manufactures of the States free of duty, and foreign manufactures at one-fourth of what they now pay. A considerable rise will take place in the value of land, and of the productions of California, the country cannot fail to improve more rapidly than any other on the American continent. To those inhabitants of California, natives or foreigners, who may not be inclined to accept the high privilege of citizenship, and to live peaceably under the free government of the United States, time will be given to dispose of their property, and to leave the country, if they desire it, free from all restriction, or they may remain in it, observing a strict neutrality. With entire confidence in the honour and integrity of the inhabitants, I invite the judges, magistrates, and other civil officers to retain their appointments, and continue to perform their functions as hitherto for the maintenance of public tranquility, at least until the government of the territory shall be more exactly settled. All parties having titles to lands, or being in quite possession, of such land in a colour of rights, shall be guaranteed in the possession of those rights and titles. All the churches, and the property attached to them, in the hands of the clergy of California will retain the same rights as hitherto. All provisions
and supplies furnished to the ships and troops of the United States will be paid for at fair prices, and no private property shall be applied to the public service without previous just compensation.

John Sloat
Commander-in-Chief of the Naval Forces of the United States in the Pacific. On board the United States ship Savannah, in the port of Monterey, July 6, 1846." [CCB]

LT October 13, 1846/6C Money-Market and City Intelligence

Monday Evening.

The rumours that the Mexican Government had repudiated the bonds created by the new conversation, when more extensively spread, took the public completely by surprise, and they were unwilling to believe in a change so formidable. Hence, though there was a fall of nearly 1 per cent. in the course of the day, there was a constant disposition to rally, which might be looked upon as the measure of public incredulity.

On investigation, however, it turns out that the rumours in question are no idle fancies. Copies of the despatch addressed by the Mexican Government to Mr. Murphy, and brought to the latter by Senor Gomez Farias, the younger, are in the city, and these clearly show that all that has been said on the subject of Mexican repudiation has fallen short of, rather than exaggerated the truth. According to that document, the new Government has actually repudiated the new bonds, and does not contemplate any reparation to the bondholders, who have parted with their former securities. The despatch declares that the creditors had sufficient means to examine into the powers by which the conversion was made; and that if they did not use the facilities afforded them, they must put up with the consequences.

The Mexican bondholders will clearly remember that a plan for converting the debt was put forward before the one on which the present bonds are founded, and was rejected, on the ground that it was too disadvantageous to the holders of the deferred stock. Very shortly after this another plan was brought forward, which was accepted, and which was the plan now in operation. At the time when the matter was under discussion many cautious holders were unwilling to accept the new scheme, thinking that it had made its appearance too soon after the rejection of the preceding one, and that it was a strange proceeding on the part of the Mexican Government to have a succession of decrees at hand, so as to be ready with a second as soon as the first had failed.

This is the point taken up by the despatch, which describes the rejected plan as authorized by the Mexican Government, but the second plan as emanating from Mr. Murphy alone, without any authority from the republic. It is merely an affair of his own, with which Mexico has nothing to do.

The case then, after inspection of the despatch, looks infinitely worse for the bondholders than it did while the story was the subject of mere rumour. The repudiation by a Government of the acts of its predecessor was so utterly monstrous that it seemed an impossibility; but now it appears that the new Government does not repudiate the bonds because created under the overthrown Paredes, but because they were made by the act of an agent who had no authority to make them. What will be done in such a state of things it is impossible to conjecture.

It is to be repeated that copies of the despatch are in existence in the city, in spite of all assertions to the contrary, and in all probability its official publication in a day or two will open the eyes of those who utter doubts on the subject.

The English securities have fluctuated very little indeed, but the market left off a shade lower than at the commencement of business. The opening of bank Stock and Reduced Three per Cents. Increased dealings in the market, though quotations were not improve by the change. Bank Stock left off at 206 to 207 ex div. ; Three per Cents. Reduced, 94 1/2 to 1/4 ex div. ; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., 96 to 1/2 ex. div; Long Annuities, 9 ex div. ; India Bonds, 28s. pm. ; Consols, for money and the account, 95 to 1/2 and Exchequer-bills, 15s. to 18s. pm.

In foreign market there was not much done, excepting the operations in Mexican, which fluctuated between 22 1/2 and 24 1/4. The last bargain done was at 24. The other dealings of the day were--Granada, a 21 1/4; Portuguese Four per Cents., for
The account, at 41\(\frac{1}{4}\); Russian, at 110\(\frac{1}{2}\); Spanish Fiver per Cents., for the account, at 26\(\frac{1}{2}\); the Deferred, at 17; the Three per Cents., for the account at 37\(\frac{1}{2}\); Belgian Two-and-a-Half per Cents., at 59; ditto Four per Cent. Certificates, at 92\(\frac{1}{4}\) for money, and at 92 for the account.

The general impression that the Bank of England would this day commence paying the October dividends to the public has proved erroneous, being founded on a wrong construction of an alternation lately made by the Bank of England. To understand this it is necessary to describe the general practice of that institution.

The dividends on the public securities are usually paid three days after they fall due--that is to say--

Those due on the 5th of January are paid on the 8th.
-- --5th of April -- --8th.
-- --5th of July -- --8th.
-- --10th of October -- --13th.

The two days following that on which the dividend becomes due are occupied in delivering the warrants to bankers and others, and on the third day the public receive their warrants, and their money also. If a Sunday intervened between the actual quarter-day and the third day, the two days occupied in delivering the warrants to the bankers, &c., caused the public day to fall one day later--that is to say, the payments were made on the 9th of January, April, and July, and on the 14th of October. It has, however, occasionally happened, that applications have been made in the October quarter to pay the dividends on the third day, notwithstanding the intervention of the Sunday, and in case of compliance the bankers receive their warrants one day earlier. This was the case in the present quarter, the bankers beginning to receive their warrants on the 10th, Saturday, on actual quarter day, and the public beginning to receive their money to morrow.

The papers from the Cape of Good Hope received to-day furnish no very important intelligence. The success of the English troops against the native tribes remains unquestioned, and the active exertion so Sir A. Stockenatrom and Colonel Somerset will, before long, bring hostilities to a termination. The recovery of several thousand head of cattle, carried away by the depredators, is one the most interesting items in the intelligence coming to hand by this opportunity. [CCB]

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LT October 15, 1846/6A Money-Market And City Intelligence

Wednesday Evening.

The news of the rejection by Mexico of the proposals for peace by the United States, published in the second edition of The Times, came with considerable weight upon the Mexican market, already weakened by the strong doubts concerning the new conversion scheme. The fall in prices was about \(\frac{1}{2}\) per cent.

In attempting to impugn the validity of the despatch brought to this country by Senor Gomez Farias, the younger, some persons have remarked that Santa Anna not having actually assumed authority at the date of the last advices from Mexico, he could not have formed a Ministry, and consequently that Senor Gomez Farias, the elder, cannot legitimately hold the financial department.

These remarks, as far as we can collect information of the subject, evince a misunderstanding as to the present political state of Mexico. The Government of which Senor Gomez Farias is a member is a provisional one, not depending on Santa Anna for appointment; but, on the contrary, representing that party by whom he is recalled. From the date of Paredes's overthrow to that of Santa Anna's official assumption of power (of which latter event there are as yet no advices), this provisional Government is the only authority in Mexico. That authority may have been violently assumed, but so also was the power of Paredes, and it will be rather inconsistent for those who admit the one to reject the other without consideration.

The list of the provisional Government is as follows:--

General Salas, Head of the Executive.
Senor Rejon, Foreign Affairs.
Senor Gomez Farias, Finance.
Senor J. R. Pacheco, Justice.  
Senor Almonte, War and Marine.

In all probability General Santa Anna entered on office on the 3d of September last, and from all that can be heard respecting his views, there is no reason to believe that he in any way dissent from the proceedings of the provisional Government.

In the dispatch which has created so much noise within the last few days, is a clause ordering Mr. Murphy to publish it immediately. The bondholders, who are in the greatest state of uncertainty, knowing the existence of the despatch, and seeing no official copy of it, are most anxious that Mr. Murphy should comply with this order of the provisional Government, or, at any rate, make some statement on the subject. The fact that Messrs. Schneider deny the receipt of any official information as to the mission of Senor Gomez Farias is not enough to counteract the effect of a document which is circulated in the city, and which announces the repudiation of the new bonds, and the removal of Mr. Murphy from office.

The settlement in the English market has turned out rather unfortunately for those speculating for the rise, a decline of about 1/2 per cent. having occurred in Console. This is a great contrast to the appearance of the market yesterday, when everything was looking firm, and is attributed to heavy sales made by a leading house, and to the failure of a party who is a principle member of what is called the "New Stock Exchange." Although this party has, of course, no connexion with the Stock Exchange properly so called, the large amount of 150,000, stock which, it is said, was thrown upon the market, could not fail to produce a depressing effect. The last quotation of Consols is 94 to 5 for money, and 95 to 1/4 for the account. Reduced are marked 94 ex div. ; new Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., 95 ex div. ; Bank Stock, 205 1/2 to 6 1/2 ex div. ; Long Annuities, 9 5-16; India Bonds, 25s. pm ; and Exchequer-bills, 15s. to 17s. pm.

With the exception of the business in Mexican, there was very little passing in the foreign market. The last actual bargains were--Buenos Aires, 45; Portuguese, 41 3/4; Russian, 110 1/2; Spanish Five per Cents., for the account, 26 3/4; Venezuela, 42 1/4; and Dutch Four per Cents., certificates, 91 3/4. Mexican were quoted at the close of the day 22 3/4 to 23 1/4.

According to the Gazette of yesterday, the sum to be employed by the National Debt Commissioners during the quarter between the 12th inst. and the 5th of January next is 705,118, 3s, 4d. Of this sum 650,000 is to be appropriated to the redemption of the deficiency bills, and the rest to the purchase of stock.

The following memorial, which has been signed by upwards of 140 of the bankers, merchants, and manufacturers of Birmingham, is shortly to be presented to the Postmaster-General:--

"To the most noble the Marquis of Clanicarde, Postmaster-General."

"We, the undersigned bankers, merchants, manufacturers, and others, of Birmingham and its vicinity, beg leave respectfully to represent that, notwithstanding the alteration of the day mail, one post is still needlessly lost in their foreign correspondence, and therefore suggest, that instead of being despatched at 9 o'clock in the morning as at present, a bag may be forwarded from the Birmingham Post office by as late a train in the afternoon as possible, in order to be in time to go out by the foreign mails of the same night from London." [CCB]

**LT October 16, 1846/5e The Mexican War**

The New Orleans papers have accounts from Vera Cruz to the evening of Aug. 3, and from Anton Lizardo to the 6th, by the arrival of the British steam-brig Arab, which conveyed Santa Anna from Havannah to Vera Cruz. We extract principally from the Picayune and Delta:--

"The most important news by the Arab touches the arrival of Santa Anna at Vera Cruz. On this point we are able to speak with authority from Mr. O'Neil, one of the owners of the Arab, who made the voyage from Havannah with Santa Anna. The General had previously assured Mr. O'Neil that there would be no occasion to run the blockade; that the vessel would be allowed to enter without any difficulty. When the Arab arrived off Vera Cruz they descried he St. Mary, and the Arab immediately bore
up for her. The St. Mary sent a boat to the Arab, with the First Lieutenant on board. Upon reaching her he encountered General Almonte, whom he recognized, and with whom he exchanged salutations. By General Almonte the Lieutenant was conducted to General Santa Anna, who was lying in his berth, quite ill. Then a short interview took place, and when he repaired on deck he gave to the owners permission to pass the blockade.

An account received by a commercial house represents that the suite of Santa Anna evinced much emotion and even alarm when boarded, but that the General himself was perfectly calm, and apparently expected the visit. It is added that the General delivered a letter to the officer who boarded the boat, which produced at one the desired effect.

Recurring again to Mr. O'Neil's communication to us, we learn, that when Santa Anna landed he was received by a few friends, that the reception was not public, and that it was not marked by much enthusiasm. Santa Anna himself was evidently disappointed by the reception given to him. His health continued infirm up to the time of the departure of the Arab. He was able, however, after his arrival to entertain at a public dinner at the palace in Vera Cruz a large number of civil dignitaries and military officers. At the dinner a more favourable disposition was manifested towards the General, and there was some appearance of enthusiasm. Subsequently, on his way to the capital, he stopped at his hacienda (El Encerro), in the vicinity of Jalapa, where he remained up to the latest accounts received from him. He would leave there for the city of Mexico at the very earliest moment his health would permit.

That his presence in the field may be urgently required is manifest from another important fact which we learn by this arrival. The army stationed at San Luis Potosi has declared again in favour of Paredes! Paredes, by the way, is a prisoner in the Castle of Perete, as was rumoured when the Daring left Vera Cruz. The declaration of the army at San Luis in favour of Paredes was generally believed in the city of Mexico when O'Neil left there, and we learn by a commercial letter from Vera Cruz that it was also fully credited there.

Mr. O'Neil represents that it is extremely difficult to arrive at any conclusion as to the state of popular feeling in regard to the different aspirants for power in Mexico. Among commercial men, and, in fact, among all classes not immediately connected with the military, the utmost apathy and indifference appear to reign.

Santa Anna is surrounded by a large military force strongly attached to his interests, and detached bodies of troops occupy positions on the route from Jalapa to the city of Mexico. General Almonte is at the capital, and is now Minister of War and Mexico. No further change had taken place in the state of affairs in the city of Mexico since our last advices, and things were apparently quiet, though pronunciamientos were daily issued from the different bureaus I rapid succession, as meaningless as such Mexican documents generally are. Santa Anna was daily expected at the capital, and preparations on a grand scale were making there, and all along the route to Jalapa, to receive him.

The war with the United States did not appear, so far as Mr. O'Neil had an opportunity of observing, to create that excitement among the people which one would naturally think would be the result of the presence of a powerful and victorious army marching into the very heart of their country.

The following is the proclamation issued by Santa Anna to the troops of San Juan de Ulloa, upon the first arrival:--

Brethren in Arms!--Your generous call having reached me in my exile, I could no longer be indifferent to it, seeing that it was but an echo of the solicitations made for my return from other departments. Your conduct, brethren in arms, has been noble--patriotic.

The joy which I feel, my friends, in finding myself once more among you is unbounded. Relying on your patriotism and virtue, I hurried to join you as soon as it was possible for me to do so; and I am now here for the purpose of co-operating with you in working out the salvation of the republic, and raising it from the ignominious position to which it has been reduced by treason and imbecility. Never, perhaps, before have we brandished our swords in a cause more noble. True, everything is destroyed; but we, with a proper spirit, and aided by the Mexican people, can everything create.

Soldiers of the Republic! a proud and noble sentiment animated me when the
happiness was mine to lead you to the battle-field against the foreign enemies of our
country. With feelings similar I appear again at this moment, to defend the sacred
rights of nationality. We will cause our insulted eagles to rise victorious in the midst
of the combat; the nation shall be tenfold vindicated for the numerous outrages she
has sustained, and we shall exact for her that respect which of right she merits. In
this enterprise, brother soldiers, the glory that awaits us is immense! Be then as you
have always been brave, subordinate, patient. And, doubt it not, the mission which
Providence has assigned us we will consummate with the happiest success.

Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna
Heroic Vera Cruz, August 16, 1846. San Juan de Ulloa.

An officer on board the United States schooner Petrel, off Vera Cruz, August 28,
writes to the Philadelphia Ledger as follows:--

"If I can judge correctly I would say Mexico could not hold out long in a state of war.
Her coast is completely blockaded by our cruisers. Her commerce, and ever her
coasting trade, entirely done up; consequently no revenue from Custom-house
receipts. As to a squadron attacking the castle of Vera Cruz with any degree of
success, it is out of the question. I had a talk the other day with an English officer
who had been through the fortress. He says it is in the most complete state of
defence. They have the means of heating 1,000 42-pound shot red hot in one hour
and 15 minutes, which is about as fast as they could fire them. This officer thought if
he had the command of the castle, with 1,500 British gunners, that he would defy
the whole British navy. My opinion is, that they could cut ships in pieces as fast as
they neared the castle. If this is its condition of strength and efficiency, it would cost
very dear in the attempt to carry it. They were suffering with sickness--yellow fever
in the castle and the city--and very much in consequence of the blockade.

Report comes from shore that an armistice is asked for by the Mexican Government.
Some of the crews of the vessels of the squadron are suffering the scurvy. They
must soon return to Pensacola, or the vessels will be in a bad way with sickly crews,
for the want of fresh provisions and vegetables." [CCB]
Maubert taking the chair. He read a letter which he had addressed to the chairman of the company, and in which he had stated his willingness to accept 15s. per share on his shares and give up all further claims, provided an inspection of the books and accounts were allowed, and a report made to the shareholders of the proceedings of the company. This letter, which yielded a most important point, for the shareholders insist that the directors, by their own agreement, are bound to give them far more than the 15s., was dated on the 12th inst., and no reply had yet been received. Mr. Maubert commenting on the conduct of the directors observed, that there could be no security in any transactions if men of high standing in society, after entering into engagements with the public, are allowed to come forward and repudiate them. Resolutions were passed reprobating the conduct of the directors and appointing a committee on behalf of the shareholders.

At last the long expected communication from Mr. Murphy, which was to set at rest all uneasiness created by Senor Gomez Farias’ despatch in the minds of the bondholders, has made its appearance. The second enclosed document, which is the most important one, is of formidable length, and we cannot abstain from a wish that brevity had been rather more consulted; but, so great is the anxiety of the creditors on this subject, and so curious is the position in which the Mexican debt has been placed since the arrival of Senor Gomez Farias; that we cannot do otherwise than give it entire. At present we publish it without comment, since it is of itself quite sufficient for our readers’ digestion, but we have no doubt, that when it has been considered over a little, it will e found a fruitful source of controversy. [CCB]

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**LT 10/31/1846 8b "The Military Capacity of the United States"**

The brilliant victory has been achieved in the three days’ fighting at Monterey, by our regular and volunteer soldiers, in the face of a foe twice their number, and a foe, too, whose martial character has hitherto been misunderstood and underrated, is well calculated to warm the heart of the patriot at home, and produce respect and reverence for us among foreigners. In the first two battles that the United States has been engaged in since the last war with Great Britain, our little army of regulars, numbering only some 1,500, engaged with an enemy numbering 6,000, and in the face of such tremendous odds routed them at the point of the bayonet, and won a victory that will brighten the page of our country’s history. In the battle that has recently taken place, our army of regulars and volunteers, numbering under 6,000, marched to within 1,400 yards of the enemy’s stronghold, and after a succession of battles that were fought with the greatest bravery and fierceness on both sides, they completely defeated the enemy, that in numbers were double, and in bravery almost equal to themselves. When it is considered that the men who behaved themselves so gallantly on these occasions, were drawn promiscuously from all parts of our extended country—were strangers to each other till the time when they met at the rendezvous to take up arms in defence of their country’s honour, and never had heard the roar of cannon or the rattling of firearms except on the 4th of July, we have great reason to be proud of their prowess in time of danger, and the reliance we can place in our countrymen’s courage and ability to defend to the death the free institutions that their patriotic sires bequeathed to them, whenever endangered by foreign or domestic enemies. European nations, and even the Mexicans themselves, forgetful of the past deeds that were performed by our soldiers, and the battles that were won by them over the veterans of the old world, have nursed the idea, and expressed it on all occasions, that in time of danger we would be an easy conquest, because no reliance could be placed on citizens who were unaccustomed to the use of arms, and who, from the very nature of our institutions, would be unwilling to submit to the rigour and restraint of military discipline. Such reflections as these have been indulged in by foreigners, and the very name of militia and volunteer has been associated with mobs and ragged solders. Time, however, the great solver of all problems, has solved this, and proved to the world that American citizens, whether regulars or volunteers, when in the service of their country, make the best of soldiers—submit with hearty goodwill to the regulations of the profession they have temporarily adopted, and are on all occasions capable of maintaining and defending the national honour, and chastising its enemies, whether they be Mexicans or Europeans. What more triumphant proof could be had of the falsity of the predictions that have been promulgated by the English, regarding the materiel of our citizen soldiers, than the scenes that occurred in Monterey? There our volunteers covered themselves with glory. Invaders as they were, but in a just cause, they attacked the enemy by his fireside—by his own hearth, which the greatest coward living will defend to the last, and in spite of the disadvantages of their position they maintained a combat in the streets of that city, boldly resisted the destructive discharges of musketry from their unseen and protected foe, and finally, with the loss of many of their brave comrades, boldly carried the city, and obtained a decisive victory. The enemy, in this case, were not composed of half-civilized Sikhs, who knew nothing,
those the manners of a pro-consul? What! a simple brigadier-general can impose on
authority, declared to them, that they were annexed to the United States. Are not
inhabitants of New Mexico appeared monstrous. In fact, this officer, on his private
except in common with the Congress. The proclamations of General Kearney to the
are unanimous in blaming the enterprise of President Polk. He is accused of having
"public opinion appears to be shaken in the United States. The most eminent men
executed by the Mexicans. "The Journal des Debats concludes by observing that
Mexican General Ampudia, although it is a violation of a convention which was fully
General Taylor to give notice of the rupture of the armistice agreed to with the
Mexicans of California and the port of San Francisco. This explains the orders sent to
indemnity from the Congress, if he can offer them the definitive surrender by the
sense. The President is anxious therefore to conclude the war, and he relies upon an
neither advance nor recede. Nevertheless the invading army costs dreadfully dear.
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be to cover themselves with confusion in the eyes of their political adversaries and in
regard having advanced on that side; but to recall General Taylor, at present, would
General Taylor and his troops, is an unskillful operation, and must become extremely
campaign in the interior of the country, whatever valour may be displayed by
General Taylor and his troops, is an unskillful operation, and must become extremely
embarrassing. Mr. Polk and his counselors cannot but have perceived this, and they
regret having advanced on that side; but to recall General Taylor, at present, would
would be to cover themselves with confusion in the eyes of their political adversaries and in
the eyes of the multitude, whom they have inspired with a fatal passion for military
glory. It would be a retreat which would be translated into a defeat. The Mexicans
would be persuaded that they had beaten the Americans, and it would be no longer
possible to induce them to cede California. Thus, the Cabinet of Washington can
neither advance nor recede. Nevertheless the invading army costs dreadfully dear.
The American democracy when called upon to pay return to their natural good
sense. The President is anxious therefore to conclude the war, and he relies upon an
indemnity from the Congress, if he can offer them the definitive surrender by the
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General Taylor to give notice of the rupture of the armistice agreed to with the
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executed by the Mexicans. "The Journal des Debats concludes by observing that
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are unanimous in blaming the enterprise of President Polk. He is accused of having
assumed the right of making peace and declaring war, which he should not exercise
except in common with the Congress. The proclamations of General Kearney to the
inhabitants of New Mexico appeared monstrous. In fact, this officer, on his private
authority, declared to them, that they were annexed to the United States. Are not
those the manners of a pro-consul? What! a simple brigadier-general can impose on

We have received by our ordinary express the Paris journals of Wednesday.

The Journal des Debats publishes a severe critique on the plan of the campaign
adopted by President Polk against Mexico, which it regards as a revenge taken by
the President for the concession which he was compelled to make to the British
Government on the Oregon question. "He was persuaded," says the Journal des
Debats, "that the invasion of California would be attended with no difficulty, that the
first ship which should arrive before Monterey would take possession of it without
firing a shot, and that the same consequence would follow at the harbour of San
Francisco, which was destitute of fortifications. Those two positions being captured,
it was supposed that the Mexican Government, which is incapable of recapturing
them, and which, as to its finances, is at the last gasp, would yield what it had lost
for a consideration of some million plasters paid into its empty treasury. The success
was considered infallible. This proceeding was not honest, it was even an
unjustifiable larceny; nevertheless it was useful, not to the prosperity of the United
States, which have no need of an extension of territory, but to their influence on the
Pacific Ocean, and still more to the popularity of Mr. Polk, for this was a magnificent
application of the ideas of General Jackson, of whom Mr. Polk is the heir.
Unfortunately this fine plan which, if it had not justice with it, had the merit of
infallible success had it been conducted with wisdom, was joined with two
accessories, on one of which no person knows why Mr. Polk would insist, and it
became the principal. First, he dispatched a body of troops against New Mexico, a
widely extended but not well inhabited province. It was that which, commanded by
General Kearsey, captured Santa Fe, the capital of the province, after a march
through the desert, where he published a proclamation, announcing to the scanty
population that they would become citizens of the United States. Of what utility could
this region, placed in the middle of the continent, be to the United States? It
contains a superficies of 27,000,000 acres, more than the fifth of France; but the
United States possess twenty times a greater quantity of excellent land still
uncultivated in the valley of the Mississippi, or the Missouri, or in Texas. Secondly,
and this was Mr. Polk's great fault, he sent an invading army into Mexico on the side
of the Rio Grande. To colour the violence offered to the tottering Government of
Mexico, a grievance was imagined relative to a strip of land between the Rio Nueces
and the Rio Grande, which had belonged to the insurgent Texians, which was
manifestly false, and which it was said the Mexicans retained contrary to justice. But
once Maramoros conquered, the Americans were in possession of the disputed
territory. Why, then, advance an army, first to Camargo and subsequently to
Monterey? Monterey is 300 leagues distant from Mexico by the high road. It is
separated from it by a country without means of communication and without
resources. This, therefore, is not the side at which Mexico is vulnerable. This
campaign in the interior of the country, whatever valour may be displayed by
General Taylor and his troops, is an unskillful operation, and must become extremely
embarrassing. Mr. Polk and his counselors cannot but have perceived this, and they
regret having advanced on that side; but to recall General Taylor, at present, would
be to cover themselves with confusion in the eyes of their political adversaries and in
the eyes of the multitude, whom they have inspired with a fatal passion for military
glory. It would be a retreat which would be translated into a defeat. The Mexicans
would be persuaded that they had beaten the Americans, and it would be no longer
possible to induce them to cede California. Thus, the Cabinet of Washington can
neither advance nor recede. Nevertheless the invading army costs dreadfully dear.
The American democracy when called upon to pay return to their natural good
sense. The President is anxious therefore to conclude the war, and he relies upon an
indemnity from the Congress, if he can offer them the definitive surrender by the
Mexicans of California and the port of San Francisco. This explains the orders sent to
General Taylor to give notice of the rupture of the armistice agreed to with the
Mexican General Ampudia, although it is a violation of a convention which was fully
executed by the Mexicans. "The Journal des Debats concludes by observing that
"public opinion appears to be shaken in the United States. The most eminent men
are unanimous in blaming the enterprise of President Polk. He is accused of having
assumed the right of making peace and declaring war, which he should not exercise
except in common with the Congress. The proclamations of General Kearney to the
inhabitants of New Mexico appeared monstrous. In fact, this officer, on his private
authority, declared to them, that they were annexed to the United States. Are not
those the manners of a pro-consul? What! a simple brigadier-general can impose on
LT November 6, 1846/5c "The Affairs of Mexico"

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)
MEXICO, Sept. 29.

The incapacity of this country to maintain the war with the United States is becoming daily more apparent, but still no disposition is shown to treat for peace. Immediately after the departure of the last packet mail it was known that the American Government, supposing that of Mexico sufficiently humbled, had offered to negotiate; but the only reply given was, that the communication would be laid before Congress, to assemble on the 6th of December next. It is understood that a similar answer has been returned to an offer of mediation between the belligerents on the part of Her Majesty's Government. General Salas, the creature of Santa Anna, continues at the head of the Government, and Gomez Farias, with the title of Minister of Finance, apparently shared the supreme power until Santa Anna, who had been watching the course of events from his estate near Jalapa, found it necessary to comply with the wishes of his adherents, and present himself here. He made his public entry while the rejoicings for the anniversary of the declaration of independence were in progress, this popular fete being thus ingeniously made to serve a double purpose, without giving his return the appearance of a personal triumph. He has declined to assume the presidency of the Executive, reserving to himself the command of the army, the true source of power in Mexico, and devotes himself to military preparations, nominally to oppose his own power. He is obliged, however, to proceed with caution. Obstacles which he would once have spurned with contempt are now formidable. The terror attached to his name is no more, and there probably are moments when he sees cause to regret his peaceful retreat at the Havannah. The want of money is of course his great difficulty; and, though he has contrived to get rid of an inconvenient Mentor by making Gomez Farias President of the Council, and substituting his own follower Don Antonio Haro y Tamariz, as Minister of Finance, the sinews of war are not forthcoming. The church has been appealed to for aid, and threats as well as supplications have been used, but with only partial effect, the clerical body protesting that their property cannot be alienated without the express consent of the Pope, and threatening, in their turn, to close the churches if violence should be used against them. The opinions of Gomez Farias (an enthusiast of the wildest description) are in favour of such extreme measures as were adopted during the French revolution; and an article actually appeared in the Government paper inciting the populace to the plunder of the wealthy classes; but the Government itself is weak, and as yet has not even attempted the expedient, common at former periods, of levying a forced loan. Overtures of a kind have been made to the foreign merchants. On condition of their advancing a loan of $500,000 to Government, it was proposed that at the conclusion of the blockade the cotton goods now prohibited should be admitted at a low duty, and the tariff generally reduced about 30 per cent., these advantages to be limited in the first instance to the parties lending the money, and on their being reimbursed to become general, the Government engaging not to augment the reduced tariff for eight years. This scheme shows the extreme necessities of the Government, but has not been accepted, chiefly from the conviction that with the Americans on the Rio Bravo the reduction of the present Mexican tariff will become inevitable. [WWF]

LT November 6, 1846/6c "New Mexico Annexed to US"

New Mexico has been annexed to the United States, without a shot being fired. 2,000 men, assembled by General Armijo for the defence of Santa Fe, the capital of the province, joined the invading force under General Butler, and the authorities, including the clergy, took the oath of allegiance to the United States without hesitation. Chihuahua is the next department menaced in that direction, and will probably share the same fate.

Accounts from Nuevo Leon represent General Taylor as besieging Monterey with 6,000 men. That city is defended by General Ampudia, with an equal number of soldiers, and about 2,000 irregulars. Some reports state Ampudia's retreat on Saltillo to be cut off, the Americans having already occupied the passes. If Ampudia should be obliged to surrender, the effect will be nearly fatal, as General Taylor can then
advance to San Luis Potosi without opposition. Santa Anna has ordered every
disposable soldier to march on the latter place, for which he himself left, with about
2,000 men, yesterday.

To induce the Mexicans to listen to reason another defeat is necessary, and the
sooner they receive it the better. It will then be time for other Powers to lend their
friendly mediation to terminate this war, and avert, at least for the present, the
annihilation of Mexico as a nation. The acquisition of the line of the Bravo with New
Mexico and Upper California may well satisfy the ambition of the Cabinet of
Washington, and for the possession of so vast a territory they would probably be
well disposed to pay an indemnity such as Mexico cannot afford to reject. If the
Mexican people do indeed possess the elements of political regeneration, their
development may be hoped for on the restoration of peace. A system of colonization
producing the admixture of other races is already admitted to be necessary, and this
cannot be accomplished without that religious toleration which is still absurdly
withheld. A beneficial change in their commercial policy towards other nations may
also be anticipated.

General Paredes has received his passport to leave the republic. He is undoubtedly a
man of patriotic intentions, and superior to the vulgar corruption of money, but his
mental capacity proved unequal to the task which he voluntarily assumed. He leaves
his country a banished man, but without any reasonable ground of complaint. His
power was founded on a military revolt, and the treachery of which he was guilty
towards Herrera met a fitting retribution in the conduct of his own subordinates.

Don Jose Maria Tornel, who had steered his course with unerring skill through every
revolution for a quarter of a century, miscalculated on the last. He believed Santa
Anna's return to power impossible, and did not hesitate to declare himself his foe. In
consequence he has been deprived of his office, as director of the Mineria College,
and ordered to retire to Tehuacan, a village in the midst of a wilderness, where he
will be much at a loss for employment unless inclined to botanical pursuits.

The conversion of the Mexican deferred bonds in London, which in the first instance
was disapproved of here, has been referred to a committee, composed of Valentin
Gomez Farias, Manuel Gomez Pedraza, Manuel Payno Bustamente, and Francisco
Fagoaga. It is thought that their report (which this packet will probably convey) will
be favourable to the ratification of the measure.

The following is a copy of the correspondence between the United States and
Mexican Ministers as to the conclusion of a treaty of peace:--

LETTER FROM Mr. BUCHANAN TO THE MEXICAN MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

"Department of State, Washington, July 27.

"Sir, --The President of the United States, no less anxious to terminate than he was
to avoid the present unhappy war with the Mexican Republic, has determined to
make an effort to accomplish this purpose. He has accordingly instructed the
undersigned, Secretary of State, to propose through your Excellency to the Mexican
Government that negotiations shall forthwith commence for the conclusion of a
peace just and honourable for both parties. Should this offer be received and
responded to by the Mexican Government in the same frank and friendly spirit by
which it has been dictated, he will immediately dispatch an Envoy Extraordinary and
Minister Plenipotentiary to the city of Mexico, with instructions and full powers to
conclude a treaty of peace which shall adjust all the questions in dispute between
the two republics. If the Mexican Government should prefer to send a Minister to
Washington to conduct the negotiation here, he shall be made to accomplish the
object of his mission with the least possible delay.

"In the present communication it is deemed useless, and might prove injurious, to
discuss the causes of the existing war. This might tend to delay or defeat the
restoration of peace. The past is already consigned to history; the future, under
Providence, is within our own power.

"The occasion may, however, be embraced to state that the President has ever
cherished the kindest feelings for Mexico, and that one of the first wishes of his heart
is, that she may be a powerful and prosperous republic, in perpetual amity with the
United States.

"Commodore Connor will transmit this dispatch for your Excellency to the Governor
of Vera Cruz, under a flag of truce; and you are respectfully invited to adopt the
same channel for communicating your answer.

"I avail myself of this occasion to offer your Excellency the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

"JAMES BUCHANAN.

"To his Excellency the Minister of Foreign Relations of the Mexican Republic."

ANSWER OF THE MEXICAN MINISTER

"National Palace, Mexico, Aug. 31.

"Sir, --The undersigned Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Mexican Republic has informed the General-in-Chief of the Liberating Army, provisionally charged with the supreme executive power, of your Excellency's note of the 27th of July last, in which you propose, on the part of your Government, the opening of negotiations which may lead to a lasting and honourable peace between the two countries. His Excellency being possessed of the contents of the said note could not but fix his attention on the fact, that while all discussion of the causes of the war between the two republics is declined, it is pretended to consider these merely as past events now belonging to history. For the Executive to listen to proposals on such a basis, when the subject to be treated of concerns the honour of the country, and the integrity of its territory, and compromises its nationality for the future, would be to depart from justice and thoroughly irritate public opinion, already much excited, as the discussions which have taken place prove by the apprehension of the question being terminated in the manner proposed. Hence it is that, the affairs of the republic with the United States having reached their present situation, it has become necessary to appeal to the nation in order that, by means of representatives elected with entire freedom, it may provide for its future security, honour, and prosperity. A Congress with this object has been summoned, and will open its session on the 6th of December next, when, with other grave matters, the subject of the war with the United States will be submitted to its deliberation, and your Excellency's note will be laid before it for the resolution which may be judged conducive to the interests of the nation. The Government of the undersigned consequently awaits the determination of that body in order to reply to the communication referred to, the relations of Mexico with the United States remaining in the interval in the position in which they were found by the General-in-Chief of the Liberating Army when he assumed the executive power.

"While remitting this answer from his Government, through the channel indicated by your Excellency, the undersigned avails himself of the occasion to assure your Excellency of his distinguished consideration.

"MANUEL CRESCENCIO REJON."

(EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED TAMPICO, SEPTEMBER 22, 1846.)

As regards politics we are on the eve of a great crisis, but what the issue will be it is not easy to divine. The last news we have from the interior is that the Americans, with 2,000 men, have taken possession of Santa Fe without resistance, the Mexican General Armijo having retired before them. Taylor, with about 7,000 men, had advanced to Cadereita, a place in the neighbourhood of Monterey, where General Ampudia arrived on the 3d inst., at the head of an equal force, and speaks confidently of driving the former away, and fully revenging the injured honour of the country. He is a mountebank, and the same man who at Tabasco took General Sentmanat prisoner, and fried his head in oil. The Americans have declared themselves masters also of California, and are preparing to render their occupation effective. As the British bondholders have security on the public lands there, it is a questions how far England may acquiesce in this intention, though I imagine America will be glad to obviate all claim on that score by recognizing their lien. As regards this place, I am rather surprised they have made no attempt. A month or two ago they would have succeeded, as there were only 300 or 400 men here; but now there are at least 1,500, and if properly defended, it would not by an easy matter to take it.

It has been reported that they intend to make themselves masters of it now that the "norther" season has commenced, and it is neither agreeable nor safe to keep the sea, in which case it is to be supposed they will establish the same regulation which they have done in Matamoras with regard to foreign importations, viz., that only American goods and such other as have paid duty in the United States can be admitted, and this in American bottoms only. I do not think our Government, however, is likely to acquiesce in any arrangement of this nature. Either it is a blockade or it is not; if the former, how can American vessels be admitted? if the latter, how can foreign ones be excluded?
The intentions of the Americans are not very clear. They have sent an offer of accommodation; but as it appears to be based upon their remaining in possession of all they have acquired, it has been rejected, or, what is much the same thing, they have been told it will be submitted to the Congress, which is to meet in December. It is very likely they are only waiting for the reply to push matters with renewed activity. Hitherto Taylor has been making no particular movement, arising, probably, from the unprecedented rains which have flooded the whole of the country in his vicinity, and must have caused vast hardship and, no doubt, great mortality, though we rarely get any information of a recent date from that quarter. Possibly also the desire of obtaining the simultaneous co-operation of the expedition which has arrived at Santa Fe may also have had its weight with him. In the midst of all this it will be naturally supposed the Mexicans, forgetting their own eternal squabbles, will have joined to repel the common enemy. Nothing, however, is further from the fact; the broils of party have been incessant. Paredes and his Government have been overthrown, as you are aware; Santa Anna recalled (as they think nothing more is necessary to vanquish the Americans); the control system of Government abrogated, and the Federal form restored. Now, it must be remembered, that this very Santa Anna is the man who, eight or ten years ago, destroyed the Federation by force of arms (as it was incompatible with his views of supreme command); it is not therefore surprising that the Santannistas and Federalists, who have hitherto been bitter enemies, should still remain so, and be both determined to maintain the truce only as long as it suits their interests. Santa Anna will be anxious to maintain the army; the Federalists are resolved to do away with it, as it has never served any purpose but to maintain a despotism and tear the country to pieces, and is now found quite useless as a defence against an external enemy. They advocate free trade; Santa Anna has always been fond of high duties and prohibitions.

I believe many of the thinking part of the community begin to see clearly that the Mexicans are incapable of self-government, and that the best thing which could possibly happen for the country would be to be conquered by the Americans; but the thinking part constitute a very reduced minority; the mass are either indifferent or nourish the antipathy to the Americans which is felt against all foreigners by all of the Spanish descent. Commerce is quite suspended; and, though stocks are light and goods getting scarce, from the blockade, our buyers are too much alarmed at the prospect before them to be willing to purchase beyond what they immediately require. [WWF]

LT November 9, 1846/4a "State of Affairs in Mexico"

The war between the United States and Mexico reminds us of a strange combat between an eagle and a fish, which we remember to have read of in some work of fiction. The bird of prey struck the back of its defenceless victim, and its own talons were fixed and entangled in his scaly sides. The struggle was balanced, not by the equal force or ferocity of the combatants, but by the weight of the cumbrous booty; for, if we recollect the legend rightly, after a vast turmoil upon the surface of the water, the fish dived with its winged enemy, and the assailant perished in the depths of the lake.

Nothing can be more deplorable and ineffective than the preparations of the Mexicans for active defence; but when we predicted, several months since, that this campaign would not end as rapidly or as brilliantly as the Americans had anticipated, we had formed a just estimate of the passive resistance which Mexico opposes to an invading army. In reality, though all the success has been on the side of the United States, they are probably the greatest losers by the war. They must pay for it; they have to support an army at a vast distance from the center of their Government, exposed to all the hardships of an uncivilized country and a pernicious climate. They have equipped a considerable squadron and blockaded the coast, but the enemy affords no prizes to encourage the zeal or reward the courage of the American navy, and the interruption of foreign trade secures a close protection to certain Mexican interests and cuts off the competition of the free American markets. The attack upon St. Juan d'Ulloa was the only severe blow which could be struck upon the coast, and that the American Commodore has not attempted. In the present state of the defences of that fortress success is more than doubtful; the fleet would be placed in a situation of extreme danger, and a check would be disgraceful and disastrous to the American arms. It has therefore been resolved, as we understand, to leave St. Juan d'Ulloa alone.

The progress of the American forces on the coast of the Pacific, in Upper California, and in the heart of their enormous continent, is no doubt most extensive. But it may be questioned whether the loss of these provinces is a sensible blow to Mexico, or a
sensible advantage to the American Confederation. Probably for more than a century
to come the interior of the American continent will not contribute more to the social
improvement or political strength of the American people, than the interior of New
Holland does at this time to the British Empire. The Mexicans possessed it, as Spain
had possessed it before them, in nominal rather than real sovereignty; and, if any
considerable portion of these territories is now transferred to the United States,
generations must pass away, and the greatest revolutions may have changed the
whole aspect of the country, before these provinces can really boast of society and
government. The only really valuable acquisitions of the United States are two
harbours on the Pacific, and it remains to be seen upon what terms they will be
allowed to retain them at the peace.

The inordinate spoliation of the Mexican territories renders it difficult for the
Government of that country to listen to terms as inconsistent with their national
rights and dignity as those offered by Mr. BUCHANAN, whilst in reality since the
actions on the Rio Bravo nothing has been done to force them to submission. By the
last accounts we are informed that General TAYLOR had at last attacked the town of
Monterey with success. The Mexicans retired, but after three days' hard fighting,
which cost the little American army 500 men. So little were the American officers
prepared to follow up this success, that they immediately granted a virtual armistice
of two months to the enemy; and the Cabinet of Washington seems to have had no
small difficulty to force its victorious army to keep the field. Mr. POLK is very well
aware that he has incurred a most formidable amount of responsibility, if he has to
meet Congress with no decisive victory, no treaty of peace, very little military or
naval glory, but an enormous amount of estimates to be provided for. His policy has
certainly enlarged our conception of the real powers of an American President; for, in
spite of all the restrictions of the constitution, he has found means to plunge the
country into war for his own political and private purposes, and to provide
extraordinary means of carrying on the contest. But, if the last accounts of the State
elections are correct, the democratic party is losing ground in the country; and we
are not without hopes that the unscrupulous means by which the PRESIDENT has
endeavoured to extend his influence may prove fatal to his cause.

The Mexican war, therefore, presents the strange picture of a victorious army in a
foreign country which is more nearly reduced to the necessity of effecting a peace
than the State which it has conquered and subdued. The declaration of hostilities has
been followed by no considerable change in the habitually disturbed and insecure
condition of Mexico. In a populous, industrious, and flourishing community, war is an
interruption of all the pursuits and pleasures of life; in small a country as Mexico, the
presence of a hostile army, like that of General TAYLOR, is scarcely felt beyond the
lines of his camp. When, therefore, the respective Legislatures of the two Republics
meet, early in December, we expect to learn that the Americans loudly demand the
conclusion of a treaty of peace, whilst the Mexicans will vote the continuance of the
war. The war has, indeed, from first to last, been no more than an armed
appropriation of territory. It was begun without a pretext by the precipitate
occupation of a neutral district, and this occupation has now extended over an
immense tract of the whole breadth of the continent. When we have said this we
have said all; no hostile army has been really beaten, no conditions have been
imposed, no Government has been coerced. The value of military operations lies,
after all, in their political effect. A mere march across a wilderness, or the occupation
of a town of log-huts, is an exploit followed by no results. We have yet to learn that
the Americans have done anything to compel the Mexicans to accept such terms of
peace as they may think fit to impose; and the Mexicans have the satisfaction of
knowing, that the ineffective operations directed against themselves impose most
inconvenient, onerous, and unpopular burdens on their antagonists. Nor are these
burdens and inconveniences limited to the period of actual warfare. If the United
States Government expects to hold and govern any considerable portion of the
territory their troops or marauding parties have lately overrun, it must be prepared
to maintain establishments of a novel and extensive character. The roving population
of the woods and prairies, the Indians and Ranchos of the far west, must be kept
down; the coast must be fortified and protected; and the principles of self-
government will be found inadequate to maintain internal order and to resist foreign
attacks in these infant states. We have already seen the defence of the frontiers of
Texas draw the whole forces of the Union into the field, and occasion this costly and
inglorious war. Similar difficulties and dangers will continually await the American
authority in the former provinces of New Spain, and the Union must be supported in
those regions, not by the unanimous consent of the people, but by armed force.

The incidents of this war, and the consideration of the political consequences of
American aggrandizement, have convinced us, that however we may abhor the
lawless and unjust spirit of these proceedings of the United States towards their
weaker neighbours, there is nothing in these conquests which ought seriously to
excite our jealousy or our apprehensions. In our own time they can only prove a
source of embarrassment and a severe incumbrance to the American Government,
hereafter, we may hope that the extension of our language an our race over the
American continent will conduce, upon the whole, to the civilization and
improvement of the world. Certainly, the conduct of the Mexicans towards England,
since they were emancipated from the control of the mother country, has given us
no cause to value their independence, or to respect their power of self-defence.

LT November 13, 1846/3f "The Battle of Monterey"

"Gentlemen, -I wrote you a few days since from the camp at Monterey, since when I
have been despatched to this place on public business. As I return to-morrow, I have
only time to say one word.

"The entire loss in our battalion (Baltimore) is eight killed, and, as I am informed, 16
wounded, all slightly but one. I have seen none of the killed or wounded; and
therefore cannot give names.

"Colonel Watson was killed in the imprudent charge ordered by General Butler. He
was at the head of battalion, and had ordered us to go into the charge with three
cheers. He received a ball in the breast while in the act of cheering, and fell
instantly. I tried to get to him, but was borne on in the rush. The charge was
ineffectual. At this moment General Taylor rode up in great anger, and ordered us to
retire. Old Rough came up under the most tremendous fire. It was here his horse
was shot. It is said there were angry words passed between him and Butler.

"Captain Stewart now took command, and said, 'Boys, your Colonel is killed; don't
run, show those d--d red skins that although you are ordered to retire, you intern to
walk. 'With this, he shook his fist at them, and d--d them pretty considerable. Our
entire loss will not be much short of 800 to 900 killed and wounded-the enemy the
same. Ampudia has given up the main fort as per articles of capitulation, and the
stars and stripes were floating over it when I left.

"He asked an interview with General Taylor to take place the day I left. I did not
learn the answer.

"Mr. Giles made us a speech when at the Marine Barracks in Washington; askhim if
he is satisfied with us.

"There is no doubt now but that Ampudia will be re-inforced in about one month by
12,000 men. They will be under Santa Anna.

"We must have 10,000 more volunteers, mark that.
"Yours, J. M."

The following is also from a Baltimore volunteer, and give some interesting details
that we have not before met with.

(Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun. )

"Messrs. Editors, -I have but a few leisure moments to give you an account of our
great battle at Monterey. On the morning of the 21st, General Taylor formed his line
for battle, and marched up to the outskirts and fortifications of the town, keeping
one bomb and his artillery battery going all the time. The Mexicans continued to fire
on us all day, but with no effect.

"General Worth, on one side of the town, with Colonel Jack Hays, and Captain
Walker and the Texan Rangers, and General Taylor and the volunteers on the other,
we made our way into their streets over their breastworks, with a heavy loss on both
sides. When we made the first charge we lost our gallant Colonel Watson. The
Baltimoreans fought bravely, and did credit to their city. We lost a number of men,
but I cannot give you their names at present.

"The Tennessee and Mississippi volunteers were cut up horribly. Kentucky did not
stand the fire well, and Ohio got in a hot place, but soon backed out of it. Captain
Barber and Colonel M'Cullough, of Mississippi, also fell mortally wounded, with a
number of other officers whose names I cannot remember.

"The battle lasted three days and two nights, and we had a hot time of it, I assure
you. General Worth distinguished himself beyond all praise. He is decidedly a great man for a fight. He took two batteries on the first day, and used them on the Mexicans with great effect.

"The greatest loss on the Americans was on the first day, but there is different reports as to the number of killed and wounded. Some of the staff say that our loss is 700 killed and wounded, but I think there must be at least 1,000.

"The Texan Rangers are the most desperate set of men in battle that I have ever heard of. They charged up to the breast works, dismounted, and rushed over on foot, with sword in hand. They were each armed with barreled rifles, and, as may be supposed, did great execution among the copper skins.

"The 31 and 5th Regiments of the Regulars were much cut up also, from the 40 pieces of artillery which we had to silence, as well as the musketry from the house tops.

"The grand castle is a powerful fort, and was mounted with a number of 18-pounders. It was there that General Ampudia's quarters were during the battle.

"I will relate to you a number of incidents that occurred during the three days:--

"Colonel M'Clung, of Mississippi, the great duelist, got upon the breastworks, waved his hat, and was in the act of giving three cheers, when a ball struck him, from the effects of which he has since died.

"Samuel W. Chambers, one of the Rangers, or 'the Delaware hero,' as they called him, got over the breastwork, obtained a foothold on the top of an 18-pounder, and deliberately took aim with his 'fire-shooter,' firing with great effect, and crushing the Mexicans; until the piece was taken by General Worth and turned on the city. Chambers escaped without a wound.

"Captain Gillespy, of the Texan Rangers, was killed whilst pouring water into the tube of a cannon, with the Mexicans all around him. But it is impossible for me to mention all the numerous incidents that occurred at the present time.

"We expect another battle at Saltillo so soon as the armistice expires, and as we have now got our hands in we will give them rougher usage next time.

"Our army was about 7,000 strong before the battle, but is now about 5,500. I miss many a noble fellow from the ranks. The Mexicans were nearly double our number. Their loss in killed and wounded is not less than 2,000. A great many were killed in their houses, as we had to rush in and shoot them down, to stop their destructive fire from windows and housetops.

"We bury our dead to-day, and you may judge of my feelings at the dreadful sight better than I can describe them. The whole field was like a slaughter house, and bodies were being buried in every direction. In short, I have had enough of the battle-field, although determined to stand up to the rack throughout the campaign. Some persons may and do like it, but between you and myself I would much rather be in Baltimore.

"Yours, &c.
"N.B.S.,
"Of the Baltimore Regiment Volunteers.

"P.S.--Since writing the above, I have been informed that not less than 60 of the Baltimore Regiment are killed or missing. Notwithstanding our losses, and the heart-rendering sight around us, the soldiers are in high spirits this morning on account of our brilliant victory; and well we may be, for when we commenced we never expected to gain it. The bristling fortifications looked almost impregnable. But I am called on by the sergeant to go to work and to bury the dead, so I must close for the present. "N.B.S."

(From the Richmond Whig, Oct. 20.)

"Lieutenant Colonel M'Clung, of Mississippi, who was severely wounded in the attack on Monterey, it will be seen, has died of his wounds. We take him to be Alexander K. M'Clung, of Jackson, Mississippi, who was marshal of the Eastern district, having received his appointment from General Harrison. If so, he was a nephew of the late Chief Justice Marshall, and fell heir to a large portion of the talent which has
rendered that family one of the most remarkable we ever knew. He was a lawyer of full practice, and was widely known for his undaunted courage and open disposition. We learn from an officer in the army, that those officers who fell at Monterey were among the very flower of the service."

(From the Richmond Inquirer, Oct. 20.)

"We had the pleasure, yesterday, of meeting that gallant officer, Captain Thornton, of the United States Dragoons, and native of Virginia, who goes on to Washington this morning to obtain permission to be sent to the army in Mexico, in whose glorious achievements he ardently desires to participate. He came over from the Rio Grande with Captain Eaton, the bearer of despatches from General Taylor, and gave us some interesting details of the battles of Monterey. It seems that the Mexicans expected General Taylor by the road from China, but he changed his route, and approached Monterey by the road from Cerralvo. They had fortified the town in the former direction. This deceived General Taylor, and produced the great havoc among our troops in the streets of that portion of the town. We understand that the streets were barricaded with strong stone and mortar fortifications, forming almost a perfect defence, and giving the Mexicans an opportunity to assail our troops with murderous effect. Captain Thornton thinks that there will be yet considerable fighting, but that it will be principally of the guerrilla character. The Mexicans with their tough, shaggy ponies, and their havresacs, containing corn and salt, as their only provisions, can bear great hardships, and annoy us a good deal. Captain Thornton was a prisoner in the house of Ampudia, at Matamoras. He says that Ampudia was the first man he saw after the battle of the 9th of May. Ampudia pointed out to Captain Thornton his saddle, perforated with two bullet holes; but they were in the rear of the saddle, and it was very plain that they were fired when Ampudia was with his back, and not his 'face to the foe.' When Ampudia reached Matamoras, he publicly proclaimed that Arista had betrayed the Mexican army in the two engagements on the Rio Grande. We have only time to wish Captain Thornton success in his laudable mission to Washington city. Such men ought not to be allowed to remain idle, when their country needs their services so much."

(From the Baltimore Clipper, Oct. 20.)

The following letter from Colonel May, received by a gentlemen in this city, is the very latest from the army, and has been furnished to us for publication:

"Dragoon Camp, near Monterey, Mexico, Sept. 26.

"It is a sad and painful duty I have to perform, in announcing to you the death of your father's young friend, Mr. W. Thomas, of your State. We have had hard fighting for the last three days, and he was mortally wounded in a charge against the enemy's cavalry. He behaved most gallantly, and fell in the front of battle.

"Yesterday he died, but retained his senses until the last. He was a gallant fellow, and is much regretted. You can say this to his friends, that he had every attention. I was not present when he expired, but was absent on duty. He was buried with military honours. Many gallant spirits have gone out in the last three days.

"The flowers of our little army have fallen--peace be with them! The enemy yesterday surrendered the city, on condition that they should be allowed to march out with the honours of war.

"The gallant Watson fell at the head of his regiment, leading on the charge. I cannot tell you of our loss, but it is at least 500 killed or wounded.

"My men have not suffered any, as they have been exposed very little.

"I write this on my saddle, and am so tired I can't hold my pen any longer. I have not slept for the last three days or nights, so you must excuse this wretched scrawl. "Yours, CHARLES MAY."

[WWF]"
The steam-ship Caledonia has just arrived with advices from the United States and Canada to the close of October.

The political news is not of striking importance. The armies of the right, left, and center were quietly advancing, or preparing to advance, further into the Mexican territories. No new conflict has taken place. From the Pacific intelligence had been received of the taking of Monterey. The operations of the Gulf Squadron remained unchanged. The neutrality of Yucatan had been withdrawn by the Cabinet of the United States.

From the interior of Mexico the advices received breathed a warlike spirit.

From Canada our advices communicate no important intelligence.

(From our own correspondent)

Our position with regard to Mexico and war is becoming more complicated. It is indeed difficult to see what course is left for our government to take other than to persevere in the war with all vigor possible, until the Mexicans shall accept the proffered overtures for negotiation. But perseverance in a war at a long distance, in a foreign and hostile country, where the people manifest no sympathy with our arms, although not averse to receive our dollars in payment of supplies, is not so easy a matter for a government constituted as ours, is and for a people having a very small regular army, and no organized system of taxation, in order to meet the extraordinary expenditure of a state of war.

The success of our army - and it has been everywhere successful - brings no substantial resources to our cause. We have advanced as conquerors into the heart of New Mexico and New Leon, on the Atlantic slope, and our flag is flying at all the strong points in California, on the Pacific; the bloody contest in assaulting Monterey, in New Leon, is the only feat of arms of recent occurrence; in California, and New Mexico no opposition whatever was offered to the American occupation. But these various conquests do not produce any perceptible effect upon the issue of the war. We hear no overtures for peace, no discouragement, on the part of the Mexican rulers or the Mexican people. The latest dates from Monterey are of the 29th ult. At that time it was believed that Santa Anna with a large force, was approaching Saltillo, with a determination to defend that important post to the last. Rumor places his force at 13,000 men, and his army, whatever it may be, will be reinforced by that with which Ampudia evacuated Monterey, - computed by our officers, who witnessed the marching forth of several divisions at near 7,000 men - this would make an effective force of 20,000 men at Saltillo, commanded by the ablest of the Mexican Generals, Santa Anna; to which at the latest dates from Monterey, of the 29th ult., General Taylor had not more that 5,000 effective men to oppose. But he will remain until he is strongly reinforced in men, ammunition, and provisions, and meantime can hold it against all Mexico. There is, however, no reason to suppose he will be attacked, not withstanding orders were immediately dispatched from Washington, on learning that an armistice of eight weeks had been agreed upon between Generals Taylor and Ampudia, subject to the ratification of each Government, to annul that agreement.

The rumor, however, of Santa Anna having reached Saltillo, with an army of 13,000 men, must be unfounded. That General only entered the city of Mexico on the 15th of September, when he was received in form and with much enthusiasm. He immediately occupied himself, as all the letters concur in saying, in urging and hurrying the equipment and departure of as large a force as he could gather together, to march against the advancing American Army under General Taylor; but that could not be accomplished in a few hours, not even in a few days, with a destitute treasury and a deficiency of military supplies and equipments. The distance from the city of Mexico to Saltillo is about 650 miles, which would not be traversed by an army in less than 5 weeks; and it is known that, up to the 20th of September, Santa Anna was still in the city of Mexico; of course, he and his forces could not be in the vicinity of Saltillo, as he is reported to have been, on the 27th hand 28th of September. But although I look upon this rumor as unfounded for the present, it is not to be doubted that Santa Anna will make a decisive effort to reach Saltillo and defend it, for it is a very defensible position; and that once carried the Americans, the road to San Luis do Potosi is comparatively easy. For some weeks to come, however, there is reason to believe there will be no more fighting in that quarter.

General Wood's corps is said to falling down towards that of Taylor, at Monterey, and General Kearney had left Santa Fe, with a portion of his army, on a reconnaissance of the region between him and General Wool. That part of the army left at Santa Fe
is occupied in strengthening its defenses, and the whole territory of New Mexico is claimed as part of the United States. There is no faith, however, to be placed in the statement published in some of the papers, that General Kearney had organized the invaded country into a territorial government, and ordered an election of a delegate to represent the territory in the Congress of the United States. This is a proceeding which the Congress alone can organize or order, and however, under the exigencies of martial law, a military commander may assume sometimes to supersede the laws and functions of the country he is invading, no military commander of the United States is so ignorant of the limits of his authority, or of the extent of congress, as by an order of the day to constitute a foreign country into a territory of the Union, and direct an election to be held in it as such.

Meantime, from the western coast we have the official proclamation of Commodore Stockton, now commanding the United States fleet, instituting a blockade of all the Mexican ports on the Pacific; and the account of the capture of Monterey and other ports in California, without resistance. The British Admiral had visited Monterey after the American flag was flying there, and, as there was the most amicable intercourse between him and the American officers, the last hopes of the Mexican authorities, resting on an idea the England would interfere for Mexico, had vanished.

We have accounts by the telegraph from the south this morning of a very violent and destructive gale off the coast of Florida on the 11th inst. The little island of Key West, a bare sand-bar in the ocean, was literally devastated; the lighthouse was destroyed, almost all its habitations were overthrown, and 50 lives at least were, it is computed, lost. Many vessels were driven ashore, and among them the United States gun-brig Perry. We must await the arrival of the mail before we shall be made acquainted with all the details of the disaster.

The state of our commercial affairs is very satisfactory. Considerable losses have, indeed, been sustained on many of the importations from Europe, but our export trade, especially in bread stuffs, is very active. There will go forward large supplies of flour, wheat, corn, and cheese, and yet there will be a superabundance left behind, so bountiful have been our harvests this year.

The elections, which are in progress throughout the Union, indicate that the policy of the present Administration has not the sanction of the people. Several states have materially changed the political character of their representatives in Congress. At the head of these stands Pennsylvania, which, from being a stanch supporter of President Polk and his Administration, has wheeled round and sent a delegation to Congress of which the majority are opposed to the President. The chief grounds of dissatisfaction are the war with Mexico, undertaken in opposition to the views, and, as is thought, to the interests of the northern and middle states; and a repeal to the tariff, which was all-important to Pennsylvania, for the protection it afforded to the coal and iron.

The election in this state, the most numerously represented on the house of all the states, takes place next Tuesday, the 3d of November. If its results should at all coincide with those in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and elsewhere, the next House of Representatives with have a majority adverse to the President. The Congress, however, that is to meet next December, is not affected directly by these elections, as they are made a year in advance of the time at which the members chosen take their seats. But the moral effect upon the course and policy of the Administration of a defeat before the people cannot fall to be considerable.

Our latest dates from Europe are by the Caledonia, to the 4th inst. Commercially the news she brought enhanced the prices of all our staples--cotton, flour, cheese &c. Flour has since fallen back somewhat, but it is still half a dollar per barrel higher than before the arrival of the Caledonia. The best is now quoted at $6 per barrel. The cotton crop of this year will certainly fall short of that of last year, even if the picking season be prolonged by the absence of frost far into next month.

The rate of exchange upon Europe is steadily declining, and, if it go much lower, will turn the current of specie westward. Very good bills on London have been sold during the past week at from 6 to 6 1/2 per cent. Premium, though the rate for prime bills drawn to a point is firm at 7 1/2 per cent. Bills on France, 5f.32c. to 5f.35c.

Money is easy. [WWF]
If Mr. President Polk had thought to shape his conduct in strict conformity to our predictions, he could not have more entirely and accurately fulfilled them; and we are now not without hopes of seeing the just retribution which his rash and aggressive policy calls down upon his head eventually crush the democratic leaders and the present Cabinet of Washington under resentment of the American people. He found it an easy task to incite the country to embark in the war, which he had caused by his own instructions to the army, and declared upon his own responsibility. In fact, the critical position in which General Taylor found himself between Matamoras and the mouth of the Rio Bravo at the opening of the campaign left the Congress no option. Prompt support could alone prevent the utter ruin and probable capitulation of the army; so that, by a curious turn of affairs, it was a threatened disaster which in reality pledged the United States to this absurd, unjust, and unconstitutional war. We had long ago shown that the Democratic Party in America, and the successors of General Jackson, had their own especial reasons for regarding a war with none of that aversion and abhorrence which are entertained by most other civilized Governments, and professed by all. The exploits of a successful campaign are expected to have their usual effect on the populace; the army itself was likely to offer great attractions to the numerous body of loose adventurers in the new States, and military honours acquire an excessive value and importance in a country where other social distinctions do not exist; but, above all, the Government released itself by a bold declaration of war from the jealous precautions of the constitution and the votes of a popular assembly, and it could at once indulge in unbounded patronage and unlimited expenditure. No doubt, Mr. Polk and his advisers were sanguine enough to hope that the brilliant termination of the campaign and a treaty of peace, or rather a treaty of spoliation, dictated under the walls of Mexico, would prove an effectual answer to the attacks of the Opposition on the meeting of Congress. And it is not improbable that decided success would have obliterated from the memory of the United States the iniquity in which war originated, and the abuses by which it has been carried on. But, if such were the anticipations of the American Ministers, we must claim for ourselves the credit of a more correct appreciation of the state of their affairs than they had arrived at. We told them many months ago that they would find themselves at the close of the year, scarcely more advanced in the conquest coercion of Mexico than they were in April; we pointed out that the impossibility of making any rapid military movement in advance in a country destitute of roads and of water, whilst fever and dysentery were more certain to thin the ranks of the army that the assaults of the enemy; in short, we foresaw all the evils of an exhausted treasury, and of a war which cannot be carried on with such means as the United States possess, or abandoned without disgrace.

In one respect, Mr. Polk has been more fortunate than he deserved, in the strict forbearance and neutrality observed by this country. We believe that neutrality to be the line of policy most consonant to our honour and our interests; but, after the language Mr. Polk had used in the Oregon dispute, —which was still pending when Mexico was attacked on the Rio Bravo, —the American Government had certainly no right to reckon with implicit confidence on our standing entirely aloof; and our reserve is no excuse for their imprudence. We are happy to find that this truth is universally recognized in the United States, and nothing has raised the character of the English Government to a higher position in their estimation than the fact that we did not stoop to take advantage of the folly of their own Cabinet.

The main difficulty of Mr. Polk lies, however, in the financial embarrassments with which he is surrounded; and these must come under the full discussion and control of Congress. Somehow or another, we are assured by our correspondents that no less than forty millions of dollars have been spent upon this war in the last six months; and we can believe that this calculation is not excessive, when we remember that the army and fleet had not only to be supported in the field and at sea, and provided with pay and necessaries, but that these forces had in a great measure to be formed and equipped. A country in possession of an immense accumulation of stores and a considerable standing army may carry on a war on a limited scale without a very larger addition to its annual expenditure. But the very existence of a corps of 20,000 men, operating in a foreign country, and drawing its supplies entirely from home, is an unheard of novelty in the United States of America—a novelty in their estimates, and a novelty in their political condition. We venture to affirm that when Congress passed a precipitate bill to authorize the President to call out 50,000 volunteers, nobody but the Administration and the contractors had any idea of the enormous burden they were imposing on the country. Yet that act will be invoked by the Government as a formal recognition by Congress of a war which it had not declared, and as a sanction for all the expenses that war has occasioned.

These facts are so clear that we are not surprised to find that Mr. Polk's popularity
and power are on the wane; that in many states the elections have turned in favour of the Whigs; and that here is a prospect of his having to render an account of all the proceedings of his Presidency to a hostile House of Representatives. If such be the event, the strongest measures which the American constitution provides, and which the manners of our time tolerate, will hardly be too strong to punish the errors and misdeeds of such and Administration.

We do not anticipate that any important intelligence from the seat of war will arrive to disarm the resentment of the American people, or to improve Mr. POLK's position. At Monterey the Mexicans have recently shown that they can fight with the ancient bravery of their Spanish progenitors behind walled fortifications; and, although the town was ultimately taken, the capture cost the Americans more than the loss of it did the Mexicans. In consequence of the refusal of the American Cabinet to ratify General TAYLOR's armistice, we shall probably shortly hear of a similar attack upon Saltillo, the result of which depends very much on the combinations by which the respective forces may be concentrated on that point. SANTA ANNA will not be able to bring his army up in time to defend the position; but it is not impossible that he may precede the main body of his troops, and that the resistance of the place may be prolonged till he arrives. At any rate, even the loss of Saltillo will not prove a decisive blow to Mexico, for it is more than 600 miles from the capital; whereas the failure of General TAYLOR's attempt upon it would compromise to the last degree the safety of his army and the credit of his arms. In a military point of view it was a mistake to weaken the small American force by allowing detachments to march off to California and Santa Fe, where there was no enemy whatever to encounter. The possession of those provinces depends not on a mere military occupation by a party of marauders and backwoodsmen, but on the terms of the peace eventually to be concluded by the belligerent parties. [WWF]

LT December 3, 1846/6f "DEFENCE OF THE CITY OF MEXICO"

While a forced contribution has been raised to fortify the city of Mexico, the Government has been making preparations to remove to a citadel in the mountains, surrounded by dangerous passes. The fact is, the city of Mexico cannot be securely fortified. It is in a peculiar position. It was once surrounded by the Lake Tezcoco, which formed in its depth and extent a natural defence, superior to everything artificial. But the rains from the neighbouring mountains so swelled the lake at periods as to subject the city to distressing overflows, and for a period of five years, from 1629 to 1634, the city was submerged for a foot or two, and the inhabitants were only released from their distress by an earthquake, which made an outlet for the overflowing waters. The viceroys of Spain were compelled to cut a canal by which the lake was drained, with the exception of a small pond at the north east of the city. Mexico is therefore surrounded by a meadow or marsh, with canals and bridges, but no walls or regular fortifications. All the houses have flat roofs and many lofty buildings on which defences may be erected, as in all Spanish towns of narrow streets and stone houses. We infer, therefore, from the proposed removal of the seat of Government, that no regular defence of Mexico will be made if assailed, as at Monterey, which was a remarkably strong place. But there are many towns and cities on the road to Mexico, admirably situate for defence, from which a powerful resistance may be made. We again repeat that Vera Cruz is the key to the whole country, and commands the capital. Tampico is the next important place, as opening a water communication to San Louis Potosi. --New York Sun. [WWF]

LT December 4, 1846/2d Mexico, military force of

We extract from the New York Courier and Enquirer a brief of interesting sketch of the military resources and capabilities of Mexico:-

"Mexico has always had larger army than any other American Republic. In 1827 it was 60,000 strong. At present, it numbers 40,000; 30,000 of whom are infantry, 8,000 cavalry and the remainder Artillery. These troops come under two categories-active and permanent. The permanent are only called out on emergencies; but their organization resembles that of the active, to whom, indeed, they are very little inferior in efficiency. A regiment of Mexican Infantry comprises 2 battalions, 16 companies and 1792 men, rank and file. A regiment of Mexican Cavalry is 676 strong. But these, though the number appears on the muster roll of a Mexican Regiment do not represent the real force. That force, from desertion and other causes is continually varying. A Mexican colonel may command 1,000 men one week and not half that the next. Nothing is stable in Mexico, except the climate. At an
annual cost of $8,000,000, these 40,000 fighting men are maintained. A regiment of Mexican Infantry has a colonel, 2 lieutenant colonels, 16 captains, 32 lieutenants, and 64-second lieutenants. If we mistake not, an officer is attached to each battalion who is called a commandante, a grade equivalent to that of a major in our service. A French traveler, lately in Mexico, says there were 24,000 officers in the army of that country! He may be right; but in his estimate he has included persons who hold merely honorary commissions, and also the retirados, or half pays. The frequency of revolutions in Mexico is the cause of the vast number of retirados in that republic; for the leaders of a successful revolt, the moment they go into office, distribute among their friends a number of commissions, the recipients of which perform military duty and receive military pay for a year or two; when, another successful outbreak occurring, they are placed on the list of retirados. After the lapse of a year or two another revolution occurs, which has the results of the previous one. Here it is necessary to remark, that the retirados receive a portion of their due; so that the term 'half pay officers' is applied to them, something of a misnomer.

The commissioned officers of the Mexican army are mostly white men; but men of any color or caste may obtain commissions if they have the requisite influence with the Government. Few of the Mexican officers are highly educated, *-* which characterizes the officers of other armies. Within the last 10 years a military school, on the plan of the famed Polytechnic School in Paris, has been established in the city of Mexico. It is, or was till lately, under the charge of General Conde. Notwithstanding the assertion of the French writer we have already quoted from to the contrary, the school in question is a valuable institution, and has begun to realize the expectations of its founders nor could it well do otherwise. In the profession of arms, as in every other, 'knowledge is power' and the knowledge of the military man cannot be too profound or too extensive.

The pay of a General of Division in the Mexican service is 500 dollars per month; of a brigadier, 375. The subalterns are somewhat better paid than officers of the same rank in the British and French services; but on the other hand, their clothing and accoutrements cost them more. In the city of Mexico you cannot buy a military cloak for less that 100 dollars.

Let us now say something about the private soldiers of the Mexican army. Their pay (in the infantry) is 12 dollars per month-in the cavalry, 12. The soldiers, when in garrison, cater for themselves. Once a year they are supplied with a new suit of uniform, quite as well made as that of the California volunteers! The cloth of which their clothes are made is manufactured at Queretaro, a town in the department of that name.

The color of the uniform of the Mexican infantry is blue. Some of the cavalry wear blue, others red coats. One regiment of infantry, the 11th, and one or two of cavalry are clad in white. These are two kinds of horse soldiers in Mexico, Lancers and Dragoons. The Lancers are the most numerous. The cavalry are mounted on horses which, though small, ugly looking, and only half trained, are incredibly hardy. The sabers of the privates are not good, yet they cost the Mexican Government a good deal of money.

Mexican Infantry are drilled in the French fashion, and armed with English muskets.

They are anything but serviceable arms, still they are no better than those made in Birmingham for sale in Africa, which are apt, the first time they "go off" to go off altogether. If the muskets of the Mexican soldiers are bad, their powder is a thousand times worse. During the bombardment of San Juan de Ulloa by the French squadron, in 1839, many of the shots from the castle struck the ships, but it failed in piercing wood, Elihu Urritt, and the 'Universal Peace Society" would have reason to rejoice.

The mode of recruiting for the Mexican army has been often described by travelers. It is this:- A lazy recruiting party enters a town or village-they stop the first lazy looking man they meet, and if he can not give a good account of himself they handcuff him and take him to the barracks. There he is examined by the surgeon, handed over to the drill sergeant, and three weeks later he is a soldier.

About three-fourths of the Mexican troops are pure blood Indian - the rest Mestizos, or half-breeds. There are very few Negroes amongst them.

It is worthy to remark that, prior to the revolution, the Indians in Mexico were exempt from military service. And what was very singular, the Spanish military code then in vogue contained a clause forbidding the enlistment of butchers, whatever their color or birthplace. A great deal has been said in praise of Mexican valor, and a
great deal in its disparagement. The truth lies between the two extremes. Mexico is not a nation of heroes, nor is it a nation of cowards.

There is a great diversity of character amongst the Mexicans. The inhabitants of the department of Puebla are much brave and energetic than those of the department of Mexico. But in the neighborhood of Tampico exists a tribe of Indians who surpass all others in point of courage, resolution, and strength of character. It is from these Indians that the "Battle of Tampico" (which is distinguished itself at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma) is chiefly recruited. They resemble the Welch in character - may they not be descendants of that people? There is a tradition in Wales, that about the 14th century one of their princes, accompanied by a number of countrymen, their wives and families, left Wales on a voyage to some distant land, whence they never returned.

The Mexican soldier has one or two useful qualities. He is obedient to his officers and he endures the greatest privations without a murmur. His stature is short - seldom exceeding 5 feet 5 inches, or 5 feet 6 inches, - and he is clumsily made. In the management of his weapons he evinces no dexterity. Wanting pliancy of body and activity of body and mind, he makes but an indifferent skirmisher. Deficient in height and strength of arm, he is not calculated for a grenadier. His strength is in his legs. He can march distances which even a Spanish soldier might fail to accomplish. During the revolution of 1841 Santa Anna made a forced march of 60 miles in 24 hours. Detachments of Mexican Infantry have been known to keep up with their mounted officers, though they (the officers) were going at a trot! Some travelers say that the cavalry of the Mexicans is much better than the infantry. This is not the case. Both are equally good, or, as some might say, equally bad. The cavalry, for the most part are recruited from the same class of men as the infantry. The irregular cavalry are composed of much finer men than the regular. They are chiefly Mestizos. Such is the army of Mexico. Thrice it has been defeated by the army of General Taylor and his companions in arms, and we have little doubt that every conflict yet to come, if it be equally fair and open, will witness a similar issue. [WWF]

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**LT December 4, 1846/5f "Santa Anna seizes 2 million dollars"**

Mexico

Our Liverpool correspondent has forwarded to us the following important telegraphic communication, which was received in a private letter by the steamer Britannia, from Boston. We, of course, do not answer for its authenticity.

"Office of the Boston Times, Nov. 16, 10 o'clock.
"The Great Western not in."
"A Little Later From Mexico."

"Santa Anna seized 2,000,000 of dollars intended for English capitalists. The money was on its way to Tampico for shipment in two British steamers, when Santa Anna seized it. Another revolutionary attempt in the city of Mexico, by parties in favour of annexation to the United States. President Salas addressed the mob and quieted them. Dissension in the Cabinet. Secretly adjourned.

"New York, Nov. 16, 10 o'clock." [WWF]

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**LT December 5, 1846 5E "Santa Anna seizes 2 million dollars"**

Mexico

We published yesterday a communication, received, from our Liverpool correspondent, announcing, under date, New York, Nov. 16, the arrival of intelligence from Mexico, to the effect that Santa Anna had seized upon 2,000,000 dollars, then en route to Tampico for shipment to England; and that a revolutionary attempt to overturn the existing Government of Mexico had been made in the capital by parties favorable to the annexation of the republic.

The source whence this important intelligence was delivered was stated to be a private letter; but our despatches received from Liverpool last night announce that the document given in The Times of yesterday was received at Boston, by telegraph
from New York, immediately before the departure of the mail steamer. The
Government mail agent on board the Britannia alone brought a copy of the
announcement to Liverpool. We think it right to state in detail this fact, in order that
our readers may be enabled to judge of the true weight of the document.

Our Liverpool correspondent points out, also, the while telegraphic accounts from the
Gulf squadron at Anton Lizardo to a late date in October were published in the New
York journals of the 15th ult., no later than advices from the interior of Mexico were
given. The lack of later accounts from this quarter, under such circumstances,
excited some surprise in New York and in Liverpool. [WWF]

LT December 8, 1846 4c "Mexico and the US"

The Mexican generals appear to have adopted a Russian system of tactics, which is
obviously likely to prove most embarrassing to the American army. The
determination of Santa Anna to evacuate Saltillo and retreat upon San Luis Potosi is
in Potosi is in perfect conformity with all the observations we have made on a
singular war. The country furnishes no adequate supplies for an army, not because it
is barren or unfertile, but because it is uncultivated and waste. Troops cannot be fed
on wild plats or wild cattle - the homestead, the farm, the barn and the two are
indispensable to the subsistence of an army. Add to this, that the interior of Mexico
is singularly ill supplied with water, and that it will be easy for the guerilla parties to
destroy the wells on the approach of the enemy. To effect a movement on the San
Luis Potosi, General Taylor must stretch the outposts of his little army over 300
miles of the enemy's country, in addition to the 180 miles which already divide him
from his base of operations. A Coup de main on Mexico itself is too bold and
desperate an enterprise to be attempted with an army of raw troops, partly
volunteers, surrounded by a hostile population, who because more formidable in
proportion as the enemy approaches their own doors. A march to the south might be
followed by a parallel to the retreat from Moscow. We have, therefore, no doubt that
General Taylor will preserve in that slow and cautious policy, from which he has only
been driven on one or two occasions by the absurd imprudence of the orders he has
received from the American Government; and the present aspect of the affairs in
Mexico fully justifies the views this sagacious offices seems from the first to have
entertained of the war which he was directed to carry on.

Meanwhile, every fatal consequence which follows an unnecessary, unjust, and
unsuccessful war seems to accumulate around the head of Mr. Polk. The functions of
a Prime Minister of the United States, for such the President of the Union virtually is,
are fixed in their duration; and the four years allotted by the constitution to his
administration secure to him the full applause or censure due to his acts. No hostile
majority mercifully removes him from the scene of action, or snatches from him the
power he has abused. Until the fatal or the fortunate hour which again consigns him
to obscurity, he is bound to stand the brunt of unpopularity - to see, perhaps, all the
powers of the State leagued against him, - to view from his elevated position the
disastrous consequences of his errors, - and to carry on the government when the
majority which raised him to office in an hour of party delusion has long since
discovered that their demigod is an idol of clay. Such is the melancholy position of
Mr. Polk. If he has already ceased to be the President of the United States, we
should willingly allow his name to sink to that humble place which it will hereafter
occupy, among those who have proved themselves least equal to the station they have
filled. But it is for the instruction of the world that such examples are
given to it; and, if anything were needed to reconcile Europe to the occasional
inconveniences of hereditary monarchy, it would be the absurd consequences we
have witnessed under the elective republican system of America.

In the United States, however, the lesson will not go deeper than the distinction of
the party; and the reaction produced in public opinion is confined to the returning
ascendancy of Whig statesmen and the waning power of Democrats and Locofocos.
Setting aside the flourishes of Mr. Webster's speech to the men of Massachusetts, to
which we have already adverted, the tone of that address is a most striking
indication of the present state of political feeling in the United States. Two years ago
the New Englanders, assembled in Faneuil Hall to listen to the eloquence of Mr.
Webster, could only raise an inefficual protest against the annexation of Texas, and
against the violent course of policy upon which the American Cabinet was entering.
At the present moment the disastrous results of those measures have opened the
eyes of the country, and restored the Whig party to the position they had lost. In
democratic states the changes of public opinion are exceedingly rapid; and it would
seem that on several important subjects they have been complete among the
American public, especially with reference to their foreign relations. All the accounts
we receive from the other side of the Atlantic concur in the assurance that at no time
since the Declaration of Independence have Americans looked up to this country with more universal respect and regard. The conclusion of the Oregon controversy at the very moment when an English Minister might have taken advantage of the embarrassments into which the president had thrust himself into Mexico, has given an conspicuous and incontrovertible answer to those politicians of the school of General Jackson who made the intrigues and encroachments falsely imputed to England the basis and pretext of their own aggressive policy. For once, the true motives and spirit of the foreign policy of this country have been understood and acknowledged even by our captious descendants; and the conduct of Lord Aberdeen in the transactions to which we allude has earned for this country a higher degree of consideration than we could have won by the most signal triumphs of fleets and armies.

The ground of attack against the present American Government, and the questions upon which the Whigs have already recovered a majority in several important States, with the prospect of a majority in the House of Representatives, are the Mexican war with its disastrous financial consequences, and the low tariff of last year. The former question affects the whole Union alike; the latter is urged with far more force amongst the manufacturers of New England than it can be elsewhere. As the members of the House of Representatives are returned in numerical proportion to the population of their several states and districts, and densely-peopled cities and manufacturing communities of the north naturally constitute a majority in the Lower House of Congress. But in the Senate each state is represented by two members, without reference to its size or population. Hence the number of senators from the agricultural states of the south is equal, if not superior, to that of their Protectionist colleagues; and even the wilds of Texas send their representative to the Upper Chamber to counterbalance the voices of New York or Massachusetts on the question of free trade. The repeal of the late tariff is, therefore, by no means certain, especially when the south is entering into enjoyment of enlarged interchange with Great Britain; and the battle will be fought with ardor by the southern senators. But on the subject of war, and of the mode in which it was begun has been conducted, Mr. Polk's government will not have the advantage of such a division of opinion. The facts are now before the people of the United States. The expenditure of the last few months has been double the whole revenue of the State; and this enormous increase is already threefold the amount of 10 million dollars voted by congress for the campaign. It must be acknowledged that such a violation of a constitutional principle by a government which professes to be altogether dependant on the will of the people, and such profusion and extravagance by a State which carries the rules of economy to the verge of parsimony, are some of the strangest contradictions which the United States have exhibited to the world; and we are curious to learn whether that constitution which Mr. Webster regards as the ark for his country is provided with remedies for such abuses, or any means of self preservation against those who are bold enough to set its provisions in open defiance. [WWF]

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**THE AMERICAN NAVY AT MEXICO**

Our private accounts from the Gulf of Mexico, commenting on the late proceedings of the American squadron in the late attack on Alvarado, speak of the affair in terms of supreme contempt. It has not at all advanced the character of the United States navy in the estimation of that of our own. The affair failed totally for want of pluck, and would be deemed a mark of disgrace on British naval officers if they had so conducted such an expedition. The United States ships are generally inferior, whilst their discipline is anything but what would be desirable on board her Majesty's squadron. One or two have been lost, two or three have the scurvy on board, and the only good-looking ship is the Commodore's, and she would be eclipsed by the 50-gun frigate Vindictive. The best man-of-war the Americans possessed in the Gulf was the Truxton, lost on the coast. A great number of British seamen are on board the ships of the United States, but they work not with the alacrity and good will which is observable on board a well-regulated British vessel of the Royal navy, and under American officers they show little relish for sharp services. A little more encouragement in the Royal navy would secure these men under our own flag. It is noticed by officers of our ships that in one respect we might take a hint from the Americans-namely, making our ships for fighting purposes. -- Standard. [WWF]

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We are glad to find that our intelligence of yesterday morning, respecting the seizure
of 2,000,000 dollars by Santa Anna, is not confirmed in the letters that the leading houses here have received by the steamer; and the following extracts will show that Santa Anna's object was not to seize the property, but to protect it, as he detained the conducta with the treasure for Tampico while he considered it necessary, and then allowed it to go on without molestation. The following are extracts from private letters :--

"MEXICO, OCT. 29.

"Our surmises of an intended attack on Tampico were well-founded, as became apparent by the Americans' intercepted despatches. Indeed, General Santa Anna refused at one time to let the conducta to go to Tampico at all, and when he did consent it was with the express understanding that the Mexican Government should not be held responsible for any danger arising to it from the Americans. The escort was to go only to within 15 leagues of Tampico, but the merchants themselves will no doubt go out of Tampico, which has been evacuated by the Mexican troops to fetch it in."

"MEXICO, OCT. 28.

"The conducta for Tampico was detained by Santa Anna in Sn Luis until the 6th inst., but he then allowed it to go on without molestation, It will of course be too late for this packet."

"TAMPICO, OCT. 23.

"The conductas for here had started towards the close of last month from Guanajuato and Zacatecas, but 2were detained in San Luis by Santa Anna, and, according to the latest accounts, were to leave that city on the 16th inst., and may therefore be expected to arrive here in the beginning of next month. No fears are entertained about its reaching this place in safety. Our garrison has received instructions from Santa Anna to evacuate this place forthwith, because he fears that it will soon be attacked by a large American force, which, however, it would appear to us, will not be the case before the enemy actually needs the occupation of Tampico—say, in about two months, when Taylor will be ready to operate against San Luis." [ANP]

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LT Dec. 10 page 6 of MONEY-MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Wednesday Evening.

The English funds remain without variation, the only price of Consols during the entire day having been 95 1/4 to 3/5 for money, and 95 3/8 to 1 1/2 for the opening. The undue disparity between Consols and Reduced, which we noticed a few days back, has been diminished by large transfers from one stock to the other, but it still exists to the extent of a quarter per cent. Bank Stock left off 206 1/2; to 207 1/2; Reduced Three per Cents., 94 1/4 to 3/8; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., 96 1/8 to 1/4; Long Annuities, 9 7/8 to 15-16; India Bonds, 17s. premium; South Sea Stock, 105 1/4; ditto, Old Annuities, 94 3/8; ditto, New Annuities, 94 7/8; and Exchequer-bills, 9s. to 12s. premium.

Mexican securities were better this afternoon on speculative purchases, and prices for money and the account were quoted about 1/2 per cent. In advance of yesterday. The first price was 22 3/4, after which they were market at 23 1/2, but the last bargains were done at 23 1/4. Portuguese and Spanish were not firmly supported, and prices show a downward tendency. Portuguese and Spanish were not firmly supported, and prices show a downward tendency. Portuguese Four per Cents. For the account were last done at 38 1/2; Spanish Five per Cents. For money, at 26 1/2; and for the account, at 26 1/4; Passive, at 5 2/8; and the Three per Cents., at 37 3/4; Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cents., at 95; and Dutch Four per Cents., Certificates, at 92 1/2.

The following letters and documents, received today by the chairman of the Committee of Spanish American Bondholders, have been handed to us for publication. It will be seen from the second letter that the uncertainties regarding the last Mexican conversion have at length been put to rest, and that the operation, as carried out by Messrs. Schneider and Co., is confirmed :--
FROM MANNING AND MACKINTOSH, MEXICO, TO G.R. ROBINSON, ESQ., CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE OF SPANISH AMERICAN BONDHOLDERS, LONDON.

"MEXICO, OCT. 30, 1846.

"We were in due course favoured with your communications of the 29th of June, 1st and 31st of August, and paid particular attention to their contents. We have been incessant in our applications to the Mexican Government about the restitution of the fifth of duties belonging to the holders of Mexican Bonds involved in the general suspension of all payments decreed by this Government, but, owing to the disturbed state of the country, the blockade of its ports, and the imperative calls for money upon and exhausted treasury, we have not been able to get any satisfactory reply from the several Ministers of Finance that have succeeded each other in office within the last three months. Under these circumstances we made another attempt in applying by letter (copy of which we enclose) to the present Minister, Don Antonio Haro Tamariz, who has verbally promised to attend to the business, and return us a decision by next packet.

"The unfortunate war with the United States is, in our opinion, at present the chief cause of the difficulties of the Mexican Government; and the worst of it is, that it is difficult to assign a term to the hostilities between the two countries.

"Hoping to have it in our power to transmit you further information by next steamer."

FROM THE SAME TO THE SAME.

"MEXICO, OCT. 30, 1846.

"We have the honour to enclose a certified copy of an official communication we have received from the Mexican Government just at the moment of the closing of the mail :--

" | MINISTRY OF FINANCE. - SECTION 1.

" | I have made known to his Excellency the General charged with the Supreme Executive power your note of this date, in which, referring to the previous ones which you have addressed to this Ministry, you desire to know what is the resolution of the Supreme Government with regard to the pending affair relative to the conversion of the foreign debt; and his Excellency commands me to inform you, that having again examined the matter with all the attention which its importance demands, he has come to the conclusion that the operation is consummated, and that the Government cannot now deliberate upon it, seeing that the conversion of the debt has been actually made; and that for the same reason it has been decreed that the corresponding orders be issued for the payment of the first dividend, which is to be made in London in the month of January, as well as of the amount which you claim in your communication of the day before yesterday, on account of the suspension ordered of the 2d of May last, and the other amounts relative to the affair, without prejudice to an account of the whole operation being rendered to the Sovereign General Congress, when it shall be assembled.

"I protest to you, gentlemen, the assurances of my consideration and esteem.

"God and liberty.

"HARO Y TAMARIZ.

"Mexico, Oct. 29.

"Messrs. Manning and Mackintosh.

"I, Ewen C. Mackintosh, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul in Mexico, do hereby certify unto all whom it doth or may concern, that the foregoing is a true and faithful copy of an original letter exhibited to me by Messrs. Manning and Mackintosh, to whom, after comparing, I have returned it for the uses that they may think proper, and in faith and testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office in Mexico this 30th day of October, in the year of our Lord 1846.

"EWEN C. MACKINTOSH."
In connexion with the above, it is understood that the present mail brings no communication to Messrs. Schneider and Co. regarding the removal of the agency, and as a notice of suspension pending an inquiry into the conversion is all that they have hitherto received direct upon the subject, an inference is drawn by their friends that the appointment may yet remain in their hands.

Private letters disagree with the paragraph in the Mexican news of to-day, that the report of the seizure of $2,000,000 by Santa Anna is confirmed. It is stated, that the conducta was stopped by him at San Luis Potosi, and that he recommended the merchants not to allow the treasure to proceed, on account of the danger to which it would be exposed; but that he never attempted to take possession of it. Indeed, these accounts affirm that it is now on its way to Tampico, at which place, according to the letters dated to-day, it was expected to arrive in about six or seven days after the sailing of the packet. If this should prove correct, the amount will, doubtless, be transmitted by the next mail, since, when it shall have reached Tampico, it will be under the protection of the British Consulate.

The following extracts are form private communications received by the Tay. The account of the imprisonment of the French and Spanish Consuls by the American Commodore in California seems obviously to have been manufactured to excite belief in the probability of European intervention:

"MEXICO, Oct. 28.

"Santa Anna is now at San Luis, where he has concentrated his forces, and which consist of about 20,000 men. The general belief here is that he has some understanding with the Americans. Be this as it may, I think the affair must be terminated before the close of the year. The Californias, as you will have heard, have been occupied by the Americans and the accounts by the post of to-day from that quarter say that the commander of the American naval forces there has divided the country into three states, and has given notice for the election of deputies to the General Congress to be made. The French and Spanish consuls there have protested against the occupation of the country by the Americans, and have been imprisoned by the commodore. The Americans have been repulsed on two attacks on Alvarado and one on Guaymas. I very much fear that the European Powers will, sooner or later, have to repent of the lukewarmness they have shown in this struggle."

OCT. 29.

"Here I regret much to say there does not appear to be the slightest disposition to make peace. During the present month the pugnacious spirit has, on the contrary, increased, and great efforts are making to get together a large force. If we can believe all that is written to us, within a very few days Santa Anna will have united at San Luis about 20,000 men; Ampudia, with his 'retreating' force, has already joined him. Valencia is on the way from Guanuxato, with, it is said, 7,000 men, and from Morelia 2,000 have left. What Santa Anna intends doing subsequent to getting all together, we do not yet know; whether we will go to attack Taylor, or allow Taylor to attack him, remains to be seen. The last report from Monterey is, that Taylor intended marching towards Tampico with 5,800 regular troops (the bulk of he volunteers being determined to return), which if he attempts, I think he runs a very good chance of being cut up. He will have to pass through a hostile country, and with such a superior force watching his movements and ready to take advantage of him, if he gets to Tampico at all, it will cost him a great many men."

We find also the following paragraph with regard to mining operations:

"In 'El Oro' they are hard at work, constructing a Haciendo de Beneficio, and shares are looking up. The 'Bote' continues to do wonders. The Luz Mine in Guanuxato is yielding $80,000 a week, and all the old haciendas in that quarter are in progress of being repaired. Next year out to give a large produce of silver."

As The Times of this morning contained a copious summary of the news from the West Indies, it is unnecessary to allude further the subject under this head.

The accounts from Havannah and Matanzas give the particulars of the exports of sugar and coffee from those places from the 1st of January to the 31st of October, 1846, compared with the same period of the previous year. The total exports of sugar from the Havannah was 449,340 boxes, against 231,713 boxes in 1845; and the total exports of coffee 144,608 arrobas, against 147,312 arrobas in 1845. The total exports of sugar from Mantanzas were 265,676 boxes against 93,325 boxes in 1845; and the total exports of coffee 22,189 arrobas, against 8,040 arrobas in 1845.
According to the returns published, England, America, and Spain were the three leading countries to which shipments had been made. The exports from the Havannah from the 1st of March, 1846, to the 6th of November were 457,801 boxes of sugar, 147,708 arrobas of coffee, 24,871 hhd's. Of molasses, 1,247 tiers of honey, 30,075 arrobas of wax, 135,377 mille of cigars, and 3,032,888 lb. of tobacco. The exports from Matanzas for the same date were 267,803 boxes of sugar, 22,389 arrobas of coffee and 50,516 hhd's. Of molasses.

From Port-au-Prince late advices have come to hand, which furnish a decree calling upon all State creditors in the island for an account of their respective claims, in order that the Government may become acquainted with the real condition of the public Treasury. Two months is the period allowed for claims to be received, after which date any that are presented will be refused recognition. A severe order has also been published against persons engaged in contraband trade, which it is expected will produce a beneficial effect. Marine prisons are being constructed of the old and unseaworthy Government vessels, and gangs of male criminals under sentence have been employed in the work. White sugar was quoted 58.60, and brown 40. Spanish doubloons were marked 65; Patriot, 63.50; Spanish gourde (or dollar), 4.06; and Mexican gourde (or dollar), 4.

The accounts from Rio de Janeiro extend to the 10th of Oct., at which date the rate of exchange upon England was steady at 28; Paris at 338; and Hamburgh at 630. The Six per Cent. Local Stock stood at 79 to 1/9. The latest advices received at Rio from Pernambuco were to the 29th Sept., but they contained nothing of public interest.

Private letters from Lima to the 12th of October have been received to-day. These state that the Finance Minister had resigned office on account of ill-health. It was not known by whom he would permanently be succeeded. Don Jose Fabio Melgar was at present acting for the Government in that capacity; but not being a public favourite, his removal was shortly expected. The country, according to these accounts, remains perfectly tranquil. New laws have been enforced for the better regulation of the colonies, for increasing the safety of the public, and for ameliorating the evils springing from successive revolutions; and such strict attention is said to be paid to the wants of the community, and to the regular discharge of the salaries of the military, that little fear is entertained respecting a change of dynasty during the current presidency. General Bulnes, the President of Chili, has been re-elected by a large majority of votes.

Letters were received this afternoon from New Zealand, via Valparaiso, dated Wellington, the 4th of August. An extract from one of these runs as follows:--

"Matters here are now at a crisis. The Governor is at this moment at work in the neighbourhood with all the force he can muster, reducing the strongholds of the rebel natives, who have been keeping this part of the country in a state of excitement for some time past, and this mail may yet bring you accounts of his success, of which little doubt is entertained, when the land question will be effectually settled. People are, therefore, looking forward to an improved state of things in every department with confidence and hope. Business is pretty brisk, and the market well supplied from Sydney by persons who rushed to take advantage of our present activity, and who have consequently imported to a considerable extent." [ANP]

LONDON, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1846.

The last accounts from the theatre of war in North America are less completely devoid of interest than those which have preceded them, although they still further demonstrate the impracticability of decisive operations against an enemy who will neither resist nor yield. The loss of a province like California, or the bombardment of a town like Tobasco, is of no more importance to Mexico than the separation of a limb from the body of one of the lower animals. The vital energy is so depressed, and the nervous sympathy of the several members so faint, that the mutilation of a part is scarcely felt by the centre; and if Mexico were severed into as many states as she has provinces, each of them would exhibit an equal pretence of political life, and an equal absence of that political union which constitutes the true force of a commonwealth or a kingdom.
We are therefore led to suppose that in directing their recent attacks against some weak outlying positions on the southern coast of the Mexican Gulf the Americans officers were actuated by a desire to give the fleet a little occupation, rather than by the anticipation of any important military results. These operations are, in fact, attended with more danger than glory, and more inhumanity than advantage. They produce no effective result whatever, and in the present temper of the American people they will not even furnish palatable ingredients for the PRESIDENT'S message. The mouth of the river Alvarado, which was intended to be the scene of the first of the American Commodore's exploits, lies about 50 miles south of Vera Cruz. We are not aware that the position is one of any great importance, either in a military or a mercantile point of view; but the American Commodore's exploits, lies about 50 miles south of Vera Cruz. We are not aware that the position is one of any great importance, either in a military or a mercantile point of view; but the Americans have made two ineffectual attempts to enter the river, though without any intention of remaining there. On the 15th of October, Commodore Gonner, with the steamers Mississippi, Maclane, and Vixen, and two schooners, endeavoured to force the passage. The Mississippi, which is a large steamer, carrying 10 guns, could not approach the shore near enough to destroy the battery at the entrance; the Maclane ran aground on the bar, and fouled with the other vessels' and the Vixen was obliged to return. The commanding officer relates these untoward circumstances with a manly frankness that does him credit, and adds a general observation which deserves to be borne in mind, though it is more remarkable for good sense than good English:--

"Except for a short time, from early in the spring to the commencement of the rainy season, no one not acquainted with them can have any conception of the difficulties attending naval operations on this coast. The north winds during the winter months are sudden and violent, accompanied by high seas and strong currents. No judgment can be formed as to what moment they may commence. Under such circumstances, an opinion may be easily formed of the difficulty of landing a body of men on the open coast, and also of the danger from the elements attending it."

Even in this little expedition a change of wind or a stray shot in the machinery of a steamer might have destroyed the squadron.

After this failure it was determined, however, to strike a blow in the river Tobasco, some 200 miles further to the south, and on the confines of those states of Central America whose allegiance to Mexico is extremely dubious. Commodore Perry was detached on this service on the evening of the 16th of October, the very day after the failure of the attack in the Alvarado, probably for the purpose of retrieving the credit of the squadron elsewhere. After some little delay occasioned by rough weather, the steamers and schooners were collected off the mouth of the river Tobasco. The town of Frontera, which appears to have been undefended, was soon passed; no resistance was offered by a fort in a strong position, which might have obliged the Americans to land a storming party; and on the following morning the squadron arrived opposite Tobasco, a trading town of some 4,000 inhabitants, about 74 miles from the mouth of the stream. The Governor behaved with spirit, though evidently unprovided with means of defence; and the injury done by the invaders naturally fell to the share of the merchants of his place. Half-a-dozen small Mexican trading vessels were captured, and two American vessels were seized in the course of his expedition for holding treasonable correspondence with the enemy. No contribution of war was levied, and no excess of wanton violence seems to have been committed; though we must observe that the whole expedition was wanton and unproductive, and such appears to be the judgment passed upon it in the United States.

In the mean time, whilst these abrasions of the extremities are inflicted on certain Mexican provinces by the fleet, there is something inexpressibly grotesque in the manner in which Mr. President Polk has grappled with the totum corpus imperii, and seized the entire continent of North America, from St. Francisco to the Rio Grande, with six or seven regiments of fencibles and the Kentucky volunteers. That concentration of power which successful war has sometimes conferred on the Alexanders and Napoleons of the old world is suddenly breathed into the President of the United States he has already doubled to territories of the United States, and doubled his revenue; he has diminished their revenue-and after having set on foot an army, it only remains for him to find public servants in sufficient numbers to administer his conquests. In the grandiloquent language of our American contemporaries, we are informed--

"That in view of the answer of the Mexican Government or rulers to our pacific proposition, the President has concluded to establish and garrison post along our Southern boundary, from Tampico to a point on the Pacific, several degrees south of latitude 42; that he will appoint territorial governors, judges, and other ministerial
Large supplies of human happiness and virtue are no doubt, commodities of exotic growth in the wilds of North America; but we must entertain some doubts of the quality of the article which is to be imported by war and consumed under an invasion. No exaggeration, however, can go much beyond the powers which the President has actually usurped. His orders to General Taylor were the commencement of hostilities, and he virtually declared war, not by the voice of Congress, but by the authority of his office. He has carried on the war in the same manner, without any reference to the limited grant of $10,000,000 dollars made by the representatives of the people; and one of the commanding-officers reports in his despatches from the theatre of war, significantly enough, “Treasury-notes are of no use: the Mexicans will take nothing but gold and silver.” Gold and silver have therefore been found, but by what means and for what purposes it will astonish our republican friends on the other side of the Atlantic to learn. Lastly, having made the war his own by its origin and by his mode of conducting it, Mr. Polk lays claim to its whole results. With a few strokes of his pen he extends the North American Union into the heart of Mexico, and recognizes the existence of territories, as dependent on the United States, which it will require an army to occupy, a colonial Administration to govern, and a century to people. Meanwhile, the answer to these splendid schemes is, that Texas itself has not yet been relinquished by the Mexicans—that no progress has been made towards obtaining the treaty of peace which can alone render the possession of these conquered territories areas and permanent—and that the American army, by which these wonders are to be accomplished, is still in a position of extreme difficulty, which presents more chances of hardships and of destruction than of victory and peace. [ANP]
"There never was a nation so much mistaken as ours in regard to that of Mexico; I mean in respect to its military resources. The people are warlike and have abundant supply of munitions of war. Our battles with them improve them as soldiers. Our invasion is held by them in abhorrence, and has united all classes in determined resistance against us. The battles of Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, and of Monterey were battles with the frontier army. From this place onward, if we have to march on further in this direction, we shall meet their home army, made up of hardy mountaineers and a better class of soldiery. So far I consider we have not injured their nation, but done it a service, by defeating their old officers, thus causing their army to be placed under the direction of younger, more ambitious, braver, and more accomplished generals. In fact, so far from the war being ended, it has just commenced. Our position is critical. Our supplies at Camargo, 180 miles distant, must be waggoned to this place. This long line has no protection. The ranchero troops, numbering near 2,500, are behind us as guerrillas, and if they choose to act our trains must be cut off. Although this is a rich valley, its supplies are inadequate to our wants, except in beef, for any length of time. Our army, or the effective part of it, is too diminutive to meet a strong force. It is weak physically, for it has now been in campaign over 13 months, with scanty clothing and much hardship and exposure. The volunteers are numerous, but, with the exception of those regiments commanded by late officers of the army, without discipline. I suppose our whole army will muster, when all arrive from below, 9,000 men for duty, and we hear the Mexicans have one on the advance to meet us of 30,000 men. I am convinced, and so is every officer of the army, that we have done wrong and committed an irreparable error in leaving the Rio Grande to march in this direction. To end this war a more vital blow must be struck nearer the Mexican capital; that is, Vera Cruz should be taken by the way of Alvarado. We are now over 700 miles from the city of Mexico, with a vast desert to traverse. In a word, to make peace economically with Mexico, we should take possession and garrison the sea ports on both coasts. It has already been, or is being, done on the Pacific, and we would at once do the same thing with Vera Cruz, Tampico, Alvarado, and the ports of Yucatan. Garrison them in such a manner as to resist any attempts of the enemy to dispossess us, and, besides which, keep an disposable force of 3,000 or 5,000 men, with sufficient and efficient steam transportation for them always ready, to be rapidly removed from point to point, as might be rendered necessary by the movements of the enemy in collecting forces at any particular point; and we could thus transport this column of men much more rapidly than they could their army by land. In the ports thus held, establish regular custom-houses, with the full and regular organization, as in the sea ports of the United States, and put our tariff into operation, throwing open these ports to the commerce of all nations on precisely the same footing as our own ports, and admitting all our own productions free of duty; the importations would be large, the revenue collected would go far towards paying the expenses of the war, and would all come out of the enemy; we should exactly change places with them, by throwing on their shoulders all the burden and enormous expense of active operations, whilst we remained on the defensive, inactive and tranquil; and we should avoid all the contingencies of misfortune to which all invading armies are liable, and save thousands of valuable lives, which would otherwise fall sacrifices by battle, disease, exposure, and fatigue.

"We would say to the Mexicans, Here are our terms of peace, when you choose to accept of them we shall be ready to negotiate; until then we shall retain possession of all your sea ports, and continue to collect all the revenue from imports, allowing free access to trade to and from the interior; we shall not get tired first of the plan, as we are perfectly willing to continue one, or five, or ten years; we will keep you thus sealed up any length of time that may be necessary, until you come to terms."

It will be perceived from these various authorities that there does not appear any great prospect of the speedy termination of the war. The ill success of the navy also, in the two abortive attempts made to capture Alvarado, and the consequent opportunities which have been given to the Mexicans for boasting manifestoes to the
prowess which they have displayed, has only been partially compensated by the attack upon Tampico, the destruction of the town, and capture of a number of vessels, of which accounts were brought by the Southern mail last night, and published in the paper this morning.

The meeting of Congress takes place on the 7th proximal. The recent elections to which I alluded at length in my last have given the Whig party such decided gains, that though a very small minority-only about one-third of the whole number-in the present house, it is expected that they will vigourosly attack the administration and its policy, and a very exciting session is expected, notwithstanding it will be a short session, and will terminate on the 3d of March, when the time for which the members were elected expires. There are causes of disaffection, also, at work in the democratic party, which will probably produce some curious results during the session, the proceeding of which will also have special reference to, and be designed to operate upon, the next presidential election, which takes place two years hence. The principal business of politicians here, after one presidential election is decided is to endeavour to operate upon the next election, and consequently the country is in a continual ferment on this question. [ANP]

LT December 18, 1846 p5cb Capture of Tampico

NOV. 28.

The mail to night from the south brings us intelligence of the capture of Tampico by the naval force of the United States, now in the Gulf, under command of Commodore Conner. There was not any fighting, the garrison having been withdrawn some days previous by Santa Anna, to strengthen his force at San Luis Potosi; the inhabitants, therefore, surrendered at discretion, and Commodore Perry was despatched forthwith in the steam-ship Mississippi to bring troops, ordnance, &c., from the United States to garrison the captured town, which is the next to Vera Cruz in point of importance on the Gulf. It will, doubtless, be retained by the Americans until peace is concluded.

It is reported in this city that Major-General Scott, the General Commanding in-Chief, is to proceed south for the purpose of assuming the command and directing the proceedings of all the forces there, and which are to be sent there.

Notwithstanding, however, all these preparations and calling out of volunteers, declarations of determinations made to prosecute the war vigorously, &c., it is still maintained here, by those who have good means of judging, that the war will not continue much longer, but that the Mexican Congress will accept the overtures made by President Polk some months ago; but nous verrons.

The members of Congress are arriving in the city from all directions, preparatory to the commencement of the session, a week hence. They all appear to anticipate a stormy session. [ANP]

LT December 18, page 5b

NEW YORK, NOV. 30.

The "voice is still for war: in this region, and everything indicates that peace is still far from us. The Government has just determined to send to the scene of hostilities new troops, and the highest military officer in our service, General Winfield Scott. He received his orders on the 19th inst. At Washington, and on the 20th was on his way to the field. He has been detained here for a day or two for want of a vessel in which to embark for New Orleans; he finally sailed this morning, accompanied by this staff, in the packet ship Union. From New Orleans it is understood he will proceed immediately to Point Isabel, and there or therabouts await the arrival of the troops which he is to command. The nine regiments of volunteers recently called forth by the President, are now mustering, and will constitute a force of about 7,500 men. These, with detachments from the united corps of Generals Taylor and Wool, which will have formed a junction near Monterey, will constitute General Scott's command. What his line of operation is to be is of course a secret, nor has conjecture as yet hit apparently upon any probable solution of it. He will not, however, it is thought, operate upon the line of General Taylor's army. This officer will probably remain in Monterey, where he can defend himself against large odds, after sparing to General
Scott the detachments of regulars and volunteers he may require.

Meantime Santa Anna is concentrating at San Luis de Potosí all the troops he can muster, and promises to drive the invader from the soil of Mexico. Ampudia had joined him, and, on the 23d of October, it was rumoured that the whole force then embodied there under Santa Anna, was 20,000 men. He had obtained money, too, though how much is not stated. A general battle seems to be anticipated between the American and Mexican forces. We are not of this opinion, not expecting ever again to hear of a Mexican army meeting an American army in the field. Our accounts to day from Washington are that news had reached the Government of the breaking up of a Mexican administration, and that Almonte was going to England.

The Congress of Mexico and that of the United States both assemble in the beginning of next week, and upon their deliberation and decisions the question of peace or war should depend; but Mexico is so thoroughly demoralized so entirely without stability of administration or force of law, that, even if peace should be desired by Congress, it seems by means certain that either the army or the people would consent to it. National prejudice, if not national feeling, is now apparently at work among the Mexicans, to induce more united and vigorous resistance of the invaders; and the evil suffered by the country is so little, and its effects, as compared with those which the invaders are obliged to make, comparatively so little costly, that the war to them is less onerous than to us. Hence, even thought the Congress may desire to put end to the conflict, it seems not at all certain that the nation will sustain them.

On the other hand, the Congress of the United States, however desirous of peace, will not advise it on any terms that shall seem derogatory to the nation. A war undertaken, as this confessedly was, for the extension of frontier, cannot be terminated honourably unless that object be accomplished. But until absolutely compelled at the point of the sword, Mexico will not accede to any proposition to relinquish all the territory east of the Rio Grande and Upper California. No man of any party in Mexico could venture to propose such a surrender. If, therefore, Mexico will not yield these points, and we cannot honourably make peace except by carrying them, it seems clear that peace is far distant.

The President's message will probably be sent to Congress on the day of their assembling, Monday, Dec. 7, and will reach Europe by the steamer of the 16th. Its tone will be lofty, as is conjectured, towards Mexico, and full of self-gratification on the success of our arms. The revenue is the "pierre de touche" in present circumstances, and something must be done to increase it. Probably a duty will be recommended on tea and coffee, and possibly on some other articles now free. Those first named, however, at a moderate duty, would produce over 3,000,000 of dollars. There will be, too, a recommendation to increase both the army and navy; and strong appeals will be made to the pride and patriotism of the country to carry through the war with vigour and despatch. The tariff will not, in my judgment, be meddled with, except, as indicated above, in imposing duties upon some articles now free.

We have a rumour, under date of Oct. 30, from the city of Mexico, that the Government had issued and despatched to Havannah, and perhaps elsewhere, a large number of letters of marque to be used against American commerce and that these commissions were accompanied by letters of naturalization to other persons who should accept the commission. Whether this be a rumour or a fact, this at least is certain, that this Government has had correspondence both with the authorities of the island of Cuba and with those of the mother country, concerning the fitting out of the Mexican privateers in Spanish forts; and that the most explicit assurances have been received from the Spanish authorities that no such expeditions should be allowed, and that the express stipulation of the treaty of '98, between the United States and Spain, inhibiting to each the use of its ports and resources for the equipment of the privateer of a third power against the commerce of either, should be strictly carried out.

There does not seem to be any concern felt either by underwriters of ship owners about the rumoured appearance of letters of marque, and it will probably turn out a false alarm.

The capture of Tampico by our naval forces is officially announced. The garrison and armament had been previously withdrawn by Santa Anna, and the city surrendered unconditionally, without firing a gun, as soon as summoned, on the 14th inst. The city was held by a detachment of marines and sailors from the fleet, and the steamship Mississippi immediately despatched to New Orleans to communicate intelligence of the capture, and bring back men and materiel to garrison the town. The Mississippi reached the Balize on the 19th, and was to depart again for Tampico on
the 21st or 22d. Meantime the Governor of Louisiana had placed at the service of the United States six or eight brass cannon 6 and 9-pounders, and a detachment of regular infantry, and some volunteers, were expected to embark in the Mississippi. A messenger had also been landed at Point Isabel to communicate to the commander of the troops in that neighbourhood the fall of Tampico, and the necessity of its being forthwith garrisoned by American troops. It will be immediately put in the best state of defence and held by our forces, and will be found all-important to ulterior operations either by sea or land. As, however, there is no good road into the interior from Tampico, no road at least fit for the march of an army with its artillery, the possession of this place will not facilitate in this sense a march upon Mexico, which now, it is thought, is determined upon. The only broad, well-made road is that which Cortez pointed out, and followed the line of, on his advance to Mexico, that from Vera Cruz; and by this road General Scott will, it can hardly be doubted, make his advance, after, perhaps, capturing the city of Vera Cruz and its protecting fortress, San Juan de Ulloa by land approaches.

In commercial matters there is generally less animation since the accounts by the Acadia. Flour had declined to $5.25c. per barrel. Wheat may be quoted at from 116c. to 120c. per bushel of 60lb; and Indian corn at from 60c. to 62c. per bushel of 56lb.

Exchange on London is dull at from 6 to 6 1/2 per cent., and we shall look ere long for specie to flow from Europe-as at these rates it will.

Our navigation is all fully employed, and freights are very high. The Government is in the market for transports, of which a large number will be required-and this gives additional stiffness to freights. [ANP]

LT December 29, page 7a

The following description of the scene of war with Mexico is taken from the Morning Telegraph of the 4th inst. :-

"The successive victories achieved by the American arms in Mexico naturally lead us to inquire somewhat into the topography of those places which are now in the possession of the army and navy. General Taylor, by the capture of Monterey, became master of the state of New Leon. So much has been said of this capital, that we do not doubt the American people, at least such as read the newspapers, know more about Monterey than the generality of the Mexicans themselves. New Leon has a territory of 20,000 square miles, and a population of 85,000. It lies eastwardly of the tableland, and has between it and the Gulf the state of Tamaulipas. The surface of the country, south of the Rio del Tigre, is rather level; while to the north lofty mountains elevate their peaks, some of them 10,000 feet above the level of the sea. The climate is warm but healthy. The cause of the flourishing condition of Monterey is said to be its proximity to the rich mines in the neighbourhood. It is very evident our invading army did not expect to find so much wealth and taste as were exhibited in the public and private buildings of the town. General Wool, at the last accounts, has communicated twice with General Taylor; but previously to the intended junction of the two armies, it was deemed best that the capital of the state of Cohuahua should be occupied by our troops. This territory touches that of New Leon, and lies to the north and east of it. Its length is 500 miles, and its width is 200. The surface of the country is rough and hilly. Humboldt says it produces excellent grain and wine. The capital, Monclava, or Montelovez, as it is sometimes called, is situated in 26 deg. 33 min. north latitude, and contains 3,500 inhabitants. It will be seen, by referring to the map, that the movements of Generals Taylor and Wool have, in a military point of view, been admirable throughout; and so, too, General Kearney has carried out his part of the campaign, with similar ability. The Secretary of War, acting with a sound judgment of his own, and under the best military advice to be obtained in this country, projected three armies on the east flank of Mexico, and between the 24th and 38th degrees of north latitude we have obtained possession of the country, and will be able to retain it. By this operation Mexico is completely broken in pieces, deprived of revenue and soldiers in a very large portion of her former territory, and already sees an indemnity in our hands for the unadjusted claims of our citizens and the expenses of the war. By the last accounts it was stated, that after the junction of the two armies of Generals Taylor and Wool, a movement was to be made upon San Luis Potosi, where, according to all accounts, Santa Anta was to take a final stand with his army. This would be a southerly movement, sweeping Saltillo, nearly upon the line of 100 degrees west longitude from Greenwich. We have particular accounts of the former condition of San Luis de Potosi, from Humboldt and Pike. At present it "comprehends the larger part of the southern portion of the great northern plain," and is traversed by the river Tamoin,
a tributary of the Panuco. The latest and best description, however, is to be found in
the work of Mr. Ward, who was a few years since the British Minister, resident in
Mexico. The State of San Luis was then estimated to contain 250,000 souls, and the
capital about 60,000. It is a handsome town, with spacious suburbs, wide streets,
large and substantial buildings and churches, and is lighted at night. It is well
supplied with water, and can boast of its fountains as well as Monterey. The country
surrounding it is fertile, and it carries on an extensive commerce. The goods sold
here are French brandies, wines, silks and cloths; English hardware and cotton
prints, and American coarse cottons. Almost all these articles were formerly
smuggled into San Luis, by the way of Tampico, and, it is said, in American bottoms.
The exports are chiefly to the neighbouring states of Leon and Cohahuila, consisting
chiefly of home-made goods. It is in San Luis that the celebrated mine of Catorce is
situated—one of the richest in Mexico, and long the object of desire with English
capitalists. The possession of that mine for a few months would fill the military chest
of General Taylor. We now come to the territories against which our naval operations
have been directed with success. Tobasco, the capital of which was bombarded by
Commander Perry, extends over the greater part of the low plain between Lake
Terminos on the east, and the river Huascualco on the west. The river Tabasco
passes through it. The state contains about 63 churches, 48 villages, about 600
haciendas, and 55,000 inhabitants. During the rainy season the country is liable to
inundation, and the communication between the villages is kept up by canoes. Its
principal exports are the native pepper, found in abundance on the banks of its
rivers, indigo and vanilla, which grow wild, and cocoa, which is a staple of the
country. The capital is the Villa Hermosa, about 50 miles from the sea, and a place
of some commerce, containing about 8,000 inhabitants. The visit of Commander
Perry deprived the town of its vessels and steamers. Tampico has also been visited
by the navy, to which it surrendered at discretion. It is to be immediately occupied
by American troops, and will be fortified. This is one of the best movements yet made
on the gulf coast, for the commercial relations of Tampico and San Luis de Potosi are
extremely intimate, and one important source of supply is cut off. Santa Anna will
feel this sensibly in a very short time. Tampico is situated in the northern extremity
of the state of Vera Cruz, on the border of a shallow lake, the Tamiagua. Two rivers,
the Tampico, coming from the west, and the Tulas from the south, unite and
debouche at the town. It appears that the Tula, or Panuco, as it is called, near the
mouth is navigable for schooners of 80 tons burthen, for about 80 miles from the
sea, and, with some slight difficulties to overcome for large boats, for a considerable
distance above. Along one river lies the road to San Luis; along the north, the road
to the capitol. Thus we see the objects of the campaign are succeeding, one after
the other, and the numerous speculations and complaints put forth by newspaper
writers, form time to time, have but little foundation. The Government has all along
desired peace, and made every effort to obtain it. An avalanche of war could not well
have been hurled upon the Mexicans at such a moment. It would have been, to say
the least, extremely unkind. The Government has been disposed to impress, not to
conquer the enemy, and, thus far, it has in our humble judgment, shown great
ability in the management of its military affairs. If there has been a weak place, it
was in the commissariat; and, unless that department is managed with consummate
ability, no army can help being occasionally distressed for its supplies, and for the
want of proper means of transportation.

"The possession of Tampico is highly important. It is, so far as the lines of operations
are considered, a post in the rear of Santa Anna's force, and one from which we may
pour in supplies for the approaching armies of Taylor and Wool with very great
convenience. We should not be surprised if a large military force was placed as soon
as possible at Tampico, which, by a simultaneous movement, will completely
surround and cut off Santa Anna's army; that being done, the capital falls an easy
prey. The position of Tampico, therefore, gives us the double power, of defeating
Santa Anna to the north, and of moving southwardly along the Tula to the
capital." [ANP]
The present accounts are not unimportant. The general aspect of the war had undergone no material change. The operations of the American forces had been chiefly continued to an advance against Saltillo, the investment of Monclova, and the garrisoning of Tampico; while in Mexico, if we may judge from the indistinct and almost incredible statements contained in the American journals, fresh disorders have broken forth, to prostrate the country still deeper before its enemy.

Our accounts from Washington extended to the close of 10th inst. The proceedings of the Senate since the opening of the session on the 7th had been almost or entirely confined to the transaction of business; and a resolution of instruction to the Military Committee to inquire into the propriety of granting 160 acres of land to each volunteer serving in the war, and of increasing the pay, had been adopted, and a bill had been introduced to organize a territorial government over the Oregon. The proceeding of the House of Representatives were more interesting, and a sharp discussion upon the Mexican war took place on the 9th inst. Upon a motion of Mr. Davis, calling upon the President for copies of all orders to generals and commodores relative to the establishment of civil governments in territories conquered during the war. The question upon the adoption of this resolution having come up, Mr. Harolson, of Georgia, presented, as an amendment, the words- "if not incompatible with the public interests, " as the publication of the official correspondence might prove detrimental to the national interests, by giving the enemy possession of the views and plans adopted in the prosecution of hostilities. Mr. Davis, disclaiming any such intention, then proceeded to speak at length, to the effect, that if it appeared the President had acted contrary to the constitution, he (Mr. Davis) was prepared for such ulterior measures as the integrity of the constitution and the safety of the Union might demand. Mr. Douglass, of Illinois, then rose, and invited a full investigation of the conduct of the Executive. If by "ulterior measures" Mr. Davis and the Opposition contemplated the impeachment of the President, they would have full latitude. In ordering the establishment of temporary governments in conquered territories the President had only performed his duty. Mr. Davis replied, that power to establish military regulations for governing possessions held by right of conquest was admitted, but there was not right to establish civil governments in such possessions, and he challenged the President to produce such a right. Mr. Rhett, of South Carolina, remarked that the occupation of California and New Mexico being merely military, the conduct of the Government was perfectly justifiable. Mr. Harolson withdrew his amendment. Mr. Winthrop, of Massachusetts, denounced that portion of the message in which the justice of the war is advocated, and the boundary of Texas defended. Mr. Vinton, of Ohio, moved to amend the resolution so as to inquire whether any part of the conquered territories belonged to Texas. Mr. Holmes, of South Carolina, followed in defence of the Government. Mr. Darragh, of Pennsylvania, obtained the floor when the house adjourned. On the 10th the discussion was resumed, the motion being so modified as to make further demands of the President, calling on him to state, through the secretary at War, whether the present was with Mexico was waged with a view to conquest, or to what extent he designed to prosecute it. It was also added, that the information communicated should be received with closed doors. Mr. Darragh spoke in favor of the resolution. Mr. Stanton, of Tennessee, contended that the resolution had for its object designs much deeper than appeared on the face of it, and he defended the course of the President. The question under consideration was answered in the message. The war was not one of conquest; but was solely to enforce justice on Mexico.

Other speakers followed, and, finally, the question was informally passed over; and the house adjourned to the 14th instant. This attack upon the Executive was thought to be the prelude to a more serious onslaught at some future and not distant date.

The American forces, since the last advices, had gained some trifling advantages. Accounts from Tampico to the 28th ultimo, containing indistinct accounts from the interior of Mexico, had been received at New Orleans, by the St. Mary's. They are thus given in the New York journals :-

The St. Mary's sailed from Tampico on Saturday, the 28th ult., at 3p.m., arrived off the Rio Grande del Norte at 5 a.m. on the 30th; landed Adjutant Austin, 3rd Artillery, at Brazos, at 10 a.m., and sailed for the Belize, where she made the light at Southwest Pass at 1 p.m., December 1.

The steamer Neptune arrived at Tampico, November 22, with 450 regular troops, under the command of Colonel Gates.

The steamer Sea arrived with more troops on the 23d., when the town was handed over to the army.
Fort Orondaga was immediately garrisoned under the name of Fort Connor, and armed with two long 8-pounders.

A battery of two 42-pounder carronades was called Fort Ann, in honour of Mrs. Chase, lady of the late American Consul at Tampico. This lady behaved most nobly, showing to the world that she was a patriot under all circumstances. When our small vessels were about to approach the town of Tampico, she ran up our flag in defiance of the Alcalde and other officers. Some time before Mrs. Chase wrote to Commodore Connor, informing him the place could be taken, and gave drawings of the harbour.

Besides the cannon abovementioned, some field pieces are mounted on the house tops.

The Neptune sailed from Tampico on the 24th ult., and encountered a norther, was driven back, and wrecked on the bar. All hands were saved. The vessel is a total loss.

The town of Tampico is already in a state of defence. Reinforcements are arriving daily.

Saltillo has been abandoned, and there is no doubt that it is now in possession of the advanced guard of the army under General Worth.

The condition of Mexico is represented to be even worse than it ever has been.

Santa Anna lately made an address to his troops, apparently to extract from them an invitation to reinstate himself at the head of the Government. He was disappointed, however, at finding that his oration was received in profound silence; and immediately afterwards he started with his cavalry on a secret expedition. Some think it was to cut off one of the divisions of our army, which he will not be likely to find. The most probable conjecture is that he is gone to Mexico to control the action of the new Congress.

The St. Mary's left over the bar of Tampico the Potomac, the Princeton, and the John Adams, with some small vessels off the town of Tampico. She left the steamer Sea ashore abreast of the town on a mud bank. She passed the Mississippi 60 miles north of Tampico, bound out. The officers of the St. Mary's are all well.

A letter from Pensacola, of the 7th of December, to the Picayune, says, -that Captain Tatnall, with the steamer Spitfire, had gone up the river 60 or 70 miles from Tampico, and taken possession of two towns, at one of which he captured 10 large cannons and a heavy quantity of ammunition, which had been received from Tampico, when the Mexicans retreated from that city.

The two regiments which evacuated that palace revolted when they got to San Luis Potosi, and were disbanded. They were opposed to Santa Anna.

Great dissensions prevailed at San Luis Potosi.

The army, about 16,000 strong, were in a state of starvation. There were four different factions.

The United States brig Porpoise, Captain Hunt, -arrived at Pensacola on the 1st of December, about 7 o'clock in eight days from Tampico, -reports the squadron all well. There was not the shadow of a Mexican in arms to be seen; no opposition of any kind. Troops were arriving daily, and armaments of all kinds landing at Tampico. The inhabitants seemed perfectly satisfied with the change. There were a great many merchantmen with assorted cargoes in port. There was a severe gale on the 18th ult., and the John Adams, St. Mary's, and a British man-of-war brig, the Darien, were blown off the coast; they have, however, returned, without sustaining any damage. Captain Ingraham came passenger in the Porpoise, and is bearer of despatches to our Government at Washington. An attempt was made by the captain of the Darien to claim the gunboats and schooner of the Mexicans as British property, and he persisted in it until admonished by Commodore Connor, when he reluctantly yielded, and abandoned his absurd pretensions. The streets of Tampico were thronged with American citizens. All was bustle, and business brisk.

Accounts from the Army of the Left at Monterey have been received to the 11th of November. The orders of the Government disapproving the armistice reached there on the 3d, and immediately General Taylor despatched Major Graham to Saltillo, to confer with the Mexica camp, and inform them that each party was at liberty to act
as it might think fit. Not an officer nor a soldier was to be seen at Saltillo. Major Graham had an interview with the Governor, and informed him that the armistice was at an end, and requested him to despatch the intelligence to the Mexican Commander-in-chief at San Luis Potosi. The Governor desired Major Graham to proceed to San Luis and deliver his message; but that officer’s instructions being peremptory, he returned to Monterey; and on the 13th General Taylor, with General Worth, 1,000 regulars, infantry, a battalion of artillery, and two squadrons of cavalry, left for Saltillo. No opposition was anticipated, and General Taylor was expected to return to Monterey, after ascertaining the prospects of an advance for the main force along that route to San Luis Potosi. Reports were current at Matamoras that a Mexican force had appeared at Victoria, and it is stated in some journals that an American force had been despatched against them. American settlers were commencing to locate on the northern bank of the Rio Grande.

From the Army of the Centre we learn that on the 30th the Mexican town of Monclova was quietly invested. The Governor and a number of the principal citizens formed an escort, and met General Wool about four miles from the city, welcomed him as a friend, and placed at his disposal for his headquarters one of the best houses in the town. The army was in excellent health. Reports had reached Monclova that the city of Chihuahua also had been invested by a detachment of the Army of the Right from Santa Fe, under Colonel Doneghan. The American journals throw doubts upon the last statement.

The latest accounts from the Army of the Right are dated Fra Christoval, 205 miles south of the capital of New Mexico. From Santa Fe we have advices to the 20th of October. The Mormon levy had arrived, and left on the 18th for California. The city was in a frightful state; scarcely a day passed without the perpetration of some outrage by the Americans, and signs of Mexican retribution were not unfrequent. Supplies were becoming extremely scarce; and, en route from Fort Leavenworth to Santa Fe, a train of 30 Government waggons had been totally plundered by the Indians. At Bent’s Fort there were, however, considerable quantities of stores.

From the Pacific, or the interior of California, there are no later accounts. [ANP]
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ARRIVAL OF THE CALEDONIA.

LIVERPOOL, THURSDAY MORNING.

The Royal mail steam-ship Caledonia arrived at this port shortly before 10 o'clock last night from Boston. The Caledonia left that city on the 16 inst., but brings Halifax accounts of the 19th, one day later than our usual dates. The Cambria had arrived out at Halifax.

Our accounts from New York by this arrival extended to the close of the 15th inst. In the interim since the despatch of our last advices nothing had transpired of any great importance with regard to the war. Letters of the 12th from Washington published in the New York Journal of Commerce, state that Mr. Senator Bagby as Minister to the French Court. Mr. King was expected tot succeed Mr. Bagby in the senate. They also state that "the Mexican citizen who had been in correspondence with Mr. Buchanan in relation to the northern province of Mexico," Mr. Buchanan declining to enter into any negotiation, would leave Washington on the 14th. "M. Zeva," says the corespondent of the Journal, "did not propose that the Northern Provinces should be annexed to the United States, but hat they should declare their independence, and that the United States should guarantee their independence. The provinces for which he assumed to speak were Tamaulipas, New Leon, Cohahuila, Chihuahua, and Durango. He says that the people of these states are not fit to come into this Union."

The proceedings of Congress on the 14 were uninteresting.

From the south accounts had been received announcing the quiet investment of Saltillo by General Worth, and the return of General Taylor to Monterey; and it is stated by the American journals that it was the intention of the General to concentrate at Tampico the whole of the forces not employed in garrisoning the several ports on the line of communication, with at view to future land operations against Vera Cruz. General Wool, with the army of the centre from Monclova, was expected to effect a junction with the army of the left at Monterey.

From the mouth of the Rio Grande we have accounts stating that large forces were being shipped for Tampico including a company Sappers and Miners arrived at the Brazos from New York, and the 4th Regiment of Indiana volunteers. Some bold measures were fully anticipated.

From the Gulf squadron and other scenes of operations there are no later accounts. Many rumours were current in the southern American ports with regard to privateers; and in New Orleans the apprehensions entertained in consequence had acted favourably for British freights.
From the interior of Mexico we have yet no definite accounts.

In the domestic affairs of the Union there is nothing new. A discussion of the slavery question in Congress was expected.

The Payment of the Pennsylvania interest due in February next was beyond question.

Commercial affairs had been active. Cotton, since the last dates from Europe, by the Caledonia, to the 19th ult., had steadily advanced both in prices and in demand; while for bread-stuffs the prices had declined, but the demand was still great, and very considerable shipments had been made, and were making, to Europe.

Money was in demand, but not scarce. There was timidity among the banks, mainly because of he operations of the law which exacts coin in payment of all dues to the United States, and it locks it up while in the treasury. The exchange on England ranged from 6 to 6 ¼; though there had been transactions at 5 ¾. The expectation still was, that a considerable amount in coin must necessarily, in such a state of the exchanges, find its way hither from England.

From Canada we have no accounts of importance. From Havannah dates to the 2d inst. had been received. The English mail-steamer from England due at Havannah on the 29th ult. Had not arrived up to 123 o'clock on the 2d. Fears for the safety were beginning to be felt. The new crop of molasses was beginning to come in.

From our own correspondent.

MEXICO, Nov. 29.

Beaten in every encounter by their hostile neighbours, and wholly unable to support the expense of a protracted war, the Mexicans are still averse to peace. "Let us gain a battle," they say, "and then we will negotiate." They forget both the extreme improbability of their with being accomplished, and that its fulfilment would only lead to more vigorous reprisals by the Americans. The loss of Monterey is admitted to be a misfortune and disgrace, but blame is laid, as usual, on the commander. Santa Anna has collected about 20,000 men at San Luis Potosi, where it seems to be his intention to await the approach of the invaders. His ingenuity will be taxed to maintain this body of men together for any length of time, the ordinary resources of the Government being cut off by the blockade, and their credit wholly exhausted. To meet the most pressing necessities it has bee fond necessary by General Salas to decree a forced loan of 2,000,000 dollars, the repayment of which, at the expiration of two years, is to be guaranteed by the clergy' the heads of the church, according to the decree, accepting bills at that date, with interest at 5 per cent. Per annum. One third of the loan will be received by Government in their own recognized paper, bearing interest; and an immense discount is offered for the instantaneous payment of the remainder. This measure (which of course does not apply to foreigners) has excited the utmost indignation on the part of the Mexican capitalists, who seem determined on opposing it, and it may be questioned if the Government of Salas is strong enough to overcome their resistance, particularly as the clergy show no great alacrity to fulfil their portion of the arrangement. The difficulty in procuring the sinews of war affords the best ground for anticipating the return of peace to which Santa Anna, privately, is perhaps not averse, though in a late communication to General Taylor he asserted that no peace could be made while an American soldier remained in arms on Mexican ground. Of his dark and tortuous policy it is difficult to form an opinion. Collusion with the Americans is suspected, and the fact of his having been allowed to enter the harbour of Vera Cruz unchallenged by the blockading squadron is cited in support of the charge. He may have entered into some stipulations with the Government of the United States, but it does not by any means follow that he will now fulfil them. On the whole, the Americans would have acted more wisely in opposing his return. The Government of Bravo, with Garay as Minister, were anxious to treat for peace, and might have lasted long enough to accomplish it, if Santa Anna had been kept at a distance. Should the public voice or his own interest dictate a continuance of the war, Santa Anna is most formidable foe that the Americans could have found; in fact, the only one possessed of an ascendancy sufficient to organize and unite such means of resistance as Mexico contains. However, this may be the crisis of his fate. To fight a
battle on the plains of San Luis, and lose it, would be utter ruin. On the other hand, to negotiate with out a struggle would confirm the suspicions already attached to his name. On the 15th inst. General Taylor’s advanced guard was within six leagues of Saltillo, the capital of the state of Coahuila, and the only town between Monterey and San Luis. General Wool was in Monclova with 3,000 men, and about 3,000 more had crossed the river at the Presidio de Rio Grande, to unite with him. Whether this division is destined to reinforce General Taylor or to co-operate with General Kearney in the invasion of Chihuahua is unknown. It seems probable that if the Congress to assemble here on the 6th of next month show no disposition to negotiate for peace with the United States, General Taylor will advance on San Luis, or Zacatecas, and ultimately, perhaps, to this city. To accomplish an undertaking of such magnitude (as respects the distance to be traversed), he will probably consider it necessary to assemble 20,000 men at Saltillo, a work of sometime; for by the latest accounts he had only 5,000 men at Monterey, and an equal number at Camargo. He will be supported, it is said, by a considerable force for Tampico, now in the hands of he Americans. The great object of the Cabinet of Washington in this war seems to be the acquisition of Upper California, to obtain which it is thought by well-informed persons, they might be induced to relinquish to territory between the Nueces and the Bravo, to which they now lay claim as a portion of Texas. How such an arrangement might be regarded in Europe I can form no opinion, but, if offered, the Mexicans would do well to accept it. Upper California is far too distant to be governed from Mexico, and will under any circumstances soon be populated from the United States, while the interposition of a barrier between Texas and Mexico, such as the district between the two rivers, is of vital importance to the latter.

The conversion of the deferred Mexican bonds I London is again a subject of discussion here. Last month it was supposed to be settled irrevocably by the order of the Minister, Senor Haro, to pay a dividend in London, and the natural conclusion was, that Santa Anna had sanctioned the operation. Without any great injustice to that personage, the same opinion may be still entertained, notwithstanding the extraordinary letter (of which I send you a translation) addressed by him to a confidential friend here, and published by his desire. He there disavows and disapproves the whole affair, and throws great blame on the ex-minister. It does not, however, necessarily follow that the arrangement can be unsettled, or that Santa Anna has any real objection to it.

Ministers of Finance succeed each other here with astonishing rapidity. The portfolio is now held by Don Lazaro Villamil, a devoted follower of Santa Anna.

Commercial affairs are stagnant. The consumption of all but articles of the first necessity has diminished, and the city wears a dull and gloomy aspet. No communication is allowed with the places occupied by the Americans, and, if Vera Cruz should fall into their hands, the last outlet for specie on the Atlantic will be closed. The result will be an extraordinary accumulation of the precious metals in the interior, and an injurious disturbance of the balance of exchange.

The town of San Juan Bautista, capital of he state of Tobasco, has been cannonaded by Commodore Perry. This severity seems to have been caused by the treachery of the Mexicans in firing on a flag of truce, and their absurd pertinacity in directing musketry against vessels armed with 42-pounders. The loss of life on this occasion is stated to be small, but the town is said to be greatly injured.

[ANP]
“Art. 2. The patent referred to in the foregoing article will only be granted to vessels of which the captain, officer, and other individuals appointed thereto, are Mexican citizens according to the laws of the Republic.

“Art. 3. Every individual who may wish to arm one or more privateers, shall deposit for each one a capital of net less than $4,000 should the vessel not exceed 100 tons, or $8,000 if of larger burden; or shall give security for like amount, to the satisfaction of the person who may furnish the patent.

“TO WHOM TO APPLY FOR OBTAINING SAID PATENTS.

“Art. 4. The requisition shall be addressed to the Supreme Government in the territory of the Republic, through the respective governors; and in foreign countries through the consuls, or authorized agents for this purpose.

“Art. 5. In the requisition shall be minutely expressed everything that may be necessary to give a circumstantial account of the vessel destined to cruise, its tonnage, force, equipment, and crew, on the understanding that it shall not be less than 60 tons.

“Art. 6. With letters of marque will also be given to the parties interested letters of commission for those in charge of the prizes, if they should solicit them, to the number which the functionary delivering the said patent may consider necessary, having in view the appointment of the vessel.

“ON THE PROTECTION WHICH HAS TO BE GIVEN TO THE OWNERS.

“Art. 9. The naval commanders, harbour masters, and other local authorities shall afford to the owners and captains of the privateers all the protection which they may need, and which may be in their power, in everything conducive to the quick armament of the vessels, permitting them to receive all he persons they may require, excepting those who may be in actual service on board the national vessels of war, coercing those who may resist to obey their orders, and prosecuting deserters, who shall be condemned to six years' service in the army or navy, if they should be apprehended after the privateer shall have made sail.

“Art. 10. Likewise they shall be furnished with arms of every description, powder, and shot, when they may be asked for and the service may not want them, giving out to them these last articles at the cost or costs, with a credit at the most of six months; if they should not be able to make immediate payment, to take sufficient security for it. That which they may not consume during the period they shall return, the value thereof being credited to them.

“Art. 11. In case of shipwreck, or the vessel being taken, they shall be freed from all responsibility, both themselves and their securities, the loss or seizure being fully proved.

“ON THE RIGHTS OF THOSE EMPLOYED IN CRUISING, AND THE PRIVILEGES GRANTED TO THEM.

“Art. 12. All those who may be employed on board of privateering vessels shall be subject, in their internal police and regulations, to the ordinances of the navy, and shall enjoy the rights of the navy in all that may not relate the prizes.

“Art. 15. The individuals out of their crews who may be disabled from wounds received in action, and without the necessary supplies for their subsistence, shall have the same privileges as invalids of the navy, each one according to his class, and in conformity with the reports made by captains and commanders of the privateers, also consulting thereon the respective commanders of the naval department.

“Art. 16. The widows of those who may die from like causes, and who should also be left without resources, shall enjoy pensions, which the Supreme Government may be pleased to grant them.

“ON THE ADJUDICATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

“Art. 17. The owners and other individuals who may be employed privateering shall have entirely adjudicated to them, and without any reserve whatsoever, the prizes which they make, under the following regulation :-
"Art. 18. Moreover, should the vessels taken be of war, a gratuity of $60 shall be given for every cannon that may exceed 12 inclusively, $40 if they should exceed four, also inclusively; and $20 for every prisoner of the enemy's forces; the amount of this gratuity exclusively belongs to the captain, subalterns, marines, and sailors of the privateering vessels, amongst whom it will be divided according to the wages which they may receive.

"WHAT VESSELS AND EFFECTS ARE TO BE CONSIDERED OF LAWFUL SEIZURE.

"Art. 24. Of lawful seizure are-

"1. Vessels of the enemy with all that they may carry on board belonging to them, whether or war, privateers, or merchant vessels.

"2. The cargo and effects of neutrals and Mexicans which may be found on board these said vessels, after sufficient time has elapsed for the declaration of war, proclaimed by the Government of the United States to the Mexican nation, being known.

"3. Vessels constructed by the enemy, or which may have belonged to the enemy, if the property be not sufficiently accredited or neutral.

"4. Those which may be navigated without patents or register that may prove their neutrality, their entire cargo, or part thereof, being, if they should be found in the same predicament, for want of the indispensable papers, the act alone of throwing papers into the sea, shall be sufficient motive for declaring them lawful seizure.

"5. Those which may be found without legal patent of sovereignty, state, or republic, having the authority for granting it.

"6. Those which may have it from one or more Powers.

"7. Those who may fight under other colours than the sovereign or state to whom their patent belongs. If these vessels, and those comprised in the foregoing paragraphs, should be armed for war, their captains and officers shall be reputed as pirates.

"8. Those which, after the national flag is hoisted, should refuse to lie to, and should provoke combat.

"9. Those which may navigate with the patent of the enemy in the terms expressed in the second paragraph.

"10. Those belonging to Mexicans and neutrals which may be armed for privateering under the Mexican flag, without having obtained permission from the Supreme Government, and accredited with the patent, their captains shall be treated as pirates.

"11. Those of pirates and mtineers returning to their owners should they appear within one year and a day, and those also who can prove not to have taken part, directly or indirectly, in piracy, separating a third part of their total value for the benefit of those making the seizure.

"12. Vessels abandoned by the enemy, or which may be adrift from tempest, or any other accident, before being brought to safety, if it should not be known to whom they belong, for want of documents, or if they should not have their proper crew, and if the owners of them should not appear within a year and a day; adjudicating, under any circumstances, the third part to those taking them, the two remaining parts shall belong to the public treasury.

"13. Merchandize known in war to the contraband, on board of whatsoever vessel it may be found, if it be going to the country of the enemy, or point occupied by it. By contraband effects of war are understood to be the following : Cannons, mortars, howitzers, swivel guns, blunderbusses, muskets, guns, carbines, rifles, pistols, pikes, swords, sabres, lances, harping-irons, battle-axes, grenades, shells, powder, matches, balls, and whatever other articles which may apply to arms; shields, helmets, breastplates, coats of mail, infantry and cavalry belts, uniforms of apparel for soldiers, horses with their trappings, and, lastly, every description of
arms, or instruments of iron, steel, bronze, and copper, or other manufactured materials prepared and made for the purpose of waging war by sea or land.

"14. Provisions which maybe carried to the enemy's camp, blockaded or besieged by the forces of the nation.

"15. The effects and merchandise which may be found on board neutral vessels, whenever the power to which they belong should not recognize the principle of exemption.

"ON THE CONDUCT TO BE OBSERVED BY PRIVATEERS AND VESSELS OF WAR.

"Art. 28. If a vessel should refuse to lie to after the Mexican flag has been hoisted, it shall be compelled to do so by force.

"Art. 29. If a vessel flying enters the waters of another Power, it should no longer be pursued; the seizure made on these waters shall be unlawful.

"Article 30. Should the enemy not respect this principle, claims will be made of he Power whose jurisdiction has been violated; and if a reparation should not be obtained it will be acted against, according to the orders which the Government may find it convenient to dictate.

"Art. 49. It is prohibited, under the penalty of from two to 10 years' hard labour, to drove on shore, sink, or burn the vessel captured, unless without absolute necessity; and if, in consequence thereof, one or more of those on board should perish, then, and for such offence, shall the punishment of death be inflicted upon him who gave the order for the act, and, in default of such order, upon the actual perpetrators.

"Art. 50. It shall only be allowed to sink or burn the vessel when it shall be impossible in any other way to prevent its falling into the hands of the enemy, releasing before all things every one there may be on board, and taking all the papers; any omission with respect to the first shall be punished as directed in the second part of the Article 49; and with respect to the second, with from two to 10 years' hard labour.

"Art. 51. The same penalty of death shall the captain incur who leaves the crew of he vessel to perish, if it should go to pieces in consequence of the action, and when he, being able to save the lives, does not do so.

"Art. 52. The same penalty shall be incurred if they are abandoned on the desert coasts or islands.

"Art. 53 Prisoners of war shall be treated with all humanity and moderation, paying to every one the consideration due to his rank, until they are delivered over to the military of political authority of the first part of the Republic where they shall arrive, taking the necessary certificate.

"ON THE PORTS WHERE THE PRIZES ARE TO BE TKEN.

"Art. 59. The prizes shall be conducted to the commercial ports of the Republic; but, if there should be any danger of falling into the enemy's hands, they may then take them to those of the coasting trade.

"Art. 60. When the prizes are made at places very distant form the coast of he Republic, and near ports of neutral Powers, they may be taken to the nearest where they may be permitted, having a consul or Mexican agent, and there be sold, should it undoubtedly belong to the enemy, in the judgment of the said consul. Excepting these cases, this measure shall only be taken when, without real danger, it cannot arrive at the ports of the Republic.”

[ANP]
Sir,—I am a faithful, though sometimes a laggard reader of your influential paper, and it is only now, in getting through arroars, that I have perceived the intelligence in your Friday's paper, headed, "Mexican Letters of Marque," with an announcement that "on Wednesday and office for granting Letters of Marque and Reprisals, according to the decree of he Mexican Government, was first opened in the vicinity of the Tower, being the first time that an occurrence of the kind has happened during the last 40 years in England."

You add extracts from the official ordinances of he Mexican Government, relating to the subject.

So announced in you columns, I trust the attention of the Government, and of the public, will be awakened to the inquiry, "are these things so?"

In this city, the centre of the civilization of the whole world, in the middle of the 19th century, "can these things be so?" and that a foreign consul sent here, and entertained here for purposes only of commerce and of peace, has dared publicly to open an office, where, on English ground, and in the bosom of this empire, for the base and filthy hope of gain, for the unmitigated lust of lucre, shall be publicly bartered for, the remaining virtue, honour, honesty, and good feeling of our merchants and ship-owners!

On the one hand, shall we be content to enforce at our police-courts our Foreign Enlistment Bill, and on the other hand, if he letter of the law, of that or any other statute, does not reach such a case as the traffic in letters of marque, shall an order of council be withheld to put down, and in a moment, this much more intolerable offence?

I am no friend to the Flores expedition to Ecuador, nor advocate for the North Americans in their unjust aggressions upon Mexico. I wish the Mexicans every success, and that they may become the instruments of Providence to teach to the North Americans humility. But I am an enthusiast in the desire to preserve my countrymen, and their principles, from pollution, and the temptation towards it.

"For 40 years (you say) has not an occurrence of he kind happened in England!"

For 32 years England has enjoyed, in Europe, the blessings of peace.

In this season of peace, when men's passions may be considered cool, and temptation at a distance, I have thought that reason might be appealed to against the sin and the evils of privateering.

So thinking, for nearly 25 years, as opportunities have been given to me, I have, sometimes in print, and sometimes by word of mouth, and by correspondence, invited men's minds to the consideration of the fitness of an international law for the extinction of privateering.

Why should war upon the sea be conducted on principles less humane than war upon the land?

Is such a thing heard of, in the most justifiable war, as the raising of a troop for independent action, and the licensed pillage of private property in an enemy's land?—a regiment of freebooters and robbers! Yet, why should private property be respected in general cases on land, and free license be given for its plunder upon the sea? Is the merchant less worthy of protection than the husbandman or the artisan?

Why should the delusive hope of "a profitable little war on private account" be allowed to corrupt our merchants, and form a school of piracy and disgrace?

Benjamin Franklin was the first, within my reading, who felt and wrote rightmindedly on this subject; and that, at a time when his countrymen were the people most likely to be tempted to avail themselves of a "buccaneering spirit" against our merchant vessels.

Prussia, as yet, has the honour to be the only European power that has consecrated the principle of repudiating privateering on the face of a public treaty.

How small is the demarcation between privateering and piracy! In the present case, a few inches of parchment—not from our own Sovereign, but from a foreign and factious republic—by the hands of a consul "accredited for trade and protection," but
now abusing his office to corrupt and to seduce. I have said how small is the
demarcation between privateering and piracy. I say, also, that the effect upon those
employed in either way is identical—equally demoralizing and brutalizing’ nor has it
ever been that, as a whole, the profit of privateering has reimbursed one-fifth of the
expenses of these ungodly and ungracious enterprizes, whatever single instances
may have been put forward of individual gain.

Even without the interdiction, by international law, of formal treaties to that end, one might reasonably have hoped that the progress of civilization, and the
improved morality of nations, would have been sufficient to have put down the most
odious enormity of barbarous times.

You constant subscriber of 40 years,

665.
[ANP]

LT 1847 January 15, page 6b

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—As I believe my house is alluded to in your papers of this day as “an office
for the sale of letters of marque and reprisal against the vessels of the United
States,” I will endeavour to convince you that you have written upon wrong
information.

On Monday, the 4th inst., I procured one of the first copies of the decree of the
Mexican Government, and sent an advertisement to The Times, as follows:—“The
decrees of the Mexican Government granting letters of marque against the United
States may be seen at the factory of Frederic Barnes, gun-maker, Union-row, Tower-
hill,” which your paper refused to insert.

The decrees have been read by many, for whose information I made the notice
public, viz., owners and captains of ships. I have no power to grant letters of
marque, and I am not aware they can be procured from anyone resident in this
country.

I am, Sir, you obedient servant,

FREDERIC BARNES.

3, Union-row, Tower-hill, Jan-13.
[ANP]

LT 1847 January 18, page 4d

To those persons who are capable of appreciating the self-complacent modesty
by which a grave Republic excuses a great aggression, and the specious names by
which she describes it, the instructions issued by the Navy and War Departments of
the United States to the officers of both services engaged in the Mexican expedition
will suggest matter for reflection, not unmixed with diversion. To those who seek for
an explanation of national conduct and character in national institutions, we do not
think that they will supply any additional reasons for admiring the Government of
the United States.

It is curious to notice the foregone conclusion of the American Government
long before the war was begun. So far back as June, 1845, it had its eye on the
opening chapter of accidents. The difficulty was how to force the initiative on Mexico.
But this once begun, the course of consequences was clearly chalked out. Tit is
highly amusing to read the instructions sent from Washington, and to compare their
avowed and ostensible desire of peace with their earnest preparation for and
anticipation of war. In June, 1845, the Secretary for the Navy Department thus
addresses the Commodore in the Pacific:—“It is the earnest desire of the President

“to pursue the policy of peace......Should Mexico, however, be resolutely bent on
hostilities(!), you will be mindful to protect the persons and interests of citizens of the United States near your station.... The Mexican ports on the Pacific are said to be open and defenceless. If you ascertain with certainty that Mexico has declared war against the United States, you will at once possess yourself of the port of San Francisco, and blockade or occupy such other ports as your force may permit.’ It is true that the Commodore is here ordered to ascertain that Mexico has declared war against his country; but when was the commander of a hostile fleet at a loss to interpret a constructive declaration of war? He was to protect the persons and interest of American citizens. Of course; this was natural. But the presence of an American fleet might expose them to danger of to insult. They might be attacked, mobbed, or merely frightened. In any case they might claim the protection of their own ships; and who doubts but that a sharp officer would quickly light this up into a strong casus belli? There never will be wanting a good opportunity to a dexterous officer, who is ordered to prepare against the determined hostilities of a foe whom he wishes to attack, particularly when he is lying off “open and defenceless ports.”

But though San Francisco was to be taken and California annexed, these things were to be done as cheaply as possible. The model Republic is in her novicate of aggression. She has a strong appetite for conquest, but her sinews are not yet fully braced, and her powers of action do not equal her powers of conception. Men and money are the vulgar instruments of warfare; but men and money are not to be obtained for noting. As little shot and powder as possible—as much soft sawder as you please; this is the plan of American warfare, and a very economical one it is, particularly where you have to deal with an enemy of no very decided energies. “Even,” so proceed the instructions, “should you be compelled to occupy San Francisco and other Mexican ports, you will be careful to preserve, if possible, the most friendly relations with the inhabitants.” Again, You can readily conduct yourself in such a manner as will render you occupation of San Francisco, and other ports, a benefit to the inhabitants (!).” But the next passage contains a still cooler plan of annexation;—“In taking possession of the harbours, you will, if possible, endeavour to establish the supremacy of he American flag without any strife with the people of California.” Now, this is certainly the most economical mode of acquiring territory we ever heard of. Only the question naturally occurs, if all this can be done so cheaply—if harbours can be blockaded—if provinces can be subjugated, without striking a blow—why go through the form of equipping fleets and armaments? Why not send a drab deputation from Pennsylvania, or some bold adventurers form Michigan, or some members of the Universal Peace Association, bearing the “stars and stripes” in their hands, and soliciting all Mexico and California to fraternize? If all the Western Hemisphere is only panting for an opportunity to become part and parcel of the model Republic, what need of the New York volunteers and the 1,000 horsemen? If California has already adopted a sympathetic attachment to the States, why should the latter go to war with Mexico? “If California”—thus it is written in the despatch of June 8, 1846—“separates herself from our enemies, the central Mexican Government, and establishes a Government of its own, under the auspices of he American flag, you will take such measures as will best promote the attachment of the people of California to the United States, will advance their prosperity, and will make their vast region a desirable residence for emigrants from our soil.” Attachment! Convey, the wise it call.” It is curious to observe the facility which American Statesman have in detecting the latent affections of their neighbours. Texas, we presume, was similarly “attached;” and opened a “residence equally desirable for emigrants from their soil.” We should have imagined that after all these directions the following hint would be wholly superfluous, at least to so intelligent an officer as the American Commodore:—“You will bear in mind that this country desires to find in California a friend, not a foe; to e connected with it by near ties(!); to hold possession of it -at least during the war (!) and to hold that possession, if possible, with the consent of its inhabitants.” This may, to some, appear the very consummation of triumphant impudence. It bears a sort of rude approximation to the style of Henry V.-just as much as the Blueskin would to that of Achilles:—“It is not possible (illegible word) me you should love the enemy of France; but in loving me you will love the friend of France; for I love France so well that I will not part with a village of it. I will have it al mine.” But-tough they agree in their with to have it al theirs—the two invaders differ as to the means of achieving their conquest. Henry V. had not the oily demureness of President Polk; but then it is true he did not wage war with Californians. The President has had the advantage of a more profound education. He can utter cutting jokes with the gravest face. What a sarcastic commentary upon an expedition sent 3,000 miles off by land, and some multiples of that distance by sea, to tell the commanding officer that he hopes to get possession of the invaded country with the consent of its inhabitants! It is “keen, devilish keen.” They can relish a dry joke in the States.

But this is not the climax of impudence. W should have liked much to see the expression of Mr. Mason’s face while he dictated these words—after all the preparations of brigadiers, commodores, cannons and frigates:-
"The existing war with Mexico has been commenced by her. Every disposition
was felt and manifested by the Unite States Government to procure redress for the
injuries of which we complained, and to settle all complaints on her part in the spirit
of peace and of justice which has ever characterized our intercourse with foreign
nations."

Why are such comic powers wasted on red-tapery?"

The state papers of he New World” flog” those of the Old to tatters. There is no
parallel between their plans and ours-their conquests and our conquests. We
proceed on an old, trite, and costly path. They have a new, brazen Brummagem,"n cheap way of doing business. They get into collision with a weak State, blockade its
ports, blarney its people, and, without the glory of contention or expense of
corruption, quietly "attach" a new province, "impressed with their justice, grateful for
their clemency, and prepared to love their institutions and honour their flag!"

[ANP]

LT 1847 January 25, page 5b. AMERICA

LIVERPOOL, SATURDAY.

Accounts from Boston to the 5th inst. inclusive have been received by the
arrival of he packet-ship Anglo-Saxon, after a short run of 18 days.

The accounts thus received add little to our previous information. From
Washington we learn that on the 2d inst. the House of Representatives, by a vote of
115 to 48, resolved “that it is inexpedient to levy any duty on tea and coffee.” The
decision of the house was given without the slightest debate.

The Sub-Treasury Bill had come into operation.

General Scott left New Orleans for Tampico on the 13th ult. Accounts from
Tampico rumour that a large body of Mexican cavalry had been observed in the
vicinity. The British ship-of-war Alarm, Lieutenant Mayo, had rrived in the port: the
captain had been left indisposed at Vera Cruz. From the Rio Grande the accounts
merely note the continuance of the movements consequent upon the changed plan of
operations. The 3d and 4th Illinois Regiments, the Tennessee Regiment of Cavalry,
and other troops, were either about the start of had started from Matamoras en
route for Tampico via Moquete. The three regiments together amounted to 1,800
men. Great sickness existed at Matamoras. Several Americans had been murdered
on the route to Camargo and Monterey. From the latter place we learn, that on the
12th of December General Taylor would start for Tampico, via Victoria, with one
division of the army and a portion of a brigade. It was reported that General Urrea,
with a troop of 6,000 Mexican cavalry, was at Victoria. It was reported, also, that
Santa Anna had assembled a force of 28,000 men at San Luis. The Chief, it is said,
had imprisoned Ampudia and other officers on a charge of cowardice. General Wool
remained at Parras, and General Worth at Saltillo.

Mexico had been again the scene of intestine disturbances. The state of
Tobasco, resenting the neglect with which the central Government treated the
applications of the department for assistance at the time of Commodore Perry’s
recent attack upon Tobasco, had issued a pronunciamento declaring independence.

Yucatan, also, was involved in disturbance. Campeachy had pronounced
against the reunion of the department with the central Government.

Canadian journals to the 30th of December add nothing to our last accounts.

Havannah advices to the 20th of December had been received. They merely
state, that a Yucatecos steamer had managed to enter the harbour, in the face of
the United States vessel of war cruising on that ground, by hoisting the British flag.

[ANP]
MEXICAN GENERALS.-Not the least important items in the recent news from Mexico are those which relate to the distribution and organization of the Mexican army. That army numbers 41,000 men, of whom 25,000 are with Santa Anna, in the city of San Luis de Potosi, 8,000 in the fertile vale of San Francisco, and a like number at Tula, a town distant from San Luis 80 miles, and from Tampico 120. Of the 8,000 men at Tula, 2,500 have been formed into a corps of observation, and the command thereof given to General Jose Manuel Urrea. Very few military adventurers have experienced greater vicissitudes of fortune than this Urrea. He is a native of the department of Sonora y Sinaloa, and during the war of independence fought in the ranks of the patriots, at the age of 20. It is said he defeated, at that early age, a body of Spanish troops under circumstances highly creditable to himself. When Santa Anna invaded Texas in 1836, he gave to Urrea the command of a brigade; and throughout the campaign Urrea conducted himself to the perfect satisfaction of his chief, but scarcely to that of the friends of humanity—for it was he who presided at the execution of the prisoners taken at Goliad. Execution did we call it? It was a murder; and as foul a one as ever man perpetrated, or God avenged. Yet we will do Urrea the justice to say, that in conversation he often regrets the share he had in the massacre of the Texans, though he endeavours to exculpate himself in this manner; "What under the circumstances could I do? My orders to shoot the prisoners were explicitly and peremptory; and you know that it is a soldier's duty to obey the orders of his superior, not to question their propriety." This Urrea spent the 18 months that succeeded the battle of San Jacinta, in comparative obscurity. Soon after that battle he received from the President (Bustamente) the Governorship of Sonora y Sinaloa. But the Government of a remote district of Mexico—a district almost beyond the confines of civilization—and the population of which is not one-half of that of the city of New York, could not satisfy the ambitious and active-minded Urrea. So, in 1838 he "pronounced" for federalism, and commenced a war with the central government, which lasted four years. During that period Urrea must have fought 20 or 30 battles and skirmishes, of some of which the western coast of Mexico was the scene; of others the eastern. In some he was signally successful; in others he had the greatest difficulty in escaping with his life. Urrea is barely 50 years of age, though the hard life he has led has given him a somewhat older appearance. His manners are very polished, resembling those of a French general of the old regime. His administrative talents are good. It cannot be denied that he is an accomplished general; but at the same time it must be admitted that he is sometimes wanting in decision, when decision is most wanted. It is worthy of note, that the corps which Urrea now commands is composed of the very best infantry regiments in the Mexican service; these are the Cortagnardia, of Tampico, the Puebla regiment, and the corps of veterans. May we not infer from this circumstance that Santa Anna has assigned to Urrea an enterprise of "great pith and moment!"—New York Herald.
[ANP]

LT 1847 February 6 page 8e. MEXICAN PRIVATEERS

MEXICAN PRIVATEERS.-It is understood that three Mexican privateers have been fitted out and despatched. They sailed under Spanish names. The object is said to be to stop outward-bound American shipping which may have specie on board. The report, or the fact, is already creating a difficulty in insurances.—Sun.
[ANP]

LT 1847 February 9, page 6e. THE AFFAIRS OF MEXICO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Mexico, Dec. 30.

The proceedings of Mexican legislators are proverbially tardy; yet it was thought that the novel and alarming situation of the country, invaded by a powerful enemy, and suffering the severe effects of a blockade since May last, would induce the Congress, which was installed here on the 6th inst., to give its earnest and immediate attention to the American proposals to negotiate for peace, particularly as the reverses sustained by the Mexican arms have too clearly demonstrated their incapacity to bring the war to a successful termination. The result has not justified that expectation. True to the vain and frivolous character which has distinguished the Mexican people since the hour of their emancipation from the sway of Spain, the present Congress has devoted all its energies to the miserable intrigues of party, regardless of the danger which menaces their existence as a nation, or referring to it
ardently desire the success of the United States in their present enterprise, and assumes the right of levying contributions, and the example will doubt be followed that state. This is one of he fruits of the Federal system, under which each state of Zacatecas has just added a tax of two per cent. On the extraction of specie from expense of conveyance to the coast, freight, insurance, &c. To these local legislature return in made, is burdened with a duty of no less than 10 per cent., exclusive of he to his prejudice. After the goods are sold, the exportation of specie, in which the which he is subject, and from the exceptional cases which are continually occurring enormous difficulties to contend with, from the heavy import and internal duties to circumstances by the west coast. The fair trader(in another sense) in Mexico has usual. Salesare stated to have bad, except of goods introduced under peculiar any other grounds. The annual fair of San Juan de los Lagos has taken place as here to confirm that suspicion, though it is difficult to account for the proceeding on his object was to open communications with the Americans, but nothing is yet known to Santa Anna. He has just returned from Europe, having shared his leader's exile in this. While the war lasts, Santa Anna will be excluded from Civil power, and the oftener the Mexicans are beaten, the easier will it be hereafter to get rid of the army, which all true Federalists hold in abhorrence. In the present Government of Mexico the sword is superseded by the gown. Ortiz, a priest from Guadalaxara, has been named Minister of Justice; Senor Ramirez, for Foreign Affairs; and Senor Zubieta, for the Department of Finance. The two latter are lawyers of the same liberal school in politics as Gomez Farias, whose original profession was medicine. The War Department has been given to General Canalizo, a mere soldier, devoteed to Santa Anna. He has just returned from Europe, having shared his leader’s exile and recall.

Beyond strengthening their positions, the American army has made little progress during this month, one of the finest in the year for active operations. General Worth remains in Saltillo, and the small town of Parras, about 30 leagues west of that city, is occupied by General Wool. General Taylor is said to be moving part of his forces towards Tampico, which the Americans are fortifying strongly. At sea they have met with nothing but disasters, and a very low estimate of the American navy is growing up in the minds of the Mexicans, who remember the dashing style in which the French took the castle of San Juan de Ulloa, and were not prepared to see the Americans pass fully eight months in looking at it. Even the blockade of the coast is not effectively maintained, various vessels having succeeded in entering the port of Alvarado. At Tabasco Colonel Traconis has made a pronunciamento, declaring that paltry state independent. It was surmised that in entering the port of Alvarado. At Tabasco Colonel Traconis has made a

The Vice-President has addressed a brief speech to Congress, in which he urged the necessity of continuing the war with the United States until they evacuate the Mexican territory. Senor Gomez Farias is probably not without a personal motive in this. While the war lasts, Santa Anna will be excluded from Civil power, and the oftener the Mexicans are beaten, the easier will it be hereafter to get rid of the army, which all true Federalists hold in abhorrence. In the present Government of Mexico the sword is superseded by the gown. Ortiz, a priest from Guadalaxara, has been named Minister of Justice; Senor Ramirez, for Foreign Affairs; and Senor Zubieta, for the Department of Finance. The two latter are lawyers of the same liberal school in politics as Gomez Farias, whose original profession was medicine. The War Department has been given to General Canalizo, a mere soldier, devoteed to Santa Anna. He has just returned from Europe, having shared his leader’s exile and recall.

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would gladly see the barrier of the stars and stripes permanently planted in this
capital.

From the mines, those seemingly exhaustless deposits of treasure, the returns
this year have been large. Guanajuato and Zacatecas are flourishing, and the
produce of the Real del Monte has increased. The El Oro Company have also ver
flattering prospects. A considerable quantity of iron (the use of which was unknown
to the aborigines) is now produced in the neighbourhood of Zimapán, and, favoured
by the blockade, meets with a ready sale.

The conversion of the Mexican bonds in London is still a subject of acrimonious
controversy in the journals here, and will probably be discussed in Congress. In the
meantime, Santa Anna applies the tobacco revenue (on which the bondholders have
alien) without scruple to military purposes, and will, no doubt, continue to do so until
the conclusion of the war.

[ANP]

LT 1847 February 12, page 6c AMERICA.

Accounts from New York to the 23d ult. inclusive have been received at
Liverpool, by the arrival of the packet-ship Queen of the West, Captain Woodhouse.
The Queen of the West left New York on the 23d ult., passed Holyhead at an early
hour on Wednesday evening, and entered the Mersey yesterday morning, having
accomplished the entire run in the space of little more than 18 days.

The accounts received by this arrival from the scene of war confirm our
anticipations that the movement against Saltillo had been merely a feint, if even so
much. The force observed in the vicinity of that post would now appear to have been
simply a foraging or reconnoitring party. General Taylor had consequently continued
his advance from Monterey for Victoria, where, it was understood, a Mexican force of
5,000 cavalry, under General Urrea, was stationed. The New Orleans journals now
reduce their estimates of Santa Anna's force at San Luis to 10,000 men, and, more
than this, now state that they are poorly provisioned, badly clothed, and scantily
supplied with arms and ammunition. The official journal contains the following official
account of General Taylor's movements during the apprehended crisis:-

"Despatches have been received from General Taylor, dated the 22d of
December, near Monterey, representing that he had left that place on the 15th, for
Victoria, having previously put in motion the troops destined for that point. At
Montemorelos a junction was effected on the 17th with the 2d Infantry and 2d
Tennessee Regiment of Foot from Camargo; and it was intended, with the whole
force (3,500 men) to march, on the 19th, for Victoria. But on the evening of his
arrival at Montemorelos, a despatch arrived from General Worth, commanding at
Saltillo, with the intelligence that Santa Anna designed to take advantage of the
division of force towards Victoria, and, by a rapid movement, to strike a heavy blow
at Saltillo; and, if successful, then at General Wool's force at Parras. Under these
circumstances, and with no means of judging how far this information might be well-
founded, the General returned to Monterey with the regular force, in order to be in a
position to reinforce Saltillo, if necessary. The volunteers under General Wuitman,
reinforced by a field battery, were ordered to continue their march, and effect a
junction with General Patterson at Victoria, while General Taylor returned to
Monterey with General Twigg's division, now increased by the 2d Infantry.

"IN the meantime General Butler and General Wool, being advised by
General Worth of a probable attack upon his position, moved rapidly to join him with
all the available force at Parras and Monterey, while orders were despatched by
General Butler to hasten up troops from the rear. The latter General proceeded in
person to Saltillo, and assumed command agreeably to instructions which had been
given by General Taylor before his departure to meet a case like this.

"General Taylor had proceeded beyond Monterey on his way to Saltillo, when
he was met on the 20th, by a despatch from the post, announcing the early arrival of
General Wool's column, and also that the expected concentration and movement of
the Mexican troops upon that position had not taken place—indeed, that their
advanced posts had rather been withdrawn. Deeming the force there and soon to be
at Saltillo quite sufficient to repel any demonstration at this season from San Luis
Potosí, General Taylor did not think it worth while to throw forward General Twigg's
division to that place, and after resting it a day, designed putting it again in march
for Victoria, to which point he was to proceed himself.
"General Patterson was supposed to be then well on his march from Matamoras to Victoria, when his division, except the Alabama rangers (in garrison at Tampico), will be brought together. With a force holding in observation the passes from Tula, the garrison at Tampico may be reduced with advantage to the service."

From the squadron in the Gulf at Anton Lizardo we have accounts up to the close of December. That portion of the crew of the unfortunate brig-of-war Somers which, on the occasion of her wreck, reached the shore had been released on parole by the Mexicans. A reconnaissance of the fortifications of San Juan de Ulloa had been made.

From Laguna we learn, that 900lb. of powder were captured, 50 soldiers disarmed, and 15 cannon destroyed at the capture of that town by Commander Perry. The following is the official account:

"United States ship Mississippi, Anton Lizardo, Dec. 27, 1846.

"Sir,-In conformity with your instructions of the 16th inst., I left this anchorage with the Mississippi on the 17th (having in tow the Vixen, Commander J. R. Sands; Bonita, Lieutenant-Commandant Bennham; and Petrel, Lieutenant-Commandant Shaw), and proceeded direct to Laguna de las Termines.

"Arriving off that port on the 20th, I placed myself on board the Vixen, and, with the Bonita, Petrel, and four barges, all in tow of the Vixen, I crossed the bar, and anchored after nightfall opposite the town without resistance from the enemy.

"In the morning I sent Commander J. R. Sands and Lieutenant James L. Parker to the Military Commandant and other authorities of the town, demanding its unconditional surrender, which demand, after some little demur, was submitted to.

"During the day I caused the arms of the few soldiers left the garrison to be delivered up, the powder found in the magazines to be embarked in a lighter ready to go on board the Mississippi; the two forts taken possession of, the American colours hoisted upon them, and the guns and carriages destroyed.

"After completing all these and other necessary arrangements, and leaving Commander Sands, with the Vixen and Petrel, in command of the place, I sailed on the morning of the 23d, in this ship, with the Bonita in tow, for the Tobasco.

"Arriving off that river, I directed Lieutenant-Commandant Benham, in the Bonita, to anchor inside the bar, and to assume command of the small blockading force stationed there.

"Having sent Commodore Adams ashore to collect information, the period of his absence was occupied in adding about 10,000 gallons to our stock of water.

"Leaving the bar of Tobasco on the evening of the 25th, I shaped my course to the westward, and traced the coast along, sufficiently near to discover the smallest boat, looking into the mouths of the principal rivers, and particularly those of Santa Anna, Goasacoalcos, and Alvarado.

"Off the latter named, I this morning captured and towed to this anchorage the Spanish schooner Isabel, a few hours from Alvarado, bound to Havannah, and the Mexican schooner Amerlia, from the same place, bound also to Havannah.

"The printed papers herewith sent will inform you that another of the political changes so frequent in Yucatan has recently taken place.

"With great respect, dear sir,

"Your obedient servant,

"M.C. PERRY.

"Commodore D. Conner, Commander naval forces, Gulf of Mexico."
The fortifications of Alvarado and Tobasco had been refortified.

From the Pacific we have no later advices.

Mexican accounts of a more minute character are published in the American journals, and communicate the speech of Mariano Salas on opening the Constituent Congress, the details regarding the capture of Los Angelos in California, &c. A long report, we learn, had been made by a select committee of the Congress, in which the monthly expenditures of the army under Santa Anna were estimated at $308,789, and those of the garrison at Vera Cruz at $80,00 peer month. The whole extraordinary expenses of the war for six months are estimated at $3,600,000. The deficit in the ordinary revenues for the six months was estimated at $884,496, which the committee proposed to supply by requiring payment in advance for a year of the direct contributions imposed by previous laws in 1841, 1842, and 1843. The first article of the bill submitted by them declared that the expenses of the war with the United States should be paid in preference to any other demands upon the Treasury. This report and bill were submitted on the 23d of December.

From Yucatan we have further indistinct accounts. They add nothing to our hopes that the department will extricate itself from the intestine struggles which now disturb and injure its commerce. Campeachy would appear to be fully alive to the damage inflicted upon the prospects of the department by the blockade instituted by the United States. The manifesto issued by the revolutionary chief, Barret, had reduced the tax on each Yucatecos to 1 ½ reals monthly. It is said, that a Commission was to be sent to the city of Washington to procure a recognition of the independence of Yucatan, and Commodore Connor had been requested not to attack their towns in the meantime. The manifesto is couched in language to the effect that the union with Mexico exposes Yucatan to "all the evils of war with a powerful nation, which heretofore has manifested the greatest consideration to the country, and which possesses the means of reducing it to the greatest misery by the simple prohibition of exporting its own productions, the sole resource of subsistence for the inhabitants;" and it calls upon all the inhabitants of Yucatan "to join this movement, professing that it is adopted in the spirit of self-preservation, and not with any unkind or hostile feelings towards the Mexican people, for whose happiness, prosperity, and growing strength, they put up the most fervent aspirations."

The proceedings of Congress since our accounts of the 15th ult. had been of an interesting but miscellaneous cast; the principal point of note being the refusal of the House of Representatives-ayes 50, nays 60-to receive a bill to appropriate the sum of $2,000,000 for the use of the Executive in regard to Mexico. A similar bill, but for an increased amount of $3,000,000, was introduced into the Senate on the 19th ult. by Mr. Sevier, of the Committee on Foreign Relations; but no "action" had been had on the bill up to our last accounts. Mr. Sevier premised the introduction of the bill, with the remark that "a speedy close of the war would result from the appropriation." On the same day a bitter dispute occurred between Colonel Benton and Mr. Calhoun upon a point of form; and, as a indication of the acrimonious feeling which prevails between the Cabinet and the hon. Senator, it is observed that the official journal had absolutely "dared" Mr. Calhoun to introduce the motion which, according to rumour, he contemplated—that the operations of he army and navy should be henceforth simply confined to the retention and defence of the present acquisitions of he republic. From a document published in the New York journals we learn that this policy is also advocated by General Taylor; and from the same source we learn, also, that Saltillo, according to that commander's views, is the extreme point to which, on that line, the American troops should advance. The General complains of the want of means of transport—views Vera Cruz as the point whence to reach the capital—and declares a levy of 15,000 volunteers necessary. The date of the letter is not given. The proceedings of Congress had also included a variety of measures for the increase of the pay and grant of lands to the volunteers in the Mexican war, and several resolutions had been adopted calculated to draw from the Executive information relative to the finances, the war, &c. In the House, also, on the Oregon Bill, the slavery question had been again touched upon, more especially in regard to the questioned power of he Central Government of he Union the prohibit slavery in newly acquired territories. In the House, on the 21st ult., on the Treasury Note Bill, amendments were offered to repeal the tariff of 1846, to impose an additional duty on articles not taxed, and to levy a duty on tea and coffee. The amendments were, however, either lost or declared to be out of order. In the Senate, on the 22d, a resolution was offered by Mr. Cilley, setting forth—

"That speedy and honourable peace with Mexico is exceedingly desirable; that the constitution does not provide for holding foreign territory, nor for incorporating foreign nations with the Union; and that the President be requested to withdraw our troops to some point in the United States on or near the boundary line."
On the same day, in debate on the Ten Regiments Bill from the Lower House, the Senate rejected—ayes 14, nays 48—a resolution offered by Mr. Houston to change the troops named in the bill from regulars to volunteers, and to make the officers elective.

Washington letters renew rumours previously current with regard to the retirement of Mr. Walker from the Treasury. The Washington Union remarks, with regard to a rumour to the effect—

“That General Taylor has been recalled from the army of Mexico, and that the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa is not to be attacked, and also that Commander Perry will not return to the Gulf of Mexico, that ‘Government is in possession of the ultimate conditions on which Mexico will consent to make a peace with the United States, and that it has determined to accede to them, if Congress will enable the Executive to meet the views of Mexico.’ We know not upon what authority these things have been reported, but certain it is we do not believe there is any adequate authority or foundation for either of these statements.”

Mr. Mason, the Secretary of the Navy, had been elected senator for Virginia.

A bill had been introduced into Congress to restrict the importation of foreign paupers and criminals into the United States.

Commercial reports are important. The Hibernia accounts had not arrived at New York up to our latest accounts; but the Quebec (late London) advices had been received, and had advanced the rates for cotton and given firmness to the market for breadstuffs. Exchange was quoted at 106 to 106 ½ per cent. Premium. Money had become more abundant. A large quantity of specie was expected by the steamer from Liverpool. Exports continue to be large’ imports were moderate. Shipping continued in great demand, and to London and different parts of Ireland there had been an increased request. The American Government had taken up a large number of vessels as transport ships for the Gulf of Mexico. The weather was rather more severe. The thermometer at New York, on the 23d, at noon, stood at 21 deg. The St. Lawrence, we learn, was frozen over at Ogdensburg, and teams could cross the stream. Philadelphia letters stated that the river was much obstructed by ice. New Orleans dates are to the 13th ult. W subjoin a detailed report.

The Pennsylvanian debt interest would be paid on the 1st inst., in due course. The sum necessary, however, was to be obtained on loan. The Georgian interest would be paid in advance, according to the New York Courier.

From the Indian territory we hear of a conflict between a band of Omahas and Sioux. 60 of he former were slain.

The Queen of the West spoke the steam-ship Cambria, hence to Boston, on the 7th inst.

The Hibernia may be expected in the Mersey, on her return, about the evening of Sunday next. Lest her non-arrival outward should create anxiety, in view of the large amount of specie taken out, we may mention that the Hibernia, at the date of our New York accounts, was then only 17 ½ days out. The voyage of he same vessel at the corresponding period of 1846 occupied 18 ½ days; and that of he Cambria, at the same period of 1845, occupied 19 ½ days.

Canadian accounts extend to the 16th ultimo. The contents are, generally, unimportant to our readers. Our journals contain the annual report of the Toronto Board of Trade for the year ended on the 30th of December last. It is extremely lengthy. An address was being prepared by the citizens of Montreal to greet the arrival of Lord Eldon in the province assigned to his care. The electric telegraph was about to be extended from Quebec to Halifax. [ANP]
and weaknesses of that army under his orders to a friend, who of course follows the universal practice, and prints the letter the next morning. To contemporary journalists, and to future historians, these authentic materials spare an infinite deal of speculation and research. We ourselves are under an obligation to every man who commits one of these acts of folly and impropriety. But whilst these eminent persons contend with ourselves for the honour of instructing the public and diverting our readers, it were to be wished that they sometimes remembered that their peculiar duties are not identical with those which we endeavour to discharge.

General Taylor’s letter, which has called forth these remarks, and which we publish elsewhere, is beyond all comparison the most imprudent and absurd display of this kind of vanity which we have ever met with. It amounts to little short of treachery towards the Government which that officer serves; it demonstrates the extravagance of their policy, the inadequacy of their resources, the impossibility of bringing the Mexicans to sue for peace by any demonstration the American army can make in the field, and the hopeless aspect of the contest in which the Government of the United States has engaged itself. Mr. Polk’s bitterest enemy could have said nothing so fatal to his character as a statesman, or to the policy of his Administration, as these unparalleled disclosures of the General-in-Chief who is engaged in carrying that policy into effect. And the conduct of General Taylor is the more reprehensible, inasmuch as he appears to have been led to make this strange communication immediately after the receipt of a despatch from the Cabinet of Washington, blaming the terms he had granted to the enemy at the capitulation of Monterey.

Nothing can be more preposterous than the pretensions of he American Government, when we are made acquainted with the real amount of the forces they had placed at General Taylor’s disposal. A detachment of 6,250 men, of whom only 2,700 were regulars, and the rest volunteers, was all that could be brought to act against Monterey in October last. Their train of artillery was small and ineffective; their only mode of transport consisted of 1,700 pack mules, collected with the greatest difficulty in the enemy’s country. General Taylor, relying on the personal intrepidity of his little army, declares that he could have taken Monterey by storm; but he says that the evacuation of such a position “nearly as strong as Quebec”(?)—with a great superiority of numbers and of artillery on the part of the enemy, “is among the unaccountable occurrences “of the times.” It is evident that for he second time since the commencement of this war the American forces narrowly escaped a destructive repulse, or at least a most perilous and desperate operation. All this time, from the first declaration of war until the 2d of November, the army had received no supplies or waggons. Its movements had been completely crippled. The mounted regiments from Tennessee and Kentucky were nearly five months on their way to the headquarters of he army, and as they were only raised for a limited period of service, they were hardly arrived in the field when they might claim to be sent back to their homes. The volunteers had, as might be expected, been greatly thinned by sickness and casualties; and the General sums up this lamentable narrative of he campaign by a declaration that he will advance no further than Saltillo—that the distance of 360 miles from Saltillo to San Luis Potosi cannot be crossed by the army for want of roads and water—and that if operations are undertaken against the city of Mexico, they must be based on the line of Vera Cruz. There is not one of these difficulties which we had not anticipated from the commencement of the war, and we are by no means surprised that they should have paralyzed the American army. These reverses and failures, in which the enemy has had little or no part, are the natural consequences of proclaiming a war policy without having the foresight or the power to adopt all the measures of preparation which a state of war demands. The burdens already imposed by the war on the people of the United States, although they are onerous enough to have excited universal dissatisfaction are wholly inadequate to enable a nation upplied with any effective naval or military establishment to carry on vast aggressive operations. Mr. Polk’s war is ridiculous and contemptible. It is originated in injustice, it was justified by hypocrisy, it has been carried on with impotence. The only chance of a speedy termination or a successful issue is the treachery of he most influential leader of the Mexican people; but although various significant attempts have been made by the Cabinet of Washington to obtain from Congress the means of buying a peace, we trust Santa Anna will not incur the infamy of such a transaction.

These matters are of small importance in themselves, and can have no decisive influence on the history of our time; but they throw a clear and instructive light on the working of those democratic institutions which are the pride, or the peculiarity, of the United States of America. We see a war begun principally for party purposes by a President who evades the express provisions of he constitution for the declaration of war by Congress, and orders the troops of the United States to march into a neighbouring territory. We find the General who commands this army publicly complaining of the want of reinforcements and supplies, disclosing and denouncing the schemes of he Government, and discussing the policy of the war. We learn that
the Congress, although pledged to carry on the war, refuses the most natural financial expedients proposed by the Executive Government, and that in this respect it fairly represents the determination of the people to submit to no fresh taxes. We know that the army and the fleet are in reality so ineffective that they can attempt no decisive operations even against a country which employs no active means of defence. Every one must foresee that the war will end in some compromise more humiliating to the United States than to Mexico, and fatal to the reputation of the Government which engaged in this shameful enterprise. Yet, notwithstanding all these facts, which are better known in America than in Europe, Mr. Polk continues to misdirect the policy of his country, and some years more must elapse before the United States will be relieved from the active influence of a policy whose evil consequences will outlive this generation.

[ANP]

LT 1847-2-18-5d
Gen. Taylor letter to Gen. Gaines on Mexican affairs

*The letter is as follows, some unimportant portions being omitted. It is dated Monterey, Nov. 9, 1846 :-

"After considerable apparent delay on the part of the quarter-master's department in getting steam-boats into the Rio Grande adapted to its navigation, I succeeded, towards the latter part of August, in throwing forward to Camargo (a town situated on the San Juan river, three miles from its junction with Rio Grande, on the west side, nearly 500 miles from Brazos Island by water, and 200 by land, and 140 from this place) a considerable depot of provisions, ordnance, ammunition, and forage; and then, having brought together an important portion of my command, I determined on moving on this place. Accordingly, after collecting 1,700 pack mules, with their attendants and conductors, in the enemy's country (the principal means of transportation for our provisions, baggage, &c.), I left, on the 5th of September, to join my advance, which had preceded me a few days to Serralvo, a small village 75 miles on the route, which I did on the 9th; and, after waiting there a few days for some of the corps to get up, moved on, and reached here on the 19th, with 6,250 men, 2,700 regulars, the balance volunteers. For what took place afterwards I must refer you to my several reports, particularly to my detailed one of the 9th ult. I do not believe the authorities at Washington are at all satisfied with my conduct in regard to the terms of the capitulation entered into with the Mexican commander, which you no doubt have seen, as they have been made public through the official organ and copied into various other newspaper. I have this moment received an answer to my despatch, announcing the surrender of Monterey and the circumstances attending the same, from the Secretary of War, stating that 'It was regretted by the President that it was not deemed advisable to insist on the terms I had proposed in my first communication to the Mexican commander, in regard to giving up the city, adding that 'the circumstances which dictated, no doubt justified the change.'

"Although the terms of 'capitulation' may be considered too liberal on our part by the President and his advisers, as well as by many others at a distance, particularly by those who do not understand the position that we occupied (otherwise they might come to a different conclusion in regard to the matter), yet, on due reflection, I see nothing to induce me to regret the course I pursued. The proposition on the part of General Ampudia, which had much to do in determining my course in the matter, was based on the ground that our Government had proposed to him to settle the existing difficulties by negotiation, (which I knew was the case without knowing the result), which was then under consideration by the proper authorities, and which he (General Ampudia) had no doubt would result favourably, as the whole of his people were in favour of peace. If so, I considered the further effusion of blood not only unnecessary, but improper. Their force was also considerably larger than ours, and from the size and position of the place we could not completely invest it; so that the greater portion of their troops, if not the whole, had they been disposed to do so, could any night have abandoned the city, at once entered the mountain passes, and effected their retreat, do what we could. Had we been put to the alternative of taking the place by storm (which there is no doubt we should have succeeded in doing), we should, in all probability, have lost 50 or 100 men in killed, besides the wounded, which I wished to avoid, as there appeared to be a prospect of peace, even if a distant one. I also wished to avoid the destruction of women and children, which must have been very great had the storming process been resorted to. Besides, they had a very large and strong fortification a short distance from the city, which, if carried with the bayonet, must have been taken at great sacrifice of life, and, with our limited train of heavy or battering artillery, it would have required 20 or 25 days to take it by regular approaches.
"That they should have surrendered a place nearly as strong as Quebec, will fortified under the direction of skilful engineers, their works garnished with 42 pieces of artillery, abundantly supplied with ammunition, garrisoned by 7,000 regular and 2,000 irregular troops, in addition to some thousand citizens capable of (and no doubt actually) bearing arms, and aiding in its defence, to an opposing force of half their number, scantily supplied with provisions, and with a light train of artillery, is among the unaccountable occurrences of the times.

"I am decidedly opposed to carrying the war beyond Saltillo in this direction, which place has been entirely abandoned by the Mexican forces, all of whom have been concentrated at San Luis Potosi, and I shall lose no time in taking possession of the former, as soon as the cessation of hostilities referred to expires, which I have notified to the Mexican authorities will be the case on the 11th inst., by direction of the President of the United States.

"If we are (in the language of Mr. Polk and General Scott) under the necessity of 'conquering a peace,' and that by taking the capital of the country, we must go to Vera Cruz, take that place, and then march on to the city of Mexico. To do so in any other direction I consider out of the question. But admitting that we conquer a peace by doing so - say at the end of the next 12 months - will the amount of blood and treasure which must be expended in doing so be compensated by the same? I think not, especially if the country we subdue is to be given up; and I imagine there are but few individuals in our country who think of annexing Mexico to the United States.

"I do not intend to carry on my operations (as previously stated) beyond Saltillo - deeming it next to impracticable to do so. It then becomes a question as to what is best to be done. It seems to me the most judicious course to be pursued on our part would be, to take possession at once of the line we would accept by negotiation, extending from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific, and occupy the same, or keep what we already have possession of; and that, with Tampico (which I hope to take in the course of the next month, or as soon as I can get the means of transportation), will give us all on this side of the Sierra Madre, and, as soon as I occupy Saltillo, will include six or seven states or provinces, thus holding Tampico, Victoria, Monterey, Saltillo, Monclova, Chihuahua, and the Californias, and say to Mexico, 'Drive us from the country;' - throwing on her the responsibility and expense of carrying on an offensive war; at the same time closely blockading all her ports on the Pacific and the Gulf. A course of this kind, if persevered in for a short time, would soon bring her to her proper senses, and compel her to sue for peace, provided there is a Government in the country sufficiently stable for us to treat with, which, I fear, will hardly be the case for many years to come. Without large reinforcements of volunteers from the United States - say 10,000 or 15,000 (those previously sent out having already been greatly reduced by sickness and other casualties) - I do not believe it would be advisable to march beyond Saltillo, which is more than 200 miles beyond our depots on the Rio Grande - a very long line on which to keep up supplies (over a land route, in a country like this) for a large force, and certain to be attended with an expense which will be frightful to contemplate when closely looked into.

"From Saltillo to San Luis Potosi, the next place of importance on the road to Mexico, is 30 miles - 140 badly watered, where no supplies of any kind could be procured for men or horses. I have informed the War Department that 20,000 efficient men would be necessary to ensure success if we move on that place (a city containing a population of 60,000, where the enemy could bring together and sustain, besides the citizens, an army of 50,000), a force which I apprehend will hardly be collected by us with the train necessary to feed it, as well as to transport various other supplies, particularly ordnance and munitions of war.

"In regard to the armistice, which would have expired by limitation in a few days, we lost nothing by it, as we could not move even now had the enemy continued to occupy Saltillo; for, strange to say, the first waggon which has reached me since the declaration of war, was on the 2d inst., the same day on which I received only 125, so that I have been since May last completely crippled, and am still so, for want of transportation. I could bring here only 80,000 rations (15 days' supply), with a moderate supply of ordnance, ammunition, &c., to do which all the corps had to leave behind a portion of their camp equipage necessary for their comfort, and, in some instances, among the volunteers, their personal baggage. I moved in such a way, and with such limited means, that had I not succeeded, I should no doubt have been severely reprimanded, if nothing worse. I did so to sustain the administration.

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"Of the two regiments of mounted men form Tennesse and Kentucky, who left their
respective states to join me in June, the latter has just reached Camargo; the former had not got to Matamoras at the latest dates from thence. Admitting that they will be as long in returning as in getting there, to say nothing of the time necessary to recruit their horses, and were to be discharged in time to reach their homes, they could serve in Mexico but a very short time. The foregoing remarks are not made with the view of finding fault with any one, but to point out the difficulties with which I have had to contend.

"Monterey, the capital of New Leon, is situated on the San Juan river, where it comes out of the mountains, - the city (which contains a population of about 12,000) being in part surrounded by them, at the head of a large and beautiful valley. The houses are of stone, in the Moorish style, with flat roofs, which, with their strongly enclosed yards and gardens of high stone walls, all looped for musketry, make them each a fortress within itself. It is the most important place in Northern Mexico (or on the east side of the Sierra Madre), commanding the only pass or road for carriages form this side, between it and the Gulf of Mexico, to the table lands of the Sierra, by or through which the city of Mexico can be reached."

JLM

LT 1847-2-22-6d
Blockade of Mexico

THE BLOCKADE OF MEXICO.-The following is the report of the British bark Columbine, Rose master, from Laguna, sailed on the 28th of December, 1846:-"The American fleet took possession of Laguna on the 21st of December without any resistance; the steamer Vixen and two war schooners came inside the harbour, leaving the Mississippi steam-frigate outside, with some sloops of war; Commodore Perry then declared the port under blockade, and gave my vessel, and also the Camoena notice and permission to leave, and endorsed my register, warning me not to attempt to enter any Mexican port, as the whole coast was under blockade from Rio del Norte to Cape Catouche. The port of Laguna is now strictly blockade by steamers and sailing-vessels. Left no other vessels at Laguna but the Camoena, and she was to sail the day after me.

"(Copy of Endorsation on the register of the vessel.)

"Laguna de Ternains, Dec. 20, 1846.

"I certify that I have boarded the British bark Columbine, and have warned her leave this port within 15 days.

"The whole coast of Mexico coast of Mexico and Yucatan, extending from the RD del Norte to Cape Catouche, has been declared by the Commander-in-Chief of the United States Naval Forces in the Gulf of Mexico under strict blockade, and all vessels are accordingly warned not to attempt entering any port of the said coast.

"M.C. PERRY, Commander, United States Navy, and commanding & Detachment of United States vessels.

JLM

LT 1847-2-25-4e Mexican War

The accounts periodically received in this country of the Mexican war are so strange and perplexing as utterly to confuse the judgements of those who have only studied such matters in the prosaic history of the older world. We are informed in reiterated despatches that Mexican numbers have offered no mentionable obstacle to American valour, and we certainly hear of authenticated exploits which are astounding enough to warrant the most sweeping inferences of Saxon ascendency. A 16-gun sloop impounds a province; a regiment of volunteers annexes a quarter of a continent; and towns are taken by fifty men and garrisoned by five-and-twenty, in the midst of a numerous and exasperated population. The armies of the west and of the centre, of conquest and of occupation, are all represented by detachments which would hardly if concentrated make up one effective division. Congress has decreed a gold medal to the enterprising general who has covered his country's arms with such imperishable glory and the first magistrate of the republic appeals triumphantly to
the war of his own creation, as the noblest action of the State, and the grand
distinction of his reign.

Side by side with this striking intelligence we find it announced that the most
energetic efforts of the victors are directed, hitherto unsuccessfully, to procure a
peace. Their general writes a letter home, which, with the pleasing promiscuousness
of American confidence, is of course published in a newspaper, stating the utter
hopelessness of the position which the victorious troops have won, and the entire
worthlessness of the conquests for which he is about to be rewarded. The parties
best satisfied are the defeated and invaded people. As their country happily affords
plenty of sea-room for the political storm, they can retire from one post to another,
and extemporize a metropolis at a few hours' notice. Omne solum forti patria. Towns
are politely evacuated for the use of the stranger, who is only embarrased by the
ease with which he might march in any direction, if he were not so tired of his
journey. The ingenuity of generals and commodores is taxed to the utmost to
discover some means, in addition to repeated defeats, which may induce this
perverse enemy to give up his decided "preference for war." One scheme suggests
the continuation of a line of forts from Tampico to Mazatlan, which should cut off the
northern moiety of the Mexican territory, so that a tract of some fifteen or twenty
degrees in depth may be held in pawn till its proprietors choose to "attend to
negotiation." Commodore PERRY advises the capture of all the ports both on the
Gulf and on the Pacific, and the relinquishment of all the interior provinces, except
such as they may "think "fit to keep," so that a thriving border of free and
enlightened Americans may be planted all round Mexico, like a belt of young firs
round a turnip-field, though for purposes less beneficial than those of shelter or
ornament. This project of hermetically sealing up an entire people till they "ask to be
let "out" has attracted great admiration, and the highest "qualities of true
statesmanship." Mr. BENTON has a third plan, which has a t least the magnificence
of obscurity, and we have to lament that we cannot give our readers its details, as
they are, unfortunately, not yet disclosed. Mr. BENTON declines to release his
country from the horrors of war except for a consideration. He sets his secret at no
less a price than the Lieutenant-Generalship of the States - a price which the States,
with a cautious economy of confidence have declined to pay. We can only conjecture
at the character of this mysterious scheme from the enticing hints which its author
threw out on the 25th of last month as he dangled a closed roll of paper containing
the important plans before the eyes of the tantalized Senate. He alleged - of course
as its peculiar and distinctive features - that it " was not "framed in total ignorance
of Mexican resources," but promised "an issue and a result." Another striking
novelty in its conception was "a diplomatic mission "nationally constituted both in a
political and a geographical sense, to attend the head-quarters, and while the
Minister stood ready to negotiate at every step, the army was to take an
organization and an attitude to give emphasis to negotiation." It must be admitted
that this provision strikes at the very root of the evil; for the proposed ambulance of
plenipotentiaries being wheeled rapidly up to the critical part of the field, might
perhaps surprise the defeated parties into that "honourable peace" which they would
be sure to decline the next morning. When we add, that the scheme provided the
"subsistence of the invaders by duties regularly paid, and contributions regularly
collected," and concluded by promising "a death worthy of the soldier - the battle-
storm his embrace - the field of honour his bed - and the lofty summits of the
Cordilleras his monument and his grave," we are sure our readers must be
astonished that their Transatlantic brethren did not at once take Mr. BENTON at his
own appraisement, and make him a CROMWELL on the spot.

The point most perplexing to ordinary European minds is the object for which this
much-desired peace is sought. If the provinces and ports, the people and property,
the taxes and customs of a nation can be seized and distributed ad libitum already, it
is hard to conceive what further advantages are to be gained by the most amicable
negotiations. What does President POLK want to buy with 2,000,000 of dollars, when
he can get so much for nothing? PHILIP of Macedon's receipt for taking a fort was
sensible enough, but who ever drove an ass laden with silver into an unprotected
town? The Mexicans have clearly the vantage-ground of their foes. Defeat and
invasion may easily be put up with when they leave the conquerors beggars and the
vanquished choosers. SANTA ANNA is flattered with compliments and beset with
solicitations, and has the daily refusal of half-a-dozen overtures of the eternal amity
of his enemies. He can hardly do better than strengthen himself by additional
defeats and fresh repulses, and leave his adversaries to complete their humiliation
and embarrassments by a protracted career of glory.

[JLM]
The following is the Decree for the appropriation of Mexican church property to national purposes.

The Vice-President of the United Mexican States, exercising the Supremo Executive Power, to the inhabitants of the Republic. Be it known that the General Congress has decreed as follows: --

1. Government is authorized to raise $15,000,000, in order to continue the war with the United States of the north, by the mortgage or sale at public auction of mortmain property.

2. From the preceding authorization are excepted the property of hospitals, charitable institutions, colleges, and establishments for the public instruction of both sexes, whose members are not bound by any monastic vow, and that dedicated to the maintenance of prisoners; the benefices and foundations transferred by inheritance, and to which the last appointments have been made in virtue of that right; the sacred vessels and ornaments and other objects necessary to the public worship; and sufficient of the property of convents nuns endow each existing member with $6,000.

3. The Government cannot exact the payment of capitals of mortmain property placed on real estate in towns, and overdue, except by 30th parts, payable monthly, making a reduction on the principal in favor of the debtor of one fourth part, and of all interest after the first payment, provided the subsequent ones are made with regularity.

4. In taking possession of mortmain capitals placed on rural estates, the Government will limit itself to the collection of the interest, without exacting the redemption of the principal, which the debtors may however pay if they think proper, with a reduction on one-half, if irredeemable; of a third, if for a period not yet expired; and of a fourth, if already due. If the debtor should not take the benefit of this decree within the period fixed by Government, and the credit should be sold, the purchaser shall not exact payment for six years from the publication of this law, in cases where a longer period has not been already stipulated.

5. In sales tenants will have a preference, as purchasers on equal terms, even though not paying the whole sum in money, provided their offer amounts to five-sixths of the estimated value, and a third pat of this is paid. The remaining capital may remain as a mortgage on the property in favour of the owner.

6. The purchasers of estates, rented for an indefinite period, shall not possess the right of ejecting the present tenants without two years' notice to rural tenants, and six months to those in towns. The purchasers must fulfil the conditions of leases for a limited period.

7. If the Government should negotiate a loan by virtue of this law, it will be indispensable to obtain at least 67 per cent. in money, placed in the republic free of all charge.

8. In no contract which may arise from this law, shall the Government accept, in lieu of the money stipulated in the preceding articles, paper, or credits of any description, except the bonds issued by virtue of the decree of the 19th of November last. Nor can the proceeds be applied to any other purpose than the maintenance of the troops appointed to defend the national territory.

9. Any contract which may infringe the previous article, or be calculated in any way to evade the law, is null; and the authority which approves or executes it shall be held responsible. The fraud being legally proved the purchaser will lose the price.

10. Any officer who, for any purpose or pretext, shall take possession of the funds created by the present law, without an express order from the Minister of Finance, shall be suspended from his employment, and punished as a defrauder of the public revenue.

11. The authorization conferred by the first article will cease at the
12. The Government will invest $1,000,000 in the purchase of arms, one half for the use of the states bordering on the nations with which the Republic may be at war, the other half for the remaining states.

13. The Government will inform Congress monthly of the sums derived from this measure, and of their inversion.

(Signed) VALENTIN GOMEZ FARIAS.
Palace of the Federal Government, Mexico, Jan. 11, 1847

[JM]

LT 1847-3-26-5f Attack on San Juan de Ulua

(From the New York Herald)

We have the pleasure of presenting to our readers this morning some important information connected with the contemplated attack on the city of Vera Cruz and the Castle of San Juan d’Ulloa by the United States army and navy. This information has been in our possession for several days past; but, inasmuch as its publication before to-day would have had a tendency to embarrass the Government, or perhaps frustrate to a certain extent their plan of operations, we withheld it from the public until a certain contingency should have occurred that would enable us to divulge it without prejudice to the public interests.

That contingency has occurred, and the sailing of the United States line-of-battle ship Ohio, and the sloop-of-war Decatur, from Norfolk, on the 1st inst., will make the intelligence clear to our readers.

It will be recollected by our readers that the plan of operations of the army and navy were first published in this journal. It may be necessary to recapitulate them here, so that the history of the matter will be complete. General Scott takes command of the army, and will rendezvous at the Island of Lobos. Thither the whole of the army, with the exception of that portion left under the command of General Taylor, for the purpose of garrisoning Saltillo, Monterey, Camargo, &c., which will be held by him, will be transported from Tampico by the several vessels, nearly 100 in number, which the Government has chartered here and in other cities for the purpose. That island affords an excellent harbour, and is only eight miles distant from the main shore, and from its abundance of water, &c., is admirably adapted for a rendezvous. From this island the troops will be conveyed to the shore, and it is for this duty that the great number of launches were ordered by the Government. From the point of landing, General Scott will march immediately to the city of Vera Cruz, and by a preconcerted arrangement between him and Commodore Perry, the city of Vera Cruz and the Castle of San Jan d’Ulloa will be simultaneously attacked by the army and navy.

Thus much we published on a former occasion.

The details of the great programme have been studiously concealed by General Scott and the Administration, as well as by all who were acquainted with them. Our army officers received orders from day to day, but their purport was never divulged. The line-of-battle ship Ohio underwent repairs recently, with the view, ostensibly, of proceeding to the Pacific and joining the blockading squadron on that side of Mexico, and sailed with sealed orders from Hampton-roads on the 1st inst. These orders are not to be opened until she gets into a certain latitude; but we will take the liberty of making our readers acquainted with their contents - probably, before Captain Striagham himself will know them.

This vessel has sailed ostensibly for the Pacific, but before she will have reached there she will have taken part in the grand demonstration about to be made on the enemy’s strongholds. She sailed in company with the sloop-of-war Decatur, but she will not go in sight of Vera Cruz until the morning of the day when General Scott will attack that city. The appearance of a vessel of her size and armament would reasonably induce the Mexicans to suppose that an attack was contemplated immediately, and it is to prevent this suspicion that she will remain out of sight until the eventful time shall have arrived The Decatur will act as an agent to convey from the squadron there to her, and inform her of the proper time to take her place.
Between General Scott and Commodore Perry, who will relieve Commodore Conner, signals have been arranged that will enable Commodore Perry to know the precise day or hour that he will commence the attack on the city. Commodore Perry will immediately communicate, by means of the Decatur, or one of the small steamers, to the Ohio, the commander of which will govern himself accordingly. The moment that General Scott commences to attack the city the whole fleet will play on the castle, for the purpose of preventing the garrison from acting in concert with the Mexicans in Vera Cruz. In this manner it is supposed that both the city and the castle will be taken in a short time.

The time appointed for this demonstration is the 26th of this month, if General Scott be ready by that time; if not, as soon after as possible. At all events the Ohio and Decatur, which sailed on the 1st, and the Mississippi, which will sail in a day or two with Commodore Perry, are directed to be in that neighbourhood by that time. The object of secrecy has been to put Santa Anna off his guard, and prevent him from cooperating with the troops in Vera Cruz. He must remain where he is; for fear that General Taylor might advance towards San Luis.

The Castle of San Juan d'Ulloa will be for a time occupied by our troops after its capture, for the purpose of testing the effect of the climate on them. If it prove unhealthy, it will probably be razed to the water, so that the enemy will not be able to avail himself of it hereafter. This ought to be done, if the Mexicans refuse to treat for peace after its capture.

If the attack be made on the 20th, and express will, we understand, be immediately sent to Washington, or to the nearest point to that city, and the news will reach us about the 1st of April. In the meantime, however, it is not improbable that a grand battle will be fought between the troops under Santa Anna and those under General Taylor. Two great battles at the same time would be a serious blow to Mexico.

The above particulars may be relied upon for accuracy. It will be soon, therefore, that we may very soon expect to hear important news from the seat of war.

[JLM]

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LT 1847-4-5-5e US war with Mexico

By the Baltimore, Captain Johnson, arrived at Havre on the 3d inst., we have received American papers down to the 10th ult.

The close of the session of Congress had been succeeded by an entire dearth of political news, and the various members of that assembly were busy in retiring form the scene of their labours with all possible despatch.

With respect to the war in Mexico we publish the following extracts from the New York Journal of Commerce of March 10:

"There were upwards of 80 sail of vessels at Point Isabel on the 13th, including the two ships containing the N.Y. Regiment. This regiment was to proceed immediately to Lobos Island, the general rendezvous, preparatory to a descent upon Vera Cruz.

"The Georgia Regiment, which originally consisted of 910 men, has been reduced by deaths and discharges to 626.

"A letter from Saltillo states that when the 80 mounted men of the !Kentucky and Arkansas Regiments were captured, they were 93 miles from that city, in the direction of San Luis Potosi.

"The Matamoras Flag of February 17 states that the defences of that city are such as to enable the garrison to defend it against any force which the Mexicans can bring against it.

"It is now certain that the battle of Bracito, near El Paso, on the Upper Rio Grande, was fought by Colonel Doniphan's regiment of Missouri Volunteers, aided by a detachment of 100 men from other regiments under Lieutenant - Colonel Mitchell, making the whole American force 600. These whipped 1,100 Mexicans, killing 28 or 30, putting the rest to flight, and capturing one cannon, without themselves losing a man. They, however, had seven wounded, but none dangerously.
By the schooner Delta, arrived at New Orleans on the 1st inst., we have news from Tampico to the 20th ult. General Scott arrived at Tampico on the 19th, where it was reported that Vera Cruz had been evacuated by order of Santa Anna, and the enemy’s troops marched to the interior. Mr. Lumsden writes to the picayune from Tampico, 18th ult., that he has seen a letter from a Mexican officer to a friend, dated San Luis the 9th, which states that Santa Anna was to march on Saltillo preparatory to attacking Monterey. General Urrea, with 5,000 troops at Victoria, was to attack Matamoras, and that both expeditions must prove successful. The writer of this letter is Santa Anna’s private secretary, and he says they shall give the Yankees hot work in the north, while General Scott is marching on Vera Cruz. It is pretty certain that Santa Anna is now at Saltillo, and it is even reported that he had engaged in a conflict with General Taylor, but the latter is not believed at Tampico. General Scott had issued orders to punish all crimes committed by Mexicans or Americans not provided for by the army clause, after trial before a military commission, according to the laws of the United States.

"General Taylor, with Briggs's and Thomas's batteries, and the 2d of February, and had taken a position at Saltillo on the 2d of February, and had taken a position at Aqua Nueva. All the troops were to go there on the 10th, except a few to remain in town. There is little doubt but that General Minon will give General Taylor considerable trouble. It is stated that General Taylor wants light troops very much. A letter from Brazos, dated 22d of February, says, that Taylor was busy making water tanks, and collecting a large train of wagons and pack mules. The enemy had apparently left that part of the country for parts unknown - supposed towards Vera Cruz. General Worth’s division had all embarked except the dragoons and light batteries. General Worth would sail in a day or two in the Editb. The Atrevids, of New Orleans, from Campeachy, 19th February, brings news that the British Royal Mail steamer Tweed, was lost on the 12th of February, N.E. of Cardenas. 80 persons were drowned. An expedition was sent from Campeachy to her assistance."

[JLM]

LT 1847-4-8-5b2 US war with Mexico

[The following appeared in part only of our impression of yesterday:-]

LIVERPOOL, Tuesday Evening.

By the packet-ship Waterloo, Captain Allen, we have advices from New York to the 15th inclusive.

The intelligence by this arrival is not of much importance.

The American generals are still occupied in making preparations for an attack on Vera Cruz, the rumoured evacuation of which is not confirmed.

The New Orleans Delta publishes a letter, dated Tampico, which says:

"The rumour I sent you this evening, relative to a fight between Santa Anna and General Taylor, although Mexican news, is credited by almost every officer here. The advance of Santa Anna from San Luis to Saltillo had prepared every one for the receipt of the news of a battle, either at that place or at Monterey, and from that they more readily credited the report. The force of the Mexican commander must have been very large, judging from the notices of their departure from San Luis, and he had enough, in his own mind, to overcome the 4,000 or 5,000 - if that many - of General Taylor. Independent of this, the fact of the Mexicans reporting this news, which is against themselves, induces me to attach some credit to it, for, as I have said before, there is generally some fire from where this sort of smoke issues. The account, as I gathered it last evening, is a little more in detail than is set forth in my first letter.

"On the approach of Santa Anna to Saltillo, General and cut off his retreat, he extended his line too far, and so weakened his centre that the ready eye of Taylor immediately discovered the advantage, and wheeling his column to the right by a quick move, cut through their centre and made such work on the advanced half, that, before the rear could render them any essential service, they were cut up and dispersed. The number of killed on the part of the enemy is represented by the Mexicans to have been greater than at any other battle. Amongst the dangerously wounded, I hear the name of General Arista mentioned, but do not learn whether he is a prisoner. I could mention to you the names of several distinguished officers who
place implicit confidence in this news, but it is unnecessary."

The *New York Herald* gives some further particulars of the loss of the Tweed; it says,

"We give some additional particulars, from the *Picayune*, of the reported loss of the Tweed. We have seen another letter written by a Spanish house at Campeachy, and dated the 18th ultimo. It confirms the above, and gives further particulars. There were fifty-five passengers on the Tweed, and the officers and crew made seventy-five more. About sixty in all were drowned, but the account does not designate to which class they belonged, nor are any names mentioned. This account was derived from the supercargo of the vessel, who, with nine men, was saved in a boat belonging to the Tweed, and had arrived at Sisal. The Tweed had 1,170 flasks of quicksilver on board, and other merchandise. The Spanish brig Emilio had sailed to render assistance, and they were taking up other vessels at Campeachy on the 18th ult. For the same purpose."

Mr. Davis, one of the officers of the Tweed, had arrived at Sisal with the letter-bag. The *New York Journal* gives, also, the particulars which appeared in The Times on Monday. Mr. Davis, alluded to as one of the officers of the ship, is no doubt the Admiralty agent, Lieutenant Davis.

[JLM]

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**LT April 13, 1847 US war with Mexico**

[The following appeared in part only of our impression of yesterday : -]

LIVERPOOL, Sunday Evening.

By the packet-ship Fidelia, Captain Hackstaff, we have advices from New York to the 16th ult. inclusive.

We copy the following communication, dated Washington, March 14 from the New York Herald of the 16th ult. : -

"We have to-day a rumour of another battle between Santa Anna and General Taylor, at or near Saltillo, and that the information was communicated this morning to the War Department that the latter was defeated by a largely superior force of the enemy from a rapid concentration. The report being coupled with the statement of Taylor's defeat renders the whole story improbable; for that Old Rough-and-Ready can be defeated we hold to be impossible. We cannot contrive any arrangement by which it could be done. We cannot patch up an excuse for believing such a story. The mail has failed for several days, and when arrears come up we do expect some stirring intelligence of entirely a different character."

[JLM]

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**LT April 16, 1847 6a Battle of Buena Vista**

(From the *New Orleans Picayune* of March 23.)

Dr. Turner, United States Army, who arrived at Matamoras on the 9th unst. from Monterey, brought the glorious intelligence of another brilliant victory over the Mexican army. The scene of action was at Buena Vista - a hacienda about six miles west of Saltillo. The fighting commenced on the 22d of February, and ended on the 23d. Santa Anna's Adjutant-General and many other officers and men are prisoners.

The loss on our part was 700 killed and wounded. Santa Anna's force amounted to at least 15,000 men; that of General Taylor to about 5,000, almost entirely volunteers. His army is composed of Washington's, Bragg's, and Thomas's batteries, one squadron of the 1st Mississippi and 2d Kentucky regiments, and one company of Texan Volunteers. Dr. Turner brought a list of 63 officers killed and wounded.

I felt in such haste, that I was unable to obtain a copy, but recollect among the killed Captain Lincoln, Assistant Adjutant-General, United States Army; Colonel Yell, of the Arkansas Cavalry; Captain Moore, Adjutant Vaughan, and three others (not named)
of the Kentucky Cavalry; Colonel M'Kee; Lieutenant-Colonel Clay; Captain Willis, 2d Kentucky Infantry; Colonel Hardin and Major Gorman, Illinois Brigade, many of the Indiana Brigade; several of the Mississippi regiment, and two lieutenants of the Texan volunteers. --Among the wounded I remember General Lane, Colonel Jefferson Davis, 1st Mississippi Regiment, Captain Stein, 1st United States Dragoons, Captain Connor, Texan Volunteers, Lieutenant Barber, 2d Kentucky Infantry, Lieutenant Whiteside, of the Indiana Brigade.

The official depatches of General Taylor have been cut off. Colonel Morgan's regiment Ohio volunteers having been reinforced by a command from Monterey had reached that place in safety.

Colonel Curtis, of Ohio, with one company (Captain Hunter's) of the 2d United States Dragoons, his own regiment, one of Indiana volunteers, the Virginia regiment, and I think some Texan rangers, in all about 2,000 men, was about to leave Camargo to attack General Urrea, who is said to be about 30 miles south of that place, with an army of from 4,000 to 5,000 men, principally Rancheros. He is believed to have with him only 1,500 regular troops. A great many, if not all of these Rancheros, as soon as they hear of the discomfiture of Santa Anna's army, will disperse, and the gallant colonel will no doubt obtain the victory.

We annex Santa Anna's own account of the actions of Buena Vista, as translated for the Tampico Sentinel. We have the original Spanish account in our possession: -

Camp, near Buena Vista, Feb. 23.

Excellent Sir, - After two days of battle, in which the enemy, with a force of 8,000 to 9,000 men and 26 pieces of artillery, lost five of his positions, three pieces of artillery, and two flags, I have determined to go back to Agua Nueva to provide myself with provisions, not having a single biscuit or a grain of rice left. Thanks to the position occupied by the enemy, he has not been completely beaten, but he left on the field about 2,000 dead. Both armies have been cut to pieces, but the trophies of war will give you an idea on which side had been the advantage.

We have struggled with hunger and thirst during 40 hours, and if we can provide ourselves with provisions we will go again to charge the enemy. The soldiers under my command have done their duty and covered the honour of the Mexican nation with glory. The enemy has seen that neither his advantageous position, nor the broken nature of the ground, nor the rigour of the season (for it has been raining during the action) could prevent the terrible charge with the bayonet) which left him terrified.

SANTA ANNA

[JLM]

LT April 17, 1847 sf The Battle of Saltillo

(From the New Orleans Delta of March 21.)

The schooner William C. Preston arrived yesterday from Brazos, from which place she sailed on the afternoon of the 10th inst. The news from General Taylor brought by this vessel is most cheering. The intense anxiety created among our citizens by the many alarming rumours which have circulated through the country relieved itself last evening in one universal expression of joy and proud confidence in the superiority of American valour. Although these reports are still vague and indefinite, enough can be gathered from them to give every assurances that General Taylor has whipped Santa Anna.

From Captain Brown, a passenger on the William C. Preston, we gather the following particulars of the reports most generally received at Brazos :-

General Taylor was attacked by Santa Anna at Agua Nueva, and after a sharp battle fell back in good order to the vicinity of Saltillo. Here he was again attacked by Santa Anna, and a sharp engagement ensued, in which General Taylor was victorious. Continuing his retreat in good order, General Taylor fell back to Monterey, where he arrived in safety. Safety intrenched here, and finding Santa Anna would not attack him, General Taylor sallied out against Santa Anna and gave him battle. A
long and severe conflict ensued, which terminated in the total defeat of Santa Anna with a very heavy loss. The loss is reported to be between 4,000 and 5,000. This may be an exaggeration, but when it is considered that General Taylor had 20 pieces of flying artillery, splendidly officered and managed, we venture the opinion that the Mexican loss has been very heavy.

Captain Brown states that all the points on the Rio Grande are in hourly apprehension of being attacked by the Mexicans. At Camargo, especially, the number of Mexicans hanging about the outskirts of the town had created considerable anxiety and vigilance among our troops. There were about 1,200 troops at Camargo.

Captain Hicks, who commands the steam-boat Warren, in the Government employ on the Rio Grande, came passenger in the William C. Preston, and gives the following corroborative information. Captain Hicks brings intelligence from Camargo to the 5th inst., at which place information had been received from a Mexican who had just arrived from the interior, that a collision had taken place at Buena Vista, Saltillo, and Monterey, between the forces of Santa Anna (numbering some 23,000) and those of General Taylor, finding himself too hotly pressed on all sides by a force greatly outnumbering his, retired before the enemy in good order, and made good his retreat to Monterey, spiking six pieces of ordnance, and leaving at Saltillo some 30,000 rations, which have fallen into the enemy's hands.

The different engagements are said to have occupied the space of three days. The enemy followed closely upon General Taylor's retreat, until he arrived at Monterey, where the battle was renewed, our forces gaining a decided advantage over the enemy, forcing him to precipitately retire, when General Taylor, with a battery of flying artillery and a squadron of dragoons, pressed them warmly home, creating such immense havoc in their routed columns that the slain are represented to have been ridden over in piles “three deep.” The enemy was pursued for 18 miles on the Saltillo road, having suffered in all the engagements to the amount of 5,000 killed, wounded, and missing. General Taylor's loss is said to be 1,100.

At the last advices, Santa Anna is said to have been endeavouring to rally his forces for another desperate onslaught, while Urrea had fallen in General Taylor's rear, near Passa Victoria, with 8,000 cavalry and an irregular force of rancheros, for the purpose of impeding reinforcements and cutting off all communications between Monterey and Camargo. General Taylor is confident that he can maintain his position until adequate assistance may arrive.

(From the New York Sun, March 31.)

By an arrival at New Orleans on the evening of the 13th inst., intelligence has been received from passengers of a highly interesting, though bloody nature. An express rider had arrived at Monterey from General Taylor, at Riconada, bringing the startling information that Santa Anna, with a force of 20,000 men, had made his appearance within sight of the American camp. General Taylor's forces were stationed about 20 miles from Saltillo, on the 20th of February, where there was a skirmish with the enemy, and General Taylor with his little army of 5,000 men fell back upon Saltillo.

On the following day a severe and deadly conflict took place in the streets of the city. This is represented to have been one of the most desperate and sanguinary fights upon record, and the houses, thoroughfares, and almost everything appertaining to the city are said to have been literally deluged with blood. Among the officers reported to have been mortally wounded is Colonel Morgan, of the Ohio volunteers. General Taylor is further reported to have taken place at the Riconada pass, and the Mexicans were repulsed and compelled to draw off with great loss. In the two battles the loss of the Americans is estimated at 2,000, and the Mexicans from 4,000 to 5,000.

About 5,000 Mexicans had succeeded in cutting their way through the pass, and were in possession of the whole of the country of the Rio Grande. The Mexican citizens of Matamoras were much disappointed at the temporary success of Santa Anna, as they believed that he had been too much crippled hitherto for further operations. All communication between Saltillo and Matamoras had been cut off.

Slips and extras from the New Orleans Picayune, the Delta, and the Mobile Herald confirm the above. Accounts from the island of Lobos announce the departure on the 29th ult. of the expedition against Vera Cruz, consisting of 50 or 60 vessels laden with troops and munitions of war, for the bombardment of the Castle, which would commence on the 10th inst. The main body of Mexicans under Santa Anna was
disappointed. The latter General is reported to have actually started on the sortie in hopes of making Scott’s expedition superfluous, he has at least been equally American detachment, though it must be admitted that if Taylor drew on the attack Anna, therefore, may be said to have failed in his scheme of cutting off this isolated Mexicans, at some point, did retire, and Taylor probably continued his route. Santa last day of the fighting - from Buena Vista. By their own confession, however, the question took place, but where the armies parted is not very clear. The story of Taylor’s sallying from Monterey, and driving Santa Anna back on the Saltillo road, is determined to anticipate the glory of a victory with the small force that was left him. It appears, however, to e pretty clear that two days’ hard fighting has taken place, during which Taylor continued on a line of retreat eastward, to his head-quarters; that he made a stand at two or three different points, one of which was Saltillo; that he fought gallantly and with at least success enough to beat off the enemy; and that, as far as we know at present, he is the better man of the two. But our information is by no means clear either as to the previous operations of Taylor, or as to his final position after the engagements. That he could have actually reached Monterey at the dates last given appears hardly credible, and yet it is upon this allegation that his last victorious onslaught upon his pursuers depends. Our accounts commence and terminate very abruptly. It will be remembered that by the whole tenour of our despatches three weeks back there seemed a very general impression that a collision would take place between Taylor and Santa Anna, though no reason was alleged for the expectation, and though the Mexican commander was then at San Luis, and had given no evidence of his intention to follow Taylor rather than Scott. It is possible that Taylor, knowing he was to be superseded, had shown symptoms of his resolution to deal a parting blow, and, like other commanders, had determined to anticipate the glory of a victory with the small force that was left him. He fought very well there is no doubt, but we suspect that Saltillo will not prove an Assaye. Either rely on some feints of Taylor, or in execution of his own designs, Santa Anna fell upon him, and evidently in a pretty good position. From this, if Taylor was not dislodged, he at all events thought it prudent to retire; and the first attack of Santa Anna seems to have convinced him that the Mexican were not going to fall into his hands, and that he had better secure the chances of war by retreating leisurely on his own head-quarters. The Mexicans, though roughly handled by the old warrior, followed him up for a couple of days, during which the engagements in question took place, but where the armies parted is not very clear. The story of Taylor’s sallying from Monterey, and driving Santa Anna back on the Saltillo road, is quite irreconcilable with the Mexican General’s despatch of the 23d of February - the last day of the fighting - from Buena Vista. By their own confession, however, the Mexicans, at some point, did retire, and Taylor probably continued his route. Santa Anna, therefore, may be said to have failed in his scheme of cutting off this isolated American detachment, though it must be admitted that if Taylor drew on the attack in the hopes of making Scott’s expedition superfluous, he has at least been equally disappointed. The latter General is reported to have actually started on the sortie.
from Lobos, but the "launches" which were to accomplish the magnanimous race from the island to Vera Cruz are now transformed into 50 or 60 sailing vessels. The point of landing is still unknown, but by Santa Anna's order for occupying the old Puente del Rey, it appears that the disembarkation was looked for to the north of the Antigua. It is difficult to comprehend the advantages of occupying the island at all instead of embarking from Tampico at once. However, our private advices coincide with the published intelligence in representing it as the general belief in well-informed circles at New York that both Vera Cruz and San Juan d'Ulloa had fallen to the Americans, and that without much resistance - a rumour which is confirmed by the evident resolution of Santa Anna to make all his play in the north.

The moral, however, of the whole story is this, - peace is farther off, and the Americans worse off, than ever. It is provable that Taylor retained the honours of every field, though his little army of some 5,000 or 6,000 men was at least trebled by that of Santa Anna. But the Mexicans have done enough to damage the American prestige and encourage their own people. They took the offensive, they attacked the enemy in one position after another, and they forced him to a kind of retreat. They fought with unusual spirit, charging him up to the very muzzles of his guns, and took a quantity of baggage, besides even a few pieces of cannon and some colours. The relative magnitude of their losses is utterly unimportant. Their levies are as cheap as those of Tlascala, while every man and horse that goes down on the other side costs Taylor almost as much as it cost Cortes. Already we see the effects of Santa Anna's movement. He has left the Gulf squadron with the bulk of the American army to amuse themselves with a grand representation of the Mogador battue, while in the mean time he has destroyed some 2,000 of their best troops, and surrounded one of their best Generals. Even if Taylor be actually in Monterey it is admitted on all hands that his communications are entirely cut off, even with Matamoras and Camargo. The whole country is swarming with light horsemen and rancheros, to whom he can hardly oppose a single dragoon, while every post on the line of the Grande is expecting an attack from forces utterly disproportioned to their means of defence. To improve this condition of affairs, it is known that there is no cordial concert between Scott and Taylor, nor between the supreme authority and either of them, and perhaps a new General or Major-General may presently make his appearance, to find that the favourite line of the Grande has been lost and the captured provinces sacrificed for the sake of winning a city which, by the best American authorities, will be utterly useless when won.

[ JLM ]

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LT April 24, 1847 5f Battle of Buena Vista

THE BATTLE OF BUENA VISTA.

Official Despatches

"Head-quarters Army of Occupation,  
Camp on the field of battle, Buena Vista, Mexico, Feb.24.

"Sir, - I have the honour to report that, having become assured on the 20th inst., that the enemy had assembled a heavy force at Encarnacion, 30 miles in front of Agua Nueva, with the evident design of attacking my position, I broke up my camp at the latter place on the 21st, and took up a strong line in front of Buena Vista, seven miles south of Saltillo. A cavalry force left at Agua Nueva for the purpose of covering the removal of supplies was driven in during the night, and on the morning of the 22d the Mexican army appeared immediately in front of our position. At 11 o'clock, a.m., a flag was sent, bearing form General Santa Anna a summons of unconditional surrender, to which I immediately returned a negative reply. The summons and my reply are herewith inclosed.

"The action was commenced late in the afternoon between the light troops on the left flank, but were not seriously engaged until the morning of the 23d, when the enemy made an effort to force the left flank of our position. An obstinate and sanguinary conflict was maintained, with short interval, throughout the day, the result being that the enemy was completely repulsed form our lines. An attack of cavalry upon the rancho of Buena Vista, and a demonstration upon the city of Saltillo itself, were likewise handsomely repelled. Early in the night the enemy withdrew from his camp and fell back upon Agua Nueva, a distance of 12 miles.

"Our own force, engaged at all points in this action fell somewhat short of 5,4000 men, while that of the enemy, from the statement of General Santa Anna, may be estimated at 20,000. Our success against such great odds is a sufficient encomium
on the good conduct of our troops. In a more detailed official report I shall have the satisfaction of ringing to the notice of the Government the conspicuous gallantry of particular officers and corps. I may be permitted here, however, to acknowledge my great obligations to Brigadier-General Wool, the second in command, to whom I feel particularly indebted for his valuable services on this occasion.

"Our loss has been very severe, and will not probably fall short of 700 men. The Mexican loss has been immense. I shall take the earliest opportunity of forwarding a correct list of the casualties of the day.

"I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

"Z. TAYLOR,
"Major-General U.S.A. commanding.

The Adjutant-General of the Army,
Washington, D.C."

"Translation.

"Summons of Santa Anna to General Taylor.

"You are surrounded by 20,000 men, and cannot, in any human probability, avoid suffering a rout, and being cut to pieces with your troops; but as you deserve consideration and particular esteem, I wish to save you from a catastrophe, and for that purpose give you notice, in order that you may surrender at discretion, under the assurance that you will be treated with the consideration belonging to the Mexican character; to which end you will be granted an hour's time to make up your mind, to commence for the moment when my flag of truce arrives in you camp.

"With this view, I assure you of my particular consideration.

"God and Liberty! Camp at Encantada, February 22.
"ANT. LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.

"To General Z. Taylor, commanding the forces of United States."

"Head-quarters Army of Occupation,
near Buena Vista, Feb.23.

"Sir, - In reply to your note of this date, summoning me to surrender my forces at discretion, I beg leave to say that I decline acceding to your request.

"With high respect, I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"Z. Taylor
"Major-General U.S.A., Commanding.

"Senor General D. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, Commander-in-Chief, La Encantada."

"Head-quarters Army of Occupation, Saltillo, Feb.25.

"Sir, - I have respectfully to report that the main Mexican force is yet at Agua Nueva. Our troops hold the positions which they have so well defended, and are prepared to receive the enemy should he venture another attack.

"An arrangement has been made with General Santa Anna for an exchange of prisoners, by which we shall receive all, or nearly all, of those captured from us at different times, besides the few taken in the action of the 23d. Our wounded, as well as those of the Mexicans which have fallen into our hands, have been removed to this place and are rendered comfortable.

"Our loss in the recent actions, so far as ascertained, amounts to 264 killed, 450 wounded, and 26 missing. One company of the Kentucky Cavalry is not included in this statement, its casualties not being yet reported. I respectfully enclose a list of the commissioned officers killed and wounded, embracing many names of the highest merit."
"I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. Taylor,
Major-General U.S.A., Commanding.

The Adjutant-General of the army,
Washington, D.C.

Head-quarters, Army of Occupation, Agua Nueva, March 1.

Sir, - I have the honour to report that the troops of my command occupied their original camp at this place on the 27th of February, the last of the Mexican army leaving the morning of that day in the direction of San Luis. It is ascertained that the enemy is in full retreat and in a very disorganized condition, the men deserting and dying of starvation in great numbers. I despatch a command this day as far as Encarnacion to harass his rear and secure whatever military supplies may be found there.

From the statements of Mexican officers, particularly of the medical staff left to succour the wounded, there seems no doubt that their loss in the recent action is moderately estimated at 1,500, and may reach 2,000 men killed and wounded, besides 2,000 or 3,000 deserters. Many officers of rank were lost. I enclose a list of the names of our own killed and wounded, made as complete as practicable at this time. One regiment (Kentucky Cavalry) is not included, its return not being rendered.

The enemy had fully reckoned upon our total rout, and had made arrangements to intercept our retreat and cut off the army; stationing for that purpose corps of Cavalry, not only immediately in our rear but even below Monterey. I regret to report they succeeded, near the village of Marin, in destroying a train of supplies and killing a considerable number of the escort and teamsters. Colonel Morgan, 2d Ohio regiment, on his march from Cerralvo, was infested by the Mexican cavalry, with which he had several encounters, but finally dispersed them with small loss on his own part. Captain Graham, assistant quartermaster Volunteer Service, was mortally wounded in one of the affairs. I have no doubt that the defeat of the main army at Buena Vista will secure our line of communication from further interruption, but I still propose in a few days to change my head-quarters to Monterey, with a view to make such further arrangements as may be necessary in that quarter.

The dispositions made to harass our rear vindicate the policy and necessity of defending a position in front of Saltillo, where a defeat has thrown the enemy far back into the interior. No result so decisive could have been obtained by holding Monterey, and our communication would have been constantly in jeopardy.

I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

Z. Taylor, Major-General U.S.A. commanding.

The Adjutant-General of the Army, Washington, D.C.

[JLM]

LT April 26, 1847 4e Mexican war

We published in our last impression some intelligence which has been rather anxiously looked for. The American mails arrived on Friday with authentic particulars of the late occurrences at the scene of war. Amongst them will be found the official despatches of General Taylor relative to the battle of Saltillo, the circumstances of which are narrated with some little variation from the previous reports, but with a result substantially the same. The "three battles" spoken of in the American papers are resolved into a pretty continuous engagement of nearly a day and a half, conducted with great obstinacy on both sides. Taylor was at Agua Nueva on the 21st of February, when he received information of Santa Anna's intended attack. Not thinking it prudent to receive the assault in this position, he retired upon Buena Vista, seven miles south of Saltillo, where he took up a strong line. He was here summoned to an unconditional surrender by Santa Anna, who had driven in the covering force left at Agua Nueva, and appeared on the 22d immediately in the American front with his whole army. The summons being of course declined, the attack commenced, and was continued with great vigour throughout the afternoon of the 22d and the whole day of the 23d. At its conclusion Santa Anna must have sent
off his despatch of this date from Buena Vista, detailing the events of the day and announcing his intended retreat upon Agua Nueva, which he effected early that night. According to the American account, Taylor would seem to have sustained all the attacks of the Mexicans in his position at Buena Vista, whereas Santa Anna's despatch, as well as the reports previously in circulation, represented the Americans as falling back, though without disorder, from one post to another. Taylor certainly decamped from Agua Nueva at the first intelligence of Santa Anna's approach, and his cursory intimation that a "demonstration on Saltillo was handsomely repelled" shows that detachments, at least, of the two armies must have been engaged at some point beyond Buena Vista. Probably Santa Anna makes too much and Taylor too little of these movements. Our suspicions that the American General had not actually reached Monterey as reported, turn out to be correct. By the dates of his despatches, he appears to have been at Buena Vista on the 34th - the day after the battle, - at Saltillo on the 35th, and at Agua Nueva on the 1st of March. It is not improbable that detachments in or near Saltillo on the 23d, when Santa Anna was at Buena Vista, and that he successively occupied this General quitted them. His onslaught upon the retiring enemy proves to be mere romance. Two days after the fighting, Santa Anna was still at Agua Nueva, the post from which the Americans had originally decamped, and Taylor's despatch merely expresses a "preparation to receive him should he venture another attack" - words which certainly imply no great superiority of condition. Indeed, beyond the fact that the Americans undoubtedly beat off, though from a strong position, a force nearly quadrupling their own, they seem to have no reason to think them otherwise than voluntary. The debatable ground was between Saltillo and Agua Nueva. From the latter place Santa Anna is said to be moving on his original line of operations towards San Luis, and from the former place Taylor himself announces his resolution of retiring to his headquarters at Monterey. This disorganization which the American General attributes to the enemy's forces, and the composure which he ascribes to his own. Must of course be understood with considerable allowances.

The operations in the Gulf are more intelligible, as they have not yet proceeded beyond the preliminaries of taking up positions. The Lobos armada sailed on the 9th of March, and landed 12,000 men, without opposition, three miles above Vera Cruz. The following days were occupied in investing the city completely by land, while the squadron blockaded all the sea approaches to the castle and port. This unresisted investment of the place probably gave rise to the report mentioned in our last advices, that the town and castle had already fallen to the Americans. We have already quoted authourities in confirmation of our own surmises that the capture of Tampico towards concluding, or even advancing, the war, unless the effects of the Three Million Bill should begin to be simultaneously felt. It is at this point, however, that the real push is made. The movement in the north was purely Mexican, nor will the American force in that quarter have further orders probably than to maintain such a hold on California, and the line of the Grande, as will both suggest and facilitate the peaceable transfer of these coveted districts at the consummation of a peace. The American papers contain a long communication between the President and the Secretary of the Treasury, dated the 23d of last month, from which it clearly appears that the scheme broached some time ago of occupying all the Mexican seacoast, and blockading an entire empire into a capitulation, is to be seriously prosecuted, and that the investment of Vera Cruz is one step in the plan. The ports both in the Atlantic and the Pacific are to be seized, and the communication across the isthmus is to be secured. Mexican duties and prohibitions are to be everywhere abolished, and such a tariff devised as will best answer the ends of raising revenue and increasing commerce. By these means it is conceived that the United States treasury will be eased of some of the burden of the war; that the new duties collected by American officers will go far to support the troops engaged in the contest; that the goodwill of neutral nations will be secured by an arrangement so much more favourable to all their interests than the absurd restrictions of the old Mexican tariff; and that the Mexicans themselves will be at length circumvented into a honourable peace. We will not, at present, remark upon the long vista of blockades and sieges which this prospect discloses, or on the probable duration of a war which is to witness the capture of all the ports of an extensive country, and which, at the commencement of its second year, had only yet seen the occupation of one and the investment of another of them. Neither will we attempt to calculate how far the opinions of neutral nations upon the whole casus beli may be qualified by the bonus held out to them in the proposed arrangements for the campaign. We will only say, that even if all the three first expectations should be verified, but little advance will be made towards securing the fulfilment of the last. It is perfectly notorious to the Americans themselves that the Mexican nation can subsist in abundant comfort upon its own plateaux and leave the invaders to enjoy the seacoasts as long as they please. If they choose to indulge their obstinacy, there is nothing in this blockade to prevent them. They know perfectly well that the Americans can never fin men, money, or patience for the permanent occupation of any points they may seize, otherwise they would never display so much anxiety about the peaceable conveyance of the property. The appropriation of the Mexican customs may assist, but it can never reimburse, the American exchequer. There will still be a growing
balance against the Treasury and a growing feeling against the war. Its novelty has already worn off; its injustice is daily more notorious; its expenses are hourly more serious, and its termination more invisible than ever. The States want part of California and the line of the Grande. They have already taken them; and if they knew the way to deep them, the business would be done. But their tenure is not worth a dollar without such consent of the Mexicans as will preclude the necessity and the cost of armed occupation. This consent they are now labouring to extort; but as they, even by their most promising scheme, have to conquer and occupy every port on either coast, while the Mexicans have nothing to do but to sit still and be sulky, it is not difficult to discover which party has the harder game.

[JLM]

LT April 29, 1847 7d Fortress of San Juan d'Ulloa

THE FORTRESS OF SAN JUAN D'ULLOA. - The following is an extract of a letter in the last number of the New York Tribune, from an officer on board the United States ship Albany. "As from the deck, with my glass, I swept over the city of Vera Cruz, its environs, and the stronghold which covers it - said to be impregnable to the combined fleets of the earth - it was with a rather serious feeling that my eyes rested upon this grim, grizzly pile, barbed and bristling with its hundreds of cannon. The question at once arises, can it be taken? Shall we ever see our fleet moving up over the expanse before me to attack it? I doubt it very much. Certainly not, with any force we have, or have had here. Let people prate as much at home as they please about it. If ever it is done, it will be by a tremendous array of cannon, and a most awful loss of life. The castle of Vera Cruz is no more what it was when the French carried it, than you are now to what your were when a nursling in your mother's arms. Then there were no guns above the caliber of 24-pounds, and but few of them most miserably served. The magazines, unarched, were not bomb proof. The powder was of such and inferior character that not a shot penetrated the side of a French ship, but at the close of the engagement were stuck about the sides of the shopping like so many balls of mud; and in addition to all this the commanding officer, having been instructed not to fire the first gun, permitted the French squadron to come up and take its position as quietly as though mooring to pass the winter season. Now let us see what a change time and a severe lesson have effected in this same castle. There are at present mounted within its periphery nearly 300 cannon, and these all 32's, 42's, and 8 and 10 inch Paixhans, there being a very large number of the latter; and wherever it has been possible to train a gun upon the channel of approach, they are planted en barbette, so that a fleet moving up to the attack, must be exposed to a concentrated fire of 70 cannon, over a distance of two miles, before it can get into position to return a single shot. The castle of San Juan fronts the city at a distance of about 3-8ths of an mile, and is supported by a water-battery, at the north west angle of the town, of 50 32 and 42-pound guns - all of which, would poor their volleys on the squadron passing up, bows on, form the moment it arrived with range of the shot until its anchors were down, with springs upon the cables, within the reach for any promise of success and at what an immense sacrifice it would be accomplished, if at all. The garrison at this moment is composed of 2,000 men. In the event of an attack they would, with the most perfect safety, retire within the casemates (which are as impervious to shot as the sides of Mount Orizaba) until the ammunition of the assailing force was expended, when they would return to their guns and sweep the waters before them with the most terrific, destructive effect. The officer commanding the castle lately sent official word 'that if the commodore would bring his fleet up, he might fire until there was not a shot left in the locker, and he would promise him not to return a gun until he was done firing.'"

[JLM]

LT April 29, 1847 7e US squadron in the Gulf of Mexico

THE AMERICAN SQUADRON IN THE GULF OF MEXICO. -

We understand that the following is a corrected list of the United States naval forces now concentration in the Gulf of Mexico. They furnish a formidable armament on the seaside to cover the debarkation of our troops and to assist in taking the Castle :

Guns

Line of ship Ohio, Captain Stringham

44
Frigate Potomac, Captain Aulick 74
Frigate Raritan, Captain Forest 44
Sloop of war John Adams, Commander McCluney 20
Sloop of war St. Mary's, Commander Saunders 20
Sloop of war Albany, Captain Breese 20
Sloop of war Germantown, Commander Buchanan 20
Sloop of war Saratoga, Commander Faragut 20
Sloop of war Decatur, Commander Pinckney 16
Brig of war Porpoise, Lieutenant Hunt 10
Schooner of war Bonito, Lieutenant Benham 1
Schooner of war Reefer, Lieutenant Sterrett 1
Schooner of war Petrel, Lieutenant Shaw 1
Steamer Mississippi, Commander Adams (Paixham) 10
Steamer Princeton, Commander Engle 9
Steamer Spitfire, Commander Tatnall 3
Steamer Vixen, Commander Sands 3
Steamer Maclean, Captain Howard 3
Steamer Union, Captain Rudd 4
Steamer Hunter, Lieutenant M'Laughlin 6
Steamer Scorpion, Commander Biglow, 64-pr. 1
Steamer Scourge, Lieutenant Hunter 1
Storeship Relief, Lieutenant Bullus 6
Storeship Supply, Lieutenant Colhoun 2
Storeship Fredonia, Lieutenant Chauncey 2
Bomb ketch Stromboli, Commander Van Brunt, 93-pr. 1
Bomb ketch Etna, Commander Walker, 93-pr. 1
Bomb ketch Vesuvius, Commander Magruder, 93-pr. 2
Bomb ketch Hecla, Lieutenant Fairfax, 93-pr. 1
Bomb Electra, Lieutenant Hunt 1
Cutter Forward, Captain Nones 6

Total Number of guns 354

The whole number of guns, according to the ratings of the ships enumerated, is 254 - which is less, however, than the actual number. This enumeration does not include several small vessels captured from the enemy and taken into service by Commodore Connor. The brig Washington (one gun), Lieutenant Commander Barron, will sail as soon as a crew can be obtained for her. The steamer Alleghany (10 guns), Lieutenant W.W. Hunter, is completing her equipment at Memphis, and will soon be ready for sea. 14 of the vessels named have been purchased by the department since the commencement of the war. - New York Tribune.

[JLM]

LT May 1, 1847 8f THE SIEGE OF VERA CRUZ

"Admiralty, April 28"

"Sir, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of the committee for the managing the affairs of Lloyd's copies of a letter and its enclosures from Commander Matson, of Her containing a correspondence which had taken place between himself and Commodore Conner, commanding the United States' naval forces off Vera Cruz, respecting the embarkation of British property from that place.

"I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,"
"Mr. W. Debson, Lloyd’s.

J.G. WARD"

Copy No. 2.

"Her Majesty's sloop Daring, Vera Cruz, March 10.

"Sir, -I have the honour to enclose copies of a correspondence that I have had with Commodore Conner, commanding the United States' blockading forces, respecting the embarkation of British property from Vera Cruz, and also extracts from private notes which passed between us on that occasion.

"I have ordered the Hermes to remain at anchor off the town for the purpose of embarking such British persons, with their valuable property, as might be desirous of seeking refuge on board.

"On the receipt of the Commodore's letter, I directed her to receive cochinal and she has now on board all that was bona fide British Property.

"The Consul for the Hanosoatic towns requested to be permitted to take refuge with his family on board one of Her Majesty's vessels, and which request I immediately seceded to, and also that of the Prussian Consul, to receive the subjects of his nation and their families.

"There are now on board the Daring and Hermes about 50 persons, principally women and children, who fled from Vera Cruz on the approach of the United States' besieging forces.

"H. Matson, Commander and Senior Officer.
"The Commodore commanding Her Majesty's ships at Jamaica."

Copy.)

Extract from the Commander Matson's note to Commodore Conner, dated February 27, 1847:

"We all know that according to the strict laws of war there is no such thing as neutral property in an enemy's country, but this severe law has in this more enlightened age of civilization undergone modifications and there surely can be no two nations whose interest it more is to modify that law than America and England, whose enterprising merchants are to be found in every quarter of the globe.

"This induces me to think that you will not hesitate to comply with my request; the more so as I know your own personal desire to act on the most liberal principles with respect to foreigners."

Extract from Commodore Conner's note to Commander Matson, dated March 1, 1847:

"Some matters that required my immediate attention prevested my replying to your official note of the 27th ult. Besides my desire to oblige you in any matter of this sort, the eloquent manner in which the question has been urged by you would alone secure its favourable consideration. In the course of tomorrow or next day I will return answer to you official note."

(Copy.)

"H.B. Majesty' Sloop Daring, Vera Cruz. Feb. 27.

"Sir, In the expectation of an attack on the town of Vera Cruz by the United States' forces, I have receive applications from a number of British subjects for permission to embark their property on board of Her Majesty's vessels under my orders; but, as part of that property consists of merchandise, I have not felt myself justified in complying with their request without having obtained your sanction.

"I believe that the only article of merchandise for which permission is requested to embark, and which in fact is the only one that under the present circumstances could be received on board one of Her Majesty's ships, is a quantity of cochineal,
which, although small in bulk, is very valuable, and which during the late blockade by the French was allowed to exported in the same manner as specie.

"Many British subjects are now desirous of removing from Vera Cruz, but they are, of course, both to leave their most valuable property behind them, which in a besieged town, would necessarily be very insecure; indeed, if taken by bombardment or assault, it would in all probability be destroyed. The rabble of a besieged town, such as Vera Cruz, would seek any opportunity for plunder, and might in reigners. If taken by assault, or after a protracted siege, no private property would be safe. History too truly verifies this assertion.

"In now appealing to you in behalf of some of my countrymen at this place, I do not ask you to alter permanently any of the regulations or instructions that you have established respecting the blockade. I only ask you to allow them to remove their valuables from Vera Cruz, to same them from destruction by flames or otherwise.

"I do not, Sir, expect you to inform me whether their apprehensions of an immediate attack on this place are, or not well founded; but looking to the extensive preparations that are being made in the U.S. to prosecute the war, it is surely not unreasonable for them to suppose that Vera Cruz will ere long have to withstand the horrors of a siege.

"Henry Matson,
"Commander and Senior Officer.

"Commodore Conner, Commander-in-Chief United States' squadron."

(Copy.)

"Her Majesty's ship Raritan,
Anton Lizarde, March 4.

"Sir, I have received your letter of the 27th ult., in which you request, in anticipation of an assault upon Vera Cruz, permission for the British merchants in that city to withdraw, and place on board the vessels of war under you command their most valuable effects, with the view of preserving them from destruction.

"As my Government is desirous of mitigating to neutrals, as far as possible, in the present war, the evils necessarily incidental to a state of hostilities, and as the humane disposition on the part of my Government is entirely in accordance with my own feelings, i accede willingly to your proposition. You are, therefore, hereby authorized to receive on board the vessels of war under you command such portion of the valuable effects of the merchants and others of Vera Cruz to whom you may give refuge, as you may deem proper.

"I must, however, at the same time request that you will apply this permission to no one who is not a bona fide subject, and that you will in each case exact a reasonable degree of proof of the ownership of the property sought to be protected.

"D. CONNER,
"Commander of the United States' Squadron."

[TNW]

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**LT May 5, 1847 6b Anglo Mexican Mint Company**

At the annual meeting of the Anglo-Mexican Mint Company held today, it appeared by the report, that whatever mischief the war with the United States may have done to Mexico, the mining industry of the country has not suffered. The company holds two mints in the interior, those of Guanaxuato and Zacatecas, and the amount coined at these is the year ending December 31, 1845, was $8,788,278 dollars; and in 1846, $9,027,881 dollars. A half yearly dividend was declared of 15s. per share.

Further papers from Perth, Western Australia, have arrived, and these extend to the 7th of January. They, however, furnish little additional intelligence to that which we previously communicated, except the subjoined important announcement by the Governor respecting the recent geographical and mineral discoveries made by Lieutenant Helpman and his party during their cruise in the Champion. At the date of
these advices the Unicorn, from England, had got safely into port. Working bullocks were fetching 7l. to 10l.; milk cows, 6l. to 8l.; horses, 10l. to 30l.; and wheat, oats and barley, 7a. per bushel.

[TNW]

LT May 6, 1847 5d Military Apppointments

(From the Washington Union)

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS

The President, as will be perceived in the announcement in this day's paper, has filled the vacancies occasioned by the declination of General Benton and General Cumming to accept the command of Major Generals in the army of the United States, by appointment of Brigadier-Generals Pillow and Quitman of the volunteers now serving in Mexico. They have both had the advantage of the experience of near a year's active service in Mexico, and we learn are esteemed in the army as among the most valuable officers in the service. General Pillow has performed valuable services in the field, and was among the conspicuous officers of the army in the recent bombardment and siege of the city of Vera Cruz and Castle of San Juan d'Ulloa. He was selected by General Scott as one of the three officers under his command to adjust with the enemy the terms of surrender. General Quitman acted most gallantly at the battle of Monterey. There is a peculiar propriety in making promotions to these important commands from the volunteer service. The promotion of Colonel Cushing, who now commands a regiment of volunteers in Mexico, to be a brigadier-general of volunteers, is also well deserved. He is a man of distinguished talents, and has exhibited great patriotism in his late exertions to raise the Massachusetts regiment of volunteers. Thus the country will perceive that the administration is organizing the army to its full complement of officers. It is not enough to gain a victory- we must fully profit by it. No man will complain of the want of energy in the administration. The war will be prosecuted with the utmost vigour until the object has been accomplished, by securing as honorable peace.

[TNW]

LT May 6, 1847 5d CAPTURE OF VERA CRUZ AND ST. JEAN D'ULLOA.

We have received a copy of the New York Journal of Commerce of the 16th ult., which was furnished to our correspondent at Plymouth by a pilot, who obtained it from an American packet bound to Havre.

The following extracts from the Journal of Commerce leave no doubt as to the capture of Vera Cruz and the Castle of St. Jean d'Ulloa by the American force under General Scott, though in the absence of the intermediate papers between the 7th, the latest previous date, and the 16 ult., we are unable to furnish our readers with any details of the operations in question:

"AN AVALANCHE OF VICTORIES.

"On the 1st day of the present month we published the authentic intelligence of the battle of Buena Vista, in which General Taylor with 5,000 men defeated Santa Anna with 20,000. Since that date, we have announced the recapture of Los Angeles, which had risen against the new authorities in California, and the re-establishment of American rule throughout that territory. Also the defeat and dispersion of the insurgents in New Mexico. Also the unconditional surrender of Vera Cruz and the Castle of San Juan d'Ulloa, with 4,000 troops, to the American forces under General Scott. And, lastly, the capture of Chihuahua, capital of the state of the same name, by a force under Colonel Doniphan. Such a succession of victories (two of them most important) is something new in our annals, and it is to be hoped may load the Mexican Government, if there be such a Government, to treat for peace. If, however, it should begot in the minds of our people a thirst for military glory, it will prove to be the greatest calamity which ever befell us. Peace is our element, and without it we cannot expect permanent or long continued prosperity. If Mexico should now be inclined to negotiate, we trust our Government will do itself the honor to offer liberal terms, such as will show to the world that as this war came upon us unexpectedly, and contrary to our most ardent wishes, so it has been prosecuted, not for territorial aggrandizement, nor to depress a weaker Power, but because there has not been a moment since it broke out when Mexico would listen to propositions for peace,
although overtures for that object have been repeatedly tendered."

LT May 7, 1847 5f CAPTURE OF VERA CRUZ

Official Dispatches from General Scott

Head quarters of the Army,
Camp, Washington, before Vera Cruz,
March 23, 1847.

Sir, Yesterday seven of our 10-inch mortars being in batteries, and the labors for planting the remainder of our heavy metal being in progress, I addressed, at 2 o'clock p.m., a summons to the Governor of Vera Cruz, and within the two hours limited by the bearer of the flag received the Governor's answer. Copies of the two papers (marked respectively A and B) are herewith enclosed.

It will be perceived that the Governor, who, it turns out, is the commander of both places, chose, against the plain terms of the summons, to suppose me to have demanded the surrender of the castle and of the city, when, in fact, from the non-arrival of our heavy metal, principally mortars, I was in no condition to threaten the former.

On the return of the flag, with that reply, I at once ordered the seven mortars on the battery to open upon the city. In a short time the smaller vessels of Commodore Perry's squadron-two steamers and five schooners, according to previous arrangement with him, approached the city within about a mile and an eighth, whence, being partly covered from the castle; an essential condition to their safety; they also opened a brisk fire upon the city. This has been continued uninterruptedly by the mortars, and only with a few intermissions by the vessels, up to 9 o'clock this morning, when the Commodore very properly called them off from a position too daringly assumed.

Our three remaining mortars are now in battery, and the whole ten in activity. Tomorrow, early, if the city should continue obstinate, batteries No. 4 and 5 will be ready to add their fire, No. 4 consisting of four 24 pounders and 2 8-inch Paixhans guns, and No.5, of three 32 pounders and three 8 inch Paixhans; the guns, officers, and sailors landed from the squadron; our friends of the navy being unremitting in their zealous cooperation in every mode and form.

So far, we know that our fire upon the city has been highly effective, particularly from the batteries of 10 inch mortars, planted at about 800 yard from the city. Including the preparations and defense of the batteries, from the beginning, now many days, and notwithstanding the heavy fire of the enemy, from the city and castle, we have only had four of five men wounded, and one officer and one man killed, in or near the trenches. That officer was Captain J.R. Vinton, of the United States 3rd Artillery, one of the most gifted, accomplished, and effective members of the army, and who was highly distinguished in brilliant operations of Monterey. He fell last evening in the trenches, where he was on duty as field and commanding officer, universally regretted. I have just attended his honored remains to a soldier's grave, in full view of the enemy and with reach of his guns.

Thirteen of the long needed mortars, leaving 27, besides heavy guns, behind, have arrived, and two of them are landed. A heavy northern then set in, that stopped that operation, and also landing of shells. Hence the fire of our mortar batteries has been slackened since 2 o'clock today, and cannot be reinvigorated today until we have a smooth sea. In the meantime I shall leave this report open, for journalizing events that may occur up to the departure of the steam ship of war Princeton, with Commander Conner, who, I learn, expects to leave the anchorage off Sacrificios, for the United States, the 25th inst.

March 21- The storm having subsided in the night, we commenced this forenoon, as soon as the sea became a little smooth, to land shot, shells, and mortars.

The naval battery No. 5 was opened with great activity, under Captain Aulick, the second in rank of the squadron, at about 10 a.m. His fire was continued to 2 o'clock p.m.; a little before he was relieved by Captain Mayo, who landed with a fresh supply of ammunition, Captain Aulick having exhausted the supply he brought with him. He lost four sailors, killed, and had one officer, Lieutenant Baldwin, slightly hurt.
The mortar batteries Nos. 1, 2, and 3, have fired but languidly during the day for want of shells, which are now going cut from the beach.

The two reports of Colonel Bankhead, Chief of Artillery, both of this date, copies of which I enclose, give the incidents of those three batteries.

March 25.- The Princeton being about to start for Philadelphia, I have but a moment to continue this report.

All the batteries, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, are in awful activity this morning. The effect is, no doubt, very great, and I think the city cannot hold out beyond today. Tomorrow morning many of the new mortars will be in a position to add their fire, when, or after the delay of some twelve shall organize parties from carrying the city by assault. So far the defense has been spirited and obstinate.

I enclose a copy of a memorial received last night, signed by the consuls of Great Britain, France, Spain, and Prussia, within Vera Cruz, asking me to grant a truce to enable the neutrals, together with Mexican women and children, to withdraw from the scene of havoc about them. I shall reply, the moment that an opportunity may be taken, to say- 1. That a truce can only be granted on the application of Governor Morales, with a view to surrender. 2. That in sending safeguards to the different consuls, beginning as far back as the 13th inst., I distinctly admonish them; particularly the French and Spanish consuls; and of course, through the two, the other consuls, of the dangers that have followed. 3. That although at that date I had already refused to allow any person whatsoever to pass the line of investment either way, yet the blockade had been left open to the consuls and other neutrals to pass out to their respective ships of war up to the 22nd inst.; and , 4th, I shall enclose to the memorialists a copy of any summons to the Governor, to show that I had fully considered the impending hardships and distresses of the place, including those of women and children, before one gun had been fired in that direction. The intercourse between the neutral ships of war and the city was stopped at the last mentioned date by Commodore Perry, with my concurrence, which I placed on the ground that the intercourse could not fail to give to the enemy moral aid and comfort.

It will be seen from the memorial, that our batteries have already had a terrible effect on the city and hence the inference that a surrender must soon be proposed. In haste,

I have the honor to remain, Sir, with respect,

Your most obedient servant, WINFIELD SCOTT.

Hon. W.L. Marcy, Secretary at War.

[TNW]

LT May 8, 1847 6c US war against Mexico

By the packet ship Yorkshire, Captain Bailey, we have advices from New York to the 17th ult. inclusive.

The intelligence from the seat of is interesting. General Taylor was still in pursuit of Urrea.

The Mexican papers are full of details of the fighting, robberies, and murders committed in the capital by the opposing armies and the banditti. In fact, that beautiful city was literally converted into a battle field. Streets were barricaded by the belligerents, whose deadly fire rakes the principal thoroughfares, and killed many of the offending inhabitants and even women. Dwelling were plundered and stores robbed. Well dressed citizens were waylaid in open day, robbed of their watches and jewelry, and in many instances murdered by the lawless soldiers and banditti scouring the streets. For several days anarchy reigned supreme throughout the devoted city. All law was at an end, and 160, 000 persons were exposed to the brutal passions of the infuriated mob of soldiers and robbers. The robbers on the principal mail routes had poured into the city of Mexico in thousands, many no doubt to share in the excesses of the revolution, but more probably to escape from the American forces, who were expected to proceed by the Jalapa road.
Santa Anna was at Cedral when he heard of then revolutionary attempting the city of Mexico. He wrote thence on the third of March, avowing his opposition to the attempt, and then pushed into Matahuala. He wrote thence, on the 6th ult., to the Secretary at War, announcing that he would march on the capital with a large division of his forces, and put down the revolution.

The entrance of Santa Anna into San Luis Potosi, on the 8th ult., was a triumphal one. All classes went out to meet him two or three miles on the road. At night he was serenaded and the town illuminated.

The following day he wrote a dispatch to the Secretary of War, announcing that two brigades of infantry, composed of 4,000 men, with their corresponding batteries, were on their march to San Luis, and they were to be followed by two others of all arms, to the aid of the supreme powers of the nation traitorously attacked. This letter would lead one to suppose conclusively that he intended to put down the attempt against Gomez Farias's administration. He denounces in unqualified terms the attempt at a revolution at such a time.

But the day after, March 10, he wrote two other letters to Mexico; one to General Barragan, the head of the revolutionary party, the other to Gomez Farias. In these his tome is altered. He denounces civil dissension's, but is considerate in seeking terms of courtesy towards Barragan and Farias. He conjures them to desist from further hostilities in the capital, and announces his purpose of proceeding thither immediately. He tells Barragan not to fear for himself or others compromised by the revolutionary attempt; that he has but one desire, to unite all Mexicans. There followed from these letters, which were published on the 13th or 14th, a suspension of hostilities, though each party accused the other of violating the truce. Santa Anna had not arrived on the 17th, but would encounter no difficulty in assuming power. All parties were waiting for him impatiently, and each claiming that he will side with them. Representations had been made to him in abundance, and large delegations of influential men had gone on towards San Luis to meet and propitiate him.

It was reported that Santa Anna had arrived at the capital on the 19th of March, and was in full possession of power.

The New Orleans Whig journals mention General Taylor as a candidate for the Presidency.

The President has appointed two new major-generals; Generals Quitman and Pillow, of Mississippi and Tennessee respectively.

Mr. Pakenham, the English Minister at Washington, is, according to the Baltimore journals, about to return to England.

During the bombardment of Vera Cruz, the United States' army used the following number of shot:

**Army Battery**
- 3,000 ten-inch shells 90 lb. each
- 500 round shot 25 lb.
- 200 eight-inch howitzer shells 68 lb.

**General Patterson's Navy Battery**
- 1,000 Paizhan shot 68 lb.
- 800 round shot 32 lb.

**Musquito Fleet, Captain Tatnall**
- 1,200 shot and shell, averaging 62 lb.

Making in all 6,700 shot and shell, weighing 403,590 lb.

The destruction in the city is said to be most awful, one half of it is reported to be destroyed. Houses are blown to pieces and furniture scattered in every direction, the streets torn up, and the strongest buildings seriously damaged.

[TNW]

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LT May 10, 1847 4c Capture of Vera Cruz
We have seldom had occasion to record an operation of war more revolting to every feeling of humanity and justice than the bombardment and capture of the city and castle of Vera Cruz by the American forces. In itself, indeed, the conquest of the strongest fortified position on the Mexican coast is the most important exploit of the campaign, and probably the most considerable enterprise ever attempted by the troops of the United States. But when we call to mind unprincipled aggression in which the war originated, and the purposes for which it has been carried on, the more signal these achievements are, the more sinister is the light they cast on the policy of the American Government. The luster of the arms of the United States is tarnished by the infamy of such a contest against an unoffending and impotent enemy; and the horrors of war, which can only be atoned for by a noble cause and a heroic bravery, have in this instance been aggravated by the detestable policy which sent forth the invading army, and by the miserable weakness of those against whom its prowess was directed. The American dispatches relate, with an air of unconscious simplicity, one of the most atrocious and barbarous acts committed in modern times by the forces of a civilized nation. The mode adopted by General Scott in conducting the siege was characteristic of the fierce and destructive spirit of a volunteer and unpracticed army. No attempt is made to disguise the fact, that the means taken by that officer to force the citadel of St. Juan d'Ulloa to surrender was the destruction of the city of Vera Cruz. Nearly 7,000 projectiles were thrown into this devoted town during the three days and a half that the bombardment lasted. One half of the buildings are said to be destroyed. In fact, the attack appears to have been exclusively directed on the city, in preference to the castle, for General Scott expressly states, that the heavy pieces of ordnance on which he relied for the reduction of the principal forts were not landed when the city was invested; and that he was surprised to find that the capitulation of the town and of the citadel was simultaneous. The thing itself is so extraordinary, and so contrary to all the usage's of modern war, unless under circumstances of peculiar necessity, that we could not have believed it on any lower authority than that of the officer in command. As for the Castle of St. Juan d'Ulloa, it is one of those places into which a hostile force would find it difficult to make its way, if there were not a garrison to open the gates of it, and a governor to sign a capitulation. It evidently surrendered to mere intimidation or corruption, or possibly to the desire of saving the city from total annihilation. The application of the foreign Consuls on the 24th of March for a truce to enable themselves and the subjects of the European Powers, together with Mexican women and children, to leave the city, was refused by General Scott. Probably when those gentlemen resolved to remain at their posts at the commencement of the siege, they did not anticipate that the city was to be the principal mark of the American batteries; or they might have consulted their own safety by retiring to those strong fortifications of the Castle, against which the enemy's artillery was not directed, or on which, at least, it made no impression.

The whole operation lasted 20 days from the disembarkation of the troops on the 9th of March to the evacuation of the city and castle by the Mexicans on the 29th. The negotiation for its capitulation began on the 26th. During the sixteen days of active hostilities there were five days of violent "northers," those hurricanes of the coast of Mexico which effectually interrupt all communication by sea, and must have placed the squadron in considerable peril. For two days and nights the wind was so violent, and the drifting sand so damaging, that it was almost impossible to clear the trenches or to man the batteries. Yet, in spite of all these untoward circumstances, we are informed that in the course of the whole series of operations, including the landing of 13,000 men and the storm of shot and shell from the works of the town and of St. Juan d'Ulloa, the combined forces of the United States lost but 17 men killed, or in all 65 killed and wounded.

On the side of the Mexicans the less of life and property is reported to have been frightful and that unhappy country seems to be a prey to the accumulated horrors of anarchy and war, of cowardice and corruption, of foreign violence and domestic pillage. In the city of Mexico itself all order and law are at an end. The Government is extinct' the army defeated and dissolved. If a nation could suddenly expire, this would be the supreme hour of the Mexican people; as it is, the horrors in flicted on the aboriginal inhabitants of the country by their Spanish conquerors have been faithfully revenged upon the abject descendants of these conquerors by a race of men animated by equal passions and armed with equal superiority. The standard of the Spanish race in Mexico has been trampled on as brutally and fiercely as the ensigns of the ingenious and unfortunate people which preceded them in the occupation of that magnificent region. The compassion which these calamities naturally excite in our minds is, indeed, considerably mitigated by the irresistible contempt the world must entertain for a people which has shown itself to be so thoroughly incapable of the first duties of existence, of government, and of self-defense. On both side the spectacle we have before our eyes is the opprobrium of the age which has been so disgrace to the people of the New World, who professed to have planted their institutions on a higher basis than the lust of bloodshed and aggrandizement which have so often devastated the elder continent.
The sanguinary spoliation which incites the armies of the United States is as
degrading to the mankind as the poltroonery of their victims, for we cannot call them
antagonists; and whilst we should blush to applaud the military triumphs of the
United States, we can hardly deign to pity the woeful discomfiture of an emasculated
people.

It is, however, as certain as the lessons of history and the justice of Providence can
make it, that these great acts of political wrong lead straight to their own
chastisement, and that every hour of success in this fatal war will be expiated by
years of trouble and embarrassment to the aggressors. The annexation of Texas, the
rapacious seizure of the province of a neighboring state which had long been plotted
at Washington, was consummated by Mr. Tyler in the last hours of his pitable
administration. The act was consummated, but its consequences only began. It has
already cost the American people the revenue of years. Even now there is no
reasonable prospect of terminating the war by a sound or stable peace, and the
American armies may yet be decimated by disease on the coast or by the banditti of
the interior. But grant they are successful. They coveted a province, and the entire
mass of a territory and a population which they can neither govern nor abandon falls
with all its responsibility upon their heads. Henceforward the influence of the late
United States will be continually involved, or rather entangled, in the anarchy of her
sister republic. A foreign dependency, incapable of self-government, yet detesting
this northern rulers, will, under one form or another, be connected with the Union;
for whatever Government it may be possible to re-establish in Mexico will only exist
in servile fear of Anglo-American ascendancy. Nor will these consequences be
confined to Mexico itself. The course of these events has materially affected the
disposition of the American people. Their easy triumphs have inflated to the last
degree their estimate of the military and naval power of their country. Military
popularity will place one of the heroes of this war in the Presidential chair at the next
election; and as the passions which are most fatal to the peace and welfare of
mankind appear to extend their baneful influence over the mass of the democracy of
the United States, we do not question but they will eventually impair the political
institutions of the country whose political morality they have already extinguished.
[TNW]

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LT May 10, 1847 6a STATE OF MEXICO

The revolution which was proclaimed here by the National Guard on the 27th of
February had, in the first instance, very extensive objects. They demanded a new
Congress and fresh elections of president and vice-president; Gomez Farias, who
held the latter office, to be immediately removed, and the executive power to be
confided provisionally to Senor Pena y Pena. Towards Santa Anna the dislike of a
Moderado party, who attempted the revolution, is quite as great as to Gomez Farias,
Dan their fears much greater, but they considered him to be engaged in a hopeless
expedition against the Americans in Saltillo, from which he might possibly never
return, and they therefore treated his claim to the Presidency with little ceremony,
leaving him simply the title of Commander-in-Chief of the army. Santa Anna's
ingenuity in converting his repulse at the Angostura into a victory soon convinced
the Pronunciados, however, that he was not to be thus easily disposed of, and, as
the Congress showed no disposition to dissolve itself at their bidding, while the
regular troops under Rangel remained faithful to the Government, they found it
prudent to lower their tone and, remodeling their plan, announced as its sole object
the deposition Gomez Farias. Santa Anna, on his march to San Luis Potosi (to which
place he found necessary to retreat after the battle of Angostura), received
intelligence of these disturbances, and fully comprehending their tendency as
affecting himself, wrote in the strongest terms to Gomez Farias, exhorting him to
hold out until troops, which Santa Anna promised to dispatch immediately to his
assistance, should arrive here. He protested further, that if the insurgents were not
punished in the most exemplary manner, he would himself leave the country,
considering it no longer habitable if the laws could be violated with impunity. There
is something ludicrous in this language from a man whose whole life has been a
series of insurrections, and the Pronunciados, estimation to at its proper worth, lost
not time in communicating to him their modified plan, backed by those arguments to
which he is known to be most open. The effect was immediately perceptible in a
fresh series of communications from him, to the Government in cool, and to the
Pronunciados in very friendly, terms. Complying with the intention of Congress, he
announced his intention to assume the Presidency, by which the obnoxious individual
(Gomez Farias) would be legally got rid of, and directed that hostilities should cease
until his arrival. Many and anxious were the deliberations of Gomez Farias, and his
party the ultra democrats, or, as they are now termed Puros, on the receipt of this
unexpected intelligence; but they had no alternative but submission, as their military
supporters acknowledged no orders except Santa Anna's. The young gentlemen of
the National Guard, called by the mob "Polkas" (with reference to a well known
dance, not to the President of the United States), on the other hand, were highly
elated. Both parties maintained their position, and though the streets continued
barricaded, dan business of every kind suspended, the firing ceased until Santa Anna
arrived at Guadeloupe on the 22nd ult., and, having taken the oath as President
before a committee deputed by Congress to wait on him, made his entry into this
city and established himself at the Palace as the head of the Government. Thus the
dissensions of Moderados and Puro (the Conservatives and Radicals of Mexico) have
terminated for the present in the elevation of an individual towards whom both
parties entertain feelings of dislike and distrust; dan it is one great proof of Santa
Anna's superior energy that, in spite of those feelings, his presence seldom fails to
produce submission. The clergy, whose money dan influence contributed largely to
the recent change, have obtained from Santa Anna the repeal of the late law for the
sale of church property. The church must, however, suffer. Santa Anna has obtained
from Congress authority to raise 20,000,000 dollars, and from no other source than
the ecclesiastical coffers can any efficient aid be obtained. Forced loans are
prescribed as dangerous and inefficacious; taxes are slow in operation, and tend to
exasperate the classes on whom the pressure of the war chiefly falls; Mexican credit
in foreign countries is a jest. The clergy must, therefore, consent to sacrifice a
portion of their property; and, this conceded, the question becomes merely an
arithmetical one, Santa Anna endeavoring to extract as much, and the reverend
body to give as little as possible. Changes of Ministry have become so common here,
as to be scarcely worth recording. Latterly, Gomez Farias could find no one to accept
those appointments, and was obliged to dispense with the assistance of a Cabinet.
Santa Anna has, however, succeeded in forming a Ministry of rather a respectable
character. The War Department is given to General Ignacio Gutierrez, that of Foreign
Affairs to Senor Barans, Justice to Senor Suarez Iriarte (a remnant of the Puros
party), and Finance to Don Juan Rondero. The last appointment is the only one
which will excite any interest in England. In peaceable times I should consider it
favorable to the bondholders. Senor Rondero has never before been in office, but
few men here are more deeply versed in the abstruse mysteries of Mexican finance.
Originally a military man, he retains few traces of that profession, and has long been
closely connected with the monied interest, which he may be considered as
representing in the present Cabinet. For a Mexican, he is unusually sensitive on the
subject of credit, and on the whole I do not think Santa Anna could have made a
better selection.

A note of woe is heard from Vera Cruz. That city, styled "the heroic," as well as the
strong castle of San Juan de Ulloa, are said to have fallen into the hands of the
Americans, after a few days' bombardment by General Scott arrived late in the
season on the coast. The deadly scourge of the vomito appears generally in the
present month; and he has now not a moment to lose in pushing his way to Jalapa,
which he will perhaps not do without opposition. Peurto Nacional and Plan del Rio
have to be passed, and both present natural obstacles to the march of an army. The
former has some fortifications, which have been thought impregnable by the
Mexicans, but fatal experience has shown that they are not likely to prove so to the
Americans. Attacking or attacked, the Mexicans seem fated to be defeated. The
battle of the Angostura was fought chiefly by American volunteers, who are
described in a letter from Saltillo as a most undisciplined rabble; yet Santa Anna, at
the head of his chosen troops, much more than double their number, was compelled
to retreat before them. Already some indication of what is likely to occur have been
shown at Santa Fe, near Vera Cruz, where General Romulo de la Vaya attempted
immediately abandoned by his troops. This officer has acquired an inconvenient sort
of reputation by his conduct at Resaca de Guerrero, where he allowed himself to be
made a prisoner, instead of running away, like the rest, for which Congress voted
him a gold medal, and the most extravagant expectations are entertained of his
future exploits. Santa Anna has obtained permission from Congress to resume the
command of the army, and now goes to undertake the most dangerous of his
campaigns. Of the 25,000 men assembled at San Luis Potosi previous to the battle
of the Angostura, probably not more than half are now in the ranks, and a part of
those must be left to garrison San Luis. With national guards, militia, and volunteers.
Santa Anna may be able to oppose about 15,000 men to General Scott, in the
neighborhood of Jalapa. Not withstanding the dislike Mexicans entertain towards all
foreigners, and the tenacity with which every offer of peace from the Americans has
been rejected, there is little show of warlike enthusiasm here. Every Mexican,
indeed, asserts that the war must be continued; but few are inclined to take any
personal share in the contest, and still fewer contribute to its expenses. A party, too,
exists who desire the subjugation of the country, not from any love to a foreign
yoke, but from disgust at their own internal dissension's, dan a conviction of the
impossibility of their establishing a permanent government amongst themselves.
This party, under the mask of patriotism, will continue to augment the obstacles to
peace, in order that the Americans may be forced to convert their invasion into a
conquest. In the northern provinces the war has already taken the latter form. The
capital of the state of Chihuahua has been occupied by 800 Americans. They were
met by at least 3,000 Mexicans, who abandoned the field on receiving one volley of
artillery. This little band of adventurers is now threatening the populous capital of Durango. A strong American squadron has arrived at Acapulco, and there can be no doubt that all the Mexican ports on the Pacific will fall, like those on the Atlantic, into the hands of the United States.

Santa Anna has been authorized by Congress to name a Deputy President during his absence, in order to exclude Gomez Farias from a return to power.

LT May 12, 1847 5c AMERICA AND MEXICO

The Zurich sailing-packet, Captain Thompson, arrived off Havre on Sunday, the 9th inst., with news from New York up to the 21st ult- the day on which she left that port.

The first in order of importance of the intelligence by this arrival is the conditions of peace submitted to the Mexicans by M. Atocha on the part of the American Government, but which, as will be seen by our Mexican correspondence, were summarily rejected.

These conditions, which first appeared in the journal of Guadalaxara, as a letter from M. Atocha to Gomez Farias and to Rejon, were afterwards copied into the Diario del Gobierno, a Mexican official journal, and reproduced by the journals of New York.

They are as follow:

"A commission shall be named to state the conditions. That commission shall be composed of Messrs. Benton and Buchanan, of a member of American Congress (belonging to the Opposition), and of two Mexican Commissioners. The commission shall assemble in a place to be pointed out by the Mexican Government.

"The United States demand the 26th degree of latitude, from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific, as line of division.

"The United States will pay $15,000,000 for the territory so occupied, engaging themselves solemnly not to make any formal demand for the expenses of the war. These expenses are estimated at $13,000,000 and the United States consequently consider that they pay $28,000,000 for the territory in question.

"The United States guarantee that they will never give their consent for any territory of Mexico or Mexican state, to be annexed to the American Union; and they will equally guarantee the sovereignty of Mexico, more particularly that part of the country that is situated to the south of the 26th degree parallel.

"The United States will place 10,000 men, infantry and cavalry, on the frontier line, to prevent contraband and incursions from the Indians.

"The United States engage themselves to set aside all differences relative to their former demands, for ceded territory, foreign debt, etc.

"A alliance, offensive and defensive, shall be signed between the United States and Mexico, for the purpose of repelling all European intervention in the affairs of America.

"M. Atocha is authorized by the United States Government to agree to conditions of a treaty of peace."

The France Americaine, a French journal published in New York, under the date of the 21st ult., says, in reference to these conditions,-

"Such are, according to the journal of Guadalaxara, the terms laid down by M. Atocha, in a letter written to Gomez Farias and to Rejan. Two months ago the Mexican press would have refused such an insertion, or at least would have accompanied it by the most furious declamations; now the Diario del Gobierno reproduces it without commentary. Through these changes se see assuredly pacific symptoms. If the bases laid down in the communication made by M. Atocha are adopted by the Mexican Government, the line of division formed by the 26th degree
of parallel will cut the Rio Grande almost at its mouth, leaving Point Isabella, Palo-Alto, Resalca de la Palma to the north, and Matameras to the south. Monterey, the pass of the Rinconada, and Saltillo, the field of battle of Buena Vista, would also be comprised within the Mexican limits, but the United States would acquire the superior part of Tamaulipas, and of Nuevo Leon, of Cohahuila, of Durango, and of Sinaloa, with the whole of Upper California, the Sonora and Lower California as far as Cape St. Domingo. Letters from Mexico received by several of our American confreres, announce an early consent to the renewal of negotiations; they affirm also that the victorious army of General Scott could not have reached Jalapa in its march on the capital before the propositions of arrangement were made by Santa Anna. If this be the case, peace is already concluded. The greatest difficulty, as we have said before, exists, not in the solution of territorial questions or indemnities between two countries, but in the prejudicial question of national amour propre, which, hitherto, has destroyed all attempts of pacification. This powerful obstacle once removed, all parties have too much interest in a cessation of hostilities not to make mutual sacrifices to bring about an honorable transaction. At present Mexico has a regular legal administration which may be treated with; but, unhappily, things change so rapidly in this country of revolutions, that we fear tranquility cannot last long; already even the overthrow of Santa Anna is spoken of. A letter Quartermaster Montgomery, written from Monterey to Camargo, reports that General Arista, irritated at the disgrace put upon him by Santa Anna, and, above all, hurt at the different treatment which General Ampudia is the object, has raised 7,000 men, and will march from Zacatecas on the city of Mexico, determined to overthrow the power of Santa Anna and to reinstall Herrera. Santa Anna, at the head of the remainder of his forces, has even marched to meet Arista. We know not what credit this important news merits, but for the interest of the country wish it to be inexact. Santa Anna wishes to finish; the present situation is favorable; a change would be dangerous. It is true that Herrera, Arista's candidate, has formally announced himself in favor of a cessation of hostilities, but a conflict would bring new complications, the least dangerous result of which would be useless and regrettable delays."

The same journal of the 21st ult. states that the Louisville, arrived at New Orleans on the 12th ult., brought recent news from Vera Cruz. The results of expedition to Alvarado was not known on the 2nd of April. There were rumors that General Quitman had met with opposition in his route, but they were not considered to have any foundation in truth. Colonel Hardney, of the 2nd Dragoons, left Vera Cruz on the 2nd of April, to take possession of Antigua, a town about eight miles northward. General Scott was to commence his march in a few days for Puente Nacional, he awaited only sufficient means of transport; he had seized upon all the roads right and left of the city, to insure to himself a free passage for provisions for his forces. General Worth is actively engaged in repressing disorders, and taking measures of police necessary under the circumstances in which the American troops are place. On the 1st of April General Scott issued an order inveighing much against the excesses committed by some soldiers, and calling on officers and soldiers to him in detecting those who so disgrace the American arms. Soldiers are confined to camp unless they have a written permission from their officers.

[TNW]

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LT May 12, 1847 6b THE AFFAIRS OF MEXICO

We have receive from our correspondent in the city of Mexico the following letter, which, although somewhat overdue, is of much interest, as containing a history of the events in Mexico during the campaign of Santa Anna against General Taylor, of which we had previously no account:-

MEXICO, March 1.

The steamer (supposed Tweed) which left Havannah for Vera Cruz on the 9th of February has not arrived, and the most serious apprehensions for her safety are entertained here, particularly as she is known to have had on board no fewer than 80 passengers, many of them from Vera Cruz and this city, who had visited Havannah in consequence of the mercantile difficulties occasioned by the blockade. If she was so unfortunate as to get on the Colorado reef on the night of her departure, when it blew a gale from the north, her fate is probably sealed. Under these circumstances Mr. Bankhead has decided on dispatching an extra mail to Havannah by Her Majesty's steamer Hermes. I avil myself of this occasion to report another of those tumultuous scenes which have become so disgracefully common in the capital of ill-fated Mexico. The law for the appropriation of church property, so perseveringly carried by Gomez Farias, met with a strong opposition in several of the states. In Oaxaca it occasioned an insurrection, in which the troops were defeated by the people, and the authorities, who attempted to enforce the law, deposed. Even
About a fortnight since Senor Atocha, by birth a Spaniard, and by naturalization a citizen of the United States, arrived with dispatches from the Washington, which he was directed to deliver to this Government in person. The Vice-President, after receiving his dispatches, obliged him to leave the city immediately, under military escort, for an estate near Puebla, where he was detained some days. The substance of these communications has not been made public, and it is from rumor only I have learned that they contained proposals which would strip Mexico at once of half her territory, and reduce the remainder to a condition of permanent tutelage under the United States. If the report be well founded, it is not surprising that this Government, even in their present deplorable state, returned, as they are said to have done, a decided negative.

About the same time, the former Confederate general, A. J. Smith, arrived at this place with a large body of armed volunteers, with a view to the suppression of the revolutionary movement in Mexico, and the establishment of a government friendly to the United States. He was accompanied by a large number of American settlers, who had fled from the territory under the old government, and who were determined to establish a new state on the principles of the American Constitution. Smith was received with great enthusiasm by the inhabitants of the city, and was given a triumphal reception by the Mexican authorities. He was intended to act as a sort of protector, or as a military governor, and to exercise supreme authority in all the affairs of the state.

A report has reached this city of the capture of the village of Agua Nueva, eight leagues on this side of Saltillo. This village is situated on a mountain pass, naturally strong, and has been occupied for some time by a small detachment of American troops, who were there for the purpose of preventing the entrance of Mexican troops into the United States. The capture of Agua Nueva is said to have been effected by a force of American troops, who were marching toward Tampico, and who were directed to deliver to this Government in person. The Vice-President, after receiving his dispatches, obliged him to leave the city immediately, under military escort, for an estate near Puebla, where he was detained some days. The substance of these communications has not been made public, and it is from rumor only I have learned that they contained proposals which would strip Mexico at once of half her territory, and reduce the remainder to a condition of permanent tutelage under the United States. If the report be well founded, it is not surprising that this Government, even in their present deplorable state, returned, as they are said to have done, a decided negative.
Late intelligence from Tampico and Tuxpan announced most extensive preparations by the Americans at the "Isla de Lobos" to attack the city and castle of Vera Cruz. The approach of the warm and sickly season leaves them no time to lose in that operation. After the reduction of Vera Cruz they will doubtless push on to Jalapa, and at present there is no force between that place and this capable of seriously resisting their progress. The American forces, which are now closing round Mexico with hydra folds, are also expected to occupy immediately the port of Mazatlan, on the Pacific; and a body of 1,000 men has already marched from Paso del Norte against the capital of Chihuahua.

A few days before the present disturbances commenced, Gomez Farias rented the Mint of this city to a private company for the sum of $174,000 cash down, for a term of ten years. The arrangement, which was sharply contested at public auction, is favorable to the Government, who, through mismanagement and peculation, never gained anything by the Mint, and to the public, who have now a guarantee, which they did not before possess, for the security of their funds in that establishment. By a clause in the agreement the contractors are bound to pay for silver in five, and for gold in eight days after introduction at the Mint. A large part of the sum raised in this way was remitted to Santa Anna, but the Vice-President wisely retained a few thousand dollars, and on such trifles does the existence of Governments in Mexico depend, that without this paltry resource he would probably already have been driven from office.

[TNW]

LT May 12, 1847  6e TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

Sir, I am persuaded you would not do an act of injustice intentionally, and, therefore, that you article of yesterday, on the capture of Vera Cruz, would have been tempered in respect to General Scott, had all his dispatches been before you.

You observe that "the means taken by General Scott to forces the castle of San Juan d'Ulloa to surrender was the destruction of the city of Vera Cruz." and that "the application of the foreign Consuls on the 24th of March for a truce to enable them and the subjects of European powers, together with the Mexican women and children, to leave the city was refused by General Scott."

Now, in respect to the first, so far from the destruction of the city being used as a means to compel the castle to surrender, General Scott, in his summons to the Governor to surrender the city, distinctly excluded the Castle, and even stipulated that "in the event of the surrender of the former he would solemnly engage that not a gun should be fired upon the castle from the city unless the city was first fired upon by the castle."

In respect to the second remark, General Scott, so early as the 13th, sent "safeguards" to all the foreign Consuls, to be used in case they remained in the city, but earnestly intreated them, as well as the Mexican women and children, to leave the city; and, although it was completely invested on all sides, the Consuls and their families had free intercourse with the ships of their respective nations up to the 23rd, and up to that time both they and the Mexican women and children had free permission from General Scott to depart. It does not appear even that he refused the application of the 24th, for he states in his official dispatch that the moment he could reply to it he should state that "a truce could only be granted on the application of Governor with a view to surrender," which application immediately after put a stop to further hostilities.

Whether courtesy in warfare required General Scott to reduce the stronger place first and not to summon or attack the weaker, although that weaker was playing upon his army with its 100 guns, and also affording succour to the stronger, I will leave for military men to determine.

It should be recollected that a general is required to be humane to his own troops as well as to the enemy, that delay would have exposed General Scott's army to "deadly scourge of the vomito," and that he accomplished this arduous and brilliant undertaking with the loss of but 25 men.

With magnanimous moderation General Scott, from the moment of his arrival until his cannon were landed and in position, an interval of many days, forbore from all partial attacks to avoid unnecessary wasted of life; and, although fired upon daily
and nightly by the fort and city, did not return then fire until his means made victory certain, and of which he duly admonished the enemy. General Scott is by no means answerable for the justice of the war; with that he has nothing to do; he is under command, and has to perform the duties of a soldier; but that his character is conspicuous both for gallantry and humanity hundreds of British officers will testify.

Whether firing upon a city, even when strongly fortified, be justifiable, it is not my province to determine; but I will just call to your mind the fact that the first broadside from Lord Exmouth's squadron at Algeirs destroyed a greater number of unoffending, unarmed people, than the bombardment of Vera Cruz.

I am, Sir, your very obedient servant

                  A FRIEND TO GENERAL SCOTT AND AN ENEMY TO WAR.

[TNW]

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**LT May 15, 1847 5b MEXICO**

**EXPRESS FROM LIVERPOOL**

**THE TIMES OFFICE, Saturday Morning.**

**LIVERPOOL, Friday.**

By and extra of the New York journals we have important advices from Mexico.

**VERA CRUZ, April 13**

An express has come down from General Twiggs to the effect that Santa Anna was before him at Cerro Gordo, with 15,000 men, as near as could be judged from a reconnaissance made by Captain Hardy and other officers of dragoons. Lieutenant-Colonel J. E. Johnson had been severely but not mortally wounded while examining Santa Anna's works, which appeared to be a succession of breastworks, on an eminence in the vicinity of Cerro Gordo. Everything would go to show that Santa Anna is determined to make a bold stand. A dragoon, who had been sent down expressly by General Twiggs, was yesterday found shot by the road side, just beyond this, his papers had not been touched. The Mexicans are playing a bloody and at the same time a bolder game than is usual for them, as it is thought they have killed no less than 50 of our men within the last three days on the road.

Major - General Patterson left here with two brigades of volunteers on Friday, and he has no doubt reached the advance before this hour. General Twiggs had between 2,500 and 2,700 men under his command, and I entertain little fear for his safety.

General Patterson marched with Shield's and Pillow's brigades, and all the force except the garrisons of the towns; and Quitman's brigades are either at the scene of action or on the road to it.

An intelligent Mexican told me tonight that there would be no fight, and that Santa Anna had with him four prominent members of the National Congress, with the aid of whom he hoped to negotiate a peace.

[TNW]

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**LT May 15, 1847 5e US war with Mexico**

By advices from Vera Cruz we learn that the whole of the United States forces, under the command of General Scott, were advancing on Mexico. Although the opinion was quite current at Vera Cruz that the Mexicans would not make a stand between that city and the capital, yet there were some who regarded future collisions as certain.

Intelligence had reached Vera Cruz that the Puenta Nacional had been abandoned. This was the point at which, it was expected, the first resistance to the march of the American forces upon the city of Mexico would be made; but though the defense of
this point was given up, it was not certain that the progress of the invading army into the interior would not be disputed at others. Indeed, it was asserted that the forces destined to defend the National Bridge (Puente Nacional) had fallen back a few leagues in the direction of Jalapa to a stronger position, where preparations were being made for a stout defense.

Rumors from Vera Cruz, which are, however, contradicted, state that over 2,000 of the United States troops had been attacked by yellow fever and dysentery. It was proposed to turn the Castle of San Juan d'Ulloa into a receptacle for the sick.

General Taylor was at Walnut Springs, four miles from Monterey. General Wool, with about 6,000 troops, was at Buena Vista. It was rumored that the Mexican General Urrea was at Linares with 2,000 and a corps of artillery.

 Commodore Perry had left Vera Cruz with fleet for the purpose of capturing every Mexican port in the Gulf. Several had already been taken, one south of Alvarado, a fine one, called Tlacotalpal, possessed of nobly sheltered harbors.

The capture of Alvarado without opposition is confirmed.

The New Orleans papers contain news from Mexico to the effect that "rumors from the city of Mexico represented Santa Anna as more intently bent upon war than ever." The reports are not the best authority, in so far as the wishes of Santa Anna are concerned; but they indicate the temper of the public mind, which is as good an index of his purposes as any other.

The adherents of Gomez Farias and of the priests in Mexico had had an engagement, in which the former were completely routed; the latter were aided by Santa Anna.

Other accounts state that Santa Anna was advancing from the capital towards Jalapa, breathing vengeance and refusing pacification.

Our Canadian advices announce that the Parliament had been convened to meet on the 2nd of June.

[TNW]

**LT May 17, 1847 6d MEXICO**

**LIVERPOOL, Friday.**

By and extra of the New York journals we have important advices from Mexico.

**VERA CRUZ, April 13**

An express has come down from General Twiggs to the effect that Santa Anna was before him at Cerro Gordo, with 15,000 men, as near as could be judged from a reconnaissance made by Captain Hardy and other officers of dragoons. Lieutenant-Colonel J. E. Johnson had been severely but not mortally wounded while examining Santa Anna's works, which appeared to be a succession of breastworks, on an eminence in the vicinity of Cerro Gordo. Everything would go to show that Santa Anna is determined to make a bold stand. A dragoon, who had been sent down expressly by General Twiggs, was yesterday found shot by the road side, just beyond this, his papers had not been touched. The Mexicans are playing a bloody and at the same time a bolder game than is usual for them, as it is thought they have killed no less than 50 of our men within the last three days on the road.

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An intelligent Mexican told me tonight that there would be no fight, and that Santa Anna had with him four prominent members of the National Congress, with the aid of whom he hoped to negotiate a peace.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Consulate of the Republic of Mexico, 3, Winchester-buildings, May 20

Sir, I beg to accompany herewith a copy of a communication received from his Excellency

J. M. L. Mora, Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Her Britannic Majesty, which I shall feel greatly obliged if you can find space to publish in your influential journal, as it is of considerable interest to those engaged in commercial affairs with the republic.

I remain, Sir, your most obedient servant,

J. M. MENDOZA.

Mexican Legation at the Court of Her Britannic Majesty, London, May 19.

This Legation, in the fulfillment of a painful but severe duty, has determined that you should notify to the commercial community within the limits of your Consulate the following resolutions.

1. All foreign goods prohibited by the Mexican tariff, and introduce into the ports which the American forces at present occupy, shall be seized at the places where they may be stepped by the Mexican authorities.

2. All goods of free importation into the Mexican ports imported through those which the United States occupy run the risk of being confiscated by the Mexican authorities, or at least, they be made to pay the duties established by the Mexican tariff, although it may be proved that the same imposed by the Americans tariff may have been discharged.

In making this notification, you will endeavor to have it understood that this is one of the consequences of the war, which has not been in any manner provoked by the Mexican Republic, and that even while it has lasted its authorities have abstained from molesting in any way foreign commerce until the American Government, by the violation of her constitution and rights, which Mexico has not lost in her misfortunes, and which belong to every independent nation, has placed her authorities under the necessity of adopting measures against the violation of the said rights by the establishment of the American tariff.

Offering you the assurance of my consideration, &c.,

J.M.L. MORA

Senor General Don J. M. Mendoza,
Mexican Consul in London.

[TNW]

FROM THE NEW ORLEANS DELTA

We are indebted to Captain Hughes, to the Topographical Corps, for much valuable and interesting information relating to the late glorious victory of Cerro Gordo.

On the arrival of the other divisions of the army at the encampment of General Twiggs, on the 16th of April, General Scott, after taking a reconnaissance of the enemy's works determined to storm them. The position occupied by the enemy was
regarded by them as impregnable, and truly, to any other than American soldiers it must have appeared as insurmountable and impracticable undertaking to carry it by storm or turn it by strategy.

The road from Vera Cruz, as it passes the Plan del Rio which is a wide, rocky bed of a once large stream, is commanded by a series of high cliffs, rising one above the other, and extending several miles, and all well fortified. The road then debouches to the right, and curving around the ridge passes over a high cliff, which is completely enfiled by forts and batteries. This ridge is the commencement of the Terra Templada, the upper or mountainous country- the right flank of the position- and a series of most abrupt and apparently impassable mountains and ridges covered their left. Between these points, running a distance of two or three miles, a succession of strongly fortified forts bristled at every turn and seemed to defy all bravery and skill. The Cerro Gordo commanded the road on a gentle declination like a glacis for nearly a mile. An approach in that direction would have been the most entire annihilation of our army. But the enemy expected such as attack, calculating upon the desperate valor of our men, and believing that it was impossible to turn their position to the right or left. General Scott, however, with the eye of a skilful general, perceive the trap set for him and determined to avoid it. He therefore had a road cut to the right so as to escape the front fire from the Cerro and to turn his positions to the left flank. This movement was known to the enemy by a deserter from our camp, and consequently a large increase of force under General Vega was sent to the forts on their left. General Scott, to cover his flank movements, on the 17th of April ordered forward General Twiggs against the steep ascent in front and a little to the left of the Cerro. Colonel Harney commanded this expedition, and at the head of the rifles and some detachments of infantry and artillery carried this position in front and near the enemy's strongest fortifications; and having by incredible labor elevated one of our large guns to the top of the fort, General Scott prepared to follow up his advantages. A demonstration was made from this position against another strong fort in the rear and near the Cerro, but the enemy were considered too strong and the undertaking was abandoned. A like demonstration was made by the enemy.

On the next day, the 18th, General Twiggs was ordered forward from the position he had already captured against the fort which commanded the Cerro. Simultaneously an attack on attack on the fortifications on the enemy's left was to be made by Generals Shields's and Worth's division, who moved in separate columns, while General Pillow advanced against the strong forts and difficult ascents on the right of the enemy's position. The enemy, fully acquainted with General Scott's intended movement, had thrown large bodies of men into the various positions to be attacked. The most serious enterprise was that of Twiggs, who advanced against the main fort that commanded the Cerro. Nothing can be conceived more difficult than this undertaking. The steep and rough character of the ground, the constant fire of the enemy in front, and the crossfire of the forts and batteries which enfilrated our lines, made the duty assigned to General Twiggs on the surpassing difficulty. Nothing prevented our men from being utterly destroyed but the steepness of the ascent under which they could shelter. But they sought no shelter, and on ward rushed against a hailstorm of balls and musket shot, led by the gallant Harney, whose noble bearing elicited the applause of the whole army. His conspicuous and stalwart frame at the head of the brigade, he long arm waving his men on to the charge, his sturdy voice ringing above the clash of arms and din of conflict, attracted the attention and admiration alike of the enemy and the army. On, on the led the columns, whose front lines melted before the enemy's fire like snow flakes in a terrant, and stayed not their course until, leaping over the rocky barriers and bayonetting their gunners, they drove the enemy pell-mell from the front, delivering a deadly fire in to their ranks from their own guns as they hastily retired. This was truly a gallant deed, worthy of the Chevalier Bayard of our army, as the intrepid Harney is well styled. General Scott, between whom and Colonel Harney there had existed some coolness, rode up to the Colonel after this achievement and remarked to him, "Colonel Harney, I cannot now adequately express my admiration of your gallant achievement; but at the proper time I shall take great pleasure in thanking you in proper terms." Harney, with the modesty of true valor, claimed the praise as due to his officers and men. Thus did the division of the gallant veteran Twiggs carry the main position of the enemy and occupy the fort which commanded the road. It was here the enemy received their heaviest loss, and their general, Vasquez, was killed. A little after, General Worth having by great exertions passed the steep and craggy heights on the enemy's left, summoned a strong fort on the rear of the Cerro to surrender. This fort was manned by a large force under General Pinzou, a mulatto officer of considerable ability and courage, who, seeing the Cerro carried, thought prudent to surrender, which he did with all his force. General Shields was not so fortunate in the battery which he attacked, and which was commanded by General La Vega. A heavy fire was opened on him, under which the fort was carried with some loss by the gallant Illincisians, under Burnett. Among those who fell under this fire was the gallant general, who received a grape shot through his lungs, by which he was completely paralyzed, and at the last accounts was in a lingering state. On
the enemy's right General Pillow commenced the attack against the strong forts near the river. The Tennesseans, under Haskill, led the column, and the other volunteer regiments followed. The column unexpectedly encountered a heavy fire from a masked battery, by which Haskill's regiment was nearly cut to pieces, and the other volunteer regiments were severely handled. General Pillow withdrew his men and was preparing for another attack when the operations at the other points having proved successful the enemy concluded to surrender.

Thus the victory was complete and four generals and about 6,000 were taken prisoners by our army, and one of their principal generals and a large number of other officers killed. The Mexican force on this occasion certainly exceeded our own. The Mexican officers admitted that Santa Anna had 8,000 men in the lines, and 6,000, including, 2,000 lancers, outside of the entrenchments. General Scott's force was about 8,000, General Quitman's brigade not having arrived in time to take part in the engagement. General Ampudia was second in command of the Mexicans and superintended the operations of the energy. When the Cerro was carried he was seen retreating on a fine white charger, his hat falling off as he galloped away. Many of the Mexicans escaped by a bye path which runs off from the main road between the Cerro and the fort carried by General Worth. As to Santa Anna and Canalizo, they retreated in time to escape by the main road. Their conduct is regarded as most cowardly. Some of the Mexican officers who were taken prisoners do not hesitate to attribute their defeat to the cowardice of Santa Anna. The force of the enemy was composed of their best soldiers. The infantry that fought so well at Buena Vista, all the regular artillerists of the Republic, including several able naval officers, were present. Some of the officers whom General Scott released at the capitulation of Vera Cruz, without extorting the parole on account of their gallantry, were found among the killed and wounded. A gallant young officer, named Halzinger, a German by birth, who extorted the admiration of our army in the bombardment of Vera Cruz by seizing a flag which was cut down by our balls and holding it up in his hands until a staff could be prepared, had been released by General Scott without parole. He was found among the desperately wounded at Cerro Gordo. The enemy's loss was about as large as our own; but in addition to this the loss of some 6,000 prisoners and some of their best officers. Our army captured about 30 pieces of beautiful brass cannon of large caliber and mostly manufactured at the Royal Foundry of Seville. A large quantity of fixed ammunition of very superior quality was also taken. The private baggage and money chest of Santa Anna, containing $20,000 was also captured. The latter was delivered over to the Pay department. The volunteers who were employed in carrying the specie into camp cracked many a joke over the prospect of being seen paid off in Mexican cola and free of expense to Uncle Sam.

When our forces had carried the various positions of the enemy and the road was cleared, General Twiggs started in hot pursuit of the fugitive Santa Anna and pressed close upon his heels. A strong position, five miles west of Cerro Gordo, fortified and defended by a battery of long brass guns, was abandoned by the enemy and occupied by our troops. General Twiggs bivouacked within three miles of the town of Jalapa.

In concluding our imperfect sketch of this brilliant achievement, we cannot sufficiently express our admiration of the extraordinary deeds of our gallant army and able general. Scarcely a month has elapsed since our troops under Scott landed on the enemy's shores. In that time a strong walled city has been captured, together with an impregnable fortress; a pitched battle has been fought under the most unfavorable circumstances and against the most formidable natural defenses; 12,000 prisoners have been taken, including some half a dozen general officers; 500 splendid cannon and an immense amount of munitions of war have been added to the national trophies. Truly, such results are glorious testimonials of the valor of our soldiers, and the perseverance of the accomplished general who led them.

[TNW]

LT May 31, 1847 5b Capture of Tuxpan

"Since the sailing of the last steamer, on the 1st of May, we have had late and highly important news from our invading Mexican army. From the northern part of Mexico, in the region of Chihuahua, we have learned that our small force of only 900 men, under Colonel Doniphan, had overrun an immense territory, and that on the 1st of March he took formal possession of Chihuahua, one of the most important Mexican cities. The war in that quarter seems to be closed by a treaty which the American commander has made with the Mexican authorities, by which the latter agree to protect the American traders and property, and to remain neutral until the close of the war.
"From General Scott's division of our army we have the most gratifying news. After placing Vera Cruz in the hands of a proper Government, General Scott left at once for the city of Mexico. A battle took place on the heights of Cerro Gordo, on the 18th of April, with an army commanded by General Santa Anna, in which the Mexicans were wholly cut to pieces. General Scott marched on to Perote, where he arrived on the last of April. The best opinion, in relation to the future movement of the American army is, that General Scott will now abandon his line of communication with Vera Cruz, and, pushing on to the capital, will depend, in a great measure, upon the resources of the country for support. As a large number of troops are now en route for Vera Cruz, this movement is not so dangerous as it appears at the first glance, for we shall soon have at Vera Cruz an army to reinforce him and render his position secure. When the news of the battle at Cerro Gordo reached the city of Mexico, the greatest excitement was created, but instead of a disposition for peace the reverse was the case, and at no time have the Mexican Congress, the press, or the people, been more warlike in their declarations than at the present. Mr. Bankhead, the British Minister at Mexico, is reported to have offered his mediation, and the Mexican Congress was said to be engaged in debating the expediency of accepting it at the last advices. The Mexican Government may soon be brought to think the case one in which mediation may be proper, and the Government of the United States will probably be more willing to hear of such mediation than they were a year ago. The war is unpopular and expensive, and all the glory of it goes to the Whig Generals, and not to the Administration, as was expected. General Scott, probably, by this time is at the capital of Mexico. General Taylor ( who was at Saltillo, on the 14th of April ) will join him, via San Luis Potosi, as soon as he is reinforced.

"The war, in all its departments is now carried on with vigor and efficiency, and while Mexico daily grows weaker, we each day are better able to contend with her. A large number of the one year volunteers are on the way home, their time having expired. This, however, does not materially affect the strength of the army, as the places of those leaving are easily supplied as soon as the vacancies occur. On all sides the most complete success has attended the American arms, but thus far no apparent effect has been in our possession it will then be seen what course the Mexicans will pursue. With an American squadron blockading its entire seacoast, an American garrison in its chief towns, and under a custom house of our making, it would seem impossible that much resistance can be made to a settlement of our claims upon the terms we the power to secure."

[TNW]
at the capital the defeat of the General had created the greatest alarm. Puebla was threatened. Santa Anna, with from 1,000 to 2,000 troops, was at Orazaba, and it is said, had written to the capital for money and reinforcements. His applications are said to have been unattended to. He contemplated the institution of a guerrilla warfare upon the enemy. At the capital no preparations for defense of any moment were being made. Gomez Farias had been deposed from the Vice-Presidency by a congressional ruse; the office he bore having been annihilated, and afterwards revived under another title and conferred upon Don Pedro Marie de Annaya. The dates from the capital extend to the 24th of April, and from Vera Cruz to the 29th.

Europe will be tired of a campaign in which conquests bring no particle of credit, and fighting no prospect of peace, and in which it is equally impossible to applaud the victors or commiserate the vanquished. The intelligence from America which we published yesterday corresponds so exactly with the information to be expected that it might all have been printed by prophesy a fortnight ago. After establishing a provisional Government in Vera Cruz, General Scott took the route to Mexico by the ordinary road, which slopes in a north westerly direction along the ascent from the low lands of the Gulf coast to the tierras templadas of the first plateau. He passed the Puente Nacional without opposition, though it has always been considered as one of the most defensible posts on the route. Santa Anna had not descended so far, but had taken up a position at Cerro Gordo, a mountain ridge about half way between the Antigua and Xalapa, the first respectable town on the road from Vera Cruz to the capital. Travelers have described this journey as an undertaking of no insignificant enterprise, even with the aid of the best diligencias of the country; but the American troops appear to have advanced pretty smoothly til they found themselves in front of their enemy on the 12th of April. Santa Anna was posted with about 14,000 men on some heights which commanded the main road like a glacie, and from which he could have poured a storm of balls into the advancing columns. After two reconnaissances, however, the "trails" of which are minutely laid down in the American journals, General Scott determined on the 18th to turn the left flank of the enemy; a service on which Generals Shield and Worth immediately proceeded, while General Pillow occupied his attention on the right. Simultaneously with these attacks General Twiggs was ordered against the main batteries in the center, a charge which proved more serious than the other two; but after some resistance and some loss he succeeded in carrying the position. Meantime Worth had experience no further difficulties than those presented by the nature of the ground and was favored with immediate surrender of his opponent as soon as he could get near enough for a summons; but Shield received a grape shot through the lungs from a battery in front, though the latest advices speak of his recovery as still possible. General Pillow on the right actually experienced a repulse, and was preparing a renewed attack after some serious losses, when the events on the left and center induced a general surrender. The killed and wounded are said to be about equal on either side, but the Mexicans lost 6,000 prisoners, including four generals.

Santa Anna is said to have decamped in good time, leaving his carriage, like Joseph's as Vittoria, to the spoil of his pursuers, who, in place of Murillos and Correggios, discovered the more appreciable treasure of some highly flavored Cubas and an excellent stock of preserved meats. Ampudia, the second in command, left the field early without his hat, on a splendid white charger, as conspicuous as that of Roderick the Goth. The Commander in Chief is reported to be at Orizaba, a town just under the great Peak of that name, whence he has issued a proclamation, stating that there is "another Thermopile" between Xalapa and Mexico. The Americans were politely received by the " corporation and civil authorities" at Xalapa, and have pushed on to Perote, from which town they will march on La Puebla and so to the capital; General Taylor, as is rumored, having been ordered to effect a junction with the main body by a southward march from San Luis.

There is not much doubt but that the Americans can march to Mexico, and could have done so some time ago. Santa Anna could certainly operate on their flank from his post at Orizaba, if he had the proper means or motives; and if, as is stated, the Mexicans are positively preparing for some real resistance at La Puebla, another affair might ensue. But we presume that few of our readers will put much faith in the determination or patriotism of the invaded nation. New Spain is as like Old Spain as ever a child was like a parent. If the Mexicans had but been blessed with a little Baylen, the whole scene would be a wonderful representation of the Peninsula in 1800. They vapor and brag, and boast and fume, without the smallest apparent sense of their daily discomfiture's. Their papers and proclamations are filled with predictions of future victories, to the utter exclusion of present defeats. As far as
words, and perhaps, even as far as resolutions go, they are all daring and defiant, and yet they never adopt an ordinary precaution or abide in ordinary shock. At this moment, by as extempore revolution in the capital, they have displaced Gomez Farias and exalted Don Pedro Araya to a newly created office of "President substitute," with absolute power for everything except the conclusion of a peace. To read their various manifestoes, no person could possibly conceive that they were any other than the most warlike and unconquerable nation under Heaven. The confidence of Varro after Cannac altogether vanishes compared with the complacency of Santa Anna after eighteen settled defeats within thirteen months. De republic non desperasse, indeed! Why, if this is fortitude the Mexicans are infinitely more courageous than even those contagious islanders of the Caribbean, whose only historical fault is being "really too brave." And the extraordinary point of the story is, that these assertions of intrepidity and patriotism do actually appear both universal and sincere. There is no peace party at Mexico. The voice of all is for open war. There is no terrorism; people are not driven to patriotism by the guillotine and the gallows as at Saragossa and Barcelona. With one accord and one heart they proclaim their own invincible determination never to surrender, and yet they never face an enemy for a moment, and now, when he is at the gates of their capital, they are neither fortifying nor arming, and will probably be found without a cannon mounted or a battalion mustered. All this, however, but aggravates the difficulty of the Americans. They neither want to capture the towns nor chastise the population. They want the Mexican nation to ratify a bargain, pronounce a free consent, and resign a quiet possession; and the patriotic obstinacy which precludes this arrangement is precisely that to which the Mexicans are equal. The American journals admit that the most complete success of their arms have produced no visible effect on the temper of the invaded people, and it is but little further that these successes can now possibly go. The Americans have already got all the sea coast, the customs, the chief forts, and the chief towns, and, while we write, they have probably got the metropole, of their victims. They have dispersed their armies, captured their generals, and destroyed their material; but it is confessed that "the war seems about as far from its close as when it started;" and it is now to be seen what force will be brought to bear against a people whose self sufficiency suffers by no discomfiture, whose delusions are dispelled by no defeats, and who can dispense with a Government, a capital, or a coast, as easily as with character or credit.

LT June 15, 1847 4f The Conquest of Mexico

The conquest of Mexico is a familiar story, even to our childhood. The city of gold, of idols, and of human hecatombs, the reckless Cortez, the unfortunate Montezuma, and a rich and populous empire overthrown by a handful of foreign adventurers, excite by turns the wonder, the admiration, the sympathy, and the ambition of our nature. It will sometimes occur, "Would that we lived in those days! How did the world receive the successive reports of those incredible events?" We can scarcely expand our minds to the breadth of expectation which the discovery and the conquest of a new world must have universally raised. Perhaps, however, many who have indulged in these reflections are entirely unaware that after three centuries that history, to a wonderful coincidence, is acted over again. At this moment the very path of Cortez is trodden by men who, if they present some strange contrasts, are not less heroic, not less confident in the infallible fortune of their cause, than the famed Conquestador. The flag of republicanism supplies the place of the cross, whose reign the Spanish cavaliers chose to believe themselves divinely commissioned to enlarge. The prevailing destiny of the Union is an article of faith across the Atlantic, and one for which many a citizen would rejoice to be a martyr. Such is the spirit and such are the men who are making their way with only a shadow of opposition from Vera Cruz to Mexico. Such is the enterprise of which every three or four days now brings us fresh tidings.

Hitherto the Mexicans have represented rather the conquerors from whom they are really descended. On their side it has been all defiance, obstinacy, and rashness. The notes of preparation have been loud, and the threats sanguinary. At the moment when these promises should be realized the bubble seems to burst. After the stand at Monterey there has scarcely been anywhere a resistance worthy of an independent nation. The impregnable St. Juan d'Ulloa was no sooner known to be invested than tidings of his capture arrived. Even where courage was not wanting, Mexico could not give it the means of resistance. Since that, every fresh occasion has proved both the incapacity of the State and the degeneracy of its chiefs. The battles of Buena Vista and Cerro Gordo have proved that whatever the numbers, there is not the strength or the morale in the Mexican Republic to maintain an effectual war of defense. City after city, Tampico, Tuxpan, Matamoros, Monterey, Vera Cruz, and last of all Jalapa, are in the quiet occupation of the enemy. At the last
date General Scott was advancing a portion of his army to Puebla, on the road to
Mexico; while another division had occupied Perote on the parallel route. Judging
from the past, and from the prudence which seems all along to have guided the
invaders, nothing is more probable than that the few days’ march still intervening
has long since been passed, and that Winfield Scott is now issuing his appeals to the
peaceful tastes and republican sympathies of the Mexicans from the city of
Montezuma.

As for the Mexicans, one is almost tempted to ask by what accident of birth or of
circumstances they exhibit so grotesque a character in so serious a drama. Last year
they were standing out for empire and for honor. This year they fight for nationality
and independence. But how are they now meeting an occasion which usually brings
out all the powers and all the virtues of man? Pomposity and weakness, truculence
and cowardice, are the chief varieties of the scene. Armies disappear with a
suddenness and completeness which make it doubtful whether they ever existed,
except in the bombast of manifestos. The Commander in Chief is a man whose only
power seems to be that of raising expectations which he is the last to fulfill. Himself
a deceiver, he is deceived in return. The State which chose him for lack of a better,
does not really trust him. While the war rages in the frontiers and shores, and
penetrates into the provinces, over the outer circle of those vast natural barriers that
surround the capital, that city is divided, harassed, and weakened by civil strife.
Battles and revolutions, the presence of an invading army, and the conflict of
domestic factions are too much for any nation. Mexico bids fair to exhibit one of
those tremendous catastrophes which stand out horribly distinct in the annals of
human calamity. Santa Anna and his colleagues are not men to be deterred by any
consideration of social consequences. His present object seems skin to that of the
desperado who blows up his stronghold as the assailants enter. He wished to involve
the conqueror and the conquered in a common ruin. The proclamation of a guerrilla
warfare, giving authority to every score ruffians to concert their own plans, to make
their own attacks, to compel the cooperation of the unwilling, to murder all the
Americans they can find, of whatever age or condition, is the act of one who gives
up honorable war, and would efface or eclipse the memory of his failures by a
mutual and universal massacre. It is impossible to say how the plan of a guerrilla
warfare will work; but Santa Anna is still near enough to his antagonist to cause him
serious annoyance on his road to the capital.

There, as we are credibly informed, has just occurred one of the those acts of
absurdity which can give an air of the ludicrous to the most gloomy conjuncture. The
Mexican Congress has been gravely discussing whether it should now accept the
mediation of the British Government proffered many months since, and then
contemptuously declined. They who thought the matter could be so easily reopened
realize as little the meaning of mediation as they appear to do the meaning of war.
This proposal was gravely discussed, and stoutly declined, not as being useless, but
an attempt upon the sacred liberties of the Republic!

The prospects of the Americans are not without their gloom, both far and near. As
they approach the capital, their army melts away. War even with Mexicans takes its
quota. Garrisons and communications make heavy draughts. The summer must now
begin to tell. Though the advancing columns have now passed the tier client, where
the vomit is an annual scourge, and is now in the tier template among snow
capped mountains and elevated plains, yet the reinforcements have to encounter all
the perils of a summer's march through a tropical climate. Meanwhile a more serious
cause is draining the army at the crisis when it most wants men. The volunteers are
returning, as their period of service expires. As in the ancient wars between England
and Scotland, victory appears to be more dangerous that defeat. In these good old
days of amateur warfare, no sooner did the licensed marauder touch the spoil, than
he sought occasion to return and enjoy it by his own fireside. In this way the largest
armies and the most successful expeditions would suddenly melt away, and prizes
do more harm than panic. Whether it be of glory or of spoil, the American volunteers
are, it appears, soon satiated. This is no pleasant circumstance for a General
plunging into the heart of a bitterly hostile country. But grant that he arrives at
Mexico. That is only the beginning of troubles. What is he to do with his conquest?
How is he to render so light, so fickle, and disorderly a people faithful either as
tributaries, or allies, or even as brethren and members of the Union?

[TNW]

LT June 15, 1847 6e THE AFFAIRS OF MEXICO

June 15, 1847
The easy reduction of Vera Cruz and the Castle of San Juan d'Ulloa by General Scott excited some alarm here, but it was remembered that the invaders could not long remain on the coast without feeling the effects of the climate, and should they attempt an advance to Jalapa, the natural obstacles of the country, defended by the Mexican valour, would, it was hoped, insure their destruction. With his usual activity Santa Anna hurried from San Luis Potosi a part of the troops who had so lately returned from Saltillo, and completing his force with levies here, in Puebla, and Jalapa, marched to the scene of action, his nativo spot, of which he possesses the most intimate knowledge, and where many of his campaigns have been fought. He placed General Morales under arrest for the surrender of Vera Cruz, and did not hesitate to proclaim that he was himself about to efface the stain on the Mexican arms caused by the loss of that city. Choosing his ground with judgment, he retired the troops from Puente Nacional, and concentrated his whole force, of from 10,000 to 12,000 men, at the stronger position of Cerro Gordo, nearer Jalapa. He there fortified himself with diligence, and in a few days communicated to this Government that his preparations for defense were complete. Considering his position impregnable, he stated that no more men or artillery were requisite, but, as usual, he strongly urged the Government to send him a fresh supply of money. On the 19th a courier arrived with news that the Americans had attacked Cerro Gordo on the 17th, and, according to Santa Anna's account, had been repulsed with severe loss. This was considered a good beginning, but Anaya, the acting President, refrained from celebrating it as a victory, and the result confirmed his prudence in this city that on the 18th the Mexican army had been driven at the point of bayonet from all their intrenchments, and totally routed. General Canalizo, who communicated the defeat to Government, fled from the field at the head of the cavalry, and the infantry was understood to be near all killed or prisoners. Of Santa Anna for some days nothing certain was known, except that he had escaped with life, and some parties began to entertain hopes that the country would be relieved from his presence. He has since addressed the Government from Orizaba, where he states that he is again levying men; but, General Scott having detached some troops in that direction, he is not said to have retired to Tehuacan, on the road to Oaxaca, and if affairs become wholly desperate, can withdraw to the neighboring republic of Guatemala. The American forces have since occupied the castle of Perote (which was abandoned by the Mexicans), about 12 leagues from Jalapa in this direction, and their advanced guard is at Tepeyahuacalco, 8 leagues farther. The important city of Puebla, the second of the Republic, and the only one between Perote and this capital, can now be taken whenever General Scott thinks proper. Puebla has been called "the unconquered," and in the civil contests of Mexico has generally maintained a high reputation. But the Poblanos, in common with other Mexicans, begin to find out that the present war is totally different from skirmishes which they were accustomed to dignify with that name. They perceive, also, that resistance to the superior arms and resolution of the invaders would only produce the destruction of the city, and they have, therefore, determined not to resist. Puebla will open her gates at the first summons.

At this awful crisis of the national affairs Congress act with their usual absurdity. They have given the Executive unlimited authority to carry on the war, but strictly deprived it of the power of making peace. It has been also decreed, that if this city should be taken by the Americans, the Government may establish itself elsewhere, and that Congress shall be represented by a committee in attendance on the wandering Executive. In the same vein, the Governor of the city (Trigueros) has published a proclamation, in which he reminds the populace that they are descendants of the Aztecs, and that their highest pleasure should be to present to their wives and children the bloody hands which have torn out the entrails of a Yankee! These documents serve to amuse the loungers at the corners of the streets, but fail to excite any spirit of resistance amongst the people. The lower orders listen with apathetic indifference, and in the houses of the higher preparations for a retreat to their distant estates are already observable. Ancient coaches are brought forth from their hiding places, and the ponderous accumulation of luggage with which a Mexican family travels may be seen piled in their court-yards, ready for immediate departure. Various schemes have been suggested for the defense of this city, but all impracticable, and it is evident that no resistance will be offered. General Scott has more to fear from his own followers than from the Mexicans. In all the northern districts the conduct of the American Volunteers has become insupportable to the inhabitants, who, it is whispered, have already taken bloody revenge in New Mexico. In Coahulia and Nuevo Leon, General Wool's force is bitterly complained of, and General Taylor has excited severe contributions in both those states and Tamaulipas, under the name of reprisals for the destruction of his convoys by General Urrea. Subdued as the Mexican peasantry now appear, and inefficient as they have proved in the field, they may yet be provoked by these acts of violence and oppression to a retaliation of which the invaders deem them incapable.

When their capital shall fall into the hands of the Americans, it will be seen whether the Mexican authorities retain their present obstinate aversion to negotiate for
peace. Should they do so, no alternative will remain to General Scott but a military occupations of the country—a task by no means easy, in consequence of its immense extent. The mediation of Great Britain in this quarrel was offered to Mexico some five months ago, and allowed to remain unanswered. The desperate situation of affairs has now brought that offer to the tardy recollection of Congress, and there seems to be some disposition to accept it, thought reluctantly, as they cannot divest themselves of the idea that by doing so the national dignity would be compromised. If peace is to be obtained by any other means than an American conquest, a mediator will be necessary, for the demands of the United States will now be high, and the Mexicans are not yet prepared to yield anything. The fall of a nation by the fate of war is a spectacle to excite pity, but here that feeling is necessarily mixed with a large portion of contempt. The Mexicans have behaved worse in the field than the Chinese, to whom they are wholly inferior in political sagacity. Their last chance of success in a contest with the United States disappeared when the Oregon question was adjusted with Great Britain, and they should have seized that moment to remove every source of discord with their powerful and ambitious neighbor.

A new tariff for the Mexican ports and territories occupied by the United States has just been received here from Washington, and has given great satisfaction to the mercantile portion of the community. The existing Mexican tariff has been followed in some respects, but the duties are much reduced, and all monopolies, as well as the oppressive transit and internal duties, which weighed so heavily on commerce under the Mexican regulations, are abolished. All duties, however, are required to be paid in cash, and the privilege of bonding goods is not conceded.

In consequence of pulci events, exchange by this packet has been unsteady, opening at 42 ½d., then rising to 43d., at which the principal transactions were effected, and closing at 44d.

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**LT June 17, 1847 5b THE CITY OF MEXICO**

June 16, 1847

Conspicuous among the beauty and magnificence of the city of Mexico is the Main Plaza. It covers an area of 12 acres, paved with marble, forming one of the most beautiful promenades in the world. On every side of this great square, magnificent and costly public buildings are situated. On one side is seen the spacious cathedral, which extends the whole length of another side. The cathedral is erected on the site of the great idol temple of the Aztecs, and the Government palace on the ground of the palace of the great Montezuma. The amount of wealth in the cathedral is incredible. The altar is covered with plates of massive silver, and beautified with ornaments of massive gold. The balustrade enclosing the altar extends a length of 100 feet, and is made of a massive composition of gold, silver and copper, the value of which is exceedingly great. Statues, vases, and candlesticks, of gigantic size are scattered throughout the building; and when we know that there, too, are made from precious metals, we can form an idea of the immense wealth of this cathedral. There are about 80 churches in addition to the cathedral, richly ornamented with gold, silver, and precious stones, and it is supposed that the wealth which is exhibited in this manner is nothing to the immense treasures that are kept in concealment by the priests. The city of Mexico can also boast of a splendid theatre or opera house, which was erected at an immense cost, and is capable of seating 10,000 persons comfortably. On the western side of the city is another square of 45 acres, with a fountain in the centre. It is laid out into pleasant walks, and much frequented in the evening as a promenade. The city of Mexico, like the city of New York, has its fashionable drive—its Third Avenue. We must, however, acknowledge that our Third Avenue cannot be compared to it for beauty and extent. Some idea of its extent may be formed from the fact that it is one mile wide, on which the most splendid carriages, in innumerable numbers, may be seen every evening. It is not unusual to see 7,000 or 8,000 horsemen and 2,000 carriages on it at the same time. This is a faint description of the city of Mexico, now probably in possession of the American troops. When we reflect on its beauty and magnificence, we are not at all surprised that the enemy preferred to allow our army to occupy it without making any resistance, for if it were bombarded in the same way as Vera Cruz was the damage could never be remedied. We are as much surprised, however, when we consider the wealth of the churches, that the priesthood who have a controlling influence on the public mind of that country, could have allowed our army to march into it, that they did not direct their influence towards peace. But so it is. Mexico, the capital of the republic, is probably now in our hand.—New York Herald.

[AMA]
LT June 17, 1847 6f PARTIZAN WARFARE IN MEXICO

June 17, 1847

There is too often much reason to apprehend that in the present posture of affairs in Mexico the war is about to assume a most sanguinary and vindictive character on both sides, unless prompt measures be adopted to arrest its present tendency. Should hostilities continue, they will consist on the one side, at least, of a series of barbarous and revolting murders. In the highways and byways our men will be cut off by the ranchero’s lasso and the assassin’s knife. It is essential to the honour of our country that this barbarous example be not imitated by us. We owe it to our own character and the position we hold in the rank of Christian nations, to witness our abhorrence for this murderous system, by abstaining from it practice. It is difficult to restrain our impetuous soldiery from avenging the blood of their comrades spilled treacherously and fouly, but that restraint must be exercised. In such a large army as we have now in Mexico, there must necessarily be a great number of men regardless of all restraint, save that exercised over them by the discipline of the service. It is vain to attempt to disguise that many atrocities have already been committed by such men attached to the army in Mexico, and that, notwithstanding the measures taken by the two commanding generals to control them. It is hard that the glory of our arms should be tarnished by such barbarities, which, however, it but just to add, are fewer than in any army, equal in number, ever engaged by any other nation in foreign service. But while the murderous system now pursued by the Mexicans is to be avoided on our part, it is nevertheless indispensable that a stop should be put to the butchery of our troops. For this purpose orders are about to be issued to our generals to give notice to the Mexicans, that for every soldier assassinated, a number of Mexican prisoners of war, say two or three, will be put to death by the sentence of a court-martial. This system of retaliation cannot be deemed unreasonable, and the mode of carrying it into execution will divest it of all appearance of haste or passion, and give it the character of dignified retribution. It is a most melancholy alternative, but is unavoidable. The letters from the captured cities in Mexico represent the soldiers as practicing many acts of gross licentiousness on the persons of unoffending Mexican citizens. I understand that it is intended to curb effectually this licentiousness, as far as there is a possibility of doing so, by the maintenance of strict discipline. We do not war with the unarmed population of Mexico, and, as far as the discipline of the service goes, it is intended to stretch it for the purpose of enforcing the observance of a proper respect for the rights of non-combatants and women, in all the cities coming under our rule. Complaints have already been made of some officers of inferior grade, not only countenancing in others, but themselves guilty of offering indignities of Mexican citizens. It is determined to degrade such officers from their rank, if convicted of the offence with which they stand charged.--New York Herald.

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LT June 28, 1847 6b THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO

The recent advices from Mexico have changed the whole face of relations of the two countries. It is reported that Herrera has been elected president of the Mexican republic. If so, he has been elected as a peace president by the peace party, aided silently by those who are openly advocates for a continuation of the war. If Herrera has been elected, as is reported, negotiations will, probably, be at once resumed, and a declaration of peace is not far off. We, however, have our doubts relative to the truth of the report. It is not impossible that such is the fact; but it is highly improbable. We fear it is too good to be true. The clergy of Mexico have for some time past, in fact since the commencement of the war, been very bitter in their denunciation of the Yankees, and very much opposed to peace, almost in any shape and upon any terms. The people of Mexico are ruled by the clergy, and it is, therefore, proper to infer that the masses were in favour of the war, because the priests were so. It is the Congress that elects the President of that Republic; that body, it by no means follows that the people will submit, or that it may not produce another revolution. The election of Santa Anna appeared to be, at the latest dates, entirely out of the question. From the efforts he was making to secure votes, we should judge that he was very doubtful of his success. There has been, for some time past, a class of citizens in Mexico anxious for peace, and we have no doubt the peace party has rapidly increased in strength and influence since the capture of the principal cities of the republic. This party has been for some time much stronger than appeared on its face, as there are no doubt many citizens of that republic
secretly striving to establish peace between the two countries, who are openly advocating war to the death. Of all classes of citizens in Mexico whose interests would be increased and advanced by an immediate peace, we should think the clergy is the most important. Nearly all the resources of the Mexican Government to carry on the war must be derived from the church—the whole brunt of the contest falls upon the clergy; their property will be sacrificed without accomplishing the result required, and they are expending their treasure in vain. The best policy of the church is to use its influence to bring about a speedy peace. If there was the slightest chance of making a successful resistance at any point—if there was any possibility of preventing the progress of the Yankees by furnishing funds to raise troops, it would be proper and just; but the clergy are the most enlightened class of Mexicans, and they know very well that a continuation of war is only plunging their country deeper and deeper into misery, and exterminating as fast as possible their people. It is our most fervent wish that no report of Herrera's election may be confirmed.—New York Herald.

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LT June 29, 1847 6b ARRIVAL OF THE HIBERNIA

The British and North American Royal mail steam ship Hibernia, Captain Ryrie, arrived in the Mersey, as anticipated, at 9 o'clock this morning, after a rapid run of less than 12 days from Boston, bringing the usual mails of the 16th and 18th inst., from Boston and Halifax respectively, and upwards of 120 passengers.

Our accounts from New York by this arrival extend to the 15th instant. Politically they are highly interesting. The aspect of the war remained unchanged. On the one hand the American forces were advancing successfully from Puebla on the capital; and on the other, the Mexicans were involved in ignominious intestine broils. Santa Anna had been pelted by the populace of the city of the Mexico, and the operations of the troops of the republic were confined to petty and contemptible attacks on small escorts and convoys. Commercially they exhibit a tendency to decline in the exchange on London.

Advices from Vera Cruz to the 1st of June had been received.

General Scott left Jalapa at the head of 6,000 troops. General Twiggs and his division entered Puebla on the 29th. It was believed that General Scott would advance on the capital without delay.

Authentic news had been received that Santa Anna had resigned the Presidency on the 28th ult. He is stated to have taken this step in consequence of opposition to his views as to the defense of the capital, and defamatory articles in the public prints. He had commenced fortifying Guadalupe in person, and a place near the suburbs; but unusual disapprobation was manifested, and his resignation followed. It was believed that his resignation would be accepted, and Herrera nominated. On his arrival in the capital the populace pelted him, and he narrowly escaped. About 3,000 troops were collected at the capital.

The American army was generally expected to reach Mexico on the 15th of June, and but slight resistance was anticipated.

Suspictions were entertained at Jalapa of an attempt to retake the place. Further robberies have been perpetrated between Vera Cruz and Jalapa, and the Ranchero force on route was estimated at 500 men.

Reinforcements were being rapidly sent forward to General Scott's support, to replace the 12 months' volunteers withdrawn from the army. "It is calculated," says the Union, "that nearly 7,000 regulars, old and new regiments, will soon reinforce the main army, via Vera Cruz, of which between 2,000 and 3,000, doubtless have arrived at Vera Cruz in April and May; and, of the residue, a large portion will reach that place, it is supposed, by the middle of June.

Tampico letters of the 27th May give a deplorable account of the state of affairs. Intercourse with the interior had been cut off, the roads being investing by small guerilla parties, detached from Urrea's battalion, consisting of some 20 men in each company, under the command of a petty officer.

From Saltillo we learn, that General Taylor's advance upon San Luis de Potosi was daily expected. His force would not amount to 2,000 men, and the journals of the
United States, friendly to him, charge the Administration with sinister attempts to cloud the fame he has won in the war by thus cramping his energies.

From the Rio Grande we have intelligence of the arrival of the command under Colonel Doniphan, from Santa Fe, at Parras. The force consisted of 1,000 men and 16 pieces of artillery. The march was 1,500 miles, and en route they attained several trifling successes. The advances subsequently reached Saltillo, and the whole force was daily expected.

A letter from San Luis de Potosi, published in the New Orleans journals, states that the hospital there was crowded with the Mexican soldiers, who were dying by scores of starvation and neglect. Even the citizens were suffering from the want of the common necessaries of life. The troops had all left.

The general aspect of relations with Mexico had undergone no change of moment. The prospect of peace by negotiation, so far as any direct evidence is yet afforded to us, was as doubtful as ever. The spirit and hatred of the Mexican people appear to have been unchecked by their repeated defeats; and, unless we accept the reported elevation of Herrara to the Presidency is gaining strength, the arrival of peace would almost appear to be attainable only in conjunction with the final prostration of the weaker republic. At the same time, however, there are rumours current in the American journals, to the effect that negotiation is being actively attempted to arrange difficulties. These rumours strengthen with every arrival; and it is likewise stated, that one of the terms of peace will be the establishment of railway and water communication across the isthmus of Tehuantepec, from the Atlantic to the Pacific. General Scott is said to have expressed confident hopes of a happy result. A well informed Washington correspondent of the New York Courier and Inquirer writes thus:

Washington, June 14

"The proclamation issued by General Scott in conformity with the views and wishes of the Administration is producing most extraordinary effects for peace among the Mexican people. You will have seen the denunciation of it by Santa Anna; but you are probably not aware that the most extraordinary efforts were made by him to prevent its reaching the capital. He succeeded with the first edition; but a second was issued in Spanish by General Scott, and the sensation produced in our favour both in Puebla and in the city of Mexico surpassed even the most sanguine expectation. The prospect that the Mexican people will compel their military rulers to agree to a peace is now brighter than at any period since the war commenced. The project of the treaty, which was taken out by Mr. Trist, has been shown confidentially to several persons at Jalapa, an is in conformity with what I heretofore stated to you, and I even again assert most positively upon evidence from Jalapa and New Orleans, which admits of no mistake, that the treaty prepared to be signed by Mr. Trist, as Commissioner, has been at Jalapa, and that Mr. Trist is clothed with the fullest diplomatic powers to conclude a definite treaty of peace, upon the terms and articles set forth in the project as exhibited at Jalapa; and that he need not wait for any further instruction from Washington, but can also have the treaty as it is signed by him ratified at once by the Government of Mexico. I assert farther that General Scott is to cooperate in the negotiation and in carrying the treaty into effect."

Some important modifications of the tariff imposed upon Mexico by the United States Cabinet had been announced. They are to the following effect:

(Official)
Treasury Department, June 16.

"Sir, In compliance with your directions, I have examined the questions presented by the Secretary of War, in regard to the military contributions proposed to be levied in Mexico, under the tariff, and regulations sanctioned by you on the 31st of March last, and respectfully recommend the following modifications, viz.:

"1. On all manufactures of cotton, or of cotton mixed with any other material except wool, worsted, and silk, in the piece or in any other form, a duty, as a military contribution, of 30 percent. ad valorum.

"2. When goods on which the duties are levied by weight are imported into the said ports in the package duties shall be collected on the net weight only; and in all cases an allowance shall be made for all deficiencies, leakage, breakage, or damage, proved to have actually occurred during the voyage of importation, and made known before the
goods are warehoused.

"3. The period named in the eighth of said regulations, during which the goods may remain in warehouse before the payments of duties, is extended from 30 to 90 days; and within the said period of 90 days any portion of the said goods on which the duties, as a military contribution, have been paid, may be taken, after such payments, from the port or ports of Mexico in our military possession; the fact of the case, with particular description of the said goods, and the statement that the duties thereon have been paid, being certified by the proper officer of the port or ports of reshipment.

"4. It is intended to provide by the treaty of peace that all goods imported during the war into any of the Mexican ports in our military possession shall be exempt from any new import duty or confiscation by Mexico, and in the same manner as it said goods had been imported, and paid the import duties prescribed by the Government of Mexico.

"Most respectively your obedient servant,
"R.J. WALKER, Secretary of the Treasury

"To the President."

"June 11, 1847.

"The modifications, as above recommended by the Secretary of Treasury, are approved by me; and the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy will give the proper orders to carry them into effect.

"JAMES K. POLK"

The commercial accounts, the chief feature of which, the decline of exchange, has been alluded to above, will be found detailed below.

The New York journals continue to notice the arrival of fever-stricken emigrants from Europe. The Americans, however, were applying the labour thus placed within their grasp, to the formation of their railways, canals, &c.

Letters from New Orleans state that an American line of steamers to run thence to this port is about to be established. The first vessel of the line had been contracted for, and probably the first ship the line would make her start in October next.

Our Montreal accounts extend to the 12th ultimo. The Assembly had been occupied in discussion upon the Address; and the division thereon left Ministers with a majority of one only. The journals teem with notices of the spread of fever amongst the immigrants from Europe.

The commercial accounts, of the 11th state, that from the 28th of may to the morning of the 4th the market rules steady at 37s. to 37s. 6d. per barrel for the best shipping brands of "fine." On the 5th the English mad arrived, and sales occurred immediately afterwards at 42s. to 43s. 9d. per barrel for the best fine, and at 40s. and upwards for secondrate brands, including 2,000 barrels of a firstrate brand at 40s., for July delivery, but cash "now." In that state the market remained till about the 9th inst., when it gave way, and the best brands changed hands at 41s. with a dull sale. On the 11th the price opened at 40s. for the best brands, which resulted in operations which cleared the market of almost everything that offered at and under 41s. which may be noted as the closing price of the day for the best fine. Wheat had ranged during the fortnight from 8s. to 9s. 3d. per 60lb. for Upper Canada mixed, and about the same rates for Lower Canada red per minot. A small lot of Upper Canada white, of prime quality, was placed at 18s. per 60 lbs.

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continent. By the intelligence which we publish to-day it will be seen that the Mexican war is approaching that stage of its operations which in any other war would be a conclusion, but which here imports as little finality as the first collision of the campaign. The capital of the state is probably now in undisturbed possession of the enemy, who in dictating their own terms will experience little difficulty beyond that of discovering a responsible contracting party.

The detached reports which have found their way to this country since the last authentic despatches informed us that a guerilla warfare had been proclaimed, and that it had been resolved to burn the capital before the approaching enemy, and to retreat into the wilds and fastnesses of the country. More by credible intelligence we learn that the exasperation of the people against the invaders was daily increasing, and that the priests had energetically adopted the popular sentiments. It is now, however, stated that Santa Anna's reported successor is known to be more pacifically disposed, and by a most extraordinary phraseology the “prospects of peace” are said to be “brightening” upon an unresisted host of invaders, who are marching at will through abandoned towns and unprotected territories. We admit that we cannot see the grounds for expecting any final or satisfactory arrangements. It is, indeed, altogether inconceivable that a hostile force in command of the capital should not be able to extort its own terms from such authorities as may be there extemporized, even if the negotiation will tell very little towards the ultimate object of the Americans. How far their demands may have been modified or stimulated by the events of the last three months, it is difficult to say; but it is probable that the chief article will still be the cession of some of the Californian territory, defined either by the 32d parallel, or some even more advantageous line. Nor do we think it unlikely that they may still repeat some of the terms contained in that grotesque caricature of an international negotiation exhibited by their last condition of peace, wherein an aggressive and victorious army offered pardon, purchase-money, acquittance, apology, and friendship, to an injured and helpless neighbour. For the sake of securing what they have along desired, what they are perfectly able to take, but, without a regular release and bargain, they well know it will be impossible to keep, they will probably not scruple to sacrifice a million or two of those dollars which the author of the war so prudently reserved for its requirements. They will specify the territory they covet, they will avow their honest disposition to purchase it, and the consideration agreed upon will be made up by a great deal of ingenuity and a little expenditure, their own claims for indemnification being set off against the chief portion, while the small remainder may be represented by the plausible and palatable equivalent of money down.

That upon the arrival of Scott in the capital a provisional Government may be found to give a nominal accession to some such terms as we have surmised, is probable enough. We do not even dispute the allegation which describes Herrera as a notoriously disposed to parley. But there is no evidence of any material change in the national disposition. We have before asserted our belief that no such body as a peace-partyexists in Mexico, and our conclusions have only been confirmed by the anxiety displayed to trace it in some quarters where it is said to disguised by unusual clamour for war. It is, indeed, abundantly obvious that there had been no great division in the Mexican councils. They have been at least unanimous in their universal acquiescence and recognition will alone convey to the United States the title and enjoyment they require. Unless they can get quiet and legal induction into their new domain, they will merely have bartered a bloodless campaign for an armed occupation, and will have marched to Mexico to exert only just such a right as they might have assumed on the Grande.

We cannot therefore conceive that the elevation of Herrera, or his accession to the terms proposed, can tend very influentially to terminate the quarrel, unless the proclamations of an armed stranger from the halls of Montezuma should operate after some miraculous fashion in neutralizing the effects of his bombs and bayonets, and reconciling antagonistic races exasperated foes. That General Scott has been endeavouring to invest himself with such pacificatory and harmonizing attractions, and that the ravager of Vera Cruz would fain be received as the deliverer of Mexico, is clear enough from all that we have heard by way of the United States. But there is little room here for the operation of such addresses. There is no great oppressed or disaffected population driven to war by a despotic Government. The Mexicans are free as anarchy can make them, they change their rulers at their will, nor can the most seductive appeal of the invader offer them any increase of political power. The war, such as it is, is emphatically a popular war. It was not excited by the priests or dictated by the President. The Mexicans hate the Americans clearly and intuitively enough, though they cannot resist them. They defy
their addresses, though not their arms. They will not fight, but all the powers of the continent cannot make them shake hands. And thus, when a scared or subservient Congress may have signed a compulsory compact, there will still be the obstinacy and opposition of an entire people to reconcile or overcome.

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LT July 9, 1847 6c THE AFFAIRS OF MEXICO

After the rout of Cerro Gordo, Santa Anna, collecting what men he could at Orizaba and from Oaxaca, pushed on to Puebla, where he arrived only two or three days before General Worth. The Poblanos have never been very well disposed towards Santa Anna, and in the hour of adversity they gave him clearly to understand that his presence was not desired. He was, therefore, obliged to evacuate the city, which was peaceably occupied by the forces of Worth on the 15th inst. When the Americans take possession of any of the Mexican towns, the post between them and this place ceases, by order of the Mexican Government. Therefore, though so near Puebla, we know little of what is passing there. It would appear, however, from the accounts of occasional travelers, that the Americans are on good terms with the townspeople, and that they have even succeeded in conciliating the religious orders—a step which, in a place so notoriously for fanaticism, would have been extremely difficult a few years ago. But latterly the Church has been so rudely assailed by each successive Government here, that the clergy are now well disposed to wave some antiquated prejudices in exchange for the secure and peaceable possession of their temporal goods.

Since General Scott's victory a large number of volunteers (it is said 3,000) have returned to the United States, heartily sick of the expedition. The plan of hiring a body of men, not soldiers by profession, by the job, to attack an enemy's fortress or to fight a battle, and then return, bears the American stamp of originality; and it is a conclusive proof of Mexican weakness that the system has so far proved successful. The Mexicans were much pleased when Lord Palmerston expressed his opinion in the House of Commons that their resistance would prove too strong for the United States; but their subsequent conduct has certainly done nothing to confirm it.

Puebla, with a population of 60,000, is held by five or six thousand undisciplined foreigners; and for the maintenance of the extensive line to the coast, including the garrisons of Perote, Jalapa, and Vera Cruz, General Scott has probably a not much larger force. It was announced from Vera Cruz that Scott's movement on this city would be supported by the march of General Taylor on San Luis Potosi, but old "Rough and Ready" seems to have been left by his Government with very slender means for such an expedition. The volunteers who held Chihuahua have marched to join him, and it is now said that, instead of advancing on San Luis, he will proceed to Tampico, and embark there for Vera Cruz (rather a dangerous experiment for unacclimated men at this season) to reinforce General Scott.

When Santa Anna abandoned Puebla, nothing remained for him but to retreat on this city, where he had reason to apprehend his reception would not be very cordial. In fact, his old political enemies seemed to think the occasion highly favourable for a pronunciamiento, and before he had reached. Ayotla (six leagues from this) an organized conspiracy existed to deprive him of all intervention in public affairs. General Valencia, with whom he had quarreled at San Luis, was proposed as his successor in the command of the army. At Ayotla he halted, and received the visits of some of the military and political leaders, whom, with his usual ability, he managed to gain over, and finally made his entry here, and assumed the Presidency, without much affectation of state indeed, but also without opposition, General Anaya, who held that post provisionally, retiring from office. But though so far successful, he soon found his position to be one of great danger. All parties new treat him as a lion whose teeth and claws are drawn. The journalists take a malicious pleasure in recurring to some of the most disgraceful passages of his life. One paper comments on the degrading avarice which induced him to sell a magnificent sword presented to him by Congress. Another reminds him that before the battle of Cerro Gordo he asserted that if this city should be occupied by the Americans, he would not survive to see it, and gravely expresses a hope, as that event is now not remote, that he will comply literally with his promise. Assailed on all sides, Santa Anna addressed a manifesto to the nation. It is couched in eloquent language, and contains some truth as respects his own recent exertions, but produced no effect.

Nor did he confine himself to words alone. Valencia was got rid of by appointing him to the command of the troops in San Luis. Ampudia, in whom Santa Anna formerly reposed confidence, is exiled to Cuemavaca, and Almonte, who came with him from the Havannah, is a close prisoner here. Yesterday, however, Santa Anna, apparently despairing of being able to sustain himself, sent in his resignation of the Presidency to Congress, and that body has named a committee to deliberate and report thereon.
General Scott is expected to appear here about the 15th of next month, and many people admit that it is now high time to think of treating for peace. A new paper, El Razonador, has been established expressly to advocate this principle, and though others still clamour for war, it is generally understood that they do so without much serious meaning, or merely for the purposes of party. The only mode proposed for continuing the war is by guerrilla parties, and experience has already shown that these would be nothing but organized bands of plunderers, living at free quarters on the country, and carefully avoiding a meeting with the enemy. Even if, by a species of miracle, the Mexicans could rouse themselves to expel the invaders from the interior of the country, the Americans have put the bit in the mouths by the capture of San Juan d’Ulloa, Tampico, and Matamoros—positions from which it is in vain to think of dislodging them. Peace, then, must soon be made, or the conquest of the country be decided on by the United States. The latter is a consummation much desired by all foreign residents here, and (privately) by not a few Mexicans. The prospects of Mexico, if the American armies were withdrawn, are indeed far from encouraging. The different political parties which have so long divided the country stand prepared to renew their contests with fresh bitterness, and none has a sufficient ascendency to afford a chance of stability. The emancipation of Mexico from the mother country was evidently premature.

A new constitution has just been published, being substantially that of 1824, with some alterations. Under this code the states have proceeded to elect a President. General Herrera and Don Angel Trias (ex-Governor of Chihuahua) have so far about an equal number of votes. Two states have voted for Almonte, not one for Santa Anna. Guadalajara declines voting at all, affecting constitutional scruples. Aguas Calientes loses the right by again merging in Zacatecas; and in Oaxaca two parties, each styling itself the legitimate one, have returned different individuals. The election of Herrera would be a guarantee for peace. When formerly in question with the United States; but his intentions were frustrated, and himself disposed by the insurrection of Paredes in San Luis. Trias is a man of provincial reputation only, and with a good deal of Indian blood in his veins. He has, however, traveled in Europe.

In consequence of existing circumstances, the great annual gambling feast at San Augustin de las Cueva (an event of the highest importance in Mexican society) did not take place this year. A minor performance was attempted at Tacubaya, but met with little encouragement.

Exchange on London by this packet has ranged from 44d. to 45d., and in a single instance was done at 46d.

[AMA]

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LT July 10, 1847 8f THE AMERICAN ARMY IN MEXICO

The following interesting description of the American conquerors of Mexico is the translation of a letter from a native of Puebla:

Mr. Worth apparently did not wish to keep the public in suspense after official communications, and accordingly the head of his column appeared at an early hour opposite the gate of Amozoc. The townspeople seemed undisturbed. The whole city, with the exception of the dry shops, which remained closed, presented its ordinary aspect, and no one would have supposed that a hostile army was expected. About half-past 10 o’clock a party of 100 cavalry separated from the division, and entered by the streets of Alguacil Mayor, San Cristobal, &c., to the square, from which they withdrew by way of Santo Domingo to the barrack of San Jose. Curiosity to see the Yankees overcame the alarm so natural at the moment. The people crowded the streets, and nearly all the balconies in the line were filled with spectators. You will excuse this curiosity when you reflect that it was excited by the men of Vera Cruz and Cerro Gordo, who in the mouths of the vulgar passed for a diabolical prodigies, and in mustached lips for at least human prodigies. I myself yielded to the impulse, and breaking a vow of seclusion, sallied forth to become acquainted with our future masters. Imagine my surprise, and that of all the world, when, instead of the Contours which we expected, I saw a hundred gallows-faced men, uniformed (if the dress which most of them wore could be called much) with poverty and bad taste, many of them in their shirt sleeves, armed with sword, carbine, and pistols of a common kind, their horses large indeed, but heavy, and devoid of grace, like all their race, and with no other ornament than a plain saddle and bridle. Thus much for the accessories. With respect to the men, I shall only say that for ten good figures, there were as many sick, ricketty, and even deformed. Add to this disgusting want of cleanliness of all these men, and you have a picture the most unilitary possible, and which I should call revolting, were it not mixed with some grotesque figures at which
it was impossible to help laughing. This is no exaggeration; I state sincerely my first impression and that all present. From some roofs hisses were heard, and, though not general, they truly expressed the contempt to which curiosity had given place. After an interval of an hour the main body entered. Of will find in the annexed note. All, that we had heard of Herculean frames, and elegant figures, has been the exaggeration of malice and cowardice. There are all sorts among them, but at the first glance it is apparent that the majority of the army is composed of Irish emigrants, attenuated by hunger. The uniform of all that have entered consists of a jacket and pantaloons of common light blue cloth, precisely the same as the recluses' of San Roque, and with no ornament but the military insignia. All, even the dragoons, wear flat cloth caps, though several have adopted the palm hats of the country, and we saw some enter with toppeates on their heads. If I were not in a hurry, I would substitute the pencil for the pen, in order to send you a sketch of an officer of the line who presented himself on an enormous cart-horse, with a frockcoat of most absurd cut, and an old common straw hat turned up as a three-cocked one. Altogether the general aspect of the army is all that ad taste and economy can produce of ridiculous, sordid, and filthy. Nor does their armament seem to me anything extraordinary. In a word, except the draught horses, which are very good, I assure you, without exaggeration, that these men bring nothing that we have not seen a thousand times. Even the immense number of their wagons is not a proof a large stores. The wagons are almost all empty, and I understand their principal use to be for the transport of the troops. How, then, have they done what they have? How have they continually beaten our army, which not only surpass them in appearance--for that is unquestionable--but in my opinion has a real and positive advantages over them? Every one asks this question, to which there is but one reply. Their leaders, and particularly the colonels of regiments, are old gray-haired men. Their gray hairs explain the phenomenon. This makes me still rely on our soldiers, and gives me for the future some hopes, which we require more than ever. For to us (above all the poets, or who aspire to be such)--to us, who cannot separate the idea of progress in civilization from a certain cordiality of manners, politeness, and external refinement, these coarse and clownish men, who in everything sacrifice elegance to economy, cannot be recognized as the Messiahs of our civilization. (The writer estimates the whole American force at 4,290 men and 13 pieces of artillery.) As soon as the division entered the artillery and infantry formed in the square, and the wagons extended from the street of Mercaderes to the bridge of Noche Buena. The soldiers piled their arms, and the greater part lay down to sleep with perfect confidence, being apparently half dead with fatigue. Our guard in the palace was put under arms. A great number of the people came and went amongst the soldiers, and the tired division in the square, off their guard, and without their arms, were surrounded by 5,000 or 6,000 men. They remain so till 3 o'clock in the afternoon, when the troops occupied the barracks and convents of Santo Domingo and San Luis, and the wagons were placed here and there, as they could find room. The troops remained in barracks all night. Generals Worth and Quitman occupied the palace, the guard of which was changed; and the officers were scattered through the taverns and coffeehouses. At the tavern in the lower part of our house a few of them, whose philharmonic dispositions had been excited by wine, gave me the most inharmonious concession of the hills of Loreto and Guadeloupe, and to-day of the convent of La Merced; and it seems that some troops and artillery have been sent to the hill of San Juan. The population, meanwhile have maintained their accustomed stoicism. They show no respect, nor much dislike to the invaders. If a few are excited at the picture which the city presents, the rest scarcely allude to it, as if nothing extraordinary had happened. There have been some squabbles, and one or two Yankees have been killed by the lepers of Analco, but the mass of the people show neither inclination nor aversion towards them, and require some provocation to rouse them from their apathy. Unluckily, these gentry are aware of this, and not only behave with circumspection, but do violence to their nature to the extent of being affable and deferential.

[AMA]

LT July 14, 1847 8a ARRIVAL OF THE CAMBRIA

The British and North American Royal mail steamship Cambria, Captain Judkins, arrived in the Mersey at 10 o'clock this morning, after a run of less than 12 days from Boston, bringing 130 passengers and the usual mails.

The Calendonia reached Halifax on the 2d. inst.

The political accounts by this arrival are not of great importance. An action had taken place near the Nation-bridge of Mexico, on the route from Vera Cruz to the capital, in which, with a loss of 50 men, the American troops defeated those of Mexico, the latter losing about 100. It is also announced that a proposition of peace
had been made to General Scott, but rejected by him as inadequate. In the capital affairs were totally unsettled.

We subjoin the details:

From Vera Cruz late and important advices to the 10th of June had been received. "On the 8th instant," says the New Orleans Delta,

"A small reconnoitering party, together with some citizens and disbanded soldiers, in number about 150, with 75 armed men, and 30 mounted, left Puebla for Vera Cruz. This party was under the command of Captain Bainbridge, of the 3d. Artillery. On leaving Jalapa and getting near Cerra Gorda, this party was informed that it would not be prudent to go through the pass, as there were 4,000 Mexicans in the chapparal along the pass. The party was organized and marched through without meeting an enemy, and arrived at the bridge that evening. Whilst they were bivouacking on the other side of the bridge, being so fatigued that they were unable to furnish a guard, they were informed that some persons were barricading the bridge. A guard was then stationed below the bridge and the encampment, to prevent the party being surprised. At this time signal-lights on the ridges and cliffs were distinctly seen. Before daylight the scouting party was sent out, and also a party to clear the bridge, which was done without any opposition. The main body of the party then passed over the bridge. Everything then appeared to be safe; and, all danger being past, Lieutenant M'Williams and Mr. Frazer were sent back to bring on the train on the other side of the bridge. As they were entering the bridge a party of about 25 Mexicans appeared on the bridge, and fired several volleys on them. The wagon master and four others, who were passing the bridge, were fired on, and the whole five were killed and the wagons were captured. It was of no great value.

"After the fire had ceased, a party of Lancers appeared on the bridge, and seemed to be preparing to charge, but, seeing that Captain Bainbridge's party were preparing to receive them, they wheeled their horses and galloped off. Captain Bainbridge pursued his march in good order, followed by 400 or 500 Foot Lancers, who hung upon his rear and flanks for four or five miles, but at a respectful distance. Thus hemmed in, this little party pursued its way until it arrived where Colonel M'Intosh had encamped with his train. The Mexicans who had attacked Captain Bainbridge's party were the same who had compelled Colonel M'Intosh to halt and wait for reinforcements. The party remained that night in Colonel M'Intosh's camp, and during the whole time the Mexicans kept up a continued fire on the camp, approaching with the greatest boldness very near to our sentinels. On the next day Captain Bainbridge's party resumed its march to Vera Cruz, being joined by Captain Duperu's United States Dragoons, who were sent back to get their horses. This company, with its gallant captain, begaved very handsomely at the attack on Colonel M'Intosh's camp; indeed, it was generally admitted that Colonel M'Intosh's command was saved by the gallantry of Captain Duperu's party. Captain Bainbridge's party continued their march to Vera Cruz, where they arrived in safety. In the meantime, Captain Duperu's command having a long return train to guard, and being threatened by a large body of Lancers, halted at Santa Fe, where they were charged by a greatly superior force, which they gallantly repulsed, killing many of the enemy, and the drivers taken prisoners. Captain Duperu arrived safely in Vera Cruz, having lost in all three killed, and three wounded. On the day Captain Bainbridge's party left Colonel M'Intosh camp General Cadwallader arrived with a force of 800 men and two howitzers, and pushed on towards the National bridge. On approaching the bridge, General Cadwallader occupied the heights commanding the bridge, from which the enemy had fired on Captain Bainbridge's party, where he was attacked by a large force of the Mexicans posted on the ridges and in the chapparal, and some hard fighting was carried on for several hours--the Mexicans losing more than 100 men, and General Cadwellader losing some 15 killed and some 30 or 40 wounded; the Mexicans were repulsed.

"The bridge was successfully passed by General Cadwallader, who was on his way to Jalapa. The estimated loss of Colonel M'Intosh's party was about $4,000. The road for miles was strewn with empty boxes and bacon sides, which had been captured by the enemy. There was a great deal of dissatisfaction in the army respecting the command which had cargo of the train. There will be a Court of Inquiry into the matter.

"Since the above was written, we have learned that the affair between General Cadwellader and the Mexicans at the National-bridge, the company of Lieutenant Blakely, of the newly-raised Volunteers, with two howitzers, charged the barricades, and swept them with a few discharges from the howitzers. In passing through, however, Lieutenant Blakely received a heavy fire from the enemy on the ridge which commands the road, by which he sustained a loss of one killed and four wounded, the Lieutenant himself being wounded in the leg. They also lost several
horses. The heights were then charged on the right and left of the road, and gallantly carried, the enemy flying from before them in great confusion. When General Cadwallader had passed the bridge, he was attacked by a large party of guerrillas, who kept up a continual fire on his men far a long distance. At Cerra Gorda, it was thought, from reports of heavy firing, that the enemy had made a stand in great numbers, though no apprehensions were entertained for the safety of General Cadwallader's command, who was moving in a bold and steady manner--the only way to deal with the Mexicans. Captain Gate's company of 3d Dragoons was sent by General Cadwallader to the rear, to reinforce the guards of the train, who were attacked by a large force of Lancers, which they repulsed with considerable loss. There is much sickness in Vera Cruz, but very little in the Castle. General Cadwallader is much praised for the energy and promptness of his movements to the rescue of Colonel M'Intosh, and for the bravery and skill with which he scattered the swarms of guerrillas, grown confident by the success of their previous enterprises. The garrison at Jalapa has been broken up by order of General Scott, and all the sick and Government stores have been sent to Perote Castle, so that this line of communication is entirely closed. General Scott has had a road opened from Perote to Tuspan, from which, in future, all our stores and men will be sent, in preference to the old road. There are about 1,000 men encamped at Vera Cruz. General Shields was at Jalapa, and was about to leave for the Untied States, when he received an order from General Scott to join him at Puebla. There are no preparations to defend any point between Puebla and the capital; all the odds and ends of the army are collected in the city, about 20,000 in number, but poorly armed, and are miserably provided for. There was a small pronunciamento at the city of Mexico. It was early put down by General Bustamonte; it was got up by factions of the popular party, and of the Gomez Faria's party. Their cry was "Down with Santa Anna," but the President ad interim still maintains his power and influence. Congress had refused to accept his resignation. We have about 6,000 men at Pueblo, under command of Generals Worth and Quitman. General Scott will remain at Puebla until he is reinforced. General Bravo is in command of the army at the capital. The success of the attack on Colonel M'Intosh's command has given great confidence to the guerrillas, who are swarming in great numbers through the country, and attacking all our parties, large and small. It was chiefly owing to the gallantry of Major Bennett, the paymaster, that the specie wagons in charge of the party were saved. He was in one of them himself when the wagon was attacked, and fought like a tiger. General Scott was at Puebla at the last accounts. The editors of El Arco Iris had received dates from the capital to the 21 of June. Santa Anna had a second time sent in his resignation of the Presidency. Congress had not, up to that time, accepted it. He had also made a formal resignation of his office as Commander-in-Chief of the army, which, like his resignation of the Presidency, remained in abeyance. Five Mexican generals, whose names are not given, have been arrested and sent to the different states for confinement. The gallant Captain Walker has commenced his work of retaliation on the guerrillas. On the morning of the 8th inst. he started with his command from Perote, on an expedition some sidtance into the interior. During the expedition he succeeded in capturing nine guerrillas and an alcade. He has employed them in clearing the streets and sinks. A letter had been received in Vera Cruz on the 15th inst., previous to the sailing of the Galveston, direct from the head-quarters of General Scott, stating the General Scott had issued orders for the removal of the prisoners from Vera Cruz to Tuspan. This change was said to be partly owing to the sickness in Vera Cruz, and because communications could be more easily up between Tuspan and Puebla, than between the latter place and Vera Cruz."

A speedy peace appears to be anticipated by some of the journals.

The expedition against Tobasco, under the Commodore Perry, sailed from Vera Cruz on the 9th ultimo.

President Polk had visited New York.

From Montreal we have interesting intelligence to the 28th of June. an excellent summary of which we annex from the Montreal Herald;

"Attempts have been made in both houses, by Her Majesty's Opposition, to throw Her Majesty's Canadian Cabinet into a minority, but with equal want of success. In connexion with this subject, we may mention that the Ministry have laid on the table of the house a translation of certain correspondence which passed between them and Mr. Caron, the late Speaker of the Legislative Council, relative to the reconstruction of the Ministry, so as to admit some gentlemen enjoying the confidence of the course of the negotiations, judging from this correspondence, seems to have been this: Lord Elgin first addressed a memorandum to Mr. Caron, requesting his advice as to the best means of forming a coalition Ministry, containing gentlemen who have the confidence of the French Canadians; saying that he desired no sacrifice of principle, but expressing his hope that personal and party
differences would, if any such existed, give way to patriotism and the public good.—
Upon this basis Mr. Caron entered upon the negotiation; and, in order to be quite
sure of his ground, he proposed several questions to the Ministry, among which was
this: Whether there was any person whom there would be no use to propose on his
side? He was answered that there was no objection to any person. It was then
arranged that, as the Cabinet is composed of seven members, three gentlemen from
Upper Canada should be named, and three from Lower Canada; the seventh place
being the Provincial Secretariatship, occupied by Mr. Daly, to be filled afterwards by
the Governor-General, with advice of the six. This seems to have been understood
as a bargain on both sides; but, suddenly, Mr. Caron signified to the Ministry that
they must exclude Mr. Daly from any participation in the government, and that he
had four persons who would then join the Government. As the whole affair was
based upon the rejection of personal or party dislikes, and still further, as the
seventh member of the Cabinet was to be the choice of the two parties, this, of
course, ended the business. Since the commencement of the session, however, Mr.
Caron has stated that, in consenting to take office with the Conservatives of Upper
Canada, he fully expected to pave the way for the return to power of their
opponents, the Upper Canadian Liberals, with whom the French had all along acted.
So that, when he had got his majority of the four in the council of seven, the first
thing would have been to oust the colleagues with whom he professed to co-operate.
Yet, though the declaration was made in the face of both houses of Parliament, for
the Assembly had adjourned, and most of its members were below the bar of the
upper house, Mr. Caron's friends still clamour about what they call the insincerity of
Ministers. Beyond these occurrences little has been done of public interest in either
branch of the Legislature; but a great number of private bills have been introduced
and advanced one or more stages. Among these are several bills for allowing banks
to increase their capital. The Inspector General has given a brief outline of his
financial scheme. He proposes to take advantage of the British Possessions Act
to discard all differential duties; to reduce several tonnage and other duties now levied
upon vessels coming from sea to Montreal and Quebec, laying the charges which the
produce is applicable to upon the Consolidated Fund; to extend the facilities now
granted to importers of all kinds of goods to pass them through our waters for
reshipment; and to reduce the tolls on the canals to the lowest point to which they
can be brought, consistently with a proper regard to the revenues of the province. It
is proposed, in addition to these reforms, to reduce all duties on raw materials to the
uniform rate of one cent. ad valorem; and though this was not mentioned by the
Inspector General we are informed that measures are to be taken to reciprocate the
intercolonial trade, free of all duties, which the Legislature of Nova Scotia, by a
recent act, has proposed to the sister provinces. Several German vessels have
arrived in the river and at Montreal, under the provisions of recent British statutes
and orders in council. These, we believe, are the first vessels bearing a foreign flag
that have ascended the St. Lawrence since the Conquest. The emigrants, who daily
arrive here, come in dreadful plight. The deaths at the emigrant sheds are fearfully
numerous. 25 deaths a day have been about the average at the sheds. Great
dissatisfaction prevails at this pouring out of paupers upon us, and however
reasonable this feeling certainly is, it has given occasion for a great deal of nonsense
to be talked about the cruelties of the English aristocracy, &c. However, the thing, to
say the least of it, is most disgraceful. A [ . . . ] from the House of Assembly is to go
home by [ . . . ] to the Imperial authorities.

[AMA]

LT July 29, 1847 7e MONEY-MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE

The disposition to improvement consequent on the uninterrupted fineness of the
weather still continues in the English funds, and Consols today have again advanced
an eight per cent. The first price for money was 88 ½ to 5/8, and they went to 88
5/8 to ¼, at which they remained up to the close of business. For the account the
last price was 89 1/8 to 1/8. Bank Stock left off 196 ½ to 197 ½; Reduced Three per
Cents., 89 ¼; Three and a Quarter per Cents., 90 7/8; India Stock, 243 to 246,
India Bonds, par to 5s. premium; Long Annuities, 9 1/8; and Exchequer bills, 8s. to
11s. premium. Throughout the day money was in full employment in the Stock
Exchange at 5 per cent.

In the foreign stock market the business transacted was of the most limited
description. The bargains merely included Austrian, at 108; Chilian, at 92; Mexican,
at 19 ¼; Spanish Passive, at 4 ¾; Venezuela, at 39; Belgian Four and a Half per
Cents., at 94 ½; Dutch Two and Havlf per Cents, at 57 3/8; and the Four per Cents.,
Certificates, at 90 7/8.

Advises from Paris received this morning attribute a tendency to decline which is
manifested by the French funds to a variety of causes, amongst which are an
increased demand for money, and a growing uneasiness regarding the position of Switzerland and the relations between Greece and Turkey. These, however, are subordinate in their effect to the oppressive anticipations which day by day become more deeply fixed in the minds of capitalists of the impending calls which will be necessary for the wants of the Government, and of the various railway companies, and which, according to the calculations of some parties, will form together an ultimate total of 120,000,000l. sterling.

No dividend was declared at the meeting of the United Mexican Mining Company today, the operations of the undertaking having been obstructed by the high price of quicksilver, and the danger of transit arising from the disturbed condition of the Republic. The general revenue amounted to $71,400, less expenses $29,850, or in sterling 7,444l. 3s. 11d. A surplus of nearly 5,000l. exists in hand, and it was stated that there was the prospect of a dividend, if affairs proceeded in satisfactory manner in the course of the next half year.

The defaulting American States require to be educated into integrity, and it is evident that a generation must pass before the feeling will become a habit. Even when intellectually convinced that honesty is the best policy, and at a time also when they find wealth pouring in upon them so as to render its exercise not inconvenient, they hardly contrive to take a step in the right path without showing that they are out of their natural track. In the midst of their proposals for a resumption of their obligations the resolve to make clean work of it seems always wanting, some evasion being usually introduced which indicates an almost inextinguishable bias, and not only prevents the applause they would otherwise receive, but actually renders the new "effort," as it is usually termed, to uphold the national honour a more complete proof that the leopard has not changed his spots than if they had suffered the matter to remain altogether unheeded. Thus, after many years of neglect, we have recently seen Indiana bestir herself, and in so doing absolutely fall into the disgrace which, at all events, she had avoided up to that time, of distinct repudiation; and advice from New York now bring us another instance larger in its meanness, because smaller in its contemplated results. In the step taken by Indiana, the object was to escape payment of more than half the arrears of interest, and to get rid of the liability upon half the principal of her debt, but in an arrangement just proposed by Illinois we have little bit of repudiation that would almost seem to have been introduced for no other end than to indicate the transatlantic origin of the proceeding. It appears that the State is about to make "a united and vigorous exertion" to pay its debts, and that at a convention at present assembled to amend the constitution measures are expected to be adopted for that purpose. In a joint resolution of both houses of the Legislature, the magnificent truisms has been formally declared "That the State of Illinois is bound by every principle of justice, and a regard to its honour and credit, to make provision for the payment of its debts," and the people, moreover, have intimated something like an unanimous disposition even to submit to taxation for the purpose. Thus far, therefore, all looks well. But the State politicians could not leave the matter in this form. It appears that through clumsy management the State, in issuing its bonds at various times, has sent forth a large amount of different classes bearing the same numbers, "thereby causing great confusion," and rendering it "impossible at the present time to determine the precise amount of indebtedness of the State, its character, and when payable." And an act has accordingly been passed calling in all outstanding bonds, in order that new ones may be substituted—a measure which is not essential to enable the State to correct its blunders, since a renumbering would answer the purpose, and creditors are usually averse to a change of documents. But to insure the desired end, a singular mode of compulsion has been resorted to, consisting of nothing less than the virtual repudiation of all such bonds as shall not be presented within a certain period from the date of notice. "All indebtedness," it is coolly declared "not surrendered within 18 months after notice given by the State to exchange, shall not be entitled to the benefit of any law which may be passed to pay interest on the State debt."

Thus Illinois, like Indiana, at the very moment when she seeks to regain her character, takes a step which, if persisted in, must render permanent the stain that might otherwise be regarded as only temporary. We apprehend, however, that considerations of expediency will yet interpose to promote a more creditable course, and that the offence is, as we have supposed, to be viewed only as one of those lapses into which people fall who are trying to be honest according to rule, and who, unaccustomed in some measure to the restraint, are apt in small matters to forget themselves, and to give way to nature without intending it.

The French commercial journals notice the receipt of late advices from the States of Central America, which are specially referred to the attention of their manufacturing interest. The announcement made is that the lengthened period of peace which has prevailed in that quarter of the globe, coupled with the disposition evinced by the local Governments to attract trading connexions in opening St. Jean de Nicaragua...
and other ports, renders the present a most favourable opportunity for entering into competition with the English, who are said to possess a monopoly of the supply of these markets, with comparatively little or no interference from European Manufacturing countries. Our merchants are described by these writers as securing most profitable returns upon their shipments, and so warmly has the point been taken up by those who advocate the introduction of French goods, that the representatives of that Government in Central America, supported by their own traders, have been at the pains of entering at length into the subject, and detailing the particular articles best suited to the wants and conveniences of the inhabitants of the several states.

A statement appears in the Antwerp paper *Le Precurseur* of the imports of cotton and wool into Belgium during the last 16 years, beginning with 1831 and concluding with 1846. The return alluded to shows that whereas the value of these articles introduced into the country mentioned in the first-named period did not exceed 3,249,062£, it increased in the year 1833 to 10,426,265£. In 1834 the value again declined to 6,774,512£, but in 1838 it once more increased, and reached the high point of 11,699,945£. The year 1839 marked another period of depression, when the imports were estimated as worth only 6,920,840£. The next twelve months established an enormous change. From 6,920,840£ the improvements carried the amount to 15,455,693£ in 1840, but it again receded in 1842 to 10,452,004£. Once more, in 1845, the fluctuation was considerable, and for that year the return was 14,774,721£. The last period quoted, viz., the year 1846, establishes decline of about 4,200,000£ compared with the previous twelve months, the amount being 10,500,000£.

[AMA]
The Mexican-American War and the Media, 1845-1848

London Times
August - December 1847

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LT 1847-8-6-6b
The following appeared in part only of our yesterday's empression:

We have received letters from our correspondent in the city of Mexico to the 29th of June. The delay of the Americans in advancing from Puebla had enabled the Mexicans to assemble an army estimated at 16,000 men for the defense of the capital. Santa Anna was again at the head of affairs, having withdrawn his resignation, and through the pressing nature of the danger recovered much of his former ascendancy. A forced contribution of $1,000,000 had been decreed, from which foreigners were not exempt. The America army under General Scott, 10,000 strong, was supposed to be on the eve of marching against the city, and that a battle would be fought at El Penon, three leagues distant. A communication from Mr. Buchanan, dated Washinton, April 15, had been received by the Mexican Government, informing them that Mr. Trist would accompany the army with full powers to treat for peace. The issue of the expected battle would, of course, materially influence the determination of the Mexicans on the subject of negotiations, and it seemed not improbable that its loss by them would lead to peace. The Cabinet had been remodelled by the appointment of General Alcorta as Minister at War; Don Domingo Ybarra to the department of Foreign Affairs, and Don Vicente Romero as Minister of Justice. Rondero remained at the head of the Finance Department.

The Royal mail steam packet Avon, R.S. Norton commander, arrived at Southampton on Wednesday evening at 9 o'clock, bringing the Mexican and West Indian mails, in charge of Lieutenant J. Fitz Brand, R.N., Admiralty agent, which left by the usual mail train at a quarter past 1 o'clock on Thursday morning.

The Avon brings 70 passengers, and her dates are--St. Juan Nicaragua, June 23, Charges the 25th, Carthagena the 28th, Santa Martha the 29th, Demerara, July 5, Puerto Bello the 6th, Tobago the 7th, Trinidad the 7th, Jamaica the 9th, Barbadoes the 9th, Jacmel the 11th, Grenada the 11th, St. Vincent the 11th, St. Lucia the 12th, Martinique the 12th, Dominique the 12th, Guadaloupe the 12th, Puerto Rico the 13th, Antigua the 13th, Nevis the 13th, St. Kitt's the 13th, Tortola the 14th, St. Thomas the 16th, and Bermuda the 20th.

The Avon Brings 286,016 dollars on merchants' of gold dust, 127 cases of cigars, 101 serons of cochineal, 69 cases of pines, 30 live turtle, &c.

The Avon has had an unusually quick passage home. She sighted the Experimental Squadron 14 miles off the Lizard, with two steamers ahead.

The accounts from the islands are rather contradictory as to the weather; on the whole, the rains appear to have generally visited the various localities, though far too scanty in some districts. Great complaints continued in consequence of the scarcity of shipping, and of course the colonists were suffering great losses from non-realization of produce. The want of money was severely felt.

On the departure of the Avon from the Gulf the following was the most recent intelligence:

The American army at Vera Cruz amounts to about 4,000 men of the 10 new regiments lately organized and the remainder were expected daily, when the whole army would amount to 10,000 men. On the night of the 16th of June, 1,600 mules were taken by a Mexican guerrilla party, which was supposed to amount to 200 men. General Scott was still at Puebla awaiting reinforcements, as in Mexico they are making preparations for a strong defense. Santa Anna had been declared Dictator, on condition that he will not, under any circumstances, treat for peace; and it is generally supposed by those who are best acquainted with the Mexican character that the Americans must conquer the whole country before there can be an end to the war. Almonte, the late Ambassador to the United States, was in prison at Mexico. The fever was raging dreadfully at Vera Cruz, especially in the American army; there were between 600 and 700 in the hospitals, or churches converted into hospitals. By the medical reports 20 died daily; however, rumour said between 25 and 30 daily. It is generally supposed that when the rainy season sets in the mortality amongst the American troops will be fearfully great.

There is no prospect of the Mexicans accepting the proposition lately made by the American Government for the termination of hostilities. At a place called Jago, about half way between Calapo and Parata, an affair took place between the Americans and Mexicans; about 400 of the latter, with their commander, had been killed.

Santa Anna was said to have 30,000 men organized in Mexico; the priests are distributing their money in a most lavish manner in aid of the war.
The following is a list of the cabin passengers by the Avon:

Mr. Fontevilla, from Mexico; Mr. Edney, lady, and family, from Belize; Mr. Puttfracken, Mr. Ramirez, Mr. Mantilla, and Mr. Barlas, from Havannah; Mr. Mackle, Mr. Perry and family, Mr. Boulanger and servant, Mr. Prada, Mr. Jullian, Mr. Portillo, Mr. Mainamillo and son, and Mr. Loayza, from Chagres; Mr. Wilson and Mr. Esculante, from Nicaragua; Mr. Nieto, Mr. Klein, Mr. Williamson, and Mr. Gaverra, from Sant Martha; Mr. Murray, lady, and family, Mr. Valugo, Mr. Heath, Mr. Heath, Mr. Duany, Mr. Menzies, Mr. W. Joseph, Mr. Douglas, Mr. Morrice and Mr. Lyons, from Jamaica; Mr. Millinet, from La Guayra; Mr. Johnstone, Mr. Stewart, and Mr. Bolie and lady, from Trinidad; Mr. Chariton, Mr. And MRS. Walsh, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Hurrell, and Mr. Callenden, from Barbadoes; Mr. And Mrs. Brown and family, from Grenada; Mr. Wicoud, from St. Lucia; Mr. Maynard, from Martinique; Mr. And Mrs. Railton and family, from Nevis; Mr. Udall, from St. Kitts; Mr. Ahrens and Mr. Viner, from Porto Rico; Mr. Van Schmidten, from St. Thomas; Miss Hawkins, from Bermuda.


At Havannah, June 6, her Majesty's ship Alarm, which sailed for Bermuda and Halifax on the 8th. On the 7th C.S.P Medway arrived from the Gulf.

At Vera Cruz, June 13, Her Majesty's ship Persian, At Bermuda, July 17, her Majesty's schooner Bermuda building; Commander, officers, and crew hulked on board the Royal Oak.

At Nassau, July 13, Her Majesty's surveying-vessels Thunder and Locke.

At Havannah, June 6, there were-French men of war, Andromeda, bearing the flag of Vice-Admiral La Place, and the Blonde corvette; Spanish men of war, Sobaron, 74 guns, bearing the flag of a Vice-Admiral, and the Maria Christina frigate.

At Vera Cruz, June 13--French men of war, Petrouse corvette and Pylades brig; Spanish men of war, the Heberno corvette; American men of war, the Potomac, 60 guns, and the Raritan, 60 guns. The Americans had also at Vera Cruz 31 transports laden with coals, &c., and 52 with provisions, ammunition, &c., for the use of the army.

Tampico, June 15.---The steamers Undine, the Mary Somers, and the Joseph Gage, taken up by the American Government, were constantly employed towing ships over the bar and up and down the river; one bark and three schooners were also used for conveying troops, stores, &c., along the coast. On the Avon’s return to Vera Cruz on the 17th, she found the same men of war and transports at anchor there as on the 13th, when she left for Tampico. She left Vera Cruz on the 3rd of July and arrived at Havannah on the 7th, and found the Spanish men of war already mentioned at anchor there. The Maria Christina sailed on the 9th on a cruise; the schooner Lee was waiting there for the mails, and the Company's steam-packet the Great Western arrived on the same day as the Avon did; the Great Western left on the 10th for Vera Cruz. The Avon sailed on the morning of the 11th for Naseau and arrived on the 18th; she found her Majesty's surveying vessels Thunder and Locke, moored in the harbour; they were to leave for Bermudá in a few days.

The Avon spoke at sea the bark Priscilla, July 29, 42°26 N. lat., 33°30 W. lon; the brig Helons, Irish, and the Brig Harvey, English, July 30, 43°50 N. lat., 29°3 W. lon., the bark M.H. Kendal, American, July 31, 45°17 N. lat., 24°21 W. lon.; an English bark, hoisted white burgee and St. George's cross, August 1, 46°40 N lat., 18 59 W. lon.

[AMA]
conducted with prudence, for the more we learn of the number and condition of his forces, the less adequate do they appear to the occupation of so extensive a line of country as that from this to Vera Cruz. By withdrawing the garrison of Jalapa, and leaving only a small force in possession of the heights which command Puebla, he can now muster 10,000 men, for the attack on this city. Considerable delay has been occasioned by the attacks of the guerilla parties on an American convey of money and ammunition between Vera Cruz and Jalapa. A Spanish priest, named Jarauta, has given unexpected energy to these bands, and distinguished himself personally on various occasions. The clerical and military characters do not seem to be considered incompatible either in Spain or here; indeed, the first Mexican insurgent, Hidalgo, was a village priest. One guerrilla intercepted a despatch from the American Secretary at War, Mr. Marcy, to General Scott, dated April 30, which contains the following passage:

"This Government has received hints that part of the state of Vera Cruz, as well as some others, is disposed to revolt against the central Government. If this be true, use every means in your power to excite this spirit, taking at the same time the utmost care that the United States should not appear to be implicated, as this would give rise to charges against our Government when negotiations for peace are commenced. If you think proper, you can promise some assistance or protection, after the termination of the war."

The American Government should be careful how they expose communications of this delicate nature to seizure.

It was reported yesterday that the American army had already left Puebla, which is probably premature, but "the cry is still they come," and the movements of the troops seem to indicate the approach of danger. The rocky hill of El Penon, about three leagues from this on the Puebla road, has been strongly fortified, and will, probably, soon be the scene of a decisive battle. All the approaches to the town trenches are dug and works thrown up, but no of a class likely to keep out the Americans, if victorious in the previous battle, and, though a city like, where every house is capable of being converted into a fortress, might be long defended by determined men, I see no reason to apprehend a contest in the streets.

While this imminent danger threatens the capital of the republic, the strife of political parties is as fierce as ever. The reflecting portion of both factions (Puros and Modernados) is, doubtless, aware of the necessity of negotiating for peace with the United States; but neither dare to propose it, from an apprehension of the bare suggestion giving an advantage to their opponents. Within the last few days a communication has been received by this Government from Mr. Buchanan, dated Washington, April 16, in which he announces the appointment of Mr. Nicholas P. Trist as commissioner, to accompany the army, with full powers to make peace whenever the Mexicans are disposed to come to terms. This communication was sent here undercover to the British Minister, and the answer (which, as far as is publicly known, merely states that the note would be laid before Congress) was taken to Puebla personally by Mr. Thornton, the Secretary of the Legation. There is, therefore, ground to infer that some friendly mediation is going on. Santa Anna has made some exertions (real or pretended) to get the Congress together; but that body, from mutual jealousies, carried to an inconceivable height, will neither meet in sufficient numbers to transact business, nor consent to be declared in recess, and leave the Executive unfettered. It is difficult to discover the clue to Mexican politics, which seem to be a compound of Spanish intrigue and Indian cunning. Santa Anna, who seems so desirous of assembling the Congress, may very possibly be engaged in fomenting their dissensions, is order to pave the way to his own dictatorship.

The pretensions of the American Government are now understood to be moderate; the same, or similar to those suggested in one of my letters: The line of the Bravo to Paso del Norte, or Santa Fe, and Upper California, to become American, each party to bear its own expenses in the war, and Mexico to receive a pecuniary compensation for the territory ceded, of course without reference to Texas Proper, which is condemned as a lawful prize. If peace should ultimately be made on these terms, the assumption of part of the Mexican debt by the United States, instead of their paying an indemnity to this country, might be a good arrangement for all parties.

General Almonte, who was closely imprisoned here on some unknown charge, and who had a majority of votes for the office of President, has been liberated under an amnesty granted by Santa Anna, on the anniversary of his birthday. Of the states which voted, one only (Chihuahua) gave its voice to Santa Anna, but, owing to the occupation of so large a portion of the country by the Americans, it was found that no legal election could be made, and he remains in possession of nearly absolute power, which he has, as usual, abused to the prejudice of the foreign residents. Forced loans, nominally on all the inhabitants, but really confined chiefly to foreigners, were an old expedient of his for raising money, and their injustice was so apparent that at the period of the French blockade Mr. Pakenham successfully interfered to obtain their perpetual abrogation as respected British subjects,
which necessarily became the rule for other foreigners. Deprived of this resource Santa Anna now plays a bolder game. For a forced loan he has substituted a forced contribution of 1,000,000 dollars, the maximum to be paid by each person being 2,000 dollars, and the minimum 25 dollars. The Governor is the sole judge of who is to pay, and how much; and the penalty for non-payment within three days (in lieu of the bowstring and bastinado of Oriental despots) is the duplication of the contribution. I am sorry to say that our Minister, Mr. Bankhead (who has resided in the east), sees nothing wrong in this. He does not perceive that it is a revival in a more obnoxious form of the principle which his predecessor successfully combated, and all he will undertake to do in favour of British subjects is to obtain a reduction of the quota in cases of manifest injustice. No contribution of this description can be impartially collected in this country. The very nature of this corrupt society forbids it. Arbitrary in its origin, its operation must be attended with injustice, for the Mexican has a thousand means of evading payment, the foreigner none. It is to be lamented that Mr. Bankhead’s health is now so bad, that business of any kind must be a painful annoyance to him. The French, who are much more numerous than the English here, have refused, to a man, to pay this contribution, and have addressed their Government directly on the subject. If the principle be once conceded by foreign Powers, all foreign property in this country may be considered liable to confiscation at the pleasure of the Mexican Government!

The Mexican Cabinet has been again changed. General Alcorta is Minister at War, Don Domingo Ybarra for Foreign Affairs and the Interior, and Don Vicente Romero (a vestige of the Gomez Farias party) for Justice. Rondero retains possession of the Financial Department.

Prostrated by a blockade of more than a year’s duration, trade here is of course at the lowest ebb, nor is any immediate revival to be expected from the arrival of the Americans. Before they can derive any benefit from their tariff (in which some defects have been discovered), they must have a force sufficient to secure the safe transit of merchandise and specie throughout the country, for which their present numbers are wholly insufficient. Exchange by this packet opened at 44 ½ d., and closed at 44d.

The city has just been declared in a rigorous state of siege. No one can leave it without a passport, and martial law is proclaimed.

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LT 1847-8-10-6a

AMERICA
August 10, 1847

[The following appeared in part only of our yesterday’s impression:]

By the packet-ship John R. Skiddy, Captain Luoe, which arrived in the Mersey on Saturday morning, we have advices from New York to the 19th ult. Inclusive. The intelligence by this arrival is important.

Our accounts from Vera Cruz extend to the 2d ult. And from the city of Mexico to the 29th of June. The United States Government, it appears from these advices, at the opening of the present year renewed to the Mexican Government the overtures previously made and rejected for the renewal of negotiations and the re-establishment of peace. The propositions advanced were, that Mexico should send commissioners to Jalapa, Havannah, or any other port, for this purpose. The Mexican Government, on the 22d of February, declined to accede to the proposition, unless, as a preliminary, the United States Government withdrew its armies from the Mexican territories, and raised the instituted blockade of the Mexican ports. On the 15th of April these requirements were pronounced by the United States Secretary of State, Mr. Buchanan, in a lengthy despatch inadmissible, neither demanded by rational honour, nor sanctioned by the practice of nation, in proof of which he instanced the case of the last negotiation instituted at Ghent during the last war of the United States and Great Britain. For a nation which had sacrificed men and money to obtain a foothold in an enemy’s country so to abandon, as was proposed, the advantages it had won without the certainty that the negotiation contemplated would secure peace, would, he argued, be puerile and suicidal. The policy of the Mexican Government had throughout been most extraordinary. She had rejected proposition after proposition of peace, though the United States President had declared before all the world that he would exact no condition derogatory to the honour of both states. If Mexico persisted in such policy peace would never be re-established; and therefore until there was some reason to believe that the Mexican Government would be willing to enter upon a more enlightened course, the United States President would renew no further propositions.
Nevertheless, the Secretary announces that such is the President's desire for peace, and such his desire that the evils of war shall not be prolonged one day later than necessary, that he now sends as a Commissioner to Mexico, possessing his full confidence, and allotted with full powers to conclude a treaty, Mr. Trist, Chief Clerk of the State Department; and in conclusion, Mr. Buchanan expresses the strong desire of the President, that the United Mexican States may maintain hereafter an elevated position among the nations of the earth.

The Mexican Minister acknowledged on the 22d of April the receipt of the despatch, which contains no indication of the nature of the treaty authorized to be concluded by Mr. Trist, stating that the whole matter had been referred for immediate consideration to the Sovereign Congress; and from the Mexican journals we learn that the body had at once been convened. Up to the 29th of June, however, no quorum had been assembled, and it was anticipated that General Scott, who had assigned the 30th of that month as the limit of the space allowed for decision on Mr. Buchanan's letter, would, if the proposal remained unaccepted, at once march upon the capital.

Nothing further had been heard at Vera Cruz of the detachments under Generals Cadwallader and Pillow; but it was thought that they had arrived at the General Scott's head-quarters.

The intelligence from the Rio Grande, New Mexico, and California, with regard to the war, is unimportant. The American papers publish an interesting, and, indeed, important public document, illustrative of the working of the new and old tariff of the country. It appears that the actual augmentation of receipts for duties for seven months and ten day, from December 1, 1846, to June 10, 1847, under the tariff of 1846, compared with the same time under the tariff of 1842, exceeded one million of dollars; and that adding the duties on the warehoused goods, the total increase was nearly one million and a half of total increase was nearly one million and a half of dollars. It appears, also, from the returns of June and July, so far received, that the rate of augmentation was progressing, and that Mr. Walker's estimate will be more than realized by the result.

[AMA]

LT 1847-8-11-8f

THE AMERICANS IN MEXICO
August 11, 1847

General Scott, the Commander in Chief of the American forces, has addressed the following manifesto to the Mexican nation:

(From El Monitor Republicano)

"Mexicans! The recent events of the war, and the provisions which have in consequence been dictated by your Government, render it my duty to address you, for the purpose of demonstrating truths of which you are ignorant, because they are maliciously concealed from you. I do not wish you to believe me on my word of honour, although he who has never swerved from the truth has a right to be believed; but I wish you to judge of these truths from the facts which are under the connivance and subject to the test of you all.

"Whatever may have been the origin of this war, which my country found itself compelled to undertake, from inevitable causes, of which, I understand, the greater part of the Mexican people are ignorant, we consider it as a fatality; for a war always is so to the two belligerent parties, and reason and justice are called into question, if they are not entirely unknown, on both sides, each one believing that it is in possession of them. The proof of this truth is held by Mexicans as well as ourselves, since, in Mexico, as in the United States, there have existed, and do exist, two opposite parties which are desirous, the one of peace, and the other of war. Governments, however, have sacred duties, from which they cannot swerve, and those duties frequently impose, from motives of national convenience, a silence and reserve which sometimes displeases the majority of those who offer opposition from purely personal and private views. And whom Governments, which suppose that the nation reposes in them the confidence merited by a magistrate by itself elected, out not to regard.

"Reasons of state and of American continental interest compromised events in spite of the circumspection of the Cabinet of Washington, which, ardently desiring to put a period to all the differences with Mexico, left no means untied, so far as they were compatible with its honour and dignity, to attain so desirable an end; and when it cherished the most
flattering expectation of obtaining its object by means of its frank explanation and of arguments, submitted to the judgment and practical wisdom of the virtuous and patriotic Government of General Herrera, the misfortune, least looked for, dispelled that grateful hope, and at once obstructed all the paths which might have led to an arrangement honourable to both nations.

"The new Government mistook the national interests as well as those of the American continent, and chose, moreover, the influence most foreign to those interests and most fatal to the future prospects and the liberty of Mexico, and the republican system which the United States deem it their duty to preserve and protect.

"Duty, however, and a regard for our own dignity, impelled us to the necessity of not losing an opportunity which was being violated by the adherents of the monarchical party, such urgent contingencies thus to avoid the complication of interests which might render our situation more difficult and more serious.

"Again, in the course of the civil war, your Government, headed by General Paredes, was overthrown, and we ourselves could not but believe that it would prove a benefit, because, whatever other persons might represent, the Government would be less deluded, and at once more patriotic and prudent, if he attended to the public welfare. Considering and weighing all probabilities, their forces, and elements, and, above all, the most general opinion respecting the pristine results of the national war, we are mistaken, as perhaps the Mexicans themselves have been, in our judgement of the real intentions of General Santa Anna, whom they recalled and our Government permitted to return.

"In this state of things, the Mexican union has seen what have been the results which all lament and ourselves sincerely; because we duly appreciate the valour and the noble decision of the unfortunates who go to war badly led, worse directed, and almost always the victims of deceit and perfidy.

"We are witnesses; and, as interested parties, we shall not be accused of partially, when we have lamented, with admiration, that the heroic behaviour of the garrison of Vera Cruz, in the valiant defense which it made, was disgraced by the general who had just been routed and put to a shameful flight by a force very inferior to that which he commanded in Buena Vista; that this general rewarded the pronunciados in Mexico, the promoters of the civil war, and outraged those who had just singularly distinguished themselves by a resistance far beyond what could have been expected, and characterized by an admirable decision.

"Lastly, the sanguinary affair of Cerro Gordo has shown the Mexican nation what may be reasonably be expected if it continues to remain in ignorance of the real state of affairs to which it has been conducted by some of its generals whom it has most distinguished, and in whom it has reposed the most confidence.

"The most hardhearted man would be melted into grief and tears at the contemplation of the battle fields in Mexico a minute after the last shot had been fired. The generals, whom this nation has paid for so many years without deriving the slightest service from them (with a few honourable exceptions), served, on the very day when they were wanted, to prejudice the cause for which they contended, by their bad example and their unskilfulness. Amongst the dead and the wounded no proofs of military honour are discerned, because they are almost reduced to the sad fate of the soldier, and this has been on all occasions, from Pulo-Alto to Cerro Gordo, the cause of the dead remaining unburied, and their wounded being abandoned to the clemency and charity of the conquerors. And soldiers who went to battle with the knowledge that this recompense awaited them well deserve to be recognized as the best in the world, because they are neither stimulated by an ephemeral glory, a sigh, or a remembrance, but only a tomb.

"Contemplate, then, honoured Mexicans, the fate of the peaceful and laborious citizens in all classes of your society. The property of the church threatened and held out as an allurement to anarchy, the fortunes of the rich proprietors indicated as the prey of rebel rapine, the merchant and the artizan, the labourer and the manufacturer, loaded with contributions, imposts, duties on consumption, and surrounded by guards and officers of the odious internal custom-houses; the literary man and the jurist, the free man of knowledge who dares to speak, persecuted without being judged by any party, or by the very Governments which abuse their power; criminals set at liberty without punishment, like those in the fortress of Perote. What then, Mexicans, is the liberty which you enjoy?

"I do not believe that the Mexicans, sons of the present age, are wanting in courage to confess errors which do not dishonour them, and to adopt a system of true liberty, peace, and union with their neighbouring brothers of the north.

"Still less do I believe that they are ignorant of the infamy with which we are assailed in the periodicals for inciting the people to rebellion. No, public spirit is not created or
reanimated by falsehoods. We have not profaned your temples, violated the persons of your wives, or taken possession of your property, as they would have you believe; and we say it with pride and attest it on the evidence of your own bishops, and the curates of Tampico, Tuzpan, Matamoras, Vera Cruz, and Jalapa, and all the ecclesiastics and civil authorities in the vicinity of those districts which we have occupied. We worship the same God, and a great party of our army, as well as the population of the United States, are Roman Catholics like yourselves. We chastise crime wherever we find it, and reward merit and virtue.

"The army of the United States respects and will always respect the private property of every class, and the property of the Mexican church; and wo to him who shall fail to do so wherever we may find ourselves!

"Mexicans, the past cannot be remedied; but future evils may nevertheless be prevented. I have repeatedly declared to you that the Government and people of the United States are desirous of peace and you sincere friendship. Abandon, then, rancorous prejudices, and cease to be the tools of private ambition; behave like a great American nation/ abandon for once these habits of colonists, and learn how to be truly free, truly republican, and very soon you may be very rich and very happy, since you possess all the elements of both; but reflect that you are Americans, and that your felicity is not to be derived from Europe.

"In conclusion, I desire to proclaim, and with equal Frankness, that if it should prove necessary, an army of 100,000 men would very promptly arrive, and that the United States would not terminate their differences with Mexico, having to do so by arms, either in a precarious, uncertain, or dishonourable manner; and I should insult the enlightened part of this country were I to doubt their knowledge of this truth.

"The authority to form guerillas to make war against us will, I assure you, only be productive of evils to the country, and none whatsoever to our army, which will be able to defend itself and to proceed against them; and if, far from calming the public mind and the national passions, you endeavour to irritate them, you will reduce us to the hard necessity of resorting to reprisals, and then you will only have to thank yourselves for the consequences.

"I am marching with my army to Puebla and Mexico. I make no secret of this; from those capitals I shall once more address you. I desire peace, amity, and union; it is for you to choose whether you prefer to continue the war. At all events, rest assured that I shall never fail to keep my word.

"WINFIELD SCOTT, General. Head-quarters, Jalapa, May 11."

[AMA]

LT 1847-8-14-4b

THE WAR WITH MEXICO
August 14, 1847

The Washington correspondent of the New York Courier and Inquirer writes from that city on the 19th of July to the following effect:

"We must now be on the eve of the most important intelligence from Mexico; and the problem will soon be solved whether we are to have war or peace. My own opinion, formed upon the latest intelligence for Puebla, is still that it will be peace. It is quite certain there is a large party, even in the present Congress of Mexico, in favour of peace; but whether they number a majority or not of that body, must be speedily determined. In the mean time it is certain, notwithstanding all that has been said to the contrary--first, that the mediation of Great Britain for peace, as proffered to Mexico, has not been rejected by the Congress of Mexico, neither has it, as yet, been accepted; second, the terms proposed by Mr. Trist have not yet been rejected by the congress of Mexico at the latest dates from the capital. If they are rejected, or their acceptance delayed, General Scott will advance and take the city. But if, on the other hand, as is extremely probable, these terms should be accepted, and the treaty ratified at once by the Congress of Mexico, General Scott, in that event, will not advance beyond Puebla, but will await orders from the Government here, which would, no doubt, convene the Senate at once, so as to have the ratification exchanged, and peace re-established. I do, however, undertake to say, by intelligence direct from Puebla, that if Mr. Trist had conducted the negotiation properly, and placed his despatch in the hands of General Scott, so as to transmitted to the Mexican Government immediately after the battle of Cerro Gordo, we should have had peace long before this period. I repeat that the proceedings of the Mexican Government, shortly after the battle of Cerro Gordo, and now well known at Puebla, wherever they are published, well
demonstrate that at that time Mr. Trist's proposals, if he had sent them on as he ought to have done, would have been accepted by the Government of Mexico. I still think they will be accepted; but if they are not the rejection must be attributed to this fatal delay. Whatever may be said here to the contrary, by the Union or any one else. I undertake to say, upon unquestionable authority, from Puebla, that Mr. Trist did undertake to give a military order, although, according to my information from Mexico, Mr. Buchanan's despatch and instructions to Mr. Trist were perfectly right, and are considered by all who have seen them there as most judicious and proper; yet Mr. Trist, speaking in the name of the President, did give a military order to General Scott, which necessarily delayed negotiation. I say such an order from Mr. Trist has been seen at Puebla, and has produced the utmost astonishment in the mind of every military man there who is cognizant of the fact. It is unpleasant to censure any public functionary, especially a gentleman who is so amiable in private life as Mr. Trist, but where such great public interests are involved, and such weighty responsibilities resting upon all connected with these transactions, it is right and just that the truth should be told in order that the censure may fall upon those only by whom it is merited."

LT 1847-8-16-5a

MEXICAN WAR
August 16, 1847

We publish today some fresh intelligence from American, which puts us in possession of the transactions at the scene of war up to the 18th of last month. General Scott is still at La Puebla, and General Pillow and his colleague still at Perote. It is reported that Mr. Trist's mission has been so far successful that the Mexicans have at length condescended to nominate commissioners empowered to negotiate with him; but this information is contradicted by other rumours, and nothing certain appears to be known even about this rudimentary overture to peace. The minor details reported by this mail are not in themselves very significant; and yet, taken in conjunction with the accounts which have lately reached us in rather rapid succession, they may perhaps be constructed into a view of affairs somewhat different from that represented by the Americans.

In a word, we think it highly probable that General Scott is halting at Puebla simply because he cannot advance and is ashamed to retire, and that the empressment with which the Americans are endeavouring to negotiate a peace is attributable not only to their hankerings after ceded territory, but to their anxiety to extricate their army from a very unpleasant and unpromising position. Their own story is, that the General remains at Puebla to try the effect of the parley between Mr. Trist and the Mexican authorities, and that if this should produce no results, he will then at once bring the whole affair to a conclusion by marching on the capital. But why, under such circumstances, should he ever have advanced so far? Why not have parleyed from Vera Cruz instead of La Puebla. If the matter was to be settled by argument or bargain, the march and battles between La Puebla and Vera Cruz were useless and nugatory; if by intimidation and menace the continued advance to the metropolis was absolutely necessary, and nothing could be more destructive to the prestige of invincibility than such a halt as has occurred. When Napoleon demanded the keys of a capital it was at the gates, not half way on his route. If the march upon Mexico would summarily settle the negotiations which two months of bribery and bullying have not even put in train, why is not such an obvious and decisive expedient at once adopted? After the bombardment of Vera Cruz, it would be idle to conceive that any respect for Mexican feelings can be operative with the invaders. There are but two very probable conclusions--either that General Scott is perfectly aware that would gain nothing by entering Mexico, or that he knows very well he is not strong enough to get there.

We rather prefer that latter supposition, which the few incidents detailed in our present advices appear to us to confirm. It is true that the Mexicans are reported (though not with entire concurrence of authorities) to have suffered one or two additional defeats. But this very ordinary result of their enterprises is by no means of such significance as the fact that they should have again exposed themselves to the chance. Whether General Peirce did or did not repulse a large Mexican force by a very weak sortie, is neither easily ascertainable from our present intelligence, nor very important to our present argument. What is both momentous and certain is, that the very base of American operations, in uninterrupted communication with the home Government, protected by powerful shipping and strong fortifications, and garrisoned by depots and reinforcements so as almost to outnumber the force at head-quarters, was actually attacked by a Mexican army which deliberately stood an engagement with the defile of the Puente Nacional in its rear. If 10,000 troops are neither secure nor formidable behind the ramparts of Vera Cruz, how are 5,000 of them to march to La Puebla? The same remark applies to the victories reported to have been gained by Pillow and Cadwallader at Perote. That the Mexicans should have been in plight to risk a battle is far more important than that they should once more have been defeated.
Though the American garrisons have, as yet, shown themselves superior to the enemy, yet it is evident that they have work enough prepared for them in keeping open the line of operation. So General Scott remains, as he has long remained, at the La Puebla, prudently reluctant to trust to the tremendous defiles between his quarters and Chalco, or to lose himself with some 4,000 followers in a hostile and anarchical metropolis, till some noche triste like that of Cortes should crown as wanton career.

Meantime, however, even Mexican intrepidity must be growing, and even American effrontery be sinking, under the influence of these reciprocal relations. The dullest of Santa Anna's constituents will at length conclude that an invader who halts half way cannot be invincible, and the most audacious gunner of Twiggs' battery will begin to share as is said, the immediate advance of Scott after Cerro Gordo was a coup de main to hazardous even under such tempting circumstances, and that General, as we are not prepared to deny, sagaciously shrank from a step which his countrymen chalked out for him, it is clear that the delay of every hour adds to the impracticability of the final enterprise. Unless very large reinforcements are despatched, or some unforeseen element should enter into calculation, things must gradually get worse and worse for the Americans. After a time it is possible that Mexican detachments may cease to be "defeated with a loss of 250 men." After a hundred fights they, as well as their betters, may become heroes. Tlascala may again perhaps turn out some sturdy tribe of warriors. At all events, the strength of the natives must tend to increase, for by delay they have everything to gain and nothing to lose; while the Americans, entangled in rugged defiles, isolated in a hostile country, surrounded by repeated conflicts, and decimated in their depots by the dreadful vomito of the coast, must sink both in strength and spirits by every week's protraction of the struggle.

These considerations will readily, and, as we suspect, accurately explain the extreme anxiety displayed by the "conquerors" to secure a peace. Their victories had no results. They can neither proceed with any probable advantage nor retreat with any decent credit; and their paradoxical offer to purchase terms from a prostrate foe many be a measure of the greatest prudence and the highest exigency, though, if bullying had borne its expected fruits, we may safely conclude that bribery would never have been called into play. The next mail will, probably, inform us how far this question, of such infinitely greater importance to the Americans than to the Mexicans, may have been found to admit of arbitration. It is possible that the latter people may consummate a discreditable campaign by a foolish compromise, and be overreached into a sacrifice of the best chance they have yet enjoyed. It is true that the very eagerness of their enemy and attractive character of the devotion required from themselves should recommend it to their favourable notice. Their duty to their country demands nothing but sulkiness and bluster. They are not even compelled to say "No"--they have only to avoid saying "Yes." If they will but decree themselves patriots and declare themselves unconquerable, they need neither arm nor fight, but may sit valorously at home till tempted by the plunder of a self-discomfited foe. But it is doubtful whether the professions of Scott and the payments of Trist may not do their work--whether the combined tender of affection and specie may not overcome, in the rulers at least, the sullen antipathy which has hitherto performed some of the parts of patriotism, and release the Americans from their disagreeable dilemma. A lurking wish to the contrary it is difficult to avoid, for though the Mexicans have hit upon the only fashion of resisting an unprovoked invasion which could fail in arousing some sort of European sympathy, yet the disgust excited by a tyrannical and shameless aggression upon the certain favour which secures them the good wishes of others in spite of themselves.

[AMA]

LT 1847-8-16-8a

AMERICA
August 16, 1847

The following appeared in a second edition of The Times of Saturday:

By the Royal mailsteam ship Britannia, Captain Harrison, we have advices from New York to the 31st ult., Boston to the 1st, and Halifax to the 3d inst. respectively.

The American steam ship Washington arrived at New York on the 30th ult., and the Royal mail steam ship Hibernia reached Halifax on the 31st; would reach Boston on the 2d inst.

The commercial and political news are both important. The business in foreign exchange had not been large, the demand being moderate. The quotation in the Shipping List of the 31st ult. On London is 5 ½ to 6 1/8 per cent. premium; but other accounts state that bills were offering as low as 5 per cent.
The advices taken out by the steam ship Washington, which reached New York on the 30th, had the effect of running up prices of grain and bread-stuffs to the extent of 50 cents per barrel of flour.

Money was plentiful, and business generally was active, with some tendency to speculation.

On freights, flour had been taken to London at 3s. 10 ½ d. to 4s. 3d.

General Business was active.

The following are the political accounts, extracted from the New York Herald:

"Advices from Vera Cruz on the 18th inst. mention that General Pierce with 2,500 men, had a battle near National Bridge with 4,000 Mexicans and defeated them. The Mexicans about 150. General Pierce returned to Vera Cruz for reinforcements.

"Later accounts, however, do not confirm this statement. They say that General pierce had encamped 10 miles from the city, when scouts from his rear-guard came in and reported that a large force of Mexicans were at the National Bridge, marching towards Vera Cruz. Everything was got ready for an expected attack. The shipping removed from between the city and the Castle. General Pierce came in and took a reinforcement of 7,000 men, and again marched to meet the enemy.

"Colonel De Russy, who went out from Tampico to see what had become of the American prisoners on their way to Tampico, was attacked by 1,200 Mexicans at Huequetla. He was surrounded, and placed in great peril, but he cut his way through the enemy's lines, with the loss of 20 killed and 10 wounded.

"General Scott was still at Puebla. Generals Cadwallader and Pillow were at Perote. They had defeated the Mexicans at Lahoya. We learn of the appointment of Commissioners by the Mexican Government to confer with Mr. Trist, at San Martin Tesmalaucan, on the 8th, and through him the terms offered by the President. A letter from Mexico, dated the 2d, says there is no doubt but that the treaty will be concluded immediately by the Commissioners, the peace party is so strong, and that Santa Anna will probably pronounce for peace. The names of the Commissioners given are Garostise, Baronda, and Tornel."

Other accounts, however, throw doubts upon the reported appointment of Commissioners also.

From Canada we have accounts to the 29th ult. The Parliament had adjourned, after repealing all differential duties. An address to the Crown had been voted, praying the repeal of the Navigation Laws, so far as they bear upon the colony. The immigration from Ireland and the dreadful mortality among the emigrants attracted great attention, and excited much discussion.

On the 28th the Governor-General closed the session with the following speech:

Lion. Gentlemen of the Legislative Council and Gentlemen

Of the legislative Assembly

"In relieving you for the present from attendance in this place, I have to thank you for the zeal and assiduity in the discharge of you important duties which have enabled you, during the course of a session of comparatively short duration, to consider and perfect many measures which promise to be of great advantage to the community.

"I sincerely trust that the alterations which you have made in the provincial tariff, and the additional facilities afforded to trade by the extension of bonding and warehousing privileges, will be productive of benefit to the colony, and tend to the promotion of its commercial and agricultural interests.

"I have observed with satisfaction the attention which you have bestowed on the several projects which have been brought before you for developing the mineral resources of the province, and improving its means of internal communication.

"I trust that the measures which you have passed for the amendment of certain provisions of the criminal code, for the protection of mercantile interests, for rendering the common school act of Upper Canada more effective, and for placing the municipal institutions of
Lower Canada on improved footing, will be attended with beneficial results.

"The prevalence of disease among the immigrants who have arrived from Europe this session has occasioned me much concern. I have not failed to bring this subject under the consideration of Her Majesty's Secretary of State, and to represent the necessity of adopting measures to place emigration to this colony under more efficient regulation. Meanwhile my warmest acknowledgements are due to you for the liberal provision which you have made for relieving the indigent and preventing disease from spreading in the province. The charitable exertions of the clergy, of the ladies attached to the religious communities, and of benevolent individuals among the laity, who have, at the hazard of their lives, ministered to the necessities of the sick, are beyond any praise which it is in my power to offer; but I cannot refrain on this occasion from paying a tribute to their devotedness and Christian zeal.

"Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

"I thank you in the name of Her Majesty for the readiness with which you have voted the supplies necessary for the public service and for maintaining the credit of the province.

"Hon. Gentlemen and Gentlemen,

"The several addresses to the queen which you have transmitted through me have been duly forwarded to be laid at the fact of the throne.

"By exercising the influence which you possess in your respective districts to carry out local improvements and give full effect to the wise and salutary enactments of the Legislature, you may render services to the community hardly less important than those which you discharge while you are assembled here. I am confident that these duties will engage your attention on your return to your homes, and I earnestly pray that our exertions for the advancement of the various interests of this noble province, and for the benefit of all classes of the inhabitants, may be attended with the Divine blessing."

The Hon. the Speaker of the Legislative Council then declared that it was the pleasure of his Excellency the Governor-General that the Parliament should stand prorogued to Monday, the 6th of September.

[AMA]

LT 1847-8-16-8c

US and Mexico
August 16, 1847

American Affairs
The Administration have discovered, that in regard to the Mexican affairs, they have been traveling rather too fast, and, preparatory to retracing some of their hasty steps, they are seeking "scape-goats," as an offering for their sins.

The St. Louis Republican of the 17th inst. mentions the reception of letters from Santa Fe to the 27th of May. One of the letters states that "on the 22nd of May Colonel Price discovered that there were instructions from the War Department, which had been received by the last mail, brought by Mr. Boggs, directed to the Colonel commanding in Santa Fe, in which it was announced that the President refused to sanction any of the acts of General Kearney, so far as they confer such rights. On the strength of these instructions, Colonel Price, officially demanded the release and remission of the sentence of Antonio Maria Trajillo, convicted of treason against the Government of the United States. The accused was thereupon set at liberty."

On this discovery, at this last day, I have no disposition to comment at present. Similar military usurpations were practiced in California, and other parts of the Mexican territory. A few weeks will, probably, bring forth something on the subject which may enlighten us all. Whether the orders which General Kearney received were, or were not, so loosely drawn as to be totally misunderstood by him, remains to be decided. If, however, he has thus acted without authority, he is in no great danger of suffering. He married a daughter of Colonel Brenton, the distinguished senator in Congress from Missouri.

Everything seems to indicate that the Administration batteries are preparing to assault General Scott, if it shall be deemed expedient. He is now charged by the subordinates with defeating the peace negotiation, in not forwarding, promptly, the overtures of Mr.
Buchanan, as presented by Mr. Trist, and referred to in my last letter. At the same time, it is said, by the same party, that the General has halted, and will not enter the city of Mexico until it is ascertained that Mr. Bankhead’s friendly mission has totally failed. It is positively asserted that General Scott was ordered to halt.

These statements and assertions are fabulous. The plain truth is, that General Scott has not been in a situation to advance. He was, at the last accounts (the 29th of June), so hemmed in, that he deemed it inexpedient to move until reinforced. He has been grossly deceived by the Administration at every step he has taken. Nor will he be commiserated, even by his friends. It is within my personal knowledge that they warned him of the danger of being embarrassed by the Administration when he should most want and need their support. But he was credulous. The consequence is, he has felt, and continues to feel, the direful effect of that credulity.

In my last letter I stated that General Scott was included with Mr. Trist in the same commission. This statement was incorrect; he was not named as a commissioner, and not being so named he committed a gross error in refusing to forward, as requested by Mr. Trist, a letter addressed to the Mexican Government. Having nothing to do with the negotiation, it was his duty to forward the dispatch presented to him, even by Mr. Trist, who was well known to the General as the representative of the American government.

Some anxiety pervades this community in relation to the present situation of General Scott. I am not among the number that entertain any apprehension for his safety. I feel perfectly confident, if attacked even in his weak state, he will put his assailants to flight. It may, however, cause him some hard fighting. But a triumphant victory us considered certain. It is somewhat extraordinary however, that neither Generals Cadwallader nor Pillow, who were on their march to join General Scott, have been heard from. It may be, but it is not probable, that a strong Mexican force has interrupted the progress of these detachments.

Yesterday the steamer Washington arrived in this port, after a passage of 14 days and some hours, from Southampton. An English paper of the 15th of July brought by the Washington, commences an article, "The Mexican war is evidently drawing to a close." I wish I could say I entertained a similar opinion, but I cannot. I can see no present prospect of peace, and yet it may take place in ten days. This Government is most heartily sick of the war, and none more so than Mr. Polk. It is a ridiculous false pride that induces him to continue it. An open, frank, and manly policy would secure a treaty of peace in one month. Such an elevated statesman as Henry Clay would soon accomplish that desirable object. I regret to add that I fear Mr. Polk is more anxious to terminate the war than Santa Anna or his adherents; but he knows not how.

The emigrant fever, as it is termed, has lost much of its terror in this city. It has not been extended to our settled population. Very few have been affected by it, and of those few proportion only have died.

In Canada it ravages have been, and continue to be, most appalling. The various public journals concur in representing it as of an alarming character. A Montreal paper, under date of July 24th, says, during the week ending at date were 235 deaths; during the same period last year 60; increase 175. On Saturday there were 1,712 sick in the emigrant sheds, and 32 deaths in the preceding 24 hours.

The St. Johns Herald states that of the emigrants who left Great Britain for Quebec alone, 4,095 never reached their destination, having died at sea or at quarantine. About 600 more perished at sea by shipwreck, making about 4,700 deaths up to the 30th June. The ship Avon, Johnston, of St. Johns was at Grosse Isle, with all the crew and passengers sick, and 136 out of 550 dead. Small-pox has again broken out on board her Majesty's troop ship Apollo. One of the Church of England ministers, Rev. W. Chatterton, Lieutenant Lloyd, R.N., Mr. Crispo, Captain Christian, of the ship Sisters, and several others are also dead.

It is now certain that there are sufficient funds in the treasury of Pennsylvania to meet the payment of their August interest due on Monday. Foreign stockholders naturally fell some anxiety on the subject. The money market remains easy. Sterling Exchange firm at ? to 6 per cent. Flour, moderate demanded, and at ? to 6 firm.

P.S. Since writing the proceeding, a telegraphic dispatch from Richmond furnishes the following. It is proper that I should add, my opinion in regard to the question of peace or war remains unchanged.

A Genevese Traveler
New York, July, 30, 2 PM
By early telegraphic dispatch from Richmond we have important advices from Mexico, including Vera Cruz, dates to the 18th inst. General Pierce, having marched from Vera Cruz with 2,500 to reinforce General Scott, had a collision near the National Bridge with a Mexican force, estimated that 4,000, who were defeated with a loss of about 150. General Pierce (the dispatch says) returned to Vera Cruz for reinforcements.

Second dispatch

General Scott still remained at Puebla at the last advices. Generals Cadwallader and Pillow were at Perote. There had been a collision at La Haya, in which the Mexicans were worsted as usual. The Mexican Government is said to have appointed two commissioners to confer with Commissioner Trist. Santa Anna is supposed to favor peace. Colonel De Russy was recently surrounded and attacked by 1,2000 Mexicans at Heujutla. His position was at first critical, even perilous, but he cut his way through the enemy with the loss of 60 killed and 20 wounded.

Later

The news of a battle between General Pierce and the Mexicans, which was a rumor by a passenger in the cars, is not confirmed. By the report of the captain of the steamer Orleans, as published in the Picayune, it appears that he left Vera Cruz on the 14th inst., at which time General Pierce had reached the National Bridge, with 2,500 men and 150 wagons, on the march towards Puebla. The Orleans arrived at Tampico on the 15th, where the captain was informed by Colonel Gates of the departure of Colonel De Russy up the river with 120 men, partly Baltimorean, in search of the Mexican prisoners lately released. He landed with 150 mules near Huejutla, and was surrounded by 1,200 or 1,400 Mexicans, and had to cut his way through and return toward the river, and was there awaiting for reinforcements. Colonel Yates dispatched the Orleans back to Vera Cruz with a requisition to Governor Wilson for four Companies of Infantry, and sent at the same time 150 men up the river to the relief of De Russy. The Orleans arrived at Vera Cruz on the 16th, and found the city in a state of great excitement. General Pierce had encamped 10 miles from the city, when scouts from his rear guard came in, and reported that large forces of Mexicans were at the National Bridge, marching towards Vera Cruz. Everything was get ready for an expected attack; the shipping removed from the city and castle. General Pierce came in and took a reinforcement of 700 men and again marched to meet the enemy. Colonel Gate's requisition could not be complied with, but the Orleans received 25 marines and returned to Tampico, when she arrived on the 28th, and learned that De Russy's detachment, in returning near Huejutla, in a narrow pass, surrounded by 1,200 or 1,400 Mexicans, who commenced a heavy fire from all directions, but fled though the chaparral after six or eight rounds of grape. De Russy continued at intervals for several days to fight his way back to the river, where he was received by Colonel Gate's reinforcements. He reached Tampico on the night of the 16th, with a loss of 20 killed, 10 wounded, 2 missing, and 20 horses were killed. De Russy received several balls through his clothes, and Captain Wyse had three horses shot under him. The Mexican loss is represented at 150. Lieutenant Whipple has been lassoed near Vera Cruz. Captain W. Dough died on the 16th, and Lieutenant Parker, of the navy, died on the 12th, on board of the Mississippi. The Sun of Anahuac on the 13th says, that by private express from Puebla, intelligence had been received that Cadwallader and Pillow, with the trains, had arrived at Perote, and had been attacked at Lahaya by a large Mexican force and completely routed the enemy with but little loss. This express left Puebla on the 3rd, and the news was received there the day previous, that three commissioners had been appointed to meet Mr. Trist at San Martin in the 8th, and learn through him the terms offered by the President. A letter from Mexico, dated the 2nd, says there is no doubt but that the treaty will be concluded immediately by the commissioners, the peace party is so strong, and that Santa Anna will probably pronounce for peace. The names of the commissioners given are Oarostiz, Baranda, and Tornel. News from General Scott from Puebla to Vera Cruz was murdered after a desperate resistance. The Picayune's express was attacked and robbed of his letters, and left for dead. But other letters reached Vera Cruz, and say that peace is the order of the day, but believe that Santa Anna only wishes to gain time.

[KAS]

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1847-8-24-4c

August 24, 1847

Americans in Mexico

Eighteen months have not elapsed since the President of the United States communicated to the American Congress the intelligence that they were the motives which impelled Mr. Polk to the origination of so serious an incident in the annual register of a nation were so candidly discussed at the time. It was asserted that the war arose from a source little more
Mr. Polk looked for a short campaign and a summary surrender. He dreamt, like Napoleon in 1812, of deputation and offerings, of cessions and spoils. He thought to acquire a province at the cost of a parade, and to discover a new planet for his star-spangled banner without the mentionable expenditure of labor or time. Now, supposing that the next dispatches should bring the actual intelligence of a treaty on the specified basis, the account will run thus:- The Americans have been subjected to the drain of an eighteen months' war on a far more ruinous scale than any of their recent armaments. No very close approximation has yet been made to the precise amount of the penalty thus incurred, but it has gone far to postpone that revision of the American tariff, to which previous experience was leading, which was so emphatically called for by the reforms and prospects of other states, and which would have spoken so powerfully for transatlantic wisdom amongst the people of Europe. Instead of the conquest, Mr. Polk can only point to what by the most favorable appellation must be termed a compromise. Instead of enriching the Exchequer, or reducing the burdens of his country, he has retarded, it may be for years, its opportunities of sage experiment or enlightened reform. At an early period of the war, it was industriously set forth that Mexico would identify her conquerors for the expenses which they condescended to incur; but as this claim gradually became larger and larger, it was proportionally withdrawn from notice, and such impracticable arrangement no longer figures in any sketch of the preliminaries. Six months ago, before the battles of Vera Cruz, the advance of Puebla, or the dispatch of reinforcements, the costs of the war were stated in Congress by a calculating senator to approach 30,000,000 of dollars. By the same estimate the marketable value of California was set down at 15,000,000. Omitting therefore, the intermediate accumulations of expenditure, and stating the case in a form most familiar to transatlantic capacities, it may be said that America has exposed herself to the hazard of disgrace and the repudiation of Europe for the sake of purchasing an unnecessary commodity at twice its worth.

But this is not all. It is notorious that the United States can receive no considerable accession of territory without the agitation of a question which may involve the most mementos results. A large and powerful portion of the union is resolved that slavery, if it cannot be abolished in the states where it is at present legalized, shall least never be introduced into any newly annexed province; and the energy displayed in such matters on our own shores may lead to a pretty safe interference as to the obstinacy with which this not unreasonable point may be insisted on abroad. On the other hand, it is alleged and declared with equal violence that slave labour will be more than ever indispensable in bringing under cultivation a prolific but encumbered soil, promising abundant returns, but demanding extraordinary outlays of capital and labour. The best informed prophets of this dispute are unable to anticipate its decision, but it has been very palingly hinted that the eventual disruption of the Union and the formation of two separate and hostile powers on the North American continent, army be the consequence of so inveterate a dissenion. Other anticipations combine with this provisional suspicion. Instead of extinguishing opposition by the dazzling splendor of conquest and the emollient importation of plunder, he has raised up by the events of the war a formidable rival to his own fame. He has given his adversaries an inexhaustible topic of incentive, disheartened his friends by the falseness of his position, and determined the course of neutrals by the ill success of his speculation. That quite so mischievous a result was to be apprehended from the beginning, we do not say was probable. It was, perhaps, not easy to calculate on the operation of the several substitutes for patriotism and valor which have befriended the Mexicans. But very few persons will be found, we think, to lament the disappointment of such unholy hopes, from whatever cause arising.

A philosophical historian would hardly be dissatisfied with the moral of the chapter as it at present stands; but we do not conceal our suspicions that the catastrophe may possibly have yet to come. The arguments which are said to have reached Santa Anna must necessarily be listed to a narrow circle of converts. But a short time ago it was announced that the Mexican Congress had refused to assemble or to debate; that they had refused to delegate the power of the Executive to another, or to exert it themselves, and that Santa Anna would be left to a self-conferred Dictatorship or to utter incompetence. That he and his fellow proselytes may proclaim the termination of hostilities, is not unlikely, if his disposition has been fairly represented in the last reports; and, perhaps, such timely compact may enable general Scott decamp from La Puebla with the honors of peace. But there still remain the feelings of an invaded and exasperated nation to be cajoled or
subdued, and this task, not always very practicable to more efficient administrations, may possibly be beyond the strength of that faction or coalition which is termed the Government of Mexico. "There are two things," says a noble historian, "which are generally popular in their beginning; the first is a war, and second is peace." Mr. Polk’s war certainly claimed its share of favour; but though his peace may undoubtedly demand the welcome which the lesser evil always deserves, we think it will pass even his ingenuity to represent it as an advantageous bargain or an honorable conclusion.

[KAS]

LT 1847-8-30-5e

AMERICAN AFFAIRS.
August 30, 1847

NEW YORK, August 14.

During the last three of four days this city has been inundated with rumours in relation to General Scott and his command. It has been confidently stated that an action had taken place between his army and the troops of Mexico, near that city, in which the latter had been defeated and completely routed. It is further stated that General Scott, after the action had received Mexican commissioners, who in due form had surrendered the city to the conquering General, he pledging himself that the private property, &c., should be respected. He entered the city, it is said, on the 17th of July. Another account states that no opposition was made to his entry.

It is reduced to a certainty that the date cannot be correct. In fact, although the rumour is received from different quarters, yet, as no details are given, its accuracy is generally doubted. The account most direct is from a letter written by a lady in Mexico, dated the 17th of July, to a gentleman in New Orleans, in which she says--"General Scott, at the head of his army, is now marching into the city."

It would be a waste of time, if nothing worse, to attempt a repetition of all the rumours that are constantly received from Mexico; and perhaps my opinion on the question of peace or war is more frequently given than is necessary; but, witnessing as I do daily the anxiety that is evinced here to learn the opinions of those who are supposed to watch the movements of the hostile armies, I have thought that some of your readers might wish to know whether your correspondent had changed his view of the question, which for more than a year he had contended presented no aspect but that of unrelenting warfare. On the 31st of July, by the Richmond telegraph, we were informed that Mexico had appointed commissioners to negotiate a peace. I expressed to you my unbelief of this tale. The result had proved that I was correct.

In one particular, and in one only, all parties seem to concur, and that is--Mr. Trist’s mission has totally failed, notwithstanding the friendly interference of the British Minister, which was volunteered. In my letter to you of the 15th June I predicted that such would be its result. It is now said that General Scott will probably be authorized to negotiate, while another section of the party in power speak of Mr. Buchanan, the Secretary of State, as the individual who will be charged with the negotiation, so soon as Mexico is prepared to receive him as Envoy Extraordinary for the special purpose.

But, in judging of the prospects of peace, we must look back and inquire what are the difficulties to be overcome, and what the probability of success. I will only refer to two or three points, early assumed by the President and his followers, viz. :-

1st. That the boundary on the Rio Grande must and should be arranged according to the will and pleasure of Mr. Polk.

2. That California, New Mexico, &c, should be transferred to the United States for a mere nominal sum.

3. That the American claims for spoliation on their commerce should be paid.

4. That the Mexican Government should pay all the expenses incurred by the United States in prosecuting the present war.

5. That the American Government would hold, and continue to hold, until the preceding stipulations were complied with, all that district of country which their army might conquer.
Now, it is not my intention to enter into a discussion of these or any other points of difficulty. I present them merely to show that there are difficulties to adjust, and sacrifices to be made, before a treaty of peace can be concluded, and, permit me to add, not less important measures to be adopted before it can be ratified by the Senate. There is the preliminary question--is the territory, which may be acquired by conquest or by purchase, to be considered a slave-holding territory, or is it not? This question will be warmly debated, both in and out of Congress, and may convulse the Government to its centre.

Some time ago I referred to then existing difficulties in California. Since that period these difficulties have been greatly increased, insomuch that the present situation of the territory is a disgrace to the American Government, which has assumed the control of it, and appointed officers to manage its affairs, whose duty it is to execute the laws in such a way as best to promote the happiness and welfare of the people. The consequences have been of a most disgraceful character. Colonel Freemont has been arrested by General (now Governor) Kearney, and ordered to the United States to be tried by a court-martial. It is stated that the Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Walker, has made an arrangement with Messrs. Rothschild for all the specie the United States may require in Mexico. The specie is to be furnished when required, and drafts on the Treasury to be given for the amount supplied from time to time. Interest to commence when Messrs. Rothschild have notified to the American Government the amount supplied. This will probably prove a convenience to both parties, and will certainly relieve, to a limited extent, the heavy drafts upon our hands for specie to carry on the war with Mexico.

In a former letter I expressed an opinion that the Whig party would probably have in the next House of Representatives a majority of 10 or 12 members. Owing to the unexpected divisions in strong Whig districts in Kentucky, two Loofooos have succeeded, where large Whig majorities voted for different candidates, both of which were defeated. I yet believe, however, that there will be a Whig majority in the house of eight or ten.

A GENEVESE TRAVELLER

[KAS]

LT 1847-9-6-5f

Mexico, affairs of
September 6, 1847

Contrary to general expectation, another month has passed without any movement on the part of General Scott, whose army remains stationary at Puebla. This is the more surprising, as the convoy of stores and money, as long detained by the attacks of the guerrillas, entered Puebla, with a strong reinforcement of troops, early in this month, and thus placed the American General in a position to resume the offensive; for it was not supposed that the rains now falling would be any serious obstacle to his hardy followers, and letter were actually received here from General Worth, stating that if peace should not be made previously, the American cannon would be heard here at the latest on the 25th. It may be the policy of General Scott to keep the Mexicans in a state of alarm by these rumors, which have now been made by Santa Anna, who is apparently now anxious for peace. On the 13th inst. He succeeded in getting Congress together, and having laid Mr. Buchanan’s letter before them, required their opinion as to whether Mr. Trist should be received. Congress replied, evasively, that the faculty of negotiating with foreign powers belonged to the Executive by right, subject to their ratification, and that it was not for them to advise the President on a point not constitutionally before them, though it was well known that they were in favour of continuing the war. Dissatisfied with this ambiguous reply, Santa Anna again addressed Congress, through the Minister of Foreign Affairs, reminding them that the decree of the 20th of April, by which he was invested with extraordinary powers to carry on the war, absolutely prohibited him from making peace. This constitutional prerogative being thus curtailed, he insisted on a categorical answer from Congress. The consequence of this communication was the immediate departure of several member from town, in order to prevent the possibility of Congress again, meeting thus leaving the President to his own devices, and his question unanswered. Santa Anna perceived the snare laid for him by Congress, who desire to fix the whole odium of making peace on him, and hesitate how to act. Meantime, to free himself from the criticisms of the press, he has prohibited all publications, except the Diario del Gobierno. That paper has published, in a very good translation, the article in The Times of the 10th of May, in which Mexico is held up to the scorn of the world. A hundred copies have been ordered to be distributed amongst the army. The avowed object of this measure is to excite the soldiery, by showing them what other nations think of them; and probably some satisfaction is found in circulating the severe censure which the article contains on the
United States. Latterly some articles of a decidedly peaceful character have appeared in the Diario, but though Santa Anna may be desirous of peace, it is not certain that the Americans will recognize in him, circumstances as he new is, an authority competent to negotiate with them. They consider themselves overreached by him already, and are extremely distrustful of any proposal emanating from him. To bring all parties to an understanding of their relative positions, and establish real negotiations, the capture of this city seems an indispensable preliminary. The Americans will gain nothing by their present system of inaction, for in the qualities of passive resistance and obstinacy the Mexicans may fairly compete with any people on the globe. General Valencia, who took the command of the garrison of San Luis Potosi in expectation of an attack from Taylor, has been recalled to assist at the defense of this city. He has brought with him 4,000 or 5,000 men, and 30 pieces of cannon. If the Mexicans had any spirit left, their numbers are amply sufficient to justify the hope of success. Valencia is opposed to peace. He is one of the few Generals whom Santa Anna cannot wholly control; a votary of Bacchus and a man of ordinary stamp, his influence is confined to the troops; yet amidst the changes constantly occurring here, there would be nothing extraordinary in his superseding Santa Anna in the Government. General Scott has adopted the net very defensible expedient of arming the criminals found in the goals of Puebla against the guerrillas, and apparently with success, for not a word has been heard lately of those bands. Even the bold priest Jaranta seems to have retired from field. General Pearce, with another convoy and 2,000 or 3,000 men, has reached Jalapa un molested. His arrival at Puebla will, perhaps, be the signal for the long delayed advance of General Scott. The latest accounts from Saltillo represent General Taylor as still at Monterey, occupied in drilling the new troops, which have joined him in considerable numbers. He sent a detachment lately into the state Zacatecas to liberate some carts of rice, from San Luis, destined for his army, which had been seized at Mazapil, and carried them off without opposition.

Public attention has been much occupied during the present month by General Santa Anna’s decrees for levying forced donations of money. The first of these exhibited a certain degree of caution. It was stated in the preamble to be for once only (por una vez); the maximum for each individual was fixed at 2,00 dollars, and the reparation was interested for the Governor and the mercantile tribunal. Growing bolder, Santa Anna immediately after issued another decree, raising the maximum to 3,000 dollars, and the parties who had been previously assessed at 2,000 found themselves called upon for another 1,000, all to be paid in three days under penalty of the amount being doubled. Still the scheme did not work to Santa Anna’s satisfaction, and he issued a third decree, relieving the Governor from the necessity of consulting the tribunal, and empowering the governor to make a corrected assessment by his sole authority. The Governor found this task rather difficult, so that a fourth decree became necessary, appointing a new consulting body to assist him, but at the same time exempting him from the necessity of following their advice. By this decree a wider range was given to the exaction, which was extended 60,000 dollars, the maximum of 3,000 dollars being retained, and the maximum reduced from 25 to 5. In all these schemes foreigners were included, but I have strong grounds for believing that this was done as an experiment, with little expectation that they would pay. The foreign ministers, however, silently acquiesced, except on the appearance of the fourth decree, when some efforts were made by the Spanish Minister to liberate his countrymen and the French (who are temporarily under his charge) from its effects. The English have addressed Lord Palmerson on the subject by his packet. A primary error was undoubtedly committed by Mr. Canning in treating with the insurgent colonies of Spain as settled Governments or civilized nations. Time has demonstrated the fact. In this portion of Spanish America the effect has soon seen in the decrees of its ephemeral Governments for levying forced loans, the bulk of which invariably fell upon foreigners. The reparation of these forced loans, as now as now of this forced donation, was made without reference to property. It was the result of caprice, of ignorance, and not unfrequently of malice; while private favoritism generally exempted the Mexican capitalist from payment. Indeed, the most wealthy of the latter class, as the most influential, have always the best chance of escape. Submitted to for a time, the injustice was at length felt to be intolerable, and at the period of the peace with France, Mr. Packenham obtained from the Mexican Government a formal relinquishment of the right to impose forced loans to foreigners. With the sole difference that nothing is said about returning the money, the principle now set up is precisely the same as that formerly abandoned; and the lists of contributors exhibit the same glaring inconsistencies, needy foreigners being in many cases rated higher than wealthy Mexicans. The English have paid under protest, and now apply their Government for redress. It is apparent that the appeal will not be made in vain, for so surely as the right of levying these forces donations is conceded to the rulers of Mexico will the cost of their endless revolutions be thrown on the foreign commercial body, and in an excessive proportion on the English.

It is understood that an arrangement has been come to between the agent of the English bondholders and Santa Anna respecting the late conversion of the debt. I will not call it final, as it would be an error to use to term in connexion with anything Mexican. Should peace now be made with the United States it is probable that civil disturbances will immediately be renewed, and that the country will ultimately be divided, like Columbia, into separate states. Already a civil contest on a small scale has commenced between
Zacatecas and Aguas Calientes, the former desiring to "annex" the latter. The army of Zacatecas numbers 130 warriors, while that of her opponent is estimated at 100. Of course taxation will be necessary to support the expenses of the campaign.

I have just learnt that in a council of war Santa Anna declared that it was useless to think of opposing the Americans in the open field, and explained his plans to be the fortification and defense of all the approaches to the city, where he proposes to concentrate his forces. If this plan be acted on, the city will of course be bombarded. [Exchange on London, 43d. [KAS]

Mexican Affairs
September 9

When we closed our comments upon Mexican affairs the other day with a conjecture that very few people would be found taking any great interest in the finally result of the conflict we went, we fear, a little beyond the mark. SANTA ANNA has hit upon a device, which, if he can successfully prosecute it, will irresistibly attract the attention and sympathy of this country towards the fortunes of Central America. This is nothing less than making Englishmen pay the expenses of the war.

The letters which we published from our correspondent on the spot gave a summary detail of the measures by which the Mexican Dictator had arrived at this very satisfactory point. The first proclamation of a forced donation appeared at the beginning of July, shortly after that restoration to popularity, which alternated so rapidly with this ignominious expulsion from the capital. It commenced humbly and with deprecation. The resort to this source of revenue was alleged to be por una vez - "only for this once," and the subscription was modestly limited to 2,000 dollars. The governor of the city and the tribunal of commerce were intrusted with the discovery and assessment of each individual's ability, no foreigners being exempted from the impost. When no very desperate insurrection was found to follow upon this announcement, the General grew bolder, and by an explanatory decree raised the maximum to 3,000 dollars instead of 2,000 and graciously extended the minimum of admissible contributions from 25 dollars to 5, while the powers of the city warden for raising the rates were made more summary and absolute. No remonstrance from any foreign Minister seems to have been called forth, except that M. De. Castro, who is at present charged with the combined interests of France and Spain in Mexico, made some feeble efforts at the eleventh hour to liberate his own flock.

Now, the consequences of such a measure as this, if passed without protest, will obviously be somewhat derogatory to our position, and remarkably detrimental to our interests in that part of the globe. We are willing to admit, to the full, the amenability of British subjects, or the subjects of any other country, to the laws, ordinances, and fortunes of the state in which they have voluntarily taken up their abode. If they can benefit of foreign advantages, they become liable of foreign reverses. We will admit that it is only by the prescriptive courtesy of war that they are exempted from the liabilities attending a siege or a capture. But the very utmost that can be said is, that they should take their fair turn amongst the citizens with whom they have cast in their lot; and that this equitable rule will be most assuredly transgressed in Mexico it hardly needed the last month's experience to teach us. The repartition or allotment of this compulsory loan is never conducted on any principles of justice or impartiality. It is of course seldom resorted to but on those somewhat frequent occasions when the State is in desperation, and even ordinary laws suspended; and its arrangement is dictated alternately by caprice, malice, favoritism, or the rather more venial necessity of repairing to the only quarter where there is anything to be got. The consequence is, that the few native capitalists accessible employ their wealth and influence in procuring a comparative exemption from the imposts, and their names appear in the arbitrary list of the assessments as rated at a similar quota than the needy or defenseless foreigners from whose purses the required sum is made up. A native may allege his poverty, and find easy and reasonable credence, but a foreigner can hardly do so. His very residence and occupation in a strange city presupposes some more or less lucrative compensation for his exile, and his unacquaintance with the indigenous arts of eluding taxes leaves him exposed to the whole brunt of the levy. It is on these grounds that he so much demands protection. If there are ninety-nine Mexicans and one Englishman in the case, it is next to certain that he will be made paymaster for the hundred. It is to save him from paying all that he must be released from the necessity of paying any; or if he must needs to be taxed for the honor and indulgence of living in the climate of Vera Cruz or under the constitution of Mexico, his acknowledgments should be specifically commuted for a definite tribute.

This proceeding of Santa Anna's is the more sufferable from the impudent evasion of a
compact by which it has been attempted. The consideration of the matter had so far impressed previous Governments with a sense of the steps necessary to be taken, that a correspondence was opened on the subject at the termination of the late hostilities between Mexico and France, and the British Minister obtained from the Government of the former State a formal abandonment of her real or supposed rights to impose forced loans upon foreigners within their dominions. Being thus excluded from borrowing, Santa Anna resorts to stealing. He demands a donation instead of a loan; he extorts with impunity as a free gift what he would be liable to punishment for taking upon terms, and removes his exaction of money from the forbidden category by quietly communicating his intention never to return it. This even surpasses the famous evasion of the Climbing-boys Act, by which, when it was forbidden to send the boy up the chimney the attenuated urchin was taken up to the tiles and sent down. The British residents have chosen the pacific part of paying their present contributions, but under protest, and they have addressed a memorial to Lord Palmerston on the subject which might set a less inflammable Minister in a blaze.

That the expenses of an English man should be pinned upon the politics of a Mexican is something terrifically outrageous. It is bad enough in any case to be liable for the indefinite bills to another, but in such a case as this it passes the bounds of possible patience. All the credit of the Rothschilds could hardly meet the demands which the political extravagances of these pugnacious provinces would find for it. Nothing probably could be more delightful to Mexican minds than the reflection that they were left to their own revolutions with somebody else to pay for them. There is actually now ever prospect that if the smart-money of the Americans should be accepted, ad the Mexicans should be left without any enemies but each other, the swords at present drawn and flourished in empty bravado would be instantaneously employed in an internecine war of massacres and assassinations. The wriggling and ravenous little creatures detected by the microscope in a turbid puddle do not prey upon each other with more incessant fury than these tadpole States. It is rumored that the separate independence of each individual province will be speedily proclaimed, some accepting the protection of the United States and some of the Republic of Yucatan; nor does it seem certain that the subdivision will cease even here, for at this very moment a murderous melodrame is in rehearsal on the borders of Guadalaxara, where the city of Zacatecas, with an army of one hundred and thirty fighting men is preparing to "annex" the neighboring town of Aguas Calientas, which can only bring one hundred to oppose them. Such is the programme for the revolutions of the ensuing winter, the expenses of which, if the present precedent be allowed, will inevitably, says our correspondent, "be thrown on the foreign commercial body, and in an excessive proportion on the English."

[KAS]

LT 1847-9-15-7a


This Court resumed its sittings after vacation this morning.

IN RE WILLIAM SPARROW.

This insolvent was heard a few weeks since, and an adjournment had taken place to allow of some arrangement being come to with the opposing creditor.

To day the insolvent again appeared, and it being announced that a judgement was prayed by the opposing creditor.

The learned CHIEF COMMISSIONER said, that his opinion of the case was unaltered, and he had hoped that the case during the adjournment would have been adjusted. The brother and the sister of the insolvent have given testimony as to certain advances from them to the insolvent, and he (the learned Commissioner) must repeat an opinion before expressed, that their evidence was unsatisfactory, and should therefore apply the provisions of the 76th section to this case. Doubting the testimony of the brother, and disbelieving that of the sister, the judgment of the Court was, that the insolvent be discharged at the expiration of six months from the date of his visiting order.

IN RE ROBERT EVERITT.

This insolvent was opposed by Mr. Cooke on behalf of the trustees of the Summersham turnpike-road, Hunts.

The complaint was, that the insolvent had obtained a lease of the tolls of the above-mentioned road by means of fraudulently obtaining a false signature to the usual bond.
Mr. Applegath, clerk to the London agents of the trustees, swore that the insolvent and a person who signed the bond as Thomas Couling came to the office together and execute the deed.

Mr. Couling, an omnibus proprietor, was called, and swore that the signature on the bond was not his writing.

Evidence was given that the trustees had sued Mr. Couling for $736, arrears due by the insolvent, but had failed in consequence of the signature being proved to be false.

The insolvent said he signed the bond, but never saw any other person do so. A Mr. Bonns was with him at the time of signing the bond.

His HONOUR said, he would give the insolvent an opportunity of verifying his statement by calling Bonns, and therefore should adjourn the case for a week.

The new act for transferring the insolvency business from the Bankruptcy Court to this tribunal takes effect after this date, September 15.

Wholesale Annexation
September 17, 1847

The New Era, the Liberty party paper at Washington, of the 19th inst., contains an article nearly four columns in length, upon the war between this country and Mexico, and the relations which the two nations hold to each other. The article is ably written, but it is chiefly remarkable for a plan which it puts forth by which the war may be brought to an honorable close. This plan is to propose to each of the 23 departments or states of Mexico annexation to this country. Those states which have already a sufficient number of inhabitants are to be admitted as free and independent States. Those which have not, are to be annexed as territories, to be admitted as states as soon as they have the required number of inhabitants. The writer assumes to be a disciple of the State Rights school, "a Pharisee of the strictest sect." In relation to right or justice of which state making its own selection, there can, according to the writer be no doubt. And in regard to the constitutionality of admitting foreign states into our Union, that has been settled by president, in the purchase of Louisiana and Florida and the annexation of Texas. The writer devotes much space to the question of expediency. He says it will extend the principles of free trade, it will give Mexico the principles of religious toleration, it will establish free institutions within her borders, it will confer upon the people personal security, it will open the way for enterprising emigrants, it will bring the soil of Mexico under the better cultivation, stimulate the growth of manufactures [an] augment commerce. It will give us the control of the mines which furnace the currency of the world, it will establish peace upon the continent of America, and the prelude therein the establishment of monarchy; it will prevent the spread of slavery, and it will do a great many other things. The article is only noticeable from the novelty from its recommendations, the zeal with which they are urged, and the source from which they spring. In these views of wholesale union, the total absorption of a nation of 7,000,000 of people, made up of a mixture of the Old Spanish, Indian, and African bloods, differing from our own religion, language, manners, education, and habits of social intercourse, the writer contends that we must either pursue the course he has marked out, or else withdraw our armies within the Nueces. Although the writer talks very flippantly of the evils of war, and of the dangers which beset us in a career for foreign conquest, he evidently favors the scheme we have shadowed forth above. This is the latest invention we have seen for conquering a peace, and it comes from a quarter where we least expected it.

Boston Transcript

Mexico, war with the US
September 24, 1847

The Mexican war-The Liverpool Albion Monday last published the following statement, which announces a new and important feature in the struggle between Mexico and the
Amongst the intelligence received by the Cambria it is stated, on the authority of the New Orleans La Patria, that the President of Honduras has issued a proclamation calling upon Central America to aid Mexico. Two Guatemala generals had issued similar documents. The steamer due at Liverpool on Tuesday next will, probably, bring accounts of General Scott's operations against the capital of Mexico, with details of the above intelligence.

LT 1847-9-30-4a
September 30, 1847
Mexican War

It had been anticipated that the accounts from the United States and the seat of war in Mexico which have just reached us by the Caledonia steamer, would put an end to the long period of suspense and perilous inactivity in which General Scott's army has passed several weeks and would probably announce either the entry of that General into the Mexican capital, or the discomfiture of his scanty forces. The intelligence, which bears much more resemblance to the latter than to the former of these alternatives. Although the American journals record another victory, they acknowledge that the honors of the day were disputed with great resolution by the Mexican army. They publish a list of officers killed and wounded, which shows the extreme severity of the action; and above all, they announce an armistice proposed, not by the Mexicans, but by General Scott himself. This last circumstance demonstrates that, although the spirit and firmness of the little American army eventually prevailed over the numbers and the field fortifications of the enemy, they were not in a condition to take any political advantage of the contest, though they remained masters of the field. Indeed, considering their feeble numbers, the immense difficulties of transport, and the imperfect organization of their supplies, which have prevailed throughout the war, it is evident that 6,000 men, isolated in the heart of a hostile country, decimated by fatigue, fever, and actual fighting, and cut off from reinforcements by the conditions of the armistice re much more likely to capitulate to the enemy they have insulted and despised than to hoist the American flag on the towers of the city of Mexico. The moral effect of a decisive action and a tremendous defeat might, indeed, have paralyzed the Mexicans, and induced them to accept the terms they had hitherto rejected; but if the particulars are to be believed which reach us through American channels, the battles of Contreras and Cherubusco are more likely to rise the confidence of the Mexicans than to destroy all faith in their cause or their commanders.

The Mexican Generals are said to have taken up a very strong position, on which they had concentrated a large amount of artillery, within sight of the capital. These batteries of St. Augustine and St. Antonio were served with great activity and effect, and their fire was especially directed against the position which was occupied by General Worth and his corps. On the 19th of August an attack was made by the Americans on these points, which as may be inferred from our accounts was altogether unsuccessful. The American field batteries were soon silenced by the heavier guns of the enemy, and we observed that the loss of officers in the artillery corps was unusually great. For six hours this terrific cannonade lasted, and at the close of the day General Scott and General Twiggs retired, "completely exhausted, not anticipating the great strength of the works of the enemy." The troops were obliged to bivouac on a tempestuous night, which must ill have prepared them for a renewal of such a battle on the morrow.

On the morrow, however, the state of things seems suddenly to have changed. Early in the morning of the 20th, the position of Valencia, at Contreras, had been attacked by General Smith with complete success; and upon the precipitate retreat of the Mexicans from this point, General Worth fell back on San Antonio. A second most severe engagement took place, which lasted some hours, until the Mexican troops retreated in disorder upon the city, leaving their heavy guns and a large number of prisoners in the hands of the invading army. The forces of the Mexicans in those actions are stated to have been at least three times as numerous as those of General Scott's army; and although defeated to a certain extent, it is probable that the Mexican Generals have still a body of men under their command sufficient to repel any open attack on the city.

In fact, having arrived under the walls of Mexico by dint of extraordinary perseverance and hard fighting, it is by no means clear that General Scott is nearer the grand object of his gallant efforts than when he started from Vera Cruz; whilst, on the other hand, it is evident to the merest tyro in military affairs, that an army of 6,000 men, at such a distance from its base, and so inadequately supported from home, is, in reality, in a position of great peril. Conferences for the negotiation of peace, have, it is said, been opened, the alternative being another battle of a still more perilous character than the last; for it must be observed, that in General Scott's present position the least reverse must be
annihilation. He has absolutely no retreat. We should, therefore, not be surprised to learn that he is willing to conclude a peace on terms by no means flattering to the vanity of the United States.

But the moment we arrive at this point, we are met by various political considerations, peculiar to the institutions of the United States, which render the solution of the question extremely complicated. Mr. Polk undertook this war on his own account, and it has proved to be the principal affair of his Presidency. The attractions of military adventure and the pride of military success have induced the people of the United States to endorse his bills and to recruit his armies; and we have accordingly seen the Chief Magistrate of what was once the model of pacific Governments including himself in the Royal luxury of a bloody war. All this may be some temporary advantage to Mr. Polk and his adherents; but they must be well aware that advantages so dearly bought by the nation will prove fatal to those who speculated in them, unless the burdens of the war can be terminated with this campaign, and unless this campaign can be closed with an amount of success sufficient to screen the enormous injustice of the invasion. In the present state of public opinion in the world, we should have thought it extraordinary if the most absolute of European Sovereigns had dared to embark in such a war; but that a man, temporarily invested with a limited power like that of the President of the United States, should, by his own will and pleasure, have plunged his country into such a series of embarrassments, is, without exception, the most extraordinary event which has ever occurred in the history of any modern republic. The sequel will show whether the more prestige of military achievements is sufficient to overthrow all the principles on which the constitution of the United States is professed to be founded; and even in this affair of the armistice and the alleged negotiation for peace, we shall be curious to learn how far General Scott's conduct will be approved and supported by his Government, which no doubt anticipated a more brilliant result from the march to Mexico.

[KAS]

LT 1847-9-30-5d

AMERICA
September 30, 1847
US and Mexico

[The greater portion of the following appeared in a second edition of The Times of yesterday]

Liverpool, Wednesday morning

By the Royal mail steam-ship Caledonia, Captain Lott, which arrived in the Mersey at midnight, we have important advices from New York to the 15th, Boston to the 16th, and Halifax to the 18th inst., respectively.

The Caledonia was off Holyhead at 1 o'clock yesterday, but was not telegraphed, in consequence of fog.

The Britannia arrived in Halifax on the morning of the 18th inst., and proceeded to Boston.

The French mail steam-ship New York arrived at New York, after a run of 20 days, from Cherbourg. She sailed from the latter port on the 15th of August, and when 15 days at sea ran short of coals, which compelled her to put into Newport, Rhode Island. She left on the 1st inst., and arrived in New York in the 4th, whence she sailed on the 15th inst. For Havre.

Our advices by the Caledonia contain intelligence of the stoppage, on the 9th, of the important house of Prime, Ward, and Co., of New York, in consequence of the failure of some of their European correspondents.

Our advices from Mexico are exceedingly interesting. General Scott had at last reached the neighborhood of the capital, after some hard fighting, in which both sides suffered great loss; but, in consequence of armistice, he had not entered the city. The Mexicans were said to have lost, in killed and wounded, 13 generals and 5,000 men. Some American regiments were reported as nearly cut to pieces, and their loss in officers was very heavy. It is probable, therefore, should the Mexicans not accept terms, that he may yet have to fight another battle before he can take possession of the capital.

The Mexicans, who were strongly posted, fought much better than was anticipated.
We subjoin the official account:--

"WASHINGTON, SEPT. 14, 1847.

"Dispatches for the Government have this moment been received. The intelligence heretofore received is fully confirmed.

"On the 20th ult. The American forces, consisting of 7,000 men, met the enemy at Charbuses, three or four miles from the capital. The Mexicans were 32,000 strong, and posted behind an immense battery of heavy artillery. After two hours' bloody conflict, our gallant troops swept everything before them, mainly at the point of the bayonet.

"The American loss was less than 1,000, while that of the Mexicans estimated at 5,000 and amongst the killed are many distinguished men, both generals and civilians.

"The armistice was agree upon, and five commissioners appointed to the Mexican side, at the head of whom was Herrera. The commissioners had two meetings, and were to hold a third on Monday, the 30th.

"Valencia escaped with two companies to Falluca, and has since pronounced against Santa Anna and peace."

The following, from the New York Courier and Enquirer, will be read with gratification:--

"The general feeling of the non-paying States is manifestly in favor of efforts to resume, and the accession of wealth all have received from the late high prices of produce will add strength to this feeling, and means for its gratification.

"The State of Pennsylvania is assuming a strong financial position and it is probable the net income this year will exceed $1,000,000. As a considerable amount of the loans of that State is held in Europe, the following, from a highly respectable and well-informed source in Philadelphia, is communicated to us for publication:--

"After payment of the August interest, the State will have a surplus of about $4000,000; by next November they expect to have $1,000,000 on hand. This is three months in advance of the next interest term (Feb. 1), and does not include the taxes which are due and payable in December and January. Thus the state will have a permanent surplus, and by a judicious arrangement of it they expect to relieve themselves of the necessity of paying out relief notes next February; for instance the $1,000,000 deposited with our banks by these notes on the 1st of February, the interest being equal to the discount. Besides this, we look with confidence for the repeal of the tax this coming session; then our State credit will be permanently redeemed, never again, we hope, to be assailed from any quarter."

Fever was still raging frightfully at New Orleans. The return of Paredes to Mexico by means of the British mail steamer has given rise to much animadversion on the part of American press against England. Commodore Perry had issued the following notice:--

"NOTICE
"Collector's-office, Vera Cruz, Aug. 25
"Passengers arriving at this port without passports from the American Consul resident at the port them embark from will not be allowed to leave the vessel, and the master of any vessel permitting such passenger so landed, and the vessel held responsible for the same."

"F.M. DIAMOND, Collector."

General Order, No. 11.
"United States Flag-ship Germantown, Anton Lizardo, Aug. 18.

"All vessels, excepting army steamers and transports, arriving at ports in Mexico held by the United States forces are to be visited by a boat from the general ship of the day, or any single vessel of the squadron that may be in port, for the purpose of tendering the usual compliment of services to foreign vessels of war, and of detecting any irregularities in foreign mail-steamers or merchant vessels, whether foreign or American.

"It is desirable, when it be practicable, that the boarding officer should be a lieutenant.

"M.S. PERRY, "Commanding Home Squadron."
Paredes since his escape from Vera Cruz has not been heard of.

The following account of the battles before Mexico is taken from the correspondence of the New York Herald of September 15:

Baltimore, Sept. 14, Night.
The overland express for your office has just arrived, and I hasten to telegraph the news to you. It is the greatest importance.

According to the Picayune of the 8th instant, the Mary Kingsland arrived at New Orleans on the 7th from Vera Cruz. She brings the much desired and anxiously expected intelligence from General Scott.

The two battles between the Americans and Mexicans victorious for the former, were fought at Contreras, or Coyoacan, and Churubusco, so called from the fieldworks of the enemy.

The proposition for an armistice was made by General Scott, and is supposed to have been at the instance of the British Embassy.

The report hitherto given, that the city of Mexico was at the mercy of the American army, seems to be unfounded, and, should peace to follow from negotiations then pending, another battle would have to be fought.

According to letter from Mr. Kendall, dated Tucubaya, August 22, the Archbishop's palace of that place was occupied by General Scott and a portion of the American army, after defeating the enemy in two of the hardest fought battles of the war.

Annexed are the particulars of the maneuvers and brilliant fights, together with an incomplete list of the American officers killed and wounded.

On the 14th of August a reconnaissance made by Colonel Duncan having satisfied General Scott that a road for artillery could be cut from Chalco to San Augustin, General Worth's division moved in that direction on the 15th, followed by Generals Quitman, Pillow, and Twiggs. By this movement a new line of operations was taken on the southern and northwestern sides of the city of Mexico, and the strong works of El Penon and Mexicalcingo, on which Santa Anna had bestowed such immense labor, were completely turned.

On the 16th General Worth marched as far as the Pacienza of San Gregorio, when a halt was ordered by General Scott, as General Twiggs had met a large force of the enemy near Chalco. Twiggs promptly ordered the heaviest trains (guns probably) to be unlimbered, and after a few discharges the enemy was dispersed, with a loss of six killed.

On the 17th General Worth resumed his march over a terribly bad road, but by 8 o'clock in the morning he was in sight of the domes and spires of the capital, without opposition except that rocks had been rolled on to the road, and ditches dug, evidently showing that General Scott had stolen a march on Santa Anna.

On reaching this point, however, a scattering fire was opened on the head of his column by the enemy, stationed in an advantageous position, which was soon silenced by Colonel Smith's Light Battalion of the 2d Artillery under Major Galb. Another attack was shortly after made; but again the enemy's pickets were driven in without loss.

At 7 o'clock on the 18th General Scott arrived at San Augustin. At 10 o'clock General Worth was in full march for the city of Mexico by the main road. Majors Smith and Trumbull, Captain Mason, and other engineer officers, were sent in advance, supported by Captain Blake's squadron of Dragoons, to reconnoitre, when a masked battery opened upon them, and killed Captain Thorton, of the 2d Dragoons, besides seriously wounding a guide.

Colonel Garland's brigade was then ordered to occupy a position in the plain in sight of the enemy's batteries at San Augustin, whilst Colonel Stark's brigade and Duncan's battery took their station in the rear close by. A party was then sent out to reconnoitre to ascertain the practicality of finding a road by which the village of San Angel could be reached, and the stronghold of San Antonio turned.

This party had a skirmish with the enemy, killing five or six, and taking as many prisoners, without losing a man.

The result of the reconnaissance was favorable, and it was ascertained that a road could be
made. The Mexicans were plainly seen in force near Bronteras, and at a council held that night it was determined to attack them in the morning.

Whilst this reconnaissance was going on, General Worth had established himself at the hacienda of Bunera, from the window of which countless numbers of the enemy could be seen at work upon the hacienda with both round shot and shell. Nearly every shot took effect, but did no damage except to the buildings.

Late in the evening they were again opened, but were silent during the night. Had the fire been kept up, the hacienda might have been torn to pieces, and the entire command compelled to retire.

At 8 o'clock on the morning of the 19th the battalion again opened on General Worth's position. So hot was the fire, that the troops were compelled to gain shelter being the buildings, but did not give up their position.

About 9 o'clock, the divisions of General Twiggs and Pillow were ordered to march in the direction of Brontera and by 1 o'clock in the afternoon, when in plain sight of the enemy's batteries, and within the range of the heavier guns, the brigade of Colonel P.W Smith was ordered to advance towards a small village to the right and this cut off reinforcements which might be sent to Valencia from the city.

An incessant fire was opened on Colonel Smith's command and soon the Rifles were engaged with the picket of the enemy, driving them in.

The 12-pounder batteries of Captain Magruder and the mountain howitzer batteries, now commanded by Lieutenant Callender, of the Ordnance Department, were pressed forward and opened on the enemy, but were so much silenced. Lieutenants Johnson and Callender were seriously wounded.

At 3 o'clock General Cadwallader was ordered out to support Colonel Riley, reinforcements being seen on their way out from the city, whilst General Pearce was sent to sustain General (Colonel) Smith.

The firing from the enemy's batteries was incessant.

About 4 o'clock General Scott arrived, and seeing the immense strength of the Mexicans, at once ordered General Shield's brigade to support Riley and Cadwallader, and prevent, if possible, a junction of the force coming out from the city with those of Valencia; but few of the movements of our own troops could be seen, though every motion of the enemy was visible.

The order of battle of Valencia was most imposing. The infantry were seen drawn up to support the batteries, whilst long lines of the enemy's calvary were stationed in the rear, as if waiting the shock of battle. Two separate charges of the latter were distinctly seen to be repulsed by Colonel Riley. Until night had fairly closed in the firing from the enemy's batteries had not slackened. It had been a continuous roar for nearly six hours.

General Scott retired to San Augustin about 8 o'clock, in the midst of a hard rain, and General Twiggs and General Pillow came in about 11 o'clock, completely exhausted, not anticipating the great strength of the works of the enemy.

It was thought that the batteries could be taken at a dash and that the troops would all be comfortably quartered at San Angel for the night. Instead of this, a large a portion of them were compelled to bivouac, without blankets, in the midst of a pitiless storm.

On the 20th, Worth was ordered to move with a part of his division (Garland's brigade) to aid in the attack on Valencia; as to force his position was deemed indispensable. At 7 o'clock a few discharges of cannon were heard, a rattling of musketry, and some even said, that in the distance horses of the enemy could be seen flying towards the city; yet few deemed that the batteries had been stormed and carried.

Yet it was so. General Scott himself accompanied General Worth, and started for the scene of the action, when they were met by Captain Mason with the joyful intelligence that Valencia had been completely routed, after a terrible struggle. The attack upon his works was planned by General Smith, and resulted in the capture of 15 pieces or artillery and some 1,500 prisoners, among them Generals Blanco, Garcia, Mendosa, and the notorious Salas. He also captured all the ammunition and camp equipage, whilst the road over which those who escaped fled was strewn with muskets.
No less than 700 of the enemy, among them many officers, were left dead on the field, whilst the number of wounded was far greater, and the works of Contreras completely in the power of the American army.

General Scott at once ordered General Worth to fall back to San Antonio, to turn and capture that work, and then push on towards the capital by the main road, whilst the main body of the army moved on towards San Angel and Coyoacan.

General Twiggs had scarcely moved half a mile beyond the latter village, when a rattling fire of a musketry announced that it was actively engaged with the outposts of the enemy, and the heavy booming of cannon now gave token that the noted second division had fallen on another strong works of San Antonio, but with the loss of three heavy guns, and had fallen back on a stronger line of works.

It was now 1 o'clock in the afternoon, and about the commencement of the battle, and such a rattling of forearms has seldom or never been heard on the continent of America, accompanied with such booming of artillery; and this was continued over two hours, when the enemy was completely routed from every point, and until those who were not killed or taken prisoners were in full flight for the city.

The strength of the enemy at this place was known to have been at least 15,000, and many say 20,000, all fresh troops, and in a position of uncommon strength. Opposed to them were about 6,000 Americans, jaded and broken down by marches, countermarches, and incessant toil.

At Churubusco the Mexicans say Santa Anna commanded in person, but that he retired early.

The young man of the capital, from whom so much was expected, nearly all fled, without firing a gun. The loss on our side has fallen most heavily upon the South Carolina and New York volunteers, the 6th infantry, and Smith's Battalion, and the batteries of Captains Magruder and Taylor. The South Carolina regiment was nearly cut to pieces.

13 Mexican Generals were killed and wounded.

More ammunition was captured the General Scott has used since he has been in the country.

The following are the terms of the armistice agreed upon whilst the commissioners of the two Governments shall negotiate terms of peace:-

"Neither army is to be reinforced nor build new defenses during the armistice, nor go beyond its present line; in short, the two armies are in no way to interfere with each other without 48 hours' notice."

[KAS]
¼. The other transactions in the foreign market were not of much importance. They included Brazilian, small, at 76 ½; the new, at 76; Portuguese Four per cents, at 22 ¼ Russian Five per cents, at 105; Spanish Five per cents, at 18; Passive, at 3 7/8; Spanish Three per cents, for the account, at 27,; Dutch Two-and-a-half per cents, at 53 ¾; and the Four per cent Certificates at 84.

In the foreign exchanges to day there was a general further advance in the rates, and, as on the preceding post days, a large amount of bills remained unsold.

In the corn-market to-day there was little doing, and prices remained without alteration.

Advices from Hamburgh of the 5th inst. mention a gradually increasing demand for money. The rate of discount had risen to 5 ½ per cent. Mention is also made of the suspension of Messers. Pehmoller and Tollens, a young house in the exchange and general business. Their liabilities are supposed to be below 30,000l., and it is not considered that any one in London is likely to suffer.

A report was circulated in the course of the morning that a small marine insurance company had been unable to meet its engagements, but they statement was without foundations. It is said, however, that winding up of it affairs is contemplated.

The committee of Spanish American bondholders have received the following from their agents in Mexico, under date 29th of August:-

"With reference to our respects of last packet, we have the honor to inform you that we have remitted to Messers. John Schneider and Co., as agents for the Mexican bondholders, 56,950l. 2s. 6d., to be appropriated to the payment of the dividends, of which be pleased to take note.

"As regards the permits for the importation of raw cotton, which we mentioned in out last, we now beg leave to inform you that we have received such permits for the introduction of 100,726 quintals of cotton, representing at the rate of $6.6 per quintal a capital of $679,912 in duties. We shall be happy to receive your instructions regarding disposal of these licenses, though we should consider it the interest of the bondholders to sell any part of them for which we might meet with purchasers at the price at which they have been granted by the Government. The proceeds of the aforesaid permits will be applicable to the reimbursement of certain sures, the property of the bondholders, and which had been abstracted from the Custom-houses of Vera Cruz and Tampico, by order of the Mexican authorities."

The weather in the West India islands, it would appear by the letters and papers received this morning, was in general favorable for the growing crops. From Barbados, Jamaica, Trinidad, and Antigua, the whole of the advices concur in representing that the supply of rain was fully adequate to the wants of the planters. The planting of provisions necessary for native food had been carried out to a great extent, the deficiency of these during the late time of scarcity having been severely felt. At Dominica more seasonable weather had not been experienced for years. Tobago is the sole instance where the least complaint was made of drought. However, in this case there was a change for the better just previous to the departure of the packet, "showery weather having at length set in."

Letters from Port-au-Prince of the 5th of September allude to the more pacific aspect of affairs in the city. Although it is asserted that "discontent and ill-feeling" continue to be displayed in certain quarters, still "the public peace" is no respects likely to be disturbed, as "all good and loyal citizens" see, it is said, that permanent tranquility can alone insure a successful government. An address, published by M. Troy, the Secretary of State and Minister of the Interior, in the absence of Solouque, seemed, according to these accounts, to have produced a satisfactory impression upon the populace. Spanish doubloons, 71 50; Spanish gourde (or dollar), 4 56; and Mexican gourde (or dollar), 4 50.

The Honduras accounts received to-day come down to the 14th of August. Between the 24th of July and that date there had left for London the Clarendon, with 156,352 feet of mahogany, 55 tons of logwood, and a quantity of coca-nuts; the Calista, with 3,967 feet of mahogany, 27 tons of logwood, 10,250 coca-nuts, and 386 serons or cochineal; and the Ann, with 103,198 feet of mahogany, 72 ½ tons of logwood, 16,500 coca-nuts, and 590 serons of cochineal; the Kingston, for Liverpool, had a cargo of 119,307 feet of mahogany, 30 tons of logwood, 20,000 cocoa-nuts and 49 pieces of sappodilla.

At Honduras intelligence from Guatemala to the 28th of July had arrived. Treaties of commerce and navigation had then been concluded between the Government and the representatives of Great Britain and the Hanseatic Towns, eight months being named as the period stipulated for their ratification. The country was tranquil, and the progress
established in the effective administration of affairs had secured the President considerable popularity. Among a variety of changes noticed in fiscal regulations were two which appeared to be considered as of great importance in their respective bearings. One involved a reduction of taxes payable by the license authorizing the cultivation of tobacco in Zacapa, on the banks of the Montagua, in Esquipulas, Jocatan, and in Gualan, with the view of increasing that branch of public revenue.

Advices from Valparaiso, dated the 27th of July, report the markets as in a steady condition. In manufactured goods the transactions latterly had not been of much importance. Complaints are made in the Valparaiso papers of the inattention of the Custom-house officials, to whose negligence is imputed the damage too frequently sustained by merchandise when landed from the streamers in unfavorable weather.

The report of the colonial markets for the week shows unabated heaviness, and almost every class of produce has seriously declined. This depreciation, however, might naturally have been expected, and importers who, a few weeks since, were holding off their stocks in consequence of flat markets, now find it expedient, owing to the continuance of the extreme pressure for money, to take every possible opportunity of realizing. In addition to the effect caused by the greater disposition to press sales, the tendency towards reduction of rates has been increased by some parcels of produce lately in the hands of suspended houses having been forced upon the market.

The price of sugar generally shows a feline of fully 1s. per cwt., but in the private contract market some transactions have taken place at a still greater reduction. Good strong refining sugar has been sold as low as 35 s. per cwt. duty paid. The importers of Mauritius continue free sellers, and about 14,000 bags have passed auction. Low Madras, which was worth in April last about 43s., is now with great difficulty saleable at 30s., per cwt., duty paid, or 16 s. per cwt. in bond, which low price has for some time Ist led to its being taken for export to the continent.

The coffee market exhibits still greater heaviness, as sales have been brought forward to a large extent, and prices have consequently given way materially. "Native " Ceylon has been sold as low as 34s., per cwt., and privately a parcel, it is understood, has changed hands at 33s. 6d. per cwt. In the plantation kinds a fall of 2s. per cwt. ahs again occurred; “fine ordinary” quality will only bring 45s. to 46s. per cwt. The foreign descriptions are about 2s. per cwt. lower.

White Bengal rice has been sold at 13s. 6d., which was worth about three weeks since 16s. 6d. per cwt.

The tea market has been exceedingly flat, and business only effected to a very limited extent. A public auction took place on Tuesday, and a decline occurred in nearly every instance where a sale was made. Flowery pekoe was sold as low as 10d. per lb.

The returns from the Bank of England for ht weekending the 2d. of October gives the following results when compared with the previous week:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public deposits</td>
<td>9,329,057</td>
<td>Decrease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other deposits</td>
<td>7,961,767</td>
<td>Increase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rest</td>
<td>4,065,474</td>
<td>Increase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government securities</td>
<td>11,661,340</td>
<td>Increase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other securities</td>
<td>21,259,929</td>
<td>Increase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes unemployed</td>
<td>3,409,300</td>
<td>Decrease</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The amount of notes in circulation is 18,712,395£, being an increase of 633,810£; and the stock of bullion in both department is 8,565,307£, showing a decrease of 217,396£ when compared with the preceding return. [KAS]
General Santa Anna, in his capacity as Provisional President and Commander-in-Chief of the Mexican army, published, shortly after the engagements the following manifesto in explanation of his defeat:

"In moments so critical and solemn, it becomes the duty of him who presides over the destiny of the Republic to give publicity to the recent events, and I comply with pleasure, as candour has at all times been the character of my administration. The incidents of the 19th and 20th are too notorious, having been disastrous; but I am bound to present a review of them, lest they should be misrepresented as much by the spirit of detraction and malevolence as by errors which may result from a false analysis of such grave and transcendent affairs.

"The nation has witnessed the great and extraordinary efforts with which, in the space of three months, I prepared for the defense of the capital, which was on the point of being surrendered to the enemy without resistance. I have formed, armed, and equipped an army of more than 20,000 men; I have provided a vast materiel for this army; I have fortified various lines in order to remove from Mexico the ravages of war; I have created resources in spite of the isolated position to which the Government was reduced, and I have spared no time and no labour in order to make my country appear with dignity and firmness in the contest to which it was unjustly provoked.

"In war, an accident, a thing that appears trifling, overthrows the best formed combinations. A glance at the defenses which I established round the city is sufficient to discover the plan which I had proposed to myself. The forces which I had advanced on one of the flanks, supported by others stationed at convenient distances, and a point to fall back upon, well known to them, and of which I gave notice at the proper moment. To one general who had command of a strong division of 5,000 men, with 24 pieces of artillery and whose headquarters were at the village of San Angel, I sent orders at 11 o'clock on the morning of the 18th to fall back upon the town of Coyoacan, in order to form a concentration of forces, following the movements of the enemy, which were already evident, and particularly to unfold my plan of operations. But this general, forgetting that for the execution of a plan no observation which may annul or retard it can be admitted, took upon himself to object to the orders which had been received; and as we had banished from among us obedience and discipline, so indispensable in military matters, I had to be tolerant in order to avoid greater evils, and let him, to my own regret, act, throwing upon him the responsibility of whatever might happen.

"The result was a fatal as I had foreseen. He advanced of his own accord more than a league, and selected a position to meet the enemy without giving me notice of his movement or of his intentions. The refusal which he gave to my advice was the first news I had of his temerity, and soon after the roar of cannon showed me this position, and gave me notice that an action had commenced. Although overwhelmed with a presentiment of what was to happen, I put myself immediately at the head of a brilliant division of 4,000 men and five pieces of artillery. I arrived at the moment when the enemy had cut off by the rear the position of the ill-fated general with a respectable force, and I was hardly able to check his operations as the night was already setting in.

"But I perceived with sorrow that the position was isolated; a deep-ravine, and a wood occupied by the enemy, being interposed between is, it was impossible for the troops under my immediate command to advance by the only road there was, without exposing themselves, as were already the other\', and only one battery, which arrived late, could do any injury. The firing having ceased, our bridge took up cause, as it rained in torrents, it would have been equal to a defeat to have kept the troops in the open field.

"Previous to this, however, I had ordered my aide decamp, Colonel Ramiro, to pass the terrible ravine which was in our front, and guided by Don Jose Maria del Rio, well acquainted with the country, to reach the camp of the general, and to advise him to withdraw that very night to San Angel with his infantry and calvary, by the only road which was left to him, spiking previously the artillery which it was not possible to save. My aide-de-camp succeeded, and communicated my orders between 10 and 12 o'clock that night; but instead of being obeyed with punctuality, the above named general hardly allowed my aide-de-camp to speak, interrupted him by stating that he wanted 6,000 men and ammunition, and sent him off with two dispatches, already signed and sealed, in one of which he gives a report of the action of the evening, stating that he had been beaten and put the enemy to a shameful flight, and that in consequence he conferred promotions on the generals, chief, and officers.

"Early the next morning I presented myself again in the same camp, reinforced by a brigade which I had drawn from the capital, and with the intention of forcing the bridge at any cost; but when I was about to commence, the enemy made his attack, which lasted 10 minutes, and I witnessed, overwhelmed with despair, the defeat of those soldiers, worthy of better fate, because the general, who unfortunately commanded them had cut himself off. The consequence of this success appeared terrible to any sight. The enemy could
arrive by a rapid move at the capital before it would be in my power to render assistance; the enemy could by a flank movement cut off my detached forces; the enemy had obtained fruit of this victory the power of bringing the whole of his forces against only a part of mine; and, finally, the enemy, owing to the insubordination and want of skill of one general, could turn to his profit the advantages of my position.

"The advanced fort of San Antonio could not be maintained, because our line had been cut, and I gave orders for its garrison to withdraw whilst I protected the fort and tete de pont of Churubusco. The enemy advanced and cut off part of the troops that were retreating, and appeared in front of our nearest defenses. There again I placed myself at the head of our troops, and my efforts cost the enemy a good deal of blood. The losses, although much to be lamented, naturally proceeded from the retreat, which was hasty, unexpected, and confused, owing to the trains that had to pass through a narrow lane, flanked in its whole extent. The defense was made from line to line until we came to the third, where I personally restrained the enemy and saved the capital, which had been so unexpectedly placed in danger.

"When I was occupied on the 22d in reorganizing the forces and manning the batteries, having placed myself again at the head of a column which should offer resistance to the 1st extremity, I received a communication from the general-in-chief of the enemy, proposing an armistice that might give time to listen to the propositions which may be made by the Commissioner of the Government of the United States, to put an end to the contest between the two nations. I accepted the armistice, and, after having had a meeting with the Ministers, I resolved to listen to the above propositions.

"The suspension of hostilities is always a blessing, because war is always an evil, particularly after the failure of grand combinations. To free the capital of its horrors, or at least to retard them, was an emergency which I could not resist, and the more so when it presented the means of arriving at an honorable peace.

"When two nations are in a state of war they enjoy the right of reciprocity, making propositions, which presupposes the obligation to listen. A perpetual war is an absurdity, because it is a calamity, and the instinct of self-preservation, which is stronger in nations than in private individuals, counsel us not to refuse any means which may lead to an advantageous settlement. To adopt this stop the constitution confers ample powers on me.

"Devoted to interests so noble and exalted, I must at all hazards maintain the prestige and respect of the supreme authority, particularly at present, when, if the factions should molest the Government, they would deprive it of the liberty of deliberating, and it would fall into utter insignificance in the presence of our enemies. I will still be more explicit. Attempts at subversive sedition will be punished in an exemplary manner.

"I have still a respectable body of troops, and the nation will assist me to maintain its dignity and vindicate its glory. I consider myself as free as if I had just obtained a distinguished victory, and there is no danger that the negotiations of the enemy will impose upon me what their troops difficulties amicably, if above all things our honor is saved, and we will again appeal to the sword if force should be proposed to withhold from us justice and the acknowledgment of the rights of the nation.

"ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA.
"Mexico, August 23, 1847."

THE ARMISTICE.
To the proper elucidation of the spirit with which the recent armistice was entered into between Generals Scott and Santa Anna, we annex several important documents.

The following was the letter addressed by General Scott to Santa Anna, tendering an armistice:-

"TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL-IN-CHIEF OF THE REPUBLIC OF MEXICO.
Head-quarters of the Army of the United States of America, Coyoacan, Aug. 21, 1847.

Sir,-Too much blood has already been shed in this unnatural war between two great republics of this continent. It is time that the difference between them should be amicably and honorable settled, and it is known to you Excellency that a commissioner on the part of the United States, clothed with full powers to that end, is with this army. To enable the two republics to enter on negotiations I am willing to sign, on reasonable terms, a short armistice.

"I shall wait with impatience until to-morrow morning for a direct answer to this communication; but shall in the meantime seize and occupy such positions outside of the
capital as I may deem necessary to the shelter and comfort of this army.

"I have the honor to remain, with high consideration and respect, your Excellency's most
obedient servant,
"W. SCOTT."

To this letter a reply was returned by the Mexican Secretary of War, of which the following
is a hasty version:-

"TO HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL WINFIELD SCOTT, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE ARMY
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
"Ministry of War and Marine, Mexico,
August 21.
"Sir,-The undersigned, Minister at War and Marine of the Government of the United States
of Mexico, is instructed by his Excellency the President, Commander-in-Chief, to reply to
your communication, in which you propose to enter into an armistice, with a view to avoid
the further shedding of blood between the great republics of this continent, for the purpose
of hearing the propositions which may be made for this purpose but the commissioner of
his Excellency the President of the United States of America, who is at the head-quarters of
the American army.

"It is certainly lamentable that, in consequence of the disregard of the rights of the
Mexican republic, the shedding of blood has become inevitable between the first republics
of the American continent; and your Excellency with great propriety qualifies this as
unnatural, as well on account of its relations and their interests. The proposition of an
armistice to terminate this scandal has been received with pleasure by his Excellency the
President, Commander-in-Chief, as it will enable the propositions to be entertained which
the commissioner of his Excellency the President of the United States may make for the honorable
termination of the war.

"Accordingly the President, Commander-in-Chief, directs me to say to your Excellency that
he accepts these propositions to enter into an armistice and for this object he has appointed
the Brigadier-general Don Ignacio Mora y Villamil and Don Benito Quijano, who will be
present at the time and place which may be designated.

"His Excellency also instructs me to command his satisfaction that the army of the United
States should occupy convenient and fitting quarters, trusting and hoping that they will be
out of reach of the fire of the Mexican fortifications.

" I have the honor to be, with high consideration and respect, your Excellency's most
obedient servant.

 "ALCORTA."

The same day Señor Pacheco, the Secretary of States, issued the following summons for
the assembling of the Congress:-

"Ministry of Internal and Foreign Relations, Mexico Aug. 21.

"Most Excellent Sir,- All Mexicans, but especially the inhabitants of this capital, have been
witnesses to the extraordinary exertions which have been made by his Excellency the
Provisional President to collect an army capable of meeting that of the United States, arid
restoring the lustre of the arms of the republic. They are witnessed, also, that he has
fought with intrepidity, exposing his own life until the moment when the victory was lost
and the enemy was at the gates of the capital.

"In these circumstances, and when the numerous inhabitants of Mexico have made every
kind of sacrifice to carry on the war, it is one of the most imperious duties of the first
magistrate to prevent the calamities inseparable from an assault, and to avoid all the
consequences of a violent constitutional power, and in conformity with the wishes of
Congress, communicated to him on the 16th of July last, he has determined to hear the
propositions which Mr. Nicholas Trist has to make on the part of the United States, and to
consent that in the meantime there shall be a suspension of hostilities.

"As this question is of the utmost interest to the republic, his Excellency desires that the
National Congress should take their appropriate part, and accordingly he directs me to
notify your Excellency that you may take measures diligently to summon the Deputies to
assemble at 12 o'clock today.

"I reiterate the assurances of my distinguished consideration. God and Liberty!
AMERICA
October 18, 1847 6a
ARRIVAL OF THE BRITANNIA.

We have received from Liverpool our advices from the United States and Canada, by the Royal mail steam-ship Britannia, Captain Harrison, which entered the Mersey at 2 o'clock this morning.

The Britannia concluded her repairs at New York on the 28th ult., and left on that day for Boston, whence she sailed, with 76 passengers, on the 1st instant. Severe easterly winds were encountered during the passage.

The steam-ship Hibernia was spoken between Halifax and Boston on the 2d instant.

The French steamer Union left New York for Havre on the 30th ult.

The Sara Sands, screw line-of-packet ship, would leave about the 6th instant. Her commander had been publicly entertained by his passengers on the outward run.

The commercial accounts by this steam-ship are alone of importance. From Mexico no later intelligence had been received. The result of the armistice, and the question of peace or war, are consequently still uncertain.

Our New York letters extend from the 24th to the 30th ult. inclusive. Since the departure of the Washington, on the 23d, no later accounts had been received from Europe; and commercial affairs consequently remained without any change of moment. The Britannia has brought a fair amount of bills. The demand, however, was principally upon the banks, at 108 3/1 to 109. Private bills were dull at 108-108 3/1; and so far as we can learn, no exportation of specie to this country was probable for some time; a large amount destined for shipment had been withdrawn, but to France, by the mail steamer of the 30th ult.; and packet-ship of the 29th, silver to the amount of 200,000 dollars, in five-franc pieces and Mexican dollars, had been sent. Treasury notes were in good demand at 3 ½ to 4 per cent. premium. The banks were in a sound condition, and no further failures had been reported, to shake the confidence given by the intelligence that Prime, Ward, and Co.'s bills had been protected. In the grain-market prices were fully sustained. Supplies and stock were still extremely light, and on Indian corn an advance had been realized. The prospects of the cotton crop are represented as somewhat more favourable; the market, consequently, was less firm, with an increase of sales towards the close of the month, and prices, in the face of a good demand for France and the continent, had declined 3/1c. per pound. The sales on the 30th ult. were moderate, with more firmness. Freights were extremely low. Flour was taken for London at 2s. 6d. to 7d. per bushel. To Havre (nominally),--cotton, ¾ per lb.; flour, 70c.; ashes, 8d. to 10d; rice, 10d. Foreign iron was in request, and sales of English and Scotch, to arrive, had been made. English bars were held at $65 to $66 50c. Foreign coal was scarce, and in request. Ashes had again advanced. The tobacco market was active and firm. Provisions had advanced, and the mess pork, under a brisk speculative demand, was quoted at $14 25c. Lard, steady, with a fair demand. Cheese was in request, with large sales, for exportation, at 7c. to 7¾c. From New Orleans our latest advices are the 22d ult. The cotton-market continues firm, and sales of 1,000 bales were on that date made at previous prices. Flour was dull, with few sales, Ohio being quoted at $4 25c. to $4 75 c. In exchange sterling bills were quoted at 7 to 7½.

The political intelligence is unimportant. No late advices had been received from the interior of Mexico, and consequently the question in regard to the negotiations for peace remained still as doubtful as ever. Rumours alone reach us, to the effect, first that Paredes had arrived at the capital and arrested Santa Anna; second, that Valencia had surrendered; and, thirdly, that the attainment of a peace was highly probable. These rumours, however, obtained no confidence; and until the receipt of the Government dispatches from Vera Cruz by the steamer transmission to the United States, we are unlikely official journal at Washington announces a letter from an officer at Vera Cruz, of the 4th ult., reports that it was the "opinion of the most intelligent writers from Mexico that General Santa Anna will conclude a peace; that his present position seems to urge him to such a measure," as his "only alternative" against any attempt to put him down on the part of Paredes or Valencia, "both of whom he had declared outlawed." The following account, by Salas, of the recent engagements appears in the journals:-
"Department of War and Navy, Section of Operations, Army of the North, Second General-in-Chief.

"Most Excellent Sir,—On the 19th instant, about 12 or 1 o'clock p.m., the enemy appeared as if with the intention of attacking the position occupied by this army on the heights of Contreras. At the moment we began a very steady fire of artillery and musketry, successively, as the enemy presented himself on the various points sustained by our troops, and we succeeded in stopping him at several places, until night put an end to the fighting, in which all ranks of this army gave proof of their gallantry and the decision with which they sacrificed their lives in the defence of our nationality; but on the morning of the 20th—thanks to the bad position we occupied, and the carelessness paid to the movements of the enemy to surround us—we were routed that were placed in one point being surrounded. When I observed the dispersion of our forces, I tried all I could to stop it, and, crying 'Victory for Mexico,' at the same time that the bugle sounded for slaughter, I succeeded in stopping it for a moment, and ordered General Don Anastasio Torrejon to charge with his command; but this chief, instead of obeying my order, fled cowardly, and the cavalry following his example trampled on the infantry and contributed to the complete rout of it.

"It would appear ridiculous to make any recommendations of those who have been present in an unfortunate battle; however, I cannot help mentioning to your Excellency with which the chiefs and officers of the several corps tried, even in the midst of disorder, to reunite their force to resist the enemy, who was hotly pursuing us. The conduct observed by them, preferring being made prisoners to abandoning their soldiers, will always do them honour; and for this I think they are entitled to the consideration of the supreme Government, and the gratitude of their fellow-citizens.

"His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, Don Gabriel Valencia, disappeared from us at the commencement of the action of the 20th; and I, not knowing his whereabouts, have thought it my duty to address your Excellency, accompanying a list of the chiefs and officers who are prisoners in the city; another, of those who were wounded in San Angel and of those who are known to have been killed; another list of those made prisoners in the action of Charubusco; all of whom I have the honour of manifesting to your Excellency for your intelligence, praying that on communicating the above to his Excellency the President you will please manifest to him the total indigence in which the prisoners find themselves as having lost everything; and, the American General having given orders that they may be maintained by the inhabitants of this city which is destroyed, they must perish in misery, if their Government does not supply them with what they are entitled to, and which their actual situation and the well-deserving conduct that has distinguished them energetically claim.

"I reiterate to your Excellency my respects and particular esteem. God and Liberty!

"JOSE MARIANO SALAS.
"Tlalpam, August 23, 1847.
"To his Excellency the Minister of War.
"It is a copy.--Mexico, Aug. 24, 1847.
"MANUEL MARIA DE SANDOVAL."

Letters had been received in St. Louis from Chihuahua, stating that a very satisfactory state of things existed between the American traders and the citizens and Government of Chihuahua. The Mexicans adhered rigidly to the terms of the treaty made with the traders after the departure of Colonel Doniphan's command.

Official letters had been received from the camp of General Taylor at Monterey. A mixed force of Dragoons and Texans was employed in clearing the country between Camargo and Monterey of the roving guerrillas. Reports were received that it was the General's intention to visit the United States; but he does not yet mention such an intention in his recent dispatches.

In domestic affairs we have few interesting features. The Whigs of the Michigan State Convention had adopted resolutions declaring the purpose of the Whigs of that state to "resist, by all constitutional means, the introduction of slavery into any territory now or hereafter to be acquired by the United States by conquest, purchase, or otherwise;" and resolutions declaring the unconstitutionality of the Mexican war and the impolicy of its origin. Several additional meetings in favour of the elevation of General Taylor to the presidency had been held in various portions of the Union. The epidemic in New Orleans had considerably abated. The steam-ship Hermann, 2,000 tons burden, the third ship of the Southampton and Bremen line, had been launched at New York.

A heavy gale had been experienced on the seacoast on the 25th ult., in which the New
Orleans packet-ship Auburn went ashore on Long Reach, Barnegat Inlet, and went to pieces. The captain, mate, and 16 persons, embracing the crew and come five or six passengers, were lost, with the cargo.

The Canadian advices are unimportant.

The Port-au-Prince journals to the 29th of August had been received. A decree had been issued by the President, Faustin Souloaque, convoking the Legislature for the 7th of November next. A revolutionary attempt had recently been made at Port-au-Prince, but it was crushed in its inception. The revenue of the republic during the year 1846 was $3,502,779, and the expenditure $6,001,599. The revenue of 1847 shows an increase of about 10 per cent. upon that of 1846. The expenses of that year were greatly increased by the war.

[KA]

LT 1847-10-19-6e

October 19, 1847
Mexico, war in

The following dispatches from the United States' army in Mexico were received by the Britannia, which arrived in Liverpool on Saturday last-

Colonel Dickinson's report
Headquarters, South Carolina Regiment, Volunteers
San Augustine, Aug. 23, 1847

"General, --Early on the morning of the 20th inst., Colonel Butler, in pursuance of your orders, marched his command from the road running to the south of his quarters, by which it was reported many Mexicans were retreating from the field of Contreras to the city of Mexico. Owing to the thick patches of "maguey" and a rugged ravine, he could not reach his position until several hundreds of the enemy had passed. As the regiment emerged from the ravine into the field, extending to the road, [which field was flanked on our right by a stone wall, extending to the road and enclosing an orchard,] we discovered large masses of the enemy in the road before us; and although they perceived us at the same time, they were unable to escape beyond our reach until every gun in the battalion had been brought to bear upon them; most, however, had broken into an open field opposite, which only the more exposed them to our tire. Through this field, in musket range of our position, mingled groups of their Calvary and infantry continued to pass.

"Shortly, however, we perceived large masses forming in line of battle, under cover of the stone wall already mentioned, and that a large body was advancing from the orchard on our right flank and rear. Colonel Butler immediately changed front to the right by a flank movement; and brought the enemy, in both their positions, as they advanced from and then retreated. Colonel Butler, perceiving that other of the enemy were passing through the field in our front, left a few files to guard our rear-formed again on the road, and maintained a steady fire upon the enemy, who continued to pass forward and surrendered themselves to Colonel Butler, who, seeing their bodies still coming, remained upon the road with three companies, while the rest of the regiment, in pursuance of an order from the general, retired beyond the ravine to oppose a very large body of Calvary, appearing in our rear.

"Of the enemy 127 were killed and wounded, and 217 taken prisoners. Among the latter were the following officers of rank to wit:-One general officer, two staff officers, two colonels, two lieutenant-colonels, four commandants, three captains, and four lieutenants. Our own loss in the action, from the random fire of the enemy, was one sergeant, several wounded and one private slightly.

"Captain Marshall with his company (E) was left as a guard over the prisoners, who were placed in a church, and the regiment soon after took up its line of march on the road to Mexico. About noon the regiment was ordered to make a detour to the left, and strike upon the same road a short distance beyond the enemy's works at Cheraposa, to cut off their retreat, as it was reported that the works had been their retreat, as it was reported that the works had been carried by our troops. On arriving on the field after the subsequent action, we found that the New York regiment, in consequence of numbers if horsemen and a small corps of the howitzer battery having intruded themselves betwixt us. Were some 300 yards in advance of us, and the 9th infantry, attached for the time being out brigade, nearly the same distance in our rear; at the proper point we proceeded to form the line of battle, and as soon as the two right flank companies were in line, we
were ordered to advance-dispatch in reaching the road to cut off retreat being considered of more importance than a regular advance.

"Before, however, one-half of the companies were in line we found the New York regiment retiring under cover of the hacienda, to our right, and as soon as our line was unmasked from the road, which appeared to be densely filled with Mexican troops, as also the hacienda to the left of the field we occupied, and immediately on the road. As we had attempted, for the reason stated, very imperfect order in our line of battle was obtained; and as that appeared now indispensable, we were ordered to march by the right flank, as we reached the left flank of the New York regiment.

"As the hacienda did not possess sufficient breadth to protect the flanks in forming line of battle in its rear, the battalion was ordered to form by companies, and to march in column to the left, in advance of the hacienda, and a little to its left, upon which the general in person had placed himself; there they were ordered to deploy upon the colour company. The companies of the left wing formed in regular order, but some companies of the right wing were thrown into confused masses by the obstruction of miscellaneous troops belonging to different arms of the service; this was mostly remedied and advance was ordered. The line continued to advance, under a heavy fire, some 30 paces in rear of the general about 150 yards, when they were halted.

"The general had cautioned the men not to open their fire until he gave the orders; but directly they halted, the general took his position in line of battle, and at this time the squad of mixed troops upon our extreme right, already mentioned, commenced firing, and the battalion, supposing the orders given, opened its fire. It was understood by the field officers to have been the general's intention to make our brigade, and that as soon as the whole was in line they were to advance to within easy musket range of the road, or to charge as he should deem best. As the firing had already commenced, and did not interfere with the formation of the other battalion, it was permitted to continue. As soon, however, as one or two companies of the New York regiment appeared marching up to our right, the order was given to charge, and the battalion was gallantly led forward by Major Gladden, then in command of the regiment.

"The colonel had been killed directly after our fire had been opened, and the lieutenant-colonel severely wounded a few minutes after the charge. Our line of battle numbered, before the commencement, three field officers, two staff officers, seven captains, 24 lieutenants, 12 sergeants, 273 rank and file; after the battle, the number who were unwounded for duty was one field officer (major), three captains, 18 lieutenants, 12 sergeants, 169 rank and file. The total of our losses in the engagement in killed and wounded was 136. The major informed me that, upon reaching the position of the enemy, he found that they had abandoned it, and were in full retreat for the city; several companies were in pursuit, and the others formed as a reserve in the road. The whole were shortly ordered to advance by the general, but in consequence of the large number of killed and wounded reported to him, the battalion was soon ordered back to the hacienda, now converted into a hospital. The three companies sent in pursuit were overtaken by a piece of artillery, which they supported nearly to the suburbs of the city, until they were recalled.

"Captain Marshall, who rejoined the regiment with his command at this place, reports to me that soon after the battalion had left the church where the prisoners were placed under his charge, finding himself destitute of provisions, he sent a detachment of his company to forage for fruit and green corn; this detachment surprised a party of Mexican soldiers engaged in the same pursuit. They killed one and captured 43, whom they brought back and delivered to their captain. This makes the total number taken at the place 260, which, with 127 killed and wounded, makes a total of 387.

"I should be unjust to the officers of this regiment and to my own feelings were I to close this report without acknowledging the gallant manner in which all the grades of officers performed their duty and sustained the honour of their flag. Until the engagement of the evening, our regiment had been in no very dangerous position, and the troops in that regard were raw and inexperienced; upon that occasion each officer had to lead his command, and their number in killed and wounded shows how faithfully they met the necessity. Our noble and unfortunate commander had his horse shot under him, at the head of his command, in the first of the engagement; a short time after he received a wound in the leg, ad yielded the command to his next rank.

"Finding however, that the wound, although serious, had not broken his leg, he accompanied the regiment in its subsequent advance upon the field. Here he had scarcely taken his position on the line of battle near the colours, when he received a wound to the left side of this head, which instantaneously terminated his life. As you witnessed his gallant bearing, I will only add that he was not only a brave officer, but a guardian father to his regiment.
"I have already stated that the occasion required of every officer a fearless example to his command, and that it was fully met by all. A few instances of gallantry falling accidentally under my immediate notice I will not mention; not as making invidious distinctions, but as conduct characteristic of the whole corps of officers. Major Gladden attracted my attention by his usual regard for regularity-disorder, however, partial, seemed to give him concern. He was at the post and duty. Captains Sumter and Dunovant, of the flank companies, exhibited that promptness and order so necessary on the flank; never once did I see either corps in broken order, or behind its time, upon the line or in the advance; the first lost its flower in the fight, and ended the engagement without enough to bury its dead and bear its wounded to the hospital.

"In the development upon the colour company (Captain Walker's), that and Captain De Saussure's, which formed the first upon it, were nearly annihilated; the first, after the line was formed, having but four men left, and the other (the largest company in the regiment), having but 24. I was near Captain De Saussure and saw his clothing literally riddled with bullets. He stood on the right and front during the firing, exhibiting such cool courage and that not one of his men wavered, though the foot of each was bathed in the blood of his next comrade. Captain William Blanding, of company F, and Lieutenant William C. Moragne, commanding company D, bore their companies' flags in the right flanks of their companies during the heaviest of the fire; the latter received his from the dying hands of his gallant subaltern, Lieutenant D. L. Adams, who fell with it in his hands, and the former from his colour-sergeant (Hicks), who also fell wounded.

"Captain Moffat, of company C, received a severe wound in the leg, but remained on duty till a rapid advance left him behind. Lieutenant J. R. Clark, commanding company G, was attracting my attention by giving orders in his usual quiet and temperate manner when he received what I fear will prove a mortal wound. Captain J.D. Blanding, of the staff, being unmounted, and the command small, attached himself to the company to which he originally belonged, and was wounded while sharing his fortune in the honour and danger of the fight. Adjutant James Cantry, in the latter part of the action, was severely wounded in the face, while extending the orders of the commander of the regiment.

"Lieutenant Shubrick, of the brigade staff, having lost his horse, attached himself to the company E, where he did duty throughout the engagement. The field and staff officers being all dismounted, Captain Hammond of the brigade staff, at my request, communicated the orders of the brigade directly to the captains of companies whenever the noise of the engagement prevented them being heard. I beg leave to acknowledge my obligations to him, and my admiration for his very gallant bearing during the engagement.

"Very respectfully yours &c.

"J.P. Dickinson,
"Lieutenant-Colonel, Commanding South Carolina Regiment,

"To Brigadier General Shields, commanding
"Brigade Volunteer Division."

"Head.Quarters, 1st Brigade, San Augustine, Mexico, August 24, 1847.

"Sir-On the 19th inst., about 3 o'clock in the afternoon pursuant to the orders of the general commanding this division, I marched from this place with the New York and South Carolina regiments of volunteers towards the battlefield of Contreras. On reporting to the Commander in Chief, who occupied on my arrival a position which overlooked the field, he described to me in a few words the position of the contending forces, pointed out the route of my command and briefly instructed me as to the dispositions which would render my force the most serviceable. Directing my march upon the village near Contreras, the troops had to pass over ground covered with rocks and crags, and filled with chasms, which rendered the route almost impassable.

"A deep ravine, along the bed which rolled a rapid stream, was passed after dark with great difficulty and exertion; and to rest the wearied troops after crossing I directed them to lie upon their arms until midnight, and while occupying this position, two strong pickets, thrown out by my orders, discovered and fired upon and drove back a body of Mexican infantry moving through the fields in the direction that an attempt had, in like manner, been made by the enemy to pass the position on the main road, occupied by the first regiment of artillery, and with a like want of success, thus being foiled in his effort to retire during the night. About midnight I again resumed the march, and joined Brigadier General Smith in the village already alluded to.

"General Smith previous to my arrival had made the most judicious arrangements for turning and surprising the Mexican position about daybreak, and with which I could not wish to interfere. This cast upon my command the necessity of holding the position evacuated by General Scott, on the right, and a large force of Calvary on the left.

"About daybreak the enemy opened a brisk fire of grape and round shot upon the church
and the village in which my brigade was posted, and also upon a part of our own troops, displayed to divert him on his right and front, evidently unaware of the movement in progress to turn his position by the left and rear. This continued until Colonel Riley's brigade opened its fire from the rear, which was delivered with such terrible effect that the whole Mexican force was thrown into the utmost consternation. At this juncture I ordered the regiments of my command to throw themselves on the main road, by which the enemy must retire, to intercept and cut off his retreat, and although officers and men had suffered severely during the march of the night, and from exposure without rest or cover to the incessant rain until daybreak, this movement was executed with good order and rapidity.

"The Palmetto regiment crossing a deep ravine deployed on both sides the road, and opened a most destructive fire upon the mingled masses of the infantry and cavalry, and the New York regiment, brought in lower down and on the road side, delivered its fire with like effect. At this point many of the enemy were killed and wounded, and some 365 captured, of which 25 were officers, and among the latter was General Nicholas Mendoza.

"In the meantime the enemy's cavalry, about 3,000 strong which had been threatening our position during the morning, moved down towards us in good order as if to attack. I immediately recalled the infantry to place in position to meet the threatening movement, but soon the cavalry changed its direction, and retired toward the capital. I know received the order from General Twiggs to advance by the main road towards Mexico, and having posted Captain Marshall's company of South Carolina volunteers, and Captain Taylor's company New York volunteers, in charge of the prisoners and wounded, I moved off with the remainder of my force, and joined the positions of the 2d and 3d divisions already en route on the main road. On this march we were joined by General-in-Chief, who assumed the command of the whole, and the march continued uninterrupted until we arrived before Cheribousho.

"Here the enemy was found strongly fortified and posted with his main force, probably near 25,000. The engagement was commenced by the first division under Twiggs, soon joined by the first under Worth, and was becoming general, when I was directed by the Commander-in-Chief with my two regiments and Pierce's brigade, the 9th, 12th, and the 15th, with the mounted howitzer battery, to gain a position, if possible, to attack the enemy's rear and intercept his retreat.

"Leaving Loonco, by a left-hand road, and moving about a mile upon it, I moved thence with my command toward the right through a heavy corn-field, and gained an open, but swampy field, in which is situated the hacienda de las potales; on the edge of this field, beyond the hacienda I discovered the road by which the enemy must retire from Cheribousho, and found his reserve of about 4,000 infantry occupied it, just in the rear of the town.

"As my command arrived I established the right upon a point recommended by Captain Lee, engineer officer, in whose skill and management I had the utmost confidence, and commenced a movement to the left, to flank the enemy on his right and throw my troops between him and the city. But finding his right supported by a heavy body of cavalry of some 3,000 strong, seeing that with I had to operate, I withdrew the men to the cover of the hacienda, determined to attack him upon his front.

"I selected the Palmetto regiment as the base of my line and this gallant regiment moved forward firmly and rapidly under a fire of musketry as terrible, perhaps, as any which soldiers were faced. The New York 12th and 15th deployed gallantly on the right, and on the 9th on the left, and the whole advance opening their fire as they came up, and moving steadily forward, the enemy began to waver, and when my order to charge was given the men rushed upon and scattered his broken ranks.

"As we reached the road, the advance of Worth's command appeared, driving the enemy from the stronghold of Cheribousho. I took command of the front, and continued in pursuit until I passed by Harney with his cavalry, who followed the routed foe into the very gates of the city.

"In this terrible battle, in which a strongly fortified enemy fought behind his works, under the walls of his capital, our loss is necessarily severe; the loss, I regret to say, has fallen most severely upon my command. In the two regiments of my own brigade, numbering about 600 in the fight, the loss is reported 240 killed and wounded. Pierce's brigade, under my command in this action, lost a considerable number in killed and wounded; among the latter was the gallant Colonel Morgan, of the 15th. His command having rejoined its division immediately after the action, I have as yet received no official report of its loss. A particular and detailed report of the loss, as also of the prisoners captured by this command, accompanies this report.

"In this last engagement my command captured 380 prisoners, including 60 officers; of
this number 41 had deserted from the American army during the war, and at their head was found the notorious O'Reilly, who had fought against the troops at Monterey and elsewhere. In closing this report I beg to offer my thanks to the many gallant officers of my command of their gallant and fearless support during the combat. To Colonel Burnett of the New York volunteers, to Lieutenant-Colonel Dickinson and Major Gladden of the South Carolina volunteers; as many of their gallant subordinates, every praise is due.

"Colonel Burnett was severely wounded at the head of his regiment, and Lieutenant-Colonel Dickinson also severely wounded while in the command of his regiment, and bearing gallantly forward the colours of his corps. My thanks are due to the medical staff on command, Drs. Halstead and M'Kebbin, of the New York regiment, and Drs. Clark and Blane of the South Carolina regiment, as also to Dr. Swift, United States' army, for their attention to the wounded.

"It affords me pleasure (and I but perform my duties too) in acknowledging my great obligation to Captain R.E. Lee, as also to my particular staff, captain F. N. Page, Lieutenant R.P. Hammond, 3d artillery, aide-de-camp, and Lieutenant T. Davis, of Illinois, acting as aid, for their gallant services and fearless exposure I encouraging the troops and conveying my orders during the different engagements. Lieutenant Bone, commanding howitzer battery, deserves great credit for the handsome manner in which he brought his guns into action and continued to serve them.

"I beg respectively, though the general of division, to ask for these gentlemen the favorable notice of the Commander-in-Chief, and to recommend them to the President. Lieutenant Shubrick of the navy, who accompanied me, attached himself to the Palmetto regiment of his native state, and fought in its ranks, and is spoken of handsomely in the report of its commander.

"While thus enjoying the pleasure of bestowing my commendation upon the living, I turn with feelings of sorrow, through my pride, to recollect the gallant dead. Lieutenants Adams and Williams, of the South Carolina regiments, and Lieutenant Chandler, of the New York regiment, are of these gallant dead. By yielding their lives to achieve this glorious victory, they have won the soldier's fame with a soldier's death.

"The noble and gallant colonel of the South Carolina regiment has risen from his sick bed to share the hardships of the field and the dangers of the combat with his devoted regiment; he survived the conflict of the morning to lead his command; victory again awaited it; although wounded himself, and having his horse shot under him, he still continued to press onward near the colours of his regiment until the fatal ball terminated his life.

"The gallant soldier in his youth has won, on his death upon the field of battle, fame for himself and his regiment and added another name to the roll of South Carolina's departed heroes.


"J.A. SHIELDS
"Brigadier-General, Commanding 1st Brigade, Volunteer Division."

KT 1847-10-25-4b

October 25, 1847
US and Mexico

The effect produced at Liverpool on Saturday by the intelligence of America was a singular indication of the extent to which the best interest of the two civilized and commercial countries are, in these times, identified. Information of renewed hostilities in India could hardly have excited more lively dissatisfaction than the tidings that a Mexican peace was apparently as far off as ever. If any citizen of the United States should be perversely persuaded that England desires either the discomfiture or embarrassment of his country, he need only observe how the arrival of each successive mal affects out great commercial communities. Calculations of exchange and exports leave very little room for considerations of jealously, and political conclusions altogether vanish compared with the prospects of trade.

It cannot be denied that the apprehensions of interminable hostilities excited by the late dispatches are fully warranted by the intelligence they bring. Indeed, it is not easy to discover a single point in which the position of the Americans is materially mended. The
armistice, under the terms of which we lately left both armies snatching a brief repose, has been summarily terminated, if not abruptly broken; and the renewal of the war appears to have been signalized by two engagements of unusual severity, in one of which the Americans suffered a decided but not dishonorable repulse. It seems that they broke up on the 18th ult. From Tacubaya, and assaulted a strong post at Chapultepec, situate about midway between Tacubaya and Mexico; but that they met with a resistance so determined, or a force so overpowering, that they were compelled to retire. Intelligence, purporting to be of six days' later date, then states that Chapultepec had been just carried by storm, and that the American army had entered Mexico, Santa Anna retiring before them to Guadalupe. The conduct of the Americans troops throughout the whole war, which, as far as regards their behavior in the field, does honour to the race from which they spring, will lead us at once to the conclusion that the last reports are highly probable, and that the previous reverse, if it ever happened as is related, was brought about by some prodigious disparity of numbers or position. Still this mends matters but little, for neither the capture of the city of Mexico nor the display of national superiority is the object of Mr. Polk or his General. What they want is the submission of the enemy and the conciliatory termination of hostilities, and so far are these ends from being attained that the exasperation and pertinacity of each defeat, and they have never made a nearer approach to the masculine or creditable deportment than at this very moment, when according to all calculations they ought to have been beaten into sure subserviency. The abortive negotiations which preceded the renewal of the war, and which will be found in a detailed form elsewhere, are in a high degree instructive, as indicating more conclusively than any other evidence could do the intentions and confidence of the respective parties. On the side of the United States it is proposed that the boundary line of the two republics should run up the middle of the Grande, strike off westward on reaching the limit of New Mexico, take the course of the Gila and the lower Colorado, and so through the mouth of the latter river down the middle of the Californian Gulf into the Pacific. In other words, this would bring the south-western boundary line of the United States about ten degrees further south, would deprive Mexico of all Upper and Lower California as well as of the districts on the Grande, and would leave her with the Gila for her northern boundary, but just above the present frontier of Sonora which marks her settle territories. Enormous as was this claim, it was not he point upon which the negotiations broke off, for the Americans phrased their requirements considerately, and offered a liberal price for the cession they desired. Santa Anna, it is true, was for reserving a certain portion of California for Mexican expansion, and he suggested the 37th in place of the 32nd parallel as the boundary of the two countries. Yes it is hardly disguised that on he point of cession and sale in this quarter the Mexican commissioners were amenable to the reasons which Mr. Polk brought, by millions, against them, and the transfer might have been completed but for a comparatively insignificant slice of debatable land. The old Texan boundary line was again brought under discussion, the one party insisting on the Grande, and the other, as in honour bound, upon the Nueces; and this little difference proved incapable of adjustment between parties who had just been judiciously chaffering about ten degrees of territory!

It is thus clear that from the great object which has been so unhappily sought by a war the Americans are now only separated by an obstacle which that very war was raised. We have before expressed our persuasion that, looking at the natural destinies and necessities of men and states, the vast province of New California would much more reasonably fall to the lot of an expensive and enterprising people who might reclaim its wastes and colonize its shores, than remain the nominal and desert appanage of a stationary or retrograding race which could never have either the motives or the means to improve its advantages for commerce, or explore the resources of its soil. It is not the demand itself, but the manner in which it has been made, which has proved at once so discreditable and disastrous to the aggressors. It can scarcely be doubted that if the United States had quietly and sagaciously made the same offer before the war which they make now, the bargain might have been amicably arranged, and the costs of the intervening hostilities, which independently of blood wasted and credit sunk, amount to more than the whole purchase money of the desired territory, might all have been saved. This, however, then appeared too costly a policy, and bullying was substituted for barter by a Cabinet willing to acquire a province without paying its just price. Advantage was taken of two flimsy pretexts to proclaim a war. With a signal forgetfulness of her own indebtedness to foreign states, and of the outcry with which she had received a monitory imitation that compulsion on the part of a despairing creditor was strictly justifiable by international law, America announced her intention of enforcing at the sword's point the demands of her own citizens upon the citizens of Mexico. The preference to be given to one of two contiguous rivers as a boundary supplied an immediate opportunity of action, and from the debatable strip between the Grande and the Nueces the American forces marched into Mexico, thinking to fix the terms and the period of their own retreat, and to win, by a glorious and agreeable campaign, the land for which they were reluctant to pay down a more equitable consideration. The proverbial fruits of such policy are now before the world. Instead of the campaign, the land for which they were reluctant to pay down a more equitable cession they desired. Santa Anna, it is true, was for reserving a certain portion of California for Mexican expansion, and he suggested the 37th in place of the 32nd parallel as the boundary of the two countries. Yes it is hardly disguised that on he point of cession and sale in this quarter the Mexican commissioners were amenable to the reasons which Mr. Polk brought, by millions, against them, and the transfer might have been completed but for a comparatively insignificant slice of debatable land. The old Texan boundary line was again brought under discussion, the one party insisting on the Grande, and the other, as in honour bound, upon the Nueces; and this little difference proved incapable of adjustment between parties who had just been judiciously chaffering about ten degrees of territory!

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convincing or compressing their enemy into the desired docility. They have won a score of fights without getting any nearer to their mark, and now, at last, after reaching the hostile capital by force of arms, after descending to mollifying memorials and deprecatory correspondence, after undertaking to satisfy from the national exchequer those very private demands which had made a cause of war, and after Tendering for the coveted territory the very monies which they embarked in the war to save, they find their proposals deliberately rejected by an emboldened enemy, and themselves reduced to straight from which they can only escape by concessions which would convict at once their first policy and their present perplexity, or by redoubling efforts of sanguinary violence which may end no better than before.

[The following appeared in part only of our impression of Saturday:-]

Liverpool, Friday Evening

The screw steam-ship Sarah Sands, Captain Thompson, has just arrived in the Mersey, after a passage of 16 days, from New York, having left that port on the 6th inst. She brings 40,000 specie on freight.

The ship Henry Clay, packet of the 6inst., was detained, in order to bring a freight of about 200,000l.

Our advices from Mexico are important. Letters had been received from Mexico, under date to the 9th of September, stating that on the 7th the Mexican commissioners declared that the propositions made by Mr. Trist were inadmissible; in consequence of which General Santa Anna convoked a council of generals, who decided that notice should be given to General Scott that the armistice was at an end, and appointed the 9th for the recommencement of hostilities.

On the 6th of September, General Scott addressed a letter to Santa Anna from Tacubaya, accusing him of having violated several articles of the armistice and one of the charges was that he had not allowed the American army to obtain supplies from the city of Mexico. General Scott demanded an explanation, and concludes as follows:-

"I hereby formally notify you, that if I do not receive the most complete satisfaction on all these points before 12 o'clock to-morrow, I shall consider the armistice as terminated from that hour."

To this letter General Santa Anna replied at considerable length, and with great severity. He accused General Scott of having violated the terms of the armistice in refusing to allow flour from the mills in the vicinity to be brought into the city, and says that the American wagons were driven out of the objectionable conduct of the officers accompanying them. Santa Anna also charges General Scott with having sacked the Mexican towns in the vicinity of the capital, and robbed and desecrated the churches, and stealing and destroying articles held sacred by every Mexican. He concludes as follows:-

"I flatter myself that your Excellency will be convinced, on calm reflection upon the weight of my reasons; but if by misfortune you should seek only a pretext to deprive the first city of the American continent of an opportunity to free the unarmed population of the horrors of war, there will be left me no other means of salvation but no repel to force by force, with the decision and energy which my high obligations impose upon me."

On the 7th General Herrera, as commandant of the city of Mexico, addressed the clergy, exhorting them to exert all their influence to incite the people to arm themselves, and prepare to resist the American army.

General Scott, it seems, did not wait for the time fixed upon by Santa Anna (the 9th), but, on the 8th attacked the Mill de Rey, or King's Mill, in the immediate vicinity of Chapultepec, and, according to the Diario del Gobierno, and the Boletin, published at Alisco, near Puebla, the Mexican army was repulsed, after a short conflict, in which it lost about 400 men killed, and from 600 to 700 in wounded, and fell back upon Tacubaya.
The account given by Boletin represents the battle to have been the most bloody and severely contested of the whole war. It concludes as follows: -

"At 10 o'clock the enemy commenced a retrograde movement, and by 2 o'clock in the afternoon he withdrew all his forces to Tacubaya, abandoned the two points he had occupied, and blew up the house of Mata, although some say it was set on fire by a bomb from Chapultepec.

"It is believed that Generals Twiggs and Pierce directed the attack, and that they put in motion about 8,000 men. It is certain that the fire was more intense and brisk than at Churubusco.

"It is impossible to ascertain the loss on either side. Ours does not amount to 100 killed and 250 wounded. There are a few missing-nearly all not killed or wounded retiring to Chapultepec.

"The enemy, according to the confession of an Irishman, who came over to us in the evening, carried off 500 dead and 600 or 700 wounded.

"We have to lament the loss of General Leon, since dead; that of Colonel Balderas, of the valiant Colonels Huerta and Gelati, and of the determined Captain Mateos, of Puebla."

A Mexican letter announces that Riley and his legion of St. Patrick, 70 in number, were ordered by the court-martial to be hung. The sentence was approved by General Scott, and on the 8th of September the whole legion were hung in presence of the army, as also of the enemy. This, of course, is a thoroughly Mexican account, and so far as its details are concerned, deserves, probably, but little credit.

The following account of the same attack is from the Diario del Gobierno, also Mexican authority: -

"At half-past 4 o'clock in the morning on the 5th the Americans attacked the position of the mill of El Rey, close to the fortress of Chapultepec. Their numerous and brave columns were, however, repulsed three times by the valiant soldiers, who this day gave brilliant proofs of their patriotism and bravery; more than 1,000 of the enemy remained on the field of battle, and on our side the loss has been less than one half that number, we having to lament the death of the gallant Colonel John Lucas, Baldras and General Don Antonio de Leon, being wounded, together with several other distinguished chiefs and officers. The traitor Santa Anna commanded in person the column which forced the Americans to retreat, taking with them, without doubt, the conviction that it is only through rivers of blood that they penetrate the city of Mexico, and that at all events they will there find their sepulchre."

The following paragraph is translated from a Jalapa letter in the Arco Iris, at Vera Cruz, but its statements are not credited: -

"When General Perez abandoned the mill El Rey, a bomb discharged from Chapultepec fell among the ammunition waggons of the enemy, in the yard of the mill, causing four of them to explode, by which 300 Americans are said to have been blown up, including General Worth, who, according to the accounts, had not been seen or heard from the following day at Tacubaya."

This is the latest of the Mexican accounts from the capital. It renders it certain that General Scott had opened his batteries upon the city. The only authentic report of the result is contained in the following letter, addressed to Mr. Dimond, at Vera Cruz: -

"Orizaba, Sept. 19,

"I have the honour to inform you that an express arrived here this evening from Mexico, which brings intelligence that General Scott was in the city of Mexico. That on the 14th the American troops took Chapultepec and the citadel and went into the city that night. General Bravo was killed and General Santa Anna was wounded in the arm, and has retired with the remainder of his troops, which have suffered much, to Guadaloupe."

From this it seems that the attack upon Chapultepec was renewed, which renders credible the first statement that in the attack of the 8th on that town General Scott was repulsed. With reference to the attack upon the capital, the Picayune adds: -

"A letter, from a credible source, confirms all that is said in the above, and only disagrees with it in stating that the city was carried by assault on the 14th. The Sum of Anahuac has it on the 13th, the heights and works of Chapultepec were carried; on the 14th and 15th
the city was bombarded, and that a part of our army entered it on the morning on the 16th, the rest remaining at Chapultepec."

Additional accounts by the steamer Day give hopes that the reported disaster to General Worth and others is false. There was a Mexican force near Puebla determined to intercept all communication from General Scott.

General Lane had reached Vera Cruz on the 10th with 2,000 men, and started for Mexico; and General Cushing was expected.

Paredes is stated to be in the state of Puebla with 6,000 mean, prepared to prevent reinforcements reaching General Scott.

Government had made no attempt to arrest his proceedings. He had been appointed Inspector General of the Puebla National Guards.

It will be remembered that the Deputies of Congress, when summoned by the President to confer upon the question of peace with the United States, did not attend in sufficient numbers to form quorum, and the Executive Government in the emergency took upon itself the conduct of the negotiations. The members of Congress, however, have now protested against this assumption of power, and in an address to the President, dated from Toluca, declare that any arrangement concluded without their sanction will be null and void, and demand to be called together at Queretaro, as it is impossible for them to deliberate with sufficient freedom of discussion at Mexico.

This address had been communicated to the President by the Governor of the state of Mexico, who vigorously advocates the continuance of the war.

General Valencia has issued a proclamation, rehearsing the history of the battles of Contreras and Churubusco, in which he accuses Santa Anna of cowardice, in order to screen himself. It contains nothing new or important.

The State of Zacatecas, taking advantage of the distracted condition of Mexico, has sent a force against the state of Aguas Calientes, which has sometimes acted independently of Zacatecas, and been recognised as an independent state, to reduce it to submission.

An account of the negotiation with the United States' Commissioner is given elsewhere in full detail. The following letter is published in some of the American papers, but it is in all probability an invention:-

"City of Mexico, Sept. 19, 1847.

'Respected Friends,--I have an opportunity to send by the courier who leaves to-night this letter, in which I shall briefly attempt to describe to you the horrors we have just experienced. On the 7th inst. Our commissioners rejected the treaty propositions of the American Government, and decided on resuming the war, General Herrera inviting and urging the clergy to rouse the citizens to the utmost resistance. On the same day General Scott, the American chief, charged Santa Anna with breaking the armistice by forbidding his commissioners to obtain food in the city, and threatened, unless reparation was made, to commence hostilities and bombarded the city. Santa Anna replied, severely charging Scott with breaking the armistice by sacking our villages, and expressed his perfect readiness to renew the war. On the 13th instant Americans made a demonstration on Chapultepec and the mill of El Rey, but our generals were prepared for them. Anticipating a breach of armistice, Santa Anna for several days had caused to be conveyed, in every possible manner so as not to excited suspicion, arms, munitions, and food to the fortress of Chapultepec. Our citizens carried under their mantles and on mules a great quantity of powder, balls, and provisions, without being once discovered, so great as the feeling of security and confidence among the Americans. General Scott was not a little surprised to find on attacking Chapultepec such obstinate resistance. Chapultepec, you know, is situated between Tacubaya and the city, within cannon-shot of the former and some three miles form the latter. It is a bold hill overlooking a vast range of country, which enabled our soldiers to watch every maneuver of the enemy. It also commands the road from Tacubaya to the city, which runs close to its base, and it can only be ascended by a circuitous paved way, which, after turning a certain angle, is exposed to the full range of the fortress guns. As the Americans ascended the hill a perfect storm of musket balls and grape shot drove them back with a heavy loss. They recovered and advanced again, but were repulsed. Our troops fought with desperate valour, worthy the character of Mexicans. The enemy also fought bravely, his men seemed like so many devils, whim it was impossible to defeat without annihilation. He made a third and last charge with fresh force and heavy guns, and our gallant troops having exhausted their grape-shot, were forced, very unwillingly, to retreat and yield up the fortress, of which the enemy took possession."
Our soldiers retreated towards the city, but were unfortunately cut off by a detachment of the enemy's cavalry, and about 1,000 were made prisoners, but were soon released, as the enemy had no men to guard them. The enemy then opened his batteries on the Mill El Rey (King's Mill) close upon Chapultepec, which, after obstinate fighting and great loss to the Americans, we were obliged to abandon.

"The two actions continues over nine hours, and were the severest, considering our small number of soldiers and the enemy's large force, that have been fought. Our loss in killed and wounded was not more than 300, while the enemy lost over 400, or at least such was the report of deserters from the American camp who came to us in the evening. Seeing that the city would inevitably be attacked, General Santa Anna, during the actions, caused a number of trenches to be cut across the road leading to the city, which were flooded with water. On the morning of the 14th, before daylight, the enemy, with a part of his force, commenced his march upon the city. Our soldiers, posted behind the arches of the aqueducts and several breast-works which had been hastily thrown up, annoyed him so severely, together with the trenches which he had to bridge over, that he did not arrive at the gates till late in the afternoon. Here he halted, and attempted to bombard the city, which he did during the balance of the day and the day following, doing immense damage. In some cases whole blocks were destroyed and a great number of men, women, and children killed and wounded. The picture was awful. One deafening roar filled our ears, one cloud of smoke met our eyes, now and then mixed with flame, and amid it all we could hear the various shrieks of the wounded and dying. But the city bravely resisted the hundreds of flying shells. It hurled back defiance to the bloodthirsty Yankee, and convinced him that his bombs could not reduce the Mexican capital. The enemy then changed his plan, and determined to enter the city, where we were prepared to meet him, having barricaded the streets with sand bags, and provided on the tops and at the windows all who could bear arms or missiles, stones, bricks, &c., to throw on the heads of the enemy. Before General Scott had fairly passed the gates he found the difficulty of his position. A perfect torrent of balls and stones rained upon our troops. Many were killed and more wounded. Still he kept advancing until he gained the entrance of two streets leading direct to the Plaza. Finding that he could not oppose himself to our soldiers, who were all posted out of sight, and that he was losing his men rapidly, General Scott took possession of the convent of San Isidoro, which extends back to the centre of a block, and at once set his sappers and miners to cutting a way directly through the blocks of buildings. In some instances whole houses were blown up to facilitate his progress; but after several hours he again emerged into the street, and finally regained the Plaza with great loss. On entering the Plaza a heavy fire was opened on him from the Palace and cathedral, which were filled and covered with our patriotic troops. Finding himself thus assaulted, the enemy drew out his forces in the Plaza and opened a cannonade on the Palace and cathedral, firing over 100 shots, which did immense damage to the buildings and caused a severe loss of killed and wounded. Seeing further resistance useless, our soldiers ceased firing, and on the 15th of September (sad day!) the enemy was in possession of the Mexican capital. Though we inflicted havoc and death upon the Yankees, we suffered greatly ourselves. Many were killed by the blowing up of the houses, many by the bombardment, but more by the confusion which prevailed in the city, altogether we cannot count our killed, wounded, and missing since the action commenced yesterday, at less than 4,000, among whom are women and children. The enemy confessed a loss over 1,000, it is no doubt much greater. What a calamity! But Mexico will yet have vengeance. God will avenge us for our sufferings. Alas, that I should write this letter within sight of a proud enemy, who has succeeded by his ferocity in trampling on our capital and our country—an enemy who only prides himself upon shooting well with his rifle and cannon. But thus it is—we are prostrated, not humbled. We may be forced to silence, but the first moment that presents us a chance will be devoted to terrible revenge. Santa Anna has gone with his generals and all the troops he could draw off to Guadalupe. He is said to be wounded severely. Seeing further resistance useless, our soldiers ceased firing, and on the 15th of September (sad day!) the enemy was in possession of the Mexican capital. Though we inflicted havoc and death upon the Yankees, we suffered greatly ourselves. 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We have lost heroic officers and brave men in these two days. I cannot foresee what is to come. Thousands are gathering upon the hills around the city, determined to cut off all supplies and starve the enemy who has so audaciously entered it. General Scott may yet find our lakes bursting their barriers and filling this beautiful valley to annihilate the infamous Americans. We scarcely hope, yet do not quite despair. Our brave generals may recover what is lost, and Mexico, with her ten millions of people, arise to sweep the invader from the land he has desecrated. Be sure that whatever we do in the way of submission is only for the moment. No Mexican will respect beyond the hour that forces him to it, any bond dictated by the sword of an enemy. My heart is too full of grief and indignation to write more.

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The following account of the same attack is from the Diario del Gobierno, also Mexican authority:

"At half-past 4 o'clock in the morning on the 5th the American attacked the position of the mill of El Rey, close to the fortress of Chapultepec. Their numerous and brave columns were, however, repulsed three times by valiant soldiers, who this day gave brilliant proofs of their patriotism and bravery; more than 1,000 of the enemy remained on the field of battle, and on out side the loss has been less than one half that number, we having to lament the death of the gallant Colonel John Lucas, Baldras and General Don Antonio de Leon, being wounded, together with several other distinguished chiefs and officers. The traitor Santa Anna commanded in person the column which forced the Americans to retreat, taking with them, without doubt, the conviction that it is only though rivers of blood that they penetrate the city of Mexico, and that all events they will find their sepulchre."

The following paragraph is translated from a Jalapa letter in the Arco Iris, at Vera Cruz, but its statements are not credited:

"When General Perez abandoned the Mill El Rey, a bomb discharged from Chapultepec fell among the ammunition waggons of the enemy, in the yard of the mill, causing four of them to explode, by which 300 Americans are said to have blown up, including General Worth, so according to the accounts, had not been seen or heard from the following day at Tacubaya."

This is the latest of the Mexican accounts from the capital. It renders it certain that General Scott had opened his batteries upon the city. The only authentic report of the result is contained in the following letter, addressed to Mr. Dimond, at Vera Cruz:

"Orizaba, Sept. 19.

"I have the honor to inform you that an express arrived here this evening for Mexico, which brings intelligence that General Scott was in the city of Mexico. That on the 14th the American troops took Chapultepec and the citadel, and went into the city that night. General Bravo was killed, and General Santa Anna was wounded in the arm, and has retired with the remainder of his troops, which have suffered much, to Guadaloupe."

From this it seems that the attack upon Chapultepec was renewed, which renders credible that first statement that in the attack of the 8th on that town General Scott was repulsed. With reference to the attack upon the capital, the Picayune adds:

"A letter, from the credible source, confirms all that is said in the above, and only disagrees with it in stating that the city was carried by assault in the 14th. The Sun of Anahuac has it in the 13th, the heights and works of Chapultepec were carried; on the 14th and 15th the city was bombarded, and that a part of out army entered it on the morning of the 16th, the rest remaining at Chapultepec."

Additional accounts by the steamer Day give hopes that the reported disaster to General Worth and others is false. There was a Mexican force near Puebla determined to intercept all communication from General Scott.

General Lane had reached Vera Cruz on the 10th with 2,000 men, and started for Mexico, and General Cushng was expected.

Parades is stated to be in the state of Puebla with 6,000 men prepared to prevent reinforcements reaching General Scott.

Government had made no attempt to arrest his proceedings. He had been appointed Inspector-General of the National Guards.

It will be remembered that the Deputies of Congress, when summoned by the President to confer upon the question of peace with the United States, did not attend in sufficient
numbers to form a quorum, and the Executive Government in the emergency took upon itself the conduct of the negotiations. The members of Congress, however, have now protested against this assumption of power, and in an address to the President, dated from Toluca, declare that any arrangement concluded without their sanction will be null and void, and demand to be called together at Querétaro, as it is impossible for them to deliberate with sufficient freedom of discussion at Mexico.

This address had been communicated to the President by the Governor of the state of Mexico, who vigorously advocates the continuance of war.

General Valencia has issued a proclamation, rehearsing the history of the battles of Contreras and Churubusco, in which he accuses Santa Anna of cowardice, in order to screen himself. It contains nothing new or important.

The state of Zacatecas, taking advantage of the distracted condition of Mexico, has sent a force against the state of Aguas Calientes, which has sometimes acted independently of Zacatecas, and been recognized as an independent state, to reduce it to submission.

An account of the negotiation with the United States' Commissioner is given elsewhere in full detail.

The following letter is published in some of the American papers, but it is all probably an invention:--

"City of Mexico, Sept. 19, 1847.

Respected Friends,-I have an opportunity to send by the courier who leaves to-night this letter, in which I shall briefly attempt to describe to you the horrors we have just experienced. On the 7th instant our commissioners rejected the treaty propositions of the American Government and decided on resuming the war, General Herrera inviting and urging the clergy to rouse the citizens to the utmost resistance. On the same day General Scott, the American chief, charged Santa Anna with breaking he armistice by forbidding his commissioners to obtain food in the city, and threatened, unless reparations were made, to commence hostilities and bombard the city. Santa Anna replied, severely charging Scott with breaking the armistice by sacking our villages, and expressed his perfect readiness to renew the war. On the 13th instant the Americans made a demonstration on Chapultepec and the mill of El Rey, but our generals were prepared for them. Anticipating a breach of the armistice, Santa Anna for several days had caused to be conveyed, in every possible manner so as not to excite suspicion, arms, munitions, and food to the fortress of Chapultepec. Our citizens carried under their mantles and on mules a great quantity of powder, balls, and provisions, without being once discovered, so great was the feeling of security and confidence among the Americans. General Scott was not a little surprised to find on attacking Chapultepec such obstinate resistance. Chapultepec, you know, is situated between Tacubaya and the city within cannon-shot of the former and some three miles from the latter. It is a bold hill overlooking a vast range of country, which enabled our soldiers to watch every maneuver of the enemy. It also commands the road from Tacubaya to the city, which runs close to its base and it can only be ascend by a circuitous paved way, which after turning to a certain angle, is exposed to the full range of the fortress guns. As the Americans ascended the hill a perfect storm of musket balls and grape shot drove them back with heavy loss. They recovered and advanced again, but were repulsed. Our troops fought with desperate valour, worthy the character of Mexicans. The enemy also fought bravely, his men seemed like so many devils, whom it was impossible to defeat without annihilation. He made third and last charge with fresh force and heavy guns, and our gallant troops having exhausted their grape-shot, were forced, very unwillingly, to retreat and yield up the fortress, of which the enemy took possession. Our soldiers retreated towards the city, but were unfortunately cut off by a detachment of the enemy's calvary, and about 1,000 were made prisoners, but were soon released, as the enemy had no men to guard them. The enemy then opened his batteries on the Mill El Rey (King's Mill) close upon Chapultepec, which, after obstinate fighting and great loss to the Americans, were obliged to abandon.

"The two actions continued over nine hours, and were the severest, considering our small number of soldiers and the enemy's large force, that have been fought. Our loss in killed and wounded was not more than 300, while the enemy lost over 400, or at least such was the report of deserters from the American camp who came to us in the evening. Seeing that the city would inevitably be attacked, General Santa Anna, during the actions, caused a number of trenches to be cut across the road leading to the city, which were flooded with water. On the morning of the 14th, before daylight, the enemy, with a part of his force, commenced his march upon the city. Our soldiers, posted behind the arches of the aqueducts and several breast-works which had been hastily thrown up, annoyed him so severely, together with the trenches which he had to bridge over, that he did not arrive at the gates till late in the afternoon. Here he halted, and attempted to bombard the city,
which he did during the balance of the day and the day following, doing immense damage. In some cases whole blocks were destroyed and a great number of men, women, and children killed and wounded. The picture was awful. One deafening roar filled our ears, one cloud of smoke met our eyes, now and then mixed with flame, and amid it all we could hear the various shrieks of the wounded and dying. But the city bravely resisted the hundreds of flying shells. It hurled back defiance to the bloodthirsty Yankee, and convinced him that his bombs could not reduce the Mexican capital. The enemy then changed his plan, and determined to enter they city, where we were prepared to meet him, having barricaded the streets with sand bags and provided on the house tops and at the windows all who cold bear arms and missiles, stones, bricks, &c., throw on the heads of the enemy. Before General Scott had fairly passed the gates he found the difficulty of his position. A perfect torrent of balls and stones rained upon our troops. Many were killed and more wounded. Still he kept advancing until he gained the entrance of two streets leading direct to the Plaza. Finding that he could not oppose himself to our soldiers, who were all posted out of sight, and that he was losing his men rapidly, General Scott took possession of the convent of San Isador, which extends back to the centre of a block, and at once set his sappers and miners to cutting away directly through the blocks of buildings. In some instances whole houses were blown up to facilitate his progress; but after several hours he again emerged into the street, and finally regained the Plaza with great loss. On entering the Plaza a heavy fire was opened on him from the Palace and cathedral, which were filled and covered with out patriotic troops. Finding himself thus assaulted, the enemy drew out his forces in the Plaza and opened a cannonade on the Palace and cathedral, firing over 100 shots, which did immense damage to the buildings and caused sever loss of killed and wounded. Seeing further resistance useless, our soldiers ceased firing, and on the 15th of September (sad day!) the enemy was in procession of the Mexican capital. Though we inflicted havoc and death upon the Yankees, we have suffered greatly ourselves. Many were killed by the blowing up of the houses, many by the bombardment, but more by the confusion which prevailed in the city, and altogether we cannot count our killed, wounded, and missing since the action commenced yesterday, at less than 4,000, among whom many are women and children. The enemy confessed of loss of over 1,000, it is not doubt much greater. What a calamity! But Mexico will yet have vengeance. God will avenge us for our sufferings. Alas, that I should write this letter within sight of a proud enemy who has succeeded by his ferocity in trampling our capital and our country-an enemy who only prides himself upon shooting well through his rifles and cannon. But thus it is-we are prostrated, not humbles. We may be forced to silence, but the first moment that presents us a chance will be devoted to terrible revenge. Santa Anna has gone with his generals and all the troops he could draw off to Gaudalupe. He is said to be wounded severely. We have lost heroic officers and brave men in these two days. I cannot foresee what is to come. Thousands are gathering upon the hills around the city, determined to cut off all supplies and starve the enemy who has so audaciously entered it. General Scott may yet find that Mexico is not vanquished. He may find our lakes bursting their barriers filling this beautiful valley to annihilate them infamous Americans. We scarcely hope, yet do not quite despair. Our brave generals may recover what it slot, and Mexico, with her ten millions of people, arise to sweep the invader from the land he has desecrated. Be sure that whatever we do in the way of submission is only for the moment. No Mexican will respect beyond the hour that forces him to it, any bond dictated by the sword of an enemy. My heart is too full of grief and indignation to write more."

[KAS]

LT 1847-10-25-5e

America: The U.S. and Mexico
October 25, 1847

The following appeared in part only of our impression of Saturday.

The screw steam-ship Sarah Sands, Capt. Thompson, has just arrived in the Mersey, after a passage of sixteen days, from New York, having left that pot on the sixth inst. She brings 40,000/. Specie on freight.

The ship Henry Clay, packet of the 6th inst., was detained in order to bring a freight of about 200,000/.

Our advices from Mexico are important. Letters had been received from Mexico, under date to the 9th of September, stating that on the 7th the Mexican commissioners declared that the propositions made by Mr. Trist were inadmissible; in consequence of which General Santa Anna convoked a council of generals, who decided that notice should be given to General Scott that the armistice was at an end, and appointed the 9th for the recommencement of hostilities.
On the 6th of September, General Scott addressed a letter to Santa Anna from Tacubaya, accusing him of having violated several articles of the armistice and one of the charges was that he had not allowed the American army to obtain supplies from the city of Mexico. General Scott demanded an explanation, concludes as follows:-

"I hereby formally notify you, that if I do not receive the most complete satisfaction on all these points before 12 o'clock to-morrow, I shall consider the armistice as terminated from that hour."

To this letter General Santa Anna replied at considerable length, and with great severity. He accused General Scott of having violated the terms of the armistice in refusing to allow flour from the mills in the vicinity to be brought into the city, and says the American waggons were driven out of the city on account of the objectionable conduct of the officers accompanying them. Santa Anna also charges General Scott with having sacked the Mexican towns in the vicinity of the capital, and robbed and desecrated the church, and stealing and destroying articles held sacred by every Mexican. He concludes as follows:-

"I flatter myself that your Excellency will be convinced, on calm reflection upon the weight of my reasons; but if by misfortune you should seek only a pretext to deprive the first city of the American continent of an opportunity to free the unarmed population of the horrors of war, there will be left me no other means of salvation but to repel force by force, with the decision and energy which my high obligations impose upon me."

On the 7th General Herrera, as commandant of the city of Mexico, addressed the clergy, exhorting them to exert all their influences to incite the people to arm themselves, and prepare to resist the American army.

General Scott, it seems, did not wait for the time fixed upon by Santa Anna (the 9th), but on the 8th attacked the Mill Del Rey, or King's Mill, in the immediate vicinity of Chapoltepec, and, according to the Diario del Gobierno, and the Boletin, published at Alisco, near Puebla, the Mexican army was repulsed, after a short conflict, in which it lost about 400 men killed, and from 600 to 700 in wounded, and fell back upon Tacubaya.

The account given by the Boletin represent the battle to have been the most bloody and severely contested of the whole war. It concludes as follows:-

"At 10 o'clock the enemy commenced a retrograde movement, and by 2 o'clock in the afternoon he withdrew all his forces to Tacubaya, abandoned the two points he had occupied, and blew up the hose of Mata, although some say it was set on fire by a bomb from Chapoltepec.

"It is believed that Generals Twiggs and Pierce directed the attack, and that they put in motion about 8,000 men. It is certain that the fire was more intense and brisk than at Churubusco.

"It is impossible to ascertain in the loss on either side. Ours does not amount to 100 killed and 250 wounded. There are a few missing--nearly all not killed or wounded retiring to Chapoltepec.

"The enemy, according to the confession of an Irishman, who came over to us in the evening, carried off 500 dead and 600 or 700 wounded.

"We have to lament the loss of General Leon, since dead; that of Colonel Balberas, of the valiant Colonel Huerla and Gelesti, and of the determined Captain Mateos, of Puebla."

A Mexican letter announces that Riley and his legion of St. Patrick, 70 in number, were ordered by the court-martial to be hung. The sentence was approved by General Scott, and on the 8th of September the whole legion were hung in the presence of the army, as also of the enemy. This, of course, is a thoroughly Mexican account, and so far as its details are concerned, deserves, probably, but little credit.

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"At half-past 4 o'clock in the morning on the 5th the Americans attacked the position of the mill of El Rey, close to the fortress of Chapoltepec, their numerous and brave columns were however repulsed three times by valiant soldiers, who this day gave brilliant proofs of their patriotism and bravery; more than 1,000 of the enemy remained on the field of battle, and on our side the loss has been less than one half that number, we having to lament the death of the gallant Colonel John Lucas, Baldras and General Don Antonio de Leon, being wounded, together with several other distinguished chiefs and officers. The traitor Santa Anna commanded in person the column which forced the Americans to
retreat, taking with them, without a doubt, the conviction that it is only through rivers of blood that they penetrate the city of Mexico, and that at all events they there find their sepulchre."

The following paragraph is translated from a Jalapa letter in the Arco Iris, at Vera Cruz, but its statements are not credited:-
"When General Perez abandoned the mill El Rey, a bomb discharged from Chapoltepec fell among the ammunition wagons of the enemy, in the yard of the mill, causing four of them to explode, by which 300 Americans are said to have been blown up, including General Worth, who, according to the accounts, had not been seen or heard from the following day at Tacubaya," This is the latest of the Mexican accounts from the capital. It renders it certain that General Scott had opened his batteries upon the city. The only authentic report of the result is contained in the following letter, addressed to Mr. Diamond, at Vera Cruz:-

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A letter, from a credible source, confirms all that is said above, and only disagrees with it in stating that the city was carried by assault on the 14th. The Sun of Anahuac has it on the 18th, the heights and works of Chapoltepec were carried; on the 14th and 15th the city was bombarded, and that a part of our army entered it on the morning of the 16th, the rest remaining at Chapoltepec."

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General Lane had reached Vera Cruz on the 10th with 2,000 men, and started for Mexico; and General Cushing was expected.

Paredes is stated to be in the state of Puebla with 6,000 men, prepared to prevent reinforcements reaching General Scott.

Government had made no attempt to arrest his proceedings. He had been appointed Inspector General of the Puebla National Guards.

It will be remembered that the Deputies of Congress, when summoned by the President to confer upon the question of peace with the United States, did not attend in sufficient numbers to form a quorum, and the Executive Government in the emergency took upon itself the conduct of the negotiations. The members of Congress, however, have now protested against this assumption of power, and in an address to the President, dated from Toluca, declare that any arrangement concluded without their sanction will be null and void, and demand to be called together at Queretaro, as it is impossible for them to deliberate with sufficient freedom of discussion at Mexico.

This address has been communicated to the President by the Governor of the state of Mexico, who vigorously advocates the continuance of the war.

General Valencia has issued a proclamation, rehearsing the history of the battles of Conteras and Churubusco, in which he accuses Santa Anna of cowardice, in order to screen himself. It contains nothing new or important.

The state of Zacatecas, taking advantage of the distracted condition of Mexico, has sent a force against the state of Aguas Calientas, which has sometimes acted independently of Zacatecas, and been recognized as an independent state, to reduce it to submission.

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The two actions continued over nine hours, and were the severest, considering our small numbers of soldiers and the enemy’s large force, that have been fought. Our loss in killed and wounded was not more than 300, while the enemy lost over 400, or at least such was the report of deserters from the American camp who came to us in the evening. Seeing that the city would inevitably be attacked, General Santa Anna, during the actions, caused a number of trenches to be cut across the road leading to the city, which were flooded with water. On the morning of the 14th, before daylight, the enemy, with a part of his force, commenced his march upon the city. Our soldiers posted behind the arches of the aqueducts and several breast-works which had been hastily thrown up, annoyed him so severely, together with the trenches which he had to bridge-over, that he did not arrive at the gates till late in the afternoon. Here he halted, and attempted to bombard the city, which he did during the balance of the day and the day following, doing immense damage. In some cases whole blocks were destroyed and a great number of men, women, and children killed and wounded. The picture was awful. One deafening roar filled our ears, one cloud of smoke met our eyes, now and then mixed with flame, and amid it all we could hear the various shrieks of the wounded and dying. But the city bravely resisted the hundreds of flying shells which buried back defiance to the bloodthirsty Yankee, and convinced him that his bombs could not reduce the Mexican capital. The enemy then changed his plan, and determined to enter the city, where we were prepared to meet him, having barricaded the streets with sand bags, and provided on the house tops and at the windows all who could bear arms or missiles, stones, bricks, &c., to throw on the heads of the enemy. Before General Scott had fairly passed the gates he found the difficulty of his position. A perfect torrent of balls and stones rained upon our troops. Many were killed and more wounded. Still he kept advancing until he gained the entrance of two streets leading direct to the Plaza. Finding that he could not oppose himself to our soldiers, who were all posted out of sight, and that he was losing his men rapidly, General Scott took possession of the convent of San Isidor, which extends back to the centre of a block, and at once set his sappers and miners to cutting a way directly through the blocks of buildings. In some instances whole houses were blown up to facilitate his progress; but after several hours he again emerged into the street, and finally regained the Plaza with great loss. On entering the Plaza a heavy fire was opened on him from the Palace and cathedral, which were filled and covered with our patriotic troops. Finding himself thus assaulted, the enemy drew out his forces in the Plaza and opened a cannonade on the Palace and cathedral, firing over 100 shots, which did immense damage to the buildings and caused severe loss of killed or wounded. Seeing further resistance useless, our soldiers ceased firing, and on the 15th of
September (sad day!) the enemy was in possession of the Mexican capital. Though we inflicted havoc and death upon the Yankees, we suffered greatly ourselves. Many were killed by the blowing up of the houses, many by the bombardment, but more by the confusion which prevailed in the city, and altogether we cannot count our killed, wounded, and missing since the action commenced yesterday, at least 4,000 among whom are many women and children. The enemy confessed a loss of over 1,000m it is no doubt much greater. What a calamity! But Mexico will yet have vengeance. God will avenge us for our suffering. Alas, that should write this letter within sight of a proud enemy, who has succeeded by his ferocity in trampling on our capital and our country—an enemy who only prides himself upon shooting well with his rifle and cannon. But thus it is—we are prostrated, not humbled. We may be forced to silence, but the first moment that presents us a chance will be devoted to terrible revenge, Santa Anna had gone with his generals and all the troops he could draw off to Guadeloupe. He is said to be wounded severely. We have lost heroic officers and brave men in these two days. I cannot foresee what is to come. Thousands are gathering upon the hills around the city, determined to cut off all supplies and starve the enemy who has so audaciously entered it. General Scott may yet find that Mexico is not vanquished. He may find our lakes bursting their barriers and filling this beautiful valley to annihilate the infamous Americans. We scarcely hope, yet do not quite despair. Our brave generals may recover what is lost, and Mexico, with her ten millions of people, arise to sweep the invader from the land he has desecrated. Be sure that whatever we do in the way of submission is only for the moment. No Mexican will respect beyond the hour that forces him to do it, any bond dictated by the sword of an enemy. "My heart is too full of grief and indignation to write more."

[DCk]

**Conversation Between the United States and Mexican Governments: US, Negotiations With Mexico**

October 25, 1847

The Washington Union of the 10th inst. publishes at length the correspondence, which has taken place between the supreme Government of Mexico, the General-in-Chief of the American Army, and the Commissioner of the United States, Mr. Trist.

The first in the series is a letter from General Scott, dated August 21, announcing the presence of a commissioner, with full powers to treat for peace, and proposing a short armistice.

Senor Aloorta, the Minister at War, replies to this letter by accepting the proposed armistice, and the next document is an official letter, addressed by Senor L'acheco to the President of the Sovereign Congress, requesting him to summon the deputies, and to submit to them Mr. Tirst's proposals for consideration.

The President replies, that a sufficient number of deputies cannot be found.

Letters from Glasgow, received this afternoon, state that the National Exchange Company is about winding up its affairs. Its capital was 200,000l. And its deposits were 119,000l. Some failures are both announced in that city and Edinburgh.

A meeting of the Ayrshire Iron Company was held on Wednesday, at which a report of the affairs of the company was submitted. The debts due amounted to 221,719l., and the liabilities were estimated at 15,000l., making a total of 236,719.

[DCk]

**U.S. and Mexico**

October 26, 1847

International negotiations do not usually wear a very attractive form, nor can we say that the three columns which we yesterday published of the projects exchanged between the United States and Mexico were invested with more than the ordinary superficial embellishments of such records. Yet it would be a pity if many of our readers were deterred by the apparent complexity of the documents from giving them an attentive perusal, for they tell the real history of the war and disclose the true prospects of peace.
with great perspicuity and most amusing force. It is but doing the Mexicans justice to say
that, if their swords had been half as sharp as their pens, the conferences at Atzapoza would
never have taken place. The most eloquent and practised advocate could not state a
strong case more irresistibly than the authorities of this republic have done; and, if words
could overwhelm an American army with confusion, the siege of the city of Mexico would
have been raised on the spot. Unfortunately, the declarations which would have come with
decorous propriety from the unsubdued skeleton of a patriot corps are only grotesque as
proceeding from the lucky survivors of a score of flights.

Santa Anna, or his secretary, takes what would be a most unanswerable tone of argument,
if it did but become the speaker. He quietly asks, in the first place, what has brought the
Americans in arms to the gates of Mexico? He assumes (and Mr. Trist confesses the
impeachment) that the motive has been the desire to enlarge the territory of the United
States by the acquisition of an extensive province. To this not unnatural ambition he takes
no exception, but he demands to be told on what grounds the Americans have desired to
conduct the transfer; if by peaceable contract and fair ratification, then must they in a
consistent spirit abstain from all that is not thus willingly ceded; if by forcible seizure and
violent confiscation, then are negotiations unnecessary, and the aggressions of the one
side and the resistance of the other must continue as before. This adroit and
unimpeachable argument is directed against the forced sale and compulsory friendship
which the Americans would willingly bring about, and leaves them with no alternative but
that of taking what the Mexicans may please to dispose of, or avowing the title of conquest
for what they choose themselves to keep. In the same spirit the Mexican Commissioners
are instructed to ask, as a necessary preliminary to any negotiation whatever, a frank
acknowledgment of the motives and purposes of the war—what is the character in which
the American plenipotentiaries appear—and by what pretensions they treat for a purchase
of territory, through the medium of a hostile force, before the capital of the state to which
the territory in question rightfully belongs? By what right is any demand made for New
Mexico and the Californias except in the way of a peaceful purchase? If the Americans are,
indeed, so anxious to get sole possession of the western marches of their country, the
Mexicans may not be averse to treat for the sale; but, in this case, the barest justice would
demand that the applicants should bear the costs of the extraordinary application they
have chosen to make, and indemnify all those who have suffered by their extravagant
proceedings, "since it is concerning the territory that they have come to negotiate, and
have brought the war to the capital." With equal consideration for the doctrines of
morality and the rights of man, the vendors stipulate that no slaves shall ever be
introduced into the territory they are requested to alienate, and that all care shall be
bestowed upon the inhabitants whose allegiance they are about to transfer.

Preposterous as these presumptions may appear in the relative positions of the two
parties, they become perfectly warrantable if measured only by those pretensions which
each party dares advance. In their anxiety to save the appearances of right the Americans
are compelled to sink the advantages of might. They are loth that the treaty of Mexico
should seem to be based on the battle of Churubusco, and, by assuming the attitude of
honourable dealers, they forego the opportunities of successful invaders. The result of
these anomalous impersonations was a scene fit for a pantomine. SANTA ANNA caught
with unrivalled acuteness at the amiable weakness of his adversary, and donned the dress
of a victorious arbiter with a grace that did him infinite credit. No lordly landholder of the
eastern counties ever received the overtures of an embryo company with more distant
dignity or more exalted demands than the Mexican General met the tenders for a province
which he had already lost twenty times over. His commissioners were first to exact a
categorical declaration of the "intentions" of the strangers and then a confession of their
crimes to all which no reply of any kind was then or there to be vouchsafed. Should this
preliminary expiation be deemed sufficient, they were then to propound their conditions of
sale, each of which was to be held as an ultimatum, admitting of no dispute, and, should
and doubts arise, they were to remember, "as a general basis, to treat for peace in the
manner of one who had triumphed!" And all this when the army had run away, the Senate
absconded, and every city, port, and custom-house in the country was in immediate
command or actual possession of the enemy!

It is not surprising that such negotiations were inconclusive, although, as we yesterday
remarked, they did not in point of fact break off on the cardinal point of the conference,
but were terminated by the reciprocal obstinacy of the disputants on a point of honour.
America might have purchased her provinces, and at a fair price, had she but consented to
surrender the strip between the Bravo and the Nueces, which had never been so much a
cause as a pretext of war. As it is, the negotiations have been unfortunately brought to a
dead-lock, and, what is worse, therethere are likely to remain. That the Mexicans are better
able to fight than ever has been undeniably proved, and that they are likely to miss their
lost capital no one acquainted with their temperament will ever have been surmised. Two
courses only are now open to the Americans—condescension or conquest. The Government
papers are already broaching the latter plan, and expatiating, reasonably enough, on the
uselessness of further "forbearance." It is no doubt evident that if the Mexicans are not to
be led they can only be driven by even more desolating and destructive violence than that
hitherto employed. If the Americans are to take their own choice on their own terms, it is
clear that some compulsion must be used more forcible than the impounding of all the customs and the storm and capture of all the towns from the coast to the capital. But, even if the infernal columns of La Vendee could be marched along the plateaux of Anahuac, the end of such a measure would be as uncertain as its adoption would detestable. The other alternative would be by far the more magnanimous. They can only get possession of California by incurring the odium of invasion, or submitting to the humiliation of concession. They must humour or exterminate the obstinate braggarts opposed to them. The latter course would be a crime bringing its own wages; the former a very moderate penalty for a political sin. SANTA ANNA would no doubt demand the line of the Grande up trophies, artillery, and flags, and perhaps a written testimonial that the Mexicans were not to be matched for valour by any nations under heaven. But all this the Americans might graciously grant, and they would then get their new estates, and might turn to some better purpose the 2,000,000 of sovereigns with which England has purchased their corn, and which she grieves to see sunk in the profitless folly on an unbecoming war.

LT 1847-10-29-5a
Irishmen in Mexican Army Captured and Executed By General Scott
October 29, 1847

The execution, by order of General Scott, of the Irishmen in the Mexican service, had called forth the following address, published in a supplementary number of the Diario del Gobierno, the official organ of the Mexican Government:--

"Mexicans!-Among the European volunteers whom the American army has hired to kill us, there are many unfortunate who are convinced of the injustice of this war, who profess the same Roman Catholic religion we profess, but who, being harassed by the misery which prevails in crops, have consented to enlist. Some of these men, abjuring their errors, and following the noble impulses of their hearts, have passed over to our army to defend our just cause. From these his Excellency the President formed the Foreign Legion, known under the name of the Company of St. Patrick. At LaAngosturs and at Cherubusco they bore themselves with the highest intrepidity, and after the enemy possession of this last point, which was only after its defenders had exhausted their last cartridge, they were made prisoners.

"The generals of the American army, who cannot count upon their soldiers in a war so iniquitous save through the influence of acts of ferocity, were determined to shoot these Irishmen. Scarcely was this known to the city, before every breast was filled with horror at the thought. His Excellency, the Minister of Relations, in a touching letter to the English Consul, the estimable lady of her Britannic Majesty's Minister, various private individuals, both Mexicans and foreigners, we ourselves, and even the ladies of families residing at Tacubaya, interceded for these brave men; and we expected this if they could not be pardoned, they would at least be spared capital punishment.

"It would have been deemed base and repugnant to the laws of civilization as practised in modern wars to offer the bloody spectacle of the execution of these; and yet could have been palliated to a certain extent by the part which those men took in the defence of Cherubusco, but they had no share whatever in the slaughter which was made the day before yesterday upon the heights of the King's Mill. Well, then, will you believe it, countrymen this day, in cold blood, these Caribs, from an impulse of super-stition, and after the manner of savages, and as practised in the days of Homer, have hung up these as a holocaust they have themselves said it- to the manes of the general or generals who there fell! And in what manner did they hang generals who there fell! And in what manner did they hang them? Noosing them by the neck as they stood upon the ground, and so suspending them that they died by 'inches' strangled by their own weight, the mode adopted being such that their horrible agony lasted more than one hour-a spectaclet worthy of such men, or rather of demons escaped from hell. This they did with 18 of those unhappy men, and among them the brave Captain Reilli, whose head they struck upon a pike, and planted at Cherubusco. To six others, who proved that they had not volunteered but been impressed, they gave 200 lashes each, and compelled them to dig the graves of their companions.

"Mexicans! These are the men who call us barbarians, and say they come to civilize us. These are the men who have plundered the houses of the surrounding villages-who have stolen children from their families-who have slept in the niches devoted to the sacred dead-who have, with blasphemous revelry, clothed themselves with the ornaments of the altars-who have thrown upon the ground the body of Jesus Christ, and have made themselves drunk in drinking out of the sacred vessels! Accursed may they be of all Christians as they are of God!
"Countrymen,—the Supreme Government commanded its commissioners, as you have seen it already published, that they should inquire of their commissioners, first of all, why they had brought war upon our republic, with blood and fire? What injuries we have done to them, that they should thus seek to revenge themselves? Their mode of concealing their confusion at not being able to reply to these inquiries, and of satisfying their displeasure because we would not consent to ignominious peace, has been to light up anew the flames of war, to send us from the King's Mill the day before yesterday our assasinated countrymen who had in no manner offended them, and to glut their diabolical rage upon the defenceless men whom they hand in their power.

"Mexicans! The Supreme Government conjures us in the name of the honour of our race-in the name of our dignity as men, and of God himself, that we should all unite by one unanimous and continued effort, to and continued effort, to revenge these great outrages, to yield never to dismay, and to wage this war without truce and without relenting. May remorse seize upon every selfish or cowardly Mexican who cannot say to himself that he has fulfilled every duty as a public officer and a good citizen; who has not contributed by every means in his power towards this war—wth his person, with the influence of his position, with a part of his fortune, by maintaining a number of soldiers—by aiding every way those who fight, and who has not so employed the means which God has given him for his service and that of the country in which God has placed him, that His images shall not be cut down nor His holy name blasphemed.

"Mexico, Sept. 10.1817."

The loss suffered by the United States' troops, from the 8th to the 13th September, is stated to be 25 officers killed and 47 wounded, and 490 men killed and wounded in the last battle.

Our Canadian accounts are uninteresting.

[ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA]
Mexico, Mexican Accounts of Battles
October 29, 1847

The following is the official Mexican account of the capture of the city;-

"To the Generals of the Several Departments.

"Most excellent Sir,—After the important and great events that have yesterday taken place, there remains no other alternative to the Government of the Union, than that of abandoning the capital, in order that other means be adopted and pursued for the harassing of the enemy. Accordingly, his Excellency orders me to inform you, in order that through you the hon. Congress of the State over which you preside may know it, that his Excellency is firmly resolved to prosecute military operations against the invaders; and that, whatever be the consequences resulting from the war, his Excellency is determined to wage it in every possible manner and by every attainable means.

"A heroic resistance was made in the capital for the space of six days, but at length the enemy established himself in places and positions from which his missiles and projectiles could reach the peaceful thousands of the city; then the Supreme Government, seeing the state of affairs to be such as warranted their departure, changed their abode; and very soon I shall have the pleasure of announcing to your Excellency the site upon which it will fix, which at present is impossible for me to do, as it accompanies the army, and as yet is not agreed upon the residence of the supreme power of the nation. But as soon as the latter is known, I will give your Excellency a detailed account of everything that has occurred, but now I shall confine myself to the single following statement:--

"The American army charged yesterday at daylight with all its force, upon Chapultepec, which, after a spirited defence of six hours, yielded at last to the attack of the enemy, who immediately marched to take possession of a fortification situated between the sentry-box of Belen and St. Thomas, St. Como and the Citadel. The first advance was checked by the troops his Excellency the President led up, disputing the ground inch by inch, till finally the invader was routed from the citadel, after nine hours hard fighting. The capital being in this situation, his Excellency was anxious to avoid a bombardment and to spare the tumult and confusion attendant upon an assault, which would have given room for a
thousand calamities, and a repetition of those acts in which the army of the foe has manifested so instinctive a spirit of extermination.

"His Excellency the President of the republic hopes that your Excellency will endeavour to preserve and reanimate the public spirit, in order that the war may be carried on with that vigour and energy which the national honour the rights of the republic so imperiously demand."

[DCK]

LT 1847-10-29-5a3

America : U.S. and Mexico
October 29, 1847

LIVERPOOL, Thursday Morning.

By the Royal mail steam-ship Hibernia, Captain Ryrie, we have advices from New York to the 15th, Boston to the 16th, and Halifax to the 18th inst. Respectively. She brings 90 passengers, and 12,000l. in specie.

The Hibernia spoke the Cambria on the mourning of the 18th between Halifax and Boston, where she would arrive on the evening of the 18th.

Our accounts from Mexico, though mere rumours are interesting. Santa Anna was stated to be at Guadaloupe, whence it was expected he would re-treat to Oaxaca. This, however, is contradicted by rumours which report that the American troops, after taking the city of Mexico, had numerous sever conflicts with the almost innumerable swarm of Leperos who inhabited and surrounded the capital, and that the latter finally became so annoying the destructive that they obtained the advantage over the American troops, who were finally under the necessity of retiring from the city. It is further said that Santa Anna had left his quarters at Guadaloupe, and returned to the capital at the head of an army of 10,000 regular troops, and that fighting had been resumed and was still going on desperately at the least accounts.

It was further stated that in consequence of the above report the Mexicans had become inspired, and were flying to arms throughout the country. 3,000 were reported to have gathered at Victoria.

In consequence of these reports, great anxiety was felt for the troops under General Scott.

A rumour, which is confirmed, states that Santa Anna had resigned the Presidency, and that the instrument of resignation was dated from Guadaloupe the 16th September; but that the Mexican people were not disposed to receive it, and had again placed him at the head of the army.

There is no confirmation of the report that Santa Anna had been wounded.

Among other improbable rumours, it is stated that General Herrera is now in command of the army, and will proceed with 14,000 men to station himself at Queretaro, where it is intended that the Mexican Congress shall reassemble. It is also said, that Santa Anna has moved towards Puebla with 2,000 horse, and that Paredea is raising troops with some success in the state of Jalisco.

The New York *Express* says:-

"There was a report by the last arrival from Vera Cruz, that General Quitman, with 4,000 men, had left the Mexican capital for the purpose of opening communications with the coast. But we hardly think General Scott would deem it advisable to weaken his force in the capital so much as would be necessary to carry out this movement. Obviously the communications ought to be opened from below."

General Rea is said to have gotten full possession of Puebla, but the Americans were pouring a deadly fire upon his troops from the surrounding heights commanding the town.

Large reinforcements of American troops were on their way from Vera Cruz to the Mexican capital. By the last accounts from Vera Cruz, September 25, there there was an American force of 2,500 men at the National-bridge, under General Lane; another about 1,000 men...
At Jalapa, under Major Lally; a garrison of a few hundred men at the fortress of Perote; and another of about 1,000 men at Puebla, under Colonel Childs. The greater part of the force at the National-bridge was immediately to march for Jalapa, where it would be joined by Major Lally’s command, or a part of it, and proceed to Perote, and thence to Puebla and Mexico, to reinforce the main army under General Scott. General Cushing’s division will encounter opposition from the guerrillas, particularly at Cerro Gordo, where considerable fortifications are said to have been erected, it is probable that by the time he reaches Perote, General Cushing will come up, which will swell the advancing column to 5,000 men.

Previous to the storming of the capital Santa Anna issued the following address:-

"The President Provisional of the Republic and Commander-in-Chief of the Army to the Nation:—

"Countrymen,—The enemy, availing himself of idle pre-texts, has determined to commence hostilities upon your beautiful city. Presuming us to be disheartened and humiliated by the reverses of fortune, he expected that I should subscribe a treaty by which the territory of the republic would have been essentially reduced, and the republic covered with shame and ignominy. Mexicans do not deserve a fate so ignominious, and, having been called upon spontaneously to direct their destinies, I have felt it my duty to respond with all loyalty to their signal mark of confidence, preserving those precious rights which cannot be alienated, and thus affording an example of energy and firmness which are the glory of nations.

"The enemy has proclaimed that they would propose to us a peace honourable for both nations, and it might became our duty to listen to them, that their treachery might be made known. Their propositions, and all the sequel of the negotiations, are to be published, so that the civilized world may see that we were ready to sacrifice all that our honour would permit us to sacrifice; and that on the other hand our enemies set up measureless pretensions, which would have destroyed the republic and converted it into a miserable colony of the United States. To such audacity we could oppose nothing but our firmness and our valour.

"Mexicans! You will find me, as ever, leading in your defence, striving to free you from a heavy yoke, and to preserve your altars from infamous violation, and your daughters and your wives from the extremity of insult. The enemy raises the sword to wound your noble fronts; do you draw it likewise to chastise the rancorous pride of the invader.

"Mexicans!! For ever live the independence of the of the country!"

[DCK]
Messrs J. Schnelder and Company, are for account and risk of the bondholders, and not on that of the Mexican Government, for the following reasons:—1. That Messrs. J. Schneider and Company have been removed from the agency on the 28th of November of last year, and have not been re-appointed by any subsequent order. 2. That the said Messrs. J. Schneider and Company, as well as their correspondents in Mexico, have received, here and there, the said funds as agents of the bondholders, and as such they have been delivered, as stated in their communications published in The Times of the 7th of September last and the 9th inst. In consequence, the Mexican Government will not be responsible in any manner for the diversion that has or may be made of the said funds deposited in the hands of agents that are not theirs; and even if they were, they resist the accomplishment of the measures dictated for its distribution amongst the parties interested or its deposit in the Bank of England."

And I transmit it to you for your information, and that you may give it all the necessary publicity.

I offer to you the considerations, &c.

J. M. L. MORA

To Senhor Don J. M. Mendoza, Consul of the Republic of Mexico in London.

[Letter head]

LT 1847-11-8-5d

The United States and Mexico: US and Mexico
November 8, 1847

The following is a translation of the last communication made by the Mexican commissioners to Mr. Trist previous to the renewal of hostilities. It has not before been published in this country:-

"To His Excellency Mr. Nicholas P. Trist, Commissioner with full powers from the Government of the United States to the Government of the Republic of Mexico.

"Chapultepec, Sept. 6, 1847.

"The undersigned, commissioned by the Government of the republic of Mexico to concert with your Excellency a treaty of peace, think it convenient in the same time as they present you the counter project which they have formed in accordance with the last instructions of their Government, to accompany the said project with the observations which are contained in this communication, which will serve to explain more clearly the pacific dispositions of Mexico in the war which unfortunately divides both countries.

"The fourth article of the project which your Excellency was pleased to deliver over to us on the evening of the 27th of August last, and which has been the subject of our last interviews, imports the cession, on the part of Mexico, first, of the state of Texas; second, of the territory situated out of the limits of that state, which extends from the left bank of the Bravo River to the southern frontier of New Mexico; third, of the whole of New Mexico; fourth, of both Californias.

"The war which now exists has been caused solely on account of the territory of the state of Texas, over which the republic of North America presents as a title the act of said state by which it annexed itself to the North American confederation, after having proclaimed its independence of Mexico.

"The republic of Mexico agreeing (as we previously informed your Excellency), with due indemnity, in the pretensions of the Cabinet of Washington over the territory of Texas, the cause of the war has thereby disappeared, and therefore the war ought to cease, as there is no cause whatever to continue it. Over the other territories contained in the 4th article of your proposal, no right has been alleged as yet by the republic of North America, nor do we think that it can allege any. It can only therefore acquire them by the right of conquest, or by that which may result from the cession and sale which Mexico may make to it; but, as we are certain that the republic of Washington will not only absolutely repel, but will also abhor the first of these rights, and as also it would be a new thing, contrary to all ideas of justice, that war should be waged against a country by reason only of its refusal to
sell the territory which one of its neighbours desires to purchase from it, we hope of the justice of the Government and people of North America, that the considerable modifications which we have to propose to the cession of territory (out of the state of Texas) which are demanded in the before-mentioned fourth article, will not be a motive to continue a war which the worthy General of the North American troops has already qualified to be denaturalized.

"In our conferences, we have informed your Excellency that Mexico cannot cede the zone which exists between the left bank of the Bravo and the right of the Nueces. The reason for it is not only the complete certainty that such territory has never belonged to the state of Texas, nor because it is held in much estimation, considered by itself alone; it is because that zone with the Bravo at its back forms the natural frontier of Mexico, both in a military and commercial point of view; and it cannot be required from any nation whatever, nor can any nation consent, to abandon its frontier. But, in order to avoid every motive of conflict for the future, the Government of Mexico promises not to found any new towns, nor to establish any colonies, in the space of land between the two rivers; so that, by preserving it in a state of depopulation, as it is actually, it will afford equal security to both republics. The conservation of that territory is, according to our instructions, a condition sine quan non of peace. Sentiments of honour and delicacy (which the noble character of your Excellency will worthily esteem), more than any consideration of interest, forbid our Government to consent to the dismemberment of New Mexico. On this subject we think it superfluous to add anything to that which we have already had the honour to explain to you in our conferences.

"The cession of Lower California (of little advantage to the republic of North America) presents great embarrassment to Mexico, considering the position of that peninsula, opposite the shores of Sonora, from which it is only divided by the narrow Gulf of Cortes. Your Excellency has given all its value to our remarks on this point, and we have seen you with satisfaction yield to them.

"The fact of Mexico preserving Lower California would be sufficient to render it indispensable to keep also a part of Upper California; as otherwise that peninsula would remain without any communication by land with the rest of the republic—a thing which is always of great embarrassment, especially to a Power which is not maritime, like Mexico. The certain which our Government offers (with the due compensation) of that part of Upper California north of the 37th degree of latitude does not only afford to the United States the acquisition of an excellent littoral, of fertile lands, and perhaps of unworked mines, but presents all the advantage of continuing by it, without interruption, its possessions in Oregon. The wisdom of the Government of Washington, and the laudable application of the North American people, will derive most abundant fruits from the important acquisition which we now offer.

"In the 8th article of the proposal of your Excellency, the concession of a free passage through the isthmus of Tehuantepee to the Pacific Ocean is required in favour of the North American citizens. We have verbally informed your Excellency that a privilege on this matter was granted some years ago by the Government of the republic to a private person, which privilege was afterwards transferred, with the authorization of the same Government, to some British subjects, of whose rights Mexico cannot dispose. Your Excellency will not, therefore, be astonished that we do not accede in this point to the wishes of your Government.

"We have entered into this simple explanation of the motives which the republic has for not transferring to the United States all the Territory which is demanded by them out of the limits of the state of Texas, because it is our desire that the North American Government and people be persuaded that our partial refusal does not proceed from feelings of aversion created by the antecedents of this war, or on account of the loss suffered by Mexico in it, but because it rests on considerations dictated by reason and justice which would militate at all times as regards the most friendly power in the midst of the relations of the most intimate friendship.

"The other alterations which your Excellency will find in our counter project are of less importance, and we think that there will not be against them any important objection. On the subject of the alteration contained in the 12th article, it has already been spoken of in your Excellency's country and we flatter ourselves that the loyalty of your Government will not refuse to contract an agreement so in accordance with the probity and good understanding which ought to exist between two neighbouring nations.

"The peace between the two countries will be more firmly established, if a friendly Power (England) who has so nobly offered her good offices to both Mexico and the United States in the present war would lend herself to give her guarantee for the faithful observance of the treaty which may be concluded. The Government of Mexico thinks that it would be very convenient to solicit that guarantee.
"Our Government has ordered us to recommend to your judgement Excellency to communicate to us your resolution on the counter project, which we have the honour to present to you, in the space of three days.

"The good and salutary work of peace cannot, in our judgement, be brought to a happy conclusion, unless each of the contending parties resolves to abandon some of its original pretensions. This has always happened, and every nation has not hesitated, in similar cases to make great sacrifices to appease the desolating flame of war. Mexico and the United States have particular reasons to act thus. It is not without shame that we are obliged to confess that we are giving to the world the scandal of two Christian nations, of two republics, in the sight of all the monarchies, who are mutually doing to each other all the evil in their power for disputes on limits, when we have more land than is necessary to populate and cultivate in the beautiful hemisphere in which Providence first made us see the light. We venture to recommend these considerations to your Excellency before you take a definitive resolution on our proposals.

"We have the honour to offer on this occasion to your Excellency the considerations of attention and respect.

"JOSE I. DE HERRERA.
"BERNARDO COUTO.
"IGNACIO DE MORA Y VILLAMIL.
"MIGUEL ATRISTAIN."

[DCk]

LT 1847-11-10-4c

United States and Mexico
November 10, 1847

The great secret of American cupidity and Mexican tenacity is receiving a remarkable solution. No wonder that Santa Anna and Mr. Trist should fight so desperately of a strip of Texas, seeing that a mile of it's sacred frontage is clearly more valuable than all the seaboard of the isthmus. We admit that until we saw the prospectus and testimonials to which we shall presently refer, we had a less exalted opinion of this happy province. We remembered that its attractions and capabilities, emblazoned in the very largest types and the very brightest colours, had periodically lent their splendour to the "external paper-hanging establishments" of this metropolis, without altogether deriving an adequate return of emigration and investment. And though we recollected that there had really been a kind of scramble for its charms, yet the impression on our minds was, that it had rather been got off by the adroit manoeuvring of a male chaperon that commended to competition by unadorned or intrinsic beauty. We are now undeceived. Testimonials, with real name and address, to the miraculous performances of this famous climate are lying before us, which demonstrate with all the force of such depositions that there is no such place under Heaven. The advertisement occupies nearly two columns of a weekly paper, and lest such documentary evidence should be insufficient, we have been favoured with a still more solemn and authentic appeal. The PENN of this Pennsylvania is forthcoming. Mr. WILLIAM SNELLING PETERS, "founder of the colony," has characteristically bespoken our influence in behalf of its claims in an autograph address, and he still, we believe, is sojourning in London to disseminate the knowledge of its advantages.

Even upon the map, MARTI CRUZZLEWIT'S Eden was an incapable swamp compared with this transatlantic Beulah. It has the most productive lands, the most invigorating air, and the purest water in the world. The rich and flourishing farms are scattered over the face of the country "like apples of gold in pictures of silver." Such is the continuous geniality of the seasons that no cotton is ever spoilt for want of picking or packing, but rather improves by being left in contact with so wonderful a soil. The rivers never evaporate into mud, nor stagnate into ponds, but flow on over gravelly bottoms, and in suitable depths for the convenience of settlers. The application of manure would be a gratuitous outrage upon the qualities of earth which may itself be exported at the price of guano, nor do the necessities of agricultural life in these surpassing districts appear to include either seeds or plants. A yearly average of 150 bushels of corn per acre is the result of a little amateur coquetry with a soil of so inflammable a temperament, which, in two-thirds its extent, has already spontaneously adjusted itself to the reception of the spade. "Here at least the original curse of our race has been PARTIALLY removed, and man is no longer compelled to earn his bread by the sweat of his brow." Two precautions only are mildly suggested as expedient in this recovered paradise. Emigrants are recommended to avoid the sun by day and the air y night; nor can it be denied that if the practice may be difficult, the directions
It has occurred to the "founder" that certain misgivings may possibly arise in the minds of the uninformed respecting this glad announcement, and with the energy of a hero he labours to demolish them. The first springs from the involuntary inquiry as to why these good things were not appropriated earlier, especially in a country where convertible properties have seldom failed in securing claimants. How is it that these fertile plains remained so long unexplored in the midst of a restless population, and still remain unsettled and uninquired for in the crowded migration-markets of the world? The answer to not unnatural question question appeals rather to our faith than our reason, and we are received with a reference instead of a reply. It has been "satisfactorily explained by Mrs. HOLLY" in her Muniments of Infant Texas, and with this knowledge that a solution has been given we are compelled at present to be content. The next misgiving is one which would hardly be anticipated except in those peculiarly conscientious specimens of "Nature's aristocracy" for whose exclusive possession this Eden, like that of Mr. ZEPHANIAH SCADDER, is carefully reserved. It is presumed that a noble-minded emigrant would be unable to enter upon such a magnificent property without a painful reflection that he must be displacing some weaker fellow-creature from his more ancient rights. "The friends of humanity," however, "may rejoice to learn that this last question has been happily solved. Some of the tribes, as the Choctaws, Chicasaws, &c., having been enabled to discover the cause of their inferiority in the scale of being, have applied themselves manfully and successfully to gain educational habits. Those who do not apply the remedy must melt away before the march of civilization." The peculiar secret of this mental vaccination we are not favoured with, but the Texan ranger may now convince himself that he is trampling upon no original proprietor who is not either a reprobate dunce or an irreclaimable fool.

The terms of this splendid establishment are undeniably moderate. There is really no amari aliquid bubbling up at the bottom of the prospectus. Any family going out will be immediately presented with 320 acres of land in fee, and every single man above the age of 17 with 100 acres of the like mirific soil. Should he be enterprising enough to marry before the 1st of July, 1848, his wife will also receive a like estate as her marriage portion. He had better, however, secure the requisite party to this ceremony before going out, or he may be reduced to the despairing query which the instinctive convictions of infancy have embalmed in nursery song. There is actually but one fee on these excellent appointments. Each party on his arrival is "expected to take" a map of his newly-acquired domain at 5l. for the large and 2l. 10s. for the smaller farms. This, and an incidental gratuity of three postage stamps to the "founder," is positively all the demand we have been able to discover? As snug farm in a ring fence for 2l. 10s. Od.-and in a country which is averred by the Hon. LUTHER GRAPES to be, both morally and politically, the most profoundly interesting on the face of the globe. A people established in 1839 cannot, of course, point to a long roll of ancestral honours, but when future Texans shall one day praise famous men at a national commemoration the name of SAM HOUSTON will nobly head the list of heroic chiefs and patriarchal sages.

It has been our duty on more than one occasion to expose the snares which are set for the suffering or sanguine emigrant, and to warn him against perils and miseries even greater than those which he leaves behind. They who imagine that no man could be really persuaded that there existed anywhere a country where the authorities were intolerably anxious to give away the best land in the world in lots of 320 acres, are not sufficiently aware of the effects which the pressure of pauperism acting on the national gullibility is capable of producing. What may be the peculiar expectations which induce a person to expend so much of his labour, and risk so much of his money in collecting together a cargo of emigrants for this particular spot, we cannot say; but, perhaps, after this publication of the circumstances, some former adventurer or traveler may offer his sanguine neighbours the corrective of his experience. As it stands, we have no doubt that the precious advertisement we have described is actually not pitched above the simple credulity of certain of its readers; nor, until we bring our system of national colonization to a much higher point of excellence than it has yet attained, can we reasonably wonder that this natural relief of overburdened population should be sought under empirical guides, or through irregular and fallacious channels.

[DCK]
present horrible war, scarelyh an incident has occurred which has not been foreseen and predicted by every dispassionate European spectator of these events, and at the same time denied by the Americans until its actual accomplishment rendered all further power of negation unavailing. Never was the sequence of events more uninterruptedly pursued by the policy of a nation; and the deepest scheme which has ever been devised for territorial aggrandizement and military aggression by the Cabinet of an absolute Power, at the head of a great army, could not have been more systematically carried on than the subjugation of Mexico has been by the successive Presidents of the most democratic republic in the world. We do not, indeed, suppose that this extraordinary enterprise which may now be said to have been in course of execution for more than 12 years, was deliberately contemplated and contrived at that distant period by American statesmen or by the American statesman or by the American people. It is by no means improbable that if the leading members of the American Senate had foreseen all the consequences of the annexation of Texas, and had believed that the year 1847 would see an American army struggling to maintain itself within the very city of Mexico, they would have recoiled from this long series of rapacious and sanguinary actions. It is not unlikely that if the American people had formed a more accurate estimate of the cost of the province which they were so eager to filch from neighbouring state, even their unreflecting ambition might have been checked by so lavish and wanton an expenditure of their resources and their blood. But the solemn prediction of these dreadful scenes, which have sullied the character of the united states by the revival of the passions and evils of offensive war, was disregarded, though it proceeded from the most eminent writers and statesman of America, and though it was reechoed by the convictions of every observer in Europe. Ten years ago the Americana affected to deny the charge of territorial rapacity, yet they were abetting the conversion of a Mexican province to their own uses, and they eventually incorporated it with their own possessions. Three years ago they affected to deny the possibility of a war with Mexico, yet the President ordered the troops of the Union to march into the disputed territory on the frontier, with a perfect knowledge that such an act was an unprovoked declaration of war. Last year the war was to be terminated by a few combats on the Rio Grande, and a cerain measure was to be observed towards the Mexican Government by their formidable adversaries; but this summer all the horrors of war have been inflicted by the American army, the city of Vera Cruz has been bombarded, the whole country overrun, and Mexico itself occupied. The Mexican Republic is completely prostrate, and General Scorr is as much the master of the capital as of Texas itself. But what then? Butchery and pillage cannot be the main objects of any army in our day: some political purpose must at least serve for a pretext, and the accomplishment of that political purpose is that which determines the success of a campaign. But in Mexico there is no Power with which a lasting agreement can be made; there are no institutions which give what may be termed personality to the nation: the whole community is, as it were, resolved into a mass of private persons, who are, of course, animated by the strongest detestation of their invaders which race, religion, and wrongs can inspire. Under these circumstances, General Scorr's position in Mexico reminds us of nothing more than that of a landlord who has just succeeded to an outlying portion of the family estate in Roscommon or Tipperary ' and, as the American Government will find it a more difficult task to break off their fatal connexion with Mexico than it has been to march into the country, we shall not be surprised to find them permanently engaged in work about as difficult as the administration of Ireland.

About five years ago an american diplomatist of character, who had recently been employed in Mexico, published his recollections of that country. It is not un instructive to turn back to these pages, for the facts they record have been as much confirmed as his anticipations of peace have been stultified by subsequent experience. After stating as his opinion that the Mexican men have not much more physical strength than the women of the united States, this writer relates the easy triumphs of the Texan adventures over the Mexican forces at Bexar and Mier, where the latter were defeated in fifteen minutes; and he adds, with the virtuous indignation of 1842, "Shall we go to war with such a people?" "which has been thus reaped?" The result has proved that Mt. Polk has not been equally disposed to respect the rights of the feeble, and that these identical officers have found something "to glean" between Vera Cruz and the capital.

Our object, however, in adverting to this work is to point out one particular in this war with which the American accounts leave us wholly unacquainted. However difficult it may be to handle the Mexican people and territory, or to dictate the terms of a peace, it is well known that the country contains an enormous quantity of the precious metals, partly the property of the Church, and partly the remains of the former splendour of the Vice-Royalty of New Spain. Mr. Thompson gives the following account of the wealth of the Cathedral of Mexico:--

"The clergy do not, for obvious reasons, desire that their wealth should be known to its full extent, but quite enough is exhibited to strike the beholder with wonder. The first object that presents itself on entering the cathedral is the altar near the centre of the building; it is made of highly wrought and polished silver, and covered with a profusion of ornaments of pure gold. On each side of this altar runs a balustrade, enclosing a space about 8 feet wide and 100 feet long. The balusters are about 4 feet high and 4 inches thick in the largest part; the handrail from 6 to 8 inches wide. Upon the top of this handrail, at the
disance of 6 or 8 feet apart, are human images, beautifully wrought, and about 2 feet high. All of these -- the balustrade, handrail, and images -- are made of a compound of gold, silver, and copper, more valuable than silver. I was told that an offer had been made to take this balustrade, and replace it with another, of exactly the same size and workmanship, of pure silver, and give half a million of dollars besides. There is much more of the same balustrade in other parts of the church: I should think in all of it not less than 300 feet. As you walk through the building, on either side there are different apartments all filled from the floor to the ceiling with paintings, statues, vases, huge candlesticks, waiters, and a thousand other articles, made of gold and silver. This, too, is only the every-day display of articles of least value; the more costly are stowed away in the chests and closets. What must it be when all these are brought out, with the immense quantities of precious stones which the church is known to possess? And this is only one of the churches of the city of Mexico, where there are between 60 and 80 others, some of them possessing little less wealth than the cathedral.

We do not impute to the officers in command of the American forces a base intention of plundering the enemy' on the contrary, General Scott's orders of the day have uniformly prescribed respect for the private property and the religious edifices of the Mexicans. But, considering the character of the American army, the lawless independence of the adventurers who have joined it, and the usages of war, we shall certainly consider it as an unprecedented event if this enormous booty escapes from pillage; and it is not unlikely that, to avoid the horrors and losses of private captures, the wealth of these public edifices may be regularly appropriated as a prize of war. Such a mass of the precious metals, probably, not fallen into the control of any conqueror since the soldiers of Pizarro occupied the gorgeous temples of the Peruvian deities.

We have yet to learn the American accounts of the capture of Mexico, though we publish in another place a narrative, drawn up by an eye-witness, of the attack. But it is by no means improbable that this campaign will end like a great raid into the enemy's country and that the Americans, indignant at the rejection of their terms, and alarmed by the isolation of their army, will have recourse to measures of violence which they would have been ashamed to employ in the earlier stages of the war. So true it is that every successive step in these transactions has been more guilty and disgraceful than that which preceded it.

Siege of Chapultepec: Siege of Chapultepec and Capitulation
November 13, 1847

We have been favoured by the following interesting description of the siege and capitulation. It is written by a gentleman who was an eye-witness of much that he describes:

The negotiations of the commissioners did not last long, as neither on the negotiating parties went about it earnestly, both knowing that it would be impossible for the Mexican Government to accept the conditions proposed by the American envoy. In consequence, Santa Anna had resolved from the very beginning to disregard the conditions agreed upon in the armistice, and went on fortifying all the western points of the town with the utmost speed, and perfecting the existing bastions, in order to prepare himself for a desperate struggle for life or death. The propositions made by the American envoy, Mr. Trist, for the conclusion of peace, were the following:--Mexico was to cede to the United States all the territory north of a line beginning three leagues south from the mouth of the river Bravo, then running along the course of this river upwards to Paso del Norte, and thence due west through the country to the mouth of the river Colorado, which flows into the bay of California, by which Mexico would lose Texas, Coahuila, Nuevo Mexico, Altaybaja, California, and a part of Nuevo Leon, chihuahuia, and Sinaloa; moreover, Mexico was to give to the United States, for the space of 12 years, the usufruct of the isthmus of Tebuantepec, in order to make experiments, and open, if possible, a canal, connecting the two oceans, and other minor conditions; in considerations of which Mr. Trist declared himself empowered to pay in the city of Mexico a certain sum of money, not specified; to regulate all claims of American subjects against the Mexican Government, and to admit them as an American debt; to deliver up all the cannon and ammunition taken away by conquest from the Mexican army, and to make no further claims for the expenses of the war.

Santa Anna declared hereupon, that disregarding all the other conditions he would never consent to give up new Mexico, as this province had, by its heroical rising, clearly shown its determination to abide by, and remain in a part of the great Mexican family, which was
the more laudable and affecting, as all the former governments had for a long time continued to neglect and disregard it, leaving it to be invaded and plundered by the savages.

On the 5th of September General Scott sent an official communication to Santa Anna, in which he informed him that he would consider the armistice as broken, if within 24 hours after receipt of this document satisfactory explanations had not been given for the repeated disregard of the conditions stipulated in the same.

Santa Anna sent him in answer a very talented exposition, in which he tried to throw all the blame on the Americans.

Scott did not deign to answer it, and in consequence the armistice was over on the 7th of September, at 12 o'clock a.m.

Everybody expected that the hostilities would commence the same day, but not a shot was fired. At 4 o'clock the next morning, however, the roar of the cannon awakened the inhabitants of Mexico, and called them on to their azoteas.

Behind the castle of Chapultepec, which is situated on a high porphyry rock placed on the plain at the foot of an even sloping rise towards the mountains, called in Spanish, loma, the night commenced. Santa Anna had displayed his lines on the gentle slope behind, and there the Americans attacked them.

From 5 to 9 in the morning the firing was very heavy, and the Americans took by storm a fortified powder magazine which stood higher up on the loma, and also a fortified watermill, situated upon the low ground on the outskirts of the castle park, and between this and the ascending slope. Here they destroyed the cannon foundry, but were then obliged to retire, as the point was completely commanded by the fire of the fort.

This battle, named, from the mill, the battle of Molino del Rey, was very bloody on both sides. At 10 o'clock the Americans blew up the powder magazine and retired to their original quarters or positions, higher up on the sloping plain, south-west from Chapultepec. Here they formed in battle, defying their enemy, and as none appeared they quietly returned to their quarters at Tacubaya, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

In Mexico the bells were triumphantly rung as for a great victory, and in fact, the Mexicans though beaten, were justified in regarding the fight as a victory, as the enemy found himself obliged to give up his conquered positions, and had suffered a serious and irreparable loss for his small numbers. If Santa Anna had renewed the battle on the same day it is very probable that affairs would have turned out very differently for the Americans, as the discontent at the signing of the armistice, combined with the dejection produced by the heavy loss of blood in the morning, had had a very demoralizing effect upon the army.

But Santa Anna did not attack, as his army had likewise suffered a severe loss, and had lost two able and courageous generals—Antonio Leon, from Oajaca, and Lucas Balderas, from the city of Mexico; in consequence of which he did not think it prudent to leave his entrenchments and stake everything upon one die, as he would have done by venturing another pitched battle.

The 9th and 10th day of September passed quietly over, the belligerent parties only saluting each other at daybreak two or three times with cannon shot and grenades, each party occupying itself in repairing the damages received and preparing for new and more terrible struggles.

On the 11th of September the cavalry was ordered to make a movement on the lomas or sloping plains of Chapultepec and Tacubaya, and attack, if possible, the latter place.

However, the enemy kept a very good look out, and no sooner did the cavalry begin to move out of town than their scouts appeared upon the lomas, and soon after a small force appeared to defend the plains.

The Mexicans attacked the advanced United States cavalry, and a short skirmish ensued, in which these were made to retreat by the overwhelming force of the former, and in their hot chase they incautiously advanced too near a hollow in advance on one side, where an American batter was lying hid. This at once opened a destructive fire upon them and drove the squadrons back in the most precipitate flight.

On the 12th the cannon began to roar again, south and west, at the garita of San Antonio
and at Chapultepec, but it very soon became evident where the real attack was intended, for on the south side the fire was slackened, and after a time it left off altogether; while on the west it grew more and more violent, and about 8 o'clock, a.m., the enemy opened his battery of mortars upon the castle and began to throw shells with a most uncomfortable precision. This fire was kept up by three batteries, each of one large mortar, situated in a small segment of a circle to the south of the fort, the whole day until 7 o'clock at night, and a strong division of their army was drawn out in line of battle on the loma behind as simple spectators awaiting an attack.

The Mexican army was formed along the two aqueducts which join at the foot of Chapultepec, but not a man stirred and only the castle answered the enemy's fire out of its heavy guns until near 2 o'clock, when they had all been dismounted or disabled. From 2 to 6 o'clock the castle silently received the enemy's fire, and from then till dark it answered again with the newly mounted pieces.

The night passed over without disturbances, but early on the 13th the bombardment began again with renewed force, and by the unusual movement between the enemy's troops we could see that a very important stroke was about to take place.

At half-past 7 o'clock a column came hastily descending from the loinas towards the castle, and soon after a heavy firing opened upon all sides, and Chapultepec wrapped itself up in a dense cloud of smoke. In the meantime the mortars continued playing upon the castle until a quarter past 9 o'clock, when they ceased. During this time the firing in and about the castle had three times apparently reached its climax, and then suddenly slackened, so that we believed the assault had been beaten off but at 25 minutes past 9 o'clock, the Mexican flag suddenly disappeared, a blue flag was shown, and directly after the stars and stripes arose and waved over the conquered fortress.

The garrison of Chapultepec, commanded by General Bravo, had been about 850 strong, and along the aqueducts, at the foot of its hill, were stationed about 8,000 men (infantry) the flower of the Mexican army while the cavalry (about 5,000 strong) was hovering about on the lomas, a league to the north-west, waiting for an opportunity to pounce down upon the enemy. However, it did no such thing, but remained a quiet spectator till all was over, and then precipitately retired into the town.

Santa Anna's plan seems to have been to leave as few men as possible in and about the castle, in order not to expose them unnecessarily to the shells, and then at the proper moment, when the forlorn hope was advancing to the assault, to throw strong reinforcements into the park and beat them off. The plan was not bad, and he remained himself close by Chapultepec, in a house, to direct it but it turned out to have been misplaced confidence, for at the decisive moment, when succour was most needed, it failed, -- why, has not yet been explained; most likely because disorder prevailed among the officers, and most certainly because the Mexican troops could not muster up sufficient valour to face the fire of the enemy.

Directly after having taken the place the Americans hauled down the light fieldpieces from the castle, and fired them upon the retreating enemy, upon whose heels they closely followed. The firing came nearer and nearer, and about 2 o'clock, p.m., the innermost intrenchments began to open their fire, and balls to whistle in the town.

In the evening, about oracion, the suburb of San Cosme, to the north-west, had already been taken and in the west the Pasco, so that only the fortified tobacco manufactory, christened with the pompous name of Citadelle, hindered the Americans from marching into the town. Towards evening the firing squad and already the inhabitants were hoping to pass a quiet light, when suddenly the dull roar of a large mortar sesounded close by the town, and shells with fiery tails came on whistling over the azoteas. Fortunately, only 10 or 12 shells and grenades were thrown, probably to measure distances, and give the inhabitants a foretaste of what awaited them in case of any further resistance.

Happily these projectiles did not occasion great damage, but they attained their purpose of hindering any further resistance and striking terror into the inhabitants, while they induced Santa Anna to break up in the middle of the night and retreat with all his force, leaving the city to the mercy of the victors. He turned northward to the villa of Guadalupe, and after short rest retreated on to San Juan de Teotihuacan.

On Tuesday, the 14th of September, in the morning at 6 o'clock, the first American column made its appearance through the principal streets of Mexico, Calle San Fransisco, del Correo, dela Professa, and the two Plaberos, in a straight line from the Alameda up to the palace and Plata Mayor.

At half-past 6 the Mexican colours disappeared from the palace, a regimental flag took their place and directly afterwards the stars and stripes arose and waved over the palace
of Montezuma, as the Americans call it.

A loud hurrah welcomed their appearances. In the meantime several shot began to sesound from several houses around, and in a short time the fire became general all over the town, and the whole American brigade dispersed itself in order to conquer this last resistance.

At 9 o'clock a.m., the cannons began to roar in all the streets and before noon the Americans were in possession of all the chief points, churches, and convents, which commanded the surrounding house and streets.

The firing receded towards the suburbs, but lasted nevertheless the whole day with intermitting violence 7 o'clock at night. On the 15th it continued again, particularly in the northern suburbs, towards Guadalupe where the troops of Santa Anna, recalled by the firing, tried to force an entrance.

However, they did not succeed and were driven back with severe loss. On the 16th only partial shots kept falling, and gradually everything returned to order.

From the 14th to the 16th, during the resistance in the streets, much blood was split to no purpose on both sides, and the property and life of the peaceable citizens were exposed to the spoliations, depredations, and arbitrariness of a victorious and rude soldiery; for the small number of the patriots made any effective resistance hopeless. Happily the Americans behaved on the whole, exemplarily, and very few citizens had to deplore the loss of their property.

Little by little the Americans drew their whole army into the town, leaving only small garrisons in Tacubays and Chapultepec. They also transported all their wounded into the town and established their hospitals in all the public buildings. General Scott took up his quarters at a private house, and General Quitman was named governor of the city. The Ayuntamiento was charged with the administration of the civil affairs, and empowered to raise a force of 600 men, in order to enforce its orders and preserve public order and security.

All matters of dispute concerning the American army were ordered to be submitted to martial law.

On the 21st of September the shops were re-opened, and ordinary business began again to take its regular course. On the 20th the first number of the new American newspaper, called the American Star, made its appearance, half English and half Spanish.

In the meantime the rest of the Mexican army had taken its way northward to Queretaro, where Congress was to assemble in order to deliberate on the fate of the nation.

Santa Anna tendered his demission of the Presidency, accepted it himself, and left General Herrera, with General Alcorta as coadjutor, to be his successors. He himself retired towards the coast, as it is said, in order to embark.

The siege of the town lasted from the 13th of August to the 14th of September, just a month; three great battles were fought, at Contreras, at Cherubusco, and at Molino del Rey; a cavalry engagement took place on the Iomas of Tacubaya; Chapultepec was bombarded and taken by storm and all the entrenchments on the west side of the town likewise; about 80 cannon captured, and 6,000 prisoners taken.

[DCk]
Mexicans, comprehending their real interest, had thrown themselves into the arms of the old mother country, and placed themselves into the arms of the old mother country, and places, themselves under the shelter of its friendly protection? We answer, certainly not!

Meanwhile, one feat of arms after another is successively placing the most important places in Mexico at the disposal of the American army; yet the united states cannot congratulate themselves on the victory. Why—if it be true that they are advancing from conquest to conquest—is the work of victory found less easy of accomplishment than there was at first reason to believe? Those who before yielded their posts without a struggle are now defending themselves, and fighting with ferocity of despair. An entire people are not easily subjugated, nor are they to be erased from the list of nation by two or three victories

The proud and potent Federal Republic will doubtless triumph over the disunited and exhausted Mexicans, if not by force of arms, at all events by protocols; but we repeat that, apart from the vain glory of satisfied pride, the annexation of this new state to those of the Union will be found more prejudicial than useful. The territory of the United States is already too extensive to allow this new acquisition to serve otherwise than as an obstacle in the way of the government: and either all probabilities will be falsified, or the eventual result will be the splitting up of that powerful republic into an infinite number of others, without the possibility of preventing this forcible, dismemberment, which the times will enforce. And, if to this reason be added the natural antipathy which must necessarily prevail between the conquerors and the conquered, and the distinct habits, the difference of religion, language, and customs, it is not doubtful that the North-Americans will not enjoy a single moment of tranquillity in their new sovereignty.

But even if this disquiet, and perhaps ill-omened-future somewhat soften to us the madness of the event which we deplore, it is no less certain that the last fragment of the Spanish race will disappear from those countries, and that with it will vanish the remotest hope of the eventual recovery by the mother country of the legitimate influence which it was called upon to exercise in those colonies, formerly the brightest diadem in its crown of the two worlds.

We do not wish directly to inculpate any Government whatsoever; but there has been much blindness, inattention, and neglect in so acting as to allow our ancient transmarine colonies to become an easy prize to the naughty rival of England, instead of having received them beneath the aegis of its ancient national flag.

And if the cupidity of the American Colossus should be satiated with its conquests already secured, these evils would be less deploitable, but its tendency is strikingly marked. The preponderating Republic of the New world cannot complacently contemplate the existence in those seas of a single point in which homage is paid to the old monarchial principle; it fears and with reason, that, maintained in her present possessions, Spain may some day wake from her extraordinary lethargy, and, either by supporting the monarchical idea or declaring herself the frank protectress of her ancient provinces in their actual republican state, may cement with them fraternal connexions, and close against the Union those immense markets for its commerce and industry.

For this reason the Government of the United States pushes forward its plans of aggrandisement and for this reason it will not desist until all those separate states are formed into one single state, under the name, the laws, and the flag of the United States; because Cuba and Puerto Rico will then be theirs; and the Union will attempt to play the same game in the Atlantic Ocean as Russia in the Black Sea, by converting that immense sheet of water into one large lake under its exclusive monopoly and arbitrary dominion.

But in the badly calculated politics of the United states, the very thing which they imagine the most likely to contribute to their aggrandisement tends to debilitate and diminish their power. The acquisition of Texas and Mexico, should the latter be realized, enfeebles the action of the Government and lessens its influence at the same time that it expands its territories: both acts particularly the latter, entail upon the Union a colossal debt, if hitherto free from pecuniary responsibilities, and will be productive of material losses; not will the war terminate, but continue in its most destructive form — that of guerrillas, skirmishes and conspiracies. Both acts, moreover, will increase the already immense number of enemies exited again the United States in consequence of their preponderating power, presenting an easy breach and sure instruments for the formation of parties by intrigue and disunion; added to which they will never attain the presence of a moral force in the conquered cities, and will continue to lose it in their own. Lastly, both acts will serve as a lesson to other independent republics, which, for their own convenience, will unite in defense of their independence against the common enemy” and, moreover, our own possessions will be more than ever recure from the attacks of the colossal usurper.

And here is presented a new and favourable opportunity for Spain to render her ancient children sensible of her value, and, by offering them her protection, to gain for herself
those commercial advantages of all kinds which are now the object of the greedy cupidity of the Union. For the sake, therefore, of unfortunate Mexico, and for the sake of all our former colonies, it is, from very point of view, indispensable that something should be done, --that negotiations should be opened, --that our antecedent advantages should be made of deorum, no other influence than that of the Spanish Government should be tolerated in those distant parts of the world.

[DC][K]

LT 1847-11-15-5c

Mexico, Court Martial on Deserter
November 15, 1847

In another order he adds-

"There is every reason to believe that a very large distribution of knives and dirks has recently been made to liberated convicts (thieves and murderers) for the purpose of assassinating American soldiers found drunk or otherwise of their guard.

"Measures are in progress to search out and seize for execution the instigators and leaders of those assassins. In the mean time guards and patrols will search all suspicious persons, disarm, and, if necessary, confine them for trial and punishment."

Advices of a later date, however, state that confidence was rapidly being established; that the shops were being re-opened, and that the markets were well supplied.

The Mexican army, at the latest accounts, was slowly wending its way towards Queretaro. They numbered less than 3,000 men, under the command of General Herrera. Santa Anna, it was very generally believed, was making his way to the seaboard, for the purpose of embarking to a foreign country. Other accounts describe him as making another stand at Puebla, where, however, the American army was said to be so securely posted as to defy attack.

According to the New York Herald, there was no prospect of peace. The Congress would meet at Queretaro, with Pena y Pena as President, and it is said that no single member of it would vote in favour of acceding to the terms proposed by Mr. Trist. The cession of New Mexico at any rate was out of the question; while, on the other hand, the determination of the United States Government was said to be equally decided, not only to make no abatement on the terms offered by Mr. Trist and rejected by Mexico, but to insist on more favourable conditions in consequence of the immense loss its army has undergone.

In a Cabinet Council held at Washington on the 23d, it is said that Mr. Walker "goes for all of Mexico-Mr. Buchanan for a part." It was expected that Mr. Polk would submit the subject to Congress.

[DC][K]

LT 1847-11-15-5c2

The United States and Mexico: US and Mexico
November 15, 1847

We have received by the Missouri steam-ship, of the French line of pockets, intelligence from New York to the 25th ult, and full details of the capture of Mexico by the American army. They do not materially differ from the accounts which we published on Saturday. The papers contain innumerable descriptions of the several battles in front of Mexico, and a full list of the killed and wounded. The total return of loss, including the missing, is as follows:-

Killed Wounded Missing

1. General Worth's Division 140 766 27
2. General Twigg's Division 35 194 10
3. General Pillow's Division 21 111 10
4. General Quiltman's Division 41 267 -
   Total 238 1,338 47
Total killed, wounded, and missing 1,623

The Mexican loss is said to have been immense. Five generals, three colonels, seven lieutenant-colonels, and above 100 other officers, with 800 men, had been taken prisoners. The accounts previously received of the execution of deserters are fully confirmed. Fifty are said to have been put to death. The sentence of the court-martial upon one batch of these unhappy men, consisting of 29, is as follows:—

"The Court found the abovenamed prisoners severally guilty as charged, and sentenced each (two-thirds of the members of the Court in every case concurring in the sentence) 'to be hanged by the neck until he is dead.'"

"The General-in-Chief approves the foregoing proceedings and sentences, with the following exceptions:—The cases of Thomas Riley, company 1, 34 infantry; James Mills, company H, same regiment; and John Reilly, company K, 5th infantry.

"These three prisoners severally committed the crime of desertion as charged in the early part of April, 1846. At that date the United States were at peace with Mexico and all the world; for the present war did not break out, in all the world; for the present war did not break out, in fact, till a later date, and was not recognised to exist by the Congress of the United States till the 13th of the following month.

"No higher punishment can, therefore, be legally inflicted upon those atrocious offenders, T. Riley, J. Mills, and J. Reilly, than that prescribed for a state of peace, viz., 50 lashed with a raw hide whip, well laid on the bare back of each, and their punishment is commuted accordingly, with the addition that each be branded on a cheek with the letter D, kept a close prisoner as long as the army remains in Mexico, and then be drummed out of the service.

"So much of the punishment in the case of Henry Newer, company D, 4th artillery, as relates to hanging is, on the recommendation of many members of the Court, remitted; and a like remission is made in the case of Edward M'Herron, company G, same regiment, out of consideration for a son, private in the same company, who has remained faithful to his colours.

"There being some slight circumstance of mitigation in the several cases of Hezekiah Akles, John Bartley, Alexander M'Kee, and John Bowers, all of company H, 3d artillery their sentences are commuted as in the cases of T. Riley, J. Mills, and J. Reilly above."

General Quitman has been appointed Governor of Mexico, and had received the contribution of 150,000 dollars levied upon the city. He is thus described by a correspondent of the New York Herald:—

"To gallant Mississippi belongs the honour of giving to Mexico her first American Governor, and we may also add, her first wise Governer. General Scott displayed equal judgment and magnanimity in this appointment. General Quitman had had the misfortune to be ex-cluded from the battle of Cerro Gordo and of Centreras met with disappointments, which no doubt grieved his gallant soul. But in the closing scenes he availed himself of the long-delayed opportunity, and covered himself with glory in the various difficult operations which preceded the occupation of the city. His admirable fitness for the Governership of Mexico will occur to all who are acquainted with General Quitman. He is a profound jurist and elegant scholar, well read in history, and familiar with several of the modern languages, including, we believe, Spanish. He is too, a cool, deliberative, firm, and most rigidly honest man. We predict that his administration will be more effective and successful than that of any other ruler Mexico has ever had."

The new Governer occupied the palace of the late President.

It seems, however, that the possession of their capital by the United States army was not quietly acquiesced in by the Mexicans, even after their army under Santa Anna had deserted it, and their own undisciplined efforts were found insufficient to resist their formidable invaders. The following general order by General Scott points to a system of covert assassination, by which we are assured that he had already lost many of his best men:—

"Head-quarters of the Army, Mexico, Sept 22.

"The General-in-Chief has received through many kind sources, Mexican and others, undoubted information that an extensive conspiracy is on foot about us, to surprise (by means of an insurrection) our guards and quarters and to murder our officers and men.
"Mexican officers and soldiers in disguise, who had not the courage to defend their capital, are the leaders of this conspiracy, aided by some 1,500 thieves and murderers, who were turned loose for that purpose, and to prey upon the peaceable inhabitants, the night before the triumphal entry of the American army into this city. The conspirators have also the services of several false priests, who dishonour the holy religion which they only profess for the special occasion.

"Until ready for the insurrection, the disguised villains hope to do us much harm in detail. Their plan is to assassinate stragglers, particularly drunken men; to entice individuals or small parties into shops to drink, and to stab them when in their cups; to entice our gallant Roman Catholic soldiers who have done so much honour to our colours to desert, under a promise of lands in California, which our arms have already conquered, and which for ever will remain a part of the United States.

"Let all our soldiers, Protestant and Catholic, remember the fate of the deserters taken at Churubusco. These deluded wretches were also promised money and land; but the Mexican Government, by every sort of ill-usage, drove them to take up arms against the country and flag they had voluntarily sworn to support, and next placed them in front of the battle-in positions from which they could not possibly escape the conquering valour of our glorious ranks. After every effort of the General-in-Chief to save, by judicious discrimination, as many of those miserable convicts as possible, 50 of them have paid for their treachery by as ignominious death on the gallows.

"Again the General-in-Chief calls on his brethren in arms, of all grades, to be constantly on the alerts, by day as by night; never to appear in the streets without side-arms; to walk out only in parties of twos, threes, or more, and to avoid all obscure places, particularly treacherous dram-shops and liquor-stores.

"By command of Major-General Scott.
"H.L. SCOTT, A.A.A. G."

[DCK]

LT 1847-11-16-4c

US and Mexico
November 16, 1847

It is very difficult to imagine that there can be any class of persons who could read with satisfaction the intelligence which was yesterday published from the seat of war in Mexico. They who only wish to see such bootless carnage brought to a termination will find no kind of substantial encouragement for their hopes. They who involuntarily sympathize with an aggrieved and invaded nation, of what character soever it may be, will meet with additional grounds for disappointment and concern; while all who are interested in the national credit of a people sprung from the same stock with ourselves must lament that it has been sullied by such atrocities as those into which the Americans have been drawn by the consequences of their first unjust aggression.

The inevitable horrors of a city taken by storm have been almost eclipsed, on this occasion, by the spectacle of fifty miserable Irishmen hanged in a body, for deserting the colours to which they had attached themselves. We have no wish to disguise the fact, that, over and above the undue and for-tuitous aggravation lent to every incident of war in a season of profound and general peace, this act of General Scott's may assume a deeper dye from want of proper consideration of the circumstances which might be alleged to justify it. No doubt desertion, the most emphatic of all military crimes, becomes a more formidable contingency and demands more severe treatment in an army or on an expedition where the temptations are unusually great and the restraints unusually small. The American army, o this occasion, has been described as a heterogeneous aggregate of half the nations of Europe, and it is certain, from the constitution of the population, that such must, to a large extent, be the case with every considerable expedition sent out by the United States. Excepting amongst the descendants of our 20,000 Puritans who cluster about the states of New England, it would be difficult to define the breed or the locality of a real 'Statesman. The broad distinctions already subsisting between the northern and southern, eastern and western states, are still further increased by an average influx of 200,000 emigrants yearly from all parts of Europe. Beyond the circle of a local militia there can be but little spontaneity of union; and, under such conditions, it may be incumbent on a commander to secure, by the terror of example, that fidelity which he can hardly expect from suggestions of patriotism. Yet, after all such considera-tions, we must avow our conviction that this act, which for wholesale and exterminating cruelty may match the
most barbarous rigours of past wars, does brand the general, the army, and the expedition with a deeper stigma than any it wore before. A party of miserable creatures, dispossessed of a home or country of their own, took their services to a colonel, as they might have done to a contractor, and leased their sinews to the work of a war as they would have done to that of a railroad. We do not say that their constitutional instability deserved the indulgence they might perhaps have claimed for it themselves, but we do think that the sternest demands of the occasion might have been satisfied with less than such wanton and unremitting butchery. Even in the rude barbarism of a new world we do not look for the judicial atrocities of Galicia or Catalonia. The poor wretches had been placed in front of the Mexican lines, partly as men whose desperation might be reckoned on, partly as men whose fidelity it was desirable thus to secure. They were, of course, seized as the battle went against them, tried, and condemned. No lots were cast, no forlorn commutation or expedient of decimation allowed. Four were allowed the benefit of extenuating circumstances. Three were grudgingly permitted to escape through a loophole in the law, and were punished only with such inflicting short of death as could be devised by a disappointed court. The rest were taken in a heap to the gallows, under which "they were kept standing" for an hour or two till the flag they had de-"serted was flying from the walls of Chepultepec,"when they were all swung off together as the" stars and stripes rose into the air." After this revolting example of melodramatic massacre by su-preme authority, the reader will not be surprised to learn that the execution of such resolves has since been taken, with characteristic promptitude, into the hands of the troops themselves. One of our papers states that "a comrade recognizing a deserter, to save the trouble of a court-martial, pitched him at once into a mill-flume, where he was crushed to pieces by the wheel."

If the accountability for such abominations as these falls to one side or the other, according to the justice of the war, some parties must have an ugly reckoning before them, and one which is yet far from closed. If there is any conclusion in which all sides are now agreed, it is that neither blood-shed nor conquest have won a step towards peace. Of this fact the Cabinet of Washington now appears fully cognisant, and General Scorr, after all his efforts, has only arrived at that precise predica-ment which we portrayed two months ago. He is now Mexico with a force which numbered about 9,000 disposable men before the late battles, in which it was perhaps reduced by a fourth. In the city he is encompassed by a swarm of savage leperos, who, if they do not murder at their ordinary rate of practice, would assassinate his whole army in a twelvemonth. His communications are so far safe, that no garrisoned post is likely to be forced; but it cannot be said that there is free intercourse be-tween any two of them. The American intelligence itself sates, that the road from Vera Cruz to Jalapa or Mexico could only be kept open "by a solid column of infantry from the gates of one city to "those of the other." Nothing but the want of enterprise amongst the Mexicans permits the garrisons a single yard's patrol beyond their posts. Even at Vera Cruz-the base of operations-the immediate neighbourhood of the city is only kept free by strong detachments, and so suspicious is the aspect of things within the walls, that Coloel CHILDS the other day, sent GC bombs, facetiously described as "native Americans," amongst the habitations of the citizens to recall the late infictions to their minds. Meantime, the Mexican Congress is assembling at Queretaro, and, with a laudable resolve of adding no faults of commis-sion to those of omission, has proclaimed its unani-mity in favour of prosecuting the war; so that nothing has been effected beyond a change of posi-tions, with this advantage for the Mexicans,-that they are somewhat more impalpable even than before. General Scorr may advance to Queretaro as he as advanced to Mexico, but his phantom foe will find a fresh metropolis in every province, till the invader has neither forces sufficient to keep his conquests, nor strength remaining to pursue them.

[DCK]
there any Irishman present? ("Yes") Fifty Irishmen were found to have deserted—no
uncommon thing; but they had not deserted for drink of women, or good quarters, or
dislike of service, or from ordinary motives; they had deserted be-cause they felt they
were led on against the religion of their fathers. They were all executed. When in European
wars a town surrendered, why were six covered carriages stipulated for? Because into
those carriages European humanity conveyed away men who had deserted. The prestige
was gone which made Republicanism be regarded as a guarantee for public honesty. In a
guide book printed in Philadelphia, he found some singular remarks. The author said, that
when going through St. James's-park he considered the signs of the times whether the
child was not born in the United States who should hear or see that an army of 50,000
men from that country was encamped in Hyde-park, while the American banner floated
from the Horse Guards, the headquarters of the American general? (Laughter) At Windso
the author, when he saw the standard of England floating from the walls, reflected that
probably the child was born who should see that standard give place to the stars and
stripes of America. The object of the United States was to spread personal slavery all over
America. Under such circumstances ought not the consumption of cotton from in lia to be
encouraged rather that Manchester should be involved in the slaveholder’s policy?

The Secretary then read a letter from Mr. Douglas Jerrold, who was to have seconded the
resolution, expressing his regret that at the eleventh hour he had been prevented from
attending the meeting, of whose objects he entirely approved.

Mr. P. A. TAYLOR seconded the resolution, and did The Times the honour of abusing and
misrepresenting it on every subject of public discussion throughout a rather long speech.
He especially contended for the right of the Swiss Radicals to oppress and destroy their
countrymen, and concluded by a high eulogy upon Joseph Mazzini.

Mr. I. Wilson asked how they could speak of themselves as a "free" nation in the
resolution, while they were struggling for freedom? The expression was inconsistent with
the condition of the working classes. If a man was disfranchised he was a slave to all
intents and purposes. The aristocracy of all countries were leagued together to keep down
the working classes.

Colonel Thompson approved the omission, and the resolution, as amended, was then
adopted.

Mr. G. Thompson, M.O. moved the second resolution:—

"That in order to bring to bear upon the foreign policy of this country the beneficial
influence of public opinion, it is of the greatest importance to obtain and circulate accurate
and systematic information concerning the political condition and relations of foreign
countries, to disseminate the principles of national independence and progress and to
promote a good understanding between the people of this and all other countries; and that
these being the people of this and all other countries; and that these being the objects of
the People's international League; that association is entitled to our warmest approval and
support."

He had joined the association to obtain information, and had their observations been
confined on the present occasion to something like a statement of the benevolent and
universal objects at which they aimed, and the means they proposed to take for the
attainment of those ends, he would have much preferred it. He must express his own
individual dissent from certain observations which would have been better dis-pensed with.
(Hear.) Such an association was a desideration at present. He sympathized with Colonel
Thompson's remarks as to that most flagitious war now waging was not the real cause,
that the object was to extend slavery from the Frozen Ocean to the Gulf of Panama, he
denounced that war as one of the most dishonest and unprovoked that ever occurred—as
one of the most stupendous crimes ever committed by a civilized country. (Cheers)

Mr. Linton, in absence of Mr. Williams, M.P., seconded the resolution, which was
unanimously adopted.
Thanks having been voted to the chairman, the meeting separated.

[DCk]
of correspondents which has taken place respectively between the Mexican Minister in London and Messrs. Schneider and Co., and between the latter parties and the committee. This correspondence may be divided into two portions, the first relating to the custody of certain bonds issued for special purposes at the time of the last conversion, and the second relating to the money held by Schneider and Co., applicable as far as it will go to the purposes of a dividend, and which it has long been contended should forthwith be distributed. To make room for the whole of these documents would be out of the question, and as the matter of the first and most tedious portion may advantageously be condensed, we shall content ourselves by giving an abstract of it, subjoining, however, the whole of the second portion, which relates to a point of immediate importance.

Under date of the 19th October last, the Mexican Minister in London wrote to Messrs Schneider and Co., as the agents in the last conversion of Mexican stock, stating that he had been required by Messrs. Sheppard and son to direct Schneider to receive for conversion 95 bonds of 500 l. each (letter d2, 106 to 2,200) for 47,500 l., which they had hitherto refused to do; and the Minister in conveying this direction requested Schneider to "have the complacency no to enter into discussion of the merits of the case, the responsibility of which rests exclusively with himself." To this, on the 22nd of October, Schneiders replied that their only ground for refusing to convert the bonds in question is that they have reason to think they form part of a set of deferred bonds, amounting to 784,350 l., "in respect of which a distinct class of new bonds were created (lettered E and for 470,610 l.) and deposited in the bank of England." The deposit thus alluded to was made to provide against the contingency of certain bonds which were known to have held by Lizzardi and Co. in connexion with a former conversion having "contrary to the intentions of the government of Mexico" by any possibility found their way into circulation and Schneiders therefore suggested to the Minister that there were two ways of throwing light upon the matter and of removing the difficulty.

"The one is for Messrs. Lizardi to furnish either your Excellency or ourselves with the classes and numbers of the bonds constituting the said sum of 784,350 l.; or, if they still decline to do this, then to furnish us with the following particular evidence, which, as your Excellency is aware, we have required from the parties from the beginning, viz.

"The particulars of the old stock for which the bonds held by Messrs. Sheppard and Son were given in exchange.

"The name of the party who presented that old stock to Messrs. Lizardi for conversion, and to whom the bonds in question were issued in exchange, with the date of such issue.

"To adopt one or the other of these modes," the add, "is so simple, and at the same time to reasonable and proper, that to decline doing so only tends to confirm us in the belief that the bonds held by Messrs. Sheppard and Son ought no to be admitted to the conversion."

On the day following the dispatch of this reply to the Minister, Schneiders received another communication from that personage, requiring them to consent to, and assist at, the delivery up, to certain persons nominated by the Mexican Government, of the bonds aforementioned as deposited in boxes at the Bank of England, and of which boxes they hold one of the keys. To this a reply was immediately sent, that the "bonds in question were created for a special purpose, and that they were deposited in the Bank of England in the joint names of the Mexican Minister and of themselves (Schneider) as security that they should be applied to that purpose, if necessary, and no other," and that under these circumstances compliance was impossible.

In due course the whole of the foregoing correspondence was laid by Schneiders before the committee of bondholders, which committee, through their chairman, Mr. Robinson, expressed their entire approbation of the course which the firm had pursued.

Subsequently, another letter was received by Schneiders form the Mexican Minister, dated the 25th of October, enclosing an order from the Mexican Government of the 28th of August last, that the bonds deposited in the Bank of England should be "held at the disposition" of that Government, and announcing that-

"The primitive object of that deposit was to exchange therewith the bonds not converted which might remain in circulation after the general operation of the conversion recently effected. But the Government having reserved to itself the right of disposing of the said deposited sum at the time of granting its definitive approbation of the adjustment of the debt, it not being unnatural to suppose that no bonds existed that should be exchanged according to the understanding in which the deposit was made, and the Government having occasion to dispose thereof for very urgent purposes of the public service as been pleased to resolve, in the exercise of the right reserved to itself in granting its approbation to the conversion of the debt, that the bonds for the value of 470, 61 l. sterling deposited
into the Bank Of England be immediately withdrawn and delivered to Messrs. Aguirre
Bengos and sons, in order that they may dispose of them in conformity with the
instructions which are transmitted to them under this date. But as it may happen that, not
withstanding the contrary convictions of the Government, some old bonds do exist which
ought to be changed for the converted according to agreement, the Government provides
for the solution of this difficulty by disposing that in the case supposed new bonds shall be
issued for the sum that may be necessary to effect the exchange, on the understanding
that for the amount thereof the quota shall be increased by one per cent., which the
maritime custom-houses have to supply for the payment of interest until the amount is
made up which the new bonds will incur."

To which Messrs. Schneiders replied as follows

"After a careful perusal of the dispatch transmitted to us by your Excellency, we beg to
acquaint your Excellency that we see nothing in its contents calculated to remove the
difficulties existing to the fulfillment of the wishes of the Mexican Government with regard
to the bonds deposited in the Bank of England, such difficulties consisting of facts, and not
of opinions. We conceive that the Mexican Government could not have been sufficiently
acquainted with the circumstances attending the creation of the bonds in question; it is the
object of the long explanatory letter we had the honor of addressing to your Excellency on
the 23rd inst. To bring those circumstances under it's notice, and we have nothing further
to add thereto on the present occasion."

Here ends the first branch of the correspondence, and thus far Messrs. Shneider appear to
have acted in accordance with sound principle and of the benefit of the bondholders, the
attempt of the Mexican Government to get hold of a sum of 470,610l. Of reserved bonds in
order to throw them upon the market "for very urgent purposes of the public service"
being perfectly of a character with its past proceedings. Of the next portion of the
 correspondence, however, we are sorry that we cannot see any ground of congratulation
for the parties interested. The question is complicated, and the only course for the
bondholders would appear to be to bring it to a decision by means of an action (not
necessarily an unfriendly one) in a court of law.

Another arrival from the Cape of Good Hope furnishes files of papers to the 28th
September. The news form the frontier is not important. Sir Henry Pottinger was on the
spot ready to direct the movement of the troops against the Caffres, so soon as a
favourable opportunity should be presented. The weather in most of the districts was
favourable for agricultural operations. The latest intelligence received at the Cape from
England communicated the result of a great number of the elections.

It appears by accounts from Martinique and Guadeloupe, that those islands have entirely
escaped the bad weather experienced at Tobago and Trinidad and it is stated that affairs
were progressing quietly. The alteration in the administration of the criminal law, which
had been brought into operation in Guadeloupe on the 1st of October, is the only fact of
interest mentioned in these advices.

The Bankers' Magazine furnishes the returns of circulation of the English private and joint
stock banks for the four weeks ending the 16th, 23rd, and 30th of October, and the 6th of
November inst., and gives the following as the average circulation of these banks during
the past month, viz.

[DC]
Pena y Pena was still at Queretaro, where he had succeeded in assembling 71 of the deputies of the Mexican Congress, who had decided that they would positively resume their sittings on the 20th ult. It was said that a majority of the deputies had decided in favor of an amicable adjustment of the difficulties between the two governments.

Pena y Pena had also directed circulars to the six governors of the Central Mexican States, requesting them to repair instantly to Queretaro, for the purpose of holding a special council, to consult upon what amount of men and munitions of war could be raised, with the view of continuing hostilities, and also at the same time to calmly deliberate upon the propriety of the said continuance of the war.

The Mexican Government has superseded Santa Anna's command of the army, and General Rincon has been appointed to fill that command.

Santa Anna loudly protested against this violation of his rights as the first magistrate of the nation, as he styles himself. He refuses obedience to the orders of the Government, and in the mean time has retired to Tehuacan.

Atlexco had been taken possession of by the United States troops. It was stated, also, that Orizaba had surrendered.

The health of the United States army is far from being good. The climate of the valley of Mexico is not, it appear, congenial to the constitutions of the south. It is just as enervating and fatal to the southern as is that of Vera Cruz to the northern constitutions.

The French mail steamer New York put into Newport on the 12th inst. Short of coal. She arrived at New York on the 14th inst.

At a Public meeting at Lexington the following resolutions, offered by Henry Clay, on Saturday, the 13th of November, were unanimously adopted:

"1. That the primary cause of the present unhappy war existing between the United States of America and the united states of the republic of Mexico, was the annexation of Texas to the former; and the immediate occasion of hostilities between the two republics arose out of the order of the President of the United States for the removal of the army under the command of General Taylor from its position at Corpus Christi to a point opposite Matamoras, on the east band of the Río Bravo, within the territory claimed by both republics, but then under the jurisdiction of Mexico, and inhabited by its citizens. That the order of the President of the removal of the army to that point, was improvident and unconstitutional, it being without the concurrence of Congress, or even consultation with it, although it was in session; but that Congress having, by its subsequent acts, recognized the war thus brought into existence without its previous authority or consent, the prosecution of it became thereby national.

"2. That in the absence of any formal and public declaration by Congress of the objects for which the war ought to be prosecuted, the President of the united States, as chief magistrate, as Commander in Chief of the army and navy of the United States, is left to the guidance of his own judgment to prosecute it for such purposes and objects as he may deem the honor and interest of the nation to require.

"3. That, by the consent of the United States, Congress being invested with power to declare war and grant letters of marque and reprisal, to make rules concerning captures by land and water, to raise and support armies, to provide and maintain a navy, and to make rules for the government of the land and naval forces, has the fullest and most complete war making power of the people of the United States; and so possessing it has a right to determine upon the motives, causes, and objects of wars when once commenced, or at any time during the progress of their existence.

"4. As the further opinion of the meeting that it is the duty of Congress to declare, by some authentic act, for what purpose and object the existing war ought to be further prosecuted/ that it is the duty of the President, in his official capacity, to conform to such a declaration of Congress; and if after such a declaration the President should decline or refuse to endeavor by all the means, civil, diplomatic, and military, in his power to execute the announced will of Congress, and in defiance of its authority, should continue and prosecute the war for purposes and objects other than those declared by that body, it would become the right and duty of Congress to adopt the most efficacious measure to arrest the further progress of the war, taking care to make ample provisions for the honour, the safety, and security of our armies in Mexico in every contingency/ and if Mexico should decline or refuse to conclude a treaty with us, stipulating for the purposes and objects so declared by Congress, it would be the duty of the Government to prosecute the war with the utmost vigilance until they were attained by a treaty of peace.
"5. That we view with serious alarm, and are utterly opposed to any purpose like the annexation of Mexico to the United States in any mode, and especially by conquest; that we believe the two nations could not be happily governed by one common authority, owing to their great difference of race, laws, language, and religion, and the vast extent their respective territories, and the large amount of their respective populations; that such a union against the consent of the exasperated Mexican people, could only be effected and preserved by large standing armies and the constant application of military force; in other words, by despotic sway exercised over the Mexican people in the first instance but which there would be just cause to apprehend might in process of time be extended of their people of the United States; that we depurate, therefore, such a union as wholly incompatible with the genius of our Government, and with the character of our free and liberal institutions; an we anxiously hope that each nation may be left in the undisturbed possession of its own laws, language, cherished religion, and territory, to pursue its own happiness according to what it may deem best for itself.

"6. That, considering the series of splendid and brilliant victories achieved by our brave armies and their gallant commanders, during the war with Mexico, unattended by a single reverse, the United States, without any danger of their honor suffering the slightest tarnish, can practice the virtues of moderation and magnanimity towards their discomfited foe; we have no desire for the dismemberment of the republic of Mexico, but wish only a just and proper fixation of the limits of Texas.

"7. That we do positively and emphatically disclaim and disavow any wish or desire on our party to acquire any foreign territory whatever for the purpose of propagating slavery or of introducing slavery from the United States into any such foreign territory.

"8. That we invite our fellow citizens of the United States who are anxious for the restoration of the blessings of peace, or if the existing war shall continue to be prosecuted are desirous that its purpose and object shall be defined and known; who are anxious to avert present and further perils and dangers with which it may be fraught; and who are also anxious to produce contentment and satisfaction at home, and to elevate the national character abroad to assemble together in their respective communities and to express their views, feelings and opinions on the subject.

[DK]

LT 1847-12-2-4c

US War in Mexico
December 2, 1847

If nations do not avail themselves of the lessons now read to them by the people of the United States, they will be neglecting one of the most salutary examples ever afforded by one country for the benefit of all. Unjust war and dishonest intrigues have already produced their fruits of popular embarrassments and Ministerial perplexities, and they are not rapidly tending to national confession and exposure. By the resolutions which we published yesterday, unanimously adopted at a numerous meeting of American citizen, upon the address of one of their most respected countrymen, it will be seen with what spirit the measures of the Washington Cabinet are likely to be canvassed; and the correspondents given in another of this days columns may supply some means of judging Mr. Polk's policy will promote that personal success with a view to which it was apparently calculated.

Matters are perplexing enough as they stand, for the Americans have played out their last card and are still as far as ever from the game. Mexico is conquered, as far as a country can be conquered by arms, but it still bears no kind of semblance to the conquest the Americans would make of it. Now, however, Mr. Polk has to justify his war, a task considerably more difficult than even that of directing it; and it will be seen by the report we referred to how very little disposition there is on the part of his judges to blink the question or curtail the trial. In a few days Congress will assemble, and the President will then be called upon to explain upon what grounds, and for what objects, the war has been carried from Matamoras to Mexico, what is sought by its further prosecution, and what reasonable hope there is that the end thus sought can be obtained. Hither to it has been a private speculation of his own. By orders dispatched on his own authority he commenced active hostilities on the Texan border, and though Congress was induced, for the safety of the national troops, to lend a conditional ratification to his act, yet it did not surrender in perpetuity the powers of irresponsible peace and war. Now, accordingly, Mr. Polk must render an account of his deeds; and, failing his justification of the late campaigns, he will be compelled to terminate, not without dishonour, the war he has so recklessly prosecuted.

The trial occurs at an unfortunate season. Success might have covered a multitude of
faults, and though it would probably have sown seeds of discord in the Union more radically calamitous than the costs of a war, yet it would have been enveloped the authors of the mischief in a protective cloud, and would have diverted public scrutiny from the policy of the Administration till a time when it would have been too late to revive it. But Mr. Polk will have to explain, in the session which commences next Monday, not only his measures, but his misfortunes. He has to account not only for a crime, but a blunder. We can commiserate his fate perhaps to some extent, for he could hardly have been expected to calculate on those peculiar elements of resistance which have destroyed his project. He, doubtless, never conceived that it would be requisite to fight for 18 months, still less than the exertion would be attended with so few results. He had formed his own ideas of certain acquisitions, at the expense of an imbecile neighbour, to signalize and glorify his reign, nor did he imagine that the cost would ever rise to an amount comparable with the returns. Could he have presented himself to Congress with the prize in his hands, he might have perhaps have sagedically counted on swamping all considerations of policy in calculations of produce, though the resolutions of Mr. Clay and his friends show that there would still have remained in some quarters integrity proof against the dazzling delusion. But, unhappily, his first throw was an unfortunate one, and like many a speculator he proceeded to another and another, still confident that each successive investment would enable him to recover his losses and realize his gains. The result has been that his total expenditure has at length reached such a height as irremediably to exceed the value of the recoverable stake, and now, when his predicament is such that he cannot possibly be a winner, he is summarily called upon to account for the funds entrusted to his care.

It will be an edifying thing to see, subjected to the ordeal of a Parliamentary debate, a case which would not bear the discussion on an extempore convention. The arguments to which, in the mouth of a Mexican Commissioner, General Scott, with all the might of conquest on his side, found it impossible to reply, must now be met by the ingenuity of a Cabinet in the fair field of a Congress. Mr. Polk will have to defend the policy of an expensive war, commenced on principles essentially unjust, and prosecuted for an object, the intrinsic desirability of which is denied by many, and the value of which is admitted by all to be below that of the cost incurred. He will have to frame a reply, in plain words, to a question which he has hithered to blinked, and which he hoped ultimately to have escaped. He will have to confess publicy to motives, which are very easy to understand but very hard to acknowledge; and all this he must do in the face of opponents who have very clearly shown both their information and resolution, and with the aid only of supporters disheartened and diminished by ill success.

What does he in Mexico? Is he there to assert the legitimate boundary of Texas? Why then claim the whole expanse of California? Is he there to demand California and New Mexico? How then does he demand them—by purchase or surrender? If by surrender, why does he employ the mockery of negotiation? If by purchase, why open the bargain by massacring the vendors? A trial which is now pending at Washington, amongst various instructive disclosures has developed the fact, that an officer of the States was informed in an official dispatch only two months after the commencement of the war, that it was "The object of the United States, under its rights as a belligerent nation, to possess itself entirely of Upper California." We have very little inclination to doubt the assertion herein contained, but will Mr. Polk actually confess it? Or, if he does so, what will he do with the alleged casus belli on the Texas border?

No explanations are so perplexing as those which are asked for to convict the speaker rather than to inform the querist, which are demanded as confessions rather than communications, and on subjects where every single hearer is prepared for every possible evasion. There is hardly a decently informed person in Europe or America who is not as precisely acquainted with Mr. Polk's policy as if he had been a party to its construction; and there are few, perhaps, without some malicious satisfaction at the predicament to which it has brought him. If he could prove, against the law of nature, that his schemes were justifiable, he would yet have to prove that they were feasible, and again, that they were expedient, two propositions which are contradicted by his more sagacious countrymen as flatly as they are refuted by the suggestions of common honesty. One-half of America still remains unoccupied and unsettled at a time when all this cost is incurred for an increase of territory, and it has now been shown by experience that no Mexican territory can be ever retained but by such a force as would altogether demolish the profit of the tenure. To all this long indictment of injustice, incapacity, and ill success, Mr. Polk has now to plead, and in so far as the condemnation of his policy may redeem that of the States at large, it will be impossible to repine at his conviction.
It is one of the most serious evils of war that, in addition to the burdens and calamities which hostilities impose and inflict on the nations engaged in them, the whole policy of a state is materially affected by the bent of the public mind in this direction, and all the natural resources of the country, its leading men, and its political institutions, are diverted from their natural course by the exigencies of the public service, or by the passions which aggressive warfare is apt to excite. A few years ago when the United States still held fast to the pacific principles of the illustrious fathers of the commonwealth, no one could have believed it possible that ere long the single question of war would predominated over all the acts and deliberations of the American people; yet at this moment such is the undisputed fact. For many months past, our own attention has been involuntarily drawn away from the ordinary occurrences in American affairs to discuss the miserable incidents of the invasion of Mexico, and to narrate the progress of what might be more aptly described as a hunt than as a campaign. What meanwhile has become of the United States? The political life of that great and enterprising people has not been suspended by the irruption of a few thousand sharpshooters across the Rio Grande, and the proportions which the Mexican war has assumed are not in reality very much beyond those of our own annoyances in Caffraria. If Popocatapet were to open and swallow General Scott and all his army, they would hardly be missed; JONATHAN would still go ahead; another wave would break along the coast; and, probably, Mexico would again be conquered. But the effect of this war on the nation, which engaged in it, on the men who prompted it, and on the parties, which must now defend it, is matter of far more serious consideration than the achievement of a triumph over an unresisting foe. Accordingly, we find, that the Mexican war is the one political question, which is the test of parties and the standard of Government at this time in the United States. Finances, tariffs, public improvements, and all the other topics which have figured at various times in the announcements of a candidate or the controversies of an election are all engulfed in the sole consideration of a state of war, which it is equally difficult to terminate and to protract. Under these circumstances, the annual session of Congress is about to commence. At the time we write the PRESIDENT'S message, containing probably no announcement of the much-desired peace, has already been delivered; and, moreover, the note of preparation has already sounded for the presidential election of next year, which is to place a successor to Mr. Polk in the chair of the state.

The experience of the last few years has certainly demonstrated to an extent which had not been anticipated the extraordinary and overwhelming importance of the choice of a PRESIDENT. Be he child of accident or of faction, known or unknown, distrusted or adored, the power of the President of the United States for the time being has proved to be well-nigh unlimited, at lest by any constitutional checks, as long as he takes care to command the support of the multitude. He is possessed of infinitely more than the power of a constitutional King, and he holds that power by tenure far more certain in its duration than that of any constitutional Minister. In deciding upon the men who are to fill the offices of President and Vice-president of the Union, the people of the United States do practically submit the destinies of their country for four years to the control of certain individuals; and experiences has shown that this control may be so judiciously exercised as to accomplish all the objects of absolute power, with a very distant risk of the penalty of impeachment. It becomes, therefore, of paramount importance, not only to the American Union, but to the world at large, to know whether the next President of the United States is to pursue the policy of Mr. Tyler and Mr. Polk, whether he is to flatter the passions of the people by aggressive war, and to extend his political connections by the patronage of the army and the commissariat—or whether the choice of the people will be on the next occasion sufficiently enlightened and deliberate to arrest a course of policy which is injurious to the true welfare of America and to peace of the world.

The cause which is identified with the true principles of Government in America and the sound and honourable portion of the institutions of the Union is represented in its old and eloquent defender, Mr. Clay. It is melancholy to think that a few hundred votes of an ignorant populace give for a different name should have saved Mexico from invasion, bloodshed, and spoliation, and the United States from the burden and disgrace of this war. For so little was this contest provoked or called for by any national cause, that it cannot be doubted that if Mr. Clay had been President of the United States in the room of Mr. Polk, no such occurrence would ever have taken place. Nothing can be more obvious and certain than that this war is as much the result of Mr. Polk's own choice and will as he himself in his office the result of the choice and will of the Democratic Party. Had its termination been as rapid as its territorial success, it is probable that all the moral and political considerations which are suggested by this war—the loss of life, the waste of treasure, and the abuse of authority—would have been lost in the acclamations of a people rejoicing to welcome a victorious army; and even now, if within the few months which elapse before the great election of 1848, a peace is concluded on terms which cannot but be advantageous to the United States, it is to be feared that military influence will prevail, and General C. Scott or General Taylor will pass from their Mexican camp to the head of Government. Very likely they will prove to be men of more sobriety of judgment and moderation of policy than the party which brings them forward or the men who have employed them on their present enterprises; but the fatal lesson will be taught and not
forgotten that military services are the shortest path to civil distinction, and that the Presidency of the nation belongs to the first soldier who is employed on active service.

We apprehend, on the other hand, that personal dignity of Mr. Clay, the truth and wisdom of his principles, and even the experience of the last few months, will not prevail with the majority of the American people, unless any unforeseen reverses or an indefinite prolongation of these hostilities should exasperate them against the party with which the war originated. So that in reality the election for the next President is quite as likely to be decided on some Mexican field of battle, or in some Mexican conference on the preliminaries of peace, as in Fanouil-hall or the Capitol at Washington. It would require something more than the virtue of modern republics to punish the men who have increased its power, because they have impaired its principles; and from the commencement of these transactions Mr. Polk has evidently speculated on the war as the best use he could make of power for his part and for himself. Mr. Clay offers no bribes to the vanity or ambition of the people; on the contrary, he repudiates and denounces the schemes which are entertained by others for the acquisition of territory and the extension of slaver; but we fear he is speaking a language known only to a generation of nobler and wiser men, an that he like others who shared his opinions, will spend their latest breath in denouncing evils which they cannot avert.

The conquest of Mexico will remain the conspicuous mark of Mr. Polk's administration; but it will prove a no less conspicuous mark in the internal history of his country; and we cannot venture to entertain hopes that the Whig party will have the strength to subdue tendencies at once so seductive to a democracy and so fatal to the purity of its Government.

[DCCK]

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LT 1847-12-18-5a

AMERICA: US and Mexico
December 18, 1847

[The following appeared in part only of our yesterday's impression:-]

LIVERPOOL, Thursday, Half-Past 8 P.M.

By the Royal mail steam-ship Acadia, Captain N. Shannon, we have advices from New York to the 30th ult., Boston to the 1st inst., and Halifax to the 5th inst., respectively.

The Acadia did not leave Halifax until the 5th inst., having been detained between that port and Boston by dense fogs.

The Acadia has brought a large number of passengers, and 90,000l. in specie on freight.

The Hottinguer, Captain Bursley, from New York, arrived today with 30,000l. in specie on freight.

The packet ship Roscius, which would leave New York on the 1st inst., was expected to take 22,000l. In specie on freight for England.

Our advices from Mexico are unimportant. The capital was quiet. The Mexican Congress was assembling at Queretaro. The election of a President would be the first proceeding, for which post Pena y Pena, Almonte, and Herrera were spoken of.

Santa Anna was at Tebuacan, whence he intended to defend himself for the charges brought against him. What these charges are is set forth in the following letter from Mexico:

MEXICO, Oct. 17
"A most strange state of things exists in regard to Santa Anna. He has been ordered for trial before a court martial upon charges of the most heinous character. It is not only alleged against him that he abandoned the city on the night of the 13th of September last, with his army, in a most cowardly manner, leaving the city without protection, but that previous to his leaving he robbed the Treasury department of all bonds and every other species of available means; and to cast off all suspicion from himself, he then ordered that the prison of the Accordada be opened, and it's convicts be let loose upon this community. This was done."
A new party is said to have been formed in Mexico with the designee of forming it into two great states, and annexing them to the United States.

It was rumoured there that the states of San Luis, Zacatecas, Durango, and one other, had declared in favour of Paredes's monarchial scheme, and proffered him 18,000 troops.

The United States troops were rapidly advancing towards the Mexican capital, and garrisoning the intermediate posts.

It is stated that Padre Jarauta, the chief leader of the guerrilla forces, had applied to General Patterson with peace negotiations.

A frightful steamboat collision had taken place on the Missouri. Forty passengers were drowned.

[DCK]
### London Times
January - December 1848

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The following orders had been published by General Scott:

"Head-quarters of the Army, Mexico, Dec. 15.
(General Orders, No. 376.)

"1. This army is about to spread itself over and to occupy the republic of Mexico, until the latter shall sue for peace on terms acceptable to the Government of the United States.

"2. On the occupation of the principal point or points in any state, the payment to the Federal Government of this republic of all taxes or dues, of whatever name or kind, heretofore--say in the year 1844--payable to or collected by that Government, is absolutely prohibited, as all such taxes or dues will be demanded or the proper civil authorities for the support of the army of occupation.

"3. The state and federal district of Mexico being already so occupied, as well as the states of Vera Cruz, Puebla and Tamulipas, the usual taxes or dues, heretofore contributed by the same to the Federal Government, will be considered as due and payable to this army from the beginning of the present month, and will early be demanded of the civil authorities of the said states and district under rules and penalties which shall be duly announced and enforced.

"4. Other states of the republic, as the Californias, New Mexico, Chihuahua, Coahulla, New Leon, &c., already occupied by the forces of the United States, though not under the immediate orders of the General-in-Chief, will conform to the prescriptions of this order, except in such state or states where a different system has been adopted with the sanction of the Government at Washington.

"5. The internal taxes or dues referred to are--1, direct taxes; 2, duties on the production of gold and silver; 3, melting and essaying dues; 4, the tobacco rent; 5, the rent of sampled paper; 6, the rent on the manufacture of playing cards; and 7, the rent of post-offices.

"6. The rent of national lotteries is abolished--lotteries being hereby prohibited.

"7. Import and export duties at the ports of the republic will remain as fixed by the Government of the United States, except that the exportation of gold and silver in bars or ingots (plata y ora en pasta) is prohibited until the further instructions of the Government on the subject.

"8. All imported articles, goods, or commodities, which have once paid, or given sufficient security for the payment of duties to the United States at any port of entry of the republic, shall not again be burdened with any tax or duty in any part of this republic occupied by the forces of the United States.

"9. The levying of duties on the transit of animals, goods, or commodities, whether of foreign or domestic growth, from one state of this republic to another, or on entering or leaving the gate of any city within the republic, will, from and after beginning of the ensuing year, be prohibited as far as the United States' forces may have the power to enforce the prohibition. Other and equitable means, to a moderate extent, must be resorted to by the several state and city authorities for the necessary support of their respective Governments.

"10. The tobacco, playing card, and stamped paper, rents will be placed for three, six or twelve months, under contract with the highest bidders respectively for the several states, the state and federal district of Mexico being considered as one. Accordingly, offers or bids for these rents, within each state or any one of them, are invited. They will be sent in as early as possible, sealed, to the head-quarters of commanders of departments, except for the federal district and state of
Mexico. For the two latter the offers or bids will be addressed to the General-in-Chief.

"11. Further details for the execution of the foregoing system of government and revenue will soon be given in general orders.

"By command of Major-General Scott

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**THE QUARRELS OF AMERICAN GENERALS**--The last accounts from Washington state that General Pillow and Colonel Duncan have to submit to be tried by a court-martial or a court of inquiry. The charges against General Worth have been dismissed, and instead of his being tried, it appears that General Scott himself is to be brought before a court of inquiry--all those trials to be held at Perote, or somewhere else. These things will produce a great sensation throughout the country, and create a great deal of bad blood in the army, and among the friends of the various distinguished leaders. We are very much afraid that the difficulties giving rise to all these court-martials have been contributed to in equal quantities by all the various distinguished individuals concerned. General Scott is great as a military man; he is an admirable fighter, a distinguished tactician; but with these exceptions he is in every other respect as meek as a child and understands little beyond mere fighting. General Worth is like him in this respect. It was well known that he comported himself with similar indiscretion in like circumstances. He picked a quarrel with General Twiggs at the commencement of the war, threw up his commission, abandoned his post and the army, and hurried on to Washington. Then, on second thoughts, he changed his mind and returned to the army again. As to General Pillow, he, too, seems to be a vain, giddy man, though a capital fighter. His military reports are written in bad taste, and are the worst of all these that have been published. Colonel Duncan, on the other hand, is a man of great good sense and how he came to be involved in these difficulties remains to be seen. But while we lament all these untoward movements, we have reason to be thankful that General Taylor never got himself into any difficulties with his officers; and when he was at the head of the army, all was quiet, orderly, and sober under his management. He must be a man of wonderful tact, great discretion, and remarkable prudence, to have passed through a long military career as he has done without creating jealousies or heart burnings among his brethren in arms. In fact, they all appear to respect, and seem to idolize, him more and more. In these difficulties and courts-martial we much fear that Mr. Polk and the Administration have committed some great mistakes, but we will wait and become acquainted with the facts before we condemn them.--*New York Herald.*

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"We have received authentic intelligence of a treaty of peace with Mexico having been negotiated and accepted by the Mexican Government, at Queretaro, by General Scott, on the basis of the instructions sent out by the Government last year.

"By art. 1, Senors Cuevas, Cuooto, and Atristain are appointed commissioners on the part of the Mexican Government to adjust the terms of a lasting treaty of peace between the United States of the north and the United Mexican States, with Mr. Trist, Commissioner of the United States, &c.

"Art. 2 stipulates that there shall be an immediate suspension of hostilities between the armies of the two republics.

"Art. 3 defines the future boundary of the United States. The line commences in the Gulf of Mexico, three leagues from land; thence runs up the middle of the Rio Grande to its intersection with the southern boundary of New Mexico; thence along that southern boundary to the western boundary of same; thence north to the first branch of the Gila, which it intersects; thence down the middle of that branch of the river to the Colorado; thence it runs across westwardly, and strikes the Pacific at a point one league south of San Diego.
"Art. 4 stipulates that it shall be optional with citizens of Mexico now residing in the territory to be ceded, either to leave, taking with them or otherwise disposing of their property; or else, upon taking the oaths of allegiance to this Government, to be protected in the enjoyment of all the rights and immunities of citizens of the United States.

"Grants of land in the territory to be ceded made by the Mexican Government before the war, are by the next article to be respected by the United States.

"The next article provides that grants of land in Texas made by the Mexican Government prior to the year 1836, are also to be respected by the United States.

"The next article provides that the United States' Government shall take prompt and effectual measures for the defence of the border from Indian incursions. To this end both nations are to use their best endeavours.

"In consideration of the extension of the boundary of the United States made by this treaty, the United States' Government stipulates to pay to Mexico the sum of $15,000,000. In this sum are included the three millions appropriated last session for the furtherance of peace, and now subjected to Mr. Trist's order. This sum is to be paid to the Mexican Government immediately on the ratification of the treaty. The remaining 12,000,000 are to be paid either by instalments or in 6 per cent. stock, redeemable by the United States. This Government has the option of either mode of payment.

"By the next article the United States' Government undertakes all claims of American citizens against Mexico, both those already decided, amounting to $2,000,000—and those still undecided, amounting to about $3,000,000.

"The treaty of commerce of 1831 between the two republics is to be revived for the period of eight years, and may afterwards be renewed at the option of both Governments.

"The Custom-houses are to be restored to the Mexican authorities as soon as the treaty shall have been ratified. Means are to be adopted for settling the accounts.

"The troops of the United States are to leave Mexico in three months after the ratification of the treaty, unless the sickly season should come on, in which event they are to retire to some healthy situation, and are to be furnished with supplies by the Mexican Government on amicable terms.

"The treaty is to be ratified by the President and Senate, and to be exchanged within four months after its ratification.

"The boundary of New Mexico is to be defined as laid down in Disturnell's Map of Mexico, published at New York in 1847.

"Since the character of the treaty has become known to the Senate the hostility to its ratification has signally increased, and although there is every reason to believe that it will be ratified, yet it will meet on several of its provisions a determined opposition.

"There is information here, of the most reliable character, that Santa Anna has expressed a cordial approval of the treaty, and a willingness to support it if ratified." [JNA]
It is but a short time since that our Government had not a single ship-of-war to protect our extensive commerce in the Mediterranean, and it is only within a year that a frigate, sloop-of-war, and one or two third-class war steamers, have been ordered there. This might prove sufficient on common occasions, but is we should have there at this moment, when there is much cause to fear a general war among the maritime nations, and, more than all, civil wars or revolutions in many of the countries with which we have great commercial connexions? Are we, while waging successful war, to leave our merchants and their interests in the ports of the Mediterranean to the tender mercies of foreign Governments for protection? How different is it with other nations! Old England is ever on the spot to protect her merchants and their interests at any risk. By the last accounts from Europe we learn that all Sicily was in a state of revolution, and that the insurgents had driven the Royal troops from the city of Messina to the fortress across the harbour from which they were about to bombard the city, but at the moment the British frigate Thetis, of 36 guns, Captain H.J. Codrington, entered the harbour and took a position between the fort and the town, so that every shot fired from the fort must hit her or go over her. This prevented the Royal troops from firing, and there the frigate was to remain until all English persons with their property were saved, or they chose to fire into the frigate from the fort.

We are apt in this country from ignorance to underrate the naval forces of some of the nations bordering on the Mediterranean, but Commodore Read, with the small force at present under his command, might find himself awkwardly placed if he came in collision with the naval forces of some of these Powers. Naples has 18 fine steamers of war, some of them of the first class, and well appointed in every respect, besides other men-of-war. Austria and Sardinia have also numbers of fine steamers of war besides other vessels, and might handle very roughly any small force sent against them. At all events, it seems very important at this moment that our naval force in that quarter should be at once increased, both in sailing vessels and steamers, if we have any of the latter worthy the name of sea-steamers, or particularly of war-steamers, the Mississippi excepted.

Our crack ship, the Pennsylvania, has lain up so long and so long been considered by us the largest ship in the world, it would be well to have her shown, and let us see how she compares with ships-of-war of other nations built and in service since she has been rotting at the dock. Perhaps some of our members of Congress would be surprised to learn that there are ships of 110 or even 90 guns of as great, if not greater tonnage, and probably more efficiently armed than our 100-gun ship. The British ship Queen, of 110 guns, is 3,083; the Albion, of 90 guns, is 3,083, and the armament of this latter ship is most perfect in every respect. The frigate Thetis, of 36 guns, above-named, is over 1,700 tons, with a most complete armament of very heavy guns. Should the Pennsylvania be sent to the Mediterranean, she might meet some of these fine specimens of naval architecture, and the officers could compare notes. The English force in this sea is already very large, and to be increased immediately. The heaviest steamers and sailing vessels are now ordered there. The steamer Avenger, of the first class, was on her way to join the fleet of Admiral Parker, when lost off Cape Bon--and our commerce in that quarter, as well as the lives of our countrymen, is, or may be, much exposed; and we at home should call upon the Government to look to this, and place a larger force there; and if our force is increased, an Admiral should be sent to command it. There has not been such a state of things in that sea since 1814. The naval forces of all nations will be collected there, and those of the smallest Powers will be commanded by Admirals of some grade; and are we, one of the most powerful nations, only to be represented there by a Post-Captain, with the temporary courtesy title of Commodore? This should not be. Let us have Admirals, and give our brave and meritorious officers a fair chance among those of other nations. It has been suggested that our Government should create none but full Admirals; but it seems better that there should be other grades than the mere distinction of date of commission.

[JNA]
By the Ivanhoe, Captain Edwards, we have New York advices to the 4th inst. The doubts as to the confirmation of the treaty with Mexico continued to increase at Washington.

A Whig caucus had been held, at which it was determined to oppose the treaty on the ground of its informality. It was proposed at the same time to provide for a legitimate, immediate, and satisfactory treaty, by sending with the document refused a commissioner with full discretion to compromise relations with Mexico upon the line suggested as the basis of negotiations.

The prospect of an early adjustment of difficulties with Mexico had had a favourable influence in enabling the Government to negotiate the Treasury-note loan upon advantageous terms. The Treasury department had received proposals, nearly sufficient to cover the amount solicited, at one quarter above par, and the rate was advancing.

The business in Congress was not of a very important character. In the Senate, Mr. Houston presented resolutions from the Legislature of Texas, protesting against the relinquishment of any territory which may have been captured from Mexico during the war, and against the principle of the Wilmot proviso.

Rosa, the Mexican Minister of Relations, had issued a circular to the governors of states, informing them that a treaty of peace had been signed at Guadaloupe. He also states that the treaty would be submitted to the deliberation of the National Congress.

[JNA]

LT Mexican debt, note on, March 30, 1848, Page 3, Column e

THE MEXICAN DEBT

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,--As it appears highly probable that the negotiations for peace between America and Mexico are progressing rapidly, I would suggest to the Committee of Mexican bond-holders the propriety of bringing their claims under the notice of all parties concerned, by the assistance of our own Government.

Mr. Polk has already declared his intention of taking a large slice of Mexican territory without even waiting for the final settlement. The Californias are no longer the subject of negotiation.

Now, as the whole of the Mexican States are pledged for the payment of their debt, I apprehend that in equity, at least, the portion taken away by another Power ought to remain subject to all existing claims upon it, and ought therefore to be liable to some share of the debt.

It would be an advantage to the Americans to make themselves responsible for the interest of 5,000,000 dollars rather than pay the money over to the Mexican; and such an arrangement would be better for the English bondholders.

In some of the southern States, where debts had been incurred previous to separation into distinct Governments, these debts have been arranged according to the extent of each country, as in Granada and Venezuela; and surely the same principle ought to apply more strongly when a severance is made by force.

I am surprised, too, that no attempt has been made to obtain that portion of the duties at Vera Cruz and Tampico which are especially appropriated for the payment of the interest on the Mexican Bonds. If the Americans have seized these duties, it ought to be without prejudice to existing claims.

I shall be obliged if you will insert this in your valuable paper.

March 27.

A MEXICAN BONDHOLDER
THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.

Liverpool, Thursday Morning.

We have news from New York to the 11th inst. The Mexican Treaty, the conclusion of which we announced several weeks since, is confirmed in Senate by a vote of 58 to 16.

The injunction of secrecy has not been removed.

AMERICA

LIVERPOOL, Monday.

The John R. Skiddy, Captain Luce, arrived to-day with advices from New York to the 15th ult.

The New York papers contain the details of the treaty. It consists of 22 articles.

The preamble states that N.P. Trist, on behalf of the United States of America, and Don Miguel Atristan, on behalf of the United Mexican States, are the plenipotentiaries who have agreed upon and signed the treaty. Article 1 provides for a "firm and universal peace" between the United States and the Mexican Republic. Article 2 provides for a provisional suspension of hostilities, and the re-establishment of constitutional order in the places occupie3d by the forces of the United States. Article 3 provides for the evacuation of the interior of Mexico and the capital by the forces of the United States, and for a strict account being given to the Mexican authorities of all Custom's duties collected or about to fall due in ports occupied by the said forces. Article 4 requires that on the ratification of the treaty, all "castles, forts, territories, &c.," occupied by the United States forces shall be restored to the Mexicans in the same state as when captured, that the evacuation of the Mexican territory be completed within three months, and if not completed before the sickly season, that a friendly arrangement be entered into to meet that emergency. The article also provides for the release of prisoners of war on either side. Article 5 defines the boundaries of the two Republics, commencing in the Gulf of Mexico, three leagues from land, opposite the mouth of the Rio Grande, following the course of that river to where it strikes the southern boundary of New Mexico, thence westwardly along the southern boundary of New Mexico, northward along the western line of New Mexico until I intersects the first branch of the Gila and along that branch into the Rio Colorado, thence across the Rio Colorado, following the division line between Upper and Lower California to the Pacific Ocean. Article 6 secures to the vessels of the United States the free navigation of the Gulf of California and the River Colorado; also the permission to construct a canal or railway upon either side of the River Gila, for the advantage of both countries. By article 7 the navigation of the Gila and the Del Norte below the southern boundary of New Mexico is declared free to both counties. Article 8 secures the rights of Mexican citizens in territories added by the treaty to the United States. Articles 9 and 10 are expunged. By article 11 the United States undertake to repress the incursions of the savage tribes who inhabit a great portion of the territories ceded to them by the treaty. Article 12 provides that the United States, in consideration for the extension of its boundaries, shall pay to the Mexican Republic the sum of $15,000,000--$3,000,000 to be paid at Mexico in gold or silver coin, and the rest in annual instalments of the same amount, with interest at the rate of six per cent. By article 13, the United States agreed to pay the liquidated claims against Mexico under the conventions between the two republics, dated the 11th of April, 1839, and the 30th of January, 1843. Articles 14 and 15 provide that the United States shall meet all claims and yet undecided made by its citizens on Mexico not exceeding 750,000 dollars. These articles also define the means for determining the amount and validity...
of such claims. By article 16, each country reserves the right of fortifying any point within its own territory. The treaty of the 5th of April, 1831, between the republics is, by article 17, revived for eight years, terminable, however, on one year's notice. Articles 18, 19, and 20, relate to the mode in which the troops of the United States shall evacuate the territories of Mexico, and the manner in which the import duties shall be levied, under contingencies specified therein. By article 21, in the event of questions arising between the two countries, pacific negotiations, "in the spirit of peace and good neighbourhood," are to be resorted to, or the arbitration of commissioners, or that of some friendly nation. By article 22, in case of war between the republics, merchants are to be protected and prisoners of war to be humanely treated. The 23d and last article in the treaty provides for its due ratification by both republics. The signatures attached to the document are those of N.P. Trist, Luis G. Cuevas, Bernardo Couto, and Miguel Atristan.

Expresses had been dispatched to Mexico with the ratification of the treaty. It was expected that they would reach the capital on the 25th ult.

We learn from the city of Mexico that an armistice of two months had been agreed upon between General Butler and the Mexican Commissioners.

A rumour prevailed at Washington, to the effect that the Cabinet had decided against favouring the passage of the Ten Regiments Bill.

Some severe fighting had taken place between the United States troops and the Mexican guerillas.

Property to the amount of $100,00 had been destroyed at Boston by fire. [JNA]

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**THE UNITED STATES AND MEXICO**

**SOUTHAMPTON, May 10**

The Ocean Steam Navigation Company's ship Washington, Captain Johnston, arrived off Cowes this morning at 11a.m., bringing the United States' mails for Great Britain, France, and Germany, in charge of Mr. W.W. Hincken.

We have a few days later news from Mexico, and our dates from Vera Cruz are to the 9th of April. General Santa Anna had been escorted by Colonel Hughes to the Hacienda of El Encero, where he remained till the 2d of April, when he left for Antigua, just north of Vera Cruz, where he embarked on the 4th in a Spanish brig for Jamaica or Havanna. His exact destination was unknown. Just previous to his departure Santa Anna published a long farewell address to his countrymen, reviewing his public life, complaining of the injustice that has been done him, excerciting the peace which the Mexicans have consented to make, and declaring his intention to exile himself from his country. Some desertions from the American forces had taken place. Mr. Clifford, one of the Commissioners to Mexico, arrived at Vera Cruz on the 2d of April, and was attacked en route by the guerillas, who succeeded in capturing seven of the mules and their burdens. It was reported that Mr. Trist would be sent out of the country under arrest, by orders of the Cabinet at Washington. Mr. Freairer arrived at Mexico on the 16th of March with instructions for General Butler to send Mr. Trist home as a prisoner as soon as he had given his evidence before the Court of Inquiry. General Butler immediately communicated to Mr. Trist the orders of the Government, and his intention to execute them. Mr. Trist then addressed a long letter to the General, denying his right to arrest or remove from the country an American citizen; but General Butler briefly replied that he should enforce his orders to the letter. Mr. Trist will therefore make a very inglorious exit from the scene of his diplomacy and negotiations.

We subjoin the latest particulars of the New York money, stock, and produce markets. [JNA]
"AUGUSTA, GEORGIA, June 8.

"The special express has come to hand, bringing intelligence that the steamer Hetzel has arrived at New Orleans, with advices from the city of Mexico, to 4 o'clock p.m., 26th ult.

"The Senate ratified the treaty on the fifth vote-- 23 yeas, 5 nays.

"General Kearney succeeded General Smith in the command of the city of Mexico, while the latter superintends the embarkation of the troops at Vera Cruz.

"Commissioners Sevier and Clifford arrived at Queretaro on the 23d. An exchange of ratifications took place, and the outposts of the army were all ordered to be on march in 10 days. All under sentence of death were banished.

"The Mexicans are under great fear of Indians after the army leaves."

[JNA]

LIVERPOOL, Wednesday.

The America, Captain Judkins, arrived to-day with advices from New York to the 16th and Halifax to the 10th inst.

We have also late dates from the River Plate, the Brazils, and Venezuela.

The America experienced strong head winds during the first four or five days after leaving Halifax.

The Cambria, Captian Harrison, arrived at Halifax on the 17th, and proceeded for New York.

Congress adjourned on the 15th inst.

Among the last acts of legislation, and one which has received the President's signature, was a bill providing for the government of Oregon. The peculiar circumstance which gives interest to this bill is, that it embodies, in respect to that territory, the provision of the famous ordinance of 1787--which forbids slavery for ever in the territories north-west of the Ohio--and the wise foresight of which prohibition has been proved by the growing up already in that territory of six great and prosperous states, within which slavery can find no foothold. There was a strenuous contest in the Senate especially to exclude this provision, but it was found, after two or three successive trials, that on each occasion the House of Representatives became more and more determined to let Oregon remain without a Government, rather than consent to any compromise adverse to freedom; and finally the Senate yielded, and the bill was passed and is now a law, with the clause prohibiting slavery within the borders of Oregon. The other new territories acquired by the treaty of peace with Mexico remain unprovided with any Government, and are in a sufficiently anomalous position, for they are American by treaty and of course no longer subject to laws which attached to them when belonging to another country--and yet not provided with any new form of government by their new country. Slavery is here again the stumbling-block--for portions of both these territories lying within parallels of latitude where slave labour may be with most advantage employed, the senators and representatives from the slave-holding States would not consent to any bill that looked to the exclusion of slavery from these countries. On the other hand the representatives from the non-slave-holding States would not sanction any bill that might lead to the introduction of slaves and slavery into regions now free. The difference is irreconcilable, and the territories are left without any settled form of government.

The President, in returning this bill to Congress with his signature, accompanied it
with a message, in which he declares that he signed the bill because Oregon lies
north of the line of the Missouri Compromise, but would not do the same for any bill,
excluding slavery, having relation to the government of the territory of California, or
the newly acquired provinces in Mexico, because he evidently thinks the slave limits
little enough, and that the Missouri Compromise having been adopted and made a
rule of action, it is unwise and unjust to the south to seek to impose conditions
excluding slavery upon territory south of that line. In conclusion, he quotes from the
farewell address of Washington a portion which deprecates sectional influences and
the admission of any feeling tending to weaken the union..

"By the Oregon treaty certain possessory rights are reserved to the company south
of the parallel of 49 degrees; the free navigation of the Columbia river is also
reserved; the British Government, in the name of the company, has, through Mr.
Crampton, the British Charge, proposed to sell this Government their possessory
rights south of 49 degrees, and also to dispose of the free navigation of the
Columbia, for the sum of $1,000,000.

"Some of the Senators hearing of the proposition, the Senate passed a resolution
calling for information. The Secretary of State, in a communication, laid before them
the whole matter, but did not, as has been said, advise the acceptance of the
proposition. He declared that, as adviser of the President, he could not counsel its
acceptance without first ascertaining the value of the property of the property the
British Government proposes to transfer; declaring, however, that if he were in the
Senate he should vote for the purchase, as it would prevent the trouble and
annoyance likely to arise from the joint navigation of the Columbia. The agents of
the Hudson's Bay Company represent the property south of 49 as very valuable. The
truth appears to be, however, that it is of little account compared with the other
right proposed to be transferred."

Congress passed this proposition over for want of time. The President, however, has
still the power in the recess of negotiating a treaty upon this subject, through the
British Government, subject to the ratification of Congress. The Courier and
Enquirer writing upon this subject, says--

"It is certainly desirable, as likely to do away with too pregnant causes of dispute
between English and American settlers in Oregon, that all the property and rights of
the English company should be conveyed to the American Government, even
although the price to be paid should be larger than the actual money value of the
property acquired. Harmony and good understanding among the settlers of this new
territory can hardly be bought too dear." [JNA]

The policy pursued by the Government of the United States with regard to territorial
aggrandizement is particularly deserving of attention. Prussia, in her vital struggles
through the middle of the last century, was not more desperately bent upon
consolidation and enlargement than is America at present, and a state which still
retains in its original possessions sufficient unoccupied land to maintain double the
amount of its population is impressing into its service all the expedients of
annexation, conquest, and purchase, with as much determination and energy as if it
were actually gasping in those extremities of political existence which necessitated
the seizure of Silesia and almost palliated the first partition of Poland. This policy
may be, perhaps, to some extent, the manifestation of that high national purpose
occasionally proclaimed by American statesmen, of reducing the uttermost parts of
the continent under their rule upon the faith and sanction of scriptural donations; or
it may be simply the natural development of ambition and activity in a thriving,
uncontrolled, and unquiet people. But with either or both of these motives we have
no doubt there is compounded, on the part of forecasting statesmen, a strong desire
to multiply and extend as far as possible those outlets for discontent and
restlessness which are the very lungs of the American body politic, and to postpone
to the remotest practicable period that moment when the rushing stream of
expansive population must at length be checked, and with a sudden and terrible
recoil. What emigration is, or ought to be, to Great Britain, migration is to the United
States. Their colonies are in their western provinces. All opinions concur in stating
that the facilities afforded by the wilderness of the far-west to the spirit of adventure
or change have proved the salvation of the Government, and have been the chief
means of preserving intact for seventy years a constitution which, by the side of
more recent incarnations of democracy, seems to wear not a few of the features of a
steady and consolidated monarchy.
The efforts of the American Government to perpetuate the existence and secure the free action of this political safety-valve have been commensurate, in success not less than in spirit, with the necessities of the case. Taken with the previously vacant territories of the United States proper, we may say that the annexation of Texas, the acquisitions from the disposal of the authorities at Washington a tract of land at least twice as spacious as the whole presently inhabited portion of their possessions. In fact, taking the whole breadth of the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific, between the 50th and 30th parallels, as representing the present dominions of the United States of America, it would be substantially correct to say that the whole space west of the Missouri, or, in other words, two-thirds of the entire territory, is yet untenanted, and lies in reserve for the caprices of necessities of generations to come. It is particularly instructive to observe with what summary and business-like promptitude every acre of this accumulated property is secured in the Government stores, and stamped, as it were with the national mark, for the undetermined purposes of the nation. Already that coast, to the capabilities of which we seem to pay such little heed, has been brought within call of Washington, and the ports of the Pacific will be kept well in hand by a Cabinet sitting on the shores of the opposite ocean. A line of mail steamers is forthwith to run between New York and New Orleans; at New Orleans it will join a second line from that port to Chagres, on the Isthmus of Panama; from the Isthmus a third line of steamers will traverse the Pacific to and from the Columbia River. The ink of the treaties is scarcely dry, and yet in January next thye direct and regular communication between New York and Oregon will be such as at this time last year, had not been established between London and Ascension. The Americans want no sharesmen in their operations. The terms of the convention left certain possessory rights to the Hudson's Bay Company within the frontier assigned to the United States. These rights the States are anxious to purchase immediately, and it is probable that the President, without waiting for the re-assembling of congress, will negotiate during the recess, at no illiberal valuation, his bargain for the whole of these possessions. How much of the price paid for Louisiana of California would the Government of Washington give for an island which seems to have gone begging for twelve months in London?

There is this peculiar interest attached to these transactions on the American continent,—that we there see in actual operation the course of those events of which in our own world we can only read. We may look at the North America of 1848 as at the Northern Europe of a thousand years before, and may watch with our own eyes the territorial settlement of a continent. There are the Spaniards of the Isthmus, the rival Saxons in the center, the Slavonians in the north-western angle, and a powerful element of Celts interspersed. We may imagine a new race of Franks establishing itself in a Transatlantic Gaul, a new colony of Slaves struggling up to a new Pomerania, or a new swarm of Huns settling upon a new Danube. We have civilized instead of barbarous races to deal with, and therein consists the whole difference. With this variation we may fix our speculative eyes upon a continent of which the distribution and occupation is as uncertain and fortuitous as that of Europe in the days of Charlemagne. There may be one empire or two, of one or two races, or there may be kingdoms or republics innumerable. Nobody can yet calculate the members of the American family when the partition and tenancy of the continent shall be at length complete.

The interest felt in such a prospect as this is not diminished by the consideration of the extent to which our own national credit is involved. Over half of this vast territory we have at least manorial rights, and it is indeed fitting that the institutions of the company to which we delegate so important a tenancy should be introduced to general notice. It should not be overlooked that our remaining portion in these possessions is mainly deficient in those very advantages which we have recently proposed to bargain away. The immense tract of British North America has on the Pacific but a very inadequate proportion of seaboard. The Russian territories straggle half-way down our western coast from the north, and south to the Columbia River all will soon be subject to American rule. Vancouver’s Island is not only the most promising harbour and position in these parts, but it is literally nearly one half of the western seaboard of our whole dominion. And yet this is the settlement on which we set so little store!
Sir,—I beg to accompany herewith a translation of a document received from his Excellency J.M.L. Mora, which I shall feel obliged by your publishing in your valuable journal.

I remain, Sir, yours most obediently,

Jose M. Mendoza.
Mexican Consulate, 3, Winchester-buildings, Sept. 11.

MEXICAN LEGATION AT THE COURT OF HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY.


Under date of the 12th of July his Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs writes me as follows:—

"Excellent Sir.—The Supreme Government, considering how important to every nation is its good public credit, occupies itself before all things in the re-establishment of that of the Republic by arranging the payment of its creditors; the more so as this requires time and consideration, and there are, besides, creditors that have such preference that they cannot be put off until that time without prejudice to the national credit. His Excellency the President has therefore resolved, that from the duties which belong to the maritime Custom-houses, from the cargoes of the vessels which may arrive at the ports from this time, and from those which have arrived in those ports of which the Americans had possession, after the return of these Custom-houses to the Mexican functionaries, the respective administrators proceed to separate the portions that have been designed for the fund of the 26 per cent of the internal legal debt, for the exterior (foreign) debt, and for that of creditors acknowledged by diplomatic conventions in favour of subjects of other nations, and which were in course of payment at the time of the cessation of the Custom-houses, remitting the proceeds of these funds to the respective representatives in the same terms as formerly established.

"Notwithstanding that the funding of the 26 per cent was considered in the consolidation which was arranged by the decree of the 10th of July, 1846, as this on account of the war has not been carried into effect, nor can be now, principally on account of the decree of the 14th of last month, the Supreme Government has desired to continued the separation of the said stock, because it considers it more advantageous to those interested, who will avoid the losses they would have to sustain until such time as some definite arrangement could be made on this subject; in this they have the greatest advantages, considering the present state of the National Treasury.

"As the principal aim of the Government in taking this resolution is that of re-establishing the public credit, which it desires to consolidate, his Excellency the President desires that your Excellency will give the substance of this determination the greatest publicity, to which end I communicate it, assuring you at the same time of my consideration.

"OTERO."

And I communicate the same to you for the like purpose, renewing the assurances, &c.,

J.M.L. Mora.

To the Mexican Consul in London.

[JNA]

LT California, September 16, 1848, Page 4, Column c

There is really a great deal of interest to be acquired in the seizing of California, just taken by the United States. We mean that there is something very amusing in the spectacle of the most inquisitive and tenacious people in the world turned loose into a huge, mysterious, unexplored region. It is something beyond DENON and his brother savants in Egypt, and is almost equivalent to a meeting of the British Association in Japan, with the free run of the islands. It is certain that at this moment no human being of Caucasian extraction has any conception of what may be
Anahuac did in reality extend so far beyond its termination as to be met with in
continent, whether the mineral wealth so characteristic of the great spinal plateau of
We should rather conceive doubts, from the configuration of this part of the
country, Sir."
attracted Mr. Martin Chuzzlewit, as "one of the most remarkable provinces of our
California is even now spoken of by Transatlantic journalists in that phrase which so
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after he had concluded the survey." It is anticipated that quicksilver will thus be an
was so much affected by salivation, that his mouth was sore for a period of ten days
"so rich that the gentleman who surveyed it under the directions of the Government
official and perfectly serious report, of one mine, about 13 miles from San Francisco,
Hartz Mountains. Quicksilver in the main object of search, and we are told, in a semi-
seems rather in the bowels of the earth than on its surface, and hundreds of
shall not be long before we see it. We described lately the precautions which have
materially varied under the rule of the emancipated Republic. When Captain Wilkes
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presidios
same model, and all running the same course. The aspect of the
was not
New California, was one of the three provinces composing the Viceroyalty of New
Spain. Its settlement, however, was limited to the establishment of some eighteen
or twenty "missions" along the coast, which were dedicated to the various saints
whose titles till survive between Francisco and Diego, and which were calculated,
with a precision and certainty attainable by none but Spaniards, to render the
colonization of the country altogether an impossibility. San Diego, the southernmost
of these, and the point where the new American frontier will debouch upon the
Pacific, was founded in 1769, before which year there was no European settlement
upon the coast. Between this period and 1800 were founded the others, all on the
same model, and all running the same course. The aspect of the presidios was not
materially varied under the rule of the emancipated Republic. When Captain Wilkes
landed at San Francisco, he founded, at the chief anchorage of this noble port, a
"town," of which the constituent elements are thus enumerated:---"A large frame
house occupied by and agent of the Hudson's Bay Company; a store kept by an
Anglo-American captain; a blacksmith's shop, and some outbuildings." As this is
decidedly the most famous colony on the coast it would be rather perverting the
proverb to say "Ex pede Herculem," but we may probably save ourselves the trouble
of describing San Carlos, or Santa Barbara, or La Purissima Concepcion. In these
delightful settlements resides the present white population of the province,
numbering perhaps about 3,000 souls, and some 9,000 or 10,000 Indians, as it is
calculated, roam abroad in the mysterious wilds of the interior. The whites are true
sons of Old Spain, with everything of a Castilian but his bravery. But for the
presence of certain English and Americans the Indians would infallibly drive them
into the sea. After calm observation and mature reflection, Captain Wilkes is
compelled to pronounce that "they may be termed cruel to their wives, in a greater
degree still to their slaves and cattle, and exceedingly ignorant of everything but
extortion, riding horses, and catching bullocks."

Perhaps our readers would like to learn something of the known state of California,
as a print de depart from which to venture into those interesting details which will no
doubt reach us by every American mail. Under the old Spanish monarchy, Upper, of
New California, was one of the three provinces composing the Viceroyalty of New
Spain. Its settlement, however, was limited to the establishment of some eighteen
to twenty "missions" along the coast, which were dedicated to the various saints
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compelled to pronounce that "they may be termed cruel to their wives, in a greater
degree still to their slaves and cattle, and exceedingly ignorant of everything but
extortion, riding horses, and catching bullocks."

A true Yankee graft upon this valuable stock must yield a wonderful result, and we
shall not be long before we see it. We described lately the precautions which have
been so promptly taken to bring the new territory safely under hand, and it appears
that the work of discovery has already commenced. At present the great attraction
seems rather in the bowels of the earth than on its surface, and hundreds of
independent citizens are at work with their pickaxes, like treasure-seekers in the
Hartz Mountains. Quicksilver in the main object of search, and we are told, in a semi-
official and perfectly serious report, of one mine, about 13 miles from San Francisco,
"so rich that the gentleman who surveyed it under the directions of the Government
was so much affected by salivation, that his mouth was sore for a period of ten days
after he had concluded the survey." It is anticipated that quicksilver will thus be an
article of as regular exportation from the western, as breadstuffs from the eastern
coasts of the States; several mining companies are already established, and
California is even now spoken of by Transatlantic journalists in that phrase which so
attracted Mr. Martin Chuzzlewit, as "one of the most remarkable provinces of our
country, Sir."

We should rather conceive doubts, from the configuration of this part of the
continent, whether the mineral wealth so characteristic of the great spinal plateau of
Anahuac did in reality extend so far beyond its termination as to be met with in
North California. But, like the young farmers in the fable, who dug for a treasure and discovered it in the enrichment of their farm, which had followed upon the labour bestowed, the Americans will no doubt find their account in the improvement and civilization of this hitherto unproductive country. With a territory, at least in places, highly fruitful, a climate free from the noxiousness of the opposite coasts, and a temperature not otherwise than equable, they can hardly fail of a return for their labour, and, if they do not discover any New Peru, or any fresh variety of the human race, they will at least make a vast tract of the earth’s surface subservient to the increasing wants of man.

MONEY-MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

The firmness of the English funds continues, and there has to-day been a further advance of a quarter per cent. Consols opened at 85⅛ to ¼, and after some slight fluctuations closed at 85⅝ to 85⅞; to ½ for money and account; Bank Stock left off 185 to 187; Reduced Three per Cents., 84¼ to 85; Long Annuities, 8⅜ to 8⅞; to 7-16; India Stock, 23 to 23¾; India Bonds, 39s. to 42s. premium; and Exchequer Bills, March, 39s. to 42s., June, 37s. to 40s. premium.

The Mexican accounts by the West India mail had some effect upon that stock, and the bargains, the whole of which were for money, were done at 19¾, 20⅛, 20, and 20¼. The other business in the foreign market was confined to Danish, at 65½; Grenada, at 12½; Peruvian, at 30½; Portuguese Four per Cents., at 23; Russian Five per Cents., at 98 and 98½; Spanish Three per Cents., at 44⅝, and the Four per Cent. Certificates, at 68¼.

Subjoined are the communications brought by the present mail to the Committee of Spanish American Bondholders regarding the Mexican Debt. On the whole they will be found more satisfactory than has been expected, although extremely meager as to details. It would appear that the sum of about $90,000 is now in hand on account of the bondholders, of which $29,138 has been remitted, the latter sum consisting of the one-fifth of the Customs' dues collected at Vera Cruz from the 11th of July, the date of the American evacuation, to the 11th of September. This, however, being merely the proportion of the dues actually collected, that is to say, one-fifth of $145,690, while the total, according to Messrs. Manning and Co.'s estimate, to be paid by the importers, is $308,000, it seems that a further sum of $32,462 will be realizable for the bond-holders for the period in question when the collections shall have been all completed. The progressive increase of revenue at Vera Cruz from $108,000 in July, to $200,000 in August, is also a favourable feature. With regard to the $60,000 still held for remittance by Messrs. Manning and Mackintosh at Mexico, and Mr. Glass at Tampico, it will be understood that this is entirely composed of the proportion of one-fifth set apart for the bondholders by the Mexican Government, from the total handed them by the Americans for collections made at the ports of Vera Cruz and Tampico during the interval between the peace and its consummation, so that the good faith thus shown is also, as far as it goes, satisfactory. The system under which these remittances are made, however, and the general want of definite information concerning the contemplated arrangements of the Government, show the urgent necessity of the decision lately come to for the dispatch of an agent to put matters, in behalf of the bondholders, on a clear and final footing.

(From Messrs. Manning and Mackintosh.)

"Mexico, Sept. 12, 1848.

"Sir,—We beg to hand you herewith duplicates of our last respects, since when we are deprived of your favours, the steamer with the mails of the 1st of August not having yet arrived.

We now beg to inform you that on the 2d instant we received from the Mexican Government, and forwarded to Mr. Glass of Tampico for shipment by the present steamer, a bill of $22,400, being the 20 per cent. belonging to the bondholders, proceeding from the duties returned by the Americans in Tampico under the treaty of peace.
In addition to this amount you will receive from our Vera Cruz house, we believe by this packet, a remittance for the 20 per cent of the duties, carried by the conducta of specie which lately left this for that port; and the united amount of these remittances we should think will exceed $50,000.

We shall have to remit also a further sum of $40,208. 0. 4., received from the Mexican Government, on account of the dividends, respecting which you will be duly advised.

As yet the Congress has not come to any decision as to what proportion of the 12 millions of American indemnity is to be appropriated to the dividends."

"We remain, &c,

MANNING AND MACKINTOSH.
(Signed)
G.R. Robinson, Esq."

(From Messrs. Manning, Mackintosh, and Co.)

LT Mexican Bonds, October 28, 1848, Page 3, Column a

MONEY-MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Friday Evening.

There have been some fluctuations in the English funds today, but the recent advance has been maintained. Consols opened at an improvement of an eighth, the first price being 85½ to &n#8541; A further rise, however, to 85&n#8542; caused some sellers to enter the market, and a reaction took place to 85&n#8540; to ½, both for money and account, at which they closed. Bank Stock left off 186 to 188; Reduced Three per Cents., 84¾ to &n#8542;; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., 84¾ to &n#8542;; Long Annuities, 8&n#8542; to 7-16; India Stock, 234 to 237; India Bonds, 42s. to 45s.; June, 40s. to 43s. premium.

The market for foreign securities was comparatively quiet, and not much business was done in any description. Mexican, however, continues to support the late advanced quotation. The bargains in this stock were at 20¼, &n#8542;; and ½ for money, and at 20½ for the account.

We have received the following, signed "A Bondholder," in relation to the Mexican remittances, mentioned yesterday:--

"Sir,--The Mexican bondholders cannot fail duly to appreciate the clear analysis which you have given this morning of Messrs. Manning and Mackintosh's letter relative to the forthcoming remittances for dividend account. Your general view of the subject also is shared by the parties most deeply interested in this important business.

Permit me to explain one point which, not being touched on by Messrs. Manning and Mackintosh, could not come within your summary. The Vera Cruz Custom-house gives credits on duties levied for the State, so that the greater part, if not the entire amount, of the $29,000 now received must arise from the Custom-house revenue for May and June, leaving the whole, or nearly the whole, of the quota for July and August (about $60,000) still to be remitted to the bondholders. What portion of it may actually be recovered and transmitted by the September packet, we cannot at present ascertain.

You have made no allusion to Messrs. Manning and Mackintosh's remark that the Congress had not come to any decision as to what proportion of the 12 millions of indemnity money was to be appropriated to dividends. But it is most important to gather from this observation that the appropriation is no longer a question of principle, but one of degree; and it is to be hoped that this point will be duly enforced in the future communications between the bondholders and the Government."

[JNA]
Liverpool, Dec.12.

The Royal mail steam ship Acadia, Captain Stone, which left Boston on the 29th ult., and Halifax on the 1st inst., arrived in the Mersey this morning. The steam ship Cambria, Captain Harrison, hence, arrived at New York on the 25th ult., in 13 days and three-quarters. There is literally no political intelligence to communicate.

The advices from Mexico represent the country to be in a very restless condition, although we have no outbreaks to record. Robberies upon the highways and in the streets are frequent; the police of the towns are inefficient; the insurgents of Sierra were unsubdued; the Indians were desolating the frontier stations; and to crown all the Government was without funds, and consequently inactive.

The papers give a deplorable picture of the state of affairs at Tampico. The most frightful disorder is said to reign there, and brawls were continually occurring between the partisans of annexation and those who oppose it. A portion of the populace in favour of it is said to traverse the streets at all hours with arms in their hands shooting and committing ravages.

JNA